

Walter Dortch's Will

Muscogee County, Georgia Wills, Book C, 1875-1891
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State of Georgia Muscogee County

I Walter Dortch being of sound mind and memory, do make ordain and publish this to be my last will and testament in manner and form following.

Item 1st I desire and direct that my Executors hereinafter named shall first pay all my just and lawful debts medical bills and burial expenses

Item 2^d I will and bequeath to my son Andrew A. Dortch the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) in addition to what I have already given him, having given him previously in lands goods and chattels to the amount of One Thousand dollars without Condition

Item 3^d I will and bequeath to my next son David W. Dortch in trust, to him and the heirs of his body, my Homestead with improvements, known as the Thomas Davis place whereon I now reside, containing Three Hundred (300) Acre more or less, more fully described in title deeds in my possession, And said David W. Dortch shall take care of his mother, my dearly beloved wife Elizabeth A. Dortch during her life, so far as providing her a home and a support with him upon aforesaid place, Should said David W. Dortch die childless, then said lands or the proceeds thereof shall be equally divided between John W. Dortch and Jessie Bernice Fulgum or their body heirs, but should his Mother Elizabeth A. Dortch survive him, said property shall not be subject to division until her death,

Item 4th I will and bequeath to my next son John W. Dortch in trust to him and his bodily heirs, that portion of my other lands as his tract of Flat Rock Creek, known as the Old Miller place, with the improvements thereon, containing one hundred and forty (140) Acre more or less, with all the appurtenances thereto belonging and more fully described in title deeds in my possession, But should John W. Dortch die childless, then said lands or proceeds thereof shall be equally divided between David W. Dortch and Jessie Bernice Fulgum or their bodily heirs,

Item 5th I will and bequeath to my Grand Son Jessie Bernice Fulgum in trust the balance of the aforesaid Miller place as his East of Flat Rock Creek containing one hundred (100) Acre more or less, more fully described in title deeds in my possession, Should said Jessie Bernice Fulgum die childless, then said lands or the proceeds thereof shall revert to, and be equally divided between David W. & John W. Dortch or their legal representatives, in addition I give to said Jessie Bernice Fulgum Five Hundred (\$500) Dollars in money,

Item 6th In addition to foregoing, I will and bequeath to David W. & John W. Dortch one Mule each, and whatsoever of personal property that remaineth, or the proceeds thereof shall be equally divided between David W. Dortch and John W. Dortch and Jessie Bernice Fulgum

Item 7th I desire that my Executors hereinafter named after paying the (\$500⁰⁰) Five Hundred dollars to Andrew A. Dortch, and Three Hundred (\$300⁰⁰) dollars to Jessie Bernice Fulgum, shall set apart of the remainder of notes, accounts, insurance or other debts, Three Hundred (\$300⁰⁰) dollars to pay Medical bills, Burial Expenses of my wife Elizabeth A. Dortch, the balance to be equally divided between David W. Dortch, John W. Dortch and Jessie Bernice Fulgum

Item 8th I desire and hereby appoint George L. Black and Thomas J. Hall

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for David W. Dortch, John W. Dortch and Jessie Corrie Fulgum, but should they fail to act, I desire the Court to appoint at their suggestion, one or more suitable persons in its discretion, with authority to sell and convey herein and again under like conditions

Item 9th

I hereby appoint T. F. Watt and G. R. Black my lawful Executors to carry into effect this my last will and testament

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this the 23^d day of April, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and seventy five 1875

di

Walter Dortch (L)

Signed and sealed in presence of

Thomas Harrison

Jeremiah Castledgr

John D. Castledgr

This I design as a Codicil to the foregoing will

as witnessed above

Item 1st

I desire and bequeath to my wife Elizabeth A. Dortch her room furniture during her natural life, at her death to go to David W. Dortch, with whom I have provided in foregoing will she shall live and be provided for, with contingencies of other property given him,

Item 2^d

I desire and direct that the Policy of One Thousand Dollars in Charleston Life Insurance Company or so much thereof as shall be necessary, shall be appropriated to the slabbing and enclosing with Iron rails, of the graves of my daughter Mary Ann Fulgum (deceased) my wife Elizabeth A. Dortch and my own grave, in Washington County Ga, and for transportation of our bodies to said family grave yard

Signed & sealed in presence of

Walter Dortch

Jeremiah Castledgr

John D. Castledgr

Thomas Harrison

Muscogee Court of Ordinary

March Term 1876

The Will and Codicil of Walter Dortch being produced in open Court for Probate, by the Executors who have filed their petition to prove the same, and the witnesses to said Will and Codicil viz Jeremiah Castledgr, John D. Castledgr and Thomas Harrison having subscribed the following affidavit endorsed on said Will

March Term of Muscogee Court of Ordinary 1876

Came into open Court, at this regular term of the Court, Jeremiah Castledgr, John Castledgr and Thomas Harrison who after being duly sworn depose and say that they saw Walter Dortch sign and publish the within as his last will and testament, and also the Codicil to the same, while of sound and disposing mind and memory, that they witnessed the same for him, at his request and in his presence, and all in the presence of each other, And that the same

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was executed voluntarily by him, on the day it purports to have been
executed, and without any undue influence or compulsion so far as
witnesses know or believe
Shorn to & subscribed before me
this March 6th 1876
F. W. Brooks Ordinary

Thomas Harrison
John Battle dgr
Jeremiah Battle dgr

Georgia Muscogee County

We do solemnly swear that this writing contains the true last will and
testament of the within named Walter Dortch deceased, so far as we
know or believe, and that we will well and truly execute the same
in accordance with the Constitution and laws of this State. So
help us God

Shorn to & subscribed before me
this March 6th 1876
F. W. Brooks Ordinary

J. J. Watt
Geo. R. Clark

Muscogee Court of Ordinary
March Term 1876

The foregoing instrument of writing admitted to Probate and
Record in Common form of law upon the testimony of Thomas
Harrison, Jeremiah Battle dgr and John Battle dgr the subscri-
bing witnesses thereto, as the true last will and testament of
Walter Dortch deceased
March 6th 1876

F. W. Brooks
Ordinary