



New York State Archives

**New York State Surrogate Court (New York County) Probated
Wills J1038**

New York State Archives
222 Madison Avenue
Albany, NY 12230
archref@nysed.gov
URL: <http://www.archives.nysed.gov/>

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Overview of the Records

Repository:	New York State Archives
Summary:	This series consists of probated wills filed and maintained by the clerk of the Surrogate Court (New York County). Each will provides for the disposition of the testator's real and personal property and designates an executor. Wills are signed and witnessed by three persons. The name of the testator and date of the will are noted on the reverse. Records are restricted due to fragility.
Creator:	New York (State). Surrogate's Court (New York County)
Title:	Surrogate Court (New York County) probated wills
Quantity:	4.25 cubic feet
Inclusive Date:	1787-1829
Series:	J1038

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Arrangement

Numerical by assigned file number (generally equivalent to chronological by year, then alphabetical by testator's name).

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Administrative History

Chapter 38 of the Laws of 1787 provided that the county surrogates retain wills proved before them, unless return of the will was requested by the executor or the devisees.

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Scope and Content Note

This series consists of probated wills filed and maintained by the clerk of the Surrogate Court (New York County). Each will provides for the disposition of the testator's real and personal property and designates an executor. The will is signed (or marked) and sealed by the testator and witnessed by three persons. The name of the testator and date of the will are noted on the reverse, but the wills contain no added information about probate proceedings.

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Related Information

Related Material

J1043 New York State Surrogate Court (New York County) Record of Wills and Probates, contains recorded versions of the wills in Series J1038.

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Other Finding Aids

Available at Repository

Indexed in: Kenneth Scott and Leo Hershkowitz, "Index to Original Wills (1776-1829)," in *National Society Quarterly*, Vol. 55 (1967), pp.119-145.

Container list.

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Use of Records

Access Restrictions

Restricted due to fragility. Use with supervision of archivist.

Alternate Formats Available

Items Online

The entire series is digitized (from microfilm) as part of a larger collection of Wills and Probate Records and is available to New York State residents for free on Ancestry.com New York. You must sign up for a free account to access these records without a paid subscription.

To learn how to create the free account, go to [How to Use Ancestry.com New York](#).

[Wills and Probate Records, 1658-1880 on Ancestry.com](#)

Access Terms

- Adjudicating
- Legal documents
- Wills
- Probate law and practice
- Probating
- New York (State)
- Probate records
- Courts--New York (State)--New York County
- Probate courts
- New York County (N.Y.)
- New York (State). Surrogate's Court (New York County)