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Mecklenburg County, North Carolina Estate Records

Volume 1

Aaron—Ayres

By Herman W. Ferguson

A county's estate records are the next most important source for genealogical and historical research after a county's wills. Here might be found divisions of land naming all the heirs; plats of inherited land; administrator bonds; guardian bonds for minor or disabled heirs; lists of buyers at an estate sale, what they bought, and how much they paid; an inventory of the estate; and vouchers with original signatures.

The estate records for Mecklenburg County, NC, can be overlooked, however, because they are available in only two places: the originals are in the North Carolina Archives in Raleigh, NC, and a microfilm copy is in the Carolina Room of the Public Library of Charlotte-Mecklenburg County, in Charlotte, NC.

Herman W. Ferguson has now unlocked the treasures in Mecklenburg County's estate records for researchers. Having completed 14 books of abstracts of Mecklenburg County's court records, he is most knowledgeable concerning the county's early records. So thorough are the abstracts in this first volume that they provide every significant detail in every file, short of copying the pages verbatim.

The present volume encompasses all estate files from 1762 through 1865 of persons with the surname starting with "A." The "A" files from 1866 to 1959 are listed with the number of pages indicated in each folder. A comprehensive index includes the names of thousands of other persons mentioned in these files, and plats of land held by the decedents were copied and included if they were found.

Ferguson previously published a finding aid to ALL estate records, 1762-1959, for Mecklenburg and Cabarrus Counties, titled *Decedents for Whom Loose Estate Papers are Extant*. Any of Ferguson's books listed on the next page may be ordered from OMGS at a 10% discount through 30 April 2009.

Mecklenburg County, NC, Estate Records, Vol. 1: xii + 244 pp., indexed, 8½" x 11",
plats, soft cover. ISBN 978-0-9795341-0-2

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