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## Typical Actions in Probate of a Slaveholding Estate



court records will, appoints executor

court appoints administrator

inventory & appraisement of all estate property

sale of perishable property

(food and crops)

usually part of the first

annual return

receipts from heirs & guardians

for their shares of property

sale of land and negroes

(or

division of negroes

annual returns

submitted each year While estate is in probate

vouchers

(may not be recorded but may be in probate packet) sale of personal property

(farm tools, kitchenware, household furniture, clothes)

hire of negroes

for the coming year, (hires reported each subsequent year in annual returns)

termination of "life estate"

(widow or other affected heir dies or marries)

sale or distribution of residual estate

guardian's annual returns and vouchers

receipt by heir from guardian

may apply to estates with or without wills

applies only to estates with wills

applies to estates with heirs under guardianship

(upon reaching majority or marriage)