

# EXHIBIT A

STATE OF VERMONT

SUPERIOR COURT

PROBATE DIVISION

Rutland Unit

Docket No.

In re ESTATE of:

John Abner Mead

PETITION TO OPEN DECEDENT'S ESTATE

John Abner Mead was a resident of Rutland, Vermont

Decedent

Town/State

and died on January 12, 1920 leaving assets to be administered with estimated values of:

Real Estate	\$	_____
Personal Estate	\$	5,000,000.00
Total	\$	5,000,000.00

Decedent left:

no known Last Will and Testament OR

Last Will and Testament dated March 19, 1919

Codicil(s) to the Will, if any, dated \_\_\_\_\_

Attached are:

1. Entry fee; checks or money orders payable to Vermont Superior Court
2. Certified copy of the death certificate
3. List of Interested Persons (form 700-00002)
4. ORIGINAL Will and any Codicils (if any)
5. For Ancillary (out-of-state) estate, include **authenticated copy** of Will and probate from decedent's primary estate.

Petitioner requests that the Will, if any, be allowed and an estate be opened and the following named person be appointed to administer the estate:

The Honorable James H. Douglas

Proposed Executor/Administrator

109 South Munger Street, Middlebury, VT 05753

Mailing Address

802-443-5549 / James.douglas603@gmail.com

Telephone/Email

This is the person named as executor in the Will.

ACCEPTANCE OF APPOINTMENT

I accept the appointment as Executor/Administrator and ask that the appointment documents be issued to me at the address above.

5/3/22

Date



Signature of Executor/Administrator



STATE OF VERMONT  
CERTIFICATION OF VITAL RECORD

FILED: 5/10/2022 12:23 PM  
Vermont Superior Court  
Rutland Unit  
22-PR-02895

VERMONT CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

John Abner Mead

Aliases: None

Date of Death: January 12, 1920

Time of Death:

Age: Unknown

1441920203442  
State File Number

Date of Birth: April 1841

Birthplace: Fair Haven, VT

Sex: Male

Mother's/Parent's Birth Name: Lydia A. Gorham

Father's/Parent's Birth Name: Roswell Rowell Mead

Marital Status:

Spouse/Civil Union Partner:

Residence: Rutland City, VT

Hispanic Origin:

Race:

Occupation:

Business/Industry:

Education:

Ever in U.S. Armed Forces:

Veteran of Any War:

Hospice Care (in past 30 days):

Place of Death: Rutland City, VT

Informant:

Relationship:

Disposition Date:

Place of Temporary Storage:

Method:

Place of Final Disposition:

Funeral Director/Authorized Person:

Address:

Cause of Death and Interval (Onset to Death):

Manner of Death:

A. Lobar Pneumonia (Unknown)

Other Contributing Conditions:

Did Tobacco Use Contribute to Death:

Pregnant at Time of Death:

Date Pronounced Dead:

Time Pronounced Dead:

Medical Examiner Contacted:

Autopsy Performed: Unknown

Injury Date/Time:

Injury at Work:

Transportation Injury:

Injury Place:

Injury Location:

How Injury Occurred:

Medical Certifier:

Title of Certifier:

Date Certified:

Other Attending Physician:

Registration:

*Jean DeCell*

Jean DeCell, State Registrar

Date Registered:

Printed from Vermont Electronic Death Registration System on: April 05, 2022

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE INFORMATION ON THE ORIGINAL CERTIFICATE ON FILE IN THE VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH OR CUSTODIAL AGENCY.

DATE ISSUED: APR 05 2022

ATTEST:

*M. L. Lewis MD*  
Commissioner  
Vermont Department Of Health

This copy not valid unless prepared on engraved border displaying state seal of Vermont.

ANY ALTERATION OR ERASURE VOIDS THIS CERTIFICATE

STATE OF VERMONT

SUPERIOR COURT  
 Rutland Unit

PROBATE DIVISION  
 Docket No.:

In re ESTATE of:

John Abner Mead

**LIST OF INTERESTED PERSONS**

Petitioner, being first duly sworn, states that the following is a list of interested persons, as defined in 14 VSA § 311 & 314

1. The surviving spouse.
2. If there is no surviving spouse, or the surviving spouse is not the parent of all the decedent's children, then the interested persons must include all "heirs at law".
3. The "heirs at law" include:
  - a. All living children of the decedent;
  - b. All living grandchildren who are children of any deceased children; and
  - c. All living great grandchildren who are children of deceased grandchildren who are children of deceased children, etc.
4. "Children" includes all adopted children; it does not matter if the children have had no contact with the decedent, or if the Last Will and Testament, if any, would disinherit one or more of them.
5. If there are no living "issue" (children, grandchildren, etc), then the "heirs at law" are the living mother and father of the decedent.
6. If there are no issue and no parents, then the "heirs at law" include the living brothers and sisters of the decedent and the living issue of any deceased brothers and sisters.
7. If there are no issue, no parents, and no brothers and sisters of their issue, then the "heirs at law" are the next closest kin in equal degree.
8. All other persons or entities named in the Last Will and Testament, if any.

Name	Address	Interest/Relationship to Decedent	Date of Birth (if under 18 years)
Mary Mead Hinsman Raymond	3000 Galloway Ridge D-202 Pittsboro, NC 27312	Gr. Granddaughter	
David C. Hinsman	23 Bristol Road Plattsburgh, NY 12901	Great Grandson	
Carl B. Hinsman	43 Jalbert Road Barre, VT 05641	Great Grandson	
Estate of John A.M. Hinsman, Jr.	Glenda Hinsman, Executor 160 Vista Drive, Sayre, PA 18840	Gr Grndsn's Estate	
John A.M. Hinsman Jr. Rev. Trust	Bank of America, Trustee c/o Christopher Kinlaw, Trust Officer 100 Federal Street, MA5-100-09-14 Boston, MA 02110	Gr Grndson's Trust	
Glenda L. Hinsman	160 Vista Drive Sayre, PA 18840	Gr Grandson's wife	
John A. M. Hinsman, III	511 Beccaris Drive Rollingsford, NH 03869	Gr.Gr. Grandson	
James L. Hinsman	31 Barlow Street Jamaica Plain, MA 02130	Gr.Gr. Grandson	
Laura Hinsman Harshbarger	4140 Taylor Road Jamesville, NY 13078	Gr.Gr. Granddaugh	



Form PE17

STATE OF VERMONT

SUPERIOR COURT

PROBATE DIVISION

RUTLAND

Unit

Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_

In re ESTATE OF

Decedent John Abner Mead

MOTION TO APPOINT SPECIAL ADMINISTRATOR

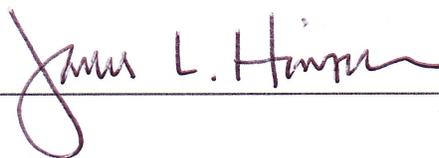
Petitioner requests the Court appoint a special administrator to take charge of this estate for the following reasons:

To prosecute legal claims of the Decedent for breach of contract and/or for breach of the conditions of the conditional gift of the Mead Chapel to Middlebury College.

Petitioner nominates the following named person:

Proposed Special Administrator The Honorable James H. Douglas	Mailing Address 109 South Munger Street
Telephone Number 802-443-5549	City, State, Zip Middlebury, VT 05753
Email James.douglas603@gmail.com	

DATE: 5/4/2022

PETITIONER SIGNATURE: 

Petitioner name – IF NOT NOMINATED SPECIAL ADMINISTRATOR James L. Hinsman	
Mailing Address 31 Barlow Street	
City, State, Zip Jamaica Plain, MA 02130	
Telephone Number (617) 953-7333	Email jameshinsman@yahoo.com

STATE OF VERMONT

SUPERIOR COURT  
Rutland Unit

PROBATE DIVISION  
Docket No.:

In re ESTATE OF

*Decedent*  
John Abner Mead

ESTATE ADMINISTRATION BOND

The undersigned is/are obligated to the Vermont Superior Court, Probate Division, in the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- without surety
- with \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ as personal surety,  
(name of surety) (surety's town of residence)
- with \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ as corporate surety,

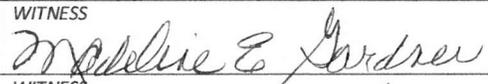
to secure the performance of the following duties:

1. Within 60 days of the issuance of letters of administration, file with the Court an Inventory of all assets of the estate;
2. Administer the estate according to the Will and Codicils, if any, and the laws of the State of Vermont;
3. File an accounting with the Court within one year, annually thereafter, and at any other time when required by the Court;
4. Pay all taxes as required;
5. Pay over the balance of the estate according to the Will and Codicils, if any, and otherwise by law;
6. Perform all orders and decrees of the Court;
7. \_\_\_\_\_

When these duties are fully performed, this bond shall no longer be in force.

DATE: 5/9/22

EXECUTOR/ADMINISTRATOR SIGNATURE(S):   
JAMES H DOUGLAS

WITNESS 	PRINT NAME Madeline E. Gardner
WITNESS 	PRINT NAME RICHARD F GARDNER

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SURETY SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

SURETY NAME
MAILING ADDRESS
CITY, STATE, ZIP

STATE OF VERMONT

SUPERIOR COURT

PROBATE DIVISION

Rutland

Unit

Docket No.:

In re:

Estate of John Abner Mead

Case Type:

Estate

Trust

Guardianship

INVENTORY

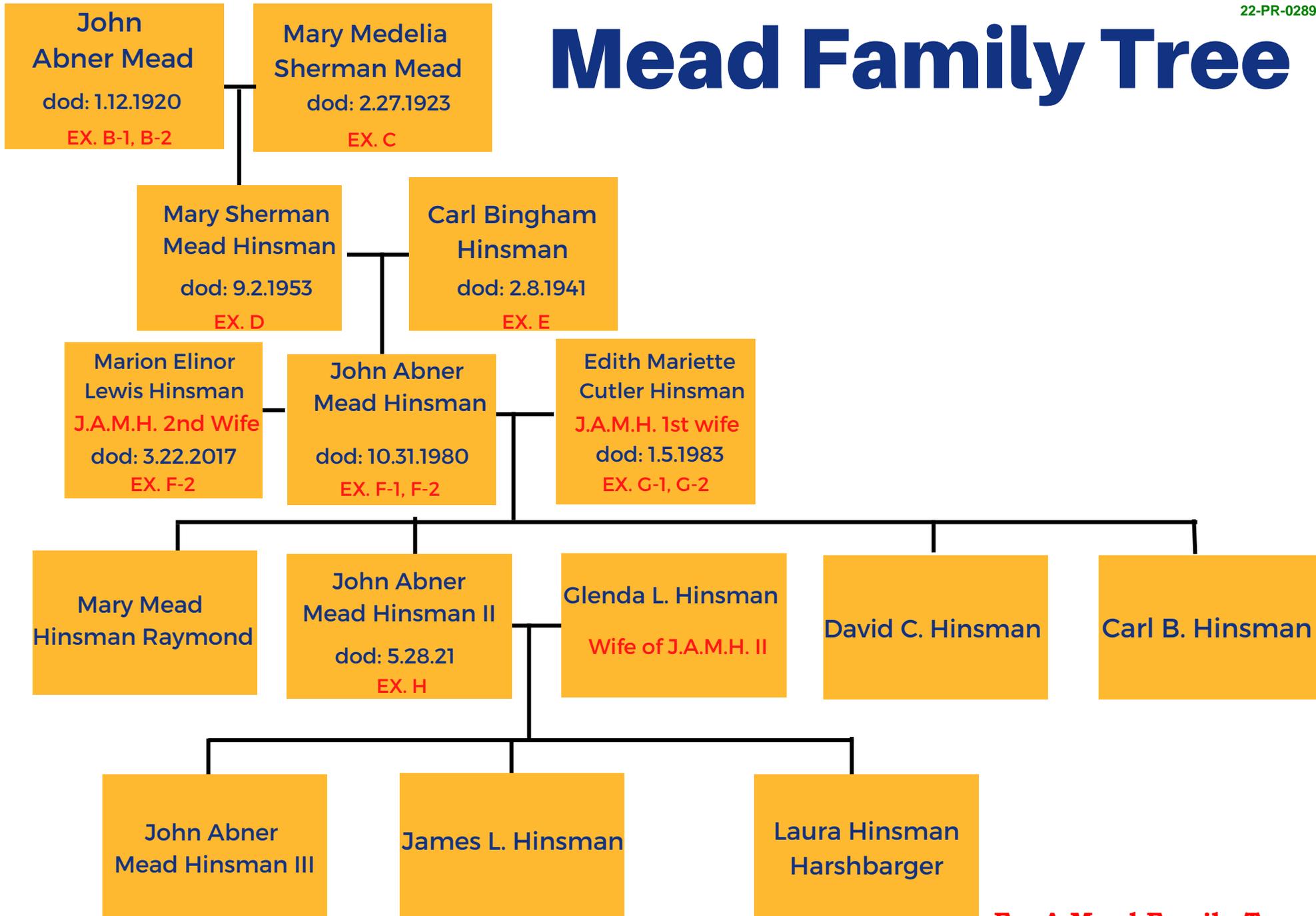
**INSTRUCTIONS:** (PLEASE READ CAREFULLY)

List all real and personal estate. Give the **fair market value** as of the decedent's date of death for decedent estates and as of date of fiduciary's appointment for all other cases. If you use an **appraiser**, the name and address of each appraiser and the items appraised must be attached to this inventory. **Real estate** descriptions must include type of deed, grantor(s) and Grantee(s), date of execution, Book and Page numbers and Town where recorded. **Bank accounts** should be identified by name of bank, type of account, and account number, and balance. Other investment accounts should be similarly identified. Any **liens** should be identified by name of lien-holder and approximate amount owed, within the property description. **The inventory must be signed and notarized, the original filed with the court and copies to all interested persons and a certificate of service, filed with the Court.**

Item #	Description of Item	Fair Market Value	Mortgage or Lien
1	Potential proceeds from civil lawsuit re: Mead Chapel	\$ 5,000,000.00	\$ 0.00
Total(s) Page 1		\$ 5,000,000.00	



# Mead Family Tree



**Ex. A Mead Family Tree**