

Will, NC, Craven, WILLIAM BRYAN 1746

In the name of God, amen.

The twelfth day of December, 1746.

I **WILLIAM BRYAN** of Craven County & Province of North Carolina, being sick and weak in body but of perfect mind and memory, thanks be given unto God, therefore calling unto mind the mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die, do make and ordain this my last will & testament, that is to say, principally & first of all:

I give & recommend my soul into the hands of God that gave it & my body I recommend to the earth to be buried in a decent & Christian like burial at the discretion of my executors, nothing doubting but at the general resurrection I shall receive the same again by the might power of God.

And as touching such worldly estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me with in this life, I give, devise & dispose of the same in the following manner and form.

Item I give and bequeath to **ANNE**, my dearly beloved wife, one third part of my Negroes and likewise on third of all the rest of my movable estate and the use of the plantation I now dwell on during her natural life.

Item I give and bequeath the remaining part of my Negroes & movable estate to be equally divided amongst my six children: **WILLIAM BRYAN, ELIZABETH BRYAN, LEWIS BRYAN, JOHN BRYAN, ANNE BRYAN, JESSE BRYAN** to them and their heirs forever.

Item I give and bequeath to my well beloved son **WILLIAM BRYAN** one hundred and twenty five acres of land, the plantation I now dwell on to him & his heirs forever.

Item I give and bequeath to my well beloved son **JOHN BRYAN** one hundred and twenty five acres of land the one half of the tract of land I now dwell on known by the name of Kits Neck beginning at the Gut which the cart bridge is over & so running up to the head line, to him and his heirs forever.

Item I give and bequeath to my well beloved son **LEWIS BRYAN** one hundred acres of land lying upon the head of Smiths Creek which I bought of **GUNSTON ALLEN** know by the name of Holley Neck, to him & his heirs forever.

Item I give and bequeath to my well beloved son **JESSE BRYAN** one tract or parcel of land lying upon the head of Goose Creek joining upon Cohoons Savannah, which I had of **JOHN BRYAN**, to him and his heirs forever.

I Likewise Constitute Make and Ordain My Loving Wife, **ANNE BRYAN**, and my brother, **JOSEPH BRYAN**, and my son, **WILLIAM BRYAN**, Executors of this my Last will & Testament, & I do hereby utterly disallow of & revoke & disanull all former wills by me made, confirming this & no other to be my Last Will and Testament.

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In witness Whereof, I have here unto Set My hand & Seal, the Day & Year above written.

WILLIAM BRYAN {Seal}

Signed, Sealed, published, pronounced, & Delivered by the said **WILLIAM BRYAN**, as his Last will & Testament, In the Presents of us the Subscribers.

LAZARUS PEARS

JAMES CARRAWAY

WILLIAM CARRAWAY, Jun.

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Craven County Ct.

At a Court of Common Pleas begun & held at New Bern the third Tuesday in June Anno Domino 1747 then the within Will was proved by the Oath of Concurring Evidence thereto & **JOSEPH BRYAN** Executor & **ANNE BRYAN** Executrix of the said Will came into Court & took the Oaths by Law Appointed for their qualification.

Ordered that they have Letters Testamentary thereon.

WILL HEDGES, S.Ccrts

Ltrs. Issued & paid £6.10