

Will, VA, Southampton, Lewis Davis 1771

In the name of God, Amen.

I **LEWIS DAVIS** of Southampton County being sick and weak in body but in perfect mind and memory, thanks be to God for it, and calling into mind the mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed for all men to die do make and ordained this my last will and testament.

PRINCIPALLY and FIRST of all I recommend my soul into the hands of almighty God and my body to the ground to be buried in a Christian like manner at the discretion of my executor. And as touching such worldly estate as it has pleased God to bless me with in this life I give in the following Manner and form:

I give to my loving mother **ELIZABETH DAVIS** and to my sister-in-law **RACHAEL DAVIS** the use of all the land in Southampton County with all the appurtenances also the use of my negro **FRANK** and my still during their natural lives, the survivor of them to have the use of the whole during her life.

I give after my loving mother and **RACHAEL DAVIS** decease unto **BRITAIN BARNES** [BRITAIN BARNES] son of **NATHAN BARNES** [NATHAN BARNES] the plantation where on I now dwell with three hundred and twenty acres of land, it being the land I had by the death of my brother **JOHN DAVIS**, deceased to him and his heirs forever.

I give unto **JACOB BARROT** son of **JACOB BARROT** deceased, after my mother and **RACHAEL DAVIS** decease, all my other lands in Southampton County with all the appurtenances to him and his heirs forever.

I give unto **BENJAMIN BRYANT** son of **WILLIAM BRYANT**, after my mother and **RACHAEL DAVIS** decease, one negro boy called ----- to him and his heirs forever.

I give in unto **JOSIAH BARNES** [JOSIAH BARNES] son of **JACOB BARNES** [JACOB BARNES] after my loving mother and **RACHAEL DAVIS** deceased my still to him and his heirs forever.

My will and desire is that my Plantation and land in Nansemond County should be sold by my executors to the highest bidder and the money arising by such sale to be equally divided between my mother and **RACHAEL DAVIS** to them and to their own disposing.

I give all the remainder of my estate after my debts are paid be it in any kind or quality whatsoever to be equally divided between my mother and **RACHAEL DAVIS** to them and to their own disposing.

I appoint **NICHOLAS MAGET** my whole and sole executor to this my last will and testament.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 24th day of March Anno Domini 1771.

LEWIS DAVIS {seal}

Declared in the presence of

JOHN GILLAM
HITON EVERIT
JOSEPH GILLAM

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In a Court held for the county of Southampton the 15th day of April 1771 this will was presented in court by **NICHOLAS MAGET** the executor therein named and proved by the Oaths of **JOHN GILLIAN** and **HITON EVERIT** two of the witnesses thereto and ordered to be recorded and on the motion of set executor who made oath according to law certifying certificate is granted him for obtaining a probate their of in due form given security whereupon &

Q. Fello