

**Will, NC, Craven, Thomas Bryan, 1760**

In the name of God, Amen.

I, **THOMAS BRYAN**, being very sick and weak in body but in my proper senses and memory, and calling to mind the mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed once for all men to die, do make and ordain this, my last will and testament & doth dispose of my worldly goods as follows:

IMPRIMIS I give and leave to my loving wife **RACHEL [LAVENDER] BRYAN** one negro man named EDENBUR and all my stock of hogs, cattle, sheep and horses and all my household goods and plantation tools to her and her heirs and assigns forever, only she to pay my just debts out of the profit of said things.

ITEM I give and leave to my three children, **SARAH BRYAN, ANN BRYAN** and the child that my loving wife Rachel Bryan now goes with one negro man called SAM and one negro girl called LUCY. And if the child that my loving wife now goes with should be a son, I give and leave to him & his heirs and assigns forever one tract of land lying on the north side of the Ash Branch consisting of one hundred and seventy acres, be the same, more or less, it being the plantation I now live on. And if the child that my wife now goes with should be a female child then what ever lands I have given to the child that my wife now goes with I give and leave to my three children, **SARAH, ANN** and the the child that my wife now goes with. To be equally divided between them when my daughter Sarah comes to the age of twenty one years, or at the marriage of either of them.

I do nominate and appoint my loving wife **RACHEL BRYAN** and my loving brothers **WILLIAM BRYAN & JOHN LAVENDER** my whole & sole executrix and executors of this my last will and testament.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 8<sup>th</sup> day of December in the year of our lord God one thousand seven hundred and sixty.

**THOMAS BRYAN**

And I do acknowledge the same to be interlined in the second page, the words "to be equally" and the word "executrix".

Signed, sealed and published in the presents of us.

**SARAH BRYAN, jurat**  
**HARDY BRYAN**  
**WILLIAM WHITE**

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Brent R. Brian  
Martha M. Brian  
[BrianMitchellGenealogy@gmail.com](mailto:BrianMitchellGenealogy@gmail.com)