

**Will, NC, Northampton, William Bryan 1770**

In the name of God, Amen.

I **WILLIAM BRYAN** of Northampton County & province of North Carolina, being at present very sick and weak of body, but sound in mind & memory, thanks be to God therefore, call to mind the mortality of my body, do constitute & ordain this my last will & testament in manner & form following that is to say:

First & principally I commit my soul into the hands of almighty God, hoping to have free & full pardon for all my sins & to inherit everlasting life. As for my body, I commit to the ground from whence it was taken, to be buried in a Christian like decent manner at the discretion of my executors hereafter named. As touching all such temporal estates as it hath pleased the almighty God to bestow upon me, I give & dispose thereof as followeth.

First of all I would that all my real debts and funeral charges be paid & discharged.

Item. I give the use of the plantation whereon I live with two hundred and sixty acres of land to my loving wife **JANE BRYAN** during her natural life, and after her decease.

I give & bequeath the same to my beloved son **WILLIAM BRYAN** and his heirs.

Item. I give & bequeath to my daughter **BARBARA MITCHENER** the plantation whereon she now lives with sixty acres of land, to her & her heirs.

All the rest of my estate, goods and chattels within doors and without, I give to be equally divided between my wife and son **WILLIAM** & my two daughters **MARTHA** & **ABIGAIL** and I constitute & appoint my brother **ARTHUR BRYAN** and my loving wife **JANE BRYAN** my whole & sole executor & executrix of this my last will & testament, revoking, disannulling & making void all other wills heretofore made by me.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal this 25<sup>th</sup> day of May 1770.

**WILLIAM BRYAN** {seal, his mark W}

Signed, sealed, declared, published & pronounced in the presence of us who subscribe as witnesses.

**JOHN WADE**  
**JAMES BRYANT**

[**MARTHA BRYAN, ABIGAIL BRYAN**]

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Northampton County

December Court 1770

This will of **WILLIAM BRYAN**, deceased, was proved by the oath of **JOHN WADE & JAMES BRYANT & JANE BRYAN** qualified as executors. Ordered to be certified & recorded.

Test **WILLIE JONES**, CC