

Will, SC, York, Archibald Steel, 1796

In the name of God Amen

The 30th day of April in the year of Our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety six.

I **ARCHIBALD STEEL** of your county in the state of South Carolina being in my usual health but under the common infirmities which attends old age, yet am favored with sound sense and disposing mind and memory, blessed be God for all of his mercies, and calling to remembrance the transitoryness of life and that it is appointed for all men wants to die to make an ordained this my last will and testament in Manner and form following viz.

I will and desire is, but all my just debts be paid and funeral charges be fully paid by my executors hereafter named.

ITEM I give and bequeath to my wife **AGNES STEEL** all of my household and kitchen Furniture to cows and calves together with the full enjoyment of my dwelling house and as sufficient and comfortable a living off the plantation I now live on as the same will admit of during my said wife's natural life. Also I allow my said wife the full use and benefit of a negro boy named **GEORGE** without any interruption or molestation in anything hereby given to my said wife during as aforesaid that is her natural life and at her decease the said negro boy I allow and bequeath him to my grandson **JOHN STEEL**, son of **JOSEPH [STEEL]**, and the remainder of what is bequeathed to my said wife I allow at her decease to be equally divided amongst my present surviving children: **JOHN [STEEL]**, **WILLIAM [STEEL]**, **JAMES [STEEL]**, and **ROBERT STEEL** or their heirs to enjoy the same forever.

ITEM I give and bequeath to my son **JOHN STEEL** the just & full sum of nine pounds sterling money of the said state of South Carolina and my desire where is that he be paid that full sum in property at a reasonable value at any time within twelve months after my decease, the said valuation to be the use and benefit of my said son and his heirs forever.

ITEM I give and bequeath to my son **JAMES STEEL** one feather bed and furniture and the sum of thirteen pounds ten shillings sterling, of said state, which sum of money is to be paid in property in the way and manner directed for my son **JOHN** in two years after my decease and the bed and furniture delivered at my wife's decease.

ITEM my further will and desire is to make my two sons **WILLIAM** and **ROBERT STEEL** equal shares in the survey of land by now live on which contains 350 acres and on account of the natural conveniences not admitting of the equal division to be made in the land it must be done in the valuation of the same which value may be made either between my said two sons, if they can agree, if not by any two judicious men chosen by them and after my said sons determine which of them continues on the premises he that holds the whole of the survey must pay the other one half of what the said survey was valued to one half of which payment to be made in cash and the other half in property had a reasonable valuation and the time of payment to be agreed on between my said two sons as they can best agree.

ITEM my further desire is that my said sons **JOHN** and **JAMES STEEL** parts be made out of my un-bequeathed part of chattel substance and if any overplus should remain after payment of those sums I allow such over plus to be equally divided amongst my present to surviving children.

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And further and lastly I do constitute ordained and appoint my two sons **JOHN** and **WILLIAM STEEL** my hole in sole executor of this my last will hear by revoking all others by me heretofore made.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year above written.

ARCHIBALD STEEL seal

Signed sealed and declared by the testator to be his last will and testament in presence of

JOHN STARR
JAMES YOUNG
SAMUEL JOHNSON

Last will and testament **ARCHIBALD STEEL** deceased was proven before me November 4th 1805 by the Oaths of **JOHN STARR** and **JAMES YOUNG** subscribing witnesses thereto.

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