

From Surry P. Roberts, M.D. 8-5-2019

GATES COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA  
WILLS - BOOK 1  
1779 - 1807

VOLUME I  
by  
Sandra L. Almasy

ALEE HUNTER: Dated-12 April 1781; Proved-August court 1781.

In the name of God Amen. I ALEE HUNTER of Gates County in the State of North Carolina, being Sick and weak but of sound memory thanks be to Almighty God for the same, doe make this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following. That is to say first I Recommend my Soul into the hands of Almighty God that gave it and my body to be Buryed at the Discretion of my Executors hereafter named, and as to my worldly Estate I dispose of in the following manner.

Item I give and Bequeath unto my Son THEOPHILIS HUNTER my Negro woman named Luce, to be Delivered to him after my Son WILLIAM HUNTER comes to age of Twenty one years, and then she and her Increase to be to him and his Heirs forever. Also one bed and furniture which I commonly sleep on, also one chest & one Iron Pott also two cows and calves & one stear two years oald. I say to him &C

And my desire is that after my Debts be payed that then all the Remainder of my Estate to be Equally Divided among my four children, WILLIAM, JOHN, THEOPHILISS, & MARY HUNTER shear and shear alike.

Lastly I appoint my friend THOMAS WALTON & my Son WILLIAM HUNTER my Executors to see this my will complied with in every part. And I doe hearby Revoke and make voyd all former wills and gifts by me heartofore mad. And I doe hearby Publish and declare the above writing to contain my will and Desire. Signed, Sealed, Published and Declared this 12th day of Aprill 1781

ALEE (her A mark) HUNTER

In Presents of Test: SARAH WALTON, MARY HUTNER, ELISHA HUNTER, Jurat.

August court 1781: exhibited by THOMAS WALTON; proved by the oath of ELISHA HUNTER.

NOTE: Alee Hunter is listed in the Will Book index as ALICE HUNTER.

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WILLIAM FREEMAN: Dated-17 April 1781; Proved-August court 1781.

In the name of God Amen. I WILLIAM FREEMAN of Gates County in the State of North Carolina, Considering the unsortinity of this mortal life and being of sound and perfect mind and memory Blessed be Almight God for the same do make and publish this my Last Will and Testament in manner and form folloing that is to say.

First I give and bequeath to my well beloved Sun JOHN FREEMAN, Two Negro Slaves named Luce and Barry to him and his Heirs forever.

Item I give and Bequeath to my well beloved Grandsun WILLIAM FREEMAN, Son of JOSHUA, one Negro Boy named Ruffin.

scribers: JAMES OUTLAW, GEORGE (his T) OUTLAW, JAMES FREEMAN.

May court 1782: exhibited by THOMAS MANSFIELD, executor; Proved by the oath of JAMES FREEMAN.

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SARAH BLANCHARD: Dated-8 March 1782; Proved-May court 1782.

In the name of God Amen. The Eighth day of March one Thousand Seven Hundred & Eighty two. I SARAH BLANSHARD of Gates County being sick & weake but of sound dispose of mind & memory do make and ordain this my last will & testament and as to my worldly Estate which it has Please God to Bestow on me I give and Dispose in the following manner.

First I give to my Son ABSOLAM BLANSHARD one feather Bed & furniture thereto belonging with all my Cider Casks, two Iron Pots, two Puter Dishes, Two Puter Basons, also one half of my Hogs, also one yoak of Oxen to him and his Heirs forever.

Item I give and Bequeath to my Daughter ABSILA my negro man named Brutus, also one feather bed and furniture thereto belonging and one mare and womans saddle also one Horse with all my cattle and sheep and half my Hogs with all my Household furniture of every kind not otherwise given by this my last Will with one half of my wareing apparrell to hur and hur Heirs forever.

Item I give to my Daughter MILISENT JONES one half of my wearing apparrill to hur and hur Heirs.

Item I give to my Granddaughter BATHANY BOND one feather bed and furniture to hur & hur Heirs forever.

Lastly I do appoint my Son ABSOLAM BLANSHARD and my Brother WILLIAM HINTON Executors to this my Last Will and do hereby Revoak and make void all Wills and Testaments by me before made and this only to be taken for my Last will and Testament in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and fixed my seal the day and year first above written.

SARAH (hur X mark) BLANSHARD (seal)

Signed Sealed Pronounced and acknowledged in Presents of us JACOB HUNTER, Jurat, ABNER (his X mark) BLANSHARD.

May court 1782: exhibited by ABSOLOM BLANSHARD & WILLIAM HINTON, executors; proved by the oath of JACOB HUNTER, Esq.

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WILLIAM GOODMAN: Dated-3 November 1780; Proved-May court 1782.

In the name of God Amen. I WILLIAM GOODMAN of the County of Gates Householder, being in health of body and of Perfect mind & memory thanks be given to God. Calling to mind the morttaily of the Body

Item I give and Bequeath unto SARAH UMFLET my Granddaughter one Shilling and six pence silver money to her and her heirs.

Item I give and Bequeath unto JESSE ELLIS my Granson one shilling and six pence to him and his heirs.

Item I give and devise unto my Youngest Son JOB UMFLET, my Plantation and all the Land belonging to the same and all the Rest of my whole Estate both Real and personal within dors and without of what nater and kind soever to him and his heirs forever.

And I do denominate and appoint my Son JOB UMFLET and WILLIAM ELLIS to be my true sole Executor to this my Last Will and Testament. And I do hereby Revoke Disanul and make ovord all former Wills and Testaments by me hear tofore made in Witness whereof I the said WILLIAM UMFLET hath heare unto set my hand and seal this 20 day of March 1784. Signed Sealed and acknowledged by the said WILLIAM UMFLET.

WILLIAM (mark X his) UMFLET (seal)

WILLIAM ELLIS, SARAH (mark X hur) ELLIS, CHARLES EURE.

August court 1784: exhibited by JOB UMFLEET, executor; proved by the oath of CHARLES EURE.

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JACOB HUNTER: Dated-5 February 1780; Proved-November court 1784.

In the Name of God Amen. I JACOB HUNTOR of Gates County in the State of North Carolina Calling to mind the uncertainty of this life and knowing that I must depart when it shall Please God to call me, do for the Better Ordering and Selling my Estate make and ordain this my Last Will and Testament in manner following. And first I will that all my Just Debts may be paid and Satisfied by my Exect<sup>r</sup> hereafter named.

Item I leave to my beloved Wife SARAH HUNTOR the use of one third part of my Land and Improvements thereon Dureing hur Natural Life. Also the use of two Negros Viz Ceasor & Hannah dureing hur natural Life and the use of one Negro Boy named Harry dureing hur Widdowhood and after hur deceas Ceasor & Hannah and there Inceas to be Equally Devided Between All my Children Viz. ISAAC, LEAH & ELISABETH.

Item I give to my Son ISAAC HUNTOR all my Land and there Improvements having regard to the use of my Land Already left to my beloved wife. Allso my Grist and Saw Mill, also foure Negros Viz Jack, Sambo, Joe and Will with all my Black Smith Toles to him and his Heirs forever.

Item I give to my Daughter LEAH RIDDICK Two Negroes Viz Ceasor who she has in hur possession and Harry after the time that the use of him is left my wife to her & hur Heirs forever.

Item I give to my Daughter ELISABETH HUNTER Three Negroes Viz Tony, Rose and Phebe to hur and hur Heirs forever.

Lastly I leave all my Estate not allready given by this will of what nature soever to be Equally Divided between my beloved Wife SARAH HUNTOR, and my three children ISAAC HUNTOR, LEAH RIDDICK & ELISABETH HUNTOR to them and there Heirs forever.

\* I do by these Presents nominate and appoint my Son in Law SETH RIDDICK and my Son ISAAC HUNTOR Executors to this my Last Will and Testament and Do by these Presents Disalow and Revoak all former Wills by me made and this only to be Taken for my Last Will and Testaments. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal this fifth day of Febuary in the year of our Lord Christ one thousand Seven Hundred & Eighty

JACOB HUNTOR (seal)

Signed Sealed and Acknowledged in Presents of Us: JAMES HODGES, WILLIAM FREEMAN, ABNER HARRELL.

November court 1784: exhibited by ISAAC HUNTER, executor; proved by the oaths of WILLIAM FREEMAN & ABNER HARRELL.

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JOSEPH NISBETT: Dated-6 November 1784; Proved-November court 1784.

In the Nam of God Amen. This 6th day of November in the year of our Lord 1784 I JOSEPH NESBET of the County of Gates and State of North Carolina being sick and weak in body, but of Perfect mind & memory thanks be to God for the same and calling to mind the mortality of my body & knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die do make and ordain this my Last & Testament. That is to say principally & first of all I give and Recommend my Sol into the hands of God that gave it & as for my body I Recommend it to the Earth to be Buried in a Christian like & Deacent manner at the Disserrection of my Executors. Nothing doubting but at the Grate Resurrection I shall recive the same again by the mighty Power of God & as touching such World Estate whearewith it Pleased God to Bless in this Life I give devise & Disspose of the sam in the following manner, that is to say in the first place,

Item I give & Bequeath to my father in law PARKER all my waring apprel.

Item I give & Bequeath to my well beloved wife SARAH NESBET all & Singellur my hole Estate Rail & Personal to her & her Ears forever.

Likewise Constitute make & ordain her my hole & Sole Executrix of this my Last Will & Testament & Singellor my Lands messaged & Tennements by her freely to be possessed & enjoyed & I do hearby utterly disalow Revoke every other form Testaments Wills & legacies Bequeath and Executors by me in any ways before this time named Willed & Bequeathed, Ratifying and confirming this & no other to be

Item I give and bequeath to my son CYPRIAN GOODMAN my Negro woman Pleasant after the Decease of his mother to him and his heirs and assigns forever.

Item I give and bequeath to my son WILLIAM GOODMAN My Negro woman Nance and all her Increase from the Date hereof after his mothers Decease.

Item I give and bequeath to my son JOEL GOODMAN my Still and utensils belonging to him and his heirs forever.

Willed and bequeathed Ratifying and confirming this and noe other to be my Last will and testament in Witness my hand whereof I the said JOEL GOODMAN have hereunto set my hand and fixt my seal this Thirty first day of January in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred & Eighty six.

JOEL GOODMAN (seal)

I appoint my Son JAMES GOODMAN & JOHN GOODMAN to be my Joint Executors to this my Last will and Testament to my true Intent and meaning, Test: JOHN BETHEY, JAMES LAND, WM. GOODMAN.

August Court 1786: exhibited by JAMES GOODMAN & JOHN GOODMAN, executors; proved by the oath of JOHN BETHEY & WILLIAM GOODMAN.

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ELISHA HUNTER: Dated-7 May 1786; Proved-August court 1786.

In the name of God Amen. I ELISHA HUNTER of the State of North Carolina in the County of Gates being very weak in body but of perfect mind and memory Thanks begiven to God for the same calling to 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 and Testament as followeth.

Item I give and bequeath to my Daughter SELE HUNTER one feather bed and furniture, Two cows and year old two two year old steers, six sheep, ten hoggs, one Iron Pott, two Puter Dishes, two Basons, twelve Pewter Plates, one frying pan, one Riding mare, bridle and Sadle, I say to her and her Heirs forever.

Item I leave to my Loving wife ANN HUNTER the use of all the remaining part of my perishable Estate of what nature or kind so ever during her widowhood and in case she should marry it is my will and Desire that all my Estate that I have Left her the use of be Equeally Devided Amongst my wife and children or their Legal Reposables, except my Grandaughter ANN LAY Daughter of AMOS FREEMAN which said ANN LAY hath already Received her full part of my Estate and furthermore it is my will and desire that my loving wife ANN HUNTER have free Liberty on any part of my Land so far as her People can cultivate but not to sell or Destroy timber or timbertrees further then her People can work off themselves, and that she be not Deprived of a greater part then one half of my

Apple Orchard, Aand Lastly I do nominate and apppoint my son THOMAS HUNTER and JOSEPH RIDDICK my Sole Executors to se this my Last will and Testament fully Executed in manner and form as above mentioned Ratifiing and confirming this and no other to be my Last will and Testament. In witness whereof I the said ELISHA HUNTER have hereunto set my hand and fixed my Seal this Seventh Day of May one thousand Seven hundred and Eighty Six.

ELISHA HUNTER (seal)

Signed Sealed Published and Pronounced in the Presents of JOHN GORDON, SARAH HUNTER, SARAH (her X mark) HUNTER.

August Court 1786: exhibited by THOMAS HUNTER & JOSEPH RIDDICK, ex-ecutors; proved by the oath of JOHN GORDON.

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JOHN MILLER: Dated-23 November 1786; Proved-February Court 1787.

In the Name of God Amen. November 23<sup>d</sup> 1786, I JOHN MILLER calling to mind the mortality of my body & knowing its appointed once for man to die do make & ordain this my Last will & Testament that is to say first of all I give and Reccomenend my Soul to God that gave it & my body to be buried in a Christian like form at the Discretion of my Executors and as Touching such wordly Estate wherewith it hath Pleased God to Endow me with in this Life I Dispose of the same in the following manner viz.

I give and Bequeath unto my three sons ROBERT MILLER and REUBEN MILLER & WILLIAM MILLER all my Land with all the apurtenances there- to belonging likewise all my Personal Estate to be Equely Devided between them and their Surviving Heirs Lawfully begotten forever Provided never the less if my Dearly Beloved wife RACHEL should remain unmarried that she should have the use of my Plantation and Personal Estate until my children should come of age, if not that all should be Sold as to my Personal Estate as may appear to my Executors W<sup>t</sup> JAMES GREGORY and JOSIAH GRANBERY to be most advan- tagous to my children Ratifying this to be my Last will and Test- ament in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal this day & year above writen.

JOHN (his X mark) MILLER (seal)

Signed Sealed and Delivered in the presence of EDW<sup>d</sup> (his K mark) KELLY, PATRICK HEGERTY.

February Court 1787: exhibited by RACHEL MILLER; proved by the oath of PATRICK HAGERTY.

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JAMES PILAND: Dated-8 December 1786; Proved-February court 1787.

In the name of God Amen. I JAMES PILAND of Gates County and State of North Carolina being sick and weak of body, but of Sound and per- fect mind and memory blessed be God for the same do this the Eighth

able sheep also all the flax and cotton now on hand & one third the woll also it is my desire my wife shall have her Cyder Stilled tole free and her corn Ground Tole Free for the use of our own family as Long as she gives her assistance in Repairing the Mill when wanting also I leave her the use of the Plantation I now live on as the road Runs, beginning at POWELLS mill thence down the said road over  
\* the Gum Cosway oposit JOSEPH JOHN SUMNER corner tree, thence binding on the said SUMNERS line to the Orapeak Swamp thence down the said Swamp to the first Station with all the appertainances thereto belonging except the Brandy Still and Smiths shop & Tools, also I leave her all the Feathered flock such as Turkeys, Ducks &c

\*Item I give and Bequeth unto my Loving Son LUKE SUMNER all my Lands beginning on the south side of Orapeak swamp, BALLARDS & POWELLS Lines Thence up the said Swamp to the main Road thence down the said Road as far as my Lands Runs, except whereon JOSIAH FRANKLIN now lives with all the whiteoak neck sturgeses place, old Quarter marsh and disart Lands with the saw and Griss Mills, Appertainances and Utentisals thereunto belonging Likewise all the folley Lands and the place called POWELLS Lands with all the appertainances thereunto Belonging to him his Heirs and assigns forever. Likewise the Plantation I now live on after the Death of my wife with all the appertainances, als my Smiths Shop and Tools and Brandy Still but not to be Removed untill after my wifes Death. Likewise I give my Loveing Son LUKE SUMNER Eleven Negroe Slaves named Tom, Reuben, Dick, Patience, Fanny, Patt at Warwick, Jack at Warwick, Diver, Demsey, Sam & Hance, also three yoak oxen thirten Head Sortable Cattle, the best Curtain Bead and furniture and one other Bead and furniture of a Less vallue, three Horses called Litefoot, Dancer and Spencs and one third the Household and Kitchen furniture except what is given or lent to him his Heirs and assigns forever.

\*Item I give and Bequeth to my Loveing Daughter MARY HUNTER eight Hundred and Fifteen Acres Land or there abouts lying and being Situate in the County of Perquimons, and has a Deed of Gift already for the same to her her Heirs and assigns forever, also nine Negroe Slaves already in Possesion, named Hagar, Peg, Sal, Isaac, Cealy, Black Sam, Pol Wead(?) and (short Jack not Received yet) also Fifty Pounds Spence in lue of any further Devision of Stock and furniture, but in the last Devision to have an Equal Shear with the other four children.

\*Item I give and Bequeth to my Loving Daughter ESTHER MITCHEL my Warwicks Plantation and all the Land thereunto Joining on the North side Warwick and up Fox Branch to Include HOBSES (the mill and still at warwick excepted) also I give my Daughter EASTHER MITCHEL a place known by the name of Fryal Hill on the south side warwick swamp Likewise my Piney woods Lands in four Deeds Joining together (to wit) WINGATE, ROGERSONS, ALBERSONS and CHAPPELS deeds to her her Heirs & assign forever. Also Ten Negro Slaves now in her Possesion named Will, Robbin, Ben, Dicks, Betty, Hannah, Yellow Hannah, Prudence, Cherry and Patience, likewise all the cattle, hoggs and sheep belonging to the Warwick Plantation, one curtain Bead and furniture and one other Bead and furniture of a Less Vallue, one Black mare and Two bay Horse colts and one third the household and kitchen furniture Except what is given or lent, to her her Heirs and assigns forever.



formerly belonging to DAVID SUMNER one hundred acres in the Indian neck not far from JAMES FREEMAN one seine place at the mouth Catron creek with forty acres Marsh, one hundred acres Marsh and Pecoson land lying on Catron Creek from muddy creek up the Marshes, also one Hundred and fifty acres Land lying in the Dismal Swamp oposit COLO. JESSE EASONS. Likewise my brandy still at warwick with all the Utencils thereunto belonging, also my Mill House at Warwick with the Mill Stones, Iron work and all the Utensials thereunto belonging, one Large Tarkiln over the Pecoson near the Virginia Line, two other Kilns this side the Pecoson not finished, to be sold and the money to be Equally Devided as above Directed, also it is my Desire that my negro Girl Cate be sold for the best price soon after my Death and the money Equally Divided amongst my five children also it is my Desire that the Negroes with there Inceas (if any) together with stock and furniture that I lend my wife be Equally Devided amongst my five children after the Death of my wife and in Case the Negroe Man big Jacob which I lend my wife shoud prove Insolent and not Obedient that he be sold and my wife to have one third part the money and the Remaining part to be Equally Devided amongst my children. I desire the Plank at the Mill be sold & y money devided my will and Desire is that the articles above Lent to my wife be to her use dureing her Nattural Life but not to be convayed by any convayance whatever unless it be to one of my children it is my will and Desire that my Daughter CHRISTIAN after my Death Remove herself and property from this place that my wife be not Interupted of a quiet possession it is my will and Desire that my wife should have Enough of the Leather nowin the House to shoe herself and family one winter & to have enough of what is in Tan now to shoe them another winter and the Rest and Residue of my Estate of what nature or kind so ever and wheresoever after my Just Debts Leagucies and Expenses is paid I leave to be Equally Devided amongst my five children.

Lastly I nominate and appoint my friends JETHRO BALLARD, DAVID RICE, and TIMOTHY HUNTER to be my Executors to this my Last Will and Testament to see it fulfilled and accomplished in every Particular it is my Desire that the Court (if they think proper) do appoint my friends JETHRO SUMNER, KEDAR BALLARD and JAMES NORFLEET, to be my Deviders and make the Divisions in this my Last Will and Testament according to Equity and good concience in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and fixed my seal this Thirtieth day of May in the year of our Lord Christ one thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty Seven.

JAMES SUMNER (seal)

Signed and Sealed and by the Testator Published and Declared to be and contain his Last Will and Testament in the Presents of us the Subscribers who have witnessed the same in the room where he then was at his Request K. BALLARD, JAMES NORFLEET, WILLIAM PARKER, JOSIAH FRANKLIN, WILLIAM (his X mark) MATHIAS.

August Court 1787: exhibited by JETHRO BALLARD, DAVID RICE & TIMOTHY HUNTER, executors; proved by the oaths of KEDAR BALLARD, JAMES NORFLEET & WILLIAM MATHIAS.

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and there Heirs forever.

Item I Give to my Son ELISHA HANCE BOND my Two Negros Jacob & Miles and my year oald coal I say to him and his Heirs forever.

Item I Give to my Two Sons DEMSEY BOND and THOMAS BOND my Negro Girl Easter and her Increas to be equally divided between them at my Son DEMSEY BOND ariving to the age of Twenty one years.

Item I Give to my Daughter NANCEY BOND my Negro Woman Zilpha and her Increas hereafter to be Born I say to her and her Heirs forever.

Item I Give to my Daughter SELAH BOND my negro man Champen I say to her and her Heirs forever.

Item I Give to my Loving wife RACHEL BOND my Two Negroes Isaac and Grace also my mare and side sadle I say to her and her Heirs forever.

My Desir is that my Negro man Merice my Lands or mash Caled Lying on Benets Creek and my Purisson Cattle also my Riding Sadle be sold by my Executors and the money arising from the sale to go Towards Discharging my Debts. I also Desire that my Loving wife have the use of my Estate so long as she my Live and at her Death all the remaining part of my Estate not before I Given away be Equally Di- vided to and amongst all my children or there Legal Representatives.

And Lastly I do nominate and appoint ROBERT RIDDICK Esq., RICHARD BOND, JOHN B. WALTON and THOMAS HUNTER my sole Executors to see this my Last Will and Testament fully Executed in manner and form as above mentioned. Ratifiing this and no other to be my last will and Testament in witness whereof I the said DEMSEY BOND have here- unto set my hand and fixed my seal this Twenty Eight day of January one thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty Eight.

DEMSEY BOND (seal)

Signed Sealed Published and Pronounced in the Presents of us JAMES WALTON, EASTER WALTON, MARY BOND.

Exhibited - February Court 1788 - by RICHARD BOND & JOHN BENBERY WALTON, executors; proved by the oath of JAMES WALTON.

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MARY HARE: Dated-22 September 1780; Proved-February Court 1788.

In the Name of God Amen. I MARY HARE, widow of E<sup>d</sup> HARE, deceased of Gates County in North Carolina being very sick and weak but of Perfect mind and memory thanks be Given unto God Calling unto mind the mortality of my Body and knowing that it appointed for all men one to die do make and ordain this my Last Will and Testament that is to say Principally and first of all I Give and Recommend my Soul into the Hand of Almighty God that gave it and my body I Recomend to the Earth to be Buried in decent Christian Burial at the Dis- cretion of my Executors nothing doubting but at the General Resurrect-

DOCTON BAGLEY and then to be delivered to him at his ariving to the age of Twenty one years of age.

I also desire that my Executors have the hole and sole power in them to sell and devide all my Estate of every kind as the shall think most proper and best.

And Lastly I do nonimate and appoint my Father-in-law AMOS TROTMAN, THOMAS HUNTER, KEDAR HILL hole and sole Executors to this my Last will and testament fully executed in manner and form as above mentioned satifieing and confirming this & no other to be my last Will and Testament in witness whereof I the said JACOB BAGLEY have hereunto set my hand and fixed my seal this third day of November 1788. My Desire is that my DOCTON BAGLEY be bound to the House Carpenters & Joiners Business and also for my Son HENRY be bound to the same busness after ther ariving to fourteen years of age also it is my desire that my Executors see that the be schooled carried over

JACOB BAGLEY (seal)

Signes sealed Published and Pronounced in the Presents of THOMAS TROTMAN, JOHN (his X mark) HOBBS, MARY (her X mark) HILL.

February court 1789: exhibited by AMOS TROTMAN, THOMAS HUNTER, KEDAR HILLS, executors; proved by the oath of THOMAS TROTMAN.

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WILLIAM PARKER, SR: Dated-28 October 1788; Proved-May Court 1789.

In the name of God Amen. I WILLIAM PARKER SENIOR, Planter of the County of Gates and the State of North Carolina being of Perfect Health and of sound mind memory and understanding thanks be given to God for the Same calling unto mind the mortality of my body do make and ordain this to be my Last Will and Testament in mannor following viz I recommend my Soul into the hand of Almighty God that gave it and my Body I recommend to the Earth to be Buried in a decent Christian manner at the discription of my Executors herein after named and as to tuching such worldly estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me in this life I give devise and dispose of the same in the following mannor and form that is to say.

Imprimis I give and bequeath to my well beloved wife ELISABETH PARKER, all and singular my Lands and Plantation, Negroes, Stock of all kinds with all my Goods both in doors and out Doors during her natural Life and widowhood and no longer.

Item I give and bequeath to my Son JOHN PARKER one Negro Boy named Jack and seven pounds Ten shillings lawfull money Virginia Currency to paid out of my Estate.

Item I give and bequeath to my son WILLIAM PARKER my annuel Plan-tation, a Boffat belonging to my House, but if he should die with-out Heirs, to fall to my son KEDAR.

Twenty one years then an in that case the one that arrives to the age of Twenty one to proressess the whole of my Lands in Gates County I also give all the remaining part of my Estate be it of what nature or kind so ever to be equally divided between my two Sons ELISHA & EDWARD TROTMAN at my Son ELISHA TROTMAN arriving to the age of twenty one years then for my Estate to be divid<sup>d</sup> that is given to my two Sons to be divided in three equal parts and for my sons as they arrive to the age of twenty one years to receive their equal parts and my Loving wife to have the use of the other third during her life as well as the use of the other two thirds that I have given my two sons that is to say ELISHA & EDWARD TROTMAN until they arrive to the age of Twenty one, I also desire that my loving wife have the use of my Lands whereon I now live until my two Sons arrives to the age of Twenty one years, that is to say ELISHA TROTMAN to possess one third at his arriving to age and the other third to be divided at the death of their mother.

I also desire that my Executors sell as much of my Pershable Estate as will pay my just debts and Lastly I do nominate and appoint my son AMOS TROTMAN and my brother THOMAS TROTMAN to this my last Will and Testament fully executed in manner and form above mentioned Ratifying and confirming this and no other to be my will and testament in witness whereof I the said AMOS TROTMAN here unto set my hand and affixed my seal this tenth day of May 1790.

AMOS (his A mark) TROTMAN (seal)

Signed sealed publish<sup>d</sup> and pronounced in the presents of JAMES BAKER, THOS<sup>S</sup> HUNTER, SALLY (her X mark) SPEIGHT.

May court 1790: exhibited by THOMAS TROTMAN, executor; proved by the oath of THOMAS HUNTER.

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JOSHUA SMALL: Dated-18 July 1781; Proved-November Court 1790.

In the name of God Amen. I JOSHUA SMALL of Gctes County in the State of North Carolina being old and weak in Body, but of sound and disposing mind and memory, thanks be given to God therefore calling to 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 and Testament that is to say principally & first of all I give my Soul into the hands of Almighty God that gave it and my Body I recommend to the earth to be Buried in a Christian like Burial at the discretion of my Executors, nothing doubting but at the General Resurrection I shall receive the same again by the mighty power of God that gave it and as touching such worldly Estate as it hath pleased God to bless me with in this life. I give devise and dispose of the same in the following manner and form following viz.

Item I leave the use of the Plantation whereon I now live unto my beloved wife CHARITY SMALL also one Feather Bed and Furniture, one negro named Demsey with all my Household Furniture during her

WILLIAM HINTON: Dated 27 October 1796; Proved November court 1796.

In the name of God Amen. I WILLIAM HINTON of the County of Gates and State of North Carolina being of sound mind and memory blessed be God do this twenty seventh day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety six make and ordain this my last will and Testament in manner following that is to say.

First I lend unto my wife MARY HINTON all my lands and plantations where on I now live during her natural life except one hundred acres in White pott percosan to be sold by my executors hereafter mentioned.

Item I give and bequath unto my wife MARY HINTON her heirs and assigns forever one fourth part of all my negros to be laid of by my executors hereafter mentioned. I also give unto my said wife one hundred barrells of good Marchatable corn, two horses, one ran and bay, one riding chair, one hunting saddle, all my cattle belonging to the plantation whereon I now live, Ten head of sheep two thirds of the Hoggs belonging to s<sup>d</sup> plantation, Two feather beds and furniture, one desk, one half of my s<sup>d</sup> plantation utencills one candle stand.

Item I give and bequeath unto my daughter ELIZABETH THOMSON her heirs and assigns forever all the lands I purchased of JOSHUA PAGE, MARY PAGE & JEREMIAH DUNING which will more fully appear by the deeds. Item I give & bequeath unto my daughter ELIZABETH THOMSON her heirs and assigns forever one third of my negros not legasied away to be laid of by my executors hereafter mentioned also one beofhat one bottle case, one third of my stock of hogs on the plantation whereon I now live and the remainder of the sheep belonging to said plantation and remainder of the plantation utensills twelve head of cattle to be taken out of my stock on roan Oak.

Item I give and bequeath unto my two sons NOAH HINTON and WILLIAM HINTON their heirs and assigns forever, all my lands and plantation to be equally divided when they arriveth the age of twenty one years or marrages share and share alike and if eith of my two sons NOAH HINTON or WILLIAM HINTON die under the above mentioned age for it all to fall to the surviving one.

Item I give and bequeath unto my two sons NOAH HINTON and WILLIAM HINTON their Heirs and assigns forever all the remainder of my negros that are not legasied away to be equally divided when they arived at the age of twenty one years or marriage share and share alike also two hundred barrells of good Marchantable corn all my Horses, cattle, sheep, Household furniture and Kitchen d<sup>o</sup>. all my plantation utensills that are not legasied away. My will and desire is that if my two sons NOAH HINTON and WILLIAM HINTON both should die before they arrive to the above mentioned age that all the lands and negros given to my said sons should fall to ELIZABETH THOMSON her heirs and assigns forever.

I hereby appoint my trusty friend SAMUEL HARRELL, ISAAC HUNTER, LEWIS THOMSON, NOAH THOMSON executors to this my last will and

Testament. In witness whereof I the said WILLIAM HINTON have to this my last will and Testament set my hand and seal the day and year above written. Signed sealed and delivered in the Presance of us

WILLIAM HINTON (seal)

JOHN ROBBINS, ISAAC RHOADS, MORNING (her mark) SUMNER.

(Jurat) LEWIS THOMSON & ISAAC HUNTER qual<sup>d</sup>.

November court 1796: exhibited by ISAAC HUNTER & LEWIS THOMSON, executors; proved by the oath of MOURNING SUMNER.

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WILLIAM BARNES BARCLIFT: Dated - November 1796; Proved - November court 1796.

State of North Carolina( ) In the name of God amen. I WILLIAM BARNES  
Gates County ) BARCLEFT of The County of Gates Being sick  
and weak or in perfect health of body or of perfect mind and memory  
thank be given unto God 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 and Testament that is to principally  
and first of all I give and recommend my Soul into the hands of  
Almighty God that gave and my body I recommend to the earth to be  
buried in decent Christian bural at the discretion of my executors  
nothing doubting but at general Resurrection I shall receive the  
same to such worldly estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless  
me in this life I give dismiss and dispose of the same in following  
manner and form.

First of all I give and bequeath unto my Uncle JAMES BARNES 292  
acres of land lying in Perquimon County general called marke popple  
also tow negro fellows one by the name of Moses and the other by  
the name of Ishmael also one looking glass, one pear gold sleeves  
bottons, one large booke, one riding saddle and bridle, one small  
gun, two gold rings, one watch also one band of and hundred pound  
two ditto 75 pound each of whom I likewise constitute make and  
ordain the Soul executor of this my last will and testament all  
and Singular my lands messuages and tenements by him freely to be  
possessed and enjoyed.

And I do hereby utterly disallow revoke and disannul all and every  
former testaments wills legacies bequests and executors by me in  
any wise before name & willed and bequeathed ratifying and confirm-  
ing this and other to be my last will and Testament.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this day  
of November in year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and  
ninety six.

I devise to WILLIAM SUMNER BARNES all the remainder of my Estate  
that I haired of my Uncle THOMAS BARNE.

my last will and Testament duly executed and performed according to law. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & fix my seal the day and year first above written. Signed and delivered and pronounced in the presence of us

JAMES (his I mark) DAVIS (seal)

Teste: JONATHEN LASSITER, ABRAHAM (his X mark) SPIVEY, JOHN (IA) ANDERTON.

November court 1797: exhibited by KEZIAH DAVIS, executrix; proved by the oath of JONATHON LASSITER.

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BRIDGETT WIGGINS: Dated - 27 June 1797; Proved - February court 1798.

In the name of God Amen. I BRIDGETT WIGGINS of Gates County in the State of North Carolina calling to mind the uncertainty of this mortal life do make & declare this to be my last will and testament in manner and form as follows.

I give to my daughter JUDITH WIGGINS & to her daughter EDITH WIGGINS all my cattle & hogs and all my household & Kinchen furniture & all my estate be it of what nature or kindsoever after my decease. I say to them and their heirs and assigns.

Lastly I nominate and appoint my friend DAVID RICE executor to this my last will & testament to see the same performed according to my true intent & meaning. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal this Twenty seventh day of June 1797.

Signed sealed & acknowledg<sup>d</sup> in the presence of

BRIDGETT (her X mark) WIGGINS (seal)

HEZEKIAH (her X mark) JONES, CLOOH (her X mark) JONES.

February court 1798: exhibited by DAVID RICE, executor; proved by the oath of KEZIAH JONES.

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THOMAS HUNTER: Dated - 19 September 1797; Proved - February court 1798.

In the name of God Amen. I THOMAS HUNTER of Gates County in the State of North Carolina this 19th day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety seven being in a reasonable state of health thank God for the same do make and ordain this my last will and Testament in the manner and form following that is to say in the first place is that all my Just debts be paid by my executors and my body to be buried by my loving wife that hath gone as I hope to heaven when I hope to see her and what worldly estate it hath pleased God to possess me with to be divided in the following manner that is to say.

Item I give and bequeath to my son ELISHA HUNTER all my plantation and lands with my pocosen lands and mills lying and being in stooping creek & lying in the County of Chowan also my plantation and lands that I purchased of ABRAHAM EASON with the appertenances thereon also my desert lands which joins the aforesaid lands which lands COLO. JOSEPH RIDDICK are desired to make a right to. I say all the above mention land and apurtenances unto him the s<sup>d</sup> ELISHA HUNTER and his heirs and assigns forever.

Item I give and bequeath unto my son ISAAC HUNTER the plantation & lands whereon I now live with the apurtenances thereon I say to him and his heirs and assigns forever. My will & desire is if my son ISAAC HUNTER die before he arrives to the age of twenty years or marryes that my son ELISHA HUNTER prossess all the lands wheron I live and that my son ELISHA HUNTER deliver up my desert plantation with the improvements thereon to be equally divided between his two sisters ANN HUNTER & CHRISTAN HUNTER.

ITEM I give and bequeath all the remaining part of my estate not before given away by this will to be equally divided to and amongst my fore children that is to say ELISHA HUNTER, ISAAC HUNTER, ANN HUNTER & CHRISTEN HUNTER I say to them & their heirs and assigns forever.

I also desier that there be not any wast made on any part of the lands given my son ISAAC HUNTER except for the imedate use of the plantation such as rail timber fencing the pasturs firewood & the like.

I lastly nominate and appoint my sons ELISHA HUNTER, ISAAC HUNTER, JAMES GREGORY Esq. & COLO. JOSEPH RIDDICK executors to this my last will and Testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and fixed my seal the day and date first above mentioned. Signed sealed published and declared to be my last will & testament.

THO<sup>S</sup> HUNTER (seal)

In Presents of us WM. CARTER, GEORGE OUTLAW, MARK (his X mark) OWENS.

February court 1798: exhibited by JOSEPH RIDDICK & ELISHA HUNTER, executors; proved by the oath of WILLIAM CARTER, GEORGE OUTLAW.

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CHRISTOPHER RIDDICK: no date given; Proved - May Court 1798.

In the name of God Amen. I CHRISTOPHER RIDDICK of Gates County and State of North Carolina being very weak and sick but of a sound and disposing mind and memory do make and ordain this instrument of writing to be and contain my last will and Testament. First and principally I recommend my soul into the hands of Almighty God that gave it and my body to the earth to be buried in a Christian like manner by my executors hereafter named and as to what worldly goods it hath pleased Almighty God to bless me with I give and bequeath and dispose of in the following manner (to wit).



\* Item I gave unto my son ELISHA ROBERTS and my son JOHN ROBERTS my land to be equally divided between them at my son JOHN arriveing to the age of twenty one years to them and their heirs forever.

\* Item I gave unto my son ELISHA ROBERTS & my three daughters hereafter named and my loving wife CHRISTIAN ROBERTS ten negros here after named and there increase Davi, Rachel, Abraham, Tanner, Isaac, Jacob, Jack, Charity, Tomson & litle Dave to be equally divided to and amongst my wife CHRISTAN, my son ELISHA, my daughters NANCY, LIDEY & SELEY ROBERTS after my son ELISHA ROBERTS arives to the age of twenty one years of age to them and there heirs forever.

\* I also desier that my executors hereafter named have my mill erected and built on the best termesthey can and for the mill to be let out for as long a time as will pay for the building of sd mill. I also desier that all the remaining part of my estate be equally divided between my wife and my four children after my just debts be paid ELISHA, NANCEY, LEDEY & SELEY. I also desier that my wife CHRISTAN have the use of my lands untill my son JOHN ROBERTS arives to the age of twenty one to assist in raising of the children on and not for my wife to have any right to have any more land cleared then would be sufficient for the family use that know lives on the land and incres of the said family. I nominate and appoint my trusty friend DEMSEY BOND, THOMAS HUNTER & JOSEPH RIDDICK, executors to this my last will and testament to see it fulfilled and accomplished in each and every particular hereby revoking all other former wills by me made in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day & year above written.

Signed sealed pronounced and declared by the said JONATHAN ROBERTS to be his last Will and Testament in presents of us.

JONATHAN ROBERTS (seal)

\* JETHRO (his J mark) MILTEAR, Jurat, MARY (her mark) MILTEARE

February Court 1803: exhibited by JOSEPH RIDDICK, esquire, executor; proved by the oath of JETHRO MILTEARE.

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SARAH SAUNDERS: Dated 16 December 1803; Proved May court 1804.

Know all men by these presents that I SARAH SAUNDERS of Gates County State of N<sup>o</sup>. Carolina being now in my perfect senses do ordain this to be my last will & Testament. First I committ my Soul to God that gave it & my body to be buried in a Christian like manner and as for my worldly goods & affects I give & bequeath as follows.

Item all my just debts to be paid equally by my two sons JOSEPH & HENRY.

Item I give & bequeath unto my two sons HENRY SAUNDERS & JOSEPH SAUNDERS all my plantation & lands which I own on the river & which I purchased of W<sup>m</sup> KING, JOS. SPEIGHT, JOS. PARKER & ELIZABETH DWYER as pr deed on record to them & their heirs & assigns forever.