

Will of John Maulsby

North Carolina

In The Name of God Amen, I, John Maulsby of Bladen County, planter, do make this my last Will and Testament in manner following that is to say. Imprimis: I give to my sons John & William and my daughter Hannah & one pound six shillings and eight pence proclamation money

Item: I give and bequeath unto my beloved Wife all the rest and residue of my personal Estate to be disposed of as she shall think fit. Item: I give, devise and bequeath to my Wife Mary all my lands situate and being in the County of Bladen or elsewhere and all other my real Estate which I may be possessed of or entitled unto at the time of my death for and during the term of her natural life and after provided she shall remain a Widow and from and after her decease my will is that the same be divided between my daughters Mary and Sarah share and share alike, but in Case my said Wife Mary shall marry again that the same shall have her Dowry or Third of the said real Estate only and the rest and residue thereof shall go to and be divided between my said two daughters Mary and Sarah and their heirs share and share alike and I do hereby revoke and make void all former and other Wills by me at any time hereto made and do nominate and appoint my said Wife Mary sole Executrix of this my last Will and Testament. In Witness whereof I the said John Maulsby have hereinto set my Hand and Seal this Twenty fifth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and forty nine.

John Maulsby

Signed, Sealed, published and declared by the Testator as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who in the presence of the Testator and at his request have hereunto subscribed our Names as Witnesses.

Robt.

John Jones

Wm. Harrison

North Carolina
Bladen County

January Court 1750

The within Will Commission & Execution of William Harrison one of the witnesses thereto were returned to our Court held for the said County of Bladen on the fourth Tuesday in January and being read in open Court it was ordered that Letters of Administration be granted unto John Maulsby which is recorded in the Minutes of said Court. And Benjamin

Will of David Davis

In The Name of God, Amen, the Ninth Day of December in the year of our Lord God one thousand seven hundred & forty, I David Davis of the County of Bladen in the Province of North Carolina Being sick & weak in body but of perfect mind & memory thanks be given unto God therefor, Calling unto mind the Mortality of my body & knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die do make & Ordain this my last will & Testament. That is to say, principally & first of all, I give & recommend my soul into the hands of God that gave it, and for my body I commend it to the Earth to be Buried in a Christian like & decent manner at the discretion of my Executor hereinafter named nothing doubting but at the General Resurrection I shall receive the same again by the mighty Power of God, and as touching such worldly Estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me in this life I give, devise & dispose of the same in the following manner & form.

Imprimis, that is to say first of all my will is for all my just debts & funeral Expenses be first paid & discharged by my Executor in one year after my decease.

Item, I give, devise & bequeath unto my only & well beloved sister Rachel Davis & to her heirs forever all that plantation & tract of land which I purchased of Gabriel C. Wayne being six hundred & forty acres lying on the North East side of the North West River in the aforesaid County & Joyns the upper of Land surveyed for William Cary, do lead to her the said Rachel Davis & her lawful heirs forever together with all the Ready Money goods Effects Chattels & moveables whatsoever & wheresoever the same may be found to be due owing or payable or by me any wise belonging or appertaining to be paid by my Executor in one year after my decease, the land being first paid for and do hereby nominate & appoint my Trusty Friend William Bartram, Esq^r. to gather, Collect & receive into his custody & charge all & whatsoever goods, Chattels & effects to me any wise belong & therewith to pay sd Gabriel Wayne for the land according to my bargain with him and in my name to cause him to execute such a title for the same as is by agreement required.

And I do likewise constitute make & Ordain the sd William Bartram to be my only & sole Executor of this my last Will & Testament & do hereby utterly disallow revoke & disannul all & every other Testaments, Wills, Legacies, requests and Executors by me in anywise before this time made & bequeathed, ratifying & confirming this &

no other to be my last Will & Testament.

In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal the day & year first herein written.

David Davis

Signed, sealed, published
pronounced & declared by
the within named David
Davis as his last will &
Testament in the presence
of us.

Jonathⁿ Evans
Thos. ^{for} Walker
Thos. ^{mark} Jones

Bladen - Sept. 1741

The within Will was proved in open Court by the oath
of Jonathan Evans & he swore he saw David Davis execute
said will & that he believed him to be then in his proper
senses & that he also saw Thomas Jones & Thomas Walker
sign as Concurring at the same time
Jno Clayton, Ck.

May 22^d 1742

William Buttram, Executor of the within will this day
appeared before me and qualified himself by taking the oath
by law appointed for qualifications of Executors.
J. Montgomery, C.

Will of Thomas Davis

North Carolina }
Bladen County } In the Name of God, Amen, the second
day of October 1761, I, Thomas Davis of the County aforesaid
being of perfect mind & memory, Thanks be given unto God, do
make and ordain this my last Will and Testament that is to say,
I first order that after my decease there shall be a likely
young Negro wench bought and given to my daughter in law
Katherine Gready and likewise another Negro of the same age
bought and given to my daughter Mary Gready both to be purchased
with the money that I shall leave, and likewise one hundred
& seventy pounds which is due upon three Negroes which is upon
mortgage, I leave to be equally divided betwixt the two girls
Katherine & Mary. I likewise give to my daughter Mary Gready
all my tract of Land Containing five hundred acres (joining
to Secutary Creeks back Land) to her & her heirs forever. Likewise
to my beloved wife I give and bequeath the Plantation where
I now live with the House and all the Household furniture
besides all the Cattle, Horses & Hogs thereunto belonging (she
making of no waste) during her widowhood and further I desire
that after my wifes marriage or death the plantation
where I now live I give to my daughter Katherine Gready
to her & the heirs of her body for ever & further order that all
the Household goods, Cattle, Horses & Hogs to be equally
divided betwixt the two girls Katherine & Mary Gready. Likewise
I order that John Mitchell shall be paid Twenty Pounds Proc.
by my Executors, after all my just debts is paid, Likewise
I give to my Brother William Davis one shilling sterling.
Likewise I Constitute William Davis & John Lucas to be my
Executors to see this my last Will & Testament to be Confirmed.
In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal the
day & year above written.

Thomas ^{his} Davis

Signed, sealed, published
pronounced & declared by Thos. Davis
as his last Will & Testament in presence of
Turner

Ralph Miller
Thos. Newton

North Carolina } Be it known to all men by these presents
Bladen County } that whereas I, Thomas Davis of the County aforesaid