

In the Name of God. Amen

I Griffith Jones of Bladen County in the Province of North Carolina Esq. being weak of body but of perfect understanding considering the uncertainty and transience of my life and the many hazards and dangers that it is obnoxious to and being desirous to leave that small estate and fortune which God almighty has been pleased to bless me with in my family, with as much peace and union as may be and that I may have nothing of the troubling thought and contemplations with at my going out of it but think and meditate of the great mercies and inestimable blessing and comfort that are then enjoyed.

I do make this my last will and Testament in manner following. Resting nothing all former wills by me made. and first I resign my soul to the great and merciful God that made it hoping through the alone merits of my blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ to have a joyful resurrection to life eternal in Heaven and my body I commend to the grave to be decently interred as near as may be to my beloved Wife, at the discretion of my Executors herein after mentioned and as for my temporal estate and goods, whereof I am seized in fee and in certain lands tenements, and Hereditaments situate lying and being in the parish of Saint Martin and County of Beaufort.

Imprimis — I give devise and bequeath unto my daughter Margaret McRee the plantation that I now dwell in with all the houses and barns it being the same parcel of land that I gave my son in 1729. a conditional deed of gift between William McRee my daughter Margarets Husband and me for the true performance of articles passed between us. and for the better securing of said lands to my daughter Margaret.

I give devise and bequeath the said containing three hundred and fifty acres lying and being in the East side of the North West as by

Patent bearing date the 5th of September 1735. reference being had may fully appear during her natural life and the life of her husband who is to have no power to give dispose of or to intermeddle with the same or any part thereof. neither the same to be liable to her Husbands debts, disposal or encumbrances and after her decease to the first second third fourth until male for ever. and in default of such issue to her daughter or daughters until female to take as tenants in common not as joint tenants and if the said daughter or daughters should marry her or their husbands. is to be made the same restrictions as the husband of my said daughter Margaret McRee. and in default of their issue unto the issue of my daughter Mary White and Anna Houston for ever.

Thus

I give devise and bequeath unto Griffith Jones White my grand son one tract of land containing two hundred acres. on the North east side of the North West. being part of one hundred and fifty acres as will fully appear by patent bearing date the 5th day of September 1735. out of which I sold to John Reares one hundred and fifty acres beginning at a Bay Wood Tree the corner of the said Reares line and running upwards for the amplement unto the said Griffith Jones during his natural life and the life of his body forever. and in default of his heirs to the heirs of my daughter Mary White forever. and in default of her heirs unto the heirs of my daughter Anna and Margaret McRee forever.

Thus

I give devise and bequeath unto my grand son Griffith Houston one tract of land containing three hundred and fifty acres of land in the North east side of the North West River. Beginning at my daughter Margaret McRees lower corner and running to the corner of my grand son Griffith Jones White land as will appear by the patent bearing date the 5th day of September 1735. during his natural life and the life of his body forever. and in default of his heirs to the heirs of my daughter

RECORD OF WILLS.

Item And in default of such issue to the issue of my daughter Mary White and Margaret McKee

And whereas I am seized in fee of and in (Wm) lands which I have surrendered to the use of my Will situate lying and being in Bladen County on the west side of the South Branch of Black River containing one hundred acres as will appear by Patent bearing date the 4th day of October 1751 as likewise another tract lying on the West side of the lower end of the White Marsh and fronting John Russ's land containing three hundred and twenty acres as will fully appear by Patent bearing date the sixteenth day of June 1739 to be disposed of to the best advantage by my executors and the money arising to be equally divided between my daughters Mary White Anne Houston and Margaret McKee shall and shall alike.

Item I give my negro called Glascon to my son John White.

Item I give my other negro fellow called George and my negro wench called Hannah unto my daughter Anna Houston.

Item I give my other negro called Lenny unto my daughter Margaret McKee.

Item I give unto my servant Elizabeth Birmingham if she should continue in my service at my desire three Acres and Cents.

Item I give all my House Cattle Sheep and Hogs Plantation Tools and Moveables unto my daughter Mary White Anne Houston and Margaret McKee share and share alike they being first appraised by three indifferent persons upon oath chosen by my Executors for that purpose and it is my Will and pleasure and I hereby declare the same to be and so therefore devise direct and appoint that if any of the Legatees herein before mentioned shall contest or Contravert this my last Will and Testament or any part thereof or article therein contained in or by any means or kind whatever or howsoever

RECORD OF WILLS.

I do hereby utterly exclude and debar all and every Legatee Legatees from all manner of benefit or advantage to be by him her or them had or gotten by this my last Will and Testament in any wise And I do hereby once and make void all and every Legacy and Legacies hereby given devised or bequeathed to the and or either and any of them the said Legatees that shall contest or Contravert or shall attempt or endeavor to subvert contest or Contravert this my last Will and Testament which I again declare to be my last Will and Testament hereby revoking and making void all former and other Wills by me at any time made.

Item

I nominate constitute and appoint my one of my sons John White William Houston, William McKee my Executors and Trustees of this my last Will.

In Witness Whereof I the said Griffith Jones have hereunto set my hand and seal this first day of March in the year of Our Lord 1787 sealed delivered published and declared by the Testator Griffith Jones to be his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who in the presence and sight of him the Testator have hereunto subscribed our names.

Griffith Jones. And
 Isaac Jones.
 Richard Crick.
 Peter Evans.

Bladen. August Term 1787

This Will was proved in open Court by the oath of Isaac Jones Esqr and ordered to be recorded.

Samuel Paine C.C.