

In the name of God Amen, I John Parsons of the County and parish of Elizabeth City, being very weak in body, but of sound and perfect memory do make and ordain this my last will and Testament: first and principally I recommend my soul into the hands of God who gave it, my body I give to the ground to be buried in a Christian-like manner, and as touching such temporal Estate as it hath pleased God to bestow upon me in this life, I give and dispose of the same in the manner and form following -

*Imprimis* I give and bequeath to my son William, Ap Thomas Parsons my land I recovered in England of William Parsons deceased, lying in the County of Elizabeth City containing by estimation four hundred acres more or less to him and his heirs forever. I likewise <sup>give</sup> to my son William, Ap Thomas Parsons his choice of half of my tract of land called and known by the name of Harris Quarter Tract to him and his heirs forever, upon Conditions he pay or cause to be paid unto my Daughter's Jenny and Rosella Parsons the sum of fifty pounds Virginia money each in two years after my decease, likewise to my Daughter Mary Parsons the sum of fifty pounds Virginia money when she arrives at the age of twenty one years or marries, and unto my Son hereafter named (viz) Edmund ~~Junior~~ Parsons, Roscoe Parsons, Thomas Parsons and Samuel Parsons, the sum of thirty pounds Virginia money each when they arrive at the age of twenty one years or marries -

*Item* It is my will and desire that the other half of my land called and known by the name of Harris Quarter Tract shall be sold by my Executor or Executors hereafter named to wards paying my just debts, except a debt due to the Estate of Edward Ambler deceased which I have made provision for by a debt due me on bonds; and in case the above land sell for more than will pay my just debts it is my will and desire my son William Ap Thomas Parsons should have the over-plus of the said money -

*Item* I lend unto my loving wife Mary Parsons, my land purchased by William Ap Thomas of John Armistead containing eighty two acres more or less, during his natural life and after her decease I then give the said land unto my son James Parsons and his heirs forever.

*Item* I lend to my loving wife Mary Parsons one half of my negroes, stock, household and kitchen furniture during his natural life

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For the support of herself and one half of my Children, the other half  
I lend to my son William Ap Thomas Parsons for the support of him-  
-self and the other half of my Children, and after the death of  
my loving wife it is my will and desire that all my Estate of  
Negroes, stock, Household and kitchen furniture, should be equally  
divided between my Children hereafter named, Viz) William &  
James, Edmund, Roscoe, Thomas, Samuel, Jenny, Priscilla and  
Mary Parsons, and in case either of them die without Lawfull  
Issue it is my will and desire that their part or parts should be  
equally divided among the survivors and their Heirs for ever

Item My will and desire is that my son William Ap Thomas Parsons  
and my loving friend George Booker be Executors to this  
my last will and Testament, hereby revoking and disallowing  
all former Wills heretofore by me made, ratifying and confirming  
this to be my last Will and Testament, In Witness whereof I have  
hereunto set my hand and affixed my Seal this sixth day  
of April 1787 <sup>give intended &</sup><sub>before signed</sub>

Signed sealed and delivered

in the Presence of

William Broom

John Parsons

Henry Tall

Robert Jefferson

Elizabeth City County Court February 25<sup>th</sup> 1790  
The Will was produced in Court and proved  
by the Oath of the Witnesses. The Court respected and  
ordered the same to be recorded and in the Month of  
William Ap Thomas Parsons one of the Executors  
in the Will named who made Oath according to Law  
to certify as granted him for attaining a Probate  
thereof in due Form upon his giving Security  
Whereupon he together with Mark Westwood  
Michael King Gent. his Security entered into the  
acknowledged Bond in the Penalty of £2000 -  
conditioned as the Law directs

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City County Court February 25. 1790 This Instrument of  
writing purporting the Last Will & Testament of John  
Parsons dec<sup>d</sup> was produced in Court and proved by  
the Oath of the witnesses thereto.

John Parsons  
Will.  
Subscribed  
at York  
February 1790