

These names were made
into an affidavit

and William Walker, William Walker, and Benjamin Morrell, entered into and acknowledged their
Bond in the Penalty of One thousand pounds, conditioned as the Law
directs. Certificate was granted him for obtaining a Passat thereof in
due form, Liberty being reserved for the ~~the~~ Executrix therein named
to join in the said Passat when she may think fit.

Test P. Pelham Esq.

In the Name of God Amen, The twenty seventh day of
January One thousand Seven hundred and Eighty four, James Mason of
the Parish of Saint Andrews and County of Greenville being sick and weak
in Body but of sound Mind and Memory blessed be God for the same do make
and Ordain this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following
to wit, I lend unto my beloved Wife Rebecca Mason during her natural
Life or Widowhood or untill my Son George Mason shall arrive ~~to the~~
to the age of twenty One Years or Marriage, All that part of my Land and
Plantations whereon I now live lying on the North side of the River

from the Grassy Pond to Brunswick Court House. I also lend unto my
 said Wife untille my son John attains to the Age of twenty
 One Years or Marriage my Negroes Roger and Milley I also give
 and bequeath unto my said Wife my large Looking Glass, my Beaufort
 two four feet Walnut Table, One Dozen Silver Table Spoons Half Dozen
 Tea Spoons One Case Knives and Forks half my Chairs One Chest
 all my China Ware, four feather Beds and furniture and One large
 copper Kettle One Grey Horse One King Herod Colt likewise two good
 Black Horses One Riding Chair and Harness two hundred Barrels
 of corn five thousand Pounds of New York which corn and Pork
 is to be made out of my crops &c for the present Year, One half of
 my Stock of Sheep at Corches likewise Twenty head of Cattle three
 Black Horses and fifty head of Hogs all on the said Plantation at
 Swinnea. Likewise lend unto my said beloved Wife during her
 natural life in Widowhood or untill either of my children, George or
 Anne Maria shall arrive to the Age of twenty One Years, or Marry
 the following Negroes viz, Jamie, Fidy, Rachel, Peter, Sam^l,
 Kate, Sher Child, Dany, Dick, Kate, Lile, Jane (Billy), Sam^l,
 Frank, Rachel, Griffin, Jacob, Jacob, Moll, Harry.

the following Negroes, viz, Jamie, Jidy, Rachel, Well, Saml,
Sott, Shy Child, Davy, Dick, Wade, Lile, Sage (Billy), Saml,
Marion, Frank, Rachel, Griffin, Jacob, Jacob, Moll, Harry.

Sampton, and Dinah and the increase of the said Slaves during
the said Term and upon the decease or Marriage of my said Wife
or the arrival of either of my said Children George and Jane to the
Age of twenty One Year or aforesaid or Marriage, then it is my Will
and desire that the said Negroes and their increase may be equally
divided between my said Wife and my said two Children. But in
case either of my said Children should Die before the term aforesaid
then it is my Will that the surviving Child have the full share
of the Decedent as though it were alive, And in case both my said
Children should Die before they come to Age or Marry then it is
my Will that the said Slaves and increase be divided as follows
One third thereof to my said Wife and two thirds to my other surviving
Children to be equally divided between them. These Legacies to my
said Wife are intended as full satisfaction for her Dower in my
whole Estate and to bring up my said Children, George and Jane until
they arrive to the Age of twenty one Years or Marriage as aforesaid
Item: My Will is that my Executors (if they think it most proper
to dispose of my Negroes, Parlu and Chapman, Dick and my)

the said term and upon the decease or Marriage of my said wife
or the arrival of either of my said Children George and Jane to the
Age of twenty One Year or aforesaid or Marriage, then it is my Will
and desire that the said Negroes and their increase may be equally
divided between my said wife and my said two Children. But in
case either of my said Children should Die before the term aforesaid
then it is my Will that the surviving Child have the full share
of the Negroes as though it were alive. And in case both my said
Children should Die before they come to Age or Marry then it is
my Will that the said Slaves and increase be divided as follows
One third thereof to my said wife and two thirds to my other surviving
Children to be equally divided between them. These Legacies to my
said wife are intended as full satisfaction for her Dower in my
whole Estate and to bring up my said Children George and Jane until
they arrive to the Age of twenty one Years or Marriage as aforesaid
Item: My Will is that my Executors if they think it most proper
to dispose of my Negroes, Darby and Chapmans Dick and my
Maid of Dutch and my Boy Damon Ware and my Waggons upon
such Credit as my said Executors may think best. And it is my Will

53) and desire that all the residue of my Estate as well that given to my Wife
as that as the other, be kept together until the finishing of an other crop
for the present Year and that as soon as may be after the finishing
thereof that my Executors do make further Sale of the following
Negroes viz. Wham, Ball, Esther, Nanny and George as Griffens also
the Land and Mill which I purchased of Charles Giffman and Henry
Bishop, Also all my Lands on the North side the Old Road leading from
Robert Rivers's to Brunswick Court House, Likewise all my Crops of every
kind with all my Stocks of every kind and personal Estate of every sort
except such as I have given unto my beloved Wife or shall hereinafter dispose
of. And that from the Sales thereof together with what Monies now or may
become due to me, my Executors do pay all my just Debts and the overplus
of such Monies, if any, to be equally divided between my three sons viz.
Edmunds and Peter Mason for the survivor or survivors thereof and
their heirs. I M Give and bequeath unto both Boys One hundred and
fifty Acres of Land more or less, whereon he now lives and which I formerly
purchased of John Hunt. I say Give the same to the said John Boys
heirs for ever. I M Give and bequeath unto William Wills
his heirs for ever Fifty Acres of Land to be sold by him as he shall see fit
to the said John Boys heirs for ever.

heirs for ever. ~~WM~~ I give and bequeath unto William Harris and
his heirs for ever Fifty Acres of Land to be sold to him at discretion for
other Lands. ~~WM~~ I give and bequeath unto John Thomas and his
heirs for ever Fifty Acres of Land more or less as he can be now lawfully
already laid off to him by proper Meas and Counters. ~~WM~~ I give unto
Thomas Jones and his heirs for ever upon his paying to my Executors within
in three Months after my Decease the Sum of two hundred Dollars, or
in paying any just Dots that I am owing to him and giving Bond
and approved Security to my Executors for the sum of two hundred Dollars
payable within two Years from the date hereof with lawful Interest from
the first day of October last, all that part of the Land which I purchased
of Charles Williams and Henry Bishop lying above a line to be Run from
the Road and beginning at the upper end of the old field beyond the Mill
and running a straight course near the Woods to the Creek. But if the said
Thomas Jones does not comply with the same which is an agreement
between us then my Executors are to dispose of the said Lands as I herein
before directed. ~~WM~~ I give and bequeath
unto my Sons John Edmunds and Robert
Mason to be equally divided amongst them the following Negroes viz
Rose, Jerry, Sarah, Amy, Harry, Joe, Dilsey, Van, Hannah, Julia, Phipps
Fanny, George, Frank, Charles, Beck, Little Roger, Cynthia, Jerry, Isaac
of the said John Thomas and his heirs for ever.

already laid off to him by proper Males and counts. I will give unto
Thomas Jones and his heirs forever upon his paying to my Executors within
in three Months after my Decease the sum of ~~two hundred~~ ^{one hundred} Dollars
in paying any just Dots that I am owing to the said and giving Bond
and approved Security to my Executors for the sum of ~~two hundred~~ ^{one hundred} Dollars
payable within two Years from the date hereof with annual Interest from
the first day of October last, all that part of the Land which I purchased
of Charles Williamson and Henry Bishop lying above a line to be Run from
the Road and beginning at the upper end of the old field beyond the Mill
and running a straight course near the ~~brook~~ ^{stream} to the Creek. But if the said
Thomas Jones does not comply with the same which is an agreement
between us then my Executors are to dispose of the said Lands as I have
before directed. ^{and bequeath} I give unto my Sons John Edmunds and Robert
Mason to be equally divided amongst them the following Negroes viz.
Rose, Jenny, Sarah, Amy, Harvey, Joe, Dilsey, Van, Hannah, Calia, Lippis
Fanny, George, Frank, Charles, Beck, Bide, Roger, Cynthia, Jenny, Lanie,
Frank, Bolling, Lillan, Ralph, Chamber, Bob, Bridger, Ben, Mary, and
Will also long termor. After the Decease of my Father and Mother,
whereas Roger and Willey and the increase of Willey and my Son

54 John's arriving to the Age of Twenty one Years or Marriage. I direct in
my Will and desire that my Executors do choose three good discreet Men
to make such division amongst my said Sons. But in case either of
my said Sons shall die before they arrive to the Age of Twenty one Years
or Marriage then the share of such deceased Son shall be equally
divided between my said surviving Sons. I EM I lend unto my
Loved Parents John and Elizabeth Mason during their joint or
separate lives my Negroe Man long Jamie, I EM I give and bequeath
to my loving Son John & Mason all my Lands lying over Meherren
River at the Plantation whereon Howell Hobbs now lives within
the following bounds beginning at the Mouth of Cold Water Creek
thence up the said Creek to the Fork thence up the lower Fork called
Little Cold Water to William Harrison's line thence along his line
to Simms's line and along Simms's line to William & Mason's line and
along William & Mason's line to the River it being meant to include all
that part of the land which I hold of my purchase from William Sims
with the other. I also give unto my Son John & Mason, one Bay Fiddle
which I purchased of Frederick Thruette. I EM I give and bequeath
unto my Son Edmund & Mason and to his heirs for ever all my lands
lying on the upper side Cold Water Creek beginning at the Mouth of
the said Creek thence up the same to the Fork thence up the

lying on the upper side Cold Water Creek beginning at the Mouth of
the said Creek thence up the same to the Fork thereof thence up the
Lower Fork called Little Cold Water to William Harrison's line is
being meant to include with it all the Lands which I lately purchased
of William Chapman above the said Creek. Also I give my said Son
Edmund one Corral lot. Item I give and bequeath unto my ^{living} Son
Robert Mason and to his heirs for ever my Land and Plantation
whereon John Tate now lives together with all my Lands adjoining
the same on the South side the Road leading from ^{the} Grassy Pond to
Bennetts Court House. Item I give and bequeath unto my living
Son George Mason and to his heirs for ever the Land and Plantation
whereon I now live after the expiration of the Term in which my Term
is to hold is likewise I give unto my said Son George and to his heirs
for ever, all that Tract or parcel of Land lying on Meherrin which
I purchased of John Rogers. Item It is my Will and desire that
Thomas Postle of whom I purchased a piece of Land near the
Westward end on Meherrin and for which he has given me Bond to
make a sufficient Title to, do convey the said Land by Deed to William
Mason and his heirs which said Land I give and bequeath unto my
said Brother William Mason and his heirs for ever, in consideration
that my said Brother do and shall give up and relinquish all his

William Chapman above the said Creek. Also I give my said son
Edmund one parcel of land. Item I give and bequeath unto my son
Robert Mason and to his heirs forever my Land and Plantation
whereon John White now lies together with all my Lands adjoining
the same on the South side the Road leading from ^{the} Grassy Pond to
Farmington Court House. Item I give and bequeath unto my loving
son George Mason and to his heirs forever the Land and Plantation
whereon I now live after the expiration of the Term in which my wife
doth hold it. Likewise I give unto my said son George and to his heirs
forever all that Tract or parcel of Land lying on Meherrin which
I purchased of John Rogers. Item It is my Will and desire that
Thomas Smith to whom I purchased a piece of Land near the
Bedward Road on Meherrin and for which he has given me Bond to
make a sufficient Title to do convey the said Land by Deed to William
Mason and his heirs which said Land I give and bequeath unto my
said Brother William Mason and his heirs forever, in consideration
that my said Brother do and shall give up and relinquish all his
Right and Title to me Maistry of the Mill on Cold Water, which said
Mill and appurtenances I do hereby give to my son John Mason
And in case a sufficient Title cannot be had by my said Brother

55 William Mason to the said Land then he is to receive out of my Estate the Value of the said Land. Item, Having lately made a contract with Walter Peter, Executor of William Edwards Deceased for a Tract of Land on the River called Brandy Quarter as will appear by a Writing in the hand of Daniel Fisher Esq. and having in view at the time of my said contract to let my Brother John Mason have half the said purchase. My Will and desire is that my said Brother have a conveyance from the said Walter Peter of the one half of the said Land to Run a direct line from his said John Mason's other Lands to the back line of the said purchase, he the said John Mason paying half the Consideration Money for the said Land And it is further my Will that my Brother William Mason have four hundred Acres of the residue of the said Land to be laid off adjoining Brandy Creek and the said John Mason's line, he the said William Mason paying for the same in proportion of its value to the whole purchase. and it is my Will that the residue of the said Land be sold and disposed of by my Executors as is directed for my other Estate left to be sold. I do therefore constitute and appoint my loving friends Executors my Brothers John Mason, William Mason and my friends William Harrison and Benjamin Jones Executors of this my last Will and Testament hereby revoking and withdrawing all former Wills by me heretofore made and declaring this and no other to be my last Will and Testament. W. Mason. Witness my hand and seal this 10th day of March 1781.

Williamc Mason paying for the same in proportion of its value to the whole purchase and it is my will that the residue of the said Land be sold and disposed of by my Executors as is directed for my other Estate left to be sold. Last Will I constitute and appoint my loving friends Executors my Brother Johnc Mason, Williamc Mason and my friends William Harrison and Benjamin Jones Executors of this my last Will and Testament hereby revoking and annulling all former Wills by me heretofore made and declaring this and no other to be my last Will and Testament, In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year above written

Signed Sealed published and
declared by the Testator in
presence of

Wm. c. Mason (L.S.)

Nathaniel Davis
Frederick Harwell
Nathaniel Dunn
Achilles Jeffries
Samuel Gilliam
George Bain

Whereas I have signed and Sealed as my last Will dated the

declared by the Testator in
presence of

Nathaniel Rives
Frederick Harwell
Nathaniel Dunn
Achilles Jeffries
Samuel Gilliam
George Bain

Wm Wells I have signed and sealed as my last Will dated the
Twenty Sixth day of January last and therein disposed of much of
my Worldly Estate and as I thought shown my whole Will respecting my
whole Estate and sundry other matters as therein contained I felt on calling
to my mind the whole for part of my said Will I find I have failed to mention
sundry matters which may affect my Estate after my Decease if not
prevented or injured those immediately concerned therein. Not therefore
in this my Codicil to my said Will I show that whereas I formerly
purchased of John Taylor Griffin Esq and Mary his wife of Grohland
a considerable Body of Lands on both sides the River in the County
of Brunswick as will appear by their Deed to me for the same which is

56) duly recorded in the Worshipful Court of Brunswick County as
aforesaid And whereas I sold to my Brother John & Mason all that
part of my said purchase lying on the South side of the Roanoke River
and below a Creek called Brandy Creek And whereas I also sold
to my Brother William & Mason all that part of my aforesaid
purchase lying on the said South side of the Roanoke River above
the said Brandy Creek and below the Great Branch and have made
to my said Brothers John and William separate Deeds for the same
which are also recorded in the aforesaid County Court of Brunswick
reference being had to all the said Deeds will more fully appear
And whereas disputes may hereafter arise respecting the Title
had to the said Lands at the time of my making those Deeds to
my said Brothers John and William or even to the Title which I now
have to the same Therefore for remedying such disputes as
much as in me lies I do hereby give and bequeath unto my said
Brothers John and William respectively and ^{to} their heirs forever
the aforesaid Lands as to each of them formerly sold as by their
said separate Deeds will fully appear as aforesaid And if
my said Brothers John and William ^{shall} after my Decease require a
further Title to the aforesaid Lands not thinking this sufficient
I do declare and it is my Will that the aforesaid John Taylor Green

and Mary his Wife do make to them my said Brothers such other
and further Title or Titles separately as they or their heirs or (if
may require) consistent with the bargain formerly made between
me and the said John Tayloe Griffin and Mary his Wife, AND
Whereas I purchased of William Claiborne a Quantity of Lands
formerly the property of Robert Ruffin Esq^r Deceased for which
the said Claiborne gave me Bond with Security to make a
sufficient Title to as will fully appear by the said Bond now in
my possession, and whereas I sold the said Lands under the incumbrance
it then lay and still lies to William & Mason of Sussex, now Deceased
and William Parham also Deceased and Nathaniel Dunn by
certain bounds which are Run in the said Lands I do therefore
hereby give and bequeath unto the said William & Mason, William
Parham and Nathaniel Dunn and to their respective heirs and
Assigns forever according to the said allotment all my Right and
Title to the said Lands and I do also give them respectively as aforesaid
according to the allotment aforesaid all my Right and Title to the
said Claibornes Bond hereby making them a full assignment
in my Title to the same And I do further desire that if I have
in my said Will or in this my last will to the same

57 disposing of any part of my Estate either Real or personal or what
ever nature kind or quality so ever, That my Executors do make sale
thereof and dispose thereof as I have directed them to do with sundry parts
of my Estate in my said Will In Witness whereof I have to this my
Codicil which I desire may be annexed and considered and taken as
part of my said Will hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this
third day of February One thousand Seven hundred and Eighty four
Signed Sealed published and
declared by the Testator as a
codicil to be annexed to his Will
in presence of

John H. Mason (L.S.)

Achilles Leggier
Samuel Githam
George Cain

At a Court held for Greenville County the 25 day of March 1784
This Will and Codicil annexed were proved according to Law by
the Oaths of Nathaniel Dunn, Achilles Leggier and Samuel
Githam and George Cain Witnesses thereto and Ordered to be
recorded And on the Motion of the Executrix and Executors therein
named who made Oath thereto and together with James Mattam

