

No. 554

State of North Carolina,  
Brunswick County.

I, J. E. Sermons, of the aforesaid county and State, being of sound mind, but considering the uncertainty of my earthly existence, do make and declare this to be my last will and testament:

First. My executor, hereinafter named, shall give my body a decent burial, suitable to the wishes of my friends and relatives, and pay all funeral expenses, together with all my just debts, out of the first moneys which may come into his hands belonging to my estate.

Second. I give and devise to my beloved wife, Rebecca Sermons, a life estate in my home and tract of land containing fifty acres. Also, all my household and kitchen furniture, which includes everything which may be in the house and kitchen at my death.

Third. I give and devise to my son, W. Murdick Sermons, my home tract of land containing fifty acres.. Said tract of land consists of three tracts combined and known as original home tract twenty acres, Dudley Jones tract fifteen acres, and Harvey Varnum, tract fifteen acres. Also the Lancaster tract of land lying on West side of the Stone Chimney road and both sides of Maple Branch, containing about one hundred Fifty acres; and being all woods land except about one acre.

Fourth. All of the foregoing described tracts of land are to be for the use and benefit of my son, W. Murdick Sermons, until his son, W. M. Sermons, Jr. becomes twenty-one years of age, and then to him said W. M. Sermons Jr., in fee-simple.

Fifth. I give and bequeath to my son, W. Murdick Sermons, all my farming utensils of every description which I may have at my death.

Sixth. I hereby constitute and appoint my trusted friend L. H. Phelps my lawful executor to all intents and purposes, to execute this my last will and testament, according to the true intent and meaning of the same, and every part and clause thereof-hereby revoking and declaring utterly void all other will and testaments by me heretofore made.

In witness whereof, I, the said J. E. Sermons, do hereunto set my hand and seal, this 4th day of September 1941.

J. E. Sermons (Seal)

Signes, sealed, published and declared by the said J. E. Sermons, to be his last will and testament in the presence of us, who, at his request and in his presence and in the presence of each other, do subscribed our names as witness thereto.

S. P. Phelps

Rubie McCall

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA )  
BRUNSWICK COUNTY. ) IN THE SUPERIOR COURT, BEFORE THE CLERK.

A paper-writing purporting to be the last Will and Testament of J. E. Sermons, deceased, is exhibited before me, the undersigned, Clerk of the Superior Court for said county, by L. H. Phelps the executor therein mentioned, and the due execution thereof by the said J. E. Sermons is proved by the oath and examination of S. P. Phelps and Rubie McCall, the subscribing witnesses thereto, who being duly sworn do depose and say, and each for himself deposeth and saith, that he is a subscribing witness to the paper-writing now shown him, purporting to be the last Will and Testament of J. E. Sermons; that the said J. E. Sermons, in the presence of this deponent, subscribed his name at the end of said paper-writing, which is now shown as aforesaid, and which bears date of the 4th day of December, 1941

AND THE DEPONENT FURTHER SAITH, That the said J. E. Sermons the testator aforesaid, did, at the time of subscribing his name as aforesaid, declare the said paper writing so subscribed by him and exhibited to be his last Will and Testament, and this deponent did thereupon subscribe his name at the end of said Will, as an attesting witness thereto, and at the request and in the presence of said testator. And this deponent further saith that at the

same time when the said testator subscribed his name to the said last will as aforesaid, and at the time of the deponent's subscribing his name as attesting witness thereto, as aforesaid, the said J. E. Sermons was of sound mind and memory, of full age to execute a will, and was not under any restraint, to the knowledge, information or belief of the deponent: And further these deponents say not.

Severally sworn and subscribed, this 11th day of Oct, 1943, before me.

(SEAL) S. T. Bennett  
Clerk Superior Court.

Rubie McCall

S. P. Phelps

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
BRUNSWICK COUNTY.

SS. IN THE SUPERIOR COURT

It is therefore considered and adjudged by the Court that the said paper-writing and every part thereof in the last will and Testament of J. E. Sermons deceased, and the same, with the foregoing examination and this certificate, are ordered to be recorded and filed.

(SEAL)

This 11 day of Oct, 1943

S. T. Bennett  
Clerk Superior Court.

No. 555

W I L L

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT I, HENRY C. BRAGAW  
SOUTHPORT, NORTH CAROLINA

at present in the military service of the United States, declare this instrument to be my last will and testament, hereby revoking all former wills made by me.

After payment of my funeral expenses and just debts I give, devise and bequeath all my goods and estate of every kind and description, real, personal and mixed, to my mother, HELEN G. BRAGAW and to her heirs and assigns forever.

In witness whereof I hereunto set my hand and in the presence of three witnesses declare this to be my last will and testament this 19th day of March, 1943.

HENRY C. BRAGAW

Then personally appeared HENRY C. BRAGAW who, after declaring the foregoing instrument to be his last will and testament, signed the same in our presence, and thereafter as witnesses thereof we three, at his request, in his presence, and in the presence of each other, hereto subscribe our names.

<u>Joseph W. Tarnare</u>	Address	<u>237 Victoria Ave. Atlantic City N. J.</u>
<u>Louis Jorman</u>	Address	<u>569 Empire Blvd. Brooklyn N.Y.</u>
<u>Stafford F. McQuillin</u>	Address	<u>167 Demarest Ave. Englewood N. J.</u>

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF BRUNSWICK

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
BEFORE THE CLERK

IN RE: WILL OF HENRY C. BRAGAW { AFFIDAVIT

TO HONORABLE S. T. BENNETT, CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT:

The undersigned, Helen G. Bragaw, propounds the paper writing dated March 19th, 1943, purporting to be the will of her son, Henry C. Bragaw, under the provisions of Chapter 218 of the Public Laws of North Carolina of the Session of 1943 providing for the probate of wills of members of the armed forces of the United States and pertaining the same makes the following affidavit:

1st. That the paper writing presented to the court is that left to her by her son, Henry C. Bragaw, purporting to be his will; that to this will are three subscribers, all of whom were non residents of the State of North Carolina and are not now in the State of North Carolina.

2nd. That Henry C. Bragaw, the maker of the said will, is dead, as she is informed by official notice from the United States Government; that he was killed in action in Italy on January 22nd, 1944.

3rd. That he was a member of the armed forces of the United States at the time of the making of the will and at the time of his death.

AND WHEREFORE, the said Helen G. Bragaw submits the said paper writing, together with three witnesses to testify as to the handwriting of the said Henry C. Bragaw on the said paper writing.

Helen G. Bragaw  
AFFIANT

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this the 17 day of March, 1944.

S. T. Bennett  
Clerk Superior Court

WHEREUPON the following proceedings were had; Prince O'Brien, James Carr and Rachel Todd Corlette personally appeared before the court and after being duly sworn to speak the truth, each for himself and herself, and says that the signature on the paper writing purporting to be the will of Henry C. Bragaw of Southport, North Carolina, dated March 19th, 1943, is in the true and genuine handwriting of the said Henry C. Bragaw and none other; that he has often seen him write and knows his handwriting and that he fully believes that the said signature was affixed to the said paper writing by the said Henry C. Bragaw and none other.

Prince O'Brien

Rachel T. Corlette

James Carr

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this the 17 day of March, 1944.

S. T. Bennett  
CLERK SUPERIOR COURT

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF BRUNSWICK

Upon the foregoing oaths by Prince O'Brien, James Carr and Rachel Todd Corlette, made a part of this probate, under and by virtue of the provisions of Chapter 218 of the Public Laws of North Carolina of the session of 1943, the said paper writing is adjudged duly proven as the last will and testament of the late Henry C. Bragaw, a citizen of Brunswick County, North Carolina, who was killed in action in the military service of the United States on January 22nd, 1944, according to best available information.

Let the said will and the affidavit by Helen G. Bragaw and the affidavits by the witnesses to the handwriting to the said will, together with this probate be recorded.

This the 17 day of March, 1944.

S. T. Bennett  
CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT