

Josiah Duke Shadrack Bell

William Brinkley, Secy

Halifax County

August 1797 Then this Will was exhibited in open Court & duly proved by ^{Sworn} Josiah Duke one of the subscribing witnesses thereto and on Motion ordered to be Recorded

Witness J. J. King C. C. L.

In The Name of God Amen William Brinkley of Halifax County & State of N^o. Carolina Being weak in Body & of Perfect mind & judgement, thanks to God for the same & Calling to mind the uncertainty of life & that it is appointed for all men once to die do make & constitute this my last will & Testament, first I recommend my soul to God who gave it & my body to be buried in a decent manner at the discretion of my Exors here after named and as touching my worldly Estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me I give Bequeath & dispose of the same in manner & form following viz

Impressed I will & desire that all my just debts be paid out of my Estate

Item I give & bequeath to my son William Brinkley the land & plantation wherupon I now live as also the following slaves to wit, John Caesar & Eden to him his heirs & assigns forever
Item I give & bequeath to my Abraham Brinkley one hundred acres of Land on the N^o side falling Creek & on both sides Deans Branch, being the Land formerly belonging to his Bro. Eli Brinkley
as also the following slaves (to wit) Dick Tony & Polly, I give to him his heirs & assigns forever

William Brinkley, Secy

I then Give & bequeath to my Daughter Mary Cain one negroe Woman named Grace, which she is now in possession of, withall her present & future increase to her, her heirs & assigns forever, with every other thing she is already possessed of which Came to her by me.

I then Give & bequeath unto my Daughter Nancy Drake one negroe Woman named Mima which is now in her possession of with all her present & future increase, to her her heirs & assigns forever with every other thing she is already possessed of, which Came to her by me.

I then Give & bequeath unto my Daughter, Tabitha Brinkley the following negroes viz^s Peg & her Child Davie, with all her future increase to her her heirs & assigns forever as also two Biv & Calver to her &c.

I then Give unto my two sons William Brinkley & Abraham Brinkley all the rest of my Estate not heretofore mentioned or Given to be Equally Divided Between them Share & Share alike & it is further my Will & Desire that my two said Sons, William Brinkley & Abraham Brinkley jointly support & Maintain my beloved Wife Amy Brinkley, out of the Estate already Given to them & that my said Wife Amy Brinkley may at any time have it in her Choice to live with Either of my said sons or Else where as she may Choose and that they the said William & Abraham support her, it is also my Will & Desire notwithstanding any thing heretofore, that my negroe Woman Nan shall at all times have it in her power to live with any one of said Children as she may Choose from time to time.

I hereby Nominate & appoint my two sons William Brinkley & Abraham Brinkley, with my Friend Jo^s John Williams Jun^r, Executors to this my my Last Will & Testament, In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand & affixed my seal this fourth of May, 1796

Jo^s John Williams, John Jenkins

William Brinkley

Halifax County

August 1797 When this Will was exhibited in open Court at the Court of the County of Halifax

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& Maintain my beloved Wife Amy Brinkley, out of the Estate already Given to them & that my said
Wife Amy Brinkley may at any time have it in her Choice to live with Either of my said sons or
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I Hereby Nominate & appoint my two sons William Brinkley & Abraham Brinkley, with my
Friend Jo: John Williams Junr, Executors to this my my Last Will & Testaments, In Testimony
Whereof I have hereunto set my hand & affixed my seal this fourth of May, 1796

Jo: John Williams, John Jenkins

William Brinkley

Halifax County

August Septem 1797 Then this Will was exhibited in Open
Court & duly proved by the Oath of John Jenkins one of the subscribing Witnesses thereto &
An Motion Ordered to be Recorded; Whereupon William Brinkley & Abraham Brinkley
two of the Executors therein named, came in and was duly Qualified to the same

Witness

Long Lot

In the Name of God Amen