

Indeade made by me provided that I have a sufficient legacy  
Levy & other expenses to be defrayed, being burdened as I am by the many  
expenses attending the use of my increasing property, On Melvin's death  
this may last but to his debts. And the worth of property that has been  
placed in his hand previous to his death or shall happen in the  
following manner. First It is my will that all my just debts be  
paid out of such property as my wife may think proper to dispose of  
of her to my brother wife Nancy Mason during her natural life  
or when she has the estate of the plantation now mine aside on, together  
with the personalty to be taken the value of £1000, cash, & otherwise  
paid by the plantation now £1000 William Mason now resides one  
except the first hundred to his son William Mason, also the next due  
property of my first brother & I being under my stock of every kind I  
now plantation, having debts & household & kitchen furniture  
fully I give & bequeath to my son William Mason the tract of land he now  
dwells on in the following lot in Big Ridge being on a hill about four  
miles from town & direct from within a road south of Dr.  
Collins old Spring House to his old house leaving the house

to the other house and land along the public road to the Nodder  
branch, there a direct course to the house where the present owner  
lives the said in the first mentioned line south all the land with  
all its improvements that I purchased of Allison to him & his heirs  
forever & which said land & other property contracted in town on & my son  
William ~~last~~ I find my son John Mason the tract of land he is now  
dwelling on & a negro boy named Jack which property shall not be sub-  
ject to pay any debt of said John Mason except for the debt use of whom  
& his family starting & number of his slaves to be equally divided  
among his lawful heirs. ~~3rd~~ I send to my son Thompson Mason  
etc. the two tracts of land above out of William Mason deceased  
estate & will leave to a negro boy named Sam which property  
shall not be subject to pay any debt of said Thompson Mason but for  
the debt use of him for & his family during his natural life if  
which to be equally divided among his lawful heirs.

6th I give & bequeath to my son Tom Mason, David M. Mason  
& Richard Mason & they three Mason all the land left to my wife after

pleased in his kind provision to bestow on me shall dispose of in the  
following manner my first & is my will that all my just debt be  
paid out of my property in my wife may the which proper to dispose of  
only I leave to my beloved wife Nancy Mason during her natural life  
as well as hereafter the balance of the plantations from aside on, together  
with the plantations between the river & sides as, creek, brook, & water  
parted by the plantations now late sold and as was now resided one  
except the part of Harlins land in the said plantation above the water  
property of my first birth & being at the my slack of every kind to  
such plantation, leaving utensils household & kitchen furniture  
gently I give & bequeath to my son Thompson Mason the tract of land he now  
dwells on in the following particular beginning in a white oak & pine  
on Regis property line, thence a direct line within a rods south of Dr.  
Collens old spring thence to said lines old house leaving the house  
to the S. after house continue along the public road to the meadow  
banks, thence a direct course to the river where the present fence  
finds the river on the first mentioned line south all the land with  
all its appurtenances Mecklenburg Co. NC Wills 1783-1844  
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friend Whitehead and settlement  
justly I find my son John Mason the tract of land he is now  
dwelling on & a rods N. of my named place which property shall not be sub-  
ject to pay any debt of said son John Mason next for the sole use of how  
& his family leaving the number of four places to be equally divided  
under his lawful heirs — justly I send to my son Thompson Mason  
at the two tracts of land here about of William Coopers deceased  
estate & Miller place to be a right & named place which property  
shall not be subject to pay any debt of said Thompson he can have  
for the sole use of himself & family leaving his natural life up-  
wards to be equally divided among his family. Next  
I give & bequeath to my son James Mason, David C. Mason  
Richard Mason & Baybourn Mason all the land left to my wife after  
her decease or failure marriage. The same to be exclusively the said  
property of my two youngest sons Richard & Baybourn the land to be  
divided according to quantity & gratuity by said division judges to be  
done & their heirs forever — justly I send to Sally with my daughter Sally

named before the other Executors for her only proper use during her natural life afterwards to be equally divided among her lawful heirs —  
8th I bind to my daughter Polly Bailey from Negroes big Bridget, John Elsie & baseline to be for her only proper use during her natural life afterwards to be equally divided among her lawful heirs, the last mentioned girl however to be particularly in the care of my Executors  
9th My will is that at the death or future marriage of my wife that my three eldest sons have each a negro of the three then young to be chosen seniority the rest of my negroes & horses, cold & kitchen furniture to be equally divided among my four youngest sons viz James, David, M. Richard & Grayson by my Executors & all the stock of every kind & plantation utensils to be sold at the discretion of my Executors & the money arising from such sale to be equally divided among my four youngest last named sons — furthermore I give & bequeath to my son William Mason the negro boy George he never has in his possession 10<sup>ds</sup> It is my desire that my Executors make a good & lawful title to John Bailey to a lot in Yorkville on his said Baileys property off the road of York lot with all lots thereon — Lastly I do hereby bid adieu & appoint my beloved wife Nancy Mason & my two sons William Mason & James Mason Executors of this my last will & Testament, overlooking & disregarding all others. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal this 8<sup>th</sup> day of January AD 1822 —

Signed in the presence of

Wm. Walker

John D. Mason

James Mason

James Mason *[Signature]*

33 In the name of God amen, I William Mason of Mecklenburg County in the State of North Carolina, Do make & Ordain this my last will & Testament, and by these presents utterly disannulling all disallowing, disclaiming & declaring all other Wills legacies and bequests And this & no other to be my last Will & Testament in these manner & form after paying all my just debts

1<sup>st</sup> I give & bequeath to my wife Nancy all the land & Improvement in