

State of North Carolina

New Hanover County Court September Term 1854

I Rhoda Gates of Town or Wilmington and State of North Carolina and County of New Hanover being of sound mind and memory but mindful of the uncertainty of life being possessor of some property and having no direct heirs of my body and no natural relatives surviving excepting one aged and infirm sister who is in her after provided for during the time of her natural life & being the reputed offspring of James Walker deceased and feeling by reason of this ~~attachment~~ parentage a stronger tie of attachment to Mary A Wright wife of Joshua A Wright and grandchild of the said James Walker than to any one living do make and publish this my last will and Testament in manner and form following - First, I direct that my Executor hereinafter named shall provide for my body a decent burial and it is my wish to be buried in the New grave yard of the Town by the side of my child. I also desire that my funeral expenses and all my just debts to whomsoever owing shall be paid out of the money that may first come into the hands of my executor as part and parcel of my estate.

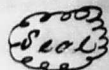
Second, After all my just debts shall have been paid. I give and devise unto Mary A Wright wife of Joshua A Wright and her heirs the house and lot where I now live in the said town of Wilmington situate at the North Western intersection of Front & Castle Streets and known in the Old plan of the Town as the eastern portion of lot number One hundred and seventy six.

Third, I also give and devise to the said Mary A Wright wife of Joshua A Wright a certain other lot owned by me in said town of Wilmington and known in the Old plan of the Town as lot number One hundred and ninety two and conveyed to me as Prudence Gate (by which name I am sometimes known) by James T Monies and situate on the eastern side of Front Street between Castle & Queen Streets. And also give and devise to the said Mary A Wright wife of Joshua A Wright all such other real estate as I may now be possessor of or entitled to at the time of my death.

Fourth, I also give and bequeath to the said Mary A Wright wife of Joshua A Wright the following Slaves viz. Jane and her children Charlotte and Sarah and my Negro man Sampson together with all my goods chattels furniture & other personal estate of any and every kind whatsoever and wherever situate so have and to hold the said property real and personal unto the said Mary A Wright wife of Joshua A Wright her heirs and assigns forever. In the event of my dying before my sister Sarah Hildreth who is now quite old and infirm it is my will and desire & I hereby expressly enjoin it upon the said Mary A Wright wife of Joshua A Wright

to whom the foregoing devise and bequests have been made that she shall take care of my said sister and provide for her comfortable support so long as she may live
 Lastly I do hereby constitute nominate and appoint Joshua Wright of the said town of Wilmington and husband of the said Mary A Wright my executor to this my last will and Testament hereby making & declaring null & void all other wills and Testaments by me heretofore made In witness whereof I said Rhoda Gates do hereunto set my hand & seal this the 13 day of April A.D. 1854

her
 Rhoda + Gates
 Mark



Signed sealed published and declared by the said Rhoda Gates to be her last will and Testament in the presence of us who at her request and in her presence have subscribed our names as witnesses thereto

Eli W Hall
 A Empie Jr

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This paper writing is exhibited in open Court and duly proved by the oath of Eli W Hall & A Empie Jr the subscribing witnesses thereto and such considered by the Court to be and contain the last will & Testament of Rhoda Gates and as such sufficient to convey the bequests therein made. Let the same with this Certificate be registered

Teste

Saml R Printing Clerk