

State of North Carolina

In the name of God Amen.

I, Stephen Player of the town of Wilmington in the County of New Hanover, blacksmith, being weak, in body, but of sound, disposing mind and memory, do make and ordain this my last will and Testament, revoking all former wills by me heretofore made. First. I recommend my soul to God who gave it, being in all humble hopes of future happiness. As to my body, would have it decently buried.

Item. I give and bequeath to my loving wife Ester Player, my negro wench named Jenny, to her and her heirs forever. I also give to my wife during her natural life if she so long remains a widow, my house and lot in Wilmington wherein I now live, on the S^d side of Market Street, containing twenty nine feet front and running back 46 feet. And after her decease or she dies, I then give and bequeath the said house and lot to my son Richard Player, to him and his heirs and assigns forever. I also give and bequeath to my said son Richard one set of my blacksmiths tools, to him and his heirs forever. And it is my further desire that my wife Ester do have the benefit of my plantation on Motts Creek, till my son John arrive to the age of manhood; also that she have the benefit of all my horses, hogs and cattle during her natural life, or to be sold if she thinks proper, for the benefit of all the children. And I do further request, that the other set of blacksmiths tools, with my two canoes, and all my plantation tools be sold at private sale to the best advantage by my executors hereafter mentioned.

Item. I give and bequeath to my loving daughter, Elizabeth Player, part of a lot I purchased of Mr. Bonham on fourth street, containing 46 feet on fourth street and running back 46 feet, as per deed of gift; also one large mahogany table and one small round mahogany table and half the pictures in my house, to her and her heirs and assigns forever.

Item. I give and bequeath to my loving daughter, Mary Player, the remaining part of the lot I purchased from Bonham, joining my daughter, Elizabeth, containing 46 feet front and running 300 feet back, also six mahogany chairs, one mahogany table, and the other half of my pictures, to her, and her heirs and assigns forever.

Item. I give and bequeath to my two sons John Player and Jacob Player, my plantation on Motts Creek, containing 44 1/2 acres, share and share alike, to them their heirs and assigns forever, to be divided between them when my son John shall arrive at the age of twenty one years, by two good and sufficient freeholders.

Item. I give and bequeath to Elizabeth Bray, when or she may demand it, the sum of thirty pounds proc. money, to be collected out of my outstanding debts, to her and her heirs and assigns forever.

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And all the rest and residue of my estate real and personal
whatsoever and wheresoever it may be found, not heretofore
mentioned in this Will, I give and bequeath to my three sons and
two daughters share and share alike - And if any of my said
children before mentioned should die before they arrive to the age of
majority, then and in that case bequeath to all the survivors of
them share and share alike, whatever may have been allotted them
And lastly. I do hereby nominate and appoint my loving wife Ester
Player to be my Executrix and my brother Richard Player, & Jonathan
Dumbin to be my Executors of this my last Will and Testament -

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 29th
day of September 1777 -
Signed, Sealed, published and
declared by the said Stephen Player,
to be his last Will and Testament,
in presence of us

Stephen Player Seal

Forced: Dumbin
Oliver Combs
Joseph N. Newton
mark

At New Hanover,
January Court 1778 }

The within last Will and Testament, was
exhibited to the Court and proved on the oath of Oliver Combs,
a subscribing witness, who swore that he saw the Testator, sign,
seal, publish and declare the same to be and contain his last
Will and Testament; and that at the same time thereof, he was
to the best of this deponent's knowledge and belief of sound disposing
mind and memory, and that Jonathan Dumbin and Joseph
Newton signed as concurring evidence thereto.

Sam. Swann. C. Clk.