

**Will of Jane Smith – 1823  
(Wife of Laurence Smith)**

**In the name of God amen.**

**I Jane Smith of Northampton County and State of North Carolina knowing that all men must die and wishing to dispose of my property that is has pleased God to bless me with do make this to be my last will and Testament.**

**In Premis: I give and bequeath unto my daughter Dorothy Mason the following Negroes Viz Anthony, Hannah, Mariah, and Donaldson to her and her heirs forever – and also the sum of fifteen hundred dollars to be made out of the money due me that I have not herein after disposed of.**

**Secondly, I give and bequeath unto my grandson Laurence Mason one Negro by the name of Jessey called Blacksmith, to him and his heirs forever**

**Thirdly, I give and bequeath unto my granddaughter Rebecca Elizabeth Mason one Negro by the name of Mary Laurence to her and her heirs forever**

**Fourthly, I give and bequeath unto my granddaughter Mary Jane Mason two Negroes by the names of Airy and Little Jerry to her and her heirs forever**

**Fifthly, I give and bequeath unto my grandson Henry Mason three Negroes by the names of Briton, Zinney, and Little Jim to him and his heirs forever**

**Sixthly, I give and bequeath unto my grandson Joseph Mason one Negro by the name of Berry to him and his heirs forever and it is also my request that he should be put to some trade**

**Seventhly, I give and bequeath unto my daughter Rebecca S. Williams one Negro by the name of Jerry to her and heirs forever**

**Eighthly, I give and bequeath unto my granddaughter Rebecca S. Williams one Negro by the name of Fanny to her and her heirs forever**

**Ninthly, I give and bequeath unto my granddaughter Malinda William one Negro by the name of Viney to her and her heirs forever**

**Tenthly, I give and bequeath unto my grandson Lewis Williams one Negro by the name of Nat to him and his heirs forever**

**Elevently, I give and bequeath unto my grandson Laurence Williams one Negro man by the name of Solomon to him and his heirs forever**

**Twelvethly, I give and bequeath unto my granddaughter Amanda Smith one Negro by the name of Madison to her and heir heirs forever**

**Thirteenthly, I give and bequeath unto my son Joseph L D Smith, Negros Lews, Winney, Davey, & Dolly, and two old Negros Isaac and his wife Judy, and the sum of one hundred dollars for the support of the two old Negroes to be raised out of my estate that I have not here given away and also all the debts he is owing me in bonds, accts. And in every other way he may be indebted to me whatsoever by his paying to my daughter Rebecca L Williams the sum of five hundred dollars, the value of a Negro Gentl(eman) by the name of Notice I had of said Rebecca and let him the said Joseph have**

**Fourteenthly, my will and desire is that should the(?) any Negroes that I have omitted giving away in this my last will and testament should go to my son Joseph L D Smith and I do give and bequeath the same to him and his heirs forever**

**Fifteenthly, my will and desire is that out of the balance of my estate, my debts due, should there be any after paying the specified sums herein before mentioned, & perishable estate my debts and funeral expenses shall be paid – and the balance to be equally divided between my two granddaughters Mary Jane Williams and Rebecca Jane Williams and I do give and bequeath the same to them and their heirs forever – and I do hereby nominate and appoint my Friends Allen Deberry and Howell Edmunds my executors to this my last will and Testament – given under my hand and seal this 7<sup>th</sup> day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty three**

**Signed sealed and acknowledged  
in presents of**

**Jane Smith (seal)**

**Henry Deberry  
Drewry Deberry**

**Northampton County December Court 1824. This last will & testament together with the codicil hereto annexed of Jane Smith dec'd was exhibited to this court & proved by the oath of Henry Deberry on of the subscribing witnesses thereto whereupon Allen Deberry one of the Executors in said will named was duly qualified as the law requires – ordered to be recorded**

**Teste M Harrison (seal)**

**Codicil to this my last will and testament**

**The lands I have in fee simple in my will and desire is should be sold by my executors on such credit as they may think best – and I do hereby empower them or either of them to do the same and the money arriving from such sale should be equally divided among my grandchildren and I do give and bequeath the same to them and their heirs forever – given under my hand and seal this 7<sup>th</sup> day of May 1823**

**Signed sealed and acknowledged  
In presents of**

**Jane Smith (seal)**

**Henry Deberry (his mark)  
Drewry Deberry**

**Exr. Qualified**

**(On back side of will/codicil)**

**Jane Smith  
Will  
Decr 1824  
Recorded in page  
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