

Will of Joseph Exum – 1789

In the name of God Amen

I Joseph Exum of the County of Northampton & State of North Carolina being weak of body but of sound & desposing memory do constitute, make and ordain this my last will and testament & give and dispose of my estate in manner & form following (to wit)

I lend unto my loving wife the land & plantation whereon I now live during her widowhood, she committing no waste or destruction by cutting down & clearing land more than timber to support the plantation. I also lend unto her during her natural life two negroes named Rose & Jim, also one black horse three cows & calves all the sheep I did possessed of, two beds & furniture, all my kitchen furniture & after her death the articles I lent to her during her life my will & desire is they shall be equally divided with their increase between my three children Henry, Matthew, and Elizabeth Exum to their heirs & assigns forever. My will and desire is my Negroes shall be hired out as I have not before lent until my eldest son comes to the age of twenty years or marries and then for them with their increase to be equally divided between my three children Henry, Matthew, & Elizabeth Exum each share & share alike to them their heirs & assigns for ever.

My will & desire is that my Executors hereafter mentioned shall as soon as convenient after my death, rent out my mill until my eldest son come to the age of twenty one years or marries and the money arising from the rent be equally divided between my three children when my eldest son comes to the age of twenty one years or marries to them, their heirs & assigns forever...I give and bequeath with my two sons Henry & Matthew Exum my mill with all its conveniences.

After my son Henry comes to the age of twenty one years or marries to them there heirs & assigns forever. I give & bequeath unto my two sons Henry & Matthew Exum all my lands I die possessed of to be equally divided between them, their heirs & assigns forever

My will and desire is that my executors hereafter mentioned as soon as convenient after my death sell all my stock of hogs cattle & horse and household furniture I have not before lent also my working tools and every other article I die possessed of and I money arising to be equally divided between my three children when my elder son comes to the ages of twenty one years or marries to them their heirs and assigns forever

My will and desire is that after my just debts, note, accoumpts (debts owed) or otherwise should be equally divided between my three children to them their heirs and assigns forever.

**Lastly, I nominate and appoint my friends James Exum and Exum Phillips my sol
executors to this my last will and testament is in witness hereof I have hereunto set
my hand and affixed my seal this 17th September 1789**

Joseph Exum (seal)

**Signed sealed and
Delivered in presents of us
James Dancy
John Fhay
Ann Exum (her mark)**