

Isle of Wight County Will Book 9 1779-1785 LVA Reel # 26

p. 152–will of Thomas Scott–First, I give all Negro slaves that are called my property their intire freedom forever from all persons whatsoever–leaves to his bro Jn Scott the use and labor of Negro Mingo until he comes to the age of 21 yrs and Negro Martha and Roday until they come to the age of 18–wants bro Jn Scott to maintain my maid Huldy as long as she lives–2 Oct 1780–rec 6 Feb 1783–proved by affirmation of Wm Hollowell and Ann Coffield

p. 305–will of James Derring–leaves 6 slaves together with my Negro woman Milley and my Negro boy Joe who went to the enemy if he should be fortunate enough to regain them...14 Jan 84–rec 3 Mar 85

Isle of Wight County Will Book 10 1785-1796 LVA Reel # 26

p. 1–will of Matthew Jordan Sr of I of W–to son Richard tract and use of Negro girl named Patience until she turns 21 and then to be free acc to act of 1782–to dau Mary Jordan the use of one Negro boy named Jacob until he turns 21 then to be free–to dau Sarah Jordan the use of four Negroes namely Tom, Bob, Lock and Huldah until they turn 21 and then to be free–I give to all my Negroes which are not otherwise provided for in this writing their freedom according to 1782 Act of Assembly–11 May 85–rec 6 October 1785–affirmation of Thos Newby and Robt Marshall

p. 89–will of Robert Johnson of parish if Newport and I of W–leaves the two acres of land for the use of out meeting house to the society of people called Quakers–8 Dec 87–rec 3 Jan 88

p. 119–will of John Pretlow of I of Wight–Ann Bailey to continue to live with my wife as she now does and to do so after decease of wife until she marries–leaves to his wife, bro Samuel Pretlow and friends Thos Newby and Armiger Bailey in trust all his Negroes for the following purpose viz inasmuch as he is persuaded that freedom is the natural right of all people and that it is[not] my will to deprive any thereof after they may arrive to age of maturity I am desirous as far as in me lies and the law of the land will allow that they may be made to enjoy that inestimable blessing in common with other people–so directs trustees that they allow every one of my Negroes together with such as may be hereafter born to them the full enjoyment of liberty and their labour from the time they may arrive to the age of 21 years and in order the better to fit them for freedom I desire they may be learnt to read and instructed as much as may be in the principles of religion and morality and in case of the death of all or either of my said trustees I request and desire the monthly meeting of Friends called Quakers held near the Western Branch of Nansemond River may nominate and appoint others–all rest and residue of my estate after the decease of my wife and give and bequeath to the said Mary Pretlow and Ann Bailey dau of Trial Bailey and Mary Bailey dau of Armiger Bailey –17 Nov 1770–note date–rec 4 Dec 1788–Edmund Westray affirms will as witness

p. 146–will of George Gordon of Smithfield–provides for payment of small debts etc–gives to Dr. David Dick personal items and chair and harness and 8 unused shirts in consideration of his esteem–for the faithful services performed to me by my servant Jesse it is my will and desire that he may be Emancipated and that my exec may take such steps as the law directs for that purpose–

also leaves him my horses and all my wearing apparel and what necessaries I have towards housekeeping that is not otherwise directed in the will—Geo Purdie names exec—19 May 89—rec 4 June 90 [prob should be 1789]

p. 163—will of William X Watkins of I of W—leaves 8 slaves to a grandson—I give and bequeath unto the remainder part of my Negroes, Old Jemmy, his wife Patt, their son Natt, Dick and Ned to all of them their time and liberty during this life—28 June 1786—rec 3 Dec 89

p. 201—will of William X Parker—leaves no slaves to heirs—I give and bequeath unto my Negro Fan and Negro Ben their freedom at my decease unto them their heirs and assigns forever—23 Jan 1791—rec 4 April 91

p. 211—will of Mills Herring of I of W—wife gets her thirds—dau gets lands and settlements and all his Negroes except Nat and Judy and it is my desire they be free at my death—22 Jan 1791—rec 7 Feb 1791

p. 242—will of William Grace—leaves to wife Sally Grace during her natural life the use of slaves Edy, Huldy, Peter, Derry, Peg, tom and one-half of Patt and after her decease the above mentioned Negroes should have their freedom agreeable to an act of assembly made for that purpose—14 Sept 1792—rec 3 Dec 1792

p. 279—will of William James of I of W—after his wife's decease the estate to be divided between his 2 daus—it is furthermore my will and desire that my Negro boy Will should be hired out until he arrives to the age of 21 at which time he is to go free---it is also my desire that my wife should keep my Negro boy Peter until he is 21 yrs old if she thinks proper—no mention of freeing Peter at that point—perhaps understood—2 Feb 1794—rec 8 April 94

p. 306—will of Isham Pitt of I of W—my will and desire is that after my decease all my Negroes to wit Jack, Peter, Nanny, Sarah, Pattt and Coffee may be free and enjoy their freedom as tho they had been born free and that forever—no date—rec 2 Dec 1794—

p. 347—will of Jacob Edwards of I of W—lends Negro boy Dick to his wife Rebekah till he shall come to age of 23 yrs and then he shall go free—31 Mar 1795—rec 6 July 95

p. 387—will of Pompy X Benn—gives plantation he lives on and personal property to his brother Miner Denson—28 Dec 89—rec 1 Feb 96—will proved by oath of Robert Glover and affirmation of Scott Hollowell—is this a will of a free man of color?

Isle of Wight County Will Book 11 1794-1802 LVA Reel # 27

p.19—will of William Hodsdon of I of W—will and desire is that my Negro girl named Venus should have her liberty agreeable to an Act of Assembly made for that purpose—26 Nov 95—rec 2 Jan 97

p. 92—will of Rix Laurence of I of W—wants personal estate exclusive of Negroes sold to pay debts—gives Negroes to his dau to her and her heirs excepting Harrison. I give Harrison his

freedom at my death, the above Negroes I desire shall be set free if my dau dies before she be of age—will proved by affirmation of Hester Whitfield...18 July 1797—rec 5 Feb 98—none named except Harrison

p. 140—will of Elizabeth Harrison of I of W—will and desire is that my Negro man David should have his freedom agreeable to act of assembly—31 July 98—rec 1 Oct 98

p. 171—will of David Blaney—after servant Aaron has served his wife for two years to be free—leaves a Negro boy named George to James Payne son of Benjamin Payne—has a brother in Marblehead, Mass—nd—rec 4 Feb 99

p. 176—will of Polly Cutchin of I of W—Negro man Tom to be hired out for 4 yrs to pay debts and support sister Sally Pitt Cutchin and then execs to free him, but if sister should die then Tom to be freed immediately—after decease Negro woman named Rachel be liberated and set free—12 Nov 98—rec 4 Feb 99

p. 211—will of Thomas Smith of I of W—mentions Jesse Gordon (a free Negro) as living on plantation adjacent to some of the land he is leaving his heirs—also a corner of Timothy Tynes land—17 April 99—rec 2 Sept 99

p. 234—Richard Gibson (commonly called preaching Dick) of the county of I of W being very sick and weak in body but I believe of sound mind, informed this day that it was his will and desire that Judy and Rachel (his sisters) each of them should have a cow and that all the rest of his estate should be divided between his wife and children. And further it was his will and desire that George Benn and Randall Reynolds should manage his estate for him. This in substance was committed to writing within three hours after it was told me this 12 day of January 1800. Witness George Benn—noncupative will presented in ct on 4 Feb 1800—Benn refuses admin and liberty reserved for Reynolds to undertake—is this a will of a free person of color?

p.421—will of Sampson Barlow of I of W—lends to wife all my Negroes namely Abram, Randolph, David and Feby for life and at her death to be lawfully free—30 May 1801—rec 6 July 1801

p. 587—will of Timothy Tynes—all of my slaves of every description to wit: Prince, Bob, George, Peter, Jacob, great James, little James, Dick, Silver, Chaney, Nancy, Bathea?, Conny, Phillis, Fanny, Lily, Sukey, Nancy, little Phillis, Harry, Patience, Isham, Harriott, Davy, Linda, Dolphin, Aaron, Isaac, Beckey, Betsey, Moses, Cherry, great Charles, little Charles, Robin, Grace, Sam, Lewis, Kitt, Godfry, Jack, Beck, Venus, Caty, John, Iris, Charles, Daniel, Ephraim, Fanny, Rose, Freeman, Lidy, Rhoda, Joe, Sirius, Nanny, Soukey, Harry, Jesse, Dick, Mary, Jude, Pricilla, Nancy, Willis, Benn, Asia, Sarah, Hannah, Dick unge? [is one person], Tim, Randall, Ned, Tom, Talus, Gambo, Sall, Daughny, Aggy, Bob, and Ally together with their increase including Nancy's child and all other of my slaves that are not herein mentioned to be fully and freely liberated from all Slavery and stand discharged from slavery and bondage to enjoy all the priviledges that Free Negroes are entitled to by the laws and regulations? of the state of Virginia—that part of my River land call'd Bennett's shall be occupied by Beck (which formerly belonged to Allen Cocks estate) and all her children during their lives and after the death of them

all the said land shall revert to David Tynes son of Benj Tynes dec'd –I give to John and Iris children of Beck the sum of 400L to be equally divided –also one feather bed and furniture and 5 head of cattle and John to get bay colt at the river plantation–gives to Sukey the dau of Nancy 250L to her and her heirs forever–gives to Beck of A. Cocks estate 150L–my river plantation formerly Drews be given to John, son of Beck to him and heirs forever and he shall have all the stock of every description on the place, formerly Drews–gives to Prince a servant liberated by my will, a plantation which my Father Robt Tynes purchased of James Jones to him and heirs forever–gives to Tim a servant liberated in will 100 acres of land being part of the tract my father purchased of Rascow–gives to Sam 100 acres of same tract and it is understood to them and their heirs forever–to Dick unge 100 acres of land of the tract he now lives on to him and his heirs forever–gives balance of this tract to be equally divided amongst the Negroes liberated by me living on the said plantation with dick unge and the stock to be equally divided amongst Dick unge and others on the said planation and also plantation utensils–give to niece Sally Tynes Purdie the whole of that tract formerly the property of Timothy Tynes decd now known by name of Harry's –gives the whole of the tract he now lives on known at Tynes's Store to David Tynes–gives to little Charles my plantation known by name of Toby's together with stock on it and also the stock at Harry's and where I now live to him and his heirs–my plantation formerly Charles Chapmans be given to little Charles to him and his heirs forever–9 May 1802–rec 7 June 1802–exec's post 20,000\$ bond

p. 703–will of Benjamin Bailey a free Negro man of I of W–leaves all estate to wife Lucy during her natural life–but if she marries to get only thirds–of other 2/3'ds 20 shillings to go to dau Patience, and 20s to my dau Winfred the balance to be divided among my eight children namely Ellick, Perlina, Aaron, Isaac, Ben, Cate, Patience, Winfred and at death of wife the estate to be divided among the eight children or the survivors of them–2 June 1802–rec 4 Oct 1802–Simmons Gwaltney is exc–posts 500\$ bond

p. 722–will of Joseph Crocker–desires that my Negro woman Edy and her child Lucy be Emancipated–gives to bro Wm Crocker's son John one Negro girl Doll and leaves rest of estate to bro Wm Crocker–25 Mar 1803–rec 5 April 03

p. 723–will of Lawrence Baker of I of W–wants funeral service to be conducted in way of the church he was bred etc–disinherits Catharine Haynes and her son William and wants them to receive no property of his whatsoever–names William Byrd and Richard Byrd formely of Chas City County but now of Suffolk and Gloucester to be execs of his will which is that they are to manage his estate for the advantage of Mary Simpson a Molatto formerly my slave now free until she comes of age and capable of taking care of herself then she is to get the whole of his estate of what kind so ever–in case her liberty should be in danger or anything else her good may require, Byrds to take care of–if he gains title to a tract of land in a suit pending in Ct of Appeals in Richmond, it is to be sold for the benefit of his securities John Goodrich and Thos Smith–wants Jn Goodrich to settle accounts for what he took from him “during my insane state”–if Mary Simpson die without issue be the same lawful or unlawfull he leaves whole estate to the people call'd Quakers to be used by them for the purpose of purchasing and liberating slaves and the preference be given to those who were my property–I would it were in my power to entirely banish that excreable practice–leaves a variety of personal momentos, portraits, a coat of arms, etc to various relatives–I beg what friends I have if any to shew all friendship they owed

me to my poor remaining domesticks Abram, Britt and Edy and to Mary Simpson and to Moses Mosely and to all my poor Isave who were mine my heart yearns for all my domesticks my Children—10 July 1801—rec 5 Oct 03—Richard W. Byrd refuses exec—Wm Mallory undertakes admin and posts 1000\$ bond—

p. 749—will of William Hollowell of I of W—lends to sister Courtney Hollowell the use of Negro boy Ephriam until he is 21—lends to sister Mary Hollowell a Negro girl Lucreacy until she is 18—leaves 5L each to Ephraim and Lucreacy when they come of age mentioned to be paid out of estate—15 April 03—rec 6 June 03—is this an unstated manumission for Ephraim and Lucreacy—no further provision made in the will as to their disposition

p. 775—will of William Johnston of I of W—leaves 10 slaves to his niece and one to his nephew—emancipates Negro woman Peg to enjoy all the priviledges that free Negroes are entitled to by the laws of Va—19 April 1803—rec 5 Oct 03

Isle of Wight County Will Book 12 1804-1808 LVA Reel # 27

p. 2—will of Charles Tynes jr (Free Negro) of Newport Parish and I of W—gives to wife Peggy Tynes formerly Peggy Blair who was emancipated by John Parker one half of my plantation where I now live whereon my dwelling house stands and one half of orchard, 100L in cash to be collected from Col James Johnston exor of Timothy Tynes, decd left me in his will and one half of my stock etc—to David Tynes my cousin son of my sister Nancy the other half of the plantation—is my will and desire that my uncle Charles Tynes, Sr shall build himself a house on sd half of David Tynes tract and that he Charles and wife is to live on it during their said lives to be used by them and David when he comes of age to him and his heirs forever—gives to uncle Charles Tynes, Sr 5L cash—to uncle Sam Tynes 10L cash—to sister Jinny Tynes 10L cash—to sister Nancy Tynes 10L cash—rest of estate to be divided between his wife and David—names Andrew Woodley exec—28 Jan 1804—rec 6 Feb 04—

p. 103—will of William Pinner—leaves 18 slaves to bros and family members —emancipates three Negro women, Sarah, Sue and Rose—10 Jan 1805—rec 3 June 1805—inventory on p. 120 lists 21 slaves including Sarah at 1L; Sue at 5L and Rose at 30L--

p. 144—will of Joseph Parker of I of W and Newport Parish—bequeaths to Negro man Lewis his time and freedom forever—leaves wife Negro woman Edy and her 6 children—18 Jan 1800—rec 7 Oct 1805

p. 160—will of Josiah Godwin of I of W—leaves several slaves to several family members—I give unto my servant Charles Crews (my servant who has been faithful and honest in serving me, and is one of the most correct Men of his Colour I have ever seen) \$100, one cow and calf, one sow and piggs and my wearing apparel of every kind—Crews is not left to anybody—16 Oct 1805—rec 2 Dec 1805—p. 161--21 Oct 05—a noncupative coda leaves his books to Dr Thos W. Borland and that Charles Crews, a black man that has lived with him for some years should have his mare, bridle and saddle—rec 2 Dec 05

p. 196—will of Esther Taylor of Smithfield—gives lot #30 in Smithfield to Nancy Blair and Peggy

Blair [dau of Nancy] whom I have emancipated this present year, to them and their heirs forever—lot #34 to be sold and out of money arising from this Nancy Blair to get \$100 and Peggy to get \$100—remainder of money to various nieces and nephew—gives Peggy Blair a two year old heifer and to Nancy Blair one bed the same I formerly gave her use of and is now in her possession—12 Nov 1805—rec 8 April 06

p. 264—will of Bartlett Godwin of I of W—heirs are mother, nephew and neice—lends use of Negro boy Aberdeen at his mother's decease to niece and to her lawful heirs of her body but if none then Aberdeen to be liberated—31 Mar 01—rec 2 Feb 1807

p. 472—will of Robert Lawrence of I of W—has plantation in Northampton Co. NC on which he formerly lived—the slaves in N. Carolina at present my property I emancipate on their arriving at lawful age—17 Feb 1801—rec 7 Dec 1807

p. 498—estate inventory of Benjamin Bailey free Negro 4 Nov 02—totals 64.1.7 ½ worth of hhd goods etc—rec 1 Aug 1808—followed by estate acct p. 499-500-

p. 518—est act of Major Timothy Tynes 1802—>

7 Mar 1803—pd Wm Blount for Negro Daphney's coffin

Mar 1804—pd Robin Bingo (a slave of John Stols) for supporting his wife and Nancys children liberated by T. Tynes viz Linda 5 yrs old, Dolphin 3 and Nelly 2 for the year 1803

28 Dec 04—pd Capt Andrew Woodley for supporting Roses 3 children the year 1804

Isle of Wight County Will Book 13 1809-1815 LVA Reel # 28

p. 72—will of Thomas Jones a free man of colour in I of Wight—mentions wife Martha Jones—dau Polly Roberts wife of Edwin Roberts—dau Elizabeth Jones—Edwin Roberts' three daus ie Martha, Mary and Elizabeth—Martha Allmond wife of Randall Allmond gets 40\$—16 Mar 1809—rec 1 Jan 1810—leaving land to heirs and hhd items

p. 91—will of Celia Godwin of I of W—among others legacies leaves to Negro woman Nancy Scott Godwin who was formerly my property one bed and furniture and one young cow and to James Godwin a Negro man formerly my property before I liberated him one bed and furniture and 4 head of cattle, one mare, one looking glass and flaged chars and two tables—balance of estate to be equally divided between Nancy and James —5 Oct 1809—rec 7 May 1810

p. 242—will of Hanner Tynes (alias) Unger wife of Richard Unger free Negro—leaves all she has or might inherit from any source to her husband Richard Unger—3 Oct 1806?—rec 6 July 1812

p. 275—will of William Jenkins of I of W—it is my desire that Randol Wilson a free Negro should retain full and free proportion of the piece of land on which he now resides during his natural life—nd—rec 7 Dec 1812

p. 277—will of William Jordan of I of W—leaves property in I of W and in Pasquotank Co NC to

various heirs—my will and desire that the Negroes that I have lent to Samuel Jones and my dau Elizabeth his wife shall remain in his, her or their and Lemuels possession and for their or either of their uses until the time shall arrive in some way pointed out by my friends that the said Negroes hereby lent with their increase my enjoy their liberty and be set free, it is my will and desire that the said Negroes with their increase may be set at liberty as soon as in the estimation of my friend or the friends of humanity—son Watson P. Jordan gets home plantation after death of mother and land in NC and use of labor of slaves in NC who are to be freed when possible along with Joe and Sally who were brought from NC—obligates estate to pay to maintaining or defending the rights of his slaves—also says slaves could enjoy freedom in any other part of the world and the slaves to receive a copy of the will as it pertains to them—28 May 1809—a codocil of 23 April 1810 basically says that the slaves in NC and Joe and Sally after his death to be delivered in trust to Yearly Meeting (Quakers) in NC for the purposes of establishing their emancipation—rec 7 Dec 1812

p. 344—will of George Benn of I of W—among legacies to others—I give and bequeath unto Christian a Negro woman I liberated the sume of 100\$ for her former services—I give and bequeath unto Cofffee a Negro man whom I liberated the sum of 50\$—gives land near where the Methodist church stands for camp meetings to Methodists officials—it is my will and desire that my Negroes which I liberated in this county shall not be sold or be subject to any claim or pretention of claim that might be brought against my estate but if any there should be my landed property should be subject thereto—wants his sister Louisa Cunningham to have care and management of a small Negro boy named Merritt untill he shall arrive to lawful age at which time entitled to his freedom—30 Oct 1813—rec 6 Dec 1813

p. 440—will of Parker Hawkins of I of W—leaves various slaves to several heirs—I give my boy Nat his liberty and my horse provided he will leave the state within 6 months of my death—if he will not quit the state I give him the liberty of choosing a master whoever he may be, I give that to him and his heirs forever—19 Aug 1814—rec 6 Feb 1815

Isle of Wight County Wills 14 1815-1817 LVA Reel # 28

p. 141—will of Thomas Norsworthy of I of W—Item: the Black children to wit Wiley, Isaac, Willis, Rebeccah, Rhoda I lend to my wife until of lawful age and it is my desire that my wife should have the use and liekewise of the offspring of the females until they become of lawful age and it is my will that the above mentioned Black Persons together with the offspring of the females should one and all be free as they arrive at lawful age—10 Aug 1815—rec 4 Nov 1816—one of witnesses is Thos Fanning who affirms—wife is named extrx but refuses the admin of estate

p. 230—will of Nancy Bracy of I of W—leaves to Polly Cornwell one Negro boy named Aaron until he is 21 and then to be free but if he cannot by the laws of this state and he don't chuse to go to a free state he must remain with Polly and her heirs forever—leaves to Eliza Cornwell Negro boy Jacob with same provisions—leaves to Sally M. Moody Negro girl Tempy with same provisions—leaves to Kitty Moody Negro girl Mary under same provisions—I give to my man Bob to be hired out two years and the money to be used for raising Aaron and Jacob and then he is to be for the balance of his life free from slavery—16 Oct 1816—rec 4 Nov 1816

p. 294—will of Mary Underwood of I of W—leaves a slave girl to an heir—will and desire that my Negro Man Mingo should be liberated at my death—9 Mar 1817—rec 5 May 1817

p. 295—will of Joseph Roberts a free man of color —wife Zelpha a free woman of color gets all of his chattel estate and he lends to her the land and plantation where he now lives and after her death to go to Matthew Jordan if the latter does not demand the money he owes him from his wife and assists in supporting his wife—4 April 1817—rec 5 May 1817

end of Isle of Wight abstracts