

# WILL OF JAMES WATKINS

**Will Book F- page 165**  
**Sussex County, Virginia**

I, James Watkins of Sussex County do make and ordain this to be my last will and testament in manner and form as followeth to wit:

**First:** My will and my desire is that the East end of my Land and Plantation whereon I now live which is taken by a dividing line beginning at a popler on Josiah Bailey line in Naptins (?) Branch through the rim of said branch to the head thereof from thence along a line of mark trees to Benjamin Russell's line should be equally divided between my wife Ann Watkins and my son James Watkins the use of one half thereof I lend to my aforesaid wife also the use of the two south rooms of my dwelling House the common use of the cook room and Dary one feather bed and furniture and one third part of my personal estate which shall remain when the legacies hereafter mentioned are taken therefrom during her natural life and at her death I give and bequeath to my son James Watkins the aforesaid tract of land as bounded above to him and to his heirs forever.

**Second:** I give to my two sons Reuben Watkins and Benjamin Watkins the west and remaining part of my above mentioned tract of land to be equally divided between them by my executors hereafter mentioned to them and their heirs forever but if either of my above named sons Reuben Watkins, James Watkins or Benjamin Watkins should die without lawful issue then the above mentioned land to be equally divided between the survivors of them.

**Third:** I give to my three sons John Watkins, Amos Watkins and Robert Watkins the two tracts of land which I purchased of James Williford (?) and Hary Harris to be equally divided between them by my hereafter mentioned executors to them & their heirs forever but if either of them die without lawful issue then the two tracts of land mentioned to be equally divided between the survivors of them.

**Fourth:** I give to my daughter Susannah Watkins one feather bed and furniture, one side saddle, one pewter dish, two pewter basins, six pewter plates, one dozen spoons 'and eight pounds cash.

**Fifth:** I give to my daughter Winney Watkins one feather bed and furniture one pewter dish two pewter basons, six pewter plates, one dozen spoons and ten pounds cash.

**Sixth:** I give to my son Reuben Watkins one feather bed and furniture, one saddle & bridle, one cow and calf, one sow and pigs, one pewter dish, two pewter basons, six pewter plates, one dozen spoons and five pounds cash to receive at the age of twenty one years.

**Seventh:** I give to my son John Watkins one feather bed and furniture, one pewter dish, two pewter basons, six pewter plates, one dozen spoons, one cow and calf, one sow and pigs and one saddle and bridle to receive at the age of twenty one years.

**Eighth:** I give to my son James Watkins one cow and calf, one sow and pigs and all the pewter, molds, one pewter dish, two pewter basons, six pewter plates and one dozen spoons and fourteen pounds cash to receive at the age of twenty one years.

**Ninth:** I give to my son Benjamin Watkins one cow and calf, one sow and pigs, one pewter dish, two pewter basons, six pewter plates, one dozen spoons and fourteen pounds cash to receive when he arrives at the age of twenty one years.

**Item:** I give to my son Amos Watkins one cow and calf, one sow and pigs, one pewter dish, two pewter basons, six pewter plates, one dozen spoons and nine pounds cash to receive when he arrives at the age of twenty years.

**Item:** I give to my son Robert Watkins one cow and calf, one sow and pigs, one pewter dish, two pewter basons, six pewter plates, one dozen spoons and nine pounds cash to receive when he arrives at the age of twenty one years.

**Item:** I give to my grandson James Hunnicutt two pounds cash.

**Item:** It is my will and desire that the remaining part of my estate after the legacies therein mentioned are paid off, be equally divided amongst my children namely Sarah Butler, Susannah Watkins, Reuben Watkins, John Watkins, Winny Watkins, James Watkins, Benjamin Watkins, Amos Watkins and Robert Watkins or the survivors of them.

I constitute and appoint James Brock, Joseph Bailey Jun and my son Reuben Watkins, executors to this my last will and testament in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this thirtieth day of the seventh month in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety nine.

Signed & acknowledged in  
presents of

Edmund Bailey James Watkins (his mark)  
William Bailey  
Rebekah Bailey  
Peter Layne