

Will of Ambrose Rucker

Amherst County, Virginia: Will Book 4, pp. 479-481

In the name of God, Amen. I **Ambrose Rucker Senr.** of Amherst County and Parish of Lexington being in perfect health and memory, do make and order this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following.

Viz: I lend to my beloved wife **Mary Rucker** during her widowhood or natural life, ten choice Negroes with the addition of three others, namely, Bart, old Nan and Clary, the mannor [sic] plantation whereon I now live, with four hundred and seventy three acres of Land in which said Plantation is included, being a part thereof: With one other Tract of land on the head of HARRISES Creek called my Mountain Plantation (except what I shall hereafter Will to my son Ambrose Rucker) with all the stock and plantation utensils of every kind, including the Waggon [sic] and Still, all my household and kitchen furniture: at her death or marriage to return to my estate to be equally divided among my Children and Grand Children.

Item: I give and bequeath to my son **Ambrose Rucker** the new survey on the upper or north side of my Mountain Plantation containing two hundred odd acres, with the addition of one hundred acres taken off the land formerly contested between Lucas and myself, which said hundred acres last mentioned is a part of tract lent to my Wife, and all the land on the south or west side of the road that leads from the head of HARRISES Creek, with two negroes (viz) Sarah and Crese, the former being now in his possession, with all other things I have given him heretofore, or let him have, except the ore Bank Land on the high peak of the Tobacco Row Mountain, to him and his heirs forever. The ore Bank Land, containing three hundred and seventy five acres with one other tract adjoining, is to be sold at the discretion of my Executors and divided equally among my Children and Grandchildren.

I give to my son, **Isaac Rucker**, three hundred acres of land from the upper side of my Rocky Creek Plantation, running quite across the creek from one side of the land to the other; also a negro woman named Anna and her children, also Betty and her increase the said negroe being now in his possession also all other things I have heretofore given him, to him and his heirs forever.

I give to my son **Benjamin Rucker** three hundred acres of land, it being the tract of land my son Isaac Rucker now lives on, with the addition of one hundred Acres from the Tract I now live on; so as not to interfere with the Store Houses and my Barn, also a Horse Saddle and Bridle and a good Feather Bed and furniture; two negroes (Viz) Caleb and Rhoda, two Cows and Calves, two Sows and Pigs, my Rifle gun and three Sheep, to him and his heirs forever.

Item: I give and have given to my son, **Reuben Rucker** (dec'd) equal to two hundred pounds; also fifty pounds more in property to his heirs forever.

I have given and now do confirm unto the heirs of **Winifred Plunkett** (dec'd) one hundred and thirty pounds, and my executors are to pay them in property seventy pounds more, to them and their heirs forever.

I have given and do give unto the heirs of **Peggy McDaniel** (dec'd) one hundred pounds in property, and they are to be paid by my executors (from my Estate) in property, one hundred pounds more, to them and their heirs forever.

I do give and have given unto **Frankey Lee** two Negroes Viz Lydia and Cresey, and sixty pounds in property, making in the whole two hundred pounds, to her and her heirs forever.

I give and have given to my **Molly Burford** one negro woman named Sereles and other things to the amount of one hundred pounds, and my executors are to pay her from my estate, one hundred pounds more in property, so as to make her first portion two hundred pounds to her and her heirs forever.

I give to **Elizabeth Marr** and have given two Negroes (Viz) Dilcey and Filler now in her possession and other things to the amount of one hundred and sixty pounds, and my Executors are to pay her in property out of my estate forty pounds more to her and her heirs forever.

Item: I lend to **Sophia Rucker** now **Sophia Jennings** five Negroes (Viz) Selia, Doll, Greysey, Betsa and Daniel during pleasure, at her death they are to go to the heirs and issue of her body forever. Also I give to my Daughter Sophia fifty pounds cash, which said sum I desire my Executors to pay to her personally.

I give to my Daughter **Caroline Hansford** two Negroes Viz: Jane and Nancy and other things to the value of one hundred and fifty pounds and my Executors are to [pay] her from my estate in property, fifty pounds more to her and her heirs forever.

I give to **Matilda Marr** two Negroes (Viz) Anna and Clarka and other things to the value of one hundred and eighty pounds, and my executors are to pay her out of my estate, twenty pounds more to her and her heirs forever.

I give to **Charlotte Rucker**, two Negroes Viz Caroline and Bicey, a good feather Bed and furniture, a Horse Saddle and Bridle worth twenty pounds and the said Negroes value at one hundred and twenty pounds and the Bed and furniture at fifteen pounds making in all one hundred and fifty-five pounds and my Executors are to pay her out of my estate forty five pounds in property to make her Legacy two hundred pounds to her and her heirs forever. Which sd Legacy is to be dispersed of to the use of my said Daughter at the discretion of my executors.

I give to my Daughter **Sally Marr** two Negroes (Viz) Delphia and Little Lucey or Yellow Lucy at the Quarter valued at one hundred and fifty pounds, a Horse Saddle and Bridle, at twenty pounds, a feather Bed and furniture at fifteen pounds, and other things amounting to one hundred and ninety nine pounds, nineteen Shillings, and my Executors are to pay her one shilling to make up her Legacy two hundred pounds in all, to her and her heirs forever.

And finally all my Land and other things not herein Willed are to be sold and put to value to pay the Legacies: after they are paid, the remainder of my estate both real and personal that is not Willed away is to be equally divided among my Children and Grand Children (Viz) the Children of **Reuben Rucker** one share, the Children of **Winifred Plunkett** one Share, the Children of **Margarett McDaniel** one Share, **Molly Burford** one Share, **Frankey Lee** one share, **Ambrose Rucker** one share, **Isaac Rucker** one share, **Sophia Jennings** one share, **Caroline Hansford** one share, **Betsey Marr** one share, **Matilda Marr** one share, **Sally Marr** one share, **Charlotte Rucker**, one share, **Benjamin Rucker** one share and their heirs forever.

I give to **Benjamin Rucker (junr?)**, **Anthony Rucker** and the heirs representatives of **Isaac Rucker (dec'd)** their due share of all the Lands patented in my name in the State of Kentucky agreeable to Contract to them and their heirs foever.

It is to be observed that I reserve half an acre of land for a grave yard where the grave yard is now fixed to belong to my family forever.

And lastly I do appoint my beloved wife Mary Rucker and my beloved sons Ambrose Rucker and Isaac Rucker whole and sole executrix and executors of this my last Will and Testament. In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this third day of December one thousand eight hundred and three.

Signed Sealed and acknowledged
In presence of:

John Cooney
Henry A. Christian
Anthony Rucker
Tinsley Rucker

Memorandum:

Tis ordered in my Will that the land whereon I now live shall be sold to the highest bidder. I hereby direct it shall be sold on Credit three annual payments and the money to be divided agreeable to my Will. Jan. 21st 1807. Ambrose Rucker

At a court held for Amherst County the 21 day of December 1807

This last Will and Testament of Ambrose Rucker deceased was proven by the oaths of John Cooney and Anthony Rucker, two witnesses thereto and ordered to be recorded. And Isaac Rucker one of the Executors named in said Will, personally came into Court and qualified according to Law and entered into Bond with Anthony Rucker, David Tinsley, John McDaniel and Benjamin Rucker Junr, his Securities in the penalty of \$50000 current Money considered as the Law directs, certificate is granted him for obtaining a probate thereof is due form. Teste.

[In Margin] At a Court held for Amherst County the 18th day of January 1808, William Marr & Tho^m Moore being sworn say their veraly believe that the signature to the above instrument of Writing was in the proper handwriting of the sd Ambrose Rucker. The same is ordered to be recorded.

Teste Wm. S. Crawford, Ck.

Know all men by these presents that we Isaac Rucker, Anthony Rucker, David Tinsley, Benjamin Rucker and John McDaniel are held and firmly bound unto Will. Loving, James Montgomery, Phillip Johnson and John Warwick, Gentlemen Justices of the Court of Amherst County now sitting in the sum of fifty Thousand Dollars to the payment whereof well and truly to be made to the said Justices and their successors, we bind ourselves, and each of us, our and each of our heirs, Executors and administrators, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents. Sealed with our seals, this 21st day of December in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and seven and in the 32nd year of the commonwealth. The condition of the above obligation is such, that if the above bound Isaac Rucker one of the Executors of the last Will and Testament of Ambrose Rucker deceased, do make or cause to be made, a true and perfect Inventory of all, and singular the goods, chattels, and credits of the said deceased, which have or shall come to the hands, possession, or knowledge of him the said Isaac Rucker or into the hands and possession of any other person or persons for him and the same so made do exhibit or cause to be exhibited into the County Court of Amherst at such time as he shall be thereunto required the said Courts and the same goods, chattels and credits, and all other the goods, chattels, and credits, of the said deceased, which at any time after shall come to the hands, possession or knowledge of the said Isaac Rucker into the hands or possession of any other person or persons for him do well and truly administer, according to Law; and further do make a just and true account of his actings and doings therein when thereto required by the said Court; and also shall and truly pay and deliver all the Legacies contained and specified in the said Testament as far as the said goods, chattels and credits, will thereunto attend and the Law shall charge, then this obligation to be void and of no effect, or else to remain in full form and virtue.

Signed, Sealed, and delivered	\	Isaac Rucker {seal}
		Anthony Rucker {seal}
In the presence of	>	David Tinsley {seal}
		John McDaniel {seal}
The Court Teste	/	Benjamin Rucker Jr {seal}

Genealogical Analysis

Will of Ambrose Rucker

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- Ambrose Rucker
 - Will written 3 Dec 1803
 - Memorandum added 21 Jan 1807
 - Resident of Amherst County, VA
 - Died between 21 Jan 1807 and 21 Dec 1807
- Spouse
 - Mary
- Children (order listed at end of will)
 - Reuben Rucker
 - Deceased
 - Winifred Plunkett
 - Deceased
 - Margaret (Peggy) McDaniel
 - Deceased
 - Molly Burford
 - Frankey Lee
 - Ambrose Rucker Jr
 - Isaac Rucker
 - Sophia Jennings
 - Caroline Hansford
 - Betsey Marr
 - Matilda Marr
 - Sally Marr
 - Charlotte Rucker
 - Benjamin Rucker
- Others mentioned
 - Willed share of lands Ambrose Rucker patented in Kentucky
 - Benjamin Rucker Jr
 - Anthony Rucker
 - Isaac Rucker (deceased)
 - Witnesses
 - John Cooney
 - Henry A. Christian
 - Anthony Rucker
 - Tinsley Rucker
- Probate
 - 21 Dec 1807
 - Executors
 - Wife Mary, sons Ambrose and Isaac

In the name of God amen. I Ambrose Rucker Senr of Amherst County and Parish of Lexington being in perfect health and memory, do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following. Viz. I lend to my beloved wife Mary Rucker during her widowhood or natural life, Ten choice Negroes with the addition of three others, namely Bart, old Man and Henry, the Manna plantation whereon I now live, with four hundred and seventy three Acres of Land in which said Plantation is included, being a part thereof: with one other Tract of Land on the head of Harris Creek called my Mountain Plantation (except what I shall hereafter Will to my son Ambrose Rucker) with all the stock and plantation Utensils of every kind, including the Waggon and Hill, all my household and Kitchen furniture: at her death or marriage to return to my estate to be equally divided among my Children and Grand Children. Next I give and bequeath to my Son Ambrose Rucker the new survey on the upper or north side of my Mountain Plantation containing two hundred odd Acres, with the addition of one hundred Acres taken off, the land formerly contested between Lucas and myself, which said hundred Acres last mentioned is a part of Tract lent to my Wife, and all the land on the South or west side of the Road that leads from the head of Harris Creek, with two Negroes (viz) Sarah and Brook the former being now in his possession, with all other things I have given him heretofore, or let him have, except the ore-Bank Land on the high peak of the Tobacco-horn Mountain, to him and his heirs forever: The ore-Bank Land containing three hundred and twenty five Acres, with one other Tract adjoining, is to be sold at the discretion of my Executors and divided equally among my Children and Grand Children. I give to my son Isaac Rucker three hundred Acres of Land from the upper side of my Rocky Creek plantation, running quite across the Creek from one side of Land to the other, also a negro Woman named Anna and her children also Willy and her increase the said Negro being now in his possession, also all other things I have heretofore given him, to him and his heirs forever. I give to my son Benjamin Rucker three hundred Acres of Land, it being the Tract of Land my son Isaac Rucker now lives on, with

the addition of one hundred Acres from the Tract I now live on; so as not to interfere with the
Horse - Hounds and my Carriage, also a Horse Saddle and Bridle, a good Feather Bed and furniture,
two Negroes (Viz) Caleb and Rhoda, two Cows and Calves, two Sows and Pigs, my Rifle gun
and three Sheep, to him and his heirs forever. Item I give and have given to my Son Reuben
Rucker (decd) equal to two hundred pounds, also fifty pounds more in property to his heirs fore-
-ever. I have given and now do confirm unto the heirs of Wenifred Plunket (decd) one hun-
-dred and thirty pounds, and my Executors are to pay them in property seventy pounds more
to them and their heirs forever. I have given and do give unto the heirs of Peggy Daniel (decd)
one hundred pounds in property, and they are to be paid by my Executors (from my Estate) in
-property one hundred pounds more, to them and their heirs forever. I do give and have given
unto Franky Lee two Negroes Viz Lydia and Grace, and sixty pounds in property, ma-
-king in the whole two hundred pounds to her and her heirs forever. I give and have given
to my Molly Burford one Negroe Woman named Terler and other things to the amount
of one hundred pounds, and my executors are to pay her from my estate, one hundred pounds
more in property, so as to make her first portion two hundred pounds to her and her heirs forever.
I give to Elizabeth Marr and have given two Negroes (Viz) Dickey and Tiller now in her pos-
-session and other things to the amount of one hundred and sixty pounds, and my Executors are to
pay her in property out of my estate forty pounds more to her and her heirs forever. Item
I send to Sophia Rucker now Sophia Jennings five Negroes (Viz) Selia, Doll, Grace, Sam,
Betsy and Daniel during pleasure, at her death they are to go to the heirs and issue of her
Body forever. Also I give to my Daughter Sophia fifty pounds Cash, which said Sum I de-
-sire my Executors to pay to her personally. I give to my Daughter Caroline Handford two
- Negroes (Viz) Anne and Nancy and other things to the value of one hundred and fifty pounds
and my Executors are to her from my estate in property, fifty pounds more to her and her heirs
forever. I give to Mattilda Marr two Negroes (Viz) Anna and Martha and other things to the
value of one hundred and eighty pounds, and my executors are to pay her out of my estate, twenty pounds
more to her and her heirs forever. I give to Charlotte Rucker, two Negroes (Viz) Caroline and Betsy,
a good feather Bed and furniture, a Horse Saddle and Bridle worth Twenty pounds, and the said
Negroes valued at one hundred and twenty pounds, and the Bed and furniture at fifteen pounds
making in all one hundred and fifty five pounds, and my Executors are to pay her out of my estate
+ forty five pounds in property, to make her Legacy Two hundred pounds, to her and her heirs fore-
-ever. which S. Legacy is to be disposed of for the use of my said Daughter at the discretion of my
executors. I give to my Daughter Sally Marr two Negroes (Viz) Polly and Little Lucy or
- low Lucy at the Quarter valued at one hundred and fifty pounds, a Horse Saddle and Bridle,
twenty pounds, a feather Bed and furniture at fifteen pounds, and other things amounting to one
hundred and ninety nine pounds nineteen Shillings, and my Executors are to pay her one Third
to make up her Legacy two hundred pounds in all, to her and her heirs forever. And for
- all my Land and other things not herein Willed are to be sold and put to value to pay the
- legacies: after they are paid, the remainder of my estate both real and personal that is not
- Willed away is to be equally divided among my Children and Grand Children (Viz) the Children
of Reuben Rucker one Share, the Children of Wenifred Plunket one Share, the Children of
Margarett Daniel one Share, Molly Burford one Share, Franky Lee one Share, Ambrose
- Marr one Share, Jonas Rucker one Share, Sophia Jennings one Share, Caroline Handford one
- Betsy Marr one Share, Mattilda Marr one Share, Sally Marr one Share, Charlotte Rucker one
- Share, Benjamin Rucker one Share, and their heirs forever. I give to Benjamin Rucker and
Anthony Rucker and the heirs and representatives of Jonas Rucker (decd) their due Share of the
- Lands patented in my name in the State of Kentucky agreeable to contract, to them and their heirs

At a Court held for Amherst County the 18th day of January 1808. Witnesses
 were the Test. above being sworn say they truly believe that the signature to the
 above instrument of Writing was in the proper hand writing of the said Amherst
 = her. The sum is ordered to be received - Test. Wm. Grayson Clk

It is to be observed that I reserve half an acre of Land for a grace year where the grace year
 is now fixed to belong to my family forever. And lastly I do appoint my beloved wife
 Mary Rucker and my beloved sons Ambrose Rucker and Isaac Rucker whole and sole
 executrix and executors of this my last Will and Testament. In Witness whereof I have
 hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this third day of December one thousand eight
 hundred and three.

Signed, Sealed and acknowledged
 In presence of
 John Cooney
 Henry A. Christian
 Anthony Rucker
 Tinsley Rucker

Memorandum
 Ambrose Rucker (Seal)
 It is ordered in my Will that the
 land whereon I now live shall be sold to the highest bidder
 I hereby direct it shall be sold on credit three annual
 payments and the Money to be divided agreeably to my
 Will. Jan'y 21st 1807. Ambrose Rucker.

At a Court held for Amherst County the 18th day of December 1807.
 This last Will and Testament of Ambrose Rucker deceased was proved by the oaths of
 John Cooney and Anthony Rucker two witnesses thereto and ordered to be recorded. And
 Isaac Rucker one of the Executors named in said Will, personally came into Court and qualified
 according to Law, and entered into Bond with Anthony Rucker, David Tinsley, John M. Daniel
 and Benjamin Rucker and his securities in the penalty of \$50000 current money
 conditioned as the Law directs, certificate is granted him for obtaining a probat thereof in due
 form.

KNOW all men by these presents, that we Isaac Rucker, Anthony Rucker, Da-
 vid Tinsley, Benjamin Rucker and John M. Daniel are held and firmly bound unto
 Will. Leving, James Montgomery, Philip Johnson and John Warwick, Gentlemen Jus-
 tices of the Court of Amherst County now sitting in the sum of fifty Thousand Dollars to the
 payment whereof, well and truly to be made to the said Justices and their successors,
 we bind ourselves, and each of us, our and each of our heirs, Executors and administrators, joint-
 ly and severally, firmly by these presents. Sealed with our seals, this 18th day of Decem-
 ber in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and seven and in the 37th year of the com-
 monwealth. The condition of the above obligation is such, that if the above bound Isaac
 Rucker one of the Executors of the last Will and Testament of Ambrose Rucker deceased, do make
 or cause to be made, a true and perfect Inventory of all, and singular the goods, chattels and cre-
 dits of the said deceased, which have or shall come to the hands, possession or knowledge of him
 the said Isaac Rucker or into the hands and possession of any other person or persons for
 him and the same so made do exhibit or cause to be exhibited into the County Court of Am-
 herst at such time as he shall be thereunto required the said Court and the same goods,
 chattels and credits, and all other the goods, chattels and credits, of the said deceased, which
 at any time after shall come to the hands, possession or knowledge of the said Isaac Rucker
 or into the hands or possession of any other person or persons for him do well and truly
 administer, according to Law, and further do make a just and true account of his doings
 and things therein when thereto required by the said Court; and also shall and truly pay
 and deliver all the Legacies contained and specified in the said Testament as far as the said
 goods, chattels and credits, will amount to, and the Law shall charge, then this obliga-
 tion to be void and of no effect, or else to remain in full force and virtue.

Signed, Sealed and delivered
 In the presence of
 The Court Test. Wm. Grayson Clk

Isaac Rucker (Seal)
 Anthony Rucker (Seal)
 David Tinsley (Seal)
 John M. Daniel (Seal)