

Will of Edward Brantley (Dated 26 June 1736)

Edward Brantley (c.1675–1736), grandson of Edward Brantley Sr., **son of Philip Brantley and Joyce Lewis**, residing in Nottoway Parish, Isle of Wight County (which later became part of Southampton County in 1749). The will was signed on 26 June 1736 and is not from Southampton proper, as that county did not exist in 1736. Below is the full text extracted from genealogical sources, including legatees and witnesses. No probate date is specified in available abstracts, but the death occurred on 26 January 1736 (Old Style 1735/6).

Full Text of the Will:

I, Edward Brantley of Nottoway Parish in the County Of Isle Of Wight, Virginia. Being very sick and weak, but of sound mind and Memory, all laud and praise be to God therefore do make and Ordain this my last Will and testament in manner following (Vis) First and principally I commit my soul to Almighty God trusting & firmly believing through the Merritts of Jesus Christ my Savior to have everlasting salvation and for what worldly Estate hath pleased the Lord to bestow upon me after my just debts and funeral charges is defrayed I give bequeath and dispose thereof as follows.Item: I give and bequeath to my loving wife Elizabeth for and during her widowhood two thirds of my mannor plantation devided on tract of land whereon I now live, containing two hundred twenty five acres. Immediately after her marriage or death, I bequeath the said land to my son James Brantley and to him and his heirs forever.

Item: I give and bequeath to my loving wife Elizabeth the feather bed and furniture which she usually lieth on. I also give unto my loving wife her riding horse with her saddle and bridle. I also give unto my loving wife four pewter dishes and four pewter plates and four cows and calves. I also give unto my loving wife the trunk she calls her's.

Item: I give and bequeath to my son James Brantley one tract of land containing one hundred and fourty acres being and lying on the east side of the Flat Swamp to him and his heirs forever.

Item: I give and bequeath to my loving son Lewis Brantley the tract of land I bought of Mr Ciny lying on the Flat Swamp, containing two hundred acres to him and his heirs forever. I also give the cattle and hogs belonging to the said plantation to my son Lewis Brantley.

Item: I give and bequeath to my son Joseph Brantley the plantation where I now liveth with all the land belonging to the same bounded and being on the North side of Six Pound Creek to him and his heirs forever. I also give to my son, Joseph Brantley, all cattle on the said plantation except two largest steers.

Item: I give and bequeath to my son John Brantley four cows and calves.

Item: My desire is that my Negros still may be sat up and sold at public sale to the highest bidder for cash then all my debt be paid out of the money and the remainder to be devided between my son Lewis Brantley and my son James Brantley.

Item: I give and bequeath to my two sons the rest of my personal Estate after my funeral expences and legacy's are paid of what nature or kind or property or quality whatever it be, to be equally devided between my two sons Lewis and James Brantley. I hereby constitute and appoint my two sons Lewis and James Brantley my executors of this my last will and testiment of which I also set my hand and seal this twenty sixth of Jun Anno: Domini: 1736.

Signed & sealed in presence of:

L. W. Bass (his mark)

Wm Spence

Charles Bass

Legatees:

Wife: Elizabeth (land during widowhood, personal items)

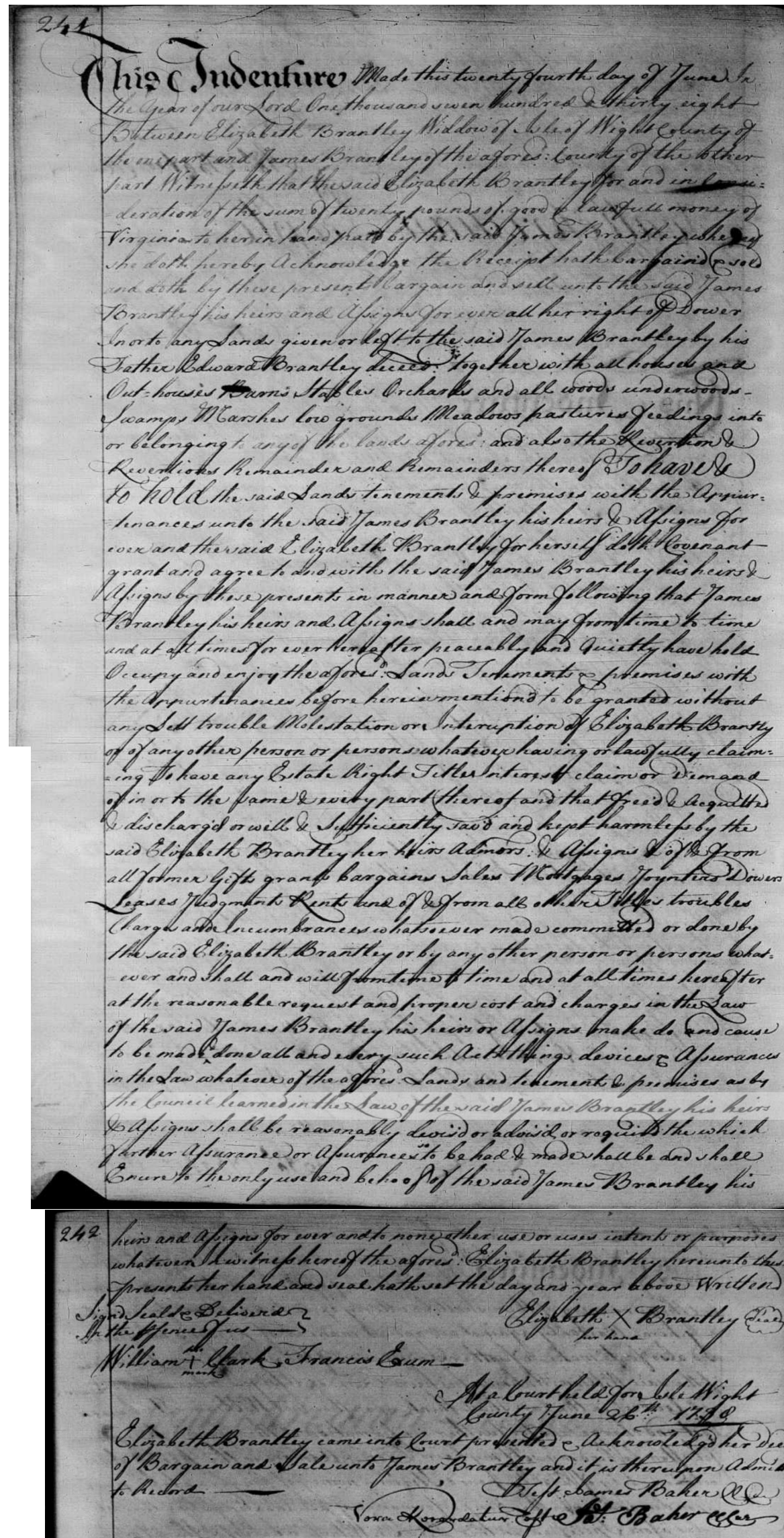
Son James Brantley (land on Flat Swamp, remainder of estate, co-executor)

Son Lewis Brantley (land on Flat Swamp, cattle and hogs, remainder of estate, co-executor)

Son Joseph Brantley (plantation on Six Pound Creek, cattle)

Son John Brantley (four cows and calves)

This will is accessible through genealogical sites and abstracts; for the original, consult Isle of Wight Will Book 4 (1733–1745) via FamilySearch



This Indenture

4 June, 1738

"Between Elizabeth Brantley Widdow of Isle of Wight... of the one part and James Brantley ...of the other part... in consideration of...twenty pounds...lawful money... all her right of Dower... ...to any Land given or left to the said James Brantley by his Father Edward Brantley deced..."

FWIW... that 20 pounds in 1738 would be about \$3,675 today, more or less...

Elizabeth X Brantley

Witnesses:
William Clark
Francis Exum

Citation

"Isle of Wight, Virginia, British Colonial America records." images, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-L9P6-3453?view=explore:Aug 3, 2025), image 146 of 347. . Image Group Number: 007645142