Maryland ss In the name of God Amen The twenty first day of November anno Domini 1723. I James Beale of Prince Georges County in the province of Maryland planter being sick of body yet of perfect mind and memory and calling to mind the mortality of my body and knowing it is appointed for all men once to die do make and ordain this my last will and testament that is to say principally and first of all I recommend my soul to the hands of almighty God my body to the earth to be buried in a Christian like and decent manner according to the directions of my executors hoping at the general resurrection to receive the same by the mighty power of God. as touching my worldly estate wherewith it has pleased God to bless me in this life I give devise and dispose off in the following form and manner viz. Imprimis I give and bequeath to my eldest son John Beale all that tract of land called Rovers content and another tract of land called Tiffs and all that part of a tract of land called Good Luck which lies on the East side of the Cabbin Branch and another tract of land called Drumaldree. Item I give and bequeath to my son Nathaniel Beale all that tract of land called Easy Purchase and a tract of land thereunto joining called the addition to Easy Purchase. Item I give and bequeath to my son James Beale that part of the tract of land called Good Luck which lies on the west side of Cabin Branch and a tract of land called Lonehead. Item I give and bequeath to my son Robert Beale and Joseph Beale all that tract of land called Lay Hill to be equally divided between them. Item I give and bequeath to my son Zephaniah Beale part of a tract of land called Allisons Park and another tract of land called Cooper. Item I give and bequeath to my daughter Sarah Beale part of a tract of land called Bealls Mannour and thirty pounds sterling to be paid her by my son in law Thomas Odell on her day of marriage or when demanded. Item I give and bequeath to the Rev Mr Hugh Cown and to the minister or ministers that shall succeed him ten pounds sterling yearly to be paid by my executors. Item I give and bequeath to my loving wife Sarah Beale three negroes viz Dogon Hochelly and Peak and my now dwelling plantation during her natural life. Item I give and bequeath the rest of my personal estate viz goods chattels and negroes to be equally divided amongst my children I constitute and appoint my brother Alexander Beale my son John Beale cousin Milbr Beale and John Beale sen executors of this my last will and testament.

James Beale (Seal)

Signed sealed published pronounced and declared by the dd James Beale as his last will and testament in the presence of us the subscribers viz Thos Applegate, Jos Peach Mary Boyer

on which will is the following endorsements to wit:
10 July 1725 Then came Thomas Applegate, Joseph Peach and Mary Boyer the three subscribing evidences to the within will and made oath upon the Holy Evangelist of almighty God that they saw the testator sign and seal and heard him publish and declare the within instrument of writing as his last will and testament and that at the time of his so doing he was to the best of their apprehension of sound and perfect mind and memory

Sworn before Thos Addison Genl Comy

June 12th 1725 Came Sarah Beale before me and declared that she renounced what is bequeathed to her in ye wth in written will designing (as she then informed me) accept and take the third part of her deceased husband James Beales estate

Thos Brooke Jr Dept Comy of P.G.C.

Prince Georges County ss.

Seal of the Orphans Court of Prince Georges County

In Testimony that the aforegoing is a true copy taken from the original will filed and recorded in my office I hereto set my hand and affix the public seal of my office this sixth day of January in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and nineteen

Freeman Tyler Reg of Wills of Prince Georges County

It is further admitted that the said James Beale died seized in fee simple of all the lands mentioned in said will and that the tract of land called Lay Hill devised to Robert Beale and Joseph Beale hath been divided between them and that said Joseph Beale died in the year eighteen hundred and one seized of all that part of said tract of land called Lay Hill lying and being in Montgomery County on the east side of the north west branch and on the east side of the most westwardly fork of said branch which is designated on the plat filed in this cause as lot No 1 having first made his last will and testament whereby he devised the same to the said Josiah Beale the father of the plaintiff his heirs and assigns

It is further admitted that John Beale the devisee of said James Beale was the heir at law of said James Beale and that Josias Fendall Beale and James A Beale being the heirs at law of said John Beale in the year eighteen hundred and eleven by an action of ejectment in Montgomery County Court recovered the said part of the said tract of land and was in virtue of such