

BAILIFF (REBECCA) IN WILL OF WALTER THEDFORD
WILLS OF ORANGE COUNTY, NC

Compiled By: Ron Cornwell

A-70. Will of Walter (X) Thedford. Dated 13 August 1767, proved Nov 1767.

Wife: **Rebecca**

Sons: Josias (eldest), William (land on Stony Creek).

Dau: Deborah

Son-in-Law: William Williams

Executors: Wife **Rebecca** and eldest son Josias

Witnesses: Abigail Bracken, **JOHN BAKER.**

SOURCE: Wills of Orange County, North Carolina, A-70.

NOTES: It is possible that **REBECCA** is the second wife of **WALTER THEDFORD** and the children are from Walters's first marriage [not proven]. Could **REBECCA** have married **THOMAS BAILIFF SR.** as her second husband? [Not Proven]. The Pennsylvania tax records suggest that **THOMAS SR.** probably married his wife outside of the State Of Pennsylvania. The dates here fit for this **REBECCA** to have married **THOMAS BAILIFF SR.** as her second husband. **REBECCA'S** husband Walter dies in 1767. **REBECCA** could have married **THOMAS BAILIFF SR.** in 1768 and they make the move back to Chester County, Pa, in 1769 [Pa. tax records show that **THOMAS BAILIFF Sr.** returns to Pennsylvania in 1769]. It was common for a widow to marry within a year or two after the death of a spouse because they needed support. It was very difficult for the average widow to survive in the 1700s without remarrying.

Note that one of the witnesses to this will is **JOHN BAKER.** This **JOHN BAKER** has to be the brother of **ROBERT BAKER, JAMES BAKER AND THOMAS BAKER.** Witnesses are often related to the person involved. Is it possible that **REBECCA THEDFORD** can be related to **JOHN BAKER** in some way? Is it possible that she is a **BAKER?**