

Christ Episcopal Church Cemetery Inventory

State and Water Streets, Dover DE 19903

Lot Number: 300 Space: G 89

Find A Grave # 11973604

Name: **Wynkoop, Esther**

Birth date: 1741 Death date: April 11, 1766 * Burial Date: Age: 25
Raised in Sussex County, died in Philadelphia.

Spouse: never married

Parents: Abraham Wynkoop (1703 - 1753) and Esther *Fisher* Wynkoop (1704 – 1740); step mother who raised her from age one was Mary Dyer Hammond Wynkoop, (1712 – 1788)

Siblings: Phoebe *Wynkoop* Vining (1729 – 1800); Thomas Wynkoop (1731 - 1755); Benjamin Wynkoop (1734 – 1803); ½ sister Mary Wynkoop Ridgely (1744-1772); ½ brother Abraham (1745-1783); Dr. James Wynkoop (1745-1788);

Residence:

* Cause of death/Burial/Obituary: Esther’s last will and testament was written by her on April 22, 1766 “being sick and weak in body, but sound mind and memory”. Caesar Rodney, Registrar, recorded the will on April 28, 1766, at which time she was already deceased.

Service/occupation information: Her will provided money for a chalice and paten for the church. It is still used on special occasions. The date on the chalice is 1766, the year she died. Her brother Benjamin gave a bible in her honor to the church. It is now in the DE Archives.

Officiate:

Marker: “Her grave was long neglected and the ruined stone was discovered a foot below the sod in 1919”

Inscription:

Here lies the Body
Of
Esther Wynkoop
Who departed this Life (August 19)
1766
Age (25?) Years
(Several lines unreadable)
A devoted member of this parish
who bequeathed to it a sum for communion Plate.
Her grave was long neglected and the ruined stone
discovered a foot below the sod in 1919
Esther
Daughter of Abraham Wynkoop
1741-1766



DIMENSIONS: H 72” x W 36” x D 15”

STYLE: ledger

Repairs: Broken pieces; cleaned in 2023; rubbing needed

Inventory date: May 8, 2019

Recorder: Ellen Richardson

Last Will and testament of Esther Wynkoop

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In the name of God amen. I, Esther Wynkoop of Kent County upon Delaware being sick and weak in body but sound mind and memory this Twenty Second Day of April 1766 do make this my last Will and Testament in manner following to wit. First my will is that my just debts and funeral Expenses be first paid and discharged.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my dear beloved Brother Benjamin Wynkoop the sum of four Hundred Pounds current money.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my dearly Beloved Sister Phoebe Vining the sum of one Hundred Pounds current money.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my Brother John Vining the sum of Fifty Pounds current money.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my Niece Mary Vining and to her heirs forever one Negro Girl called Venus.

Item, I give unto my said niece Mary Vining the sum of Fifty Pounds current money.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my nephew John Vining the sum of Fifty Pounds Current Money.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my beloved mother Mary Wynkoop the sum of one Hundred Pounds current Money. And my new Black (??) Robe.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my Brother Charles Ridgely and Mary his wife, (my beloved sister) the sum of one hundred Pounds current money.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my brothers Abraham and James Wynkoop the sum of one Hundred Pounds each.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my cousin Elizabeth Fisher all my Linens, Aprons & Shifts.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my sister Phoebe Vining 6 yards of fine new (??) which now have (??) and all my wrought Lace of every kind.

Item, I give and bequeath unto Miss Sarah Ridgely my new fashion bonnet.

Item, I give and bequeath to Christ Church in Dover the sum of Fifteen Pounds current money to be (??) out in plate for the (??).

Item, I give and bequeath unto my God son Stephen Sykes the sum of Fifteen Pounds.

(Illegible name)

Esther Fisher Sarah Ridgely

I personally come before me Caesar Rodney, Esquire, Deputy Registrar for the Probate of Wills and granting????? Within the County of Kent and Delaware. Esther Fisher one of the subscribing Evidence to the above Testament of writing as, and for the last Will and Testament of Esther Wynkoop deceased and being solemnly affirmed (??) that the several Articles and Requests in this said testament of Writing contained were entered on the twenty Second Day of this instance April according to the Express Order and Direction of Esther Wynkoop and in his presence as and for this last Will. That she was at the time of so ordering to the best of their belief (??) and discharging mind and memory and that Sarah Ridgely the other subscribing witness was then present in testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 28th day of April, Anno Domine 1766.

Caesar Rodney D. Registrar

Personally, came to me Caesar Rodney Esquire Deputy Registrar for the probate of Wills and granting Setters of Administration within the County of Kent in Delaware. Sarah Ridgely and being sworn on the hole of Evangelists of Mighty God Declared that several Articles and Requests in the foregoing Instrument of writing contained were entered on the twenty second Day of this Instant April according to the express order and direction of Esther Wynkoop Deceased and in her presence as and for her Last Will and Testament and that at the time of making and ordering the same she was to the best of her belief of sound and Disposing mind

and memory and that Esther Fisher the other (?) Evidence that was then present. In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 28th Day of April. Anno Domine 1767.

Caesar Rodney D. Registrar

Be it remembered that Sitter of Administration of the estate of Esther Wynkoop Deceased were granted to Benjamin Wynkoop. (?) Brother of the said Esther Wynkoop Inventory to be exhibited on (?) the Twelfth Day of January next and as Account on or before the twelfth Day of July. Anno Domine One Thousand Seven hundred and sixty-seven. Given (?) the seat of office of the Registrar the twelfth Day of July Anno Domine One Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty-Six.