

LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF RICHARD BYRD

In the name of God Amen I Richard Byrd of the State of North Carolina & County of Johnston being sick in body but of perfect mind and sound memory thanks be to Almighty God for the same therefore calling to mind the mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed for all men to die I do this twelfth day of November in year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seven I do make and ordain this my last will and testament that is to say principally and first of all I give and recommend my soul into the hands of Almighty God that gave it and my body I recommend to the earth to be buried in descent Christian burial at the discretion of my Executors Nothing doubting but at the general Resurrection I shall receive the same by the mighty power of God that gave it and as touching my world by estate where with it hath pleased God to bless me with herein this life I give demise and dispose of the same in manner and form as followeth to wit:

First my will is that all my Just debts together with my funeral expenses be duly and punctually paid.

Secondly I give and bequeath to my son John Byrd six hundred & thirty eight acres of land beginning at my lower corner running up the creek to the mouth of a branch that runs down by the side of his fence running up said Branch out to my Back line for Compliment of acre (acres).

Thirdly I give and bequeath to my son George Byrd six Hundred & thirty eight acres of land beginning at John Byrd Corner on the creek running up the creek to the mouth of a branch that runs down between my house and orchard thence up said branch out to my back line for compliment of acres.

Fourthly I give and bequeath to my Son Bright Byrd six Hundred & thirty eight acres of land beginning at George Byrd's corner running up the creek to the mouth of the mill branch thence up said branch to the mouth of the mire branch thence up said branch out to my back line for compliment of acres.

Fifthly I give and bequeath to my son Richard Byrd six hundred & thirty eight acres of land beginning at Bright Byrd's corner thence up the creek to the mouth of a little branch that runs into the creek below the mouth of the meadow branch thence out to the big branch for compliment of acres.

Sixthly I give and bequeath to my son Redin Byrd six Hundred & thirty eight acres of land beginning at Richard Byrd's corner thence up the creek to Laz Matthews line thence along said Matthews to Philip Johnston line thence along said Johnston line far enough to get his compliment of acres.

Seventhly I give to my daughter Elizabeth Allen six hundred & thirty eight acres of land two hundred acres on the other side of Mingo joining of Samuel Car line and B??ton

Ryals line the rest of it between Philip Johnston's line & Redin Byrd's line to make up her Compliment of acres.

Also I give to my son George Byrd one mare and fluke plow and harness one feather bed and furniture one ax & one grubbing hoe.

Also I give to my Daughter Elizabeth Allen one feather bed and furniture one flat iron one wooling wheel & one linning wheel.

Also I give to my son Bright Byrd one feather bed and furniture one cow and calf. I want Bright to have two years schooling and the rent of his plantation to pay for it,

The land that is all ready given to said heirs if any falls under their compliment and any of them gets over their compliment it is to be equally divided I leave unto all my children a parcel of land that has not been run off by paying a equal part of the purchase money the land is to be equally divided amongst them all if any refuse to pay their part of the money they lose their part of the land.

Also I give and bequeath unto my grandson Benjamin Byrd, the son of Benjamin Byrd one hundred and fifty acres of land on the lower end of a four hundred and fifty acre tract on Stoney fork the rest of said tract of land to be equally divided amongst my children.

Also I give and bequeath to my son Benjamin Byrd's widow Zilpha Byrd twenty shillings.

Also I leave all the Remainder of my Property that I have not heretofore mentioned to be sold at public sale and the money arising therefrom after paying my just debts to be equally divided amongst my children.

Also I constitute and appoint my two Eldest sons, Edward Byrd and John Byrd my sole Executors of this my last will and testament and I do hereby utterly disallow disannul and revoke all and every other former will or wills Ratifying and Confirming this and no other to be and remain my Last will and testament.

In witness whereof I hereunto set my hand and affix my seal this day and year above Written.