

Will of Roger Adams

North Carolina

It is my will that Lucy Green shall out of my Estate have and enjoy the sum of five hundred pounds sterling over and above what is bequeathed unto her by John Green her late Father, deceased. The said five hundred pounds to be paid her when she comes of age, or at the Day of marriage, and I do further constitute and appoint my wife Frances Adams sole Executrix of all my Estate and effects whatsoever, at the same desiring her to use the advice and assistance of my good friends Gabriel Johnston, Esq. Governor, Samuel Woodward, James Innes and John Murray, Esq. and Robert Hamilton, Esq. and I pray each of them to accept of a Ring in token of my Request for them.

Done at Hale Park in Bladen County the Second Day of August one Thousand Seven Hundred and thirty Nine, before

Thomas Hart
Robert Knowles
James Menzies

Rog^r Adams

North Carolina

The 6th August 1739.

This Day appeared before me Mrs. Frances Adams sole Executrix of Roger Adams, deceased and took the oaths appointed by Law as such to the said last Will and Testament as within mentioned.

At the same time appeared before me Robert Knowles & James Menzies witnesses to the within will who swore that they saw the said Roger Adams sign and declare the same to be his last Will and Testament he being then of a sound & disposing mind and that they saw the other subscribing witnesses, Thomas Hart sign the same.

Gab. Johnston

Will of Matthew Rayford

North Carolina, Bladen County.

In the Name of God, Amen.

This 21st day of July, in the year of our Lord one Thousand Seven Hundred and fifty two, I, Matthew Rayford being sick & weak in body but of sound and perfect mind and memory thanks be given to Almighty God, therefore and calling to mind the mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die do make and Ordain this my last Will and Testament in the following manner and form (that is to say) First of all, I Recommend my Soul into the hands of God that gave it and my body to the Earth to be buried in a Christian like and decent manner at the discretion of my Executors, nothing doubting but at the General Resurrection I shall receive the same again by the mighty power of God. And as touching such worldly estate wherewith it hath pleased God to Bless me in this life I give, devise and dispose thereof in the manner and form following.

Imprimis

Item

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My Will & desire ^{that all my just debts & funeral expenses be paid} that my Eldest Son Matthew Rayford the sum of one Shilling Sterling Money of Great Britain (besides what he hath heretofore Received) to be paid to him out of my Estate within one year after my decease.

I give & bequeath unto my daughter Mary the sum of one Shilling Sterling to be paid by my Executors out of my Estate within one year after my decease.

I give and bequeath unto my daughter Anne the sum of one Shilling Sterling to be paid her out of my Estate within one year after my decease to be by her & her heirs possessed and for ever enjoyed together with what she heretofore hath Received & possessed.

I give & bequeath unto my daughter Mouning the sum of one shilling to be paid to her out of my Estate within one year after my decease.

I give unto my daughter Rebecca six Cows & Calves to be paid her out of my Estate in one year after my decease on Condition that Silvester Sears shall not at any time Claim any right to any part thereof by virtue of his being formerly married to her the sd. Rebecca.

I give, devise & dispose of all that land & plantation whereon I now dwell containing four hundred & thirty acres with the appurtenances unto my youngest son Philip Rayford and

his heirs forever to be by him possessed & enjoyed when he attains to the age of twenty one years, his mother's third thereof excepted to her only proper use after he attains the age aforesaid, whilst she remains my widow but in case the said Phillip dies without heirs my will is that the said land shall descend to my son William & his heirs and in case he dies without lawful issue then the same shall belong to my son Robert & his heirs forever.

Item:

I give & bequeath to my loving wife Mourning and to the remainder of my children viz. to Robert, William, Phillip, Grace & Drucilla all my negro stock and other movables whatsoever to be equally divided between them when my youngest daughter shall arrive or might have arrived at the age of twenty one years but in case any of the last mentioned persons dye before the said Drucilla arrives to or should have arrived to the sd. age of twenty one years, then the sd. Negro, Stock & Moveables to be equally divided between the survivors of them. And I do hereby nominate, constitute and appoint my dearly beloved wife and my well beloved son Robert Rayford and my trusty friend Isaac Bush to be Joint Executors of this my last will & Testament Ratifying & Confirming this and no other to be my last Will & Testament and disavowing and hereby making void all other Wills, Testaments & Legacies by me heretofore Willed or bequeathed And in Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal the day & year first within written.

Matthew Rayford

Signed, Sealed, Published
pronounced & declared
by Matthew Rayford as his
last Will & Testament, In the
presence of us.

Margaret Armstrong
Grand Armstrong
Thomas Jones

Cumberland County Court April 1758

The within will was proven in open court by the

oath of Margaret Armstrong who swore she saw
Francis Armstrong and Thomas Jones sign as
evidences and was recorded in the Clerk's office
according to Law.

Registered in the Registers office of Cumberland County
in Book 1 folio page 226.

Matthew Rayford's Will

To be opened by his wife Mourning
his son Robert.

his heirs forever to be by him possessed & enjoyed when he attains to the age of twenty one years, his mother's third thereof excepted to her only proper use after he attains the age aforesaid, whilst she remains my widow but in case the said Philip dies without heirs my will is that the said land shall descend to my son William & his heirs and in case he dies without lawful issue then the same shall belong to my son Robert & his heirs forever.

Item:

I give & bequeath to my loving wife Mourning and to the remainder of my children viz. to Robert, William, Philip, Grace & Drucilla all my negro stock and other movables whatsoever to be equally divided between them when my youngest daughter shall arrive or might have arrived at the age of twenty one years but in case any of the last mentioned persons dye before the said Drucilla arrives to or should have arrived to the sd age of twenty one years, then the sd negro stock & movables to be equally divided between the survivors of them. And I do hereby nominate, constitute and appoint my dearly beloved wife and my well beloved son Robert Rayford and my trusty friend Isaac Bush to be Joynt Executors of this my last will & Testament Ratifying & Confirming this and no other to be my last Will & Testament and disavowing and hereby making void all other Wills, Testaments & Legacies by me heretofore Will'd or bequeathed And in Testimony whereof have hereunto set my hand & seal the day & year first within written.

Matthew Rayford

Signed, Sealed, Published
Proounced & Declared
by Matthew Rayford as his
last Will & Testament, In the
Presence of us.

Margret Armstrong
Francis Armstrong
Thomas Jones

Cumberland County Court April 1758

The within will was proven in open court by the

Oath of Margret Armstrong who swore she saw
Francis Armstrong and Thomas Jones sign as
evidences and was recorded in the Clerk's office
according to Law.

Registered in the Registers office of Cumberland County
in Book 1 folio page 226.

Matthew Rayford's Will

To be opened by his wife Mourning
his son Robert.