

In the Name of God Amen if 21 day of December 1717 I Richard Hill Ayres of
County of Accomack being sick and weak in body but of good & sound memory giving thanks
to God for his mercies and all other his blessings bestowed upon me and considering the uncertain-
ty of mans life we therefore make & appoint this to be my last will and test-
ament in manner and form following and first and principally I doe bequeath
my soule to God y^e Great Creator of all things being Lord and truly merciful for all
my sins hoping and sted fastlie believing through the merits and mediation of
Jesus Christ my Redeemer to receive a full and free pardon for them all and
a place amongst y^e elect for endless hapines and my body to y^e Earth from whence
it was taken desiring a decent interment of y^e same at y^e discretion of my
deare & loving wife Esther Ayres whome I doe hereby constitute and appoint to be
my full & whole executrix and as for what worldly estate y^e Lord in his
mercy has bestowed on me I doe dispose of as followeth all my just debts being
paid doe give and bequeath to my wife my plantation where I now live
for and during her natural life with all the profits thereof and at her
decease I doe give & bequeath the said plantation to goather with one
hundred and fifty acres of land to my son Richard Ayres and his lawfull
heirs begotten of his body for ever it being the one halfe of a tract of
land sold me by my grandfather Richard Hill deceased I then I give the
my son John Ayres y^e other halfe of my tract of land it containing three
hundred acres to be equally divided between my two sons Richard & John
Ayres & my will is that y^e land shall be divided beginning at y^e corner
tree that parts y^e land between hill Drummond & I and from thence to y^e bra-
nch on y^e South side of my tract of land and if either of my two sons should
die in their manorie or with out lawfull heirs then there part so
dormed shall revert and fall to y^e survivor I then I give to my wife
Esther her choise of my bed & bolster a ring and a pare of blankets & a pair
of shets and my will is y^t at my wifes death that said bed and rug &
blankets and shets given her shall revert and fall to my daughter
Mary Ayres I then I give to my son Richard Ayres one feather bed &
bolster one rug & pare of blankets & a ft of shets and to my son Rich-
ard Ayres my new gun I then I give to my son John Ayres one feath-
er bed & bolster one rug & a pare of blankets & a pare of shets and my
old gun I then I give to my daughter Esther Ayres one feather bed and
bolster one rug & a pare of blankets & pair of shets I then I give to my
daughter Ann Frances Ayres one feather bed and bolster one rug one pare
of blankets and a pare of shets and my will is y^t what part of my
estate not mentioned I give all & every part to my wife Esther Ayres
during her widow whod but my will is that if my wife should marry
again then what part of my estate that then of in being not men-
tioned to be equally divided between my wife & children and my
will is that if my son Richard Ayres should have a mind to let
on that hundred & fifty acres of land devised him he shall not be
debaired nor hindered by my wife all which I doe confirm with my
hand & seal the day & yeare above said

Richard Hill Ayres

Witness
Hill Drummond
Francis Welburne
Mary Chambe
Sam. Welburne

The within Last will &
Testament of Richard Hill Ayres was
proved in open Court of Accomack County
by the oaths of Hill Drummond Francis
Welburne & Samuel Welburne three of the
witnesses to the same June y^e 3rd 1718
with y^e Court admitted to record

Teste
Chas. Mead C. C. for y^e Court
Chas. Mead C. C. for y^e Court

Recorded June y^e 11th 1718