

In the Name of God Amen I Beath Armistead ¹⁶ of the County
of Elizabeth City being of perfect and disposing Mind & Memory do
make and Ordain this my Last Will and Testament hereby
revoking all former Wills heretofore by me made and declaring
this to be my Last Will and Testament

In primis

I will and desire that the Land & Purchase of William
Mallory ^{lying} in the County of York be sold and the Money aris-
ing from the sale thereof be put out on Interest for the Benefit
of my son Robert, If my Executors hereafter named shall think
it most to her Advantage, but if otherwise then I give & devise the
said Land unto my said Son Robert and his Heirs for ever, and
in Case of his Death before his Arrival of Age then I give the above
Part or Parcel of Land to my Son John & his Heirs for ever -

Item, My Will & desire is that so many of my Negroes as shall
be adjudged necessary by my Executors ^{to} be kept on the Planta-
tion for the Support of my Wife and Children & the others be-
hind out for the like Purposes until my Eldest Son shall arrive
of Age, and then I will and desire that an Equal Division be
of all my Negroes (those excepted which vested in me by my
Intermarriage, between my Wife and Children my Daughter
Betsey excepted) and should my Wife prove with Child my
Wife is that such Child or Children have an Equal Share
the above Negroes with my other Children and in Case of
the Death of Either of my Children before their Arrival of
Age or Marriage then I will that his or their Part or Portion be
equally divided between all my Children that shall then be
living (Betsey excepted)

Item, I give unto my Daughter Betsey the Negroes together with
their Increase which vested in me in Right of my Wife by
my Intermarriage except two by Name Patty & Molly
I lend to my Wife during her Widowhood, and upon her Death
or Intermarriage that the said two Slaves Patty & Molly be vested
in my said Daughter Betsey & should my Daughter Betsey die
before her Arrival at the Age of Eighteen or Marriage that then
the Negroes above given her be equally divided between her sur-
viving Brothers & Sisters (Both excepted)

Item, My Will & desire is that my Daughter Betsey be under the
sole & Intire Direction & Management of my Wife until her
Arrival of Age or Marriage.

I will & desire that the Negroes which I have given unto my Daughter Betsey be valued when they shall come into her Possession & should they be valued to less than the Sum of five Hundred Pounds Sterling then I desire that that Deficiency be supplied & made good to my said Daughter Betsey out of my Estate.

Item, I will & desire that my Wife have the Use of my Stocks of all Kinds together with all my Household Furniture during her Widowhood and upon such contingency that an Equal Division be then made thereof among all my Children (except Betsey)

Item, I will and Desire that the Negroes which my Wife shall be intitled to in right of her Dower be at her Death equally divided between all my Children (except Betsey)

Item, I further Will & desire that the Profits of my Estate should they be more than sufficient ^{to maintain} the Purposes above mentioned be for my two younger Sons Robert & John

Lastly, I nominate and appoint my Wife my Brother Robert Armistead & Mr. William Mallory & Mr. Willm Armistead Executors to this my Last Will & Testament

Last Will and Testament this 15

Booth Armistead

of April one thousand seven hundred

& seventy in Presence of

Robert Armistead

Thos Jones

Wm Selden

At Court held for Eliz^a City County
June 20. 1770.

This Will was presented in Court and proved by the Oath of Robert Armistead and William Selden two of the Witnesses thereto and Ordered to be Recorded, and on the Motion of William Mallory one of the Ex^{rs} in the Certificate is granted them according to Law thereupon due form upon his giving Security with Thomas Jones and John Brodie his Securit^y is entered into and Acknowledged and the Liberty reserved for the other Ex^{rs} to join in the said Probate when they see fit. And at another Court held for the said County the 24. January 1771. Robert Armistead Jun^r another Ex^r in the said Will named is joined in their Probate thereof having entered into Bond with James Wallace his Security. And at another Court held for the said County the 25th Day of October 1776. Francis Armistead the Ex^r in the said Will named is also joined in the said Probate upon his giving Security with Thomas Jones and John Allen and James Bondy Armistead his Security entered into and Acknowledged the 24th of

at Wm. Selden

1771

1770

Item

I give unto my Daughter Betsey the right leg of the
with their lives and without material in a right of
by my Intermarriage except two by my last will
whom I lend to my Wife during her Widowhood and after
her Death or Intermarriage that the said two Shares
shall be added in my said Daughter Betsey's
share of my Estate after her Death of the leg of right ten
her surviving Brothers and Sisters (if any) and

Item

My Wife and I desire that my Daughter Betsey be
under the full and entire Direction and Management
of my Wife and her Executors if she so chooses

Item

I will and desire that my Wife have the use of my Stocks
of all kinds together with all my Household Furniture
during her Widowhood and upon such Exchange

Item

that an equal Division be then made thereof among
all my Children (except Betsey)

Item

I will and desire that the Profits which my Wife shall be entitled to
of her Dowry and of all my other Estate be paid to her at my Death

Item

I further will and desire that the Profits of my Estate
should be more than sufficient to answer the Outgoes
of my Estate to my Wife and my two younger
Sons Peter & John

Item

I do recommend and appoint my Wife my Brother Robert
Armistead, with their Executors, Administrators
of this my last will &c. to sell

Item

My last will &c. as his last
will &c. and that the said Profits be paid to my two younger
Sons Peter & John

Item

Witness my hand
J. Jones
W. Jones

161 a
In a Court held for Erie City County June 28th 1770
This Will was produced in Court and Proved by the
Witnesses thereto, and Ordered to be Recorded.

For _____ W. Mager _____

Booth Armistead's Will

Recorded

1770