

State of North Carolina, Guilford County.

In the name of God amen. I Joshua Coffee being in a low weak and sickly state of body but of sound mind and memory do hereby do this first day of September in the year of our Lord Christ Jesus one thousand seven hundred ninety seven do make and constitute this my last will and Testament - And first I do commit my soul to God who gave it And my Body to be buried in a Christian and decent manner - and as to my goods and affairs of this world I do will & desire that they be distributed and disposed of in the manner and form following:

1 And first my will is that all my just and lawfull debts should be paid.  
2 Secondly - I do give and bequeath to my living son John Coffee the first choice of five slaves to be disposed of for the purpose of procuring land - and that my living wife Elizabeth shall enjoy the land so procured during her natural life, and after the decease of my wife the land procured as aforesaid shall be vested in my son John and his heirs forever.

3 Thirdly - On Mr. Harris my son-in-law returning such property to my estate as he has received that when the whole estate remaining shall all be equally divided and distributed between my living wife Elizabeth and my two children John Coffee and Polly Harris and after the decease of my wife or my wife Elizabeth my will and desire is that such part of my estate that I now will to my wife Elizabeth shall be equally divided between my two children John Coffee and Polly Harris.

And lastly I do constitute and appoint my living wife and my son John Coffee sole Executors of this my last will and Testament in trust to execute according to the true intent and meaning thereof.

In testimony whereof I do hereunto set my hand and seal date above written.

Signed, sealed and delivered as my last will and Testament in the presence of these

MM

Joshua Coffee

his heirs forever

3 Thirdly - On Mr. Harris my son-in-law returning such property to my estate as he has received that when the whole estate remaining shall all be equally divided and distributed between my loving wife Elizabeth and my two children John Coffee and Polly Harris and after the decease of my wife or my wife Elizabeth, my will and desire is that such part of my estate that I now will to my wife Elizabeth shall be equally divided between my two children John Coffee and Polly Harris.

And lastly I do constitute and appoint my loving wife and my son John Coffee sole Executors of this my last will and Testament in trust to execute according to the true intent and meaning thereof.

In testimony whereof I do hereunto set my hand and seal date above written.  
Signed, sealed and delivered as my last will and Testament in the presence of those then present.

Written by John Starratt by direction of Joshua Coffee in his illness of body September 1st 1797 and then signed and delivered by him to  
John Starratt (Jurat)

North Carolina Guilford County. February Court 1798

John Starratt proved the execution of the within Will in Open Court - and ordered to be recorded - Then came in John Coffee one of the Executors appointed in said will and qualified as such agreeable to Law

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