

74

John Cox

In the Name of God Amen. I John Cox of Halifax  
County in the State of North Carolina Planter being weak of Body but  
by the blessing of God enjoying the perfect use of my Natural Under-  
standing & Considering the Certainty of Death and the Uncertainty  
of Life do on this Seventh Day of May Anno Domini One thousand seven  
Hundred & Eighty four Appoint this to be my last Will & Testament  
First of all Command my soul into the Hands of the Almighty God  
Who Gave it & my body to the Ground to be buried in a decent Manner  
According to Discretion of my Executors hereafter Nominated Trusting  
this the Merits of our Saviour & the Mercy of God that all my sins  
will be forgiven & my soul & Body reanimated & Restored to a life of  
endless Happiness And as to what worldly Good it has pleased God to  
bestow upon me after all my lawfull & Just Debts due & paid of I  
Give & bequeath as follows . . . . .

I give to my beloved wife Elizabeth Cox all my Estate both  
Real & Personal During her Natural Life Or widowhood & upon my  
widows Death or Marriage I Dispose of all my Estate Real & Personal  
in manner & form following . . . . .

I give & bequeath to my Eldest son Charles Cox my Land that  
is or shall be in the Township of Halifax & fifty Acres more or less

I give & bequeath to my Beloved son Charles & my Land there  
is called the Mill Neck Two Hundred & fifty Acres more or less  
to him and his Heirs for Ever . . . . .

Item. I Give & bequeath to my Son Joseph & my Manner Plantation  
Containing Two Hundred Acres of Land to him & his Heirs for Ever

Item. I Give & bequeath to my Son Charles & one Negro Man named  
Daniel to him & his heirs for ever. I Likewise Give & bequeath to my  
S<sup>r</sup>. Son Charles & one Horse colt that came of the Bay mare to him  
& his heirs for ever

Item. I Give & bequeath to my said son Joseph & one Negro boy named  
Moses & one Horse colt that came of a Mare call'd Old Spawell to him  
& his heirs for ever - - - - -

Item. I Give & bequeath to my Daughter Mary & one Negro Woman  
named Lidda & one Mare bridle & saddle, the Calo flower to her &  
her Heirs for ever - - - - -

Item. I Give & bequeath to my Daughter Ann & one Negro named  
Doreas & one young Mare & a Saddle & bridle to her & her Heirs for ever

Item. I Give & bequeath to my Daughter Phoebe & one Negro boy named  
Shadrach & one young Mare & saddle & bridle to her & her Heirs for ever - -

15. I Give & bequeath to my beloved wife Elizabeth Cox one  
Negro Woman. Known Clinton John their heirs for ever. And the  
Remainder Part of Estate not already Disposed of I leave  
to my beloved wife for her own Maintenance During her-  
Natural Life or Widowhood. & upon my Widows Death on  
Marriage of either it to Return to all my Children to be  
Equally Divided between all my Children to whom their Heirs Come  
And I hereby constitute & Appoint my beloved wife Elizabeth  
Cox. Whole & sole Executrix of this my Last Will & Testament  
In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand & Seal the  
Day & Year aforesaid May the 7<sup>th</sup> 1774  
Signed Sealed in the presence of John Cook  
of us John Cook  
Geo. L. Hall. Not Established  
Peter X Edwards Halifax County G. N. D. Cour 1774  
March

This will <sup>was</sup> Subscribed in Open Court ~~on Oath~~  
On the 7<sup>th</sup> of May 1774 Declaring that the Testator at the time of signing the  
~~On the 7<sup>th</sup> of May 1774~~ same was of sound Judgment & memory when he did sign this will  
Sam'l. P. Miller was Presente

In the Name of God Amen I Patima Joyner