

In the Name of God Amen

Stephen Norton of Orange County in North Carolina Province being in perfect mind & Memory thanks be to God for the same. But considering the frailty of this life and the uncertainty of Death do make & Ordain this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following. First and principally I bequeath my Soul to Almighty God trusting through his Merits for my body that to be buried at the discretion of my Executors hereafter named. Item I lend to my loving Wife during her natural life Negro Jack Annaca and Linnen. Item I give and bequeath unto my son John Norton one Negro Boy named Peter to him and his heirs forever. Item I give and Bequeath unto my son William Norton one Negro Boy named Titus to him & his heirs forever. Item I give and Bequeath unto my Daughter Anne Norton one Negro Girl named Eliza to her & his heirs for ever lawfully Begotten & her Body. Item I give to my son Rich Norton one Negro Boy named Bobb to him & his heirs forever. Item I give to my Daughter Margaret one Negro named Tom to her & his heirs forever. Item I give to my Daughter Elizabeth one Negro Boy named James to her and her heirs forever. Item I give to my son John Norton a tract of Land lying on the Branches of Rattle Snake containing by Estimation Two hundred Acre to him & his heirs forever. Item I lend to my loving Wife the Plantation whereon I now live on and the Land Adjacent thereto during her Natural life and after her death to be equally divided between my four children named as follows.

Anne Norton, William Norton, Richard Norton, Margaret Norton, & Elizabeth Norton to also the three Negroes and those American to be divided as last mentioned. As for the rest of my Estate after my lawful Debt and Funeral Expenses are paid I Wind the same to my loving Wife & I should think it proper to name my children on. Lastly I do appoint my loving Wife Jane Norton the said Annaca & John Vermilion Executors of this my last will & Testament Revoking all other Wills by me formerly made I in Witness whereof I have signed my hand and affixed my seal this third day of July one thousand seven hundred and twenty three Signed sealed and delivered Stephen Norton Seal

In presence of of—
William Bailey Smith (Treas)
John Middlebrooks.
Richard Boggan.

Interlined sign these words on the top left of the word life and of his son Margaret named James also Robert at the word land and the word son Norton & 28th. the word for wife

North Carolina
Orange County

Aug: Inferior Court 1774

The Execution of the within Will was duly proved
In Open Court by the oath of John Middlebrooks and ordered
to be Recorded.

Jul T. Nash Clk