

**Will, NC, Craven, John FORT 1745**

In the name of God Amen.

The 6th day of August Anno Domini 1745, I by **JOHN FORT** of Craven County being sick in body but of good and perfect memory, thanks be to almighty God, and recalling the uncertainty and state of this transitory life and that all flesh must yield unto death when it shall please God to call, do make and declare this my last will and testament and Manner and form following:

FIRST being penitent and sorry for all my sins, and most humbly desiring forgiveness for the same, I command my soul unto almighty God, my savior and Redeemer, in whom and by whose merits I trust and believe assuredly to be saved and to have full remission and forgiveness of all my sins and to inherit the Kingdom of Heaven and my body to be decently buried at the discretion of my executors, here after named. As for the settling of my temporal estate and such goods chattels and debts as have pleased God to bestow upon me I do order give and dispose the same and Manner and form that is to say:

IMPRIMIS I give and bequeath to my beloved wife **MARY FORT** one feather bed and furniture and my two riding horses.

ITEM I give and bequeath to my son **ARTHUR FORT** thirty Shillings Proclamation money.

ITEM I give and bequeath to my son **JOHN FORT** my Plantation and mill at Conohoe, and all the cattle that is called his, and a sorrel mare, and a bay horse branded on the rear buttock thus "GF".

ITEM I give to my son **JOHN FORT** one feather bed and furniture and one iron pot.

ITEM I give and bequeath to my son **DRULY FORT** five hundred and fifty acres of land lying on the lower side of Falling Creek joining below **ARTHUR FORT's** land and the sorrel mare colt called a Dolphin, and one feather bed and furniture and all my carpenter tools and one iron pot

ITEM I give and bequeath to my son **MOSES FORT** four hundred acres of land lying on Cohary Swamp where **ELEANAH** [Eleanore] **PEACOCK** lived and one feather bed and furniture and one iron pot and all my shoemaker tools and six cows and calves.

ITEM I give and bequeath to my daughter **JERUSHAH FORT** a copper still and all the furniture thereto belonging, and one brass Kettle and four pewter dishes, and six and pewter plates and one bay mare branded on the shoulder thus "IF" and all increase, and a Rone gray horse colt branded on the shoulder thus "IF", and one feather bed and furniture thereto, and a black walnut chest, and one linen wheel, and one woolen wheel, and all the cattle that is called hers and all their female increase, and a looking glass, and a box of iron and heaters and the plantation which I now live on after my wife's disease.

ITEM I leave on to my beloved wife the labor of my negro fellow SIMON and after my wife's widowhood I give him to my son **JOHN FORT**.

AND after all my lawful debts and legacies are paid, all the rest of my goods and chattels to be equally divided between my wife and my sons **DRULY FORT** and **MOSES FORT**.

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AND I hereby make an appointment loving friends my wife **MARY FORT**, **ARTHUR FORT** and **JOHN FORT** full and sole executors of this my last will and testament, hereby revoking, disannulling and making void all former wills and bequests by me made and declaring this only to be my last will and testament.

In witness whereof I set my hand and seal this 6th day of August 1745.

**JOHN FORT**

These three words; give, and, item interlined before signed.

**JOHN PIPKIN**  
**CHARITY PIPKIN**  
**JOHN FORT JR**

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Craven County

March Court 1745

Present, his Majestie's justices.

Then was the within will proved in open court by the oath of **JOHN FORT JR**, one of the subscribing evidences thereto, who swore he saw **JOHN PIPKIN & CHARITY PIPKIN** sign concurring evidences at the same time that he saw **JOHN FORT** sign, seal, declare the within to be his last will and testament; that he was of sound and disposing mind and memory at the time signed.

**JOHN FORT** also took the oath of an Executor, in due form of law, ordered that the secretary have notice thereof, that letters testamentary may issue hereon as the law directs.

**JOHN RICE**

Will, NC, Craven, John FORT 1745

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