

Will, MD, Worcester, WILLIAM BURTON 1744

In the name of God Amen.

I, **WILLIAM BURTON**, of Worcester County in the province of Maryland being in good health of body and of sound mind and memory, praise be given to almighty God, do make & ordain this my last will and testament and manner and form following, that is to say:

FIRST AND PRINCIPALLY I recommend my soul to the hands of almighty God and my body to be decently buried oh, and my world's the estate to be disposed of has hereby is here in mentioned.

IMPRIMIS my will is that my just debts and funeral charges be first paid.

ITEM I give and bequeath unto my grandson **ROBERT BURTON**, being the son of **WILLIAM BURTON**, the one half part, or moiety, called by the name of Hopewell lying in the county of Sussex and on the north side of the Indian River to be divided from the river up and to be the plantation part, and if the said **ROBERT** should die without heir, then the said land to fall to his brother **JOHN RUSSELL BURTON**, his heirs and assigns forever. Also two cows and calves to be taken out of the stock of the Hopewell and to be holden of him, his heirs and assigns forever.

ITEM I give and bequeath unto my grandson **WILLIAM BURTON**, being son of **WILLIAM BURTON**, the other part, or moiety, known by the name of Hopewell to be divided from the river up and if the said **WILLIAM** should die without heir then the said land to fall to his brother **JOHN RUSSELL BURTON**, his heirs and assigns forever. Also two cows and calves to be taking it out of the stock on the Hopewell and to be holding of him, his heirs and assigns forever.

ITEM I give and bequeath unto my grandson **JOHN RUSSELL BURTON** being son of **WILLIAM BURTON** 50 acres of land called by the name of BURTON'S DEURE, also 250 acres of land being part of a tract called CONCLUSION and part of the tract called FOLLY lying on the westward part of the said to tracks and budding on Shiloe's branch and part in the forks of the said Branch; also one half part of a Negro Girl called BECK, with one half of her increase, also two cows and two calves to be taken out of the stock on the Hopewell and to be holding of him, his heirs and assigns forever.

ITEM I give and bequeath unto my granddaughter **ELIZABETH BURTON**, being the daughter of **WILLIAM BURTON**, the other half part of a Negro girl called BECK with one half part of her increase, also two cows and two calves to be paid to her when she arrives to age and to be holding of her, and her heirs and assigns forever.

ITEM I will and bequeath unto my son **RICHARD BURTON** the use of the plantation he now dwells upon, containing 405 acres of land with the appurtenances thereto belonging; also the use of 200 acres of land upon the north side of the head of Broadkill Creek, also the use of 15 Acres of marsh that I purchased of **FRANCIS WOLF** to hold the use of all and every the said premises during his natural life.

ITEM I give and bequeath unto my grandson **WILLIAM BURTON**, son of **RICHARD BURTON**, the plantation whereon his father now dwells, with the appurtenances thereto belonging, containing 405 acres, and to be possessed by him after his father and mother are deceased; also 15 Acres of marsh which I purchased of **FRANCIS WOLF**, to hold all and every the said premises after the decease of his said father and mother, to him, his heirs and assigns forever.

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ITEM I give and bequeath unto my grandson **EBENEZER BURTON**, son of **RICHARD BURTON**, 200 acres of land lying in Sussex County and on the north side of the head of Broadkill Creek, formerly in the tennour of rolls and to be possessed by him after the decease of his father and mother to hold all and every the said premises to him, his heirs and assigns forever After the decease of his father and mother, they having the use of during their natural lives.

ITEM I give and bequeath unto my son **JOHN BURTON** the plantation where on he now dwells, containing 400 acres, called CROOKED PROJECT also one mill on Swan Creek and 150 acres of land there in two belonging, which I bought of **ROBERT [LACEY] LACY** and lying in Sussex County, also have the upper part of the Island from the line of marked trees; also one negro man called JERRY to hold all of a said lands and every of the said premises and the said Negro to him, the said **JOHN BURTON**, his heirs and assigns forever, he allowing his mother one half of the profits of the said mill during her widowhood and being at the half charges of her keeping and repairing and also the liberty of the island during her widowhood.

ITEM I will in the bequeath onto my daughter **CATHERINE [BURTON] MORRIS** the use of the land and plantation whereon she and her husband now dwell containing 340 acres, called CHANCE, also one negro girl, now living with her, called KATE and her increase, to hold the use of the said land called CHANCE during her life but the negro and her increase for her heirs and assigns forever.

ITEM I give and bequeath unto my three grandsons **WILLIAM MORRIS**, **JOHN MORRIS**, and **JOSHUA MORRIS** sons of my daughter **CATHERINE**, the plantation whereon their father and mother are not Wells containing 340 acres called CHANCE, to be equally divided among them and to be possessed by them after their mother's decease, provided any one of my three grandsons by my daughter **CATHERINE MORRIS** should die without heir than their part to fall to the surviving party or parties; to hold all and every the said premises after the decease of their said mother to them, their heirs and assigns forever.

ITEM I will and bequeath unto my daughter **ELIZABETH BURTON**, the use of the land I purchased of **ABRAHAM INGRAM** containing 400 Acres during her natural life, except 100 pole length from the river back, for a breadth from **WILLIAM WAPLES'** line and running up the river to the slash so up the slash; also the use of the marsh I bought of **BAPTIST NEWCOMB** during her life, also one negro girl called BECK, now in her possession, with her increase to hold the use of the said land and marsh during her natural life, but negro & her increase to her and her heirs forever.

ITEM I give and bequeath unto my grandson **WOOLSEY BURTON**, son of daughter **ELIZABETH**, the said land I purchased of **ABRAHAM INGRAM** containing 400 Acres except 100 poles of length from the river back for breadth from **WILLIAM WAPLES** line and running up the river to the slash and so up the slash to be possessed by him after the deceased of his said mother; to hold all and every the said premises, to him, his heirs and assigns forever; also the marsh I bought of **BAPTIST NEWCOMB** to him and his heirs forever.

ITEM I bet give and bequeath unto my daughter **SARAH INGRAM** a tract of land lying on the north side of SHEEP PEN branch called RICH ISLAND also 150 acres of land were on they now. Well, it being the north part of the land called CONCLUSION, also the other half of the upper part of the island, also one Negro girl (called MOLL) to hold all and every the said land and premises and said Negro, to her, my said daughter **SARAH**, her heirs and assigns forever.

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ITEM I give and bequeath unto my six children, named: **RICHARD BURTON, JOHN BURTON, JOSHUA BURTON, CATHERINE BURTON MORRIS, ELIZABETH BURTON,** and **SARAH BURTON INGRAM** the profits and ground rents of that land called the **WARWICK**, which is laid out for a town, beginning from the river and running 100 poles and length back and from **WILLIAM WAPLES** line up the river to the slash for breadth and to equally divided among them and their heirs forever.

ITEM I give and bequeath unto my son **JOSHUA BURTON** all of the rest and residue of my lands and tenements with houses, orchards thereunto belonging, except the whole use of my dwelling plantation to his mother, **FRANCES BURTON**, during her natural life and the privilege of the island, also one negro boy named **JAMES**, to hold all and every the said lands and premises not before given; and negro to him, his heirs and have signs forever.

ITEM I give and bequeath unto my loving wife **FRANCIS BURTON** the use of my dwelling plantation on the island during her widowhood; also the use of all my Negroes being not before given, during her widowhood, and then them and their increase to return to my before mention to six children; also I give unto my loving wife the one half part of all and every my movable estate forever, to hold the use of my dwelling plantation and Negroes during the time of her widowhood but the one half of my movable estate forever.

ITEM I give and bequeath all the rest and residue and remainder of my estate that is not before given in this, I will, unto my six children to be equally divided by two honest men that my executor shall choose, without being appraised, so that each of my said six children may have equal shares that is, **RICHARD, JOHN, JOSHUA, CATHERINE, ELIZABETH** and **SARAH** to be hold and buy them and their heirs forever.

Lastly I do hereby nominate, constitute and appoint my said wife and sons **JOHN BURTON** and **JOSHUA BURTON** executrix and executors of this my last will and testament, revoking all others.

In witness whereof I have set my hand and seal this 17th day of April in the year of Our Lord 1742.

WILLIAM BURTON {seal}

Signed, Sealed, acknowledged and published in the presence of us

BENJAMIN SALMON
ELIZABETH [DUFF] DUFFE mark
JOSEPH CARTER

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Worcester
Maryland

February 1st 1745

Came **BENJAMIN SALMON, ELIZABETH DUFFE,** and **JOSEPH CARTER** the subscribing witnesses to the within will before the subscriber who being duly and solemnly sworn on the holy evangelists of almighty God depose and say that they saw the testator, **WILLIAM BURTON,** sign the within will and heard him publish and declare the same to be his last will and testament, that at the time of his doing he was to the best of their apprehension of a sound and disposing mind and memory and that they subscribe their names respectively as witnesses to the said will in the presence of the testator and add his request.

Sworn before **BENTON HARRIS,** deputy Comry. of Worcester County

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