

Will, VA, Bedford, John Read 1767

In the name of God Amen, I **JOHN READ** of Bedford County Planter do make my last Will and Testament in manner following:

In the first place. I resign and recommend my Soul into the hands of Almighty God and my body to the Earth Trusting and hoping in the Infinite mercies of God for a resurrection to eternal life through the merits and mediation of my blessed Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

As to my Worldly Estate which it has pleased God to bless me with I Will as follows.

I leave all my movable personal Estate together with the Plantation where I live to my wife [**ELIZABETH TATE**] to remain in her full possession and prerogative during her natural life. I give and bequeath unto my three sons viz: **WILLIAM [READ]**, **JONADAB [READ]** and **DANIEL [READ]** all my Real Estate, to wit, the land where I live on both sides of Falling River including where my son **WILLIAM** lives and the land on the South Fork of Falling River including my Mill to be equally divided amongst them either by division or agreement and here it is to be understood that at my decease the Mill and Mill Land is immediately the property of my three sons aforesaid and that my Son **WILLIAM** remain in quiet possession where he lives, in my wife's life time.

I give and bequeath unto my daughter **ELIZABETH [READ] SIMMONS** and my son **THOMAS READ**'s children, to wit: **ABRAHAM [READ]**, **MARIANNA [READ]**, and **ISAAC [READ]** my whole movable personal Estate to be equally divided between them four.

I will appoint my two sons **JONADAB** and **DANIEL** my executors.

In witness where of I have, to this my Last Will and Testament, set my hand and seal this 3rd day of June 1767.

JOHN READ {seal}

Signed, sealed and published by **JOHN READ** as and for his last will and testament in our presence, who in the presence of the said **JOHN READ**, subscribed our names as witnesses thereto:

RICHARD STITH
LUCY STITH
JOHN F. PATRICK
HARRY TERRILL

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Transcribed from original documents by Brent R. Brian & Martha M. Brian.

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