



set my hand and seal this 13<sup>th</sup> day of January 1796  
(Witness) David Baker William Jackson

Bridgeman <sup>his</sup> signet   
mark

Halifax County Jt. February Session 1796 then this will was Exhibited in open  
and duly proved by the oath of David Baker & William Jackson two of the subscribing witnesses  
herein and on Motion Ordered to be Recorded; W<sup>h</sup> hereupon Henry Joyner the Clerk thereof  
named Came in and was duly Qualified to the same

(Witness) Longlet

Wm. Noblen etc

In the Name of God Amen I William Noblen of Halifax County & State of North Carolina  
being sick of Body but of sound sense and memory do Ordain this my last will & Testament as  
follows, I Bequeath my Soul to God that gave it & my Body to the earth to be decently buried according  
to the discretion of my Executors hereafter named & for what I orderly Estate that I please God to  
entrust me with I give devise & bequeath in manner as followeth  
1<sup>st</sup> I will that all my Secular debts and funeral Charges be first paid  
2<sup>d</sup> I give forty Shillings to each of my Children namely Ann, Christopher, Lucy, William &  
Mary Noblen to them and their heirs forever  
3<sup>d</sup> I give & bequeath unto my loving wife Lucy Noblen My land & plantation where I now  
live also all my negroes & all my Estate consisting of every kind of what so ever to her she her heirs & assigns  
forever 4<sup>th</sup> I appoint my loving wife Lucy Noblen executrix & Robert Barrow Esq<sup>r</sup> of this  
my last will and Testament revoking all former will heretofore made by me. In witness  
whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 11<sup>th</sup> day of Jan<sup>y</sup> 1796  
Signed sealed published & declared to be the last will & Testament of the  
Testator in presence of Tho<sup>s</sup> Haynes John Champion Peter Beard, <sup>his</sup> Wm<sup>m</sup> H<sup>l</sup> Noblen   
mark

Halifax County Jt. February Session 1796 then this will was Exhibited in open  
Court and duly proved by the oath of John Champion one of the subscribing witnesses herein  
and on Motion Ordered to be Recorded; W<sup>h</sup> hereupon Lucy Noblen the executrix therein  
named Came in and was duly Qualified to the same

(Witness) Longlet

Thomas Howells etc

In the Name of God Amen the 10<sup>th</sup> day of February 1794 I Thomas Howells of Halifax  
County in the State of North Carolina being tho<sup>t</sup> weak in body yet of sound & perfect memory  
& willing to mend the mortality of my Body & knowing that it is appointed all men once to die I make &  
ordain this my last will & Testament in manner & form following, that is to say I give & recommend  
my soul to the hands of Almighty God who gave it & my Body to the earth to be buried in a Christian  
manner at the discretion of my Executors hereafter mentioned not doubting but at the General Resurrection  
I shall receive the same by the mighty power of God & as touching such worldly Estate as it hath pleased  
the Almighty God to Bless me with I give & bequeath of the same in the manner & form following  
I bequeath I give & bequeath to my son Matthew Howells to him & his heirs forever my two negroes  
Diana & King: Also I give & bequeath to my son in law James Board to him & his heirs forever  
two negroes follow'd Dick & Tom: Also I give to my Grandson William Shinner the Sand  
bought of Thomas Shanks as well as well as apparel by deed from said Shanks one feather Bed & furniture  
the young soul & also my negro boy Dick my negro woman Leticia also my two negroes  
Luce & Pat to him & his heirs & as I lawfully begotten of her body with all their issues in case of the  
said Shinner die without issue lawfully begotten then my devise is that what kind them may be  
equally divided among all my Children

Item I give & bequeath to my Daughter Patience Peave to her & her heirs Twenty Shillings  
 Item I give to my Daughter Jane Butcher to her & her heirs Seventy Shillings  
 Item I give & bequeath to Elizabeth Pitman who married my Daughter Sarah Howell the sum of  
 Ten Shillings. Item I give & bequeath to my son Matthew Howell & James Ward each one  
 Bed & furniture Item I give & bequeath the Balance or remainder of my Estate not here  
 given away to be equally divided among my before mentioned Children & my Grandson William  
 to them & their heirs forever & lastly I do hereby constitute & appoint my son Matthew Howell  
 & James Ward my whole & sole Executors of this my last will & Testament In witness whereof  
 I have hereunto set my hand & Seal the Day & Year above Written  
 Signed sealed published pronounced & declared by the said Thos Howell for & as his } his  
 last will & Testament in presence of } Thos Howell  
 John Pitman, Matthew Howell, James Pitman } mark

Halifax County Jct February 21st 1796 Then this will was exhibited in open Court  
 and duly Proved by the Oath of Matthew Howell & Samuel Pitman two of the Subscribing  
 witnesses thereto & on Motion Ordered to be Recorded: Whereupon Matthew Howell & J<sup>r</sup> Wood  
 the Executors therein named came in & were duly qualified to the same  
 Attest me: Song Cl<sup>r</sup>

Sub Colles etc

In the Name of God Amen Noel Cotton of Halifax County & State of North Carolina being  
 weak in Body but of perfect sound mind & memory thanks be to God for it & Calling to mind the  
 Mortality of my Body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die do make  
 Ordain this to be my last will and Testament, first I recommend my soul to God who gave it  
 & my Body to the Earth to be buried in a Christian like Manner & as Touching such words of good  
 cheer with which I shall please God to bless me for the I give & dispose of in manner & form following  
 Item I give & bequeath unto my son W<sup>m</sup> Cotton to him his heirs & assigns forever all that Messuage  
 & Tract of Land between a Branch called Dominic & Captain Smiths Mill servants it being part of  
 the Tract of Land that I bought of William Scott & Nasor Tiptot, beginning in Dominic Branch  
 at the Crossing place where said Tiptot formerly lived then along a line of marked Trees as the  
 path goes to Sosiah Nelsons Line including all the land from the said Line of Marked Trees  
 between Dominic Nelsons Line & Captain Smiths Line together with the mill standing on said  
 Land also one Negroe boy called Caesar one Negroe Man called Frank one boy named called  
 Mare & her Cotts & one other Cotts called Mark Anthony Barde & saddle the Bed & furniture  
 five head of Cows & Calves now in care my son W<sup>m</sup> Cotton should not live to the age of Twenty  
 one year or die without Issue then and in that case it is my will & desire that the said Land  
 given to him be the property of my son Josiah  
 Item I give & bequeath unto my son Josiah Cotton to him his heirs & assigns forever my  
 Land & plantation in Scotland Neck it being the Land that I bought of Richard Bennett, called  
 the Islands, also one Negroe boy called Abram five Cows & Calves one bed & furniture & in case my  
 son Josiah should not live to the age of twenty one year or die without Issue it is my will & desire that  
 the Land given to him be the property of my son W<sup>m</sup> Cotton  
 Item I give & bequeath unto my son James Cotton to him his heirs & assigns forever a part of my  
 Tract of Land on the Cypress Swamp, beginning at a Cypress in said Swamp a Corner Tree  
 between William Bakers Land and mine running up the run of said Swamp to the Road that  
 along the Road Cahuki Swamp then down Cahuki Swamp to the first deep Branch that  
 runs into Cahuki at a black Gum then up the said branch by a Line of Marked Trees to  
 a hickory in the pasture from thence by a line of marked Trees to a Stake in Bakers Line from  
 thence to the first Station, also one Negroe boy called Davy, five Cows & Calves one bed & furniture  
 & if my son James should not live to the age of Twenty one year or die without Issue it is my  
 will that the said Land be the property of my son John Cotton  
 Item I give & bequeath unto my son Robert Cotton to him his heirs & assigns forever my Land and  
 plantation on the river in Edgemont County it being the Land that I bought of Daniel Wood and also  
 one Negroe boy called Ben one Bed & furniture Now in care my son Robert should not live to the  
 age of Twenty one year or die without Issue then and in that case it is my will & desire that the aforesaid