

Hunterdon County, New Jersey

Will of John Baker

(?? – 1801)

Transcribed June 2012 by Robert Stoy

Names listed with relationship or function as indicated in the document (surnames in parentheses are married names of females):

Elizabeth, wife
Peter Baker, oldest son
Mary (Atcher), daughter – married Peter Atcher
Magdalana (Gather), daughter – married Henry Gather
Henry Baker, son & executor
Martin Baker, son
Elisha Barton, witness
Jacob Polhemus, witness
Christopher Cool/Coole Sr, executor
Jacob Benjamin, surrogate

The following was transcribed from the microfilmed files of wills in the Hunterdon County Historical Society, Flemington, New Jersey, number **1953J, Hunterdon County**. The transcription is rendered as accurately as possible, including any misspellings, with the exception of the use of the script "f", which is transcribed as "s".

John Baker Will
Proven May 6, 1801
Probate Recorded in
Liber No 39 of Wills,
folio 280

In the name of god Amen. I John Baker of the Township of Amwell County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey [?]; being weak in body but of Perfect mind & memory, thanks be unto god therefore. Calling to mind the Mortality of my Body and knowing that is appointed for all men once to die, Do make this my Last will & Testament in manner Following First of all I Recommend my Soul into the hands of Almighty god that gave it, and my Body to the earth to be Buried in a Christian like manner at the Discretion of my Executors hereafter named, nothing Doubting but at the general Resurrection I shall Receive the same again by the Almighty Power of god. And as touchin[g] my Temporal Estate wherewith it hath pleased god to bless me with in this Life I give Devise & Dispose of in manner following. First I will that all my Just debts and Funeral Charges be Honourably paid & Discharged [.] Item, I give unto my Beloved wife Elizabeth the use and Profit of the House & Plantation whereon I now Dwell Together with my

Farming utensils Household Furniture Stock of Horses Cattle etc as I now Possess the same as long as She remains my Widow but in Case she should have a mind to Dispose of any part of my movable Estate as above Bequeathed, then the same to be sold by my Executors and the money Arising from the sale thereof to be put out at Use and the Interest arising therefrom to be paid unto my said wife Elizabeth as long as she Remains my widow. Item, I will and order that at my said wife Elizabeths Decease or Intermarriage as the Case may be, that all my Movable Estate be sold by my Executors & to be equally Divided Between my Oldest son Peter & his Sisters Viz^t, Mary Intermarried with Peter Atcher & Magdalana Intermarried with Henry Gather or their Representatives Share and Share alike Except my son Peter who shall have for his Primogenature of Birth Nine Pounds more than his sisters, Item I give & Devise unto my Two sons Viz^t Henry & Martin Baker all that Tract of Land whereon I now Dwell which I Purchased from the family of the Readings Containing one Hundred & Twelve Acres Also Twenty five Acres Adjoining the above Tract Purchased from John & Charles Reading to be Equally Divided Between them Share & Share alike not as Joint Tennants but as Tennants in Common to them and their Heirs And Assigns forever, Item I will and order That my said Sons Henry & Martin shall pay unto my said Son Peter the sum of fifteen pounds Each in one year after my Decease or Death or Intermarriage of their Mother. Lastly I do hereby appoint my Beloved Son Henry Baker and my Loving friend Christopher Cool Sen both of the Township of Amwell Affors^d Executors of this my Last Will & Testament Desiring them to see the same Truly & Punctually performed And I do hereby revoke all former Wills by me heretofore made and Acknowledge this to be my last Will and Testament. In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal the third day of January one Thousand Seven Hundred & Ninety Three 1793

Signed Sealed Published &
Declared by the said John
Baker to be his Last Will &
Testament in the Presence of
the Subscribing Witnesses

John Baker [signed]

Elisha Barton [signed]
Jacob Polhemus [signed]
Thos Reading [signed]

Elisha Barton one of the witnesses to the foregoing Will being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God did depose & say that he saw John Baker the Testator herein named sign & seal the same; and heard him publish pronounce & declare the foregoing writing to be his last Will & Testament, and that at the doing thereof the said Testator was of sound & disposing mind & memory as far as this Deponent knows & as he verily believes; and that Jacob Polhemus & Thomas Reading, the other subscribing witnesses were present at the same time & signed their Names as witnesses to the said Will together with this Deponent in the presence of the said Testator.

Sworn at Flemington this
6th Day of May AD 1801
before me Jacob Benjamin
Surrogate

Elisha Barton

Henry Baker & Christopher Cool Sen^r Executors in the foregoing Testament named being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty god, did severally depose & say, that the foregoing Instrument contains the true last Will & Testament of John Baker the Testator therein named so far as they know & as they verily believe; that they will well & truly perform the same by paying first the Debts of the said Deceased & then the Legacies in the said Testament specified so far as the Goods Chattels & Credits of the said Deceased can thereunto extend and that they will make & exhibit into the Prerogative offices at Trenton a true & perfect Inventory of all Singular the goods Chattels & Credits of the said Deceased, that have or shall come to their Knowledge or Possession, or to the Possession of any other Person or Persons for their use, and render a just & true account when thereunto lawfully required.

Sworn at Flemington this
6th Day of May AD 1801
before me
Jacob Benjamin, Surr^e

[signed] Henry Baker
[signed] Christopher Coole Sen[?]

Robert Stoy document