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Thomas Cory First Will

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Pete Baker,

The following notes might be helpful in tracking the ownership of the Cornell Road land that William Cory acquired in the original division of the Westport portion of the colonial town of Dartmouth. This parcel, which amounted to 240 acres, he bequeathed to his fourth son Caleb, who in turn sold it to the eldest son, Thomas Cory. Thomas was born in Portsmouth, RI and in 1666 married Sarah Taber of Dartmouth. Whether he came to live on the property is uncertain (his death is recorded in Tiverton in 1737/38). He left the 240-acre farm to his son Thomas (1699/00-1727), who provided a partial description of it in an early, unprobated will of 1731/32 (see item 2 & 3 in the attachment).

With regard to the "Kate Cory" line of William's descendants, they descend from the elder Thomas Cory's son Philip (1705-1750), whose eldest son, Captain Isaac Cory, established this branch of the family in Westport Point during the Revolutionary War

Dick Kuyler

(Early) Will and Testament of Thomas Cory²

dated 12 January 1731/32
son of William Cory and Mary Earle

The Last Will and Testament of Thomas Cory of Tiverton in the County of Bristol in his Majestie's province of the Massachuset Bay in New England yeoman is as follows To all people to whom these proceeds shall or may on my Consem know you that I the said Thomas Cory being something indosposed in body yet of perfect mind and memory thanks be given unto God y A Calling to mind the mortality of my body and that it is Appointed unto men once to dye do therefore make and ordain this my Last Will and Testament in following manner and form

Imprimis my will is that first all my just debts be paid in convenient time after my decease by my Executors here after named.

Item I give and bequeath unto my Eldest Son William Cory the one half of the fourth six score acre Lott in pocaset purchase and the one half of the twenty ninth fifty acre Lott in said purchase and the one half of the five Swamp Lott in said purchase and the fifth twenty five acre swamp Lott all which is Supposed to be Given him by his grandfathers Entale the which I confirm unto him in manner and form as above Exprest. Also I give unto my said Son William the farm which he hath leased to Benjamin Durfee which I purchased of John Talman being all that part of the Eleventh Great Lott or Share in pocaset purchase below the pond and also I give him my said Son William all that part of the great Lott or Share in said purchase which I purchased of Gorsham Woodle lying on the Northward Side and adjoining to Richard Borden homestead and my twenty five acre Lott with my _____ of the pond. _____ lying on the Eastward side of the pond which I purchase joyning to Cook land. _____ all of which I give to my said Son William Cory his heirs and Assigns for Ever he my said Son William performing what is here-after Specified that is to say he paying that five Hundred pounds due by Bond from me when expired to John Talman youngest Brother when he comes of age or in case of his decease then to John Talman _____ to pay _____ that he my said Son William pay _____ Bond when it shall become due also he my said son William Cory in consideration of the lands given him Shall pay to his sister Mary Durfee wife of Thomas Durfee of Free town the Sum of fifty pounds in good and passable Bills of Credit and fifty pounds more to his sister Sarah Brown wife of Abraham Brown in good and passable Bills of Credit the money to be paid in six months after my decease.

2 *Item* I give and bequeath to my Grand Son Thomas Cory Son of my Son Thomas Cory of Dartmouth Deceased all that part of land and housing in Dartmouth aforesaid where _____ he my said Son Thomas lived: that is I give unto him my said grandson all that part of said farm with the Haying thereon which is bounded and _____ing South Easterly on Thomas Brightman Land or Homestead North westerly on Phillip Tabor Land and Homestead South westerly on the westernmost _____ of including all my Salt meadow at the foot thereof and to extend on the whole Breadth from said River North Easterly untill it makes two hundred acres of land by measure also I give unto my said grandson forty acres of land being a part of my tract of Land Lying _____ George Woods Land and Land belonging to Phillip Taber of New London and is joining Southerly on my brother-in-Law Philip Tabor Land which said forty acres of Land hereby given is to and shall extend from my said brother

Phillip land Northward on the whole breadth of said _____ tract until it makes forty acres by _____ all which I give unto him my said grandson Thomas his heirs and assigns for Ever and to come into his possession at the age of Twenty one years. But if in case he shall Decease before he comes to the age of twenty one years or becomes _____ then my will is that all the lands above given to my said Grandson shall be equally divided amongst all my Children and those that may represent them if any of them should be _____ either male or female to them their heirs and Assigns for ever.

#3
Item I give and bequeath to my said Son Phillip Cory all my homestead farm, Haying and Land where I now live in Tiverton aforesaid and also all the remaining of that farm in Dartmouth which I herein before have given to my sd Grand Son Thomas Cory aforesaid it being all the remaining _____ of that two hundred acres whereon the house now standeth lying and _____ North Easterly with all my sedge flats or meadow Lying of in the rivers in Dartmouth aforesaid which I give to my sd Son Phillip his heirs and Assigns for Ever. Further my will is that in consideration of the Lands given to my said Son Phillip that he my said Son Shall pay to his Sister Rebeckah Cory fifty pounds money or good and passable Bill of Credit and fifty pounds more to his sister Patience in money or good and passable Bills of Credit both to be paid in six months after my decease and further my will is that my son Phillip shall have the whole _____ and profit of the house and land in Dartmouth until my Grand Son comes of age: That is if given to my said Grandson and further I give to my said Son Phillip one feather bed bolster, two blankets and a coverlett and further I give my said Son Phillip two working cattle, four cows, six yearling cattle and three calves and thirty sheep and further I give my Son Phillip all my outdoors movable and implements for farming of every sort and kind.

Item I give and bequeath to my four daughters viz: Mary Durfee, Sarah Brown, Rebeckah Cory and Patience Cory three hundred and ten £ apiece to each of them to be paid by my executor hereafter named in manner as follows: That is to Say three hundred and ten £ to be paid unto my daughter Mary Durfee wife of Thomas Durfee of Free Town and three hundred and ten pounds to be paid unto my Second Daughter Sarah Brown wife of Abraham Brown of Tiverton and three hundred and ten £ to be paid to my third Daughter Rebeckah Cory and three hundred and ten £ to be paid unto my fourth Daughter Patience Cory all which Severall sums of money is to be paid out of Bonds due to me in Bills of Credit to be paid by my Executors here after named. Further I give and bequeath to my said four daughters viz: Mary Durfee, Sarah Brown, Rebeckah Cory and Patience Cory all my Lands both divided and undivided in Tiverton and also in Dartmouth to them and each of them their Heirs and Assigns for Ever. That is not before given away in this my will and further I give unto my son Phillip Cory and his four sisters above named all my live Stock and in loose _____ movables of every sort and kind and to be Equally Divided amongst them immediately after my decease _____ that is to Say all that is not before given away in this my will further my will is that my said two youngest Daughters viz Rebeckah and Patience Shall have convenient house room in my now dwelling House in Tiverton aforesaid as a good and Equitable Right until my said Daughters marry: that is with _____ and firewood cut and carted to the door and also the keeping of one cow and a riding beast both Summer and winter and also Apples Sufficient for their eating booth Summer and winter. And further my will is that my Son Phillip take special care of my Grand Son Thomas Cory Son of my Son Thomas Cory that is to bring him up to good learning in the English Tongue that is to read and wright and Sifer well and to keep him untill he is fit to put out to a trade

as by the Consent of his and decision of his mother Mary shall think fitt and further my will is that if Either of my daughters before named shall depart this life before marriage or without Issue then her or their parts to be Equally divided amongst the Sisters surviving further my will is that my daughter Rebeckah shall have my Indian boy Sam otherwise called Sacem until he comes to the age of twnty one years old and my will is that my daughter Patience shall have my Indian girl called Dinah till she comes to the age of Eighteen years old and I hereby make Null and Void all former will and wills _____ and confirming this to be my Last Will and Testament and that it may be Executed fulfilled and performed Do hereby Constitute and Appoint my Loving Sons William Cory and Phillip Cory to be my whole and Sole Executors to this my Last Will and Testament to see it fulfilled and kept according to the true Intent and meaning thereof in witness whereof I the said

_____ Thomas Cory have here unto Subscribed and set to my hand and seal the twelvth day of January in _____ year of our Lord one thousand Seven Hundred and Thirty one alias Anno 1731/2

Signed, Sealed Published
pronounced and Declared
by the said Thomas Cory
to be his last Will and Testament
in the presence of
William Taber
Jonathan Soule
Philip Taber

Editor's Note: This will (dated 12 January 1731/32) was probably written after the death of Sarah Tabor, the first wife of Thomas Cory, and before his marriage to Susannah (Manchester) Tabor. Also named in this will is a previously unknown daughter named Rebeckah, who probably died before September 1734. This will was superseded by one written 23 September 1734. The original will is in the possession of Edna Snell of Tiverton, R.I.