

[image 1]

James Douglas Esq[ui]r[e]

I James Douglas of Cuffnells in the New Forest in the County of Hampshire Esquire being in good State of mind and Body do make this my last Will and Testament When it shall please God to take me out of this World I beg out of his infinite Goodness and Mercy that he would take me into his protection First I desire my Executor hereinafter named to have my Body decently interred but in such manner that the whole Expencc shall not exceed Fifty Pounds If I happen to dye within ten or Fifteen Miles of Chislehurst I desire I may[sic] buried in the same tomb with the Dutchess of Ancaster my late dearest Wife but if any greater Distance then wherever my Executor thinks fit Secondly I desire all my just debts may be paid Thirdly I give all my Servants that live with me in London at the time of my death one Years Wages instead of Mourning And Whereas I have Copyhold Estate called Cuffnells and Gains[?] in the Mannor of Lyndhurst which I hold from the Duke of Bedford as Lord Warden of the New Forrest for my own Life and Lives of John Charlton and Jasper Charlton and the longest Liver of Them and Whereas I do not so much as know even by Sight the said John and Jasper Charlton and my intention is that no Benefit should accrue to persons who I do not know or am related to I therefore did on the thirty first day of last July surrender into the hands of the Lord of the Mannor by the acceptance of Richard Birt his under Steward the said Copyhold Estate called Cuffnells and Gains[?] aforesaid to the Uses Intents and purposes of my last Will and Testament Now I do hereby leave give and bequeath all my Estate real and personal that I now have or may have at the time of my Death to my dearest Father James Douglas of St Margaret Pattens in the City of London Esq[ui]r[e] and do hereby appoint him whole and Sole Executor of this my last Will and Testament hereby revoking all Will or Wills by me formerly made In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal at Cuffnells this Eighteenth day of August in the 24th Year [marginal insertion: of the Reign] of His Majesty King George the Second and in the Year of Our Lord one Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty in the presence of Ja[mes] Douglas Signed sealed published and declared by the Testator as his last Will and Testament in the presence of Queensberry and Dover Mr Dudley Henry Sutherland.

This Will was proved at London before the Worshipfull Robert Chapman Doctor of Laws Surrogate to the Right Worshipfull John Bettsworth also Doctor of Laws Master Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury lawfully constituted on the Thirteenth day of June in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty One by the Oath of James Douglas Esquire the Father and Sole Executor named in the said Will to whom Administration was granted of all and singular the goods Chattels and Credits of the said deceased being first sworn duly to administer. Ex[tracte]d.

(1751, Kew PROB-11-788-274, transcr by Jacky)