

North Carolina
Ashe County

I, W. B. Ballou of the
County and state aforesaid being well advanced
in years and knowing that by the course of
nature that my last end is near and that
human life is uncertain, do therefore make
this my last Will and Testament.
State 1st

I desire that all my just debts be
paid and that none of my property be exposed
to public sale that if I do not have money
enough and debts due me to pay my debts
then my executors hereinafter appointed to
sell enough of property privately to pay my
debts
State 2nd

To my dear wife Martha Jane I give
one third of all my lands to have and to hold
the same during her natural life

State 3rd

To my son Napoleon Franklin Ballou I
give the following described land as follows
Beginning at the mouth of the branch that
runs down from the Blavins House and on
the bank of the river then up the said branch
with the fence to a gate at the lower end of the
horse pasture field then up the hill with
the fence to the top of the ridge leaving out
said field then with the fence that runs
along the top of the ridge to my line fence
to Hickory tree mine and Franklin Bakers
Corner then with my line to a white oak
corner then with my line to a white oak
at the end of the same at William Cox's
gate then with my line to the gate at the
end of the Carter field then with the road
to the gate at the end of the Callaway Orchard
field then to my Poplar corner in said
Orchard field then with the fence along the top
of the river hill pasture to the corner of the
Bank Bottom field then with said field
fence so as to include said Bank Bottom

field to the river at the upper end of the said Bottom
field then down the river to where my line crosses the
river then across the river to J. W. Ballou's line with his
line down the river to opposite the beginning then
to the beginning except the minerals on and in said
tract

State 4th

To my son Thomas B. Ballou I give the
following described land. Beginning on the Poplar
in the Orchard field mentioned in the 3rd item
of this will and running with the lines herein bequeathed
to the said Napoleon Franklin Ballou to the upper
end of the Bank Bottom field at the river then with
the lines of the land given to me by Hiram Callaway
up the river to where the same leaves the river
then with said Callaway lines to said Napoleon
Franklin's lines and with the same to the beginning
except the minerals on and in said land

State 5th

To my son Joseph B. Ballou I give the following
described land. Beginning at the mouth of the
branch the corner of said lot bequeathed to the said
Napoleon Franklin Ballou then with the lines of
the same to the Hickory corner mentioned in
the 3rd item of this will as mine and Franklin
Bakers corner then with my line so as to include
all the lower end of my land to the river then
crossing the river to J. W. Ballou's line then with
his line up the river to opposite said beginning of
said Napoleon Franklin's then to said beginning
except the minerals on and in said land

State 6th

To my son J. W. Ballou I have already given a
portion of my land it being the same mentioned
in the deed I have already made to him the
said J. W. Ballou, except the minerals on and in
said land

State 7th

To my daughter Nancy Ballou I give
my interest in the minerals on and in the
land I sold to Reuben Waller I having reserved one
half the minerals on and in said land

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Item 8th

To the Children of my Daughter Ellen Davis including W. H. Witherspoon I give my interest in what is known as the Hole Creek and Three Top Minerals the same which was deeded to myself L. C. Gentry and J. W. Ballou by William P. Waugh

Item 7th

To my Daughter Martha Jane Ballou I give my interest in the minerals on and in the lands of John H. Carsons deeded to me by Blake W. Ballou.

Item 10th

To my children who are now living to wit: Nancy Ballou, J. W. Ballou, Thomas E. Ballou & Joseph B. Ballou & Martha Jane Ballou & Napoleon Franklin Ballou I give all the minerals on my home and Callaway tracts of land in the bequest herein mentioned and excepted to Napoleon Franklin Ballou, Thomas E. Ballou and Joseph Ballou and also the minerals excepted in the deed I have made to J. W. Ballou also the mineral interest which I hold on the waters of Piney Creek deeded to me by Joseph Ballou and John Roberts and my interest in the mill Tract deeded to me by John Roberts on the waters of said Piney Creek my mineral interest on a piece of land that was sold on the west side of the said Gentry's land bordering on the north fork River said now living children to have and to hold said minerals on and in my home and Callaway tracts herein bequeathed as aforesaid together with all my land and minerals mentioned in this the tenth item of this will during their the said living children's natural lives then to their children and if any of the aforesaid now living children should die without issue then anything devised by this 10th item of this will to go to the aforesaid now living children or their heirs

Item 11th

As to my personal property should there be any left after my wife and children's years allowance is laid off and all paid then the residue to be divided equally among my children.

Item 12th

Having full and entire confidence in my wife Martha Jane Ballou and my son J. W. Ballou I therefore make them my Executors to this will In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the 26th day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety two

Witness,
John M. Black
J. L. Pauley
J. M. Pauley

N. B. Ballou

State of North Carolina } SS.

Ashe County

} In the Superior Court

A paper purporting to be the last Will and Testament of N. B. Ballou deceased is exhibited before me the undersigned Clerk of the Superior Court for said County by J. W. Ballou one of the Executors therein mentioned and the due execution thereof by the said N. B. Ballou by the oath and examination of J. L. Pauley and J. M. Pauley the Subscribing witnesses thereto; who being duly sworn doth depose and say and each for himself depose and say that he is a subscribing witness to the paper writing now shown him purporting to be the last will and Testament of N. B. Ballou that the said N. B. Ballou declared the paper writing to be his last will and Testament and requested the aforesaid witnesses to witness the same and in his presence at the end of said paper writing which is now shown as aforesaid and which bears the date of the 26th day of April 1892

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And the deponent further saith that the said N. B. Ballou the Testator aforesaid declared the said paper writing so subscribed by him and exhibited to be his last will and Testament and this deponent did thereupon subscribe his name at the end of the said will as an attesting witness thereto and at the request and in the presence of said Testator and this deponent further saith that at the said time when the said testator subscribed his name to the last will as aforesaid and at the time of the deponent's subscribing his name as an attesting witness thereto as aforesaid the said N. B. Ballou was of sound mind and memory of full age to execute a will, and was not under any restraint to the knowledge or belief of this deponent and further these deponents say not

J. L. Packy
J. M. Packy

Solemnly sworn and subscribed
to before me this the 14th day
of Jan 1897
P. Blenkins C.S.C.

North Carolina }
Ashe County }^{ss} In the Superior Court

It is therefore considered and adjudged by the Court that the said paper writing and every part thereof is the last Will and Testament of N. B. Ballou Deceased Let the said Will together with the probate be recorded and filed This the 14 day of Jan 1897

P. Blenkins C.S.C.

I, Jiles Graham of the County of Ashe and State of North Carolina being of Sound Mind and Memory but considering the uncertainty of my earthly existence do make and declare this my Last Will and Testament in manner and form following that is to say:-

First. That my executor shall provide for my body a decent burial suitable to the wishes of my Relations and friends and pay all funeral expenses together with just debts here due and to whosoever owing out the money that may first come into their hands as a part or parcel of my estate.

Item:- I give and devise to my beloved wife all of my household and kitchen furniture, two cows and one horse and pasture for the same. She is to remain in full possession of the old house garden and orchard lot during her natural life and one third of the rents or products of all the lands or as sufficient amount for her ample maintenance and support during her natural life.

Item I give and bequeath to my eldest son Patterson Graham sixty acres of land on old field creek where C. J. Cloyd lives the land bought by Patterson Graham of William R. Graham for his Pattersons Graham's entire interest in my real estate to trade which I did at the time and do now sanction.

Item I give and bequeath my son Ishmael Graham one tract or parcel of land containing thirty five acres more or less, Beginning at a Chestnut stump brace corner running North West 98 poles to a dogwood thence northward with my old line to a poplar on top of the knott thence North 81° East 21 poles to a buckeye in the branch thence Eastward with meanders of the branch 46 poles to the creek at mouth of branch thence South 68° East 43 poles to a birch in the branch thence up the meanders of branch 36 poles to a stake in brush line thence with said line to the beginning. Also (33) fifty three acres of land lying on Shen lep fork.

Beginning on a large Chestnut running West 48 poles to a maple thence North 61° West 30 poles to a water oak thence North 47° West 65 poles to a Chestnut on top of Hunting Ridge thence