

In the Name of God, Amen. I William Bradshaw of the County of Burke and State of North Carolina, being of sound mind and memory, but considering the uncertainty of my earthly existence, & knowing that it is appointed unto all men once to die, do make and declare this, my last will & testament in manner & form following, that is to say, first, I give & recommend my soul into the hands of Almighty God who gave it, and my body to the Earth, to be buried in a decent Christian manner, at the discretion of my Executors, nothing doubting but that at the General Resurrection I shall receive the same again. by the Mighty power of God - and as touching such worldly estate as it has pleased the giver of all good to bless me with in this life, I will and dispose of in the following manner, to wit, to my wife my four negro slaves, & the tract of land, that I now live on, & all my household & kitchen furniture & farming utensils, & all the rest of my tools, & all my stock of every kind, my Wagons Buggy & Trunkles, her life time, to be by her my wife Anna disposed of at her pleasure. I give devise & bequeath to my daughter Polly & her husband B. H. Martin the tract of land that she first lived on after she married, & my Negro Slave Aaron, but the Slave Aaron is not to come into her possession

until after the death of my wife, Anna.
The aforesaid land and slave, Aaron. My daughter
Polly & her husband B. H. Martin is to have their
life time. & after their death, if there be no child
of my said daughter Polly surviving them, the
said land, is to be sold, & slave, if alive, to be sold
also & divided equally between my grandchildren
that are living at that time. And whereas James
L. Berry my son in law, sold a tract of land be-
longing to me, to B. H. Martin, & Sarah Bean. I here-
by ratify said sale, & give & bequeath the proceeds of
the same to my daughter Mahala. wife of said J. L.
Berry, and also my negro slave, Catharine after the
death of my wife, Anna. I give & bequeath to my daugh-
ter Mahalla Berry her life time, & at her death to the heirs
of her body. I give devise & bequeath to my daughter
Melinda Bradshaw one horse, beast, bridle & saddle, of
her own choosing, four cows & four calves, Ten head of
sheep & Ten head of hogs, and four bedsteads
& beds, of her own choice, and all the furniture
which is about the house, that she now claims, to dis-
pose of at her pleasure. My devise also is that my
daughter Malinda have the tract of land I now
live on after her Mother's death & all the household
& kitchen furniture, except my chest of drawers,
also my smallest wagon & gearing, & all the Barrels
belonging to every house, & my still, to be my daugh-
ter Melinda's after her Mother's death, also I will and
bequeath to my daughter Malinda my negro slave

and her increase if any, the aforesaid property
except that, which my daughter Melinda is to dis-
pose of at her pleasure is only to be hers her life time
if she die single or unmarried, And at her death if
she has no living ^{child or} children this property is to go to
my living grand^Achildren that are living at Melinda's
death, but if she has a living child or children
at the time of her death this property is to go to
them. I give devise & bequeath to my daughter
Dorcas wife of Jese Moore my negro slave
Harrison after the death of my wife Anna
in addition to what I have already given to my
daughter Melinda my desire is that she have my
family Bible & large hymn book, & all my farming
utensils, & the crop that ^{may} be made or growing
at her mother's death. also my property not
named in this will, ^{to my children} My desire is that it be sold
after the death of my wife Anna. I mean my property
of every kind, & equally divided between my
three daughters, viz, Polly Martin, Mahala
Berry, & Dorcas Moore. And my Money after
my debts are paid, my desire is that it be equally
divided between my four daughters. & Lastly
I do hereby constitute and appoint my beloved
and trusty son in law B. H. Martin and
James L. Berry my lawful executors to all
interests & purposes to execute this my last
will and testament according to the true in-
tent & meaning of the same & every part

and clause thereof, hereby revoking and
declaring utterly void all other wills and
testaments by me heretofore made

In Witness Whereof I the
said William Bradshaw do hereunto set
my hand and seal this the Eighteenth
day of January in the year of our Lord
one thousand eight hundred and
four

Signed sealed published
and declared by
the said William
Bradshaw to be his last
will and testament
In the presence of us
who in his presence &
in the presence of each
other do subscribe our
names as Witnesses thereto

Burke Co. NC Wills 1793-1868
www.northcarolinapioneers.com

William Bradshaw

J. M. Conway
Elijah Bradshaw

Testament of
Wm Bradshaw