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Executor of this my last Will and Testament
In Witness whereof I the said Benjamin Minshaw
have hereunto set my hand and seal this seventh
day of the fourth month in the year of our Lord one
thousand Eight Hundred and forty
Signed sealed and pronounced Benjamin Minshaw
by the said Benjamin

Minshaw to be his last Will
& Testament in the presence of

Jose Hobson (Aff)

William Minshaw jur (Aff)

Chatham County 3 This certifies that the foregoing
August Term 1840 } last Will & Testament of Benjamin
Minshaw dec'd was proved in open
Court by the affirmations of Jose Hobson & William
Minshaw for the subscribing Witnesses & ordered to
be recorded. Whereupon William Minshaw sen one of the
executors therein named appeared in open Court
& was qualified
Sede St. A. Thomas S.C.

State of North Carolina. Chatham County
I John Watson of the County & State aforesaid being
weak in body though in sound and perfect mind &
memory do this day make & ordain this my last
Will & testament (To wit) I in the best place bequeath
my soul to God who gave it & my body to be buried
in decent Christian burial. Secondly I give & bequeath
unto my beloved wife Elizabeth Watson during her
natural life time the following property. that is to say
I give & bequeath unto her all the land I may die
hopeful of on the north side of Pick Creek belonging
to what I call the James Brooks tract also one
acres that I bought of Samuel Brooks
where now my dwelling house stands together

with all appurtenances mines minerals &c
 immunities whatsoever I also give unto my beloved
 wife during her natural life the following negro
 property namely a negro man called Peter and a negro
 woman called Sarah & her five children which the
 cross has namely Peter educated. Daniel Bond
 Allen and also all the children she may have
 from this time henceforth as long as my wife
 Elizabeth Watson shall live I also give & bequeath
 unto my wife Elizabeth Watson two thirds of my flock
 of cattle one half of my stock of sheep & one half of
 my stock of hogs and one half of my corn &c
 I may die possessed of and all my household
 and kitchen furniture here last bequeathed namely
 the stock of cattle the stock of sheep the stock of
 hogs &c the house hold & kitchen furniture &c
 liberty to bequeath in her own way and also one
 half of my stock of horses I bequeath unto her
 to dispose of in her own way & also my bond negro
 & hear I bequeath unto my wife Elizabeth Watson
 to dispose of in her own way and also I bequeath
 unto my wife Elizabeth Watson one negro girl called
 & known by the name of Emily to have & to hold
 as her own right & property until my son Benjamin
 Watson is twenty one years of age my desire is that
 this girl Emily shall then be returned to my other
 stock of negroes for the benefit of my children
 that is the other stock of negroes which is as yet
 unbequeathed and also I give and bequeath
 unto my wife Elizabeth whatever provisions
 I have on hand for my family that I die

possessed of this also my will and desire that the land
 which I may die possessed of which hath not
 been before bequeathed shall be equally divided
 between my son Benjamin Watson and William
 Watson as soon as my son Benjamin Watson
 arrives at the age of twenty one years this also my
 will and desire that the land which my son
 Benjamin Watson & my son William Watson
 may fall heir to shall be valued and that my several
 daughters namely Mary Watson Emily Watson &
 Eliza Lawrence Watson have out of my estate of
 negroes which have not yet been bequeathed the same
 amount that my son Benjamin Watson & my son
 William Watson has had in land the negroes first
 being valued then the balance of the negroes which
 may remain belonging to my estate to be equally
 divided between my several children namely
 Benjamin Watson Mary Watson William Watson
 Emily Watson Eliza Watson & James Ethelred
 Watson this also my will & desire that the land
 which I have bequeathed to my wife Elizabeth Watson
 during her life time shall be after her death the property
 of my son James Ethelred Watson to have & to hold
 during his natural life and I also appoint my
 worthy friends Andrew Headen & William Blackney
 Executors of this my last will & testament in which
 whereof I have accounted set my hand and affixed
 my seal this 5th Sept 1840
 John Watson (Dead)
 David Watson (Dead)
 Robert March (Dead)