

I ^{supra} Bowen of the County of Chatham
& State of North Carolina being of
sound mind & memory but concerning
the uncertainty of my earthly existence
do make this my last Will & Testament
in manner & form following that is
to say first that my executor being
after named shall provide for my
body a decent Burial suitable
to the wishes of my relations & friends
& pay all my funeral expenses
together with my just debts however
& whomever looking out of the money
that may first come into his hands
as a part or parcel of my estate.

(Item) I give & devise to my beloved wife
this tract of land I now live on exclusive
of a part tract formerly called the mazy
land to hold for her use during life
or widowhood together with all the houses
hold property & within furniture except
herin otherwise disposed of my desire is that
my wife shall have & to hold for her
life time my negro Boy Ben so long as
she may live except he become disobedient
& can't be controlled by her. then my desire
is that my executor shall sell the
above named Boy to best advantage for
the use of my widow. (Item) I give also to
my wife the necessary farming tools together
her choice of stock of horses cows Hogs
in her judgement for her comfortable support
& benefit that is of such as I have at my
decease. (Item) I give & devise \$100.00
for the Education of young Men for
the Ministry of the M Baptist order & for
my executor to pay over to the proper
within one year from my death (Item)
my desire is the sum of \$100.00 made to my
Children Margaret Page one Horse &

Continued
Other property worth sixty dollars (2) Julia
Horn one Horse & other property worth one
hundred dollars (3) Joseph Bowen one
Horse worth thirty dollars the above
named advancements to be a portion
of this share of my estate my desire
is that my two youngest sons George
& Martin Bowen have a horse & other
property that all my above named
children first be made equal (Item)
my desire is that my executor collect
all debts owing to me & to sell such
a portion of my property as they may
think best so as to satisfy all the of the
named items & debts finally due against
me (Item) my desire is that my sons
George & Martin Bowen have twenty
five dollars each to enable them to
go to school (Item) I will that
my son Joseph Bowen have fifty
dollars for work & labor done on my
plantation known by name as
mazy land (Item) my desire is that
the mazy tract of land to be rented
until my youngest child comes
of age & then to be sold & the proceeds
children (Item) my will & desire is
that after the expiration of the term
bequeathed to my beloved wife that
all my estate both real & personal
to be equally divided with the heirs of
my body (Item) Lastly I do hereby con-
stitute & appoint my friend Robert Lee
my lawful Executor to all in-
tents & purposes to execute this my
last will & testament according to
the true intent & meaning of the same
& every part & share thereof hereby
knowing all other & declaring with my
mind all other Wills & Testaments

412

Continued

by me heretofore made in witness
whereof I the said Wm Bowen do here-
unto set my hand & seal this the
13th of December A D 1855 Signed
sealed & declared by the said Wm
Bowen to be his last will & testament
in the presence of us who at his request
in his presence & in the presence of
each other do subscribe our names
as attests there to

Thos W Matthews

Malvy Jordan

Wm Bowen (Seal)

Codicil. I Wm Bowen of the County of
Leatham do make this my codicil
to my last will & testament bearing
date 13th December 1855, Whereas the
them in the devise of the magy tract of
land do not specify the line between
my home tract bequeath to wife Hester
that the dividing line be as follows
beginning at Thos Broder's stone corner
running four degrees East of North
119 poles to Hester's corner. I make &
declare this my Codicil to my last
will & testament this the 29th of December
1855 Signed Sealed in presence of

Thos W Matthews

Malvy Jordan

Wm Bowen (Seal)