

who gave it⁺ and my body to be buried at the discretion of my friends - I also give and bequeath to my loving wife Margaret Blanton one horse eight head of cattle all my stock of hogs sheep and geese all my house hold & kitchen furniture also my tools of every kind to her during her natural life & after her death what then remains to fall to my son Benjamin Blanton and his heirs for ever I also give and bequeath to my living daughter Margaret Blanton one cow & two year old heifer to her and her heirs forever I also give and bequeath to my living son Abraham Blanton one horse to him and his heirs for ever. I also give and bequeath to my living daughter Nancy one cow & calf & one two year old heifer to her & her heirs for ever. I hereby appoint Benj. Russell and David Williams Executors to this my last will & testament in witness where of. I have hereunto set my hand and seal, signed and declared in presence of the spectators this the 12th day of June 1821 - D. Williams, Benjamin Russell
Richard^{his} & Blanton seal^{mark}

State of North Carolina
Duplin County

July Term 1799

When was the within^{subscribed} proved in open Court by the oath of Edward Reussell and of the subscribing witnesses thereto and at the same time Benjamin Best & Absalom Best the Executors named in said will come before^{the} Court qualified as Executors according to law ordered that letters creued accordingly. This is the original will Test Wm Dickson C. C. & John Best of Duplin County being weak in body but of sound mind are recollecting the uncertainty of this life do make and ordain this my⁺ last will and testament - in manner and form following, that is to say. First I most earnestly recommend my soul to God Almighty hoping for a favorable unplain into the mansions of eternal life through the merits of my mediator and savior Jesus Christ. and when it should please God to call me from this life my body to be decently Interred at the discretion of my Executors herein after named - next I will ordain that my beloved wife Hannah have the whole of my property both real and personal of every kind that I possess during

John
Best

her natural life, and after her death my will is that my Exors
do raise out of my estate before it is divided so much as will pay my
even eldest children who has married and left me, the sum of ten
shillings each that is to say to my daughter Patty ten shillings
to my son Benjamin ten shillings to my son John ten shillings to my
daughter Rebecca ten shillings. To my daughter Elizabeth ten
shillings to my son Abaculum ten shillings & to my son David ten
shillings which sums are to be considered their full share of my
estate to each one of those even children above named. Next my will
and desire that the whole of the remaining part of my property that
that is to say my land my stock of all kind. House hold and
furniture, plantation tools and every thing that I possess be
equally divided between my three youngest sons, namely Henry
Best Etheldred Best and Reddin Best, or the survivors of them
after the death of their mother. My will is also that my Exors divide
at the dividing of my land between my three youngest sons my
desire that my son Henry have his equal proportion in value on the
lower part of my land where it joins Robert Williams line and
my desire is that my son Etheldred have his equal proportion
in value on the upper part of my land where it joins Charles Ward
line and my son Reddin to have the equal proportion in value in value
land off in the middle or center part of my land which contains
my belongings & other improvements. And lastly. I constitute and
appoint my sons Benjamin Best & Abaculum Best, Exors to this
my last will and testament. hereby revoking and disavowing all
former or other wills. In testimony whereof I have here unto set
my hand and fixed my seal this the 10 day of May 1798
Signed sealed published and delivered declared to be this my last
will and testament of John Best. In presence of Edw Pearvall Henry
Best

John^{his} Best
mark

State of North Carolina }
Duplin County }

October Term 1800

Then was the within will proved in open Court in due form of law
by the oath of William Darnkan and James Hummark, two
of the subscribing witnesses where to and at the same time Henry
Biggill & Isaac Biggill the Exors named in the said will came
before the Court and qualified as Exors according to law. ordered that

W^m

Biggill