

North Carolina, Gaston County.

I, James M. Blackwood, of the aforesaid County and state, being of sound mind, but considering the uncertainty of my earthly existence, do make and declare this my last will and testament:

First: My Executor hereinafter named, shall give my body a decent burial, suitable to the wishes of my friends and relatives, and pay all funeral expenses, together with all my just debts, out of my personal property, and if that is not sufficient, out of my real estate, but until all my other real and personal property shall have been used for this purpose, my executor shall not so use the 77 acres of my home tract on which I now reside, hereinafter given and devised to my two children, William Boyce Blackwood and Susan Bright Blackwood.

Second: I give and devise to my two children, William Boyce Blackwood and Susan Bright Blackwood, and their heirs, in fee simple, all my home tract on which I now reside, being the 77 acres I bought from Jas. C. Anthony, Jan. 21, 1902, by deed recorded in Book 50, page 127, and bounded as follows: Beginning at a sweet gum on North side of spring branch, runs nearly up the branch N. 47 W. 54 poles to a stone formerly a partition; thence N. 69 W. 50-3/4 poles to a black gum; thence South 75 poles to a stone; thence S. 38 W. 60 poles to a stake; thence S. 53 E. 75 poles to a W. Q or stake; thence with the meanderings of the branch

poles to a stone; thence S. 33 W. 60 poles to a stake; thence S. 53 E. 75 poles to a W. Q or stake; thence with the meanderings of the branch to the mouth of the spring branch; thence to the beginning, adjoining S.E. Foy, James Torrence, Pisgah parsonage lot, Boyce Whitesides and others, one half of said 77 acres is hereby given and devised to each of my said two children, William Boyce Blackwood and Susan Bright Blackwood, said bequest of 77 acres, herein made, is made to equalize said William Boyce Blackwood and Susan Bright Blackwood with my other two children, Ruth B. Baumgardner and Lessie M. Adams to whom I made advancements of real estate, Feb. 10, 1910, I estimate this bequest now made to William Boyce Blackwood and Susan Bright Blackwood worth one thousand dollars to each of them, See agreement registered in Book 81, page 473, Register of Deeds office.

Third: After this 77 acres has been given and devised to William Boyce Blackwood and Susan Bright Blackwood, and after my debts have been paid, I give and devise all the residue and remainder of my real and personal property, share and share alike, in equal parts to my four children, William Boyce Blackwood, Susan Bright Blackwood, Ruth B. Baumgardner and Lessie M. Adams.

By William Boyce Blackwood's and Susan Bright Blackwood's taking

the 77 acres under this will, I consider my other children released from further accounting for advancements in said agreement, Registered in book 81, page 473, of Register of Deeds office.

This will is made subject to the dower rights of my widow and does not affect said dower rights.

Fourth- Whereas my two children William Boyce Blackwood and Susan Bright Blackwood are now minors, Now therefore my will and desire is that my present wife M.S. Blackwood, be and she is hereby constituted and appointed guardian to the said William Boyce Blackwood and Susan Bright Blackwood, to have and to hold the custody of the estate of William Boyce Blackwood until he is twenty one years of age and also of Susan Bright Blackwood until she is twenty one years of age.

Fifth- I hereby appoint and constitute my wife, M.S. Blackwood my lawful executor to all intents and purposes to execute this my last will and testament, according to the true intent and meaning of the same, and every part and clause thereof, hereby revoking and declaring utterly void all other wills and testaments heretofore by me made.

In witness whereof I, the said James M. Blackwood do hereunto set my hand and seal this 17th day of February, 1912.

his  
James X M. Blackwood (Seal)  
mark

Witnesses

James X M. Blackwood (Seal)  
mark

Witnesses:

John F. Bradley

J. Boyce Foy.

Signed, sealed, published and declared by the said James M. Blackwood to be his last will and testament in the presence of us, who, at his request, and in his presence, and in the presence of each other, do subscribe our names as witnesses thereto.

John F. Bradley

(Seal)

J. Boyce Foy

(Seal)

State of North Carolina,

In the Superior Court,

Castn County.

In the Matter of the last will of James M. Blackwood.

It appearing to the Court by the oath and examination of J. Boyce Foy and John F. Bradley the subscribing witnesses thereto, that the paper writing propounded by the Executor thereon named, is the last will and testament of James M. Blackwood and that the same was duly executed by said James M. Blackwood in the presence of said witnesses and that at the time of signing the same the said James M. Blackwood was of sound mind. It is thereupon adjudged that the said paper writing be admitted to probate as the last will and testament of the said James M. Blackwood and the Executor therein named qualify as such. This December 22, 1915.  
C. C. Carnwell, Clerk Superior Court.