

peculiar as aforesaid duly qualifying as such by taking  
the oaths prescribed by law.

Attest, J. W. Elliott Esq.

State of North Carolina }  
Henderson County }

I Joseph Hoots, of the County of Henderson and the

State of North Carolina aforesaid calling to mind the  
shortness of life certainty of death, and being of sound  
mind and disposing memory do make and ordain  
this as my last will and testament and revoking  
all other wills by me made prior to this date, 1st<sup>1</sup> S  
will that my executors and Executrix herein after  
named collect all debts due me and if and if they sh-  
ould not be sufficient that they sell enough of my char-  
-able property to pay all my just debts, I will and  
bequeath unto my living wife Eliza Jane Hoots all my  
property both personally and real for to enable her to  
raise my children provided she lives as a widow, but  
if she marries again then she shall only have her dower  
in my lands which she wold have been entitled to  
if no will had been made, and one years allowance  
and the balance of the property to be equally divided  
among my children but if she never marries, then she  
shall have the use of the whole during her life time and then  
the property to be divided among the children, as above directed,  
the aforesaid property consists of one hundred and twelve  
acres of land including the place where I now live, join-  
ing Rufus Edney, Andrew Maxwell, Mr. Oliver Lewis and  
two head of horses, five head of cattle, some ten or twelve  
head of sheep, seventeen or eighteen head of hogs, all farming  
tools one wagon, corn, fodder, Hay, Potatoes, Poultry, house hold  
and Kitchen furniture, one rifle gun and one shot gun, which  
I desire to be given to my two oldest Boys, the shot Gun to  
Andrew and the Rifle to James, when they become of age,  
I also desire my wife to have all the Rifle, wheat and Bacon  
in hand as above directed, I will and appoint my loving wife  
Eliza Jane Hoots, and James Bly the Executors & Executrix  
to carry out the foregoing will in manner and form as the  
law directs signed sealed and acknowledged this the 3<sup>rd</sup>  
day of January 1864, Test Joseph Hoots. Esq.  
Henry & Robert J. Lewis pro

State of North Carolina  
Henderson County

Court of Pleas and Quarter Session October Session  
1806. — A paper writing purporting to be the last will  
and testament of Joseph Hoots recorded is exhibited in open  
Court by Eliza Jane Hoots & James Blythe the executor and  
executrix therin named and the said execution thereof is  
proved by the oath and examination of R. Y. Lewis, and  
of the said Eliza Jane witnesseth thereto, it is therefore considered  
by Court that the said paper writing, and every part there-  
of is the last will & testament of the said Joseph Hoots and  
the same is ordered to be recorded and filed, and therupon  
the said Eliza Jane Hoots and James Blythe Esqr. and  
Executrix as aforesaid duly qualified as such by taking  
the oaths required by law

Witness

J. C. Gullie R. C. C.