

In the name of God Amen. I James Bewele Houston of McKlenburg  
County & State of Carolina, being at present weak in body but of a  
& disposing mind & memory blessed be God & willing to mind the matters  
of the body & that it is appointed for all men once to die, do make &  
renew this my last will & Testament in the manner & form following  
viz. Principally & first of all I recommend my soul to God who  
gave it, and my body to the earth to be buried in a christian  
like & decent manner at the discretion of my Executors herein after  
named; And as touching such worldly estate as it hath pleased God  
to bless me with in this life I give & dispose of the same as follows  
First I will that my last debts & funeral expenses be paid and  
discharged as soon as convenient after my decease

Secondly I give & bequeath unto my well beloved wife Eliza both the plantation  
whereon I now live with all the improvements to the same be-  
longing during her widowhood without any incumbrance, excepting  
raising & educating my three Children in a genteel & decent man-  
ner & in case of Marriage she still to continue in possession of one  
third of said plantation including the improvements during her  
natural life. Likewise will & bequeath to my said wife three neg-  
roing Men, Helly & Pat to be entirely at her own disposal together with  
my young son & his horse & saddle & bridle three plows & gears for the  
horses, likewise four cows & three calves to be chosen by her out of my  
stock, her own 2.50 to be at her own choice, Ten head of hogs thought  
by my Executors most suitable for her, four head of sheep, also her  
beds & furniture one chest of drawers, my Stage & Road Waggons, the  
pot, two trunks, Tea kettle & Table furniture suitable for the same  
the above mentioned property to be at the entire disposal of my said  
wife. It is my desire that there be left for the use of my wife  
& Children on the plantation during her widowhood, & in case of  
Marriage to be disposed of for the use of my Children —

Thirdly I will & bequeath unto my son John Bewele Houston the plantation  
I now live on at the death of my wife & have Tracts purchased of James  
Matthews on St Albans creek one tract & purchased at my father's sale  
adjoining land of Benjamin Fincher & John Springs & one tract & purchased  
of Jos Fincher adjoining said lands to him his heirs & assigns for ever &  
all profits arising from the above mentioned lands while he lives

of this body & I give & bequeath unto my said wife Elizabeth the plantation  
whereon I now live with all the improvements to the same be-  
longing during her widowhood without any incumbrance, excepting  
raising & educating my three children in a gentle & decent man-  
ner & in case of marriage she still to continue in possession of one  
third of said plantation including the improvements during her  
natural life. Likewise will & bequeath to my said wife three nega-  
roes, Man, Helly & Pat to be entirely at her own disposal together with  
my young son & house her saddle & bridle three plows & gears for the  
horses, likewise some cows & their calves to be chosen by her out of my  
stock, two year. 3. &c to be at her own choice, Ten head of hogs thought  
by my Executors most suitable for her, some head of sheep, also some  
beds & furniture one chest of drawers, my Stage & Road Waggon, the  
bed, two benches, Tea kettle & Table furniture suitable for the same  
the above mentioned property to be at the entire disposal of my said  
wife. It is my desire that these two or three horses be left for the use of my wife  
& children on the plantation during her widowhood, & in case of  
marriage to be disposed of for the use of my children—  
I will & bequeath unto my son John Drayton Houston the plantation  
I now live on at the death of my wife & two tracts purchased of James  
Matthews on St. Stephens creek one tract 300 acres at my father's sale  
adjoining land of Benjamin Fincher & John Springs & one tract 100 acres  
of, 1st Fincher adjoining said lands to him his heirs & assigns forever &  
all profits arising from the above mentioned lands to be paid to him  
at Twenty one years. I likewise will & bequeath to my said son  
some negroes named George, April, Anna & Eleanora  
I will & bequeath to my daughter Margaret the plantation

purchased of <sup>Mecklenburg Co. N.C. Will 1844</sup> ~~www.northcarolinapioneers.com~~  
 of carriage with all profits arising from the same to her & her  
 heirs forever I also bequeath to my said daughter four negroes to  
 name to wit, Elisha & Rebecca to her & her heirs forever -  
 I will & bequeath to my son Robert Boyd the plantation purchased  
 from James Shanks with the profits arising from the same when  
 he arrives at the age of twenty one years to him & his heirs forever  
 Likewise bequeath to my said son four negroes to wit, Sam, Joseph,  
 & Andy to him & his heirs forever - and if any of them my three children  
 should die before they come of age, their share of property to be equally  
 divided between the other two shares & share alike -

Item I Will & bequeath to my sister by law Esther Walker one house  
 to be valued to Sixty Dollars & one Cow & calf to be delivered  
 her by my Executors— It is my Will that what Oil & Paint  
 provided be used for the house I have built, & is likewise my Will  
 all my property, not herein before mentioned be exposed to public  
 Sale by my Executors as soon as convenient after my decease & the  
 Money arising from such Sale together with all outstanding Debts  
 be divided as follows viz To my wife Elizabeth one hundred Dollars  
 to my Sister viz Agnass, Margaret Patterson & Susan each more  
 I Will & bequeath the sum of Fifty dollars each to be paid as soon  
 as convenient by my Executors, It is also my desire that a supply  
 of provision be laid off for my widow & family for one year in my  
 Executors. And Lastly that all the remainder of monie arising  
 from Sale of property be divided amongst my three children  
 share & share alike— And Lastly I do hereby Nominate & appoint  
 & constitute my wife Elizabeth my brotherly law John Patterson  
 William Stewart to be the Sole Executors of this my last Will &  
 Testament, hereby making & making void all former Wills by  
 me heretofore made, & differing & conferring this to be my last  
 Will & Testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my  
 hand & affixed my seal this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April Anno 1811—

Signed, Sealed, pronounced & declared

In presence of us -

James Houston

Edward Fisk

James H Houston