

Declaring, testifying and confirming this and no other to be my last  
Will and Testament. I Witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand  
and Seal this twenty third Day of March one thousand seven hundred  
and sixty four.

Benjamin Bowden

Signed Sealed published & reduced by  
the within named Benjamin Bowden to be  
his last Will & Testament in the presence  
of us who subscribed our Names in the pre-  
sence of the said Benjamin Bowden.

William Dwyer

John Thomson

William Roy

Mark

In the Name of God Amen, August the seventh in the Year of  
our Lord God 1763 I William Bowen of North Carolina in Rowan  
County being very sick & weak in Body but of perfect mind  
and memory Thanks be given to God, therefore calling to mind the  
shortness of my Days and knowing that it is appointed for  
all men to die Do make and give this my last Will  
& Testament that is to say principally and first all I give &  
bequeath my Soul unto the Hands of God that gave it  
and my Body I recommend to the Earth to be buried in a  
quiet and decent Manner at the Direction of my Ex-  
ecutors at the generall Resurrection I shall receive  
Life again by the mighty Power of God and as touching  
such worldly Estate as hath pleased God to bless me  
with in this Life, I give devise and support the same in the following  
Manner & Manner I leave to my beloved Wife the third part of  
my movable Estate to wit the Clothes Bedding & Saddle the two plant-  
ation Horses with the Harness to wit the Saddle and Joshua & James  
the two Negroes to be kept at the plantation for the use  
in their Life.

13  
plantation which I have bought of David's son Richard  
then after the decease of said Richard to return to my son John  
and my beloved Wife to my son John and the said Wife  
jointly the plantation I live on Deep River I leave to  
my Daughter Susanna & Susan with their heirs & assigns to be equal  
divided and the remainder part of my Estate I leave to be  
between my son John, Ann, Thomas & Richard, I make my  
Will & bequeath my beloved Wife, William Baldwin and Isaac Bow  
Executors of this my last Will and Testament and I do hereby  
revoke, revoke & annul all & every other former Testamen-  
tary & Executors by me in anywise before this time made  
and bequith right & confirming this to be no other to be my last  
and Testament. In witness hereof I have set my Hand & Seal  
Day & Year above written, signed, sealed & reduced by the said  
Bowen as his last Will and Testament in the presence of  
us but it is also my Will that my son John shall pay unto said  
Richard when she comes at age the sum of ten pounds for  
her dowry.

William Gray  
William Stephens  
Ann & Mary  
Mark

William

1763  
July 6: I Morgan Bryan of Rowan County living in perfect  
memory blessed be God for his Mercies do hereby  
Declare as followeth Viz: I have bequeathed unto  
son Thomas Bryan my dwelling House & plantation  
part of a Negro Boy named Jack also my Negro  
Horse called Black and the Wapamys belong-  
ing to me and my Old and infirm Negroes to wit  
viz: a man called James & a woman called Mary  
to be kept at the plantation for the use  
in their Life.

After my Decease my said Son being for me  
the Land while I live 2<sup>d</sup> I give & bequeath unto my beloved  
daughter Elinor Linville all my riper wearing apparell -  
3<sup>d</sup> I give & bequeath unto my grand Daughter Mary Barker my  
real & free Chalkings shd. 4<sup>th</sup> Eight pounds & proclamation  
my beloved Son James Bryan 5<sup>th</sup> I forgive for my funeral Char-  
ges & sickness. 6<sup>th</sup> I give & bequeath Joseph Samuel Morgan  
John William James & Thomas & my Daughter Elinor Linville all  
the rest of my real & personal Estate to be equally divided a-  
mongst them together with that part of my Estate which  
I have already recd. 7<sup>th</sup> I do hereby nominate & appoint  
my beloved Sons John Bryan & William Bryan to be Exors.  
digging and confirming this & no other to be my last Will  
& Testament whereof I have hereunto set my Hand & Seal.  
March 28. 1763

is sealed, published & pronounced in the presence of  
Morgan Bryan  
John Bryan  
William Bryan  
John Linville  
Mary Barker  
Joseph Samuel  
John William  
James Barker  
Thomas Barker  
Elinor Linville

Ab. I Daniel Reates of Bragi River in the County  
& Province of North Carolina taking into consideration  
the uncertainty of Life and Certainty of Death at one Time  
therefore think it to leave behind me the follow-  
ing to be my last Will & Testament herein by and for  
himself hising my Soul unto the Lord & my Body to be  
in possession of Christian Side man at the Discretion of  
his Executors

And I desire that all my just debts & former should be paid  
out of my Estate by my Executors. - Item I give & bequeath  
unto my well beloved wife the old plantation whereon I now  
live and her worken hoes to be left on the plantation during  
her Widowhood and her charge of one of the Cows to be her  
own property. - Item I do give & bequeath unto my son John  
the new Field up the Creek above the old plantation with the  
Land & sown the S<sup>t</sup> Creek to a head of the Creek near the  
to have it as his property at the age of twenty one years.

Item I do give & bequeath unto my son Daniel a small  
improvement down the said Creek the Land to begin about 100  
Yards below the old plantation whereon I now live. Item I do  
give & bequeath unto my son Jesse the old plantation  
I now live at the age of twenty one years. Item I do  
order that all the rest of my presendable Estate should  
the money to be equally divided between my wife & for  
Wife John Daniel Jesse & Hannah. - Lastly, I do  
and appoint my well beloved wife my whole & sole  
Lieve Pennington as an assistant in settling of my  
my last Will & Testaments hereby revoking  
making void all other & former Wills or Testaments  
ratifying and confirming this & no other as my  
In witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand  
this 24<sup>th</sup> Day of June in y<sup>e</sup> yr 1765

signed sealed & acknowledged by S<sup>t</sup> Daniel  
Reates as his last Will & Testament in the  
presence of us  
Testes  
Hannah Kersey  
Amos Kersey  
Lieve Pennington