

Thomas Ballard of the County of Stokes State of North Carolina being very sick & weak in body but of perfect mind & memory Calling to mind the mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed for all men to die do make and ordain this my last will & Testament that is to say

As touching the worldly Estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me in this life I give devise & bequeath of the the same in the following manner First my devise & Will is that all my Just debts be legally discharged

Secondly that the tract of land whereon I now live containing one hundred & thirty two Acres belong to my son Thomas with all buildings houses or barns and all other appurtenances provided nevertheless that my beloved wife Elizabeth shall have for her own use & possession of the houses & plantation whereon they now stand during her life or widowhood together with all plantation utensils & house hold furniture & at her decease or Marriage my son Thomas to become proprietor of said and all plantation utensils with all live stock Horses sheep Cattle and Hogs and further that my wife to have all house hold furniture together with certain young sows Hens and young red Bantam Hens as her own private property Vided in her then assigns without Motivation

Lastly that reposing special confidence in my beloved wife Elizabeth & Son Pyram Ballard

I do constitute and appoint them my sole executors to execute this my last will & Testament In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hands and affixed my seal this 28th day of the twelfth month one thousand eight hundred & thirty.

Signed sealed & pronounced
in the presence of us who in
the presence of each other have
hereunto set our hands

Thos Ballard seal

Calib D. Garrett
Joseph Bond
Samuel Bond

Stokes County March term 1804

The execution of the last will & Testament of Thomas Ballard Decd of which the foregoing is a true Copy was duly proven in open Court by the affirmation of Joseph Bond and ordered to be recorded which is accordingly done

Robt. Williams &c

J. M. Armstrong &c

State of North Carolina
Stokes County

Noting the shortness of life and the certainty of Death and I being in a low state of health at present but in perfect mind & memory do constitute & appoint this my last will & Testament in order to divide my property among my beloved wife & children and that to be as follows to wit I give and bequeath