

*Ledford
Family*

State of North Carolina Cleveland County

This 6th Feb. A.D. 1884

Know all men by these present.

My last will and testament I will and bequeath to Julius M. Ledford all of my personal estate with my wife's lifetime incumbance, then to Julius M. Ledfords full possession and ownership. I further direct that my wife Annie Ledford shal have no power to sell or dispose of any of my personal estate without the consent of my son Julius M. Ledford. I also direct that Julius M. Ledford have all of the small grain crop that is now on my farm. I direct that Julius M. Ledford pay all of my just debts and burial expence. I also direct that Julius M. Ledford erect nice tomb stones at my grave, at his expense. I also will an bequeat to Julius M. Ledford a certain tract or parcel of land an bounded as follows. Beginning at my beginning corner on W. C. McLurds line thence North with James Blackwoods line to Wm. E. Ledford's corner. Thence with his line to a blackgum, thence with Julius M. Ledford's line to the Hoyle spring thence with the spring branch as it meanders to the creek. thence with the creek as it meanders to A. B. Peelers line thence with his line to W. C. McLunds line thence with his line to the beginning . I direct that Julius M. Ledford shal take care and provide a good living for my wife Annie Ledford during this life.

I will and bequeath to Mahala J. Williams and to the heirs of her body a certain tract of land beginning on Knob Creek at the mouth of the Hoyle Spring branch. thence up the branch as it meanders to Julius M. Ledfords line. thence with his line a bout west to the west bank of Knob Creek. Julius M. Ledfords corner, thence down the creek to another of Julius M Ledfords corners in Winehart Sains line. thence with Sains line about east to a hickory and chesnut corner, thence with Sains and about south to Julius M. Ledford corner thence with his line to the beginning. I also direct that the tract of land that Julius M. Ledford now lives on that he shal distroy a deed conveyed from L. M. Ledford and wife to Julius M. Ledford and divide the said tract eaquilly between Wm. E. Ledford and Mahala J. Williams. I direct that Mahala J. Williams have the end of said tract that has the house. I also appoint Julius M. Ledford my executor given under my hand and seal the day and date first above written.

L. M. Ledford Seal

Atest John Carpenter

J. R. Osborne

ORANGE COUNTY CALIFORNIA
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



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The foregoing proper writing proposing to be the last will and testament of L. M. Ledford deceased is exhibited for probate. and the due execution thereof by the said L. M. Ledford is proved by the oath of John Carpenter and J. R. Osborne subscribing witness therewith. There as prior the said is a writing and every part thereof is adjudged to be the last will and testament of L.M. Ledford. And the same is ordered to be recorded and filed.

T. D. Lattimore, Clerk Superior Court

Probate of Will.—Printed at the AURORA Newspaper and Job Printing Office, Shelby, N. C.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

ss. In the
Probate Court.

Cleaveland County.

A paper purporting to be the last Will and Testament of L. M. Ledford deceased, is exhibited before me, the undersigned, Judge of Probate for said County, by John M. Ledford the executor therein mentioned, and the due execution thereof by the said L. M. Ledford by the oath and examination of J. R. Osborne and John Carpenter the subscribing witnesses thereto: who being duly sworn, doth depose and say, and each for himself depose and saith that he is a subscribing witness to the paper writing now shown him, purporting to be the last Will and Testament of L. M. Ledford that the said L. M. Ledford in the presence of this deponent subscribed his name at the end of said paper writing, which is now shown as aforesaid, and which bears the date of Feb. 10, 1884

And the Deponent Further Saith, That the said L. M. Ledford the testator aforesaid, did at the time of subscribing his name as aforesaid declare the said paper writing so subscribed by him, and exhibited to be his last Will and Testament, and this deponent did thereupon subscribe his name at the end of said Will, as an attesting witness thereto, and at the request and in the presence of the said testator. And this deponent further saith, that at the said time when the said testator subscribed his name to the said last Will as aforesaid, and at the time of the deponent's subscribing his name as an attesting witness thereto, as aforesaid, the said L. M. Ledford was of sound mind and memory, of full age to execute a Will, and was not under any restraint to the knowledge, information or belief of this deponent: And further these deponents say not.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 10th day of March 1884, J. R. Osborne [SEAL] John Carpenter [SEAL]

Severally sworn and subscribed this 10th day of March 1884, before me, T. D. Lattimore Probate Judge

OCCGS REFERENCE ONLY
**Cleveland County's Second and Third Courthouses and The
Problems They Seemed to Generate**

By Debby McIntyre

Did you know that Cleveland County has had five courthouses? In 1841 when the county was formed the first Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions met at the home of William Weathers in the Zion Church Community. A year later the minutes stated "State of North Carolina January Court 1842...At a Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions begun & held for the County of Cleaveland at the Court House in Shelby on the Second Monday and on the 10th day of January 1842..."¹ We know that by that time the new county seat to be known as Shelby had been surveyed and the very center of that new town was reserved for the court square, but what type of building was constructed? And was it known as the "temporary courthouse"?

Let's look at the court minutes that make reference to that second courthouse. In that first term in 1842 it seems that several petitions were presented to the court for payment to individuals for items used in the construction of the courthouse. They were:

"Ordered by the Court – that the sum of twenty five dollars seventy two cents be allowed to Wm McBrayer for repairs done to the Court House and the further sum of \$3.81 be allowed to A R Homesley for glass, hinges, nails –"²

"Ordered by the Court – That the sum of one dollar and forty cents be paid by the County Trustee to Peter Alexander for nails for fixing Court House."³

"Ordered by the Court – That the sum of four dollars & fifty cents be paid by the Trustee to N A Jackson for work done on the Court House."⁴

¹ Caldwell, Juanita Evans and Ann Jones Thompson. The First Cleaveland County Court Minutes: 1841 – 1843. Volume I. Broad River Genealogical Society, Shelby, NC 1995, page 22.

² Ibid, page 40.

³ Ibid, page 40.

⁴ Ibid, page 40.