

STAFFORDSHIRE

Francis Allen; yeoman; Fradley; 1665; P/C/11

In the name of God amen the seventh day of June in the 16th year of the reign of our sovereign lord Charles II and the year of our Lord God 1664, I Frances Allen of Fradley in the parish of Alrewas in the County of Stafford yeoman calling to mind the brevity and uncertainty of this present life having and desiring to settle my worldly estate for as to avoid strife and contention amongst my children after my decease, being weak in body yet of perfect and good mind and memory thanks be to God for it; do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following, hereby revoking and making void all other wills and testaments by me at any time heretofore made and published, and first I recommend my soul into the hands of Almighty God who gave it, believing that I shall receive remission of all my sins, and eternal life by the death and merits alone of Jesus Christ my redeemer... my body to the earth from whence it was taken and to be decently buried according to the discretion of my executors hereafter to be nominated, and as concerning my worldly estate both real and personal which it hath pleased God to bestow upon me my will and mind is that they be and remain to such persons and to such uses as the same... in this my last will given and appointed, and first I give and bequeath to my son Richard Allen and to the heirs of his body for ever all those parcels of... ground lying in Alrewas called by the names of ?Stockfords, item I give to my sons Richard Allen a parcel of land or ground called Baylie Lane for the term of his life and after his decease then I give the aforesaid Baylie Lane to my son Frances Allen for the term of his life they paying to the Lord of the Manor of Alrewas yearly for the same six shillings eight pence, also I give to my son Richard Allen three score pounds of good and lawful money of England to be paid to him within 12 months after my decease by my executors, and also I give to my son Richard Allen all the seilinge that is in my dwelling house and all the seilinge that is in my parlour and buttery two long tables in my parlour and house and one bedstead in the great chamber and one cupboard in my chamber, item I give to my son Frances Allen and to the heirs [hairs – sic] of his body lawfully begotten after the decease of Bennett my wife all that my moiety or one half of one close of pasture ground lying in Alrewas aforesaid called by the name of ?Littles lately by me purchased of... Margrette ... issue of the body of my son Frances Allen then I give and bequeath the same to my son Richard Allen and to the heirs of his body forever, item I give to my daughter Sarah five shillings, I give to my grandchild Sarah Hogge the bed in the little chamber, item I give and bequeath to my son Richard Allen and his heirs for ever one little lea lying in Great Salterholme next to a lea that belongeth to my house at Fradley lying between Rushy Butts and the ?Tume item I give to my son-in-law William Towers and to his wife and to Francis Towers five shillings apiece and to the rest of their children five shillings apiece, item I give to my son-in-law Arthur Alcocke and to? Francis Alcocke and the rest of ?her children five shillings... to my son-in-law Ralph Taylor and his wife five shillings... Item I give to Anne Norris two shillings to Alice Norris five shillings... five shillings, item I give to John Allen that is my brother John Allen's youngest 10 shillings I give to Henry Hogg 10 shillings also I give to Elizabeth Elton 20 shillings I give to the poor of ?Aewborrow 10 shillings also I appoint my son Frances Allen to pay interest of 40 shillings to the poor of Fradley yearly from year to year to be paid out of Littles use 40 shillings that was left for that use by my father-in-law John Bird, and all the rest of my goods cattle and chattels of what kind soever my debts and legacies being paid and my funeral expenses charged, I give and bequeath to Bennett Allen my beloved wife, I do hereby make my wife and Francis Allen my son and Richard Allen my joint executors of this my last will and testament and I do... instruct and desire my well beloved friend Daniel Watson of Grays Inn in the

County of Middlesex Esquire and William Turton of Alrewas gent Thomas Bladen of Alrewas gent and Arthur Alcocke my son-in-law to be overseers of this my last will and in case any difference do and shall arise after my decease between my wife and one of my children or between any of my children amongst themselves or any of them that such differences may be hard and... and every of them by me paid or... (if any such be with... will not) and every one of them... the same and to this band and abide such one... the day and year first above written [last section very indistinct].

This thing was made sealed and published by the within named Francis Allen the father to be his last will and testament in the presence of us

Arthur Alcocke Ralph Taylor

the Mark of.....

Richard Allen

April 19, 1665 was administered to Mrs Bennett Allen of Fradley in the parish of Alrewas at and in her own house the oath within written according to the... thereof by me. JS Simpson vicar of Alrewas.

Thomas Ansell; yeoman; Hixon; 1781/1809: B/C/11

In the name of God amen, I Thomas Ansell of Hixon in the parish of Stowe and co. of Stafford yeomand being in perfect mind and memory do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First it my will that all my debts and funeral expenses be discharged and paid. Then the remainder of my effects I do give and bequeath to my loving wife Thomasin Ansell (viz) all and singular my goods cattles chattels household stuff wares plate rings ready money and also all that legacy left me by will of my brother James Ansel determinable upon a certain number of years mentioned in the said will of James Ansel together with all other of my estate and effects whatsoever in whose custody or keeping the same may be. Lastly I do make and constitute the above-named Thomasin Ansel the whole and sole executrix of this my last will and testament declaring ratifying and confirming this and no other to be my last will and testament. In writing whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 14th day of December in the year of our Lord 1781.

Signed sealed published

Thomas Ansell

and declared by the within
named Thomas Ansel to be
his last will and testament
in presence of us

Thos Yates

Thos Sayer

John Lovatt; yeoman; Gorstiehill; 1675: B/C/11

In the name of God Amen the twelfth day of July Anno Domini 1675 And in the seven and twentieth year of the reign of our sovereign lord, Charles the second by the grace of God of England Scotland France and Ireland king, defender of the faith. I John Lovatt of Gorstiehill in the county of Stafford yeoman being sound in mind and memory praised be God do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I bequeath my soul into the hands of almighty God my creator and redeemer and my body to the earth to be buried where it shall please God to appoint. For my worldly estate wherewith it has pleased God to bless me I dispose of it as followeth. I give and bequeath to my son Joseph Lovatt his heirs and assigns for ever all that my three dwelling houses or tenements situate and lying in Uttoxeter in the said

county of Stafford in a lane there called Pinfold Lane. And all that my close, parcel or pasture ground commonly called or known by the name of Long Heath. And all that my land situate lying and being in Morry in the said Co. of Stafford with all and singular appurtenances to the said several lands belonging or in anywise appertaining to the said Joseph Lovatt and his heirs, paying out of the rents issues and profits of the said lands for which the same shall ... chargeable the sum of twenty pounds the same to be equally divided between my two daughters Thomasin and Mary. Item, I give and bequeath to my said daughters Thomasin and Mary forty pounds apiece more and above the twenty pounds before mentioned, the said sum to be paid to them respectively when they shall attain to the respective age of one and twenty years. And if either of them die before their said legacy be due then my will is that the legacy of her so dying shall be paid to the survivor. All the rest of my goods, cattle, chattels and utensils, my debts, legacies and funeral charges being discharged I give and bequeath to Mary my wife keeping herself sole and unmarried. But if she marry again then my will is that she only have my best bed and furniture and all the rest of my goods to be equally divided amongst my children. Item, my will and mind is that my said wife shall and may quietly enjoy her jointure as the same is settled upon her. And I make the said Mary my wife executrix of this my last will and testament and Michael Edge of Uttoxeter clerk and Robert Lovatt of Gorsehill yeoman overseers to see the same truly performed and my trust is in them reposed. In witness whereof I have hereunto put my hand and seal the day and year above written.

Signed sealed and published in the presence of:

Lichfield 10th August 1675. (Probate follows.)

Latin preamble to the effect that Mary Lovatt of Gorsehill in the parish of Hanbury in the co. of Staffs, widow, presented herself with Michael Edge of Uttoxeter in relation to the bond set out below.....

The condition of this present obligation is such that the above-bounden Mary Lovatt the relict of John Lovatt late of the parish of Hanbury to whom the tuition and education of Thomasin and Mary Lovatt the natural and lawful children of the said John Lovatt deceased verily is by the above-named Sir Henry Archibold ?committed and granted? Do and shall well and faithfully educate foster and bring up the said children with sufficient and meat drink and lodging and apparel, meat and drink for their estate and calling during their minority. And also pay or cause to be paid to be them all such sum or sums of money legacies and portions of goods as to ... shall be due by the last will and testament of the said and lastly ... upon her own p p save defend and keep harmless the said Henry Archibold or all other officers and ministers in this behalf authorized for ?committing and granting the said lord of of this bond to lie void and of no effect, or else to stand in full ... and virtue.

Signed and sealed in the presence of me:

Simon ?Marken jnr, public notary

Mary Lovet

Michael Edge.

Paul Lovatt; Marchington; 1645: B/C/11

A memorandum

Of the words that Paul Lovatt spoke being in good and perfect remembrance in the presence of John Lovatt Humphrey ?Holley (Hollice?) Sebastian Parton. The words are these: at my decease I make my son Robert Lovatt and my son John Lovatt my executors. My will is that they should use my land living and goods together for three years to bring To pay my debts and to help their brethren if they can and what will be ?esed over and above to be equally divided amongst them all at the three years' end.

And then my son Robert if he be then living to enter of all my lands paying my son Paul if he can to demand it ten pounds within one year after he enters of it and my son Thomas £3 a year during his life at equal payments. And my son John at the end of the three years next after my decease to enter of one tenement adjoining to Scounley Green for all my time of three lives and if it please God that my son Robert be not living then, I give my son John all my lands paying my son Thomas £3 a year and mys on Thomas to enter into of the tenement adjoining Scounley Green and if my son Thomas depart of this world then my son John to have 30s a year during his life from his brother Robert out of the land. And my will is that if my son Robert should not pay his to his brother or brethren that enter of the parcels of ground called by the name of the Great Mede and the Little Rough.

And if my son Robert have no heir lawfully begotten then my land to come to my son John and his heirs lawfully begotten and for want of such heirs of John then to my son Thomas and his heirs lawfully begotten.

Paul)(Lovat John Lovatt 8 his mark
his mark Humfrey Holley /\ his mark

John Passand

Sebastian Parton

February 24 1645

.... July 1645
fuit probate testamenti

Johes Lovatt jurat
Carolus.....

Robert Lovatt; Hanbury; 1685: B/C/11

Admon

Cumparmis* personali* Johes Lovat pore*Hanbury – ey – consentii ꝑuc/ec/ac/ ac allt* quondam Robertu* Lovat --- nup de pare* pre* - citra spatium? a... -- abhinc mortem obiisse ab intestate seg? fuisse et esse filiu* nate....* et –esudem? des sibi comiti? Unde dmis* prestito per Prius juramento in hac pre solit et interposit caucone* etc adionem* petitam eid Johi Lovat ----

Something like:

?Appeared with personally John Lovat of the parish of Hanbury ꝑagreeing and the late Robert Lovat formerly of the aforesaid parish since died intestate, ꝑwas and is natural son

..... petitions for administration of the goods and John Lovat.

Inventory amouts to about £4 and shows Robert to have been living in Marchington Woodlands

Frances Porter; widow; Colwich; 1764:

.... I give and bequeath unto my two sons John Porter and Samuel Porter the sum of five guineas each....

...the rest and residue to my daughter Ann Porter... executrix....

.... 2nd day of November ...1764

Frances Power

Witnessed Mary Brocks, F. Dorrington

Proved Lichfield 17.3.1773 by Ann Page otherwise Porter, wife of William Page.

Hannah Porter; widow; Little Haywood; 1885:

... I give and bequeath all my estate.... unto Sarah Robinson and Harriet Sadler daughters of my late husband James Porter and the issue of such of them as shall die in my lifetime....

I appoint John Robinson of Burton upon Trent in the said county of Stafford Draper and Hugh Turnock of Hixon in the same county Farmer executors.....this sixth day of February 1882.

Hannah Porter

Witnessed: Thomas Coulton clerk to Mesrs Richardson and Small Burton-on-Trent
Edward Frank Gothard Burton-on-Trent

Proved Lichfield 17.6.1885 by John Robinson.

The testator Hannah Porter was late of Little Haywood in the county of Stafford Widow and died on the twenty-fifth day of April 1885 at Colwich in the said county.

Effects under £300.

Samuel Porter; Colwich; 1735:

Admon granted to Frances Porter, widow

Frances Porter

Witnessed E Short N P, John ?Markley, Wm Budgele

Estate valued at £17 15/6

Thomas Porter; gentleman; Little Haywood; 1882

To my wife Mary Ann Porter all my furniture plate linen china and other household effects

To Elizabeth Hawkins of Little Haywood £30

Residue of estate to James William Gardner of Rugeley and William Sproston of Little Haywood Farmer (executors) upon trust to sell my real estate. Proceeds to be divided equally between brother James Porter, who is to have the money directly, and his wife, who is to receive the interest on money invested.

Wife to receive 10/- a week from executors until the money is invested and providing an income.

Will dated 18.1.1882

Thomas Porter

Witnessed: H.W. Gardner Solicitor Rugeley

Chas Bell His Clerk

Proved Lichfield 4.5.1882 by both executors

The testator Thomas Porter was late of Little Haywood in the county of Stfford Gentleman and died on the twenty-third day of January 1882 at Little Haywood aforesaid.

Personal estate £1096 15/5

John Stevenson; yeoman; Rugeley; 1808:

Proved Lichfield November 1813.

John Stevenson of Rugeley, yeoman

To son John – 1/-, 'he having already received a full share of my estate'

To William Banks of Rugeley, skinner, Thomas Hatfield of Rugeley blacksmith, in trust:

All those 3 messuages or tenements, shops etc in Elman Lane in Rugeley, plus a messuage and garden called Rushton Croft, in my occupation, plus 2 or 3 other properties in Rugeley:

- To
- daughter Charlotte Rowley and her children
 - Charlotte Stevenson, daughter of Charlotte Rowley
 - to niece Catherine Smith
 - to daughter Hannah, wife of John Aldritt
 - to daughter Ann wife of Benjamin Chapman and her children

Signed John Stevenson 9.8.1808

Codicil in 1813 revokes bequest to Ann Chapman and gives her share to son John.

Witnesses: Ralph Walker, Charles Salt, J.W. Smith.

Isabell Towers; widow; Bromley Hurst; 1661-62: B/C/11

In the name of God amen the 18th day of September in the year of Our Lord 1658: I Isabell Towers of Bromley Hurst in the county of Stafford widow being sick of body but of good and perfect memory: do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following first I give and bequeath my soul unto Almighty God my creator hoping to be saved by the only merits of Jesus Christ my saviour and redeemer and my body to the earth to be buried in Christian burial: And of the worldly goods I have I dispose as followeth: Imprimis I give unto my grandchild Jane Oldacres the daughter of my son-in-law Thomas Oldacres threescore and eleven sheep young and old: one grey mare, one bay filly and one yearling colt: one black cow called ?Slaney one black ?dranget steer called Darling: And it is my will and desire that my son-in-law Thomas Oldacres and Elizabeth his wife shall have the benefit yearly of these goods and chattels abovesaid until my grandchild Jane Oldacres come to the age of twenty-one years and then she to have them Item I give unto my grandchild Thomas Oldacres one grey nag three years old: Item I give and bequeath unto my daughter Elizabeth Oldacres all my wearing apparel: Item I make and ordain my son-in-law Thomas Oldacres my only full and lawful executor of this my last will and testament: in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year first above written.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of us:

Tho: Norris
Henry Alport
Ellen Dickinson
her O mark

Isabell Towers
her X mark

Proved 11.2.1661 by Elizabeth Oldacres, now a widow herself. She had to sign an obligation to be allowed to prove the will.

Robert Towers; yeoman; Marchington; 1645: B/C/11

In the name of God amen the twenty-ninth day of May 1640, I Robert Towers of Marchington Woodland in the parish of Hanbury in the county of Stafford yeoman being in perfect health and good remembrance thanks be to God do ordain and make this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I give and bequeath my soul into the hands of almighty God my creator, trusting through the merits of my redeemer to be saved and to obtain everlasting life and my body to be interred at the discretion of my executrix and as to my worldly estate as hereafter following:

I give unto Elizabeth my wife £20 to be paid unto her at the end of twelve months and a day next after my decease and provided that she keep my name and do suffer my son William Towers ?peaceably and quietly to enjoy and have all my lands and tenements during all the time of her life which if she refuse to do then my will is that she shall have but ten pounds to be paid to her as aforesaid.

I give unto Thomas Ouldakres my son-in-law ten shillings.

I give unto my daughter Elizabeth Ouldakres forty shillings to be paid unto her at the end of seven years next after my decease if she be then living.

I give unto Thomas Ouldakres my grandchild twenty shillings to be paid unto him when he is twenty and one years old if he be then living.

I give unto Elizabeth Ouldakres my daughter's child twenty shillings to be paid unto her when she is twenty and one years old or her marriage if she be then living.

I give unto my brother George Towers my best shut of close (suit of clothes?) and three pounds of money or else one heifer to be paid unto him at the end of six months after my decease if he be then living.

I give unto Ane Cotonne the daughter of Thomas Cottone of ?Hiltone in Derbyshire forty shillings to be paid unto her at the end of years next after my decease if she be then living and do remain with me and my wife during my life.

I give unto James Witthall and Dorritie Witthall son and daughter of Robert Witthall five shillings apiece to be paid unto her when she come to be of lawful age.

I give unto ?Sarie Allen five shillings and to the rest of her sisters which be unmarried ten shillings apiece . And to Elizabeth Elton twelve pence.

I give unto the poor of Marchington and Marchington Woodland the use of ten pounds or else the ten pounds to be bestowed in land at the discretion of my executor and to be dealt unto them at Christmas and Easter.

I give unto Robert Towers my grandchild all my wooden good both within the house and that be forth of the house for to be heirlooms unto him and his heirs lawfully begotten after my son William Towers' decease.

I give all the rest of my good cattle and chattels unto my son William Towers and do make him my executor of this my last will and I do make Francis Allen and Robert Witthall and John Allen son of Francis Allen overseers of this my last will and testament.

The mark of Robert Towers

Those being witnesses: Francis Allen

Marie Allen

Henry /\ Aston

+

Mark

mark

Robert Towers; yeoman; Hanbury; 1684: B/C/11

In the name of God amen, I Robert Towers of Knippersley in the parish of Hanbury in the co of Staffs yeoman being sick in body but in perfect mind and memory thanks be to God for it do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following and first and first and principally I give and bequeath my soul into the hands of almighty God my maker trusting in the meritorious death and passion of Jesus Christ my saviour and redeemer to be made partaker of life everlasting and my body to be buried in Christian burial at the discretion of my executors hereinafter named. And as for my worldly goods which it hath pleased God in his infinite mercy to bestow of me I give and dispose in manner and form following.

Imprimis: I do will and devise unto Elizabeth Wittering of Bromley Hurst the sum of £20 and my ring and also all the woollen and linen lying on the board in the parlour chamber.

Item: I give and bequeath to Dorothy Squire of Mickleover in the co of Derby £5 and her aunt's chest and the trunk of ... her aunt and the linen of her aunt that can be not already bequeathed.

Item: I give and bequeath to Bennet Bristow of Twyford in the co of Derby £5.

Item: I give and bequeath to Elizabeth Squire of the said Mickleover £5.

Item: I give and bequeath unto Richard Squire and Bennet his wife each of them 10 shillings apiece.

Item: I give and bequeath to Batham Squire 10/-

Item: I give and bequeath to Isabel Porter one piece of land called the Long Holmes which I purchased of Robert Woodruff and John Morton the younger to her and her heirs for ever.

Item: I give and bequeath to Margaret Porter another daughter of the said William Porter the sum of £20.

Item: I give and bequeath to Sarah Porter her sister the like sum of £20.

Item: I give and bequeath to William Porter my nephew £20.

Item: I give and bequeath to Thomas Squire of Weston and Mary his wife each of them 10 shillings apiece.

Item: I give and bequeath to Richard Squire 10/-.

Item: I give and bequeath to John Squire £5

Pounds.

Item: I give and bequeath to Elizabeth Squire her daughter £5.

Item: I give and bequeath to Mary Squire her daughter £5.

Item: I give and bequeath to Dorothy Squire her daughter £5.

Item: I give and bequeath unto my servant maid Dorothy Massey £10 and my best feather bed that was not my wife's.

Item: I give and bequeath unto John Plummer of Blithbridg 30/-

Item: I give and bequeath unto my nephew William Porter all my wearing apparel and my chest and my gun. I desire that my executors may keep my gun in their hands until he accomplish the age of one and twenty years.

Item: I give and bequeath to my brother Francis Towers and to Ane his wife 10/- apiece.

Item: I give to my brother William Towers £2.

Item: I give and bequeath to James Towers my brother 10/-

Item: I give and bequeath to the three daughters of my brother Francis vide Elizabeth Mary and Ane Towers each of them £5 apiece.

Item: I give and bequeath to John Marsh son of Joseph Marsh £5.

Item: I give and bequeath unto William Towers son of my brother Francis one pair of bedsteads standing in the parlour chamber and one pair of bedsteads standing in the kitchen chamber one table standing in the house two forms and two seiled chairs and my silver bowl and my mind and will is that my executor shall have the keeping of it till he come of age and the other goods shall stand and be used as heirlooms in my house until the same shall come to the said William Towers as is hereafter mentioned.

Item: I give and bequeath to Thomas Baker the sum of £3.

Item: I give and bequeath to Thomas My servant man £5.

And I do hereby give and devise unto my executors hereafter named all that messuage farm or tenement wherein I now dwell with all the lands and tenements thereto belonging and all other my freehold lands not before by me devised and bequeathed and the reversion and reversions thereof to have and to hold the same from the time of my decease for 16 years next ensuing and all the rents issues and profits that shall in that time be made thereof desiring them to be careful of my words in performing of them and not to fall or suffer any to be felled but for necessary of buildings belonging to my said messuage and the reversion and reversions and remainder of all and singular my said freehold messuage lands and tenements except the Long Holmes from and after the expiration of the said 16 years I give devise and bequeath to my nephew William Towers son of my brother Francis Towers for ever he paying upon his entrance or within two years next ensuing after his entrance thereupon by virtue of this my last will and testament unto my nieces the three daughters of William Porter twenty pounds apiece

over and above what is already given them and also paying unto the overseers of the poor of Marchington Woodland 10/- yearly at Candlemas in every year the same to be distributed amongst the poor in such manner as the said overseers shall for the time-being think fit.

Item: My mind and will is that if any of mine or my wife's relations before-mentioned shall depart this life before he she or they shall attain the several ages of one and twenty years that then such child or children's part or legacy so dying shall be paid to and equally divided amongst the rest of the family who have any legacies given by this will. And because legacies cannot be paid before money can be raised therefore I appoint that my executors shall pay the least legacy first and shall begin with those that are at full age and pay the rest as they come to age as soon as money can be raised to do the same. And my will further is that if more money can be raised forth of my land then the legacies hereby devised shall amount to that then the same shall be equally divided amongst all those relations who have legacies hereby my mind and will is that the same shall be equally divided accordingly as by the discretion of my executors and overseers shall see fit. And my mind and will is that William Towers afs son of my brother Francis Towers shall in like manner pay within two years next coming after his entrance upon the same messuage land and tenement afs pay or cause to be paid unto my brother Francis Towers' three daughters Elizabeth

Mary and Ann Towers each of them £20 apiece accordingly.

And I give and bequeath to George Allen of Baggotts Bromley my kinsman and Thomas Shawe of Heatley each of them £10 apiece over and above reasonable charge for their p...mes whom I do make executors of this my last will and testament to see the same performed attending to the special trust I have reposed in them and I do devise nominate and appoint my trusty and well-beloved friend Mr John Dixon of Ruff Riddings to be overseer of this my last will and testament hereby revoking all former wills heretofore by me made either by word or writing. In witness whereof I have hereunto put my hand and seal the twenty sixth day of April in the six and thirtieth year of the reign of our sovereign

lord Charles the second by the grace of God King of England Scotland, France and Ireland, defender of the faith. Anno Domini 1684

Robert Towers

Attached to the will:

Latin preamble, suggesting that Francis Towers was a 'felmonger' of Uttoxeter, dated 13th May 1684, then:

The condition of this obligation is such that if the above-bounden Francis Towers brother and administrator of Robert Towers late of the parish of Hanbury dec'd to whom the administration of all and singular the goods rights credits of the said deed is by the above-named Richard Raines doctor of the Law committed and granted do and shall well and faithfully administer the said goods and chattels according to the tenor of the last will and testament of the said Robert Towers dec'd.

And make yield up and exhibit unto the said Richard Raines or any other competent judge in this behalf authorised a true and perfect inventory ... account payment and delivery ... all and singular of the goods and chattels of the said deceased ... the said administrator may lawfully come by by virtue of the said letters of Ad... to be divided ordered and administered as by the said R... Raines or any other competent judge in this beha... authorised shall be appointed with delivery as of the sd letters of Admon ready to be cancelled or otherwise ordered as to the sd Dr Richard Raines or any other competent etc... seem to stand with equity and justice. And lastly D.. and shall upon his own proper cost and charges saved .. and keep harmless the said Richard Raines and all

officers and ministers in this behalf authorised committed and granting the sd letters of Admon. Then this bond to be void or else and Force power and virtue.

Signed Francis Towers. Wit. Thos Astley, John Cope

Know all men by these presents that we T.... Shaw and George Harding both of the parish of Abbots Bromley execs in the last will and testament of Robert Towers dec'd have renounced and quitclaimed and by these presents do reno.. and quitclaim ... right title interest claim or demand of in or to the execution of the sd last will and testament of the sd dec'd and that we do hereby nominate constitute and ordain and make Mr Richard Rider notary public one of the procurators for us and in our names to appear before the right worshipful Richard Raines Dr of the laws chancellor of the diocese of Lichfield and Coventry his lawful deputy or etc.. and to excuse our absence and for us and in our names and make oath that I have not ?intermeddled in the goods etc.... of the sd dec'd.... etc, etc. Dated 15th May 1684

William Towers; Webster; Marchington; 1681: B/C/11

Sur 23 Septembris 1681William Towers nuper de Marchington sepult.

In the name of God amen the thirtieth day of August Anno Domini 1681 and in the three and thirtieth year of the reign of our sovereign lord Charles the second of England Scotland France and Ireland king and defender of the faith. I William Towers of Marchington in the county of Stafford Webster being weak but of sound and perfect memory praised be God do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following revoking and nulling all former wills heretofore made by me.

First I bequeath my soul into the hands of almighty God my creator and redeemer and my body to the earth to be buried in such Christian burial as my executors hereinafter named shall think fit. And for my worldly estate I dispose of it as followeth.

Item: I give and bequeath my house and croft in Marchington with appurtenances to my cousin Mary Dyche of ?Nobolt her heirs and assigns for ever.

Item: I give unto my three cousins Thomas Dyche John Dyche and Francis Dyche sons of the said Mary Dyche all my household goods whatsoever and my brindled cow to be equally divided amongst them.

Item: My will is that my tenant Thomas ?Sponser may quietly and freely hold and enjoy my said house until Lady Day next ensuing the date hereof.

Item: For what moneys I have either by me or owing me, from any person or persons whatsoever by bond, bills, writings or any other ways or means whatsoever, I give and bequeath the same as followeth,

Item: I give and bequeath to my cousin William Taylor the sum of ten pounds to be paid him his executors or assigns within twelve months after my decease.

Item: I give and bequeath to his sister my cousin Margrett ?Hinkley ten pounds to be paid her, her executors or assigns at the same time.

Item: I give and bequeath to my said cousin Thomas Dyche ten pounds to be paid to him at the said time his executors or assigns.

Item: I give to my said cousin Francis Dyche the sum of ten pounds to be paid him at the same time his executors or assigns.

Item: I give and bequeath the sum of five pounds to be put forth within a twelve month time after my decease to get forward for the use of the poor of the parish of Kingston for ever.

Item: For all the remainder and residue of my debts and moneys undisposed of by this my will (my own debts I owe to any one and my funeral expenses first being discharged) I leave and bequeath to Mr Alexander Manlove and John Thompson whom I make and constitute joint executors of this my last will and testament. In witness whereof I the

said William Towers have put my hand and seal the day and year first in this will written.

The mark of William Towers

Sealed signed and published in the presence of Rowland Manlove, Roger Jones, W
Royston

William Towers; yeoman; Marchington; 1684: B/C/11

In the name of God amen the thirteenth day of April in the six and thirtieth year of the reign of our sovereign lord Charles the second by the grace of God of England Scotland France and Ireland king, defender of the faith amen AD 1684.

I William Towers of Marchington Woodland in the parish of Hanbury in the county of Stafford yeoman being sick and weak in body but of sound and perfect memory thanks be to almighty God; and calling to remembrance the uncertain state of this life and that all flesh must yield unto death when it shall please God to call, do make institute ordain and declare this my last will and testament in manner and form following revoking and making void by this present all and every will and wills by me heretofore made and declared either by word or writing. And this to be taken only for my last will and testament and no other.

And first being penitent and sorry from the bottom of my heart for all my sins past most humbly desiring forgiveness of the same, I give and commit my soul unto almighty God my saviour and redeemer in whom and by the merit of Jesus Christ I trust and ... to be saved and to have full remission and forgiveness of all my sins and through the merits of Christ's death and passion possess and inherit the kingdom of heaven and my body to be buried in such place as to my executor hereinafter named shall appoint.

And as for the settling of my temporal estate which it hath pleased God to confer up[on me I do order give and dispose of the same in manner and form following:

Item: I give and bequeath unto my son James Towers all that my message or tenement in which I do now inhabit and With all barns buildings orchards gardens and barksides to the same ad..... with all and singular the land now to this same belonging and which are now in the occupation of me the said William Towers or my assigns. To have and to hold the said message or tenement and all and singular the premises with their and every of their appurtenances to the said James Towers his heirs and assigns for ever. And for want of heirs of the body lawfully to be begotten then to the use and behoof of my son William Towers and his heirs forever provided always nevertheless upon the condition that if my said son James Towers do and shall well and truly pay or cause to be paid unto my said son William Towers within twelve months after my decease the sum of twenty pounds of lawful money of England. And do and shall likewise pay or cause to be paid yearly and every year for ever to and for the use of the poor of Marchington Woodland and Marchington the sum of twelve shillings of lawful money of England at two feasts in the year that is to say six shillings part thereof on the feast of S. Thomas the apostle and six shillings on Good Friday the same to begin and to be paid on either of the said feasts which shall next happen and ... after my decease.. And for the payment of the same I do hereby by this my will charge one close of pasture or meadow called Little Hawker hill for the payment of the said sum of twelve shillings per annum as aforesaid for ever provided further also and it is my mind and will that if my said son James Towers do and shall at any time or times neglect to pay the said sum of twelve shillings per annum to the use of the poor afs that then it shall and may be lawful for the chapel wardens and overseers of the poor for the time being to enter into and upon the said close of pasture or meadow called Little Hawker hill afs and then and there to distrayne and the ?distress and ?distresses then and there found to take

..... and lead away and the said to keep until the said sum of twelve shillings or any part or parcel thereof given as afs to the use afs be fully satisfied and paid.....

Item: I give unto my said son William Towers my red bed standing in the chamber at the stairs head with all furniture to the same belonging with one silver spoon.

Item: I give and bequeath unto my said son James Towers one other flannel bed with all furniture to the same belonging which stands in the parlour with another silver spoon.

Item: I give and bequeath unto my three grandchildren William Porter Margaret Porter and Sarah Porter the sum of three pounds apiece, and to my grandchild Isabel Porter five pounds.

Item: I give and bequeath unto my maidservant Joane 10 shillings ... her wages if she be with me at the time of my decease.

Item: I give unto Marin Bidon? My workaday doublet and jacket

And as for my debts which I do owe to any person or persons I do hereby charge my executors hereinafter named to pay the same within a convenient time after my decease.

And for that personal estate which I shall die possessed of I do hereby give and bequeath the same to my two sons William Towers and James Towers to be equally divided betwixt them my debts being first paid as afs and my funeral charges being also

And lastly I do hereby constitute ordain and appoint my loving son William Porter to be my sole executor of my last will and testament, and do hereby also desire and request my brother-in-law Mr John Allen and my son Robert Towers to be overseers of this my last will and to and assisting to my executor to see all things performed according to the true intent and meaning hereof.

In witness whereof I the said William Towers have hereunto set my hand and seal this day and year above written.

William Towers

Sealed and signed as and for the last will and testament by the testator William Towers in the presence of Thomas Kid? Wooley (mark), William Porter, William Walton, James Biden? (mark)

SHROPSHIRE

Francis Barber; Broseley; 1804: 5366/1

This is the last will and testament of me Francis Barber of Broseley in the County of Salop which made the 13th day of December in the year of our Lord Christ 1800. First I desire to be decently buried at the discretion of my executors hereinafter named and direct that all my just debts and funeral expenses be paid and discharged as soon as conveniently maybe after my decease. Item I give devise and bequeath unto Elizabeth Jones wife of my nephew Frances Barber Jones all that my messuage tenement or dwelling house called the Dung with the garden outbuildings land and appurtenances to the same belonging and also the stocks there and implements of husbandry also

leasehold land in Hemies Field also the dwellinghouse and stable adjoining in the occupation of John Harris Taylor situate in Broseley to hold the said premises and to the said Elizabeth Jones for the term of her natural life and after her decease I devise and bequeath the same to her husband the said Frances Barber Jones for and during the term of his natural life and from and after his decease I devise and bequeath the same to Thomas Jones his brother his heirs and assigns for ever but it is my desire the said freehold and leasehold premises may not be sold nor mortgaged. Item I give and devise and to Thomas Jones my said nephew above-mentioned the messuage or tenement I now reside and live in situate in Broseley aforesaid together with the shops and outbuildings to the same belonging also the messuage or dwellinghouse called Beddoes in Broseley called Beddoes now in the occupation of Davis with the stable and appurtenances thereto belonging to hold the said messuage and premises last above-mentioned unto the said Thomas Jones his heirs and assigns for ever but it is my will the same be not sold or mortgaged. Item I give and devise unto John Harris Taylor my messuage or tenement situate over or near the Delf in Broseley late in the occupation of Aston to hold to the same John Harris during his natural life and after his decease then I devise the same to his son Richard Harris his heirs and assigns for ever. Item I give devise and bequeath unto my nephew John Jones leasehold houses granted me by Mr Stevens namely the house in possession of Ward one house in possession of Richard Lewis one house in possession of Thomas Crowther and one house in possession of Edward Jones the upper gardens I leave to Francis and Thomas Jones equally between them and the other part to John Jones during the term of the lease. Item I give and bequeath to my relation Thomas Kettle £20 to my relation John Kettle £20 to their mother Mary for her natural life four pounds a year to be paid yearly. To John Jones's three sons namely John Frances and William the sum of five pounds apiece and to George Meredith son of William Meredith of didlicot Miller the sum of five pounds which said legacies I direct maybe paid within 12 months after my decease and my will is that Thomas Kettle's writings may be delivered up to him at my decease. All the rest and residue of my estate and effects not before disposed of I give and bequeath equally unto the said Thomas Jones and Francis Barber Jones (after payment of the debts and legacies and annuity aforesaid) and I nominate and appoint the said Thomas Jones and Francis Barber Jones trustees and executors of my said will and revoke all former will and wills by me at any time heretofore made. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year first above written

Frances Barber

signed sealed published and declared by the said testator Francis Barber as and for his last will and testament in the presence of us who in his presence at his request and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses

Tho^s Crowder, John Rowson, Edw^d Harper.

Francis Barber of Broseley in the County of Salop Butcher do this 26 day of December 1800 make and published this codicil to my last will and testament in manner following (that is to say I give devise and bequeath to Elizabeth the wife of Francis Barber Jones of Broseley aforesaid Butcher in addition to what I have already given her all that messuage or tenement which I purchased of William Hart and now in the occupation of Edward Hartshorne situate in Broseley aforesaid and also the household goods and furniture in my dwelling house of Broseley aforesaid to hold the said messuage or tenement above devised and also to hold the said household goods and furniture unto and to the use of the said Elizabeth Jones her heirs executors administrators and assigns absolutely. And lastly I do hereby confirm my said will in all other particulars and desire that this my present codicil be annexed and made as part of my will last will and testament to all intents and purposes. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day

and year above written - Francis Barber. Signed sealed published and declared by the within named Francis Barber as a codicil to be annexed to his last will and testament in the presence of us who have hereunto set our names as witnesses in his presence at his request in the presence of each other – Edw^d Harper, Edward Harper Jun^r.

February 26, 1802 Frances Barber Give to Thomas Jones at my death all the fixtures in the house I live in and all the brewing vessels and the bed I lying in and at my death I give to John Lewis that the house he lives in Thomas Kettle that big cooler is his ...
Witness my own hand Frances Barber.

This is a codicil to be added and annexed to the last will and testament of me Francis Barber of Broseley in the County of Salop Butcher made the eighth day of March in the year of our Lord 1804. Item I do give and bequeath unto my to relations Thomas and Francis Barber Jones all my household goods linen and furniture of all sorts and kinds whatsoever to be equally divided between them share and share alike notwithstanding anything in my will contained to the contrary and I do hereby ratify and confirm my said will in all other particulars except what is hereby revoked with respect to the goods and furniture which the said goods and furniture I design may be divided between the said Thomas and Francis Jones as soon as conveniently maybe after my decease. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year first above mentioned. Francis Barber – signed sealed published and declared by the said Francis Barber the testator as and for a codicil to be added and annexed these last will and testament in the presence of us who have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses hereunto – Francis Jones William Jones.

Appeared personally Edward Harper of Madeley in the County of Salop gentlemen and James Howells of Broseley in the same county Butcher and being severally sworn on the Holy Evangelists deposed that they these deponents knew and were acquainted with Frances Barber late of the parish of Broseley in the County of Salop and diocese of Hereford deceased and with his manner and character of hand writing having frequently seen him write and subscribe his name and having now seen and perused a codicil hereunto annexed to be added to and taken as part of the last will and testament of the said deceased beginning this February 26, 1802. “I Francis Barber give to Thomas Jones” and ending that is “witness my one hand and thus subscribed” Francis Barber – do verily believe that the whole body series and content of the said codicil and the name Francis Barber thereto set and subscribed to be all of the proper handwriting of the said Francis Barber deceased – Edward Harper – James Howells on the fifth day of June 1804 the said Edward Harper and James Howells were sworn to the truth hereof before me Samuel Walton Commissioner

John Barber; yeoman; Broseley; 1760: [HRO]

In the name of God amen, I John Barber of the parish of Broseley in the County of Salop Yeoman being old sick and weak in body but of sound and perfect mind and memory praised be to God for the same do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner following (that is to say) first my will and desire is that my honest and just debts if any due at my decease be first paid and discharged, Item I give and bequeath to my loving wife Margaret Barber all that house I live in situate in Broseley aforesaid over and above the sum of five pounds a year which I have secured to be paid her before marriage also I give and bequeath to my said wife all my household goods and furniture to do therewith as she shall think fit and proper, Item I give devise and bequeath to my daughter Mary Jones all that house wherein she now dwells during her natural life and after her decease then to go to her son Francis, Item I give to my

daughter Mary the blacksmith's shop and the parcel of ground belonging to it during her life and then to go to her son John, Item I also give and bequeath to my daughter Mary that house wherein the widow Barber lives and dwells now in during her natural life and then to go to her son Samuel, Item I give and bequeath likewise to my said daughter Mary Jones the stable and cow house during her life and then to go to her son Francis after her decease also I give to my said daughter Mary that house or tenement and premises wherein one Thomas Pew now lives in, Item I give devise and bequeath to my grandson Thomas Jones all that house and ground wherein Edward Jones now dwells in, item I give and bequeath to my granddaughter Mary Jones all that house or tenement that Thomas Jones now lives in, Item I give and bequeath to my grandson John Jones after my said wife's decease all that house and tenement I now dwell and inhabit in also I give to Elizabeth wife of John Lewis all that house or tenement she and her husband now live in and after her the said Elizabeth decease then to go to her daughter Mary, Item I give devise and bequeath unto my son Francis Barber all that house wherein he now dwells and the... shop adjoining to the same with all appurtenances thereto belonging to hold the said last mentioned house shop and appurtenances unto him my said son Francis Barber his heirs and assigns for ever, also I give to my son Francis Barber all standings belonging to me in the market house in Broseley; also I give devise and bequeath to my said son Francis all that house ground and premises now in the holding or possession of one of Christopher Pickerin and all that house tenements and grand wherein one Benjamin Leg lives in and all that house wherein one Thomas Evans dwells and lives in and all that house or tenement wherein one John Lane now lives in to hold all and singular the... all and last mentioned houses tenements lands and premises with their and every of their appurtenances unto my said son Francis Barber his heirs and assigns for ever: and I do hereby nominate ordain and make my said son Francis Barber and my daughter Mary Jones joint executor's of this my last will and Testament and I leave and bequeath to my son-in-law William Jones one shilling to be paid to them by my said executors when demanded; and I make void and denial all other will or Wills Testament by me heretofore made, and make this to be my last, in witness whereof I the said John Barber have to this my last will and testament set my hand and seal the 25th day of April in the year of our Lord 1760

John X Barber his mark

Signed sealed published and delivered by the said John Barber the testator as his last will and Testament in the presence of us who at his desire and request and in his presence have subscribed our names as witnesses here to

Thos Jones

Christopher X Pickerin

His mark

Thomas Harrington; yeoman; Acton Burnell; 1726: B/C/11

In the name of God amen 22 February 1725 I Thomas Harrington of the township and parish of Acton Burnell in the County of Sallop Yeoman being sick and weak in body but of sound and perfect memory, thanks be to Almighty God for the same, knowing the uncertainty of this mortal life, and being mindful to settle things in order, do make and ordain this my present last will and testament, in manner and form following, first and principally I commend my soul unto Almighty God my maker, and to Jesus Christ my Redeemer and to the Holy Ghost my sanctifier, hoping through the merits of my blessed saviour Jesus Christ to have full and free pardon from all my sins and to inherit everlasting life, and my body I commit to the Earth to be decently buried at the discretion of my executrixes hereafter named, and as touching such temporal estate as it hath pleased Almighty God to bestow upon me I give and dispose thereof as follows,

sound mind and memory, recommending my soul to God in the hope of a glorious resurrection through the merits of my saviour Christ Jesus and giving my body to the grave to be interred at the discretion of my executors hereinafter mentioned I doe by this my last will and testament dispose of those worldly goods which God hath blessed me with in manner following. Imprimis I doe give and bequeath to Mary my dear wife and to Robert my eldest son all my household goods and stock of corn and cattell within doors and without to be equally divided between them but my wife Mary not to remove or take of any of the household goods in her lifetime or at her death but to return to my son Robert and likewise all as my wife is possessed with I leave to my son Robert after her death. Bequeath to my dear wife Mary the sum of twenty pounds to be disposed of at her discretion and to my second son William the sum of three score pounds and a bed and bedstead and all other furniture thereto belonging. And to Elizabeth my second daughter the sum of thirty pounds and a bed and stead and all other furniture thereto belonging and to Sarah my youngest daughter the sum of thirty pounds and a bed and bedstead and all other furniture thereto belonging. I also give and bequeath to the two daughters Elizabeth and Mary of my daughter Adams each of them a guinea piece of gold; to my eldest daughter Mary Adams five shillings and to Mary, Elizabeth and Robert son and daughters of my son Robert, each of them a guinea piece of gold. And I do nominate and appoint my dear wife Mary and my eldest son Robert executors of this my last will and testament revoking and making void all former wills and testaments by me at any time made. Witness my hand and seal this twenty seaventh day of February in the year of our Lord 1715.

Sign'd seal'd and publish'd in the presence of

Mary Adams

his marke

Richard Barker

Robert YHumphrison

Thomas Spenlove

William Humphrison; Home Barns, Haughmond; 1770: B/C/11

In the name of God amen, I William Humphrison of the Home Barns in the Chapelry of Haughmond and County of Salop Yeoman being in a bad state of health but of sound and perfect mind and memory (blessed be Almighty God for the same) do make and published this my last will and testament in manner and form following (that is to say) first I will and devise that all my just debts and funeral expenses be fully paid and discharged. Next, I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Margaret Humphrison the sum of £40 to be paid in the space of one year after my decease, also I leave her all the goods and furniture within the house to be at her disposal. I also give and bequeath to my son William Humphrison the sum of £10 to be paid to him in the space of one year after my decease, I also leave to his two eldest children £10 that is five pounds each, to be put to interest till they arrived at 21 years of age or marriage to be put out to interest by my executors. I give and bequeath to my daughter Elizabeth Harris the sum of £10 to be paid her in the space of one year after my decease. I also leave to her two eldest children the sum of £10 to be put to interest by my executors till they arrive at 21 years of age or marriage, my daughter to receive the interest thereof, and my son William to receive the interest of his children's money. I give and bequeath to my son Robert Humphrison the sum of £10. I also give to his two eldest children the sum of £10 to be paid them when they arrive to 21 years of age or marriage. Lastly in case my effects amount to more than I have here bequeathed my will and desire is that the overplus may be equally divided among all my grandchildren as they shall arrive at age or marriage. In the meanwhile the money to be put to interest and their parents to receive their children's share thereof. I also nominate constitute and appoint my son Robert Humphrison Thomas Gregory of

¶The Sales and my neighbour Peter Colley executors of this my last will and testament hereby revoking all former wills by me made.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 12th day of September in the year of our Lord 1763.

Signed sealed published and declared by the above named William Humphrison to be his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who have subscribed our names as witnesses in the presence of the testator

William Humphrison

Jⁿ Wilde

Thomas Doe

Jane Colley

At Shrewsbury the second day of January 1770 before the Reverend Mr John ¶Jacobus Wingfield clerk surrogate

Whereas William Humferson of the Barns did on Sunday the 23rd of July 1769 promised to leave to his son William the sum of £10 after his decease and also to his wife Margaret five pounds more than he left before, also to Ann the daughter of his son William the sum of five pounds more, this was promised in the presence of Thomas Swinerton, Rich^d Jones and Elizabeth Jones his wife. Wrote down y^e 29th of July 1769. By me Pe^{te} Colley.

Know all men by these presents that we Thomas Gregory of ¶The Sales in the County of Salop farmer and Peter Colley of Haughmond in the said County gentleman two of the executors named in the last will and testament of William Humphrison late of the Home Barns in the said County Yeoman for divers considerations as hereunto moving do hereby for ourselves renounce and disclaim the execution of the said last will and testament of the said William Humphrison and to the intent that this is our renunciation may take effect we Thomas Gregory and the said Peter Colley have constituted and appointed John Fletcher Esq and Mr Charles Howard Notary Publicks and Proctors at the Consistory Court of the Diocese of Lichfield and Coventry jointly and severally our lawful proctors for us and in our names to appear before any judge competent in our behalf or his lawful surrogate then and there for us and in our names to announce the execution of the said last will and testament of the said William Humphreys and and to do all other things that shall be recruited and necessary in and about the same and what Alice said proctors or either of them shall jointly or severally do or cause to be done in the promises by virtue of the authority and warrant above given we do hereby ratify and confirm in witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals this first day of January in the year of our Lord 1770.

Sealed and delivered by the above named Peter Colley.... in the presence of Joseph Worrall servant to Mr Ellesmere of Haughmond, C Morton of Shrewsbury...

Pe^{te} Colley Tho Gregory

Robert Humfryson; husbandman; Cold Hatton, High Ercall; 1671: B/C/11

Admon: (First section in Latin) ¶Know by these presents that Robert Humfryson of Cold Hatton parish of Arcall Magna in the co. of Salop husbandman and William Wood of Ellardyne in the aforesaid county yeoman are held and firmly obliged to Walter Littleton.... 10th January 1671....

The condition of this obligation is such that if the above-bounded Robert Humphreyson the natural and lawful son of Robert Humphryson senior late of the parish of High

Arcall in the co. of Salop deceased to whom the admon of all and singular the goods cattles and chattles of the said deceased together with the tuition and education of Sara and William Humphreyson natural and lawful children of the deceased being in their minority is by the above-named Walter Littleton committed and granted do and faithfully administer the said goods and chattels to the use and benefit and during the minority of the said children And make ... up and exhibit to the said Walter Littleton or any other competent judge in his behalf authorised then he shall be hereunto lawfully called a true and perfect inventory Amongst payment and delivery of all and singular such goods and chattels of the said deceased and he the said administrator and he ... shall conveniently educate foster and bring up the said children with sufficient and convenient meals drinks lodging and apparel meet and decent for their estate and ... during their minority pay unto them all such sums of money and portions of good as are or shall be due to them when they shall accomplish their lawful age. And lastly he shall upon his own proper costs and charges save, defend and keep harmless the said Walter Littleton and all other officers and ministers in his behalf authorised for committing and granting the said letters of administration.....

Signed and delivered in the presence of
Simon Martin jnr, public notary

Robert Humphryson
Willi Wood

Probate dated 10.1.1671 spells Humfrison and Humfryson

Anne Russell; widow; Paynton; 1719: B/C/11

In the name of God amen I Anne Russell of the township of Paynton in the County of Salop widow being sick and weak in body but of sound and perfect mind and memory praised be given to Almighty God for the same do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following (that is to say) first and principally I resign my soul into the hands of Almighty God hoping through the merits deeds and passion of my saviour Jesus Christ to have full and free pardon and forgiveness of all my sins and to inherit everlasting life and my body I commit to the Earth to be decently buried and as touching the disposition of all such temporal estate as it hath pleased Almighty God to bestow upon me I give and dispose thereof as follows Imprimis I will that my debts shall be paid and discharged Item I give and bequeath unto my granddaughter Mary Harding my black mantle and petticoat and to my daughter Grace Hasseldine my silk apron. Item I give and bequeath all the rest and residue of my wearing apparel corns cattle and chattels household goods implements of household and husbandry and all other my personal effects of what kind and nature soever and to my youngest son Joseph Russell and I do hereby nominate and appoint my said son Joseph Russell sole executor of this my last will and testament revoking all wills by me heretofore made and I appoint this to be my last will and testament. In witness whereof I the said Anne Russell to this my last will and testament have set my hand and seal this 10th day of October in the fifth year of the reign of our sovereign Lord George by the grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith etc anno domini I 1718.

Signed sealed and published and dictated in the presence of:

And: Downes

The mark of Francis Evans

The mark of

The mark of John ? Hopton

Anne A Russell

Probate granted to Joseph Russell 15.4.1719

William Russell; forgerman; Painton (Poynton); 1717: B/C/11

In the name of God amen; I William Russell of the township of Painton in the parish High Ercall in the County of Salop Forgerman being very sick and weak in body but of perfect mind and memory thanks be given unto God therefore calling into mind the mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die; and being willing to settle that estate which it has pleased God to bestow upon me to make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God hoping through the merits death and passion of my Lord and saviour Jesus Christ to receive full pardon and forgiveness of all my sins and to inherit everlasting life and my body I commit to the Earth to be decently buried at the discretion of my executors hereafter mentioned and as touching the the possession of such real and personal estate as it hath pleased God to bestow upon me from and after my decease: I give and dispose thereof as follows; Imprimis: whereas I have lately settled upon my son John and Anne his wife by lease and release part of my estate called Little Leonards Brick together with the barns and house thereupon erected or built as a jointure on her the said Anne and to the heirs of my son John for ever; and whereas there was a piece or close formerly in the possession of Thomas Turner; and one other lease or enclosed land called by the name of Great Leonards Brick now in my possession whereon I have lately erected or built a new house and barn to and for the sole and proper use of me and my wife and to the use or uses of whom I shall leave the same to by this my last will and testament: which said last mentioned lands are as I find expressed in the aforesaid deed of lease and release except the new house and barns; nevertheless reserving a power to myself at any time buy this my last will or otherwise in writing to after change revoke make null and void all or any of the uses in the said deed concerning the last mentioned premises called Great Leonards Brick: and to create new uses... or estates of all or any part of the same and furthermore to be liable for the raising and paying of £120 at such time or times and to such person or persons and for such uses herein mentioned: as I shall here in hereafter direct or appoint: nevertheless: excepting the new house barn and garden to me and such uses herein mentioned for the payment of my debts and raising of portions for my younger children: item my will is that my loving wife Anne shall after my decease enjoy or receive the rents and profits of my last mentioned lands called Great Leonards Brick wherein I now dwell together with the house and barn lately erected to have and hold the same lands house and barn: for and during her natural life; item my will is that my son John pay within two years after the decease of me and my wife Anne and the survivor of us to our executors or administrators or whom I shall appoint feoffee of this my will to receive the same; the full and just sum of £200 of good and lawful money of Great Britain soon as my executor my wife executors or my feoffee shall have received the said sum of £200 that they or one of them pay the same to my children or their heirs; item I leave to my son James the sum of £15; item I leave to my son Edward Russell £10; item I leave to my daughter Anne Harris the sum of £20: item I leave to Mary Robinson £20; item I leave to my daughter Margaret Harden the sum of three pounds: item I leave to my daughter Grace £20: item I leave to my son William Russell £15; item I leave to my son Joseph Russell £40; item I leave to Margaret Harris my granddaughter: five pounds: item: my will is that as for the rest and residue of the aforesaid sum of £200 being the sum of £52: I give to my said wife: to be wholly at her disposing After my debts being first paid: and when and so soon as my said son John Russell shall have paid the aforesaid sum of £200 within two years next after the death of me and my wife as aforesaid such uses as aforesaid at the request or demand of the executor or feoffee in trust as aforesaid: it shall be lawful for my said son John Russell to have and to hold all and singular the before mentioned lands houses and premises with their and every of their appurtenances to the

only and... use of my said son John and his heirs for ever and to no other use intents purpose whatsoever; but in case my said son John or his heirs shall neglect or refuse to pay the aforesaid sum of £200 as aforesaid at the day and time aforesaid the same being lawfully demanded by the executor feoffee or overseers or assigns of them and to such uses as aforesaid but then it shall be lawful to and for my said executor or my wife's or the feoffees of us or either of us or assigns as aforesaid; to grant bargain sell mortgage or otherwise set let convey dispose by sale or otherwise as the law requires: the aforesaid late mentioned lands called Great Leonards Brick together with the close new house and barns as aforesaid to any person or persons that shall purchase the same; so that the aforesaid sum of £200 be raised as aforesaid and paid to such uses as aforesaid: according to the true intent and meaning of this my last will: and as for my personal estate without doors as corn cattle horses sheep or any other whatsoever I leave to my loving wife for life she making no wilful waste and after to my children equally to be divided: and as for all my goods within doors I mean in the dwellinghouse: I give after my wife's decease unto my two younger children to be equally divided between them; and I do make my loving wife my sole executrix; and my son James Russell Forgerman to be overseer or feoffee of this my last will desiring my wife that my debts and funeral expenses be first paid and satisfied: and I do hereby make void all former wills legacies and bequests and executors by me in any way before this time named; willed and bequeathed: ratify and confirming this; and no other; to be my last will and testament in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the 18 day of April in the third year of the reign of our sovereign Lord George by the graces of God King of Great Britain: ... 1717

Signed sealed published and declared to be my last will and Testament in the presence of us the subscribers; viz

John Marsh

Rob^t Brookes

Thomas Hudson

Robert ?Carden

his
William O Russell
mark

Salop 18th December 1717: Probate granted to Ann Russell widow, sole exec