

KENT

Dionise Austen; Goudhurst; 1536: PRC17/21/120

Widow of Stephen Austen of Goudhurst; father William Geffrye and father-in-law William Austen, brother Giles.

Elizabeth Austen; Goudhurst; 1633/1634: PRC17/69/452b

Widow of Thomas Austen late of 'Sovenerke'? Kent, daughter Mary, minor, son Thomas, executor. Nominates father John Austen and Robert Austen overseers.

John Astyn; Goudhurst; 1489: PRC 17/5/98

Everything seems to go to sons Thomas, Richard and Percival

John Austen; Yalding; 1533: DRB /PWR9 f 81

Of Yalding. Mentions wife Elizabeth, son ? and various in-laws.

John Austyne; Goudhurst; 1547: PRC3/11/101

Testament of John Austen of Goudhurst, executor: Joan relict. Admon

John and Joan Austen; broadweaver; Goudhurst; 1632/1631: PRC17/68/3b

John broadweaver and wife Joan, both sick. Sons Thomas, Joseph, John, Stephen, William, Richard, Walter, daughter Mary Borman, witness James Austen, proved by widow Joan and son Thomas.

Margery Austin; widow of John Austen; Goudhurst; 1504: PRC/17/9/163

First section in Latin; names sons Thomas and Percival Austen. Second part names feoffees Roger Cosyn of Marden, William Pembyll and John Symonds of Marden who are to deliver to son Thomas Austen a piece of land called ?Sorychelfeld on the denn of Little Goudhurst which had been a willed to Margery by her husband, on the understanding that the said Thomas shall pay unto Prevale [Percival] Austin his brother a moiety ...

Witnessed: Richard Wood of Goudhurst, Robert ?Fishenden, John Simonds, William Pembyll and others.

Morgan Austen; Goudhurst; 1509; PRC 17/11/286b

Much illegible. Bequests to:

Godson John, son of brother William Austen; Joan Austen ?daughter; Elyn Austen daughter; son William Austen; Richard ?Merelyn/Mayhew. Ref to house and land upon the den of ?Sillesden. Instructions to feoffees....

Peter Austen; Horsmonden; 1638/9: DRb/PWR/22/300

Memorandum, late of Horsmonden. Will nuncupative? Everything to wife to bring up children. Spoken in presence of John Austen and Elizabeth Austen. Died 5.5.1638 ?

Nicholas Austyne; Loose; 1564: PRC 32/30/260

Son John Austen, son Thomas, son Nicholas, son Stephen, cousin Stephen Austen of Loose overseer, wife Agnes, sons – minors, ‘And I require my cousin Stephen Austen of Loose aforesaid to be overseer’

Samuel Austen; Goudhurst; 1615/1620: PRC17/63/112b

Wife Mary, very unclear, but don't think there are any other names.

Thomas Austen; Goudhurst; 1559; PRC17/34/77

Thomas Austen Sythesmith. Wills bible and best gown willed to him by his father to his uncle William Lake. To Richard Welles bellows, tongs and other tools. To uncle Thomas Lake and cousin Robert Lake... To sisters Joan, Constance Austen, Alice and Ellen... To father-in-law Thomas Puttenden profits willed to my mother by my father Richard Austen... To Richard, Thomas and Robert Lake my mother's brothers... Witnesses Richard Rode and...

Thomas Austen; Goudhurst; 1632: PRC17/68/268b

[Hard to read]: son Jeremy, daughter Joan, daughter Sara, a married daughter, son John, wife Elizabeth, brother William Austen executor, John Austen mercer, overseer,

Richard Austen; Goudhurst; 1574; PRC 17/42/101a

Dated 29.6.1574

Bequests to: son's son Richard Austen, son's daughter Lavidge; daughter's son John Willard; daughter's daughter Mary Willard. John Allen and Stephen Love to sell two of his best beasts. Residue to wife Agnes, exec. William Waker: Writer; Witnesses: John Austen, John Allen

Richard Ballard; Cranbrook; 1603

Archdeaconry Court of Canterbury, volume 53. Folio 165 Probate 14? 8.1603

Will dated 8.6.1603

Usual openings

Item: 20/- to the poor of the parish

Item: to my wife Katherine – 2 cows, the house wherein I dwell with barn, buildings, land for life unless she remarries, (if she remarries, the house, barn and half the land) one half of household stuff, rest to be given to son Thomas to share amongst all offspring.

Item: After the death of Katherine, all land in Cranbrook to go to son Richard, provided he give youngest son Henry £20 once he's 21.

Item: House, workhouse, barns, buildings and all lands in Goudhurst to Thomas Ballard and John Ballard on condition they pay sons Robert Ballard and Walter Ballard £20. If any of the sons die, their share to be divided between the surviving brothers.

Item: To Robert and Walter my sons, £30 apiece once they reach 21 years.

Item: £20 to son Henry Ballard

Item: £20 to each of my three daughters on the day of their marriage.

Item: To son Thomas Ballard...

Item: The lease of the land I have from Mr Roberts to Thomas, John, Richard and Katherine my wife.

Item: 10/- to my brother Robert Ballard

Item: 5/- to my sister William Thomas, 2/5 apiece to her 2 daughters. To Richard Thomas my godson 5/-

Item: To all my other godsons and goddaughters not before remembered in this my will, 12 pence apiece.

Item: I give to my other 2 sisters 10/- apiece. All from my brother Ballard .. I will to be paid one year ... after my death.

The residue of all my goods and chattels moveable and unmoveable I give and bequeath unto Katherine my well-beloved wife and unto Thomas Ballard my son whom I make executors of this my last will and testament.

My wife to have the bringing up of my children.

Thomas Roberts of Glassenbury esq. and William Sheafe overseers

Witnessed John Birchet, John Leighe, Nicholas Carpnell

The mark of Richard Ballard

Richard Ballard; Cranbrook; 1625/6

Proved January 1625/6

Usual pious openings.

Item: House, lands and barn in Cranbrook to be sold by executor Robert Nepeker. He to keep £5 18d a year from the proceeds and pay Richard's mother £5 a year for life.

Item: Bedstead, flock bed, feather bolster, blankets, sheets, pots, kettle, table and stools and £4 a year to wife Anne – provided she remain a widow, or 40/- if she remarry, for life.

Item: to son Walter 3 score and 10 pounds to be paid when he reaches 21 years.

Item: to son Richard 3 score and 10 pounds to be paid when he reaches 21 years.

Item: to daughter Frauncis £30 when she reaches the full age of 21 years.

Item: if either son dies before age 21, money goes to survivor, provided Frauncis receives an extra £20.

Witnessed: Theophilus Hills and Robert Ballard.

Robert Ballard; Sutton Valance; 1614

House, garden and land where he lives and in the parish of Langley to his wife Elizabeth for life and then to the sons of his brother Richard. Money to Richard's family and to his sister, wife of William Thomas and their son Thomas. Money to his sister, the late widow of Richard Ballard, of Sutton Valance.

Jeffrey Berry; Lydd; 1587: PRC 32/36/71b

Memorandum that I Geoffrie Berrye of perfect mynde and Memorye thanks be to almighty God and ordain my last will and testament. Item I commend my soul into the hands of the almighty. And concerning my debts and legacies. Item I will and ordain my uncle Berry sole executor my sole executor and will that an inventory be thereof taken and that he shall have the profits thereof and keep them to the use of my child until she come unto the age of 16 years or her day of marriage or first that shall happen for the bringing up of my daughter Catherine. By me Geoffrie Berry. Wit Robert Prynne, William Plummer, John Branden

Thomas Daniell; yeoman; Horsmonden; 1706: DRa Pwr 27/47

In the name of God armen I Thomas Daniel of the parish of Horsmonden in the County of Kent Yeoman being sick and weak in body but of sound and perfect mind memory and understanding praised be God therefore do this 18th day of July in the fifth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Anne by the Grace of God of England Scotland France and Ireland Queen Defender of the Faith etc. Anno Domini 1706 make and declare my last will and testament in manner and form following (that is to say) First Principally I recommend my soul into the hands of Almighty God as into the hands of a most merciful creator hoping for full and free pardon and remission of all my sins And my body I leave to the Earth from whence it came to receive a decent burial at the discretion of my executrix herein after named And as touching and concerning the disposition of all that one messuage or tenement called Birlings one dwelling house one brewhouse one oast house and one smith's shop one close one garden one orchard and one piece or parcel of land with all and singular the appurtenances containing in the whole by estimation two acres of land more or less together situate lying and being in Horsmonden aforesaid And also one other piece or parcel of land with all and singular the appurtenances called Burnt Close containing half an acre of land more or less situate also in Horsmonden aforesaid at or near a certain place called Horsmonden Heath and now both pieces or parcels of land with all and singular their appurtenances being in my own occupation and lately purchased to me and my heirs of John Eastland the elder and John Eastland the younger and Richard Eastland the younger in the parish of Horsmonden aforesaid husbandman I give and dispose thereof in manner and form following (that is to say) I give and bequeath the said messuages and tenements ways and convenient passages to and from the same and the dwelling house and brew house oast house and smith's shop closes garden orchard and enclosed yards about the same to my well beloved wife Mary and William my son and their assigns for and during the term of their natural lives they keeping the same in good repair. Item I give and bequeath the aforesaid messuages tenements ways and convenient passages to and from the same and the dwelling house brew house oast house and smith's shop one close and garden one orchard and enclosed yards about the same after the death and decease of Mary my wife to William Daniel my son and his assigns and overseers and trustees hearing after named and appointed during the term of his natural life they keeping the same in good repair. Item I give and bequeath my dwelling house and brew house close and garden and one piece of land an acre and a half more or less part of the before mentioned messuages or tenements with ways and convenient passage to and from the same after the death and decease of the four Mary my wife and William Daniell my son to John Daniell and Epiphany Daniell my sons and their assigns share and share alike during the term of their natural lives they keeping the same in good repair. Item I give and bequeath my before mentioned dwelling house and brew house close garden and one piece of land in acre and a half more or less the aforesaid parts of the messuages or tenements with ways and convenient passages to and from the same after the death and decease of the aforesaid John Daniell and Epiphany Daniell my sons to Robert Daniel my grandson and son of John Daniell aforesaid my son and to Thomas Daniell my grandson some of the aforesaid Epiphany Daniell my son share and share alike and to their heirs and assigns forever. Item I give and bequeath the aforesaid smith's shop and the orchard and an oast house standing in the orchard and one-piece or parcel of land called Burnt Close half an acre more or less part also the before mentioned massages or tenements with ways and convenient passages to and from the same to my daughter Nazareth Groombridge from and after the death and decease of the aforesaid Mary my wife and William Daniel my son and her assigns during the term of her natural life she keeping the same in good

repair. Item I give and bequeath the before mentioned smith's shop orchard and oast house standing in the orchard and the aforesaid piece or parcel of land called Burnt Close the aforesaid part of the messuages or tenements with ways and convenient passages to and from the same to my grandson John Groombridge from and after the death and decease of the aforesaid Nazareth Groombridge my daughter and to his heirs and assigns forever. Item I give and bequeath to John Daniell and Epiphany Daniell my sons one shilling apiece to be to them respectively paid by my executrix within one month next after my decease. Item I give and bequeath all my movable goods chattels... ready money credits and other personal estate whatsoever not being disposed of my debts legacies funeral expenses and the charge of proving this last will and testament being first paid and satisfied unto my well beloved Mary my wife for and during the term of her natural life and after her decease I give dispose of and bequeath all my said goods chattels another my personal estate to my loving daughter Joan Burch wife of Elisha Birch of Ticehurst in the County of Sussex blacksmith and make and ordain my said wife Mary whole and sole executrix of this my last will and testament and I do also hereby nominate ordain and appoint Samuel Baker of Horsmonden vicar and Edward Osborne of Horsmonden Yeoman and Thomas Hickmott of Horsmonden Yeoman overseers of the same desiring them or either of them to assist my said executrix in the management and due performance of this my will and testament and after the death and decease of the aforesaid Mary my wife I entrust licence and authorise the before-mentioned messuages or tenements with all and singular their appurtenances to them belonging or appertaining and the rents and profits issuing coming and arising from them to take receive and bestow upon the only proper use behoof benefit and maintenance of the aforesaid William Daniel my son during the whole term of his natural life and after his death and decease to the uses intents and purposes aforesaid and to and for no other use or uses intents or purposes whatsoever and and so... revoking and making void all former wills and testaments by me heretofore made and declared I do declare this to be my last will and testament in witness whereof I the said Thomas Daniell the testator to this my last will and testament contained in two sheets of paper and this part of the sheet to each and every of which I have set my hand and seal and my seal to the top of the first sheet where they are all affixed together sealed the day and year first above written. The mark of Thomas Daniell

Signed sealed published and declared by the said Thomas Daniell the testator to be his last will and testament and all former wills by him revoked and disannulled in the presence of us whose names are hereunto subscribed as witnesses in the presence of the said testator James Daniell, John Hodges, Sam: ?Crissten.

Proved 8.8.1706: Mary Daniel, widow and executrix sworn.

Edward Dodge; Goudhurst; 1638/9: PRC 16/222/D22

[in Latin. Not strictly a will. Looks like an interview between the doctors of law and his daughter, or a judgment over a disputed will.]

Names:

Catherine Nubbess née Dodge, daughter of Edward, now married to Thomas Nubbess.

Richard and Edward Dodge sons of Edward

Thomas Dodge; husbandman; Goudhurst; 1827: PRC17/107/422a

This is the last will and testament of me Thomas Dodge of Goudhurst in the county of Kent husbandman made and published this 26th day of March in the year of our Lord 1827 First I nominate and appoint my nephew John Lingham the younger together with

John Butcher of Staplehurst in the said county farmer executors of this my will to each of whom I give the sum of five pounds. Also I give unto my wife Bet Dodge so much and such part of my household goods and furniture as my said executors shall think necessary for her use during the term of her natural life And after her decease I direct that the same shall be considered as part of the residue of my estate and effects and I give and bequeath unto the said John Lingham and John Butcher their executors and administrators all the residue and remainder of my ready monies and securities for money goods chattels estate and personal estate whatsoever and wherever and of what nature and... the same may happen to be at the time of my death and all my estate and interest therein upon trust nevertheless to [illegible section – looks like everything is to be held in trust] And from and after my death... upon trust that the said trustees do and shall soon as may... assign and transfer one full equal moiety or half part and share of and in the aforesaid trust monies ?tenements premises and other my personal estate such and... all and every the child and children of my late sister Dinah Richardson deceased in even and equal shares and proportions And also do and shall in like manner divide and pay or assign and transfer the other all remaining full equal moiety or half part and share of and in the aforesaid trust monies and premises and other my personal estate unto and among all and every the child and children of my late sister Sarah Lingham deceased in like even an equal shares and proportions to and from their respective and absolute use and benefit and to whom I give and bequeath the same accordingly provided always and I hereby direct that neither my said executors shall be answerable for the other of them north any more monies and shall actually come to their respective hands but each himself only and say his own acts deeds receipts payments and wilful default And also that it shall be lawful from my said executors to reimburse themselves and allow to each other respectively all costs and charges and expenses which they each respectively sustain or be put onto in the execution of the trusts of this my will And lastly I hereby expressly revoke and make void all former and other Wills and codicils by me at any time or times heretofore made or published. In witness whereof I the said Thomas Dodge the testator have to this my last will and testament comprised in two sheets of paper subscribed and set my hand and seal to wit my hand to the preceding sheet and my hand and seal to this second and last sheet the day and year first above written. Tho^s Dodge - signed sealed and published by the said Thomas Dodge the testator as and for his last will and Testament in the presence of us who in his presence at his request and by the presence of each other have here to subscribe to our names as witnesses.
Giles Miller – W^m Smith Hobbs jnr.
Proved 21 December 1827 by John Lingham and John Butcher

Gefery Gebon; Hawkhurst; 1511: PRC 17/12/116

Proved 1512

In the name of God amen the 22nd day of the month of March in the year of our Lord God 1511 I Gefery Gebon of Hawkhurst whole of mind and of good memory being make my testament in this wise. First I bequeath my soul to God Almighty our Blessed Lady St. Mary to all the saints of heaven. My body to be buried in the churchyard of Hawkhurst aforesaid. Also I bequeath to the high altar for my tithes and oblations negligently forgotten vi^d. Item I bequeath to the herse light in the said church vi^d. Also I ordain a taper of of wax for to burn before the image of our lady in the parish church of Ebbeny the Sundays and Fridays at high mass time while so to be kept..... after my decease. Also I ordain to my ... beryng iii^s and to my months day iii^s my ... residue of my moveable goods first my debts paid and my bequests performed I give and bequeath

unto Elinor my wife whom I make mine executrix of this my last testament and will. Also I make William Tolhurst mine overseer of this my last testament and last will. This is the last will of me the said Gefery made the day and year above said. First I will and ordain that the enfeoffed in my lands at Biddenden the which were enfeoffed by John Gebon my father that they shall suffer Elinor my wife to take the profit of all the land that I have in the same parish of Biddenden until the time that William Gebon my son cometh to the age of xx years. And then I will that the same William my son shall have all the said land And if the said William my son die before the said age of xx years then I will that my wife Elinor shall have all the aforesaid land in fee simple. And if it shall fortune that elinor my wife shall die before William my son and the said William also before the age of xx years without lawful issue of his body lawfully begotten then after the decease of the said William my son I will that all my land in the parish of Biddenden shall remain unto the next of my kin. With the condition that he or they that shall fortune to have my said land shall pay or do to be paid unto some ornament to the parish church of Hawkhurst aforesaid xl^s and in likewise other xl^s to some ornament to the parish church of Biddenden aforesaid. Also I will and order that if it fortune that Elinor my wife hap to be with child with a man child at the time of my decease then I will and ordain that the said child shall have as good part in all my land as William my son when he cometh to the foresaid age of xx years and to be as far to my lands as the said William shall be. And if she be with child at the foresaid time with a maid child then I will that the said maid child shall have ?part of my foresaid land when she cometh to the age of xx years..... Witness Edmund ?Coneyhurst, William Tolhurst and William Baseden.

Probate 23rd May 1612

Joan Gybon; Biddenden; 1512: PRC 17/12/124

Proved 1512

In the name of God amen The xxth day of June 1512, I Johan Gybon widow in the parish of Biddenden being of whole mind and good memory make this my testament and last will in this wise. First I bequeath my soul to God almighty our Lady Saint Mary and all the saints in heaven my body to be buried in the parish church of All Saints Biddenden aforesaid and to the high ?altar of the said church for my tithes and obligations forgotten and negligently withheld Item I bequeath unto every of my goddaughters iiid. Item I bequeath to Joan the wife of Thomas Stace my best and xx^d of money. Item I bequeath to Robert Stace at the singing of his first mass xx^d. Item I bequeath..... Item I bequeath to the son of Geoffrey Gybon xiid. Item I will that my ?executor at my ? rest and ?chante shall buy and maintain the lamp to burn before the rood in the said church of Biddenden by the space of a whole year. Item I will that my executors after their discretion shall distribute at my burying ... in ... money ... ?xxi^s ad viii^d. Item I will to be distributed at my anniversary ?vi^s viii^d. Item I will that Alice my daughter shall have all my household stuff that is to say ?pelot ?lattin, linen and woollen except a woollen cape which I bequeath to Agnes ?Entbush my daughter forthwith my worst ?forcer. Item I bequeath to Alice my daughter my trivet, andiron and spitte and one chest and my best ?forcer. Item I bequeath unto Thomas my son a a and my harrow. Item I bequeath to Agnes Sybil iiid. Item I bequeath to Robert Stace iiid. Item I bequeath to William Syre my godson xx^s? And to Thomas Stace my godson my best and my bushel. And I bequeath to Thomas Syre..... Item I bequeath to John At.... Item I bequeath to Agnes Entbush and a platter. Item I will and ordain that all my tables forms and trestles [I think a list of furniture fowllows – all to be taken to her son’s house]. And of this my testament I make ordain

and set Thomas Syre of Tenterden and Thomas Gybon my son executors and they shall have for their labours vi^s and iiij^d. Item I will that Thomas Stace be overseer of my will and testament that it may be truly performed and fulfilled and that he have for his labours xxd and concerning my land and tenements my will is that my feoffees their heirs or assigns deliver or cause to be delivered to Thomas Gybon my son my ... piece of land called ?Denning lying in the parish of Biddenden ... to have and to hold to his heirs and assigns forever. Item I will is that my feoffees their heirs or assigns deliver or cause to be delivered to John Gybon the younger and Thomas Gybon my sons my other piece of land lying upon the said dene of Wachingden and the said piece aforesaid willed to hold to them their heirs and assigns for ever. Item I will that my said feoffees their heirs or assigns shall suffer the said executors to sell to the best price my piece of land called the ... and with the money..... put to disposal and pay and fulfil my debts and legacies contained in my said testament and last will. And if any money of the said sale shall be ... I will it to be disposed by my said executors for my soul...
Probatum fuit xxvth? June.

John Gebon; Biddenden; 1505: PRC 17/10/5

In the name of God amen the 24th day of the month of April in the year of our lord God [1505] I John Gebon of Bydynden in my whole mind and good remembrance make my testament and last will in this wise. First I bequeath my soul to God almighty and to Lady Saint Mary and to all the saints of heaven. My body to be buried in the churchyard of Alhallows at Biddenden. Item I bequeath to the high altar there for my tithes and offerings forgotten and negligently not paid xx^d. Item I bequeath a taper of wax of a li or more to be found by my executors and I will it stand before alhallows in the church of Biddenden to be light at ?prayer time every Sunday the same for 10 years next following after my death[I think]. And also another taper I will be found before the image of our lady in the church at Ebbeney and it to burn every Sunday and Friday at the high mass x years following after my death. Item I bequeath to ... light in the church at Biddenden vid to be paid at the Easter coming after my death. Item I bequeath to each of my godchildren viii^d. Item I ordain in expense at my burying xiii^s iiij^d. Item at my months day xiii^s iiij^d. Item at my years mind vi^s iiij^d. Item I bequeath to Johane my daughter a red cow. Item I bequeath to Johane my wife all my stuff of household with my best ?cow. Item I ordain to Julian my daughter my next cow incontinently after my death to be delivered with vi marks of money payable at her marriage if she married. Item a year after my death and if she be not married within a year I will she be paid viii^l a year and a day next following after my death. And I ordain to Alice my daughter v marks of money and also to Agnes my daughter v marks to be sent and paid at their marriage if it fortune them to be married before they come to the age of xxvi years and if they be not married before they come to the said age I will they be be content and paid. And if it fortune that the said Alice or Agnes do die or [before they] be married or come to the said age of xxvi years then I will the said money to be divided between my sons be like portions. Item I ordain to Johane my wife my messuage all the thereto belonging ii fields of land called ?Lakefede. Item a croft of land called the Sidlowe and another croft of land next to the garden all the whole term of her widowhood to her and her assigns. And if it fortune her to be married again I will she have but her jointure. And after her marriage if she be married a year I will my feoffees incontinently the said messuage tenements lands and crofts with all the appurtenances in fee simple to Laurence John the younger and Thomas my sons to be divided among them be equal portions. And if it fortune that any of they iii do die without heirs of their bodies lawfully begotten then I will every to be others heirs. Item I will that my feoffees ...incontinently after my death iv piece of land

with a shaw of wood to Stephen Gibbon my son Petmede, the Gele, Kentichfolde, Bordenshoke and Kenticheshaw* with their appurtenances to him his heirs and assigns for ever paying for the said land xiiiiis iiiid [not sure about the amounts either] at my burying and at my months day xxs. Item I will that my said feoffees to William my son xii pieces of land with their appurtenances in fee simple called Stanedard? a year after my death. Item I will that my said feoffees suffer John my elder son to take ... incontinently after my death of the land that is bound to his wife for her joint term of her life and no more of my land to have for this he hath agreed before the ... that followed. And if it fortune the said Johane his wife to die before the said John my son then I will he have the said land in fee simple to him his heirs and assigns for ever except that Laurence John and Thomas my sons or one or ii of them will buy? the said land ...to the place then they shall pay to the said John xii li of good money to him his heirs or assigns and if it fortune the said John to die afore his wife then I will the said land or the said xii li of money be divided be my feoffees to the of the said John Gibbon for ever. Item I will that my feoffees suffer my executors to sell a piece of land of v acres or more with a house thereon called Margenffelde? And Margenstrofe? To the best fee they can if need be to the fulfilment of this my last will. And if it need not to be sold I bequeath it to William my son paying therefore to his brothers vi li of money among them to be divided by every portion. And if it fortune any of them to die or he come to the age of xxii years to the other of the said vi li. The residue if all my goods my debts bequests and funeral expenses first paid I give and bequeath to Johane my wife Laurence and Geffery my sons whom I ordain and make my executors and to each of them I ordain for their labour iiis iiiid.

Witness John Stace John Hollinden William French Stephen French and William Standen parish priest there p other

Probate ?17th day of July 1505.

John Gibbon; taylor; Hawkhurst; 1613: PRC 17/57/323

Proved 18.6.1613

In the name of God amen, the 22nd June 1612, in the year of the reign of our sovereign Lord King James [etc], I John Gibbon of Hawkhurst in the county of Kent, taylor, being sick of body [etc] do now make my last will and testament in writing in manner and form following, thereby revoking all former wills and testaments [etc]. First I commend my soul into the hands of God [etc] to have remission of all my sins [etc]. Item, I will and bequeath unto my three daughters Mercy (?Mary) the wife of John Brett, Jane the wife of Lawrence Summers and Sarah the wife of Benjamin Collison to be divided equally between them immediately after my decease one table in the parlour and a frame and the forms to the said table and the table in the parlour chamber and one chest and two beds in the parlour chamber that is to say the high bed and the trundle bed ... furnished viz to every of the said beds two pairs of sheets one bolster and one blanket and coverlet with the formerly made under my hand to the said Sarah my daughter of all the rest of my moveable goods in the house or elsewhere. Item I will and bequeath and my full mind and meaning is that Peter Gibbon my son shall detain and keep unto his own use all such sum or sums of money as are any way due or owing unto me from the said Peter at the day of the date of these presents without any attempt to be made thereof unto my executors hereunder named [next line obscured] not already by and bequeathed and given my debts and legacies first paid and my funeral expenses. I give and bequeath unto Richard Gibbon and Jeremy Gibbon my sons whom I do make and ordain my sole executors of this my last will and testament and I do ordain overseers of this my last will and testament Lawrence Summers my son-in-law and my cousin John Sloman. This is

the last will and testament of me the said John Gibbon made and declared the day and year first above written confirming the disposition of all my land tenements and other hereditaments of my own situate lying and being in Hawkhurst aforesaid. Item I will and bequeath unto Richard Gibbon and Jeremy Gibbon my sons immediately after my decease and to their heirs and assigns for ever equally between them to be divided all that my mansion or dwelling house wherein I now dwell situate at Highgate in Hawkhurst aforesaid and all other messuages tenements barns stables workhouse edifices and buildings to the said mansion or dwelling house belonging or in any way appurtenant and all orchards gardens closes meadows pastures [etc] together with all and singular the appurtenances to the said mansion or dwelling house belonging or any other appurtenances situate lying or being in Hawkhurst aforesaid upon the tenure of Stone tenure containing in all by estimation 8 acres of land arable meadows pasture and woodland either more or less thereof to be had upon condition and to the intent that the said Jeremy Gibbon my son after my decease pay unto Edward Gibbon my son the sum of £15 of good and lawful money of England out of the aforesaid mansion or dwelling place and upon condition and to the intent that the said Richard Gibbon and Jeremy Gibbon my sons shall ... out of the aforesaid dwelling house ... to John Gibbon son of the aforesaid Edward Gibbon at his full age of 21 years. [Proviso for Richard and Jeremy to pay this bequest to Edward Gibbon son of Edward or to Jane Gibbon daughter of Edward should John Gibbon die before 21. Further proviso for John junior 'to enter into the said mansion' and take one half of the rents should his uncles default on the bequest.] In witness whereof I ... set to my hand and seal the day and year above written

Witnesses: John Boys, John Sherwood and John Brett. The mark of John Gibbon.

William Gebon; Biddenden; 1479:PRC 17/3/231

[The will is written in Latin.]

In the name of God amen. April in the year of our Lord miiii^lxxix I of the parish of Bydenden of sound mind and healthy memory put together testament in manner. First I bequeath my soul to almighty God..... my body to the grave in of Biddenden aforesaid. Item I bequeath ... ? altar offering or payment xxd. Item I leave to ... Thomas ... at the same place for the salvation of my soul xxd. Item I bequeath to Item I bequeath to my godchildren] ... iiiid.... my debts legacies and funeral expenses first having been paid I bequeath to Juliana my wife.... [think she and ?]John Stace are appointed overseers/guardians??]

Here is the last will of me the aforesaid William Gebon made at Biddenden aforesaid the day and year above written, for iiiii^l William Pyere Johann Stace ...John Hollinden p Thomas Hillinden feoffees per by me the aforesaid William Gebon.... in the parish of Biddenden..... First I ordain that my wife Juliana [can use] my hall/chamber [several repetitions of aula presumably confirm her rights]. I wish my feoffee? ?debts John my son in the year aforesaid the aforesaid landin fee simple surrendered Juliana my wife surrenders xx^{li}

[There is more, but no other names, so it looks like William dies young and John was his only son.]

Probate granted viii November 1479

William Gibbon; Hawkhurst; 1583: PRC17/44/122

In the name of God amen the first day of February in the yeare of our lord God one thousand five hundred four score two I William Gibbon of Hawkhurst in the county of

Kent within the diocese of Canterbury being of good and perfect memory thanks be unto Almighty God do ordain and make this my present testament and last will in manner and form following. Firstly I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God my saviour trusting to be saved by the blood of Jesus Christ. And my body to be buried in the churchyard of Hawkhurst. Item I will that there shall be disposed at the burial of my body by the discretion of my executrix hereafter named. Also I will and bequeath to the poor men's box of Hawkhurst within one whole year next after my decease 12d. Item I give and bequeath unto Thomas Gibbon my son one cow immediately after my decease to be delivered by my executrix. The residue of all my goods moveable my debts paid I give and bequeath to Margaret my wife whom I ordain and make my sole executrix of this my present testament and last will.

This is the last will of me the said William Gibbon made and declared the day and date above-written concerning all my lands and tenements within the parish of Hawkhurst aforesaid. First I will give and bequeath unto Margaret my wife all my lands and tenements within the parish of Hawkhurst except the land which I bought of Richard Atkin during her widowhood under this condition following that is to say that the said Margaret my wife shall pay unto my daughters viz Joan Slowman Mary Barowe and Martha Thorpe to every one of them yearly immediately from and after my decease viiis iiid until every one of them be fully paid the sum of four marks of lawful money of England and if any of the said daughters decease before payment be made to them then I will that the ... being unpaid shall be paid to her husband then being or her assigns. Also I will that Margaret my wife shall keep my house well and sufficiently repaired during her widowhood. Item I give and bequeath unto Robert Gibbon my son my lands which I bought of Thomas Posse to him and to the heirs of his body lawfully got for ever upon the condition following that is to say that if the said Robert Gibbon my son do save and keep harmless my executrix and assigns and all other mine heirs of one obligation in which I stand to John Eastland of Cranbrook in xx^l and do also pay unto Thomas Gibbon my son or his heirs viii^l of good and lawful money of England within one year next after the said Robert Gibbon my son shall come to the said land before bequeathed. And if the said Robert my son his heirs [etc] do not save or keep harmless my said executrix or assigns and all other my heirs of that bond or obligation aforesaid or after do not pay to his brother Thomas Gibbon or to his heirs viz as it is aforesaid then I will that Margaret my wife shall have the land before bequeathed to her and to her heirs for ever upon condition that she do discharge and ... save harmless my heirs of the said bond or obligation and also do pay unto Thomas Gibbon my son or his heirs as it is above said. Item I will and give unto John Gibbon my son my land that I bought of Richard fee simple to him and to his heirs for ever immediately after my decease upon the condition that the said John my son pay and keep harmless my executrix or assigns and all other my heirs of one bond or obligation where I stand bound in to Hales of Tenterden. And if the said John my son his heirs or assigns do not save or keep harmless my executrix or assigns and other mine heirs then I will that it shall be lawful for mine executrix or assigns or any other my heirs to enter upon the said land last above mentioned and the same to sell at the best price for and during the performance of this my last will. Item I will and give unto William Gibbon my son the house that I now dwell in with the barn and orchards and all other appurtenances thereto belonging to him and his heirs in fee simple for ever upon condition following that is to say that he the said William my son his heirs [etc] shall pay unto Mathew Gibbon my son xxiv^l of good and lawful money of England in manner and form following that is to say in or upon fifteenth day next after the death of Margaret my wife xii^l of lawful money of England in the south porch of the parish church of Hawkhurst aforesaid between the hours of ten and three in the afternoon. .. the same day and also in and upon that day

twelve months next after the day of the death of Margaret my wife other xii^l in full payment of the said sum of xxiii^l and in the same place between the same hours of the same day before recited. And if that the said William Gibbon my son do not pay or cause to be paid unto the said Mathew my son the sum of xxiii^l then I will that the said Mathew Gibbon my son shall enter for his part into the one half of all the aforesaid houses barns [etc] and their appurtenances to have to him and the heirs of his body lawfully begotten for ever. Also I will and my very mind is that if wife fortune to die before my daughters be paid then John Gibbon and William Gibbon my sons shall pay so much of the said sums aforementioned to my said daughters bequeathed as shall be then unpaid out of my lands and tenements to them bequeathed by equal portions yearly until they my said daughters be fully paid.

Witness to this will Mathew Eryer, Robert Laicocke, Peter Aforde.

Probatum fuit ... ? March 1583. [The three witnesses' names appear on the probate, and appear to swear, rather than Margaret.]

William Gibbon; Hawkhurst; 1603: PRC17/53/306

To wife Susan, daughters Margaret, Mary, Ann, Joan, Hester, Margery, son William, son John, son Thomas.

John Hope; sicklemaker; Horsmonden; 1609: DRb/Pwr/20/71

In the name of God amen the viiith day of January anno domini 1609. I John Hop of Horsmonden in the county of Kent sickle maker of good and perfect remembrance thanks be to almighty God do ordain and make this my testament and last will in manner and form following that is to say first I commend my soul to almighty God my maker and redeemer by whose death and passion I surely trust to be saved and my body to Christian burial the order thereof I commit to the discretion of my executrix undernamed. Item I give to the poor people of Horsmonden xx^s to be bestowed at my burial. Item I give to every of my men servants vi^s and viii^d apiece to be paid within one year next after my decease. Item I give to Susan my daughter one hundred pounds of lawful money of England to be paid unto her at the age of one and twenty years if she shall then be living or else unto her child or children of her body lawfully begotten, if she shall have any before that time by my executrix undernamed her executors or assigns. Item I give to George Godfrey xxx^s and to Agnes Godfrey vi^s and viii^d my sister's children to be paid within one year next after my decease and to William Moyses and Elizabeth Moyses my sister's children vi^s and viii^d apiece. Item my will and mind is, that Susan my wife her executors or assigns shall pay all such legacies as are yet to paid by the last will and testament of John Hops my late father deceased according to the same his will. The residue of my moveable goods, corn, cattle and chattels not yet willed or bequeathed (all my debts and legacies being paid) I give and bequeath unto the said Susan my wife whom I ordain and make my soul executor of this my present testament and last will. And I ordain and make my well-beloved friend John Brattle of Horsmonden yeoman and Anthony Longley of Gouthurst in the said county yeoman overseers of this my last will and testament giving to every ... xx^s apiece towards their pains taking in ... this my last will desiring them to be aiding and helping my said wife in the execution of the same.

This is the last will and testament of me the said John Hope made declared and put in writing the day and year above written concerning the disposition of my lands and tenements. I will that the said Susan my wife shall have and receive the yearly profits of all my messuage and tenements with their appurtenances in Horsmonden paid for by and during her natural life for the ... virtuous bringing up of my children and paying of my

debts and legacies and that she the said Susan shall pay out of the yearly profits of my said messuage and tenements unto Thomas Hope my son that he shall come to his full age of xxiiii years ... the sum of viii^l of lawful money of England ... year during the natural life of her the said Susan and unto Richard Hope my son ... that he shall come to his full age of xxiiii years the sum of vi^l of lawful money of England every year during the life of the said Susan at the Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary and of St. Michael the archangel or within xxi days next after any of the said feast days by equal portions. And they and every of them to discharge ... the said land or any part thereof for the same shall be unpaid after any of the said feast days by the space of xxi days and the distress to which ... until they and every of them shall be paid and satisfied. Item my will and mind is that the said Susan my wife shall have and take in and... upon the said land ten cord of firewood and three hundred of faggots for her fuel and firewood every year during her life, And after the decease of the said Susan my wife I will give and bequeath unto the said Thomas Hope my son to his heirs and assigns for ever my messuage and lands with their appurtenances wherein I now dwell lately purchased of Menge, and my lands with their appurtenances lately purchased of Edward Baldock together lying in Horsmonden aforesaid on the north side of the way there, and to Richard Hope my son to his heirs and assigns for ever, my messuage and land with their appurtenances in Horsmonden aforesaid lying not far from Quartefordsbridge and to John Hope my son to his heirs and assigns for ever a tenement and land with their appurtenances lately purchased of Gyles Slirgante and my messuage and the rest of my land lately purchased of the said Edward Baldock together lying in Horsmonden aforesaid.

Witness hereunto John Brattle, Anthony Longley and Saloman Were senior.
Probate 17.3.1609.

Joan Hope of Horsmonden; widow; Horsmonden; 1609: DRb/Pwr/20/79

Describes herself as widow, 'late the wife of John Hope late of Horsmonden aforesaid, yeoman'.

Bequests:

To the poor of Horsmonden – vi^s and viii^d

To daughter Mary, wife of Alexander Evernden – household stuff and apparel, and xiii^l vi^s and viii^d (money to be invested by George Roberts of Brenchley, gent, and the interest arising to be paid to Mary yearly.) This money to be transferred to Mary's children – Elizabeth and Al...

To Thomas Evernden son of Alexander Evernden x^s

To kinsman John Lake of Gouthurst, mercer, xx^l

To kinsman Thomas Lake, gent, brother of John x^l

To my sons William and Richard Lake xii^d each

To daughter Margery wife of Richard How xiiii^l vi^s viii^d

To daughter Johan wife of Charles Weslerber x^s

Residue of immoveable goods and chattels to son Thomas Lake, executor.

George Roberts to be overseer

Witnesses: Sutton, George Salman xcript

Probate 22.2.1609

John Hope; Horsmonden; 1540: DRb/Pwr9/297

In the name of God amen, in the xith day of August in the year of our lord m cccccx I John Hope of the parish of Horsmonden being hole of mind and perfect remembrance

thus do make and declare that my last will and testament in manner and form following,
first I bequeath my soul etc. my body to be buried in the churchyard of Horsmonden.
Item I bequeath to the high altar for my tythes negligently forgotten iiii^d
Item I will to Joan my daughter a twelmonthing? bolock [sic]
I will to Allys my daughter a twelmonthing? bullock
I will to Thomas my son ii steers my best cote and my bow and arrows
Item to William my son ii steers to be delivered a year after my decease
It. I will to John Foster my servant a kowe? my black horse a ... of whete and my second
cote
I will to Margaret Foster 2 shepe and to everyone of my godchildren iiii^d And all the
residue of my goods not bequeathed I put to the disposition of John my son whom I
make myn executor
Witnesses at this same will making John Paynter, Harry ?Maulett, Sir Harry Woodward,
prest

John Hope; yeoman; Horsmonden; 1609: DRb/Pwr/20/39

Testamentum Johan Hope senior de Horsmonden

In the name of God amen. The xxith day of the month of June and in the year of our
lord God one thousand six hundred and nine and in the seventh year of our sovereign
lord James by the grace of God king of England Scotland France and Ireland defender of
the faith: and of Scotland the two and fortieth. I John Hope the elder of the parish of
Horsmonden in the county of Kent and in the diocese of Rochester, yeoman, being of
good mind and perfect remembrance (thanks be to God) do make and ordain, and
constitute this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I bequeath
my soul to almighty God my maker and redeemer hoping to be saved by the only merits
of Christ my saviour, and my body to be buried where it shall please God to appoint.
Item, I give and bequeath unto the poor people of the parish of Horsmonden twenty
shillings of lawful money of England, to be distributed among them at the day of my
burial, or within two months after my decease by my executor, in bread drink or money
at the discretion of my executor. Item I give and bequeath unto Joane my wife six
pounds of good and lawful money of England to be paid unto her or her assigns within
one month immediately after my decease. Item I give unto the said Joane my wife one
feather bed, one coverlet, two blankets, two pillows, two pairs of sheets, two pillow
coats, all of the second sort. Item, I give unto George Godfrey son of Thomas Godfrey
late of this parish deceased the sum of five pounds of lawful money of England. Item I
give unto Agnes Godfrey the daughter of the said Thomas Godfrey my son-in-law late of
this parish deceased the sum of five pounds current English money. The which ten
pounds I will to be paid unto the said George and Agnes within one year next after my
decease, under this condition, that is to say that neither they the said George and Agnes
nor any of them, nor the heirs and assigns of any of them shall have or claim the goods
nor any part or parcel of the goods which were Thomas Godfrey their father's. Item I
will and bequeath unto William ?Moyse, son of Andrew Moyse my son-in-law xx^s of
current English money and unto Katherine daughter of the said Andrew Moyse other xx^s
of current English money to be paid to them the said William and Katherine within one
year after my decease. All the residue of my moveable goods my debts legacies and
funeral charges so paid and discharged I do give unto John Hope my son whom I ordain
and make my sole executor of this my last will. In witness whereof I the said John Hope
the elder to this my last will and testament have set my seal and mark the day and year
above written. These being witnesses, Richard Borrowe, John

Probate 19.8.1609

Thomas Hope; Horsmonden; 1638: DRb/Pwr/22/293

In the name of God amen. The twentieth day of October in the year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord Charles by the Grace of God of England Scotland France and Ireland Defender of the Faith Anno Domini 1638. I Thomas Hope of Horsmonden in the county of Kent being sick in body but of good and perfect memory thanks be to God do constitute ordain and make this my last will and testament in manner and form following ...by all other wills and heretofore made either by word or writing... and most principally I commend my soul into the merciful hands of Almighty God my maker to be saved already through faith in Christ Jesus my Saviour to have full pardon and remission of all my sins to be buried in Christian burial at the discretion of my executor. And as for the disposition of my goods lands and tenements. I order and determine them in manner and form as followeth. To the poor people of the parish of Horsmonden as aforesaid the sum of 40s of lawful money to be distributed amongst them by the of the overseers for the poor there my decease. Item I will and my that my son George Hope (whom I make my executor of this my last will and testament) shall make sale to the best price he may or can of all that my messuage or tenement wherein I now dwell in Horsmonden aforesaid with all and singular the lands tenements hereditaments whatsoever thereunto belonging or wherever lying or being at such time as my said son George shall accomplish his full age of 24 years. And out of the money that shall come and arise out of the sale thereof I give and bequeath for portions unto my other three children Susan Mary and Thomas Hope the sum of £200 apiece of lawful English money to be paid unto the said Mary and Thomas when they shall fully accomplish their full age of 24 years. And my said daughter Susan I will and my mind is that she shall receive and take her portion of £200 out of the money that shall first be paid out of the sale of all my lands and tenements ... And I give and bequeath unto him, my said son George all and singular of the surplus of the money that shall remain and be left of the sale of those my aforesaid lands and tenements. Item I will and my mind is that if any of my said children shall depart this present life before they shall accomplish their aforesaid age or time wherein they are to receive and take their said portions ... to the this my last will and testament tha then the portion or portions of them or any of them so dying shall remain or be to the residue of my aforesaid children then living to be equally divided amongst them ...receive and take the same at at such time as have become due and payable unto the deceased.... they had lived. Item I will and my mind is that after such time as George my son and executor shall have made sale of my aforesaid tenement as aforesaid he shall yearly allow my two youngest children the said Mary and Thomas competent means benefit to be raised of their said portions towards their maintenance and bringing up until they shall accomplish their age of 24 years. Item I will and ... that my meaning is that my said son George have the use and benefit of all and singular cattle, household stuff moveable and ... for and towards the keeping forth of ... I have done for and towards the maintenance of my aforesaid children in the meantime until the sale of my aforesaid lands and tenements as aforesaid. And then I give and bequeath all and only the said goods and chattels unto him the said George my son and his executors and assigns, paying and discharging all my debts as my trust and confidence in him whom I charge upon my blessing ... in the performance of this my will to the utmost of his power ... intent and meaning ... helpful to his brother and sisters... as in him lyeth. Thus having finished this my last will and testament in a sheet and a half of paper and having heard the same deliberately read and having well and advisedly considered thereof I do pronounce this to be my last will and testament in witness

whereof I have hereunto set my hand to the first sheet and to the last sheet my hand and seal the day and year first above written. Thomas Hope.

In the presence of Mary Collier her mark, Thomas Hope junior, Robert Atherton
Probate granted 14th December 1638 to George Hope, son

John Horsmanden; Goudhurst; 1635/36: PRC32/52/109

Bequest to daughter Alice making reference to a bequest from her grandfather, William Austen: ' my executor shall pay unto my daughter Alice £50 more in full satisfaction of £50 given unto her as a legacy by William Austen her grandfather late deceased as appeareth by his last will'

Leaves mansion in Goudhurst to son John, and if he fails to have male heirs, it goes to John Springett s of Robert Springett of Staplehurst, failing that to Wm Moore s of Wm Moore of ?Warling in Sussex

To William Moore house called Fishenden in Hawkhurst. Lots of other stuff.

Alice and John seem to be his only children. Mentions sister Joan Sloman.

To every one of my daughter's children £10 but doesn't name them. All unmarried.

John Johnson; Cranbrook; 1603

4.7.1603

bequests to wife Alice, sons Henry and Alexander and daughters Joanna, Katherine and Agnes.

Alice Lorkyn; Hawtwill; Pembury; 1529: DRb/PWR/8/222

In dei nomine amen tercio die mensis augusto anno domini mvxxix et anno regnis Henry ottavi xxj I Alice Lorkyn widow of Thomas Lorkyn late of Hawtwill in the parish of Pepingbery in the county of Kent and the diocese of Rochester being of whole mind make my testament in manner following. First I bequeath my soul to God almighty my body to be buried in the churchyard of St. Peter the apostle of Pepingbery aforesaid.

Item I bequeath to the high altar of Pepingbery for tithes forgotten vi^d. Item I bequeath a taper to burn before the image of our blessed lady at St. James altar in the same church.

Item I bequeath to the hearse light xii^d. Item I bequeath to the church at Pepingbery a redhewede cow to be put to farm for the profit of the said church. And I bequeath to the most necessary reparation of the same church as can be found by the discretion of my executors or their assigns vi^s viii^d. Item I will that my executors bestow at my burying to priest and clerk and poor people to pray for my soul and all Christian souls vi^s viii^d.

Item I will that they shall stow at my monthly mind in like cause xiii^s viii^d. Item I bequeath to Richard my son iii^s iv^d. Item I bequeath to William my son iii^s iv^d. Item I bequeath to Nicholas my son iii^s iv^d. Item I bequeath to Thomas my son a black-haired cow. Item I bequeath to Reynalde my son a new [an ewe]and a lamb. Item I bequeath to Margaret my daughter a red-haired cow my best chest an a ii pair of sheets a blakitt [blanket?] iii pewter platters iii pewter dishes a brass pan of iii gallons with ii ... and a ? kettle of iiij gallons. Item I bequeath to Katerin my daughter a pair of sheets and vi^s viii^d.

Item I bequeath Katerin Lorkin my god daughter daughter of William Lorkin my son a platter and two pewter dishes. Item I bequeath to Elizabeth Lorkin daughter of Thomas Lorkyn my son a ?lattin basin. The residue of all my moveable goods not bequeathed I give to Thomas Lorkyn my son and I will and ordain Willm? ?Wenter and Thomas Lorkyn my son to be my executors of this my last will and each of them to have for their labour above the expenses vi^s viii^d. Item I bequeath to Thomas my son a folding table.

That being witnesses Robt Joyse John Lorking William Pratt William Lorking Thomas
?Kypoer and John Smyth.

This is the last will of me the said Alice Lorkyn ?weden made and declared the day and the year above said at off and upon the disposition of a piece of land and mede lying and being in the parish of Capell in the county of Kent Richard benet John Mell and John Sony? My feoffees off trust: First I will that immediately after my decease that my feoffees their heirs and assigns let out the said piece of land and mede to fine by the best price they can or may during all the life naturally of Margaret my daughter and the money of the farm yearly by them received I will then shall pay to the said Margaret yearly during all the time of her life. Also I will that if the said Margaret do marry and have heirs male of her body lawfully begotten that then I will my said feoffees their heirs or their assigns shall of the said piece of land and mede in fee simple to the eldest heir male when he cometh to the sage of xxi years if his mother be then dead or else to abide unto after the decease of his mother and then immediately my said feoffees their heirs or their assigns to ?deliver a ?state to him of the said piece of land and mede in fee simple. Provided furthermore that if the said Margaret decease without heirs male of her body lawfully begotten that my will is that the said piece of land and mede shall be let out to farm by my executors their heirs or assigns by the best price they can or may during the natural life of Katerin my daughter and the money of the farm yearly by them received I will then shall pay to the said Katerin yearly during the term of her life. Also I will if the said Katerin do marry and have heirs male of her body lawfully begotten that then my will is that my said feoffees theirs heirs or their assigns shall deliver a state of and on the said piece of land and mede to the eldest heir male of her body lawfully begotten in fee simple to be delivered to him in manner and form as is afore to the eldest heir male of the foresaid Margaret my daughter. Provided furthermore that if both my daughters Margaret and Katerin decease without heirs male of their bodies lawfully begotten that then my will is that the foresaid piece of land and mede shall be sold by my executors their heirs or assigns by the best price that they can or may and the money thereof by them received I will that they shall bestow and expend upon masses saving foul ways amending and alms to poor people doing within the said parish of Pepingbery where most ?need is. Furthermore I will that if Thomas my son or his heirs male of his body lawfully begotten be disposed to by the said piece of land and mede that they shall have it before any other man. And xiiij^s iiii^d the price. And if the said Thomas and the heir male of his body lawfully begotten do decease before the time of the sale of the said piece of land and mede that then my will is that William my son and the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten shall be purchasers unto the said piece of land and mede as the said Thomas and his heirs male of his body lawfully begotten should have been if they had ...

Probate 11.10.1529

John Lorkyn; Brenchley; 1535: DRb/PWR/ 9/168

To Agnes and Katherine the daughters of William Lorkyn one of the sons of Thomas Lorkyn my brother late of Pepingbury – money put to use until they're of age. Residue of goods to William Lorkyn and wife Denys. Wiliam Lorkyn executor.

Land called Cadman Mede in Pembury, rents to churches at Pembury, Brenchley, Tudley and Capel, and then to John son of William Lorkyn after 21 years. William Lorkyn to have the profits on the said land during the 21 year period.

Witnessed William Winter, William ?Peuwill, Thomas Chesman, Richard Lorkyn.

Probate at Yalding.

Richard Lorkyn; Pembury; 1496: DRb/PWR/5/400

In dei nomine amen xth die ?Septembris A^o Domini 1496 I Richard Larkyn de parochial de Pepynbery sana memoria

Names daughters Ellen and Agnes, sons John, William, Richard, and, I think, several grandchildren in first part – Latin very unclear.

Richard Lorkyn; Tudely; 1552: DRb/Pwr/11/161

22.3.1551

Body to be buried in churchyard at Pepingbury

To daughter Katheryn £10 at marriage or 30 years

To daughter Dennes £5 at marriage or 30 years

To wife Margrett all household stuff and half my corn upon the ground and half my cattle

The other half to Edward Lorkyn my son

Wife Margrett and son Edward to be execs

Mentions land in Brenchley, Pepingbury and Tudely – immediately after decease wife Margrett to have the profits, and on a messuage called Toteshell/Toteshill, and 2 pieces of land late exchanged with William Wybarne situated in Tudely for the term of her life.

After Margrett's decease the above to go to son William Lorkyn

Son Edward to have house and land in parishes of Pepingbury and Brenchley. Positions these to the west of the lands of the heirs of Thomas Lorkyn

To son John profits from a piece of land and some money

Nicholas Lorkyn; Pembury and Tonbridge; 1519: DRb/Pwr/7/176

5.10.1519

Bequests to son ?William, son Henry, son John Lorkyn, son of Thomas, John Lorkyn son of Stephen.

Son Stephen Lorkyn to be executor.

All lands to be sold by son Stephen. Proceeds to be

Nicholas Lorkyn; Hawkswill; Pembury; 1551: DRb/Pwr/11/161

11.1.1551

To be buried in churchyard at Pepingbury.

To wife Agnes all moveable goods, i.e. corn and hay, and corn upon the ground, all cattle of what name or kind, all debts owing to me except 6s 8d which I give to Richard my son.

Son Richard to be executor.

To son Richard Lorkyn messuage land etc in Pepingbury

Wife Agnes to have dower and access to fire etc in house.

Richard to pay to other sons, namely John, Thomas, William, Edward and Josias Lorkyn at 21 £... and to daughter Margery at the day of her marriage or at 21 £10

Witnessed Henry Bowredeg, John Amhurst, Thomas Bowredeg, Alexander Prawle and others.

Nicholas Lorkyn; Pembury; 1567: DRb/Pwr/13/302

To be buried at Pembury

To wife Elizabeth half the moveable goods excepting tools, a cupboard, a chest and a quern? Also to Elizabeth the chamber that is next the great door and the loft on it and fire and ? for coming and going without interruption for life. Also the use of the fruits of the ground if God send plenty (number of bushels dependent on crop). Also access to water, 16s a year and ? bushels of wheat

Wife Elizabeth to have the bringing up of children Benjamin and John for the next 12 years, and to be exec.

To son William 20s to be paid 12 years after my decease, and then 6/8 every year till it be paid.

To sons Thomas, Benjamin and Nicholas £20 each

To Johan Prawle daughter of William Prawle 12d

To son John the remainder of moveable goods, and to be exec

To son John all land in fee simple for ever

Brother Thomas Lorkyn to be overseer

Witnesses Richard Knight, Edward ?Nixon, Thomas Lorkyn, Henry ?Pay with others.

William Lorkyn; East Barming; 1558: DRb/Pwr/12/205

1.12.1557

To Alice, Isabel and Elizabeth Lorkyn a lamb each.

Wife ?Parnell to be exec (P with line through underneath)

To wife Parnell messuage etc and the bringing up of my young/younger children.

Then messuage to son John Lorkyn, eldest son

John to pay money to William's sons Henry and William Lorkyn

Witnesses John Symson, Richard Aynold, William ?Paile

Thomas Lorkyn; Pembury; 1462: DRb/PWR/2/236

Very difficult to read, and in Latin.

In dei nomine Amen xxvii^o die mensis Octobris AD 1462 Ego Thomas Lorkyn de parochia de Pepinbery sane ment condo teston memy [etc] Bequest to church for forgotten and neglected tithes. Bequest to Thomas, son of Richard Lorkyn, Robert son of Thomas Lorkyn, son Richard,

Hec est ultima voluntas mei Thome Lorkyn face in person memy volo quod Thome filius mei facet potationem et ac tenement pro ... in de Pepinbery. Item volo quod aut Richardus soluat wel John Agnes relict Willi filii mei defunct iii^s iii^d annuitary ad viteEllen filia mei...

Thomas Lorkyn; Horsmonden; 1528: DRb/Pwr/8/155

Everything left to his wife. Name not clear, but not Alice.

William Lorkyn; Pembury; 1534: DRb/PWR/ 9/116

Wife Agnes, daughter Margery, wife of Ro ?Woodbury

William Lorkyn, Brenchley; 1551: DRb/PWR/11/158

In the name of God amen the 8th day of October AD 1551 and in the 6th year of the reign of our Lord Edward VI by the grace of God King of England

I William Lorkyn of the parish of Brenchley in the county of Kent and diocese of Rochester in my good mind being and perfect remembrance thanks be given to God make and ordain this my present testament and last will in manner and form following. First I bequeath my soul unto almighty God and my body to be buried where it shall please God.

Item I will that my executors shall distribute at my burial and at my month's day in deed of charity among poor people as he and my executors think best for the wealth of my soul my parents souls and all Christian souls.

Item I will that Elizabeth my wife shall have the keeping of my children that is to say Arthur and Ann until Michaelmas next twelvemonth after my decease and William my son until the time that he is able to be put forth to squire and to find them meat drink clothes and other necessaries ... Item I will and bequeath to the said Elizabeth my wife all my corn and grain both in the barn and growing upon the ground my hay and also my victual that I have withall and necessary to be spent in household to the keeping and sustentation of my said children. Item I bequeath to the said Elizabeth my wife my apparel not given nor bequeathed all my wooll and half my hemp, my cupboard, three tables forms and trestles she brought with her at the time of our marriage and a kneading trough with a cover a harrow half a pype my great bull and all my swine to be delivered into the possession of the said Elizabeth immediately after my decease. The residue of my other tables trestles forms shelves bedsteads borders nailed and unnailed and my great chest I will it shall abide and remain in my messuage that I now dwell in unto the use of John my son. Item I give and bequeath unto Ann my daughter a chest with a lock and £10 of lawful money of England to be paid to her at the day of her marriage or else at the age of xxi years at her own choice to take it at the time that first shall happen and to be paid unto her by Robert Whytfeild whom I make my overseer Thomas Fissinden or John Amhurst or their assigns which shall fortune to repay the same out of my land as hereafter is appointed. Item I will and bequeath to Elizabeth my wife and John my son all my cattle equally between them to be sold upon May Day next coming except before excepted so that the said Elizabeth shall keep them with the fodder and provisions that I have prepared for the same purpose. And also I give and bequeath to John my son all manner of necessaries of husbandry implements of the mill house and the bake house to have immediately after my decease. Item I bequeath to the sons of Thomas Borredge/Bowdredge Francis and Charles to either of them a lamb to be delivered immediately after my decease. Item I bequeath to George Hoo two lambs to be delivered immediately after my decease. Item I bequeath to Leonard Chamberlain and Bennet his sister to each of them a calf whenable to be delivered immediately after my decease. Item I bequeath to Katherine my sister a heifer of the age of three years or xx^s of current money of England at the choice of my executors. The residue of all my moveable goods not given bequeathed nor assigned I will and give to my son whom I ordain and make my sole executor to the performance of this my last will and testament. And he to bestow for my soul's health as to him seemeth expedient. And I ordain Robert Whytfeild to be my overseer to whom I give my young mare of colour sorrel. Also I will and bequeath to Elizabeth my wife and John my son the residue of my household stuff not before assigned to be equally ... them immediately.

This is the last will of me the above named William Lorkyn made and ordained the day and year above written upon the disposition of all my lands and tenements with all and singular their appurtenances set lying and being in the parishes of Brenchley Pepinbury and Capell in the county of Kent and elsewhere. Item I give and bequeath unto the said Elizabeth my wife the issues and profits of my said messuage called Mellers with iiij gardens and xiiij pieces of land unto the feast of St. Michael the archangel which shall be in the year of the our Lord God 1553 doing no wast keeping the reparations and paying

the lord's rent to have it towards the keeping of my said children. Item I will and give unto John my son my said messuage that I dwell in called Mellers with iiij gardens and xiiij pieces of land and a grove lying in the parish of Capell ?Furthe with iiij pieces of land more and a grove lying in the said parishes. To have it to him and his heirs for ever immediately after my decease suffering Elizabeth my wife to have the occupation of the same land during the time before expressed and paying unto William my son xx^{li} of lawful money of England. To have to the said William and his heirs of his body lawfully begotten that is to say within the space of iiij years next after that the said William shall attain. and accomplish the age of xxi years yearly v^{li} to be paid until the sum of xx^{li} be fully fulfilled contented and paid which shall be paid in the dwelling house of the said John called Mellers at the time as is before specified and appointed. And upon condition following that is to say that the said John do make release in the lease from him and his heirs to Arthur his brother and his heirs in a messuage and garden and a piece of land lying in the parish of Pepingbury called Mychells and Gyles containing by estimation 30 acres of land more or less to him and his heirs for ever. And if it happen that the said John my son do refuse and will not pay the said sum of xx^{li} to William his brother at the request of the said William his brother or at the request of the heirs of his body lawfully begotten at the time and times as is before specified and appointed that then I will the said William my son shall enter into my piece of land with a grove in Capell called the land before the gayte and that he have and enjoy to him or his heirs for ever. And likewise refuse and will not make and seal and release in the law from him and his heirs but Arthur his brother or his heirs as is before appointed at the request of the said Arthur when he the said Arthur cometh to the age of xxi years to him and to his heirs for ever that then I will that the said Arthur my son shall enter and have to him and his heirs for ever all the said lands and tenements which I have before to the said John my son willed and assigned paying xx^{li} to my son or to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten as is aforesaid. Item I will that Arthur my son shall have my said messuage iiij gardens and v pieces of land called Mitchells and Gyles and also iiij acres of land called the Hode when he cometh to the age of xxi years to him and his heirs for ever. And the profits of the land called Mitchells and Gyles to be received by said overseer or Thomas Fissenden or John Amherst or by any of their assigns paying out of the said profit unto Anne my daughter x^{li} of lawful money of England at the time or day of her marriage or at the age of xxi years as before specified and appointed provided always that if it happened that John my son his heirs or assigns do make any interest or the said Arthur of or in the said messuage iii gardens and v pieces of land called Mychells and Gyles contrary to the will and meaning of me the said William that then my will is that then that Arthur my son shall enter into the foresaid messuage called Mellers and into each parcel thereof the which before was unto the said John willed and assigned and to have it to him and his heirs for ever. And if it happens that the said Anne my daughter do decease before the time of her marriage or the attainment of xxi years as is aforesaid that then I will that the said x^{li} if it be then retained shall remain to William my son when he cometh to the age of xxi years as much of the x^{li} as is then retained to be paid unto him by myn overseer Thomas Fissenden or John Amherst or their assigns if he be then living. And if it fortune Arthur my son to decease before he comes to the age of xxi years without heirs of his body lawfully begotten that then I will that the said iii pieces of land called the Hodes shall remain unto William my son when he cometh to the age of xxi years to him and his heirs for ever. Item I will and give to William my son my messuage garden and iiij pieces of land to the same called Avercyes/Aneres when he cometh to the age of xxi years to him and his heirs for ever. Item I will that Elizabeth my wife shall have the issues and profits of the lands messuage gardens and iii pieces of land called Anes [with abbreviation marks] towards the keeping of William my son unto the time that the said

William come to the age of xxi years if she abide a widow sole and unmarried doing no wast keeping the ... and paying the lord's rent. And also I will that Elizabeth my wife shall have the issues and profits of the three pieces of land called the Hode unto the time that Arthur my son cometh to the age of xxi years if she keep herself widow as is before rehearsed defending all charge. And if it fortune that the said Elizabeth my wife do ?marry within the time expressed than I will that immediately after that the said John and Arthur my sons shall the issues and profits of the foresaid messuage called Avercyes/Aneys to their own uses unto the time that William my son cometh to the age of xxi years, making no ?wast keeping the reparations And after the same manner I will unto the said John and Arthur my sons the profits of the three pieces of land called the Hode unto the time that Arthur my son cometh to the age of xxi years paying to Elizabeth my wife out of the said land xiiij^s and iiij^d by the year as in a deed of her?Dower more plainly will appear. And if it fortune that Arthur my son will not allow the x^{li} as is aforesaid to the use of Anne my daughter so that none payment be made that then my will and mind is that the said Anne my daughter shall enter into the three pieces of land called the Hode which was to the said Arthur before assigned and that she have and enjoy to her and her heirs for ever. Also if the said x^{li} be paid by myn overseer Thomas Fissenden or John Amherst or any of them the issues and profits of Mychels and Gyles And he or they of my said sons to whom the Hodes shall so fortune to descend refuse to allow and to pay or rebate the x^{li} by them or any of them paid that then I will that he that hath paid the x^{li} shall enter into the iii pieces of land called the Hode. And that to have and enjoy to him and to his heirs for ever. And further my mind is that and if Arthur my son happen to decease before the time that there be x^{li} growing ... out of Mychels and Gyles that then I will that John my son his executors or assigns shall take account of my overseer or of him or them that reckoneth the issues and profits of Mychells and Gyles to the use of Arthur and Anne and make up the sum of x^{li} of his rent charge to be paid to Anne my daughter as is aforesaid provided always that if the said Anne do decease before the time expressed that then my will is that the said John my son shall pay unto William my son the x^{li} or as much as is retained of the x^{li} as is aforesaid. Item I will that John my son shall have my plow with for going and coming thereunto unto Michaelmas twelvemonth. To this will being witnesses Robert Whytfeld, Thomas Fissenden John Amherst, Edward Bigson et aliis multe.
Probate at Malling 25.3.1552

William Lorken; Pembury; 1576: DRb/PRW 15/38

In the year of our lord God 1575 the fifth day of March this is the will of William Lorken of Pembury. First I will unto Alles my wife my house and my land by the term of her life after my decease and unto Elizabeth my daughter one cow. Witnessed Sir Robert Hames vicar of Pembury and Richard Sener.

Edmund Orglasse; yeoman; Hawkhurst; 1624: PRC17/66/51b

Proved 1624

In the name of God amen, the three and twentieth day of September 1620 in the eighteenth year of the reign of our sovereign lord James by the grace of God King of England France and Ireland Defender of the Faith and of Scotland the ?four and fiftieth?. I Edmund Orglas the elder of Hawkhurst in the county of Kent yeoman being of good and perfect remembrance thanks be to almighty God doo make and declare this my last will and testament in manner and form following, that is to say first I commit my soul into the hands of almighty God my maker with whom and through the merits of

Jesus Christ my saviour redeemer I hope to live eternally and my body to be buried in the churchyard of the parish church of Hawkhurst aforesaid at the discretion of my executors. Item I give and bequeath unto John Orglas my son three score pounds of good and lawful money of England to be paid unto him by my executors hereafter named in manner and form following, that is to say thirty pounds (part of the three score pounds) within one half-year next after my decease and another thirty pounds (..... of the said three score pounds) within one whole year next after my decease. Item I give and bequeath unto the said John Orglas my son one of the bedsteads in the chamber over the hall. Item I give and bequeath unto Elizabeth my daughter the wife of John ?Dupleyge twenty pounds of lawful money of England immediately after my decease. Item I give and bequeath unto Jane my daughter the wife of Peter Gibbons twelve pence of lawful money of England to be paid unto her immediately after my decease. Item I will and my very will and mind is that Agnes my wife shall during her natural life shall have hold and enjoy to her and her assigns the chamber over the buttry and the use of all the household and household stuff therein together with free egress and ingress and regress unto the same and to the usual fire kept in my house at all times and at her will and pleasure. The residue of all my goods and chattels not before willed given or bequeathed my debts having first been paid my legacies fulfilled and my funeral expenses paid and discharged I will and bequeath unto Edmund Orglas my son whom I ordain and make my whole and sole executor to and of my last will and testament.

This is the present testament and last will of me the the aforesaid Edmund Orglas the elder made and declared the day and year above said touching the conveying and disposition of all my lands and tenements situate lying and being in the parish of Hawkhurst above said in the county of Kent or elsewhere. First I give and bequeath unto Agnes my wife one annuity or yearly rent of four pounds of good and lawful money of England to be issuing and being out of all my one messuage or tenement wherein I now dwell barns stables and all other edifices and buildings thereunto belonging occupied or enjoyed situate lying or being in the parish of Hawkhurst above said in the county of Kent to be paid unto her yearly every year during her natural life at the four most usual terms or feasts in the year, that is to say, the feast of St. Michael the archangel, the nativity of our blessed lord and saviour Christ Jesus the annunciation of the blessed Lady St. Mary the Virgin and St. John the Baptist

By equal and even portions to be paid the first payment thereof to begin at that feast that shall next happen after the decease of me the said Edmund Orglas thereon. But if it shall happen the said annuity or yearly rent of four pounds or any part or piece thereof to be or unpaid that then it shall be lawful to and for the said Agnes my wife and her assigns to enter in or distrain in or on all or any part of the said messuage and land [whole section setting out safeguards to the annuity and action to be taken if it defaults.]

Item I give and bequeath unto Edmund Orglas my son all my said messuage and tenement wherein I now dwell the barns stables and all other edifices buildings thereunto belonging with all my lands which I have in the parish of Hawkhurst or elsewhere in the county of Kent to him the said Edmund my son and his heirs in fee simple for ever. The payment unto Agnes my wife the annuity or early rent of four pounds above given unto her and unto my son John Orglas his legacy of three score pounds in the manner and form as is above specified. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal dated the day and year above written the mark of Edmund Orglas the elder.

Witnesses hereunto John Pope.

Probatum fuit ... testamentum Edmund Orglas senior nuper vivit Parochia de Hawkhurst 6.10.1624 Edmund Orglas filii et executoris....

Dionyse Pearson; widow; Brenchley; 1599: DRb/Pwr17

Bequest to the poor of Brenchley

Body to be buried in Brenchley churchyard next to late husband

Bequests to:

Roger Peirson, son of son George

John, Agnes and Marie Peirson three other of my children (not sure if this is grandchildren)

Walter and Thomas Peirson, sons of son Thomas

Agnes Peirson my said son's daughter

Stephen, Walter and Elizabeth Peirson children of son Walter

Thomas and Elizabeth Peirsons children

.... William and Elizabeth Peirson my son William's children

William and Thomas Maye sons of William Maye and 'Elizabeth my daughter'

Thomas Osmere? Son of John Osmere?

Elizabeth Maye and Marye Osmere? My daughters

Stephen Peirson my son John's son

Elizabeth Peirson my son John's daughter

Lists her own children again at the end: Thomas, William, George, Walter, John,

Elizabeth and Marye

Witness: William Lorkyn

John Pearson; yeoman; Horsmonden; 1785: DRa Pwr 9/187

This is the last will and testament of me John Pearson of Horsmonden in the County of Kent Yeoman made and published this 10th day of June in the year of our Lord 1783

First and principally I commend my soul unto Almighty God and my body I commit to the Earth to be decently buried at the discretion of my executrix hereafter named and I dispose of such temporal estate as it has pleased God to bestow on me as follows I give and devise and my daughter Elizabeth Foreman of Marden in the said County widow one annuity or yearly rent charge of two pounds of lawful money of Great Britain and to my daughter Margaret Pearson of Goudhurst in the said County spinster I give and devise one annuity or yearly rent charge of three pounds of like money the same to be paid to my said daughters yearly during the term of their respective natural lives without any deduction for taxes or other impositions whatsoever the first payment to be made on the feast day of the Nativity of our Lord Christ which will happen next after my decease And I do hereby charge and make liable my messuage or tenement (wherein I now dwell) with the buildings lands and premises thereto belonging and therewith now or late used by me situate being in Horsmonden aforesaid with the payment of the said several annuities with full power from my said daughters and each of them (on nonpayment of the said annuities or either of them) to enter into and upon the said messuage lands and premises and there to distrain for the same and the distress and distresses there found to take and dispose of according to law for the recovering and obtaining the said annuities and each of them together with the costs and charges if any are as is usual and customary in such cases Also I give and devise to my daughter Mary (now the wife of John Burr of Horsmonden aforesaid farmer) and her heirs and assigns for ever all the said messuage buildings lands and premises above-mentioned with their appurtenances (subject to the payment of the said annuities) And also all and every other my messuages lands and premises and real estate whatsoever and wheresoever Also I give and bequeath to my said daughter Mary all and every my goods chattels and personal estate whatsoever after payment of my debts and funeral expenses and probate of this my will and do hereby make and appoint my said daughter Mary executrix of this my last will and testament and

do revoke and make void all former wills by me made declaring this to be my last will and testament. In witness whereof I the said John Pearson (the testator) have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year first above written. John Pearson.

Signed sealed published and declared by the said John Pearson the testator 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 here to subscribe our names as witnesses Jn^o Pope. Tho: Hopper. George Feshendon.

Proved at Rochester 3rd December 1785 by the oath of Mary Burr daughter of the deceased and sole executrix.

James Pierson snr, yeoman; Brenchley; 1687: DRb/Pwr 25/465

proved 1687 at Rochester

Soul commended to God; body to be buried at discretion of execs

To wife Mary Peirson £20, 1 trundle bedstead and coverlet of several colours, 1 blanket, 2 pairs of flaxen and 1 pair hempen sheets, a flock bed, little pot, brass kettle and iron pot.

To daughters Ann and Mary, £10.

To son Stephen Peirson 40 shillings.

To son James, executor, the rest of the estate.

Signed James Peirson.

Witnessed: Nicholas Swatland, Richard Wakelyn, Tomothy Stileman

James Peirson; malster; Horsmonden; 1721: DRb/Pwr/31/356

Proved 1.4.1721 Rochester

20.3.1709

Burial at discretion of executors

Messuage etc by the name of Capel Cross in Horsmonden, 18 acres of land in Squire Field, Barn Field, Wendle Field and Winter Field, i.e. 4 pieces of land called Hamletts, descended to him from John Perrin the elder, clothier of Horsmonden, father-in-law, bequeathed to wife Sarah Pearson, provided she remain a widow and keeps the property in good repair.

The aforementioned, after the decease or day of marriage of Sarah, to son John on attaining 21 years.

Three pieces of land in Deane St. in East Farleigh, the half bequeathed by John Perrin, the other purchased from John Tanner (joint heir of John Perrin) to daughters Sarah and Mary.

All personal estate to wife Sarah – same provisions.

After Sarah's death or marriage, personal estate to be equally divided between John, Sarah and Mary Pearson.

Wife Sarah only to benefit if she remains unmarried.

Wife Sarah and son John to be execs.

John Clive, gent. of Horsmonden to oversee will.

John Pearson the elder; carpenter; Brenchley; 1591: DRb/Pw 15

14th October 1590

Body to be buried in Brenchley churchyard.

Bequest to the poor of Brenchley

Bequests to:

Son William, principal heir, with responsibility for ensuring wife Dyonise has her portion

Dyonise to have the moiety of a lease if William defaults in paying her £10.
Daughter Marie Pearson
Son John Pearson
John and Susan Pearson, children of son George
William and Thomas ?Oijohn? Children of daughter Elizabeth
Stephen and Walter sons of son Walter
Walter and Thomas sons of son Thomas
John, William and Elizabeth children of son William
Wife Dyonise to be executrix
Lands and tenements to go to sons George, Thomas, Walter and John
To son George a little tenement and garden in Brenchley in the occupation of Fran...
Coop. After his death to Roger Peirson son of George
To son Thomas messuage called ?Hermes and 7 acres of land
To sons Walter and John tenement called Besbeech in Brenchley.
Witnesses: Humphrey Ley, John Parkyn and Alexander Rymington

William Peren; Goudhurst, 1562; PRC 17/37/17a

In the name of God amen the 20th day of May fifteen hundred threescore and two I William Peren of Goudhurst in the County of Kent being in perfect memory thanks be unto Almighty God do ordain and make this my last testament and will in manner and form following First I bequeath my soul unto Almighty God and my body to be buried in Christian burial Item I will and bequeath to John Peryn my son one brode lowme [broadloom?] and winding trendle [wheel or spindle] and five brode slayes [the hand board of a loom] two of them of the best and two the second; and one of the worst to be delivered to John when that he does come to the age of 21 years. Item I will and bequeath to the child that my wife going withal if it be a son or daughter one brode lowme [broadloom?] and winding trendle [wheel or spindle] and five brode slayes [the hand board of a loom] two of them of the best and two the second; and one of the worst to be delivered to the said child when that he or she does come to the age of 21 years, and these looms and trendles and slayes to be in the use and occupying of my wife till my children do come to their age one after another as aforesaid, and my wife to keep these looms trendles and slayes in as good ample manner as they may be kept and my wife for to keep my children till they be of the age of... years All the residue of my goods my debts legacies and funeral expenses discharged contented and paid I will and bequeath unto Margaret my wife whom I ordain and make of this my last will and testament executor. Witnesses hereunto Richard Brande, Henry ?Fakeneyr and William Colleyn. Probate granted to Richard Brande and Henry ?Fakeneyr 10.12.1602.

Rebecca Richardson; Horsmonden; 1785: DRa Pwr 9/172

March 24 day 1784, I do hereby commit my body to the ground to be decently buried by my brother Daniel Richardson and I do here make him my full and whole executor for this my last will and testament being now low and weak in health but in sound memory I do hereby will and bequeath in this manner following.
Unto my loving brother I do hereby give Thomas Richardson the sum of one shilling to be paid within 12 months and one day after my decease.
Also I do hereby give my brother James Richardson the sum of seven pounds seven shillings to be paid within 12 months and one day after my decease Also I do hereby give to my loving brother Daniel Richardson full power and authority to be my executor to receive all moneys and pay my legacies that I have willed and bequeathed. Also I do

hereby give and my loving brother John Richardson the sum of five pounds to be paid him at five quarterly payments that it is to say 20 shillings each payment after my decease Also I do hereby give unto my sister Sarah Rogers all that dwellinghouse that I now live in at Horsmonden Hoth for her life and after her decease I do hereby give it then unto John and Daniel Rogers and their heirs for ever Also I do further give my sister Sarah Rogers what clothes she likes of my wearing apparel Also I do hereby give unto my brother-in-law Thomas Bannister the sum of £10 to be paid by my executor in 12 months and one day after my decease.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal unto this my last will and testament the day and date above written in the presence of Andrew Fromings John Fowler as witnesses to this will and testament – Rebecca X (her mark) Richardson.
John Fowler Andrew Fromings

Proved at Rochester 28th March 1785 by the oath of Daniel Richardson, brother, executor.

Thomas Richardson; yeoman; Horsmonden; 1743: DRa/PW9

In the name of God amen I Thomas Richardson the elder of Horsmonden in the County of Kent Yeoman being of perfect mind and memory (thanks be to God) do this 20th day of November in the year of our Lord 1740 make and ordain this my last will and testament in writing in manner and form following. First I give and bequeath unto my daughter Elizabeth Richardson for and during the term of her life one annuity or yearly rent charge of seven pounds and 10 shillings to be issuing and going out of my farm and land in Goudhurst in the occupation of Edward Phillips and to be paid to her weekly by my son Tho^s Richardson of Horsmonden aforesaid yeoman his heirs or assigns The first payment thereof to begin and be made on that Monday which will first happen after my decease but my will and meaning is that seven pounds part of the said seven pounds and 10 shillings and no more be applied towards the board and maintenance of my said daughter Elizabeth and that the other 10 shillings be applied towards providing her clothes and no other use. Also I give and bequeath unto my daughters Ann wife of Thomas Waghorn and Mary wife of Henry Beeching 20 shillings a year apiece during their natural lives to be issuing and going out of my said farm and lands in Goudhurst to be paid to them by my said son Thomas Richardson by quarterly payments The first payment thereof to begin and be made within one quarter of the year next after my decease. Also I give and devise all that my aforesaid messuage farm lands and premises in Goudhurst aforesaid in the occupation of Edward Phillips unto my said son Thomas Richardson he paying the aforesaid weekly and quarterly payments in manner aforesaid. Also I order that all my goods and chattels whatsoever and wheresoever shall be sold and the monies thereof arising be divided equally share and share alike between my said son Thomas Richardson and Mary the wife of Henry Beeching. Also I make and appoint my said son Thomas Richardson and the said Henry Beeching executors of this my last will and testament. In witness whereof I have to this my last will and testament contained in one sheet of paper set my hand and seal the day and year first above written.

Signed sealed published and declared in the presence of us

Thomas Reeve

The mark † of Thomas

John Collins

Richardson the elder

Joⁿ Mandett

This will was proved at Rochester on the 17th day of March 1742 before the Rev Caleb Harfort clerk master in arts as surrogate by the oaths of Thomas Richardson the son and Henry Beeching executors in the said will... To whom was granted administration being first sworn duly to administer.

Thomas Richardson; yeoman; Horsmonden; 1777: DRb/Pw 61

Proved at Rochester, 1777.

Usual openings.

To my wife Sarah Richardson an annuity of £8 for life, drawn from property at Goudhurst. To my wife, an annuity of £60 on property of about 60 acres at Withyham, now occupied by my sons James and John. To my wife, all my silver plate, wearing apparel, and a chest of drawers standing in the best chamber of my dwelling house, to dispose of at death to whichever child she wishes.

To my daughter Mary, wife of Thomas Bannister, an annuity of 50/- from Goudhurst property.

To my son Thomas, the Goudhurst property.

To my daughter Sarah, wife of John Rogers of Withyham, an annuity of 50/- for her own use apart from her husband.

To my daughter Rebecca Richardson, 50/- annuity.

To my sons James, John and Daniel, the property in Withyham.

To Mary Bannister the messuage in Horsmonden occupied by George Bathurst.

To Sarah Rogers the messuage in Horsmonden occupied by ... Collins and Thomas Bristow.

To my three daughters £10 each.

The rest of my money to be equally divided between my four sons: Thomas, James, Daniel and John, to be executors.

Proved by the oath of Thomas Richardson.

SUSSEX

Stephen Austen; Mayfield; 1589; PBT/2/2/1/2

In the name of God amen the 16th day of January in the year of our Lord God 1588 according to the computation of the church of England [etc]

I Stephen Austin of Mayfield in the County of Sussex and in the... jurisdiction of South Malling sick of body but of a perfect remembrance thanks be given to Almighty God do make and ordain this my present testament and last will in... manner and form following. First I bequeath to Almighty God my maker and Redeemer my body to be buried in the churchyard of Mayfield above said. Item I will to the poor of Mayfield aforesaid. 21d.

Item I bequeath unto Susan Austin my daughter £10 of lawful money of England to be paid her within two months next after my decease. Item I give and bequeath unto Johane my wife all my movable goods corn cattle household stuff... To bring up my young children withall and if Johanne my wife do fortune for to marry after my decease then I will to Stephen Austin Thomas Austin and Mary Austin three children by Johanne my now wife to each of them at their several ages of 21 years £8 6 shillings 4 pence apiece and also I further bequeath them £5 of lawful money of England to be equally divided between my children of my first wife to be divided unto them within two months next after her marriage and I appoint and ordain Johanne my wife to be my sole executrix.

Item I ordain and make Thomas Filpott of Hawkhurst in the County of Kent Thomas S... of Mayfield above said the trusty overseers of this my last will and testament and I give to each of them three shillings for pence apiece before their charges born about the... Of this my will inventory or other affairs..... I will that at at what... my sole executrix shall prove this my will that they and this same time.....

John Barham; Ticehurst; 1635: B7 p57, XA 26/5

17.9.1635

1st entry is an admon to Agnes Barham, relict of John of Ticehurst

2nd one is also an admon, seemingly by a son of John deceased

John Barham; yeoman; Wadhurst; Deanery of S. Malling; 1597/9: B67

29.11.1597/10.1.1599

To daughter Margaret, son William, son Richard, wife Margaret, brother William

Richard Barham; Ticehurst; 1638: B7 113

Admon to Mary Barham, relict

8.10.1638

William Barham; yeoman; Wadhurst; 1589: A16 f 260

Deanery of South Malling

In the name of God amen the tenth day of September Anno Domini 1589 I William Barham the elder of Wadhurst in the county of Sussex yeoman being sick in body but of good and perfect remembrance God be thanked therefore do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following. And first I bequeath my soul into the hands of God my maker trusting to have forgiveness and remission of all my sins through the merit of Jesus Christ my only saviour. And my body to be buried in the churchyard of Wadhurst aforesaid. Item I give to the poor people of Wadhurst aforesaid ten shillings to be distributed at the discretion of my executors within one month next after my decease. Item I will and bequeath unto Ann my wife my best bedstead and bed with all that belongeth to the same and a new joined cupboard to be for her to use during her life and after her decease my will is that the same shall remain unto my son William and his assigns. Item I give and bequeath unto my said wife my best cow to be taken at her election also I give to my said wife iiij bushels of wheat and iiij bushels of malt the best iron pot saving one and also ij pewter platters ij pewter dishes ij pottengers and ij saucers. And a little joined chair and cushion the best brass kettle a brass ?stupnet and the third part of all my linen to be equally shifted. And the other two parts thereof I give and bequeath to my son Nicholas. Item I give to my son William my least/best spytt my best coat and the lying by the new ?stall. Also I give and bequeath to my son William five pounds to be paid to him within one year next after my decease. Also I give unto my said wife a chest which she commonly hath used and one other old chest ij firkins a ?keeler and a tub and a flitch of bacon and also a pail and a stone pot. And the residue of my goods and chattels moveable and unmoveable I give and bequeath unto my said son Nicholas whom I make and ordain to be my only executor of this my last will and testament. And I do revoke all other wills and testaments heretofore by me made.

This is the last will and testament of me the said William Barham made the day and year above written concerning the disposition of all my lands and tenements as well freehold as copyhold. That is to say my will is that my son Nicholas shall have the use occupation and profit of all my lands and tenements as well freehold as copyhold during the term of one whole year after my decease. And after that year ended I will and bequeath unto my son John and his heirs for ever according to the custom of the manor of Maiyhfield one messuage and one acre of new assart with the appurtenances in Wadhurst upon condition that he pay or cause to be paid unto my son William his executors or assigns

twenty pounds of lawful money of England in the church porch of Wadhurst aforesaid within nine years next after my decease and if default be made in the payment of the said xx^{li} or any part thereof then I give and bequeath the said messuage and one acre of new assart with the appurtenances unto my said son William and his heirs for ever. All the residue of my copyhold land as well free copy as bond copy after the said year after my decease ended I give and bequeath unto my said son John and his heirs for ever. Also I will and bequeath unto my said son John (after one year next after my decease ended) one parcel of my freehold land called Speynes with the appurtenances divided with a prayle containing by estimation xi acres to have and to hold to him and his heirs for ever upon condition that he pay to my son Nicholas his heirs or assigns five and twenty pounds of lawful money of England at or in the church porch in Wadhurst in manner following that is to say xv^{li} within one year next after my decease and the other x^{li} within two years next after my decease and if default be made in payment of any part of the said xxv^{li} in manner aforesaid then I will and bequeath the said parcel of land called Spenyes with the appurtenances unto my said son Nicholas and his heirs for ever. Item I give and bequeath unto my said son John (after one year next after my decease ended all those my two parcels of freehold land called Fernreed and Spenyes Grove with appurtenances to have and to hold unto him and his heirs for ever upon condition that he pay or cause to be paid unto my son William his executors or assigns the sum of thirty pounds of lawful money of England in the church porch of Wadhurst in manner following that is to say fifteen pounds within three years next after my decease and the other xv^{li} within four years next after my decease. And if default be made in payment of any part of the said thirty pounds then I give and bequeath unto my said son William all my said two parcels of freehold land called Fernreed and Spenyes Grove with the appurtenances to have and to hold unto my said son William and his heirs for ever.

Those being witnesses John Lorkyn, William Durrant, Thomas Markwik, John Barham and Thomas Ballard with others.

Probate 16.9.1589 to Nicholas Barham, son.

William Barham; yeoman; Ticehurst; 1614: A14 235-6

Deanery of South Malling

In the name of God amen on the seventh day of June Anno Domini 1614 and in the year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord James by the Grace of God of England France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith the twelfth and of Scotland the seven and fortieth This is the will nuncupative of William Barham late of Ticehurst in the county of Sussex yeoman deceased made and declared the day and year abovesaid as himself in his lifetime did utter and make known unto us whose names are hereunder written as followeth First he did surrender unto us Thomas Cogger Anthony Barnes and Edward Hodely in the lifetime of the said Edward tenants of the Right Honourable Vicount Lyle of this manor of Robertsbridge according to the custom All that his tenements and land of copyhold holden of the manor aforesaid called Skynes in Ticehurst aforesaid to the use of John Barham his eldest son and his heirs for ever upon condition that he the said John his heirs and assigns should pay or cause to be paid unto Thomas Barham William Barham and Richard Barham three of the other sons of the said William and to their heirs to each of them twenty pounds apiece when they shall accomplish their several ages of five and twenty years And also that the said John Barham and his heirs shall pay or cause to be paid unto Joane and Mary Barham the daughters of the said William Barham and to their heirs to each of them twenty pounds apiece when they shall accomplish the age of three and twenty years And that if the said John Barham do make default in payment

thereof in such manner as is aforesaid then he did give the same lands and tenements aforesaid unto Richard Barham his son and his heirs upon condition that he pay the same as aforesaid And further his will and mind was that Barbara his wife should have the use and occupation of his said tenements and lands called Skynes for and during the full term of ten years next ensuing after his decease towards the education and bringing up of his said children during the said term and likewise did give and bequeath unto the said Thomas Barham his son one joined bedstead one featherbed and all things thereunto belonging two pair of sheets one joined chest and one brass cauldron to be delivered to him immediately after the decease of the said Barbara his mother and the other household stuff to be equally divided between all of his children likewise after her decease. The residue off all his moveable goods and chattels he did give unto the said Barbara his wife whom he did make his executrix to pay his debts and bring up his children. In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals the day and year first above written.

Signed Thomas Cogger, Anthony Barnes, Robert Beale his mark. William Nayshe script. Probatum octavo die Junii 1614 Juremento Barbara Barham relict

John Gouldsmith, snr; weaver; Rotherfield; 1695/6: A10 6-277 or PBT/1/1/10/6B
16.3.1595 16.10. 1596

In the name of God amen the 21st day of March in the year of our Lord God after the computation of the church of England 1595 and in the 37th year of the reign of our sovereign Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God of England France and Ireland Queen Defender of the Faith etc. I John Gouldsmyth the elder of Rotherfield in the County of Sussex weaver being sick in body but of good and perfect memory thanks be to God do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following that is to say first and principally I give and bequeath my soul unto Almighty God my maker saviour and redeemer and my body to the earth from whence it came and decently to be buried according to the custom of our country. Item I give and bequeath unto the maintenance of the great bell of Rotherfield 20d. Item I give and bequeath unto the poor people of the parish of Rotherfield to be bestowed at my burial... to be paid by mine executrix hereafter named. Item I give and bequeath unto Anthony Goldsmith my son six shillings eight pence to be paid by mine executrix within one whole year next after my decease. Item I give and bequeath unto Joan Philips the daughter of John Philips my son-in-law one... hanging for a bed and a pair of sheets to be delivered to her at the age of 18 years and if the said Joan to die before she come to the age of 18 years then my will is that the said hanging and pair of sheets shall remain to Thomasin my wife. Item I will and my very mind is that Thomasin my wife shall have yearly during her natural life six shillings eight pence of the 13 shillings 4 pence... out of my house and garden and the other 6 shillings and 8 pence being the residue of the said 13 shillings 4 pence I will and my mind is it shall be bestowed yearly upon my house towards the reparations thereof by the discretion of my executrix. All the rest of my movable goods and chattels my debts paid my legacies performed and my funeral expenses discharged I give and bequeath fully and completely unto Thomasin my wife whom I make and ordain my full and whole executrix of this my last will. I utterly revoke and... all other wills heretofore made and my will is that John Holmes shall be my faithful... to have for his pains 12 p and his charges born. These being witnesses John Goldsmith... John Farmer and John Hasmer senior

John Gouldsmith jnr; Rotherfield; 1614: A14 260-56

8.8.1614 30.8 1614. Names father John Goldsmith, sisters Elizabeth, Joan, Mary, Frances, Jane and Barbara

Richard Gouldsmith; yeoman; Framfield; 1638/1638: F47 XA 26/14

29.9.1638. Proved 13.10.1638

Bequests to son Barnabie, daughter Agnes Wright, granddaughter Agnes Wright, daughter Margaret Morphew and her daughter Elizabeth, Richard Goldsmith son of son William Goldsmith. Reference to late wife Dorothy,

William Goldsmith; Burwash; 1600: A11 131-5

27.3.1600 Proved Lewes. Single man. Bequests to numerous siblings and their offspring, includes Henry, William, Andrew, Matthew, Joan, Elizabeth

**William Goldsmith snr; husbandman; Framfield; 1636/7: F8 XA 26/14
19.4.1636 26.4.1637**

Bequests to younger son William, son Anthony daughter Elizabeth Vine wife of Thos Vine. Names brother Richard Goldsmith. Wit: Thomas Goldsmith

William Goulsmithe; Framfield; 1640: F80 XA 26/14

22.4.1640. Proved 2.6.1640

Bequests to Anthony Goldsmith, brother, sister Elizabeth Vine, Others at Rotherfield and East Grinstead

William Lorkyn; Brenchley; 1574/5: SAS-CO/91

20s and 3 bushels of wheat for bread to poor of Brenchley

£1 13/4 to poor of Pepingbury

£1 13/4 to poor of Capell

I give unto my aunt Agnes Lorkyn £1 5/-

To cousin ?Sawers wife 12d and to her children 12d

To cousin Wm Lorkyn 2/6 and to his children 12d

To cousin ?Burs wife 12d and to her children 12d

To John Cheseman ³/₄ and to his children 6d

To Wm Batts the weaver 12d

To Andrew ?Bonradge the elder xxd

To Margaret Stringer wid 6/8

To Ann Hills 12d

To John Tindley 10/-

To my brother Lenard Chamberlaine £6 8/4 plus best apparel and feather bolster now at John Pearsons

To all godchildren 2/6

To cousin Edward Lorkyn's children 6d

To sister Mildred Latter 40/-

To sister Bennett Everfelde £3 6/8

To brother Arthur Lorkyn 40/-

To sister Anne Jenkins 30/- and a silver pynn and a pair of silver hooks

To sisters Mildred and Bennett a great chest now at John Pearsons and the stuff in it

To cousin John Evernden 26/-
To cousin Ann Hoo 6/8
To cousin Eliz Lorkyn 10/-
To Thos Chapell 12d
To Martha Maye 12d
To Mother Childer 12d
To Richard Maie choice of best working ...
All the rest to brother John Lorkyn – sole exec
Debts owing unto the estate: Robert Williams 13/- Edward Lorkyn 20/- John Hills of
Hadlow 10/- John Tyndley 6/8 Richard Sawer 10/-
Disposition of land:
To brother John Lorkyn house called Averills with land etc in Brenchley, Pepingbery and
Capell
Richard Mary [should this be May?] and Anne now the wife of the said Richard shall
have the occupation of the land afs for 8 yrs.
Witnessed: Richard May, John Everfelde, Richard Johnson, John Turke
Proved 15.5.1575

**James Richardson; Withyham; 1834 – Extract in ACC4937/Box 3 1752 – 1979
Clients' Papers re. Stephnett's Farm**

Know all Men by these Presents I John Kettle of the Parish of Croydon in the County of Surrey Horsedealer Send Greetings Whereas in the last Will and testament in writing of James Richardson late of the Parish of Withyham deceased bearing date the twenty-fourth of August one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four are the words following “Whereas John Kettle of Croydon in Surrey the husband of my sister Sarah stands now indebted in or about the sum of six hundred and seventy- five pounds to myself and my brother Daniel Richardson Now it is my will and meaning and I hereby bequeath my moiety of such sum to the said John Kettle absolutely with all interest that may be due thereon at my decease And I further direct that the other moiety of such sum so due as aforesaid to my brother Daniel Richardson shall be discharged by my said brother to the said John Kettle immediately on my decease without any consideration for the same / save and except the moneys and effects left by this my will to my said brother Daniel And in case my said brother Daniel refuses to discharge such sum accordingly I direct that my said brother-in-law John Kettle shall be paid a sum to the same amount out of my estate within six months after my decease.” And the said testator appointed his brother the said Daniel Richardson Sole Executor and Trustee of his said will which was duly proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury on the fifteenth day of September one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four

John Richardson, Withyham, 1807

In the name of God amen. I John Richardson of the parish of Withyham in the County of Sussex being of sound mind and memory and minding to settle these worldly estates which God has bestowed on me do declare this my last will and testament in form following My will and desire is that all my just debts which I owe at my decease be paid by my executors hereinafter mentioned and of my movable effects I will and bequeath unto my son Thomas Richardson the sum of 20 shillings of good and lawful money to be paid him out of my movables by my executors hereinafter mentioned within one year and one day after my decease. I will demise and bequeath unto my son James Richardson all my part of the estate called by the name of the Home Barn land buildings lying

situated and being in the parish of Withyham in the County of Sussex. I will demise and bequeath unto my youngest son John Richardson all my part of the estate called and known by the name of the Bear Garden lands and also all my part of the estate called and known by the name of Steven's farm both situated lying and being in the parish of Withyham in the County of Sussex. The use of all the aforesaid estates together with the movables thereon my will and desire is shall be for the use and purpose of maintaining and bringing up of my aforesaid sons James Richardson and John Richardson my daughters Rebecca Richardson and Ann Richardson and for maintaining my wife Ann Richardson until my aforesaid son John Richardson shall attain to and be the age of 21 years. And my will and desire is that no timber shall be cut of my aforesaid lands and farms until my son John Richardson shall be of the age of 21 years except timber for necessary repairs and when and so soon as my son John Richardson shall be the age of 21 years my will and desire is that there may and shall be timber cut in proportionable quantities of the aforesaid lands and farms sufficient in value to pay unto each and every one of my daughters – viz – Sarah Richardson Rebecca Richardson Diana Richardson and Ann Richardson the sum of £20 each of good and lawful money. My will and desire is that so soon as my son John Richardson shall attain to be at the age of 21 years that my son James Richardson from and after that time shall pay to my daughters Sarah Richardson and Ann Richardson the sum of 20 shillings per year during the time of their natural lives out of the produce of my aforesaid estate called and known by the name of the Home Barn land and buildings situate lying and being in the parish of Withyham in the County of Sussex. And my will and desire is that so soon as my son John Richardson shall attain to be the age of 21 years he shall pay unto my wife Ann Richardson the sum of five pounds per year of good and lawful money and to my daughters Rebecca Richardson and Diana Richardson the sum of 20 shillings per year each of good and lawful money during the time of their natural lives out of the produce of my aforesaid estates called and known by the several names of the Bear Garden lands and Steven's Farm, both lying situated and being in the parish of Withyham in the County of Sussex. All the provisions and legacies to my wife and Richardson to be void and not paid nor allowed if she my wife shall marry after my decease and not continue a widow. And when my son John Richardson shall have attained the age of 21 years my will and desire is that all the movables then remaining be jointly shared between my sons James Richardson and John Richardson share and share alike. I do hereby nominate constitute and appoint Thomas Cork farmer of the parish of Withyham in the County of Sussex and John Haley victualler of the parish of Ashurst in the County of Kent jointly and fully executors and trustees of this my last will and testament and I do bequeath unto the said Thomas Cork and John Haley the sum of 40 shillings each of good and lawful money out of my movable effects provided they act and for their trouble of acting as executors and trustees of this my last will and testament. And I do here by revoke and make void all other wills and testaments heretofore made by me and do declare this my last will and testament made signed this and sealed by me this 12th day of September in the year of our Lord 1806.

John Richardson

Signed sealed and declared to be the last will and testament by the above written John Richardson on the day and year above written in the presence of us who at his request and in his presence have set our hands as witnesses to this his last will and testament the 12th day of September 1806.

John Groombridge)

Thomas Guest)

Witnesses

John Turner)

The executors renounced their executry and letters of administration were granted to Ann Richardson, widow, 12.1.1807. Estate not exceeding £200.

Richard Meller; Brenchley; 1436: SAS-CO/1/86

Reference to lands with prefix Mellers, and to daughters Joanna and Agnes.

John Wybarne; Pembury: 1590 : SAS-CO/1/85

Reference to: 'house and land in Tonbridge and Peppingbury in the occupation of John Lorkin', and then 'I will unto Edward Wybarne my son... my tenement and land in Tonbridge and Peppinbury now in the occupation of the said John Lorkin'

Also has land in Ticehurst and Wadhurst. Seems to be a connection to the manor of Bayhall