

John Aylwyn of Basingstoke, gentleman, 1654
Re: TNA PROB 11/236/418

In the name of God so be it the one and twentieth day of November in the year of our Lord God one thousand six hundred fifty and three I John Aylwyn of Basingstoke in the county of Southampton gentleman, being of perfect memory and understanding, praised be God for it, do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following **That is** to say, first I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God my faithful Creator assuredly trusting that only through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ my ever blessed Saviour and Redeemer by faith in his blood I shall obtain remission of all my sins and have an inheritance incorruptible in the kingdom of heaven amongst them that are sanctified. **And I** commend my body to the earth from whence it came, likewise trusting of a joyful resurrection thereof at the last day to be buried in decent manner either in the body of the church of Basingstoke aforesaid or in the chancel of the same church if I die there at the discretion of Jane my beloved wife and sole executrix herein afterwards ordained.

And as touching both real and personal estate which it pleased God yet to leave me, the same being much impaired and lessened for what formerly the same was by reason of the late troublesome times and other crosses and losses by fire and otherwise, first revoking and making void all former wills and testaments by me heretofore made. **My will** is and I do appoint that the said Jane my wife immediately from and after my decease for and during the term of her natural *life* shall and may have, hold and enjoy all that my messuage or tenement wherein I do now inhabit and dwell and the outhouses, barn, stable buildings, gardens, backsides and other appurtenances thereunto belonging or therewith used and occupied situate lying and being in Basingstoke aforesaid in the county aforesaid. **And also** all my meadow ground lying in Wytermore¹ in the county aforesaid. **And also** I give, devise and bequeath unto my said wife all those my two closes the one arable and the other meadow ground lying and being both together in the parish of Basingstoke aforesaid at or near a place there called [Fowleflond] and which I heretofore purchased of Lawrence Reve with the appurtenances to have and to hold the same two closes with the appurtenances unto my said wife and her assigns immediately from and after my decease unto the end and term of twenty years from thence next ensuing and fully to be complete and ended if she my said wife shall so long live and shall so long continue and be a widow after my decease.

Also I give and devise unto my said wife all those my four closes of arable land with the appurtenances containing by estimation forty and six acres be they more or less lying and being altogether in the parish of Bentworth in the county aforesaid adjoining or near unto the highway there leading from Bentworth aforesaid towards Medstead in the said county to have and to hold the said four closes of arable land with the appurtenances unto her my said wife and her assigns immediately from and after my decease for and during the term of thirty years if she shall so long live and shall so long continue and be a widow and unmarried after my decease.

¹ Probably Wildmoor.

Also I give and bequeath unto my now eldest daughter Mary Aylwyn one hundred pounds of good and lawful money of England to be paid unto her by my said executrix as soon as may conveniently be after my decease, provided always and saving that she, my said daughter Mary, is to allow and make abatement out of the said hundred pounds of and for all such principal monies and debts as she, the said Mary, has heretofore already received or hereafter in my lifetime shall have or receive which were lately due and owing unto my late eldest daughter Ann Aylwyn deceased at the time of her death. **And also** of and for all such bonds, bills and specialties as have been here before given or entered into or hereafter in my lifetime shall be given or entered into unto her the said Mary for any principal debts or sums of money which were lately due and owing unto my said daughter Ann Aylwyn at the time of her decease as aforesaid according to the quantities and particulars of the same debts and sums of monies respectively.

Also I give, devise and bequeath unto my said daughter Mary Aylwyn all those my three closes and parcels of arable land called or known by the name or names of Billhangers or by whatsoever other name or names the same or any of them be called or known containing by estimation thirty acres be the more or less with the appurtenances lying and being altogether in the parish of Bentworth aforesaid and now or late in the possession and occupation of Francis Ryder or of his assigns or assigns [sic] to have and to hold the said three closes and parcels of arable land with the appurtenances last before mentioned unto her my said daughter Mary Aylwyn her executors, administrators and assigns immediately from and after my decease unto the end term of forty years from thence next ensuing fully to be complete and ended.

And also I give and devise unto my said daughter Mary Aylwyn all that my coppice and wood ground called or known by the name of Wadeswich or by whatsoever other name or names the same be called or known containing by estimation twenty acres be it more or less with the appurtenances in the parish of Bentworth aforesaid adjoining to three last mentioned closes or some of them, to have and to hold the said coppice and wood ground with the appurtenances unto her my said daughter Mary Aylwyn her executors, administrators and assigns immediately from and after my decease unto the end and term of thirty and five years from thence next ensuing fully to be complete and ended. **Which said** three last mentioned closes and parcels of land and the said coppice and wood ground with the appurtenances I together with George Aylwyn then my eldest son since deceased purchased of Edward Hunt and John Hunt his son or one of them with power and liberty contained in the deed of purchase thereof for me by any Act of Deed executed in my lifetime or in, or by my last will and testament in writing to make and grant any lease or leases of the said last mentioned premises or any of them to commence as aforesaid and not exceeding the term of forty years as by the same deed of purchase more plainly may appear, provided always and upon condition nevertheless.

And it is my will and meaning that if Thomas Aylwyn my son and heir apparent within the space of four years next after he shall accomplish and be of the full age of twenty and one years do and shall well and truly pay or cause to be paid unto my said daughter Mary Aylwyn her executors, administrators or assigns the full and whole sum of two hundred pounds of good and lawful money of England for and towards the better maintenance and increase of the portion of her, the said Mary,

that then and immediately from thence forth both the said gifts, devises and leases herebefore specified as well that of the said three closes and parcels of land as also those of the said coppice and wood ground and every of them with the appurtenances shall cease, determine and be utterly void to all intents and purposes as if the same had never been had or made. **And in** the meantime from and after my decease until default of payment or time of payment of the said sum of two hundred pounds so to be paid as aforesaid shall be made or shall come, my will and meaning is that my said daughter Mary Aylwyn her executors, administrators and assigns to her and their own proper use shall and may from time to time and at all times have, hold and enjoy all the said three closes and parcels of land and the herbage, pannage and feeding if the said coppice and wood ground and every of them with the appurtenances and receive, perceive and take the rents, issues and profits thereof provided always that it shall not be lawful to or for my said daughter Mary Aylwyn her executors, administrators or assigns at any time or times whilst she or they shall so have, hold and enjoy the said coppice and wood ground or any part thereof as aforesaid to cause or suffer any of the underwoods or coppicewood standing, growing or being in the saide coppice or wood ground until the same shall be of the age and growth of twelve years or upwards. **Also my** will and meaning is, and I hereby give full power and authority unto my said beloved wife and executrix to sell, put to sale and make sale of all that messuage and all those lands, tenements and hereditaments with appurtenances set lying and being in Bentworth aforesaid which partly I together with my said wife and partly I myself alone heretofore bought and purchased of George Wither gentleman and Mary Wither widow his mother or one of them to any person or persons that will buy and purchase the same and at and for such reasonable rates and prizes as the same will yield to the intent that by and with part of the monies thereof made and coming competent portions maybe made and raised to and for my two youngest daughters Elizabeth Aylwyn and Thomasine Aylwyn such as my said wife shall think fit of for and towards their several maintenances, livelihoods and preferments.

And in case my said wife and executrix shall not accordingly so sell and make sale of the said messuages, lands and premises or any of them for and to the intent aforesaid then I give and devise unto my said daughter Elizabeth Aylwyn for and towards her like portion maintenance and preferment one third part in three parts to be divided of all the said messuage, lands, tenements and hereditaments whatsoever with the appurtenances which I together with my said wife or by myself alone heretofore purchased of George Wither gentleman and Mary Wither widow his mother or one of them, so lying and being in the said parish of Bentworth as aforesaid to have and to hold the said third part of all and singular the premises with the appurtenances so given and bequeathed unto my said daughter Elizabeth as aforesaid immediately from and after the death and decease of me and the said Jane my wife unto her my said daughter Elizabeth Aylwyn, her heirs and assigns forever.

Also I give and devise unto my youngest daughter Thomasine Aylwyn for and towards her like portion maintenance and preferment one other third part in like three parts to be divided of all the said messuage, lands, tenements and hereditaments with the appurtenances set lying and being in the said parish of Bentworth as aforesaid and whereof one other third part is given and devised unto my said daughter Elizabeth her heirs and assigns as aforesaid to have and to hold

the said third part of the said premises with the appurtenances so given and devised unto my said daughter Thomasine likewise immediately from and after the death and decease of the survivor of me and the said Jane my wife unto her, my said daughter Thomasine Aylwyn and to her heirs and assigns forever provided always, and my will and meaning nevertheless is that if my said son and heir apparent Thomas Aylwyn and now within age shall happen to die and depart this life before he shall accomplish and be of the full age of twenty and one years without any issue of his body lawfully begotten, then and from thence forth the several gifts, devises and leases so made and granted of parcels of the premises unto my said daughter Mary as aforesaid except the said legacy of one hundred pounds so given and bequeathed unto my said daughter Mary as aforesaid.

And also the said several other gifts and devises unto my said two other daughters Elizabeth and Thomasine of other parcels of the premises respectively as aforesaid shall cease, be frustrate, void and of none effect to all intents and purposes whatsoever anything herein before contained to the contrary thereof in anywise not withstanding.

The rest and residue of all my plate, household stuff, goods, chattels, leases, debts and personal estate whatsoever my debts and legacies being paid and satisfied, I give and bequeath unto my said wife Jane Alywyn whom I make and ordain sole executrix of this my last will and testament.

In witness whereof I have hereto set my hand and seal dated the day and year first above written. John Aylwyn.

Signed, sealed and published in the presence of Robert Aylwyn, Stephen Mayne, Thomas [Dinke].

This will was proved at Westminster the sixteenth day of March in the year of our Lord God according to the computation of the Church of England one thousand six hundred fifty and three before the Judges for Probate of Wills and granting administrations lawfully authorized by the oath of Jane Aylwyn the relict of the said deceased and sole executrix named in this will of the said deceased to whom was committed administration of all and singular the goods, chattels and debts of the said deceased she being first legally sworn well and truly to administer the same.