

John Porter of Mapledurwell, gentleman, 1658

Ref: TNA PROB 11/272/142

In the name of God Amen. This seventeenth day of August in the year of our Lord God according to the computation now used in the Church of England one thousand six hundred fifty and seven I, John Porter of Mapledurwell in the county of Southampton gentleman, being sick in body but of good and perfect mind and memory (thanks by given to God) do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following. **First** I give and bequeath my soul unto Almighty God my creator assuredly trusting and believing through the merits of Jesus Christ my blessed saviour and redeemer to be made partaker of life everlasting. **And** my body I commit to the earth whereof it was made, decently to be interred in such convenient place as to my executrix hereof [*illegible*] shall be thought convenient. **And** as for touching and concerning that worldly estate whereof my God has trusted me I give and dispose thereof in manner following: **first** I give and bequeath unto my beloved sister Anne Sumner, widow, the sum of eight pounds of lawful money of England to be paid unto her within three months next after the decease of my executrix hereafter named. **Also** I give and bequeath unto cousins John Sumner and Ann Sumner, two of my said sister's children, eight pounds apiece of like lawful money to be likewise paid to them within three months after the death of my said executrix. **Also** I give and bequeath unto my kinsman William Sumner, one other of the sons of my sister, five pounds of like current English money to be paid to him within three months next after the death of my said executrix. **Also** I give and bequeath unto Sarah Cooper and Anne Cooper, daughters of my late deceased sister Anne Cooper, twenty pounds apiece of like current English money to be paid to them upon their respective days of marriage or age of one and twenty years which shall first happen if my executrix hereinafter named shall be then dead. **And** in case the said Sarah and Anne Cooper or either of them shall die before the said legacies become due, then my will and meaning is that the legacies of her or them so dying shall be and remain to John Worsham and Frances Worsham equally to be divided between them. **And** if the said other legatees before mentioned or any of them shall happen to die before their said legacies shall be payable as aforesaid, then I give and bequeath the parts and legacies of him, or her, or them so dying to the other then surviving children of my said sister Sumner to whom no bequest is hereby already made. **Also** I give, surrender and devise unto my dearly beloved mother Anne Porter, widow, all that parcel of meadow ground lying in the parish of Dockingfield in the county of Southampton containing by estimation eight acres, be it more or less, now in the occupation of Henry Heights, and all other my lands whatsoever with the appurtenances, to have and to hold the same unto the said Anne Porter and her assigns for and during her natural life. **And** from and after her decease, I give and devise my said lands unto Thomas Cooper, eldest son of my brother Thomas Cooper of Lassam (*Lasham?*), and his heirs forever. **Also** I do hereby freely acquit, release and discharge unto my cousin Thomas Worsham his executors and assigns, all debts, duties and demands whatsoever which I now have, can or may claim against him, or them for, or by reason of any matter, or thing from the beginning of the world to his day hoping he will be kind to my said mother. **Also** I give and bequeath to my said mother Anne Porter, whom I make and ordain sole executrix of this my last will and testament, all the rest of my goods and chattels and the use and profit of the said legacies until they grow due as aforesaid. **And** I do make and

ordain my good cousins William Gindott and Anthony Gindott, gentlemen, overseers of this my will. **In testimony** whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year first above written John Porter. Signed, sealed, published and declared in the presence of us Thomas Worsham, William Gindott junior, [Cori] Gindott, Ant[hony] Gindott.

This will was proved at London the thirtieth day of January one thousand six hundred fifty seven before the judges for probate of wills and granting administrations and by the oath of Anne Porter the mother, sole executrix and to whom administration was committed, she being first by commission sworn truly to administer.