

CIRENCESTER AREA WILLS 1591 – 1603

1592/24

In the name of God, Amen. The 21st May 1592 I Christian Pillmore, sick in body but of good and perfect remembrance, do ordain and make this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I do bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God my only saviour and redeemer and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Siddington where I do now dwell. Item I give unto Margery Wright my best gown. Item I give to Agnes Huntt my second gown. Item I give to Elizabeth Fowlar my best petticoat. Item I give to Susan Buttlar my best cloak. Item I give to Agnes Buttlar one lamb. The rest of my goods, my debts and funeral being discharged, I do give and bequeath to Agnes Cowlston my daughter whom I do make my full and whole executor. Also I do make and appoint Thomas Cowlston and Richard Fowlar the overseers of this my last will and testament.

Probate: 12 June 1592

1592/94

The 24th May 1592. In the name of God, Amen. I John Maysie, sick of body but of good and perfect memory, thanks be to God, do make this my last will and testament. First I commend my soul unto Almighty God my maker and redeemer through whom I hope to be saved and my body to the earth whence it came and to be buried in the churchyard of Duntisbourne Abbots if I happen there to die. First I give unto John Jonsons of Duntisbourne my black cloak. Also to the said John Jonson's wife 10s besides the wages which we ? upon to keep me in my sickness which she shall have. Item I give to the church of Duntisbourne Abbots 10s. Item I give to the poor of Elkstone 10s and to the church 10s. Item I give to all the menservants and maidservants of my master Mr Ligeinges for the time now being 12d to each of them. Item I give to Richard Walker of Elkstone, my brother-in-law, 10 sheep which are now in Coule fields. Item all the rest of my goods moveable and unmoveable not given and bequeathed I give unto my brother Thomas Maysie whom I make my whole executor of this my last will and testament.

Witnesses as follows: Thomas Maysie, Elizabeth Jonsons, Thomas Knights, clerk

Probate: 31 May 1592

1593/165

In the name of God, Amen. The 26th November in the 33rd year of the reign of the Queen's Majesty's reign that now is, I Thomas Wyette of Coates in the parish of Sapperton, being in good health and perfect memory, do make my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Coates. Item I do give to James Saunders, my daughter's son, one heifer of 2 years of age and 2 sheep. Item I do give and bequeath to Giles Coxe, my daughter's son, one heifer of the age of 2 years and 2 sheep. Item I do give to Thomas Coxe, my daughter's son, 2 sheep. Item I do give to Thomas Pearce 2 sheep. Item I do give to Thomas Saunders one heifer of the age of 2 years. Item I do give to Richard Elyxannder and his sister 4 sheep to be equally divided between them. Item I do give to the use of Sapperton church 3s 4d. Item I do give to Coates church 3s 4d. Item I do give to every one of my godchildren 4d. Item all other my goods moveable and unmoveable I give unto my son Thomas Wyett whom I make my whole executor to this my last will and testament.

Witness hereunto: Walet Lluelin, parson of Sapperton

Probate: 24 April 1593

1593/183

In the name of God, Amen. I William Iles the elder of the parish of Duntisbourne Rous, being sick in body but yet of good and perfect remembrance, thanks be given unto Almighty God, do make this my testament wherein is contained my last will in manner and form following. First I give and bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God the maker and preserver of all things, hoping assuredly that by the merits, death and passion of his son, my lord, redeemer and only saviour Jesus Christ and through the faith I have in his blood to obtain free remission and pardon for my sins. Item I will that my body, whensoever it shall please God to call me out of this miserable and wretched world, be buried in the churchyard of Duntisbourne aforesaid. Item all my goods as well moveable as unmoveable, my debts being paid and I honestly brought to earth, I give and bequeath unto Eleanor Iles my wife whom I ordain, appoint and make my sole executrix of this my last will and testament. In witness whereof I the said William, in the presence of those whose names are hereunder written, have put my hand and seal this 9th February 1592 and in the 35th year of Queen's Majesty's reign that now is.

Richard Woodward, William Iels, John Freman, John Hodgkinson

Debts due by the testator

Unto Richard Artcher 40s

Probate: 19 May 1593

1594/113

In the name of God, Amen. The 29th July 1590 I Richard Munden of Coates, being in perfect memory and weak in body, do make this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I bequeath my soul to the Almighty God who made me and Jesus Christ my redeemer and unto the Holy Ghost my comforter etc. Item I give and bequeath unto my daughter Margery twenty pounds sterling to be paid unto her at the age of one & twenty years old. Item I do give to the parish church of Coates aforesaid the sum of 3s 4d to be delivered within one month after my burial. And as for all the rest of my goods moveable and unmoveable, my debts being discharged & my funeral accomplished, I make my wife Elizabeth and my son Christopher my whole executors jointly, provided always that my son shall not meddle with any of my aforesaid goods but by his mother's appointment and permission until he be of the age of one and twenty years or before if his mother shall happen to marry. And my will is further also that if my daughter abovesaid do happen to decease this life before the age and time before mentioned that then that goods that I have given as abovesaid shall be equally parted between my executors or whether of them shall be then living. And for the better performance hereof I do make them my overseers whose names are underwritten and for their pains herein I do give to each of them twelve pence apiece; John Stone, Thomas Wyett, Thomas Coxe, Thomas Symes

Probate: 9 March 1594

1597/216

In the name of God, Amen. The 11th January 1597 and in the 40th 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 Thomas Hancocks of Stratton in the county of Gloucester, husbandman, sick in body but, I praise my lord God, of good and perfect mind and memory, do institute, ordain & make this my last will and testament in manner and form following. That is to say, first I bequeath & commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God my creator, to Jesus Christ his only son & my alone redeemer and to the Holy Ghost the comforter and my body to be buried in Christian

burial etc. And as touching my my goods and chattels temporal goods I dispose them as hereafter it follows. That is to say first I give and bequeath unto my sister Alice Heydon, wife of John Heydon of Elkstone, in money eight pounds. Item I give unto Thomas Freame, the son of my brother-in-law Thomas Freame of Cirencester, in money five pounds. Item I give unto Mary Freame, wife of my aforesaid brother-in-law Thomas Freame, 40s and to her son John Freame 40s. Item I give unto Henry Cooch, son of my sister Joan Coocher in money five pounds. Item I give unto my sister Alice Hancocks in money four pounds. Item I give unto my sister Elizabeth Hancocks in money three pounds. Item i give unto my uncle Nicholas Vowles in money three pounds. Item I give unto Eleanor Beeke, widow, 20s. Item I give unto the poor people of Stratton aforesaid in money to be distributed by my overseers of this my will £3. Item I give to my brother-in-law Thomas Freame of Cirencester in money three pounds out of the which £3 I will that he shall pay of debt I owe to George Damsell 20s. The residue of all my goods and chattels (*torn*) moveable as unmoveable, my debts, legacies and (*torn*) being first honestly paid and clearly discharged(*torn*) freely give them and leave them unto Alice (*torn*) wife whom I make and ordain to be the sole exe(*torn*) of this my said last will and testament And (*torn*) I do institute, ordain and appoint to be the (*torn*) or overseers of this my last will my loving b(*torn*) in-law Henry Packer and my loving frien(*torn*) John Remmington of South Cerney and I g(*torn*) each of them for their painstaking herein 3s 4d apiece to the end that they shall see this my said last will and testament fully and truly performed according to the true intent and meaning hereof.

Debts owing unto me

John Creese of Nutbeam Farm	£8
John Freeman the younger of Duntisbourne	£24
Thomas Freame my brother-in-law	£8

Debts I do owe

To William Walker of Baunton upon a bargain 4s

Witnesses to this will: John Witts, George Damsell, John Baker, writer hereof

Probate: 23 January 1597

1597/220

The last will & testament of Thomas Geffes, late deceased, of the parish of Daglingworth. I the said Thomas do give unto my brother Thomas Geffes the elder and to Richard Geffes his sun all such sums of money as is hereunder written, yielding and paying unto the rest of his children 20s apiece. Item i give also unto Richard Geffes, my brother John Geffes' son, ten shillings of the same sum of money. I appoint Richard Geffes to be my executor of this my will.

The inventory of all such goods of Thomas Geffes the younger, late deceased

Probate: 8 February 1597

No inventory given

1597/261

In the name of God, Amen. The 11th (*torn*) Heyns of Daglingworth in the county (*torn*) being sick in body but, thanks be given unto Almighty(*torn*) perfect mind & memory, do make and ordain this (*torn*)will and testament in manner and form following. (*torn*) and bequeath my soul to Almighty God my maker & redeemer (*torn*) my body to the ground to be buried within the churchyard (*torn*) Daglingworth. I give to Edward my son 10 sheep (*torn*) calves, the standing bed in the nether chamber and my (*torn*) coverlet saving one and a pair of sheets & one bed (*torn*) Edward my son the old iron-bound cart and 20 bushels (*torn*) barley to be delivered within four years after my decease (*torn*). I give to Edward my son one plough sallow, 2 eathes, my best brass

pot and all manner of plough timber to make 2 ploughs. I give to Edward my son 6 pewter dishes & one candlestick. I give unto Robert Kemble's eldest son one platter. I give to Harry Kemble my godson a platter and a posnet. I do appoint Richard Saunders and Robert Kemble overseers of this my last will and testament. The rest of all my goods not given nor bequeathed I give and bequeath to Thomas my son whom I do make my sole executor of this my last will and testament to see my debts, legacies and funeral paid and discharged. 1597

Witnesses hereunto: James Ashemeade, Robert Kemble

My debts

To Harry Ashmead	£6
To William Howck	20s
Thomas Jeffes	21s
Robert Matte	20s
Mr Bath	12s

Probate for William Haynes: 8 February 1597

1599/70

In the name of God, Amen. The 9th November 1598 I John Cooper of Siddington St Mary in the diocese of Gloucester, husbandman, being in good and perfect remembrance, thanks be to God, do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God my maker and redeemer and my body to the earth from whence it came. Item I give and bequeath unto my daughter Alice my black cow. Item I give and bequeath unto Thomas Gegge the younger one ewe and one lamb to be delivered unto him on the third day of May next after my decease. Item I bequeath unto Katherine Gegge one ewe and one lamb to be delivered unto her on the third day of May next after my decease. Item I bequeath unto my son-in-law Thomas Gegge all my part of the wain and sallow and harness thereunto belonging. Item I bequeath unto my daughter Agnes Gegge my bedstead whereon I do usually lodge. Item I do bequeath unto my kinswoman Margery Rundle 3s 4d to be delivered unto her within one month after my decease. Item I bequeath unto John Chripps, the eldest son of my kinsman William Chripps, five shillings to be delivered unto him within one month after my decease. Item all the rest of my cattle and goods not given nor bequeathed moveable and unmoveable, my legacies discharged and my debts being paid, I give and bequeath unto my two daughters Eleanor and Alice whom I make, constitute and ordain by this my last will and testament my whole executors, desiring them to see this my last will and testament truly performed as my will is. In witness whereof I have delivered this my last will and testament unto the above-named Eleanor and Alice in the presence of those whose names are hereunder written.

I do owe unto John Blackewell of Cirencester forty shillings to be paid unto him at Easter next.

Witnesses: William Crippes, William Pollard, ..oy Osmond

Probate: 21 June 1599

1600/99

In the name of God, Amen. I Michael Keeling of Baunton in the county of Gloucester, shepherd, being sick in body but of good & perfect memory, thanks be to God, do make my last will & testament in manner & form following this 12th June 1594 in the 36th 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. First I commit my soul to Almighty God my creator and redeemer & my body to be buried in the churchyard of Cirencester according to the ancient custom of Baunton aforesaid.

Item I give & bequeath towards the maintenance of the chapel of Baunton six shillings & eight pence. Item I give & bequeath unto Michael Walker my godson three wethers & three ewes with their lambs. Item I give & bequeath unto Thomas Walker three wethers and three ewes with their lambs. Item I give & bequeath unto Elizabeth Walker three wethers & three ewes with their lambs. Item I give & bequeath unto William Tomson three wethers & three ewes with their lambs. Item I give & bequeath unto my godsons Robert Freame, William Walker & Michael Damsell to every one of them one wether sheep. Item I give & bequeath unto Michael Leich my godson one wether sheep & one chilver hog. Item I give & bequeath unto Joan Freame & to Mary Freame, the daughters of Robert Freame, three & thirty shillings and four pence to be equally divided between them. Item I give & bequeath unto Alice Spencer five shillings which she owes me. Item I give & bequeath unto Catherine Merrycke of Cirencester all the debts which she owes me. Item I give unto Marian Hawkins one wether sheep. Item whereas I did lend unto William Aprice, late of Cirencester now deceased, about ten years past or thereabouts to my remembrance the sum of five pounds of English money which yet does remain unpaid unto me I do now by this my last will & testament give & bequeath the said five pounds unto Michael Walker my godson. The rest of all my goods & chattels unbequeathed & not given, after my debts paid & my funeral discharged, I give & bequeath unto James Tomson whom I make and ordain my full & sole executor to pay and discharge all things according to the true meaning of this my last will and testament. And I do make & ordain my very loving and trusty good friend Mr Richard George to be my overseer to see that this my last will & testament be well & truly performed & done. And for his pains I give unto him one wether sheep. In witness whereof I have hereunto put my hand in the presence of us whose names are underwritten.

No names written

My debts which are now owing unto me are these as shall be hereafter where said

First William Aprice	£5
The widow Wynnynge, late the wife of Richard Wynnynge of Chedworth	20s
Robert Robbins of the hill of Chedworth	10s
John Sly the elder of Chedworth the husbandman	20s
William Blackwell of Barnsley	13s 4d
Guy Smart of Eastington	24s
Henry Hall, vicar of Driffild	13s 4d
Edmund Browne of Hankerton	20s
Eleanor Dawes of Baunton	6s 8d
Robert Brayne of Cirencester	18s

In a different hand

Memorandum paid unto Mr Richard George one wether sheep given unto him by this will. Item paid more to Robert Freame which was given unto his two children Joan Freame & Mary Freame 33s 4d by this will.

Probate: 14 April 1600

1600/105

In the name of God, Amen. I Nicholas Creede of Duntisbourne Abbots in the county of Gloucester, husbandman, being of good health in body & mind and in perfect remembrance, do commit my soul to the tuition of the Almighty, hoping and steadfastly believing to be saved only by the merits of my saviour Jesus Christ etc. And touching the disposition of such worldly wealth which it has pleased God of his infinite mercy and goodness to bestow upon me for so much as I am now departing into a strange country from and out of my native soil wherein I have always from my youth until this day been maintained & defended & must now depart into Ireland, pressed forth as a soldier for the defence of my country, and do not know whether it shall please God to lengthen my life to return again I do by these presents, because

many debts are owing unto me whereof some of them are due at days past & some payable at days yet to come, I dispose and devise the same in manner and form following. First whereas my brother Thomas Creede heretofore borrowed out of my purse in ready money ten shillings, the which is yet unpaid, I do remiss, release and forgive unto him & his assigns for ever the said sum of 10s and do also devise and bequeath unto him the said Thomas Creede ten shillings more of lawful English money to be paid unto him at the end of one whole year next after the date hereof if he shall happen so long to live and myself not happen to return in the mean space. And if he the said Thomas shall happen to die within the year above limited then my will is that the said ten shillings so bequeathed as aforesaid shall be given unto (*no name written*). Item I do remiss & release unto William Reeve of Crudwell five shillings which he owes unto me as money lent unto him heretofore and do further devise and bequeath unto him the said William & his wife other five shillings to be unto them or one of them paid if they so long live at the end of one whole year next after the date hereof. Item I do also give & bequeath unto my goddaughter Elizabeth Reeve in money forty shillings and to every other of her brothers and sisters now living ten shillings apiece, the same several sums to be paid unto every of them at the end of one whole year next ensuing the date hereof if they happen to live so long but if any of the said brothers & sisters do happen to die before the end of one whole year that then their several portions shall be equally divide amongst the rest then surviving. Item I do also give & bequeath to Robert Ellis of Duntisbourne foresaid ten shillings of like English money and to Dorothy Whitheade my goddaughter I do give other five shillings, the same payments to be performed and made at the end of one whole year next after the date hereof if they happen so long to live and myself not happen to return again before the end of one whole year as above limited. The residue of all my goods moveable and unmoveable, debts and other duties as well by specialty as without the which are hereunder written I do by these presents which is my last will and testament irrecoverable (except it please God to send me well to return within the time aforesaid) make and constitute John Johnsons, my brother-in-law, my sole executor, freely giving unto him all debts & duties whatsoever are any manner of way due unto me as well by specialty as without. And do of this my last will & testament ordain and appoint to be my overseers John Webley and Richard Robinson and in lieu of their pains & good will to see the same honestly and according to my true intent & meaning performed bequeath unto every of them ten shillings apiece.

Dated at Cirencester 6th March 1598, the 41st year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth
The debts subscribed owing unto Nicholas Creede at his departure the day foresaid
Thomas Meyzy of Duntisbourne Abbots upon a bond, principal debt £12
Richard and Hugh Ockwell of the same upon bond £3
Thomas Turner 40s John Broade 40s upon bond, principal £4
Edmund Sturmy £3 principal & 3s 4d interest £3 3s 4d
John Lyttle for 3 ewe sheep 20s
John Doole 32s 6d
John Wyman of Winson 14s, John Ellis 7s, John Ridler 3s
Giles Dymmok for a table board 6s 8d 33s 8d
Sealed & delivered 6th March 1598 in the presence of: Thomas Bishopp, Richard Robinson, Thomas Pyvinches, John Webley
Probate: 25 October 1600

1600/113

In the name of God, Amen. I Richard Broade of Duntisbourne Abbots in the county of Gloucester, husbandman, being sick in body bit in whole and perfect mind and memory, thanks be unto Almighty God, do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following. That is to say, first i give and bequeath my

soul into the hands of God my creator and unto Jesus Christ his son my only redeemer, being taught by the inspiration of God the Holy Ghost to trust to be saved and glorified both in body and soul by the only death, passion, blood-shedding, resurrection and other merits of my saviour Jesus Christ through the mercy of God and by none other means and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Duntisbourne Abbots aforesaid. And of all my worldly goods that God has given me I give and dispose as follows. That is to say, first I give and bequeath unto John Dreacote the elder 10s to be paid within one year after my decease. Item I give and bequeath unto Elizabeth Broade, the daughter of John Broade, one red tagged cow, one coverlet, one pot, one cauldron and one coffer to be delivered unto her within one year after my decease. Item the first calf of the same cow after my decease I give and bequeath unto Anthony Broade, the son of the said John Broade, and one sheep to be delivered unto him one year after my decease. Item I give and bequeath unto John Broade, the son of John Broade, one sheep to be delivered unto him one year after my decease. Item I give and bequeath unto Thomas Hardinge three sheep. Item I give and bequeath unto John Harding the elder, the son of Thomas Hardinge, one sheep and the calf of the black cow. Item I give and bequeath unto John Hardinge the younger, the son of Thomas Hardinge, one sheep. Item I give & bequeath unto Mabel, the daughter of Thomas Hardinge, one sheep. Item I give and bequeath unto Thomas Harding the bed that I lie in and all things belonging thereunto. All the rest of my goods as well moveable as unmoveable, my debts being paid and my funeral expenses discharged I give and bequeath unto my son John Broade whom I make my sole executor to see this my last will and testament executed according to my intent and purpose. Also I do make and ordain my well-beloved in Christ Giles Dimmocke, clerk, parson of Duntisbourne Abbots, and Thomas Meisie my overseers. In witness whereof to this my last will and testament I the said Richard Broade have set my mark the 17th February 1598 and the 41st year of the reign of our sovereign lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God Queen of England, France and Ireland, defender of the faith etc.

Witnesses: Thomas Meysye, John Creese, Thomas Hardinge with others
By me Giles Dimmocke, clerk, rector of Duntisbourne Abbots, writer
Probate: 25 October 1600

1601/149

In the name of God, Amen. The 10th June 1600 I Richard Jeffreies of Duntisbourne Rous in the county of Gloucester, yeoman, being in good & perfect remembrance, thanks be to God, do make & ordain this my last will & testament in manner & form following. That is to say, first I bequeath my soul unto Almighty God my maker & redeemer & my body to the earth from whence it came. Item I give towards the maintenance of the church of Duntisbourne aforesaid 10s. Item I give to the poor of the said parish 10s to be distributed at the discretion of my executor & the church wardens for the time being. Item I give unto John & Richard, the sons of Richard Jeffreies my son, twenty nobles apiece in money to be delivered to their use within two years after my decease. Item I give unto every one of the other children of the said Richard my son three sheep apiece. Item I give unto Richard Jeffreies, the son of the elder John my son, deceased, ten pounds in money to be paid unto him at the age of one & twenty years. Item I give unto every one of the other children of the said elder John, deceased, three sheep apiece. Item I give unto every one of the children of John Jeffreis the younger my son three sheep apiece. Item I give unto Richard Davis & Sybil Davis, the children of Richard Davis my son-in-law, twenty nobles apiece to be paid to their use within two years after my decease & unto every one of the other children of the said Richard Davis three sheep apiece. Item I give to every one of the children of Edith Williams, my daughter, three sheep apiece. Item I give to every one of the children of Alice Longe, my daughter, three sheep apiece. Item I

give unto the younger Elizabeth, my daughter, one hundred pounds in money to be paid within one whole year after my decease. Item I give unto her my best chest that stands in my bed chamber & my greatest brass pot. Item more I give unto her my second best feather bed with a standing bedstead & all other kind of furniture belonging to the said bed or in lieu of the said bed, bedstead & furniture twenty pounds in money at her own choice. All the rest of my goods & chattels unbequeathed, my debts paid, my legacies & funerals discharged, I give unto Thomas Jeffreis my son whom I make & ordain my whole executor. I do appoint the Right Worshipful Sir Henry Poole, knight, to be overseer of this my last will & testament, desiring him to see it performed accordingly.

Witnesses at the making & sealing hereof: William Broader, clerk, Philip Prichard, Robert Churington, Thomas Twisse

Probate: 12 May 1601

