

# Oxfordshire

## HENLEY PROBATE DOCUMENTS

**John ALEE, of Henley upon Thames**

**Will proved 1545**

**Oxfordshire Record Office, Register of Archdeaconry Wills 179.131**

*Numbering at left identifies line of original document*

Testamentum Johannis Alee de Henlaye

1. In the name of god Amen the eight daye of August the yere of o[ur] Lord
2. a thowsande fyve hundred ~~\*fowre~~<sup>xxti</sup> fyve I John Alee hole of mynd & memorye
3. make my Testament and Last wyll in this maner and forme Folowyng
4. Fyrst I bequeth my sowle to allmyghtie god to o[ur] Ladie saynt marie and to
5. all the holly companye of haven and my bodye to be buryed withyn the churche
6. yarde off o[ur] Ladie of Henlaye. It[e]m I bequeth to the mother church of lincoln
7. ij<sup>d</sup> It[e]m I bequeth to the hygh alter for tythes forgotten iiiij<sup>d</sup> It[e]m to o[ur] Ladie
8. alter iiiij<sup>d</sup> It[e]m to Saynt katheryns alter iiiij<sup>d</sup> It[e]m to the trynitie Alter iiiij<sup>d</sup>
9. It[e]m to saynt [?L]eges alter iiiij<sup>d</sup> It[e]m I bequeth to the maynten[a]nce off the lyghtes
10. of Jesus alter iiiij<sup>d</sup> It[e]m to saynt Johns alter iiiij<sup>d</sup> It[e]m I bequeth to Agnes Locke
11. ij platters It[e]m I bequeth to Robert Locke a pottle It[e]m to Elizab[eth] Locke a pott
12. and a candlestycke the resydew of all my goodes and my howse that I dwell
13. in Moveable and unmoveable to Jone my wyffe beyng enioyned my dettes payed
14. my bequestes Fullfylled I gyve and bequeth to her whome I make my Hole
15. executrice and she to dispose for my sowle and all chrysten sowles as she shall
16. thynke best and Thomas Mundy to be<sup>my</sup> overseer that my wyll be fullfylled
17. beyng brother unto Jone my wyffe dwellyng in Cydnam in the paryshe
18. of Thame and he to have xl<sup>d</sup> for his Labors

*[Summary of the Latin probate clause]*

Date of probate:	11 February 1545
Executor:	Jone Alee, wife named in will
Court official:	Walter Wryght
Inventory value:	40s. 8d

\* The Diocese of Oxford came into being in 1541-2. Prior to that it was part of the Diocese of Lincoln. This will mentions the mother church of Lincoln and bequeaths money to many altars in the church in the form of a good Catholic will despite the fact that we are well into the Reformation, towards the end of Henry VIII's reign, at this time. I suspect that the unclear date of this will is questionable (it could be before 1541); it has been amended and mentions no regnal year. It seems unlikely that the 1525 shown is correct given the written probate date of 1545. This may all be due to the turbulent nature of the church at this time, however this transcription is from a copy of the Register as, presumably, the original document does not survive. The Register book, 179, deals with wills which were probated in 1545. Earlier wills are in earlier books.

*Transcribed by Janice Cliffe, April 2009, from a photocopy of the Register film, and checked  
by Barbara Allison November 2009 from the original Register.*

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