

**William Soper of Dummer, gentleman 1688**

**Ref: TNA PROB 11/390/123**

**In the name of God Amen** the two and twentieth day of July AD one thousand six hundred sixty five and in the seventeenth year of the reign of our most gracious Sovereign Lord Charles and Second by the grace of God King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith etc., I William Soper of the Grange in the parish of Dummer in the county of Southampton gent., being of good and perfect mind and memory (thanks be therefore given to Almighty God), do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following. **First** and principally I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God my Maker and Creator hoping and assuredly trusting that after this life ended I shall be received into His everlasting kingdom through the only merits, death and passion of Jesus Christ my Saviour and Redeemer and by no other merits or means whatsoever. **Also** I do commit my body to the earth from whence it came to be interred and buried by the discretion of my executors and overseers hereafter named.

**And** as touching such temporal estate whereof the Lord of His goodness has bestowed on my in this life I will, devise and bequeath the same in form following. **First** I will that all such debts as I duly or truly owe unto any man shall be truly paid in as convenient time as may be after my decease which being done and performed then I give and bequeath to the poor people of the parish of Dummer aforesaid the sum of forty shillings of current English money to be paid unto them within ten days next after my decease. **Item** I give and bequeath to every servant that shall be resident and abiding with me at the time of my decease five shillings of current English money to be paid unto them within six months next after my decease. **Item** my will and desire is that Amye my now well beloved wife shall have and peaceably enjoy all that my messuage, tenement or farmhouse called or known by the name of the Grange and all the lands, arable meadow and pasture, coppices, wood grounds and hereditaments thereunto belonging of therewith used, occupied or enjoyed and situate, lying and being in the parishes, hamlets and fields of Dummer, Nutley, Basing and Wildmoor in the county aforesaid for the term of her natural life, she, my said wife, preserving and keeping all timber trees and trees likely to prove timber to and for the use and benefit of John Soper my eldest son and heir. **And after** the decease of the said Amy my wife I give and bequeath the said messuage or tenement, farmhouse, lands and premises to my said son John Soper and to the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten or to be begotten. **Also** I give and bequeath unto the said Amy my wife the moiety or one half part of all my plate, household stuff, corn, cattle and chattels as at the time of my decease shall be and remain in and about my dwelling house called the Grange in the parish of Dummer aforesaid.

**Item** I give and bequeath to my said son John Soper and to his heirs and assigns forever all that my capital messuage or farm and all cottages and tenements with all lands, arable meadow and pasture, woods, underwoods, sheep downs, commons, profits, commodities, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging now in the occupation of my brother Richard Soper and situate, lying and being in the parish of Kingsclere in the county of Southampton aforesaid. **And** also I give and bequeath to him my said son John Soper and to his heirs and assigns forever all that my messuage or tenement called or known by the name of Ilandes Hearne lying and being in the parish of Kingsclere aforesaid with all the lands, commons,

commodities, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining.

**Item** I give and bequeath unto my said son John Soper and to his heirs and assigns forever all those my meadow grounds now in the occupation of Henry Biggs and situate, lying and being in the parish of Hambledon in the county of Bucks with all the rights, members and appurtenances thereunto belonging with all my estate, right, title and interest of, in and to the same.

**Item** I give and bequeath unto my said son John Soper and to his executors and assigns all that my estate or remainder of a lease of fourscore and nineteen years yet to come and unexpired of a certain messuage or tenement and lands with the appurtenances called or known by the name of Kingsdowne and situate, lying and being in the parish of Ashe in the county of Southampton aforesaid paying and performing all the rents and covenants reserved, specified and contained in the same lease which on the lessees' or tenants' behalf thereby are and ought to be paid done and performed.

**Item** I give and bequeath to my said son John Soper his executors and assigns all that my estate or remainder of a lease of the messuage, tenement or farm in the occupation of Robert Soper with all the lands, commons, commodities and appurtenances thereunto belonging called Totfre (*Totford?*) Farm and lands situate, lying and being in the parish of Northington in the said county of Southampton, he my said son John Soper his executors and assigns paying to his mother my now wife ten pounds per annum during all the remainder of the said lease yet to come and unexpired.

**Item** I give and bequeath unto my son William Soper and to the heirs of his body lawfully to be begotten all that my farm called Axfre (*Axford?*) Farm which I lately purchased to me my heirs and assigns forever of one John Wateridge with all the lands, tenements, commons, profits, commodities, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging now in my tenure and occupation and situate, lying and being in the parish of Nutley in the county of Southampton aforesaid, to have and to hold to my said son William Soper and to the heirs of his said body lawfully begotten or to be begotten. **And** for default of such issue I give and bequeath the same to my son Richard Soper and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten or to be begotten. **And** for default of such issue to the right heirs of me the said William Soper forever.

**Item** I give and bequeath to my said son William Soper and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten or to be begotten all that my messuage or tenement with the appurtenances now in the occupation of one Stephen White with the coppice called [Hofre] Coppice and all woods, underwoods, lands, commons, profits, commodities, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging situate, lying and being in the parish of Alverstoke in the county of Southampton aforesaid, to have and to hold to my said son William Soper and to the heirs of his said body lawfully begotten or to be begotten. **And** for default of such issue I give and bequeath the same to my son Richard Soper and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten or to be begotten. **And** for default of such issue to the right heirs of me the said William Soper forever.

**Item** I give and bequeath unto my said son William Soper and his heirs and assigns forever all that my close of meadow or pasture ground called or known by the name of Seawells containing by estimation six acres or thereabouts be it more or less, now in my tenure and occupation and lying and being in the parish of Sherborne St John in the county of Southampton aforesaid with all timber and trees thereupon standing and being with three acres of meadow also in my tenure or occupation lying and being in the last mentioned parish in a place there called Sherborne Moor to have and to hold to my said son William, his heirs and assigns to the sole, only and proper use and behoof of my said son William, his heirs and assigns to the sole, only and proper behoof of my said William his heirs and assigns forever.

**Item** I give and bequeath unto my son Richard Soper and to his heirs and assigns all that my reversion, estate, right, title and interest of, in and to all those messuages, lands, tenements and hereditaments with the appurtenances now in the several tenures or occupations of Edward Cumyns, Johns Holdway, Roger Stacey and Richard Bunney situate, lying and being within the tithing of Stoke within the parish of Hurstborne alias Hurstborne Priors alias Priors Hurstborne in the county of Southampton aforesaid lately had and purchased of the Right Honourable Thomas Earl of Southampton, Lord High Treasurer of England of the most honourable order of the Garter Knight and one of his majesty's most honourable privy council, Anthony Ashley, Lord Ashley Chancellor and Under Treasurer of his majesty's Court of Exchequer, one other of the lords of his majesty's most honourable privy council, Sir Orlando Bridgman Knight and Baronet Lord Chief Justice of his majesty's Court of Common Pleas at Westminster and others, to have and to hold to my said son Richard Soper his heirs and assigns forever to the sole, only and proper use and behoof of my said son Richard his heirs and assigns forever.

**Item** I give and bequeath unto my said son Richard Soper his executors and assigns all those my two leases of certain messuages, lands and tenements situate, lying and being in the tithing of Polhampton, Quidhampton or elsewhere in the parish of Overton in the county of Southampton aforesaid which I hold of and from the President Fellows and Scholars of Corpus Christi College in Oxford, to have and to hold to my said son Richard Soper his executors and assigns for and during all the rest and residue of the several terms of years of the said leases as shall be to come and unexpired at and immediately after my decease, paying and performing all the rents and covenants in the said several leases which on the lessees' or tenants' behalf in and by the said several leases are and ought to be paid, done and performed. **And** my will and meaning is, and I do hereby so ordain and devise that my said executors shall have the rents, issues and profits of all the messuages, lands, tenements and premises before, in and by this my said will given and bequeathed to my said sons William Soper and Richard Soper their heirs, executors and assigns during their minorities paying to them my said sons for their several educations or maintenances thirty pounds apiece yearly and every year during and until they shall accomplish their several and respective years of twenty and one years.

**And** further do will that my said executors shall pay unto my said sons William Soper and Richard Soper two hundred pounds apiece of lawful money of England when and so soon as they shall accomplish their several and respective ages of twenty and one years and not before. **And** executors of this my last will and testament I do

make and ordain the said Amy my well beloved wife and my said son John Soper. **And overseers** of the same my trusty and well beloved friends Richard Hunt of Popham esq., Richard Stansbye the elder of Micheldever esq., John Rines of Bransbury gent, and my brother Richard Soper desiring them to be aiding and assisting to my said executors to see this my said will performed unto every of which for their pains to be herein taken I give and bequeath twenty shillings apiece of current English money.

**And** I do hereby revoke and disannul all former wills by me made and I will that none of them shall only stand in force but this my said will. **In witness** whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year first above written, William Soper.

Signed, sealed, published and declared to be the last will and testament of the said William Soper in the presence of John Borne snr, the mark of William Williams.

### **Memorandum**

I give and bequeath unto John Soper my eldest son and to his heirs and assigns forever all that my farm or reputed manor of Preston in the parish of Preston in the county of Southampton which I purchased of George Long esq., with the lands and appurtenances thereunto belonging now in the tenure of several persons paying unto my two sons William Soper and Richard Soper, their executors, administrators and assigns four hundred pounds apiece of lawful money of England to be paid one hundred pounds a year apiece until the said money is all paid if they, the said William and Richard shall so long live, to have and to hold all the aforesaid premises and all other my hereditaments in Preston aforesaid unto my said son John Soper his heirs and assigns forever.

**Witness** my hand and seal this third day of December AD one thousand six hundred eighty seven and in the third year of his majesty's reign. William Soper.

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of Thomas Mayhew.

Probate granted in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury 3 February 1687 to John Soper, son and Amy Soper, relict.

Probate of codicil granted 27 August 1688 to Amy Soper, relict.

### **Ref: TNA PROB 4/3197**

Inventory of all and singular the goods chattels and credits of William Soper late of the Grange in the parish of Dummer and county of Southampton gent., deceased late *[illegible]* appraised the 7th day of October *[illegible]* in the fourth year in the reign of *[illegible]* King of England *[illegible]* 1668 by Thomas *[illegible]* and John Smith in manner and form following *[illegible]*.

His wearing apparel

£ s d  
*[illegible]*

**In the little parlour** at the *[illegible]*

**Item** one table and frame, one side table, six

chairs, one pair of andirons, a fire pan and tongs  
and one pair of dogs

[*illegible*]

**In the great parlour**

**Item** one oval table and one little table, 12 chairs  
2 pairs of andirons, a fire pan and tongs, 2 carpets

[6    0    0]

**In the wainscot chamber**

**Item** one chest of drawers, one feather bed, 2 bolsters,  
one pillow, 2 blankets, 2 rugs, curtains and valance,  
mat, cord and curtain rods, [3] chairs, a pair of andirons,  
one pair of tongs, one table, 2 candlesticks, one pair of  
snuffers and a close stool

[10   0    0]

**In the white chamber**

**Item** one bedstead, one feather [*illegible*], valance, mat,  
cord [*illegible*], rug, 2 blankets, 3 coverlets, 1 chest, one  
side cupboard, one chair, one pair of andirons, one pair  
of tongs

3   10    0

**In the little chamber**

**Item** one feather bed, 3 bedsteads, one bolster, one  
chair

0   15    0

**In the hall chamber**

**Item** 1 featherbed and bedstead with curtains, valance,  
mat, cord and curtain rods, one blanket, one cupboard,  
one chest, one coffer, 2 boxes, 2 chairs

2    3    0

**In the milkhouse chamber**

**Item** 3 beds, 3 bolsters, 3 pillows, curtains, valance,  
mats, cords and curtain rods, 2 chests, 2 coffers, one  
box, one press, one old cupboard, 3 bedsteads

4   10    0

**In the garret**

**Item** some old lumber

0    3    0

**In the wool loft**

**Item** in fleece wool and lambs' wool

7   13    0

**Item** 6 prongs

0    6    0

**In the passage into the little parlour**

**Item** 1 table and frame, one pewter still

0    9    0

**In the hall**

**Item** one table and frame, 1 side table, 2 long  
forms, one iron back, 2 old andirons, one chair, one  
stool, 5 cushions

5    4    6

**In the buttery**

<b>Item</b> one table and frame, one old cupboard, one form, 4 stools	0	11	6
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**In the milk cellar**

<b>Item</b> two barrels, one kiver, 1 salting trough	0	10	6
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**In the beer cellar**

<b>Item</b> 3 barrels, 1 tub, 1 form, 1 tunnel	0	9	0
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**In the brewhouse**

<b>Item</b> 2 vats, 2 tubs and other lumber	0	11	0
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<b>Item</b> one furnace, 2 iron pots, one kettle and some other old brass	4	10	0
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**In the malt loft**

<b>Item</b> one quern, one old tub	0	14	0
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**In the bakehouse**

<b>Item</b> one cheese press, one wash kiver	0	7	0
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**In the milk house**

<b>Item</b> one kiver, one table, one bushel measure and other lumber	0	10	0
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**In the kitchen**

<b>Item</b> 2 fowling pieces, 3 spits, 2 andirons, 3 pairs of cotterells, 1 spit jack, 1 table and frame, 1 gridiron, 1 frying pan, 3 chairs, 2 forms, 1 tub	2	11	0
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**In the stable**

<b>Item</b> 7 horses	34	0	0
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<b>Item</b> plough harness, cart harness and halters	4	10	0
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**In the fields and closes**

<b>Item</b> 16 milk cows	24	0	0
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<b>Item</b> 170 ewe sheep	42	0	0
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<b>Item</b> 70 lambs	9	10	0
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<b>Item</b> six bullocks	6	0	0
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<b>Item</b> 4 calves	2	0	0
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**In the backside**

<b>Item</b> 14 hogs	11	0	0
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<b>Item</b> 26 pigs	5	0	0
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**In the oat barn**

<b>Item</b> 12 quarters of oats	6	0	0
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<b>Item</b> 10 quarters of wheat	8	0	0
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<b>Item</b> 20 sacks, 1 fan, 2 bushel measures, one screen and the sieves	2	10	0
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<b>Item</b> 3 corn lines and 2 wood ropes	0	10	0
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**In the backside more**

<b>Item</b> 3 dung carts and wheels	4	10	0
<b>Item</b> 1 wagon and 2 lades	7	10	0
<b>Item</b> 2 ploughs and plough tackling	2	0	0
<b>Item</b> 2 drags and 9 harrows	2	10	0
<b>Item</b> 2 rollers	1	10	0

**In the well house**

<b>Item</b> one well bucket, chain and rope	2	0	0
<b>Item</b> one reek frame	1	5	6
<b>Item</b> in old wood, cow racks and hog troughs	1	3	6

**In the peas barn**

<b>Item</b> 17 quarters of peas	14	14	8
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**In the wheat barn**

<b>Item</b> 49 quarters and 5 bushels of wheat	44	13	3
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**In the barley barn**

<b>Item</b> 70 quarters of barley at 15s 6d per quarter	54	5	0
<b>Item</b> 30 quarters more at the same price	23	5	0
<b>Item</b> 56 quarters of oats at 10s per quarter	28	0	0

**In the [missing]**

<b>Item</b> 5 quarters of malt at 16s per quarter	4	0	0
<b>Item</b> 9 fat hogs	17	0	0

**In the farm in Preston Candover** in the county of Southampton

**In the great parlour**

<b>Imprimis</b> 3 tables, 2 chairs	4	0	0
<b>Item</b> 2 pairs of andirons	0	10	0

**In the kitchen**

<b>Item</b> 2 pairs of andirons, 2 pairs of cotterells	0	10	0
<b>Item</b> 2 old chairs, 1 table, 1 cupboard, 1 form, 2 buckets, the pewter and brass, [with] 2 iron kettles, 1 copper pot, 2 spits, one furnace and other old lumber	5	6	0

**In the hall**

<b>Item</b> 2 tables, 2 stools and one frying pan	1	12	0
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**In the mealhouse**

<b>Item</b> 1 kiver, 2 tubs, 2 sieves	0	5	0
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**In the maid's chamber**

<b>Item</b> one bed with the furniture thereunto belonging	1	0	0
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**In the parlour chamber**

**Item** one feather bed with curtains, valance and one pair of andirons [5 10 0]

**In the chamber over the little parlour**

**Item** one bedstead, one bed and other furniture [*illegible*] one pair of andirons 5 0 0

**In the chamber over the wash house**

**Item** 2 beds with furniture to them belonging 1 15 0

**In the cellar**

**Item** 1 barrel, [2] kivers, 2 forms, 4 stands 1 7 0

**Item** [sal] [*illegible*], form and 3 trays [0 9 0]

**Item** table linen and other linen, 3 tablecloths and 6 napkins 2 0 0

**In the fields and grounds there**

**Item** [129] woollen sheep 38 10 0

**Item** 120 [*illegible*] 30 0 0

**Item** [66] lambs 9 18 0

**Item** 3 horses [10 10 0]

**Item** 5 cows [10 10 0]

**Item** 4 bullocks 3 0 0

[*illegible*] [*illegible*]

**Item** 3 calves [1 10 0]

**Out and about the backside there**

[*large amount illegible*]

**Item** 15 [*illegible*] of wheat in the [closet] 11 2 0

Sum total [350 10 0]