

James Smithe of Basingstoke, clothier, 1606

Ref: TNA PROB 11/107/167

In the name of God Amen February fourth one thousand six hundred and five I James Smithe of Basingstoke in county of Southampton clothier, being sick in body but of good and perfect memory (thanks be to Almighty God) do make my last will and testament in manner and form following. **First** I bequeath and commit my soul to almighty God and my body to Christian burial in the church where my mother lies. **Item** I give all my houses and land to my eldest son John Smithe and his heirs forever. **Item** I give to my son Danyell Smithe forty pounds of current English money. **Item** I give to my daughter Clays Smithe forty shillings. **And** to my daughter Elizabeth, the wife of Willyam Wakefeilde, I give thirty shillings. **Item** I give to my daughter Margerye Smithe forty pounds of current English money. **Item** I give to my wife Beatrice the third of my land and forty shillings yearly every year during her life, (viz) ten shillings a quarter. **Item** I give to the poor people of Basingstoke five pounds, (viz) twenty shillings a year for five years to be distributed by the discretion of my executor and one of my overseers. **Item** I give twenty shillings to my poor spinners dwelling in Candover and thereabouts. **All** the residue of my goods and chattels moveable and unmoveable I give to my eldest son John Smithe, whom I make my whole and sole executor of this my last will and testament. **Lastly** I appoint and ordain Willyam [Smithe] alias Herne, and Ambrose Webb and John Normanton my overseers to whom for goodwill I give a French crown of good gold, (viz) two shillings apiece. **Item** whereas there is set down that forty pounds for Margerie Smithe, now my will is that there be added to that thirty pounds viz, in all three score pounds and ten. **And** I do withdraw the French crown from my overseers that they may be the better witnesses to this my will. **James** Smithe his marks. **In the** presence of us underwritten, Ambrose Webb, Willyam Hearne, John Normanton. **I add** in the same presence that if any my children in the judgment of all my overseers, or two of them, do waste their legacy that they, or two of them, do take their legacy and put it for the use for their profit and good according to their honest discretion doing as the would be done unto as it is appointed in their father's will.

Probate granted 26 February 1606 to John Smithe, son.