

CIRENCESTER WILLS 1591 – 1603

1591/6

In the name of God, Amen. I Agnes Kildermore of Cirencester in the county of Gloucester, widow, being sick of body but of perfect memory (thanks be given to God) make and ordain my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I give and bequeath my soul to my lord and saviour Jesus Christ through whose merits, death and passion I hope to be saved and by no other means and my body to be buried in the parish churchyard of Cirencester aforesaid. Then I give to Richard Poole, son to Thomas Poole my son-in-law, my little brass pot. Item I give unto Anne Littell one flock bed, a flock bolster, a coverlet, one blanket and one sheet and a brass pot. All the rest of my goods unbequeathed I give unto my said son-in-law Thomas Poole whom I make and ordain my executor of this my last will and testament. In witness whereof I the said Agnes Kildermore have hereunto set my hand the 11th March in the 30th year of the reign of our sovereign lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God of England, France and Ireland Queen, defender of the faith. Witnesses hereunto: Robert George the writer hereof
Probate: 26 June 1591

1591/160

In the name of God, Amen. The 9th April 1591 and in the 33rd 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 Richard Sollers of Cirencester within the county of Gloucester, yeoman, being sick in body but yet in good and perfect memory, thanks be unto God, do make my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I give and bequeath my soul unto Almighty God my maker and my body to be buried within the church of Cirencester in the aisle on the south side. And as touching my temporal goods I do thus dispose them. First I give and bequeath to the poor in Cirencester forty shillings. Item I give and bequeath unto my two brothers Robert and Thomas twenty shillings apiece and all their own goods if they will take it quietly. And if not my will is that they do make me restitution for certain corn that they have received of me from time to time and for wintering of certain cattle of theirs ever since their mother died until this day at the discretion of honest and indifferent men that my father-in-law John Packer shall appoint. Item I give and bequeath unto Humphrey Webbe 20s in recompense of his service. Item I give and bequeath unto John Foxe 5s. Item I give and bequeath unto Margery Luckins 5s. Item I give and bequeath unto Alice Webbe 5s. All the rest of my goods and chattels moveable and unmoveable I wholly give and bequeath unto Joan my now wife whom I make my whole executrix of this my last will & testament. And my will is also that she shall have the occupying of all my lands until my son & heir come to lawful age. And I do ordain and appoint Mr Christopher George, esquire, and Mr George Masters, gentleman, and my father-in-law John Packer my overseers to see this my will performed and done according to my true intent and meaning.
Witnesses: John Packer, William Shurmore, Henry Wake
Probate: 2 June 1591

1591/181

In the name of God, Amen. In 1591 and in the 33rd year of the Queen's Majesty's reign I Robert Newman of Cirencester in the county of Gloucester, carpenter, being sick in body but of good and perfect remembrance, thanks be unto Almighty God, do ordain and make this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I give and bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God my heavenly father,

hoping at the latter day by the death and passion of Jesus Christ to be chosen in the number of the elect. Then next to see my funeral discharged I give and bequeath all my goods and debts moveable and unmoveable unto Joan Newman my wife whom I do ordain and make to be my whole and sole executrix.

Debts owing unto me

Richard Egge of Cirencester owes me twenty shillings

Item William Iles of Duntisbourne in the said county of Gloucester owes me four pounds as appears speciality.

Item Richard Newman of Latten in the county of Wiltshire, being executor to my father, owes me 20s as it may evidently appear in his last will and testament.

Probate: 1 June 1591

1591/222

In the name of God, Amen. I Thomas Poole of Cirencester in the county of Gloucester, tucker, being sick in body but of whole and perfect memory, thanks be given to Almighty God, do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I bequeath my soul unto Almighty God and my body to the earth from whence it came. Item I give to my eldest son Richard yen shillings in money. Item I give to my son William ten shillings. Item I give to Agnes Poole my eldest daughter one brass pot. Item I give to Bridget my daughter two brass platters and a chafing dish. Item I give and bequeath unto Joan my youngest daughter two platters and a chafing dish. All the rest of my goods and chattels moveable and unmoveable I give and bequeath to Joan my wife, making my said wife executrix to this my last will to do and perform all things herein speide.

Item that Thomas Stratforde of South Cerney owes me	51s	
The goodman Baldwin of South Cerney owes me	2s	
The clerk of Oxey owes me	3s	4d
The goodwife Braine of Latten owes me		18d
Robert Hardinge of Ashborne Hill owes me	10s	
John Sawyer of Bourton Hill owes me	10s	
He owes me for a hat	6s	
He owes me for three coverlets	18s	
Robert Evaness of Cirencester owes me	7s	
John Wiginges of Cirencester owes me	8s	
Robert Hewer of Cirencester owes me	2s	
My mistress Mrs Ederge owes me that I paid to the priest of South Cerney for her	13s	4d
I paid for her to Wiging the tailor	10s	
She owes for four coverlets, two of them were black and white, one of them red and black and the other black and yellow, the price	32s	
She owes me for two petticoat cloths, price	18s	
I paid to Grene for her for a tuck	8s	
I paid him more for that he lacked of his oak handle	4s	
He owes me for cloaks that his sister and clerk had	20s	
I paid to Watson for making Alice her clothes and kerchiefs	3s	4d

Probate: 26 June 1591

1592/34

In the name of God, Amen. The 23rd July in the 33rd 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 I Elizabeth Cannoppe of Cirencester in the county of Gloucester,

widow, being in health of body and perfect of mind & memory, do make and declare this my last will and testament in writing in manner and form following. That is to say, first I do commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God who has created me and all mankind, trusting through the death and passion of our lord and saviour Jesus Christ and by none other means to be saved and to inherit eternal life. And my body I betake unto the earth from whence it was framed to be buried within the parish church of St John the Baptist in Cirencester. And touching the distribution of my goods and chattels, first I gave and bequeath to my son William Whitinge one flock bed, one feather bolster, one woollen blanket, one coverlet of dorney and one pair of sheets. Item I do give and bequeath unto my daughter Margaret Lewes one featherbed, one feather bolster and one woollen blanket. Item I give unto Nathaniel Lewes, the son of Thomas Lewes, one flock bed and one flock bolster. Item I give unto Margaret Staunton, the daughter of my daughter Anne Poole, one coffer. Item I give & bequeath unto Elizabeth Romney, the daughter of my son-in-law Robert Romney, one coffer. Item I give unto Elizabeth Marlowe one other coffer. Item I give unto Elizabeth Lewes, the daughter of Thomas Lewes, one brass candlestick. Item I give unto Judith Lewes, the daughter of Thomas Lewes, one other brass candlestick. Item I give unto Thomas Whiting, the son of William Whiting, two small candlesticks of brass. Item I give unto William Whitinge the younger, the son of William Whiting the elder, one brass pot. Item I give and bequeath unto my son-in-law Robert Romney one quilt for a bed. Item I give and bequeath unto my son-in-law Philip Davyes one folding table board joined and form to it and I request my said two sons-in-law to be the overseers of this my last will and testament and for their pains therein taken I give unto either of them five shillings. The residue of all my goods and chattels herein not mentioned, given or bequeathed I do fully and wholly give and bequeath unto my son Thomas Whytinge whom I do constitute and make whole executor of this my last will and testament. And I do annul and revoke all former wills by me made and do establish this to be my last. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my mark and seal. Given the day and year first above written.
Sealed in the presence of: Richard Dunne, Henry Hall
Probate: 5 December 1592

1592/144

Memorandum that Richard Willie, late of the parish of Cirencester in the diocese of Gloucester, deceased, upon the 19th November 1592, being of good memory, made his last will nuncupative as follows. First he gave and bequeathed unto his son Giles Willie his two pair of shears for tuckers and a brass pot. And all the rest of his goods he gave and bequeathed to Christian his wife and her children.
Witnesses hereunto: Giles Small, John Newport, Giles Rogers, Edward Hall and Edward Hopkins
Probate: 22 March 1592

1592/155

In the name of God, Amen. The 11th April 1592 and the 34th 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 Richard Robbins of Cirencester in the county of Gloucester, mason, sick in body but, I thank my lord God, of good and perfect remembrance do institute, ordain and make this my last will and testament in manner as hereafter it follows. That is to say first I bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God my heavenly father, to Jesus Christ his only son my redeemer and to the Holy Ghost the comforter etc and my body to be buried in Christian burial etc. Item I give and bequeath unto Christian Wyre my sister-in-law one standing bedstead with a curtain

over him being a painted cloth, a table board with his frame. The residue of all my goods and chattels both moveable and unmoveable not before given and bequeathed I freely by this my present testament and last will do give them and leave them to Joan my wife whom I make my sole executor of this my last will, to see my debts and legacies paid and my funeral honestly discharged. And I do appoint to be supervisors or overseers hereof my well-beloved neighbours John Spencer and Richard Birte and I give to each of them for their painstaking herein 20d apiece.

Witnesses hereunto: John Spencer, Richard Birte, William, Awood junior and John Baker

Debts owing unto the testator confessed by him as hereafter that follows

First Joan the late wife of John Birte of Cirencester, mason, deceased, owes him 7s

Thomas Pyvinch of Cirencester, weaver, owes him 4s

James Porter of Cirencester, weaver, owes him 6s 8d

Robert Hower of Cirencester, shepherd, owes him 3s 4d

Thomas Blisse of Frampton owes him 3s 4d

Thomas Wrighte the elder of Cirencester, wheelwright, owes him for a piece of timber which he had of him 80 foot of board

Thomas Fowler of Barnsley owes him 2s

Mr Thomas Straynge of Chesterton owes him for the building of the barn in Bagendon 9s

He owes him more for three weeks work in building of a chimney and an oven at 6d a day 9s

Item he owes him more which remains in his hands upon a bargain that was done the last summer 3s

Probate: 24 May 1592

1593/120

In the name of God, Amen. The 28th February 1592 and the 35th 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 Richard Ludlowe of the town of Cirencester within the county of Gloucester, innholder, sick in body but, I thank my lord God, of perfect remembrance, do institute, ordain and make this my testament containing herein my last will in manner and form as hereafter it follows. That is to say, first I bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God my creator, to Jesus Christ his only son my redeemer and to the Holy Ghost the comforter etc and my body to be buried in Christian burial. First I give to the poor people of Cirencester to be paid on the day of my burial 20s. Item I give to my daughter Susanna in money six and twenty pounds to be paid unto her within two years next after my decease. Item I give to Robert Hawle of Northleach, my son-in-law, in money twelve pounds to be paid unto him within four years next after my decease. And I give more unto him my best gown, my best hat, my best doublet and my best hose. Item I give to the three children of the same Robert Hawle to each of them 20s. Item I give unto Thomas Kyrbye, my son-in-law, in money twelve pounds to be paid within three years next after my decease. And I also give more unto him my second gown and my black cloak. Item I give unto Richard Kyrbye, son of the same Thomas Kyrbye, in money 20s. Item I give unto John Webbe a yard and three-quarters of medley to make him a pair of hose. Item I give unto my sister Anne Boyce, wife of William Boyce, in money forty shillings. All my goods and chattels both moveable and unmoveable and debts whatsoever I give unto Jane my wife whom I do make executrix of this my testament and last will upon this condition, that within three months next after my decease she put in one sufficient surety to be bound with her, such one as my overseers shall like of, for the payment of all such legacies as by this my last will are bequeathed as aforesaid. And further I do appoint to be the supervisors and overseers of this my last will my well-

beloved friends and good neighbours William Seacole, gentleman, and Robert Chawnler and I give to each of them for their painstaking herein ten shillings.
Witnesses to this present testament: William Seacole, gentleman, Robert Chawnler, John Webbe, John Baker
Probate: 24 April 1593

1593/151

In the name of God, Amen. The 11th November 1589 in the 31st 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 Robert Smarte of Bawdington als Baunton in the county of Gloucester, labourer, being of a good and perfect remembrance, thanks be therefore given unto Almighty God, do institute, ordain and make this my last will and testament in manner and form following. That is to say, first I bequeath and give my soul into the hands of Almighty God my heavenly father, hoping and assuredly trusting to be saved by the death and passion of his dear and only son my lord and saviour and my body to the earth from whence it came, trusting at the latter day to rise again a true Christian. Item I give and bequeath unto my daughter Christian the lesser brass pot, my bright brass pot and the lesser of the three coffers. Item I give and bequeath unto my son Thomas Smarte one stall of bees. Item I give and bequeath unto John Smarte my son, being the younger of the two Johns, all my wearing apparel. All the residue of my goods, chattels and household stuff whatsoever moveable and unmoveable not herein given & bequeathed, my debts being paid and my funeral expenses discharged, I give unto George Smarte my son whom I ordain and make my sole executor. And to see this my last will truly executed and performed according to this my meaning I do ordain Giles Rogers and Thomas Hopkins of Cirencester, my trusty friends, my overseers and for their painstaking herein I give them and either of them one swarm of bees, a piece of the best I then shall have.

Witness to this my will.

Probate: 4 April 1593

1593/154

In the name of God, Amen. The 10th July 1593 I Thomas Smythe alias Netherton of Cirencester in the county of Gloucester, labourer, sick in body but, I thank my lord God, of good and perfect remembrance, do institute, ordain and make this my last will and testament in manner and form as hereafter it follows. That is to say, first I bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God my heavenly father, to Jesus Christ his only son my redeemer and to the Holy Ghost the comforter etc and my body to be buried in Christian burial. First I give and bequeath unto my son Thomas Smythe my press in my chamber where I do now lie and my biggest brass pot to be delivered unto him by my executrix as soon as he shall be of the age of 21 years. Item I give unto my son John Smythe my cupboard in the hall and my second brass pot to be delivered unto him as soon as he shall be of the full age of 21 years by my executrix. Item I give unto my daughter Joan Smythe my best brass pan, my biggest cauldron, my little chest and my great posnet and one of my hanging cauldrons to be delivered unto her in and upon the day of her marriage or else as soon as she shall be of the age of 21 years, the first day of both happening. The residue of all my goods and chattels both moveable & unmoveable, my debts, legacies and funeral being honestly paid and discharged, I give them and leave them unto Alice my wife whom I ordain and make my sole executrix of this my said last will. And I do appoint to be the supervisors or overseers of this my last will and testament my well-beloved

neighbours Henry Kynge and Nicholas Bidle and I give to each of them for their painstaking herein 6d.

Witness hereunto: Henry Kinge, Nicholas Byddle and me John Baker

Probate: 13 February 1593

1594/48

In the name of God, Amen. Henry Newporte of Cirencester in the county of Gloucester upon the 17th January in the 37th year of the reign of our gracious sovereign lady Queen Elizabeth that now is etc, lying in his bed sick in body yet, thanks be given to Almighty God, of a good and perfect remembrance, ordained and made his will and testament in manner and form following. First I bequeath my soul to the hands of Almighty God my alone saviour and my body to the earth from whence it came, trusting and faithfully believing by the death of my alone saviour at the latter day to rise a true Christian. First I give unto Elizabeth Newport my daughter five pounds to be paid and delivered her on her day of marriage or 18 years of age, which first shall happen. Item I give unto Eleanor Newport my other daughter five pounds to be paid unto her on her day of marriage or 18 years of age, which first shall happen. Also my will is that if any of my said children shall depart this life before the time shall come wherein she should receive her portion as aforesaid then her part so dying shall remain to her that shall be living. Item I give to Agnes Jesope ten shillings to be paid her by my executrix. Item I give to my kinsman John Newporte twenty shillings out of that debt which Giles Smale does owe me and upon the recovery of that debt to pay him the said 20s. All the rest of my goods, chattels, household stuff and wares whatsoever before not given and bequeathed, my debts being paid and my funeral expenses discharged, I do wholly give unto Agnes my wife whom I make my full and whole executrix. And to see this my will truly performed I do ordain and make my friends John Pratt and John Ferribie my overseers and for their painstaking herein I give them 12d apiece.

Witnesses to this will: John Prat, George Feriby, John Ferribie, Thomas Newport

Probate: 22 February 1594

1594/83

In the name of God, Amen. The 15th November 1592 and in the 34th 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, I Joan Keele of Cirencester within the county and diocese of Gloucester, widow, being weak in body but, thanks be unto God, of good and perfect memory, do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I give and render into the hands of Almighty God, my creator, my spirit which he of his fatherly goodness gave me in my first creation, trusting to be saved by the merits, death and passion of my lord and saviour Jesus Christ and my body to be buried in some convenient place where it shall seem best to my executor. Item I give and bequeath unto the poor people of the town of Cirencester aforesaid twenty shillings of lawful money of England to be bestowed among them at the discretion of my overseers at the time of my funeral. Item I give and bequeath unto my son Edward Armon ten pounds of lawful money of England and two silver spoons. Item I give and bequeath unto my son Thomas Armon one angel of gold. Item I give and bequeath unto my daughter Elizabeth Alexander one standing cup of silver and double gilt with the cover belonging to the same. Item I give and bequeath unto my daughter Eleanor Alldie fifty three shillings and four pence of lawful money of England. Item I give and bequeath unto my daughter Jane Haslette fifty three shillings and four pence of lawful money of England and my second gown. Item I give and bequeath unto my kinswoman Elizabeth Gourney one brass pot. Item my will is that my executor shall pay & discharge all the legacies

before given according to my true meaning within the space of six months next and immediately ensuing after the day of my decease. Item all the rest of my goods, chattels and cattle as well moveable as unmoveable not given nor bequeathed in this my last will I give and bequeath unto my son James Armon whom I make my whole executor seeing my debts and these my legacies paid and my funeral discharged. Item I will and desire my well-beloved friends Mr Robert George and John Stacy to be supervisors of this my last will and testament to see all things herein contained effectually performed according to my true meaning. And I give to every one of them for their pains taken therein three shillings and four pence of lawful money of England. In witness whereof I have to these presents sealed and subscribed given the day and year above written.

Witnesses to the making, sealing and delivery of these presents were: Richard Phillippes, Henry Parker, William Mather

Probate: 10 August 1594

1594/95

In the name of God, Amen. The 28th November in the 36th 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, I Lewis Bowley of Cirencester in the county of Gloucester, yeoman, being sick in body notwithstanding of whole mind & perfect remembrance, do ordain & make this my last will & testament in manner & form following. First I bequeath & recommend my soul to Almighty God, believing to be saved only by the blood-shedding and the merits of Jesus Christ & my body to be buried in the churchyard of Cirencester. Then next my goods as follows; first I give & bequeath unto John Bowley my uncle my leather hose, my best doublet & my frieze jerkin. Item I give & bequeath unto Richard Bowley my brother my tammy* coat. Item I give & bequeath unto Henry Bowley my son a flock bed, a coverlet, a pair of sheets, a pair of blankets, a bolster, my best standing bedstead, my best brass pot, two platters, a salt, two candlesticks, a brazen pan, my best coffer, a board cloth, a cupboard & my mill. And also I give & bequeath the lease of my house unto Henry my son with this proviso, that my wife shall enjoy the years of my said lease if she do so long live until they be fully expired & if in the meantime God does call my said wife out of this world before the said years be expired that then my will is that my son Henry shall enjoy the residue of the years that are unexpired. And if in the meantime before the expiration of my said lease my said son Henry do depart his natural life before the said years be fully ended that then my will is that Elizabeth my daughter shall enjoy the residue of the years that are then unexpired. Item I give & bequeath to Elizabeth my daughter a flock bed, a pair of canvas sheets, a pair of blankets, a bolster, a coverlet, a bedstead, two chargers, my least brass pot, two candlesticks, a salt, a diaper table cloth, a coffer. All such things my will is that are before bequeathed to my son Henry & to my daughter Elizabeth shall be delivered to both of them at the age of 21 years or else at the discretion of my overseers, provided always that if either my said son Henry or Elizabeth my daughter do depart this their natural life before the time proscribed that all the household stuff, things & implements to either of them bequeathed to remain to my executrix. All the residue of my goods not before given nor bequeathed I give & bequeath unto Elizabeth my wife whom I do ordain and make my whole & sole executrix and I do appoint my good friends [left blank] to be overseers of this my last will & testament.

Probate: 5 May 1594

**tammy = worsted cloth*

1595/50

In the name of God, Amen. The 23rd January 1595 & in the 38th 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, I John Morse of Cirencester in the county of Gloucester, woollen draper, being sick in body but thanks be to God of good & perfect remembrance, do constitute, ordain & make this my last will & testament in manner & form following. That is to say, first I bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God my creator & to Jesus Christ his only son my saviour and redeemer, trusting to be saved by his death and passion, & my body to be buried in the parish church of St John Baptist in Cirencester aforesaid in a chapel there called St John's Chapel. Item I give & bequeath unto my brother Edmund Morse of Lydbrook in the county of Gloucester one messuage or tenement & all lands, meadows, leasows, pastures, cens and feeding to the same belonging or in anywise appertaining, situate, lying & being Monmouth als Monmorth in the county of Monmouth wherein Rose Morse, widow, now dwells, to have & to hold to him, the said Edmund my brother & to his heirs & assigns for ever. Item I give, will, devise & bequeath unto James Sanders als Morse my base son, begotten on the body of Joan Sanders, all my messuage, tenements & hereditaments in Cirencester aforesaid or elsewhere within the realm of England (other than my lands, tenements & hereditaments called Hallmot lands, situate within the town of Cirencester which I hold in ancient demesne by copy of Court Roll according to the custom there and other than the tenement in Monmouth aforesaid) to have & to hold to him the said James & his assigns for term of his natural life upon condition that the said James and his assigns shall yield and pay yearly for the tenement & premises to him bequeathed unto John Morse, eldest son of my brother Richard Morse of Lydbrook aforesaid, & to his heirs & assigns during the term of the natural life of him, the said James, forty shillings of lawful English money at the Feast of St Michael the Archangel & the Annunciation of Our Lady St Mary the Virgin, the first payment thereof to commence & begin at such of the said feasts as next shall happen after my decease or within fourteen days next after either of those said feasts being lawfully demanded. And also upon condition that the said James and his assigns after the decease of Margaret now my wife shall yield and pay yearly for the premises to the said John Morse, my said brother's eldest son, & to his heirs & assigns three pounds of lawful English money at the days and feasts aforesaid & in such manner & form as before is limited during the natural life of him the said James. And I will & bequeath the same several yearly rents & the immediate reversion & reversions of all & singular the lands, tenements and hereditaments devised to the said James Morse for term of his natural life and after the decease of him the said James I will that the said lands, tenements & hereditaments shall be & remain to the said John Morse, eldest son of my said brother Richard, and to the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten & to be begotten. And for default of such issue I will the same lands, tenements & hereditaments shall remain to Henry Morse & to the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten & to be begotten. And for want of such issue male of his body lawfully begotten then the same to remain to the right heirs of me the said John Morse for ever. And as touching the disposition of my lands & tenements in Cirencester aforesaid which I hold in ancient demesne by copy of the Hallmote Court there, my will, intent & meaning is the same shall be & remain to such person or persons & to their heirs to whose use I intend to convey the same by surrender before ?? at the leas... out of the Court of the same Hallmote. And as concerning the disposition of my goods, chattels, money, plate, jewels and household stuff I do make & declare this my last will & testament in manner & form following. That is to say I give all the wainscot & glass as it now stands remaining & standing in the house wherein I now dwell & one joined cupboard, a pair of andiron & one plate of iron for a hearth or chimney remaining in the hall of the said house wherein I now dwell unto the said John Morse, eldest son of my brother Richard. And yet nevertheless my meaning & will is that the

said James shall have the use and occupation thereof in manner & form as the same now stands without alteration during his natural life, keeping the same in reparations. Item I give & bequeath to my sister Jane Tylladams, wife of Edward Tylladams, twenty shillings of lawful money of England. Item I give & bequeath to her daughter [blank] my goddaughter twenty shillings of lawful English money. Item I give & bequeath to Margaret Morse my wife one joined bedstead, one featherbed, one flock bed, one bolster, two pair of sheets, one coverlet, one joined cupboard, one table board with his frame, one brass pot, one brass pan, one cauldron, half a dozen of pewter, half a dozen of table napkins & one table cloth, all which parcels of household stuff my will & meaning is shall be delivered unto my said wife by my executors & overseers within one quarter of a year after my decease. Item I give & bequeath unto the poor within the town of Cirencester aforesaid forty shillings of lawful English money to be bestowed on them at the day of my burial by the discretion of my executors & overseers. The residue of all & singular my goods & chattels whatsoever moveable & unmoveable not before hereby given or bequeathed, my funerals being discharged I freely give & bequeath to the said James Sanders als Mores whom I do ordain & make my sole executor of this my last will & testament. And I do constitute & appoint Philip Morse my brother & my good neighbours John Hopkins, John Spacie & George Ferebie my overseers of this my last will, desiring them to see all things performed according to my intent & meaning and for their pains to be taken therein I do give & bequeath every of them five shillings of lawful English money. And I do utterly renounce & revoke all former wills & legacies, devises & bequests by me at any time heretofore made. In witness whereof I the said John Morse have hereunto set my hand & seal the day & year first before written in the presence of those whose names are subscribed.
Witnesses: Humphrey Brale, Thomas Feribie, William Deane, Richard Smythe
Probate: 18 February 1595

1595/171

In the name of God, Amen. The 20th November 1587 and in the 30th 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 William Parsons of the town of Cirencester within the county of Gloucester, fishmonger, sick in body but I thank my lord God of good and perfect remembrance, do institute, ordain and make this my last will and testament in manner & form as it hereafter follows. That is to say, first I bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God my creator, to Jesus Christ his only son and my alone redeemer and to the Holy Ghost the comforter etc and my body to be buried in Christian burial. Item I give and bequeath all my goods and chattels as well moveable as unmoveable, quick and dead, what kind soever they be or in whose hands soever they may be found within this realm of England or elsewhere, unto Joan my wife whom I ordain and make my sole executrix of this my said last will and testament to see my debts paid and my funeral honestly discharged. And I do also appoint and ordain to be the supervisors or overseers of this my said will my well-beloved neighbours and loving friends Robert Tayler and Edward Awoodde and I give to each of them for their pains taken therein 12d.

Witness hereunto: Richard Platte, Henry Hawkins & John Baker, writer
Probate: 2 March 1595

1597/169

In the name of God, Amen. The 19th May 1597 I Robert Evans of Cirencester in the county of Gloucester, yeoman. Item I give unto Nathaniel my son a bill of debt of £18 in the hands of my cousin William Evans. Item I give unto Ann my daughter a bill of debt of £14 in the hands of the said William Evans. Item I give unto Hester my

daughter £10. Item to Judith my daughter £10. If any of the said children shall depart this natural life before their day of marriage or that they shall accomplish the age of 21 years then the said portion be equally disposed amongst the rest that shall be living. All the rest of my goods and chattels moveable & unmovable O give & bequeath unto Alice my wife whom I make my sole executrix of this my last will and testament. And I do appoint my father-in-law Giles Selwyn and John Pratt the supervisors of this my last will and testament.

Debts owing

John Tyler of Standish	£3
William Tyler	30s
Edward Dangerfoeld	25s
John Betterton of Hampton Meysey	40s
Richard Dowre of Rodmarton barley one quarter	
In the hands of William Evans one obligation the debts	£8
William Bradford	50s
No probate recorded	

1598/33

In the name of God, Amen. I Giles Selwin of Cirencester in the county of Gloucester, vintner, sick in body but sound and perfect in memory one Thursday the 3rd November 1597 do make my last will and testament in manner and form following. That is to say, first I give and commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God my creator, maker, preserver, redeemer and sanctifier and my body to be decently buried in the churchyard of Cirencester at the discretion of my executor and overseers. Item concerning all my worldly goods and substance I give and bequeath in manner and form following. First to my daughter Joan I give twenty pounds in money to be paid unto her at the end of one year after my decease. Item to my daughter Mary I give twenty pounds in money to be paid unto her also at the end of one year immediately after my death. Item to my son-in-law George Richards I give one silver salt which he left at my house in pawn of three pounds. Item to George Richards my son-in-law I forgive the six pounds of money which he owes me. Item to every one of my servants I give ten shillings apiece. Item to our minister Master Dyer I give ten shillings. Item to the poor of Cirencester I give forty shillings. Moreover my will is that whereas there is a bill of debt of £11 payable yearly by twenty shillings a year unto Thomas Hanckes, glover, which my late son-in-law Richard Evans at my instant request did give his bills for the payment of the said sum of £11, my will now is that my executors shall pay yearly unto my daughter Alice Evans, her executors or assigns, the said sum of £11 by 20s a year at the feast of St John Baptist until the same sum of £11 be fully paid as aforesaid. Item to Thomas Lewes I forgive the money which he owes me by his bond. Item whereas my son-in-law James Dunning does owe me diverse great sums of money dispersed for him as may appear by bonds and other specialties, my will is clearly to acquit him thereof on this condition, that he or his assigns do pay to my executor the full sum of forty pounds of lawful money of England at such time as shall be thought good by my overseers. All my other worldly goods and substances moveable and unmoveable ungiven and unbequeathed I give and bequeath to Emmett my loving wife whom I make my sole and only executrix of this my last will and testament. But if my wife die now of this her present sickness then I make and ordain my daughter Joan sole and only executrix of this my last will and testament. Item I ordain overseers of this my last will & testament Mr Richard Pectshall, gentleman & my cousin Richard Staunton and our minister Mr Dier and towards their pains I give them five shillings apiece. And in token that this is my last will and testament I have hereto put my hand & seal the day & year above written. Sealed and delivered in presence of Richard Dier, clerk. John Master, Richard Staunton, Richard Cornewall

Probate: 3 October 1598

1598/58

In the name of God, Amen. The 4th April 1598 in the 40th 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 I Joan Bradney of Cirencester in the county of Gloucester, widow, being weak in body but, thanks be unto God, of good and perfect memory, do make & ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I give and render into the hands of Almighty God, my creator, my spirit which he of his fatherly goodness gave me in my first creation, trusting to be saved through the merits, death and passion of my lord and saviour Jesus Christ and my body to be buried in Christian burial at the discretion of my executor and overseers. Item I give and bequeath unto my son Samuel Hanbadge one great yoting vat, one great coffer, all the boards and planks about the kitchen, the board of the garner and one tod of wool and also such in ready money as the fourth part of my wood shall be reasonably judged to be worth at the time of my decease. Item I give and bequeath unto Walter Hanbadge, son of the said Samuel, one brass pot and a cauldron, one joined stool, one joined form, two pieces of pewter and four nobles in money. Item I give & bequeath unto Richard Wilkins, one of the sons of my daughter Parsida, three pieces of pewter, one brass pot, one cauldron, one press, one bedstead, one little table board, one flock bed, one tod of wool, one candlestick, one salt, one truckle bedstead, one rug and my Bible, the disposing and delivery of which last bequested legacy I refer unto the discretion of my overseers. Item I give and bequeath unto Samuel Wilkins, another son of my daughter Peersida, three pieces of pewter, one brass pot, one cauldron, one bedstead, one little table board, one flock bed, one tod of wool, one candlestick, one salt, one truckle bedstead and one rug, the disposal and delivery of which last bequeathed legacy I also refer unto the discretion of my overseers. Item I give and bequeath unto the poor people of the town of Cirencester 24 dozen of bread to be bestowed at my burial Item I give and bequeath unto Richard Platte 6s 8d in ready money. Item all the rest of my goods, cattle and chattels as well moveable as unmoveable not given nor bequeathed in this my last will I give and bequeath unto Walter Kyte my son-in-law whom I ordain and make my full and whole executor of this my last will and testament, seeing these my legacies performed my debts paid and my funeral discharged. And I desire my well-beloved friends John Coxwell and William Sencoll, gentleman, to be supervisors of this my last will, to see the same effectually performed accordingly. And I give to each of them for their pains taken herein two shillings to buy them sweet gloves. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year above written 1598. Witness hereunto: Walter Byckley, John Russell, John Iles

Probate: 10 May 1598

1598/196

In the name of God, Amen. The 10th August 1598 and in the 40th year of the reign of our most gracious sovereign lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God of England, France and Ireland Queen, defender of the faith etc I William Worgan of Cirencester in the county of Gloucester, being sick in body but of good and perfect remembrance, thanks be unto Almighty God therefore, do ordain and make this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God my maker & to Jesus Christ my redeemer by whose precious blood-shedding I am fully persuaded my sins are clean washed away and forgiven as though I never had offended. Next I bequeath my body to the earth from whence it came and to be buried in the churchyard of Cirencester aforesaid. Item I give and bequeath unto Agnes my wife all and singular my goods both moveable and unmoveable

whatsoever within the realm of England. And also I do make her my sole executor of this my last will and testament. And in witness that this is my own deed I have set to my mark and also have put my seal even the day and year above written in the presence of those persons whose names are underwritten.

Robert Rumney. Anthony Chapman

Probate: 28 September 1598

1599/79

In the name of God, Amen. I Leonard Master of Cirencester in the county of Gloucester, woollen draper, being sick and weak in body but, thanks be given to God, of sound and perfect memory, do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I give and bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God and to his son my saviour Jesus Christ by whose merits, precious blood-shedding, death & bitter passion I fully and faithfully and am assured to be saved by him and by no other means or merits. Then next I commit my body to the earth by Christian burial in such sort as shall seem best to my executor. Item I give and bequeath unto my father-in-law Matthew Woodward of Cirencester aforesaid all such debts as are owing to me by speciality and without speciality as also all my goods and chattels whichsoever and wheresoever they be. And for the better explanation of my debts due and owing to me whereby he may know them and make demand of them I do here set them down in particular as follows.

First James Stevens, gentleman, of Bourton-on-the-hill owes me due by his bond six pounds seven shillings.

John Chittam of London, tailor, owes me by bond being in George Monnox's hands four pounds and fourteen shillings.

Samuel Pudsey owes me as appears by a letter of attorney to receive the sum from one Caston or Richard Smyth five pounds and fifteen shillings.

William Clifford owes me as appears by his bill lying in my brother Matthew Woodward's hands the sum of fifteen shillings and six pence.

Richard Warwick and his brother Robert owe me six shillings a piece. Thomas Blisse of Frampton owes me three pounds and fourteen shillings.

Tobiath Bullock, gentleman, for his brother Naboth owes me five pounds fourteen shillings.

Richard Cooke of Stroud owes me 21s 6d.

Richard Spearte of Kingswood in the county of Wiltshire owes me by bond & otherwise five pounds & twelve shillings.

Anthony Wye of South Cerney, gentleman, owes me 9s.

Walter Remyngton owes me by bond five pounds six shillings and six pence.

Richard Phillips of Cirencester owes me ten shillings.

Mr Thomas Strainge, gentleman, owes me by his bill of his hand £11 to be paid at the day of his marriage or the hour of his death.

Edward Derry, pleaman to my Lord de Laware, owes me 7s.

John Browne of London owes me 5s 6d.

Giles George of London owes me 22s 6d.

Thomas Heath of London owes me 3s 6d.

Henry Jones, tailor, of London 3s 9d.

Jeffery Price of London, silk weaver, owes me by a bill of his hand in George Monnox's keeping 17s.

Mrs Dawson, baker in Holborn, owes me 3s 6d.

Michael Colman of London owes me 40s.

Mr William Parsons of Stratford owes me 32s 9d.

Thomas Smythe of Alton owes me by a bill £5.

Thomas Freeman of Deane in the county of Bedford owes me 5s.

Mrs Momicke of Hitchin in Hertfordshire owes me £18 14s.

Thomas Johnson of Sudbury in the county of Suffolk owes me by his bill five pounds ten shillings.

Robert Garnand in Herefordshire owes me by bond five pounds three pence.

Mr George Freeman of Cambridge owes me by his bond at his marriage or death ten pounds.

Richard Spencer owes me to be paid at the day of his marriage ten shillings.

Thomas Shuffe of London, shoemaker, owes me forty four shillings.

Thomas Williamson of London, bookbinder, owes me forty six shillings eight pence.

Thomas Savage, shoemaker, owes me forty shillings.

Ferdinand White owes me forty shillings.

Paul Arrundell owes me thirteen shillings six pence.

Matthew Colledge owes me fifty two shillings eight pence.

All other debts & all other my goods & chattels I give & bequeath to my said father-in-law Matthew Woodward whom I do make & ordain my executor of this my last will & testament. In witness whereof I have unto this my last will & testament put my hand & seal the 8th July in the 41st 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 all this I acknowledge.

Signed & sealed in the presence of us: Robert George, John Davis

Probate: 15 March 1599

1600/10

In the name of God, Amen. The 4th March 1599 I Agnes Worgan of Cirencester, widow, being sick in body but of good and perfect remembrance, thanks be given to Almighty God, do ordain and make this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First and principally above all things I bequeath my soul to Almighty God my maker and unto Jesus Christ my redeemer by whose precious blood-shedding I do assuredly hope and constantly believe that my sins are clean done away and shall never more be imputed unto me. Item I give and bequeath unto my sister Alice Nicoules all my wearing apparel that is to say three gowns, two petticoats, three smocks, four partlets, four aprons, 3 pynners* and two kerchiefs. Item I give unto Ann Stevens a flock bed, 2 coverlets, a pair of sheets, two bolsters, a blanket, and a bedstead. Item I give unto my cousin Alice Stevens my best gown . These bearing witness: John Howse, George Hopkins, Robert Wearinge, Hopkine Roberts and Augustine Stevens

Debts owing unto me

Richard Bennett 10s 10d

Anthony Chapman 7s 3d

Richard Fisher 2s

John Reve 7s

Probate: 3 September 1600

* *pynner* = a sort of coif

1600/64

The last will and testament of Joan Hearde alias Groves late of Cirencester in the county of Gloucester, single woman deceased, made and confessed the 7th July 1600 and in the 42nd 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 as hereafter it follows. That is to say, touching her temporal goods she disposed them first to her dame with whom she then dwelt, namely to Elizabeth Bridges, widow, her best kerchief. Item to her daughter Mary Bridges one durance* apron. Item to one other of

her daughters Margaret Bridges a pynner. Item to Jane Bridges, one other of her daughters, a pynner*. Item to Ursula Clyfford, widow, she gave her second gown and her second petticoat. Item to Elizabeth Fowler, daughter of Anthony Fowler, she gave one courer kerchief and one old partlet. Item to a daughter of Thomas Halle she gave a kerchief and a partlet. Item to Joan Fowler, daughter of Anthony Fowler, she gave a smock petticoat. Item to John Groves, Edward Groves and Richard Groves, children of John Groves of Cirencester her kinsman, to each of them 40s apiece. Item to William Heard of Cirencester she gave 10s. Item to the five children of William Heard the younger she gave to every one of them five shillings apiece. The residue of all her goods and chattels whatsoever as well moveable as unmoveable not before in this present will given or bequeathed she gave them unto John Groves the elder of Cirencester above said, her uncle, whom she made and appointed to be the sole executor of this her said last will & testament to see her honestly and decently buried & to use the rest to God's pleasure & his own commodity. Item she did confess that she owed unto Mr Richard Smythe certain dues or fees for and concerning a suit in law commenced which he did for her.

Here follows all such debts & dues as she confessed them were owing unto her First Henry Webb of North Cerney owes her upon an obligation as may appear £13 Item about a fortnight before Midsummer last in the way as she & Ursula Clyfford, widow aforesaid, came between Cirencester & Culkerton she confessed to the said Ursula that her dame Elizabeth Bridges did owe unto her which was due at the said Midsummer £3 besides the interest thereof.

Item she confessed in her sickness that she was unpaid that legacy which was given her by her master Mr Humphrey Bridges in his last will being 40s.

Witness to this will and last testament: Elizabeth Bridges, Ursula Clyfford, Margery Fowler, Elizabeth Vyner

Probate: 22 October 1600

**durance = durable cloth*

pynner = a sort of coif

1600/68

In the name of God, Amen. The 24th December 1599 and in the 42nd year Her Majesty's reign, I John Etkins als Mumford of Cirencester, being sick in body but of good & perfect remembrance, thanks be unto Almighty God, do ordain & make this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I give and bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God, hoping at the last day to be chosen in the number of his elect and to be saved by the death and passion of Jesus Christ, then next my body to the earth and lastly my goods as follows. First I give and bequeath to my three children, namely Marie Etkins als Mumford my daughter, John Etkins als Mumford my son, Barbara Etkins als Mumford my daughter, four pounds to be equally divided & to be paid to each of them at the age of 21 years or at the day of their marriage by equal portions which of them shall first happen. Item I give to Marie Etkins als Mumford my daughter one coffer. All the residue of my goods not before given nor bequeathed I give and bequeath to Jane my wife whom I do ordain & make my full & whole executrix.

Probate: 14 April 1600

1601/194

In the name of God, Amen. The 14th March 1598 in the 41st 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 Walter Kyte of Cirencester in the county of Gloucester, wheelwright, sick of body but I thank my lord God of good and perfect mind &

remembrance, do institute, ordain & make this my last will & testament in manner & form following. That is to say, first I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God my heavenly father, unto Jesus Christ his only son and my alone redeemer and to the Holy Ghost the comforter etc and my body to be buried in Christian burial at the discretion of my executrix and overseers. And as concerning my temporal goods & substance I dispose them as hereafter follows. That is to say, first I give to the poor people of Cirencester abovesaid to be bestowed & distributed upon the day of my burial 20s. Item I give to a preacher, such a one as my executrix and overseers shall appoint, for one sermon to be made at my burial 6s 8d. Item I give unto Walter Kyte, the son of my brother William Kyte, twenty of my working tools belonging to my occupation. The residue of all my goods and chattels as well moveable as unmoveable not before in this my said last will and testament given or bequeathed, my debts, legacies & funeral being clearly & honestly paid & discharged, I freely do give them unto Sara my wife whom I institute, ordain and appoint to be the sole executrix of this my last will & testament. And to the end that this my said last will may be the better performed & done according to my true meaning herein I ordain & make the overseers hereof my loving brother-in-law Richard Platt & my loving neighbour John Iles & I give to each of them for their painstaking 12d apiece. Witness to this will: John Baker, writer
Probate: 21 April 1601

1601/212

In the name of God, Amen. The 30th January in the 43rd year of the reign of our most gracious sovereign lady Queen Elizabeth that now is etc I William Turbill the elder of Cirencester in the county of Gloucester, being weak in body yet, thanks be given to Almighty God, of a good and perfect remembrance, do ordain and make this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God my creator and my body to the earth from whence it came, hoping and assuredly trusting at the latter day to rise a true Christian by the death and passion of my saviour Jesus Christ etc. Item I give and bequeath unto my son John Turbill the sum of four pounds. Item I give and bequeath unto my daughter Agnes Baker the sum of four pounds. Item I give and bequeath unto my daughter Elizabeth Phillipps the sum of four pounds. Item I give to Agnes Baker, the daughter of my foresaid daughter Agnes Baker, one coffer. Item I give and bequeath to Elizabeth Baker, the daughter of my said daughter Agnes, one coffer. Item I give to my servant Dorothy the coverlet which now lies upon me. Item I give to Richard Browne my best rouge gown. Item I give to John Barnefild my worst rouge gown. Item I give to Elizabeth Phillips, the daughter of my said [daughter] Elizabeth Phillips, one coffer. All the rest of my goods, implements, chattels and household stuff whatsoever moveable & unmoveable not before given & bequeathed, my funeral expenses discharged, I give & bequeath to my two sons William Turbill the elder & William Turbill the younger equally to be divided whom I do ordain & make my whole executors. And my will is further that all the money and goods before given and bequeathed shall be paid and delivered by my executors within two months next after the day of my funeral. And to see this my last will and testament performed I do ordain and make my friends William Viner and Rees Cornewell my overseers and for their painstaking herein I give to them 12d apiece.
In the presence of: Thomas Hopkins, William Turbill the elder, William Vyner, Rees Cornewell, Henry Phillips
Probate: 15 December 1601