

# Oxfordshire

## HENLEY PROBATE DOCUMENTS

**John FOWLE, of Henley upon Thames**

**Will 1544**

**Oxfordshire Record Office, MS Wills Oxon 179.11**

*Numbering at left identifies line of original document*

Testamentum Johannis Fowle de Henley

1. In dei no[m]i[n]e amen the xxij daye of July the yere of o[ur] lorde god 1544
2. in the xxxvj<sup>th</sup> yere of the Reigne of Kynge Henrye the viij<sup>th</sup> I John Fowle of
3. Henley uppon themys In the Cownte of Oxon & dyoces of the same, beinge in my
4. prosperyte & good healthe & of p[er]fett memorye make my Testament and laste wyll
5. In man[ner] & forme folloyng Fyrst I bequethe my soule unto allmyghtye god my
6. maker and Redem[er] & to o[ur] blessyd ladye saynt Mare the vyrgen & to all the holly
7. companye of Hevyn And my bodye to be buried w[i]thin the churche of Henley before
8. [th]e Trynite Aulter It[em] I gyve to the hyghe Aulter of my p[ar]yshe Church In Henley
9. iiij<sup>d</sup> It[em] to o[ur] Mother churche of Oxon iiij<sup>d</sup> It[em] I wyll that [th]e Warden &
10. Wardens of the churche & bridgmen of Henley aforesayde for the tyme beyng
11. shall from hens forthe for ev[er] receve & take all the yssues & p[ro]fettes of All my
12. ix tenementes & cotages w[i]th the appurtenances thereto belongynge set &
13. beyng w[i]thin the Towne of Henley aforesayde & w[hi]ch the same shall from hens
14. forthe for ever more In the daye of the conceptyon of o[ur] blessyd ladye next
15. after my dep[ar]tyng owt of this Worlde unto almyghty god shall hold &
16. kepe w[i]thin the aforesayde churche of Henley a solome obytt by note w[i]th iiij
17. Masses whereof ij of them to be songe & the other ij to be sayde and they [th]at
18. songe shall be ij of o[ur] blessyd ladye & the other of requiem and at the
19. sayde obett the sextyne or the p[ar]yshe clarke shall direct & sett uppon or cawse to
20. sett up[?] within the p[ar]yshe Church of Henley aforesayde a coffyn uppon
21. ij tressles coveryd w[i]th sum honest coverynge for cover th[e] ende & sydes of the sayde
22. Coffyne so sett upp to have a tap[er] of wax & iiij tapers to be sett uppon iiij
23. candelstyckes & to borne all the tyme of drydges & masses yerely for ev[er]
24. to be songe solomley prayeing for the soule of me John Fowle & Johan hys
25. wyffe & margarett ther Fathers soules & mothers soule & all chrystyn

26. soules and the p[ar]yshe prest shall have for his labor iiij<sup>d</sup> & for the bed rolle<sup>1</sup>  
 27. iiij<sup>d</sup> & the ij chauntere p[re]stes ayche of them to have iiij<sup>d</sup> & the Jhe[sus] p[re]ste  
 28. and the ij clarkes iiij<sup>d</sup> a pece & to iiij chylderen [tha]t synge at the dyrydges  
 29. & Masses j<sup>d</sup> a pece & for settinge of the hearse j<sup>d</sup> & to [th]e belman  
 30. to goo about the Towne too gyve knoledge of the sayde obett j<sup>d</sup> And  
 31. for the lyghttes For his iiij tapers iiij<sup>d</sup> and for towlynge of the great bell at dy-  
 32. -rydge & masses iiij<sup>d</sup> & for the Rope j<sup>d</sup> & the Warden & churchemen for the tyme  
 33. beynge shalbe of the yssewes & p[ro]fyttes of all the sayde ix tenementes cotages  
 34. & gardyns w[i]th all there appurtenances agaynst the daye of my yearly  
 35. obett for ev[er] shall gyve & delyv[er] to v honest pore men of the sayde Towne of  
 36. Henley v cottis of freyse or of cottyn at vij<sup>d</sup> the yarde & to ev[er]y cote or vestare  
 37. v yardes to be redye made to put on theyr bakes & to be worne at the sayde  
 38. obett & the Warden & churchemen for [th]e tyme beynge to dystribute to pore  
 39. people in almes aft[er] Masses the day of my yerely obett for ev[er] vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>  
 40. and ev[er]y yere to geve on good Frydaye too xx<sup>ti</sup> poore howsholders w[i]thin the  
 41. Towne of Henley iiij<sup>d</sup> a pece for ev[er] farthermore for [th]e sayde warden th[en] for [th]e  
 42. tyme beynge for his paynes to see all th[is] done aforesayd & the rep[ar]acyons  
 43. of the sayde ix tenementtes to be kept anadynge [?] to the p[re]mysses the  
 44. Warden to have yerely ij<sup>s</sup> for the churche Wardens brydgmen for the tyme  
 45. beynge viij<sup>d</sup> a pece It[em] [th]e rest of the renttes of the sayde ix tenementtes  
 46. I gyve to the mayntenannce of Jhesus masse yf there bee any kepte  
 47. & yf there bee none kept I gyve hyt to [th]e mayntenannce of [th]e brydge for ev[er]  
 48. w[hi]ch ix tenementes doothe appere more playnly ~~appere~~ by a dede of  
 49. fefment & by [th]e Towne booke also yf my yearly obytt be nott keptt  
 50. accordyng to [th]e premisses on [th]e feast of the conception of o[ur] blessyd ladye  
 51. aforesayde after my dep[ar]tyng to allmyghty god & all other thynges  
 52. kepte & done as is before expressyd I wyll [tha]t the next or any of my  
 53. kynne shall Reaenter & Injoie the sayde ix tenementes for ev[er] w[i]th  
 54. theyre appurten[a]nces the hole sume of my money for the v cottis w[hi]ch  
 55. is xxv yards at vij<sup>d</sup> th[e] yarde & for the makynge xvj<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> & too [th]e  
 56. Warden & too [th]e ij churchemen iiij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> & too be delt one good frydaye  
 57. vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> & to be delt too pore men [*illeg.*] masses bee doon beside [?]

<sup>1</sup> Bed rolle: a list of benefactors to the church, read from the pulpit, for whom the congregation are asked to pray  
 [Joy Bristow]

58. p[re]stes & clarkes vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> for ever S[u]m totalis besyde p[re]stes  
 59. & clarkes of the sayde p[ar]lysche churche -----xxij<sup>s</sup> j<sup>d</sup>  
 60. It[em] I gyve & bequethe to the pore people of shyplake to praye  
 61. for my sowle & all chrystyan soulles vj<sup>s</sup> & to [th]e vicar of th[e] same  
 62. paryshe & to the p[ar]lysche clarke to saye drydge & masse for my sowle & all chrystyan  
 63. soulles viij<sup>d</sup> It[em] I gyve to the pore people of harpden to pray for my sowle &  
 64. all chrystyen soulles iij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> & to the p[re]st and clarke to saye drydge & masse for  
 65. my sowlle & all chrystyen soulles viij<sup>d</sup> It[em] I gyve to [th]e pore people of Rotherfelde  
 66. Pyppard to pray for my sowlle & all chrystian soulles iij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> & to [th]e p[re]st & clarke  
 67. to saye dyrdge & masse for my sowll & all chrystyan soulles viij<sup>d</sup> It[em] I gyve  
 68. to the pore people of Nettlebed to pray for my sowlle & all chrystyan sowles  
 69. & to the p[re]st and clarke to saye drydge & masse for my sowle & all chrystyan  
 70. soulles viij<sup>d</sup> It[em] I gyve to [th]e pore people of fawley to pray for my sowlle and all  
 71. chrystyan soulles iij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> & to the p[ar]sone & clarke to saye dyrydge & masse for my  
 72. sowlle & all chrystyan soulles viij<sup>d</sup> It[em] I gyve to [th]e pore people of hambedon  
 73. to praye for my sowlle & all chrystyan soulles vj<sup>s</sup> It[em] to [th]e prest & clarke too  
 74. saye dyrdege & masse for my sowlle & all chrystyian soulles viij<sup>d</sup> It[em] I gyve too  
 75. the pore people of Watlyngton to praye for my sowle and all chrystyan sowles  
 76. viij<sup>d</sup> It[em] too the prest and clarke to saye masse for my sowlle & all chrystyan  
 77. soulles viij<sup>d</sup> It[em] I gyve to [th]e pore people of Sutton cortney to praye for my  
 78. sowlle & all chrystyan soulles x<sup>s</sup> & to [th]e prest & clarke to saye dyredege &  
 79. masse for my sowlle & all chrystyan soulles xij<sup>d</sup> It[em] I gyve & bequethe  
 80. too ev[er]y one of my god chylderen xij<sup>d</sup> a pece It[em] I gyve & bequethe to my  
 81. wyffe Margere in money & in ware xx<sup>li</sup> st[er]lynge It[em] I gyve & bequethe  
 82. to my wyffe Margere a sylv[er] goblatt & all [tha]t was her owne stuffe It[em]  
 83. I gyve & bequethe to Elizabeth arden [th]e doughter of Thomas arden of henley  
 84. v marks<sup>2</sup> sterlynge in money & money worthe & a sylv[er] pece It[em] I gyve to  
 85. my god doughter Johan marten xl<sup>s</sup> sterlynge It[em] I gyve & bequethe to  
 86. Johan borges a cawdyern<sup>3</sup> w[i]th ij Ringes & a payre of wafferyng  
 87. Irens<sup>4</sup> It[em] I gyve too Roolande Carye a maser<sup>5</sup> w[i]th sylv[er] gylte. It[em] I gyve

<sup>2</sup> mark            13s 4d

<sup>3</sup> cawdyern        cauldron

<sup>4</sup> waffring iron    baking iron used for making crisp cakes or wafers, consisting of 2 iron plates

<sup>5</sup> maser            a hardwood drinking cup usually with silver or gold mounts

88. & bequethe to Rychard West of Stoken church a payre of fullers shers  
 89. It[em] I bequethe to Johan Wydmore of braye a pare of fullars sheres It[em] whe[n] yt  
 shall  
 90. please god to doo his wyll be me fyrst at my buryinge I wyll [tha]t ev[er]y p[re]ste [tha]t  
 ys there  
 91. Resydent at dyrydge & saythe masse shall have vj<sup>d</sup> a pece and ev[er]y clark iiij<sup>d</sup>  
 92. & all syngynge chylderen j<sup>d</sup> a pece & to be dealte too pore people [the]re & as they shall  
 93. see most neede to praye for my soulle & all chrystian sowles v<sup>li</sup> sterlynge It[em] at  
 94. my monethe mynde as is before expressyd to ev[er]y p[re]ste vj<sup>d</sup> & to ev[er]y clarke  
 95. iiij<sup>d</sup> & to [th]e syngenge chylderen j<sup>d</sup> a pece & to be geven too pore people too  
 96. praye for my sowle & all chrystian sowles v<sup>li</sup> It[em] I wyll [tha]t within the same  
 97. monethe next after my dep[ar]tynge too allmyghty god [tha]t [the]re shall be sayde  
 98. a trentall<sup>6</sup> of masses w[i]thin the p[ar]yshe church of Henley by an honest p[re]st  
 99. & the sayde p[re]st to saye ev[er]y daye w[i]thin the sayde monethe dyredge &  
 100. comendac[i]ons & the vij psalmes & praye for my sowle & all chrystian  
 101. sowles It[em] I gyve & bequethe to my godson John storye my ij tenementes  
 102. sett & beynge In the hygh strette on the sowthe syde of the same strette  
 103. sum tyme Archars<sup>7</sup> to hym & too his heyres of his bodye lawfully begottyn  
 104. for ev[er] & for lacke of yssewe of the sayde John I wyll [tha]t the sayde ij  
 105. tenementes shall Remyne to Agnis Storye the doughter of george  
 106. storye & yf hyt shall happen [tha]t [the]i dep[ar]t from [thi]s worlde to god [tha]t [th]en yt  
 107. shall Remyne to [th]e next of there Kynne The cheffe lord of [th]e fee th[er]of  
 108. after all dewe ryght & acustome. It[em] I gyve & bequeth to my wyffe  
 109. Margery all my howse & tenementes set & edyfyed uppon the hyll  
 110. on the northe syde of the same strette late in the holde of Rychard  
 111. Robynson & ij akers of grownds lynge in the backe syde of the same  
 112. howse callyd hempfylde for terme of her lyffe In kepynge the sayde  
 113. howse sufficently w[i]th rep[ar]acyons the cheffe lorde of the fee thereof  
 114. after all dewe ryght & accostome It[em] I wyll [tha]t after the decease of my wyffe  
 115. Margere [tha]t [th]e sayde tenement w[i]th the app[ur]ten[a]nces theretoo belongenge  
 116. shall Remyne John gooldapp my brothers doughter sonne & too his heyres for ev[er]  
 117. dewarynge thre lyves the cheffe lorde of the fee thereof aft[er] all dewe ryght

<sup>6</sup> trentall                      a set of 30 successive masses

<sup>7</sup> Archers                      presumably the name of a house

118. & accostome It[em] I gyve to [th]e sayde John gooldapp my Rackes<sup>8</sup> & the grownd they  
 119. stande uppon in Henley as more playnly dothe appere by a coppye of the  
 120. length & bredthe the cheffe lorde of the fee thereof after all dewe ryght  
 121. & accustome It[em] I gyve & bequethe to my wyffe Margere all [tha]t ys  
 122. my howse & tenemente set & beynge in the northe strette on the west  
 123. syde of the same strette now in the holde of Rychard kenrycke & half  
 124. my aker of Eyrable grownde in the backesyde of the same howse for terme  
 125. of her lyffe. And after the decease of Margerye my wyffe I wyll  
 126. [tha]t it Remayne to george storye & to his heyres of his bodye lawfully  
 127. begotten for ev[er] The cheffe lorde of the fe thereof after all dewe ryght  
 128. & accustome It[em] I gyve & bequethe to Alexander Tann[er] & to Elizabeth  
 129. his wyffe all my lands sett & beynge in suttone Cortney w[i]th all [*illeg*]  
 130. appurten[an]ces or ells where w[i]thin the counte of barke shere & too hyr  
 131. heyres of her bodey lawfully be gotten for ev[er] & for lacke of yssewe  
 132. Elyzabethe I wyll [tha]t yt shall remayne too John gooldapp my  
 133. brothers daughters sonne & to hys heyres for ev[er] the chefe lorde  
 134. of the fee thereof after all dewe ryght & accustome It[em] I gyve  
 135. too Alexander Tann[er] & to Elyzabethe his wyffe my best goblat  
 136. of sylver & gyltte and halfe a dowsen of sylv[er] spones It[em] I  
 137. make my wyffe Margere my full Executryxe of all my  
 138. goods movable & unmovable And george storye &  
 139. Elyxandre Tann[er] to bee my ov[er]seers to see [thi]s my last  
 140. Wyll & Testament to bee fulfilled in all thinges  
 141. accordynge to the premysses And the sayd george  
 142. Storye & alyxandre Tann[er] eyche of them to have for  
 143. Theyre paynes takynge xl<sup>s</sup> a pece & the resydew of my so goodes unbequethyd  
 144. my wyll p[er]formed & my legaces payde I gyve unto Margerye my wyffe  
 145. to dyspose for her sowle healthe & myne. Thes w[i]tnesses A[n]tonye Chapman  
 146. John Sowthe George storye & Alexander Tanner w[i]th other moo

*[Summary of the Latin probate clause]*

Date of probate: 16 October 1544

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<sup>8</sup> rack                      this could be for animal fodder in a field or a frame for drying cloth after milling ie.. tenter

Place of Probate: Henley  
Executor: not shown (wife Margery Fowle named in the will)  
Court official: Dr. Wryght  
Inventory value: vj score<sup>li</sup> xxxix<sup>s</sup> v<sup>d</sup> [£120 39s 5d = £121 19s 5d]

*See also the will of Margery Fowle 1548 [MS Oxon 179.301]*

*Transcribed by Janice Cliffe, August 2009, from a photocopy of the Register  
and checked by Barbara Allison from the Register September 2009*

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