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The Humphreys of Seal & Ightham - see [Pumfrey in More Families & Transcripts](#)

The Hadlows of Shipbourne

The will of **John Hadlow** written in 1576 has been transcribed - see [Families & Transcripts](#). The entries for Hadlow in the Shipbourne parish registers are all later than this:

Alice (\$359¹), the child of **Elizabeth Hadlow** (\$358) was baptised on 15th April 1586.

Henry Hadlow (\$292)	buried	10 Jul 1587
Thomas Hadlow (\$473)	buried	11 Apr 1588
Thomas Hadlow (\$568), tailor	buried	18 Sep 1592
Joane Hadlow (\$772)	buried	1 Jul 1603
Isobell Hadlow (\$910)	buried	16 May 1608

“a lame cripple”

On 1st December 1611, **Joane Hadlow** (\$1038) and **William Sexton** (\$1037) were married in Shipbourne. Both came from **Wrotham** and “[there three times were lawfully asked](#)”.

¹ \$ indicates a reference in the Shipbourne database

The Haites of Shipbourne

There were two small Haite families in Shipbourne at the end of the sixteenth century:

Martin Haite of Wrotham ((\$236²) had two children baptised in Shipbourne:

- **Margaret** (\$238) baptised 28 Oct 1582
- **Johane** (\$323) 2 May 1585

John Haite (\$204):

- **Alice** (\$206) baptised 21 Jan 1582
- **Richard** (\$582) buried 16 Jun 1593

The Halthrops of Kemsing

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
k342 ³	<u>HALTHROP, John</u> -----				2	6	28 Jun 1620
	<i>Marriage 1</i>				1	5	
• k932	<u>HALTHROP, Richard⁴</u>	17 Jun 1582(Sh)			0	0	
• k344	<u>Halthrop, Margaret</u>	31 May 1586			0	0	
• k345	<u>HALTHROP, John</u>	21 May 1587			0	0	
• k346	<u>Halthrop, Susan</u>	30 Dec 1588			0	0	
• k347	<u>HALTHROP, John</u>	28 Mar 1590			0	0	
• k348	<u>HALTHROP, Harry</u>	25 May 1591			0	0	5 Jun 1625
	<i>Marriage 2</i>	17 Dec 1591	Joane	Allyn	1	1	
k349	<u>Allyn, Joane</u> -----				1	1	20 Nov 1623
• k350	<u>HALTHROP, William</u>	11 Sep 1593			0	0	

³ "k" indicates a reference in the Kemsing database

⁴ A Richard Halthrop was buried, in Ightham, on 19 June 1611 when this Richard would have been twenty-nine.

Richard, son of John Haltropp, was baptised in **Shipbourne**; he could have been the eldest son of k342 (k932 in the above tree). Perhaps John's first wife came from Shipbourne. John married again in December 1591 so that his first wife must have died before then, perhaps as a result of Harry's birth. From Margaret onwards, the children of the first marriage were born very close together, 19 months being the longest interval. Perhaps they employed a wet-nurse.

An **Ellen Halthrop, widow**, married **Richard Rogers in Seal** on 22 August 1611

A **Marie Halthrop, widow**, was buried in **Ightham** on 11 Dec 1638

The Hammonds of Ightham

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
i120 ⁵	<u>HAMMOND, John</u> -----				1	7	23 Feb 1595
• i122	<u>HAMMOND, John</u>	11 Jun 1560			0	0	5 Jul 1560
• i123	<u>HAMMOND, John</u>	28 Sep 1561			0	0	
• i124	<u>HAMMOND, George</u>	6 Jan 1564			0	0	22 Jan 1564
• i125	<u>Hammond, Marie</u>	6 May 1565			0	0	
• i126	<u>Hammond, Elizabeth</u>	4 May 1567			0	0	
• i647	<u>Hammond, Margaret</u>	15 May 1570			0	0	
• i127	<u>Hammond, Jane</u>	14 Dec 1572			0	0	

John Hammond was mentioned in the Court Rolls 1553-74. In 1593 he had his hedges damaged: at the Court held on 26th April 1593, **Jane Powell, widow** (i1875) was found to be a "common breaker of hedges" who had lately broken and plundered a number of hedges - see **Powell in More Families & Transcripts**.

5 "i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database

On 4th October 1605, **Jane Hammon** was presented to the Court for receiving a "stranger" - **Andrew Waters** (i2017); she was to be fined 10s if he stayed without sureties being found. A year later, on 13th October 1606, she forfeited the 10s and was to be fined another 10s if Andrew Waters continued to stay without any sureties (CRI 1938, p.18).

Was Jane John's widow (in which case she would have been at least in her mid-sixties), his daughter or the wife of one of his sons? "**Joan, daughter of Andrew Waters**" (i2017) was baptised on 17th May 1607. Had Andrew Waters married one of the Hammond daughters with her mother harbouring him and her daughter. Since nothing more was recorded for them, perhaps Andrew and his wife then moved away from Ightham.

John Harblett of Tonbridge

This will (CKS: Drb/Pw 20; Drb/Pwr 20.80) was written on 13th December 1609 by John Hooper, notary public, one of the Hooper family who wrote a large number of wills. It was proved on 1st February 1609/10.

This is the only will which has survived for a Harblett of Tonbridge but there were a number of Harbletts (or Harblotts) in Yalding between 1460 and 1512:

Richard Harblott	1460pd	CKS: Drb/Pwr 2.172
Thomas Harblott	1492d	CKS: Drb/Pwr 5.207
John Harblott	1512d	CKS: Drb/Pwr 6.327

This is an unusual name so that John could have been descended from them; however none of these wills has been investigated.

The only live child Robert and his wife Agnes seem to have had when he wrote his will was their daughter Margaret, married to Robert Piper and with five children. It is these grandchildren who were his main heirs with Elizabeth, the eldest daughter receiving £20, the other two daughters £10 each and the sons £4 each which they were to receive when they were eighteen.

In the meantime, their father was to “put out and employ all and every portion and legacy before willed . . . to the most benefit and profit that he can or may until their said respective ages” when he was to pay them “their said legacy together with the use and profit thereof”.

Margaret and her husband were also to “keep, table and board” John’s wife Agnes for the rest of her life or until she remarried during which time she was to live “peaceably and quietly” with them. Her son-in-law was to “find, produce and give to her . . . meat, drink, fire, lodging, houseroom, washing and attendance and all other things to her wanting and needful at his and their sole and only charges”. Although the will is not very clear, it does look, however, that Agnes had the option of demanding thirty pounds so that she could be independent of them.

Will of John Harblett of Tonbridge

written 13th December 1609

transcript from original

1 In⁶ the name of god Amen. The thirteenth day of December in the year of the reign of our sovereign

6 decorated "I"

2 Lord James, by the grace of god king of England, Scotland, France and
Ireland, defender of the faith, that
3 is to say, of England, France and Ireland, the seventh and of Scotland the
three and fortieth, 1609, I,
4 John Harblett of Tonbridge in the county of Kent, **kempster**⁷, being⁸ aged
and weak of body yet of
5 good remembrance (thanks be to god) do ordain and make this my present
testament and last will
6 in manner following: **First:** I commit and commend my soul to Almighty
God, my maker, with an
7 assured hope of salvation by and through the merits of Jesus Christ, his ??
son, my alone saviour
8 and redeemer, and my body to the earth from whence it was taken. **Item:** I
will to the poorest
9 people of Tonbridge aforesaid twenty shillings of lawful english money to
be distributed in the day of my

7 "kemp" is the coarse, rough hairs of wool

8 "beeing", "bee", used throughout; this was usual for the Hoopers

10 burial. **Item:** I will and bequeath unto my two **kinsmen, Thomas and**
11 **Mathew⁹ Harblett**, ten
12 pounds a piece and Thomas to be paid his ten pounds within three whole
13 months next after my
14 decease and Mathew to be paid his within six whole months next after my
15 decease. **Item:** I give
16 and bequeath to **Elizabeth Piper, eldest daughter of Margaret, my**
17 **daughter**, twenty pounds and to
18 **Margaret and Anne, her two youngest daughters**, I will ten pounds a piece.
19 **Item:** I will and give
20 to **Robert and Daniel Piper, the two sons of my said daughter Margaret**,
21 four pounds a piece. All
22 which said legacies before willed to my said daughters children, I will
23 shalbe paid to them respectively
24 at their several full ages of eighteen years by **Robert Piper**, her husband,
25 my son-in-law. And
26 I will that my said son-in-law shall put out and employ all and every
27 portion and legacy before willed
28 to Elizabeth, Margaret and Anne, his daughters, and the said Robert and
29 Daniel, his sons,

20 to the most benefit and profit that he can or may until their said respective
ages aforesaid. And at their
21 said ages respectively shall pay all and every their said legacy together
with the use and profit thereof
22 made unto them and every of them respectively according to the true
intent and meaning of this my will.
23 And if any of his said children shall happen to decease before the time and
age or ages before limited
24 for payment of their legacies as aforesaid, then I will his, her or their
portion or portions, legacy or
25 legacies so deceasing, together with the use and profit thereof, shall
remain to be paid to the survivor and
26 survivors of him, her or them so deceasing, equally at such time and times
as he, she or they
27 deceasing should have received the same if he, she or them had lived, by
my said son-in-law, Robert
28 Piper, his heirs, executors or assigns without fraud or coven. **Item:** I will
that my said loving
29 son-in-law, his heirs, executors or assigns, shall keep, table and board **my**
loving wife Agnes Harblett
30 during the whole term of her natural life (if she keep herself sole and
unmarried) or otherwise

31 during and until such time as she shall happen to be married again, she
32 living peaceably and quietly with
33 him and them. And shall find, produce and give to her during her life, or
34 otherwise so till she shalbe married
35 again, ?? at meat, drink, fire, lodging, houserom, washing and
36 attendance and all other things to her
37 wanting and needful at his and their sole and only charges¹⁰. To which my
38 said wife I give the sum of ten
39 shillings lawful english money. **Item:** I will that if my said wife shall
40 demand the same, my said son-in-
41 law shalbe come bound to her in thirty pounds for the keeping, boarding
42 and ?? her as aforesaid.
43 Provided always ?? I do ?? , appoint and will that Elizabeth, Margaret and
44 Anne Piper as aforesaid shalbe heirs to each other of their
45 legacies aforesaid and Robert and Daniel, their brothers, to have nothing to
46 do therewith unless they all three decease as aforesaid.

39 The residue of all and every my goods, as well moveable as unmoveable,
40 debts, cattels, chattels, utensils,
41 household stuff and ?? whatsoever, I wholly and fully give and bequeath
42 unto the aforesaid Robert Piper,

10 "chardges", a spelling often used by the Hoopers

41 my son-in-law, which said Robert Piper I make and ordain my sole and
only executor, to see this my will proved,
42 my debts and legacies paid and my body decently buried and I do hereby
appoint overseer of this
43 my present testament **John ??oggett of Brenchley, yeoman**, which said
John, if he pleaseth, I will shall take ba??
44 of the said Robert Piper for his payment and employment of his children's
legacies as aforesaid. In witness
45 I, the said John Harblett, have to this my present testament and last will
my hand and seal yeven the
46 day and year first above written.

Sealed, published and declared
in the presence of

the mark of John Harblett, the
testator

John X J??oll
Abraham Vinton
John Hooper, notary public.

Harris of Seal

There are no known connections between these various Harris events. A John Harris married the daughter of **George Olyver of Kettles** whose son, Christopher mentions his neice and nephews, Mary, William, Thomas, John and Peter, in his will of 1558 - see [Olyvers in Families & Transcripts](#)

It is possible that one James Harris married three times since the burials of two wives were recorded and the birth of children (in the case of the second marriage) and the third marriage occurred soon after these burials. A tree drawn on this assumption is shown on the next page.

On 8th January 1614, **Joyce Harris** (#2836¹¹) married **William Hallis** (#2835).

On 11th December 1647, **Susan Harris** (#2840) married **Stephen Salmon** (#2839)

In December 1649, **John Harris** (#2841) married **Dorothy Walter, widow** (#2842).

11 # indicates a reference in the Seal database

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
#2829	<u>HARRIS, James</u> -----				3	3	
	<i>Marriage 1</i>						
#2830	<u>Harris(m), Elizabeth</u> -----				1	1	17 Jun 1626
							was buried the same day her daughter was baptised
• #2831	<u>Harris, Marie</u>	17 Jun 1626			0	0	
	<i>Marriage 2</i>						
#2832	<u>Harris(m), Margaret</u> -----		<1630		1	2	14 Jun 1637
• #2833	<u>Harris, Joan</u>	28 Mar 1630			0	0	2 Jun 1632
• #2834	<u>Harris, Joyce</u>	28 Oct 1633			0	0	6 Feb 1634
	<i>Marriage 3</i>						
#2838	<u>Lester, Ann</u> -----		23 Sep 1638		1	0	

The Harris/Harrys of Shipbourne

The only possible Harrys/Harris family of any size in Shipbourne is that of **John Harrys** (\$353¹²) whose son, **John** (\$355) was baptised on 20th February 1586.

On 5th February 1609, **Mary** (\$927), daughter of **Andrew Harris** (\$925), was baptised.

On 21st January 1610, **Mary Harrys** (\$964) married **Richard Woodgate** (\$950); see **Woodgate in More Families & Transcripts**. Andrew and the Mary who married Richard Woodgate could have been children of John (\$353).

On 10th February 1598, **Cassander Harrys** (\$409) married **Thomas Huggens** (\$408); they had six children - see Huggens, page 2.h.207

There was a double wedding in Shipbourne on 27 August 1599:

- **Wyborne Harrys** (\$469) married **Agnes Bennett** (\$467)
- **John Bennett** (\$466) married **Sara Master** (\$488)

“were both couples married by virtue of two licences”

12 \$ indicates a reference in the Shipbourne database

The other events recorded for Harris/Harrys in Shipbourne are isolated ones:

- On 12th December 1608, in Shipbourne, **Dina Harris** (\$917¹³) of Tonbridge married **John Langham** (\$915) “by a licence”
- **Elizabeth Harris, spinster** (\$1138), was buried on 8th July 1617; her will (CKS: Drb/Pw 24) has survived but it has not been investigated.
- A tragedy occurred to the **Thomas Harris** family in August 1621: husband, wife and son all died within six days. They were buried: son on 13th, wife on 17th and Thomas himself (\$1322) on 19th.
- **Agnes** (\$1343), daughter of **Robert Harris** (\$1341), was baptised on 14th April 1623
- **Mary** (\$2181), wife of **John Harris** (\$2180), was buried on 28th July 1649.

The Harris/Harrys of Tonbridge

A number of wills have survived for Harris/Harrys of Tonbridge some of which were written by John Hooper, notary public, who wrote a large number of wills. The will of William Harris, written in 1615 (**PCC: Rudd 109**) gives John Hooper as a witness but does not say he was the scriptor. An extract from this will is given in **Families & Transcripts**.

Transcripts of two wills definitely written by John Hooper are given here:.

Thomas Harris	26 Mar 1608/9	CKS: Drb/Pw 21	page 2.h.25
Richard Harris	12 Feb 1626/7	CKS: Drb.Pw 27; Drb/Pwr 21.267	page 2.h.31

Earlier than this, there was a **George Harris** in Tonbridge. On 20th July 1596, his widow, **Joan**, was appointed the administrator of his estate¹⁴

Thomas Harris, butcher

Thomas Harris, senior, was a butcher with a shop in Sevenoaks and a “slaying house” in Tonbridge. He also owned a three acres of land in Tonbridge which included a close and orchard. Elizabeth, his wife, was to inherit the shop, slaying house and land with it going to his son Wyborne on her death. But there was a proviso.

Thomas had “granted heretofore” an annuity of £2 to be paid out of the proceeds from the orchard and other land and it appears that this could be discharged for a payment of £30. He also had other debts owing and he had left £5 to each of his daughter Martha’s five children. At any time within three months after the proving of the will, Elizabeth could sell the shop and so much of the land as was necessary to discharge the annuity and pay his debts and legacies. She was to do this with the advice of his overseers selling “for the greatest price that conveniently she can or may, and for so much money (with as little overplus as may be) as” would be required.

If Elizabeth died before the will was proved and the sale completed, Thomas’s daughter Martha was to become his executrix with full power to sell as much of his land as was necessary.

Besides Wyborne, Thomas had another son but his only mention in the will is that he was to inherit his “[great press . . . notwithstanding my wife shall or may use \(it\) during the whole of her natural life](#)”. There is no indication as to what sort of press this was.

Will of Thomas Harrys of Tonbridge

written 26th March 1608/9

transcript from original

1 In the name of God Amen. The six and twentieth day of March. In the
sixth year of the
2 reign of our sovereign lord James, by the grace of god, king of England,
France and Ireland, defender of the
3 faith, etc. And of Scotland the one and fortieth, 1608. I, Thomas Harris,
th'elder, of Tonbridge in the
4 county of Kent, **butcher**, sick and weak in body but yet of perfect
remembrance, do ordain and make this my
5 present testament and last will in manner and form following. **First:** I
commit my soul to Almighty God, my maker,
6 hoping to be saved through Jesus Christ his son. And my body to the earth
from whence it was taken.

7 **Item:** I give to **Thomas Harris, my son**, my great press which I will
notwithstanding my wife shall or may
8 use during the whole ?? of her natural life. **Item:**I will and give to the **five**
children of my daughter
9 **Martha**, the sum of twenty and five pounds, that is, five pounds a piece to
be paid them by myne execu
10 trix hereafter named within one whole year next after my decease. The
residue of all my moveable
11 goods, ??, cattells and chattells, I wholly give to **Elizabeth, my wife**, whom
I make my sole and only
12 executrix. And I do ordain overseer of this my testament and will **James**
Cleeve, my son-in-law.

13 This is the last will of me the said Thomas Harris, the elder, made and
declared the day and year abovesaid
14 touching the disposition of all my lands and tenements. **Item:** I will unto
the said Elizabeth, my wife, all
15 that my shop at **Seavenock**¹⁵ and my slaying house at Tonbridge and the
close, orchard and one parcel of
16 land commonly called **Whites Croft** to the said orchard adjoining,
containing in all, by estimation, three acres

15 Seveboaks; a number of Tombridge butchers had shops in Seveboaks

17 and together lying and being in Tonbridge aforesaid. To hold to her and
her assigns during her natural life
18 And after her decease I will all and every the same to **Wyborne Harris, my
son**, to hold to him during his
19 natural life. And after the decease of the said Wyborne, my son, I will all
and every the said shop
20 at Sevenoaks and all and every the said slaying house, close, orchard and
parcel of land in Tonbridge
21 with th'appurtenances unto **Wyborne Harris, the younger, son of my said
son Wyborne**, and to the heirs
22 and assigns of the said Wyborne Harris, the younger, for ever. **Provided
always** my very will and
23 mind is that I do hereby give the full power and authority unto the said
Elizabeth, my wife and executrix, at
24 any time within three months next after the probation of this my testament
and will to sell all that my shop
25 at Sevenoaks and such and so much of my lands in Tonbridge afore willed,
or any part thereof, as she shall
26 think most convenient by and with the advise of my said overseer whom I
request to be aiding to her herein for
27 the greatest price that conveniently she can or may, and for so much
money (with as little overplus

28 as may be) as shall and will discharge and clear not only one annuity or
yearly rent of forty shillings
29 granted heretofore by me out of the said orchard and parcel of land
adjoining for the sum of thirty
30 pounds by me ??¹⁶ But also all my debts owing upon speciality? Together
with the said
31 legacy of £25 given to the five children of my said daughter Martha; with
which annuity, debts and legacies
32 I will my said wife and executrix with the said money so to be received for
the premises by her to be sold
33 the sureties and sure estate? to be had to such person and persons as
shall buy the premises appointed to be
34 sold as aforesaid, I do hereby will ?? of the same as shalbe sold as
aforesaid to such person and persons as shall buy the same and to his and
35 their heirs so buying the same for ever, any gift or other thing herein before
mentioned to the contrary
36 thereof in mine will notwithstanding. **Provided farther** my will is that if my
said wife happen to decease
37 before she shall have proved this my testament and will and made sale of
the premises as aforesaid, that then my said daughter

16 "Tenened"?

38 Martha shalbe mine executor and stand charged¹⁷ in all things as my said
wife and shall have full power at all times after
39 my said wife's decease within three months thereto next ensuing to sell
and do all things in as ample manner as
40 my said wife may or might do by form of this my present testament and
will, any thing also before mentioned to the contrary
41 thereof notwithstanding. In witness whereof I have hereto set my hand
and seal yeven the day and year first above written

??? publishing and delivering hereof

18

John ?ombe **William Harris**
Richard Harris¹⁹
John Hooper

Tho: Harris

17 "chardged" - usual spelling for John Hooper

18 mark - a cross

19 these two witnesses could be the testator of the next will and his brother William

Richard Harrys of Tonbridge

Richard was a tailor and he left to his godson, another Richard Harris, all the tools belonging to his trade. These included patterns for stockings and other patterns, a box of chisels and a box of buttons. He left to his “[loving wife, Roda, in regard of her great love towards me and pains taken by her in much sickness and extremity which have many times endured](#)”, a large number of items including a cupboard, a three-legged chair and some books.

Will of Richard Harrys of Tonbridge

written 12th February 1626/7

transcript from original

- 1 In the name of god Amen. The twelfth day of February in the year of our Lord
- 2 God, one thousand six hundred twenty and six (Stilo Anglio), I, Richard
- 3 Harrys of Tonbridge in the County of Kent, **taylor**, do, ordain and make this my
- 4 testament and last will in manner and form following: **First** therefore, recommending my
- 5 soul unto Almighty God, my maker, with an assured hope of salvation through the merit

6 of his dear son, Jesus Christ, my saviour, and my body to the earth whence
it was taken with
7 like hope of a joyful resurrection to eternal life. I will to **my loving wife,**
Roda, in regard of
8 her great love towards me and pains taken by her in much sickness and
extremity which have
9 many times endured, these parcels of my goods hereafter particularly ??,
viz. my cupboard
10 in the hall next the table, the tub in the chamber over the shop, two pairs of
sheets whereof
11 one pair to be of the better sort and one other of the worst; two joined stools
in the ?? chamber,
12 two iron pots whereof one to be the least²⁰ of all and the other next to the
biggest, one brass ??,
13 one iron skillet, two ?? vessels, the biggest tub save one and one keeler?,
half my quishions²¹

20 or should it be "largest"?

21 cushions

14 one three-legged chair, one book called *desines*²², one other called *the*
15 *upon the er angeli* and *Calvin Abridgements*, two pewter dishes, two
16 pottingers, one brass candlestick,
17 half a dozen of trouchers²³, All my wood and fuel that I shall have prepared
18 to burn at the time of my death
19 and likewise all my provision of Corn, butter, cheese and victuals that I
20 shall then likewise have, two
21 feather pillows, three pillowbeers. And all such goods and household
22 apparel as she brought with her. And also
23 the money that is in **Stephen Faulkiner**, his hands, by her lent to him before
our marriage. Also I give her two
20 towels, three coarse napkins and two coarse tablecloths.
21 All which I will she shall enjoy immediately after my decease. And farther,
I will to my said wife, half
22 the rents and profit of all my houses and land which I will shalbe let out, to
be by her had and
23 received only during her widowhood after my decease. And if she shall
marry again after my

22 "designs", connected with his work as a tailor, or "Divines"?

23 trenchers?

24 death, I will to her one third part only of the rents of my said houses and
lands from and after her such
25 marriage to be had and received during her natural life, In full satisfaction
of all such jointure,
26 dower and demand? as she shall, or may have, out of ?? or to all or any my
houses, lands, or any ??
27 **Item:** I will to **my brother, William**, and to **Robert Rummington**²⁴ of
Tonbridge, my apparel equally to
28 be shifted between them. ?? my riding coat I give unto **John Beecher** and
my bridle, saddle, boots and ??.
29 **Item:** I give to **Samuel Fernes**, for a token of my love, one book of *Calvin's*
*Sermons upon Deteronomie*²⁵
30 **Item:** I will to **Richard Harris, my godson**, all my tools belonging to my
trade and my patterns for stockings and ?? and
31 all my other patterns, the box where the chisels²⁶ be and the box where the
buttons be.

24 brother-in-law, see line 34

25 Deuteronomy

26 chisels for a tailor?

32 The residue of my goods, cattell and chattels, I will to **Mercy, my loving**
33 **daughter**, towards her maintenance
34 and the paying of my debts and dischargd²⁷ of my funeral. And if she
35 shall be of age at my death, I make
36 her my executor, otherwise I make **my loving brother-in-law, Robert**
37 **Rummington**, my executor, to see this my will
38 ??, my debts, legacies and funeral dischargd with my goods and then the
39 remainder thereof only to be to
40 my daughter, desiring him to be a guide unto her and to allow himself all
41 his expenses about this my will.
42 Touching my house wherein I dwell, I will, give and devise the same, with
43 appurtenances, to my said daughter,
44 Mercie, her heirs and assigns, forever. But if my wife shalbe with child at
45 my death and shall bring forth
46 a man child, I will to that manchild, the said house with thappurtenances
47 situated in Tonbridge, to him and to his
48 heirs forever. And then I will my house and croft of land which I have let to
49 **Alexander Longly, near Quarryhill**
50 in Tonbridge, to the said Mercie, my daughter, and her heirs forever. And if
51 my wife shalbe with child as aforesaid

27 both here and in line 35 "discharging" is spelt with a "d" in the original will

42 and shall bring forth a woman child, then I will that the woman child shall
have the said house and croft of land
43 near Quarryhill, to her and her heirs. And that Mercie, my daughter, and
her heirs shall have my other house with the
44 appurtenances as aforesaid.

Read, sealed, published and declared in the presence of
Gregory Roofe and **John Hooper, sen.** **Richard ??**

{*squashed at the bottom*}:

and moreover a legacy to his wife and another
to Richard Harris, his godson, added the one and twentieth
day March 1626 as above set down by the
testator appointed with ?? me **John Hooper ...**
William Harris

The Harrisons of Shipbourne

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
\$207 ²⁸	<u>HARRISON, Andrew</u> -----				1	4	26 Aug 1599
● \$209	<u>Harrison, Susan</u>	4 Mar	1582			0	0
● \$308	<u>Harisson, Elizabeth</u>	29 Nov	1584			0	0 11 Dec 1584
● \$375	<u>HARRISON, Robert</u>	5 Mar	1587			0	0
● \$519	<u>HARRISON, James</u>	14 Jun	1590			0	0
\$1108	<u>HARRISON, Thomas</u> -----				1	2	
● \$1100	<u>HARRISON, Anthony</u>	25 Jul	1613			0	0
● \$1111	<u>HARRISON, William</u>	19 Nov	1615			0	0 18 Dec 1615

Thomas could have been another of Andrew's sons. A Susan Harrison was buried on 21st May 1611; if she was Andrew's daughter she was nineteen.

²⁸ \$ indicates a reference in the Shipbourne database

Richard Hart of Penshurst

The will of Richard Hart of Stonecross in Penshurst (**PCC: Crane 12**) was written by “[Robert Marchant, sen., scriptor](#)” on 25th February 1635 but Richard did not die until the beginning of 1643 being buried on 7th January. This will has not been transcribed.

In 1623 Robert Marchant wrote the will of Elizabeth Combridge.

Much earlier, on 13th January 1586, **Richard Harte** of Penshurst had a bushel of wheat with chaff (valued at 11d) stolen from him by **Richard Allen**, labourer of Speldhurst, who, having been found guilty at the February Assizes, was whipped²⁹

The Harts of Kemsing

There were two Hart families having children in Kemsing in the 1560s to 80s - the Robert Harts and the William Harts..

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
k362 ³⁸	<u>HART, Robert</u> -----				1	3	12 Sep 1575
• k364	<u>Hart, Mary</u>				0	0	24 Jan 1572
• k365	<u>Hart, Margery</u>	29 Dec 1572			0	0	
• k366	<u>HART, Nicholas</u>	12 Sep 1574			0	0	

William Hart (see next page) was buried one month before the baptism of his youngest son unless it was his father who died in 1587; if it was his eldest daughter who married in 1606, she was 38

30 "k" indicates a reference in the Kemsing database

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M C	Died
k351	<u>HART, William</u> ³¹ -----				2 6	4 Mar 1587
	<i>Marriage 1</i>		5 Oct 1567	Joane Janson	1 3	
k352	<u>Janson, Joane</u> -----					1 3 27 Oct 1578
• k353	<u>Hart, Ann</u>	23 Mar 1568	26 Oct 1606	John JOHNSON k360	1 0	
• k354	<u>HART, William</u>	7 Sep 1572			0 0	30 Aug 1578
• k355	<u>HART, Richard</u>	15 Apr 1577			0 0	
	<i>Marriage 2</i>					1 3
• k357	<u>Hart, Amy</u>	24 Jun 1582			0 0	
• k358	<u>HART, John</u>	30 Sep 1584			0 0	
		probably died before April 1587 when brother was baptised John				
• k359	<u>HART, John</u>	4 Apr 1587	4 Oct 1607	Joan Harvey married at 20 k361	1 0	

31 William was buried one month before the baptism of his youngest son unless it was his father who died in 1587; if it was his eldest daughter who married in 1606, she was 38

In **Shipbourne**, on 22nd October 1603, **Thomas Hart** (\$781) married **Margaret Wamslie** (\$30). On 21st February 1631, Thomas Hart, senior, was buried.. This is the total amount of information on the Harts in the Shipbourne parish registers.

William Hartridge of Pembury

William Hartridge's will (CKS: Drb/Pw 31; Drb/Pwr 22.528) was written, on 16th March 1639. At the end it the name of George Hooper who wrote many wills for people in the Tonbridge area in the 1630s and 1640s but this does not look like his writing.

William was “in good health of body and of sound and perfect memory” when he decided to write his will “for the ordering and settling of that estate wherewith God hath blessed me”. With neither wife nor children but five brothers and at least two nephews he may have thought it important to organise his estate. The will was not proved until 1643 so William may have lived for another four years.

x1300 ³²	x1301	x1302	x1303	x1307	x1304	
William	Mathew -	Thomas	James	Michael -	John	
will: 16 Mar 1639	x1306			x1309		
	William			Francis		

William made Mathew and Michael his executors. They were to pay his “debts and legacies equally between them. And the one not to be sued or impleaded for the other’s default”. Each of the other brothers were to receive £30 and Michael’s son Francis £100. His other nephew, William, perhaps his godson, was to inherit all his land but the profits, etc. for twelve years after his decease were to be equally divided between his executors. It may have been that William, the nephew, would not have been twenty-one until twelve years after the will was written.

Will of William Hartridge of Pembury

written 16th March 1638/9

transcript from original

1 In the name of God Amen. The sixteenth day of March
2 in the year of our Lord God according to the computation of the church of
England
3 one thousand and six hundred, thirty and eight. I, William Hartridge,
4 of Pepingbury alias Pembury in the county of Kent, **yeoman**, being in good
health of
5 body and of sound and perfect memory (praised be God) for the ordering
and settling of

6 that estate wherewith God hath blessed me, do ordain and make this to be
my
7 testament and last will as followeth: **First:** therefore recommending my
soul to the
8 gracious acceptance of Almighty God, through Jesus Christ, my saviour.
And my body
9 to the earth in decent manner to be buried. I will to the poor of Pepingbury
aforesaid
10 four pounds. **Item:** I will to **my servant, Anne Howe**, forty shillings. And
11 these to be paid within six months next after my decease. **Item:** I will to
my
12 loving **brother Thomas Hartridge** thirty pounds of lawful english money to
be paid
13 to him, his executors or assigns, at or before the end of one whole year next
after my
14 decease. **Item:** I will to **James Hartridge, my loving brother**, the like sum
of thirty
15 pounds to be paid to him, his executors or assigns, at or before the end of
two whole
16 years next after my decease. **Item:** I will to my loving **brother John
Hartridge**, the
17 like sum of thirty pounds to be paid to him, his executors or assigns, at or
before the

18 end of three whole years next after my decease. **Item:** I will to **Francis**
19 **Hartridge,**
20 the **son of my brother Michael Hartridge,** the sum of one hundred pounds of
21 lawful
22 english money to be paid to the said Francis, his executors or assigns, at or
23 before
24 the end of twelve years next after my decease. **And** I do hereby will and
25 ordain that the one half of all the legacies and sums before named shalbe
26 paid by
27 my loving **brother, Mathew Hartridge,** his executors or assigns, according
28 to the tenor
29 of this my will. And I do will and give to the said Mathew, the one half of
30 all my goods,
31 cattell, debts and chattells, to hold to him, his executors and assigns. **And**
32 I do will and
33 ordain that the other half of all the said legacies and sums of money
34 shalbe paid by my
35 loving **brother Michael Hartridge,** his executors or assigns, according to the
36 purpose of this
37 my will. To the which Michael, his executors and assigns, I will and give
38 the other half of
39 all my goods, cattell, debts and chattells. **And** I do ordain the said Mathew
40 and Michael,

30 my brothers, be the executors of this my testament and last will. And to
pay my debts and
31 legacies equally between them. And the one not to be sued or impleaded
for the other's
32 default (that one paying his part according to this my will). **And as** for
touching and
33 concerning my lands and tenements, I do will and devise the same as
followeth: **I will** and
34 give to **William Hartridge, the son of my brother Mathew Hartridge**
aforesaid, all that
35 messuage or tenement wherein I now dwell and all the barns, buildings,
outhouses, yards, gardens,
36 orchards, lands, meadows, pastures, woods, woodgrounds, ponds, pits and
appurtenances thereto
37 belonging, situated, lying and being in Pepingbury aforesaid. And also all
other my lands and
38 tenements, rents, annuities and ?? in Pepingbury or elsewhere in the
county of Kent, to have
39 and to hold all the said messuage, lands, tenements and premises, unto
the said William Hartridge, his
40 heirs and assigns, to th'only use of and behoof of the said William, his heirs
and assigns forever. Notwith

41 standing, my will is that the said Mathew and Michael, mine executors,
fore the better enabling them
42 to pay all my debts and legacies, shall have, hold and enjoy, all my said
message, land, tenements and premises and
43 shall receive the rents, issues and profits thereof during twelve years next
after my decease in this
44 manner, viz. the said Mathew, his executors and assigns, shall hold, have
and receive the one half
45 thereof to his and their own uses. And the said Michael, his executors and
assigns, shall hold, have and
46 receive the other half thereof to his and their own uses (any devise thereof
herein contained to the
47 contrary thereof notwithstanding. In witness whereof I have hereto set my
hand and seal.

Sealed, subscribed³³

published and
declared in the
presence of

William Hartridge

Robert ??

other witnesses, names not readable

Geo. Hooper

The Harveys of Ightham, Seal & Shipbourne

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
i2179 ³⁴	<u>HARVEY, Thomas</u> ----- 			Margerie Harvey(m) i2180	1	3	
i2180	<u>Harvey(m), Margerie</u> -----				1	3	15 Dec 1624
• i2181	<u>HARVEY, John</u>	10 Oct 1619			0	0	
• i2182	<u>Harvey, Dorothy</u>	22 Sep 1622			0	0	
• i2183	<u>HARVEY, Thomas</u>				0	0	17 Feb 1624

In Seal, on 3rd April 1594, **Henry Harvey, Esquire** (#1670) married **Dorothy Sybell, widow of Farningham** (#3671). No children were recorded in Seal or the locality and nothing else is known of either of them.

In Shipbourne, **Elizabeth Harvey** (\$481) was baptised on 16th June 1588 (no father given). On 23rd December 1631, **Elizabeth** (\$1565), daughter of **Richard Harvey** (\$1563) was baptised.

³⁴ "i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database and # in that for Seal

The Harwoods of Seal

Robert Harwood (#3775³⁵) and his wife Dennis/Dinah (#3777) had five children baptised in Seal:

-	Margaret	#3778	14 Feb 1630	
-	Elizabeth	#3779	24 Dec 1631	
-	James	#3780	13 Jul 1634	“son of Robert and Dennis”
-	William	#3781	30 Apr 1637	“son of Robert and Dinah”
-	Robert	#3782	22 Nov 1640	“son of Robert and Dennis”

35 # indicates a reference in the Seal database

The Hastlyns of Ightham

Variations on this name include Haslyn, Hastlen and Hastelyn.

On 17th May 1574, **George Hastlyn** (i941³⁶) married **Jane Willard** (i942). A George Hastelyn was mentioned in the Court Records 1586-1618.

On 19th November 1578, **William** (i965), son of **Martin Hastlyn** (i963) was baptised.

On 28th May 1582, **Nicholas Hastlyn** (i1232) married **Marie Weston** (i1233). They had two children:

- **Marie** i1234 baptised 23 May 1583
- **Susanne** i1235 23 Aug 1584 buried 26 March 1585.

A Nicholas Hastlyn was mentioned in the Court Records 1586-1618; this could have been i1232. A Nicholas Hastlyn was transported to Boulogne in 1586 as a punishment for sheep stealing - see [Staly in Families & Transcripts](#). He could have been i1232's father.

Henry Hastlyn of Tonbridge

The will of Henry Hastlyn, husbandman, (CKS: Drb/Pwr 31) was written by Richard Chowning on 4th January 1644/5.

Henry's married daughter Joane was definitely "cut off with a shilling" which was to be paid "[within seven years upon demand . . . she proving to me an unnatural child and at several times of my sickness being sent unto to visit me refused to tender a child's respect toward me as was fitting](#)". In contrast, his wife, Susan, had "[been a loving wife and good nurse unto me both in health and sickness and hath strived to advance my welfare in what she was able](#)".

Richard Chowning includes some unusual phraseology including his debts, etc. being "[first deducted thereout](#)". Henry had committed £20 "[to the trust of the right worshipful Sir Nicholas Miller, knight,](#)" and he hoped that Miller "[would be pleased to afford unto my said executrix such advantage and benefit by the said bond to me made as in his wisdom and discretion shall be thought fitting. And the god of mercy will add unto his days a further happiness in his respecting a poor widow](#)".

1 In the name of god Amen. The fourth day of January in the year od our
2 Lord God one thousand, six hundred and forty four, I, Henry Hastlin
3 of Tonbridge in the county of Kent, **husbandman**, being sick and weak in
body
4 and expecting my dissolution, do make and ordain this to be my present
5 testament and last will in form following: **First** and above all other things
6 recommending my soul into the hands of Almighty god, my maker, saviour
and
7 preserver, Jesus Christ, my body to the earth in such decent manner to be
8 buried according to the discretion of executrix hereafter in ?? present
9 named. **Item**: I do give and bequeath unto **my daughter Joane Dobson**,
10 being the **wife of Richard Dobson**, twelve pence to be paid to her within
11 seven years upon demand made thereof to my said executrix, she proving
12 to me an unnatural child and at several times of my sickness being
13 sent unto to visit me refused to tender a child's respect toward me
14 as was fitting. And for that I have found **Susan, my wife**, to have
15 been a loving wife and good nurse unto me both in health and
16 sickness and hath strived to advance my welfare in what she was able.
17 I do therefore give and bequeath unto the said Susan, my loving wife,

18 all my goods and chattells, debts, rights, credits and duties owing to me or
19 specialties or otherwise of what nature or kind soever they be,
20 my debts, legacies and funeral expenses with the proving of this my
21 will first deducted thereout. And I do make and ordain the said
22 Susan, my wife, to be the full and whole executrix of this my present
23 testament and last will. And whereas now there is remaining in
24 my custody one obligation for the payment of twenty pounds being
25 committed to the trust of the **right worshipful Sir Nicholas Miller, knight,**
26 for my good and now in ??ded unto my said executrix, I do therefore
27 earnestly desire his ?? good ?? herein that he would be
28 pleased to afford unto my said executrix such advantage and benefit
29 by the said bond to me made as in his wisdom and discretion shalbe
30 thought fitting. And the god of mercy will add unto his days a further
31 happiness in his respecting a poor widow. And I do earnestly desire
32 **John Lampard, gent,** and **Richard Wood, mercer,** my very loving friends
33 to whom I am much obliged, to be the overseers hereof, desiring
34 their labour and assistance unto my executrix in the ?? ??
35 if need shall require. In witness whereof I, the said Henry, have
36 hereunto set my hand and seal. dated the day and year first above
written

The mark **H** Henry Hastlin

Read, delivered, published
and declared in the presence of

Alice ³⁷ Hickmote
Richard Chowning

The Hatches of Tonbridge

Two Hatch wills from Tonbridge have been transcribed:

Richard Hatch	28 Apr 1637	CKS: Drb/Pwr 29	page 2.h.57
Thomas Hatch	1 Apr 1646	CKS: Drb/Pw 32; Drb/Pwr 23.29	page 2.h.64

Richard was a husbandman; his will was written by John Hooper, notary public and parish clerk of Tonbridge. It is not decorated as are many of the wills written by John Hooper and the writing gets smaller and smaller as it gets down the page so that it was just possible to get it onto one page.

Possible Relationship Between Richard and Thomas

Richard had a son Thomas who was not twenty-three in 1637 and a daughter, Anne whom he made his executrix. He had a tenement and lands in Speldhurst which were left to his wife, Margaret, until Thomas reached the age of twenty-three when he was to inherit them provided that, if she was still living, he paid his mother an annuity of £3. Richard also had a brother Thomas.

Thomas, the testator of 1646, mentions neither wife nor children but he had a sister Ann who had died leaving a daughter Ann Hatch (implying she had had her whilst not being married) and another sister, Joan, married and with two daughters. If he was Richard's son, why was Joan not mentioned by Richard? Perhaps she was already married and her father had given her a reasonable dowry.

Richard desired his “good neighbour William Walter, as a friend in trust to be aiding and assisting to my said daughter in the managing and ordering of my farms” whilst Thomas made his “very loving and kind friend William Walter” his executor.

When Thomas wrote his will in 1646 he had a “messuage and nine acres of land” in Speldhurst which he had mortgaged so that he instructed his executor to have all his “goods and chattels to be indifferently appraised” with the proceeds being used to redeem his mortgage and pay off his debts. This messuage and land could have been the tenement and lands in Speldhurst which Richard left to his son Thomas and thus makes it more likely that the 1646 testator was his son rather than his brother. Richard's son might have been about twenty in 1637 and, by 1646, could have become a reasonably wealthy yeoman. Perhaps these possibilities could be further advanced by examination of the parish records.

Richard Hatch, husbandman, of Tonbridge

When Richard wrote his will in 1637 he had a daughter Anne, whom he made his executrix, a son, Thomas under the age of twenty three and a wife, Margaret, who needed “keeping and sustaining . . . with all manner of necessaries, houseroom, lodging and washing during” her natural life.

Will of Richard Hatch of Tonbridge

written 28th August 1637

transcript from original

1 In the name of god Amen. the eight and twentieth day of August in the
2 year of our Lord God one thousand six hundred thirty and seven, I, Richard
3 Hatch of Tonbridge in the county of Kent, **husbandman**, being sickly and
weak
4 in body but of perfect and good remembrance (I praise God) do ordain and
make this my testament and
5 last will in manner and form following: **First** recommending my soul to the
glorious acceptance
6 of Almighty god through Jesus Christ, my saviour, and my body to the
earth in decent

7 manner to be buried. I will to every one of the godchildren of my self and
to
8 the godchildren of my wife, to every of them also five shillings a piece to be
delivered
9 to every of them within one year next after my decease by mine executrix.
10 **Item:** I will to **Thomas Hatch, my son**, at his age of 23 years, the table in
the loft, my wife's chest³⁸, the bedsteddle whereon I now lie and the
11 flock bed, 2 bolsters and pillows, one blanket and 1 coverlet thereto
belonging and also two pairs of sheets and my furnace. I
12 will that **Anne, my daughter**, shall have, hold and enjoy the same till the
feast day
13 of Saint Michael th'archangel next coming after the age of twenty and
three years
14 to be accomplished by the said Thomas, my son. And then he to enter,
hold and have the
15 said lease and premises, she the said Anne, my daughter, in the meantime
paying the
16 rent that shall ?? payable for the same. And not suffering the said lease
through her
17 default to be forfeited. And a touching and consigning my stock of corn
and cattell and

38 "chist"; phrase "at his age chest" inserted

18 all other my goods and chattells unbeckeathed, I will and give the same
wholly and solely
19 to the said Anne, my daughter, whom I make the full and sole executrix of
this my testament and
20 last will, she, the said Anne, keeping and sustaining **Margaret, my loving
wife, her mother,**
21 with all manner of necessaries, houseroom, lodging and washing during
the natural
22 life of her, the said Margaret. And I desire my good neighbour **William
Walter,** as a friend in trust
23 to be aiding and assisting to my said daughter in the managing and
ordering of my farms.
24 And do charge³⁹ her upon my blessing to be guided and ruled by him in all
her actions until
25 the age aforesaid of my said son Thomas. And I desire my loving **brother
Thomas Hatch** and my
26 good **friend, Edward Sharpe of Hadlow** to be overseers that this my will
may be performed
27 so much as in them shall lie. And touching my tenement and lands in
Speldhurst, I will that my wife

39 "chardge" - usual spelling for John Hooper

28 for her better means and maintenance shall have, take and receive the
rents, issues and profits thereof
29 until such time as the said Thomas. my son, shall accomplish his age of
twenty and three years,
30 if he shall so long live. The fee simple of my foresaid tenement and lands
in Speldhurst, I will and give
31 to the said Thomas, my son, his heirs and assigns, forever. Provided
always if the said Margaret, my
32 shall be living when my said son shall attain to his said age of 23 years,
then and from
33 thenceforth, I will that my wife shall be paid three pounds ?? and of lawful
english money every
34 year during her natural life out of my said tenement and lands in
Speldhurst, the same to be paid her
35 quarterly by equal portions. And for default of being paid the same
accordingly, it shalbe lawful for her,
36 and her assigns, to enter and distraint⁴⁰ thereupon and the distresses, from
time to time, to hold, impound

40 "distreigne"

37⁴¹ and detain till she shalbe thereof fully paid (any thing herein mentioned to
the contrary thereof

38 notwithstanding. In witness whereof I have to this my testament and last
will set my hand and seal, dated

39 the day and year first above written Richard

Daniell Crowth

signed

R Hatch

John Hooper, nota. pbq.

41 in order to get all the will on one page "sealed, published and declared in the presence of" is written in the margin here.

Thomas Hatch of Tonbridge

The will of Thomas Hatch, yeoman of Tonbridge, was written on 1st April 1646 by Richard Chownings who seems to have had a style of his own when writing preambles.

Thomas Hatch “being sick and weak in body but at the publishing and making hereof of sound mind and perfect remembrance (praised be God therefore) and considering that sickness is a summons and presayer of a dissolution and for that I am also uncertain of my continuance here on earth . . . “. Was “presayer” a variation of precursor? John Rottenbridge’s will⁴², also written by Richard Chownings, contains the phrase “considering of men's mortality and that sickness is the forerunner of dissolution” - a simpler form of that used here.

Thomas Hatch's Bequests

Thomas left ten bushels of wheat, two bushels of which his executor was to “take the pains to cause (them) to be baked into loaves” which he was to distribute and bestow “on such poor people as shall come into my dwelling house at such day of

42 see [John Rottenbridge in More Families & Transcripts](#)

my burial". The other eight bushels, were also to be "baked into loaves within one month (if such convenient) next after my decease" and then distributed by him to "all such poor people of the said parish at Tonbridge Town as he shall think fit to bestow the same".

Although "of Tonbridge", his message, etc., which was mortgaged when he wrote his will, was in Speldhurst. He does not appear to have had a wife or children and his nearest relations seem to have been his two sisters, Joane and Ann. Joane was married and had two "true" daughters. His other sister had died before Thomas; she had a daughter, also called Ann, but was unmarried in that her name was still Ann Hatch.

Thomas's niece Ann was to be his heir having his message in Speldhurst when she reached the age of twenty-one. In the meantime, Thomas's executor, his "very loving and kind friend William Walter of Tonbridge, yeoman (to whom I stand much engaged in all thankfulness for his love and care always towards me)" was to sell all his goods, etc. in order to pay of the mortgage and his other debts. Any surplus, plus the rents from the property which he was to receive until Ann came of age, were to be invested to give a return of 5% and any surplus after he had carried out any necessary reparations was to go to Joane's two daughters who were to be his heirs if Ann died whilst still underage.

1 In the name of god Amen. The first day of April in the year of our Lord God
2 one thousand six hundred forty and six, I, Thomas Hatch
3 of Tonbridge in the county of Kent, **yeoman**, being sick and weak in body
4 but at the publishing and making hereof of sound mind and
5 perfect remembrance (praised be God therefore) and considering that
6 sickness is a summons and presayer of a dissolution and for that I am also
7 uncertain of my continuance here on earth, do therefore make and declare
8 this to be my present testament and last will in manner and form
following:
that is to say, **First** and principally, recommending my soul into the hand of
Almighty god, my maker and preserver, in an assured confidence and hope
that through the merits and mediation of his dear son Christ Jesus, my
most blessed lord and saviour, my sins shalbe forgiven and I shall attain
unto that
eternity of happiness which he hath ?? ?? for us. And I do commit my
body unto the earth in such decent manner to be buried at the
discretion of mine executor hereafter in this present named. And touching
my personal estate, I do will and bequeath the same in form following.

Item: I

9 do will and bequeath unto the poor people of the parish of Tonbridge
wherein I live, ten bushels of wheat. And I do desire that my said executor
10 would take the pains to cause two bushels whereof to be baked into loaves
and to be distributed and bestowed by him on such poor people as shall
11 come into my dwelling house at such day of my burial. And I do further
desire my said executor that the other eight bushels, he could likeroghe⁴³
12 cause to be baked into loaves within one month (if such convenient) next
after my decease. And that upon convenient notice thereof to be given, the
same
13 bread may be distributed by him on all such poor people of the said parish
at Tonbridge Town as he shall think fit to bestow the same. **Item:**
14 I do give and bequeath unto **Joane Frye, my servant**, twenty shillings to be
paid unto her within one month next after my decease. **Item:** I do
15 give and bequeath all my wearing apparel of what material soever unto
Joane, my sister, the now wife of Thomas Sommers, and unto **Margaret**
and
16 **Elizabeth, her true daughters**, equally to be shifted amongst them. **Item:** I
do give and bequeath unto my very loving and kind friend **William Walter**
17 of Tonbridge, yeoman (to whom I stand much engaged in all thankfulness
for his love and care always towards me), the sum of ten

43 likewise?

18 pounds. The residue and all other my goods and chattells consisting in
19 household stuff, corn, hay, cattell, implements (of husbandry ??)
20 and other stock in goods of what nature or kind soever they be or shalbe of,
21 my will and desire is that a some convenient time
22 from and after my decease, my said executor would be pleased to cause all
23 such my goods and chattels to be indifferently appraised. And after
24 such appraisement to make sale of the same so soon as he may. And that
25 all such moneys so by him received thereupon, my said
26 executor should bestow part thereof for the payment and redeeming of my
27 message and nine acres of land with th'appurtenances
thereto belonging, situated and lying in **Speldhurst** in the occupancy of
Joseph Weekes, which I have formally mortgaged to one, **William**
Raynes. And that the other part of the same money shall also be bestowed,
by my said executor, towards the payment of such other my debts which
I do, or shall, owe. those my charges with the proving of this my will and
charges he shall sustain to and upon my burial. And if
it shall happen any overplus of such moneys then after shalbe remaining in
my said executor's hands, my will and mind is that my said
executor shall put out the same, for the rate of twelve pence in the pound⁴⁴,
together with all such early rents which he shall receive for the same, my
messuages and lands in Speldurst

44 rate of 5%; this phrase inserted

28 to whom I give full power and authority to receive and to let and set the
same for the best advantage one can during the minority or
29 until **Ann Hatch, the daughter of Anne Hatch, my late sister**⁴⁵ deceased,
shall or should attain unto her full age of one and twenty years.
30 And the overplus of such moneys (if any shalbe) with the rents which he
shall so receive, deducting there out all charges for reparations
31 which shall happen about the same messuage shalbe by my said executor
employed for the good of the said Margaret and Elizabeth, the blood
32 daughters of the said Joane Sommers, my sister, during and until the said
Ann Hatch, the daughter of my other sister, shall or should attain
33 unto such age of one and twenty years as aforesaid, to whom I do then give
and bequeath the same. And I do make and ordain the before
34 named William Walter to be the full and sole executor of this my present
testament and last will. And I do earnestly desire my loving
35 friends **Humfery Couchman** and **Robert Ward** to be the overseers hereof
and to be aiding and assisting to my said executor(in what they may)
36 in the due execution hereof. And touching the disposing of my said
messuage and lands, my further will and mind is that if the said Ann
37 Hatch, the daughter of my said sister, shalbe living and shall attain unto
such age of one and twenty years, then I do will, give and devise all

45 either Thomas's sister-in-law or an unmarried sister with a daughter; from line 32 it looks like the latter

38 the same my messuage or tenement before mentioned with the said nine
acres of land with th'appurtenances, situated and lying in Speldhurst
aforesaid, unto
39 the said Ann Hatch, to hold all the same messuage and premises unto the
said Ann Hatch and to the heirs of her body lawfully begotten or to be
begotten.
40 And for default of such issue, then I do will, give and devise all the same
messuage, lands and premises unto the said Margaret Sommers and
Elizabeth
41 Sommers, the two daughters of the said Joan Sommers, my sister, if they
shalbe living at such their ages of one and twenty years. to hold all the said
42 messuage and premises to them, the said Margaret and Elizabeth
Sommers, and to heirs of their bodies lawfully begotten and to be begotten.
And for default
43 of such issue, then I do will, ordain and devise all the said messuage and
premises unto the heirs of the body of the said Jaone Sommers, my sister,
begotten or to be
44 begotten. And for want of such issue, then I do will, give and devise all the
same messuage, lands and premises unto **Edward Patchin** and **Mercy**
45 **Stymperson, the wife of Edward Sympterson**, to hold the same messuage
and premises unto the said Edward Patchin and Mercy Sympterson and to their

46 heirs and assigns forever. In witness whereof I, the said Thomas Hatch,
have to this my present testament and last will set my hand and seal

47 the day and year first above written.

Sealed, delivered, published and declared

in the presence of

Oliver ⁴⁶ Goldsmith

Michael Dane

Richard Chownings

of

the mark

Thomas Hatch

46 mark an inverted "U"

The Hawes of Seal

An alternative spelling is Hawse.

The main Hawes family is Richard's:

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
#2845 ⁴⁷	<u>HAWES, Richard</u> -----				1	2	
• #2847	<u>HAWES, Francis</u>	4 Feb 1601	6 Nov 1627 married at 26	Mellion Godden #2849	1	0	
• #2848	<u>HAWES, Richard</u>	21 Sep 1606	9 Sep 1632 married at 26	Jane Polhill #2850	1	5	
• • #2851	<u>Hawes, Elizabeth</u>	10 Apr 1636					0 0
• • #2852	<u>Hawes, Frances</u>	22 Oct 1637					0 0
• • #2853	<u>Hawes, Alice</u>	27 Sep 1640					0 0
• • #2854	<u>Hawes, Jane</u>	17 Apr 1642					0 0
• • #3829	<u>Hawes, Mary</u>	18 Jan 1647					0 0
• • #2855	<u>HAWES, Richard</u>	23 Apr 1648					0 0

⁴⁷ # indicates a reference in the Seal database

On 8th January 1596, **John Hawse** (#1695) married **Johane Fylder** (#1696)
A John Hawse was buried on 30th May 1628. He could have been Johane's
husband but no children were recorded in Seal or the other local parishes.

On 23rd August 1604, **John** (#2858), son of **James Hawes** (#2856), was baptised.

On 7th February 1630, **Ann** (#2861), daughter of **John Hawse** (#2859) was
baptised.

The Hawkes of Ightham

A large number of Hawkes were mentioned in the Court Rolls but relatively few in the parish records. Between 1553 and 1574, **John, Margery, Richard and Thomas Hawke** were recorded.

On 30th March 1558, "**John Hawke** surrendered in Court into the hands of the lord, a messuage called **Paches**, a garden and a parcel of land held by copy of Court Roll, to the use of **Robert Gardener** according to the custom of the manor. Rent 5d per annum." Paches (or Patches) was about half a mile south of Ightham village at **Copthall**. The little group of holdings at Copthall may have been known as the copyholds with Copthall a corruption of copyholds (CRI 1938, pp.47, 78, 71). Much more detail was given by Harrison regarding copyholds for a piece of land Reginald Hawkes held at the time of his death - see page 2.h.81.

The **Thomas**, who was a **borsholder**, could have been the father of Elizabeth baptised 1563 (i396⁴⁸ below). A Thomas Hawke and his wife Katherine died within ten days of each other in 1593 and, again, these could have been Elizabeth's parents but her mother's name was not given at her baptism.

No details are given for the **Richard Hawke** mentioned 1553 to 1574 but he could have been the Richard whose son was buried in 1570 and (if it was the same man) married Clemence Caly in 1572 - see i392 below. The "Iodoca" buried March 1571, recorded only as "Iodoca Hawke", could have been Richard's first wife.

All these are very tentative relationships.

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
i396	<u>HAWKE, Thomas</u> ----- 			Katherine Hawke(m) i417	1	1	24 Feb 1593
i417	<u>Hawke(m), Katherine</u> -----				1	1	5 Mar 1593
• i142	<u>Hawke, Elizabeth</u>	14 Feb 1563	24 Jan 1589	John SIFLET married at 25 see Siflet i134 in Families & Transcripts	1	2	
i392	<u>HAWKE, Richard</u> -----				2	1	
	<i>Marriage 1</i>			Iodoca Hawke(m) #393	1	1	
i393	<u>Hawke(m), Iodoca</u> -----				1	1	2 Mar 1571
• i394	<u>HAWKE, William</u>						0 0 27 Nov 1570
	<i>Marriage 2</i>		14 Sep 1572	Clemence Caly i395	1	0	

Other Baptisms and Burials 1592 to 1599

"[Henry Hauke, of Shorne, taylor](#)" was mentioned in the Court Records for 1586-1618. **Jane** (i403), daughter of **Henry Hawke** (i401), was baptised on 22nd October 1592. A Henry Hawke was buried on 24th March 1599.

Agnes (i411), daughter of **Thomas Hawke** (i402), was baptised on 3rd January 1593.

Elizabeth Hawke, widow (i419) was buried on 8th May 1593.

Anne Hawke, widow (i420) was buried on 13th February 1594.

1586 to 1618

In the later period, 1586-1618, five women were mentioned: **Alice, Ann, Elizabeth, Jane and Margaret**. Ann could have been the widow buried in 1594 and Elizabeth the wife of **William** (i343) - see page 2.h.80). Jane and Margaret were the daughters of **Reginald Hawke**. A "**widow Hawkes**" was also mentioned and, although both William's and George's wives died before their husbands, in addition to Anne, there was an **Elizabeth Hawke, widow** buried in 1593 - see page 2.h.74.

The men mentioned are:

- **George Hawke** (i400) who, at some time, held the office of **ale taster** - see pages 2.h.76 and 2.h.77.
- **Henry Hawke** (i401) - see page 2.h.74
- **James Hawke**
- **Reginald Hawke** - see page 2.h.81
- **Richard Hawke** - on 16th October 1598 he was found to have "[carried away certain stones from the common way at the Water Plashett on Oldbury Hill to the detriment of the public way. Ordered to amend it before 30 November under penalty 3s 4d.](#)" (CRI 1937, p.195) This could have been the same Richard as was mentioned earlier - i392, see page 2.h.73.

- **Thomas Hawke** who could have been i396 mentioned 1553-74 (see page 2.h.73) or i402 (see page 2.h.4)
- **William Hawke** (i343) - see page 2.h.80

George Hawke

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
i400	<u>HAWKE, George</u> -----			Joane Hawke(m) i421	1	5	> Sep 1621
i421	<u>Hawke(m), Joane</u> -----				1	5	26 Sep 1621
• i408	<u>Hawke, Ellen</u>	28 Jul 1583			0	0	20 Jun 1601
• i409	<u>Hawke, Elizabeth</u>	5 Dec 1585			0	0	
• i2710	<u>HAWKE, John</u>	10 Nov 1588	in Seal		0	0	
• i342	<u>Hawke, Mercie</u>	27 Feb 1592			0	0	
• i343	<u>HAWKE, William</u>	22 Dec 1594		Elizabeth Hawke(m)	1	5	> Mar 1654 see page 2.h.80 for his children
• i410	<u>HAWKE, Robert</u>	18 Dec 1597			0	0	14 Jul 1648 if baptism and burial refer to the same person, Robert died at 50

Further Presentations of George Hawke

- On 2nd September 1591, **William Petley** (i1045) assaulted **George Hawke** (i400) striking him with his fist. Hawke "then and there" assaulted Petley. Hawke was fined 12d and Petley 4d, at the Court held on 5th October (CRI 1938, p.4)
- On 5th April 1592, **George Chowning** and **George Hawke** were presented to the Court for having received a number of "strangers" - **John Williams**, **John Dene** (see **Deane in More Families & Transcripts**), **Richard Cohyn**, **John Curd** and **Edward Lambert** (see **Hunter**). All of them except Williams and Dene were to each be fined 10s if the outsiders stayed without sureties being found. (CRI 1938, p.17)
- George Hawke was presented to the Court on 5th October 1593 for having "obstructed the highway between **Rowles Wood and Ivy Hatch** with the trunks of two trees. To be removed before Christmas, under penalty 3s 4d". (CRI 1937, p.200) Rowles (Rose) Wood was about one-and-a-quarter miles south-west of Ightham village, a third of a mile north of Ivy Hatch (CRI 1938, p.79)

- On 24th April 1595, **Robert Baldwyn (Balden)** was fined 6d for assaulting George Hawke at Ightham and striking him with his fists. (CRI 1938, p.5).
- George Hawkes came before the Court three times because of the state of his ditch at Moresoles. The ditch, whose name was spelt in a number of ways, lay near Rose Wood (see above) which was boggy ground and the word may mean "**moor-ponds**" (CRI 1938, p.76). On 16th October 1598, he was "**ordered to purge and scour his ditch at Musols before 30 November**". On 6th October 1603, he "**was given till 1 November to scour out his ditch at Mossalls**". Yet again, on 7th October 1612, he and **William Hubberd** were found to have allowed "**their ditch next to Mugsolles to be unscoured, to the detriment of the highway there. Given till 1 November to clean it**". Each time, the penalty for not cleaning it was 3s 4d. (CRI 1937, p.200 & 201).
- Five years after this last presentation for the state of the ditch, when George would have been approaching sixty, he was fined 6s 8d because, on 23rd October 1617, he "**made contempt in open Court and used certain scandalous words against the steward of the manor and the jurors of the Court**". (CRI 1938, p.31)
- On 26th October 1618 the Court heard that there was a "**way leading from Ashwell to Ivy Hatch Plain towards the Beacon is a common way 'to lead,**

drive and travel' and so it has been used from a time of which the memory of man runneth not to the contrary, as was tested by the oath of **John Ivill** and **John Saxton** in open Court in the same matter and, by the oath of other old men of this inquest, it was testified that the said way has lately been stopped up by George Hawkes or his predecessors. George Hawkes was therefore ordered to open the way before 2 February next, under penalty 10s. The way referred to is an acknowledged public footpath which leaves the west side of the road running northwards from the Mote to Ivy Hatch at a spring (Ashewell) and bears in the direction of Ivy Hatch Plain and the old beacon which communicated towards the south and east with Crowborough and Goudhurst and towards the north with Cobham." (CRI 1937, p.195).

This mention of "George Hawkes or his predecessors" sounds as if the George referred to had just taken over the land. Were there two George Hawkes? If so, this complicates the "family" shown on page 2.h.76.

William Hawke, son of George

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
i343	<u>HAWKE, William</u> -----	22 Dec 1594	6 Aug 1620 married at 25	Elizabeth Goodge i422	1	8	> Mar 1654
i422	<u>Goodge, Elizabeth</u> -----				1	8	14 Mar 1654
•	i412 <u>Hawke, Elizabeth</u>	28 Apr 1622				0	0
•	i413 <u>Hawke, Anne</u>	1 Aug 1624				0	0
•	i414 <u>Hawke, Marie</u>	5 Feb 1626				0	0
•	i415 <u>Hawke, Helen</u>	13 Aug 1626				0	0 2 Nov 1626
•	i416 <u>Hawke, Katherine</u>	9 Dec 1627				0	0
•	#3784 <u>HAWKE, Robert</u>	6 Jun 1630				0	0
•	#3785 <u>HAWKE, William</u>	24 Nov 1633				0	0
•	#3786 <u>Hawke, Sara</u>	19 Feb 1637				0	0

William was mentioned in the Court Records for 1586-1618

The three last children were **baptised in Seal** as the children of William and Elizabeth Hawkes. The dates follow on from those of the earlier children and the Hawkes family could have moved from one parish to the other.

The baptisms of Marie and Helen were only 7 months and a week apart. Marie could have been a few weeks old when she was baptised and Helen could have been born prematurely and baptised directly if she was not expected to survive. There was no other William Hawke having children at this time.

Reginald Hawkes & Admittance to Copyhold Lands

Reginald Hawkes (i2716) was first mentioned in the Court Rolls on 14th April 1586 when he was fined 4d for "[not doing suit at the Court](#)" (CRI 1938, p.35). He died in 1612 but his burial was not recorded in the parish register and there is no record of any family.

He did, however, have heirs and their experience is used by Harrison to illustrate the procedure followed in order to obtain admittance to copyhold lands as the successor to a tenant who had died.

The first extract from the Court Records is for 7th October 1612: "[Reginald Hawkes held at the time of his death, of the lord of this manor, by copy of Court Roll, one customary messuage and one garden with two parcels of land containing three acres. No heriot accrued because he had no live animal at the time of his death.](#)"

"**Margaret and Jane**, as sisters and co-heirs of the said Reginald, ought to enjoy the premises. Upon which a first proclamation was made for anyone claiming the premises as next heir of Reginald. Whereupon **Margaret Hawkes and Jane Hawkes**⁴⁹, sisters and co-heirs of Reginald, appeared and prayed to be separately admitted to the premises, namely Margaret to the one half of the premises and Jane to the other. Upon which, in the sitting Court, the lord by his steward, with the consent of the said Margaret and Jane, granted to them seisin of the premises by the rod, to have and to hold one half of the said messuage, garden and three acres of land, with the appurtenances, to Margaret and her heirs, and the other half of the same premises to Jane and her heirs at the will of the lord, according to the custom of the manor, by rent per annum 10d, suit of Court, heriot and relief when they fall due. And they paid to the lord a fine of £5 for such their separate estates and admittance to the premises so had, and separately did fealty to the lord in Court and were admitted tenants in the form aforesaid."

"Two years later Margaret, a married woman, gave up her share of the premises to her sister Jane. To the Court held on 27th June 1614, came **William Gibson**⁵⁰ and Margaret his wife, one of the sisters and co-heirs of Reginald Hawkes, deceased,

49 i2718 and i2719

50 i2720

and the said Margaret, in open Court, after separate and secret⁵¹ examination by the steward, surrendered into the hands of the lord by the acceptance of the steward of the manor all her one half share or part . . . with the intention that the lord should deign to re-grant the premises to Jane Hawkes, sister of the said Margaret, and her heirs, at the will of the lord according to the custom of the manor”.

"Upon which Jane appeared in Court and sought admittance to the premises according to the intention of the surrender. At whose request the lord by his steward granted to the said Jane seisin of the premises by the rod, to have to her and her heirs at the will of the lord according to the custom of the manor, by rent 9d [and other incidents]. The said Jane gave to the lord a fine of 40s for such estate and for admittance so had and so was admitted tenant and did fealty in Court." (CRI 1938, p.47-48)

51 secret in order to preclude unfair pressure by her husband

Margaret Hayman, wife of John of Yalding

Margaret Hayman was one of the very few wives who wrote a will (CKS: Drb/Pwr 11.151). The reason why Margaret wrote her will was that John Hayman was her second husband since she had children of which John was not the father. Although we have nothing to go on except the will, it looks as if Margaret trusted her husband to continue looking after his stepchildren.

From her will, it seems that her first husband left her £8 a year for the upkeep of their children until such/s
time as they came of age when the money was to go to them. She had also been left some moveable goods which, on her death, were to go to the children and her first husband must, in his will, have left instructions that, should she marry again, she must first make arrangements to ensure that the children would eventually get what was due to them from his will. Thus, an indenture had been made before she married John who was now to become her executor and overseer and he was to have the £8 until her children came “to their full age” and then he was to “restore the said rent to my said children to their own proper use and most profit”. He was also to see her “moveables equally distributed amongst” them.

1 In the name of god Amen. 2nd
2 day of April in the 1st year of the reign of our sovereign
3 lord Edward the sixth . . . I,
4 Margaret Hayman, being the wife of **John Hayman** of the
5 parish of Yalding in the county of Kent and in the diocese of
6 Rochester being in good and perfect mind and remembrance,
7 thanks be to god, and also having ?? of my said
8 life to make my testament containing therein my last
9 will as shall appear hereafter in this manner and form following:
10 **Item:** I bequeath and commend my soul into the hands of god
11 ?? almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and to his son
12 Jesus Christ, the only saviour, etc. and my body to be buried
13 in the parish churchyard of Yalding and, by virtue of
14 ?? testament and last will do ordain and
15 make my foresaid husband John Hayman my true, lawful
16 and sole executor and also the overseer and guardian of my
17 children and to take and retain? my yearly
18 sum of eight pounds at such times of the year that it
19 shall be due to me, mine executors and assigns as my ??

20 shall truly specify unto such time as my children shall come
21 to their full age and then I will that my said husband
22 and executor shall restore the said rent to my said
23 children to their own proper use and most profit. Also I will
24 that he shall see my moveables equally distributed
25 among my said children which moveables shall appear in an
26 indenture. Witnesses of this my present last will and
27 testament **Edward Standish, curate? of Yalding, John
Richard, Nicholas Hayman**, my brother-in-law and **Richard Turge** with
others.

James Helande of Yalding

Although this will was transcribed from the original which has survived (**CKS: Drb/Pw 8**), it looks to be a copy of the actual original since there are no marks or signatures at the end. It looks to be written by a professional scribe and has lines drawn on the paper to keep the lines horizontal and also lines for the left and right margins.

James's daughter, who was his heir, was under eighteen when he wrote his will. She had the name "Samuel", most unusual for a girl.

The year the will was written is given in an unusual form: "[in the year of the incarnation of our lord and saviour Christ 1563](#)"

Will of James Helande of Yalding

written 23rd April 1563
transcript from original

1 In the name of God Amen. The 23rd day of April in the year of the incarnation of our lord and saviour

2 Christ 1563. I, James Helende of Yalding in the diocese of Rochester, being
of whole mind and good memory, lauded
3 be god, make and ordain this my present testament containing therein my
last will in manner and form following that here followeth,
4 That is to say, **First:** I bequeath my soul in to the hands of Almighty God
and heavenly father and my body to be buried
5 within the church yard of Yalding aforesaid. **It:** I give and bequeath all my
moveable goods and cattalls and debts unto
6 **Agnes, my wellbeloved wife,** only except a cupboard, a folde table and
furnace⁵² the which cupboard, table and
7 furnace, my will and mind is shall remain unremoved within my house to
the use of my heirs. And all the residue of
8 of all my moveable goods and catalls, my debts paid, my body buried, I
give wholly unto Agnes, my wife with her
9 dwelling in my house and all the profits and unremovables of my said
houses and lands to the bringing up of
10 **my daughter Samuel Helande** in the fear of god and in the knowledge of
godly lives, paying the lord's rent
11 and keeping m houses and ?? from all impairment of waste and when
Samuel, my daughter, do come

52 "furness"

12 to her age of 18 years then my will, mind and intent is that, she, the said
Samuel, to peaceably and
13 quietly enter in and upon all my said houses and lands with appurtenances
there unto belonging. **To** have and
14 to hold, possess and enjoy to her ?? and her heirs of her body lawfully
begotten forever,
15 **yielding** and paying to Agnes, my wife, of the yearly annuity of her life
natural of my said wife 13s
16 4d quarterly to be paid. And if it so fortune thjat Samuel, my daughter, do
decease before she come
17 to the age of 18 years and without heirs of her body lawfully begotten, then
I will my said
18 houses and all ?? with their appurtenances aforesaid to remain to **Richard**
Hyland, the son of my
19 younger brother, and the said Richard Hyland to pay yearly unto Agnes, my
wife, 13s 4d during all
20 the term of her said natural life. And for the default of payment according
to this my last will
21 and testament, I will my said wife to reenter in and upon all and every part
and parcel of my said
22 houses, lands with appurtenances afore mentioned and to ?? the
distresses then so found

23 to impound and withhold the distresses until she be fully paid with the ??
of the same if
24 any be. Moreover, I ordain and make Agnes, my wife, executor and I desire
my kinsman, John
25 **Willard** to be the overseer of this my last will and testament. **Witnesses**
unto at the making
26 hereof **John March, Roger Fry, John Drune, and James Bowles** with others.

Henry Hewit of Seal

Henry Hewit (#3713) had two sons baptised in Seal:

- William #3715 29 Apr 1610
- John #3716 24 Oct 1611

Henry was one of the members of the jury which investigated the alleged infanticide of Benedicta Sherman in 1611 - see [Sherman in More Families & Transcripts](#).

Edward Hewitt of Shipbourne & his Daughter Margaret

The wills of Edward Hewitt and his daughter Margaret have survived:

Edward Hewitt	7 Jun 1566	Drb/Pw 8; Pwr 13.266	page 2.h.94
Margaret Hewitt	29 Nov 1581	Drb/Pw 13; Pwr 16.165	page 2.h.95

Edward was a sawyer who seems to have had only one daughter, Margaret, living in 1566. She was under 23 at that time and on her mother's death she was to inherit the lease of Edward's house and garden in Shipbourne which was initially left to his wife Julian who married William Nicholson on 28th November 1566 less than six months after Edward wrote his will. The lease had forty years to run from 1566. Margaret died twelve years later when her mother was still alive.

Margaret's will was written by Nicholas Hooper who wrote many wills from the 1580s to 1618. The lease of the house and garden (in which at this time William Nicolson (and presumably Margaret's mother) was living was left, on Julian's death, to the children of Margaret's uncle Edmond Jessop. Thus Julian must have been born a Jessop. From Margaret's will the following tree can be drawn up:

	JESSOPP -				

	\$2287	\$2288	\$10	\$11	\$59
	Edmond -	Alice	Edward HEWITT -	Julian -	William NICOLSON
<i>will:</i>			7 Jun 1566		
<i>bur:</i>				12 Oct 1599	

		Johane ?		\$12	
<i>born:</i>				Margaret	
				>1543	
<i>will:</i>				29 Nov 1581	

Margaret appointed her “trusty friend”, Richard Collyns, butcher, as her executor. Were Margaret and Richard to have married if she had not died? The Shipbourne Collyns were a large family including Richard Collyns whose will of 1596 has survived (see [Collyns in More Families & Transcripts](#)) This Richard (\$67) was described as “gent.” in his will and it is unlikely that he was the butcher of 1581.

1 In the name of god Amen. The
2 7th day of June in the year of our lord
3 god 1566, I, Edward Hewitt,
4 **sawyer**, being of perfect memory,
5 thanks be given to god, I do make and
6 ordain this my last will in manner
7 and form following: **First:** I bequeath
8 my soul into the hands of the almighty
9 god and my body to be buried in the
10 churchyard of Shipbourne. **Item:** I
11 give and bequeath the **Julian, my wife**,
12 the profit of the lease of my house and
13 garden in Shipbourne for the space of
14 40 years if the said Julian, my wife, so
15 long do live, keeping all the reparations
16 sufficiently, and, immediately after the
17 decease of Julian, my wife, or at the end
18 of the forty years, I give and bequeath the said
19 lease of my said house and garden to

20 **Margaret, my daughter**, and to her
21 executors for ever. **Item:** I give to Margaret,
22 my daughter, a bed with all things
23 belonging to it, a pewter dish and a
24 posnett to be delivered at the years and age
25 of 23 years. All the rest of my goods I give
26 to Julian, my wife, whom I make my
27 executrix, those being witness **William**
28 **Tompson** and **Robert Swan**.

Will of Margaret Hewitt of Shipbourne

written 29th November 1581

transcript from original

1 In the name of god Amen. The nine and twentieth day of November in the
year of
2 our lord god a thousand, five hundred, four score and one and in the four
and twentieth
3 year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth, by the grace of god,
Queen of England,

4 France and Ireland, defender of the faith. I, Margaret Hewitt, of the parish
of
5 Shipbourne in the County of Kent, **singlewoman**, being sick and weak in
body and therefore put
6 in mind of the change and alteration of this life, and being of good and
perfect remembrance,
7 thanked therefore be god almighty, Do Ordain and make this my present
testament and
8 last will in manner and form following: **First:** I will and bequeath my soul
to god
9 almighty and Jesus Christ, his only son and my saviour and Redeemer, by
whose merit,
10 precious death and blood shedding, I trust to obtain remission and
forgiveness of all my sins and
11 my body to be buried in the churchyard of Shipbourne aforesaid. **Item:** I
give and bequeath
12 to the box or chest of the poor of Shipbourne aforesaid 5s. **Item:** I give and
bequeath to
13 **Johane Home, my goddaughter**, one coat ready to her body to me made of
the price of 5s. **Item:**
14 I give and bequeath to **John Johnson, my godson**, 2s and to **his father, John
Johnson,**

15 toward the setting up of his house, another 2s. **Item:** to **father Lye** 8d.
Item: I give
16 and bequeath to **Margaret Sexten, a poor maiden**, my best red petticoat,
my best hat and
17 one pair of sheets. **Item:** I give and bequeath to **John Seldon** 12d. **Item:** I
give
18 and bequeath to **Johane Jessopp, my kinswoman**, my best russet petticoat.
Item: to **Barbara**
19 **Burgess**, a kerchief, a neckerchief and my blue apron. **Item:** to **Elizabeth**
Hadlow, a kerchief,
20 a neckerchief and a linen apron. **Item:** I will and bequeath to **my natural**
and wellbeloved
21 **mother, Julian Nicolson**, the sum of forty shillings lawful money now being
in
22 the hands of **Richard Collyn** upon condition that my said mother shall give,
discharge and pay
23 all my said legacies and gifts before herein being willed and bequeathed
and bring my body honestly
24 to the earth and in and during my sickness honestly to keep and cherish
me and to bestow
25 the residue of the said 40s (if any be remaining) among poor people at my
burial at the discretion

26 of her, my said mother⁵³. **Item:** whereas **my late father, Edward Hewitt**, by
his last will and
27 testament willed and bequeathed (after my said mother's decease) that
tenement wherein **William Nicolson**,
28 **my father-in-law**⁵⁴, now dwelleth with a garden, orchard and parcel of land
thereto adjoining, by estimation half
29 an acre in Shipbourne aforesaid, to me the said Margaret Hewitt and myne
executors during
30 and until th'end of a lease from one **Richard Hadlow, carpenter**, to the said
Edward made, I will
31 and give all my right, title, interest, bequest and time of years therein and
then to come of the said lease
32 to the children of **Edmond Jessopp, myne uncle**, between the said **Edmond**
and Alice, his late
33 wife, deceased begotten, equally between them, the said children, to be
34 divided. To have and to hold the said equally between them, to them and
every of them and the
35 executors of them and every of them during the residue of the said time of
years not expended at the

53 the money bequests detailed by Margaret total 15s 8d but, in addition, there were the funeral expenses

54 step-father, Margaret's mother's second husband

36 decease of my said mother. The residue of all my goods and cattalls I
wholly and with
37 good effect give and bequeath to my trusty friend **Richard Collyn** of
Shipbourne
38 aforesaid, **butcher**, to th'end that he shall see this my will proved which
said Richard Collyn
39 I make my full, whole and sole executor. In witness whereof I, the said
Margaret Hewitt
40 to this my present testament and last will have set my hand, seal yeven⁵⁵
the day and year
41 first above written⁵⁶ in the presence of the said Richard Collyn and of
42 me **Nicolas Hooper**⁵⁷

Richard Collyn⁵⁸

55 given

56 this could possibly be Margaret's signature

57 implying he was the writer of the will

58 also looks like a signature

The Hickmotes of Seal

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
#910 ⁵⁹	<u>HICKMOTE, Averell</u> -----					1	7
• #912	<u>Hickmote, Maudlyne</u>	22 Mar 1579	16 Oct 1608	George SMITH married at 29			1 0
• #1111	<u>Hickmote, Ann</u>	5 Feb 1581		#2029			0 0
• #1174	<u>HICKMOTE, James</u>	12 Oct 1582	given as "da."	although "James"			0 0
• #1306	<u>HICKMOTE, John</u>	25 Jun 1585					0 0
• #1445	<u>Hickmote, Elizabeth</u>	22 Oct 1587					0 0
• #1957	<u>Hickmote, Johane</u>						0 0 23 Jul 1592
• #1832	<u>HICKMOTE, Thomas</u>	6 Oct 1594					0 0

In 1602 Averell Hickmote or his assigns had the tenancy of some land owned by Lawrence Atherfold - see [Atherfold in Families & Transcripts](#)

⁵⁹ # indicates a reference in the Seal database

The Highs of Seal

The will of Richard Hye (High) of Seal has survived (**CKS: Drb/Pw 21**) but it is too damaged to read and no probate copy exists. It was proved in 1608 and is likely to be the will of the Richard High who was buried on 3rd June 1608. The following family can be reconstructed from the parish records.

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
#1009 ⁶⁰	<u>HIGH, Richard</u> -----	<1559			2	3	3 Jun 1608
	<i>Marriage 1</i>		19 Jul 1579	Agnes Richard	1	2	
#1010	<u>Richard, Agnes</u> -----	<1559			1	2	19 Mar 1584
• #1086	<u>HIGH, John</u>	8 Aug 1580			0	0	
• #1181	<u>High, Sara</u>	13 Jan 1583			0	0	

60 # indicates a reference in the Seal database

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M C	Died	
	<i>Marriage 2</i>		10 May 1585	Isabella High(m)			
#1222	<u>High(m), Isabella</u> -----				1 1	19 Apr 1608	
		died 6 weeks before her husband; parish record says: "sepulta fuit" the first son, Gregory was born 4 months after the marriage					
• #1318	<u>HIGH, Gregory</u> ⁶¹	12 Sep 1585	4 Aug 1608	Dorothy Fuller married at 23	1 5	>Aug 1638	
• #894	<u>Fuller, Dorothy</u>	19 Dec 1578		married at 30; aged 59 when she died	1 5	28 Aug 1638	
• • #2657	<u>HIGH, Richard</u>	26 Nov 1609	1 Nov 1636	Elsabeth Frenche married at 27 #2606	1 0		
		Richard's wife, Elsabeth, was 18 when she married					
• • #2658	<u>HIGH, John</u>	29 Sep 1611			0 0		
		John died on 22 Mar 1615 aged 3½					
• • #2659	<u>HIGH, Henry</u>	26 Jan 1617			0 0		
• • #2660	<u>HIGH, Gregory</u>	9 Jan 1620			0 0		
• • #2661	<u>High, Sara</u>	15 Dec 1622	14 Oct 1649	Leonard TOMLYN married at 26 #2662	1 0		

61 Gregory was alive when his wife, seven years older than him, died; it could have been this Gregory or his son (#2660) who was listed in the **Knole MS of 1648** for Seal village; Richard was also listed for Seal village.

The Hills of Ightham

Christopher Hills, alias **Morgan**, clerk, of **Stansted**, was mentioned in the Court Records 1553-74.

Richard Hills (i1868) was buried on 19th May 1591; he was mentioned in the Court Records 1586-1618

Robert (i2522), son of **Thomas** (i2520) and **Dorothy Hills** (i2521) was baptised on 2nd March 1641.

See [Families & Transcripts](#) for the Hills of Seal and Kemsing.

The Hoadleys of Shipbourne

On 19th December 1622 “**Steven Hoadley, senior**” (\$1344) was buried in Shipbourne. This implies that there was a Steven Hoadley, junior.

Steven Hodley of Kemsing, father of the family given on the next page, was married in 1591 and so would have been approaching sixty in 1622. Perhaps by that time he had moved to Shipbourne with “Hoadley” being a different spelling of his name. His son, (k129) would have been Steven Hoadley, junior.

The wife of **John Hoadley** (\$1347) was buried on 13 Dec 1624.

The **Elizabeth Hoadley** (\$2106) who married **Thomas Chambers** (\$2100) on 21st September 1647 could have been the daughter of Steven Hoadley, junior.

Another much earlier Hoadley marriage was that of **Andrew Hoadley** (\$1120) and **Mary Denman** (\$1123) held on 31st January 1614.

The Hodleys of Kemsing

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M C	Died
k125	<u>HODLEY, Steven</u> ----- 		18 Dec 1591	Margaret Akourt	1	9
k126	<u>Akourt, Margaret</u> -----	6 Jun 1574		married at 17	1	9
• k127	<u>HODLEY, Thomas</u>	28 Jun 1594			0	0
• k128	<u>HODLEY, John</u>	4 Mar 1597			0	0
				should date for John's baptism be 1596 or that of Steven's 1598?		
• k129	<u>HODLEY, Steven</u>	16 Mar 1597		born in Kemsing; baptised in Seal	0	0
• k130	<u>HODLEY, Harry</u>	3 Mar 1601			0	0
• k131	<u>Hodley, Etheldred</u>	25 Sep 1603			0	0
• k132	<u>HODLEY, Robert</u>	26 Jan 1606			0	0
• k133	<u>HODLEY, Jacob</u>	3 Feb 1611			0	0
• k134	<u>Hodley, Deborah</u>	11 Oct 1614			0	0
• k135	<u>Hodley, Timothy</u>	28 May 1617		daughter	0	0

Dorothy, daughter of Thomas Hodley, was baptised in Ightham on 7th December 1628 when k127 would have be thirty-four. Mary Hodley, widow, (who could have been Dorothy's mother) was buried, in Ightham, on 12th December 1634.

See Hoadleys of Shipbourne on the previous page

The Hodsolls of Ash, Ightham and the Locality

"The Hodsolls were an old and extensive family who owned considerable land at Ivy Hatch"⁶². But the majority of Hodsoll wills come from Ash. Ightham and Ash are two parishes which just about touch at their northeast and southwest corners and the Hodsoll family was based mainly in these two parishes with connections to Kemsing and London.

The first surviving will is that of William Hodsoll of Rochester dated 1455 (CKS: Drb/Pwr 2.31). There is then a gap of 44 years before the next one from Ash but William of Kemsing was buried at Ash.:

		dated	proved	Drb/Pw	Drb/Pwr	
William Hodsoll	Ash	1499d		CKS:	6.121	labourer
William Hodsoll	Kemsing	1512d	1513p	CKS:	7.6	page 2.h.107, 110
Thomas Hodsoll	Ash	1536d	1537p	CKS:	9.240	
William Hodsoll			1550p	CKS:	4	
Thomas Hodsoll	Ash		1556p	CKS: 5;	12.16	yeoman
John Hodsoll	West Malling	1556d		CKS: 5;	12.69	
Robert Hodsoll	Kemsing	1592	1592p	CKS 16;	18.143	page 2.h.110
Eleanor Hodsoll	Ash		1631p	CKS: 28		widow

62 The Story of Ightham, F.J.Bennet, p.66; see also Wills & Other Records Relating to the Family of Hodsoll, A.C. Vol. 14 (1882) which covers years 1423 to 1788

William Hodsooll, will 1512

William Hodsooll of Kemsing, in 1512, left 3s 4d to the high altars of both Ash and Kemsing churches and the rent of a piece of land to the church of Ash. He also left 6d to the repair of the highway leading to the lych gate.

Will of William Hodsooll of Kemsing

written 1512

transcript from probate copy (original has not survived)

1 In die . . . Amen. Anno. Dom. 1512 . . .
2 . . . I, William Hodsooll, of the parish of Kemsing . . .
3 whole in mind, make my testament and last will in this
4 wise: **First:** I bequeath my soul to god, my body to be
5 buried within the churchyard of **Ash**. **Item:** I bequeath to the high
6 altar of Ash 3s 4d and as much to the high altar of
7 Kemsing. **Item:** I will it be said at my month's day and
8 at my burying day, half a trentall of masses for my soul.
9 Also I bequeath to **Elizabeth, my wife**, all the residue of my
10 other goods not gifted. Also, I will that the yearly rent of
11 a piece of land called **Blacksoll croft** lying in the parish

12 of **Stansted**⁶³ for ever remain to the church of Ash
13 foresaid to the extent to find a lamp burning in time
14 of dying? . . . saying . . . **Item:** I bequeath to the
15 mending of the highway between **Hambyells croft** and the
16 lych? gate 6d. Also I will that Elizabeth, my wife, have
17 all my lands and tenements with all their appurtenances lying and
18 being in the County of Kent during her life time. And
19 after her departing, I will that all the lands and tenements withall
20 their appurtenances wholly remain to **William Hodsoll of Chipstead**
21 and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten for evermore. And
22 for lack of heirs of his body lawfully begotten, I will that all the
23 said lands and tenements with all their appurtenances remain
24 to the next right heirs of the Hodsolls for evermore. And
25 I make and ordain mine executors **James Lamms of Ash** and
26 Elizabeth, my wife. And my ?? **Thomas ??** of ??,
27 **gent.** I will James Lamms shall have for his labours
28 3s 4d and his expenses. Witnesses **Sir John ??**
Atherfold and **James ??**

63 Ash is about four miles north of Ightham with Stansted to its south-east. There is a **Hodsoll Street** in Stansted.

Robert Hodsoll, jurat

Robert Hodsoll (k587⁶⁴), jurat of Kemsing, witnessed the will of William Pynden in 1590. His daughter, Joane, was baptised in Kemsing on 14th March 1585 and he was buried on 8th March 1592.

Robert's wife, whom he made his executrix was Luce (or Lucy) and **Lucy Hodsall**, "**Robert Hodsoll, gent**" and "**Thomas Hodsoll, gent**" (i1941)⁶⁵ were mentioned in the Ightham Court Records 1586-1618. Robert could have been the testator since, although he was described in his will as a yeoman, it is not unknown for a man to be described in different ways at different times.

His will is very interesting in that he had, by an indenture dated 23rd September 1583, the "[custody, wardship and marrying](#)" of John Shepperd/Stephen whom he describes as his son-in-law, a term which could be used for stepson. This he left to his two nephews, William and Thomas Hodsoll. To have the wardship of a child indicates that Robert was of some standing.

64 k indicates a reference in the Kemsing database, i in that for Ightham and # for that for Seal

65 see page 2.h.113 for Thomas's family

At the time of writing his will he owed £18 to his nephew Thomas who was to have all his wheat in the barn and house and “*what the wheat shall want of £18 in price, I will shall be paid . . . in money*”.

One of the witnesses to the will is Robert Hodsoll, the younger. The testator had an underage daughter, Joane, but mentions no other children and it is unlikely that he left the wardship of John to his nephews if Robert, the younger, was his son.

Will of Robert Hodsoll of Kemsing

written 5th March 1591/2
transcript from probate copy

1 In the name of god Amen.
2 The fifth of March Anno Diem 1591, I,
3 Robert Hodsoll of Kemsing in the county of Kent,
4 yeoman, being sick in body but whole in
5 mind, thanked be god, do make and ordain
6 this my last will and testament in man
7 ner and form following: **First** I bequeath
8 my soul to the Almighty and my body
9 to be buried in the church of Kemsing.

10 **Item:** I will that my **nephew, Thomas Hodsoll,**
11 shall have all my wheat in the barn and
12 house in part payment of 18 pounds
13 which I do owe unto him and what the
14 wheat shall want of 18 pounds in
15 price, I will shall be paid unto my said
16 nephew, Thomas, in money at the nativity
17 of St. John the Baptist next coming by
18 mine executrix. **Item:** I will that my
19 **William Hodsoll** and Thomas
20 Hodsoll shall have the custody, wardship
21 and marrying of **my son-in-law, John**
22 **Shepperd,** in as ample manner and
23 form as I, the said Robert Hodsoll, had
24 of our sovereign lady the Queen
25 Majesty that now is by an indenture
26 bearing date the 23rd day of Septem
27 ber in the 25th year of her majesty's
28 reign, my said nephews, William and
29 Thomas, to pay unto **my daughter, Joane**
30 **Hodsoll,** the sum of twenty pounds of
31 lawful money of England at the age of
32 21years or at her day of marriage

33 which shall happen first. **Item:** I will and
34 bequeath unto **my niece, Joane Hodsoll,**
35 10s to be paid within three years
36 next after my decease. **Item:** I will and
37 bequeath unto mine old friend **Mr. Lancelott**
38 **Lovelace** 8s upon condition that he shall
39 direct, aid and assist my said nephews,
40 William and Thomas, in all their business
41 about the seeing out the liveries and
42 meanerates the said John Stephen⁶⁶. All
43 the residue of my goods and chattels, my
44 funeral and debts discharged and paid,
45 I will and bequeath unto **Luce, my wife,**
46 whom I make and ordain my whole
47 and only executrix. The hand and seal
48 of Robert Hodsoll, the testator. In witness
49 whereof **Robert Hodsoll, the younger,**
50 **Thomas Gardner.**

66 looks like Stephen here rather than Shepperd as on line 21; the word at be beginning of this line is not known

The Family of Thomas Hodsoll, gent.

Thomas Hodsoll's son Steven (i1947) was probably the **Steven Hodsoll (#2986)** who married Dorothy Cozens in Seal when he was twenty-seven and had four children baptised there. He would have been expected to appear in the **Knole MS of 1648** (see **Families & Transcripts**) but is not mentioned. Details of Thomas Hodsoll's family are given below.

Sarah Hodsoll (i1955) married **John Greenhead** on 12th February 1624; she could have been Thomas's eldest child, perhaps baptised in the parish from which her mother came. A John Greenhead, mentioned in the Court Records 1586-1618, could have been the father of Sarah's husband.

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M C	Died
i1941	<u>HODSOLL, Thomas</u> ----- gent	<1581		Dorothy Hodsoll(m) i1933	1 8	17 May 1631 in his 50s
				"gent, householder" when buried		
i1933	<u>Hodsoll(m), Dorothy</u> -----			"widow" when buried, two months after Thomas	1 8	21 July 1631 in her 50s
• i1942	<u>HODSOLL, John</u>	29 Jun 1602			0 0	1 Jan 1625 aged 22
• i1943	<u>Hodsoll, Anne</u>	25 Mar 1604			0 0	
• i1944	<u>HODSOLL, Thomas</u>	2 Mar 1606			0 0	
• i1945	<u>HODSOLL, Henry</u>	14 Feb 1608			0 0	14 Feb 1608 <1 wk
• i1946	<u>HODSOLL, William</u>	26 Mar 1609		Jane Hodsoll(m) i1950	1 4	
	William, gent, who married before he was 23, appears to have been Thomas's heir					
• • i1951	<u>HODSOLL, William</u>	2 Apr 1632				0 0
• • i1952	<u>HODSOLL, Thomas</u>	20 Mar 1634				0 0
• • i1953	<u>HODSOLL, Maundie</u>	18 Jul 1636				0 0
				"son of William Hodsoll and Jane"		
• • i1954	<u>HODSOLL, Musgrave</u>	21 Mar 1646				0 0
	"son of William Hodsoll and Jane, alias Maxfield" but a ten year gap between Maundie and Musgrave					
• i1947	<u>HODSOLL, Steven</u>	26 Mar 1611		married and had children in Seal - see below (i.e.i1947 & #2986 were the same person)		
• i1948	<u>HODSOLL, Henry</u>	13 Jul 1612			0 0	
• i1949	<u>Hodsoll, Elizabeth</u>	19 Feb 1615			0 0	

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
#2986	<u>HODSOLL, Steven</u> -----	<1618	8 Jul 1638	Dorothy Cozens #2987	1	4	27 Jun 1652 in his 30s
• #2989	<u>Hodsoll, Margaret</u>	23 Dec 1638	twin		0	0	
• #2988	<u>Hodsoll, Susanna</u>	23 Dec 1638	twin		0	0	2 Mar 1639
• #2990	<u>Hodsoll, True</u>	28 Sep 1642			0	0	7 Oct 1642
• #2991	<u>Hodsoll, Dorothy</u>	Nov/Dec 1648			0	0	

The Hollambies of Ightham

George Hollambie (i2485⁶⁷) was recorded as "alias Nicholas" at the baptism of William. Thomas was recorded as the son of "George Nicholas and Joane" and the last George as the "son of George Nicholas". In addition to the inclusion of Joane's name at the baptism of Thomas, her name was also given at the baptisms of John, George and William.

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
i2485	<u>HOLLAMBIE, George</u> -----			Joane Hollambie(m) i2486	1	4	
• i2487	<u>HOLLAMBIE, John</u>	15 May 1636					0 0
• i2488	<u>HOLLAMBIE, George</u>	20 Aug 1637					0 0
• i2490	<u>HOLLAMBIE, William</u>	20 Jan 1639					0 0
• i2491	<u>HOLLAMBIE, Thomas</u>	17 May 1640					0 0
• i2539	<u>HOLLAMBIE, George</u>	17 Jan 1647					0 0 17 Feb 1647

In **Shipbourne**, on 27th March 1645, **John Hollamby** (\$2009) married **Joan Baker** (\$2010).

⁶⁷ "i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database, \$ on in that for Shipbourne

1 In the name of god Amen. The 12 day of May
2 in the year of our Lord god 1583, I, Elizabeth Hombe, **widow**, of the parish
of
3 Speldhurst in the diocese of Rochester, sick in body but of good and perfect
4 remembrance, thanks be to god, do make and ordain this my last will and
testament
5 in manner and form following: **First** and principally I bequeath my soul
6 to Almighty god, my creator, redeemer and saviour and my body to be
buried
7 in the earth from whence it was taken forth. **Item:** I will and bequeath
8 all my goods and cattells unto **my three children, John Hombe, George
Hombe** and
9 **Marie Hombe**, to be governed and ordered by the chief of the parishioners
of
10 Speldhurst aforesaid at their discretion, both my children and goods, and to
see my
11 debts paid. In witness hereof: **John Grombreg de Phamham, Robert
Stretfield**,
12 and **Richard Pry**, the writer hereof.

John Homeden of Cowden

The will of John Homeden (or Holmden, **CKS: Drb/Pwr 13.356 (or 357)**) was written on the 8th February 1568. John had two brothers, Thomas and Richard and two married sisters all with children. He thought his wife might be pregnant so the will had to include provision for the possible child which differed depending on whether it was a boy or a girl. He also had a son Simon who could have been by a first wife rather than Margaret, whom he made his executrix.

The will, dated 1566 (**CKS: Drb/Pwr 13.279, Drb/Pw 8**), of Richard Homeden (or Holmden) of Cowden has also survived but it has not been investigated. Particularly since John had a brother Richard, this will could have been that of John's father.

Will of John Homeden of Cowden

written 8th February 1567/8
transcript from probate copy

- 1 In the name of God Amen. The 8th day
- 2 of February Anno 1567, I, John Homeden of

3 Cowden in the county of Kent And in the ??
4 of ?? being often sick in body but perfect
5 of remembrance, thanks be given to god, do ordain
6 and make this my last will and testament
7 in manner and form following: **First:** I bequeath
8 my soul to Almighty God, my creator
9 and redeemer and my body to be buried in the church
10 yard of Cowden aforesaid.. **Item:** I give to every
11 one of **my brother Thomas's** children 12d
12 a piece and to every one of **my sister Bothing's**
13 children 12d. And to every one of **my sister**
14 **Michael's** children 12d. **Item:** I give **William**
15 **Homeden, the son of my brother Richard,** one
16 bullock of a year's age. **Item:** I will that if
17 it happen my wife be with child at my
18 at the time of my death and the same be a man child
19 that then I will give and bequeath to the
20 same child £10 of currant money of England
21 to be paid when he cometh to the age of
22 21 years. **Item:** I will that if the same be a
23 woman child that then I will give and
24 bequeath to the same child £5 of lawful
25 money of England. **Item:** I will give and

26 bequeath to **Symond Homenen, my son**, if
27 my wife not be with child as is aforesaid
28 £10 of currant money of England to be paid
29 to him when he cometh to the age of 21
30 years. And if it happen my wife to be with
31 a woman child as is aforesaid, then I
32 will the said Symond, my son, shall have
33 but £5 of currant money of England to
34 be paid as is aforesaid. **Item:** I will give
35 and bequeath to the said Symond, my son,
36 7 pairs of my best sheets, my best brass
37 pan, my greatest brass pot, one table and
38 a form, a cupboard and one featherbed with
39 all things thereunto belonging. **Item:** I will
40 that if my wife be with child as is afore
41 said, then I give to the same child one
42 flock bed with all things thereunto

page 2:

43 belonging. And if my wife be not with such
44 child, then I will and give such flock bed
45 to the said Symond, my son. **Item:** I give to
46 the said Symond, my son, 2 kine. And all

47 my chests saving 2 chests which were my
48 wife's before I did marry her which said two
49 chests I give to my said wife. **Item:** I will
50 that my overseers shall sell to ?? of my
51 said son 4 ?? of ?? and ??. **Item:**
52 I will that my overseers by virtue of this
53 my will shall see my corn had into the barn
54 ?? ?? my wife, 10 bushels of
55 wheat and 10 bushels of oats as of my gift.
56 and the residue of my said corn to be sold by
57 my overseers and to be employed to the use of
58 the said Symond, my son, All the residue
59 of my goods and cattells not before bequeathed,
60 my debts and legacies paid and this my
61 last willperformed, I give and bequeath to
62 **Margaret, my wife**, whom I ordain and
63 make my sole executrix of this my last
64 will and testament to see me honestly
65 buried and this my last will performed.
66 **Item:** I ordain and make **Thomas Homeden,**
67 **my brother**, and **John Hills**, my overseers of
68 this my last will and each one of them to
69 have for their pains 2s 4d over and above

70 theri necessary charge.

71 **This is** also the last will of me the
72 said John Homeden for the disposition of my
73 lands and tenements. **Item:** I will give and
74 bequeath to Symond Homeden, my son,
75 and to the heirs male of his body lawfully
76 begotten forever all those my lands and tenements
77 situated, lying and being in Cowden aforesaid
78 And for lack of such issue to remain to the
79 right heirs male of me, the said John Homeden
80 And these being witness **Philip ??**
81 ?? **Nicholas Oxley,** and others

The Hookes of Shipbourne

Alexander Hooke (\$1040⁶⁸) had two children:

- **John** (\$1042) baptised 30 Jan 1612
- **Elizabeth** (\$1321) 22 Apr 1621

On 13th January 1644, **Joane**, daughter of Elizabeth Hooke, was baptised. Elizabeth was buried a week later, on 20th January, and Joane (\$1918) on 4th February.

Mary (\$1041), wife of Alexander Hooke, was buried on 2nd September 1638.

68 \$ indicates a reference in the Shipbourne database

The Hookers of Ightham

Thomas Hooker (i2524⁶⁹) and his wife **Anne** (i2525) had four children baptised in Ightham:

-	John	i2526	14 Feb 1642	“born and baptised the same day”
-	Thomas	i2527	6 May 1644	
-	Margaret	i2528	21 Mar 1646	
-	Stephen	i2624	30 Apr 1649	

69 “i” indicates a reference in the Ightham database

The Hornes of Shipbourne

The will of Edward Horne who died on 4th April 1573 and was buried the next day, has survived (**CKS: Drb/Pw 11; Drb/Pwr 14.131**) but it has not been investigated. It was proved at the beginning of 1574. According to the parish registers a Edward Horne had six children baptised in the 1560s but the testator could have been the grandfather of these children. There was also a Robert Horne who had three children in the 1560s.

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
\$4 ⁷⁰	<u>HORNE, Edward</u> -----				1	6	
• \$6	<u>HORNE, John</u>	27 Oct 1560			0	0	
• \$24	<u>HORNE, Esay</u>				0	0	18 Feb 1562
• \$41	<u>Horne, Mabel</u>	22 May 1564			0	0	
• \$42	<u>Horne, Rebecca</u>	12 Dec 1565			0	0	
• \$76	<u>Horne, Johane</u>	7 Mar 1568			0	0	
• \$77	<u>HORNE, Edward</u>	23 Sep 1570			0	0	

70 \$ indicates a reference in the Shipbourne database

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
\$70	<u>HORNE, Robert</u> -----				1	3	
• \$73	<u>Horne, Dorothy</u>				0	0	13 Oct 1567
• \$72	<u>Horne, Elizabeth</u>	16 Jan 1569			0	0	
• \$112	<u>Horne, Johane</u>	3 Aug 1573			0	0	

Richard Hosmer, broadweaver of Brenchley

Richard Hosmer's will (CKS: Drb/Pw 21; Drb/Pwr 20.624) was written, in August 1611, by George Salmon who wrote a number of wills of which this is the earliest one which has been found. Four other wills from Brenchley and one from Ightham written by George Salmon have been discovered, the latest of these was written in 1640. Since not even all the surviving Brenchley wills for this period have been investigated, he could have written many more. The heir and executor of the will of William Gardner was William Were (or Ware) of Brenchley which could explain why the George Salmon wrote the will of a man from a village about nine miles north of Brenchley.

A George Salmon of Yalding was mentioned by both John and William Huggens of East Peckham in their wills of 1631 with William making George Salmon, who was his brother-in-law, one of his executors. This George had a son, also called George but it is likely that the father was the scriptor of the wills. The wills from Yalding need to be examined since some of these could have been written by George Salmon. Yalding is about six miles north of Brenchley.

The right hand side of Richard's will has rotted so that the end of the lines have "disappeared" - the word in { } brackets have been assumed from the context.

Only the first page has been transcribed and, if more details are required, the probate copy should be investigated.

Will of **Richard Hosmer**, broadweaver of Brenchley

written 24th August 1611

transcript from original

1 In the name of god Amen. the 24th day of August⁷¹ in {the 9th year of}
2 the reign of our most Gracious Sovereign Lord King James, by the grace of
god King of England, {France}
3 and Ireland, defender of the faith, etc. and of Scotland the 45th, Anno Dm.
{1611, I,}
4 Richard Hosmer of Brenchley in the county of Kent, **broadweaver**, being⁷²
sick {in body}
5 but of good and perfect remembrance, thanks be given unto Almighty god,
do make ??
6 this my present testament and last will in manner and form following
(videlt): {**First** and}

71 changed from "first day of February" with the other date references being amended as necessary

72 definitely "benige" here

7 principally I commit my soul into the hands of Almighty god, my only
saviour
8 and my body to be buried at the discretion of my executor here(after
named. **Item:**)
9 I give and bequeath unto the poor people of Brenchley aforesaid 13s (4d . .
. . .)
10 and distributed amongst them by my executore at the day of my burial.
(**Item:** I)
11 give and bequeath unto **Anne, my wife**, twenty pounds of lawful money of
(England to be)
12 paid unto her, or her assigns, by mine executor within six months (next
13 after my decease. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto my said wife . . .
14 in the chamber over the hall. Also the bed whereupon I lie being in the
same . . .
15 and all the things belonging unto the same bed. Further I give and
bequeath unto my
16 wife a joined chest standing? next the cupboard and two other small chests
17 ?? **Item:** I give and bequeath unto the said Anne, my wife, ten pairs (of
18 sheets of her own choice, the half of my pewter and of my brass and . . .
19 of my small wooden vessels as dishes, cups, platters, troughs . . .

written by George Salmon

Sir Raff Houghton, vicar of Hadlow

In his will which was proved on 19th September 1513, (CKS: Drb/Pwr 6.363), Sir Raff Houghton, vicar, asked to be buried in the “[belfry of the church of Hadlow](#)”

How can anyone be buried in a belfry?

At the March 1582 Assizes, a number of men including John Howell (\$186), labourer, of Shipbourne were indicted for grand larceny and burglary⁷⁴.

The first indictment was that of:

Philip Mathew	t710 ⁷⁵	collier	of Tonbridge
John Selden	\$2296	labourer	of Shipbourne
John Hunter		shingler	of Hadlow

for grand larceny and burglary. Sometime in 1581 “they broke into the close of Thomas Everest at North Frith and stole a sheep (?)” - *the record was badly damaged.*

On 15th December 1581, the above three plus “John Howell (\$186) of Shipbourne burgled the house of Robert Grene while Robert, Catherine his wife and their four children were there, and stole £4 8s 4d in money” - *again badly damaged*

On 22nd January 1582, the above four plus:

John Reynolds	i860	labourer	of Ightham
John Turner, sen.			}
Thomas Turner		husbandman	} of Cowden
Stephen Wyllarde		butcher	}

burgled the house of John Rolfe at West Peckham while “John, Thomasine his wife and Isabella Roberts, a servant, were there and stole 8 pairs of sheets (?), several tablecloths (5s 4d), 8 rails (?), 3 crosscloths and 4 neckerchiefs (6s 8d), several pillowbars and a cupboard-cloth (8s), a diaper napkin and three table-napkins (20d), 3 rails and an apron (5s), 2 silver rings, 2 silver pins and 2 silver clasps (6s), 5s 3d in money, [?] in money from a chest, a man’s cap (2s 6d), a hanger (?), 6 cheeses (4s) and a sack (6d).”

74 Cockburn (Eliz.I); 1100

75 “t” indicates a reference in the Tonbridge database, \$ in that for Shipbourne and “i” in that for Ightham

The following three were indicted as accessories:

William Blatcher	\$700	shingler	} of Shipbourne
Richard Hunter	\$2299	paler	}
Silvester Swan	i831	sailor	of Ightham

Thomas Turner was at large. Two of the accessories, Blatcher and Swan, were found not guilty. The others were found guilty and sentenced to hang.

The Two Wives of John Howell

Margerie (\$187), wife of **John Howell** (\$186) was buried on 28th March 1581 and, on 20th August 1581 John married **Agnes Guilder** (\$191). This was before the burglary at Robert Grene's house.

On 7th August 1585, Agnes, widow of John Howell, married **Tobias Seldon** (\$309). Agnes could have been a widow because her first husband was the John Howell executed for the above crimes.

No children were recorded for any of these marriages.

The Hubbles of Seal, Ightham & Shipbourne

There were a number of Hubbles in these villages but, except for John of Seal whose children are given below, all the items in the registers are isolated events.

John Hubble of Seal

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
#2914 ⁷⁶	<u>HUBBLE, John</u> -----				3	9	
	<i>Marriage 1</i>						
#2919	<u>his wife, Jane</u> -----				1	1	2 Aug 1617
• #2920	<u>Hubble, Alice/Agnes</u>	16 Jul 1615			0	1	21 Oct 1643
• • #2921	<u>HUBBLE, John</u> ⁷⁷	21 Apr 1643			0	0	7 Oct 1643
	<i>Marriage 2</i>						
#2922	<u>his wife, Alice</u> -----				1	8	15 Jun 1638

⁷⁶ # indicates a reference in the Seal database, "i" in that for Ightham and \$ in that for Shipbourne

⁷⁷ John's baptism refers to him as "son of Alice Hubble, a bastard", his mother was buried two weeks after her son when she was 27

• #2923	<u>HUBBLE, John</u>	22 Aug 1619	0 0	
• #2924	<u>Hubble, Dorothy</u>	21 Jan 1621	0 0	
• #2925	<u>HUBBLE, Isaac</u>	22 Dec 1622	0 0	Mar 1623
• #2926	<u>Hubble, Susanna</u>	6 Feb 1625	0 0	
• #2927	<u>HUBBLE, Richard</u>	15 Apr 1627	0 0	
• #2928	<u>Hubble, Margery</u>	1 Nov 1629	0 0	
• #2929	<u>Hubble, Ellen</u>	23 Oct 1632	0 0	
• #2930	<u>Hubble, Elizabeth</u>	8 Nov 1635	"da. of John and Alice"	0 0

A John Hubble married **Margaret Lamberd** (#2931) in Seal, on 8th September 1639 and this could possibly have been the third marriage of #2914.

The Ightham Hubbles

In Ightham, on 22nd July 1562, **Robert** (i363⁷⁸), son of **John Hubble** (i361) was baptised. The only other event recorded in Ightham before 1659 was the baptism of **Elizabeth** (i2542), the daughter of **Nicholas** (i2540) and **Elizabeth Hubble** (i2541) on 9th February 1646.

On 19 Oct 1604, **William Warren** was brought before the Ightham Court for receiving a stranger, **John Hubble**, and was to be fined £5 if Hubble stayed without sureties being found - see [Warren in More Families & Transcripts](#). If John was #2914 from Seal (see above) he was probably in his late teens in 1604 and spent another ten years moving around before marrying and settling in Seal.

About two years after his first marriage, John was fined 5s for trespassing on the lord of Ightham's manor by beating down most of trees growing on the common of the lord and not being a tenant of the manor (Court Rolls, Ightham, 1937, p.209). Thus, at that time, he was not living in Ightham.

The Shipbourne Hubbles

On 26th May 1618, **John Hubble** (\$1245⁷⁹) married **Alice Taylor** (\$1254)

On 26th July 1618, **Dorothy Hubble** (\$1255) married **George Lambe** (\$1246).

⁷⁹ \$ indicates a reference in the Shipbourne database

Will of William Huckinge of Frindsbury

This will (CKS: Drb/Pw 16; Drb/Pwr 18.26) was written, in 1593, by William Grell, minister. It has not been investigated.

The Huggens of East Peckham

Four Huggens (Huggen) wills have survived from East Peckham:

	written	proved		
Nicholas Huggins	16 Feb 1630/1		CKS: Prs/w/8/44	page 2.h.144
John Huggen	2 Jun 1631		PCC: St John 80; Prob 11/160	page 2.h.165
William Huggens	1 Dec 1631		CKS: Prs/w/8/45	page 2.h.190
Henry Huggins	15 Apr 1644	26 Jul 1644	CKS: Prs/w/8/90	page 2.h.152

The will of John Huggen was written by John Hooper, notary public and parish clerk of Tonbridge, who wrote a large number of wills.

Henry Huggins was the son of Nicholas but there were a large number of Huggens in the East Peckham area, many of whom are mentioned by John and William.

The will of Thomas Huggins of Sundridge has been transcribed - see page 2.h.198
There were also a large number of Huggens in Shipbourne - see page 2.h.207

Nicholas Huggins of East Peckham

The Preamble to His Will

The religious preamble to this will is both long and unusual: "considering the frailty of man and how necessary it is for every Christian to be in continual readiness for death whensoever the good pleasure of Almighty god shall be to call, do ordain and declare this my last will and testament in manner and form following, viz. First: I commend my soul to the hands and tuition of Almighty God, most humbly beseeching him even from the bottom of my heart to forgive me all my sins and offences for his son's sake, Christ Jesus, by whom my faith is most steadfastly to be saved and that it may please him, in this my sickness, to assist me with his holy spirit that whether I die or live I may be one of his flock and chosen children and partaker of that heavenly kingdom which is prepared for all believers through the mercy and merits of Christ, our saviour. The burial of my body I leave to the discretion of my executors not doubting but that they will so convey it into the earth as the body of him that in it at the last day doth most constantly believe to see his saviour and redeemer and be made partaker of his glorious resurrection."

This will was probably written by Francis Shakerly but such a detailed preamble must reflect, at least to a certain extent, the beliefs of the testator.

Nicholas's Family

Nicholas had a son and four daughters, two married, two single. Elizabeth was married to Richard Backlyn and, like her two unmarried sisters, she was to receive thirty pounds. Susan, the other married daughter, was to receive only a brass stupnet and twelve pence. Twelve pence was the amount often left by parents to a child whom they did not want to leave a legacy. By leaving this small amount, the parent showed that the child had not been forgotten and therefore they could not contest the will. This is unlikely to have been the reason here. From Henry's will we know that Susan's husband was Robert Plumley, gent. and was therefore probably in less need of money than Elizabeth.

Henry, Nicholas's son and executor, had to find ninety pounds to pay his other sisters within a year of his father's death so that the Huggins must have been a prosperous family. Although described as a yeoman, Nicholas looks to have been engaged in the cloth trade since he left all the "[hemp that is not dressed out and all my tow and yarn that is spun and my new cloth](#)" to Margaret and Mary..

			e94 ⁸⁰	Nicholas -					
<i>will:</i>				16 Feb 1631					
	e99	e133	e100	e138	e101	e139	e102	e132	
	Henry -	Katherine	Elizabeth -	Richard	Susan -	Robert	Margaret	Mary	
				Backlyn		Plumley			
<i>will:</i>	15 Apr 1644								
	e134	e135	e136	e137		e162			
	Henry	Nicholas	Elizabeth	Susan		Susan			

Nicholas's pewter was to be divided equally between his son, Henry, and his unmarried daughters, Margaret and Mary, with many other household items being left to Margaret and Mary:

- 2 bedsteads, a featherbed, 2 flockbeds
- 4 feather pillows "of the best sort"
- 5 bolsters (1 feather, 2 flock, 2 unspecified)
- blankets and 8 pairs of sheets
- small linen, viz: napkins, pillowcases and tablecloths.
- six chests standing in the best parlour "with each of them two boxes"
- brass: 2 skillets, 2 kettles, 2 candlesticks and a little brass pot
- 2 green cushions and a spit

- the table behind the painted cloth
- 2 barrels (one of which was a beer barrel)
- 2 linen wheels

Will of Nicholas Huggins of East Peckham

written 16th February 1630/1
transcript from original

- 1 In the name of god Amen. I, Nicholas Huggins of East Peckham in the
county of Kent,
- 2 **yeoman**, being sick of body yet of perfect sense and memory, thanks be to
god, and the ?? 6th
- 3 day of February in Anno dom. 1630 and in the sixth year of the reign of our
sovereign Lord Charles,
- 4 by the grace of god king of England, Scotland, France and Ireland,
defender of the faith, etc. considering

5 the frailty of man and how necessary it is for every Christian⁸¹ to be in
continual readiness for death
6 whensoever the good pleasure of Almighty god shalbe to call, do ordain
and declare this my
7 last will and testament in manner and form following, viz. **First:** I
commend my soul
8 to the hands and tuition of Almighty God, most humbly beseeching him
even from the bottom of
9 my heart to forgive me all my sins and offences for his son's sake, Christ
Jesus, by
10 whom my faith is most steadfastly to be saved and that it may please him,
in this my sickness, to
11 assist me with his holy⁸² spirit that whether I die or live I may be one of his
flock and chosen
12 children and partaker of that heavenly kingdom which is prepared for all
believers through the mercy and
13 merits of Christ, our saviour. The burial of my body I leave to the discretion
of my executors

81 xpian

82 "wholie"

14 not doubting but that they will so convey it into the earth as the body of
him that in it at the last
15 day doth most constantly believe to see his saviour and redeemer and be
made partaker of his
16 glorious resurrection. And as concerning my children and the residue of
my friends and such things
17 as I mean to distribute and bestow amongst them, this is my full will,
purpose and determination.
18 And first therefore, I will, give and bequeath unto **my son Henry Huggins**
all my lands and
19 tenements lying and being in East Peckham whom I make my sole
executor⁸³ to him and his heirs forever. **Item:** I
20 will, give and bequeath unto **my daughter, Elizabeth Backlyn**, thirty
pounds of current english money to be paid within one
21 year after my decease, if she happen to live, by my son Henry Huggins, my
executor. And if it
22 happen the same to be unpaid within one whole year after my decease that
then it shall and may be
23 lawful for the aforesaid Elizabeth to distress and distrain upon any part or
parcel of my lands afore

83 in spite of writing "executors . . . they" on lines 13 and 14

24 mentioned. **Item:** I will, give and bequeath unto **my daughter, Susan**
25 **Plumley**, one brass stupnet and twelve
26 pence of money. **Item:** I will, give and bequeath unto **my daughter**
27 **Margaret** thirty pounds of current
28 english money to be paid within one whole year after my decease, if she
29 happen to live, by my son Henry
30 Huggins, my executor. And if it happen to be unpaid within one whole
31 year after my decease that then it shall
32 and may be lawful for the aforesaid Margaret to distress and distrain upon
33 any part or parcel of the
34 lands afore mentioned. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **Mary Huggins, my**
daughter, thirty pounds of
current english money to be paid within one whole year after my decease,
if she happen to live,
by my son Henry Huggins, my executor. And if it happen to be unpaid
within one whole year after my
decease that then it shall and may be lawful for the aforesaid Mary to
distress and distrain
upon any part or parcel of the afore mentioned lands. **Item:** I give and
bequeath unto my daughter
Margaret Huggins one featherbed and one flockbed and one bedstead with
two bolsters and blankets and

35 all things belonging to them presently after my decease. **Item:** I give and
bequeath unto my daughter Margaret Huggins
36 four pairs of sheets. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto my daughter Mary
Huggins the bedstead
37 which I lie upon with one flockbed, one feather bolster and two flock
bolsters and two blankets and four
38 pairs of sheets that are shifted already. This is my will and determination
that they shall have the
39 moveables presently after my decease. **Item:** I give and bequeath to
Margaret and Mary
40 Huggins all my small linen, viz: napkins, pillowcases and tablecloths.
Item: I give and bequeath and
41 my mind and determination is that my son Henry Huggins, Margaret
Huggins and Mary Huggins,

page 2:

42 presently after my decease, shall divide all my pewter to be divided equally
betwixt them three. **Item:**
43 I give and bequeath unto my daughters, Margaret and Mary, six chests
standing in my best parlour
44 with each of them two boxes. **Item:** It is my mind and intent to give to my
daughters, Margaret and

45 Mary, each of them two feather pillows a piece of the best sort. **Item:** I give
and bequeath unto my
46 daughter Margaret four pieces of brass viz: two skillets, one kettle and one
brass candlestick, the
47 least spit, the table behind the painted cloth, one barrel and one linen
wheel. **Item:** I give
48 and bequeath unto Mary, my daughter, one little brass kettle, one little
brass pot and the best brass candlestick
49 and one beer barrel and one linen wheel. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto
my daughters,
50 Margaret Huggins and Mary Huggins, two green cushions⁸⁴, all my hemp
that is not
51 dressed out and all my tow and yarn that is spun and my new cloth. This
is my full
52 determination and mind that these moveable goods which I have
mentioned to be distributed to my
53 two daughters Margaret Huggins and Mary Huggins presently after my
decease. This is my last
54 will and testament and determination. In witness whereof I have put my
hand
55 and seal, dated the day and year first above written.

84 "cushins"

It is my meaning and intent that my two kinsmen
William Huggins and **Richard Backlyn** should
be the overseers of this my will to see the same
performed according as before prescribed.

The mark and seal of Nicholas Huggins

Sealed in the presence
of **Francis Shakerley**

William Huggins and Richard Backlyn

The mark of Richard Backlyn

Henry Huggins, yeoman

At the time of his death the house in which Henry lived lay between land owned by the Earl of Westmoreland land owned by William Huggins, the son of Thomas Huggins of East Peckham. No relationship to Henry is given for William and his father. He also had “[a messuage or tenement and two acres of land](#)” which was to “[be sold at the best rate for and towards payment](#)” of his debts by his wife Katherine who was his executrix..

Henry had two sons and two daughters, all under twenty-one. He left his house, etc. to his son Henry who was to give Nicholas £20 and Elizabeth and Susan £5 each, when they came to the age of twenty-one. Until Henry came of age, Katherine was to have the profit from all the lands “[towards the maintenance and bringing up](#)” of the four children. One of Henry’s overseers was his brother-in-law Robert Plumley, the husband of his sister Susan.

Amongst other things Henry left two interesting pieces of furniture to his son Henry:

- a great wainscott cupboard
- three new oaken planks and the frame of the table standing in the hall; the oaken planks probably formed the top of the table.

1 In the name of god Amen. I, Henry Huggins of East Peckham in the
2 county of Kent, **yeoman**, being sick and weak in body but of sound and
3 perfect memory, praised be god therefore, do make and ordain this
4 my last will and testament in manner and form following: viz.

5 **Imprimis:** I will and bequeath my soul into the hands of my blessed
6 saviour and redeemer, Jesus Christ, hoping through his merits to be
7 saved and my body to be buried in the churchyard of the parish
8 church of East Peckham aforesaid.

9 **Item:** I will and my desire is that a messuage or tenement and two acres
10 of land thereunto adjoining, commonly called or known by the name of
11 Xpoles⁸⁵ be sold at the best rate for and towards payment of my debts to
12 be⁸⁶ done and paid by my executrix hereafter named.

13 **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **my son Henry** the house wherein I
14 now dwell together with the barns and all other out houses, orchards,

85 the beginning looks like an abbreviation similar to that used for "Sir" (Sir Roger Twisden- line 20); perhaps the name was "Sirpoles"

86 "bee", "hee" etc. from her onwards but "be" on line 7

15 gardens, closes and other hereditaments thereunto belonging, containing
in
16 all by estimation, one acre, more or less, and one little croft of land
17 lying between the land of the now Earl of Westmoreland and the
18 lands of **William Huggins, son of Thomas Huggins of East Peckham,**
19 and another field called **Broadfield** encompassed round with the lands
20 of **Sir Roger Twisden, knight** and baronet, and my will and intent
21 is that the said Henry shall not have the premises before bequeathed unto
him
22 until he shall attain his full age of one and twenty years and then forever.
23 **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **my son Nicholas** the sum of twenty pounds
24 of lawful english money, the same to be paid by my son Henry when
25 the said Nicholas shall attain to his age of one and twenty years.
26 **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **my daughter Elizabeth** the sum of five
27 pounds of like lawful money, the same to be paid unto her by her brother
Henry
28 when she shall attain her age of one and twenty years.
29 **Item:** I give and bequeath to **my daughter Susan** the sum of five pounds
now
30 to be paid unto her by her brother Henry when she shall attain her age of
one
31 and twenty years and my will is that if either of my daughters die without

32 issue or before payment of the same, the survivor to retrieve her part or
portion.
33 **Item:** I give and bequeath unto my son Henry the bed and bedstead with
the
34 bolster and pillows, coverlet and blankets thereunto belonging as it now
standeth
35 in the parlour and one great wainscott cupboard standing in the hall and
three
36 new oaken planks and the frame of the table in the hall standing

page 2;

37 **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **Katherine, my wife**, all my stock of corn
38 and cattle and all the rest of my household stuff not before bequeathed
39 and my will, intent and meaning is that my wife shall take and receive all
40 the profits of all and singular my lands until such time as my sons attain
41 to their, or either of their, ages of one and twenty years, for and towards the
42 maintenance and bringing up of all my children. And my will is that my
43 executrix pay all my debts out of the money arising upon the sale of
44 Xpoles and out of the stock which I shall leave her. And I do hereby
45 nominate, make and ordain my loving wife my sole executrix of this my
46 present will and testament.

47 And I do hereby require my loving **brother-in-law Robert Plumley** of

48 East Peckham aforesaid, gent., and my loving friend **Richard Wakelyn** of
49 East Peckham aforesaid, cordwainer, my overseers, to look and see to the
50 due performance of this my will.

51 In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this fifteenth
52 day of April in the twentieth year of the reign of our sovereign lord
53 Charles, by the grace of God, king of England, Scotland, France and
Ireland,
54 defender of the faith, etc. Anno Dm 1644

Read, published and declared to be the last
will and testament of the said Henry Huggins
and by him signed and sealed the same day in
the presence of **Thomas Be??**⁸⁷

the mark of
Thomas Cheeseman

87 probably the scriptot; Thomas Cheeseman's mark was a vertical cross

John Huggens of East Peckham

John Huggens of Hale Street in East Peckham was another rich yeoman with connections to a number of other parishes.

He mentions yarn but also had a variety of animals - swine, poultry, kyne and sheep - as well as corn, grain and hay. His wife, Elizabeth, seems to have been well provided for being left all his household stuff “provided that no money nor plate shall be part of my household stuff”.

If, however, she was not “content with that portion of my estate and yearly pension and payments as I have formerly appointed unto her in full satisfaction and recompense of all such jointure, dower and demand as she shall or might or may have recover, . . . then I will and give all my household stuff, kyne and cattell before mentioned to mine executors. And her said annuity or yearly payment of thirty pounds formerly to her given shall cease, . . . determine. And my said executors shall pay unto her only twenty shillings.”

The widow of Laurence Huggins seems to be a poor relation. She was to receive 5s and her daughters, one by Laurence and the other by her first husband, 1s 8d (£0.08) each.

The arrangements for his “[loving brother Richard](#)” and his family consist of a number of annuities: £5 to Richard but, on his death, £4 to his wife Johane and after the death of both Richard and his wife, £4 to their son Richard. But, if either his brother or nephew were “[discontent or troublesome for any other farther or greater part, portion, estate or demand into my goods, lands or tenements, . . . I will and give to them only one shilling a piece](#)”.

His executors were Thomas Engleton of East Peckham and George Baker of Seal who was probably the George Baker (#2118) who died in October 1632. The connection between the testator and George Baker is not known.

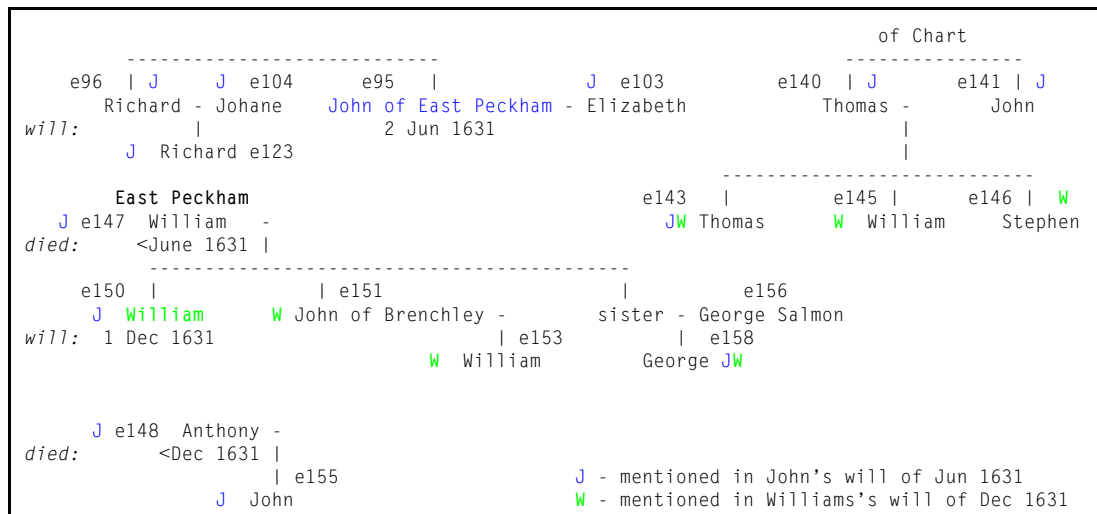
John's Connections with Other Parishes

John was of **Hale Street** in East Peckham which is about 0.75 miles northeast of the centre of East Peckham. The land belonging to the house in which he lived was partly in East Peckham and partly in the adjacent parish of **Nettlestead**. John had connections with a number of other localities (the distances given are from the centre of East Peckham):

- John owned a messuage, etc. in **Chart near to Town Sutton** to the poor of which he left £1 a year for four years. The parish of Chart Sutton is about 9 miles east of East Peckham.
- **Yalding** (2.25 miles north east) and **Linton** (6 miles east); he left £1 to each the poor of each of these parishes.
- he owned a parcel of land at **Chetley Cross** purchased from a man from the parish of **Ashe** (northwest of Canterbury) but the land need not have been in Ashe.
- John gave £10 to Robert Thompson and his wife of **Chatham**
- one of his executors was from East Peckham but the other, George Baker, was of **Seal** (9 miles north west)
- **Staplehurst** (about 8.5 miles north-north-east) where John also owned land

The Huggen Relationships

Below is a diagram showing the various Huggens mentioned in the wills of John and William both written in 1631.



John mentions Thomas, son of Thomas of Chart, in 1631 when he was under twenty-three. William, at the end of 1631, mentions William and Stephen,

underage sons of Thomas of Chart. These look like younger brothers of the Thomas (e143) who was left half of John's land in Chart and Staplehurst.

One of the pieces of land John owned in East Peckham was a messuage called Haleplace which included a smith's forge and this was left to William, son of William Huggens, deceased. The William who wrote his will in 1631 owned Haleplace with the smith's forge and he was therefore e95's legatee. William was also to have half of the barn and close adjoining the highway leading from Halestreet to Smithwaygreen. In 1631, Haleplace with the smith's forge was left to William's nephew, another William Huggins and the son of John of Brenchley.

The other half of John's barn and close was to go to George Salmon of Yalding who was one of John's major legatees being left "[all that messuage or tenement wherein I, the said John Huggen now do dwell and the barns, buildings, yards, gardens, orchards and lands arable, meadow and pasture](#)" as well as many other pieces of land etc. John also mentions George's son, another George.

One of William's executors was to be George Salmon, his brother-in-law, the other being his brother John of Brenchley.

The widow of Laurence Huggens, is not shown in the above diagram. Laurence was her second husband and she had a daughter by both husbands.

The Inheritance of John's Land

John's wife, Elizabeth, was to hold some of his land for a year after his decease but, after that, the division between his various heirs was complicated particularly since some items were divided between two people.

There were two brothers, Thomas and John Huggens of Chart whose relationship to John, the testator, is not known but Thomas had a son, also called Thomas, who was the testator's godson. Thomas, the father, was living in a "messuage or tenement" which was owned by the testator. This included "barns, stables, houses, buildings, closes, yards, gardens, orchard land, meadows, pastures, feedings, woods, ways, waters, commodities and appurtenances". John left half of this and all his other lands and tenements in Chart and Staplehurst to his godson with the other half going to his godson's uncle John. His godson was under twenty-three when John wrote his will and until he reached that age his father was to "enjoy the moiety or one half" of the premises he was living in. It was Thomas and John who were to be responsible for the £4 to be paid to the poor and also for £20 of the annuity the testator had left to his wife.

John appears to have owned five messuages in East Peckham. Haleplace which included a smith's forge, together with a number of other pieces of land in East Peckham, were left to William, son of William Huggens, deceased. From the

description of this land we know that the highway between East Peckham and Yalding passed through Smithwaygreen. William was to be responsible for paying the annuities to John's brother Richard and his family.

William was to have only one half of the barn and close adjoining the highway from Halestreet to Smithwaygreen with the other half going to George Salmon of Yalding.

In addition, George Salmon was to inherit the “[message or tenement](#)” in which John lived. together with the “[barns, buildings, yards, gardens, orchards and lands arable, meadow and pasture with their appurtenances to the same belonging \(except the half orchard formerly willed to William Huggens\).](#)”

Then there was the message, also at Halestreet which had belonged to the testator's father. This was left to another John Huggens, son of Anthony Huggens of Brasted, together with other land in East Peckham.

John's brother Richard, to whom he had left the annuity, lived in another message belonging to John. Richard was to have it for his lifetime but on his decease it was to go to George Salmon, the younger.

There was yet a fifth message occupied by George Shirbrooke who was to be allowed to occupy it for a year after John's decease “[without any wilful hurt or](#)

waste to be made or done thereto” John also forgave George all “such rents and money” as George owed him. At the end of the year George was to give the message to William Wooden⁸⁸ of Shipbourne who was to have it until John, his son, the testator’s godson, reached the age of twenty-three, at which time John was to inherit it.

But there was a condition attached to the Wooden inheritance: they were to “make, keep and maintain the dyke and a sufficient fence at the farther end of the said backside where I . . . have caused marks to be set and where I do purpose . . . to make a dyke and fence and to lay a part of the said backside and of the water there to my other lands adjoining for a convenient watering place to the same”.

The End of the Will

Not surprisingly, as John’s “testament and last will, contained in thirteen sheets of paper” drew to its close, it was realised that there were numerous complicated arrangements: “whereas I have appointed certain of my lands to be laid to one person and certain to another, for convenience I will that the division and the

⁸⁸ there was a William Wooden in Shipbourne (\$975) who had a son William baptised in 1634. He could have had an elder son born before 1631.

ordering of fences to be made to divide the same shall be done by the consent of my executors whom I have acquainted with my mind”.

Also “in the second, third, seventh, eighth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth sheets whereof there are some small things interlined by my appointment before the ensealing” and these might have led to difference between the various legatees. This problem had also been foreseen: “And likewise, if any other question or doubt be or shall arise between any the legatories in this my will touching any thing or matter contained in this my will, my desire is that my said executors, if they may conveniently, shall and will order and determine the same”.

Since the original has not been investigated (it may not have survived), it is not known whether John Hooper decorated it as he did many of the wills he wrote. Given the complications, producing it must have required not only writing skills but also Hooper’s legal knowledge. It would be very interesting to know how much was he paid for producing it

1 In the name of god Amen. The second day of June
2 in the year of our lord god one thousand six hundred and thirty and one.
And in the seventh year
3 of the reign of our sovereign lord Charles, by the grace of god king of
England, Scotland,
4 France and Ireland, defender of the faith, etc. I, John Huggen of **Halestreet**
in the parish of
5 East Peckham in the county of Kent, **yeoman**, being at this time of sound
and perfect memory
6 for which I praise god and for all other his mercies towards me⁸⁹)
notwithstanding aged and
7 sickly, and therefore as also by many other means and examples put in
mind of my last end and departure
8 out of this world, so therefore for the settling and ordering of that estate
wherewith god hath blessed
9 me, to th'end that the same may be quietly enjoyed according to my will
and mind herein declared,

89 "mee", "bee", "shee" throughout

10 ordain and make this my testament and last will in manner and form
following, that is to say
11 **First** and before all things, recommending my soul to Almighty God, my
maker, with an assured
12 hope of salvation through the merit and mediation, death, passion and
resurrection of his dear son
13 Jesus Christ, my saviour. And my body to the earth in decent manner to be
buried. I will and
14 give to the poor of East Peckham twenty shillings. To the poor of **Chart
near to Town Sutton**
15 four pounds to be paid in this manner, viz: upon every Easter day next after
my decease twenty
16 shillings until the said four pounds shall be paid. And to the poor of
Yalding and the poor of
17 **Linton** I will forty shillings, viz: to either parish twenty shillings to be paid
within one year
18 next after my decease. And to the poor of Sutton aforesaid, I will and give
also twenty shillings.
19 **Item:** upon condition that **Elizabeth, my wife**, do and shall hold herself
content with the portion of
20 my goods and estate to her appointed by this my will and shall not seek for
any other or greater

21 estate, dower or demand therein or thereunto than is hereafter mentioned
and to her by me willed and
22 given, I do will, give and bequeath to her, the said Elizabeth, all my
household stuff as well woollen
23 as linen, bedding, brass, pewter, wool, yarn or of any other name or nature
whatsoever. And also
24 all my wood and fuel that I shall have cut and prepared for mine own
spending at the time
25 of my decease. And my swine and poultry. Provided that no money nor
plate shall be part of
26 my household stuff. And also I will and give unto her four of my kyne and
one heifer and five and
27 twenty of my ewes. All the said kyne and sheep to be by her taken at her
own choice. And also
28 all the corn, grain and hay, whether in the house or barn or growing or
being in or upon the lands
29 of me, the said John Huggen, at the time of my decease. And also I will
that she shall have the
30 use and occupation of all that messuage or tenement wherein I now dwell
and of all the barns,
31 outhouses, buildings, yards, gardens and orchards thereto belonging,
together with the occupation, rent

32 and profits of all my lands, arable, meadow and pasture, with the
appurtenances unto my said
33 messuage or tenement belonging, situated, lying and being in East
Peckham aforesaid and **Nettlestead**
34 in the said county during the space only of one whole year next ensuing
after my decease and
35 likewise during that year shall have the use and occupation of my lands
called **Brickoast Field**, my
36 three crofts called **Millers**, my meadow called **Hobbs Pool Mead** and the
parcel of land at
37 **Chetley Cross** which I purchased of one ⁹⁰ **Best** of the parish of **Ashe**, she,
my said wife,
38 doing no wilful waste upon all or any of the premises. And further upon
the condition aforesaid. And
39 to recompense such other jointure, dower or demand as she shall, or may,
have, get or recover out of,
40 in or unto all or any my lands and tenements, I will, give and devise to her,
my said wife, one annuity
41 or yearly rent, charge or pension, of thirty pounds of lawful and good
english money, to be paid

90

a space left here, presumably a space was left in the original for the first name to be entered

42 unto her, or her assigns, quarterly, viz: at the feasts of St. Michael
Th'archangel, the nativity of
43 our lord Christ, the annunciation of the blessed virgin Mary and the
nativity of St. John the
44 Baptist, by equal and even portions. And the first term or time of payment
thereof to be and begin
45 at that feast of the feasts aforesaid that shall next come and be after the
said one whole
46 year next after my decease. All which yearly pension or yearly rent charge,
I will that she shall have
47 and receive as aforesaid for, by and during the whole term of her natural
life. **Item:** I will and give
48 to the **widow of Laurence Huggen** five shillings. To **her daughter by the**
said Laurence one shilling and
49 eight pence. And to her daughter by her first husband one shilling and
eight pence a piece. To be
50 paid when they shall demand the same of mine executors hereafter named
or of either of them, **Item:** I
51 will and give to **my loving brother Richard Huggen** for term of his natural
life one annuity or

52 yearly rent charge⁹¹ or pension of five pounds of of lawful english money to
be paid to him or his assigns

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53 at the feasts aforesaid by equal portions. The first term or time of payment
thereof to be and begin
54 at that feast of the same feasts that shall come and be next after my
decease. **Item:** I will that
55 from and after the decease of the said Richard, my brother, **Johane his wife**
(if she shall be then
56 living) shall be paid during her natural life at the feasts aforesaid by equal
portions the yearly
57 sum or pension of four pounds of lawful english money, viz. upon every of
the said feasts during
58 her said natural life twenty shillings. And immediately from and after the
decease of the said Richard
59 my brother and Johane his wife, I will and give to **Richard Huggen, their**
son, for term of his
60 natural life one annuity or yearly sum or pension of four pounds of lawful
english money to

91 "chardge" here but not on line 41

61 be paid to him or his assigns quarterly also, viz. upon every of the said
feasts of St. Michael
62 Th'archangel, the nativity of our lord Christ, the annunciation of the
blessed virgin Mary and
63 St. John the Baptist, by equal and even portions, viz. upon every of the said
feasts during
64 his said natural life twenty shillings. Provided always, if the said Richard
my brother and Richard
65 his son, or either of them, shall be discontent or troublesome for any other
farther or greater part, portion,
66 estate or demand into my goods, lands or tenements, or any of them there
to them, or either of them, I
67 have given or shall appoint by this will, I will and give to them only one
shilling a piece. And
68 that they shall have no other legacy, payment or portion by this my will
than only the said one
69 shilling a piece. Provided further and my will also and mind is that if the
said Elizabeth, my
70 wife, shall not be content with that portion of my estate and yearly pension
and payments
71 as I have formerly appointed unto her in full satisfaction and recompense of
all such jointure,

72 dower and demand as she shall or might or may have recover, get or obtain
out of or unto all
73 or any of my lands or tenements with their appurtenances or out of, in or
unto any part or parcel
74 thereof, then I will and give all my household stuff, kyne and cattell before
mentioned to mine
75 executors. And her said annuity or yearly payment of thirty pounds
formerly to her given shall
76 cease, end and determine. And my said executors shall pay unto her only
twenty shillings
77 which I will and give unto her, anything in this my will contained to the
contrary thereof in
78 any wise notwithstanding. **Item:** I will and give to **Robert Thompson of**
Chatham and his wife
79 ten pounds of lawful english money equally between them to be paid
within six months
80 after my decease. The residue of all other my goods and chattels not
formerly willed or disposed
81 of I will shall be and remain to **George Baker of Seal** in the county of Kent,
yeoman, and
82 to my neighbour **Thomas Engleton** of East Peckham aforesaid, yeoman, the
which George Baker

83 and Thomas Engleton I make and ordain the joint executors of this my
testament and
84 last will to see the same proved, my debts and legacies paid and to do and
perform such other
85 things and payments as hereafter in this my will, or any otherwise by any
note under my hand
86 writing, I shall appoint them or request them to do, pay or perform. And to
see my body decently
87 brought to the earth. And my will is that my said executors do honestly
account one with another
88 and do shift the remainder of my goods and chattels formerly to them
appointed equally
89 between them.

90 This is also the last will of me the said John Huggen made and declared
the second
91 day of June aforesaid in the said year of our lord god one thousand six
hundred thirty and one
92 touching the ordering and disposing of all my lands and tenements. **Item:** I
will, give and devise
93 unto **Thomas Huggen, my godson, son of Thomas Huggen** of Chart near
Town Sutton

94 aforesaid, in the county of Kent, my kinsman, and to the heirs and assigns
forever of the said
95 Thomas, my godson, the moiety or one half of all that my message or
tenement wherein
96 the said Thomas Huggen, the father, now dwelleth, situated in Chart
aforesaid. And
97 of all the barns, stables, houses, buildings, closes, yards, gardens, orchard
land, meadows, pastures,
98 feedings, woods, ways, waters, commodities and appurtenances to the said
message or tenement
99 belonging. And of all other my lands and tenements in Chart aforesaid and
Staplehurst in the said
100 county. To have and to hold the said moiety or one half of all and singular
the said message
101 or tenement, lands and all other the premises with th'appurtenances unto
the said Thomas
102 Huggen, my godson, his heirs and assigns, to the use and behoof of the
said Thomas
103 Huggen, my godson, his heirs and assigns forever. And the other moiety or
half of all the

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104 said messuage or tenement and all other my lands and tenements and
premises with their
105 appurtenances in Chart and Staplehurst aforesaid, I will, give and devise
unto **John Huggen, the**
106 **brother of the said Thomas Huggen of Chart** aforesaid, the father of the
said Thomas, my godson.
107 To have and to hold to the said John Huggen, his heirs and assigns, to the
use and behoof
108 of the said John Huggen, his heirs and assigns forever. Notwithstanding,
my will and mind
109 is that the said Thomas Huggen, the father, shall or may have, hold,
occupy and enjoy the moiety
110 or one half aforesaid of all and singular the said messuage or tenement,
lands and premises
111 with th'appurtenances formerly by me willed to the said Thomas, his son,
until the full age of
112 twenty and three years of his said son if he, the said Thomas the father
shall so long live,
113 anything before herein mentioned to the contrary thereof in any wise
notwithstanding. And
114 further, my will and mind is that in consideration of this my devise and
several bequests, they,

115 the said Thomas Huggen and John Huggen shall, equally between them
and their several heirs, do
116 and shall pay to the poor of Chart aforesaid their legacies of four pounds
formerly to them
117 willed according to the purport of this my will. And shall also pay, or cause
to be paid at their
118 equal charges unto the before named Elizabeth, my wife, during her
natural life the yearly
119 sum of twenty pounds of lawful english money, parcel of the before
mentioned annuity,
120 rent charge or yearly pension of thirty pounds formerly to her willed and
appointed by this my
121 testament and last will to be paid. And if default shall be made in
payment of the said twenty
122 pounds upon the feasts or any of them whereon as afore is said the said
annuity or yearly pension
123 ought to be paid by equal portions by the space of twenty and eight days
next over or after the
124 said feasts, or any of them, and being lawfully demanded at my said
messuage wherein the said
125 Thomas Huggen now dwelleth, then I will to my said wife for term of her
natural life, all

126 the said messuage or tenement and all and singular the premises formerly
willed to the said
127 Thomas and John Huggen with all and singular the profits of the said
messuage, lands and
128 premises with their appurtenances , any devise thereof or any part thereof
to the said Thomas
129 and John or their heirs or to either of them to the contrary thereof in any
wise notwithstanding.

130 **Item:** I will, give and devise to **William Huggen, son of William Huggen** late
of East Peckham,
131 deceased, all that my messuage or tenement commonly called **Haleplace**
and the smith's
132 forge thereto belonging, one barn and all other appurtenances thereto
belonging and half the
133 orchard belonging to the messuage wherein I now dwell, viz. that half
thereof which lyeth
134 next to the said messuage called Haleplace, one croft of land adjoining to
that messuage
135 and the one half of one parcel of land adjoining to the said croft, viz. that
half thereof that
136 lyeth next to the highway that leadeth from Halestreet to **Smithwaygreen**.
Also all those

137 meadow grounds called **Brookemead** and **Nicholas Acre**, one parcel of land
called **Waterlands**,
138 one little croft of land thereto adjoining on the east side thereof, one other
parcel called
139 **Wearefield**. And one croft of land thereto adjoining on the north side
thereof. And also I will
140 give and devise to the said William Huggen, son of the said William, two
parcels of land
141 called the **Brooms** adjoining to the highway leading from Smithwaygreen
to Yalding
142 on the south side thereof. And two other parcels lying at Smithwaygreen,
by estimation five
143 acres, the footway to Yalding going through the same. All which premises
are situated, lying
144 and being in East Peckham aforesaid. To have and to hold all the said
message or tenement
145 called Haleplace and all and singular other the premises formerly
mentioned, willed and
146 appointed to the said William Huggen, the son, to the only use and behoof
of the said
147 William, the son, his heirs and assigns forever, he the said William, the son,
his heirs and

148 assigns paying to the beforenamed Richard Huggen, my brother, Johane
his wife and Richard
149 their son, all their several annuities or yearly pensions before to them
willed according to the
150 tenor, purport and true meaning of this my will. And if and as often as
their said annuities
151 or yearly pensions shall be to them, or any of them, unpaid by the space of
fourteen days
152 next or after the feast days aforesaid, or any of them whereon as afore is
said the same ought
153 to be paid, and being lawfully demanded at the said messuage or
tenement called Haleplace,
154 Then and so often, I will that it shall and may be lawful to and for the said
Richard, my brother,
155 Johane his wife and Richard their son, and for every of them unpaid, and
for their assigns

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156 into and upon all and every the said messuage or tenement, and all other
the lands and premises
157 with th'appurtenances, before willed to the said William to enter and
distrain and the distress

158 and distresses there so taken and found lawfully from thence to bear, lead,
drive and carry away and the
159 same to withhold, impound, destroy and keep irreplegible until their said
several annuities and
160 pensions and every payment thereof that shall be in arrears shall be fully
and truly paid according
161 to the purport and true meaning of this my testament and last will, the said
Richard, my brother,
162 and his son, being content, quiet and not troublesome contrary to the tenor
of this my will. And
163 farther, I will, give and devise to the said William Huggen, the son of the
said William Huggen, and to his heirs and assigns, forever,
164 the one half of my barn and the one half of the close thereto belonging
which adjoineth to the
165 highway leading from Halestreet to Smithwaygreen. And the other half of
the said barn and
166 close which lyeth next the house where Richard Huggen dwelleth I will
and give to **George**
167 **of Yalding** for term of his natural life. And after his decease to **George**
Salmon,
168 **son** of the said George and to his heirs and assigns for ever. **Item:** I will,
give and devise to the

169 said George Salmon, the son of the said George Salmon of Yalding and to
the heirs of the
170 body of the said George Salmon, the son, all that messuage or tenement
wherein I, the said
171 John Huggen now do dwell and the barns, buildings, yards, gardens,
orchards and lands arable,
172 meadow and pasture with their appurtenances to the same belonging
(except the half orchard
173 formerly willed to William Huggen). And also I will and give to the said
George Salmon, the
174 son and to the heirs of his body, the other half of the croft aforesaid lying
next to the highway
175 leading from Smithwaygreen to Yalding. And also my lands aforesaid
called Brickoast Field
176 lying in Nettlestead. And the three crofts of my land called Millers and
Hobbs Pool Mead
177 which my wife is to hold during one year after my decease. And also two
other parcels of my
178 land lying at **Mousehole** in Nettlestead. Also one meadow called
Medgemeade and one little
179 croft of land thereto adjoining. And two other parcels of my land adjoining
in part to

180 Medgemeade. And one parcel of land by estimation two acres lying near
unto the lands of **Sir**
181 **Roger Twisden, knight**, wherein **Thomas Joy** dwelleth and to a piece of
ground late of **Henry Plane** deceased. To have and to hold all of the said
message⁹² or tenement
182 and all other the premises formerly willed to the said George Salmon, the
son, to the only
183 use and behoof of the said George, and of the heirs of his body lawfully to
be begotten, forever.
184 Notwithstanding, I will and my mind is that the said George Salmon, the
father, shall and
185 may have, hold and enjoy all and singular the said message and premises
with th'appurtenances
186 formerly willed to te said George Salmon, his son, until such time as the
said George,
187 his son, shall accomplish his full age of twenty and three years, if the said
George, the father,
188 shall so long live, keeping the same well repaired and suffering my wife to
hold such and so

92 "late . . . message" inserted, presumably the copyist made and corrected the omission; a similar insertion was made at the end of line 232

189 much thereof as I have appointed her to hold one year next after my
decease. And also the
190 said George Salmon, the father, and the said George, his son, and his heirs
aforesaid, paying to
191 my said wife or her assigns towards the annuity of thirty pounds before to
her willed the
192 yearly sum of ten pounds of lawful english money quarterly by equal
portions at the feasts
193 aforesaid assigned for payment thereof or within twenty and eight days
next ensuing after every
194 of the said feasts. And for default of any quarterly payment thereof not
accordingly made, lawful
195 demand thereof being made at the said messuage where I now dwell, I will
it shall be lawful to
196 and for my said wife and her assigns to enter into and upon all and every
my said messuage
197 or tenement and all other my lands and tenements formerly willed to the
said George
198 Salmon, the younger, and his father. And the same with the rents and
profits thereof, to have,
199 hold and enjoy from thenceforth for, by and during the whole term of her
natural life. Provided

200 always, if the said George Salmon, the son, shall depart this natural life
without issue of
201 his body lawfully begotten, then I will, give and devise all the said
message or tenement,
202 lands and premises formerly willed to the said George and to the heirs of
his body, unto **Alice**,
203 **the wife of the said George Salmon, the elder**, and to heirs and assigns for
ever. And she
204 and her heirs paying to my said wife the said yearly sum of ten pounds
according to the
205 purport of this my will upon the penalty aforesaid. Anything in this my will
contained to
206 the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding. **Item:** I will, give and
devise unto **John**
207 **Huggen, son of Anthony Huggen** late of **Brasted?** deceased, all that
message or tenement

page 5:

208 with th'appurtenances which was my father's, situated at Halestreet
aforesaid in East Peckham
209 aforesaid. And the land with th'appurtenances thereto belonging which
was my father's. And also one

210 little croft of land adjoining which I purchased of **Nicholas Blackman**. And
also one
211 house called **Millers** and the backside with th'appurtenances thereto
belonging now in the
212 occupation of **John Field**. And also one little croft of land over the Street
against the said house.
213 And also all that parcel of land at **Chetly Cross** which my wife is to hold
one year as afore
214 is said. All which premises are situated, lying and being in East Peckham
aforesaid. To have and
215 to hold all the said messuage and premises with th'appurtenances formerly
willed to the said John
216 Huggen, son of the said Anthony, his heirs and assigns, to the only use and
behoof of the said
217 John Huggen, his heirs and assigns, for ever, he and they suffering my said
wife to hold the said
218 croft at Chetly Cross according to the purport of this my will. **Item:** I will,
give and devise
219 to **my brother Richard**, for term of his natural life and after his decease to
George Salmon,
220 the younger, aforesaid, and to his heirs and assigns forever, all that
messuage or tenement

221 wherein the said Richard now dwelleth with the kitchen, yard, backside
and appurtenances thereto
222 belonging not formerly willed to William Huggen, situated in East
Peckham aforesaid. **Item:** I
223 will, give and devise to **George Shirbrooke**, to use and occupy one year
after my decease, the
224 messuage and backside with th'appurtenances now in the occupation of
the said George
225 Sherbrooke, without any wilful hurt or waste to be made or done thereto.
And I do remit
226 and forgive to the said George all such rents and money as the said George
Sherbrooke shall
227 owe unto me at the time of my decease. And after the end of the said one
year, I will, give and
228 devise all the said messuage or tenement and backside with
th'appurtenances unto **William**
229 **Woodden of Shipbourne** until that **John, his son, my godson**, shall
accomplish his full age of
230 twenty and three years. And at the said age of twenty three years of the
said John, or the decease
231 of the said William, his father, if it sooner happen, I will that the said
messuage and backside with

232 th'appurtenances shall be and remain to the said John, my godson, his
heirs and assigns. To the only use and behoof of the said John, his heirs
and assigns
233 forever. Upon condition that the said William Woodden and the said John,
his son, and his
234 heirs do and shall make, keep and maintain the dyke and a sufficient fence
at the farther
235 end of the said backside where I, the said John Huggen, have caused
marks to be set and
236 where I do purpose first, and for the first time only, to make a dyke and
fence and to lay a
237 part of the said backside and of the water there to my other lands adjoining
for a convenient
238 watering place to the same. Which part and watering place so to be laid
in, I do not mean,
239 neither is it my will, shall be any part or parcel of the gift or devise formerly
willed or
240 devised to the said William Woodden or his son. **Item:** whereas I have
appointed certain
241 of my lands to be laid to one person and certain to another, for convenience
I will that
242 the division and the ordering of fences to be made to divide the same shall
be done by the

243 consent of my executors whom I have acquainted with my mind. And
likewise, if any
244 other question or doubt be or shall arise between any the legatories in this
my will touching any
245 thing or matter contained in this my will, my desire is that my said
executors, if they may
246 conveniently, shall and will order and determine the same. In witness
whereof I, the said John
247 Huggen, have to this my testament and last will, contained in thirteen
sheets of paper (in
248 the second, third, seventh, eighth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth
sheets whereof there
249 are some small things interlined by my appointment before the ensealing)
have set my hand
250 and seal, dated the day and year first above written. The mark of the said
John Huggen,
251 the testator. Sealed, published and declared in the presence of John
Engleton and **John**
252 **Hooper, notary publique.**

William Huggens of East Peckham

William Huggens of East Peckham wrote his will only six months after, John Huggens, relationship unknown, left William Halestreet with his smith;s forge.

William, who mentions neither wife nor children, seems to have been responsible for a young girl Bridget Cardinall to whom he left £30 and a number of household items. George Salmon, William's brother-in-law and one of his executors, was given the responsibility for her "[education and bringing up](#)" until she reached the age of twenty-one.

Many of his properties were given to underage children and, in each case, William specifies that it should be their fathers who looked after it until they reached the age of twenty-one. At the end of the will are a number of small bequests one of which was five shillings to his goddaughter Susan Plumley. Susan Huggins, daughter of Nicholas who died in 1631, had married Robert Plumley and Henry's goddaughter was most probably their daughter. Another was £5 to Debora Backlyn, widow. Elizabeth, another of Nicholas's daughters, had married Richard Backlyn but the connection with Debora is not known.

1 In the name of God Amen. The first day of December Anno Dom. 1631.
And in the
2 seventh year of the reign of our sovereign Lord Charles by the grace of god
3 King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, defender of the faith, etc., I,
William Huggen
4 of East Peckham in the county of Kent, **yeoman**, weak in body but of sound
and perfect
5 remembrance, praised be Almighty God, therefore I make and ordain this
my last will and
6 testament in in manner and form following: **First** and principally I
commend my soul
7 unto Almighty God, hoping and steadfastly believing that, through the
mercy, death
8 and passion of Jesus Christ, I shall have forgiveness of all my sins and my
body
9 I commend to the earth from whence it first came and to be buried in the
church
10 yard of East Peckham. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **William Huggin**,
son of

11 **Thomas Huggin of Chart**, the house which I now dwell in with two barns,
??
12 pasture, land, there unto belonging, more or less, to him and his heirs
forever. And by
13 default if he happen to die or decease without heirs, that then it is my mind
that it
14 shall descend unto **his brother Stephen** and his heirs forever. **Item:** I give
and
15 bequeath unto **William Huggin, son of John Huggin of Brenchley**⁹³, the
house or tenement
16 with a smith's forge thereunto belonging eight an twenty acres of farmable
pasture, lands
17 and meadow, more or less, there unto belonging which was of late given
me by will of
18 **John Huggin of East Peckham, late deceased**, to him and to his heirs
forever, provided always that if John Huggin
19 and William Huggin, his son, do not enjoy the aforesaid **Haleplace** with
barns
20 and smith's forge and eight and twenty acres of farmable pasture and
meadows, more or less

21 thereunto belonging that then it is my mind and meaning that John
Huggin
22 and William Huggin, his son, shall have an annuity of three pounds
23 by the year out of this house or tenement
24 with barns, stable, stall and ten acres of land which I ?? dwell in
25 being in the parish of East Peckham to them and to their heirs for ever. I
give
26 and bequeath unto William Huggin, aforesaid, son of Thomas Huggin, a
lease which I have
27 of land in occupying of the **Earl of Westmoreland** and it is my mind and
28 determination that the aforesaid William Huggin, son of Thomas Huggin,
and
29 William Huggin, son of John Huggin, shall come in possession of the lands
30 and tenements which I have heretofore given them at the age of one and
twenty years.
31 **Item:** more I give and bequeath unto **Bridget Cardinall** thirty pounds of
lawful
32 english money, one featherbed, one bedstead, two bolsters, two pillows
and all things
33 thereunto belonging, two pairs of sheets, one chest standing in the parlour,
half a dozen
34 pieces of pewter and farther it is my mind and will that **George Salmon, my**
35 **brother-in-law**, shall have the education and bringing up of the aforesaid

36 Bridget until the expectation? that she shall accomplish to her full age of
one
37 and twenty years and farther it is my mind and intent that George Salmon,
38 shall have thirty pounds as aforesaid of lawful money of England
39 into his own hands within one whole year after my decease and further it is
my
40 mind and intent that Thomas Huggin, father of the said William Huggin
shall
41 have the profit of the aforesaid house and tenement with barns, stable,
42 and all other edifices and ten acres of land, more or less, and the aforesaid
43 lease with I now have in occupation of the aforesaid Earl of Westmoreland,
44 until he, the aforesaid William Huggin, shall accomplish to his said years of
45 one and twenty. And it is my mind and meaning that my executors John
Huggin
46 and George Salmon shall have the profits of all my lands in East Peckham
47 and **Hadlow** either in lease or any other ways, one whole year after my
decease.
48 And farther it is my mind and intent that John Huggin of Brenchley,
49 **my brother**, shall have the profits of the aforesaid house or tenement ,
50 called or known by the name of Haleplace, with barn and a
51 smith's forge and all and every their appurtenances with eight and twenty
acres of

52 farmable pasture and meadow land thereunto belonging until the said
William
53 Huggin, his son shall accomplish to his age of one and twenty years.

page 2:

54 **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **George Salmon**, my kinsman, son of George
55 Salmon of Yalding, my part of a barn and close which was given me by will
lately
56 of John Huggin of East Peckham, deceased, lying near to the highway that
57 leadeth fro Hale Street to Smithson Groome. **Item:** I give and bequeath
unto my
58 kinsman William Huggin, son of Thomas Huggin of Chart, one chest
standing in
59 the parlour, three pairs of sheets and two large⁹⁴ towells, one wagon⁹⁴ and
all things
60 thereunto belonging with four yokes, four fightes, one timber chain⁹⁵. **Item:**
61 I give and bequeath unto **Debora Backlyn, widow**, five pounds to be paid
her by my

94 "waggon"

95 "chayne"

62 executor within one whole year after my decease. **Item:** I give and
bequeath unto
63 **Susan Plumley, my goddaughter,** five shillings. **Item:** I give and bequeath
unto
64 **Dorothy Collins, my goddaughter,** five shillings. I give and bequeath unto
my
65 **goddaughter Elizabeth Stanley** five shillings. **Item:** I give and bequeath
unto **Thomas**
66 **Sheild, my godson,** five shillings and these legacies to be paid within one
67 whole year after my decease. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **Anne Hatch**
and
68 **Bennett Hatch, daughters of Hugh Hatch of Yalding,** to each of them one
b??
69 and one piece of pewter to be given them within one whole month after my
decease.
70 **Item:** further I give and bequeath unto **John Stanley** my best doublet, best
71 breeches⁹⁶, my best pair of stockings and my best pair of shoes and five
shillings
72 and this to be paid him within one week after my decease. **Item:** I give
and bequeath
73 unto **Thomas Sherebrooke, my servant,** ten shillings to be paid him within

74 whole month after my decease. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto the poor of
75 East Peckham twenty shillings to be paid them within one quarter of a year
after my
76 decease. And lastly I ordain, institute and appoint John Huggin of
Brenchley,
77 my brother, and George Salmon, my brother-in-law, my sole executors of
this
78 my last will and testament. I give and bequeath unto these, my executors,
all my
79 goods, chattells, moveable or unmoveable, and debts, either in East
Peckham or in
80 any other place whatsoever. And it is my mind and intent that those, my
81 executors, shall hold all my lands and tenements lying and being in East
Peckham
82 and also the lease which I have in occupation of the aforesaid Earl of
Westmoreland
83 for the space of one whole year as aforesaid, paying all my debts and
legacies
84 aforesaid mentioned of this my last will and testament. And my meaning
85 is to make **Stephen Butler** and **John Cheeseman** the overseers of this

86 my last will and testament where unto ⁹⁷. In witness hereof I have put my
87 hand and seal dated the day and year first above written.

Sealed in the presence
of

Stephen Butler

the mark of John Cheeseman

?? me F?? Th..ley⁹⁸

William Huggin

97 "I" crossed out here - was he going to have added an amount to be given to them; or did the scribe start to include it only to realise that the testator had not included it?

98 the stylised signature of the scribe which is undecipherable. The testator signed his own name and that of Stephen Butler looks like a signature.

Thomas Huggen of Sundridge

The will of Thomas Huggen of Sundridge (CKS: Prs/w/8/37) was written on 14th July 1628 by John Hooper, notary public, who wrote a large number of wills for people in the Tonbridge area. There is no apparent connection between Thomas and the Huggens of East Peckham.

Thomas had a son William and two married daughters:

will:										x890 Thomas ⁹⁹ -	
										14 Jul 1628	

x892		x893		x897		x894		x901			
William -		Ann -	Mathew Hawle			Rabbedge -	Robert Homeward				

x896		x898	x899	x900	x902	x903	x904	x905	x906		
Thomas		Susan	Joane	Ann	Thomas	Robert	William	Agnes	Roger		

Thomas also had a "son-in-law" Richard Peake; Richard could have been a stepson if Thomas had married twice but he did not have a wife living at the time his will was written.

Thomas left £11 to his daughter Rabbedge, £10 of which was to be put out to the use of her children although she and her husband were to have the use of it (the profit from it) during their lifetime. Susan was left £5 to be used in a similar way. Both daughters already had in their houses goods and household stuff belonging to their father and these he left them in his will except for some items which Ann had which were to go to his son William who was to be his executor.

The house in which Thomas lived was left to Ann and her husband but on their death it was to go to their daughter Susan who had to pay each of the sisters £5. He had another "messuage or tenement" in Sundridge which he left to William.

Will of Thomas Huggen of Sundridge

written 14th July 1628
transcript from original

- 1 **In the name of god Amen.** The fourteenth day of July in the
- 2 fourth year of the reign of our sovereign Lord Charles by the grace of God
- king of
- 3 England, Scotland, France and Ireland, defender of the faith, etc. Ao dm
- 1628
- 4 **I, Thomas Huggen,** of Sundridge in the county of Kent, **yeoman,** do

5 at this time being¹⁰⁰ in reasonable good health of body and of perfect mind
and memory
6 (praised be God) ordain and make this my testament and last will in
manner and form
7 following: **First:** therefore committing my soul to Almighty God, my
maker, ??
8 of salvation only by the merits and passion of Jesus Christ, my saviour, and
my body to the earth
9 in decent manner to be buried. **I will** to ten of the poorest widows in
Sundridge aforesaid
10 (in the discretion of mine executor hereafter named) ten groats¹⁰¹, viz. to
each of them 4d.
11 **Item:** I will and give to **Richard Peake, my son-in-law**, ten shillings in
gold.
12 **Item:** I will and give unto **Rabbedge, my daughter, the wife of Robert**
Homeward of
13 **Tonbridge** the sum of eleven pounds of lawful english money to be paid her
within one

100 "beeing", "bee", etc. throughout

101 one groat was 4d (1.667p)

14 year next after my decease. And my will is that the said Robert and
Rabbedge
15 put out ten pounds thereof for the use and benefit of **Robert, Agnes,**
William and Roger, their
16 **children**, the said Robert and Rabbedge receiving the use for their own
benefit during the life
17 of the said Rabbedge and, after her decease, paying the ten pounds
aforesaid to their said
18 four children equally amongst them or so many of them as shalbe then
living. **Item:**
19 I will and give to the said Rabbedge all the household stuff and goods of
mine that shalbe
20 in their possession at the time of my decease. **Item:** I will and give unto
Susan,
21 **Joane and Ann, the three daughters of Ann Hawle, my daughter,** five
pounds to be
22 paid to their parents to their use within one year next after my decease.
And by their
23 parents to be put out for them. And to be paid them, with the profits
thereof, at their
24 several full of twenty and one years, equally, or to the survivors of them
equally or

25 to the survivor of them the whole by their said parents. **Item:** I will and
give unto Susan

page 2:

26 Hawle, daughter of my daughter Ann Hawle, my joined cupboard in my
now dwelling house.

27 And to Joane Hawle, one other of her daughters, one brass pot. And to
Ann, one

28 other of her daughters, one pair of pillowcoats. All the which goods to be
delivered to

29 their parents for their use within one month next after my decease. **Item:**
30 I will and give unto Ann Hawle, my daughter, all the goods and household
stuff of mine

31 that shall be in the keeping of her husband and her, in their now dwelling
house,

32 at the time of my decease. (These goods excepted, which I give to **William,**
my son, viz.

33 except the joined table in the hall and six joined stools and the benches,
tables, staulders

34 and painted cloths and my settle in the said house.) **Item:** I will and give
unto **Thomas**

35 **Huggen, son of my son William,** my greatest pewter platter.

36 **The** residue and all other my goods, cattell and chattels, I will, give and
bequeath unto
37 William Huggen, my son, whom I make and ordain the sole and only
executor of
38 this my testament and last will, to see the same proved and all my debts
and legacies paid
39 and my body decently brought to the earth.

40 **This** is also the last will of me, the said Thmas Huggen, made and
41 declared the day and year first before written, touching the ordering and
disposing of
42 all my lands and tenements. **Item:** In full recompense and satisfaction
43 of all such promises and demands upon marriage or otherwise to be
claimed
44 by **Mathew Hawle** and Ann his wife or either of them of me, the said
Thomas
45 Huggen, mine executors or assigns, I will, give and devise to the said
Mathew and
46 Ann, for term of their natural lives and to the longer liver of them, all that
message

page 3:

47 or tenement wherein I, the said Thomas Huggen, do now dwell. And the

48 garden, backside and all other the appurtenances thereunto belonging,
containing by
49 estimation one yard of land¹⁰², more or less, together lying and being in
Sundridge
50 aforesaid. And after the decease of the said Mathew and Ann, and the
longer liver
51 of them, I will, give and devise the said messuage and premises with
th'appurtenances unto
52 Susan Hawle, their daughter, her heirs and assigns, forever upon condition
53 that the said Susan, her heirs or assigns, within one year next after the
decease
54 of the over liver of the said Mathew and Ann, do and shall pay, or cause to
be paid,
55 to Joane and Ann, the sisters of the said Susan, equally between them or to
the survivor
56 of them wholly the sum of five pounds of lawful english money, which if it
57 shall not be accordingly paid, it shalbe lawful for the said Joane and Ann
and either of
58 them to enter and hold the said messuage and premises til payment
thereof shall be made.

102 yard was sometimes used as a measure of land area

59 **And** further I will that the said Mathew Hawle and Ann his wife and Susan
their daughter,
60 her heirs and assigns, shall have liberty to fetch, have and take water at
the well,
61 spring or watering place of such other messuage or tenement hereafter
mentioned and there to
62 wash at all reasonable times during the life of the said Ann. And further
shall have
63 free liberty at all needful and convenient times forever after my decease to
pitch ladders
64 and come upon my said other tenement and the appurtenances thereto
belonging, to repair and amend the
65 said messuage or tenement given to the said Mathew, Ann and Susan and
her heirs, the said
66 Mathew, Ann and Susan and the heirs and assigns of the said Susan
keeping and maintaining
67 the fence on the southside of the backside belonging to the said messuage
or tenement
68 to them given as aforesaid. **Item:** I will, give and devise to the said
William, my son, my messuage
69 or tenement called **the Whitehouse** with the buildings and appurtenances
thereto belonging in Sundridge

70 aforesaid. And all other my lands and tenements in Sundridge to hold to
him, the said William, his heirs
71 and assigns forever, the said William, his heirs and assigns, paying to
Thomas Homeward, my god
72 **child**¹⁰³, fifty shillings when he, the said Thomas, shall accomplish the age
of twenty and one years.
73 And for and in default of payment there of accordingly, I will it shalbe
lawful for the said Thomas to
74 enter upon the said messuage and premises formerly willed to the said
William. And the same to
75 hold and enjoy until the said fifty shillings shalbe fully satisfied and paid.
76 In witness whereof I, the said Thomas Huggen, have to this my testament
and last will set my hand
77 and seal yeven the day and year first above written.

Read, sealed, published and declared in the presence of _____ the mark of the
Alexander¹⁰⁴ **Longley** **John Snell** **John Rootes** and said Thomas Huggen
John Hooper, notary pbq.

103 presumably another son of his daughter Rabbedge

104 an inverted "Y"

The Huggens of Shipbourne

Agnes (\$787¹⁰⁵), the wife of “**ould Thomas Huggens**” was buried on 24 March 1608 and **Thomas** himself (\$786). **Thomas** (\$408) and **William** (\$788), whose families are given below, could have been their sons as could also **George Huggens** (\$1559) who was buried on 29th March 1631.

Thomas married twice whilst William died only seven years after marrying **Mary Steere** (\$789). Here it was Mary who married for a second time, just over two years after William died. Her first child by William was baptised only five months after their marriage. Her first, and only recorded, child by her second husband, **John Bristowe** (\$1101), was baptised only a month after the marriage.

Earlier than any of the recorded Ightham Huggens, **William** (#1895), son of **Simon Huggens** (#1893), was baptised on 13th January 1598 in **Seal**.

105 \$ indicates a reference in the Shipbourne database and # one in that for Seal

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M C	Died
\$408	<u>HUGGENS, Thomas</u> -----				2	9
	<i>Marriage 1</i>		10 Feb 1598	Cassander Harrys	1	6
\$409	<u>Harrys, Cassander</u> -----				1	6
• \$454	<u>HUGGENS, John</u>	15 Apr 1599			0	0
• \$673	<u>HUGGENS, Thomas</u>	17 May 1601	31 Jul 1627	Anne Nicholas \$1445	1	0
• \$783	<u>HUGGENS, William</u>	10 Feb 1604			0	0 16 Feb 1605
• \$784	<u>Huggens, Jeane</u>	13 Apr 1606			0	0
• \$785	<u>Huggens, Cassander</u>	8 May 1609			0	0
• \$1039	<u>HUGGENS, John</u>	15 Apr 1599			0	0
	<i>Marriage 2</i>		28 Jul 1613	Anne Symons \$1112	1	3
• \$1113	<u>HUGGENS, Anthony</u>	10 Apr 1614			0	0
• \$1236	<u>HUGGENS, Francis</u>	11 Oct 1617	son		0	0
• \$1273	<u>HUGGENS, George</u>	10 Jul 1620			0	0

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M C	Died
\$788	<u>HUGGENS, William</u> -----		16 Feb 1606	Mary Steere	1 3	21 Mar 1611
\$789	<u>Steere, Mary</u> -----				2 4	
• \$797	<u>HUGGENS, John</u>	20 Jul 1606	5 months after marriage		0 0	
• \$790	<u>Huggens, Alice</u>	16 Jun 1608			0 0	13 Jul 1608
• \$965	<u>HUGGENS, Thomas</u>	10 Jan 1610			0 0	

Mary Steere's secondMarriage:

\$1101	<u>BRISTOWE, John</u> -----		1 Apr 1613	Mary Huggens(m)	1 1	
• \$1102	<u>BRISTOWE, Jeames</u>	2 May 1613	1 month after marriage		0 0	10 May 1614

On 8th March 1613, “[a child of London nourished with the widow Huggens](#)” was buried. This is two years after William died and three years after the last recorded child of William and Mary was baptised. Three years continued breast feeding is, by no means, impossible, but Mary’s child by her second marriage must have been conceived, at the latest, in August 1612. Whilst breast feeding makes conception less likely, it is not impossible. Did Mary not look after her nursechild from London properly because of her new relationship or was the widow Huggens someone else?

The Hunts of Seal, Ightham and Shipbourne

The first mention of Hunt in these three parishes is of **Robert** who married **Margaret Olyver**, in Seal on 18th June 1576. There were a large number of Olyvers in Seal but Margaret was probably the daughter of John Olyver, the elder, of Fawke (#70). It was in Seal that their first child was baptised but the Robert Hunts lived in Ightham, at least after the birth of John, the other four children all being baptised there. Harry was recorded just as "son of -- Hunt" at his baptism but he "fits in" as the second son of Robert. There was a long gap between Davy and Margaret; perhaps i1079¹⁰⁶ married twice.

"On 16th October 1604, five failures to trim hedges were dealt with, orders being made in each case for the hedge to be cut before 1st March under penalty 3s 4d." One of those brought before the Court was **Robert Hunt** with a hedge between **Ivyhatch and the Mote**. (CRI 1937, p.201). A John Hunt and William Hunt were also mentioned in the Ightham Court Records between 1586 and 1618 but nothing more is known of them. Henry Hunt was mentioned in the Ightham Court Records between 1586 and 1618 and he could have been Robert's son.

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M C	Died
i1079	<u>HUNT, Robert</u> -----		18 Jun 1576	Margaret Olyver married in Seal #725	1 5	
• i2711	<u>HUNT, John</u>	20 Oct 1577	baptised in Seal		0 0	
• i1081	<u>HUNT, Harry/Henry</u>	11 Jun 1581	see Olyver Mills in Families & Transcripts for his marriage & children		1 7	
• i1082	<u>HUNT, Davy</u>	2 Jan 1584			0 0	
• i1083	<u>Hunt, Margaret</u>	8 Dec 1605			0 0	
• i1084	<u>HUNT, Robert</u>	28 Aug 1608			0 0	

The story then moves to Shipbourne where **Henry Hunt** married **Susan Mylls** on 17 May 1612 when Susan (daughter of Olyver Mylls of Shipbourne) was twenty-seven and Henry (assuming he was Robert's son¹⁰⁷) was thirty-one. They started married life in Ightham where their eldest two daughters, Alice and Susanne, were baptised. Two sons, Olyver and Robert, were then baptised in Shipbourne followed by two more sons (no names given) buried between 1618 and 1624 when Jane, another daughter, was baptised. Five weeks after the baptism of Jane,

107 Susan Mylls was baptised 21st November 1585; whilst Hunt is a fairly common surname, Henry/Harry does not occur very often

Henry "was buried (having) been hurt in a marlepit two days before whereof he died within three hours."

Susan's sister, Johane Mylls, married Robert Hunt on 29th July 1614 when she was twenty-one. Olyver Mills, Johane's father, wrote his will in 1625 making Robert his executor. By this time both Olyver Mills and Robert Hunt were "of Leigh" but the parish registers for the relevant time have not survived. See [Olyver Mills in Families & Transcripts](#) for details of these Hunt families..

The Hunters of Ightham

Hunters only appear in the Ightham records from the beginning of the seventeenth century onwards, the first event recorded being the marriage of **Richard Hunter** (i877¹⁰⁸) to **Marie Bownde** (i205) on 2nd November 1600. See [Bowndes in More Families & Transcripts](#) for Marie's family.

On 11th November 1604, **Marie Hunter** (i2071) was buried, no details being given. She could have been Richard's wife.

Elizabeth (i878), daughter of Richard Hunter, was baptised on 13th June 1613. Was her father i877?

On 20th October 1601, **Richard Hunter** (who could have been i877) was presented to the Court for having received a "stranger" - **Edward Lambert** - and was to be fined 10s if Lambert stayed without sureties being found. (CRI 1938, p.18). Was this the Edward Lambert taken in by **George Chownings and George Hawke (i400)** in 1592? (see page 2.h.77). There were two Edward Lambardes in Ightham but neither "fits in" with this stranger.

108 "i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database

The Hunticks of Ightham

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
i780 ¹⁰⁹	<u>HUNTICK, Robert</u> -----				1	2	
• i782	<u>Huntick, Elizabeth</u>	18 Jul 1574		"daughter of -- Huntick"			0 0
• i783	<u>HUNTICK, Richard</u>	7 Jul 1577		"son of Robert Hunticke"			0 0

A Richard Huntick was mentioned in the Court Records 1586-1618; this could have been Robert's son, i783.

See [Excerpts from the Ightham Court Rolls in Section Z of Families & Transcripts](#) for details of how:

- in 1587, the wife of Robert Huntick escaped punishment as a common brawler, quarreller and disturber of the peace.
- on 10th March 1599, **John Huntick** (probably i784, see next page) was assaulted by **Thomas Castleton** who "struck him with a stick, drawing blood"

109 "i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M C	Died
i784	<u>HUNTICK, John</u> -----		16 Jul 1576	Margerie Clifford i785	1 4	10 Jun 1606
i785	<u>Clifford, Margerie</u> -----			widow for 22 years	1 4	16 Mar 1629
• i786	<u>Huntick, Margaret</u>	10 Apr 1580			0 0	
• i787	<u>Huntick, Marie</u>	23 Dec 1582			0 0	
• i788	<u>Huntick, Goodd</u>	24 Jul 1586			0 0	"daughter"
• i789	<u>HUNTICK, John</u>	16 Mar 1589			0 0	6 Jan 1591

The Hutchens of Seal

An alternative spelling is Hutchins.

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
#2935 ¹¹⁰	<u>HUTCHEN, John</u> -----				1	1	
• #435	<u>HUTCHEN, John</u>				2	3	>Jun 1609
	<i>Marriage 1</i>						
• #436	<u>his wife, Ann</u>				1	3	9 Dec 1589
• • #3966	<u>HUTCHEN, Richard</u>	8 Nov 1573(I)			0	0	
• • #933	<u>Hutchen, Rachel</u>	3 Jan 1580			0	0	
• • #1645	<u>HUTCHEN, Lawrence</u>				0	0	6 Sep 1586
• • #1339	<u>Hutchen, Agnes</u>	13 Mar 1586			0	0	
	<i>Marriage 2</i>			Mawdlyn Creperdge	1	0	
• #1542	<u>Creperdge, Mawdlyn</u>	18 Jan 1591			1	0	16 Jun 1609

110 # indicates a reference in the Seal database

John (#435) died after June 1609 if "[John Hutchyn, his wife](#)" who was buried in 1609 was Mawdlyn, his second wife. Richard, son of John Hutchen, who was baptised in Ightham in 1573 could have been a son of #435.

A **John Hutchen** (#2932) married **Margaret Spatcheast** (#2934), in Seal, on 21 April 1611. No children were recorded but John's widow was buried in March 1640 so that John must have died before then. Perhaps they lived elsewhere with Margaret returning to Seal after the death of her husband who could have been a son of #435.

Margaret (#437), daughter of John Hutchen, was baptised, in Seal, on 8th February 1569; this was probably too early for her to have been #435's daughter; perhaps she was his sister.

Anna Hutchen (#2933), no details given, was buried, in Seal on 24th May 1605.

I

More Families & Transcripts

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The Inges of Hadlow	page 2.i.5
Will of Samuel Ireland of Tonbridge	page 2.i.9
The Isleys of Ightham	page 2.i.14

The Ifields of Ightham

James Christopher of Seal married **Alice Ifield** on 21 Nov 1563 at Ightham but what happened to the Ifields between then and the 1620s? The next mention of them is the baptism of the son of John Ifield in August 1629.

John Ifield (i2320), a householder when he was buried, died when his youngest son was only six months old and the eldest, assuming he had survived, was not yet 10. The first three children were born with only 21 months between the baptism of the eldest, John, and the third child so that it is probable that neither of the first two lived more than a few weeks. When Thomas died in 1648 his mother was "Margaret Ifield, widow" and had not, therefore, remarried.

Only one son, baptised 20 years after the marriage, was recorded for "**Thomas Ifield (#2328) and Marie**"; perhaps they lived elsewhere for most of their married life; alternatively there was a younger Thomas Ifield also married to a Marie.

John, Thomas (#2328) and William (#2330) could have been brothers. **Helen Ifield**, who married **George Gardner of Seal**, in Ightham, on 17th October 1630 and whose first child was baptised in Ightham on 24th August 1631, could have been

their sister. She and George had five more children baptised in Seal - see **Gardners of Seal**.

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
i2320	<u>IFIELD, John</u> -----	<1608		Margaret Ifield(m) i2321	1	6	16 May 1639 in his 30s
•	i2322 <u>IFIELD, John</u>	30 Aug 1629			0	0	
•	i2323 <u>Ifield, Elizabeth</u>	6 Jun 1630			0	0	
•	i2324 <u>IFIELD, Thomas</u>	8 May 1631			0	0	30 Mar 1648 aged 16
•	i2325 <u>Ifield, Elizabeth</u>	13 Nov 1632			0	0	
•	i2326 <u>IFIELD, Frances</u>	7 Aug 1636	son		0	0	
•	i2327 <u>IFIELD, William</u>	28 Oct 1638			0	0	
i2328	<u>IFIELD, Thomas</u> ----- 	<1608	21 Jul 1628	Marie Richardson #1971	1	1	
i1971	<u>Richardson, Marie</u> -----	17 May 1607	married at 21		1	1	
•	i2329 <u>IFIELD, George</u>	23 Apr 1648			0	0	

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
i2330	<u>IFIELD, William</u> -----	<1610		Martha Ifield(m) i2331	1	3	
• i2332	<u>Ifield, Elizabeth</u>	24 Jul 1631					0 0
• i2333	<u>Ifield, Helen</u>	6 Dec 1633					0 0
• i2334	<u>Ifield, Marie</u>	3 Dec 1637					0 0
				"dau. of William Ifield and Martha"			
<hr/>							
i2337	<u>Ifield(m), Joane</u> -----						0 0 8 Jan 1651
				"widow" when buried, the day after she died, but whose?			
<hr/>							

The Inges of Hadlow

Two wills have survived Inge (or Innge) of Hadlow:

John Inge	1557	CKS: Drb/Pw 5; Drb/Pwr 12.166
Thomas Inge	18 Apr 1597	CKS: Drb/Pw 18 see page 2.i.6

Thomas was a carpenter but also owned some land. His will was probably written by Thomas Stubberfield who wrote a number of wills at the end of the sixteenth century. The right hand side of the will has deteriorated so that the end of the lines cannot be read; the probate copy has not survived.

Even so, the meaning of the will is relatively clear with Thomas's wife Margerie being made executrix and given the responsibility for bringing up their son Thomas and two other underage children.

1 In the name of god Amen. The 18th of April in the year of our lord god
2 fourscore and seventeen and in the 39th year of the reign of our sovereign
lady Elizabeth, by the grace
3 of God, Queen of England, France and Ireland, defender of the faith, I,
Thomas Inge of
4 Hadlow in the county of Kent, **carpenter**, being at the time of making
hereof sick
5 But yet, thanks be to God, in good and perfect remembrance, Do ordain
and make this my last will and
6 testament in manner and form following: **First** and principally I give and
commend my soul to
7 Almighty god, my creator and to Jesus Christ, his dear son, my only saviour
and redeemer by whose
8 merit and precious blood shedding I trust only to be saved and my body to
be buried in the church
9 yard of Hadlow aforesaid.

- Also I will and it is my mind that my said wife shall have and take all the profit . . .
- tenements situated, lying and being within the parish of Hadlow aforesaid.
- . . .
- said **son Thomas** and until he shall have accomplished the full age of one and twenty . . .
- the bringing up of my three children so that the said **Margerie** do neither . . .
- . . .
- to be stripped or wasted any of the wood or trees growing upon my said land . . .
- thereof more than for the hedges with the necessary and needful reparation . . .
- . . .
- about the premises.
- . . . I do ordain and make . . .
- sole executrix of this my last will and testament requiring her to see the same truly and . . .
- . . . behalf according to the special trust I have put in her and as she will answer before god at the
- day of Judgement. **Item:** I do ordain and make **Thomas Blixton** and **Thomas Stubberfield** of Hadlow
- overseers of this my last will and testament desiring them to be aiding and helpful unto my said

- wife and children, to see the performance of this last will and testament.
In witness that this
- my last will and testament I here unto set my hand and seal. These being witness whose names are hereunder written.

Thomas Inge

his
mark

Thomas Barton

James Sandall

Thomas Stubberfield

John Froakes

with others

This will was written by John Hooper, notary public, who wrote many wills. It is written in Hooper's hand but does not have any real decoration.

1 In the name of god Amen. The eighth day of March in the year of our Lord
God according
2 the computation of the church of England, one thousand, six hundred,
twenty and six, I, Samuel
3 Ireland of Tonbridge in the County of Kent, **taylor**, do ordain and make this
my testament and
4 last will in manner and form following: **First** recommending my soul to
Almighty God,
5 my maker with an assured hope of salvation through his mercy in the merit
and mediation of his
6 son Jesus Christ, my saviour. And my body to the earth in decent manner
to be buried.
7 **Item:** I will and give to **Alice and Marie, my two daughters**, twenty pounds
a piece of

8 lawful english money to be paid at their several ages of twenty and one
years or at their
9 several days of marriage (which of the said times shall first happen) by my
executrix hereafter named
10 And if either of my said daughters decease before her said age, unmarried,
I will to the
11 overliver of them the legacies aforesaid to her so deceased formerly willed.
And if both my
12 said daughters shall decease before their said ages, unmarried, I will their
said legacies
13 shalbe paid to my four sons, or to so many of them as shall be then living,
equally
14 between them. **Item:** I will to **Samuel, my son,** my two best suits of apparel,
stockings and shoes;
15 And to **George, my son,** my next best suit
16 I will to **Abraham, my son,** my bible iii quarto

17 The residue of all my goods, cattel and chattels, I will and bequeath to
Ann, my loving wife,
18 in recompense of such jointure and demaine as she shall, or may, have in
or to my
19 messuage or tenement and towards the payment of my debts and legacies.
And the bringing up

20 of my children, which said Ann, my wife, I ordain and make the full and
21 sole executrix of this my
testament and last will.

22 This is also my last will touching the devise of the messuage or tenement
wherein I now dwell.

23 **Item:** I will, give and devise the said messuage or tenement and the
24 garden, backside with thappurtenances
thereunto belonging, situated in the **town of Tonbridge**, unto **Samuel
Ireland, mine oldest son** and to
25 his heirs and assigns forever, he, the said Samuel, my son, his heirs or
assigns, paying to
26 **George, Abraham and John, his brothers, my sons**, twenty pounds a piece
at their said all ages of
27 twenty and one years. And if they, or any of them, shall not live to
accomplish their said ages, my will
28 is that they and so many of their portions aforesaid, as shall not accomplish
their said ages, shalbe ??
29 paid Samuel, my son, and his heirs. And if the said Samuel, his heirs or
assigns, shall not pay . .
30 said brothers aforesaid, their foresaid portions according to the purport of
this my will, then I will and ordain

31 that he, they or any of them, so unpaid, shall or may enter, have and hold
my said messuage or tenement,
32 the garden, backside and thappurtenances, until he, they or any of them,
so unpaid shalbe fully satisfied and
33 paid the portion and portions aforesaid to them or any of them belonging.
Provided always and . .
34 mind is that Ann, my wife, towards the bringing up of my said children
shall, or may, have, hold . .
35 . . my said messuage or tenement, garden, backside and other
appurtenances until the said Samuel, my son,
36 shall accomplish his full age of twenty and one years. And my will is that
when my sons, George,
37 Abraham and John shall receive their portions aforesaid, they shall release
their right unto my said ??
38 A good and sufficient release in writing to my son Samuel and his heirs if
he or they shall request it.
39 In witness whereof I have to this my testament and last will set my hand
and seal
40 hereon the day and year first above written.

The Isleys of Ightham

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
i734 ¹¹³	<u>ISLEY, Edward</u> ----- gent				1	3	
• i736	<u>ISLEY, James</u>	7 Nov 1572			0	0	26 Nov 1572
• i737	<u>ISLEY, Robert</u>	25 Apr 1574			0	0	
• i738	<u>Isley, Margaret</u>	23 Dec 1576			0	0	

113 "i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database

J

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The Jeffreys of the Tonbridge Area	page 2.j.15
Payment of Debts	page 2.j.17
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John Jeffrey, yeoman of Tonbridge	page 2.j.19
Jane, a Wealthy Widow	page 2.j.31
Jane's Wearing Apparel	page 2.j.32
Jane's Family	page 2.j.33
Her Minor Bequests	page 2.j.34

Bequests to Jane's Baldock Grandchildren	page 2.j.35
Bequests to Jane's Jeffrey Sons	page 2.j.36
Jane's Land and Tenements	page 2.j.38
Thomas Jeffrey of Tudeley	page 2.j.58
Will of John Jeffrey, yeoman, of Leigh	page 2.j.57

The Jennings of Ightham	page 2.j.62
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The Jessopps of Penshurst	page 2.j.66
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The family of Alice Jessopp, widow	page 2.j.88
Elizabeth Jessopp, widow, and her son Jasper	page 2.j.94

The Johnsons of Ightham	page 2.j.105
The Johnsons of Kemsing	page 2.j.108
The Johnsons of Seal	page 2.j.110
The Johnsons of Shipbourne	page 2.j.112

The Johnsons of Leigh, Tonbridge and Pembury	page 2.j.113
The Johnsons of Tonbridge	page 2.j.114
William Johnson, citizen and grocer of London	page 2.j.115
William Johnson, yeoman	page 2.j.139
Richard Johnson of Pembury	page 2.j.145
Thomas Johnson, mercer, of Tonbridge 1615	page 2.j.149
Thomas Johnson, mercer, of Tonbridge 1634	page 2.j.156
The Johnsons of West Peckham	page 2.j.164
The Jones of Hadlow	page 2.j.173
George Joanes, yeoman	page 2.j.173
Thomas Jorden, yeoman of Penshurst	page 2.j.184
Arson and Escape	page 2.j.184
Grand Larceny	page 2.j.185
Sir Robert Joysey of Pembury	page 2.j.187
The Jupps of Seal	page 2.j.188

The Jacksons of Seal

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
#3723 ¹¹⁴	<u>JACKSON, William</u> -----				1	4	
• #3725	<u>Jackson, Sylvester</u>	21 Apr 1616			0	0	23 Apr 1616
• #3726	<u>Jackson, Mary</u>	8 Jun 1617			0	0	
• #3727	<u>JACKSON, William</u>	8 Nov 1618			0	0	
• #3728	<u>Jackson, Ann</u>	2 Apr 1620			0	0	

114 “#” indicates a reference in the Seal database

The James of Ightham

Roger James, a younger son of **Jacob van Haestrecht**, a family of landowners in the Low Countries, fled to London in the mid-sixteenth century and acquired the Ram's Head brewery, near the Tower of London, in 1566. He originally called himself Jacobs but this became anglicised to James. When he died in 1591 he was Third Warden of the Worshipful Company of Brewers and he left a considerable estate including property in Ightham. His wife was the only daughter and heiress of Henry Morskyn of Liege who had also established himself in London.

William James (i1920), whose inheritance included the manor of Ightham (the first Court in his name being held on 1st April 1600), was Roger's third surviving son and there were five younger sons. William's wife was another heiress, the only daughter of **Henry Kule**, a wealthy merchant of Bremen. In 1633, William's son (i1915), also William, sold the remoter part of Ightham Common, over 300 acres in extent to **Sir Henry Vane** (CRI 1937, p.173; see p. 173 to 178 for more details of the James estates). William's will has survived (**PCC: Skynner 54**); it was written on 20th January 1625/6 but William was not buried until 19 April 1627. The will has not been investigated but the witnesses were **John Gryme, George Baxter and George Segars**.

This William was a Parliamentarian and active in politics in the 1640s and 1650s being "[thrice chosen Knight of the Shire for Kent](#)"¹¹⁵ In the time of the Commonwealth, William James the younger bought the adjoining manor of Wrotham (CRI 1937, p.174). According to Bowra¹¹⁶, of William's ten children, only Demetrius, the eldest son and heir, had any children and, although two daughters married, they both died childless. However, the records show twelve children of William James (i1915) baptised, see page 2.j.9.

See the article by [G.C.R. Morris in A.C. Vol. 104 \(1987\) p.115](#) for a discussion on the origin of the name Demetrius in the James family.

The children born to "William James, gent." in 1607, 1611 and sometime up to 1619 have been taken as the children of i1920. John and Richard James, whose children are also recorded in the parish register for Ightham, could have been two younger brothers of William James the elder (i1915).

The will of **Thomas James, gent.** (i2579), who could have been another brother of i1915, was written on 15th June 1637; it includes the phrase "[this little span of](#)

115 Hasted

116 Bowra, Edward V: *Ightham - Notes on Local History*, Ightham and District Historical Society, 1978.

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
i1904	<u>JAMES, John</u> ----- 		24 Aug 1601	Susanne Vandwell 11905	1	9	
	gent		mentioned in the Court Records 1586-1618				
i1905	<u>Vandwell, Susanne</u> -----		<1581		1	9	15 Sep 1628
• i1906	<u>JAMES, John</u>	16 Oct	1603		0	0	15 Feb 1605
• i1907	<u>JAMES, Henry</u>	12 May	1605		0	0	
• i1908	<u>James, Susan</u>	9 Jun	1606		0	0	
• i1909	<u>JAMES, John</u>	20 Jul	1607		0	0	
• i1910	<u>JAMES, William</u>	26 Sep	1611		0	0	
• i1911	<u>JAMES, Roger</u>	14 Jun	1613		0	0	
• i1912	<u>James, Sarah</u>	8 Jan	1616		0	0	14 Aug 1618
• i1913	<u>JAMES, John</u>	1 Jul	1619		0	0	
• i1914	<u>James, Jane</u>	27 Dec	1623		0	0	

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M C	Died
i1915	<u>JAMES, William</u> ----- gent	1602		Jane Miller #1916	1 12	1661 aged 59
i1916	<u>Miller, Jane</u> ----- daughter of			Nicholas Miller of Horsenells, Crouch	1 12	
• i1922	<u>JAMES, Demetrius</u>	20 Apr 1629			1 9	1678 aged 49
• i2217	<u>JAMES, William</u>	25 Apr 1630			0 0	
	baptised only a year after Demetrius perhaps showing that the family employed a wet nurse which, given William's status as lord of the manor, is not unlikely					
• i1923	<u>JAMES, Nicholas</u>	14 Jul 1631			0 0	24 Jan 1634
• i1924	<u>James, Jane</u>	14 Apr 1633			0 0	
• i1925	<u>JAMES, Roger</u>	14 Sep 1634			0 0	
• i1926	<u>James, Elizabeth</u>	23 Sep 1635			0 0	
• i1927	<u>JAMES, John</u>	1 Sep 1636			0 0	
• i1928	<u>JAMES, Thomas</u>	23 Jan 1639			0 0	
• i1929	<u>JAMES, Nicholas</u>	5 Apr 1640			0 0	
• i1930	<u>James, Anne</u>	30 Mar 1642			0 0	
• i1931	<u>James, Sarah</u>	22 Feb 1645		born 30 March, baptised 6 April	0 0	
• i1932	<u>JAMES, Henry</u>	3 Nov 1647		born and baptised the same day	0 0	

In January 1641 The house of William James, gent. was burgled twice:

- in January 1641; see [Fuller in More Families & Transcripts](#) for details.
- at the July 1642 Assizes, **Robert Lawrence** (i2779) of Ightham, **labourer**, was indicted for grand larceny. “[On 16th May 1642, at Ightham, he stole 10 ells¹¹⁷ of linen cloth \(10s\) from William James, esquire](#)”. The indictment was endorsed as a true bill by William James. Lawrence “[confessed; he was allowed clergy on another indictment](#)”.¹¹⁸

The first Ightham William (i1920) raised rabbits looked after by his warrener, Francis Greentree (i1659). On the night of 22nd June 1609, two men from Seal broke into the warren and assaulted Greentree. They were charged at the July 1609 Assizes - see [Greentree in More Families & Transcripts](#) for details.

117 a cloth measure of 1.25 yards

118 Cockburn (Chas.I); 2098

The Jansons of Kemsing

There were a number of Jansons in Kemsing between 1570 and 1600 but they are mainly the subject of isolated events:

- Katherine, the daughter of Elizabeth Janson, was buried on 20th September 1571
- John Janson (i600) married Anne Barre (i607) on the 7th November 1574. Anne may have been related to the Barres of Seal.
- Gilbert, son of Gilbert Janson, was baptised on 25th November 1597

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
i604	<u>JANSON, Richard</u>				1	4	
• i610	<u>JANSON, John</u>	23 Aug 1573					0 0
• i611	<u>Janson, Sydney</u>	22 Jan 1582					0 0
• i612	<u>JANSON, Matthew</u>	21 Jul 1585					0 0
• i613	<u>Janson, Sylvester</u>	6 Nov 1587					0 0
	given the long gap between #610 and #611, the three younger children could have been from a second marriage						
i605	<u>JANSON, William</u>				1	2	
• i615	<u>JANSON, William</u>	19 Nov 1591					0 0
• i616	<u>JANSON, Henry</u>	23 Sep 1597					0 0

The Jefferies of Shipbourne

This name, which occurs in many of the villages in the area, is spelled Jefferie, Jeffrey, etc. and also Geoffrey.

Although **William Jefferie** (\$314¹¹⁹) was described as “of **West Peckham**”, he had a child, **John** (\$316), baptised in Shipbourne on 14th March 1585; perhaps his wife came from Shipbourne and had returned to her family to have the baby. This was quite common for first children of a marriage.

Mary Jefferie (\$876) married **Percival Tye** (\$871) on 26th July 1607 “by licence”.

William Jefferie (\$1216) married **Mary Moon** (\$1217) on 28th October 1617 “by a licence from Rochester”.

John Jeffery (\$2119) married **Elisabeth Marden** (\$2137) on 17th May 1648.

119 \$ indicates a reference in the Shipbourne database

The Jeffreys of Seal & Ightham

Thomas Jeffrey (#295¹²⁰) was buried on 19th December 1592 in Seal and his **widow, Mary**, (#606) on 13th January 1568.

William Jeffrey (#1643) had a servant, **Robert Frere** (#1642), who was buried on 24th July 1586.

In **Ightham** variations of this name include "Jefferies" and Geffrey:

The **Geffreys (or Jeffreys)** were obviously **bakers and brewers**; in the list of names occurring in the 1553-74 records there are: **Agnes Jeffrey**, baker and brewer, **Ann Jeffrey**, **George Jeffrey**, baker and brewer, **Henry Jeffrey**, **borsholder**, baker and brewer, and **William Jeffrey**, baker and brewer.

On 31st May 1556, the **wife of Henry Jeffrey** (who could have been the borsholder) and **William Parker** were found not to have "[exhibited the sign of a brewer. Fined 2d each and to remedy it before the next Court.](#)" (CRI 1938, p.10)

Henry Geffrey was mentioned in the Bing v. Hooper case - see [Excerpts from Ightham Court Rolls in Section Z of Families & Transcripts](#) This could have been the borsholder and **Henry Geffrey** (i1357) who was buried on 10th October 1573. **Ann Geffrey** (i1366) was buried on 16th April 1574. Nothing more than her name is given but she could have been Henry's widow.

There is no mention of any Geffreys or Jeffreys in the 1586-1618 records. Perhaps, as is implied by no baptisms in the parish records, there was no next generation to carry on the business. By 1638, however, there was a family of Jefferies:

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
i2595	<u>JEOFFERIES, John</u> -----		26 Jul 1638	Susan Brooker i2596	1	2	
● i2632	<u>JEOFFERIES, Thomas</u>	19 Feb 1650					0 0
			baptised 3 March when 12 days old				
● i2681	<u>JEOFFERIES, John</u>						0 0 5 Jun 1652

120 # indicates a reference in the Seal database and "i" to that for Ightham

Thomas was recorded as the "son of John Jefferies and Susan" but he was born 12 years after the marriage of i2595 and i2596; did John die just after birth or was he an older son?

Dorothy Jeffrey (i2557), daughter of **John and Susan Jeffrey** (i2555 and i2556), was baptised on 16th February 1648.

The Jeffreys of the Tonbridge Area

A number of Jeffrey wills for the Tonbridge area have been transcribed:

John Jeffrey	Tonbridge	6 Feb 1606/7	CKS: Drb/Pw 21	page 2.j.20
John Jeffrey	Pembury	7 Jun 1621	PCC: Dale 76; Prob 10436	page 2.j.27
Thomas Jeffrey	Tudeley	14 Feb 1622	PCC: Saville 114; Prob 10436	page 2.j.59
Jane Jeffrey	Pembury	28 Apr 1623	CKS: Drb/Pw 26	page 2.j.39
Edward Jeffrey	Pembury	3 Nov 1623	CKS: Drb/Pw 26	page 2.j.53
John Jeffrey	Leigh	9 Sep 1624	CKS: Drb/Pw 26; Drb/Pwr 2145	page 2.j.57

The 1607 will of John Jeffrey of Tonbridge is very long and only the first, sixth and tenth (last) page have been transcribed. It was written by Nicholas Hooper who wrote many wills in the Tonbridge area from the mid 1570s until his death in 1618.

The will of John Jeffrey of Pembury was written by John Hooper, Nicholas's son and the parish clerk of Tonbridge. Only the first page has been transcribed but this includes all except the final lines detailing the reading and signing of the will; the names of the witnesses are given. This John was the second husband of Jane whose will was written in 1623 and probably the son of John of Tonbridge.

The will of Thomas Jeffrey of Tudeley was also written by John Hooper but there is no obvious connection between him and the other Jeffrey testators. It is a long will and only the first page has been transcribed.

John of Pembury mentions four sons, John, William, Edward and Thomas, and makes his wife, Jane, his executrix. Jane mentions the above four sons plus a fifth, Nicholas, but he could have been mentioned in the later pages of John's will. In any case, the likenesses between the two wills are such that it is reasonable to take John and Jane as husband and wife. The Edward whose will was written in 1623 was their son. John left his servant Margaret Baker ten shillings and a Margaret Baker witnessed the wills of both Jane and Edward.

Jane was still alive when Edward's will was written. Both wills were proved in March 1623/4, that is nearly a year after Jane's was written. Both were written by Stephen Jeffrey, gent. of Gray's Inn but Edward's is a copy of the original (also written by Stephen Jeffrey). One of Stephen's distinctive usages is his "Also" where practically all other scribes used "Item".

John Jeffrey of Leigh could also have been Jane's son but, since only a short extract has been transcribed, this relationship is only a possibility. He did, however, ask to be buried in the "[churchyard of Pembury as near as may be to the foot of my father's tombstone](#)". Jane's husband was "John of Pembury".

Two interesting and unusual details from these wills are the paying of debts and the learning of the catechism.

Payment of Debts

John of Tonbridge in 1606 and John of Pembury in 1621, probably father and son, were both very concerned about the payment of their debts.

In 1606, John having divided his land between his four sons added the proviso that they should pay out of lands they had inherited “such sums of money, yearly during the space of six years, or longer until all my said debts and legacies shall be full paid and discharged”. He then gave the amount each was to annually pay:

John	£ 5 5s	£ 5.25	}	
Edward	£10 18s 10d	£10.94	}	an annual
				total of
George	£ 7 15s	£ 7.75	}	£33
				13s
				10d
Reubon	£ 9 15s	£ 9.75	}	(£33.
				69)

If he thought it would take at least six years to pay off his debts these must have totalled over £200. Presumably the amount each son was required to contribute depended on the value of the property bequeathed to him. Each of them was to be accountable to his brothers giving details “one to the other from time to time as occasion shall be offered of all and every the said yearly sums, to the intent that with the said yearly sums, all and every my debts and legacies may be performed according to the true meaning of this my will”.

John of Pembury “having an especial care and desire that all my proper debts (owing by speciality and otherwise) should be truly and fully paid” instructed his executrix, shortly after his decease, to sell all his “corn, cattle, husbandry tackling and chattels” for an honest and indifferent price towards the payment of his debts. Any ready money he had when he died plus all the debts to him me owing, was also go “towards the paying of my debts and legacies and the defraying of my funeral expenses”. On what was his widow to live if everything had to be sold to pay his debts?

The Learning of the Catechism

John of Pembury in his will of 1621 left twenty shillings each to two grandchildren but this was to be paid to them only when they could “say the catechism of the

church now set down in the book of Common Prayer without book, by heart". He also left two shillings and sixpence to each of his godchildren, to be paid to them respectively when they demanded it and could say the catechism from memory.

Jane's godchildren also had to be able to say the catechism before they were given the twelve pence she left each of them.

John Jeffrey, yeoman of Tonbridge

The John Jeffrey whose will was written in February 1606/7 wanted to be buried in Speldhurst although he is described as "of Tonbridge". He owned land in Tonbridge and the adjoining parishes of Speldhurst and Capell and also in Ashurst which is just to the west of Speldhurst.

He had four sons: Reubon, John, Edward and George. Possibly because only three of the ten pages of the will have been transcribed, the order of the sons is not known except that John was the second son. He owned land in Tonbridge, Speldhurst, Ashurst and Capel.

John left to his son John a number of pieces of land two of which were Heathcroft and Claytonfield. But it was to be lawful for Reuben, another of his sons, "at any

time within twenty years next after my decease, in any one year or two at the most and next after an another, to have, dig, take and carry, of marl, cope and soilage out of a marl pit . . . in Heathcroft . . . to the number of 20 hundred loads” each being 14 bushels or below. These loads were to be taken through Heathcroft and Claytonfield, “by such way as heretofore hath been used, to and from and the lands” which were given to Reuben in the summer (“between Maytide and ??”) and Reubon was to “save harmless the said Heathcroft and . . . Claytonfield as much as may be in shutting the gates and ?? “.

Will of John Jeffrey, yeoman, of Tonbridge

written 6th February 1606/7

extract from original

Nicolas Hooper's
mark

1 In¹²¹ the name of god Amen. The sixth day of February in the year
2 of our Lord God one thousand, six hundred and six and in the fourth year of
the reign of our

121 decorated I with the Hooper mark “attached” to the “h” of “the

3 Sovereign Lord James, by the grace of god, king of England, France and
Ireland,
4 defender of the faith, etc. And of Scotland the fortieth, I, John Jeffrey of
5 **Lymmingtons** within the parish of Tonbridge in the county of Kent,
yeoman, being¹²² at the time
6 of the making hereof in good and perfect health as well of body as of mind,
thanks therefore be given
7 to Almighty god, notwithstanding aged and subject to infirmities, and
thereby as also by many
8 and daily examples put in mind of my last end, knowing assuredly that I
shall change this
9 life but the time of that being uncertain and willing to set in order those
transitory possessions
10 which God hath made me steward of here in this world, that no contention
fall out about
11 the same after my decease. Therefore I do ordain and make this my
present testament and last
12 will in manner and form following: And **First** and principally, I give,
commend and bequeath
13 my soul into the hands of Almighty god who gave it, trusting that (by the
merits, precious death

122 "beeing", "bee", etc. throughout

14 and bloodshedding¹²³ of my only saviour, Jesus Christ) that the same
shalbe presented, pure and
15 without spot, before the throne of his majesty. And my body to the earth,
to be buried
16 in the churchyard of **Speldhurst** in the said county of Kent, in sure and
certain hope of
17 joyful resurrection to eternal life. **Item:** I give and bequeath to the poor of
the parish
18 of Tonbridge aforesaid, the sum of forty shillings lawful money to be paid
and

...

...

page 6:

- 6.1 **This is the**¹²⁴ last will of me the said John Jeffrey made and declared the
day and year
- 6.2 first above written, concerning the order and disposition of all my lands,
tenements and hereditaments

123 "bludshedding"

124 decorated with very small Hooper sign "hanging" from the cross-bar of the initial "T"

6.3 whatsoever, lying within the several parishes of Tonbridge and Speldhurst
aforesaid and **Ashhurst**
6.4 and **Capell** in the said county of Kent or elsewhere within the said county
of Kent. **And first**
6.5 I give and bequeath unto **John Jeffrey, my second son**, all those six
sendalls or parcels
6.6 land and wood called the **Deane**, the south part of **Clayton Field** as it is
now divided ??
6.7 of them have sometimes been called **Clayton Wood** now being three
parcels and the sixth **Heathcroft**
6.8 together, situated, lying and being in Speldhurst aforesaid and Ashurst in
the said county
6.9 whose the first five lie in Speldhurst and the 6th, viz. Heathcroft, lieth in
Ashurst aforesaid.
6.10 To have and to hold all the six sendalls or parcels of land and wood, with
all and singular
6.11 th'appurtenances unto the said John Jeffrey, my son, his heirs and assigns,
forever. **Yet**
6.12 nevertheless my will and meaning is that it shall and may be lawful to and
for **Reuben Jeffrey**
6.13 and his heirs, at any time within twenty years next after my decease, in
any one year or

6.14 two at the most and next after an another, to have, dig, take and carry, of
marl, cope and soilage
6.15 out of a marl pit now being in Heathcroft aforesaid to the number of 20
hundred loads of the
6.16 14 bushel count? at the most, by and through the said Heathcroft and the
said south part
6.17 of Claytonfield, by such way as heretofore hath been used, to and from and
the lands hereafter
6.18 given to the said Reuben, my son, the which marl, my meaning is, shalbe
employed upon the said
6.19 ?? ?? given to the said Reuben, if he or his heirs shall keep the same
without selling ??
6.20 ?? ?? ?? that my said son, and his heirs, shall save harmless the said
Heathcroft
6.21 and the said south part of Claytonfield as much as may be in shutting the
gates and ?? in
6.22 his and their carriage aforesaid. And the said carriage to be ?? between
Maytide and ??

...

...

page 10:

10.1 the premises before mentioned to be given to the said Reuben Jeffrey, my
son, withall and every commons,
10.2 freedoms and appurtenances to them or any of them belonging, unto the
said Reuben Jeffrey, my son, his
10.3 heirs and assigns, forever. **Provided** always and my will is, that my said
four sons,
10.4 viz. John, **Edward, George** and Reubon, my sons, their heirs and assigns,
shall pay out of their said
10.5 lands and tenements to them severally willed, towards the paying of all my
debts and legacies ??
10.6 all such sums of money, yearly during the space of six years, or longer until
all my said debts and
10.7 legacies shalbe full paid and discharged with the same sums as presently
followeth, viz. my son John,
10.8 his heirs or assigns, yearly five pounds and five shillings, my said son
Edward, his heirs or
10.9 assigns, yearly ten pounds, eighteen shillings and ten pence, my said son
George,
10.10 his heirs or assigns, seven pounds and fifteen shillings, and my said son
Reuben, his
10.11 heirs or assigns, yearly nine pounds and fifteen shillings, and shall every of
them be accounting

- 10.12 one to the other from time to time as occasion shalbe offered of all and every the said yearly sums, to
- 10.13 the intent that with the said yearly sums, all and every my debts and legacies may be
- 10.14 performed according to the true meaning of this my will, any gift or any other thing whatsoever in this
- 10.15 will contained to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding **In witness** whereof to this my
- 10.16 last will and testament, being ten sheets of paper, I, the said John Jeffrey, the father, to every sheet
- 10.17 thereof have put my seal and subscribed my name. And I do hereby revoke and renounce all
- 10.18 other wills whatsoever hereto fore by me made and do publish, declare and signify this only
- 10.19 to be my true and last will, yeven the day and year first above written

Nicolas Hooper's
mark

Read, sealed, pronounced and declared
the day and year first above or before
written by the said John Jeffrey, the father,
as his true and last will in the presence of me

Nicholas Hooper, writer hereof. And of

?? ??

?? ?? and

Nicholas Hooper

Will of John Jeffrey, yeoman, of Pembury

written 7th June 1621
transcript from original

- 1 In¹²⁵ the name of god Amen. The seventh day of June in the year of our
Lord God
- 2 one thousand, six hundred, thirty and one. And in the nineteenth year of
the reign of our
- 3 Sovereign Lord James by the grace of god king of England, France and
Ireland, defender of the
- 4 faith, etc. And of Scotland the four and fiftieth. **I, John Jeffrey** of
Pepingbury
- 5 als. Pembury in the county of Kent, **yeoman**, being at this time sickly and
weak in body

125 large decorated "I" the height of five lines

6 but of good remembrance and memory, thanks be given to God, do ordain
and make this my testament
7 and last will in manner and form following: **First** I humbly yield and
commend my soul
8 to Almighty god, my maker, with an assured hope of salvation through his
mercy in the merits and
9 mediation of his dear son Jesus Christ, and my body to the earth in decent
manner to be buried
10 in the churchyard of Pepingbury aforesaid, or else where if shall be thought
fit, with like hope of
11 joyful resurrection to eternal life. **Item:** I will and bequeath to the poor of
Pepingbury
12 aforesaid forty shillings to be distributed amongst the most needy of them
within short time after
13 my decease at the discretion of my executrix hereafter named. **Item:** I
bequeath to **Elizabeth,**
14 **the daughter of my son John Jeffrey** and to **John, the son of my son William**
Jeffrey, to either of them
15 twenty shillings to be paid to them respectively when they can say the
catechism of the church
16 now set down in the book of Common Prayer without book, by heart. **Item:**
I bequeath to all

17 my godchildren two shillings and sixpence a piece to be paid them
respectively when they shall
18 demand it and can say the catechism aforesaid memoriter. **Item:** I
bequeath to **Margaret Baker, my servant**, (if she shalbe dwelling with me at
the time of my decease, ten shillings. **Item:**
19 I will and appoint that the iron plate in the hall and my bedstead¹²⁶ in the
new chamber of my house at **Lankington** and my table in
20 the hall there and the shelves in the butteries there which were there
before my son John came to
21 dwell there, shall remain and be to **Edward Jeffrey, my son**, (but the said
John to have the use
22 thereof during his dwelling there). And such other goods and husbandry
tools whatsoever within
23 there, I will unto the said John Jeffrey, my son, his executors and assigns.
Item: I (having
24 an especial care and desire that all my proper debts (owing by speciality
and otherwise) should be
25 truly and fully paid) do will and appoint that my executrix hereafter named,
or her assigns, shall
26 within short time after my decease, sell all my corn, cattell, husbandry
tackling and chattells

126 "bedsteddle"

27 ?? the true value of them according as they shalbe honestly and
indifferently prised¹²⁷ by those
28 which shall be prisers of my inventory, for and towards the payment of my
said debts. **And**
29 I also will and appoint that such ready money as I shall have at the time of
my decease and also all
30 my debts to me owing, shalbe also for and towards the paying of my debts
and legacies and the
31 defraying of my funeral expenses. **Item:** I will and give to William and
Thomas, my sons,
32 (hoping their mother will otherwise paid for them) the sum of five pounds
apiece of lawful english money.

33 **The rest** and all other of my goods and household stuff I wholly give and
bequeath to
34 **Jane, my loving wife,** whom I make the sole and only executor of this my
testament and last will

witnesses: **Robert Newman, Thomas Wood, John Hooper, notary public**

127 priced; "prysers" on the next line - pricers, those who valued his inventory

Jane, a Wealthy Widow

Jane was married twice, first to Roger Tompson by whom she had two sons and two daughters and secondly to John Jeffrey by whom she had five sons. She was a widow when she died in 1623 by which time all her Tompson children had children of their own. Some of the items which she bequeathed she described as being “[now are in the chamber over the kitchen where . . . herein my mother now lyeth](#)”. It therefore seems that there were four generations alive in 1623: Jane’s mother, Jane herself and her sister, Janes’s children and her grandchildren. For Jane to have had so many children, six of whom had children of their own, she was probably born in the 1560s making her mother about eighty which is feasible if not very common.

Nothing is known of Jane’s first husband but, from the animals and implements of husbandry which she mentioned in her will, both Roger and John were probably wealthy pastoral farmers, John being described in his will as a yeoman.

When she came to write her will, Jane was obviously a wealthy woman owning “[lands, tenements and hereditaments](#)” in Pembury, Tudeley and Capell apparently in her own right. The house, called Crowherst, in which she lived included a parlour and hall with chambers above them and also a gallery. Her mother was lying in a room over the kitchen. She bequeathed to her sons one

bedstead, two featherbeds and a trundle bed with four feather beds and other linen, etc. with them. She also had oxen, kyne, sheep, horses, cows in the field, barn and house and other my chattels, real and personal. These included wains, plough and implements of husbandry.

The house, which she gave to her son Thomas, included “[barns, stables, edifices, orchards, gardens, closes and enclosures](#)” and all five pieces or parcels of land, meadow and pasture land.

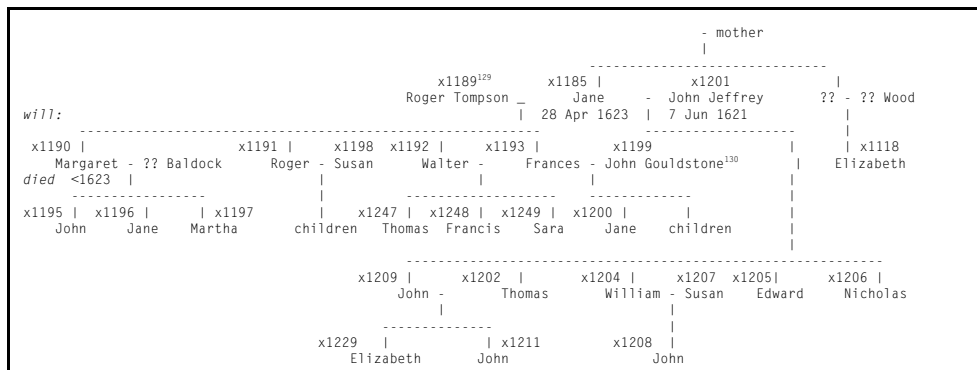
Jane's Wearing Apparel

Jane had three suits of apparel “[that is to say, gown, petticoat, kirtle, hat and band of cambric¹²⁸ or holland](#)”; she left the best of these to her daughter Francis and the other two to her two daughters-in-law.

Her other, and probably eldest daughter, Margaret had already died; Jane left the rest of her apparel to Margaret's two daughters, Jane and Martha Baldock.

128 “combrike”

Jane's Family



129 "x" indicates a reference in the general database

130 this name is written "Gouldstone" in Jane's will but Frances was the wife of John Goldstone whose will has survived - see [Goldstone in More Families & Transcripts](#) for details of her other children. The children of Frances's brother Walter are known from the will of Frances's son Robert, Walter's child Francis being a son.

Her Minor Bequests

Jane Gouldstone, daughter of her daughter Francis and Jane's goddaughter was to receive five shillings and a pair of sheets with the rest of Francis's children each receiving two shillings and sixpence.

Her two Jeffrey grandsons were to receive five shillings each as were all the children of her Tompson sons.

Of her two Thompon sons, Roger was to receive five shillings whilst Walter is not mentioned other than as the father of children receiving small bequests. Probably their father left them legacies

Jane left John, probably her eldest Jeffrey son, ten shillings and he is not mentioned again. Perhaps he had been his father's main heir.

Bequests to Jane's Baldock Grandchildren

Jane was the administratrix of the estate of her first husband, Roger Tompson. To have had five sons, two of whom had children of their own by 1623, Jane must have married again soon after Roger's death. There was a bequest of £10 to each of Margaret's three children, due to be paid when they reached the age of twenty-one, which may have been left to them by their grandfather and John is included in the details about the payment of this bequest. What arrangements were made, possibly when Jane remarried, to ensure that the money was earmarked for Jane's Baldock grandchildren is not known but payment was to be made "[with the desire and consent of my sister Elizabeth Wood and of my daughter Francis Gouldstone or of one of them if they, or one of them, shalbe then living](#)". Francis was the full aunt of the children.

There was a proviso of a different kind, possibly made by Roger if the bequest originally came from him: "[But if they, or any of them shall marry before their said age of twenty and two years without consent as aforesaid, then the part and portion of that person or persons so marrying without consent to be void and my executors to have the benefit thereof](#)".

Bequests to Jane's Jeffrey Sons

Jane divided her “household stuff” between three of her Jeffrey sons:

to Thomas:

- “a furnace; my bedstead in the chamber over the parlour, the table in the parlour, the table in the hall, the table in the gallery and forms and stools unto them” (belonging).

to Edward and Nicholas:

“so much of my other household stuff as shall be to either of them in equal value unto the said furnace, tables, stools and bedstead before given unto my said son Thomas Jeffrey, the same to be valued by my overseers or two or one of them”.

The remainder of her household stuff was then to be divided equally Thomas, Edward and Nicholas. She then willed all her “chattels, oxen, kyne, sheep, horses, cows in the field, in the barn and in the house and all other my chattels, real and personal, wains, ploughs, implements of husbandry (except my household stuff before given and devised)” should be sold by her executors for the payment of her debts and legacies with anything left over being divided between her executors who were to be Thomas and Edward.

These chattels. etc. were obviously in addition to her household stuff which had been divided between Thomas, Edward and Nicholas. But, if the amount obtained for them was not sufficient to pay her debts, etc. then “so much of my household stuff within the house before hereby by me given and devised” was to be sold as would be “sufficient for the discharge thereof, taking a part out of every portion of my said sons, . . . equally”.

But then, in what seems to be an afterthought, she left:

to William

- “the featherbed, bolsters, pillows, coverlet and blankets which now are in the high bed wherein I now lie”.

to Nicholas

- “the featherbed, bolsters, pillows, coverlet and blankets which now are in the trundle bed in the chamber over the parlour”.

Weren't these items included in those which she had previously said were to be divided between Thomas, Edward and Nicholas?

Jane's Land and Tenements

Thomas was Jane's main heir and was to have her house and its land, etc. plus a number of other pieces of land

Thomas was to pay William and Nicholas £20 each to be paid in £5 instalments annually for four years after her death. As security for this they were to hold about 3 acres of land in Capell and 11½ acres with a cottage in Pembury but, alternatively, Thomas Jeffrey, at his own expense, could “[make, seal and deliver such deed or deeds in writing](#)” to Jane's overseers which would assure William and Jeffrey that the forty pounds would be paid as directed by their mother.

In addition to his £20, William was to have 14 acres of land in Pembury and Tudeley

William and Nicholas had been given land by their father, possibly before he died rather than in his will since Jane writes of the “[lands given unto them by .. their father, lately my husband deceased, and by me](#)”. It was now Jane's “[mind and intent](#)” that if William and/or Nicholas Jeffrey, wished “[to alien, sell and surrender](#)” these lands “[that they shall sell the same unto my said son Thomas Jeffrey . . giving so much as another will give](#)”. Within three months after her death they were to make bonds binding themselves and their heirs to not sell, etc.

these lands “unto any person or persons whatsoever, until (unless?) the said Thomas . . . shall refuse to give, for their lands . . . so much money as shall be thought fit and reasonable by my overseers”. If William and/or Nicholas refused to seal and deliver such a bond, then Jane’s “will and mind is that he or they so refusing shall forfeit and loose the benefits of this my last will”.

The Will of Jane Jeffrey

written 28th April 1623

transcript from original

1 In the name of God Amen. the eight and twentieth day of April in the year
of the reign of our sovereign
2 lord James, by the grace of god king of England, Scotland, France and
Ireland, defender of the faith, etc., that is to say of England,
3 France and Ireland, the one and twentieth and of Scotland the six and
fiftieth. I, Jane Jeffrey of Pepingbury alias Pembury in
4 in the county of Kent, **widow**, being of reasonable health of body and of
good and perfect mind and memory, thanks be to Almighty
5 God, do make and declare this my last will and testament in writing in
manner and form following: **First:** and principally
6 I give and commit my soul unto the mercies of Almighty God, my creator
and redeemer, trusting to be saved by the merits and passion of Jesus

7 Christ, my redeemer and saviour, and my body to be buried at the
discretion of my executors hereafter by me named. **Also**¹³¹ I will and
8 give to the poor people of Pembury aforesaid, to be distributed by my
executors, twenty shillings and to be spent amongst my honest
9 neighbours going with my corpse to burial according to the discretion of
my executors. **Also** I will and give unto my **daughter Francis,**
10 **the now wife of John Gouldstone,** my gold ring and my best suit of apparel,
that is to say, gown, petticoat, kirtle, hat and band of
11 cambric or holland. **Also** I give unto **Susan, the now wife of my son Roger**
Tompson, my second suit of apparel, that is to say,
12 gown, petticoat, kirtle, hat and band of cambric or holland. Also I give
unto **Susan, the now wife of my son William Jeffrey,** my
13 third suit of apparel, that is to say, gown, petticoat, kirtle hat and band of
cambric or holland; the rest of my wearing apparel I
14 give unto **Jane and Martha Baldock, daughters of my daughter Margaret.**
Also I give unto **Jane Gouldstone,** my goddaughter, the
15 **daughter of my daughter Francis,** five shillings and one pair of sheets. Also
I give unto **Elizabeth Wood, my goddaughter, the daughter**
16 **of my sister Wood,** two shillings and sixpence. Also I give unto all the
children of my daughter **Francis** two shillings and sixpence.

131 spelled "Alsoe"; used throughout instead of the usual "Item"

17 Also I give unto all my other godchildren twelve pence a piece when they
can say the catechism. Also I give unto **John**
18 **Jeffrey the son of my son John Jeffrey**, five shillings. Also I give unto my
son John Jeffrey ten shillings. Also I give unto
19 **my son Roger Thompson** ten shillings. **Also** I give unto **John Jeffrey, the**
son of my son William Jeffrey, five shillings.
20 Also I give unto all the **children of my two sons Walter Tompson and Roger**
Tompson, five shillings a piece. **Also** I
21 give unto **John Baldock** and unto the said Jane and Martha Baldock the
three children of my daughter Margaret, deceased.
22 ten pounds a piece, that is to say, the sum of thirty pounds of lawful money
of England equally between them and
23 if any or one of them die, the survivors or survivor of them to have the
portion of the deceased in full payment and
24 satisfaction of all such duties and demands nothing they, or any of them,
shall or may claim or demand by and after
25 the death of **Roger Tompson, their deceased grandfather**, or by and after
me, the said Jane as administratrix after the death of the said
26 Roger Tompson, or by gift, promise or other ways of me, or of **John Jeffrey,**
my late husband, deceased, the same to be
27 paid unto them by my executors hereafter named at the age of twenty and
two years of them, the said John, Jane and

28 Martha Baldock, or at their day of their several marriages of they or any of
them shall marry before their said ages of twenty
29 and two years with the desire and consent of my sister Elizabeth Wood and
of my daughter Francis Gouldstone or of one of
30 them if they, or one of them, shalbe then living. But if they, or any of them
shall marry before their said age of twenty and
31 two years without consent as aforesaid, then the part and portion of that
person or persons so marrying without consent
32 to be void and my executors to have the benefit thereof. **Also** I give unto
Thomas Jeffrey, my son, the furnace
33 now being in the messuage or house wherein I now dwell and my
bedstead in the chamber over the parlour, the table
34 in the parlour, the table in the hall, the table in the gallery and forms and
stools unto them. Also I give
35 unto **Edward** and **Nicholas Jeffrey, my sons,** so much of my other
household stuff as shall be to either of them
36 in equal value unto the said furnace, tables, stools and bedstead before
given unto my said son Thomas Jeffrey, the same
37 to be valued by my overseers or two or one of them. And the residue or
remainder of all other household stuff
38 I give unto the said Thomas, Edward and Nicholas Jeffrey, my sons,
equally between them. Also I give

39 unto every of my servants which shalbe my servants dwelling with me at
the time of my death two shillings and
40 six pence apiece. Also I give unto Thomas Jeffrey, my said son, my silver
cup. And unto William Jeffrey,
41 my son, my silver salt. **Also** I will that all my chattels oxen, kyne, sheep,
horses, cows in the
42 field, in the barn and in the house and all other my chattels, real and
personal, wains, ploughs, implements
43 of husbandry (except my household stuff before given and devised) shall be
sold by my executors for
44 the payment of my debts and legacies and if there shalbe (after my debts
and legacies paid) any surplusage
45 or overplus, then I give the same unto my executors equally between them.
And if my said goods and chattels,
46 shall not be sufficient to pay and discharge my debts and legacies, then I
will so much of my
47 household stuff within the house before hereby by me given and devised,
shalbe sold by my executors or
48 by the survivor of them, as shall be sufficient for the discharge thereof,
taking a part out of every portion
49 of my said sons, Edward, Thomas and Nicholas, equally or all of the same,
if need shalbe. **Also** I give

50 unto Thomas Jeffrey, my son, the featherbed, sheets, pillows, coverlet and
blankets which now, one and all,

page 2

51 used in an upon the high bed and bedstead in the chamber over the
parlour. **Also** I give unto Edward
52 Jeffrey, my son, the featherbed, bolsters, pillows, coverlet and blankets
which now are in the chamber over the
53 kitchen where and so herein my mother now lyeth. **Also** I will and give
unto William Jeffrey, my
54 son, the featherbed, bolsters, pillows, coverlet and blankets which now are
in the high bed wherein
55 I now lie. **Also** I give unto Nicholas Jeffrey, my son, the featherbed,
bolsters, pillows, coverlet
56 and blankets which now are in the trundle bed in the chamber over the
parlour. **And I** make Thomas
57 Jeffrey and Edward Jeffrey, my sons, executors of this my last will.

58 **This is the last will** and testament of me the said Jane Jeffrey made and
declared by me the
59 day and year before written concerning the disposition of all my lands,
tenements and hereditaments

60 situated, lying and being in Pepingbury als. Pembury, Tudeley and Capell
in the said county of Kent or
61 elsewhere. I will and give unto William Jeffrey and Nicholas Jeffrey, my
said sons, the sum of
62 forty pounds of good and lawful money of England, equally to be divided
between them, that is to
63 say, to each of them the sum of twenty pounds of lawful money of England
to be paid unto the
64 said William and Nicholas Jeffrey, their executors and administrators, at or
in the house wherein
65 I now dwell by my son Thomas Jeffrey, his heirs, executors or
administrators, within four years
66 next after my decease, that is to say the sum of ten pounds of lawful money
at the end of every
67 of the said four years until the sum of forty pounds shall be paid by equal
portions out of
68 my lands hereafter named. And for the security and sure payment of the
said sum of forty pounds
69 I will and give, grant and devise unto them the said William Jeffrey and
Nicholas Jeffrey, my sons, and to
70 their executors, administrators and assigns, and to them and either of
them, their and either of their

71 executors, administrators and assigns, one piece or parcel of meadowland
called **Cooling meade** lying and
72 being in the parish of Capell in the said county of Kent, containing by
estimation three acres of land;
73 also one other parcel of land called **Pitfield** containing by estimation three
acres and a half; also one
74 house or cottage sometimes purchased of ¹³² **Cadd** and also two other
parcels of land called **Long**
75 **Mead** and **Great Mead** containing by estimation eight acres of land,
situated, lying and being in Pepingbury
76 alias Pembury aforesaid. To have and to hold the said cottage. meadow
land and premises, with
77 th'appurtenances unto the said William Jeffrey and Nicholas Jeffrey, my
sons, and to either
78 of the, and to their and either of their executors, administrators and
assigns, from the feast day
79 of St. Michael th'archangel next and immediately ensuing after my
decease unto the end and term of
80 four years from thence next following and then fully to be completed and
ended. **Provided**

132 space left here, presumably for first name which was never entered

81 always, that if the said Thomas Jeffrey, my son, or his heirs or assigns,
shall at his or their costs
82 and charges, make, seal and deliver such deed or deeds in writing under
his or their hand and seal
83 and delivered unto my overseers hereafter named, or to three. two or one of
them, to the use of them, the said
84 William Jeffrey and Nicholas Jeffrey, their executors and administrators, for
the true payment of the
85 said sum of forty pounds, to be paid within four years next after my
decease, that is to say the sum
86 of ten pounds yearly during the said term of four years unto the said
William Jeffrey and
87 Nicholas Jeffrey equally between them, or their executors or
administrators, equally between them
88 as shall be thought fit, convenient, and reasonable unto them, my said
overseers, or to three, two or
89 one of them, the same fit and reasonable assurance to be by them. my said
overseers, or to three, two or one
90 of them, signified and declared under their, or one of their, hands and
sealed in writing unto the said
91 William Jeffrey and Nicholas Jeffrey or to their executors or administrators.
That then and from

92 thenceforth this my said gift and devise of the said cottage and lands to
them, the said William Jeffrey
93 and Nicholas Jeffrey and to their executors and administrators, shall be to
them and either of them,

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94 their and either of their executors administrators and assigns void and of
none effect, anything heretofore given
95 devised or demised in and by this my present last will to the contrary
thereof in any wise notwithstanding.
96 **Also** I will and give unto the said Thomas Jeffrey, my son, all that my
house, messuage or tenement wherein I now
97 inhabit, called or known by the name of **Crowherst** or by whatsoever other
name or names, and all barns, stables, edifices,
98 orchards, gardens, closes and enclosures¹³³ to the same messuage
appertaining. And also all that five pieces or parcels of land,
99 meadow and pasture land (except the interest and term of four years before
in this my will given unto William Jeffrey
100 and Nicholas Jeffrey, my sons, of the same) wherof the first parcel is called
Barnfield, the second **Kitchen Field**, the third

133 "inclosures"

101 **Long Meade**, the fourth **Greatmeade** and the fifth is called **Petfield** or by
whatsoever other name or names, containing in
102 the whole, by estimation, eighteen acres of land, situated, lying and being
in Pepingbury alias Pembury aforesaid in the
103 said county of Kent. And also one other piece or parcel of meadow land
called **Cowling meade** or by whatsoever other
104 name or names containing by estimation three acres of land, lying and
being in the parish of Capell in the said county of
105 Kent. And also one cottage and garden sometime purchased of
Codd¹³⁴ situated in Pembury aforesaid.
106 **To have and to hold** all and singular the said messuage or tenement,
cottage, lands and premises and
107 their ?? of their appurtenances (thr interest and term of four years as
hereby by me before given unto
108 William Jeffrey and Nicholas Jeffrey, my said sons, and to their executors,
administrators and assigns of such
109 parcels thereof as before expressed, only excepted) unto him, the said
Thomas Jeffrey and of his heirs and
110 assigns forever, to the only use and behoof of him the said Thomas Jeffrey
and of his heirs and assigns for

134 this name lokks definitely to be "Codd" whilst that on line 73 looks like "Cadd"

111 ever. **And Also** I will and give unto William Jeffrey, my son, all those three
pieces or parcels of
112 land whereof the one is called the **Upper Perkins**, the second the **Lower**
Perkins and the third is called **Blakeland**
113 or by whatsoever other name or names, containing in the whole, by
estimation, fourteen acres of land lying and
114 being in the parish of Pepingbury als. Pembury aforesaid and Tudeley. To
have and to hold the said land and premises
115 with th'appurtenances unto the said William Jeffrey, his heirs and assigns,
forever. To the only use of him,
116 the said William Jeffrey and of his heirs and assigns forever. **And Also** I
hereby signify and declare
117 my mind and intent unto my said sons William Jeffrey and Nicholas
Jeffrey, that if they, or either of them, shalbe minded
118 and determined to alien, sell and surrender the lands given unto them by
John Jeffrey, their father, lately my husband
119 deceased, and by me, my intent is that they shall sell the same unto my
said son Thomas Jeffrey and his heirs, he the said
120 Thomas and his heirs giving so much as another will give and therefore my
will and mind is that they, the said
121 William Jeffrey and Nicholas Jeffrey, shall severally by their several bonds
obligatory of forty pounds a piece, bind

122 themselves and their heirs unto Thomas Jeffrey, my said son and his heirs,
the said bonds to be made within three
123 months next after my decease at the request and at the only costs and
charges of the said Thomas Jeffrey or his
124 heirs, the effect of the said bonds to be thus: That they, the said William
and Nicholas, nor either of them, their¹³⁵
125 nor either of their heirs, shall not alien, sell or surrender their, nor either of
their lands, given unto them, either by
126 me, or by John Jeffrey, their said father, deceased, unto any person or
persons whatsoever, until the said Thomas Jeffrey,
127 my son, or his heirs, shall refuse to give, for their, or either of their, lands so
much money as shalbe thought fit
128 and reasonable by my overseers, or by three, two or one of them, or by the
heirs of the survivor of them. And if
129 they, the said William and Nicholas, or either of them, shall refuse to seal
and deliver ?? bond, then my
130 will and mind is that he or they so refusing shall forfeit and loose the
benefits of this my last will.
131 And I appoint my wellbeloved friends **Stephen Jeffery of Grays Inn, gent.**
and **Edward Jeffrey**

135 this "their" appears to be a redundant duplication

132 of **Tonbridge**, yeoman, my brothers-in-law, **Thomas Wood** of Capell, my
brother-in-law, and **John Gouldstone**
133 of Tudeley, my son-in-law, to be my faithful overseers of this my last will,
carefully ro see the same performed
134 so much as in their power shall be and I give unto them, as a token of my
goodwill, six shillings a piece.
135 over and above all their charges. **In witness** whereof I, the said Jane
Jeffrey, testator, to this
136 my last will and testament, written and contained in these three sheets of
paper, have set my hand
137 and seal and published and declared the same the day and year first above
written in the presence of
Stephen Jeffrey¹³⁶ Jane Jeffrey
Edward Jeffrey
John Hartridge
and **Margaret Baker**
the mark of Margaret
Baker

136 presumably the first named of her overseers, Stephen Jeffrey of Grays Inn, gent. and her brother-in-law; he probably wrote the will

1 In the name of God Amen. I, Edward Jeffrey of Pepingbury alias
2 Pembury in the county of Kent, **yeoman**, being at this time sickly in body
but of good and perfect
3 mind and memory, thanks be unto Almighty God, do male and declare this
my last will and ??
4 testament in writing the third day of November in the year of our Lord
Christ one thousand, six
5 hundred twenty and three in manner and form following: **First** and
principally I humbly yield
6 my soul to Almighty God, my maker, with assured hope of salvation
through his mercy, in the merit
7 and mediation of his only son Jesus Christ, and my body to be buried in
decent manner. **Also**
8 I give unto the poor people of Pembury aforesaid the sum of twenty
shillings and to the poor people
9 of the parish of **Speldhurst** in the said the county of Kent, the sum of twenty
shillings to be paid by my
10 **brothers, William Jeffrey, Thomas Jeffrey and Nicholas Jeffrey** or by their
heirs equally within one

11 year next after the decease of **Jane Jeffrey, my mother**. **Also** I will and give
unto Nicholas Jeffrey,
12 my brother, one piece or parcel of meadow called **Deepe gate** containing by
estimation three acres,
13 lying and being in the parish of Speldhurst before mentioned in the county
of Kent. To have
14 and to hold the said parcel of meadow land with th'appurtenances unto
which said Nicholas
15 Jeffrey, my brother, and to heirs forever in payment and full recompense
and satisfaction of the sum
16 of thirty pounds lawful money of England which was given unto him, the
said Nicholas Jeffrey, by **John**
17 **Jeffrey, our late deceased father**, in and by his last will and testament.
Also I will and give all other
18 my messuage or tenement, house, barns, stables and edifices, gardens and
orchards, called or known by
19 the name of **Breakestone** als. **Jeffreys** or by whatsoever other name or
names, and all other my land,
20 meadow, pasture and woodland with th'appurtenances, or by what name
or names soever they are called, containing
21 in the whole, by estimation, fifty acres of land, severally situates, lying and
being in the parishes of Speldurst,

22 aforesaid, and **Ashurst** in the said county of Kent, all which came unto me
by the will and testament of
23 John Jeffrey, my deceased father, to have and to hold unto me, and mine
heirs, after the decease of
24 Jane Jeffrey, my mother, and the right estate, interest, title, use possessing,
reversion, remainder and
25 demand of ?? to the premises with th'appurtenances unto William Jeffrey,
Thomas Jeffrey and
26 Nicholas Jeffrey, my brothers. To have and to hold the said messuage or
tenement, edifices, land and
27 premises, with th'appurtenances and all my right of estate, title, use,
possession, reversion, remainder and demand
28 whatsoever unto them, the said William Jeffrey, Thomas Jeffrey and
Nicholas Jeffrey, my brothers and to their
29 heirs forever. **Also** I will and give unto **John Jeffrey, my brother**, the sum of
twenty pounds
30 of lawful money of England to be paid unto him, the said John Jeffrey, his
executor or administrator,
31 within one year next after the decease of Jane Jeffrey, my mother, out of
my lands, by them, the said
32 William Jeffrey, Thomas Jeffrey and Nicholas Jeffrey and their heirs,
equally which is the full part

33 and portion which I mean unto him, the said John Jeffrey, of all my lands
and tenements. **Also** I
34 will and give unto Jane Jeffrey, my mother, one annuity of yearly rent
charge of three pounds of
35 lawful money of England issuing and going out of certain lands lying in the
parish of **Tonbridge** in
36 in the county of Kent, granted by William Jeffrey unto John Jeffrey, my
father and his heirs. To have
37 and to hold the same annuity or yearly rent charge of three pounds, and full
?? and authority to
38 distraint for the same unto her, the said Jane Jeffrey, my mother, and to her
heirs and assigns for
39 ever. And my mind is that those my goods and household stuff which ??
in my said house shalbe
40 and remain unto my said brothers , William Jeffrey, Thomas Jeffrey and
Nicholas Jeffrey.

41 In witness whereof I, the said Edward Jeffrey, have hereunto set my hand
and seal the day and
42 year first above written. Edward Jeffrey in the presence of **Stephen**
Jefferie, Edward Jeffrey and
43 **Margaret Baker**, Margaret Baker's mark.

- . . . **First** and principally I commit
- my soul to Almighty god, my creator and to Jesus Christ, my redeemer . .
- assuredly to receive remission of all my sins through his most ??
- bloodshedding on
- the Cross and through his merit and passion to be made partaker of that
- eternal king
- dom which he hath purchased for them that believe in him. And as for my
- body ??
- ?? I will it to be committed to the earth from whence it came, to be buried
- in the
- parish churchyard of Pembury as near as may be to the foot of my father's
- tombstone. And as for that small portion of worldly substance wherewith
- the lord hath
- endowed me, I give and bequeath the same as followeth . . . to poor of
- Leigh and Pembury
- . . . I give to that learned Minister shall pray at my funeral a
- sermon, ten shillings.

Thomas Jeffrey of Tudeley

Thomas Jeffrey's will, written by John Hooper, is very long and only the first page has been transcribed. He mentions a son and a brother, a brother-in-law (probably the husband of his sister) and two men Robert and Walter Kipping who he calls his brothers and Walter Kipping, his father. The latter was probably his father-in-law with Robert and Walter his wife's brothers.

x1224	Walter Kipping -					?? Jeffrey -			

x1226		x1227		x1228		x1219		x1230	x1221
Robert		Walter		?? -	Thomas		?? -	Walter Gocham	Martin -
will:					14 Feb 1622				
									x1223 Robert

He also mentions cousin An Collyns. An was left thirty shillings and Robert and Walter Kipping fifty shillings each but these bequests could be taken in plate instead of money.

In this first page he mentions his "executrix" who was likely to have been his wife and he could have had children who were mentioned in the other parts of the will.

1 In the name of god Amen¹³⁷. the fourteenth day of
2 February in the year of our Lord God one thousand, six hundred, twenty
3 and one. And in the nineteenth year of the reign of our sovereign Lord
4 James
5 by the grace of God king of England, France and Ireland, defender of the
6 faith, etc.
7 And of Scotland the five and fiftieth. I, Thomas Jeffrey
8 of Tudeley in the county of Kent, **gent.** being at this time sickly and weak
9 in body but of good mind and remembrance (thanks therefore be given to
10 Almighty god) for the settling of that temporal estate which God (of his
11 goodness) hath bestowed upon me do ordain and make this my testament
12 and
13 last will in manner and form following: **First** and principally, yielding and
14 bequeathing my soul to Almighty god, my maker, with hope of salvation
15 through
16 his mercy in the merit and mediation of his dear son Jesus Christ. And my
17 body to the earth in decent manner to be buried where it shall be thought

137 all this phrase in large letters with small amount of decoration

14 fitting. **Item:** I give to the poor of Tudeley thirty shillings. And to the
15 poor of Capell ten shillings, to be paid them shortly after my decease.
16 **Item:** I give to **my loving brother Martin Jeffrey**, for a remembrance of my
love
17 towards him a ring of thirty shillings in value. And to **Robert, his son**,
18 twenty shillings. **Item:** I give to **Robert and Walter Kipping, my loving**
brothers,
19 fifty shillings a piece or the value of fifty shillings a piece in plate.
20 **Item:** I give to **An Collyns, my cousin**, thirty shillings or the value of 30s in
21 some kind of plate. **Item:** to the three servants, maids and man, of **Walter**
Kipping,
22 my loving **father** I give ten shillings a piece. And to his boy servant five
shillings.
23 **Item:** I forgive unto **Walter Gocham of Yalding, my brother-in-law**, all the
rent and
24 arrearages of rent due at the feast of Saint Michael th'archangel last past and
25 for those lands and tenements of mine which he occupieth upon condition
that he pay to
26 my executrix the half year's rent which will be due for the same at the feast
of the
27 Annunciation of the blessed virgin Mary now next coming.

.....
.....
.....

long will

I have

- set my hand and seal yeven the day and year first above written
- Thomas Jeffrey, read, sealed, subscribed and declared in
- the presence of **John Golston, William Mirriam**¹³⁸ and
- **John Hooper, notary publique.scr.** with others

The Jennings of Ightham

Dorothy Jennings (i2084) was baptised on 27th June 1612; no father's name was given at her baptism.

Charles (i2535), son of **John** (i2533) and **Anne Jennings** (i2534) was baptised on 30th March 1644; he was born on 21st March.

John Jennings endorsed the indictment for burglary of Robert Mathewes and Richard Fuller in March 1641 - see [Fuller in More Families & Transcripts](#).

The Jenyns of Seal

Gilbert Jenyns was inducted as Vicar of Seal on 31st October 1561. Seven years later, when he married in **Sevenoaks**, he was recorded as "Vicar of Seal", a post he retained until just before his death in 1603. On 5th December 1570 he was instituted to the rectory of Sevenoaks which he held for upwards of twenty years. He was also vicar of St. Dunstan's in the West (London) and rector of Little Parndon in Essex¹³⁹. His other duties did not keep him from Seal and he witnessed, and probably wrote, the wills of many of his parishioners - see the next page.

Sometimes wills were proved locally by the vicar, one example being that of William Coxe (#625¹⁴⁰), written on 5th July 1569 which was proved in Seal "[before me, Gilbert Jenyns, clerk, vicar of Kemsing and Seal](#)" (the rest of this sentence is unreadable); William Coxe was buried on 18th December 1569. Although it is difficult to read it also looks as if the will of John Smalham (#159), written on 9th December 1565 by John Hooper, was proved in Seal by Gilbert Jenyns.

139 Incumbents of Kemsing with Seal, A.C. Vol.20 p.269

140 # indicates a reference in the Seal database

date	testator	description of Jenyns
2 Jan 1561/2	Thomas Olyver (#233)	clerk
13 Jul 1562	Alice Geston;	clerk, vicar of Seal
20 Nov 1562	William Christopher (#257)	clerk
24 Apr 1563	James Porter (#229);	clerk, vicar of Kemsing and Seal
28 Apr 1563	William Frenche (#324)	clerk
1 May 1563	Thomas Rudland (#332)	clerk
3 May 1563	Robert Blatcher (#333)	vicar
14 Aug 1563	Richard Fynne	clerk
3 Jun 1566	John Beecher (#351)	clerk
27 Apr 1568	William Hills	clerk
6 Oct 1570	John Becket (#634)	clerk, vicar of Kemsing and Seal
15 Dec 1575	Margaret Christopher (#258)	
24 Feb 1577/8	John(3) Tebold (#1)	witnessed the codicil to his will
2 Jun 1581	Andrew Porter (#303)	vicar of Kemsing and Seal
8 Oct 1587	Elizabeth Porter (#204)	vicar

The family of Gilbert Jenyns is given on the next page. There is a long interval between his marriage and the baptism of Miles. Since he married in Sevenoaks he may have had other children between 1569 and 1574.

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M C	Died
#15	<u>JENYNS, Gilbert</u> -----		11 Nov 1568	Elizabeth Wood	1 2	29 Jan 1603
				#16		
• #17	<u>JENYNS, Miles</u>	20 Nov 1574	20 Jan 1600	Ann Paltock married at 25	1 2	24 Dec 1615
				#1801		
• • #2992	<u>Jenyns, Jean</u>	14 Feb 1602				0 0
• • #2993	<u>JENYNS, John</u>	20 Jul 1608				0 0
• #18	<u>JENYNS, Richard</u>	10 Apr 1579				0 0

Mildred, daughter of Thomas Jenyns, was baptised on 25th December 1562.
 Thomas Jenyns was buried on 16th October 1604.

Jessopps of Penshurst

Eight wills have survived for the Jessopps of Penshurst of which six have been transcribed. These were all from the seventeenth century but there were Jessopps in Penshurst from at least the late 1550s from which time parish records have survived. Some details of these are given first.

The Sixteenth Century Jessopps

The earliest Jessopps recorded in the parish records are:

John Jessop, senior (p866 ¹⁴¹)	buried	30 Jul 1558
Thomas Jessop (“Jyssop”, p878)		8 Aug 1558
John Jessop (p870)		26 Nov 1558

There was also an **Alexander Joseph** (p879) buried on 27th July 1558; the names of Henry and William who died in 1606 were given as Jessop alias Joseph.

141 “p” indicates a reference in the Penshurst database

There were two small Jessop families in the 1560s:

Henry Jessop (p865) had three children baptised in Penshurst:

Henry	p872	baptised	27 Oct 1560
John	p873		12 Jul 1563
Judith	p874		13 Jan 1566

William Jessop (p867) had two children baptised in Penshurst:

John	p876	baptised	5 Apr 1562
Godfrey	p877		11 Jun 1564

Another **John Jessop, senior** (p868) was buried on 1st September 1581.

1606 saw the burial of three adult Jessops:

William Jessop , alias Joseph	13 Mar 1606
Henry Jessop , alias Joseph	29 Mar 1606
Alice Jessop, widow (p866)	19 Jul 1606

William and Henry could have been the fathers of the above families and Alice could have been the wife of one of them.

Julian Jessop was the wife of **Edward Hewitt of Shipbourne** and she had a brother **Edmond** but there is no obvious connection between her and the Penshurst Jessops. See [More Families & Transcripts](#) for Edward Hewitt's will written in 1556 and more details of Julian Jessop.

The Seventeenth Century Jessops

The eight surviving wills are:

	written	proved		
John Jessopp	26 Jan 1613/4	22 Sep 1617	CKS: Prs/w/9/140	page 2.j.73
Andrew? Jessopp	1615	10 Sep 1615	CKS: Prs/w/9/138	
Jasper Jessopp	17 Jan 1616/7		PCC: Weldon 10	page 2.j.87
Alice Jessopp	7 Mar 1616/7	18 Mar 1616/7	CKS: Prs/w/9/136	page 2.j.89
John Jessopp	13 Aug 1618	1622	PCC: Savile 8	page 2.j.93
Elizabeth Jessopp	21 May 1621	10 May 1625	CKS: Prs/w/9/142	page 2.j.96
Harry Jessopp (al. Joseph)			1623 PCC: Swann 83	
Jasper Jessopp	20 Oct 1625	25 May 1627	CKS: Prs/w/9/145	page 2.j.98

There are also two wills from Leigh which have not been investigated:

Godfrey Jessopp	1626	CKS: 26; 21.221
Mildred Jessopp	1629	CKS: 29; 22.142

Both Andrew/Andronias and Godfrey could be the sons of Alice Jessop - see page 2.j.88 for details. The will of John Jessopp of West Malling, written on 30th March 1632 has also survived (**CKS: Drb/Pw 29, Drb/Pwr 22.54**) but, since there is no known connection between the Jessops included here and West Malling, its transcription is given separately - see **Families & Transcripts**

Only extracts are given for the wills of Jasper (1617) and John (1618) whilst that of Andrew has not been investigated. Elizabeth was the wife of Jasper Jessopp who was possibly the testator of 1617 and is taken to be so in the following family constructions. Their son, Jasper, was the testator of 1625.

The will of John Jessopp dated 1614 was written by Nicholas Hooper, curate of Shipbourne, who wrote a large number of wills between 1574 and 1618. One of his sons, Nicholas Hooper, junior, was a witness. Elizabeth Jessopp's will was probably written by Robert Saxpes. whilst that of her son, Jasper, was written by John Hosmer.

John Hosmer used many similar phrases to the Hoopers and decorated the "I" of "In the name of god Amen" and the "J" in his own name but in a different and less outstanding way than the Hoopers.

John Jessopp, will 1614

John had three daughters and he appointed his wife Elizabeth as his executrix. If she remarried, his two overseers were to “[make an equal partition and shift of all such my moveable goods . . . as shall be at the time of her such marriage, into four equal parts](#)” one for Elizabeth and one for each daughter. But excluded from this division were the numerous items he specified which were to be “[standers](#)” in his mansion house:

all the shelves and bouchers in the said mansion house “[in the several rooms where they now are](#)”

in the hall:

- his Bible
- a joined folded table with the frame
- six joined three cornered stools
- a cupboard and the pothangers in the chimney
- an Amery.

in the parlour:

- the joined bedstead with the featherbed, bolster, his best coverlet and a pair of his best blankets
- a joined table with a frame, with a joined form thereunto
- all the painted cloths there.

<p>in the kitchen:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the table with the frame and the form thereunto - two cast brandirons - the pothangers in the chimney. 	
<p>in the meal chamber:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the bruntin? dutch - the knead trough - the moulding board. 	
<p>in the brewhouse:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the furnace - the watering?? with his stallage? - the stallages for drink 	<p>in the loft over the hall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the joined bedstead - the joined chest.
<p>in the loft over kitchen:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the joined bedstead - the great ship chest. 	<p>in the malt loft:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the old tun - the old long round chest.

Johns's supervisors and overseers were to be "[John Jessopp, my brother-in-law](#)", and James Beecher. Had John's sister married another John Jessopp? There was a James Beecher in Penshurst baptised in 1584 (x61) and therefore thirty in 1614. In his will of 1643 this James mentioned a Jessopp of Sussex. He could have been John Jessopp's supervisor/overseer.

The testator's mansion house was called Beechers and Elizabeth was to have this for as long as she remained a widow "doing no manner of waste . . . other than in necessary and needful timber for needful reparations of the same messuage and buildings, and in needful hedgeboot for the hedging and fencing thereof".

John's eldest daughter, Elizabeth, was to have the this house, etc. on the remarriage or death of her mother, paying each of her sisters, Susan and Sara £30. The rest of this lengthy will is concerned with the arrangements to be made if John's wife remarries and/or one or more daughters died either before inheriting her portion or without heirs.

Nicholas Hooper's
mark

- 1 In¹⁴² the name of god Amen. The six and twentieth day of January in the
year
2 of our lord God, one thousand, six hundredth and thirteen, And in the
eleventh year of the reign of
3 our sovereign Lord James, by the grace of God, king of England, France and
Ireland, defender
4 of the faith, etc. And of Scotland the seven and fortieth. **I, John Jessopp**
of
5 Penshurst in the county of Kent, **yeoman**, being¹⁴³ at the time of the making
hereof in reasonable good

142 decorated "I"

143 "beeing", "bee", etc. throughout which is usual with Nicholas Hooper (including "shalbee" and "beefore")

6 health as well of body as of mind, thanks be to God, notwithstanding many
times visited
7 with aches and infirmities, and daily subject to many visitations, whereby it
may please God to take me
8 out of this mortal life, and knowing that I shall change this life but the time
thereof being
9 altogether uncertain, and willing to set in order those transitory possessions
and goods which God hath
10 made me Steward of in this world, that no contention fall out about the
same, after my decease,
11 Therefore I do ordain and make this my present last will and testament, in
manner and form
12 following:¹⁴⁴ **And First and principally**, I give, commend and bequeath
my soul into the hands
13 of Almighty God who gave it, trusting that the same shalbe presented
before the throne of his majesty,
14 (through a true and steadfast faith which I have in the merits, passion,
death and bloodshedding¹⁴⁵ of his dear

144 "folowing", also usual with Nicholas Hooper (also on line 76)

145 "bludshedding"

15 and only son Jesus Christ, my only saviour and redeemer), And my body to
the earth
16 from whence it came, to be buried in the churchyard of Penshurst aforesaid,
in sure, and
17 certain hope of joyful resurrection to the life immortal. **Item:** I will there
shalbe given and
18 distributed amongst the poor of Penshurst aforesaid, at my burial, ten
shillings, at the discretion of
19 mine executrix hereafter named. And I will that some godly preacher shall
make some godly exhortation
20 to the Company which shall be assembled at my burial, whom I will shalbe
recompensed by my said
21 executrix, to his contentment. **And as** touching all my moveable goods,
debts, credits and chattels
22 (except those hereafter in this my will which I appoint as standers in and to
my house) I wholly, fully, and
23 with good effect, intent and purpose, give and bequeath to **Elizabeth, my**
wellbeloved wife, whom I do
24 ordain and make my whole and sole executrix of this my will, to see the
same proved, my debts and
25 legacies paid (on her part to be paid) and this my will performed so far as in
her lieth and according

26 to the true sense and constitution of the same. Notwithstanding I will and
(by virtue of this my will)
27 charge her, my said wife and executrix, that if she happen to marry again,
that before her such
28 marriage, she suffer my two overseers hereafter named to make an equal
partition and shift of
29 all such my moveable goods as shall be at the time of her such marriage,
into four equal parts (besides
30 the standers hereafter appointed) whereof one fourth part shalbe to her, my
said wife, and the other three
31 equal fourth parts shalbe to my three daughters hereafter named, or equally
to as many of them as

page 2:

32 shalbe then living or wholly to one of them, if the rest shalbe deceased.
And for standers
33 to my house, I will that these implements and household stuff hereafter
presently named shalbe left as
34 standers to my mansion house wherein I now dwell for ever, viz. in the hall,
my Bible, my joined folded table with
35 the frame, 6 joined three-cornered stools, my cupboard, an Amery there and
the pothangers in the

36 chimney there. In the parlour, the joined bedstead with the featherbed,
bolster, my best coverlet and
37 a pair of my best blankets, a joined table there with a frame, with a joined
form thereunto, and all the
38 painted cloths there. In the kitchen, the table with the frame there and the
form thereunto, my
39 two cast brandirons with the pothangers in the chimney there. In the meal
chamber, the bruntin? dutch,
40 the knead trough and moulding board there. In the Brewhouse, the
furnace, the watering??,
41 with his stallage and the stallages for drink there. In the loft over the hall,
the joined
42 bedstead and my joined chest there. In the loft over kitchen, the joined
bedstead there and the
43 great ship chest. And in the malt loft, the old tun and the old long round
chest. **And I**
44 heartily desire my trusted friend and kinsmen, **John Jessopp, my brother-in-**
law, and James
45 **Beecher**¹⁴⁶, to be supervisors and overseers of this my will, desiring them to
take some pains

146 probably the James Beecher who wrote his will in 1643 and was aged 30 in 1614 - see [Beechers of Penshurst in Families & Transcripts](#)

46 in the shifting of my goods afore specified and otherwise, that this my will
may take true effect
47 according to the true meaning of this same. To whom I give five shillings a
piece in token of
48 my good will, besides their expenses about this my will to be laid out. **And**
I further
49 appoint that all the shelves and bouchers in my said mansion house shall
likewise stand and remain
50 as standers to my said mansion house for ever in the several rooms where
they now are and as
51 they now stand and are placed. And that they, nor any of the other
standers above specified, shalbe
52 any part of the goods to be divided and shifted as aforesaid. **Provided**
always that if my said
53 wife shall not be content with her fourth part of the goods herein before
mentioned, intended to her, by virtue of this my will
54 aforesaid, that she shall have no benefice of that yearly sum of forty
shillings hereafter in this my will last
55 set down and things in the same provided, or any other thing in this my will
contained, to the contrary in any wise

56 notwithstanding¹⁴⁷.

57 **This**¹⁴⁸ **is the last** will of me, the said John Jessopp, concerning the order
and disposition of

58 my messuage or tenement wherein I now dwell, and the lands thereto
belonging, in Penshurst aforesaid.

59 **And first** I will and give to Elizabeth, my wife, all that my mansion house,
messuage

60 or tenement called **Beechers** wherein I now dwell with the barns, edifice
and building thereto

61 belonging, and all the closes, gardens, orchards and lands thereto now
belonging containing in the

62 whole, by estimation, fourteen acres more or less, severally situated, lying
and being within the

63 parish of Penshurst aforesaid. To have and to hold the same and every the
same withall and singular

page 3:

147 this last clause added in, probably when the will was finished

148 small version of the "Hooper mark", vertically, in the margin, by the side of the "T"

64 th'appurtenances unto the said Elizabeth, my wife, for and during the
whole term of her natural life,
65 if she keep her self so long sole, and a widow, keeping the said message
and building and every of
66 them well and sufficiently repaired, from time to time, and doing no
manner of waste in or upon
67 the same or any part thereof, other than in necessary and needful timber for
needful reparations of the same
68 message and buildings, and in needful hedgeboot for the hedging and
fencing thereof. And after the
69 decease or next marriage of the said Elizabeth, my wife, **I will** and
bequeath all the said message or
70 tenement, barns, edifice and buildings, gardens, orchards and land, withall
and singular th'appurtenances, unto
71 **Elizabeth Jessopp, mine eldest daughter.** To have and to hold the same,
and every of the same withall
72 and singular th'appurtenances, unto the said Elizabeth, mine eldest
daughter, her heirs and assigns for ever.
73 **Notwithstanding**, my will, true intent and meaning is that my said
daughter Elizabeth, her
74 heirs or assigns, shall well and truly pay or cause to be paid unto my other
two daughters, viz. **Susan**

75 **Jessopp and Sara Jessopp**, the sum of three score pounds of good and
lawful money of England,
76 out of my said lands and tenements in manner and form following, that is
to say, unto the said Susan, my
77 second daughter, the sum of thirty pounds of lawful money within three
whole years next after the
78 decease, or next marriage, of the said Elizabeth, my wife, which shall first
happen, At or in the said mansion house, without fraud
79 or guile. And other thirty pounds residue thereof unto the said Sara, my
youngest daughter within
80 three whole years, then next after, at or in the said place without like fraud
or guile. And if either
81 of them happen to decease before the time afore limited, then the whole
three score pounds shall
82 remain and be paid to the overliiver of them, at such time as the other
should have been paid if she
83 had lived. **And that** if the said three score pounds, or any part thereof,
shalbe severally unpaid
84 within the time and times appointed, that then my will and meaning is that
the said Susan and Sara,
85 or either of them so unpaid, and her and their assigns, shall enter in and
upon the said messuage and lands and

86 every parcel thereof. And the same and every part thereof shall have, hold
and occupy, until she or they
87 so unpaid, shall have and receive of the issues and profits of my said lands
and tenements so much as shall
88 satisfy and pay the said sum and several sums aforesaid. Or until she and
they shalbe severally or
89 all paid the same together with all costs and expenses as by that occasion
shall
90 be sustained without fraud or guile. **Provided** always, that if it shall
happen the said Elizabeth, my
91 said eldest daughter to decease without heirs of her body lawfully begotten,
before the said
92 Susan, my second daughter, shall attain to her said payment of thirty
pounds, then I will and give
93 all the said messuage, and all other my said lands and premises, withall
and singular th'appurtenances, unto the said
94 Susan, my said second daughter, and to her heirs and assigns for ever. And
then I will that she, the said
95 Susan, my daughter, her heirs and assigns, shall pay or cause to be paid to
the said Sara her sister, the whole
96 sum of three score pounds at such times as she should have been paid her
£30 by nature of this my will, as

97 afore is specified. And that if she shalbe unpaid, that she and her assigns
shall enter in and upon all my said

page 4:

98 land and tenements and shall have, hold and enjoy the same in such
manner as afore in this my will is expressed,
99 without fraud or guile. **Provided** furthermore, and my like will and
meaning is, that if the said Susan,
100 my said second daughter, shall happen to decease without heirs of her
body lawfully begotten, and before the
101 said Sara, her sister, shalbe paid her said threescore pounds, then I will and
give all my said lands
102 and tenements and all other the premises, withall and singular
th'appurtenances, unto the said Sara, my youngest daughter,
103 her heirs and assigns for ever (any matter, word, clause, sentence or other
thing whatsoever in this my
104 will contained to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding. **Provided**
furthermore, and my like will
105 and meaning is that if the said Elizabeth or Susan, my daughters, or either
of them, happen to live until all the
106 said sum of threescore pounds be paid according to the true intent and
meaning aforesaid, and it afterwards happen

107 to decease without heirs of their bodies lawfully begotten, then that all the
said messuage, and all my said
108 lands and tenements, shall remain and come to my said daughter Sara, her
heirs and assigns for ever. And that
109 if the said Elizabeth or Susan, or any other for them, or either of them, shall
go about to seduce, fine or recover, or
110 shall by any means practise any devise whatsoever, to the intent to defraud
the said Sara, my daughter, and her
111 heirs of the said lands and tenements or any part thereof, contrary to the
true meaning of this my will, then I
112 will the said Sara, my daughter, her heirs and assigns, shall enter in and
upon all my said lands and tenements,
113 withall and singular th'appurtenances, and have, hold and enjoy the same,
withall and singular th'appurtenances, to her and
114 her heirs and assigns for ever in such manner and form as if they had been
deceased any thing, word, activity,
115 clause or any other matter whatsoever herein contained to the contrary in
any wise notwithstanding. **Provided**
116 **Lastly** that if it shall happen the said Elizabeth, my wife, to marry again,
then my will and true
117 meaning is that the Elizabeth, Susan and Sara, my daughters, and the heirs
of their bodies lawfully begotten

118 to whom soever of them the premises shall remain and come, shall well
and truly pay, or cause to be paid, unto
119 the said Elizabeth, my wife, their mother, yearly after her such marriage,
during her natural life, the sum
120 of forty shillings of lawful money at the feasts of Th'annunciation of the
blessed virgin mary, the
121 Nativity of St. John the Baptist, St. Michael Th'archangel and the Nativity
of our lord Jesus Christ,
122 by equal portions, viz. at every of the said feasts 10s. At or in the said
mansion house, the first payment to
123 be and begin at that feast of the feasts aforesaid which shall next come and
be next after her such marriage. And I
124 will and by this my will provide that if the said quarterly payment, or any of
them, shall happen to be unpaid
125 after any of the said quarter days by the space of eight days, that it shalbe
lawful for her, my said wife and
126 her assigns to enter and distrain in and upon all my said lands and
tenements, and every or any part thereof, and
127 shall hold and keep the said distresses and any of them until she shalbe
fully paid all her said quarterly payments
128 arrearages thereof and all costs and charges by that occasion suffered (any
thing or matter likewise

129 in this my will contained to the contrary notwithstanding). **In witness**
whereof, to this my
130 last will I, the said John Jessopp, have set my hand and seal, yeven the day
and year first above
131 written.

Nicholas Hooper's
mark
with initials

Read, Sealed and acknowledged to be
last will of the said John Jessopp by me John Jesup¹⁴⁹
the day and year first above written
in the presence of me, **Nicholas Hooper, sen.**,
writer hereof, and of
Edward Swan and
Nicholas Hooper, Jun.

The mark of Edward Swan

149 written very differently from in the will itself and could therefore be the John's signature

This is a very long will of which only part of the preamble has been transcribed:

- **First** and principally I give, commend and bequeath
- my soul into the hands of Almighty god who gave it having a sure and perfect
- belief that the same, by and through the merits, death and passion of my only saviour
- and redeemer Jesus Christ, his dear and only son, shalbe presented pure and with
- out spot before the throne of his majesty. And my body to the earth to be buried in
- the church or churchyard of Penshurst, aforesaid, at the discretion of my executor
- hereafter named in sure and certain hope of a joyful resurrection to life everlasting.

to be distributed at my burial amongst the poor being there, either parishioners or other, the sum of 20s.

Witnesses: **Thomas Sapper** (mark), **John Jessopp** and **Bob Sapper**.

The Family of Alice Jessopp, widow

will:											
<p style="text-align: center;">?? - Alice p740¹⁵⁰ 7 Mar 1617</p>											

p743	John -	p744	Godfrey -	p745	Faith -	p757	Edward Duke	p746	Andcomins -		
will:		1626p?						proved 13 Sep 1615	10 Sep 1615		

p748	p749	p750	p752	Martha children	p758	p759	p760	p754	p755	p756	
Pilgrim	Pentecost	Patience			Martha	John	Wavernot	Daniell	Nathaniel	Godfrey	

The names of Alice's daughter and grandchildren show the Protestant faith of the family but the preamble to the will is very short. She left a large number of household items to her grandchildren.

The name of her third son as given in her will appears to be "Andcomins" and he had died before she wrote her will. "Andronias" Jessop was buried on 10th September 1615 and the will of Andrew? Jessop was proved three days later; this could have been the will of her third son. The will of Godfrey Jessop of Leigh, proved in 1626, could be that of her second son. Neither of these wills has been investigated.

150 "p" indicates a reference in the Penshurst database

1 In the name of god Amen. The 7th day of March Anno dm 1616, I, Alice
Jessopp of Penshurst
2 in the county of Kent, **widow**, being sick and weak in body but of good and
perfect remembrance,
3 thanks be given to god, do ordain this my last will and testament in manner
and form
4 following: **First:** I bequeath my soul to Jesus Christ, my redeemer, and my
body to be
5 buried in the church yard of Penshurst aforesaid. **Item:** I give to the poor
people of
6 Penshurst 6s 8d to be distributed upon the day of my burial. **Item:** I give
unto my
7 **son John** 40s to be paid unto him by my executor when my said son John
shall demand
8 the same. **Item:** I give unto **Pilgrim, my son John's eldest son**, 20s to be
paid unto
9 him at his age of 21 years. **Item:** I give unto **Patience, the daughter of my
said son**

10 **John**, a flockbed, a bolster, a blanket and a covering of colour yellow and
red. **Item:** I give
11 unto **Martha, the daughter of my son Godfrey**, a flockbed, a bolster, a
blanket and a gold
12 sovereign. **Item:** I give unto **all my son Godfrey's children except Martha**
20s to be divided equally amongst them¹⁵¹. **Item:** I give unto **Martha, the**
daughter of my daughter, Faith Duke, 20s to be
13 paid unto her at her age of 21 years. **Item:** I give unto **Daniell, the son of my**
son
14 **Andcomins?** 20s to be paid him at his age of 21 years and a table with ??
and a frame. **Item:** I give unto **Nathaniel** a little ?? table and to
15 **Godfrey, his brother, the brother of the said Daniell**, ??¹⁵² and to each of
them a pair of coarse sheets. **Item:**
16 I give unto **John Duke, the son of Edward Duke**, a ?? table cloth. **Item:** I
give unto

151 this item inserted

152 inserted and not readable

17 **Wavernot Duke, his brother**, my greatest iron pot. **Item**^É: I give unto **Alice**
Mospay, my goddaughter, a pair of hempen sheets¹⁵³. **Item**: I give unto
Faith
18 **Duke, the wife of Edward Duke**¹⁵⁴, all my wearing apparel both linen and
woollen
19 (except a flaxen kercher, a flaxen ?? cloth and a hempen apron which I
give my son
20 **Godfrey's wife** and also except a flaxen kercher and a ?? cloth which I give
unto my son **John's**
21 **wife**. **Item**: I give unto Martha, the daughter of my son Godfrey, my largest
table cloth,
22 a table cloth ?? and ?? and a pair of sheets. The residue of all my goods
whatsoever unbequeathed
23 I will and give unto John Jessopp and **Godfrey Jessopp**, my sons, and to the
children of my
24 son, Andcomins, late deceased and also to Faith Duke, the wife of Edward
Duke, to be
25 equally divided amongst them, my said son And coming children to have as
much to their

153 item inserted

154 Alice's daughter, see lines 12 and 24

26 portions as their father should have if he were living. And I do ordain and
make my
27 loving son Godfrey to be my sole executor to this my last will and
testament, to see the same
28 proved, my funeral discharged, my debts and legacies paid and I do give
him over and above
29 all charges he shall be at about my burial and proving my will, 20s. In
witness whereof
30 I have to this my last will and testament set my hand and seal the day and
year above written.

Sealed and delivered, declared and
acknowledged by the said Alice
Jessop as her last will and testament
in the presence of **Henry Bellingham**
and **Robert Beecher**

the mark of

Alice Jessopp

Only part of the preamble has been transcribed

- I, John Jessopp, the father, . . .
- First and above all things I bequeath and commend my soul to God assuredly
- hoping to have free pardon and remission of all my sins by and through the
- mercy and merit of Jesus Christ, my alone saviour and redeemer, and my
- body
- to the earth where it pleaseth God to call me out of this mortal life and to be
- decently buried at the discretion of mine executor.

no bequests to the poor

witnesses: John Jessopp, his son, John Coucher, Richard Juret.

Elizabeth Jessopp, widow and her son Jasper

Elizabeth was the widow of Jasper Jessopp who is taken as the testator of 1617 only the preamble of whose will has been transcribed. She wrote her will in May 1621 but did not die until the beginning of 1624/5 being buried on 11th February. She left various household items to her sons Jasper, Ephrain and Manasses, her daughter Susanna and her son Benjamin's wife. She does not mention any grandchildren although Benjamin, at least, is married.

Jasper, the testator of 1625 was Elizabeth's son since he mentions two brothers with the very unusual names Ephrain and Manasses. Perhaps Benjamin died before 1625 but Jasper mentions another brother David and two married sisters, Mary and Amy, not mentioned by their mother. Elizabeth made Manasses and her daughter Susan executors whilst Manasses was also Jasper's executor with Jasper leaving Susan, who was unmarried, an annuity of £3.

Ephrain's wife Tabitha was not mentioned in any of the wills but her burial is recorded in the parish register.

When on 10th December 1640 Susan Everest, spinster of Chiddingstone, wrote her will, she described Manasses Jessopp as her “[loving brother-in-law Manasses Jessop of Penshurst](#)” so that it would seem that Manassen was married to a sister

1 In the name of god Amen. The one and twentieth day of
2 May in the year of our lord god one thousand six
3 hundred and one and twenty, I, Elizabeth Jessopp, of
4 Penshurst in the county of Kent, **widow**, the relict
5 of **Jasper Jessopp, sen.** late ?? ?? of Penshurst
6 aforesaid, yeoman, deceased, being in perfect bodily
7 health and good remembrance (thanks be to god
8 therefore) do make and ordain this my testament
9 and last will in manner and form following: (That is
10 to say, **First:** I bequeath my soul into the hands of
11 Almighty god, my creator, with a perfect faith)
12 and because that the same by and otherwise the only
13 merits, death and passion of my saviour and
14 redeemer, Jesus Christ, after my departure out of
15 this valley of ?? and vale of misery, shalbe
16 made partaker of life everlasting. **Item:** I commit my
17 body to the earth to be buried at the discretion of
18 my executors hereafter named in sure and certain
19 hope of a joyful resurrection of the same unto

20 life immortal. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto
21 **Jasper Jessopp, my son,** ten shillings of lawful money
22 to be paid unto him within one year next
23 after my decease. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto
24 **Elizabeth, now wife of my son Benjamin** one of my
25 gowns to be taken at her choice and to be delivered
26 unto her within one month next after my decease.
27 **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **Ephrain Jessopp, my son,**
28 three pounds of lawful English money to be paid
29 unto him within half a year next after my decease.
30 **Item:** I give more unto the said Ephrain two pairs of
31 fine hempen sheets and one pair of coarse hempen
32 sheets to be delivered unto him within one month next after
33 my decease. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **Manasses, my**
34 **son,** my best covering. And I make and ordain the
35 said Manasses, my son, and **Susanna, my daughter,** the
36 whole and sole executors of this my testament and last will.
37 In witness whereof to this my present testament and last will I
38 set my hand and seal revoking and utterly frustrating
39 all former wills by me heretofore made and do publish this
40 to be my last will and testament the day and year
41 above said

Sealed, published and declared or acknowledged

to be her last will in the
presence of Jasper Jessopp and
Robert Saxpes

The mark of the said
Elizabeth Jessopp

Will of Jasper Jessopp of Penshurst

written 20th October 1625
transcript from original

1 In¹⁵⁶ the name of god Amen. The nine and twentieth day of
2 October in the year of our lord God one thousand six hundred and five and
3 twenty. And
4 in the first year of the reign of our most gracious sovereign Lord Charles, by
5 the
6 grace of God, king of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, defender of
7 the faith,
8 etc. I, Jasper Jessopp of Penshurst in the county of Kent, **yeoman**, being at
9 the time of making hereof in good and perfect health, as well of body as of
10 mind (thanks
11 be given to Almighty god) Notwithstanding knowing the uncertainty of my
12 death

8 and willing that such transitory possessions, which God of his goodness
hath bestowed upon
9 me in this world, may be quietly had and enjoyed after my decease by these
whom I have named
10 the same unto, therefore I do ordain and make this my last will and
testament in manner
11 and form following: **And First** and principally, I give, commend and
bequeath my soul into
12 the hands of Almighty god, trusting (by the merits, precious death and
blood shedding
13 of his dear and only son Jesus Christ, in whom only I put my trust and hope
to be saved
14 that the same shalbe presented, without spot, before the throne of his
majesty. And my body
15 to the earth, to be buried in the churchyard of Penshurst aforesaid in sure
and certain
16 hope of a joyful resurrection to eternal life. **Item:** I will that there should be
17 bestowed and given to the poor which shall resort to my burial, by mine
executrix here
18 after named, in the day of my burial, forty shillings which I would have
given in the
19 church, as well those that are dwellers within the parish as others resorting
to my burial.

20 **Item:** I give to and amongst those that shall carry my corpse to the earth
and those which shalbe ringers at my burial, twenty shillings. **Item:**
21 I give to **my sister, Mary Everest**, the sum of forty shillings to be paid unto
her
22 within one year next after my decease (if she shalbe then living). **Item:**
23 I give and bequeath unto my kinsman **Robert Woods**, son of **my sister, Amy**,
24 the sum of forty shillings to be paid unto him within five years next after
25 my decease, if he shalbe then living. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto
26 **Ephrain Jessopp, my brother**, the sum of ten pounds to be paid unto him
27 within one year next after my decease (if he shalbe then living). **Item:**
28 I give and bequeath unto **Sara Goldsmith, my goddaughter**, the sum of

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29 forty shillings of lawful money of England to be paid unto her within four
30 years next after my decease (if she shalbe then living). **The residue**
31 of all my goods, debts, credits and chattells, and all other my moveable
goods whatsoever,
32 I wholly, fully and with good effect, intent and purpose, give and bequeath
to
33 **Manasses Jessopp, my brother**, which Manasses, my brother, I ordain and
make my
34 whole and sole executor of this my will, to see the same proved, my debts
and

35 legacies paid and my body honestly and decently brought to the earth.
36 **And I**
37 ordain and make my trusty friends, **Joseph Goldsmith, my kinsman, and**
38 **Robert**
39 **Avis** to be my overseers of this my will, to whom I give for a remembrance
40 of
41 my goodwill twenty shillings a piece.

39 **This is the last** will of me the said Jasper Jessopp, made and declared
40 the day and year first above written, concerning the order and disposition of
41 all
42 my lands and tenements situated, lying and being within the parish of
43 Penshurst
44 aforesaid, or elsewhere within the county of Kent. **First** I give and bequeath
45 unto **Susan Jessopp, my sister**, during her natural life, one annuity or yearly
46 rent of three pounds of lawful money of England, yearly issuing and to be
47 taken out of all that my messuage, lands and tenements, commonly called
48 by the name
49 of **Palmers** or by whatsoever other name or names they are called or known,
50 situated, lying and being in the parish of Penshurst aforesaid, quarterly
51 from
52 the day of my decease to be paid. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **Jasper**

39 **Jessopp, my godson, the son of David Jessopp, my brother,** the sum of five
pounds of good
40 and lawful money of England to be paid unto him, the said Jasper Jessopp,
when he shall
41 accomplish his full age of one and twenty one years (if he shalbe then
living). **Item:**
42 I give and bequeath unto Manasses Jessopp, my brother, and to his heirs
and assigns,
43 forever, all that my said capital messuage or tenement, withall the houses,
44 barns, edifices and buildings, closes, gardens, orchards, lands, meadows,
pastures
45 and underwoods thereto belonging, called Palmers, or by what other or
more or ??
46 name or names the same, or any of the same, are or have been called or
known, containing
47 in the whole, by estimation, threescore acres, more or less, altogether
situated, lying
48 and being within the borough of **Halborrow** within the parish of Penshurst
aforesaid
49 and now in the occupation of me, the said Jasper Jessop, or of my assigns.
And

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50 which premises before by me willed, **Jasper Jessopp, my father**, late
deceased, by his last will
51 gave to me the said Jasper Jessopp, his son. **Item:** I will and my true
meaning
52 is that the said Manasses Jessopp, my brother, his heirs or assigns, shall
pay out of my
53 said messuage, lands and tenements before to him given, all the gifts and
legacies
54 in this my will bequeathed and to such persons as I have willed the same.
And
55 **further** my will and meaning is that if my said brother Manasses Jessopp,
his heirs
56 or assigns shall make default of payment of any of my legacies before in
this my will set
57 down, contrary to the true meaning of this my will, that then I will my true
58 meaning is that those legatories before in this my will nominated, or any of
them,
59 that shalbe unpaid, shall and may lawfully enter in an upon all my said
message,
60 lands, tenements and premises with th'appurtenances and shall hold and
occupy the same

61 with all and singular th'appurtenances until he, she and they, and every of
them so being
62 unpaid, (contrary to the true meaning of this my will) shalbe fully and truly
paid
63 according to the true meaning of this mu will) any thing herein, before
herein
64 mentioned to the contrary notwithstanding. **In witness** whereof I, the
65 said Jasper Jessopp, the son, to this my last will have set my hand to every
leaf of
66 hereof being three sheets of paper. And to this third and last sheet or leaf
have
67 put my seal, yeven the day and year first above written. And I do utterly
68 revoke and make void all other wills heretofore by me made.

Read and acknowledged as the
true and last will of the said
Jasper Jessopp, the son, in
the presence of
Adam Farman and
John Hosmer, jn. scr.

Jasper Jessopp¹⁵⁷

157 looks like a signature

The Johnsons of Ightham

Johnson was a common name and no connections between this family and other Johnsons of the locality are obvious. The only family recorded in Ightham is that of Matthew Johnson. ("i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database)

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M C	Died
i699	<u>JOHNSON, Matthew</u> -----		1 Oct 1570	Margerie Hawke i700	1 10	1 Aug 1598
• i701	<u>JOHNSON, Arthur</u>	4 Jul 1571			0 0	
• i398	<u>JOHNSON, Thomas</u>	21 Dec 1572	probably died before December 1580 when brother was called Thomas		0 0	
• i702	<u>Johnson, Joane</u>	10 Apr 1575			0 0	
• i703	<u>Johnson, Sara</u>	4 Aug 1577			0 0	
• i704	<u>JOHNSON, Edward</u>	11 Oct 1579			0 0	17 Jan 1580
• i705	<u>JOHNSON, Thomas</u>	25 Dec 1580	aged 19 if the Thomas Johnson buried in 1600 was Matthew's son		0 0	20 Apr 1600
• i706	<u>Johnson, Jane</u>	2 Feb 1584			0 0	
• i707	<u>JOHNSON, William</u>	4 Dec 1586			0 0	
• i708	<u>Johnson, Katherine</u>	4 May 1589			0 0	
• i715	<u>JOHNSON, Matthew</u>	3 Dec 1592			0 0	

At some time between 1586 and his death in 1598, Matthew Johnson held the post of **ale taster**. On 8th May 1598, he was presented to the Court, together with **widow Turner**, for receiving a "stranger" - **Richard Butcher** - see [Excerpts from the Ightham Court Rolls in Section Z of Families & Transcripts](#).

A **John Johnson** (#709) was buried on 18th February 1562 and a **Parnell Johnson** (#710) on 31st January 1575 but they may not have been connected to any of the other Johnsons.

On 24th April 1599, **John Ley** was fined 3s 4d for having assaulted John Johnson on the previous 20th March. "[John Johnson then and there assaulted John Ley and drew blood. Fined 3s 4d.](#)" (CRI 1938, p.6). Eighteen months later **John Johnson** was assaulted by the **wives of Edward Lambarde and John Garland** - see [Lambarde in More Families & Transcripts](#).

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
i711	<u>JOHNSON, Richard</u> ----- 	<1570	30 Aug 1590	Katherine Hadlow 1276	1	2	
i276	<u>Hadlow, Katherine</u> ----- married at 20 if she was Catherine "daughter of William Hadlow, weaver"	5 Feb 1570			1	2	
• i713	<u>Johnson, Elizabeth</u>	12 Mar 1592			0	0	
• i714	<u>Johnson, Marie</u>	18 Aug 1594			0	0	

One of the more intriguing entries in the Court Rolls is concerned with **Richard Johnson** of Ightham. He and **James Wooden of Lighe (Leigh)** were presented to the Court on 5th April 1594 for having "[met together unlawfully at Ightham in the night time and conducted themselves impudently towards George Stalie of Ightham, in disturbance of the Queen's lieges there abiding. Fined 12d each. The said George Staly remained unlawfully in the night time with Richard Johnson and James Wooden. Fined 12d.](#)" (CRI 1938, p.5) See [Staley in Families & Transcripts](#) for more details of the Staleys.

In February 1576, Richard Johnson (i2752), sawyer, and his wife Agnes (i2753), together with Stephen Ongeley, blacksmith, attached Richard Clerke in Offham who, in defending himself, wounded Ongeley who died from his injuries - see [Ongeley in More Families & Transcripts](#).

The Johnsons of Kemsing

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died	
k136	<u>JOHNSON, Gilbert</u> ----- 		<1604	Rose Johnson(m) k137	1	7		
k137	<u>Rose Johnson(m)</u> -----				1	7	1 Oct 1623	
• k138	<u>Johnson, Margaret</u>	12 Feb 1604					0 0	
• k139	<u>JOHNSON, John</u>	15 Dec 1605					0 0	
		probably died before 1608 when a brother was baptised "John"						
• k140	<u>JOHNSON, John</u>	6 Jan 1608	twin }	recorded as			0 0	
• k141	<u>JOHNSON, William</u>	6 Jan 1608	twin }	"at one birth"			0 0	
• k142	<u>JOHNSON, Matthew</u>	9 May 1613	<1642	Elizabeth Johnson(m)	1	3		
• • k151	<u>JOHNSON, John</u>	27 Feb 1642					0 0	
• • k152	<u>JOHNSON, Thomas</u>	30 Apr 1645					0 0	
• • k153	<u>Johnson, Dorothy</u>	11 Nov 1650					0 0	
• k143	<u>JOHNSON, Nicholas</u>	1 Apr 1616					0 0	
• k144	<u>Johnson, Mary</u>	17 May 1619					0 0	
		Mary, aged 4.5, was buried 5 weeks after her mother						4 Nov 1623

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
k145	<u>JOHNSON, John</u> -----	<1604	15 Apr 1624	Katherine Underhill k146	1	3	
• k147	<u>Johnson, Elizabeth</u>	18 Dec 1625					0 0
• k148	<u>Johnson, Ann</u>	23 Aug 1629					0 0
• k149	<u>JOHNSON, William</u>	17 Feb 1633					0 0
<hr/>							
k154	<u>JOHNSON, William</u> -----		26 Oct 1618	Dorothy Bowne k155	1	0	
k155	<u>Bowne, Dorothy</u> -----				1	0	3 Apr 1620
<hr/>							
no child recorded; perhaps Dorothy died as a result of her first pregnancy							

Johnson was a common name and no connections between these families and other Johnsons of the locality are obvious.

The Johnsons of Seal

Johnson was a common name and no connections between this family and other Johnsons of the locality are obvious. # indicates a reference in the Seal database.

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
#992	<u>JOHNSON, Henry</u> (sen) -----				1	1	28 Aug 1568
•	#141 <u>JOHNSON, Henry</u> (jun)					1	3
•	• #143 <u>Johnson, Mary</u>	27 Aug 1564	6 Aug 1582	Edward WELDISHE married at 18			1 0 #1045
•	• #396 <u>JOHNSON, Jasper</u>	27 Jun 1567					0 0
•	• #994 <u>Johnson, Alice</u>						0 0 30 Aug 1579
							Henry witnessed the will of John Beecher in 1566

See [Solomon Hasden/Haselden in Families & Transcripts](#) for details of Jasper Johnson's indictment for burglary in 1595

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M C	Died
#1205	<u>JOHNSON, Gilbert</u> -----				2 3	
		of Stonestreet				
	<i>Marriage 1</i>			Elizabeth Johnson(m)		
#1206	<u>Johnson(m), Elizabeth</u> -----				1 2 3 Sep 1590	
• #1207	<u>JOHNSON, William</u>	29 Sep 1583				0 0
• #1335	<u>Johnson, Agnes</u>	6 Mar 1586				0 0
• #1581	<u>JOHNSON, Edward</u>	3 Aug 1589				0 0 11 Mar 1591
	<i>Marriage 2</i>		16 Jan 1592	?? Marten #1562		1 0

The Gilbert Johnson of Kemsing, who had children in the 1600s, could possibly have been the eldest son of this Gilbert Johnson.

William Johnson (#1489), son of widow Johnson, was buried in Seal on 28th July 1585.

The Johnsons of Shipbourne

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
\$250 ¹⁵⁸	<u>JOHNSON, John</u> -----			Joane Johnson(m) \$251	1	3	18 Jul 1600
• \$252	<u>Johnson, Mildred</u>	27 Jan 1583					0 0
• \$253	<u>Johnson, ??</u> no name given	2 Jun 1586					0 0
• \$1155	<u>JOHNSON, Richard</u>				1	1	12 Sep 1624
• • \$1157	<u>JOHNSON, Robert</u>	25 Aug 1615					0 0 27 Aug 1615

It is possible that Richard was a son of John and Johane. In 1581, Margaret Hewit left 2s to John Johnson, her godson and the son of John Johnson. Perhaps he was elder son of \$250.

There were also three marriages:

- **Rebecka Johnson** (\$1584) married **William Cocke** (\$1573) on 7th October 1632
- **Richard Johnson** (\$1753) married **Alice Terry** (\$1755) on 18th June 1639
- **Dorothy Johnson** (\$1881) married **William Pierce** (\$1750) on 13 April 1643

¹⁵⁸ \$ indicates a reference in the Shipbourne database

The Johnsons of Leigh, Tonbridge and Pembury

Wills have survived for the following Johnsons of Leigh, Tonbridge and Pembury:

William Johnson	Leigh	1558	CKS: 12.244 ¹⁵⁹	
William Johnson ¹⁶⁰	Tonbridge	14 Aug 1594	PCC: Dixy 59; Prob 11/84	page 2.j.121
William Johnson	Tonbridge	12 Mar 1600/1	CKS: 19I.205; 18	page 2.j.140
Richard Johnson	Pembury	8 Sep 1610 ¹⁶¹	PCC: Fenner 109	page 2.j.145
Thomas Johnson	Tonbridge	1615	CKS: 19I.535; 23	page 2.f.150
Thomas Johnson	Tonbridge	1634	CKS: 22.84; 29	page 2.j.158

The will of March 1601 was written by Nicholas Hooper who wrote many wills between 1576 and 1618. The 1634 will of Thomas Johnson is written in the same hand as a number of others in the 1640s also witnessed by Robert Chowning who probably wrote them all.

¹⁵⁹ CKS: Drb/Pwr Drb/Pw

¹⁶⁰ citizen and grocer of London

¹⁶¹ proved 1612

The Johnsons of Tonbridge

When William, citizen and grocer of London, wrote his will in 1594 his father was still alive and from the brothers and sisters mentioned by the grocer, the William Johnson, yeoman, who died in 1601 was his father. The grocer probably had a married daughter which implies that he was born in the late 1540s and his father in the early 1520s. This would mean that the yeoman was at least approaching eighty when he died - by no means impossible.

William, yeoman, does not mention a son William in his will but the grocer's family was well provided for by their father. The children the yeoman does mention exactly fit with the brothers and sisters mentioned by the grocer from whose will we know that Margaret was married and had a son by 1594 whilst Magdalon married sometime between 1594 and 1601.

When he died the grocer's wife was Anne who had had two sons by a first marriage. She might have been William's second wife, the mother of his children having died previously.

the ancient and laudable customs of the city of London". Of these three parts, his wife was to have one and the second was to be divided equally between his children with the last being reserved to himself towards the payment of his funeral charges and various legacies.

William left twenty shillings a year, for five years, to the poor of the parish of St. Saviour, Southwark where he lived and the same to the parish of Tonbridge (from where he probably came) and to Mr. Phillips, preacher in the parish church of Saint Saviours "if he so long resident and preacher in the said church". He also left £5 to the schoolmaster and £1 to the minister of St. Saviours and also ten shillings to each of his servants who were with him at the time of his death.

When William wrote his will his father was still alive and William was giving him £4 a year with a "writing" having been made to cover this. Anne was to continue to pay this annuity but was to ensure that he did not "claim the said four pounds yearly by the writing" as well as the payment he was to receive from the will. He also left £4 to his brother Daniel (as distinct from a smaller amount to his other relatives for rings - see the table below) and to his daughter Slye, "for a token of remembrance, my seal ring with my name engraved therein". Was Slye (which looks like a surname) a married daughter who had already had her portion?

Bequests for Rings

Robert Henning	of Arundale, chapman	10s
John Baldack	of Tonbridge, cousin	10s
Richard Johnson	brother	20s
Thomas Johnson	brother	10s
?? Casinghurst	sister	10s
Mawdelyn Johnson	sister	10s

Anne's marriage to William was her second and she had two sons, John and Nicholas Fardell, by her first marriage. In addition to the one third of his goods which she was to receive when his goods, etc. were divided, William left her £100 from his portion. Whatever was left after all the charges and legacies had been paid was to be divided between his two daughters, Sara and Anne, "for their further advancement". But the will continues: "all other my goods and chattells not bequeathed (my debts, funeral and legacies paid and satisfied), I wholly give and bequeath unto the said Anne, my wife". What was left to make up this residue?

When it comes to William's land, the will gets very involved. First, Anne was left all his lands, tenements and hereditaments in Cowden to herself, her heirs and assigns forever.

The farm called Barden, in Tonbridge, was left to Anne until her death and then it was to go to William's son, William who was also, at that time, to receive all the land in Hadlow which, up to this stage, had not been mentioned. From here onwards, each bequest of land is followed by a long sequence (the order of inheritance being modified to suit which child was the first heir):

"unto my said son William Johnson and to the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue to the heirs of the body of William, my son, lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue, the . . . to remain to my son Thomas Johnson, and to the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue to the heirs of the body of the said Thomas Johnson, lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue, the same . . . to be and remain to my two daughters, Sara and Anne and to the heirs of their two bodies lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue, the same . . . to remain to the right heirs of me, the said William Johnson, the father, forever".

It appears from later in the will, that Anne was to have to her own use without needing to account to any of the later heirs "all the rents, issues and profits" from all the land, etc. which was eventually to go to the children. This was to be spent

on their "finding and education . . . and towards their preferment in marriage and Belsham otherwise as she shall think good" with this continuing, unless Anne died before then, until the children reached the much older than usual age of twenty-eight.

There is then a long, complicated section which is, by no means, clear. It seems to be about what is to happen if anyone who inherits any land carries out various acts or deeds "above the number of one and twenty years in possession, or three lives in possession, receiving the old rent going out of the same". In this case it is to be "as though such person were naturally dead . . . and then . . . the said messuages, . . . shall . . . descend . . . to the next heir".

With the lengthy list of heirs given so many times in the will and the fact that William had at least four children, it would be thought that there would have been no need for the concluding long section which is concerned with what was to happen "after the death of my said wife and of all my children and of the issue of their several bodies and of all other persons to whom my said lands, . . . ought to descend . . . that then I give and devise those parcels of land and tenements hereafter mentioned to the several uses and persons hereafter named". These were:

- the farm called Borden in Headcorn to the College of St. John Baptist in Oxford founded by Sir Thomas White, knight, and Alderman of London, for

three scholars, two of whom were to be chosen "out of the Free Grammar School of Tonbridge . . . by the consent and liking of the schoolmaster . . . the vicar and churchwardens of Tonbridge" and the other from the Grammar School of St. Saviours "by the consent and liking of the school master there and the overseers".

- "All that my said farm . . . which I bought of George Stace . . . parish of Tonbridge" to Christs Hospital in London towards the finding and relief of the poor children harboured and brought up there.
- one tenement and three acres of ground in Tonbridge "which I bought of Thomas Harris" to the vicar and churchwardens of Tonbridge, "to the use and relief of the poor people of Tonbridge".
- his farm at Hasden in Tonbridge to Thomas Casinghurst, the son of his sister.
- one half of all his lands, etc. not otherwise devised to his three brothers, Richard, Daniell and Thomas Johnson.
- the other half thereof, to John Fardell and Nicholas Fardell, his wife's sons.

1 In the name of god Amen. The fourteenth
2 day of August, Anno Dm. a thousand five hundred ninety four. And in the
3 six and
4 thirty year of the reign of our sovereign lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God,
5 Queen
6 of England, France and Ireland, defender of the faith, etc. I, William
7 Johnson, **citizen**
8 **and grocer of London**, considering with my self the uncertain state of this
9 present life, how
10 certain we are to die and yet of the time, place and manner of our dying
altogether uncertain,
as daily experience showeth, and finding my self somewhat sickly disposed
in my body but,
nevertheless, of good and perfect mind and memory, praise be therefore
given to Almighty
god, do therefore make and ordain this my present testament and last will
in manner and
form following, that is to say: **But First** and principally I commend my soul
into the

11 hands of Almighty god, my creator, saviour and redeemer, being fully
assured that, through the
12 death and passion of Jesus Christ, all my sins be forgiven me and that I
shall have an inheritance
13 in the kingdom of heaven. And my body I commit to the earth from
whence it came, to be buried
14 in such convenient place and manner as to my executrix hereafter named
shalbe thought meet.
15 And as concerning the disposition of such goods, chattels and things as it
hath pleased
16 Almighty god to give me in this world, I will and my full mind and intent is
that, withall
17 convenient speed after my death, all such debts as I shall owe of right or in
conscience, to any
18 be truly satisfied and paid or order taken that they may be truly paid. And
then I will that
19 a true inventory shalbe made of all and singular my goods, chattells, plate,
jewels, ready money
20 and debts. And that the same shalbe divided into three equal parts or
portions according to the
21 ancient and laudable customs of the city of London. The first third part
whereof I

22 leave and appoint unto **my loving wife Anne** for so much due to her by the
said laudable
23 custom. The second part thereof I leave to my children to be equally
amongst them
24 equally parted according to the said custom. And the last third part thereof
I reserve to
25 my self towards the payment of my funeral charges and of such legacies as
I have herein
26 devised. And out of which my said third part, I bequeath and give to the
poor people
27 of the parish of **St. Saviour in Southwark** in the county of Surrey where I
now dwell
28 five pounds to be paid unto them in five years of twenty shillings a year.
Item: I give and
29 bequeath to the poor people of the parish of **Tonbridge** in the county of
Kent five pounds
30 to be paid unto them in five years of twenty shillings a year. **Item:** I give
unto **Mr.**
31 **Phillips**, now preacher in the parish church of Saint Saviours aforesaid, five
32 pounds to be paid unto him in five years (if he so long resident and
preacher in the said
33 church) by twenty shillings every year. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto
Frances

34 **Yomans, schoolmaster** in the said parish, five pounds to unto him within
five years
35 after my death. **Item:** I give unto **Mr. Ratcliff, minister** of the said parish
church, twenty
36 shillings. **Item:** I give unto **my loving father** in token of remembrance, my
gown at
37 Tonbridge. And also I will, give and devise unto my said father, for term of
his life, the
38 sum of four pounds of lawful english money to be yearly paid unto him by
mine
39 executrix as I have heretofore used to pay the same so he do not claim the
said four
40 pounds yearly by the writing which I have already given him for payment
of the said
41 yearly sum under my hand and seal. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **my**
daughter Slye¹⁶³,
42 for a token of remembrance, my seal ring with my name engraved therein.
Item: I
43 bequeath unto every one of my servants that shalbe with me at the time of
my death, ten

163 was this a married daughter?

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44 shillings in money. **Item:** I give to **Robert Henning of Arundale, chapman,**
ten shillings
45 to make him a ring with. And to **my cousin, John Baldack of Tonbridge,**
ten shillings for
46 the like use. And to **my brother, Richard,** twenty shillings for the like use.
And to **my brother,**
47 **Thomas,** ten shillings for the like use. **Item:** I give to **my brother, Daniel,**
four pounds.
48 **Item:** I give to **my sister Casinghurst** ten shillings to make her a ring with.
And to **my sister**
49 **Mawdelyn** ten shillings for the like use. **Item:** to **John, my wife's son,** ten
shillings. **Item:**
50 I give unto Anne, my wife, one hundred pounds. The residue of my said
third part remaining,
51 my funeral and legacies satisfied, I give and bequeath unto **my two**
daughters Sara and
52 **Anne,** for their further advancement to be between them equally divided
and to be paid unto
53 them as their other portions of orphanage money shall grow due to them¹⁶⁴.
All other my goods and

164 their shares of the second part of their father's money, etc.

54 chattells not bequeathed (my debts, funeral and legacies paid and
satisfied), I wholly give
55 and bequeath unto the said Anne, my wife. And I make and constitute the
said Anne, my wife,
56 executrix of this my present testament and last will. And I appoint my very
good friends,
57 **Mr. Richard Denman, grocer, th'elder and William Cawnden, goldsmith,**
citizens of London,
58 overseers of this my testament desiring their good and friendly advises to
my executrix in the
59 performance of this my will, as she shall have occasion to use them. And
for their pains herein
60 to be taken, I bequeath, to every of them, forty shillings, in all four pounds.
In witness whereof
61 I have hereunto put my hand and seal the day and year abovesaid those
being witnesses
62 William Johnson. This present testament and last will was by the above
named William Johnson
63 subscribed, sealed and delivered as his deed the day and year abovesaid
viz: the fourteenth
64 day of August A thousand five hundred ninety four above mentioned in the
presence of me

65 **Andrew Turner, notary**, and me **Nicholas Slater**. The mark of **Elizabeth**
66 **Bedill**.

66 **This is the last will** and testament of
67 me, William Johnson, citizen and grocer of London, made and declared the
68 day and year
69 abovesaid, touching and concerning the disposition of all and singular my
70 message, farms,
71 lands, tenements and hereditaments, set, lying and being in the county of
72 Kent or elsewhere
73 within the realm of England. **First:** I give, devise and appoint unto Anne,
74 my wife, all those
71 my lands, tenements and hereditaments with th'appurtenances, set, lying
72 and being in the
73 parish of **Cowden** in the said county of Kent. To have and to hold all the
74 same lands, tenements
73 and hereditaments with th'appurtenances in Cowden aforesaid unto the
74 said Anne and to her
74 heirs and assigns forever. Also I give and devise unto the said Anne, all
74 that my farm called

75 **Barden**¹⁶⁵, set, lying and being in the parish of **Tonbridge** in the said county
of Kent with all
76 meadows, pastures, feeding, waters, ?shing¹⁶⁶, commons, hereditaments
and appurtenances thereto
77 belonging, or in any wise appertaining, now or late in th'occupation of
Thomas Polhill of Shoreham
78 or his assigns. To have and to hold the said farm called Barden, with
th'appurtenances, unto
79 the said Anne and her assigns for term of her natural life. And after her
decease, I give
80 and devise the same farm called Barden, with th'appurtenances, and all
other my lands, tenements
81 and hereditaments with all and singular th'appurtenances, set, lying and
being in the parish
82 of Tonbridge aforesaid and all my lands, tenements and hereditaments
with th'appurtenances,
83 set, lying and being in the parish of **Hadlow** in the said county of Kent unto
my son William

165 Barden Park is to the west of the town centre of Tonbridge

166 fishing?

84 **Johnson**, to have and to hold the said farm called Barden with
th'appurtenances immediately
85 from and after the death of my said wife unto my said son William Johnson
and to th'heirs male
86 of his body lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue¹⁶⁷, the same
farm called
87 Barden with th'appurtenances to remain to **my son Thomas Johnson**, and
to the heirs male
88 of his body lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue to th'heirs of
the body of the
89 said Thomas Johnson, lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue, the
same farm
90 called Barden with th'appurtenances to be and remain to **my two**
daughters, Sara
91 **and Anne** and to th'heirs of their two bodies lawfully begotten. And for
default of such
92 issue, the same farm called Barden to remain to the right heirs of me, the
said William
93 Johnson, the father, forever. And to have and to hold all other my said
lands, tenements and

167 inserted here: "to **th'heirs of the body of William, my son, lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue**", that is, if William has no male heirs, then to his daughter(s)

page 3:

94 hereditaments, with th'appurtenances, in the parish of Tonbridge aforesaid.
And my said
95 lands, tenements and hereditaments in the said parish of Hadlow
immediately from and after the
96 death of my said wife or else so soon as my said son William shall attain
and come unto the full
97 age of eight and twenty years, which first shall happen, unto my said son
William Johnson
98 and to th'heirs male of his body lawfully begotten. And for default of such
issue, the
99 remainder thereof to th'heirs of the body of my said son William lawfully
begotten. And for
100 default of such issue, the remainder thereof to the said Thomas Johnson
and to th'heirs
101 male of his body lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue, to
th'heirs of the body
102 of the said Thomas lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue, to the
said Sara
103 and Anne, my daughters, and to th'heirs of their two bodies lawfully
begotten. And for
104 default of such issue, the remainder to the right heirs of me, the said
William,

105 the father, forever. Also I give and devise unto my said son, Thomas
106 Johnson, all those my
107 land, tenements, woods and hereditaments with th'appurtenances , set,
lying and being in
108 Headcrown, alias Headcorn¹⁶⁸, in the said county of Kent, which I
purchased of **Mr. Belsham**
109 of **Maidstone, gent.** And all that my farm with th'appurtenances in
Headcrown alias
110 Headcorn aforesaid called **Borden** which I purchased of **Mr. Webb of**
London, gentleman, To
111 have and to hold all the said land, tenements, woods and farm in
Headcrown, alias Headcorn,
112 aforesaid, with th'appurtenances, immediately from and after the death of
my said wife
113 or else so soon as my said son Thomas shall attain and come unto the full
age of eight
114 and twenty years, which first shall happen, unto the said Thomas Johnson
and to th'heirs
male of his body lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue, to
th'heirs of the

168 "Hedcrown alias Hedcorn"

115 body of the said Thomas lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue,
to th'heirs
116 male of the body of the said William, my son, lawfully begotten. And for
default of
117 such issue, to th'heirs of the body of my said son William lawfully begotten.
And
118 for default of such issue, to my said two daughters, Sara and Anne, and to
th'heirs of
119 their two bodies lawfully begotten. And for default of such issue, the
remainder thereof
120 to the right heirs of me, the said William, the father, forever. Provided
always and
121 nevertheless my very true mind and intent is that the said Anne, my wife,
and her assigns
122 shall have and receive to her and their own use, without any account to be
by her or
123 her assigns rendered or yielded in any manner of wise, all the rents, issues
and profits
124 which shall come, grow or arise of any of the said lands, tenements or
hereditaments by
125 me given or devised to any of my said children for and toward the finding
and education of all

126 my said children and towards their preferment in marriage and otherwise
as she shall think
127 good. And also the disposition, letting and setting of the said land, and
every of them, until my
128 sons, or the survivor of them, shall attain and come to the said age of
129 eight and twenty years (if she so long live). And that she shall have also to
her
130 own use without any account to be made, for and towards the education
and preferment of
131 all my said children as aforesaid until the said several ages of eight and
twenty years of my
132 said sons or the survivor of them (if she so long live). All the wood growing,
and to be growing,
133 upon my said two farms called Belsham and Borden at Headcrown alias
Headcorn aforesaid.
134 And further my mind and intent is that if any of my said children, or the
issues of any of
135 their several bodies begotten, or any other to whom the said my lands,
tenements or
136 hereditaments by such remainder shall descend, remain or come, (claiming
from by or under any of
137 my said children or any of their issues) shall at any time hereafter, directly or
indirectly by

138 any act or acts, deed or deeds, conveyance or assurance or by any devise
whatsoever, it
139 be done, or procure to be done, had made knowledge or passed or wittingly
shall suffer to be
140 done, had made knowledge or passed any find of recovery, fine, feoffment,
gift, grant,
141 alienation, discontinuance, conveyance or assurance of the said messuage,
land, tenements,
142 or hereditaments, or any part thereof devised as aforesaid, above the
number of one and
143 twenty years in possession, or three lives in possession, receiving th'old
rent going out of the
144 same, that then, and from thenceforth, immediately, the state limited to
him, her or them as afore
145 said, shall cease, determine and be utterly void and of none effect in the
law and as though

page 4:

146 there had never been any such estate to them or any of them so doing
limited, and as though
147 such person were naturally dead. Anything herein contained to the
contrary notwithstanding.

148 And that then, from thenceforth, the said messuages, lands, tenements
and hereditaments shall,
149 and may, descend, revert and come to the next heir, person or persons to
whom I have willed and
150 devised the said lands, tenements and hereditaments and to whom, by the
true intent and meaning
151 of this my present testament the same ought to descend, revert or come.
And further, my
152 will and meaning is that, after the death of my said wife and of all my
children and of the issue
153 of their several bodies and of all other persons to whom my said lands,
tenements and hereditaments,
154 by the true intent and meaning of this my testament, ought to descend,
remain and come, that
155 then I give and devise those parcels of land and tenements hereafter
mentioned to the several
156 uses and persons hereafter named, that is to say, unto the president and
scholars of the
157 **College¹⁶⁹ of St. John Baptist in Oxford** founded by **Sir Thomas White,**
knight, and

169 "Colledge"

158 Alderman of London, for and towards the finding and maintenance of three
scholars to be
159 brought up in learning in the said college whereof two of them first for that
purpose to
160 be, from time to time, taken and chosen out of the **Free Grammar School of
Tonbridge**
161 in the county of Kent aforesaid, by the consent and liking of the
schoolmaster of the said school,
162 the vicar and churchwardens of Tonbridge aforesaid, for the time being.
And th'other
163 scholar fit for that purpose to be, from time to time, taken and chosen out of
the **Grammar**
164 **School within the parish of St. Saviour** aforesaid, by the consent and liking
of the school
165 master there and the overseers of the said school for the time being, all that
my said farm
166 with th'appurtenances called Borden lying and being in Headcrown als.
Headcorn aforesaid.
167 Also I give and devise unto **Christs Hospital in London** towards the finding
and relief of
169 the poor children harboured and brought up there from time to time all that
parcel of land

170 with th'appurtenances which I bought of **George Stace** being a parcel of
Wawfage?
171 land and lying at the **Upper Cage Green** in the said parish of Tonbridge.
Also I give
172 and devise unto the vicar and churchwardens of the said parish of
Tonbridge, to the use
173 and relief of the poor people of Tonbridge aforesaid, from time to time
being, one tenement
174 and three acres of ground thereto adjoining, lying at the Upper Cage Green
aforesaid
175 which I bought of **Thomas Harris** of Tonbridge. And further, my will and
meaning
176 is that, from and after the death of my said wife and of all my said children
and the issues
177 of their several bodies and of all other persons to whom my said lands,
tenements and hereditaments,
178 by the true intent and meaning of this my testament ought to descend,
remain and come,
179 Then I will, give and devise unto **Thomas Casinghurst, my sister
Casinghurst's son**, all that my

180 farm with th'appurtenances lying and being at **Hasden**¹⁷⁰ in the said parish
of Tonbridge
181 which I bought of one **Later**, being in th'occupation of **Roger Humfrey** or his
assigns, to
182 have and to hold the said farm with th'appurtenances to the said Thomas
Casinghurst and to
183 his heirs and assigns forever. And further, my will and meaning is that,
from and after
184 such decease of my said wife and children and their issue and the persons
aforesaid and every
185 of them to whom, by the true meaning hereof, my said lands, tenements
and hereditaments
186 ought to descend and come as aforesaid, then I give and devise unto **my**
three brothers,
187 **Richard, Daniel and Thomas Johnson**, and to their heirs for ever, the moiety
or one full
188 half of all my lands, tenements, farms and hereditaments, by me hereby
not devised.
189 And th'other moiety or full half thereof, I give and devise unto **John Fardell**
and Nicholas

170 this is the first mention of this farm

190 **Fardell, my wife's sons**, and to their heirs forever. In witness whereof I
have hereto
191 put my hand and seal the day and year abovesaid. William Johnson. This
present testament
192 and last will was, by the above named William Johnson, subscribed, sealed
and delivered as his
193 deed the day and year above said, viz: the fourteenth day of August a
thousand five
194 hundred ninety four, above mentioned, in the presence of me, **Andrew
Turner, notary,**
195 and me **Nicholas Slater**. The mark of **Elizabeth Bedill**.

William Johnson, yeoman

Although William is described as “the elder”, he does not mention a son called William. He had two married daughters, Margaret and Magdalen. Margaret was left £5 and Magdalen only ten shillings but if “[Magdalon, at any time hereafter to be a widow, then I give unto her one annuity of forty shillings](#)”.

Nicolas Hooper's
mark

1 **In the name of God Amen.** the twelfth day of March in the year of our
2 lord god, One thousand and six hundredth, And in the Three and fortieth
year of the Reign of
3 our sovereign Lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God, Queen of England,
France and Ireland, defender
4 of the faith. I, William Johnson, the elder of Tonbridge in the county of
Kent, **yeoman**, being
5 at the time of making hereof in reasonable good health of body and of
sound and perfect memory, thanks
6 be given to god, Notwithstanding very aged, which admonisheth me of my
last end, and that I shall change
7 this life, and the time thereof being altogether uncertain, and willing to
dispose my lands and transitory
8 possessions which god hath made me Steward of in this world, that no
contention arise about the same

9 after my decease. Therefore I do ordain and make this my present
Testament and last will in manner
10 and form following: And **first** and principally I give, commend and
bequeath my soul into the
11 hands of Almighty god, who gave it, trusting by the merit and precious
blood shedding of his dear and only
12 Son Jesus Christ that the same shalbe presented pure at the Throne of his
majesty. And my
13 body to be buried in the churchyard of Tonbridge in sure and certain hope
of resurrection joyful to
14 life Eternal. **Item:** I give and bequeath among the poor of Tonbridge, Ten
shillings. **Item:**
15 I give to **my daughter, Margaret, wife of Michael Casinghouse¹⁷¹**, the sum
of five pounds of lawful money
16 and two pairs of sheets, to be paid and delivered within one year next after
my decease. **Item:** I give and
17 bequeath to **Daniell Johnson, my son**, two pairs of Sheets and Thirty
pounds of lawful money
18 to be paid to him in manner and form following, that is to say, Ten pounds
within six months next after my

171 "Richard Casinghurst" in the grocer's will; taken as the same man

19 decease and every year after five pounds until the said Thirty pounds be
fully paid. **Item:** I
20 give and bequeath to **Magdalon, my daughter, now wife of George Wills,**
ten shillings of lawful money.
21 And my will and meaning furthermore is that, if it shall happen my said
daughter, Magdalon, at any time
22 hereafter to be a widow, Then I give unto her One Annuity of forty shillings
of lawful money
23 to issue and go out of all my lands, Tenements and hereditaments,
whatsoever, within the said parish of Tonbridge
24 and to be paid to her yearly during the time that she shall then remain a
widow, And I will that for
25 lack of payment thereof at the end of every year, that shall follow next after
her such widowhood, it shalbe
26 lawful for her, and her assigns, to enter and distreign upon all, every or any
of my said lands, tenements
27 and hereditaments, and the distress or distresses so from time to time
taken, to lead, drive, carry away and
28 withhold until she shalbe fully paid the said Annuity and all the Arrearage
thereof. And if it happen that she
29 afterwards marry again, then I will the said Annuity shall utterly cease and
be no longer paid. **Item:**

30 I give and bequeath to **Thomas Johnson, my son**, Twenty shillings lawful
money to be paid within
31 one quarter of a year next after my decease. The residue of all my goods,
debts, moveable goods
32 and Chattels whatsoever, I wholly and with good intent give and bequeath
to **Richard Johnson, my son**, to
33 see my debts and legacies paid, my body decently buried and funeral
discharged which Richard
34 Johnson, my son, I make and ordain my whole and sole executor of this my
will. And I make and
35 Ordain **my loving brother Thomas Johnson** and **Oliver Budgen** my
Overseers of this my will.

36 And as concerning all my Lands, Tenements and hereditaments
whatsoever, either within the parish of
37 Tonbridge aforesaid or elsewhere, I will, give and bequeath all the same,
my land, Tenements and
38 hereditaments, withall and singular thappurtenances, unto the said
Richard Johnson, my son. To have and
39 to hold, all and every the same, withall and singular thappurtenances , to
the said Richard Johnson, my son,
40 his heirs and assigns, To the only use and behoof of the said Richard
Johnson, my son, his heirs

41 and assigns forever. In witness whereof, to this my present last will and
devise, I, the said
42 William Johnson, have set my hand and Seal yeven¹⁷² the day and year first
above written.

Nicolas Hooper's
small mark
with initials¹⁷³

Read, Sealed and acknowledged
in the presence of
Thomas Fisher the mark ¹⁷⁵ of **William Johnson**¹⁷⁴
by me **Roger P--son** Thomas Fisher
Nicolas Harris
the mark of Nicolas Harris

172 given

173 Nicholas Hooper is not given as the writer or a witness but the mark at the end (after the word "written") includes the initials "N H" and is very similar to the mark in a similar position on Roger Knell's will

174 looks like signature

175 "T"

Richard Johnson of Pembury

Richard's will ends abruptly with his name and the mark of Mathew Hartridge but no other witnesses and without the usual "read, sealed and declared in the presence of". It was proved on 6th November 1610. In 1589 when John Budgin of Leigh wrote his will, his daughter, Hellen was the wife of a Richard Johnson; they had married, in Leigh on November 6th 1587. It seems that the testator's wife had died before him so that her name is not given in the will but they had a daughter Ellen and it is probable that Hellen Budgin was his wife.

Will of Richard Johnson of Pembury

written 8th September 1610

transcript from the probate copy

- 1 In the name of god Amen. Anno Domini one thousand six
- 2 hundred and ten, the eighth day of September in the year of the reign of
- 3 our sovereign lord Lames, by the grace of God, of England, France and Ireland
- 4 king, defender of the faith, etc. the eighth and of Scotland the four and
- 5 forty.
- 6 I, Richard Johnson, senior, of Pepingbury in the county of Kent, being at
- 7 this time

6 whole in body and of perfect remembrance, god be thanked, do
7 make and ordain this my last will and testament in form following, viz:

First:

page 2:

8 I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty god, my maker, hoping
assuredly, through
9 the only merits of Jesus Christ, my saviour, to be made partaker of life
everlasting.
10 And I commend my body to the earth whereof it is made to be buried in the
churchyard of
11 Pepingbury aforesaid (if it do please god there to call me). **Item:** I give to
the poor of the
12 said parish six shillings eight pence of current money to be distributed by
mine
13 executors hereafter named to such as shall have most need of relief at my
burial. **Item:**
14 I give and bequeath unto **my daughter, Katherine, now the wife of John
Levett** five
15 marks and to every of her children five shillings of currant money to be paid
unto her
16 and them within one year next after my decease. **Item:** I give and
bequeath unto my

17 **daughter, Ellen, now the wife of Stephen Valentine**, five marks and to every
of her
18 children five shillings of currant money to be paid unto her and them
within one year
19 next after my decease. And also all such parcels of household as the said
Ellen,
20 my daughter, hath of mine in her ?? **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **my**
daughter-
21 **in-law, Johane¹⁷⁶**, now wife of **John Frelen**, twenty shillings and to her two
children
22 five shillings to be paid unto her and them within two years next after my
decease. **Item:**
23 I give to **my very loving friend, Anthony Marsh of Ticehurst**, in the county
of Sussex,
24 ten shillings of currant money to be paid to him immediately after my
decease
25 by the way of a small remembrance for his friendliness always extended
towards me
26 and mine. And if he decease before then, I will it be paid to his wife if she
be

176 step-daughter?

27 then living. If not, then to then to **their son William Marsh**. **Item:** I will to
every of my
28 godchildren twelve pence of currant money to be paid unto them, and
every of them, within
29 one month next after my decease. The rest of all my goods and cattells,
moveable and
30 unmoveable, my debts being paid, my legacies performed and my funeral
honestly
31 discharged¹⁷⁷, I give and bequeath unto **Wyburne Johnson and Richard
Johnson, my**
32 **sons** whom I make mine executors of this my last will and testament. And
I most
33 heartedly desire **my very loving friend, Mathew Hartridge** of Pepingbury
aforesaid,
34 yeoman, to be mine overseer, unto whom I give five shillings by way of a
final
35 remembrance over and above such expenses as he shall expend about
th'execution
36 of this my last will and testament. Richard Johnson, senior. **Mathew
Hartridge, his mark.**

177 "dischardged"

Thomas Johnson, mercer of Tonbridge, 1615

A large part of Thomas's will is taken up with the arrangements to be made for the paying of the £16 still outstanding of her marriage portion of his daughter Margaret who, by 1615, was a widow with two daughters implying that she had married at least three years previously. It looks as if her father, although a mercer, was paying her portion over a period of time from income over a considerable time from his messuages and land. Although the detail included in this will is an isolated case it could have been a fairly common method of paying a daughter's portion.

Margaret had “earnestly entreated that the sum of sixteen pounds which is remaining of the portion promised in marriage with her unto the said Thomas White, deceased, . . . by my will, might be fruitfully paid unto her within seven years next after my decease if she be then living, if not, then to . . . her daughters equally between them”. Thomas specified that £12 of the £16 should be paid to Margaret by Thomas, his son and executor, within seven of his decease. The other £4 was to be paid by another son, Richard, “out of the tenement or house” which he was to inherit.

The only property or land mentioned by Thomas is this “little tenement” left to Richard although he does seem to have conveyed some to Sara, his other

daughter, and her husband Thomas Fowle, perhaps as her marriage portion. His son Thomas was to receive the residue of his goods, etc. and his third son William received from the will only a truckle bed.

The Thomas whose will of 1634 has survived was also a mercer and he had a daughter Sarah; it is probable he was this Thomas's son.

		t174 Thomas Johnson - 1 Feb 1615									
will:		-----		-----		-----		-----		-----	
t181	t176	t177	t187	t178	t180	t186	t179				
Thomas White - Margaret		Thomas - Margaret		Richard	Sara - Thomas Fowle		- William -				
will:				24 Mar 1634							
t182	t183	t188	t189	t192	t190	t191	t185				
Margaret	Elizabeth	Thomas	Alice - Richard Shakoely		Sarah	Abraham	Anne				

Will of Thomas Johnson of Tonbridge

written 1st February 1615

transcript from original

- 1 In the name of God Amen. The first day of February in the year of our Lord
- 2 God one thousand, six hundred and fourteen. I, Thomas Johnson, the
- 3 elder, of Tonbridge in the
in the county of Kent, **merc**er, sick in body and thereby put in mind of this
world

4 but yet of good and perfect memory, thanks be given to god, do ordain and
make this my present testament
5 and last will in manner and form following, **First** and principally, yielding
my soul to Almighty
6 God, my maker, with an assured hope of salvation through his mercy in the
merit and mediation
7 of his son Jesus Christ; and my body to the earth from whence it was
taken. **Item:** Whereas **Margaret**
8 **White, my daughter, late the wife of Thomas White, deceased,** in her pure
estate and widow
9 hood, now being¹⁷⁸, hath assented and earnestly entreated that the sum of
sixteen pounds which
10 is remaining of the portion promised in marriage with her unto the said
Thomas White, deceased,
11 by some order to be taken by my will, might be fruitfully paid unto her
within seven years
12 next after my decease if she be then living, if not, then to **Margaret** and
Elizabeth, her
13 **daughters** equally between them, or to the survivor of them the whole.
Therefore I do thus will
14 appoint that the sum of twelve pounds, parcel of the said sixteen

178 "beeing", "bee" from here onwards but "be" on line 4

15 pounds be well and faithfully paid to her the said Margaret, my daughter,
within seven
16 whole years next ensuing after my decease, by **Thomas Johnson, my son**
and executor
17 hereafter named, his executors or assigns, if she so long live after my
decease. And if
18 she happen to decease within the said seven years and the said £12 to her
unpaid, then I will and appoint that my said
20 son and executor, or his assigns, do pay the said twelve pounds at the end
of the said
21 seven years unto the said Margaret and Elizabeth, the daughters of my
said daughter, equally
22 between them, or to the survivor of them the whole (the said Margaret, my
daughter and her said
23 children or which of them shall happen to receive the said £12, upon
receipt thereof giving an
24 acquittance, or other discharge for the sum unto mine executor). And the
residue of the said
25 sixteen pounds I will that **Richard Johnson, my son**, his heirs or assigns,
shall pay out of
26 the tenement or house to him hereafter willed in and by this my will. **Item:**
I will unto **Anne, the**

27 **daughter of my son William Johnson**, which he had by his first wife, ten
shillings to be
28 paid her at her age of 21 years, or day of marriage, which shall first happen.
Item: I will to
29 the said William, my son, the trunkle bedstead in the chamber wherein I
did usually lie.
30 Provided always and my will is that if part of the £12 above mentioned be
paid to my said daughter and part
31 remaining and unpaid at her decease, that then her said children be paid
only the remainder thereof.
32 The residue of all my goods, cattells and chattells I wholly and fully give to
Thomas Johnson, my
33 son, whom I make and ordain my sole and only executor.

34 **This** is also the last will of me the said Thomas Johnson th'elder, made and
declared the day
35 and year abovesaid touching the disposing of such lands and tenements as
now I have disposeth.
36 **Item:** I will to Richard Johnson, my son, and to his heirs and assigns for
ever, all that little tenement
37 or house wherein he, the said Richard, now dwelleth with the backhouses
and rooms and so much of the barn and

38 backside adjoining as is now mine and as are now by be ungiven and not
conveyed¹⁷⁹ to **Thomas Fowle** and
39 **Sara, my daughter**, lying together in the town of Tonbridge and now in
th'occupation of the said Richard Johnson
40 and of **Richard Norham**, or their or one of their assign or assigns, upon
condition that the said Richard, my
41 son, his heirs or assigns, do pay out of the premises to him and them
formerly willed, the sum of
42 four pounds, residue of the before mentioned sum of sixteen pounds, unto
the said Margaret, my
43 daughter, within seven whole years next ensuing after my decease, if she
so long live. Or else, if she
44 decease within the said seven years, then unto the said Margaret and
Elizabeth, her daughters,
45 equally between them, or to the survivor of them the whole four pounds at
the said seven years
46 end. Which four pounds if it be not accordingly paid, I will and give full
power hereby to my said daughter
47 and her said daughters and either and every of them, to enter upon the said
tenement and premises formerly

179 "conveighed"

48 willed to my son Richard and his heirs and him and them utterly to expel
and the same and every part and
49 parcel thereof to hold end enjoy until payment shalbe made of the said four
pounds according to the tenor
50 and purpose of this my will. In witness whereof I have hereto set my hand
and seal yeven the day
51 and year first above written.

the ensealing

... hereof

Richard Harris

Thomas Wibourne

John Hooper, notary publiq.

the mark

of Thomas

Johnson, sen

Thomas Johnson, mercer of Tonbridge, 1634

Thomas, another mercer and probably the son of the Thomas whose will was written in 1614, had four children including a married daughter, Alice - see the tree on page 2.j.150.

His legacy to his daughter Sarah was to be paid in an unusual way: one half within six months of her father's death but the other half not until after her mother's death. It is from this that we know that Margaret was the mother of his children. His leaving to her of "[all such linen, brass, pewter goods and household stuff as was hers when we first married together](#)" is a bequest which usually occurs when the marriage had occurred only a short time before the will was written. Given that Thomas and Margaret must have been married for between twenty and thirty years, identifying those things which she had brought with her cannot have been easy.

Sometime before writing his will Thomas had made legal arrangements whereby his son Abraham could build a house upon a piece of the backside belonging to his "[dwelling house in the Town of Tonbridge](#)" provided that Abraham paid him ten shillings regularly during his life time¹⁸⁰. After his death he was to pay Sarah

180 the interval between payments looks like "mn" - month/?

£5 and another £5 after the death of Margaret, his wife. This was similar to the way his own legacy to Sarah was to be paid.

By the time the will came to be written Abraham had already “made and erected a building or new house” and in his will Thomas gave him the piece of the backside and the buildings upon it on condition that he paid his sister the £10 as arranged and kept “the fences and enclosures thereof as it is now . . . set out”. His other son, Thomas, was to have the original house with another little tenement and other land. Abraham, however, was to have free liberty when this was necessary for he and his workmen “to pitch ladders and to come thereupon with materials to finish, repair and amend the said new buildings”. This included freedom to “come in and upon my grounds at the said North end with any carriage of wood, lime, loam and sand for the use of the said buildings, he or they repairing and making good all such disorder or breeches in the gate or fence which shall at any time happen or be occasioned thereby”.

This will was written by Richard Chowning being written in the same hand as other wills which he witnessed and signed with the same signature.

1 In the name of God Amen. The four and twentieth day of March in the
ninth year of the reign of our sovereign
2 Lord Charles, by the grace of god King of England, Scotland, France and
Ireland, defender of the faith, etc. Anno. Dm 1633. I, Thomas
3 Johnson of Tonbridge in the county of Kent, **merc**er, being sick in body but
yet at the publishing and subscribing hereof of sound and good
4 memory, for which I praise God, do ordain and make this my testament
and last will in manner and form following. **First:** commending my soul
5 to the infinite mercies of God through Christ, my saviour, and my body to
the earth in decent manner to be buried in the churchyard of
6 Tonbridge aforesaid. **Item:** I will and give to **Margaret, my loving wife**¹⁸¹,
one bedsteaddle and one of my beds to be furnished and a coverlet,
7 two bolsters, two pillows, two blankets and one pair of sheets. All which
bedsteaddle and promiss? She shall take and make choice of at her
8 pleasure. And also I will she shall have all such linen, brass, pewter goods
and household stuff as was hers when we first married together.

181 "wief", "lief" throughout

9 Whereof the property remained unaltered to dispose of at her own pleasure.
And also all my flax which shalbe found undressed or not dressed out
10 at my decease to be and remaining for her own use as aforesaid. **Item:** I
will and give to **Sarah, my daughter**, twenty pounds of lawful english
11 money to be paid her by **my son, Thomas Johnson**, his heirs, executor or
assigns, in this manner, viz. The one half thereof within one half year
12 next after my decease. And the other half thereof within half year after her
mother's decease. Also I will and give unto her my bedsteaddle with
13 the painted ceiling¹⁸². **Item:** I will and give unto **Alice Shakoely, my
daughter**, the now wife of **Richard Shakoely** (over and above the house
goods and in..ly
14 by me¹⁸³ already given and bestowed on her for her portion) the sum of
three shillings and fourpence of lawful money. **Item:** I will and give unto
my
15 **son, Abraham Johnson**, my cupboard in the ??¹⁸⁴ buttery and the square
table and frame in my little loft. The residue and all other my goods

182 "sealing"

183 "mee" but "be" not "bee"

184 "drinck"

16 cattell and chattels herein not before by me willed and bequeathed I
17 wholly will and bequeath unto the said Thomas Johnson, my son, whom I
do make the sole and only executor of this my testament and last will to
see the same proved, my debts and legacies paid and my body decently
brought
18 to the earth. And I do desire and appoint my loving friends **Robert**
Boardman and **John Balden** to be overseers of this my testament and
19 last will that the same may take effect according to my true intent and
meaning.

20 This is also the last will of me, the said Thomas Johnson made and
declared the day and year above written touching the ordering and
discharging of
21 all my lands and tenements. **Item:** whereas I did give ways and my
consent that it might and should be lawful to prefer my said son Abraham
22 to set up a house and build upon a piece of the backside belonging to my
dwelling house in the Town of Tonbridge by me set out, marked
23 and dooled? and taken from the said backside, in consideration that the
said Abraham Johnson shall allow and pay ten shillings per month?¹⁸⁵
24 during my life and after my decease the sum of ten pounds of lawful
english money to my said daughter Sarah in this manner, viz. five

185 "mn"

25 pounds thereof within one year next after my decease and the other five
within one year next after the decease of my
26 said wife. Upon which part or piece of my backside the said Abraham hath
made and erected a building or new house, I do therefore
27 will, give and depise? the said piece of my backside as it is now dooled and
set out as aforesaid and the buildings thereupon with
28 th'appurtenances unto the said Abraham Johnson, my son, his heirs and
assigns, forever. Upon condition that the said Abraham, his
29 heirs and assigns, do pay the said ten pounds to Sarah, my daughter, in
manner before by me expressed and also do maintain
30 and keep the fences and enclosures thereof as it is now dooled and set out
as aforesaid. And my further will and desire is that
31 the said Abraham, my son, his executor and administrator, shall and may
(when any needful occasion shalbe offered) have free liberty, with his and
32 their workmen upon the residue of my backside and ground lying at the
north end of the said new buildings to pitch ladders and to
33 come thereupon with materials to finish, repair and amend the said new
buildings. And to come in and upon my grounds at the
34 said North end with any carriage of wood, lime, loam and sand for the use
of the said buildings, he or they repairing and making

35 good all such disorder¹⁸⁶ or breeches in the gate or fence which shall at any
time happen or be occasioned thereby. **Item:** I will, give and
36 devise unto the said Thomas Johnson, my son, his heirs and assigns, all
that my messuage or tenement wherein I now do dwell, situated
37 in the Town of Tonbridge aforesaid with the barn or throssing? and other
the buildings thereto belonging, garden, closes, orchard,
38 backside withall that slip? of ground parcel thereof lying at the north end of
the said new buildings. And all that my little
39 tenement adjoining to my new dwelling house towards the north in the
occupation of **John Legatt**. And also all that my piece
40 or parcel of ground called **Brookfield** now divided into two severals lying at
the upper end of Tonbridge near **Sage Green**
41 to hold all the said messuage or tenements. premises with their and every
of their appurtenances unto the said Thomas Johnson, his heirs and
assigns,
42 to the only use and behoof of him, the said Thomas Johnson, my son, his
heirs and assigns, forever according to the intent and true
43 meaning of certain assurances by me formerly made and executed for the
strengthening and confirming of the said several messuage and premises
44 unto the said Thomas, my son, and his heirs as here in before in this my
will is expressed and declared. In witness whereof I

The Johnsons of West Peckham

Two wills have survived for Johnson from West Peckham:

Edward Johnson	7 May 1589	butcher	CKS: Drb/Pw 15; Drb/Pwr 17.400	page 2.j.165
Johane Johnson	7 Jan 1612	widow	CKS: Drb/Pw 22; Drb/Pwr 19.495	page 2.j.168

Edward's will, probably written by Thomas Tuttesham, is followed by a list of the debts owed to him (10s 8d - £0.53) and those owed by him (£8 9s 3d - £8.46). The will was proved in Tonbridge by John Stockwood, vicar of Tonbridge, on 31st May 1589.

Only the first (which is difficult to read) and last pages have been transcribed of Johane's will which was written by Nicholas Hooper who wrote many wills between 1574 and 1618. Written in January 1612, it was not proved until November 1612.

Edward's will has a long religious preamble but the will itself is very short. Edward appointed his wife, Johane, his executrix and left her all his moveable goods and "[cattells](#)" and made two friends his overseers.

Twenty-three years later, the testator Johane was “[very lame and not able to help my self and withall very aged](#)”. She mentions four sons, two daughters and seven grandchildren. She does not know if two of her sons, Edward and Henry, are still alive. If she married in the 1570s, she could have been the butcher’s wife and had six children before 1589 with the butcher thinking it unnecessary to mention his young children in his will. But this would mean she would only have been in her sixties when she wrote her will. Once a woman survived the childbearing years, she could often live into her seventies but, being lame and otherwise physically incapacitated, she would feel “very aged”.

Will of Edward Johnson of West Peckham

written 7th May 1589

transcript from the probate copy

1 In the name of god Amen.
2 The 7th day of May in the 31st year of
3 the reign of our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth
4 by the grace of god queen of England, France and
5 Ireland, Queen defender of the faith
6 I, Edward Johnson, of West Peckham in

7 the county of Kent, butcher, being sick in
8 body but of god and perfect mind and remembrance,
9 lauded be god, do make this my last will and
10 testament in in manner and form following,
11 that is to say, **First** and before all things I
12 bequeath my soul to Almighty god, my only
13 maker and redeemer, whom I desire for the
14 merit of Christ's passion, that I may
15 be that child of salvation and my body to
16 be buried in christian burial. **Item:** I bequeath
17 unto **Johane, my wife**, all my moveable goods
18 and cattells, she paying all my debts, whom
19 I make my sole executrix. And I ordain
20 **George Baker** and **Thomas Crowherst** to be
21 overseers of my said will. pronounced and declared in the presence of
Thomas Tuttesham, sen., George Baker
Thomas Crowherst and John Standley

Debts owing to the testator:

Item: of	John Balden	2s
Item: of	Mr. Hoper	5s
Item: of	Robert Hoo	2s
Item: of	millor of Stanstead	20d

Debts owed the testator

Item: to	Richard Constable of Hadlow	40s
Item: to	William Fayerman	9s
Item: to	Howles, widow of William Fayerman	12d
Item: to	John Carryer of Malling	10s
Item: to	Barker's widow	33s 4d
Item: to	Goodman Pykewell of Shipbourne	6s 8d
Item: to	Goodman Baker dwelling with William Baker	6s 8d
Item: to	Humfrey Master of Shipbourne	9s 8d
Item: to	Thomas Crowherst for a mare	18s
Item: to	Jane Gray, the daughter of Roger Gray	33s 4d
	or a farmable cow, the choice to be in the hands of ?? Jonson	
Item: to	William Baker	19d

Nicolas Hooper's
mark

- 1 In the name of god Amen¹⁸⁷ the seventh day of January in the year of our
lord god
2 one thousand six hundred and eleven. And in the ninth year of the reign of
our Sovereign Lord
3 James, by the grace of God, king of England, France and Ireland, defender
of the faith, etc.
4 and of Scotland the five and fortieth, I, Johane Johnson of West Peckham
in the county
5 of Kent, **widow**, being at the time of making hereof very lame and not able
to help my self and
6 with all very aged and thereby knowing assuredly that my time to live here
in this world cannot be long

187 decorated with a small version of Nicholas Hooper's mark attached to the "h" of "the"

7 And yet (thanks to god) of good and perfect remembrance and willing to
set in order those small goods which
8 god hath made me steward of here in this world that no contention fall out
about the same after
9 my decease. Therefore I do ordain and make this present last will and
testament in manner and form
10 following: And **First** and principally I give, commend and bequeath my
soul into the hands of
11 Almighty god who gave it being sure, by an assured faith which I have in
the merits, precious death and
12 bloodshedding¹⁸⁸ of his dear son Jesus Christ, my only saviour and
redeemer, that the same
13 may be presented, pure and without spot, before the throne of his majesty.
And my body to the
14 earth to be buried in the churchyard of West Peckham aforesaid in sure and
certain hope of a
15 joyful resurrection to life eternal. **Item:** I will there shalbe bestowed at my
burial among
16 the poor 3s 4d at the discretion of my executor hereafter named. **Item:** (if
Edward Johnson,

188 "bludshedding"

17 **my son**, be living) I give unto him five shillings of lawful money. **Item:** I
give and bequeath to
18 **Richard Johnson, my son**, the sum of ten? pounds of lawful money and to
his four children 12d a
19 piece to be paid to them, and every of them, within a quarter of a year next
after my decease. **Item:**
20 I give and bequeath to **Agnes** ??, my daughter, the sum of five shillings
and to **William** and
21 **Catherine, her two children**, ?? 5s a piece to be paid to them, and every of
them, within one whole year next
22 after my decease. **Item:** I give and bequeath to **Elizabeth Day, my**
daughter, the like sum of 5s.
23 and to her children ?? ?? of like money to be paid to them, and every of
them, within one whole year next after my decease.
24 **Item:** (if my son **Henry? Johnson** be living) I give him 5s and to **his**
daughter Elizabeth Haies
25 ?? ?? a half year next after my decease. **Item:**

page 2

page 3

page 4

- until such time as I myself or any other to be by me appointed by virtue of the said last will of the said
- **Henry Bassett, the father**, should have the education of her the Margaret.
- **And** I will and my meaning
- is that the said **Ralfe Johnson, my son**, his executors and assigns, shall ??, take up and enjoy all the
- issues and profits whatsoever of all the lands and tenements to me willed in the last will, or otherwise
- shall occupy the same, in such manner and form as in the same last will is expressed for me to do and until such
- time as in the said last will expressed. **In witness** whereof to this my present last will, I, the said
- Johane Johnson, have set my hand and seal. And I do hereby renounce all other former wills
- by me heretofore made, yeven¹⁸⁹ the day and year first above written.

Nicolas Hooper's
mark
with initials

Read, sealed, pronounced and
declared the day and year first
above mentioned by the said Johane
Johnson as her true and last will,
in the presence of
Nicholas Hooper, senior, scriptor,

mark of Johane
 Johnson

other names illegible

The Jones of Hadlow

Jones (Joanes) is a fairly common name with three wills having survived from Hadlow:

George Jones	proved 1570	CKS:	Drb/Pwr 13.481	yeoman
Robert Jones (Joanes)	proved 1603	CKS: Drb/Pw 19	Drb/Pwr 19I.372	carpenter
George Jones (Joanes)	27 Mar 1613	CKS: Drb/Pw 22		page 2.j.176

Only the 1613 will has been investigated. It was written by John Hooper, notary public and parish clerk of Tonbridge who wrote many wills for people in the locality. The initial "I" is decorated but there is no further decoration.

George Joanes, yeoman

George and his wife had one son, also called George, who was under fourteen when George wrote his will in 1613. George had a sister married to Edward Newman whose son was to be George's heir if his own son did not live and have heirs. George's overseer was to be his "loving brother" Thomas Plane who was presumably his wife's brother.

The arrangements he made in his will are most unusual. George does not seem to have owned any land when he died but he gave his wife Alice and her brother Thomas the power to sell all his “stock of cattell, coarne¹⁹⁰, implements of husbandry and other goods (except those hereafter given as household stuff to the said Alice) for the greatest price that” they could get. Alice, who was his executrix, was also “within as short time as may be after my decease, to call in” all the debts owed to him. From this money she was first to pay all his “debts, legacies, funeral expenses and other necessary payments about the probation” of the will.

Then Alice and Thomas were to purchase a tenement and lands in the name of the son George but with Alice having the use and benefit of it “without doing any manner of strip or waste upon the same” until George reached the age of fourteen or, if he died, until the time he would have been fourteen. Until the purchase of this land was completed, Alice was to use the profits from the money she had collected for George’s upkeep. This implies that, until the land purchase was organised, the money was to be invested where it would earn some interest.

After George reached the age of fourteen, Alice was to have one half of the tenement and lands purchased for as long as she remained a widow. If she remarried she was to lose her half of the lands, etc. but was to receive an annuity

190 corn?

of £5. If George died without heirs, the tenement and lands were to go to the testator's nephew, Thomas Newman, the eldest son of George's sister. If George, the son, died before the land was bought, the purchase was to go ahead with Thomas Newman "standing and being in his stead, to have, to him bought, conveyed and purchased, with the said money . . . an estate of lands, to him and his heirs in fee simple forever to the full value thereof".

But George (or possibly the scribe, John Hooper, who was a notary public) saw possible problems. "Provided further, . . . if my said wife and my said brother Thomas Plane shall be advised by counsel that the said gift of £5 yearly to my said wife out of the tenement and lands aforesaid (if she marry as aforesaid) shall be insufficient or likewise that she cannot hold the moiety of the said lands in such manner as the same is before to her willed (the same being purchased in my son's name as aforesaid), then I will that the said tenement and lands shall or may be purchased in her own name, or in the name of some other, by such conveyancing as shall be thought most fit" so that "nothing touching the true meaning and effect of this my will be thereby altered or impeached." Was John Hooper seeing himself as the counsel advising the executrix and overseer on how to proceed?

1 In the name of god Amen. the seven and twentieth day of March in the
eleventh year
2 of the reign f our sovereign Lord king James of England, France and
Ireland. And of
3 Scotland the six and fortieth, 1613. I, George Joanes of Hadlow in the
county of Kent, **yeoman**,
4 sick in body and therefore as by many other examples put in mind of my
last end, notwithstanding
5 of perfect memory, thanks be¹⁹¹ given to Almighty god, do ordain and make
this my present testament and
6 only will in manner and form following, that is to say, **First** I commit and
yield my soul to
7 Almighty god, my maker, with an assured hope of salvation through his
mercy in the redemption
8 ?? Jesus Christ and my body to the earth from whence it was taken
with the hope of
9 resurrection to eternal life through the ?? my saviour and redeemer ??

191 "be" here; sometimes "bee" and "shalbee" but akways "he"

10 give to the poor of Hadlow 20s to be distributed in the day of my burial.
11 **Item:** I give to
12 **my brother-in-law Edward Newman** and to his wife, **my sister**, 20s a piece.
13 And to all their children
14 5s a piece to be paid within one whole year next after my decease. **Item:** I
15 do will and
16 give power to **Alice, my loving wife**, and to **Thomas Plane, my brother**, and
17 to either of them,
18 within as short time as conveniently may be after my decease, to make
19 sale of all and every my stock of
20 cattell, coarne, implements of husbandry and other goods (except those
hereafter given as
household stuff to the said Alice) for the greatest price that the said Alice
and Thomas, or either
of them conveniently can or may. And also within as short time as may be
after my
decease, to call into the hands of the said Alice (to the use of **George, my
son**) all and every the
debts and money to me owing by all persons whatsoever. And all and
every the money that
my said cattell, coarue?, implements, goods and debts (except as
aforesaid) shall amount

21 unto, together with such ready money as shalbe in my lands¹⁹², I will that
22 the said Alice and Thomas, or one of them, shall within as short time
23 after my decease as convenient may be, lay out upon lands to the value
24 thereby as needed ??
25 purchase for my said son George and in¹⁹³ his name to th'only use and
26 behoof of the said
27 George, my son, his heirs and assigns, for ever. Notwithstanding do will
28 and ordain
29 that my said wife Alice shall have the use and benefit of all such tenement
30 and lands as
31 shalbe purchased in the name of my said son, and to his heirs as aforesaid,
32 until his age of
33 fourteen years to be accomplished if he live to accomplish the same, or if
34 he
35 decease before his said age, then by all such time as he should have
36 accomplished, his said
37 age if he had lived, without doing any manner of strip or waste upon the
38 same. And

192 this phrase was inserted as was also the word "decease" which does not seem to fit in anywhere

193 written "ni"; "beehoof" at the end of the line

30 after the said 14 years, I will that my said wife shall have only the moiety
an one half
31 of all and every the said tenement and lands during the whole term of her
natural life
32 if she herself so long my widow. Provided always if she marry again at any
33 time before the said 14 years, or at any time after, then I will my said wife
shalbe
34 paid only five pounds yearly at the feast of Th'annunciation of the blessed
virgin Mary, the
35 Nativity of Saint John the Baptist, Saint Michael th'archangel and the
Nativity of our
36 Lord Christ or within 14 days next after every of the same feasts by equal
portions out of
37 the said tenement and lands to be purchased as aforesaid at all times after
her marriage ??
38 her natural life. And shall have no other benefit but the said five pounds
?? of the
39 said lands. And if the said five pounds be not accordingly paid unto her,
then I will
40 that it shalbe lawful for her to distreign for the same upon the said
tenement and lands. And the
41 distress or distresses, from time to time taken for non payment thereof, to

42 lead, drive, take away, withhold and keep till she be thereof fully satisfied
from time
43 time according to the tenor of this my will. **Provided** always, if the said
George, my son,
44 shall decease without heirs of his body lawfully begotten thereof, I will that
all the said
45 tenement and lands that shalbe purchased aforesaid in his name and to his
heirs shalbe and
46 remain to **Thomas Newman, eldest son** of the said Edward Newman, my
brother-in-law.
47 And to his heirs and assigns forever in such manner as the said George, my
son and his heirs

page 2:

48 should or might hold the same. **Provided** further, and my will is, that if my
said wife and my
49 said brother Thomas Plane shalbe advised by counsel that the said gift of
£5 yearly to my
50 said wife out of the tenement and lands aforesaid (if she marry as
aforesaid) shall be insufficient
51 or likewise that she cannot hold the moiety of the said lands in such
manner as the

52 same is before to her willed (the same being purchased in my son's name
as aforesaid), then
53 I will that the said tenement and lands shall or may be purchased in her
own name,
54 or in the name of some other, by such conveyancing as shalbe thought
most fit ??
55 as nothing touching the true meaning and effect of this my will be thereby
altered
56 or impeached. **Provided** farther, and my will is, that out of the monies
aforesaid, my said
57 wife shall pay all my debts, legacies, funeral expenses and other necessary
payments, about
58 the probation of this my will and with the use and profit thereof shall keep?
and bring up my
59 said son till an estate of land shalbe to him and his heirs as aforesaid.
Farther
60 **more** I will and provide that if my said son decease before an estate of
lands shalbe
61 to him purchased and made as aforesaid, that then Thomas Newman
aforesaid shall stand and
62 be in his stead, to have, to him bought, conveyed and purchased, with the
money of the said

63 cattell, coarne, implements, debts and goods (except as aforesaid) an
estate of lands, to him
64 and his heirs in fee simple forever to the full value thereof. The moiety
thereof then ??
65 notwithstanding to be to the use of the said Alice, my wife, during the
whole term of her
66 natural life whether she keep her self so long my widow or not (any thing in
this my
67 will specified to the contrary thereof notwithstanding) **Item:** I will that all
my stuff
68 ?? and ?? , bedding, brass, pewter, linen and woollen, shalbe and
remain to the
69 said Alice, my wife, her executors and assigns, forever, the which said
Alice I make and
70 ordain my sole and only executrix. And I do appoint and desire my said
loving
71 brother Thomas Plane to be my overseer, to see and take care that all
things in this my
72 will be effected according to the tenor of the same, to whom I give as a
legacy and token
73 of my love the sum of four pounds of lawful english money over and above
all his

74 costs and charges that he shall sustain about the same. In witness
whereof I have to this
75 my testament and last will set my hand and seal yeven the day and year
76 first above written.

Sealed, subscribed and
declared in the presence of

the seal of
George Joanes

John Newman
Richard Newman
John Hooper, notary public.

Thomas Jorden, yeoman of Penshurst

Thomas Jorden, yeoman, is known from his appearances at the Assize Courts firstly in 1591 and lastly in 1600. Sometimes his name was spelled “Jurden” or “Jordan”.

He came to the February 1591 Assizes as a prisoner and was indicted for rape. He was charged with raping **Thomasine Dane** at Penshurst on 5th November 1590 but was found not guilty. The following July he was released on bail. Why, if he had been found “not guilty” was he kept in gaol for six months and then released only on bail? At the February 1592 Assizes he was one of the “bailees” who was discharged.¹⁹⁴

Arson and Escape

At the July 1593 Assizes, Thomas Jordan was indicted for arson and escape. “On the evening of 5th February 1592, with the aid of 1 lb of gunpowder (6d) and a match, he set fire to the thatch on the house of Elizabeth Bonner, widow of John

194 Cockburn (Eliz.) 1679, 1905, 1976, 2028

Bonner of Penshurst, sawyer, with the result that the house was totally destroyed”. “On 4th June 1593 Jordan was arrested at Penshurst by Thomas Baker of Leigh, gent., constable of Somerden hundred, on suspicion of having set fire to the house of Elizabeth Bonner. On the same day at Penshurst, he escaped”.¹⁹⁵

It appears that there was sixteen months between the house being burnt down and the arrest of Jordan.

Grand Larceny

Nothing more was recorded for Jordan until the February 1600 Assizes. There he was indicted for grand larceny. On 1st March 1599, at Leigh, he stole a sorrel mare (£7) from **Richard Oxenbridge**, gent. But Jordan was “*at large*”. There was, however, an added note that he had been found not guilty and bailed.¹⁹⁶

This was the last that was recorded for Thomas Jorden except that, at the March 1601 Assizes, Thomas Jorden of **Sundridge**, gent., Peter Smyth, butcher of

195 Cockburn (Eliz.); 2094

196 Cockburn (Eliz); 2759

Penshurst and Adam Alchyn of Rochester, sailor, were indicted for riotous assembly and poaching in Penshurst on 6th May 1599. Was this the same Jordan, now promoted to gentleman status? This indictment took place nearly two years after the events described but only two months after the case against Jordan at the February 1600 Assizes. See [Smyth in More Families & Transcripts](#) for details.

Sir Robert Joysey of Pembury

In his will of 1533 (CKS: Drb/Pwr 9.85) Sir Robert Joysey who was the vicar of Pembury, asked to be buried in the “quyer” (choir?) “before Saint Peter”. He also left four marks for a vestment.

Robert Joysey was a Yorkshireman from Gisborow.

The Jupps of Seal

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
#2998 ¹⁹⁷	<u>JUPP, William</u> -----		20 Aug 1629	Marie Stevenson #2999	1	4	
• #3000	<u>JUPP, Solomon</u>	13 Feb 1631			0	0	
• #3001	<u>JUPP, William</u>	31 May 1635			0	0	26 Oct 1637
• #3002	<u>Jupp, Mary</u>	11 Mar 1638			0	0	6 Apr 1640
• #3003	<u>Jupp, Dorothy</u>	14 Feb 1641			0	0	

¹⁹⁷ # indicates a reference in the Seal database

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More Families & Transcripts

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Dionisia Kipping, widow of Brenchley page 2.k.55

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George Knight of Cowden & his sister Bridget Beecher page 2.k.57

The Knights of Ightham & Kemsing page 2.k.58

The Kyrckes of Ightham page 2.k.59

Marie Kelloway, widow of Tonbridge

Marie's will (PCC: Lee 136, Prob 10/580) was written on 24th September 1638 by John Hooper, notary public and parish clerk of Tonbridge who wrote a large number of wills for people in the Tonbridge locality. The original has survived and it is from this that the transcript has been made. It is not decorated as were some of the wills written by John Hooper.

This will is solely concerned with £25 which she had previously put in the hands of Robert Scoles of Wateringbury whom she made her executor. Marie was the widow of her second husband. By her first husband she had a son Thomas Oakebread who “long since” had gone “beyond the seas” and might still be there “or in any other place”. Probably Marie had given the £25 earmarked for Thomas to Robert Scoles before she remarried. She does not seem to have had any children by her second marriage.

If, within one year, Thomas appears to be living, then he is to have the £25. If not, Marie says how it is to be divided between a kinswoman, the two children of her executor, and the daughter of another woman, probably another kinswoman. But a problem could arise in that Marie was ill and charges for caring for her in her sickness were mounting up. When she died these would have to be paid plus the

cost of her burial “in decent manner” and then there were “the charges to be expended in and about the proving of this my will”. If the value of her goods and chattels was not sufficient to cover these costs, they were to be met from Thomas’s £25. If he appeared to claim his inheritance, he was to find the costs of his mother’s funeral and sickness. Otherwise, those receiving the £25 were to contribute to the costs in proportion to how much they were due to receive.

1 In the name of god Amen. The four and twentieth day of September in the
year of
2 our Lord God one thousand, six hundred, thirty and eight, I, Marie
Kelloway of
3 Tonbridge in the county of Kent, **widow**, being¹⁹⁸ of good and perfect ??
(thanks be
4 given to God) do ordain and make this my testament and last will as
followeth,
5 viz. I will to **Thomas Oakebread, my son** (by a former husband), if it shalbe
made
6 to appear to mine executor hereafter named within one year next after my
7 decease that my said son is living either beyond the seas (whither he went
long since
8 or in any other place) all that sum of twenty and five pounds which
formerly
9 I put into the hands of **Robert Scoles** in **Canoncoste** in **Wateringbury** in the
said county

198 "beeing", "shalbee", etc.. throughout

10 of Kent, gent., for his use. But if within one year next after my decease it
shall
11 not be made truly to appear to mine executor that the said Thomas
Oakebread, my
12 son, is living as aforesaid, then will that mine executor shall pay and
dispose of the
13 said £25 as followeth: viz. I will to **Hanna Callyns**, widow, my kinswoman,
ten
14 pounds thereof, to **Jasper Scoles** and **Anne Scoles**, the children of the said
15 Robert Scoles, other ten pounds thereof, equally between them. And to
Marie
16 **Monnex**, daughter of **Elizabeth**, now the wife of **Herbert Crofts, gent.** five
pounds,
17 the residue thereof. Provided always and my will is that if my other goods
and
18 chattels shall not extend and suffice to bury me in decent manner and to
defray
19 the charges¹⁹⁹ of my sickness and the charges to be expended in and about
the
20 proving of this my will, that then it shalbe made up and supplied to mine
executor

199 "chardges"

21 out of the foresaid £25 in this manner: viz. it shalbe supplied wholly and
solely by
22 my said son, if he shalbe living as aforesaid. Otherwise it shalbe supplied
and
23 allowed out of the several sume aforesaid thereof willed to the said Hanna
Callyns,
24 Jasper and Anne Scoles and Marie Monnex after a due proportion from
each
25 of their legacies.

26 And I do ordain and make the said Robert Scoles to be the full and sole
27 executor of this my testament and last will.

Read, Sealed, published and
declared in the presence of
George Children and
John Hooper, scr.

Marie Kelloway
signed ²⁰⁰

The Kempes of Seal & Ightham

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
#1013 ²⁰¹	<u>KEMPE, Edmund</u> ----- of Ightham 		21 Nov 1579	Dennis Stace(m) #1014	1	0	>Aug 1584
#1014	<u>Stace(m), Dionis</u> -----				1	0	5 Aug 1584

Edmond's wife ("Dennis") was a widow when she married Edmund Kempe in Seal; "Dionis" when she was buried, also in Seal; no children recorded in Ightham or Seal

Anthony Kempe (i2296) married **Elizabeth Seffell** (i2297), in **Ightham**, on 21st July 1625 but no children were recorded.

²⁰¹ # indicates a reference in the Seal database, "i" in that for Ightham

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
#2035	<u>KEMPE, Robert</u> -----		11 Feb 1610	Johane Forde	1	6	
		alive when his wife died					
#932	<u>Forde, Johane</u> -----	25 Dec 1579	married at 30		1	6	10 Jul 1640 age 50
• #3004	<u>KEMPE, Robert</u>	2 Dec 1610			0	0	9 Dec 1610 1 wk
• #3005	<u>Kempe, Margaret</u> ²⁰²	8 Dec 1611	16 Oct 1642	Henry BRISTOCKE #3012	1	0	
			married at 30				
• #3006	<u>Kempe, Bennet</u>	29 Aug 1613			0	0	17 Sep 1613 ²⁰³
• #3007	<u>KEMPE, Richard</u>	31 Jul 1614			0	0	
• #3008	<u>Kempe, Ann</u>	2 Mar 1616			0	0	
• #3010	<u>KEMPE, George</u>				0	0	29 Aug 1628
		"son of Robert Kempe" but when born?					

Johane, the daughter of Edward Forde (#930) was baptised on 25th December 1579 in Seal.

202 Margaret died before 1648 if #3012 is the Henry Bristocke who married Francis Boss (#3612), in Seal, on 3rd February 1648; no children were recorded for either of these marriages.

203 no father was given for the burial of Robert or Bennet but there are some omissions of parents in the register from 1603 onwards

The Kettells of Seal

Thomas Kettle (#1026²⁰⁴) of Ashe married **Johane Jewel** (#1027), in Seal, on 9th January 1581. No children were recorded in Seal.

Robert Kettells (#3885) and his wife **Joan** (#3886) had three children baptised in Seal:

- | | | | |
|---|------------------|-------|-------------|
| - | Thomas | #3887 | 18 Jan 1648 |
| - | Ann | #3888 | 8 Sep 1650 |
| - | Elizabeth | #3889 | 17 Aug 1652 |

204 # indicates a reference in the Seal database

First: I bequeath my soul to Almighty god, my maker and redeemer and my body, when I am dead, to be chested and to be buried in the churchyard of Hadlow beside my first wife. **Item:** I will there shall be at my burial a sermon and the preacher to have for his labour 3s 4d.

His body “to be chested” is a most unusual phrase.

The Kings of Seal

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
#52 ²⁰⁵	<u>KING, Randall</u> -----				1	1	
• #54	<u>KING, Henry</u>	16 Sep 1562			0	0	
#1160	<u>KING, William</u> -----				1	6	15 May 1611
• #1162	<u>KING, Robert</u>	9 Sep 1582	23 Oct 1620	Temperance Taylor married at 38	1	0	
• #1397	<u>King, Dorothy</u>	4 Sep 1586			0	0	29 Apr 1588
• #1577	<u>KING, John</u>	29 Jun 1589	11 Sep 1613	Elizabeth Pennet married at 24	1	0	
				see Pennet in Families & Transcripts #884			
• #1766	<u>King, Agnes</u>	25 Jun 1592	13 Jun 1618	Richard BAKER married at 26	1	5	
				see Baker in Families & Transcripts #2066			
• #1841	<u>KING, Edmond</u>	14 Apr 1595			0	0	15 Apr 1595
• #1861	<u>King, Mildred</u>	9 May 1596			0	0	7 Apr 1640
	if it was this Mildred King who died in 1640, she neither married nor left Seal permanently						

The Kips of Kemsing

The Kips (or Kipps) were a large Kemsing family with connections to Seal and Otford. Two Kips wills have survived:

	written	proved		
Richard Kips	Nov 1603	Oct 1607	CKS: Drb/Pw 20	page 2.k.24
Gilbert Kips	Mar 1615/6	Apr 1618	CKS: Drb/Pw 24	page 2.k.42

and also that of John Hackett, the first husband of Johane, Richard's second wife:

John Hackett	Sep 1602	Nov 1602	CKS: Drb/Pw 19; Drb/Pwr 19A.270	page 2.k.33
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The ending of Richard's will has been lost and there is no probate copy. His father was a Gilbert Kips, perhaps the father of Johane, baptised December 1561 and he also had a brother, Gilbert (k7), "[my loving and natural brother](#)" whom he appointed supervisor and overseer of his will.

The will of Gilbert Kips was written by Nicholas Hooper, curate of Shipbourne, who wrote a large number of wills between 1574 and 1618. Richard's was probably also written by Nicholas Hooper.

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M C	Died
k1	<u>KIPS, Richard</u> ----- yeoman	<1562			2 4	
				will dated 17 Nov 1603; probate Oct 1607		
	<i>Marriage 1</i>		<=1583	Mary Kips(m) k2	1 4	
k2	<u>Kips(m), Mary</u> -----				1 4	Oct 1602 in her 40s
• k3	<u>Kips, Ellen/Helen</u>	1 Nov 1583	21 Sep 1607	Richard PORTER married in Seal aged 23	#1155	1 6
• k4	<u>KIPS, Richard</u>	8 Dec 1586	28 Jul 1608(S)	Elizabeth Porter married in Seal aged 24	#1341	1 8
• k5	<u>KIPS, James</u>	4 Jun 1588				0 0
• k6	<u>KIPS, Robert</u>	30 May 1590	30 May 1614	Sylvester Porter married aged 24	#1273	1 3
• k33	<u>KIPS, John</u>	no baptism recorded but mentioned in Richard's will				0 0
	<i>Marriage 2</i>		1602-3	Johane Hackett(m) k915	1 0	
k915	<u>Hackett(m) Johane</u> -----				2 4	<Nov 1603

See page 2.k.16 and 2.k.17 for the children of Richard and Robert respectively. John could be the John who married Susan Porter, the sister of Richard and Sylvester, in 1616 - see page 2.k.54.

Helen/Ellen Kips and her husband Richard Porter had six children and their daughter, Thamar who married Nicholas Collyns, had nine children between 1636 and 1652. (see [Porter in Families & Transcripts](#) and [Collyns in More Families & Transcripts](#)).

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
k4	<u>KIPS, Richard</u> -----	8 Dec 1586	28 Jul 1608	Elizabeth Porter married in Seal, aged 21	1	8	
#1341	<u>Porter, Elizabeth</u> -----	1 Apr 1586		married aged 22	1	8	
• k19	<u>Kips, Jane</u>	30 Jul 1609	in Seal		0	0	3 Dec 1638 at 29
• k20	<u>KIPS, Thomas</u>	5 May 1611			0	0	
• k21	<u>Kips, Anna</u>	27 Jan 1613	12 Feb 1633	Thomas BAKER married aged 20 #2174 see Baker in Families & Transcripts	1	3	
• k22	<u>KIPS, William</u>	22 Dec 1614			0	0	
• k29	<u>Kips, Timothy</u>	22 Dec 1617	(daughter)		0	0	
• k30	<u>Kips, Susanna</u>	15 Feb 1620			0	0	
• k31	<u>KIPS, James</u>	22 Aug 1622			0	0	15 Dec 1656
• k32	<u>KIPS, David</u>	1 Dec 1626			0	0	

Elizabeth probably returned to her mother's home in Seal for the birth of her first child; Jane was recorded as the "[da. of Richard and Elizabeth Kips](#)" when she died so both of them were probably alive in 1638, that is that they lived at least into their fifties.

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M C	Died
k6	<u>KIPS, Robert</u> ----- 	30 May 1590	30 May 1614 married at 24	Sylvester Porter #1273	1 3	
#1273	<u>Porter, Sylvester</u> -----	23 Aug 1584(S)	married at 29		1 3	4 Jun 1638 at 53
• k26	<u>KIPS, Richard</u>	17 Dec 1615			0 0	
• k27	<u>Kips, Mary</u>	9 Jul 1619			0 0	
	Mary could have been the Mary Kips who married Robert Shaw in Seal on 1 July 1648 when she would have been 29; no children were recorded in either Kemsing or Seal					
• k28	<u>Kips, Timothy</u>	29 Sep 1622	(daughter)		0 0	

The Seal parish record states that Robert and Sylvester were married at Shipbourne. Sylvester was probably one of Richard Porter's younger sisters; if so she was nearly six years older than her husband.

Both Richard and Robert had a daughter called Timothy; Timothy was also used as a girl's name by the Fremlyns of Kemsing.

Of Richard and Mary's four children, three married, all to members of the large Porter family from Seal. However, although eight children are recorded for Richard and three for Robert, there are no entries for the next generation.

Richard Kips Writes his Will

John Hackett, Johane's first husband was "of Horton Kirby" and, on his second marriage, Richard went to live in Horton Kirby. Johane did not live very long and it was probably her death which made Richard decide to write his will leaving to "[Agnes Hackett, my last wife's daughter, all such wearing linen whatsoever as was her mother's lately deceased](#)".

As well as Agnes (Anne according to her father's will), Johane and John had had three sons, Thomas, James and John and all four children were under 21 when their father died. Helen, Richard's eldest child, was just twenty in November 1603 so that, when Richard wrote his will, he had a daughter and three sons of his own under age and one step-daughter and three step-sons only one, at the most, of whom could have been twenty-one.

Richard ended his will by stating that "[all such debts and legacies whatsoever with which my last wife was . . . chargeable withall by virtue of her other husband's](#)

will . . . , in all honest and good meaning, be paid and discharged by my said executor according to the . . . and time set down in his will".

On the death of Johane, Richard moved back to Kemsing. In November 1603, when his will was written, he describes himself as "Richard Kipps of Kemsing, late of Horton Kirby, in the County of Kent, yeoman, being at the time of the making hereof in reasonable good health." In order to be able to assess Richard's position when he was widowed for a second time, the will of John Hackett must be considered.

John Hackett of Horton Kirby

Although John Hackett, yeoman, does not detail any land in his will, the bequests to his children were fairly large: £30 to Thomas, £20 each to James and John, to be paid when each of the sons reached 21 with the others brothers receiving the share of any brother who died. John's daughter was to receive £20 when she reached the age of 21 or married "[whichever do come first](#)".

The will (see page 2.k.33) is interesting for the items listed as being part of the rest of his goods "[chattels, leases, corn, cattle, household stuff, mine debts, plate, jewels, rings and all implements of household whatsoever, my debts and legacies](#)

being paid and my funeral discharged, I give to **Johane Hackett, my wife**, whom I make my sole executrix". He appointed his two brothers, **Thomas and Abraham Hackett**, his overseers and perhaps, on Johane's death, they would take on some of the responsibility for distributing the money to Johane's children.

Richard's Bequests to his Stepchildren

Richard was generous to his stepchildren leaving each of them furniture from the house in which they had lived with their mother and father: Whilst his bequests to them seem reasonable since he had moved into their mother's house, on marrying her he could have taken all his wife's property as his own.

- to **Agnes**, "the joined bedstead standing in the chamber over the hall of the mansion house where I dwelt before the making hereof in Horton aforesaid with the featherbed and all things thereunto belonging and one pair of sheets of the better sort besides those belonging to the said bed. And one sheet called a christening sheet."
- to "**Thomas Hackett, her brother**, the other standing bedstead in the said chamber with the testor thereto belonging with the featherbed and all things thereto belonging and two pairs of like sheets besides those

belonging to the said bed. Also I give to the said Thomas two platters, two pewter dishes and two ?? dishes."

- to "**John Hackett, his brother**, the trundle bed in the same chamber with the featherbed thereon and like furniture of two pairs of sheets besides those on the bed with also the like portion of pewter."
- to "**James Hackett, his brother**, the table standing on the frame in the parlour and the cupboard standing in the hall of the said mansion house, three like pairs of sheets and the like portion of pewter and one brass pot."

"Also I give to each one of the said Agnes, Thomas, John and James, to each of them one ewe and a lamb to be delivered within one year next after my decease. And also I will that either of the said children shall have such silver spoons as were given them at their christening and as shall be in the said mansion house."

There was an additional complication: John Hackett, Richard's stepson had "borrowed of his mother the sum of forty pounds, twenty pounds (as it is said) she hath given to certain of the children of the said John Hackett, reserving the interest thereof to herself during her natural life, my will is that she shall have her £20 paid her and the other £20 shalbe paid to the said children according to her gift". Presumably this means that John Hackett is to pay £20 back into his mother's estate.

Richard's Other Bequests

The rest of the household stuff in the house in Horton Kirby was to be divided between his own children "with the help and oversight of mine overseers and executor". He also gave to three of his sons "each of them a pair of fine sheets and a pair of pillow coates which **their mother, my first wife**, willed they should have of my goods in Kemsing. And also I give to the said Helen, my daughter, of my said goods in Kemsing, two pairs of fine sheets".

To Helen, his daughter, he left "the sum of fifty pounds of good and lawful money of England to be paid to her at the day of her marriage or at her full age of five and twenty years which shall first happen. And also all my first wife's wearing apparel as well linen as willed".

Richard mentions two servants by name: **Edward Monke** who was to receive one two yearling bullock and **Silvester Monke, his sister**²⁰⁸, who was to receive one ewe. In addition, he gave "to every one of my servants at Horton who shalbe my servants at the time of my decease, 5s a piece".

208 There were Monkes in Seal and Kemsing throughout the period but neither an Edward or a Sylvester who would "fit in" here.

The residue of his goods and chattels he gave to his son Richard whom he also made his executor with his brother, Gilbert, as his supervisor and overseer, giving Gilbert 10s "over and above his charge and expense about this my will to be laid out".

Richard's Land

Only the first part of the will giving details of Richard's land "situated lying and being in Kemsing aforesaid or elsewhere within the County of Kent" has survived. He left to his son, Richard:

- the "messuage or tenement called **Fremlyns** wherein I now dwell situated in Kemsing aforesaid and all the barns, stables and buildings, closes, gardens, orchards, land, meadows, pastures, wood and underwood and all other appurtenances thereto belonging, . . . in the whole by estimation fifty and three acres whether more or less".
- two acres called "**Stubrech**" left to him by "**my father Gilbert Kipps, deceased**, and being and adjoining to the land herein before given to the said Richard"

- one parcel of "wood and woodland called **hopspring** or **Suddlespring** by estimation one acre and a half, more or less, being in Kemsing aforesaid above **Suddlebury**²⁰⁹ adjoining to that my land called **Saddlecroft**. To him the said message, barns, stables and buildings, closes, gardens, orchards, land, meadows, pastures, wood and underwood and all other appurtenances thereto belonging".

The surviving part of the will ends: "I give and bequeath to my other three sons, James, Robert and John . . .".

Will of Richard Kips of Kemsing

dated 17th November 1603

transcript from original

- 1 In the name of god Amen. The seventeenth day of November in the
- 2 year of our lord god one thousand, six hundred and three. And in the first year of
- 3 the reign of our sovereign lord James, by the grace of god king of England, France and of Scotland, the . .

209 Suddlespring and Suddlebury but Saddlecroft - all "Saddle"?

4 and Ireland, defender of the faith. I, **Richard Kipps of Kemsing, late of**
5 **Horton Kirby**, in the County of Kent, **yeoman**, being at the time of the making
6 hereof in reasonable good health²¹⁰
7 as well of body as of mind, thanks therefore be given to Almighty god,
8 notwithstanding subject to death
9 and knowing that I shall assuredly change my life but the time though
10 being
11 altogether . . . And willing to dispose of my transitory possessions in such
12 sort that no strife
13 fall out about the same after my decease. Therefore I do ordain and make
14 this my present
15 testament and last will in manner and form following: And **First** and
16 principally, I give,
17 commend and bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God who gave
18 it, trusting by an assured
19 faith which I have in the merit of my lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, that
20 the same shalbe presented,
21 pure and without spot, before the throne of his majestie. And my body to
22 the earth to be buried

210 no burial is recorded in Kemsing; with probate not until October 1607, Richard may have lived at least three years after making this will

14 in the churchyard of Kemsing aforesaid in sure and continuing hope of
awful resurrection. **Item:** I
15 will there shall be bestowed among the poor people of Kemsing aforesaid,
at my burial, thirteen shillings and four
16 pence. And I will six shillings and eight pence to be distributed within one
month then next after among the poor of
17 Horton Kirby aforesaid. At the discretion of mine executor hereafter
named. **Item:** I give and bequeath
18 unto **Agnes²¹¹ Hackett, my last wife's daughter,** all such wearing linen
whatsoever as was her mother's lately
19 deceased. Also I give unto her, the said Agnes, the joined bedstead
standing in the chamber over the hall
20 of the mansion house where I dwelt before the making hereof in Horton
aforesaid with the featherbed and all things
21 thereunto belonging and one pair of sheets of the better sort besides those
belonging to the said bed. And
22 one sheet called a christening sheet. **Item:** I give and bequeath to **Thomas
Hackett,**
23 **her brother,** the other standing bedstead in the said chamber with the
testor thereto belonging with the featherbed

211 "Anne" in her father's will

24 and all things thereto belonging and two pairs of like sheets besides those
belonging to the said bed. Also
25 I give to the said Thomas two platters, two pewter dishes and two f??
dishes. **Item:** I give and bequeath
26 to **John Hackett, his brother**, the trundle bed in the same chamber with the
featherbed thereon and like furniture
27 of two pairs of sheets besides those on the bed with also the like portion of
pewter. **Item:** I give
28 and bequeath to **James Hackett, his brother**, the table standing on the
frame in the parlour and the cupboard standing in
29 the hall of the said mansion house, three like pairs of sheets and the like
portion of pewter and one
30 brass pot. Also I give to each one of the said Agnes, Thomas, John and
James, to each of them one ewe and
31 a lamb to be delivered within one year next after my decease. And also I
will that either of the said children
32 shall have such silver spoons as were given them at their christening and
as shalbe in the said mansion house.
33 **Item:** I will that all the rest of my household stuff commonly called in stuff
of household in the said house at Horton shalbe equally

34 divided and shifted between four of mine own children, viz. **James, Robert,**
John and Helen²¹²
35 **Kipps** with the help and oversight of mine overseers and executor after
named, all which I equally give between them
36 my said children. Also I give to the said three mine own sons, each of
them a pair of fine sheets
37 and a pair of pillow coates which **their mother, my first wife**, willed they
should have of my goods
38 in Kemsing. And also I give to the said Helen, my daughter, of my said
goods in Kemsing, two pairs of fine
39 sheets. **Item:** I give to each of my godchildren 3s 4d a piece. **Item:** I give
and bequeath to
40 the said Helen, my daughter, the sum of fifty pounds of good and lawful
money of England to
41 be paid to her at the day of her marriage or at her full age of five and
twenty years which
42 shall first happen. And also all my first wife's wearing apparel as well
linen as willed. **Item:** whereas my stepson, John Hackett borrowed of his
mother the sum
43 of forty pounds, twenty pounds (as it is said) she hath given to certain of
the children of

212 Helen (or Ellen as she appears in the parish register)

44 the said John Hackett, reserving the interest thereof to herself during her
natural life, my will is
45 that she shall have her £20 paid her and the other £20 shalbe paid to the
said children according to her
46 gift and the interest thereof according to her . . . **Item:** I give to **Edward
Monke, my servant,**
47 one two yearling bullock. **Item:** I give to **Silvester Monke, his sister, my
servant,** one ewe.
48 **Item:** I give to every one of my servants at Horton who shalbe my servants
at the time of my decease, 5s a piece.
49 The residue of all my goods and chattels and chattels and all other my
goods,
50 moveables, whatsoever, I wholly, fully and with good effort, intent and
purpose give and bequeath to my
51 **son, Richard Kipps,** which Richard, my son, I make and ordain my whole
and sole executor
52 of this my will to see the said proved, my debts and legacies paid and my
body honourably and
53 decently buried. And I ordain and make **my loving and natural brother,
Gilbert Kipps,** to be

54 supervisor and overseer²¹³ of this my will desiring him to take some pains
that the same may
55 be performed according to the true meaning of that. To which, my brother,
I give 10s over and above
56 his charge and expense about this my will to be laid out. And I further will
that all such debts
57 and legacies whatsoever with my last wife was . . . chargeable withall by
virtue of her other husband will
58 . . . , in all honest and good meaning, be paid and discharged by my said
executor according to the
59 . . . and time set down in his will²¹⁴.

60 This is the last will of me, **Richard Kipps, the father**, made and declared
61 the day and year first above written concerning the order and disposition of
all my land, . . .
62 hereditaments whatsoever situated lying and being in Kemsing aforesaid
or elsewhere within the County of Kent

213 Richard's son Richard, whom he made his executor, was only 18 at the end of 1603 having been baptised 8 December 1586

214 will of John Hackett, yeoman, of Horton Kirby proved 1602 (CKS: Drb/Pwr 19I.270; Drb/Pw 19

63 And first I will, give and bequeath to Richard Kipps, my son, all that my
message or
64 tenement called **Fremlyns** wherein I now dwell situated in Kemsing
aforesaid and all the barns, stables
65 and buildings, closes, gardens, orchards, land, meadows, pastures, wood
and underwood and all other
66 appurtenances thereto belonging, . . . in the whole by estimation fifty and
three acres whether more or
67 less that be said . . . in Kemsing aforesaid, late Fremlyns (among other)
68 and which I hold by a portion and shift made between me the said Richard
Kipps and one **Guy**
69
70 parcel of land called **Stubrech** containing by estimation two acres more or
less, parcel of land late my
71 **father Gilbert Kipps, deceased**, and being and adjoining to the land herein
before given to the said Richard,
72 my son. Also I give and bequeath to the said Richard, my son, one parcel
of wood and
73 woodland called **hopspring** or **Suddlespring** by estimation one acre and a
half, more or less, being in

74 Kemsing aforesaid above **Suddlebury**²¹⁵ adjoining to that my land called
Saddlecroft. To him
75 the said messuage, barns, stables and buildings, closes, gardens, orchards,
land, meadows, pastures, wood and underwood and all other
76 appurtenances thereto belonging, to him, his heirs and assigns, for ever.
77 **Item:** I give and bequeath to my other three sons, James, Robert and John,

rest of will lost; copy not survived

215 Suddlespring and Suddlebury but Saddlecroft - all "Saddle"?

1 In the name of god Amen. one . .
2 day of September in the year of our lord
3 god one thousand, six hundred and two and in
4 the four and fortieth year of the reign of our
5 sovereign lady Elizabeth, the . . of
6 the Queen of England, France and
7 Ireland, Defender of the faith. I,
8 John Hackett of **Horton Kirby**, in the County
9 of Kent, **yeoman**, being sick in body but of
10 perfect memory, thanks be to god, therefore
11 do . . ordain and make this my last
12 will and testament in manner and form
13 following: **First:** I commit my soul to Almighty
14 god, my maker and Redeemer hoping of
15 everlasting life through Jesus Christ my
16 Saviour and my body to be buried at the
17 discretion of mine executrix. **Item:** I give
18 and bequeath to **Thomas Hackett, my eldest son,**
19 thirty pounds to be paid within one year

20 after my decease from the interest
21 **my brother, Thomas?**, . . . to be brought
22
23 of his portion for the bringing up of
24 him and to be . . . to pay it to my
25 son Thomas at the age of one and
26 twenty years. And if it shall happen
27 my son, Thomas Hackett, to die before
28 the age of twenty and one years, then
29 to be equally divided between his two
30 other **brethren, James and John**
31 or to him that shalbe then living. **Item:**
32 I give and bequeath to **James Hackett,**
33 **my second son,** twenty pounds
34 to be paid at the age of one and twenty
35 years and, if it shall happen the said
36 James to decease before the age of
37 twenty and one years, then I will
38 it shall remain to be divided equally
39 between my sons Thomas and John.
40 **Item:** I give and bequeath to **John Hackett,**
41 **my younger son,** twenty pounds
42 to be paid at the age of twenty and one

43 years and, if it shall happen my son
44 John to decease before the age of
45 twenty and one years, then my will is
46 it shalbe equally divided between
47 my sons Thomas and James or which of
48 them shalbe then living. **Item:** I give
49 and bequeath to **Anne Hackett, my**
50 **daughter**, twenty pounds to be paid at
51 the age of twenty and one years or
52 at the day of her marriage, which ever
53 do come first and if it happen my
54 said daughter Anne to decease, unmarried,
55 and before the age of twenty and one
56 years then my will is it shalbe equally divided
57 divided between my sons, Thomas, James and John
58 or as many of them as shalbe then living. And
59 if it shall happen all my sons, Thomas,
60 James and John, to decease before the age
61 of twenty and one years, then my will
62 is that all the portions of my sons to remain
63 to my daughter Anne. **Item:** I give and
64 bequeath to the poor of Horton Kirby,
65 to be bestowed at the discretion of my executrix,

66 twenty shillings. All the rest of my goods,
67 chattels, leases, corn, cattle, household stuff,
68 mine debts, plate, jewels, rings and
69 all implements of household whatsoever, my
70 debts and legacies being paid and my
71 funeral discharged, I give to **Johane**
72 **Hackett, my wife**, whom I make my
73 sole executrix. And I do appoint my two
74 **brethren, Thomas Hackett and Abraham**
75 **Hackett**, my overseers to this my last will and
76 testament giving to either of them for
77 pains, five shillings. **John Hackett**

witness: **Robert Walter; John Marshall** (mark)
William Gender (mark)

The Family of Gilbert Kips

Gilbert Kips, yeoman (k7) had six children of whom two were buried in Kemsing; nothing is known of the other four from the parish register but Gilbert's will mentions that Alice was married to **Christopher Lusch**, that William had five children and his son, Gilbert, three sons, William, Thomas and Richard.

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
k7	<u>KIPS, Gilbert</u> ----- yeoman	<1557		Agnes Kips(m) #8	1	6	8 Aug 1617
• k10	<u>Kips, Alice</u>	1 Mar 1578		Christopher LUSCH #920	1	0	
• k11	<u>KIPS, William</u>	10 Jan 1580			1	5	
• k12	<u>KIPS, Gilbert</u>	19 Feb 1583			0	0	
• k13	<u>KIPS, Gilbert</u>	9 Feb 1586		Marie Kips(m) #922	1	4	
• • k926	<u>KIPS, Gilbert</u>	<1613					0 0
• • k923	<u>KIPS, William</u>	<1614					0 0
• • k924	<u>KIPS, Thomas</u>	<1615					0 0
• • k925	<u>KIPS, Richard</u>	<1616					0 0
• k14	<u>Kips, Anne</u>	26 Jun 1587			0	0	1 Oct 1602 aged 15
• k15	<u>Kips, Margaret</u>				0	0	14 Oct 1590

Gilbert Kip's Will

Gilbert's will was written on 16th March 1616 when he, like Richard when his was written, was "in good and perfect health as well of body as of mind". Gilbert did not die until the beginning of August 1617 with his will being proved on 15th April 1618.

Gilbert requested **Mr. Baker (#1293), the vicar of Kemsing and Seal**, to "make a goodly sermon" to those assembled at his burial giving an unusual reason for this (at least unusual in that it is included in the will): "not that myself shalbe thereby embettered but that they may be godly edified to lead their lives as becometh Christians and so in the end to arrive to that place that I am gone before them". Robert Baker was to receive "for his pains (if he be then living) other to him who shall supply the place, ten shillings".

Gilbert also willed that his executors should "bestow (in the best manner they can) upon the footway between my now dwelling house and Kemsing church, the sum of twenty shillings within one whole year next after my decease".

Gilbert's Main Bequests to his Family

- to Alice, his daughter, "now the wife of Christopher Lusch, the sum of twenty pounds of lawful money to be paid to her within two years next after my decease". Although Alice was 38, from the complicated arrangements "if she happen to decease before and leave child or children", it would seem that she and Christopher did not have any children at the time the will was made (there were Lashes in Kemsing but no Christopher).
- to his three grandchildren, sons of his son "Gilbert Kypps, viz. William, Thomas and Richard, to every of them, five pounds a piece to be paid to them, and every of them or the survivor of them equally between them, at their several age and ages of one and twenty years". In contrast to Alice, Gilbert, who was presumably the son baptised in 1586, was 30 in 1616 which was fairly young to have three sons.
- to the five children of "my son, William Kipps, to every of them six shillings and eight a piece". Why did William's children receive so much less than his son Gilbert's children?. Perhaps just because they were the eldest son's children and so could expect eventually to benefit from William's inheritance.

The residue of all his "moveable goods whatsoever" Gilbert left to **Agnes, my well beloved wife**, and **William Kypps, his eldest son**, who were to be his executors.

William was also to receive "one parcel of land called the **Sowe?** by estimation four acres, more or less, lying and being within the parish of Kemsing aforesaid, abutting upon the **Glebeland of Kemsing** against the west. Also two acres of land not enclosed lying in the **Eastfield of Kemsing** aforesaid abutting upon the highway there against the south and upon the Glebeland aforesaid against the north. And also one Orchard lying in Kemsing aforesaid containing by estimation three roods²¹⁶ more or less abutting upon the highway there against the north and in part west".

Gilbert's Land

Gilbert's sons, William and Gilbert were to share equally three parcels of land called **Pepperland, Lammasland and Elinfield** (or Slinfield) in the parish of **Shoreham** in the said county containing about 30 acres for five years after his

²¹⁶ a rood was a superficial measure of land properly containing 40 square poles or perches but could vary locally. One rod was 30.25 square yards so that 40 would have been 1210 square yards and three roods 3630 square yards, three-quarters of an acre.

decease with the exception that Gilbert was to have all “such wood as is or shall be growing” there. At the of the five years, all three parcels of land were to go to Gilbert and then to Gilbert’s eldest son who was another Gilbert.

During the five years, William and Gilbert were to their mother an annuity of £20, each making two quarterly payments of £5. "And I will that for lack of payment of the same, or any part thereof, it shall be lawful for my said wife to enter and distrain in and upon the said three parcels and every or any of them And the distress or distress there so taken from thence to bear, lead, drive, carry away and impound until my said wife shall be fully paid according to the true meaning of this my will." At the end of the five years, his mother’s annuity became the sole responsibility of Gilbert.

Then come the complications which had to be covered in case one or other of the beneficiaries died. If Gilbert died before his son Gilbert was of age, William was to “have and hold the said parcels with th’appurtenances for and during the nonage of the said Gilbert, the son, giving and paying to **Marie, now the wife of the said Gilbert, my son**, and mother of the said Gilbert, his son, during his nonage, toward the bringing up of him and her other children yearly, the sum of ten pounds of lawful money at the feasts aforesaid by equal portions and to begin as is afore appointed to my said wife and with like benefit of distress as is likewise afore appointed to my said wife."

But if Gilbert died before his son came of age whilst his mother Agnes was still alive, William was to pay Agnes "four pounds during her natural life yearly by equal portions . . . And that the said Marie, mother of the said Gilbert, the son, have no payment out of the same land until my said wife be deceased anything in this my will before mentioned to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding." If these lands could pay Agnes an annuity of £20 whilst both her sons were alive, why was her annuity reduced to £4 if the son Gilbert's family were not to benefit?

Will of Gilbert Kips of Kemsing

written 16th March 1615/6
transcript from original

Nicolas Hooper's
mark

- 1 In²¹⁷ the name of god Amen. the sixteenth day of March in the
2 year of our lord god one thousand, six hundred and fifteen and in the
thirteenth

217 decorated "I"

3 year of the reign of our sovereign lord James, by the grace of god, King of
England, France
4 and Ireland, defender of the faith. And of Scotland the nine and fiftieth. I,
Gilbert
5 **Kypps** of Kemsing, in the County of Kent, **yeoman**, being at the time of
making hereof
6 in good and perfect health as well of body as of mind, thanks therefore be
given to Almighty god,
7 notwithstanding aged²¹⁸ and subject to many infirmities and to death itself
knowing that
8 nothing to mankind is so sure as death But the time thereof being
altogether uncertain and
9 seeing the sudden chances which happen to many by unlooked for death
and willing to set in order
10 these small and transitory possessions which God hath made me steward
of here in this
11 world while I am in health that no contention followeth about the same
after my decease

218 Gilbert's first recorded child was baptised in 1578; if he had been born in the late 1540s he would be in approaching seventy when his will was written

12 **Therefore** I do ordain and make this my present testament and last will in
manner and form following:
13 And **First** and principally I give, commend and bequeath my soul into the
hand
14 of Almighty God who gave it me trusting, by a sure faith, in the merit,
previous death
15 and blood shedding of his dear son Jesus Christ, my only Saviour and
Redeemer, that
16 the said shalbe presented, pure and without spot, before the throne of his
majestie. And
17 my body to the earth to be buried in the church or churchyard of Kemsing
aforesaid, which it shall
18 please my executor, in sure and certain hope of a joyful resurrection to life
eternal²¹⁹. **Item:**
19 I will there shalbe bestowed among the poor inhabitants of Kemsing
aforesaid, at the discretion
20 of mine executors hereafter named, within one month next after my
decease, the sum
21 of two shillings of lawful money. **Item:** I give and bequeath to **Alice, my
daughter,**

219 this is practically the same as the introduction to the will of Richard Kips above

22 now **the wife of Christopher Lusch**, the sum of twenty pounds of lawful
money to be
23 paid to her within two years next after my decease if she be then living. Or
if
24 she happen to decease before and leave child or children, then I will that
ten
25 pounds parcel of the said £20 shall be paid to the child of her the said Alice
if she have but one
26 at the age of one and twenty years of the said child. Or if there be more,
then the said
27 ten pounds to be paid equally between them at their several ages of one
and twenty years by
28 mine executors hereafter named. **Item:** I give and bequeath to my three
grandchildren, sons
29 of **my son Gylbert Kypps, viz. William, Thomas and Richard**, to every of
them, five
30 pounds a piece to be paid to them, and every of them or the survivor of
them equally between them,
31 at their several age and ages of one and twenty years. **Item:** I will that
mine executors
32 hereafter named shall bestow (in the best manner they can) upon the
footway between my

33 now dwelling house and Kemsing church, the sum of twenty shillings
within one whole year
34 next after my decease. **Item:** I will that **Mr. Baker²²⁰**, the vicar of **Kemsing
and Seal**
35 shall make a goodly sermon at my burial to the auditorie then to be
assembled, not that
36 myself shalbe thereby embettered but that they may be godly edified to
lead their lives
37 as becometh Christians and so in the end to arrive to that place that I am
gone before them.
38 To whom I give for his pains (if he be then living) other to him who shall
supply the place,
39 ten shillings. **Item:** I give and bequeath to the five children of **my son,
William Kipps**,
40 to every of them six shillings and eight a piece.
41 **The residue** of all my goods, suttells?, debts and chattels and all the other
42 my moveable goods whatsoever, I wholly, fully and with good effort, intent
and purpose, give
43 and bequeath to **Agnes, my well beloved wife**, and **William Kypps, my
eldest**

220 Robert Baker (#1293), vicar of Seal and Kemsing from 20th April 1608

44 **son**, which Agnes and William I make and ordain my . . . executors of this
my
45 will to see my debts and legacies paid and my body honestly and decently
buried and
46 this my will proved.

47 This is the last will of me the said Gilbert Kypps made and declared
48 the day and year first above written concerning the order and disposition of
all my land and
49 tenements whatsoever. **Item:** I give and bequeath to William Kypps, my
said eldest son
50 one parcel of land called the **Sowe**? by estimation four acres, more or less,
lying and being
51 within the parish of Kemsing aforesaid, abutting upon the **Glebeland of**
Kemsing against the west.
52 Also two acres of land not enclosed lying in the **Eastfield of Kemsing**
aforesaid abutting upon
53 the highway there against the south and upon the Glebeland aforesaid
against the north. And

54 also one Orchard in Kemsing aforesaid containing by estimation three
rods²²¹ more
55 or less abutting upon the highway there against the north and in part west,
to have
56 and to hold all the said parcels called the Sowe, two acres in Eastfield and
the said orchard with
57 all and singular th'appurtenances unto the said William Kypps, my son, his
heirs and assigns to
58 the only use and behoof of the said William, my son, his heirs and assigns
for ever.
59 I give and bequeath to my two sons, William Kypps and **Gilbert Kypps**,
equally between
60 them All those three parcels of land called **Pepperland, Lammasland and**
Elinfield²²²
61 together lying and being in within the parish of **Shoreham** in the said
county containing by

221 a rood was a superficial measure of land properly containing 40 square poles or perches but could vary locally. One rod was 30.25 square yards so that 40 would have been 1210 square yards and three roods 3630 square yards, three-quarters of an acre.

222 Slinfield?

62 estimation thirty acres more or less to have and to hold the said parcels of
land unto
63 the said William Kypps and Gilbert Kypps, my sons, equally between them
(except such
64 wood as is or shalbe growing) for, and during, the term and space of five
years
65 next after my decease. And the said wood I give wholly unto my said son
Gilbert.

66 And after the end and expiration of the said five years, I will and bequeath
all
67 the said three parcels of land withall and singular th'appurtenances unto
my said son Gilbert Kypps, to
68 have and to hold to the said Gilbert Kypps, my son, for, by and during his
natural life.
69 And after his decease, I will and bequeath all the said three parcels of land
withall and singular
70 th'appurtenances unto **Gilbert Kypps, oldest son of my said son Gilbert and
my godson**
71 to have and to hold the same withall and singular th'appurtenances unto
my said Gilbert Kypps, my
72 godson, his heirs and assigns forever **provided** always, and my full intent

73 and meaning is that my said two sons, William and Gilbert, or the survivor
of them, or the
74 heirs of the survivor, shall well and truly pay, or cause to be paid, equally
between them out of
75 the said parcels of land in Shoreham aforesaid unto the said Agnes, my
wellbeloved wife, during
76 the said term and space of the said five years next after my decease, the
sum of ten
77 pounds, viz. five pounds apiece quarterly to be paid viz. at the feast of
midsummer,
78 Michaelmas, Christmas and The Annunciation of the blessed virgin mary,
by equal
79 portions, the first payment thereof to be and begin at the next feast of the
feasts aforesaid
80 which shall next follow, come and be next after my decease. And I will
that for lack
81 of payment of the same, or any part thereof, it shalbe lawful for my said
wife to enter and
82 distrain in and upon the said three parcels and every or any of them And
the distress or
83 distress there so taken from thence to bear, lead, drive, carry away and
impound until the

84 my said wife shalbe fully paid according to the true meaning of this my will
provided

85 furthermore, and my like will and meaning is, that if the said Gilbert Kypps,
my son,

86 shall happen to decease in the nonage of the said Gilbert, his son, that my
said son

87 William Kypps shall have and hold the said parcels with thappurtenances
for and during the nonage

88 of the said Gilbert, the son, giving and paying to **Marie, now the wife of the
said**

89 **Gilbert, my son,** and mother of the said Gilbert, his son, during his nonage,
toward

90 the bringing up of him and her other children yearly, the sum of ten pounds
of lawful

91 money at the feasts aforesaid by equal portions and to begin as is afore
appointed to

92 my said wife and with like benefit of distress as is likewise afore appointed
to my said

93 wife. But I will that the said sum of ten pounds to the said Marie shall not
be paid until

94 my said wife deceased. **Provided** also, and my meaning is, that if it shall
happen my

95 said wife to survive the said five years before specified, and the said Gilbert
96 my son living, that my said son Gilbert shall pay the sum of five pounds to
my said
97 wife yearly during her natural life at the feast aforesaid with benefit of
distress
98 aforesaid. But if the said Gilbert be deceased and that the said land . . . to
my said
99 son William during the nonage of the said Gilbert, the son, then my
meaning is that the
100 said William, my son, shall pay out of the same land to my said wife the
said whole sum of
101 four pounds during her natural life yearly by equal portions at the feasts
aforesaid and
102 with such benefit of distress as is afore specified. And that the said Marie,
mother of the said
103 Gilbert, the son, have no payment out of the same land until my said wife
be deceased
104 anything in this my will before mentioned to the contrary in any wise not
withstanding.
105 In witness whereof, to this my present last will and testament, I the said
Gilbert

106 Kypps have set my hand and seal and I do hereby revoke and make void all
other
107 wills be formerly made and do publish and declare this to be my true and
last will
108 given the day and year first above written.

Nicolas Hooper's
mark
with initials

the mark of Gilbert Kipps

Sealed and declared by
the said Gilbert Kypps as his
. . and last will in the
presence of me, **Nicolas Hooper, the elder,**
writer hereof and of
Robert Grybe

Nicolas Barnaby²²³.

223 there were Barnabys in Seal but no Nicholas

Family of John Kips

Susan Porter, a sister of Sylvester (see page 2.k.17) married a John Kips, in Seal on 7th October 1616. Although both her mother and father had died before she married, their first child was baptised in Seal. John could have been the fourth son Richard mentioned in his will without there being a record of his baptism.

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
k33	<u>KIPS, John</u> -----	<1596	7 Oct 1616(S)	Susan Porter #1416	1	4	
#1416	<u>Porter, Susan</u> -----	8 Jan 1587(S)		married at 29	1	4	
• 35	<u>KIPS, Richard</u>	10 Aug 1617(S)					0 0
• 36	<u>KIPS, George</u>	22 Aug 1619	twin				0 0
• 37	<u>KIPS, John</u>	22 Aug 1619	twin				0 0
• 38	<u>Kips, Ellen</u>	29 Apr 1622					0 0

Dionisia Kipping, widow of Brenchley

In her will of 1513 (CKS: Drb/pwr 6.360), Dionisia Kipping (or Denis Kyppyng), widow of Brenchley, left a cope of damask to the “[church of Saint Peter of Pepinbury](#)” (Pembury).

Nothing more is known about her but it is likely that she came from Pembury.

The Kirkmans of Ightham

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
i580 ²²⁴	<u>KIRKMAN, Richard</u> -----		22 Jul 1566	Joane Durton #581	1	1	
i581	 <u>Durton, Joane</u> -----				1	1	24 May 1587
				register just records "-- Kirkman, widow"			
• i582	<u>Kirkman, Margaret</u>	18 Jun 1567			0	0	

A "Kertman" and a William Kirkman were mentioned in the Court Records 1586-1618.

224 "i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database

George Knight of Cowden & his sister Bridget Beecher

George Knight had a sister Bridget - see Tree K.1 in [Knights](#) Sometime in 1640 George proved the will of his sister Bridget (PCC Coventry 72). When she wrote her will on the 5th April 1639, George's sister was "[Bridget Beecher of the parish of Lymefield in Surrey, widow](#)". Cowden is on the Kent/Surrey border and, since she was a widow she may have moved back to Cowden to be with her brother. Her will has not been investigated in detail.

The Knights of Ightham & Kemsing

John Knight (i651²²⁵) was the father of two children baptised in Ightham:

- **Marie** (i653), baptised on 8th October 1570
- **William** (i654), baptised on 20th September 1573

A **William Knight** was mentioned in the Court Records 1586-1618

Margaret Knight (i655) was buried on 8th September 1613.

In Kemsing, **John Knight and his wife Alice** (k592 & k593) had a daughter **Sylvester** (k594) baptised on 9th July 1570. Alice was buried on 28th February 1602.

225 "i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database and "k" in that for Kemsing

The Kyrckes of Ightham

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
i1810 ²²⁶	<u>KYRCKE, Thomas</u> -----			Kathrine Kyrcke(m) #1811	1	4	21 Oct 1618
		householder when buried					
i1811	<u>Kyrcke(m), Kathrine</u> -----				1	4	23 Feb 1629
		"widow" when buried; taken as Thomas's wife					
• i1812	<u>Kyrcke, Elizabeth</u>	6 Jan 1601			0	0	
• i1813	<u>KYRCKE, Lawrence</u>	30 Oct 1603			0	0	
• i1814	<u>Kyrcke, Margaret</u>	18 May 1606			0	0	29 Mar 1609
• i1815	<u>KYRCKE, Thomas</u>	6 Nov 1608			0	0	

Thomas Kyrcke was described as an **ale taster** in the Court Records sometime between 1586 and 1618, presumably sometime in the seventeenth century.

Joane, daughter of – Kyrton (i1790), baptised 12th August 1599 could have been the first child of this marriage with a misspelling or misreading of the name.

²²⁶ "i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database