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The Lakes of Seal

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
#1789 ¹	<u>LAKE, Thomas</u> ² ----- 				1	5	16 Jan 1618
#1790	<u>his wife, Joane</u> -----				1	5	17 Nov 1634
• #1791	<u>LAKE, John</u>	22 Apr	1592		0	0	
• #1859	<u>LAKE, Richard</u>	19 Apr	1596		0	0	
• #1915	<u>Lake, Mary</u>	21 Jan	1598		0	0	16 Sep 1624
• #3028	<u>Lake, Jane</u>	25 Jul	1602		0	0	
• #3029	<u>LAKE, Thomas</u>	26 Dec	1604		0	0	
• #3030	<u>LAKE, William</u>				0	0	18 Mar 1607

1 # indicates a reference in the Seal database

2 in 1591, Thomas had a sheet and yardkerchief stolen from him - see [Beecher in Families & Transcripts](#) for details. His wife was described as " - Lake, widow" when she died; Mary, (#1915) was described as "da. of Joane Lake" when she died in 1624, ten years before her mother.

Edward Lambarde of Ightham

William Lambarde, author of "A Perambulation of Kent" published in 1576, whilst collecting material for his book, stayed with George Multon (i1863³) of Haldow but then living at St. Clere. In 1570 William married George Multon's young daughter, Jane in Ightham Church the day before her seventeenth birthday. Unfortunately, Jane died three years later leaving William heartbroken.

Edward Lambert/Lambard was an **ale taster** sometime between 1586 and 1618 and there are a number of entries for "Edward Lambert/Lambard" in the Court Rolls. Since Lambard is not a particularly common name, it is possible but not all that probable that Edward was a relative of William who had accompanied him on his travels but chose to settle in Ightham.

Edward Lambard's Appearances in the Court Rolls

- On 1st October 1589, **Edward Lambert and Colbe** were each fined 12d for having "assaulted each other" on 28th September (CRI 1938, p.4)
- In October 1597 **Edward Lambert** was one of the residents within the View of Frank-pledge who made default but was pardoned because he had not been sufficiently summoned to the Court. (CRI 1938, p.33)
- On 20th October 1600, **Mary, wife of Edward Lambard**, and the **wife of John Garland** were presented to the Court for having "assaulted **John Johnson, drawing blood**". Edward and John (Garland) were fined 20d (CRI 1938, p.6)
- The Court held on 16th October 1604 heard how **Edward Lambard** had been assaulted twice on the same day, 30th September. **William Glover** was fined 3s 4d for assaulting him at **Oldbury Hill**, drawing blood and **Weston Balden (i27)** 6d for assaulting him in the highway at Oldbury Hill (CRI 1938, p.7)

- On 19th October 1607, **Edward Lambert** "assaulted **James Butler** and drew **blood**" for which he was fined 2s at the Court held on 22nd October. (CRI 1938, p.7)
- The same Court heard that "**Edward Lambert and his wife**, since the last Court, have received and entertained in his house at Ightham at unlawful times persons 'of lewd life', in disturbance of the inhabitants there and contrary to law. Fined 6s 8d and, moreover, it was ordered that if the said Edward offends again in this respect he is to forfeit 10s for each such offence." (CRI 1938, p.14)

See **Excerpts from Ightham Court Rolls in Section Z of Families & Transcripts** for more details. All the above could have referred to the same man, possibly (i1406) the father of the two children baptised in 1589 and 1592, particularly since his wife's name was Marie/Mary:

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
i1406	<u>LAMBARDE, Edward</u> -----		18 Nov 1588	Marie Sigas i1407	1	2	
• i1408	<u>Lambarde, Elizabeth</u>	26 Jan 1589					0 0
• i1598	<u>Lambarde, Marie</u>	19 Mar 1592					0 0 25 Mar 1592

There was an **Edward Lambert** received as a stranger by **George Hawke (i400)** in 1592 and an Edward Lambert received by **Richard Hunter** in 1601 (see **Hawke and Hunter in More Families & Transcripts**) Neither the Edward mentioned in the Court Rolls nor i1406, even if these were two men, would seem to have been “strangers”.

Lamberd & Lampart

There were two references to Lamperd in Seal and one to Lambert and another to Lampard in Shipbourne. These could all have been variations of the name "Lambarde".

Richard Lamberd (#1361⁴) married **Ellen Hersby** (#1362) in Seal on 2nd June 1589; no children were recorded in Seal

Thomas Lamberd (#1679) married **Agnes Cowper** (#1680) in Seal on 26th January 1595 by a Licence from Doctor Lewen; no children were recorded in Seal

In Shipbourne, on 6th June 1626 **Ellizabeth Lambert** (\$1416) married **John Wayman** (\$395) - see [Wayman in More Families & Transcripts](#) for their family.

On 17th August 1630, also in Shipbourne, **Clemence Lampard** (\$1533) married **Nathaniel Weekes** (\$1528); nothing more is know about them.

4 # indicates a reference in the Seal database and \$ one in the Shipbourne database

John Langan of Tonbridge

John's will (CKS: Drb/Pw 15; Drb/Pwr 17.325) was written by Nicholas Hooper, curate of Shipbourne, who wrote a large number of wills between 1574 and 1618. Only the first page has been transcribed; the right hand side of the original has rotted so that the end of some of the lines cannot be read (words in brackets have been deduced from the context). For more details it will be necessary to study the probate copy.

The initial phrase "In the name of god Amen" is larger than the rest of the text with the "I" and "A" slightly decorated but Nicholas Hooper's mark is not included.

The Will of John Langan of Tonbridge

written 3rd April 1588

extract from original

- 1 In the name of god Amen. the third day of April (in the year of)
- 2 our lord god one thousand, five hundreithe and eight (and in the)
- 3 thirtieth year of the reign of our sovereign Lady Elizabeth (by the grace of)

4 God, Queen of England, France and Ireland, defender (of the faith),
5 I, John Langhan, als. **Collyn**, of Tonbridge in the county of (Kent)
6 being⁵ very sick and weak of body, but yet of perfect mind,
7 thanks therefore are given to Almighty god, do ordain and (make this my
present)
8 testament and last will in manner and form following⁶: And **First**
9 I give, commend and bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty (god)
10 And to Jesus Christ, his dear son, my only saviour (by whose)
11 precious death and bludshedding I trust only to be saved. And (my body to
the)
12 earth to be buried where it shall please my executrix.

crossed out:

Item: I give to be bestowed at my burial among poor people
resorting to my burial at the discretion of my executor, the
sum of ten shillings

Item: I give

13 to my **two daughters, Elizabeth and Anne**, to either of them the (sum of ??)
14 pounds a piece of good and lawful money of England, to be paid ??
15 that is to say fifteen pounds parcel thereof to the said Elizabeth ??

5 "beeing", "bee", etc.

6 "folowing"; usual for the Hoopers

16 one quarter of a year next after my decease. And the other (to the
17 the said Anne, my daughter, at the day of her marriage or else at the (age
of 21 years)
18 which shall first happen. And if it happen the said Anne, my (daughter
doth)
19 decease before she shall accomplish her said age of 21 years,
20 then I will one £5 thereof to be paid to the said Elizabeth.
21 **Item:** I will also to each of my said daughters, either of them, one ?? (I)
22 will and bequeath to my **two sons Thomas and John**, equally ??
23 the sum of ?? score and ten pounds lawful money (of England to be paid
to)
24 them and either of them at the feast of Pentecost ?? ??
25 shalbe in the year of my lord god one thousand . . .

Nicholas Hooper, writer hereof.

The Lanes of Seal

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
#249 ⁷	<u>LANE, John</u> ⁸ ----- of Stonestreet				3	1	<Jun 1586
	<i>Marriage 1</i>						
#294	<u>his wife, Agnes</u> -----				1	1	10 Jan 1562
• #562	<u>Lane, Margaret</u> -----				0	0	8 Aug 1563
	<i>Marriage 2</i>		2 May 1564	Johane Rudland(m) #250 widow Rudland in 1563	1	0	
	<i>Marriage 3</i>						
#1640	<u>his wife, Marian</u> ----- widow when she died				0	0	9 Jun 1586

There is no evidence to show that the same John Lane was the husband of Agnes, Johane Rudland and Marion but, from the dates, it is possible. The only child recorded for a John Lane was the burial of Margaret in 1563.

7 # indicates a reference in the Seal database

8 **Johane Underhill (#604)**, servant of John Lane, was buried on 17th November 1567

The Larkyns of Kemsing

James Larkyn (k642⁹) and his wife, Francis (k643), had a son, **James** (k544) baptised on 22nd June 1605. Francis's will, written in 1638 (**PCC: Lee 91**) has survived but it has not been transcribed. Since, by this time she was a widow, James had died before her.

Larkyn could be a variation of Lorkyn and there were a large number of Lorkyns in the Pembury, Tonbridge area - see page 2.1.65

The Lashes of Kemsing

There were Lashes recorded in Kemsing from 1561 when the parish registers start until the end of the sixteenth century but none were recorded in Ightham or Seal.

The main family was the three generations headed by Thomas Lashe - see the next page.

Two children were recorded for **Robert Lashe** (k282¹⁰)

- **Anne** k288 baptised 12 Oct 1561
- **John** k289 30 Mar 1564.

John (k286), son of **Edward Lashe** (k284), was baptised on 12th July 1573.

10 "k" indicates a reference in the Kemsing database

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died	
k283	<u>LASHE, Thomas</u> -----				1	8		
• k291	<u>LASHE, Nicholas</u>	24 Nov 1565	<1591		1	3		
• • k300	<u>LASHE, William</u>	14 May 1591					0 0	
• • k301	<u>LASHE, Nicholas</u>	4 Mar 1592					0 0	
• • k302	<u>LASHE, Thomas</u>	4 Aug 1594					0 0	
• k292	<u>Lashe, Sylvester</u>	28 Dec 1567	daughter		0	0		
• k293	<u>Lashe, Margaret</u>	27 Aug 1570			0	0		
• k294	<u>LASHE, Edward</u>	4 May 1573			0	0		
• k295	<u>LASHE, Gilbert</u>	16 Oct 1575			0	0		
		probably died before March 1579 when his brother was baptised Gilbert						
• k296	<u>LASHE, Richard</u>	23 Mar 1577			0	0		
• k297	<u>LASHE, Gilbert</u>	19 Mar 1579			0	0		
• k298	<u>LASHE, William</u>	18 Dec 1587			0	0		

The Letters of the Tonbridge Area

A large number of Letter wills have survived for Tonbridge and the locality, all proved in the Rochester Consistory Court:

		CKS: Drb/Pwr, Drb/Pw		
Robert Latter	Tonbridge	1469d	3.53	
Umfray Latter	Tonbridge; Speldhurst	1498d	5.311	
Richard Latter	Tonbridge; Speldhurst	1506d	6.186	Bidborough
Thomas Latter	Tonbridge	1518d	7.122	
Joan Latter	Tonbridge	1540/1d	2	widow; filed 1536
Robert Latter	Tonbridge	1545d	10.129	
Elizabeth Latter	Tonbridge	1558d	12.232	widow
John Latter (senior)	Tonbridge	1559d	12.411; 7	proved 1559
Robert Latter	Pembury	1567/8p	13.346; 9	
John Latter	Tonbridge, Haseden in	15 Feb 1566 ¹¹	13.380; 9	page 2.1.21
Thomas Latter	Tonbridge, Haseden in	9 Apr 1568	13.358; 9	page 2.1.23
Thomas Latter	Bidborough	1573p	14.136; 11	yeoman
John Latter	Tonbridge	1574p	14.177; 11	yeoman
Henry Latter	Tonbridge	1583p	16.216; 14	yeoman
Andrew Latter	Tudeley	1587p	17.220; 14	carpenter
John Latter	Tonbridge, Haseden in	1 Apr 1589	17.391; 15	page 2.1.24

11 proved October 1568

Margery Latter	Brenchley	1596p	19I.47; 17	
Michael Latter	Tonbridge	20 Jun 1597	18.582; 18	page 2.1.27
Nicholas Latter	Tonbridge	11 Nov 1607	20.366; 21	page 2.1.32
John Latter	Tonbridge ¹²		29 May 1612 ¹³	20.405; 23
Thomas Latter	Tudeley	1616p	23	yeoman
Andrew Latter	Tonbridge	1617/8p	24	yeoman
Edward Latter	Tonbridge, Haseden	20 Sep 1622	25	see page 2.1.38
William Latter (senior)	Tonbridge	1625p	21.131; 27	

The wills of John Latter (1612) and Edward Latter (1622) were written by John Hooper, notary public and parish clerk of Tonbridge. The Hoopers wrote a large number of wills in this area. Although John Hooper wills were often decorated, there is no decoration on the 1612 will.

The 1583 will of the yeoman Henry Latter could have been written by John Hooper; it is concerned only with Henry's land and has not been investigated.

¹² Southborough in

¹³ proved 1614

The scription of the will of John Latter written in 1589 is not known but the introductory phrase is expanded from the almost universal "In the name of god Amen" to "In the name of the eternal father, the son of the holy ghost, in whose name I was baptised (and) in whom I hope and believe to be saved Amen".

There is no mention of a Nicholas Latter in any of the other wills and nothing to connect him with the other Latters except that. like so many of the other Latters, his land was in Haseden. His will was written by Nicholas Hooper.

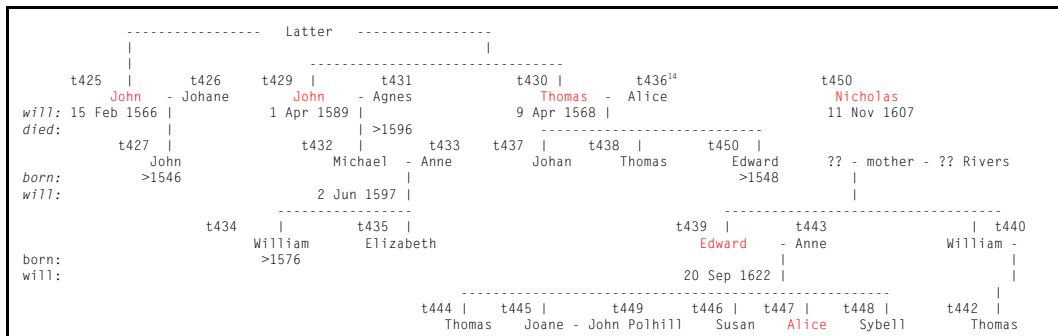
Haseden in Tonbridge

The earliest wills to be investigated are those of John written in 1566 and Thomas in 1568. Both were of Haseden in Tonbridge - Haysden is in the south east of the parish. John (1566) had a cousin John who had a son Michael, a not very common name. This cousin was possibly the testator of 1589, also a John of Haseden. Thomas appointed his brother John as his overseer who could have been the testator of 1566 since this will was not proved until October 1588 but is more likely to have been the 1589 testator.

Whatever these actual relationships it appears that, by the 1560s, Haseden was owned by at least two Latters whose connection was more distant than that of brothers.

Michael, the testator of 1597, could be the Michael above but he does not mention Haseden. Edward, the testator of 1622, does mention Haseden but, since his mother was still alive in 1622 he would have been the grandson of the first generation of Latters shown in the following tree. Although Nicholas (will 1607) had a son Edward he cannot have been the 1622 testator who had a married daughter when he died.

This is a very tentative tree which could alter considerably if some of the other Latter wills are transcribed. Those people shown in red are mentioned as being connected with Haseden.



Was the Edward Rivers who witnessed Michael Latter's will in 1597, the husband of Edward's mother Edward, the testator of 1622, with a married daughter, could have been born in the early 1570s so that his mother might have married again by 1597 being in her seventies when Edward died. Michael's mother was also alive when her son died.

John Latter of **Haseden** in the parish of Tonbridge

- I give and
- bequeath unto my child if **my wife Johane** go withall at this present time, if a daughter the sum of
- £5 6s 8d . . . to be paid unto her within three years after she comes
- of lawful age out of the lands that I bought of **Michael Latter, son of my cousin John Latter** in fee simple.

residue . . . to his wife . . . executrix

William Harte of Tonbridge, overseer

lands and tenement, situated, lying and being in Haseden in the parish of Tonbridge to **son John Latter** (under twenty when will written)

Witnesses **Cuthbert Allyn, Richard Botte, Edmund Skinner** with others.

1 In the name of god Amen. . . . 9 April 1568
2 I, Thomas Latter, of **Haseden** in the parish of Tonbridge
3 **First** I bequeath my soul into the merci-
4 ful hands of god trusting to be saved by the most precious death and
5 passion of our lord and saviour Jesus Christ. And my
6 body to be buried in the churchyard of Tonbridge aforesaid. **Item:** I will
7 there be bestowed upon the poor people at my
burial 5s. **Item:** . . .
daughter, **Johan Latter** . . .

- The residue of all my moveable goods and cattel unbequeathed, my legacies
- and debts being paid and my children well and honestly kept and brought up until they come to the lawful age in this
- my will and testament expressed, I will and bequeath unto **Alice, my wife**, whom I do ordain and make my sole
- executrix and **my brother John Latter** to be mine overseer.

- tenement and lands with th'appurtenances, situated, lying and being at Haseden in the parish of Tonbridge

- **youngest son Edward Latter** (under twenty)

two sons, **Thomas Latter** and Edward Latter shall equally divide and shift the aforesaid tenement and land with th'appurtenances between them.

Witnesses: **John Budgen**, John Latter,
Thomas Abraham, William Fisher with others more.

The Will of John Latter of Tonbridge

written 1st April 1589

extract from original

1 In the name of the eternal father, the son of the holy ghost, in whose name
I was baptised
2 in whom I hope and believe to be saved Amen. This will made the first day
of April
3 the year of our lord god anno domini 1589.

John Latter of Haseden in Tonbridge

mentions: gardens, barns, stalls, stables and all other edifices

witnesses: **Thomas Abraham; Abraham Gordon, Edward Latter, Michael Latter.**

This will was proved on 13th June 1589 before John Stockwood, vicar of Tonbridge - see **Section Z in More Families & Transcripts** for more details of Wills Proved Locally.

Michael Latter, husbandman

Michael Latter was described as a husbandman yet he had a mansion with edifices and lands belonging to it which he describes as being in “[Tonbridge or elsewhere within the county of Kent](#)”.

Since Michael's mother, Agnes, was still alive, he died fairly young leaving a son and a daughter and his wife, Anne, possibly pregnant. His son, William, was to inherit the mansion house and all its edifices and lands when he reached the age of twenty-one with Anne instructed to keep the “[house wind tight and water tight and without strip or waste](#)” until then. Wind tight and water tight are terms rarely encountered.

When William took over the house, Anne was to have an annuity of £4 and to “[hold and enjoy the chamber that](#)” Michael was occupying “[or the chamber that Margaret Fisher now is in if it happen to be void](#)”. Thus at least part of the house was rented out.

Anne was also to have “[free going and coming to the same and all timber and also to have fire and flett in the house and all the needful things as baking, brewing and water](#)”. Although Michael includes “[during the term of her](#)

widowhood” whilst describing these facilities, there is no mention of what was to happen if Anne remarried.

The Will of Michael Latter of Tonbridge

written 20th June 1597

transcript from probate copy

1 In the name of god Amen.
2 The twentieth day of June, one thousand six
3 hundred ninety seven, I, Michael Latter of
4 Tonbridge in the county of Kent, **husbandman**,
5 being sick in body but of good and perfect
6 remembrance, thanks be given to Almighty god,
7 do make this my present testament and last will
8 in manner and form following: **First** I bequeath
9 my soul into the hands of Almighty god, my
10 creator, redeemer and saviour, and my body to be
11 buried in the churchyard of Tonbridge aforesaid.
12 **Item:** I will and bequeath unto **Anne, my wellbeloved**
13 **wife**, all my moveable goods and chattells, my
14 debts and funeral expenses paid and done and my

15 children well and honestly kept and brought
16 up as I hope she will do, which Anne I do
17 make my sole and lawful executrix of this
18 my present testament and last will and I do make
19 and ordain my wellbeloved and trusty friend
20 **William Blatcher** to be supervisor of the same
21 and he to have all his costs and charges paid
22 him that he shall be at to see the same will and
23 testament well and faithfully performed by my
24 executrix. This is the last will and testament
25 of me the said Michael Latter
. . . . concerning
27 the disposition of my mansion house with all
28 edifices to the same belonging and all my whole
29 lands to the same belonging, situated, set, lying and
30 being within the parish of Tonbridge or elsewhere within
31 in the county of Kent. **First** I will unto Anne, my
32 wife, my mansion house with all the whole edifices to
33 the same belonging and all the whole lands thereunto
34 appertaining in the parish of Tonbridge or elsewhere
35 until **William, my son**, shall accomplish and come
36 to his full age of 21 years, keeping my said
37 house wind tight and water tight and without

38 strip or waste during the said term and at the end
39 of the said time when the said William, my son,
40 shall accomplish his full age of 21 years, then I
41 will unto the said William, my son, my mansion
42 house with all the edifices to the same belonging,
43 to have and to hold to him, his heirs and
44 assigns, forever upon that condition that he
45 pay, and cause to be paid, unto Alice, my wife,
46 during the term of her natural life, £4
47 of lawful money of England, every year
48 during the term of her natural life, quarterly
49 to be paid . . .
50 . . .
51 . . . distrain . . .
52 . . .
53 . . . and also that he shall pay,
54 or cause to be paid, unto **Elizabeth, my daughter**,
55 out of the profit of the lands to him before willed,
56 £20 of good and lawful money of England
57 to be paid unto her in manner and form
58 following: . . .
59 . . . provided always, and
60 my full mind is that if it happen that Anne,

61 my wife, be with child, then I will that if it be
62 a man child that then the same child shall have,
63 hold and enjoy the one half of the mansion house
64 and the edifices to the same belonging and the
65 lands before willed . . . at his full age of 21 years upon
66 condition that he pay, or cause to be paid, the one
67 half of all such sums of money as I have
68 willed that my son William shall pay . . .
69 . . . Further I will that if it be a woman
70 child that the same child shall enjoy the one
71 half of the money before willed unto Elizabeth,
72 my daughter, aforesaid . . .
73 . . . according to the true
74 meaning of this my last will, anything
75 mentioned or . . . in this my last will
76 to the contrary notwithstanding. Also
77 further provided that Anne, my wife,
78 immediately after that William, my son,
79 cometh to his full age of 21 years, shall
80 hold and enjoy the chamber that I now lie in during
81 the term of her widowhood or the chamber that
82 **Margaret Fisher** now is in if it happen to be
83 void; and free going and coming to the same

84 and all timber and also to have fire and flett in
85 the house and all the needful things as baking,
86 brewing and water. And further be it provided
87 further and my will and mind is that Anne, my
88 wife, shall pay, or cause to be paid, unto **Agnes,**
89 **my mother,** during her natural life, £3 yearly
90
91 to the contrary notwithstanding
92 witness at the making of this will **Edward**
93 **Rivers,** William Blatcher and **William**
94 **Sexton.** The sign of Michael Latter.

Nicholas Latter, tailor

Nicholas and his wife Anne had “ten small children”, John and Edward who were twins and eight daughters including another pair of twins. All his lands, etc. were to be divided between his two sons and each daughter was to receive forty shillings. These payments were to be paid yearly starting the first year after Anne's decease or when the eldest, Alice, reached the age of twenty-one, whichever happened first. The twin daughters, Martha and Alereic, were each to receive £1 the first year and £1 the next so that one twin did not get her inheritance a year before the other.

The Will of Nicholas Latter of Tonbridge

written 11th November 1607

transcript from original

Nicolas Hooper's
mark¹⁵

15 only a small simple mark; the left hand side of the will is damaged so that it is not possible to see how the “I” was decorated but the rest of the initial phrase is in large letter with simple decoration. Words in brackets at the beginning of lines have been assumed from the context

1 In the name of god Amen. The eleventh day of November in the
2 (year of our) Lord God one thousand, six hundred and seven, I Nicholas
Latter of
3 (Tonbridge) in the county of Kent, **tailor**, being sick in body but of sound
and perfect memory and
4 ??, thanks be given to God, do ordain and make this my present testament
and last
5 (will in) manner and form following: **First** I commend my soul to Almighty
god, my maker, with hope of
6 salvation by the merits of his dear son Jesus Christ, my saviour. And my
body to the earth from whence
7 it was taken. **Item:** I give and bequeath to **Anne, my wellbeloved wife**, all
and every my goods, cattells
8 and credits, she paying my debts and seeing my body decently buried,
which Anne I ordain and
9 make my sole and only executrix

10 This is the last will of me, the said Nicholas, made the day and year
abovesaid, touching the ordering, willing and
11 disposing of my lands and tenements. **Item:** I will that the said Anne, my
wife, shall have, hold and
12 ?? during the term of her natural life all and every that my message or
tenement situated at **Haseden** in

13 (Tonbridge) aforesaid with the barn, edifices, closes, garden, orchards and
two crofts of land hereunto
14 ?? other my lands, tenements and hereditaments, with all and singular
th'appurtenances , towards
15 ?? ?? ten, my small children, she paying such payments and legacies
as by my father's
16 ?? ?? agreement or by me to be paid out of the same lands and
tenements and
17 ?? ?? of the same and paying the quit rents and other rents thereunto
issuing. And
18 ?? the decease of the said Anne, my wife, I will and give all and every the
same messuage
19 or tenement, barn, closes, garden, orchard and two crofts of land, withall
and singular th'appurtenances
20 (situated in) Haseden in Tonbridge aforesaid, and all other my lands and
tenements, unto my twin sons
21 (John) and **Edward Latter**, to have and to hold the same with
th'appurtenances unto the said **John** and
22 (Edward) their heirs and assigns, forever. Notwithstanding will is that my
said two sons, their
23 heirs and assigns, shall pay to **Alice, my elder daughter**, the next year after
my said wife, her decease, out

24 (of my lands) and tenements aforesaid to them willed and given, forty
shillings of lawful english money. And
25 (to ?? my) next daughter the second year after my said wife's decease,
forty shillings. To **Audrey, my**
26 (third) daughter, the third year after her said decease, other forty shillings.
To **Johane, my fourth**
27 (daughter), the fourth year after after my said wife's decease, forty shillings.
To **Sara, my fifth daughter,**
28 (in the) fifth year, other forty shillings. To **Frauncis, my sixth daughter,** the
sixth year other
29 (forty) shillings. And to **Martha and Alereic, my twin daughters,** the
seventh year, after my wife's
30 (decease) twenty shillings apiece and the eighth year after her decease
other 20s a piece. And if my said daughters or
31 (any of) them shall not be paid their legacies of 40s a piece in manner as
afore is set down, then I will and give power
32 ?? every of them so unpaid to enter into and upon all or any the lands
and tenements before willed
33 (to my two) sons and the said to hold and enjoy till their and any of their
said legacies respectively be fully
34 (paid) And I will that any and every of my said daughters upon payment or
receipt of their

35 ?? to this my will shall make, seal and deliver to my said two sons, their
heirs and assigns,
36 ?? quittance or other dischargd in the law for the same. Provided
always, and my mind and will is that
37 (if the) said Anne, my wife, happen to decease before before my said two
sons shall have accomplished their
38 ?? full ages of 21 years, that then the payment of all my daughters'
legacies shall take place
39 ?? one after another as aforesaid from their said ages of 21 years and in
such order and manner as the same
40 (would) have done after my said wife's decease if she had lived ?? their
said ages and shall not be or begin
41 ?? my said sons can and will them selves any thing before herein
mentioned to the contrary thereafter
042 ?? In witness whereof I, the said Nicholas Latter, have to this my
present testament and last will set my hand
43 ?? ?? the day and year abovesaid.

Nicholas Latter

*witnesses not legible but writing and style
is that of Nicholas Hooper*

Edward Latter, yeoman

Edward Latter who wrote his will in 1622 was a yeoman with a son Thomas and four daughter, Joane (married to John Polhill), Susan, Alice and Sibell. He appointed his brother William and son-in-law, John Polhill, his executors. The residue of his goods, etc. were to be sold by his executors helped by William's son, Thomas, and the money used to pay his debts, funeral expenses and legacies.

Edward's mother, whom he initially refers to as “[mother Rivers](#)” was still alive when Edward wrote his will. Although Edward had at least one married daughter, his mother need only have been in her seventies; perhaps she had come by the name Rivers by remarrying after the death of Edward's father .

Edward's wife was to allow his mother “[for her dwelling during her natural life, the chamber over the parlour in my dwelling house with free liberty of ingress, egress and regress to and from the same and free recourse into the garden and close to ease and refresh herself and to take of the herbs in the garden and water for her use at the usual places where my house is served therewith](#)”. If, however, these “[commodities](#)”, were denied her by his wife, his mother was to have “[during her life, one parcel of land called little Hobbfield with way and passage to the](#)

same, she keeping the fences thereof and not cutting any of the okes¹⁶ or timber trees thereon”.

Edward’s daughters, Joane and Alice, were each to inherit some land, that given to Alice being in Haseden. Joane’s three acres of land in Tonbridge were adjacent to land which her husband, John Polhill, already owned.

On the death of Edward’s wife, the rest of his land, including little Hobbfield, was to go to his son Thomas. His other two daughters, Susan and Sibell, are only mentioned as coming into this land if Edward’s brother dies without heirs; perhaps they had married and been preferred at that time.

The Will of Edward Latter of Tonbridge

written 20th September 1622

transcript from original

1 In the name of god Amen. the twentieth day of September in the
2 year of our lord god one thousand, six hundred and twenty two. And in
.....

16 oaks

.....

- I, Edward Latter of **Haseden** in the parish of Tonbridge in the County of
- Kent, **yeoman**, being weak in body but of good mind and memory (thanks be to God) to the end that
- no dispute or contention shall, or may, arise about any part or parcel of my temporal effects, do,
- ordain and make this my testament and last will in manner and form following: **First**
- and principally, yielding my soul to Almighty God, my maker, with an assured hope of
- salvation through his mercy in the merit and mediation of his dear son, Jesus Christ, my
- saviour and my body to the earth in decent manner to be buried. **Item:** I will and give
- to the poor of Tonbridge twenty shillings to be distributed amongst them the Sunday sevensnight
- after my burial. **Item:** I will and give to **Anne, my wife**, one cow at her choice to be . . .

. . .

. . .

- The residue of all and singular my goods, cattell and chattels I will shalbe sold by
- **John Polhill, my son-in-law** and **William Latter, my brother**, and **Thomas, his son**, within as
- much short time after my decease as they can conveniently. And the money thereof arising
- I will shalbe towards the paying of my debts, my funeral charges and the probation of this
- my will and if any overplus be thereof (deducting to themselves their chardges¹⁷ and
- expenses by the ?? of this my will and the proving and executing thereof and also
- twenty shillings a piece over and above which I give them, I will it shalbe and
- remain towards the paying of my legacies aforesaid. The which John Polhill and William
- Latter, I make and ordain the joint executors of this my testament and last will.

- This is also the last will of me, the said Edward Latter, made and declared the day

17 spelt with a "d" in the original and also "dischardged" below

- and year first before written touching the disposing and devising of all my lands and tenements.
- **Item:** I will and give unto **mother Rivers** for her dwelling during her natural life, the
- chamber over the parlour in my dwelling house with free liberty of ingress, egress and regress
- to and from the same and free recourse into the garden and close to ease and refresh herself
- and to take of the herbs in the garden and water for her use at the usual places where my house is
- served therewith. Or if she may not enjoy these commodities, being denied by my wife, then I
- will to **my said mother**, during her life, one parcel of land called **little Hobbfield** with way
- and passage to the same, she keeping the fences thereof and not cutting any of the okes or timber
- trees thereon. And if my wife suffer my mother to enjoy the said chamber and other commodities, then
- my said wife shall hold the said Hobbfield as aforesaid. **Item:** I will and give unto **Joane**
- **Polhill, my daughter**, all those two pieces or parcels of land lying in Tonbridge aforesaid containing,

- by estimation, three acres more or less, bounding to the highway there towards the
- to the lands of the said John Polhill towards the east. And to other lands of mine called
- the **Hopgarden** towards the south and west, to hold the said two pieces or parcels of land with
- th'appurtenances to her, the said Joane, her heirs and assigns, forever.
- Item:** I will
- and devise to **Alice, my other daughter**, all that messuage or tenement wherein **William Abraham**
- now dwelleth with the barns, close and land, with th'appurtenances thereto belonging, by
- estimation one acre and a half (more or less), lying and being at Haseden in Tonbridge aforesaid
- with the use of all ways thereunto used and belonging, to hold the said messuage
- barns, close, land and use of the said ways to the said Alice, her heirs and assigns as aforesaid.

- The residue and all other my land, tenements, manors, rents, services and hereditaments and also
- the vowson of the said field called Hobbfield, I will shall be and remain unto **Thomas Latter**,

- **my son** And to the heirs male of his body lawfully to be begotten. And for default of such issue,
- to William Latter, one of my executors prenamed and to the heirs male of his body lawfully to be begotten.
- And in default of such heirs to **Edward Latter**¹⁸, **his brother**, and the heirs male of the body of the
- said Edward lawfully begotten. And in default of such heirs to **Susan, Sibell**, Joane and
- Alice, **my daughters**, and to the heirs male of their bodies lawfully to be begotten for
- ever. Provided always, and my will and mind is, that the said John Polhill and
- William Latter, my executors before named, shall and may have and receive immediately from
- after my decease, the rents, issues and revenues of all my lands and tenements (excepting
- the said Hobbfield during my mother's life). And shall or may let out all or any of my said lands,
- tenements and hereditaments for such rent and rents as they may conveniently until such

18 William Latter was the testator's brother; the testator was called Edward. Is this "Edward", given as William's brother, an error?

- time as all my legacies before willed and given. And all my debts remaining unpaid,
- which my goods shall not extend unto to pay, shalbe fully and truly contented and paid
- together with forty shillings to be paid out of the said rents to Thomas, my son, And
- twenty shillings unto Alice, my daughter, yearly until the said debts and legacies shalbe paid, anything in this my will contained to the contrary notwithstanding) And, whereas, the messuage wherein I now dwell and the
- closes, gardens and some other of my land is to be holden by my wife during her life for her
- jointure, my will is that, if my said wife shall decease before my debts and legacies shall
- be dischargd with any goods and rents of my other lands, that then immediately after her
- decease, my said executors shall likewise enjoy and take up the rents and profits of the said
- messuage and other premises so to her devised for and towards the payment of any said debts
- and legacies until the issues and rents so by them enjoyed shall extend to the payment thereof.

- In witness whereof I, the said Edward Latter, have to this my testament and last will
- set my hand and seal hereon, the day and year first above written

Edward Latter¹⁹

sealed, published and
declared in the presence of
William Abraham²⁰
Thomas Bamyd
John Hooper, n--- pbq. senr.

19 signature

20 mark

Debts Owed by Alice Launder of Chalk

The will of Alice Launder, widow, written on 28th December 1566 (CKS: Db/Pw 8, Drb/Pwr 13.280) has survived but only the debts owed and owing have been transcribed:

Debts that I, Alice Launder, do owe:

Impris:	I owe	John Frey for bread	40s
Item	I owe to	one Collman of Sittingbourne for a horse	40s
Item	I owe to	William Mylway	20s
Item	I owe to	William Launder	20s
Item	I owe to	John Boggart for ploughing 2 acres of land	6s 9d
Item	I owe to	more to the said John Boggart for curbing the well and for lathes	2s
Item	I owe to	more for 4 days work for a mason and his man	

Debts Owing unto me, the said Alice:

Item	Pylcher of Shorne oweth me	5 quarters of barley
Item	Robert Herley of Shorne oweth me	3 quarters of barley
Item	John Bogles of Shorne oweth me	6s 8d
Item	William Payne oweth me	12s

the foresaid Pylcher oweth me 2 hundreth of boards.

The Launderers of Ightham

The name **Robert Launder** appeared in the Court Rolls a number of times. The first two excerpts refer to one man who was a miller and the last two to another man, a labourer, perhaps the "stranger" of 1592. The miller could have been the father of the three sons born soon after being presented to the court for overcharging.

- There is one reference to a miller, on 17th April 1588: **Robert Launder** was "a miller within this View of Frank-pledge and had taken excessive payment from the inhabitants." He was fined 6d. (CRI 1938, p.10)
- On 2nd September 1591, Robert Launder, miller, assaulted **Robert Bownde**, who then and there assaulted him.
- On 5th April 1592 **John Lovegrove and Robert Gardner** were each to be fined 10s if Robert Launder stayed without sureties being found for him. (CRI 1938, p.17)

- On 11th April 1597, **Robert Launder**, labourer, was presented to the Court with a number of others for cutting down trees in the lord's wood - see *Excerpts from the Ightham Court Rolls* for details.
- On 24th April 1599 the Court heard that "**Robert Launder, Jane, wife of John Crudd** and the seventh daughter of **Lowes** have broken, taken and carried away divers bundles of wood from the hedges of the inhabitants of this View. Fined 6d each." (CRI 1937, p.218)

In December 1614, **John and Robert Launder**, probably #1350's sons who would then have been 26 and 19 respectively, took part in an "assault and affray" which included William Willard and others.

i1350 below was probably the miller but the Robert Launder for whom sureties were to be found must have been another Robert, perhaps the labourer presented to the Court in 1597 for cutting down trees and, two years later, for taking away bundles of wood from the hedges.

See **Bownde, Crudd, Gardner and Willard in More Families & Transcripts**

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
i1350	<u>LAUNDER, Robert</u> -----				1	3	
• i1352	<u>LAUNDER, John</u>	29 Sep 1588					0 0
• i1574	<u>LAUNDER, George</u>	24 Oct 1591					0 0
• i1687	<u>LAUNDER, Robert</u>	12 Jan 1595					0 0
i2424	<u>LAUNDER, John</u> -----			Margaret Launder(m) i2425	1	3	
				Margaret's name was given at the baptism of her son John			
• i2426	<u>Launder, Sara</u>	26 Mar 1633					0 0
• i2427	<u>Launder, Elizabeth</u>	25 Oct 1634					0 0
• i2428	<u>LAUNDER, John</u>	13 Feb 1637					0 0

The Lawrences of Seal & Kemsing

As might be expected with a common name such as Lawrence, there are a large number of separate small families which may, or may not, have been related and some of the mentions are just isolated events:

- **John Lawrence of Chevening** (#342²¹) married **Julyan Dorman** (#343), in Seal, on 26th July 1568
- **Jane** (#658), daughter of **Thomas Lawrence**, was buried on 3rd February 1572
- **A Lawrence from Waterden** (#1462), first name not given, was buried in Seal on 15th April 1582.
- **Thomasine Lawrence, widow**, (#1959) was buried, in Seal, on 9th September 1592; she could have been the widow of #874 below.

²¹ # indicates reference number in Seal database, k in Kemsing; events took place in Seal or Kemsing according to indicator unless specified

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
#720	<u>LAWRENCE, Thomas</u>		22 Apr 1576	Margery Meshame #721	1	3	
•	#862 <u>Lawrence, Elizabeth</u>	6 Jan 1578					0 0
•	#1071 <u>LAWRENCE, Thomas</u>	25 Feb 1580					0 0
•	#1197 <u>Lawrence, Jane</u>	21 Jul 1583					0 0
#874	<u>LAWRENCE, William</u> -----				1	3	
•	#876 <u>LAWRENCE, William</u>	21 Jun 1578	4 Dec 1609 married at 31	Agnes Tye #2033			1 0
•	#1114 <u>Lawrence, Agnes</u>	18 Mar 1581					0 0
•	#1571 <u>Lawrence, --</u>	1 Apr 1589					0 0
#1067	<u>LAWRENCE, Nicholas</u> ²² -----		13 Jan 1584	Johane Snell #1068	1	2	
•	#1280 <u>LAWRENCE, William</u>	13 Dec 1584	13 May 1617 married at 32	Agnes Bowle	2	2 ²³	
•	#1776 <u>LAWRENCE, Nicholas</u>	26 Nov 1592					0 0

22 a Nicholas Lawrence was buried 8 Jul 1622; if it was this Nicholas, he was about 60 but it could have been his son

23 see next page

In Seal at the beginning of the seventeenth century there were two William Lawrences:

- #876, son of William, born in 1578; taken as the William who married Agnes Tye in 1609
- #1208, son of Nicholas, born in 1584, taken as the William who married Agnes Bowle in on 13th May 1617.

Elizabeth (#2937), daughter of **William Lawrence**, was more likely to have been the daughter of #1208 than the William who had married eight years previously.

It is unfortunate that the wives of both Williams were named Agnes but the wife of #1208 was probably the daughter of Samuel Bowle (#1048) whose name was given as Ann when she was baptised (Agnes and Ann often appear as the name of the same woman). See [Bowles in More Families & Transcripts](#). Thus, the burial of Ann, wife of William Lawrence, on 16th April 1620, was probably the burial of the wife of #1208 who possibly died as a result of a pregnancy.

Two months later, on 15th June 1620, William Lawrence married **Jane Dunstan** (#4071) and their daughter, **Jane** (#4072), was baptised on 1st July 1621. Unfortunately, on 22nd March 1624, William's wife was "[buried with a child still born](#)".

There was also a William Lawrence in Kemsing (k170) having children in the 1610s and there are a number of ways the marriages, etc. could be organised but that described above for #1280 and on page 2.1.56 for k170 seems to be the simplest. The relationships assembled for #1280 are shown below in tabular form.

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
#1280	<u>LAWRENCE, William</u> -----	13 Dec 1584			2	1	
	<i>Marriage 1</i>		13 May 1617	Agnes Bowle	1	0	
			married at 32				
#2061	<u>Bowle, Agnes</u> -----	20 Jun 1585(K)			1	0	16 Apr 1620
			married at 31				
	<i>Marriage 2</i>		15 Jun 1620	Jone Dunstan	1	1	
#4071	<u>Dunstan, Jone</u> -----				1	1	22 Mar 1624
		buried with a child still born					
• #4072	<u>Lawrence, Jane</u>	1 Jul 1621			0	0	

Thomas & William of Kemsing

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
k163	<u>LAWRENCE, Thomas</u> ²⁴ -----		2 Dec 1604	Sylvester Haselden	1	5	
k158	<u>Haselden, Sylvester</u> -----	23 Oct 1576			1	5	
			married at 28				
• k164	<u>LAWRENCE, Thomas</u>	15 Sep 1605			0	0	21 Dec 1606
• k165	<u>LAWRENCE, Robert</u>	8 Nov 1607			0	0	
• k166	<u>Lawrence, Alice</u>	5 Jul 1611	3 Jun 1637	Thomas BRICE married at 26	1	0	
							k169
• k167	<u>LAWRENCE, William</u>	6 Nov 1614			0	0	
• k168	<u>LAWRENCE, James</u>	25 May 1618			0	0	

24 A Thomas Lawrence witnessed the will of Thomas Hills of Kemsing in 1638 when k163 would have been in his sixties

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M C	Died
k170	<u>LAWRENCE, William</u> -----				4 6	28 Oct 1631
		William was buried one month after his second wife				
	<i>Marriage 1</i>			Ann Lawrence(m)		
k171	<u>Lawrence(m), Ann</u> -----				1 5	20 Mar 1629
• k172	<u>Lawrence, Barbara</u>	1 Mar 1612			0 0	12 Apr 1612
• k173	<u>LAWRENCE, William</u>	14 Mar 1613			0 0	
• k174	<u>Lawrence, Jane</u>	24 Sep 1615			0 0	5 Feb 1616
• k175	<u>LAWRENCE, Richard</u>	28 Nov 1617			0 0	
• k176	<u>Lawrence, Ann</u>	18 Feb 1620			0 0	
	<i>Marriage 2</i>			Elizabeth Lawrence(m)	1 0	
k180	<u>Lawrence(m), Elizabeth</u> -----				1 0	30 Sep 1631
		Elizabeth was buried one month before her husband				

Richard Lawrence of Seal

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
#2063	<u>LAWRENCE, Richard</u> -----		5 Jun 1617	Ann Atherfold	1	7	22 Jan 1651
#2062	<u>Atherfold, Ann</u> -----	1595 or 96		married at 22 or 23	1	7	
• #2938	<u>Lawrence, Mary</u>	26 Oct 1617			0	0	
• #2939	<u>Lawrence, Elizabeth</u> ²⁵	22 Apr 1619	19 Apr 1640	Robert BOOKHAM married at 21	#2947	1	0 < Oct 1643
• #2940	<u>Lawrence, Margaret</u>	30 Jun 1622	3 Dec 1649	John PORTER married at 27	#2946	1	0
• #2941	<u>Lawrence, Ann</u>	26 Sep 1624			0	0	17 Jul 1625
• #2942	<u>LAWRENCE, Richard</u>	24 Sep 1626	13 Jun 1652	Elizabeth Pullen married at 25	#2945	1	0
• #2943	<u>Lawrence, Ann</u>	2 Nov 1628	11 Oct 1652	George FRANCES married at 23	#656	1	0
• #2944	<u>Lawrence, Sarah</u>	15 Dec 1633			0	0	

25 Elizabeth probably died before October 1643 when Robert Bookham married **Joane Symonds** (the name Bookham does not occur except for these marriages)

When **Richard Rolfe**, yeoman of Seal, died in 1625 he left a number of legacies to men living in the locality who were presumably his friends and relations. Amongst these was Richard Lawrence who was to receive twenty shillings. In 1627, **Thomas Rolfe** left £1 to Margaret, daughter of Richard Lawrence "of Seal, butcher" (see [Rolfe in Families & Transcripts](#)) This Richard could have been #2063 above.

The Ledgers of Shipbourne

William Ledger (\$1258²⁶) married twice but both wives died before him and the only children recorded, both by his second wife, died young.

			\$1258			
	\$1259	Elizabeth	-	William	-	wife of William
<i>bur:</i>		2 May 1618		14 Apr 1636		22 May 1633

			\$1310			\$1311
				Ann		Elizabeth
<i>bap:</i>				14 Jan 1621		
<i>bur:</i>				25 Aug 1622		9 Apr 1622

26 \$ indicates a reference in the Shipbourne database

The Lems of Ightham

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
i2414 ²⁷	<u>LEM, John</u> -----		2 Aug 1631	Helen Allen i2415	1	4	2 Dec 1652
• i2416	<u>Lem, Jane</u>	29 Jun 1632			0	0	
• i2417	<u>LEM, Matthew</u>	27 May 1634			0	0	
• i2418	<u>Lem, Elizabeth</u>	2 Apr 1637			0	0	
• i2419	<u>Lem, Marie</u>	2 Feb 1640			0	0	14 Mar 1641

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

²⁷ "i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database

The Levetts of Shipbourne

Tymothy Levett (\$1115²⁸) married **Anne Ansty** (\$1116) on 14th November 1613 and their first child was born seven months later:

-	Mary	\$1117	baptised	10 Jun 1614
-	Robert	\$1118		1 Apr 1616
-	Edward	\$1240		29 Mar 1618
-	Thomas	\$1241		14 Jan 1621.

A Tymothy Levett was buried on 17th March 1622; he could have been either the father or grandfather of these four children.

On 26th July 1631, **Agnes Levett** (\$1561) married **John Davison** (\$1560); no children were recorded in Shipbourne. Marrying in 1631, Agnes could not have been a daughter of Timothy and Anne (unless she was born before they married).

28 \$ indicates a reference in the Shipbourne database

Gregory Lewen of Seal

On 26th May 1583 **Gregory Lewen** (#1054²⁹) married **Rose Garthred** (#1055).

Gregory had a servant, **Thomas Matthew** (#1732), who was buried in Seal on 11 Sep 1587; a Gregory Lewen was buried on 23rd August 1599. No children were recorded.

At Rochester Assizes, in February 1585, **John Warde of Sevenoaks, labourer** was indicted for grand larceny. On 1st May 1583, in the house of **John Robinson** (#388) at Seal, he stole a purse containing 6s in money from **Gregory Lewyn**. Warde, who was at large, was pardoned³⁰.

29 # indicates a reference in the Seal database

30 Cockburn (Eliz.) 1398

The Family of John Lewis of Seal

Twenty years before the first mention of John Lewis, on 24th October 1562, **Agnes Lewis, widow** (#292³¹) was buried.

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
#1152	<u>LEWIS, John</u> ----- 				1	6	>May 1601
#1153	<u>his wife, Ellen</u> ----- Ellen died before her husband; she was probably in her early 40s				1	6	19 May 1601
• #1154	<u>Lewis, Ann</u>	8 May 1582			0	0	
• #1254	<u>Lewis, Jane</u>	17 Jan 1584			0	0	22 Mar 1584
• #1250	<u>LEWIS, Robert</u>	4 Apr 1585			0	0	
• #1572	<u>Lewis, Elizabeth</u>	13 Apr 1589	twin		0	0	
• #1573	<u>Lewis, Dorothy</u>	13 Apr 1589	twin		0	0	24 Nov 1589
• #1631	<u>Lewis, Johane</u>	5 Dec 1591	19 Jul 1618	Nicholas BROWN married at 26	1	0	#2071

³¹ # indicates a reference in the Seal database

Roger Lewknor of Leigh

Roger Lewknor, gent., in his will written in 1525 and proved in 1526 (CKS: Drb/Pwr 8.40) asked to be buried in the church of Leigh. He left “to the building of a new steeple at Leigh £4 13s 4d to be paid in form following, that is to say:

- the same year that it shall please the parishioners of the said parish of Leigh to begin to make new the said steeple, then they to have the same year 13s 4d to be paid at the 4 usual feasts and terms till the said sum of £4 13s 4d be fully and truly contented and paid.
- My messuage and house called **Clements**, standing at Leigh Green, with a croft called the **Merles**, to be sold for a priest to sing for my soul. The churchwardens to have my chief messuage wherein now I inhabit called **Bernetts** withall the demain lands, etc, in Leigh and all those in Pepingbury for 7 years for a priest to sing in Leigh church and to mending of highways, etc.”³²

Although the rest of the will has not been investigated, it is unlikely that Roger had any dependents although obviously he could have left other bequests.

The Lorkyns of Pembury, Tonbridge and Tudeley

Lorkyn (or Larkyn) was a common name and only a few of the surviving Lorkyn wills have been investigated. These are all from the 1575 onwards and for the neighbouring parishes of Pembury, Tonbridge and Tudeley.

Tonbridge:

Thomas Lorkyn	2 Mar 1591	CKS: Drb/Pw 16; Drb/Pwr 18.124	page 2.1.70
John Lorkyn	1601p	CKS: Drb/Pw 18; Drb/Pwr 19I.191	page 2.1.76
John Lorkyn	1620p	CKS: Drb/Pw 25; Drb/Pwr 19IIA,71	
Richard Lorkyn	1629p	CKS: Drb/Pw 28; Drb/Pwr 21.358	yeoman
William Lorkyn	12 Sep 1645	CKS: Drb/Pw 31; Drb/Pwr 23.27	page 2.1.103

Pembury:

Thomas Lorkyn	1462	CKS: Drb/Pwr 2.236	
Alice Lorkyn	1529	CKS: Drb/Pwr 8.222	extract: page 2.1.67
William Lorkyn	1533	CKS: Drb/Pwr 9.116	extract: page 2.1.67
Nicholas Lorkyn	1522	CKS: Drb/Pwr 11.161	"Hawkeswell" in Pembury
Nicholas Lorkyn	1567	CKS: Drb/Pwr 13.342	
William Lorkyn	5 Mar 1575	CKS: Drb/Pwr 15.38	page 2.1.68
Richard Lorkyn	22 Sep 1627	CKS: Drb/Pw 28	page 2.1.80
William Lorkyn	30 Dec 1630	CKS: Drb/Pw 29; Drb/Pwr 22.116	page 2.1.88
Thomas Lorkyn	12 Feb 1632/3	CKS: Drb/Pw 29; Drb/Pwr 22.26	page 2.1.95
Margaret Lorkyn	1636p	CKS: Dra/Pw 1; Drb/Pwr 19IIB.29	

Tudeley (Tewley):

Edward Lorkyn	1606p	CKS: Drb/Pw 20	yeoman
William Lorkyn	1623p	CKS: Drb/Pw 26; Drb/Pwr 21.28	yeoman
Dorothy Lorkyn	31 Mar 1636	CKS: Drb/Pw 29; Drb/Pwr 22.193	page 2.1.100
Edward Lorkyn	1634p	CKS: Drb/Pw 29	tailor

Most of these Lorkyns belonged to one extended family with men from one parish owning land in one or more of the other parishes. There were Lorkyns in Shipbourne but earlier than those described in these wills - see page 2.1.110. There was also a small family of Larkyns in Kemsing at the beginning of the seventeenth century - see page 2.1.14. Larkyn could be a variation of Lorkyn.

The will of Dorothy Lorkyn of Tonbridge was written by John Hooper, notary public and parish clerk of Tonbridge who wrote a large number of wills for Tonbridge parishioners and those in surrounding parishes. John Hooper was one of the overseers to the will of William Lorkyn of Pembury, the testator of 1630; the writing is very similar to that of John Hooper but the witnesses are at the very bottom of the page and John's signature does not appear so that it could have been written by one of his clerks.

The will of William Lorkyn of Tonbridge was written by John's son, George Hooper whilst that of William Lorkyn of Tudeley was probably written by Robert Kipping.

The Early Pembury Lorkyns

There were Lorkyns in Pembury from at least the 1460s.

In her will of 1529 “[Alice Lorkyn, widow of Thomas Lorkyn, late of Hawtwill in the parish of Pepingbury](#)” gave to the church of Pepingbury a “[redhewede cow to be put to farm for the profit of the said church](#)”.

In 1538, William Lorkyn (x1386) asked to be buried in the high chancel of Pepingbury church and gave to the vicar for his burial 6s 8d.³³

33 Duncan, 1906, p.58

William Lorkyn of Pembury

The earliest will to be transcribed is that of William Lorkyn, a very short will written on 5th March 1575 probably by Robert Hormes, the vicar of Pembury, who witnessed the will.

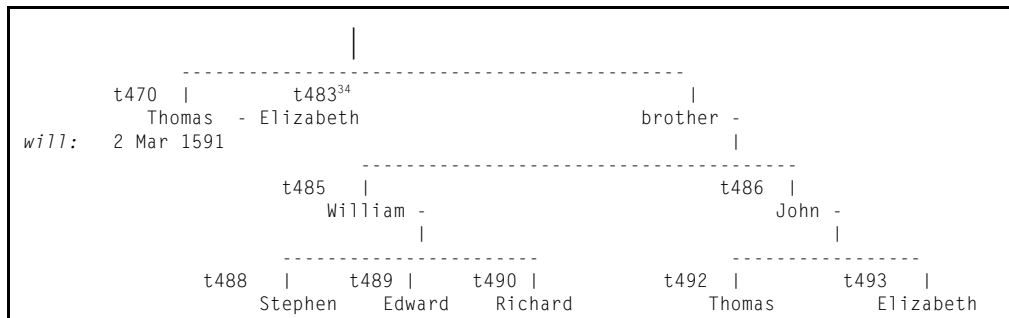
Will of William Lorkyn of Pembury

written 5th March 1575
transcript from probate copy

1 In the year of our lord god 1575, the
2 fifth day of March. This is the
3 will of William Lorkyn of the
4 parish of Pembury. **First** I will
5 unto **Alles, my wife**, my house
6 and my land for the term of
7 her life after my decease and
8 I will to **Elizabeth, my daughter**, one
9 cow. Witnesses **Sir Robert Hames**
10 **vicar of Pembury, Richard Collyns**
11 and **Richard Semer**.

Thomas Lorkyn of Tonbridge, will 1591

Thomas and his wife Elizabeth appear to have had no children and Thomas leaves his land in Tonbridge and Pembury to the sons of his brother William and their children.



Thomas also left £6 to a blacksmith of Pembury who was the son of Nicholas Lorkyn, possibly the Benjamin Lorkyn he mentions later in his will..

34 "t" indicates a reference in the Tonbridge database

right hand side of will has rotted, words in brackets are assumed.

- 1 (In the name) of God Amen. the second day of March in the three and
thirtieth year
- 2 (of our) sovereign lady Elizabeth, by the grace of god Queen of England
France and
- 3 (Ireland), defender of the faith, etc. I Thomas Lorkyn of Tonbridge in the
county
- 4 (of Kent, **yeoman**) being³⁵ aged not³⁶ sick in body but of good and perfect
remembrance, praised be
- 5 (god, do) make and ordain this my present testament and last will in
manner and
- 6 (form following) **First:** I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, my only saviour
and redeemer,
- 7 ?? for the merit of Christ's passion that I may be the child of salvation.

35 "beeing", "bee", etc. throughout including "beegotten"; also "too" for "to"

36 definitely "not" but "and" would be expected

8 (my body to be) buried in the parish church of Tonbridge aforesaid. **Item:** I
give to the
9 ?? 20s. **Item:** I will to be bestowed at my burial by my executrix or
10 (her assigns) amongst the poorest people of the said parish. **Item:** I will to
every of
11 (my godchildren) 12d. **The residue** of all my goods, cattell and chattels, my
debts and
12 ?? my will performed and fulfilled in all things, I give and bequeath to
Elizabeth,
13 (**my wife**, whom I) make my sole executrix of this my last will and
testament. **Item:**
14 ?? **William Lorkyn** of Tonbridge aforesaid, **my brother's son**, overseer
15 ?? testament and I give him for his pains 6s 8d.

16 (**This is the**) **last will of me the said Thomas Lorkyn made and**
17 (declared in the) year above written concerning the order and disposition of
all my land
18 ?? hereditaments withall and singular their appurtenances, situated,
lying and being in
19 (Tonbridge?? and) **Pepingburie** als **Pemberie** in the said county of Kent.

20 ?? my said lands and tenements withall and singular their
appurtenances

21 ?? my wife and her assigns during her natural life keeping
22 ?? lord's rent and not committing strip or waste. And after the decease
of
23 ?? wife, I will and give my messuage that I now dwell in, withall
24 ?? orchard and piece of land called **Upper Barne Croft** now divided with
25 ?? and other piece of land now two pieces called **Nether Barn Croft**, one
26 ?? now divided into two pieces, one piece of land called **The Bottoms**
27 ?? name or names they, or any of them, be called, containing by
28 ?? lying in the said parish of Tonbridge and one piece of land sometimes
29 (called ??mans) containing, by estimation, one acre also in the said parish
of
30 ?? withall and singular their appurtenances unto **John Lorkyn** of
Tonbridge
31 (my brother's³⁷) son during his natural life and after his decease unto
Thomas
32 (Lorkyn, son of) the said John Lorkyn and the heirs of the body of the same
Thomas.
33 (lawfully) begotten and for default of such heirs unto **Elizabeth Lorkyn,**
sister
34 (of Tho)mas Lorkyn and to the heirs of her body lawfully to be begotten.
And for

37 see line 42

35 (lack of such heirs) unto **William Lorkyn, brother** of the said John Lorkyn
during his
36 natural life and) after his decease unto **Stephen Lorkyn** and **Edward**
37 (Lorkyn, sons?) of the said William Lorkyn, their heirs and assigns forever..
Also
38 (I give) unto the said John Lorkyn one piece of land called **Springes Meade**
and
39 ?? called **Perrey Croft** with a marl pit therein or adjoining, containing in
40 (estimation) 2 acres of land lying in Tonbridge aforesaid adjoining to a land
41 ?? of **Thomas Bargains** withall and singular their appurtenances unto
John
42 ?? aforesaid, my brother's son, during his natural life and after his
43 (decease to) Thomas Lorkyn son of the said John Lorkyn and the heirs of
the body of
44 ?? lawfully to be begotten and for default of such issue unto Elizabeth,
45 (sister of) the said Thomas Lorkyn and to the heirs of her

page 2: (part of the righthand side of this page has also rotted)

46 (body lawfully) begotten and for default of such issue unto William Lorkyn
??
47 (during) his natural life and after his decease unto Ste(phen and Edward)
48 (Lorkyn), sons of the said WilliamLorkyn, their heirs and assigns (forever)
49 (I) will that the said John Lorkyn and Thomas his son or Elizabeth ??

50 ?? John Lorkyn and sister to the said Thomas, son of the said ??
51 ?? to whom the premises shall, by virtue hereof descend or come
52 ?? the said Elizabeth, my wife, shall pay, or cause to be paid, unto
53 ?? of Pemberie, blacksmith, **son of Nicholas Lorkyn**, deceased,
54 (six³⁸) pounds of lawful money of England, in or at the church porch of
55 ?? aforesaid, to be paid within one year next after the decease of the said
56 (Elizabeth, my) wife and for lack of payment thereof I will and my very
mind is that the
57 ?? enter into the said messuage and other the premises before limited
58 (to John) and Thomas, his son, and Elizabeth, his daughter, and into every
part thereof
59 ?? distress to detain and keep until the said six pounds be paid
60 ?? the said John Lorkyn and Thomas, his son, or Elizabeth, the daughter,
??
61 ?? and sister to the said Thomas Lorkyn, son of the said John ??
62 ?? the premises shall by virtue hereof descend or come after the
63 (decease o) Elizabeth, my wife, shall pay, or cause to be paid, unto
Benjamin
64 **Lorkyn, son of Nicholas Lorkyn, late of Pemburie**, deceased, ??
65 ?? paid within five years next after the decease of the said Elizabeth,

38 see line 59

66 (and for lack of) payment thereof I will and my very mind is that the said Benjamin
67 ?? into the said messuage and other the premises before committed to
(Thomas,
68 (the) son, and Elizabeth, daughter, to the said John and sister to (Thomas)
69 (and every) part thereof and distrain and the distresses to detain and keep
??
70 ?? paid and if the one of them die, I will the other to have the whole ??
71 ?? payment to distrain as aforesaid. **Also I will** and give after
72 (the decease of the) said Elizabeth, my wife, unto the said William Lorkyn
all my
73 ?? called **Seere** lying and being in Pemberie aforesaid containing
74 ?? acres, to have and to hold unto the said William during his
75 (natural life and) after his decease unto **Richard Lorkyn, his son**, and to the
heirs of
76 (the said) Richard lawfully begotten and for lack of such heirs to the said
77 ?? heirs and assigns forever. In witness whereof I, the said Thomas
78 (Lorkyn do) set to my hand and seal the day and year first above written in
the
79 presence of

Thomas Lorkyn
his mark

details of witnesses not legible

John Lorkyn, died 1601

This John cannot have been the John mentioned in Thomas's will since this testator's children were John and Eleanor compared with Thomas and Elizabeth for the John in Thomas's will. This testator died leaving young children and making his father (first name not given) the overseer and supervisor of his will.

No date seems to be given in the will which was proved in 1601. One of the witnesses was Roman Children who probably wrote the will - see [Roman Children in More Families & Transcripts](#)

Will of John Lorkyn of Tonbridge

proved 1601

transcript from original

- 1 This I make my last will and testament. In the
- 2 name of god Amen. **First** I give and bequeath my soul to Almighty
- 3 God, my maker and redeemer through whose merits I only hope to be
saved
- 4 And my body to be buried in the churchyard. **Item:** I give and bequeath
- 5 unto **John Lorkyn, my son**, five pounds to be paid unto him at

6 the age of sixteen years. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **Eleanor, my**
7 **daughter,**
8 five pounds to be paid unto her at the age of sixteen years.
9 Providing always my very will and intent is that if any of them should
10 happen to die without heirs that the one of them shalbe the other's heir.
11 But if the said John and Eleanor shall both happen to die without heirs
12 that them **Marie Lorkyn, my well beloved wife**, shall enjoy all the
13 said ten pounds. The residue of my goods, I give and bequeath
14 to the said Marie, my wife, whom I make my sole executor, my
15 debts and legacies being paid. Provided that the said Marie,
16 my wife, shall have the custody of the said ten pounds until my
17 children shall come to their aforesaid age of sixteen years and that
18 the said Marie shall have the bringing up of my children until they
19 shall come to the said age. And I desire my well beloved father to be my
supervisor and overseer.

witnesses³⁹

Roman Children, William Loade, John Webb, James Clifford

Richard and William Lorkyn, yeomen of Pembury

Richard, whose will was written in 1627, had five sons and two married daughters. His eldest son, Nicholas was made his executor and main heir. His daughters Margaret and Marie were each to receive £5 with Marie also having his biggest brass stupnet. Charles was to have some land in the parish of Tudeley, William £10, John £40 and some household items including a scabbard and George two other pieces of land, a pair of sheets and a “waggon with the wheels”. As each of the four brothers received his inheritance he was release Nicholas and his heirs from any further claim on the land devised to Nicholas.

It seems that the mother of these children had died and Richard had married again since he had a “daughter-in-law” (a term often used instead of step-daughter) Priscilla Best and his wife, Bridget, was to be allowed to “quietly enjoy and have the house wherein I now dwell to her use for herself and one or two of her children for one whole year next after my decease”. Bridget’s children thus appear to be younger than Richard’s. In addition to firewood for the year, two pairs of sheets, a stool and a linen trendle and two pails, she was to have eight bushels of wheat and four of oaten malt to be delivered within twelve weeks of his death. With the will written at the end of September, this implies that the wheat and malt must have been stored from the harvest just ending.

The only grandchildren mentioned by Richard are the sons of his daughter Marie and his son Charles, both called Richard. His house was left to his eldest son, Nicholas, and if Nicholas had no heirs, in turn to his sons Charles, George, and John. In his will of 1630, William Lorkyn of Pembury, left to his son Zabulon the “message or tenement wherein **Bridget Lorkyn, widow**, now dwelleth”. Bridget is not a commonly used name and would thus appear to be the Richard’s widow. Two questions following on from this are:

- was this the same house in which Bridget’s husband had specified she was to enjoy for a year or, at the end of the year, had she moved to a another house owned by William?
- was the testator of 1630 Richard’s son? Although none of William’s children were mentioned by Richard they must have been born between 1590 and 1610 at the latest. Perhaps Richard left William only £10 because he had already set him up.

The following tree shows William as Richard’s son.

	x1072								x1042		x1055 ⁴⁰		
	John								- Richard	-	Bridget - ?? Best		
will:									22 Sep 1627				

	x1056	x1057		x1058		x1044	x1049	x1060	x1061	x1062		x1069	
	Nicolas	Marie - ??	Lenard	Charles -		William -	Mary	George	John	Margaret - ??	Inge	Priscilla	other
will:						30 Dec 1630							children

		x1064			x1066	x1073	x1050	x1051	x1074	x1052		x1053	x1054
		Richard			Richard	Richard	Katherine	Margaret -	Zabuton	Julian - ??		Mary	Elizabeth
									children			Mary	

Will of Richard Lorkyn of Pembury

written 22nd September 1627

transcript from original

- 1 In the name of god Amen. The two and twentieth day of September Anno Dom. 1627 and in the third year of the reign of our sovereign lord Charles, by the grace of God king of
- 2 England, Scotland, France and Ireland, defender of the faith, etc. I, Richard Lorkyn of Pepingburie als. Pemburie in the county of Kent, **yeoman**, being of perfect memory, god be thanked,

3 therefore do make and declare this my testament and last will in manner
and form following, that is to say, **First** and principally I commend my soul
4 into the hands of Almighty god
surely trusting to be saved by the only merits of Jesus Christ, my only
saviour and redeemer, and my body to be buried in the churchyard of
Pemburie aforesaid. **Item:** I will and
5 bequeath unto the poor people of Pemburie the sum of ten shillings to be
paid at the day of my burial by mine executor. **Item:** I will and bequeath
unto **my son, Charles Lorkyn**, presently after
6 my decease, all that messuage and tenement with the appurtenances
lying in the parish of **Tewdly** which I lately purchased of **Thomas Bennett**
called by the name of **Boxkyns** during his life
7 and afterwards unto **Richard Lorkyn, his son**, and to the heirs of the said
Richard forever. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **my son William Lorkyn**
and to his heirs the sum of ten pounds
8 of good and lawful money of England to be paid unto him within one year
next after my decease. **Item:** I will and bequeath unto **my son John Lorkyn**
and to his heirs lawfully
9 begotten and to be begotten, the sum of forty pounds of good and lawful
money of England to be paid unto him within two years next after my
decease and if it happen that my son John

10 Lorkyn do depart this life without heirs as aforesaid, that then my mind
and will is that that forty pounds so given to him shall remain and be
equally divided among all my
11 children. I will and bequeath more unto my son John Lorkyn, one joined
bedsteddle which I use to lie upon, one flock bed, one flock bolster, the
best coverlet save one, one blanket, one pair
12 of sheets, my scabbard and table and form in the hall and the lesser brass
stupnet, to be delivered unto him by mine executor within one year next
after my decease. **Item:** I
13 will and bequeath unto **my daughter Marie Lenard** five pounds of good and
lawful money of England to be paid unto her, or to her heirs, within one
month next after my decease. And also the biggest
14 brass stupnet. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **Margaret Inge, my**
daughter, the sum of five pounds of good and lawful money of England to
be paid unto her within
15 two months next after my decease. **Item:** I give and bequeath **Richard**
Lenard, son of my daughter Marie, the sum of forty shillings of good and
lawful money of England
16 to be paid unto him at his full age of one and twenty years. **Item:** I will and
bequeath unto my daughter-in-law **Priscilla Best** the sum of twenty
shillings of good and lawful money

17 of England to be paid unto her at her age of one and twenty years. This is
the last will and testament of me the said Richard Lorkyn made and
declared the day and year above
18 written, touching and concerning the disposition of all my lands and
tenements whatsoever. **First** I give and devise my messuage wherein I
now dwell and all my lands and tenements
19 whatsoever within the parish of Pepingburie als Pemburie above
mentioned with all and singular the appurtenances unto **Nicholas Lorkyn,**
my eldest son, and to his heirs
20 male of his body lawfully begotten and for want of such heirs male I give it
to Charles Lorkyn, my son, and to the heirs male of his body lawfully
begotten and for want of
21 such heirs male I give it to **George Lorkyn, my son,** to the heirs male of his
body lawfully begotten, and for want of such heirs male, I give it to John
Lorkyn, my
22 son and to the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten (excepted out of the
before mentioned) two pieces thereof, the one piece which I lately
purchased of **my brother,**
23 **John Lorkyn,** and the other piece next adjoining to the said piece
containing by estimation six acres, more or less, the which said two pieces
of land with the

24 appurtenances , I give and devise unto my son George Lorkyn and to his
heirs forever. **Item:** I give and bequeath more unto my said George Lorkyn
a
25 pair of sheets and my waggon with the wheels to him, to be delivered unto
him by mine executor presently after my decease. **Item:** my mind and will
is further that **Bridget, mine** (wife)
26 shall quietly enjoy and have the house wherein I now dwell to her use for
herself and one or two of her children for one whole year next after my
decease with free egress and regress (for her)
27 self and them to go and come at their pleasure and my mind is further that
my wife shall have fire wood for her necessary use to burn during the time
28 of her dwelling in my house as aforesaid to be appointed her by my
executor upon the said message. **Item:** I give unto her more two pairs of
sheets, the best joined stool and a linen
29 trendle. I give unto her more eight bushels of wheat and four bushels of
oaten malt and two pails with iron bails⁴¹, the sheets, stool, trendle and
pails to be delivered presently after my
30 decease and the eight bushels of wheat and four bushels of malt to be
delivered to her by mine executor within twelve weeks next after my
decease. Provided always that if

41 "payles with yron bayles"

31 it happen that the said Nicholas, my son, his heirs and assigns, do make
default of payment to any of my said sons or daughters of thereby? any of
their several sums to them
32 before given and bequeathed, then my will and mind is that he, she or
they, which shall fortune to be unpaid shall enter into my said land and
tenements before devised
33 unto my said son Nicholas, and to the next heirs, and to have, hold and
enjoy to either and every of them and their heirs as much of the said land
and tenements before devised
34 as shall be thought worth by indifferent persons until his, hers or their
several sums before by me given and bequeathed be fully satisfied and
paid. Provided also that
35 if any of my said sons, Charles, William, George or John, claim any of my
lands before devised unto Nicholas, my son, and the next heirs before they
or
36 either of them and their heirs have received their several sums before given
and bequeathed, then my mind and will is that his and their portions
before
37 willed and bequeathed which shall make such claims shall not be paid at
all. And further, my true meaning is that every of my said sons, Charles,
William,

38 George and John, shall seal? releases to my said son Nicholas and the next
heirs of all their rights in my said lands devised to my son Nicholas and the
39 next heir
when they shall be paid their several portions according to this my last
will. All the residue of my goods, chattells, cattells and ready money and
40 whatsoever else
that I have, I give and bequeath unto Nicholas Lorkyn, my eldest son, to
the end that he shall pay my debts and legacies and see my body decently
buried,
41 which said Nicholas I make, constitute and appoint, the sole executor of
this my present testament and last will and appoint my **brother-in-law**
John Davids,
42 and my neighbour **Thomas Fishenden** to be the overseers of this my last
will and testament.

The mark of Richard Lorkyn

M⁴²

In witness hereof to this my last will and testament I have hereunto
set my hand and seal the day and year first above written in the presence
of John Davids Thomas Fishenden⁴³

42 mark like two inverted and overlapping "v"s, that is a form of the letter "M"

43 written as in line 42 and therefore not a signature unless Fishenden was the sctor of the will

William Lorkyn, yeoman of Pembury

Whilst Richard detailed provision for his wife Bridget for only a year after his decease William specified in some detail how his wife was to be maintained for the rest of her life. Their two sons, Richard and Zabulon, sharing the cost equally between them were to “[well and sufficiently keep, cherish, nourish, sustain and maintain the said Mary, my wife, with mete provision of diet, ?? washing, physick and attendance and with all other necessaries both in sickness and in health](#)”.

William left a number of legacies to his daughters and grandchildren which were to be paid within three months of his death with each of his executors being responsible for half of the cost. Each payment to each beneficiary was to “[acknowledged in writing under the hands and seals of my said overseers](#)” which was to be “[a sufficient discharge in law for the same unto mine executors](#)”.

For “[the better effecting](#)” of his will, before probate was given (or there was any “[intermeddling with any of my goods](#)”), both Richard and Zabulon were to be bound to William’s overseers, to the “[penal sum of fifty pounds for the true payment of the one half of all my debts and legacies](#)” and to the carrying out of “[so much of this my will in all other respects as shall belong to him](#)”. If either of

them was to refuse to these conditions, he was to have “no benefit or advantage by this my testament or last will”.

Will of William Lorkyn of Pembury

written 30th December 1630

transcript from original

1 In the name of god Amen. the thirtieth day of December in the year of our
Lord God one thousand six hundred and thirty, I, William
2 Lorkyn of Pepingburie als Pemburie in the county of Kent, **yeoman**, being
in good health of body and of perfect remembrance, for so I give praise to
God, do make and ordain this my testament
3 and last will in manner and form following: **First** therefore recommending
my soul to Almighty god, my maker, with an assured hope of salvation
through his mercy in the merit and mediation of
4 his dear son Jesus Christ, my saviour, and my body to the earth in decent
manner to be buried. I will and dispose of my temporal estate as followeth:
I will to **Katherine, my daughter**,
5 forty shillings of lawful english money. **Item:** I will to **Margaret, my
daughter**, four pounds of like lawful english money. **Item:** I will to **Julian,
my daughter**, three pounds of

6 like lawful money. **Item:** I will unto **Mary, my daughter**, six pounds of like
lawful money and one flockbed, one flock bolster, one boarded⁴⁴ bedstead
and two pairs of sheets, a coverlet and blanket.

7 **Item:** I will to **Elizabeth, my daughter**, the like sum of six pounds and one
pair of sheets. **Item:** I will to **Mary, my grandchild, the daughter of my
daughter Julian**

8 forty shillings of lawful english money. And amongst all her other children
that shalbe living at the time of my decease ten shillings equally amongst
them. **Item:** to my

9 grandchildren that are the children of my daughter Margaret, I will
likewise ten shillings to be equally divided between them. **And** I will that
all my daughters and grandchildren

10 before mentioned be paid their several and respective legacies to them
bequeathed by this my will within one quarter of a year next after my
decease equally between my executors

11 hereafter named before mine overseers or one of them hereafter named, the
true payment whereof being acknowledged in writing under the hands and
seals of my said overseers.

12 in the hand and seal of either of them I will shalbe a sufficient discharge⁴⁵
in law for the same unto mine executors and either of them, their executors
and assigns, against every legatory
13 before named for their legacy so paid and acknowledged. **Item:** I will that
Richard and Zabulon Lorkyn, my sons and executors hereafter named and
their executors and assigns, shall at all times
14 after my decease during the whole term of the natural life of **Mary, my**
wife, their mother, at their equal costs, charges and allowance, well and
sufficiently keep, cherish, nourish,
15 sustain and maintain the said Mary, my wife, with mete provision of diet,
?? washing, physick and attendance and with all other necessaries both in
sickness
16 and in health. The said Mary, my wife, claiming no manner of jointure or
dower out of ?? any the lands and tenements that I have already, or shall
hereafter, give or devise to
17 my said sons Richard and Zabulon or either of them, towards the payment
of all which legacies before named, my debts and funeral charges, the
keeping of my said wife and all
18 charges incident or happening by this my will. I will, give and bequeath to
the before names Richard Lorkyn and Zabulon Lorkyn, my sons, all my
goods, cattells, chattells and debts

19 equally to be divided between them, the which Richard and Zabulon I
make the ?? executors of this my testament and last will to see the same
proved and all my debts and legacies paid
20 at their equal charges. **And** I desire my good **friends, Thomas Fishenden** of
Pepingburie and **John Hooper** of Tonbridge to be overseers and to be
aiding and assisting that this will
21 may take effect according to my mind therein declared. **And** for the better
effecting thereof, I will that the said Richard Lorkyn, my son, shalbe come
bound before the probation of
22 this my will, or any meddling with ??⁴⁶, to my said overseers, or one of
them, with the penal sum of fifty pounds for the true payment of the one
half of all my debts and legacies and to perform ??mch of my will
23 besides as shalbeelong to him the said Richard, his executors or assigns, to
perform. ?? my son Zabulon shall, in like manner, before the probation of
this my will or intermeddling
24 with any of my goods become bound in the penal sum aforesaid to my
overseers, or one of them, aforesaid, and to the purpose aforesaid, viz. to
pay half my debts and legacies and to perform such

46 this phrase inserted but, although difficult to read, the words "any meddling with" can be read as can the word "intermeddling" at the end of line 23

25 and so much of this my will in all other respects as shall belong to him, the
said Zabulon, his executors or assigns, to perform which if either of my
sons shall refuse, he so refusing shall

26 have no benefit or advantage by this my testament or last will, anything
therein contained to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

27⁴⁷ **This is** the last will of me the said William Lorkyn, made and declared the
day and year first above mentioned, touching the devising of my tenement
hereafter mentioned.

28 **Item:** I will, give and devise to the said Zabulon Lorkyn, my son, his heirs
and assigns, all that my messuage or tenement wherein **Bridget Lorkyn,**
widow, now dwelleth.

29 And all the land and appurtenances thereunto belonging, containing by
estimation three acres (be it more or less) together, situated, lying and
being in Pepingburie aforesaid.

30 To have and to hold, all the said messuage or tenement, land and
appurtenances, unto the said Zabulon Lorkyn, his heirs and assigns, to the
only use and behoof of the said Zabulon

47 this last section of the will is separated from the main will by being inset. It seems to refer to a messuage and land separate from that divided between Zabulon and his brother Richard in the main part of the will.

31 his heirs and assigns, for ever. **In witness** whereof the said William Lorkyn
have to this my testament and last will set my hand and seal yeven the day
and year first above
32 written.

Sealed, published and declared and before the
sealing, the words in three several places⁴⁸ above
interlined, so done in the presence of John Hooper, sen.
Thomas Fishenden and ⁴⁹ **Nicholas Lorkyn**

48 “and Zabulon” on line 13 and two insertions on line 21, one shown at the beginning and “to perform” at the end.

49 “N” which looks like the mark of Nicholas Lorkyn whose name is followed by an undecipherable word; Nicholas could be Willim’s elder brother and the executor of their father’s will.

Thomas Lorkyn, yeoman of Pembury

Thomas had four young children left to the care of his wife Margaret, who was presumably their mother. Until they came of age (twenty four for the two boys and twenty-one for the girls) she was to use the profits gained from the investment of the money eventually to be paid to them to be give them an “[honest, competent and religious](#)” upbringing instilling in them “[the fear of God](#)”.

Edward, the eldest son, who was apprenticed to Robert Day of Cambridge, was left £30, £10 of which Margaret could pay to him when he finished his apprenticeship if this was before he reached the age of twenty-four.

This will is difficult to read partly because the phraseology used is unusual. Both the overseers were witnesses but both made their mark and the writer of the wills looks to be Robert Semes but his surname is difficult to decipher.

copy of signature of Robert ??

Margaret Lorkyn, widow, whose will proved in 1638 has not been investigated, could have been Thomas's wife.

1 In the name of god Amen. The 12th day of February in the
2 8th year of the reign of our ?? Lord Charles by the grace of god
3 king of England, Scotland, France, etc. and in the year of our lord
4 god 1632, I, Thomas Lorkyn of Pembury in the county of
5 Kent and Diocese of Rochester, **yeoman**, being sick of body and of
6 perfect remembrance (praised be Almighty god) And by my ??
7 ?? and of all flesh and the uncertainty of my life and
8 ?? to set ?? ?? make and
9 ordain this my present testament and last will in manner and form
following:

10 **First** I will and bequeath my soul in the hands of Almighty
11 god, my creator, and Jesus Christ, my redeemer, and to the Holy Ghost,
12 to be saved and my body to be buried in the churchyard of the
13 parish of Pembury aforesaid.

14 **Item:** my will is that my executrix hereafter mentioned shall see
15 me decently buried ?? ?? to be made at my said burial
16 and to give to the poor of the said parish of Pembury the sum of
17 ten shillings at the same time as she shall think fitting.

18 **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **my eldest son, Edward Lorkyn**, now
19 apprentice to **Robert Day? of Cambridge**, the sum of thirty pounds
20 of good, lawful English money to be hereby paid him by my ??
21 executrix when he cometh to the age of full four and twenty
22 years. And if it shall be also in the power of my said executrix
23 to do it, my son Edward Lorkyn have ten pounds of the said
24 thirty when his apprenticeship is expired to begin ??
25 before the said ?? of four and twenty years be expired.

26 **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **my son Thomas Lorkyn**
27 the full sum of thirty pounds likewise of like lawful english
28 money to be hereby paid unto him when he cometh to the age of full
29 four and twenty years by my said executrix.

30 **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **my daughter Elizabeth Lorkyn**
31 the full sum of twenty pounds to be paid unto her at her age of
32 one and twenty years which the twenty pounds must arise out
33 such sum or sums that my executrix hath now in keeping or
34 after my decease may further have.

35 **Item:** I give unto **my daughter Margaret Lorkyn** twenty pounds
36 of like lawful money of England to be hereby paid unto her at her
37 age of one and twenty years by my said executrix.

38 **Item:** I give unto ?? M.??, **joiner** of Pembury, four shillings
39 to be paid unto him by my executrix after my decease.

40 **Item:** I give unto **my wife, Margaret Lorkyn**, all and all manner
41 of my moveable goods and chattells whatsoever, all ??
42 ?? ?? indentures, leases
43 evidences, ?? , debts and accounts whatsoever, as ??
...

last page

- The use and profits of all my legacies in ?? ??
- ?? to the honest, competent and religious bringing
- ?? up of my children in the fear of God until that
- ?? several terms? and times of years for their said
- legacies to be paid unto them be fully complete and ended.

- And I do also appoint and ordain and make my said
- wife Margaret Lorkyn, my full, lawful and sole executrix
- of this my last will and testament. Whom I do heartily desire,
- in the name of God, to do and perform and fulfill all matters
- contained in this my will and premises according to
- my true interest and meaning. And not unto any other effect
- or purpose whatsoever.

- To which end I do lastly constitute and require

- **John Inge the elder of Pembury** and **Edward Quayffe?** of
- **Penshurst** in the county of Kent to be my overseers of this
- my last will and testament and to aid and assist my said
- executrix in the best sort they may or can, for the due
- and true performance of all things being contained, according
- to my true intent and pre?? ?? ?? ??
- ?? John Inge, sen. and Edward Quayffe⁵⁰, I do likewise give
- to each of them, the sum of three shillings and four pence
- to be paid unto tem by the said executrix within one whole year
- after my death

- In witness thereof I have set hereunto my
- mark? and seal the day and year herein written being
- the 12th day of February, Anno Domini 1632

Witnesses hereof are

Robert Semes ??

The mark of John Inge, snr.

The mark of Edward Quayffe

Thomas

Lorkyn, his

mark

50 the Quayffe who, with John Inge witnessed the will was definitely "Edward" abbreviated to "Edw."; here the name looks to have first been written as "Richard" with the beginning changed; it could be "Edward".

added at the bottom of the page:

The names of the overseers are

John Inge and Edward Quayffe

lawfully assigned before the sealing hereof.

This will, written by John Hooper, is 3 pages long but only the beginning of the will is readable from the microfilm of the original. The initial "I" is decorated with a man's face.

- 1 In the name of god Amen.
2 The last day of March in the year of our lord Christ one thousand, six
hundred
3 thirty and six. Regis Caroli Anglis ?? duodecimo⁵¹. I
4 **Dorothy Lorkyn** of Tudeley in the county of Kent, **widow**⁵²,
5 being sickly and aged and thereby and by many examples of mortality put
in mind
6 of my last end, notwithstanding being this time of sound and good memory
7 (I thank my god for it) for the settling of that estate wherewith God hath
blessed
8 me, do make and ordain this my testament and last will in manner and

51 this sentence is in Latin

52 "widdow"

9 form following: **First** therefore recommending my soul to Almighty god
with
10 an assured hope of salvation through his mercies and the merit, precious
death
11 and passion of Jesus Christ, his dear son, my saviour. And my body to the
earth in
12 decent manner to be buried in the churchyard of . . .
13 . . . **Item:** I will to . . .

William Lorkyn of Tonbridge

William, the testator of 1645, was a weaver who left to his master forty shillings and a “four square box”. His friends included a doctor of physic, the minister of Bidborough and Joseph Mercer whom he made his executor. His heirs were his three sisters and Joseph was “from time to time (when) being required” make an account to them “concerning the execution” of the will. The only person mentioned of the next generation was his nephew, John, to whom he left his bible.

His message and lands were to be divided between his married sister Mary and Anna with the third sister, Elizabeth, receiving an annuity of £5 and ten lines of the will (42 to 52) are taken up with what Elizabeth, her heirs and assigns, may do if it is not paid on time.

1 In the name of god Amen. the twelveth day
2 of September in the year of our Lord Christ one thousand six hundred
3 forty and five. **I, William Lorkyn** of Tonbridge in the county of
4 Kent, **weaver**, being of this present sick and weak in body but of sound and
5 perfect
6 mind and memory, for which I praise god, considering of the frailty and
7 shortness of my life, do
8 therefore for the ordering and disposing of that estate wherewith God hath
9 blessed me, make and ordain this to
10 be my testament and last will in manner and form following, that is to say,
First and principally I will
11 my soul to the gracious acceptance of Almighty god, my maker, hoping
12 and assuredly trusting to have
13 the pardon and remission of all my sins and eternal salvation by the only
14 merits, death and passion of Jesus
15 Christ, my saviour and redeemer, and my body to the earth in decent
16 manner to be⁵³ buried. **I will**

53 "bee" and "shalbee" throughout bu "me" and "being"

11 to my loving master **David Harris**, over and above any money I owe unto
12 him, forty shillings of lawful
13 money of England and also I give unto my said master my four square box
14 in his house. **Item:** I will and
15 give to **Mr. Phipps, doctor in physic**⁵⁴, also forty shillings of lawful money of
16 England. **Item:** I give
17 to **my worthy friend Mr. Wilroy, minister of Bidborough**⁵⁵, ten shillings of of
18 lawful english money. **Item:**
19 I will to my trusty and wellbeloved friend **Joseph Mercer** of Tonbridge
20 aforesaid also forty shillings of
21 lawful money of England over and above all charges⁵⁶ by him to be
22 sustained by this my will. And I
23 make and ordain the said Joseph Mercer to be the sole executor of this my
24 testament and last will giving
25 power and authority to my said executor, his executors and assigns, to
26 receive and take up all the rents and profits of my lands and tenements

54 "phissick"

55 "Bitborough"

56 "chardges" a spelling often used by the Hoopers; also on line 57

19 hereafter mentioned until my legacies, funeral charges and debts shall be
fully paid or until such time as my said
20 executor shall have received rent enough to satisfy the same. And my will
is that first out of my said
21 rent my said executor shall pay to David Harris, my said master, eight
pounds and sixteen shillings
22 which I owe unto him. And afterwards my funeral charges (which I
appoint shalbe about three pounds)
23 and other charges about the probate of this my will and then my legacies
bequeathed by this my will
24 shalbe paid as and when my said executor shall receive the rents of my
said tenements and lands and
25 I will to **Mrs Anne Harborough of Malling** twenty shillings the same to be
paid her by my executor out
26 of my rents of my tenements and lands as and when he shall receive the
same. **Item:** I will to my good friend **Samuel**
27 ?? twenty shillings to be paid him by my executor as and when he hath
received rent sufficient of my tenements and lands.
28 **Item:** touching the further disposition of my lands and tenements, I will,
devise and give to **Mary,**
29 **my sister, the wife of William Maynard, and Anna Lorkyn, my sister,**
equally to

30 be divided between them after the said Joseph Mercer, my executor, hath
had and received rent
31 sufficient for the payment of my debts and legacies aforesaid, all that my
messuage or tenement
32 in th'occupation of **Richard Rogers** and the barn, edifices and buildings,
closes, yards, gardens,
33 orchards and lands thereto belonging with all and singular
th'appurtenances, situated, lying and being
34 in the parish of Tudeley aforesaid⁵⁷ in the said county of Kent, to hold to
the only use and behoof
35 of the said Mary and Anna, my sisters, their heirs and assigns, for ever.
Notwithstanding
36 my will is after my debts and legacies shalbe paid that there shall be an
annuity or yearly
37 rent charge of five pounds of lawful money of England issuing and yearly
to be perceived, had and taken
38 out of my said messuage, tenement and lands with th'appurtenances
which I will and give to **Elizabeth**
39 **Lorkyn, my sister**, her heirs and assigns forever to be to her and them
payable at the feasts of

40 the Nativity of our Lord Christ and the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, by
equal portions
41⁵⁸ the first time of payment thereof to be made on the first of those feasts that
shall next happen after my debts and legacies shalbe paid
42 yearly and in every year for ever. And if and as ?? the said annuity or
yearly
43 rent charge of five pounds. or any part thereof, shalbe behind or unpaid to
the said Elizabeth, my
44 sister, her heirs or assigns, by the space of fourteen days next after either or
45 any of the feasts aforesaid, then ?? often I will it shall and may be lawful
to and for the said Elizabeth, my
46 my sister, her heirs and assigns, by the space of fourteen days next after
either or
47 any of the feasts aforesaid, then and so often I will it shall and may be
lawful to and for the said Elizabeth, my
48 sister, her heirs and assigns, into all and singular the said messuage,
tenement, lands and premises with
49 th'appurtenances, and any part thereof, to enter and distreign and the
distress and distresses there taken and found
50 lawfully from there to bear, lead, drive, carry away, impound, detain and
keep until the said annuity and

51 arrearages thereof together with her and their costs and charges by that
52 arrears sustained shalbe to her and
53 them fully satisfied and paid. **Item:** I will to the said William Maynard, my
54 brother-in-law, my cupboard⁵⁹ and settle
55 at my aforesaid message. **Item:** I will to the said Anna, my sister, my best
56 table and frame, one joined stool,
57 my best joined chest and safe cupboard standing at my said message.
58 **Item:** I will to Elizabeth, my sister, my other
59 joined chest, my old table and form and my other joined stool being at my
said message. **Item:** I will to **John, son of**
William Maynard, my brother-in-law, my bible. All other my goods and
chattells, I will shall be employed by my executor
towards the payment of my debts and funeral charges. And I will my
executor from time to time being required shall
make and ?? an account concerning the execution of this my will to my
said three sisters, Mary, Anna and Elizabeth.
In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year
above written

William Lorkyn

59 "cubbord" here and on line 54

Read, sealed, published and declared
by the said William Lorkyn
to be his testament and last will
the words in four several
places being interlined in the
presence of

Gregory Roofe

sign: **John Brightling** and

Geo. Hooper.

This declaration etc. is squashed into the bottom corner of the will; John Brightling made his mark.

The Lorkyns of Shipbourne

The will of Stephyn Lorkyn, yeoman of Shipbourne, was written in 1542 and proved in 1543 (**CKS: DRb/Pwr 10.23**). It has not been investigated.

Henry Lorkyn (\$1⁶⁰), who was buried on 21st August 1582, had five children baptised between 1560 and 1571:

-	John	\$3	baptised	4 Aug 1560
-	Harry	\$31		4 Oct 1562
-	Abraham	\$43		5 Aug 1565
-	Lore	\$78	daughter	4 Apr 1568
-	James	\$43		5 Aug 1571

On 6th October 1594, Agnes (\$600) “[a base born child of Lore Lorkyn](#)” was baptised.

60 \$ indicates a reference in the Shipbourne database

About eighty years later:

Joane Lorkyn (\$2004) married

William May (\$2006) on 18 Jan 1645

Thomas Lorkyn (\$2005) married

Ursula Olyver (\$2022) on 1 Mar 1645

No children were recorded for either of these couples.

The Mays may have lived in Plaxtol since, on 4th February 1649, Thomas, son of **Thomas May** (\$2166) of **Plaxtol** was baptised.

Tabitha May (\$1917) had married **John Willes** (\$1904) on 8th October 1644.

The Luckes of Shipbourne

This name is spelled Luck or Lucke. The will of the **George Luck** (\$219⁶¹) who was buried in February 1622 has survived (**CKS: Drb/Pw 21**) but it has not been investigated. This George, who was described in his will as a **husbandman**, had had a son George who had died six months earlier, the burial of George Lucke, junior, being recorded on 20th July 1621.

In 1609 Marion Lucke (\$956) married John Ashby and they had two daughters only one of whom survived. (see **Asshbye** in **Families & Transcripts**) The wife of John Ashby could have been the sister of George Lucke, junior - they were both having children in the 1610s. Thus it could have been the burial of brother and sister on 20th July 1621.

John Ashby, in his will of 1623, made **Nicholas Lucke, his brother-in-law**, overseer of his will and guardian of his daughter. No mention is made in the registers of a Nicholas who could have been the son of George, senior. George's will would no doubt help here. The "**wife of John Ashby**" was buried on the same day as George Lucke, junior, the 20th July 1621.

61 \$ indicates a reference in the Shipbourne database

		\$219		\$991			
		- George		- Margaret Brooker			
<i>will:</i>		proved 1622					
<i>bur:</i>		16 Feb 1622		30 Sep 1613			

	\$911	\$2271	\$1022	\$221	\$956	\$948	
	Robert -	Nicholas	Joan	- George -	Marion -	John Ashby	
<i>bap:</i>				25 Apr 1582		see Families & Transcripts	
<i>bur:</i>			20 Jun 1611	20 Jul 1621		20 Jul 1621	

		\$1757	\$1758	\$1023	\$1081	\$1082	\$1196
		Mary -	Richard Philips	George	Nicholas	Waller	Thomas
<i>bap:</i>				9 Jun 1611	27 Sep 1612	18 Dec 1614	16 Feb 1617
<i>mar:</i>			6 Aug 1639				

	\$913	\$1083	\$1084	\$1197	\$1623	\$412	\$1331
	Nicholas	Robert	Martha	Robert	Mary -	John Baker	Edward
<i>bap:</i>	30 Nov 1608	23 May 1613	25 Apr 1615	5 Jul 1618			24 Feb 1622
<i>mar:</i>					18 Apr 1644		
<i>bur:</i>	27 Apr 1610	14 Jun 1613		9 Oct 1626			29 Apr 1622

This tree has been assembled from the parish registers with \$2271 being introduced from the will of John Ashby. On 2nd July 1610, George Lucke married Margaret Brooker⁶²; this must have been \$219 since \$221's first wife did not die until 1611. The "[wife of George Lucke](#)" was buried on 30th September and this must have been Margaret.

62 the parish register reads "Geoge Lucke and Margaret Booker buried" but, when two people were buried on the same day the entries are usually completely separate, the form here being that used for marriages

The two Marys (\$1757 and \$1623) are known only from their marriages but, from the dates of these, they have been placed as shown. If Richard Philip's wife was the daughter of Joan and George, as shown, she would have been about thirty. She could possibly have been \$221's daughter by his second wife, born early 1616 or even 1618.

Mary (\$1941) married **John Baker** (\$1943) on 18th April 1644; As the daughter of Robert, born 1620, Mary (\$1941) would have been just the "right" age to marry in 1644. She was John Baker's second wife and they had three children - see **John Baker of Shipbourne in Families & Transcripts**

Nicholas Lucke, most likely to be \$1081, married **Susan Caverly** (\$1747) on 25th February 1639 when he would have been thirty-six.

The Lynnes of Ightham

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M C	Died
i381 ⁶³	<u>LYNNE, Thomas</u> ----- ironsmith 		7 Jul 1588	Ann Broade	1 6	9 Sep 1598
i382	<u>Broade, Ann</u> ----- possibly a daughter of Nicholas Broade, i375; see More Families & Transcripts				1 6	
• i1434	<u>Lynne, Margery</u>	17 Aug 1589			0 0	6 Oct 1596
• i1629	<u>LYNNE, John</u>				0 0	15 Apr 1593
• i1619	<u>LYNNE, Thomas</u>	3 Dec 1592			0 0	
• i1620	<u>LYNNE, Jeremie</u>	7 Apr 1594			0 0	10 Aug 1594
• i1621	<u>Lynne, Mildred</u>	22 Feb 1596			0 0	
• i1622	<u>Lynne, Sara</u>	2 Oct 1597			0 0	

Margery, Thomas and Sara were just recorded as the children "of -- Lynne". Two other children, Marie and Agnes, were similarly recorded but they have been included in Samuel's family on the next page since the Thomas who died in 1598 could have been the father above and also there would have been a four year gap between Sara, above, and Marie.

⁶³ "i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database, \$ one in that for Shipbourne

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
i1624	<u>LYNNE, Samuel</u> -----				1	6	
• i2712	<u>LYNNE, John</u>	16 Nov 1599	baptised in Shipbourne				0 0
• i1705	<u>Lynne, Marie</u>	27 Dec 1601					0 0
• i1623	<u>Lynne, Agnes</u>	26 Dec 1603					0 0
• i1626	<u>Lynne, Elizabeth</u>	16 Mar 1606					0 0
• i1627	<u>Lynne, Margaret</u>	20 Nov 1608	11 May 1631 married at 22	Leonard BRIGHT i1633			1 0
• i1628	<u>Lynne, Clemence</u>	25 Nov 1610					0 0

The baptism of John, son of Samuel Lyn, was recorded in Shipbourne - perhaps Samuel's wife came from there.

Both Thomas and Samuel were mentioned in the Court Records for 1586-1618, with Thomas being described as an **ironsmith**.

William Lynne of Shipbourne

William (\$1408), son of **William Lynne** (\$1407) “by his wife's daughter, **Dorothy Cockerell**” (\$1406), was baptised in **Shipbourne** on 15th March 1626. William must have been his wife's second husband so that Dorothy was his stepdaughter.

William probably died before December 1640 since the “**widow Lynne**” was buried on 20th December 1640.

Dorothy Cockerell was buried on 1st January 1648 so it looks as if the mother of \$1408 did not marry.

The Lynsdalls of Ightham

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
i1986 ⁶⁴	<u>LYNSDALL, William</u> ----- 			Martha Lynsdall(m)	1	3	9 Jul 1649
				i1987			
i1987	<u>Lynsdall(m), Martha</u> -----				1	3	28 Feb 1623
• i1897	<u>LYNSDALL, Thomas</u>	1 Nov 1601				0	0
• i1988	<u>LYNSDALL, Gregory</u>	22 Apr 1604				0	0
• i2046	<u>Lynsdall, Anne</u>	9 Jul 1609				0	0

64 "i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database

The Lyntons of Seal

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
#313 ⁶⁵	<u>LYNTON, John</u> ----- 				1	6	>Aug 1599
#314	<u>his wife, Alice</u> -----				1	6	22 Aug 1599
• #315	<u>Lynton, Jane</u>				0	0	8 Feb 1562
• #418	<u>Lynton, Elizabeth</u>	13 Jun 1568			0	0	
• #495	<u>LYNTON, Mark</u>	29 Oct 1570			0	0	
• #749	<u>Lynton, Sara</u>	5 Apr 1573			0	0	
• #853	<u>LYNTON, Richard</u>	1 Sep 1577			0	0	
• #1953	<u>Lynton, Rachel</u>				0	0	25 Feb 1592

Susan, daughter of Walter Fitchett of London, nursed at John Lyntons, was buried 15 Apr 1574 - see [Nursechildren in Section Z of More Families & Transcripts](#).

65 # indicates a reference in the Seal database

M

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The Muggs of Shipbourne	page 2.m.210
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Thomas and Christian Marshall of Tonbridge

The wills of Thomas Marshall, gent. and his widow, Christian have survived but only Thomas's has been transcribed.

Thomas Marshall	25 Dec 1579	CKS: Drb/Pw 13; Drb/Pwr 16.90	page 2.m.7
Christain Marshall	1581 (proved)	CKS: Drb/Pw 13; Drb/Pwr 16.125	

```

                                t831   Thomas - Christian   t83266
will:                            25 Dec 1579 |
-----
|                                t836                       t834 |           t835 |
daughter - John Carpenter      Michael                    Bridget
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Both Michael and Bridget were under twenty-one in 1579

66 "t" indicates a reference in the Tonbridge database

1 In the name of god Amen. The 25th day of December in Anno. D. 1579, I
2 Thomas Marshall of Tonbridge in the county of Kent, **gent.** being by god
3 visited with sickness but in perfect mind and good remembrance, thanks
4 unto god,
5 do ordain and make this my last will and testament in manner and form
6 following:
7 **First:** I bequeath my soul to god, his merciful hand trusting to be
8 saved only by the merit, death and passion of our ord and saviour, Jesus
9 Christ.
10 Also I do commit my body to the earth to be buried where my executrix
shall think most convenient. **Item:** I give unto the poor people of the parish
of
Tonbridge, to be distributed unto them immediately after my decease by
the
discretion of mine executrix 6s 8d.

son Michael, underage
daughter Bridget, underage
wife Christian - executrix, to

- pay all my debts and legacies and to see
- these things well and faithfully performed.

son-in-law: **John Carpenter of Leigh**
loving friends and neighbours, **Thomas Cod and Michael Plane, overseers**

In witness to be my true will I have unto
it subscribed my name and sealed it with my seal in the presence
of **William Dankwell, parson of Penshurst,**

Thomas Whitton by me
Aubyn ??

Thomas Marshall⁶⁷

67 signed by Thomas

The Marshalls of Seal

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
#3069 ⁶⁸	<u>MARSHALL, Thomas</u> ----- gent.				1	2	
• #3071	<u>Marshall, Hanna</u>	2 Jul 1621			0	0	
• #3072	<u>MARSHALL, John</u>	22 Dec 1622			0	0	
#3073	<u>MARSHALL, John</u> -----			Dorothy Marshall(m) ⁶⁹ #3074	1	4	
• #3075	<u>Marshall, Ann</u>	26 May 1634			0	0	11 Apr 1637
• #3076	<u>MARSHALL, Thomas</u>	4 Sep 1635			0	0	5 Sep 1635
• #3077	<u>Marshall, Jane</u>	28 Dec 1636			0	0	
• #3078	<u>Marshall, Joane</u>				0	0	19 Sep 1638

No baptism was recorded for a Joane but "Joane" could have been "Jane" (#3077) born 1636 in which case she died before reaching her second birthday and none of John and Dorothy's children survived babyhood

68 # indicates a reference in the Seal database

69 witnessed the will of Edward Atherfold in February 1642

Ambrose Marten of Leigh

This very long will (**PCC: Parker 59**) was written by Richard Hooper, one of the Hooper family of scriptors.

Ambrose Marten's family

Ambrose, the elder, had three married daughters (one of whom had four children), and five other children, four of whom were under twenty-four. Perhaps Ambrose married twice with Mildred, whom he made his executrix, the mother of his younger children. Mildred's two brothers were George and Arthur Children. The Children's were a large Tonbridge family but Mildred and her brothers cannot be identified.

Margaret married Edward Page. There were a large number of Pages in Shipbourne but again Edward cannot be identified. One of their children was called Silvester which was a man's name within the Page family.

See **Families & Transcripts** for details of both the Childrens and Pages.

						Children -		

				x1324	x1325 x1336 x1337			
				- Ambrose	- Mildred George Arthur			
will:				14 Mar 1618				

x1326	x1338	x1328		x1345	x1327	x1342		
Margaret - Edward Page	William ⁷⁰ - ?? Kirkeham	Jane - Mathew Parker						
x1339	x1340	x1341	x1342		x1344			
Ambrose	Margaret	Anna	Silvester		Robert			

				x1329	x1331	x1332	x1334	x1330
				Mary	Ambrose	William	True	George

Selling Land to Pay Debts

Ambrose, when writing his will, was “[indebted to divers persons in sundry sums of money](#)”. In order to pay these debts and various other commitments, he specified that a messuage and various parcels of land should be sold. His wife Mildred, who was his executrix, her two brothers and one of his sons-in-law were

70 “William Kirkeham, my daughter”

to organise the sale “within as convenient time as may be after my decease (if it were possible within three quarters of a year next after) . . . except my self do sell the same before”. The will was written in March 1618 but not proved until June 1619 so that it is possible that Ambrose himself was able to carry out the sale.

The sale does not, however, seem to have been straightforward since Ambrose enjoins his sons, once they “attained lawful age” to “deliver sufficient release or releases” for the property. Perhaps the land was entailed but, if they could not sign these releases until they reached the age of twenty-one, some years must have passed before the sale could be completed.

Will of Ambrose Marten of Leigh

written 14th March 1617/8

transcript from the probate copy

- 1 In the name of God Amen. The fourteenth day of
- 2 March in the fifteenth year of the reign of our sovereign Lord James, by the
grace of
- 3 God King of England, France and Ireland, defender of the faith, etc. And of
Scotland

4 the one and fiftieth, 1617. I, Ambrose Marten the elder of Leigh next
Tonbridge in the county
5 of Kent, **yeoman**, being aged, weak and sickly but of perfect memory
(thanks be to God)
6 do make and ordain this my present testament and last will in manner and
form following
7 That is to say, **First:** and above all things I commend and bequeath my soul
unto Almighty
8 God, my most merciful creator. And my body to the earth to be buried in
the churchyard
9 of Leigh aforesaid. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto the poor of the same
parish twenty shillings
10 of lawful money. **Item:** I ?? and forgive unto **Edward Page, my son-in-**
law, all such rent
11 as the said Edward oweth me or shall owe me for my tenement an lands in
his occupation
12 until the feast of th'Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary next coming.
And whereas I, the said
13 Ambrose, have paid and discharged a certain debt of ten pounds of him
the said Edward,
14 and which the said Edward hath promised to pay me again, I do hereby
give, will and bequeath

15 the same ten pounds unto **Ambrose Page, my godson**, son of the said
Edward, to be
16 paid unto him, by his said father, at his age of one and twenty years. And I
do also
17 give and bequeath unto the said Ambrose the sum of twenty shillings
lawful money to
18 be paid unto him by my executrix hereafter named. **Item:** I give and
bequeath unto **Margaret**
19 **Page, my daughter**, the sum of three pounds lawful money to be paid unto
her, by my
20 executrix, within twelve months next after my decease. **Item:** I give and
bequeath unto
21 **Margaret, Anna? and Silvester, children** of the said Edward and Margaret,
twenty
22 shillings a piece to be paid unto them by my said executrix. **Item:** I give
and bequeath
23 unto **Jane Parker, my daughter**, the sum of ten shillings. **Item:** I give and
bequeath to
24 **Robert Parker, her son**, twenty shillings. **Item:** I give and bequeath to
Mary
25 **Marten, my daughter**, the sum of one hundred pounds of good and lawful
money of

26 England to be paid unto her by my executrix within two years next after
my decease.

27 **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **True Marten, my daughter**, the like sum of
one hundred

28 pounds to be paid unto her by my said executrix at her age of four and
twenty

29 years. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **William Kirkeham, my daughter**, the
sum of twenty

30 shillings. The residue and all other my moveables and moveable goods
whatsoever not before

31 herein willed or bequeathed, I fully and wholly give and bequeath unto
Mildred, my wife,

32 towards the payment of my debts and legacies, which said Mildred I make
and ordain whole

33 and sole executrix of this my will. **This is** the last will and testament of me,
34 the said Ambrose Marten, the elder, made and declared the day and year
afore written

35 concerning the order and disposition of all my lands, tenements and
hereditaments situated,

36 lying and being in the parishes of Leigh and **Tonbridge** aforesaid and **Seal**
in

37 the said county. **Item:** my will and mind is that the said Mildred and her
assigns

38 shall have, hold and receive all and every the rents, issues and profits of
all and
39 every my lands and tenements whatsoever and wheresoever during the
whole term
40 and time of her natural life towards the payment of my debts and legacies
except of
41 such lands and tenements as are by me hereafter here appointed to be sold
and
42 except such portions as is by me hereafter given and bequeathed unto my
sons to
43 wards their maintenance during the natural life of her, the said Mildred.
And after the
44 decease of the said Mildred, I give, will and bequeath unto **Ambrose
Marten, my eldest**
45 **son** and his heirs, all that my capital messuage or tenement called **Tyherst**
wherein I now
46 dwell with the barns, buildings, closes, gardens, lands, meadows, pastures,
feedings,
47 woods, ways and appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging or
appertaining.
48 And all those parcels of land called **Great ?asshies** with th'appurtenances.
Also

49 one parcel of land called **Shipbourne Field**. Also one little tenement and
seven
50 acres of land by estimation thereto belonging and adjoining, situated at
Fidinge Lane.
51 All which are together situated, lying and being in Leigh aforesaid and
containing in the

page 2:

52 whole, by estimation, three score acres. more or less. Also I give and
bequeath unto the
53 said Ambrose two acres of meadow called **Pocth** and **Hopes** with the use of
a way thereunto
54 leading, lying in Leigh aforesaid. And also a parcel of land called **Seven
Acres**
55 containing in the whole by estimation seven acres, more or less, situated,
lying and being
56 in Leigh aforesaid, bounding to the lands of **William Double** west, to have
and to hold
57 all that my said al message or tenement called **Tyherst** and all and every
other
58 the barns, buildings, closes, gardens, lands, meadows, pastures, feedings,
woods, ways

59 and appurtenances whatsoever unto him, the said Ambrose, my son, his
heirs and assigns
60 immediately after the decease of the said Mildred, my wife, to the only use
and behoof of
61 the said Ambrose, my son, his heirs and assigns forever. **Item:** I give and
bequeath
62 unto **William Marten, my second son**, and to his heirs after the decease
63 of the said Mildred, my wife, all that my messuage or tenement with
th'appurtenances and
64 five acres of land with th'appurtenances in the occupation of the afore
mentioned Edward Page
65 situated, lying and being in Leigh aforesaid, one other tenement and
fifteen acres
66 of lands, more or less, with th'appurtenances in the occupation of **Robert
Spilsted** situated,
67 lying and being in Leigh aforesaid. Also one parcel of woodland called
Newman Wood
68 containing by estimation twelve acres more or less, situated, lying and
being in Leigh
69 aforesaid. Also I give and bequeath unto him, the said William two other
parcels of
70 land, parcel of **Sommers** land containing by estimation ten acres, more or
less, lying

71 and being in Tonbridge aforesaid, to have and to hold all that my said
messuage or
72 tenement with th'appurtenances and five acres of alnd in the occupation of
Edward Page,
73 the said tenement and fifteen acres of land in the occupation of Robert
Spilsted, the
74 said parcel of wood land called Newman woods and the said two [parcels
of land called
75 Sommers land, with all and every their appurtenances unto him. the said
William, my son, his
76 heirs and assigns, immediately from and after the decease of the said
Mildred, my wife,
77 unto the only use and behoof of him, the said William, and of his heir and
assigns for ever.
78 **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **George Marten, my youngest son**, and to
his heirs,
79 immediately from and after the decease of the said Mildred, my wife, all
those parcels
80 of land and barn thereon standing by me heretofore devised and letten to
Jeffery
81 **Oliver, gent.**, containing by estimation three score acres of land, more or
less, together

82 situated, lying and being within the several parishes of Leigh and
tonbridge aforesaid
83 and Seal in the said county. To have and to hold the same, withall and
singular th'appurtenances
84 unto the said George, my son, his heirs and assigns (immediately after my
said wive's
85 decease, unto the only use and behoof of the said George, his heirs and
assigns, for ever.
86 Provided always and my very will and mind is that, if the said Mildred, my
wife,
87 or her assigns do not well and truly pay, or cause to be paid, unto my said
daughter
88 Mary Marten her said portion of an hundred pounds at the day and time
before
89 limited and according to the true meaning of this my will, or happen to
decease before
90 the said time, that then my said son Ambrose, his heirs and assigns, shall
stand charged
91 for the payment thereof. And that then, if my said ?? son Ambrose, his
heirs or assigns
92 do not well and truly pay unto her, the said Mary, the said sum of a
hundred

93 pounds lawful money within the space of three whole years next after my
decease,
94 then my mind and will is and I do give, will and bequeath unto her, the
said Marie,
95 and her heirs, two parcels of land called **Denman Fields** containing, by
estimation,
96 twelve acres, more or less, before bequeathed unto the said Ambrose and
boundeth to
97 two highways there leading against the ?? and more. To have and to
hold the
98 same with th'appurtenances unto her, the said Marie, her heirs and
assigns for ever. Any
99 thing whatsoever herein before mentioned to the contrary therteof in any
wise not
100 withstanding. And in like manner, my will and mind is that if the said
Mildred,
101 my wife or her assigns do not well and truly pay, or cause to be paid, unto
my
102 said daughter, True Marten, or her assigns, her said portion of an hundred
pounds at her
103 said age of four and twenty years, according to the tenor of this my will, or
if

page 3

104 the said Mildred happen to decease before the said time, then my will and
mind is
105 that my said son William, his heirs and assigns, shall stand charged with
the payment
106 thereof. And that if the said William, his heirs or assigns, shall not well
and truly
107 pay, or cause to be paid, unto her, the said True, her heirs or assigns, the
said sum
108 of an hundred pounds lawful money at her age of five and twenty years,
then I
109 give and bequeath unto her, the said True, her heirs or assigns, two parcels
of land
110 to him willed being parcel of Sogummers land containing by estimation
ten acres,
111 more or less, situated near **Whatscrosse** in Tonbridge aforesaid, to have
and to hold
112 the same with th'appurtenances unto her, the said True, her heirs and
assigns, forever,
113 any thing before herein mentioned to the contrary notwithstanding.
Provided also

114 that if my said wife Mildred Marten do happen to out live the age of four
and
115 twenty years of my said son Ambrose, then my will and mind is that the
said Mildred,
116 or her assigns, shall well and truly pay, or cause to be paid, unto my said
son Ambrose
117 and his assigns, during her natural life afterwards, out of the profit of my
lands, to
118 her before willed, the sum of six pounds, thirteen shillings and fourpence
119 lawful money, quarterly to be paid. And unto my sons William and George
120 yearly after their ages of twenty four years, during her natural life, the sum
of
121 five pounds a piece of lawful english money, quarterly by equal portions to
be paid.
122 Provided further more, that if the said Mildred, my wife, do happen to
marry again,
123 then my will and mind is that the said Mildred, immediately from and after
her such marriage,
124 shall loose the benefit and profit of all and every my lands and tenements
to her
125 before willed. And that then my said sons, and every of them, shall
immediately from

126 and after such marriage, stand, enter and be seized of, in and upon, all and
every their
127 several parts and portions of my tenements and lands before to them given
or bequeathed.
128 And that then the said Ambrose, my son, his heirs or assigns, shall well and
truly
129 pay, or cause to be paid, unto the said Mildred, my wife, and her assigns,
yearly
130 during her natural life, the sum of six pounds thirteen shillings and four
131 pence lawful english money, quarterly by equal portions to be paid. And
that then
132 also, my said sons William and George, their heirs or assigns, shall
severally pay,
133 or cause to be paid, unto the said Mildred, my wife, and er assigns, out of
the lands
134 tenements and hereditaments to them before willed, the sum of five pounds
a piece, lawful
135 money, quarterly by equal portions to be paid. Furthermore, my will and
mind
136 is that whereas I stand indebted to divers persons in sundry sums of money,
and being of
137 nothing more desirous than that every one should have his own, and
trouble avoided

138 after death, and for the payment and satisfaction of my said debts, I do
hereby desire,
139 will, authorise and appoint that the said Mildred, my wife and executrix,
George
140 **Children and Arthur Children, her brothers and Mathew Parker, my son-in-**
law or
141 any three or two of them, shall and will within as convenient time as may
be after my
142 decease (if it were possible within three quarters of a year next after), sell,
convey and
143 assure (at the best price they can, or may, except my self do sell the same
before) all
144 that my one messuage or tenement, with the barn, closes, gardens and
appurtenances
145 and five acres of land called **Carrying Lands**, also of nine pieces, or parcels,
of land
146 called **Sommers Land** containing by estimation twenty six acres, now in
the
147 occupation of **Daniel ?irrell**, situated in Leigh and Tonbridge aforesaid.
Also of three
148 parcels of land, parcel also of Sommers Meade, in the occupation of
Edward

149 Page, containing by estimation nine acres together lying in Tonbridge
aforesaid. And
150 also one parcel of meadow called Sommers Mead, in the occupation of me,
the said
151 Ambrose, containing by estimation six acres more or less, situated, lying
and being
152 in Tonbridge aforesaid. And with the money thereof arising, I will that
satisfaction and
153 payment of my debts whatsoever, as well ?? mortgage, annuities, bonds
or otherwise
154 shall first be made. And then the overplus thereof, if any be, I will shall
remain
155 unto my said wife for and towards the payment of my daughters portions
afore given.

page 4:

156 And I do hereby mark out all and every the said tenements and lands so
appointed to be
157 sold unto him, her and them, so buying the same, his, her and their heirs
and assigns
158 forever against all people. And farther, my will and mind is, and I do
hereby

159 command, enjoin and charge, all and every my said sons, Ambrose,
William and George,
160 and every of them upon my blessing, as they fear god and hope for good
success in the benefit
161 of this my will, that they, my said sons, and every of them having once
attained lawful age
162 shall seal, subscribe and deliver sufficient release or releases of all and
every the said messuage,
163 tenement and lands with their appurtenances unto all and every the party
and parties
164 buying the same as a foresaid, the same being made at the charges of the
said party and
165 parties. And so as the same ?? not any further warranty then against my
said sons and
166 their heirs only. **Item:** I do make and ordain them, the said George
Children, Arthur Children and
167 Mathew Parker, overseers of this my last will and testament, earnestly
168 desiring them, and every of them, so far as in them shall or may lie, to see
the same faithfully
169 performed and accomplished according to the true purport and meaning
hereof. In witness
170 whereof, I the said Ambrose Marten, the elder, to this my present testament
and last will

171 containing five sheets of paper, have to every sheet thereof put my name
and to the last
172 sheet hereof set my seal, the day and year before dated. And do
acknowledge the same to
173 be my very true and last will. Ambrose Marten. Read, sealed, published,
pronounced
174 and declared to be the true and last will and testament of the said
Ambrose Marten, the
175 elder in the presence of Mathew Parker, Arthur Children and **Robert
Hooper.**

The Martens of Seal & Shipbourne

Martens were recorded in both the Seal and Shipbourne parish registers but no wills have survived for them. The first recorded item is in the Seal register and is the baptism of:

William (#204⁷¹), son of **John Marten** (#202), on 31st March 1566.

William & Margaret of Shipbourne

In Shipbourne, William Marten (\$115) and Margaret, his wife, had three children between 1576 and 1584. The son of John Marten of Seal was too young to have been the father of these children.

71 # indicates a reference in the Seal database, \$ in that for Shipbourne

	\$116	\$115	#341
	Margaret	- William	- Elizabeth Kerwyne, widow
<i>mar:</i>			5 May 1586 (nee Stone)
<i>bur:</i>	23 Apr 1585		7 Jun 1590

	\$120	\$246	\$290
	John -	James	James
<i>bap:</i>	25 Mar 1576	27 Dec 1582	7 Jul 1584

	\$739	\$740	
	Elizabeth	John	
<i>bap:</i>	2 Jan 1603	30 May 1604	

It is likely that \$246 died fairly soon after birth since the next child was also given the name James.

Three children of John Marten were baptised in Shipbourne, Elizabeth and John being included in the above tree with **Robert** (\$745), being baptised on 6th June 1603. Assuming these dates are correct (and the transcript is written in date order so that individual records are unlikely to be out by a long way), unless Elizabeth was some months old when she was baptised, Elizabeth and Robert cannot have been the children of the same mother.

Before the birth of William and Margaret's son John, on 26th January 1575, **Rachel (\$117), daughter of George Bryar, citizen**, nursed at **William Marten's**, was buried. If Rachel was nursed by William's wife Margaret, they must have had a child before John. Where George was a citizen of is not given but there were Bryans in Seal and Shipbourne and it is possible that George Bryan came from this family and had his daughter nursed in Shipbourne.

On 24th April 1580, two children "[nursed at William Martens](#)" were buried. There was a gap of six years between the births of John and James and it looks as if Margaret was acting as a wet-nurse during this time. - see [Nursechildren of Shipbourne in Section Z of More Families & Transcripts](#) for details of other wet-nurses. Was Margaret wet-nursing two children at the same time or did such families sometime continue to look after a nursed child after it was weaned?

Since Margaret died in the spring of 1585, it could have been her husband (\$115) who married the widow, Elizabeth Kerwyne, in 1586. **Elizabeth Stone** had married John Kerwyne in 1568 - see [Kerwyne in Families & Transcripts](#) for their children.

William Marten & Margaret Stone of Seal

On 4th October 1590, **William Marten** married **Margaret Stone** (#1538). The William baptised in 1566 (#204) would have twenty-four and so old enough to marry in 1590. Elizabeth Kerwyne, the wife of William Marten (\$115) was buried in June 1590 so that it is possible that it was \$115 who married Margaret Stone, particularly since Elizabeth's maiden name was Stone. If so, \$115 married three times. Nothing more is known of Margaret who could have been Elizabeth's niece but not her sister.

The baptisms of four children were recorded in Seal, the dates fitting in with the date of 4th October 1590 for the marriage of William and Margaret.

<i>mar:</i>	4 Oct 1590			
	William - Margaret Stone #1538			

	#1625	#1787	#1842	#1922
	William	John	Reginold ⁷²	Nathaniel
<i>bap:</i>	29 Aug 1591	22 Apr 1593	11 May 1595	19 Mar 1599
<i>bur:</i>			4 Sep 1609	

Other Martens

In Seal:

There was a **Richard Marten** (#1324) living in Chart (part of the parish of Seal).

He had a son, **Thomas** (#1326) baptised on 2nd January 1586.

Richard was buried on 11th March 1591

His widow, **Dorothy** (#1325), was buried on 21st October 1595.

In Shipbourne:

William Martin (\$1397) married **Katherine Page** (\$403) on 10th January 1626.

Henry Martyn (\$1902) married **Elizabeth Crump** (\$1911), in Shipbourne, on 25th September 1643 but nothing else is known about either of them.

The Martins of Ightham

From the 1590s onwards, there were a number of Marten/Martin families in Ightham.

James Martin, Borsholder

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
i1464 ⁷³	<u>MARTIN, James</u> -----			Prudence Martin(m) i1465	1	6	23 Apr 1618
• i1466	<u>Martin, Marie</u>	1 Feb 1590			0	0	4 Feb 1590
• i1467	<u>MARTIN, James</u>	16 May 1591			0	0	
• i1468	<u>Martin, Wenefrith</u>	22 Sep 1594			0	0	
• i1469	<u>Martin, Prudence</u>	7 Nov 1596			0	0	
• i1470	<u>MARTIN, Henry</u>	1 Jun 1600			0	0	19 Dec 1602
• i1471	<u>Martin, Francis</u>	10 Jul 1603			0	0	

73 "i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database

It was probably the father of the above children who was borsholder at some time between 1586 and 1618: In the spring of 1598, the hedges of James Martin were damaged, **Thomas Ware** (i771) was fined 2s on 5th April 1598, for having "[broken, stolen and taken away the hedge of James Martin at Ightham.](#)" (CRI 1937, p.218) See [Ware in More Families & Transcripts](#) for more details of Thomas.

"**Marten**" was presented to the Court held on 20th October 1600 for having received a "[stranger](#)" - **Suton** - and was to be fined 10s if he stayed without sureties being found. (CRI 1938, p.18). Marten could have been i1464.

Prudence Martin, wife of James Martin, was physically attacked on 20th August 1606. On 13th October 1606, **Lewys Williams** was fined 3s 4d for having assaulted her , striking "[her with a pitchfork, value 3d, drawing blood.](#)" (CRI 1938, p.7)

Henry Martin, stranger

The Court held on 4th October 1605, ordered **John Terry**⁷⁴ to be fined £5 if the "stranger", **Henry Martin** stayed without sureties being found for him. (CRI 1938, p.18) About seven weeks later, on 24th November "**Bridget, daughter of Henry Martin**" was baptised. Since Henry had another daughter, Alice (i1478), baptised on 20th May 1608, it appears he found some way of continuing to live in Ightham. Was he not related to the James Martin who had a son called Henry, not all that common a name?

Other Martins

Thomas (i1474), son of **Matthias Martin** (i1472) was baptised on 2nd April 1605. **Thomas Martin** was buried on 26th December 1624. If this was Matthias's son, he was nineteen.

Thomas (i1480), son of **Thomas Martin** (i1505), was baptised on 6th March 1625.

74 John Terry appeared the Courts many times - see [Terry in More Families & Transcripts](#).

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
i1481	<u>MARTIN, William</u> -----				2	2	
	<i>Marriage 1</i>			Katherine Martin(m) i1482	1	1	
i1482	<u>Martin(m), Katherine</u> -----				1	1	22 Aug 1637
• i1483	<u>MARTIN, William</u>	21 Jan 1627			0	0	
	<i>Marriage 2</i>			Marie Martin(m) i1485	1	1	
i1485	<u>Martin(m), Marie</u> -----				1	1	24 Mar 1641
				buried the same day her daughter was baptised			
• i1484	<u>Martin, Marie</u>	24 Mar 1641		recorded as "filia dei"	0	0	

Elizabeth Martin, widow (i1488) was buried on 15th November 1648.

William Martin of Wrotham

Only the first page of this will (CKS: Prs/w/11/19), written on 22nd June 1625, has been transcribed. Since William refers to Martha (leaving her a cow) as his wife Catherine's daughter, Catherine was probably his second wife and not the mother of his children, William and Mary. William gave his son two "[featherbeds with 2 bolsters and 3 blankets which were mine before I married with my wife](#)" which supports the idea of him having married twice.

The long list of other items left to William's son shows the variety of his belongings:

furniture in the George chamber:

- a long joined table, some joined stools and a joined chair
- 8 cushions and a window cushion
- a court cupboard and a joined chest
- a pair of andirons and a pair of tongs
- a joined bedstead with a featherbed, bolster, pillows, coverlet, blankets and curtains belonging to it

other items:

- a chest and 2 trunks
- 2 long table cloths, one damask and the other diaper

- a new flaxen tablecloth and a dozen new flaxen napkins
- 2 pairs of pillowberes (one flaxen)
- 4 new flaxen short cloths
- 1 cow and 7 rigs
- all his wearing apparel
- a brass pot, a chafer, a cauldron, a brass bottle and a great iron pot
- 2 platters, 4 pewter dishes, some pewter plates, a pair of iron racks and an iron dripping pan.

William's daughter Mary was left only a broad box and six shillings but she was married (her surname cannot be read) and had probably already been preferred. His wife Catherine was left the lease of "ye George", the house in which they lived, the residue of his household goods and a piece of meadow and pasture, she "paying the half year rent to the landlord at Michaelmas" and William allowing "her straw for her kyne in the winter".

William does not seem to have named his executor.

1 In the name of God Amen. The 20th day of June in the first year of the reign
2 of our sovereign lord Charles by the grace of god king of England, Scot
3 and, France and Ireland, defender of the faith, etc. I, William Martin,
4 of Wrotham in the county of Kent, **gent.**, being sick in body but of good
5 and sound remembrance, laud and praise be to Almighty God, do
6 make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form
7 following: **First:** I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, my creator,
8 by whose mercy in Jesus Christ, I hope to be saved and my body to the
9 earth to be buried at the discretion of my executor. **Item:** I give and
10 bequeath to **Catherine, my well beloved wife**, all the ?? my lease of my
11 house and land called **ye George** wherein I dwell for and during
12 all the remainder of years yet to come. **Item:** I give and bequeath
13 to **my son William Martin** one long joined table, ? joined stools, 8 cushions
14 and a window cushion, one court cupboard and a joined chair and a ?lp
chair,
15 one pair of andirons with a pair of ??pers one ?? joined bedstead
16 with a featherbed, bolster, pillows, coverlet, blankets and curtains
17 belonging to it, one joined chest and a pair of tongs, all which are
18 the furniture belonging to ye George chamber. **Item:** I give more

19 to my said son William Martin two other featherbeds with 2
20 bolsters and 3 blankets which were mine before I married with my wife.

Item:

21 I give more to my son William Martin one great ?? chest and
22 one trunk in the chamber where I lie and one other trunk in his own
23 chamber, one long damask table cloth, one long diaper table cloth
24 one new flaxen tablecloth one dozen of the white ?? napkins
25 and one dozen of new flaxen napkins, eight pairs of ?? ??
26 of four ?? new flaxen, two pairs of pillowberes (one flaxen)
27 and four new short cloths flaxen. **Item:** I give more to my said
28 son William Martin, one cow? and 7 pigs with all my wearing apparel, one
brass pot, one chafer, one cauldron, one
29 brass bottle. **Item:** I give more to my son one great ?? iron pot, one great,
deep

30 ??, two ?? platters and four pewter dishes, one ?? of pewter
31 plates, one pair of iron racks, two ?? and one iron dripping pan. **Item:**
32 I give to my **daughter, Mary** ?? one broad box in the chamber
33 where I lie and six shillings in money. **Item:** I give to my well
34 beloved wife Catherine all the residue of my household stuff and goods
35 within my said house called called ye George ?? and stable loft ??
36 bequeathed as aforesaid. **Item:** I give more to my said wife four
37 ?? and to **her daughter Martha** one cow. **Item:** my will is that my said
38 wife shall have the piece of meadow and pasture at **Fullers Plain**, she

39 paying the half year rent to the landlord at Michaelmas and my son
40 William shall allow her straw for her kyne in the winter. **Item:** I give
41 to my said son William Martin, his heirs forever, one annuity or yearly rent
of
42 nineteen pounds per annum which I have issuing out of the lands of
George
43 **Byng, esquire**, lying in Wrotham and **Stanford**.

Jane Masters, widow, of Penshurst

The will of Jane Masters (**CKS: w/11/40**) is the only will for Masters from Penshurst. It was written by **Thomas Leddall** who, like the Hoopers, wrote wills over a long period of time; wills have survived from 1615 until 1641 mainly from Penshurst and Chiddingstone. Jane's will was written on 15th January 1634/5 but not proved until 29th August 1638. It is thus likely that the burial on 19th August, in Penshurst, of **widow Masters** was that of Jane.

From this will, we have two brothers of the name of Skyner, one of whom was Jane's father. She had two sisters and a brother whilst her uncle had five sons and a daughter:

In addition to the Skinner cousins shown in the tree below, there were the Jessop cousins. Did her father and Richard have a sister who married John Jessop or was the relationship via her husband?

1 In the name of god Amen. The fifteenth day of January Ao. Dm. 1634 in
2 the tenth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord King Charles, etc. I,
3 Jane Masters of Penshurst in the county of Kent, widow, being not well of
4 bodily health at this time but of good and perfect mind and memory (God
5 be
6 praised) do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner
7 and form
8 following, **First:** yielding my soul to Almighty God and to Jesus Christ,
9 my alone Saviour and redeemer by whose death, merits and mediation I
10 fully trust,
11 with an assured hope, to attain to the joyful resurrection of eternal life,
12 committing my body to the earth to be buried at the discretion of my
13 executors
14 hereafter named. **Item:** I give and bequeath to the poor people of
15 Penshurst
16 thirty shillings to be⁷⁷ distributed to them within one month next after my
17 decease

12 by my executors. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **Marie Tillman, my sister,**
13 my
14 best gown and petticoat. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **my said sister**
15 **Tillman's**
16 **six children, viz: William Constable and John Constable, Richard Tillman,**
17 **Robert**
18 **Tillman, Dorothy Tillman and Mary Tillman,** twenty pounds of lawful
19 English
20 money to be equally divided amongst them and to be paid by my
21 executors.
22 **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **my cousins, viz. Richard Skyner, Thomas**
23 **Skyner and Zacheus Skyner, his brother Golding Skyner, John Skyner,**
24 **Henry**
25 **Skyner and Dorcas, the now wife of Edward Latter,** thirty pounds of
26 like lawful money to be equally divided amongst them by even portions,
27 which said thirty pounds is now in the hand of my said cousin Thomas
28 Skyner aforesaid which I will and devise that the said Thomas shall
29 equally pay
30 unto his brothers and sister as aforesaid. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto
31 **my cousin**
32 **John Jessup's three children, viz. John Jessop, Jane Jessop and Susan**
33 **Jessop,** to either

25 of them ten shillings a piece, which said money is now in the hands of
Thomas
26 **Skyner** aforesaid which said money I will and devise the said Thomas shall
equally
27 pay unto them. **Item:** I give unto **my sister Margaret Copping, widow,** two
shillings and six
28 pence. The residue of all my goods, moneys, chattells and household stuff
whatsoever un
29 bequeathed, my debts and funeral discharged, I give and bequeath unto
Zacheus Skyner and
30 **Robert Skyner, my late brother Zacheus Skyner's sons** whom I do make the
joint and
31 sole executors of this my last will and testament. In witness whereof I . .
32 set my hand and seal the day and year first above written

Sealed and . .
in the presence of
Thomas Leddall, scriptor.

Jane X Masters
her mark

Jane Maynard, widow of Penshurst

Jane Maynard whose will (PCC: Cope 124) was written on 11th March 1612/3 but not proved until 1616 was the widow of Richard Maynard the elder, yeoman of Withiam in Sussex. Perhaps Jane had originally come from Penshurst (about 6 miles from Withiam) and had returned there on the death of her husband.

Her will has not been examined but it was “[written in the presence of us, John Harte and Samuel Halfind](#)”.

The Maynards of Seal

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
#3856 ⁷⁸	<u>MAYNARD, Timothy</u> -----			Mary Maynard(m) #3857	1	7	
				listed in the Kno1e MS of 1648 for Seal Village			
• #3959	<u>MAYNARD, Daniell</u>	28 Nov	1634(K)			0	0
• #3960	<u>MAYNARD, William</u>	19 Feb	1636(K)			0	0
• #3961	<u>MAYNARD, Alexander</u>	15 Nov	1640(K)			0	0
• #3858	<u>Maynard, Mary</u>	25 Aug	1644			0	0
• #3859	<u>MAYNARD, James</u>	20 Dec	1646			0	0
• #3860	<u>Maynard, Rachel</u>	14 May	1648			0	0
• #3861	<u>Maynard, Martha</u>					0	0 3 Mar 1649

The first three children were baptised in Kemsing; did Martha, daughter of Timothy die just after birth without being baptised or was she an older child, perhaps Mary (#3858)?

⁷⁸ # indicates a reference in the Seal database

The Medhursts of Shipbourne

This name can also be spelled “Methurst”; there is no obvious connection between the those mentioned below.

Margaret Medhurst (\$1328⁷⁹) married **Anthony Gibson** (\$1375) on 29th April 1622; they had a son, **Anthony** (\$1329) baptised on 6th July 1623. Margaret was Anthony’s second wife, his first wife, whose name is not given, having been buried on 23rd July 1621.

Richard Medhurst (\$1530) married **Mary Skinner** (\$1539) on 5th September 1630

Thomas Methurst (\$1827) married **Dorothy Smith** (\$1835) on 27 August 1642.

Reginald Methurst (\$2014) married **Sarah Lownes** (\$2019) on 17th February 1645.

No children were recorded for any of these partnerships.

Samuel Meere of Ightham

Since the marriages of Samuel Meere and the burials of two wives are recorded, it could be one Samuel Meere who married three times. His third wife, Joane, could have been the daughter of Theophilus Hadlow baptised on 4th March 1593 (in which case she would have been twenty when she married).

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
i1695	<u>MEERE, Samuel</u>				3	7	
	----- <i>Marriage 1</i>		23 Oct 1592	Alice Stretfield married in Shipbourne	1	3	
				i1696 ⁸⁰			
i1696	<u>Stretfield, Alice</u>				1	3	19 Jan 1604

•	i1697 <u>MEERE, John</u>	27 Apr 1595			0	0	
•	i1698 <u>MEERE, George</u>	30 Jul 1598			0	0	
•	i1699 <u>Meere, Anna</u>	28 Oct 1602			0	0	

⁸⁰ i indicates a reference in Ightham database

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
	<i>Marriage 2</i>		>Jan 1604	Katherine Meere(m) i1704	1	3	
i1704	<u>Meere(m), Katherine</u> -----				1	3	2 Sep 1613
•	i1700 <u>MEERE, Thomas</u>	2 Apr 1605			0	0	
•	i1701 <u>MEERE, Richard</u>	5 Jul 1607			0	0	
•	i1702 <u>Meere, Alice</u>	9 Feb 1612			0	0	
	<i>Marriage 3</i>		18 Jan 1614	Joane Hadlow i321	1	1	
i321	<u>Hadlow, Joane</u> -----	4 Mar 1593		married at 20	1	1	
•	i1703 <u>Meere, Abigail</u>	16 Oct 1614			0	0	

Theophilus mentions three children of his "[daughter Joane Hadlow](#)" in his will of 1626 but it is usual for testators to give the married name of their daughters in their wills. Only Abigail was recorded in the parish register. See the [Hadlows of Ightham in Families & Transcripts](#).

Samuel Meere in the Court Records

Samuel Meere was mentioned a number of times in the Court Records. The first time was on 5th April 1592, six months before he married in Shipbourne. He and **Nicholas Barret** (i195) were each fined 4d for assaulting each other. (CRI 1938, p.4) See [Barret in More Families & Transcripts](#) for more details of Nicholas.

On 5th October 1593, **William Webb** (i1247 - see [Webb in More Families & Transcripts](#)) was immediately fined 10s for receiving a number of strangers including a **Samuel Mare** who was himself to be fined 3s 4d if sureties were not found or he did not depart. (CRI 1938, p.17). Mare seems to have found some way of remaining at least in the vicinity since a year later, on 17th October 1594, **John Usmer** (i1243) was to be fined 10s if Samuel Mare stayed without sureties being found for him.

The name Samuel Mare/Meere is distinctive enough for it to be fairly certain that the **Samuel Meere** who had children baptised in Ightham from 1595 onwards (i.e. i1695) was the same man as was befriended by William Webb and John Usmer.

Samuel could have been in Ightham in 1592 and moved on to Shipbourne after being before the Court in the spring. However, if Samuel did not have anywhere to live, he and Alice can have been back in Ightham a year after marrying and

again another year later by which time Alice would have been pregnant. It looks as if Samuel found means to stay in Ightham and perhaps, to show his appreciation, his eldest son John was named after John Usmer.

However, even if Samuel stayed in Ightham with a wife and son to consider, he had not given up his violent ways. On 8th May 1598, about ten weeks before his second son was baptised, Samuel was before the Court because, about 1st November 1597, he had "assaulted Robert Baldwyn in the public way at Ightham and Robert Baldwyn in defending himself broke the head of Samuel: wherefore Samuel was fined 3s 4d." (CRI 1938, p.6) Thus, Samuel came off very much the worse here, not only having a "broken head", he also had to pay a fine.

Perhaps, after his broken head, he became a more sober citizen, settling down to married life, albeit with two more wives after the death of Johane at the beginning of 1604.

The Merryfields of Seal

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
#3079 ^{B2}	<u>MERRYFIELD, Henry</u> -----				2	4	22 Mar 1641
	<i>Marriage 1</i>			Eliz. Merryfield(m)	1	3	
#3080	<u>Merryfield(m), Elizabeth</u> -----				1	3	26 Jun 1640
• #3081	<u>Merryfield, Hannah</u>	3 Jun 1632			0	0	
• #3082	<u>Merryfield, Elizabeth</u>	28 Nov 1633			0	0	
• #3083	<u>Merryfield, Francis</u>				0	0	4 Sep 1638
	<i>Marriage 2</i>		3 Aug 1640	Sybilla Barne	1	1	
#3084	<u>Barne, Sybilla</u> -----				2	2	
• #3085	<u>Merryfield, Mary</u>	5 Sep 1641			0	0	9 May 1643
				baptised 5½ months after father died			

82 # indicates a reference in the Seal database

After the death of Henry Merryfield, Sybilla married again and had another child:

<u>Num</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Born</u>	<u>Married</u>	<u>Spouse</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>Died</u>
#3086	<u>HOLDER, Richard</u> -----		18 Apr 1642	Sybilla Merryfield widow	1	1	
• #3087	<u>Holder, Martha</u>	30 Aug 1643			0	0	3 Dec 1643

John Middleton of Shipbourne

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
\$1383 ⁸³	<u>MIDDLETON, John</u> -----				1	6	
• \$1385	<u>Middleton, Joane</u>	1 May 1625			0	0	17 Nov 1626
• \$1411	<u>MIDDLETON, Nicholas</u>	12 Apr 1626			0	0	2 May 1626
• \$1462	<u>MIDDLETON, Nicholas</u>	30 Dec 1627			0	0	
• \$1463	<u>Middleton, Alice</u>	25 May 1629			0	0	
• \$1464	<u>Middleton, Joane</u>	8 Dec 1633			0	0	
• \$1664	<u>MIDDLETON, infant</u>				0	0	1 Jan 1636

83 \$ indicates a reference in the Shipbourne database

*The **Millers** of **Kemsing***

The Millers of Kemsing were a large family with, as would be expected, numerous connections with other local families such as the **Fremlyns** and **Wigzells** of **Kemsing** and the **Tebolds** from **Seal and Kemsing**.

Gilbert Miller (whose will from 1551/1157 has survived) occupied **Cotmans (Cotmans Ash)** belonging to **John(2) Tebold** in 1545 whilst one of his sons, **John Miller the elder** occupied **Dynes in Kemsing**. Cotmans Ash is on the ridge of the North Downs whilst Dynes Farm is just south of St. Edith's Well in the centre of the village.

Four wills have survived from Kemsing and also the nuncupative will of Robert of Seal.

All are CKS: Drb/Pw reference followed by Drb/Pwr:

		written	proved	reference	
John Miller	Heaverham	1459d	1459p	2.134	
Gilbert Miller	k887 ⁸⁴	1 Aug 1551 ⁸⁵		5; 12.101	page 2.m.65
Robert Miller		1 May 1567		9; 13.339	page 2.m.73
John Miller	k484	28 May 1590	1591	28; 18.67	page 2.m.74
Sylvester Miller ⁸⁶	#3267	Jan 1595	3 Jul 1599	18; 19I.77	page 2.m.79

Gilbert Miller and his family

When Gilbert wrote his main will in 1551 he mentions 13 children all of whom must have been alive at that time. When an additional item was added to his will in 1557 when he was dying, he had another son Alexander.

84 k indicates a reference in the Kemsing database; # in the Seal database

85 Gilbert did not die until January 1557; he added a final item to the original will on his deathbed

86 Sylvester was the widow the John who died in 1590

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M C	Died
k887	<u>MILLER, Gilbert</u> -----			Johane Miller(m) k888	1 14	Jan 1557 in his 60s
• 590	<u>MILLER, John</u>	see tree page 2.m.72	}		1 2	
			}	probably by a first marriage		
• 895	<u>MILLER, Robert</u>		}		0 0	
			}			
• 479	<u>MILLER, Gilbert⁸⁷</u>		}		1 1	
• 891	<u>Miller, Elizabeth</u>				0 0	
• 889	<u>MILLER, Davey</u>				0 0	
• 892	<u>Miller, Sybil</u>				0 0	
• 890	<u>MILLER, Richard</u>	>1530			0 0	1551 - 1556
• 893	<u>Miller, Margery</u>				0 0	
• 482	<u>MILLER, William</u>		22 Jan 1573	Mary Fremlyn k483	0 0	
			It could have been this William who married Mary Fremlyn			
• 894	<u>Miller, Agnes</u>				0 0	
• 897	<u>Miller, Dorothy</u>				0 0	
• 898	<u>Miller, Johane, the younger</u>				0 0	
• 899	<u>Miller, ??</u> (name in will not legible)				0 0	
• 896	<u>MILLER, Alexander</u>	>1551			0 0	

87 could have been the Gilbert Miller who married Dorothy Fremlyn (k480) on 24th July 1568; they had a daughter, Margaret, baptised on 8th September 1570

Deciding the age order of Gilbert's children is impossible from the information studied. From the will of John(2) Tebold (#673), it is known that Gilbert's eldest son **John Miller, the elder** was living at Dynes in 1545. Was he married with a son John who, although he cannot have been very old, justified his father's description as the elder? The John Miller who had children in the 1560s could have been John, junior - see page 2.m.72.

In his father's will John was given the responsibility of paying money derived from land, etc. in **Horton, Longfield and Farningham** to his brother Davey. If the John Miller who married Sylvester Porter about 1560 was John Miller, the younger, he must have been born in the late 1530s with Gilbert's son being born about 1515.

From the number and age range of his children (John born about 1515 and Alexander between 1551 and 1557), Gilbert must have married twice with Johane being his second wife.

The first daughters mentioned by Gilbert are "[Dorothy and Johane, the younger](#)". If this description of Johane is to differentiate her from her mother, this is most unusual. Alternatively, perhaps Gilbert and Johane had an older daughter Johane who was already married. The information in the will, or lack of it, means there are other questions about his children.

Does Gilbert's description of Elizabeth, Sybil, Margery and Agnes as "[my oldest daughters now unmarried](#)" imply that he had married daughters in addition to the thirteen children mentioned? Or did he mean his oldest daughters who were unmarried? In this case Dorothy and Johane were younger than Elizabeth, etc?

Gilbert, Davey and Richard are the three sons first mentioned but why, if none of these three had any issue, was the land, etc. in Kingsdown and Woodland to go to the heirs of Gilbert, the son rather than the other children of Gilbert, the father. But then, if none of these three sons had any issue, the heirs of the son Gilbert would, presumably, be his surviving brothers. In 1551, Richard was not yet 21 implying that he was born after 1530, and Johane was to have the profits from Castle Bank until he reached that age.

In 1557, when Gilbert Miller was on his death bed, he added an extra item specifying that, if there was "[lack of issue of the body of the said Richard](#)" another son, **Alexander**, was to benefit from what would have been Richard's inheritance. He was presumably born between the writing of the main will and the codicil, probably considerably after since Johane was to have the profits from Castle Bank until he reached that age. It would seem that Richard has died in the intervening years since otherwise how could it be known that there he would have no heirs?

If the approximate dates of birth of Gilbert's eldest and youngest son are correct (1515 and 1555) the births of his fourteen children were spread over forty years,

making it likely that Johane was Gilbert's second wife with John and Robert (who describes John as his brother in his will) being children from a first marriage..

Gilbert describes **Richard Tebold**, whom he appoints overseer to his will, as his cousin. Richard was one of John(2) Tebold's sons and it is not known what the exact relationship between he and Gilbert was.

The witnesses appear to be at the end, after the codicil written in 1557 when Gilbert was dying; but, since what has survived is a copy, they could have been the witnesses to the main will except for Sir Thomas Taylor, vicar of Seal and Kemsing who was not installed as vicar until 18th November 1554.. They are:
Richard Tebold, William Challoner
William Fremlyn, the elder, James Fremlyn and John Fremlyn, the younger
William Wigzell and Richard Wigzell

Gilbert Miller's Land

Gilbert owned a considerable amount of land in a number of different parishes, mentioning:

- land and tenements in the parishes of Kemsing and Hadlow
- house, land, tenements and rents in the parishes of Kingsdown and Woodland (Woodland is not known as a parish)
- land and tenements in the parishes of Horton (Kirby), Longfield and Farningham
- a tenement with garden plot called Castle Bank in the parish of Kemsing

The Will of Gilbert Miller of Kemsing

written 1st August 1551

extra item added "upon his death bed" on 23rd January 1557

transcript from probate copy.

In the name of God Amen. I, Gilbert Miller of Kemsing in the County of Kent, yeoman, being of perfect mind and memory, thanks be to Almighty God. The 1st day of August in the fifth year of our Sovereign Lord King Edward the Sixth do ordain and make this my present testament and last will in manner and form following:

First: I bequeath my soul to Almighty God and my body to be buried in the Church of Kemsing, if I should thereso decease.

Item: I bequeath to **Dorothy and Johane, the younger, my daughters** . . each of them to be paid at the days of their marriage by my executrix. The residue of all my goods and chattels, my debts and legacies paid . . I give and bequeath to **Johane my wife** whom I ordain and make my sole executrix. And also I ordain and make my cousin Richard Tebold to be the overseer of this my present testament and last will I the said Gilbert Miller have set my hand and seal the day and year above written.

This is the last will and testament of me the said Gilbert Miller as concerning all my lands and tenements . . with all their appurtenances wheresoever they do lie within the parish of Kemsing or elsewhere in the County of Kent made and declared in writing the first day of August in the fifth year of our Sovereign Lord King Edward the Sixth.

First: I bequeath to **Johane my wife** the occupying issues & profits of all my land and tenements lying & being in the parishes of **Kemsing and Hadlow** in the County of Kent for one whole year next immediately ensuing after my death to the performance of this my last will & testament.

Item: I bequeath to **Johane my wife** all my house, land and tenements rents . . . with their appurtenances lying and being within the parishes of **Kingsdown and Woodland** in the said County of Kent, to have and to hold to her & her assigns during her natural life for in the name of her jointure. And after the decease of the said Johane my wife, I will that the said house, lands, tenements & other the premises shall remain to **Gilbert Miller, my son** to have and to hold to him and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten. And for lack of such issue of the land(?) & body of the said Gilbert, I will the said land & tenements and other profits to remain to **Davey Miller, my son** & the heirs of his body lawfully begotten. And for lack of such issue of the body of the said Davey, I will the said land & tenements and other profits to remain to **Richard Miller, my son** & the heirs of his body lawfully begotten. And for lack of such issue, to the right(?) heirs of the said Gilbert my son forever.

Item: I will that my son **John Miller, the elder** shall have all my land & tenements with all their appurtenances set, lying and being in the parish of **Horton, Longfield and Farningham** in the said County of Kent, to have and to hold to him and to his heirs forever, partaking of the issues & profits of the said land and tenements within 5 years next immediately after my decease £?? of good lawful money of England in manner and form hereafter by this will declared. That is to say, I will that the said John shall pay of the said issues and profits to **my son Davey Miller** £20 of good and lawful money of England . . . the said 5 years next ensuing after my decease, if the said Davey do so long live. And if the said Davey do decease

within the said 5 years, then I will the said £20 to be to be paid to **Gilbert Miller and Richard Miller, my sons** equally to be divided between them. . . . And if they both do decease before the said . . . years ended, then I will the said . . . be paid to my daughters **Dorothy and Johane the younger** at the day of their marriage equally to be divided between them if they be unmarried at the time of the decease of the said Gilbert and Richard.

Then I will that the said John, my son, shall pay of the issues and profits aforesaid of this . . . to **Richard Miller, my son** within the said 10(?) years next immediately ensuing after the decease of me, the said Gilbert, if he so long live. And if the said Richard do decease before the said 10 years ended, then I will one said 5th to be paid to the said Gilbert & Davey my sons equally to be divided between them within one year next immediately ensuing the said 10 years ended if they so live.

And also I will it my son John shall pay the other . . . residue of the said 10th to my oldest daughters now unmarried, that is to say to **Elizabeth, Sybil, Margery, Agnes and ??**, to each of them . . . within . . . years next immediately ensuing after the death of me the said Gilbert Miller. And if it fortune any of them to die before the day of their marriage, then I will their portion to be divided equally among the other sisters aforesaid then living.

And also upon condition that the said **John Miller** shall release and relinquish to **William Miller, his brother**, and to his heirs all such right title and . . . as he the said

John Miller, his heirs and assigns has or hereafter may have or claim in any part or parcel of my land and tenements lying in Hadlow in the said County of Kent by me given to **William Miller** by this my present testament and last will and to his heirs forever.

And if it fortune that the said sum, or any part there of, to be behind unpaid in part or in all by the space of one half year after the said . . . years above mentioned next ensuing after the death of me the said Gilbert Miller, that then it shall be lawful to mine executrix and overseer of this my present testament and last will, or to their executors or assigns of either of them, to enter into certain parcel of land and tenement called . . . with field & . . . lying and being in the parish of Horton aforesaid and thereof to make sale & to satisfy the several sums aforesaid to the several parties aforesaid they not satisfied and paid.

Item: I will and bequeath to **William Miller, my son**, all my land and tenements with their appurtenances set, lying and being within the parish of **Hadlow** in the said County of Kent to have and to hold to him and to his heirs forever. And I will that the said William Miller shall pay to **Robert Miller, my son**, within two years next after my decease . . . of good and lawful money of England upon condition that the said Robert shall release unto the said William Miller and to his heirs all such right and title as he, the said Robert, hath or hereafter may have or claim in any part or parcel of my land and tenements lying in the said parish of Hadlow by me to the said William given by this my present will.

Item: further I give and bequeath to **Richard my son** my tenement with garden plot thereto belonging called **Castle Bank** lying in the said parish of **Kemsing** to have and to hold to him and to his heirs forever. And I will that **Johane my wife** shall receive the issues and profits of the same house until the said Richard comes to be of the age of 21 years. And then I will that the said Johane do repay the said issues and profits to my said son **Richard Miller**.

ITEM: the said Gilbert Miller upon his death bed being the 23rd day of January in the third and fourth years of the reign of our Sovereign Lord & Lady King Philip and queen Mary did further will that for lack of issue of the body of the said Richard Miller, his son, that the said house, land and tenement rent, rent fines and with their appurtenances at, lying and being in the said parishes of Kingsdown and Woodland shall remain to **Alexander Miller, his son** to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten. And for lack of such issue to the right of the said Gilbert, his son, forever."

John, the elder and John, the younger, of Kemsing

The John (k484) who had children baptised in Kemsing in the 1560s could have been the son of Gilbert's eldest son John (k590) who was already living in the tenement called Dynes in 1557. Since the parish registers do not start until the 1560s, any children born before then would not have been recorded.

This John, postulated as John junior, married Sylvester Porter of Seal (#3267) and again, because it was too early, we do not know the date of the wedding nor that of the baptism of their eldest daughter Margaret, known from her mother's will. .

Sylvester's father, James Porter (#229) in his will of 1563 left a ewe and her lamb to a Margaret Miller who could have been his granddaughter (see [Porters in Families & Transcripts](#)).

In his nuncupative will written in 1567, Robert Miller left £1 to Sylvester "wife of [John Miller](#)" with the rest of his goods going to "[John Miller the younger, his brother](#)". Sylvester's husband was probably the John Miller who witnessed the will of John(3) Tebold (#1) in 1575.

A John Miller of Kemsing sat on one of the trial juries at the February 1585 Assizes⁸⁸; this could have been k484.

	k590 John, the elder -											
	-----					-----						
	k434		#3267			k939						
will:	John - Sylvester Porter		John - Sylvester Porter			Robert						
bur:	28 May 1590		Jan 1595			1 May 1567						
	-----					-----						
	k182	k181		k23		k9		k486		k494		
	Margaret - John Godden		Richard - Joane Kips		Nicholas - Dorothy Price		Sylvester		k487		k488	
bap:			8 Apr 1563		14 Dec 1561		23 Jul 1567		8 Oct 1570		George	
mar:			14 Nov 1589				25 Jan 1602				14 Jan 1585	
	-----					-----						
	k183	k184		k185		k489		k490		k491		
	Dorothy		Margaret		Sylvester		Margaret		John		twins	
bap:	9 Jul 1583		7 Jun 1587		1 Oct 1591		20 Aug 1591		14 Dec 1594		11 Sep 1601	
bur:									22 Sep 1601		12 Sep 1601	
	-----					-----						
	k495		k496		k497		k69		k63		k498	
	Nicholas		John		Thomas		Sylvester - John Chownings		Dorothy ⁸⁹		Margaret	
bap:	17 May 1602		13 Apr 1606		11 Aug 1609		3 Dec 1611		23 Mar 1615		15 Jun 1619	
mar:							29 Jun 1634					
											6 children - see Chownings	

Nicholas, who was twenty-eight when his mother wrote her will did not marry until 1602; he was living with his mother in 1595 sleeping in a bed which had four curtains "thereto belonging". Thus the wishes specified in the will of John Miller,

⁸⁸ Cockburn (Eliz.); 1385

⁸⁹ a Dorothy Miller married Henry Cousin (k500) on 18th April 1630 when this Dorothy was only fifteen. They had a daughter, Elizabeth, baptised on 3rd August 1634 but Henry was buried on the same day.

junior, seem to have been at least partly carried out in that Sylvester was living with one of her sons.

The Nuncupative Will of Robert Miller of Seal

written 1st May 1567

transcript from probate copy

1 In the name of god Amen.
2 Monday, being the first day of the month
3 of May in the year of our lord god 1567
4 Robert Miller, late of **Seal**, made his testament nuncupative
5 in manner and form following: **First:** he did
6 give and bequeath unto **Sylvester Miller, wife**
7 **of John Miller**, the sum of 20s that he lent
8 to **John Fremlyn, the younger**. **Item:** all the rest
9 of his goods he gave and bequeathed unto **John**
10 **Miller, the younger**⁹⁰, his brother. These being
11 witnesses **Alice Wyborne and Johan Haselden**
with others.

1 In the name of god Amen. The
2 28th day of May in the year of our lord
3 god almighty the five hundredth and ninety, I, John
4 Miller of the parish of Kemsing in the
5 county of Kent, being sick of body but of
6 perfect mind and remembrance, thanks
7 be to Almighty god, do make and ordain this
8 my last will and testament in manner and
9 form following: **First** I bequeath my soul
10 to Almighty god, my maker and redeemer and
11 trust to be saved by the divine
12 passion of Jesus Christ. And my body to
13 be buried in the churchyard of Kemsing
14 aforesaid. **Item:** I make **Sylvester, my wife,**
15 my full and sole executrix of this my last
16 will and testament. **Item:** I give and bequeath
17 to **my daughter, Sylvester,** £20 of good
18 and lawful money to be paid at her
19 age of ?? or at the day of

20 marriage which shall first happen. To be.

page 2:

21 paid by the hands of my executrix. And if
22 it happen that my daughter Sylvester do
23 depart this ?? life before the accomplishment
24 of her ?? her part so deceased
25 shall remain to **my daughter Margaret**
26 **Miller, the wife of John Godden**, and to the
27 heirs of her body lawfully begotten. **Item:**
28 my very mind and will is that Silvester,
29 my wife, shall have her dwelling with my
30 two sons and have the occupation of
31 all my lands and tenements with my two
32 sons during her natural life. And
33 after my wife's deceases those goods
34 gathered by my wife to be divided
35 between my two sons to be equally
36 divided between them by even portions.
37 **Item:** I will and give all my lands and
38 tenements within the parish of Kemsing
39 and **Hadlow** in the county of Kent or
40 else where unto my two sons, **Richard**

41 **Miller and Nicholas Miller** to them and
42 the heirs of their bodies lawfully
43 begotten for ever to be equally divided
44 between them by equal portions within
45 one year after my decease conditionally
46 that my two sons, Richard Miller and
47 Nicholas Miller, shall release the one to
48 the other within one year after my
49 decease. And if one of my two sons
50 shall refuse to release the one to the
51 other, according to my last will and
52 testament, that then I will that he
53 that so refuseth to do the other shall
54 enter upon all my purchased lands and
55 forfeit it to the other within the parish
56 of Kemsing or Hadlow or elsewhere
57 within the county of Kent. And all the
58 rest of my moveable goods unbequeathed
59 I give unto Sylvester, my wife, whom
60 I make my whole executor of this my
61 last will and testament. **Item:** I will
62 that Sylvester, my wife, shall bestow
56 at my burial to the poor people of

57 Kemsing in bread and money 20s. Overseers
58 to this my last will: **William Porter**⁹¹ and
59 **my son-in-law John Godden**. This is
60 John Miller's mark. Witnesses to this
61 ?? will: William Porter and **William Haselden**⁹².

91 probably Sylvester's brother #3276

92 probably the William Haselden whose wife benefitted from the will of John's wife Sylvester to which William was also a witness

Sylvester Miller

Sylvester Miller was buried on 27th October 1597 when she must have been approaching sixty but her will was written January 1595 and not proved until 3rd July 1599, two and a half years after her burial. Sylvester signed it with a cross "the mark of widow Miller". Via her bequests, the will gives a considerable amount of detail regarding the contents of what was probably a reasonably wealthy yeoman's house.

The house, which had glass and joined work, included:

- kitchen with:
 - hangers (wall hangings? or some framework from which hams, etc. could be hung?)
 - a cupboard, folding table and form
- parlour with a table with a form
- hall with a table and forms
- chamber with a bedstead and frame.

Other furniture included a great joined chest, a little joined chest and a boarded chest, other beds and bedsteads together with bedding. Sylvester also left a variety of pots, platters and kettles and three great candlesticks, armour and implements of husbandry including two brand irons.

Her sons Richard and Nicholas were to have her pony “to take the use of him between them both”. There were also to share the “hangers hanging in the kitchen”

Sylvester appointed as her executor her daughter, Sylvester, who was twenty-seven and unmarried when the will was written. Ten years later, in 1607, John Porter left £200 to “?? Lake and his wife, daughter of my sister Sylvester”. He also left Margaret and her husband John Godden £50. John Porter, by the beginning of the seventeenth century was a citizen and fishmonger of London.

The Will of Sylvesterr Miller, widow of Kemsing

written 4th January 1594/5

transcript: beginning & end from original:

1 In the name of God Amen, the 4th day of January 1594,
2 I, Sylvester Miller, widow of the parish of Kemsing in the county of Kent,
3 being sick of
4 body but being of perfect remembrance thanks be to all mighty god, do
make and
ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following: **First**
I

5 bequeath my soul to all mighty god, my maker and redeemer, trusting to be
6 saved by
7 the merits of Jesus Christ and my body to be buried in the churchyard of
8 Kemsing.
9 **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **Sylvester Miller, my daughter**, the 15 acres
10 of wheat that
11 I sowed for the 20 that I was to pay unto her by her father's last will.
12 **Item:** I will unto **John Godden**⁹³ 4 ?? that I owed to him to be paid out of
13 my wheat
14 in the barn and the residue of all my corn I will shall be given to 3
15 daughters, that is to say **Margaret Miller**, daughter of Richard Miller, and to
Margaret
Godden and **Sylvester Godden**, daughters of John Godden, to be equally
divided
between them by even portions. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **Sylvester**
Miller,
my daughter, £20 to be paid out of my moveable goods. **Item:** I give to the
same
Sylvester a best featherbed, the best coverlet, a pair of blankets, two
pillows and the

93 her son-in-law, k181, husband of her daughter Margaret; it is not clear what is was that Sylvester owed him

16 one half of all my ?? . **Item:** I give to the same Sylvester, my daughter, two platters,

two pewter dishes, a pewter pot, a great iron pot and a copper kettle, the little one. And I give to Sylvester my daughter, my ?? and my great joined chest. And I give to **Margaret Godden, my daughter**, two platters and two pewter dishes, my bedstead ??, a red coverlet, the best and my little joined chest. And the other half of my ?? to be divided between my daughter Godden and **my son Nicholas**. I give to Sylvester, my daughter, and Margaret Godden, my daughter, my great copper kettle and one little brass pot.

Item: I give and bequeath to my daughter Godden £6 to be paid out of my moveable goods. I give and bequeath to **my son Richard Miller** ?? bed and a bedstead and a table with a form in the parlour, a flock bed and both steddle and frame standing in the chamber, a boarded chest standing at the ??, my great ?? to take the use of them between them both⁹⁴

And all my implements of husbandry to be equally divided between my two sons Richard and Nicholas. I give to Richard my folding table and form standing in the kitchen and to my son Nicholas the cupboard standing in the kitchen.

Item: I give to Nicholas my son the table and form and forms standing in the hall and the stuff bed that he lieth on and all the four curtains thereto belonging.

I give to my daughter, Sylvester Miller, my ? ?

I give to Richard Miller and Nicholas, my ? ? to be divided between them.

Item: I give to Sylvester, my daughter, and Margaret Godden, my daughter, 3 great candlesticks to be equally divided between them.

Item: I give to Richard Miller and Nicholas Miller my pony? to take the use of him between them both.

Item: I give to Richard Miller and to Nicholas Miller, my two sons, the hangers between them hanging in the kitchen.

Item: I give to Sylvester Miller a brand iron. I give to Margaret Godden the other brand iron. I give to Margaret Miller, daughter of Richard Miller, one platter.

Item: I give to Margaret Godden and Sylvester Godden, daughters of John Godden, either of them one platter. **Item:** I give to Richard Miller an iron kettle and to Nicholas a brass pot.

Item: I give to my two sons Richard and Nicholas a brass cauldron, two brass kettles to be divided between them. **Item:** and to my son Nicholas my brass pot.

Item: I give to **Sylvester Haselden**⁹⁵ a brass ? **Item:** I give to the same Sylvester Haselden 6s 8d to be paid by my executor. **Item:** I give to the same Sylvester Haselden my little gown.

Item: I will that my executor shall not dispose my house of any glass or joined work that is in the house. I give

- to Margaret Godden, my daughter, a table standing upon a frame of John Godden. **Item:** I give
- to Margaret Godden a little iron pot. **Item:** I give to my two sons Richard and Nicholas
- all my armouries that is a corselet⁹⁶, a pike, a sword and a dagger with all other armour in the house
- to be equally divided between them. And all the rest of my moveable goods unbequeathed
- I give to Sylvester Miller, my daughter⁹⁷, whom I make my whole executrix of this my last will and testament.

95 Sylvester Olyver (k157, #367) who married William Haselden (k156), in Seal, in 1573. William Haselden was one of the witnesses to the will.

96 body armour

97 who was twenty-four when the will was written

- and I will to be bestowed at my burial 20s in bread or money.
- and I will that **my uncle Denman**⁹⁸ and my son Richard to be my overseers.

Witness to this my present will

William Haselden and **William Denman**

X

the mark of
widow Miller

98 William Denman, #1992 in Seal, was presumably her uncle and the William Denman who witnessed her will

The Millers of Ightham

The Millers were a large Kemsing family (see above) but there were also Millers in Ightham and Wrotham.

Nicholas Miller (i2721⁹⁹) was fined 4d on 14th April 1586 for "[not doing suit at the Court](#)" (CRI 1938, p.35). The will of Nicholas Miller of Wrotham, dated 1622 has survived (**PCC: Savile 38**) has survived but has not been investigated. It is feasible that this was the same Nicholas who could have been a young man in 1586.

James (i2722) and **Stephen Miller** (i2723) were mentioned in the Court records for 1586 to 1618. Again James could be the testator of 1640 (**PCC: Coventry 4**) if the mention in the Court records was towards the end of the period.

Robert Miller

Amy (i1074), the daughter of **Robert Miller** (i1072) was baptised on 20th November 1580 and buried the same day. This is the only entry for Robert Miller in the parish records.

On 11th October 1592, however, "time was given for the Court to ascertain, through the jurors, upon inspection of the last will of **Robert Miller**, lately a tenant of the manor, that the said Robert by his last will left all his lands held of this manor to **William Miller**, his younger son, who is nine years old and now in the custody of **Nicholas Heathe, alias Brooker**, who married the widow of Robert Miller." (CRI 1938, p.45)

From this extract it seems that Robert, in addition to William born in 1583, had other, older sons. The will for Robert Miller of Wrotham, proved in 1587 (**PCC: Spencer 50**), is the only surviving will which could have been that of the Robert Miller referred to by the Ightham Court. It has not been investigated but Millers from Wrotham were mentioned in the Court records for 1553 to 1574 and 1586 to 1618.

The Millers of Wrotham

There is no obvious connection between the Millers of Kemsing and those of Wrotham but it is possible that Robert Miller whose will was investigated by the Ightham Court (see page 2.m.86) was living in Wrotham when he died. The following wills have survived from Wrotham

	written	proved		
Lawrence Miller		1578	PCC: Langley 25	
Robert Miller		1597	PCC: Spencer 50	see above
John Miller	24 May 1614	12 Jul 1614	PCC: Lawe 86; Prob 10/314	page 2.m.89
Nicholas Miller		1622	PCC: Savile 38	} see
James Miller		1639/40	PCC: Coventry 4	} page 2.m.85
Nicholas Miller		1640	PCC: Coventry 122	
Jane Miller	1 Jan 1640/1	11 Jan 1640/1	CKS: Prs/w/11/47	page 2.m.102
John Miller	10 Apr 1644	4 Jan 1645/6	CKS: Prs/w/11/63	page 2.m.109

The 1614 will of John Myller was written by Nicholas Hooper, curate of Shipbourne, who wrote a large number of wills between 1574 and 1618. Peter Ellfick, one of the witnesses to this will also witnessed the 1618 will of John Everest of Leigh, also written by Nicholas Hooper; perhaps Ellfick was Nicholas Hooper's clerk.

John Miller, the elder

John Miller, the elder, who died in 1614, owned three messuages or tenements in Wrotham: Salmons where he lived and Byshops in Wrotham itself and the third in Plaxtol which he describes as "in Wrotham" and these had "houses, edifices, lands, meadows, pastures, feedings and all other hereditaments" belonging to them. In addition he had four parcels of land in Wrotham totalling about nineteen acres, a house at Ickham, five miles due east of Canterbury and connections with the neighbouring parish of Littlebourne.

His main heir and executor was John Miller, the younger, but the testator never describes him as his son although he did live with him at Salmons. Out of the messuage in Plaxtol, John Miller the younger was to pay forty shillings a year "towards the amending and repairing of the highways leading between Lower Millbridge and Claygate", twenty shillings to be paid to the surveyors of highways for the boroughs of Hale and Roughey and the other twenty to the surveyors for Shipbourne. Since Salmons was at Rougheybridge, Roughey was probably part of Wrotham.

1 In the name of god Amen¹⁰⁰. The four and twentieth day of May in the year
of
2 our lord God, one thousand, six hundredth and fourteen and in the Twelfth
year of the
3 reign of our Sovereign lord James, by the grace of God, king of England,
France and Ireland,
4 defender of the faith, etc. And of Scotland the Seven and fortieth. I, John
Myller,
5 the elder of Wrotham in the county of Kent and diocese of Canterbury¹⁰¹,
yeoman, being¹⁰² at the
6 time of making hereof aged and sick of body and thereby, as by many
examples duly falling out,

100 decorated "I"

101 Wrotham was actually in the Peculiar of Shoreham with the neighbouring parishes in the diocese of Rochester but John Miller owned a house in Ickham near Canterbury and was perhaps referring to that.

102 "beeing", "bee", etc. including "shalbee" and "beefore"

7 put in mind of¹⁰³ the uncertainty of death and knowing that I shall change
this life but the time being
8 altogether uncertain and willing that those small possessions and
transitory goods which I enjoy
9 here for a season may be quietly enjoyed after my decease by those whom I
have meant the
10 same unto: Therefore I do ordain and make this my present testament and
last will in
11 manner and form following: that is to say First: and principally I give,
commend and
12 bequeath my Soul into the hands of Almighty God who gave it, trusting by an
an
13 assured faith which I have in the merit, precious death and blood
shedding¹⁰⁴ of his dear and only
14 son, Jesus Christ, shalbe presented pure and without spot before the throne
of his
15 majesty and my body to the earth to be buried in the middle space of
Wrotham church

103 substituted for the original "touching"

104 "bludshedding"

16 in some convenient place there, in sure and certain hope of a joyful
Resurrection to the
17 life immortal. **Item:** I desire my loving friend **Mr. Hutchinson, vicar of**
Wrotham, to make
18 a Godlie Sermon to the company resorting to my burial, To whom I give Ten
shillings
19 for his pains. **Item:** I will there shalbe given and bestowed at my burial,
among the poor
20 thither resorting the sum of thirty¹⁰⁵ shillings of lawful money. **Item:** I give
to **Peter**
21 **Shelley** the lesser Chest my upper chamber at **Ickham**. **Item:** I give to
Christian Gredier,
22 **my kinswoman**, a pair of sheets lying in the chest given to Peter Shelley.
Item: I give to
23 **Goodwife Shelley** an old pair of sheets, a frying pan, a gridiron and two
pans whereof one
24 of them is now, and hath long time been, in her keeping. **Item:** I give and
bequeath to
25 **Richard Gredier, my kinsman**, my Bedstead same my upper chamber, the
featherbed,

105 originally "forty"

26 Bolster, Coverlet all other things thereunto belonging as it standeth, my
other two chests there
27 in the same upper chamber withall that is in them (saving the sheets before
given) And
28 all other my goods in the same two chambers being which are not before
bequeathed, saving 13¹⁰⁶
29 pieces of pewter which I have there in keeping for the said Christian
Gredier which her

from probate copy:

- grandmother gave her and committed
- the same to me, which bed, bedding, chests and other things before given
to the said
- Richard Gredier, I will shall be delivered to him ?? ?? ??
- as **my trusty friends David Denth of Wellcourt and John Denth, the elder,**
his
- **brother, of Littlebourne** ?? shall think good to whole tuition, I faithfully
- commit the same goods heartily praying them to employ the same at their
- discretion to the use and most good of the said Richard Gredier. **Item:** I
likewise

- desire my said two trusty friends to ?? keeping and disposing of the said
- thirteen pieces of pewter and of the pair of sheets before given to Christian
- Gredier at their pleasure to the best good that they shall think be fit to the
- use of the said Christian¹⁰⁷. **Item:** I give to **John Miller, son of James Miller,**
- twenty
- shillings of lawful money. **Item:** I give to **my sister-in-law Hester Elamby,**
- **widow,**
- the sum of twenty shillings of lawful money. **Item:** I give to the poor of the
- parishes of Ickham and Littlebourne ?? aforesaid, the sum of twenty
- shillings
- a piece. The residue of all my goods, cattels and chattels I wholly, fully and
- with
- good effect, intent and purpose give and bequeath unto **John Miller, the**
- **younger,** which
- John I make my whole executor of this my will to see the same proved, my
- debts paid
- and my legacies performed which are on his part to be performed and my
- body decently
- buried. And I desire my good friend and kinsman **Nicholas Miller, the**
- **younger, gent.** to

107 were there people prepared to pay to have pieces of pewter and sheets hired out to them?

- be supervisor or overseer of this my will whose charges about this my will to be laid out
- I will shall be bourne by mine executor. This is the last will of me the said John
- Miller, the elder, concerning the order and disposition of all my lands, tenements and
- hereditaments, situated, lying and being within the parish of Wrotham aforesaid
- or elsewhere. And first in regard of a promise? heretofore made by me to **Nicholas**
- **Miller, the elder, gent.**, I will and give unto the said Nicholas Miller, the elder, four
- parcels of land whereof three are called **Hoot, Spook and Segas**, lying all together
- near **Clarker Street in Wrotham** and containing, by estimation, in all thirteen acres more
- or less and the fourth parcel of land called **Reades**, by estimation six acres, more or less,
- lying near **Bersted in Wrotham** aforesaid. To have and to hold the same four parcels of
- land before named to the said Nicholas Miller the elder for, by and during the whole

- term of his natural life. And after the decease of the said Nicholas Miller, the elder, I
- will and give two of the said parcels of land called Hook and Segas with th'appurtenances
- unto **Nicholas Miller, eldest son of the said Nicholas Miller**, the younger, mine overseer.
- To hold the same two parcels called Hook and Segas to the said Nicholas Miller, eldest
- son, his heirs and assigns, for ever. And likewise, after the decease of the said Nicholas Miller,
- the elder, I will and give the said other two parcels called Spook and Reades, with th'appurtenances,
- unto the said John Miller, the younger, my said executor. To hold to him the said John Miller,
- the younger, his heirs and assigns, for ever. Notwithstanding, my will is that the said John
- Miller, the younger, his heirs or assigns, shall pay out of the said two parcels of called Spook
- and Reades, unto the right worshipful my loving friends, the **two younger sons of Sir John**
- **Tufton, knight**, in regard of the many favours by him the said Sir John Tufton to me shown, the

- sum of twenty pounds, viz. ten pounds a piece to be paid to them, and either of them, within
- one whole year next after the decease of the said Nicholas Miller, the elder, at the house
- where I now dwell in Wrotham aforesaid. And I will that if they shall be unpaid the said
- sums, contrary to the true meaning of this my will, that they, the said two youngest
- sons of the said Sir John Tufton, shall enter upon the said two parcels called Spook
- and Reades and the same and both them, with th'appurtenances, shall hold and enjoy to
- them or him so unpaid, his and their heirs and assigns, for ever, anything in this my
- will contained to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding. **Item:** I give and bequeath
- to John Miller, the younger, aforesaid, mine executor, all that messuage or tenement
- wherein I now dwell with the said John Miller, called **Salmons** or by any other name
- whatsoever, situated, lying and being at **Rougheybridge** in Wrotham aforesaid and all

- that my tenement called **Byshopp** or by any other name, situated near **Soreplace** in
- Wrotham aforesaid. And all that my other tenement situated at **Southstreet at Plaxtol**
- in Wrotham aforesaid and all the houses, edifices, lands, meadows, pastures, feedings and all
- other hereditaments whatsoever to the same three tenements and every or any of them
- severally belonging, severally situated, lying and being within the parish of Wrotham
- aforesaid. To have and to hold the same and every of the same, with all and singular
- th'appurtenances, to the said John Miller, the younger, his heirs and assigns, for ever.
- Notwithstanding my will and meaning is that the said John Miller, the younger, his
- heirs and assigns, shall pay out of the said tenement wherein I now dwell and the
- edifices, lands and hereditaments thereunto belonging, the yearly sum of nine pounds
- to my said kinsman and kinswoman Richard Gredier and Christian Gredier, to be paid

- to them severally during their natural life and lives, viz. five pounds yearly for
- the said Richard and four pounds yearly to the said Christian, half yearly to be
- paid by equal portions at my said house wherein I now dwell or within forty days
- then next after being at the same tenement lawfully demanded, the half years
- to be the feast of St. Michael th'archangel and th'annunciation of the blessed virgin
- Mary. And the first payment to be at the first of the said feasts which shall next come
- after my decease. And I will that for lack of payment thereof at any time contrary to
- the true meaning of this my will, that they and either of them so unpaid shall enter
- in and upon my said tenement wherein I now dwell and the lands thereto belonging and the same shall hold, occupy, possess and enjoy until he or she so
- unpaid shall from time to time ?? ?? of the issues and profits of the same messuage and premises, all such sum and sums and sums as shall be so as
- afore
- said upaid

from original:

- to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding. And likewise, notwithstanding, my will and meaning is
- that the said John Miller, the younger, his heirs and assigns for ever, shall pay out yearly forever out of
- my messuage and lands at Southstreet in Wrotham aforesaid, towards the amending and repairing of
- the highways leading between **Lower Millbridge and Claygate**, the sum of forty shillings of lawful money,
- which forty shillings I will shall yearly be paid about whitsuntide to the surveyors of the said highways, viz.
- 20s to the surveyors of the boroughs of Hale and Roughey for the time being and their successors for ever,
- and other 20s to the surveyors of the parish of **Shipbourne** for the time being and their successors for ever,
- by them severally to be bestowed upon the same highways according to their discretion and according to
- the true meaning of this my will. And I will that for lack of payment thereof, or any part thereof,
- contrary to the true meaning of this my will, the said surveyors, severally and their assigns, shall enter in

- and upon my said tenement and lands at Southstreet in Wrotham and their shall distreign and
- the distress and distresses, from time to time there so taken, shall have, take, carry away and withhold
- the same until the said sum and sums so unpaid shalbe fully paid according to the true meaning
- of this my will, any thing also herein before mentioned to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.
- In witness whereof I, the said John Miller, the elder, to this my present last will and testament containing
- four sheets of paper, have to every sheet subscribed my name and to this fourth and last sheet
- have subscribed my name and set to my my seal, yeven the day and year first above written

Nicholas Hooper's
mark
with initials¹⁰⁸

108 this is a small version of the mark, squashed on to the end of the will

Read, Sealed and acknowledged
the true and last will of the said
John Miller the elder in the presence of
Nicholas Miller, the elder, gent
Peter Ellfick and
Nicholas Hooper, sen. writer,

John Miller

the mark **NM** of
Nicholas Miller the elder

Jane Miller, widow

From her will Jane seems to have had one son, Nicholas, whom she made her executor, and four married daughters, all with children. Jane Miller left her granddaughter Jane Boys £100 and another £100 to two other granddaughters, Jane and Elizabeth James. Their £100 “together with the increase of five pounds by the year for the use thereof, to be equally divided between them and paid unto them at their several ages of one and twenty years or days of marriage, which shall first happen”. Thus she expected that this money would be “put out” so as to earn a profit of 5% per year.

She was a wealthy widow giving, in addition to the above £200, over £30 to other members of her family. Mary Joad, her maidservant was to receive £5 and all her other servants, “both men and maids (which shall be living with me at the time of my decease) the sum of twenty shillings”. Taking into account the £5 left to the poor, Jane’s legacies totalled about £250.

Will of Jane Miller of Wrotham

written 1st January 1641

transcript from original

1 In the name of god Amen. The first day of January Ano Dei 1640. I, Jane
Miller of Wrotham in the county
2 of Kent, **widow**, being sick of body but of perfect mind and memory (thanks
be to god for it) do ordain
3 and make this my last will and testament in manner and form following:
First: and above all things, I bequeath
4 my soul to Almighty God, beseeching him of his infinite mercy and for the
merits of Jesus Christ, my
5 Lord and only saviour, to forgive me all my sins and to receive my soul to
himself whensoever it shall
6 please him to separate it from my mortal body. As for my body, I leave it to
be buried at the discretion

7 of my executor hereafter named. And for my worldly goods, I dispose of
them as followeth: **First:** I give
8 to the poor people which shall resort to my burial the sum of five pounds to
be distributed amongst them
9 according to the discretion of my executor. **Item:** I give to **my grandchild**
Jane Boys the sum of one
10 hundred pounds, together with the increase of five pounds by the year for
the use of it, to be paid to
11 her at her age of one and twenty years or day of marriage which shall first
happen. And in case the said
12 Jane Boys shall die before either of the times appointed for the payment of
the said money, then my will
13 and meaning is that the said hundred pounds, with the profit thereof as
aforesaid, shalbe equally divided
14 amongst all the younger brethren (of the whole blood) of my said grand-
child Jane Boys, as they shall attain
15 their several ages of one and twenty years. **Item:** I give to **my grand-**
children Jane James and Elizabeth
16 **James**, the like sum of one hundred pounds, together with the increase of
five pounds by the year for
17 the use thereof, to be equally divided between them and paid unto them at
their several ages of one and twenty

18 years or days of marriage, which shall first happen. And in case either of
my said grandchildren shall
19 die before either of the times appointed for the payment of the said money,
then my will and meaning
20 is that the said hundred pounds, with the profit thereof as aforesaid, shalbe
paid to the survivor of them
21 at the time of payment as aforesaid. And if it shall happen that both my
said grandchildren shall
22 die before either of the times appointed for the payment of the said money,
then my will and meaning
23 is that the said hundred pounds, with the profit thereof as aforesaid, shalbe
equally divided among all the younger
24 brethren (of the whole blood) of my said grandchildren (Jane James and
Elizabeth James) as they shall attain
25 their several ages of one and twenty years. **Item:** I give to **my cousin**
Thomas Polhill, the son of
26 **?? Thomas Polhill, deceased,** the sum of ten pounds to be paid to him at
his age of one and twenty
27 years. **Item:** I give to **my niece, Joan Homden,** the sum of five pounds to be
paid to her within three
28 months after my decease. **Item:** I give to **Judith Homden, the daughter of**
my said niece Joan,

29 the like sum of five pounds to be paid to her at her age of one and twenty
years or day of marriage
30 which shall first happen. **Item:** I give to every of my grandchildren (except
those three to whom I have
31 already in this my will absolutely given a greater legacy) the sum of forty
shillings in money, or
32 otherwise to the same value at the discretion of my said executor, within
three months after my
33 decease to be paid or delivered to every of them. **Item:** I give to **my**
daughter Jane James all my wearing apparel of all sorts. **Item:**
34 I give to my aforementioned neice Joan Homden one of the halfheaded
bedsteads that stand in the long garret together with
35 a featherbed and bolster, coverlet and blankets thereunto belonging. **Item:**
I give to **my godson John Wallen**
36 the sum of five pounds to be paid to him at his age of one and twenty years.
Item: I give to **Mary Joad, my maidservant,**
37 the sum of five pounds to be paid to her within one month after my
decease. **Item:** I give to every other of my ser
38 vants, both men and maids (which shalbe living with me at the time of my
decease) the sum of twenty shillings to be paid
39 to them within one month after my decease. **Item:** I give all my household
linen to my five granddaughters viz.

v40 **Elizabeth Allen, Jane Boys, Jane Kemp, Jane James and Jane Miller**, to be
equally divided between them within
41 six months after my decease to be delivered to them, or their parents to be
kept for their use. The residue of
42 my goods and chattels I give to **my son, Nicholas Miller**, whom I make sole
executor of this my last will and
43 testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal and
published this for my last will and testament
44 the day and year first above written.

In the presence of

John Boys
John Turner

Jane Miller
her mark

John Miller, 1644

In 1614 the house in which John Miller, the elder and John Miller, the younger lived was called Salmons. In 1644. In the will of 1644, John Miller's house is

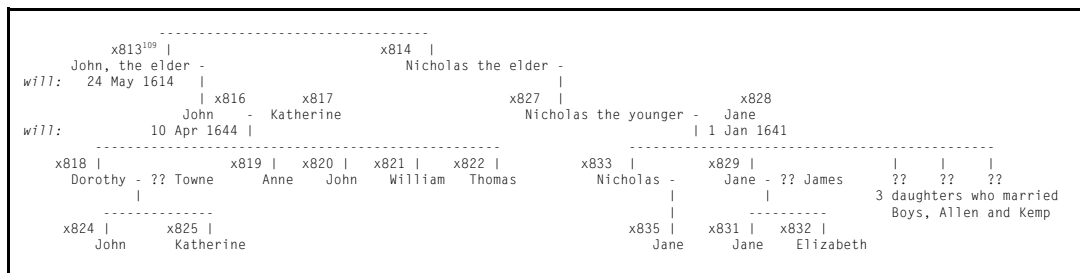
given as Samons but this was surely the same house. The John Miller of 1644 could have been the John Miller, the younger of 1614.

John had two grandchildren by his married daughter Dorothy and he left them £5 each to be paid at the early age of fifteen and a daughter, Anne, who was to receive £100 within two years of his death.. But he also had three sons, John, William and Thomas, young enough for his wife, Katherine, who was his executrix, to have “[the rents, issues and profits](#)” of all his lands which they were eventually to share. This money was to go “[towards the education](#)” of their “[children and the better to enable her to pay the said portion to my said daughter Anne and the foresaid legacies to my grandchildren](#)”. If Katherine was to die before all the £100 was paid to Anne, then Anne herself was to take the rents, etc. from the lands.

Dorothy had had a “[competent portion](#)” when she married but she and Anne were each to have an annuity of £2 “[for the augmenting](#)” of their portions to be paid them by his son John once he reached the age of twenty-four and came into his inheritance. If this was not paid on time, not only could Dorothy and Anne enter onto his land and take such distress as they were owed, there were to receive 3s 4d for every month their annuity was in arrears. 3s 4d is one-sixth of a pound, one twelveth of their annuity; thus they were to receive over 8% of their annual payment every month once their annuity was in arrears.

About 20 acres of his land was called “[Fulling Mill Lands](#)” which implies that he owned a fulling mill. His describes various holdings in Wrotham, Plaxtol and Shipbourne but there is no mention of Ickham or Littlebourne in the Canterbury area.

A tentative family tree can be assembled:



1 In the name of god Amen. I, John Miller,
2 of Wrotham in the county of Kent, **yeoman**, of sound and perfect health and
memory (thanks be
3 therefore given to Almighty God) this tenth day of April Anno dm. 1644,
And in the twentieth year
4 of the reign of our sovereign Lord Charles, by the grace of God, king of
England, Scotland, France and
5 Ireland, defender of the faith, etc. do make and ordain this my last will and
testament in manner
6 following, viz. **First:** I surrender my soul and spirit into the hands of
Almighty God, my creator,
7 who gave it, trusting through the alone merits of my only saviour and
redeemer, Jesus Christ,
8 to obtain remission of all my sins. And my body I commit to the earth to be
decently
9 buried, hoping for a joyful resurrection to life everlasting. **Item:** I give and
bequeath
10 to the poor of the parish of Wrotham forty shillings to be distributed
amongst them at the

11 discretion of my executrix hereafter named. **Item:** I give and bequeath to
12 **my two grandchildren,**
13 **John Towne and Katherine Towne,** five pounds a piece to be paid to them
14 at their several ages of
15 fifteen years. And my mind is that their several acquittances under their
16 hands at their several ages of
17 on receipt shalbe a sufficient discharge. Provided always that if either of
18 them happen to decease
19 before his or her portion become due or payable, then the portion of him or
20 her so dying to accrue
21 to my said executrix. **Item:** I give and bequeath to **my daughter, Anne**
Miller, the sum of
one hundred pounds of lawful english money to be paid unto her, the said
Anne, my
daughter, within two years next after my decease by my executrix hereafter
named.
Item: my debts and legacies paid and my funeral expenses discharged, I
give and bequeath all
the rest and residue of my goods, cattell, chattells, household stuff and
personal estate to **my loving**
wife Katherine whom I hereby make sole executrix of this my last will and
testament. This

22 is also the last will and testament of me the said John Miller touching the
disposition of all
23 my messuages, lands, tenements, hereditaments, made and declared the
day and year first above written.
24 **First:** I give and bequeath unto the said Katherine, my wife (in full
recompense and satisfaction
25 of her dower), the messuage or tenement with th'appurtenances wherein I
now dwell called **Samons** with the
26 barns, edifices, buildings, lands, meadows and pastures thereto belonging.
And also all those lands
27 called **Fulling Mill lands** containing in all, by estimation, about twenty
acres, more or less, now
28 in my occupation. And also the moiety or one half of all other my
messuages, lands and
29 tenements in Wrotham aforesaid and **Shipbourne** in the said county (except
only) the messuage
30 or tenement and orchard now in the occupation of **William Curd** and
likewise those five pieces or parcels of
31 land there near adjoining called the **Upplands als Highlands** containing
about sixteen
32 acres. And also those two parcels of meadow, the one called
Roughaymeade, containing about

33 one acre lying near the **Stone bridge**. And the other called **Fostersmeade**
containing
34 about one acre and an half, lying near **Sharpes bridge** between the river or
brook
35 there and the lands of **James Miller, gent**, in Roughay in Wrotham aforesaid
always forepaid?
36 To hold the said message or tenement wherein I now dwell with the said
lands thereto belonging and
37 also the said Fulling Mill lands together with the said moiety of my said
other messages
38 and lands (except before excepted) unto the said Katherine and her assigns
for and during the term of her natural life.
39 And my will and meaning is I do hereby devise that the said Katherine, my
wife, for and towards the education of my
40 said children and the better to enable her to pay the said portion to my said
daughter Anne and the foresaid legacies to
41 my grandchildren, John Towne and Katherine Towne, shall and may
receive and take the rents, issues and profits of all
42 my lands hereafter given or devised or herein mentioned to be devised to
my three sons hereafter
43 named until they shall severally and respectively attain their several ages
of four and twenty years (in case she,

44 the said Katherine, shall so ling live). But if the said Katherine, my wife,
shall happen to decease before the
45 said one hundred pounds bequeathed to my said daughter Anne shalbe
fully by my said wife raised,
46 received and paid to the said Anne out of my said personal estate and the
said moiety of the lands during my
47 said sons in majority of four and twenty years for that purpose appointed as
aforesaid, Then my will and meaning
48 is that she, the said Anne my daughter and her assigns, shall and may
have, receive and take all the rents and issues and
49 profits of all my lands and tenements whatsoever herein devised to my said
three sons and if any of them
50 and any part thereof until such time as she, the said Anne, shall thereby
and thereout have raised and satisfied
51 herself so much money as me said personal estate and the said rents of the
said moiety on my said sons'
52 lands appointed to be reserved by my said wife for that purpose shall want
thereof and be to her unpaid at my wife's decease.
53 And if the said legacies of five pounds a piece to my grandchildren John
Towne and Katherine Towne as
54 aforesaid bequeathed be unsatisfied at my said wife's decease and not
sufficient assets left to satisfy the

55 same out of my said personal estate and moiety of the lands appointed for
that purpose, then my will and
56 meaning is that such and each of my grandchildren, John Towne and
Katherine Towne, as shalbe living and
57 so unsatisfied as aforesaid, shall have, receive and take the rents, issues
and profits of my messuage or
58 tenement called Samons with the barns, edifices, buildings, gardens,
orchards, lands, meadows and pastures
59 thereto used or belonging in Wrotham aforesaid until they and each of them
shall thereout have raised and
60 satisfied themselves what shalbe to them arrears of their foresaid legacies,
or **my son John Miller**
61 do pay the same, anything herein contained to the contrary
notwithstanding. **Item:** whereas I have
62 already given and paid to ?? **my daughter Dorothy, now the wife of William**
Towne, a competent portion yet for the augmenting
63 thereof and also of the portion of my daughter Anne, I do hereby give and
devise unto them, my said daughters, Dorothy
64 Towne and Anne Miller, and to either of them severally, and not jointly, one
annuity or yearly rent of forty
65 shillings of lawful english money by the year a piece. To hold and to be
paid to them severally and respectively

66 form and after my son, John Miller, shall attain his age of four and twenty
years for the several and
67 respective terms of their several natural lives yearly and every year at the
feast of St. Michael the
68 Archangel at or in my said dwelling house called Samons by my said son
John, his heirs
69 and assigns. And the first payment thereof to be to them severally paid at
the feast day of St. Michael
70 Th'archangel which shall next happen after my said son John Miller shall
attain his age of
71 four and twenty years and not before. To be issuing and ?? out of, and to
be had, levied, received
72 and taken of and out of the said messuage and lands now in the occupation
of William Curd. And the said lands,
73 meadowground called Upplands als. Highlands, Roughaymeade and
Fostersmeade aforesaid. And if it shall
74 happen the said several annuities or rent charges or either of them or any
part of them or either of them to be
75 behind, unpaid, by the space of one and twenty days next over or after any
of the said feast days
76 when the same ought to be paid as aforesaid, that then and so often and
from thenceforth it shall and

77 may be lawful to and for such of them, the said Dorothy Towne and Anne
Miller, my daughters, and their
78 assigns to whom the same rents or any part thereof shalbe so behind and
unpaid severally into
79 and upon the same messuage, lands and premises aforesaid out of which
the same is mentioned to
80 issue, to enter and severally to distrain. And the distress and distresses
then and there so
81 had and taken to impound, detain and keep until her annuity or yearly rent
so distraining
82 do behind and unpaid, together with all arrearages thereof shalbe fully
satisfied unto her. And
83 my will and mind further is that if my said son John Miller shall make
default of payment
84 of either of the said annuities or any part thereof contrary to the true
meaning hereof, the same being
85 lawfully demanded, that then and so often, he, the said John Miller, my
son, his heirs and assigns, shall
86 forfeit, lose and pay to such of them, my said daughters Dorothy and Anne,
to whom any such
87 default of payment shalbe made, three shillings four pence for every month
??

88 to be in like manner levied upon the same messuage and lands last
mentioned by distress
89 as the foresaid annuities or rent charges are mentioned to be. **Item:** I do
give and devise unto
90 my said son John Miller, and to his heirs and assigns for ever the said
messuage, tenement and orchard
91 with th'appurtenances in the occupation of the said William Curd. And
also the said five pieces or parcels of land called
92 Upplands als Highlands. And also the said two parcels of meadow and
pasture ground called Roughaymeade
93 and Fosters meade with th'appurtenances chargeable and charged with the
said several annuities or rent charges aforesaid.
94 And also the said Katherine, my wife, receiving the profits thereof until the
said John, my son,
95 attain his age of four and twenty years if my said wife shall so long live. If
she live not so
96 long, then the said Anne, my daughter, taking such profits thereof towards
the payment of her said
97 hundred pounds in manner and form aforesaid (from and after my said
wife's decease and my said
98 daughter, Anne's portion of one hundred pounds to be raised as aforesaid)
the messuage or tenement

99 wherein I now dwell called Samons with the barns, edifices, buildings,
lands, meadows and
100 pastures thereto belonging. And also the lands called the Fulling Mill
lands aforesaid, to hold
101 to him the said John, my son, and to his heirs and assigns for ever. **Item:**
(the said Katherine,
102 my wife, receiving the profits thereof until **my son William Miller** attain his
age of four
103 and twenty years if she live so long. If not, my daughter Anne's legacy
being raised in manner
104 and form before expressed) I give and devise unto him, the said William, my
son, to his heirs
105 and assigns for ever, the moiety or one half of all that messuage or
tenement wherein **Robert Couchman**
106 now dwelleth with the barns, edifices, buildings, lands, meadows and
pastures thereunto belonging
107 situated in **Shipbourne** aforesaid containing in all, by estimation, fifty acres.
And also of and in one
108 other messuage or tenement and two pieces of land thereto used or
belonging situated in **Plaxtol** in
109 Wrotham aforesaid now in the occupation of **Nicholas Harris** or his assigns,
containing about three

110 acres. And also (from and after my said wife's decease and my said
daughter Anne's legacy of one
111 hundred pounds raised in form aforesaid) I give and devise unto him, the
said William Miller, my
112 son, and to his heirs and assigns for ever, the other moiety of the said
messuage, lands and
113 tenement last mentioned situated in Shipbourne and Plaxtol aforesaid in
the occupation of Robert
114 Couchman and Nicholas Harris. To have and to hold the same last
mentioned messuage, lands and
115 premises unto the said William Miller, my son, his heirs and assigns, for
ever. (the several estate
116 terms and interests herein before hereby appointed excepted). And my
desire and will is that the
117 annuities or rent charges issuing out of the same messuage and premises
last mentioned from and after
118 my said son William shall attain his age of four and twenty years during my
said wife's natural
119 life shall be equally paid between my said wife and my said son William out
of the profits of the same
120 lands. **Item:** the said Katherine, my wife, in like manner receiving the
profits of whole lands

121 hereafter mentioned until **Thomas Miller, my son**, attain his age of four and
twenty years
122 (if she live so long, if not, my said daughter Anne's legacy of one hundred
pounds to be
123 raised in manner and form aforesaid) I give and devise unto him, the said
Thomas Miller, my son,
124 and to his heirs and assigns for ever, the moiety or one half of and in the
messuage or tenement called
125 **Lynce** wherein **Richard Johnson** did sometime dwell with the barns,
edifices and buildings thereto
126 belonging. And of those three pieces or parcels of land thereto adjoining or
thereto sometimes
127 used or belonging, containing about ten acres. And also the moiety or one
half of and in
128 three other pieces or parcels of land called ?? , **Reed** and **Haughfield**
containing about
129 thirteen acres at or near **Claygate Cross** in the occupation of **Thomas Ifield**
which last
130 mentioned messuage and six several pieces or parcels of land are situated,
lying and being in the
131 **Borough of Wynfield** in the parish of Wrotham aforesaid. And also, from
and after my said wife's

132 decease and my daughter Anne's legacy of one hundred pounds so raised
as aforesaid, I likewise
133 give and devise unto the said Thomas Miller, my son, and to his heirs and
assigns for ever, the
134 other moiety or one half of the said messuage called Lynce and of those six
several parcels of
135 lands in the Borough of Wynfield aforesaid containing in the whole, by
estimation, about
136 three and twenty acres. To have and to hold all the same last mentioned
messuage and premises
137 in the Borough of Wynfield aforesaid unto the said Thomas Miller, my son,
his heirs
138 and assigns for ever (the several estate terms and interests therein before
hereby limited
139 excepted). In witness whereof to this my present last will and testament
(revoking all former
140 and other wills) I have hereunto, it being written in four sheets of paper to
every sheet
141 subscribed my name. And fixed together all the top have put my seal the
day and
142 year first above written.

John Miller

Signed, sealed, published and
declared in the presence of

John Brattle¹¹⁰

Jane Saxby her mark

??

110 could have written the will

The Messuages, Tenements and Land of 1614 and 1644

It is interesting to compare the messuages, tenements and land left by John Miller in 1614 and John Miller in 1644

In 1614, John Miller, the elder, left:

to: Nicholas Miller, the elder,

- three parcels of land called **Hoot, Spook and Segas**, lying all together
- near **Clarker Street in Wrotham**; about 13 acres
- a parcel of land called **Reades**, near **Bersted in Wrotham**; about 6 acres

to: **Nicholas Miller, eldest son of the said Nicholas Miller**, the younger, after the decease of Nicholas Miller, the elder:

- the two parcels of land called Hook and Segas

to: John Miller, the younger,

- the messuage or tenement called **Salmons** at **Rougheybridge** in Wrotham
- the tenement called **Byshopp** at near **Soreplace** in Wrotham
- the tenement situated at **Southstreet at Plaxtol** in Wrotham
- all the houses, edifices, lands, meadows, pastures, feedings and all
- other hereditaments belonging to the three tenements

and, after the decease of Nicholas Miller, the elder:

- the two parcels of land called Spook and Reades

In 1644, John Miller left:

to: Katherine, his wife, for her natural life:

- the messuage or tenement called **Samons** with the barns, edifices, buildings, lands, meadows and pastures thereto belonging. And **Fulling Mill lands**; about 20 acres

- one half of the rest of his messuages, lands and tenements in Wrotham aforesaid and **Shipbourne** except those marked * below which were left to John his son although Katherine was to have the profits, etc. from them until John was twenty-four; the other half of these messuages, etc. was to go directly to John's two younger sons, William and Thomas but with Katherine receiving the profits until they were twenty-four. On Katherine's death each was to receive the other half of his inheritance.

to: John Miller, his son

- *the message or tenement and orchard now in the occupation of **William Curd**
- *five parcels of land adjoining called the **Upplands als Highlands**; about 16 acres
- *two parcels of meadow, one called **Roughaymeade near the Stone bridge**; about 1 acre; the other called **Fostersmeade** near Sharpes bridge between the river or brook there and the lands of **James Miller, gent**, in Roughay in Wrotham; about 1½ acres

on the death of Katherine, the message called Samons and the Fulling Mill lands

to: William Miller, his son:

- the message or tenement in which **Robert Couchman** lived with its barns, edifices, buildings, lands, meadows and pastures in **Shipbourne**; about 50 acres
- the message or tenement and two pieces of land in **Plaxtol** in the occupation of **Nicholas Harris**; about 3 acres

to: Thomas Miller, his son:

- the message or tenement called **Lynce** where **Richard Johnson** had lived with its barns, edifices and buildings and three parcels of adjoining land; about 10 acres
- three parcels of land called ?? , **Reed** and **Haughfield** near **Claygate Cross** in the occupation of **Thomas Ifield**; about 13 acres

this message and six parcels of land were in the **Borough of Wynfield** in Wrotham

John Milles of Hever

The will of John Milles of Hever (**PCC: Harvey 109**) was written by Thomas Leddall, a scriptor of many wills in the Hever area. See **Families & Transcripts** for wills of the Mills/Milles of Shipbourne, Tonbridge and Leigh.

Comparing this will with that of Ambrose Marten (see page 2.m.10), we see the wide spread of wealth which could be covered by the description “yeoman”. John Milles had a messuage, tenement and lands which his grandson, John Ashdowne, was to inherit after sharing it with his grandmother, John’s wife, until her death.

John Ashdowne was to pay the testator’s nephew ten pounds but, whilst he was sharing the land, etc. with his grandmother, it was definitely his responsibility to pay this legacy.

In contrast, Ambrose Marten, although having many debts, had land, etc. which could be sold to cover these and still leave enough to pay £100 to each of his two unmarried daughters and land which his wife was to have for the rest of her unmarried life and provide for his three sons.

1 In the name of God Amen. the thirtieth day
2 of October Anno domini 1638, in the fourteenth year of the reign of our
sovereign lord
3 king Charles, etc. I, John Milles of the parish of Hever¹¹¹ in the county of
Kent, **yeoman**,
4 being at this time not well in body but of good and perfect memory, praised
be god, do make
5 and declare this my last will and testament in manner and form following,
First: yielding my
6 soul to Almighty God and to Jesus Christ, my only saviour and redeemer, by
whose death and
7 passion I fully trust to have all my sins freely forgiven and to attain to the
joyful resurrec-
8 tion of eternal life committing my body to the earth in decent sort to be buried
in the church
9 yard of **Chiddingstone**. **Item:** I give to the poor people of Hever twenty
shillings to be

111 "Heaver"

10 distributed to them within three months next after my decease by mine
executrix. **Item:** I
11 give to **John Ashdowne, my grandchild**, one joined bedstead with featherbed
and ??
12 bolster with a blanket, one great joined chest, all which said goods ?? ??
??
13 **Item:** I give unto the said John, my bible. And my will is that my said
executrix shall have
14 care of all the before mentioned goods, except the bible, so long as she
remains my
15 widow. **Item:** I give unto **Anne Ashdowne, my grandchild**, one little joined
chest with
16 the pewter and linen therein. The residue of all my moveable goods
unbequeathed, cattell
17 and chattells whatsoever, my debts, legacies and funeral discharged, I give
and bequeath unto
18 **Dorothy, my loving wife** whom I do make the full and sole executrix of this my
last
19 will and testament. And I do appoint my loving cousin **Richard Kettle**,
supervisor hereof
20 to whom I give six shillings and eight pence over and above his charge taken
herein
21 to see this my last will performed.

22 This is the last will and testament of me the said John Milles made and
declared
23 the day and year aforesaid concerning the disposing of all my message,
tenement and
24 lands situated, lying and being in **Leigh** parish in the county aforesaid or
elsewhere. **Item:**
25 my will is that Dorothy, my said wife, shall have the one half of all the rents
and profits
26 from the said message, tenements and lands so long as she remain
unmarried and is my widow.
27 **Item:** I give, devise and will unto the aforesaid John Ashdowne, my
grandchild, his heirs
28 and assigns, forever, all my aforesaid message, tenement and lands, withall
and singular
29 th'appurtenances and household stuff therein, provided always upon
condition that he, the
30 said John Ashdowne, his heirs and assigns, shall pay out of my said tenement
and lands,
31 unto **John Haselden, my sister's son**, the sum of ten pounds of good and
lawful money
32 of England within two years next after my decease. And in default of
payment thereof

page 2:

33 that it shall and may be lawful to and for the said John Haselden to enter in
and
34 upon my said tenement and lands with th'appurtenances and the one half
profit thereof
35 to have, hold and enjoy until the said ten pounds be fully satisfied and paid
withall
36 arrearages, if any be, the said John Haselden not molesting my wife in her
said one half
37 part before willed her. In witness whereof, to this my present testament and
last will,
38 containing one sheet of paper, and this part of sheet, revoking all former and
other
39 wills, I, the said John Milles, have set my hand and seal the day and year
aforesaid.
40 John Milles. Read, sealed and declared to be the last will of the said John
Milles in the presence
41 of Richard Kettle, **John Tapsell**, his mark, **Thomas Leddall**, **scr.**

The Millis Families of Ightham

Millis is a name which also occurred in Seal and Kemsing but there is no obvious connection between the various families. **Tabott Mills** (i1397¹¹²) was buried on 21st October 1585. This name could be “Millis” but there is no other mention of Tabott and it is not even known if the person was a man or a woman.

Stephen Millis, Shoemaker & Ale-taster

On 18th November 1574 **Steven Millis** (i945) married **Joane Siflet** (i946)
On 22nd November 1610 "**Joane, wife of Steven Millis**" was buried.

These are the only two events recorded in the parish register for Stephen and his wife but “**Stephen Millis, shoemaker and ale-taster**” (CRI 1938, p.59), was mentioned a number of times in the Court Rolls (references to Stephen Mills and Stephen Milles have been taken as both referring to i945). From these it seems that there was a Stephen Millis/Mills/Milles resident in Ightham at least from 1586 to 1597 but no children were baptised during this period.

112 “i” indicates a reference in the Ightham database

- On 4th October 1586 it was recorded that "**Stephen Mills** has not removed the manure which he placed in the highway, to the serious inconvenience of the neighbourhood and of passers-by, as he was ordered to do, under penalty 3s 4d. The bailiff was ordered to distrain for the penalty of 3s 4d, which was forfeited and Mills was ordered to remove the manure within one month, under a further penalty of 6s 8d". (CRI 1937, p.198)
- On 27th April 1587 it was noted that "**Stephen Mills** has removed his manure as ordered" (CRI 1937, p.198)
- On 3rd October 1588 "**Stephen Milles** was elected to the office of taster of bread and ale for the coming year and was sworn to the execution of his office." (CRI 1938, p.35)
- **Stephen Mills** was one of the residents within the View of Frank-pledge in October 1597 who made default but was pardoned because he had not been sufficiently summoned to the Court. (CRI 1938, p.33)

The Family of William Millis

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M C	Died
i1100	<u>MILLIS, William</u> ----- 			Margaret Millis(m) i1101	1 6	20 Mar 1625
i1101	<u>Millis(m), Margaret</u> -----				1 6	2 Jun 1630
• i1102	<u>MILLIS, William</u> see page 2.m.136 for details of his marriages and children	6 May 1582			2 2	Nov 1647
• i1103	<u>MILLIS, Steven</u>	30 Apr 1584	17 Jun 1611	Judith Wright married at 27 i1125	1 1	28 Apr 1623
• i1104	<u>Millis, Anne</u>	22 May 1586			0 0	
• i1105	<u>MILLIS, Peter</u> see page 2.m.137 for details of his marriages and children	1 Jun 1589			2 8	14 Jan 1648
• i1537	<u>Millis, Alice</u>	19 Aug 1593	1 Sep 1611 ¹¹³	George SAWYER married at 18 i1536	1 4	9 Jul 1623
• i1107	<u>Millis, Margery</u>	9 May 1596			0 0	

If it was i1000 who died in 1625, he was in his late 60s and, if Margaret Millis, widow, buried in 1630 was his wife, she lived into her seventies.

¹¹³ married in Shipbourne where their first child was baptised in 1613 - see *sawyer.fmi*

William, his wife and his daughter Margery were each presented, separately, to the Court for hedge breaking. On 11th April 1589, William Milles was presented to the Court with a number of others as a "[common breaker and spoiler of the hedges of the lord around his common](#)". The wife of William Milles was presented to the Court on 5th April 1592. - see [Busby and Colvyn in More Families & Transcripts](#) for details.

On 16th October 1616, "[Margery Milesse, daughter of William Milesse, sen.](#)" was one of those fined five shillings for "[trespassing on the lord of this manor by beating down mast of trees growing on the common of the land, they not being tenants of the manor](#)". (CRI, 1937, p.209). In 1616, Margery, the daughter of i1100, would have been twenty and her brother, William, married in 1606, would have been William, junior. Thus "Milesse" seems to have been another variation of Millis.

In December 1614, **Stephen Mellis** and **Peter Mellis** took part in an "[assault and affray](#)" - see [Willard in More Families & Transcripts](#) for details. It is probable that Stephen was a different man from the one mentioned during the 1580s and 1590s; the man who married in 1574 would have been in his mid-sixties by 1614. However William, i1100, had a sons Steven (i1103) and Peter (i1105) who would have been 30 and 25 in 1614. It could have been they who participated in the affray.

A Steven Millis married Judith Wright in 1611 when William's son would have been twenty-seven. There was also the burial of Steven Millis on 28th April 1623. William's son is taken as the man who both married in 1611 and died in 1623. No children were recorded.

William Millis, junior

William, i1102, is assumed to have married twice since a marriage to Alice Tyll is recorded but "[Joane, wife of William Millis](#)" was buried in 1640 and a William Millis in 1647. If the burial refers to this William, he died aged 65. There was seven years between the baptisms of his two children so that Alice, his first wife, probably died during that period with William marrying Joan sometime before the John was born. No father was given for John Millis, baptised 10 July 1614, but Peter, the only other Millis known to be having children at this time, had a son baptised 4 September 1614.

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M C	Died
i1102	<u>MILLIS, William</u> -----	6 May 1582			2 2	Nov 1647
	<i>Marriage 1</i>		26 Oct 1606	Alice Tyll married at 23	1 1	
i1108	<u>Tyll, Alice</u> -----			i1108	1 1	
• i1111	<u>Millis, Elizabeth</u>	13 Sep 1607	11 Nov 1632	Thomas BRIGHT married at 25	1 4	
				i1132		
			see Bright in More Families & Transcripts for their children			
	<i>Marriage 2</i>			Joane Millis(m) i1137	1 1	
i1137	<u>Millis(m), Joan</u> -----				1 1	26 Dec 1640
• i1112	<u>MILLIS, John</u>	10 Jul 1614			0 0	

The Family of Peter Millis

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
i1105	<u>MILLIS, Peter</u> -----	1 Jun 1589			2	8	14 Jan 1648
	<i>Marriage 1</i>		4 Sep 1612	Margaret Chownings married at 23	1	4	
				i1109			
i1109	<u>Chownings, Margaret</u> -----				1	4	24 Dec 1622
				died 2 months after the baptism of i1116			
•	i1113 <u>Millis, Bridget</u>	26 Dec 1612			0	0	
				baptised less than 4 months after marriage			
•	i1114 <u>MILLIS, John</u>	4 Sep 1614			0	0	
•	i1115 <u>Millis, Mary</u>	31 May 1618			0	0	
•	i1116 <u>Millis, Margaret</u>	30 Oct 1622			0	0	27 Nov 1624
	<i>Marriage 2</i>		27 Oct 1623	Sarah Winter i1110	1	4	
i1110	<u>Winter, Sarah</u> -----	23 Jun 1605			1	4	
				married at 18 see Winter in More Families & Transcripts			
•	i1117 <u>MILLIS, William</u>	12 Apr 1629			0	0	
				baptised six years after marriage			
•	i1118 <u>Millis, Judith</u>	9 Feb 1634			0	0	
•	i1123 <u>MILLIS, John</u>	8 Oct 1637			0	0	
				"son of Peter Millis and Sara"			
•	i1124 <u>MILLIS, Thomas</u>	27 Feb 1641			0	0	
				"son of Peter Millis and Sara"			

The Other Stevens

There were two Stevens having children in the late 1630s but fortunately, at this time, the name of the mother as well as the father were given.

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M C	Died
i1119	<u>MILLIS, Steven</u> ----- 		25 Oct 1635	Anne Cary i1120	2 3	3 Jun 1648
i1120	<u>Cary, Anne</u> -----	17 Feb 1616		married at 20 - see Cary in More Families & Transcripts	1 2	1 Sep 1648
• i1121	<u>MILLIS, William</u>	29 Jan 1637			0 0	7 Apr 1637
• i1122	<u>MILLIS, Steven</u>	8 Jun 1638		"son of Steven Millis and Anne"	0 0	
i1126	<u>MILLIS, Steven</u> -----			Margaret Millis(m) i1127	1 1	
• i1128	<u>MILLIS, Steven</u>	22 Jun 1638		"son of Steven Millis and Margaret"	0 0	

Elizabeth (i1131), daughter of **Thomas and Elizabeth Millis**, was baptised on 25th October 1640.

The Millis Families of Seal

Millis is a name which also occurred in Ightham and Kemsing but there is no obvious connection between the various families. "Mylles" could be a variation of "Millis".

John Mylles (#1089¹¹⁴) had a daughter, **Sara** (#1091), baptised on 25th September 1580. This was an isolated event and there is no mention of Millis again until 1637.

Both the families below were listed in the **Knole MS of 1648** - John for Chart and Stephen for Fuller Street and Chart

114 # indicates a reference in the Seal database

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
#2463	<u>MILLIS, John</u> -----		24 Sep 1637	Margaret Bird	1	5	
• #2467	<u>MILLIS, John</u>	17 May 1640			0	0	
• #2468	<u>MILLIS, Stephen</u>	27 Dec 1641			0	0	
• #2469	<u>Millis, Anne</u>	2 Jan 1644			0	0	15 Sep 1646
• #2470	<u>MILLIS, William</u>	6 Jul 1645			0	0	
• #2471	<u>MILLIS, Thomas</u>	10 Oct 1647			0	0	
#2464	<u>MILLIS, Stephen</u> -----		26 Jan 1643	Mildred Collyns	1	1	
• #2465	<u>Millis, Ann</u>	26 Dec 1646			0	0	
		daughter of "Stephen and Mildred"					

But “ -- wife of Stephen Millis was buried on 9th April 1644. Was there another Stephen Millis whose wife died in 1644? Or did Mildred Collyns die in 1644 and #2464 marry another woman called Mildred?

Rowland Millis of Kemsing

Millis is a name which also occurred in Ightham and Kemsing but there is no obvious connection between the various families.

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
k196 ¹¹⁵	<u>MILLIS, Rowland</u> -----			Margaret Millis(m) k197	1	6	20 Jun 1656
• k198	<u>MILLIS, William</u>	6 Sep 1629			0	0	
• k199	<u>Millis, Sara</u>	17 Apr 1631			0	0	
• k200	<u>Millis, Margaret</u>	3 Mar 1633			0	0	
• k201	<u>Millis, Anne</u>	19 Dec 1634			0	0	
• k203	<u>Millis, Susanna</u>				0	0	16 Jan 1638
• k202	<u>Millis, Francis</u>	20 Jun 1641			0	0	

115 "k" indicates a reference in the Kemsing database

The Milloms of Kemsing

Milloms is an unusual name not met with elsewhere

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M C	Died
k566 ¹¹⁶	<u>MILLOMS, John</u> -----			Dina Milloms(m) k567	1 6	
• k568	<u>Milloms, Ann</u>	May 1633				0 0
• k569	<u>Milloms, Francis</u>	13 Dec 1635				0 0
• k570	<u>Milloms, Dina</u>	22 Oct 1637				0 0
• k571	<u>MILLOMS, Thomas</u>	5 Jan 1640				0 0
• k572	<u>Milloms, Martha</u>	17 Oct 1641				0 0
• k573	<u>MILLOMS, Edward</u>	9 Feb 1644				0 0

116 "k" indicates a reference in the Kemsing database

Morris of Ightham

William Morris (i1398¹¹⁷) was buried on 8th November 1585.

Thomas Morris (i1400) and his wife **Margaret** (i1401), whose name was given at the baptisms of Elizabeth and Susan, had four children:

- **John** i1402 baptised 18 Apr 1630
- **Benjamin** i1403 7 Apr 1633
- **Elizabeth** i1404 7 Dec 1636
- **Susan** i1405 24 Mar 1640

117 "i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database

Samuel Motte of Ightham

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
i2400 ¹¹⁸	<u>MOTTE, Samuel</u> -----				1	4	4 May 1653
• i2402	<u>MOTTE, Thomas</u>	7 Oct 1631	twin		0	0	20 Oct 1631
• i2403	<u>Motte, Anne</u>	7 Oct 1631	twin		0	0	18 Oct 1631
• i2404	<u>Motte, Anne</u>	30 Sep 1632			0	0	15 Nov 1634
• i2405	<u>MOTTE, Thomas</u>				0	0	13 Nov 1634

The parish register records that Samuel died on 2nd May, two days before his burial.

None of Samuel's children survived. Anne was born less than a year after the baptism of the twins and died when she was two. No baptism was recorded for Thomas but, unless he was an older child born before the twins, he could, at the most, have been only a few weeks old when he died.

118 "i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database

The Moyses of Penshurst and Chiddingstone

A large number of Moyses wills were proved at Rochester but only the three from Penshurst which were proved at the PCC and two from Chiddingstone proved at the Deanery of Shoreham have been investigated

John Moyses	p245 ¹¹⁹	19 Feb 1597/8	Penshurst	PCC: Lewyn 31
William Moyses ¹²⁰	p211	23 May 1610	Penshurst	PCC: Capell 121; Prob 10/308 page m.157
Bartholomew Moyses/Moses		5 Aug 1611	Chiddingstone	CKS: Prs/w/11/14 page m.189
Henry Moyses	p213	13 Mar 1620/1	Penshurst	PCC: Dale 32 page m.171
Mary Moyses	p277	2 Sep 1629	Penshurst	CKS: Prs/w/11/30 page m.175
George Moyses/Moses		25 Apr 1636	Chiddingstone	CKS: Prs/w/11/38 page m.202
John Moyses	p162	12 May 1639	Penshurst	CKS: Prs/w/11/44 page m.180

Richard Moyses 29 May 1635 Chiddingstone PCC: Sadler 59
Richard's will has not been investigated but the witnesses were William Tuner and Agnes Hawkins and John Pullinger who made his mark.

¹¹⁹ "p" indicates a reference in the Penshurst database

¹²⁰ of Swayland in Penshurst

John Moyse, senior, was buried on 21st February 1597/8; his will, which was not written by a Hooper, has not been investigated; he could have been the John Moyse who had children between 1566 and 1574 - see page 2.m.168.

The wills of William and Bartholomew were both written by Nicholas Hooper, curate of Shipbourne, who wrote a large number of wills between 1574 and 1618. Both wills are decorated in a similar way and some of the phrases in the preamble appear with exactly the same wording in both wills and these are indicated in the transcripts.

Henry's will was written, on 13th March 1620/1, by Thomas Leddall who, nineteen years later, on 12th May 1639, wrote the will of John Moyse. Leddall wrote wills between 1611 and 1643 mainly for people in Penshurst (the parish in which he was living at his death in 1645) and Chiddingstone

Neither the wills nor the parish records give any hint as to the relationship between the Moyses of Penshurst and those of Chiddingstone.

*The **Moyses** of Penshurst*

A large number of Moyses were recorded in the Penshurst parish register but many families cannot be related to each other. On 9th February 1648 Ann Moyses was buried, a chrisom son of Ann Moyses having been buried on 3rd February. Ann's husband is not given in the parish register and it is not known how she was related to the other Moyses.

An Indenture Regarding Land at Swayne

In 1555, William Moyses (p880), yeoman, claimed that “a certain parcel of land lying at Swayne within the parish of Penshurst, now in the occupation and possession of **John Walford, yeoman**”, was a “parcel of his freeland”. The indenture (CKS: U1000/6/T12) recording this dispute over the “right title and interest of” this parcel of land was witnessed by **William Cowdrey, Henry Collen, Edward Woodgate and John Jessop.**

In his will of 1550, Olyver Godfrey, parson of Penshurst, mentions the a rent he had bought of lands of William Moyse called Swaynlands - see [Olyver Godfrey in More Families & Transcripts](#). Swayne or Swaynlands is not mentioned again by the Moyses.

Murder in Penshurst

On 19th April 1595 **Oliver and Andrew Moyse** were two of the jury at an inquisition held at Penshurst before **John Walker, coroner**, on the body of **Edward Thomas** of Penshurst, gent., **Hugh Warbleton**, of Penshurst, gent. having been indicted for his murder. The jury found that Warbleton had, on 18th April at Penshurst Green, attacked Thomas with a rapier (3s 4d) and ran him through the left eye inflicting a wound from which he died 12 hours later. The verdict was, therefore, guilty of murder but Warbleton was allowed benefit of clergy.¹²¹

Other members of the jury were William Luck, Gabriel Bere, Henry Daye, Nicholas Hollomby and John Saxtyn. William Luck could have been either the William Luck (p171) who was buried in 1596 or his son (p188) who married in 1594 (see

121 Cockburn (Eliz); 2253

Luck in Families & Transcripts). None of the others have been mentioned elsewhere.

William Moyse, yeoman and wheelwright

The William whose will was written in the spring of 1610 is likely to have been the son of the William above. He did not die until November 1613, being buried on 24th November with the will being proved on 1st December. It is a long will consisting of ten pages each signed by William; it has the distinctive marks of Nicholas Hooper at the top and end and the introductory phrases "The residue" and "This is the last will" are also decorated. Only the first three and the last page have been transcribed.

Although he is described in his will as a yeoman, from the tools and stock he mentions in his will he seems to have been a wheelwright. These are given in the following table which includes many unidentified items:

rypaxe, carfeaxe, topaxe	types of axes?
chisels, two new planes and an adze	an adze is a tool for cutting wood
wimbles and augers	a wimble is an instrument for boring holes turned by a handle and an auger another carpenter's boring tool
corn wain and shodwheels with the round and lures thereto belonging	a wain is a wagon
newcourt shaft, the best plough with wheels, share, counter, . . . three yokes, viz. a bolt yoke, a hook yoke and a mebyoke?, and two tights? and two clefts? for plough beams.	"tight" (or "fight") appears here and in the next two bequests
my posts of ewe being about my mansion house at Swayland; also two clefts for ploughbeams and a pair of chowls that be now ringed?, a boltyoke and a tight and two pieces of timber to make a wain lie in the new wainhouse.	yew posts?
my great chowles, my wood wain with ??, ewe and lynces? thereto belonging and a nobyoke, a boltyoke and a tight	

The work of a wheelwright is briefly described in **Chapter 18 of the History of Sevenoaks**. William may have been a wheelwright but he was certainly wealthy with a mansion house which seems to have been divided between two of his sons for:

William was to receive:

- a bedstead, table and forms in the parlour, my furnace, cheese press and weights thereto belonging, . . . and kneedtrough, powdering? trough and all the glass, wainscot, benches, shelves and stallage standing and being in any the rooms? and part of the house hereafter to him given.

and Edward:

- my table and form in the hall, my great chest in the chamber where I lie, my cupboard in the hall, a Cheese press with weights thereunto and my shopboard withall the glass, wainscot, benches and shelves being in the part of my mansion house hereafter to him given.

William Moyse's Family

William seems to have divided his mansion house between William and Edward, his two eldest sons by his second marriage. But these were just two of his eleven children surviving when he wrote his will. William had ten children by his first wife Margaret and eight by his second wife Susan. Some of the missing seven are known to have died but those not mentioned for whom no burial is recorded are indicated, in the tree below, by "??" for burial date.

Since Elkana is an unusual name, it is probable that the Elkana having children between 1597 and 1609 was William's second son with Bridget, William's youngest daughter, being younger than her eldest three nieces. A William Moyse, weaver, and an Edward Moyse had children in Penshurst between 1619 and 1634; these could have been William's sons born in 1588 (p224¹²²) and 1591 (p226) who would both have been twenty-nine when their first child was born - see page m.170 for details.

122 "p" indicates a reference in the Penshurst database

			p212	-	p211	-	p223		
<i>will:</i>			Margaret		William		Susan		
<i>bur:</i>			4 Feb 1587		23 May 1610				
					24 Nov 1613		-----		
	p213	p214	p215		p217	p315	p218	p220	
	Henry	Josias	Mary		Joseph	Joseph	Phenema	Anna	
<i>bap:</i>	1 Jan 1567	8 Nov 1571	15 Nov 1573		28 Jan 1579		4 Feb 1582	9 Jan 1587	
<i>bur:</i>			??		29 Jan 1579	21 Feb 1581			
	p158		p216				p219		
	Elkana		Michael ¹²³				Elizabeth		
<i>bap:</i>	31 Jul 1569		11 Dec 1575				19 Jul 1584		
	see next page								
	p224	p225	p226		p227	p228	p229	p230	p231
	William	Joseph	Edward		Thomas	Thamar	Jane	Robert	Bridget
<i>bap:</i>	5 Apr 1588	26 Oct 1589	5 Apr 1591		3 Sep 1592	3 Feb 1594	19 Oct 1595	26 Jun 1597	8 Nov 1601
<i>bur:</i>		27 Mar 1591			??		??	??	12 May 1639 ¹²⁴

123 could have been the Michael Moyse who had a son Thomas (x222) baptised on 2nd April 1609

124 The Bridget Moyse buried on 12th May 1639 could have been William's daughter

			p158 Elkana - 18 Jul 1626			
<i>bur:</i>	-----					
	p232 Margaret	p233 Elizabeth	p160 Jane	p161 Charles -	p234 Elkana	p235 Elizabeth
<i>bap:</i>	15 May 1597	28 Oct 1599	17 May 1601	28 Aug 1603	29 May 1607	18 Jun 1609
<i>bur:</i>		2 Jul 1619		25 May 1647	18 Jul 1626	2 Jul 1619

				p266 Giles	 a chrisom	
<i>bap:</i>				29 Jun 1630		
<i>bur:</i>				12 Apr 1631	30 Mar 1633	

On 26th June 1599 a William Moyse witnessed the will of Nicholas Reade of Speldhurst which adjoins the parish of Penshurst. This was when p211's family was nearing its completion with William approaching sixty. Thus the witness to this will could have been the wheelwright.

The burial of a chrisom child was recorded for Charles Moyse in 1633. Chrisom children are described in [Chapter 8 \(Elizabethan Times\) in the History of Sevenoaks](#).

Bequests to his Children

Although not all of that part of William's will concerning his land, etc. has been transcribed, the general items given to his children and the land given to his three eldest sons at the beginning of the second part of his will are given in the following table:

Henry	$\frac{25}{40}^1$	- two parcels of land (7 acres); an acre and a yard of meadow - a pair of canvas sheets
Elkana	>40	- the messuage or tenement in which he lived with the barn, edifice, a close, garden, orchard and backside (1 acre) - a parcel of land (5 acres)
Josias	38	- a parcel of land (3 acres)
Michael	34	- a bedstead and all the other moveables in the house given to him given; - some posts, pieces of timber, etc.

Phenema	28	£10 -	within two months of his decease a pair of canvas sheets
Elizabeth	25	£5	within one month of his decease
Anna	23	£13 6s 8d - -	within one month of his decease a flockbed and a woollen shawl a pair of canvas sheets and a pillowbere
William	22	- -	all those parcels of moveable goods in that part of the house given to him; various tools and stock
Edward	19	- -	a wood wain and some timber, etc. various pieces of furniture, etc. in that part of the mansion house given to him
Thamar	16	£13 6s 8d	at age of 21 or on marriage
Bridget	8	£13 6s 8d	at age of 21 or on marriage

Nicholas Hooper's
mark

- 1 In¹²⁶ the name of god Amen. The three and twentieth day of May in the
year
2 of our Lord God one thousand, Six hundredth and Ten, and in the Eight
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 Three and fortieth. I, William Moyse of
Swayland within
5 the parish of Penshurst in the county of Kent, **yeoman**, being¹²⁷ sickly and
weak in body and subject

126 decorated "I"

127 "beeing", "mee", etc. throughout

6 to infirmities, knowing assuredly that I shall change this life but the time
thereof being ?? ??
7 and willing to set in order that small portion that God hath lent me here in
this world (having many children)
8 that no contention fall out about the same after my decease, and being of
sound and perfect memory (thanks
9 therefore be given to Almighty God). Therefore I do ordain and make this
my present testament
10 and last will in manner and form following¹²⁸. And¹²⁹ **First and principally I
give, commend and bequeath**
11 **my Soul into the hands of Almighty God, trusting by an assured faith
which I have in the merits, precious**
12 **death and blood shedding¹³⁰ of his dear and only son Jesus Christ, that the
same shalbe presented pure and**
13 **without spot before the throne of his majesty. And my body to the earth
from whence it came,**

128 "folowing"

129 those phrases which are repeated exactly in the will of Bartholomew Mose are indicated **thus**

130 "bludshedding"

14 to be buried in the churchyard of Penshurst aforesaid, in sure and certain
hope of a joyful resurrection

15 to eternal life. **Item:** I will to be distributed among the poor of Penshurst
aforesaid resorting to my

16 burial 6s 8d. **Item:** I give and bequeath to **William Moyse, my son**, all
those parcels of moveable goods

17 hereafter named standing in the part of the house hereafter to him given,
that is to say, a Bedstead, Table and forms

18 in the parlour, my furnace, Cheese press and weights thereto belonging, B-
-B-ting --tch and kneedtrough,

19 powdering? trough and all the glass, wainscot, benches, shelves and
Stallage standing and being in any the

20 rooms? and part of the house hereafter to him given. Also I give to the said
William, my son, my

21 Rypaxe, carfeaxe, Topaxe and all my chisels, two new planes and an Adze,
all my wimbles and Augers,

22 my hatchet, a drawing knife, a hand saw, Tenant saw and a grafting saw,
my two hammers.

23 Also my Corn wain and shodwheels with the round and luires thereto
belonging, one court?

24 and a newcourt shaft, the best plough with wheels, share, counter, ??,
three yokes, viz. a bolt yoke, a hook yoke and a nob yoke, and two

25 tights¹³¹ and two clefts? for plough beams. **Item:** I give and bequeath to
26 **Michael Moyse, my son**, a bedstead and all other my moveables being
in the house hereafter within my will to him given. Also all my Posts of
Ewe being about my mansion
27 house at Swayland; also two clefts for plough beams and a pair of chowls
that be now ringed?, a
28 boltyoke and a tight and two pieces of timber to make a wain lie in the
new wainhouse. **Item:**
29 I give and bequeath to **Edward Moyse, my son**, one of my courts¹³², my
great chowles, my wood wain with ??, ewe and
30 lynces? thereto belonging and a nobyoke, a bolt yoke a tight, my table and
form in the hall, my great chest
31 in the chamber where I lie, my Cupboard the hall, a Cheese press with
weights thereunto and my
32 shopboard withall the Glass, wainscot, benches and shelves being in the
part of my mansion house hereafter
33 to him given. **Item:** I give and bequeath to **my daughter, Elizabeth**, the
sum of five pounds of lawful

131 when this word appears later it could be "fight"

132 court cupboard?

34 money to be paid to her within one month next after my decease. **Item:** I
give and bequeath to **Anna**
35 **Moyses, my daughter**, the sum of Thirteen pounds, Six shillings and eight
pence of like money to be paid
36 to her within one month next after my decease. **Item:** I give and bequeath
to **Phenema, my daughter**,
37 the sum of ten pounds of lawful money to be paid to her within two months
next after my decease.
38 **Item:** I give unto **Thamer and Bridgett, my daughters**, to either of them,
thirteen pounds, six shillings
39 and eight pence a piece of lawful money to be paid to them, and either of
them, at their several age and ages of 21 years
40 or at the day, or several days, of their marriage, which shall first happen.
Also I give to the said Anna, my
41 daughter, a flockbed, one of them which my folks use to lie on, and also a
bolster, a blanket and a whittle¹³³.
42 Also I give to **Henry, my son**, and Phenema and Anna, my daughters, to
every of them a pair of canvas
43 Sheets. And to the said Anna one pillowbere. All which legacies I will
shalbe paid by my wife and Executrix
44 hereafter named.

133 a woollen shawl

45 The¹³⁴ residue of all my goods and Cattells, debts, leases and Chattels and
all other my moveable
46 goods whatsoever, I wholly, fully and with good effect, intent and purpose,
give and bequeath unto **Susan, my**
47 **wellbeloved wife**, which Susan, my wife, I make and ordain my whole and
sole Executrix of this my will
48 to see the same proved, my debts and legacies paid and my body honestly
and decently buried. And
49 I desire my good friend and neighbour, **Olyver Budgen**, to be Supervisor
and Overseer
50 of this my will, desiring him to be helping and assisting my said wife and
Executrix, as well in
51 the probation of this my will, as also in seeing to the performance of the
same according
52 to the true sense and meaning thereof, to which my said overseer I give, as
a token of my ??

134 decorated "T"

Nicholas Hooper's
mark

53 This is the last will¹³⁵ of me the said William Moyse made and declared
54 the day and year first above written concerning the order and disposition of
all my land, tenements and
55 hereditaments, situated, lying and being within the several parishes of
Penshurst aforesaid and in
56 **Bidborough** in the said county of Kent. And **first** I will, give and bequeath
unto **Henry**
57 **Moyse, mine eldest son**, all those two parcels of land called **Milfield** and
Farnecroft containing,
58 by estimation, seven acres, more or less, together lying and being at
Poundsbridge¹³⁶ within the
59 parish of Penshurst aforesaid. And also one acre of meadow by estimation,
parcel of my three acres
60 and a yard of meadow lying in **Swaylandsmead** which acre adjoining to an
acre of meadow of

135 decorated "T" with Hooper mark above the phrase

136 about 1.5 miles south east of Penshurst church

61 **Sir Thomas Smith, knight**, in the same meade, to have and to hold the said
two parcels and acre
62 of meadow withall and singular th'appurtenances unto the said Henry
Moyse, my said eldest son, his
63 heirs and assigns for ever. **Item:** I give and bequeath to **Elkana Moyse, my**
second son,
64 all that messuage or tenement wherein he now dwelleth with the barn and
edifice thereto belonging, one close
64 one garden, one orchard, one backside thereto adjoining, by estimation one
acre more
65 or less, together situated, lying and being at **Swayland**¹³⁷ in Penshurst
aforesaid. And also one parcel
66 of land called **Brushfield**, containing, by estimation, five acres more or less,
lying and being in
67 Penshurst aforesaid, to have and to hold all the said messuage or
tenement, barn, close, garden,
68 unto the said Elkana Moyse, my second son, his heirs and assigns, forever.
Item: I give and
69 bequeath to **Josias Moyse, my third son**, all that parcel of land called
Stockfield containing by estimation three

137 on modern maps, Swaylands (school) is about half a mile south east of Penshurst church and Old Swaylands nearly a mile in the same direction

70 acres whether more or less, lying and being in Penshurst aforesaid, to have
and to hold the said
71 parcel of land called Stockfield, withall and singular th'appurtenances,
unto the said Josias Moyse, my third son

last page (page 10):

- As before in this my will is set down. I will that (if there shall not fall out to be of the same
- four acres of meadow, by measure) my said sons, and every of them, to whom the said several acres are given
- shall want so much of every their acres catably¹³⁸ as shall want of four acres in the whole (any thing herein
- before mentioned to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding. In witness whereof to this my present last
- will and testament containing ten sheets of paper, I the said William Moyse have to every sheet
- subscribed my name and to this tenth and last sheet have subscribed my name and put my seal. And
- I do hereby revoke all former wills by me heretofore made and do publish and declare this to be my

138 "equitably"? - this at least is the meaning that each shall be the same amount short

- true and last will, yeven the day and year first above written.

Nicholas Hooper's
mark
with initials

by me William Moyse

Read, sealed, subscribed, published
and declared by the said William
Moyse as his true and last will, the
the day and year first above written
in the presence of

Anthony Combridge
Oliver Combridge
William Beecher and
Nicholas Hooper, sen. writer hereof

two letters **A C** made by
Anthony Combridge

William Moyse, senior

There was a William Moyse having children in Penshurst in the early 1560s; whilst this could have been the William who died in 1613, it is unlikely that p211 had five children older than Henry who was mentioned in his will. Also "Mary, daughter of William Moyse, senior" was baptised on 26th September 1569. Mary, baptised two months after Elkana, cannot have been the daughter of p211. It is possible that all these six children were those of William, senior :

p305 William, senior -					

p307	p308	p309	p310	p311	p312
Margaret	Bridget	Elizabeth	William	Richard	Mary
bap: 10 Mar 1560	31 May 1562	24 Jun 1564	9 Dec 1565	15 Sep 1566	26 Sep 1569

John Moyse, senior

		p245	John	-								
<i>will:</i>		19	Feb	1598								
<i>bur:</i>		21	Feb	1598								

	p300		p301		p302		p247					
		Jone		John		Elizabeth		George				
<i>bap:</i>	22	Dec	1566	11	Jan	1568	20	Mar	1570	26	May	1574

These children could have been those of John Moyse, senior, whose will has not been investigated.

Families Contemporary with the Wheelwright

Andrew, Nicholas and Thomas Moyse had children in Penshurst at the same time as the wheelright's first family. They could have been William's brothers.

	p267 Andrew -			p254 Nicholas -		

	p272	p269	p270	p271	p256	p257
	Andrew ¹³⁹	John	James	James	Nicholas	Edward
<i>bap:</i>		7 Oct 1571	4 Mar 1573	13 Feb 1575	4 Jun 1581	17 Mar 1583
<i>bur:</i>		12 Oct 1571	15 Mar 1573		30 Mar 1582	

	p236 Thomas -						
	10 Jul 1603						

	p238	p239	p240	p241	p242	p243	p244
	Sara	Thomas	Michael	Martha	William	Anna	Daniell
<i>bap:</i>	28 Feb 1574	9 Nov 1576	4 Oct 1579	1 Apr 1581	31 May 1584	15 Jan 1587	13 Jul 1598
<i>bur:</i>					13 Sep 1593		

The Wheelwright's Grandchildren

There were four Moyses - William, Edward, Thomas and Robert - having families between 1617 and 1634. William and Edward could have been the wheelwright's sons. Since William does not mention a Thomas or Robert in his will it has therefore been assumed that they died before William, that is as children and could not, therefore, have been the fathers of the families shown below.

<i>bap:</i>		p224 William - 5 Apr 1588 ¹⁴⁰			
	p261	p262	p263	p264	
	infant son	Stephen	Joseph	Anne	
<i>bap:</i>		31 Jan 1619	8 Jul 1621	16 May 1624	
<i>bur:</i>	31 Dec 1617			23 Oct 1626	

<i>bap:</i>		p226 Edward - 5 Apr 1591				
	p288	p289	p290	p291	p292	p293
	William	Edward	John	Walter	Robert	Ann
<i>bap:</i>	16 Jan 1621	15 Jun 1623	15 Oct 1626	?? Jul 1629	?? Jun 1632	28 Dec 1634
<i>bur:</i>				?? Jul 1629	?? Jun 1632	

The Children of Robert and Thomas

<i>bur:</i>	p314 Robert - 12 Mar 1644		p313 Thomas - Susan p297 18 Jan 1637 	
	-----		-----	
	p295 Clement	p296 Francis (son)	p298 William	p299 Thomas
<i>bap:</i>	8 Jun 1623	14 Mar 1625	7 Mar 1630	19 Feb 1632
<i>bur:</i>			17 Mar 1639	

Henry Moyse

"[Harry Moyse](#)" was buried on 16th March 1620/1; he could have been William Moyse's eldest son (x213) but no children were recorded for him in Penshurst. Only the preamble of his will has been transcribed:

"**First:** I bequeath my soul to Almighty god and to Jesus Christ, his only son, by whose death and passion I trust to be saved, committing my body to the earth and to be buried in the churchyard of Penshurst aforesaid. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto the poor of the parish of Penshurst ten shillings"

Mary Moyse of Penshurst

Mary Moyse (p277) was a most unusual woman. Although not married, she owned a tenement and land which she left to her three step-brothers, William and Richard Goldsmith (who was not yet twenty one) and John Humphrey, her youngest brother. She made her "father-in-law", Abraham Humphrey (presumably her step-father), her executor, her mother having married three times:

- 1 to ?? Moyse; daughter Mary who inherited the land from her father
- 2 to ?? Goldsmith; sons William and Richard, the latter born after 1608
- 3 to Abraham Humphrey; son John.

The parish registers for Penshurst enable some of the above gaps to be filled in. "[Marie, daughter of Andrew Moyse, deceased](#)" was baptised on 11th April 1608 and "[Mary Moyse, daughter of Andrew](#)" was buried in Penshurst on 11th September 1629 which fits in with her will dated 2nd September 1629.

Both these entries in the parish register look to refer to the testator of this will and this implies that Mary was only twenty-one when she died and that William Goldsmith, as well as his younger brother, could not have been twenty-one when

his step-sister died. Mary's father, Andrew, was buried on 21st December 1607, three and a half months before she was born. It appears that here, although Andrew's will has not survived, we have an example of a happy outcome of Andrew's supposed wishes which can be paraphrased from wills which have survived: "if my wife is with child and he/she lives to the age of twenty-one, I leave him/her my lands, etc."

The baptisms of her step-brothers were also recorded in the parish register and the burial of "[Elizabeth, wife of Abraham Humphrey](#)" on 25th January 1629. Four children are recorded for Andrew Moyses between 1598 and 1608 but Marie is the only one recorded as being baptised in Penshurst. It is possible that Mary's mother was not the mother of the other three:

	p272 Andrew - Elizabeth p273			
<i>bur:</i>	21 Dec 1607			

	p274	p275	p276	p277
	Andrew	Anne	Andrew	Marie
<i>bap:</i>				11 Apr 1608
<i>bur:</i>	5 Mar 1598	11 Jun 1601	19 Jan 1603	

Details of the baptisms for the children of Mary's mother two other marriages match the details of Mary's will (marriages for this time have not survived):

	p278		p273		p282
<i>bur:</i>	Robert Goldsmith -		Elizabeth -		Abraham Humphrey
	18 May 1616				

	p279	p280	p281		p283
	William	Robert	Robert		John
<i>bap:</i>	7 Oct 1610	21 Feb 1613	11 Sep 1614		4 Apr 1619
<i>bur:</i>		??			

Mary's Bequests to her Step-Brothers

The land left by Mary to her step-brothers is given in the table below, the second column giving their age when Mary wrote her will.

William Goldsmith	19	parcel of land called Square Croft (four acres)
Robert Goldsmith	15	mansion house called Dallys with the barn, closes, orchards, gardens and all other the edifices thereto belonging
John Humphrey	1	parcel of land called Keyre Fields (eight acres)

1 In the name of god Amen. The second day of September 1629, I, Mary
2 Moyse, of Penshurst in the county
3 of Kent, **single woman**, being in good and perfect remembrance, thanks be
4 given to Almighty god therefore, but
5 sick in body, do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner
6 and form following, That is to
7 say, **First** and principally I give and bequeath my soul unto Almighty god,
8 my maker, and to Jesus Christ,
9 my saviour and redeemer, trusting by his death and bloodshedding, to have
my sins washed away and my
body to the earth from whence it was taken, in sure and certain hope of
resurrection to eternal life by Jesus
Christ, my redeemer and Saviour. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto the poor
of the parish of Penshurst four
shillings to be distributed amongst them the day of my burial. The residue
of all my moveable goods
unbequeathed, I give and bequeath unto **Abraham Humphrey, my father-
in-law**, whom I do make my

10 whole and sole executor of this my last will and testament. And I do
nominate and appoint my trusty and
11 wellbeloved friend **Richard Silcocke of Penshurst, yeoman**, to be supervisor
and overseer of this my last
12 will and testament. This is the last will of me, the said Mary Moyse, made
and declared the day and year
13 above written concerning the disposing of my tenement and land, situated,
lying and being in Penshurst
14 aforesaid. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **Robert Goldsmith, my brother**,
my mansion house called
15 **Dalys** with the barn, closes, orchards, gardens and all other the edifices
thereto belonging, to have, hold and
16 enjoy to him and his heirs for ever. **Item:** I give unto **William Goldsmith**,
my elder brother, one parcel
17 of land called **Square Croft** now divided into two sendalls containing by
estimation four acres, whether
18 more or less, abutting against **Hosier Lane** north and against the land of
Steven Moyse east south
19 and west. To have, hold and enjoy, to him the said William Goldsmith and
to his heirs for ever. **Item:** I
20 give and bequeath unto **John Humphrey, my youngest brother**, one parcel
of land called **Keyre Fields**

21 containing, by estimation, eight acres whether more or less, being divided
22 into five sendalls, that is to say,
23 lying to the king's highway leading from **Poundsbridge**¹⁴¹ to **Groombridge**,
24 west and to the lands
25 of **Edward Goldsmith** north and to the lands of **Richard Silcocke** east and
26 south. To have, hold
27 and to enjoy to him the said John Humphrey and to his heirs for ever under
28 form and condition hereafter
29 expressed, that is to say that he, the said John Humphrey, or his heirs or
30 assigns, shall pay, or cause to be
31 paid, unto Robert Goldsmith aforesaid the full and whole some of ten
32 pounds of lawful english money
33 when he shall accomplish his full age of one and twenty years, at or in the
34 mansion house of me, the said
35 Mary Moyse called Dallys before given unto him the said Robert Goldsmith.
36 And if it shall happen the
37 said ten pounds, or any part or parcel thereof, to be behind or unpaid at the
38 time appointed in which it ought
39 to be paid, that then, and at any time after it shall and maybe lawful to and
40 for him, the said Robert Goldsmith,

141 about 1.5 miles south east of Penshurst church

31 or his assigns, to enter in and upon the said land called Keyre Fields and
the same to hold, occupy and enjoy until
32 the ten pounds, and every part and parcel thereof, to be fully satisfied and
paid. Provided always, and my will
33 and mind is that the said Abraham Humphrey, my father-in-law, shall
have, hold and enjoy all my
34 whole tenement and lands until such time as the said William Goldsmith,
my brother, shall accomplish
35 his full age of one and twenty years.

Read, sealed and published
in the presence of us

Richard Silcocke

William Beecher¹⁴²

Henry Carnell¹⁴³

142

This could have been the William Beecher who died in 1638 (x118) - see [Ann Beecher in More Families & Transcripts](#)

143

The will of Henry Carnell of Wrotham has survived and the signature here is the same as on his own will (see [Carnell](#)). Henry Carnell was also a witness to the will of Nicholas Seyliard of Ightham, written in April 1632 - see [Seyliards of Ightham](#). Again the signature is the same but the writing of Nicholas Seyliard's will looks to be in a different hand from that of Mary Moyses.

John Moyse, weaver

John Moyse, the testator of 1639, can be fitted into a family tree headed by Reynold Moyse who was buried in 1614:

		p248 Reynold -															
<i>bur:</i>		3 Apr 1614															
-----		-----		-----		-----		-----		-----		-----		-----		-----	
	p250	p162	p163	p251	p252	p253											
	William	John -	Phillipa	Joseph	William	Elizabeth											
<i>bap:</i>	20 Apr 1576	25 Aug 1577		2 Feb 1583	11 Jul 1585	21 Nov 1588											
<i>will:</i>		12 May 1639															
<i>bur:</i>	16 May 1576	15 May 1639		25 May 1614													
-----		-----		-----		-----		-----		-----		-----		-----		-----	
	p258	p164	p165	p166	p315	p303	p167	p168									
	Anonymous	Andrew	James	Elizabeth - John	Crayford	Phillipa	John	Dorothy									
<i>bap:</i>		6 Jan 1603	29 Jul 1604	18 Aug 1605	d		15 Mar 1612	3 Oct 1613									
<i>bur:</i>	25 Oct 1601	19 Jan 1603	5 Aug 1604			2 Aug 1633	27 Mar 1612	1 Jul 1633									
				x316 Moses													

Phillipa, wife of John, was buried on 25th May 1614; she could have died as a result of Dorothy's birth or in the early stages of a subsequent pregnancy. Phillipa, son of John, was buried on 2nd August 1633, a month after Dorothy, son of John. Thus both wife and daughter could fit into this family.

John seems to have been particularly unfortunate with regard to his children, only Elizabeth seeming to have outlived. Here the parish register, recording the burials of John's children, and his will mentioning only Elizabeth agree. When he died in

1639, John's wife was Joan (p304) so that, if this interpretation is correct, he married again after Phillipa's death.

The Will of John Moyse of Penshurst

written 12th May 1639

transcript from original

1 In the name of god Amen. The twelfth day of May Ao dm 1639 in the
fifteenth
2 year of the reign of our sovereign Lord king Charles, etc. I, John Moyse of
Penshurst
3 in the county of Kent, **weaver**, being at this time weak of body but of good
and perfect
4 remembrance (praised be God) do make and declare this my last will and
testament in manner and
5 form following: **First:** resting my soul to Almighty god and to Jesus Christ,
my saviour and redeemer,
6 by whose death and passion I fully trust to have all my sins freely forgiven
and to attain to the joyful
7 resurrection of eternal life, committing my body to the earth in decent sort
to be buried in the churchyard

8 of Penshurst. **Item:** I will that **Joane, my wife**, shall have the use of one
new blanket during
9 her life time and after her decease to remain to **Elizabeth, my daughter**,
and her assigns. **Item:**
10 I give unto the said Elizabeth, my daughter, my two great brass pans. The
rest of all my
11 household stuff, I give the one half of it to Joane, my wife, and the other
half to **Elizabeth**
12 **Crayford, my daughter**, and her assigns to be¹⁴⁴ equally divided. And the
residue of all my
13 moveable goods, cattell and chattels, my debts and funeral discharged¹⁴⁵, I
give unto the said
14 Elizabeth, my daughter, whom I do make the full and sole executrix of this
my last will and
15 testament.

16 This is the last will and testament of me the said John Moyse made and
declared the

144 "bee" here and line 40, "mee" line 16, i.e. from here onwards.

145 "dischardged"

17 the day and year aforesaid concerning the disposing of all my part of
messuage, tenement and
18 lands situated, lying and being in Penshurst aforesaid; whereas I owe unto
Robert Curd of
18 **Speldhurst** thirteen pounds of lawful money. **Item:** my will is that **Edward**
19 **Goldsmith** of Penshurst and his assigns shall have the use and profit of two
parcels of land
20 called **Clasyerns and Perryfield** containing four acres, more or less,
belonging to
21 my said messuage aforesaid for and during the term of six years next after
the date of
22 this my last will, paying the thirteen pounds unto the said Robert Curd,
23 his executors or assigns and not otherwise. **Item:** my will is that Joane, my
wife,
24 shall have the use and profit of my part of messuage or tenement aforesaid
25 with the orchard, gardens and lands thereunto belonging (except the two
26 parcels aforesaid, for and during the term of her natural life, keeping
27 my said part of messuage well repaired and the fences and enclosures in
and about
28 the said lands well maintained. And after the decease of Joane, my wife,
29 I will and devise all the said part of messuage, tenement and lands unto
30 Elizabeth, my daughter, the now wife of **John Crayford**, during the term of
her

31 natural life, keeping my said part of messuage and tenement well repaired
as afore
32 said. And after the decease of the said Elizabeth, my daughter, I give,
devise
33 and will all the aforesaid part of messuage, tenement and land with
th'appurtenances
34 unto **Moses Crayford (the son of my said daughter Elizabeth)** his heirs and
35 assigns forever. Provided always that, if Elizabeth, my daughter, shall
36 refuse to prove this my last will within six weeks next after my decease¹⁴⁶,
37 then my will is Joane, my wife, shall have, hold and enjoy all the said
household
38 stuff, moveables, cattell and chattels given before to the said Elizabeth in
this my
39 last will and I give unto my said daughter twelve pence. And then my will
is that
40 Joane, my wife, shall be the full and sole executrix of this my last will and
testament.
41 In witness whereof to this my present testament and last will containing
one
42 part of sheet and this sheet of paper, I, the said John Moyse have set my
43 hand and seal the day and year aforesaid

146 it was proved on 20th June 1639

Sealed and declared
in the presence of
Edward Goldsmith
Edward Fay
Thomas Leddall

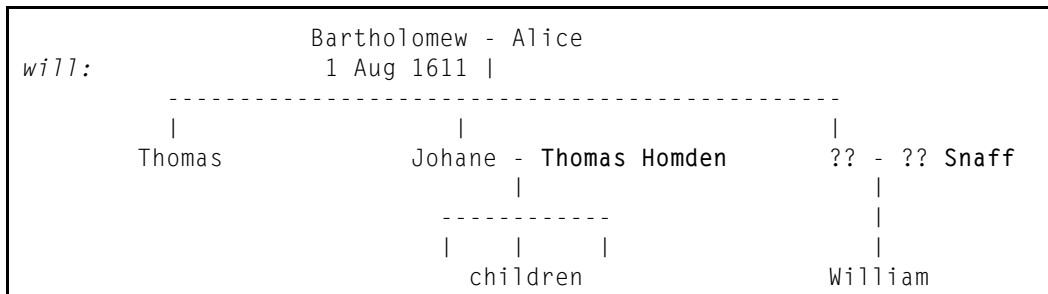
*The **Moyses** of Chiddingstone*

Their wills are the only source of information for the Chiddingstone Moyses. It is possible that George was Bartholomew's grandson but there is no evidence for this.

Bartholomew Moyse

Bartholomew Mose was a witness to the will of John Pigott of Chiddingstone written, also by Nicholas Hooper, on 7th December 1609.

From Bartholomew's will the following family tree can be assembled:



Arrangements for his widow, Alice, take up over three of the seven pages of Bartholomew's will. Bartholomew was her second husband and he could see possible problems arising regarding the properties "left by her other husband" but, if she raised these she was to "lose all the whole benefits of this my will".

First Bartholomew gave Alice outright:

5 pairs of sheets, one half "of the fine sort" and the rest "of the coarse sort", 2 pillows, 2 pillowcoats, 2 tablecloths, 6 table napkins
a kettle, a little Iron pot, a chafing dish
2 pewter platters, 2 pewter dishes, 2 salvers, 6 pewter spoons, a cruze?
2 brass candle sticks,
2 wooden dishes, 6 trenchers,
3 chests, a chair and a stool
a linen wheel, 10 lbs of the best tusham and 10 lbs of the coarser sort
3 milk truggs, a pail, 2 crocks
the profit of one stock of bees as long as there shall be any about the house, finding hives and provision for them
10s into her purse

She was also to have:

- the bedstead in the Blackloft of the house in which Bartholomew dwelt
- a featherbed and flockbed, 2 coverings and 3 blankets
- his "Almecs" cupboard

during the term of years of the lease of the house in which he dwelt "if she shall so long live and keep herself a widow" and these items were to be used in some part of that house. The part of the house where the bedstead was is definitely "Blackloft" - not back loft.

For the same time she was to have "the use and occupation" of the Blackloft of the house in which they were living at this time "with free coming and going to and fro . . . Also free liberty to bake, wash and do such other her necessary business in the said house, in and with the vessels, oven and other necessaries" in the house, the lease of which would belong, to his son Thomas. She was to use these items only at times when Thomas, "his heirs, executors or assigns" were not using them themselves.

She was also to have "liberty to hang and dry clothes, in any place about the house, and to have water there at her will and pleasure" and Thomas was to allow her "to sit by his and their fire in the hall of my said mansion house so long as they can agree together". If they could not agree Thomas was to provide "sufficient wood or fuel" for Alice to "take for her necessary burning in the said Blackloft".

Alice was also to "have the milk of one cow which she shall choose out of the flock of my said son . . . the same cow to be kept winter and summer upon the farm of the said house by my said son, . . . with his own milk kyne". Each year, if she pleased, Alice could change her cow for another one of Thomas's "the best she will

choose at her pleasure" but she was to "meddle not with the property of any of the same kyne, neither of their calves, but only with the milk".

Thomas was also to provide "yearly during the term and time of her natural life, one quarter of good wheat and one quarter of good oaten malt, sweet and clean, by such quantities as she shall request the same, and at such time and times as she shall request the same, giving reasonable warning thereof, so as she shall not request of the said wheat and malt above two bushels¹⁴⁷ in any one quarter of a year". He was also to pay her an annuity of £1 6s 8d (£0.33 per quarter).

Next comes a most unusual item: "I will and devise . . . that, in case my said wife shall happen to be sick, lame or impotent or otherwise (for comfort) she shall be minded to have one to accompany and assist her, that she shall have such a one as shall be of honest consideration".

If any contention arose between his wife and son about anything touching the will or there was any ambiguity or doubt about it, it was to be "discussed and ordered" by the overseers and if his wife sold or conveyed away any of the goods given to her only during her lifetime, then all the gifts to her concerning these goods became "utterly void and of none effect, to all intent and purposes".

147 a quarter is eight bushels, a bushel being a volume measure of eight gallons

Nicholas Hooper's
mark

1 In¹⁴⁸ the name of god Amen. The first day of August in the
2 year of our Lord God, One Thousand Six hundredth and Eleven, And in the
ninth
3 year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord James, by the grace of God, king of
England,
4 France and Ireland, defender of the faith, etc. And of Scotland the five and
fortieth.
5 I, Bartholomew Mose of Chiddingstone in the county of Kent, **yeoman**,
being¹⁴⁹
6 at the time of the making hereof in good and perfect health, as well of body
as of mind, thanks

148 decorated "I"

149 "beeing", "mee", etc., including "beefore", throughout and "besides"

7 therefore be given to Almighty God, notwithstanding aged, and thereby
put in mind of my last
8 end, knowing assuredly that I shall change this life, But the time thereof
being altogether
9 uncertain, and willing to set in order those transitory possessions which
God hath me steward
10 of here in this life, that no contention fall out about the same after my
decease. Therefore
11 I do ordain and make this my present testament and last will in manner
and form following¹⁵⁰:
12 **And¹⁵¹ First and principally, I give, commend and bequeath my Soul into
the hands of
13 Almighty God, who gave it, trusting by an assured faith which I have in the
mercies and
14 merits of his dear and only son Jesus Christ, my only Saviour and
Redeemer, that the same
15 shalbe presented pure and without spot before the throne of his majesty.
And my body**

150 "folowing" and also on line 27

151 those phrases which are repeated exactly in the will of Bartholomew Mose are indicated thus

16 to the earth to be buried in the churchyard of Chiddingstone aforesaid, in
sure and
17 certain hope of a joyful resurrection to life eternal. **Item:** I give and
bequeath to
18 **Alice, my wellbeloved wife**, five pairs of sheets, the one half of the fine sort
and
19 the other of the coarse sort, two pillows, two pillowcoats, One kettle, one
little Iron pot,
20 a Chafing dish, two pewter platters, two pewter dishes, two salvers two
brass candle
21 sticks, two wooden dishes, six trenchers, six pewter spoons, a Cruze?, two
tablecloths
22 six napkins, three chests, a chair and a stool which shalbe thought fit by
mine Overseers
23 hereafter named, a Linen wheel, ten pounds of the best tusham and 10
pounds of the Coarser,
24 Three milk truggs, a pail, 2 crocks¹⁵² and the profit of one Stock of Beez¹⁵² as
long as
25 there shalbe any about the house, finding heeves and provision for them
and 10s into her purse,

152 bees? with "heeves" on the next line being "hives"?

26 all which to be given and delivered to her presently after my decease. Also
I further
27 will that my said wife shall have only the occupation of these goods
following, that is to
28 say, of the Bedstead in the lackloft¹⁵³ of the house wherein I now dwell,
during
29 the term of years which I have in the lease therof (if she shall so long live
and keep herself a widow). Also of
30 that featherbed and flockbed, two Coverings and three blankets, which my
said Overseers
31 shall think fit, and of my Almecy Cupboard only during the term of her
widowhood aforesaid, and the
32 same to be used and occupied in the said Chamber, or in some part of the
same house.
33 Also I will that she, my said wife, shall have the use and occupation of the
said Blackloft
34 during the continuation of the same lease, if she shall so long live a widow,
with free coming
35 and going to and fro, the same. Also free liberty to bake, wash and do
36 such other her necessary business in the said house, in and with the
vessels, Oven other

153 definitely "Blackloft" (not backloft)

37 necessities, of **my son Thomas Mose, executor hereafter named**, during all
38 the term and time of her widowhood aforesaid, at such time and times as
he, my said son, his heirs, Executors
39 or assigns, shall not use the same them selves, without fraud or guile, and
liberty to hang,
40 and dry clothes, in any place about the house, and to have water there at
her will and pleasure.
41 **Also** I will that my said son and executor, his heirs, executors or assigns,
shall suffer
42 her, my said wife, to sit by his and their fire in the hall of my said mansion
house so long
43 as they can agree together. Otherwise I will that my said sons, his heirs,
executors
44 or assigns shall provide and lay in the close of the said mansion house
sufficient wood or
45 fuel¹⁵⁴, which my said wife, or her assigns, shall or may have and take for
her necessary
46 burning in the said Blackloft during only the term and time of her
widowhood aforesaid. **Also** my will
47 and meaning is that my said wife shall have the milk of one cow which she
shall choose

154 "fewell"

48 out of the flock of my said son, during only the term and time aforesaid, the
same cow
49 to be kept winter and summer upon the farm of the said house by my said
son, his
50 executors or assigns, with his own milk kyne and as well as his own milk
kyne. And I will that
51 at any year end, if she shall please, she, my said wife, shall change the said
cow and take
52 an other of the kyne of my said son, the best she will choose at her pleasure
in the roume? of the said
53 other cows, So that my said wife meddle not with the property of any of the
same kyne,
54 neither of their calves, but only with the milk as aforesaid. **Also** I will that
my said son and
55 executor, his heirs, executors or assigns, shall provide and give to her, my
said wife, yearly
56 during the term and time of her natural life, one quarter of good wheat and
one quarter of good
57 Oaten malt, sweet and clean, by such quantities as she shall request the
same, and at such
58 time and times as she shall request the same, giving reasonable warning
thereof, so as she shall

59 not request of the said wheat and malt above two bushels in any one
quarter of a year
60 during the time aforesaid. **As also** my will and meaning is that my said son
and executor,
61 his executors or assigns, shall pay and give my said wife yearly during the
term
62 and time of her natural life, the sum of twenty six shillings and eight pence
of lawful money,
63 yearly, quarterly to be paid, viz. at the feasts of Th'annunciation of the
blessed virgin Mary
64 the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist, Saint Michael Th'archangel and the
65 nativity of our lord Christ, by equal portions¹⁵⁵, or within ten days next after
every of
66 the same feasts. And the first payment thereof to be, and begin, at that
feast of the feasts
67 aforesaid which shall next come and be next after my decease. **And I will**
and
68 devise by this my will that, in case my said wife shall happen to be sick,
lame or impotent
69 or otherwise (for comfort) she shalbe minded to have one to accompany
and assist her, that

155 6s 8d per quarter

70 she shall have such a one as shalbe of honest consideration and shalbe
allowed, by mine
71 Overseers, or one of them. **Provided** always, that if any contention happen
to fall out
72 or be between my said wife and my said son and executor, his heirs,
executors or assigns,
73 either in the gift of the goods before specified or the choice of keeping of
the said cow
74 or about any other matter between them touching this my will, or any
ambiguity or
75 doubt in or about this my will, that all and every the same shalbe ??,
guided, decided
76 discussed and ordered by mine Overseers, or some or any of them. **And I**
further provide that
77 if my said wife, or any other for her, shall at any time during her said
natural life, sell or convey
78 away any the said goods or cow or kyne or any of the goods which are
given to her only during
79 life that then all gifts to her concerning the same goods so sold or conveyed
shalbe utterly void and
80 of none effect, to all intent and purposes. And that then, and at any time
after, it shall and may

81 be lawful unto my said son, his heirs and assigns, to enter in and upon all
and every the same
82 goods concerning which such sale or change shalbe and the same and
every of them shall have, hold,
83 possess and enjoy, to him, his heirs, executors and assigns, by virtue of this
my will (anything
84 herein before mentioned to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

Item: I give and
85 bequeath to **Johane, my daughter, wife of Thomas Homden**, the sum of
fifty pounds of
86 lawful money to be paid to her executors or assigns within one year next
after my
87 decease. **Item:** I give and bequeath to **William Snaff, my Grandchild**, the
sum
88 of ten pounds to be paid to him at his age of four and twenty years, if he be
89 then living. **Item:** I will there shalbe bestowed at my burial, or within one
month
90 after, among the poor of Chiddingstone aforesaid, ten shillings.

91 **The residue** of all my goods, cattells, debts, leases and chattels and all
92 other my moveable goods whatsoever, I wholly, fully and with good effect,
intent and purpose

93 give and bequeath to my loving son Thomas Mose, which Thomas Mose,
my
94 son, I make and ordain my whole and sole executor of this my will to see
the same
95 proved, my debts and legacies paid and my body honestly brought to the
earth. And
96 I desire my wellbeloved kinsmen and good friends **John Squire of Westfield**
in
97 the County of **Sussex**, yeoman, and **Roland Lamb of Edenbridge** in the said
98 county of Kent, yeoman, and **John Pigott, son of John Pigott**, to be
supervisors and overseers
99 of this my will, desiring them to take some pains in helping and assisting
my said son
100 and executor in the probation of this my will, and the execution thereof,
according to the
101 true sense and meaning thereof. To which mine overseers I give five
shillings
102 a piece as a remembrance of my goodwill, besides all such charge and
expenses as they,
103 and every or any of them, shall lay out about this my will. **Provided** always
104 that if the said Alice, my wife, shall claim, at any time, any more or other
benefice of

105 any my goods whatsoever, either by reason that the property of some of
them (left by her other
106 husband) is not altered or any otherwise howsoever, that then she shall
loose all the
107 whole benefit by this my will to her given (any thing herein before
mentioned to the contrary
108 in any wise notwithstanding. **Provided** also, and my meaning is, And I do
hereby
109 give full power and authority to my Overseers before named, or any of two,
or one,
110 of them, or any the assigns of any of them, to take bond of twenty pounds
of my
111 said son and executor, within one month after the day of my burial (if he be
112 not before married) with condition thereupon to be endowed that if he
happen to decease
113 before he be married, that his executors or administrators, whosoever, or
their executors
114 or assigns, shall well and truly give and pay among the children of my
daughter, Johane
115 the wife of Thomas Homden, the sum of ten pounds of lawful money to
116 be paid within one quarter of a year next after his such decease, the same
ten

117 pounds to be equally divided among so many of the same children of my
said daughter,
118 Johane, as shalbe then living, without all fraud or guile, according to my
true
119 meaning. And I do charge him, my said son, by virtue of this my will, to
enter into the same
120 bond. **In witness** whereof, to this my present last will, being seven sheets
of
121 paper, I, the said Bartholomew Mose, have to every sheet set my mark and
to this
122 seventh and last sheet have set my mark and ?? my seal. And I
123 do hereby revoke and make void all other wills by me formerly made and I
do
124 pronounce and declare this to be my true and last will, yeven the day and
year first
125 above written.

Nicholas Hooper's
mark
with initials

The mark ○ of Bartholomew
Mose

Read, Sealed and acknowledged to
be the true and last will of the said
Bartholomew Mose, the day and
year first above written in the presence
of me, Nicholas Hooper, writer hereof
and of **John Steven**
Edward Pullenger
Nicholas Hooper, sen., writer

the mark of John Steven
the mark of Edward
 Pullinger

George Moyse

When George died in 1636 he had two underage sons, William and Ralph, and he made his wife, Mary, his executrix.

At least from line 16 onwards, this will does not read smoothly. Although the writing is very legible, the will could have been written at the bedside as the dying man spoke it. The item at the end was possibly added by Henri Woodyn, one of the overseers, who perhaps wrote the will. It could have been said by George Moses after the will had been signed and sealed. If it was written by Woodyn, he could have started with "I" meaning the testator but by the end changed to "our hands".

The Will of George Moyse of Chiddingstone

written 25th April 1636; proved 11th May 1636

transcript from original

1 In the name of god Amen. The five and twenty day of April in the year of our Lord God one thousand six

2 hundreth and thirty and six and in the twelfth year of the reign of our
3 sovereign Lord Charles by the grace
4 of God of land, Scotland, France and Ireland king, defender of the faith, etc.
5 I, George Mose of the parish
6 of Chiddingstone in the county of Kent, **yeoman**, being at the present time
7 weak in body but of perfect memory, thanks and praises be
8 given to Almighty god for the same, and knowing that mortality is incident
9 unto every man and that death
10 is certain but the hour thereof uncertain and therefore minding to prepare
11 myself against that expected
12 time and to settle such effects and means where with it hath pleased God
13 in this world to bless withall, do make
14 and ordain this my present last will and testament in manner and form
15 following (that is to say)
16 **First** and principally I commend and commit my soul into the hands of
17 Almighty god, my maker, and of his
18 son Jesus Christ, my redeemer, by whose merits, death and passion I hope
19 to be saved and to enjoy
20 the kingdom of heaven prepared for the elect. **Item:** I will my body to the
21 earth whereof it was made,
22 to be decently buried at the discretion of my executor. **Item:** I give, will
23 and bequeath unto **my son**,

13 **William Mose**, my said son, thirty pounds of lawful money of England to be
paid him by my executor,
14 **Mary, my wife**, at the age of one and twenty years. **Item:** I give, will and
bequeath to my
15 **younger son, Ralph Mose**, my said son, thirty pounds of lawful money of
England to be paid
16 to him at the age of one and twenty years as aforesaid by my executor. If
any of my sons,
17 if it shall please god, shall die afore the said year then the other brother, I
freely will it
18 to the other if he being¹⁵⁶ then alive, the said sum of money, if he be then at
the age
19 of one and twenty years. The residue of other my goods, chattels,
household stuff and other
20 things whatsoever (my debts and funeral expenses discharged and the
legacies herein given
21 performed) I freely give, will and bequeath the same unto the foresaid
Mary, now my wife.
22 **Item:** I give, will and bequeath that if my executor, Mary, now my wife,
shall at

156 "hee beeing" and "hee bee" further along line and "bee" for the rest of the will but "be" above

23 anytime within these years afore mentioned marry to any other man, then
those portions
24 of money to be paid afore such time to my own sons and if it shall happen
25 that my two sons should die afore they come to the age of one and twenty
years of
26 age **Item:** I give, will and bequeath the said portions to be paid wholly to
my
27 executor, Mary, now my wife. And I hereby make and ordain the same
28 Mary, my wife, full and whole executor of this my last will and testament.
29 In witness where of I, the said George Mose, have here unto put my hand
and seal
30 the day and year first above written.

George Mose¹⁵⁷

Sealed and delivered
on the presence of me
the mark of **Ralph Farrington**

157 looks like a signature

Item: I will and bequeath for my overseers, that is to say,
Thomas Farrington, husbandman, and Henry Woodyn, tailor, of the parish
of **Sundridge** in the
county of Kent, these I will to be my overseers that they shall see the
money
put to the best use for my two sons if it happen to come to our hands¹⁵⁸.

Thomas Farrington

Henri Woodyn

158 This added item was written in the same hand as the rest of the will with the surname "Farrington" being exactly the sme for both Ralph and Thomas.

The Moyses of Shipbourne

There were a few isolated events in Shipbourne involving a member of the Moyse family but their connection with the Moyses from Penshurst and Chiddingstone is not known.

On 24th August 1630, **Robert Moyse** (\$1529¹⁵⁹) married **Agnes Boughtle** (\$1538); no children were recorded.

It should be noted that giving this Robert a reference in the Shipbourne database does not preclude him from being one of the Penshurst Moyses; all it indicates is that no such link has been discovered. This implies for all other families.

On 3rd March 1633, **Mary** (\$1589), daughter of **Robert Moyse of Plaxtol** (\$1587) was baptised.

On 15th September 1644, **John Moyse** (\$1966) married **Susan Bassett** (\$1965). See the [Chalklyns in More Families & Transcripts](#) for more details of Susan.

159 \$ indicates a reference in the Shipbourne database

The Mugges of Ightham

Walter Mugge and his wife Marie had a family of eight children only one of who is recorded as having died. Sometime between 1586 and his death twelve years later Walter was recorded as being an ale taster, that is he was appointed to test the quality of the beer being brewed.

On 1st October 1589 Walter Mugge was presented to the Court for having "placed a rack for feeding his cattle in the highway near the rectory of Ightham, to the inconvenience of the common passage there. To be removed before 1 November, under penalty 5s." "From an entry in the Court Roll of 22nd April 1590, it appears that Mugge forfeited the penalty: he had not complied with the order of the earlier court." (CRI 1937, p.199)

Edward Mugge (i1389) had a daughter Joane (i1391) buried on 24th August 1584 and was therefore probably about the same age as Walter and could have been his brother.

About thirty years earlier, on 31st May 1556, **William Terry** was "given till the next Court to bring **Edward Mowg and Walter Mowg** to take the oath of allegiance, under penalty 40d." (CRI 1938, p.9) Were these two young boys who had come to

live with William Terry? If Walter was twelve in 1556 and he was #337 above, he would have been thirty when he married which is feasible. (see [Terry in More Families & Transcripts](#))

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M C	Died
i337	<u>MUGGE, Walter</u> ----- 	<1554	6 Feb 1574	Marie Hadlow #338	1 8	18 Sep 1598 in his 40s
i338	<u>Hadlow, Marie</u> -----	<1554	"Marie, wife of Walter Mugge" at burial		1 8	18 Nov 1596 in her 40s
• i792	<u>Mugge, Jane</u>	25 Dec 1574			0 0	20 Apr 1598
	if it was Walter and Marie's eldest daughter who died in 1598 she was 23					
• i793	<u>MUGGE, William</u>	17 Mar 1577			0 0	20 Mar 1577 < 1 wk
• i794	<u>MUGGE, Thomas</u>	19 Nov 1578			0 0	
• i795	<u>MUGGE, Edward</u>	23 Jul 1581			0 0	
• i796	<u>MUGGE, Richard</u>	1 Jan 1584	twin		0 0	
• i797	<u>MUGGE, Nicholas</u>	1 Jan 1584	twin		0 0	
• i1329	<u>MUGGE, William</u>	7 Jan 1588			0 0	
• i1409	<u>Mugge, Elizabeth</u>	12 Mar 1592			0 0	

Edward Mugg, Nicholas, Thomas and William Mugg were mentioned in the Court Records between 1586 and 1618. All four could have been Walter's sons.

The Muggs of Shipbourne

Dorothy (\$327¹⁶⁰), wife of **Stehen Mugg** (\$326) was buried on 7th July 1585.

Mary (\$836), daughter of **Thomas Mugg** (\$834) was baptised on 8th September 1605 and buried, six weeks later, on 24th October.

Thomas could have been a son of Stephen and Dorothy.

The Mugges of Ightham who were recorded in the parish register were much earlier than this and the name Stephen does not occur in that family.

160 \$ indicates a reference in the Shipbourne database

The Multons of Ightham

In the aisle of Ightham church there are brasses to three generations of the Multons who owned St. Clere in the sixteenth century. These commemorate George and his wife Agnes, their son George and his wife Athelreda/Audrey and their son Robert and his wife Dorothy..

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M C	Died
i1863	<u>MULTON, George</u> -----	10 Oct 1504		Agnes Polhill i1855	1 2	27 May 1588 at 83
		Esquire				
i1855	<u>Polhill, Agnes</u> -----				1 2	26 Sep 1591
				when buried "late wife of George Multon, Esquire"		
• i1584	<u>MULTON, George</u> 	11 Dec 1546		Athelreda Multon(m) i1585	1 1	11 May 1618 at 71
		Esquire, "Armig." when buried				
• i1585	<u>Multon(m), Athelreda</u>				1 1	22 Dec 1638
				a widow for 20 years; recorded as "Audrey" when buried		
• • i1586	<u>MULTON, Robert</u> 	20 Aug 1594		Deborah Multon(m) i2304	1 0	Aug 1644
		"Armig." in 1619				
• • i2304	<u>Multon(m), Deborah</u>				1 0	27 Oct 1619
• i1936	<u>Multon, Jane</u>	12 Sep 1553	11 Sep 1570	William LAMBARDE 1935	1 0	23 Sep 1573

George Multon came from Hadlow but settled at St. Clere, one of three great houses in the parish of Ightham. His wife, Agnes, was the daughter of Thomas Polhill of Shoreham and his wife, Joan Miller. Robert's wife, Deborah, died in 1619 when Robert was only twenty-five, perhaps due to complications due to a first pregnancy. Robert lived for another twenty-five years but does not appear to have married again.

The day before her 17th birthday Jane Multon married William Lambarde, of Lincoln's Inn, gent., the antiquarian and local historian. She died from smallpox three years later without having had any children. See Bowra, pp16-17 for more details.

A George Moulton, esquire was mentioned in the Court Records for 1553-74 and also for the period 1586 to 1618; both i1863 and his son were adults during both periods. Robert Moulton, esquire was mentioned in the later period.

The will of Robert Multon of Otford, (PCC: Thower 20) was proved in 1532 but it has not been investigated.

John Muncheater of Ightham

John Muncaster was mentioned in the Court Records 1586-1618

John Muncheater (i2141¹⁶¹) had two children baptised in Ightham:

- Elizabeth i2143 on 1 Feb 1618
- John i2144 1 Apr 1620.

161 "i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database

N

More Families & Transcripts

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Niccoll see [Webb in More Families & Transcripts](#)

Many of the Niccolls from the Tonbridge area were described as Niccoll (spelled in a variety of ways) als.. Webb and vice versa.

The children of George Nicholas of Ightham -

see [Hollombie in More Families & Transcripts](#)

The Family of George Nicolson of Seal	page 2.n.15
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The Children of Samson Nele of Seal

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
#34	<u>NELE, Samson</u> -----				1	4	10 Apr 1601
• #36	<u>Nele, Margaret</u>	5 Apr 1562			0	0	
• #112	<u>NELE, John</u>	12 Mar 1564			0	0	2 Nov 1565
• #394	<u>Nele, Alice</u>	1 Jun 1567			0	0	
• #477	<u>Nele, Joane</u>	11 Mar 1570			0	0	

Nothing more is known of the Neles.

Thomas Nevinson of Eastry

Eastry is about two miles southwest of Sandwich and thus not in the diocese of Rochester. His will (**PCC: Drury 61**) is included here because he married Anne, daughter of Richard Tebold of Seal - see **Families & Transcripts** for details of Anne's family.

Unfortunately the photocopy from which this transcript was made is not complete so that there are gaps in the transcription. It was proved on 8th September 1590.

Will of Thomas Nevinson of Eastry

written 25th July 1590

transcript from probate copy

- 1 In the name of god Amen. The five and twentieth
- 2 day of July in the two and thirtieth year of the reign of our most gracious
sovereign
- 3 Lady Elizabeth, by the grace of god, queen of England, France and Ireland,
defender of
- 4 the faith, etc. I, Thomas Nevinson, of the parish of Eastry in the county of

5 Kent, **gent.** do make and declare this my last will and testament in form
following: **First**
6 I bequeath my soul to god, the father, son and holy ghost, three persons
and
7 one god by whose abundant mercy derived from the good pleasure of god
the father revealed
8 in Christ, his son, our Jesus and Saviour

.....
.....

- out of my lease and term of years of **Wingham**¹⁶² half yearly to be paid at
Th'annunciation
- and Michaelmas¹⁶³ by even portions. **Item:** I give and bequeath to my good
friend **Mr. Thomas**

162 larger than Eastry and about halfway between Canterbury and Sandwich, about 4 miles WNW of Eastry

163 25th March and 29th September

- **Wale, my father-in-law**¹⁶⁴, my trotting stoned¹⁶⁵ horse. **Item:** I give to my cousin **Thomas Cranmer**
- of **Canterbury** five pounds to be bestowed upon a ring. **Item:** I give to my cousin **Mr**
- **John Seller** my little gray ambling nag. **Item:** I give to my **brother John Tebold**
- three pounds six shillings eight pence to be bestowed on a ring. **Item:** I give and bequeath
- to my **brother James Tebold** to be paid unto him within two months after he shall

- remain¹⁶⁶, abide and continue a soldier in garrison in **Burgin ap Some in Brabant**, the sum of
- ten pounds of current money and so that he there remain, continue and abide in garrison six

164 after the death of Anne's father, her mother married Thomas Wale

165 castrated?

166 When, Richard, their father, died Anne's eldest brother James was about fifteen and Richard planned for him an education in law, James was admitted into the Inner Temple in 1576. By the time Anne's husband wrote his will James would have been about thirty-five and that he was a soldier seems somewhat unlikely. There seems to be a continuation but, since there was a page change at this point, perhaps there were other lines on the previous page and this refers to someone else

- months within one year next after my decease. **Item:** I give to my cousin **Mr. John Boys, Esquire**
- five pound of current money to make him a ring to wear in remembrance of me. **Item:** I give to my **sister,**
- **Katherine Gosnall**¹⁶⁷ five pounds. **Item:** I give and bequeath to my very god and wellbeloved friend
- **my Lord of Dover, dean of Christ Church in Canterbury**¹⁶⁸, the best gelding I have at my

.....

.....

- before marriage or age of eighteen years, then the other of them surviving to have all the
- portion of her so dying equally to be divided between them. And if all my said daughters shall
- fortune to die before marriage or age of one and twenty years, then my sons surviving

167 Anne's sister Katherine had married William Gosnoll

168 Richard Rogers, suffragan bishop of Dover and dean of Canterbury

- to have all their portions equally to be divided between them. And I will, ordain and make my
- wellbeloved **wife Anne Nevinson** to be my sole executrix. And thus I pronounce and declare
- this to be my last will and testament in the presence of ¹⁶⁹ **Item:** I give to a preacher to preach
- at my burial twenty shillings. Thomas Nevinson. Witnesses hereunto Thomas Cranmer,
- John Seller, Thomas Wale and **William Panter, Samuells Nichols**. **Item:** my will, mind
- and hearty desire is that my said executrix do renew my said several leases in this my will
- specified and bequeathed to such persons and uses as I have willed the same in this my will. And
- that allowance be taken for the charge of renewing of any such of the said leases out of his person
- that is to take the benefit of the said lease so renewed. Thomas Nevinson. Witnesses hereunto
- Thomas Cranmer, Thomas Wale, John Seller, Samuells Nichols and William Panter.

Robert Newman, mercer, of Tonbridge

The original of Robert Newman's will (CKS: Drb/Pw 19) has survived. By its decorated "I" at the beginning and the Hooper marks we know that this was written by John Hooper, one of the witnesses, and one of the Hooper family of scribes. John, the son of Nicholas Hooper, was born in 1578 and he wrote wills from 1601 until his death in 1641. This will, written in 1603, was one of the earlier ones to survive.

Unfortunately the right hand side of the original has rotted away so that the ends of the lines are missing and the probate copy has not survived. Words in { } in the following transcript have been assumed from the context.

Will of Robert Newman of Tonbridge

written 10th December 1603

transcript from original

Hooper mark

1 In the name of god Amen. the Tenth day of December in the {first year}
2 of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord James, by the grace of God, King of
England, {France and}
3 Ireland, defender of the faith, and of Scotland the Seven and thirtieth, 1603,
{I, Robert}
4 Newman, of Tonbridge in the county of Kent, **Mercer**, being aged . .
5 and hereby put in mind of my last end but yet of sound and perfect
{remembrance}
6 (thanks therefore be given to God) willing to set in order these small
possessions {which God}
7 hath made me Steward, do therefore ordain and make this my present
{testament and last will}
8 in manner and form following: **And** first and principally I commend and
{bequeath my soul into}
9 the Hands of Almighty God, the Father, trusting to be saved by an assured
{faith in . . }
10 son, my alone Saviour, intercessor and redeemer and my body to the earth
. .
11 taken. **Item:** I give unto the poor of the parish of Tonbridge Twenty
shillings {of lawful}
12 money. **Item:** I give as a token of remembrance to **my cousin Barnell** of . .
13 Twenty shillings. **Item:** I give and bequeath unto **my two daughters**,
{**Elizabeth and**}

14 **Sara Newman**, to either of them, the sum of forty pounds. And my will . . .
15 ?? shalbe paid the sum of Twenty Pounds a piece (the one half thereof) . . .
16 either of their several days of Marriage. And the other Twenty Pounds . . .
17 the other half thereof, I will shalbe then also paid unto them, by mine
executor, {hereafter named}
18 if they, and either of them, shall marry and match them selves with the
consent and {liking of}
19 their friends and namely with the consent of mine executor and overseers
hereafter named.
20 **Provided** always that if they, or either of them, shall marry or be married
without
21 or contrary to the consent and good liking of my said executor and
overseers, or the more part
22 of them, I will the said £20 shall remain in the hands of mine executor to be
. . .
23 the use and behoof of such child and children as shall happen to be born
unto them, or either of them
24 (so marrying as aforesaid) at the discretion of my said executor and
overseers. **And** my {will}
25 is that if either of my said daughters decease before their days of marriage,
Then I will that
26 half of the said forty pounds shalbe paid to the other of them surviving by
mine executor {within}

27 one whole year after the other's decease. **Item:** I will that my executor shall
28 my said two daughters, Elizabeth and Sara, till¹⁷⁰ their several days of
marriage . . .
29 maintenance Three pounds a piece to be paid quarterly to them, and either
of them, . . .
30 **Item:** I will, and my mind is, that all and every my utensils, napery, .
31 whatsoever within my main dwelling house shalbe equally divided, shifted
. . .
32 between **my son, Robert Newman** and my said two daughters, {Elizabeth
and Sara,}
33 by three persons whom they shall severally thereunto choose and
nominate. All {the residue of my}
34 goods, corn, hay, wood, Cattell and Chattels, I bequeath and fully give {to
the}
35 said Robert Newman, my son, whom I make and ordain my full {and sole
executor to}
36 perform this my will and to see my body honestly brought to the earth and
my {debts}

170 Were his daughters to receive £3 a year until they married?

37 discharged¹⁷¹. And I nominate and appoint my trusty and wellbeloved
{friends, ?? ??}
38 **Schoolmaster and William Fathers of Tonbridge, yeoman**, to be overseers of
this my . . .
39 to whom I give as a token of remembrance 5s a piece. **In witness**
{whereof, I, Robert
40 Newman have to this my present testament set my hand and seal, yeven¹⁷²
{the day and year}
41 above written: 1603. ¹⁷³
42 Read, sealed, published, subscribed
and declared in the presence of
Richard Fathers
John Hooper ??¹⁷⁴

171 "d" in discharged (original will)

172 given

173 signature of Robert Newman

174 probably "scr." (scriptor); "Hooper" is written with capital "H" as it is in the wills of Dorothy Olyver (1622), Elizabeth Nicoll (1624), etc.)

The Newmans of Seal

Daniel Newman, gentleman, and his wife Anne, had five children baptised in Seal between 1648 and 1655. Whether or not Daniel was a descendant of Robert Newman of Tonbridge is not known. (# indicates a reference in the Seal database).

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
#3101	<u>NEWMAN, Daniel</u> -----	<1628	<1648	Anne Newman(m) #3102	1	5	
		"gentleman" 1654; "Mr." 1655					
• #3103	<u>NEWMAN, John</u>	12 Mar	1648			0	0
• #3104	<u>NEWMAN, Daniel</u>	21 May	1650			0	0
• #3105	<u>NEWMAN, William</u>	27 Feb	1652			0	0
• #3106	<u>NEWMAN, Richard</u>	21 Jan	1654			0	0
• #3107	<u>NEWMAN, Thomas</u>	5 Oct	1655			0	0

The Newsans of Ightham

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
i1039 ¹⁷⁵	<u>NEWSAN, Nicholas</u> -----				2	4	
	<i>Marriage 1</i>				1	3	
• i1041	<u>Newsan, Elizabeth</u>	20 Apr 1578				0	0
• i1042	<u>Newsan, Sylvester</u>	20 Dec 1579		(daughter)		0	0
• i1043	<u>Newsan, Marie</u>	17 Dec 1581				0	0 4 Sep 1582
	<i>Marriage 2</i>		10 May 1582	Marie Hatch i1075	1	1	
• i1044	<u>Newsan, Joyce</u>	1 Sep 1583				0	0

Marie died at 9½ months. If the Nicholas Newsan who married in 1582 was her father, this was after he had married again; perhaps her mother died at her birth but no burial was recorded.

175 "i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database

The Family of George Nicolson of Seal

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
#3108 ¹⁷⁶	<u>NICOLSON, George</u> ----- gent			Elizabeth Nicolson (m) #3109	1	6	
• #3110	<u>NICHOLSON, Percival</u>	29 Aug 1622			0	0	11 Nov 1625
• #3111	<u>Nicolson, Marie</u>	15 Jan 1628			0	0	
• #3112	<u>NICHOLSON, Leonard</u>	27 Jan 1635			0	0	25 Mar 1635
• #3113	<u>Nicolson, Sarah</u>	17 Oct 1637			0	0	27 Mar 1638
• #3114	<u>Nicolson, Francis</u>	13 May 1639 (daughter)			0	0	
• #3115	<u>Nicolson, Elizabeth</u>				0	0	18 May 1653

Leonard was described as the son of George and Elizabeth. There was long interval between the baptisms of Marie and Leonard; Marie's mother may have died and her father married again.

176 # indicates a reference in the Seal database

In 1649/50 one of Seal's three parsonages, which was worth £30 per annum, belonged to Mistress Mary Nicolson. It was occupied by "Mr. George Nicolson, her father"¹⁷⁷. Perhaps George had given it to her when she reached the age of twenty-one; if he had married again she would be the only surviving child from his first marriage. It would have been a valuable dowry for her.

George Nicolson, of Seal, gent. was included on the Grand Jury for the March 1648 Assizes¹⁷⁸

George Nicolson was included in the Knole Manuscript for 1648 for Seal village which is likely to have been where the parsonage was. - see [Vicars of Seal & Kemsing in Section Z of More Families & Transcripts](#)

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

178 Cockburn (Char.I) 2534

O

More Families & Transcripts

The Killing of Stephen Ongeley of Ightham page 2.o.2

The Owtons of Ightham page 2.o.4

The Oxleys of Tonbridge and Bidborough page 2.o.5

The Oxleys of Seal & Ightham page 2.o.17

The Killing of Stephen Ongeley of Ightham

On 5th March 1576, at Offham, an inquisition was held before William Webb, coroner, on the body of Stephen Ongeley, blacksmith, of Ightham. The jury found that, on 28th February in the highway at Offham Green in Offham, Ongeley, Richard Johnson (i2752) of Ightham, sawyer, and his wife Agnes (i2753), attacked Richard Clerke, gent., of Offham. Ongeley struck him with a long staff and Clerke, fearing for his life, in self-defence struck him with a long bill (8d). Ongeley lingered until 3rd March in the house of Thomas Wilkins, gent. at Offham and then died from his injuries¹⁷⁹.

Offham is about four miles to the east of Ightham

The men on the jury were Thomas Tuttesham, gent., James Wood, gent., James Godden, George Baker, William Tresse, John Sotherne, Robert Oliver, John Godden, Nicholas Myller, William Lorkin, William Moyse, William Boreman, Roland Wood, John Sigas, John Wolveridge and James Willard.

Many of these names are familiar but none of them can be identified with a particular person. There was a Thomas Tuttesham writing wills at the end of the sixteenth century but he was based in the West Peckham area. There was a large Moyse family but they were in the Penshurst/Chiddingstone area. There were Sigas families in Ightham but no John.

The Owtons of Ightham

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
i433 ¹⁸⁰	<u>OWTON, William</u> -----				1	2	20 May 1565
• i1156	<u>OWTON, Edward</u> must have been older than Christopher if he was his brother				0	0	28 Jan 1564
• i435	<u>OWTON, Christopher</u>	1 Jun 1563			0	0	

Christopher Outen was fined 4d on 14th April 1586 for "not doing suit at the Court" (CRI 1938, p.35). i435 would have been 22 at that time. See **Thomas Ware** in **More Families & Transcripts** for the appearance in the Court Records of Christopher Owlton in 1590.

180 "i" indicates a reference in the Ightham database

The Oxleys of Tonbridge and Bidborough

One of the five Oxley wills surviving from Tonbridge and the one from Bidborough have been transcribed:

William Oxley	Bidborough	25 Jul 1585	CKS: Drb/Pw 14; Drb/Pwr 17.81	see page 2.o.6
George Oxley	Tonbridge	26 May 1598	CKS: 18; 19I.24	see page 2.o.8

They were both written by Nicholas Hooper, curate of Shipbourne, who wrote a large number of wills between 1574 and 1618.

John Oxley of Tonbridge wrote his will (**CKS: Drb/Pw 11, Drb/Pwr 14.261**) on 16th November 1575. His wife, Margaret, to whom all his goods and “**cattells**” were left, was charged with the bringing up of his children and was to have the land called **Lampe Land** until his two sons, Edward and Richard, came of age. John also mentions his brother, David Oxley. The witnesses were **Raff Lyde, Thomas Walter** and **Elizabeth Shepard**.

The other three Oxley wills from Tonbridge are:

Edward Oxley	1567	CKS: Drb/Pw 9; Drb/Pwr 13.341
Elizabeth Oxley	1553	CKS: 4; 11.278
Nicholas Oxley	1551	CKS: 11.141

There is also the will of Edward Oxley of Pembury (PCC: **Crane 13**) which was proved, by his sons Richard and Thomas in 1642/3.

Nuncupative Will of William Oxley of Bidborough

written 25th Jul 1585
transcript from original

Simplified version of
Nicolas Hooper's mark

1585

1 **Memorandum**¹⁸¹ that the five and twentieth
2 day of July in the year of ¹⁸² our lord god one
3 thousand, five hundreth, four score and five and in the
4 seven and twentieth year of our Sovereign Lady
5 Queen Elizabeth's Reign and in the presence of **Dorothy**

181 decorated "M"

182 "the Reign" crossed out

6 **Bennett, Alice Chapman, Elizabeth Oxley** and of
7 **William Hudson, parson of Bitborough,** William Oxley
8 of Bitborough in the county of Kent, **weaver**, did speak and
9 utter these words following¹⁸³, or the like in effect, concerning
10 his last will. **First:** he¹⁸⁴ gave unto **Simon Oxley, his**
11 **son**, three pounds six shillings and eight pence of lawful
12 money of England to be paid to him by his executrix.
13 And all the residue of his goods and cattelle¹⁸⁵ whatsoever he
14 willed and gave unto **Marion, his wife**, which Marion he
15 made and constituted his whole and sole executrix.

183 "folowing" which is Nicholas Hopper's usual spelling

184 "he", "bee" throughout; another spelling practically always used by Nicholas Hooper

185 "chattels" or "cattle"?

Nicolas Hooper's
mark

1 **In the name of god Amen.** the Six and twentieth day of May
2 in the year of our Lord One thousand, five hundredth, four score and
3 Eighteen and in the fortieth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lady
Elizabeth,
4 by the grace of God, Queen of England, France and Ireland, defender
5 of the faith. I, George Oxley of Tonbridge in the county of Kent,
6 **clothier**, being very sick in body but yet of perfect mind and remembrance,
7 thanks therefore be given to Almighty God, Do ordain and make this my
8 present testament and last will in manner and form following: And **First**
9 and principally I give and commend my soul into the hands of Almighty
10 god, my only saviour and redeemer, Jesus Christ, by whose merit, precious
11 death and blood shedding, I trust only to be saved. And my body to the
Earth
12 to be buried in sure hope of resurrection to life immortal. **Item:** I will there
13 shalbe distributed among the poor of Tonbridge at my burial 10s. **Item:** I

14 give and bequeath to **Alice Plane, my daughter, widow**, the sum of
15 Twenty marks lawful money to be paid the one half within one whole
16 year next after my decease, and the other half within the next year after,
17 by mine Executor or Overseers or one of them, hereafter named.

space left here

18 The Residue of all my goods, cattells, debts and Chattels and all other
19 my goods whatsoever, I wholly, fully and with good effect, intent and
purpose
20 give and bequeath to **Alice Oxley, my wellbeloved wife**, toward the
21 payment of my debts and legacies and performance of this my will. Which
22 Alice, my wife, I Ordain and make my full, whole and sole executor
23 of this my will. And I desire **my trusty and wellbeloved friend, my**
24 **cousin, Mr. William Hatch, Schoolmaster of the Free School of Tonbridge**
and
25 **William Harrys, tailor**, to be supervisors and overseers of this my will
26 desiring them to take some pains that this my will may be performed
according
27 to the true meaning thereof, whose Ordinary charge and reasonable
allowance
28 about, besides and touching this my will, I will shall be deducted and
borne

29 out of the revenues of my land hereafter specified. And I will that
30 my said wife shall keep **my daughter Marie** and shalbe allowed for the
same her
31 keeping, according as my said Overseers shall think good, out of the said
my goods during
32 and until **my son Edward** shall accomplish his full age of five and twenty
years.

33 This is the last will of me the said George Oxley, made and declared the
34 day and year first above written, concerning the order and disposition of all
my
35 land and tenements and other hereditaments whatsoever, situated, lying
and
36 being in Tonbridge aforesaid and **Speldhurst** in the said county. **First:**
37 I will, give and bequeath unto the said Alice, my wellbeloved wife, and to
the

All my said Land, tenements and hereditaments withal the
issues, revenues and profits thereof

38 said William Hatch and William Harrys ¹⁸⁶ for, by and during and until

186 above inserted here; this will looks as if it was written in more haste than usual

39 such time as my son Edward shall accomplish his full age of five and
40 twenty years, keeping the reparations of all and every the same and doing
no
41 wilful waste in or upon the same other than in necessary fuel and
competent
42 hedgeboot with the revenues and profits of all which, together with all my
moveable
43 goods whatsoever (except such as they shall think meet to be reserved to
my said wife¹⁸⁷ and five pounds yearly to be dedicated towards her
maintenance),
44 I will all my debts and legacies shalbe fully paid, as well owing upon land
as
45 otherwise, by my said wife and Overseers aforesaid. And if (upon due
46 consideration and deliberation), it shall appear unto my said Overseers or
either of
47 them, that my said moveable goods and revenues and profits of my land
shall not
48 be sufficient to discharge all my debts and legacies, Then I will and give
full
49 power and lawful authority to them, my said Overseers, or one of them,

187 rest of this line was inserted

50 to sell and assure to any person or persons, his and their heirs and assigns,
forever, any
51 one or more piece or parcel of any my land whatsoever which to them, or
either of them,
52 shalbe thought most meet for the full payment and discharge of all my
debts and
53 legacies whatsoever. And to that end, I give and bequeath all the said
parcel or parcels of
54 land, withall and singular thappurtenances, which so shalbe sold to him
and them so buying the
55 same and to his and their heirs and assigns forever for a further
strengthening and
56 confirmation of the sale thereof. And if any overplus shall remain (all
manner of
57 charge being allowed), I will the same shall remain to the said Edward, my
son.
58 And after that my said son¹⁸⁸ Edward shall accomplish his said age of 25
59 years, I will, give and bequeath all my said land, tenements and
hereditaments
60 whatsoever (except such as shalbe sold as aforesaid, if any be) unto him
the said

188 "son" inserted

61 Edward, my son, his heirs and assigns, forever. Notwithstanding, I
62 will that my said wife shall have the free use and occupying of all that
chamber
63 wherein I now lie, parcel of my mansion house wherein I now dwell, with
free
64 coming and going, to and from the same and free coming in the hall or
kitchen with
65 my said son during the whole term of her natural life, without any payment
or
66 allowance therefore. And further I will my said wife shall have yearly out
67 of my said land, Tenements and hereditaments, during her said natural
life,
68 the sum of five pounds of lawful money, to be paid to her at the feast of
69 Saint Michael, the nativity of our Lord Christ, Thannunciation of the
blessed
70 virgin Mary and the nativity of Saint John the Baptist, by equal portions,
71 viz: 25s at every of the said feasts. And notwithstanding further, I will
72 that my daughter Marie shall have yearly (after the said age of my said son
73 Edward), out of my said lands, Tenements and hereditaments, the sum
74 of fifty shillings lawful money during her natural life, at the said feasts by
like equal portions.

inserted:

if it shall happen either of the said yearly payments to be . . .
unpaid after either, or any of the said feasts, by the space of ??,
Then

75 And I will that, as well my said wife and her assigns, as the said Marie, my
76 daughter and her assigns, shall have full power and authority by virtue of
77 this my will, to enter in and upon all, every or any of my said land and
Tenements,
78 withall and singular thappurtenances (except those sold as aforesaid, if
any be) and there
79 to distreign and the distress or distresses so taken and had, lawfully from
there to
80 bear, lead, drive and carry away and the same to withhold and keep until
she,
81 they, or either of them, so unpaid be fully satisfied and paid from time to
time
82 of the same, and every parcel thereof and of all Arrearage of the same.
Provided
83 always, that if my said son Edward, my son, shall happen to decease before
84 he shall accomplish his said age of 25 years, or without heirs of his
85 body lawfully begotten, then I will all my said land, Tenements and
hereditaments,

86 withall and singular thappurtenances, unto the said Alice, my wife and her
assigns, To
87 have and to hold to her during the whole term of her natural life, paying my
88 said daughter Marie her yearly portion aforesaid, without making any
wilful
89 waste upon the same. And after her decease, I will all and every the same,
90 withall and singular thappurtenances, shall equally remain to my daughter
Alice
91 and **Harker Plane, her son,** and to **Susan and**
92 **Marie, daughters of my daughter Elizabeth,** and their heirs equally
between

paying to my said daughter Marie, or her assigns, the said
yearly sum of 50s before to her willed

93 them for ever, ¹⁸⁹ any thing herein before mentioned to the contrary
hereof, in any wise,
94 notwithstanding. In witness whereof, I the said George Oxley, to this my
95 present last will and testament have set my hand and Seal, yeven¹⁹⁰ the

189 above inserted here

190 given

96 day and year first above written in the presence of me, **Nicolas Hooper**
97 **writer hereof**, and of **Thomas Joanes, James Earle and Robert**
98 **Dartnoll** with others

mark of George Oxley

the mark of ¹⁹¹ Thomas
Joanes

the mark of
James Earle

the mark of ¹⁹²
Robert Dartnoll

191 "Y"

192 a large *

The Oxleys of Seal & Ightham

Num	Name	Born	Married	Spouse	M	C	Died
#460	<u>OXLEY, John</u> -----				1	3	
• #462	<u>OXLEY, Richard</u>	24 Jul	1569			0	0
• #518	<u>OXLEY, Nicholas</u>	14 Oct	1571			0	0
• #1657	<u>Oxley, Francis</u>		3 May	1593	John BEECHER #397	0	0

Francis is taken as being John's daughter, see [Beecher in Families & Transcripts](#) for details of the Beechers

Johane Oxley (#605¹⁹³), servant to William Tomlyn (#61), was buried on 21st December 1567.

Thomas Oxley (i1191) was buried, in Ightham, on 10th December 1571.

193 # indicates a reference in the Seal database and "i" in the Ightham database