

## CHELTENHAM WILLS 1541 – 1550

**1542/5**

*There are two almost identical copies of this will*

In the name of God, Amen. The 14<sup>th</sup> February 1541 I George Hurste of Cheltenham, being sick in body but whole of mind and in good and perfect remembrance, make my testament and last will in the manner following. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God & my body to be buried in the churchyard of Cheltenham. Also I bequeath to the high altar 4d. Also I give to Henry my son all the goods and the stock that I let him at his begging. Item I give to Henry Hurst my said son half my goods moveable & unmoveable in every thing. Item I give to the said Henry my son my best furred gown. Item I give to young Henry Hurst, my son Henry's son, my murry gown, a mottled jacket & one silver spoon. Also I bequeath to Henry my son after the decease of Margaret my wife the court house with all the appurtenances thereto belonging during the date of my copy. Item I bequeath for my funery unto 8 priests 4s, the deacon, the clerk and all other things necessary to be paid out of the lands that Thomas Packer holds for the space of 18 years. Item I give to every child of Henry Hurst my son one silver spoon. Item I would that Ralph Chisnall my neighbour shall enjoy his years according to my promise for his rack at all times paying yearly 12d. Item I give to Elizabeth my servant one pot which has a broken handle. The residue of my goods not bequeathed I give to Margaret my wife whom I make my full executrix, to receive my debts & pay my debts.

And to this bewaring witness: Sir John Ball, my ghostly father, John Pytts, Ralph Chersnall, Denis Wygtly with others.

Probate: 29 November 1542

**1544/10**

In the name of God, Amen. The *(torn)* May 154*(torn)* in the 36<sup>th</sup> year [1544] of the reign of our sovereign lord Henry, king of England and Ireland and under God supreme head of this Church of England and Ireland, witness I Christopher Banastar of the town of Cheltenham within the county of *(torn)* husbandman, being in perfect and good health, thanks be to God, with my own assent *(torn)* do make my testament and last will now going upon the king's business. First I bequeath *(torn)* soul to Almighty God, our blessed lady and all saints to pray for me, my body to be buried *(torn)* is my fortune. Item I give unto William Wyght, my son-in-law, two tawny coats, two pair of hose, *(torn)* pair black, the other pair white. Item I give to John Newese, my wife's son, one coat the colour *(torn)* with one pair of white hose. Item I give to Alice Wyght, one *(torn)* and one white, 3 shirts. Also I give to the said Alice Wyght one acre of arable land which does lie at *(torn)* upon the south end of my wife's land, for the space of 12 years so that Annis my wife *(torn)* the use of it for the said Alice's profit. Item I give to the said Alice at the time of her ma*(torn)* 2 pottingers, 2 saucers. Item I give to Margaret Wyght, my wife's daughter, two acres of *(torn)* at Whaddon touching south and north for the space of 12 years and if the said M*(torn)* that then Annis my wife shall enjoy the foresaid 2 acres. Item I give unto William *(torn)* Giles Banaster 6s 8d. Item I give to John Banaster 6s 8d. Item I give to Thomas Banaster *(torn)* to George Banaster 6s 8d and either of them to receive the 6s 8d four years after my decease. *(torn)* of my goods not bequeathed and my debts being paid I give all both moveable and *(torn)* to Annis my wife whom I do make my full executrix to receive my debts & to pay my debts. *(torn)* overseer Walter Paate.

These bearing witness: Richard Mayels, Edmund Bakar, William *(torn)*

Probate: 27 January 1544

**1544/90**

In the name of God, Amen. In the year of our Lord God 1544 I Reginald Frence of the town of Cheltenham, being of perfect mind & sick in my bed, make my testament in this form following. First I bequeath my soul to God & my body to be buried in the churchyard of Cheltenham. Item I bequeath to the high altar 4d. Item to Elizabeth Baker my daughter my wife's cap & her kirtle, an old cauldron & a towel. Item [I] make William Frence my younger son my whole executor to whom I bequeath all my goods unbequeathed both moveable & unmoveable and he to possess all my debts and to pay and discharge all that I do owe.

Witness hereto: Sir Thomas Augustine, my ghostly father, John Benfelde, Isaac Davys

**1544/129**

In the name of God, Amen. The 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1544 and in the 36<sup>th</sup> year of the reign of our sovereign lord Henry VIII by the grace of God king of England, France & Ireland, Defender of the Faith, and in earth supreme head of the Church of England and Ireland I Thomas Curteyse of Cheltenham, being of perfect mind, make my last will and testament in this form following. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, to our lady St Mary and to all the holy company of heaven and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Cheltenham. Item I bequeath to Robert my son 2 bullocks, my best pot and my best pan and my wife to have the use of it while she lives widow. Item a medyll heys and my best coat. Item I bequeath to my daughter Joan a cow called Gent. Item to my daughter Annis a black calf and 4 bushels of barley. Item I bequeath to my daughter Katherine a quarter barley this time 5 years and my daughter Elizabeth as much at the same time. Item I will Thomas White of Alstone to be my overseer and to have for his pains 3s 4d. Item I make my wife Elizabeth my whole executrix and to enjoy all the residue of my goods unbequeathed.

Witnesses hereunto: Sir Thomas Austen, curate, Thomas White and Harry Herber  
Probate: 27 January 1544

**1545/43**

In the name of God, Amen. The 9<sup>th</sup> March 1545 and in the 36<sup>th</sup> year in the reign of our most sovereign lord king Henry VIII, by the grace of God king of England, France & Ireland king, and supreme head of this his Church of England & Ireland, witness I Edward Hawll of Cheltenham, husbandman, within the county of Gloucester, being sick in body & whole of mind in good & perfect remembrance, do make my testament & last will in manner & form as hereafter follows. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, Our Blessed Lady and all saints to pray for me, my body to be buried in the churchyard of Cheltenham. Item I bequeath to Harry my son one house with its base tenement with lands & tenements thereto belonging being in Charlton Kings. Item I give to Eleanor my daughter 5 marks to be paid to her at the time of her marriage by John Hawll my son or his assigns. Item the residue of my goods moveable and unmoveable not bequeathed I give unto John my son whom I make my full executor and to receive my debts & to pay my debts. Item I give to Thomas Borell my son-in-law 3 acres of land lying beyond Sandy Lane for the space of 7 years paying yearly rent. Item I would that Thomas Brockebanke & Thomas Borell my son-in-law should be my overseers to see this my last will performed and they to have for their labours 12d apiece..

To this bearing witness: Sir John Bawll, my ghostly father, John Browne, Thomas Borell, John Yatt, William Masun with others  
Probate: 5 June 1545

**1545/134**

In the name of God, Amen. 1545 I John Ball, being sick in my body but having my perfect mind and reason, make my testament in this form following. First I bequeath my soul to God, desiring Our Blessed Lady and all the saints to pray for me, and my body to be buried in the church porch of Cheltenham. Item to my ghostly father Sir Thomas Augustyne 16d & my best sheet. Item to Harry Coston a bedstead, a sheet & a shirt. Item to Elizabeth Mason my best shirt and 6d. Item I will that 3 priests besides my confessor shall bury me according to the laudable customs and to receive 8d every one of them for their labours. Item to the clerk, the deacon & Harry Coston at my burial every one 4d. Item I give William the clerk my fustian doublet. Item I bequeath to Miboy 4d. Item I do make John Smyth my only and whole executor of this my testament to whom I give all my goods not bequeathed in the testament whom I will to pay my debts and to receive all that is owing to me. Witnessing hereto: Sir Thomas Augustyne, my confessor, John Glover, John Smythe, Harry Coston  
Dwelling in the town of Cheltenham whereas I am Our Lady's priest

**1545/175**

In the name of God, Amen. In 1544 I Joan Combe, being sick of body & of perfect mind, make my testament. Bequeath my soul to God Almighty & my body to be buried & my body to be buried in the churchyard of Our Lady of Cheltenham. Item to the high altar 4d. Item I will that a priest shall sing half a year for me in the church of Cheltenham as for after my death as my executors can procure him. Item to Alice Dole or any of her children if they be alive 20s, if not to be bestowed for their souls. Item to Richard my eldest son a pot & a pan, 4 platters, 2 saucers, a chaffing dish, a whole cloth the price £3 6s 8d so that he do not strive with his brother Walter or his sister Margaret about my bequests & my house. If he do then my foresaid gift to be of no effect. Item to every of his 8 children a quarter of barley & if any of them do die to remain among the other. Item to John Combe my next eldest son 2 pans, 2 pots of the middle sort, half a dozen of pewter vessels, a flock bed & a say coverlet, a bolster, 3 pair of sheets, £3 6s 8d. Item to Richard Combe my youngest son 2 pots, 2 pans, 6 pewter vessels, a flock bed, a bolster, a say coverlet, 3 pair of sheets, £3 6s 8d. Item 6 spoons of the best silver to my daughter Margaret & 6 of the next best to my son Walter, 4 to Richard my eldest son, 4 to John Combe & to Richard my youngest son 4 & one spoon to Margaret Combe, my son's daughter & at the day of her marriage my daughter, her aunt, shall deliver her £6 13s 4d if she be ruled by her the mean so far, if she be not ordered by her will she shall have no part. Item all will that Walter my son shall have a feather bed with all things pertaining, 3 pair of sheets, 2 pots, 2 pans, 12 platters, 2 saucers, my second best griddle, 2 candlesticks, a chaffing dish, a basin, & Margaret have my house to their own use 6 years after my death then it to remain to my eldest son Richard Combe. Item to my goddaughter Joan Combe a little posnet & a little pan. Item all the residue of my goods I bequeath to my daughter Margaret whom I do make my whole executor. Item to Walter Pate to see this fulfilled 5s. Item to Eleanor Combe my daughter-in-law my black beads of jet with gauds of silver & my blue gown.  
Witness whereof: Walter Pate & William Malle with others

**1545/226**

In the name of God, Amen. The 12<sup>th</sup> April 1545 I Margaret Hurst of the parish of Cheltenham, being sick in my body and of perfect mind and reason make my testament in this form following. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Our Lady of the parish church of Cheltenham.

Item I bequeath my 3 kine one to Richard Hurste, the son of Harry my son, another to Margaret, his daughter, and the third to Eleanor his daughter. Item I will that my executor shall find a priest to pray for me a quarter of a year in the parish church of Cheltenham. Item to Margaret Walker my servant 4 pieces of pewter. Item to my servant Alice Bruer a brazen pot, a pan, 4 pieces of pewter. Item to my confessor Sir Thomas Augustyne a pair of sheets. Item to Ralph Mawle 12d. Item to Harry Coston 12d whom I do make the overseer of this my last will to be executed. Item I do constitute Harry Hurst my son my whole and only executor to whom I bequeath all my goods moveable and unmoveable which be not given to other expressly in this my lawful testament.

Whereto witness: Sir Thomas Augustyne, my confessor, Harry Coston my overseer and Ralph Mawle, deacon of Cheltenham

Probate: 5 June 1545

### 1545/309

In the name of God, Amen. The 24<sup>th</sup> July 1545 and in the 37<sup>th</sup> year & the reign of our sovereign lord Henry VIII, by the grace of God king of England, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, and in the earth supreme head immediately under God of this his church of England and Ireland, that I Thomas Lane of Alston in the parish of Cheltenham within the county of Gloucester, being in perfect mind & remembrance but sore sick & fearing the hour of death, dispose my last will after this manner following. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God & to his mother St Mary & my body to be buried in the churchyard of Cheltenham. Item I bequeath to the high altar of Cheltenham 4d. Item I bequeath to Agnes my daughter half a weigh of barley. Item I bequeath to Joan my daughter half a weigh of barley. Item I bequeath to John my son half a weigh of barley. Item I bequeath to my daughter Agnes to her marriage a cow. Item I bequeath to Alice my daughter my best pan & a calf. Item I bequeath to John my son half my mese\* 6 years & to Richard my son 6 years more after my death. Item the residue of my goods not bequeathed I bequeath them to Eleanor my wife whom I make my whole executrix & my son John to be my overseer & he to have for his labour 6s 8d.

Here follows the debts that be owing unto me

Harry Cyrlow                      3s 4d

Richard Kemyse                  3s 4d

Bearing witness Sir Edward Grove, my ghostly father, Walter Hybbart & Robert Byke

Probate: 24 September 1545

\* mese = messuage

### 1545/324

In the name of God, Amen. In the 12<sup>th</sup> August 1546 that I Thomas Frenche of Alstone, sick in body and whole of mind, make my testament and last will as here follows. First and principally I bequeath my soul to Almighty God and to Our Blessed Lady his mother to pray for me and all the holy company in heaven and my body to be buried within the churchyard in Cheltenham. Also I bequeath to the mother church 2d. The residue of my goods moveable and unmoveable I give and bequeath to Joan my wife whom I make my full executrix.

And hereto bearing witness: my ghostly father Sir Richard Eadon, Thomas Whyte of Alstone and William Mathoo with others

**1545/374**

In the name of God, Amen. The 20<sup>th</sup> November 1545 and in the 37<sup>th</sup> year & the reign of our sovereign lord Henry VIII, king of England, of France and of Ireland, Defender of the Faith & in the earth supreme head of the church of England and of Ireland next immediately under Christ, I Thomas Yende of the town of Cheltenham in the county of Gloucester, being in good mind & perfect memory, make my last will & testament after this manner & form following. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God which so dearly with the effusion of his most precious blood has redeemed it & my body to be buried in the churchyard of Cheltenham aforesaid. Item I give to the poor people 20s. Item I forgive my kinsmen all the debts they owe me. Item give to every one of Thomas Packar's children 12d. Item I will to every manservant & woman servant in the said house 4d. Item I give to Crowppe's wife's children whose names be Thomas & John a cow. Item I give to Robert Shyllton my best doublet. Item I give to Richard Lytyll my best coat. Item I give to Giles Crowppe my second coat. Item I forgive John Abbotts 6s 8d. Item I forgive Nicholas Smythe 4s. Item I will the residue of all my goods not given nor bequeathed wholly to remain to Thomas Packar whom I make my sole executor of this my last will & testament.

These bearing witness: Sir Henry Cam, curate, William Mason, Richard Lytyll with others

*See also 1545/379*

**1545/379**

In the name of God, Amen. The 20<sup>th</sup> November 1545 and in the 37<sup>th</sup> year of the reign of our sovereign lord Henry VIII, by the grace of God king of England, of France and of Ireland, Defender of the Faith & in the earth supreme head of the church of England and of Ireland next immediately under Christ, I Thomas Yende of the town of Cheltenham in the county of Gloucester, being in good mind & perfect memory, make my last will & testament after this manner & form following. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God which so dearly with the effusion of his most precious blood has redeemed it & my body to be buried in the churchyard of Cheltenham aforesaid. Item I give to the poor people 20s. Item I forgive my kinsmen all the debts that they owe me. Item give to every one of Thomas Packer's children 12d. Item I will to every manservant & woman servant in the said house 4d. Item I give to Crumpe's wife's children whose names be Thomas & John a cow. Item I give to Robert Shyllton my best doublet. Item I give to Richard Lytill my best coat. Item I give to Giles Crumpe my second coat. Item I forgive John Abbotts 6s 8d. Item I forgive Nicholas Smythe 4s. Item I will the residue of all my goods not given nor bequeathed wholly to remain to Thomas Packer whom I make my sole executor of this my last will & testament.

These bearing witness: Sir Henry Cam, curate, William Mason, Richard Lytyll with others

Probate: 9 February 1545

*See also 1545/374*

**1545/440**

In the name of God, Amen. The 20<sup>th</sup> October 1545 & in the 37<sup>th</sup> year of the reign of our sovereign lord Henry VIII, by the grace of God king of England, of France & of Ireland, Defender of the Faith and in the earth supreme head of the church of England & of Ireland next immediately under God, I William Cowrtt of the town of Cheltenham in the county of Gloucester, being in good mind & perfect memory, make

my last will & testament after this manner & form following. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God which so dearly with the effusion of his most precious blood have redeemed it and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Cheltenham aforesaid. Item I will that after my decease my wife hire an honest priest for the space of one year to pray & sing for my soul & Margaret my wife with all other of my friends that I am bound to pray for. Item I give to the maintenance of a priest in Cheltenham yearly 3s 4d. Item I will that after my departing my wife shall bestow among the poor people every year 6s 8d. Item I bequeath to Elizabeth Hall a cow. Item to Thomasine Trott a cow Item to Emmett Raer a cow. Item I bequeath to the mending of the highway in Naughton 6s 8d. Item to the mending of the way in Newton 3s 4d. Item to the mending of the way at Seebridge 3s 4d. Item I bequeath 4d every year to the maintaining of a lamp to burn before th sacrament in the high chancel of Cheltenham and the church wardens shall call for that money yearly. Item I bequeath Alive Cowrtt my servant a featherbed with all things thereto belonging. Item to Edmund my servant a portion of all manner of household stuff. Item to every one of my godchildren 4d. Item I will that incontinently after my departure my 2 best gowns shall be appraised & the whole worth of them to bestow upon cloth for poor people to wear at my funeral. Item I will that Eleanor my wife shall keep every year the time of her life a solemn dirge with Mass for me & Margaret my wife with my father & my mother & all other my friends. Item I bequeath to the church of Cheltenham £5 to this end that the money there lying in the church wardens' hands shall be always ready to help the poor, indigent & needy creatures of the town of Cheltenham which shall be destitute of a cow, horse or ox to have upon their own honest credit or else sufficient surety 20, 30 or 40 ? for the year bringing in at the year's end the said portion of money to the church wardens before named. And I will if the said man be so bound with poverty to occupy it another year truly repaying the said moneys as above mentioned. And furthermore, that the said stock may be continually from time to time used to the only comfort, help & relief of the poor creatures according to the mind of this my last will & testament, I will therefore that it shall be lawful to the ordinary for the time being to call the said church wardens to account yearly & so from year to year he may be credibly certified the said stock to be employed to the only use aforesaid. And if there shall be any slackness or negligent thought in the church wardens for them not accomplishing of the premises according to the tenor of this my testament I will the reformation to be had at the ordinary's hands as unto his discretion shall seem most convenient for due observation of this my last testament. Item I bequeath to Tredington church £5. Item to Oxenton church £5 the which £15 I will to be paid after this manner & form following. That is to say at the feast of St Michael the Archangel now next ensuing £5 to Cheltenham church & then at the feast of St Michael the Archangel which shall be in the year of Our Lord 1547 other £5 to Tredington church & so finally at the feast of St Michael the Archangel then next following which shall be in the year of Our Lord 1548 £5 to Oxenton church to be used after the form, sort & manner before rehearsed. Item I give to Eleanor my wife all my houses, lands & tenements in the town or fields of Tewkesbury to me belonging and if it please God that the child wherewith my wife now goes come safely into this world I will that child, whether it be man or woman, to enjoy all my lands, houses & tenements that to me William Cowrtt at the day of my death belong at the age of 21 years. And furthermore I will all the lands & tenements that to my wife Eleanor belong after her decease to the said child to remain. Item I will if the same child do die then Eleanor my wife to have the said houses, lands & tenements of Tewksbury aforesaid during her natural life and then I will the reversion of the houses, lands & tenements above said to remain to Alice Dawbe, daughter unto John Cowrtt, paying unto the church of Ashchurch £5 to be employed after such use as the goods to the churches afore named. Item I will the residue of all my goods not given nor bequeathed wholly to remain to Eleanor my wife whom I make my sole executrix

of this my will & testament. Item I make Master Tayler of Tewksbury & Richard Rayer of Bredon supervisors of this my last will.

These bearing witness: Walter Pate, William Mundy, Robert Chappelen and Thomas .abyse with others

#### **1547/144**

In the name of God, Amen. I Thomas Borell of Cheltenham within the county of Gloucester in the 6<sup>th</sup> January 1547 and the 37<sup>th</sup> year of the reign of our sovereign lord King Henry VIII, king of England, France & Ireland, & in earth supreme head of the church of England & Ireland immediately under Christ being sick in my body but of good remembrance, do make my last will in manner & form following. First I commit my soul into the holy hands of Almighty God & my body to be buried within the churchyard of Cheltenham. Item I give to the high altar of the same church 4d. Item to the mother church of Gloucester 2d. Item unto my son John 40s & I will that it be delivered to him when he is 14 years of age. All the residue of my goods moveable & unmoveable I give unto my wife Alice Borell whom I make my full executrix.

Witness: Sir William Lynsay, curate, Harry Hurst, William Clarke with more

#### **1547/178**

In the name of God, Amen. The 10<sup>th</sup> January 1548 and in the first year and reign of our most sovereign lord the king King Edward VI, king of England, France and Ireland and defender of Christ's faith and supreme head of the church of England and Ireland immediately under God, that I William Bycke of Arle, sick of body and whole of mind, make my testament and last will under this manner form as after follows. First and principally I bequeath my soul to Almighty God and to Our Blessed Lady to pray for me with all the company in heaven and my body to be buried within the churchyard of Our Lady in Cheltenham. Also I bequeath to the mother church 4d. Item I bequeath to Thomas my son 2 oxen. I would that Thomas shall have all the land that belongs to the house which I purchased during the term of my copy the ...gian. paying the whole rent. Item I bequeath to Thomas my son my red horse. To the same Thomas a corn wain with the wheels and one wheel bound with iron and a broad axe. Item I bequeath to Reynold my son a bullock of 2 years old and also my house of forty pence of rent and 3 acres of arable land. Also the same Reynold shall have timber to make him a wain. Also I bequeath to Elizabeth my daughter a cow and a pair of sheets and a canvas, a quarter of barley and a noble of money. Item to Margaret my daughter a calf of a year old and a quarter of barley, a pair of sheets and a noble of money. Item to Margery my daughter a cow, a pair of sheets, a brass pot, a quarter of barley and a noble of money. Item to Annis my daughter a quarter of barley and a noble of money. Item I will that my wife should find all the seed that the ground shall be sowed with and at the time of the rec[koning] of it she to pay the 2 quarters to my daughters and my son Thomas the other 2 quarters according to my bequest. Item the residue of my goods not bequeathed I give and bequeath to Alice my wife whom I make my full executrix with my debts paid to dispose for my soul and all Christian souls.

And to this bearing witness: my ghostly father Sir Thomas Brystow, Thomas Schoffard, Robert Bycke, William Lane with others

Item I will that Robert Bycke my son should be overseer of this my last will be fulfilled and kept.

**1548/37**

In the name of God, Amen. The 9<sup>th</sup> January 1548 and in the second year of the reign of our sovereign lord Edward VI, by the grace of God king of England, France & Ireland, defender of the faith and in earth supreme head immediately under Christ of this church of England & Ireland, I John Smythe of Cheltenham within the county of Gloucester, sick in body but whole & perfect in remembrance, make this my last will & testament in this manner & form following. First I bequeath my soul unto Almighty God & my body to be buried within the parish churchyard of Cheltenham aforesaid nigh unto the place where my other wife does lie. Item I bequeath to Robert Smythe my son my best russet coat & my best worsted doublet & my best shirt. Item I give & bequeath to John, the son of the said Robert Smythe, one black tagged ox calf of one year old. Item I give & bequeath to Ralph Cowbmene my old russet coat & my white canvas doublet. Item I bequeath to Joan Mylton 4d. Item to Eleanor Hall 2d. Item unto Alice Imedayne 2d. The residue of all my goods & chattels moveable & unmoveable I give & bequeath unto Eleanor my wife whom I make my sole executrix to perform this my last will.

These being recorders to this testament following by name: Richard Wheler, curate, Richard Machyn, Richard Combe, Walter Combe, William Raynowlds with others

These be the debts the which I be indebted

First unto Humphrey Roberts, clerk, parson of Swindon 56s for a weigh of wheat or else the same weigh again mete by the same bushel

Unto Walter Pate for wheat	16s
Unto the same Walter for muncorn	6s
Sum	£3 18s

These are the names of the debtors as after follows with their debts owing unto me

John Hixe	16d
Robert Hybbart	16d
Walter Hybbart	20d
Thomas Kere	22d
Thomas Whyt	2s
Roger Clarke	6s 8d
To the same Roger 2 flitches of bacon price ( <i>not given</i> )	
John Tayler of Birdlip four loads of wood price	6s 8d
John Snapys of Northleach	2s 8d
Sum	25s 10d

**1549/152**

In the name of God, Amen. The 21<sup>st</sup> March 1548 and in the third year of King Edward VI, by the grace of God king of England, France & Ireland, & in earth immediately under God supreme head of this church of England & Ireland, I John Brone of the parish of Cheltenham in the county of Gloucester, burgess, whole of mind & remembrance, God be thanked, but sick in body, make my last will & testament in manner & form following. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God & my body to be buried in the churchyard of Cheltenham aforesaid. Also i give to Maud my wife my house that I now dwell in during her life & afterwards to my heirs being born between Maud my wife and me. Also I will that Maud my wife shall have the advantage of my other burgage during the time of 12 years & after that 12 years to remain to my heirs lawfully begotten between Maud my wife & me, provided always that if the heirs between Maud my wife & me do die before their mother then I give both my burgages to Maud my wife for ever. Furthermore I give to Richard Brone my son & Ellen Brone my daughter half my goods moveable & unmoveable to be equally divided between them both provided always that if any one of my two children die, the other being



alive, then I will that child that remains to have the other child's portion. Also I give to Joan Church a flock bed, a pair of sheets with a canvas, one plate, one pottinger, one saucer, one black cauldron. All other of my goods moveable & unmoveable I give to Maud my wife whom I make my executrix to fulfil this my last will & testament. Also I make Sir Thomas Roberts of Swindon & William Rogers of Dowdeswell overseers of this my testament or will desiring them & any of them to see that my executrix do fulfil this my last will & testament. I will also that the above-named overseers shall cause my executrix sufficiently to repair my above-named burgages. These being witnesses: John Hall, Thomas Whyte, Thomas Strode with others  
Probate: 16 May 1549

#### 1549/180

In the name of God, Amen. The 23<sup>rd</sup> February 1548 in the third year of the reign of our sovereign lord Edward VI, by the grace of God of England, France & Ireland king, defender of the faith and in earth immediately under Christ of this church of England & Ireland supreme head, I Robert Lane of Alstone in the parish of Cheltenham, husbandman, being sick of body but in perfect mind and good remembrance, make this my 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 parish churchyard of St Lawrence in Ludlow in case I depart there. Item I bequeath to Richard Lane my brother 20s. Item to my elder brother's children 6s 8d to every of them too. Item to my two sisters to every of them 6s 8d. Item to every one of Richard Machyn's children to every of them 6s 8d. Item I bequeath & give unto John Benefelde of Cheltenham and to William his son and to Anne Benefeld 7 quarters of barley to be divided amongst them by equal portions. The residue of all my goods unbequeathed after my debts and funeral costs paid I give & bequeath unto my mother Eleanor Lane whom I ordain, make and appoint my sole executrix. And overseers I make Richard Machyn and Hugh Fisser and they to have for their painstaking 6s 8d apiece to every of them two to see this my last will truly performed, desiring my said mother Eleanor to bestow part of these my goods bequeathed unto her amongst the poor for my soul and all Christian souls which things I commit to her good discretion.

These being witnesses: Thomas Phillipps, William Sandbage and John Teyneton junior with others

Debts owing unto me the foresaid Robert Lane

First William Whitteheed owes	£5
John Rogers of Holyrood, Ampney for a colt	17s
William Barneye's wife for a quarter of malt	6s
Isaac Davys for malt	12s
Robert Newman of Prestbury owes	3s
John Carpynter of Cheltenham owes	9s

Thomas Sheltdon of Southam, gentleman, owes 7 quarters of barley, the which I have gave & bequeath in this my testament unto John Benefelde & to William his son & to Anne Benefelde

Probate: 16 May 1549