

CHELTENHAM WILLS 1551 – 1560

1551/131

In the name of God, Amen. The 20th February 1550 and in the fifth year of the reign of our most dread sovereign lord Edward VI, by the grace of God of England, France and Ireland King, defender of the faith and in earth of the church of England and also of Ireland supreme head, I Thomas Rossell of Alstone within the parish of Cheltenham, sick in body & whole in mind, make my last will and testament in manner & form following. I bequeath my soul to Almighty God & my body to the ground. Item I give & bequeath to Thomas my son 3 sheep, my four oxen & an iron-bound wain & teams* & all manner things that belong to husbandry. Item to the same Thomas a flock bed, a pair sheets, a canvas & a bolster. Item to the same my best brass pot & my best brass pan, a cauldron, a broach, a pair of andirons, a coffer & a table board. Item to Joan my daughter 3 sheep, a cow, a flock bed, a pair of sheets, a bolster, a canvas, a towel, a pot, a pan, a cauldron & a coffer. Item I give to Elizabeth my daughter a cow, 3 sheep, a pair of sheets, a canvas, a helling, a towel, a pot, a pan, my best cauldron, a forcet*. Also I will that if the said Thomas, Joan or Elizabeth fortune to decease that then their goods to remain to the longest liver of them. Item I bequeath to Anne my sister six shillings eight pence. Item I give & bequeath to Richard my son 40s. Item to John Higges my best coat. Item I will that if Robert Rogers do pay to my executors the sum of five marks of lawful money of England that then I will that my said executors shall deliver unto the same Robert Rogers the indenture concerning my house with the contents thereof. The residue of all my goods moveable and unmoveable, my funeral expenses, my debts if any be & legacies paid, I commit to the discretion of Richard Russell my brother and Robert Mansfylld my brother-in-law, the which I make my executors to bestow it to the wealth of my children and they to have for their painstaking between them 13s 4d. Also I will John Hyckes & John Luce to be overseers of this my last will and testament & they to have for their painstaking between them 6s 8d.

The record of this testament being: Richard Wheller, curate, John Hyckes, John Sorty with others

**teams = harness chains for oxen and horses*

forcet = a coffer

Probate: 2 June 1551

1552/3

In the name of God, Amen. The 14th October 1552 I Agnes Elcokes now dwelling in Cheltenham, widow, sick in body but whole in mind & perfect remembrance, make my testament containing my last will in manner and form following. First I commit and bequeath my soul unto Almighty God, my maker and Redeemer, and my body unto Christian burial. Item I give and bequeath unto my sister Margery Belchere my best kirtle and 20d in money. Item I give and bequeath unto my son's daughter Joan Elcoxe the table board in the nether parlour with the trestles and one cauldron to be delivered at the years of discretion. Item I give and bequeath to my brother William Chaunner 20d in money. Item I give and bequeath to William mason in money 20d in money. Item my will is that my executor under written shall give unto the poor at my day of burial 5s in money. Item I give and bequeath unto Walter Lawley of Winchcombe 20d. Item I give and bequeath unto Robert Koxe 20d. Item all the residue of my goods unbequeathed moveable and unmoveable I give unto my son Harry Elcockes whom I ordain and make my sole and only executor of this my testament & last will and he to pay my debts & receive my debts and to pay my

legacies. Item I ordain and make Walter Lawley and Robert Coxe my faithful overseers of this my testament and last will.

Witness hereof: Steven Pole, William Chaunner, William Mason with others

Probate: 18 January 1552

1557/119

In the name of God, Amen. The 12th November 1555 I John Packer of the parish of Cheltenham within the county of Gloucester, sick in body but perfect in memory & of good remembrance, make this my last will & testament in manner & form following. First & before all things I bequeath my soul to Almighty God and my body to the earth. Item I give & bequeath to Annis my wife one messuage or bastener the which I hold of Master Norwood during her widowhood & after her widowhood to those of my daughters that shall be then unmarried. And if in case they all happen to be married before the years of the said messuage be expired that then the rest of my years to remain to Richard my son. And if in case my son Richard decease before that time that then those of my daughters that shall be then alive shall enjoy the whole term of the years that shall be then to come. Item I give to my 5 daughters to either of them a flock bed with the appurtenances and £3 6s 8d apiece to be delivered at the day of their marriages. Item I give to Eleanor my daughter my best brass pot & my best brass pan. Item I give to my daughter Margaret my second best pot. Item I give to Jane my daughter my second best pan. Item I give to Elizabeth my daughter my third pot and to Alice my daughter my fourth pot. Item I give also to every of my 5 daughters a platter & a pottinger and I will that all these portions of goods above given to my daughters to be delivered at the day of their marriages provided always that if any of my daughter die before they be married then I will that that portion to remain to my other daughters by equal portions being unmarried. Item I give to Richard my son £10 to be delivered at 18 years of his age. Item I give to William & Richard my sons all my raiment to be divided by equal portion. All the residue of my goods moveable & unmoveable I give to Annis my wife whom I make my sole executrix willing & commanding her to fulfil this my last will & testament .

These bearing witness: Thomas Packer, his brother, Thomas Roberts, clerk, John Lewys, Richard Coxe, clerk with others

My will is also that Thomas Packer with Thomas Roberts, clerk, William Whytehed & William Packer, my son, shall be overseers to this my last will & testament to see all things well & truly done due to the said John

Item first of Christopher Porter of Cockleford 10s

1557/125

In the name of God, Amen. The 26th May 1557 and in the third year & 4th years of the reigns of our sovereign Philip & Mary, by the grace of God king & queen of England, Spain, Jerusalem & Ireland etc, I John Erinton of the parish of Cheltenham in the county of Gloucester, husbandman, being sick of [body] but whole of mind & of good remembrance, do make this my last will & testament in this manner following. First & before all other things I bequeath my soul to God Almighty, my redeemer & saviour, & my body to the earth. Item I bequeath to the maintenance of the light before the blessed sacrament 6d. Item I bequeath to Richard my eldest son £10 in money. Item to Harry my son £10 likewise. Item to Annis my daughter £10 & a tagged heifer of 2 years of age. Item to Robert my youngest son £10 of money. Item also I give to Harry my son my ground in Boddington the which is in the hands of Richard Wickynges. The residue of my goods, my debts & legacies being paid, I give & bequeath to Elizabeth my wife who I make my sole executor to this my last will & testament.

These bearing witness: Richard Machin, Richard Gregory & Sir Richard Cocks, priest, with others.

The debts of the said John

To William Whitelege

17s 4d

To John Grene

16d

To William Riche

8d

Probate: 23 June 1557

1557/128

In the name of God, Amen. The 12th June 1557 I John Dugemore of the parish of Cheltenham in the county of Gloucester, being sick of body but whole of mind & of good remembrance, thanks be to God, do make this my last will & testament in this manner following. First & before all things I bequeath my soul to God Almighty, my redeemer & saviour, & my body to be buried in the churchyard of Cheltenham aforesaid whensoever it shall please Almighty God to call me into his infinite mercy. Item I bequeath to the mother church 6d. Item I bequeath to the parish church of Cheltenham to the maintenance of the light before the blessed sacrament 6d. Item to Richard my son one hoshe horse gelding & an acre of wheat. Item to Anne my daughter-in-law one horse and one acre of rye. Item to my daughter-in-law Eleanor 13s 4d. Item to Margery my daughter 2 acres of barley, a pot & a pan, 2 platters, one pottinger & a saucer. Item the residue of my goods, my debts & legacies being paid, I give & bequeath to Annis my wife who I make my sole executrix & she to see my body honestly brought on earth whensoever it shall please Almighty God to call me into his mercy.

These bearing witness: William Ryche, Harry Mason & Richard Cocks, priest.

The debts of the said John Dugemore

First to the church in Cheltenham

20s 7d

To William Whyte lege

7s

To Walter Pate

13s 4d

Probate: 8 July 1557

1557/295

In the name of God, Amen. The 26th February in the 4th & 5th years of the reigns of our sovereigns Philip and Mary, by the grace of God King and Queen of England, Spain, Jerusalem & Ireland, defenders of the faith etc, I Reginald Beeke, single man, of the parish of Cheltenham in the county of Gloucester, do make this my last will & testament as follows. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, my redeemer & saviour & my body to the earth. Item I bequeath to the poor people of Cheltenham 10s. Item I bequeath to the maintenance of the light before the blessed sacrament in the same church 4d. Item I bequeath to my mother 20s. Item I bequeath to my sister Margaret my house with 3 acres belonging to the same in Arle for the term of 11 years, a pot & a certain (*sic*) of malt & 30s of money. Item I bequeath to my godson Walter Beke 3s 4d & to another godson at Withy Bridge 3s 4d. Item I bequeath to my brother Harry Beeke 10s & to my brother Thomas my white pouch, a dagger & a girdle. Item I bequeath to my sister Wood's children 5s. Item I bequeath to my cousin Eleanor 3s 4d and to Maud Kempe, the servant of Alice Lane, 3s 4d. Item I bequeath to my brother William Burrall & Thomas all my apparel. The rest of my goods, my debts & legacies being paid, I give & bequeath to Robert Beeke & Harry my brothers who I make my executors & they to see my body brought on earth.

Witness: Sir Richard Cockes, priest, Walter Frenche & Thomas Mathewe with others

Probate: 15 March 1557

1557/305

In the name of God, Amen. The 3rd April 1557 and in the fourth & 5th years of the reigns of our sovereigns Philip and Mary, by the grace of God King and Queen of England, France, Jerusalem & Ireland, defenders of the faith etc, I Richard Combe, single man, of the parish of Cheltenham in the county of Gloucester, being sick of body but good of mind & of good remembrance, do make this my testament & last will in manner & form following. First and before all other things I bequeath my soul to God Almighty, my redeemer & saviour, & my body to the earth where it shall please him to call me unto his mercy. Item I give & bequeath to the parish church of Cheltenham to the maintenance of the light before the sacrament 12d. Item I bequeath to the poor people of the same parish 10s to be delivered unto them at the day of my burial by the hands of my two brothers, Richard & Walter. Item I bequeath to every one of my godchildren 4d apiece to be delivered at the same time. Item I bequeath to my brother Richard my best gown & coat & a pair of hose. Item I bequeath to Annis my daughter £6 13s 4d of current money, a flock bed with the appurtenances, that is to say a double covering & a covering of red say, half a score of couples, two kine of the best, a great pot & a pan & a cauldron, 5 platters, 4 pottingers, a pair of blankets, 4 pair of sheets & a cupboard & if she decease it shall remain to the children of Richard Comb. Item I bequeath to Richard my brother 3 tod of wool & one acre of wheat in the hill field. Item I bequeath to my cousin William Combe 20 pounds of slowred yarn & a ewe & a lamb. Item I bequeath to my cousin John Combe 2 ewes & two lambs. Item I bequeath to my 5 cousins, Margaret, Annis, Alice, Richard & Eleanor to either of them a ewe & a lamb. Item I bequeath to my sister Eleanor, my cousin Margaret & my cousin Joan to either of them an ell of holland. Item I bequeath to my cousin Joan Goodrige 4 bushels of grist corn & a bushel of malt, a cow, a ewe & a lamb. Item I bequeath to my brothers Richard & Walter & Ralph Godrige a horse betwixt them three. Item I bequeath to Robert Hylbarde a bushel of barley. Item to Anne Byshop a bushel of barley. Item I bequeath to my nurse Florence Kyng a half acre of barley in ell furlong. Item I bequeath to Annis Hathewey my nightgown & a bushel of corn. Item my will is that my brother Richard Combe & my brother Walter shall be executors to this my last will & testament of all the residue of my goods moveable & unmoveable, my debts & legacies being paid. And my brother Walter to have the years & taking of my house after my decease & he to keep my daughter Annis until she be of 16 years of age & then he to deliver unto her such legacies as is above expressed. Furthermore my will is that Walter Lane & Thomas Mathew shall be overseers to this my last will & testament to see all things well & truly performed & either of them to have for their pains 3s 4d apiece.

These bearing witness: Richard Cocks, priest, Walter Lane, Thomas Mathew, Robert Hylbard with others

Probate: 25 June 1557

1557/314

In the name of God, Amen. The 27th July 1557 I Robert Butler of Cheltenham in the county of Gloucester, husbandman, being sick of body but whole of mind & of good remembrance thanks be to God, do make this my last will & testament as hereafter follows. First & before all things I bequeath my soul to God Almighty, my redeemer & saviour, & to all the blessed company of heaven and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Cheltenham aforesaid. Item I bequeath to John my son one horse, my best brass pot & a cauldron. Item to Eleanor my daughter my second best cauldron & one pot. Item I bequeath to my father one horse of the best to occupy for his time. Item my will is that John my son shall give his sister Joan at the day of her marriage 6s 8d. Item the residue of my goods, my debts & legacies being paid, I give &

bequeath to Margaret my wife for the time of her widowhood & she also I make my executrix. And if it fortune that she marry she shall leave the implements & necessities of the house for my son John & so to take her chamber & to depart. These bearing witness: Richard Cocks, priest, Richard Mayles & William Bendfylde with others
Probate: 4 August 1557

1557/328

In the name of God, Amen. The 5th May in the third & 4th years of the reigns of our sovereigns Philip and Mary, by the grace of God King and Queen of England, Spain, Jerusalem & Ireland etc, I Robert Gregorye, husbandman, of the parish of Cheltenham in the county of Gloucester, do make this my last will & testament in manner & form following. First & before all things I bequeath my soul unto God Almighty, my redeemer & saviour, & my body to the earth. Item I bequeath to the maintenance of the light before the blessed sacrament 8d. Item I bequeath to Robert Coxe my son-in-law 20s. Item to Alice Coxe, the daughter of the said Robert Coxe, a ewe & a lamb & a pair of sheets. Item to John 10s. Item to Robert 10s to be delivered unto them by my executors after my decease. Item I bequeath to my son Reginald an ox called Brown, a mare, 4 sheep, a pair of sheets, a canvas & a pot. Item I bequeath to Harry my son an ox called Bannyng, an ox calf & a half acre of wheat in Aston field. Item also to Reginald an acre of barley in middle furlong. Item I bequeath to Thomas my son a table board fold, a cupboard, a cistern, a quern & all the wood within my hey & all the other implements of my house. Item to Robert, the son of Robert Coxe, a lamb. Item I bequeath to Richard my son £10 of money and one mess of demesne lying in Arle to be paid unto him by the hands of my son Thomas. Item furthermore I bequeath to William, Reginald & Harry to either of them 13s 4d apiece to be received at the hands of my son Thomas. Item I bequeath to Harry two half acres of barley lying in the length of Mardon's leasow. Item to my son John two butts in calcoms shade. Item to my son Robert 2 butts of barley lying in Durbits pill. Item to William my son 3 other butts in same furlong. Item I give to Alice Clarke my daughter a ewe & a lamb. Item the residue of my goods moveable & unmoveable, my debts & legacies being paid, I give & bequeath to Thomas & Richard, who I make my executors to this my last will & testament. Item furthermore my will is that William Bendfylde & Thomas Strode shall be my overseers to see all things well & truly performed & done & they to have for their pains 3s 4d apiece. These bearing witness: Richard Coxe, priest, & John White with others
Probate: 11 June 1557

1557/468

In the name of God, Amen. The 18th February in the 4th & 5th years of the reigns of our sovereign lord and lady Philip and Mary, by the grace of God King and Queen of England, Spain, Jerusalem and Ireland etc, I William Frenche otherwise called Lane of the parish of Cheltenham in the county of Gloucester, husbandman, being sick of body but whole of mind & of good remembrance thanks be to God, do make this my last will & testament as hereafter follows. First & before all other things I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, my redeemer & saviour, to our blessed lady St Mary and to all the holy company of heaven and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Cheltenham foresaid. Item I bequeath to the maintenance of the light before the blessed sacrament in the said church 4d. Item I bequeath to my two daughters Margery & Margaret £6 13s 4d apiece. Item I bequeath to my two youngest sons William & Reginald £4 apiece & a heifer of a year old to either of them. Item I bequeath to Walter my son one parcel of demesne ground called the Miller Close

with the rest that belongs to the same after the marriage of my wife. My will is that she shall have it so long as she is widow. And she fortune to marry then my will is that Walter my son shall have it 10 years after her marriage and to be all the governance of my brother Walter & he to have the rent for 10 years and at the ten years end to pay unto the said Walter my son £10. Item I bequeath to Richard my son the third part of my goods unbequeathed. And if it fortune any of my said children to decease or depart this life before they have received it or their part that is at the years of age then his or their parts shall remain to the other being alive to be divided amongst them equally. Item I bequeath to Joan Michyll my mother one cow and to Alice Lane my sister a ewe & a lamb. Item I bequeath to Walter my brother my best coat & my best hose. Item I bequeath to Richard Lane my brother-in-law my best jerkin. Item I bequeath to the poor and most neediest people of the said parish 5s 4d. Item I bequeath to every of my servants one sheep apiece to be delivered unto them at shear time with the flesh & their wages. The rest of my goods, my debts & legacies being paid, I give & bequeath to Alice my wife whom I constitute and ordain to be my sole executrix to this my last will & testament & she to see my body honestly brought on earth.

These bearing witness & overseers to see all things well & truly performed & done: Walter Frenche, my brother, Robert Bycke, Richard Barnarde & Robert Milton & Sir Richard Cocks & either of them to have for their pains 20d apiece.

The debts of the said William Frenche the which he does owe. Item first to Richard Wickys of Charlton, my brother 6s 8d. Item to Joan Michyll my mother 10s.

The debts due to the said William. Item first of Richard Barnarde £6 13s 4d. Item of Harry Cotmore otherwise called Mawle £4 18s. Item of Margery Kent widow 21s. Item of Jeffrey Warde, shepherd, 15s, of Thomas Sharfowed 5s. Item of Mayle's wife 4s

Probate: 15 March 1557

1557/496

In the name of God, Amen. The 10th May 1557 & in the third & fourth years of the reigns of our sovereigns Philip and Mary, by the grace of God King and Queen of England, Spain, Jerusalem and Ireland etc, I William Mathewe of the parish of Cheltenham in the county of Gloucester, husbandman, do make this my last will & testament in this manner following. First & before all other things I bequeath my soul to God Almighty, my redeemer & saviour, & my body to the earth. Item I bequeath to the maintenance of the light before the Blessed Sacrament 12d. Item to the poor people of the same parish 10s. Item I bequeath to my two children the right of my house that Harry Beeke dwells in & if the one decease the other shall have it whole. Item I bequeath to them also 40s of money & 2 couples of sheep apiece of the best. All this my will is that my wife shall have the use of it & the profits with the stock to remain to the children & they to have it at the years of age according to the law. Item also I give & bequeath to my eldest child a pair of iron-bound wheels or else five nobles of money, a great chest, a bench & a spear, 2 coffers, a quern & two boulting wiches & this to remain in the house as standards. I confess that I have in my keeping of my sister Margery's 6 pair of sheets, a feather bed & 2 pillowberes, the which is all in her coffer in my house. I owe her also 20s of money. The residue of my goods, my debts & legacies being paid, I give & bequeath to Alice my wife who I make my sole executrix to this my last will & testament & she to see my body honestly brought on earth when it shall please Almighty God to call me unto his mercy.

These bearing witness: Thomas Mathew & Thomas Beeke & Sir Richard Cocks with others.

My will is also that Thomas Mathew my brother & Thomas Beeke shall be my overseers to see all things well & truly performed & done & they to have for (*torn*)

The debts of the said William			
To Robert Beeke	20s		
To debts due to the said William			
Of Robert Hibbard	5s		
Of Thomas Beeke	4s		
Of Thomas Cleveleye	6s	8d	
Of John Garne		20d	
Of Hawke's wife of Gloucester	5s		
The 10 th of June			
In the chamber			
5 beds, flock beds, 20 pair of sheets	£5		
In the hall			
A garnish & a half of pewter price	30s		
In linen & meat cloths & 10 towels & half a dozen of napkins, 5 pillows price	40s		
4 quarters of malt & 12 bushels of grist corn price	£7	6s	8d
5 pots & 2 posnets, 5 cauldrons & 3 pans price	£4	10s	
Copper ware 16 price	20s		
The wood in the yard	£6	13s	4d
The corn in the field			
In wheat & rye 12 acres price	£6		
Item barley 10 acres price	33s	4d	
2 of wiches price	20s		
4 oxen price	£8		
4 kine price	£6		
2 horse beasts price	56s	8d	
10 couples	£3	6s	8d
10 wether sheep price	50s		
4 pigs price	13s	4d	
2 broaches & a frying pan & 2 brandirons,			
1 pair of pot hooks & a fire shield price	10s		
A wain iron bound price	40s		
A dung wain	6s	8d	
An ox harrow price	5s		
2 pair of small harrows	6s	8d	
The whole sum is	£66	8s	4d
Probate: 11 June 1557			

1558/140

In the name of God, Amen. The 13th April 1557 and in the third & 4th years of our sovereigns Philip and Mary, by the grace of God King and Queen of England, Spain, Jerusalem and Ireland etc I John Hawle, husbandman, of the parish of Cheltenham in the county of Gloucester, being sick of body but whole of mind & of good remembrance, do make this my testament & last will in manner & form following. First & before all other things I bequeath my soul unto God Almighty, my redeemer & saviour, to our blessed lady St Mary & all the company of heaven & my body to the earth. Item I bequeath to the maintenance of the light before the blessed sacrament in Cheltenham aforesaid 6d. Item I bequeath to John my son the lower moor ground next unto Arle & my wife to have the occupying of it her life time & my son John to have the rent. Item I bequeath to Joan my daughter that I have by my other wife 26s 8d. The residue of my goods, my house & 18 acres of land in the field, my debts &

legacies being paid, I give & bequeath to Julian my wife who I make my sole executrix to this my last will & testament.

These bearing witness: Richard Cocks, clerk, Richard Com(*torn*) John Lewes & John Carpenter, my brother-in-law with others

Item furthermore my will (*torn*) that Richard & John, my wife's brothers, shall be my overseers to see all things well & truly per(*torn*)

The debts of the said John Hawle

To Thomas Packer	40s (30s)
To Mr Roberts of Swindon	20 (13s 4d)
To William Goodchepp	26s 8d (20s)
To John Carpenter	£5 3s 4d (10s)

The sums in brackets are written in a different hand

Probate: 9 March 1558s

1558/503

In the name of God, Amen. The 16th July & in the 5th & 6th years of the reigns of our sovereign lord & lady Philip and Mary, by the grace of God King and Queen of England, Spain, Jerusalem & Ireland etc I Thomas Packer of the parish of Cheltenham in the county of Gloucester, husbandman, being sick of body but whole of mind & of perfect memory thanks be to God, do make my last will & testament as hereafter follows. First & before all things I bequeath my soul to Almighty God my redeemer & saviour, to our blessed lady St Mary & all the holy company of heaven and my body to be buried in the church of Cheltenham foresaid. Item I bequeath to Joan my wife one house of burgage land lying in Cheltenham foresaid during her natural life, late the house of John White & the same house to be built sufficiently for her by my executors. Item I bequeath to her also £40 of good & lawful money of England, 6 silver spoons, a feather bed & a flock bed with their apparel belonging to the same, half a dozen of platters, half a dozen of pottingers & half a dozen of saucers & 6 kine. Item furthermore I give unto her my years to come of Milton's house, of the Mill & the closes belonging to the same joining to Buddygh House, the copy of Dudgeemor's lands & the copy of Foster's lands. Item I bequeath to Edmund Packer my youngest son one house of free land in Gloucester, late in the hands of Richard Cooke, for the term of his life & after his decease without issue to Jane my daughter. Item I bequeath unto the said Edmund £40 of money & to Margery my youngest daughter £40 of money. If the one decease his part to remain to Edmund her brother being alive. If they both decease then their parts shall remain to their mother. Item I bequeath to George Rydeler & Elizabeth Rydler, my wife's two children, £10 apiece to either of them & if the one decease that part to remain to the other. Item I bequeath to Thomas my eldest son all my free lands & my lease of Twigworth. Item I bequeath to Edward my son £10 of rent of Mr Lygon or the years as yet to come & 24s of rent of Robert Beeke for the years to come, half a weigh of barley & the rent for the lands of Walter Frenche the younger of Alstone, 9s by the year. Item I bequeath to Eleanor my daughter £30 of money or money's worth, one honest bed with a bedstead & his other apparel belonging to the same, four silver spoons with knots gilt at the end, a pot & a pan, 4 platters, 4 pottingers, 2 saucers & two kine. Item I bequeath to Alice & Jane my daughters in all things as is above written to Eleanor my daughter. And if it fortune one of them to decease without issue the part to remain to the other two being alive & so of the other equally to be divided to them. Item I bequeath to Walter Brushe my son-in-law one house in Westal called Millards House for the term of his own life, paying for the same yearly 9s 2d. Item I give & bequeath to the said Walter Brushe two oxen, one of them is in his keeping already & the other to be dd[given] by my e[xecutors]. Item I bequeath to my son-in-w

William Rich's 3 children 6 sheep apiece & to the 3 children of Joan Wellis my daughter 6 sheep apiece & to my brother John Packer's children unmarried four sheep apiece. Item I bequeath to my two men servants & my two maidservants likewise 6 sheep apiece. Item I bequeath to my brother Smal's two children, to either of them a yearling calf weaned this year. The rest of my goods, my debts & legacies being paid, I give & bequeath to Thomas & Edward my sons who I make my executors to this my last will & testament & they to see my body honestly brought on earth.

These bearing witness: Thomas Higgs, John Lewes & Sir Richard Cocks, priest with others. Item my will is also that Richard Lawrence of Woxecote [Foxcote] & William Riche of Cheltenham shall be my overseers to see all things justly & truly performed & they 2 to have the governance of my three daughters & their legacies until the day of their marriage, they putting in convenient sureties for the repayment of their said portions.

Delivered as my last will & testament in the presence of these men above expressed

1558/517

In the name of God, Amen. The 18th July 1558 I Walter Combe, husbandman, of the parish of Cheltenham in the county of Gloucester, being sick of body but whole of mind & of good remembrance, thanks be to God, do make this my last will & testament as hereafter follows. First & before all other things I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, to our blessed lady St Mary & to all the holy company of heaven and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Cheltenham foresaid. Item I bequeath to the maintenance of the light before the blessed sacrament in the same church 6d. Item I bequeath to Annis my daughter £6 13s 4d of good currant money of England. Item furthermore I bequeath unto her 20 couples of sheep, one cow, one bed with his full appurtenances, a pot & a pan & half dozen of pewter. Item I bequeath to my brother Richard Strateforde my best cloak. Item I bequeath to Thomas Mathew & Walter Frenche the younger one sheep apiece of Cotswold sheep & they two also I ordain to be my overseers. The rest of my goods I give & bequeath to Alice my wife who I make my executrix to this my last will & testament & she to pay my debts & legacies & to see my body honestly brought on earth.

These being witnesses: Richard Cocks, priest, Thomas Mathew, Walter Frenche the younger with others

See 1558/582

1558/582

In the name of God, Amen. The 18th July 1558 I Walter Combe of the parish of Cheltenham, husbandman, in the county of Gloucester, being sick of body but whole of mind & of good remembrance, thanks be to God, do make this my last will & testament as hereafter follows. First & before all other things I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, to our blessed lady St Mary & all the holy company of heaven and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Cheltenham foresaid. Item I bequeath to the maintenance of the light before the blessed sacrament in the said church 6d. Item I bequeath to Annis my daughter £6 13s 4d of good currant money of England. Item furthermore I bequeath unto her 20 couples of sheep & a cow, one bed with his full appurtenances, a pot & a pan & half a dozen of pewter. Item I bequeath to my brother Richard Stratforde my best cloak. Item I bequeath to Thomas Mathew & Walter Frenche the younger one sheep apiece of Cotswold sheep & they two also I ordain to be my overseers. The rest of my goods, my debts & legacies being paid, I give & bequeath to Alice my wife who I make my executrix to this my last will & testament & to see my body honestly brought on earth.

These bearing witnesses: Richard Cocks, priest, Thomas Mathew, Walter Frenche the younger with others
See 1558/517

1559/56

In the name of God, Amen. The 12th October 1559 I Harry Awoode of the parish of Cheltenham in the county of Gloucester, husbandman, being sick of body but whole mind & of good remembrance thanks be to God, do make this my last will & testament as follows. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God my redeemer & saviour & my body to Christian burial. Item I bequeath to Richard my son 20s & a coffer and likewise to Thomas my son & Elizabeth my daughter 20s apiece & a coffer to either of them. The rest of my goods, my debts & legacies being paid, I give & bequeath to Joan my wife who I make my full executrix to this my last will & testament.

These bearing witness: Richard Coxe, priest, John Smythe, Harry Mason & Harry Hurst with others.

Item I bequeath to the poor men's box 4d.

Probate: 13 March 1559

1559/113

In the name of God, Amen. The 8th December 1559 I John Lewes of the parish of Cheltenham in the county of Gloucester, baker, being sick of body but whole of mind & of perfect memory thanks be to God, do make this my testament & last will in manner following. First & before all other things I bequeath my soul to God Almighty my redeemer and saviour and my body to Christian burial whensoever it shall please him to call me unto his mercy. Item I bequeath to Annis Colburne, the daughter of Ralph Colburne, one bed with his full apparel belonging to the same, that is to say coverlet, bolster, pillow & blankets & 2 pair of sheets with the bedstead that is in the solar. Also I give unto her 6 platters, 6 pottingers, a salt cellar & a candlestick.

Furthermore I give unto her a table board cloth & a gown to make her a coat. Item I give & bequeath to Robert Baker of Tewkesbury my best coat & best doublet. Item I bequeath to my man my second best coat & second best doublet. Item to the rest of my servants 12d apiece. The rest of my goods moveable & unmoveable, my debts & legacies being paid, I give & bequeath to Alice my wife who I make my full executrix to this my last will & testament.

These bearing witness: John Smyth, William Raynolds & Sir Richard Coxe, priest with others

Item I bequeath to the poor men's box 12d.

Probate: 13 March 1559

1559/151

In the name of God, Amen. Upon the 9th January 1559 I John Jeffreyes of Alston within the parish of Cheltenham in the diocese of Gloucester, husbandman, being much sick in my body but, I praise our lord and maker, in good mind and memory, I do make this my last will of testament in manner and form following. First I commit and bequeath my soul unto the great mercy of Almighty God and my body to be buried in the parish churchyard of Cheltenham among other Christian bodies there. Also I give and bequeath of my worldly goods unto Alice Sherle my goddaughter one cow, a bed with the appurtenances, a brass pot & a brass pan. And all the rest of my goods unbequeathed, my debts paid and received, my funeral discharged, I do give

and bequeath unto Alice my wife who I make my sole executrix of this my last will of testament. And I do ordain and make to be my overseers to see this my last will to be performed and accomplished my well beloved John Pate and Thomas Bicke and I do give unto either of them for their painstaking 3s 4d.

Being witnesses hereunto: John Pate, Richard Carpynter, Harry Bicke & Thomas Bicke

Probate: 19 May 1559

1559/176

In the name of God, Amen. The 28th October 1559 I Margaret Bicke of the parish of Cheltenham within the diocese of Gloucester, being sick in my body but, praises be unto our lord, of perfect mind and good memory, do make this my last will and testament in manner and form following. First I commit my soul unto the merciful hands of Almighty God beseeching him of his great mercy and I bequeath my mortal body to be buried in the parish churchyard of Cheltenham among other Christian bodies there. Item I do give and bequeath of my worldly goods first unto the children of my sister Joan Awood, widow, the rent for one year now next to coming of all my lands lying in Arle in the before said parish and now in the occupation of Harry Bicke my brother. Item I do give and bequeath to six of the youngest children of Robert Bicke my brother five shillings of one year's rent so immediately following of the said lands to be divided equally between them by my executor. And I do give and bequeath the other five shillings of the same year's rent unto the children of Thomas Ockey of Withy Bridge equally to be divided between them by the said executor. And also the rest of the rents of the foresaid lands for the years so to come due unto me to be paid I do give and bequeath unto Harry Bicke and Thomas Burrall my brethren jointly between them whereof excepted 13s 4d of the which I do give and bequeath unto Joan Awood my sister ten shillings in lawful money. Item I do give and bequeath unto Thomas Burrall my brother my six pieces of pewter. Item I do give and bequeath unto Elizabeth Kyrby one of my workaday petticoats. Item I do give and bequeath of the foresaid 13s 4d excepted unto Alice Bicke and Eleanor Bicke, daughters unto Thomas Bicke my brother, forty pence between them two. Item all the rest of my goods unbequeathed or given, my debts unto me owing received and the debts that I do owe paid, my funeral discharged, I do give and bequeath unto William Burrall who I make my only executor of this my last will and testament.

Debts owing unto me the said Margaret

Harry Bick owing	20s
Robert Bick owing	58s
Robert Hibbt owing	10s

Witnesses hereunto: Richard Sharford the elder, William Elbrowe & Richard Lane

1559/313

In the name of God, Amen. The 23rd June 1559 I Thomas Blisse of the parish of Cheltenham in the county of Gloucester, husbandman, being sick of body but of good & perfect memory, thanks be to God, do make this my last will & testament as follows. First & before all other things I bequeath my soul to Almighty God my redeemer & saviour and my body to Christian burial. And as for my worldly goods I thus give them as follows. First I give and bequeath unto Elizabeth my daughter the right title & inheritance as full heir of all my lands lying & being in the tithing of Harescombe now in the tenure of Humphrey Berye to her & to her heirs for ever. And in default of issue by her then to descend unto the next of kin of my brothers as other lands do descend by heritage, provided that Joan my wife shall have & enjoy all the

rents, commodities & profits thereof for & by the space of 12 years for & towards the cost of keeping my child. And if the child die yet she to have the same out the 12 years and after the 12 years the whole profits to arise & come for the use of my child by the discretion of my overseers until she come to discretion or marriage. Moreover I give unto her 40s to be delivered at any time that my overseers shall see reasonable cause & to employ the same to her most advantage until she come unto lawful age. Item also I give unto her a flock bed with all his apparel, a great pot with long legs anoxe ethe [annexed it] and a cupboard which is at Whaddon at Humphrey Berie's & to remain for lack of heirs from her to my brothers as is aforesaid. The rest of my goods moveable & unmoveable, my debts & legacies being paid, I give & bequeath unto Joan my wife, making her my sole executrix and my overseers Thomas Robertis, clerk, & Robert Bicke of Arle. And I further declare here my true debts. First William Telew of Stroud 13s 4d and Robert Reding of Tredington & Geynis' wife sureties of one Thomas Biglyn 18s, Master Clutterbucke of Gloucester £3 17s, William Lane 4s for sureties for Thomas White, Richard Rogers 13s. Witness to this my last will & testament: Sir Reginald Lane, Harry Cottman als Mawle, Harry Hurst & William Burrall with others
Probate: 13 March 1559

1559/336

In the name of God, Amen. The 18th July 1558 I Walter Combe of parish of Cheltenham in the county of Gloucester, husbandman, sick of body but whole of mind & of good remembrance, thanks be to God, do make this my last will & testament as follows. First & before all other things I bequeath my soul to Almighty God my redeemer & saviour, to our blessed lady St Mary & all the holy company of heaven & my body to the earth. Item I bequeath to Annis my daughter 20 nobles of currant money of England, a cow & 20 sheep, half a dozen of pewter & a pot & a pan. Item I bequeath to my brother-in-law Richard Stratforde my best cloak. Item I bequeath to Thomas Mathewe & Walter Frenche the younger one sheep apiece to take the pains to oversee this my last will truly performed & done. The rest of my goods moveable & unmoveable, my debts & legacies being paid, I give & bequeath to Alice my wife who I make my full & whole executrix.

These bearing witness: Richard Coxe, priest, Thomas Mathewe & Walter Frenche with others

Probate: 15 January 1559

1559/349

In the name of God, Amen. The 24th January and in the first year of the reign of our sovereign lady Elizabeth, Queen of England etc, I William Mawle of the parish of Cheltenham in the county of Gloucester, husbandman, being sick of body but whole of mind & of good remembrance, thanks be to God, do make this my testament & last will as hereafter follows. First & before all things I bequeath my soul to Almighty God my redeemer & saviour, to our blessed lady St Mary & to all the holy company [in] heaven & my body to be buried in Christian burial. And as for my worldly goods this is my will that my wife Eleanor and Harry my son to be my executors to this my last will of all my goods moveable & unmoveable, my debts & legacies being paid. Item I bequeath to Harry Mawle, the son of George Mawle, the sum of 40s the which is in the hands of William Quintayne of Sapperton, witness for the same 40s Roger Parker & I give also to the said Harry one heifer of 3 years old with calf & another yearling of a year old & 6 sheep, a flock bed, a pair of sheets, a covering & one blanket. I bequeath to George his brother one heifer of 3 years of age & a yearling of a year old & 4 sheep, a pair of sheets, a blanket & a covering. Item I bequeath to George Mawle's wife Annis, my daughter-in-law 12d & every child of hers besides the other

to 16d apiece. Item I bequeath to every of my kinsfolk in Northleach 2d apiece. Item I bequeath to every of my godchildren 4d apiece. Item I bequeath to every of my servants 12d. Item I bequeath to the my parish church 12d or else a bushel of malt. Item I bequeath to my cousin Margaret a brinded cow. Item I bequeath to the poor men's box 12d.

Witness to this: William Frenche, Richard Haele, William Bendefylde & Sir Richard Coxe, priest

Probate: 14 March 1559

1560/3

In the name (*torn*) in the year of our Lord God 1559 and in the first year of the reign of our sovereign (*torn*) of God of England, France & Ireland Queen, defender of the faith etc, I Alice (*torn*) county of Gloucester, widow, being by age & nature feeble in body but of good & perfect (*torn*) praise be given to Almighty God make this my testament containing therein (*torn*) and form following. First and principally I give & bequeath my soul (*torn*) God my redeemer and saviour by whose great mercy and blood shedding my whole faith is (*torn*) of his elect children in the kingdom of heaven and my body to be buried in Our Lady chapel within the parish church of Cheltenham aforesaid. And to the (*torn*) tenure of the same chapel I give 12d besides other duties. And as concerning the disposing (*torn*) my worldly goods my last will is as hereafter follows. First to every of my godchildren 8d. Item I give & bequeath to my son William Pate 2 silver spoons, a broach, and for as much as the right & title of the house wherein I now dwell lies in him immediately after my decease according to his former possession therein taken & delivered my will is and do also bequeath to my said son William the standards within the same house to remain to him, that is to say, cupboards, table boards, forms & trestles, the press in the parlour, all wainscot work and shylinges shelves, all bedsteads for himself & geests, painted cloths & in the kitchen & backhouse furnace, an oast & ovens, the great cistern, vats, in the stables planks, racks, mangers and such like, all which things to stand & remain to his use & behalf. Also I give unto him an iron-bound corn wain with yokes, strings & all other (*torn*) thereto pertaining to serve a plough of 6 oxen. And I give also to him my second best horse or gelding, the whole premises to stand & remain unto him only excepted that which shall be hereafter in this present testament otherwise given & bequeathed. Item I give to Eleanor my youngest daughter, now the wife of Richard Okeholde one silver salt, 4 spoons of silver, my little cistern, my second best featherbed with his apparel, that is to say a bolster, 2 dowl* pillows, the second best covering, a pair of sheets, 6 platters, 6 pottingers and 4 saucers of the best pewter, one of my best brass pots & the best pan and another worse, 2 basins & one ewer, one salt of pewter, 2 the best candlesticks, half a dozen counterfeit dishes, one folding board, a cupboard and 4 of the best cushions, provided always that all such stuff & goods as the said Eleanor has received at or before her marriage or at any time since to stand in payment as part & parcel of the legacies before to her given and bequeathed. Item I give to Margaret Tomlyns my daughter 2 silver spoons, my best silver piece, the third best featherbed with his apparel, 3 platters, 3 pottingers and 2 kine. And to Alice her daughter 20s in money, a pot & a pan provided always that if the said Alice shall fortune to decease before she come to her full age or before her marriage then the portion before to her given & bequeathed to remain to the use of one other of the children of my said daughter Margaret and if such child shall fortune to die before it shall come to full age or before her marriage then to remain to the longest liver of the children of my said daughter Margaret. Item I give & bequeath to my daughter Alice Darke 2 silver spoons, one brass pot, one pan, 3 pottingers, 3 platters, 2 saucers, a frock, a petticoat, the fourth best featherbed, one dowl pillow and six wain-loads of wood out of my backside. Item I give to John

Atwyll's children which he has had by Agnes my daughter, first to Edward 40s, also to Alice my goddaughter 40s, a flock bed, a bolster, a coverlet, a pair of sheets and one of my kine. And to every one of the rest of the said children of my said daughter Agnes 20s provided always that if they or any of them decease before their full age or marriage then such portion to him or them given to remain to the longest liver of the said children. Item I bequeath to Henry Mason 3 acres of ground to sow barley upon for one crop. Item I give to Joan, the wife of the said Henry, 20s in money and to Alice their daughter a pan. Item I give to my cousin Julian Fowler 10s and to Agnes Taylor her sister 6s 8d. Item I give to Elizabeth Wyllys my black mourning frock & 6s 8d in money. Item I give to my servant Alice Clarke one cow, a coat, a pair of sheets & half a weigh of malt or barley. Item I give to Richard Roberts one pan. Item I give to my servant Richard Barne 3s 4d in money. Item I give to my servant Richard Hibbarde 6s 8d in money. Item I give towards the mending of highways about Cheltenham 20s. Item I give to Eleanor Pardy one brass pan. Item I give to my goddaughter Alice, the daughter of my son William, 3s 4d in money and to Walter, the son of my said son William 6s 8d and to every one of the rest of his children 20d. The rest of all my goods & chattels moveable & unmoveable not before given nor bequeathed with all & singular my debts, my legacies & funerals discharged & paid I clearly & fully give to Richard Pates my son whom I do make, ordain & constitute my full & sole executor of this my last will & testament and to see my body brought on earth & to dispose for me as he shall think best to God's pleasure. And I charge him that in no wise strive with his brother or sisters but gently to use & entreat them so that his brother William may peaceably have my house and all other legacies before to him given & all the rest the gifts as is before declared. And my will is that all these bequests & legacies before given & bequeathed be forthwith contented, paid & discharged immediately after my month's mind without further delay. And I also make & ordain my especial good friend William Badger, gentleman, bailiff of Cheltenham, my son William Pate & my sons-in-law Thomas Pirry, Richard Tomlyns, John Darke & John Atwell my trusty overseers that they may see all these things justly & truly observed & kept. And I give to the said Mr Badger for his pains to be taken herein 20s and to every other of my said overseers 6s 8d. And I give to these persons whose names hereafter follow such number of sheep as are hereafter written which I mind to deliver in my life time and if I so do then no one of them to be required nor paid by my executor after my decease. That is to say, to Margaret Tomlyns my daughter 20 sheep. Item to Robert Wyllys, the son of John Wyllys, 4 sheep. Item to Alice Clarcke my servant 2 sheep. Item to my servant Richard Barne 6 wether sheep. Item to my servant Richard Clarcke 2 ewes & 2 lambs. Item to Richard Waterman als Tuffley my servant 2 sheep. Item to every of my said son William's Pate's children 2 sheep. Item to Alice Hawling, sometime my servant, one sheep. Item to Alice Dyer my servant one sheep. Item to John Free 2 sheep. And my will is that if the little cistern which I have before given to my daughter Eleanor Okhold be sold that my son William Pate may have & buy the same before another giving for the same as much as any (*faint*) indifferent person will. In witness whereof I the said Alice Pate have caused this my present testament & last will to be made & written and have hereunto put my (*faint*) seal in the presence of these persons which have hereafter subscribed their names which (*torn*) given the day (*torn*) written

Furthermore I give to my daughter Joan Pirry £20 parcel of £40 which she has of mine in her own keeping and £10, parcel of the same £40 in her keeping, I give to my said daughter Margaret Tomlyns & to the same Margaret my best mantle & the £10 residue of the said £40 I give to my said daughter Alice Darck to be delivered to the same Alice by the discretion of my executors & my said daughter Joan. Also I give to my said daughter Eleanor Ockold £20 which her husband has of mine by my delivery in his own hands & my best towel & another towel beside. Also I give to Cecily, my son-in-law John Atwell's wife, 20s. Also to Alice Atwell, John Atwell's daughter, over & above all things bequeathed to her before in my testament 20s. Also I give to Alice

Dyer 10s in gold. Item to Alice Perte 6 bushels of malt, a pan & a pillowbere. Item to Alice Clarck over & above all things given to her before in my testament a pan & a pillowbere. Item I give to Walter, my son William's child, 10s in gold beside all legacies before to him given by this my testament. Item to Mother Sheppard a frock, to Joan Davyes a frock, to Joan the wife of Henry Mason a gown. Item I give to Robert, the son of John Wyllys, one bullock which John Wyllys has of mine in his keeping in the stead & for recompense of 4 sheep which are before mentioned in my testament as bequeathed to the same Robert. And also I forgive unto John Bruer all such debts as he owes to me upon his bill. Item to John Clarck the £9 which he owes me. Item I remit to Richard Roberts als Haynes the £3 parcel of 100s which he owes to me, the other 40s, parcel of that sum of 100s, I give to the highways over & above the sum of 20s before in this my testament bequeathed to the highways. Item I forgive unto Richard Rogers 44s which he owes to me. Item I remit to Maud Robarts 5s, to Margaret Dennys 3s 4d, which they owe to me and to Thomas Cleve, Andrew Lewen & Maud Bromebrick such money as they & every of them owe to me for corn. And furthermore I give to my son William Pate that flat piece of silver partial gilt which my husband his father meant that he should have.

Richard Pates, executor, Richard Cocks, clerk & curate of Cheltenham, John Atwell, William Wyllys

Probate: 27 March 1560

**dowl=fine feathers*

1560/33

In the name of God, Amen. The 24th October 1559 I Harry Harbarde of the parish of Cheltenham in the county of Gloucester, husbandman, sick of body but whole of mind & of perfect memory, thanks be to God, do make this my last will & testament as follows. First & before all things I bequeath my soul to Almighty God my redeemer & saviour & my body to the Christian burial. Item I bequeath to the poor men's box 4d. Item I bequeath to Elizabeth my daughter one bed with his full apparel, a dozen of pewter, a pot & a great pan & £6 13s 4d of ready money or money's worth & my will is that she shall have all these legacies at the day of her marriage & if it fortune she to decease then her part to remain to the rest of her brethren & sisters-in-law being alive, to be divided amongst them by equal portions. Item I bequeath to Margaret Winter my goddaughter one brass pot, a cauldron & 2 platters. The rest of my goods not given, my debts & legacies being paid, I give & bequeath to Joan my wife who I make my sole executrix to this my last will & testament & she to see my body honestly brought on earth.

These bearing witness: Richard Coxe, priest, John Pate & Richard Barne & they to have for their pains 3s 4d apiece.

Delivered as my last [will] & testament in the presence of these men above named.

Probate: 29 August 1560

1560/39

In the name of God, Amen. The 29th October 1560 in the second year of the reign of our sovereign lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God Queen of England, France & Ireland, defender of the faith etc, I John Carpinter of the town & parish of Cheltenham, being sick of body but of good & perfect memory, laud & praise to Almighty God, do make & ordain this my present testament containing herein me last will in manner following. That is to say I commend my soul to Almighty God my maker & redeemer and my body to be buried in the church or churchyard of Cheltenham. Item I give & bequeath to John my eldest son £6 13s 4d. Item to William

my son £6 13s 4d. Item to Joan my youngest daughter £6 13s 4d. Item to Joan my eldest daughter a burde stoke lying at Shurdington, the which money I will it to be paid by my executrix unto my 3 children within one 12 months after my decease. And if it happen any of my 3 children to die before they come to their full age or else to be married that then his or their goods to remain to him or them then living. Item I give & bequeath to my mother 20s to be paid unto her within one month after my decease. Item I give to my father-in-law my best coat. Item I will also that lease of my house shall be set or let unto the commodity & profit of my 3 children by equal portions at the discretion of my overseers. The residue of my goods moveable & unmoveable, my debts paid & my funeral expenses discharged, I give to Joan my wife whom I do make my sole executrix. I do make my overseers John Smythe & William Lane to see this my last will performed, fulfilled & kept.

These bearing witness: Sir Thomas Partrig, John Smythe, William Lane, John Dudson, Thomas White & Robert Coxe with others

Probate: 8 November 1560

