

Abstract of the Will of Roger Tanner of Westham in the County of Sussex within the Liberty of Pevensey, Jurat, written 21 Mar 1617/8, proved 5 May 1618.

(Prerogative Court of Canterbury Wills, PROB 11/131/493)

Wills that his body be buried in the churchyard of Westham next to the church door.

Gives 40 shillings to the poor of Westham.

Gives a mourning cloak each to the four jurats of this place if they will carry his corpse to the churchyard.

Gives £100 to his wife Eve along with a third part of his household stuff, a cow of her choosing, the house he now dwells in with the barn, stables, stalls, outhouses, the garden, orchard, and close adjoining, for the term of her natural life so long as she remains a widow. If his son Thomas shall marry, then his wife shall yield to him the said house, barn, stables, stalls, outhouses, garden, orchard and close, and Thomas in turn will pay her £6 yearly at the usual four feasts, during her widowhood.

Gives £200 to his daughter Elizabeth, to be paid to her when she turns twenty-one or marries with her mother's consent, whichever comes first. He also gives her a feather bed, a bolster, a blanket, a coverlet, a pair of sheets, and a bedstead. Directs that his executor pays to his wife £8 per annum toward to raising of their daughter.

Gives 5 shillings each to his wife's sister's children.

Makes his son Thomas the sole executor of his last will and testament.

Ordains that his friends Nicholas Bodell of Hailsham his brother-in-law, jurat, and William Hamond of Westham, gentleman, be the overseers of his last will and testament, giving them 20 shillings each for their efforts.

Witnesses: Nicholas Bodell, William Hamond

Notes:

1. Roger Tanner of Westham and Eave Maunser of Jevington, virgin, applied for marriage licence which was granted 22 Apr 1596, Richard Hodge of Willingdon, miller, and Richard Picknett of Clive near Lewes, being sureties. They were married in Hailsham on 26 April following.
2. Roger and Eve had two children, both christened in Westham:
 - Thomas, on 16 Mar 1598/9. He was buried in Westham on 26 Nov 1618.
 - Elizabeth, on 19 May 1603. Elizabeth Tanner of Westham, maiden, and Abraham Kencheley of Hailsham, son of Richard Kencheley, yeoman, were granted a marriage licence, on 13 Jan 1618/9. They were married in Hailsham on 21 March following. They had several children.
3. Eva Tanner of Westham, widow, and Richard Kencheley of Hailsham, yeoman, were also granted a marriage licence on 13 Jan 1618/9. They were likewise married in Hailsham on 21 March following. Evah wife of Richard Kenchely was buried in Hailsham on 25 May 1620.