

Sussex Wills and Administrations in the District Probate Registry at Lewes, ESRO reference PBT 1/1/35/234A.

Will of Thomas Duke of Ewhurst in the County of Sussex, Husbandman, written 28 Feb 1677/8, proved 7 Jul 1680.

In the name of God Amen the Eighth and Twentieth day of February in the Thirtieth Year of the Reigne of our Sovereigne Lord Charles the Second by the grace of God King of England &c In the year of our Lord God One Thousand Six hundred seventie & seven, **I Tomas Duke of the Parish of Ewhurst in the Countie of Sussex husbandman** being Sicke and weake in body but perfect of mind and memory God be prayed, doe and ordayne this my last will and Testament in manner and forme following That is to Say In primis I commend my Soule into the hands of God hoping in his mercy through the merits of Jesus Christ for eternall Salvation, And my body I yeeld to the earth to be buried in decent manner. And as touching that temporall estate God hath given me I will and dispose the same as herein after followeth, Item I give and bequeath unto **An my eldest daughter** twelve pence to be paid unto her within twelve moneths next after my decease. Item I give and bequeath unto **Mary my daughter** twelve pence to be paid unto her within twelve moneths next after my decease, And also Ten pounds of good English money to be paid unto her Immediately after the decease of **Alice my wife** if it will then vise. Item I give and bequeath unto **Jane my daughter** twelve pence to be paid unto her within twelve moneths next after my decease. Item I give and bequeath unto **Alice my youngest daughter** my Cottage and the lease of the wast where on the said Cottage Standeth with Thappurtenances thereunto belonging being in Ewhurst aforesaid and after her decease I will and bequeath the Said Cottage & lease with Thappurtenances there unto belonging unto **Thomas Watson the eldest son of the said Alice**. And further my will and mind is that **Alice my wife** shall have her dwelling in that part of the said Cottage wherein widow Spray now dwelleth being the East end thereof dureing the terme of her natureall life without paying any thing therefore. Item I give and bequeath unto **Jane Christmas my grand child** Ten pounds of good English money to be paid into the hands of **my Cousen John Duke of the parish of Playden** in the County of Sussex aforesaid yeoman ⁴ within Twelve moneths next after my decease. And my will is that the said **John Duke** shall paye the said Ten pounds and the profits that shall arise thereof unto her the said **Jane Christmas** when she shall attaine to her age of seventeene years. But if the said Jane shall departe this life before she attaine to the aforesaid age of seventeene years That then my will is that the said Ten pounds be forth with paid unto **Jane my daughter** before named. All the residue of my goods moveables and chattels I give and bequeath unto **Alice my wife** before named whom I make ordaine and appoint to be the Sol Executorex of this my last will and Testament and She to performe full fill and see all my debts legacies and funerall expences paid and discharged. Item I do make and appoynt the before named **John Duke** overseer to this my last will. And I do hereby revoke & make void all former wills by me made or declared whatsoever. In witnesse whereof I the said Thomas Duke have hereunto set my hand & seale dated the day & year first above written.

(his mark)

Witnesses: Wm. Henly, Henry Henly, Mary Henly