

WILLS 1640 -1690

Visit to NRO 20th Sept. 2012. Data first located in Norfolk Genealogy Vol. XVI.

The Peculiar of Castle Rising 1624-1723/4. (See Inventory list on computer)

Then followed up by reading microfiche of original in NRO MT X187.

Andrew Brett 1663 O.W. 2/18 [*Andrew Brett was a regular attendant at the Leet Court from 1650 to 1660; he seems to have been a small time farmer*]

The last will of Andrew Brett of Castle Rising.

I do give my wife Joan the flecked Cow and the young ponington(?) and their young calves and a yearling bullock and my fawn(?) mare and the cart that I bought of William Smith *9see below*) and some twose(?) and collars belonging to the cart.

I do give to my son Georg(e) my Roan Mare and the little grey mare and one pair of cart-wheels. [*George Brett attended the Leet Court in 1660 and 1664*]

I do give to my daughter Balls the old cows I bought of them. [*Lawrence Balls attended the Leet Court in 1663 and could have been Andrew Brett's son-in-law*]

I do make my wife whole executive and I do hand her all the rest of my goods to pay my debts; this being th 16th day of April 1663 in wisse hereof i do set my hand

Andrew Brett his mark

Witness Thomas Sandell [*Thomas Sandell attended the Leet Court in 1662 and in 1666-68, and was mayor of the town in the years 1666-68, 1670 and 1673*]

and John Thacker[?] (*plus 2 others illegible*)[*no sign of this name in the Leet Court*]

William Smith 1660 O.W. 2/31 [*William Smith attended the Leet Court from 1649 to 1657. He is recorded as a baker, and from the will it is suggested that he often sold on credit*]

In the name of God, William Smith of Castle Rising

I give unto John Smith [*baptised 3rd Dec. 1633, son of John and Katherine*] my oldest son, five shillings to be given upon him within one month of my decease.

I give the rest of my goods and chattels and all sommes of money which is due to me in whose hands namely to Katherine my wife and to Thomas Smith my second son, to William Smith my youngest son [*William jnr was also a regular attendant at the Leet Court from 1656 to 1669*] and Margaret Smith my daughter to be distributed in four equal parts to be faithfully divided by Roger Stanniland and John Gaten [*John Gaten or Haton attended Leet Court from 1658 -1689. He is later described as a Gentleman and*

was Mayor of the town on at least 23 occasions, a Walpole ally], who I make executors of this my will and testament.

William Smith his mark.

Anthony A Guybon

Thomas Middleton [*attended Leet Court from 1657 to 1674*]

Henry Padgett. [*A regular attendant at Leet Court from 1653-1660*]

William Grimshaw 1640 O.W.2/5 [*Rector of Castle Rising 1606(?) to 1640. He was buried 24th July 1640 (CR burials)*]

In the name of God, Amen. I William Grimshaw of Castle Rising in the Co.of Norfolk.

As followeth:

I give and bequeath my soul to God that giving it hoping for salvation through th blood and _____(?) of the Lord Jesus Xt _____(?) to give my body to be buried in the ____ (?) church and chancel of the said Castle Rising _____ I give to my sonne Thomas Grimshaw _____ King's Lynn, one _____ 3 pounds of money _____ feather bed, 3 platters.

(*There is also a daughter-in-law Mary Holliday*

And daughter Margaret now wife of H----- Baldwin £5

Son Nathaniel Grimshaw _____ the rest of my goods

[*This was difficult to read.*]

Robert Jackson senior 1665 O.W.2/41 [*A regular attendant at Leet Court from 1642 to 1662*]

I Robert Jackson senior

My mind and will is that Margaret my wife shall possess and quietly enjoy my free Burgage in the Town aforesaid, and together with all the appurtenances thereto belonging, and also all my goods whatsoever during the tenure of her natural life towards the maintenance of herself and children. From my mind and will is that after her decease, Thomas [*he was a regular attendant at Leet Court from 1657-1683. He was born Aug 3 1635(CR Baptisms)and died in 1684, aged 49 (Will O.W2/790)*] my eldest sonne shall inherit my burgage and its appurtenances, paying his youngest brothers John and Robert, and his sister Katherine £3 a piece which is to be paid by 30/- a year [*with a complex arrangement explained*]

John Browne 1664, O.W 2/43[*A regular attendant at Leet Court from 1642 to 1658*]

In the name of John Browne of Castle Rising in Co. Norfolk; **husbandman** [*small scale farmer*]

I give to Richard Browne my sonne my best bed and bedstead as it stands and a cupboard and a frame table, four _____(?), two butter stools, two chairs, a bassyer [*presumably brazier*], a kettle and a form.

I give to my godsonne John Browne, my bible, and to give all the rest of my goods to Frances my wife

Robert Cage 1678 O.W. 2/66 (*a regular attendant at the Leet Court from 1666 to 1678, and a Robert Cage married to Dorothy gave birth to a daughter Hannah on 12 Jan 1641*)

. . . . In the name of God Amen, the 5th day of December 1678 acc. to computation of the Church of England, Robert Cage of Castle Rising, **thaxter** [*i.e. Thatcher*] being sick and weak of body but of perfect memory last will and testament –viz: -

I give unto William Cage my sonne, my barn _____ upon the land I purchased from John Cape [*probably the man recorded at Leet Court from 1656 to 1671 but name difficult to read*] [*too difficult to transcribe*]

Robert Bulwer 1680 O.W. 2/77 [*probably this man attended Leet Court from 1647 intermittently until 1678, and was Mayor in 1653, 1660, 1669, 1675 and 1676*] latterly described as a Gentleman.]

I give to my sonne Richard Bulwer one great bible, one bed as it standeth in my parlour chamber [*rest too difficult*]

Allan Williamson 1683, tailor O.W. 2/80 [*attended the Leet Court from 1675 to 1681*]

I Allan Williamson of Castle Rising in County of Norfolk being ill and weak of body but of sound memory make this my last will and testament.

I give to my son William Williamson that messuage or tenement I now live in, he to enjoy the benefit of a rent within involvement after my decease.

Then I make Ann my beloved wife, my whole executrix of this my will she having her [*too difficult*]

Thomas Haton 1690, Gentleman O.W. 2/88 [*Mayor of Rising 1678, 1781-5*]

I give to my sisters Margaret, Elizabeth, Mary, Martha and Joan all my linen to be divided equally among them and to each of them 20 shillings of lawful money.

I give to my dear wife all that she brought with her [*too difficult*]