

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 24 April 1572 and proved 17 October 1572, of Jane Basset Unwin Windsor (c.1504-1572) of Avington, Hampshire, whose second husband, Sir Anthony Windsor (d. July 1548), was the great-uncle of Edward Windsor (1532?-1575), 3<sup>rd</sup> Baron Windsor, husband of Oxford's half-sister, Katherine de Vere (1538-1600).

### ***FAMILY BACKGROUND***

The testatrix was born Jane Bassett, the granddaughter of Thomas Basset (d.1492) and his wife, Alice, and the daughter of Richard Basset (d.1509) and his wife, Julyan (d.1533). For the inquisition post mortem taken after the death of the testatrix' grandfather, Thomas Basset (d.1492), see TNA C 142/9/51. For the inquisition post mortem taken after the death of the testatrix' father, Richard Basset (d.1509), see TNA C 142/24/36.

The testatrix had one brother, Thomas Basset, who appears to have died without issue. After the death of the testatrix' father, the testatrix' mother, Julyan, married John Wintershill (d.1545), by whom she had two daughters, Alice Wintershill and Julyan Wintershill. According to the will of her father (see below), Alice Wintershill married John Pynfold, by whom she had a daughter, Anne Pynfold. Julyan Wintershill married a husband surnamed Cooke. In the will below, the testatrix leaves bequests to her half-sister, Julyan Cooke, and to Julyan's children, Thomas Cooke, Denys Cooke, Robert Cooke, Arthur Cooke, Winifred Cooke, Meryn Cooke, and Anne Cooke (wife of a husband surnamed Elys).

For the testatrix' family background, see:

'Parishes: Kingsclere', in *A History of the County of Hampshire: Volume 4*, ed. William Page (London, 1911), pp. 249-267. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/hants/vol4/pp249-267> [accessed 24 March 2018]

*Thomas Basset the younger, probably the son and heir of the above-named, dealt with the manor in conjunction with his wife Alice in 1482, (fn. 176) and died seised ten years later, leaving a son, Richard Basset, (fn. 177) who died in 1509, his heir being his son Thomas, aged twelve. (fn. 178) The manor, however, continued with Juliane widow of Richard. In January 1511 she married as her second husband a certain John Wintershill, (fn. 179) and had issue by him two daughters, Alice and Juliane. She died at Winchester in 1534, (fn. 180) and her husband, John Wintershill, continued to hold the manor until his death in 1545, when it passed to Joan wife of William Unwin, only daughter of Juliane by her first husband, her son Thomas having apparently left no issue. (fn. 181) The following year William and Joan sold the manor to William Paulet Lord St. John, (fn. 182) . . . .*

For the will of the testatrix' stepfather, John Wintershill, dated 2 November 1544 and proved 2 May 1545, see TNA PROB 11/30/398. In the will, John Wintershill requests burial in Winchester Cathedral 'next unto the burial of Julyan, late my wife'. He mentions his daughter, Alice Wintershill, and her husband, John Pynfold, both deceased, and their daughter, Anne Pynfold, as well as his daughter, Julyan Wintershill, who married a husband surnamed Cooke by whom she had several children, including a son, John Cooke. For the inquisition post mortem taken after the death of John Wintershill, see TNA C 142/75/51.

For the testatrix' family background, see also Malden (whose account, however, appears to contain several errors):

'Parishes: Worplesdon', in *A History of the County of Surrey: Volume 3*, ed. H E Malden (London, 1911), pp. 390-395. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/surrey/vol3/pp390-395> [accessed 20 March 2018]

*It returned, however, to the Bassetts, for Richard Bassett died seised in 1509, leaving a son and heir Thomas then twelve years old. (fn. 46) Apparently Thomas died without issue, for at the death of Juliana widow of Richard in 1533 her heir was found to be her daughter Joan wife of Richard Unwyn, then twenty-nine years old. (fn. 47) In 1548 a certain Sir Anthony Windsor and his wife Joan were seised of the manor in Joan's right; (fn. 48) so that probably Sir Anthony was Joan Bassett's second husband. In 1566 Anthony Windsor, son of Joan and Anthony, died seised of the manor, leaving a son and heir Edmund, who was about four years old at the time of his father's death. (fn. 49) In 1592 Edmund conveyed the manor to Sir John Wolley, (fn. 50) who died in 1595. In 1597 Lady Elizabeth, widow of Sir John Wolley, was holding the manor in trust for her son Francis. (fn. 51)*

For the Wintershill family, see:

<https://groups.google.com/forum/#!topic/soc.genealogy.medieval/8lzUfOBXGaQ>

## **MARRIAGES**

The inquisition post mortem taken between 22 April 1532 and 21 April 1533 after the death of the testatrix' mother, TNA C 142/53/27, states that the testatrix' first husband was Richard Unwin. See 'Kingsclere', *supra*.

However quare whether the testatrix' first husband was William Unwin, who is stated to have died without issue. See the Unwin pedigree in Rylands, W. Harry, *Pedigrees from the Visitation of Hampshire*, (London: Harleian Society, 1913), Vol. LXIV, p. 110 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/pedigreesfromvis64beno#page/110/mode/2up>

According to the pedigree, William Unwin's niece, Elizabeth Unwin, married Stephen Cooper, who may have been related to the testatrix' executor, John Cooper of Ditcham. For John Cooper, see the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/cowper-john-1586>

For the testatrix' second husband, Sir Anthony Windsor, see his will, TNA PROB 11/32/517.

### ***OTHER PERSONS MENTIONED IN THE WILL***

For Adam Rackton, see Sussex Gentry at:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=wV1LAQAAMAAJ&pg=PA35>

*a gentleman of this name held the manor of Walberton about 1580*

RM: T{estamentum} D{omi}ne Jane Wyndesore

In the name of God, Amen. The 24<sup>th</sup> day of April in the year of Our Lord 1572 and in the 14<sup>th</sup> year of our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God Queen of England, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith etc., I, Dame Jane Windsor of Avington in the county of Southampton, widow, being in perfect health in body and also of good and perfect memory, considering with myself death to be most certain and the hour and time thereof most uncertain, & willing to dispose and bestow such goods which God hath lent me unto God his honour and glory and to the works of charity, do ordain and make this my last will and testament in manner and form as hereafter followeth:

First, I [f. 226v] commit my soul unto the mercy of Almighty God, our heavenly Father, and to his dear and only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Redeemer, by the merits of whose death and passion I trust to be saved;

And my body to be buried in the chancel of Avington near unto the left side of my first husband, Mr Unwin;

Item, I give unto the high church of Winchester 5s;

Item, I give unto the reparation of the church of Avington 40s, and to the poor people within the same parish 13s 4d;

Item, I give unto the reparation of the church of Itchen Abbas 20s, and to the poor people within the same parish ten shillings;

Item, I give to the reparation of the church of Itchen Stoke 20s, and to the poor people within the same parish 10s;

Item, I give unto the reparation of the church of Orington [=Ovington?] 20s, and to the poor people within the same parish 13s 4d;

Item, I give to the reparations of the church of Harting 20s, and to the poor people within the same parish 20s;

Item, I give to the reparations of the church of Worplesdon 20s, and to the poor people within the same parish twenty shillings;

Item, I give to the reparation of the church of Canninges 10s;

And unto the church of Clieuden [=Cliveden?] 10s;

Item, I give unto my sister [=half sister], Julyan Cooke, widow, a nest of goblets of silver double gilt with one cover, a silver salt double gilt with a cover, 12 silver spoons, my lesser chain of gold, my best bed in the chamber over the buttery with all hangings in the same chamber, and one hundred marks in ready money to be delivered to her within the space of ten months next after my decease;

Item, I give unto my said sister two of my best gowns, two of my best kirtles, my best petticoat, my best cloak and safeguard;

Item, I give unto Thomas Cooke, my said sister's son, a silver salt with a cover;

Item, I give unto Denys Cooke, my said sister's son, twenty marks;

Item, I give unto Robert Cooke my said sister's son, twenty marks;

Item, I give unto Arthur Cooke, my said sister's son, twenty marks;

Item, I give unto Winifred Cooke and Meryn Cooke, my said sister's daughters, either of them forty pounds, and if one of them decease before she be married the survivor of them to enjoy the whole fourscore pounds;

Item, I give unto Anne Elys, my said sister's daughter, a standing bowl of silver, two of my cloth gowns, and the third of my best kirtles;

Item, I give unto three of Mr Elys' children, that is to say, Hillary Elys, Anne Elys and Jane Elys, my best chain of gold of the value of forty marks, as I esteem it, to be delivered equally amongst them;

Item, I give unto every of the rest of the children of my said sister's daughter, Anne Elys, six shillings eight pence;

Item, I give unto Christian Elys and Jane Harris, my maidservants, either of them ten pounds;

Item, I give unto John Windsor a featherbed & forty shillings in money;

Item, I give unto Hugh Smyth, my servant, a featherbed, 20 sheep and a cow;

Item, I give to John Mothe a featherbed, ten sheep and a cow;

Item, I give unto John Lacye a cow, 10 sheep, two quarters of wheat and two quarters of malt;

And to his son, John Lacye, a bullock of the age of 2 years;

Item, I give unto William Hawke, my servant, a cow, one quarter of wheat, and one quarter of malt;

And to Jane Hawke, his daughter, a bullock of the age of one year;

Item, I give unto Richard Russell, my servant, a store(?) mare and five pounds in ready money;

Item, I give unto Jane Cooper & Elizabeth Cooper, my god-daughters, either of them, a cow;

Item, I give unto every one of the rest of my godchildren 20s;

Item, I give unto John Sutton, my servant, twenty shillings;

Item, I give unto Thomas Smyth, my servant, a cow and ten sheep;

Item, I give unto every one of the rest of my men-servants remaining with me at my decease three shillings four pence;

Item, I give unto Joan Alcas(?), my servant, a cow and twenty shillings in money;

Item, I give unto Elen(?) Wynesburie, my servant, a cow;

Item, I give unto the prisoners in the jail at Winchester ten shillings;

Item, I give unto Sir Thomas Cooke, Sir Symeon Palmer and Sir Richard Adams, clerks, to every of them ten shillings;

Item, I give unto John Unwin, gentleman, a featherbed whereon I lie myself with the bedstead and all the furniture thereof, all the ceiling in the parlour, and a yotinge(?) stone;

Item, I give unto Susan, my said sister's daughter, a featherbed and twenty shillings, a gown and a kirtle;

Item, the residue of all my goods and chattels not before bequeathed nor hereafter to be bequeathed, I give unto John Cooper of Ditcham in the county of Sussex, gentleman;

And that this my last will and testament may be well and truly observed, kept and performed, I ordain, constitute and appoint the said John Cooper my sole and only executor of this my last will and testament;

Item, I appoint John Harris of Itchen(?) overseer thereof, and to have for his pains 40s;

Item, I give unto Thomas [f. 227r] Norton, my godson, a gilt spoon;

Item, I give unto my daughter [=step-daughter], Mrs Edith Marvyn [=Mervyn], a flower and a ring of gold set with a sapphire;

Item, I give unto my daughter [=step-daughter], Constance Rytte, a ring of gold set with a diamond;

Item, I will that my executor shall bestow at my decease ten gowns of black cloth upon ten poor people;

And to every of my serving-men a black coat;

And to my sister and to every of her children that shall be at my burial a black gown;

Also my will and mind is that my said executor shall have the full time of ten months next after my decease to pay and deliver all the legacies by me by this my last will given & bequeathed;

In witness whereof to this my said last will and testament I have put my seal the day and year first above-written in the presence of William Page of Beriton [=Buriton], Richard Russell and Adam Racketon and others.

Item, I give to John Beading a cow and 6 sheep.

Probatum fuit Testamentum huiusmodi scriptum Coram Domino Cantuariensis Archiepiscopo apud london xvijo octobris 1572 Iuramento Iohannis Cowper executoris & Cui & De bene & Ad sancta Dei angelia iurati

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[=The same testament above-written was proved before the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury at London on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of October 1572 by the oath of John Cooper, executor etc., to whom etc., sworn on the Holy Gospels to well etc.]