

SUMMARY: The document below is the will, dated 7 May 1607, of Henry Jerningham (d. 15 June 1619), who in 1596 sold his mansion in the Blackfriars to George Carey (1548–1603), 2nd Baron Hunsdon.

For the testator's family background, marriages and children, see his earlier will, dated 26 July 1596, NRO JER 246 55X1.

The Jerningham mansion in the Blackfriars adjoined the premises in which James Burbage built his Blackfriars theatre. For the testator's sale of the Jerningham mansion in 1596 to George Carey (1548–1603), 2nd Baron Hunsdon, see SRO D641/3/A/8/1.

In the name of God, Amen. I, Henry Jerningham of Costessey in the county of Norfolk, esquire, being sick in body but of good and perfect remembrance (thanks be to God), this present seventh day of May in the years of the reign of our Sovereign Lord James by the grace of God King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith etc., viz., of England, France and Ireland the fifth and of Scotland the forty Annoq{ue} D{omi}ni 1607, do ordain, constitute and make this my last will and testament in manner and form following:

First and principally I commend my soul unto the hands of Almighty God, my Maker, assuredly trusting to be saved through the merits of Christ Jesus, my Saviour, and my body I commit to the earth to be buried in the chancel of the parish church of Costessey aforesaid where the bodies of my ancestors were buried in such devout manner as to the discretion of Frances, my well-beloved wife, shall seem meet;

Item, I give towards the reparations of the said parish church and chancel of Costessey aforesaid the sum of ten pounds of lawful English money, to be paid by my executrix hereunder mentioned within two months after my decease;

Item, whereas I was determined to give and bequeath unto divers of my servants certain legacies as their service have deserved, I leave the disposition thereof unto the said Frances, my well-beloved wife, who knoweth my full meaning therein;

All the residue of my goods, chattels, cattles, leases, plate, jewels, ready money, household stuff and furniture of household whatsoever and wheresoever I do fully and absolutely give and bequeath them unto Frances, my well-beloved wife, whom I do ordain, constitute and make my sole executrix of this my present last will and testament;

And I do by this my present last will and testament revoke and make void all other former wills heretofore by me made, and all and every legacy & legacies, devise and devises, limitation & limitations to any person or persons in any such former will given, mentioned, limited or expressed;

And I do humbly desire the right honourable the Lord William Howard, and I do earnestly desire my loving brother-in-law, Charles Waldegrave, esquire, to be aiding, helping and assisting of my said executrix, which said Lord William Howard and Charles Waldegrave I do make overseers of this my last will and testament;

In witness whereof I have put to my hand and seal and published and delivered this to be my last will and testament the day and year above-written. Henry Jerningham.

These being witnesses: William Bedingfield, William Graunt, Thomas Angusse, Thomam Heyward.