

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the last will and testament, dated 6 November 1592 and proved 24 November 1592, of Henry Hugford (d. 13 November 1592) of Solihull, Warwickshire, former Town Clerk of Stratford-upon-Avon, who in 1573 sued John Shakespeare for debt.

For the testator's suit against John Shakespeare, see Fripp, Edgar I., *Minutes and Accounts of the Corporation of Stratford-Upon-Avon*, Vol. II, (London: Dugdale Society, 1924), p. 70:

*Henry Higford, gentleman, of Solihull, sues John Shakespeare of Stratford upon Avon whittawer, John Musshen of Walton D'Eivile, yeoman, and John Wheeler of Stratford upon Avon, yeoman, in plea of debts, and obtains warrants for their arrest.*

See also Lewis, B. Roland, *The Shakespeare Documents*, Vol. I, (Stanford University Press, 1940), pp. 64-5.

For the testator's suit against John Shakespeare, see also TNA CP 40/1355, membrane 7d; TNA CP 40/1356, membrane 1123d; and TNA CP 40/1313, membrane 399 on the Shakespeare Documented website at:

<https://shakespearedocumented.folger.edu/exhibition/document/court-common-pleas-plea-roll-action-henry-higford-against-john-shakespeare-and-0>

For the inscription on the testator's gravestone in the church of St Alphege in Solihull see Dugdale, William, *The Antiquities of Warwickshire*, (London: Thomas Warren, 1656), p. 692 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/antiquitiesofwar00dugd#page/692/mode/2up>

For the testator's burial on 13 November 1592 as 'Mr Henry Higford the elder', see Fry, E.A., *The Register of Solihull, Co. Warwick, 1538-1668*, (Parish Register Society, 1904), Vol. I, p. 183 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/registerofsolihu53soli#page/182/mode/2up>

In the PCC copy of the will the testator's surname is spelled 'Hugford', although in some extant records the spelling used is 'Higford'.

### ***FAMILY BACKGROUND***

For earlier members of the Hugford family (the Hugfords of Emscote), see Dugdale, *supra*, pp. 186-9 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/antiquitiesofwar00dugd#page/186/mode/2up>

For the Hugfords of Henwood, see Dugdale, *supra*, p. 695:

*After which, scilicet, in 31 Henry 8 the King by his letters patent dated 25 February [=25 February 1540] in consideration of £207 5s, grant to John Higford and his heirs the site [of the monastery of Henwood] and divers lands thereto belonging lying within the parishes of Solihull and Knowle in this county to be held in capite by the twentieth part of a knight's fee, paying 23s 1d yearly to the King, his heirs and successors, in the name of a tenth, which John, being descended from the Hugfords of Edmelcote (of whom I have spoke) by William Hugford of Princethorpe, a younger son of that family, having so obtained it, pulled down the church, transformed the house, and seated himself thereat, to whom succeeded John, his son and heir, and to him likewise another John, who sold it to Mr William Spooner in our memory.*

## **MARRIAGES AND CHILDREN**

### ***First marriage***

In the will below the testator mentions a former wife, a son, Henry Hugford, who predeceased him, and a daughter-in-law. The names of the testator's first wife and daughter-in-law are unknown. For the burial on 10 August 1587 of the testator's son, 'Mr Henry Higford junior', and the burial on 12 July 1588, of 'Mrs Higford the elder', the testator's first wife, see Fry, *supra*, p. 181 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/registerofsolihu53soli#page/180/mode/2up>

### ***Second marriage***

On 30 September 1588 the testator married Anne Dabridgecourt (baptized 1 October 1559), the granddaughter of John Dabridgecourt (d. 16 July 1544) by his second wife Elizabeth Wigston, daughter of Roger Wigston (c.1483 - 27 November 1542), esquire. Roger Wigston (c.1483 – 27 November 1542) was the grandfather of Roger Wigston (c.1537 - 1608), at whose home, Wolston Priory, the last two Marprelate tracts, the *Theses Martinianae* and the *Just Censure and Reproof of Martin Junior*, were printed on a secret press in July 1589. For the will of Roger Wigston (c.1483 – 27 November 1542), see TNA PROB 11/29/275.

The testator's second wife, Anne Dabridgecourt, was one of the four daughters and coheirs of Thomas Dabridgecourt (buried 12 May 1602), esquire, of Longdon Hall. See Fry, *supra*, pp. 15, 137, 189 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/registerofsolihu53soli#page/14/mode/2up>

Anne Dabridgecourt's mother appears to have been Alice Greswold Dabridgecourt, 'eldest sister and coheir of Richard Greswold', who died 28 February 1600. For her burial on 3 March 1600, see Fry, *supra*, p. 187. Her brother may have been the Richard Greswold who died 17 September 1537. See the inscriptions in Dugdale, *supra*, p. 691:

<https://archive.org/stream/antiquitiesofwar00dugd#page/690/mode/2up>

See also the memorials at Knowle to John Dabridgecourt (d. 16 July 1544), esquire, and his two wives, Katherine and Elizabeth, and to Thomas Dabridgecourt (buried 12 May 1602), son of John Dabridgecourt by Elizabeth Wigston, sister of Sir William Wigston (d.1577), in Dugdale, *supra*, p. 703 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/antiquitiesofwar00dugd#page/702/mode/2up>

In the 1656 edition of Dugdale, the pedigree of Thomas Dabridgecourt (buried 12 May 1602) is given at pp. 694-5 as follows:

<https://archive.org/stream/antiquitiesofwar00dugd#page/694/mode/2up>

*But ere long after [the manor of Langdon] came to John Greswold and by Alice, his eldest daughter, and one of the coheirs to her brother, Richard, to Thomas Dabridgecourt, descended (by a younger branch, as their pedigree showeth) from the famous Sanchio Dabridgecourt, one of the founders of the most noble Order of the Garter, which Thomas, having been a Justice of Peace in this county from 16 Elizabeth for many years, and High Sheriff of the shire in 29 Elizabeth, died 12 May 43 [sic] Elizabeth, leaving issue by the said Alice four daughters, his heirs, viz., Katherine, married to John Fulwood of Ford Hall, Anne to Thomas Hugford of Henwood, Christian to William Belcher of Gilsborough in Northamptonshire, and Grace, first to William Cartwright, and afterwards to William Dabridgecourt, which John Fulwood had issue by the same Katherine divers daughters and heirs, as in Ford Hall is showed, whereof Frances married to William Noell of Wellesborough in county Leicester, esquire, whose posterity, as part of her inheritance, do still enjoy it.*

The pedigree above identifies Alice Greswold's father as *John Greswold*, as does the pedigree in the 1730 edition of Dugdale, which adds that Alice Greswold's mother was a member of the of Verney family of Compton, and that she had a sister, Anne Greswold, who married Richard Middlemore of Edgbaston. See Thomas, William, ed., *The Antiquities of Warwickshire*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., Vol. II, (London: John Osborn, 1730), p. 1159 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=PhBaAAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA1159>

It should be noted, however, that Nichols states (it would appear erroneously) that Alice Greswold was the daughter of *Roger Greswold*. See Nichols, John Gough, ed., *The Topographer and Genealogist*, Vol. I, (London: John Bowyer Nichols and Son, 1846), pp. 197-207 at pp. 198, 205:

[https://archive.org/stream/bub\\_gb\\_CBwIAAAAQAAJ#page/n209/mode/2up](https://archive.org/stream/bub_gb_CBwIAAAAQAAJ#page/n209/mode/2up)

It should also be noted that although Dugdale states that Anne Dabridgecourt's husband was *Thomas* Hugford, according to the Solihull register it was *John* Hugford who on 28 October 1593 married 'Anne Hugford, widow'. See Fry, *supra*, p. 138 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/registerofsolihu53soli#page/138/mode/2up>

The will of Thomas Dabridgecourt (d.1602), dated 23 March 1602 and proved 12 November 1602, TNA PROB 11/100/333, confirms that Anne Dabridgecourt was twice married. He bequeaths to her certain lands which had been assured to her at her marriage to her 'first husband', presumably the testator, Henry Hugford:

*. . . my daughter Hugford shall have all those lands and tenements according to an indenture of covenants and other conveyances that I made to her first husband in consideration of her marriage, which I take to be better than the fourth part of my lands.*

Both John Hugford of Henwood and his second son, Thomas Hugford, are mentioned in the will below.

For the burial of John Hugford, esquire, 'late of Henwood' on 25 March 1603, see Fry, *supra*, p. 191 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/registerofsolihu53soli#page/190/mode/2up>

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

#### ***'my cousin Thomas Bott of Birmingham'***

The testator and Thomas Bott may have been first cousins. William Bott and Anne Higford, who may have been the testator's sister, were married on 4 August 1547, see Fry, *supra*, p. 128 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/registerofsolihu53soli#page/128/mode/2up>

They may have been the Agnes and William Bott who were buried on 5 and 15 November 1558, respectively. See Fry, *supra*, p. 167.

It also seems likely the testator's cousin, Thomas Bott, was related to the William Bott who purchased New Place in Stratford upon Avon from William Clopton III (d.1592). See Bellew, J.C.M., *Shakespeare's Home at New Place, Stratford-Upon-Avon*, (London: Virtue Brothers and Co., 1863), pp. 74-86 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/shakespereshomea00bell#page/80/mode/2up>

See the Wikipedia article edited by the author of this website:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New\\_Place](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Place)

*In 1496 Sir Hugh Clopton left New Place in his will to his great-nephew William Clopton I ('my cousin William Clopton') and the male heirs of the lordship of Clopton.<sup>[2]</sup> In his will William Clopton I (d. 29 May 1521) granted his wife, Rose (d. 17 August 1525)<sup>[3]</sup> a life interest in the property, with the reversion after her death to his son, William Clopton II. In November 1543 the latter leased it for forty years to a surgeon, Thomas Bentley (d.1549), who left his wife, Anne, a life interest in the lease during her widowhood. Anne remarried, however, and after she became the wife of Richard Charnock, William Clopton II retook possession of New Place. By his wife Elizabeth Grey, the daughter of Sir Edward Grey of Enville, Staffordshire, William Clopton II had a son, William Clopton III (1537–1592), to whom he left New Place by will in 1560. On 20 December 1563, hard-pressed for money to pay his sisters' marriage portions and continue travelling in Italy, William Clopton III sold New Place to William Bott, who had already resided in it for several years. In 1567 Bott sold New Place to William Underhill I (c. 1523 – 31 March 1570), an Inner Temple lawyer and clerk of assizes at Warwick, and a substantial property holder in Warwickshire.<sup>[4][5][6][7][8]</sup>*

For the will of William Clopton II dated 4 January 1560 and proved 7 February 1560 on the oath of William Bott, see TNA PROB 11/43/118.

See also Bellew, *supra*, p. 79, for a grant dated 12 October 1597 to John Bott, as next of kin to William Clopton III, to administer the latter's estate after the death of his widow, Anne Clopton:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=psIjAAAAMAAJ&pg=PA79>

The William Bott who purchased New Place was accused of the murder of his own daughter. See Edmondson, Paul, *Finding Shakespeare's New Place: An Archaeological Biography*, (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2016), p. 100 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=xImuDQAAQBAJ&pg=PA100>

Further evidence of the relationship between the testator and the Bott family is found in the will, dated 17 September 1586 and proved 24 November 1586, TNA PROB 11/69/698, of George Bott of Shirley (in Solihull), which contains these provisions involving the testator and his son, Henry Hugford (buried 10 August 1587) the younger:

*Item, my will is that the said Henry Hugford shall have the custody, keeping and bringing up of the said Ralph Bott and of his said lands and tenements after my said wife's decease till he come to his full age. . . .*

*Item, I give and bequeath to the said Henry Hugford the younger for part of his pains to be taken herein my new upright double gilt silver bowl. . . .*

*And to Mr Thomas Dabridgecourt, esquire, my gelding which he hath for part of his pains to be taken herein. . . .*

*Item, I give and bequeath to Mr Hugford the elder ten shillings. . . .*

*And I ordain, constitute and make my said wife my sole executrix duly and truly to perform this my last will, and Thomas Dabridgecourt, esquire, the said Henry Hugford the younger, and the said William Acocke my trusty overseers to see this my will duly and truly performed according to the true meaning thereof. . . .*

As noted above, the testator's son, Henry Hugford the younger, survived George Bott by less than a year. For his burial on 10 August 1587, see Fry, *supra*, p. 181 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/registerofsolihu53soli#page/180/mode/2up>

For the will of George Bott's widow, Margery Bott, dated 14 May 1597 and proved 26 May 1598, see TNA PROB 11/91/498. For her burial on 10 November 1597, see Fry, *supra*, p. 185 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/registerofsolihu53soli#page/184/mode/2up>

See also TNA STAC 5/T31/37, a Star Chamber suit between Edmund Tilney, Master of the Revels, and Philip Tilney of Shelley Hall, executor of the will of John Digges, plaintiffs, and Ralph Bott and William Combe of the Middle Temple, defendants, concerning a lease of a field in Stepney, Middlesex, owned jointly by Digges and Bott.

### ***'Edward Wigston, gentleman'***

He appears to be the second son of Sir William Wigston (c.1509 – 27 September 1577), and thus a first cousin of Thomas Dabridgecourt (buried 12 May 1602), father of the testator's wife, Anne Dabridgecourt.

### ***Thomas Saunders of Solihull***

For the marriage of Thomas Saunders and Anne Bott on 9 February 1561, see Fry, *supra*, p. 130 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/registerofsolihu53soli#page/130/mode/2up>

In the will below, Thomas Saunders is said to have had a daughter, Jane (or Joan) Saunders, and a daughter, Dorothy Saunders, wife of Thomas Elson of Castle Bromwich.

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***Thomas Greswold of Solihull***

For the marriage of Thomas Greswold and Joan Bott on 8 June 1545, see Fry, *supra*, p. 127 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/registerofsolihu53soli#page/126/mode/2up>

LM: T{estamentum} Henrici Huggeforde

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, three persons and one true and everliving God, the sixth day of November anno Domini millesimo quingentesimo nonagesimo secundo and in the thirty-fourth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth, the Queen's Majesty that now is, I, Henry Hugford of Solihull in the county of Warwick, gentleman, being of sound and perfect memory, thanks be unto God therefore, do ordain and make my last will and testament in manner and form following:

First I bequeath and commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God, my only Lord and Maker, by whose great and free mercies obtained through the death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ, my alone Saviour, I trust to be saved and purged from all my sins and offences;

And my body I commit to the earth to be buried in the parish church of Solihull in a chapel there where the bodies of my former wife and of my son, Henry, were buried;

And touching the disposing and distribution of all my worldly goods, chattels, cattles, money, plate, jewels, household stuff, messuages, lands, tenements and hereditaments, my will is also as followeth, viz.:

I give and bequeath to the poor people in Hampton thirteen shillings four pence;

Item, I give and bequeath to the poor people in Knowle thirteen shillings four pence [f. 280r] to be distributed by Mr Thomas Robinson, there minister;

Item, I give and bequeath to the poor people of Bickenhill six shillings eight pence;

And to the poor people of Sheldon six shillings eight pence;

And also to the poor people of Elmdon three shillings four pence;

Item, I give and bequeath to the poor people of Solihull forty shillings to be distributed by my executrix and overseers;

Item, I give and bequeath to my cousin, Thomas Browne, which served me, forty shillings;

Item, I give and bequeath to my cousin, Dorothy Elson, wife of Thomas Elson of Castle Bromwich, ten pound of lawful English money, and to her sister, Joan Saunders, one of the daughters of Thomas Saunders of Solihull, other ten pound of like money, which several sums of ten pound shall be paid with the rent reserved for the house, lands, tenements and hereditaments in the tenure or occupation of Morrice Mortiboies and Joyce, his wife, which they hold of my grant by the yearly rent of seven pound fourteen shillings eight pence, and my will is that the said Dorothy Elson and Joan Saunders shall receive the said rent presently after my decease equally between them until they be fully satisfied and paid their said several legacies before to them bequeathed;

Item, I give and bequeath to my mother-in-law, Mrs Dabridgecourt, forty shillings;

Item, I give and bequeath to my god-daughter, Mrs Grace Fulwood, ten shillings;

And to my god-daughter, Mrs Alice Greswold, ten shillings;

Item, I give and bequeath to William Pettie of Bache Mill forty shillings;

Item, I give and bequeath to Ann Parsons, my kinswoman, the cottage or tenement with the appurtenances now in the tenure or occupation of Robert Carpsen for and during the term of her natural life;

Item, I give and bequeath to William Callowe one annuity or yearly rent of twenty shillings to be yearly paid unto him at the two most usual feasts in the year by mine executrix during the term of his natural life out of the messuage or cottage, lands and tenements in the tenure or occupation of William Cox and Edes or of either of them;

Item, I give and bequeath to Thomas Tandie, my servant, four pound in money;

Item, I give and bequeath to Richard Swinforde, my servant, twenty-six shillings eight pence;

Item, I give and bequeath to John Gardiner, my servant, twenty shillings;

Item, I give and bequeath to Robert Welles, my servant, twenty shillings;

Item I give and bequeath to Margaret Smithe, my servant, twenty shillings;

Item, I give and bequeath to every other of my servants which shall be with me in service at the time of my decease, viz., to every manservant six shillings eight pence apiece, and to every woman servant five shillings apiece;

Item, I give and bequeath to Edward Wigston, gentleman, five pound;



Item, I give and bequeath to Mr Thomas Robinson, minister of Hampton, five pound;

Item, I give and bequeath to Mr Shuttleworth, minister of Packington, twenty shillings;

Item, I give and bequeath to Mr Blakemore, minister of Sheldon, twenty shillings;

Item, I give and bequeath to William Phipps of Maxstoke forty shillings;

Item, I give and bequeath to Thomas Harborne of Knowle a piece of gold of ten shillings;

Item, I give and bequeath to his brother, John Harborne, ten shillings;

Item, I give and bequeath to George Averell of Solihull forty shillings;

Item, I give and bequeath to Richard Tandie of the same twenty shillings;

Item, I give and bequeath to Clement Elliott of Solihull and to Isabel, his wife, and to Margaret Baldwin, their daughter, wife of Robert Baldwin, during their lives and the longest liver of them, and after their deceases and the decease of the longest liver of them, to Henry Baldwin, my godson, one of the sons of the said Robert and Margaret, and to his heirs all my five parts and purparts of the messuage or tenement situate and being at Broad Oak in Olton End in the parish of Solihull wherein John Dudley doth now dwell, and of all the houses, buildings, gardens, orchards, meadows, leasows, pastures and hereditaments whatsoever to the said messuage belonging or therewith used or demised as of my grant now in the tenure or occupation of the said John Dudley and of Thomas Greswold or of either of them, their assign or assigns, for which is reserved the yearly rent of three pound;

Item, if my wife shall not be with child at my decease, then my will is and I give and bequeath unto my cousin, Thomas Batt [=Bott] of Birmingham, and to [f. 280v] his heirs and assigns the said house or tenement and all the freehold lands, tenements and hereditaments in the occupation of the said Morrice Martiboies and Joyce, his wife, as aforesaid, upon condition that the said Thomas Bott, his heirs and assigns, shall permit and suffer the said Dorothy Elson and Joan Saunders and their assigns quietly to receive and take to their own uses the said yearly rent reserved for the same last mentioned premises until they shall be truly satisfied and paid the said several legacies of ten pound apiece to them bequeathed as aforesaid;

But if the said Joan Saunders and Dorothy Elson or either of them or their assigns shall be hindered or disturbed from the quiet receiving and enjoying of the said rent in form aforesaid by the said Thomas Bott, his heirs or assigns, then I will that the said Dorothy and Joan and their assigns shall have and take the rents and profits of the said messuage and tenement and of all other the premises in the tenure or occupation of the said Morrice Marteboies and Joyce, his wife, until they be satisfied and paid as well the said several

legacies of ten pound apiece as also of [-all] twenty pound more in the name of a pain to be equally divided between them;

Item, I will that the said Thomas Bott and his assigns, if my said wife shall not be with child at my decease, shall have the copyhold lands called Bonde land now in my own occupation and the occupation of the said Morrice Mortiboyes after my wife's decease during all the term of years yet to come in the same;

Item, I give and bequeath to the said Anne, my wife, for the term of her natural life all those messuages, burgages, cottages, houses, buildings, gardens, orchards, lands, tenements, meadows, leasows, pastures and hereditaments whatsoever with their appurtenances comprised, mentioned or specified in a pair of indentures of covenants made between Thomas Dabridgecourt of Longdon Hall, esquire, father of the said Anne, and me bearing date the twentieth day of September in the 30<sup>th</sup> year [=20 September 1588] of the reign of our said Sovereign Lady Elizabeth with remainders over according to the true intent and meaning of the said indentures;

LM: Confirmatur p{er} S{enten}ciam dif{ini}t{ia}m lata{m} secundo Martini 1600

Item, I give and bequeath to the said Anne, my wife, for the term of her life all that messuage or tenement situate and being in Olton End in the said parish of Solihull and all the lands, tenements, meadows, feedings, pastures, closures and hereditaments to the same belonging or therewith occupied or demised with their appurtenances now in the tenure or occupation of Thomas Walker or of his assigns;

And also all those my closes or closures of land and pasture with their appurtenances lying and being in Olton End aforesaid over against the said messuage wherein the said Thomas Walker dwelleth, which the said Thomas Walker did hold, and are now in my own occupation;

And also all those crofts, closes and closures of land and pasture with their appurtenances called or known by the names of Smithe fields and Symm(?) fields lying and being together in Olton End and parish of Solihull aforesaid near to a pool there called Dann(?) pool, together with all that cottage or tenement and all the crofts and closures of land, meadow and pasture with th' appurtenances situate and being in Olton End aforesaid now in the tenure or occupation of Thomas Canterell or of his assigns;

And after the decease of my said wife, then my will is and I do give and bequeath the same messuage, lands, tenements, meadows, feedings, pastures, cottage, crofts, closures and all other the premises last before bequeathed unto the heirs of my body on the body of the said Anne, my wife, lawfully begotten and to be begotten;

And for default of such issue I give and bequeath all the same messuage, cottage and premises last remembered unto my said cousin, Thomas Bott, and to his heirs and assigns forever;

Item, I give and bequeath to the said Anne, my wife, all my other messuages, burgages, rents, reversions, services and hereditaments whatsoever and wheresoever being, as well in the said county of Warwick as in the county of Worcester or elsewhere within the realm of England and not before herein demised nor bequeathed, until such time as the issue which I have begotten or shall beget on the body of the [sic for 'my?'] said wife shall accomplish the age of twenty-one years;

And for default of such issue I will and do bequeath all the same messuages, burgages, lands, tenements and hereditaments last remembered unto my said wife for the term of her natural life;

And after her decease I will and do bequeath unto Mr Thomas Greswold of Solihull and his heirs [f. 281r] one annuity or yearly rentcharge of twenty shillings issuing and going out of a meadow or closure of meadow and pasture lying and being in the forever [sic?] of Solihull called the Lion meadow, which meadow the said Thomas Greswold lately purchased of William Twittie;

And also after the decease of my said wife and the decease of my daughter-in-law, my will is and I do give and bequeath to the said Mr Greswold and his heirs all my messuages, lands, tenements and hereditaments in the county of Worcester;

Item, I will that the widow Wiggsteade of Birmingham shall have the messuage or tenement with th' appurtenances wherein she dwelleth in Birmingham for the term of her life, paying the rent yearly which is now reserved for the same, which rent and the reversion of the said messuage or tenement with th' appurtenances I do give and bequeath also to the said Mr Thomas Greswold and his heirs forever;

Item, I will that Thomas Hugford, second son of John Hugford of Henwood, esquire, after the decease of my said wife, and for default of issue of my body, shall have all the messuages, bur[ga]ges, cottages, lands, tenements and hereditaments whatsoever in the county of Warwick and not before hereby bequeathed to the said Thomas Bott and Thomas Greswold nor either of them, to hold the same messuages and premises unto the said Thomas Hugford and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten and to be begotten;

And for default of such issue, I give and bequeath the same messuages and premises with th' appurtenances unto Samuel Hugford, the son of (blank) Hugford, late of Berkswell, now deceased, and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten and to be begotten;

And for default of such issue, to the right heirs of me, the said Henry Hugford, forever;

And also my will is that after the decease of my said wife and for default of heirs of my body on the body of her lawfully begotten and to be begotten as aforesaid, all the said messuages, burgages, cottages, lands, tenements and all other my hereditaments whatsoever and wheresoever, other than such as are before bequeathed unto the said Thomas Greswold and his heirs and to the said Thomas Bott and his heirs, shall wholly

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revert, remain and come unto the said Thomas Hugford and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten and to be begotten;

And for default of such issue I give and bequeath the same premises and every parcel thereof unto the said Samuel Hugford and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten and to be begotten;

And for default of such issue to the right heirs of me, the said Henry Hugford, forever;

Item, I give and bequeath unto the said Anne, my wife, and to the issue of my body on the body of her lawfully begotten and to be begotten all my interest and term of years which I have in all those grounds called Olton close which I hold of the lord of the manor of Solihull by copy of court roll for term of years according to the custom of the said manor;

And for default of such issue and if it shall fortune my said wife to depart this life before th' end and expiration of the said term, then after her decease I will that the said Thomas Bott and his assigns shall have the residue of the said term which after her decease shall be then to come and not expired;

Item, I give and bequeath unto the said Anne, my wife, all the ashes growing and being yet unsold in or upon all or any of the grounds, lands, tenements and hereditaments whatsoever or wheresoever before mentioned to be to her bequeathed, with free liberty for her, her servants, labourers and assigns to fell, cut down, dress, hew, saw and carry away the said [+ashes?] with carts, wains and carriages at their pleasure without controlment of any person or persons at any time during the term of the natural life of the said Anne;

Provided always and my will is that if the said Thomas Bott, his heirs or assigns or any of them, or any other person or persons by his, their or any of their means, consent or procurement of the said Thomas Hugford or any heir of his body lawfully begotten or any other person or persons by his or their means, consent or procurement, or the said Samuel Hugford or any heir of his body or any other person or persons by his or their means, consent or procurement shall by any apparent act, either by writing or by record or otherwise, go about to practise or endeavour themselves to expulse, remove or disturb my said wife from the quiet possession or enjoying of the premises to her hereby bequeathed, or otherwise shall sue, implead, vex or trouble her or her assigns or any of them so as they or any of them may [f. 281v] not quietly possess and enjoy the same premises and every parcel thereof so to her bequeathed for and during the term of her natural life according to the true intent and meaning of this my last will in as large and ample manner as tenant for term of life by the laws of this realm can, may or ought to do, or if the said Anne or her assigns shall be disturbed or hindered from the quiet enjoying of the said ashes in form aforesaid by any of the persons last remembered, that then he, she or they any such act so doing or which shall go about, procure, consent, practise or endeavour or cause to be done any act whereby the quiet possession of my said wife shall be disturbed or interrupted contrary to the true intent and meaning of this my last will and testament

shall presently upon any such act doing, practising, procuring or consenting to be done forfeit his, her or their estate and interest of, in and to the premises to him, her or them so bequeathed;

And my will is that that [sic for 'then'?] he, she or they so forfeiting nor their heirs shall fro [=from] thenceforth take any benefit by this my last will and testament or anything therein contained, mentioned or bequeathed or otherwise, and that then and from thenceforth the said Anne, my wife, and her assigns shall have, and I do give and bequeath, all such lands and tenements as shall be so forfeited in as large and ample manner as if the same had been first bequeathed to her and her heirs, and no mention had been made of the person so offending contrary to the true intent and meaning of this my last will and testament as aforesaid;

Item, I give and bequeath to the said Samuel Hugford for and during the term of his natural life towards his maintenance and education in learning one annuity or yearly rent of five pounds of lawful English money to be issuing and going out of all the messuages, lands, tenements and hereditaments before bequeathed to my said wife and not bequeathed to the said Thomas Bott, which annuity I will shall be yearly paid during the same term at the feasts of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St Michael th' Archangel by even portions;

And if the same annuity or yearly rent of five pound or any part thereof shall fortune to be behind unpaid in part or in all by the space of fourteen days after either of the said feasts during the said term, being lawfully asked at the now mansion house of me, the said Henry, then I will that it shall be lawful to and for the said Samuel and his assigns at any time after during the said term to enter into the same premises or any parcel thereof and distrain, and the distress so had and taken to lead, drive and carry away and towards them to retain and keep until the said annuity and the arrearages thereof, if any be, be lawfully satisfied and paid;

Item, all the residue of my goods, corn, cattle, chattels, money, plate, jewels, household stuff, implements and utensils of household and husbandry, my debts and legacies being paid and my funeral expenses discharged, I give and bequeath to the said Anne, my wife, and to such child or issue as I have begotten or shall beget upon her body to be equally divided between them;

And for want of such issue my will is that my said wife shall have the whole, and yet nevertheless I will and my full intent and meaning is that neither my said wife, her executors nor assigns, shall not pull down, take away or deface any of the glass, wainscot or ceiling, doors or windows of the messuage wherein I dwell or of any of the buildings belonging to the same;

And I ordain and make the said Anne, my wife, my sole executrix of this my last will and testament, and my father-in-law, Thomas Dabridgecourt, esquire, and the said Thomas Robinson and George Averell overseers of the same;

And I give to my father-in-law for his pains forty shillings and my signet ring of gold;

And all former wills I do utterly revoke;

In witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name the 6<sup>th</sup> day of November and put to my seal in the presence of those whose names are underwritten;

Lastly I give and bequeath to my said cousin Greswold the Bridge gate or tenement wherein Kimberley dwelled which he bought of me and paid for the same eighteen pound, to hold to him and his heirs forever. Henry Hugford. Henry Hugford. Thomas Dabridgecourt. Thomas Greswold. George Averell. Thomas Robinson. Thomas Harburne. John Shuttleworth. Robert Welles.

Probatum fuit suprascriptum testamentum apud London coram m{agist}ro Will{el}mo Lewin legum doctore curie Prerogatiue Cant{uariensis} Mag{ist}ro &c vicesimo quarto viz die mensis Novembris anno Domini Mill{es}imo Quingen{tes}imo Nonagesimo Secundo iuramento Richardi Goodall notarij pub{li}ci procu{rato}ris Anne Relicte dicti defuncti et exequutricis(?) in h{uius}mo{d}i suo suprascripto testamento nominate cui commissa fuit administracio omn{iu}m et singulorum bonorum iurium et creditorum dicti defuncti de bene &c ad s{an}c{t}a dei evangelia iurati

[=The above-written testament was proved at London before Master William Lewin, Doctor of the Laws, Master etc. of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, on the twenty-fourth, viz., day of the month of November in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred ninety-second by the oath of Richard Goodall, notary public, proctor of Anne, relict of the said deceased and executrix named in the same his above-written testament, to whom administration was granted of all and singular the goods, rights and credits of the said deceased, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well etc.]