

The Will of Richard Tylden of Tenterden in the County of Kente, yeoman, 22 January 1565-6. My body to be buried in the parish where I die. To the poor people of Tenterden. To my wife Elizabeth half of my household stuff, and various articles, including barley due me from Wyllyam Gerrys, live stock, all woolen cloth not made into garments, and angle noble, a double ducat, and 20s. The residue of my household stuff to my four daughters, Julyan, Agnes, Thomasen, and Mary Tylden, equally divided, and to each 30 pounds at marriage or age of twenty years. To servant John Mills 30 pounds in satisfaction of an account between him and me, and a cloak. To son John Tylden four pairs of hose, two coats, one of marbyll and another of russet, two hats, two new leather jerkins, a dublet of chamblett, and my white dublet. To Thomas Tylden my son a coat to be had of Peter Peyrs, my next best hat and a pair of hose. To Richard Adams of Benynden a coat dublet and a pair of hose of Winchester russet. To Richard Peyris's widow. To Thomas Berry. To George Pellond. To Henry Meryote, Mother Crotholl, and John Ilverd. To my servant Richard Cheseman. To Richard Peyrs, son of Richard Peyrs of Tenterden deceased, Myldren Pyers, and Thomas Berry son of Thomas Berry. The residue of my moveable goods to son John Tylden, and I make him and Walter Bygge of Tenterden, tailor, my executors; my son not to meddle in the execution of my testament until he come to the age of four and twenty years, except it fortune Walter Bygge to die. If son Jone die before that age, son Thomas to have his legacy and take his place as executor. If both sons die before said age, then to my daughters. To Walter Bygge for his pains 20s. Witnesses: Wyllyam Cocks, Clerk and curate of Tenterden, Robert Ashenden, Wyllyam Marden yonger, and Peter Pyerse.

This is my last will concerning my lands in Tenterden and Benynden. My wife Elizabeth to have during her widowhood the occupation of my parlor and buttery adjoining, two chambers over them, and the garret loft over, the buttery next the hall door, with use of bakehouse, brewhouse, malt house, the head of my barn called the tan house, east garden, and water (rights ???) of the pits or ponds. Also I give her eight loads of wood and two hundred faggots. My garden called new garden and five pieces of land or wood containing twenty acres at the back side of my messuage in Tenterden, and three other pieces called pigge holes, containing seventeen acres of land and wood, to my wife until my son John Tilden shall accomplish the age of four and twenty years, if she remain my widow so long, and not else. Son John to have the said lands at the said age and pay to my wife 6 pounds 13s. 4d. a year during her life. I give to my wife toward the keeping of my children 6 pounds to be paid out of my lands in Tenterden until my youngest child come to the age of twelve years, and if she die before that time, then Walter Bygg my executor to have the bringing up of my children. To Thomas Tilden my son all my lands and tenements in the parish of benynden, when he shall accomplish the age of four and twenty years. My executor to take the residue of all profits of my lands and tenements in Tenterden and Benynden until my son John come to his said age toward the performance of my will and paying my debts, and when son John accomplish the said age, then he to receive all the profits of the foresaid lands in Tenterden and Benynden before willed to Thomas Tilden until the said Thomas accomplish his said age, and the John to pay to Thomas 50 pounds. My executors shall take own and sell the long houses along the street of my tenement in Benynden, and make a pale and gate for the passage into said tenement, and build a barn there at my house where it stood before thirty-six feet by twenty feet. If either of my two sons die before the age of four and twenty years without

lawful issue, the survivor shall pay to my daughters then living 20 pounds apiece. If all my children die without lawful issue, then the said lands and tenements in Tenterden to John Mills and his heirs, and my lands and tenements in Benyn den as follows: to my brother-in-law Thomas Glouer of Benyn den two pieces of land called Barnfield and Oxenlease lying between a lane there and his house, and the residue of my lands and tenements in Benyn den to the relief of the poor of Tenterden and Benyn den, to be letten and the profits distributed by the church wardens. Witnesses: Wyllyam Cocks, Clerke, Curate of Tenterden, Robert Asshenden, William Mardin yonger and Peter Pyers. Proven 15 May 1566 by Walter Bygge, one of the executors named in the will, with power reserved to grant a like probate of John Tilden the other executor names, at the age limited in the will. (Archdeaconry of Canterbury, Vol. 39, fo. 169)" (English Origins of New England Families, published by NEGHS)