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Probate for the will of Benjamin Jordan of Burford - Written in 1748 proved in 1749

Transcription

By R I Kirby (25/1/2006). Difficult text replaced by '*'. Line padding squiggles represented by '~'. References to people emboldened.

Source

Public Records Office: prob 11/768, Image Ref:342, Pgs 268a-269b

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Summary

Testator: Benjamin Jordan of Burford in the County of Oxford

To Wife Rebecca Jordan, property in Westcott, Gloucester in trust to be sold to raise legacies

To niece Mary Bartholomew £150

Remainder to Rebecca

To Rebecca

- two properties in the High Street of Burford (in occupation of James Gater the Widow Castle and William Beachy)
- A garden in Burford called Brughtons Orchard (purchased from William Gregory William Grove & Christian Grove)
- Other lands in Burford & Synell (in the Parish of Burford), Oxon
- Other lands in Shipton under Whychwood, Oxon

After Rebecca's death the above property to go to his Nephew John Jordan of Kencott

To Rebecca property in Rickmansworth, Herts for the term of her life

To his sister Annabella Asgill and to his Nephews

John Asgill and Charles Asgill her sons £10 a piece to buy morning

One Guinea a piece buy them each a Mourning Ring to

- Nephew John Jordan
- Kinsman and kinswoman Charles Taylor and Mary his wife William Aldworth Anne Aldworth
- Anne the daughter of the Nephew John Jordan
- The wife of the Nephew Mr John Asgill

Jewellery, household stuff etc to Wife Rebecca

Executors: Wife Rebecca

Witnessed: Thomas Hunt, William Lawrence, Cha Brown

Signed – 1748 [no day or month]

Proved – 15 March 1749

Summary of Family Relationships in this Will

Benjamin Jordan of Burford Gentleman (Self)

Rebecca Jordan (wife)

(Unknown sibling)

....Mary Bartholomew (Niece, Widow)

(Unknown Sibling)

....John Jordan of Kencott (Nephew)

.....Anne Jordan

Annabell Asgill (Sister)

.....John Asgill (possibly the husband of Anne Jordan but text is ambiguous)

.....Charles Asgill

Charles Taylor and Mary his wife (Unidentified relationship but 'kin')

Text

In the name of God Amen

I Benjamin Jordan of Burford in the County of Oxford~~

Gentleman being in sound and perfect memory and understanding do make and publish and declare this my last Will and Testament in manner following that is to say My Body I commit to the earth to be decently Interred at the discretion of my Executrix herein after named And as to what worldly Estate it hath~~

pleased God to bless me withal I give devise and bequeath the same as followeth ffirst I give and devise unto my beloved **wife Rebecca Jordan** and to her heirs and assigns for ever All those my several pieces and parcells of arrable Land Meadow and ~~ Pasture Ground with the Appurtenances situate lying and~ being within the fields Libertys and precincts of Westcott in the County of Gloucester and also all the Woods and Woodlands to the same belonging commonly called or known by the ~ name of Gancombe Woods Upon Trust that she the said ~~

Rebecca her heirs or assigns do and shall as soon as~~~ conveniently may be after my decease Grant Sell and Convey the same for the most money that can be got and by and out of the money arising by sale thereof Do and shall pay unto my my **niece Mary Bartholomew of Burford~**

Widow within Six months next after the said Premises shall be disposed of the Sum of One hundred and fifty Pounds of good and lawful money of Great Britain And the Remainder of the said Purchase money do and shall apply to the only proper use of the said **Rebecca Jordan** (all which said Lands and Premises above mentioned now are in the possession or Occupation of **Thomas Johnson** and in my own possession

Also I give and devise unto my said **Wife Rebecca** and to her~
heirs and Assigns for ever All those my two Messuages or~
Tenements with the Gardens Backsides Buildings and Appurts
hereunto belonging situate and standing and being in Burford
aforesaid in a street there called the High Street now in
the possession or occupation of **James Gater** the **Widow~
Castle** and **William Beachy** Also I give and devise unto my~
said **Wife Rebecca** and to her Heirs and Assigns for ever all~
that Garden situate and being in Burford aforesaid heretofore~
known or called by the name of Brughtons Orchard and which I~~~
===Page break===

Purchased to my self and my heirs for ever of and from~~
William Gregory William Grove Christian Grove and others~
Also I give and devise unto my said **Wife Rebecca** all my other
Messuages Land Tenements and hereditaments with the ~
Appurtenances situate standing and being in Burford aforesaid
and Synell in the said Parish of Burford And in the ffields~~
Libertys and Precincts of Shipton under Whychwood in the ~
said County of Oxford To hold to my said **Wife Rebecca** and
her assigns for and during the term of her natural life~
And from and immediately after her decease I give and ~~
devise the same unto my **nephew John Jordan of Kencott**
in the said county of Oxford Gent and to his Heirs and~~
Assigns for ever Upon this express Condition that he the~
said John Jordan or his Heirs Do not Sue Prosecute or~~
Comence of cause to be Sued Prosecuted or Comenced any
Action Suit Bile or Plaint against my said **Wife Rebecca** for
or on account of any thing in this my Will contained or~
for or on any account whatsoever and in case the said **John
Jordan** shall Sue Prosecute or Commence any Action or
Suit against my said **Wife Rebecca** that then and immediately
from thenceforth I give and devise all the said Messuages
Land and Tenements herein before devised unto the said
John Jordan his heirs and Assigns unto my said **Wife
Rebecca** or her heirs and Assigns for ever Also I give and ~~
devise unto my said **Wife Rebecca** all my freehold and~
Copyhold Messages or Tenements Closes Lands Waters and~
ffisherys with their and every of their Rights Members
and Appurtenances situate and being in the Libertys
and precincts of Rickmansworth in the County of Hertford
To hold unto my said **Wife Rebecca** and her Assigns for~
and during the term of her natural Life Also I give and bequeath~
Unto my **sister Annabella Asgill** and unto my **Nephews
John Asgill** and **Charles Asgill** sons of the said **Annabella~~
Asgill** the Sum of ten Pounds a piece of lawfull money of~
Great Britain to buy them morning to be paid by my ~~

Executrix within Six months after my estate at Westcott shall be sold Also I give and bequeath unto the said **John Jordan** and unto my kinsman and kinswoman **Charles Taylor and Mary his wife William Aldworth Anne**~~
Aldworth Anne the daughter of the said John Jordan and the wife of the said Mr John Asgill One Guinea a piece to buy them each a Mourning Ring also I give and bequeath unto my said **Wife Rebecca** all my Plate Jewells Watches and Rings and all my China and Linnen and all my Household Goods of ffurniture of Household or what nature or kind~~
soever All the rest and residue and remainder of my Goods~~ Chattels and Personal Estate whatsoever after payment of~ all my just Debts Legacies and ffuneral Expenses I give and bequeath unto my said **wife Rebecca** whom I do make ~~ constitute and appoint sole Executrix of this my Will~~ hereby revoking and making void all former Wills by me made In Witness whereof I have to this my last Will and Testament
====New Page=====

written and contained in two sheets of paper to the first sheet thereof set my hand and to the last sheet thereof set my hand and seal the twenty second day of December in the~~ the twenty second year of the reign of of our Sovereign Lord George the Second by the Grace of God of Great Britain ffrance and ~~ Ireland King Defender of the ffaith and so forth and in the~~ year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and fforty eight **Benj Jordan** Signed Sealed Published and Declared by the said Testator as and for his last Will and Testament in the Presence of us who in his Presence and at his request have set our names as Witness the Words /Westcott shall be sold/ being first interlined

Thos Hunt /William Lawrence / Char Brown

There is a lengthy Codicil
Same witnesses

Proved at London by Rebecca Jordan

Notes

1. James GATER christened several children in Burford but seems to have married elsewhere. A maltster by that name leased part of a messuage in Burford during 1717 (Gretton, The Burford Records, pg 365)
2. The witness Thomas HUNT may be the Thomas HUNT who married Elizabeth JAMES in 1728 in Burford
3. Charles TAYLOR is probably the Charles who married Mary LODER in 1742 in Burford. Benjamin JORDAN was a Brother in Law of John LODER

4. The witness William LAWRENCE appears not to be the William LAWRENCE who married Eliz LARDNER in Shipton Under Wychwood in 1737 (source IGI). For the following comments I am thankful to Charles CG, who is descended from the gentleman in question, - 'William Lawrence, malster of Burford, who witnessed the will of Benjamin Jordan in 1748 was not the WL who married Elizabeth Lardner. He is William Fettiplace Lawrence who married Elizabeth (Betty) Jenner of Maisey Hampton in 1750 & died in 1758, presumably in the small pox epidemic.' 'He was the son of WL, malster of Burford, who is the one appointed trustee by the Royal Commission in 1738, and died in 1739. He seems to have been appointed because his wife was a cousin of the nearby gentry family of Fettiplace.'
5. On 12/Oct/1683 one John LARDNER of Ramsden, yeoman assigned the residue of a lease to William ALDWORTH of Ramsden, weaver, and Katherine ALDWORTH (nee LARDNER), his wife (sister of John) (ORO Local Studies, E258/D/1)
6. On 15/Oct/1717 a deed to lead to the use of a fine (ORO SL26/3/D/22) involved
 - a. William TURNER of Burford, blacksmith
 - b. Thomas HERBERT of Witney, maltster, and Mary his wife
 - c. Peter HERBERT of Oddington, Gloucs., yeo and Joane his wife
 - d. William HERBERT of Oddington, Gloucs, yeo.
 - e. John TAYLOR of Burford, maltster
 - f. Richard ALDWORTH of Aston Bampton, yeo.
 - g. Samuel DRUCE of Witney, butcher, and Elizabeth his wife
 - h. Robert TAYLOR of Burford, baker.
7. On 04/Jan/1730 Richard ALDWORTH of Aston was involved with Thomas SNELL of Bampton (ORO E241/7/D/36). Thomas is mentioned in the 1746 Will of Ann JORDAN (nee LODER) widow
8. In the Easter Term of 1727 a fine was levied in which the defendants were John JORDAN senior, gentleman, and Mary his wife, John EDWARDS and Anne his wife, Absolom HARRIS and Jane his wife whilst the plaintiffs were Thomas DOLLEY, George HART, Richard WHITEHALL, Matthew UNDERWOOD, Paul SILVESTER junior and Richard ALDWORTH. (Gretton, The Burford Records, Pg 466). This involved property in Witney, Hardwick & Ramsden.
9. Richard ALDSWORTH & Anne APPLGATH were married in 1725 in Burford (source IGI).
10. Benjamin married Rebecca APPLGATH. There is an earlier marriage between William APPLGATH and Rebecca SILVESTER but no sign of a christening of Rebecca APPLGATH. Therefore, this may have been her second marriage. However marriage Licence index does not identify Rebecca as a widow.
11. Thomas HUNT, Ironmonger and William LAWRENCE, Maltster appear amongst trustees of the Almshouses appointed by a Royal Commission of 1738 investigating the management of charities in Burford (Gretton, The Burford Records pg 397). These two are namesakes of two of the witnesses.
12. One William LAURENCE married Elizabeth LARDNER in Shipton under Wychwood in 1737. LARDNER is a name associated with the JORDAN family via the OVERBURYs

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