

Oxfordshire History Centre, MS Wills Oxon 125/1/21

Will of Mary Dodford, of Churchill, 1721

In the name of God Amen the fifth day of May in the year of our Lord One Thousand seven hundred & Twenty I Mary Dodford of Churchill in the County of Oxon widow & Relict of George Dodford my late Husband deceased being weak in Body but of perfect memory do make & ordain this my last Will & Testament in manner following [that is to say] First I commit my soul to God my Creator & my Body to the Earth to be buried by my Executors after named & as for my Wordly Estate I dispers thereof as followeth

Imprimis I give & devise to Thomas Brooke of Churchill afores[ai]d yeoman Robert Davis of ye same yeoman & Thomas Freeman of the City of Oxford Innholder & to their Heirs & Assignes for ever All that my One Yard land w[i]th thappurten[ene]ces lying in the Fields & p[re]cincts of Churchill afores[ai]d w[hi]ch I purchased of Thomas Dermot of Spelsbury in the s[ai]d County of Oxon yeoman w[hi]ch yardland is now in the possession of my Brother Thomas Davis upon trust & confidence nevertheless & to ye intent & purpose that the s[ai]d Thomas Brookes Robert Davis & Thomas Freeman & the survivors & survivor of them & the Heirs of such survivor doe & shall so soon after my death as conveniently they may sell & convey away the same Lands at the best rates & prices the same will yeild or can be sold for & do & shall dispose of & pay the moneys raised by sale thereof in manner following (that is to say) Eighty pounds part thereof my Will is shall be paid to my Daughter Constance w[ith]in six Months after my Death or so soon as the same can be conveniently raised And my Will further is that fifty pounds more of the moneys raised by sale of the same Lands shall be paid to my Granddaughter Mary Freeman spinster at her age of Twenty & One yeares or day of Marriage w[hic]h shall first happen & the interest in the meantime to be employed towards her Education & mainten[an]ce And my Will further is that sixty pounds more of the s[ai]d money shall be paid to my Granddaughter Elizabeth Freeman at her age of twenty & One yeares or day of Marriage w[hic]h shall first happen & the interest in the meantime to be employed towards her Education & mainten[an]ce And if either of the s[ai]d Mary Freeman & Elizabeth Freeman shall die before her s[ai]d porc[i]on or Legacy shall become paiable as afores[ai]d Then my Will is that the porc[i]on or Legacy of such of them so dying shall be paid to the survivor the s[ai]d Elizabeth & Mary

Freeman to her own Use And my Will further is that Twenty shillings more of the moneys raised by sale of the s[ai]d Lands shall be paid to my sister in Law Anne Dodford for her own use And my Will further is that all the residue & remainder of the moneys raised by sale of the s[ai]d Lands after paiment of the s[ai]d severall porc[i]ons & Legacies in manner afores[ai]d (if any be) shall be paid to Jonathan Freeman Brother of the s[ai]d Mary & Elizabeth at his age of Twenty & One yeares & the interest in the meantime to be employed towards his Education & Mainten[an]ce Nevertheless my Will is that all just Debts by me owing at my death either on Bond Mortgage or otherwise shall in the first place be paid out of the s[ai]d moneys to be raised by sale of the s[ai]d Lands & after paim[en]t thereof & such porc[i]ons & Legacies as are before menc[i]oned then the residue (if any be) to acru[e] to the s[ai]d Jonathan Freeman as afores[ai]d. And my Will further is that my said Trustees & their Heirs shall also deduct out of the residue of ye s[ai]d moneys to be raised as afores[ai]d or if there shall be no such residue then out of the s[ai]d Legacies & porc[i]ons proportionably all Costs & Expenses w[hic]h they or any of them shall be at in the execution of the Trusts hereby in them reposed or in the necessary exsecution or defense of any suite in Law or Equity concerning the same And my Will further is that if my said Brother Thomas Davis shall be evicted out of the s[ai]d One Yard Land & shall not hold the same a year longer to be accounted from the first of May instant according to his Agreem[en]t w[i]th me as my Tenant That then be his Exec[uto]rs or Admi[nistrato]rs shall deduct out of the Halfe yeares Rent in his hands all Charges & expenses he hath been at to prepare the same Lands for sowing & othe Husbandry for the next year & that he the s[ai]d Thomas Davis his Exec[uto]rs Admi[nistrato]rs & Assignes shall make the same deducc[i]ons out of the Rent of the other half Yard land he Rents of me in Churchill in case he shall not hold the same a year longer as afores[ai]d for the charge & expense he has been at in pr[e]pareing the same halfe Yard Land for sowing & othe Husbandry as afores[ai]d And forasmuch as it is not at present known whether my said Daughter Constance be living or not my Will is that if she be dead that then the s[ai]d Eighty pounds before appointed to be paid to her shall be paid to her Child or Children if any ^{be} by such proporc[i]ons & in such manner as to my said Trustees & the Survivo[rs] and Survivo[r] of them & the Heirs of such survivo[r] shall seem meet And all my Goods Ch[at]ells & real & personall Estate not herein and hereby given & disposed of (after paim[en]t of my funerall Expenses) I give to my s[ai]d daughter Constance (or in case

she be dead to her Children) & to the s[ai]d Elizabeth Freeman (viz) one equal part thereof to the s[ai]d Constance & her Children in case she be dead & the other halfe part to be paid to the said Elizabeth Freeman And my Will further is that if neither the s[ai]d Constance nor any of her Children shall be living at my death that then the s[ai]d Eighty pounds appointed to be raised for her by sale of the s[ai]d Lands & also her part of my personall & real Estate given her as afores[ai]d shall accrue & be paid to the s[ai]d Jonathan Freeman Mary Freeman & Elizabeth Freeman by equal shares & proporc[i]ons And Lastly I make & appoint the s[ai]d Thomas Brookes Robert Davis & Thomas Freeman Executors in trust of this my last Will & Testam[en]t & my Will is that they shall deduct their expenses in executing the same & shall also expend at my funerall out of ^{my} personall Estate so much money as to them shall seem meete and convenient In Witness whereof I have to the two first sheets of this my Will set my hand & to the third sheet thereof my hand & seale the day & year first w[i]thin written

Mary Dodford

her mark

Signed sealed & published by the Testatrix for & as her last Will & Testam[en]t on the day of the date in the pr[e]sence of us who subscribed our names in the pr[e]sence of the Testatrix

Rob[er]t Brooks

William Davis

Robert Smith

Probate granted 31st July 1721 by William Best, surrogate for Thomas Stafford, to Thomas Freeman only, other powers reserved.

The mark of Mary Dodford appears on the first two sheets of the document.

Transcribed by the Churchill and Sarsden Probate Group 2014