

LEVENS WILLS AND PROBATE RECORDS

The following are variously full transcripts, extracts or précis of those wills or probate documents of Levens residents which have come into the knowledge of the Levens History Group.

Probate is the act of proving a will, or if none has been made, deciding who will administer the deceased's estate. Since 11 Jan 1858, this has been a civil process, but before that date, ecclesiastical courts dealt with it and the residence of the deceased determined the court of jurisdiction. In order to determine which ecclesiastical court is likely to have administered probate for an individual, you need to know where they lived or where they held lands. The court in which the will is proved may not be the one covering the area in which a person lived as it also depends on where they held property, and if that was in more than one area covered by the lower courts, probate will be proved by one of the higher ones.

It is not a process of determining the county, but initially the diocese. The diocese of Chester was created in 1541, and this is the diocese for most of Lancashire. The diocese of Chester was split into archdeaconries that held their own ecclesiastical courts. Levens was situated in the western deaneries of that part of the Bishopric of Chester which formed the Archdeaconery of Richmond, and which also included Lancashire north of the river Ribble. As a result a substantial number of the original documents are held at the Lancashire Record Office at Preston [herein abbreviated to L.R.O.]. Other records containing will and probate information Cumbria Record Office at Kendal [hereafter C.R.O.].

ANN ADDISON wife of John Addison of Beathwaite Green yeoman. Bond and Administration dated 22 February 1800¹

Bond by John Addison, John Morland of Kendal Esquire and William Richardson of Kendal gentleman. No date of death is given. The administration order certifies the estate residue at a net value of under £20

John ADDISON², Beathwaite Green, [Levens], parish of Heversham, Westmorland, basketmaker - will dated 3 Jan 1812³

Daughter Mary ADDISON £100, & £10 now in hands of Abraham GARNETT - plus 'my Round Table, my Dining Table, my Corner Cupboard and my Clock and my Writing Desk, my Cloathes Press and Warming Pan and Chest Case'

Son William ADDISON - 'my Bedsteads and my Feather Bed'

Daughter Agnes TAYLOR - 'my Chaff Bed and Looking Glass'

¹ L.R.O. WRW/K Ann Addison 1800

² John Addison was born circa 1722 in Crosthwaite and Lythe, Westmorland, christened 27 Jan 1723, and died 22 Aug 1814 in Heversham, Westmorland, aged 92. There appears to be no record of his burial.

³ L.R.O. WRW/K John Addison 1812

Residue to son John ADDISON -

Dau Mary ADDISON sole executrix.

John ADDISON [signed]. Witnessed by .Chr. Philipson and Tho. Atkinson

The administration order is dated 22 March 1815 certifying the estate at a net value of £120 and that 'Mary the wife of John Moon of Lythe in the parish of Heversham' was sole executrix

Peter ADDISON⁴ of Kenton Devon. Will 23 January 1870

Formerly of Levens. Appoints George Gibson of Levens Westmorland and 'my eldest son' George Gibson Addison his trustees. Bequeaths the whole of his property real and personal to his lawful wife Jane Addison for her life and then to be divided equally between his 6 sons or their heirs viz George Gibson Addison, Peter Addison, Robert Addison, Nicholas Addison, James Addison and Joseph Addison. Will was proved by George Gibson Addison alone on 12 May 1871 power reserved to George Gibson. Estate under £100.

Thomas ADDISON⁵ of Beathwaite Green Labourer. Will dated 22 November 1848⁶

Appoints John Wilson and Nicholas Gibson both of Beathwaite Green his executors His estate is to firstly go to 'my dear wife' for her life and after her death to his children 'both sons and daughters' equally. No names are given for his wife or children. Witnesses 'Robeart Philipson' and 'George Gibson'.

The administration order is dated 26 May 1849 certifying the estate residue at a net value of under £100

William ADDISON⁷, Levens, parish of Heversham, co. Westmorland, yeoman - will dated 28 Feb 1839

Appoints nephew Peter MOON of Lythe & William CATON of Stainton, both in p. of Heversham, yeomen - Executors.

- to beloved wife Eleanor ADDISON real & personal estate and effects for her natural life and after 12 months after her death

- to son Peter ADDISON and 'All that plot parcel or parcels of land or peatmoss lying and being on the south side and adjoining the Turnpike Rd leading from Beathwaite Green to Bridge Inn, bounded on the east by allotment belonging to Mrs BRAITHWAITE, on the west by one owned by Miss BAINS, together with the dwellinghouse working shop and outhouses thereupon lately built chargeable with £300 to be paid equally amongst my children (Peter included)

- Residue of real estate to be sold at public auction and the proceeds distributed as follows:

- to my grandson Thomas Philipson ADDISON, the illegitimate son of my daughter Mary PHILIPSON, £20

- remainder of trust money to be equally distributed amongst my nine children, namely

⁴ Died 22 January 1871

⁵ Died 17 February 1849

⁶ L.R.O. WRW/K Thomas Addison 1848

⁷ William Addison was born circa 1757 in Crosthwaite & Lythe, Westmorland; christened 14 Nov 1757; died 2nd Feb 1842, aged about 85, buried 6 Feb 1842.

William, John, Thomas, Robert, Peter, Eleanor, Mary, Jane & Elizabeth.

To Peter MOON & William CATON £2 each for their trouble.

Wm ADDISON (signed)

Witnesses: Jos H PEARSON Michael WILSON Chs CLARKE.

The administration order is dated 28 May 1842 certifying the estate residue at a net value of under £70

BETTY BAINES of Beathwaite Green. Will dated 18 May 1842⁸

I give to my brother John Baines for his natural life All that field or piece of land with the peatmoss situate south of the Ulverston road in the said township of Levens and after his death it shall be sold and the proceeds divided equally between my nephews and nieces the children of my sisters Anne Mary and Agnes

To Mary and Christiana daughters of the late John Cock of Kellet All those two fields adjoining each other on the west side of 'the Clayroad' in the said township in equal shares

To my sister Anne Rooks I give All those two cottages in Beathwaite Green and after her death to be divided equally between her daughters Jane Betty Agnes and Margaret

To my brother in law Christopher Townley and Mary his wife I give All those three cottages adjoining those aforesaid and in the occupation of William Medcalf Robert Wilkinson and Richard Walker as tenants thereof and to be divided after their death between their children Robert Christopher Betsy Mary and John

To my godson John Harris Lathom I give my mahogany writing desk

To my nieces Mary and Christiana the daughters of the said John Cock and Agnes his wife, Jane Betty Agnes and Margaret daughters of Thomas Rooks and his wife Anne, and Mary and Betsy daughters of Christopher Townley and his wife Mary I give all my clothing to be divided equally between them

The residue shall be used to pay her debts and funeral expenses and then be divided into 4 shares for my brother John Baines, to Mary and Christiana the daughters of John Cock and Agnes, to Anne Rooks and to Christopher Townley and his wife Mary

I appoint Thomas Latham of Beathwaite Green schoolmaster and Robert Rawes of Kendal coal dealer as my trustees and executors

She signed the will in the presence of James Spicer and Thomas Lathom, who also signed. There is an endorsement that probate was obtained on 8 April 1845 by Robert Rawes sole surviving executors and the estate was certified as less than £400. On 3rd May 1845 James Spicer gave a declaration that certain interleaved words were in the will when signed before him and Thomas Lathom. In that document Betty Baines is described as a spinster.

JOHN BELL of Sizergh Cottages, Heversham, farmer. Admon bond of 20 March 1854⁹

The bond is for James Bell (the lawful brother) and is by him of Grange, Cartmel, Lancashire, bootmaker, Samuel bell of Grange, bootmaker and Richard West of Kendal in the sum of £300. John Bell died 13 September 1853.

⁸ L.R.O. WRW/K Betty Baines 1842

⁹ L.R.O. WRW/K John Bell 1854

STEPHEN BENSON of Brighthouse, Levens, yeoman. Will dated 11 June 1822¹⁰

After payment of his debts and funeral expenses he gives 'to my now wife' all the yearly profits of his real and personal estate during her natural life and after her death to his son Thomas Benson who appoints his sole executor. He gives to his executor for the trust to his wife all his two [Bellrane?] Houses now occupied by John Fryer and Robert Lund as tenants and his Brighthouse estate now in his possession together with all goods and chattels and book debts. He gives to his son Richard £20 to be paid one year after his wife's death, to his son Stephen £3 a year for life the first payment on this same basis, to his daughter Ellen Wife of James Jackson £50 to be paid as before but if James Jackson shall not pay the debt owed to him then that debt shall form part of the gift to his daughter. The will is signed Stephen Benson and witnessed by John Wills, Isaac Croasdale and Isaac Atkinson. A note endorsed states that Thomas Benson proved the will on 11 June 1823, and that Stephen Benson died 6 July 1822 and the estate was less than £20.

JAMES BIRCH of Beathwaite Green, Yeoman. Will dated 25 December 1812¹¹

After ordering the payment of his debts and funeral expenses he gives to his nephew Thomas Stainton all his messuage and dwelling at Beathwaite Green with its orchard, outhouses and garden, and also his inclosure and peatmoss on Beathwaite Green Mosses. He gives to his friend John Addison son of John Addison the younger of Beathwaite Green, yeoman, as trustee of his estate, all his 'monies bonds bills and other securities for money' to invest and to pay £10 per annum to his sister Mary Birch for her life in 2 equal instalments in each year, and after her death the principal money is to be paid to his brothers William Birch and John Birch, to the children of them, to his sister Agnes Harrison and his nephews Thomas Stainton, William Stainton and Robert Stainton, 'share and share alike'. He made his mark in the presence of John Addison Junior, Miles Simpson and Tho. Atkinson, who all signed.

THOMAS BIRCH of Levens husbandman. Administration bond 2 April 1794¹²

Administration oath made by James Birch eldest son and next of kin of Levens, Husbandman, with James Wilson of Kendal, Esq and John Burton of Kendal, hosier, in the sum of £80. Each of them signed their name.

JOHN BLEWART of Beathwaite Green, Yeoman, will dated 6 May 1747¹³

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. I John Blewart of Beathwaitegreen in the Parish of Heversham and the County of Westmorland being sick and weak in Body, but of sound and disposing Mind and Memory (praise be God for the same) do this twenty sixth day of May in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and forty seven make publish and declare this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following (that is to say) First I will that all my just Debts and Funeral Expenses be paid and satisfied. Then I give devise and bequeath unto my Friend and Relation James Greenhow of Stainton in the Parish of Heversham and County of Westmorland Yeoman and to his heirs and assigns

¹⁰ L.R.O. WRW/K Stephen Benson 1822

¹¹ L.R.O. WRW/K James Birch 1812

¹² L.R.O. WRW/K Thomas Birch 1794

¹³ L.R.O. WRW/K John Blewart 1747

for ever all that my Freehold Close Inclosure or Parcel of Land situate lying and being at Beathwaitegreen aforesaid commonly called and known by the name of Jackson's Close, containing by estimation One Acre and a Half be the same more or less, and all the appurtenances thereunto belonging upon the special Trust and Confidence in his name reposed that he the said James Greenhow do sell the same as soon as he can after my decease in open sale unto such Person or Persons as shall give most money for them, and the Money arising by such Sale shall be paid and employed for the making up of the (?) payment of my just Debts of what as my personal Estate shall fall short thereof and the remainder of the money (if any be) shall be employed for and towards the maintenance and bringing up of my three children (to wit) John, Elizabeth and William Blewart

Also I give Devise and bequeath the yearly (?) profits and income of the remainder of my Messuage and Tenement and of that Close called Philip's Close situate at Beathwaitegreen aforesaid whereon I now dwell with all the appurtenances to them belonging unto my loving Wife Elizabeth for and towards the maintenance education and bringing up of my aforesaid children until such time as the youngest of them shall accomplish the age of twenty one years, and then it is my full Will and mind that the same shall be sold by my said older son John or his heirs unto such Person or Persons as shall give the best price for them, and the money arising by sale thereof to be divided amongst my above named three Children, only my elder son John or his Heirs having twenty pounds more than either of my other children, they and each of them paying unto Elizabeth their Mother after such Division, a third part of the yearly Interest thereof during the time and term of her natural life.

Also it is my Will and mind that in case my above named children (that is to say) John Elizabeth and William Blewart shall all of them happen to die before they severally attain the ages of twenty one years and without lawful Issue then I give devise and bequeath that part of my messuage and tenement unsold and the Close called Philip's Close with all the appurtenances belonging to them to my aforesaid Loving Wife Elizabeth and her assigns during the time and term of her natural Life.

Executrix of this my last Will and Testament I make and ordain my aforesaid loving Wife Elizabeth unto whom I give all my Goods Cattle Chattels and personal Estate whatsoever, she paying my just debts and funeral expenses out of the same so far as the same will extend, and the remainder of my just debts shall be paid according as is herein directed.

IN WITNESS whereof I the said John Blewart to this my last Will and Testament have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year first above written

Signed Sealed published pronounced and declared
By the said John Blewart the Testator as and for
his last Will and Testament in the sight and presence
of us who subscribed our names as Witnesses in his
presence to wit

(signed)
John Blewart

John Harling

Christopher Stephenson
Miles Croft

A true and perfect inventory and apprisement of the goods chattels and personal Estate of John Blewart late of Beathwaitegreen in the Parish of Heversham and County of Westmorland Yeoman deceased apprised the 29th day of May in the year of our Lord 1749 by us whose names and hereunto subscribed

First

The deceased's Purse and apparel	1. 0. 0.
Also goods sold in open sale on 23 rd June 1747	17. 7. 11.
Also goods sold in open sale on the 29 th February 1748	4. 18. 2.
Also goods in the Parlour	1. 10. 0.
Also goods in the little parlour	1. 5. 0.
Also goods in the firehouse	1. 10. 0.
Also goods in the Buttery	1. 6. 0.
Also goods in the loft	0. 2. 6.
 In all	 28. 19. 8.

Wm Bare

Tho Fletcher Apprisers
Miles Croft

ANNAS BROWN of Levens, widow. Will dated 16 August 1844¹⁴

Annas Brown gave all her real estate to her brother-in-law John Addison [since deceased] and John Addison his son, husbandmen in trust to pay debts funeral expenses and use and interest in her estate to be for the support and maintenance of her youngest daughter until 21 [no name given] then to be sold and paid equally between her 4 children [no names given] in equal shares. She made her mark in the presence of William Dixon, Anne Whitehead and William Teasdale, who all signed. John Addison senior proved the will on 27 November 1845, power being reserved to John Addison junior [then described as a gardener].

JAMES BROWN will 15 May 1821¹⁵

Administrators oath of Mary Brown widow and James Brown farmer both of BG, James Tyson of Kirkland weaver and William Greenwood of Kirkland weaver reciting that Mary Brown is the relict and James Brown one of the children of James Brown by a former wife Mary Brown deceased and next of kin, and James Brown died 11 February

¹⁴ L.R.O. WRW/K Annas Brown 1844. A document in the possession of Tom Addison states that 2 of her children died in lifetime of her youngest child and that the youngest child died before she was 21 and that Mary Garnett [wife of Peter Garnett] is the only surviving child of Annas Brown.

¹⁵ L.R.O. WRW/K James Brown 1821

1821. The document is signed by James Tyson but each of the others made a mark. Mary and James were sworn to the administration in the sum of £300 by way of surety.

JOHN CHEVAS of Sizergh Fell Side, gardener. Will dated 29 February 1812¹⁶

He desires his wife Elizabeth Chevas to pay his just debts, funeral expenses and costs of proving the will and that she shall have the interest on the sum of £100 then held for him by his daughter Hannah Richardson but if his wife has need then she can take all or part of the £100 for her own proper use and after his wife's death any remaining part shall be Hannah's. He gives to his daughter Elizabeth Chevas 'all my freehold messuage and tenement with the lands hereditaments premises and appurtenances..at Sizergh Fellside and known as Garden Cottage ' subject to the rents and profits of the premises and to live in it for her natural life, she also to have the use of his furniture which is also to pass to his daughter on his wife's death. He gives to his sister Ann Chevas two guineas a year to be paid out of the rents and profits of his house for the rest of his sister's life. He gives to John Richardson his wearing apparel and to his [John Richardson] son John his silver watch and silver buckles. The rest of his estate is to go to his wife. He appoints Christopher Garnett of Low Sizergh his sole executor. He signed the will in the presence of John Bailie, James Garnett and Robert Goad, who all signed.

John Chevas died 1st October 1819 and Christopher Garnett obtained probate on 21st July 1826, the estate value being £200.

AGNES DICKINSON¹⁷

An admon bond of 21 August 1793 states that James Dickinson, the sole executor proved the will with the estate certified as less than £300.

William DIXON¹⁸ of Black Castle. Will 7 September 1948

He is a retired labourer and appoints 'my friend and housekeeper' Martha Alice Watts sole executrix and beneficiary. Probate was obtained on 25 May 1954.

MARGARET ELLISON of Sizergh. Will dated 11 July 1809¹⁹

I give unto my Mrs Strickland unto Thomas Strickland Standish Esq unto Mrs Stephenson unto George Strickland Esq and to Jarrard Strickland each the value of one Gold Ring To my brother Willm. Ellison exclusive of what I have hereinafter left to him ten guineas for his trouble in executing this my will to my Nephew Willm. Ellison six guineas for a mourning suit to the Revd Thos Wilkinson Twenty Guineas [residue after payment of debts] be divided into four equal shares and one to my brother Willm Ellison of Sizergh one to my brother Luke Ellison one part to my sister Mary Mountney and one other part to my nephew Luke Ellison and my niece Elizabeth Lax surviving children of my late brother John deceased. William Ellison is appointed sole executor. Signed Margt. Ellison with witnesses, who both signed, James Hunter and Chris Newby. Probate was granted to William Ellison farmer of the parish of Kendal on 27 February 1810 and the testator died on 1st August 1809.

¹⁶ L.R.O. WRW/K John Chevas 1812

¹⁷ L.R.O. WRW/K Agnes Dickinson 1793

¹⁸ Died 10 February 1954

¹⁹ L.R.O WRW/K Margaret Ellison 1810

Mary Agnes ELLISON of Sizergh, Levens, will dated 26 December 1847²⁰

To my loving father my rents of my share of the Rawsons property and other properties and my shares in the Ulverston & Carnforth Turnpike for his life, my properties charged with £200 to each of Francis Charles Ellison my half-brother and Elizabeth Jane Ellison my half-sister, and after my father's death I give my landed property to my brother William Ellison for life for the education of his eldest daughter to the age of 21 but if my brother shall have no daughter then for his eldest son

I give £5 to Reverend Henderson, £10 Revd Gibson, £10 to the Fund for Catholic Clergy, £10 for masses for my poor soul at Kendal each year, £5 to Revd Hubberstie, £5 to Revd Edmund Kelly of Wigton, £5 to Agnes Shaw and a suit of mourning, and to the other female servants in my father's house a suit of mourning, £5 to Nancy Dalzell to be paid by my father, to my Aunt Ann a broach lately my mother's broach, to Nanna Jane Ellison £20 of the rents due to me

Instructions to pay debts, legacies within 2 months of death, and appointment of father William Ellison, brother William Ellison and step-mother Jane Ellison a executors Signed and sealed by her on 26 December 1847 in presence of Edmund Tatham and Thomas Darwell Ellison with a codicil of the same day that if her brother William Ellison shall die without heir then the gift to him to go to her half sister Elizabeth Jane Ellison and her half brother Francis Charles Ellison after the death of both her father and brother The will is endorsed that Edmund Tatham of Kendal, surgeon, appeared in person at the Consistory Court, Lancaster, to give confirmation of the signing of the will at Sizergh on the 26 December 1847. Probate was granted to her father William Ellison and the estate was certified as less than £50. She died 26 January 1848.

WILLIAM ELLISON the younger of Low Sizergh, gentleman. Will dated 19 March 1859²¹

He appoints his father William Ellison of Kendal, gentleman, and his brother Charles Ellison of Kendal his executors. His executors are to hold all his property in trust for his father for his life, and then to Charles. Probate is dated 24 October 1859 and the estate is certified as under £1500.

WILLIAM ELLISON of Cross Bank House, Scalthwaiterigg Kendal, gentleman. Will dated May 1859.²²

He appoints his brother in law John Ellison of Allerton House near Knaresborough, Yorkshire, and his son Francis Charles Ellison 'now resident in Low Sizergh' as his executors. Gifts are made

To his wife Jane his interest in Whaggs House and Bridge House farms, Levens containing about 57 acres of arable meadow for her life and provided she remain his widow. The rents are to be paid to her by his executors on 1 May and 1 November each year. She has £400 and any furniture she requires and silver plate at the discretion of his executors and after her death to his son Francis and then to his [Francis] heirs provided

²⁰ L.R.O. WRW/K Mary Agnes Ellison 1847

²¹ C.R.O. Kendal WD AG/Box 112

²² C.R.O. Kendal WD AG/Box 112. The wills of both father and son are in the same bundle but not separately indexed.

that if the land does not bring in £100 per annum his other land shall be charged to make up this sum.

To his daughter Elizabeth Jane Ellison £1000 to be secured by way of a mortgage on and the annual rents of his 3 cottages and gardens near Cinderbarrow and the rents of his 'little field' at Brigsteer for life then to her male heir or her daughter but she should only have a husband then to him for his life and his silver tankard 'for best stock cattle' given by late Alderman Wm Thompson but if she has no male heir this shall go to his son Francis and his heirs.

£18 to Revd James Gibson of Kendal.

The remainder is for his son Francis for his life and then to his children, but if there are no children to his brother and his heirs, to include the mortgages on Rawsons Estate, Lyth, the rest of his silver but none with the name William Ellison thereon shall be sold but if Francis shall have no children then to his nephew William Ellison of Hutton Henry, Co Durham 'as an heirloom'.

He wishes to be interred in the family vault at Heversham.

ABRAHAM GARNETT of Beathwaite Green, yeoman. Will dated 25 June 1793²³

Son William of Kendal innkeeper his inn in Kirkland called the Ship Inn and the adjoining house tenanted by Thomas Busher, also the cottage Green Earth or Green Yeat at BG with dales, sampools and peatcoates [except 1 peatcoat at Causeway End and 1 mossdale called Causeway side moss formerly the estate of his late (unnamed) father].

Also a cottage and 2 parcels of peatmoss at BG bought from Richard Hodgson, carrier, also 2 mossdales or peatmoss on Stakes Moss, Lyth Common, subject to paying his daughter Ellin wife of John Wearing of Badger Gate, £50

Son Abraham Garnett of Lyth house known as Blewarts at BG purchased from Thomas Thompson's widow, also house known as Wagg House at Mosside BG with parrock, 4 mosses called Crook Moss, Cringle Moss and 2 side mosses bought from Henry Stones of the Custom House London, also Philips House with parrock, garden and mosses bought from John Moone, also my house called Wampriest otherwise Cragg Hill consisting of 4 houses, cowhouse, stable, peatcoats, 3 gardens, orchard, also mossdales called Philip Mosses and Pincodd Mosses bought from John Croudson and William Garnett trustees of my brother John deceased, also my house called Scarr Bank at Sizergth Fellside and the 2 closes of land adjoining, also 3 dales or peatmoss situate at Quaggs, Round Tarn and Fidler Causeway, also Walnut Tree House and the mosses called Saul Moss, Near Moss and Hardmill Moss and bought by me from John Croudson and his wife Ann, also that peatmoss called Wagg Moss bought by me from Thomas Lewis, also a peatcoat near the Causeway at BG and my moss called Causeway Side Moss both of which are part of my tenement called Green Earth subject to Son-in-Law John Wearing having one days digging each year during life of his son Abraham

Another £100 to daughter Ellin which is owed by her husband John Wearing John being released from all debt for the interest.

Grand son Abraham son of AG jnr clock and case

Son AG iron grate, all cupboards, iron crane, 2 pairs of bedsteads

²³ L.R.O. WRW/K Abraham Garnett

Christopher Harrison, mariner, late of Sandside in his will of 9 August 1779 gave AG his property in Storth subject to occupation by CH's wife for her lifetime, and this he gives to his sons WG and AG equally, subject to a legacy to Ellin of £50

Exors WG and AG

Signed AG by mark and signatures of witnesses Ja. Dixon, George Prickett and Robert Philipson

Probate was granted in December 1798

CHRISTOPHER GARNETT of Low Sizergh, yeoman. Will dated 14 October 1848²⁴

After providing that his debts and funeral expenses be paid he gives to his nephew James Garnett the son of his brother James Garnett 'All that my customary messuage....called Hole Slack in the Township of Helsington...together with All that my allotment of land on Helsington Common and my parcel of peatmoss at Brigsteer together with the peathouse and sheads'. He instructs that James should be admitted to his customary estate as soon as was possible and that the gift to him is subject to James Garnett [the brother of Christopher] receiving the income and rents for his lifetime. James is to provide for his [James] brother Christopher as he needs and the real estate is charged to pay legacies of £50 to his [James] brothers George and William and his sisters Jane Mary and Agnes, upon them becoming 21. He gives to James all his hay, corn, straw and crops, whether standing or cut and housed, together with his live and dead stock and his implements of husbandry now at Low Sizergh. He gives to [unnamed] Brown and Eliza Brown 'my great nephew and niece the children of my niece Mary Brown now living in Ireland' and to my great nephew G A Dent now living in Kirkland one of my silver cups each. To my nephew Thomas 'second son of my brother James' All those two front dwellinghouses with barn stable and 'shade' and one half of the garden thereunto belonging in Beathwaite Green and my peatmoss on Sampool Moss containing 2a.2r.2p or thereabouts. To my nephew John Garnett third son of my brother James I give my three dwellinghouses at Beathwaite Green lying behind [those previously mentioned] including the pig styes, peathouses and the remaining half of the garden [as mentioned above] and my moss called Stakes Moss, Lyth, Heversham. He gives all his household goods plate furniture linen books prints pictures money and securities and all other estate whatsoever equally between his brother James and his nephew James. He appoints his brother James, his nephew James and George Brown the husband of my sister Mary Brown formerly Mary Borwick his trustees and executors. The will is signed Chris Garnett and the witnesses are Robt Moser Sol Kendal and Ca Wilkinson, his clerk. A codicil of 25 August 1849 records that his brother James had died and so the gift of his household goods, etc is to now be solely to his nephew James, and he revokes his appointment of George Brown so that his nephew James is sole executor. The will is endorsed that on 3 April 1852 James Garnett of Holeslack was granted probate of the estate valued at £450 and that Christopher Garnett died 3 March 1852.

John GARNET, Beathwaite Green, p. Heversham, co. Westmorland, husbandman - Will dated 9 Apr 1781²⁵

²⁴ L.R.O. WRW/K Christopher Garnett 1848

²⁵ Taken from the deeds for Rock Gate Levens courtesy of Mr & Mrs Hammond

In the Name of God Amen, I John GARNET of Beathwaite Green, in the Parish of Heversham, and County of Westmorland, Husbandman, being at this time of a sound disposing mind and Memory, and considering the uncertainty of this Mortal Life, do make and ordain this to be my last will and Testament in Manner and form following, First I ...my Immortal Soul into the Hands of God that gave it hoping through the Merits of my Blessed Redeemer Jesus Christ to find a Joyful Resurrection in the Life to come, Secondly I give my Body to the Earth to be decently Buried at the discretion of my two Executors hereafter names, and as for my Temporal estate I give and Bequeath as follow, ffirst I give and Bequeath unto my beloved Wife Isabel GARNET all my messuages, tenements and Cottages, Lying and being at Beathwaite Green and Crosthwaite both in the Parish and County aforesaid during her natural Life, she paying and discharging all my just Debts that shall be owing at my Decease, ffuneral Expences, and Legacy's hereafter mentioned, also I give and bequeath unto my Daughter Ellin now wife of James BROWN, during her natural all that my Messuage Tenement or Cottage situate at Masongill in the Parish of Thornton and County of York, and after her decease I do order my Executors to sell the said Messuage or Tenement and to Divide it amongst my Children share and share alike, I also give and Demise unto my two Grand Children Isabel GARNET and Christopher GARNET the sum of ffive pounds each to be paid by my Executors when they arrive at the Age of twenty one years, but if they happen to Die before they arrive at the age of twenty one years then I do order it to be Divided amongst my other Children share and share alike I also give and bequeath unto my loving wife Isabel GARNET all my Stock of Horses, Cows, Sheep, Implements in Husbandry Household Goods and all and every of my personal Estate whatever And I do hereby Nominate and Appoint John CROUDSON and my Son William GARNET Joint Executors of this my Will and order them to sell all my Messuages and Tenements at Beathwaite Green and Crosthwaite aforesaid at the Decease of my Loving Wife, and to Divide the money amongst my ffive Children (to wit), William GARNET, Mary Now Widow of Thomas GAY, and to Isabel now Wife of William BROWN and to Ann now wife of John BENNET and to Margaret now Wife of Leonard CLEMENT, share and share alike, at the Expiration of One whole year after the Decease of my Loving Wife, And I do hereby make null revoke and make void all fformer Wills made by me, and do make this and no other to be my last Will and Testament, in Witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal this 9th Day of April 1781. Signed Sealed and Declared by the Testator John Garnet to be his last Will and Testament in the presence of us William LUTHWAITE Agness X ffOXCROFT mark James X SMITH mark the mark of John Garnet ['Jon' and seal] (Also I give and Beqeath unto John CROUDSON and William GARNET each of the One Guinea for their trouble, besides all necessary Charges and Expences allowed them, also I give unto John GARNET the son of William GARNET one Clock after the Decease of my beloved Wife).

JOHN GASS of Beathwaite Green, yeoman. Will dated 3 April 1790²⁶

I John Gass of Beathwaitegreen in the Parish of Heversham in the County of Westmorland Yeoman being aged and infirm but of sound and disposing Mind Memory and Understanding (praised be God for the same) Do make publish and declare my last Will and Testament in writing in manner and form following, that is to say, First, I will

²⁶ L.R.O. WRW/K John Gass 1803

and direct that all my just Debts be fully paid and satisfied and for that Purpose I subject and charge my real Estates hereafter mentioned with the Payment thereof and subject thereto I give and devise my freehold Messuage and Tenement - - at Gatebeck in Preston Patrick in the Parish of Burton in the said County of Westmorland and also my freehold Messuage and Tenement at - - Beathwaitegreen in the Parish of Heversham aforesaid With all the -Lands Grounds Hereditaments and Appurtenances thereunto respectively belonging unto John Postlethwaite of Kendal, Gentleman, William - Kirkby of Underbarrow and James Dixon of Lyth, Yeomen, and to - their Heirs and assigns for ever Upon Trust nevertheless and to the -Intent and Purpose that they the said John Postlethwaite, William Kirkby and James Dixon or the Survivor of them and his Heirs do and shall pay unto my Wife Margaret yearly and every Year during her natural - Life out of the Rents and profits thereof One Annuity or *clear* yearly sum of Ten pounds at Martinmas and MayDay by even and equal portions The first half yearly payment to begin and be made at such of the said - Days as shall first happen after my decease and the overplus rents It is my Will and Mind shall be applied towards Payment of my Debts and Repairs And I order and direct that the said Annuity shall be in Lieu -and full Satisfaction of my Wife's Dower or Widowright out of or in the said Premises and from and after the decease of my said Wife Then upon Trust that they my said Trustees or the Survivor of them and his Heirs do and shall absolutely sell and dispose of all the same Premises in publick Sale or by private Contract at such time or times as they in their Discretion shall think Best for the most Money that can be had or got And I do hereby direct the Receipt or Receipts of my said - Trustees or of the Survivor of them or his Heirs to be good and sufficient Discharge as to the purchaser or purchasers of the said premises for his -her or their purchase Money without such Purchasor or Purchasors being obliged to see to the Application or being answerable for the Misapplication thereof or of any part thereof And the Money arising and to be raised thereby (after Payment of my just Debts funeral and -testamentary expenses and other contingent Charges) I order and direct my said Trustees to pay unto and equally between my three Grand-Daughters Mary, Ann and Betty Gass on attaining their Ages of twenty one Years - But if any of them shall happen to die before attaining that Age without leaving lawful Issue Then I give the Share of her or them so dying unto the Survivor or Survivors But in case of leaving lawful Issue Then it is my Will and Mind that such Share or Shares shall be paid to and equally divided amongst such Issue And until my said Grand-Daughters shall severally attain their Ages of twenty one Years It is my further Will and Mind that their Shares of the Money arising by Sale of the said -Premises shall be put out to Interest upon safe Security by my said -Trustees and the Interest thereof be paid yearly towards their Maintenance and Education And Provided it shall become necessary to have my freehold Messuage Lands and Premises sold for the Purpose of - paying my Debts before the decease of my Wife Then and in such case I request my Son William Gass to pay my said Wife her said Annuity of Ten pounds at the Days and Times, Manner and form it is herein - before appointed to be paid to her out of the customary Messuage Lands and Premises in Underbarrow which I purchased for him and - -whereon he now lives. I give my said Wife the Use and Enjoyment of my Household Goods and Furniture during her Life And after her decease - I give my Clock and Case unto my Grand daughter Mary and the Residue thereof or the Money arising therefrom I give equally between and - amongst my three Granddaughters Mary, Ann and Betty. I give my Grandson John Gass my silver

Watch and one Guinea on attaining his - Age of Eighteen Years. I give my Son John William Gass and my Grandsons Thomas and William Gass my Brother James Gass and my Nephew - Thomas Gass each one Guinea apiece. I nominate and appoint the said John Postlethwaite, William Kirkby and James Dixon joint - Executors of this my Will and I give each of them one Guinea apiece over and above all their reasonable and necessary Charges and Expenses in and about the Execution of the Trust hereby in them reposed And I do - direct that my said Trustees their Heirs Executors or Administrators - shall not be answerable or accountable for any Monies or Account of the said Trusts but what they respectively Shall actually receive nor shall any of them be answerable or accountable for the Acts Deeds or Receipts of the others of them but each of them for his own Acts Deeds and Receipts only Nor for any Loss that may happen Unless such Loss happen through his or their wilful Neglect or Default And lastly I do hereby revoke all former and other Wills by me at any time heretofore made and declare this only to be my last Will and Testament In Witness whereof I have - hereunto set my Hand and Seal this third ±± Day of April in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven Hundred and Ninety

Signed, sealed, published and declared by the said John Gass the Testator as and for his last - Will and Testament, in the presence of us, who, in his presence, at his Request, and in the presence of each other have subscribed our Names as - -

his Mark
John Gass
and Seal

Witnesses - - - - -

Edward Burton
Betty Basset
Anthony Wilson

On the twentyeighth of May 1803 this Will was proved in common Form and John Postlethwaite William Kirkby and James Dixon the Executors Herein named were sworn well and faithfully to execute and perform the same and so forth and that to the best of his Knowledge and Belief the whole of the personal Estate of which the Testator died possessed did not in real Value amount to the Sum of Twenty Pounds

PRobinson Surrogate

ANN GIBSON²⁷

An admon bond of 18 February 1792 states that her husband Robert Gibson of Levens, proved the will with the estate certified as less than £20.

NICHOLAS GIBSON of Beathwaite Green, yeoman. Will dated 3 April 1871.

I appoint George Edward Moser of Kendal gentleman and John Wilson of Beathwaite Green aforesaid yeoman executors and I devise unto them [all assets]. To my dear wife Ann all my furniture and other personal estate and all my real estate during the term of her life and then to my son George my cottage and garden known as Hullate Hall and my field near to or adjoining Causeway End and all the residue of my real estate so my son John my messuage and tenement called Walnut Tree House with the barn adjoining and my field called Quags Field and also my share and interest in Workshops and Sheds at

²⁷ L.R.O WRW/K Ann Gibson 1792

Beathwaite Green and also my field on Stakes Moss which I purchased from Thomas Stainton and also my messuage and tenement called Pear Tree Cottage together with the barn and stable adjoining and the field behind the same. I charge the last mentioned premises with the payment of £400 to be spent in paying my debts of £200 owed to each of John Addison and Margaret Walker or so much as shall be owing at my death and the balance shall be part of my personal estate. A clause allows Moser to charge his usual professional fees for acting as executor. Nicholas Gibson made his mark in the presence of Thomas Heywood of Scarr Bank Levens and John Thompson of Holly Bank Levens. Nicholas died 16 March 1873 and probate was granted on 22 November 1873 with the estate sworn as under £50.

ELIZABETH GRAHAM of Mabinhall, widow. Will dated 18 October 1810.²⁸

After instructing the payment of her debts and funeral expenses she gives to her daughter Mary Graham wife of John Graham of Mabinhall all her clothing and her household furniture. She appoints her friends Thomas Scott of Woodhouse and Thomas Atkinson of Milnthorpe her executors who are to get in the balance of her estate except for £10 which is in the hands of John Graham and was given to him by her late husband Thomas Graham to hold on her behalf. Once in the estate is to be divided; to her three sons John Graham, Thomas Graham and William Graham £10 each, to her grandsons and granddaughters Thomas Graham, George Graham, Agnes Graham and Mary Graham the sons and daughters of the said John Graham of Mabinhall one guinea each with the residue to 'my daughter' [daughter in law?] Mary Graham the wife of the said John Graham. She made her mark in the presence of Edward Procter and Tho. Atkinson, both of whom signed. An endorsement states that Elizabeth Graham the widow of Thomas Graham late of Milnthorpe yeoman died on 10 Nov 1810. The executors proved the will on 10 March 1811 and the estate was certified as under £150.

ANTONY HARRISON

Last page of 3 page will

Indemnity for trustees for loss save for that caused by their wilful default, the trustees being John Bowness and Robert Turner. Dated 27 September 1801 signed Antony Harrison and witnessed by Thomasina Richardson, Mary Tattersall and [?] Richardson

JOHN HARRISON of Lawrence House Levens, gentleman. Will dated 11 June 1819²⁹

[A lengthy will with substantial technical legal instructions but the gifts are as set out below.]

He appoints Joseph Massey of Burnley, Lancashire, Manufacturer, George Webster of Kendal, Architect and William Parker of Coniston, Slate Merchant, to be his trustees and executors and they are given £20 each as well as their expenses.

He gives to 'my dear wife Sarah such part of my household goods and furniture plates linen glass and china [as may trustees think fit] for furnishing a small house and to be at her own disposal', his books save for 'such part of my books as my said wife might not

²⁸ L.R.O. WRW/K Elizabeth Graham 1810

²⁹ L.R.O. WRW/K John Harrison 1819

think proper to keep for her own [reading?]', and from the interest on the residue of his estate £80 per annum paid in equal parts half yearly.

He gives to George Webster the remainder of his books and his watch, watch chain and seals and pistols.

He gives to his trustees

A] The remainder of his household goods except for his plate, books and agricultural prizes.

B] His interest in 'all or any Quarries and quays...ships or vessels'.

C] 'All that my messuage tenement or dwelling house and Malt Kiln with the appurtenances thereto belonging situate at Rosthwaite, Cark, [Lancashire]' to pay the rents to his wife for her life.

D] All the remainder of his personal estate

His trustees are given powers to run his 'concern in the slate quarries owned in partnership with Mr Knott' as they in their absolute discretion think fit but if they decide to sell the they are to offer his share at a fair valuation to the said Michael Knott of Coniston, Esquire³⁰. They are to invest the residue in Parliamentary Bonds to pay the interest to his wife as above, and after her death

1] To pay £100 to his niece Jane Graham

2] To his niece Eleanor Lowry £50

3] Unto my nephews and nieces the sons and daughter of the late Robert Webster of Flookburgh deceased, of Francis Webster of Kendal Stone Mason (including my said executor George Webster) and William Ashburner of Kentsbank Lancashire Innkeeper, £300 to be divided equally between them

4] His wife shall have liberty to keep his books and cups won as prizes from the Agricultural Society but if she does not want them they are to go to the said Jane Graham

5] Divide the residue equally between James, Knipe, Saul and Ann the children of his late brother James Harrison.

He has signed the will in the presence of [?]Watson, John Dixon and Isaac Wilson. A codicil of 22 December 1819 removes Joseph Massey from his executorship and replaces him with Joseph Russell of Kendal, Land Surveyor. The codocil is signed in the presence of Saml. Dale, Jenny Wilson and Isaac Wilson.

Joseph HOGGARTH³¹, Hutton Lane Cottage, Beathwaite Green, parish Heversham, Westmorland, yeoman. Will dated 27 March 1885; codicil dated 13 July 1887.³²

He first appointed John PRICKETT the Younger and Henry PRICKETT both of Lane End Beathwaite Green Farmers as executors and then in their place Nicholas ADDISON of Beathwaite Green Labourer and "my son" Benjamin HOGGARTH as executors.

Will left in trust to pay "my wife" £13 per annum, and on her death between Benjamin HOGGARTH and Margaret Hoggarth ECCLES "the illegitimate daughter of my wife"

³⁰ Of Waterhead House, Monk Coniston, Lord of the Manor of Aldingham. From 1823-1828 he was the owner of the Foxdale Mine, Isle of Man.

³¹ Died 17 Oct 1887

³² Taken from the deeds of Studio Cottage Levens courtesy of Mr & Mrs Hotchkiss

JOHN JACKSON of Beathwaite Green, Leavens. Will dated 11 January 1811³³

I give to my now wife all my personal estate now in my possession and wherever it can be called mine for her own proper use and behoof whatever – also twenty pounds extraordinary for the expenses of my funeral so as to make no demand on my executor hereafter named. First to give to my now wife all the interest of my real estate at Beathwaitegreen with the gardens orchard and peatmosses thereunto belonging and all appurtenances thereunto belonging during her natural life and after her decease the aforesaid properties to become the property of my son James whom I appoint my sole executor of this my last will and testament he paying fifty pounds to my daughter Betty or Elizabeth one year after my now wifes decease and to pay my son John Jackson the sum of five pounds one year after my wifes decease also to my son William Jackson the sum of five pounds one year after my wifes decease my now wife paying all my just debts and funeral expenses from the aforesaid twenty pounds and personal estate. Dated 11 January 1811. Signed John Jackson, his mark in presence of George Gibson, Isaac Atkinson and Agnes Turner [she made her mark].

The will was proved in common form by James Jackson 20 February 1813 with the estate certified as less than £120. A note adds that John Jackson died in January 1811.

WILLIAM HUTTON of Beathwaite Green, labourer. Will dated 11 January 1852³⁴

He appoints John Bolton of Levens Park Head or End and John Wilson of Beathwaite Green, beerhouse keeper, his trustees and executors, and makes gifts as follows
To my friend Alexander Ross of Park Head or end all my money consisting of about £80 in the bank of Messrs John Wakefield & Company and £10 in the hands of Edward Dodd Kemp on a promissory note from me payable one month after my death

Also to Alexander Ross a bacon ham hanging at Lawrence House

I direct that Alexander Ross shall pay my debts and funeral expenses and give to John Bare all my wearing apparel and to his wife Susan Bare £5

My watch to Robert Ross son of Alexander Ross

A clock, night commode and everything else of which I am possessed at my death to the said Alexander Ross

The will has his mark made in the presence of Thomas Bolton, Richard Armer and Christopher Prickett, all of whom added their signatures.

Thomas Bolton of Beathwaite Green, plumber and glazier, later swore an oath that the words £100 had been struck out and overwritten with the words £80 at the time the will was signed and witnessed.

ROBERT KIRKBY of Beathwaite Green, yeoman. Will of 1806³⁵

I devise unto Elizabeth Garnett relict of John Garnett late of Beathwaite Green miller her heirs and assigns all that my freehold messuage cottage or tenement estate called Walnut Tree situate at Beathwaite Green [with all appurtenances etc] upon condition that she do pay out of the devise [debts etc and] to my sister Elizabeth Prickett widow the sum of ten pounds to Miles Crayston of Kirkby Lonsdale blacksmith one pound to Thomas Tollman of Kirkby Lonsdale cordwainer one pound and to Robert Strickland the younger of Hale

³³ L.R.O. WRW/K John Jackson

³⁴ L.R.O WRW/K William Hutton 1852

³⁵ L.R.O WRW/K Robert Kirkby 1806

in the parish of Beetham the sum of one pound. The residue is to Elizabeth Garnett and she is appointed his sole executor.

WILLIAM LAMBERT of Beathwaite Green, Waller. Will dated 6th March 1761³⁶
IN THE NAME of GOD, Amen; I WILLIAM LAMBERT of Beathwaite Green in the Parish of Heversham and County of Westmorland Waler being of perfect health and of sound mind and memory and understanding; but considering the uncertainty of this Transitory Life do make publish and declare this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following TO WITT first I give and devise and bequeath to my loving Wife Elizabeth all that my freehold Estate both Houses and Lands with all the appurtenances thereto belonging which said premises is lying and being at Beathwaite Green aforesaid and Holden under the yearly free rent of Ten Pence to be paid (?) years and (?) every to Countess of Suffolk & her heirs – and I likewise give devise and bequeath to my Loving Wife all that my personal Estate as well as my real Estate for her only use and for her after my Decease to give Will or Devise of; for her or to her heirs for ever and I do hereby nominate and appoint her my Loving Wife to be my whole Executrix she paying to my nephew Thomas Geldert; son to my Brother-in-law, John Geldert; twelve months after my decease the sum of Ten shillings which is all the incumbrance or request I shall Devise on my Loving Wife only that she will pay all my just debts and funeral expenses; So I do hereby Revoke all former Wills and do appoint these presents only to stand in force for and as my last will and Testament whereof I have this sixth day of March in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and sixty one sett my hand and Seal

Seal'd published and	his
Declared by the said	
Wm Lambert to be	Willm X Lambert
His last will and Tes-	
/ament in the presence	Mark
of	

(seal) Elizbeth Pritchard

(seal) Michal Dodgson (his mark)

(seal) John Beethom

JAMES LISTER of Heaves Lodge, Levens, Heversham, coachman and groom. Will dated 29 January 1853³⁷

Appoints his wife Elinor sole executrix and gives her all personal goods and estate and his share in the London & North Western Railway Co. Witnessed by Christopher Prickett and John Sanderson and proved in the Consistory Court at Lancaster, John Sanderson of Heaves Lodge appearing personally before the court to give details to the court on oath to

³⁶ L.R.O. WRW/K William Lambert

³⁷ L.R.O. WRW/K James Lister 1854

confirm the correct witnessing of the will. He died 18 March 1854. Probate was granted on 23 October 1854 with the estate certified at £200.

ELIZABETH MACDONALD

Administrators surety by William Fox of Manchester Esq, William Sharp of Lancaster Gent and Mary Ann Rawlinson of Lancaster spinster in the sum of £900 and dated 30 November 1816 to secure the correct administration of the estate by Mary Fox, the lawful wife of William Fox and the natural and lawful sister and next of kin of Elizabeth MacDonald of Heaves, Heversham, widow who died 11 July 1814.

John PENNIE³⁸ of Beathwaite Green. Will 9th February 1869

Appoints his brother Richard Pennie and his brother in law Richard Davies his trustees and directed them to sell his land by public auction. Will and 2 codicils were proven on 13th February 1876.

THOMAS PHILIPSON of Beathwaite Green, husbandman. Will dated 23 August 1789

After the common preambles he gives to his beloved wife Agnes for her natural life 'and continues my chaste widow' all the rents of his house in Beathwaite Green called Green Gate with the gardens, orchards, outhouses, grounds and peatmosses, all his household furniture, his cattle, his husbandry gear, the interest on all money that he had lent out together with all Bills, Bonds and other securities. He appoints 'my good friends and neighbours' Robert Dickinson of Lyth Senior and James Thompson of Brigsteer Junior his executors. His executors are 'to give my wife a decent funeral' and then to divide the residue, after sale of his house, £60 to each of his 4 children Christopher Philipson, Thomas Philipson, Hannah wife of John King and Mary wife of Richard Winder, half a guinea to each executor as well as their expenses, and any residue to be divided share and share alike, between his 5 children [the above 4 plus Robert Philipson] or their children if they should predecease. He signed the will in the presence of Mary Hartley, who made her mark, and Agnes Hartley and Matthew Hartley, who both signed.

An admon bond of 3 March 1810 states that James Thompson junior of Brigsteer, farmer, the surviving executor proved the will with the estate certified as less than £70. It records 'N.B. The testator died about ten years ago and his wife about Christmas last'.³⁹

Will of Margaret Rawes of Kendal, Westmorland. Made 4th May 1897. Proved 25th July 1900 at Carlisle.⁴⁰

This is the last Will and Testament of me Margaret Rawes of Number 148 Stricklandgate, Kendal in the County of Westmorland Widow. I appoint Robert Rawes of Number 148 Stricklandgate aforesaid Aerated Water Manufacturer and James Rooks of High Barns, Levens in the County of Westmorland Farmer, hereinafter called my Trustees, Executors and Trustees of this my Will. Whereas Agnes Rooks late of Beathwaite Green in the County of Westmorland by her Will dated twenty fourth day of April one thousand

³⁸ Died 31 January 1876

³⁹ L.R.O. WRW/K Thomas Philipson

⁴⁰ From deeds for Highfield House

eight hundred and sixty five gave and bequeathed to her Trustees James Rooks and Myself in trust her five cottages with outbuildings Tenements and hereditaments whatsoever situate lying and being at Beathwaite Green aforesaid for the benefit of myself then the wife of Robert Rawes, Lime Merchant Plumgarths near Kendal in the County of Westmorland for and during the term of my natural life and after my decease to the said Robert Rawes my late husband during the term of his natural life and in case my death or the death of the said Robert Rawes my husband to be divided in three equal shares between my heirs or whom I might appoint and her nephew and nieces or their heirs children of her sister Jane Wood, Widow of Joseph Wood, Keswick in the County of Cumberland Draper and the children or heirs of her sister Elizabeth Townley, wife of Christopher Townley, Lancaster in the County of Lancashire, Tailor. Now I the above named Margaret Rawes in exercise and execution of the power for this purpose given to me by the said Will as aforesaid and all other powers (if any) me hereunto enabling hereby appoint the one third share and all other the share and interest (if any) of me the said Margaret Rawes or which I have power to appoint under the said Will of the said Agnes Rooks to the said Robert Rawes of 148 Stricklandgate aforesaid, Aeriated Water Manufacturer absolutely for his own use I devise and bequeath all other my Real Estate and all my personal Estate unto my Trustees upon Trust that my Trustees shall thereout pay my Funeral and Testamentary expenses and Debts And shall stand seized and possessed of the residue thereof In Trust for and I devise and bequeath the same unto the said Robert Rawes of 148 Stricklandgate aforesaid absolutely. I revoke all Wills and Testamentary dispositions heretofore made by me. In witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name this fourth day of May one thousand eight hundred and ninety seven.

Signed by the said Testatrix
Margaret Rawes as and for her last
Will and Testament in the presence
of us present at the same time who
at her request in her presence and
in the presence of each other have
hereunto subscribed our names

Margaret (her mark) Rawes

as Witnesses

G.W. Brumwell - M.R.C.S.E.

Kendal

J.B. Wilson -

Solicitor - Kendal

On the twenty fifth day of July 1900 Probate of
this Will was granted at Carlisle to Robert
Rawes and James Rooks the Executors

John SIMPSON of Beathwaite Green, yeoman. Will dated 9 May 1791⁴¹

In the Name of God Amen I John Simpson of Beathwaite Green in the Parish of Heversham in the County of Westmorland Yeoman being indisposed in bodily health but of sound and perfect disposing mind and memory praised be Almighty God for the same and considering the uncertainty of this mortal life do make publish and declare this to be my last will and testament in manner and form following; First I give and devise unto my trusty friends Abraham Garnett Jun of Lyth and Richard Johnson of Heversham and my nephew Miles Simpson of Beathwaite Green Yeomen and the survivors of them their heirs and assigns All that my freehold messuage and tenement lands grounds and premises whereon I now dwell situate at Beathwaite Green aforesaid and also all that my close inclosure or parcel of ground called or commonly known by the name of Inman Parrock together also with all those my five moss-dales lying upon Lyth Common In Trust nevertheless and to the intent and purpose that they the said Abraham garnett Richard Johnson and Miles Simpson their heirs and assigns or the survivor of them shall as soon as conveniently may be after my decease offer to Farm lett all my said messuage and tenement lands and premises for the most advantage that may be got for the same and the yearly proffets arising therefrom I order to be paid and applied for and towards the maintenance education and bringing up of my Children until such time as my eldest son John Simpson shall attain his full age of twenty one years and from and after my said son John hath attained his full age of twenty one years Then I give grant and devise unto him my said son John Simpson his heirs and assigns All that my aforesaid freehold messuage and tenement wherein I now dwell commonly called or known by the name of Charles Hill situate lying and being upon Beathwaite Green aforesaid with all the lands grounds and appurtenances thereunto belonging and also all that my aforesaid close inclosure or parcel of ground called Inman Parrock and likewise all those my said five peatmosses or dales of turbarry situate lying and being on Lyth Common.... Subject and charged.... Legacy... unto my daughter Hannah Simpson the sum of Forty Pounds to be paid to her at the end of twelve months next after she shall have attained her full age of twenty one tears [or to her children (if any) if she should die before then] [If] John Simpson should die without heir I give [all property described above] to my youngest son Joseph Simpson Subject and Chargeable with... sixty pounds which I give to my said daughter Hannah Simpson [to be paid 12 months after Joseph becomes 21] over and above the sum of Forty Pounds above by me Charged...Also I give unto my said Trustees...All that my freehold messuage tenement or dwellinghouse situate at the High end of Beathwaite Green...together with my mossdale on the north east side of Inman Parrock with the Peatcoat standing thereon In Trust [as above] for my youngest son Joseph Simpson [age clause as above] (the house is let to James Crosley) charged with ten pounds to my daughter Hannah Simpson [if Joseph dies before twenty one then John inherits but pays an extra forty pounds to Hannah] Also I give unto my said Trustees... All that my Peatcoat or Peat house situate standing and being near the Causeway End on Beathwaite Green... and also my stock in Cattell Household Furniture Husbandry Gear my Book Debts and all and singular my personal estate [upon trust to sell and collect] to pay my personal debts and funeral expenses [and to pay the balance equally between my children when Joseph attains twenty one years of age]. Formal appointment of executors. Signed by his mark in the presence of William Simpson, Robert Wilkinson [mark] and ? Dixon.

⁴¹ L.R.O. WRW/K John Simpson

Note endorsed that trustees were sworn 14 August 1791 and the estate was above £100 but under £300, surrogate Henry Wilson.

James SPICER⁴² of Beathwaite Green relieving officer. Will 7 August 1849⁴³

To my two sons James Spicer and Edmund Thomas Spicer and to my son-in-law William Hiscock⁴⁴ their heirs etc all my real & personal estate whatsoever upon trust for my dear wife Sarah⁴⁵ provided she remain my widow and after her death to such of my children as shall attain 21 and I direct my trustees to invest the share of my daughter Jane Lamb the wife of Edward Bare and to pay her the interest [presumably done to prevent EB getting his hands on the fund?] and after her death to divide her fund equally between her children including her illegitimate son Thomas James Spicer. Powers to trustees to sell etc. Witnessed by Edred [?] Harrison, solicitor Kendal and James Webster his clerk. A codicil of 11 August 1849 revokes the appointment of his son Edmund Thomas Spicer. Will proved in the Consistory Court Lancaster 25 February 1854.

Thomas STAINTON⁴⁶ of Levens Westmorland yeoman. Will dated 5 December 1856⁴⁷

Appoints his son William STAINTON of Casterton schoolmaster William HISCOCK of Levens Schoolmaster and James THOMPSON of Helsington, farmer, his executors. His estate is to firstly go to 'my dear wife Sarah provided she shall so long continue my widow and unmarried' for her life and after her death to his sons William STAINTON of Casterton and Thomas STAINTON of Upper Canada upon payment of legacies £1.1s. to each of my 4 children James STAINTON, John STAINTON, Agnes HOGGARTH and Ellen BATEMAN all of Upper Canada £5 to my stepdaughter Anne FAWCETT of Whittington Witnessed by William HISCOCK and Isaac BATEMAN The probate is dated 16 January 1857 with the estate certified at £100.

WILLIAM STEPHENSON of Levens, Yeoman. Will dated 4 April 1758⁴⁸

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. I William Stephenson of the Lane-end in Levens in the Parish of Heversham and County of Westmorland Yeoman being Old and infirm in

⁴² He was born on 6 August 1779 to Edmund and Elizabeth Spicer and christened on 5 September 1779 at Sedbergh. In 1851 he is at Grove Cottage aged 71, a Chelsea Pensioner and registrar, with his wife Sarah aged 61, Edmund T aged 22, deputy registrar born Windsor Berkshire, his daughter Anne B. aged 20 born in Levens and Thomas J his grandson aged 6, born at Hardwick Lancashire. See WO 97/9/119 for 'James Spicer born Sedburgh Yorkshire served in 1st Life Guards discharged aged 49 1803-1829'. Amongst the Levens W.I. notes is a reference that he was one of three brothers who fought at Waterloo, but this has not been verified.

⁴³ L.R.O. WRW/K James Spicer 1854

⁴⁴ In 1851 he is at the Schoolhouse in Levens, teacher of reading, writing and arithmetic, aged 26, born Kendal. His wife is Margaret A born Knightsbridge aged 26. He was also the census enumerator for district 4b [i.e. folios 475-488].

⁴⁵ In 1861 Sarah, aged 70, is described as a house proprietor, and has living with her daughters Elizabeth B. Todd aged 45 and born in Staveley, [as was Sarah], Jane L. Bare, aged 39, born London, and Agnes, aged 26. Edmund T is at home with his birthplace stated as Windsor, and no occupation is given.

⁴⁶ Died 20 December 1856

⁴⁷ L.R.O. R538/29

⁴⁸ L.R.O. WRW/K William Stephenson

Body but of sound and Disposing Mind and Memory (Praise be therefore given to Almighty God) Do make publish and declare this my Last Will and Testament in manner and Form following (that is to say) First and principally I commend my Soul into the Hands of Almighty God, and my Body I commit to the Earth to be decently buried at the Discretion on my Executrix herein after named, And as touching the Disposition of all such Temporal Effects as it has pleased God to bestow upon me I Give and Dispose therefore as followeth, namely I do hereby Give Grant and Devise unto Mary my Loving Wife for and during the Term of her natural Life or chaste Victuity ALL that my Freehold Messuage and Tenement situate lying and being at Lane-end aforesaid in the Parish of Heversham and County of Westmorland she paying thereout annually the Interest of all the money or Debts I owe or that shall or may be justly owing at the Time of my Decease and also paying and Discharging all Taxes Assessments and Charge or Repairs as the same shall become due and payable for my said Messuage Tenement Lands Grounds Peatmoss and Premises with all their and every of their Hereditaments and Appurtenances at Lane-end aforesaid herein and hereby Granted and Devised, or intended to be herein and hereby Granted and Devised unto my said Loving Wife as aforesaid AND from and after the Decease or second marriage of my said Wife I do hereby Give Grant and Devise ALL my said Freehold Messuage and Tenement Lands Grounds Peatmoss and premises with all their and every of their Rights Members Hereditaments and Appurtenances at Lane-end aforesaid unto my beloved Son Christopher Stephenson and to his Heirs and Assigns for Ever YET nevertheless it is my Will and Mind that my said Messuage and Tenement shall stand Charged and Chargeable and I do hereby Charge all and every part and parcel thereof with the payment of all my just Debts and also the several Legacies hereinafter particularly mentioned (that is to say) I do hereby Give and Bequeath unto Abraham Stephenson my younger Son the sum of Eighty pounds of Lawful British money and to Agnes Stephenson my younger daughter the sum of Sixty Pounds of Like British money to be paid to my said Son and Daughter respectively or to their respective Executors Administrators and Assigns out of my said Messuage and Tenement by my said son Christopher his Heirs or Assigns at the end of two whole years next after he or they shall enter into or upon my said Messuage and Tenement ALSO I do hereby Give and Bequeath out of my said Messuage and Tenement the further sum of Forty Pounds of Lawful British money (to be paid by my said son Christopher his Heirs or assigns at the end of two whole years next after his or their entrance into or upon my said messuage and tenement unto Joshua Bouch of Stainton in the said Parish of Heversham Yeoman and Richard Prickett of Witherslack in the said County of Westmorland Husbandman upon this special Trust and Confidence nevertheless that they my two good Friends the said Joshua Bouch and Richard Prickett their Executors or Administrators do and shall place out upon good Security the said sum of Forty Pounds and pay the clear annual interest or profit thereof to and for the use and Benefit of my daughter Mary now Wife of George Woof yearly and every year during the Term of her Natural Life (their own necessary charges and expenses being always first deducted and reserved) and after the Decease of my said Daughter May to pay the said clear annual Interest or profit thereof to and for the use of my two grandchildren George and Mary Woof yearly and every year during their minorities and when the younger shall attain the age of Twenty One years that they then pay the said principal sum of Forty Pounds to my said two Grandchildren equally betwixt them Share and Share alike but if

my said two Grandchildren shall happen to die before their said Mother and before they attain the age of Twenty One years leaving no lawful issue then I will that the said sum of forty pounds be paid to Daughter Mary.

Executrix of this my last Will and Testament I do hereby make and appoint my said loving wife Mary to whom I do hereby give and Bequeath all my goods chattels household stuff furniture implements of husbandry and personal estate whatsoever she paying thereout my Funeral Expenses and Charges of proving this my last Will and Testament.

Supervisors of this my Last Will and Testament I do hereby make and appoint the said Joshua Bouch and Richard Prickett and do hereby absolutely charge and command my said Wife son Christopher and his heirs and assigns that they well and truly obey the Counsel of Direction of them the said Joshua Bouch and Richard Prickett and their Executors and administrators in all things touching the due performance and execution of this my Last Will and Testament

IN WITNESS whereof I the said William Stephenson the Testator have to this my Last Will and Testament put my Hand and Seal this fourth day of April in the year of our Lord One thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Eight

The Mark of

William

X

Stephenson

Signed Sealed Published and by the within
Named William Stephenson the Testator as and for his
Last Will and Testament in the Sight and presence of
us who subscribed our names and witnesses thereunto
in the said Testators presence

The Mark of

Anthony

X

Prickett

Matthew Brown

Edmund Garnett Hunter

April 29th 1761

The Executrix within named was sworn well and truly to execute and perform the Will within written and so forth

Before me Thomas Symonds Surr

Thomas TAYLOR⁴⁹ of Beathwaite Green Husbandman. Will dated 7 July 1823⁵⁰

⁴⁹ Died 8 August 1823

⁵⁰ L.R.O. R522/9

Appoints 'my friends' William Ellison the younger of Sizergh yeoman and Joseph Pearson of Briggsteer schoolmaster his executors. The estate is to be held 'unto my beloved wife Agnes Taylor' for her lifetime. His son Richard Taylor of Beathwaite Green is to have the use of 'my Peat Moss situate at Stakes Moss and the Allotment of Marshground situate at Beathwaite Green' for his lifetime and then to my grandson Thomas Taylor son of Richard Taylor. His 'son in law Henry Hey or my daughter Jane Hey' are to be allowed 'the privilege of two days work of Cinder Peats in my said Peatmoss yearly'. His executors are to let to farm his two enclosures known as Simpson's Field and Cowen Garden and the rents to be paid to his daughter Elinor Watson wife of Henry Watson for her lifetime and thereafter the enclosures are to go to Henry Watson Taylor son of my daughter Jane Hey. Henry Hey and Jane Hey are to have the use of the remainder of his estate for their lifetime and then in equal shares between Jane Hey's children as shall survive and they are the residuary beneficiaries for any failed gift. Witnessed by Wm. Dobson, Jn. Crayston and Miles Simpson.

The administration order is dated 4 December 1824 in William Ellison's name power being reserved to Joseph Person and certifying the estate residue at a net value of under £20

William TAYLOR⁵¹ of Levens Shoemaker. Will dated 5 February 1842.⁵²

Appoints 'my two worthy neighbours' Richard Thompson and John Bell both of Levens yeomen his executors. There are legacies of 2 guineas to his housekeeper Rebecca Bainbridge and the same to his workman Samuel Burton. His estate including his dwellinghouse and land is to be divided equally between his 13 nephews and nieces William Taylor, Thomas Taylor, John Taylor, Edward Hodgson, John Curran, Mary Taylor, Frances Taylor, Elizabeth Taylor, Isabella Taylor, Sarah Capstick, Mary Smith, Sarah Taylor and Sarah Curran. Witnessed by Josh. Pearson, John Richardson and John Bare.

The administration order is dated 1 March 1843 certifying the estate residue at a net value of under £100.

JAMES THOMPSON will dated 8 January 1817

Last page of 4 page will

Christopher Garnett, James Thompson and Richard Thompson executors [in trust etc] receive rents and then divided between my two sons John Thompson and Edward Thompson to be expended in their maintenance clothing and education until 21 but if any should die before 21 without lawful heirs then equally among my surviving sons [usual closing clauses] signed and sealed 18 January 1817 and signed James Thompson witnessed by Wm Kirkby, John Mackereth and Wm Kirkby [the last is in a different hand to the first]

Certificate endorsed that on 19 July 1817 the will of JT was proved by CG of Low Sizergh husbandman and by JT and RT both of Brigsteer yeomen.

MARY THOMPSON of Cinderbarrow, Levens, widow. Will dated 12 September 1838⁵³

⁵¹ Died 9 May 1842

⁵² L.R.O. R534/7

She gives to her son, the Reverend Robert Thompson, her house and land in Brigsteer 'late in the occupation of John Mackereth', the furniture in the parlour of the house she lives in, her large writing desk and all its contents and my silver [pint?]. She gives the rest of her plate equally between her two sons, the said Robert and Richard Thompson. She gives to her daughter Mary Clarke, wife of Richard Clarke of Underbarrow 'the bed and bedding in the first room upon the stair landing and small drawers in the room above the parlour of the house in which I now reside'. She gives 'my bed and bedstead in the second room of the landing above stairs and my legged desk' to Jane Prickett, wife of William Prickett of Sizergh Cottages. She gives 'all my wearing apparel' between 'my daughter Eleanor Wright, wife of James Wright of Ambleside, Elizabeth Steel, wife of James Steel, my daughter Mary Clarke, wife of Richard Clarke and my daughter Jane Prickett, wife of William Prickett share and share alike between my four daughters'. She gives £5 to each of her sons James Thompson and Edward Thompson and her daughter Eleanor Wright. She gives 'one workhorse' to her son John Thompson of Low Cragg, Underbarrow. She asks that her sons Robert and Richard should pay her debts and funeral expenses in equal shares and gives the residue to Richard. She appoints her sons Richard 'now living with me' and John as her trustees and executors. She has made her mark in the presence of Robt. Goad, John Richardson and Joseph Jackson, each of whom signed their name. An endorsement adds that on 4 July 1842 the will was proven and probate granted to Richard Thompson of Cinderbarrow, yeoman, and John Thompson of Low Cragg, Underbarrow, yeoman. Mary Thompson died 'on 27th day of March last' Her estate is certified at £300.

JAMES BRAMALL TOOSEY of Elford, Staffordshire and Lawrence House, Levens, Esquire.⁵⁴ Will dated 6 September 1852⁵⁵

He appoints his daughter Mary Denton Toosey and Thomas Harrison of Kendal, solicitor, to be his executors. He gives 'my estate in Mildenhall Suffolk' to my daughters Margaret Denton Hutton, the wife of the Reverend William Hutton, and Mary Denton Toosey in equal shares with the residue solely to Mary Denton Toosey. His will is signed in the presence of Jane Greenwood and William Newby, both of whom also signed. An endorsement of 12 October 1853 states that he died on 17 August 1853 and that probate was granted to Mary Denton Toosey of Lawrence House Levens with power reserved to Thomas Harrison. His estate was certified at £450.

ANN TROTTER of Levens, spinster. Will dated 26 August 1840⁵⁶

She appoints 'my friends' John Robinson of Brigsteer, farmer, and John Todd of Levens, farmer, 'with whom I now reside and who married my niece', her executors and trustees. She gives them her dwellinghouse with gardens, privy and outbuildings 'lately purchased from Thomas Benson' to be sold at their discretion and to pay her debts from the proceeds. She gives to her niece Margaret Todd her Snap[?] Table and her corner cupboard with its contents. She gives to John Todd her knives and forks. She gives the residue of her household goods, money and possessions, to her executors to pay £5 to her

⁵³ L.R.O. WRW/K Mary Thompson 1842

⁵⁴ He was the estate manager for Lady Howard at both Levens Hall and at Elford.

⁵⁵ L.R.O. WRW/K James Toosey 1853

⁵⁶ L.R.O. WRW/K Ann Trotter 1840

brother John Trotter [she adds that this is all he is getting as she had advanced him 'more than sufficient' monies some years previously], with the remainder being divided equally between her sisters Margaret Squire and Jane Bateman and her niece Margaret Todd. She made her mark in the presence of Robt Moser Jun of Kendal and Daniel Brockbank, both of whom added their signatures. An endorsement of 9 May 1848 records that John Robinson and John Todd were sworn as trustees, that she died 17 April 1848, and that her estate was less than £200.

WILLIAM WALKER of Sampool, Levens, yeoman. Will dated 10 December 1846⁵⁷

Appoints Alexander Forbes of Levens, gentleman and John Bell of Beathwaite Green, cooper his executors, and instructs them to pay the income from all of his estate to his wife Margaret for her lifetime, she having the sole discretion as to whether she continues to farm, and after her death to be divided between his children as survive her or the children of any child who has died, but no children are named. William signed with a mark and the witnesses who both signed were Eldred Harrison solicitor of Kendal and James Walker. Probate was granted to Alexander Forbes, who is stated to be the sole surviving executor, on 2nd March 1854. The testator died on the day he made his will and his estate was certified as under £200.

Stephen WASHINGTON⁵⁸ of Beathwaite Green. Will dated 3 April 1841⁵⁹

Appointed Nicholas Gibson and Richard Thompson his executors to whom he gave all his real and personal estate to pay his debts and then to his wife Margaret Washington⁶⁰ for the rest of her natural life and after to 'his son & daughter Wm. Beck⁶¹ and Ann Beck' All that messuage dwellinghouse commonly called Cragg House situate upon Charley Hill together with the garden orchard and peat house adjoining the premises belonging to Col. Howard. The will was proved on 19 May 1847.

ROBERT WILKINSON⁶²

An admon bond of 29 June 1803 states that Mary Wilkinson was sworn to administer the estate certified as less than £100.

ANNE WILSON of Beathwaite Green, widow. Will dated 10 August 1852⁶³

This is the last Will and Testament of me Anne Wilson of Beathwaite Green in the Parish of Heversham in the County of Westmorland Widow. I give and bequeath unto my step son John Wilson the Elder my best Oak Chest which now stands in my Bedroom also my Great Oak Table. I give to my step daughter Anne Gibson the Elder my Best Bedstead Feather Bed Bolster and Pillows and also my Oak Chest which now stands in the Dark Room. I give to my step daughter Mary Thexton my other Bedstead Bed and Bolster and a Bed Quilt and also an Oak Chest. I give to John Wilson the Younger son of my step son John Wilson the Elder my long Oak Chest. I give to John Gibson son of my said step

⁵⁷ L.R.O WRW/K William Walker 1854

⁵⁸ The date of his death is not known

⁵⁹ L.R.O. R534/72

⁶⁰ Margaret Washington died 29 November 1842

⁶¹ William Beck died on the 7th or 9th September 1849 and was buried at Kendal Parish Church.

⁶² L.R.O. WRW/K Robert Wilkinson 1803

⁶³ L.R.O. WRW/K Anne Wilson 1852

daughter Ann Gibson the elder my Tool Chest. I give to Ann Gibson the younger daughter of the said Ann Gibson my black Box and my Clock and Case. I give to Jane Gibson another daughter of the said Ann Gibson my Warming Pan and my Snap Table. I give to Margaret Clemment daughter of my said step son John Wilson a small Chest and a clothes box. I give to Margaret Thexton daughter of my said step daughter Mary Thexton my Corner Cupboard and the set of China therein All the rest residue and remainder of my Household oods and furniture and all my wearing apparel I give and bequeath unto my step daughter Margaret Walker. I also give to the said Margaret Walker my heifer and whatever stock of peats may belong to me at my decease. I give to my said son John Wilson the Elder my Cow and all the Hay and Manure which I may have at the time of my decease. I also give to the said John Wilson all sum or sums of money which may be owed to me in rent at my decease and also all arrears of rent due or to be due to me at my decease. I also give to the said John Wilson the sum of one hundred and sixty seven pounds but I do declare that the bequests hereuntofore made to the said John Wilson are upon condition that he shall and do from henceforth well and truly pay or cause to be paid unto Sarah Walmsley of Preston in the County of Lancaster the yearly sum of five pounds for the rest of her natural life. I give to my said step daughter Mary Thexton the sum of one hundred and ten pounds to my said step daughter Ann Gibson the sum of one hundred and ten pounds to my said step daughter Margaret Walker the sum of one hundred and ten pounds. I give to the said Margaret Clemment the sum of twenty pounds. I give to the said John Wilson the younger and to Agnes Wilson two of the children of my said step son John Wilson the elder the sum of six pounds each And to each of the five children of my said step daughter Mary Thexton I give the sum of six pounds And to each of the four children of my said step daughter Ann Gibson I give the sum of six pounds. [After the formal parts of the will] I give all the remainder rest and residue of my estate not herein bequeathed to my step son the said John Wilson the Elder and to my Step daughters the said Mary Thexton Ann Gibson and Margaret Walker in equal shares and I appoint the said John Wilson the Elder the sole executor of this my will. [The will is signed by her mark in the presence of John Tomlin and Isaac Bousfield Jun who each signed. An endorsement states that she died 4 October 1852 and that John Wilson of Beathwaite Green, farmer, proved the will and was given probate dated 6 November 1852. The estate was certified at £800.]

RICHARD WILSON of Moss Edge, Beathwaite Green, yeoman. Will dated 9 August 1786⁶⁴

In the Name of God Amen I Richard Wilson of Moss edges near Beathwaite green in the parish of Heversham and County of Westmorland Yeoman being Advanced up in years but of a sound perfect Disposing mind and memory praised be Almighty God for the same Do make this my Last Will and Testament in manner and form following That is to say First I give grant and devise unto my Loving wife Margaret all that my Freehold messuage and Tenement Dwelling House outhouses Beckside [?] orchard and Garden mossdales and Turbary ground with Appurtenances thereunto belonging whereon I now Live to hold the same unto my said Wife Margaret for and during the Term of her Natural Life she keeping and upholding the Housses in good Order and Condition Also I order and direct my said Wife Margaret shall keep maintain and Support my Grand-daughter

⁶⁴ L.R.O WRW/K Richard Wilson 1787

Elinor Hall with all things necessary until she attains her full age of Fourteen Years old, But if in case my said Wife should Happen to die before my said granddaughter shall have attained her age of Fourteen Years, The I order and direct that my Son John Wilson shall pay her yearly and every year the sum of Thirty shillings until she attains her above mentioned age of Fourteen Years. Also it is my Will and mind and I do hereby give Grant and Devise unto my said son John Wilson and to his heirs and assigns all my aforesaid Messuage and Tenement and all other Appurtenances thereunto belonging To have and to hold my said Messuage Tenement Backside orchard and Garden Mossdales mosses or Turbary ground on Beathwaite Green Moss or elsewhere with all their and every of their rights mebers Hereditaments or Appurtenances thereunto belonging or therewith enjoyed as part or parcel thereof Unto my said son John Wilson his Heirs and Assigns forever; Subject Charged and Chargeable nevertheless with the payment of these Legacies or sums of money hereafter by me given and bequeathed First I give to my son Richard Wilson the sum of Ten pounds Also I give to my son Christopher Wilson the sum of five pounds Also I give to my Son Stephen Wilson the sum of five pounds, Also I give to my Two Sons William and James Wilson to each of them the sum of Ten pounds apiece, Also I give to my Daughter Mary Jackson now wife of George Jackson the sum of five pounds, Also I give to my daughter Margaret Washington now wife of Stephen Washington the sum of five shillings All those above mentioned Legacies my will and mind is shall be paid out of my Freehold Lands and premisses aforesaid at the end of Twelve months next after my Son John Wilson actual entry into possession of my said messuage and tenement at Beathwaite green aforesaid, Also I give to my Daughter Agnes Wilson the sum of Ten shillings yearly and every year for and during the Term or Space of Ten years next after my decease to be paid by my Executor herein aftermentioned, Also I give unto my Wife Margaret the use and benefitt of those goods and Chattels during the Term of her Natural Life herein after Named and Exprised, That is; My Best feather Bedd, Bed Steads and Hangings in the parlour, Three Blankets, Two Coverlides, one Bowlster and Pillow, one Oak Table, one Joiner Chist, one Desk, Two Chairs, Three Trencheres, one Pewther Dish, And Lastly I do hereby nominate constitute and appoint my said son John Wilson Sole Executor of this my will...[instructions to executor]. Signed Richard Wilson in the presence of John Addison, William Lewthwaite and Jos Dixon who all also signed. The will was proved on the 9th May 1787.

JOHN WINGGILL of Sampool, Beathwaite Green, yeoman. Will 3 August 1826⁶⁵

He appoints as his executors William Ellison junior of Sizergh, yeoman and James Carradus of Kendal, builder. He bequeathed 'my inclosure of ground called Cog Field situate at Beathwaite Green' and all the remainder of his real and personal estate to his executors to farm the field and to convert his other assets into parliamentary bonds with the income to his wife Ann for her life. On her death his field is to be sold at auction and his son Thomas is to be paid £50 with the residue being distributed between his daughters Nancy, wife of Joseph Carradus, Betty, wife of William Edmondson and Peggy, wife of William Walker. An admon bond of 8 March 1828 says that he died 29 January 1828 and that his will was proved by his executors as being under £600. Note from Larry Walling 'John Winggill of Sampool, died when he fell into a ditch when returning from the Bridge Inn and drowned'.

⁶⁵ L.R.O. WRW/K John Winggill 1826

