



The LATTER Wills
of East Sussex
(1639 – 1858)



By Geoffrey Barber

Version 1.02

Will Transcribers: Geoffrey Barber, Claire Wickens et al.

BIOGRAPHY

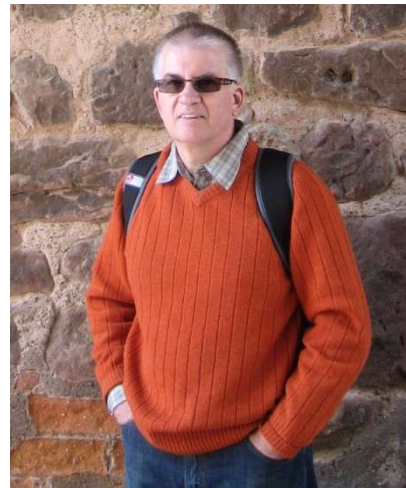
GEOFFREY BARBER

Geoffrey Barber has been researching his English family history since about 1983. He maintains his family history web site www.nynne.org as a means of making the results his own research more widely available.

Geoff also enjoys writing articles for journals and has given talks on topics such as manorial records, tithe maps, DNA and self-publishing. He has a passion for quality and accurate research and on publishing to preserve our work for the future. In addition to books related to his own family history, Geoff has published “Manorial Records for Family Historians” (Unlock the Past, 2017); “The Akehurst Wills of East Sussex” in 2018 in association with the Akehurst one-name study group; “The Ashdown Wills of East Sussex”; “The Latter Wills of East Sussex” both in 2020; “The Breach Wills of East Sussex” and “The Alce Wills of East Sussex” in 2021; and “The Fermor/Farmer Wills of Rotherfield in East Sussex (1529 – 1700)” in 2022.

Geoff is also a long-time member of the Sussex Family History Group and a supporter of their Wills Depository project which has over 15,000 Sussex wills transcribed.

Geoff is also a collector of 17th century Sussex merchant tokens and enjoys using his family history research skills to research the issuers of these tokens.



Title:

The Latter Wills of East Sussex (1639-1858)

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Introduction

This book assembles together all the known wills and administrations of the Latter families of East Sussex before 1858, after which the Church of England probate courts were replaced by the Principal Probate Registry. It cannot be guaranteed that this is the complete set and future revised editions may be needed to incorporate new discoveries, including non-Latter wills that contain valuable Latter information.

The book provides three indexes which offer great value to Latter researchers. The indexes are:

1. Wills by location.
2. Index of names occurring in the wills and in associated documents relevant to that will. These additional documents have generally been found by searching the ESRO on-line catalogue which often provides a detailed summary of the document's contents including names, dates and places.
3. Index of locations, local place names and properties mentioned in the wills and in associated documents.

These indexes have already facilitated the search for connected wills; that is, wills belonging to one extended family, sometimes a number of generations apart. Each will in this book includes a family tree placing the will in context and highlighting how other wills are connected. The trees are based on many years of research using primarily the Sussex Family History Group baptisms, marriages and burials indexes and are also based on the information gleaned from the Latter wills.

Some of the Latter family trees identified in this document remain "islands" waiting to be connected into a bigger structure. For this to happen, work needs move on from the wills and parish registers to other areas such as the history of Latter property ownership and manorial records where they exist. Many of the Latter families have connections to the county of Kent and further progress will also require much work on the Latter families there.

The author has been a long-time contributor to the Sussex Family History Group Wills Depository project which now has over 13,000 Sussex wills transcribed that are available to members free of charge. All the wills in this book have been contributed to the Wills Depository.

Conventions

The following conventions are used throughout this book:

1. The dates shown in the will titles are the probate dates, not the date the will was made (unless there is no probate date). To remove confusion, the year between 1st January and 25th March is written as, for example, 1592/93 wherever possible. Some historians want to leave it as written in the original document (e.g. 1592) and others (in the ESRO catalogue for example) write it as we would today; 1593.
2. In the indexes, all variants of the name Latter have been standardised to "Latter" to simplify use of the index. The original spelling of surnames is retained in the will transcriptions.
3. The family trees only show the year of events such as baptisms, marriages and deaths/burials. This has been done to simplify the appearance of the tree so the relationship between the people who left wills/admons is more clearly seen. Anyone with a special

interest in a particular tree should verify the dates for themselves. The author is happy to provide charts with full dates for anyone interested (see contact details inside front page). Information concerning any errors or new evidence affecting family tree structures would be welcomed.

4. Abbreviations:

Admons: Letters of Administration
ESRO: East Sussex Record Office
PCC: Prerogative Court of Canterbury
SFHG: Sussex Family History Group
TNA: The National Archives
HAM: Hampshire
KEN: Kent
LND: London
MDX: Middlesex
SSX: Sussex
SRY: Surrey
VIC: Victoria (Australia)
NSW: New South Wales (Australia)
PA: Pennsylvania
USA: United States of America
b. born
bap. baptised
m. married
mlic. marriage licence
d. died
bur. Buried
pr. probate

5. Symbols used in the transcriptions:

// Page break in the original
[] Transcriber's note or addition
{ } Unclear or illegible text

Geoffrey Barber
16 November 2020

Chapter 1 - The Main Family Trees

This section presents the main Latter family trees associated with the Latter wills. The people who left wills/admons are highlighted in each tree which then form a visual index for related wills. These trees are an important part of this book and are the product of many years of research and analysis of parish registers (mostly the SFHG indexes), census records, miscellaneous documents and, of course, the Latter wills. All places are in Sussex except where shown.

It is not possible to put together a single, large Latter family tree and the trees presented below are just pieces in the overall jigsaw. Many of these families have connections to the county of Kent and so require further research there. In some cases there are smaller family clusters which are not documented here in Chapter 1 but instead have been documented with the relevant will. It is possible that further research will enable some of these to be attached to the larger trees in the future.

It is interesting to note that a Richard Latter is mentioned in manorial court records for Walsh's manor in Rotherfield on 4 May 1464 and 11 Jul 1467, suggesting the family has some deep roots in the Rotherfield area.¹

Tree 1. Edmund Latter of Rotherfield and Tonbridge (c1550-)

The Edmund Latter (c1550-) in Tree 1 below is the author's 11x great grandfather and was the motivation to do the research into the Latter wills of East Sussex. He was identified in the Rotherfield manorial records when he gave the property called **Salters** to his son Edmund upon his marriage to the widow Agnes Alchorne (nee A'Downe) on 7 Dec 1602. The manorial records record the transfer:

At this court it is found that Edmund Latter out of court since last court Nov 4th, 45 Eliz [1602] surrendered 1 messuage, 1 barn with garden & 2 pieces or parcels of land containing 4 acres lying at Town Rowe with appurtenances except 1 garden called le forge garden To use of said Edmund Latter his son & Agnes Alchorne widow & the heirs of said Edmund his son But his admission is postponed till next court. And nothing falls for heriot because he remains tenant

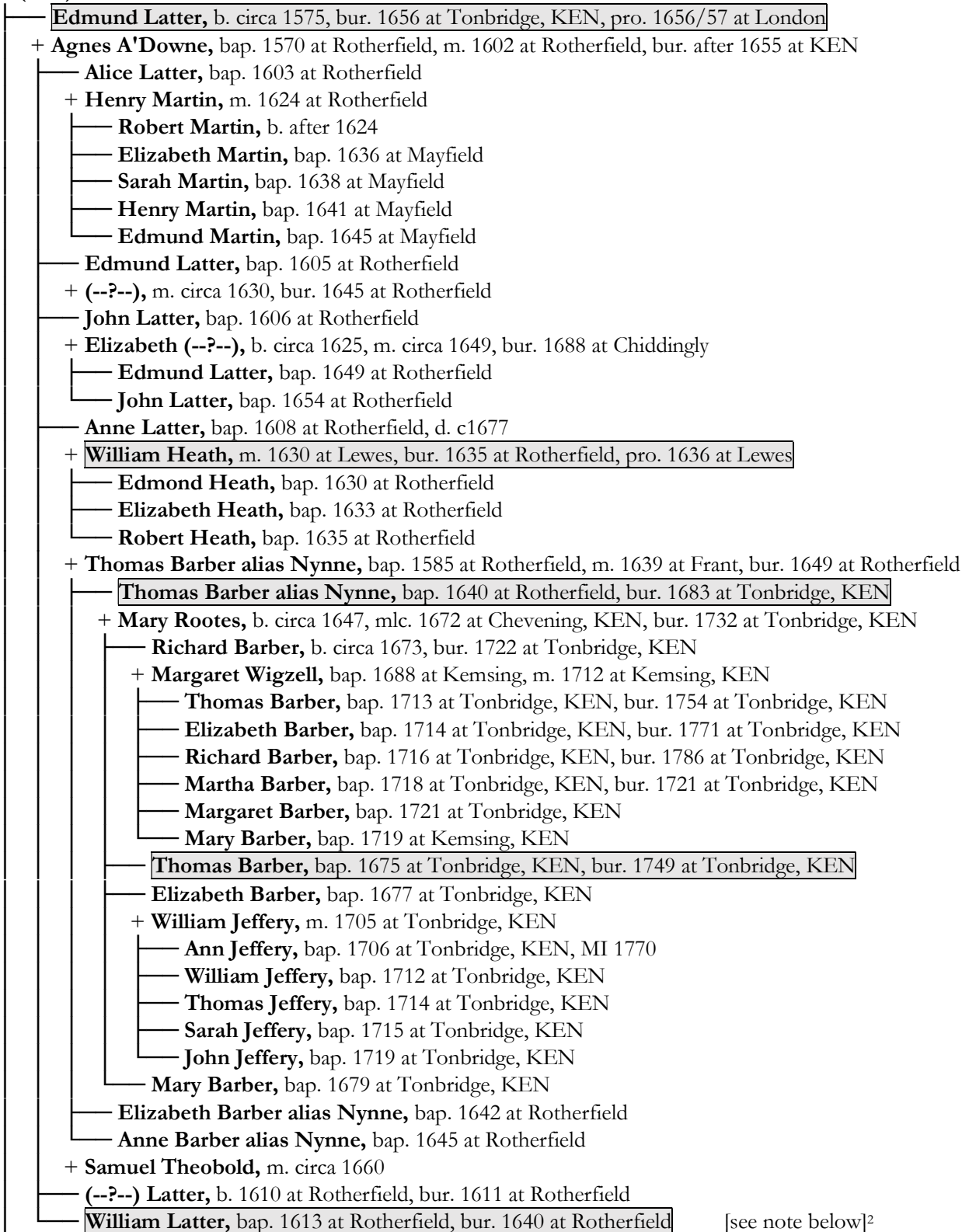


Salters, Packham Hill, Rotherfield, East Sussex.

¹ Court-roll of the manor of Walsh in Rotherfield, 1310, 1334, 1409-1469. (ESRO: AMS 5535)

Edmund Latter, b. circa 1550, bur. after 1605

+ (--?--)



² William received the property called Salters from his father in 1638. William died intestate in 1640 and under customary law, daughter Agnes was heir but she died in 1645, so his wife Elizabeth had right of possession until her death and then it would pass to William's brother John. However, John died before Elizabeth, so the heir to the property became John's son, Edmund, but he also died before Elizabeth. After Elizabeth's eventual death in 1680, the manorial court transferred the property to Edmund's brother, John Latter (1654-c1700). He had no children and

+ **Elizabeth Coe**, b. circa 1615, m. 1637 at Frant, bur. 1680 at Waldron
└─ **Agnes Latter**, bap. 1638 at Rotherfield, bur. 1645 at Rotherfield
└─ **Richard Latter**, b. circa 1580, bur. 1658 at Wadhurst [see note below]³

transferred the property in 1696 to Elizabeth Hutchinson, wife of Thomas Hutchinson. The Salters property had been in the Latter family for 100 years (1595-1695).

³ Richard Latter is mentioned as a brother to Edmund Latter (c1575-1656) in Edmund's will, hence his inclusion on this tree. His baptism may be: 3 Dec 1587 Richard Latter son of Edm. at Tonbridge, Kent.

Tree 2. John Latter of Rotherfield (c1575-)

It is reasonable to assume that this family tree connects to Tree 1 at some earlier time. It is even likely that the John Latter (c1575-1662) who starts this tree is a son of Edmund Latter (c1550-) who starts Tree 1. Various documents suggest a close connection between John Latter (c1575-1662) and Thomas Barber who later married into the Latter family in Tree 1:⁴

ESRO: SAS/HC 549

20 Nov 1633: Lease for lives of **Bearefeilds** at £12 a year from Henry Lord Bergevenny to Thomas Weller the elder of Rotherfield, gent, and wife Elizabeth

*Premises in occupation of **John Latter, Thomas Barber and Adam Farmer**; term: longest life of Thomas [Weller] and Elizabeth and son Thomas Weller the younger;*

witnesses to livery of seisin: Thomas Barton, attorney of Lord Bergevenny, Nicholas Wheler, Adam Austen, Margaret Barton (mark)

ESRO: SAS/AB/401

5 Sep 1639: Grant (indented) for £98, Stephen Baker to **John Latter**

*Messuage in town of Rotherfield, with barns, buildings, closes, gardens, etc, belonging (South: High Street; West: messuage and garden of Nicholas Fowle, gent; North and East: messuage and lands of **Thomas Barber**) in tenure of Thomas Latter (one acre) the messuage formerly of Nicholas Alchorne and conveyed by him to Jane Fowle, and by Jane Fowle to John Baker, and by John Baker to Stephen Baker*

[Two days later, on 7 Sep 1639, this property was transferred to John Latter's son Thomas (1610-1675)]

In 1639 Thomas Barber married Ann Heath [nee Latter] widow of William Heath and daughter of Edmund Latter (c1575-1656) in Tree 1, suggesting a kinship connection between the two trees.

It would not be unreasonable to assume that John Latter (c1675-1662) is the son of Edmund Latter in Tree 1, however there is no direct evidence so his tree has been kept separate. The argument is strengthened by the names of John Latter's children being very consistent with the names in Tree 1 (i.e. Edmund, Richard, Ann, Alice, John).

John Latter, b. c1575, bur. 1662 at Rotherfield

+ **Elizabeth** (--?--), m. c1595, bur. 1652 at Rotherfield

— **Andrew Latter**, bap. c1598 at Rotherfield, bur. 1598 at Rotherfield

— **Elizabeth Latter**, bap. 1600 at Rotherfield

— **Andrew Latter**, bap. 1602 at Rotherfield

+ **Alice Downe**, m. 1631 at Lewes, bur. 1654 at Rotherfield

— **Elizabeth Latter**, bap. 1632 at Rotherfield

— **Alice Latter**, bap. 1634 at Rotherfield

— **Anne Latter**, bap. 1637 at Rotherfield

— **John Latter**, bap. 1639 at Rotherfield

— **Edmund Latter**, bap. 1644 at Rotherfield

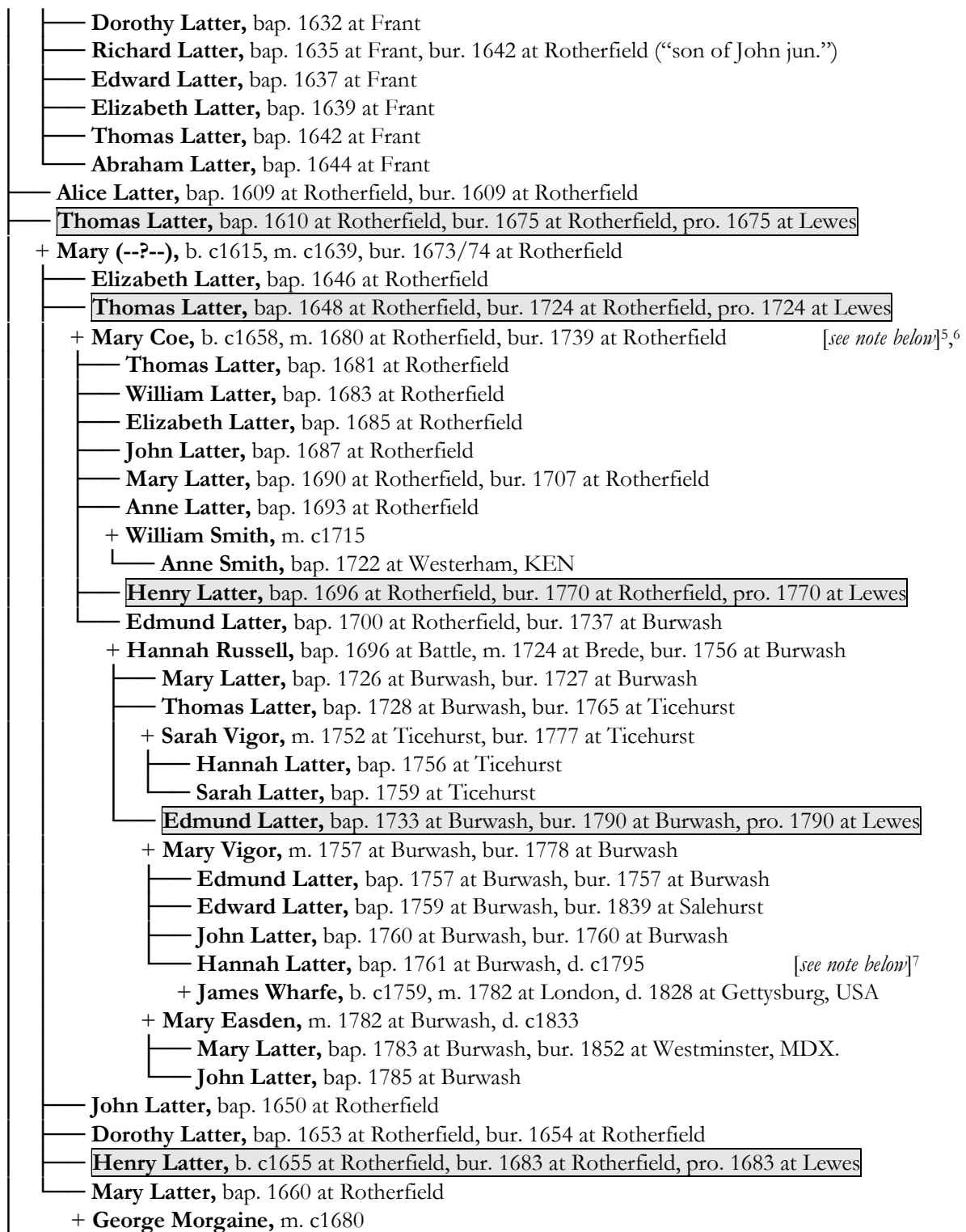
— **Ann Latter**, bap. 1605 at Rotherfield

— **John Latter**, bap. 1607 at Rotherfield, bur. 1645 at Rotherfield

+ **Joan Austen**, mlc. 1630 (John, yeoman of Rotherfield; Joan Alchorne of same, widow nee Austen)

— **John Latter**, bap. 1632 at Frant

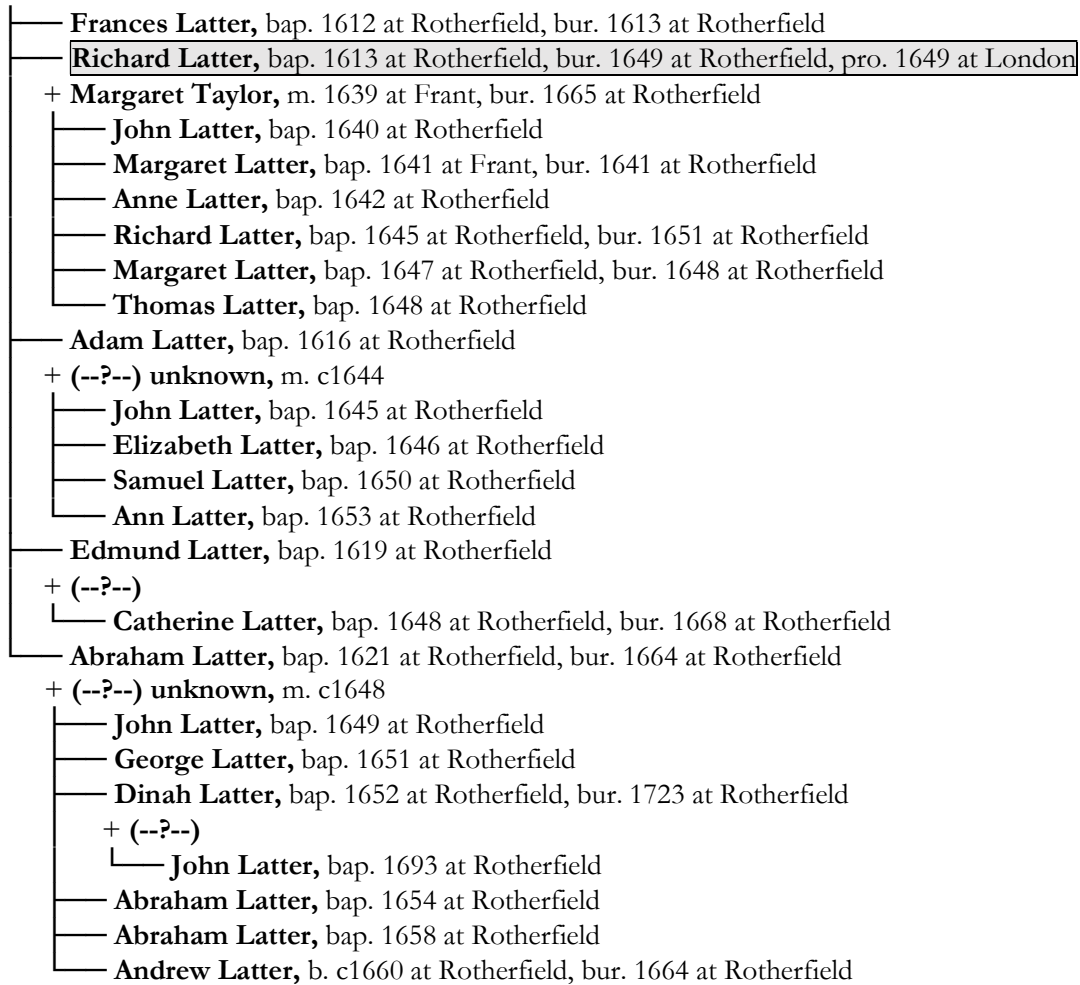
⁴ ESRO: SAS/HC 549



⁵ There is a marriage settlement between Thomas Latter and Mary Coe (who brought £100 into the marriage): 7 Jun 1680: Thomas Latter of Rotherfield, butcher, to William Coe of Rotherfield, yeoman, and his eldest son and heir apparent, Richard Coe: Messuage, barn, garden, orchard, Hemp Plot, in town of Rotherfield, occupied by Thomas Latter (South: King's highway through town of Rotherfield; West: messuage and garden of Humphrey Fowle; North and East: messuage and backside of Edmund Latter), to use of Thomas Latter for life, and after to Mary Latter for life for her jointure, and after to their heirs. (ESRO: SAS/AB/406)

⁶ Mary Coe's parentage was difficult to trace, but the key is the will of her father, William Coe of East Peckham, Kent, made 30 Jan 1700/01, proved 8 Feb 1700/01. (Lambeth Palace Library: VH 96/3670)

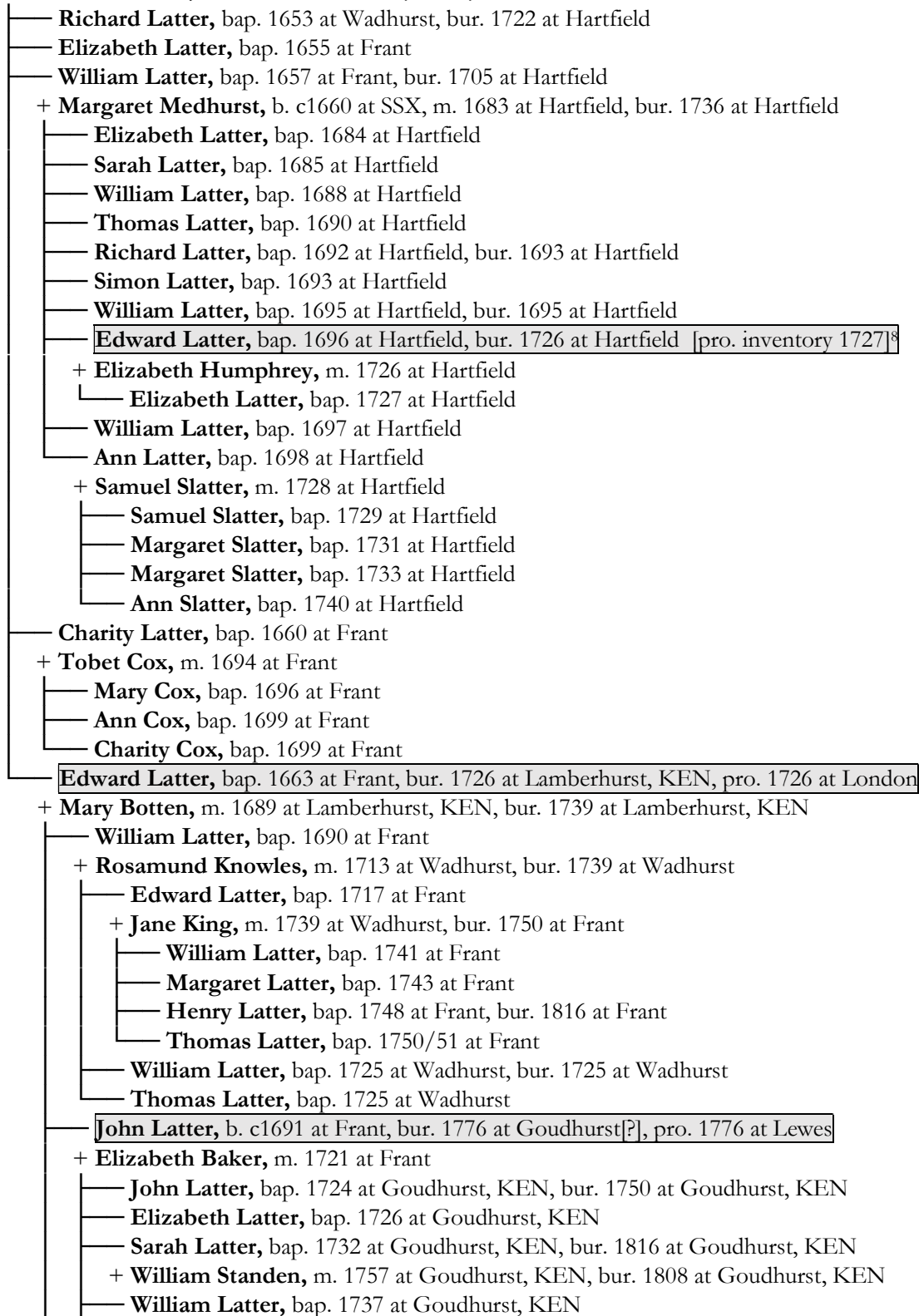
⁷ The family emigrated to Annapolis, Maryland, USA about 1795. Hannah died around that time, either in England, in transit to America or in Maryland. Descendants of James and Hannah survive today in the USA.



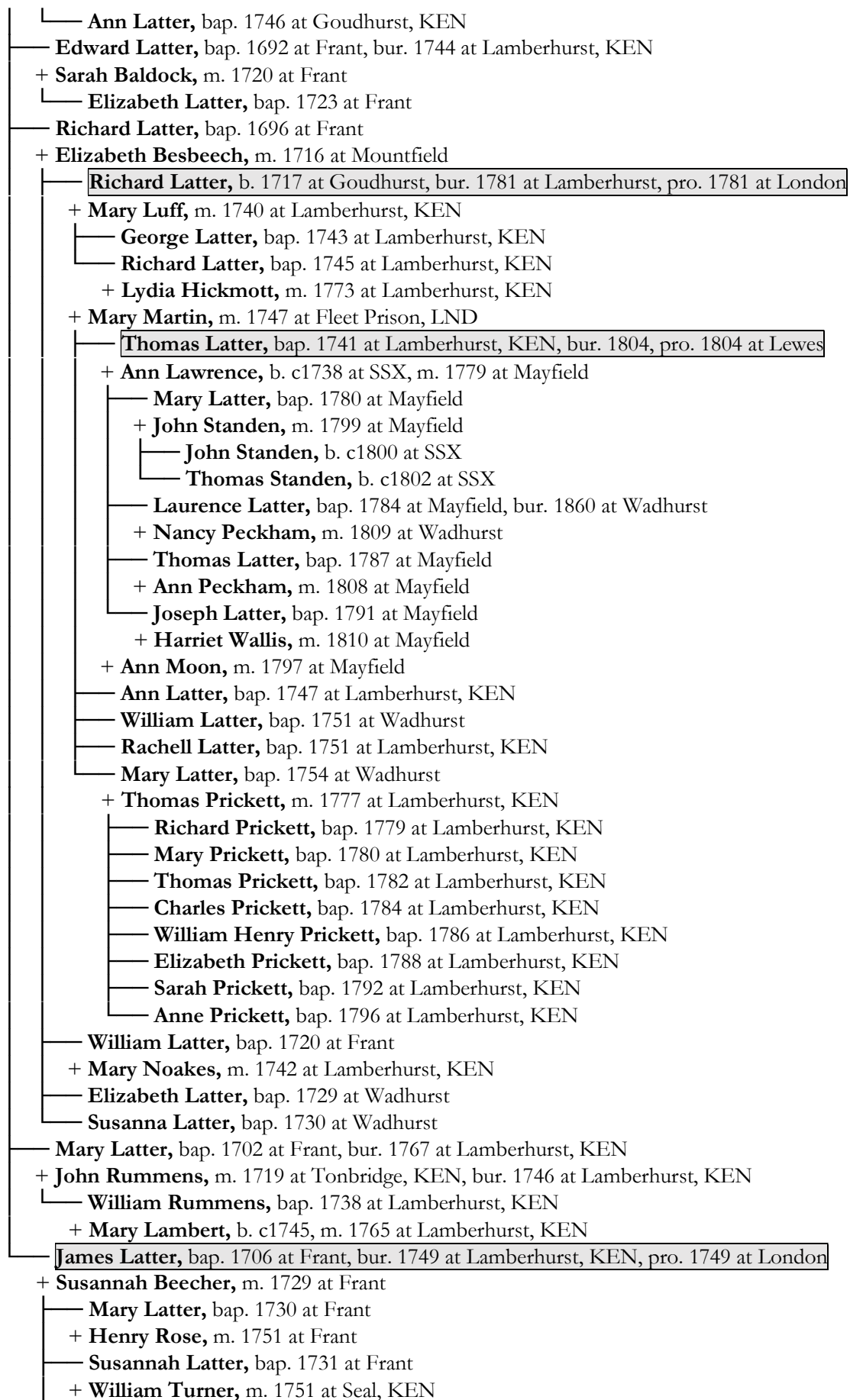
Tree 3. Latter Family of Frant and Lamberhurst (c1630-)

Richard Latter, b. c1630

+ **Ann Horneblow**, b. 1631 at Goudhurst, KEN, m. 1652 at Wadhurst



⁸ The inventory is not included in this book but can be seen at Familysearch: Film no: 1067098; Image no: 958.

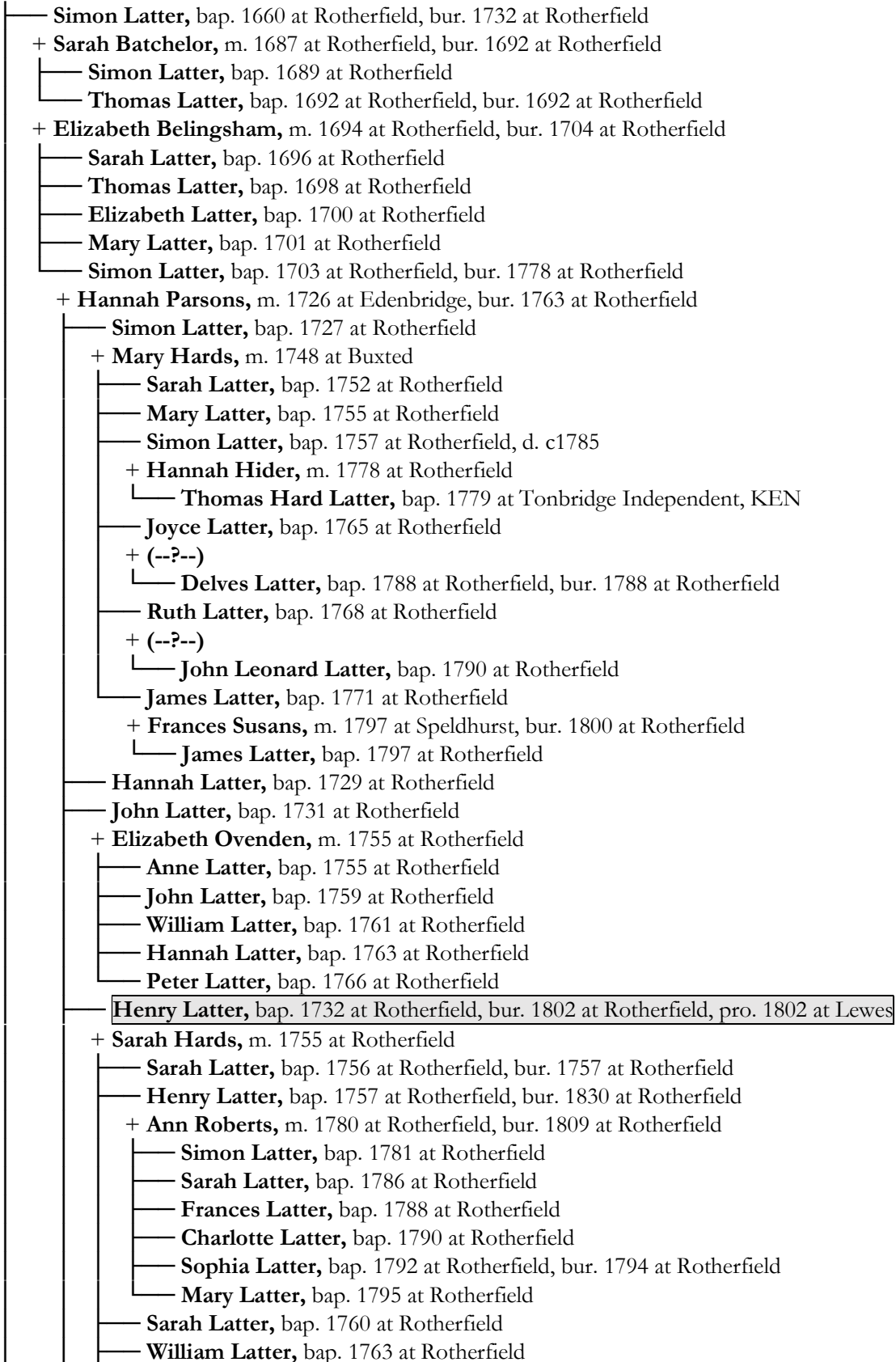


- **Elizabeth Latter**, b. c1735
- **Ann Latter**, b. c1735
- **John Latter**, bap. 1740 at Frant
- **James Latter**, bap. 1741 at Frant
- **Edward Latter**, bap. 1744 at Frant
- **Phoebe Latter**, b. c1745
- **Lydia Latter**, bap. 1748 at Frant

Tree 4. Simon Latter of Rotherfield (c1630-)

Simon Latter, b. circa 1630, bur. 1680 at Rotherfield

+ **Elizabeth Miles**, m. 1657 at Hailsham



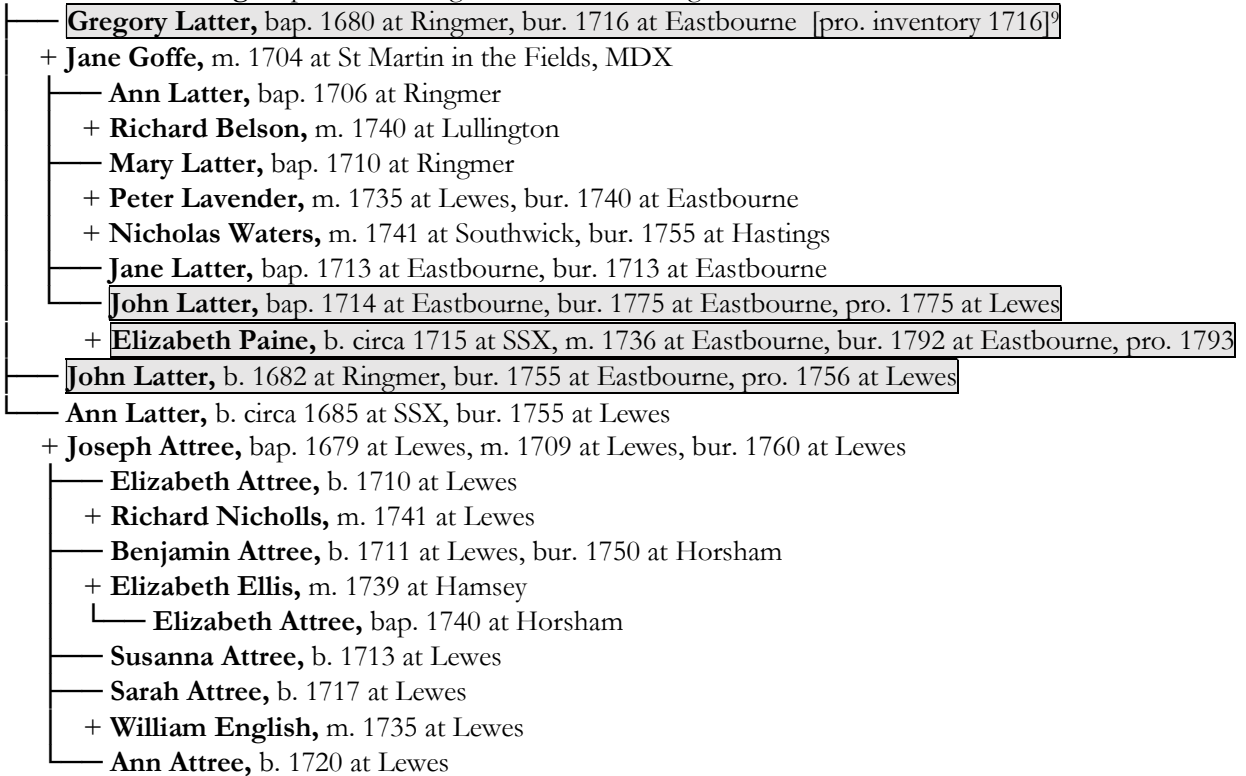
- Thomas Latter, bap. 1767 at Rotherfield, bur. 1767 at Rotherfield
- Mary Latter, bap. 1776 at Rotherfield, bur. 1776 at Rotherfield
- Elizabeth Latter, bap. 1734 at Rotherfield
- Richard Latter, bap. 1735 at Rotherfield
- + Mary Evans, m. 1760 at Rotherfield, bur. 1803 at Rotherfield
- James Latter, bap. 1768 at Rotherfield
- + Priscilla Diprose, b. circa 1770, m. 1791 at Pembury, bur. 1826 at Rotherfield
- Mary Latter, bap. 1792 at Rotherfield
- Ann Latter, bap. 1794 at Rotherfield
- Richard Latter, bap. 1796 at Rotherfield
- William Latter, bap. 1800 at Rotherfield
- John Latter, bap. 1802 at Rotherfield
- Edward Latter, bap. 1804 at Rotherfield
- Harriet Latter, bap. 1807 at Rotherfield
- Anna Latter, b. 1810 at Rotherfield
- Sarah Latter, b. 1812 at Rotherfield
- Mary Latter, bap. 1770 at Rotherfield
- Sarah Latter, bap. 1772 at Rotherfield
- Edward Latter, bap. 1773 at Rotherfield, bur. 1780 at Rotherfield
- George Latter, bap. 1775 at Rotherfield
- Hannah Latter, bap. 1777 at Rotherfield, bur. 1781 at Rotherfield
- Samuel Latter, bap. 1780 at Rotherfield
- Mary Latter, bap. 1737 at Rotherfield
- Anne Latter, bap. 1739 at Rotherfield
- William Latter, bap. 1740 at Rotherfield
- Edward Latter, bap. 1745 at Rotherfield
- Edmund Latter, bap. 1746 at Rotherfield
- + Mary Diplock, m. 1765 at Rotherfield
- Mary Latter, bap. 1765 at Rotherfield
- Hannah Latter, bap. 1766 at Rotherfield
- Sarah Latter, b. circa 1768 at Rotherfield, bur. 1770 at Rotherfield
- Mercy Latter, bap. 1770 at Rotherfield, bur. 1772 at Rotherfield
- Ann Latter, bap. 1772 at Rotherfield
- Philadelphia Latter, bap. 1775 at Rotherfield
- + Henry Hall, m. 1807 at Rotherfield
- James Latter, bap. 1779 at Rotherfield, bur. 1780 at Rotherfield
- Mary Latter, bap. 1748 at Rotherfield
- + Margaret Tompkin, bap. 1673 at Mayfield, m. 1707 at Frant, bur. 1731 at Rotherfield
- Richard Latter, bap. 1707 at Rotherfield
- William Latter, bap. 1712 at Rotherfield, bur. 1713 at Rotherfield
- Sarah Latter, bap. 1663 at Rotherfield
- Richard Latter, bap. 1666 at Rotherfield, bur. 1734 at Rotherfield
- + Anne Towner, bap. 1671 at Waldron, m. 1690 at Framfield, bur. 1725 at Rotherfield
- Elizabeth Latter, bap. 1691 at Rotherfield
- Mary Latter, bap. 1693 at Rotherfield
- Richard Latter, bap. 1700 at Rotherfield
- Simon Latter, bap. 1705 at Rotherfield
- William Latter, bap. 1707 at Rotherfield
- Sarah Latter, bap. 1709 at Rotherfield
- + Elizabeth Parris, m. 1731 at Rotherfield, bur. 1733 at Rotherfield

Tree 5. Latter Family of Ringmer and Eastbourne (c1650- 1800)

It would be very difficult to extend this tree back further as there are many candidates for a John Latter born c1650. However, the line is likely to originate at Rotherfield where most of these candidates were baptised. In any event, the Latter name dies out in this tree with the death of John Latter in 1775 and his widow Elizabeth in 1795 at Eastbourne.

John Latter, b. c1650

+ **Elizabeth Wilding**, bap. 1654 at Ringmer, m. 1676 at Ringmer



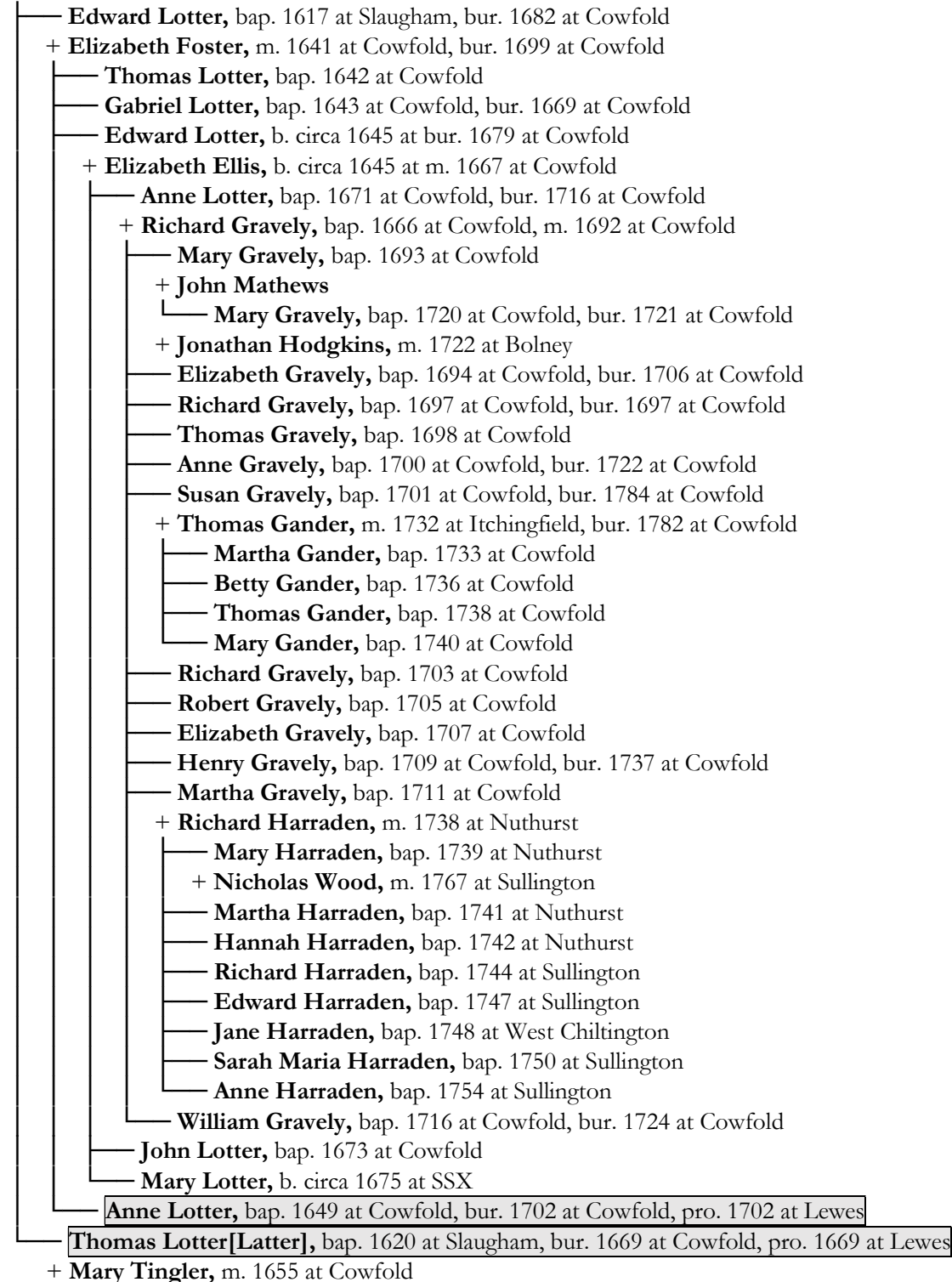
⁹ The inventory is not included in this book but can be seen at Familysearch: Film no: 1067018; Image no: 763.

Tree 6. Lotter Family of Cowfold and Upper Beeding (c1600- 1700)

Research into the will of Thomas Lotter, husbandman of Upper Beeding, 1669 revealed that this family surname was actually Lotter in the parish registers over a number of generations. It may have its origins as a variant of Latter. The will for Thomas's niece, Ann Lotter of Cowfold, 1702 has also been included in this book.

Thomas Lotter

+ unknown spouse



Chapter 2 – The Latter Wills

1. Will (Unregistered) of William Latter, Butcher of Rotherfield, 1639/40

(ESRO: PBT 1/6/98)

Made: 15 Mar 1639/40

Proved: (unregistered will)

FamilySearch: Film no: 1885592; Image: 667

In the Name of God Amen the fifteenth day of March in the fifteenth year of the reign of our sovereign lord Charles by the grace of god kinge of England Scotland France and Ireland Defender of the faith I **William Latter** of Rotherfield in the County of Sussex butcher being sick of bodie but of perfect remembrance thanks be given to almighty god doe make and ordayne this my last will & testament in manner & forme following Imprimis I yeald my soul to almighty god by creator in the full assurance of hope & a resurrection unto eternal life through the merits of Jesus Christ my saviour & redeemer Item my body I will to the earth from whence it came Item I give and devise unto my daughter **Agnes** the full sum of fifty pounds of lawfull monie of England to be paid my said daughter **Agnes** when she shall attain to her full age of one & twenty years or daie of marriage which shall first happen by my Executor Item I give and devise to my daughter Agnes one joined chest in the chamber wherein I nowe lie & one cubbord standing in the haule Item my will and mind is that if **Elizabeth** my nowe wife shall be at child of a daughter by me the said **William** then my will and mind is that my two daughters shall equally devide the said fifty pounds before bequeathed to my daughter **Agnes** Item all the residue of my goods cattells & chattels & monies whatsoever my debts first paid & funeral expence discharged & towards the educacon & bringing up of my child or children if it soe happen I give & devise unto my loving wife **Elizabeth** Item my will & mind is that if my daughter Agnes & my other daughter if it shall happen my wife to be at child shall happen to die before their said full ages of one & twenty years or daie of marriage then my will & mind is that the said fifty pounds shall descend to my right heirs Item I make & ordayne my loving wife **Elizabeth** to be Executor of this my last will and testament Item I make & ordayne my brothers in lawe **John Coe & Isaac Alchorne** overseers of this my last will & testament to see the same performed according to this my intent & meaning, this is the last will & testament of me the said William Latter In witness whereof I the said **William Latter** have hereunto sett my hand and seal dated the daie and yeere first above written.

William Latter his mark

Sealed and subscribed in the

presence of

Elizabeth Daunton

Thomas Weller Jun

Transcribed by Geoffrey Barber, 9 September 2019

[] Transcriber's note or addition

NOTES:

People

William Latter, butcher, testator

Elizabeth Latter, wife

Agnes Latter, daughter

John Coe, brother-in-law

Isaac Alchorne, brother-in-law
Elizabeth Daunton, witness
Thomas Weller jnr, witness

Places

Rotherfield

Relevant Events

William Latter was buried 21 Mar 1640 at Rotherfield St Denys.

William Latter married Elizabeth Coe on 30 May 1637 at Frant (“both of Rotherfield”).

William and Elizabeth’s marriage licence (27 May 1637) states that William is the son of Edmund Latter, yeoman.

Agnes Latter was baptised 21 Oct 1638 at Rotherfield St Denys.
(SFHG Indexes)

William Latter’s father, Edmund Latter of Tonbridge, left a will proved 2 Jan 1656 (PCC: PROB 11/261/251).

Isaac Alchorne is mentioned as a brother-in-law. William’s father Edmund Latter married the widow Agnes Alchorne (nee A’Downe) on 7 Dec 1602 at Rotherfield. Agnes had a son Isaac Alchorne from her previous marriage (Isaac Alchorne baptised 8 Nov 1601 at Rotherfield).

Family Tree

See Tree 1. “Edmund Latter of Rotherfield” in Chapter 1.

2. Will of Richard Latter, Yeoman of Rotherfield, 1649

(PCC: PROB 11/208/310)

Made: 11 Feb 1648/49

Proved: 1 June 1649

In the Name of God Amen the eleventh day of February in Anno Dm One thousand six hundred forty eight I **Richard Latter** of Rotherfield in the County of Sussex yeoman being sicke in body but of good and perfect rememberances thanks be to God therefore do make and declare this my last will and testament in manner and form following That is to say First and principally I will and bequeath my soul unto Almighty God my merciful maker Saviour and Redeemer by whom and through whom I hope to have to have forgiven all of my sins And my body to the earth from whence it came, and decently to be buried when it shall please God. Item I give and bequeath unto **John Latter** my sonne one messuage or tenement lying in Tonbridge conteyning by estimation two acres more or less after my decease and **Margarett my wife** Item I will that **Richard Latter** my sonne shall have the lands called Marke after the decease of **John Taylor**, and **Margarett** the wife of **Richard Latter** paying to **Thomas Latter** his brother the sum of twenty pounds And also paying to his sister **Anne Latter** the sum of twenty pounds unto them within one whole year of the aforesaid **John Taylor**, and **Margarett** the wife of **Richard Latter** and after my decease Item I will and bequeath unto **John Latter Richard Latter Thomas Latter** my sonnes And unto **Anne Latter** my daughter the sum of twenty pounds apiece to be paid unto them when they shall accomplish unto the full age of one and twenty years of the portion which shall come by my father **John Latter**. And also my will is that if either of them shall decease before they shall accomplish the said age of one and twenty years that then the said money of the said deceased shall fall unto the rest of them to be equally divided between them. Item I will and bequeath unto **Margarett Latter** my wife all the rest of my moveable and unmoveable goods not before by me willed or bequeathed whom I make my whole Executrix she paying my debts and legacies and performing this my last will and testament Item I will **John Catt Thomas Latter** and **Adam Latter** my brothers to be overseers and Guide unto **Margarett** my wife in the true performing of this my last will and testament In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year first above written. The mark of **Richard Latter**. Sealed signed and declared to be the last will and testatment of **Richard Latter** in the presence of **Thomas Thorpe** The mark of **John Taylor Thomas Latter & Henry Hodly**

Probatum fuit Testamentum suprascriptum apud London coram venerabili et Egregio viro Domino Nathaniele Brent Milite Legum doctore Curia Prerogativa [Cantuariensis] Magistro sive Custode legitime constituto Primo die mensis Junii Anno Domini Millesimo Sexcentesimo quadragesimo non Juramento Margareta Latter Reict dicti defuncte etc Executricis in huiusmodi testamento nominat Cui commissa fuit Administratio omnium et singulorum bonorum iurium et creditorum dicti defuncti de bene et fideliter administrando eadem Ad Sancta Dei Evangelia (vigore Commissionis in ea parte als emanat) Jurat

Transcribed by Geoffrey Barber, 4 September 2019

NOTES:

People

Richard Latter, yeoman, testator

Margaret Latter, wife, executrix

John Latter, son

Richard Latter, son

John Taylor [brother-in-law, brother to Richard's wife Margaret]

Thomas Latter, son

John Latter, father

Anne Latter, daughter

Thomas Latter, brother

Adam Latter, brother

John Catt, brother

Thomas Thorpe, witness

John Taylor, witness

Thomas Latter, witness [brother?]

Henry Hodly, witness

Places

Rotherfield

Tonbridge

Marke

Relevant Events

Richard Latter was buried 16 Feb 1648/49 at Rotherfield St Denys.

A John Latter senior was buried 29 Dec 1662 at Rotherfield St Denys.

Margaret Latter was possibly buried 21 Feb 1665 at Rotherfield, but it is only recorded as widow Latter.

(SFHG Burial Index)

Richard Latter married Margaret Taylor on 18 Jun 1639 at Frant (both of Rotherfield).

(SFHG Marriage Index)

Family Tree

See Tree 2. "John Latter of Rotherfield" in Chapter 1.

3. Will of Edmund Latter, Yeoman of Tonbridge, 1656/57

(PCC: PROB 11/261/251)

Made: 20 January 1654

Proved: 2 January 1656/57

In the name of God Amen The twentieth day of January in the yeare of our Lord God one thousand sixe hundred fiftye and fower I **Edmund Latter** of Tonbridge in the County of Kent yeoman beinge at this present weake in bodye but of perfect and sounde memorie praised be God doe make and declare this to be my Testament and last will in manner and forme followinge First I will and resigne my soule to God that gave it And my bodie I commit to the earth hopeinge to have a ioyfull resurrection thereof to eternall life by my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ And for that temporall estate which God hath lent me I will and dispose of the same as followeth (that is to saie) I will to **Alice** my daughter wife to **Henry Marten** Twenty shillings of lawfull English money And to the said **Henry Marten** I give all my wearinge apparell whatsoever to be paid and delivered unto them upon their reasonable demannd by myne Executrix Alsoe I will and give to **Robert Martyn** sonne of the said **Alice** my daughter the sume of five poundes of lawfull English money to be paid unto him within one yeare next after my decease by mine Executrix Alsoe I will and give to **Anne** my daughter in remembrance of her Twentye shillings to be paid unto her upon her demannd thereof Alsoe I will and give to **Edmund Latter** my grandchild sonne of **John Latter** my sonne deceased the sume of five poundes of lawfull money (of England) to be paid unto him at his age of one and twentie yeares if he shall live to attaine that age by mine Executrix. Alsoe I will and give to **John Latter** my grandchild sonne of the said **John** my sonne deceased the like summe of five poundes of lawfull money To be paid unto him at his age of one and Twentie yeares if he shall live to attaine that age by mine Executrix. Alsoe I will and give to **Richard Latter** my brother my redd cowe to be delivered to him by myne executrix wthin short tyme after my decease. Alsoe I will and give to my godson **John Moyses** Tenne shillings to be paid unto him at his age of one and twentie yeares if he live to attaine that age by myne Executrix. Alsoe all my moveable goodes Cattle [capital] houshold stufte readie money debtes and chattles whatsoever and of what nature or kinde soever I wholie give leave and bequeath to **Anne** my deare and loveinge wife to enable her to pay my debts and legacies and to recompence her love and great paines by her shewed towards me And I make and ordeine the said **Anne** my wife to be the full and sole Executrix of this my Testament and last will In wittnes whereof I the said **Edmund Latter** have to this my Testament and last will sett my hand and seale the day and yeare first above written. **Edmund Latter**. Read, sealed, published and declared by the said **Edmund Latter** to be his Testament and last will in the presence of **Robert Weare**, **William Moyses** his marke, **Geo: Hooper**.

This will was proved at London before the Judges for probate of wills and granting administracons lawfullie authorized the second day of January in the yeare of our Lord God one thousand sixe hundred and fiftye sixe by the oathe of **Anne Latter** the Relict and sole Executrix named in the last will and Testament of the said deceased To whome was grannted administracon &c she beinge by vertue of a Commission first legally sworne truely and faithfully to administer.

Transcribed by Gillian Rickard for Geoffrey Barber, 2011

NOTES:

People

Edmund Latter, yeoman, testator
Anne Latter, wife, executrix
Alice Marten, daughter
Henry Marten [Martin], son-in-law
Robert Martyn [Martin], grandson
Anne Latter, daughter
Edmund Latter, grandson, son of John Latter
John Latter, grandson, son of John Latter
John Latter, son (deceased)
Richard Latter, brother
John Moyse, godson
Robert Weare, witness
William Moyse, witness
George Hooper, witness

Places

Tonbridge
Rotherfield (see below)
Drapers, Rotherfield (see below)

Relevant Events

Edmund Latter was buried 11 May 1656 at Tonbridge, Kent.

1. The daughter Alice mentioned in the above will as being married to Henry Marten helped to confirm the link to Rotherfield, as Alice Latter married Henry Martin in Rotherfield on 26 January 1624.
2. The daughter Anne married Thomas Barber alias Nynne on 7 March 1639 at Frant, Sussex. Thomas died in 1649 (buried Rotherfield 21 May 1649) and Anne subsequently married Samuel Theobald, a clothier, sometime between 1650 and 1661. Although the marriage record has not been found, we know it occurred because on 7 Jan 1661/62 Anne's son Thomas Barber leases the cottage in Rotherfield Town and the Drapers land from Ann and her third husband, Samuel Theobald, who were occupying it: "*7 Jan 1661/62 Lease by Samuel Theobald of Tonbridge, Kent, clothier and Ann his wife, to Thomas Barber alias Nine, of Frant, Sussex, then servant to Thomas Weller, gent., of a messuage or tenement, outhouse, barn and stall and a small piece of land lying near the said barn, together with all gardens, closes, backside, etc. in Rotherfield Town. Also, 4 pieces of land and wood containing 22 acres, called Draperys in Rotherfield; all which premises the said Samuel held by right of An his wife made to her by jointure and lease from Thomas Barber alias Nine, her former husband, father of the above named Thomas. Term, the life of the said Ann Theobald party to the deed and mother of the said Thomas: rent yearly 11 pounds/5s. Signature of Samuel Theobald, and mark of Ann Theobald & seals. Witnesses: William Jeffrey, Ann Barber (mk)*".¹⁰

Edmund Latter was given the property called Salters in Rotherfield by his father (also an Edmund Latter) on his marriage to the widow Agnes Alchorne [nee A'Downe]. It was probably part of a marriage settlement (agreement). The manorial records record the transaction:

¹⁰ Sussex Archaeological Society, Transcription, 7 Jan 1661/2, Rotherfield, Sussex, England (East Sussex County Record Office, SAS FA 781).

1602

At this court it is found that Edmund Latter out of court since last court Nov 4th, 45 Eliz [1602] surrendered 1 messuage, 1 barn with garden & 2 pieces or parcels of land containing 4 acres lying at Town Rowe with appurtenances except 1 garden called le forge garden To use of said Edmund Latter his son & Agnes Alchorne widow & the heirs of said Edmund his son But his admission is postponed till next court. And nothing falls for heriot because he remains tenant

1603

At this court comes Edmund Latter & Agnes now his wife & pray out of the lord's hand a messuage, a barn, a garden & 2 parcels of land containing 4 acres lying at Town Rowe with appurtenances in Rotherfield except a garden called Forge garden which formerly came into the lord's hand by the surrender of Edmund Latter father of the son Edmund to the use of the said Edmund the son & Agnes To which said Edmund Latter the son & Agnes his wife the lord at this court grants seisin by the rod etc. And they give the lord for fine £6[?] etc.

Note: This entry is difficult to date from Pullein's transcription but must be after Edmund Latter's marriage to Agnes Alchorne on 7 Dec 1602. It is after a View of Frankpledge court held 7th May 1603.¹¹

At the Rotherfield manorial court held 27 Apr 1638, Edmund Latter transferred the property called Salters at Townrowe [Town Row] in Rotherfield to his son William Latter & Elizabeth his wife & his lawful heirs. William Latter had married Elizabeth Coe on 30 May 1637. It is possible that this is the time when Edmund moved to Tonbridge, where he died in 1656.

Family Tree

See Tree 1. "Edmund Latter of Rotherfield" in Chapter 1.

¹¹ Indexed translation of a court book of the manor of Rotherfield, 1593-1606 (ESRO: PAR 465/26/1/4) "p.126 (p. 107 of PDF) and p.135 (p. 114 of PDF).

4. Will (Nuncupative) of Thomas Latter[Lotter], Husbandman of Upper Beeding, 1669

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/31/116)

Made: 9 June 1669

Admon Granted: 13 July 1669

Familysearch: Film: 1885869; Image: 970

[registered nuncupative will with grant of administration with the will annexed, for failure to name an executor]

Memorandum that **Thomas Latter** whilst he lived of the parish of Seale al[ia]s Beeding in the County of Sussex husbandman being of good and p[er]fect memory and understanding did make and declare his last will and Testament nuncupative by word of mouth on or about the nyneth day of June in the yeare of our Lord one thousand six hundred sixty nyne in Effect as followeth Vizt he willed that **Mercy** his wife should have ^the use of^ all his goodes and Chattells for and during ther terme of her naturall life and after her decease he willed all his goodes and Chattells to **Edward Latter** his brothers sonne and his assignes for ever And he willed that **Richard Tingle** his wives naturall base borne sonne should not have one penny nor peny worth of his goodes, but that his sayd wife should give security to the sayd **Edward Latter** his kinsman for his enjoying the said goodes without any wasting or imbezelling after his sayd wives decease All which sayd words or the like in effect the sayd **Thomas Latter** did utter and declare to stand for his will in the presence of credible witnesses namely **Francis West** and **Mary** his wife and others

Francis West his marke

Mary West wife of the sayd **Francis West** her marke

Julii 13^o 1669

Ado_ bonor[um] {cn_} Testamento suprascript annex_ comissa fuit **Mercy Latter** vid[ua] et Relict[a] def[uncti] p[er] me

Henricu{s} Thurman Surrogatu{s}

13th July 1669

*Administration of the goods {contained?} in the above written will annexed was committed to **Mercy Latter** widow and relict of the deceased by me*

Henry Thurman Surrogate

Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 11th November 2020

NOTES:

People

Thomas Latter, husbandman, testator

Mercy Latter, wife

Edward Latter, his brother's son

Richard Tingle

Francis West, witness

Mary West, witness

Places

Seale [Sele] alias Beeding [Upper Beeding includes the priory of Seale

Upper Beeding]

Relevant Events

Thomas Lotter[sic] was buried 12 Jun 1669 at Cowfold St Peter, “of St Leonard’s Forest”.

Thomas Lotter[sic], husbandman, married Mary Tyngler on 20 Mar 1654/55 at Cowfold.

After Thomas’s death, it would appear that his wife remarried: Mercy Lotter[sic] married Harry Copper on 24 Jun 1670 at Pyecombe.

Family Tree

See Tree 6. “Lotter Family of Cowfold and Upper Beeding (c1600- 1700)” in Chapter 1.

5. Will of Thomas Latter, Butcher of Rotherfield, 1675

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/34/72B)

Made: 16 Dec 1673

Proved: 8 May 1675

FamilySearch: Film no: 1885871; Image: 56

[Note: The will on FamilySearch is the original will, not the registered copy of the will, and does not contain the probate. The date of probate was obtained from the ESRO catalogue entry for the registered copy of the will to which the reference ESRO: PBT 1/1/34/72B refers]

In the Name of God Amen the sixteenth day of December in the year of our Lord God One Thousand six hundred seventy three I I **Thomas Latter** of Rotherfield in the County of Sussex Butcher being in good health and memory I give God thanks thereof doe make and ordayne this my last will and testament in manner and forme following First I give my soule into the hands of God my creator hoping of the full pardon and remission of all my sinnes by the death and merritts of my Saviour Jesus Christ, and my body to be buried at the discretion of my Executor hereafter named And for my worldly goods wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me with all I do give dispose and devise the same in manner and forme following Imprimis I do give and bequeath unto **Mary** my loving wife for and during the term of her natural life the house wherein I now dwell the backsides barne buildings and appurtenances thereunto belonging and apperteyning set situate and being in Rotherfield aforesaid and also I doe give and bequeath unto her the said **Mary** my wife for and during the term of her natural life the free use of all such stock of cattell chattels household stuff and implements as I shall leave behind me at the time of my decease, but my will and meaning is that my said wife **Mary** shall only have the benefit that shall or may arise of my said stock by the helpe of my sonnes **Thomas** and **John** in the way of trading in the trade of a butcher as I hope they will assist her the best they may or can, And the after the decease of the said **Mary** my wife I give devise and bequeath unto **Thomas Latter** my eldest sonne the said house wherein I now dwell together with the backsides barn buildings and appurtenances thereunto belonging or apperteyning To Have and To Hold the said dwelling hose backsides barn buildings and appurtenances from and after the decease of **Mary** my said wife unto him the said **Thomas Latter** my sonne and to his heyres for ever upon this condition that he the said **Thomas Latter** my sonne shall pay unto **Elizabeth Latter** my daughter the sume of five pounds of lawfull money of England within one year next after the decease of the said **Mary** my wife and shall also pay unto my sonne **John Latter** the sume of five pounds of good money within two years next after the decease of the said **Mary** my wife And likewise shall pay unto my sonne **Henry Latter** the sum of Tenn pounds of good money within three years next after the decease of the said **Mary** my wife; And moreover shall pay unto **Mary Latter** my daughter the like sume of Tenn pounds of good money withing fower years next after the decease of the said **Mary** my wife And my will and meaning is that my sonne **Thomas Latter** whom I nominate and ordayne sole executor of this my last Will and Testament shall within one years next after the decease of my said wife **Mary** pay unto my said daughter **Elizabeth Latter** out of my stock and household stuff the sume of Tenn pounds of good money in discharge of a bond which I owe unto her And then my will and meaning is that all the residue [crease in paper] stock goods chattels household stufte and personal estate which shall come into the hands of the said **Thomas Latter** my Executor shall be equally divided between allmy said children viz. **Thomas Elizabeth John Henry and Mary Latter** by **Thomas May** of Frant, weaver and **Thomas Sisly** of Framfield yeoman whom I doe nominate and ordeyne Overseers of this my last will and testament giving unto each of them three shillings for their paines herein to be taken, In witness whereof I have to this my last will and testatment sett my hand and seale the day and yeare first above written

Signed **Thomas Latter**

Sealed signed published and

declared to be the last will and

testament of Thomas latter in the presence of us
The marke of
Alice Crippes widow
John Daunton

Transcribed by Geoffrey Barber, 12 September 2019

NOTES:

People

Thomas Latter, butcher, testator
Mary Latter, wife
Thomas Latter, son, executor
Elizabeth Latter, daughter
John Latter, son
Henry Latter, son
Mary Latter, daughter
Thomas May of Frant, weaver, overseer
Thomas Sisley of Framfield, yeoman. Overseer
Alice Crippes, widow, witness
John Daunton, witness

Places

Rotherfield
Frant
Framfield

Relevant Events

Thomas Latter was baptised 25 Nov 1610 at Rotherfield St Denys, the son of John Latter and Elizabeth.

Thomas Latter was buried 8 Apr 1675 at Rotherfield St Denys (“senior”).

In regard to the witness Alice Crippes, Thomas Crippes married the widow Alice Latter on 23 Apr 1663.

(SFHG Indexes)

Thomas Latter’s son, Thomas Latter of Rotherfield, a butcher, also left a will proved 9 Mar 1723/24 (ESRO: PBT 1/1/51/269)

ESRO holds the following document:

Covenant and agreement for natural love and affection

Date: 7 Sep 1639

East Sussex Record Office: SAS/AB/402

Description:

John Latter of Rotherfield to his son, Thomas Latter of Rotherfield, butcher
messuage in town of Rotherfield, with barns, buildings, closes, gardens, etc, belonging, for his own
life, in consideration of natural love and affection for his wife Elizabeth Latter and his son Thomas
Latter, and after his death concerning the parlour and the chamber over the parlour being parcel
of messuage with free ingress, egress, etc, and free leave and liberty to draw and fetch water in the
well in the messuage, and bake in the oven there, to use of his wife Elizabeth Latter for her life,
and after to use of Thomas Latter.

Two days before this, his father John Latter acquired the property:

Grant (indented) for £98

Date: 5 Sep 1639

East Sussex Record Office: SAS/AB/401

Description:

Stephen Baker to John Latter

messuage in town of Rotherfield, with barns, buildings, closes, gardens, etc, belonging (S: High Street; W: messuage and garden of Nicholas Fowle, gent; N and E: messuage and lands of Thomas Barber) in tenure of Thomas Latter (one acre) the messuage formerly of Nicholas Alchorne and conveyed by him to Jane Fowle, and by Jane Fowle to John Baker, and by John Baker to Stephen Baker

(Transcriber's note: The actual property described above is in Church Road, Rotherfield (at Google maps coordinates: 51.046477, 0.217551) and is next to the property known today as Town Hill House which is a Grade II listed property that was once owned by my ancestor, Thomas Barber who is mentioned above. The Rotherfield manorial records would doubtlessly contain records of transfers and inheritance pertaining to this property.)

Family Tree

See Tree 2. "John Latter of Rotherfield" in Chapter 1.

6. Will of Henry Latter, Weaver of Rotherfield, 1683

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/36/109A)

Made: 12 Apr 1683

Proved: 8 Jun 1683

FamilySearch: Film no: 1885904; Image: 357

In the Name of God Amen I **Henry Latter** of Rotherfield in the County of Sussex Weaver, being of sound and perfect memory (prayed be the Lord) doe make and ordaine this my last Will and Testament in manner and forme following First I commend mu soul into the gracious hands of Godmy Creator, of Jesus Christ my Redeemer, and the Holy Ghost my Sanctifier, in sure and certain hope of everlasting life. Next my Body I commit unto the earth from whence it came, to be decently buried according to the discretion of mine Executrix hereafter named, in a certaine expectation of a joyful and glorious resurrection at the last day. And as for those worldly goods where with God hath blessed me I doe order and dispose of them as here followeth.

First I will and bequeath unto **Thomas Latter** my brother all my shop of tackling, he paying the rent of the shop, Item I give and bequeath unto the said **Thomas Latter** my said brother, the sume of Five pounds of lawfull money of England to be paid unto him by my Executrix within halfe a yeare next after my decease Item I give and bequeath unto **Mary wife of George Morgaine** my Sister the sume of Five pounds of lawful money of England to be paid unto her by mine Executrix within halfe a yeare next after my decease All the rest of my goods, moneyes, chattels, clothes, chestes and household stuff whatsoever, not before by me willed and bequeathed (my debts and funeral costs being discharged) I do will and bequeath unto **Elizabeth Latter** my Sister whom I make and ordaine to be the sole Executrix of this my last Will and Testament, she performing this my will according to my true intent and meaning expressed herein. In witness whereof I have to this my last Will and Testament sett my hand and seal, dated the Twelfth day of Aprill in the thirty fifth yeare of the reigne of our Sovereign Lord King Charles the Second, by the grace of God of England, Scotland, France and Ireland King Defender of the faith Annoqs Dmi. 1683

Henry Latter

Signed sealed published & Declared
To be the last Will and Testament of
Henry Latter, and all former Wills
renounced, in the presence of us

Richard Streatfeild

Richard Hutchinson

Henry Hodely

8° Junii 1683

Jurata fuit Elizabetha Latter Executrix hujus Testametni Cui Commissa fuit onus Executionis ejusdem et Administracio bonorum etc per me
Zacheum Mountague Surr.

Transcribed by Geoffrey Barber, 9 September 2019

NOTES:

People

Henry Latter, weaver, testator

Elizabeth Latter, sister, executrix

Thomas Latter, brother

Mary Latter, sister, wife of George Morgaine

Places

Rotherfield

Relevant Events

Henry Latter was buried 25 Apr 1683 at Rotherfield St Denys.

(SFHG Indexes)

Henry Latter's father, Thomas Latter, left a will proved 8 May 1675 in which Henry is a beneficiary (ESRO: PBT 1/1/34/72B)

Henry Latter's brother, Thomas Latter, left a will proved 9 Mar 1723/24 (ESRO: PBT 1/1/51/269)

Family Tree

See Tree 2. "John Latter of Rotherfield" in Chapter 1.

7. Will of Anne Lotter, Single Woman of Cowfold, 1702

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/45/51)

Made: 6 July 1702

Proved: 26 August 1702

Familysearch: Film: 1885908; Image: 838

In the Name of God Amen I **Anne Lotter** of Cowfold in the County of Sussex Singlewoman being sick and weak in body but of sound and perfect mind and memory praised be God for the same doe therefore make and ordaine this my last Will and Testament in manner and forme following (that is to say) Imprimus I bequeath my soule into the hands of Almighty God who gave it and my body I commit to the Earth to be interred decently att the charge and discretion of my Executor hereafter named And as to my worldly goods and estate I give and bequeath the same in manner and form following Impris I give and bequeath unto my sister **Elizabeth Lotter** and to her daughter **Anne** wife of **Richard Gravely** and to the children of her the said **Anne** All my cloathes both linen and woollen (except my two best petticoates) equally to be divided amongst them and as to my two best petticoates I doe give and bequeath the same unto my neece **Mary Lotter** daughter of the aforesaid **Elizabeth** Item I doe give and bequeath unto **Richard Gravely** aforesaid my hogg Item I doe give and bequeath unto **Mary Lotter** aforesaid the summe of three pounds of lawful money of England to be paid unto her within six monthes next after my decease All the rest of my goods chattels and estate whatsoever (after my debts legacies and funeral charges and expences are paid and satisfied) I doe give and bequeath unto my nephew **John Lotter** sonne of my aforesaid sister **Elizabeth Lotter** ^who I doe hereby make my Executor of this my will^ And lastly I doe hereby revoake all former Wills by me heretofore made And doe declare this to be my last Will and Testament In Witness whereof I have hereunto sett my hand and seale this sixth day of July in the year of our Lord Christ 1702.

Memoir that the words (who I do hereby make my Executor of this my Will) were interlined before the sealing and publishing hereof

The mark and seale of **Anne Lotter**

Signed sealed published and declared by the said **Anne Lotter** the Testator to be her last Will and Testament in the presence of us whoe have subscribed our names as witness hereto in her presence

Thos. Lintott

Richard Houdly

Hen. Lintott

26th Aug 1702

[Latin] Probate granted, **John Lotter** executor. Tho. Whalley Sur.

Transcribed by Geoffrey Barber, 14 November 2020

NOTES:

People

Anne Lotter, single woman, testator

Elizabeth Lotter, sister [sister-in-law]

Anne Gravely, daughter of Elizabeth Lotter, wife of Richard Gravely

Richard Gravely

Mary Lotter, niece, daughter of Elizabeth Lotter

John Lotter, nephew, son of Elizabeth Lotter, executor
Tho. Lintott, witness
Richard Houdly, witness
Hen. Lintott, witness

Places

Cowfold

Relevant Events

Anne Lotter was buried 21 Jul 1702 at Cowfold St Peter.

Anne Lotter was baptised 24 Jun 1649 at Cowfold St Peter, daughter of Edward and Elizabeth Lotter [nee Foster].

Anne Lotter's brother Edward Lotter married Elizabeth Ellis on 17 Sep 1667 at Cowfold. Elizabeth Lotter [nee Ellis] is the sister Anne mentions in her will. Her nieces and nephew (Anne Gravely, Mary Lotter and John Lotter) are all children of Edward and Elizabeth Lotter.

Richard Gravely married Anne Lotter on 26 May 1692 at Cowfold.

(SFHG Indexes)

Family Tree

See Tree 6. "Lotter Family of Cowfold and Upper Beeding (c1600- 1700)" in Chapter 1.

8. Admon of Gregory Latter of Eastbourne, 1716

(Included in Probate Inventory - ESRO: PBT 1/10/781)

Familysearch film 1067018 Image 763-764

Image 764: admon

28^{vo} Aprilis Anno 1716

Commissa fuit Administraco_ Bonor[um] &c cujusdam Gregorii Latter nup[er] de Eastbourne ab Intestato Defuncti Janae Latter ejus Relictae Defuncti Primitus Jurat de fidel[ite]r Administrando &c

P[er] Nos Tho: Peirce Sur:

28th April in the year 1716

Administration of the goods etc. of a certain **Gregory Latter** deceased intestate was committed to **Jane Latter** his relict first sworn faithfully to administer etc.

By us Thomas Peirce Surrogate

Inventory value: £38 15s 6d

Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 9th November 2020

NOTES:

People

Gregory Latter, deceased

Jane Latter, wife

Places

Eastbourne

Relevant Events

Gregory Latter was buried 30 Mar 1716 at St Mary, Eastbourne.

Gregory Latter married Jane Goffe on 20 Nov 1704 at St Martin in the Fields, Middlesex.

After Gregory's death, Jane Latter married Jeremiah Kneller on 12 Dec 1725 at All Saints, Hastings.

Jane Kneller was buried on 5 Jan 1762 at St Mary, Eastbourne ("widow").

(SFHG Indexes)

The following document provides valuable genealogical information about Gregory's wife Jane Goffe and tells us that Gregory Latter was a tailor:

Goffs Malthouse in Eastbourne, assigned to Nicholas Gilbert IV by the mortgagee in possession

Date: 1777

East Sussex Record Office: GIL 1/9

Description:

1. Malthouse with a garden plot at or near Upperton Stream to the west and north, in Eastbourne (203 on GIL/3/17/1)
2. Toft, garden plot and piece of land adjoining the malthouse and the road from Eastbourne Town to Upperton House

Richard Goff, mariner, died in 1718 holding premises 1 above, a parcel of freehold land at Wormy (2 acres), a piece of land (1 acres) held of the manor of Eastbourne Gildredge in Eastbourne and a messuage, barn and land (16 acres) in Jevington, held of the manor of Jevington; all the property had been held by his mother **Elizabeth**, the only daughter and heiress of **Nicholas Pepper** of Eastbourne, yeoman (1).

Premises 2 above had been conveyed to Goff's brother-in-law **Gregory Latter** in 1716 and passed at his death to his son **John**, an infant aged 10 [*aged 1 year actually*] (2).

On **Richard Goff's** death 1 above passed to his wife **Frances** but her estate was challenged by Goff's only sister **Jane**, the wife of **Gregory Latter**, tailor. In 1723 an agreement was drawn up whereby **Frances** was to have premises 1 and **Jane** the 2 acres at Wormy. Premises 1 were therefore conveyed by Jane Latter to **Frances Goff** immediately, but it was agreed that premises 2 should be conveyed to her when John reached 21 (1-2).

In 1736 therefore, **John Latter**, now a farmer of Eastbourne, conveyed the property to **Samuel Williams** of London, carpenter, the only son and devisee of **Frances Goffe**, who had made her will at Bermondsey in 1724 (3-5). **Williams**, of St Mildred Bread Street, sold both properties to **Jane Townsett** of Eastbourne, widow, in 1736 (6-7). On her death in 1750 the property, now called Goffs Malthouse (abutting the highway west and north and a narrow lane leading into Hartfield on the east) passed by her will (in which she describes herself as widow and innkeeper) to her son **John**, with remainder to his son John (8).

In 1761 **John Townsett** the elder of Eastbourne, maltster and **John Townsett** the younger of Eastbourne, farmer, mortgaged the property for 60 to **Mary Gilbert** (1733-1811) of Eastbourne, spinster (10). She entered into possession and took the profits and assigned the mortgage to her brother **Nicholas Gilbert** in 1777 (11).

Creator(s): Davies-Gilbert family of Eastbourne, East Sussex and Trelissick, Cornwall

Family Tree

See Tree 5. "Latter Family of Ringmer and Eastbourne (c1650- 1800)" in Chapter 2.

9. Will of Thomas Latter, Butcher of Rotherfield, 1723/24

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/51/269)

Made: 10 Mar 1720/1

Proved: 9 Mar 1723/24

FamilySearch: Film no: 1885995; Image: 772

In the Name of God Amen I **Thomas Latter** of Rotherfield in the County of Sussex Butcher. Being old & infirm of body, but of sound & perfect mind and memory, praise be therefore given to Almighty God for the same, do make & ordain this my present last Will & Testament in manner & form following /that is to say/ First and principally I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God my maker, hoping through the merits death & passion of my saviour Jesus Christ to have full & free pardon & forgiveness of all my sins and to inherit everlasting life: And my body I commit to the earth, to be decently buried at the discretion of my Executor hereinafter named; And as touching the disposition of all such temporall estate, as it hath pleased Almighty God to bestow upon me I give & dispose thereof as followeth

Imprimis I give and devise unto my son **John Latter** of Tonbridge Wells in the County of Kent, Butcher, after the decease of Mary my wife all that my messuage or tenement wherein I now dwell/ orchard & backside & barn with appurtenances/ & situate lying & being in Rotherfield aforesaid to hold unto my son **John Latter** & to him & his heirs and assigns forever Item I give and devise unto my daughter **Elizabeth Latter** the sume of Ten pounds of lawfull money of Great Britain, to be paid unto her within twelve months next after my decease by my Executor hereafter named Item I give & devise unto my daughter **Ann, the now wife of William Smith** of Wesham [Westerham] in the County of Kent millwright the sum of five shillings of like lawfull money to be paid unto her by Executor hereafter named Item All the rest and residue of my personal estate, goods, chattels whatsoever, ready moneys and moneys that shall be then due and owing on my account-book and all other security's for money whatsoever (after my debts, legacies, funeral expences, the probate of this my will & my Executor's charges in the management of my estate first paid and discharged) I give and devise unto my two sons namely **Henry Latter & Edmund Latter** to be equally divided between them share & share alike And I do hereby nominate constitute ordain & appoint my said son **Henry Latter** full & sole Executor of this my last Will & Testament And Lastly I do hereby revoke disannul & make void all former wills & testaments by me heretofore made and declare this to be my last Will & Testament being contained in two sheets of paper to the first sheet I have subscribed my name & to the last sheet thereof I have sett my hand & seal the tenth day of March Anno Regni Dmi nostri Georgii nunc Regis Magn Britan &c Septimo Annoq Dom One thousand seven hundred & twenty **Thomas Latter**

Signed sealed published & declared by the sd Thomas
Latter the testator as his last Will & Testament in the presence of us
Tho Ovenden
Mercy Palmer
E Pocock

9^o die mensis Martii Anno Domini 1723^{uo}
Juratus fuit Henricus Latter Executor hujus Testamenti
Cui Comissa fuit Administracio et Onus Executionis
ejusdem Per Nos Tho Perice Surrogate

Transcribed by Geoffrey Barber, 8 September 2019

NOTES:

People

Thomas Latter, butcher, testator
John Latter, son, of Tunbridge Wells
Elizabeth Latter, daughter
Ann Smith, daughter, wife of William Smith of Wesham [Westerham]
William Smith, husband of Ann
Henry Latter, son
Edmund Latter, son
Thomas Ovenden, witness
Mercy Palmer, witness
E Pocock, witness

Places

Rotherfield
Tunbridge Wells
Westerham [baptism of William & Ann Smith's daughter, Anne, on 10 Aug 1722 at Westerham confirms that Wesham should be Westerham]

Relevant Events

Thomas Latter was baptised 14 May 1648 at Rotherfield St Denys, the son of Thomas Latter and Mary. [Note: there is another baptism of Thomas Latter on 19 Nov 1648, son of Richard and Mary Latter, at Rotherfield. However, the occupation of butcher supports his parents being Thomas and Mary Latter, also butchers].

Thomas Latter was buried 20 Jan 1723/24 at Rotherfield St Denys.

Thomas Latter married Mary Coe on 8 Jun 1680 at Rotherfield St Denys.

Mary Coe was baptised 7 Mar 1647 at Rotherfield St Denys, daughter of William Coe and Mary Moon.

(SFHG Indexes)

There is also a probate inventory for Thomas Latter:

Thomas LATTER of Rotherfield, butcher; probate inventory

Date: 27 Jan 1724; ESRO reference: PBT 1/10/1639

Value of inventory: £95 2s 3d

Names of appraisers: William Paige, Thomas Ovenden

Type of act (from Act Book): probate

Date of act: 9 Mar 1724

Creator(s): Archdeaconry of Lewes

(FamilySearch: Film no: 1067098; Image no: 431)

A marriage settlement between Thomas Latter and Mary Coe exists at ESRO:

Marriage settlement in consideration of intended marriage between Thomas Latter and Mary Coe, daughter of William Coe and sister of Richard Coe, and £100 as her marriage portion

Date: 7 Jun 1680

East Sussex Record Office: SAS/AB/406

Description: Thomas Latter of Rotherfield, butcher, to William Coe of Rotherfield, yeoman, and his eldest son and heir apparent, Richard Coe

messuage, barn, garden, orchard, Hemp Plot, in town of Rotherfield, occupied by Thomas Latter (S: King's highway through town of Rotherfield; W: messuage and garden of Humphrey Fowle; N

and E: message and backside of Edmund Latter), to use of Thomas Latter for life, and after to Mary Latter for life for her jointure, and after to their heirs

Family Tree

See Tree 2. "John Latter of Rotherfield" in Chapter 1.

10. Will of Edward Latter, Miller of Frant, 1726

(PCC: PROB 11/613/126)

Made: 13 November 1726

Proved: 18 January 1726/7

In the Name of God Amen I **Edward Latter** senior of the parish of Fant als Frant in the County of Sussex Miller being weak of body but sound of mind memory and understanding thanks be given to Almighty God for the same do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament in writing in manner and form following viz: first I bequeath my soul to Almighty God that gave it me trusting in the merits of Jesus Christ my Saviour for remission of my sins and my body I commit to the Earth to be decently buried by my Executrix and Executor hereinafter named and as to the worldly goods it hath pleased the Lord to bestow upon me I give devise and bequeath thereof as followeth Imprimis I give unto **William Latter** my son twenty shillings to be paid to him within one month after my decease by my Executrix and Executor hereafter named Item I give unto **John Latter** of Goudhurst my son twenty shillings to be paid to him within one month after my decease by my Executrix and Executor hereinafter named Item I give unto **Edward Latter** my son and to his heirs forever from Lady Day next all that my Messuage Mill Farm and Lands together with the appurtenances thereunto belonging commonly called or known by the name of pepper Mill and now in my own occupation and in my son **Richard Latter's** lying and being in the parish of Lamberhurst in the County of Sussex on account and with the provision that the said **Edward Latter** my son shall well and duly pay those two several Legacies to **Richard Latter** my son and **Mary the wife of John Rummings** as shall be hereinafter specified that is to say and I herein give and bequeath unto Richard Latter my son three pounds per annum and to his heirs forever out of the said Messuage house Mill farm and Lands called pepper Mill by even equal half yearly payments the first payment to begin at Michaelmas next after my decease and if my said son **Edward** shall not pay any of the said half yearly payments within one and twenty days after they shall become due

[page 2]

Or payable it shall and may be lawfull and my will and mind is my said son **Richard** shall enter and enjoy the same till he or his heirs shall be fully satisfied contented and paid Item I give and bequeath out of the said Messuage Farm and Lands called pepper Mill unto **Mary my Daughter the wife of John Rummings** four pounds per annum during her life and the life of her said husband and after the decease of her my said daughter and the said **John Rummings** her husband I give and bequeath the said sum of four pounds per annum unto their son **Edward Rummings** and to his heirs forever to be paid to them by even and equal half yearly payments and for want of such payments it shall and may be lawful and my will and mind is that he or they shall reenter and enjoy the same till they shall be fully satisfied contented and paid the first payment to begin the next Michaelmas after my decease Item I give unto **Mary** my loving wife and **James** my youngest son whom I make Executrix and Executor jointly together all the rest of my Goods and Chattels ready moneys bills bonds debts hay corn household stuff stock within and without whatsoever or wheresoever unto me belonging to be equally divided betwixt them they paying my Debts Legacies to my said sons **William** and **John** and my funeral expences and my will and mind is that if my said loving wife **Mary** and my son **James** disagree that all my said Goods and whatever else I have herein bequeathed to them together shall be fairly appraised and equally divided betwixt them when my said wife **Mary** shall think convenient and that she the said **Mary** my wife shall have and enjoy the same during her natural life and the remainder after her decease to be equally divided amongst all my children In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this thirteenth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred twenty six – **Ed. Latter** – signed sealed published and declared to be my last Will and Testament contained and written upon one sheet of stampt paper revoking all former Wills and Deeds in the presence

of, the words from Lady Day next being first interlined **Edward Bandoek** his mark **Elizabeth Swift** her mark **Lawrence Foster**

Probatum fuit huiusmodi Testamentum apud London decimo octavo die mensis Januarii Anno Domini Millesimo septingentesimo vicesimo sexto coram venerabili viro Edvardo Kinaston Legum Doctore Surrogato venerabilis et Egregii viri Johannis Bettsworth Legum Doctoris Curia Prerogativa Cantuariensis Magistri Custodis sive Commissarii legitime constituti Juramentis Maria Latter Relicta et Jacobi Latter filii dicti defuncti Executorum in dicto Testamento nominat quibus commissa fuit administratio omnium et singulorum bonorum jurium et creditorum dicti defuncti de bene et fideliter administrando eadem Ad Sancta Dei Evangelia Jurat

Transcribed by Geoffrey Barber, 1 September 2019 (on a flight from Sydney to Perth!)

NOTES:

People

Edward Latter, Miller, testator
Mary Latter, wife, joint executrix
William Latter, son
John Latter of Goudhurst, son
Edward Latter, son
Richard Latter, son
Mary Rummings, daughter, wife of John Rummings
James Latter, youngest son, joint executor
Edward Bandoek, witness
Elizabeth Swift, witness
Lawrence Foster, witness

Places

Frant
Goudhurst
Lamberhurst

Relevant Events

Edward Latter married Mary Botten on 24 Nov 1689 at Lamberhurst, Kent.
Mary Latter married John Rummings[sic] on 15 Dec 1719 at Tonbridge, Kent. Note also a later marriage of a Mary Latter and John Rummings on 4 Apr 1746 at Lamberhurst, Kent.
(Sussex Marriage Index)

Family Tree

See Tree 3. "Edward Latter of Frant" in Chapter 1.

11. Admon of Edward Latter, Yeoman of Hartfield, 1726/27

(Included in Probate Inventory - ESRO: PBT 1/10/1932)

Granted: 18 Feb 1726/27

FamilySearch: Film no: 1067098; Image: 958-959 (Image 959: admon)

Note: the probate inventory has Edmund Latter; the endorsement, note of probate and PBT/1/3/16/165R have Edward Latter

18^o Die Mensis Februarii Anno 1726

Commissa fuit Administraco_ Bonorum &c cujusdam Eduardi Latter nup[er] de Hartfield infra Archi[d]ioconat[um] Lewens[is] ab Intestato defuncti Elizabeth {ae} Latter Vidu {ae} & Relict {ae} Defuncti pls_ Primitus Jurat de fidel[ite]r Administrando Eidem &c Sub Cautione &c P[er] Nos R Lardner Sur^t

18th day of the month of February in the year 1726

Administration of the goods etc. of a certain **Edward Latter** formerly of Hartfield in the Archdeaconry of Lewis deceased intestate was committed to **Elizabeth Latter** widow & relict of the deceased {aforesaid} having first sworn faithfully to administer the same etc. Under bond etc. By us R Lardner Surrogate

Inventory value: £74 12s 4d

Transcribed by Claire Wickens, 9th November 2020

NOTES:

People

Edward Latter, deceased

Elizabeth Latter, wife

Places

Hartfield

Relevant Events

Edward Latter was buried 12 Oct 1726 at St Mary, Hartfield.

Edward Latter married Elizabeth Humphrey on 20 Feb 1725/26 at Hartfield.

They had one daughter, Elizabeth Latter baptised 18 Jan 1726/27 at Hartfield.

(SFHG Indexes)

Family Tree

See Tree 3. "Latter Family of Frant and Lamberhurst (c1630-)" in Chapter 2.

12. Will of James Latter, Yeoman of Frant, 1749

(PCC: PROB 11/774/269)

Made: 19 Apr 1749

Proved: 2 Nov 1749

In the Name of God Amen I **James Latter** Senior of the parish of Fant als Frant in the county of Sussex yeoman being weak in body but of sound mind memory and understanding thanks be given Almighty God for the same do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament in writing in manner and form following viz. First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God that gave it me trusting in the merits of Jesus Christ my Saviour for remission of my sins and my body I commit to the earth to be decently buried by my Executrix herein after named and as to the worldly goods I hath pleased the Lord to bestow upon me I do give and bequeath in manner following Imprimis I give to **Susannah Latter** my loving wife all my houses lands buildings whatsoever or wheresoever lying in the counties of Kent and Sussex with all my bills bonds debts dues and demands with all my stock hay corn husbandry tackling all my household goods both linnen and woollen and all my ready money she paying my debts funeral expences the time of her natural life and after the decease of **Susannah Latter** my loving wife my will and mind is that what there shall be left of all my houses lands buildings stock hay corn bills bonds dues and demands with all the ready money to be divided between my children that shall be then living that is to say my sons **John Latter James Latter and Edward Latter** to have as much more as my daughters **Mary Latter, Susannah Latter Ann Latter Elizabeth Latter Phebe Latter Lydia Latter** revoking all former wills declaring this to be my last will and testament signed sealed this nineteenth day of April one thousand seven hundred forty nine and in the twenty second year of our sovereign Lord George the Second King Defender of the faith – **James Latter** his mark – signed sealed in the presence of **Henry Hostar – John Hilder – John Foster**

This will was proved at London the second day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and forty nine before the right worshipfull John Bettsworth Doctor of Laws Master Degree and commissary of the prerogative court of Canterbury lawfully constituted by the oath of **Susannah Latter** Widow and Executrix according to the tenor of the will to whom Administration was granted of all and singular the Goods chattels and credits of the said deceased being first sworn by commission duly to administer.

Transcribed by Geoffrey Barber, 7 September 2019

NOTES:

People

James Latter senior, yeoman, testator

Susannah Latter, wife, executrix

John Latter, son

James Latter, son

Edward Latter, son

Mary Latter, daughter

Susannah Latter, daughter

Ann Latter, daughter

Elizabeth Latter, daughter

Phebe Latter, daughter

Lydia Latter, daughter

Henry Hostar, witness
John Hilder, witness
John Foster, witness

Places

Frant

Relevant Events

James Latter was baptised 7 Sep 1706 at St Alban, Frant, Sussex son of Edward and Mary Latter.

James Latter married Susannah Beecher on 3 Jun 1729 at Frant, Sussex.

(SFHG Indexes)

James Latter was buried 21 Apr 1749 at Lamberhurst, Kent (Ancestry.com trees, not confirmed)

Family Tree

See Tree 3. “Edward Latter of Frant” in Chapter 1.

13. Will of John Latter of Eastbourne, late of Cliffe nr Lewes, 1756

(ESRO: PBT/1/1/59/276)

Made: 25 August 1755

Proved: 3 January 1756

FamilySearch.org: Film no: 1886024; Image: 605

In the Name of God Amen I **John Latter** late of Cliff near Lewes in the County of Sussex but now of Eastbourne in the said County being infirm in body but of sound and disposing mind memory and understanding but considering the uncertainty of this transitory life do hereby make publish and declare this to be my last Will and Testament in manner and form following (that is to say) Whereas the sum of one hundred pounds is due to me from my nephew **John Latter** on bond bearing date the seventeenth day of May in the year of Our Lord one thousand seven hundred and fifty three It is my will that the said **John Latter** shall have the said sum of one hundred pounds and all benefit arising therefrom after my decease to and for his own proper use and his heirs and assigns for ever And Whereas the sum of one hundred pounds is due to me on bond from **Mr. Thomas Willard** late of Eastbourne in the said County of Sussex It is my Will that when the said sum of one hundred pounds shall be received by my Executor hereinafter named that then my said Executor shall pay the said money unto my heirs **Ann Belson Mary Waters Elizabeth Nicolls Susanna Attree Sarah English** the wife of **William English Ann Attree and Elizabeth Attree** the daughter of **Benjamin Attree** to be equally divided between them share and share alike And Lastly I do make ordain nominate constitute and appoint my said nephew **John Latter** sole Executor of this my last Will and Testament hereby revoking all former Wills by me made and I do declare this only to be my last Will and Testament In witness whereof I the said **John Latter** the Testator have to this my last will and Testament set my hand and seal the twenty fifth day of August in the year of Our Lord one thousand seven hundred and fifty five.

John Latter

The mark of **John Latter**

Signed sealed published and declared by the said **John Latter** the Testator as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who have subscribed our names as Witnesses thereto in the presence of the Testator

Walter Auger

Ann Piddelsden

Charles Stephens

3 January 1756

Then was sworn **John Latter** the only Executor named in the above Will to whom the burthen of the Execution thereof was committed. By us

Ed. Lund Sur.

Transcribed by Geoffrey Barber, 9 November 2020

NOTES:

People

John Latter, testator

John Latter, nephew

Thomas Willard

Ann Belson

Mary Waters
Elizabeth Nicolls
Susanna Attree
Sarah English, wife of William English
William English
Ann Attree
Elizabeth Attree, daughter of Benjamin Attree
Benjamin Attree
Walter Auger, witness
Ann Piddelsden, witness
Charles Stephens, witness

Places

Eastbourne
Cliffe, near Lewes

Relevant Events

John Latter was buried 29 Dec 1755 at St Mary Eastbourne.
He was baptised at Ringmer on 24 Sep 1682, the son of John Latter and Elizabeth Wilding.
It appears he never married.

His nephew John Latter, executor of the above will, is the son of the testator's brother, Gregory Latter and his wife Jane Goffe. Gregory was baptised on 8 Mar 1680 at Ringmer. The nephew John Latter of Eastbourne left a will proved in 1775.

It would appear that John Latter the testator also had a sister Ann Latter who married Joseph Attree on 12 May 1709 at St John sub Castro, Lewes. However, there is no baptism for her in the SFHG index and the marriage to Joseph Attree in 1709 does not record her surname. However, in the above will, John Latter the testator records the children of Joseph and Ann Attree as his heirs in a similar manner to the children of his brother, Gregory Latter.
(SFHG Indexes)

Family Tree

See Tree 5. "Latter Family of Ringmer and Eastbourne (c1650- 1800)" in Chapter 2.

14. Will of Henry Latter, Butcher of Rotherfield, 1770

(ESRO: PBT/1/1/62/326)

Made: 28 Feb 1769

Proved: 13 Dec 1770

FamilySearch: Film no: 1886066; Image: 494

In the Name of God Amen I **Henry Latter** of Rotherfield in the County of Sussex Butcher do this twenty eight day of February one thousand seven hundred and sixty nine make publish and declare my last Will and Testament as follows That is to say First I give and devise to my nephew **Edmund Latter** of Burwash in the County aforesaid Butcher all that my messuage or tenement and all those my lands with all and singular the appurtenances thereunto belonging situate standing and being at Gravelhill in Rotherfield aforesaid to hold to him the said **Edmund Latter** his heirs and assigns for ever I also give and bequeath unto my **two kinswomen** (daughters of **Thomas Latter** late of Tyshurst in the County aforesaid Butcher deceased) the sum of thirty pounds apiece to be paid them respectively by my executor hereinafter named at the several and respective ages of one and twenty years or days of marriage which shall first happen And all the rest and residue of my goods chattels and personal estate whatsoever after my just debts and legacies aforesaid are paid I give and bequeath to my said nephew **Edmund Latter** and I constitute and appoint my said nephew **Edmund Latter** full and sole executor of this my last Will and Testament and do revoke all former Wills and Testaments by me at any time heretofore made and do declare this to be my last Will and Testament In witness whereof I the said **Henry Latter** the testator have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year above written

– **Henry Latter** –

Signed sealed published and declared by the said **Henry Latter** the testatoras and for his last Will and Testatment in the presence of us who have subscribed our names as witnesses thereto in the presence and at the request of the said testator

Thomas Mugridge

William Stapley

Thomas Muddle

Decr 13 1770

Then was sworn **Edmund Latter** sole Executor of this Will to whom was committed the administration of the goods chattels and credits of the deceased and the burden of the execution of the same, by us Wm North Sur.

Transcribed by Geoffrey Barber, 11 September 2019

NOTES:

People

Henry Latter, butcher, testator

Edmund Latter of Burwash, nephew, executor

Thomas Latter of Ticehurst (deceased), kinsman

Two unnamed daughters of Thomas Latter

Thomas Mugridge, witness

William Stapley, witness

Thomas Muddle, witness

Places

Rotherfield

Gravelhill, Rotherfield

Ticehurst

Burwash

Relevant Events

Henry Latter was buried 9 Dec 1770 at Rotherfield St Denys “called ‘Old Sir’”.

Henry Latter was baptised 29 Nov 1696 at Rotherfield St Denys, son of Thomas Latter and Mary Coe.

Thomas Latter deceased is thought to be the brother of his nephew, Edmund Latter, executor of this will. He was buried in 1765 at Ticehurst (“butcher”). The two daughters are Hannah Latter (bap. 1756 at Ticehurst) and Sarah Latter (bap. 1759 at Ticehurst).

(SFHG Indexes)

Family Tree

See Tree 2. “John Latter of Rotherfield” in Chapter 1.

15. Will of John Latter, Yeoman of Eastbourne, 1775

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/63/411)

Made: 23 Apr 1774

Proved: 14 Nov 1775

Familysearch: Film no: 1886067; Image no: 357

In the name of God Amen I **John Latter** of Eastborne in the County of Sussex yeoman being in good health and of sound mind memory and understanding (praised be Almighty God for the same) considering my mortality do make this my last Will and Testament hereby revoking all former Will by me made. And first and principally I recommend my soul unto Almighty God hoping and assuredly believing in and through the merits death and passion of my blessed Saviour Jesus Christ to have free pardon and remission of all my sins and ever lasting life. And being willing and desirous to settle the worldly estate (with which it hath pleased Almighty God of his great goodness to bless me) so that no quarrells or disputes may arise about the same after my death. I give devise bequeath and dispose the same in manner following (that is to say). First I give and devise all my messuages lands tenements hereditaments and premises (as well freehold as copyhold) situate lying and being in the parish of Eastborne aforesaid (the copyholds being duly surrendered to the use of my Will and Testament in writing) and every part and parcel thereof with their and every of their appurtenances unto my dear and loving wife **Elizabeth** for and during the term of her natural life (she committing or suffering to be committed no manner of waste or spoil thereon). And from and after her decease I give and devise all my said freehold and copyhold messuages or tenements lands tenements hereditaments and premises and every part and parcel thereof with their and every of their appurtenances unto my kinsman **Thomas Chapman** of Rotherhith in the County of Surry schoolmaster and **William Smith** of the town and port of Hasting in the said County of Sussex carpenter and their heirs to have and to hold the same unto the said **Thomas Chapman** and **William Smith** and their heirs upon trust and confidence nevertheless and to the intent and purpose that they the said **Thomas Chapman** and **William Smith** or the survivor of them or the heirs of such survivor do and shall with all convenient speed after my said wifes decease sell and dispose of to such person or persons as they my said trustees or the survivor of them or his heirs shall think proper all my said freehold and copyhold messuages or tenements lands tenements hereditaments and premises and every part and parcel thereof either in one or more parcel or parcels lot or lots with their and every of their appurtenances for the best price or prices that can be reasonably had or got for the same. And as soon after as conveniently may be my will and mind is and I do hereby order and direct that my said trustees **Thomas Chapman** and **William Smith** or the survivor of them or his heirs shall and do pay the purchase money arising by such sale or sales (if the premises are sold in more than one parcel or parcels lot or lots) two full third parts thereof unto my sister **Mary Waters** of the town and port of Hasting aforesaid widow (if then living) but if it should happen she should be then dead I give and bequeath the same and I do hereby direct that such two thirds parts shall be paid by my said trustees or the survivor of them or his heirs unto her two daughters **Mary Waters** and **Jenny Waters** share and share alike. And the other third part thereof unto my niece **Jane Parsons** (now the wife of **Charles Parsons** of Southover near Lewes in the said County brick layer). And I give and bequeath such purchase money accordingly subject nevertheless in the first place to my said trustees charges and expences in the execution of the trust before hereby in them reposed or relative thereto. Also I give to my said dear and loving wife **Elizabeth** the sum of twenty pounds of lawfull money of Great Britain to buy her mourning. Also I give to my trusty and faithfull servant **George Bollard** the sum of fifty pounds of like lawfull money to be paid to him by my executors within two months next after my decease. Also I give to **Catherine Chapman** of Eastborne aforesaid spinster the sum of twenty pounds of like lawfull money to be paid to her by my executors within two months next after my decease. Also I give to **Rebecca Bonniface** (now the wife of **George**

Boniface) the sum of ten pounds of like lawfull money to be paid to her by my executors within two months next after my decease. Also I give and bequeath to my God daughter **Lucy Chapman** the sum of ten pounds of like lawfull money to be paid to her by my executors within two months next after my decease. Also I give to my said trustees **Thomas Chapman** and **William Smith** the sum of ten pounds a piece of like lawfull money for the troubles they must necessarily have and be put unto in and about the execution of the trusts hereby in them respectively reposed. Also I give to my Godson **John Latter Lower** the sum of ten pounds of like lawfull money to be paid to him by my executors within two months next after my decease. Also I give and bequeath unto the said **Thomas Chapman** and **William Smith** their executors and administrators all my goods chattels rights credits and personal estate whatsoever and wheresoever upon this special trust and confidence nevertheless and to the end intent and purpose that they the said **Thomas Chapman** and **William Smith** or the survivor of them or the executors and administrators of such survivor shall and do as soon after my death as conveniently may be sell and dispose of the same in such manner as shall be thought most proper by my said trustees or the survivor of them or his executors or administrators. And by and out of the monies arising by such sale or sales thereof in the first place shall and do pay and satisfy all my just debts funeral expences the charges of the probate of this my Will my said trustees charges and expences in and about the execution of the trusts hereby in them respectively reposed and the said several and respective legacies or sums of monies before hereby by me given. And from and after payment thereof then upon this further trust and confidence in them reposed and to the intent and purpose that they the said **Thomas Chapman** and **William Smith** and the survivor of them his executors and administrators do and shall put and place out at interest the residue or overplus (if any) of my personal estate (after such payments as aforesaid) upon Government or such other good security or securities as my said trustees shall approve of or be advised to take for the same or any part thereof and then do and shall from time to time pay the yearly interest dividends and proceed thereof arising unto my said dear and loving wife **Elizabeth** for and during the term of her natural life. And from and after her decease I give and bequeath such residue of my personal estate so placed or before hereby directed to be placed or put out at interest as aforesaid in manner following (that is to say) two full third parts thereof unto my said sister **Mary Waters** (if she be then living)(if not) then I give and bequeath the said two third parts thereof unto her said two daughters **Mary Waters** and **Jenny Waters** to be divided between them share and share alike. And the other third part thereof I give and bequeath unto my said niece **Jane Parsons**. And do hereby direct my said trustees and the survivor of them his executors or administrators to pay and divide such residue accordingly. And I constitute and appoint the said **Thomas Chapman** and **William Smith** executors of this my Will in trust only for the performance thereof provided always and my will and mind nevertheless is and I do hereby expressly declare that it shall and may be lawfull to and for my said trustees and executors and each of them their and each of their heirs executors and administrators and each and every of them in the first place by and out of the said premises hereby given or devised to them or by and out of the monies arising by sale thereof or any part or parts thereof to retain deduct and reimburse to him or themselves respectively all such costs charges and expences as he or they or any or either of them shall sustain expend or be at or put unto in and about the execution of the trusts hereby in them respectively reposed or for or by reason of the performance of this my Will or anything relative thereto. And my will and mind also is and I do hereby likewise expressly declare that my said trustees and executors or either of them their or either of their heirs executors or administrators or any or either of them shall not be answerable or accountable one of them for the other of them or for the acts deeds receipts defaults or disbursements of the other of them but each of them their and each of their heirs executors and administrators (only) for their own respective act or acts deeds receipts defaults or disbursements nor with or for any loss or losses that shall or may happen of the said trust monies and estate or any part thereof so as such loss or losses happen not with their or either of

their wilfull neglect or default. In witness whereof I the said John Latter the testator have to this my last Will and Testament contained in four sheets of paper set my hand and seal to each sheet thereof this twenty third day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy four. **Jno Latter**

Signed sealed published and declared by the said **John Latter** the testator as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who have subscribed our names as witnesses hereto in his presence and in the presence of each other (the words “[as aforesaid]” between the fifth and sixth line of the second sheet being first interlined). **Mary Gilbert; ...? Gilbert; Robert Coles?**

14th Nov 1775

thus were sworn **Thomas Chapman** and **William Smith** the executors in trust named in this Will to whom was committed the burthen of the execution thereof. By us Ed Lund, Sur

Transcribed by Dave Woolven, 5 August 2005

NOTES:

People

John Latter, testator

Places

Eastbourne

Relevant Events

John Latter was buried 4 Nov 1775 at Eastbourne St Mary.

John Latter married Elizabeth Paine on 27 Feb 1736 at Eastbourne.

John Latter was the son of Gregory Latter and Jane Goffe and was baptised 9 Apr 1714 at Eastbourne St Mary.

(SFHG Indexes)

The following documents mention John Latter:

Sixteen sheep leazes on Eastbourne Tenantry Down, purchased by Nicholas Gilbert IV from John Latter's legatees

Date: 1793

East Sussex Record Office: GIL 1/22

Description:

By his will of 1774, **John Latter** of Eastbourne gave all his property to his wife **Elizabeth** for life, with remainder to **Thomas Chapman** of Lambeth (later of Rotherhithe), schoolmaster and **William Smith** of Hastings, carpenter in trust to sell and pay two thirds to his sister **Mary Waters** of Hastings, widow, with remainder to her two daughters **Mary** and **Jenny**, and one third to his niece **Jane**, wife of **Charles Parsons** of Southover, bricklayer (1).

Mary Waters died in 1778 and the trustees sold the estate for 1010. In 1793 the beneficiaries - **Mary** now wife of **Thomas Woodhams** of Hastings and **Jenny** now wife of **Charles Skinner** of Rye, farmer, and **Jane Parsons** of Lewes, widow - received their legacies from **William Smith** (1).

An endorsement on the release indicates that **Nicholas Gilbert IV** purchased the sixteen sheep leazes from the beneficiaries at the same time (1).

Creator(s): Davies-Gilbert family of Eastbourne, East Sussex and Trelissick, Cornwall

Goffs Malthouse in Eastbourne, assigned to Nicholas Gilbert IV by the mortgagee in possession

Date: 1777

East Sussex Record Office: GIL 1/9

Description:

1. Malthouse with a garden plot at or near Upperton Stream to the west and north, in Eastbourne (203 on GIL/3/17/1)
2. Toft, garden plot and piece of land adjoining the malthouse and the road from Eastbourne Town to Upperton House

Richard Goff, mariner, died in 1718 holding premises 1 above, a parcel of freehold land at Wormy (2 acres), a piece of land (1 acres) held of the manor of Eastbourne Gildredge in Eastbourne and a messuage, barn and land (16 acres) in Jevington, held of the manor of Jevington; all the property had been held by his mother **Elizabeth**, the only daughter and heiress of **Nicholas Pepper** of Eastbourne, yeoman (1).

Premises 2 above had been conveyed to Goff's brother-in-law **Gregory Latter** in 1716 and passed at his death to his son **John**, an infant aged 10 [*aged 1 year actually*] (2).

On **Richard Goff's** death 1 above passed to his wife **Frances** but her estate was challenged by Goff's only sister **Jane**, the wife of **Gregory Latter**, tailor. In 1723 an agreement was drawn up whereby **Frances** was to have premises 1 and **Jane** the 2 acres at Wormy. Premises 1 were therefore conveyed by Jane Latter to **Frances Goff** immediately, but it was agreed that premises 2 should be conveyed to her when John reached 21 (1-2).

In 1736 therefore, **John Latter**, now a farmer of Eastbourne, conveyed the property to **Samuel Williams** of London, carpenter, the only son and devisee of **Frances Goffe**, who had made her will at Bermondsey in 1724 (3-5). **Williams**, of St Mildred Bread Street, sold both properties to **Jane Townsett** of Eastbourne, widow, in 1736 (6-7). On her death in 1750 the property, now called Goffs Malthouse (abutting the highway west and north and a narrow lane leading into Hartfield on the east) passed by her will (in which she describes herself as widow and innkeeper) to her son **John**, with remainder to his son John (8).

In 1761 **John Townsett** the elder of Eastbourne, maltster and **John Townsett** the younger of Eastbourne, farmer, mortgaged the property for 60 to **Mary Gilbert** (1733-1811) of Eastbourne, spinster (10). She entered into possession and took the profits and assigned the mortgage to her brother **Nicholas Gilbert** in 1777 (11).

Creator(s): Davies-Gilbert family of Eastbourne, East Sussex and Trelissick, Cornwall

Family Tree

See Tree 5. "Latter Family of Ringmer and Eastbourne (c1650- 1800)" in Chapter 2.

16. Will of John Latter, Yeoman of Frant, 1776

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/63/569)

Made: 2 Mar 1767

Proved: 12 Aug 1776

FamilySearch: Film no: 1886067; Image: 802

In the Name of God Amen I **John Latter** of Frant otherwise Fant in the County of Sussex yeoman being in good health of body and of sound and perfect mind and memory (praise be God) but considering the certainty of death and the uncertainty of time when, therefore do this second day of March in the year of our Lord Christ one thousand seven hundred and sixty seven, make and declare this my last Will and Testament in manner 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 of my Executrix and Executor herein after named, And as to the disposal of such temporal estate as it hath pleased Almighty God to bless me with I give and dispose thereof as follows (that is to say) First I give devise and bequeath unto my youngest daughter **Ann Latter** the sume of ten pounds of lawfull money of Great Britain To be paid unto her by my Executrix and Executor hereafter named within twelve months after my decease Also I give devise and bequeath unto **Elizabeth** my now loving wife all that moiety or full half part the whole to be divided into equal parts of all and singular my goods and chattels whatsoever and wheresoever for and during her natural life and from and after her decease I give and bequeath the same unto and amongst all my daughters to be equally divided betwixt them share and share alike and if it shall happen that any one of my said daughters shall dye leaving a child or children in such case I give and bequeath the said share to that child or children so left I give devise and bequeath unto my only son William Latter all that other moiety or full half part (the whole to be divided into two equal parts) of all my goods and chattels whatsoever and wheresoever to him and his heirs for ever. And I do hereby appoint my brother **Robert Baker** of the Pillory and **John Collens** of Burns both of Goudhurst in the County of Kent yeomen to be trustees of this my last Will and Testament to be therein aiding and assisting and to see that everything be done according to the intent and meaning of this my last Will and Testament, and I do hereby disannul and make void all former will or wills by me made ratifying and confirming this to be my last Will and Testament In witness whereof I the said **John Latter** (the testator) to this my last Will and Testament contained in one sheet of paper have set my hand and seale the day and year first above written.

John Latter

Signed sealed published and declared
by the said John Latter (the testator) as and
for his last Will and Testament in the
presence of us

Witnesses

John Collens

Thos Stapley

William Underhill his mark

12th August 1776 Then was sworn William Latter one of the Executors named in this will to whom was committed the burthen of the execution thereof. Reserved nevertheless a power of granting the like commission to Elizabeth Latter the other Executrix in this will named when she shall come in due form of law to ask for the same By us Edmund Lund

Transcribed by Geoffrey Barber, 10 September 2019

NOTES:

People

John Latter, yeoman, testator

Elizabeth Latter, wife

Ann Latter, youngest daughter

William Latter, only son

Robert Baker, brother-in-law, trustee

John Collens, witness, trustee

Thomas Stapely, witness

William Underhill, witness

Places

Frant

Goudhurst

The Pillory [Farm], Goudhurst

Burns, Goudhurst

Relevant Events

John Latter married Elizabeth Baker on 10 Dec 1721 at Frant (“Elizabeth of Goudhurst; John of Lamberhurst”).

Family Tree

See Tree 3. “Edward Latter of Frant” in Chapter 1.

17. Will of Richard Latter, Yeoman of Lamberhurst, 1781

(PCC: PROB 11/1077/120)

Made: 22 Jan 1781

Proved: 12 Apr 1781

In the Name of God Amen I **Richard Latter** in Lamberhurst in the County of Sussex Yeoman being in a good state of bodily health and of a sound and perfect disposing mind and memory blessed be God for the same but considering the certainty of death and uncertainty of the time when do therefore make and ordain this my last Will and Testament in manner and form as follows First I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God my maker hoping through the merits of my dear redeemer Jesus Christ to have perfect remission and forgiveness of all my sins and my body I commit to the Earth to be decently buried in the Parish Church Yard of Lamberhurst in the County of Kent at the discretion of my Executor and Executrix hereinafter named And for such personal and real estates as it hath pleased God to bless me with I give devise and bequeath of the same as follows First I give devise and bequeath unto my loving son **Richard Latter** of Hoghole in the Parish of Lamberhurst in the county of

[page 2]

Sussex Farmer and unto my loving daughter **Mary Prickett** wife of **Thomas Prickett** of Hoadley in the Parish of Lamberhurst in the County of Sussex aforesaid jointly between them share and share alike all that my messuage or dwelling house with the out buildings lands premises and appurtenances thereto belonging called or known by the name of Skiffs situate in the Parish of Lamberhurst in the County of Kent I say I give devise and bequeath the said farm unto the said **Richard Latter** and **Mary Prickett** equally betwixt them share and share alike and to their heirs and assigns for ever Also I give and bequeath unto my loving son and daughter **Richard Latter** and **Mary Prickett** equally between them all my personal estate whatsoever and wheresoever in the Kingdom of England or elsewhere share and share alike I say I give and bequeath the same unto the said **Richard Latter** and **Mary Prickett** equally betwixt them share and share alike their heirs and assigns for ever But my will is and I would have it so read and understood that notwithstanding what I have abovesaid I hereby give and bequeath unto my said son **Richard Latter** all my wearing apparel both linen woollen and leather that I shall have at my decease Also I give and bequeath unto my loving son **Thomas Latter** of Mayfield in the County of Sussex farmer the sum of ten shillings of lawful money of Great Britain Also I give and bequeath unto my loving son **William Latter** of Penshurst in the County of Kent the sum of ten shillings of like lawfull money as aforesaid which said two legacies I hereby appoint to be paid by my Executor and Executrix within twelve months next after my decease And I hereby appoint my loving son **Richard Latter** and **Mary Prickett** Executor and Executrix to this my last Will and Testament whom I charge with the payment of all my debts funeral expences and probate of this my Will equally between them share and share alike And I also hereby appoint my two good friends **Thomas Foster** of Lamberhurst in the County of Sussex Grocer and **Thomas Cripps** of Lamberhurst in the County of Kent Innkeeper to be my two trustees to this my last Will and Testament to see that the same is duly and truly executed according to the tenor and meaning thereof to each of them I give and bequeath the sum of five shillings of like lawfull money as aforesaid to be paid by my Executor and Executrix upon demand And I hereby make null and void all former and other Will and Wills by me heretofore made acknowledging this and no other to be my last Will and Testament contained in this one sheet of paper unto which I the said **Richard Latter** the testator have hereunto set my hand and seal this twenty second day of January in the twenty first year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third by the Grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith and so forth and in the year of our Lord Christ one thousand seven hundred and eighty one **Richard R Latter** his mark Signed

Sealed published and declared by the said **Richard Latter** the testator to be his last Will and Testament who in his presence and in the presence of each other and at his request did sign our [page 3]

names as witnesses hereto Richd Taylor Sarah Taylor Thos Smith

This Will was proved at London the twelfth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty one before the worshipful Peter Calvert Doctor of Laws Master keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury lawfully constituted by the oaths of Richard Latter the son and Mary Prickett wife of Thomas Prickett the daughter of the deceased and Executors named in the said Will to who Administration was granted of all and singular the goods chattels and credits of the said deceased they having been first sworn duly to administer.

Transcribed by Geoffrey Barber, 14 September 2019

NOTES:

People

Richard Latter, farmer, testator

Richard Latter of Hoghole, farmer, son, joint executor

Mary Prickett, daughter, wife of Thomas Prickett, joint executrix

Thomas Prickett of Hoadley, son-in-law

William Latter of Penshurst, son

Thomas Latter of Mayfield, farmer, son

Thomas Foster, grocer of Lamberhurst, friend, trustee

Thomas Cripps, innkeeper of Lamberhurst, friend, trustee

Richard Taylor, witness

Sarah Taylor, witness

Thomas Smith, witness

Places

Lamberhurst, Kent

Hoghole, Lamberhurst, Kent

Hoadley, Lamberhurst, Kent

Skiffs, Lamberhurst, Kent

Mayfield, Sussex

Penshurst, Kent

Family Tree

See Tree 3. "Edward Latter of Frant" in Chapter 1.

18. Will of Edmund Latter, Butcher of Burwash, 1790

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/63/569)

Made: 18 Jan 1790

Proved: 23 Mar 1790

FamilySearch: Film no: 1886070; Image: 648

In the Name of God Amen I **Edmund Latter** of Burwash in the County of Sussex Butcher being weak in body but of sound and disposing mind memory and understanding (praised be Almighty God for the same) do this eighteenth day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety make publish and declare this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following (that is to say) I will and direct that all my just debts funeral expences and charges of proving this my will be in the first place fully paid and satisfied by and out of my personal estate I give devise and bequeath unto my son **Edward Latter** his heirs and assigns All that my messuage or tenement with the outhouses edifices buildings garden piece or parcel of land hereditaments and appurtenances thereto belonging called or known by the name of Peeps Field or howsoever otherwise called or known situate lying and being in the parish of Rotherfield in the said County of Sussex and now in the tenure or occupation of **Edward Farmer** his assigns or undertenants and also all and every other my messuages lands tenements and hereditaments with their appurtenances situate lying and being in the parish of Rotherfield aforesaid To hold the same and every part thereof unto and to the use of my said son **Edward Latter** and of his heirs and assigns forever Iso I give and bequeath unto my said son **Edward Latter** the sum of fifty pounds of lawful money of Great Britain to be paid to him by my Executrix hereinafter named within twelve months after my decease by and out of my personal estate Also I give and bequeath unto my daughter **Hannah Wharfe** the sum of thirty pounds of like lawful money to be paid to her by my Executrix hereinafter named within twelve months after my decease by and out of my personal estate. Also I give devise and bequeath unto my dear and loving wife **Mary Latter** her Heirs Executors Administrators and Assigns the sum of one hundred pounds of lawful money of Great Britain now due and owing to me on a mortgage or security of a messuage or tenement buildings garden and hereditaments with the appurtenances situate lying and being in Battle in the said County of Sussex and now in the tenure or occupation of **John Twine** his assigns or undertenants together with all interest that shall be due for the same at the time of my decease and all my estate right title interest and term of years in the said last mentioned messuage or tenement hereditaments and premises To hold the same and every part thereof unto and to the use of my said wife **Mary Latter** and of her Heirs Executors Administrators and Assigns forever in as full large ample and beneficial manner to all intents and purposes as I now have hold and enjoy the same Also I give and bequeath unto my said wife **Mary Latter** her Executors Administrators and Assigns all the Rest Residue and Remainder of my ready moneys and securities for money And also all my and every my household goods implements of household plate linen china books goods chattels cattle husbandry tackle debts effects and personal estate whatsoever and wheresoever and of what nature kind or quality soever the same

Signed **Edmund Latter**

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be (not by me hereinbefore already otherwise disposed of) whereof I shall die possessed and which shall be any ways due owing or belonging to me at the time of my decease and all my estate and interest therein To hold the same and every part thereof unto my said wife **Mary Latter** her Executors Administrators and Assigns absolutely and for ever. And also I do hereby make nominate constitute and appoint my said wife **Mary Latter** sole Executrix of this my last Will and Testament and do hereby revoke and make void all former and other wills and codicils be me at any time or times heretofore made In witness whereof I the said **Edmund Latter** the Testator have to this my last Will and Testament contained in this and the preceding sheet of paper set my

hand and seal (to wit) my hand to the preceding sheet and my hand and seal to this last sheet the day and year first above written

Edmund Latter

The writing contained in this and the preceding sheet of paper was signed and sealed by the above named **Edmund Latter** the testator and by him published and declared as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses hereto in his presence at his request and in the presence of each other

William Constable

William Apps

James Philcox

March 23 1790

Then was sworn **Mary Latter** sole Executrix of this will to whom was committed the administration of the goods chattels and credits of the Testator and the burden of the execution of the same, by us

Wm North Sur.

Sworn also that the effects are under £600

On the 20th day of August 1833

Because **Mary Latter** the sole Executrix in this will named (who afterwards intermarried with and became the wife of **Zebulon Newington**) lately departed this life intestate leaving divers goods chattels & credits of the said Testator unadministered and undisposed of therefore administration of all and singular the goods chattels and credits of the said Testator left unadministered as aforesaid with his will annexed was granted to **Edward Latter** of Salehurst labourer the only son of the said Testator he being first sworn duly to administer and that the said goods chattels & credits are under the value twenty pounds

Under due caution by us

J.B. Hayley sur.

Administration de bonis non passed the seal 12 Sep 1833.

Transcribed by Geoffrey Barber, 10 September 2019

NOTES:

People

Edmund Latter, butcher, testator

Mary Latter, wife, executrix

Edward Latter of Salehurst, only son

Hannah Wharfe, daughter

Zebulon Newington, Mary Latter's second husband

Edward Farmer of Rotherfield, tenant

John Twine of Battle, tenant

William Constable, witness

William Apps, witness

James Philcox, witness

Places

Burwash
Rotherfield
Battle
Salehurst

Relevant Events

Edmund Latter was buried 2 Feb 1790 at Burwash St Bartholomew.

Edmund Latter was baptised 2 Jul 1733 at Burwash St Bartholomew, son of Edmund Latter and Hannah Russell.

Edmund Latter married Mary Vigor on 11 Apr 1757 at Burwash.

Their son Edward Latter was baptised 5 Nov 1757 at Burwash. He was buried on 28 Mar 1839 at Salehurst (“age 80 years, Robertsbridge”)

Their daughter Hannah Latter was baptised 27 Dec 1761 at Burwash. She married James Wharfe on 4 Feb 1782 at St George Hanover Square, London. Their last child, Harriot, was born 23 Nov 1790 in London. The family emigrated to Annapolis, Maryland, USA about 1795 and Hannah died either in England, in transit to America or shortly after in Maryland. James remarried in 1796 at Annapolis and died in 1828 at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania aged 69 years..

Edmund’s first wife Mary Vigor was buried at Burwash on 19 Jun 1778. He then married Mary Easden on 4 Apr 1782 at Burwash. After Edmund’s death in 1790, his widow Mary Latter married Zebulon Newington of Newenden, Kent, on 29 Jun 1792 at Burwash.

Family Tree

See Tree 2. “John Latter of Rotherfield” in Chapter 1.

19. Will of Elizabeth Latter, Widow of Eastbourne, 1793

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/66/570)

Made: 17 April 1786

Proved: 19 January 1793

FamilySearch: Film no: 1886098; Image: 297-299

In the Name of God Amen I **Elizabeth Latter** of Eastbourne in the County of Sussex Widow, do make publish and declare this my last Will and testament in manner following: First and principally I resign my soul into the Hands of Almighty God, hoping and believing in redemption of all my sins, through the sole merits and mediation of my Blessed Saviour and Redeemer Jesus Christ, and my body I commit to the Earth, desiring that my sister **Mary Geering** and **George Chapman** of Eastbourne aforesaid Brewer, whom I appoint my Executrix and Executor will bury me in a coffin lined within and without, in the same manner that my husband was buried. And my Worldly Estate I dispose as follows (that is to say) I give and bequeath to **Elizabeth Beckett**, wife of **John Beckett** of Eastbourne aforesaid Butcher, the sum of five pounds and one of my best table cloths. Also I give and bequeath to **Catherine Arthur**, wife of **James Arthur** of Eastbourne aforesaid Mariner, the sum of five pounds and a pair of my best home made sheets. Also I give and bequeath to my Godson **Richard Beckett** of Eastbourne aforesaid Mariner the sum of five pounds. Also I give and bequeath to my nephew **Charles Ballard** of the City of Westminster Taylor the sum of ten pounds and I likewise give the said **Charles Ballard** my silk counterpane and my pair of Tooth and Egg Candlesticks All which legacies aforesaid I order and direct to be paid by my Executrix and Executor within six months next after my decease Also I give to Master **Edward Alfrey** of Friston in the County aforesaid one guinea to buy him a mourning ring. Also I give to my nephew **John Payn** my watch and a silver table spoon Also I give to my nephew **George Payn** my silver punch ladle and a silver table spoon Also I give to my niece **Ann Payn** six silver tea spoons and my silver tea tongs. Also I give to my niece **Elizabeth Payn** six silver tea spoons. Also I give to my niece **Mary Payn** all the furniture of my parlour and all the furniture of my parlour chamber Also I give to my nephew **William French Payn** a silver table spoon. Also I give to **Mrs Mary Lushington** of Eastbourne aforesaid my two china drinking mugs and a small china bason¹² and saucer. Also I give to **Thomas Chapman** (son of the said **George Chapman**) a piece of Spanish coin for a pocket piece Also I give to **George Nicholas Soloman Chapman** (also son of the said **George Chapman**) a piece of Spanish coin and my six prints framed and glazed and my pierglass¹³ in my hall. Also I give to **Elizabeth Ballard** daughter of **George Ballard** my nephew, my mourning ring I had for my husband Also I give to **Lucy Chapman**, daughter of **Thomas Chapman** of South Lambeth in Surrey School Master, my mourning ring with the name of **Richard Exeter** on it. Also I give to her sister **Susanna Chapman** a gold

Eliz Latter

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ring I received from **Mrs Keays**. Also I give to my sister **Mary Geering** my thirty hour clock and my wearing apparel. Also I give and bequeath unto my brother **George Payn** my eight day clock and my case of knives and forks. Also I do forgive unto my brother **George Payn** the sum of eighty three pounds and six pence that he owes me upon his Note of Hand, and I give him the said Note Also I do forgive unto **Jane Parsons** of Saint John Baptist Southover in the County of Sussex aforesaid Widow all the monies that she shall be any ways indebted to me at the time of my death Also I give to my maid servant that shall be living with me at the time of my death the sum of forty shillings to buy her mourning. Also I give to my said Executor **George Chapman** the sum of five guineas to his own use Also I give and bequeath unto my Executrix and Executor

¹² bason is an obsolete word for basin.

¹³ a large mirror, used originally to fill wall space between windows

the sum of one hundred and sixty pounds to be by them as soon as conveniently can be after my decease placed out at interest on Government or some other good security and the interest arising therefrom to be from time to time paid unto my said sister **Mary Geering** and my brother **George Payn** equally between them And after the death of eith my said sister **Mary Geering** or my brother **George Payn** that then I give the interest of the said one hundred and sixty pounds unto the survivor or them during his or her natural life And after the death of my said sister **Mary Geering** and my brother **George Payn**, that then I give the said principal sum of one hundred and sixty pounds to all and every the children of my said brother **George Payn** that shall be then living equally to be divided between them share and share alike And as for all the rest and residue of my personal estate not hereinbefore by me disposed of after my just debts and funeral expences are paid I give and bequeath the same and every part thereof unto my said sister **Mary Geering** and my brother **George Payn** equally to be divided between them share and share alike And my will is and I do hereby expressly declare that my said Executrix and Executor shall not be charged or chargeable with or accountable for more of my monies and effects than they shall actually receive or shall come to her his or their hands respectively by virtue of this my

Eliz Latter

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will, or with or for any loss which shall happen of the said monies and effects, so as such loss happen without their or either of their wilful default and neglect And also that it shall and may be lawful for my said Executrix and Executor in the first place out of my personal estate to deduct and reimburse her him and themselves all such loss costs charges and expences as they or either of them shall sustain expend or be put unto for or by reason of the performance of this my Will or the management or execution thereof or any other thing in any wise relating thereto And Lastly I hereby revoke all former Wills by me made In Testimony whereof I the said **Elizabeth Latter** the Testatrix have to this my last Will and Testament contained in three sheets of paper set my hand and seal to each sheet thereof this seventeenth day of April 1786 in the year or our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty six.

Eliz Latter

Signed sealed published and declared by the said **Elizabeth Latter** the Testatrix as and for her last Will and Testament in the presence of us who at her request in her presence and in the presence of each other have subscribed our names as witnesses thereto The line between the thirteenth and fourteenth lines of the first shее being first interlined and wrote

Thos. Hart

Matthew Richardson

19th January 1793

Then was sworn **George Chapman** the Executor in this will and codicil named to whom was committed the burthen of the execution thereof / Power being reserved of granting the like commission to **Mary Geering** the Executrix therein named when etc / Sworn also that the goods chattels and credits of the said deceased do not amount in value unto £300

By us

W. Gwynne Sur.

20th May 1797

Then was sworn **Mary Geering** the Executrix named in this Will to whom was committed the burthen of the Execution thereof (sworn also that the goods chattels and credits of the said deceased do not amount in value unto three hundred pounds.

By Us

E. R. Raynes Sur.

NOTES:

People

Elizabeth Latter, widow, testator
Mary Geering, sister, joint executrix
George Payn, brother
George Chapman, brewer of Eastbourne, joint executor
Elizabeth Beckett, wife of John Beckett
John Beckett, butcher of Eastbourne
Catherine Arthur, wife of James Arthur
James Arthur, mariner of Eastbourne
Richard Beckett, godson, mariner of Eastbourne
Charles Ballard, nephew, tailor of Westminster
Master Edward Allfrey of Friston
John Payn, nephew
George Payn, nephew
Ann Payn, niece
Elizabeth Payn, niece
Mary Payn, niece
William French Payn, nephew
Mrs Mary Lushington of Eastbourne
Thomas Chapman, son of George Chapman
George Nicholas Soloman Chapman, son of George Chapman
George Ballard, nephew
Elizabeth Ballard, daughter of George Ballard
Lucy Chapman, daughter of Thomas Chapman
Susanna Chapman, sister of Lucy Chapman
Thomas Chapman, schoolmaster of South Lambeth, Surrey
Richard Exeter
Mrs Keays
Jane Parsons, widow of Saint John Baptist Southover [Lewes]
Thomas Hart, witness
Matthew Richardson, witness

Places

Eastbourne
Friston
Southover [near Lewes]
Lambeth, Surrey
Westminster

Relevant Events

Elizabeth Latter was buried 10 Feb 1792 at St Mary Eastbourne.
Elizabeth Paine married John Latter on 27 Feb 1736 at Eastbourne.
John Latter was buried on 4 Nov 1775 at Eastbourne St Mary. He left a will (ESRO: PBT 1/1/63/411).
(SFHG Indexes)

Family Tree

See Tree 5. “Latter Family of Ringmer and Eastbourne (c1650- 1800)” in Chapter 2.

20. Will of Henry Latter, Yeoman of Rotherfield, 1802

(ESRO: PBT 1/1/68/1040)

Made: 10 Sep 1799

Proved: 3 Dec 1802

FamilySearch.org: Film no: 1886100; Image: 952

In the Name of God Amen I **Henry Latter** of Pales Gate in the parish of Rotherfield in the County of Sussex yeoman being weak in body but of sound and disposing mind memory and understanding praised be God for the same do this tenth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety nine make publish and declare this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following (that is to say) First, I give and devise unto my Dear Wife **Sarah Latter** all those my two copyhold cottages garden and premises with the appurtenances thereunto belonging and which I have surrendered to the use of my will situate lying and being at Pales Gate aforesaid and now in the occupation of me the said **Henry Latter** and my son **Henry Latter** To hold the same copyhold cottages gardens and premises unto my said wife Sarah Latter and her assigns during the term of her natural life and from and immediately after her decease I give devise and bequeath unto my said son **Henry Latter** all that one moiety and copyhold cottage garden and premises with the appurtenances thereunto belonging and now in occupation of him my said son **Henry Latter** situate as aforesaid To have and to hold the said moiety and copyhold cottage garden and premises with the appurtenances unto him my said son **Henry Latter** his heirs and assigns for ever Also from and immediately after the decease of my said wife **Sarah Latter** I give devise and bequeath unto my son **William Latter** all that my other moiety and copyhold cottage gardens and premises with the appurtenances thereunto belonging now in my own occupation to have and to hold the same moiety and copyhold cottage garden and premises with the appurtenances unto him my said son **William Latter** his heirs and assigns for ever. Also I give and bequeath all my personal estate whatsoever and wheresoever and of what nature kind and quality soever the same may be after payment of my debts funeral expences and the expence of proving this my will unto my Dear Wife the said **Sarah Latter** sole Executrix of this my last Will and Testament hereby revoking all former and other Wills and Testaments by me at any time heretofore made In witness whereof I have to this my last Will and Testament set my hand and seal the day and year first above written

The mark and seal of **Henry Latter**

Signed sealed published and declared by the said testator Henry Latter as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who at his request in his presence and in the presence of each other subscribed our names as witnesses thereto

George Bankin Jun.

John Bryant

Edwd Okill Dadswell

3rd December 1802 Then was sworn **Sarah Latter** the sole executrix named in this will To whom was committed the burthen of the execution thereof (sworn also that the goods chattels and credits of the said deceased do not amount in value unto one hundred pounds) by us

W Gwynne Sur.

Transcribed by Geoffrey Barber, 11 September 2019

NOTES:

People

Henry Latter, yeoman, testator
Sarah Latter, wife, executrix
Henry Latter, son
William Latter, son
George Bankin Jun., witness
John Bryant, witness
Edward Okill Dadswell, witness

Places

Rotherfield
Pales Gate, Rotherfield

Relevant Events

Henry Latter's burial cannot be found in the SFHG indexes or on Familysearch.
Henry Latter was baptised 27 Dec 1732 at Rotherfield St Denys, son of Simon and Hannah Latter.
Henry Latter married Sarah Hards on 26 Dec 1755 at Rotherfield St Denys.

Family Tree

(People who left wills/admons highlighted. All places in Sussex except where shown.)

21. Will of Thomas Latter, Farmer of Mayfield, 1804

(ESRO: PBT/2/1/10/615B)

Made: 7 Aug 1804

Proved: 9 Oct 1804

FamilySearch.org: Film no: 1067012; Image: 204-207

In the Name of God Amen I **Thomas Latter** of Mayfield in the County of Sussex Farmer being sick and weak in body but of sound and disposing mind memory and understanding (praised be God for the same) do this seventh day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and four make publish and declare my last Will and Testament in manner and form following (that is to say) First I give and bequeath unto my dear wife **Ann** one bed with the staddle hanging bolster two pillows two pillowcoats two pair of sheets two blankets and one coverlid thereto belonging being the same which was her property previous to our intermarriage to be delivered to her forthwith after my decease by my Executors hereafter named To her own proper use and benefit Also I give and bequeath unto my eldest son Lawrence Latter my set of horse bells to his own proper use and benefit Also I give and bequeath unto my three sons **Lawrence Thomas and Joseph** nine pair of my

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best homemade sheets and all my wearing apparel The same to be delivered to and equally allotted and divided among them in such manner as my trustees shall in their discretion think proper Also I give and bequeath unto my said wife **Ann** and her assigns for and during the term of her natural life one annuity or clear yearly sum of ten pounds of lawful money of the united Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland current in England The same to be paid to her by two equal half yearly payments in the year (that is to say) on Lady Day and Michaelmas Day the first payment thereof to begin and be made on the first of the said days as shall next happen after my decease All the rest residue and remainder of my personal estate whatsoever and wheresoever (whether consisting of household goods ready money securities for money live stock corn hay straw husbandry tackling or of what other nature or kind) I give and bequeath unto my good friends **John Pomfret Blackman** of Wadhurst in the said county Surgeon and **John Paine the younger** of Mayfield aforesaid Timber Merchant their Executors and Administrators In Trust nevertheless that they do and shall as soon as conveniently may be after my decease sell dispose of and convert into ready money all such part of my said personal estate as shall not be in ready money and pay and apply such part of my ready money and the money to arise by sale as aforesaid as shall be -(**Thomas Latter** -) found necessary in for and towards the payment and discharge of all my just debts my funeral expences the charges of proving this my will and

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other incidental expences And from and after payment and discharge thereof And subject to the aforesaid annuity of ten pounds (to answer it shall be lawful for my said Trustees to retain or keep out at interest an appropriate sum during the natural life of my said wife Ann) Upon further trust that they my said Trustees or the survivor of them his Executors or Administrators do and shall pay over and divide three fourth parts of the said monies arising from my said personal estate remaining in their hands unto my said three sons **Lawrence Thomas and Joseph Latter** equally to be divided between them share and share alike To their several and respective use and uses and I give and bequeath the same to them accordingly And Upon Trust also that my said Trustees **John Pomfret Blackman** and **John Paine** or the survivor of them his Executors or Administrators do and shall place out and invest in their names the remaining or other fourth part of the said monies arising from my said personal estate remaining in their hands upon Government or other good and sufficient security or securities as they in their discretion shall think proper And from time to time call in and place out and invest the same again upon securities of the like nature and do and shall pay and apply the interest dividends income and profits thereof when and so often as the same shall become due and be received by them into the proper hands of my daughter **Mary**

(the wife of **John Standen the younger**) for and during the term of her natural life And I do hereby order and direct that the receipt of my said daughter **Mary** shall from time to time (not withstanding her coverture) be a good and sufficient discharge to my said Trustees for the payment thereof And from and after the decease of my said daughter **Mary** then upon this special Trust and confidence that they

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the said **John Pomfret Blackman** and **John Paine** or the survivor of them his Executors or Administrators do and shall call in the said monies so directed to be placed out at interest as aforesaid and pay over the same unto my two grandchildren **John Standen** and **Thomas Standen** (the two sons of my said daughter **Mary**) equally to be divided between them share and share alike to their several and respective use and uses provided they shall both of them live to attain the age of twenty one years but in case one of my said two grandchildren shall happen to die before he attains the age of twenty one years Then upon Trust to pay over the whole of the said monies so directed to be ~~-(**Thomas Latter** -)~~ placed out at interest as aforesaid unto the survivor or other of them to his own proper use and benefit And if it shall happen that both my said grandchildren shall die before they arrive to the age of twenty one years Then upon further Trust to pay the said monies so directed to be placed out at interest as aforesaid unto my aforesaid three sons **Lawrence Thomas and Joseph Latter** equally to be divided between them share and share alike To their several and respective use and uses and I give and bequeath the same in manner aforesaid accordingly And I make nominate constitute and appoint them the said **John Pomfret Blackman** and **John Paine** joint Executors of this my last Will and Testament And do also appoint them guardians over the persons and estates of my said three sons **Lawrence Thomas and Joseph** until they shall

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attain their respective ages of twenty one years and my Will is and I do hereby order and direct that it shall and may be lawful for my said Trustees and Executors and the survivor of them his Executors and Administrators to deduct and retain out of the monies coming to their hands All such losses costs charges and expences as they any or either of them shall or may sustain or be at or put unto in and about the Trusts and execution of this my Will together with a reasonable allowance for their time and trouble therein And also that my said Trustees and Executors shall not be answerable or accountable for any more money than what shall come to their hands and be actually received by them nor for any money that may happen to be lost by any bad security or securities unless the same be so lost by or thro' their wilful and corrupt default or neglect nor shall the one of them be answerable of accountable for the acts receipts defaults or neglect of the other of them but each of them for himself only and for his own separate acts receipts defaults or neglect And lastly I do hereby revoke all former Wills by me made and declare this only to be my last Will and Testament In Testimony whereof I the said **Thomas Latter** the Testator have to the two first sheets of this my last Will and Testament (contained in three sheets of paper) set my hand and to this the third and last sheet thereof my hand and seal also the day and year first abovewritten

Thomas Latter

Signed sealed published and declared by the said **Thomas Latter** the Testator as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who in his

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presence at his request and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses

R^d. O^f. Stone

T. Sawyer Weller

The Will of **Thomas Latter** late of Mayfield within the Deanery of Southmalling in the county of Sussex Farmer deceased was proved the ninth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and four before the **Reverend Edward Robert Raynes** Clerk Surrogate and so

forth upon the oaths of **John Pomfret Blackman** and **John Paine the younger** the Executors named in the said Will to whom was committed the administration of the goods etc of the Testator They being first sworn well and faithfully to administer the same and so forth And also that the said goods etc were under the value of one thousand pounds.

Transcribed by Geoffrey Barber, 3 November 2020

NOTES:

People

Thomas Latter, farmer, testator

Ann Latter, wife

Lawrence Latter, son

Thomas Latter, son

Joseph Latter, son

Mary Standen, wife of John Standen the younger, daughter

John Standen, grandson

Thomas Standen, grandson

John Pomfret Blackman of Wadhurst, County Surgeon, friend, joint executor

John Paine the younger of Mayfield, Timber Merchant, friend, joint executor

R^d. O^r. Stone, witness

T. Sawyer Weller, witness

Places

Mayfield

Wadhurst

Relevant Events

Thomas Latter's burial cannot be found in the SFHG indexes or on Familysearch.

Thomas Latter married Ann Lawrence on 7 Sep 1779 at Mayfield.

He possibly remarried in 1797 as a Thomas Latter, widower, married Ann Moon, widow, on 1 Jun 1797 at Mayfield, "both of this parish", however a burial has not been found for his first wife.

(SFHG Indexes)

Family Tree

See Tree 3. "Edward Latter of Frant" in Chapter 1.

Chapter 3 - Other Related Wills and Documents

22. Will of William Heath, Yeoman of Rotherfield, 1636

(ESRO: PBT/1/1/24/84B)

Made: 4 Aug 1635

Proved: 28 Apr 1636

'In the name of god amen I **William Heath** of Rotherfeild in the Countie of Sussex yeoman being of pfect memorie doe this fourth daie of August in the Eleventh yeere of the Raigne of our soveraigne Charles [1635] by the grace of god Kinge of England Scotland France & Ireland defender of the faith &c make & declare this my last will and teastam't in manner & forme following Inprimis I give [& devise – crossed out] my soule to god my Creator my bodie I will shalbe buried in the earth. Itm I give & devise unto my three Children **Edmond Heath Robert Heath & Elizabeth Heath** five pounds apeece to be paid to them at their sev'rall ages of one & twentie yeeres or daies of marriage wch shall first happen All the rest of my goods cattells [capital] & chattells whatsoever I give & devise unto **Anne** my loveing wife & I make & ordeine my said loveing wife sole executrix of this my last will & teastament In wittnes whereof I have hereunto sett my hand & seale the daie & yeare first abovewritten.

[signed] Willm Heath.

Wittnes unto his will

Nicholas Jeames

Thomas Weller jun.'

[Latin] Probate 28 April 1636 on the oath of **Anne Heath**, the relict of the said deceased and Executrix.

Transcribed by Gillian Rickard, 2011 for Geoffrey Barber

NOTES:

People

William Heath, yeoman, testator

Anne Heath, wife

Edmond Heath, son

Robert Heath, son

Elizabeth Heath, daughter

Nicholas Jeames [James], witness

Thomas Weller jun., witness

Places

Rotherfield

23. Will of Thomas Barber, Husbandman of Tonbridge, 1683

(KHLIC: DRa/PW4)

Made: 28 Oct 1683

Proved: 14 Dec 1683

In the name of God Amen the eigh and twentieth of Octobar in 1683 I **Thomas Barbar** of tonbridg in the county of kent husbane man being at this present of sound and parfect minde and memory prayed bee God but sick and weake in body doe therfore make and ordayne this to be my last Testament and will In manner and forme following first and principallye I will and resigne my soule into the hands of God my maker hoping To have pardn for all my sins throe the merits deth and resurrikion of Jesus Christ my alon Redemar and my body I commit to the earth in such desent mannar to bee buried as mine Ex[ecutrix] hereaftar named shall thinke fite And as concerning that estate aswell reall as parsonall which god of his mercy hath lent me here on earth I orden will and dispose of as followith that is to say I will and giv unto **mary** my loving wif all my lands lying in Rearfel [Rotherfield] in the couty of sothsex known by the name of Dreapars or by any other name or names what so ever for term of har natarall life with libarty to sell the timbar now standing theron within the spas of thre years aftar my desis preserving the under wads [underwoods ?] and timbar that shall renew grow or incres theron derring har natarall life and aftar har deses for the yeus of my to sons **Ricard Barbar** and **Thomas Barbar** paying therout to **Elizabeth Barbar** my daftar the some of forty and fif poundes with in too years aftar my wifs deses the rest of my Goods and chatells watever to my wif toward bringing up of my thre children **Richard Thomas** and **Elizabeth** I likwis make and ordayn **mary** my wif soll exsecutar of this my testamint and last will and to pay my depts and fenarall charges wher unto I have set my hand and sill

The marke of **Thomas Barbar**

Aftar har disis and

To **mary** my wif was entalined

Befor the selling herof did

Selid and delevered befor

The mark of **William Ousbun**

The marke of **John mepam**

Richard Polhill

Decemb. 14 1683

[in Latin] the executrix of this testament made oath before me **Joh: Stileman** surrogate.'

Transcribed by Gillian Rickard, 2010 for Geoffrey Barber

NOTES:

People

Thomas Barber, husbandman, testator

Mary Barber, wife, executrix

Richard Barber, son

Thomas Barber, son

Elizabeth Barber, daughter

William Ousbun [Osborn], witness

John Mepam [Mepham], witness

Richard Polhill

Places

Tonbridge
Rotherfield

Family Tree

See Tree 1. “Edmund Latter of Rotherfield” in Chapter 1.

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