

## **Will of Stephen Bearman of Wix, farmer, 1795**

This is the last Will and Testament of me, Stephen Bearman of Wix in the County of Essex farmer, made in the time of my Health and Strength of Memory.

First I do hereby give and devise unto my daughter **Ann Gilbert Wade**, the Wife of **William Wade** of Tendring in the County aforesaid Wheelwright, all those my three several cottages or Tenements situate, lying and being in Wix aforesaid and now in the several tenures of **John Peck, Cornelius Angier** and **Susannah Birch** singlewoman. To hold the same with their and every of their rights, commons, members and appurtenances unto my said Daughter **Ann Gilbert Wade** and her assigns for and during the term of her natural life. And from and immediately after her decease, then I give and devise all and every the same cottages or tenements and premises with their appurtenances unto all and every the children of my said Daughter that shall be living at her decease, equally, and their respective heirs as tenants in common and not as join tenants.

Also I do hereby give and devise unto my loving wife **Mary** all that cottage or tenement (now unoccupied) with the appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate and being in the Parish of Wix aforesaid, for and during the term of her natural life, provided she shall so long continue my widow. And from and immediately after her decease or marriage, which shall first happen, I do give and devise the said last mentioned cottage or tenement with the appurtenances unto my said daughter (provided my said wife shall be then dead or married again). Then I give and devise all and singular the said last mentioned cottage or tenement and premises with the appurtenances unto all and every the children of my said daughter [condition as above].

And it is my will and mind and I do order and direct my executors hereinafter named as soon as conveniently may be after my decease, to make sale of all and every my implements in farming, household goods, stock within doors and without, goods and chattels whatsoever, which I shall be possessed of at the time of my decease. And the moneys therefrom arising together with the monies I shall die possessed of at my decease (after payment of all and every my just debts, funeral expenses, the charges of proving this my will and other incident expences, together with the legacys herein after bequeathed, I do hereby order and direct my executors to place out at interest on Government or good land security and alter and change the said security and securitys as often as they shall think proper. And from and out of the interest, dividends and proceed thereof, I give and bequeath unto my said loving wife **Mary** the sum of three shillings weekly and every week, to be paid her by my executors hereinafter names, during the term of her natural life, provided she shall so long continue my widow, but not otherwise. And the remaining part of the interest, dividends and proceed of my said moneys, together with the said sum of three shillings per week from and immediately after the death or marriage of my said wife, which shall first happen, I will shall be paid by my said executor unto my said daughter **Ann Gilbert Wade** during the term of her natural life, exclusive of her said Husband, and whose receipt alone, notwithstanding her Coverture, shall be a good and sufficient discharge to my said executors for time to time for the same.

And from and immediately after her decease, then I give and bequeath all and every my aforesaid monies, securitys for money and personal estate and effects whatsoever and wheresoever, equally to be divided amongst all and every the children of my said daughter **Ann Gilbert Wade**, which shall be living at her decease, and the issue of such of them as shall be then dead, leaving issue, such issue

to be intitled only to such part therein as his, her or their father or mother would have been intitled to if living.

And lastly I nominate, constitute and appoint my friends **Mr. John Vesey** of Tendring aforesaid and **Mr. Joseph Harris** of Wix aforesaid, executors of this my will, to whom I give and bequeath the sum of five guineas a piece (over and above there reasonable expences) for their trouble in the execution of this my will.

And hereby revoking all former wills by me at any time heretofore made, I do declare this to be and contain my last will and testament.

Stephen Bearman x

23<sup>rd</sup> April 1795

Witnesses: Charlotte Perkins, Wm Perkins, Thos. Hitchcock

Died at Wix 26<sup>th</sup> August 1795

Proved 10<sup>th</sup> October 1795.

Goods, chattels and credits under the sum of £600.

ERO ref: D/ACW 36/4/23