

Will of Stephen Cardinall of East Bergholt, Suffolk, 1573

- £20 to the poor of East Bergholt
- Bound to George Fisher and others for £400 to leave to my wife Marie after my deceased, property with the yearly value of £20 in recompense of her dower, and to give to her son William Spencer 100 marks if he reaches 21. In performance of this bond and in recompense of the dower, I give Marie my property, free and copyhold, in the salt valley in East Bergholt, late in the occupation of John Fynner and Thomas Bragge, and one messuage, late in the occupation of Thomas Smith in East Bergholt, which I bought from Thomas Abbott, and a meadow called the town meadow, late of Phillip Bretttons. For her natural life. And £60 sterling, and £40-worth of household stuff.
- To son William: all my property in East Bergholt not bequeathed to my wife, and in Lawford, Essex, and the reversion of the property bequeathed to my wife.
- To sons Stephen, Robert, Humphrey and Phillip: £100 each when they each reach 22
- To daughter Anne, Elizabeth and Mary : £100 each when they each reach 20
- To daughter Judith: £40 within one year of my decease
- I lately had by right of my late wife, Ann, Dynes? Land, sometime of Thomas Grithes Of East Bergholt, which I sold to Christopher Lust of East Bergholt, and other property in East Bergholt which I still hold. The inheritance by custom of the manor of East Bergholt and Taddingstone, out to belong to John, my youngest son, heir by this custom to the said Ann. So that William and his heirs can enjoy this property, John instead to inherit property in Blakenham?, Bramford in Suffolk. [this part has not reproduced well – it is quite hard to read and appears to be very involved in various manorial customs as to inheritance, and what happens if John dies in his minority].
- Mentions land in Thorpe-le-Soken, Essex, which he sold to Robert Smith.
- Marie, my wife, to bring up my three youngest children: Humphrey, Phillip and Marie. She to receive £20 a year until they each reach 16.

Executor: son William Cardinall with Ralph Scrivenor of Ipswich, gent, supervisor

Written: 19th April 1568

Witnesses: Robert Wilis the elder, Adam Cardinall, Robert Wylis the younger.

Proved: 26th October 1573

PCC will