Cocfield Lewys Elsnam

In the name of god Amen, the xith daie of maie Anno dm 1603 I Lewys Cocfeilde the elder
beinge sicke in bodie, but of good and perfect remembraunce (I give god thankes for yt) doe ordayn
and make my Testament conteyninge my last will in maner and forme hereafter followinge, that
is to say first and before all thinges I geve and bequeath my Soule into the handes of Almightie
god the father, trustinge onely in and by the meritte of the pretious death & passion of his
sonne Christ Jesus to be one of the number of his elect Children: and my bodie I commend
to the earth from whence yt was made; to be buryed in Christian buryall at the discretion
of my frendes Item I geve and bequeath unto Joan my wiff for the terme of twelve
yeares all my Customarie Landes nowe in my occupacion & holden of the Manor of Elsenham Hall
And after the end of twelve yeares I give and bequeath the same Landes Customarie to my
Sonne Thomas Cocfeild and to his heires for ever, yf he lyve to the age of twentie six yeares
And if Thomas Cocfeild do not lyve to accomplish the said age, and if William Cocfield my sonne
24 be then lyvinge, my will ys that he the said William shall have all the same Customary landes
to him and to his heires for ever, he paieinge oute of the said Landes fforty poundes to his brother
John Cocfeild and ffortie pounds to his brother Edward Cocfeild, & the same to be paid unto
them within one Moneth next after the decease of the said Thomas Cocfeild his brother.
And also I give and bequeath to Joan my wiff for terme of her naturall lyff one
peece of free Land lyinge in Comon Crofts belonginge to the same manor of Elsenham hall.
And I also further geve and bequeath unto Joan my wyff, for terme of her naturall
lyff, one close or feild, called Rust feild, one head whereof abbutteth on a Chase Layne
leadinge out of Southfeild unto Plegden green on the North, the other head abutteth
upon dyvers closes nowe in the tenure and occupacion of Andrew foster, and also one
other close of pasture called Oatsland Croft, and one other peell of ground called
sparke with a Tenement & other buyldinges upon yt, which three peells of Land are holden
by free deed of the manor of Plegdonhall, And after her decease to Thomas Cocfeild
my sonne & to his heires for ever yf he lyve to accomplishe the age of Twentie six yeares
yf he doe not then I give and bequeath the same to my sonne William Cocfield and to his
heires for ever. And it is also my will that if Joan my wyff do not lyve to accomplishe
the aforesaid age of twelve yeares, that she notwithstanding [illegible] of pleasure dispose of
the said free Land duringe the said terme of xij yeares as yt pleaseth her. Item I also give and
bequeath to Joan my wyff for terme of xij yeares as aforesaid all my Coppieholde land
nowe in my occupacion holden of the Manor of Plegdonhall and after the said terme
I give and bequeath the same to my Sonne Thomas Cocfeild & to his heires for ever, yf
he doe accomplishe the age of Twentie six yeares, yf he doe not then I give and bequeath
the same Land to William Cocfield and to his heires for ever. Also I will and bequeath to
Robt my Sonne fyve markes of Currant Englishe money to be paid unto hym within fyve
yeares next after my decease. And further I geve and bequeath to William my sonne
threscore and ten poundes of Currant Englishe money to be paid unto him when he
shall accomplishe the age of twentie foure yeares, and if he doe not accomplishe the
said age my will ys the same shall rest at the discretion of my said wyff at her pleasure
to dispose. Item I give and bequeath to the poore of people of Elsenham twenty
shillinges to be paid unto them within two monethes next after my decease And I also
give and bequeath unto the poore people of Henham twentie shillinges to be lykewyse
payd unto them within towe monethes next after my decease And yt is also my will that if
Joan my wyff do overlyve the aforesaid terme of twelve yeares that shee shall have paied
unto her yearly fyve markes of Currant Englishe money out of my aforesaid coppie Landes by Thomas Cocfeild & for default of him by William Cocfeild at two usuall termes in the year that is
to say at the feast of the Annunciacion of mary and Michaelmas by even portions, during her naturall lyff.

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In the name

And yt is also my will ~~[illegible]~~ that if my Sonne Willm do not accomplishe the age of xxjtie yeares that the xxtie poundes which my Sonne Lewys ys to paie unto him shall remayne & be to my executrix ~~paid unto them within foure Monthes next after my decease~~ And lastly I do give and bequeath unto Joan my wiffe (my debts, Legacies, funerall expences, and this my will proving being paid and discharged) all my Moveable goodes & chattells whatsoever. And I doe ordayne and Make Joan my wiffe my sole executrix of this my testament conteyning my last will trusting she will see the same performed according to the trust I doe repose in her, And I doe utterlye revoke & disanulle all other and former will & wills whatsoever and in wyttnes whereof I have sett my hand and seale the daie & yeare abovesaid.

Sealed signed and delivered to the use & uses within wrytten in the presence of Jhon Tuer.
Robert Pennyngton
Renald Starke
Thomas Clark
Thomas Drisdayle [illegible]

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Probatum fuit hoc testamentum coram mro Robto Wellott commissario [illegible] 25 May 1603 iuramento Jacobi Tweedy not publici [illegible]

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