







**Extracts from the will of Margery Wren, 1540** (The National Archives: PROB 11/26)

## Simple Transcript [with explanations]

[Note that this is not a transcript of the whole will. Gaps in the transcript are indicated with '...'.]

In the name of God, amen.

The 19th day of February in the year of our Lord God [1540]

I Margery Wren of Sherburn House, widow, whole of mind and memory, make my will ...

I give to my daughter Katherine a dozen silver spoons, a silver salt container which lies in pledge of four marks [which is at the pawnbrokers in return for the loan of some money], or else if the money is lost, a set of plates and cups made of pewter [a silvery-grey metal], a basin with a jug of pewter, a dozen small bowls, and cloths from overseas, and my best tablecloth ...

Also I give to my daughter [Eleanor] a dozen silver spoons which I made last, a set of plates and cups made of pewter, a piece of cloth from overseas, a thick embroidered cloth for covering a cupboard, and four marks in money to buy a silver salt container ...

I give to my daughter Jane a dozen silver spoons, six of which they already have, two silver salt containers with a cover, a set of plates and cups made of pewter, a piece of cloth from overseas, a tablecloth ...

Also I give to my son Geoffrey a dozen of my best cushions, a linen tablecloth, a red and green canopy to go over a bed, which he has already, a tablecloth, an iron chimney in the room of the steward [person who managed the household and the servants], a silver salt container with a cover, one silver and gold drinking cup, 13 silver spoons ...

Also I give to my sister Wylfett my best skirt for a reminder to pray for me ...

Also I give to my son William Wren £5, 6 silver spoons, a mattress, a featherbed, a pillow, two pairs of linen sheets ...

And to my daughter Kendall one mattress, a featherbed, a pillow, a pair of blankets, a pair of sheets, and a piece of cloth from overseas, to pray for me ...

## Original Transcript

In the name of god Amen. The sixth daye of februarye in the yere of oure Lord god a thousand fyve hundreth xxxixth.

Margery Wrenne of Sherburne house Wyddowe, hole of mynde and memorye make my will and last mynde of testament in maner and fforme ffollowing...

I give and bequeith to my daughter Kateryn aforseide a dowsen sylver spoones and sylver salte which lith in pledge of foure markes, orelles the money if it be lousede, a garnishe of peuter vessell, a bason with a ewer of pewter, a dowsen potagers and oversee coveringes, and my best counter clothe...

Also I give unto my saide daughter [Elynour] his wyffe a dowsyn sylver sponys whiche I made last, a garnyshe of pewter vessel, an oversee coveryng, a coupborde cloth of carpent wourke and foure markes in money to bye a silver salt withall ...

I give unto my saide daughter Jane a dowsyn sylver sponys, whereof vj ys in their owne handes, ij sylver saltes with a cover, a garnyshe of pewter vessell, a oversee coverynge lynyd, a countercloth.

Also I give and bequeyth unto my sone Geffreye a dowsyn of my best quysshions, a 'dyaper' bordcloth, a spervour of red and grene which he hath in his handes, a countercloth, an iren Chymneye in the stewardes chamber, a sylver saltte double gilte with a cover, one goblett gilte, xij sylver sponys market with thappostles...

Also I give and bequeith unto my sister Wylfett my best kirtle for a remembrance to praye for me.

Also I give unto my son wylliam wrenne v li sterling, vj sylver sponys, a matteres, a ffetherbed, a bolster, twoe payer of lynnyn shettes, an oversee covering lynde

and to my daughter kendall one materes, a ffetherbedd, a bolster, a payer of blankettes, a payer of shettes, and oversee coveryng unlynyn to praye for me...

[Wren's surname also spelled Wrenne in the documents.]