

The Will of John Watson (1702-1771)

**Transcript of copy held at the Norfolk Records Office
of his Will dated 25th October 1768
Ref: PRDC 1/2/9. Folio10. MF477.**

In the name of God Amen. The twenty-fifth day of October in the year of our Lord 1768 I John Watson of Martham in the County of Norfolk, yeoman being sick and weak in body but of perfect mind and memory do here make and appoint this my last will and testament in the following manner and form. In the first place I give will and bequeath to Elizabeth Brown my granddaughter and heirs of hers lawfully begotten, his two acres of land late John Margetson in Mustard Hym with the houses thereupon built and also one half acre of land laying on the south side of ???row Hill on the east side of the school Close; all this I give to Elizabeth Brown my granddaughter and if she die without lawful heirs I give it to Susannah Watson my daughter and her heirs lawfully begotten, and if she die without such heirs I give it to William Watson son of Robert Watson my brother and his heirs forever and my will is that no fund shall be used or mortgage made if daughter or granddaughter or any of their heirs attempt to do so they shall forfeit the whole bequest to the last mentioned heirs. Also, I give to Mary Rising⁽¹⁾ my sister all the parts of mine in the house upon Martham Green during her life / now in the occupation of Anne Watson / then I give it to Elizabeth Watson, daughter of Robert Watson my brother and her heirs forever. Also, I give to Susannah Watson my daughter all that was my father Clement Watson's both houses and land s being and laying in Martham aforesaid copy of what lieth in Rollesby and Potter Heigham of either sort. Also I give her the meadows laying on the east side of the Common both freehold and copyhold and also three rods of land bought of Wm. (Dixon?) all these I give to my daughter aforesaid during the term of her life and after her decease to her heirs lawfully begotten. And if she has no lawful heirs I give it to Elizabeth Brown aforesaid and her heirs lawfully begotten and if she die without lawful heirs I give it to Mary Rising⁽¹⁾ my sister during her life and then I give it to Clement Watson son of Robert Watson and his heirs forever lawfully begotten. No fine be used nor mortgage made in case of that to forfeit the demise unto the heirs of Clement Watson and his heirs forever. Also, I give to Susanna Watson all my goods and chattels, ready money, bonds, bills, cash notes and other debts she paying all my just debts, funeral charges etc. And also, in case she turn my granddaughter out doors to allow her two pounds of lawful money per year until she be of age to choose a Guardian. Also, I appoint Mary Rising my sister and Susanna my daughter Executors of this my last will and testament and I hereby revoke all and every other will before this time made by me. Confirming this and no other to be my last will and testament in witness I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year first above written.

Signed seal
and delivered by the said John Watson as his last will and testament
in the presence of us the subscribed

John (x) Watson

Robert Milom (his mark)

Tho. Rising

William Sutfield

16th July 1771

*Susanna Watson one of the Executors within
named ? authorisation in due form before me
R Frank L.L.B.*

Power reserved for the Executrix

Examined by me Wm. ?

Norfolk Public Reg?

(1) Mary Rising, nee Watson, was married to Robert Rising in 1735.