

The Will of William Watson (1742-1818). Will dated 21st March 1805

**Transcription of a copy held in the Norfolk Records Office
ref: PRDC 1/2/10. Folio 206. MF478**

This is the last Will and testament of me William Watson of Martham in the County of Norfolk, husbandman and cordwainer made this twenty-first day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and five as follows (that is to say). **First**, I give and devise⁽¹⁾ unto John (1778-1858) my son all that new erected dwelling house with eight perches of land there adjoining as the same is now and upon which is part thereof the said house now stands being of the inclosure and pightle⁽²⁾ of copyhold land purchased by one of ? ? laying in Martham aforesaid. And also the stack yard⁽³⁾ and meadow containing by survey one rod and eleven perches with the shed thereon built laying near the aforesaid dwelling house being parcel of the freehold hereditaments which descended to me as the eldest son and heir of Mary Watson (died 1767) my mother formerly Mary Carter, spinster. To hold the same and every part thereof with the easements and appurtenances hereunto respectively belonging and therewith used and enjoyed unto the said John (1778-1856) my son, his heirs and assigns forever upon condition nevertheless that he the said John my son his heirs or assigns do and shall, well and faithfully pay or cause to be paid thereout the sum of forty-five pounds every part of the principal money due by order of the mortgage now outstanding upon my real estate and a proportional such share of the interest due for the same. Also, in the same manner I give and devise⁽¹⁾ unto William (1773-1847) my son all and every other my messuages, lands, tenements and hereditaments whatsoever situate, laying and being in Martham aforesaid with their easements, rights, members and appurtenances to hold the same and every part thereof with the said William my son his heirs and assigns forever upon condition nevertheless that he the said William my son his heirs or assigns do and shall, well and truly pay or cause to be paid thereout the sum of fifty-five pounds being the residue of the aforesaid principal money and a proportionable share of the interest to give legatees for the same. **Also** to Robert Watson (1777-1856) my son and Mary Watson (born 1768) my daughter and to my daughter Ann (born 1771) the wife of William Perry⁽⁴⁾ the sum of fifteen pounds of British money within twelve calendar months next hereafter my death. **And** my will is that if it shall happen that default be made in the payment of the said legacies or any of them or any part of them contrary to the aforesaid conditions and the meaning and intention of this my Will it shall and ? be lawful to and for the above named legatees or other or any of them or to whom it may concern and to whom the said legacies or any of them or any of theirs or any parts thereof shall be due and unpaid be enter unto and upon and to take possession all and every or any part of the hereditaments and premises with their appurtenances aforesaid devised to my said son William and to hold the same and receive and take the next and profit thereof until they, the said legatees, or such other person or persons to whom it may concern shall be thereby or otherwise paid and satisfied their, his or her respective legacy and all arrears thereof and all the cash charges and expenses attending every such entry any thing thrcin contained to the contrary notwithstanding. Also, I give and bequeath unto the said William and John my sons all and every my personal estate effects and things equally divided between them share and share alike they paying thereout my just debts, funeral expenses the charges of the probate of this my Will and other charges and expenses incidental thereby and I do nominate and appoint the said William and John my sons executors of this my Will and lastly I do hereby revoke and make void all former and other Wills by me at any time here before made and declare this only to be and contain my last Will and testament in witness whereof I have to this my last Will and testament contained and written on two sheets of paper together affixed at the left and there sealed to the first sheet thereof set my hand and to this last my hand and seal the day and year first above in the first sheet written.

The mark (X) of the said
William Watson

Signed, sealed published and declared by the said William Watson the testator as and for his last will and testament in the presence of us, who in his presence, at his request and in the presence of each other have subscribed our names as testified here the words "the testament of the" being the first underlined.

Gabriel Bell; William Humphrey; Geo. Rust; Olly Ludham (or Tudham),
1818 August 29th

This will was then certified to be filed and
registered only the Testator leaving no personals.

Examined –
John Howard

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- (1) Devise was to leave something to someone by the terms of a will.
 - (2) A pightle was a small piece of land, often surrounded by a hedge and in Norfolk it tended to include a tiny cottage.
 - (3) A stack yard was an enclosed farm yard normally situated near a home where cattle were kept for fattening up.
 - (4) William Perry was the husband of Ann Watson (born 1771) the daughter of William Watson (1742-1818).