

WILL OF ROBERT WHITLOCK 1670

In the Name of God Amen the Second day of March in the year of our Lord God One Thousand Six Hundred and Seaventy, I Robert Whitlocke of Wokingham in the County of Berks Gent being in health of Body and mind praised be God Do this present day and year aforesaid make and ordaine This my Last Will and Testament in manner and forme following Imprimus I committ my Soul into the Hands of my deare Redeemer the Lord Jesus Christ my Saviour therein assuredly through his Richteousnesse only to be made ptakers of Eternall Life and I committ my Body to the earth whereof it was formed to be buried at the discretion of my Executor thereafter named and as for my worldly goods wherewith God hath blessed mee I dispose of them as followeth First I leave to my Son Richard Whitlock and give to him and to his Heires for ever All that my Manner.s of Beaches my Capital Messuages called the Hoult House with the Lands thereunto belonging viz the Causy Close the Parke Close home pit close the Moores Higwell meade the Coppice the Close butting on the Coppice to the South and on Matthews Green on the North the ..ease [Close butting on the two Pidles John ... holds on the North and the] meade being in all Twelve Severall tenements by estimation fifty acres...at present in my occupation together with the Quitrents due to the Mannor and also I bequeath to my Son Richard Whitlock and his Heires for ever all Those my lands called Telehouse Lands with their Severall Tenements now in the occupation of Widow Cowley, her Teniment with .. Severalls of Land containing Seaven acres and in John Raines possession a Teniment with five Severall parcels of Lands containing Eleaven Acres And in Marmaduke Nevins possession a Teniment with Three Severalls of Land containing Nine Acres And in Mr. Giles Haneleys possession Two Severalls of Land called Sheepcoate I likewise give and bequeath to my Sonn Richard Whitlock and to his Heires forever my Teniments & Water Mills together with the Mill Lands now in the ... of Widow Joane Webb containing Foure and Twenty Acres in Six Severalls of Land And in the occupation of [blank] the present Miller the Mill house & the Mills with One Meadow conteyning Three Acres And also I give unto my Son Richard Whitlock Those five severall parcell of Lands bought of John Olynes at Wooshill containing Thirteene Acres now in my occupation and also These my Three Acres in Suning Mead All which said Mannor and Messuages Teniments Mills and Lands are lying and being in Wokeingham and Suning in the County of Berks Also I give and bequeath to my Son Richard Whitlock and his heires for ever All that my Messuages or Tenements with their appurtenances called Bill-hill with all the Lands thereunto belonging being severall parcell of land containing Forty Foure Acres together with the wast ground thereunto belonging in the Occupation of Thomas Webb And also One Close called Bannisters contayning five Acres in my Occupation which said Tenement and Lands are lying and being in the parish of Wokingham in the County of Wilts But if my Sonn Richard dye before he accomplish the age of One and Twenty yeares Then my Will is That my deare and loving wife Mary shall enjoy all the Rents over and above her Thirds fo the above demised Lands to my Son Richard Whitlock for and during her naturall life And then my Will is that after my wifes decease that the abovesaid Lands Shall be and reamaine to the right Heires of mee Robert Whitlock And as for my Goods and Chattells wherewith the Lord hath blessed mee I bequeath and give as followeth Item I give and bequeath unto my deare and loving Wife Mary Whitlock one full Third part of my personall estate aforesaid I likewise give unto her All my household stufte and all my Plate Item I will and bequeath unto all my children that shall be unmarried or have not been disposed of in marriage before my decease one full Third part of all my personall estate in goods moneys debts and chattells in equall portions to be devided among them respectively Provided that if any of them dye before they are of full age or are married then my Will is that his or hers or their gte so dying shall be and remaine to the survivors of my said children to be equally devided among them And out of my other Third part of my estate personall as goods debts money, chattells I give and bequeath as followeth To my Daughter Katherine Ten Pounds to my Daughter Elizabeth Two Hundred Pounds if she be not nor hath not been married at my decease but if she hath been married my Will is she is to have Ten Pounds only Item I give and bequeath to my Son Richard One Hundred Pounds And to my daughter Mary I give her Two Hundred Pounds & To my daughter Apolina

Two Hundred Pounds And I give to my Daughter Anna Two Hundred Pounds and to my Daughter Deborah Two Hundred Pounds And to my Daughter Sarah Two Hundred Pounds Provided That if any of them marry before my decease Then hee her or them shall have but Tenn Pounds each upon so marrying Also Provided That if any of my said Children shall dye before they accomplish the age of One an Twenty yeares or are married Then my Will is that his hers or their part so dying shall be and remaine to the Survivors of my said Children in equall portions Item I give to my Sister Jordan Forty Shillings And to my Brother John Whitlock Forty Shillings and to my Sister in Law Joane Whitlock Widow of my Brother Richard Whitlock Tenn pounds And to my Niece Anna Whitlock Daughter of my Brother Richard Tenn Pounds And to my Nephew James Whitlock Sonn of my Brother Richard Forty Shillings and to my Nephew John Whitlock Forty Shillings And to all the Children of my Sister Jorden Twenty Shillings a piece Item I give to my deare and loving friend Mr. John Collins Twenty Pounds And I give to Mr. Francis Astly my loving friend Five Pounds in Plate For a remembrance Item I give Twenty Pounds to Tenn psons such as my wife shall thinke fitt Item I give to Mary Webb my servant Foure pounds And to John Barnard my Servant Forty Shillings And to widow Greene Twenty Shillings And to her Sonn John Greene Forty Shillings The Overplus of the Third part of my Goodes and Chattells I bequeath as followeth Item I give to my deare wife Mary Twenty Pounds And what shall then remaine I give and bequeath to all my Children that as my decease are unmarried by even and equall portions to be devidid amongst them I do make and appoint Mary my loving Wife Execute of this my will Thus beseeching the Lord Almighty to be the Chief portion of them all And the Lord Jesus Christ my Sonnes portion I conclude this my Will In witsesse whereof I have hereunto set my hand & Seale Robert Whitlock

This Robert Whitlock was baptized May 13,1618 at St.Peter le Poer, London. He was the son of Richard Whitlock d.1642 and Katherine Brechette (1595-1649). Like his father, Robert became a successful London merchant. He was a member of the Himmers Co. of Clapham Surrey. He married in the 1640's Mary Maddison the daughter of Ralph Maddison and Elizabeth Hall. There are documents from the 1650's regarding Robert's ownership of Whittington Manor once in the possession of his wife's Aunt Lady Apollina Hall.

There are occasional glimpses of Robert's life in the documents that have been preserved in the archives. In 1642 together with his mother Katherine (Brechette) Whitlock, Robert set up a charity Wokingham as directed by his father's Will. It was for the relief of the poor in Wokingham to be paid on St.Thomas' day. Originally the charity owned the following lands and properties: a cottage (5 tenements) in Langborough Lane or Down Street (now Denmark Street), a close in Little Langborough (1½a) and 5a in Langborough Common Field. On inclosure in 1817 these lands exchanged for a close in Birchen Inhams (6a) and two in Langborough Common Field (3a). In 1856 all the land and property was sold and the proceeds invested.

During the Interregnum Robert Whitlock joined with other London merchants in 1658 to petition the Protector regarding the fishing trade with Ireland. In particular for the same bonding conditions to apply in Ireland for the loading of pilchards as are applied in England.

In 1664 Robert was called before Elias Ashmole (1617-1692) celebrated chemist and antiquarian in his role as Windsor Herald of Arms to prove his descent and his right to the Whitlock coat of arms. It is recorded that the meeting took place at the sign of the Bear in Reading, Berkshire March 11, 1664/5. Robert entered his descent from his grandfather John Whitlock (1509?-1589) of Wokingham, Berkshire. He claimed the right to the Whitlock arms quartered with the de la Beche arms. In *Liber Familicus* his grandfather is recorded as marrying quite late in life, above age 45. There is no record of when Robert's father was born but it was likely in the 1570's or 80's.

Robert and Mary had at least 11 children several of which do not appear to have survived infancy. By 1664 only one son is shown Richard Whitlock aged 10 in 1662. At least three daughters married, Mary to James Ball, Apollina to Seth Ratchiff and Deborah to Mr. Prathy. From Robert's Will you would assume Katherine was also married as he leaves her only £10 as opposed to £200 that he leaves to his unmarried daughters. No mention of a married name is given. When Mary (Maddison) Whitlock makes her Will in 1695 there is no mention of either Katherine and or Elizabeth Whitlock. We know Elizabeth died in 1674 so it is assume she never married.

Their son Richard Whitlock (1651-1706) died in Wokingham but there is no record of him marrying or having children. Little is known of his life. He is shown living in Amersham, Bucks in 1688 where he joins other residents to appeal the rates. Between 1683 and 1698 there is a series of leases and agreements between Richard Hawes and Richard Whitlock regarding the Manor of Beches in Wokingham, resulting eventually in Richard Hawes purchasing the manor ending more than 200 years of Whitlock relationship with Wokingham and the Manor of Beches. In the 1960's the old Manor House burned but Holt House (part of the original Manor) remains to this day as a girls school. (See WFA March 2013 issue)

So far we have not traced any descendants of Robert Whitlock and Mary Maddison through the Ball, Ratcliff or Prathy families.

SOURCES: SOG094,223,329; GH035,063-5,082,085,137,156,162; R0078/141,146,225,246; R3220, R3221, R3226; X7306; X7307