

*The Last Will and Testament  
Of Merari Whittaker  
of Bratton  
Will Proved  
5th June 1762*



Probate Court of Canterbury  
Original reference PCC Prob11/877  
Will Dated - 10th November 1761  
Codicil Dated -  
Buried at -

<b>Testator:</b>	Whitaker	Merari	Gentleman of Bratton
<b>Executors:</b>			
Whitaker	Jeffrey	Brother	Sole Executor
<b>Overseers:</b>			
<b>Trustees:</b>			

Beneficiaries		Relationship to Testator	Other Information
Surname	Given Names		
Axford	Susanna	Cousin	
Brown	Mary		Daughter of James & Elizabeth Askew
Collins	Catherine	Sister	
Collins	John	Brother in law	
Hickman	Elizabeth		Daughter of James & Elizabeth Askew
Rooker	Sarah		Daughter of James & Elizabeth Askew
Whitaker	Jeffrey	Brother	
Winter	John		
<b>Witnesses</b>			
Ballard	Anne		
Ballard	William		
<b>Other Names</b>			
Askew	Elizabeth		Deceased
Askew	James		Deceased

I Merari Whitaker of Bratton in the County of Wilts Gent do make this my last Will and Testament in manner as followeth first I give to my Brother in Law John Collins my silver watch next I give to my Sister Catherine Collins my silver pint mug and one silver table spoon marked H.B. also one plain and one stone gold ring she to take which rings she likes best also I give to my Sister Catherine Collins the sum of four hundred pounds three percent Bank reduced annuities short to be transferred to her at the end of one year after my decease with all the interest that shall be then due thereon next I give to Elizabeth Hickman Sarah Rooker and Mary Brown the three daughters of the late James and Elizabeth Askew to each of them ten pounds next I give to my cousin Susanna Axford that now lives with me that part of my house that's now live in for she to live in for as long as she likes to live there with the use of the pump and brewhouse and all the firewood that may be found about or in house also I give to the above named Susanna Axford one silver tablespoon marked J.B. and three teaspoons of silver also I give her use of all my household goods and bed and table linen except mahogany bureau and table bedstead and feather bed as long as she shall live there and I also give to the above named Susanna Axford the sum of twelve pounds a year to be paid to her as long as she shall live at four equal quarterly payments the first payment to be made the first day of the next month after my decease and so to continue to pay three pounds the first day of every third calendar month as long as she the said Susanna Axford shall live If any dispute that shall arise about my right to give that part of my house or that she should happen to outlive the lives that are now on it and so be put out in either case instead of twelve pounds she shall be paid fourteen pounds at the same time and in manner as the twelve pounds is owed to be paid that is to say three pounds ten shillings each quarter and to be paid out of the interest arising from the remainder of my three percent Bank reduced annuity stock by him or her whomsoever hands the said stock shall come into and note that the said remaining part of my three percent Bank reduced annuity short shall not be transferred into any other name but shall stand as it now doth until the said Susanna Axford shall have sufficient security given her for the payment of the above twelve or fourteen pounds a year and if she is turned out of the house before she is willing to go then she shall take the household goods with her and make sole use of them as she thinks fit next I give to John Winter my silver mounted sword and buff belt or two guineas and a half which my Executor shall like best give all the remainder of my goods chattels and household in estate I give to my brother Jeffrey Whitaker whom I institute and appoint my sole and only Executor of this my last Will and Testament In witness whose of hand into set my hand and seal this tenth day of November One Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty One . *Merari Whitaker* – signed and sealed and declared by the Testator Merari Whitaker to be his last Will and Testament in the presence of us – Wm. Ballard – Anne Ballard

## Probate

This Will was proved at London on the fifth day of June in the year of Our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty Two before the Worshipful George Harris Doctor of Laws and Surrogate of the Right Worshipful Sir Edward Simpson Knight also Doctor of Laws Masterful Keepers or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury lawfully instituted by the Oath of Jeffrey Whitaker the Brother of the deceased and Sole Executor named in the said Will to which administration was granted of all and singular the goods chattels and credits of the said deceased having been first sworn duly to administer

PCC Prob11/877