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**Subject Name:** Robert Wotton/

**Parish:** Boughton Malherbe/

**Other names referred to within Document:** Sir William Baker; Thomasyn Baker; Hugh Badnor; Thomas Partuche Braybour; Alice Chayne; Humfrey Cheyney; Joh Cheyney; Philippa Comber; Lady Marques Dorset; Sir Edward Gildford; Harryes; William Horne; John Lachynden; Sir William Scot; Safry Stonehowse; Anne Wotton; Edwarde Wotton; Mary Wotton; Margaret Wotton; Dorathe Wotton; George Wotton; Nicholas Wotton; Sir Nicholas Wotton/

**Other places/parishes:** Bordynhous; Bayhouse & Combs; Bydenden; Booscombe; Boyscombe; Calais; Calcotts; Chestlett; Cheryng; Chilton; East Farborne; Egerton; Essex; Grovetts; Hames; Heryettisham; Lenham; Middleton; Paddillisworth and Pottyyns; Powsynes; Southpark; Sherifyscote; Syttingborne; Thanet; Thornham; Westwell; Wytherst; Wardons; Wodysden/

**Key words:** Jewels; plate; property; religion; textiles/

**Transcriber's notes:**

In dei nomine amen. Vicesimo tertio die Decembris Anno/  
Domini millesimo quingentesimo vicesimo tertio. Ego Robertus Wootton miles Contrarotulator/  
ville et m[ar]chiarum Calesie compos mentis et sanus memorie condo presens testamentum meu[m]  
in/  
hunc modum. In primis com[m]endo animam meam deo om[n]ipotentis beatissimeque virgini  
marie ac/  
om[n]ibu[s] sanctis Corpusque meum sepeliendum infra eccl[es]iam Beate Marie Virginis ordin[i]s  
fratrum/  
Carmeliu[m] infra chorum coram sum[m] altare eiusdem eccl[es]ie iuxta corpus Anne nup[er] uxoris  
mee/  
in villa Calesie Si mortuus fuero in dicta villa vel marcheis (?) eiusdem. Item lego operi[bu]s  
eccl[es]ie b[e]ate/  
Marie virginis in eadem villa pro licentia mea sepeliend[i] in predicta eccl[es]ia fratrum predict[orum]  
xx s[olidos] st[erling]/  
Item lego summo altari dicte beate marie virginis pro decimis oblitis xx s[olidos] st. Item lego summo/

altari Bocton Malherbe in Comitatu Kancie pro decimis oblitis xx s st. Item lego priori & conventui/  
predictorum Alborium Fratrum Carmelitarum pro sepultura mea in dicta ecclesia beate marie b[ea]te  
Marie/

Carmelitarum ut orent pro anima mea iij li[bras] vj s[olidos] viij d[enarios] Item lego dicto priori pro  
obsequiis meis die sepultura mee/

pro semetipso xx d[enarios] Item lego subpriori dict[o] die xii d[enarios] st. et cuili[be]t fratrum  
eiusdem domus qui sunt presbiteri viij d[enarios] st./

et cuilibet fratrum juvenu[m] (?) qui non sunt presbiteri v d[enarios] etc[etera]? Item lego dict[is]  
priori subpriori et om[n]ibus aliis predict[is]/  
tantum in die mensis mee/

[TRANSLATION]

In the name of God amen. On the twenty-third day December in the year one  
thousand five hundred and twenty-three. I Robert Wootton, knight, Controller of the town and  
marches of Calais, sound in mind and memory, establish my present will in this  
manner. First I commend my soul to almighty God and the blessed Virgin Mary and  
all saints and my body to be buried in the church of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the  
order of the Carmelites within the choir by the high altar of that church near the body  
of Anne recently my wife in the town of Calais if I shall have died in that town or its  
marches. Also I leave to the [office of] works of the church of the blessed Virgin  
Mary in that villa for the licence of my burial in the aforesaid church of the aforesaid  
brothers twenty shillings sterling. Also I leave to the high altar of the said Blessed  
Virgin Mary for tithes forgotten twenty shillings sterling. Also I leave to the high  
altar of Boughton Malherbe in the county of Kent for tithes forgotten twenty  
shillings sterling. Also I leave to the prior and convent of the aforesaid White  
Carmelite Friars for my burial in the said church of the blessed Virgin Mary of the  
Carmelites so that they may pray for my soul three pounds six shillings and  
eightpence. Also I leave to the said prior for my exequies on the day of my burial for  
himself twenty pence. Also I leave to the said subprior on the said day twelve pence  
sterling and to each of the brothers of that house who are priests eight pence and to  
each of the young brothers who are not priests five pence etc. Also I leave to the  
aforesaid prior subprior and all the others aforesaid the same amount on the day of my  
month [mind]

Item I will and bequeth to the Church werks of saint Nich[ol]as xs st And to/  
the Resurrection in that Church xs st s[u]m[a] xxs st Item I bequeth to saint George in o[ur] lady  
Church/

xs st Item I bequeth to be gevyn to the pour people Inhabitannts within Caleis and to such other/  
pour folks as shall happen to be at my burying the same daye to pray for my soule in money and bred/  
v£ gr to every ii parsones a brasse penny iid ob gr that is to sey yf I be buried w[ith]in Caleis Item I/  
bequeth to the freres obserunts in Caunterbury to thentent that they shall w[ith]in their Church  
ther/

synge or say for my soule w[ith]in vi weks next and Immediatly after my decesse ii trentalls that is to  
sey/

lx placebos and dirges and lx masses of the trentall xls st Item I will that my sonne Edwarde/  
and his heires shall at his or their charge upon suche fee simple lands tenements Rents and services/  
as I shall leve unto him and to his heires and with suche moveable goods as I shall also leve unto/  
my said sonne Edwarde forto perfourme all this my present testament shall fynde one honest prest/

to synge in the Church of Borton Malherbe within the shire of kent by the space of xx yeres  
complete/  
next and Immediatly ensuyng my decesse And he specially to pray for the soules of my fader and  
moder/  
and for the soules of me and Anne my wife and for all xpen [Christian] soules paying yerely to the said  
prest for/  
his wage and salary x m[a]rcs st in redy money without mete and drynke orells v m[a]rcs in redy  
money/  
and his mete drynke and lodging And that the said prest be contynually resident upon that service So/  
that he passe not to be oute from thens in the hole yere xl daies and he to pray for the soules that/  
xl daies whersoever he shall goo Item I bequeth to frere hans subpriour of the white freres in Caleis/  
to synge for Anne my wife by the space of one hole yere after hir decesse v£ vis viiid gr Item I  
bequeth/  
to my daughter Mary to hir mariage one hundred pounds st wherof to be in redy money thre scor/  
pounds st whiche is redy in a Bagge for her And for the residue xl£ I will that she shalhave the/  
Avo serplers of wolle standing in my wolle house at Caleis whiche ii Serplers I bought for her/  
purposly and they dyd cost me at the first bying xlii£ st Item I geve and bequeth to my said/  
Daughter Mary the Cheyne of gold w[ith] a Crosse of gold to the same that was my wifs Item I geve/  
and bequeth to my daughter Margaret the lady Marques Dorsset my Ryng of gold with a Turkes/  
to pray for me Item I geve and bequeth to my sonne Edward all my harnesse complete aswell for/  
my self as for my folks that I have in Caleis with all suche Crosse bowes hande gonnes javelens/  
and halbards as I have there Item I will and bequeth all that Cloth of silver which was bought/  
for a Coote for me and the grene velwet also shalbe made by myn executours in a Cope or other/  
vestments orells in awter clothes And I soo give theym to the high awter in the Church of Borton/  
Malherbe And yf it happ[en] that they shall lack any of the Cloth of silver or velwet to furnysshe hit/  
large ynough for the same then I will myn executours shall bye asmoche therof as shal sufficiently/  
serve for it and this to be full made and delivered to the said Church w[ith]in the space of one yere  
next/  
after my decesse and also that the ymage of the Trinitie to be enbrowdred theruppon Item I geve  
and/  
bequeth to my nevewe sir William Baker that is at Lovayn towards his exhibition yf he do contynue/  
at his lernyng there x m[a]rcs Item I doo ordeyn and make my sonne Edward Wotton myn hole and  
hole/  
Executo[ur] of this my present testament and to thentent that my said sonne Edward shall take the  
charge/  
upon him to be my sole executour and to paye all and every of the charge aswell of and for my  
burying/  
monethes day and yeres myynde without pompe as also that he shall paye all and singuler my  
bequests/  
of redy money and legacies also aswell to the churches and freres comprised w[ith]in this my  
testament as/  
in like wise all and singuler legacies and bequests before specified And over that that he shall well/  
and truly paye all suche debts as I shall happen to owe at the tyme of my decesse aswel within the/  
towne and m[ar]ches of Caleis as w[ith]in England or in any other plac for thentents before rehersed I  
do geve/  
and bequeth to my said sonne all these parcells folowing First I geve and bequeth to my said sonne  
for/  
the said entent my chayne of golde with a Crosse newe made to the same weying in all xxi ounces  
s[oli]di/

of fyne golde or there abouts Item I do geve and bequeth to my said sonne for the said Intents all my plate/  
of silver and silver and gilt that I nowe have or hereafter shalhave except suche parcells of plate as/  
have before gevyn and assigned in this my present testament or hereafter shall geve or assigne all  
which/  
parcells of plate so gevyn and before or hereafter assigned I will that they be delivered accordingly as  
I/  
[end first page]

assigned them Also I geve and bequeth to my said sonne Edward for the said Intent all suche/  
sumes of redy money as I shall have in my possession or keping at the tyme of my decesse Except  
only/  
suche money as I have before assigned to my daughter Maries mariage whiche I will shall be/  
deliv[er]ed to her within a quarter of a yere after my decesse And the two Serplers of wolle also/  
So as she may put it to suche use for her profite as she shall thinke best Also I do geve and bequeth/  
to my said sonne Edward to thintents beforesaid all suche sumes of money as shalbe due to me/  
at my decesse for my ordinary wage for me and my Company in Calleis And in likewise that/  
shall be due for myn Annytie and fee oute of thescheqwer of Calais paide upon the wolle beame/  
at the day of my decesse when godds pleasure is that day shalbe Eexcept oonly suche sumes of/  
money as I shall then happen to receyve before in a prest of the tresorar of Calais for the tyme being/  
whiche sumes I will that my said sonne Edward doo alowe or paye them Item I do geve and bequeth/  
unto my said sonne Edward for the forsaid Intents all suche sumes of money as shall be due to me/  
by Thomas Partuche Braybo[ur] of all my lands of the Rents and Revenues therof as shall or may/  
be due to me at the day of my decesse Allowing to the same Thomas all suche parcells of money/  
as he then shall have paide out for me or to me at that tyme and is not allowed to him before And/  
also allowing him for his fee for the gathering after suche rate as I gave him by the yere Item I doo/  
geve and bequeth to my said sonne Edward for thintents before rehersed the sume of xxiii£ xvis st/  
whiche my Fermo[ur] Harryes of Borton Malherbe hath in store of myn with his ferme Item I do/  
geve and bequeth to my said sonne Edward for thintents beforesaid all suche stuffe of housholde/  
as I have in my howse at Caleis and as I have lying and beyng in my placs at Borton Malherbe/  
and at Paddillsworth except only all suche parcells as I have before assignd and bequethed/  
or hereafter shall assigne and bequeth in this my present testament Item the Residue of my/  
moveable goods whatsoever they be not assigned nor bequethed in this my present testament/  
I do geve and bequeth them to my said sonne Edward for thintents before rehersed to the per-/  
fourmanncce of this my testament except suche apparell as I have of myn owne or of my wifs/  
which I shall assigne hereafter to be made in vestments Copes or otherwise Except also a/  
psalto[ur] boke which was my fathers written and lymoned w[ith] gold which I Redemed of the/  
parishe of Saint Dunston in london whiche boke I geve and bequeth to the parish Church of/  
Borton Malherbe in kent Provided that I will my sonne Edward and all others heires of/  
him and of me to come hereafter shalhave their pleasure to rede or say in the same psalter at/  
there pleasures that is to sey within the same Church oonly and noo where ells

(In margin - Ultia voluntas eiusd[e]m Rob[er]ti) [translation - the last will of the said Robert]  
This is the last wille of me sir Robert Wotton knyght made the xxvith day of/  
Decemb[e]r in the yere of our lord god m v and xxiii And in the xvth yere of the Reigne of/  
o[ur] soveraigne lorde king henry the viiith First I will that my feoffees that is to sey sir Will[ia]m/  
Scot and sir Edward Gildford knyghts William Horne of Hoorne Esquiere and others my said/  
feoffees shall after my decesse when they shall be therto required by my sonne Edward delyv[er]/  
a state of and in the hole maner of Borton Malherbe w[ith] all thappurten[a]ncs forthwith all those/  
landes nowe called Wotton landes Powsynes Southpark Hames a park Wodysden Grovetts/

and a medowe that I purchased of hugh Badnor lying next to the water mylle of Borton befor/  
said forthw[ith] all those parcells of lande woode or Rent that I have by purchase or inheritance/  
lying w[ith]in the parisshes of Borton Malherbe Lenham and Heryettish[a]m And forthw[ith] also the/  
mano[ur] of East Farbo[r]ne w[ith] the appurten[a]ncs and a parcell of Rent paide by Safry  
Stonehowse/  
or his heires out of the lands called Calcotts forthwith also almaner of landes water mylles woods/  
pastures medowes Rents servics and custumes unto the said mano[ur] of Borton Malherbe or to any/  
of the forsaid parcells in any wise apperteynyng or belonging w[ith] all and singuler their  
app[ur]ten[an]cs/  
unto the said Edward myn eldest sonne and to the eldest heire of his body lawfully begotten and/  
not to be devided or departed any of the forsaid parcells from the said maner of Borton Malherbe/  
forever And for defaute of heires of my sonne Edwards body lawfully begotten I woll that the/  
forsaid mano[ur] of Borton Malherbe be w[ith] all the appurten[a]ncs and with all and singuler the  
p[ar]cells/  
before rehersed shall hooly togiders remayn unto my son sir Nich[ol]as Wotton prest during his/  
naturall lyfe only in fee taile undevided And so after his decesse for default of heires of my son/  
sir Nich[ol]as body lawfully begotten I woll that the said mano[ur] of Borton Malherbe w[ith] all  
thapp[ur]ten[a]ncs/  
and with and singuler the parcells before rehersed shall hooly remayn togiders undevided unto/  
George my sonne and to the eldest heire of his body lawfully begotten and so will that all those/  
forsaid mano[ur] if Borton Malherbe w[ith] all water myllys tenements landes wodes Rents services/  
Custumes w[ith] all other the appurten[a]ncs to the said mano[ur] in any wise apperteynyng and  
belonging/  
And all other landes tenements Rents servics and Custumes that I have in Borton Malherbe/  
[end second page]

Lenham and heriettish[a]m by purchesse or inheritance whatsoever they be shall from hensforth  
w[ith] the/  
said Wotton landes Powsynes Southparke Hames a parke Wodysden Grovetts and a medowe/  
purchased by hugh Badnore the mano[ur] of East Farbo[r]ne and the said parcell of Rent paide by  
Safry/  
Stonehouse and his heires out of Calcotts with all and singuler their appurten[a]ncs be joyned hole/  
and fast unto the said mano[ur] of Borton Malherbe and to be taken forever hereafter as p[ar]cell of  
the/  
same mano[ur] and so to Remayn hole togiders as oon entiere maner never to be devided or  
dep[ar]ted/  
And so I will that the said Mano[ur] w[ith] all and singuler the premisses shall forever Remayn hole  
togiders/  
unto the eldest heire of my body begotten And so to the eldest heire of me or of my heires lawfully/  
descending in fee taile forever to be hole and never to be dissenexed devided nor departed from the  
said/  
mano[ur] if Borton Malherbe Also I will that my said feoffees after my decesse shall deliver astate of  
and/  
in the lordship or mano[ur] of Thornh[a]m w[ith] all and singuler thappurten[a]ncs therto  
apperteynyng or belonging/  
and of and in my tenement called Bordynhous w[ith] thappurten[a]ncs sett and lying within the  
hundred of/  
middelton and of and in all suche landes woods tenements fee fermes Annuyties Rents and servics/  
with their Appurten[a]ncs that I have in Chestlett unto my said sonne Edward and to the heires of/  
his body lawfully begotten to remayn unto my sonne sir Nich[ol]as Wotton prest during his naturall/

life oonly and so for defaute of heires of his body lawfully begotten to remayn Immediatly after/  
his decesse unto my sonne George and to the heires of his body lawfully begotten And for lack of/  
Issue of his body lawfully begotten to Remayn unto my daughters in fee taile And for lack of Issue/  
of my said daughters lawfully begotten to Remayn to my suster Philip[pa] Comberland my suster  
Thomasyn/

Baker and to suster Alice Chayne and to the heires of every of their bodies lawfully begotten  
according/

to the last Wille of my fader Nicholas Wotton Also I will that after the decesse of my daughter/  
in lawe Dorathe Wotton nowe wife unto my said sonne Edward the Mano[ur] of Bayhouse and/  
Combes in Essex w[ith] all suche landes woodes tenements Rents and servics as I have in the shire of/  
Essex whersoever it be shalbe astate therof delivered by suche feoffees as nowe stande seased in hit/  
for the use of the said Dorathe during her naturall lyf unto my said sonne Edward and to the heires/  
of his body lawfully begotten And for lack of heires of his body lawfully begotten to Remayn to/  
my son sir Nicholas prest during his naturall lif only And Immediatly after his decesse for lak/  
of heires of his body lawfully begotten to Remayn to my sonne George and to the heires of his/  
body lawfully begotten And for lack of suche heires of him to remayn to my said thre daughters/  
in fee taile And for lack of lawfull Issue of my said daughters to remayn to my said thre Susters/  
and to the heires of every of their bodies lawfully begotten according to the last Wille of my said/  
fader Nicholas Wotton Also I will that if all my moveable goods be not sufficient to paye all/  
and singuler my legacies and bequests in my testament expressed and specially for the fynding of/  
one honest prest to synge in the Churche of Borton Malherbe by the space of twenty yeres/  
as in one article of my said testament it is more playnly expressed Orells yf my said son Edward/  
by his negligence doo not perfourme hit in his life That then I will my said feoffees and their heires/  
shall levye upon my mano[ur] of Padillisworth and Pottyynys w[ith] the appurten[a]ncs and upon my/  
mano[ur] of Booscombe w[ith] the appurten[a]ncs and upon all suche landes as I have in Cheryng  
and/

Westwell purchased at hatche and upon the xiiis ivd of Annuytie purchased of John Lachynden/  
in Bydenden the sume of two hundred m[a]rcs sterling forto fynde and paye the said prest his/  
wage accordingly as it is expressed in my said testament and after that cc m[a]rcs is so levied/  
and the prest founden the full of the said twenty yeres in maner and fourme as is in my saide/  
testament expressed Then I will that my said feoffees and their heires shall deliver astate of/  
the said Mano[ur] of Paddillisworth and Pottynys w[ith] all and singuler the appurten[a]ncs the  
Mano[ur]/

of Boscombe with the appurten[a]ncs and all the said lands in Chering and Westwell with the/  
appurten[a]ncs and the said Annuytie of xiiis iiiid by yere in Bydenden unto my said sonne Edward/  
and his heires forever in fee symple Also I will that after the decesse of my said daughter Dorathe/  
nowe the wife of my sonne Edward the Mano[ur] of Wardons in Egerton w[ith] thappurten[a]ncs  
shall/

remayne to my said sonne Edward and to his heires forever in fee simple Also I will that after/  
the decesse of my said daughter Dorathe that all those feoffees that nowe stande seased of and in/  
the mano[ur] of Sherifyscote in the Ile of Thanet w[ith] thappurten[a]ncs to the use of my said  
daughter/

for terme of hir naturall lyfe shall then when they be required deliver astate of and in all that said/  
mano[ur] of Sheryfscourte with all and singuler landes tenements Rents and servics with all and/  
singuler their appurten[a]ncs lying and being w[ith]in the said Ile of Thanet which were my fathers  
Nich[ol]as/

Wottons or myn after him unto my said iii sonnes that is to sey Edward sir Nicholas the prest and  
George/

and to the heires of every of their bodies lawfully begotten in fee taile forever as p[ar]cell of my  
gavillkynd/

lands Also I will that my said feoffees that is to sey Sir Will[ia]m Scot knyght and others shall after/  
my deceasse deliver astate of and in the maner of Chilton beside Syttingbo[r]ne with all the  
appurten[a]ncs and/  
of and in all other lands tenements woods Rents and servics w[ith] their appurten[a]ncs lying and  
being/  
w[ith]in the hundred of Middelton whatsoever they be except only my tenement called Bordenhouse  
with/  
[end third page]

thappurten[a]ncs and of and in my Mano[ur] of Wytherst with all and singuler thappurten[a]ncs  
therunto belonging/  
unto my forsaid iii sonnes Edward sir Nich[ol]as the prest and to George Wotton and to the heires of  
every of their/  
bodies lawfully begotten in fee taile forever as gavillkynde lands Also I will that if it happen all my/  
sonnes and daughters to dye as god defende without heires of their bodies lawfully begotten That  
then/  
I will after that my wille and testament is fully perfourmed that all the said manours of  
Paddyllisworth/  
and Pottynnys Wardons in Egerton Boyscombe the lands in Cheryng and Westwell purchased of hugh/  
at hache and the said xiiis iiiid of Annytye owte of Lachyndens lands in Bydenden with almaner/  
of lands pastures medowes woods Rents Custumes and Servics w[ith] all their appurten[a]ncs unto  
the said/  
Manours and to every parcell before rehersed belonging or apperteynyng shall hole remayn unto/  
my suster Alice my suster nowe the wife of Humfrey Cheyney for terme of her naturall lyf And/  
after hir decess to remayn unto my nevewe John Cheyney her sonne and to his heires for/  
evermore In witnesse whereof I the said sir Robert Wotton have written this my present/  
testament and last will w[ith] my owne hands and subscribed my name the day and yere/  
aforesaid/

Probatum fuit testamentum suprascripti defuncti Coram p[re]fatis Com[missariis] in/  
eccl[esi]a Cath[edrali] d[omi]ni Pauli London[ensis] vij die mensis Junii Anno D[omi]ni mill[esimo]  
quingentesimo xxiiij Jurament[o]/  
Edwardi Wootton executoris in h[uius]mo[d]i test[ament]o nominati In p[er]sona Thome Argall  
procur[atoris] &c &c approbatum et/  
insinuatum Et commissa fuit adm[in]istracio o[mn]iu[m] & singulorum bonoru[m] Juriu[m] &  
creditorum dicti defuncti auct[orit]e/  
p[re]fatorum R[everendissim]orum patrum p[re]fatis executori In p[er]sona d[ict]i procu[rato]ris De  
bene & fidelit[er] administrand' &c de pleno & fidelit[er]  
Juris citra festum s[anc]ti Barth[olome]i Apostoli proxim[um] futur[um] exhi[ben]d[o] Necnon de  
plano & vero compoto reddend[o] Ad sancta dei/  
Ev[angelia] in debita iuris forma Jurat

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