



<http://kentarchaeology.org.uk/research/archaeologia-cantiana/>

Kent Archaeological Society is a registered charity number 223382

© 2017 Kent Archaeological Society

PEIRCE HOUSE, CHARING: THE HOUSE AND ITS OWNERS

PATRICIA WINZAR

Peirce House has stood on the west side of Charing High Street since the fifteenth century (Plate I). Much of its interest lies in its owners who have included members of such well known Kent families as Brent, Dering, Peirce and Sayer, all of whom have left their imprint on the property and the lives of local people.

The house is approached by a brick pathway leading to an imposing porch that is just over 10 m. from the road frontage. The name Peirce relates to a family of that name who held the property in the late seventeenth century, but the house is much older. The earliest surviving part is the southern half of the hall which has been dated by the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England as early fifteenth-century (Plate II). The original house followed a traditional plan which comprised a central hall open to the rafters with a parlour on the ground floor (in this house at the north end) and two service rooms at the other end of the hall. A fire for warmth was placed in the hall and the site of the louvre in the roof that allowed the smoke to escape is still visible in the roof space. Over the parlour was an upper room, the solar, reached by its own stair and another upper room would have been sited over the service rooms. The northern end of the building, containing the parlour and solar, was probably demolished in the seventeenth century when the house was in the ownership of the Peirce family. There are surviving drawings by E.W. Parkin from the time when the hall was still complete showing a bracket on the north east corner that could have supported a jettied extension to the solar (Fig. 1). The northern end of the hall was pulled down shortly after 1962, when plans were submitted for a major renovation of the building (Figs. 2a, 2b, 3a, 3b).

It is not known whether the original service end was jettied as it was rebuilt in the early sixteenth century.¹ That rebuild is the one seen today

¹ RCHME – Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England.



P. WINZAR

Peirce House as it is today.

(RCHME: Crown copyright)



(RCHME: Crown copyright)
Fifteenth-century crown-post.

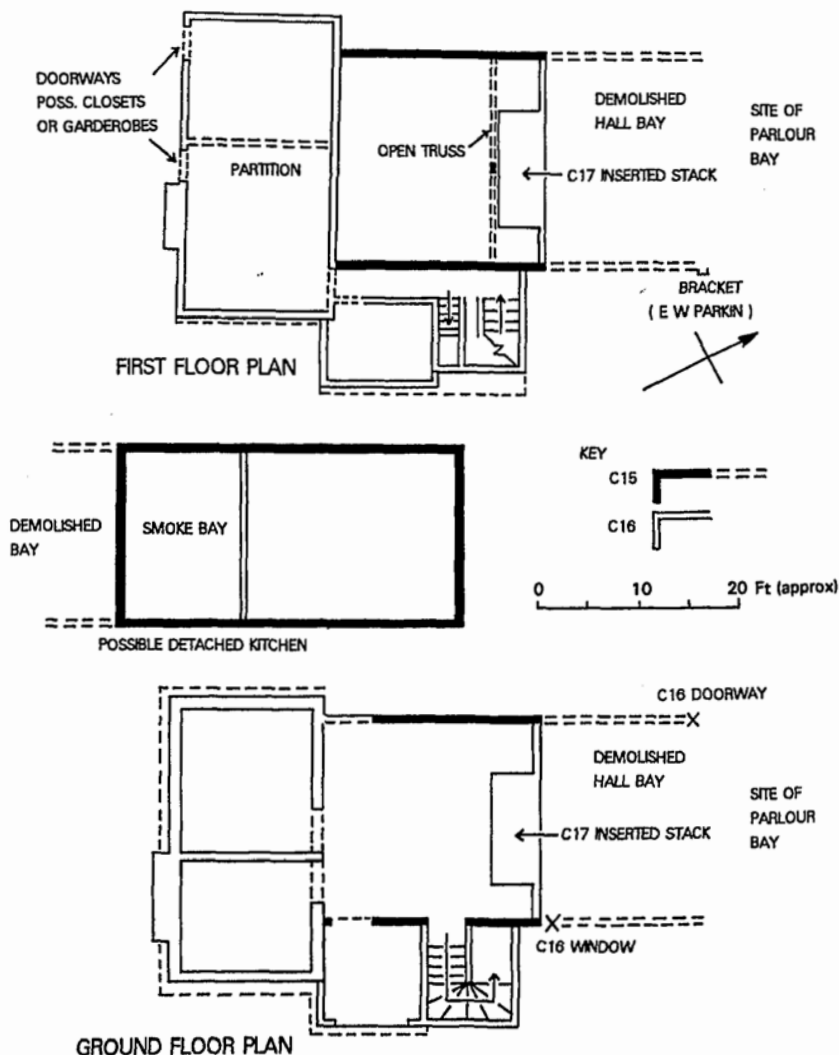


Fig. 1. Sketch plans based on a ground-floor plan by E.W. Parkin, c. 1960 with amendments by RCHME, 1990 showing the fifteenth- and sixteenth-century building.

and two dragon beams confirm that it was jettied on three sides. It is unlikely that the present flint walls on the ground floor of this wing are the original sixteenth-century walls; they are more likely to be a form of later under-pinning at the same time that an extension to the south was added. The walls are 2 ft. thick on the east front and the west rear of the building and are built of coarse unknapped flints. They seem to be of one build, although the line was broken by a doorway between the wing and the extension at the front prior to 1962, and at the rear obscured by a two-storey corridor built to link the main house and the timber-framed building at the rear after 1962 (Figs. 3a and 3b). This smaller building probably began as a detached kitchen – a safety feature of many early timber-framed buildings to minimise the fire-risk to the main building.

At the same time as the new sixteenth-century service wing, an extension was added to the front of the house containing a porch with a chamber above and a staircase leading from the hall to a first floor corridor. A block stair leads from the corridor to an attic. It is possible that this stair was re-used from either the parlour or service end.

Despite being only half its original size, the house still presents an attractive façade to the main street with its timber framing and the later herring-bone brick infill.

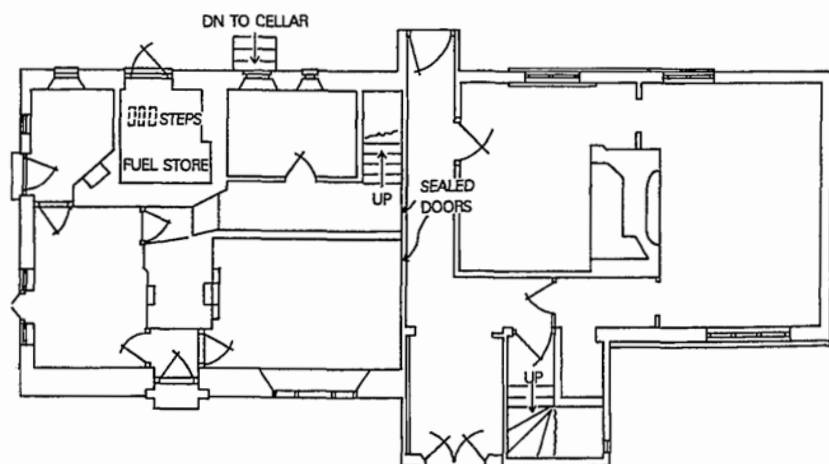
THE FAMILY OF BRENT

John Weever said that the Charing Brents were '*branched out of the ancient stock of Brent in Somersetshire, of which house, Sir Robert Brent was a Baron of Parliament in the time of Edward I*'.² The exact connection of William Brent with the main line of the Somerset Brents of Cossington is not known. His wife, Julian, was the youngest daughter of John and Amabel Gobyon and was co-heir, with her two sisters, to the manor and advowson of Pevington in Kent.³

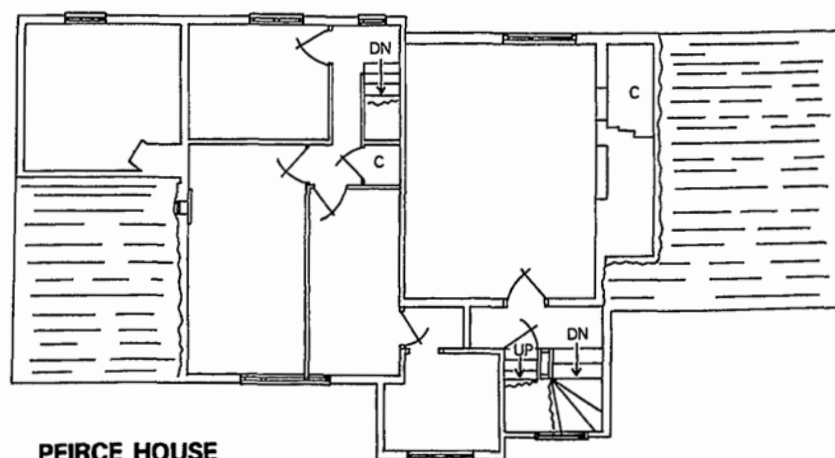
William and Julian had two sons, Hugh and William, who came to Kent in the fifteenth century. It is most likely that they were younger sons and came with expectations of inheriting their mother's interest in Pevington. It is a fact that the estate eventually became vested in Hugh's descendants and passed through them to the Dering family.

² John Weever, *Ancient Funerall Monuments*, 1631, 294, Edward Hasted, *The History and Topographical Survey of the County of Kent*, 2nd ed., vii, 437, quotes Weever, but incorrectly names the Brent family's main residence as 'Wickins'.

³ Edward Hasted, *The History and Topographical Survey of the County of Kent*, 1st ed., iii, 223.



PRE - 1962 GROUND FLOOR



PEIRCE HOUSE

PRE - 1962 FIRST FLOOR

Fig. 2. (a) Sketch plans of Peirce House before 1962. (b) Sketch plans of the proposed alterations. (By permission of Mr C. Williams).

PIERCE HOUSE, CHARING: THE HOUSE AND ITS OWNERS

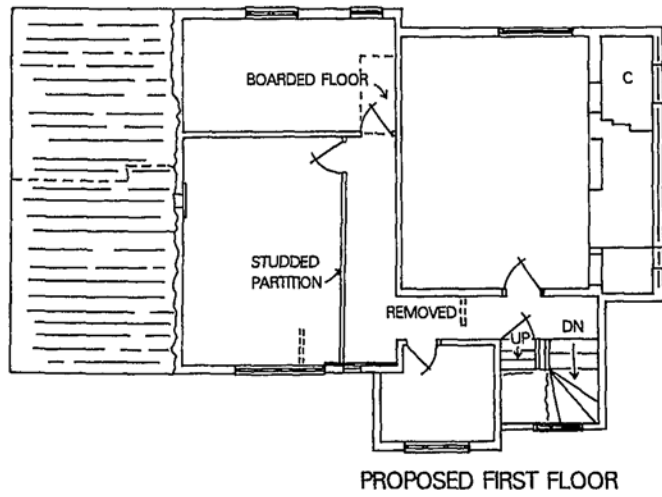
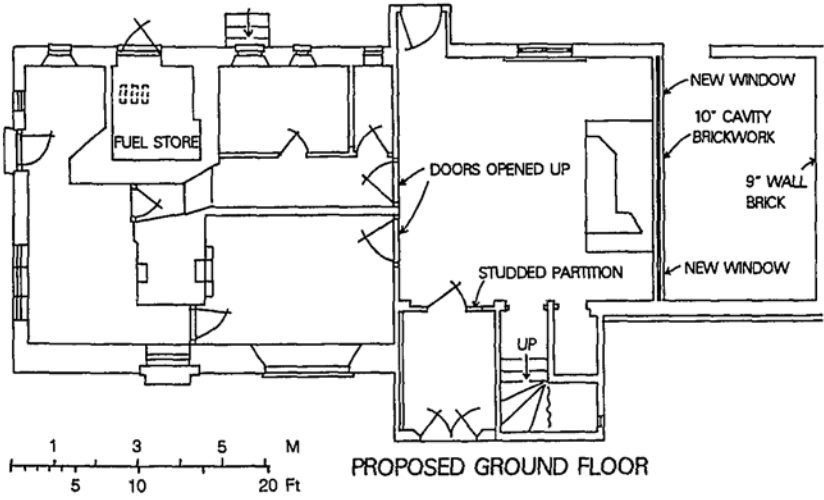
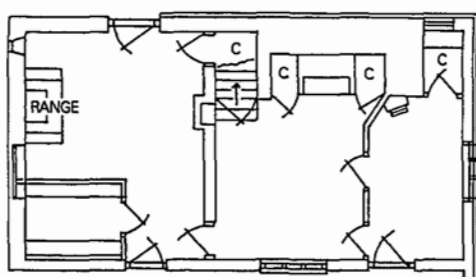
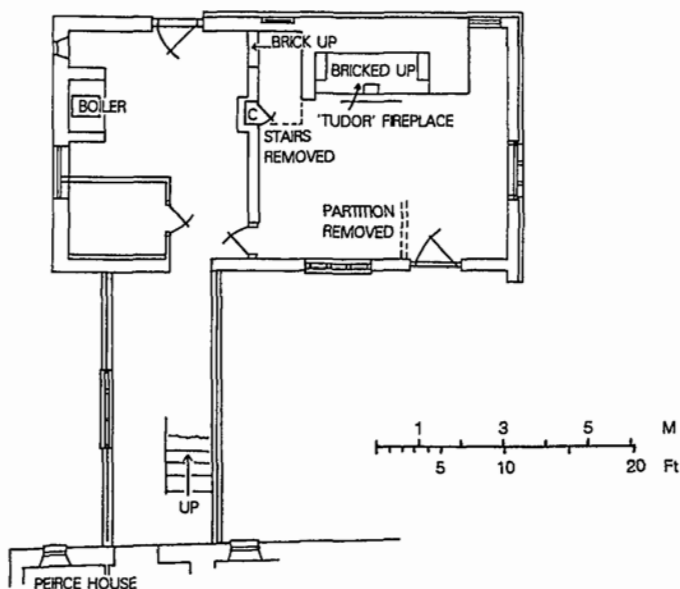


Fig. 3.



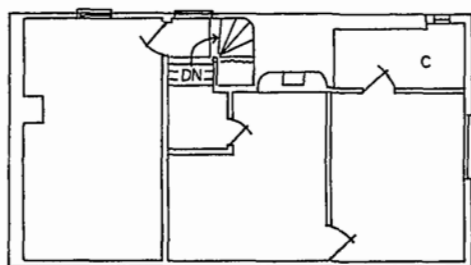
PRE - 1962 GROUND FLOOR

PEIRCE HOUSE COTTAGE

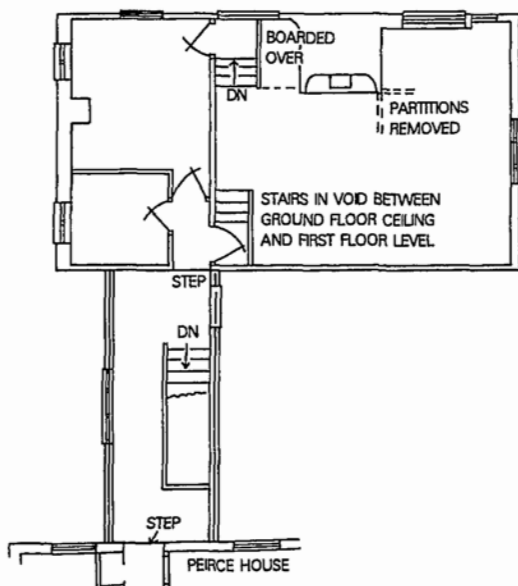


PROPOSED GROUND FLOOR

Fig. 4. (a) Sketch plans of Peirce Cottage before 1962. (b) Sketch plans of the proposed alterations and the new corridor linking both buildings. (By permission of Mr C. Williams).



PRE - 1962 FIRST FLOOR



PROPOSED FIRST FLOOR

Fig. 5.

William married Alice, daughter of John Crekyng of Ruckinge and Bilsington, and was styled as of that place. His only daughter, Christine, became a nun.

Hugh Brent of Charing – testament dated 1474

Hugh had married Christine, daughter and heir of Robert at Rye of Charing by 1439, because he and Christine sold a house in Canterbury in that year.⁴ No documentary evidence has been found of the land holdings of the Rye family in Charing that may have come to Hugh on his marriage, but documents recording the purchase of property and land transactions of Hugh Brent survive. The first is dated 25 June, 1431, and refers to an estate at Halden and Little Chart.⁵ The second of 25 June, 1436, refers to one messuage, 20 acres of land, 2 acres of meadow, 3 acres of wood and 11s. 8d. of rent in Charing, but it is not known exactly where this holding was situated.⁶ Other documents refer to the purchase of land and property in Charing, Stalisfield, Pluckley, Smarden and Lynsted.

A document, dated 1439/40, does mention an identifiable piece of land owned by Hugh in Charing; it is a land transfer deed which gives the site of a garden as '*lying next to the land of Hugh Brent called pycots*.'⁷ Pycots is a large meadow, which lies behind the properties on the west side of Charing High Street, behind Peirce House. It is now bounded by School Road on the north and the A20 on the south, but is likely to have extended further south before the main street through Charing was bisected by the A20. It is also recorded as Pycottys in a bundle of documents entitled '*Coles juxta Pett* in Charing and Westwell 1389–1456, with rental, 1456–57'.⁸ The name is clearly listed along with other fields in the Charing area in the first document, but, unfortunately, neither the date nor the holder of Pycottys is readable.

With the date of early fifteenth-century for the surviving hall bay, it seems there was a house on the site by 1439, but there is no evidence that it was owned or occupied by Hugh. The most that can be said is that the house lying back, as it does from the street frontage and without the buildings which now partially conceal it, would have dominated its neighbours and must have belonged to a person of importance.

⁴ PRO. C.P.25/1/115/313.

⁵ PRO. C.P.25/1/115/306.

⁶ PRO. C.P.25/1/115/310.

⁷ CKS. U386 T20 – Darell MSS (Calehill Estate).

⁸ CKS. U1454 M1 to M12 – Miscellaneous MSS.

Hugh Brent became a leading citizen of Charing and left 10 marks in his will for the upkeep of the fabric of the church. The wooden church tower was being re-built in stone at that time and many benefactors left money which was used for this purpose. Hugh's son, John, left 13s. 4d. to be used specifically for the 'new bell-tower'. The eminence of the Brent family is emphasised by the fact that their 'wyvern' shield of arms appears on the sinister spandrel of the west door of the church and the badge of Edward IV – 'A White Rose en Soleil' on the dexter spandrel. The stone is now so weathered that the carving is barely discernible, but it has been recorded within living memory as well as in older records.

The phrase 'Last will and testament' is familiar to most people and was used in early probate documents to differentiate between the goods and chattels of the deceased, including actual money, and the land and property. Only the testament of Hugh Brent's probate records, dated 12 March, 1474, has been found.⁹ The bequests to family and friends are of interest in determining relationships and can be seen in the summary of this testament (Appendix A). It is a pity that the actual will is elusive, as that would have given an idea of Hugh's wealth illustrated by his land and perhaps a better indication of the site of his main dwelling. Hugh and Christine's eldest son was named William and they had five other sons and two daughters.

William Brent, d. 1495/6

William Brent was married twice. His first wife is said to have been the daughter of a man named Barnes¹⁰ and she and William had two sons, Hugh and Roger, and two daughters, Anne and Elizabeth. His second wife was Amy Rosmodres, the daughter and co-heir of William Rosmodres, and the widow of William Pashley of Smeeth (Fig. 5). Both the will and the inventory of William have survived. The former is dated the 21 December, 1495/6, and the inventory of his 'moveable goods' was taken on the 2 February following. He held manors and lands in Charing, Pevington, Smarden, Boughton Malherbe, Challock, Kennington, Willesborough, Hinxhill, Lympne, Wye and Boughton Aluph. How much of this land he had inherited from his father is not known, but William had become a land owner of some importance.

He did not rely on his land to provide his wealth but became a lawyer holding a number of official appointments.¹¹ His legal work

⁹ CKS. U275 T50/10 – Dering (Brabourne) MSS.

¹⁰ *Visitation 1574* (Harleian Society, lxxiv, 33).

¹¹ See Brent pedigree.

probably accounts for Sir John Fineux of Swingfield being a feoffee of his will. Sir John was Lord Chief Justice from 1496–1526.

William's house in Charing was Peirce House. The 1495/6 inventory helps to visualise the house as it was then. It is well known that caution must be exercised when using inventories to reconstruct buildings as rooms could be empty and therefore omitted by the appraisers. However, it is possible to present a theory to relate the number of rooms and their use in the house as it was in 1495.

A number of alterations to the house must have been necessary by the arrival of Lady Moyle. In 1480, Sir Walter Moyle of Eastwell died and his widow Margaret came to live in Charing until her death in 1493. Some authorities say that she was the aunt of William Brent but, in fact, she was only his aunt by marriage, being the sister of his wife Amy's mother, the wife of William Rosmodres.

The house had the original layout on the ground floor, viz. the hall, parlour, and service rooms. The kitchen, although it does not specifically say so, was probably still in the building at the rear. The upstairs rooms are a little more difficult to place, but the following explanation is acceptable given the number of occupants.

A chamber over the service end was traditionally a large single room, but this inventory lists both '*the chamber over the buttry*' as if it was directly over that room, and another chamber. There is no reason why the second chamber could not have been made by partitioning the original large room.

The other upstairs rooms were the chamber over the parlour and '*My Ladys Chamber*'. There was no porch chamber mentioned in this inventory and this helps to confirm that it was not built until after William's death. His will says that Amy should have all '*such chambers as my Lady Moile had with the parloure underne the saide chambers*', which suggests that the solar had also been divided into two rooms. There are two '*draghts*', thought to be closets, which were filled with old furnishings. It would seem that Lady Moile (Moyle) had more than her fair share of a crowded household. The hall had not been floored over, even partially, at this time.

There was another member of William's household who should have had accommodation and that was his chaplain, William FitzJames. According to the architectural evidence the rear range may have been of four bays, not necessarily all of one build.¹² A smoke-blackened roof suggests that one bay was a kitchen, but the function of the rest is unknown. Perhaps this could have contained rooms allocated to the

¹² RCHME, see note 1.

chaplain. If the contents were considered his property, then the room or rooms would not appear in the inventory.

William and Amy had two sons, John and Thomas and a daughter Margaret. Both these sons were under the age of 22 years when their father made his will, and Margaret was unmarried. Amy was allocated the '*dwelling place*' in Charing and Filthes Mill in Egerton until John came of age at 22 years and she was also allotted 10 marks annually for three years to send John to school, but there is no indication of his age at the time the will was drawn up. When John was 22 years old, he was to give his mother 10 marks yearly and allow her the right to inhabit the chambers that Lady Moile (Moyle) had occupied with the parlour underneath, provided she remained unmarried.

Roger, the only surviving son of William's first marriage, inherited all the lands that remained in Kennington, Willesborough and Hinxhill, and after three years, the manor of Rippell Wicheley and Halfiche with all lands and tenements in Lympne. During the three years the profits were to be used to execute the will and build William's chapel in Charing Church on the south side of the chancel.

William asked to be buried in Charing Church next to the tomb or sepulchre of Roger Rey, who was probably a member of his mother's family of Rye. As the early church memorials were all destroyed in the church fire of 1590, it is not known where Roger Rey's tomb was or whether William was buried near him, or even re-interred in his chapel when it was built. Today it is named the Wickens Chapel having been adopted in the seventeenth century by the branch of the Dering family who lived at Wickens, a house to the east of Charing on the borders of Westwell.

The manor and advowson of Pevington together with Selepynden in Smarden and Chapmanfolde in Boughton were to go to son Thomas after Amy's death, with reversion to his brother John, if Thomas died without heirs before he was 30 years old.

The feoffees and executors had great difficulty in administering the will for a great many debts were outstanding. Some would appear to be personal borrowings; some amounts for donations promised, such as the building of the steeple at Charing. Other amounts must surely be monies held in the course of his legal work; £66 8s. 8d. was due to the 'Parson of Pluckley' and £20 for 'My Lord Cardinal'; £4 was owing to 'the three children'. Divers other churches were mentioned and £26 13s. 4d. was owing for his 'Chapel', which implies that building had already started before William's death.

On 10 July, 1499, an Indenture was drawn up by the agreement of the three main beneficiaries, Roger, the eldest son and heir, Amy, the widow, and John, her eldest son, who at the time of his father's death

was under 22 years old.¹³ His interests were represented by his uncle, Master Thomas Brent and John Brent, clerk. Various holdings were apportioned between Thomas and Amy Brent and they were to use the profits to pay off certain of the deceased's debts within eight years. The debtors were listed and Thomas Brent had to find £97 17s. 0d. Amy was said to have agreed to pay £146, but her list totals £209 2s. 0d. The lands at Boughton Aluph and in Wye were to be sold to pay Margaret Brent's marriage portion of £40. The proceedings were held in the presence of 'the most Reverend father in God, John, Cardinal Archbishop of Canterbury, Chancellor of England'. John Morton studied at Cerne Abbey and Balliol College and practised as advocate in the Court of Arches.

John Brent – brother of William, will dated 1505

Mention must be made at this point of William's brother, John, who died in 1505. A Memorandum records that he, John Brent, had let to Nicholas Baldocke his houses called 'Wykinges and Caprons' together with other lands totalling 33 acres by a lease dated 16th Henry VII.¹⁴ It may be that this is how Edward Hasted came to confuse the '*ancient seat*' of the Brents (Peirce House) with that of Wickens. This house was a small medieval house which was later rebuilt by Christopher Dering in 1607, one bay being retained as a kitchen.

John's will implies that his main house was probably nearer Pett Lane by a field named as Snagwell. Snagwell is the last field on the south side of Pett Lane before the lane curves round the boundary of Pett Place. After seven years 'Wykinges' and its land, with the exception of a two-acre meadow, was left to John Brent, gentleman, his nephew. John asked to be buried in Charing Church '*before the door of the new Chapel of St. Mary where no body from ancient time has been buried*'. This was his brother's new chapel.

Amy Brent – will dated 1516

Amy Brent's will made her son, John, her principal heir leaving him her property in Devon and Cornwall. He had already inherited the lands left to him by his father when he reached 22 years. His wife, Anne, was to receive a bequest which included Amy's '*best gown freized with*

¹³ No source is known for this document. It is described as in Latin on parchment, c. 55 cm. x 27 cm., in a Tudor hand. It has two seal tags, the first has a red wax seal but no impression, and the second seal is missing.

¹⁴ CKS. U1454 M1-M12 – Miscellaneous MSS.

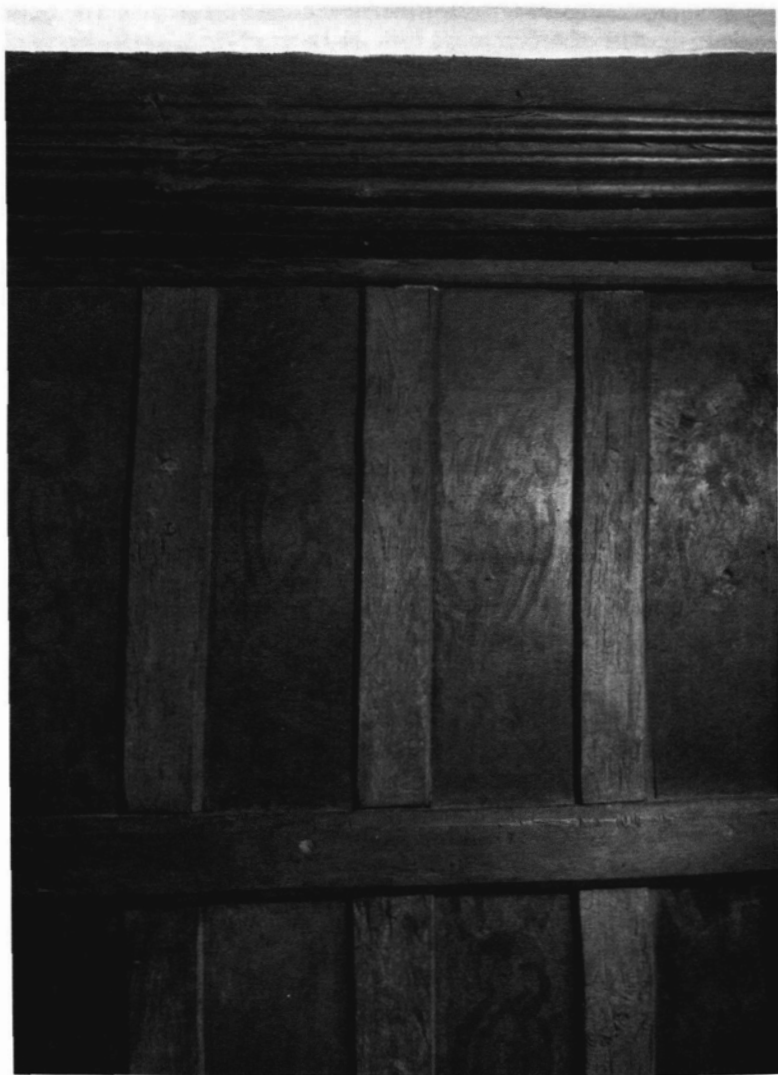
mynkys'. Anne was the daughter and co-heir of Thomas Berkeley and her mother was the daughter of the first Lord Bergavenny. The only guide to the date of her marriage is in the Brent pedigree where her date of birth is given as c. 1498. If she was 16 years when married, then the date could be c. 1514. It is not likely to be any later because she is named as John's wife in her mother-in-law's will of 1516. It may have been on the occasion of this marriage that the old house was renovated and updated. A new and opulent sixteenth-century wing replaced the service end of the old hall. The ground floor retained the traditional layout of two service rooms with the addition of a cellar. At the same time a porch was added and a new stair with a first-floor corridor leading to the new wing along the side of the old hall (Fig. 1). The first floor of the new wing contained two rooms that still have elegant moulded ceiling joists.

Each room has a blocked doorway opening on the southern side. It is known that a jetty ran along that wall so that the purpose of these openings is not clear, closets or garderobes have been suggested. The room over the porch was reached from the new corridor; it was, and is, a delightful room with painted wall panels (Plate III). The hall rafters remained *in situ* and the wall plate on which they rested became what would seem at first glance, a cross rail on the hall side of the new corridor (Plate IV).

The doorway at the north-west end of the hall, marked as sixteenth-century on the plan, was over-large for a room door and opened outwards, which means it probably led to a stair lobby leading to the two solar rooms used by Lady Moile (Moyle), the rooms which later became those of William's widow Amy, together with the parlour underneath (Plate V). This would have given Amy virtually a self-contained dwelling, if a new door was cut through into the ground floor parlour from the lobby.

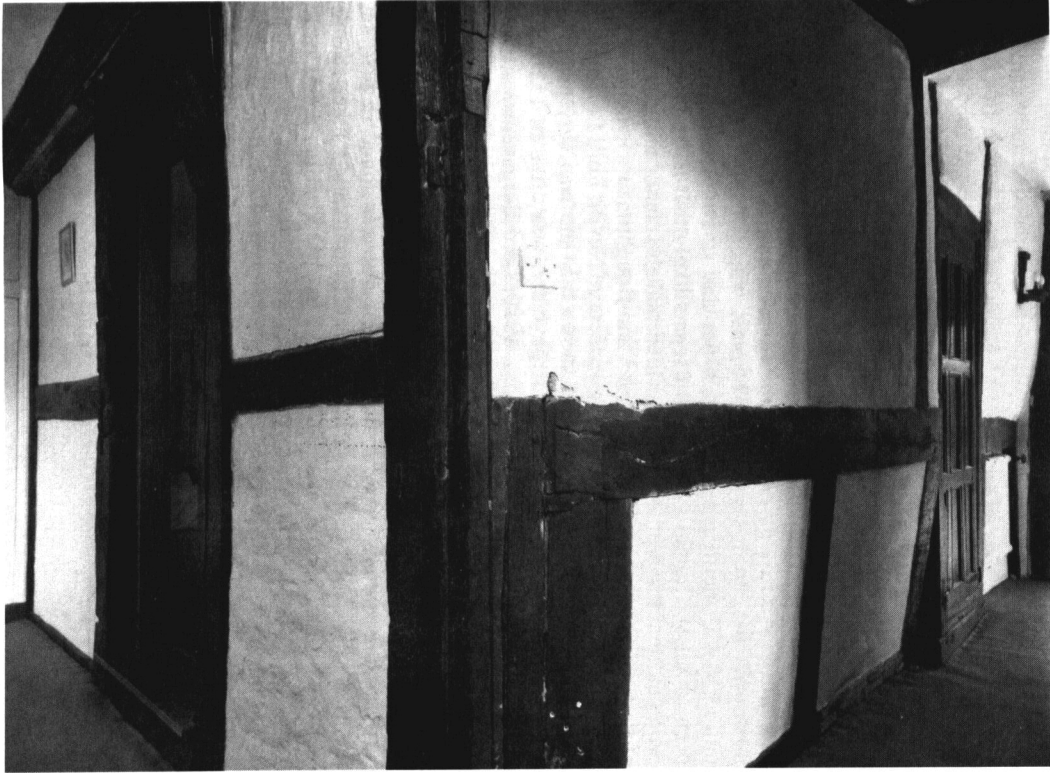
On the west front immediately to the north of the new stairs at the side of the porch, a hall window was inserted, which is also early sixteenth-century (Plate VI). The hall had still not been floored over and so there must have been at least one more companion window nearer to the parlour end, if there was to be any form of symmetry.

The reason for retaining an open hall in the sixteenth century, when so many owners were taking the advantage of inserting brick chimneys and gaining first floor rooms, can only be guessed. The owners who retained their halls, even if they built chimneys and hearths on the side walls, were usually higher up the social scale. There seems no doubt that Amy Brent felt that the Brent family had attained a sufficiently high status to flaunt a modernised hall; her will indicates her opinions. It is impossible to know how the new hall was heated, but a side chimney on the west wall would seem probable.



(RCHME: Crown copyright)

The porch chamber with painted panels.



(RCHME: Crown copyright)

Sixteenth-century first-floor corridor.

The impaled arms of Brent and Rosmodres are carved on the dexter spandrel of the outer porch door. That the arms were placed there after the death of William is in no doubt for Philip Blake says that men did not impale the arms of their wives in those days; they quartered them, if their wives were important heiresses. The impaled arms means that Amy was a widow. On the sinister spandrel is a badge of crossed staples, indicating the connection with the Nevill (Bergavenny) family, coming from John's mother-in-law and his sister Margaret's husband. (Plates VII and VIII).

On the inner spandrels of the same doorway are a rose and a portcullis. These badges have been said to represent Henry VII and his mother who was a Beaufort, but could they also be badges connected with the Nevills? Debrett of 1976, describes two Abergavenny badges as – '*dexter – a rose gules barbed and seeded proper*', and '*sinister – a portcullis or*'. John's brother, Thomas, was not mentioned in his mother's will, neither was a widow nor any issue. No evidence has been found of Thomas's death but it seems likely that he had died *sine prole* and that his brother John had inherited the manor and advowson of Pevington and the lands in Smarden and Boughton.

John's sister, Margaret, had married George Nevill, Lord Bergavenny as his second wife and Amy's will shows that she was very proud of that connection. Margaret, Lady Bergavenny, was alive in 1516 but, according to *The Complete Peerage*, i, 1910, Lord Bergavenny married for the third time in 1519, both Margaret and her daughter Jane having died. Margaret is said to have died '*s.p.superstite*' or 'without issue surviving'.

There was a bequest of some household goods and £6 13s. 4d. to – '*my lityll daught*' Amye Brente', who was not mentioned in William Brent's will of 1495. A posthumous child of Amy's marriage to William would have been aged 21 years by 1516, so the term 'little daughter' was probably used in the sense of 'youngest'. Amy was buried in the new Lady Chapel, built at the request of her husband.

*John Brent d. 1565*¹⁵

Under the terms of his father's will John came into his inheritance when he was 22 years old. He inherited a house with the hall still open to the roof. The parlour and the two rooms above were the domain of his mother. The sixteenth-century renovations, described previously, would have given the house an elegant face-lift, but would not have provided much space for John, his new wife and expected family,

¹⁵ CCA. DCb/BT1/58 – Bishop's transcripts.

although the rooms in the back building, possibly used by a chaplain in his father's day, may have been vacant for use. After the death of Amy in 1516, the house would have been adequate for John's family of two sons and two daughters.

John was a captain in the retinue of Lord Bergavenny mustered at Canterbury on the 17 May, 1515. In 1528, he was granted a lease, dated 8 August, by William Warham, Archbishop of Canterbury, of the manor and lands of Charing, with the houses, edifices, lands, rights and appurtenances, etc., and divers tenant services.¹⁶ He did not receive any of the rights and privileges of lordship; in other words, he farmed the land with the assistance of certain tenants who still held their land by 'service', and he could collect rents from other tenants. The archbishop retained the use of the great stable and one barn '*for the lord's hay*' but it would seem that John Brent had the right to live in the Palace had he wished. A further lease for 50 years on the same terms was granted by Archbishop Cranmer in 1541 to John Brent and William Brent, his son. There are no further surviving leases for the Brent family. In 1544, Edward Hasted says John Brent '*feasted king Henry VIII in this house as he passed this way towards his then intended siege of Bullein*'.¹⁷ Hasted was still under the misapprehension that the Brent house was 'Wickens'. It is more likely that the king was 'feasted' at the manor house, now known as the Palace. Peirce House could hardly accommodate a royal cavalcade so, perhaps, the statement adds weight to the possibility that John and Anne lived in the Palace. On the other hand, it is quite possible that they had continued to live in Peirce House only opening up the Palace for auspicious occasions.

In 1579, a lease in reversion, reciting the 1541 lease, was granted to Thomas Perry, gentleman, by Queen Elizabeth after the expiration of the 50 years which meant he stood to gain possession in 1591, 12 years after the grant was signed. During that time he would have had the opportunity to assign the lease.

John's eldest son, William, is said to have died unmarried by 1566 and his other son, Thomas, became the heir to the Charing property. He also became the heir to his kinsman Robert Brent of Willesborough who died without issue in 1567. Thomas married Jane, the daughter of Thomas Greene of Bobbing, at Willesborough in 1552 and lived there from 1569,¹⁸ but they also had no heirs. The 1541 lease which was to run until 1591 was granted to John and his son, William, their executors or assigns and, although no will has been traced for William, it is

¹⁶ *Topographer and Genealogist*, 'Honywood Evidences' 256, 257.

¹⁷ Edward Hasted, *op.cit.*, 2nd ed., vii, 438.

¹⁸ CKS. U1107 E1/3 – Dering MSS.

P. WINZAR

PLATE V



Sixteenth-century hall doorway.



Sixteenth-century hall window.



(RCHME: Crown copyright)

The Brent arms on the dexter door spandrel.

possible that the lease passed to William's brother, Thomas. Amy, John's youngest daughter, married William Crispe, Lieutenant of Dover Castle and also died without issue. The other daughter, Margaret, married John Dering of Surrenden Dering in Pluckley and was the only child of John Brent to produce children. The date of the death of John's wife, Anne, is not known, but it is assumed that she continued to live in the family home, wherever it was, with her son William whilst he and she were still alive.

The Brent family had lived in Charing for about 150 years and Hugh and his descendants had moved steadily up the social ladder making advantageous marriages, amassing lands, wealth and professional appointments. Two of Hugh's sons, William and Roger, became lawyers involved with legal services for St. Augustine's Abbey in Canterbury. Amongst a long list of appointments, both of them became a Commissioner for the Peace in Kent and William was also the Escheator for Kent and Middlesex in 1486-87. William's son, John, was a Commissioner in Kent in 1550/1 and J.P. for Kent in 1553/4. (See



(RCHME: Crown copyright)

The Neville badge on the sinister door spandrel.

Appendix A). With the death of John Brent's two sons, Peirce House passed to the Dering family through John's daughter, Margaret.

THE HERALDRY OF THE BRENTS

The arms and quarterings of the family of Brent are marshalled, that is, set out in correct order, by Robert Cooke, Clarenceux King of Arms, in the *Visitation of Kent*, 1574 (Harl. Soc. xxiv, 83), where they are blazoned, or described in heraldic terms. Although he does not name them, they may be taken as being those of the families of Brent, Rye, Rosmodres, Lucombe, Kayle, Euthy, Bodbran and Stevenston. The arms and quarterings are next set out by Augustine Vincent, Windsor Herald (Coll. of Arms, Vincent's *Kent*, 145, p. 48), who died in 1626, aged about 42, and is noted for the reliability of his work. He does not blazon, but tricks, i.e., sketches, ten coats, which he names as those of Brent, Rye, Charing, Rosmodres, Bradfyld, Lucombe, Kayle, Stonard,



Quarterings of the Dering Family

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| 1. Dering | 17. Selling | 33. Stonard | 47. Walthoof |
| 2. Dering | 18. Bettenham | 34. Berkeley | 48. Betisbourne |
| 3. Dering. Vin. 145, 50. | 19. Appulderfield | 35. Gomer | 49. Hoult |
| 4. Heton. I. 9, 61 | 20. Appulderfield | 36. Cornwall | 50. Cholmeley. 2 D. 5, 132 |
| 5. Pennington. I. 9, 61 | 21. Dene | 37. Marshal | 51. Eton. 2 D. 5 132 |
| 6. D'Ipre I. 24, 85 | 22. Gatton | 38. Strongbow | 52. Henshaw. Fun. Bks. N. 10, 114. H. 5. 108 |
| 7. Badlesmere | 23. Brent. Vin. 145, 48 | 39. Clare | 53. Roper. C. 16, 24 |
| 8. Bohun. I. 24, 85 | 24. Brent | 40. Macmurrough | 54. Tigershall |
| 9. Marshal | 25. Rye | 41. Bottetourt. Norfolk I. 136 | 55. Appulderfield |
| 10. Clare | 26. Gobion | 42. FitzOtes | 56. Appulderfield |
| 11. Hawte | 27. Pevington | 43. Somery | 57. Browne. C. 16, 121 |
| 12. Maleville. I. 9, 61 | 28. Charing | 44. Zouch | 58. Charlton |
| 13. Surrenden | 29. Roemadcliffe | 45. Beauchamp. Norfolk I. 150 | 59. Frances |
| 14. Pluckley | 30. Bradfyle | 46. Hastings | 60. Dering |
| 15. Malmaines. I. 9, 61 | 31. Lucombe | | |
| 16. Bendings. I. 9, 61 | 32. Kayle | | |

A true copy of the Shield of Quarterings of Dering as entered in Norfolk, vii. 157, in the College of arms, London.

GEO. HARRISON, *Winsor Herald*

Fig. 6. The quarterings of the Derings of Surrenden in Pluckley.

Berkeley and Betishorne. Note that he introduces Charing, Bradfyld (Bradfield) and Stonard, but omits Euthy, Bodbran and Stevenston, which is curious because these last three can be established genealogically. It is also difficult to account for Cooke's omission of Berkeley and Betishorne, seeing that he records the marriage of John Brent, grandson of Hugh, the first of the family in Kent, to Anne Berkeley, 'daughter and coheire of Berkeley of Hamshire', i.e., Thomas Berkeley, of Avon Tyrell, near Ringwood, Hants.

The third and final listing occurs in the shield of sixty Dering quarterings set out in College of Arms MS. Norfolk, vii, 157 (*Arch. Cant.*, x (1876), 330), where they are nos. 23-34 and no. 48. (Fig. 4). Of these, no. 24 can be disregarded, along with nos. 35-47. The list otherwise agrees with that of Vincent, except that it introduces the arms of Gobyon and Pevington between those of Rye and Charing. The marriage of Hugh Brent to Christine Rye accounts for the inclusion of the arms of Rye, which Vincent suggests bring in those of Charing, although he does not offer in explanation any descent from a marriage with a Charing, nor has such marriage yet been found. Even so, the quartering may, perhaps, be accepted on the ground of the known reliability of Vincent, who, it must be presumed, had good reason for introducing it where he did.

It is important at this stage to bear in mind that in considering a shield of quarterings the order in which they are marshalled shows how they were brought in. If the bearer of a coat, 'A', married the heir or co-heir of 'B', the arms of 'B' follow those of 'A', which is described as 'A' bringing in 'B'. But the bearer of coat 'B', or his ancestor, may have married the heir or co-heir of 'C', so that 'B' brings in 'C', and the male descendants of 'A' will bear the arms of 'A', 'B' and 'C', and so on. If there is a number of quarterings, an examination of the pedigree of the bearer of the first coat will reveal which of his male ancestors married heirs or co-heirs, so that the arms and quarterings brought in by each such marriage can be determined. Conversely, the bearer, or family, of an unidentified coat may often be deduced from an examination of the pedigree of the man whose heir or co-heir brought it in. The working of these principles can be seen in the pedigree of Amy Rosmodres (Fig. 5).

The placing of the arms of Gobyon and Pevington after those of Rye in the Dering shield suggests that they were brought in by Rye, but deeds formerly in the Surrenden muniments, evidently unknown to Cooke and Vincent, but apparently known to Hasted and which, fortunately, still survive (*penes* Mr Vernon Harris of Pluckley), indicate that Hugh Brent's father was not John, as given by Cooke, but William, and that he married as her third husband, Julian, the third and youngest daughter and co-heir of John Gobyon, of Essex, by Amabel, daughter

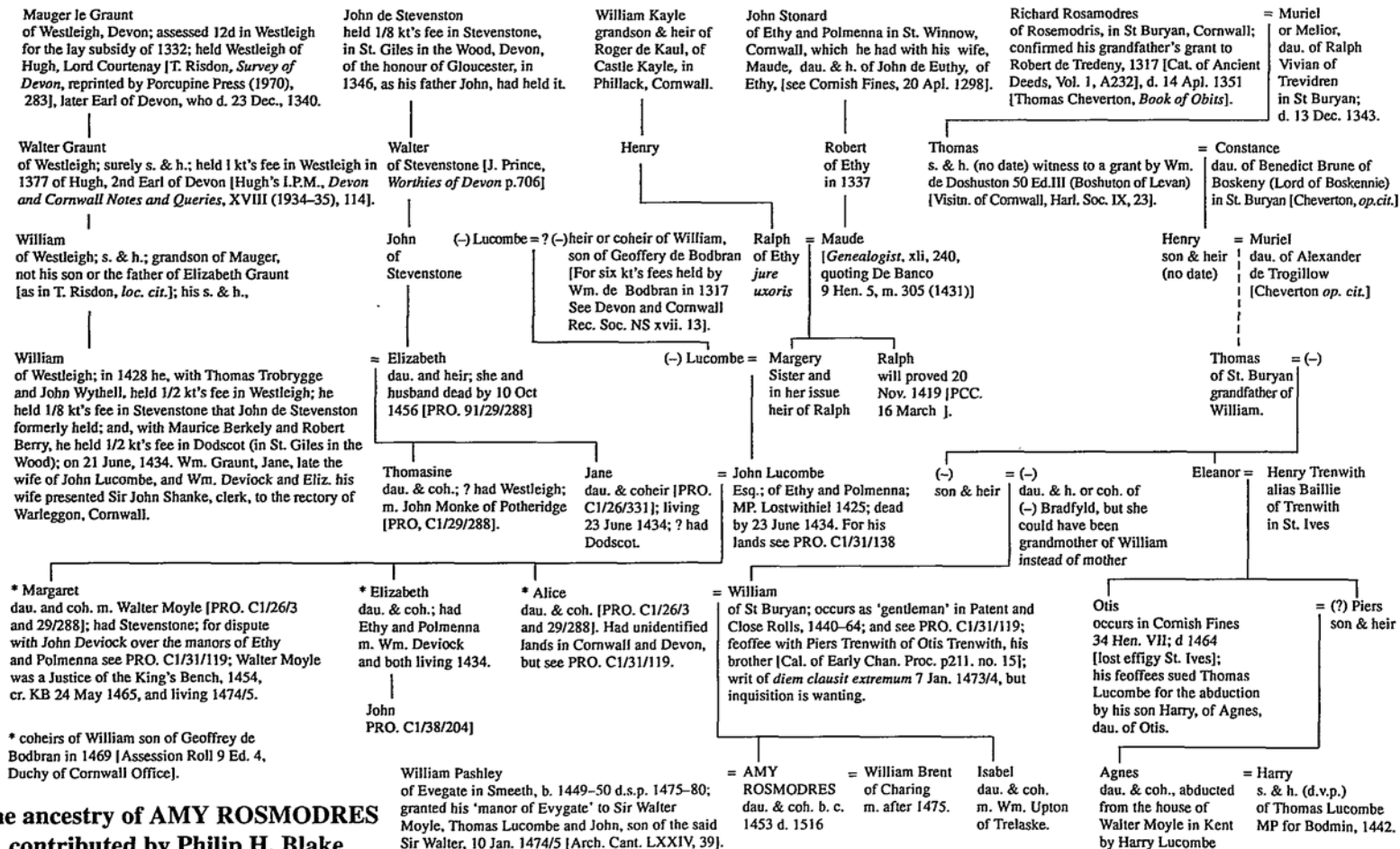
and eventual heir of John de Pevington. It follows, therefore, that, when Hugh married Christine Rye, he already bore the quarterings of Gobyon and Pevington, so that Rye must follow Pevington and be followed in turn by Charing, as given by Vincent.

The next two quarterings are of Rosmodres and Bradfield. The placing of the latter, Dering's no. 30, immediately after Rosmodres and before Lucombe shows that it was brought in by William Rosmodres and not by his wife, but exactly how has not yet been discovered.

Lucombe, Kayle and Stonard, Dering's nos. 31-33, which come next, present no difficulty and are obviously brought in by Amy's grandfather, John Lucombe (Fig. 6). Of the three coats that follow these, however, none occurs among the Dering quarterings or in Vincent's sketch, though all are blazoned by Cooke. The third is known to be the arms of Stevenston, so that two remain to be identified. The first of these follows Stonard, which suggests that Stonard brought it in. Amy's pedigree shows that John Stonard married the heir of John de Euthy, of Euthy, near Lostwithiel. With her he got the Manor of Euthy, along with the accompanying Polmenna, which descended to John Lucombe. There seems little reason to doubt, therefore, that the first unidentified coat is that of Euthy.

The identification of the next coat, Cooke's no. 7, is more abstruse. Its position suggests that it could have been brought in by Euthy, but, in 1469, Margaret, Elizabeth and Alice, daughters of John Lucombe, were described as co-heirs of William, son of Geoffrey de Bodbran (Assession Roll, 9 Ed. 4, Duchy of Cornwall Office), and one is inclined to associate Bodbran with Lucombe rather than with Euthy, because the late date suggests a co-heirship that came about later than would seem possible, if it had arisen through Euthy. Having established all but one of John Lucombe's heirships, it is logical to conclude that the only remaining unidentified coat is that of Bodbran and that it came to Lucombe through the marriage of a direct ancestor, very possibly his grandfather, with the heir or a co-heir of William de Bodbran.

The extraordinary feature of the three versions of the Brent quarterings is that they all omit any mention of the arms of Graunt, which should come next, the indisputable fact being that Amy Rosmodres was the granddaughter of Jane, wife of John Lucombe and daughter and co-heir of William Graunt, of Westleigh and of Stevenstone, in St. Giles in the Wood, both in Devon. What makes the matter even more extraordinary is that only Cooke records the quartering for Stevenston, yet he omits the arms of William Graunt who brought it in. How Graunt did it was through his wife, Elizabeth de Stevenston, and, in 1428, he was assessed on $\frac{1}{8}$ of a knight's fee in Stevenstone, lately (*quondam*) held by John de Stevenston. Graunt died within the next 28 years, as also did his wife. Stevenstone was an



The ancestry of AMY ROSMODRES
contributed by Philip H. Blake

Fig. 7

important estate, which descended to the Moyles of Eastwell, near Ashford, Kent, one of whom sold it *temp.* Hen. 8, to George Rolle, a London merchant, whose descendant, John Rolle, was created Lord Rolle of Stevenstone in 1796. The missing arms of Graunt are fortunately blazoned, though in a somewhat muddled way, among the quarterings of Monke of Potheridge given in the *Visitation of Devon*, 1620 (Harl. Soc. vi, 189). They should read: *gules, on a fess between three crosses fitchy argent, a lion passant azure*. The Monke quarterings also show that Graunt bore coats for Vautort and Esse, both of Devon, before the marriage with Stevenston, but, since it is not known how they were acquired, they are not included here among the Brent quarterings, though that does not necessarily imply that they were not genuinely borne by William Graunt.

Cooke's curious omission of Berkeley and Betishorne has already been noted, but it is significant that although Vincent does include them he makes no mention of the thirteen coats that come between them in the Dering scheme of quarterings. He rightly observes that the coat for Hoult that follows Betishorne there '*shd. not be gr^d.*', and since he also ignores the other thirteen, which in any case could probably not be justified, it seems proper to exclude them from the Brent assemblage. In sum, when Thomas Brent of Willesborough and Charing, including Wykyns, died in 1612, his Dering successors in Charing, as descendants of Margaret, his sister and heir, became entitled to quarter his arms with his fifteen quarterings as follows: Gobyon, Pevington, Rye, Charing, Rosmodres, Bradfield, Lucombe, Kayle, Stonard, Euthy, Bodbran, Graunt, Stevenston, Berkeley, and Betishorne. The coats of Charing and Bradfyld (Bradfield) are included mainly on the authority of Vincent, but further evidence is needed before Vautort and Esse (or Ashe) can safely be added.

It is worth mentioning that at this time the Derings did not bear the arms that are now so familiar and were, in fact, created by Sir Edward Dering, 1st bt., but their original and true arms of *gules, three deer's heads couped or*, canting, or punning, on the name Dering (Fig. 4, no. 3). The accompanying crest of a deer's head as in the arms was still in use in 1634 by Robert Dering, of London, draper, son of Finch, of Charing (see pedigree). The authentic Dering quarterings before the seventeenth century were: (1) Haute, *or, a cross engrailed gules*, being the arms of Thomas de Marynes, of Otterpool in Lympne, adopted by John Haute of Pluckley as grandson of his daughter Margery, wife of Henry de Haute; (2) Haute ancient, *azure, crusilly or, a lion rampant ermine, a fess gules over all*, being the arms of James Haute of Selling, father of John of Pluckley; (3) Maleville, for Christine, wife of James Haute, father of John; (4) Surrenden, for Margery, daughter of John Surrenden, wife of John Dering of Westbrook, near Lydd; (5) Pluckley,

for Agnes, daughter of Sir William Pluckley and wife of John Surrenden, father of the aforesaid John; (6) Bettenham, for Alice, daughter of William Bettenham of Cranbrook and wife of Nicholas Dering of Rolvenden, father of John, who married Margaret Brent. The four Dering quarterings recorded in the *Visitation of Kent*, 1592 (Harl. Soc., lxxv, 95), include the significant and suggestive, and unidentified, coat of *or, a saltire coupé sable* following that of Surrenden, which may, therefore, have brought it in, but it never appears again, unless we see it in the now familiar coat with the saltire complete! (Fig. 4, no. 2).

THE FAMILY OF DERING

John and Margaret Dering's son and heir, Richard, died before his uncle Thomas Brent and so it was his son, Sir Anthony Dering, who became sole heir to his great uncle, thereby inheriting both the Charing and Willesborough holdings.

Anthony Dering (Anthony of Charing) d. 1616

Sir Anthony's father, Richard Dering of Pluckley, had four brothers one of whom, Anthony, became the occupier of Peirce House and became known as Anthony of Charing.

Anthony Dering of Charing married first Jane Lambert and had seven or eight? sons (see Dering pedigree), and six daughters. His second wife, Elizabeth Horne, gave him a further son and a daughter. He died in 1616 and left both a will and an inventory. The date of the chimney and the flooring of part of the hall is said to be seventeenth-century and this would have helped accommodate Anthony's large family. It was not common to floor half the open hall when a chimney was inserted and this house is even more unusual in that the northern half of the hall remained open until it was demolished in this century.

Anthony's house had a hall and a '*howse within the Hall*' which could refer to the newly created room with a hearth in the south end of the old hall. The '*Chamber over the Porch*' was still there and also the main Bed Chamber in the opulent south wing. The old kitchen was possibly the '*gardinge house*' but only contained an old bed and a few covers. In the two service rooms, the milk house had a few household vessells, and the brew house contained '*one Costlet, one Pike, two Baskett Muskette, two swerdes [swords] and two souldiers Coates*'. The brewing took place in the cellar with '*hogsheades Tubbs and other beare vessells*'.

The 1443 Charter granting the right to hold two Fairs a year in Charing has not been traced, but on the 17 October, 1612, a copy was

made.¹⁹ This copy, which was found in the Wheler MSS, says that the '*Letters Patent themselves remained in the hands of Mr Anthony Dering*'. At that time the manor was owned by the Crown and the right to the Fair Tolls was leased out. The original charter ought to have been returned to the Wheler family when they obtained the lordship in 1692, but it is fortunate that the copy survived.

His will paints a very different picture to that of the affluent Brent family. The only mention of land in Anthony's will was three acres at '*Kenerton*' which was to go to his youngest son, Anthony, and a further parcell of four or five acres '*being the land of Thomas Brent esquire late deceased and not by him devised in the which I am to have a parte, I freely give my part unto Brent Moore & his heirs*'. After a few specific bequests the residue of '*all my goodes, chattells, debts, moveable and household stuffe*' was to be shared equally amongst his heir, Finch, and four other sons, one daughter and the children of his deceased son, George. His executor, Finch, had to find the money to pay Mr Thomas Pope of London who drew up the will and was enjoined to take no advantage of any loans made previously to any of his brothers or sisters. It seems that was the best he could do for his family and asked them to live together in '*brotherlie love*'.

Finch Dering d. 1625

When Finch died he had five sons and seven daughters surviving. He had held some property for he confirmed that the messuages and tenements conveyed to his wife, Mary, as her Jointure, should remain unto her, without specifying where they were. He said that everyone of his children under the age of 21 years were to have portions of £20 each; the sons when they reached that age and the daughters at 21 years or the date of their marriage.

With such large families of surviving children a change in the status of the Charing branch of the Derings is noticeable. It was no longer possible to provide all the sons with sufficient land to support them and their families. Anthony 'of Charing' had attended Queen's College, Cambridge, as a 'sizar'²⁰ and scholar, which no doubt helped towards his appointment as Escheator for Kent and Middx. Two of his sons went to Universities, Alexander to New College, Oxford, obtaining his M.A. in January 1589/90. George went to Magdalen College,

¹⁹ CKS. U55 E33 – Wheler MSS.

²⁰ 'Sizar' is a term used only by Cambridge and Trinity College, Dublin. The definition given is 'a student receiving allowances from the college and formerly charged with certain menial offices'. *The Oxford Illustrated Dictionary*, 1963 ed.

Cambridge, gaining his M.A. in 1590. Another son, John, had a career in the forces and served with famous commanders, *'under Sir Francis Drake upon the seas foure tymes. To the west Indians & under hym also in the year '88 at sea. And also under the Earle of Cumberland to the Islands, under Sir Henry Palmer upon the narrow seas, & under the Lord Thomas Howard after Earle of Suffolk to the Islands, & in the low Countries under the Earle of Lecicester, & after under Sir John Norris there, & in Brittain, & in Ireland, & alsoe in the Portugal voyage. And with Lord Willoughby in France at king Henry the fourth his entry thither'*.²¹

The greater change came with the children of Finch. It would seem that the portions required by their father's will were used to set up four sons in various trades in London. Anthony became a citizen and a haberdasher, Robert a citizen, draper and also a tobacco seller at the sign of the Three Apes in Fleet Street; Edward was apprenticed as a skinner and John became a citizen and draper. Emigration was becoming a way of making one's way in the world for younger sons, but it was the eldest son of Brent Dering, who emigrated to Barbados, an indication that a substantial inheritance was not expected from his father.

Finch's heir was his eldest son, Brent, who was to allow his mother *'fuell and fierbote'* from his woodland at Crowhole to be spent in *'my mansion house'* in Charing. This is the traditional provision for a widow, and gave her access for cooking facilities sometimes called *'bench and hearth'*. He expected that his son and widow would continue to live in the family home.

Finch owned more property than his father but, with so many children and a number still under age, he left a heavy burden on his eldest son, Brent. Some holdings were to be sold to pay the children's portions and the deceased's debts but that also meant a reduced income for the heir. This property was in Charing and was described as *'all my houses and buildings in Charing street being now used for a brew house, dayry house, Millhouse, Corne loftes, one dwelling house or to what use or uses now lying scytuat and adioyning to Charing street betwixt my stone wall and garden and the land of the heires of Sir Justynian Lewyn, knight, in the same street, with the curtylages to the sayd buildings and houses'*. Being in the High Street these buildings must be the cottages presently nos. 41/43. There is a blocked first floor opening in no. 41 facing south, which may have given access to the Corn lofts mentioned. There was also room for the other buildings on

²¹ CKS. U350 07 – John Dering's service overseas.

the site of what is now Richmond House, which could well have been built after the sale requested in Finch's will. There were at least two more buildings that are still standing that could possibly be included in the above list.

The difference between the inventories taken after the deaths of Anthony and his son Finch is interesting; at a first glance it is difficult to be sure if it is the same house. The hall was still there as was the '*howse within the hall*' called by Finch '*a little Roome next the Halle*'. Both inventories list a '*Great Parler*'; Anthony's inventory a '*Parler Chamber*' and Finch's a '*Great Parler Chamber*'. These two Chambers seem to be on the ground floor as there is also a '*Chamber over the parler*' in Anthony's time; Finch had '*one Upper Room*' and a '*Chamber over the little parlor*' besides a number of other rooms said to be 'over' those on the ground floor. Both documents list a cellar. Bearing in mind the number of Anthony's descendants when he died, it is probable that the house was occupied by both Anthony and Finch and that Anthony only occupied a part of the building. It should be noted that there is no kitchen listed in Anthony's inventory. The appraisers would only have the task of listing the goods and chattels of the deceased and would ignore any rooms only used by other members of the family. This theory is born out by the fact that Anthony's goods were valued at £111 3s. 8d. whereas Finch's goods amounted to over £300.

Brent Dering 1599-1645

Brent was only 26 when his father died and the following year he married Ann Ely, the daughter of the Vicar of Charing, who is unlikely to have been the heiress he needed to revive the family fortunes. There were a number of younger brothers and sisters still entitled to 'portions' that he was bound to supply. Brent was the owner of the '*ancient house of the Brents*' in Charing when J. Weever published his *Funerall Monuments* in 1631.²² He was as prolific as his forbears and had a rapidly growing family of his own; he had ten children, two of whom are known to have died young. Not unexpectedly, considering his commitments, he eventually is seen to be disposing of land. The Churchwardens accounts of 1633 assessed him on 61 acres of land and 20 acres of woodland but, by 1638, his acreage was said to be nil and he was assessed at a nominal 6d.

Brent was Captain of the select Band of Calehill, but whether he ever saw action in the Civil War is not known. He died and was buried in

²² John Weever, *op.cit.*, 294 – see note 2.

Charing in 1644/5. His inventory mentions a parlour, kitchen and brew house downstairs and two rooms upstairs, but, as has been said previously, it does not mean that those were the only rooms. The goods he did possess seem of a high standard and he still had a lease of land at Boughton Malherbe worth £10 and an amount of corn and hay with a similar value. He did not leave a will and the administration was granted to his widow. At what time Ann Dering had to leave the family home is not known but she was in dire straits by 1651 for the Churchwardens paid out 7s. 6d. on her behalf for '*finishing a Chamber for Mistress Dearing – for lathes & nailes and rades and workman*'. She also had some wheat and a load of wood. By 1653, she was receiving regular payments and loads of wood from the overseers of the poor who also paid her rent. It would seem she had been placed in a house owned by Thomas Cloak with someone named as Hooker who was probably the widow Hooker. In 1656, the glass was repaired '*about Mistress Deeringes house*' for the sum of 3s. 2d. and she was given 1s. 0d. worth of wood. In 1664, Mistress Dering had a load of wood shared with widow Craddock and widow Hooker. Sometimes she was called widow Dering but more consistently Mistress Dering, a kind courtesy title for someone 'on the parish'. She was given an extra payment in 1656 as she and her daughter were both sick. In 1657, extra payments were made because she and her son were sick and 6d. was paid to Cox for carrying Ann Dering's child to Smarden and an extra 1s. for the horse to carry her. Which child was being taken to Smarden is not known and there is no mention of a return journey although Mistress Dering did return to Charing. In the same year she had either moved house or there was a new owner, William Spillett, but her rent was still being paid by the overseers. By 1658, Richard Beeching was receiving the rent for Mistress Dering and Hooker. Joseph Davy was paid 2s. in 1660 for a pair of shoes for Frances Dering so the name of one of the children still living with Ann Dering is known.

Mistress Dering died in 1666 and was buried at Charing on 7 September. A small payment to Goodwife Hooker was made until December but, after that, the payments cease after a final payment for the purchase of a pair of shoes for Frances Dering. What happened to Goodwife Hooker and Frances is not known. The contrast between the affluent Brent family and the Peirce House branch of the Dering family is marked.

THE FAMILY OF PEIRCE

When Mr Edward Peirce came to Charing from Tiverton, Devon, in 1952, he noticed a booklet in the Church which said that there were

some fine old houses in Charing, including Peirce House, but little was known of its history. He wrote to the vicar saying that Peirce House was the residence of his ancestors and that the family migrated to Doddington about 1700 and later to Canterbury. They were still living there when his father married in about 1850 but had since scattered – to India, the Cape, the U.S.A. as well as this country. He enclosed a copy of his branch of the family tree beginning with Gabriel Peirce the elder, who died in 1669 and was buried at Charing, and ending with his own grandchildren but, unfortunately, gave very few dates or details of marriages. The Peirce pedigree, compiled from other sources, confirms Mr Peirce's belief that it was Gabriel Peirce who founded the Charing family.

Gabriel Peirce d. 1669

There are a number of people variously named Pers, Peirs, Peerse, Peirse and Peirce in Charing records from 1595 onwards, but no relationship has been found to link them with the branch founded by Gabriel Peirce the elder other than those in the pedigree.²³ In 1635, Gabriel Peirce appears in Charing Churchwardens' accounts as a 'foreigner' holding 80 acres of land and 30 acres of woodland in Charing parish, which means he owned taxable land in Charing parish but lived elsewhere, in this case at Stalisfield. The following extracts from the accounts note the transfer of land from Brent Dering to Gabriel Peirce in 1637.

- 1634 Brent Dering held 50 acres and 20 acres of woodland.
Gabriel Peirce did not hold any land in Charing parish.
- 1635 Brent Dering held 50 acres and 20 acres of woodland.
Gabriel Peirce held 80 acres and 30 acres of woodland in Charing.
- 1636 Brent Dering held 50 acres and 20 acres of woodland.
Gabriel Peirce held 70 acres and 20 acres of woodland in Charing.
- 1637 Brent Dering did not hold any land or woodland but was assessed at 6*d*.
Gabriel Peirce held 70 acres and 20 acres of woodland, but he also held 50 acres of land and 20 acres of woodland which are listed as 'late Mr Dering'.

²³ A family named Peirce was also of some importance in Challock, for when John Peirce, a yeoman, died without issue in 1675 his five nephews inherited a large estate in gavelkind. His namesake, nephew John, inherited two manors, that of Lorrenden now Great Paddock Farm, and Deane, now known as Deane Court.

Gabriel must have become a local resident by 1643 for he is classed as an 'indweller'; in 1646, he was elected as one of the Churchwardens and so was accepted as a local worthy. He and his wife Katherine were both buried in Charing, Katherine in 1666 and Gabriel three years later in 1669.

Gabriel's will has not survived but the inventory describes a house that had a Hall, Parlour and Kitchen, which in this period would have been what was once the room divided from the large hall. The large chimney had a bread oven which is now blocked. The old service rooms, originally two at the south end of the original house had been increased to the brewhouse, bakehouse, milke buttery, the 'other' buttery and the meale house. Which of these related to the original two cannot be established and there is no way of knowing where the extra store rooms were. It could be that Gabriel bought the properties in Charing High Street specified in Finch Dering's will when he began to purchase land in Charing in 1635. There was room to extend the service rooms southwards attached to the house for there are later additions there that were built when the house was in more than one family's occupation. There were extra dwellings, for Mistress Creswell lived in a house with some of the contents owned by Gabriel, as did Mistress Wolfe and Sarah Hart who lived '*in the outhouses*'. The house still contained a cellar and a porch chamber. The Peirce family soon became substantial local landowners with Gabriel senior holding land with an assessment value of £86, Joseph with £46 worth and Gabriel Junior with £52 worth. Only Sir Robert Honynwood held more land with an individual holding valued at £120.

Joseph Peirce 1630-1680

Joseph, Gabriel senior's eldest son who died in 1680, does not feature in Mr Edward Peirce's family records. He existed for he is mentioned at the foot of his father's inventory as Probate to Joseph Pearce *filius de Charing gent.* Joseph certainly lived in Charing, for both he and his wife Anne were buried there and their three daughters were baptised in the church, but he does not seem to have lived in Peirce House. Joseph left both a will and an inventory. The latter describes a three storey house, the Hall had a Chamber over it and a garret over that, as had the kitchen and there was no porch chamber. Even allowing for the difficulties of interpreting inventories it does not seem to be the Peirce House of Charing High Street. Joseph did own property in Charing for it was left to his wife Anne for her lifetime and was then to be held by his three daughters equally. The most interesting holding he wished to bequeath to his daughters was his lease of the manor of Orgarswick which he held from the Dean and Chapter of Christchurch, Canterbury.

Orgar is the earliest named holder of land in Charing. In the *Domesday Monachorum* entry for Charing, after the description of the Archbishop's manor is a concluding sentence '*Orgarus X solidus pro dimidio sullinc*'. The name Orgarswick survives on Romney Marsh as Orgarswick Farm (N.G.R. TR 091160). Whether there is any connection with the half sulung of the eleventh century Orgar is not a matter for discussion in this paper.

Gabriel Peirce d. 1709

Gabriel, the second son of Gabriel senior, does feature in Mr Edward Peirce's records and followed his father as the occupant of Peirce House. He died in 1709, leaving both a will and an inventory and having outlived his son, Sampson, who died in 1692. He seems to be a caring old gentleman and remembered his daughter Mary who had married a Mr Nowers and their two daughters, Elizabeth and Ann, in his will. He also remembered his sister-in-law, Sarah, widow of his brother, John. Roberta Jones, the widow of his son Sampson, who by then had re-married, was not forgotten. The silver tankard with its own plate and the two silver salts left to his grandson, John, do not appear in the inventory, neither do the half dozen silver spoons left to Mary Nowers. In fact, the inventory is very sparse for a man that could be classed as wealthy. He did possess two gold rings, but there were no rooms or furniture mentioned and the list was mostly farmyard implements with two cows, two sheates (young hogs) and an old Mare. He was credited with owning twenty loads of hay in the barn.

Giving the family the benefit of the doubt, it is possible that in the three years between the making of his will and his death he made over most of his worldly goods in one way or another. He was most likely being cared for by his grandson John and his wife Elizabeth as his own wife, Anne, had died in 1659 and his daughter-in-law had remarried and does not appear in local records again.

Sampson Peirce 1656-1692

Sampson Peirce's will made in 1691 speaks of the Marriage Settlement, dated 1687, made just before his marriage to Roberta Whitfield of Canterbury, which gives an approximate date for his marriage. He left his two younger sons, George and Sampson junior, £250 each which was a handsome sum for the seventeenth century and £20 each yearly until the major legacy was paid. Sadly, Sampson, the youngest son, died in 1693 aged under two years and his elder brother George died in 1694 at 4½ years old. His eldest son, John, born in 1688 was not mentioned by name in the will, but he must have benefited under the

clause in the Indenture relating to the first son. Without the actual Marriage Settlement document, it is not possible to speculate further. The remainder of Sampson's goods and chattels went to Roberta. The memorial slab in the nave of Charing Church at the entrance to the chancel, records the marriage and death of Sampson and of his two sons, George and Sampson. By the side of this slab is one to his brother-in-law William Henman.

Sampson Peirce, gentleman, died on 10 October, 1692, and was buried in Charing on 13 October.²⁴ His will was proved on the 25th October, 1692. The inventory should have been made shortly after his death. It is dated 17 August, 1693, which would mean it was about ten months before his goods and chattels were listed. It was also unusual in that two men from Canterbury were called in as appraisers, usually two local men of standing, such as the Churchwardens, were appointed.

The inventory gives a good description of the furnishings of a wealthy owner of the period. The hall had two Spanish Tables with carpets. Early carpets were used on furniture or on the walls, rather than on the floor. There were six old leather chairs and two low stools. Two small maps and 19 little printed pictures were valued at 2s. 6d. The downstairs parlour contained tables and 12 turkeywork chairs. Sampson liked to adorn the walls of his rooms for the parlour had '*twelve Ceasars Heads printed In Frames*' worth 6s. 0d.

The kitchen, brewhouse, malthouse, wash house, milk house and the cellar completed the downstairs rooms. The kitchen had all the implements one would expect but also '*one clock with Lyne and weights*' valued at 10s. 0d. It is not possible to identify the other service rooms with a particular position in the house for the contents are a jumble with the exception of the milk house, which does seem to be used as a dairy. Upstairs there was a number of rooms, the best chamber, the sad coloured chamber, the porch chamber which contained a bed with a feather mattress and bolster weighing 48 pounds, the maides chamber and the chamber over the kitchen.

It is interesting to compare the standard of comfort in the house in William Brent's time with that of Sampson Peirce. Taking the hall as an example, William had a board set on two trestles as a table with two forms to sit on, albeit with a touch of luxury supplied by six cushions. The heating came from the open fire set on a hearth on the floor. The windows would have been closed to the elements by shutters. As seen above, Sampson had typical seventeenth-century furniture and was warmed by a fire from a brick stack. The curtains

²⁴ CCA. DCb/BT1/58 – Bishop's transcripts.

and rods may have been for door draughts in the Hall but are specifically stated to be window curtains and rods when listed in the parlour. It is probable that window glass was installed in all the main rooms in the house.

John, Sampson's only surviving son, who was baptised at Charing in 1688, was buried there on 6 March, 1726. After her husband's death, Elizabeth, his wife, went to Doddington for both she and her two children, Sampson and Roberta were buried there. John of Charing's grandson, although born at Lynsted, became John Peirce of Canterbury, and it was there that the next three generations of the family settled.

THE FAMILY OF WAKELEY (WAKELY)

The Wakeley family was better known in Lenham where they were of yeoman status. The first known instance of the name in Charing occurs when Edward Wakeley was listed in the earliest surviving Poll Books of Charing in 1713.²⁵ Nothing more is known until his death appears in the Parish Register in 1730. Edward is thought to have been the builder of Wakeley House, dated as 1718, if the date inscribed on a brick near the front entrance is to be believed. The front elevation of the house would fit that assessment.

James Wakeley and his wife, Mary, lived in Peirce House²⁶ and their only daughter, Catherine, was married to George Sayer of Pett Place in 1786.²⁷ There is a small monumental stone set in the floor of Charing church to one side of the pulpit which records the death of Catherine, relict of Rev. George Sayer, on 14 January, 1836. No link has been found between Edward and James. According to Edward Hasted, Peirce House was '*an antient mansion, which has been modernised*'.

James Wakeley died c. 1798 between the publication of Vol. vii of Edward Hasted's history and the amendments published in Vol. viii, which said that he had died but that his widow still resided at Peirce House. What happened in the intervening years between the last Peirce owner and James Wakeley is not known for certain.

²⁵ CKS Q/RPe1 1713 – West Ashford Poll Books.

²⁶ Edward Hasted, *op.cit.*, 2nd ed., vii, 430.

²⁷ A.J. Willis, *Canterbury Marriage Licences 1781–1809* 25. An entry reads '1781 Wm. Allen of Little Chart clk. bach, and Catherine Wakely of Charing sp. 22 at Charing 6 Dec.' There is no marriage at Charing on that date or thereabouts, so it must be assumed that the marriage did not take place.

THE FAMILY OF SAYER

It was through the marriage in 1786 of James' only daughter, Catherine, to the Rev. George Sayer that Peirce House became the property of the Sayer family of Pett Place. There is no record of any member of the Sayer family occupying Peirce House, and it was eventually converted into a number of dwellings. The cross passage was opened up right through the building to give access to the rear building, once the detached kitchen and then known as Peirce Farm, and the ground floor of the old hall converted into two dwellings known as 'the almshouses'. It would seem that the main staircase gave access to the upper floor including the room over the floored southern end of the hall and another staircase was built in what was once the western service room. There were two cottages built against the boundary wall of Richmond House, the building on the north side, but their age is not known as they were later demolished. The property also included three cottages fronting the High Street.

THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

There is a considerable gap in available records until 1914 when the West Ashford Rate Books pick up the thread.²⁸ The Sayers still owned the whole property; the main house, the detached part, the barns and the cottages. The occupants of the almshouses were Mrs. Beale and Mrs. Wood; Thomas Sage lived in Peirce Farm.

By 1927/8 (the date of the next Rate Book to survive), the Sayer family had sold the entire holding. At this point I have reason to be grateful to many local residents who can recall that period either from their own memories or from what their parents have told them. Philip Edwards, a local builder lived in the main house. He probably built the carpenter's loft which was recently demolished. He had three daughters, Agnes, Alice and Minnie. Minnie married Robert (Bob) Geering of the well known Ashford family and lived for years at Barrow Hill House, Ashford, next to the old Roman Catholic Church. Before his death in 1931, old Mr Edwards can be remembered sitting in a chair near the porch entrance watching the world go by in Charing High Street. His was the last burial in the churchyard and his grave is under the yew tree by the path at the far end. The Misses Agnes and

²⁸ West Ashford Rate Books – RD/Aw/RP2/1 (April 1914); RD/Aw/RP2/2 (Sept. 1914); RD/Aw R1/1 (1927/8); RD/Aw/R1/? (1942); RD/Aw/R1/6 (1946/7); RD/Aw/R1/8 (1956/7); Note: R1/7 is missing.

Alice lived on in Peirce House after their father died. Mr Joe Edwards, the only son, had died before his father, after being knocked off his bicycle near 'The Olive Branch' at Westwell Leacon.

Mr R. Laws told me that when Philip Edwards died, his father, Mr E.G. Laws carried on the builder's business on behalf of the Edwards sisters until approximately 1944-45 when he branched out on his own. In 1948, he was joined by his son when he returned from war service.

Shortly before Philip Edwards died, the building at the rear of Peirce House that probably began as a detached kitchen and by this century had become Peirce Farm House, together with a barn, was sold to Mr H.D. Headley. He also bought the two cottages that were against the wall of Richmond House. The barn was sold, re-erected at the Broadway in the Pluckley Road and named the Old Barn House, and is now called Century House. Sometime around 1946/7, Mr A. Coppins started a business as a builder at Peirce Farm, living in a wooden building 'used as a scrap depot during the war'. 'It had previously been occupied by Spanish Civil War evacuees'. He used the cottages as a workshop (Fig. 6).

Miss Ruglys can remember Miss Wood and Mrs. Hopper living in the two almshouses at the northern end of the main house in 1942. Mr and Mrs. Woodcock lived in Peirce Farm. She also recalled that beyond Peirce House near a lime tree was a large barn, the one owned by Mr Headley, and she confirmed that it had been taken down and re-erected. She thought that at one time the ramshackle building which replaced it had been used as a Youth Hostel. Miss Agnes Edwards eventually died and Miss Alice Edwards sold the property to Mr R.J. Geering, her brother-in-law. She went to live in part of Forge House. The carpenter's loft was used as a carpenter's and coffin maker's by Mr Tom Settatee, described by Mr Laws as an ex-Court Carpenter.

Mr Laws pointed out that many of the ladders used in those days were 25 ft. long and great difficulty was experienced taking them up the brick path of the main house and turning sharp right to get to the workshop. It seems there was no other means of access from the rear.

The property, which included two of the cottages fronting the High Street, was purchased sometime after 1957 by Mr P.J. Harvey. The third cottage occupied by Mr Colbreay had been sold separately. He and his wife hoped to restore the hall of the old house although the south wing was still tenanted. On 9th June, 1959, the house was inspected by Mr A. Reed on behalf of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. He reported that the building was of considerable historical interest and in good structural condition. It was recommended that the Society assist Mr Harvey to have a comprehensive survey and a set of drawings prepared to ensure that any adaptations took account of the history and character of the house. During the subsequent renovation

PEIRCE HOUSE, CHARING: THE HOUSE AND ITS OWNERS

Sketch Plan of Peirce House provided by Mr R Laws
showing the names of some of the tenants and occupiers of the cottages
within living memory,

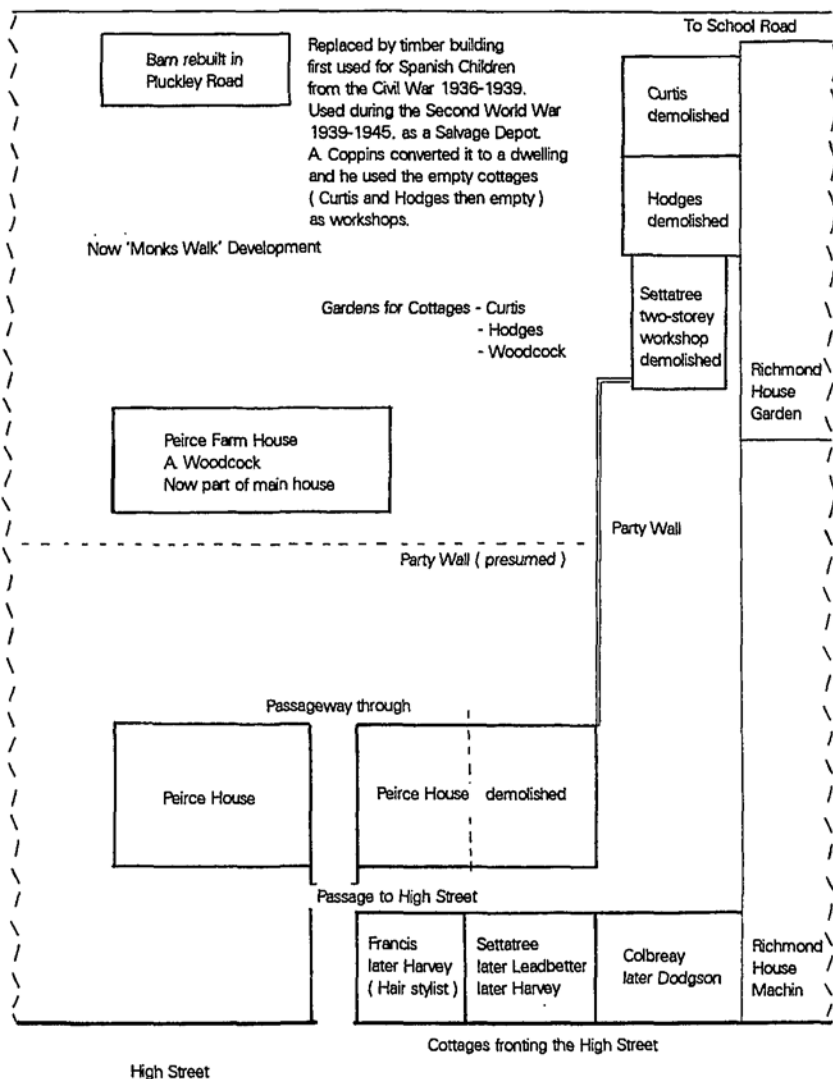


Fig. 8. Sketch plan by Mr R. Laws showing the names of some of the tenants and occupiers of Peirce House cottages within living memory.

work a number of architectural features were discovered. The panelling in the open hall had decayed from ground level and had to be removed, exposing a window on the east front and a large doorway at the far north end facing west. Both features were photographed at the time of discovery but no measurements were taken. Particularly in the case of the window, measurements such as the height above ground level would have been useful. Reasons for the existence of the doorway have been postulated in the Brent section of this paper.

A most interesting discovery was found at first floor level. Decayed plaster was being removed near the brick stack in what had been the south end of the original hall, which was later floored. A small book was found amongst plaster debris on the floor. It had once been contained in a cloth bag, which had rotted, but the book was in reasonable condition except for a torn title page. Mr Harvey said he was not sure whether it had come away from the wall with the plaster or had been dislodged from the top of the massive tie-beam supporting the crown-post. *The Invectyve Agaynst Swearyng*, by Thomas Becon, was written under the pseudonym of Theodore Basille. It was printed at Botulph Lane in London, at the sign of the White Bear, by John Nayler for John Gough in 1543 so this book was a first edition. The book was examined by Dr W. Urry, the Canterbury Cathedral Librarian and Archivist at that time, who gave as his opinion that the inner cover could have been part of a Missal or Breviary and was probably a section of an altar book because of its large print. Many books and documents, discarded at the time of the Reformation, were made of parchment and re-used by printers as binding. The book was later given to the University of Kent who preserved it before placing it in the Special Collection within the University Library.

Thomas Becon was an advocate of Protestantism and the prefaces of his earlier books are addressed to many Kent notables whom it must be presumed he believed held his Protestant beliefs. One such dedication was to Sir Thomas Nevill (c. 1480–1542), a member of the Bergavenny family, who entertained him at Mereworth. He was a prolific writer but this book in particular could have been a dangerous possession in 1544 when Henry VIII visited Charing and was hosted by John Brent, even if that event took place in the Manor House that was once the Archbishops' Palace. The book uses Biblical texts to restrain people from taking oaths.²⁹

As it happened, the extent of the restoration work was prohibitive and the property was sold to Mr and Mrs. Hyde Parker. It is sad that it

²⁹ Further information on the life of Thomas Becon may be found in the *Dictionary of National Biography* and *Arch. Cant.*, lxi (1955) 159–70.

was then that the northern end of the hall was demolished but the rest of the house underwent extensive repairs. The cross passage right of way was closed and the wall to the remaining part of the old hall was removed to make one large room as an entrance hall (Figs. 2a and 2b). A brick corridor was built on the south-east corner of the main building to link up with the building at the rear (Figs. 3a and 3b). The next owner was Mr E. Hutchens who furnished the old house with antiques. There have been no major alterations to the main house since that time although part of the surrounding ground to the west has been developed for private housing. The carpenter's loft was, unfortunately, demolished as part of the same development.

The present owners are Mr and Mrs. C. Williams whose four children have made this old house the family home that it was when it was built.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Although this history began some years ago, the main stumbling block has always been the conflicting information on the descent of the Brent family. Several pedigrees have been published and historical accounts printed which differ from each other and are rarely confirmed by accurate references to original sources. I am greatly indebted to Mr Philip Blake for he has not only compiled the pedigrees of the Brent and Dering families of Charing but has also written the section headed 'The Heraldry of the Brents' and the descent of Amy Rosmodres. His knowledge of the correct procedures in compiling pedigrees has been most important and without his help and encouragement this account would not have been concluded. I am also appreciative of help from Dr W.E. Church of Bethersden, whose comprehensive family records solved a number of apparent inconsistencies. I am grateful to the staff of the Centre for Kentish Studies who have treated my requests for help with unfailing courtesy.

The two photographs of the early sixteenth century hall door and window were given to me by the late Mr P.J. Harvey, the owner of Peirce House in 1958. The prints were very dark but have been copied and lightened as much as possible by Mr Ian Gambrill. The rest of the photographs have been reproduced by kind permission of the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England (RCHME). The sketch plan of the house c. 1960 is based on one drawn by Mr E.W. Parkin with later amendments by RCHME. I am also indebted to Miss S. Pearson for advice and giving time to read the first draft.

Acknowledgements are also due to a number of local people who have given me information on the occupants of Peirce House from their own recollections; Mr R. Laws, Mr J. Moon, Miss M. Ruglys,

Mr J. Woodcock of Charing and Mr M. Clark of Lenham. Finally, but by no means least, I wish to thank Mr C. Williams, the present owner, who has allowed me to view his home seeking inspiration and for giving me permission to reproduce the 1962 'before and after' plans of Peirce House. The proposed alterations were not modified to any extent by the time the alterations were completed.

Appendices: The original spelling in the wills and inventories has been retained. The wills have been summarised but the inventories printed in full. Roman numerals in the inventories have been transcribed as arabic numerals for ease of reading.

APPENDIX A

SUMMARY OF THE TESTAMENT OF HUGH BRENT OF CHARING, KENT. Dated 12 March, 1474. Proved 5 July, 1474.

This document is complete with two attached but damaged seals. The Will does not seem to have survived.

Styled Hugh Brent of Charing.

Burial: To be buried before the image on the altar of the Trinity in Charing Church.

Requests:

To the High Altar for tithes and oblations forgotten 6s. 8d.

To ten 'Lights' within the Charing Church various amounts from 2s. to 8d.

To the upkeep of the fabric of Charing Church 10 marks to be paid within five years of his death by equal instalments.

To the upkeep of the fabric of the church of the Blessed Mary at Stalisfield 6s. 8d.

To the High Altar of the same church for tithes forgotten 20d.

To the prioress and nuns of Minster in Sheppey 13s. 4d.

To Dame Christine a nun there 6s. 8d. (Daughter of Hugh's brother William).

To Hugh and Roger Brent (sons of William Brent, grandsons of Hugh) a cow each.

To John and William Brent (sons of Robert Brent, grandsons of Hugh) a cow each.

To John, Christine and Elizabeth (children of William Manning and his wife Elene Hugh's daughter) 6s. 8d.

To Elene Brent (daughter of Robert Brent) 6s. 8d.

To Anne and Elizabeth (daughters of William Brent) 6s. 8d.

To all his sons and daughters 8d.

Residue: to his wife Christine.

Executors: Master Thomas Brent Doctor of Law, John Brent and Robert Brent, Hugh's sons. The overseer was probably Hugh's eldest son, William.

CKS U275 T50/10

SUMMARY OF THE WILL OF WILLIAM BRENT OF CHARING, KENT. Dated 1 December, 1495. Proved 29 February, 1495/6.

Testament:

Styled: William Brent of Charing, gentleman.

Burial: In Charing Church next to the tomb of Roger Rey or at the discretion of his executors.

PEIRCE HOUSE, CHARING: THE HOUSE AND ITS OWNERS

Bequests:

To the High Altar of Charing Church and nine named 'Lights'.

To the maintenance of the Church 13s. 4d.

To Anne (dau.) wife of Edmund Millys 13s. 4d.

To John, Edward, William and Margaret (grandchildren), children of Edmund and Anne Millys – each 6s. 8d.

To Elizabeth Wombwell (dau.) 13s. 4d.

To Joan (granddaughter) child of Elizabeth Wombwell 6s. 8d.

To Margaret (dau.) for her marriage £40.

William FitzJames (his chaplain) to celebrate in the church for as long as the executors order.

To each of his godsons 4d.

The executors to have 10s. yearly out of a meadow called Broctonysmede by the occupants of my mansion house in Charryng for my obit in the church of Charryng for masses & gifts to the poor.

Residue to Amy (his wife), Thomas Brent, Doctor of Laws and John Brent (brothers) and William Brent (nephew) all of whom were appointed executors.

Witnesses Robert Brent, (brother), Roger Pende & John Duke.

P.C.C. 32 Vox. and CKS U1107 E1/1.

Will:

Made on 1 December 1495.

Feoffees: Lord John Fyneux, Thomas Brent, — Elcocke, John Nethersole, Christopher Elenden, John Auger, John Duke and Roger Pende.

The executors to take the profittes of all manors and lands in the parishes of Charing, Sevington, Smarden, Boughton Malherbe, Challock, Kennington, Willesborough, Hinxhill, Lymmne, Wye and Boughton Aluph for three years to administer his will.

The Charing House, lands and Filthes Mill:

Amy his wife – after the three years to have his dwelling place in Charing with all other lands and tenements in that parish together with Filthes Mill until son John reached 22 years, provided she remained unmarried. If she remarried the executors were to have the profit but to allow Amy, 10 marks a year to send John to school until he reached 22 years.

John his son – When he was 22 years he and his heirs were to receive the dwelling place, the lands in Charing and Filthes Mill with the obligation to pay his mother 10 marks annually. If she remained unmarried he was to allow her to live in the chambers once occupied by Lady Moile, with the parlour underneath the said chambers, during her life.

Thomas his son – If John died without issue the above property and conditions devolved on Thomas. If Thomas died without issue then the dwelling place and lands were to go to Amy for her life if she remained a widow.

Roger his son – If Amy remarried after Thomas died without issue then the above lands went to Roger but he was bound to pay Amy 10 marks annually.

The Manor and advowson of Pivington, The lands in Smarden called Selepynden. The lands in Boughton called Chapmenfolde:

Amy his wife – To have the above manor, advowson and lands for her life.

Thomas his son – After Amy's death, Thomas or his heirs to inherit the above property.

John his son – If Thomas died before 30 years without issue, the property was to go to John, if he or his heirs were living.

Roger his son – If both Thomas and John died without heirs, then the property was to go to Roger.

The Manor of Rippell Wicheley and Halfiche. All landes and tenements in Lymmne: To Roger and his heirs.

Lands in Challock, Kennington, Willesborough and Hinxhill:

The executors to use the profits to administer the estate and build the Chapel in Charing Church. If necessary land may be sold. When the administration is completed the land in Kennington, Willesborough and Hinxhill are to go to his son Roger. The land in Challock is to go to Amy for her life and thereafter to his son John.

The messuage and land in Boughton Aluph and the land in Wye:

To be sold to provide money for his daughter Margaret's marriage.

Four acres of meadow called Broctonysmede:

Whosoever has or occupies his dwelling house in Charing has this meadow land to provide 10s. annually and for ever to keep an obit in Charing Church. It is to consist of dirges, masses and alms giving.

P.C.C. 34 Vox. & CKS U1107 E1/1

THE INVENTORY OF WILLIAM BRENT OF CHARING, KENT. 1495/6

This is the Inventory of all the goodis catallis and detts of William Brente of Charyng in the Counte of Kent praised by Roger Pynde John Dewke and John Stokely the secunde day of February and in the 11th year of the Reigne of Kyng Henry the VII.

In the Hall:

Imprimis a hangyng of Red Say price 5s.

Item 6 quyshons at 3d. the pece 18d.

Item a Cupbord price 12d.

Item a Tabull with 2 formys and 2 trestylls price 3s. 4d. Summa 10 10

In the parloure:

Imprimis a hangyng of grene Say price 3s. 4d.

Item a foldyng Tabull price 10s.

Item half a doss. quyshons at 4d. the pees – Sum. 2s.

Item a Jorne chere and 5 stoyls price 2s.

Item a carpett for a cupbord price 3s. 4d.

Item a pair of Andyrans price 3s. 4d.

Item a fyreforke and a fyre panne price 4d.

Item a grett glasse price 16d. Summa 1 5 8

In the Chambour:

Imprimis a Celor and a Testor of a stayned cloth with 3 Curtens price 10s.

Item a Federbed a bolster price 16s. 8d.

Item a Matrese price 3s. 4d.

Item a coveryng of Tapistry 13s. 4d.

Item a cupborde and a chere price 16d.

Item a Coveryng of whit and blake with bryds price 20d. Summa 2 6 4

In the Chambor over the Parloure:

Imprimis a hangyng a grene Say 6s. 8d.

Item a federbed with a bolster price 26s. 8d.

Item a cov'yng of grene Say 2s.

Item a Selor and Testor of grene Say with 3 Curtens price 6s. 8d.

Item a Tabull and a Coffor and j(o)nned chere price 5s. Summa 2 7 0

In the Draght:

Imprimis an old hangyng of grene Say 16d.

Item a Selor and testor of whyte price 15d.

Item a matrese price 5s.

Item a Coverynn of Tapistry brokyne price 3s. 4d.

Item an old foldyng Tabull price 2s.

Item an olde federbed and a bolster price 8s. 4d.

Item a littyll coveryng price 2s.

PEIRCE HOUSE, CHARING: THE HOUSE AND ITS OWNERS

Item a selor and testor of whyte price 12 <i>d</i> .	Summa	1	4	3
In my Ladys Chambor:				
Imprimis a selor and testor of a staned cloth with 3 Curtens of bokeram price 20 <i>s</i> .				
Item a Cowntyre payne of Verdure price 33 <i>s</i> . 4 <i>d</i> .				
Item a federbed and a bolster price 20 <i>s</i> .				
Item a hangyng of Grene Say price 6 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> .				
Item a cupbord price 12 <i>d</i> .				
Item 2 sherys price 16 <i>d</i> .	Summa	4	2	4
In the draght:				
Imprimis a selor and testor of grene Say with an hangyng of the same 10 <i>s</i> .				
Item a federbed and a bolster price 13 <i>s</i> . 4 <i>d</i> .				
Item a pece of Russett Cloth conteynyng 16 yards at 4 <i>s</i> . the yard – Summa £3 4 <i>s</i> . 0 <i>d</i> .				
Item a Tayny Cloth conteynyng 16 yards at 3 <i>s</i> . 4 <i>d</i> . the yard – 53 <i>s</i> . 4 <i>d</i> .	Summa	7	0	8
In the Chambor over the botery:				
Imprimis a hangyng of Red Say with a selor and a testor of the same price 13 <i>s</i> . 4 <i>d</i> .				
Item a federbed and a bolster price 16 <i>s</i> . 4 <i>d</i> .				
Item a Coveryng of Say and a noder littyl Coveryng price 8 <i>s</i> .				
Item a federbed price 10 <i>s</i> .				
Item a Coveryng price 4 <i>d</i> .				
Item a long setyll and two formes price 2 <i>s</i> .				
Item two grett Chestis price 6 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> .				
Item a Shepe Cheste and a square Cheste price 2 <i>s</i> .				
Item a littyll square Cheste price 2 <i>s</i> .				
Item a foldyng Tabull price 4 <i>s</i> .				
Item two shepe Chestis price 13 <i>s</i> . 4 <i>d</i> .				
Item two stone of owlle (wool) at 4 <i>s</i> . the stone. Sum 8 <i>s</i> .				
Item in yron p'sed at 7 <i>s</i> .	Summa	5	0	10
Shetys with napery:				
Imprimis three pair of shets of three bredes at 10 <i>s</i> . the pair Sum. £3				
Item two bed shets price 13 <i>s</i> . 4 <i>d</i> .				
Item four pair of shets at 13 <i>s</i> . 4 <i>d</i> . the pair. Sum. 53 <i>s</i> . 4 <i>d</i> .				
Item four pair of shets at 6 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> . the pair. Sum. 16 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> .				
Item eight pair of Course shets at 2 <i>s</i> . the pair. Sum. 16 <i>s</i> .				
Item Tabull cloth of dyaper price 6 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> .				
Item two tabull clothis of playne Cloth price 10 <i>s</i> .				
Item seven playne course tabull Clothis p'sed at 22 <i>s</i> .				
Item three dyaper Towellis course price 5 <i>s</i> .				
Item five playne Towellis price 5 <i>s</i> .				
Item a doss. Napkyngs of playne Cloth price 4 <i>s</i> .				
Item five wasyng Towellis price 20 <i>d</i> .	Summa	11	2	8
Gownes with odyr weryng geyre:				
Imprimis a Russett gowne furred with marters price £4				
Item a Tayny gowne furred with Lanchith 20 <i>s</i> .				
Item a longe Tayny gowne singyll price 16 <i>s</i> .				
Item a long Russett gowne price 20 <i>s</i> .				
Item a short Russett Gowne price 10 <i>s</i> .				
Item a jakett of puke furred price 6 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> .				
Item his dowblet and his hosyn praysed 6 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> .	Summa	7	19	4
In the Kechyn:				
Imprimis four potts at fours the pece. Sum. 16 <i>s</i> .				
Item two potts at 2 <i>s</i> . the pece. Sum. 4 <i>s</i> .				
Item two lytyll potts at 20 <i>d</i> . the pece. Sum. 3 <i>s</i> . 4 <i>d</i> .				

Item two Chaffers and possett price 3s. 4d.			
Item two water chaffers price 5s. 8d.			
Item a grete Ketyll brokyn price 3s.			
Item three pannes price 6s. 8d.			
Item four lityll pannes price 6s. 8d.			
Item a Straner price 8d.			
Item a lityll basyn price 6s. 8d.			
Item five Andirons price 8s.			
Item four spitts price 5s.			
Item all odyr small necessaryes vessalyes 6s. 8d.			
Item a brasyn mortar and pestyll price 5s.			
Item a bokett with a chayne price 8d.			
Item two Trivetts price 20d.			
Item an nold Ketyll price 20d.			
Item Colle panne price 6d.			
Item a stone mortar price 12d.			
Item quyrne price 5s.			
Item Tubbis and fatts (vats) with stonds price 8s.			
Item twelve shemys of barly malte at 3s. 8d. the sheme – Sum. 44s.	Summa	6	19 10
In the botery and Pantre:			
Inprimis a garnyssh of pewter vessell 11s.			
Item halff a garnyssh price 6s.			
Item a garnyssh of newe vessell price 16s.			
Item two Chafyndysse price 2s. 4d.			
Item three Candyllstykes price 3s.			
Item three basyn and two Ewers price 8s.			
Item six Candylstyks price 2s. 8d.			
Item four salts of pewter price 16d.			
Item a nalmary price 2d.	Summa	2	12 0
In the Stabull:			
Inprimis a blake ambuyng horse price 33s. 4d.			
Item a grey ambuyng horse price 33s. 4d.			
Item a baye geldyng price 10s.			
Item two old geldyngs price 13s. 4d.			
Item two Cartehorsses price 53s. 4d.			
Item two odyr horsses price 20s.			
Item three marys (mares) price 53s. 4d. and two maris staks.			
Item two maris price 20s.			
Item a grey Colte of two yere age gorne 13s. 4d.			
Item two sadylls and two brydlls gorne 6s. 8d.			
Item a yron forke price 2d.	Summa	12	16 10
In the Courte:			
Inprimis a shode Carte with harnes for four horses price 23s. 4d.			
Item two dong carts price 6s. 8d.			
Item a ploughte with odyr apparell 6s. 8d.			
Item two spadis with shovyls and dongforks 2s.	Summa	1	8 8
In the Barne:			
Inprimis sixty quarters of whete in the garnar and in the mowne by estimac(i)on 3s. 4d. the quarter. Sum. £10			
Item forty quarters Barly in the garnar and in the mowne by estimac(i)on at 2s. 8d. the quart'r. Sum. £5 6s. 8d.			
Item six coppys of peyson at 5d. the cope. Sum. 2s. 6d.			
Item two shemys of Ots at 2s. 8d. the seme. Sum. 5s. 4d.			

PEIRCE HOUSE, CHARING: THE HOUSE AND ITS OWNERS

Item six lode of hay at 4s. the lode. Sum. 24s.			
Item twenty coppis of Tarris at 3d. the cope. Sum. 5s.	Summa	14	10 2
Catall:			
Imprimis eight oxen at 12s. the pece. Sum. £4 16s.			
Item twelve kyne at 6s. 8d. the pece. Sum. £4			
Item five sterys at 6s. the pece. Sum. 30s.			
Item four heffers at 5s. the pece. Sum. 20s.			
Item eight steris at 4s. the pece. Sum. 32s.			
Item twelve Caluys at 2s. 8d. the pece. Sum. 32s.			
Item fifty wedyr hoggs at 13d. the pece. Sum. 54s. 2d.			
Item forty ewes with Lambes at 16d. the pece. Sum. 53s. 4d.			
Item twenty Ewes at 12d. the pece. Sum. 20s.			
Item twelve hoggs at 14d. the pece. Sum. 14s.			
Item twelve small hoggs at 10d. the pece. Sum. 10s.	Summa	22	1 6
Plate with Redy money:			
Imprimis a cuppe with a couere (cover) parsell gylte, poz 36 unces at 3s. 3d. the unce. Sum. £5 18s.			
Item poncede pece, poz 16 unces and three q'ter percell gylte at 3s. 2d. the unce. Sum. 53s. ½d.			
Item two Salts with a Couere p'cell gylte poz 21 unces and three q'ters 3s. 2d. the unce. Sum. £3 10s. 4½d.			
Item lityll gylte cuppe poz 15 unces q'ter 3s. 2d. the unce. Sum. 53s. 10d.			
Item a lityll stondyng maser gylte poz 11 unces and 6 quarter at 3s. 4d. the unce. Sum. 38s. 1d.			
Item twelve sponys poz 13 unces and 3 q'ter at 3s. the unce. Sum. 41s. 3d.			
Item thirteen sponys with knoppis gylte poz 44 unces and 3 q'ters at 4s. 4d. the unce. Sum. £3 2s. 6d.			
Item a strondyng cupe p'cell gylte poz 25 unces and a q'ter at 3s. 2d. the unce. Sum. £3 19s. 11d.	Summa	26	17 10
Item in Redy money £16	Summa	16	0 0
Speratt detts:			
Imprimis John Pympe squyre - £9 6s. 8d.			
Item John Harnden - £8 6s. 8d.			
Item William Holsse - £10			
Item Reynold Pympe - £10			
Item John Algare - 30s.			
Item William Turner - 8s.			
Item Richard Wodward - 20s.			
Item Richard Horte - £10 6s. 8d.	Summa	50	18 0
Desperatt Detts:			
Imprimis Richard Herte of Smethe - £3 10s.			
Item William Carpenter - £12 (in margin Sol. £6)			
Item Peris Yonge - £5 17s.			
Item John Kymbre executure - £4	Summa	25	7 0
Summa to'ls huius Inventory CCxxijli xv ^s ij ^d .		£223	15 2
Detts that he owyth:			
Imprimis William Robynson - £28 13s. 4d.			
Item Robert Gorlyn - £13 6s. 8d.			
Item M ^r Wryght of We (Wye?) - £6 13s. 4d.			
Item the p'son of Plockeley - £3 6s. 8d.			
Item Malpase of Feversham - 15s.			
Item to the stepull of Charyng of his faders bequeste - £4 13s. 4d.			
Item to the same stepull of oder mans bequyste - £5 13s. 4d.			

Item to Roger Herte – £3 6s. 8d.

Item to William Payne – £6

Item the vicar of Stalefelde – 50s.

Item the Executors of Richard Brent – £24 7s. 6d.

Summa 99 5 10½

Item Funerall Expences at his burying and mone thys mynde £14 6s. 4d.

Item to my lorde Cardinall for the stoke of his Fermes £20

Summa to 'ls Cxxxij^{li} xij^s ij^d ob.

133 13 2½

Leland Duncan transcription – KAS Library

SUMMARY OF THE WILL OF JOHN BRENT OF CHARING, KENT. Testament dated 5 April, 1501. Will dated 24 March, 1504/5. No probate date.

Testament:

Styled: John Brent of Charing senior, gentleman.

Burial: In Charing Church before the door of the new Chapel of St Mary where no body from ancient time has been buried.

Bequests:

To the high Altar for tithes forgotten 5s.

To seventeen 'Lights' in Charing Church – five at 15d. and the rest 5d.

To work in the church connected to his burial 15s.

To the work of the new Bell-tower 13s. 4d.

To Elene Manning 20s.

To Anne Manning 20s.

To Christine Manning 13s. 4d.

To Agnes Manning 13s. 4d.

To Isabelle Wombewell 15s.

To Thomas her son 6s. 8d.

To Johanne Nayler her daughter 6s. 8d.

To Cristine Nayler 5s.

To each of their boys 5s.

To John Millys my godson 20s.

To Margaret Millys 20s.

To William Millys 13s. 4d.

To Edward Millys 5s.

To the two sons of Edmund Millys by his (second?) wife 3s. 4d. each.

To one priest to celebrate for my soul in the aforesaid church for one year and a quarter £8 6s. 8d.

To a new Cross of silver with Mary and John above there £14.

To Margaret Brent 66s. 8d. and all his brasse pots and chafing dishes.

To Robert Nayler every year for the terme of seven years 3s. 4d. to be collected from the tenement in Charing on the deceased Anniversary Day.

To William Brent on the same day 5s.

To John Rogers on the same day 5s.

Executors: William Brent and John Rogers.

Will:

Made the 24 March 1506.

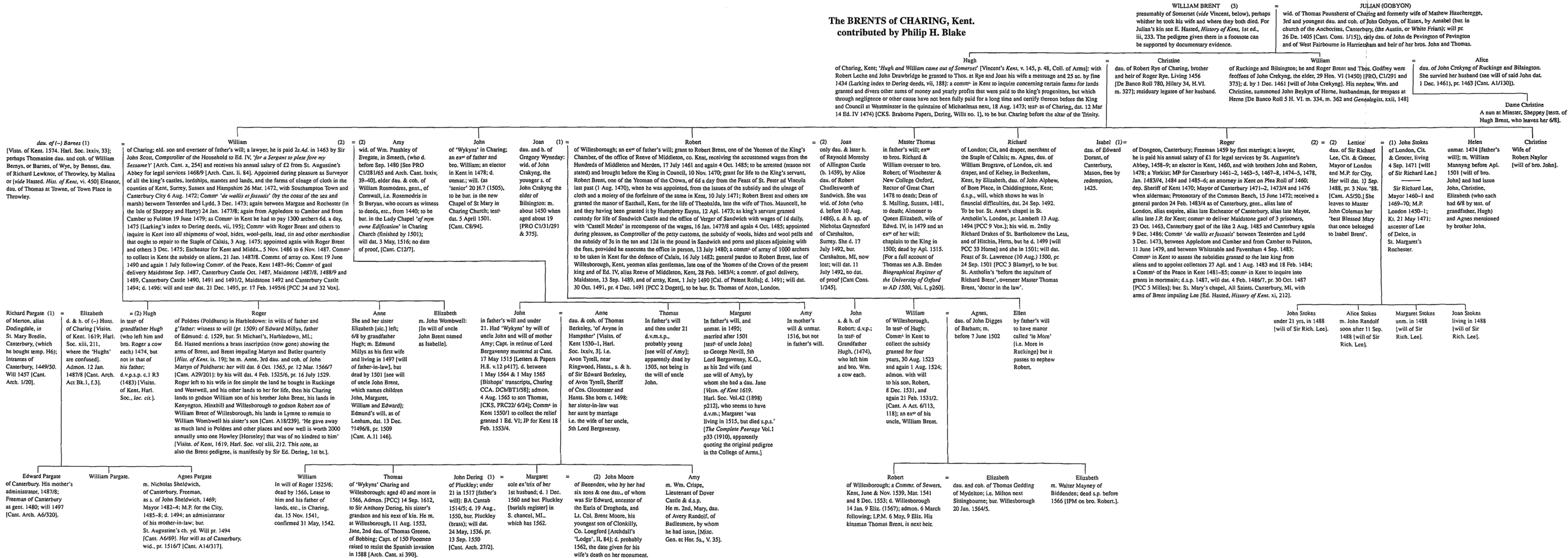
His messuage and land called Snagwell in Charing parish:

To Roger Brent, gentleman – to pay 5d. every Good Friday to five poor men for seven years.

Dormestone on the Downs:

To be retained by the executors for seven years – thereafter to Roger Brent and his heirs together with 2 acres of Medowe lying in Wykyns.

The BRENTS of CHARING, Kent.
contributed by Philip H. Blake



The DERINGS of CHARING, Kent.
(excluding the line of Wickens)
contributed by Philip H. Blake

Table 1

JOHN DERING
of Pluckley; under 21 in 1517 (father's will); devisee of land in Little
Chart by will of uncle, Richard Dering. 1547; d. 19 August 1550; bur. Pluckley
(brass); will dat. 24 May 1535, pr. 13 Sep. 1550 [Cant. Arch. 27/57].

= MARGARET BRENT
dau. of John Brent of Charing, sister, and in her issue heir, of Thomas
Brent, of Willesborough, sole ex^{vis} of husband; bur. Pluckley where the register
has – 1560, Margit Moor, the wife of Mr John Moore died 1 day of December, the MI, has 1562.

Richard
of Surrenden in Pluckley;
grandfather of Sir Edward, 1st. bt.;
in dispute with Rainborn Durham
over Charing parsonage.

John
of Egerton; father of Edward of Boughton
Malherbe (see Wilkinson, below); in
dispute with Rainborn Durham over
Charing parsonage.

Christopher
of Wykyns in Charing, 1550–1627 (posthumous);
a quo Bulwer, Long, of Heydon Hall, Norfolk
[See Burke's Landed Gentry, 1925, p1561].

Jane
dau. & h. of James Lambert
of Kenardington; his will
pr. 1548 [Cant. Arch. 26/171].

(1) = Anthony (2)
of Peirce House, in Charing; under 21 in 1535
(father's will); matric. sizar from Queen's Coll.,
Cambridge, Mich. 1548, scholar 1548–50;
Escheator for Kent and Middx. 22 Dec. 1587 –
2 Jan. 1588/9; bur. Charing 28 Sep.
1616; will dat. 3 Dec. 1611, pr. 25 May
1616 [Cant. Cons. 44/374].

= (2) Elizabeth Home
widow of George
Acworth

(see table3)

Finch
of Charing; aged 48 in 1606 [PRO,
Town Depositions, 328/24–26];
in father's will; cit. and draper
of London, free 6 Apl 1584 by
John Askew; bur.
Charing 15 July, 1625;
will, by which his son Brent
'shall during his mother's life
allow unto her' fuel for
her use 'in my mansion house
in Charing', dat. 12 Apl.,
pr. 13 Oct, 1625
[Cant. Const. 47/146];
some authorities
(e.g. Add. MS 5507)
give him a wife
(–) Oxenbridge, by whoma
son Brent, who d. young,
but no support for
this has yet been found.

(see table 2)

= Mary
dau. and heir of Capt. John Poore,
of Hants. [Visitm. of London,
1633–4, Harl. Soc. XV, 229]
and Sussex, m. 14 Apl. 1592
at St. Augustines, Canterbury;
ex^{vis}, of her husband, 'by whom
she had 5 sons & 7 daus.';
admon. London, she as
of Rochester 27 Jan. 1662/3,
to Dau, Margaret Pya.

John
b. at Charing; in his father's will;
churchwarden of Charing, 1619–20;
living 8 Mar. 1631, the date of his
attested naval and military service,
viz. served at sea four years
with Drake, including the year
of the Armada, and under the
Earl of Cumberland,
Sir Henry Palmer [of Howlets]
and Lord Thomas Howard.
He served in the Low Countries
under the Earl of Leicester
[of Penshurst] and under
Sir John Norris in Brittany,
Ireland and the Portugal voyages,
and under Lord Willoughby
when Henry IV invaded
France [as Henry of Navarre],
[CKS U350 071]; commonly
called "Rough Dering"
[Add. MS 5534 – 31b].

= Alice
dau. of
John Moore
of Coventry

George
bap. Pluckley
17 May 1564;
in his father's
will as deceased;
matric. sizar,
from Magdalen Coll.
Cambridge,
Easter 1583,
BA 1586/7,
MA 1590.

= Elizabeth
eldest dau. of Goddard
Hepden of Holshurst in
Burwash Sussex, whose
will pr. Lewes, 18 Mar.
1632/3 [Visitm. of Sussex,
Harl. Soc. LXXXIX, 61,
and W. Berry *Sussex
Genealogies*, 303].

Susanna (1) =
dau. of
Alexander
Mordaunt.

Alexander
of Hempstead, Essex,
[Visitm. of London
1633–4 Harl. Soc., XV,
229]; in his father's will;
matric. New Coll.,
Oxford, as
gent., 8 Feb. 1582/3
aged 18; scholar 1582;
BA 2 May 1584;
MA, 27 Jan. 1589/90.

= (2) Katherine
dau. of Richard Hovell,
of Haughley, later
of Stratford St. Mary),
Suffolk (1567–76);
wid. of Edward
Mordaunt of
Hempstead, Esq.,
and formerly wife of
George Fiske,
by Margery, dau. &
coh. of John Ford,
of Frating, Essex
[Suffolk Man.
Fam., ii, 36].

Thomas
of Lenham
b. probably
c. 1568; in
father's will
as d.v.p.
bur. Pluckley
6 May 1613

= Elizabeth
dau. of James Elmstone,
(the name was Elson in
the Lenham Registers
before 1603) bap.
Lenham 13 Aug. 1581,
as dau. of
'Rickard' Elson; m.
Lenham, 15 Apl. 1600,
by lic. (Cant.) dat.
10 Apl., her father
being bondsman;
'Elizabeth, wife of
Thomas Dering, killed
herself,
bur. 28 Nov. 1608',
[Lenham Register].

William
d. young [Add.
MS. 5534, f. 31b], but
since this source also
states that
Thomas and Elizabeth
d. young, and gives
Anthony of Charing a
dau. Dorothy, d. young,
who was a dau. of
Anthony of Pluckley,
the truth of William's
existence may be
doubted.

Grace
dau. of Hay
of Sussex
[Add. MS. 5534]
or Hayes
[Add. MS. 3526,
f.236]

(1) = Robert
of Charing and Egerton,
bap. Charing 1576; in
father's will; commonly
called "Jolly Roger"
[Add. MS 5534]; lic.
(Canterbury) to marry
Jane Lucas, of
Warehorne, wid. at
St. Mary Bredman,
Canterbury 5 Mar.
1608/9,
Finch Dering, of
Charing, bondsman.

Edward
Alice

Rainborn Durham
of London, cit. and skinner, and of
Charing, gent; he and wife appointed
administrators of the estate of
Margaret Seager (see will of
Wm. Seager) 9 Nov. 1604. For their
dispute with the Derings re Charing
parsonage see *Abstracts of English
Records, Dearing and Whipple*
(privately printed, Boston, Mass.
1929) ppl, 284, 272 and 2, and
CKS (Brabourne MSS.) U274 L17.

= Elizabeth
mar. lic.
(Canterbury)
as of Charing,
9 Apl. 1604
at Charing.

Dorothy
m. Humphrey
Wardle of
Maidstone, yeom.
at Charing
13 Apl. 1607;
lic. (Canterbury)
10 Apl. 1607.

Christian
m. Thomas
Borrowes,
4 Apl. 1608
at Charing.

Anne
m. Stephen Taylor
of Maidstone,
haberdasher; lic.
(Canterbury), she as of
Maidstone, 3 July 1613
at Sittingbourne; m. 5
July 1613 at All Saints,
Maidstone. He as
'Hatter'.

Thomas
bap. Charing
23 Apl. 1598;
in will of
Mary Hales.

William
bap. Charing
25 Nov. 1599
d.s.p. before
1625, not being
mentioned in
will of Mary
Hales.

Jane
bap. Charing
10 Mar. 1604/5;
in will of
Mary Hales.

Elizabeth
bap. Charing
13 Apl. 1606;
in will of
Mary Hales.

Dorothy
bap. Lenham
10 July 1608
in will of Mary
Hales; m. as of
Smeeth, spr. about
40 to Thos. Hooker,
of Hythe, butcher
wid. as his 4th
wife, by lic.
(Canterbury).
24 Feb. 1645/6 at
Smeeth.

(2) = Anne Acworth = (1) Anthony
bur. Charing
2 Sep. 1627.
Darell (see
table 3)

(see table 3)

Message and lands in Mystole and Brodoke:

To go to Ferme for seven years – the profits retained by his executors. After seven years to go to William Brent and his heirs.

Message and lands called Wickins in Charing and Westwell:

To go to Ferme for seven years – the profits retained by the executors. After seven years to go to John Brent, gentleman and his heirs with the exception of the 2 acres mentioned above.

The profits of the above messages and lands retained by the executors:

To provide 20s. a year to support William Brent in London for seven years.

Land called Hawksnest in Stalisfield:

To William Cherell junior and his heirs. He or they to pay to the executors 6s. 8d.

CKS PRC32/8/94

SUMMARY OF THE WILL OF AMY BRENT OF CHARING, KENT. Dated 3 May, 1516. No probate date.

Testament:

Styled Amye Brent of Charing gentlewoman – widow of William Brent late of the same Esq.

Burial: In the chapel of 'myn own Edification' within the Church of Charing.

Bequests:

To the High Altar in Charing for tithes and oblacions forgotten 10s.

Four named 'Lights' within Charing Church 12d. and every other light 6d.

A torche for Charing Church 6s. 8d.

A Tryntall of 30 masses on the day of burial 20s.

To the poor on the burial day 20s.

To 'my most singular good lord my lord of Burgavenny my basyn with the Ewer of Sylver and 13 sylver sponys with the sygnes of Jhu and his 12 Apostyls'.

To 'myn own in esspeciall good Lady and my most singler comforte and trust in this Worlde my lady of Burgavenny a newe cope of Sylver with a Cover parsell gylt and a saltseller of Silver with the Cover Dowble gylt'.

To 'my Sone John Brentte A lityll Bowll of Sylver Dowble gylt with the Cover a saltseller of silver with owte cover and a dossyn sponys of Silver'.

To 'my daughter his Wyfe a payer of bordys of jete gawdyt with silver gowld and my best gowne freized with mynkyes'.

To 'Margrett Brente the daughtt' of my sone John Brente my best maser a payer of fyne shettys my beste brasyn potte and in mony £10 st'lyng'.

To 'my lityll daughtt' Amye Brentte a lityll maser a payer of fyne sheyttes a brassyn potte And in mony £6 13s. 4d. st'lyng'.

Residue: Equally between Lord Bergavenny and his wife (Amy's daughter Margaret) and her son John. Lord Bergavenny was also appointed the supervisor.

Executors: Lord and Lady Bergavenny and John Brent.

Witnesses: Thomas Durnell preste and Robert Brett.

Will: Made on 3 May 1516.

To John Brent (son) and his lawful heirs. All lands, tenements, manors etc. in Cornwall and Devonshire.

To Margaret Bergavenny (dau.) and her lawful heirs if John dies without issue, all the above lands.

To John Brent (son). All lands in the parish of Charing viz. 2 pieces of ground called 'Longham and Cokkows grene' on condition he makes a deed of gift of a tenement within his inheritance called 'Chapmannys Fowld' to Lord Bergavenny whenever it is requested. If John fails to do so then both the tenement and the two pieces of land go to Lord Bergavenny.

CKS PRC 32/12/7

APPENDIX B

SUMMARY OF THE WILL OF ANTHONY DERING OF CHARING, KENT. Dated 3rd December, 1613. Proved 25 May 1616.

Testament and Will:

Styled Anthony Dering of Charing, Esquire.

Burial: At Charing 28 April 1616.

Bequests:

To his daughter Shastowe £4.

To his daughter Alice Skott £4.

To his daughter Elizabeth £4.

To his maid Joane Seyar 20s.

To Edward Dering, son of his son Thomas decd. 40s.

To his son Anthony and his heirs, three acres of land at Kennington, if not already devised to him; Anthony to pay another 40s. to Edward Dering son of Thomas decd. for his 'better bringing up'.

To William Dering, son of his son Thomas decd. £4 towards his 'bringing up'.

Four or five acres of land in Kennington, once held by Thomas Brent esq., late deceased, of which Anthony of Charing was to have a part, to go to Brent Moore and his heirs, provided his brother John Deering and Sir Anthony Deering 'will do the like'.

Residue: Goods, chattels, debts, moveables and household stuff to be equally divided amongst his children viz. Fynch Dering, John Dering, Nicholas Dering, Alexander Dering, Robert Dering, Clare Drayner (dau.) and the children of his son, George, deceased.

Executor: His son Fynch Dering. Fynch is asked not to take account of any sums of money which the decd. may have lent to any other children when dividing the residue into equal portions.

Overseer: His son-in-law Edward Drayner.

CKS PRC32/44/374 Act Book PRC22/14/96

THE INVENTORY OF ANTHONY DERING OF CHARING, KENT. 1616

An Inventorie of all and singular the goods Chattels and debts of Mr Anthony Deereinge of Chareinge gent. deceased taken the 28th of August Anno. Dom. 1616

	£	s.	d.
Imprimis in readie monie in his purse	9	18	0
Item in plate of all manner	6	0	0
Item his Apparrell all manner	5	0	0
Item one horse and acowe	8	0	0
Item one Stone Colt	1	10	0
Item in Sheepe	3	0	0
In the howse within the hall:			
Imprimis in peuter all manner	1	10	0
Item in brasse all manner	1	13	8
Item in Rackes, spittes, Trivettes and other Iron Stuffe of all manner	1	8	10
Item in an old Chest with hempe and other lumber			10
In the Saller:			
Item in hogsheades, Tubbs and other beare vessells		14	10
In the hall:			
Item one longe table with a frame, one old Table with an old book of Marters		13	4
In the great Parler:			
Item two Tables with frames, Joyne Stooles and Chayers, two Carpette & certain quishons		12	10

PEIRCE HOUSE, CHARING: THE HOUSE AND ITS OWNERS

In the Parler Chamber:		
Item one Bedstead, one old Table, one Fetherbed, two old Blanketes and one old Coverlet	2	10 8
In the Chamber over ye Parler:		
Item one Cannipie bedstead, one Fetherbed, two bolsters & one Coverlett and one little table	3	0 0
In the Gardinge howse:		
Item an old Bedstead, one Fetherbed, two blanketes and one Coverlett	2	16 8
In the Chamber over ye Porch:		
Item one Bedstead, one Fetherbed, two bolsters & one Coverlett	2	11 8
In his Bed Chamber:		
Item one Bedstead and Truclebed, two Fetherbeds and fower blankettes	4	15 4
Item one Tapstrie Covertett	1	10 0
Item one Cheste, boxes, Ruggs and Coverlette with other lumber in the said Chamber	2	14 4
In the Garrett:		
Item two Bushels of wheat, one Bushell measure, two Shovells & an old Chest	10	8
Sum is	£60	17 8
Item in Linng of all manner	13	19 4
Item in the Milch howse and Brew howse in vessells	2	0 0
Item one Costlet one Pike two Baskette two swerde and two souldiers Coates	2	6 8
In Debts oweringe:		
Imprimis Mr Thomas Pope of London, Merchant Tayler – which make his will to be proved in the Prerogative Court	12	0 0
Item in other Debts all manner	20	0 0
Sum is	£50	6 0
Prized by us whose names are under written. Summa totalis	£111	3 8

Rainborn Durham, John Wood, Christopher Brathwait, Anthony Deringe Junis

CKS PRC28/8/93

SUMMARY OF THE WILL OF FINCH DERING OF CHARING, KENT. Dated 12 April, 1625.
Proved 13 October, 1625.

Testament:

Styled Finch Dering of Charing, gentleman.

Burial: At Charing 15 July, 1625.

Bequests:

His wife Mary, mother of his five sons, Brent, the eldest, Anthony, Robert, Edward and John and his seven daughters, Katherine (wife of Thomas Stephens), Bennet, Mary, Frances, Ann, Margaret and Alice – to have all such messuages lands and tenements as the decd. had already conveyed to her by Jointure for life.

To all sons and daughters except the eldest son Brent, £20 each when they are 21 years.

The daughters to receive their £20 either at the age of 21 years or on marriage.

Executrix: Mary, his wife. She is to pay the above portions at the due time. If any son dies before 21 years then their share is to be divided between the remaining sons.

Likewise, should any daughter die, her portion is to be divided between her sisters.

To pay these portions and his debts he says that all his houses and buildings in Charing

Street 'now being used for a brewhouse, dairy house, Mill house, Corn Loft and one dwelling house, situated between my stone wall and garden and the land of the heirs of Sir Justinian Lewyn' which adjoin Charing Street, could be sold. His executrix is also empowered to sell a tenement and two acres called 'the gore' in the parish of Charing for the same purpose. Any remainder is to go to Mary his wife.

Lands, messuages and tenements in Charing, Kenarton and Woodchurch or elsewhere in Kent:

Other than those holdings that he has agreed may be sold, all the above is bequeathed to his eldest son Brent and his heirs. Brent is to allow his mother to reside in the decd. mansion house in Charing with fuel and the use of a fire, supported out of his woodland called Croweshole. Brent is not to sell or cut down any timber trees from that wood unless it is to be used for the improvement of any houses in Charing. Brent is to assist his mother in the sale of the specified holdings to pay the portions and debts.

The corn and grain sown on his ready-ploughed land is to be counted as chattels and put towards the payment of his debts.

Executrix. Mary, his wife.

Supervisors. Sir Anthony Dering, kt. and John Darell, esq. (his kinsmen).

If Mary should renounce the executorship then his son Brent is appointed under the same conditions as his mother viz. to sell the named property to pay the portions and debts.

If Brent becomes the executor and does not administer the estate in the way decreed then he is not to have any part of any of the lands mentioned 'which in general were given to him before'.

These lands are specified as:-

Lands called the upper and lower Downs of about forty acres.

The tenement called Gore with the lands belonging.

Lands called Commes of about six acres - all above in Charing parish.

All the houses and buildings in Charing Street between the stone wall and the decd. garden and the lands of the heirs of Sir Justinian Lewyn kt.

All the above are then to be bequeathed to Sir Anthony Dering and John Darell to sell for the aforesaid purposes and to give any remainder over the amount of £220 (which amount would pay the portions of Brent's four brothers and seven sisters) to be given to Brent Dering after deducting their charges.

If it so happens that the two supervisors are administering the estate and Mary needs any money for the upkeep of any children during their minority, the supervisors may advance her their portion for which she will have to give security to pay the whole amount of £20 on the due date. Otherwise, the supervisors may allow Mary thirty three shillings a year towards the upkeep of any child. & yeare First above written.

Witnesses: Robt. Ely. Nichs. Deringe. Rainborn Durham.

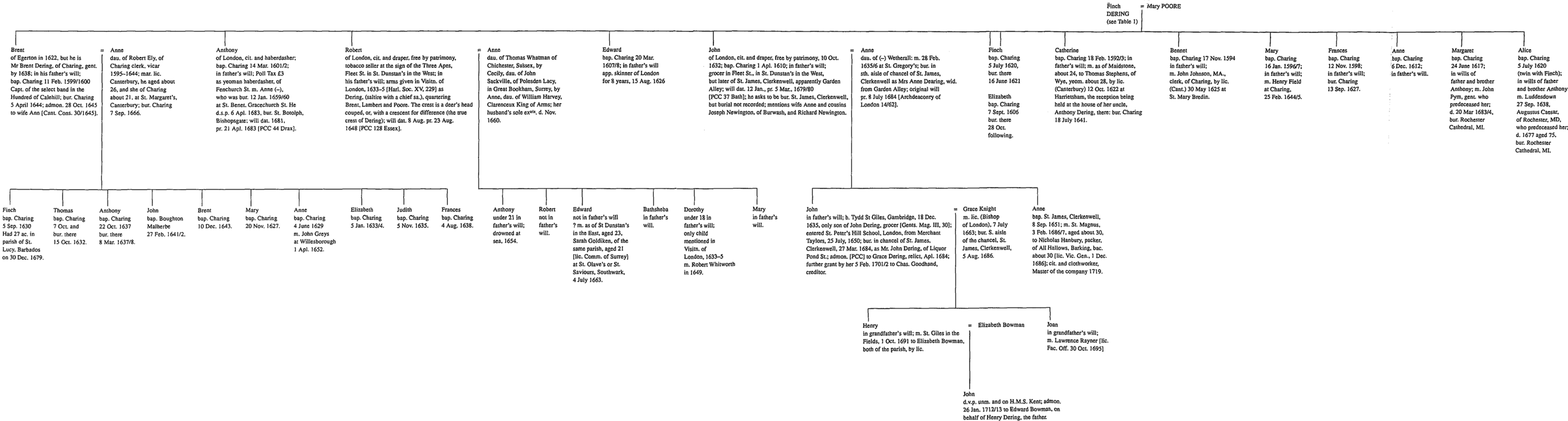
CKS PRC32/47/146 Act Book PRC22/16/91 (Mary, widow, was named as executrix.)

THE INVENTORY OF FINCH DERING OF CHARING, KENT.

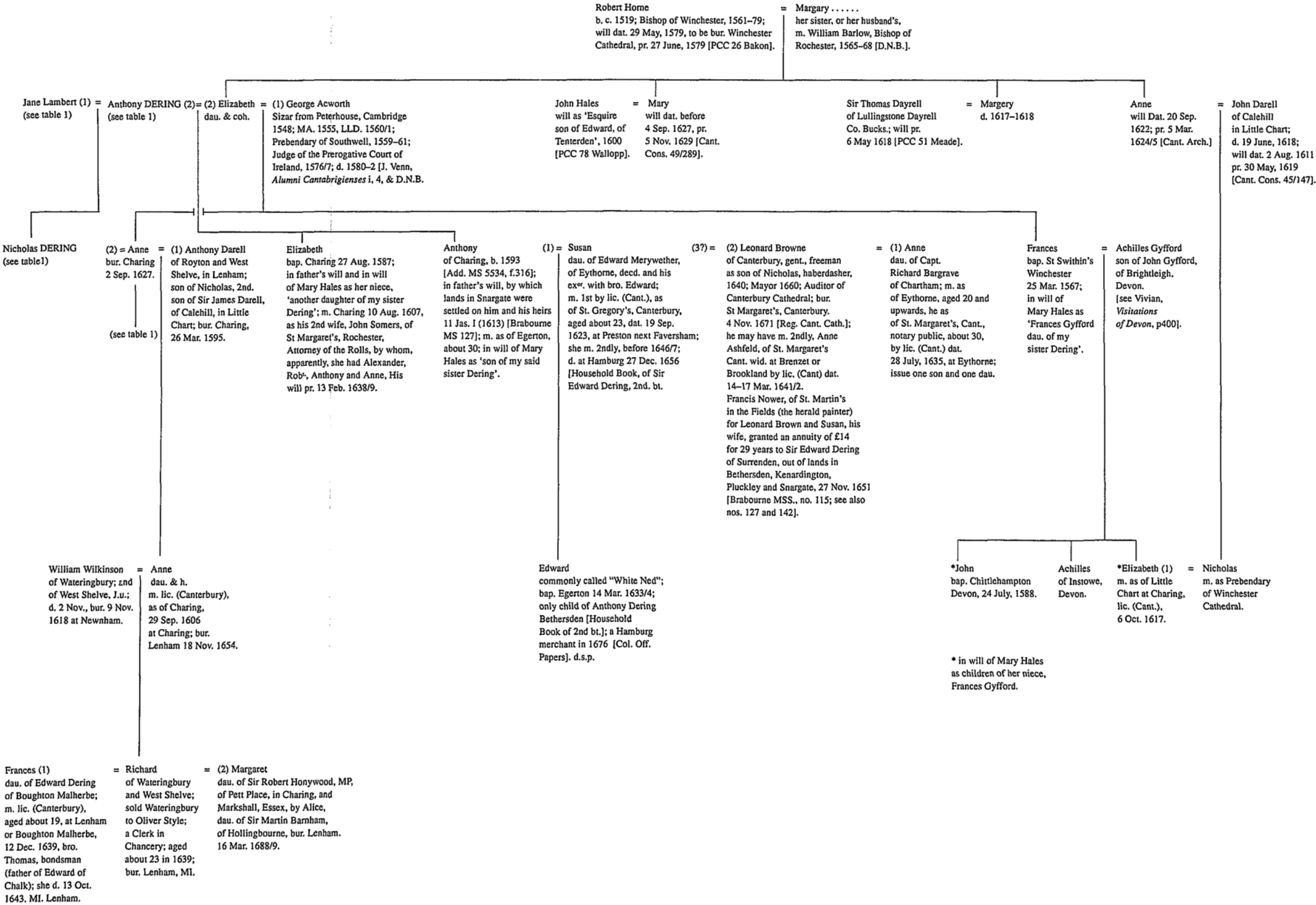
An Inventorye of all the goodes and Catteltes moveable of Fynch Deringe of Charinge in the Countye of Kent gent. Deceased made and taken the Eleventh daye of Auguste 1625 and in the Fyrst yeere of the raigne of our soveraigne Lord Charles by the grace of god Kinge of England Scotland Fraunce and Ireland Defender of the Faith ymprised by Nicholas Deringe gent. Anthonye Deringe gent. Rainborn Durham and Thomas Hutchin as Followeth

	£	s.	d.
Imprimis in his pursse		10	0
Item his wearinge Apparell		1	6 8
Item his Gowne of Chamlett Furred with Fur att		1	6 8
Som is £3 3 4			

The DERINGS of CHARING, Kent Table 2



The DERINGS of CHARING, Kent Table 3



PEIRCE HOUSE, CHARING: THE HOUSE AND ITS OWNERS

In the great parler:		
Item the hanginges of olde darinpe	6	8
Item one table, one Joine Forme, 4 Joine s tooles all att	13	4
Item one Courte Cubbard with a greene Cubbard Cloth att	12	0
Item one olde greene Carpet	3	4
Item 3 olde velvett Cushions att	5	0
Item a payre of yron Cobirons and one yron Forke att	4	0
Item 2 olde Chaires att	4	0
Item one payre of plainge tables att	2	6
Item Fowre olde picturs att	1	0
Item one small mapp att		6
Item the Fyrst vollume of the booke of martyrs and one olde bible ymperfecte	6	8
[Should be £2 19 0] Som is £3 0 0		
In the greate parlor Chamber:		
Item one small table with a Frame and a Joine Forme att	6	8
Item one olde bedsted with a Fether bed, one Fether bolster, one Flocke bolster, one downe pillowe, one payre of sheetes, one olde Coverlett and towe old blanckettes	2	13 4
Item one olde Court Cubbard and an olde Cloth uppon itt	1	6
Som is £3 1 6		
In the butterye next the greate parlor:		
Item one bynn one olde Cubbard, Certaine olde shelves & other lumber att	6	8
Som is £- - -		
In the Halle:		
Item one longe table with 2 Formes	13	4
Item one other olde table and Forme	2	6
Item 2 olde Courte Cubbardes att	1	6
Item the latter parte of the booke of Marters Defase and a Deske	2	6
Item Certaine ledden waytes all waying 115 pound waight att	9	0
Item one armour and a picke att	18	0
Som is £2 6 10		
In the Roome over the Seller:		
Item one olde Chest with towe olde armoures rustye and brocken att	1	6 8
Item an olde stalder att		6
Som is £1 7 2		
Item in the seller 4 barrells 4 kilderkins 2 old stalder one tub and a little Keeler att	1	0 0
Som is £- - -		
In a little Roome next the Halle:		
Item 4 quarters of wooll att	12	0
Item 10 quarters of Hempe att	10	0
Item 3 lether Botles att	4	0
Item one yron Rack one spitt, one olde yron potthanger, a grapplewhocke and a payre of Brasse stirropes att	5	0
Item one olde Cheestt, an olde table with other lumber att	6	8
Som is £1 17 8		
In the Well Close & entreye:		
Item 2 buckinge tubbes att	4	0
Item a payre of Scalles, one yron beame and one wodden beame	2	6
Item a buckett with a rope and a winch	3	4
Item Fouer olde washing tubbes	3	0
Item an olde lather and other lumber	1	0
Som is £- 13 10d.		

P. WINZAR

In the olde larder and dyreye howse:

Item one olde stalder, a salting stocke and Certaine olde shelves	3	4
Item an olde table with Certaine shelves	5	0
Item 28 Cheeses small & greate	1	6 8
Item 7 gallones of butter	1	1 0
Item a little keeler		4
Item 3 emptye Crockes	1	0
Item a Cheesse presse, a Chorne, a Keeler and 2 Cheesse Balles	5	0
Item one yron trivett, one yron pann, Certaine stone waites and other lumber	2	0
Item 16 bowles and trugges with towe milkinge pailles	10	0

Som is £3 14 4

Item the myll howse and the myll lofte:

one myll with towe myll stones and a mawlte bynn	2	6 8
--	---	-----

Som is £- - -

In the Brewe howse:

Item a Furnasse	1	13 4
Item towe great Tunnes	1	10 0
Item 3 little old tunnes		10 0
Item a buckett with a Chaine		2 6
Item 7 olde Kilderkines, one ole Keler and an olde tunnell		8 0
Item a payre of Slings, a Jett and other lumber		5 0

Som is £4 8 10

In the Kittchin:

Item Certaine olde peeces of pewter as pottes Candlestickes & other peeces	15	0
Item more in other peeces of pewter as dishes platteres and other peeces	2	14 0
Item Fower great olde Caldrons	2	10 0
Item 6 olde Kettils of Divers scantlinges	1	13 4
Item 6 brasse pottes of Sundreye bignes	2	0 0
Item 3 brasse stupnettes		10 0
Item 3 brasse morters		13 4
Item one little Bell		7 6
Item a warminge panne		2 6
Item 4 olde Brasse pannes		13 4
Item a Brasse Chaffer		10 0
Item Fower yron Drippinge pannes		10 0
Item 6 yron Spittes		6 0
Item 4 yron Rackes		16 0
Item 3 Cobyrons, one fyreslise, one gridyron and a Fryinge pann		5 0
Item more 2 Spittes		2 0
Item 4 payre of potthangers and 2 paire of pott hoockes		3 0
Item 2 brocken Brasse stupnettes		3 0
Item 2 small brasse Candlestickes		1 4
Item a stone mortar a grate and a Choppinge blocke		1 6
Item 2 tables, one Forme, one borded Cubbard, Cartaine shelves and othe lumber		10 0
Item 3 olde pailles		1 0
Item One Jacke in the Custodye of Robert Willard, Smith to be mended	1	0 0
Item an yron backe in ye Chimneye		6 8
Item 2 old Chaires		1 0

Som is £16 15 6

In the host loaft: one hair Clothe att

6 8

PEIRCE HOUSE, CHARING: THE HOUSE AND ITS OWNERS

In the litle parlor:		
Item one feild bedsted, one fetherbed, one Flocke bed 3 blanckettes, a Fether bolster, a Flocke bolster, one olde Coverlett, 2 downe pillowes with pillow Coates	3	6 8
Item one table att		3 4
Item a blewe Cloth Carpett		3 4
Item 2 Cubbardes & a Joyne chaire		15 0
Item a muskett, 3 Calivers and a Casse of pistolles att	1	0 0
Item a payre of yron Andirones		2 0
Som is £5 10 4		
In the Backe howse:		
Item 2 Knedinge troffes, one mustard querne, 2 planckes with shelves and other lumber		12 0
Item 2 olde leather sacks att		2 6
Som is £- 14 6		
In one Upper Roome:		
Item one bedstede, a Flocke bed, Fower olde blanckettes, one sheete, a truckle bed, 3 olde Chestes, one yron spitt	1	6 8
Item in the gallerye a Joyne Cheest		5 0
Som is £1 11 8		
In the Chamber over the little parlor:		
Item one Joyne bedsted, 3 Fether bedes, 3 blanckettes, a Coverlett, 2 Fether bolsters, 2 Downe pillowes & one Flocke bolster	10	0 0
Item a Court Cybbard, 4 Chaires, one litle stoole & 3 Cushions	1	0 0
Item a weinstotte Cheest and 13 paire of shettes	8	0 0
Item 2 Damaske table Clothes and one Damaske Cubbard Clothe	3	10 0
Item 2 longe table Clothes, 3 square table Cloths, Fower longe Towelles, 4 Cubbard Clothes all of Diaper	5	10 0
Item 2 Dozen and a halfe of Diaper napkines	1	13 4
Item 5 longe Table Clothes	2	0 0
Item 9 longe Towelles	1	10 0
Item 2 square Table Clothes		8 0
Item 4 Cubbard Clothes of linnen		6 0
Item 8 Dozen & a halfe of napkines	5	2 0
Item one wainscot Cheest		5 0
Item 7 Dozen of pewter platters & Dishes	4	10 0
Item halfe a Dozen of pye plates		6 0
Item a Dozen of small pewter dishes		5 0
Item one Dozen of Frute Dishes and 15 sacers		6 0
Item a Wainscott Cheest		8 0
Item 2 Chestes, a cradle, an olde Chaire and an olde bedsteed		8 0
Item a Dozen of porrengers and 2 Dozen of platters		8 0
Som is £45 15 4		
In the greate Chamber:		
Item one Carved Joyne Bedsted with 2 Fether bedes, a Fether boulster, 3 blanckettes & one wollen Coverlett	8	8 0
Item 5 greene Curtaines of Flannell		6 0
Item a halfe hedded bedsteed with a Fether bed and Flocke bed	5	0 0
Item a Court Cubbard with a Cubbard Clothe		13 4
Item a weinscott Deske		3 4
Item a Tester and vallance of blwe velvett ymbrodered with silke and golde & 3 taftye Curtaines	13	16 8
Item towe Tapestrye Coverlettes	8	0 0

Item a Tapestrye Coverlette, a bearing mantle & a Fase Clothe in the Custodye of Thomas Steephens of Wye, lent hertofowe unto hime by the testator in his life time prised as unseese	5	0	0
Item one longe windowe Cushion and eleven others	2	8	0
Item 5 nedle wrought Cushians and towe of Turckeye Worke	1	8	0
Item 10 payre of Fyne sheetes	10	0	0
Item 17 pillowe Coates	2	0	0
Item a Cheeste plated with yron	12	0	
Item a Cheeste and Towe Chaires	13	4	
Item a little side table	1	6	
Som is £57 12 2			
In the Chamber within the great Chamber: one bedsteed, a wainscott presse, a truncke, 2 ould wicker Chaires, an olde Cheest, an yron payre of Cobyrones and 2 Red velvett Cushiones	1	13	4
Som is £- - -			
In the Chamber over the porch: A bedstede, 2 Fether bedes, 2 blanckettes, 2 Fether bolsters, one pillowe & pillowe Coate, a payre of sheetes, a little table and a Coverlett	5	0	0
Som is £- - -			
In the Chamber over ye sellar: Item 2 bedstedes, 3 Fether bedes, 2 Flocke bedes, 3 Fether Bolsters, 3 pillowes, 2 payre of sheetes, 4 wollen blanckettes, 2 olde Coverlettes, Certaine testers and vallances beelonginge	6	13	4
Item a wainscott presse	10	0	
Item a greate Cheest, 2 little boxes with 2 Chaires and a lowe stoole	1	0	0
Item 2 Cheests, a Drawinge Cubbard & a little table	8	0	
Item a truckle bed and a presse	10	0	
Item in plate, one playne silver Cupp, a gilt saltseller, a gilte Cupp with a Cover and a topp of a Cupp parsell gilte	6	13	4
Item a gold Ringe with a turckeye stone	1	13	4
Som is £17 8 0			
In the Chamber over the larder: Item 5 olde bedstedes, 3 olde bedes, 5 blanckettes, 2 bolsters, a payre of sheetes & other lumber neere thatt Chamber in a Clossett:	1	13	4
Item 2 small boxes, Cartaine shelves and a paire of Cobiyrans	4	10	
Som is £1 18 2			
In the Garden howse: Item one old bedsted, a wollen wheele, a Joine Forme, Certaine shelves and one old Cheest	6	8	
Item in the garden a stone Role	5	0	
Item in the garden next the seller, towe pewter stilles and 5 stockes of Bees	1	6	8
Som is £1 18 4			
In howsold linnen abowte the howse: Item 4 payre of Sheetes, 1 Dozen of napkins, 2 payre of pillow Coates, 3 longe table Clothes, 3 towelles with other small peces	2	0	0
In the Worke howse and in the menes Chamber: Item 2 borded bedstedes and one olde Chest	1	6	
Item 3 duble hand sawes and 2 handed sawes	10	0	
Item a Timber Binne, 3 poles with ropes and other thinges beelonginge	5	0	
Item one olde saddle with other lumber	1	0	
Som is £- 17 6			

PEIRCE HOUSE, CHARING: THE HOUSE AND ITS OWNERS

In the Gardner:		
Item one Serye, 2 bushelles, a tovet, a Fann, 3 scoppettes a seede Codd, a payre of Ropes & 2 hemp sacks	15	4
Som is £- - -		
In the Closse and in the groundes abowte the howse:		
Item Certaine timber Battes	4	0 0
Item Fyre Wood of all manner	2	10 0
Item a wagon, 2 plowes, harrowes, Courter, harnesse For horse and all other ymplementes beelonginge therto	7	10 0
Item in the Barne 24 loads of haye	12	0 0
Item 4 mares and 2 Geldinges	18	0 0
Item sixe milche Kyne and Towe twel(ve) monthinge haiffers	20	0 0
Item 5 hoges and 5 shetes	3	0 0
Item the powltyre of all sortes	16	0
Item 2 lathers	5	0
Item heemp on the grownd	10	0
Item Fruite growinge in ye orchard	10	0
Item 2 rackes and other lumber in the Closse	5	0
[Should be £69 6 0] Som £69 5 0		
In the Feildes in Corne Growinge:		
Item 7 acres and a halfe of wheate	15	0 0
Item 18 acres of Barleye	30	0 0
Item 6 acres of pease and tares	9	0 0
Item 9 sheepe and lambes	2	5 0
Som £56 5 0		
[Should be £312 13 8] Som Total is £313 18 8		

CKS PRC28/10/292

THE INVENTORY OF BRENT DERING OF CHARING, KENT. 1645

An Inventory of the goodes and Chattells of Captayne Brent Dering deceased made the 26th of October, 1645, prized by us whose names are heare under written.

	£	s.	d.
Imprimis his Purse with monys	3	0	0
his Wearing Aparell	3	6	8
In the Parlour:			
one Press 6 Chayers one stoole	1	10	0
5 Joynd stooles one table	13	4	
In the Kitchen:			
Chayers one littell Table	3	4	
Furniture for the Chimney	10	0	
one Jack	13	4	
In the Brewhouse:			
one Furnes and the bruing vessells	2	10	0
one Meale sacke & meale Tubb one sive	2	6	
In the Chamber over the Parlour:			
one Bed & Furniture to it	5	0	0
one Table & 10 Joynd stooles	1	0	0
one Court Cubbard, one Table, one Box, one Truncke,	14	0	
2 Boxes, 2 Trunckes	10	0	
In the Chamber over the Kitchen:			
2 Beds with ther furniture	5	0	0

P. WINZAR

one littell Table	3	0
Iorn Furniture for ye Chiminie	3	0
2 Iorn Ketcles, 2 Iron Potts	12	0
one Brass pott, 3 Ketcles, 2 skillets, one Mortor & pessell, one warming pann & other brass things	1	0 0
19 payer Sheets	8	13 4
8 payer Pillow coates	12	0
3 dozen of Napkins	18	0
8 Table Clothes	12	0
3 li. of Pewter	1	5 0
3 Carpits & Curtaynes for Bed & 4 Qushins	15	0
one flock Bed & the Furniture	1	0 0
one Trungle Bed & Furesht	1	0 0
2 Bedstedgles one press	1	10 0
2 keelers	4	0
Corne and Haye	10	0 0
one Lease at Boughton Malherbe	10	0 0
in Lumber unpriized & forgot	13	4
	<hr/> £60 13 10	

(Actual total £63 13 10)

John Hart

Robert Willard by his x marke

PRC27/12/12

Note: The Administration was granted to Ann Dering, his widow, 28 October, 1645.

PRC22/19/80

APPENDIX C

THE INVENTORY OF GABRIEL PEIRCE THE ELDER OF CHARING, KENT. 1669.

A true and perfect Inventory of all and singular the goodes Chattells and Credits of Gabriel Peirs the elder late of Charing in the County of Kent gent decd valued & appriized the third day of January in the yeare of our Lord God one thousand sixe hundred sixtie and nine by us whose names are hereunto subscribed as followeth (to witt)

	£	s.	d.
Imprimis his ready money & Apparrell	10	0	0
Item debts oweing to the dec'd at the tyme of his death	23	0	0
Item Ewes and Lambs	23	1	0
Item wood in the yard & Elsewhere	10	8	0
In the Parlor:			
Item one long table, eight Joyned stooles, seaven Chaires, six Cushions, one little Table, two Carpets, one Windowe Curtayne and rodd, two paire of Andirons, one fire shovell & tonge	4	5	0
In the Hall:			
Item one table, three Chaires, five Joyned stooles, two paire of Andirons & other small things	1	8	8
In the Kitchen:			
Item two tables, one Court Cupboard, sixe spitts, one Jacke, two Iron dripping pans, foure tynne dripping pans, one Coope, three Chopping			

PEIRCE HOUSE, CHARING: THE HOUSE AND ITS OWNERS

knives, three Gridirons, foure stooles, five Chaires, one fire shovell & Andirons & other things there	6	5	0
In the brewe house:			
Item five tubbs, five keelars, one Furnace, one small Querne & an old Kettle	4	0	0
In the Bake house:			
Item three brasse kettles, three warmeing pans, two brasse potts, three brasse Chaffing dishes, one mortar & pestle, foure brasse skillettes & other things there	3	15	0
In the milke buttery:			
Item three brine tubbs, foure pailles, seaven boules, Eight Crockes & other things	2	1	0
Item parcell of Iron	12	0	0
In the other buttery:			
Item one Safe, one old Chest, fower kellars, one Chaire, & other small things	1	16	0
In the meale house:			
Item two knead tubbs, one Forme, two sieves & other small things	12	0	
In the Cellar:			
Item nine barrells, three Stalders, one salt-Stocke, one tuvell and old tubb & a keelar	1	15	0
In the house in Ms Creswells occupacion:			
Item one Furnace, one table, one forme, one Safe, one Court Cupboard, one Jacke & a little Cupboard	2	6	0
In the outhouses where Ms Wolfe and Sarah Harte lives:			
Item two old beddstead, one Forme, one table, one Chest, one trendle bedstedd, one Cupboard, one little table, one Forme, one high bedstead with Curtaine rodde	2	6	8
In the servants Chamber:			
Item two old bedsteads, two Flockbedds, Foure Flocke bouldsters, foure blanckettes, one little table, one old Chaire	2	10	0
In the buttery chamber:			
Item one bedstead, one featherbeadd, one feather boulder, one flocke boulder w th blanckettes, Curtaines and rodde	5	0	0
In the Chamber over ye Cellar:			
Item two high Bedstedds, two trundle bedstedds, one presse cupboard, two Chests, one Court Cupboard, foure stooles, two feather bedds, three feather bouldsters, three feather pillowes, seaven blanckettes, foure Coverings, two paire of Curtaines & vallance, one paire of Andirons, two Flockebedds, two Flocke bouldsters and other things there	17	9	6
In the Porch Chamber:			
Item one bedstead, one feather bedd, two feather bouldsters, one Coverlett, Sixe feather pillowes, two Chests & blanckettes	6	5	0
In the Garrett:			
Item three Chests, one table, one Cupboard, a parcell of blanckettes & old Curtaines and other things	4	17	0
Item eight Dozen of Napkins, foureteene table clothes, seaven towells, fiftene paire of pillowebers, one Cupboard cloth, two wallettes, eight Course table clothes, eight Course Towels, five & twentie paire of fine sheetes, twelve paire of Coarse sheetes	38	9	6
Item for hay	6	0	0
Item about one hundred weight of pewter	4	0	0
Item things unseene & forgotten	1	0	0

(Actual total is £194 10 4)

Total is £196 10 4

valued & appraised the day & yeare aforesaid
by us
Anthony Nowers
George Deedes

Probate to Joseph Pearce
filius de Charing gent.

CKS PRC 27/21/78

SUMMARY OF THE WILL OF JOSEPH PEIRCE OF CHARING, KENT. Dated 1 November, 1680. Proved 27 Nov. 1680.

Will and Testament:

Styled Joseph Peirce of Charing, gentleman.

Burial: At Charing 10 November 1680 (Bishop's transcripts – CCA.DCb/BT1/58).

Bequests:

Lands and Tenements in Charing: To his wife Anne all such property not previously settled on her for her life.

To his three daughters, Anne, Jane and Katherine and their heirs, all the above lands and tenements to be divided equally between them after their mother's death. If any daughter should die without heirs then her portion to be divided between any living sisters.

Lease of Orgarswicke Manor in Kent:

He holds the lease from the Dean and Chapter of Christ Church, Canterbury and it has 'divers years' to run. The lease is bequeathed equally between his three daughters. His wife has power to renew the lease at her discretion at the most beneficial time.

His wife may deduct out of the profits of the Orgarswicke lease and his personal estate, sixteen pounds a year for every daughter's education and maintenance until they are 21 years or until the day of their marriage. She is to be his executrix and on receiving probate is ordered to give his friend, John Coppins of Canterbury, a Bond in the penalty of one thousand pounds, that she administers the Manor of Orgarswicke on behalf of his daughters in the way he has expressed.

His executrix is to sell his stock to pay his debts and expenses and all personal estate not otherwise disposed of; any surplus to be divided between the three daughters.

If any of the three daughters are 'disobedient unto their mother' or marry before they attain the age of twenty six years without the consent of their mother, then she may dispose of their portion to the remaining daughters.

His wife to have six pounds annually until she can sell the wood from his Charing land which is part of her Jointure. The six pounds may be taken from the profits of his daughters' estate. She may also have all the linen she brought to her marriage and the use of the household goods in his dwelling house for her life. After her death it is to be equally divided between the daughters.

He forgives his wife's daughter, Elizabeth Williams, any money he had lent her, so it seems she was a widow when she married Joseph Peirce.

To his sister, Mary Nowers, five pound annually to be paid quarterly, beginning after the decease of her husband Mr Nowers. If any payment is more than ten days overdue, Mary Nowers can distrain on the Manor of Orgarswicke.

If his wife dies before his three daughters are 21 years then his friend, John Coppins, takes over the executorship and administration of the estate according to the conditions previously stated. He is to have ten pounds a year out of the estate.

If his wife re-marries then she will forfeit all the lands in Charing and they will go to the three daughters immediately. The daughters' estate will have to be surrendered to John

PEIRCE HOUSE, CHARING: THE HOUSE AND ITS OWNERS

Coppins and she will also lose the right to educate her daughters unless she accepts ten pounds a year for each of them.

If all the daughters die before 21 years or their marriage then his cousin Thomas Henman receives the lease of the Manor of Orgarswicke out of which he must pay his cousin Allen Henman ten pounds a year for life. His cousin, Sampson Peirce is to have all the lands and tenements in Charing. If all the daughters die then their father's personal estate is to go to his sister Mary Nower's children, equally.

Witnesses. William Jacob, Amos Jacob and Lydia Baldock.

CKS PRC 32/54/548

THE INVENTORY OF JOSEPH PEIRCE OF CHARING, KENT. 1680

An Inventory of the goods and Chatles of Joseph Peirce late of Chareinge in the County of Kent gent. deceased which he had at the time of his death taken and apprized the Tenth day of December Anno Dm. 1680 by George Withwick gent. and John Peirce gent. as followith:

	£	s.	d.
Imprimis is his weareing apparrell & ready money	35	0	0
In the parlor of his dwelling house:			
Item twelve Turkey worke Chaires	4	16	0
Item one Table & Turkey worke Carpett	2	10	0
Item the Hangings in the same roome	1	10	0
Item one paire of Curtaines & rods		6	0
Item one paire of Andirons, one paire of iron dogs, fire slice, Tongs & bellows	1	0	0
Item glasses & earthen weare in the parlour Closset		4	0
In the Hall:			
Item 6 leather Chaires	1	10	0
Item one greate lether chaire		3	4
Item Table and Carpett		5	0
In the parlour Chamber:			
Item one Camlett bed, bedsted, three blanketts, one fether bed, two pillowes, one bolster, head peice, Counterpan, 6 Chaires, a table, lookeinge glasse, windowe Curtaines, hangings & one paire of dogs	20	0	0
In the Hall Chamber:			
Item one bedsted, three blanketts, one Counterpan, one bolster, two pillowes, one fetherbed, Curtaines & vallance hangings, two window Curtaines, Six Chaires, one Table Carpett & one lookeinge glasse	11	0	0
In the Kitchin Chamber:			
Item one fetherbed, one bedstead, three blanketts, one rugg, one bolster, two pillowes, Curtaines & vallance, headpeice, teaster hanginge, 2 window Curtaines, one Table, one Carpett Six Chaires, one paire of Andirons, fireslice & Tongs	7	0	0
In the brew house Chamber:			
Item one flockbed bedstead, Coveringe, Curtaines and vallance, two blanketts, one Trundle bed and bedstead, one little fetherbed, window Curtaines & other things	3	0	0
In the Garrett over the kitchin:			
Item one feather bed, bedstead, Curtaines, vallance, Rugg, two blanketts, one Chest, a Caser of Drawers, a Lookeinge glasse, one Couch chaire, & one paire of Andirons	5	10	0
In the garrett over the Hall:			
Item wheate and three Chests	4	0	0

In the garrett over the Brewhouse:			
Item a Screene, Apples & other Lumber	10	0	
In the Kitchin:			
Item one Jack, one Clock, five Spitts, one pasty pan, two dripping pans, two iron dripping pans, one toasting iron, one Trivett, one paire of bellows	4	10	0
Item eight Chaires, fowre brasse Candlestickes, One Little table, fowre dozen of pewter plates, 17 pewter dishes, two porringers & three plates	7	3	0
In the Bakehouse & Buttery:			
Item two iron potts, one brasse kettle, one warmeinge pan, fowre brasse Skilletts, one Chaffing dish & other goods	2	0	0
In the Brewhouse:			
Item two old Coppers, Six Tubs, five keelers & other things	4	0	0
In the Seller:			
Item six Kilderkins, fowre milke keelers & fowre dozen of bottles	2	1	0
Lynnen:			
Item 23 paires of Streaken Sheetes	10	0	0
Item 8 paire of Tow sheetes	1	15	0
Item three longe streaken tablecloths	1	10	0
Item 6 short streaken tablecloths	1	5	0
Item 6 Tow table Cloathes		6	0
Item 18 paire of pillow coates, 6 paire being old	1	1	0
Item 36 Tow towells & 12 of streake	1	0	0
Item 42 Streake napkins fine & 42 course	1	11	0
Item 36 dyaper napkins & 1 Tablecloth	1	0	0
Item 2 homemade sideboard Cloath		4	0
Item Six Silver Salts & nine Silver Spoones	3	6	0
Item three gold rings		15	0
Without doores:			
Item in husbandry implymnts	3	0	0
Item twenty Lambs	6	0	0
Item three Cowes	7	10	0
Item one horse	3	0	0
Item fowreteene weather Sheepe	6	0	0
Item one Mare	4	0	0
Item (. . .) hoggs	2	0	0
Item wool	70	0	0
Item in wood about his dwelling house	2	10	0
Item 6 cords of wood more	1	16	0
Item in hay Sanfoyne & Clover	6	0	0
Item 17 acres of wheate Sowen at Sindane	17	0	0
Item for one hundred & thirty ewes at 11s. a peece	71	10	0
Item fowre Rams	3	0	0
Item 98 Wether Sheepe at 11s. a peece	53	18	0
Item 67 Lambes at 7s. a peece	23	9	0
Item 10 runttts at £3 10s. 0d. a peece	35	0	0
Item two Steer	4	10	0
Item two Cowes	6	10	0
Item two Colts	5	0	0
Item two Mares	11	0	0
Item ten runttts	17	3	0
Item 78 whether sheepe at 11s. a peece	42	18	0
Item 78 Lanbes at 6s. a peece	23	8	0

PEIRCE HOUSE, CHARING: THE HOUSE AND ITS OWNERS

Item 52 barron ewe sheepe at 7s. a peece	18	4	0
Item hay & some about it	10	0	0
Item Two Cowes	5	0	0
Item a lease of the Manor of Orgarswick from the Deane & Chapter of Canterbury	600	0	0
Debts due to the deceased:			
Item from Edward Carpenter	42	0	0
Item from John Latter	21	10	0
Item from Rich. Franke	8	14	0
Item from John (Dams) – desperate	1	10	0
Item from Thomas Godfry	7	0	0
Item from M ^r Freind – desperate	19	0	0
Item from M ^r Luxford	1	0	0
Item from James Curd	5	0	0
Item from John Tayler	6	10	0
Item from M ^r Tho: Henman	20	0	0
Corn at Syndane:			
Item thirty two seames of barley threshinge deducted	22	11	0
Item twenty Six Seames of oates threshinge deducted	13	0	0
Item for two Seames of pease & Seven bushells of tares, threshinge deducted	2	7	0
Corne at Charinge:			
Item 14 Seames of white oates threshinge & Carriage deducted	7	6	0
Item things unseene & forgotten	1	0	0
George Wightwicke, John Peirs			
Sum totall	£1402	16	4

CKS PRC27/29/159

SUMMARY OF THE WILL OF SAMPSON PEIRCE OF CHARING, KENT. Dated 21 Jan., 1691.
Proved 25 October, 1692. Buried at Charing, 10 October, 1692.

Will and Testament:

Styled: Sampson Peirce of Charing, gentleman.

Burial: At Charing 10 October 1692.

Bequests:

To his two younger sons, George and Sampson £250 each to be paid out of the estate in an Indenture dated 14 March 1687. The Indenture would seem to be a Marriage Settlement the parties being Gabriel Peirce, Sampson's father and Sampson himself of the first part and John Whitfield of the City of Canterbury, gentleman, and one of his daughters, Roberta Whitfield of the second part.

George and Sampson are also to receive twenty pounds annually out of the same estate, for their keep until they receive their legacies of £250 each.

His wife Roberta is to receive all the rest of his goods and chattels and is made the sole executrix.

Witnesses. Elizabeth Poole, George Carter, George Poole.

CKS PRC 32/56/140.

THE INVENTORY OF SAMPSON PEIRCE OF CHARING, KENT. 1693

He was buried at Charing on 10 October, 1692, and his will was proved on the 25 October, 1692, but the date on the Inventory is quite clearly August 1693.

An Inventorie of the Goods Chattells and Debts of Sampson Peirce late of Charing in the County of Kent Gentl. deceased taken and appraised the 17th day of August Anno. Dom.

1693 by us Richard Allen of the City of Canterbury Gentl. and Edward Fendall of the same City – Carpenter as followeth (vizt)

	£	s.	d.
Imprimis his Purse Girdle and wearing apparell	10	0	0
In the Hall:			
Item 2 Spanish Tables with Carpetts		11	0
Item 6 old Leather Chaires		5	0
Item 2 Low Stooles		1	6
Item a paire of small Andirons, 6 fire pan Tongs & 6 hooks		3	0
Item 3 Linnen Curtaines & 2 Curtaine Rodds		4	0
Item 2 Small Mapps & 19 little printed pictures		2	6
Item 3 Flower potts		1	0
In the Parlor:			
Item one Large Spanish Table 5s. ye Carpett 12s.		17	0
Item one small Table & Carpett		4	0
Item 12 Turkiworke Chaires	3	1	0
Item a paire of Tongs, fire pan, bellows and two paire of Creepers		8	0
Item 3 window Curtaines & 2 Curtaine Rodds		6	0
Item 12 Ceasars Heads printed In Frames		6	0
In the Kitchen:			
Item one Jack & Lynes, Spitt Chaîne and Iron fender		14	0
Item one Spitt more, 2 Iron Dripping panns, one Iron plate to stand behind the meate		6	0
Item one fire pan & tongs, one Iron Ovenlid & one Iron peelee		6	0
Item one paire of Cobirns, 1 paire of Creepers, 1 Gridiron, 1 Tosting Iron, one paire of Bellows & 1 paire of Snuffers		5	6
Item one Case Iron & 2 Heaters, one paire of pott hangers & one Iron plate frame		6	0
Item on Clock with Lyne & weights		10	0
Item 2 Fowling peeces & an Iron Sworde	1	10	0
Item 162 pound of pewter at 6d ye pound	4	1	0
Item one Brasse Mortor & pestle & 5 tinn plates		3	4
Item one Table & 3 joyned Stooles		5	0
Item 3 old Chaires		1	0
In the Brewhouse:			
Item one Copper		2	15 0
Item one Small Copper		1	1 0
Item 2 Brewing Tunns, 6 Keelers, one hand jett & a Tap hose		1	4 6
Item one paire of potthangers, one Iron Forke, one washing block one Seive & one Sauce pann		3	6
In the Malthouse:			
Item one Malt Querne, one Cheese presse		2	15 0
Item one Bucking Tubb, one Rencing Tubb & one brewing Tubb, 2 bucking keelers		10	6
Item one Sider presse & one Syder Trough		10	0
Item one old Chest & one Deale board & two hand Saws & two old Chaires		4	6
Item one Garden Rake, one hay Rake & 3 wedges		3	0
Item one Bridle & Saddle		6	6
Item 2 Spades & a Small Rake		1	3
Item one old Still & a watering pott		3	0
Item one old horse harness & 3 pitch forkes		5	0
Item 2 halters & 2 old keelers		1	6
Item in ye Grainery 12 sacks, a parcell of hoops & an old side bedd		12	0

PEIRCE HOUSE, CHARING: THE HOUSE AND ITS OWNERS

In the Wash house:		
Item 2 Brasse Kettles	1	0 0
Item one Brasse skillett, one brasse pot lid, one brasse Candlestick		5 6
Item one Bed Mettle Skillett		2 6
Item one Brasse Warming pann & one pair of Brasse Scales & Beame		4 6
Item one greate Iron pott & pott Lids		10 0
Item 2 Iron potts & an Iron kettle		11 0
Item 3 Iron Candlestickes, one bread Grater & a Candlebox		1 6
Item one Trough, one forme, one hogwash tubb, one hogwash paile & one water paile		3 6
In ye Milk house:		
Item 2 leaden Milke panns		8 0
Item 7 Milke Bowles		6 0
Item one Charne & Staffe		4 0
Item one Butter platter & Creame Crock		1 0
Item 2 Milking pailles		3 0
Item one Brine Tubb, one little Stalder & one forme		6 0
In ye Larder:		
Item one Table, 2 chaires and one brine Tubb		11 0
In the Celler:		
Item 7 Beere Vessells, 2 Stalders, 2 tilters	1	12 0
Item 14 dozen of Glasse bottles	2	2 0
Item for all ye Earthen ware		5 0
Item for a pair of Scales & Beames, & 144 pound in Leaden Weights		16 0
Without Doors:		
Item one Waggon with ye Wimbrosses	1	10 0
Item one Court & 2 Iron harrows	1	0 0
Item 4 Ladders & 2 Deale Boards		8 0
Item one Barly Roll & 3 Troughs		5 6
Item 2 Cows	9	0 0
Item one open Sow & one Barron hog, 3 piggs	2	10 0
The Linnen:		
Item 19 paire & an odd Sheete	8	15 0
Item 19 pillow Beares	1	10 0
Item 4 Sideboard Cloathes		5 0
Item 6 Fine Towells & 13 old ones	1	0 0
Item one Damask Table Cloath	1	0 0
Item one Diaper Table Cloth good		15 0
Item 3 diaper Table Cloths more	1	10 0
Item 3 doz. of Diaper Napkins		18 0
Item one homemade Table Cloth and Tenne Napkins more	1	0 0
Item 3 dozen & ii Course homemade Napkins	1	4 0
Item one homemade Table Cloth & 2 dozen of Napkins more		14 0
Item 11 Course Table Cloths	1	18 6
Item 4 Linnen Walleets		4 0
In ye Study:		
Item for all ye Bookes	2	14 0
Corne:		
Item 7 quarters & halfe of Yeallow pease	11	5 0
Item one Quarter of Gray peas	1	12 0
Item 10 quarters of white Oates	6	0 0
Item 14 quarters of Barley	15	0 0
Item for Chaffe & Straw		10 0

Item 3 fat hoggs	6	1	0
Item one Rideing horse	3	0	0
Item one Rideing Mare	9	5	0
Item for hempseed in all	3	11	7
Item 2 Loads & an halfe of hay in ye Barne	2	10	0
Item 2 old Cowes	4	5	0
Item Sold 2 young Budds	2	10	0
Item Seaven Quarters of hempe and a Beddford		11	10
Item seed hempe which come to	2	5	10
Item for ye wood about ye house	5	0	0
Item wood laid in at Canterbury by Mr Peirce & intended for his own use	1	12	6
Item peares & ples walnutts & Quinces	2	3	6
Item four Bushells of Saintfoyn seeds		15	0
Item rec'd halfe a yeares Rent of Mr Bachellor due at Michaelmas 1692	41	16	0
Item rec'd by hay from the Ground & for Rowine	11	6	0
Item rec'd for ye (lime) of the Stable		17	0
Item due from Mr Henman for parte of a horse in ye Trap		16	9
Item rec'd of Mr Hornsby		10	6
Item in ready money	16	17	0
Item in Rings & Jewells	13	10	0
Item one Silver Watch & Four paire of Silver buttons	1	10	0
Item in Silver plate – Eighty & Eight ounces at five shillings the ounce	22	0	0
In the Best Chamber:			
Item one feather Bedd & Bolster weighing Eighty & Four pounds weight	3	3	0
Item the Beddstead Curtaines Vallence Counterpanes & Two Blanketts	15	0	0
Item Tenne yards of Sarcenett Intended for a Quilt	1	0	0
Item one Arimid Caine Chair & six other Caine Chaires with padds	1	14	0
Item a Walnutt Tree Case of Drawers & a Looking Glasse	3	5	0
Item one Clout Box		15	0
Item on paire of Brasse Tongs & Fire pann & hooks one paire of Brasse			
Andirons & Creepers		10	0
Item Two Window Curtaines & a Curtain Rodd		4	0
Item the hangings about the Chamber	1	6	8
In the Sad Coulored Chamber:			
Item one Featherbedd & bolster weighing Fifty four pounds weight	1	11	6
Item one Beddstedd Curtaines & Vallence with Two Blanketts & Quilt	4	10	0
Item Six Cushion Chaires Two Window Curtaines & Rodds		15	0
Item one paire of Andirons		2	6
Item the hanging about ye said Sad Coloured Chamber	1	5	0
Item in ye Closett in ye Sadd coloured Chamber one Chest & one Trundle		4	0
In ye porch Chamber:			
Item one Featherbedd & Bolster weighing Forty Eight pounds weight	1	4	0
Item one Beddstedd with Curtaines & Two Blanketts	1	0	0
Item Two old red Chaires & one Stand		1	6
Item in ye Garrett Forty Four Quarters of Thistle hempe	2	4	0
In the Chamber over ye Kitchin:			
Item one Feather Bedd & Bolster weighing Eighty & Five pounds weight	2	2	6
Item one Beddstedd Curtaine & Vallence Two Blanketts & a Coverlett	2	0	0
Item one other Feather Bedd & Bolster weighing Ninety & six pounds weight	3	12	0
Item one Beddstedd Curtaine & vallence Two Blanketts & a Coverlett	2	10	0
Item one old Chest & one old Case of Drawers		9	0
Item one folding Table, one Trunke & Two leather Chaires, one old Stoole, a small Box, a paire of Tongs & a paire of Creepers		7	6

The Family of SAYER of Charing, Kent.

George Sayer Esq. of Bouchiers Hall in Essex Vice-Chamberlain to Queen Catherine, Consort to Charles II and also to Queen Mary II who made him Sub-Gov. and Gentleman of the Bedchamber to William Duke of Gloucester, Freeman of Canterbury and M.P. 1695 & 1702. d. 21 May 1718 aged 63, bur. at Charing MI.

= Frances dau. and heir of Sir Philip Honeywood of Pett. m. 1685, d. 2 August 1731 aged 63 yrs. bur. north transept Charing Church, MI.

George Sayer of Pett Place only son b. 1691. d. 1733 aged 42, bur. 8 June north transept. MI.

= Mary, sister of Daniel Godfrey of Faversham, bur. at Charing 17 August 1757.

George Sayer of Pett Place Westminster School at 9 yrs. Admitted Middle Temple 1739, entered Oriel College 1740, High Sheriff of Kent 1755, d. 1778.

= Mary, dau. of John Greenhill of Maidstone by his wife, Mary sister of Matthew Chandler of St Radigunds's in Polton, Kent

Mary
d. unm.

Catherine
d. unm.

George Sayer of Pett Place b. 1751. Matriculated Oriel College 1768. Admitted Lincoln's Inn 1772 - Bachelor Civil Law, 1782 Rector of Eggescliffe, Durham until his death in May 1814. Resided only occasionally at Pett Place. Had issue that died young, a son and five daughters surviving.

= Catherine only dau. of James Wakely (or Wakeley) of Charing, m. 1786; m. lic. of 1781 for Wm. Allen b. of Little Chart & Catherine Wakely of Charing s. 22 to be married at Charing 6 Dec. but there is no record in Charing Registers. She d. 14 Jan. 1836. MI, near north transept.

Major John Sayer, of Doddington Educated Westminster School & Oriel, 18th Reg. of Foot, the 89th & the 25th. Finally the 1st Foot in 1793, d. 1 Feb. 1799, MI, north transept.

= Charlotte dau. Charles Van of Llanwern co. Mon.

Mary
d. unm.
April
1829

Catherine
m. Rev. Wm Gregory, 2nd s. of Dr John Gregory of Edinburgh.

Frances
d. unm.
3 March
1829

George Edward Sayer 1795. Educated Westminster School & Oxford. Admitted Lincoln's Inn 1815. After father's death he settled at Pett Place & became a JP, & DL, d. unm. May 1871. On death of his last surviving sister, Charlotte, he was succeeded by his cousin's son, John Sayer.

George & John
b. 11 Jan. 1787
bur. 31 Jan. 1787

1. Mary
b. 3 Feb. 1788
m. Henry Egerton Esq.
2. Jane
b. 18 June 1787
3. Catherine
date of birth unknown
4. Frances
b. 16 March 1791
d. 27 Dec. 1794
5. Charlotte twin of Selina.
b. 20 Apl. 1792;
d. unm. 1874
6. Selina twin of Charlotte.
b. 20 Apl. 1792;
d. unm. 1861; bur. vault in north transept, Charing.
7. Frances Elizabeth
b. 1798 d. 1816
aged 18 years MI.

Rev. John Sayer, b. 1787
Vicar of Arlingham, Glos.
in 1814 and later Rural Dean
of Gloucester. m. 1815
d. 1836.

= Elizabeth only dau. & heir of
Rev. Thomas Hodges of Slowwe
in Arlingham, also Vicar of
Arlingham. She d. 1784

John Sayer of Pett Place and Arlingham, Barrister-at-Law (Lincoln's Inn 1850) JP. Kent; b. 21 Jan. 1823 at Slowwe in Arlingham where he is buried, edc. Rugby & Trin. Coll. Oxford MA. 1849. m. 13 Sept 1849. d. 1 July 1886. MI.

= Charlotte Sibella eld. dau. of
Rev. William Crawley, Incumbent of
Flaxley, Gloucs. 5th s. of Sir
Thomas Crawley-Boevey, 2nd, Bt. of
Flaxley Abbey. She d. 20 Jan. 1900
aged 74. MI.

Mary Elizabeth
m. Rev. John
Lloyd Crawley
MA, Vicar of
Arlingham. She
d. 1848

John of Pett Place
JP, & DL. Barrister
Lincoln's Inn 1875
b. 3 July 1850. educ.
Rugby & Christ Church
Oxford, MA. 1876
m. 30 April 1889
d. 19 Jan. 1917 MI.

= Dorothea Hugoline
(Clearmount. Charing
eld. dau. of the Rev.
Hugh Pigot, Rector of
Stretham, Cams.
b. 31 May 1865
d. 18 August 1949 MI.

George, MA.
JP. b. 1853.
d. 1920
MA. d. 1920

William
b. 1854
m. 1888
d. 1912

Arthur
b. 1888
m. 1922
d. 1952
inherited
& sold Pett
Place

1. Mary
m. 1882
d. 1908
2. Sibella
Fanny
m. 1899

Gladys Hugoline
m. 17 Aug 1922
and has issue.

= Major Philip
Ormiston Nutley
Jordan R.E. of
Stubble Hill
Harrietsham, Kent.

Sibella
Margaret
d. 1927.

Katherine Dorothea
m. 22 Oct. 1930
and has issue.

= Joseph Lawrence
Heathcote Stisted
s. of Major C.H.
Stisted of Egerton
House, Egerton,
Kent.

Frances
Joan
b. 31 Jan.
1899
d. 2 Apl.
1993.

Eleanor

The Family of PEIRCE of Charing, Kent.

Gabriel Peirce
bur. Charing 7 Dec. 1669.
2nd son of Sampson Peirce
yeoman of Stalisfield who
d. about 1615 and Ann, dau.
(-) Craft. m. 21 Sept. 1579.
She alive in 1629.

= Katherine
bur. Charing
18 Aug. 1666

Joseph Peirce gent.
m. aged 30. lic.
30 Dec. 1670
bondsm. Nich. Burges
Ald. of Canterbury.
m. at Boughton Aluph.
bur. Charing
10 Nov. 1680.
Will dat. 1 Nov. 1680.
pr. 27 Nov. 1680.

= Anne Williams
of St Margaret's
Canterbury.
bur. Charing
3 Feb. 1706.

Gabriel Peirce gent.
bur. Charing 6 Sept.
1759. Will dat.
7 March 1706. pr.
17 Sept. 1709

= Anne
bur. at Charing
21 Sept. 1659

John of Pluckley gent. aged
32 lic. 31 May 1679 m. at
Kingsnorth or Little
Chart. Geo. Silles
cordwainer swore consent.
He d. before 1706
see brother's will
[CKS PRC32/58/237.]

= Sarah Hart of Pluckley
v. aged 35. She survived
her husband, see bro.-in-law's
will [CKS PRC32/58/237.]

Mary
bapt. Charing
29 April 1644
See brother
Gabriel's will
[CKS PRC32/58/237.]

= Edw. Nowers

Elizabeth Ann
See uncle Gabriel's will
[CKS PRC32/58/237.]

Anne
bapt. 8 Mar.
1671

Jane & Catherine
twins born 28 Oct. 1677
Jane bapt. 2 Nov. 1677
Cath. bapt 9 Nov. 1677

Sampson Peirce
born 28 March 1656
bapt. Charing; d.
there aged 37
10 Oct. 1692
d.v.p. M1, Charing
Church on nave floor
near chancel.
Will dat. 21 Jan.
1691 pr. 25 Oct. 1692

= Roberta dau. of
John Whitfield of Canterbury.
Marriage Settlement
dat. 14 March 1687
lic. m. 5 April 1688 at Molash.
Apparently re-married after
1692 as will of father-in-law
says 'my daughter-in-law
Roberta Jones'
[CKS PRC32/58/237.]

Richard
born 25 April 1659
at Charing, bur.
26 March 1660.

John of Charing gent.
bapt. 24 Jan. 1688
bur. 6 March 1726;
Lincoln College Oxford
4 May 1709. BA 18 March
1712/13. Named in
grandfather's will

= Elizabeth bur.
at Doddington
20 June 1746.

George
bapt. 4 March 1689
bur. at Charing
11 Sept. 1694.
M.I. with father
Charing Church.

Sampson
bapt. 2 Oct. 1691
bur. at Charing
30 July 1693.
M.I. with father
Charing Church.

Sampson
of Doddington
bur. there
9 Sept. 1759

= Sarah dau. of
(-) Halbett
d. 26 Dec. 1808
bur. at Doddington

Roberta Catherine
bapt. at Doddington
28 Dec. 1726, bur.
there 30 March 1727

John of
Canterbury gent.
b. at Linsted
4 July 1746
eldest son living
1828. lic. 12 Oct
1774 to be married
at St Andrew's, Cant.

= Mary Halford dau.
of Rich. Halford
of Cant. gent.
m. 13 Oct. 1774
d. 1789, bur. in
St Margaret's Church
Canterbury.

Sampson of
London gent.
b. 22 July 1753
bapt. Doddington
16 Aug. following:
living in Guernsey
unm. in 1828.

James of
London gent.
b. 2 Jan. 1755
bapt. Doddington
27 Jan. 1755,
living in 1828.

Rebecca
b. Newnham
2 Oct. 1757, d.
24 April 1814 s.p.

= William Hemming Esq.
He living 1828.

Roberta Catherine
b. Doddington
4 April 1752
bapt. 15 April 1752
d. 9 July 1821
bur. Staplehurst.

= Terry Marsh of
Boughton. He died
before his wife &
was bur. at
Staplehurst.

1. Wm. Henry
2. George Gab.
3. John
all d. young.

Sampson Creed
eldest son
b. 5 Nov. 1777
bapt. at St Alphege
Cant. 26 Nov. 1777.
d. at Tarragona in Spain 31
Dec. 1813 & bur. there.

John James of Cant.
gent. b. 9 July 1781
bapt. St Margaret's Cant.
20 Aug. foll'g.
m. at St John's Church, Margate
20 May 1817,
Mayor of Canterbury 1813 & 1825

= Augusta Elizabeth
dau. of (-) King of
Margate 20 May 1817.

Mary Marsh
b. 31 July 1775
bapt. St Alphege
Cant. m. St James
Church, London

= Rich. Buckner Esq.
Capt. in the Royal
Artillery, Only s.
& h. of Adm. Charles
Buckner, living 1828

Eliz. Roberta
b. 15 Dec. 1778,
bapt. St Alphege
Cant. 20 Jan 1779
living unm. 1828.

Cath. Sarah
b. 4 Mar. 1785
bapt. St Marg'ts
Cant. 6 April 1785
living unm. 1828.

Charlotte
b. 20 Aug. 1788
bapt. St Marg'ts
Cant. 2 Oct. 1788
living unm. 1828

Sarah Halford &
Caroline both died young

John Sampson
b. 13 Oct. 1821
bapt. St Alphege
Canterbury.

Richard King
b. 2 Feb. 1823
bapt. St Alphege
Canterbury.

Robert Hodges
b. 28 May 1827
bapt. St Margaret's
Canterbury.

= Caroline Sare

Augusta Mary
b. 3 April 1818
bapt. St Alphege
Canterbury.

Emma Roberta
b. 13 Dec. 1819
bapt. at St Alphege, Cant.

Catherine Stisted Halford = (-)
b. 29 Nov. 1824
bapt. at St Margaret's
Canterbury.

1 son: 2 daus.

3 children d. young: 3 sons & 6 daus.

PEIRCE HOUSE, CHARING: THE HOUSE AND ITS OWNERS

Item in the Closett to that Chamber, one Broad Box, Two old Trunks	4	6
Item Thirty yards of new Cloth & Forty pounds weight of Spun yarne	4	0 0
In the Maides Chamber:		
Item one Small Flock bedd & Bedstedd & one Blankett & a new Bedd Cord	7	0
Item one old Chest one Bedstedd & a joyned stoole	5	0
Item Two small Tables	4	6
Item one Flock bedd & bolster very old with a joyned Beddstedd & two old		
Chaires	5	6
Item six pillows weighing Twenty Six pounds weight	1	6 0
Item six Knives Six Forks & a Case	5	0
Item personal Bond due from Mr Curteise	10	0 0
Item for old Lumber & things forgotten	2	0 0

Sum Total of this Inventory is Three Hundred Forty Two pounds Nyne Shillings & Three pence

CKS PRC27/33/167

SUMMARY OF THE WILL OF GABRIEL PEIRCE OF CHARING, KENT, 1706. Made 7 March, 1706. Proved 17 September, 1709.

Will and Testament:

Styled Gabriel Peirce of Charing, gentleman.

Burial: In Charing Church 6 September 1709 – M.I. in floor in front of chancel.

Bequests:

To his grandson, John Peirce, his silver tankard with the silver plate belonging and two silver salts.

To his daughter-in-law Mrs Roberta Jones, one guinea.

To his sister, Mary Nowers, five pounds and six silver spoons.

To Elizabeth and Anne, daughters of Mary Nowers ten pounds each.

To his sister-in-law, the widow of his brother John Peirce, ten shillings to buy a ring.

To the poor of Charing forty shillings.

To his old servant, John Knock, and his wife two shillings each.

To Elizabeth and Anne Nowers and his servant Elizabeth Speed, all the household goods to be equally divided.

Message or Tenement and lands called Harts in Stalisfield; The Annuity or Rent Charge of five pounds a year from this holding to his grandson, John Peirce and his heirs. For want of such heirs it is to go to his sister Mary Nowers and after her death to her daughters, Elizabeth and Anne, equally divided between them and their heirs.

A small Tenement and about three acres of land in Stalisfield. This property had belonged to his brother Joseph Peirce and was the holding of his widow, Sarah, for her life. After her death the decd. would have an interest in the property which he bequeathed to his sister Mary Nowers for her life and after her death to her two daughters and their heirs.

Land called Westbrooke in Charing. The increase in the yearly rent on the lease of this land the decd. had made to Francis Munn, over and above the yearly rent payable to Sir George Wheler for the same land, is to be used by his executrix towards the payment of his debts.

One message, shop, barn, stable, garden, orchard and eight pieces of land, of about 16 acres in Stalisfield. The moiety or half of this property which he purchased from John and Elizabeth Somers to go to Mary Nowers, as executrix, to be sold.

The wood growing on Westbrooke, Charing. His executrix to sell the wood growing in Westbrooke and all his goods and chattels not already given. With all the money raised

P. WINZAR

from the sales above she is to pay all the debts and expenses. The surplus, if any, to be equally divided between his grandson, John Peirce and his sister and executrix, Mary Nowers.

Witnesses. Joseph Smith, John Huckstep and George Poole.

CKS PRC32/58/237 Act Book 22/22/172

THE INVENTORY OF GABRIEL PEIRCE, 1709

A true and perfect Inventory of all and singuler the Goods Chattells and Creditts of Gabriel Peirce late of Charing in the County of Kent gent. deceased valued and apprized the foure and twentieth day of September in the yeare of our Lord Christ One thousand Seven hundred and nine as followeth (That is to say)

	£	s.	d.
Imprimis his ready money, wearing Apparrell both linnen and woollen and two gold rings	12	0	0
Item owing to the deceased at the time of his death	8	0	0
Item in the Closett severall leaden Waights		7	6
Item in the Corne Loft five bushells of Wheate	2	0	0
Item one Strey, two Stuppetts, one old Fan, one bushell, one Tovett, one gallon, one Seed codd, two basketts and three drye Casks	18	0	
Item seven old Sacks, and one sacke of Charcoales		6	0
Item in the Malthouse foure Cord of Wood	1	8	0
Item eight ladders, foure Sawes, two bills, one Iron Crow, one Mattock and two howes	15	0	
Item in the Yard eight loades of Faggotts	2	0	0
Item one Cart, one Dung Court and one paire of Chowle Wheelles	2	10	0
Item in the Well close one hundred of pales		7	0
Item a parcell of plaine Tiles		8	0
Item some peices of timber and poles		11	0
Item in the Barne twenty loades of hay	20	0	0
Item two Cowes, two Sheates and one old Mare	10	5	0
Item the Alders in the West brooke		8	0
Item for things unseen and forgott		6	8
	<hr/>		
	Sum total	£70	2 2
		<hr/>	

Valued and apprized the day
and yeare abovesaid by us

John Smart

James Browne

agreed 7 October 1709

CKS PRC27/38/41