

The following Will was obtained from the National Archives (PROB 11/294/618) on the 27th of July 2021. And belongs to William Negus, it is dated from 7th Oct 1657. With it being proved on the 12th of August 1659

I have chosen to convert the language used at the time into something more akin to that we would see today

In the name of God Amen,

I William Negus of Keyston in the County of Huntington being weak in body but God be praised of good and perfect memory and understanding do make this my last will and Testament in manner and form following

First, I bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God hoping to be eternally saved by the alone merits of my only Saviour and Redeemer Jesus Christ and my Body to the Earth whence it was taken to be buried at the discretion of my Executors hereafter named Trusting to have a Joyful resurrection unto life everlasting

And for my worldly and temporal goods I dispose of them as follows I give and bequeath unto my Son Henry Negus half a score of good sheep and do assign my whole right unto him of all that arable land which I hold in the fields of Keyston of Mr Bunnell's to enjoy the same as I myself have done

Also I give unto my Grandchild William Negus Son of the said Henry the Sum of ten pounds of good English money to be paid and disbursed by my Executors hereafter named to his use to be put out to the best improvement at his age of fourteen years or if the said Grandchild chance to die and depart this life before his age of one and twenty years then my will is that the said ten pounds shall in like manner be paid and disposed of to the use and benefit of the next child Son or daughter which shall be born to my said Son Henry

I likewise give and bequeath unto my Son-in-law Richard Walker four sheep and to my Grandchild Thomas Darrowell one sheep

And for all the rest of my goods and Chattels I give bequeath and devise and bequeath to my wife Margerie Negus and my daughter Anne Negus for the payment of my debts and discharging my funeral expenses whom I nominate appoint & also Do make executors of this my last will and Testament

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal this Seventh day of October in the year of our Lord God One thousand Six Hundred fifty and Seven

William Negus

Signed Sealed and published in the presence of us

William Rusby
Richard Walker

This will was proved at **London** Before the Judges for Probate of wills and granting Administrations Lawfully Authorized the Twentieth day of August in the year of our Lord God one thousand Six hundred fifty-nine by the oath of Margerie Negus the Relict and Anne Negus the daughter Joint executors in the said will named to whom was committed Administration of all and Singular the goods Chattels and debts of the deceased They being first sworn by Commission well & truly to Administer

the most blessed Lord
In the name of God Amen
 I William Negus of London in the Countie of Middlesex being now in
 bodie but god be praised of good and perfect memory and understanding in
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In witness whereof my last will and Testament in manner and forme following first I bequeath all my goods and
 the hands of all my goods and chattels to be eternally saved by the above written of my own free will and
 Testament I have bequeathed And my body to the earth, which it was hitherto be buried with all the discretion of my
 Executors hereafter named, desiring to have a joyful resurrection unto life everlasting. I do give
 my realty and temporall goods I dispose of them as followeth to witte and bequeath unto my sonne
 Henry Negus halfe a part of good shillings and do assigne my whole right unto him of all the
 realty land which he holdeth in the county of Middlesex. Burwile to enjoy the same as if my selfe
 have done. Also I give unto my daughter Anne Negus some of the said shillings the sume
 of tenne pounds of good English money to be paid and disbursed by my Executors hereafter named
 to his use to be put out to the best advantage of her estate and use, or if she should
 think it better to dye and dispose of her estate as she shall see cause and then my will
 is that the said tenne pounds should be like manner be paid and disbursed unto her use and benefit
 of the next childer some or daughter which she shall beare to my said sonne Henry Negus
 quiet and bequeath unto my sonne in law Richard Waller sume shillings And to my grand
 child Thomas Darnley the sume shillings And for all that rest of my goods and chattels I bequeath
 quiet and bequeath to my wife Margaret Negus and my daughter Anne Negus
 for the paying of my debts and discharging my funerall expences which I nominally appointed
 my Executors of this my last will and Testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my
 hand and Seale this Twentieth day of October in the year of our Lord God One thousand Six
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 presence of us William Rugeby Richard Waller

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