Will of Katherine Rampley 31 January 1587 (proved[[1]](#footnote-1) 27 February 1587)

SRO Reference: IC500/2/40

Book: J545/19

Date: 1587

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Exh*ibi*t*um* eft Inven.

T. Katherine Rampley de Walsham

De Wyllanes Defunc

///In the name/// of god, the xxxj[[2]](#footnote-2) day of the month of Ianuary

In the yeere of o*u*r lord god, 1587, and in the thirtye yeere

of the Raygne of our sou*er*aygne lady Elizabeth by the

grace of god, Quene of England, Fraunce and Ireland

defender of the faythe et. I Katherin Rampley of Walsha*m*

Lee Wyllowes in the County of Suff*olk* wedowe, late

wyf of Iohn Rampley of Walsham aforesayd deceased

being of whole mind and p*er*fect Remembraunc, thankes

be to Almightye god, doe make and Ordayne this p*rese*nt

my Last wyll and testament in mann*er* and[[3]](#footnote-3) following

First I bequeath my sowle into the m*igh*tyfull handes of

Almightye god my only savior and Redeem*er*, and my bodye

I committ to the yerth from whenc yt came, to be see*m*ly

and Chrystianally byryed. Item I bequeath to Fraunces

Maram[[4]](#footnote-4) my Neece weedowe (late wyff of Thomas Mara*m*

of Mildnall[[5]](#footnote-5) fortye shyllinges[[6]](#footnote-6) of good and lawfull

Englishe moneyto be payd w*i*t*h*in two yeeres after my

decease, Item I geve vnto the sayd Fraunces, one

playne trendle bedsteed[[7]](#footnote-7), one yoynted litle backe chayre

one payre of sheetes, and two yard Carchyfes[[8]](#footnote-8), Item

I geve to my sester Alice Wase wyddowe (late the

wyf of Wyll*ia*m Wase, my best gowne, and five shyllinges[[9]](#footnote-9)

of lawfull englishe money, and that all those my gyftes

be deliu*er*ed immediatlye after my decease (except the

fortye shyllinges to Frauncis Maram) by the handes

of myne Executor hereafter named, the resydewe of

all my goodes aswell w*i*t*h*in the howse, as w*i*t*h*out of what

tytle, name or degreesoeu*er* they be called, w*i*th the five

poundes[[10]](#footnote-10) that my Cosen[[11]](#footnote-11) Raynold Rampley oweth me

I geve them

[new page]

I geve them wholye vnto Andrew Hawys my kinsman

whome I doe Ordayne and make my sole Executor

of this my last wyll and testame*n*t, In wyttnes hereof

I have sette my hande and seale, These to wyttnes

Thomas Bridges, and Thomas Sparke.

///Probatum/// apud[[12]](#footnote-12) Burye Sci. Eed., coram nesro

Iohe Dey Legum doctor Comissario et Offili Nechi

natus Sudbur. etc. xxvij die me*n*ss Februarij Anno

D*om*in*i* nixta cursn. et Compotacoem. ecclie. Angeicome 1587

Iuramo. Andree Hawys exec. etc. cui commissa sunt

ado. bonor. etc. salvo Iure cunisca.

**Transcription Conventions**

* semi-diplomatic transcription
* lineation and indentation retained
* raised letters lowered, contractions expanded, and supplied letters italicized
* ampersand silently replaced by “and” (or by “et” in “etc.”)
* text in italic hand given in ///xxx///
* deleted text given in <xxx>

1. Probate: in order to “prove” a will, and thereby establish legally its validity, the executors named in it would appear in court and exhibit the will. They would then enter into a bond concerning the administration of the goods contained within the will. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. 31st [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. forme (word missing in transcript) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Quoted elsewhere as Marham [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Mildenhall: Walsham-le-Willows 18 miles; Sapiston 12 miles [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. About £250 in 2002 [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. i.e. a trundle or truckle bedstead [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Probably kerchiefs [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. About £30 in 2002 [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. About £650 in 2002 [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. Note that the use of “cousin” was looser in those days. Raynold (Reynold, Reginald) might actually be the first cousin once removed of Katherine’s husband John [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. If you can read Latin, you can probably tell that I can’t! Translations welcome. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)