

The following abridged version of John Hamonde's will below was provided by Glynn Burrows of Norfolk, England.

John Hamonde of Scarning, Yeoman, made his will on 11th of November 1542. At that time he was in good health and mind. He went through the usual religious text for a will and then went on to the will proper.

His wife was Katherine and he left her the household goods, his milking herd ("*milche neate*"), harness and a bay colt.

He left his son Robert a bed among other things. (A bed was one of the most prized possessions as they were expensive items and often it would be "the bed as it stands" which means with all the hangings, mattress, pillows, covers, etc.)

He mentions pastureland, which was leased from Mr. Robert XXXXX Esquire. (This name eludes me at present!) He also mentions Chappell Meadow with the little meadow lying within the hedge.

He left 20 bullocks to Robert and a grey mare.

He left 20 bullocks to son Edmund.

He left 10 bullocks to son Nicholas.

He left 5 bullocks to daughter Margaret.

He left 5 bullocks to daughter Marion.

These bullocks were to be pastured till Michaelmass or such time as they were sold and those owning them would pay their share of the rent.

He mentions his eldest son, John, who gets the wire mare, a cart, and harness and collars. His eldest daughter was Elizabeth and she got one white bullock. His son, Robert Hamonde the Younger got a brown bullock and daughter Alice Hamonde, got a black one.

The proceeds from corn and other household earnings was to go towards keeping the house for a year and was to be until the Festival of Saint Margaret the Archangel (Michaelmass).

He also mentions that they have recently broken up some pasture and sown the land with crops.

His final bequest is to his servant, Margaret Collen, and he gives her 12d (one shilling).

He made his wife and son Robert his executors.