
HICKS née
HORLOCK,
Susanna
Jemima, of
Plomer
Hill, Bucks.

Will dated 28 Jan
1841

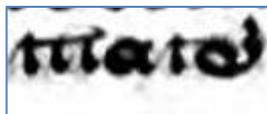
UK National Archives

1 **This is the last Will and Testament**

2 of me **Susanna Jemima Hicks** of *Plomer Hill* in the Parish
3 of *West Wycombe* in the County of Bucks *Widow* First I commit into
4 Thy hands O Lord my Soul Spirit and Body and as concerns my bo-
5 dy after my decease and my funeral I desire that the Shell in which
6 my body¹ [m u m m m u u]² may be placed may not be covered over
7 with the coffin lid until my body has changed its colour and _____³

¹ Roman numerals – i, ii, ... thus – refer to notes at the end of the document.

² Gibberish or filler:



³ I definitely prefer not to speculate.

1 The National Archives; Kew, England; *Prerogative Court of Canterbury and Related
1 Probate Jurisdictions: Will Registers*; Class: *PROB 11*; Piece: *2054*.

1 Accessed ancestry.com.au OCT 2014 — D Davies

End of page 1; start of page 2

1 may be buried ⁱ at *Box* in Wiltshire in the same vault with my
2 dear parents and that my Coffin may be made of good Oak and that
3 the same may not be covered with black cloth but remain of its own
4 natural colour and be quite plain I desire that my body may be
5 conveyed from the place where I may die to the *Village of Box* afore-
6 said in a Hearse and that no attendants may accompany the
7 Hearse except the Servants living with me at my decease and [if]
8 they _ desire may follow in one mourning Coach and that my
9 body shall be carried from the Hearse or place at *Box* where the
10 Hearse may stop to the Grave by six underbearers to each of
11 whom I request six shillings may be given I desire no Pall bear-
12 ers but that my servants living with me at my decease both
13 men and women may follow my body to the *Vault* if I should
14 die possessed of both a Carriage and horses in that case I desire that
15 such carriage and horses may follow my remains to *Box* and
16 after my Funeral I request my Nephew the **Reverend Holled**
17 **Horlock** to accept the same and to whom I do hereby give the
18 same Carriage horses and harness By virtue of the power to me
19 in that behalf given by the Will of my late husband **John Hicks**
20 *Esquire* deceased and in execution of the same power I do appoint
21 that the sum of two hundred and fifty pounds sterling money
22 funds late of my said husband or the funds in or upon which the
23 produce of such parliamentary stocks or funds may be invested
24 at the time of my decease and that such sum of two hundred and
25 fifty pounds when raised shall be paid to my said *husbands*
26 *daughter* **Anna Maria Hearle** for her sole and separate use and
27 for which her receipt alone shall be a sufficient discharge [&?] I make
28 this appointment in favour of the said **Anna Maria Hearle** to
29 show that I possess no unkind feeling towards her or her husbandⁱⁱ
30 As concerns my worldly estate I dispose of the same as follows I
31 give to my *nephew* **Isaac John Horlock** *Esquire* the sum of one

32 hundred pounds as a token of kind remembrance knowing he is
33 amply provided for I give to my *nephew* **Knightly William**
34 **Horlock** *Esquire* the sum of one hundred pounds as a token of kind
35 remembrance knowing that he also is amply provided for I
36 give to my said *nephew* The **Reverend Holled Horlock** who has
37 not so much as either of my two other nephews and spends
38 much on his parishioners the sum of four hundred pounds and
39 I give to my *niece* **Matilda Smith** *formerly Matilda Denison*⁴
40 the sum of one hundred pounds as a token of kind remembrance to be
41 for her sole and separate use and for which her receipt alone shall
42 be a sufficient discharge I give to the said **Anna Maria Hearle**
43 the sum of one hundred pounds for her sole and separate use
44 and for which her receipt alone shall be a sufficient discharge I
45 give to my Friend **Doctor Slater** of *West Wycombe* the sum of ten
46 pounds for a mourning ring I give to each of my Servants who
47 shall be living with me at the time of my decease and shall have
48 been in my Service for seven years previously the sum of nine-
49 teen guineas over and above all arrears of wages that may be
50 due to them at the time of my death I desire my Friend **John**
51 **Patch** of the *Inner Temple London Esquire* my Executor and
52 residuary Legatee hereinafter named for and during the twen-
53 ty years immediately succeeding my death to pay to the Officia-
54 ting Ministers the annual sums following that is to say to the
55 Officiating Minister for the time being of **Londwater Chapel**⁵ in
56 the County of Bucks the yearly sum of five pounds, to the Officiating

⁴ Another niece, Lucy Maria Charlotte Denison, had died in 1815.

⁵ High Wycombe, Bucks.

The National Archives; Kew, England; *Prerogative Court of Canterbury and Related Probate Jurisdictions: Will Registers*; Class: PROB 11; Piece: 2054.

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End of page 2; start of page 3

1 Minister or Ministers for the time being of the Parish Church of
2 **High Wycombe** in the same County or while there shall be two
3 such ministers to one of them the yearly sum of ten pounds and
4 the Officiating Minister for the time being of the Parish Church
5 **West Wycombe** aforesaid the yearly sum of ten pounds the said
6 several yearly sums of five pounds ten pounds and ten pounds
7 to be respectively by such respective Officiating Ministers for the
8 time being as aforesaid paid and applied unto or for the benefit of
9 the sick and aged poor of their respective Chapelry and Parishes in
10 such shares and manner as they may respectively from time to
11 time think proper and I desire that the said Ministers for the time
12 being shall yearly render to the said **John Patch** his executors or
13 administrators an account in writing in the manner and [persons
14 ___?] which and to or for whose benefit they may expend the said year-
15 ly sums I give a mourning ring of the value of five pounds to my
16 *Sister in Law* **Mrs. Horlock** I give my Fathers portrait⁶ in Oil and a
17 two miniature likenesses of my said late husband and myself to my
18 said *nephew* **Holled Horlock** I give to my Servant **Eleanor Perrott**
19 during her life one annuity or clear yearly sum of fifty two
20 pounds to be paid to her by twelve equal payments on the first day
21 of each month in every year and I declare that the same annuity
22 shall be for the sole and separate use of the said **Eleanor Perrett** and
23 if having survived her present husband she shall marry again
24 then that the same annuity shall cease and be no longer paya-
25 ble and I give my Servant **William Strond**⁷ during his life one
26 annuity or clear yearly sum of fifty two pounds to be paid him by
27 four equal quarterly payments at Lady Day Midsummer Day
28 Michaelmas day and Christmas day in every year the first of
29 such quarterly payments to be made on such of the said four days

⁶ Does it still exist?

⁷ Stroud?

30 as shall first happen after my decease I give to Mrs. **Frances**
31 **Mountstevens** (*niece of my late husband*) during her life one
32 annuity or clear yearly sum of sixty pounds to be payable by equal half year-
33 ly payments the first half yearly payment thereof to be made
34 at the expiration of six calendar months next after my decease
35 And I declare that the said two several annuities of fifty two
36 pounds each and the several pecuniary legacies hereinbefore
37 given shall be respectively paid free of all legacy duty and in case
38 of any deficiency of Assets I desire that the said two annuities of
39 fifty two pounds each shall not be liable to any abatement and
40 I direct that the payment of the said annuities shall at the discre-
41 tion of my Executor be secured by either purchasing in the name
42 of my Executor and the person respectively entitled to such annuity an equal
43 amount in Government life annuities or by the investment in
44 the name of my Executor and some other person as a trustee of
45 a sufficient amount in a share of the parliamentary stocks or
46 funds the dividends whereof will be equal to such annuities respect-
47 ively then payable I also desire and direct the several and pecu-
48 niary legacies hereinbefore given to be paid at the end of six
49 months after my decease I give unto my said Servant **Elizabeth**⁸
50 **Perrott** the feather bed ____ Mattress Bolster ____ Blankets on the
51 Bedstead in my room also all the calico and ____
52 hangings to such bedstead and the white _____
53 ____ to such room and the white table and carpet which shall
54 be laid down or belong to the same room at the time of my death
55 and I also give her the two little white work tables normally stan-
56 ding in my bedroom and also all my own drawings and all my
57 clothes and wearing apparel and I give unto the said **Eleanor**

⁸ sic

End of page 3; start of page 4

1 **Perrett** and **William Stroud** all my books with my name written
2 in them also all my kitchen linen and Servants sheets and blue
3 and white china and other common Earthenware and also all
4 the Cows Sheep Pigs and Poultry that may belong to me at my
5 death the said books and other effects being to be equally divided
6 between the said **Eleanor Perret** and **William Stroud** in such man-
7 ner as they may agree upon and I declare that all my specific bequests
8 unto or in favour of the said **Eleanor Perrett** shall be for her sole and
9 separate use and that her receipt alone shall be a sufficient discharge
10 for the same I give to the **Reverend John Graves** my bronze -----
11 of Caesar and the five China Jars now and which are normally
12 placed and kept in my drawing room also the Gold coated and ----
13 formerly belonging to his Uncle and also my silver bread basket
14 which formerly belonged to his great Grandfather and I desire that all
15 my plate linen china pictures prints books and household goods
16 and furniture not hereinbefore specifically or otherwise disposed
17 of or which shall not pass by any thing hereinbefore contained
18 and also all the farming stock and farming or gardening uten-
19 sils which shall be in or about my dwelling house at *Plomer*
20 *Hill* at the time of my death shall be sold as soon as conveniently
21 may be after my decease and that the monies arising from
22 such sale after paying the expences of or attending the same
23 shall be paid and divided unto and between my *late husbands*
24 *niece Mrs. Frances Mountstevens* and her children or such of
25 them as shall be living at the time of my decease in equal
26 shares (if more than one) and as to all and singular my -----
27 monies monies in the parliamentary stocks or funds or upon
28 other securities and all my contingent interests in monies or
29 stocks under my said late husbands Will and all other my
30 *Personal Estate* and effects not hereinbefore specifically or
31 otherwise disposed of or of which the disposition hereinbefore con-

32 tained shall fail to take effect I do hereby give and bequeath the
33 same subject to the payment of my debts and funeral and testa-
34 mentary Expences and legacies and the annuities hereinbefore
35 given unto the said **John Patch** to and for his own absolute use
36 and I appoint the said **John Patch** the sole Executor and
37 Trustee of this my Will In Witness whereof I the said **Susanna**
38 **Jemima Hicks** the Testatrix have to this my last Will and Testament
39 contained in four⁹ sheets of paper set my hand and seal that is to
40 say my hand to the first three sheets thereof and my hand and
41 seal to this fourth and last sheet thereof this twenty eighth day of
42 January in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty
43 one¹⁰ [signed] Susanna J. Hicks [Witnesses etc. a **George Giles**, Upholsterer of High
44 Wycombe, Bucks., at al.]

⁹ The original Will was copied into a consolidated collection with different pagination. The latter is reflected here.

¹⁰ 28th January 1841

The National Archives; Kew, England; *Prerogative Court of Canterbury and Related Probate Jurisdictions: Will Registers*; Class: *PROB 11*; Piece: 2054.

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Probate London 26th April 1847 to **John Patch** Esquire.

Who's Who

Susanna Jemima HICKS	The testator, formerly HORLOCK, daughter of Isaac HORLOCK and Lucy MILLER.
John HICKS	Susanna's deceased husband.
Anna Maria HEARLE née HICKS	Daughter of John from 1 st wife, married Francis HEARLE.
Frances MOUNTSTEVENS	Niece of John HICKS, who married William MOUNTSTEVENS.
John GRAVES	Grandson born 25 th January 1811 of John HICKS, son of his late daughter Sophia Elizabeth GRAVES née HICKS, from John's 1 st marriage, by Charles Gray GRAVES.
Isaac John HORLOCK	Nephews of Susanna, sons of Isaac William Webb HORLOCK
Knightly William HORLOCK	
Holloed [Darrell Cave Smith] HORLOCK	
Matilda SMITH née DENISON	Niece of Susanna, Anne Matilda DENISON, daughter of Maria Charlotte DENISON née HORLOCK and John DENISON ¹¹ . Another niece, Lucy ... DENISON had died in 1815.
(unmentioned) William Thomas Horatio Nile Nelson HICKS	Deceased son of John HICKS by his 1 st wife. Died 5 Feb 1822 unmarried and without issue. Prompted one of the codicils to John's Will (on May 10 th , 1822).

ⁱ Inscriptions from within the Box parish church:

Sacred | to the memory | of Isaac Webb Horlock, Esq^{re} of | Ashwick House, | the oldest magistrate in the County of Gloucester, | who departed this life Nov^r 7th 1821, | Aged 98 years | This tablet is erected to his memory | by his affectionate daughter | Susanna Jemima Hicks.

Sacred | to the memory of | Susanna Jemima Hicks, | Relict of John Hicks Esq^{re} | of Bradenham, Bucks, | and youngest daughter of | Isaac Webb Horlock, Esq^{re}, | of Ashwick House, Glostershire. | She died on the 23rd of May 1845, | aged 75 years, | And her remains are interred in the | family vault in this church.

Sacred | to the memory of | Alice, eldest daughter of H. Sudell Esq^{re}, | of Ashley House. | She departed this life January 3rd 1858, | aged 59. | Also of Elizabeth her sister, | and wife of the Reverend D^r Horlock, | Vicar of this parish. | She died January 3rd 1858, aged 49.

"The Monumental Inscriptions of the Box Church, Co. Wilts.", SCHOMBERG, Arthur, *The Genealogist* (New Series), page 181, MURRAY, Keith W. (ed.), Vol. X, George Bell & Sons, London, 1894. Accessed archive.org 2014-10-21

ⁱⁱ Why the assurance of goodwill?

Anna Maria Hearle had contested Susanna's late husband's Will dated 4 May 1831, which had a number of codicils. The former contended that the 4th codicil revoked an original bequest in which Susanna had possession for life of the Plomer Hill estate and everything connected with it. Hearle attempted to evict Susanna – this went to court. The final result was that the 4th codicil did not revoke the bequest, and – as this Will of hers signed in 1841 shows – she remained at Plomer Hill House.

[1832 DOE *d.* HEARLE *v.* HICKS in *Cases Argued and Determined in the Courts of Common Pleas & Exchequer Chamber and in The House of Lords; from Michaelmas Term, 1831, to Easter Term, 1832*, Moore & Scott, Vol. 1, S. Sweet, Chancery Lane, Fleet Street, London, 1833; pages 759–773. Google ebook accessed Oct 2014-10-22]

Susanna appears to have had problems getting the annuity due to her actually paid. Arrears had reached 3,479l. A more readable account of the matter, which sheds some light on who everybody was, is in *The Law Journal for the Year 1832-1949: Comprising Reports of Cases in the Courts of Chancery, King's Bench, Common Pleas, Exchequer of Pleas*,

¹¹ This man:

[http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/manuscriptsandspecialcollections/collectionsindepth/family/denison/biographies/biographyofjohndenisonformerlywilkinson\(c1759-1820\).aspx](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/manuscriptsandspecialcollections/collectionsindepth/family/denison/biographies/biographyofjohndenisonformerlywilkinson(c1759-1820).aspx) and

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1790-1820/member/denison-john-1758-1820>. The latter does not mention Matilda.

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and Exchequer of Chamber, ..., Ince, E.B., 1841, pp 185, as "V.C. Jan. 30 ; Feb 2. GRAVES v. HICKS." (Google ebook, 2014-10-22)

There was a sequel. With Plomer Hill House & appurtenances out of the running while Susanna lived, Anna Maria Hearle and John Hicks' grandson Robert Graves disagreed over the division of property between the two of them, so to speak. As the lawyers put it:

"This was a case sent by the Vice-Chancellor for the opinion of this Court upon the construction of a will. The will was of John Hicks, of Plomer Hill House ..."

On 2 Feb 1836 it was decided that Robert Graves got "an estate for life in each of the estates in Buckinghamshire and Cornwall, under the will and codicils". That is, his interest did not pass to any of his heirs he may have at the time of his death.

[*King's Bench*. GRAVES v. HICKS. *Reports of Cases Argued and Determined in the Court of King's Bench ... and in the Bail Court Vol. 2*, Harrison & Wollaston, Butterworth, London, 1837; page 74. Google ebook accessed Oct 2014-10-22]

For the sake of completeness, as well as Plomer Hill House etc. and the Cornwall property, John Hicks had also held Bradenham Manor in Buckinghamshire.