

Will of Frances Adamthwaite 20 October 1682

We know that Frances was the widow of Richard Adamthwaite, plaisterer, of All Hallows the Great, who died before 1665. He appeared in the London Hearth Tax of 1662 and the Index to the Archdeacon of London's Wills and Admons records that Administration was granted to Frances.

From the records relating to the Plaisterer's Company, it seems that Richard was the son of John, husbandman of Ravenstonedale and as Richard was apprenticed in 1633, it is likely that he is the Richard, son of John, who was baptised in Ravenstonedale in 1616.

I believe that in addition to the daughter Mary named in this will, the couple also had a son named Arnold who was baptised at Great All Hallows in 1643. He appears on the register of scholars at the Merchant Taylor School, but I have found no other records.

In the name of God Amen I Frances Adamthwaite of the parish of St Giles without Cripplegate in the County of Middx, widow being in reasonable health of body of sound memory and disposing capacity for which I bless the Lord doe make this my last Will and Testament in manner and forme following.

First my mind and will is that after my decease my body be decently interred amongst my friends according to the discretion of my Executors herein after named. And then as to my outward Estate which God hath blessed me with all viz Moneys goods chattels household goods and other Estates whatsoever after my debts if any being paid and funeral expenses discharged I give and bequeath to my trusty and beloved friends John Light of Dowgate London Bartram Stiffner and Richard Whitpain citizen and Butcher of London and the survivors of them the Executors and Assigns of the survivor of them for the use of my grandchild Elizabeth the daughter of Thomas Walker by Mary his late wife my daughter deceased. And upon Trust and confidence that they the said John Light and Richard Whitpain and the survivors of them and the Executors or Administrators of the said Survivors ... put out the money at Interest to be raised by sale of my said Estate or otherwise disposed of the same for the advantage of my said grandchild till she attains unto the age of one and twenty yeares or Discretion shall think fit. And ... my said grandchild shall depart this life before she shall attain unto the age of one and twenty yeares or be marryed that then my said Trustees shall divide the remainder of my Estate which shall be undisposed of at the time of the death between my grandchildren Thomas and Mary Walker brother and sister of the said Elizabeth viz the one moiety thereof to the said Thomas when he shall attain unto the age of ne and twenty yeares and the other moiety thereof to the said Mary when she shall attain tp the age of one and twenty years or be marryed and in case either of them shall dye before that then my Will is my Estate shall go to the Survivor And my further Will is that if all my said grandchildren shall depart this life before my said Estate shall be disposed of as aforesaid that then my said Trustees shall dispose of the same to and amongst poor people and they in their distraction shall think fit. And I do hereby make and constitute the said John Light and Richard Whitpain Executors of this my last Will and Testament and revoake all former Wills Executors and bequests by me made. In witness whereof I have to this my last Will and Testament sett my hand and Seal the twentieth day of October Anno Dom 1682 in the Reign of Charles II

The mark of Frances Adamthwaite

Signed Sealed and published and declared by the said Testator in the presence of John Turner the mark of Thomas Bir... Robt Mosse

Probate granted October 1684

NOTES

A document in the NA relates to an inheritance dispute between WALKER (son-in-law of Frances Adamthwaite) and LIGHT (Executor) in relation to this will. C8/358/195 – I still have to follow this up.

Frances was the widow of Richard Adamthwaite of All Hallows the Great – whose Administration was granted to his widow Frances in 1665. It seems likely that Richard was born in 1616, the son of John Adamthwaite, husbandman of Ravenstonedale. He was apprenticed in 1633 to William Smith of the Plaisterer's Company, and later Apprenticeship records show his as Master in the Plaisterers Co: in 1646 an Edward HUMFREY, son of John of Waltham Abbey was apprenticed to Richard ADAMTHWAITE, and in 1660 there is a record of a Robert GULSTON, son of Robert of St Albans, also apprenticed to Richard, however his apprenticeship was later turned over to Georg UBANKE, possible on Richard's death in 1665.

Richard and Frances are probably the parents of Arnold Adamthwaite who was chr in 1643 at All Hallows the Great, and was a pupil at Merchant Taylor School (in these records, his father was named as Richard Adamthwaite plaisterer of All Hallows). Nothing more is known of Arnold.