A Transcription of the Last Will and Testament of

John Mason

Dated 16 September 1713

Prepared by members of Deddington and District History Society May 2009

WILL OF JOHN MASON

Mason John de Dadington

In the name of God Amen the nine and twentieth day of May in the year of our Lord God one thousand seven hundred and six in the fifth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Ann by the grace of God of England, Scotland, France and Ireland Queen Defender of the faith. I John Mason of Dadington in the County of Oxon Blacksmith not being in health of body but of perfect memory, thanks be to God, make this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following (that is to say) First I bequeath my soul and spirit into the hands of Almighty God my heavenly Father by whom of his mercy and only grace I trust to be saved and received into eternal rest through the death of my Saviour and Redeemer Jesus Christ in whose precious blood I set the whole and only hope of my salvation. My body in hope of a joyful resurrection I commit to the earth to be buried with such charges and in such place as my dear wife Susannah shall think fit. Touching the distribution of my worldly estate wherewith God hath blessed me, I dispose of the same as follows. First I will that all such debts as I owe shall be truly paid. Item I give and bequeath unto my said wife Susannah and to her heirs for ever all the tenement and shop formerly a dwelling house with the appurtenances in the New Street Dadington aforesaid over against The Crown Inn and all the shoppe with the appurtenances in the Market Street in Dadington aforesaid. To have and to hold the said tenement and shop with all and singular the appurtenances unto my said wife Susannah her heirs and assigns for ever. Item I give and bequeath unto my said dear wife Susannah all the tenement or dwelling house

with the appurtenances in Dadington aforesaid wherein I now live for and during the term of her natural life. And after her decease I give and devise the same to my nephew William Mason, son of my brother William Mason, his heirs and assigns for ever. But in case the said William Mason should depart this life before my said wife so that he does not come to be in possession of the same then my Will and meaning is that my said wife shall have power to sell and dispose of the same dwelling house to the best Chapman that will buy the same and the purchase money shall be equally divided among all brothers and sisters of my said nephew William Mason share and share alike. And to enable my said wife to sell and dispose of the said house in case my said nephew William die as aforesaid I give and bequeath the inheritance thereof to her and her heirs for ever in trust for her to sell the same and dispose of the moneys for the uses and purposes before mentioned within one year after the death of the said William Mason. Item I give to the said William Mason all my working tools and instruments of my trade belonging to a Blacksmith. And one set of my wearing apparel and all the rest of my clothes and wearing apparel I give and bequeath unto my brother William Mason. Item I give unto my said brother one shilling and to all his children one shilling apiece. All the rest of my goods and chattels of what make or kind whatsoever they be I give and bequeath unto my said wife whom I do hereby make and constitute sole executrix of this my last will and testament and do hereby revoke all former wills by me at any time heretofore made. And declare this to be my only last will and testament and no other.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal and published this to be my last will and testament the day and year aforesaid. John Mason.

Signed sealed and published by the above named John Mason in the presence of

John Peach, Jo Langston, Elizabeth Langston.

Probate the 16th September 1713.

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