

**The Will of JOHN PETTIT, of Heathfield, East Sussex, Yeoman, December 22 1828**  
**Proved November 28 1831**  
**ESRO Microfiche A77 page 568**

This is the last Will and Testament of me **JOHN PETTIT** of Heathfield in the County of Sussex Yeoman touching the disposition of such in Temporal estate as it hath pleased Almighty God of his Goodness to bestow upon me (That is to say) I give and devise unto my *wife* **AVIS PETTIT** and other Assigns for and during the Term of her natural life if she shall so long remain my Widow All that my Messuage and Tenement and the Cottage Barn Outbuildings several pieces and parcels of land and premises thereto belonging or reputed to belong situate lying and being in the parish of Heathfield aforesaid containing in together by Estimation **Forty six Acres** be the same more or less called **SCOTSFORD FARM** and now in my own Occupation Subject nevertheless to the payment of the Interest which shall from time to time from and after my decease become due and payable on such principle Money and Monies as shall be due and owing on Mortgage or Mortgages of the said premises or any part thereof at the time of my decease And from and after the decease or second Marriage of my said wife **Avis Pettit** which shall happen I give and devise the said Messuage or Tenement Cottage Barn Outbuilding several pieces or parcels of land and Premises with their Appurtenances unto my *son* **WILLIAM PETTIT** in Case he shall then have attained the age of twenty one years and to his heirs and assigns for ever Subject nevertheless to the payment of such principal Money or Monies as shall be due and owing thereon at the time of my decease and the Interest from and after the decease and second Marriage of my said wife **Avis Pettit** which shall first happen to become due and payable for the same Money or Monies And also subject to and charged with the payment of the Legacy or Sum of **two hundred and fifty pounds** *apiece* unto my *daughters* **SARAH ANN PETTIT** and **MARY ANN PETTIT** within one Year next after the decease or second Marriage of my said wife **Avis Pettit** which shall first happen And in case my said son **William Pettit** shall not have arrived at the age of twenty one years at the time of my decease or second Marriage of my said wife **Avis Pettit** which shall first happen Then and in such Case I give and devise the said Messuage or Tenement Cottage Barn Outbuildings several pieces or parcels of land and premises with their Appurtenances from and after the decease or second Marriage of my said wife **Avis Pettit** which shall first happen unto **NERI MOON** of Waldron in the said County and **THOMAS ELLIS** of Heathfield aforesaid Shopkeeper and their Heirs for ever upon the several Trusts nevertheless hereinafter declared of and concerning the same (that is to say) Upon Trust that they the said Neri Moon and Thomas Ellis or the Survivor of them or the heirs or such Survivors shall do as soon as conveniently may be the decease or second Marriage of my said wife **Avis Pettit** which shall first happen in case my said son **William Pettit** shall not then have attained the age of twenty one years absolutely sell and dispose of the said Messuage or Tenement Cottage Barn Outbuildings several pieces or parcels of Land and premised with their Appurtenances for the best price or prices that can be had or obtained for the same either by Public Auction or Private Contract and either together or in Lots or parcels as they the said Neri Moon and Thomas Ellis or the Survivor of them or the heirs of such or Survivor shall in their or his discretion think proper and the Monies arising from the Sale or Sales thereof together with the Rents Issues and profits thereof from the time of the decease or second Marriage of my said wife **Avis Pettit** which shall first happen in the mean time and until the Sale and Disposition thereof to pay and apply in the first place in discharge and Satisfaction of the Costs and Charges of and attending the Sale and Sales of the said premises and in the next place in discharge and Satisfaction of such in principal and Money and Monies as shall be then due and owing on Mortgage or Mortgages of the said premises or any part thereof and the Interest of the same Money and Monies from the time of the decease or second Marriage of my said wife **Avis Pettit** And the Residue of the said Trust Monies to pay and divide unto and between my said Son and Daughters **William Pettit Sarah Ann Pettit and Mary Ann Pettit** in equal shares and proportions when and as they shall severally attain the age of twenty one years And in the mean time to put and place out the same at Interest in the name or names of my said Trustees or the Survivors of them or the heirs of such Survivor on some good and sufficient Government or Real Security or Securities and pay and apply the Interest or Dividends thereof from time to time when and as the same shall become due and be received for the benefit of my said Son and Daughters **William Pettit Sarah Ann Pettit and Mary Ann Pettit** in such manner as my said Trustees or the Survivor of them or the heirs of such Survivor shall in their or his discretion think proper And in order to facilitate the Sale and Disposition of the said Messuage or Tenement Cottage Barn Outbuildings several pieces or parcels of Land and premises pursuant to this my will I do hereby expressly declare and direct that the purchaser or purchasers thereof his heir or their heirs Executing Administrators or Assigns shall not be compelled or compellable to the see the application of his her or their purchase Money or purchase Monies or any part thereof or be answerable or accountable for the Loss Misapplication or Nonapplication thereof or any part thereof but that such purchaser or purchasers and his heir or their Heirs Executors Administrators and Assigns shall be absolutely discharged therefrom upon payment of such his her or their purchase Money or purchase Monies unto the said Neri Moon and Thomas Ellis or the Survivor of them or the heirs of such Survivor any Rule in Law or Equity to the contrary notwithstanding Any I give and devise unto my *Sons* **JOHN PETTIT** and **Samuel Pettit** All that my **COTTAGE** or Tenement Barn Outbuildings in several pieces or parcels of Lands and premises called **STONEHURST** containing by Estimation **sixty seven Acres** be the same more or less situate lying and being in the parish of Heathfield aforesaid and now in my Occupation To hold the same unto my said Sons **John Pettit** and **Samuel Pettit** and their Heirs and Assigns forever as **Tenants in Common** and not as Joint Tenants Subject nevertheless to the

payment of the Legacy or Sum of **Seventy five pounds** unto my son **Thomas Pettit** and to the Legacy or Sum of **Fifty pounds** unto my daughter **ELIZABETH PETTIT** the same Legacies and Sums to be paid when and as they my said son and daughter **Thomas Pettit** and **Elizabeth Pettit** shall respectively arrive at the age of twenty one years And also subject to the payment of all such principal and Interest Monies as shall be due and owing on Mortgage or Mortgages of the said premises called **Stonehurst** or any part thereof at the time of my decease And I give and devise and bequeath unto my said daughter **Elizabeth Pettit** All that Cottage **LODGE** Outbuildings **GARDEN** and **SEVEN** pieces or parcels of Land with their Appurtenances containing together by Estimation **twenty six Acres** be the same more or less called **late RELFS and THOMPSONS** situate lying and being in the parish of Heathfield aforesaid and now in the Occupation of myself and my son **John Pettit** and which said Cottage Lodge Outbuildings certain premises **demised** and **leased** to me in or about the year **One thousand eight hundred and twenty four** for the Term of **Twenty one years** by the Lord of the Manor of Laughton in the said County To hold the said Cottage Lodge Outbuildings Garden and seven pieces or parcels of Land with their Appurtenances unto my said daughter **Elizabeth Pettit** and her Executors Administrators and Assigns for and during all the Residue and Remainder which at the time of my decease shall be to come and unexpired of the said term of twenty one years therein Also I give and devise and bequeath unto my said son **Thomas Pettit** All the Cottage **SMITHS SHOP** Garden and **two** pieces or parcels of Land containing by Estimation **Five Acres** be the same more or less called **THE HOUSEFIELD and the NEWFIELD** situate and being in the parish of Heathfield aforesaid and now in the Occupation of myself and **PHILLIS HUGGETT Widow** and which said last mentioned Cottage Smiths Shop Gardens and two pieces or parcels of Land are the Residue of the said premises demised and leased to me for the term of twenty one years and aforesaid To hold the same Cottage Smith Shop Garden and two pieces or parcels of Land with their Appurtenances unto my said son **Thomas Pettit** his Executors Administrators and Assigns for an during all the Residue and Remainder which at the time of decease shall be to come and unexpired of the said Term of twenty one years therein And my will is and I do expressly declare and direct that the said Neri Moon and Thomas Ellis or the Survivor of them or their Executors and Administrators or such Survivors shall and do forthwith after my decease to **put or place** my said son **Thomas Pettit** as an **APPRENTICE** to a Blacksmith or such other Trade or Business as he shall for that purpose make choice or until he shall arrive at the age of twenty one years or for such left Time or Term as they the said Neri Moon and Thomas Ellis or the Survivors of them or the Executors or Administrators or such Survivor shall think proper And that a **premium** which shall be paid with my said son **Thomas Pettit** on his put and placed out as an Apprentice as aforesaid shall be paid from and out of my Personal Estate And after payment of all such Debts as I shall justly owe at the time of my decease save and except such principal and Interest Mortgage Monies as I have hereinbefore directed to be paid from and out of my Real Estates but not excepting the Interest due at the time of my decease on Mortgage or Mortgages of my said Farm and Lands called **Scottfords** (sic) **Farm** which I hereby direct to be paid and satisfied from and out of my personal Estate my Funeral Expenses the cost and charges proving this my Will and the premiums hereinbefore directed to be paid with said son **Thomas Pettit** on his being put or placed out as an Apprentice as aforesaid I give and bequeath all the Rest Residue and Remainder of any Goods Chattels Effects Monies Securities for Money Rights Credits and Personal Estate whatsoever and in wheresoever not by me hereinbefore otherwise disposed of unto my said sons and daughters **John Pettit Samuel Pettit Thomas Pettit and Elizabeth Pettit** in **equal shares and proportions** to and for their several and respective use and uses And I Nominate Constitute and Appoint the said Neri Moon and Thomas Ellis Joint Executors of this my last Will and Testament and also Guardians of such of my said Children as shall be under the age of twenty one years at the time of my decease during their respective minorities And I do expressly declare and direct that they my said Executors and Trustees or their Heirs Executors or Administrators shall not be chargeable with or accountable for any more of my Monies or Estate than they shall respectively actually receive or shall come to their respective hands by virtue of this my Will not will with or for any loss which may happen of such Monies or Estate or any part thereof so as such loss do not happen by or through their or either of their wilful default or neglect nor shall either of them my said Executors and Trustees be answerable or accountable for the other of them or for the Acts Deeds Receipts each of them for himself and for his own Acts Deeds Receipts and Disbursements only And further that it shall and may be lawful to and for my said Executors and Trustees and their Heirs Executors and Administrators to retain and reimburse themselves respectively from and out of my said Monies and Estate all such Costs Charges Damages and Expenses as they shall respectively sustain bear pay expend or be put unto in the Execution of this my Will on the Trusts hereby reposed in them or in and about my other Matter or Thing in any wise relating thereto And lastly I hereby revoke all former Wills made by me made and declare this to be my last Will and Testament In Witness whereof I the said **John Pettit** the Testator have to the six first Sheets of this my Will contained in seven Sheets set my hand and to this the seventh and last sheet thereof my Hand and Seal the **twenty second day of December in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and twenty eight.** **JOHN PETTIT** Signed Sealed and Declared by the above named **John Pettit** the Testator as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who in his presence at his request and in the presence of each other hereunder subscribed our names and witness thereto **THOS BURFIELD HEN. C SINNOCK SAML SINNOCK**

Transcribed by David Bulbeck May 2008

[Admon 28 November 1831 to wife Avis and eldest son John because the Executors Neri Moon and Thomas Ellis renounced the execution.](#)

Under £800  
Testator died 5<sup>th</sup> March 1829.