

The Will of **JOHN HOLT** born around 1735 died 1811. Family names are in capitals and bold type for easy recognition.

Transcribed from an original will in custody of and with the permission of the Borthwick Institute, University of York

I **JOHN HOLT** of Northowram in the parish of Halifax in the County of York Gentleman do make and publish this my last Will and Testament whereby I give and dispose of all my Estate and Effects in manner following. I give and bequeath to my Niece **BETTY NICHOLL** now the wife of **SAMUEL NICHOLL** the Sum of three hundred and eighty pounds. - to my Niece **MARY** now the wife of **MATTHEW BAIRSTOW** I give the Sum of three hundred and fifty pounds - to my Niece **MARTHA** now the wife of **WILLIAM PEARSON** I give the Sum of two hundred pounds - to my nephew **JOHN HOLT** and **JAMES HOLT** I give the Sum of one hundred pounds each and to my Sister **MARY** I give the Sum of fifty pounds and I direct that all the said Legacies shall be paid at the End of one Year next after my Decease. I give to **MARTHA HOLDSWORTH** the Daughter of my Niece **HANNAH** the Sum of two hundred pounds and I direct that the same shall be paid to her on her attaining her age of twenty one Years But in Case of her Death under age and without Issue the I direct that the same Sum shall remain vested in the Hands of my Executors hereinafter named and that they shall pay the Interest thereof unto my said Niece **HANNAH** her Life and on her Death I direct that the same shall be paid unto and equally amongst all my Nephews and Nieces - and in order that all my just Debts and funeral Expenses with the Legacies above mentioned may be paid and discharged I do hereby give and devise to my said Nephew **JAMES HOLT** and my good friend Joseph Smith of Halifax aforesaid Liquor merchant who I appoint joint Executors of this my Will. All my personal Estate and Effects whatsoever (except the collieries hereinafter mentioned) and also all that my (Noiety) or half part of all that Farm and Lands situate at Booth Bank in Northowram aforesaid with the appurtenances to the same belonging now in my own possession together with my Lands or Commons or new Inclosures in Northowram aforesaid which I have surrendered to the Uses of this my Will to hold the same unto the said **JAMES HOLT** and Joseph Smith their Heirs Executors and Administrators upon Trust that they or the Survivor of them or the Heirs Executors or Administrators of such Survivor shall and do convert the said personal Estate into Cash and shall and do in the like manner sell and dispose of my said real Estate unto any purchaser or purchasers thereof in such manner as they shall think fit and pay and apply the Money arising

therefrom in payment and discharge of Debts and Legacies aforesaid and in order to such sale I do hereby declare that the Receipt of my said Executors and Trustees for the purchase Money of my said real Estate shall be sufficient and available in all respects whatsoever. And I give to the said Joseph Smith the Sum of fifty pounds for the Trouble he may have in executing the Trusts of this my Will. I give and devise to my said nephew **JAMES HOLT** all that my Messuage Farm and Lands with appurtenances (sic) to the same belonging situate at Wheatley in the parish of Halifax aforesaid in the Occupation of John Fletcher and his undertenants to hold the same unto and to the use of my said Nephew **JAMES HOLT** his Heirs and Assigns forever. As for my Coals and Collieries at Upper and Lower Pule and at the Lee in Northowram aforesaid I do hereby give and devise the same unto and equally between my two Nephews **JOHN HOLT** and **JAMES HOLT** according to the Tenure of which they are holden. And as for my Coals and Collieries at Siddal in the parish of Halifax aforesaid I do give and devise the same unto and equally amongst the said **JOHN HOLT** **JAMES HOLT** and William Pearson their Heirs Executors Administrators and Assigns forever.

And as for and concerning all the Rest Residue and Remainder of my Estate and Effects (if any) I do hereby give devise and bequeath the same unto and equally amongst all my said Nephews and Nieces their Heirs Executors and Administrators forever. I also direct that my said Executors and Trustees shall not be answerable the one for the other of them but each of them for himself and for his own Acts and that they shall not be answerable for any more Money than they shall respectively actually received. I declare this to be my last Will and Testament. And in Testimony thereof I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal this eleventh day of March one thousand eight hundred and nine.

Signed sealed published and declared by the said John Holt 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 have subscribed our names as Witnesses hereto

Ja Wigglesworth
James Riley
Thomas Robinson

John Holt
his mark

I do hereby certify that on the twenty eighth of October in the year of our Lord 1811 James Holt of Northowram in the Parish of Halifax in the County of York, Farmer, the Nephew, and Joseph Smith of Halifax

aforesaid, Liquor Merchant, joint Executors named in this the last Will and Testament of John Holt late of Northowram aforesaid in the diocese of York, Gentlemen, deceased were sworn well and truly to execute and perform the same and that the whole of the goods, chattels and credits of the said deceased within the diocese of York do not amount in value to the sum of one hundred pounds

Witness my hand

Robert Wilkinson surrogate