

Oxford's First Quaker Meeting Place: the Home of the Surgeon Richard Bettris (c.1606–1682)

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SUMMARY

The main purpose of the article is to publish the text (and where appropriate the translation) of five hitherto unknown seventeenth-century documents which are in the author's hands – three indentures, a court decree, and a will – and six additional documents, which are in local or national archives. All of them relate to the life and circumstances of the Bettris family and the house in which they lived, now known as 1 New Inn Hall Street, Oxford, which was the site of the first Quaker Meeting House in Oxford. In order to set the documents in context, there is an introductory discussion of the beginnings of the Quaker movement in the city, the involvement of the family in it, and its association with the house. There are also biographical details of several members of the family, especially the surgeon Richard Bettris, the builder of the house.

In 1979 New Road Baptist Church, Oxford, was granted a 125-year lease on an adjoining house at 1 New Inn Hall Street (see Plate 10). The property is a substantial three-storey building, dating to the mid-seventeenth century, and it has a long history of association with Dissenters in the city. It seems likely that the dwelling was built in the early 1650s by a surgeon named Richard Bettris (sometimes spelled Bettrice, or Betterrice, or even Bettridge), who was well known in Oxford as a follower of the Quaker movement. The property itself was immediately adjacent to the local parish church of St Peter-le-Bailey; indeed, the south-side windows of the property looked directly on to the churchyard. Several other prominent Dissenters, including Ralph Austen, the Registrar of the Parliamentary Visitors (1647–53), lived in the immediate vicinity of New Inn Hall Street, which at the time was occasionally called the Lane of the Seven Deadly Sins.

Fortunately some early documents from the end of the seventeenth century relating to the Bettris property have recently come to light, notably three rental agreements (or 'indentures') from 1676, 1684, and 1690, the final will and testament of a member of the Bettris family, which was composed in 1684, and a final court decree pertaining to the property, which was issued by the Court of Common Pleas in Westminster in 1690.¹ These five documents demonstrate the involvement of the Bettris family with the Oxford property for nearly thirty years.

The purpose of this study is to make the contents of these hitherto unpublished documents available. Their text (and, where appropriate, translation) is in Appendices 3, 6, 9, 10, and 11 below. They are supplemented by the text (and translation) of six additional documents, one in the Friends' House Library, London (Appendix 1),² one in the Bodleian Library, Oxford (Appendix 2), and four from the National Archives, Kew (Appendices 4, 5, 7, 8), all of them associated with the Bettris family. Collectively these eleven documents present a rare and unexpected insight into the life of the Bettris family, who owned and occupied the house in the centre of Oxford in the earliest days of the Quaker movement. However, in order to appreciate more fully their significance, a brief introductory discussion of Richard Bettris and his family as a first-generation Quaker presence in Oxford is necessary.

¹ I purchased these documents from Sylvan Manuscripts, Norwich, through E-bay auctions held Feb.-May and Dec. 2006.

² Documents from the Friends' House Library, London (hereafter FHLL).

RICHARD BETTRIS AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUAKER PRESENCE IN OXFORD

Early records of the Quakers associate the surgeon Richard Bettris with the establishment of a Quaker presence in Oxford, noting that his house was the first gathering place for such meetings. The Oxford antiquarian Anthony Wood (1632–95) stated that the Quakers arrived in Oxford in 1654 and ‘had their meetings in an old stone-house, almost opposite to the com[m]on gate of New Inne (in w[hi]ch Rich[ard] Beatrice, chirurgian and Quaker, then lived).’³ Another early summary of Quaker history (probably compiled in 1706) similarly noted that Bettris’s house was the first meeting place for Quakers in the city. It also records the role that Jane Bettris, Richard’s wife, had in helping to support those originally responsible for bringing the Quaker message to Oxford:

Oxford – Some of y^c first y^t published of y^c Truth in Oxford
was Eliz[a]b[eth] Fletcher & Mary homs & next was John
Audland & J[oh]n Cam & was Rec[eiv]d by Jane Bettres
and Mary Clow[e]r. Y^c first setteld meeting place
was at Rich[ar]d Bettras hous ~~till we built~~ a meeting
hous was builded hear in y^c year 1689.⁴

A contemporary artist’s depiction of Bettris’s house, which shows its proximity to the parish church of St Peter-le-Bailey, can be seen in David Loggan’s *Oxonia Illustrata* (1675) (see Fig. 1). Fortunately there is even a record of when services were conducted in the Bettris’s home, although according to the ‘Account of Sufferings of Oxford Quakers at the Hands of Students’ (Appendix 1), these were regularly interrupted by rude and abusive students.⁵ This account, which was compiled in 1685 (see line 17), records that there were two weekly meetings, which took place on Sundays at 9 a.m. and on Thursdays at 4 p.m. (see lines 20–2), and gives details of some of the cruelties endured by the worshippers who had gathered in the Bettris home. Richard Bettris is specifically mentioned twice in the document (lines 21 and 113), and it seems likely that Jane Bettris is alluded to once – ‘y^c woman of y^c house’ – (line 57), although this could refer to a housekeeper.

Some details of Richard Bettris’s career, both as a physician and as a religious leader, are known. For example, he gained some early notoriety for his controversial support of, and care for, Parliamentary prisoners incarcerated by Charles I in Oxford Castle during the Civil War in 1642–3. Bettris was even imprisoned himself by the vindictive gaoler, who was keen to make an example of someone he felt was an interfering physician.⁶ In 1654 he opened his home to the visiting preachers who first brought the Quaker message to the city, notably Richard Hubberthorne, John Camm, Humphry Smith, and William Simpson.⁷ In addition, accounts of his mistreatment by Oxford students in the 1650s,⁸ and a thirteen-month period of imprisonment in 1661–2 at the

³ Wood’s remark is found in an annotation to his copy of *Here Followeth a True Relation of Some of the Sufferings Inflicted upon the Servants of the Lord who are Called Quakers* (London, 1654).

⁴ FHLL, First Publishers of Truth [hereafter FPT](portfolio 7), fol. 63v. The subsequent ‘meeting house [which] was builded hear in y^c year 1689’ refers to the Quaker property along St Giles, originally owned by Silas Norton.

⁵ FHLL, FPT (portfolio 5/61), pp. 1–3.

⁶ A number of tracts and pamphlets discuss Bettris’s role in this, including Edmund Chillenden, *The Inhumanity of the Kings Prison-Keeper at Oxford* (London, 1642); *A True and Most Sad Relation of the Hard and Extre[m] [sic] Cruelty* (London, 1643); Edward Wirley, *The Prisoner’s Report* (London, 1643).

⁷ FHLL, FPT (portfolio 7), fols 64v–65r.

⁸ For accounts of the abuses inflicted by students upon Quakers, FHLL, FPT (portfolio 7), fols 64r–65v; *Here Followeth a True Relation of Some of the Sufferings Inflicted upon the Servants of the Lord who are Called Quakers* (London, 1654); Richard Hubberthorne, *A True Testimony of the Zeal of Oxford-Professors and University-Men* (London, 1654); Joseph Besse, *A Collection of the Sufferings of the People Called Quakers*, 1 (London, 1753), pp. 565–6.

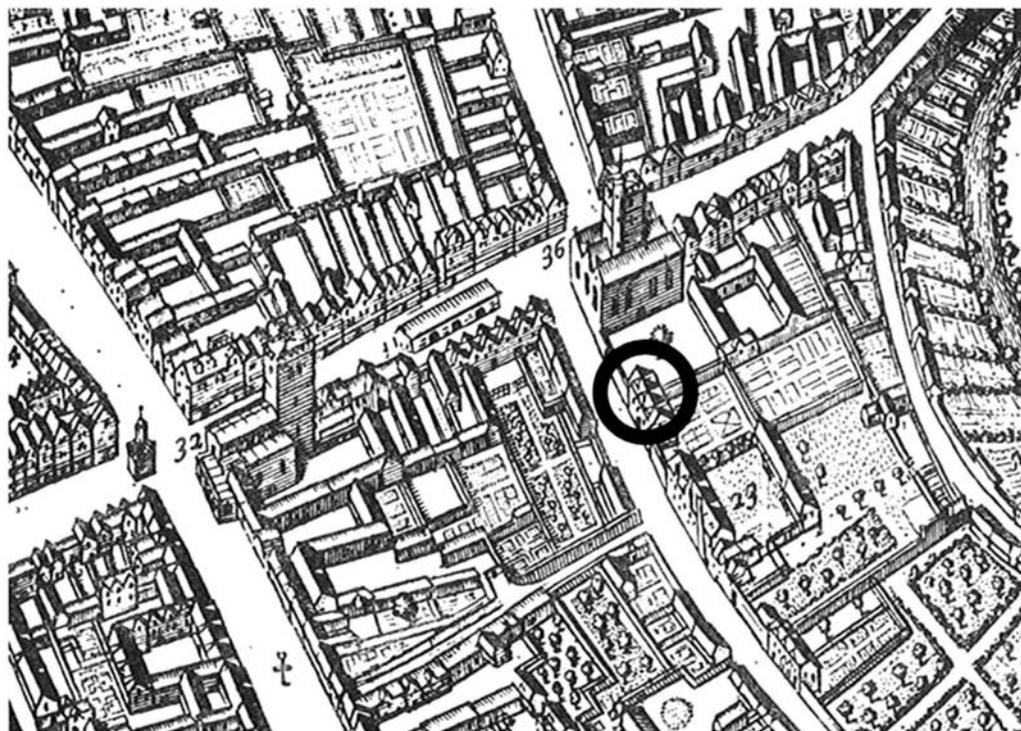


Fig. 1. The location of the house of Richard Bettris in the parish of St Peter-le-Bailey, Oxford.
Detail from David Loggan, *Oxonia Illustrata* (Oxford, 1675).

hands of Richard Bayley, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford,⁹ demonstrate that Bettris continued to be an object of derision throughout the Interregnum and into the reign of Charles II. He was frequently cited to appear before civic and ecclesiastical courts for his activities against the Established Church. Bettris was indicted on 7 October 1658 for disturbing a minister who was preaching at a service at the parish church of St Giles, on the northern outskirts of the city (he was fined £5 for the incident).¹⁰ On 26 July 1662 he was cited for failure to support his local parish church (St Peter-le-Bailey) and was accused of ‘absenting from prayers & sermons for y^e years paste & neglecting Min[ister’s] dues & baptism of his childe’.¹¹ On 17 January 1664 the city bailiffs and constables arrested three Quakers for holding a meeting at Bettris’s house; they were brought before the mayor and committed to the city prison for various offences.¹² Eventually these Dissenting activities led to him being formally excommunicated from the Church of England on 7 February 1664.¹³ Despite this, Bettris continued as an active Dissenter. In 1668 a meeting taking place at Bettris’s house, led by Cuthbert Hayhurst, was interrupted by order of the Vice-Chancellor of the University; Hayhurst was taken to the city prison, where he was incarcerated

⁹ FHLL, FPT (portfolio 5/62), p. 1; *An Abstract of the Sufferings of the People Call’d Quakers*, 3 (London, 1733), p. 31; Besse, *Collection of the Sufferings*, p. 569. Richard Bailey was Vice-Chancellor in 1630, 1637, and 1661.

¹⁰ ORO, Petty Sessions Roll, 1656–76 (O.5.11), fol. 19r. See also FHLL, FPT (portfolio 5/62), p. 1.

¹¹ ORO, Oxford Diocesan Records: Excommunications, 1633–1791 (c. 99), fol. 238r.

¹² FHLL, FPT (portfolio 5/62), p. 3.

¹³ ORO, Oxford Diocesan Records, Excommunications, 1662–67 (c. 100), fols 2r-v. For text and translation see Larry Kreitzer, *Seditious Sectaries: the Baptist Conventicles of Oxford, 1641–1691* (Milton Keynes, 2006), pp. 793–5.

for a month.¹⁴ Bettris was present at another meeting, which took place at his house on 2 June 1670 and was broken up by Peter Mews (1619–1706), Vice-Chancellor of the University, who was notoriously zealous in his prosecution of Dissenters.¹⁵ Bettris was fined £20 for his involvement in the incident, which dragged on for months in the courts, and eventually was subjected to an additional order of distraint of his goods by Mews.¹⁶ In 1675 Bettris was again fined £20 for holding a meeting in his house; in this instance Stephen Smyth was preaching (he was also fined £20 for his involvement).¹⁷ Most importantly, Bettris was inadvertently implicated in the trial and execution of the so-called ‘Whig martyr’, Stephen Colledge, in Oxford in 1681. Colledge had specifically requested that Bettris be allowed to visit him in his prison cell in Oxford Castle as he awaited execution for treason, but the request was refused by court officials.¹⁸

Bettris continued to be active in Quaker affairs in Oxford right up to the end of his life. Some of the last records of him are dated 5 October 1680 and 11 February 1681 and concern his hosting of two meetings of those appointed by the Quarterly Meeting to assist Quakers who were being presented at the Oxford Quarter Sessions court as papists.¹⁹ In terms of wealth and social standing, Richard Bettris was the most successful Quaker in Oxford, and he dedicated his available resources to the religious cause.²⁰

Throughout his colourful career Richard Bettris had an excellent and capable partner in the form of his wife, Jane (sometimes known as Jeane). Indeed, there are several records detailing her own work among the Quakers in Oxford, including her being among those who came to the aid of some Quaker women who were badly treated by Oxford students in 1654 and her confronting the Vice-Chancellor, John Owen,²¹ about the maltreatment and imprisonment of a Quaker preacher in Oxford gaol.²² She made a similar appearance before Vice-Chancellor John Fell on 9 November 1662, when her son John was among a group of four Quakers who were taken at a meeting held at the Bettris house.²³ On 2 June 1670 she was confronted by Vice-Chancellor Peter Mews, who, accompanied by a number of other university officials, entered a meeting taking place in her house hosted by her husband (see the discussion above). Mews demanded to know what was going on and was met by the silence of the worshippers. Eventually Jane Bettris told him that they were ‘there mett in the feare of God’, much to the irritation of the Vice-Chancellor, who collected the names of those present.²⁴ Another account of the incident relates, ‘Jane Betteress & her daughter [Anne] Olive were fined £5 a piece & one of y^c overseers takeing Pitty (most of their goods being taken before) laid down y^c Money.’²⁵ Occasionally Jane Bettris’s name appears in print in connection with her religious activities. Her name is the first in a list of 112 women and daughters from Oxford, who in 1659 sent to Parliament a petition against the injustice of church tithes.²⁶

¹⁴ Besse, *Collection of the Sufferings*, p. 571.

¹⁵ Peter Mews was Vice-Chancellor 1669–73.

¹⁶ FHLL, FPT (portfolio 5/62), p.s 4–5 (the date given, 1668, is erroneous).

¹⁷ Stephen Allott, *Friends in Oxford: the History of a Quaker Meeting* (Oxford, 1952), p. 8.

¹⁸ Kreitzer, ‘*Seditious Sectaries*’, pp. 56–9.

¹⁹ ORO, Oxfordshire Quarterly Meeting [hereafter OQM], 1671–1746, Men’s Minutes (D/F 2 A 2/1), fols 20v, 21r.

²⁰ According to one record from Dec. 1679, Bettris was the only Quaker in Oxford who was a freeholder with an estate worth 40s. p.a.: BRO, OQM, 1671–1746, Men’s Minutes (D/F 2 A 2/1), fol. 18v.

²¹ John Owen was Vice-Chancellor 1652–7.

²² FHLL, FPT (portfolio 7), fols 64r, 65r.

²³ *Ibid.*, (portfolio 5/62), p. 2.

²⁴ *Ibid.* (portfolio 5/62), pp. 4–6.

²⁵ BRO, OQM, *Sufferings*, 1654–1789 (D/F 2 A 2/5), fol. 19r. Besse, *Collection of the Sufferings*, p. 572, has a brief account of the incident, but mistakenly describes Jane Bettris as a widow. Besse does not give the name of the daughter, Anne, who was married to Humphrey Olliffe (see below).

²⁶ The petition was published in *These Severall Papers Was Sent to the Parliament* (London, 1659), p. 46. Jane and Richard’s 12-year-old daughter, Anna, is included among the 112 names in the petition.

Clearly the city of Oxford was the focal point of most of Richard and Jane Bettris's political and religious activity, although there is some evidence of Jane's activity further afield, at Aylesbury, in Buckinghamshire,²⁷ and Marlborough, in Wiltshire. According to one source, in 1656 in the market town of Marlborough Jane Bettris and Mary Loe were arrested for preaching in the parish church. The women were committed to the town prison where 'the Gaoler put [them] into the Dungeon, to prevent their speaking to the People through the Grate'.²⁸ The connection with Mary Loe is intriguing, for she was the wife of Thomas Loe of Oxford, the influential preacher renowned for having brought William Penn to Quakerism. However, when exactly Penn was converted to Quakerism is a frequently debated issue. Commonly it is argued that Penn heard Thomas Loe preach in Ireland in 1667, and this was a key event in his becoming a Quaker.²⁹ But it is possible that Penn came under the spell of Thomas Loe much earlier than this, perhaps when he was a 16-year-old undergraduate at Christ Church in early 1661. Penn matriculated at Christ Church on 26 October 1660, and Loe is known to have been in Oxford immediately prior to his arrest and imprisonment in Oxford Castle on 13 January 1661. If Penn did hear Loe preach in Oxford as a young student, then one of the possible places for him to have done so was at the home of Richard and Jane Bettris in New Inn Hall Street.

Jane Bettris died in Oxford on 11 June 1675; the record of her death describes her as 'an honourable woman in the truth & sufferer for it'.³⁰ Both Richard and Jane Bettris are named as recusants from the parish of St Peter-le-Bailey in a list composed by the Bishop of Oxford, John Fell, in June of 1679.³¹ There was clearly a lack of accurate information about Dissenters on the part of the ecclesiastical officials, and it is somewhat surprising. One would have thought that news about her death somehow would have filtered through to parish clerks during the course of the intervening four years. It is likely that Bishop Fell would have recognized the name of Richard Bettris, given that as a young man Richard had served as his father's servant at Christ Church (see below).

THE BETTRIS FAMILY AND THE HOUSE IN NEW INN HALL STREET

Richard and Jane Bettris were long-time residents of the parish of St Peter-le-Bailey, and there are several tax records which attest to their living in the house in New Inn Hall Street during the 1660s.³² There are also some records from New College, Oxford, of a legal wrangle that Richard Bettris had with a neighbour, a Baptist ex-military officer named Roger Hatchman, who lived in a house to the north (the dispute was over a dividing wall that separated their properties). The Oxford City Council appointed viewers to arbitrate in the matter in February of 1665,³³ and Hatchman and Bettris eventually signed an agreement settling their dispute on 10 April 1665.³⁴

²⁷ Jane Bettris published *A Lamentation for the Deceived People of the World* (London, 1657), addressed to the inhabitants of Aylesbury and its surrounding villages. She may also have been behind the anonymous pamphlet *Spiritual Discoveries to the Overthrow of Popery Root and Branch* (London, 1657).

²⁸ *An Abstract of the Sufferings of the People call'd Quakers for the Testimony of a Good Conscience*, 1 (London, 1733), p. 293, for a note about this.

²⁹ A tradition based primarily on the so-called Harvey MS (1729). See 'The Convincement of William Penn', *Journal of the Friends Historical Society*, 32 (1935), pp. 22–6.

³⁰ FHLL, FPT (portfolio 5/62), p. 7.

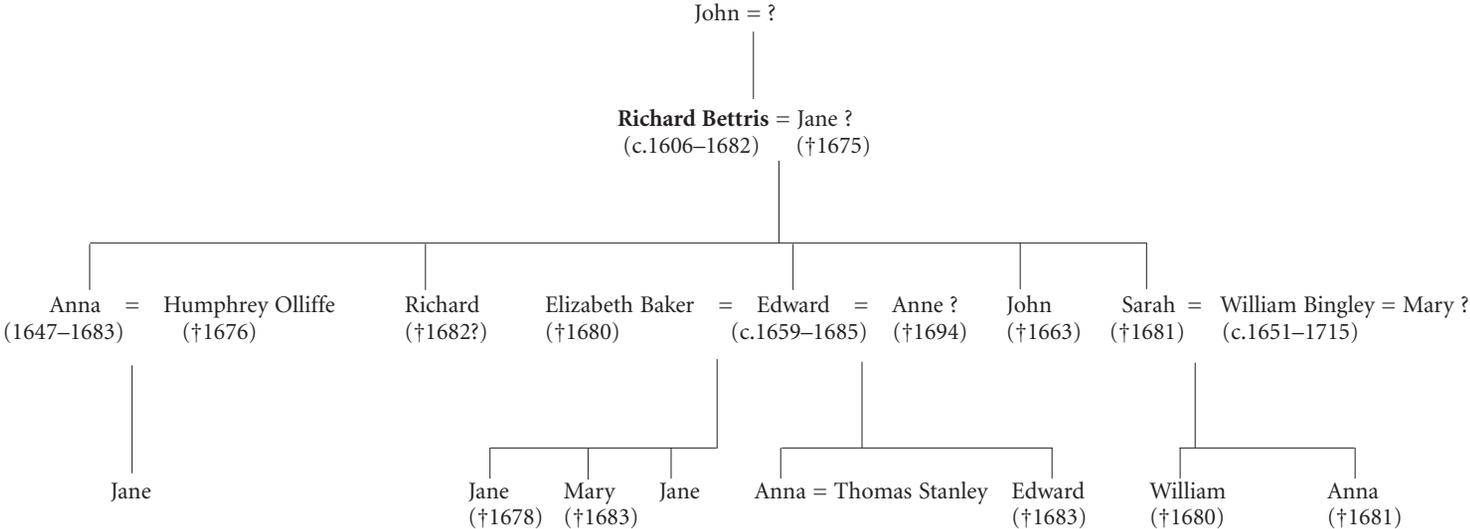
³¹ ORO, Oxford Diocesan Records, Returns of Recusants, 1679–1706 (c. 430), fol. 41v.

³² Richard Bettris paid tax on four hearths on the property at Michaelmas 1662 (TNA, E 179/255/4, pt 2, p. 69v), Michaelmas 1665 (TNA, E 179/164/513, membrane 28v), and Lady Day 1665 (TNA, E 179/164/514, membrane 23v). There is also record of Bettris paying taxes collected on 24 June, 29 Sept., 21 Dec. 1667; 26 March, 28 June, 26 Sept., 26 Dec. 1668, while living in the property: ORO, War Taxes, 1667–8 (P.5.8), fols 7v, 27v, 51r, 72v, 76r, 94v, 112r.

³³ ORO, Hustings and Mayor's Court 1665–6 (M.4.5), fol. 25v.

³⁴ See Kreitzer 'Seditious Sectaryes', pp. 164–5. Bettris also held a lease on a tenement in the parish of St Thomas, Nov. 1667–March 1678: see H. E. Salter, ed., *Cartulary of Osney Abbey*, 2 (Oxford, 1929), p. 519.

TABLE 1. THE FAMILY TREE OF RICHARD BETTRIS



The agreement is especially interesting in that it affords an example of Richard Bettris's signature and seal (see Plate 11).

On a more domestic level, what is known of the family circumstances of Richard and Jane Bettris? Unfortunately there is no surviving record of their marriage, although it is likely that they were married sometime in the mid-1640s. The poll tax of 1667 lists the couple as having three children, but it does not give their names or ages.³⁵ As far as can be determined, the couple had at least five children, although precise details of their dates of birth are unknown. These children were Anne (or Anna), Richard, Sarah, John, and Edward (see Table 1, the 'Family Tree of Richard Bettris' opposite). They are discussed in the light of the evidence from the eleven documents. They will be examined in chronological order, except for the one signed by Richard Bettris.

Richard Bettris (c.1606–1682), Patriarch of Oxford's First Quaker Family

The earliest of our sources is Richard Bettris's last will and testament, a parchment document extending over three folios (see Appendix 2). The document was signed on 14 August 1682 in the presence of four witnesses, all of whom were long-term Oxford residents. Bettris's will is in the Bodleian Library as part of the university archives, although *how* it came to be there is something of a mystery. The most likely explanation is due to Bettris's position as a member 'of the University of Oxon', an assertion that he makes in the opening statement of the will (lines 1–2).³⁶ Interestingly there is a record of Bettris matriculating in the university on 6 February 1629, at the age of 22. An entry within the official university register lists him as among the 'servientes' (servants), and records that he was matriculated when Dr Accepted Frewin was Vice-Chancellor. The entry, which offers the variant spelling of *Bettridge* for his name and tells us that his father was an Oxonian named John, reads:³⁷

[Text]

Feb[ruarius] 6^{to} [1629] Rich[ard]us Bettridge famulus Do[cto]ris Fell Oxon fil[ius] _____ 22
Joh[ann]is Bettridge de Oxon Pleb[eius] an[no] nat[ali]

[Translation]

February 6th [1629] Richard Bettridge, servant to Doctor Fell of Oxford, son _____ 22
of John Bettridge of Oxford, Commoner, in the year of his birth

It does not appear that Bettris ever pursued an academic career within Oxford; there is no record of his being granted a degree, and his name is not in the records of Christ Church, where Doctor Samuel Fell (1584–1649) was Lady Margaret Professor of Divinity. In any event, Richard Bettris's last will and testament remains the best illustration of his desire to assert his connection with the University of Oxford.

Unfortunately, although his will was signed on 14 August 1682, there is no accompanying declaration as to when and where probate was granted following Bettris's death. Details of his burial are not recorded in the local parish register, and there is some confusion about when he died in some seventeenth-century sources. Thus Anthony Wood stated that Richard Bettris 'lived to the time of King James II',³⁸ a point that we know from other sources was incorrect. Fortunately there is a Quaker record that states that Bettris ('an antient & faithfull man & great sufferer') died

³⁵ ORO, Poll Tax of 1667 (P.5.7), fol. 43r. Bettris paid £1 7s. tax, which included poll tax on himself, his wife, and three children (5s.), a tax on £100 in money (£1), and on the 30s. wages of a servant named Susanna Stewart (2s.).

³⁶ Bodl, Will of Richard Bettris, 14 Aug. 1682 (Oxford University Archives).

³⁷ Bodl, Registrum Matriculatam Universitatis Oxon, 1615–1647 (Oxford University Archives), fol. 347v. See also Joseph Foster, ed., *Alumni Oxonienses: the Members of the University of Oxford, 1500–1714* (Oxford, 1887–8), p. 119.

³⁸ Andrew Clark, *The Life and Times of Anthony Wood, I: 1632–1663* (Oxford, 1891), p. 190.

on 16 September 1682, and that he was buried at Adderbury, near Banbury.³⁹ Generally wills are an excellent way of clarifying family relationships, and Richard Bettris's last will and testament is no exception. The will gives us some valuable insights into the details of Bettris's family, although it does not tell us everything about his children. For example, the will does not make any mention of Richard and Jane's son John, which is understandable, given the fact that he died as a young man in 1663.⁴⁰ Similarly, there is no mention of his eldest son, Richard Bettris junior, although some records about him survive, including ecclesiastical court documents which detail his citation and excommunication from his local parish church (St Michael-at-the-Northgate, Oxford) in November 1681.⁴¹ In this regard, Richard Bettris junior was following the pattern set by his father, who, as noted above, was formally excommunicated from his parish church on 7 February 1664. Strangely there are no further records offering details of Richard Bettris junior; he vanishes from the civic records after 1681. We simply do not know what happened to him, although it is clear that he was off the scene altogether as far as the property arrangements for the house at 1 New Inn Hall Street in 1684 and 1690 were concerned. The most likely explanation is that he died in late 1681 or early 1682, which would also explain why he is not named in his father's will. Perhaps Richard Bettris junior fell victim to one of the many plague or cholera epidemics that regularly struck the city of Oxford during the latter part of the seventeenth century.

Similarly there is no mention in Richard Bettris's will of a daughter named Sarah, although we know from other sources that Richard and Jane Bettris had a daughter by that name.

Sarah Bettris (c.1655–1681), Daughter of Richard Bettris

The earliest of the three property indentures for the house at 1 New Inn Hall was signed by Sarah Bettris on 21 May 1676 (see Appendix 3). The indenture is an agreement between Sarah Bettris and her father (line 3). It appears that by means of the indenture Richard Bettris was making provision for her future, perhaps as he faced advancing age and ill health. According to a supplementary paragraph (lines 43–58), Sarah took possession of the property on 12 July 1676.

We can assume that at the time of the signing of the indenture Sarah was over 21 years of age (the legal age for someone to enter into such an agreement). We can also assume that she was unmarried (she is described as 'spinster' in line 3). However, we know from other sources that Sarah married the Quaker activist and writer William Bingley (1651–1715), probably in about 1678. Exactly when the couple were married is uncertain, although they did have two children – a son named William, and a daughter named Anna. William Bingley was an unfortunate man, for both children died in 1680, and his wife, Sarah, died on 10 May 1681;⁴² there is record of William's burial on 5 May 1680,⁴³ of Anna's burial on 17 January 1681,⁴⁴ and of Sarah's burial on

³⁹ FHLL, FPT (portfolio 5/62), p. 7. Probably this was arranged through Bray Doiley (d.1696), an influential Quaker from Adderbury who erected a meeting house on his property in 1675. Bray Doiley and Richard Bettris were distantly related by marriage: Doiley's niece Dorothy married Thomas Olliffe (of Aylesbury) in 1679; Bettris's daughter Anne married Humphrey Olliffe (of Oxford) c.1670. The family connection helps explain why Bray Doiley appears so prominently in Anne Olliffe's will.

⁴⁰ FHLL, FPT (portfolio 5/62), p. 3: '1663 – John y^e son of Richard Bettris, a faithful young man departed this Life.' There is also a brief note about the young man being arrested with four others at a meeting held at the house of his father Richard on 9 Nov. 1662. They were brought before John Fell, and when they refused to swear an oath of allegiance, were committed to prison, where they were kept for eleven weeks (FHLL, FPT (portfolio 5/62), p.s 2–3). Besse, *Collection of the Sufferings*, p. 569, records that in 1662 John Bettris and four others were taken out of a meeting in Burford and put into prison.

⁴¹ ORO, Oxford Archdeaonry Records, 15 Oct. 1681–16 Dec. 1693 (c. 23), fol. 7v; ORO, Oxford Archdeaonry Records, Excommunications, 1610–1783 (c. 121), fol. 300r; ORO, Oxford Diocesan Records, Citations, 1681–90 (c. 108), fol. 13r.

⁴² FHLL, FPT (portfolio 5/62), p. 8.

⁴³ TNA, RG 6/1370, fol. 145r.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.*

13 May 1681.⁴⁵ All three were buried in the Quaker burial ground in Witney, although the burial of William in conformity to the law about ‘burial in woollen’⁴⁶ is specifically noted in the parish register of the church of St Mary, Witney.⁴⁷ Throughout this period Bingley, a maltster by trade, was an active member of the Quaker community in Oxfordshire.⁴⁸ Strangely Bingley’s activities in Oxford and its environs have been overlooked by historians interested in his life, who have tended to concentrate on his work after he moved to London in 1682. Indeed, his marriage to a member of the influential Bettris family has gone unnoticed by Quaker historians.

Richard Bettris named William Bingley within his will, describing him as his ‘Son in Law’ (line 60),⁴⁹ even though at the time Bingley was a widower, and all the family ties to the Bettrises had been severed by death. Clearly Bettris was favourably disposed to Bingley and continued to view him as part of his extended family. This affinity appears to have continued even when Bingley remarried, taking his second wife Mary, probably by 1684.⁵⁰

Originally from Yorkshire, Bingley was an active member of the Quaker movement in the south of England, although he made important trips with other Quaker leaders to Ireland (in 1672, 1680, and 1682)⁵¹ and Holland (in 1684). There are also indications that he took an active interest in the Quaker involvements in America.⁵² However, most of Bingley’s activities after 1682 were London-based, and several stories about his prosecution as a Dissenter there have survived.

For example, Bingley and three others were taken out of a meeting in Gracechurch Street, in White Hart Court, on 18 November 1683, and charged with riot and disturbing the peace. They were brought before the quarter sessions court in the Guildhall on 10 December 1683, and then again on 14 February 1684. Fines were imposed on them a week later, on 21 February 1684, and when Bingley refused to pay his fine of £5 he was imprisoned in Newgate prison for nearly five months.⁵³ Meanwhile, in October 1685 he was arrested, along with Samuel Fox, for attending a meeting in Southwark. The pair were harshly treated by the arresting officials, and hefty fines were imposed. When Bingley refused to pay the fine a warrant was issued for the distraint of goods and property. A shameful confrontation ensued in November, when Bingley’s house was broken into

⁴⁵ Ibid., fol. 145v.

⁴⁶ See ORO, Vale of White Horse Monthly Meetings, 1673–1722 (BOQM I/i/1), fol. 15v. for the form of words that Faringdon Quakers adopted in order ‘to answer y^e interests of y^e Late Act for Burying in Woollen’ and avoid having to swear oaths.

⁴⁷ A certificate was received on 14 May 1680: ORO, Witney Parish Register, Burials, 1678–1708 (MS DD Par. Witney b.2, fol. 6r). The entry also states that William Bingley was from the parish of St Peter-le-Bailey, Oxford.

⁴⁸ He is named as one of three Quakers from Oxford appointed at a meeting held in Witney on 14 July 1679 to collect funds for persecuted Friends in Danzig, Poland, and Emden, Germany: ORO, Witney Monthly Meeting Records, 1675–1704 (BOQM I/ii/1, fol. 16r). Bingley was also listed as one of those wanting to buy Samuel Fisher’s *The Testimony of Truth Exalted* (London, 1679) in a meeting held in Witney on 12 Apr. 1680: ORO, Witney Monthly Meeting Records, 1675–1704 (BOQM I/ii/1, fol. 19v).

⁴⁹ Bingley is similarly described as ‘Brother in Law’ in Anne Olliffe’s will (lines 47, 51, 64, 77, 89, 97). See Appendix 4 below.

⁵⁰ There are records of a William and Mary Bingley who bought property in Warminster, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, in the 1680s. The couple joined a number of Quakers from the Witney area in west Oxfordshire in this venture: see W. H. Davis, *The History of Bucks County, Pennsylvania from the Discovery of the Delaware until the Present Time*, 2nd edn (Doylestown, PA., 1905), ch. 14. Bingley is also listed as one of the property holders of the Philadelphia scheme organized by William Penn; he paid £10 for 500 acres, including a lot within the city. He is named as the holder of lot 50: William Penn, *A Letter from William Penn, Proprietary and Governour of Pennsylvania in America to the Committee of the Free Society of Traders in that Province Residing in London* (London, 1683), p. 14.

⁵¹ Norman Penney, ‘Record of Friends travelling in Ireland, 1656–1765’, *Journal of the Friends’ Historical Society*, 10 (1913), pp. 159, 160. Thomas Wight, *A History of the Rise and Progress of the People Called Quakers in Ireland, from the year 1653 to 1700* (Dublin, 1751), p. 352, also notes visits by Bingley to Ireland in 1675 and 1682–3.

⁵² M. Ethel Crawshaw, ‘Letters from Virginia Quakers,’ *William and Mary College Quarterly Historical Magazine*, 6 (1926), pp. 88–93, discusses a letter dated 9 Sept. 1697 which was sent to Quakers in Virginia from Friends in London. Bingley was one of seven signatories.

⁵³ Besse, *Collection of the Sufferings*, p. 460. FHLL, FPT (portfolio 5/103–109), contains records and transcripts of some of the trial proceedings.



Fig. 2. 'The Quakers' Synod'. Illustration from Francis Bugg, *The Pilgrim's Progress from Quakerism to Christianity* (London, 1698). William Bingley is identified as one of the leaders seated at the table.

by a corrupt and abusive constable named Duncomb Norris. Norris and his accomplices acted in a despicable manner, commandeering much more than was justified by the warrant; they also failed to respect Bingley's wife, Mary, who was heavily pregnant at the time, and treated her very roughly.⁵⁴

Clearly Bingley was involved at the highest levels of the Quaker movement for a number of years. He was in correspondence with George Fox, and a letter he wrote to Fox from Whitby, in Yorkshire, in July of 1688 has survived.⁵⁵ It is thus not surprising that he was one of the people who spoke at Fox's funeral in 1690. Bingley was one of twenty-five Quaker leaders castigated in Thomas Crisp's *A Just and Lawful Tryal of the Foxonian Chief Priests* (London, 1697). He was also one of the Quaker leaders specifically identified in a famous etching entitled 'The Quakers' Synod', which appeared in Francis Bugg's *Pilgrim's Progress from Quakerism to Christianity* (London, 1698) (see Fig. 2).

Bingley wrote a number of important tracts and pamphlets, including *A Lamentation Over England and Faithful Warning to the Inhabitants Thereof* (London, 1682), *An Epistle of Tender Love to Friends in Ireland* (London, 1691), and *Tender Counsel and Advice to the Flock of God Everywhere* (London, 1697). He joined other prominent Quakers in producing several publications, including *The Christian Doctrin [sic] and Society of the People Called Quakers* (London, 1693). A few examples of Bingley's sermons have also survived, including one preached at Gracechurch Street, in London, on 4 March 1694 (published in *The Concurrence and Unanimity of the People Called Quakers* in 1711). Bingley died in Tottenham, Middlesex, on 11 August 1715, and was buried in the Quaker burial ground in Bunhill Fields, London, on 15 August. He was 64 years old and is described as a 'stuff merchant' in the burial record.⁵⁶ Although Richard Bettris's will understandably omits any direct reference to his deceased daughter, Sarah, this stands in stark contrast to the attention given to his oldest married daughter, Anne Olliffe. Not only is she described as 'my loving and dear daughter' (line 31), but she is also named as one of the two executors of his will (lines 87–9).

Anne Olliffe (1647–83), Daughter of Richard Bettris

The only child of Richard and Jane Bettris about whom a record of birth has survived is their daughter Anne, who was born on 3 January 1647.⁵⁷ It is possible that she was married by the time that the poll tax of 1667 was collected, and thus was not included within the official entry for Richard Bettris and his family. Anne's husband was Humphrey Olliffe, who, like his father-in-law, was a surgeon by trade. Details of where and when they were married are unknown, but it is probable that the marriage took place in Oxford. Moreover, one story, recorded by Joseph Besse in 1753, relates an incident from 1670 which brought together Richard Bettris and Humphrey Olliffe, confirming their mutual involvement in Quaker meetings. At the very least, the story provides a context out of which the contact between Humphrey Olliffe and the Bettris family was to grow. Perhaps it even hints at the event which first brought together Humphrey Olliffe and Richard Bettris's young 23-year-old daughter, his future wife. The incident involved Vice-Chancellor Peter Mews, who fined Bettris for holding a meeting in his house. Besse's account reads:

Richard Betteris, for a Meeting at his House in Oxford, was fined 20l for which the Officers took of his Goods to the Value of 30l which they undersold so much, that the Justices granted them another Warrant to distrain again for a Deficiency of 10l which they laid upon Humphrey Ollive, Thomas Nichols, and Laurence Willier, who were present at the same

⁵⁴ Besse, *Collection of the Sufferings*, pp. 475–6.

⁵⁵ FHLL, Abram Rawlinson Barclay MS CXXXI.

⁵⁶ FHLL, London, Middlesex Quarterly Meetings, Digest Register of Burials (2) 1700–1750.

⁵⁷ ORO, Parish Register of St Michael-at-the-Northgate, 1558–1666 (Par 211/1/R1/1), fol. 61r. The entry specifically states that the daughter was *born* rather than baptized, suggesting that Bettris was a Dissenter and that he deliberately did not have the child baptized within the parish church.

Meeting, and their Goods were taken away to the Value of 14l 8s 3d. Beside which, the two last had taken from them for their own Fines, Goods worth 2l 6s.⁵⁸

There are a few surviving records which provide details of Humphrey Olliffe's activities amongst Quakers in Oxford during the 1670s. One of the most interesting is connected with the Oxford Quarterly Meeting held on 7 December 1673, at which Olliffe was one of three members of the Oxford group deputed to assist any Quakers from Oxfordshire prosecuted for non-payment of tithes. The record reads:

It is ordered by friends that If any friends bee sued in ye County Court for tythes that when they come to Oxford Concerning it, yt Laurence Willier, Thomas Nichols & Humphry Olliffe or one or some of them doe goe along with them to Timothy Box & to assist them in it as much as in ym Lyes.⁵⁹

Another record arises out of the Quarterly Meeting held in Oxford on 16 August 1674. In this case Humphrey Olliffe was one of eleven members deputed to help ensure that a Women's Monthly Meeting was established in the city. The record reads:

Whereas ther has been some Neglect among friends in Oxford Devission concerning the setlent & establishing a womens monthly meetting according to friends former order for y^c Service of truth It is ordered by friends y^t at y^c Quarterly meeting that Thomas Minchin, Benjamin Staple, John Harris, Thomas Taylor, Alexander Harris, Francis Dring, Thomas Nichols, Richard Bettris, Humphry Olliff, Silas Norton, Laurence Willier, Doe take Care to assist & Intoseage as much as in them Lyes. All y^c woemen friends y^t are capable there in theyr devission to Setle & establish a woemens monthly meeting at y^c time and place where y^c men doe meet monthly for y^c Service of truth according to friends former order & to give an account at y^c Next Quarterly meeting.⁶⁰

There are only one or two records of Anne Olliffe's activities as a Quaker, and one of them is directly connected with the establishment of a Women's Meeting in Oxford. Anne Olliffe is named once in the records of the Women's Quarterly Meeting; this concerns a meeting held at Astrop on 18 August 1678. At this meeting Anna (or *Hannah*, as she is here named) Olliffe and Helen Minchin were appointed representatives from Oxford who joined others from the county and were given the responsibility of helping to place two girls as servants among Quaker families.⁶¹

One of the last records mentioning Humphrey Olliffe arises out of the Quarterly Meeting held in Oxford on 6 April 1675. The meeting appointed Olliffe to collect an account of the sufferings of the Quakers in Oxford and bring them to the next scheduled meeting, so that they could be included in the county records.⁶² Humphrey Olliffe died less than a year later, on 29 February 1676, and there is one surviving probate record of him which is now in the National Archives.⁶³ Unfortunately this parchment roll is in a poor state of preservation, and the writing has faded to the point that little can be read beyond the date of 23 March 1676. The marriage of Humphrey Olliffe and Anne Bettris produced at least one child, a daughter, Jane, who is named in the will of her grandfather, Richard Bettris (line 59). Moreover, she is named several times within her mother's will (lines 14–20, 29, 34, 36, 44, 75, 79, 83, 85, 107, 114); it is clear that she was unmarried and not yet 21 years of age. Nevertheless, her mother bequeathed to her a property in Seendrowe,

⁵⁸ Besse, *Collection of the Sufferings*, p. 572. BRO, OQM, Sufferings, 1654–1789 (D/F 2 A 2/5), fol. 17r, gives the date of this incident as 2 June 1670.

⁵⁹ BRO, OQM, 1671–1746, Men's Minutes (D/F 2 A 2/1), fol. 4r.

⁶⁰ *Ibid.*, fol. 5v.

⁶¹ BRO, OQM, 1677–1790, Women's Minutes (D/F 2 A 2/4), fol. 2v.

⁶² BRO, OQM, 1671–1746, Men's Minutes (D/F 2 A 2/1), fol. 7r.

⁶³ FHLL, FPT (portfolio 5/62), p. 7. TNA, PROB 4/10784.

in the parish of Melfsham (modern Melksham), in Wiltshire (lines 20–2). There is no mention of the property that Anne Olliffe purchased as part of William Penn's scheme for the establishment of the city of Philadelphia (she paid £10 for 500 acres in September of 1681, including a small lot within the city itself).⁶⁴

Sadly Richard Bettris's daughter Anne, Humphrey Olliffe's widow, did not long survive the passing of her father; there is a Quaker record of her death on 16 April 1683, which carries an additional note that she was 'aged about 40 years'.⁶⁵ Her will is dated 19 March 1683 and probate was granted in London on 26 May 1683 (see Appendix 4).⁶⁶ In large measure Anne Olliffe's will followed the intentions and provisions set out in Richard Bettris's will, especially concerning provision for the children of Richard's son Edward. Richard's will established generous legacies for his two granddaughters, Mary and Jane, and this provision is continued in Anne Olliffe's will, although she noted in passing that Mary Bettris had died in the interim (line 43). Finally there is a touching note of marital affection, as Anne specifically states 'my earnest desire is to be buried in the burying place where my dear Husband Humphrey Olliffe now lyeth as neare as possible may be to him' (lines 124–6).

Fortunately an inventory of the goods and possessions of Anne Olliffe has survived, and like her will is in the National Archives. The list refers to the property in New Inn Hall Street and was compiled on 5 June 1683 and submitted as part of the probate record on 22 May 1684.⁶⁷ The text of the inventory, which extends over two small rolls of parchment, is in a fairly good condition and the text is quite legible (see Appendix 5). One of the most interesting incidental facts that emerge out of this inventory is that the house was apparently still functioning as a Quaker meeting place in the early 1680s. The reference to the 'Chamber over the meeting house' (lines 71–2) suggests this was the case. It also seems that, following the death of his wife, Jane, Richard Bettris continued to live in the house with his widowed daughter, Anne Olliffe. The reference to 'Mr Bettris Chamber' (lines 74–5) points in this direction. All indications are that the elderly Quaker surgeon (he would have been in his mid-70s) spent the last years of his life living in the house with his widowed daughter. Upon her death the property in New Inn Hall Street fell into the hands of her younger brother, Edward.

Edward Bettris (c.1659–1685), Son of Richard Bettris

Edward Bettris was born in Oxford, probably in about 1659. Like his father and elder brother, he made his living as a surgeon, although much of his life was spent in Witney and Bampton, in west Oxfordshire. He was granted the status of 'privileged person (*privilegiatus*)' of the University of Oxford on 5 November 1683 at the age of 34.⁶⁸ No doubt the fact that Edward was the only surviving son of Richard Bettris, who as we noted above was a member of the university, figured in the conferral of the position.

Bettris was married twice and had children from both marriages. There is a marriage bond, dated 26 June 1676, which lists Edward as being from Bampton and his bride as Elizabeth Baker from Buscot, near Faringdon.⁶⁹ It does not appear that either Edward or Elizabeth Bettris were very

⁶⁴ She purchased lot 19: Penn, *A Letter from William Penn*, p. 14.

⁶⁵ FHLL, FPT (portfolio 5/62), p. 8.

⁶⁶ TNA, PROB 11/373, fols 69v–71r.

⁶⁷ TNA, PROB 4/11084.

⁶⁸ Bodl, Registrum Matriculam Universitatis Oxon, 1662–1693 (Oxford University Archives), p. 781. See also Foster, ed., *Alumni Oxonienses*, p. 119.

⁶⁹ ORO, Oxford Diocesan Records: Marriage Bonds (d. 24), fol. 123. The matter of their proposed marriage was discussed by the Friends Meetings held at Childrey and Faringdon on 26 Nov. and 31 Dec. 1675: ORO, Vale of White Horse Monthly Meetings, 1673–1722 (BOQM I/i/1), fols 10r, 10v. The record notes that the families of both parties consented to the marriage, and that a statement was requested and received from the Quakers who met in Oxford. The entry for the marriage, BRO, Quarterly Meeting of Berkshire and Oxfordshire, Marriages, 1648–1837 (D/F 2 A 3/21), fols 4v–5r, records that it took place in Faringdon on 7 Feb. 1676 (7th day of 11th month 1675).

active in the Quaker meetings that took place in the Faringdon area. The only record of either of them involved in meetings there is of Elizabeth attending a monthly meeting at Faringdon on 27 July 1677.⁷⁰ It appears that the focus of their Quaker activity was in Oxford, Burford, and Witney. There are several records which illustrate Edward's involvement in this area. For example, there is record of Edward's attendance at a meeting held at the house of John Wheeler of Alvescot, near Burford, on 28 February 1675. He was fined 5s. for his involvement in this meeting, but his goods were not distrained.⁷¹ Bettris is listed as one of the twenty-six men who attended the Oxfordshire Quarterly Meeting on 11 April 1676, where the matter of holding combined meetings for men and women was debated. His father, Richard Bettris, was also in attendance, which suggests that the meeting may well have taken place in his house in New Inn Hall Street.⁷² Edward also served as one of the witnesses to an apprenticeship contract at the Witney Monthly Meeting on 8 January 1677,⁷³ and there is a record that the Witney Monthly Meeting made a payment of 6s. 6d. to him on 14 January 1678, probably in connection with this apprenticeship.⁷⁴

Edward and Elizabeth Bettris had three children, a daughter named Jane, who was born in 1677 but died and was buried in Witney on 26 July 1678,⁷⁵ a daughter named Mary, who was born in 1678, and a daughter, also named Jane, who was born in 1679. Sadly Elizabeth herself died and was buried in Witney on 16 August 1680.⁷⁶ With two young children to care for, Edward lost no time in finding another wife.

His second wife was named Anne, although details about where she was from and what her maiden name was are uncertain. It is not known when Edward and Anne Bettris married, although it was probably in the spring of 1681. What does seem clear is that Anne Bettris was not from a Quaker family; indeed, there is every indication that she was a member of the Church of England. The couple had a daughter named Anna, who was baptized in the parish church in Bampton on 26 May 1682.⁷⁷ In what must have been seen as a controversial move, Edward Bettris and the other two children from the first marriage, Mary and Jane, were all baptized in the parish church in Bampton on 12 November 1682.⁷⁸ At the time Edward was 33 years old; the daughters were 4 and 3 years old respectively. It is likely that the decision to become an Anglican was some time in the making. Indeed, there are some indications that Edward fell out with his fellow Quakers in 1679, perhaps because he was moving away from Quakerism and towards the Established Church.⁷⁹ Certainly by the summer of 1679 relationships had deteriorated to the point that the Quarterly Meeting held at Witney on 6 September 1679 agreed that their next meeting in Oxford should take place at the home of Silas Norton (and *not* Richard Bettris), and that Edward Bettris should be 'in the meane time removed from the meeting house'.⁸⁰ Moreover, at that next meeting in Silas Norton's home, which took place on 30 December 1679, his case was again discussed:

The s[ai]d Quarterly Meeting having taken into Consideracon the matter concerning Edward Bettris, It was the Judgm[en]t thereof, That it will be y^e best way for the Clearing of Truth in y^t matter, That he remove quite from the meeting house, but if he canot handsomely be

⁷⁰ ORO, Vale of White Horse Monthly Meetings, 1673–1722 (BOQM I/i/1), fol. 18v.

⁷¹ BRO, Sufferings Book for the Vale of White Horse Monthly Meetings, 1660–1760 (BOQM IV/i/1), fols 3r, 3v.

⁷² ORO, Witney Monthly Meeting Records, 1675–1704 (BOQM I/ii/1), fols 6r, 6v.

⁷³ *Ibid.*, fol. 9v.

⁷⁴ ORO, Witney Monthly Meeting Accounts, 1675–1696 (BOQM V/ii/A1), fol. 14v.

⁷⁵ TNA, RG 6/1370, fol. 145r.

⁷⁶ *Ibid.* An entry for 22 Aug. 1680 in the local parish register confirms that the burial took place amongst Quakers in Witney: ORO, Witney Parish Register, Burials, 1678–1708 (MS DD Par. Witney b.2), fol. 7r).

⁷⁷ ORO, Parish Register of St Mary the Virgin Church, Bampton (Par 16/1/R1/1), p. 58.

⁷⁸ *Ibid.*

⁷⁹ Charles E. Gillett, 'The Early Quakers in Oxford', *The Oxford Review* (12 June 1902), p. 4; Stephen Allott, *Friends in Oxford: the History of a Quaker Meeting* (Oxford, 1952), p. 12, both note the tension between Bettris and his fellow Quakers, but neither associates it with his own move towards Anglicanism.

⁸⁰ BRO, OQM, 1671–1746, Men's Minutes (D/F 2 A 2/1), fol. 16r.

so effected, it is left to Friends of Oxford to do therein as they shall see meet, and give an acco[un]t thereof to the next Quarterly Meeting.⁸¹

It is never made clear what it was that Edward Bettris had done to warrant his dismissal from the Quaker fellowship; the matter is discreetly handled within the surviving records. It is possible that it had to do with him spreading slanderous rumours about fellow Quakers (something that was specifically mentioned as a concern in an earlier meeting in Witney on 17 August 1679).⁸² In any event, by mid-1679 Edward's commitment to and involvement with Quakerism was waning. Indeed, an entry about Bettris contained in a list of Quakers in Bampton, which was composed in June 1679 for the Bishop of Oxford, John Fell, describes him as 'not obstinate'.⁸³ This suggests that he was not a hard-line Quaker and was open to persuasion in religious matters. Nevertheless, the conversion to Anglicanism must have been difficult for committed Quakers, such as his father, Richard, to accept. This may help to explain why Edward is given such cursory treatment within his father's will, where it is made quite clear that Edward's children, and *not* Edward himself, were to benefit from his (Richard's) legacies to the family (see lines 32–4). True, Richard Bettris did leave the house in New Inn Hall Street to Edward, but even in this regard he made explicit provision for his daughter Anne Olliffe to take whatever she desired from the property (lines 63–77). Sometime after the death of his father, in September 1682, Edward relocated his family to Oxford, probably to the house he had inherited. While living there his wife, Anne, gave birth to a son named Edward. The child was baptized in the parish church of St Peter-le-Bailey on 19 September 1683, but sadly died little more than a month later. He was buried on 27 October 1683.⁸⁴ Meanwhile Edward Bettris agreed an indenture on the property in New Inn Hall Street on 28 April 1684 (see Appendix 6). The agreement was to allow Henry Adams of Harwell and John Adams of Kingston Lisely (modern Kingston Lisle) to rent the house for the period of one year, and Bettris was paid 5s. by the two men.

Edward Bettris died and was buried in the local parish churchyard, just yards from his house, on 27 January 1685.⁸⁵ He left a will (a copy of which is in the National Archives), which was signed on 29 April 1684 (the day after the indenture was agreed) and probate was granted on 11 February 1685 (see Appendix 7).⁸⁶ In his will Edward Bettris stipulated that his wife, Anne, and their daughter should have the right of abode within the house at 1 New Inn Hall Street for the remainder of their natural lives. All the rest of his worldly estate was left to his wife, including 2,000 acres of land in Pennsylvania, which was initially established as a Quaker colony under the direction of William Penn in 1681 (there were 589 persons who bought 715,437 acres in Pennsylvania between July 1681 and March 1685). Bettris was in the first group of buyers and is listed in the first catalogue of purchasers, dated 25 October 1681 (this includes 259 persons who bought the first 320,000 acres).⁸⁷ According to a document published by William Penn in 1683, Joshua Haystings, Edward Bettris, and Thomas Minchin were listed as joint purchasers of Lot 18, a frontage property just along the Skuylkill river in what is now downtown Philadelphia.⁸⁸

⁸¹ *Ibid.*, fol. 17r.

⁸² *Ibid.*, fol. 15r.

⁸³ ORO, Oxford Diocesan Records: Returns of Recusants, 1679–1706 (c. 430), fol. 4r. Mary Clapinson, *Bishop Fell and Nonconformity* (Oxford, 1980), p. 5, discusses this.

⁸⁴ ORO, Parish Register of St Peter-le-Bailey, 1684–1742 (Par 214/1/R1/3), fol. 33v.

⁸⁵ *Ibid.*, fol. 50v.

⁸⁶ TNA, PROB 11/379, fols 120v–121r.

⁸⁷ *An Account of the Lands in Pennsylvania Granted by William Penn ... To several Purchasers within the Kingdom of England, 25 October 1681* (Patent Book AA-5/130, Division of Land Records, Historical and Museum Commission, Harrisburg). There were 18 people from Oxfordshire who purchased land within this scheme. Edward Bettris is specifically listed in '205 The First Purchasers of Pennsylvania, 1681–1685,' in Richard S. Dunn and Mary Maples Dunn, eds, *The Papers of William Penn, Volume 2, 1680–1684* (Philadelphia, PA., 1982), p. 638.

⁸⁸ Penn, *Letter from William Penn*, p. 13.

The probate inventory of Edward Bettris was composed on 10 April 1685 and was entered into the probate record on 11 May 1686 (see Appendix 8).⁸⁹ The parchment scroll is not in very good condition; the writing in places is faded, and the right edge of the scroll is jagged and uneven, probably due to water damage, or maybe because it was eaten by mice. Unfortunately this means that all of the appraisal figures assigned to the goods in the inventory list are missing. It does, however, give us an indication of the decoration of the rooms in the house (Red Chamber, Green Chamber, Blew Room, Sad-Coloured Room, etc.), and invites a comparison with the description of the house contained in the inventory list of Anne Olliffe (discussed above).

Anne Bettris (c.1660–1694), Daughter-in-law of Richard Bettris

The third of the indentures relating to the property in New Inn Hall Street was signed by Edward Bettris's widow, Anne Bettris, in 1690, six years after the indenture on the house was signed by her husband (see Appendix 9). The agreement was between Anne and two Oxford merchants, John Bishop, an alebrewer, and Francis Holloway, a mercer. The indenture bears the signatures of both Anne Bettris and Francis Holloway, but not John Bishop (line 28).

In accordance with the stipulations outlined in the indenture (lines 15–16), Anne Bettris, John Bishop, and Francis Holloway pursued a final title deed agreement in the courts. Thus, an agreement concerning the property was issued in May of 1690 by the Court of Common Pleas in Westminster. The text of the court record, which was agreed during the Easter-term sessions, is in Latin; it records arrangements that Anne Bettris made for the eventual passing on of the legal claim for the property (see Appendix 10). Clearly she was living in the property with her daughter, Anna. There are tax records from 1692 to 1694 which show that Anne Bettris paid property taxes on the house in the parish of St Peter-le-Bailey: there is an entry dated 27 June 1692 for 'Anne Bettris, her daughter and maid ____ £1 3s 0d'.⁹⁰

Anne Bettris's last will and testament was signed on 3 June 1693, with codicils added on 7 June 1694 and 7 September 1694; supplementary codicils dated 12 October 1694 and 15 May 1705 are attached to the main will and add additional information about family relationships. In particular, these concern the passing on of property and inheritances to her 12-year-old daughter, Anna (see Appendix 11).⁹¹ According to parish records, she died and was buried at the church of St Peter-le-Bailey on 9 October 1694.⁹² Her death seems corroborated by the fact that her name is replaced in the tax records on the property dated December 1694 by 'Thomas Bettris and wife', no doubt a relative by marriage, but precisely what the relationship was is not clear.⁹³ Few details about her surviving daughter, Anna, are known, although she does attach a codicil to her mother's will, which is dated 15 May 1705 (see lines 71–100). There is also a record of Anna Bettris's marriage to Thomas Stanley on 28 May 1711 in the parish church of St Peter-le-Bailey.⁹⁴ Stanley is described in the parish register as the rector of the church in Middleton Cheney, Northamptonshire, and Anna is described as being from the parish of St Mary in Oxford. It appears that after the wedding the couple left Oxford, and family ties to the Bettrises were lost over time. It seems that there were no male descendants to carry on the Bettris family name. Indeed, there is a curious notice that appeared in *Jackson's Oxford Journal* for 1776⁹⁵ which appealed for any heirs of Edward Bettris,

⁸⁹ TNA, PROB 4/10723.

⁹⁰ ORO, Taxes, 1691–1694 (P.5.9), fol. 37v. Further payments are recorded for 1693 (fol. 73r), 2 May 1694 (fol. 146v), and 27 Aug. 1694 (fol. 149r). There is an entry for an *Elizabeth* Bettris from 1694 (fol. 118v), probably a clerk's mistake for her first name.

⁹¹ A copy of the will and the various codices is contained in the Bodleian Library.

⁹² ORO, Parish Register of St Peter-le-Bailey, 1684–1742 (Par 214/1/R1/3), fol. 72r.

⁹³ ORO, Taxes, 1691–1694 (P.5.9), fol. 169v.

⁹⁴ ORO, Parish Register of St Peter-le-Bailey, 1684–1742 (Par 214/1/R1/3), fol. 41 r. Stanley matriculated at Brasenose College in 1693, took his B.A. in 1696, and his M.A. in 1699. He served as proctor of the university in 1708.

⁹⁵ *Jackson's Oxford Journal*, 23 Nov. 1776, p. 3. The heirs were invited to contact a London attorney and promised that 'they will hear of something to their Advantage.'

a surgeon living in Oxford in 1681, to come forward and make a claim for an inheritance. What this inheritance consisted of, and whether any successful claimants were found, are matters lost in the mists of time.

CONCLUSION

This exploration of the association between an influential Quaker family, the Bettrises, and their seventeenth-century house, 1 New Inn Hall Street, has emphasized the importance of both in the early history of the Quaker movement in Oxford. New light has been shed on the religious and political activities not only of Richard and Jane Bettris, but also of members of the wider Bettris family, many of whom lived in the house. The publication of five unknown seventeenth-century documents, with some related evidence about the Bettris family and their house, has provided a unique insight into the life and circumstances of Oxford's pre-eminent Quaker family in the second half of the seventeenth century.

The house passed from the hands of the Bettris family in the early eighteenth century, but it had ceased to be used as a meeting house some years before. This may have been because the adherence to the Quaker movement of the Bettrises then living there was less strong than in the time of Richard and Jane. Their youngest son, Edward, his second wife, Anne, and their children were all members of the Church of England. In 1687 land was bought for a new meeting house behind St Giles, and the building was completed in 1688.⁹⁶ Recently 1 New Inn Hall Street has regained some of its former usefulness as a place for religious meetings. New Road Baptist Church now regularly uses one of the rooms on the upper floor as a coffee house for people to meet following Sunday services and for other church activities (see Plate 12). Perhaps the spirit of the Bettrises lives on there.

⁹⁶ *VCH Oxon*, 4, p. 415.

APPENDIX 1: AN ACCOUNT OF SUFFERINGS OF OXFORD QUAKERS
AT THE HANDS OF STUDENTS (COMPILED IN 1685)

[Page 1]

A brief account Touching the sufferings of y^e People of God called Oxford inflicted on them by y^e Schollars of y^e University of Oxford in Their Meetings of worship & att other times.

- [5] Whereas ever since y^e Lord hath raised us up to be a people to beare testimony to his name & hath in this Citty, greate hath been y^e opposition of y^e Schollars of this University, both att our meetings & att other times (as in this following acc[oun]t will appeare that if possible y^e name of y^e Lord might not be mentioned in truth and righteousness but the Lord hath preserved a remnant of us over all their wickedness and carried us through our sufferings w[i]th patience where for divers good causes wee doe record these things:
- [10] first yt their wicked and cruell actions might not be forgotten or buried as if they had never been but yt they may be seen by generations to come and also to answer the expectations of any yt may have a desire to inspect into these things relating too our sufferings may see y^e wicked and ungodly actions of those who pretend to be the teachers & ministers of Christ but here contrary to y^e Life of Christianity their Lives &
- [15] conversations are who have continued their cruelty & wickedness towards us from y^e year 1654 for y^e time of Olliver Cromwells government in this Nation untill this present year [16]85, att which time this narrative was comprised & entered being Collected but of ye severall acc[oun]ts yt was taken by friends who were eye witnesses of these things as followeth:
- [20] Our usuall manner hath been to meet together to waite upon and worship God in Spirritt & in Truth, att Rich[ar]d Betriss house on first dayes of y^e week about y^e ninth hour in y^e mornings and on fifth dayes of y^e week about four in y^e afternoon at w[hi]ch times was Constant practice of y^e schollars there to meet us & act their wickedness & abuses towards us.
- [25] As pulling of[f] friends haire of their heads and beards by y^e roots, plating their haire into knotts, pluck't of[f] friends hatts & throw ym att others & t[he]n beat ym on y^e heads. They took one friend by y^e neck cloath & held him up from ground untill they had neare choaked him, & stopt another friends mouth ready to strangle him. One drew his knife & swore he would cutt off a friends nose, took another friend
- [30] by ye neck cloath and drew him aboutt over Feorms untill they had almost choaked him, and tryed to open a friends mouth by force because he would not answer him to his wickedness, took & held a friend by y^e throat untill he was neare choaked. They took a friend & bound his hands & Laid him on a bench and pull'd of[f] his shoes, and pluckt down his breeches, & holding him laid his shirt
- [35] over his face, & ask him why he Laid so like a beast; [They] pull friends up & down y^e Meeting roome, & some out of Doors, endeavouring to have ym to y^e pump, to plump water on them, but yt they were Rescued out of their hands by some Neighbours; [They] bring in Nettles & thrust ym in friends Faces, throw down forms w[i]th friends on them, bind some w[i]th Cords & draw them up & down ye meeting Room abusing them, Teare friends Cloathes, shoot bulletts through banks in friends faces. They took one friends hatt & caried it forth & pist in it & then brought it againe to have putt it on his h y^e ead, took another friend & Indeavoured to pull of[f] his Cloathes to have him stand naked in ye meeting; w[i]th a paire of sisers cutt on[e] side of a friends beard of[f] & Left y^e other remaineing; came behind friends as they sitt on y^e feorms and

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- [45] Lay their hands on their shouldiers & then punch ym on the backs w[i]th their knees, thrust pinns in their flesh, ride on Friends backs & indeavour to kiss y^e woman and putt their hands under their Coats, and use so much uncivillity towards them both in their wicked and baudy discourse, as also in their actions, that its a shame to mention it. Some of them took a maid by y^e hands, whilst others putt their hands under her coats yt shee was forced to cry out. They struck on[e] woman on y^e breast yt her breast swelled much & struck another on ye belly bigg w[i]th childe w[hi]ch shee could not recover for some time. W[i]th sticks [they] punch & beats friends; one Austin of

- Martin [Merton?] Colledge took a friends hatt and cutt it severall wayes; [they] bring in dogs and throw ym about att friends, take away their handkerchiefs & hatt bands
- [55] and sometimes hatts, and a common practice w[i]th them to push one or another of their company upon us. They have gone into y^e friends dwelling house when y^e meeting was kept & threw down y^e woman of y^e house & beat & abused y^e maid servant & take meate off [f] y^e table & bread & porridge out of the pott, lapping it up like dogs, and take books and stools & carry ym away, and
- [60] y^e Key of y^e Doore severall Times.
- Friends having borne their wickedness & cruelties for a Long time & seeing no Amendment but rather to grow worse & worse & fearing Lest any murder should be by ym committed upon us and so wee be necessary to our own death for not making it known to these in role and authority over ym as have
- [65] power to restrain ym from such things, Least it be Laid only on y^e young schollars these unchristian actions and speeches. Whereupon there was Laid before ye vicechancellor an account of their wicked actions & how unlike men professing Christianity such things were & what a Dishonour it was to y^e University, whereupon y^e Proctors came to our meeting to Drive ym
- [70] away, & one time George Fletcher⁹⁷ of Wadham Colledge, pro-proctor and Preist of Martins, w[i]th Stephen Bates,⁹⁸ Master of Art (so called) of Hart hall, came to our meeting pretending to Look for Schollars att w[h]ich time it so happened yt Stephen Smith, a stranger being declaring Truth amongst us, They turned Informers, whereupon y^e said Stephen Smith was Committed to prison untill y^e
- [75] next day, and then brought up to y^e hall before severall Justices who fined him twenty pounds for preaching & so Discharged him sending a warning to y^e Justices inhabiting in y^e County where he lived to seize for y^e said fine. Y^e next first Day following y^e said informers came againe Fletcher & Bates to our meeting w[i]th severall constables and there took friends
- [80] Names so here may be seen y^e redresse wee received from their Tutors by making our Grievances known to them, and the Schollars att a Certain time being very wicked were told by a friend their tutors would be ashamed to heare of their uncivil behaviour and one of y^e Schollars replied saying we were sent by ym.

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- [85] They have brought into our meeting hoggs and pulled ym about y^e Room to make a noise and likewise madmen, one Mack⁹⁹ of Trinity Colledge brought into our Meeting a pistol and cockt it and swore he would shoot friends. Another pist in y^e room and said he had Left some divine Inspiration. They have come into our meetings hooping and hallowing and scoffing, swearing & cursing,
- [90] & Calling friends Rogues and whores, dogs and bitches & toads and almost all other wicked and ungodly names, making a Noise like cats and Doggs, threw Squibbs into our meeting, squeeze and abuse friends going in & coming out, Breake y^e porch of y^e Dore and break ye windows of y^e house, beat & abuse Friends as they are passing allong ye street, one friend as he was going from a
- [95] meeting to his own dwelling and passing by Johns Colledge was Drew in to y^e Colledge hall by a company of schollars and thrust into a Chaire, then beate and abused him very much, pinching him & thrusting pinns into his flesh in so much yt his naturall sence was taken away for a time; he having been ill but a little before – and not eaten a bitt of bread in
- [100] Ten dayes together – and scoffingly asked him where y^e spiritt did not move him, bidding him tell a tale, sing a song, Lett a fart, after some time three or four came and pulled him down & bid him be gone, and as he was passing forth seeing some of y^e cheife of y^e College he speake to them of y^e Cruel actions of ye Schollars toward him whereatt one came and ki[c]kt
- [105] him and bid him be gone – y^e Friends name was Abraham Allin.

⁹⁷ George Fletcher, B.A. (1661), M.A. (1664), Fellow of Wadham College (1666) was made rector of St Martin's Church in 1670 and served there until his death, 6 Jan. 1677.

⁹⁸ Stephen Bate, B.A. (1669), M.A. (1671) was made rector of Horsmonden, Kent, in 1673 and remained there until his death, 22 Oct. 1724.

⁹⁹ Probably Edmund Mackes, matriculated as a student of Trinity College 1673. He did not complete his degree.

A friend Edmond Orpwood being in town found a necessity laid upon him to goe to Maries Masshouse and there to declare to ym that they were as painted walls and whited sepulchers, beautifull outsides, but within full of Rottenness and putrefaction, who having delivered his Message to them was Drew out by one of y^e bedles (as he thought) into y^e Street and there Left to a greate company of rude Schollars who did very much beate and abuse him and had him to a pump and threw him down and pumpt water upon him and he afterwards went to Richard Bettriss house whither y^e rude company followed him and because they were not suffered to go in w[i]th him they broke y^e windows & indeavoured to breake open y^e dore. This short account being recorded of y^e behaviour of y^e Oxford schollars wee Leave ye Reader to Judge of them – more might be added if desired of there evill doings & incivility.

APPENDIX 2: LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF RICHARD BETTRIS
(4 AUGUST 1682)

[Folio 1]

In the name of God, Amen. I, Richard Bettris, of the University of Oxon, Chyrurgion, being of sound mind and memory, thanks be given to God for the the same, doe make & ordayne this my last Will and Testament in manner & forme following (that is to say), First, I doe hereby revoke, frustrate & make voyd all other Wills by me formerly made And declare & appoynt this to by my last Will & Testament. Item: Whereas Bettris Cox & Thomas Cox have mortgaged to me, the said Richard Bettris, for the Sum of One hundred and fifty pounds of lawfull money of England which I have payd unto them All that their Messuage or Tenement or Inne called the Signe of the White Hart scituate and being in St Ebbe's Parish within the City of Oxon, And all howses, Outhowses, Edifices, buildings, backsides, yards, Gardens, Orchards, and appurt[en]ances whatsoever thereunto belonging, I give the said One hundred and fifty pounds unto my Grandaughters Mary Bettris & Jane Bettris, daughters of my Son Edward Bettris to be equally divided betweene them, the said Mary and Jane when they or either of them shall attayne to their severall and Respective ages of One & twenty yeares. Item: I give unto my Said Grandaughters Mary Bettris & Jane Bettris the sum of Fifty pounds of like lawfull money of England over & above their Legasies aforesaid to be equally divided betweene them and payd unto them when they or either of them shall attayne to their severall & respective ages of One & twenty yeares as aforesaid. And my Will is That in case either of my said Grandaughters shall happen to dye before they shall attayne to the age of One & twenty yeares, Then I give the Legasie of her soe dying unto the Survivor of them. And if both my said Grandaughters, Mary

Richard Bettris [signature]

[Folio 2]

and Jane Bettris, shall happen to dye before they shall attayne to their respective ages of One & twenty yeares, Then I give their said Legasies of One hundred and fifty pounds and the said Fifty pounds to them bequeathed as aforesaid unto my loving and dear daughter Anna Olliff, her Executors, & Admin[istrat]ors. And my Will further is That my Son Edward Bettris shall have & receive onely the interest of the said two hundred pounds untill they, the said Mary Bettris & Jane Bettris or either of them, shall attayne to their severall and respective ages of One & twenty yeares. And my expresse Will is That whensoever the said One hundred & fifty pounds or any part thereof shalbee payd in at any time before my said Grandaughters Mary or Jane Bettris shall attayne to the age of One & twenty yeares the said One hundred

- [40] and Fifty pounds shalbee payd unto my said daughter Anna Olliff & Silas Norton of the City of Oxon, Maultster, and Richard Houghton of the said City of Oxon, School Master, their Executors, Admin[istrat]ors or Assignes, Or the Survivor or Survivors of them (and not to my said Son Edward Bettris). And the said moneys shall be placed out again
- [45] or put forth by them, the said Anna Olliff, Silas Norton & Richard Houghton, Or the Survivor or Survivors of them, their Executors, Adm[inistrat]ors, or Assignes, by & with the consent & approbation of my said Son Edward. And if they, the said Anna Olliff, Silas Norton & Richard Houghton, Or the Survivor or Survivors of them, their Executors, Admin[istrat]ors,
- [50] or Assignes shall at any time hereafter be minded to call in the said One hundred and fifty pounds due upon Mortgage or the said Fifty pounds, I doe hereby order, appoynt and authorize them and every or any of them to ask, receive, sue for, and to use all lawfull wayes and meanes for the recovery of the Same or any part thereof (for the uses aforesaid) by
- [55] vertue of this my last Will & Testament. Item: I give unto my said daughter Anna Olliff the sum of Forty pounds to give and dispose of the same as she shall see fitt. Item: I give & bequeath

Richard Bettris [signature]

[Folio 3]

- [60] unto my Grandaughter Jane Olliff my Watch and One little silver Cupp, One silver spoone, and a peece of Gold called a Jacobus. Item: I give unto my Son in Law William Bingley the Sum of Sixty pounds of lawfull money of England to be payd unto him within One Moneth next after my decease. Item: I give to Edward Freeman thelder Tenne shillings. Item: I give unto my said daughter Anna Olliff my Furnace which is in the Cellar in the howse I now live in, and all the Iron work,
- [65] Brick, and all other Materials to the said Furnace belonging. And I give unto my said daughter Anna Olliffe All my shelves, dressers, Woodden Drawers and the Iron Barrs in the Windows that are in the Howse which I now live in, And that it shall & may be lawfull to and for my said daughter Anna Olliff to take down and carry away the said Furnace, Iron work, brick & Materialls
- [70] thereunto belonging, and the said shelves, dressers, wooden Drawers and Iron barrs and to dispose of the same at her owne Will & pleasure. And my Will is that my said daughter Anna Olliff and her Assignes shall hold & enjoy receive, perceive & take the rents, issues and profits of the howse which I now live in with thappurtances for & dureing the terme of Six moneths next after my decease without
- [75] paying anything for the same. And from and after the expiration of Six Moneths next after my decease Then I give the said howse unto my said Son Edward Bettris, his heires & Assignes for ever. And as for & concerning the said Legasie of two hundred pounds before in this my Will bequeathed to my said Grandaughters Mary & Jane Bettris, my Will is that if they, the said Mary & Jane Bettris, shall happen to dye before they shall
- [80] attayne to the age of One & twenty yeares, Then I will that my said daughter Anna Olliff, her Executors, Admin[istrat]ors or Assignes shall pay to my said Son Edward Bettris Tenne pounds a yeare yearely on the quarterly dayes of payment by equal port[i]ons dureing the naturall life of my said Son Edward Bettris after my said daughter Anna Olliffe shall have received the said Two hundred pounds soe bequeathed to her as aforesaid, in
- [85] case my said Grandaughters Mary & Jane Bettris shall dye before the age of One & twenty yeares. Item: All the rest of my Goods & Chattells whatsoever (my debts, Legasies & funeral expences being payd & discharged) I give to my said daughter Anna Olliff. And I doe hereby make and appoynt my said daughter Anna Olliff and the said Richard Houghton, my Executors of this my last Will & Testament. And I doe give to the said Richard
- [90] Houghton one Ginney. In witness whereof I, the said Richard Bettrice, have hereunto Set my hand & seale the fourteenth day of August In the yeare of our Lord 1682.

Signed, sealed, published & declared
To be the last Will & Testament of
Richard Bettris. In the the p[re]sence of

- [95] the mark of
Thomas T Tredwell

Richard Bettris [signature]

Will[ia]m Plater [signature]
 the mark of
 Jane S Squire
 [100] Mary Plater [signature]

APPENDIX 3: INDENTURE BETWEEN SARAH AND RICHARD BETTRIS
 (21 MAY 1676)

[*Recto*]

- This Indenture made the One and Twentieth day of May in the Eight and Twentieth yeare of the raigne of our Sov[er]aigne Lord Charles the Second by the grace of God of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the faith &c Annoq[ue] D[omi]ni 1676, Betweene Sarah Betterice of the City of Oxon, Spinster of thone p[ar]te, And Richard Betterice of the said City of Oxon, Barber Chirurgion, Father of the said Sarah of thother p[ar]te, Witnesseth that the said Sarah Betterice, aswell for and in Performance of a certayne Trust in her repossessed, As also in considerat[i]on of the sume of One Hundred Pounds of Lawfull money of England to her in hand well and truely paid and satisfied by the said Richard Betterice at or before then sealing and
- [5] Deliv[er]y hereof, the receipt whereof the said Sarah Betterice doth hereby acknowledge and thereof and of ev[er]y p[ar]te thereof, doth acquitt, exonerate and dischardge him, the said Richard Betterice, his Heires Executors and Adm[inistrat]ors & ev[er]y of them by these p[re]sents, And for div[er]se other good causes & considerations, her, the said Sarah Betterice, especially moveing hereunto, Hath given, granted, bargained, sold, alienated, released, enfeoffed & confirmed, And by these p[re]sents doth theareby and absolutely give, grant, bargaine, sell, alien, release, and confirme unto unto the said Richard Betterice, His Heires & Assignes for ever, All that her new erected Messuage or Tenem[en]t with ye Garden Ground and all other Appu[r]ten[an]ces to the said Messuage or Tenem[en]t belonging or in any wise app[ur]teyning, Scituate lying & being in the p[ar]ish of S[ain]t Peter in the said City and now in the possession of the s[ai]d Richard Betterice, betweene a Tenem[en]t of the Warden and Schollers of the Colledge of S[ain]t Mary Winton in Oxford on the Northside and ye Church of S[ain]t Bayly on ye Southside
- [10] and abutting on a Lane leading to New Inn Hall on theast side and on the garden ground heretofore in the Tenure of Thomas Huntfeild on the Westside, And the Revert[i]on and Revert[i]ons, Remainder and Remainders, of all and Singular the said bargained p[re]misses and ev[er]y p[ar]te thereof Togeather with all Deeds, Evidences, and Writeings concerning the same or any p[ar]te thereof, To have & to hold the said Messuage or Tenem[en]t and Garden Ground, and all and Singular other the before mentioned or intended to be bargained p[re]misses with their and ev[er]y of their App[ur]ten[an]ces unto the said Richard Betterice, his Heires & Assignes for ever, to the only use and behoofe of the s[ai]d Richard Betterice, his Heires and Assignes for ever, and to & for noe other use, intent or purpose, whatsoever, And the said Sarah Betterice, for herselfe, her Heires and Assignes, and for every of them doth Covenant, Promise & Grant to and with the said Richard Betterice, his Executors, Admin[istrat]ors and Assignes by these p[re]sents, That the said Sarah Betterice at the time of then sealeing and delivery of these
- [15] p[re]sents is and Standeth rightfully and lawfully Seized to her and her Heires of and in all and singular the before bargained p[re]misses with their App[ur]ten[an]c[es] of a good, sure and indeaseazable estate of Inheritance in Fee Simple without any use, Trust, or other Limitat[i]on whatsoever to alter, chainge, determine or make voyd the same, And that she, the said Sarah Betterice, hath good right full power and lawfull and absolute Authority to give, grante, bargaine and sell all and singular the s[ai]d p[re]misses with their App[ur]ten[an]ces unto the said Richard Betterice His Heires and Assignes in manner and forme aforesaid. And also that it shall and may be Lawfull to and for the said Richard Betterice, his Heires and Assignes and ev[er]y of them at all atimes from henceforth for ever lawfully and quietly to have hold, occupy, possess and enjoy all and Singular the

- p[re]misses before by these p[re]sents mentioned to be bargained and sold with the App[ur]ten[an]c[es] without the
- [20] Lett, Trouble or Deniall of her, the said Sarah Betterice, her Heires and Assignes or of any other p[er]son or p[er]sons whatsoever, And that freely and clearly acquitted and discharged or otherwise from time to time well and sufficiently Saved and kept harmless of and from all and all manner of former & other bargaines, Sales, Gifts, Grants, Feoffements, Entailes, Estates, Uses, Leases, Statutes, Recognizances, Judgements, Executions, Rents and Arrearages of Rents, Fines, Tithes, Troubles and all other Incumbrances whatsoever, Had, Made, comitted, Donn or Suffered or hereafter to be had, Made comitted, Donn or Sufered by her, the said Sarah Betterice, her Heires or Assignes, the Rents and Services from henceforth due to the cheife Lord or Lords of the Fee or Fees thereof only excepted and Foreprized. And further that she, the said Sarah Betterice, her Heires and Assignes, and all and every other p[er]son of p[er]sons haveing or lawfully
- [25] claimeing to have any right or interest in the premisses or any p[ar]te thereof and ev[er]y of them shall and will from time to time and at all times hereafter dureing the space of Tenn yeares now next ensueing at the reasonable request and at the Costs and Chardges in the Law of the said Richard Betterice, his Heires and Assignes, Make, doe, acknowledge execute and suffer or cause to be made, donn, acknowledged, executed and suffered, All and every Such other and further reasonable Act and Acts, Thing and Things, Devise and Devises, Assurance and Assurances in the Law whatsoever, for the further and better Assureing and sure makeing of all and singular the said p[re]misses with the App[ur]ten[a]nc[es] unto the said Richard Betterice, his Heires and Assignes, To the only use and behoofe of the said Richard Betterice and of his Heires and Assignes for ever, Be it by Fine or Fines, Feofement, Recovery or Recoveries with double or
- [30] Single vouchers, Deed or Deeds inrolled or not Inrolled, the Inrollment of these p[re]sents or by any other waies or meanes whatsoever, And in such manner and forme as by the said Richard Betterice, his Heires or Assignes or his or their Councell learned in the Laws of this Land shalbe reasonably Advised, Devised, or Required, All which said Fine or Fines and all other and further Assurance and Assurances whatsoever hereafter to be had, made, leavied, Suffered or acknowledged of the said premisses or of every or any parte thereof shalbe and inure, and are declared adjudged and taken to be and inure unto and for the only use and behoofe of the said Richard Betterice and of his Heires and Assignes for evermore and unto and for noe other use, intent, or purpose whatsoever. In Witness whereof the p[ar]ties aforesaid to these Indentures Interchangeably have set their hands and seales the day and yeare
- [35] first abovewritten.

Sarrah Betterice [signature]

[Verso]

- Sealed and Delivered
in the p[re]sence of
J[ohn] Paynton
- [40] Jane + Westbrooke
her marke
Sam[uel] Thurston

- Mem[oran]d[um] that the Twelfth day of July in the eight & twentieth yeare of ~~the~~ his Ma[jes]ties Reigne within written the withinamed Sarah
- [45] Bettrice in her propper p[er]son did enter upon and take the full & peaceable possession of the Messuage & p[re]misses within ment[i]oned and after the taking possession thereof did alsoe in her p[ro]p[er] p[er]son give and deliver unto the within named Richard Bettrice full possession, Livery and Seizin thereof by the delivery of the Ring of the outward dore of the s[ai]d
- [50] Messuage to the s[ai]d Richard Bettrice in the name of Seizin and possession of all the s[ai]d Messuage and p[re]misses within ment[i]oned, To have and to hold the same to the s[ai]d Richard Bettrice, his heires & assignes, Decl[ar]ed according to the true Intent & meaning of the deeds within written in the p[re]sence of
- [55] J[ohn] Paynton
Jane + Westbrooke
her marke
Sam[uel] Thurston

APPENDIX 4: LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF ANNE OLLIFFE
(19 MARCH 1683, PROBATE GRANTED 30 MAY 1683)

[Folio 69 verso]

In the name of God, Amen.
I, Anna Olliffe, of the City of Oxford, Widow, being weake in body but of
sound and perfect mind and memory, thanks be to God, and being
desirous to settle things in order doe make this my last will and Testament
[5] as followeth: And first I doe revoke, frustrate, and make void all former
Wills by me heretofore made and declared and appoiint this to be my
last will and Testament. Item: I give to my Brother Edward Bettris
and his wife Five shillings apeice. Item: I give to Jane Bettris, daughter
of my said Brother Edward, Twenty pounds of lawfull money of England
[10] to be paid unto her when shee shall attaine to the age of one and twenty yeares
or when shee shall be marryed which soever shall first happen. And my will
is that in case the said Jane Bettris shall happen to depart this life before

[Folio 70 recto]

shee shall attaine to the age of one and twenty yeares or be marryed, Then I give
the said Lagacie of Twenty pounds unto my daughter Jane Olliffe and my will
[15] is that the said Jane Bettrices Legacie of Twenty pounds to her bequeathed
shall be put out for the best use by my said daughter Jane's Guardians and
Executors in trust herein after named for the benefit and advantage of her, the
said Jane Bettris untill shee shall attaine to the age of one and twenty yeares
[20] or be marryed which soever shall first happen. Item: I give unto my said daughter
Jane Olliffe and her Heires for ever, All that my freehold estate with the
appurtenances lying and being in Seendrowe in the Parish of Melfsham
in the County of Wilts[hire] which I lately purchased of John Harris and all
Howses, Outhouses, Edifices, buildings, barnes, stables, yards, backsides, gardens,
[25] orchards, Lands, Tenements, Meadows, Pastures, Feedings, Comons, wayes, waters,
trees, woods, underwoods, profits, comodities, hereditaments and appurtenances
whatsoever to the said Premisses belonging or appurtaining and all other
my Lands, Tenements and Hereditaments whatsoever To have and to hold
all and every the said premisses with their and every of their appurtenances
[30] unto my said daughter Jane Olliffe, her Heires and Assignes for evermore,
in case my said daughter Jane Olliffe shall live to the age of one and twenty
yeares or be marryed. And my will is that my said daughters Guardians and
Executors in trust herein after named from and imediately after my
decease shall receive and take the Rents, issues and profits of the said Premisses
[35] for the only use and benefit of my said daughter Jane Olliffe untill shee
shall attaine to the age of one and twenty yeares or be marryed which soever
shall first happen. Item: I give and bequeath unto my said daughter Jane
Olliffe the sum of two hundred pounds in case the said Jane Bettris, daughter
of my said Brother Edward shall dye before [s]he shall attaine to the age of
[40] one and twenty yeares which was given to me in and by the last will and
Testament of my Father Richard Bettris in case Mary Bettris and Jane
Bettris, daughters of my said Brother Edward Bettris should dye before
they or either of them should attaine to their respective ages of one and twenty
yeares, (the said Mary Bettris being now dead). And my will is that if my
[45] said daughter Jane Olliffe and the said Jane Bettris shall happen to
depart this life before they or either of them shall be marryed or attaine
to the age of One and Twenty yeares, Then I will that the said two hundred
pounds shall be laid out or disposed of by my brother in Law William
Bingley, Bray Doyley of Aderbury, Thomas Nicholls of Oxford, Cordwayner,
[50] and my Kinsman John Harris or the survivors or survivor of them to
such person or persons and to such use and uses as they or the major part
of them shall think fit. Item: I give and bequeath unto my brother in Law
William Bingley the sume of Tenne pounds of lawfull money of England.
Item: I give to Martha Patricksonne of London, spinster, Fifty shillings
of like lawfull money. Item: I give to Ellen Seale of Oxford, Spinster, the
[55] sume of Fifty shillings of like lawfull money. Item: I give to Lydia Clarke

Fifty shillings of like lawfull money. Item: I give the sume of five pounds to such person as shall be my own live defendat at my decease. Item: I give unto my Kinswoman Joane Tarrant the sume of Tenne pounds to place her out Apprentice. And my will is that the said Joanne Tarrant shall [60] from time to time during the time of her Apprenticeship shall have and receive such of the old clothes and wearing apparrell of my said daughter Jane Olliffe as her Guardians and Executors in trust shall think fit. Item: I Give and bequeath the sume of Twenty pounds of lawfull money of England to be laid out or disposed of by my said Brother in Law William Bingley,

[Folio 70 verso]

[65] Bray Doyley, Thomas Nicholls, and John Harris or the survivors of survivor of them to such use and uses or to such person or persons as they or the major part of them shall think fitt. Item: I give to William Tarrant, Edward Langley and Edward Freeman the elder tenne shillings apeice to [70] Each of them. Item: I give to the Poore of the Parish wherein I live the sume of Fifty shillings to be distributed amongst them either in money or bread at the discretion of the said Guardians and Executors in trust herein after named or the major part of them. Item: all the rest of my Goods, Chattells or Plate and moneys whatsoever, my Debts, Legacies and funerall expences [75] being first paid and discharged, I give and bequeath to my said daughter Jane Olliffe whom I doe hereby make, ordaine and appoint sole and only Executrix of this my last will and Testament, and I doe hereby nominate and appoint my said Brother in Law William Bingley, Bray Doyley, John Harris, Thomas Nicholls and Richard Houghton of the City of Oxford School Master, [80] Guardians and Executors in trust to and for my said daughter Jane Olliffe untill shee shall accomplish the age of one and twenty yeares or be married which soever shall first happen to whom I give a Ginney a piece to each of them. And I desire and appoint them to manage whatsoever I have given to my said daughter by vertue of this my Will to the best advantage of my said daughter Jane Olliffe untill shee shall attaine to the age [85] of one and twenty yeares or be married which shall first happen and my expresse will is that if it shall happen that my said daughter Jane Olliffe shall depart this life before shee is married or shall attaine to the age of one and twenty yeares as aforesaid then I give and bequeath the said estate and premisses before ment[i]oned which I purchased of the said John Harris with their and every of their appurtenances unto my said Brother in Law William Bingley and to the said Bray Doyley, John Harris, [90] Thomas Nicholls and Richard Houghton their Heires and Assignes for ever, Provided allways and upon this condit[i]on neverthesse, That they, the said William Bingley, Bray Doyley, John Harris, Thomas Nicholls, and Richard Houghton or the survivors or survivor of them shall sell the said Estate and Premisses and shall pay with the said moneys soon to be raised these severall Legacies and [95] pay to the said Jane Bettris One Hundred pounds XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXX and to my said Brother in Law William Bingley one hundred pounds, and to the said Thomas Nicholls One hundred pounds, and to Anna West of Oxford, Widow, Fifty pounds and shall pay to my Kinsman Edward Jefferies, One hundred pounds and to [100] my said Kinsman John Harris One hundred pounds, and to my Kinswoman Elizabeth Olliffe Fifty pounds, and to the said Martha Patrickson Fifty pounds and to the said Ellen Seale Fifty pounds over and above their Legacies to them before herein bequeathed, and to Bray Doyley and Richard Houghton Tenne pounds apeice to each of them over and above their Legacies aforesaid. And to [105] Hanna Fletcher who was formerly my servant Fifty pounds, and to Mary Nicholls, daughter of the said Thomas Nicholls, Fifty pounds in case my said daughter Jane Olliffe shall happen to depart this life before shee is married or shall attaine to her age of one and twenty yeares as aforesaid. And my further will, true intent and meaning is That the surplusage or Surplus that shall [110] remaine of my estate not before given and bequeathed shall be disposed by the said Guardians and Executors in trust to such person or persons and to such use and uses as they or the major part or survivors or survivor of them shall think fitt. And my will is that the said Jane Bettris and Joanne Tarrants Legacies last ment[i]oned, in case my said daughter Jane Olliffe shall dye before [115] shee be married or shall attaine to the age of one and twenty yeares shall

[Folio 71 recto]

be put out for the best use by the said Guardians and Executors in trust or the major part of them untill they, the said Jane Bettris and Jane Tarrant or either of them shall attaine to the age of one and twenty yeares, and I doe earnestly request the said Guardians and Executors in trust that they will be tender and carefull of my
 [120] said daughter whom I comit to their charge humbly begging of the Lord who is the searcher of all hearts that hee will enable them to discharge the trust which I have committed to them with care and conscience as they will answer it before the tribunall seate of Christ, and my will and desire is that my said daughter shall have an honest carefull maid servant to waite upon her and my earnest desire is to be buried in
 [125] the burying place where my dear Husband Humphrey Olliffe now lyeth as neare as possible may be to him. In witnesse whereof I, the said Anne Olliffe, have hereunto set my hand and seale this nineteenth day of March in the yeare of our Lord One thousand six hundred eighty and two, Anna Olliffe. Signed, sealed, published, declared to be the last will and Testament of the said Anna Olliffe in the presence of Will[ia]m
 [130] Egleton, Charles Wright, the marke of Thomas Treadwell, Thomas Ledwell.

Probatum fuit hu[ius]mo[d]i Test[ament]um apud London Coram ven[erabi]lli viro D[omi]n[o] Richardo Lloyd¹⁰⁰ Milite Legum D[oc]tore Surr[ogato] Ven[erabi]lis et egregii viri D[omi]ni Leolini Jenkins¹⁰¹ Militis Legum etiam D[oc]tori Curiae Praerogativae Cantuar[iensis] Mag[ist]ri Custod[is] sive Com[miss]ario I[legi]time constit[uto] Tricesimo Die Mensis Maii Anno D[omi]ni Mill[es]imo sex[ten]ce[si]mino octog[es]imo tertio Juram Richardi Houghton unius Ex[ecuto]rum in hu[ius]mo[d]i
 [135] Te[stamen]to
 nominat[orum] Cui com[miss]a fuit admi[ni]stratio omnium et singulorum bonorum jurium et creditorum dicti def[uncti] de bene et fidei[ter] adm[in]istrandi ead[em] Ad sancta Dei Evangelia Jurat[o] Reservata p[otes]tate similem com[miss]i[on]em faciendi Willi[el]mo Bingley, Bray Doyley Johanni Harris et Thomae Nicholls caeteris Ex[ecuto]ribus in hu[ius]mo[d]i Testam[en]to nominat[is]
 [140] cum venerint seu alt[er] eorum venerit eand[em] petitur.

This will was probated in London before the venerable gentleman Lord Richard Lloyd, Knight, Doctor of Laws, Representative for the venerable and excellent Gentleman Lord Leoline Jenkins, Knight, also Doctor of Laws, legitimately appointed Master, Custodian or Commissioner of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury on the thirtieth day of the month of May in the year
 [145] of our Lord One thousand six hundred and eighty three on the oath of Richard Houghton, one of the Executors named in this will, to whom was committed the administration of all and singular of the goods, rights and credits of the said deceased, he having been sworn to the good and faithful administration of the same on the Holy Gospels of God; the power being reserved of granting a similar commission to William Bingley, Bray Doyley, John Harris and Thomas Nicholls, the other Executors named in this Will,
 [150] should they come or should any one of them come and request the same.

APPENDIX 5: INVENTORY OF THE GOODS OF ANNE OLLIFFE (5 JUNE 1683; PUBLISHED 22 MAY 1684)

[Roll 1]

A True and perfect Inventory of the goods, Chattles and Credits of Anna Olliffe Late of the City of Oxford, a Widdowe, deceased, had made and Apprized the 5th day of June 1683
 [5] By us, Thomas Tredwell and Charles Wright as followeth, Vizt:

¹⁰⁰ Richard Lloyd, Fellow of All Souls College, received his B.C.L. in 1659 and his D.C.L. in 1662. He served as an admiralty advocate, 1674–85, and was a judge at the High Court of Admiralty, 1685–6. He was knighted at Whitehall on 16 Jan. 1677. He died on 28 June 1686.

¹⁰¹ Leoline Jenkins, Fellow of Jesus College, received his D.C.L. in 1662. He was a judge at the High Court of Admiralty, 1668–73, and of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, 1668–85. He was knighted on 7 Jan. 1669. He died on 1 Sept. 1685.

		£	s	d
[10]	Imprimeis: her wearing Cloathes And Money Seized upon in her House	xxv		
	Item: the three best Feather Bedds with their three Bolsters and Six Pillowes	ix		
[15]	Item: three old Small Feather bedds, two Bolsters and five pillowes	ii		
	Item: two old Cloth bedds w[i]th two Bolsters		xiii	
[20]	Item: five paire of old blanketts Item: five old ruggs and A Craddle rugg	i	x	
	Item: two feather pillowes and Three old flock bolsters		vi	viii
[25]	Item: Two Bedsteads with the Bords and matts thereunto belonging	i	v	
	Item: A Cheste of Drawers	i	x	
	Item: A close Hook and pann		v	
[30]	Item: the best Curtains & vallens Item: Foure Setts of Curtaines and vallances	i	v	
	Item: the pewter and brasse in the Middle Chamber	ii	x	
[35]	Item: five paire of Andirons, two paire of Tonges and a Jack	i		
	Items in the Lowe Room – two paire of andirons, three spitts, one paire of fyre shovell and Tonges, Six Smolting Irons, one the brasse one pewter	ii	x	
[40]	Item: Eight matted Chaires Item: Six Cloath Chaires Item: A Palate Bedstead and A presse Bedstead	i	iiii	
	Item: A Palate Bedstead and A presse Bedstead		x	
[45]	Item: five Stooles and twelve Leatherne Chaires	i	x	
	Item: Foure tables with Drawers		xv	
	Item: One Glasse Case and a Vergen Chaire		ii	
[50]	Item: All the Lumber in the Lowe Room Item: One White Rugg		iiii	xviii
	Item: a mans Coate and Wasecoate	i		
	Item: all the Linnen in the Middle Roome	iiii	x	
[55]	Item: An Old Gunn Item: One Tankard, three Bowles, One Silver Pottinger, five Silver Gobletts and Turrell, Fourteen silver spoones, one Watch with two Silver Seales and a little Box	xxiiii	ii	vi
[60]	Item: A small Tortis shell Case of Instruments, A Silver Sullenger a Balsome Box, a Silver Case of instruments	v		
[65]	Item: two old Cases with instruments and a probe		x	
	Item: all the Bookes	ii	x	

[Roll 2]

	Item: the Lumber in the Middle Roome		x	
[70]	Item: the Presse		v	
	Item: all the Lumber in the Chamber over the meeting house	i		
	Item: a Litle Furnace and A Kettle		xv	
[75]	Item: A Presse in Mr Bettrises Chamber		v	
	Item: A Skeine and Bushell		iii	
	Item: the Hangings, Candlesticks And Looking Glasse in the Dining Roome	i		
[80]	Item: Course Towells		ii	vi
	Item: All the Drawers, Boxes Glasses, Waters, Serves, Medicines Oyntments and Balsomes which are in the Closett		xv	
[85]	Item: the peeces of an old presse		i	vi
	Item: One Bolster at Mr Pinells		v	
	Item: a trunck and Linnen at Mr Pinnells	v		
	Item: two instruments att Lough Lambs		ii	vi
[90]	The aforesaid sume is	Ciii	xiii	vi ¹⁰²
	A true and Just Account of all The Bonds and Mortgages Due Or Belonging to the said Deceased Anna Olliffe as followeth			
[95]				
	Imprimeis: one Bond of 50li with Interest due from Sir Thomas Clayton Dated the 25 th day of March 1681	L		
[100]	Item: one Bond of 50li with interest from W[illia]m Sadler dated the 16 th day of December 1676	L		
	Item: one Bond of 50li with interest from William Greene and Others dated the 24 th day of October 1678	L		
[105]	Item: Anthony Peirce his Bond for 4 pounds		iiii	
	Item: Anthony Judson his bond For 3 pounds		iii	
[110]	Item: Timothy Box his Bond To pay 5li whereof two pounds is paid		iii	
	Item: A Bill from William Bingley to pay 40li		xL	
[115]	Item: A Bill from William Taylor to pay Tenn pounds which Bill is dated the 22 th day of Aprill 1643		x	
[120]	Item: Matthew Westons Bond to pay 50li with interest dated the 19 th day of December 1676	L		

¹⁰² This total is 2*d.* under the total of the itemized entries, possibly a mistake in addition which read the figure given in line 23 as *vi*d** instead of *viii*d**.

	Item: Martha Middletons Bond for 10li whereof 4li is Paid	vi
[125]	Mortgages Impri[mi]s: Thomas Cox his Mortgage to pay 150li w[i]th interest Dated the Second Day of October 1678 Item: John Lumleys Mortgage for £	CL 1.20
[130]	Suma Totalis huius inventory	DCLXXXIII xiiii viii ¹⁰³
	<i>[Probate Declaration – Text]</i>	
	Ever[ard] Exton	Exhibitum fuit huiusmodi Inv[ent]arium 22do die mensis Maii Anno domini 1684 per magistrum Everardum Exton Not[ar]ium pub[li]icu[m] procur[ator]em nominand[um] procur[ator]is Executorum] pro vero et p[er]fecto Inventario et sub protestatione tamen de addend[o] &c si &c
[135]		
	<i>[Probate Declaration – Translation]</i>	
	Ever[ard] Exton	This Inventory was published on the 22 nd day of the month of May in the year of the Lord 1684 by the magistrate Everard Exton, Notary Public, administrator named to oversee the Executors, as a true and perfect Inventory and subject to a declaration of an addition &c, if &c
[140]		

APPENDIX 6: INDENTURE BETWEEN EDWARD BETTRIS AND HENRY
AND JOHN ADAMS (28 APRIL 1684)

This Indenture made the Eight & Twentieth day of Aprill in the Six & Thirtieth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord Charles the Second by the grace of God of England, Scotland, France & Ireland, Defender of the Faith &c, Anno[ue] D[omi]ni 1684, Between Edward Bettris of Oxford, Chirurgeon, on thone p[ar]t, And Henry Adams of Harwell in the County of Berks[hire], Yeoman, & John Adams of Kingston Lisely in the County of Berk[shire], Yeoman, on thother p[ar]t, Witnesseth that the said Edward Bettris for & in consideration of the sume of Five shillings of lawfull money of England to him

[5] in hand paid by the said Henry Adams & John Adams, at & before their sealing & delivery hereof, The receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, And for diverse other good causes & considerations hath demised, bargained & sold, And by these p[re]sents doth demise, bargain & sell unto the said Henry Adams & John Adams, All That new erected Messuage or Tenem[en]t w[i]th the garden ground & all other appurtenances to the said Messuage or Tenem[en]t belonging or in any wise appurteyning, scituate, lying & being in the parish of St Peter in the Bayly in the City of Oxford & now in the possession of the said Edward Bettris, between a Tenem[en]t of the Warden & Scholars of the Colledge of St Mary Winton in Oxford on the Northside, And the Church of St Peter in the Bayly on the Southside & abutting on a Lane leading unto New

[10] Inn Hall on the east side & on the garden ground heretofore in the tenure of Thomas Huntfield on the West side. And the revert[i]on & revert[i]ons, remaynder & remaynders of the premisses, & of every p[ar]t thereof, To have and to hold the said Messuage or Tenem[en]t & all other the premisses hereby bargained & sold unto the said Henry Adams & John Adams, theyr Executors, Administrators & Assignes, from henceforth for & during & unto the full end & term of One whole year fully to be compleat & ended, Yeilding & paying therefore during the said

¹⁰³ This total exceeds the sum of the itemized entries by £54, presumably because it includes interest monies due on the loans made.

term unto the said Edward Bettris, his Heys & Assigns the rent of
 One pepp[er] Corn on the Five & Twentieth day of March. If the same be lawfully
 demanded To & for thonly intend & purpose, That by vertue hereof
 [15] And of the Statute for transferring uses into possession, the said Henry Adams & John
 Adams may be in thactuall possession of all & every the said
 bargained & sold p[re]misses, And so may be enabled to take & accept of & from the
 said Edward Bettris a grant & release of the Revert[i]on & Inheritance
 of the same p[re]misses to the said Henry Adams & John Adams & theyr Heys forever,
 To such use as shall by other Indentures intended to be made between
 the p[ar]ties to these p[re]sents & to bear date the day next after the day of the date
 hereof shalbe expressed. In Witness whereof the said p[ar]ties to these p[re]sent
 Indentures have hereunto interchangeably putt their hands & seals the day & year first
 above written.
 [20] Edward Bettris [signature]

APPENDIX 7: LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF EDWARD BETTRIS (29 APRIL 1684)

In the name of God, Amen. I,
 Edward Bettris of Oxford, Chirurgeon, being of good and perfect minde &
 Memory, thanks bee given to Almighty God, Doe make this my last Will &
 Testament in manner and forme following (that is yto say): First and most
 [5] cheifly, I commend my soule to the hands of Almighty God assuredly
 hoping through the Meritts of Jesus Christ for salvat[i]on. And my body I
 commit to the earth to bee decently buried according to the discretion of my
 Executrix herein after named. And as for that worldly estate it hath pleased
 God to blesse mee with, I dispose thereof as follows, vitz: Whereas by Indenture
 [10] of Lease and Release bearing date the day before and the day of the date of this
 my Will for the considerat[i]on therein ment[i]oned, I have conveyed and assured
 unto Henry Adams of Harwell in the county of Berks[hire], Yeoman, and John
 Adams of Kingston Lisely in the County of Berks[hire], Yeoman, their heires & assignes
 [15] forever, All that new erected Messuage or Tenement with the garden ground
 and all other appurtenances to the said Messuage or Tenement belonging
 or in any wise appurteining, scituate and being in the parish of St Peter in
 the Bayly in the said City of Oxford, bounded as in the said Indenture is
 expressed, To the use of my selfe for and dureing the terme of my naturall life
 without impeachment of wast. And from and after my decease, To the use of my
 [20] wife Anne Bettris for and dureing the terme of her naturall life, without
 Impeachment or wast and from and after the decease of mee and the said
 Anne Bettris and of the survivor of us, To the use of the heire of the Body
 Of the said Anne Bettris by mee begotten and for want of such Issue to the use of the
 Right heires of the Survivor of us, the said Edward Bettris and Anne Bettris forever.
 [25] I doe by this my will Ratify and confirm the said uses. And for a further and better
 Jointure for my said wife in further performance of my marriage promise and
 Agreement, I doe give and demise to her and her heires forever All those my two
 Thousand Acres of Land and all other my Lands and tenements whatsoever
 Within the province of Pensilvania or elsewhere within the Kingdome of England.
 [30] Item: I give and bequeath to my said wife till such time as my Daughter
 Anna shall attaine her age of one and twenty yeares the use of my silver
 Tankard and my three silver spoons and then I give and bequeath the same
 To my said Daughter Anna together with my three peeces of gold called
 [35] Jacobus peeces. All the rest of my goods and chattells whatsoever I give and
 bequeath to my said wife Anne Bettris, whom I make sole executrix of this
 my last Will and Testament. In witness whereof I, the said Edward Bettris,
 have hereunto put my hand & seale the nine and twentieth day of Aprill in the
 six and thirtieth year of the reigne of our Sovereigne Lord Charles the Second
 [40] by the grace of God of England, Scotland, France & Ireland, King, Defender
 of the Faith &c. Annoque D[omi]ni one thousand six hundred eighty foure. Edward
 Bettris Signed, Sealed, published and declared by the abovenamed Edward
 Bettris, the words (the use of) being first entlerlined to bee his last Will & testam[en]t

In the p[re]sence of Grisill Brookes, Richard Brookes, Jo[natha]n Brooks.

- [45] Probatum fuit hu[ius]mo[d]i test[ament]um Londini Coram ven[erabi]li viro D[omin]o Ricardo Lloyd Milite, legum D[oc]tore Surr[ogat]o ven[erabi]lis et egregii viri D[omi]ni Leolini Jenkins, Militis legum etiam D[oc]toris Curiae Praerogativae Cantaurensis Mag[ist]ri custodis sive Commissarii l[egi]time constituti, Duodecimo die mensis Februarii, Anno Domini (Stilo Angliae) Millesimo Sextentesimo Octog[esi]mo Quarto, Juramento Annae Bettrice, Relictae d[ic]ti def[unc]ti et Executricis in d[ic]to
- [50] test[ament]o no[m]i[n]at[ae] Cui Commissa fuit Administratio omnium et singulorum bonoru[m] iurium et cred[itorum] d[ic]ti def[unc]ti. De bene et fidel[ite]r Administrando eadem ad S[an]cta Dei Evangelia Jurat[a].

[Translation]

- This will was proved in London before the venerable Lord Richard Lloyd, Knight, Doctor of Laws, Surrogate of the venerable and noble Lord Leoline
- [55] Jenkins, Knight, also Doctor of Laws, legitimately appointed Master, Custodian or Commissioner of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, on the twelfth day of the month of February, in the Year of the Lord (English Style) One thousand six hundred eighty four, on the oath of Anne Bettrice, Relict of the said deceased, and Executrix nominated in the said will, To whom was committed the Administration of all and every the goods,
- [60] rights and credits of the said deceased. She swore to the good and faithful Administration of the same on the Holy Gospels of God.

APPENDIX 8: INVENTORY OF THE GOODS OF EDWARD BETTRIS (10 APRIL 1685; PUBLISHED 11 MAY 1686)

[Text]

A True and perfect Inventory of all and Singular the Goods of Edward Bettris late of Oxford, Chyrurgeon, deceased, taken on the Tenth day of April Anno D[omi]ni 1685 by Thomas Tredwell And Benjamin Williams¹⁰⁴ of Oxford aforesaid, Apholsters

- [5] In the three Cocklofts
Imprimis: Glasses, Gallipotts and Lumber
Item: Lumber and Worme
- In the Red Chamber
Item: Eight Chaires, Table and Fireboard
- [10] Item: Bedstead, Curtains and Beding
Item: Six Leather Chaires and Joyntstoole
- In the Green Chamber¹⁰⁵
Item: Bedstead, Curtains and Beding
Item: Two hanging presses, One Trunck, One Chest of Drawers
- [15] Item: Bookes
Item: Steele Instruments
Item: Three Cases of Silver Instruments
Item: Two Silver Tankards, Two Silver Bowles, Two Little Silver Cupps, Two Silver Salves, Two Silver Spooones, Two Little
- [20] Boxes and a Silver Watch
Item: Money and Gold
Item: Fire Things and an Old Skeine
Item: Fowerteen paires of sheets five Dozen of napkins
Dozens of pillow cases and other Linnens in ye same Roome

¹⁰⁴ It is probable that Benjamin Williams was the son of Thomas Williams, a mercer, who was mayor of Oxford in 1653–4 and had strong connections in the city. There are some early records which assert that Thomas Williams had a son who became a Quaker: see Kreitzer, ‘Seditious Sectaryes,’ p. 277.

¹⁰⁵ This was probably the room Richard Bettris occupied when he lived with his daughter Anne Olliffe.

- [25] In the Blew Room¹⁰⁶
 Item: Boxes, Glasses and Gallyepotts
 Item: Druggs
 Item Hangings and Fowerteen Caine Chaires
 Item: Two Tables and a Stand
- [30] Item: Fire Things and a Looking Glasse
- In the Sad Coloured Roome
 Item: a Bedstead Curtains and Beding
 Item: a Chest of Drawers and Child bed Linnen
 Item: Tenn Chaires and Two Joynt Stooles & One Sideboard
- [35] Item: Hangings and Fire hings and Looking Glasse
 Item: the Wearing Apparell of ye said Deceased
- In the Kitchen
 Item: Pewter of all Sorts
 Item: Brasse and Tinn
- [40] Item: One Jack and Spitts and Fire Things
 Item: Fower Chaires and a Screene
- In the Chyrurgery
 Item: One Presse Glasses and Galley Potts
 Item: Scales, Waites and Mortars
- [45] Item: Two Limbecks and a Still
 Item: A Bason and Bleeding Dishes
 Item: Lumber
- In the Seller
 Item: A Furnace One Kettle and a Brasse pann
 Item: Fower Washing Tubbs and a Scrue Presse
 Item: Lumber and Bottles
 Item: Wood in the Backside and a Presse
- Debts due to ye Deceased
- The whole Sum
- [55] Ex[hibi]tu[m] fuit huiusmodi Inven[tarium] undecimo die mensis Maii Anno [torn edge]
 Octog[es]imo sexto per Magistrum Edwardum Shaw Not[ar]iu[m] pub[licu]m
 p[ro]cu[ratorem] [torn edge]
 pro vero pleno vel p[er]fecto In[ven]t[ar]io et sub protestatione tamen addend[o] &c [torn
 edge]
- [*Translation*]
 This Inventory was published on the eleventh day of the month of May in the year [torn edge]
 Eighty six before the Magistrate Edward Shaw, Notary Public, administrator [torn edge]
- [60] to be true, complete and perfect Inventory and subject to a declaration of an addition &c [torn
 edge]

APPENDIX 9: INDENTURE BETWEEN ANN BETTRIS, AND JOHN BISHOP
 AND FRANCIS HOLLOWAY (1 MAY 1690)

This Indenture made the First day of May in the Second year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord
 and Lady William
 & Mary by the Grace of God of England, Scotland, France & Ireland, King and Queen, Defenders
 of the Faith &c, Anno[ue] D[o]m[ini] 1690, Between Anne Bettris of
 Oxford, Widlow, on thone p[ar]t, And John Bishop of Oxford, Alebrewer, & Francis Holloway of

¹⁰⁶ This was probably the room used for Quaker meetings in the house.

- Oxford, Mercer, on thother p[ar]t, Whereas Edward Bettris, late of Oxford Chirurgeon, by his Indentures & Lease & Release well & duely executed bearing date the Eight & Twentieth & Nine & Twentieth days of Aprill in the year of our Lord
- [5] One Thousand Six Hundred Eighty & Four, made between the said Edward Bettris on thone p[ar]t And Henry Adams of Harwell in the County of Berks[hire], Yeoman, & John Adams of Kingstone Lisley in the County of Berks[hire], Yeoman, on thother p[ar]t, for the considerations therein ment[i]oned, did grant & convey unto the said Henry Adams & John Adams & to theyr Heysr & Assignes for ever All that New erected Messuage or Tenem[en]t w[i]th the Garden ground & appurtenances herein after ment[i]oned To the use of the said Edward Bettris for the tems of his naturall Life & after his decease to the use of the said Anne Bettris for her naturall Life, And after the decease of the said Edward Bettris & Anne Bettris & of the survivor of them, to the use of the Heysr of the Body of the said Anne Bettris by him, the said Edward Bettris
- [10] begotten, And for want of such Issue, To the use of the right Heysr of the survivor of them, the said Edward Bettris & Anne Bettris for ever, And whereas the Barring & Destroying of all estates in Sayle herefore made or settled of all of any p[ar]t of the Messuage or Tenem[en]t & Garden with thappurtenances herein after ment[i]oned And for settling & Assuring of the same Messuage of Tenem[en]t & Garden w[i]th thappurtenances unto & upon her, the said Anne Bettris & her Heysr for ever & for diverse other good causes & considerat[i]ons, It is Coven[an]ted, granted & agreed by & between all the said p[ar]ties to these p[re]sent, And the said Anne Bettris for her self, her Executors, & Admin[ist]rators & Assignes doth Coven[an]t, grant & agree to & with the said John Bishop & Francis Holloway theyr Heysr & Assignes by these p[re]sents in manner & form following:
- [15] that is to say, that the said Anne Bettris shall & will before thend of Trinity Term next ensuing the date hereof in Due form of law acknowledge & Levie before the King & Queens Ma[jes]ties Justices of theyr Ma[jes]ties Court of Com[m]on pleas at Quest[i]oner one fine *sur cognizance de droit* come too & c w[i]th p[ro]clamations thereupon to be had & pursued according to the form of the statute in that case made & p[ro]vided to the said John Bishopp & Francis Holloway & the Heysr of the said John Bishopp, Of all That New erected Messuage or Tenem[en]t w[i]th the Garden ground & all other thappurtenances the said Messuage or Tenem[en]t belonging or in any wise appurteyning, scituate & being in the p[ar]ish of St Peter in the Bayley in the City of Oxford between a Tenem[en]t of the Warden & Schollars of St Mary Winton in Oxford on the North side and the Church of St Peter in the Bayley on the South Side
- [20] & abutting on a Lane Leading unto New Inne Hall on theast side & on the Garden ground heretofore in the tenure of Thomas Huntfield on the west side. And the revert[i]on & revert[i]ons, remaynder & remaynders of the p[re]misses & of every p[ar]t thereof, And also all the state, right, title, interest, p[ro]perty claym & demand wh[a]tsoever of the said Anne Bettris of, in, or to the same, or any p[ar]t thereof, By the name of one Messuage w[i]th thappurtenance or such other name or names as shalbe thought fitting. And It is also hereby declared & agreed by & between the said p[ar]ties to these p[re]sents That the said fine so or in any other manner to be had or levied of the p[re]misses & all other fines, conveyances or Assurances in the Law wh[a]tsoever already had, made or levied, or hereafter to be had, made or levied, by or between the said p[ar]ties to these p[re]sents or any of them or whereunto they of any of them
- [25] is, are have bin or shalbe either p[ar]tie or privie shalbe & enure, And by all the said p[ar]ties to these p[re]sents are hereby declared to be & enure As for & concerning the p[re]misses aforesaid To & for thonly use & behoof of the said Anne Bettris & of her Heysr & Assignes for ever, And to & for noe other use, intent or purpose w[ha]tsoever. In Witness whereof the said p[ar]ties to these p[re]sent Indentures have hereunto putt theyr hands & Seales the day & year first above written.

Ann Bettris [signature]

Francis Holloway [signature]

APPENDIX 10: DECREE ISSUED BY THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS,
WESTMINSTER, IN THE NAME OF ANN BETTRIS (1 MAY 1690)

[Text]

- hec est finalis concordia fact[a] in Curi[a] D[omi]ni Regis & D[omi]nae Reginae Apud Westm[onistarium] A die Pasche in unu[m] mensem Anno regnor[um] Gulielmi & Marie Deo gra[tia] Angli[ae],
 Scotie, Franc[iae] & Hib[er]niae Regis & Reginae Fidei defensor[um] et a conques[to] s[e]c[un]do coram Henr[ico] Pollexfen, Joh[ann]e Powell, Thoma Rokeby, & Peyton[e] Ventris Justic[iariis] & Aliis D[omi]n[i] Regis & D[omi]nae Reginae fidelibus tunc ibi p[re]sentibus Int[er] Joh[ann]em Bishopp & Franciscum Holloway quer[entes] et Annam Bettris viduam, deforc[iantem] de uno mesuagio cum p[er]t[i]n[enci]is in parochia Sancti Petris in Ballivo in Civitate Oxon unde P[re]laticu[m] convent[i]o[n]is summ[onitum] fuit int[er] eos in eadem
- [5] Curi[a] Scil[icet] q[uo]d p[re]d[ic]ta Anna recogn[ovit] p[re]d[ic]tu[m] mesuagiu[m] cum p[er]t[in]encijs esse ius ip[s]ius Joh[ann]is ut ill[ud] quod iidem Joh[ann]es & Franciscus h[ab]ue[r]unt de dono p[re]d[ic]te Anne et ill[ud] remisit & quiet[um] clam[avit] de se & hered[ibus] suis p[re]d[ic]tis Joh[ann]i & Francisco & hered[ibus] ip[s]ius Joh[ann]is imp[er]p[et]u[um] et p[re]t[er]ea eadem Anna concessit p[ro] se & hered[ibus] suis q[uo]d ips[a] War[r]ant[izabit] p[re]d[ic]tis Joh[ann]i & Francisco & hered[ibus] ip[s]ius Joh[ann]is p[re]d[ic]tu[m] mesuagiu[m] cum p[er]t[in]encijs cont[ra] p[re]d[ic]tam Annam & hered[es] suos imp[er]p[et]u[um] et p[ro] hac recogn[icione] remissione quiet[um] clam[atione] War[r]antia fine & concordia iidem Joh[ann]es & Franciscus deder[unt] p[re]d[ic]te Anne centum libr[as] sterlingor[um]

[Translation]

- [10] This is the final agreement made in the Court of the Lord King and Lady Queen held at Westminster on the court day within one month of Easter in the second year after the conquest of the reigns of Lord and Lady William and Mary, by the grace of God King and Queen of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, defenders of the faith, before Henry Pollexfen,¹⁰⁷ John Powell,¹⁰⁸ Thomas Rokeby,¹⁰⁹ & Peyton Ventris,¹¹⁰ Justices, & Other faithful subjects of the Lord King and the Lady Queen then there present; Between John Bishopp & Francis Holloway, plaintiffs, and Anna Bettris, widow, deforciant, concerning one dwelling with appurtenances in the parish of St Peter in the Bailey in the City of Oxford, concerning which a plea of covenant had been summoned between them in the same court, Namely that the aforesaid Anne acknowledged the aforesaid dwelling with appurtenances to be the right of the same John, as being that which the same John and Francis had of the gift of the aforesaid
- [15] Anne and that she has remised and quitclaimed it for herself and her heirs in favour of the aforesaid John and Francis and the heirs of the same John forever; and furthermore the same Anne granted on behalf of herself and her heirs that she will warrant to the aforesaid John and Francis and to the heirs of the same John the aforesaid dwelling with appurtenances against the aforesaid Anne and her heirs forever, and for this acknowledgement, remise, quitclaim, warrant, fine & agreement the same John and Francis gave to the aforesaid Anne one hundred pounds sterling.

¹⁰⁷ Henry Pollexfen (1632–91) was appointed Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas on 16 March 1689.

¹⁰⁸ John Powell (1632/3–96) was appointed a justice of the Court of Common Pleas on 18 March 1689.

¹⁰⁹ Thomas Rokeby (1631–99) was appointed a justice of the Court of Common Pleas on 8 May 1689. He was knighted later in the year.

¹¹⁰ Peyton Ventris (1645–91) was appointed a justice of the Court of Common Pleas on 4 May 1689. He was knighted on 31 Oct. 1689. Ventris is perhaps best known for his 2-vol. work, *The Reports of Sir Peyton Ventris, Knight* (London, 1696), an important source for legal proceedings during the Restoration period.

APPENDIX 11: ANNE BETTRIS'S LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT (3 JUNE 1693),
WITH CODICILS (7 JUNE 1694 AND 7 SEPTEMBER 1694) AND SUPPLEMENTARY
CODICILS (12 OCTOBER 1694 AND 15 MAY 1705)

- In the name of God, amen. I, Anne Bettris of Oxford, Widow, the relict of Edward Bettris, Chirurgion, deceased, being at present weak in body but of good and perfect memory and understanding,
- blessed be his name therefore, Do make and Ordain this my last will and Testam[en]t in man[n]er following recom[m]ending my Soul into the mercifull hands of Almighty God and hoping for Salvation through the only meritts of my Saviour, And desiring to be decently buried according to direction of my Executors hereafter named, And as for that worldly Estate it hath pleased God to bless me with, I dispose thereof as follows (Vizt) Whereas by Indentures of Lease and release bearing date the day before and the day of
- the date of this my Will for the considerat[i]on therein ment[i]oned, I have conveyed and assured unto Doctor Thomas Bayly,¹¹¹ Principal of New Inn Hall, Richard Taylor,¹¹² Bachelor of Divinity, Fellow of Corpus Christi College in the University of Oxford, and William
- [5] Howell¹¹³ of Ewelme in the County of Oxon, Clerke, their Heires and Assignes for ever, All that new erected messuage or Tenem[en]t w[i]th the Garden ground and all other appurtenances to the said messuage or Tenem[en]t belonging or in any wise appurteining, scituate and being in the parish of St Peter in the Bayly in the City of Oxford bounded as in the said Indentures is expressed To the use of myselfe for and dureing the terme of my natural life without impeachm[en]t of weist. And from and after my decease
- to the use of my daughter Anna Bettris and of the Heires of her body lawfully to be begotten and for want of such Issue to such uses as my said daughter shall limitt or appoint by her will or any deed or writing only to be executed by her in the p[re]sence
- of three or more Credible Witnesses, And for want of such Limitat[i]on or appointm[en]t to several other uses in the said Indenture of Release p[ar]ticularly ment[i]oned as by the same may at large appear. Now I, the said Anne Bettris, do by this my
- Will Ratifie and confirme the said deed and the uses therein ment[i]oned. And whereas I did lately pay unto their Ma[jes]ties Exchequer the sume of One hundred pounds upon the order of
- [10] a late Act of Parliam[en]t made in the fourth yeare of their Ma[jes]ties reigne for granting certaine rates and duties of Excise to their Ma[jes]ties upon Beare, Ale, &c for secureing certain Advantages to such persons as should advance One hundred Thousand pounds towards carrying on the Warr ag[ain]st
- France, for which I am to receive Fourteen Pounds p[er] ann[um] dureing the life of my said daughter Anna Bettris, I do hereby give and bequeath All my interest and Estate therein to my said daughter Anna Bettris. Item: I give to my
- Neighbor Hannah Yates, Widow, Twenty shillings to buy her a Ring. Item: I constitute and appoint Thomas Hinton,¹¹⁴ Master of Arts of New Inn Hall aforesaid, and the said Mr William Howell of Ewelme, Joint Executors of this my
- Will in trust and for the use and benefitt and dureing the Minority of my said daughter Anna Bettris. And I do nominate and appoint the said Dr Thomas Bayly and Mr Richard Taylor Overseers of this my Will. And I do hereby
- Impower and Authorize them in the moneth of May next after my decease and in every succeeding Moneth of May yearly dureing the Minority of my said daughter Anna to take an Accompt from my said Executors of
- [15] all their receipts and disburse[en]ts and of my Estate which shall come to their hands as Executors, And of what shalbe due to my Estate at the time of such accompt made. And my will is that my said Overseers yearly signing and approving of their accompts shalbe a discharge to my said Executors. And my Will and meaning

¹¹¹ Thomas Bayly (1656–1714), student of Christ Church, took his B.A. in 1670, his M.A. from New Inn Hall in 1673, and was principal of New Inn Hall, 1684–1709.

¹¹² Richard Thomas, student of Corpus Christi College, B.A. (1674), M.A. (1678), B.D. (1687), became rector of Tunworth, Hants., in 1699.

¹¹³ William Howell (1656–1714), student of New Inn Hall, B.A. (1674), M.A. (1676), became a schoolmaster and curate of Ewelme.

¹¹⁴ Thomas Hinton, student of New Inn Hall, B.A. (1678), M.A. (1681).

- is, and I do hereby declare, that if both or either of my said Executors with the consent of both or either of my said Overseers shall have power from time to time at their discretions to call in any moneys lent out by me at Interest and secured either by mortgages or otherwise. And the like power to place out the same or any other of my moneys againe at Interest according to the best of their discretions. And my Will and meaning is that in case any moneys already placed out by me or to be placed out by my said Executors and Overseers as aforesaid shall become desperate or in danger to be lost, Ten my said Executors using their best endeavours for the recovery thereof shall be discharged and indemnified of and from such losses and casualties as aforesaid. Item: I give to my said Executors and
- [20] Overseers Twenty shillings a piece to buy them Rings. And my further Will and meaning is that when my said daughter shall come to her age of One and Twenty yeares or be married, which shall first happen, my said Executors making a true Accompt upon Oath in Writeing before a Master Extraordinary in Chancery or before a Magistrate of all their receipts and disbursements during their said Executorships, and paying to my said daughter or her husband that shall appeare to be justly due upon such Accompt, And then likewise delivering all Writeings, Goods and effects of mine which shall be in their hands or Custody, my said daughter or her said husband shall discharge the said Thomas Hinton and William Howell of and from all Actions, debts and Accompts relateing to their said Executorship. And in case it shall please God that my said daughter Anna Bettris shall die sole and unmarried and under the age of One and Twenty yeares, Then I give and devise the sume of Two Hundred pounds to buy Lands or houses the clear yearly rents and profitts of which
- [25] Lands or houses so to be purchased my express Will and meaning is shall be for ever paid to a Divine of the Church of England who shall be resident and a member of New Inn Hall aforesaid and from time to time nominated by the Principal of that Hall for the time being who shall yearly preach a sermon in the Church of St Peter in the Bayley aforesaid on the day on which I shall happen to die. And shall also read the Com[m]on Prayers according to the Liturgy in the same every Sunday, Wednesday, Friday and Holyday throughout the yeare; and in case that the person so to be nominated by the said Principal shall not be accepted of by the Bishopp of the Diocese or approved of by him, then I give the sume either to the binding out of Apprentices or to such other Charitie as the Vice Chancellor of the Univ[er]sity of Oxford and the Principal of New Inn Hall aforesaid for the time being shall think most fitting. And in case my said daughter Anne shall die under the age of One and Twenty yeares and unmarried as aforesaid, then and in such case I give to the said
- [30] Doctor Thomas Bayley, Mr Richard Taylor, Mr William Howell and Hannah Yates, Widow, Twenty pounds a piece. And to my maid servant Anne Hanes, Five pounds. And in case my said daughter die unmarried and under age as aforesaid I do hereby give power to my Executors to pay any sume not exceeding Forty pounds to such person or persons as my said daughter shall by any writeing under her hand give the same. And all the rest and residue of any personall Estate I give in such case to the said Mr Thomas Hinton, one of my Executors, the paying and dischargeing the funerall of my said daughter. In witness whereof to each sheet of this my Will being written on two sheetes of Paper I have sett my hand and seale this third day of June in the yeare of our Lord One Thousand Six Hundred Ninety and Three, Ann Bettris. Signed, sealed, published and declared by the said Anne Bettris, Widow, in the presence of us Thomas Ledwell, Richard Crogley, Stephen Kibbwhite. Memorandum: I, the before named Anne Bettris, Widow,
- [35] the Testatrix in the Will to which this Codicill is annexed, for divers good causes and considerat[i]ons me hereunto moveing, have revoaked, annulled and made voyd, and do hereby do absolutely annull and make voyd, All and every the Legacies and bequests by me given by this my Will to Hannah Yates, Widow. And I do hereby discharge my Executors from the paym[en]t of the same. Witness my hand and seale the seaventh day of June An[n]o D[omi]ni 1694. And I do declare that this Codicill shalbe accepted and taken as part of my Will. Ann Bettris

Signed, sealed, and published in the p[re]sence of us. Sarah Herbert Lucy Nicholes
 A further Codicill to be annexed unto and taken as part of the last Will and Testament of Ann
 Bettris of Oxford, Widow, Whereas by my said Will and Testament I have given unto Mr Thomas Hinton
 therein named All my personall Estate which shall remaine after my debts, legacies and funerall
 expenses shall be payd in case Anna Bettris my daughter shall die unmarried and under the age
 of One and Twenty

- [40] yeares. Now my Will and meaning is and I do hereby give and bequeath unto Mr William
 Howell within named the sume of Fifty pounds in case my daughter shall dye unmarried and before she
 shall attaine the age of One and Twenty yeares. And I do in such case appoynt the said Thomas
 Hinton to pay the same accordingly. Item: I do direct and appoynt my Executors in my said Will named
 to allow unto my said daughter untill she shall marry or attaine the age of One and Twenty yeares
 so much money yearly our of the interest of my personall Estate as together w[i]th the cleer rent of
 the house wherein I now dwell shall amount unto the cleer yearly sume of Thirty pounds for her
 maintenance. Item: I do direct my said Executors to putt into the Custody of my said daughter all my Books,
 and manuscripts and also to lett my daughter have such of my goods and household stuff as shall
 be fit for her use. And I do appoint my said Executors sell all my Plate and the rest of my household goods
 [45] (Except my lin[n]en) and to putt out to Interest the moneys for which the same shall be sold in
 such man[n]er and for such purposes as in my said Will is directed concerning the rest of my
 personall Estate. In witness
 whereof I have hereunto sett my hand and seale this seaventh day of September in the yeare of our
 Lord One thousand six hundred Ninety and four. Ann Bettris Signed, sealed and published in
 the p[re]sence of Will[iam] Wright, Steph[en] Bishop, Lucy Nicholes.

[Codicil of 12 October 1694 – Text]

- Tenore presentium Nos Jacobus Dux Marchio & Comes de Ormond¹¹⁵ &c
 necnon Univ[er]sitat[is] Oxon Cancellarius notum facimus univ[er]sis Quod
 duodecimo die mensis Octobris An[n]o D[omi]ni Millesimo
 Sexte[n]t[is]imo nonogesimo quarto apud Oxon Coram ven[erabi]li viro Henrico Aldrich¹¹⁶
 S[acrosanctae] T[heologiae] P[ro]fessore d[ic]tae Universitatis Oxon Vice Cancellar[i]o
 [50] p[ro]bat[um] approbat[um] et insinuat[um] fuit et est Te[stame]ntum sive ult[ima] vol[un]tas
 cum Codicillis annex[is] Annae Bettris vid[uae] Edwardi Bettris nup[er] de
 Univ[er]sitat[is] Oxon p[re]dicta Chyrurg[i] def[unct]i p[re]sentib[us] annex[is]
 Com[m]isa fuit et est Admi[n]istra[t]io o[mn]ium et singulor[um] bonor[um]
 jur[um] sive Creditor[um] et
 Cattalor[um] d[ic]tae def[unct]ae et ejus Te[stame]ntum p[re]d[ic]tum
 qual[ite]rcumq[ue] concernent[um] Thomae Hinton & Gul[ielmo] Howell Artiu[m] resp[ectiv]e
 Mag[ist]ris et
 conjunctim Ex[ecu]toribus fiduciariis in d[ic]to Te[stame]nto d[ic]tae def[unct]ae
 nominat[is] Primitus de veritate dict[i] Te[stame]nti sive ult[imae] vol[un]tatis cum Codicillis
 annex[is] necnon Te[stame]ntu[m] cum Codicillis p[re]dict[is] bene et fideliter
 p[er]implendo ac de solvendo debita dict[ae] defunct[ae] et Legata in hu[ius]mo[d]i Te[stame]nto
 [55] cum Codicillis p[re]dict[o] donat[a] juxta veru[m] valore[m] bonor[um] p[re]dict[orum] ac
 Iuris in hac p[ar]te exigentia[m] deque vero et p[er]fecto Inv[entar]io o[mn]iu[m] et
 singulor[um] bonor[um]
 iur[um] sive Creditor[um] et Cattalor[um] dict[ae] defunct[ae] per ipsos exhibend[o] Necnon
 de justo pleno ac plano Comp[ut]o Calculo sive Rac[i]o[c]inio de ac sup[er] Admin[istra]t[i]on[e]
 vestra in Bonis p[re]d[ic]tis Cum ad id congrue fuer[int] requisit[i] p[er] ipsos reddend[o]
 Ad S[an]cta Dei Evangelia in debita iuris forma rite Jurat[is]
 (salvo Jure cujuscumq[ue]) Dat[um] sub sigillo Officii n[ost]ri p[re]dicti die mensis An[n]o
 D[omi]ni et loco supra expressis.

Jos[eph] Woodward Reg[istra]rius

[Codicil of 12 October 1694 – Translation]

- By means of these presents, we, James, Duke, Marquis and Earl of Ormond &c,
 [60] and also Chancellor of the University of Oxford, make known to all, That on the
 twelfth day of the month of October, in the Year of the Lord One Thousand

¹¹⁵ James Butler, second Duke of Ormond (1665–1745), Chancellor of the University of Oxford, 1688–1715.

¹¹⁶ Henry Aldrich (1648–1710), Dean of Christ Church, Vice-Chancellor of the University, 1692–5.

- Six hundred and ninety-four, at Oxford in the presence of the venerable Henry Aldrich Professor of Sacred Theology, Vice-Chancellor of the said University of Oxford, There was examined, approved and scrutinized the Testament or last will, together with appended Codicils of Anne Bettris, widow of Edward Bettris, he formerly of the aforesaid University of Oxford, surgeon, deceased. By these appended presents was and is Committed the Administration of all and every goods, rights or Credits, and Chattels of the said deceased woman, insofar as these relate to her aforesaid Testament, to Thomas Hinton & William Howell, both Masters of Arts
- [65] and jointly named Executors in trust in the said Testament of the said deceased woman, They first having taken an oath concerning the veracity of the said Testament or last will with appended codicils, and the good and faithful carrying out of the Testament with aforesaid Codicils, that they would pay the debts of the said deceased woman and Legacies granted in this Testament with aforesaid Codicils, according to the true value of the aforesaid goods and the requirements of law in this matter, and that they themselves would exhibit a true and perfect Inventory of all and singular goods, rights or credits, and chattels of the said deceased woman, also that they themselves would render a correct, full and clear computation, calculation or reckoning all about your Administration of the aforesaid goods, when it is fitting that they are required so to do. [They swore] on the Holy Gospels of God in the prescribed legal format and procedure
- [70] (preserving the right of whomsoever). Given under the seal of our aforesaid Office on the day of the month, in the Year of the Lord, and in the place stated above.

[Codicil of 15 May 1705 – Text]

- Tenore presentium Nos Jacobus Dux Marchio & Comes de Ormond &c necnon Univ[er]sitis Oxon Cancellarius notum facimus universis quod decimo quinto die mensis Maii An[n]o D[omi]ni Mill[es]imo Septing[entes]imo quinto apud Oxon coram ven[erabili] viro Guil[ielmo] Delaune¹¹⁷ S[acrosanctae] T[heologiae] P[ro]fessore et Universitat[is] Oxon Vicecancellario probat[um] approbat[um] et insinuat[um] fuit et est Testamentum sive
- [75] ult[im]a voluntas Annae Bettris, vid[ua] Edw[ardi] Bettris nup[er] de Universitate Oxon p[re]dict[a] Chirurgi, def[unct]i, p[re]sentib[us] annex[is] com[m]isq[ue] fuit et est Administratio omnium et singulorum bonorum jurium Catal[orum] et Creditor[um] dict[ae] defunct[ae] et ejus Testamentum p[re]dict[um] qualitercumq[ue] concernent[um] Annae Bettris filiae et Executricis in hu[ius]mo[d]i Te[stame]nto Primitus de veritate dicti Testamenti idemq[ue] et fideliter perimplendo ac de solvendo debita dict[ae] defunct[ae] et Legata in eodem Testamento donat[a] juxta verum valorem bonor[um] jurium et
- [80] Creditor[um] p[re]dict[orum] ac Iuris in hac parte exigentiam deq[ue] vero et perfecto Inventario omnium et singuloru[m] bonor[um] iuriu[m] Catal[orum] et Creditor[um] dict[ae] defunct[ae] per ipsam exhibend[o] Necnon de justo pleno ac plano computo calculo sive ratiocinio de ac super Administratione sua in bonis p[re]dict[is] cum ad id congrue fuerit requisit[a] p[er] ipsam reddend[o] Ad Sancta Dei Evangelia in debita juris forma rite Jurat[ae] Salvo Jure cujuscumq[ue] Dat[um] sub sigillo Officii nostri praedict[i] die Mensis Anno D[omi]ni et Loco supra expressis.
- [85] Jos[eph] Woodward Reg[istra]rius

[Codicil of 15 May 1705 – Translation]

- By means of these presents, we, James, Duke, Marquis and Earl of Ormond &c, and also Chancellor of the University of Oxford, make known to all, That on the fifteenth day of the month of May, in the Year of the Lord One Thousand Seven hundred and five, at Oxford in the presence of the venerable William Delaune, Professor of Sacred Theology, and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford, There was examined, approved and scrutinized the Testament or
- [90] last will of Anne Bettris, widow of Edward Bettris, he formerly of the aforesaid University of

¹¹⁷ William Delaune (1659–1728), President of St John’s College, Oxford, 1697–1728, Vice-Chancellor, 1702–5.

Oxford, surgeon, deceased. By these appended presents was and is Committed the Administration of all and every goods, rights, Chattels and Credits, of the said deceased woman, insofar as these relate to her aforesaid Testament, to Anna Bettris daughter and Executrix of this Testament, She first having taken an oath concerning the veracity of the said Testament, and the good and faithful carrying out of the same, that she would pay the debts of the said deceased woman and Legacies granted in the same Testament, according to the true value of the aforesaid goods, rights and

[95] Credits and the requirements of law in this matter, and that she herself would exhibit a true and perfect Inventory of all and singular goods, rights, Chattels and Credits of the said deceased woman, also that she herself would render a correct, full and clear computation, calculation or reckoning all about her Administration of the aforesaid goods, when it is fitting that she is required so to do.

[She swore] on the Holy Gospels of God in the prescribed legal format and procedure (preserving the right of whomsoever).

Given under the seal of our aforesaid Office on the day of the Month, in the Year of the Lord, and in the Place stated above.

[100]

Joseph Woodward Registrar

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Plate 10. The Bettris House at 1 New Inn Hall Street, Oxford. (Photograph by author, 2003.) [Kreitzer, p. 59.]

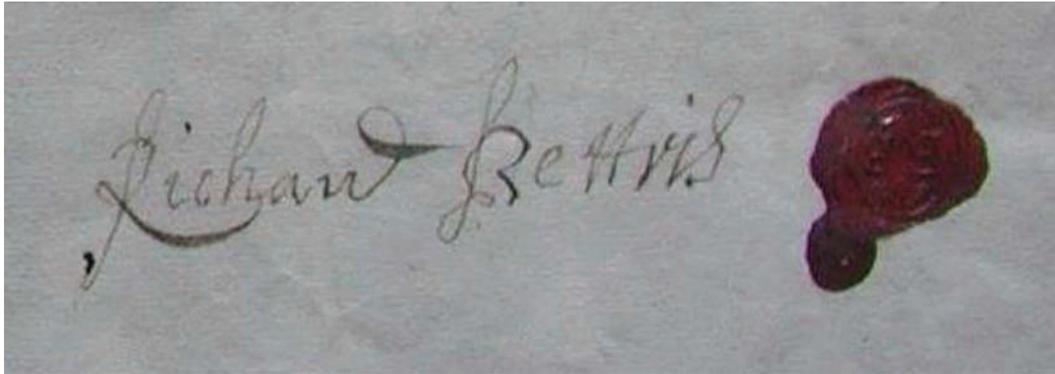


Plate 11. The Signature and Seal of Richard Bettris, from an agreement of February 1665. (*Photograph by author.*)
[Kreitzer, p. 65.]



Plate 12. Upper floor of the Bettris house, with original oak timber and beams. (*Photograph by author, 2003.*)
[Kreitzer, p. 75.]