

Queen Mary abhorred priests who had married during the reign of Edward and they lost their benefices, but what happened to John Grenewood? Perhaps he continued teaching children and may have set up a school in Orford. He also farmed in a small way. There is no doubt he married Jone Garson soon after 1550 and they had two sons who must have been below the age of six years when he died and not due to inherit for at least a dozen years.

The first probate is written below the wrongly dated will and referred to two testaments implying both versions, albeit virtually identical, were submitted to the Norwich Consistory Court. Probate was granted by Master Michael Dunnyng on 27th April 1557 to the executors named in the will, and power was granted to Master Thomas Pinder, clerk, to perform the wishes of the deceased. However, the second probate dated 12th October 1557 in Ipswich says that the executors renounced the task of carrying out the terms of the will and directed Humphrey Moning of Freston, a close kinsman of the deceased, to take on the responsibility. Were they nervous of being involved in a married priest's will during Mary's reign? More likely, they considered a relative of the last chantry priest to be in a better position to carry out his wishes, especially because they could not be implemented until the boys reached the age of eighteen.

John Grenewood's wills, NCC ref. 323 Jagges and 176 Hustinges, held in Norwich.

Other wills all held at Ipswich Record Office (now 'The Hold') - Alice Bache 1531 ref. IC/AA2/11/34, Walter Garson 1550 ref. IC/AA1/14/43 and Richard Ingram 1552 ref. IC/AA1/14/302

With thanks to Val Dudley for translating the probate certificates from the Latin.

Below: The first page of John Grenewood's will (Norfolk Record Office)

