



Glossary

- ❖ **Administratrix:** A woman assigned by the court to administer an estate where there is no valid will
- ❖ **Bondmaid:** A female slave or indentured servant
- ❖ **Concubine:** A woman who lives with a man to whom she is not married
- ❖ **Consort:** Companion; term for when the woman predeceased her husband
- ❖ **Daughtered out:** Lineage that has no male heirs to carry on the surname
- ❖ **Dowager:** A widow with a title or rank (the queen dowager) or property from her husband
- ❖ **Dower:** A legal provision for a woman's support and that of her children after her husband's death; typically one-third of the husband's property; also known as "widow's thirds"
- ❖ **Dowry:** Property the bride brings to her marriage
- ❖ **Et ux:** And wife
- ❖ **Executrix:** The woman named in a will to distribute the estate
- ❖ **Goodwife:** the wife or household mistress
- ❖ **Goody:** A woman or housewife, especially an older woman
- ❖ **Grass widow:** A woman whose husband had deserted her; also used to refer to a woman who has illegitimate children or to a discarded common-law wife
- ❖ **Lying in:** Colonial term referring to childbirth
- ❖ **Now wife:** In a will, refers to the current wife (implying there was a previous wife)
- ❖ **Relict:** Widow
- ❖ **Spinster:** An unmarried woman regarded as beyond the age of marriage
- ❖ **Testatrix:** A woman who leaves a valid will
- ❖ **Uxor:** Wife