

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 3 July 1494 and proved 8 November 1498, of John Scrope (1437/8-1498), 5th Baron Scrope of Bolton, paternal uncle of Elizabeth (nee Scrope) Beaumont de Vere (d.1537), Countess of Oxford, second wife of John de Vere (1442-1513), 13th Earl of Oxford. The testator names the 13th Earl as one of the supervisors of his will.

The testator was the eldest son and heir of Henry Scrope (1418-1458/9), 4th Baron Scrope of Bolton, and his wife, Elizabeth Scrope (d. 10 May 1504), the daughter of John Scrope (b. c. 1388, d. 15 November 1455), 4th Baron Scrope of Masham, Lord Treasurer of England, and his wife, Elizabeth Chaworth (d.1466?). Through his grandparents, Richard Scrope (d. 29 August 1420), 3rd Lord Scrope of Bolton, and Margaret Neville (d.1463/4), daughter of Ralph Neville, 1st Earl of Westmorland, and Margaret Stafford (d. 9 June 1396), the testator was descended from Geoffrey Plantagenet (1113–1151), King Henry II (1133–1189) and King Edward I (1239–1307) of England. See Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 2004), pp. 254-5, 538-1, 645, 670-3; the entry for Scrope of Masham in *The Complete Peerage*, p. 564-6; and the entries for Henry Scrope (c.1376-1415), 3rd Baron Scrope of Masham, and the testator, John Scrope (1437/8-1498), 5th Baron Scrope of Bolton, in the online edition of *The Dictionary of National Biography*. For the Scrope pedigree, see Norcliffe, Charles Best, ed., *The Visitation of Yorkshire in the Years 1563 and 1563* by William Flower, Vol. 16, (London: Harleian Society, 1881), p. 280, available online.

From the online edition of *The Dictionary of National Biography*:

Scrope married three times. His first wife, whom he married after 22 November 1447, was Joan, daughter of William, fourth Lord Fitzhugh (d. 1452), and Margery, daughter of William, Lord Willoughby. With her he had one child, his heir, Henry. She died before 1470 and he married second, before 10 December 1471, Elizabeth, daughter of Oliver St John and Margaret Beauchamp, daughter and heir of Sir John Beauchamp of Bletsoe, and widow of William, fifth Baron Zouche. She was living in 1489 and died before 3 July 1494. They had one child, Mary, who married Sir William Conyers (1467/8–1524) of Hornby. Scrope married third, after 9 February 1491, Anne, daughter and heir of Sir Robert Harling of East Harling, Norfolk, and Jane, daughter and heir of Edmund Gunville, and widow of Sir William Chamberlaine and Sir Robert Wingfield. They had no children and Scrope died, possibly at East Harling, on 17 August 1498. In his will, dated 3 July 1494 and 8 August 1498 (proved on 5 November 1498 at York), he asked to be buried in St Agatha's Abbey, Easby (as had several of his ancestors), or in the Dominican priory at Thetford, depending on where he died. He left a printed Bible and a volume of chronicles (also printed) to St Agatha's. As his executor he named his wife, who survived him for only a short time, dying on 18 September 1498.

The testator's third wife and her second husband, Sir Robert Wingfield (d.1481), raised Sir Robert Wingfield (b. in or before 1464, d. 1539) from childhood, and it seems likely that he is the recipient of this bequest by the testator in the will below:

Item, I give to Robert Wingfield my great primer.

For the will of Sir Robert Wingfield (b. in or before 1464, d. 1539), see TNA PROB 11/27, ff. 262-3. For the will of the testator's third wife, Anne (nee Harling) Chamberlain Wingfield Scrope (d.1498), see TNA PROB 11/11, ff. 212-14.

For details of the testator's career as a soldier and courtier, see the entry in the online edition of *The Dictionary of National Biography*. For the will of the testator's widow, Anne (nee Harling) Scrope, see TNA PROB 11/11, ff. 212-14.

RM: Testamentum Iohannis domini Scrop

In the name of God, Amen. At East Harling the third day of July the year of Our Lord God from his Incarnation 1494, I, John, Lord Scrope, whole of mind and in competent heal [=health] of body, thanked be God, make and ordain my testament in this manner and form following:

First & foremost and most specially I commend my soul unto Almighty God, my Creator and Redeemer, and to the mercy of my Saviour, Jesus, and to the suffrages of his bitter passion, and also to the merits of Our Blessed Lady Saint Mary Virgin, his Blessed Mother, of all angels & of all saints of the holy court of heaven, and my body to be interred and buried in the Abbey of Saint Agatha in Yorkshire if it fortune me to decease within the foresaid shire, and if it please God to dispose me to decease within the shire of Norfolk, then I will my body to be buried & interred in the choir of the Blackfriars in Thetford or in another as convenient place discerned by mine executrice or executors, and I give and bequeath to the same church where God shall ordain me to have sepulture, for a memorial and that I may the rather be prayed for there, 10 marks to buy withal a chalice or another jewel of the same value that shall be thought by mine executrice or executors more necessary to the place of my sepulture than the chalice;

And secondarily I will before all other things and in all wise I require mine executrice or executors underwritten truly to content & pay all my debts proved true debt to whomsoever they been owing, and all the costs and charges to be done for or about my burying or month's mind and legacies to the same place where it shall hap me to be buried, of or within the issues, revenues & profits as shall grow of certain my manors, lands & tenements which in my last will I have named, declared & assigned to the same intent, and in no wise with any manner of goods or chattels that I am or hereafter at any time may be entitled to or have interest in by the reason of marriage betwixt my most entirely well-beloved wife, Anne, & me, or any other wife, for it is my full will and clearly I give unto my said loving wife, Anne, all my movable goods & chattels on this side Trent, and over that all such debts as been owing me in all places, in party of recompense of £100 which I borrowed of her afore our marriage & of other charges which I know well I have put her to, except such goods as shall happen me hereafter to give or dispose to any of my kinsmen, friends or servants;

And alway I will that the said Anne have and retain still in her possession all the foresaid goods and chattels, debts & titles of debts without interruption or deliverance to mine executors, so that her possession aforesaid shall be sufficient title in right for her very property(?) of the said goods if my said wife refuse to take the charge of my testament upon her, except before excepted, and if it fortune not me at day of my decease to have ready money to make the costs and charges of & about my burying & month's mind, & then my said loving wife of her goodness will purvey for such ready money and make the said charges, then I will that mine executors, if she refuse the charge of my testament, been bounden to my said wife to repay the said sums of money so paid for me on that behalf readily as any of mine other debts oweth [=ought] for to be of the revenues, issues & profits of the manors, lands & tenements in my last will assigned to the same;

And if any person or persons after my decease complain of any injury or wrong that I or any of my servants by my commandment have done, that injury or wrong duly proved of truth, I will that they been satisfied & agreed with according to reason and good conscience;

Item, I will & bequeath to my son & heir, Henry Scrope, God's blessing & mine, and all my stuff that I have in my castle and place at Bolton, and all my quick cattle that I have within Yorkshire under this condition, that he be as kind & loving to my soul as I trust he is to my body, and that he love, comfort, aid & help to his power my right kind & loving wife, Anne, Lady Scrope, whether she take charge and administration of my testament or not, and that he in no wise let, interrupt nor minish through no manner occasion nothing concerning my testament nor last will, but help & do to the performance & accomplishing of the same; he thus doing, I beseech God grant him much honour, long life and good fortune;

And moreover I give and bequeath to the said Henry beside-forth for a reward, & to the heirs of his body lawfully coming forevermore, all my plate the which I laid to pledge to Saint Christopher's Guild in York, and if my foresaid son be not loving and kind & helping to my said wife, mine executrice, or interrupt, let or cause to let anything concerning my testament or last will or any article thereof, then I will that my foresaid movable stuff in Bolton Castle & my foresaid plate with all my cattle aforesaid being in Yorkshire be sold by mine executrice or executors, and with the money thereof coming and by her & them to be received help to fulfil this my testament and also my last will and to pay my debts;

The residue of all mine other goods not bequeathen, if any there been, I bequeath & give unto the disposition of mine executrice or executors of this my testament, whom I name my wife, Anne, now Lady Scrope, solely and alone mine executrices, and if the said Anne within the space of a year next after following my decease will take the charge upon her, then these underwritten I assign, ordain & will to be coadjutors & counsellors unto her, that is to say, Guy Fairfax, Henry Heydon, knights, William Bardwell, esquire, Henry Spelman, John Aylwerd, parson of East Harling, & John Paynot, parson of Weston Favell;

And if it be so that my said wife within the space of a year next after following my decease refuse to take charge upon her by reason and consideration of any charge suing, then I assign, ordain & name my foresaid son, Henry Scrope, Guy Fairfax & Henry Heydon, knights, mine executors, and coadjutors to them then I assign & name William Bardwell, esquire, Henry Spelman, my brother Thomas Metcalfe of Nappa, John Aylwerd, parson of East Harling, and John Paynot, parson of Weston Favell, that the foresaid mine executrice or executors with the foresaid revenues & profits pay my debts and fulfil this present my testament and also my last will, and the surplusage thereof, if any there be to expend, distribute and dispose as they think should best please God and be most merit and comfort to my soul;

And of this present my testament also I name & make surveyors the Bishop of Ely, my Lord Privy Seal, the Earl of Oxenford, and the Earl of Surrey;

In witness whereof to this present testament my seal of arms with my subscription I have set to the day and year abovesaid.

This codicil containing certain legacies and bequests of me, John, Lord Scrope of Bolton, given and bequeathed the 8th day of August the year of Our Lord 1498 to certain persons hereafter following, which codicil though I be not in power to subscribe it with mine ease, yet I command & will that it be sealed with the seal of mine arms and my privy signet, and so annexed to my former testament & last will:

Inprimis, I give & bequeath to my Lady, my mother, my plain cup with arms for a remembrance, to pray for me;

Item, to Sir Henry Scrope, my son & heir, all my Parliament robes;

Item, I will & give to my servant, Ralph Vincent, a yearly fee or annuity of £5 at 2 terms of the year to him or his assigns to be paid during the term of his life out of the manor of Harleston otherwise cleped Harlston, as more plainly appeareth in a patent sealed under the seal of mine arms & to him delivered;

Item, to Rowland Dente, George Watson, Thomas Francis & to William Hutton, to each of these 4, my servants, a fee of 20s a year out of the foresaid manor till my son & heir hath given each of them an office of as good value;

Item, I give to my wife, Anne, Lady Scrope, the surplusage of the revenues of the foresaid manor for term of her life;

Item, I give to Christopher Reynes my russet gown furred with white lamb, and also 20s;

Item, I give to John Cook, my servant, 20s;

Item, I give to Robert Wingfield my great primer;

Item, to Master Ralph Scrope, my brother, my little Bible that is at Bolton;

Item, to Robert Scrope, my brother, my camlet gown;

Item, to the Abbey of St Agatha, my Bible imprinted, & my book, also imprinted, called Cronica cronicarum;

Item, to the said Abbey 2 whole suits of vestments of velvet, the one suit to be blue & violent palled, orphreyed with cloth of gold, the 2nd suit to be black velvet orphreyed with cloth of gold;

Item, I give to the College of Rushworth [=Rushford] an whole suit of vestments of tawny velvet orphreyed with cloth of gold;

Item, I give to the parson of Weston, my chaplain, my porteous imprinted;

Item, I give to Sir John Hamelyn, parson of Barnhambrome, my Mass book imprinted;

Item, where I late covenanted & bought of mine entirely beloved wife, Anne, Lady Scrope, the reversion of certain manors, lands & tenements lying in Blundeston, Olton [=Oulton?] & Flixton in the county of Suffolk with her title of the same for the sum of £100, for the which sum I sealed late an obligation & bound myself to William Bardwell, Robert Wingfield and Thomas Fyncham for the same sum, which said covenant & bargain made I will keep and hold the said £100 to be paid as I have in my last will appointed all my debts to be, and of the issues and profits of such manors, lands & tenements there named & assigned for the same, now I will & bequeath the foresaid reversion and title after the decease of my said wife to little John Scrope and the heirs of his body lawfully coming, and in default of such issue of his body coming, the said manors, lands & tenements to remain to my son, Henry Scrope, and to his heirs forever.

LM: Vltima voluntas eiusdem Iohannis domini Scrop

This is the last will of me, John, Lord Scrope of Bolton, knight, made at East Harling in the county of Norfolk the third day of July in the year of Our Lord God from his Incarnation 1494 and in the year of the reign of King Henry the 7th the 9th, I, the foresaid John, Lord Scrope, make, declare and show this my last will in this wise and form following:

First and foremost I will that my Lady my mother Elizabeth have, hold, peaceably enjoy & keep during the whole term of her natural life withouten interruption or letting all those manors, lordships with their appurtenances the which my said Lady & mother had and

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hath of the gift of my Lord, my father, Henry, late Lord Scrope, by reason of jointure, and also of me by composition and agreement betwixt her & me made for recompense of her dower;

Item, in like wise I will that my very kind & loving wife, Anne, now Lady Scrope, have, hold & keep and quietly enjoy to her & to her assigns for term of her natural life all those manors, lordships, parks, woods with all manner appurtenances thereto longing, which manors, lordships, parks, woods with their appurtenances I, the foresaid John, Lord Scrope, have given or caused to be given, promised & granted unto the said Anne, my wife, & to certain feoffees to her use for term of her life, as more plainly appeareth by certain deeds & writing indented sealed with my seal of arms & with mine own hand subscribed and to my said wife delivered, and all the same deeds & writing by this my last will I ratify & affirm as my deed;

Item, I will & ordain that certain feoffees to the number of 6 or 7 persons be made sure and have a good & sufficient estate to them, their heirs & assigns, afore the feast of the Holy Trinity next coming after the said date of this present to them made of the manors of Dishforth, Rainton, Norton & Sinderby, Middleton Quernhow, Sutton Howgrave & Thornborough(?), Fencote, Fleetham and Vekurby with th' appurtenances in the county of York, and all the same feoffees so to remain & continue feoffees in the same said manors to the intent and true contentation & payment of my proper debts, and also to the intent & of great special trust that they, the same feoffees & each of them & their heirs, shall suffer, comfort, maintain, license, aid & grant in all that shall to them appertain my said wife, Anne, if she will take upon her to be mine executrice, or else my executors underwritten if my said wife refuse to take on her the charge, and her or their attorneys, deputies & servants to gather, receive & rere [=rear?] yearly after my decease by the space of 10 years or more all the issues & profits of all the same said manors, lands, tenements and other the premises with th' appurtenances to content and therewith to satisfy all my creditors of all my said proper debts which I owe of right to content any man or woman;

And in semblable wise I ordain & will that the same said feoffees shall be enfeoffed and have a good sufficient estate to them, their heirs and assigns, afore the same feast of the Holy Trinity of the manor of Brignall & Horneby in Cleveland in the said county of York to the intent & of great special trust that they & each of them, their heirs & assigns, shall suffer, comfort, maintain, license, aid & grant in all that shall to them belong my said wife, Anne, & all her attorneys, deputies & servants to gather, perceive and rere [=rear?] yearly at all times after my decease during the life of the same Anne, my wife, all the wages and fees which I have granted unto each of these persons consequently subscribed term of their lives, that is to say, Ralph Josselyn, gentleman, £10, Thomas Aynysworth, £6, Elizabeth, his wife, £3 6s 8d, and to Robert Zouche, esquire, £6 13s 4d in relief and discharge and advantage of the said Anne of all thoo [=those?] the same said wages and fees which I, the said John, Lord Scrope, have afore this time granted by several writings under my seal unto the said Ralph Josselyn, Thomas Aynysworth, Elizabeth, his wife, and to Robert Zouche particularly issauntes [=issuants?] payable of the manor of Pysho, Rampton and Coveney;

And moreover I will and ordain by this present that, after the decease of my said Lady mother, that all the said lordships, lands & tenements which as afore yet belong unto my said Lady and mother immediately after her decease shall entirely remain unto my son and his heirs, the lordship of Hamylden only for 3 years next after her decease except, and also all the said lordships, lands, tenements and other premises with th' appurtenances which yet now belong in the form aforesaid to my said wife, Anne, and all other lordships, lands, tenements and hereditaments with th' appurtenances which belong unto me, the said John, Lord Scrope, shall after her decease immediately remain unto my said son, Henry, & to his heirs in perpetuity, my debts and testament paid and performed according to good reason and conscience;

Provided alway and with this condition following, that neither he, the same Henry, ne any of his heirs or any of them, ne any other person or persons by the exhortation, will or maintenance of any of them shall make any interruption, ejection or letting of the restful possession of the premises again [=against] or in derogation or prejudice of my said mother or of my said wife in or of any of the premises during any of their lives, which if my said son or any of his heirs do or cause to be do [=done] in or of any of the same premises in derogation, damages or prejudice of my said Lady and mother, or of my said wife, Anne, contrary to the true effect or intent of any of all the premises of my will or testament, then I will and ordain that the reversion of the manor of Pyscho with the park & appurtenances in Sawbridgeworth in Hertfordshire, of the manor of Rampton and Cotenham with th' appurtenances in Cambridgeshire, the reversion of the manor of Coveney within the Isle of Ely with th' appurtenances of the same to be sold and give by my said wife, Anne, mine executrice, if she take upon her the charge, or else by mine executors under-named unto some other worshipful man, to have & enjoy to him & his heirs and assigns for a great reasonable sum of money to be paid unto the said Anne, my wife, mine executrice, or to mine executor and to their executors toward the plener [=plainer?] performance of my testament & last will, and to be distribute furthermore in deeds of alms & in ways of charity and pity for the souls of my said father & mother, of me & of my wives, and for the souls of all our kin and ancestors, & for all Christian souls;

And moreover where certain premises were made betwixt me & my son and heir, Henry Scrope, first that my said son hath promised me to be & shall be bound by his obligation to my Lord the Earl of Surrey, Sir Henry Heydon & to James Hubberd, the King's attorney, in the sum of £1000 to mine use upon condition that he shall never let ner interrupt the true execution of this my last will and testament ner nothing contained in the same, & that he in no wise shall let mine executrice or executors or any of their servants, attorneys or deputies to execute and fulfil the said my last will and testament ner none other that shall occupy in their name in that behalf for to levy & receive to the performance of this my said will & testament all manner revenues & profits of all such lands as I have before expressed, declared & assigned in this present my last will and testament for payment of my debts and performance of the last will and testament, that is to say, all the revenues & all profits of the manor of Dishforth, Rainton and Sinderby, Norton, Middleton Quernhow, Sutton Howgrave & Thornborough(?), Fencote, Fleetham and Vekyrby with all their appurtenances and profits aforesaid;

And whereas I and my said son, Henry, for divers causes concerning the marriage of Alice, the daughter and heir of my cousin Scrope of Upsall, the which is married to his eldest son, stand bound to the King to pay to him 400 marks in the form following, beside 100 marks that I have paid to the King for the same cause before the making of this said my last will and testament upon condition to pay of the said 400 marks yearly during 4 years next after following the date hereof each year 100 marks at the feast of the Assumption of Our Lady by even portions, it is furtherly granted, agreed and covenanted betwixt me and the said Henry by these presents that if it fortune me to decease before the foresaid 400 marks be plainly & clearly contented and paid, that as much as shall remain then or therefore after my decease unpaid to the King, the foresaid Henry, my son, shall pay and clearly discharge me & mine executors of the same residue and remanence of the said 400 marks, and for observing of which promise & covenant I will and grant to the foresaid Henry, my son, him then fro [=from] thenceforth to have & enjoy all the lands and manors with all the commodities, issues and profits of the same which were my said cousin's Scrope of Upsall which shall come to mine hands during the said daughter[']s nonage;

And moreover whereas I have granted to my said son toward the marriage of his daughter, Elizabeth, to be married by the grace of God to a gentleman cleped Stapleton, 400 marks in 4 years next after following the date hereof to be paid by even portions, this grant I affirm & promise to hold & perform by this my will to the comfort, ease and pleasure of my said son, Henry, and for him under this condition, that is to say, if it fortune me to decease within 7 years next now immediately following after the date hereof, if then the foresaid Henry, my son, repay the foresaid 400 marks unto my executrice or executors or as much of it as shall fortune thereof to be paid by me before my decease in 4 years next after suing my decease, that is to say, every year 100 marks to [=until] the foresaid sum of 400 marks be perfectly paid, then I will that my said grant, assurance & promise shall stand good, and else void;

And the same executrice that I have named, institute & assigned in my testament for execution and fulfilling of the same also of this my last will I ordain, name & make my wife, Anne, now Lady Scrope, solely and alone if the said Anne within the space of a year next after following my decease will be executrice and take charge of it, and then the underwritten I assign counsellors & coadjutors to her, that is to say, Sir Guy Fairfax, Sir Henry Heydon, knights, William Bardwell, esquire, Henry Spelman, John Aylward, parson of East Harling, and John Paynot, parson of Weston Favell;

And if it be so that my said wife within the space of a year next after following my decease refuse to take charge by reason of consideration of any charge to her showed, then I assign mine executors my foresaid son and heir, Henry Scrope, Sir Guy Fairfax and Sir Henry Heydon, knights, and these to be coadjutors to them, William Bardwell, esquire, Henry Spelman, my brother, Thomas Metcalfe of Nappa, John Aylward, parson of East Harling, and John Paynot, parson of Weston Favell;

And of this present my last will as well as of my testament I ordain, name & assign surveyors the Bishop of Ely, my Lord Privy Seal, the Earl of Oxenford & the Earl Surrey;

In witness whereof to this present my last will as well as to my testament my seal of arms I have set to, and with mine hand subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

Probatum fuit suprascriptum Testamentum vna cum vltima voluntate et codicello eiusdem coram Domino apud Lambeth viii die mensis Nouembris Anno domini Millesimo quadingentesimo Nonagesimo Octauo Iuramento Reginaldi Swale in decretis bacallarij procuratoris &c Ac approbatum et insinuatum &c Et comissa fuit administracio omnium et singulorum bonorum et debitorum dicti defuncti Domino Henrico domino de Scrop de Bolton militi executori in persona dicti procuratoris De bene & fideliter administrando eadem Ac de pleno & fideli Inuentario &c Citra festum sancti Nicholai Episcopi proximum futurum exhibendo Necnon de plano & vero compoto &c Ad sancta Dei Euangelia Iurati

[=The above-written testament together with the last will and codicil of the same was proved before the Lord [+Archbishop] at Lambeth on the 8th day of the month of November in the year of the Lord the thousand four hundred ninety-eighth by the oath of Reginald Swale, baccalaureate(?), proctor etc., and probated and entered etc., and administration was granted of all and singular the goods and debts of the said deceased to Sir Henry, Lord Scrope of Bolton, knight, executor, in the person of the said proctor, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well & faithfully administer the same, and to exhibit a full & faithful inventory etc. before the feast of Saint Nicholas, Bishop, next to come, and also [+to render] a plain & true account etc.]