

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 20 June 1504 and proved 10 July 1507, of Sir Robert Broughton (d. 10, 17 or 28 August 1506). For alternate dates of death given in the inquisitions post mortem taken after his death, see Dawes, M.C.B., ed., *Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem*, (London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1955), Vol. III, pp. 104-5, 142-3, 257, 259, 284-5, 470-1, 537 at:

<http://archive.org/stream/calendarofinquis03great#page/104/mode/2up/>

The testator is said to have been 'one of the richest non-baronial landowners in England'. He was a close associate of John de Vere (1442-1513), 13th Earl of Oxford, whom he appoints as supervisor of his will:

[A]nd supervisor of this my testament and last will mine especial and singular good Lord, John, Earl of Oxenford.

The testator was made a Knight of the Bath when Richard, Duke of York, second son to King Edward IV, one of the two young princes later murdered in the Tower, married Anne de Mowbray on 15 January 1478. See Shaw, William A., *The Knights of England*, (London: Sherratt and Hughes, 1906), Vol. I, pp. 138-9, and Tindal, N., *The History of England by Mr Rapin de Thoyras*, Vol. IV, Part II, (London: John and Paul Knapton, 1747), p. 263, available on the Hathitrust website at:

<https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=njp.32101080467085;view=1up;seq=653>.

The testator was among those appointed to welcome Catherine of Aragon, the bride of Arthur, Prince of Wales, on her arrival in England in October 1501. See 'Certain Notes Taken Out of the Entertainment of Katherine, Wife of Arthur, Prince of Wales, October 1501', *Miscellaneous State Papers From 1501 to 1726*, Vol. I, (London: W. Strahan, 1778), pp. 5-6.

The testator's arms are given as 'Argent, a chevron between three mullets gules'. See Cotman, *supra*, and Walford, Edward, ed., 'The "Gentry" Roll of Arms' by James Greenstreet, *The Antiquarian Magazine & Bibliographer*, Vol. II, (London: William Reeves, 1882), pp. 169-72, at p. 171.

For the testator, see also the Wikipedia article created by the author of this website at:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Broughton_\(Parliament_member\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Broughton_(Parliament_member)).

FAMILY BACKGROUND

The testator was the son of John Broughton (d.1479) of Denston, Suffolk, and Anne Denston (d.1481), daughter and heir of John Denston (d.1473) by Katherine Clopton,

daughter of Sir William Clopton (d.1446) of Long Melford, Suffolk, and half sister of John Clopton (c.1422-1497), esquire, for whose will see TNA PROB 11/11/266. Portraits of the testator's parents, John Broughton and Anne Denston, are preserved in the stained glass windows of Holy Trinity Church, Long Melford. See Delany, Sheila, *Impolitic Bodies: Poetry, Saints, and Society in Fifteenth-Century England: The Work of Osbern Bokenham*, (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1998), pp. 16-18 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=o0Rn0kcns1MC&pg=PA17>

For the stained glass portraits in Long Melford church, see also:

<http://www.therosewindow.com/pilot/LongMelford/table.htm>

The Broughton family, of Broughton in Buckinghamshire, is said to have acquired its wealth through marriage with an heiress in the early fifteenth century. Mary Pever, the daughter of Thomas Pever (d. 22 September 1429) by Margaret Loring, one of the two daughters and coheirs of Sir Nigel Loring (d. 13 March 1386), a founding member of the Order of the Garter, married firstly Sir Richard St. Maur (d. 6 January 1409), and secondly John Broughton, by whom she had a son, John Broughton (d.1489), Sheriff of Bedfordshire, whose son, John Broughton (d.1479), married Anne Denston (d.1481) and predeceased his father by ten years, leaving their son, the testator, to inherit the Broughton estates. See the will of the testator's grandfather, John Broughton (d.1489), TNA PROB 11/8/396; the inquisition post mortem of Anne (nee Denston) Broughton, TNA C 140/80/44; and 'Loring Family of Chalgrave' in Blaydes, Frederic Augustus, ed., *Bedfordshire Notes and Queries*, Vol. I, (Bedford: Arthur Ransom, 1886), pp. 186-7, 342-5 at:

<http://archive.org/stream/bedfordshiren02unkngoog#page/n201/mode/2up>

See also Blaydes, Frederick Augustus, ed., *The Visitations of Bedfordshire*, Vol. XIX, (London: Harleian Society, 1884), p. 14 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationsofbed19blay#page/12/mode/2up>

See also Richmond, Colin, *The Paston Family in the Fifteenth Century*, Vol. II, (Cambridge University Press, 1996), p. 164 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=qQPVeN8uCRsC&pg=PA164&lpg=PA164>

See also Watson, H.G., *A History of the Parish of Great Staughton, Huntingdonshire*, (St Neots: Percy C. Tomson, 1916), p. 85 at:

<http://archive.org/stream/historyofparisho00wats#page/84/mode/2up>

See also:

'Parishes: Great Staughton', in *A History of the County of Huntingdon: Volume 2*, ed. William Page, Granville Proby and S Inskip Ladds (London, 1932), pp. 354-369. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/hunts/vol2/pp354-369> [accessed 31 July 2017].

See also:

<http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=42514>; and 'Parishes: Toddington', *A History of the County of Bedford: Volume 3* (1912), pp. 438-447 at <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=42462>.

The 'cadaver tomb' of the testator's maternal grandparents, John Denston and Katherine (nee Clopton) Denston, is in the church of St Nicholas at Denston. See Ashley, Katherine and Pamela Sheingorn, eds., 'Interpreting Cultural Symbols: Saint Anne in Late Medieval Society', University of Georgia Press, 1990), pp. 94-110) cited at: *Feminae: Medieval Women and Gender Index*:

http://inpress.lib.uiowa.edu/feminae/DetailsPage.aspx?Feminae_ID=2694

See also:

<http://www.suffolkchurches.co.uk/denston.htm>

According to his will below, the testator had two brothers and a married sister:

-William Broughton.

-Edward Broughton.

-Elizabeth Broughton, the wife of Edmund Cornwall. See also Dawes, *supra*. It seems likely that Elizabeth Broughton's husband can be identified as Edmund Cornwall (1488-1508), the eldest son and heir of Sir Thomas Cornwall (1468 - 19 August 1538) of Burford by Anne Corbet, the daughter of Sir Richard Corbet (1451 - 6 December 1493) by Elizabeth Devereux (d.1516), the daughter of Walter Devereux (c.1432 - 22 August 1485), 1st Baron Ferrers of Chartley, slain at the Battle of Bosworth. Edmund Cornwall is said to have predeceased his father at the age of 20 in January 1508, although the inscription on his monument reads '1503':

Heare lyeth the body of Edmonde Cornewayle, sonne and heire aparante of Syr Thomas Corneywayle, of Burford, Knt., which Edmonde dyed in the yeare of his age XXI., in the yeare of Our Lord God 1503.

See Reade, Compton, *The House of Cornwall*, (Hereford: Jakeman and Carver, 1908), pp. 189, 207-8 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/houseofcornwall00live#page/n259/mode/2up>.

See also the will of Anne Corbet's brother, Sir Robert Corbet (c.1477 – 11 April 1513), TNA PROB 11/17/471. Their sister, Elizabeth Corbet, married Thomas Trentham (died c.1519) of Shrewsbury (for his will, see TNA PROB 11/19/252). They were the grandparents of Oxford's second wife, Elizabeth Trentham (d.1612). See the Trentham pedigree in College of Arms MS Glover 1, f. 190.

MARRIAGES AND ISSUE

First marriage

The testator married firstly Katherine de Vere, said to have been an illegitimate daughter of the 13th Earl. See Ross, James, *John de Vere, Thirteenth Earl of Oxford (1442-1513), 'The Foremost Man of the Kingdom'*, (Woodbridge, Suffolk: The Boydell Press, 2011), p. 187.

The testator's marriage to Katherine de Vere can be dated to the second year of the reign of Henry VII, 1486-7, when the testator settled the manor of Talmages and Wyfolds near Brockley Hall in Suffolk on Katherine de Vere for life. See Rokewode, John Gage, *The History and Antiquities of Suffolk*, (London: Samuel Bentley, 1838), pp. 357-8 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=knVPAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA357>

By Katherine de Vere the testator had two sons and a daughter:

* **John Broughton** (1503? - 24 January 1518), of Toddington, Bedfordshire, who married Anne Sapcote (d. 14 March 1559), the daughter and coheir of Sir Guy Sapcote by his first wife, Margaret Wolston, the daughter and heir of Sir Guy Wolston (c.1435-1504). For the will of John Broughton (1503? - 24 January 1518), see TNA PROB 11/19/251.

By Anne Sapcote, John Broughton had a son and three daughters:

-John Broughton (d.1528).

-Katherine Broughton (d. 23 April 1535), who was the first wife of William Howard (c.1510-1573), 1st Baron Howard of Effingham, by whom she had an only child, Anne Howard, who married William Paulet of Hooke Court, Dorset (1535 – 24 November 1598), 3rd Marquess of Winchester. See the entry for Anne Howard in 'A Who's Who of Tudor Women':

<http://www.kateemersonhistoricals.com/TudorWomenHi-Hu.htm>

ANNE or AGNES HOWARD (1532-November 18, 1601)

Anne (sometimes called Agnes) Howard, was the daughter of William Howard, 1st baron

*Howard of Effingham (1510-January 21, 1573) and his first wife, Katherine Broughton (c.1514-April 23, 1535). She should not be confused with a half sister, also named Anne, but born c. 1560. Anne/Agnes married William Paulet of Hooke Court, Dorset (1535-November 24, 1598), 3rd Marquess of Winchester from 1576, in February 1548 and was the mother of his legitimate children, William, 4th marquess (1563-February 4, 1627/8), Anne, Catherine, Elizabeth (1560-1581), and one other daughter. Her husband, however, kept a mistress, Jane Lambert, by whom he had four sons (see JANE LAMBERT), and was estranged from Anne. In 1578, Queen Elizabeth attempted to reconcile the couple but failed. Sir Amias Paulet took Anne's side but recommended a reconciliation, while the 2nd earl of Bedford supported the marquess. Anne's wilfulness and disobedience were the reasons he gave for the breakdown of their marriage. After his death, his legitimate family successfully contested a will that made three of the Lamberts executors and beneficiaries. According to the unpublished PhD dissertation *All the Queen's Women: The Changing Place and Perception of Aristocratic Women in Elizabethan England 1558-1620* (1987) by Joan Barbara Greenbaum Goldsmith, Anne had no official position at court but was often there to visit friends. In 1587, she was one of two women of higher rank than countess who were available to serve as chief mourner at the funeral of Mary, Queen of Scots. When the countess of Rutland was chosen instead, it was a deliberate insult to the Scottish queen's memory. Charlotte Merton, in *The Women who served Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth* tells the story of how, on November 24, 1588, the marchioness had the dubious honor of carrying Queen Elizabeth's train in the celebrations following the defeat of the Spanish Armada. This formal procession moved through London from Somerset House to St. Paul's. The queen rode in a chariot. Anne, her arms full of fabric, was on foot behind her.*

See also:

'Parishes: Great Staughton', in *A History of the County of Huntingdon: Volume 2*, ed. William Page, Granville Proby and S Inskip Ladds (London, 1932), pp. 354-369. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/hunts/vol2/pp354-369> [accessed 31 July 2017].

See also Haines, Herbert, *A Manual of Monumental Brasses*, Part II, (Oxford: J.H. and Jas. Parker, 1861), p. 202.

-**Anne Broughton**, who married, as his second wife, by dispensation dated 24 May 1539, Sir Thomas Cheyney (c.1495-1558). For the will of Sir Thomas Cheyney, see TNA PROB 11/42B/105.

-**Elizabeth Broughton** (d.1524), who died unmarried. For her monument at Chenies, see Haines, *supra*, 21.

After the death of John Broughton, Anne Sapcote married secondly Sir Richard Jerningham (d.1525), for whose will see TNA PROB 11/22/172.

Anne Sapcote married thirdly John Russell (c.1485-1555), 1st Earl of Bedford, by whom she was the mother of Francis Russell 1526/7-1585), 2nd Earl of Bedford. See the *ODNB* entries for the 1st and 2nd Earls of Bedford.

See also the will of Anne Sapcote Broughton Jerningham Russell, TNA PROB 11/42A/512, and the entry for Anne Sapcote in 'A Who's Who of Tudor Women' at:

<http://www.kateemersonhistoricals.com/TudorWomenSa-Sn.htm..>

*** Robert Broughton.**

* **Margaret Broughton** (d. 6 August 1524), who in the will below is stated to have been contracted in marriage to William Fitzwilliam, with the proviso that if Fitzwilliam were to 'disagree to the said marriage', or die before the age of twenty-three, Margaret would be entitled to 500 marks from the testator's estate.

Margaret Broughton married secondly Henry Everard (d.1541), by whom she had several children, including Elizabeth Everard, who married Sir William Clopton (d. 6 October 1568) of Liston Hall, Essex.

After the death of Margaret Broughton, Henry Everard married Lore (née Wentworth), widow of Edward Shaw and daughter of Sir Roger Wentworth (d. 9 August 1539) by Anne Tyrrell (d.1534), daughter of Humphrey Tyrrell of Little Warley, Essex.. Lore (née Wentworth) survived Everard, and married, as her third husband, Francis Clopton of Kedington, Suffolk. See the pedigree of Clopton of Kedington in Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitations of Suffolk*, (Exeter: William Pollard, 1882), p. 17 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=EycAAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA17>

See also the Wentworth pedigree in Rutton, William Loftie, *Three Branches of the Family of Wentworth*, (London: Mitchell and Hughes, 1891), p. 193 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=YhY5AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA193>

For the monument to Henry Everard and his wife Margaret (née Broughton) in the church of St Nicholas in Denston, Suffolk, see Cotman, John Sell, *Engravings of Sepulchral Brasses in Norfolk and Suffolk*, 2nd ed., (London: Henry G. Bohn, 1839), Vol. II, p. 16, available online. See also Haines, *supra*, p. 186. For the will of Henry Everard, see TNA PROB 11/28/352.

Second marriage

Several of the inquisitions post mortem taken after the testator's death state that his wife, Katherine de Vere, predeceased him, and that he then married Dorothy Wentworth. For

the inquisitions post mortem, see Dawes, *supra*, pp. 104-5, 142-3, 257, 259, 284-5, 470-1 at:

<http://archive.org/stream/calendarofinquis03great#page/104/mode/2up>.

Katherine was still living and with child on 20 June 1504 when the testator made the will below, appointing her as one of his executors:

And if my wife be with child with a daughter, then I will that my feoffees suffer mine executors to receive of the revenues of the same manors, lands and tenements, after my debts paid and the said priest in perpetuity, to the sum of 500 marks for her marriage;

And if it be a son, then I will that after my will performed as is abovesaid and the decease of my wife, that then he have all my manors, lands and tenements in the county of Cornwall with their appurtenances for term of his life. . . .

Item, I will that all my goods and chattels shall go to my burial and 30th day and to the contentation of my servants by the discretion of mine executors, whom I make and ordain Katherine, my wife, Edmund Felton, John Leynton th' elder, John Andrews & Henry Spalding, and supervisor of this my testament and last will mine especial and singular good Lord, John, Earl of Oxenford;

The testator died 17 August 1506, and his will was proved 10 July 1507. The probatum clause states that all the executors renounced, and administration of the testator's goods was therefore granted, by way of an intestacy, to 'the Lady Katherine, relict'.

Thus, on the one hand the inquisitions post mortem taken after the testator's death state that he outlived his first wife, Katherine, and married secondly Dorothy Wentworth, while the probatum clause states that administration of his goods was granted to his widow, Katherine.

The simplest explanation for this contradiction appears to be that the testator's first wife, Katherine de Vere, died in childbirth after the testator had made his will on 20 June 1504, and that the testator then married Dorothy Wentworth, who survived him, and that the name 'Katherine' in the probatum clause is an error for 'Dorothy'.

Dorothy Wentworth, the testator's second wife, was the sister of Sir Richard Wentworth (c.1480 - 17 October 1528), and daughter of Sir Henry Wentworth (c.1448 - August 1499) by Anne Say, daughter of Sir John Say (d. 12 April 1478) of Broxbourne. Dorothy Wentworth's sister, Margery Wentworth, married Sir John Seymour; they were the parents of Queen Jane Seymour. See the will of Sir Henry Wentworth, TNA PROB 11/12/265; the will of Sir Richard Wentworth, TNA PROB 11/22/654; Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. III, pp. 237-9, and Rutton, *supra*, pp. 138-9.

OTHER PERSONS MENTIONED IN THE WILL

The testator's executors John Andrews and Henry Spalding were, respectively, the testator's receiver-general and steward of the household. See Richmond, *supra*.

REFERENCES IN OTHER WILLS

It appears one of the testator's wives, likely Dorothy Wentworth, was the 'Lady Broughton' mentioned in the will of Dorothy Clopton (d.1508?), TNA PROB 11/16/117:

Item, I give to my Lady Clopton a ring with a daisy, and a double frontlet of blue velvet the which my Lady Broughton gave unto me.

LM: Test{amentu}m Rob{er}ti Broughton

In the name of God, Amen. I, Sir Robert Broughton, knight, make my last will and testament this 20th day of June the 19th year of our Sovereign Lord King Henry the 7th in form following:

First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, my body to be buried in Denston church;

Also I will my feoffees suffer mine executors to take the profits of all my manors, lands and tenements with th' appurtenances lying in Landkey in the county of Devonshire;

And of all my manors, lands and tenements in Nanscuke [=Nanscutt?] with the members in the county of Cornwall;

And of all mine other manors, lands and tenements within both the said counties;

And also of my manor of Rye in the county of Berkshire;

Also of all my lands and tenements in Tingrith with the manors of Dixwell and Yonges in Westnyng [=Westoning?] with all their appurtenances;

Also of my manors of Toddington & Chalgrave with their appurtenances;

And of the moiety of the manor of Harlington with th' appurtenances;

And of all my lands & tenements in Toddington, Chalgrave, Hockliffe, Stanbridge, Aspley, Sundon, Weston, Tingrith in the county of Bedford;

And of my manor of Blatherwick in the county of Northampton;

And of all my manors, lands and tenements in the county of Huntingdon with their appurtenances except my manors of Colne and Woodhurst with th' appurtenances revenues of the same till my debts be paid;

And after that done, to find for me a priest in perpetuity to sing for my soul within the College of Denston if I do it not myself by my life;

I will then my said executors of the revenues of my said lands purchase and mortess [=mortgage?] as much land to the said College as shall find the said priest;

And that done, I will that my said feoffees shall stand and be feoffees to th' use of Robert, my son, of all my said manors, lands and tenements in the county of Huntingdon except before excepted for term of life of the same Robert, my son;

Item, I will that my wife have her jointure before this time to her made, and over that, my manors, lands and tenements, rents and services called Stansfield Hall, Balemondes, Priditon, Gatesbury, Stonehall, the moiety at Burgate, Alyngton and Stonham Aspal with their appurtenances in the county of Suffolk, and my manors of Colne and Woodhurst in the county of Huntingdon, and my manor of Asshed [=Ashdon?] in the county of Essex, and my lands and tenements in Sutton & Ryesley with their appurtenances in the county of Bedford, and my manors of Much Crowley & Chicheley in the county of Buckingham with their appurtenances for term of her life, and that my feoffees suffer her to take the profits thereof, and also all my manor of Nanstuke [=Nanscutt?] and all my manors, lands and tenements in the county of Cornwall after my debts paid peaceably during her life so that she take no dower of any my manors, lands and tenements, and if she do, then I will this grant stand void;

And after her decease I will the said manors of Colne and Woodhurst in the county of Huntingdon with their appurtenances remain and be to my said son, Robert, for term of his life, and that it shall be leeful to my feoffees to make estate of the manor of Gaynes(?) to any woman for her jointure, so she be an inheritor of 20 marks land, with whom he shall fortune to marry;

Item, I will that if William Fitzwilliam, which hath married my daughter Margaret, disagree to the said marriage, or die or he come to the age of 23 years, the said Margaret having no jointure of the lands of the said Fitzwilliam, that then my feoffees shall suffer the said Margaret to take the revenues of all the manors, lands and tenements above limited to the contentation of my debts, after my debts paid, till she or such as she shall name have received of the revenues abovesaid 500 marks;

And if my wife be with child with a daughter, then I will that my feoffees suffer mine executors to receive of the revenues of the same manors, lands and tenements, after my debts paid and the said priest in perpetuity, to the sum of 500 marks for her marriage;

And if it be a son, then I will that after my will performed as is abovesaid and the decease of my wife, that then he have all my manors, lands and tenements in the county of Cornwall with their appurtenances for term of his life;

Item, I will that my brother, William, have for term of his life my manors of Wolston with all their appurtenances in the county of Buckingham & Cokerelles in the county of Suffolk, and that my feoffees shall stand feoffees to the same use;

Item, I will that my brother, Edward, have my manors, lands and tenements in Broughton with all their appurtenances in the county of Buckingham, and all mine other lands and tenements in the said town, and my manor of Barkston with all my lands and tenements in Plungar, Knipton et Bottesford in the county of Leicester for term of his life, and that my feoffees shall stand feoffees to the same use;

Item, I will that my sister, Elizabeth, have of the revenues of my manors, lands and tenements above limited for the payment of my debts, after my debts paid, £40 of lawful money if [sic] the revenues of the same manors, lands and tenements for the release [sic?] of her and her children;

Item, I will that mine uncle, John Leynton, have my manor of Long Stowe with th' appurtenances in the county of Cambridge for term of his life in full recompense of all such fees or annuities as I have to him granted, and in full contentation of such money as I had of him before the feast of Saint John Baptist last past the year of King Henry aforesaid 19th;

Item, I will that Henry Andrews, Henry Spalding & John Smyth have such fees as I to them afore this time granted;

Item, I will that all my goods and chattels shall go to my burial and 30th day and to the contentation of my servants by the discretion of mine executors, whom I make and ordain Katherine, my wife, Edmund Felton, John Leynton th' elder, John Andrews & Henry Spalding, and supervisor of this my testament and last will mine especial and singular good Lord, John, Earl of Oxenford;

And I will that my said supervisor shall have £20, and every of mine [f. 235r] executors 40s of the revenues of my manors, lands and tenements above limited for the payment of my debts after my debts paid;

And I will that if any ambiguity or doubt be of or for lack of form in the law, that it be reformed by sufficient counsel learned, not varying th' effect of this my will and testament;

In witness whereof to this my present will and testament I have put my seal and sign manual the day and year abovesaid and within-written, being witness Sir John Doveson, Master Kyng, and Edmund Cornwall.

Probatum fuit suprascriptum testamentum coram domino apud Lanehith(?) decimo die mensis Iulij Anno domini Millesimo quingentesimo septimo Iuramento executorum in huiusmodi testamento nominatorum onus executionis eiusdem in se assumere refutatum. Et commissa fuit administratio omnium bonorum et debitorum dicti defuncti Domine Katherine Relicte per viam intestati pro eo et ex eo quod executores refutarent De bene et fideliter administratio. Ac de pleno et fidei Inventario citra festum sancti Michaelis proximum futurum exhibendum. Necnon de plano et vero comperto reddendum ad satisfactionem dei et angelorum in debita iuris forma iuratum.

[=The above-written testament was proved before the Lord at Lambeth on the tenth day of the month of July in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred seventh by the oath of the executors named in the same testament refusing to take upon themselves the burden of the execution of the same, and administration was granted of all the goods and debts of the said deceased to the Lady Katherine, relict, by way of an intestacy for that and because the executors refused, sworn on the Holy Gospels in due form of law to well and faithfully administer, and to exhibit a full and faithful inventory before the feast of Saint Michael next to come, and also to render a plain and true account.]