

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 23 August 1508 and proved 9 November 1508, of Thomas West (d. August 1508), whose granddaughter married William Golding (d.1588), brother of Oxford's mother, Margery Golding.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

According to the inquisition post mortem taken 24 January 1509 after the testator's death, he was the grandson of Thomas West. See TNA C 142/22/77, summarized at:

Cyril Flower, M. C. B. Dawes and A. C. Wood, 'Inquisitions Post Mortem, Henry VII, Entries 551-600', in *Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem: Series 2, Volume 3, Henry VII* (London, 1955), pp. 326-355. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/inquis-post-mortem/series2-vol3/pp326-355> [accessed 2 August 2018].

The testator's parents are unknown.

MARRIAGES AND ISSUE

First marriage

According to Ebbelwhite, *infra*, the testator's first wife was the daughter of John Naylor and his wife, Clemence.

By his first wife, the testator had two sons and a daughter:

* **Edmund West** (d.1530?), eldest son, for whose will see TNA PROB 11/24/136.

The testator requests in the will below that Sir William Waldegrave (c.1465 - 30 June 1527), whom he appoint as supervisor, have the 'rule and marriage' of his eldest son, Edmund West. In 1519 Sir William Waldegrave sold Edmund West's wardship to Margaret Drury, widow of John Drury (d.1498) of Rougham, Suffolk. For the will of Sir William Waldegrave, see TNA PROB 11/22/294. See also:

<http://rushbrookewithrougham.suffolk.cloud/history/margaret-drury/>

By Dorothy Drury, Edmund West had two daughters:

-**Margaret West**, who married Edmund Daniell (d.1569) of Acton. For her will, dated 27 September 1587 and proved 30 April 1589, in which she mentions her 'sister Golding', her sister's two daughters, Margery Golding and Mary Golding, and 'my sister Felton', see TNA PROB 11/73/483. For the will of Edmund Danyell, dated 29 August

1569 and proved 11 November 1569, in which he mentions 'my brother Golding', see TNA PROB 11/51/382.

-**Elizabeth West** (d. by 22 June 1591), who married firstly John Bokenham (d.1566), and secondly William Golding (d.1588), brother of the whole blood of Oxford's mother, Margery Golding. See the will of William Golding, TNA PROB 11/72/210.

* **Eustace West**, of whom nothing further is known.

* **Lettice West**, of whom nothing further is known.

After the death of Edmund West, Dorothy Drury married secondly Robert Downes of Melton, Norfolk, a Catholic recusant. See the probatum clause in the will of Edmund West, and:

<http://www.prattens.co.uk/families/WEST/notes.html>

Second marriage

The testator married secondly Grissel Writtle (d.1547), widow of John Rochester (d.1506?), who appears to have been the son of Robert Rochester (1450 - 15 May 1508), esquire, comptroller of the household of John de Vere (1442-1513), 13th Earl of Oxford. For the will, dated 18 May 1547 and proved 22 June 1547, of Grissel Writtle, see TNA PROB 11/31/550.

By Grissel Writtle, the testator had a son:

* **Thomas West**. For a fine in 1537 stating that Thomas West was the son of Grissel Writtle, see Reaney, P.H. and Marc Fitch, eds., *Feet of Fines for Essex, Vol. IV, 1423-1547*, (Colchester: Essex Archaeological Society, 1964), p. 216, available as a pdf file online at:

esah1852.org.uk/images/pdf/ffines/F1400000.pdf

After the testator's death, Grissel Writtle married, as her third husband, Edward Waldegrave (d.1545?), named as an executor in the will below. For the will of Edward Waldegrave, see TNA PROB 11/30/620.

In his will, Edward Waldegrave leaves a bequest to the testator's granddaughters:

Item, I give to the two daughters of Edmund West after the decease of me and my wife two acres of land di(?) called Gilbertes crofts which I bought of Martyn and other if they make no sale of no part of Greyes ground.

RM: Test{amentum} thome West

In dei nomine Amen. I, Thomas West of Much Cornard, squire, the 23 day of August in the year of Our Lord 1508, being in whole mind and good memory, make this my last will and testament under this manner:

First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, my Maker, my body to be buried in the parish church of Much Cornard;

Item, I bequeath to the high altar of the said church of Much Cornard 3s 4d for offerings and tithes forgotten;

Also specially I would my debts be paid;

Also I would have after my debts paid a priest to sing for my soul and for those souls that I am bound to pray for by the space of one year;

Item, I will have a stone for a remembrance to lay upon me after the mind of mine executors;

Item, I will that my wife have my manor called Greyes with th' appurtenances in Much Cornard or elsewhere with all such lands and tenements lying in Sudbury, Little Cornard, Chilton or elsewhere in the county of Suffolk;

Item I will that Sir William Waldegrave, knight, have the rule and marriage of mine eldest son or whom it shall fortune of my children to be my next heir;

Item, I will that after all my debts paid and all other charges borne, Eustace, my son, and Lettice, my daughter, have each of them, if it may be borne, £100 to their helping and marriage;

Item, I ordain and make mine executors Grissel, my wife, and Edward Waldegrave, esquire. My supervisor, Sir William Waldegrave, knight.

Probatum fuit suprascript{um} test{amentu}m coram d{omi}no apud Lamehith nono die mens{is} Nouembr{is} Anno d{omi}ni Mill{es}imo quinge{n}tesimo octauo Iur{amento} Griseld{is} Relicte et executricis in h{uius}mo{d}i test{ament}o nomi{n}ate Ac approbat{um} et insinuat{um} Et com{m}issa fuit admi{n}istratio o{mn}i{u}m bonor{um} et debit{orum} dicti defuncti prefate executrici De bene & fideliter admi{n}strand{o} Ac de pleno et fideli Inue{n}tario citra f{estu}m sanct{e} Thome ap{osto}li prox{imum} futur{um} exhibend{o} Necno{n} de plano & vero comp{o}to reddend{o} ad s{an}c{t}a dei eu{a}ng{elia} in debita iur{is} forma iurat{e}

Res{er}uata p{otes}tate similem com{m}issione{m} faciend{i} Edwardo Waldegrave
execut{ori} etiam in h{uius}mo{d}i testamento nomi{n}ato cum venerit &c

[=The above-written testament was proved before the Lord at Lambeth on the ninth day of the month of November in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred eighth by the oath of Grissel, relict and executrix named in the same testament, and probated and entered, and administration was granted of all the goods and debts of the said deceased to the forenamed executrix, sworn on the Holy Gospels in due form of law to well & faithfully administer, and to exhibit a full and faithful inventory before the feast of Saint Thomas the Apostle next to come, and also to render a plain & true account, with power reserved for a similar grant to be made to Edward Waldegrave, executor also named in the same testament, when he shall have come etc.]