

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the last will and testament, dated 7 September 1509 and proved 1 February 1510, of Ralph Leigh, step-grandfather of Queen Katherine Howard; Oxford's friend, Sir George Howard; and Margaret Howard, the mother of Oxford's one-time friend and later bitter enemy, Charles Arundel (d.1587).

For details concerning the testator, his wife, Joyce (nee Culpeper) Leigh Howard, and their children, see the will, proved 5 February 1566, of their eldest son, Sir John Leigh, TNA PROB 11/48/372; and Hooper, Hilda J., 'Some Surrey Wills in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, Part I', *Surrey Archaeological Collections*, Vol. LI, (Farnham: E. W. Langham, 1950), pp. 85-7 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/surreyarchaeolog51surruoft#page/84/mode/2up>.

RM: Test{amentu}m Rad{ulph}i Lygh

In Dei nomine amen. I, Ralph Leigh, by this my last will made the 7th day of September the first year of King Henry the 8th, I revoke all wills made before the same day, and I bequeath my soul to the mercy of God Almighty, my body to be buried where it shall please God that I shall depart, without my body may be conveyed to Lambeth with the expense of 40s;

I require my wife in the way of charity to cause 3 trentals to be songen for me shortly after my death, one at the Friars of Greenwich, another at Charterhouse of London, and the 3rd at Syon;

I bequeath to God and my brother all my children if my brother will have them, desiring him of brotherhood to be good to them, trusting they will be the servant of God and to pray for him and me and for other of their friends;

My mind is there should not be above £5 spent at my burial;

Mine executor I make my wife, and to God and her I commit the principal rule of my children, goods and lands, trusting in God and that she serve God as I think verily she will, that she and all the children shall have grace and good fortune, Amen.

Probatum fuit suprascript{um} test{amentu}m cora{m} d{omi}no apud Lamehith primo die mens{is} ffebruarij Anno d{omi}ni Mill{esim}o quingen{tesim}o nono Iur{amento} M{agist}ri Will{el}mi Potkyn procur{ator}is in hac parte Ac approbat{um} et insinuat{um} Et com{m}issa fuit administratio o{mn}i{um} bonoru{m} et debit{orum} dicti defuncti (blank) Relicte & executrici in h{uius}mo{di} testament{o} no{m}i{n}ate in p{er}sona dicti procur{ator}is De bene & fidelit{er} admi{n}istra{n}d{o} Ac de

pleno et fideli Inue{n}tario cit{ra} f{estu}m sancti Daud E{pisco}pi prox{imum}
futur{um} exhibend{o} Necnon de plano & vero comp{o}to reddend{o} ad sancta dei
eu{an}g{eli}a(?) in debita iur{is} forma iurat{i}

[=The above-written testament was proved before the Lord at Lambeth on the first day of the month of February in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred ninth by the oath of Master William Potkyn, proctor in that respect, and probated and entered, and administration was granted of all the goods and debts of the said deceased to (blank), relict & executrix named in the same testament, in the person of the said proctor, 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 David, Bishop, next to come, and also to render a plain & true account.]