

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 5 August 1512, of Sir Thomas Knyvet (c.1485–1512).

CONNECTIONS TO THE EARLS OF OXFORD

The testator was the great-grandfather of Oxford's mistress, Anne Vavasour, and the grandfather of Thomas Knyvet (1546 – 27 July 1622), who fought with Oxford over the 'quarrel of Anne Vavasour', an altercation in which Oxford was hurt and his man 'Gerret' slain, according to an entry in the diary of Richard Madox for 1-3 March 1582 (see BL MS Cotton, Appendix 47, f. 7v).

FAMILY BACKGROUND

For the testator's family background, see Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. II, pp. 184-190, and Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. II, p. 316 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=8JcbV309c5UC&pg=RA1-PA316>

See also the *ODNB* entry for the testator.

Testator's paternal grandparents

The testator was the grandson of Sir William Knyvet (c.1440-1515) of Buckenham, Norfolk, Councillor to Henry Stafford, 2nd Duke of Buckingham, and to Edward Stafford, 3rd Duke of Buckingham, and his first wife, Alice Grey (d. 4 April 1474), the daughter of John Grey, esquire, of Kempston, Bedfordshire. For the will of Sir William Knyvet, see TNA PROB 11/18/352.

Testator's parents

The testator was the son of Sir Edmund Knyvet (drowned at sea in 1503/4) and Eleanor Tyrrell (d.1520?), the daughter of William Tyrrell of Gipping, Suffolk, beheaded on Tower Hill 23 February 1462, and Margaret Darcy, the daughter of Robert Darcy (d. 3 September 1448). For William Tyrrell (beheaded 23 February 1462), see the will of his brother, Sir Thomas Tyrrell (d. 28 March 1477) of Heron in East Horndon, Essex, and Ross, James, *John de Vere, Thirteenth Earl of Oxford (1442-1513)*, (Woodbridge, Suffolk: The Boydell Press, 2011), pp. 39, 42.

Testator's siblings

For the testator's five brothers and three sisters, see *Plantagenet Ancestry, supra*, Vol. II, pp. 189-90.

MARRIAGE AND ISSUE

The testator married Muriel Howard (1485 – 14 December 1512), the daughter of Thomas Howard (1443-1524), 2nd Duke of Norfolk, by his first wife, Elizabeth Tilney (d.1497). See 'A Who's Who of Tudor Women' at:

www.tudorwomen.com/

Muriel Howard (1485-December 14, 1512) was the daughter of Thomas Howard, 2nd duke of Norfolk (1443-May 21, 1524) and Elizabeth Tylney (d. April 4, 1497). She was at Sheriff Hutton Castle in 1495 when John Skelton composed his poem "The Garland of Laurell" (published 1523). She married John Grey, viscount Lisle (April 1480-September 9, 1505) in June 1504 and had one daughter, Elizabeth (1505-1519). Muriel married Sir Thomas Knyvett of Buckenden or Budkenham, Norfolk (d. August 10, 1512) and was the mother of Edmund (1507/8-1550/1), Ferdinando (b.1509), Henry (d. March 30, 1547), Anthony, Catherine, and Anne. Her will was written October 13, 1512 and proved January 12, 1512/13. She bequeathed "all my three sons and two daughters to the King's Highness, together with my wedding ring to him, desiring him to be a good Lord to them."

For further details concerning the testator's children, see the will of his eldest son, Sir Edmund Knyvet (c.1508 - 1 May 1551), TNA PROB 11/34/421, and the will of his second son, Sir Henry Knyvet (d.1546?), TNA PROB 11/32/4.

RM: Testamentum domini Thome Knyvet militis

In the name of God, Amen. The year of our Lord God 1500 and 12, I, Sir Thomas Knyvet, Knight for the Body of our Sovereign Lord King Henry the 8th, being of whole mind and good memory, make and ordain this my present testament containing my last will in manner and form following:

First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, my Maker and Redeemer, and to his Blessed Mother, Our Lady Saint Mary and to all the saints in heaven, my body to be buried in the sepultures of holy church;

Item, I bequeath my manor of Cranwise(?) with all th' appurtenances in the county of Norfolk to Muriel, Viscountess Lisle, my wife, to have to her for term of her life, and after her decease to remain to my right heirs;

Also I bequeath unto my said wife all those lands and tenements within the same manor which I late purchased of Master Thomas Cooke, clerk, to have to her and her assigns forever and to dispose the same at her liberty after her discretion;

Item, I bequeath and give unto my said wife all my goods movable and unmovable, therewith to do and dispose in deeds of charity for the wealth of my soul;

Of which my present testament I make and ordain my said wife to be my sole executrice;

in witness whereof to this my last will I have set to my seal the 5th day of August the year of Our Lord God abovesaid. These witnesseth: Oliver Poole, clerk, John Sympson, clerk, Eustace Braham, Thomas Symon, Henry Moreton and others.