

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 1505 and proved 1 July 1511, of William Lynne, esquire, of Southwick, Northamptonshire.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

For the Lynne pedigree, see Marshall, George W., ed., *The Genealogist*, (London: Golding and Lawrence, 1877), Vol. I, pp. 345 at:

<https://archive.org/details/genealogist01mars/page/n723/mode/2up>

See also the Lynne pedigree in Clay, John W., ed., *The Visitation of Cambridge*, (London: Harleian Society, 1897), Vol. XLI, p. 102 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=rlf6NAbyvAYC&pg=PA102>

See also the Lynne pedigree in Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitations of Northamptonshire Made in 1564 and 1618-19*, (London: Mitchell and Hughes, 1887), p. 35 at:

<https://archive.org/details/visitationsnort00vincgoog/page/n48/mode/2up>

A pedigree of Lynne of Exeter from 1630 confuses the testator's children with his siblings. See Oliver, George and Pitman Jones, eds., *A View of Devonshire in MDCXXX, with a Pedigree of Most of its Gentry, by Thomas Westcote, Gent.*, (Exeter: William Roberts, 1845), p. 457 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=WJGEAAAIAAJ&pg=PA457>

See also:

'Southwick', in *An Inventory of the Historical Monuments in the County of Northamptonshire, Volume 6, Architectural Monuments in North Northamptonshire* (London, 1984), pp. 137-144. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/rchme/northants/vol6/pp137-144> [accessed 1 October 2020].

Testator's parents

The testator was the second son of John Lynne (d.1487?) and Joan Knyvet, the daughter of Sir John Knyvet (1394/5-1445) of Buckenham Castle, Norfolk, by Elizabeth Clifton, the daughter and heir of Sir Constantine Clifton (1372-1395), 2nd Baron Clifton. See the History of Parliament entry for Sir John Knyvet at:

<https://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1386-1421/member/knyvet-sir-john-13945-1445>

Knyvet died on 9 Nov. 1445, having over the years settled most of his estates upon feoffees. His daughter, Joan, and her husband, John Lynne (d.1486/7), received the ancestral home in Southwick, but the rest of the property went to his son and heir, John, who had occupied the manors of Winwick and Great Weldon from the time of his marriage, in August 1430, to Lynne's sister, Alice. This double alliance worked greatly to the advantage of the Lynne family, especially as it was stipulated that John Knyvet the younger would lose part of his inheritance should he attempt to divorce his wife.⁵

See also Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. II, p. 316 at:

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

Testator's siblings

For the testator's siblings, see the will of his father, John Lynne, TNA PROB 11/8/54.

MARRIAGE AND ISSUE

The testator married Margaret Lexham (living 1537?), the daughter and coheir of William Lexham (d.1500) of Burnham Westgate, Norfolk, and Margaret Oldhall (d.1473), sister of Sir William Oldhall (d.1460). For the will of Margaret Oldhall, see TNA PROB 11/6/146. See also the *ODNB* entry for Sir William Oldhall, his will, TNA PROB 11/4/362, and Colin, 'Sir John Fastolf and the Land Market', in Harper-Bill, Christopher et al, eds., *East Anglia's History*, (Woodbridge, Suffolk: The Boydell Press, 2002), pp. 107-22 at p. 111:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=dqONjtRcVfMC&pg=PA111>

See also:

<http://www.norfolkstainedglass.org/Burnham%20Westgate/home.shtm>

For William Lexham's four daughters and coheirs, see Blomefield, Francis, *An Essay Towards a Topographical History of the County of Norfolk*, (Lynn: W. Whittingham and R. Baldwin, 1769), Vol. III, p. 747 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=yFkMAQAAMAAJ&pg=PA747>

Margaret Lexham's sister, Joan Lexham, married George Chapman. Her sister, Katherine Lexham, married Edward Beaumont, the son of George Beaumont (d.1531) of Overton by Joan Paucefoot, daughter and heir of Sir Thomas Paucefoot of Northall,

Gloucestershire. See La Zouche, Lucy, *Beaumont Crusaders and Campaigners*, 1988, pp. 89-90 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=6eKaDwAAQBAJ&pg=PA89>

Her sister, Frances Lexham, married Lawrence Dudley of Clopton, the son of William Dudley of Clopton (d.1505) and Christian Darrell, by whom she had a son, William Dudley (d.1558). See Dudley, Dean, *History of the Dudley Family*, Number 1, (Wakefield, Massachusetts, 1886), p. 37 at:

<https://archive.org/details/historyofdudleyf01dudl/page/36/mode/2up>

According to the pedigree in Marshall, *supra*, the testator had three sons and seven daughters by Margaret Lexham:

* **Guy Lynne** (d. 17 March 1543), who married Agnes Kirkham, the daughter of George Kirkham (d.1528), esquire, of Warmington, Northamptonshire, by whom he had a son, George Lynne, who married Amy Montagu, one of the seventeen children of Sir Edward Montagu (1480s-1557), for whom see the *ODNB* entry. See also TNA C 1/657/22 below. For George Kirkham, see his will, TNA PROB 11/22/616, and the History of Parliament entry at:

<https://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/kirkham-george-i-1479-1528>

For George Kirkham's only son and heir, Sir Robert Kirkham (d.1558?), see Devon Archives 1038 M/T/13/130, an indenture of fine dated 1556 concerning lands in Warmington (Robert Kirkham, knight, and Sybil his wife, and William Kirkham, son and heir apparent of Sybil).

See also Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. III, p. 479 at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=8JcbV309c5UC&pg=RA2-PA479&redir_esc=y#v=onepage&q&f=false

For the Kirkham family, see also:

Richard Cust and Andrew Hopper, '356 Kirckham v Farmer', in *The Court of Chivalry 1634-1640*, ed. Richard Cust and Andrew Hopper, *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/no-series/court-of-chivalry/356-kirckham-farmer> [accessed 3 October 2020].

By Amy Montagu, George Lynne had a son and heir, George Lynne, who married Martha Throckmorton (d.1600), the daughter of Clement Throckmorton (d. 14 December 1573), esquire. See Oliver, *supra*, p. 458, and:

<https://humphrysfamilytree.com/Throckmorton/clement.html>

* **Jerome Lynne.**

* **David Lynne.**

* **Audrey Lynne** (d. 28 August 1522), eldest daughter, who married Sir Richard Gresham (c.1485-1549), Lord Mayor of London, by whom she was the mother of Sir John Gresham and Sir Thomas Gresham (c.1518-1579), founder of the Royal Exchange. See Leveson Gower, Granville, *Genealogy of the Family of Gresham*, (London: Mitchell and Hughes, 1883), pp. 7, 21 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=9ZQNAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA7>

See the will of Sir Richard Gresham, TNA PROB 11/32/429, and the transcript in Leveson Gower, *supra*, p. 65 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=9ZQNAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA65>

See also the *ODNB* entry for Sir Richard Gresham:

By about 1517 Richard Gresham felt sufficiently secure to marry Audrey (d. 1522), the daughter of William Lynne, of Southwick in Northamptonshire, with whom he had four children—John, Thomas Gresham, Christiana, who married the wealthy Sir John Thynne of Longleat, and Elizabeth.

The *ODNB* fails to notice Sir Richard Gresham's second wife, Thomasine Worsop, daughter of John Worsop and widow of Richard Thurston (d.1522?). See the will of Richard Thurston, TNA PROB 11/21/8, and TNA C 1/516/35, a Chancery suit brought in the period 1518-1529 by Richard Gresham of London, mercer, and Thomasine, his wife, late the wife of Richard Thurston of London, broiderer, and John Worsop.

It has been suggested that Sir Richard Gresham's two daughters, Christian and Elizabeth, may not have been his daughters by his first wife, Audrey Lynne, and that they were his daughters by his second wife, Thomasine Worsop.

* **Anne Lynne**, second daughter, who married firstly John Hopton (c.1470-1526?), a gentleman usher to Henry VIII who was appointed the first clerk controller of the navy, for whose will see TNA PROB 11/22/236, and secondly Sir John Tyrrell (d. 28 February 1541) of Little Warley, Essex, for whose will see TNA PROB 11/28/444. For the will of Anne (nee Lynne) Hopton Tyrrell, see TNA PROB 11/45/314.

* **Cecily Lynne**, third daughter, who married William Gardiner (d.1541), esquire, for whose will see TNA PROB 11/29/83. See also the will, TNA PROB 11/55/374, of James Bacon (d.1573), who married Mary Gardiner, the daughter of William Gardiner and Cecily Lynne.

* **Agnes Lynne**, who is said to have married the London haberdasher, Thomas Merbury (d.1545?), son of William Merbury of Girsby, Lincolnshire, and Agnes Blount, daughter and coheir of Thomas Blount, second son of Walter Blount, Baron Mountjoy. For the will of Thomas Merbury, see TNA PROB 11/30/514. If Agnes Lynne did marry Thomas Merbury, she predeceased him; the Christian name of Thomas Merbury's widow was Ellen. For the Merbury family see Lennam, T. (1968), 'Francis Merbury, 1555-1611', *Studies in Philology*, 65(2), pp. 207-222, at

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/4173603>

* () **Lynne**, who married a London mercer surnamed Duffield, perhaps John Duffield, for whom see TNA C 1/682/33, a Chancery suit dating from the period 1529-1532 brought by John Tyrrell, esquire, and Anne, his wife, executrix and late the wife of John Hopton, against (blank)Duffield, mercer of London, and William Gunston, grocer of London.

* () **Lynne**, who married a husband surnamed Pennycock of Walton, Huntingdonshire. He may have been Thomas Penycoke of Wood Walton; see TNA REQ 2/10/164, a suit in the Court of Requests dating from c.1539.

Testator's widow's second marriage

Margaret Lexham married secondly, in 1513, Humphrey Roos (d. 17 July 1521), esquire, of Laxton, Nottinghamshire. For the Roos family, see:

<http://www.nottshistory.org.uk/monographs/laxton1935/laxton2.htm>

Margaret Lexham's second husband appears to have been the Humphrey Roos whose first wife was Anne Restwold, niece of Thomas Rotherham (1423-1500), Archbishop of York. See the will of Thomas Rotherham in Raine, James, ed., *The Historians of the Church of York and Its Archbishops*, (London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1894), Vol. III, p. 349 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=IGREAQAAMAAJ&pg=PA349>

See also the inquisition post mortem taken 30 July 1521 after the death of Humphrey Roos in Phillimore, W.P.W., ed., *Abstracts of the Inquisitions Post Mortem Relating to Nottinghamshire, Vol. I, Henry VII and Henry VIII 1485 to 1546*, (Thoroton Society, 1905), at:

<https://archive.org/details/recordseries03thor/page/n255/mode/2up>

See also a Chancery suit, TNA C 1/147/14, likely dating from 1504-1515, brought by Margaret's son, Guy Lynne, against Margaret and her second husband, Humphrey Roos, concerning the detention of deeds relating to lands in Southwick.

See also a Chancery suit, TNA C 1/564/41, dating from the period 1518-1529, brought by Margaret, late the wife of Humphrey Roos, esquire, and formerly the wife of William Lynne, against Francis Roos, son and heir of the said Humphrey, and William Roos, recoveror to uses, regarding dower in the manor of Southwick and in other lands there and in Laxton, Nottinghamshire.

See also a Chancery suit, TNA C 1/657/22, dating from the period 1529-1532, brought by Edward Montagu against Margaret Roos, widow, formerly the wife of William Lynne, esquire, and Guy Lynne, his son and heir, concerning the settlement for the marriage of Guy Lynne's son and heir, George Lynne, and Amy Montagu, daughter of Edward Montagu.

See also a Chancery suit, TNA C 1/669/32, dating from the period 1529-1532, brought by Margaret Roos, widow, George Chapman and Joan, his wife, Edward Beaumont and Katherine, his wife, and William Dudley, son and heir of Frances, late the wife of Lawrence Dudley, concerning the manors of Rainham in Burnham and March, late of William Lexham, in which Richard Southwell and Anthony Hansart (Anserd), esquires, claimed through the said Richard's uncle, Sir Robert Southwell.

See also a Chancery suit, TNA C 1/880/60, dating from the period 1533-1538, brought by Margaret Roos and her sisters and their heirs against Alice, late the wife of Anthony Anserd, esquire, concerning the manors of Rainham (in Burnham) and March formerly of William Lexden, deceased, father of Margaret.

Margaret Lexham was living as late as 1537 when she was a party to the conveyance of the manor of Rainham to Richard Southwell, esquire. See Blomefield, *supra*, p. 747 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=yFkMAQAAMAAJ&pg=PA747>

For Anthony Hansart (d. 31 August 1533), see:

<http://www.mbs-brasses.co.uk/brass%20of%20the%20month%20january%202014.html>

Anthony Hansart of Whittingham, Fressingfield, Suffolk, a member of the Hansard family of Ludborough, Lincolnshire, died on 5th August 1517 but his namesake lived until 1533, making his will on 31st August that year, it being proved almost a year later. Unfortunately it is a very short will. He left 6s 7d to the high altar of March for tithes forgotten, naming his wife Alice as one of his executors; she proved the will. . . .

In the 1520s he was in the service of Cardinal Wolsey, accompanying him to France, but also served on Commissions of Peace in Cambridgeshire and was Sheriff of Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire in 1523 and 1529. With Henry VIII's

agreement Wolsey lent Hansart's service to John, Earl of Oxford, in 1523 and 4 for which the earl and countess were grateful and again in 1528, when the earl called Hansart a very wise man (the earl was anything but wise himself).

Late in his life, Anthony Hansart inherited, after legal proceedings, two manors, including March, and other lands of William Lexham of Doddington. His widow later had to defend this inheritance against Lexham's daughters.

OTHER PERSONS MENTIONED IN THE WILL

In the will below the testator refers to Sir Everard Fielding as his uncle. For Sir Everard Fielding (d.1515), son of Sir William Fielding (d.1471), slain at the Battle of Tewkesbury, see his will, TNA PROB 11/18/114; Oliver, *supra*, p. 457; and:

'Friaries: The black friars of Northampton', in *A History of the County of Northampton: Volume 2*, ed. R M Serjeantson and W R D Adkins (London, 1906), pp. 144-146. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/northants/vol2/pp144-146> [accessed 3 October 2020].

Sir Everard Fielding, by will of 19 April, 1515, directed his body to be buried before the altar of our blessed Lady in the Black Friars at Northampton, to which he bequeathed a cope of blue velvet with garters, a pax of silver and gilt, and two cruets of silver. (fn. 13) Dame Gyllys Fieldyng, by her will of 1529, desired 'to be buried in the Churche of the blake Frears byfor the ymage of our lady in the tombe of my husband. I bequeath for my mortuarie to the prior and his bretheren a cowe.' (fn. 14)

See also:

<https://www.gutenberg.org/files/58147/58147-h/58147-h.htm#footnote186g>

The principal commanders in Henry's army, were Jasper Duke of Bedford; John Earl of Oxford; George Earl of Shrewsbury; Richard Neville, Lord Latimer; Edward, Lord Hastings; George, Lord Strange, son of Thomas Earl of Derby; Sir John Cheney and Sir Edward Fielding. Thomas Brandon, brother of Sir William Brandon (who was the standard-bearer of Henry, and was slain at the battle of Bosworth), had the honour of bearing Henry's shield at the battle of Stoke. . . .

Sir Edward Fielding was the son and heir of Sir William Fielding, who fell at the battle of Tewkesbury fighting for the Lancastrian party and was interred there; he was the ancestor of William Fielding, created Earl of Denbigh in the twentieth year of James I.

See also Fielding, J.E.M., *Some Hapsburghs, Feildings, Denbighs and Desmonds*, (Privately printed, 1895), pp. 3-4 at:

<https://archive.org/details/somehapsburghsfi00fiel/page/2/mode/2up>

LM: Test{amentu}m Will{elm}i Lynne

In the name of God, Amen. In the year of Our Lord God 1505, I, William Lynne, being in good mind and whole in body, make and ordain this to be my last will and testament:

First I bequeath my soul to Our Lord Jesus Christ, to Our Lady Saint Mary, and to all the holy company of heaven, my body to be buried under the rood loft in Southwick church at the chancel door;

Also I bequeath to the high altar there for tithes forgotten 10s;

Also I will that the same church have for all things such as I have received for it and for reparations and mending of the same £3 6s 8d;

Also I will that there be a stone of marble bought and laid upon my grave after the discretion of mine executors;

Also I will that the house and the land that I have in Stobedoyll [=Scobhull?] be [+sold to?] the performance of my will and contentation of my debts;

Also I will that the house and the land that I bought of Valentine Rutter in March be sold for the same purpose;

Also I will that mine executors dispose or cause to be disposed for the soul of Thurstan Smyth one gilt standing cup or the value of it after the discretion of my said executors;

Also I will that immediately after my decease there be an inventory made and indented of all my movable goods, whereof one part to rest with my wife and the other to be in mine uncle Sir Everard Fielding's keeping to the behoof of my children;

And then I will that all those goods be indifferently praised, and according as they be worth, and then I will that all the money that shall be received for the said houses and lands afore rehearsed, also all my movable goods, my debts paid and this my last will performed, be distributed and divided to my wife & amongst all my children indifferently, and every person to have a like value and substance;

And if it fortune them to die afore they come to a lawful age, then I will that his part of the goods that so dieth be divided amongst the remnant of my children that live over them;

Also if it fortune any of my daughters to die afore they be married, then I will the part of them that so die be divided as I have afore rehearsed;

Also I will that as long as my wife liveth sole and marry not, that she have the guiding and keeping of all the goods afore rehearsed;

And if she take a husband and marry, then I will that shortly after she is so married that she deliver unto the foresaid Sir Everard Fielding, knight, and to Robert Bruwern, clerk, or to either of them all such goods as be afore rehearsed and also the party which afore is assigned to the behoof of my children, for and if she marry I will that she have no part of my movable goods, but let her keep her alone to her jointure;

And I make and ordain Margaret Lynne, my wife, and Robert Bruwern, clerk, my true and faithful executors to dispose for my soul after my power as they think best with the good favour and oversight of mine uncle, Sir Everard Fielding, knight;

These witness: John Zorbe(?) of Southwick, Thomas Rauff, Henry Browne, with other.

Probatum fuit testamentum supradicti defuncti habentis dum vixit & mortis sue tempore diuersa bona et debita in diuersis diocesis prouincie Cantuariensis &c primo die Mensis Iulij Anno domini Millesimo quingentesimo vndecimo Iuramento Thome Mercer procuratoris Margarete Relicte et domini Roberti Bruwern capellani personaliter presentis Ac approbatum et insinuatum Et commissa fuit administratio omnium bonorum & debitorum dicti defuncti prefate Relicte in persona dicti procuratoris et domino Roberto personaliter presenti executibus in huiusmodi testamento nominatis De bene et fideliter ac sub vna nimis consensu et assensu administrando Ac de pleno et fidei Inuentario citra festum sancte Trinitatis proximum futurum exhibendo Necnon de plano & vero comperto reddendo ad sancta dei euangelia in debita iuris forma iuratis

[=The testament of the above-written deceased, having while he lived & at the time of his death diuers goods and debts in diuers dioceses of the province of Canterbury etc., was proved on the first day of the month of July in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred eleventh by the oath of Thomas Mercer, proctor of Margaret, relict, and Sir Robert Bruwern, chaplain, personally present, and probated and entered, and administration was granted of all the goods & debts of the said deceased to the forenamed relict in the person of the said proctor and to Sir Robert personally present, executors named in the same testament, sworn on the Holy Gospels in due form of law to well and faithfully and with one consent and assent administer, and to exhibit a full and faithful inventory before the feast of the Holy Trinity next to come, and also to render a plain & true account.]