

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 21 December 1512 and proved 19 February 1515, of Sir Edward Jerningham of Somerleyton.

### ***FAMILY BACKGROUND***

The testator was the elder son of Sir John Jerningham (d.1503) and Isabel Clifton, the daughter of Sir Gervase Clifton (d.1471) and Isabel Herbert. See Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., 2011, Vol. I, p. 512; Druery, John Henry, *Historical Notices of Great Yarmouth*, (London: Nicholas & Son, 1826), p. 172; and Betham, William, *The Baronetage of England*, Vol. I, (Ipswich: Burrell and Bransby, 1801), pp. 226, 232, available online.

The testator had a younger brother, Sir Richard Jerningham (d. 1525/6), who married Anne Sapcote (d. 14 March 1559), the daughter and heir of Sir Guy Sapcote of Huntingdon by his wife, Margaret. For the will of the testator's brother, Sir Richard Jerningham, see TNA PROB 11/22, f. 67. After Sir Richard Jerningham's death Anne (nee Sapcote) married John Russell, 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Bedford, by whom she was the mother of Francis Russell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Bedford.

The testator's sister Margaret (or Mary) Jerningham married Thomas Stanhope, esquire, of Shelford or Rampton, by whom she had two sons, Sir Edward Stanhope (who married firstly Adelina or Avelina Clifton, and secondly Elizabeth Bouchier), and John Stanhope. See Burke, John, *A Genealogical and Heraldic Dictionary of the Peerage and Baronetage of the British Empire*, 6<sup>th</sup> ed., (London: Henry Colburn, 1839), pp. 195-6; Burke, Bernard, *A Genealogical and Heraldic Dictionary of the Peerage and Baronetage*, (London: Harrison and Sons, 1880), p. 237; Brydges, Egerton, *Collins's Peerage of England*, Vol. III, (London: F.C. and J. Rivington, 1812), pp. 412-13, available online.

The testator is also said to have had other sisters, and in his own will his brother, Sir Richard Jerningham, mentions 'my sister Maud Gawge' and 'my sister Besham', who may have been his married sisters or his sisters-in-law.

### ***MARRIAGES AND CHILDREN***

#### ***First marriage***

The testator married firstly Margaret Bedingfield (b. about 1476, died 24 March 1504):

*The old stone on the floor of the chancel [of St Mary's Church in Somerleyton], from which the brass effigies have been reaved, covers the remains of Edward Jernegan who died on the 6<sup>th</sup> of January 1515 seized of this manor [of Somerleyton] with those of*

*Horham, Newton, Corton, Stonham-Jernegan, Wathe, Lowestoft, East, West, North and South Leet in Gorleston, Mutford, Ashby, &c. He is buried by the side of his first wife, whose inscription Weever has preserved:*

*Margaret Jernegan the wyef of Edward Jernegan, Esquyer, daughter of Sir Edmund Bedingfelde, Knt, which Margaret dyed the xxiiij of March, anno MDIII.*

See Suckling, Alfred, *The History and Antiquities of the Hundreds of Blything and Part of Lothingland in the County of Suffolk*, (London, 1847), pp. 55-6, available online at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=TBMRAQAAMAAJ&pg=PA55>

Suckling states that the testator was 'afterwards knighted'; however he does not style himself knight in the will below.

The testator's father-in-law, Sir Edmund Bedingfield (1443-1496), fought under John de Vere (1442-1513), 13<sup>th</sup> Earl of Oxford, at the Battle of Stoke on 15 June 1487, and in the same year entertained King Henry VII at Oxburgh, on which occasion the King was accompanied by the 13<sup>th</sup> Earl of Oxford, among others. Sir Edmund Bedingfield (1443-1496) was twice married. By his first wife, Alice Shelton (d. about 1478), he had one daughter, Margaret (b. about 1476, d. 24 March 1504), who married the testator. For the will of the testator's father-in-law, Sir Edmund Bedingfield (1443-1496), see TNA PROB 11/11/6.

### ***Second marriage***

The testator married secondly Mary Scrope (d. 25 August 1548), one of the daughters and co-heirs of (Sir?) Richard Scrope of Bentley, second son of Henry (1418-1458/9), 4<sup>th</sup> Lord Scrope of Bolton, and his wife, Eleanor Washbourne (d.1505/6), the daughter of Norman Washbourne (1433-1482) and Elizabeth Kniveton. By his second wife the testator is said to have had four sons and a daughter:

- \* **Sir Henry Jerningham** (d. 6 September 1572).
- \* **Ferdinand Jerningham**.
- \* **Edmund Jerningham** (d. 9 February 1546).
- \* **Edward Jerningham**, born after the death of his father.
- \* **Elizabeth Jerningham**, said to have been a Maid of Honour to Queen Mary.

After the testator's death, Mary Scrope (d. 25 August 1548) married Sir William Kingston (d. 14 September 1540). For her will, see TNA PROB 11/32, ff. 168-9. For the will of Sir William Kingston, see TNA PROB 11/28, f. 252.

At the date of his will in 1512, the testator had six sons (John, Thomas, Robert, Nicholas, Henry and Fernand), and two daughters (Margaret and Anne). The will of the testator's second wife, Mary (nee Scrope) Jerningham Kingston (d.1548), indicates that the testator's daughters Margaret and Anne, referred to in the will as Margaret Hasset [=Blennerhasset] and Lady Anne Grey, were both still living in 1546, but only two of his sons, John and Henry. For the will of the testator's daughter, Lady Anne Grey, see TNA PROB 11/42B/3. For the will of the testator's daughter Margaret's second husband, Robert Holdich of Ranwell, Norfolk, see TNA PROB 11/42/A, ff. 151-154. The will of Robert Holdich contains this clause which identifies his second wife as the testator's daughter, Margaret:

*I will my body to be buried, if it chance me to depart this transitory life within twenty miles of Ranworth, in the parish church of Ranworth by my first wife, Jahane Fincham, the daughter of John Fincham of Owtewell, gentleman, and so laid by her that my wife that now is, Margaret, the daughter of Edward Jernegan, while he lived of Lovingelond [=Lothingland] in Suffolk, esquire, chancing to depart this transitory life at Ranworth aforesaid or near there, may lie by me one the other side of me, if she will, so that I shall lie then between both my said wives.*

The testator's daughter, Margaret married, firstly, George Blennerhasset (d.1546?), and secondly, Robert Holdich (d.1558/9). She left a will dated 13 June 1559. See 'Walsham Hundred: Randworth', An Essay towards a Topographical History of the County of Norfolk: volume 11 (1810), pp. 112-116. URL: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=78763>.

The testator was succeeded by his eldest son and heir by his first wife, Sir John Jerningham (d.1559?) of Somerleyton, who married Bridget Drury, the daughter of Sir Robert Drury (b. before 1456, d. 1535), lawyer and speaker of the House of Commons, and chief steward and executor to John de Vere (1442-1513), 13th Earl of Oxford. Sir Robert Drury's first wife, whom he had married by 1494, was Anne, the daughter of Sir William Calthorpe (d.1494) of Burnham Thorpe, Norfolk, a descendant of King Edward I and Eleanor of Castile. His second wife, whom he had married by 1531, and by whom he had no children, was the testator's daughter, Lady Anne Grey (d.1559), referred to above. The testator's daughter, Lady Anne Grey (d.1559), was thus the sister of the testator's eldest son and heir, Sir John Jerningham (d.1559?) of Somerleyton, and the stepmother of Sir John Jerningham's wife, Bridget Drury. See the *ODNB* entry for Sir Robert Drury, and Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry* (Baltimore, Genealogical Publishing, 2004), p. 276.

Sir John Jerningham (d.1559?) and his wife Bridget Drury had three sons, George (d.1559), Robert, and John, and two daughters, Anne (d. 28 May 1581), who married Sir Thomas Cornwallis (1518/19-1604), and Elizabeth, who married Sir John Sulyard of Wetherden, Suffolk. See Betham, William, *The Baronetage of England*, Vol. I (Ipswich: Burrell and Bransby, 1801), p. 227.

Sir John Jerningham (d.1559?) was predeceased by his eldest son and heir, George Jerningham (b. 26 March 1515, d. January 1559) of Somerleyton, who in 1534 married Ella, the daughter of Sir John Spelman (c.1480–1546) of Narborough, Norfolk. Sir John Jerningham did not long survive the death of his son, George, and was succeeded by his grandson, John Jerningham (d.1587?) of Somerleyton, who married Catherine Brooke (1544-1617?), the daughter of George Brooke (c.1497-1558), 9<sup>th</sup> Baron Cobham, and sister of William Brooke (1527-1597), 10<sup>th</sup> Baron Cobham. See Bindoff, S.T., *The House of Commons 1509-1558*, Vol. I, (London: Secker & Warburg, 1982), p. 443; McKeen, David, *A Memory of Honour; The Life of William Brooke, Lord Cobham* (Salzburg: Institut für Anglistik und Amerikanistik, 1986), pp. 11, 52, 66, 379-81, 668; and Copinger, W.A., *The Manors of Suffolk*, Vol. 5 (Manchester: Taylor, Garnett, Evans, 1909), pp. 5-6.

LM: T{estamentum} Edwardi Gernegan

In the name of God, Amen. I, Edward Jerningham, making my last will and testament the 21<sup>st</sup> day of December in the year of Our Lord God 1512 and the 4<sup>th</sup> year of the reign of King Henry the 8<sup>th</sup>:

First, I bequeath my soul to Almighty Jesus and Our Lady Saint Mary and to all the blessed company of heaven, my body to be buried in the church in the Abbey of Saint Olaves next the tomb of Thomas Jerningham on the south side of the tomb;

Also I will my wife have my purchased land during her life, that is to say, the messuage called Ryppys in Herringfleet with the appurtenance, the lands called Grenys and Lounysby in Somerleyton with the appurtenance, the tenement called Pages in Somerleyton with the appurtenance, the lands of Calys in Somerleyton and Blundeston with the appurtenance, and after her decease I will that all the said lands be sold be [=by] mine executors for the performance of this my last will;

And if John Jerningham, mine eldest son, will purchase the said lands, I will that he have them before any other, and this price: the tenement Reppys for 8 score marks, the lands of Grenys and Louysbys for £60, the tenement Pages for £10, the lands of Calys for £26 6s 8d, and if the said John Jerningham purchase not the said lands, that then the said lands be sold to the uttermost price, the money thereof coming to be divided equally amongst my children Thomas Jerningham, Robert Jerningham, Nicholas Jerningham, Henry Jerningham, Fernand Jerningham, Margaret Jerningham and Anne Jerningham;

Also I will that my wife have the manor of Askyby [=Ashby] with the lands, tenements, rents and service with all other appurtenance thereto belonging, to give or sell where she best liketh;

Item, I will that my two places at Lowestoft incontinent after my decease be sold, that is to say, my place called Hynsys with all th' appurtenances for 100 marks or more it may

be made of, and my place called Plommers with all the appurtenance for fourscore £ or more if it may be made of it, and the money thereof coming to be divided amongst my children aforesaid;

And all my goods, jewels and chattel[s] I will my wife have it during her life, she making an inventory of the said goods and jewels, and after her decease the said goods to be sold, the money thereof to be divided equally amongst my foresaid children;

Item, I will that my said wife have all my plate to do withal as she best liketh;

Item, I will that all my brick at Mutford be sold which is the number of 25 last; the sum thereof to be sold is 52(?) at 4s the thousand;

And thus I ordain and make my wife my sole executrice.

Probatum fuit suprascriptum testamentum coram domino Apud Lambhith xix die mensis february Anno domino Millesimo quingentesimo quartodecimo Iuramento Relictæ in persona Magistri Willielmi Potkyn Notarij publici procuratoris sui in hac parte sufficienter et legitime constituti Ac Approbatum et insinuatum Et Commissa fuit Administracio omnium et singulorum bonorum et debitorum dicti defuncti prefatæ Relictæ in persona dicti procuratoris de bene et fideliter administrandi eadem Ac de pleno et fidei Inuentario omnium et singulorum bonorum et debitorum huiusmodi conficiendo Et nobis citra festum &c Necnon de plano et vero compoto &c Reddendo Ad Sancta dei Evangelia Iurat

[=The above-written testament was proved before the Lord [+Archbishop] at Lambeth on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of the month of February in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred fourteenth by the oath of the relict in the person of Master William Potkyn, notary public, sufficiently and lawfully constituted her proctor in that behalf, and probated and entered, and administration was granted of all and singular the goods and debts of the said deceased to the forenamed relict in the person of the said proctor, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well and faithfully administer the same, and to prepare a full and faithful inventory of all and singular the goods and debts of the same, and to render [+the same] to us before the feast etc., and a plain and true account etc.]