

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 9 July 1517 and proved 4 June 1519, of John Broughton (d. 24 January 1518), esquire, whose mother, Katherine de Vere, is said to have been an illegitimate daughter of John de Vere, 13th Earl of Oxford.

For the date of the testator's death, see Copinger, W.A., *The Manors of Suffolk*, Vol. 6, (Manchester: Taylor, Garnett, Evans and Co. Ltd., 1910), pp. 156, 319 at:

<http://archive.org/stream/cu31924092579592#page/n167/mode/2up>

FAMILY BACKGROUND

The Broughton family, of Broughton in Buckinghamshire, is said to have acquired its wealth through marriage with an heiress in the early fifteenth century. Mary Pever, the daughter of Thomas Pever (d. 22 September 1429) by Margaret Loring, one of the two daughters and coheirs of Sir Nigel Loring (d. 13 March 1386), a founding member of the Order of the Garter, married firstly Sir Richard St. Maur (d. 6 January 1409), and secondly John Broughton, by whom she had a son, John Broughton (d.1489), Sheriff of Bedfordshire, whose son, John Broughton (d.1479), married Anne Denston (d.1481) and predeceased his father by ten years, leaving their son, Sir Robert Broughton (d. 10, 17 or 28 August 1506), to inherit the Broughton estates.

See the will of the testator's great-grandfather, John Broughton (d.1489), TNA PROB 11/8/396; and 'Loring Family of Chalgrave' in Blaydes, Frederic Augustus, ed., *Bedfordshire Notes and Queries*, Vol. I, (Bedford: Arthur Ransom, 1886), pp. 186-7, 342-5 at:

<http://archive.org/stream/bedfordshirenot02unkngoog#page/n201/mode/2up>

The testator was the grandson of John Broughton (d.1479) of Denston, Suffolk, and Anne Denston (d.1481), daughter and heir of John Denston (d.1473) by Katherine Clopton, daughter of Sir William Clopton (d.1446) of Long Melford, Suffolk. See the inquisition post mortem of Anne (nee Denston) Broughton, TNA C 140/80/44. Portraits of the testator's grandparents, John Broughton and Anne Denston, are preserved in the stained glass windows of Holy Trinity Church, Long Melford. See Delany, Sheila, *Impolitic Bodies: Poetry, Saints, and Society in Fifteenth-Century England: The Work of Osborn Bokenham*, (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1998), pp. 16-18 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=o0Rn0kcns1MC&pg=PA16>

The testator was the son of Sir Robert Broughton (d. 17 August 1506), 'one of the richest non-baronial landowners in England', by his wife Katherine de Vere, who is said to have been an illegitimate daughter of John de Vere, 13th Earl of Oxford. See Ross, James, *John de Vere, Thirteenth Earl of Oxford (1442-1513), 'The Foremost Man of the*

Kingdom', (Woodbridge, Suffolk: The Boydell Press, 2011), p. 187. For the will of Sir Robert Broughton, see TNA PROB 11/15/535.

Both the testator and his brother Robert are mentioned in the 13th Earl's will:

Item, I give and bequeath to John Broughton a pair of flagons of silver like to bottles, weighing 173 ounces di{midium}.

Item, I give to Robert Broughton, his brother, £10 in money.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

The testator married Anne Sapcote (d. 14 March 1559), the daughter of Sir Guy Sapcote by his wife, Margaret Wolston, the daughter of Sir Guy Wolston (born c.1435, d. by 22 August 1504) of Apethorpe, Northamptonshire, Esquire of the Body to Edward IV in 1482, by his first wife, Margaret Tamworth(?).

By Anne Sapcote the testator had a son and three daughters:

* **John Broughton** (d. 1528). A settlement was made for his marriage to Dorothy Howard, daughter of Thomas Howard, Duke of Norfolk. See TNA C 142/33/3, and:

'Parishes: Great Staughton', in *A History of the County of Huntingdon: Volume 2*, ed. William Page, Granville Proby and S Inskip Ladds (London, 1932), pp. 354-369. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/hunts/vol2/pp354-369> [accessed 31 August 2018]

Mary Stonham had a son Robert, whose daughter and heir Elizabeth married John Broughton of Toddington (co. Bed.). (fn. 158) They had a son John, who married Anne Denston (d. 1481). It would appear that John and Anne had two sons, John, who died a minor, and Sir Robert, who succeeded to the estates and made a settlement of the manors of Gaynes or Gaynes Hall and Dillington, as the property was then called, on his marriage with Dorothy, sister of Richard Wentworth, and died in 1506. (fn. 159) His heir was his son John, who died in 1518, leaving a son and heir John, aged six at his father's death. A settlement was made for the proposed marriage of John Broughton, the son, with Dorothy, daughter of Thomas Duke of Norfolk, with remainder to John's (the father's) brother Robert (d. 1521). (fn. 160) John, son of John, died in 1529 while still a minor, leaving two sisters, Katherine and Anne, as his coheirs. They had livery of their lands in that year. (fn. 161) The wardship of Katherine was delivered to Agnes Duchess of Norfolk, (fn. 162) and that of Anne apparently to Sir Thomas Cheyne, to whom she was married. (fn. 163) Katherine was married to Agnes's son William, Lord Howard, before 1531, (fn. 164) and their only child married William Paulet, Marquis of Winchester, (fn. 165) with whom in 1592 she conveyed the site of the manor of Gaynes Hall to William Wallopp and Richard Beckenshaw. (fn. 166) The marquis died in 1598, and in 1599 his widow was dealing with the manor. (fn. 167)

See also:

'Parishes: Colne', in *A History of the County of Huntingdon: Volume 2*, ed. William Page, Granville Proby and S Inskip Ladds (London, 1932), pp. 167-171. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/hunts/vol2/pp167-171> [accessed 31 August 2018]

Anne, daughter and heir of John Denston the son, married John Broughton and died in 1481. She left a son John, a minor, (fn. 39) who was succeeded by Robert Broughton apparently his brother. Robert settled the manor on his marriage with Dorothy Wentworth and died in 1506. (fn. 40) John son of Robert Broughton, who died in 1518, (fn. 41) proposed to marry his son John to Dorothy daughter of Thomas Duke of Norfolk, but John died an infant without issue and Colne passed to his sister Anne, who married Sir Thomas Cheney, K.G., of the Isle of Sheppey. (fn. 42) She was succeeded by her son Sir Henry Cheney who was created Baron Cheney of Toddington in 1572. (fn. 43) At his death without issue in 1587 the manor passed to Agnes daughter of Katherine wife of William, first Lord Howard of Effingham, another sister of John Broughton. Agnes was the wife of William Paulet, Lord St. John, afterwards third Marquess of Winchester, (fn. 44) and they together in 1576 conveyed the manor to Richard Carter. (fn. 45)

* **Katherine Broughton** (d. 23 April 1535), who was the ward firstly of Cardinal Thomas Wolsey, and secondly Agnes Howard, Duchess of Norfolk, who married Katherine, as his first wife, to her eldest son, William Howard, 1st Baron Howard of Effingham. See Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. II, p. 417; Lysons, Daniel, *The Environs of London*, Vol. I, (London: A. Strahan, 1792), pp. 278-9; Harris, Barbara J., *English Aristocratic Women 1450-1550*, (New York: Oxford University Press, 2002).

* **Anne Broughton** (d. 16 May 1562), who married, as his second wife, by dispensation dated 24 May 1539, Sir Thomas Cheyney. There is a monument to her at Toddington. See Pollard, Albert Frederick, 'Cheyne, Thomas', *Dictionary of National Biography*, 1901 Supplement, pp. 421-3; entry for Sir Thomas Cheyney in Bindoff, S.T., *The House of Commons 1509-1558*, Vol. I, (London: Secker & Warburg, 1882), pp. 634-8; Blaydes, Frederic August, *The Visitations of Bedfordshire*, Vol. XIX, (London: Harleian Society, 1884), p. 14; Nichols, John Gough, ed., 'A Summary Catalogue of Monumental Art Existing in Parish Churches', *The Topographer and Genealogist*, Vol. I, (London: John Bowyer Nichols and Son, 1846), p. 156; Nichols, John Gough, ed., *The Diary of Henry Machyn*, (London: Camden Society, 1848), pp. 282, 370. Nichols gives the date of Anne's death as 16 May on p. 282, and as 18 May on p. 370.

* **Elizabeth Broughton**, who died unmarried in 1524. There is a monument to her at Chenies. See Nicolas, Nicholas Harris, *Testamenta Vetusta*, Vol. II, (London: Nichols & Son, 1826), p. 557; Haines, Herbert, *A Manual of Monumental Brasses, Part II*, (London: J.H. and James Parker, 1861), p. 21.

After the testator's death, Anne Sapcote married secondly, Sir Richard Jerningham (d.1525), the 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*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. I, p. 512; Druery, John Henry, *Historical Notices of Great Yarmouth*, (London: Nichols & Son, 1826), p. 172; and Betham, William, *The Baronetage of England*, Vol. I, (Ipswich: Burrell and Bransby, 1801), pp. 226, 232, available online. There were no children of the testatrix' marriage to Sir Richard Jerningham, although in his own will he names three illegitimate children ('Richard, Robert and Mary, my bastards'). For the will of Sir Richard Jerningham, see TNA PROB 11/22, f. 67.

Shortly after the death of Sir Richard Jerningham, Anne Sapcote married thirdly John Russell, 1st Earl of Bedford, by whom she was the mother of Francis Russell, 2nd Earl of Bedford. For the will of Anne Sapcote Broughton Jerningham Russell, see TNA PROB 11/42A/512.

In her father's will, the testator's sister, Margaret Broughton, (d. 6 August 1524) is said to have been married to William Fitzwilliam, with the proviso that if Fitzwilliam were to 'disagree to the said marriage', or die before the age of twenty-three, Margaret would be entitled to 500 marks from her father's estate. Nothing further is know of this marriage, and Margaret Broughton married Henry Everard (d.1541), mentioned in the will below. Their daughter, Elizabeth Everard, married Sir William Clopton (d. 6 October 1568) of Liston Hall, Essex. There is a monument to Henry Everard and his wife Margaret in the church of St Nicholas in Denston, Suffolk. See Cotman, John Sell, *Engravings of Sepulchral Brasses in Norfolk and Suffolk*, 2nd ed., Vol. II, (London: Henry G. Bohn, 1839), p. 16, available online.

Henry Everard made his will on 10 November 1540; it was proved 13 January 1541 (see TNA PROB 11/28, ff. 155-7. In his will Everard mentions his son and heir, Henry Everard, another son, John Everard, a daughter, Margaret, and a daughter married to William Clopton. At the time he made his will Everard was married to a second wife, Lore Wentworth, the daughter of Sir Roger Wentworth by Anne Tyrrell, the daughter of Humphrey Tyrrell, son of Thomas Tyrrell of Heron. See Norcliffe, Charles Best, ed., *The Visitation of Yorkshire in the Years 1563 and 1564*, Vol. XVI, (London: Harleian Society, 1881), p. 343.

The arms of Broughton are given as 'Argent a chevron between three mullets gules'. See Cotman, *supra*.

For other transcripts of the testator's will, see Nicolas, Nicholas Harris, *Testamenta Vetusta*, Vol. II, (London: Nichols and Son, 1826), p. 557; and Madden, Frederick, ed., *Collectanea Topographica et Genealogica*, Vol. V, (London: John Bowyer Nichols and Son, 1838), pp. 89-91 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=YScAAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA90>

For the great inheritance left by the testator see:

Francis Blomefield, 'Hundred of Henstede: Saxlingham', in *An Essay Towards A Topographical History of the County of Norfolk: Volume 5* (London, 1806), pp. 495-502. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/topographical-hist-norfolk/vol5/pp495-502> [accessed 31 August 2018]

In 1478, John Broughton, Esq. died seized of this, Stonham Aspale in Suffolk, and Colne Eugayne in Essex, and left John his son and heir, who died in 1528, leaving Anne and Catherine his coheireses, (his only son John dying under age,) who had livery of their several moieties of this, Tilney, and many other manors in Norfolk, Suffolk, Bedfordshire, Devonshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Cornwall, Huntingdonshire, Cambridgeshire, Leicestershire, Hertfordshire, Oxfordshire, Essex, and Northamptonshire; so great was the estate of this family; these two coheireses married, Anne, to William Howard, Knt. lord Howard of Naworth; and Catherine, to Sir Thomas Cheine, Knt. lord warden of the Cinque Ports

LM: T{estamentum} Ioh{ann}is Broughton

In the name of God, Amen. The 9th day of July in the year of Our Lord God 1517 and the 9th year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord King Henry the 8th, I, John Broughton, esquire, whole of mind and in my good memory, being thanked be Almighty God, knowing myself to be mortal, remembering also and daily having in mind the uncertainty of this transitory life, and that death is certain to me and all mankind and the hour of it most uncertain, willing therefore to provide and dispose by the grace of Jesus for the health of my soul, the payment of my debts, marriage and promotion of my children and contentation of other legacies for the health of my soul make, ordain and declare this my present testament and last will in manner and form as hereafter ensueth, that is to say:

First and principally above all earthly things I bequeath and recommend my soul unto Almighty God, my Creator, Maker and Saviour, and Redeemer of all the world, and to Our Blessed Lady Saint Mary the Virgin, his most glorious Mother, and to all the holy company of the court celestial, my body to be buried in the parish church of Thorington if it fortune me to decease near thereabout;

Item, I will that my funerals be done by the discretion and advice of mine executors without any sumptuous costs or charges to be done about my corruptible body for any worldly pomp;

Item, I will above all things that all my debts and duties by me due or that hereafter shall be due by me be truly contented & paid;

And whereas Thomas, Cardinal and Archbishop of York; William, Archbishop of Canterbury; Thomas, Bishop of Durham; Thomas, Earl of Surrey, and other stand and be

seised and enfeoffed of and in my manors of Alington, Colne Engaine, Grefferham, Sanday, Filgrave, Cranefeld, Stony Stratford, Barkeston, Shelton and Blatherwick with their appurtenances to th' use of me and mine heirs and for the performance of this my last will and testament, I will and by this my present testament ordain and declare that during the space of 10 years next and immediately following after my decease my said feoffees shall well, quietly and peaceably suffer my executors to have, levy, perceive and take all th' issues, revenues, rents and profits coming and growing of all my said manors with th' appurtenances and in every part thereof, they therewith to content and pay my said debts & duties, and with all the said issues, rents, revenues and profits of the said manors with the appurtenances to execute and perform this my said testament and last will;

And also I will that my said feoffees and all other my feoffees of all other my lands and tenements shall peaceably suffer mine executors to take and receive all and singular debts and sums of money to me in any wise due or owing at the time of my death;

Item, I bequeath to the high altar of the church of Torington [=Thorington?] for my tithes and offerings by me forgotten or negligently withholden in discharge of my soul 40s;

Item, I will that I have an honest priest of good name and fame to sing and pray for my soul, my father and mother['s] souls, my friends' souls and all Christian souls in the place & church where my body shall be buried by the space of 10 years next ensuing after my decease, and the said priest to have yearly for his salary or wages £6 13s 4d to be paid by mine executors;

Item, I will that Anne my (blank) shall have all my household stuff, plate and cattle(?);

Item, I bequeath my 3 daughters £600 sterling, that is to say, to every of the same of my 3 daughters £200 to their marriages if so be my goods and revenues of my said manors, lands and tenements will so much amount unto, and if not, that then I will it be minished after the discretion of mine executors, and if it fortune one of my said 3 daughters to decease, I will that then the other 2 of my said daughters surviving shall have the part of that my daughter so deceasing between them evenly to be divided, and if it fortune 2 of my said daughters to decease, I will that then the other of my daughters surviving shall have £400 of the said £600, and John, my son, to have the residue, which is £200, if it will so amount unto and may be borne;

Item, I bequeath to my son, John Broughton, £100;

Item, I give and bequeath to my brother, Robert Broughton, the manor of Seynes [sic for Gaynes?] with th' appurtenances in the county of Huntingdon when he cometh to th' age of 21 years according to the testament and last will of my father, Sir Robert Broughton, whose soul Jesu pardon;

Item, I give and bequeath to every of my servants that shall be in service with me at the time of my decease an whole year's wages from the time of my decease;

The residue of all & singular my goods, debts and chattels, after my debts paid, my burying and funerals expenses made and done and this my present testament fulfilled, I give and bequeath freely and wholly unto mine executors, whom I make the right high and mighty Prince and my most especial good Lord Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, my brother-in-law, Henry Everard, and my brother, Robert Broughton;

Item, I give unto my said Lord for his pain taken in this behalf £40, and to [f. 136r] every other mine executors for their pains taken in that behalf twenty pounds.

Probatum fuit supra scriptum testamentum coram D{omi}no apud Lamhith quarto die me{n}sis Iunij Anno D{omi}ni Mill{es}imo quingentesimo xixo Iur{amento} henrici Euerard executoris in h{uius}mo{d}i testamento no{m}i{n}ati Ac aprobatum et insinuatum Et comissa fuit admi{ni}strac{i}o o{mn}iu{m} et singulor{um} bonor{um} et debitor{um} dicti defuncti predicto executori De Bene et fideli{te}r admi{ni}strand{o} eadem Ac de pleno et fideli Inven{ta}rio &c conficiend{o} Et nobis citra festum S{an}c{t}i Mich{ael}is Arch{angel}i prox{imum} futur{um} exhibend{o} Necnon de plano & vero compoto reddend{o} etc Ad sancta dei Eu{a}ngelia Iurat{o} Res{er}uata p{otes}tate similem comissionem prepotenti Principi Thome Duci Norff magno thesaurario et Marescallo Anglie et Roberto Broughton executorib{us} eciam in h{uius}mo{d}i testamento no{m}i{n}at{is} cum venerint etc.

[=The above-written testament was proved before the Lord at Lambeth on the fourth day of the month of June in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred 19th by the oath of Henry Everard, executor named in the same testament, and probated and entered, and administration was granted of all and singular the goods and debts of the said deceased to the forenamed executor, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well and faithfully administer the same, and to prepare a full and faithful inventory etc., and to exhibit [+the same] to us before the feast of Saint Michael the Archangel next to come, and also to render a plain & true account etc., with power reserved for a similar grant to the mighty Prince, Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, High Treasurer and Marshal of England, and Robert Broughton, executors also named in the same testament, when they shall have come etc.]