

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 1 July 1548 and proved 20 September 1549, of Sir Anthony Windsor (d. July 1548), brother of Andrew Windsor (1467 - 30 March 1543), 1st Baron Windsor, the grandfather of Edward Windsor (1532?-1575), 3rd Baron Windsor, husband of Oxford's half-sister, Katherine de Vere (1538-1600).

FAMILY BACKGROUND

For the testator's family background, see the will of his brother, Andrew Windsor, 1st Baron Windsor, TNA PROB 11/29/416.

For the will of Edward Windsor, 3rd Baron Windsor, see TNA PROB 11/57/332.

For the will of Oxford's half-sister, Katherine de Vere, see TNA PROB 11/95/237.

MARRIAGES AND CHILDREN

First marriage

The testator married firstly, before 9 February 1509, Elizabeth Lovell, one of the two daughters of Henry Lovell and Constance Husee (who after the death of Henry Lovell married Sir Roger Lewknor). In 1526, Constance, then the wife of Sir Roger Lewknor (and the stepmother of Jane Lewknor, wife of Sir Arthur Pole), presented the future Cardinal Pole to the living of Harting. See Gordon, H.D., *The History of Harting*, (London: W. Davy & Son, 1877), p. 50 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/historyofharting00gordiala#page/50/mode/2up>

The testator's first wife, Elizabeth Lovell, had earlier been the wife of Sir Edward Bray (by 1492-1558), from whom she was divorced. See the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/bray-sir-edward-1492-1558>

For Elizabeth Lovell's family background, see also 'Harting', in *A History of the County of Sussex: Volume 4, the Rape of Chichester*, ed. L F Salzman (London, 1953), pp. 10-21. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/sussex/vol4/pp10-21> [accessed 20 March 2018]:

Nicholas Husee obtained a pardon in 1467 for all debts to the king, incurred while he served the offices of buyer, receiver, and keeper of victuals and equipment provided for the defence of Calais, the lieutenancy of the castle of Guynes, and sheriff of Surrey and Sussex. (fn. 99) Before July of the following year he had been outlawed for treason and

his lands forfeited, (fn. 100) but he evidently again obtained pardon, for on his death in 1472 he held the manor of Harting. His heirs were his daughters Constance aged 12, and Catherine aged 10. (fn. 101) Constance married firstly Henry Lovell and afterwards Sir Roger Lewkenor, and Catherine married Reynold Bray.

In 1478 Thomas Husee sued Sir Roger Lewkenor, Thomas Hoo, and Thomas Bassett for the manor of Harting. (fn. 102) Thomas claimed it as great-grandson of the Henry son of Mark Husee, the claimant in 1389, and recovered the manor against Sir Roger Lewkenor, (fn. 103) but immediately took part in a conveyance of the manor to trustees to the use of the coheirs of Nicholas Husee, (fn. 104) and the manor was divided between them. Reynold Bray and Catherine had land held by certain tenants in East Harting, land in Rogate, Wenham, and Chalecroft in Harting with 15s. 2½d. from the Up Park, and the hamlet of West Harting, except Bakersholt, Ladyholt, and Mereland. The rest of the manor was assigned to Henry Lovell and Constance, the hundred of Dumpford, the wood called Harting Combe and the fair and advowson being held jointly. (fn. 105) From this time the manor became divided into West, East, and South Harting.

By Henry Lovell Constance had two daughters, Elizabeth and Agnes. (fn. 106) Agnes married John Empson, and Elizabeth married firstly Sir Edward Bray, (fn. 107) and afterwards, before 9 February 1509, Sir Anthony Windsor, (fn. 108) brother of Andrew, Lord Windsor, (fn. 109) by whom she had two children Henry and Constance. (fn. 110)

Catherine and Reynold Bray had no children, but Reynold appears to have acquired some title to the manor of West Harting and land in Harting, in his own right. This he left by will to his nephew Edmund Bray in tail male, with contingent remainder to his niece Margery wife of William, Lord Sandes, in fee tail. (fn. 111) Sir Anthony Windsor before 1520 purchased the rights of the Brays in WEST HARTING manor, and apparently also those of John Empson and Agnes, (fn. 112) for in 1548 half that manor and the estate acquired from the Brays was settled upon Sir Anthony and Joan his wife, (fn. 113) with remainders to his younger son Anthony and to Honora and Edith Windsor, sisters of the younger Anthony. (fn. 114) Sir Anthony died in July 1548. (fn. 115) Anthony his son, 'a man of much simplicity', had no children, and was persuaded to sell his right in West Harting to Edmund Ford, in spite of the protests of his sister Edith wife of Henry Mervyn, who was next in remainder under the settlement of 1548. (fn. 116) The sale to Ford was made in 1559 by Anthony and his wife Joan, and Lady Joan widow of Sir Anthony, who was in actual possession. (fn. 117)

The other half of West Harting with the manors of South and East Harting belonged to Constance Lewkenor, and was settled in 1524 on her and her grandchildren Henry and Constance Windsor, with contingent remainder to Sir Henry Husee and Henry Husee, esq., in tail. (fn. 118) Henry Windsor and his wife Eleanor sold these manors in 1549 to Edmund Ford. (fn. 119) Henry Windsor was an idiot from birth, and in 1550 an inquisition was made as to the king's rights. (fn. 120) Henry died three years later, (fn. 121) and special licence was given to Edmund Ford to take possession of the manor of Harting and half of West Harting. (fn. 122) In order to secure his possession Edmund obtained in 1560 a release of these manors from Henry Windsor's sister and heir,

Constance wife of Thomas Rythe, and also from John Hussey, (fn. 123) the remainder man in the settlement of 1524.

By his first wife, the testator had a son and daughter:

* **Henry Windsor** (d.1553), said to have been ‘an idiot from birth’. He married Eleanor Burbage (d.1574), who after his death married secondly, Hugh Partridge; thirdly, Oliver St John (d.1571), for whose will see TNA PROB 11/53/192; and fourthly, Rocco Bonetti (d.1587), the Italian master of fence alluded to by Shakespeare in *Romeo and Juliet*. See the pedigree of Burbage of Hayes Park Hall in Armytage, George John, ed., *Middlesex Pedigrees as Collected by Richard Mundy*, (London: Harleian Society, 1914), Vol. LXV, p. 80 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/middlesexpedigre65mund#page/80/mode/2up>

See also Evans, Charles F.H., ‘The Family of St John of Lambeth’, *Surrey Archaeological Collections*, 1966, Vol. 63, pp. 151-6, available online.

* **Constance Windsor**, who married Thomas Rythe. For litigation involving Constance Windsor, her husband, Thomas Rythe, her brother, Henry Windsor, and Edmund Ford, see the History of Parliament entry for Edmund Ford:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/ford-edmund-1524-6879>

The dispute with the Dudleys was probably linked with the series of lawsuits arising out of Ford's purchase, in October 1549, of the manors of Harting, West Harting and Nutbourne, including the advowson of Harting, from Henry, son and heir of Sir Anthony Windsor of Harting. The sale was opposed by Henry Windsor's sister, who claimed that she and her husband Thomas Rithe should have control of the inheritance as Henry had been an idiot under the guardianship of Sir Andrew Dudley. After Windsor's death, Thomas Rithe, with the assistance of his brother George Rithe, began several suits in Chancery, common pleas, requests and the King's bench: he alleged that Ford had induced Windsor to leave Dudley's house and to live with him, had committed adultery with Windsor's wife and through her had persuaded Windsor to sell him the property for £1,900. Eventually part of West Harting was returned to Sir Anthony Windsor's widow, who occupied it until her death in 1572, but Ford retained most of the property.⁵

Second marriage

The testator married secondly, Anne Troyes, the daughter of Thomas Troyes (living 1503). See the Windsor pedigree in Rylands, W. Harry, *Pedigrees from the Visitation of Hampshire*, (London: Harleian Society, 1913), Vol. LXIV, p. 60 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/pedigreesfromvis64beno#page/60/mode/2up>

By Anne Troyes, the testator had a son and two daughters:

* **Anthony Windsor**, who married Joan Fettiplace, the daughter and coheir of Sir Edmund Fettiplace of Berkshire. See Cokayne, George Edward, *Complete Baronetage*, Vol. I, (Exeter: William Pollard, 1900), p. 101 at:

<http://www.archive.org/stream/cu31924092524374#page/n123/mode/2up>

After the death of Anthony Windsor, Joan Fettiplace married Thomas Peshall (d. 28 November 1608) of Horsley, Staffordshire, by whom she was the mother of Sir John Peshall (22 February 1562 - 13 January 1646), esquire, who married Anne Sheldon (baptized December 1571, d. 30 March 1613), the daughter of Ralph Sheldon of Beoley. For the will of Ralph Sheldon, see TNA PROB 11/121/345.

For Thomas Peshall, see also Vaughan, H.F.J., 'Wenlock Corporation Records', *Transactions of the Shropshire Archaeological and Natural History Society*, 2nd Series, Vol. VI, (Shrewsbury: Adnitt and Naunton, 1894), pp. 223-83 at p. 255:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=cHpHAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA255>

Through his mother, Anne Troyes, Anthony Windsor was a first cousin of William Pounce. See TNA C 1/1462/51, a Chancery suit dating from 1556-8 concerning lands in Arreton 'late of Thomas Troyes deceased, grandfather of complainants' William Pounce, esquire, and Anthony Windsor, gentleman. For the marriage of William Pounce (d. 5 July 1525) and Edburga Troyes, see his will, TNA PROB 11/21/561, and the pedigree in Hampshire Record Office 5M50/403-405.

According to Malden, Anthony Windsor died in 1566, leaving a son, Edmund Windsor, about four years of age. See:

'Parishes: Worplesdon', in *A History of the County of Surrey: Volume 3*, ed. H E Malden (London, 1911), pp. 390-395. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/surrey/vol3/pp390-395> [accessed 20 March 2018]

In 1548 a certain Sir Anthony Windsor and his wife Joan were seised of the manor in Joan's right; (fn. 48) so that probably Sir Anthony was Joan Bassett's second husband. In 1566 Anthony Windsor, son of Joan and Anthony, died seised of the manor, leaving a son and heir Edmund, who was about four years old at the time of his father's death. (fn. 49) In 1592 Edmund conveyed the manor to Sir John Wolley, (fn. 50) who died in 1595. In 1597 Lady Elizabeth, widow of Sir John Wolley, was holding the manor in trust for her son Francis. (fn. 51)

Malden appears to be in error, however, since Joan Fettiplace Windsor Peshall had a son born in 1562 by her second husband, Thomas Peshall (see above). Moreover according to Brayley, the manor of Burpham in Worplesdon was sold to Sir John Wolley (d.1596)

by William Wintershill, not by Edmund Windsor. See Brayley, Edward Wedlake, *A Topographical History of Surrey*, Vol. II, (London: Tilt and Bogue, 1840?), p. 31 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=9bYHAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA31>

For the will of Oxford's trustee, Sir John Wolley, see TNA PROB 11/87/198.

* **Edith Windsor**, who married Henry Mervyn. See Howard, Joseph Jackson, ed., *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica*, Vol. I, New Series, (London: Hamilton, Adams and Co., 1874), p. 422.

* **Honor Windsor**.

Third marriage

The testator married thirdly Jane Basset (d.1572), the widow of a husband surnamed Unwin. For further details, see her will, TNA PROB 11/54/413. There were no issue of the marriage.

LM: T{estamentum} Anthonij Windesor Militis

In the name of God, Amen. The first day of July in the second year of our Sovereign Lord Edward the Sixth by the grace of God of England, France and Ireland King, Defender of the Faith and in earth Supreme Head of the Church of England and also of Ireland, I, Anthony Windsor, knight, in good remembrance, lauds be unto Almighty God, ordain and declare this my present testament and last will in manner & form following:

First I commit my soul to the infinite mercy of Almighty God, the merciful Father in heaven, to the Blessed Virgin Mary, his Mother, and to all the holy company of heaven, my body to be buried at Harting near to my wife, Anne, whose soul Jesus pardon, or else where it shall please Almighty God [+to?] visit me and to call me to his infinite mercy;

And as touching my funerals, I require my executors to order them somewhat after my degree that Almighty God hath called me to, with Masses of the Five Wounds and dirges accordingly if the ordinance of the church will permit and suffer it;

Item, 53s 4d, rather with the more than with the least, be distributed to the poor people and householders in the parish of Harting, every man and woman 2d, and every child a penny at their houses, and no dole to be given in money at the church except meat and drink at the discretion of mine executors at the dirges, and this to be done at the time of my departure if it may be;

Item, likewise forty shillings to be dealt and given at East Meon in my time of departure as near as may be;

Item, I bequeath to the chest for the poor of the mother church of Chichester for tithes forgotten or withdrawn 3s 4d;

Item, to the mother church of Winchester to their chest for the poor for tithes forgotten or withdrawn 3s 4d;

Item, I will that an altar cloth, both the upper front and the nether front, be made of such apparel and wearing gear that I have for the high altar of Harting, and that a scutcheon of my wife Elizabeth's arms and mine be set in that same, with the hart's head at every corner;

Item, I will and give every householder in the parish of Harting having no plentyf [sic for 'plenty?'] of corn nor a bull to buy their corn to maintain their family a bushel of wheat by the discretion of my executors, the which I would have done as shortly as may be when they perceive me to draw to my end;

Item, I will a quarter of wheat be distributed in bread likewise at East Meon at their houses to pray for me, the souls of Elizabeth and Anne, and all my friends' souls;

Item, I give to my daughter, Constance Rythe, God's blessing and mine, and I give to my said daughter, Constance, a hundred sheep, half ewes, half wethers, and four kine, to be delivered by my executors within a month after my burial;

Item, I give to my said daughter, Constance Rythe, my black nut gilt, a pair of little gilt salts with the cover, and six spoons;

Item, I give to my entirely beloved wife, Jane, one of my best beds of down with all that longeth thereto to chose at her pleasure;

Also I give unto my said wife, Jane, all such goods movable and unmovable as I have by her at her house at Avington or elsewhere as it doth appear by a[n] inventory of that same plate & other, so that after her departure, if it shall stand with her pleasure, her own legacies fulfilled and performed, that the rest may remain to Anthony Windsor or to such other of my children at her pleasure having most need thereof to pray for her;

Item, I will that Jane, my entirely beloved wife, have the safe custody and occupation of my plate during her widowhood, to be delivered to her by a[n] inventory to the behoof of Anthony Windsor, Honor and Edith, and the better part to Anthony Windsor, and to the lenger liver of them, being ordered in their marriage and all other good demeanour [f. 285r] by mine executors;

Item, all the rest of my household stuff both bedding and other stuff at Harting or elsewhere not before nor hereafter given, I will and give that same to Anthony Windsor, Honor and Edith, with God's blessing and mine, so that they be confirmable [=conformable] to my well-beloved wife, Jane, and mine executors concerning their

marriage & other good demeanour, and my said wife to have the occupation of the said stuff till such time as she thinketh convenient with other of my executors to make deliverance at the time of marriage or otherwise, and specially the better part of everything thoroughly to my son, Anthony Windsor, by th' advice of mine executors;

Item, I will and give to my son, Anthony Windsor, the lease and term of my years that I have in the moiety of the farm of East Meon with the stock of six hundred sheep belonging to that same, and also with the stock of four hundred sheep of mine own, sum of the whole number a thousand, after my son Rythe's years expired, as it appeareth more largely by my son Rythe's lease;

Item, I give to my said son, Anthony, my statit(?) [=state?] and lease that I have in Stubbyng and Burleye mead whereof I have no indenture as yet;

Item, I give to my said son, Anthony, with the farm of East Meon ten kine and a bull and a gere(?) of horses and geldings with a[n] iron-bound cart, with 4 spyn(?) [=spane?] sows, a boar, 8 barrow hogs, six oxen with four steers, two ploughs with all the apparel, two plough geldings or two mares, a pair of harrows, 16 quarters of wheat, twenty quarters of barley with other necessaries of husbandry as my executors shall think expedient;

Item, the twenty marks the which my son, Thomas Rythe, doth and must pay me yearly during the years that he doth occupy in the farm of East Meon, I will and give the said yearly rent of 20 marks to my entirely beloved wife, Jane, during my son Rythe's lease;

And after the said lease determined, I will that my son, Anthony Windsor, do content and pay the said yearly rent of twenty marks likewise to my entirely beloved wife, Jane, for term of her life;

And after her decease to pay the said rent to Honor Windsor and Edith till such time as it shall please Almighty God to send them some convenable marriage;

Item, if it shall chance the said Anthony to die, as God forbid, before my son Rythe's years be expired, then I will the said farm with the stock of a thousand sheep, that is to say, six hundred of the stock and four hundred of mine own, be let to my son Rythe and to my daughter, Constance, for six years more over the years that he hath in the farm at my departure, paying yearly twenty marks to my executors and my assigns over and above the Lord's rent;

And they to employ it other [=either] to the finding of my children if they be not then married, other to the payment of my debts, if any such be, or my late wife Anne's debts, if any such be duly proved about East Meon or about Shortlinden;

And after the six years be expired, I will my term and the residue of my years of East Meon with the stock of sheep be sold to my son Rythe and to my daughter, Constance, by my executors if my said son with my daughter, Constance, be contented to buy it, or else

I refer it to the discretion of mine executors to make of the said farm as they can, and the profits of that same to be employed to the performance of my debts, if any such be, or else to the preferment of my children if they be to marry, or else to be employed to maidens' marriage of Harting parish and East Meon parish as it will extend by the advice of my executors;

Item, I give to my maidens being with me(?) in service at my departure, to Susan Ryng ten sheep and a cow, Constance Horselere ten sheep, Joan Apytt ten sheep;

And to every of my godchildren as well in East Meon parish as in Harting parish, every of them a sheep or else 12d at the discretion of mine executors;

Item, I will that all my cattle and sheep here or elsewhere unbequeathed neither before nor after be sold by my executors after the most value, and the money thereof to be distributed between Honor and Edith, and to be delivered at the time of their marriage by mine executors, so that they be ruled in the same and in all other good honesty by my executors;

Item, I will that ten pounds in money be given among my menservants over and besides their wages after the discretion of mine executors;

Item, I will that Henry Windsor shall have the preferment and buying of such cattle or stuff as shall be thought convenient to be sold by mine executors in Harting, so that he nor [f. 285r] no other by his procurement do disturb this my will, and so that Henry do occupy the said manor with the demesnes himself without fraud and dwell upon that same, or else not, then I refer the discretion [sic?] and sale of my goods to the discretion of my executors;

And as touching the declaration and disposition of my fee simple lands in West Harting, South Harting & Rogate, the which followeth, I will and give that same to my entirely beloved wife, Jane, for term of her life natural according to a fine in the term of the Holy Trinity the second year of our Sovereign Lord Edward the Sixth;

Item, I will that my son Rythe shall have six kine delivered to him by mine executors to find Mother Couettes(?) dirges which I am charged with during his term in East Meon after manner and form following: 2s to the priests and 4s to the behoof of the church yearly;

And when my son Rythe's years be expired, then the 6 kine to be delivered to my son, Anthony Windsor, or to the farmer there, and every of them to find surety to the wardens of the church or else to deliver the stock to the wardens by mine executors if the obit be not suffered to be kept, [+and?] then I will the profits of that sum yearly to the box for maintenance of the poor.

Memorandum: My son, Anthony Windsor, and Edith Windsor, by the gift of the right honourable my Lord Windsor, Sir Anthony [sic for 'Andrew?'] Windsor, knight, my

brother, whose soul Jesus pardon, must have by his will and testament each of them a hundred marks to be delivered by my Lord's executors against and toward their marriage, which I require my executors to call upon the deliverance of it, and if Edith doth fail, then Anthony Windsor as survivor must have it, as it doth more plainly appear by my Lord's will;

Item, I give to my entirely beloved wife, Jane, all my geldings and horse of my hackney stable, and she to reward Anthony Windsor with one, and another for his servant, with all apparel to them;

Also I give to my wife, Jane, two score mares with their colts coming;

And other two score mares with their colts running by them to Anthony Windsor;

And all the rest of my horse to be at the discretion of mine executors;

Item, I ordain and make Jane, my wife, and George Rythe, esquire, to be mine executors, and my overseer Edmund Windsor, esquire;

Item, I give to little John fifty sheep, half ewes, half wethers, to be ordered by my executors for his increase till that he come to discretion and that he may be kept to learning. Anthony Windsor. Nicholas Bennede, vicar, George Fouller, John Brokynbow, with others.

Probatum fuit huiusmodi testamentum coram domino Cantuariensis Archiepiscopo apud London Vicesimo die Septembris Anno domini Millesimo quingentesimo xlixo Iuramento Domine Jane Relicte et Georgij Rythe Executorum in huiusmodi testamento nominatorum in persona Christiopheri Robynson procuratoris eorum Ac approbatur et insinatur Commissaque fuit administratione omnium bonorum & ceteri defuncti prefatius executoribus De bene et fideliter administratione eadem Ac de pleno Inuentario & cetera exhibendo Ad sancta dei Evangelia Iuratis

[=The same testament was proved before the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury at London on the twentieth day of September in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred 49th by the oath of Lady Jane, relict, and George Rythe, executors named in the same testament, in the person of Christopher Robynson, their proctor, and probated and entered, and administration was granted of all the goods etc. of the said deceased to the forenamed executors, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well and faithfully administer the same, and to exhibit a full inventory etc.]