

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 8 November 1554, of Sir William Waldegrave (1507?-1554), whose son, also Sir William Waldegrave (d.1613), was a co-guarantor, with Oxford's first cousin, John (d.1581), 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Darcy of Chiche, of Oxford's debt to the Court of Wards. In 1572, Sir William Waldegrave (d.1613), the son of the testator, and Lord Darcy jointly entered into guarantees amounting to £5000 for Oxford's debt to the Court of Wards (see TNA C 2/Eliz/T6/48).

The testator was the son of George Waldegrave (c.1483-1528) of Smallbridge in Bures St. Mary and his wife Anne Drury (d.1572), the daughter of Sir Robert Drury of Hawstead, Suffolk by Anne, daughter of Sir William Calthorpe. According to the *History of Parliament*, the testator was born and brought up at his maternal grandfather's house in Suffolk. The deaths within the space of fourteen months of his paternal grandfather, Sir William Waldegrave (d.1527), and his own father when the testator was a few weeks short of 21 years of age left him heir to a handsome patrimony, while the marriage contracted for him by his father while dying strengthened his connexions in the region and added to his property. For the wills of the testator's grandfather, Sir William Waldegrave (d.1527), and the testator's father, George Waldegrave (c.1483-1528), see TNA PROB 11/22, ff. 227-8, and TNA PROB 11/22, f. 286.

The testator was one of four sons of George Waldegrave (c.1483-1528) and Anne Drury (d.1572): William, George, Edward and Richard. Two of his brothers are mentioned in the will below: George Waldegrave, deceased, and Edward Waldegrave (d.1584), whom the testator appoints as one of his executors, and who married Joan Acworth, the widow of William Bulmer (d.1556). Also mentioned in the will are the testator's two sisters: Anne, the wife firstly of Henry Bures of Acton, esquire, and secondly, of Sir Clement Heigham (d.1571) of Lavenham, Suffolk, and Phyllis, the wife of Thomas Heigham (d.1554).

After the death of George Waldegrave (c.1483-1528), his widow, Anne (d.1572), married, as his second wife, Sir Thomas Jermyn (d.1552) of Rushbrooke, Suffolk. They had two sons, John and Thomas (likely Thomas Jermyn (d. 1617) of Depden, MP for Sudbury in 1589). Anne died on 8 June 1572, and was buried on 9 June at Depden, Suffolk. The testator's mother and her two sons by her second marriage are mentioned in the will below.

The testator married, by settlement dated 7 July 1528, Julian Rainsford, daughter of Sir John Rainsford (d.1521) of Colchester and Bradfield, Essex, by his second wife, Margaret Shaa or Shaw, the widow of Thomas Riche, of London, mercer. For the will of John Rainsford (d.1521), see TNA PROB 11/20, ff. 159-161. Margaret Shaa was born about 1471, the elder daughter of Sir Edmund Shaa or Shaw (d.1488), goldsmith and mayor of London in 1481-2, of Horndon House and Ardern Hall, Essex, by his wife, Julian, who died 6 July 1494. Sir Edmund Shaa's other daughter by his wife, Julian, was Katherine, who married Sir William Browne (d.1514), mercer, Lord Mayor of London in 1513-14. Their daughter, Julian (d.1537), married Sir John Munday (d.1537).

In his will the testator mentions his son and heir, William (d.1613), one married daughter, Margery Wiseman, and two unmarried daughters, Mary and Dorothy. It seems likely that Margery Wiseman's husband was of the family of John Wiseman and his son, Thomas, who were appointed on 10 December 1540 as auditors of all the lands of John de Vere (1516-1562), 16<sup>th</sup> Earl of Oxford (see TNA C 142/136/12).

The testator appears to have been with the English forces occupying Calais under Thomas (1525-1584), 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Wentworth, as were many of the persons mentioned in his will (see Arber, Edward, *An English Garner*, vol. IV (Birmingham, 1882), pp. 173-7). According to the *History of Parliament*, he died there on 12 December 1554. There is a monument to his memory in Bures church, and an inscription in the church of St. Mary, Sudbury. His will was proved by the executors in October 1555, a week before they renounced administration in favour of his widow, Julian.

Much of the foregoing information on the family background of the testator is taken from Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 2005), pp. 159, 244, 864-5, and Brown, James Roberts, 'Jno and Wm Browne, Sheriffs and Lord Mayors of London', *Notes and Queries*, 7<sup>th</sup> Series, Vol. V (January-June 1888), pp. 151-3.

There is a monument in the Church of St. Mary the Virgin in Bures, Suffolk, to the testator's son, Sir William Waldegrave (d.1613) with this inscription:

*Here lieth buried Sir William Waldegrave, knight, and Dame Elizabeth, his wife, who lived together in godly marriage 21 years, and had issue 6 sons and 4 daughters. The said Elizabeth departed this life the 10<sup>th</sup> day of May in the year of Our Lord 1581, and the said Sir William deceased the 1<sup>st</sup> day of August in the year of Our Lord 1613.*

The two co-guarantors of Oxford's debt to the Court of Wards were related by marriage. John (d.1581), 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Darcy of Chiche was the son of Thomas (d.1558), 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Darcy of Chiche, and his second wife, the 16<sup>th</sup> Earl of Oxford's sister, Elizabeth de Vere. However before marrying Elizabeth de Vere, Thomas (d.1558), 1<sup>st</sup> Lord Darcy of Chiche had been the ward of Sir John Rainsford (d.1521), who married Darcy to his daughter, Audrey Rainsford, the sister of Julian Rainsford, the wife of the testator, and mother of Oxford's other co-guarantor, Sir William Waldegrave (d.1613).

It seems likely that the Henry Golding who witnessed the will and was granted an annuity by the testator was Oxford's maternal uncle, Henry Golding (d.1576).

LM: Testamentum Willelmi Waldgrave militis

In the name of God, amen. I, Sir William Waldegrave of Bures Saint Mary in the county of Suffolk, knight, being sick in body and yet perfect of remembrance, thanks be unto Almighty God, do this present eight day of November in the year of Our Lord God a

thousand 500 fifty and four, and in the first and second years of the reigns of our Sovereign Lord and Lady Philip and Mary by the grace of God King and Queen of England, France, Naples, Jerusalem and Ireland, Defenders of the Faith, Princes of Spain and Sicily, Archdukes of Austria, Dukes of Milan, Burgundy and Brabant, Counties of Hapsburg, Flanders and Tyrol;

First, I bequeath my soul unto Almighty God, my Maker and Redeemer, by whose merits and passion I hope to be saved, and my body to be buried in Christian burial in the churchyard of Our Lady within the town of Calais without any pomp or vainglory at the discretion of my executors;

Item, I do give unto the vicar of Bures for my tithes negligently forgotten ten shillings;

Item, I will that my executors hereunder named shall from time to time after my decease levy, receive and take up all and singular the rents, profits and commodities of all and singular my lands, tares(?) and tenements and hereditaments, whatsoever they be, set, situate and lying within the counties of Suffolk, Essex or elsewhere within the realm of England, except the rents and profits of my manors of Great Wendon and Little Wendon in the said county of Essex and all other my lands lying in the said parishes of Greater Wendon and Little Wendon aforesaid, as also the yearly rent of twenty marks going out of the manor of Edwardstone in the said county of Suffolk, unto such time as William Waldegrave, my son and heir, shall come unto and accomplish the full age of twenty and one years, towards the performance of this my last will and testament, legacies and bequests hereafter ensuing;

Item, I give to every of my two daughters yet unmarried, to wit, Mary and Dorothy, four hundred marks of lawful money of England, to be paid unto them by my executors when they shall come to the age of twenty and one years, or at the day of their marriage (if it shall fortune them or any of them to marry before the accomplishment of twenty and one years, and if any of them die before the said age of twenty and one years or marriage, then I will that she that shall overlive thother shall have two hundred marks of the portion of her deceased, over and above the four hundred marks before bequeathed, and the other two hundred marks I will to be bestowed in performance of this my last will, legacies and bequests;

Item, I give to Margery Wiseman, my daughter, one hundred marks of lawful money of England;

Item, I do give and bequeath unto Dame Anne Jermyn, my natural mother, my hoop of gold and twenty pounds in money;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my two brethren, John Jermyn and Thomas Jermyn, her sons, five pound apiece;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my sister, Anne Heigham, the wife of Clement Heigham, esquire, twenty pounds in money to be distributed among her children;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my brother, Edward Waldegrave, my lease of the farm of Addams(?) in the county of Suffolk aforesaid which I hold of Sir John Wentworth, knight, to have and to hold the same unto him, his executors and assigns, for the term of years specified in the said lease;

Item, I will that all my goods and chattels, plate and jewels, be also sold by my executors towards the performance of my legacies and bequests before bequeathed unto my said two daughters, Mary and Dorothy, except such goods and chattels hereafter by me given and bequeathed unto Dame Julian, my wife, to wit, the half of all and singular my said goods and chattels, household stuff, plate and jewels, which I give and bequeath unto dame Julian, my said wife;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my servants named in a schedule hereunto annexed and by me subscribed th' annuities in the same schedule specified to be perceived and received out of my manors(?) of Polstead and Tawnyes in the county of Suffolk, and I will that if my son and heir, William Waldegrave, or his heirs be at any time hereafter disposed to redeem the said annuities, that in paying five years' purchase the said annuities shall cease, and that every of my said servants shall have no more but after the rate of five years' purchase for their said annuities and of every of the said annuities;

Item, I do give and bequeath unto Alice Potfield(?) all and singular my lands set, situate and laying in Assington in the said county of Suffolk called Careles now in the tenure and occupation of John Potter, to have and to hold all and singular the said lands unto the said Alice Potfield and to her heirs for evermore, and also forty pounds in money;

Item, I will that my executors shall make sale of all and singular my lands set, situate and lying in Wakes Colne in the said county of Suffolk called Fishers or Pages, and the money of the same sale growing to be distributed towards the legacies and bequests before specified and hereafter specified;

Item, I will that my executors during the space of ten years shall distribute among the poor people dwelling within the parish of Bures forty shillings by the year;

Item, I will and bequeath to the poor people of the parish of Wormingford within the said county of Essex, to be distributed at the discretion of my executors, four pounds sterling;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my said son, William Waldegrave, all my harness except such harness which I have received of certain parishes in the said county of Suffolk, which I will to be restored again, and also except such pieces of harness as I hereafter bequeath;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my cousin, John Jerningham, my coat of plate or else my shirt of mail, at his choice;

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Item, I bequeath and give the piece of armour that my said cousin, John Jerningham, shall refuse unto my kinsman, William Waldegrave, and also my worst gown of black satin;

Item, I give and bequeath unto old Father Potfield of Weston forty shillings, and also forty shillings unto his wife;

Item, I give and bequeath unto the next of the kin of the Robert Patent who was slain in a pit at Guisnes twenty shillings;

Item, I will that my executors do distribute and pay unto the soldiers under my charge which went first over, twenty pounds sterling as the same shall be claimed by them in particular;

Item, I give and bequeath unto John Rosshey forty shillings, to relieve him and his poor children;

Item, I give toward the marriage of ten honest young women or maidens ten pounds, to wit, twenty shillings to either of them, the same to be used at the discretion of my executors, which I will Ellyn Staivner(?) be one;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Phyllis Heigham, wife, my sister, twenty pounds;

Item, I give unto the children of George Waldegrave, my brother, deceased, to be distributed amongst them at the discretion of Mary Fraunces, widow;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my Lady Cornwallis a brooch of gold which I have upon my hat of the story of Paris;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Mistress Grymstedd a little brooch upon my old cap;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my Lord Wentworth my best sword;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Sir Thomas Cornwallis, knight, my second sword;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Mr Grinston [=Grimstone?] one of my dags, and thother unto Sir Anthony Aucher, knight;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Mr Browne, Captain of Hampins(?), one of my coats of plate;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Mr Harrelston [=Harlestone?], Captain of the Rushbanck [=Risbank?], two of my coats of plate;

Item, I give and bequeath unto William Talbot and his wife six shillings eight pence;

Item, I give and bequeath unto (blank) Anyam, in consideration of his poverty, two French crowns;

Item, I give unto Master Fourde my nag with saddle and bridle, and also twenty marks sterling in money, and also a cloak and a jerkin of black taffety;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my said brother, Edward Waldegrave, twenty pounds;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Thomas Caltropp [=Calthorpe?] of Edwardstone four marks;

Item, I give and bequeath unto the poor people of the town of Guisnes forty shillings, to be distributed by th' hands of Thomas Bradfield and mant(?) coeses(?);

Item, I give and bequeath unto the poor people within the town of Calais four pounds sterling;

Item, I do give and bequeath unto Robert Gurden, gentleman, one of my executors, ten pounds sterling;

Item, I give and bequeath unto Master Henry Wingfield a coat of plate;

Item, I give and bequeath all the residue of my apparel unbequeathed unto my servants which wait upon me here in Calais now presently;

Item, I will that my executors shall pay unto the widow Abs(?) of Nelande(?) for the full purchase of the chantry of Polstead Fowerston ten pounds, and that my said executors shall make sale of the said chantry toward the performance of this my last will and testament, legacies and bequests, and that they shall make sale also of a certain meadow which I late purchased of Sir Thomas Golding, knight, lying be [=by?] Wyston [=Weston?] church to the performance of my said will;

Item, I give and bequeath the rent of eighteen pence by year belonging sometime to the chantry of Bures to the poor people of the said parish;

All the residue of my goods not bequeathed I remit to the discretion of Master William Fourde of Hadleigh, gentleman, Edward Waldegrave, my brother, and Robert Gurdon of Waldingfell [=Waldingfield?] in the said county of Suffolk, whom I make executors of this my last will and testament;

In witness whereof I have unto every pagen [sic?] of this my last will and testament subscribed my name the day and year above-written. Present the witness[es] whose names be hereunder written and subscribed. William Waldegrave. Per me, Johannem Knight. Per me, Johannem Hilliard. Per me, Thomas Colso(?). Per me Henry Golding, Richard Person. William Waldegrave.

The sums containing the annuities and other bequests given by me, Sir William  
Waldegrave, knight, the eight day of November 1554

In primis, I give unto John Badcocke an annuity of ten shillings sterling by year during his  
life;

Item, to John Grenewood an annuity of forty shillings by the year sterling during his life;

Item, to William Asshfelde an annuity during his life of twenty-six shillings eight pence;

Item, to Henry Golding an annuity during his life of thirteen shillings four pence;

Item, to Thomas Bigge an annuity of thirteen shillings four pence during his life;

Item, to John Mose an annuity during his life of twenty shillings;

Item, to Brian Brome an annuity during his life of thirteen shillings four pence;

Item, to William Potfelde an annuity during his life of twenty shillings;

Item, to William Metam an annuity during his life of ten shillings;

Item, to Clement Kynge an annuity of twenty shillings during his life;

Item, to William Bridges an annuity during his life of thirteen shillings four pence;

Item, to Robert Sadler an annuity during his life of thirteen shillings four pence;

Item, to Richard Dickes an annuity during his life of thirteen shillings four pence;

Item, to John Lynne an annuity during his life of ten shillings;

Item, to Robert Wood an annuity of thirteen shillings four pence during his life;

Item, to Thomas Pettacanne(?) an annuity during his life of thirteen shillings four pence;

Item, to William Wakefelde an annuity during his life of twenty-six shillings eight pence;

Item, to Richard Twaide(?) an annuity during his life of thirteen shillings four pence;

Item, to John Coo an annuity during his life of thirteen shillings four pence;

Item, to Richard Roatt an annuity during his life of thirteen shillings four pence;

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- Item, to James Church an annuity during his life of thirteen shillings four pence;
- Item, to Thomas Bennett an annuity during his life of thirteen shillings four pence;
- Item, to Thomas Coe an annuity during his life of ten shillings;
- Item, to Henry Henit(?) an annuity of ten shillings during his life;
- Item, to Nicholas Howlett an annuity during his life of twenty-six shillings eight pence;
- Item, to John Potfelde an annuity during his life of twenty shillings;
- Item, to Julian Waldegrave an annuity during his life of forty shillings;
- Item, to Thomas Dikes an annuity during his life of ten shillings;
- Item, to Stephen Coe an annuity during his life of ten shillings;
- Item, to Edward Baldwynne an annuity during his life of ten shillings;
- Item, to Henry Herte an annuity of ten shillings during his life;
- Item, to John Rogers an annuity during his life of thirteen shillings four pence;
- Item, to Robert Fuller an annuity during his life of twenty shillings;
- Item, to Henry Lee an annuity during his life of twenty shillings;
- Item, to Ellice Payne an annuity during his life of thirteen shillings four pence;
- Item, to Robert Waspe an annuity during his life of thirteen shillings four pence;
- Item, to Alexander Lee an annuity during his life of ten shillings;
- Item, to Richard Freborn(?) an annuity during his life of twenty shillings;
- Item, to William Haywarde an annuity during his life of twenty shillings;
- Item, unto Master Anthony Waldegrave an annuity during his life of forty shillings;
- Item, to John Gale an annuity during his life of ten shillings;
- Item to Thomas Houlden an annuity during his life of twenty shillings;
- Item, to Richard Stone alias Persoo an annuity during his life of forty shillings;



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Item, to Richard Barker an annuity during his life of ten shillings;

Item, to James Yonge an annuity during his life of twenty shillings;

Item, to Richard Newman an annuity during his life of twenty shillings;

Item, to William Peticanne an annuity during his life of twenty shillings;

Item, to Thomas Clerke an annuity during his life of twenty shillings;

Item, to Thomas Lee with the stump foot an annuity during his life of thirteen shillings four pence;

Item, to William Hilles an annuity during his life of ten shillings;

Item, to John Falkon an annuity during his life of twenty shillings;

Item, to John Siddey an annuity during his life of twenty-six shillings eight pence;

Item, to James Howton an annuity during his life of ten shillings;

Item, to Henry Underwood an annuity during his life of thirteen shillings four pence;

Item, to Robert Bullman an annuity during his life of ten shillings;

Item, to William Bacon an annuity during his life of ten shillings;

Item, to Thomas Burdges an annuity during his life of thirteen shillings four pence;

Item, to Robert Payne an annuity during his life of thirteen shillings four pence;

Item, I will that if my goods and chattels and the revenues, rents, profits and commodities of my lands during the nonage of my son and heir will not suffice and extend unto the satisfaction and payment of all and singular my bequests and legacies in this my last will and testament specified and mentioned, that then my executors shall yearly receive and perceive out of my manners of Smallbridge and Nether Hall an annuity of thirty pounds sterling by the year at the feast of Saint Michael th' Archangel and the feast of th' Annunciation of Our Lady by even portions unto such time as all and singular my said legacies and bequests be fully satisfied, contented and paid, and for lack of payment of the said annuity I will that my executors shall distrain according unto the order of law;

Item, I will that my servants before-named shall also distrain for their annuities according to laws if they shall at any [+time?] be unpaid in part or in all;

Item, I give unto James Moyne towards his service twenty shillings;

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Item, I give unto William Tyler one year's wages, ten shillings;

Item, I give unto William Fiske forty shillings;

Item, I give unto my servants now presently waiting upon me here in Calais five pounds;

Item, I give to old Father Melwn(?), the smith of Wormingford, ten shillings;

Item, I give unto Thomas Waldegrave, the son of Anthony Waldegrave, twenty shillings.

William Waldegrave. In the presence of these men whose names hereafter ensue. Per me, Johannem Knight, Robert Wood. Per me, Thomam Colse, Richard Peerson, Harry Golding, William Waldegrave.

Tricesimo die mensis Octobris Anno Domini Millesimo quingentesimo quinquagesimo quinto Edwardus Walgrave vnus executorum in huiusmodi testamento nominatorum in person propria Et Sexto die mensis Novembris Anno domini Millesimo quingentesimo quinquagesimo quinto predicto Willelmus ffourde et Robertus Gorden executores etiam in huiusmodi testamento nominati in persona xpofer Robynson procuratoris eorum oneri execucionis dicti testamenti expresse renunciauerunt(?) Qua renunciacione per dictum Comissarium admissa emanuit commissio Domine Iuliane Waldgrave relicte ipsius defuncti ad administrando bona ipsius defuncti ad viam intestati decedentis de bene &c Ac de pleno et fideli Inuentario etc Ad Sancta dei Euangelia In persona dicti xpoferi Robinson procuratoris sui Iurati

[=On the 30<sup>th</sup> day of the month of October in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred fifth, Edward Waldegrave, one of the executors named in the same testament, in his own person, and on the sixth day of the month of November in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred fifth aforesaid, William Ford and Robert Gurdon, executors also named in the same testament in the person of Christopher Robinson, their proctor, expressly renounced the burden of the execution of the said testament, which renunciation admitted by the same Commissary, a grant was issued to the Lady Julian Waldegrave, relict of the same deceased, to administer the goods of the same deceased by way of an intestacy, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well etc. and a full and faithful inventory etc., in the person of the said Christopher Robinson, her proctor.]