

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 14 September 1559 and proved 23 September 1561, of Sir Edward Waldegrave (d. 1 September 1561) of Borley, Essex, whose brother, Robert Waldegrave, married the stepdaughter of Oxford's uncle, Henry Golding.

See the *DNB* entry for the testator:

Waldegrave, Sir Edward (1517?–1561), politician, born in 1516 or 1517, was the second son of John Waldegrave (d. 1543) of Borley in Essex, by his wife, Lora, daughter of Sir [sic] John Rochester of Essex, and sister of Sir Robert Rochester [q. v.] He was a descendant of Sir Richard Waldegrave [q. v.], speaker of the House of Commons. On the death of his father, on 6 Oct. 1543, Edward entered into possession of his estates at Borley. In 1 Edward VI (1547–8) he received a grant of the manor and rectory of West Haddon in Northamptonshire. He was attached to the Princess Mary's household, and on 29 Aug. 1551 was committed to the Fleet, with his uncle Sir Robert Rochester and Sir Francis Englefield [q. v.], for refusing to enforce the order of the privy council by preventing the celebration of mass at Mary's residence at Copt Hall, near Epping.

The testator was a Privy Councillor under Queen Mary, and died a prisoner in the Tower early in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

See also the History of Parliament entry for the testator at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/waldegrave-sir-edward-151617-61>

For an original spelling transcript of the testator's will, see *The East Anglian*, 3rd Series, Vol. VII, pp. 305-7 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=pcdCAAAAYAAJ&pg=RA1-PA305>

FAMILY BACKGROUND

For earlier generations of the Waldegrave family, see the will, TNA PROB 11/22/294, dated 26 January 1525 and 6 July 1525 and proved 6 March 1528, of the testator's great-uncle, Sir William Waldegrave (c.1465 - 30 June 1527), one of the executors of John de Vere (1442-1513), 13th Earl of Oxford. For the will of the 13th Earl, see TNA PROB 11/17/379.

Testator's grandparents

The testator was the grandson of Edward Waldegrave (d.1545?), esquire, of the Friars, Sudbury, and his first wife, Isabel Cheney (c.1472-c.1506). For the will, dated 20

September 1544 and proved 23 November 1545, of the testator's grandfather, Edward Waldegrave (d.1545?), esquire, see TNA PROB 11/30/620.

Most of the manors mentioned in the will below came to the Waldegrave family through the testator's grandmother, Isabel Cheney, via her descent from the Wellesley, Banastre, Stourton, Bonville, Fitchet, Hill and Cheney families. Inquisitions post mortem taken after the death of her grandfather, John Cheney (d.1487?), to whom she and her sister, Joan Cheney, were heirs, establish that Isabel Cheney was born about 1472. See the inquisition, TNA C 142/2/90, taken 8 June 1487 in Somerset, and the inquisition, TNA C 142/3/124, taken 3 November 1487 in Wiltshire, in both of which she is stated to be aged 15 and more, and the wife of Edward Waldegrave. An inquisition, TNA C 142/3/3, taken 3 November 1487 in Devon, is clearly in error in stating that she was then aged 40. A later inquisition, TNA C 142/11/31, taken 18 October 1497(?) after the death of her brother-in-law, Thomas Say, states that she was currently 26 years of age, and had been 18 years of age at the death of her grandfather, John Cheney.

An inquisition post mortem taken after her death establishes that Isabel Cheney had died by 10 November 1507, but does not give the exact date of her death. See TNA C 142/21/43, and:

Cyril Flower, M. C. B. Dawes and A. C. Wood, 'Inquisitions Post Mortem, Henry VII, Entries 401-450', in *Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem: Series 2, Volume 3, Henry VII* (London, 1955), pp. 250-273. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/inquis-post-mortem/series2-vol3/pp250-273> [accessed 11 July 2018]

For a detailed discussion of the family background of the testator's grandmother, Isabel Cheney, see the will of the testator's great-uncle, Sir William Waldegrave, *supra*.

For Isabel Cheney, see also Doyle, Anthony I., 'Borley and the Waldegraves in the Sixteenth Century', *Transactions of the Essex Archaeological Society*, Vol. XXIV, New Series, (Colchester: Essex Archaeological Society, 1951), pp. 17-31, available online at;

esah1852.org.uk/images/pdf/new-series/T2240000.pdf

Testator's parents

The testator was the eldest son (or eldest surviving son?) and heir of John Waldegrave (c.1494 – 6 October 1543) by his stepsister, Lora Rochester, the daughter of Grissel Writtle Rochester West Waldegrave (d.1547), second wife of the testator's grandfather, Edward Waldegrave (d.1545?). For the will of John Waldegrave, see TNA PROB 11/29/459. For John Waldegrave as heir of Isabel Cheney, see the inquisition post mortem, TNA C 142/51/31, taken 20 June 1530 after the death of Sir William Say (c.1452 – 4 December 1529).

For the family of the testator's mother, Lora Rochester, see the will of the testator's father, John Waldegrave, *supra*, and the will of the testator's step-grandmother, Grissel Writtle Rochester West Waldegrave, TNA PROB 11/31/550.

The testator is said to have had three brothers and two sisters:

-Thomas Waldegrave. He is not mentioned in the will of his father, John Waldegrave (d.1543).

-Robert Waldegrave. He married Mary Forster, stepdaughter of Oxford's uncle, Henry Golding (d.1576?). See the will of Robert Forster, TNA PROB 11/39/125, and the will of Henry Golding, TNA PROB 11/59/98.

The testator's purchase of the marriage for his brother is described in the will below:

And whereas I have to my charges provided and bought a marriage for my brother, Robert Waldegrave, that is to say, one of the daughters and heirs of George Forster, esquire, deceased, by whom he shall have some inheritance for term of his life if he have issue by her, the which as yet he hath not, and for want thereof, or of other assurance to him to be made by her of her said inheritance, he should by her death be nothing advanced, therefore my mind and will is that if it shall fortune my said brother's wife to die, living my brother, without issue by him, or having not of her lands, tenements or hereditaments to the yearly value of £20 assured to him for term of his life, then I will and give unto him one annuity or yearly rent of £4 by year out of my manor of Chewton in the county of Somerset

According to *The Calendar of Patent Rolls, 1558-60*, p. 360, Mary (Forster) Waldegrave and her sister, Joan (Forster) Peryent, were wards of the Crown who were licensed to enter upon their lands on 2 December 1559, by which time both were already married:

The like [+licence] for Robert Walgrave and Mary his wife and Henry Peryent and Joan his wife, as in right of the said Mary and Joan, daughters and co-heirs of George Forster; issues from the time when Mary and attained their full age. By bill of the Court of Wards.

Robert Waldegrave was bequeathed, inter alia, an annuity of £10 from Doddinghurst park in the will of his uncle, Sir Robert Rochester (d. 28 November 1557), TNA PROB 11/42A/105.

-John Waldegrave. He is bequeathed an annuity of £5 in the will below. He later sold the annuity to his brother-in-law, John Abell (see below).

John Waldegrave was bequeathed a gelding and a silver and gilt cup in the will of his uncle, Sir Robert Rochester, *supra*.

-Mary Waldegrave. She is bequeathed £20 in the will below:

Item, I will and give unto my sister Abell £20 of lawful money to be paid unto her by mine executrix within one year next after my decease.

According to Bridges, she married a husband surnamed Abbot of Coggeshall, Essex. See Brydges, Egerton, *Collins's Peerage of England*, Vol. IV, (London: F.C. and J. Rivington, 1812), p. 237 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=j4kUAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA237>

However Brydges is in error. It is clear from his will, dated 26 June 1575 and proved 11 November 1575, that her husband was John Abell (d.1575) of West Bergholt. In his will, John Abell mentions 'one annuity of five pounds by the year which I bought of my brother-in-law, John Waldegrave, gentleman' (who also witnessed the will), and leaves bequests to 'my nephew, Charles Waldegrave, esquire', and 'my dear friend, William Waldegrave of Smallbridge, esquire', whom he appoints as executors. See TNA PROB 11/57/520. John Abell's friend, William Waldegrave, appears to be the Sir William Waldegrave who was a co-guarantor of Oxford's debt to the Court of Wards. See TNA C 2/Eliz.T6/48.

According to the will of John Abell, he and Mary Waldegrave had two sons and three daughters, Waldegrave Abell, John Abell, William Abell, Dorothy Abell and Mary Abell, as well, perhaps, as a child born after John Abell's death.

According to the will of Sir Robert Rochester, *supra*, John Abell was Rochester's servant.

-Anne Waldegrave. She is bequeathed a marriage portion in the will below.

MARRIAGE AND ISSUE

The testator married Frances Neville (1518/19–1599), the daughter of Sir Edward Neville (b. 1471, beheaded 1538/9) of Addington Park, Kent, esquire of the body to Henry VIII, by Eleanor Windsor (c.1479 – 25 March 1531), daughter of Andrew Windsor (d.1543), 1st Baron Windsor.

After the testator's death, Frances Neville married secondly Chidioc Paulet (1521?-1574), a younger son of William Paulet (1474/5?-1572), 1st Marquess of Winchester.

The testator's wife was thus a first cousin of Elizabeth Windsor, Lady Paulet, widow of Ralph Scrope (d.1572), and also a first cousin of Edward Windsor (1532?-1575), 3rd Baron Windsor, who married Oxford's half-sister, Katherine de Vere (see above). Moreover all three were nieces and nephew of George Windsor, eldest son and heir of Andrew Windsor (d.1543), 1st Baron Windsor, and his wife, Ursula de Vere (d.1558), sister of John de Vere (1499-1526), 14th Earl of Oxford.

See Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, p. 242; the will of Andrew Windsor, 1st Baron Windsor, TNA PROB 11/29/416; the will of Ursula de Vere Knightley (d.1558), TNA PROB 11/42A/10; the *ODNB* entry for William Paulet, 1st Marquess of Winchester; and Jones, Edward Alexander and Alexandra Walsham, eds., *Syon Abbey and its Books*, (Woodbridge: Boydell Press, 2010), p. 218 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=7erClhiejjwC&pg=PA218&lpg=PA218>

See also the will of Chidiok Paulet, TNA PROB 11/57/143, and the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/paulet-chidiok-1521-74>

In his will, TNA PROB 11/65/88, Henry Wriothesley (21 April 1545 – 4 October 1581), 2nd Earl of Southampton, father of Henry Wriothesley (1573-1624), 3rd Earl of Southampton, to whom Shakespeare dedicated *Venus and Adonis* and *The Rape of Lucrece*, left a bequest to the testator's widow, Frances Neville, as 'the Lady Paulet, wife to the Lord Chidock Paulet'.

By Frances Neville, the testator had two sons and three daughters:

* **Sir Charles Waldegrave** (22 November 1550 – 10 January 1632) of Stanninghall, who married Jeromine Jerningham (buried 4 February 1627), the daughter of Sir Henry Jerningham (d. 6 September 1572) by Frances Baynham (d.1583). Sir Henry Jerningham was the nephew of Elizabeth de Vere (d.1537), Countess of Oxford, wife of the 13th Earl. For the will of Sir Henry Jerningham, see TNA PROB 11/55/240. For the will of Frances Baynham Jerningham, see TNA PROB 11/66/340.

At the testator's death, Charles Waldegrave was ten years of age, and during his minority was a ward successively of Robert Nowell (d. 6 February 1569), Attorney of the Court of Wards, and Sir William Cecil. See the *ODNB* entry for Sir Edward Neville; the *ODNB* entry for the testator; and Grosart Alexander B., *The Spending of the Money of Robert Nowell*, 1877, pp. xxxvi and xlix at:

<https://archive.org/stream/spendingofmoneyo00gros#page/n49/mode/2up>

For Sir Charles Waldegrave, see also Jessop, Augustus, *One Generation of a Norfolk House*, 2nd ed., (London: Burns and Oates, 1879), p. 218 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=2VI0AAAIAAJ&pg=PA218>

* **Sir Nicholas Waldegrave**, who married Katherine Browne, the daughter of Wistan Browne, esquire, of South Weald, Essex, by his first wife, Mary Capell, the daughter of Sir Edward Capell (d.1577) and Anne Pelham, the daughter of Sir William Pelham of

Burnt Pelham, Hertfordshire. Mary Capell was the granddaughter of Sir Giles Capell (d. 29 May 1556) of Hadham, Hertfordshire and Isabel Newton, daughter and co-heir of Sir John Newton or Caradoc of Wake, Somersetshire. See Baron de Cosson, 'The Capells of Rayne Hall', *The Archaeological Journal*, Vol. XL, (London, 1883), pp. 64-79 at pp. 71, 78-9:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=6coPAAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA78>

Mary Capell was a great-niece of Elizabeth Capell (d.1558) and her husband, Sir William Paulet (1474/5?-1572), 1st Marquess of Winchester. For Sir William Paulet and Elizabeth Capell, see the *ODNB* entry for Sir William Paulet, and Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. I, pp. 463-4 and Vol. II, p. 676. For Mary Capell, see also the Capell pedigree in Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitations of Essex*, (London: Harleian Society, 1878), Vol. XIII, p. 171 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=0m1KAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA171>

Wistan Browne is mentioned, together with his father, George Browne (d.1559), in the inquisition post mortem taken after the death of Oxford's father, John de Vere (1516-1562), 16th Earl of Oxford, TNA C 142/136/12. For the will of Wistan Browne, dated 16 January 1580 and proved 27 April 1581, see TNA PROB 11/63/226.

Sir Nicholas Waldegrave and his wife, Katherine Browne, as well as several of their children, were Catholic recusants. See Foley, Henry, *Records of the English Province of the Society of Jesus*, Vol. I, First Series, (London: Burns and Oates, 1877), p. 648 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=LileAQAAMAAJ&pg=PA648>

For the will of Sir Nicholas Waldegrave, proved 21 November 1621, see TNA PROB 11/138/445.

* **Mary Waldegrave** (d. 2 August 1604), who on 17 April 1570 married John Petre (20 December 1549 – 11 October 1613), 1st Baron Petre, son and heir of Sir William Petre (1505/6–1572) of Ingatestone Hall, Essex, by his second wife, Anne Browne (1509?-1582), widow of John Tyrrell (d.1540), esquire, of Heron, and daughter of Sir William Browne (d. 3 June 1514), Lord Mayor of London, by his second wife, Alice Keble (d.1521). See Brown, James Roberts, 'Jno and Wm. Browne, Sheriffs and Lord Mayors of London', in *Notes and Queries*, 7th series, Vol. V, (London: John C. Francis, 1888), pp. 151-3, at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=wWkEAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA151>

For Anne Browne Tyrrell Petre, see also Emerson:

http://www.tudorwomen.com/?page_id=646

See also the will of John Tyrrell, dated 6 June 1540 and proved 18 November 1540, TNA PROB 11/28/299.

See also Emmison, F.G., *Tudor Secretary: Sir William Petre at Court and Home*, (London: Longmans, Green and Co Ltd., 1961), pp. 125, 288, 244.

In the will below the testator bequeathed his daughter, Mary Waldegrave, an additional 100 marks as her marriage portion should she marry the heir of Sir Giles Alington (1500 - 20 August 1586) of Horseheath. At the time the testator made his will, Sir Giles Alington's heir was his grandson, George Alington (1544 – October 1584), son of Robert Alington (c.1520 – 22 May 1552), the only child of Sir Giles Alington by his first wife, Ursula Drury (c.1500-c.1522), the daughter of Sir Robert Drury (before 1456 - 2 March 1535), lawyer and speaker of the House of Commons, and chief steward and executor to John de Vere (1442-1513), 13th Earl of Oxford (for his will, see TNA PROB 11/25/467). See the will of Sir Giles Alington, proved 8 October 1586, TNA PROB 11/69/523, and the will of Robert Alington, proved 23 August 1552, TNA PROB 11/35/286.

See also the Alington pedigree in Maris, John, 'A Genealogy Report for Sir Giles Alington', February 2017, which can be downloaded at:

www.marisancestry.co.uk/Reports/Giles%20Alington.pdf

See also the History of Parliament entry for Sir Giles Alington at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/alington-giles-1499-1586>

* **Katherine Waldegrave**, who married Thomas Gawen, esquire, of Devonshire. See Neale, John Preston and John Le Keux, *Views of the Most Interesting Collegiate and Parochial Churches in Great Britain*, Vol. I, (London: Longman, Hurst, Rees, Orme, Brown and Green, 1824), p. 54 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=EdUHAAAQAAJ&pg=PP54>

* **Magdalene Waldegrave**, who married John Southcote, son of John Southcote (1510/11-1585), Justice of the Pleas. See Neale, *supra*, p. 54. See also the will of John Southcote (1510/11-1585), proved 10 May 1586, TNA PROB 11/69/259.

As noted above, after the testator's death, his widow, Frances Neville, married Chidioc Paulet, for whom see the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/paulet-chidioc-1521-74>

OTHER PERSONS MENTIONED IN THE WILL

For Sir Francis Englefield, see:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/englefield-sir-francis-152122-96>

For Sir Anthony Browne, see the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/browne-anthony-ii-150910-67>

For John Throckmorton, see the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/throckmorton-john-i-1524-80>

For Sir Thomas Cornwallis, see the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/cornwallis-sir-thomas-151819-1604>

TESTATOR'S OFFICES

In the memorandum to the will below it is stated that the testator's uncle, Sir Robert Rochester (d. 28 November 1557), had bequeathed to the testator the office of keeper of the 16th Earl of Oxford's park of Lavenham and the office of bailiff of Lavenham, subject to the payment of annuities to Sir Robert Rochester's servants, and that the testator bequeathed his entire interest in these two offices to the servants in question:

And whereas he had by the gift or devise of Sir Robert Rochester, knight, the patent and interest of th' office of Lavenham park and the bailiwick out of the which he would certain annuities to be paid to divers of the said Sir Robert Rochester's servants during the interest of that same patent, as by the last will and testament of the said Sir Robert Rochester plainly appeareth, he then gave and bequeathed his whole interest and patent thereof unto the said Sir Robert Rochester's servants to whom the said Sir Robert Rochester had willed any annuity, right or interest therein or of the same to the intent every man might recover his several duty therein or thereunto to every of them given or bequeathed.

For the bequest, see the will of Sir Robert Rochester, TNA PROB 11/42A/105:

And also where I have a patent of the right honourable John de Vere, Earl of Oxford, for the keeping of the park of Lavenham and th' herbage of the same, and also the bailiwick of the town of Lavenham aforeaid, I give and bequeath to my loving [f. 118r] nephew, Sir Edward Waldegrave, knight, all that my right, title and interest which I have of and in the

said patent under this condition, that he, the same Sir Edward Waldegrave, his executors and assigns, shall suffer my sister Rice [=Ryce] to dwell in one part of the Lodge of the said park of Lavenham, and also shall pay or cause to be paid to such persons whose names hereafter ensueth such yearly annuities by year during their lives hereafter expressed, that is to say, to William Berners, five pounds; Anthony Trappes, four pounds; William Markham, four pounds; Gregory More, four marks; John Abell, five pounds; John Barbor, forty shillings; William Steven, forty shillings; Thomas English, forty shillings; Robert Harvey, forty shillings, and to old Dale of Colchester six & twenty shillings & eight pence of good and lawful money of England.

Despite the fact that the testator clearly considered he could bequeath his interest in these two offices, the inquisition taken after the 16th Earl of Oxford's death in 1562 states that the Earl had granted the office of keeper of Lavenham Park to his servant, Robert Christmas (d.1584), on 10 December 1558, almost three years *prior* to the testator's death. See TNA WARD 8/13, Part 23:

And the foresaid late Earl by a certain deed of his sealed by his seal at arms & subscribed by his own hand dated the 10th day of December in the first year [=10 December 1558] of the reign of the Lady Elizabeth now Queen for & in consideration of good, true, & faithful service done & to be done to him by Robert Christmas, gentleman, gave & granted to the same Robert the keeping of his park called Lavenham park in the county of Suffolk with a certain house called the Lodge within the park aforesaid with herbage of 30 cows & 6 geldings, and appointed the said Robert keeper of his said park, to have & to hold to himself the said office with the foresaid herbage of 30 cows & 6 geldings with all profits & advantages to the same appertaining during the term of his life, to be occupied by himself or by his sufficient deputy, and the foresaid Earl also gave yearly £6 issuing & to issue of his manor of Lavenham with the appurtenances for term of his life for the exercise of the foresaid office, and the foresaid Earl also willed, if it might happen the foresaid annuity to be in arrears in part or in whole at any feast at which it ought to be paid, that it would be well allowed to the foresaid Robert & his assigns to enter & distrain in the foresaid manor with the appurtenances, & the distrains thus there taken licitly to carry off & detain until the foresaid annuity with the arrearages, if any have been, have been to the forenamed Robert & his assigns well & faithfully paid, as by the foresaid letters patents more fully appears.

The inquisition also states that the Earl had granted the office of bailiff of the manor of Lavenham to Thomas Bacon (d.1577) two months after the testator's death. See TNA WARD 8/13, Part 23:

And the foresaid late Earl by a certain deed of his sealed by his seal at arms & subscribed by his own hand bearing date the penultimate day of October in the 3rd year [=30 October 1561] of the reign of the Lady Elizabeth now Queen for divers good and reasonable causes & considerations himself especially moving gave & granted to Thomas Bacon, gentleman, the office of bailiff or bailiwick of his manor of Lavenham in the county of Suffolk and of all & singular his lands, tenements, hereditaments, & possessions whatsoever within the foresaid manor & to the same manor in whatever

manner belonging or appertaining, and made, ordained, & appointed him, Thomas Bacon, bailiff of the foresaid manor, to have, hold, enjoy, & exercise the foresaid office to the forenamed Thomas Bacon by himself or by his sufficient deputy or his sufficient deputies for & during the whole term of the natural life of him, Thomas, together with all & singular profits, commodities, advantages, & emoluments whatsoever to the same office in whatever manner belonging or appertaining and in so ample manner & form as Edward Glascock or any other or others for himself formerly has had, held, or enjoyed [+or] have had, held, or enjoyed, and the foresaid late Earl by his foresaid deed in consideration aforesaid gave & granted to the same Thomas Bacon for the exercise of the foresaid office a certain annuity or yearly rent of £4 of lawful money of England issuing & to issue of the foresaid manor at two terms of the year, viz., at the feasts of the Annunciation of Blessed Mary the Virgin & Saint Michael the Archangel by equal portions, and also the second crop of the meadow of Lavenham aforesaid called the Lord's Meadow during the whole term of the natural life of himself, Thomas Bacon, and the foresaid late Earl by the foresaid deed granted that for non-payment of the said annuity or yearly rent it would be well allowed to the forenamed Thomas Bacon & his assigns to distrain in the foresaid manor of Lavenham, as by the same deed specified in the foresaid inquisition more plainly appears.

For the will of Thomas Bacon (d.1577), Serjeant of the Acatry to Queen Mary, and bailiff of the 16th Earl's manor of Lavenham, see TNA PROB 11/59/473.

It thus appears that the testator's bequest of these two offices did not take effect.

Concerning the 16th Earl's servant, Robert Christmas, it should be noted that although the Earl appointed him as only one of six executors, in fact Robert Christmas was ultimately granted sole administration of the 16th Earl's will, the other five executors having refused to act for reasons which are unclear. Shortly after the 16th Earl's death, Robert Christmas entered the service of the Queen's favourite, Robert Dudley, later Earl of Leicester, and the Queen granted Leicester the core lands of the Oxford earldom during the nine years of Oxford's minority.

For the 16th Earl's executors, see also Green, Nina, 'The Fall of the House of Oxford', *Brief Chronicles*, Vol. I (2009), pp. 41-96, available online as a pdf file at:

https://shakespeareoxfordfellowship.org/wp.../Green.Fall_of_House_Oxford.pdf

TESTATOR'S MANORS

Testator's manors in Somerset

For the testator's manors in Somerset, see TNA E 326/6558 and TNA Q/RRp.3/2, and 'The Wellesleys: The Descent of the Manor From Which They Derive Their Name', *Notes and Queries*, 2nd Series, Vol. VII, (London: Bell & Daldy, 1859), pp. 165-6 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=frXTLDasjMAC&pg=PA165>

See also TNA C 142/12/66 and TNA E 150/895/18, an inquisition post mortem taken after the death of Margaret Rodney Hill Burdet Wodehull (d. 6 April 1497), wife of John Hill (d.1455), and by him the mother of Genevieve Hill (20 April 1455 - 20 July 1480), through whom the manors of Littleton, Purifitchet, Yard, Harnham and Shurton in Somerset eventually descended to the testator.

Manor of Wellesley

For the testator's manor of Wellesley, see 'The Wellesleys', *supra*, pp. 165-6 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=frXTLDasjMAC&pg=PA165>

Manor of Chewton Mendip

For the testator's manor of Chewton, see:

<https://chewtonmendiphistory.wordpress.com/places-2/farms/manor-house/>

Manor of Lodhuish

For the testator's manor of Lodhuish, see:

A P Baggs, R J E Bush and M C Siraut, 'Parishes: Nettlecombe', in *A History of the County of Somerset: Volume 5*, ed. R W Dunning (London, 1985), pp. 111-120. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/som/vol5/pp111-120> [accessed 29 June 2018]

In 1434 the manor of LODHUIISH was held by Joan Huish, (fn. 107) but it came into the hands of the Hill family, probably by 1442, and was in the possession of Cecily Keriell, widow of John Hill, when she died in 1472. (fn. 108) The heir was her granddaughter Genevieve (d. 1480), wife of Sir William Say (d. 1529). They had no surviving issue and Lodhuish came into the possession of one of their heirs, John Waldegrave (d. 1543). (fn. 109) John was succeeded by his son Sir Edward (d. 1561), M.P. for Somerset 1554, by Edward's son Charles (d. 1632), and by Charles's son Sir Edward (d. 1647).

See also TNA C 142/19/68 (John Hill, Somerset, 1505/6), and *Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem*, Vol. III, (London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1955), pp. 59-60 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/calendarofinquis03great#page/58/mode/2up>

For the manor of Ludhuish, see also *The Thirtieth Annual Report of the Deputy Keeper of the Public Records*, (London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1869), pp. 176-7 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=VGLrDo0IT7MC&pg=PA176>

Manor of Radstock

For the testator's manor of Radstock, see Mowbray, Charles Botolph, *The History of the Noble House of Stourton*, Vol. I, (London: Elliot Stock, 1899), p. 84 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=A8MIAwAAQBAJ&pg=PA84>

John Stourton's first wife was Joan, daughter of William Banastre, Lord of the Manors of Wheathill, Radstock, &c., widow of Robert Affeton, living in 1395. He founded an obit to "Pray for the soul of Joan, sometime the wife of John Stourton." By her he had one daughter and heir, eventually a coheir: --

Cecily Stourton, aged 34 years in 1439, she married (1) John Hill, of Spakton, aged 21 years on his father's death, on Sunday the Feast of St. Mark, 1424, who himself died on Thursday next after the Feast of St. Calixtus in 1435, with whom she claimed a house in Wells, as heir of her maternal grandfather, William Banastre, called Lord of Wellesleigh.

Manor of Littleton

For the testator's manor of Littleton, see Serel, T., 'The Origin of the Name of Wellesley', *Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society*, (London: Bell & Daldy, 1865), pp. 187-9 at p. 187:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=-N9AAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA187>

[T]he manor of Littleton continued to be held by Wellesleys and their descendants, and came down in the same manner as the Wellesley estates here, to the Waldegraves . . . The Manor of Radstock, now one of the richest coal districts in this county, was possessed by Phillip de Wellesleigh in the 13th Edward III, and from him this valuable property descended to the late Lord Waldegrave , , ,

For the manor of Littleton, see also 'The Wellesleys', *supra*, p. 165.

For the manors of Littleton, Puryfitchet, Yard, Harnham, and Shurton see also the inquisition post mortem taken after the death of Margaret Wodehull or Wodehill, 'late the wife of Thomas Wodehull, esquire', in *Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem*, Vol. II, (London: His Majesty's Stationery Office, 1915), pp. 51-2 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/calendarofinquis02grea#page/50/mode/2up>

and:

Maskelyne and H. C. Maxwell Lyte, 'Inquisitions Post Mortem, Henry VII, Entries 51-100', in *Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem: Series 2, Volume 2, Henry VII* (London, 1915), pp. 45-67. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/inquis-post-mortem/series2-vol2/pp45-67> [accessed 11 July 2018]

Manor of Dulcote

For the testator's manor of Dulcote, see:

<http://www.dulcote.com/the-manor.html>

For Dulcot, see also Collinson, John, *The History and Antiquities of the County of Somerset*, Vol. III, (Bath: R. Cruttwell, 1791), p. 405 at:
405 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=jvE9AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA405>

The hamlet of Wells-Leigh gave name to a family of distinction. 37 Henry III. William de Welleslegh held of the Bishop of Bath three parts of a hide of land in Welleslegh, by the service of the serjeanty of the hundred of Wells, and lands in Littleton of William de Button. 22 Edw. III. Philip de Welleslegh held lands in the same vill and in Dulcot, as also the serjeanty of the bailiwick of East-Perret. 13 Henry VI. John Hill of Spaxton held these lands and the same serjeanty, as also the office of the bailiff of Well-forum, of John bishop of Bath and Wells in socage, leaving the same to John Hill his son and heir. 7 Henry VI. John Stourton held half a knight's fee in Wellesleigh and Est-Wall, which Walrand de Welleslegh formerly held.

Manor of Spaxton

For the testator's manor of Spaxton, see:

A P Baggs and M C Siraut, 'Spaxton: Manors and other estates', in *A History of the County of Somerset: Volume 6, andersfield, Cannington, and North Petherton Hundreds (Bridgwater and Neighbouring Parishes)*, ed. R W Dunning and C R Elrington (London, 1992), pp. 113-118. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/som/vol6/pp113-118> [accessed 7 July 2018]

Sir Thomas [Fichet] was dead by 1367 (fn. 8) and was followed by his son Sir Thomas (d. 1386) (fn. 9) and by his grandson also Thomas Fichet. (fn. 10) Thomas died under age in 1395 when his heir was his sister Isabel, wife of Robert Hill. (fn. 11) Isabel predeceased her husband, who died in 1423 leaving a son John. (fn. 12) John Hill (d.

1434) (fn. 13) was succeeded by his son John who died in 1455 leaving as his heir his daughter Genevieve, wife of Sir William Say. (fn. 14) Genevieve died in 1480, (fn. 15) but her husband occupied the estates until his death in 1529. (fn. 16) The heirs were then the descendants in the female line of John Hill (d. 1434), (fn. 17) half the manor going to John Waldegrave and half being divided between Thomas Hussey, William Clopton, and Ellen, wife of George Babington. (fn. 18) John Waldegrave (d. 1543) acquired Ellen's share and his son Sir Edward (d. 1561) obtained the remaining shares. (fn. 19)

Sir Edward's son Charles succeeded as a minor and died in 1632. (fn. 20)

For the manor of Spaxton, see also 'The Wellesleys', *supra*, p. 165.

Manor of Raddington

For the testator's manor of Raddington, see:

A P Baggs, R J E Bush and M C Siraut, 'Parishes: Raddington', in *A History of the County of Somerset: Volume 5*, ed. R W Dunning (London, 1985), pp. 136-143. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/som/vol5/pp136-143> [accessed 9 July 2018]

Walter Hill had acquired the reversion in 1408 and had succeeded by 1423. (fn. 48).

The manor passed from Walter to John Hill (d. 1434), who held it in right of his wife Cecily, later wife of Sir Thomas Keriell. (fn. 49) It remained in her possession until her death in 1472, (fn. 50) and then descended to Genevieve, wife of William Say, Cecily's granddaughter. (fn. 51) Genevieve died in 1480 but her husband continued to occupy her property, not without challenge, until his death in 1529. (fn. 52) Genevieve's estates were then divided between the grandchildren of her aunt Elizabeth Hill, namely John Waldegrave, heir of a half share through his mother Mabel, Elizabeth Hill's elder daughter, and the three children of Joan, her younger daughter: Ellen Babington, William Clopton the younger, and Thomas Hussey. John Waldegrave (d. 1543) acquired Ellen Babington's share, (fn. 53) but not certainly the other interests in Raddington, though later Waldegraves held the advowson undivided and called their estate the manor of Raddington. John Waldegrave was succeeded by his son Sir Edward (d. 1561) (fn. 54) and Edward by his son Sir Charles (d. 1632) of Cossey (Norf.). (fn. 55)

Manor of Shreveton (Shurton)

For the testator's manor of Shurton, see:

A P Baggs and M C Siraut, 'Stogursey: Manors', in *A History of the County of Somerset: Volume 6, andersfield, Cannington, and North Petherton Hundreds (Bridgwater and Neighbouring Parishes)*, ed. R W Dunning and C R Elrington (London, 1992), pp. 137-

145. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/som/vol6/pp137-145> [accessed 9 July 2018]

Richard [Huish] (d. 1297) was followed in turn by his son Richard (d. c. 1331), Richard's son also Richard (d. 1361), and that Richard's son William, each being a minor at his father's death. (fn. 238) William died without issue, and in 1379 his share was granted to his widow Ricarda and her second husband Sir Thomas Fichet. (fn. 239) Sir Thomas died in 1386 and Ricarda in 1390, leaving an infant son Thomas (d. 1395). Half of Shurton then passed to their daughter Isabel, wife of Robert Hill. The estate descended with Hill's manor of Spaxton through Isabel's son John (d. 1434) to her grandson John Hill (d. 1455). (fn. 240) That John's daughter Genevieve (d. 1480) evidently inherited one third of his estate, for her husband Sir William Say held the third by curtesy of England until his death in 1529. (fn. 241) John's widow Margaret held two thirds of the estate at her death in 1497 when her heirs were her husband's nieces, Joan wife of Sir Richard Pudsey and Isabel wife of Edward Waldegrave. (fn. 242) Isabel's share was held by her husband Edward Waldegrave for life but their son John Waldegrave (d. 1543), who predeceased his father in 1543, had acquired a third of Joan's share. (fn. 243) John's son Edward probably bought the rest of Joan's share from her heirs. The estate descended in the Waldegrave family like Spaxton until 1726

Manor of East Lydford

For the testator's manor of East Lydford, see:

A P Baggs, R J E Bush and Margaret Tomlinson, 'Parishes: East Lydford', in *A History of the County of Somerset: Volume 3*, ed. R W Dunning (London, 1974), pp. 120-129. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/som/vol3/pp120-129> [accessed 8 July 2018]

William Banastre (II) (d. 1395) was succeeded by his daughter Joan, wife of Robert de Affeton. (fn. 70) After Robert's death Joan married John Stourton of Preston Plucknett, who held with others ¼ fee in East Lydford in 1428. (fn. 71) Stourton died in 1439, leaving a daughter Cecily, wife first of John Hill of Spaxton (d. 1434), and secondly of Sir Thomas Keriell. (fn. 72) In 1472 this third of the manor passed to Genevieve, wife of Sir William Say and daughter of John Hill son of Cecily. (fn. 73) Sir William Say survived his wife and died without issue in 1529. (fn. 74) Genevieve's coheirs were the descendants of her father's sister Elizabeth, wife of John Cheney of Pinhoe (Devon). Elizabeth's son John Cheney had issue Joan, who by her two husbands, Thomas Say and Sir Richard Pudsey, left four daughters, whose children succeeded jointly to the Hill estate. (fn. 75)

One moiety and a third of another moiety of his portion of the manor were held by John Waldegrave, grandson of Thomas and Joan Say, at his death in 1543. (fn. 76) He was succeeded by his son Sir Edward Waldegrave (d. 1561), and the third of the manor evidently continued intact in the Waldegrave family until James, Earl Waldegrave (d.

1741), sold it to Edward Phelips of Montacute (d. 1734) between 1725 and 1730. (*fn. 77*)
In time the lands in East Lydford which made up this third were considered to form part
of Wheathill manor.)

For the manor of East Lydford, see also Collinson, *supra*, p. 196 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=jvE9AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA196>

For the manor of East Lydford, see also 'The Wellesleys', *supra*, p. 165.

Manor of Harnham in Oake

For the testator's manor of Harnham, see *Comer v Martyn*, a case brought in the Court of
Star Chamber in 1534, in Bradford, G., *Proceedings in the Court of the Star Chamber*,
Somerset Record Society, Vol. XXVII, 1911, pp. 126-8 at:

<https://www.scribd.com/document/34665085/1911-Proceeding-in-the-Court-of-the-Star-Chamber-in-the-Reigns-of-Henry-VII-and-Henry-VIII>

For the manor of Harnham, see also 'The Wellesleys', *supra*, p. 165.

Manor of Purifitchet or Pury-Fitchet or Perry Fitchet

For the testator's manor of Purifitchet, see *Eighth Report of the Deputy Keeper of the
Public Records*, (London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1847), p. 154 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=IjB52wF2aikC&pg=RA2-PA154>

1. *Memorandum, that the manor is part of the ancient inheritance of Thomas Fitchet,
and of the ancient tenure thereof.*

See also two deeds in which John Hill, son of Robert Hill and Isabel Fitchet, is described
as 'lord of Perry Fitchet', TNA E 326/6008 and TNA E 326/6081.

See also Hill, James S., *The Place Names of Somerset*, (Bristol: St. Stephen's Printing
Works, 1914), pp. 273-4 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/cu31924028058208#page/n301/mode/2up>

For the manor of Purifitchet, see also 'The Wellesleys', *supra*, p. 165.

Manor of Edington

For the testator's manor of Edington, see:

'Edington', in *A History of the County of Somerset: Volume 8, the Poldens and the Levels*, ed. Robert Dunning (London, 2004), pp. 50-63. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/som/vol8/pp50-63> [accessed 7 July 2018]

[Sir Thomas] Fichet died in 1386, his widow Ricarda, holder of two-thirds of the manor, in 1390, and his only son, also Thomas, under age in 1395. (fn. 79) The heir was Isabel, Fichet's daughter and wife of Robert Hill. (fn. 80) Hill outlived his wife and died in 1423 when his heir was his son John. (fn. 81) John Hill died in 1434 (fn. 82) and his widow Cecily, later wife of Sir Thomas Keriell, held the manor in dower until her death in 1472. (fn. 83) She was followed by her granddaughter Genevieve (d. 1480), wife of Sir William Say. (fn. 84) Say occupied the manor until his death in 1529 when the entire Hill estate was divided between the descendants of Elizabeth, daughter of John Hill (d. 1434). John Waldegrave received half and William Clopton, Ellen Babington, and Thomas Hussey shared the other half. (fn. 85) Before his death in 1543 Waldegrave had acquired Ellen Babington's share; (fn. 86) the remaining two shares were bought by Edward Waldegrave (d. 1561), John Waldegrave's son and heir. (fn. 87)

The manor then descended with Spaxton in the Waldegrave family, (fn. 88)

Manor of Yard

For the testator's manor of Yard, see Collinson, *supra*, p. 300 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=jvE9AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA300>

The manor of Yard in Ivelchester was part of the estate of the Lords Bonville of Chewton.

Manor of Aley

For the testator's manor of Aley, see:

A P Baggs and M C Siraut, 'Over Stowey: Manors and other estates', in *A History of the County of Somerset: Volume 6, andersfield, Cannington, and North Petherton Hundreds (Bridgwater and Neighbouring Parishes)*, ed. R W Dunning and C R Elrington (London, 1992), pp. 162-165. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/som/vol6/pp162-165> [accessed 8 July 2018]

Aley may have been held by William de Curci in 1166. (fn. 77) It was held by Sir William de Reigny (d. 1275) (fn. 78) and his widow Akyna until 1280 or later, (fn. 79) and by 1285 it had passed by Sir William's gift to Robert of Acton, son of Joan, his illegitimate daughter. (fn. 80) By 1303 Robert had been succeeded by Stephen Beaumond (d. 1310), husband of Robert's widow Joan (d. 1308). (fn. 81) Alice, daughter of Stephen and Joan,

married John de Bures, who had Aley in 1318 (fn. 82) and 1332. (fn. 83) By 1340, probably following John's death, Aley had been recovered by Richard of Acton, (fn. 84) grandson of Robert (d. c. 1303). (fn. 85) In 1384 Richard settled Aley on himself and his wife Margaret for life, with remainder to Sir Thomas Fichet of Spaxton. (fn. 86) Sir Thomas's son, also Thomas (d. 1395), succeeded to the manor, which descended with Spaxton. (fn. 87) The lordship was not mentioned in the sale of 1833. (fn. 88)

Manor of Preston Plucknett

For the testator's manor of Preston Plucknett, see:

<http://www.yeovilhistory.info/prestongreatfarm.htm>

See also:

<http://www.yeovilhistory.info/history%20-%20lords.htm>

Sir John Stourton of Preston Plucknett left 40 shillings to the fabric of the church of Yeovil in 1438. As well as Preston, he owned Brympton and Pendomer, and was uncle of the first Lord Stourton. Of his three daughters, Joan took Brympton to John Sydenham, Cicely took Preston to John Hill and Alice took Pendomer to William Daubeny. The arms of Stourton were sable, a bend or between six fountains (on a black field, a golden diagonal stripe between the representation of six fountains).

Manor of Wheathill

For the testator's manor of Wheathill see Collinson, *supra*, p. 450 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=jvE9AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA450>

19 Ric. II. William Banastre died seized of the manor of Wheathill with the advowson of the church, which he held of the Earl of Huntingdon, leaving Joan the wife of Robert de Alfoxton his daughter and heir. Which Robert de Alfoxton dying without issue, Joan his said wife surviving him married afterwards Sir John Hill, of Spaxton, knt. in whose family this manor continued for some time

For the manor of Wheathill, see also 'The Wellesleys', *supra*, p. 165.

Manor of Woodford

No information appears to be available for this manor.

Testator's manors in Devonshire***Manor of Pinhoe***

For the testator's manor of Pinhoe, see Worthy, Charles, *The History of the Suburbs of Exeter*, (London: Henry Gray, 1892), pp. 126-7 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/historysuburbse01wortgoog#page/n138/mode/2up>

This Sir John de Molton, whose wife's name is uncertain, left an only daughter, Maud, who married Sir John Stretche.

Sir John Stretche had an only son, Thomas, who died without issue, and two daughters, co-heirs to their brother, viz., Elizabeth, who married Thomas Beauchamp, and Cecilia, or Cicely, who took the Pinhoe property for her portion, and whose second husband, William Cheney, was Lord of Pinhoe in her right, 14th Richard II., 1390.

The Cheney family continued to reside at Pinhoe until the death of John Cheney, who was Sheriff of Devon, 32nd Henry VI., and in the 2nd, 3rd and 13th of Edward IV. His father, Sir John Cheney, of Pinhoe, who married Elizabeth, daughter and eventual heir of John Hill, of Spaxton, had filled the same office in 1443.

A more detailed account of this family will be found in my "Devonshire Parishes," Vol. ii., pp. 59-61, so I need not repeat what I have said of them there in connection with other property they held at Littlehempston in this county.

Lysons says, that Pinhoe Manor "passed by successive marriages to Cheney and Walgrave. The latter statement, however, is hardly correct. The last John Cheney, who, as I have said above, was thrice Sheriff of Devon, left four daughters, co-heirs; the sons of the three eldest of these, Thomas, son of Anne Hussey; William, son of Elizabeth and William Clopton; and John, son of Isabella and Edward Walgrave, together with their aunt, Ellen, wife of George Babington, divided the Pinhoe property in the reign of Henry VIII., as shown by an inquisition dated 1531. . . ."

Manors in Essex***Manor of Borley***

For the testator's manor of Borley, see Wright, Thomas, *The History and Topography of the County of Essex*, Vol. I, (London: George Virtue, 1836), p. 556 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=SgQVAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA556>

Manor of Navestock

For the testator's manor of Navestock, see:

'Navestock: Manors', in *A History of the County of Essex: Volume 4, Ongar Hundred*, ed. W R Powell (London, 1956), pp. 143-146. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/essex/vol4/pp143-146> [accessed 7 July 2018]

In 1544 the manor of Navestock and other manors belonging to St. Paul's were surrendered to the king in exchange for properties elsewhere. (fn. 9) Navestock remained in the possession of the Crown for ten years until in 1554 Queen Mary sold it with the advowson of the vicarage to Sir Edward Waldegrave, who had been appointed steward in 1553, for £1,228, to hold for 1/50 knight's fee. The manor was then occupied by Richard Greene on a lease granted by St. Paul's in 1526 for 40 years at a rent of £50 a year. (fn. 10)

On the death of Mary Sir Edward Waldegrave, who had been Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, was imprisoned in the Tower of London, and he remained there until his death in 1561. (fn. 11) He left Navestock in his will to his wife Frances for life, with remainder to his eldest son Charles. (fn. 12) Frances died holding the manor in 1599. (fn. 13) Charles Waldegrave succeeded her and in the same year settled the manor on his son Edward on the latter's marriage with Eleanor, daughter of Sir Thomas Lovell. (fn. 14)

Manor of Bobbingworth

For the testators manor of Bobbingworth, see:

'Bobbingworth: Manors', in *A History of the County of Essex: Volume 4, Ongar Hundred*, ed. W R Powell (London, 1956), pp. 10-14. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/essex/vol4/pp10-14> [accessed 12 July 2018]

1442 Sir Nicholas Thorley died leaving as his heir Walter Estoft, son of his sister Katherine. (fn. 38) Alice, Countess of Oxford and widow of Nicholas, apparently held a life interest in the manor of Bobbingworth. (fn. 39) In 1445 she granted this life interest to her son John de Vere, 12th Earl of Oxford, and to Sir Reynold West and Richard Wentworth who immediately sold it to Sir Thomas Tyrell. (fn. 40) At the same time Sir Thomas purchased the reversion from Walter Estoft. (fn. 41) In January 1464 Sir Thomas Tyrell conveyed the manor to Sir Peter Arderne and others who in December 1466 granted it to Walter Wrytell. (fn. 42) After Walter's death in 1475 the manor of Bobbingworth followed the same descent as that of High Laver (q.v.) until 1510. (fn. 43)

In 1510, when they made a partition of the rest of their inheritance, James and Eleanor Walsingham and Edward and Gresilda Waldegrave agreed that they, and the heirs of Eleanor and Gresilda, should hold Bobbingworth manor in common. (fn. 44) In 1575, however, the owners of the manor, Sir Thomas Walsingham, grandson of James and Eleanor, and John Rochester of Terling, son of William, son of Gresilda by her first

husband John Rochester, made a physical division of it. (fn. 45) It was agreed that John Rochester's share of the estate should be the manor house which, with its appurtenant 6 acres, was then in the occupation of John Poole who was a freeholder and copyholder of the manor; 175 acres of demesne land of which 117 acres lay together, 56 acres which were in the occupation of four copyholders at rents totalling £2 13s. a year; and the rents, amounting to £2 19s. 5d. a year, and services of all the twelve freeholders. (fn. 46) The share of Sir Thomas Walsingham was to be 218 acres of demesne land which lay in two parcels of 122 acres and 71 acres and several smaller ones, and 44 acres which were in the occupation of four copyholders at rents totalling £4 4s. a year. (fn. 47)

John Rochester was dead by 1584. (fn. 48) He was succeeded by his second son Edward who in 1586 sold his half of Bobbingworth manor to the above mentioned John Poole. (fn. 49) This estate afterwards became known as the manor of Bobbingworth Hall. (fn. 50)

Manor of Molehall

No information appears to be available on this manor.

Estates in Kent

Hever Castle

For the testator's grant of Hever Castle, see:

<https://www.hevercastle.co.uk/visit/hever-castle/owners/waldegrave/>

LM: T{estamentum} Edwardi Walgraue

In the name of God, Amen. The 14th day of September in the year of Our Lord God 1559 and in the first year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God Queen of England, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith etc., I, Sir Edward Waldegrave of Borley in the county of Essex, knight, being presently both whole in body and of good and perfect memory, I humbly thank Almighty God, yet calling to my remembrance the transitorious estate of this life and how necessary it is for every Christian man as well in his life to employ and bestow such goods and possessions as God shall make him honour and ruler of as also to distribute and leave them in such order and form as when God, who is the giver of them and of all good things, shall ask accounts thereof we may be found to have received them as thankful ministers and bailiffs to use them to his honour and glory and for the necessary relief and comfort of us and such as we been bound to care for and to minister help unto;

And finding myself by God's only goodness endowed with sufficient goods and possessions far above my merit and worthiness, I have thought it my bounden duty so to leave th' order and disposition of them when I shall depart this life as I trust shall be to the contentation of Almighty God and to the due satisfaction of the world;

And therefore I do make, order and declare this my last will and testament, revoking and annulling all other [f. 232r] wills and testaments heretofore made, and this to be my firm and last will in manner and form following:

First I most humbly commend my soul unto the most holy and blessed Trinity, three persons and one God, who in the person of the Son hath redeemed the same with his most precious blood, wholly trusting that by the merits thereof and by his bitter death and passion, and being penitent and sorry for my sins and offences, to have full remission and forgiveness of them, and to have the fruition of his deity with his glorious Mother and Virgin, Our Lady Saint Mary, and the holy company of heaven;

And my body I will to be buried in Christian burial and with such funeral service and exequies as shall be thought most convenient by mine executrix respecting my degree and calling;

Item, I will that there shall be distributed in the day of my burial and within one month next after my decease in deeds of charity the sum of £40, in the distribution whereof I will mine executrix shall have special regard unto them that be most aged and poor householders and having charge of children inhabiting within the towns of Borley and Sudbury or nigh unto the same;

Also I will that my executrix shall as shortly as she can after my decease satisfy and pay all such just debts as I owe unto any man;

And likewise if I have injured or done wrong to any man, as to my remembrance willingly I have not, upon due proof thereof made unto mine executrix I will that they shall above all other things fully satisfy and pay the same;

And whereas I have to my charges provided and bought a marriage for my brother, Robert Waldegrave, that is to say, one of the daughters and heirs of George Foster, esquire, deceased, by whom he shall have some inheritance for term of his life if he have issue by her, the which as yet he hath not, and for want thereof or of other assurance to him to be made by her of her said inheritance he should by her death be nothing advanced;

Therefore my mind and will is that if it shall fortune my said brother's wife to die, living my brother, without issue by him or having not of her lands, tenements or hereditaments to the yearly value of £20 assured to him for term of his life, then I will and give unto him one annuity or yearly rents [sic] of £4 by year out of my manor of Chewton in the county of Somerset to be paid unto him at 2 feasts in the year for term of his life, videlicet, at the feast of Saint Michael th' Archangel and th' Annunciation of Our Lady

by even portions, the first day of payment thereof to begin at which of the said feasts shall happen next after the decease of his said wife;

Provided always that if he be or shall be entitled to be tenant by courtesy of her said lands or of any parcel thereof, or shall enjoy for term of his life the same or so much thereof as shall amount to £20, or if he do not within 2 months next after my decease release unto my heir all such right & title as he hath in one annuity of £4 by year out of my manor of Spaxton in the said county of Somerset of the gift of John Waldegrave, esquire, my father, deceased, and clearly discharge the same annuity, then I will that this £4 granted to him by this my last will shall be utterly void and determined;

And I will that for default of payment of the said annuity of £4 devised to my said brother, Robert, by this my last will and testament in manner and form aforesaid, it shall be lawful for him to distrain in my said manor of Chewton and in every part and parcel thereof, and the distresses there so taken to lead, drive and carry away, and them to withhold until he be fully satisfied of the said annuity according to the purport and true meaning of this my said last will;

Item, I will and give to my brother, John Waldegrave, one annuity of £5 out of my said manor of Chewton, to have and to hold to him for term of his life at 2 feasts in the year, viz., at the feast of St Michael th' Archangel and th' Annunciation of Our Blessed Lady by even portions, the first payment thereof to begin at which of the said 2 feasts that shall next happen after my decease;

And for default of payment of the said annuity in manner and form aforesaid, I will then(?) my said brother, John, shall enter into the said manor and distrain for the said annuity, and [+the?] distress taken to retain till he be fully satisfied thereof;

Provided always that if my said brother, John, do not within one month after a reasonable request to him made by mine executrix or by mine heir release unto them all such annuity as was granted unto him by the said John Waldegrave, my father, and clearly discharge [f. 232v] the said annuity, that then this present grant of annuity of £5 by this my last will shall be utterly void and determined;

Item, I will and give unto my sister, Anne Waldegrave, during the time she keepeth herself sole and unmarried, one annuity or yearly rent of five pounds out of my said manor of Spaxton to be paid unto her at 2 feasts in the year, viz. at the feasts of St Michael th' Archangel and the Annunciation of Our Blessed Lady by even portions, the first day of payment thereof to begin at which of the said 2 feasts as shall happen next after my decease;

And if it happen my said sister, Anne, to marry, then I will that the said annuity of £5 shall cease and be determined, and that then mine executrix and her executors shall at the day of her marriage or within such time after as she shall think meet, give unto her such sum of money as by their discretions they shall think convenient, so that the same exceed not in the whole the sum of one hundred pounds;

And my mind and will is that, in consideration of the said annuity for such sum of money as she shall receive of mine executrix by her discretion, she shall take the same in full satisfaction of all such sums of money, gifts and legacies as she may ask or demand of me or of my executrix by force of the testament and last will of the said John Waldegrave, my father, or of Edward Waldegrave, esquire, my grandfather, or of either of them;

And if she refuse to make unto mine executrix a discharge of the said legacies, then I will that she shall neither have the said annuity before by this my last will given unto her, nor that mine executors shall give her anything by force of this my present testament;

And I give her 2 leases of farms in Chewton in Somerset when they fall, thone in the tenure of Mrs Buckland, widow, thother in the tenure of Northerne during their lives;

Item, I give unto George Mannock, my servant, one annuity or yearly rent of 40s during his natural life to be paid unto him out of my manor of Spaxton, to be paid unto him at 2 terms in the year, viz., at the feast of Saint Michael th' Archangel and th' Annunciation of Our Lady by even portions, the first payment thereof to begin at which of the said 2 feasts that shall next happen after my decease;

And for default of payment thereof it shall be lawful to the said George Mannock to enter into the said manor and there to distrain, and the distress to detain till he be fully answered the said annuity;

And whereas I have before this time assured and conveyed unto my loving wife, Dame Frances Waldegrave, for and in the name of her jointure the manors of Littleton, Wheathill, East Ridforde [sic for 'East Lydford'], Wellesley, Woodford, Dulcote and Radstock with all and singular their members and appurtenances within the county of Somerset, as by good and sufficient assurance more at large it doth and may appear, for his [sic?] more surety and for a better declaration of my mind that she should enjoy the same, I will and give unto my said wife, Frances, for term of her natural life all and singular the said manors with all their rights, members and appurtenances, whatsoever they be, to the said manors or to any of them in any wise belonging or appertaining;

And for the greater zeal, love and favour which I have and bear unto my said loving wife, Frances, and for the more augmentation of her living, and for the better bringing up of such of my children as shall be under her and in her government, and for and towards the performance of this my testament and last will, I will and give unto her all those my manors of Borley, Navestock and Molehall in the county of Essex, and my manor of Pinhoe in the county of Devon, and my said manor of Chewton and the hundred of the same in the said county of Somerset, paying the several annuities before granted out of the said manors in manner and form aforesaid;

And all manner(?), lands, tenements & other hereditaments with all and singular their appurtenances of what nature, kind or quality soever they be to the said manors of

Borley, Molehall, Navestock, Pinhoe and Chewton and the hundred of Chewton and to every of them belonging or in any wise appertaining or accepted, letten or taken as part or parcel of them or of any of them;

To have and to hold all and singular the said manors and hundred with their appurtenances to my said loving wife for term of her natural life;

And after the decease of the said Dame Frances, my wife, I will and give my said manor of Borley with all and singular th' appurtenances unto Nicholas Waldegrave, my son, and to the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten;

And for default of such issue the remainder thereof to the heirs males of my body lawfully begotten;

And for default of such issue the remainder thereof to my right heirs;

Provided always that neither the said Nicholas nor any of the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten shall [f. 233r] alien, discontinue or suffer any recovery of the said manors [sic] of Borley or of any part or parcel thereof except it be for the jointure of such wife or wives as he or any of the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten shall fortune to marry for term of life only of such wife or wives, with remainder over to the heirs males of the body of the said Nicholas;

And for default of such issue the remainder over in manner and form aforesaid;

And if it fortune the said Nicholas, my son, to be within the age of 21 years at the time of the decease of my said wife, his mother, then I will and give the said manor of Borley with all and singular th' appurtenances unto my very loving friends (blank) and to the survivor of them and to his executors until my said son, Nicholas, shall come unto the age of 21 years to the intent they shall with the profits thereof find and bring up my son in virtue and learning, and the overplus of the profits, if any be, I will they shall deliver unto my said son, Nicholas, when he shall come unto the said age of 21 years, at which time I will he shall enter into and enjoy the said manor in manner and form aforesaid;

Furthermore I will that if it shall fortune at the time of the decease of my said wife that such as then shall be mine next heir to be under th' age of 21 years, that then my said loving friends (blank) and the survivor of them shall have and enjoy all and singular my said manors of Navestock, Mollhall and Chewton and the hundred of Chewton and the manor of Pinhoe and the said manors of Littleton, Wheathill, East Lydford, Wellesley, Woodford, Dulcote and Radstock, and the manor and park of Hever with all and singular his rights, members and appurtenances in the county of Kent that she hath jointly with me for term of her life, th' inheritance thereof to me and my heirs, paying the annuities before by this my last will granted out of any of the said manors in manner and form aforesaid until my said heir shall come unto th' age of 21 years;

And then I will and give unto my said next heir male and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten all and singular my said manors of Navestock, Mollhall, Bobbingworth, Chewton and the hundred thereof and the said manors of Pinhoe, Littleton, Wheathill, East Lydford, Wellesley, Woodford, Dulcote and Radstock and the said manor and park of Hever with all and singular their rights, members and appurtenances, paying the said several annuities before granted out of the said manor of Chewton in manner and form aforesaid;

And for default of such issue male I will all and singular the said manors, hundred and park last before remembered shall remain to the heirs males of my body lawfully begotten, paying the said annuities as is aforesaid;

And for default of such issue then to remain unto my right heirs, paying the said several annuities;

And forasmuch as I must by the laws and statutes of this realm leave to descend unto my next heir the third part of all such lands, tenements and hereditaments whereof I am seised of any estate of inheritance, I do therefore for a full third part and more of all my manors, lands, tenements and hereditaments whereof I am seised of any estate of inheritance leave to descend unto my next heir all those my manors of Baddington [sic for 'Raddington?'], Ludehewes [=Ludhuish], Shurton, Aley with the park thereof, Harnamp [=Harnham?], Yarde and Spaxton, paying the several annuities before by this my last will granted out of the said manor of Spaxton, and all those my manors of Peuyfytzchet [=Purifitchet], Edington and Preston with all and singular th' appurtenances set, lying and being within the county of Somerset, the which said manors I leave to descend to my said heir for a full third part and more to the intent the Queen's Majesty may have and take thereof the wardship, livery and primer seisin as the cause shall require according to the laws of this realm;

And whereas I am possessed of and in the lease of the parsonage of Borley in the county of Essex and likewise of the parsonage of Navestock in the said county for term of many years yet to come, as by several conveyances to me thereof made more at large doth appear, I will and give unto the said Dame Frances, my wife, so many of the years as been yet to come of the said several leases as she shall fortune to live after my decease;

And if she shall happen to die before my term of years of the parsonage of Borley be fully expired, then I will and give the residue of such years thereof as shall remain after her decease unto my said loving friends (blank) until [f. 233v] the said Nicholas, my son, shall come to th' age of 21 years;

And when he shall come to the said age or if he shall fortune to be of the same age at the time of the death of the said Dame Frances, my wife, then I will and give unto him so many of the years as then shall be to come of the parsonage of Borley;

And if he die before the years thereof be fully expired having issue male of his body lawfully begotten, then I will and give the residue of the said years unto the said issue male if the said issue male so long live;

And if the said issue male die within the term, then I will and give the residue of the said years that then shall remain unto the issue male of his body;

And so from issue male to issue male of the said Nicholas so long as the lease of the said parsonage of Borley shall endure;

And if it shall fortune the said Nicholas to decease without issue male, then I will the said lease shall after the decease of my said wife and for default of such issue remain unto my next heir male when he cometh to th' age of 21 years with a remainder over to his issue male in like manner and form as I have appointed the said manor of Borley to descend for so many years as shall then be to come of the said lease;

And further I will that after the decease of my said wife the residue of my said lease and term of years of the said parsonage of Navestock shall go and remain unto my said loving friends until my son and heir shall come unto his full age of 21 ty(?) years;

And when he shall come to that age, or if he shall fortune to be of the same age at the time of the death of his mother, my said wife, then I will and give unto him the residue of the years of the said lease of the parsonage of Navestock which then shall be to come and to the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten;

And if he fortune to die without issue male within the said term, then I will and give the residue of the said years which then shall be to come unto my next heir male in like manner and form as I have appointed my said manor of Navestock to descend;

Item, I will and give unto John Gennyus, mine old servant, the house and garden with th' appurtenances which he now dwelleth in and occupieth in Sudbury in the county of Suffolk, to have and to hold the said house and garden with th' appurtenances to the said John Gennius for term of so many years as I have yet to come by lease of the said house;

Item, I will and give unto William Parrys [=Paris], my servant, the house and garden with th' appurtenances which he now dwelleth in and occupieth, to have and to hold the said house and garden with their appurtenances for the term of so many years as I have yet to come by lease of the said house, paying the rents to the chief lords of the fee and keeping the same in sufficient reparations;

Item, I will and give unto every of my daughters, that is to say, Mary, Katherine and Magdalene, the sum of four hundred marks to be paid unto them at their several ages of 21 years or at the days of their marriages if they shall marry before the same age;

And if it fortune any of them to decease before the same age or before they shall fortune to marry, then I will that the part or parts of her or them that shall fortune so to decease

shall be given and divided unto such of them as shall fortune to live until the said age of 21 years or unto their marriages, and then to be paid unto them as is afore appointed;

And if it shall fortune my said daughter, Mary, to be married and espoused unto the heir of Sir Giles Alington, knight, as I special [=specially] wish she should, if it shall so please God, as well for the great amity and friendship as is between the said Sir Giles and me as for the towardness and good hope that I have conceived of his said heir, then I will and give unto my said daughter, Mary, the sum of one hundred marks over and above the said legacy of four hundred marks, which said sum of one hundred marks I will shall be paid to her at the day of her marriage with the said heir of the said Sir Giles Alington, or else not;

And I will and charge every of my said daughters upon my blessing and as they will avoid the plague that shall fall unto them for the breaking of the father's commandment that they be fully ordered and advised in their choice of their husbands and marriages by my said most [f. 234r] dear beloved wife and their natural mother;

And if she fortune to die before they shall happen to marry, then I will and charge my said daughters to be ordered and advised as well in their bringing up as in their marriages by my said loving friends (blank) or by the survivor of them, whom I most heartily require for the great amity that hath been between us and for the reward that the[y] shall have at God's hands in showing friendship and favour to such as been orphans to be unto my said daughters and to my youngest son as their father, and to be unto them as I should and would be unto theirs if they reposed like trust in me;

And whereas I have appointed unto my said loving friends by this my last will all such lands and hereditaments as my said wife hath for term of her life either by this my last will or otherwise until my said sons shall come unto their full age, and then to have the same as I have before appointed, my full mind and intent is that if the said lands and hereditaments shall fortune to come to their hands and disposition, that then they shall employ the issues and profits, after this my last will and testament performed, in manner and form following, that is to say, unto the good education and bringing up of my said son, Nicholas, if his brother & my heir shall fortune to live still, and of my said daughters until they shall come unto th' age of 21 years or until the days of their marriages, if they shall be married before, and to bestow some part upon the convenient apparelling of them at the days of their marriages, and to distribute part of the said profits in deeds of charity amongst poor people of the towns of Sudbury and Borley and of other towns and parishes where my inheritance doth lie, and of such other deeds of charity as they shall think good;

And the overplus of the profits of my said lands, if any shall remain, I will the same shall be distributed and divided between my 2 sons or to the survivor of them at their age of 21 years;

And whatsoever my said friends (blank) or the survivor of them shall deliver unto them or either of them, I will they shall accept it without charging my said friends with any

account or other reckonings or troubling them in any suit for that I know their consciences and upright doings to be such as they will not deceive neither me nor my said sons;

And if it shall fortune all my sons decease without issue of their bodies lawfully begotten, as God defend, before my daughters shall come to the age of 21 years or before they be married if they be married before the said age, then I will, for that my daughters shall be next heirs to me, that such of them as shall fortune then to be within th' age of 21 years or that shall fortune then to be unmarried within the said age shall have no part of the said legacy of 4 hundred marks severally given unto them by this my last will and testament, but for that they shall be otherwise sufficiently advanced, mine executrix and administrators shall be hereof fully discharged;

Item, I will and give unto him that shall fortune to be mine issue and heir male my great chain which was my said grandfather's, Edward Waldegrave's, which chain I will shall be delivered unto my said issue and heir male when he cometh unto th' age of 21 years;

And in the meantime I will the same shall remain in th' hands and custody of my said wife, his mother;

And if I shall fortune to have no issue and heir male of my body that shall live to the said age, then I will and give the said chain unto my said wife;

Item, I will and give unto my sister Abell £20 of lawful money to be paid unto her by mine executrix within one year next after my decease;

Item, I will and give unto my said servant, George Mannock, the sum of £10 of lawful money to be paid unto him when he cometh to th' age of 24 years to help to furnish him with a stock if mine executrice shall see towardness in him;

The residue of all my goods movable and unmovable, after my debts paid and this my present testament and last will fulfilled, I leave them unto the order and disposition of my said loving wife, Dame Frances Waldegrave, requiring her to be good and natural unto our children, as my hope and special trust is in her, whom I make and constitute to be my sole executrix of this my present testament and last will;

And if it happen the said Dame Frances, my wife, to decease before this my present testament and last will be performed and my daughters married, then I [f. 234v] will that my said loving friends (blank) or the survivor of them shall be mine executors after her decease, and to have the order and disposition of all such goods and chattels as were mine and left undisposed or given in her lifetime except of £200 or so much in value which she may give and dispose by her last will and testament at her own pleasure to any person or persons;

And I give unto every of my said friends whom I have made executors in manner and form aforesaid for their pains that they shall then take, and for a remembrance of me, £10 apiece and 2 gilt spoons weighing 6 ounces;

And in witness that this is my last will and testament I have thereunto put my hand and seal the day and year first above-written.

Memorandum: That Sir Edward Waldegrave, knight, being of good mind and memory, three or four days before his decease, who deceased on Monday the first of September in the year of Our Lord God 1561, declared that he had made his testament and last will in writing which was subscribed by himself with his own hand which he said should stand for his last will and testament, in which will and testament he said were certain vacant places left for the placing of certain of his friends for such purposes as in the said his will do at large appear;

And the said Sir Edward Waldegrave then and there advisedly did nominate and appoint Anthony Browne, one of the Justices of the Common Bench at Westminster, Sir Francis Englefield, knight, and John Throckmorton, esquire, to be those his friends which he would trust and have placed in his said testament and last will in the said vacant places to the intents and purposes expressed in his said last will and testament;

And also Sir Thomas Cornwallis, knight, if the said Anthony Browne thought so good;

And sent the same will and testament to the said Anthony Browne to require him to put the names of the said Anthony Browne, Sir Francis Englefield and John Throckmorton in the said vacant places of the said will, and also the said Sir Thomas Cornwallis if the said Anthony Browne thought good to have the said Sir Thomas in with them;

And said these were the persons whom he trusted and would have placed in the said vacant places of his said last will and testament;

Item, he willed to have a convenient parsonage builded at Borley for the parson as soon as it might be;

And whereas he had by the gift or devise of Sir Robert Rochester, knight, the patent and interest of th' office of Lavenham park and the bailiwick out of the which he would certain annuities to be paid to divers of the said Sir Robert Rochester's servants during the interest of that same patent, as by the last will and testament of the said Sir Robert Rochester plainly appeareth, he then gave and bequeathed his whole interest and patent thereof unto the said Sir Robert Rochester's servants to whom the said Sir Robert Rochester had willed any annuity, right or interest therein or of the same to the intent every man might recover his several duty therein or thereunto to every of them given or bequeathed;

And whereas he had by lease for 12 years yet to come the manor of East Marsey [=Mersea?] out of the which he had above the Queen's rent £16 yearly, he willed that his servants, William Awdwyne should have four pounds yearly out of the same, and Edward Browne 4 marks, Floreus Shergate 46s 8d, John Jennis 40s, William Paris 40s, Geoffrey Broccas 40s, Richard Hill 20s;

Item, he gave to William Awdwin his house in Sowthburie [=Sudbury] lying in the north street in the parish of Saint Peter commonly called Tayler's house for so many years as be to come in the lease thereof, and six pounds 13s 4d towards the reparations of that same house;

Item, he willed that all his servants should have their whole year's wages, and every one 40s in money for a reward;

Item, he gave to Thomas Parker, his servant, upon his account thoroughly made, 20 marks;

Witness hereof Mr John Fryer, Doctor of Physic, Anthony Jebbe, and others.

Probatum fuit h{uius}mo{d}i Testamentum coram Mag{ist}ro Waltero Haddon Legu{m} [f. 235r] Doctore Curie Prerogatiue Cant{uariensis} Comissario apud London vicesimo terc{i}o die Mensis Septembris Anno Domini mill{es}imo quingentesimo sexagesimo primo Iuramento xpoferi Robinson notarij publici procuratoris Domini [sic] ffrancisce Relicte et executric{is} in h{uius}mo{d}i Testamento nominat{e} Cui comissa fuit administrac{i}o etc de pleno etc ac de pleno Inuentario Necnon de vero et plano Inuentario Necnon de vero et plano comp{ot}o Reddend{o} Ad sancta Dei Evangelia Iurat{i}

[=The same testament was proved before Master Walter Haddon, Doctor of the Laws, Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, at London on the twenty-third day of the month of September in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred sixty-first by the oath of Christopher Robinson, notary public, proctor of Lady Frances, relict and executrix named in the same testament, to whom administration was granted, sworn on the Holy Gospels, a full etc. [sic], and a full inventory [sic], and also a true and plain inventory, and also to render a true and plain account.]