

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 22 November 1562 and proved 7 May 1563, of Elizabeth (nee Springham) Worsop.

It seems likely the testatrix' husband was the author of *A Discoverie of Sundrie Errours and Faults Daily Committed by Landemeaters, Ignorant of Arithmetike and Geometrie* (1582). See Harvey, P.D.A., 'English Estates Maps: Their Early History and Their Use as Historical Evidence', in Buisseret, David, ed., *Rural Images: Estate Maps in the Old and New Worlds*, (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996), pp. 27-62 at p. 31:

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

### ***CONNECTION TO THE EARLS OF OXFORD***

On 31 October 1564 Robert Burbage (d.1575) and the testatrix' husband, Edward Worsop, bound themselves in £400 to Oxford's future father-in-law, Sir William Cecil, to perform certain provisions of an indenture dated 11 December 1563 by which Cecil purchased from Robert Burbage the manor of Theobalds alias Tongs on which he built his mansion of Theobalds. See TNA C 54/670, No. 24.

### ***FAMILY BACKGROUND***

In his will, TNA PROB 11/45/38, proved 6 February 1562, the testatrix' brother, Ralph Springham of Hertford All Saints, Hertfordshire, mentions his deceased father, John Springham, his wife, Christian, and his four daughters, Joan, Katherine, Margaret and Mary, to whom the testatrix leaves bequests in the will below.

### ***MARRIAGE AND ISSUE***

The testatrix married the London mercer, Edward Worsop, the son of John Worsop (d.1538), Scrivener of the Court Letter, by his second wife, Lettice Ireland (d.1584). For the will of John Worsop, see TNA PROB 11/27/356.

After the death of John Worsop, Lettice Ireland married Anthony Wayte, for whose will, proved 28 May 1559, see TNA PROB 11/42B/217. For the will of Lettice (nee Ireland) Worsop Wayte, see TNA PROB 11/67/318.

For the siblings of the half blood of the testatrix' husband, Edward Worsop, see his father's will, *supra*.

The testatrix' husband, Edward Worsop, had a brother and a sister of the whole blood:

**-John Worsop** (d.1595) of Clapham, gentleman, who married Martha Cole, who survived him. In his mother's will, he is said to have been the father of John, Edward, Thomas, Bartholomew, Elizabeth, Martha and Rose Worsop. In his own will, TNA PROB 11/85/239, John Worsop mentions only three children, John, Elizabeth and Martha Worsop.

**-Elizabeth Worsop**, who married, as his second wife, the London merchant tailor John Travys (d.1570), by whom, according to his will, TNA PROB 11/52/148, she was the mother of James, Thomas, Edmund, William, Susan, Lettice and Margaret Travys. All but Thomas are also mentioned in the will of Lettice (nee Ireland) Worsop Wayte (d.1584), which also indicates that Susan Travys married a husband surnamed Dalborne. Elizabeth Worsop's husband, John Travys, appears to be the John Travys who witnessed the testatrix' will.

Although the testatrix mentions no children in the will below, in the will of her mother-in-law, Lettice (nee Ireland) Worsop Wayte (d.1584), Edward Worsop is said to have been the father of William, John, Edward, Thomas, Richard, Martha, Mary, Margaret, Anne or Agnes(?), Elizabeth, Frances and Lettice Worsop, several of whom were likely the testatrix' children.

#### ***OTHER PERSONS MENTIONED IN THE WILL***

For William Slywright (d.1578), see his will, TNA PROB 11/60/518.

RM: T{estamentum} Elizabethi Worsopp

Memorandum: That on the 22 day of November 1562, I, Edward Worsop, citizen and mercer of London, do permit and suffer Elizabeth, my wife, and by these presents do give, licence and with free will do consent and agree that the said Elizabeth shall make her testament and last will, which she maketh in manner and form hereafter ensuing, that is to say:

In the name of God, Amen. This is the last will and testament of me, Elizabeth Worsop, wife of Edward Worsop, citizen and mercer of London, made the day and year above-written:

First I bequeath my soul unto Almighty God, trusting most assuredly to be saved by the merits of Christ's passion as one of God's elect into everlasting joy, my body to be buried in Christian burial;

Item, I give and bequeath unto every one of the persons underwritten as followeth:

In primis, I give and bequeath to my brother, Richard Springham, in recompense of his gentleness and brotherly love which he hath showed me from my youth hitherto, the sum of one hundred pounds;

Item, I give and bequeath to my mother six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence;

Item, I give and bequeath to Katherine Springham, my servant, £13 6s 8d;

Item, I give and bequeath to Mary Chapman, my servant, £13 6s 8d(?);

Item, I give and bequeath to Margaret Chapman, my niece, £6 13s 4d;

Item, I give and bequeath to Joan Springham, my niece, £3 6s 8d;

Item, I give and bequeath to every of the other four children of Ralph Springham, my late brother, deceased 40s;

Item, I give and bequeath to John Store's wife, to Thomas Fitzwilliam's wife and to William Stauner's(?) wife, that is to say, to every of them £3 6s 8d;

Item, I give and bequeath to my sister Browne £3 6s 8d;

Item, I will that the said Edward Worsop, my well beloved husband, whom I make my only and sole executor of this my last will and testament, shall by his discretion and as he shall think most meet distribute, give and bestow within six months after my decease £73 6s 8d of good and lawful money of England;

The residue of all my goods and chattels, my legacies and bequests aforesaid performed and my funerals discharged, I give and bequeath unto the said Edward Worsop, my well beloved husband;

And I make, ordain and constitute my brother, Richard Springham aforesaid, and Matthew Field, citizen and mercer of London, overseers of this my last will and testament;

In witness whereof I have hereunto set to my seal the day and year first above-written.

By me, Edward Worsop. Sealed and delivered by the said Edward in the presence of the witness names underwritten. By me, John Travys, as witness hereunto. Per me Willelimum Slywrighte testem. Per me Edward Gwynne.

Probatum fuit huiusmodi testamentum coram magistro Waltero Haddon Legum Doctore Curie Prerogative Cantuariensis Custode siue Commissario apud London Septimo die Mensis Maij Anno Domini Millesimo Quingentesimo Sexagesimo

terc{i}o Iuramento Edwardi Worsopp Executoris in h{uius}mo{d}i Testamento nominat{i} Qui comissa fuit administrac{i}o &c de bene &c Ac de pleno Inventario &c 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, Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, at London on the seventh day of the month of May in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred sixty-third by the oath of Edward Worsop, executor named in the same testament, to whom administration was granted etc., sworn on the Holy Gospels to well etc., and [+to exhibit?] a full inventory etc., and also to render a true and plain account.]