

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 8 November 1564 and proved 10 November 1564, of Joan (nee Aleyn) Pyke, first cousin of Giles Aleyn (d. 27 March 1608), who leased the former priory of Holywell to James Burbage, who in 1576 built the first London theatre on the premises.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

For the testatrix' family background, see 'Aleyn of Hatfield Peverel and Little Leighs, baronets' at:

<http://landedfamilies.blogspot.ca/2014/01/105-alleyn-of-hatfield-peverel-and.html>

See also the pedigree of Alleyne of Hatfield in Burke, John and John Bernard Burke, *A Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Extinct and Dormant Baronetcies of England, Ireland and Scotland*, 2nd ed., (London: Scott, Webster and Geary, 1841), pp. 3-4 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=DqkTAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA4>

See also the Aleyn pedigrees in Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitations of Essex, Part I*, (London: Harleian Society, 1878), Vol. XIII, p. 333 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=hqwKAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA333>

Testatrix' parents

The testatrix is said to have been the illegitimate daughter of Sir John Aleyn (d.1545?), Lord Mayor of London, for whose will see TNA PROB 11/31/16. The name of the testatrix' mother is unknown.

Testatrix' siblings

The testatrix had two illegitimate brothers:

-Sir Christopher Aleyn (d.1586).

-Lazarus Aleyn (d. before 1583).

According to the *ODNB*, Sir William Paget (1505/6–1563), 1st Baron Paget, had the wardship and marriage of the testatrix' two brothers, and Sir Christopher Aleyn (d.1586) married Paget's eldest daughter, Audrey Paget (c.1535-1587), while Lazarus Aleyn married another of Paget's daughters, Agnes Paget. However according to TNA C 78/68/28, Lazarus Aleyn left a widow named Margaret, and according to the website

below she was Margaret Compagni, the illegitimate daughter of the Florentine merchant, Bartholomeo Compagni (23 April 1503 – 27 April 1561) of Broad Street in London. See:

<http://pigott-gorrie.blogspot.ca/2008/05/captain-john-pigott-of-stradbally.html>

About 1535, [Compagni] sired, by an unknown woman, probably English, & perhaps one of his servants, an illegitimate daughter, Margaret Compagni; named in her father's will, 1561, as his "...dear natural daughter" and wife of John Baptist Castillion, whom he made overseer of his will.

In April 1558, Margaret Compagni, by then the widow of Lazarus ALLEN, illegitimate son of Sir John ALLEN, P.C., Lord Mayor of London, married 2ndly, Giovanni Battista Castiglione, Master of the Italian Tongue to the Lady Elizabeth Tudor, & Groom of her Privy Chamber when she became Queen.

John Baptist Castillion (d. 12 February 1598) and his wife, Margaret, were the parents of Sir Francis Castillion, who was living in Oxford's Great Garden property in 1607. See *English Reports*, Vol. 77, pp. 1235-1252, on this website.

See also the entry for Audrey Paget in 'A Who's Who of Tudor Women' at:

www.tudorwomen.com

For Sir Christopher and Lazarus Aleyn, see also TNA C 78/68/28.

See also Wright, Thomas, *The History and Topography of the County of Essex*, (London: George Virtue, 1836), pp. 244-5 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=SgQVAAAQAAJ&pg=PA244>

See also Berry, Herbert, *Shakespeare's Playhouses*, (New York: AMS Press, 1987), pp. 28-9.

MARRIAGE AND ISSUE

The testatrix married Thomas Pyke (d. 29 September 1559), the son of John Pyke (living 1531) of Ilford, Essex, and Alice Jenyn (living 1531). See the will, TNA PROB 11/24/298, of Alice Jenyn's brother, Nicholas Jenyn (d.1533?).

By Thomas Pyke the testatrix had two sons who predeceased her, and three daughters:

* **Robert Pyke** (living 1545), to whom his grandfather, Sir John Aleyn, left a mansion in the parish of St Margaret Patten:

I bequeath to Robert Pyke, the son of Thomas Pyke, my mansion house or place with the appurtenances and a tenement next adjoining lying and being in the parish of Saint Margaret Patten in London, in which house Sir John Champneys, knight, now dwelleth.

* **Christopher Pyke** (born c.1553). He is said to have been his father's heir, aged six years and more, in the inquisition post mortem taken after his father's death. See Fry, George S., ed., *Abstracts of Inquisitiones Post Mortem Relating to the City of London*, Part I, (London: London and Middlesex Archaeological Society, 1896), pp. 180-1 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=uc07AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA180>

* **Judith Pyke.**

* **Adrian Pyke.**

* **Mary Pyke.**

See also the WikiTree entry for Thomas Pyke at:

<https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Pyke-211>

LM: T{estamentum} Iohanne Pyke

In the name of God, Amen. The 8th day of November 1564 and in the sixth year of the reign of our most dread Sovereign Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God Queen of England, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith etc., I, Joan Pyke of London, widow, being of perfect mind and memory, lauds and praise be unto God, yet sick in body, make and ordain this my present last will and testament in manner and form following, that is to say:

First and above all things I commend my soul to Our Lord Jesus Christ, my Maker, Saviour and Redeemer, by and through whose death, passion and resurrection my whole trust and confidence is to be saved and be an inheritor of the kingdom of heaven;

Item, I will my body to be buried in Barking church as near the place as my husband and children are buried as conveniently may be;

Item, I make my daughters, Judith, Adrian and Mary, my executors, and I will, give and bequeath to them all my goods, substance and other things whatsoever they(?) be, to be equally divided among them;

And if it fortune any of them to decease before their lawful age or days of marriage, which first shall chance, then I will the part and portion of her or them deceasing shall remain to the survivors equally;

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<http://www.oxford-shakespeare.com/>

And if it fortune all my children to decease before their marriage or lawful age, which shall first chance, then I will all my said substance bequeathed to my said 3 daughters, Judith, Adrian and Mary, shall be divided into two equal parts, thone half whereof I give, will and bequeath to and amongst the kinsfolk of my said late husband, Thomas Pyke, and the other half or moiety to and amongst my own kinsfolk;

And I make and ordain Francis Pope, citizen and merchant tailor of London, and Thomas Dewe, citizen and goldsmith of London, overseers of this my present testament and last will, whom I require to see my children well brought up and their parts put in good order as they will answer at the Day of Judgment for the same;

In witness whereof hereunto I have set my seal, given the day and year first above-written. H. Broke. Sigillauit subscripsit et deliberauit in p{rese}ntia Iacobi Heath Ric{hard}i Piat Ric{hard}i Lees et mei dicti No{ta}rij. By me, James Heath, witness. By me, Richard Pyat, witness. By me, Richard Leyes, witness.

Decimo [-decimo] die mensis Novembris Anno Domini Mill{es}imo Quingent{es}imo Sexag{es}imo Quarto Emanauit Commissio ffrancisco Pope et Thome Dewe Supervisoribus no{m}i{n}atis in prefato testament{o} Ad administrand{um} bona Iura et credita d{i}c{t}i def{uncti} Durant{e} minori etate Iudith Adriane et Marie Pyke filiaru{m} d{i}c{t}i Defuncti et executor{um} &c De bene et fidel{ite}r administrand{o} bona iura et credita &c Ac de pleno et fideli Inuentario conficiend{o} &c Necnon de plano &c Iurat{is}

[=On the tenth day of the month of November in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred sixty-fourth a grant issued to Francis Pope and Thomas Dewe, supervisors named in the foresaid testament, to administer the goods, rights and credits of the said deceased during the minority of Judith, Adrian and Mary Pike, daughters of the said deceased and executors etc., sworn to well and faithfully administer the goods, rights and credits etc., and to prepare a full and faithful inventory etc., and also a plain etc.]