

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the last will and testament, dated 31 July 1566 and proved 12 February 1567, of Thomas Danyell (d.1566) of Acton, Suffolk, whose daughter-in-law, Margaret West, was the sister of Elizabeth West, wife of William Golding (d.1588), brother of Oxford's mother, Margery Golding.

### ***FAMILY BACKGROUND***

For the testator's family background and siblings, see the will, dated 20 September 1492 and proved 19 December 1498, of the testator's father, Edmund Danyell, TNA PROB 11/11/526, and the will, dated 6 December 1508 and proved 16 March 1509, of the testator's mother, Grace (nee Baynard) Langley Danyell (d. 2 January 1509), TNA PROB 11/16/317.

See also the *ODNB* entry for the testator:

*Danyell, Thomas (b. after 1488, d. 1566), administrator, probably was born in Suffolk shortly after 1488, the third of five sons of Edmund Danyell, esquire, of Stoke by Nayland, Suffolk (d. 1497×1504), and his wife, Grace (d. 1509), daughter and heir of Sir Richard Baynard of Messing, Essex. In the will of his mother, dated 6 December 1508, Danyell and his younger brothers were each assigned the annual sum of £5 until they attained the age of twenty on condition that they continue their 'learning'. No information on Danyell's education survives, and his early life is obscure before he entered the service of Thomas Howard (1443–1524), earl of Surrey, duke of Norfolk, and lord treasurer of England. Danyell's paternal grandparents were Sir Thomas Danyell of Rathwire, Ireland, constable of Dublin Castle, and Margaret, sister to John Howard, first duke of Norfolk (d. 1485). In 1494 his father was named executor for the duke's widow.*

*As clients of the Howards, the Danyell family rose within East Anglia and at court. On 16 July 1517 Thomas Danyell was admitted for life by Norfolk to the recently vacated position of writer of the tallies in the receipt of the exchequer. There he joined his cousin Henry Everard, esquire, of Deverston, Suffolk, secretary to the lord treasurer in 1514 and subsequently a teller of the exchequer (1514–40), and other members of the Howard entourage. Danyell's eldest surviving brother, John, esquire, of Messing, had already married a daughter of Edmund Denny (d. 1519/20), lord treasurer's remembrancer and baron of the exchequer. Another cousin, John Danyell, gentleman, of Felsted, Essex (d. 1518), was in the service of John de Vere, earl of Oxford. Thomas Danyell continued to be active in the private affairs of the Howard family until at least 1540. . . .*

*Danyell married first, at an unknown date, Anne, daughter of Sir Edmund Lucy of Suffolk. This marriage produced his only surviving child and heir, Edmund, who married Margaret, daughter and heir of Edmund West, esquire, of Cornard, Suffolk. Danyell married second, by 1550, Frances, daughter of John Butler, recorder of Coventry, and widow of Edmund Felton of Pentlow, Essex (d. 1542). Danyell had long been associated*

with Felton, and in 1550 he resigned his exchequer post in favour of Felton's relative, Thomas Felton of Clerkenwell, Middlesex, who had served as clerk to the writer of the tallies from 1535.

### **MARRIAGES AND ISSUE**

As noted above, the testator married firstly Anne Lucy, daughter of Sir Edmund Lucy, whose family background is unclear. Anne Lucy's father may have been Sir Edmund Lucy (d. 27 December 1515), son of William Lucy (c.1400-1466), esquire, of Charlecote, Warwickshire, and Eleanor Grey, and brother of Sir William Lucy (c.1436 – 8 July 1492) of Charlecote. This Sir Edmund Lucy married Eleanor Trumpington (d.1510), widow of Richard Enderby (d.1487), and daughter and heiress of Sir Walter Trumpington. See Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., 2011, Vol. III, pp. 105-6 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=kjme027UeagC&pg=RA2-PA106>

According to Blakeway, Sir Edmund Lucy (d. 27 December 1515) married secondly a wife named Anne, by whom he had a son, George Lucy (c. June 1514 – 1 November 1558) of Sutton, aged a year and a half at his father's death. It may be that the testator's first wife, Anne Lucy, was the daughter of Sir Edmund Lucy's second marriage. See the pedigree in Blakeway, John Brickdale, 'History of Shrewsbury Hundreds or Liberties', *Transactions of the Shropshire Archaeological and Natural History Society*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ser., Vol. I, (Shrewsbury: Admitt and Naunton, 1889), p. 364 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=11RLAQAAMAAJ&pg=PA364>

According to Rokewood, however, Sir Edmund Lucy married *Elizabeth* Trumpington, daughter of Sir Walter Trumpington. See Rokewode, Gage, John, *The History and Antiquities of Suffolk: Thingoe Hundred*, (London: Samuel Bentley, 1838), p. 179 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=knVPAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA179>

For Sir Walter Trumpington, see also:

A P Baggs, S M Keeling and C A F Meekings, 'Parishes: Trumpington', in *A History of the County of Cambridge and the Isle of Ely: Volume 8*, ed. A P M Wright (London, 1982), pp. 248-267. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/cambs/vol8/pp248-267> [accessed 23 December 2018]

By Anne Lucy the testator was father of an only son:

\* **Edmund Danyell** (d.1569), esquire, of Acton, Suffolk, who married Margaret West, daughter of Edmund West. Margaret West's sister, Elizabeth West, married, as her second husband, William Golding (d.1588), brother of Oxford's mother, Margery Golding. See the will of Edmund West, TNA PROB 11/24/136. For the will, dated 29

August 1569, of the testator's son, Edmund Danyell, in which he appoints 'my brother, William Golding', as one of his executors, see TNA PROB 11/51/382. For the will of William Golding (d. February 1588), see TNA PROB 11/72/210.

The testator married secondly, by 1550, Frances Butler, widow of Edmund Felton (d. 10 December 1542) of Pentlow, Essex, and daughter of John Butler, recorder of Coventry. The testator's 'cousin, George Felton', mentioned in the will below, may have been the eldest son of the testator's second wife by her first marriage to Edmund Felton. George Felton (born c.1521), esquire, is said to have married Margaret Carew, the daughter of John Carew of St Edmondsbury. See:

<http://www.prattens.co.uk/families/DANIEL/notes.html>

See also:

<http://www.foxearth.org.uk/PentlowMiscellany.html>

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

The testator leaves a bequest to 'my sister Winifred'. However there is no mention of a daughter named Winifred in the will of the testator's mother.

RM: T{estamentum} Thome Danyell

In the name of God, Amen. I, Thomas Danyell of Acton in the county of Suffolk, esquire, being whole of mind and in good memory make, ordain & constitute this my last will and testament in manner and form following, that is to say:

First I give and bequeath my soul to Almighty God, my Maker and Redeemer, and my carcass and body to be interred and buried within the parish church of the parish where it shall please God to depart my life in this present world;

Also I will there be bestowed at my burial day 100s, at my seven day forty shillings, at my month day forty shillings, and every week within the same year to poor people 12d, which four sums announteth [sic] to £11 12s;

Also I give and bequeath to Mrs Anne Bishop £20;

To my sister, Winifred, four pound;

To Sir William Richards forty shillings;

To Frances Dyer, my maid 66s 8d;

To Besse Barker in recompense of her wages and liveries six pound thirteen shillings four pence;

To Thomas Clerke 26s 8d;

To be given and divided amongst my servants in my house 60s;

Which seven sums amounteth to a £40 6s 8d;

Also I freely give and release unto my cousin, George Felton, all manner of debts & reckonings due by him to me for any manner of cause from the beginning of the world to Christmas last afore the date hereof;

Also I give and bequeath to Frances Danyell, my loving wife, all such stuff of household and goods as were hers and known to be hers at the time of her marriage to me;

Also I give and bequeath unto my said wife of my own proper goods my tester of crimson and black velvet with the featherbed, bolster, blankets and sheets [+and] coverlet, with all the pillows and curtains thereto belonging, and one whole hanging of say for her chamber, one other featherbed, bolster, blankets, sheets and coverlet with a tester for her maids;

Also I give and bequeath to my said wife as much of my plate, she to have her own choice of it, to the value of £33 6s 8d, my chain of gold which my wife in her lifetime used to wear, weighing about 10 ounces of fine gold worth £30, in ready money £20, with all her apparel and rings;

Also I give and bequeath to my said wife one horse, 3 milch beef, 10 sheep, five hogs, ten quarters of malt;

Also I give to my said wife, Frances Danyell, all such lands and tenements with all their appurtenances in respect and lieu of her jointure and thirds for term of her natural life as hereafter is particularly mentioned and rehearsed, that is to say:

My head house in Sudbury with the creste(?), gardens and orchards thereto belonging, and all my houses which I have going from my head house down by the mill, and so going round till you come to my house again, and within that compass there is 12 houses, in value by estimation to the sum of £12;

Gronden Hall in Bulmer in the tenure and occupying of Richard Holborowe, by year £7;

The parsonage of Bulmer, likewise in the tenure of Richard Holborowe, of the clear yearly value of £20;

The tenement called sometime Edmund Nokis [=Noke's?], now in the tenure of the said Holborowe, of the yearly value of 20s;

The tenement in Bulmer called Chaloners in the occupying of widow Humfrey, of the clear yearly value of four pound three shillings eight pence;

Portereses in Ballingdon in th' occupying of the said Richard Holborowe, of the clear yearly value of £7 6s 8d;

The house that Mother Willyotte dwells in in Sudbury of the yearly value by year 10s;

A piece of land in Borley in th' occupying of one Ganne, by year 10s;

Two acres of grass yearly to be taken in Turner's meadow, worth by year 26s;

Three acres of wood in Bulmer appointed to my wife for fire;

The clear yearly value of all the lands assigned and appointed for my wife's jointure amounteth to the sum by the year £54 16s 4d, all which foresaid lands and tenements with th' appurtenances aforesaid willed by me to my said wife, Frances Danyell, for term of her natural life immediately after her decease shall fully and wholly remain to my son, Edmund Danyell, and to his heirs forever;

Also I give and bequeath to every one of my son Edmund his children six pound thirteen shillings four pence, to be taken of my gift and to be delivered unto them by mine executors at their age of 16 years;

Also I freely give and bequeath all the rest of my lands, goods and chattels not afore remembered to my son, Edmund Danyell, and my daughter, Margaret, his wife, charging them as they will answer afore God to see this will truly in every point [f. 37v] performed in all godly love and charity;

And for the true performance, execution and accomplishment of this my last will and testament in manner and form as afore is remembered, I ordain, constitute and make my son, Edmund Danyell, and Margaret Danyell, his wife, my executors;

In witness whereof I, the said Thomas Danyell, have written this my last will and testament every word with mine own hand the last day of July in th' eight year of the reign of our most dread Sovereign Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God of England, France and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith etc.

Probatum fuit suprascriptu{m} Testamentu{m} Coram Mag{ist}ro Waltero Haddon Legu{m} doctore Curie Prerogatiue Cant{uariensis} Com{m}issario apud London Duodecimo Die mens{is} ffebruarij An{n}o D{omi}ni Mill{es}imo Quingentesimo

Sexagesimo Sexto Iuramento Edmundi Daniell p{er}sonal{ite}r p{rese}nt{is} et Margarete Danyell vxoris sue in p{er}sona d{i}c{t}i Edmundi tanq{uam} coniunct{e} p{er}sone executorum &c Quibus com{m}issa fuit Administrac{i}o omn{ium} et sing{u}lor{um} bonor{um} iuriu{m} et creditor{um} dict{i} def{uncti} De bene et fidel{ite}r Administrand{o} Ac de pleno et fideli Inuentario Necnon de plano et vero Computo Reddend{o} Ad Sancta Dei Eu{a}ngelia Iurat{is}

[=The above-written testament was proved before Master Walter Haddon, Doctor of the Laws, Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, at London on the twelfth day of the month of February in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred sixty-sixth by the oath of Edmund Danyell, personally present, and Margaet Danyell, his wife, in the person of the said Edmund, as joint person(?), executors etc., to whom administration was granted of all and singular the goods, rights and credits of the said deceased, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well and faithfully administer, and to [+exhibit?] a full and faithful inventory, and also to render a plain and true account.]