

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the last will and testament, dated 29 August 1569 and proved 11 November 1569, of Edmund Danyell, who appoints as executor his brother-in-law, William Golding (d.1588), brother of Oxford's mother, Margery Golding.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

For pedigrees of the Danyell family, see Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitations of Suffolk*, (Exeter: William Pollard, 1882), pp. 24-5, 132 at:

<https://archive.org/details/visitationsofsuf00harvuoft/page/24>

and:

<https://archive.org/details/visitationsofsuf00harvuoft/page/132>

See also the Danyell pedigrees in Howard, Joseph Jackson, ed., *The Visitation of Suffolk*, Vol. I, (Lowestoft: Samuel Tymms, 1866), p. 240 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=ExI2AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA240>

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

Testator's parents

The testator was the only child of Thomas Danyell (d.1566) of Acton, Suffolk, and Anne Lucy. For the testator's father, see his will, TNA PROB 11/49/56, and the *ODNB* entry:

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.

MARRIAGE AND ISSUE

The testator married Margaret West, daughter of Edmund West and Dorothy Drury. Margaret West's sister, Elizabeth West, married, as her second husband, William Golding (d.1588), brother of Oxford's mother, Margery Golding. For the will of Edmund West, see TNA PROB 11/24/136. For the will of William Golding (d. February 1588), see TNA PROB 11/72/210.

By Margaret West, the testator had three sons and six daughters:

***John Danyell** (d. 15 September 1597), who married Margaret Tyrrell, daughter and coheir of Edmund Tyrrell, esquire, of Beeches, Essex, but died without issue. The terms of John Danyell's will suggest that Margaret Tyrrell, was a widow at the time of their marriage. See the will of John Danyell, dated 20 July 1583 and proved 6 July 1598, in which he mentions his brother, Francis Danyell, and his five sisters, Mary, Grissel, Barbara, Dorothy and Elizabeth, TNA PROB 11/92/55. See also:

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

See also his memorial brass at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/52219527@N00/537166738/>

***Thomas Danyell**, who died without issue. He is not mentioned in the will made by his brother, John Danyell, on 20 July 1583, and may have died before that date.

***Francis Danyell**, heir to his brother, John Danyell. He married Margaret Martyn, daughter and coheir of Roger Martyn (d. 3 August 1615), esquire, of Long Melford, Suffolk, by whom he had a son and two daughters, John Danyell, Anne Danyell and Margaret Danyell, referred to in the will of the testator's wife as her grandchildren. See Corder, Joan, *The Visitation of Suffolk, 1561*, (London: Harleian Society, 1981), p. 19.

* **Mary Danyell**, unmarried when her mother made her will on 27 September 1587. She married Henry Bedingfield, gentleman, youngest son of Sir Henry Bedingfield (d.1583) of Norfolk. For the will of Sir Henry Bedingfield, see TNA PROB 11/66/130. Thomas Bedingfield (d.1613), second son of Sir Henry Bedingfield (d.1583), dedicated his translation of *Cardanus' Comfort* to Oxford.

* **Grissel Danyell**, who married Henry Jones, son of David Jones, gentleman, of Chepstow, Monmouthshire. See:

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

* **Anne Danyell**, who died an infant.

* **Barbara Danyell**, who married, as his second wife, Richard Martyn (d.1624?), esquire, of Long Melford. See Corder, Joan, *The Visitation of Suffolk, 1561*, (London: Harleian Society, 1981), p. 19.

* **Dorothy Danyell**, who married William Bell of Bell Broughton or Temple Broughton, Hanbury, Worcestershire, by whom she had several children, including two sons, Francis Bell and the Catholic martyr, Arthur Bell. See:

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

See also the entry in *The Catholic Encyclopedia* for the Venerable Arthur Bell (1590-1643) at:

[https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Catholic_Encyclopedia_\(1913\)/Ven._Arthur_Bell](https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Catholic_Encyclopedia_(1913)/Ven._Arthur_Bell)

* **Elizabeth Danyell**, who is said to have died without issue. However, see:

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

OTHER PERSONS MENTIONED IN THE WILL

The testator's 'cousin, Doctor Drury' was the civil lawyer, William Drury (c.1534-1589). He was the third son of John Drury (d.1498) of Rougham, Suffolk, and the brother of

Dorothy Drury, mother of the testator's wife, Margaret West. For William Drury, see the *ODNB* entry.

See also the memorial brass to the testator and his wife at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/52219527@N00/537156772>

RM: T{estamentum} Edmundi Danyell

In the name of God, Amen. The 29 day of August in the year of Our Lord God one thousand five hundred threescore and nine, I, Edmund Danyell of Acton in the county of Suffolk, esquire, being of whole mine and good memory, thanks be given to God, do ordain, constitute and make this my last will and testament in manner and form following, that is to say:

First I will and bequeath my soul unto Almighty God, my Maker and Redeemer, and my carcass and my body to be buried within the parish church of the parish where it shall please God to call me to his mercy out of this present life;

Also I will there be bestowed at my burial day to the poorest people 40s, at my seventh-day 20s, at my month's day 20s, and at my year's day 20s;

Also I give amongst my servants that shall be dwelling with me at the day of my departure out of this transitory life 40s;

And in consideration of good trust that I have in my said wife, and that she shall be good to all my children and see them virtuously brought up in the fear of God, I will and bequeath all the residue of all my chattels, leases, terms of years, goods, plate, household stuff, corn, grain and all other things whatsoever unto Margaret, my said wife, forever, whom I appoint and ordain to be mine executrix of this my last will and testament;

Also I appoint and ordain my cousin, Doctor Drury, and my brother [=brother-in-law], William Golding, my executors of this my last will and testament, they having for their pains after my departure, either of them £6 13s 4d, desiring then [sic] to give my wife [-and] their help and good counsel if need shall require;

Now as concerning my lands, tenements and hereditaments, where my late father by his last will and testament hath willed and bequeathed unto his late wife, Frances Danyell, certain lands, tenements and hereditaments for term of her life, as by the same will more largely appeareth, and the residue of all his lands my said father willed and bequeathed by the same will to me and Margaret, my wife, and to th' heirs of me, the said Edmund, for the bitter [sic] confirmation and ratification of the said last bequest and gift, as well for the observing the true meaning and will of my said father as also for the goodwill and trust that I repose in my said well-beloved wife, my mind and will is that Margaret, my

said wife, and her assigns shall have, hold and enjoy for term of her life natural all my mansion house with th' appurtenances and all my manors, lands, tenements, reversions and hereditaments with all and singular their appurtenances whatsoever, as well copyhold lands as freehold lands, the lands, tenements and hereditaments bequeathed by my said father unto the said Frances, his said late wife, only excepted;

And forasmuch as that by the laws of this realm there did descend the third part of all the said lands [+and?] tenements given and bequeathed unto me and my said wife by the said last will as next heir unto my said father by reason of a tenancy in chief, and also in like case there ought and must descend after my decease unto my next heir the third part of that third part which descended unto me in possession as is aforesaid, therefore my will and mind is that my said wife shall appoint and set out unto my next heir the said thirds of the said third part, which amounteth to the ninth part of the premises, being divided into nine parts of all the said lands, tenements and hereditaments being freehold, the lands and tenements except before excepted, where my said wife shall think good and best for her ease and commodity in full satisfaction of the third part of that third part of the lands and tenements which descended unto me in possession as heir unto my father which I suffer to descend unto my next heir;

Further, my will and mind is that my son, Thomas Danyell, shall after the decease of my said wife have, hold and enjoy unto him and his heirs forever all my house and buildings, lands, tenements and hereditaments, pastures, meadows, feedings, yards, orchards and gardens with all and singular their appurtenances lying and being and situated in Myldinge [=Milden?] and in other towns and parishes thereunto next adjoining within the county of Suffolk which been or late were in the tenure and occupation of one Steven Chaplane;

Item, my will and mind is that my son, Francis Danyell, shall after the decease of my said wife have, hold and enjoy to him and his heirs forever all that my house and buildings, lands, tenements and hereditaments, pastures, meadows, feedings, yards, orchards and gardens called Pellycanes(?) with all and singular their appurtenances lying, being and situated in Sudbury in the said county of Suffolk which been or late were in the tenure or occupation of one John Allystone;

Moreover my mind and will is that Margaret, my said wife, and her assigns shall have, hold and enjoy for term of her life two parts divided into three parts of all the reversions, lands, tenements and hereditaments with th' appurtenances whatsoever lying within the county of Essex or elsewhere which were given and bequeathed by the last will and testament of my said father unto the said Frances Danyell, his said late wife;

And further for the better advancement of my 6 daughters, that is to say, Mary, Grissel, Anne, Barbara, Dorothy and Elizabeth, my will and mind is that my son, John Danyell, or any other that God shall appoint to be my next heir, shall have, hold and enjoy after the decease of my said wife to him and his heirs forever all those lands, tenements, reversions and hereditaments whatsoever lying and being within the county of Essex or elsewhere which were given and bequeathed by the said last will and testament unto the

said Frances Danyell, [f. 169v] my father's late wife, upon condition that he, the said John Danyell, or his heirs, or he or his heirs that God shall appoint to be my next heir, shall well and truly pay or cause to be paid six hundred marks of English money unto my said daughters, that is to say, to every of them 100 marks at their several marriages or at their several ages of twenty and one years which shall happen to come first;

And if any of them happen to decease before their said several marriage or their said several age accomplished, then the several portions of every of them that shall so decease shall be equally paid and divided amongst every survivor of them at such times as is before expressed;

And if it shall happen that my said son, John Danyell, or he whom God shall appoint to be my next heir or his heirs shall not well and truly pay or cause to be paid unto my six daughters all the said sum of six hundred marks and every parcel thereof as is before rehearsed and according to the true meaning of this my last will and testament, then my will and mind is that all such of my said daughters that shall not have their whole portion paid as is before expressed shall immediately after default made of the said payment enter into and have, hold and enjoy all and singular the last recited premises to them and their heirs forever, anything herein to the contrary notwithstanding;

In witness whereof I, the said Edmund Danyell, have set to my hand the day and year above-written. By me, Edmund Danyell.

Probatum fuit testamentum suprascriptum coram mag{ist}ro waltero Haddon legum doctore curie prerogatiue cantuarien{sis} commissario apud London vndecimo die Novembris Anno domini Mill{es}imo quingen{tes}imo sexagesimo nono Iuramento Will{el}mi Mallowes no{ta}rij pu{bli}ci procurator{is} Margarete Daniell rel{ic}t{e} et vnus executor{um} in h{uius}mo{di} testamento nominat{orum} Cui com{m}issa fuit administrac{i}o omnium et singulorum bonorum &c De b{e}ne &c Ad sancta dei Evangelia Iurat{i} Res{er}uata p{otes}tate reliquis executor{ibus} &c

[=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 eleventh day of November in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred sixty-ninth by the oath of William Mallowes, notary public, proctor of Margaret Danyell, relict and one of the executors named in the same testament, to whom administration was granted of all and singular the goods etc., sworn on the Holy Gospels to well etc., with power reserved to the other executors etc.]