

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 9 July 1489, of Margaret Harleston Darcy.

The testatrix was the daughter and heir, together with her sister, Alice Harleston, wife of Sir Richard FitzLewis, of John Harleston and his wife Margaret Bardwell, only daughter of Sir William Bardwell and his wife Elizabeth Hethe. See Copinger, W.A., *The Manors of Suffolk, Notes on Their History and Devolution; The Hundreds of Babergh and Blackbourn*, (London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1905), pp. 263-4 at:

<http://archive.org/stream/manorsofsuffolkn01copiuoft#page/262/mode/2up>.

See also:

<http://www.bardwellvillage.info/content/view/194/94/>.

See also Rokewode, John Gage, *The History and Antiquities of Suffolk, Thingoe Hundred*, (London: Samuel Bentley, 1838), pp. 129-30 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=knVPAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA129&lpg=PA129&dq=%22thomas+Darcy%22+%22margaret+Harleston%22+%22roger+darcy%22&source=bl&ots=->

[0ZScditlJ&sig=V7Zs8E86WQPp0WNZtCaY1d4iJyg&hl=en&sa=X&ei=Go70UeTQD46GiQLej4HYCg&ved=0CDIQ6AEwAQ#v=onepage&q=%22thomas%20Darcy%22%20%22margaret%20Harleston%22%20%22roger%20darcy%22&f=false](http://books.google.ca/books?id=knVPAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA129&lpg=PA129&dq=%22thomas+Darcy%22+%22margaret+Harleston%22+%22roger+darcy%22&source=bl&ots=-0ZScditlJ&sig=V7Zs8E86WQPp0WNZtCaY1d4iJyg&hl=en&sa=X&ei=Go70UeTQD46GiQLej4HYCg&ved=0CDIQ6AEwAQ#v=onepage&q=%22thomas%20Darcy%22%20%22margaret%20Harleston%22%20%22roger%20darcy%22&f=false)

The testatrix married Thomas Darcy, esquire, son and heir of Sir Robert Darcy (c.1420 - 2 November 1469) of Maldon, Essex, and Elizabeth Tyrrell, the daughter of Sir Thomas Tyrrell (d. 28 March 1477) of Heron in East Horndon by Anne Marney, the daughter of Sir William Marney (d. 21 or 24 August 1414) and his wife, Elizabeth Sergeaux, a descendant of Robert de Vere (d. before 1221), 3rd Earl of Oxford, and his wife, Isabel de Bolebec (d.1245). See Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., (Salt Lake City, 2011), Vol. I, p. 14, and Vol. III, pp. 216-17. For the will of the testatrix' husband, Thomas Darcy, see TNA PROB 11/7/329.

According to the will below, the testatrix had two sons, Roger and Thomas, and two daughters, Elizabeth and Anne.

The testatrix's eldest son was Roger Darcy, whose inscription in the church of All Saints, Maldon, Weever recorded as:

Hic jacet Rogerus Darcy Ar. filius et heres Tho. Darcy Ar. pro corpore illustrissimi Principis Henrici septimi Regis Anglie, et Elizabetha uxor ejus, filia Henrici Wentworth, militis, qui obijt ultimo die Septemb. 1508.

[=Here lies Roger Darcy, esquire, son and heir of Thomas Darcy, esquire of the body to the most illustrious Prince, Henry the Seventh, King of England, and Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Henry Wentworth, knight, who died the last day of September 1508.]

See King, H.W., 'Ancient Wills', *Transactions of the Essex Archaeological Society*, Vol. IV, (Colchester: Essex and West Suffolk Gazette, 1869), pp. 1-24 at pp. 2-11, at:

http://books.google.ca/books?id=aDQGAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA1&lpg=PA1&dq=%22ancient+wills%22+%22D%27Arcy%22&source=bl&ots=hd2ra_DT1K&sig=50_POt4VZ1DJqzPmeQoHICFQAlw&hl=en&sa=X&ei=WzfxUYvWHYqNigK1vYHQBA&ved=0CCoQ6AEwAA#v=onepage&q=%22ancient%20wills%22%20%22D%27Arcy%22&f=false.

The testatrix's eldest son and heir, Roger Darcy (d. 30 September 1508), married Elizabeth Wentworth, the daughter of Sir Henry Wentworth of Nettlestead, Suffolk, by his first wife, Anne Say, by whom he had an only son and heir, Thomas Darcy (1506 – 28 June 1558), 1st Lord Darcy of Chiche, who married Elizabeth Vere, sister of John de Vere 16th Earl of Oxford. See Richardson, *supra*, Vol. III, pp. 237-8, and Vol. IV, p. 389; and Cokayne, G.E., *The Complete Peerage*, Vol. IV, (London: St. Catherine Press, 1916), p. 78. See also:

<http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~clopton/>

Alice Clopton + John Harleston
John Harleston + Margaret Berdewell
Margaret Harleston + Thomas Darcy
Roger Darcy + Elizabeth Wentworth
Thomas Darcy + Elizabeth de Vere

For the testatrix' cousin, Katherine Froxmere, and her husband, Thomas Froxmere, see:

'Parishes: Fillongley', *A History of the County of Warwick: Volume 4: Hemlingford Hundred* (1947), pp. 69-75. URL: <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=42658> Date accessed: 30 July 2013.

For an earlier transcript of the testatrix' will, see King, *supra*, pp. 5-7.

RM: Test{amentu}m d{omi}ne Margarete Darcy vidue

[f. 165r] In Dei nom{i}ne amen. The 9 day of July the year of Our Lord God 1489, I, Dame Margaret Darcy, widow, late the wife of Thomas Darcy, esquire, being at Bardwell in the diocese of Norwich, whole in mind and of good remembrance being, make my testament under this form following:

First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, to Our Lady Saint Mary, and to the saints in heaven, and my body to be buried in the church of All-Hallowen at Maldon by the body of my said husband;

And I will or that I be carried hence that a dirge and a Mass be done for me here in the church so that the vicary may have his offering as he should have if I had be[en] buried here, and I will that the vicary have 3s 4d more;

Also I bequeath to the said vicary for my [f. 165v] tithes forgotten 6s 8d;

Item, I will that all my debts that can be duly proved be paid without any abridgement;

Item, I bequeath for a pyx to be at Bardwell church 40s;

Also I will that 5 mark be disposed to some remembrance by th' advice of mine executors to the high altar there [=where?] mine husband lieth in Maldon;

Item, I bequeath to the church of Hampton 20s in like form;

Item, to the church of Knattysale [=Knotshall?] 20s in like form;

Item, to the church of Knattyshole 20s in like form;

Item, I bequeath to the anchor in Norwich to pray for me and all my friends 40s;

Item, I bequeath to the White Friars of Norwich to say for me 4 trentals 40s;

Also I bequeath to John Cruce, my servant, 20s;

Also I will that Thomas Cook, Henry Otley, John Nicholl and Maud, my servants, every of them have 6s 8d;

Also I will that John Gore, John Harper, Thomas Lambert, Edmond Dowe, Ralph West, William Spark, every of them have 5s;

Also I will that Dorothy Calthorp, my god-daughter, have 6s 8d, and every other of my god-children have 5s apiece;

Also I will that Margaret Stafford have all my slops and widow's array;

Also I will that Roger, my son, have my ring with a diamond when he cometh to the age of 20 years, and if he die within the age of 20 years, then Thomas, my son, to have it;

Also I bequeath to Thomas, my son, my tablet with the flower with the sapphire, and if he die within the age of 20 years, then Roger, my son, to have it;

Item, I will that Elizabeth, my daughter, have my flower for her neck and 2 gilt girdles;

Item, I will that Anne, my daughter, have when she cometh to th' age of 14 years, my dunsent(?) and the toothpick of gold with my little chain, and if she die or than she come to the age of 14 years, that then her sister, Elizabeth, to have it;

Item, I bequeath my profession ring to Our Lady of Walsingham;

Also I will that the money, cattle,(?) corn and debts that I have go to the costs of my burying, and if they will not bear it out, that it to be taken of the profits of my livelihood;

Also I bequeath all such stuff of household as I bought of th' executors of my husband to my son, Thomas, to be delivered when he cometh to the age of 21 years, and if he die before the said age of 21 years, then I will that it shall be departed evenly between my 2 daughters;

Also I bequeath to my good aunt, Amy Montgomery, 20 mark;

And to my good cousin, Katherine Froxmere, other 10 mark;

Also I will, notwithstanding this my bequests to my children above-written, that if all my said sons and daughters dyen before that that my said sons come to their lawful age of 21 years and my daughters before that they be married, then I will that all such bequests as I have bequeathed to them or to any of them, that it be disposed in alms-deeds be [=by] mine executors for the wealth of my soul;

The residue of all my loose(?) good I give and bequeath to mine executors that they shall dispose the[m] as they think most profitable for my soul;

And I make mine executors mine uncle, John Clopton, esquire, Robert Crane, Thomas Froxmere, esquires, and Edward Clopton, and I bequeath to the said John Clopton for his labour 10 mark, the said Robert Crane 5 mark, the said Thomas Froxmere 10 marks, and the said Edward Clopton 10 mark;

And I will that Margaret Stamford, my servant, shall go at my gost [=cost?] on pilgrimage to Our Lady of Owtyng [=Houghton?], Saint William of Rochester, and to King Henry, and to Our Lady of Walsingham;

In witnessing that this is my true testament I have set to my seal and subscribed my name in the presence of Sir Thomas Skole, parson of Weston, Sir John Wyndowte, my ghostly father, and other.

Probatum fuit suprascriptum testamentu{m} apud Lamethith (blank) die mensis Ianuarij Anno d{omi}ni etc Et com{m}issa fuit admi{ni}stracio o{mn}i{u}m bonoru{m} &c

Edwardo Clopton gen{er}oso executori &c De bene &c Ac de pleno Inventario &c
cit{ra} festu{m} Annu{n}ciac{ionis} beate Marie Virginis p{ro}ximo &c Reseruat{a}
potestate &c alijs executoribus in h{uius}mo{d}i test{ament}o nominat{is} cum venerint
etc

[=The above-written testament was proved at Lambeth on the (blank) day of the month of
January in the year of the Lord etc., and administration was granted of all the goods etc.
to Edward Clopton, gentleman, executor etc., [+sworn to] well etc., and [+to exhibit] a
full inventory etc. before the feast of the Annunciation of Blessed Mary the Virgin next
etc., with power reserved etc. to the other executors named in the same testament when
they shall have come etc.]