

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the nuncupative will dated 5 June 1597 and proved 8 June 1597 of Sir John North (c.1551-1597), son and heir of Roger North (1531-1600), 2nd Baron North, and grandson of Edward North (c.1504-1564), 1st Baron North.

According to the *ODNB*, the testator died in the Low Countries on 5 June 1597. According to the History of Parliament entry, however, he died in London. See”

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/north-john-1551-97>

Connection to the Blackfriars and Rocco Bonetti

For letters dated 10 October, 6 November 1585, and 2 December 1585 and 27 January 1586 from Sir John North to Sir William More (d.1600) of Loseley on behalf of the Italian fencing master, Rocco Bonetti (d.1587), requesting More to extend a lease in the Blackfriars which Bonetti had purchased from Oxford's servant, John Lyly, see Surrey History Centre LM/COR/3/382, LM/COR/3/383, LM/COR/3/387 and LM/COR/3/388.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

For the testator's family background, see the will of his grandfather, Edward North, 1st Baron North, the *ODNB* entry, and the History of Parliament entry, *supra*.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

The testator married, about 1580, Dorothy Dale (d.1618), the daughter of Sir Valentine Dale (c.1520-1589). See the *ODNB* entry:

Dale resided in the parish of St Gregory by Paul's in London from at least 1560 until his death. It was there on 5 August 1560 that Dorothy was baptized and there also that she was married on 13 November 1581 to Lord John North, eldest son and heir of Roger North, second Baron North, and his wife, Winifred.

By Dorothy Dale, the testator had four sons and two daughters:

* **Dudley North** (baptized 18 September 1582, d. 16 January 1667), named for his godfather, Queen Elizabeth's favourite, Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester. He succeeded his grandfather as 3rd Baron North.

* **Sir John North.**

* **Roger North** (1588–1652/3), ‘soldier and projector of the Amazon Company’, who died unmarried. See the *ODNB* entry.

* **Gilbert North**, chief beneficiary of the will of his brother, Roger North. See the *ODNB* entry for Roger North.

* **Elizabeth North**, who married William Hussey.

* **Mary North** (d.1631?) who married Sir Francis Coningsby (d.1629), eldest son of Sir Ralph Coningsby (d.1615). There were no issue of the marriage. See:

<https://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=conis400&id=I0221>

For the children of Sir John North, see also ‘A Cambridge Alumni Database’ at:

<http://venn.lib.cam.ac.uk/cgi-bin/search-2016.pl?sur=&suro=w&fir=&firo=c&cit=&cito=c&c=all&z=all&tex=NRT597D&syeye=&col=all&maxcount=50>

For the children of Sir John North, see also the will of his father, Roger North, 2nd Baron North, *supra*, and *Collectanea Topographica & Genealogica*, Vol. VI, (London: John Bowyer Nicholas and Son, 1840), pp. 99-101 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=mycAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA99>

According to the History of Parliament entry for the testator, *supra*, his widow remarried in 1604:

His widow, described by Dudley Carleton as ‘like a star among the fairest ladies’, remarried in 1604.

LM: T{estamentum} D{omi}ni Johan{n}is North, militis

Memorandum: That on Sunday, the fifth day of June one thousand five hundred ninety-seven, Sir John North, knight, did declare his last will and testament to be that his wife and children should have after his decease all his goods, chattels, rights and credits whatsoever;

And his said wife to have the bringing up of his said children in the fear of God and good nurture, and in regard thereof his said wife to have the use of all during her life;

And named and appointed his executors his said wife and Mr Dudley, his eldest son;

In the presence of John Dey, William Ferrand, John Pope, William Forthe, Ralph Whittell, Richard Smithe, Christopher Railes, William Pulford.

Probatum fuit Testamentum suprascriptum apud London coram venerabili viro Magistro Will{el}imo Lewyn legum Doctore Curie Prerogatiue Cantuariensis Magistro Custode siue Commissario legitime constituto Octauo die mensis Iunij Anno Domini Mill{esi}mo Quingentesimo Nonagesimo Septimo Iuramento ffrancisci Clerke notarij publici procuratoris Domine Dorothee North Relicte et vnus Executorum in huiusmodi Testamento nominatoru{m} Cui commissa fuit administratio bonorum Iurium et credit{orum} dicti defuncti De bene et fideliter administrand{o} &c Ad sancta Dei euangelia Iurat{i} Res{er}uata p{otes}tate &c Dudlei north filio d{i}c{t}i def{uncti} et alter{i} ex{ecuto}ru{m} &c cum ven{er}it &c(?) admissur{o}

[=The above-written testament was proved at London before the worshipful Master William Lewyn, Doctor of the Laws, lawfully constituted Master, Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, on the eighth day of the month of June in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred ninety-seventh by the oath of Francis Clerke, notary public, proctor of Lady Dorothy North, relict and one of the executors named in the same testament, to whom administration was granted of the goods, rights and credits of the said deceased, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well and faithfully administer etc., with power reserved etc. to Dudley North, son of the said deceased and another of the executors etc., when he shall have come etc. to be admitted.]