

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 10 February 1530 and proved 16 November 1531, of Edmund West, whose daughter married William Golding (d.1588), brother of Oxford's mother, Margery Golding.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

The testator was the son of Thomas West (d. August 1508) by his first wife, who according to Ebblewhite, *infra*, was the daughter of John Naylor and his wife, Clemence.

After the death of his first wife, Thomas West married secondly Grissel Writtle (d.1547), widow of John Rochester (d.1506?), who appears to have been the son of Robert Rochester (1450 - 15 May 1508), esquire, comptroller of the household of John de Vere (1442-1513), 13th Earl of Oxford. For the will, dated 18 May 1547 and proved 22 June 1547, of Grissel Writtle, see TNA PROB 11/31/550.

After the death of Thomas West (d. August 1508), Grissel Writtle married, as her third husband, Edward Waldegrave (d.1545?), for whose will, see TNA PROB 11/30/620.

In his will, Edward Waldegrave leaves a bequest to the testator's daughters:

Item, I give to the two daughters of Edmund West after the decease of me and my wife two acres of land di(?) called Gilbertes crofts which I bought of Martyn and other if they make no sale of no part of Greyes ground.

For the will of Thomas West, dated 23 August 1508 and proved 9 November 1508, in which Edward Waldegrave (d.1545?) was appointed executor, see TNA PROB 11/16/187.

MARRIAGE AND ISSUE

The testator married Dorothy Drury. In his will, the testator's father, Thomas West, requested that Sir William Waldegrave (c.1465 - 30 June 1527) have the 'rule and marriage' of his eldest son (i.e. the testator, Edmund West). In 1519 Sir William Waldegrave sold the testator's wardship to Margaret Drury, widow of John Drury (d.1498) of Rougham, Suffolk, who married the testator to her daughter. See the will of Thomas West, *supra*, and:

<http://rushbrookewithrougham.suffolk.cloud/history/margaret-drury/>

By Dorothy Drury, the testator had two daughters:

* **Margaret West**, who married Edmund Danyell (d.1569) of Acton. For her will, dated 27 September 1587 and proved 30 April 1589, in which she mentions her ‘sister Golding’, her sister’s two daughters, Margery Golding and Mary Golding, and ‘my sister Felton’, see TNA PROB 11/73/483.

* **Elizabeth West**, who married firstly John Bokenham (d.1566), and secondly William Golding (d.1588), brother of the whole blood of Oxford’s mother, Margery Golding. See the will of William Golding, TNA PROB 11/72/210.

After the testator’s death, Dorothy Drury married secondly Robert Downes of Melton, Norfolk, a Catholic recusant. See the probatum clause in the will below, and:

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

TESTATOR’S MANORS

For the manor of Greyes, see Copinger, W.A., *The Manors of Suffolk*, (London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1905), p. 89 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/manorsofsuffolkn01copiuoft#page/88/mode/2up/>

For the manor of Plaiz, which the testator may have acquired through his marriage to Dorothy Drury, see Copinger, *supra*, p. 272 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/manorsofsuffolkn01copiuoft#page/272>

For the manor of Bedfont, see Ebbelwhite, Ernest Arthur, ‘The Village and Church of Bedfont’, *The Journal of the British Archaeological Association*, Vol. XLIX, (London, 1893), pp. 120-8 at pp. 122-3:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=mCtNAQAAMAAJ&pg=RA1-PA122>

In the reign of Henry VII, about 1498, [the manor] was in the tenure of John Naylor and Clemence his wife . . . and they had an only daughter and heir who became the wife of Thomas West.

Edmund West, the only [sic?] son of the marriage of the said Thomas, had two daughters and coheirs, -- Elizabeth, wife of John Bokenham, and Margaret West, and in the year 1549 these ladies executed a joint sale of the manor to Rowland Page of Bedfont.

RM: Test{amentu}m Edmondi Weste

In the name of God, Amen. I, Edmund West of Weston in the county of Suffolk, gentleman, in whole and perfect mind the 10th day of February in the year of Our Lord God 1529, make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following:

First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, to Our Lady Saint Mary, and to all th' holy company of heaven, and my body to be buried in Christian buriance;

Item, I bequeath to the high altar at Weston for my tithes negligently forgotten and unpaid 20d;

Item, I will that all my debts duly proved be paid, and the residue of all my goods to be at the disposition and discretion of Dorothy, my wife;

Also I will that after the decease of Master Edward Waldegrave, esquire, and of Mistress Grissel, his wife, my mother-in-law [=stepmother], that my manors of Greys and Places with their appurtenances with all other lands and tenements, messuages, meadows, fields, feedings, woods, pastures, reversions, rents and services set, lying and being in the towns or fields of Great Cornard, Little Cornard, Assington, Sudbury and Newton or elsewhere within the county of Suffolk as they be now in the possession of the said Edward Waldegrave and Grissel do remain unto Dorothy, my wife, to have and to hold to her and her assigns for term of her life;

And after her decease I will that the said lands and tenements with all other the premises remain to the heirs of my body lawfully begotten;

Item, I will that whensoever it happen the said manors of Greys and Placz to come into the possession of Dorothy, my wife, and mine heirs, assuring her of the premises according to th' intent of this my last will and testament, then I will that the said Dorothy, my wife, shall give and release up to my next heir or heirs forever the manor of Bedfont with all other lands and tenements in Saint Giles in the Field or elsewhere within the county of Middlesex which the said Dorothy, my wife, hath now in jointure to the performance of this my will and testament;

I make and ordain Dorothy my wife, my sole executrix;

And my brother-in-law, John Drury, esquire, my supervisor;

In witness whereof I, the said Edmund West, have set to my seal the day and year above-written.

Witness Sir Nicholas Burton, parish priest of Saint Andrews in Holborn, Harry Carrowe, barber-surgeon, Sir William Cherche, parson of Cavendish and Weston, Thomas Belsonne(?) and his wife, and Robert Twycheuer(?), clerk of the foresaid parish of Saint Andrews, with divers other. Sir William Lovington, priest, and Firmyn Rokkewood, gentleman.

Decimo sexto die mens{is} Nouembr{is} Anno d{omi}ni Mill{es}imo quingentesimo tricesimo primo Dorathea Rel{i}c{t}a et executrix renunciant oneri executionis Testame{n}ti ip{s}ius defuncti qua admissa Comissa fuit admi{ni}stratio o{mn}i{u}m et singulorum bonor{um} iuriu{m} et creditor{um} dicti defuncti d{i}c{t}e Dorathee rel{i}c{t}e et Roberto Downes marit{o} dict{e} Dorathee de ben{e} et fidel{ite}r admi{ni}strand{o} eadem Ac de pleno et fidei Inue{n}tario conficiend{o} Necnon de plano et vero compoto reddend{o} Ad sancta dei Eu{a}ngelia Iurat{is}

[=On the sixteenth day of the month of November in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred thirty-first, Dorothy, relict and executrix, having renounced the burden of the execution of the testament of the same deceased, which granted, administration of all and singular the goods, rights and credits of the said deceased was granted to the said Dorothy, relict, and Robert Downes, husband of the said Dorothy, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well and faithfully administer the same, and to prepare a full and faithful inventory, and also to render a plain and true account.]