

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 10 and 14 May 1599 with a codicil dated 26 April 1601, proved 27 September 1603, of George Carey (26 February 1548 - 8 September 1603), 2nd Baron Hunsdon, who leased, then purchased, the Jerningham mansion in the Blackfriars. See SRO D641/3/E/1/7/2; SRO D641/3/A/8/1; and TNA C 66/768, mm. 23-4.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

The testator was the eldest son of the Queen's first cousin, Henry Carey (1526-1596), 1st Baron Hunsdon, by Anne Morgan (d.1607), who according to the *ODNB* was the daughter of Sir Thomas Morgan of Arkstone, Herefordshire, and his wife, Anne. According to Richardson, however, she was the daughter of Thomas Morgan, esquire, of Arkeston in Kingston, Herefordshire, by Elizabeth Whitney, the daughter of James Whitney (d.1500), esquire. See Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. I, p. 485 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=kjme027UeagC&pg=PA485>

For the will of the testator's mother, Anne Morgan Carey (d. 19 January 1607), see TNA PROB 11/109/47.

The testator had nine brothers and three sisters. See Powell, G.H., ed., *The Memoirs of Robert Carey, Earl of Monmouth*, (London: Alexander Moring Limited, 1905), p. 1, in which the testator's brother, Robert Carey, states that 'I was the youngest of ten sons'. The testator's siblings included:

-Sir Edmund Carey (d.1637), who married Elizabeth Neville (d.1630), the widow of Sir John Danvers (1540-1594), and became stepfather to Sir Charles Danvers (c.1568–1601), executed for his part in the Essex Rebellion, and Henry Danvers (1573-1644), Earl of Danby, and an opponent of Oxford's in the Danvers escheat litigation. See CP 181/99; ERO D/DRg 2/26; and other documents related to the Danvers escheat.

-Katherine Carey (d. 25 April 1603), who married Lord Admiral Charles Howard (1536-1624), 2nd Baron Howard of Effingham.

-Philadelphia Carey (d.1627), who married Thomas Scrope (d. 2 September 1609), 10th Baron Scrope of Bolton, the son of Henry Scrope (d. 13 June 1592), 9th Baron Scrope of Bolton, by his second wife, Oxford's first cousin, Margaret Howard, the daughter of Oxford's aunt, Frances de Vere (d.1577), and her husband Henry Howard (1516-1554), the poet Earl of Surrey, and sister of Katherine Howard (see below). The first wife of Henry Scrope, 9th Baron Scrope of Bolton, was Mary North (buried 27 November 1588), the daughter of Edward North (c.1504-1564), 1st Baron North. See the will of Edward North, 1st Baron North, TNA PROB 11/48/64, and the History of Parliament entry for Thomas Scrope, 10th Baron Scrope of Bolton, at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/scrope-thomas-1567-1609>

-**Margaret Carey** (1564-1605), who married Sir Edward Hoby (1560-1617), son of Lady Burghley's sister, Elizabeth Cooke Hoby Russell. See Laoutaris, Chris, *Shakespeare and the Countess*, (London: Fig Tree Press, 2013), pp. 137, 193.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

The testator married Elizabeth Spencer (1552-1618), the daughter of Sir John Spencer (d.1586) of Althorp and Katherine Kitson, the daughter of Sir Thomas Kitson (1485-1540) of Hengrave, Suffolk. She and two of her sisters (Anne, Lady Mounteagle and Compton, and later Countess of Dorset, and Alice, wife of Ferdinando Stanley, 5th Earl of Derby) were celebrated by the poet Edmund Spenser, and in 1596 she was the dedicatee of Thomas Nashe's *Christ's Tears Over Jerusalem*.

After the testator's death his widow married Ralph Eure (1558 – 1 April 1617), 3rd Baron Eure. See Cokayne, George Edward, *The Complete Peerage*, (London: St Catherine Press, 1926), Vol. V, pp. 181-2; and Chester, Joseph Lemuel, ed., *The Marriage, Baptismal and Burial Registers of the Collegiate Church or Abbey of St Peter, Westminster*, (London, 1876), p. 114 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/marriagebaptism02chesgoog#page/n132/mode/2up>

For the burial of the testator's wife on 2 March 1618, see Chester, *supra*, p. 114 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/marriagebaptism02chesgoog#page/n132/mode/2up>

By Elizabeth Spencer, the testator had only one child:

* **Elizabeth Carey** (24 May 1576 – 23 April 1635), who married firstly Sir Thomas Berkeley (11 July 1575 – 22 November 1611), son and heir of Henry Berkeley (1534-1613), 7th Baron Berkeley, by his first marriage to Oxford's first cousin, Katherine Howard (d. 7 April 1596), the daughter of Oxford's aunt, Frances de Vere (d.1577), and her husband Henry Howard (1516-1554), the poet Earl of Surrey. After the death of Oxford's cousin, Katherine Howard, Henry Berkeley married Jane Stanhope, daughter of the courtier Sir Michael Stanhope (executed 1552), and widow of Sir Roger Townshend (c.1544-1590), a servant of the Howards to whom Oxford sold his manor of Wivenhoe. See the wills of Sir Roger Townshend, TNA PROB 11/77/149; Jane Stanhope Townshend Berkeley, TNA PROB 11/131/287; and Cokayne, George Edward, *The Complete Peerage*, (London: St Catherine Press, 1912), Vol. II, pp. 138-9.

By Sir Thomas Berkeley, the testator's daughter, Elizabeth Carey, had a son, George Berkeley (1601-1658), 8th Baron Berkeley, and a daughter, Theophila Berkeley (b.1596).

Between 2 and 4 December 2015 one of the books owned by Elizabeth Carey's first husband, Sir Thomas Berkeley, a copy of Herodotus' *Historico Delle Guerre De Greci Et De Persi*, printed at Venice by Giovanni Bariletto in 1565, sold at Sotheby's for \$8,750 (US). The volume and its provenance were described as follows:

8vo (6 x 4 in.; 152 x 100 mm). Printer's device on title-page, woodcut initials, manuscript ownership inscriptions on title-page; title-page nearly loose, some stains, wormhole on upper margin of the first third of the volume. Contemporary Oxford binding: brown calf with gilt crest of the Earl of Oxford, gilt fleurons in corners; first endpapers lacking, scratch on upper panel, joint fragile, spine and extremities rubbed

Edward de Vere, 17th Earl of Oxford (armorial binding) — Sir Thomas Berkeley (?) (ex-dono on title page "Th. Burkelei (?) ex-dono illustriss Ed Comitiss Oxon" and Latin motto: "Nec temere nec timide") — Sir John Berkeley (?) (signature on second leaf) — Unidentified signature on title, dated "1719." acquisition: H.D. Lyon

The volume is stated to have been 'Property From The Collection of Robert S Pirie Volumes I & II: Books and Manuscripts'. See:

<http://www.sothebys.com/content/sothebys/en/auctions/ecatalogue/2015/property-collection-robert-s-pirie-books-manuscripts-n09391/lot.949.html>

After the death of Sir Thomas Berkeley, the testator's daughter, Elizabeth Carey, married secondly Sir Thomas Chamberlain, Justice of the King's Bench. She is said to have possessed 'thousands of books', and in 1594 was the dedicatee of Thomas Nashe's *Terrors of the Night*. See the *ODNB* article.

The testator was succeeded by his brother, John Carey (d.1617), 3rd Baron Hunsdon.

LM: T{estamentum} Georgij D{omini} Hunsdo{n}

[f. 94v] In the name of God, Amen. The tenth day of May in the year of Our Lord God one thousand five hundred ninety and nine and in the one and fortieth year of the reign of our dread gracious Sovereign Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God most happy Queen of England, France and Ireland, Defendrix of the Faith etc., I, Sir George Carey of the most honourable Order of the Garter, knight, Baron of Hunsdon, Lord Chamberlain to her Majesty, being by the goodness of God in good and perfect health of mind and body, but withal calling to remembrance the assurance of death and the incertainty of the hour thereof, and to prevent the divers inconveniences that may ensue by casualty of chance, being hourly in sundry perils of uncertain life, have thought good to make this my last will and testament in manner & form following, to take effect immediately after my death and not before:

First, finding myself bound like a good Christian to give true testimony of the faith wherein I lived and hope to die, I acknowledge myself a grievous sinner, and by the law condemned to eternal death, and made with my forefather, Adam, the child of wrath, and knowing that there is no mean of my salvation but only in that assured anchor, Jesus, Christ, forsaking all worldly means and help of flesh and blood whatsoever, I do call to remembrance that faithful saying of St Paul to Timothy, worthy of all men to be embraced, and with him I confess and believe that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, whereof I am the chief, and so acknowledging my grievous sins and offences, being from the bottom of my heart sorrowful and penitent for the same, I take hold by faith of my Redeemer and Saviour, Jesus Christ, by whose only merits and passion I verily believe and am assured of forgiveness of all my sins, be they never so great and infinite, and by and through him only the law to be made sweet to me, myself justified, sanctified and made partaker of the heavenly bliss, in this faith and hope to die and beseech Almighty God for his Son, Christ Jesus his sake, to give me grace to persevere in this faith to the end, and to show forth good and lively fruits of the same during my life, I do give and commend my soul to my Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, to whom with the Father and the Holy Ghost be all honour, glory and dominion now and forever, Amen;

Touching my body, I bequeath it to the earth from whence it came until the joyful day of resurrection that both soul and body must appear before my Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, and wishing the same to be buried well cered and coffered, without pomp and solemnity, within forty–eight hours after my death, either in the chapel where my late Lord and father lieth in Westminster Church as my executors (to whose direction I leave those worldly things) shall think fittest, wishing in lieu of the ceremonial charges of burying with sundry blacks, that I may only have a fair tomb to the value of one thousand pounds with my arms and pedigree fairly set forth, for which I have already bargained and caused a plot to be made;

And to the poor of Hunsdon, Drayton, Carisbrooke, and if in none of these places I shall happen to die, then to the parish where I shall depart this life joined with the rest, that my executors pay two hundred pounds to the most poor and needy householders and others;

Concerning my estate of lands, goods and chattels wherewith God hath blessed me, I cannot reckon myself to have anything of my own until my debts be paid which in conscience I am bound to satisfy, and therefore I will, require and charge my executors that all bills, debts, duties and demands that by proof shall be owing by me at the time of my death and which I ought to pay be fully discharged and answered to my creditors' good contentation with the interest after the rate of ten pounds in the hundred for forbearing thereof from the time of my death till their full payment and satisfaction, the sums of money for the payment thereof to be levied out of my lands, goods and chattels whereof the value doth much surmount the debts by me owing, as both by the note of my debts and goods particularly set down may appear;

Inprimis, I give and bequeath to my faithful, loving, virtuous and good wife, Dame Elizabeth, the use, occupation and profits of my dwelling-house in the Blackfriars,

London, and of all other my houses, lands, tenements and hereditaments within the precinct of the Blackfrars or elsewhere within the city of London during her life;

And after her decease, I give and bequeath the fee simple and inheritance thereof to my daughter, Elizabeth Berkeley, and to the heirs of her body lawfully begotten forever;

And for default of such issue to my right heirs so passed to her by conveyances of feoffment;

Item, I give and bequeath to my faithful, loving and virtuous wife, Dame Elizabeth, the use, occupation and profits of all my farms and leases of Drayton manor and the demesnes to the house, the mansion house, mills and parsonage belonging to the same and Harmesworthe [=Harmondsworth?] [f. 95r] farm during her life, she paying and answering during that time the rents and farms which shall be due for the same, and keeping the said leases from danger of forfeiture;

And after the death of my said dear and loving wife, I give and bequeath my said leases and farms and all my right, title and interest in the same to my daughter, Elizabeth Berkeley, her heirs and assigns;

Item, I give to my loyal, dear & loving wife the use, occupation and profits of my leases of Fremingham and whatsoever in them or the county of Suffolk that I have any right or estate unto during her life;

And after her decease, my estate and interest or term of years in them to my daughter, Elizabeth Berkeley, and her heirs;

Item, I give, grant and bequeath to my loyal, dear and loving wife my farms and leases of Buckham and Frogland in the county of Southampton in the Isle of Wight, with all term, right, interest or estate in them or any of them, and my stock of sheep and cattle now or usually going upon them, to her and to her assigns forever;

Provided always that from and after my said wife shall by force of this my will receive and have the profit and commodity of my lands in Cornwall, my leases and farms of Buckham, Frogland, Fremingham, Drayton and Harmondsworth, that then and from thenceforth my said wife shall pay unto my daughter, Elizabeth Berkeley, or her assigns during her life two hundred pounds yearly to buy her pins;

And if God shall be pleased to take her out of this mortal life, then the payment of the said two hundred pounds yearly to be answered to my grandchild, Theophila Berkeley, during her life for her better education and maintenance, the payments thereof to be at the feasts of th' Annunciation of Our Blessed Virgin Mary, one hundred pounds, and at the feast of St Michael th' Archangel one hundred pounds, or within forty days after the said feasts;

And if default shall be made in payment of any the sums before specified, that then and at all times after it shall be lawful for my said daughter or her assigns, and for my grandchild and her assigns, upon all and every part of the aforesaid manors, lands, tenements and leases to enter and to distrain for what shall be behind of the said two hundred pounds and also for twenty pounds over and above the said two hundred pounds to be taken (nomine penae), and the distress to keep until satisfaction as well of the said rent of two hundred pounds as also the arrearages thereof and also of the said twenty pounds to be taken (nomine poenae) shall be fully satisfied and paid unto my said daughter and grandchild;

Item, I give to my faithful, virtuous and true loving wife the use and occupation of my great agate wherein is embossed the portraiture of Perseus and Andromache, as also the use and occupation of my jewel with two fair and great amethysts oriental, and my jewel of the great diamond of the gold-mine or otherwise called a topaz oriental set about with diamonds, for her to use and enjoy during her life;

But if she shall but go about in thought to alter their property or to alienate them or any of them, and after execute any act to effect it, that then from her thought thereof the property shall no longer remain in her but in my only and beloved daughter, Elizabeth Berkeley, during her life and upon the like condition as they were before granted to my aforesaid dearly beloved wife, which not performed, they to remain to my brother, John Carey, and so successively from heir to heir and to them that the Barony of Hunsdon shall descend unto from time to time so long as the conscience of my heirs shall have grace and honesty to perform my will, for that I esteem them right jewels and monuments worthy to be kept for their beauty and rareness, and that for money they are not to be matched, nor the like yet known to be found in this realm, which maketh them rightly jewels of estimation;

Item, I give and bequeath to my daughter, Elizabeth Berkeley, my salt and clock of gold set with rubies and diamonds which the Scottish King gave me when I was ambassador in Scotland, or one hundred pounds in lieu thereof;

Item, I do give and bequeath unto my son-in-law, Mr Thomas Berkeley, the best horse I shall leave behind me, and two of the best mares of my race;

Item, I bequeath to my good Lady and dear mother a piece of plate worth thirty pounds;

Item, I will and bequeath to my brother, John Carey, a fair standing cup with my arms upon it to the value of thirty pounds;

Item, I give and bequeath to my brethren-in-law, the Lord Admiral, the Lord Scrope, and Sir Edward Hoby, to each of them a fair rapier and dagger to be worth ten pounds apiece;

Item, I give and bequeath to my sisters, the Lady Scrope, the Lady Hoby, my brother, Sir Edmund Carey, and my brother, [f. 95v] Sir Robert, to each of them black rings of gold with each of them one diamond in it worth twenty pounds the piece;

Item, I give and bequeath to my cousin, Elizabeth Jones, a black ring of gold with a diamond in it worth fifteen pounds;

Item, I give to William Cotton, gentleman, a pension of twenty pounds by the year during his life to be paid out of the revenues of my land in Cornwall, and he to distrain for non-payment thereof in manner above-written;

Item, I will that all my household servants be kept one year after my decease in my household, that thereby they may have time to provide themselves masters, and at the year's end to have a year's wages paid them beforehand after the like rate as they had during my life;

Item, I give to Teesye Purdue, my wife's gentlewoman, to Mr Stamforde, and to George Blande, my steward, to each of them forty pounds apiece to be paid by twenty pounds a year to each of them;

Item, I give and bequeath to my servant, John Snowe, and John Richards, twenty pounds apiece;

The rest of all my goods, chattels, leases, plate, jewels and household stuff not before bequeathed I give and bequeath to the sweetest companion that ever man hath found in this life, the Lady Elizabeth Carey, my faithful, true and loving wife, requiring my said loving wife to impart some part of Drayton furniture proportionably to a motherly love and care unto my said daughter, Elizabeth, after her death in token of a kind remembrance of me;

And my said wife I constitute, make and ordain my full and sole executor of this my last will and testament;

For overseers of the same I do constitute and appoint my loving friend, Sir John Scudamore, knight, Sir William Spencer, and Sir Robert Wroth, knights, and to every of them I give and bequeath for their pains some piece of plate to the value of twenty pounds;

And hereby I do utterly renounce and revoke all former wills and testaments by me heretofore made;

And in witness that this is my true and last will, I have hereunto put my hand and seal the day and year above-written. G. Hunsdon.

Signed and sealed in the presence of us the fourteenth of May one thousand five hundred ninety and nine, John Snowe, John Richards, Hugh Pemberton, John Gosnold.

This is a true copy of the last will and testament of the late George, Lord Hunsdon, witnessed by Thomas Spencer, John Snowe, John Hill.

I, the said Sir Geroge Carey, knight, Lord Hunsdon, do this present six and twentieth of April one thousand six hundred and one, make this codicil which I will shall be annexed unto my last will and testament to be as parcel of the same as followeth, viz.:

First I devise and bequeath to my daughter Berkeley all the hangings that are above five sticks deep now being at Hunsdon, and four pieces of Crosby work suitable to my hangings now hanging in the great chamber at Drayton and there now remaining;

Item, I give and devise unto my good friend, Thomas Foster, counsellor at law, twenty pounds in gold;

Item, for that I have found John Wilson, Richard Perrye, Moyses Christmas and Henry Farrington, my servants, faithful and trusty in their services towards me, twenty pounds apiece to be paid by my executor within one year next after my decease;

In witness that this is my true and last will and testament and the codicil thereunto annexed is my plain intent, will and true meaning, I have this present six and twentieth of April one thousand six hundred and one published the same as my last will and testament & thereunto set my hand and seal in the presence of the persons whose names are hereunder written. G. Hunsdon. Edward Hoby, Thomas Foster, William Paddy, William Cotton, Moyses Christmas.

This is the true copy of the codicil of the late George, Lord Hunsdon, belonging to this will, witnessed by Thomas Spencer, John Snowe, John Hill.

Probatum fuit Testamentu{m} sup{ra}scriptu{m} apud London coram Mag{ist}ro Joh{ann}e Halwarde Cl{er}ico Surrogato venerabilis viri Joh{ann}is Gibson Militis Legum D{o}c{t}oris Curie Prerogative Cantuar{iensis} Mag{ist}ri Custodis sive Com{m}issarij l{egi}time constitut{i} vicesimo septimo Die Mens{is} Septembr{is} Anno D{omi}ni millesimo sexcent{esi}mo tertio Iuramento Edwardi Willett No{ta}rij pub{li}ci procurator{is} D{omi}ne Elizabethhe Hunsdon Relic{te} d{ic}t{i} defunct{i} et Executricis in h{uius}mo{d}i testamento no{m}i{n}ate Cui com{m}iss{a} fuit administrac{i}o o{mn}ium et sing{u}lor{um} Bonor{um} Iuriu{m} et Creditor{um} dict{i} defunct{i} De bene et fidel{ite}r Administrand{o} ead{e}m Ad sancta Dei Ev{a}ngelia(?) iurat{i}

[=The above-written testament was proved at London before Master John Halwarde, clerk, Surrogate of the worshipful John Gibson, knight, Doctor of the Laws, lawfully constituted Master, Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, on the twenty-seventh day of the month of September in the year of the Lord the thousand six hundred third by the oath of Edward Willett, notary public, proctor of Lady Elizabeth Hunsdon, relict of the said deceased and executrix named in the same testament, 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 the same.]

Vicesimo Die mens{is} Martij iuxta &c 1617 emanauit Comiss{io} honorande femine D{omi}ne Elizabethe Berkley vid{ue} filie n{atu}rali et le{gi}time honorandi viri D{omi}ni Georgij Carei Baronis de Hunsdon p{re}nobilis ordinis garterij milit{is} ac Cam{er}erij Regie Ma{ies}t{a}tis Dum vixit p{ar}o{chi}ae s{an}c{t}e Anne in le black friers Ciuitat{is} London def{uncti} [illegible] &c Ad administrand{um} bona iura sive credita h{uius}mo{d}i iuxta tenorem et effectum test{ament}i ip{s}ius def{uncti} P{e}r D{omi}nam Elizabetham Hunsdon relict{am} et ex{ecutri}cem iam etiam def{unctam} non plene administrat{a} de bene &c iurat{e}

[=On the twentieth day of the month of March according [+to the reckoning of the English Church] 1617, a grant issued to the Honourable Lady Elizabeth Berkeley, widow, natural and legitimate daughter of the Honourable Lord George Carey, Baron Hunsdon, Knight of the honourable Order of the Garter and Chamberlain to His Majesty, while he lived of the parish of Saint Anne in the Blackfriars in the city of London, deceased [illegible] etc., sworn to administer the goods, rights and credits of the same according to the tenor and effect of the testament of the same deceased by the Lady Elizabeth Hundson, relict and executrix, now also deceased, not fully administered etc.]