

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 28 July 1518 and proved 9 December 1518, of Henry Eden, father of the translator, Richard Eden (c.1516-1576), whose widow married Oxford's kinsman, Sir Griffith Don.

For an original spelling transcript of the testator's will, see Howard, Joseph Jackson, ed., *The Visitation of Suffolke, Vol. I*, (Lowestoft: Samuel Tymms, 1866), p. 3 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=ExI2AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA3>

### ***FAMILY BACKGROUND***

Nothing is known of the testator's family background apart from pedigrees which state that his father was 'Thomas Eden of the North'. See the Eden pedigree in Sperling, C.F.D., *A Short History of the Borough of Sudbury in the County of Suffolk*, (Sudbury: B.R. Marten, 1896), p. 208 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/shorthistoryofbo00sper#page/n249/mode/2up>

See also the Eden pedigree in Howard, *supra*, p. 18 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=ExI2AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA18>

The testator had two siblings:

**-Richard Eden** (d.1551?), Archdeacon of Middlesex. In his will he states that he was born in Bury St Edmunds. For his career, see Venn, John and J.A. Venn, eds., *Alumni Cantabrigienses*, Vol. I, Part 2, digital ed., (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2011), p. 84 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=b3qyL7IWIPQC&pg=PA84>

See also Sperling, *supra*, p. 209.

It also seems likely that he (rather than his nephew, as stated by Badham) was the Richard Eden who was tutor and secretary to Henry VIII (1491-1547). See Badham, Charles, *The History and Antiquities of All Saints Church, Sudbury*, (London: Hatchard and Son, 1852), p. 45 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=cWdKAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA45>

For his will, dated 6 December 1549 and proved 2 May 1551, see TNA PROB 11/34/144 and the transcript in Howard, *supra*, pp. 6-7 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=ExI2AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA6>

**-Rose Eden** (living 1548), who married firstly George Ashby, for whose will, dated 13 March 1515 and proved 18 September 1515, see TNA PROB 11/18/196, and secondly Nicholas Bone (d.1522?). She is mentioned in the will of Richard Eden (d.1551?), Archdeacon of Middlesex, as ‘my sister Bone’. For the monumental brass of Nicholas Bone, see:

<http://www.mbs-brasses.co.uk/Brass%20of%20the%20month%20Nov%202017.html>

For Rose Eden and George Ashby, see also ‘Ashby of Breakspears’ at:

<http://landedfamilies.blogspot.com/2016/01/202-ashby-of-breakspears.html>

## ***MARRIAGES AND ISSUE***

### ***Testator’s first marriage***

According to the Eden pedigrees, the testator married firstly Mary Olney, the daughter of John Olney of London (possibly the John Olney (d.1471) who was Lord Mayor in 1446), by whom he had several children, including:

\* **Thomas Eden** (c.1502-1568), esquire, Clerk of the Star Chamber, son and heir, who married Grissel Waldegrave (d.1572?), the daughter of Edward Waldegrave of the Friars, Sudbury. See his will, dated 1 October 1565 and proved 2 December 1568, TNA PROB 11/50/383, and the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/eden-thomas-1502-68>

*b. c.1502, 1st s. of Henry Eden, and bro. of George. educ. L. Inn, spec. adm. 16 Nov. 1527. m. by 1534, Griselda, da. of Edward Waldegrave of the Anyers [recte ‘the Friars’], Sudbury, 5s. inc. Richard<sup>†</sup> and Thomas<sup>†</sup> 4da. suc. fa. 1518.1*

For the children of Thomas Eden by Grissel Waldegrave, see his will, TNA PROB 11/50/383.

\* **Henry Eden** (d.1545?) of Barningham, Suffolk, who married Elizabeth Heigham, daughter of Sir Clement Heigham (d. 9 March 1571), Chief Baron of the Exchequer and Speaker of the House of Commons. For Sir Clement Heigham (by 1495-1571), see the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/heigham-clement-1495-1571>

See also the Heigham pedigree in Gage, John, *The History and Antiquities of Suffolk: Thingoe Hundred*, (London: Samuel Bentley, 1838), p. 9 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=knVPAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA9>

After Henry Eden's death, Elizabeth Heigham married secondly Robert Kempe (by 1526-1571) of Finchingfield, Essex. See the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/kempe-robert-1526-71-or-later>

*b. by 1526, 1st s. of William Kempe of Spains Hall by Mary, da. of John Colt of Netherhal, nr. Roydon, Essex. educ. L. Inn, adm. 11 Mar. 1540, called 1547. m. Elizabeth, da. of (Sir) Clement Heigham of Barrow, Suff., wid. of Henry Eden of Bury St. Edmunds, at least 3s. 3da.1*

Apart from his wife and daughters, Henry Eden makes no mention of any member of the Eden family in his will dated 23 December 1545 and proved 8 November 1546, TNA PROB 11/31/316. See the transcript in Metcalfe, *supra*, pp. 4-5. However the fact that Henry Eden and his three daughters are mentioned in the will of the testator's brother, Richard Eden (d.1551?), Archdeacon of Middlesex, tends to confirm that Henry Eden was the testator's son.

\* **George Eden** (after 1502-1558/9), for whom see his will, dated 20 December 1558 and proved 4 April 1559, TNA PROB 11/42B/7, and the transcript in Metcalfe, *supra*, pp. 8-9, in which he mentions 'my uncle Archdeacon', confirming that he was the testator's son.

See also the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/eden-george-1502-155859>

The name of George Eden's wife is unknown. However in his will he appoints his 'cousin William Humberstone, gentleman' as his sole executor, which suggests that his wife was a member of the Humberstone family.

\* **Anne Eden** (d.1557?), who married firstly Robert Spring (1502 – 3 or 20 April 1549?) of Lavenham, Suffolk, for whose will see TNA PROB 11/32/437. After his death she is said to have married secondly Sir Philip Paris, of Linton, Cambridgeshire, and thirdly Justinian Champneys, of Bexley, Kent. See Corder, Joan, ed., *The Visitation of Suffolk, 1561, Part I*, (London: Harleian Society, 1981), pp. 32-3. Corder cites the Parys pedigree in *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica*, 5<sup>th</sup> Series, Vol. II, pp. 123-6 at p. 124:

<https://archive.org/stream/miscellaneagenea2191bann#page/n263/mode/2up>

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See also the Eden pedigree in Sperling, *supra*.

\* **Elizabeth Eden**, who is said to have married George Chamberlain of Barnham Broom, Norfolk. She is mentioned in the will of the testator's brother, Richard Eden (d.1551?), Archdeacon of Middlesex, as 'my niece, Elizabeth Chamberlain', and in the will of the testator's son, Thomas Eden, as 'my sister Chamberlain'. See the Eden pedigrees in Howard, *supra*, and Sperling, *supra*.

For George Chamberlain, second son of Sir Edward Chamberlain (d. 15 July 1541), see *History and Antiquities of the County of Norfolk*, Vol. IV, (Norwich: J. Crouse, 1781), p. 15 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=uHVbAAAAQAAJ&pg=RA2-PA15>

See also:

<https://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=ancestorsearch&id=I67232>

\* **Margaret Eden**, who married Thomas Maynard. She is mentioned as 'my niece, Margaret Maynard', in the will of the testator's brother, Richard Eden (d.1551?), Archdeacon of Middlesex. See Howard, *supra*, p. 7 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=ExI2AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA6>

### ***Testator's second marriage***

The testator married secondly a wife named Elizabeth whose maiden name is unknown. At the time of the marriage she was the widow of Brian Roche (d. May 1514), Serjeant of the Acatry, by whom she had a son, Nicholas Roche, and a daughter, Grissel Roche (buried 26 February 1582). See the will of Brian Roche, dated 12 May 1514 and proved 29 May 1514, TNA PROB 11/17/555, and the inquisition post mortem taken at York between 22 April 1516 and 21 April 1517, TNA C 142/31/65.

After the death of the testator, Elizabeth married, as her third husband, Oxford's kinsman, Sir Griffith Don (c.1487 - 18 January 1543), for whom see his will, TNA PROB 11/30/109, the inquisition post mortem taken after his death, TNA C 142/69/79, and *The Edward de Vere Newsletter*, No. 47, on this website.

By his second wife, Elizabeth, the testator had two sons:

\* **Richard Eden** (c.1516-1576), the translator, for whom see the *ODNB* entry (which, however, erroneously states that the translator was the son of George Eden, and that he was born in Herefordshire). For the translator Richard Eden's relationship to the testator's step-daughter, Grissel Roche (see above), wife of Sir John Boteler, see also

Arber, Edward, ed., *The First Three English Books on America*, (Birmingham, 1885), p. xlv at:

<https://archive.org/stream/firstthreeenglis00arberich#page/n47/mode/2up>

*Richard Eden, an Englishman, born of a respectable family in Herefordshire, -- where he still has a sister living, well known to Her Majesty, being the wife of a knight, John Butler of Lamer, -- was well educated as a boy, studied at Cambridge for ten years under that most learned man, Sir Thomas Smyth, now Her Majesty's Secretary [of State], who can testify to his erudition and blameless character.*

In his will, TNA PROB 11/50/383, the testator's eldest son and heir, Thomas Eden, bequeaths five marks to his brother, Richard Eden:

*[A]nd I give to my brother, Richard Eden, if he be in life, 5 marks.*

Thomas Eden's uncertainty as to whether his brother, Richard Eden, was still living when he made his will on 1 October 1565 accords with the *ODNB* entry which states that the translator, Richard Eden, was travelling on the continent from 1562-1572:

*Now a widower, he was employed in 1562 by Jean de Ferrieres, vidame (chief lay officer) of the bishop of Chartres, as a travelling companion and secretary. He remained in Ferrieres's service until 1572, travelling extensively in France and Germany and conducting a series of chemical experiments, about which he wrote to Sir Thomas Smith in 1572. Eden managed to flee from Paris just before the massacre of St Bartholomew's day and he returned to London in September 1572.*

It thus seems likely that the Richard Eden who was bequeathed 5 marks in the will of Thomas Eden was in fact his half brother, the translator, Richard Eden (c.1516-1576).

\* **John Eden**, mentioned in the will of Sir Griffith Don.

### ***TESTATOR'S EXECUTOR AND SUPERVISORS***

The testator refers to Robert Toneys as his 'master', and appoints him as one of his executors. He appears to have been the Robert Toneys (d.1528) who was Keeper of the Hanaper during the period 1521-1526. See TNA E 101/220/20, TNA E 101/221/1, TNA E 101/221/3 and TNA E 101/221/6. See also Mynors, R.A.B. and Bietenholz, Peter G., *The Correspondence of Erasmus*, (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1988), p. 363 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=q8I2apo6rB0C&pg=PA363>

See also Aston, Margaret, 'Iconoclasm at Rickmansworth, 1522: Troubles of Churchwardens', *The Journal of Ecclesiastical History*, Vol. 40, Issue 4, October 1989, pp. 524-552 at:

doi:10.1017/S0022046900059005

See also Leadam, I.S., ed., *Select Cases in the Court of Requests A.D. 1497-1569*, (London: Bernard Quaritch, 1898), p. 31 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/selectcasesincou00gearich#page/30/mode/2up>

For the testator's supervisor, John Kite (d.1537), Archbishop of Armagh, see TNA C 1/625/13 on this website.

For the testator's supervisor, Thomas Larke, Master of Trinity Hall, Cambridge, from 1520-1525, see:

'The colleges and halls: Trinity Hall', in *A History of the County of Cambridge and the Isle of Ely: Volume 3, the City and University of Cambridge*, ed. J P C Roach (London, 1959), pp. 362-371. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/cambs/vol3/pp362-371> [accessed 20 June 2018].

See also Webb, Diana, *Medieval European Pilgrimage, c.700 – c.1500*, at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=LwEnBQAAQBAJ&pg=PT215>

. . . *Thomas Larke, Wolsey's confessor, a chaplain to Henry VIII, and Master of Trinity Hall 1520-5.*

LM: Test{amentu}m Henrici Eden

In Dei nomine Amen. I, Henry Eden, Merchant of the Staple at Calais, being whole and perfect of mind, thanked be God, make, ordain and declare my testament and last will of all my goods, chattels [+and?] debts that I have or hereafter shall have, and of my lands and tenements whereof any person or persons been or hereafter shall be seised or ought to be seised to mine use or whereof I am or shall be sole seised in my demesne as of fee within the city of London or elsewhere etc.:

First I bequeath my soul to the mercy of Almighty Jesus, my Maker, and my body to be buried at Christ's Church in London near my brother [=brother-in-law] Ashby where mine executors shall think most convenient;

Item, I will have a priest to sing for my soul and my friends' souls by the space of 5 years next after my decease, and the same priest to have for his stipend every year 10 marks;

Item, I will that my debts which I owe to any person or persons in any manner of wise be fully content and paid according to right and conscience, and in case I owe to make any

restitution to any person for any injury, wrong or trespass by me done, and that lawfully proved, I will that they be recompensed and satisfied therefore of my moveable goods;

And that done, I will, ordain [+and?] declare and it is my full, complete and perfect will & mind that as well the residue of my goods, chattels and debts, after my debts before said paid and restitution made, if any shall be requisite, as also all and singular my said lands and tenements, be disposed, bequeathed and ordained as it shall please mine executors herein named or else the executors of my brother, Master Richard Eden, to order, give and dispose, and such order, gift and disposition as my said executors or th' executors of my said brother from time to time shall make of the said residue of my said goods, chattels and debts and of every parcel thereof as of all and every parcel of my said lands and tenements shall be my bequest, declaration, gift and ordinance, and so to be taken and accepted as if myself by express words in this my present testament and last will had so plenary and perfectly willed, declared, bequeathed and ordained;

Item, if I have any other testament than this that I have made in writing or declared by mouth at any time heretofore, I now revoke the same, and if any such be, I will and declare it to be void and of none effect;

Item, of this my testament and last will I name and ordain to be mine executors my brother, Master Richard Eden, Archdeacon of Middlesex, and my special good master, Master Robert Tonys;

And I require my special good Lord, my Lord of Armagh, and Master Thomas Larke to be my supervisors;

In witness whereof I have subscribed my name and set to my seal the 28 day of July in the year of Our Lord God 1500 and 18.

Probatum fuit testamentu{m} suprascripti defuncti Coram d{omi}no apud Lamethix die mensis Decembris Anno D{omi}ni Mill{es}imo quingentesimo xvijio Iurament{o} Mag{ist}ri Ric{hard} Edon executoris in h{uius}mo{d}i test{ament}o no{m}i{n}at{i} Ac approbat{um} et insinuat{um} Et com{m}issa fuit admi{n}istracio o{mn}i{u}m et singulor{um} bonor{um} et debitor{um} d{ic}t{i} defuncti prefato executori De b{e}n{e} & fideliter admi{n}istrand{o} Ac de pleno & fideli In{uenta}rio citra festum Purificac{i}o{n}is beate marie virginis prox{imum} futur{um} exhi{ben}d{o} Necnon de plano et vero compoto reddend{o} Ad s{an}c{t}a dei eu{a}ngelia Iurat{i} Reseruat{a} potestate &c alteri executori &c cum ven{er}it &c

[=The testament of the above-written deceased was proved before the Lord at Lambeth on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of the month of December in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred 18<sup>th</sup> by the oath of Master Richard Eden, executor named in the same testament, and probated and entered, and administration was granted of all and singular the goods and debts of the said deceased to the forenamed executor, sworn on the Holy Gospels to

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well & faithfully administer and to exhibit a full & faithful inventory before the feast of the Purification of Blessed Mary the Virgin next to come, and also to render a plain and true account, with power reserved etc. to the other executor etc. when he shall have come etc.]