

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 20 February 1541 and proved 19 March 1541, of Sir John Tyrrell of Little Warley, Essex, a descendant of Robert de Vere, 3rd Earl of Oxford, and his wife Isabel Bolbec.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

The testator was the son of Humphrey Tyrrell, esquire, of East Thornton, Essex, third son of Sir Thomas Tyrrell (d. 28 March 1476) and Anne Marney. See Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. I, p. 14, at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=8JcbV309c5UC&pg=PA14&lpg=PA14>

The testator's father, Humphrey Tyrrell, married firstly Isabel Helion, by whom he had a daughter, Anne Tyrrell, who married Sir Roger Wentworth of Codham Hall in Wethersfield, Essex, and secondly Elizabeth Walwyn, daughter of John Walwyn, esquire, of Longford, Hertfordshire, by whom he is stated to have six sons. See Richardson, *supra*.

See also Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitations of Essex*, Vol. XIII, (London: Harleian Society, 1878), pp. 114-15 at:

<http://books.google.ca/books?id=0m1KAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA114>

However the will of the testator's father, Humphrey Tyrrell, mentions only four sons, not six (the testator, Sir John Tyrrell, Thomas Tyrrell, John Tyrrell the younger, and Humphrey Tyrrell), and in addition to his married daughter, Lady Wentworth, mentions three unmarried daughters, Elizabeth, Anne and Maud. For the will of the testator's father, Humphrey Tyrrell, dated 10 December 1505 and 17 February 1506, and proved 14 October 1507, see TNA PROB 11/15/580.

MARRIAGES AND CHILDREN

The testator married firstly Anne Norris (d.1531?), the daughter of Sir Edward Norris and Frideswide Lovell, sister of Richard III's Chamberlain and favourite, Francis Lovell (died c.1488), Viscount Lovell.

The marriage of the testator and Anne Norris is attested to in a petition presented to the House of Lords in 1789 and 1796 by Thomas Stapleton of Carleton concerning the Barony of Beaumont. See *Journals of the House of Lords*, Vol. 40, p. 703 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=2x5DAAAACAAJ&pg=PA703>

. . . *But it also appearing that Henry Norreis, named in Your Petitioner's first Petition, left Issue; and that the Right Honourable Willoughby Bertie, Earl of Abingdon, claimed to be the lineal Descendant and Heir of the said Henry Norreis; and that Frideswide Lady Norreis left Issue, besides the said Sir John Norreis and Henry Norreis, named in your Petitioner's former Petition, also Two Daughters, namely, Anne and Margaret; and that Ann, one of the said Daughters, married Sir John Tyrrell, of Little Warley, in the County of Essex, Knight, and Had Issue by him, from whom Mary Marchioness of Rockingham, is lineally descended; and that Margaret, the other of the said Daughters of the said Frideswide, married John Barrett of Bell House, in the said County of Essex, Esquire, and had Issue by him, which Issue is supposed to be now extinct*

Sir Edward Norris was the son of Sir William Norris (c.1441 - c. 10 January 1507) and his first wife, Joan de Vere, daughter of John de Vere (1408–1462), 12th Earl of Oxford, by Elizabeth Howard (c.1410–1473/4), daughter of Sir John Howard (1385-1410) and Joan Walton, and granddaughter and heir of Sir John Howard (d.1437) and his first wife, Margaret Plaiz (d.1391). See Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. I, pp. 350-1; the *ODNB* entries for John Howard (d.1485), 1st Duke of Norfolk, and John de Vere, 12th Earl of Oxford; and the pedigree in Ross, James, *John de Vere, Thirteenth Earl of Oxford (1442-1513), 'The Foremost Man of the Kingdom'*, (Woodbridge, Suffolk: The Boydell Press, 2011), p. 24.

For the foregoing, see also Rogers, Charles, *Memorials of the Earls of Stirling and of the House of Alexander*, (Edinburgh: William Paterson, 1877), Vol. II, pp. 172-8; and Napier, Henry Alfred, *Historical Notices of the Parishes of Swyncombe and Ewelme in the County of Oxford*, (Oxford: James Wright, 1858), pp. 339-46 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=JwY5AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA339>

See also Banks, T.C., *The Dormant and Extinct Baronage of England*, Vol. II, (London: T. Bensley, 1808), p. 395 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=8TUvAAAAMAAJ&pg=PA395>

The testator (presumably by his first wife, Anne Norris) is said to have been the father of Gertrude Tyrrell (d. 28 May 1541), first wife of Sir William Petre (1505/6-1572). See the *ODNB*:

If Petre spent further time overseas, he must have returned by the start of 1533; on 8 March he was admitted to Doctors' Commons, and in the course of the year began work as a chancery clerk. About this time he married Gertrude, daughter of John Tyrrell of Little Warley, Essex. . . . Petre's wife died on 28 May 1541.

However neither a daughter, Gertrude, nor her husband, Sir William Petre, nor their children are mentioned in the will below.

The testator married secondly a wife named Anne whose maiden name is unknown. The testator states in the will below that his wife, Anne, had earlier been the wife of John Hopton, by whom she had a daughter, Elizabeth Hopton, and in her own will, dated 17 July 1552 and proved 26 November 1562, she mentions two children, a son, Maurice Tyrrell, and a daughter, Elizabeth Hopton, who by that time was the widow of Sir John Perient (d.1551), Auditor of the Court of Wards and Liveries. For the will of the testator's widow, Dame Anne Tyrrell, see TNA PROB 11/45/314. For the will of her first husband, John Hopton, dated 22nd June 1522 and proved 24 November 1526, see TNA PROB 11/22/236.

According to the will below the testator had six sons and five daughters:

***John Tyrrell** (d. 2 March 1585), eldest son and heir. He married Anne Wolley (d. 12 April 1592), the daughter of Ambrose Wolley. For the will of Ambrose Wolley, dated 18 July 1557 and proved 31 March 1559, see TNA PROB 11/42A/52B.

See Christy, Miller and W.W. Porteous, 'On Some Interesting Essex Brasses', *Transactions of the Essex Archaeological Society*, Vol. VI, New Series, (Colchester, 1898), pp. 146-70 at pp. 159-60 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/transactionssess04socigoog#page/n185/mode/2up>

Here lieth the body of Anne, daughter of Ambrose Wolley, esquire, wife of John Tyrrell, esquire, late wife of Davy Hamner, gentleman, who deceased the 12th day of April 1592, being of the age of 62 years.

. . . According to Morant, Ambrose Wolley, the father of the lady here commemorated, was a "citizen of London." Of her first husband (Davye Hanmer), we know nothing. Her second husband (John Tyrrell or Terrell) was a member of the well-known Essex family of that name. He was a son of Sir John Tyrrell of Little Warley Hall (d. Feb. 1540), and died on March 2nd, 1585, leaving a daughter Mary, who was married to Thomas Clinton, second son of Edward Earl of Lincoln. From a genealogy printed by Mr. Chancellor [Sepulchral Monuments of Essex, pp. 173-174], it appears that there were several marriages between the Tyrrells and the Wolleys at about this date. For instance, the mother of the lady here commemorated (daughter of Ambrose Wolley and wife of John Tyrrell) was Alice, daughter of Humphrey Tyrrell of Shenfield; while a certain Richard Tyrrell (d.1566) of Ashdon Place, married Grace, daughter of (blank) Wolley.

For the inscription, see also:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/52219527@N00/23686538022/>

By Anne Wolley, John Tyrrell (d. 2 March 1585) had a daughter, Mary Tyrrell, who married Thomas Fiennes alias Clinton, second son of Edward Fiennes de Clinton (1512-

1585), 1st Earl of Lincoln (for whom see the *ODNB* entry). See also an indenture dated 20 September 1585:

'Deeds: C.7901 - C.8000', in *A Descriptive Catalogue of Ancient Deeds: Volume 6*, ed. H C Maxwell Lyte (London, 1915), pp. 537-553. *British History Online* <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/ancient-deeds/vol6/pp537-553> [accessed 28 September 2017].

C. 7969. Indenture, dated 20 September, 27 Elizabeth, witnessing that John Tyrrell of Little Warley, esquire, under the provisions of the statute 32 Henry VIII. [c. 28], and of the marriage settlement of Mary, his daughter and sole heir with Thomas Fynes alias Clynton, esquire, second son of Edward Fynes, lord Clynton and Saye, High Admiral of England

* **Stephen Tyrrell.** He is mentioned in the will, dated 19 June 1556, of Dame Julian Norwich, TNA PROB 11/38/70. The will was contested by 'John Tyrrell, gentleman' (presumably the testator's eldest son and heir) and in ERO D/DL/T1/645, dated 20 March 1560, it is stated that John Tyrrell of Little Warley (again, presumably the testator's eldest son and heir) was 'heir of Dame Juliane Norwich'.

* **Maurice Tyrrell**, who is mentioned in the will of his mother (see above).

* **Humphrey Tyrrell**, about whom nothing further is known.

* **Ralph Tyrrell**, about whom nothing further is known.

* **William Tyrrell**, about whom nothing further is known.

* **Anne(?) Tyrrell**, who married William Worthington (for whom see Metcalfe, *supra*, p. 328).

* () **Tyrrell**, who married Anthony Brugge [=Bridges?].

* **Frideswide Tyrrell**, unmarried at the time the testator made his will.

* **Mary Tyrrell**, 'sometime a nun of Barking'.

* **Margaret Tyrrell**, unmarried at the time the testator made his will.

LM: Test{amentu}m d{omi}ni Iohannis Tyrrell Milit{is}

In the name of Almighty God, Father and Son and Holy Ghost, and Our Blessed Lady Saint Mary the Virgin, and of all the saints of heaven, I, Sir John Tyrrell of Little Warley in the county of Essex, knight, being whole of mind, the 20th day of February the year of Our Lord God a thousand five hundred and forty and the 32nd year of the reign of our

Liege Lord King Henry the 8th after the Conquest, make my testament and last will as hereafter followeth, beseeching Almighty God of pardon and forgiveness of all my sins done unto him to whom I have offended, and also beseeching Our Lord Jesus Christ to give his grace to mine executors that he or they truly execute my will in as much as to them belongeth to the pleasure of his pitiful mercy and grace:

First and principally I bequeath and commend my soul to Almighty God and Our Lady Saint Mary and to all the saints of heaven, and my body to be buried in the chancel of Little Warley aforesaid before All-Hallows with a stone over me in like wise as my father, Humphrey Tyrrell lieth in East Thorndon church;

Also I will and charge mine executors to see my debts well and truly contented and paid, and if I have wronged any person or persons in anything and then duly proved, I will that my said executors recompense them of my goods;

Item, I remit the charge of my burying to the discretion of mine executors, and that to be done without pomp, vainglory or great cost;

Item, I will that my month's mind be kept in all the parish churches as hereafter followeth: East Thorndon, Childerditch, Great Warley, Orsett, Horndon, Langdon, Dunton, Hutton, Chawldwell [=Caldwell?], Fobbing, Gyngrawe [=Ingrave?] and Grays Thurrock, and the churchwardens of every of the said parishes shall have 6s 8d, to bestow to every priest of the said parishes to say dirge and Mass for my soul and all Christian souls 8d, and in bread, drink & cheese amongst the parishens 6s; if any be left of the said 6s, to be to the reparations of the church;

Item, I give and bequeath to the reparations of the church of Little Warley 20s, and I give to the said church all the cloths that be used about the sepulchre every year;

Item, I give and bequeath to my daughter, Fryswith [=Frideswide], to her marriage or living sole one hundred marks;

I give and bequeath to Stephen, Maurice and Humphrey, my sons, each of them five marks immediately after my decease yearly out of Thorndon Hall during their lives if my lease of years continue so long;

And to my said son, Maurice, £20 of money which is in the hands of Thomas Sawyer(?) of London, draper, and he to occupy it for him as he doth for me if it please him;

Item, I will my son, Ralph, shall have according as I am bound to Mr Randolph of Kent, which I suppose is two hundred marks at th' age of 21 years if he then be living, and if he die before the said age of 21 years, then he to have nothing;

I bequeath to William, my son, 40s yearly immediately after my decease out of Thorndon Hall during his life if my lease continue so long;

Item, I bequeath to Mary, my daughter, sometime a nun of Barking, a ring with a sapphire that my wife hath in keeping, & a counterpoint, a featherbed, a bolster, a pillow, a pair of blankets and five marks in money;

Item, I bequeath to Elizabeth Hopton, my wife's daughter, forty pounds in money upon condition that I nor mine executors be not troubled nor vexed for anything containing [sic?] the will of John Hopton, esquire, her father, and in case that mine executors be troubled for the will of the said Mr Hopton, then she to take no benefit by this my said will;

Item, I will, give & bequeath to Dame Anne Tyrrell, my wife, four featherbeds, 4 bolsters, 4 pillows, 4 pair of sheets and four counterpoints, whereof one is in the middle chamber and three in the closet over the parlour, and a salt with a cover with stone and pearl, and three coffers to be appointed by the discretion of mine executors, two dozen napkins, six towels;

Item, I will and bequeath to William Wourtington [=Worthington?], my son-in-law, ten pounds to be delivered him at the discretion of mine executors;

Item, I will an inventory to be made by mine executors of all my goods, the goods therein contained to be sold by the discretion of my said executors to the performance of this my will;

Item, I bequeath to Margaret Tyrrell, my daughter, £6 13s 4d if she marry, or otherwise at the discretion of mine executors;

And of this my present testament and last will I make, ordain and constitute John Tyrrell, my son and heir, Humphrey Tyrrell, my brother, and Anthony Brugg [=Bridges?], my son-in-law, mine executors;

In witness whereof I have signed & sealed this my said will with mine own hand the day & year above-written.

Probatum fuit sup^{ra}scriptum test^{amentu}m coram d^{omi}no apud London xix^o die mens^{is} Marcij Anno Domini Mill^{es}imo quingentesimo quadragesimo Iuramento Executor^{um} in h^{uius}mo^di testamento no^miⁿat^{orum} Ac approbatum et insinuat^{um} Et comissa fuit admiⁿⁱstracio o^{mn}i^{um} et sing^ulor^{um} bonor^{um} iuriu^m et creditor^{um} dictⁱ defunctⁱ p^{re}fat^{is} Executoribus de bene &c Ac de pleno et fideli Inuentario &c exhibend^o Necnon de plano et vero compoto reddend^o Ad Sancta Dei Eu^angelia Iurat^{is}

[=The above-written testament was proved before the Lord at London on the 19th day of the month of March in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred fortieth by the oath of the executors named in the same testament, and probated and entered, and

administration was granted of all and singular the goods, rights and credits of the said deceased to the forenamed executors, sworn on the Holy Gospels to well etc., and to exhibit a full and faithful inventory etc., and also to render a plain and true account.]