

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 1 May 1541 and proved 25 October 1542, of Sir William Morgan (d. 6 September 1542) of Pencoed, whose nephew, Henry Poole (d. 28 March 1580), held property in the Blackfriars, part of which was sold in 1610 to Richard and Cuthbert Burbage.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

The testator was the eldest son and heir of Sir Thomas Morgan (d.1501) of Pencoed and Jane Herbert. See the pedigree in MS H8, College of Arms, London; and Robinson, W.R.B., 'Sir William Morgan of Pencoed (d. 1542) and the Morgans of Tredegar and Machen in Henry VIII's Reign', *Cylchgrawn Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru (National Library of Wales Journal)*, Cyf. 27, rh. 4 (Gaeaf 1992), pp. 405-29 at p. 425, available online.

The testator's sister, Elizabeth Morgan, married William Morgan of Arkstone, the grandfather of Anne Morgan (d. 19 January 1607), the wife of Henry Carey (1526-1596), 1st Baron Hunsdon, patron of the Lord Chamberlain's Men. See the will of David ap Gwilliam Morgan, TNA PROB 11/21/332.

Another of the testator's sisters, Jane Morgan, married Sir Christopher Baynham (d. 22 June 1540), grandfather of Frances Baynham Jerningham (d.1583), who leased the Jerningham mansion in the Blackfriars in 1580 to Anne Morgan's son, George Carey (1548-1603), 2nd Baron Hunsdon. See the will of Sir George Baynham, TNA PROB 11/32/282.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

The testator married Florence Brydges (d.1545), the daughter of Sir Giles Brydges (d. 1 December 1511) of Coberley, Gloucestershire, by Isabel Baynham, the sister of Sir Christopher Baynham (see above). According to Robinson, *supra*, p. 425, their children, as shown in MS H8, fol. lv, *supra*, were Sir Thomas (d. 5 June 1565), Giles (d. 9 March 1570), Henry, Andrew, John, Morgan, Mary, Anne and Alice, although John and Anne are not shown in the pedigree in Morgan and Wakeman. See the pedigree and arms of Morgan in Morgan, Octavius and Thomas Wakeman, *Notices of Pencoyd Castle and Langstone*, (Newport: Henry Mullock, 1864), available online (although part of the pedigree is unfortunately obscured by folding).

See also the will of Sir Giles Brydges, TNA PROB 11/17/154, and the pedigree of Brydges of Cornbury Park in Turner, William Henry, ed., *The Visitations of the County of Oxford*, (London: Harleian Society, 1871), Vol. V, p. 201 at:

https://books.google.ca/books?id=t_sUAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA201

For the testator's wife, see also Robinson, *supra*, pp. 409, 418; and her will, TNA PROB 11/30/367.

Katherine Brydges (d.1556), sister of the testator's wife, Florence Brydges, married Leonard Poole (d. 30 September 1538) of Sapperton, Gloucestershire. Their son, Henry Poole (d. 28 March 1580), and his wife, Margaret Neville, held property in the Blackfriars, part of which was sold in 1610 to Richard and Cuthbert Burbage. See the will of Leonard Poole, TNA PROB 11/27/424; the will of Henry Poole, TNA PROB 11/62/182; and the History of Parliament entry for Henry Poole at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/poole-henry-i-1526-80>

After the death of Leonard Poole, Katherine Brydges married the testator's overseer, Sir David Broke (by 1491 – 1559/60) of Horton, Gloucestershire and London, for whom see Robinson, *supra*, p. 418; his will, TNA PROB 11/43/91, and the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/broke-david-1491-155960>

After the death of Sir David Broke, his widow, Margaret Butler (d. 2 June 1575), married, as his second wife, Edward North (c.1504-1564), 1st Baron North, for whose will see TNA PROB 11/48/64.

For the testator's eldest son and heir, Sir Thomas Morgan of Pencoed (d. 5 June 1565), who married Cecily Herbert, the daughter of Sir George Herbert of Swansea, Glamorganshire, see his will, TNA PROB 11/48/501; and the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/morgan-sir-thomas-1509-65>

For the testator's son, Giles Morgan (d. 9 March 1570), who married Emma or Mary, the daughter of Thomas Briage or Brayne of Little Dean, Gloucestershire, see his will, TNA PROB 11/52/463; and the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/morgan-giles-1515-70>

For the testator's brother-in-law, Sir John Brydges (d.1557), 1st Baron Chandos, see Robinson, *supra*, p. 418; and the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/brydges-sir-john-1492-1557>

For John Colman, Master of the Hospital of St Mark in Bristol, witness to the testator's will, see Parkes, M.B., *Their Hands Before Our Eyes: A Closer Look at Scribes*, (Aldershot, Hampshire: Ashgate Publishing Limited, 2008), p. 38 at:

<https://books.google.ca/books?id=NCQrYGWCAEUC&pg=PA38>

For Thomas White, witness to the testator's will, see the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/white-thomas-i-1500-42>

For the church of St Martin in Llanmartin where the testator was buried, see:

<http://www.magorbenefice.co.uk/Llanmartin.html>.

LM: Test{amentu}m Will{el}mi Morgan Milit{is}

[f. 10v] In the name of God, Amen. The first day of May the 33rd year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord King Henry the 8th by the grace of God King of England and of France, Defender of the Faith and Lord of Ireland and in earth Supreme Head of the Church of England, and in the year of Our Lord God a thousand five hundred forty and one, I, Sir William Morgan of Pencoed of the parish of Saint Martin's in Wales within the diocese of Llandaff, knight, being whole in body and of good and perfect remembrance, thanks be to God, calling to my remembrance that there is nothing so certain unto man as death, & the hour and time thereof most uncertain, and for that it hath pleased God of his most grace and goodness hath given me time of age, by reason whereof I am weak in body, calling to God daily for grace and forgiveness of my offences by me committed and done, that I may be partaker of the most blessed passion of our Saviour, Christ Jesus, and by his redemption only to be saved, as my very hope and trust is to be saved, do make and ordain this my present last will and testament, and by the same do revoke, annihilate and make void all other wills and testaments before this time be [=by] me ordained and made:

First & above all things I give and bequeath my soul to the mercy of Our Lord God the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, and to the merits of the passion of our Saviour, Christ Jesus, the Son, to Our Lady Saint Mary, and to all the blessed company of heaven, and my body to be buried in the church where it shall happen me to die after the discretion of my executrice, and if it happen me to decease at Pencoed, then my body to be buried in the parish church of Saint Martin's according as I have declared my mind to my executrice;

Item, I will that my executrice bestow in building of a chapel or a tomb at the church of Saint Martin's twenty pounds sterling, and further if the charges so requireth, within two years after my decease;

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<http://www.oxford-shakespeare.com/>

Item, I bequeath to the cathedral church of Llandaff 6s 8d;

Item, to the high altar of the parish church of Saint Martin's in recompense and full satisfaction of my tithes forgotten 20s;

Item, I give and bequeath to the parish church of Lavyston 13s 4d;

Also I do give and bequeath unto my son, Giles Morgan, a hundred marks in ready money;

Also I give and bequeath unto my son, Andrew Morgan, a hundred marks of ready money;

Also I give unto my son, Henry Morgan, a hundred marks of ready money;

Also I give to my son, Morgan ap Morgan, a hundred marks of ready money;

Provided that the said money shall be delivered by my executrix underwritten or by her executors unto every of my said sons when they shall be of the age of 26 years old, and upon condition that they nor any of them shall not break any part of this my last will and testament, neither vex, trouble, neither sue my well-beloved wife after my decease;

And if any of them do vex, sue or trouble my said wife or break this my last will, then I will that he which doth vex or trouble his said mother or break this my will shall have no penny of this my legacy and gift, but his said legacy shall remain to the hands of my executrice to be disposed after her discretion and will;

And if any of them happen to decease before they come to th' age of 26 years, that then I will the said legacy shall remain to my executrice to be disposed after her disposition;

Also I give and bequeath unto my daughter, Alice Morgan, for th' only advancement of her marriage a hundred pounds of ready money upon condition that the said Alice Morgan be ordered and advised in her taking to husband such person as by my said wife and the overseers of this my last will shall consent and seem convenient;

The residue of all my goods not before bequeathed nor given I do give and bequeath unto my right well-beloved wife, Lady Florence, she therewith to pay my legacies and other funerals at my burial and other times, which said Florence, for the great confidence and trust that I have found and approved her withal, do make and ordain her only by this my last will and testament to be my sole executrice and dispose my goods to my children and to my servants, if they be gentle and kind unto her, or else otherwise as to her discretion shall seem meet and convenient, praying my brother, Sir John Brydges, knight, and my brother [=brother-in-law], David Brooke, Recorder of Bristol, to be overseers and to help and comfort my said wife in her affairs and business in executing of this my last will and testament, and for their pains in so doing every of them to have five pounds in money;

In witness whereof to this my last will and testament I, the said Sir William Morgan, knight, have put my seal and subscribed my name the day and year abovesaid, being witness unto this will the said David Brooke, who did draw and was privy to the same, John Colman, clerk, late Master of the Gaunts [=Hospital of St Mark] in Bristol, Thomas White of Bristol, merchant, William Vowell, gentleman.

Probatum fuit sup^{ra}scriptum test^{amentu}m coram d^{omi}no apud London vicesimo quinto die mens^{is} Octobris Anno d^{omi}ni Mill^{es}imo quingentesimo quadragesimo secundo Iuramento Daudid Brooke procuratoris Relicte et Executric^{is} in h^{uius}mo^di testamento no^miⁿat^e Ac approbatu^m et insinuat^{um} Comisaq^{ue} fuit admiⁿⁱstracio o^{mn}i^um et sing^ulor^{um} bonor^{um} iuriu^m et creditor^{um} dictⁱ defunctⁱ p^{re}fat^e Executricⁱ De bene &c Ac de pleno et fideli Inuentario &c conficiend^o Necnon de plano et vero compoto reddend^o Ad Sancta dei Eu^angelia in p^{er}sona dictⁱ procurator^{is} Iurat^e

[=The above-written testament was proved before the Lord at London on the twenty-fifth day of the month of October in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred forty-second by the oath of David Broke, proctor of the relict and executrix 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 executrix, sworn on the Holy Gospels in the person of the said proctor to well etc., and to prepared a full and faithful inventory etc., and also to render a plain and true account.]