

SUMMARY: The document below is the Prerogative Court of Canterbury copy of the will, dated 15 April 1564 and proved 10 November 1564, of Dorothy Waldegrave Spring, great-aunt of Sir William Waldegrave (c.1540 – 25 August 1613), who in 1572, together with Oxford's first cousin, John Darcy (d.1581), 2nd Baron Darcy of Chiche, jointly entered into guarantees amounting to £5000 for Oxford's debt to the Court of Wards (see TNA C 2/Eliz/T6/48). For further information on Sir William Waldegrave, see the will of his father, Sir William Waldegrave (1507?-1554), TNA PROB 11/37/466.

FAMILY BACKGROUND

For the testatrix' family background, see the Waldegrave pedigree in Metcalfe, Walter C., ed., *The Visitations of Essex, Part I*, (London: Harleian Society, 1878), Vol. XIII, p. 119 at:

<https://archive.org/stream/visitationsofess1314metc#page/118/mode/2up>

It should be noted, however, that the pedigree in Metcalfe contains errors, among them the statement that the testatrix' grandfather, Sir Thomas Waldegrave, died in 1500.

For the Waldegrave family, see also Richardson, Douglas, *Plantagenet Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. III, pp. 418-22, and Richardson, Douglas, *Magna Carta Ancestry*, 2nd ed., 2011, Vol. IV, p. 283.

See also:

'The Descendants of William deTendering, Knt., of Tendering Hall & His Wife Dame Katherine Mylde' at:

<http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~clopton/tendring.htm>

See also 'The Waldegrave Family Tree' at:

<https://www.bures-online.co.uk/Waldegrave/Waldegrave%20Tree1.htm>

Testatrix' parents

The testatrix was the daughter of Sir William Waldegrave (c.1465 - 30 June 1527) and Margery Wentworth (buried 7 May 1540). For earlier generations of the Waldegrave family, see the will, dated 26 January 1525 and proved 6 March 1528, of the testatrix' father, TNA PROB 11/22/294. For the family background of the testatrix' mother, Margery (nee Wentworth) Waldegrave, see her will TNA PROB 11/28/96.

Testatrix' siblings

For the testatrix' siblings, see the wills of her mother, Margery (nee Wentworth) Waldegrave, TNA PROB 11/29/96, her brother, George Waldegrave, TNA PROB 11/22/577, her brother Anthony Waldegrave, TNA PROB 11/53/224, and her sister, Bridget (nee Waldegrave) Fynderne Marney, TNA PROB 11/33/186.

The testatrix' brother, George Waldegrave, was the grandfather of Sir William Waldegrave (c.1540 – 25 August 1613), who in 1572 jointly guaranteed Oxford's debt to the Court of Wards (see above).

MARRIAGE AND ISSUE

The testatrix married Sir John Spring (d. 12 August 1547), eldest son and heir of the wealthy clothier, Thomas Spring III of Lavenham, Suffolk, by his first wife, said to have been Anne King of Boxford, Suffolk. For the will of Sir John Spring, see TNA PROB 11/32/430. The testatrix' father-in-law, Thomas Spring III (1457?-1523), together with John de Vere (1442-1513), 13th Earl of Oxford, was a major benefactor of the Church of St Peter and St Paul in Lavenham. See:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/church_gallery_03.shtml

By Sir John Spring, the testatrix had a son and two daughters:

* **Sir William Spring** (d. 3 February 1600?) of Pakenham, Suffolk, who married Anne Kitson, the daughter of Sir Thomas Kitson (1485-1540) of Hengrave, Suffolk. See the will of Sir Thomas Kitson, TNA PROB 11/29/2, and the *ODNB* entry:

Kitson, Sir Thomas (1485–1540), merchant and local politician, was born in Warton, Lancashire, the son of Robert Kitson. . . . Kitson's four daughters all seem to have made advantageous marriages: Catherine to Sir John Spencer of Wormleighton in Warwickshire, Dorothy [see Tasburgh, Dorothy] to Sir Thomas Packington of Aylesbury, Frances to John Burchier, Lord Fitzwarine, and Anne to Sir William Spring of Pakenham in Suffolk. His son, Sir Thomas Kitson (1540–1603), was briefly (1557–8) married to Jane, the daughter of William, Lord Paget, but acquired a firm ally in Sir Thomas Cornwallis by marrying his daughter Elizabeth in 1560.

Sir William Spring married secondly Susan Jermyn, the daughter of Sir Ambrose Jermyn (c.1510–1577).

On 19 February 1583, the testatrix' son, Sir William Spring, purchased Oxford's manor of Earls Hall. See TNA C 54/1171, Part 25.

For Sir William Spring, see also the Wikipedia article edited by the author of this website at:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Spring_of_Lavenham

* **Frances Spring**, who married, before 8 June 1544, as his second wife, Edmund Wright, esquire, of Sutton Hall and Burnt Bradfield, Suffolk, and Little Buckenham, Norfolk, son and heir of Robert Wright of Burnt Bradfield by Anne Russell, daughter and co-heiress of Thomas Russell. By Edmund Wright, Frances Spring had two sons, William Wright and Edmund Wright, and five daughters: Anne Wright, who married Sir John Heigham (d.1626); Frances Wright, who married Thomas Bell; Bridget Wright, who married Robert Rolfe; Millicent Wright, who married John Thurston, esquire; and Mary Wright, who married, about 1578, William Derehaugh. See Richardson, *supra*, and the History of Parliament entry for Edmund Wright (died c.1583) at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/wright-edmund-1583>

For John Heigham, see the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1558-1603/member/heigham-john-1626>

* **Bridget Spring**, who married firstly Thomas Fleetwood (1517/18-1570) of The Vache, Buckinghamshire, for whom see his will, proved 16 February 1571, TNA PROB 1/53/97, and the History of Parliament entry at:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1509-1558/member/fleetwood-thomas-151718-70>

Bridget Spring married secondly Sir Robert Wingfield (d. 19 March 1596). For the will, dated 5 June 1584 and proved 28 June 1596, of Sir Robert Wingfield of Letheringham, Suffolk, nephew of John de Vere (1499-1527), 14th Earl of Oxford, see TNA PROB 11/87/510.

RM: T{estamentum} d{omi}ne Dorathie Springe

In the name of God, Amen. The 15th day of April in the year of Our Lord God 1564, I, Dame Dorothy Spring of Cockfield, widow, in the county of Suffolk, being sick in body but in perfect mind and of good remembrance, thanks be to Almighty God, do ordain and make this my last will and testament in manner and form following, that is to say:

First I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, and my body to be buried within the chancel of the parish church of Cockfield aforesaid;

First I give and bequeath unto my daughter, Frances Wright, one pomander of gold and one chain of gold, the links one wreathen, the other square;

Item, I give and bequeath unto my daughter, Bridget Fleetwood, one cross of gold with a crucifix and 3 pearls hanging at the same;

Also I do give unto my said daughter Fleetwood one little chain of gold with flat and round links;

Item, I give and bequeath to Thomas Fleetwood and Dorothy Fleetwood, my godchildren, five pounds to either of them;

Item, I give to [sic] bequeath to Frances Wright and to Millicent Wright, to Mary Wright, my godchildren, five pounds to every one of them;

Item, I give and bequeath to my son Wright one nest of goblets double gilt with a cover;

Item, I give to Dorothy Spring, my god-daughter, five pounds;

Item, I give and bequeath to William Povey, my servant, twenty marks;

Item, I give and bequeath to Bridget Ashfield, my maid, ten pounds;

Item, I give and bequeath to William Cofelde, my servant, six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence;

Item, I give to William Gosse forty shillings;

Item, I give to Sir William Mody, parson of Cockfield, twenty shillings;

Item, I give and bequeath to John Jowre, my servant, twenty shillings;

Item, I give and bequeath to Robert Bounydishe [=Brundish?], my servant, twenty shillings;

Item, I give and bequeath to the poor people of Cockfield forty shillings;

Item, I give and bequeath to the poor people of Burnt Bradfield ten shillings;

The residue of all my goods and lands not bequeathed, my debts and funerals paid and all my legacies performed, I do give unto my well-beloved son, William Spring, who I do make my sole executor of this my last will and testament;

Item, I give and bequeath to Clement Heigham, my godson, five pounds;

Item, I give to Bridget Wright three pounds 6s 8d;

Item, I give to Dorothy Brundish, the daughter of Robert Brundish, ten shillings;

Item, I give to Dorothy Brundish, the wife of Robert Brundish, twenty shillings;

Item, I give to the rest of all my godchildren, to every of them 20d;

Item, I give to Anne Heigham, my god-daughter's daughter, three pounds six shillings 8d;

These being witnesses: Edmund Wright, Philip Barroughe, William Povey, Bridget Ashfield.

Probatum fuit suprascriptu{m} Testament{um} coram Mag{ist}ro Waltero Haddon legu{m} Doctore Curie Prerogatiue Cant{uariensis} Custode siue Commissario apud London decimo die mensis Nouembris A{n}no d{omi}ni Mill{es}imo Quingent{es}imo Sexag{es}imo Quarto Iuramento Will{el}mi Povey procur{ator}is Will{el}mi Springe executoris &c Cui commissa fuit Administracio &c De bene et fideliter &c Ac de pleno et fideli Inventario &c Necnon &c Ad sancta dei Euangelia Iurat{i}

[=The above-written testament was proved before Master Walter Haddon, Doctor of the Laws, Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, at London on the tenth day of the month of November in the year of the Lord the thousand five hundred sixty-fourth by the oath of William Povey, proctor of William Spring, executor etc., to whom administration was granted etc., sworn on the Holy Gospels to well and faithfully etc., and [+to exhibit?] a full and faithful inventory etc., and also etc.]