

Descending from HENRY BROOKE (1260 - 1339)

1st. Baron of Cobham, Kent, England



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I NTRODUCTION

Today's generation of the **BROCK FAMILY** bears a name that was brought to ENGLAND by the wave of French, German and Scandinavian immigrants from Europe that was started by the NORMAN CONQUEST of 1066.

The surname of BROCK is of OLD FRENCH and ANGLO-SAXON origin, and there are three possible derivations:

The first possible origin of the surname of **BROCK** is that it was a **NICKNAME** for someone who looked like a **BADGER**. This origin of the surname derives from the **OLD ENGLISH**, Pre-7th Century word of **"BROCC"** which can be translated to mean **"BADGER."** This nickname was used to describe both the physical characteristics of the person, but also could have been used to describe their personality. In this case, the surname of BROCK could have been used to describe someone who was "vexing" or "mischievous".



The second possible origin of the surname is from one of two OLD FRENCH words: **"BROQUE"** or **"BROCKE"**. They have different meanings: **"YOUNG STAG"** is a possible definition for both or alternatively could mean one who is **YOUNG, ENTHUSIASTIC, and full of life.**

The third possible origin of the surname of BROCK is a topographical surname derived from the OLD ENGLISH word **"BROC"** which can be translated to mean, **"BROOK"** or **"STREAM"**. Topographical surnames were used to describe someone who lived on or near a man-made or natural phenomenon found throughout the land.

V ARIATIONS of SPELLING of the BROCK Family Name:

Other common variations of the Family Name BROCK found in ENGLAND are:

BROOCK, BROCKE, BROOKE, BRAOCK, BROCKA, BROECK, BROCKI, BROUCK, BUROCK, BROCKO, and BOROCK.

RECORDS of the BROCK FAMILY in ENGLAND:

The first recorded spelling of the surname of **BROCK** was found in England in 1222. This person, was recorded under the name "**JOEL LE BROC**" in the document referred to as the **CALENDAR OF PATENT ROLLS OF ESSEX**. This document was ordered, written, and decreed under the reign of KING HENRY III, who was known as "The Frenchman" and ruled from 1216 - 1272.

Other mentions of the surname of **BROCK** found in England included **RICHARD BROCK**, who was mentioned in the **SUBSIDY ROLLS OF WORCESTERSHIRE** in the year 1275, and **DANIEL De L'ISLE BROCK** (1762-1842) who was the Bailiff of Guernsey (1821-1842) and represented the interests of the island in London.



Daniel De Lisle Brock, Bailiff of Guernsey, Channel Islands

Example: A Land grant made out to **DANIEL DE LISLE BROCK**, WILLIAM BROCK, JOHN SAVERY BROCK and IRVING BROCK (brothers of ISAAC BROCK), dated October 4, 1817.

The original document grants **DANIEL DE LISLE BROCK**, William Brock, John Savery Brock, and Irving Brock (brothers of Sir Isaac Brock) with **5,657 acres of land** in the Township of FLAMBOROUGH, County of Halton, District of Gore, Upper Canada. The grant is dated October 4, 1817.

Others who bear the surname of **BROCK** can be found in ENGLAND, in the Southwest Counties of **CORNWALL, DEVON, SOMERSET**, and the County of **GLAMORGAN** in Wales.

RECORDS of BROCK FAMILY in SCOTLAND:

Those who bear the surname of BROCK can be found in the Lower Central Region of the Country.

BROCK is English, Scottish, and North German: variant of BROOK.

BROCK is English and Scandinavian: nickname for a person supposedly resembling a badger, from Middle English brok(ke) 'badger' (Old English "brocc") and Danish "brok" (a word of Celtic origin; compare Welsh "broch", Cornish "brogh", Irish "broc").

■ The BROCK FAMILY can be traced back to HENRY BROCK and his wife MARGARET (born MARSHALL) who lived in the Town of KIRKLISTON, about 10 miles west of EDINBURGH in Scotland. HENRY was a "tenant farmer" (a step above a standard "farm labourer") who paid an Annual Fee (goods and labour) to the local EARL.

HENRY BROCK and MARGARET BROCK had at least 12-Children, many of whom emigrated to TASMANIA and VICTORIA in the early 1830s.

HENRY BROCK was probably born about 1770. MARGARET MARSHALL was baptised about 1773. Their marriage is recorded at KIRKLISTON CHURCH on 20th March 1794.

[KIRKLISTON is a Village and Parish to the west of Edinburgh, Scotland, historically within the County of West Lothian but now within the CITY OF EDINBURGH Council area limits.](#)

Biographers are uncertain when HENRY and MARGARET died, but it was obviously after their youngest child was born in 1818.



KIRKLISTON PARISH CHURCH, near Edinburgh, Scotland.

RECORDS of BROCK FAMILY in UNITED STATES:

The **EUROPEAN MIGRATION** was a movement of people from the European Countries who left their homeland in search of a better life. Many of these people went to the **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**, which at that time was referred to as **THE NEW WORLD** or **THE COLONIES**, because this new land promised the freedoms that they were so hoping for. Those who bear the surname of **BROCK** can be found in **TEXAS, GEORGIA, SOUTH CAROLINA, NEW YORK, OHIO, MISSOURI, INDIANA, KENTUCKY, ALABAMA, TENNESSEE, ILLINOIS** and **MISSOURI**.

The BROCK Family in Virginia, USA.

From the first BROCK coming to America, to the present day BROCKS now residing all over the UNITED STATES and CANADA, the family has proven to be resilient. It is believed that his wife was CHEROKEE, and that they lived part of their lives with her tribe. Their children were considered Cherokee, both Native American and European. DNA of descendant males shows their patrilineage was ASKENAZI JEWISH of Northern Europe.

AARON BROCK, born about 1721-1732, was also known as **CHIEF RED BIRD**. Since the Cherokee travelled mainly between what is now North Carolina and South Carolina, when Aaron moved into Kentucky, he was in new territory.



AARON BROCK and his Indian wife, SUSAN, lived in a Sycamore tree in Kentucky where there was bountiful hunting. Present day Kentucky has a wildlife refuge area known as Red Bird, Kentucky. However, the Indian way of life was changing. Aaron and Susan's son, JESSE BROCK, born 1751 in Cumberland County, Virginia married REBECCA HOWARD, a girl of English ancestry, and they lived among her people. JESSE served the Patriot Cause in the American Revolution, probably as a Scout, and later filed a Pension Application, stating that he was drafted into service twice and volunteered for yet a third term.

JESSE BROCK had at least two sisters, MAHALA SUSANNA BROCK (1749-1820) who married EDWARD "NED" CALLAHAN; and MARY (called POLLY) BROCK (1757-1855) who married EPHRAIM WASHINGTON OSBORN; and brothers JAMES BROCK and JOHN BROCK.

JESSE BROCK and his wife, REBECCA BROCK moved between Virginia and the Carolinas, then settling in Knox County, Kentucky by 1798, where their son AMON BROCK was a farmer, the second of 11-Children.

AMON BROCK was born 1775 in North Carolina. AMON married his first cousin, MARY (called POLLY) OSBORN (born BROCK), 1805 in Knox County, Kentucky. They lived in the part of Knox County which became Harlan County and had 10-Children. AMON BROCK received several Federal Land Grants.

When POLLY BROCK died in 1853, AMON BROCK remarried to CHARITY EMELINE TAYLOR and had 6-more children. During the Civil War, three of Amon's sons served in the Union Army; later AMON BROCK died on his way to Indiana taking his children and wife to safety with his son EPHRAIM in Indiana. His sons were nearby and buried him in Pulaski County, Kentucky.

AARON NATHANIEL BROCK (oldest son of AMON and POLLY BROCK) moved by 1843 to Clay County, Kentucky, and later was in Leslie County when lines changed. He married BARBARA SHEPHERD in 1837, carried on the family tradition of farming, and was the Father of three Brock sons, who came to WEST VIRGINIA after the Civil War, including CARLO BROCK.

CARLO BROCK, born 1852, was the first to bring the BROCK family to Wayne County, West Virginia. He married POLLY ANN JACKSON 1872 in Magoffin County, Kentucky. Their reason for moving to West Virginia is unknown, but he and his 1st Cousin JORDAN BROCK were there in their 1874 marriage.

- CARLO unfortunately died in an accident when digging a well in Wayne County, when it caved in on him about 1881, leaving his Widow, POLLY, and five children.
- CARLO BROCK'S oldest son MILLARD LEE BROCK was raised in Wayne County; his mother POLLY remarried twice and had 6-more children. MILLARD was raised in the area of Wayne County known as Lower Gragston Creek, and continued to live there after his first marriage to DICEY COMBES.

After Dicey and Millard's oldest two children, NELLIE and BERTHA, died from DIPHTHERIA, DICEY herself passed away from the same illness.

MILLARD married VINA HICKS and proceeded to have 11-more children.

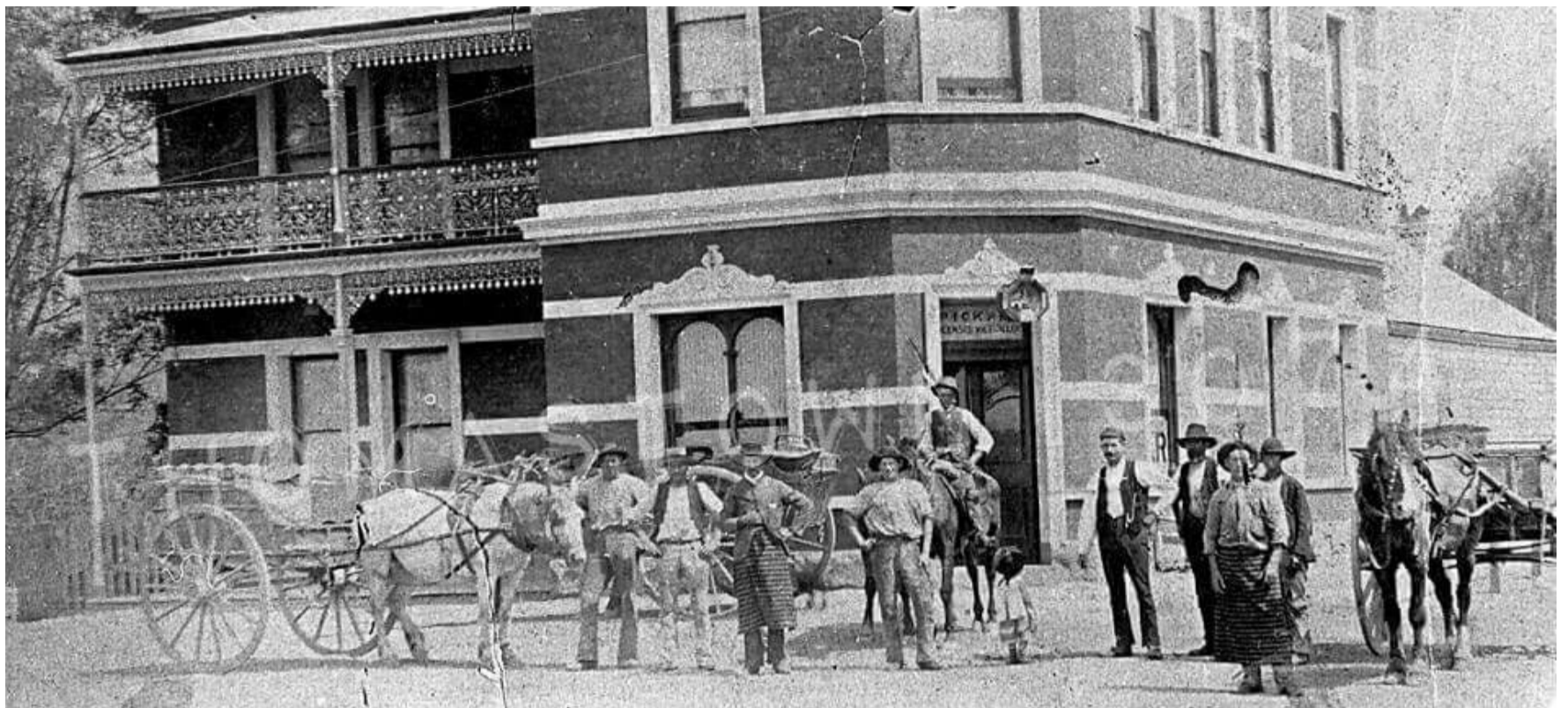
DIPHTHERIA is a serious bacterial infection that usually affects the mucous membranes of the nose and throat. Diphtheria is extremely rare in the UNITED STATES and other developed countries thanks to widespread vaccination against the disease. However, many Countries with limited health care or vaccination options still experience high rates of diphtheria.

Diphtheria can be treated with medications, but in advanced stages, diphtheria can damage the heart, kidneys and nervous system. Even with treatment, diphtheria can be deadly, especially in children.

RECORDS of BROCK FAMILY in AUSTRALIA:

The BROCK FAMILY are among the earliest Pioneers to arrive in VICTORIA with the first wave of European settlers in 1836.

The BROCKS came from SCOTLAND by way of TASMANIA. They owned land in THOMASTOWN, Bundoora (Janefield), Preston and Romsey. In THOMASTOWN their name is still remembered with ALEXANDER AVENUE and BROCK STREET both named after ALEXANDER BROCK.



Thomastown, Victoria, Australia (circa 1836)

HENRY BROCK and MARGARET MARSHALL were the parents of the Brock siblings who migrated to TASMANIA and VICTORIA. HENRY was the tenant of *Overton Farm*, Kirkliston, part of the Hopetoun Estate, and seat of the Hope family for over 300-years.

HENRY BROCK'S father was JOHN BROCK who had tenancy of the *Crown Inn*, Falkirk. He married MARY ROBERTSON in Bathgate, West Lothian, Scotland in 1751. HENRY was from a family of BROCKS who had been tenant farmers in the BATHGATE, area for at least 3-generations and possibly longer.

HENRY and MARGARET MARSHALL had a family of 14-Children though 2-died in infancy and one daughter at the age of 15-years. Of this large family, 7-Children emigrated, leaving only 2-Sons and 2-Daughters in Scotland.

A Great-Great-Granddaughter of one of the daughters wrote that those who stayed behind in Scotland had a fairly hard time, working as servants and factory workers.

The eldest son, ALEXANDER MARSHALL, took a Mill Farm named *Manuel Mill*, close to Falkirk, Stirlingshire, Scotland. He was followed there by his own son and they were later visited from Victoria by a member of JOHN BROCK'S family.

It would seem that none of HENRY MARSHALL'S sons wished to follow him into the tenancy of Overton Farm. Following the exodus of his sons and daughters to the Colonies in 1832 - 1833, Henry offered the tenancy of Overton Farm to his brother Robert's son, JOHN BROCK.

It is not known yet where old HENRY MARSHALL and MARGARET MARSHALL lived and died, but hopefully it was with one of their remaining offspring, possibly at [Manuel Mill](#).

HENRY BROCK was the 8th. child and 5th. son of HENRY BROCK and MARGARET MARSHALL, tenant farmers of "[Overton Farm](#)" in Kirkliston, West Lothian, Scotland. HENRY was born on November 10, 1806 and baptised on November 27, 1806 in Kirkliston.

HENRY traded his interest in "[Overton Farm](#)" to his cousin JOHN BROCK and at age 26-years, travelled to HOBART TOWN, Tasmania, Australia aboard the convict ship, [Minerva](#), with his sister MARION BROCK and her husband, GEORGE WILSON, the Father of her 17-month old son who was also named GEORGE WILSON.



[MINERVA](#) sailed from Cork, Ireland on January 1, 1818 and arrived at Port Jackson, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia on April 30th. She then sailed on to HOBART TOWN, Tasmania where she arrived on June 7, 1818. She had embarked 160 male convicts; 3 were left in Port Jackson and the remaining 157 were transported on to Hobart Town, where they arrived on June 7, 1818. There were no deaths aboard the vessel.

■ HISTORY of the BARONY of COBHAM, Kent, England

The title BARON COBHAM has been created numerous times in the PEERAGE OF ENGLAND; often multiple creations have existed simultaneously, especially in the 14th. Century.

The first creation of the Barony was in 1313 for HENRY De COBHAM, 1st. BARON COBHAM, Lord of the Manors of COBHAM and of COOLING both in the County of Kent. The De COBHAM family died out in the male line in 1408, with the death of the 3rd. BARON COBHAM, but the title continued via a female line to the BROOKE family, which originated near ILCHESTER in Somerset.

COOLING, (now called COWLING), is a Parish in the Hundred of Shamwell, Aylesford lathe, in the County of Kent, 3 miles from the Higham station of the North Kent line, and 6 miles north of ROCHESTER, its Post Town. It is situated near the Thames River, and a large portion of the land is marsh. This Parish was called CULLINGES by the Saxons, and belonged to DUKE EADULF; it afterwards came to the COBHAM family, who erected a Castle here in the reign of Richard II., and which was besieged in Queen Mary's reign by Sir THOMAS WYATT. The towers and walls of the Castle are still standing, although in a ruinous condition. The living is a Rectory in the diocese of Rochester, value £600, in the patronage of J. Alliston, Esq. The Church, dedicated to St. James, is a small ancient structure, with tower, and contains a double piscina, and brasses from 1508.

HENRY BROOKE (1564 - 1619), 11th. Baron Cobham, was "attainted" in 1603 for his part in a plot to overthrow KING JAMES I, and the Peerage became abeyant instead of becoming extinct. In 1916, the "attainder" was removed and the abeyance terminated in favour of the 15th. Baron. The 12th. to 14th. BARONS never actually held the title. This creation became abeyant again in 1951.

Bill of Attainder: Extinction of the Civil Rights and capacities of a person upon sentence of Death or Outlawry usually after a conviction of Treason.

The second creation was in 1324, when Sir RALPH De COBHAM was summoned to Parliament as BARON COBHAM. The history of this creation is unknown following the death of the 2nd Baron in or after 1378.

The third creation was in 1326, when Sir STEPHEN De COBHAM of Rundale, in the Parish of Shorne in Kent (adjacent to Cobham) was summoned to Parliament, again as Baron Cobham. Sir STEPHEN De COBHAM was a cousin of Henry de Cobham, 1st Baron of Cobham. This creation became abeyant no later than 1429.

The fourth creation was in 1342, when REGINALD De COBHAM was summoned to Parliament. However, this creation became extinct on the death of the 2nd. Baron in 1403.

The fifth creation was in 1645, when JOHN BROOKE was created BARON COBHAM, but this title became extinct upon his death in 1660.

There was a sixth creation in 1714, in the Peerage of Great Britain, for Sir RICHARD TEMPLE, 4th Baronet. Since he had no children, there was a seventh creation for him in 1718, when he was created BARON COBHAM again and VISCOUNT COBHAM (both titles with a special remainder), and the latter two titles are extant. He was grandson of Sir PETER TEMPLE, 2nd Baronet and his wife CHRISTIAN, daughter of Sir JOHN LEVESON and his wife FRANCES, daughter of Sir THOMAS SONDES (or SANDS) and his wife MARGARET, daughter of WILLIAM BROOKE, 10th BARON COBHAM.

■ The COBHAMS were a family of LAWYERS who worked as Circuit Judges on the Eyre and also served in Local Government in various roles such as SHERIFF of KENT and WARDEN of the CINQUE PORTS.

An EYRE is a circuit traveled by an itinerant Justice in Medieval England for the Court which he presided over.

■ HENRY De COBHAM, 1st Baron Cobham (1260–1339)

HENRY De COBHAM, (1260–1339) was the son and heir of JOHN De COBHAM and JOAN De SEPTVANS. He was summoned by Writ to Parliament in 1313, when he is deemed to have been created BARON COBHAM ("of Kent").

In 1303 or 1304 he was appointed CONSTABLE of ROCHESTER CASTLE for life; in 1314 or 1315 he was also CONSTABLE of DOVER CASTLE and WARDEN of the CINQUE PORTS.

HENRY De COBHAM married MAUD De MOREVILLE, widow of MATTHEW De COLUMBERS and a daughter of EUDES De MOREVILLE.

■ HENRY died at his daughter-in-law's home at Hatch Beauchamp in Somerset, the seat of the BEAUCHAMP family's feudal Barony of Hatch Beauchamp, and was buried in the BEAUCHAMP CHAPEL at Stoke-sub-Hamden, Somerset.



ROCHESTER CASTLE

■ JOHN De COBHAM, 2nd Baron Cobham (1285 - 1354)

JOHN De COBHAM, son and heir of the First Baron, was elected six times a MEMBER of PARLIAMENT for the County of Kent, and served jointly with his Father as CONSTABLE of ROCHESTER CASTLE.

From 1335 JOHN De COBHAM was ADMIRAL of the FLEET from the Thames westward. He married firstly JOAN BEAUCHAMP, a daughter of JOHN BEAUCHAMP, 1st Baron Beauchamp (1274–1336) of Hatch Beauchamp in Somerset; and secondly to Agnes Stone, a daughter of Richard Stone of Dartford. He was buried in Cobham Church, where survives his monumental brass, inscribed in rhyming French:

“You, who pass round this place, pray for the soul of the courteous host called John de Cobham. May God grant him entire pardon. He died the day after the feast of St Matthew and the Almighty took him to himself in the year of grace 1354 and cast down his mortal enemies”.

■ JOHN De COBHAM, 3rd Baron Cobham (1321 - 1408)

John De Cobham, 3rd Baron Cobham (died 1408), son and heir by his Father's first wife, built the nearby COOLING CASTLE on his Estate at Cooling, Kent, acquired by his ancestors in the mid-13th Century. In 1362 he founded Cobham College in the Parish Church of Cobham, a Chantry employing a College of 5-Priests. He married MARGARET COURTENAY (died 1385), a daughter of HUGH DE COURTENAY, 2nd/10th Earl of Devon (1303–1377) of Tiverton Castle in Devon.



COOLING CASTLE, Kent, built by John Cobham, 3rd Baron Cobham

In 1388 JOHN De COBHAM, 3rd. Baron Cobham was one of the LORDS APPELLANT who impeached various favourites of KING RICHARD II, including De La POLE and De VERE. In 1397 - 1398, JOHN COBHAM himself was impeached for his role as a Lord Appellant and was sentenced to Death but pardoned on condition of his exile to **JERSEY, Channel Islands**. KING HENRY IV restored the Estates and JOHN De COBHAM returned to England, where he died in 1408, at 86-years of age. He was buried in the Greyfriars, London, but his monumental brass survives in Cobham Church, next to that of his wife, inscribed in French:

"From the earth I was made and formed and into earth and to earth am I returned John of Cobham Founder of this place which was previously named. May the Holy Trinity have mercy on my soul".

- JOHN COBHAM died without male issue, leaving an only-child and (in her issue) sole heiress **JOAN De COBHAM** (died 1388), who predeceased her Father, wife of **Sir JOHN De La POLE** of Chrishall, Essex and of **ASHBY CASTLE** in Northamptonshire, a first cousin of **MICHAEL De La POLE**, 1st Earl of Suffolk.



ASHBY CASTLE, Northamptonshire, England.

The original **CASTLE**, a **MANOR HOUSE**, came about as the result of a licence obtained in 1306 by **WALTER LANGTON, BISHOP of COVENTRY**, to castellate his Mansion in the Village of Ashby. **SIR GERARD BRAYBROKE** lived at one time at Castle Ashby Manor. It is a leading example of the Elizabethan "**prodigy house**", with a Palladian section closing the front Courtyard added in the 18th Century.

The present rebuilding of **CASTLE ASHBY** was started by **HENRY COMPTON, 1st. BARON COMPTON**, in 1574 and was continued by his son **WILLIAM**, created **EARL OF NORTHAMPTON**. **QUEEN ELIZABETH I'S** first visit to the house was in 1600. Like other houses of its time, it has an E-shaped floor plan, with a deep Central Porch and flight of steps forming the centre stroke of the E. This was to celebrate the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth I. When **KING JAMES** and his Queen first stayed in 1605, the Castle was documented as "**Lord Compton's princely mansion**", and in the household records we find that employed at this time were **83 Household Servants, 4-Chaplains, 3-Musicians** and the "**Gardener of Ashby**".



■ JOAN De La POLE, *suo jure* 4th Baroness Cobham (1377 - 1434)

JOAN De La POLE, *suo jure* 4th. BARONESS COBHAM, Granddaughter and heiress of the 3rd BARON (daughter and heiress of JOAN COBHAM and Sir JOHN De La POLE).

SUO JURE is a Latin phrase, used in English to mean 'in his own right' or 'in her own right'. In most nobility-related contexts, it means 'in her own right', since in those situations the phrase is normally used of women; in practice, especially in England, a man rarely derives any style or title from his wife.

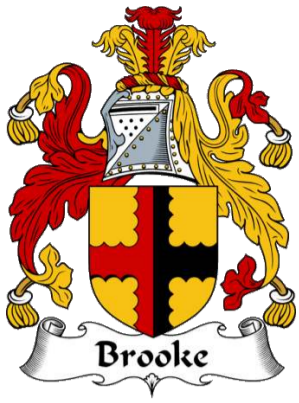
She married 5-times:

- Firstly to Sir ROBERT HEMENHALE (died 1391) of Norfolk, buried in Westminster Abbey;
- Secondly to Sir REYNOLD (REGINALD) BRAYBROKE who died on the Continent in 1405, and was buried in Cobham Church, where survives his monumental brass;
- Thirdly she married Sir NICHOLAS HAWBERK (died 1407), who was buried in Cobham Church, where survives his monumental brass;
- Fourthly she married Sir JOHN OLDCASTLE, *jure uxoris* Baron Cobham, 1st BARON OLDCASTLE (died 1417), who was hanged as a heretic and traitor.
- Fifthly she married Sir JOHN HARPENDEN (died 1458) who survived her by 24-years and was buried in Westminster Abbey, where survives his monumental brass.

JURE UXORIS describes a title of nobility used by a man because his wife holds the office or title *suo jure*. Similarly, the husband of an heiress could become the legal possessor of her lands.

- JOAN De La POLE died in 1434 and was buried in Cobham Church, where survives her monumental brass, commemorating also her second husband Sir REYNOLD (REGINALD) BRAYBROKE, and her 6-sons and 4-daughters, with 6 Coats of Arms (including one of Brooke).

She died without surviving male issue when her heir became her only surviving daughter JOAN BRAYBROKE, the wife of Sir THOMAS BROOKE (died 1439) in Holditch, Devon, England.



■ JOAN BROOKE, *suo jure* 5th Baroness Cobham (1392 - 1442)

JOAN BROOKE, *suo jure* 5th. BARONESS COBHAM (1392 - 1442), was the 4th. Baroness's daughter by her second husband Sir REGINALD BRAYBROOKE. She married Sir THOMAS BROOKE (1391-1439), who died at Holditch in the Parish of Thorncombe, Devon.

SUO JURE is a Latin phrase, used in English to mean 'in his own right' or 'in her own right'. In most nobility-related contexts, it means 'in her own right', since in those situations the phrase is normally used of women; in practice, especially in England, a man rarely derives any style or title from his wife.

The BROOKE family (anciently named "De La Brook" or "Of-the-Brook") originated at the Estate of "la Brook" near ILCHESTER in Somerset, and later resided at HOLDITCH in the Parish of Thorncombe and at WEYCROFT in the Parish of Axminster, both in Devon, both fortified Manor Houses. Following their inheritance the BROOKE family moved to COBHAM HALL in KENT.

The Town of ILCHESTER, South Somerset District, is in the Administrative and Historic County of Somerset, in southwestern England. It lies along the RIVER YEO.

ILCHESTER was known as "LINDINIS" under Roman rule and was the northern Tribal Capital of the DUROTRIGES, an early BRITISH people. A Royal Mint was established there in the 10th Century and remained in operation until Henry II's reign (1154–1189). The Town's Royal Charter dates from the 12th Century. From the 14th. to the 19th. Century ILCHESTER was the County Town (seat) of Somerset.

Of the Medieval Town's 7-Parish Churches, only St. MARY MAJOR remains.



Church of St. MARY MAJOR



Lord EDWARD BROOKE (1411 - 1484)

6th Baron of Cobham and Knight Banneret, Kent, England.



■ Lord EDWARD BROOKE was born in 1411 in Brooke Estate, Heleigh, Brooke, Staffordshire, England. He was the youngest son of Lord **THOMAS BROOKE** (1391 - 1439), 5th. Baron of Cobham and **Lady JOAN BROOKE (born BRAYBROOKE)** (1392 - 1442) of Cooling Castle, Kent, England. Lady JOAN was the daughter of Sir REYNOLD BRAYBROOKE, of Cooling Castle, Kent.

■ Lord EDWARD BROOKE'S Grandparents were Lord THOMAS BROOKE (1420 - 1464), 4th. Baron of Cobham and his wife, JOAN BROOKE (born HANAP), (1420 - 1464) .

■ In 1447, 36-year old **Lord EDWARD BROOKE** married 24-year old **Lady ELIZABETH BROOKE (born TOUCHET)** (1423 - 1464) in Hadleigh, Essex, England.

Lady ELIZABETH was the daughter of Lord JAMES TOUCHET VAN AUDLEY (1397 - 1459) of Derby, Derbyshire and his wife, Lady ELEANOR TOUCHET Van AUDLEY (born HOLLAND) (1410 - 1447) of Hadleigh Castle, Essex, England.



HADLEIGH CASTLE is a ruined fortification in the English County of Essex, overlooking the Thames Estuary from south of the Town of Hadleigh. Built after 1215 during the reign of Henry III by HUBERT De BURGH, the Castle was surrounded by parkland and had an important economic and defensive role. The Castle was significantly expanded and remodelled by Edward III, who turned it into a grander property, designed to defend against a potential FRENCH attack, as well as to provide the King with a convenient Private Residence close to London. Built on a soft hill of London clay, the Castle has often been subject to subsidence; this, combined with the sale of its stonework in the 16th Century, has led to it now being in ruins. The remains are now preserved by **ENGLISH HERITAGE** and protected under U.K. law as a Grade I listed building and Scheduled Monument.

Lord EDWARD BROOKE, 6th. Baron Cobham (1411-1484) and Lady ELIZABETH BROOKE (born TOUCHET) (1422-1464) had 8-Children (3-Sons & 5-Daughters):

1. Sir JOHN JAMES BASKERVILLE BROOKE (1430-1499) born in Eardisley Castle, Kington, Herefordshire, England; **Died @ 69-years old. (Sine Prole)**

2. JOAN ELYE SMYTHE (born BROOKE) (1432 - 1460) born in Utterby, Lincolnshire, England.

Married (1) WILLIAM SMYTHE (1412-1472) They had NO Children;

Married (2) JOHN DE ELYE (1430-1466); They had 1-Son, THOMAS DE ELYE (1460-1543)

He married LADY ANNE LE STRANGE (1462-1520), They had 1-Son, RICHARD DE ELYE SMYTH (1490-1533);

JOAN ELYE SMYTHE died @ 28-years old;

3. ALICE BROOKE (born De Neville) (1434-1470) born in Raby Castle, Durham, England; **UNMARRIED?**
ALICE died @ 36-years old;



4. JOHN BROOKE (7th. Baron Cobham) (1442 - 1512) born in Cobham Hall, Cowling, Kent;

- **SEE NEXT CHAPTER: (JOHN BROOKE, 7th. BARON COBHAM)**
- **JOHN BROOKE (7th. BARON COBHAM) died in 1512 @ 65-years old.**

5. ISABELLA BROOKE (1444-1460). **Died @ age 16-years old in Cobham, Kent.**

6. ELIZABETH BROOKE (1448-1525) born in Cobham, Kent; **Married Robert Tanfield; They had 1-Son, Robert Tanfield (1461-1505). ELIZABETH TANFIELD died @ age 77-years in Cobham, Kent.**

7. MARY ASHTON (born Brooke) (1451-1525) born Cobham Hall, Cowling, Kent; **Married NICHOLAS ASHTON (1419-1465); They had NO CHILDREN; Nicholas died @ 46-years old; Mary died @ 74-years old;**

8. Lord FRANCIS THOMAS BROOKE (1465-1529) born in Cobham Hall, Cowling near Rochester, Kent; **Married DOROTHY HEYDON (1470-1560); They had 1-Child (1-Daughter, Lady Elizabeth De Vere Brooke (1500-1542); Lord THOMAS died @ 64-years old in Cobham, Cowling, near Rochester, Kent;**



Lord JOHN BROOKE (1447 - 1512)

7th Baron of Cobham, Kent, England and Knight Banneret.



■ Lord JOHN BROOKE, 7th Baron of Cobham, was born on December 10, 1447 in Cobham Hall, Cowling, near Rochester, Kent, England. He was the 2nd. eldest son of Lord EDWARD BROOKE (1411 - 1484), 6th. Baron of Cobham and Lady ELIZABETH BROOKE (born TOUCHET) (1433 - 1464) of Hadleigh, Somerset, England. Lady ELIZABETH was the daughter of Lord JAMES TOUCHET (1397-1459), 5th. Baron Audley, and Lady ELEANOR TOUCHET (born HOLLAND) (1410-1447).

JOHN BROOKE, 7th Baron Cobham, was a 17-year old minor at the death of his Father in 1464 when his *wardship* was granted to EDWARD NEVILLE, 3rd Baron ABERGAVENNY (died 1476), of nearby MEREWORTH CASTLE, Kent, an Uncle of King Edward IV. (*Wardship: a situation in which a person, usually a child, is legally put under the care of a court or a guardian.*)

■ Lord JOHN BROOKE'S Grandparents were Lord JOHN BROOKE (1420 - 1464), 5th. BARON COBHAM and his wife, ELIZABETH BROOKE (born TOUCHET), (1420 - 1464) .

■ Lord JOHN BROOKE (1447 - 1512), 7th. BARON COBHAM, married three (3) times:

- Married (1) in 1464 to MARGARET De NEVILLE (1448 - 1506);

Had 3-Sons: THOMAS BROOKE (8th. BARON COBHAM) (1465-1529);

JOHN BROOKE (1475-xxxx);

ROBERT BROOKE (1495-1551);

Also had 1-Daughter: CATHERINE BROOKE (1469-1497);

- Married (2) to ELEANOR BROOKE (born Austell) (1448 - 1471);

Had 9-Children: (4-Sons & 5-Daughters);

- Married (3) to ISABELL BROOKE (born WAKE) (1454 - 1483); died @ 29-years old.

- Married (4) to JOAN BROOKE (born HAUGHAM)

■ In 1464, 17-year old Lord JOHN BROOKE, 7th. BARON COBHAM (1447-1512) married 16-year old MARGARET De NEVILLE (1448 - 1506) in Ash, Kent, England. MARGARET De NEVILLE was the daughter of EDWARD De NEVILLE (1417 - 1476), of Ash, Kent, England and his wife, ELIZABETH De BEAUCHAMP (1417 - 1448) of Hanley Castle, Worcestershire, England.

■ Lord JOHN BROOKE, (1447 - 1512), 7th. BARON COBHAM and MARGARET De NEVILLE (1448-1506) had 8-Children (4-Sons & 4-Daughters):

1. GEORGE BROOKE (1469 - 1529), 9th. BARON COBHAM, born in Cobham Hall, Cowling, Kent, England; (See next Chapter for his details)
2. KATHERINE BROOKE (1469-1497), born in Woodhouse, Yorkshire, England; Married JOHN HANSON (1467-1514) in circa. 1492; They had 1-Son, JOHN, born in Woodhouse, Leicestershire, England in 1493.

WOODHOUSE, often known to locals as Old Woodhouse, is a small Village and Civil Parish in the heart of Charnwood, England. The population of the Civil Parish at the 2011 census was 2,319, including around 300 term-time boarders at the DEFENCE COLLEGE. The Parish includes the larger Village of WOODHOUSE EAVES.

KATHERINE BROOKE died in Elland, West Yorkshire, England in 1497 @ the young age of 28-years.

3. JOHN BROCK (NOTE: not BROOKE) (1470-1582) born in Ash, Kent, England. In 1521 he married Lady AGNES JOSSELYN (1499-1558), daughter of RALPH JOSSELYN (1464-1525) of Gatesbury Manor, Great Canfield, Uttlesford, Essex and MARY ELIZABETH CORNISH (1480-1558). They had 1-Son, RALPH JOSSELYN (1503-1546)
4. EDWARD HUNGERFORD BROOKE (1473-1564) born in Cobham, Cowling Near Rochester, Kent; Died @ 91-years old;
5. FAITH BROOKE (1473-1535) born in Cobham, Cowling Near Rochester, Kent; Died @ 62-years old;
6. MARY ELEANOR BLAGGE (born BROOKE) (1475-1535); born in Cobham, Cowling Near Rochester, Kent; Married ROBERT BLAGGE; Had 1-Son George Blagge; Mary Died in Abergavenny, Monmouthshire, Wales @ age 58-years old;
7. DOROTHY BROOKE (1477 - 1535); born in Cobham, Cowling Near Rochester, Kent; Died @ 62-years old;
8. ALICE JOSSELYN (born BROOKE) (1478 - 1526); born in Cobham, Cowling Near Rochester, Kent; Married Phillip Josselyn and Edward Blount; Died @ 48-years old;
9. ROBERT BROOKE (1495-1551) born in London, Middlesex, England; Died in Navy, Lincolnshire @ 56-years old;

■ In 1467, 20-year old Lord JOHN BROOKE (1447-1512) married 19-year old ELEANOR AUSTELL (1448-1532) in Cobham, Kent, England;

■ Lord JOHN BROOKE (1447 - 1512) and ELEANOR AUSTELL (1448-1532) had 4-Children (3-Sons & 1-Daughter):

1. GEORGE BROOKE (1469-1529) 9th. Baron Cobham; born at Cobham, Cowling, Kent; Died in Cobham, Kent, Eng.
2. RICHARD BROOKE (1471-1529). Born in Cobham Hall, Cowling, near Rochester, Kent, England. Died @ 58-Years.
3. ALELYE BROOKE (1472-1535) born in Cobham, Cowling Near Rochester, Kent; Died in Abergavenny, Monmouthshire, Wales @ 63-years old;

■ On March 9, 1512, Lord JOHN BROOKE died at the age of 65-years and was buried on July 24, 1529 in Collegiate Churchyard, Cobham, Kent, England. In 1532, ELEANOR BROOKE (born AUSTELL) died at the age of 65-years and was buried on July 24, 1529 in Collegiate Churchyard, Cobham, Kent, England.



Lord THOMAS BROOKE (1465 - 1529)

8th Baron of Cobham, Kent, England and Knight Banneret.



■ Lord THOMAS BROOKE (aka BROKE) was born on December 10, 1465 in Cobham Hall, Cowling, near Rochester, Kent, England. He was the eldest son of Lord **JOHN BROOKE** (1447 - 1512), 7th. Baron of Cobham and **Lady MARGARET BROOKE (born NEVILLE)** (1448 - 1506) of Raby Castle, Durham, England. Lady MARGARET was the daughter of Lord EDWARD NEVILLE, (1407 - 1476) Baron of Abergavenny and Army Commissioner of Array in Kent for KING EDWARD IV.

■ Lord THOMAS BROOKE was the Grandson of Lord EDWARD BROOKE (1420 - 1464), 6th. Baron of Cobham and his wife, ELIZABETH BROOKE (born TOUCHET), (1420 - 1464) .

■ THOMAS BROOKE, 8th. Baron Cobham, son and heir by his Father's second wife MARGARET NEVILLE. He fought at the SIEGE of TOURNAI and at the BATTLE of the SPURS in 1513, and in 1520 was one of the Kent Contingent accompanying King Henry VIII to the FIELD OF CLOTH OF GOLD. In 1521 he was one of the 12 Barons who tried the DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM.

■ THOMAS BROOKE married 3-times: Firstly to DOROTHY HEYDON, a daughter of Sir HENRY HEYDON (1450 - 1504) of Baconsthorpe, Norfolk (by his wife ANNE BOLEYN, a daughter of Sir GEOFFREY BOLEYN, great-grandfather of QUEEN ANNE BOLEYN), by whom he had 13-Children; secondly he married DOROTHY SOUTHWELL, a widow, without issue; thirdly he married ELIZABETH HART, without issue. He was buried in Cobham Church, where survives his monumental brass.

■ In 1490, 25-year old Lord THOMAS BROOKE (1465-1529) married 25-year old Lady DOROTHY HEYDON (aka DOROTHEA) (1465 - 1566) in Cobham, Kent, England.

Lady DOROTHY was the daughter of Sir HENRY HEYDON (1440 - 1504), BARON of BACONSTHORPE and his wife, Lady ANNE ELIZABETH HEYDON (born BOLEYN) (1440 - 1500) of Norfolk, England.

[BACONSTHORPE](#) is a village and civil parish in the North Norfolk district of the English County of Norfolk. It is 4 miles (6.4 km) south-east of Holt, 5 miles (8.0 km) south of Sheringham and 20 miles (32 km) north of Norwich.

■ Lord THOMAS BROOKE (1465-1529) and Lady DOROTHY HEYDON (1470 - 1566) had 14-Children (8-Sons & 6-Daughters):

1. ROBERT BROOKE (1495 - 1551) born in the City of London, England. He was a Merchant Tailor & Leather seller. Married in 1519 to KATHERYN BURLEY BROOKE (born WELD) (1501 - 1566).

They had 6-Children (2-Sons & 4-Daughters): Frances Clarke (1521-1581), Margaret Hartinge (1523-1579), Isabell Wilson (1532-1586), Humphrey Brooke (1535-1549), John Brooke (1540-1584), Katheryn Brooke (1566-1654).

Died June, 1551 at Age 56-Years in Eastcheap, London, England. Buried in St. Benet Gracechurch with St. Leonard, Eastcheap, Middlesex, England.

2. **Lord GEORGE BROOKE (1497 - 1558) 9th. Baron Cobham;** born at Cobham Hall, Cowling, Kent;
 - In 1517, 20-year old GEORGE BROOKE (1497 - 1558) married 16-year old Lady ANNE BRAYE (1501 - 1558) in Cobham Hall, Kent. George & Anne had 7-Children (3-Sons & 4-Daughters): Dorothy Brooke (1518); Anne Weldon (1523); Elizabeth Parr (1526); Catherine Jernigan (1527); William Brook (1527);
 - In 1530, 33-year old Lord GEORGE BROOKE (1497-1558) married 20-year old SUSAN CRANMER (1510-1550) in Cobham Hall, Kent, England. George & Susan had 3-Children: Mary Dorothy Brooke (1525-1535), Esther (between 1525 and 1530).

In 1558, **GEORGE BROOKE (1497 - 1558)** died in Cobham Hall, Cowling, Kent, England at the age of 61-years.
3. Lady ELIZABETH WYATT (born BROOKE) (1503 - 1560) born in Cobham Hall, Cowling, near Rochester, Kent. Married in 1520 to Sir THOMAS (aka "The Traitor") WYATT (1503-1542). He was **EXECUTED** in 1542 for leading a revolt against Queen Mary I, called **WYATT'S REBELLION or WYATT'S REVOLT**, then ELIZABETH WYATT married Sir EDWARD WARNER (1511 - 1565) of Polstead Hall, Plumstead, Norfolk. Sir Edward was also LORD LIEUTENANT of the TOWER OF LONDON.

ELIZABETH WYATT (born BROOKE) died of natural causes on August 20, 1560, at the age of 57-years, and she was buried in the grounds of the Tower of London, Middlesex, England.
4. WILLIAM BROOKE (aka BROCK?) (1527 - 1596) born in Cobham Hall, Cowling, Kent. Married, and died "sine prole" (childless). **Died in 1596 @ age 69-years in Colchester, Essex, England.**
5. PHILIPPA BROOKE (1510 - 1513) born in Cowling, Kent. **Died Young @ 3-years old.**
6. THOMAS BROOKE (1505 - 1547) born in Canterbury, Kent, England; Married JUDITH HIRST; They had 1-Daughter, Katherine Hanson (born Brooke); **Thomas died in 1547 @ age 42-years in Canterbury, Kent, England.**
7. Lady MAGDALINE ROGERS (born Brooke) (1507-1579) Mistress of the Wardrobe, Lady in Waiting to ANNE BOLEYN; Born in Ash, Kent; Married Thomas Rogers; **Magdaline died @ age 72-years in London, England.**
8. HENRY BROOKE (1508-1591) born in Cobham, Cowling near Rochester, Kent, England;
9. FAYTH HEYDON (born BROOKE) (1509-1542) born in Cobham Hall, Cowling near Rochester, Kent, England; **Died in Boxley, Kent, England at age 33-years.**
10. FRANCES BROOKE (1521-1581) born in London, England; **Died in London, England at age 60-years;**
11. JOHN BROOKE (or BROCK?) (1528 - 1584) born in Cobham Hall, Cowling near Rochester, Kent. Married ELIZABETH WHATMAN (xxxx-1599). They had 2-Children, William Brooke (1556-1592) and Joane Brooke (1559-1608). **John died in 1584 in London, Middlesex, England at the age of 56-years.**
12. Sir RICHARD LEWIS BROOKE (1525-1594) born in Whitchurch, Basingstoke, Hampshire, England. Married in 1552 to Elizabeth Twynne (1540 - 1599).
13. ISABELL BROOKE (1532-1586) born in Eastcheap, London, England. Married JOHN WILSON (1528-1573); **Died in London, England @ age 54-years.** They had 8-Children (7-Sons & 1-Daughter) - **3-children Died Young.**
14. ANDREW BROOKE (1538-1549) **Died Young @ 11-Years old.**

- In August 27, 1566, Lady DOROTHY BROOKE (born HEYDON) died at the age of 96-years in Cobham, Kent and was buried in the Tower of London, Middlesex, England.
- In July 19, 1529, Lord THOMAS BROOKE died at the age of 59-years in Cobham, Kent and was buried in the London, Middlesex, England.



Lord GEORGE BROOKE, KG (1497 - 1558)

9th Baron of Cobham, Kent, England.



■ Lord GEORGE BROOKE was born in 1497 in Cobham Hall, Cowling, near Rochester, Kent, England. He was the second son of Lord THOMAS BROOKE (1465 - 1529), 8th. Baron of Cobham and Lady DOROTHY BROOKE (born HEYDON) (1465 - 1560) of Baconsthorpe, Norfolk, England. Lady DOROTHY was the daughter of Sir HENRY HEYDON, (1440 - 1504) Knight of Baconsthorpe.



GEORGE BROOKE, 9th. Baron Cobham.

■ Lord GEORGE BROOKE'S Grandparents were Lord John BROOKE (1447 - 1512), 7th. Baron of Cobham and his wife, Lady MARGARET BROOKE (born De NEVILLE), (1455 - 1506) .

■ In 1526, 29-year old Lord GEORGE BROOKE (1497-1558) married 25-year old Lady ANNE BRAYE (1501 - 1558) in Cobham, Kent, England.

Lady ANNE BRAYE was the daughter of Baron JOHN BRAYE (1484 - 1539) and his wife, Lady JANE BRAYE (born Halliwell) (1486 - 1558) of Eaton Bray, Bedfordshire, England.

[EATON BRAY](#) is a Village and Civil Parish in Bedfordshire, England. It is situated about three miles south-west of the Town of DUNSTABLE and is part of a semi-rural area which extends into the Parish of Edlesborough.

■ Lord GEORGE BROOKE (1497-1558) and Lady ANNE BRAYE (1501-1558) had 13-Children (9-Sons & 4-Daughters):

1. DOROTHY BROOKE (1518-1535) born in Cobham Hall, Kent;
Died in Abergavenny, Monmouthshire, England @ the young Age of 17-Years.
2. THOMAS BROOKE, MP (1521 - 1578) born in Cobham Hall, Kent; **Married 16-year old Joane Wilson (1548 - xxxx) in 1564. They had a Son, Edward Brooke (1564-xxxx).**
3. ANNE BROOKE (1523 - 1581) born in Swanscombe and Greenhithe, Kent; **Married ANTHONY WELDON (1518 - 1573) in 1544 in Swanscombe, Kent, England. They had 3-Sons: Colonel Thomas (1535-1594); Sir Ralph (1545-1609); Anthony (1548-1613). Died in Swanscombe, Kent @ Age of 58-Years.**

4. ELIZABETH BROOKE (1526 -1592) Marchioness of Northampton; Married WILLIAM PARR, (1513-1571) Marquess of Northampton & Baron of Kendal... Died in Cripplegate Tower of London @ Age 65-Years.
5. CATHERINE BROOKE (1526 - 1565) born in Cobham Hall, Kent; Married in 1559 to JOHN JERNEGAN (1535 - 1592) of Somerleyton, Yarmouth, Suffolk, England; JOHN & CATHERINE had 5-Children (1-Son & 4-Daughters): THOMAS (1542), ELIZABETH (1546), CATHERINE (1549), MARGARET (1553) and FRANCES (1562). CATHERINE BROOKE died in St. Giles, Cripplegate, Tower of London on April 2, 1565 @ 39-years old.
6. WILLIAM BROOKE (1527-1596) 10th. BARON COBHAM born in Cobham Hall, Kent; Married in 1560 at Westminster Palace, London, England to FRANCES NEWTON, Daughter of Sir JOHN NEWTON & Lady MARGARET POYNTZ.
7. GEORGE HENRY BROOKE (January 1533 - 1570) born in Cobham Hall, Kent; Married 1st Wife UNKNOWN, had daughter, Joan Barrett (1569-1597); 2nd. Wife, Christina Brooke (born Duke) (1535-1609); had 2-Sons; Peter Brooke & Unknown;
8. EDWARD BROOKE (1535 - 1578) born in Cobham Hall, Kent; Died Sine Prole in Heckington, Lincolnshire, England;
9. JOHN RICHARD BROOKE M.P. (1535 - 1594) born in Cobham Hall, Kent; Died Sine Prole in St. Leonards, Eastcheap, London, England @ 54-years old.
10. HENRY BROOKE M.P. & P.C. (1538 - 1592) born in Cobham Hall, Kent; Married ANNE BROOKE (born SUTTON HADDON); Died in Heckington, Lincolnshire, England;
11. EDMUND BROOKE (1540 - 1578) born in Cobham Hall, Kent; Died Sine Prole in Cobham, Kent, England.
12. MICHAEL BROOKE (1542 - xxxx) born in Hothersfield, York, Yorkshire, England; Son of LORD GEORGE
13. BROOKE (9th. Baron Cobham); Unmarried, no Children; Died Sine Prole in York, Yorkshire.



Cobham College

- In 1530, 33-year old **Lord GEORGE BROOKE** (1497-1558) married 20-year old **SUSAN CRANMER** (1510 - 1550) in Cobham Hall, Kent, England.
- SUSAN was the daughter of Baron JOHN BRAYE (1484 - 1539) and his wife, Lady JANE BRAYE (born Halliwell) (1486 - 1558) of Eaton Braye, Bedfordshire, England.
- GEORGE BROOKE, 9th. BARON COBHAM, was the eldest surviving son by his Father's first Wife, DOROTHY HEYDON. In 1536 he was one of the 27-Peers who sat in judgement on ANNE BOLEYN, the 2nd. Wife of KING HENRY VIII. He served as DEPUTY of CALAIS, a personal possession of the King, under the young KING EDWARD VI, who appointed him a Knight of the Garter in 1549.

During the *Dissolution of the Monasteries* **Baron GEORGE BROOKE** received large grants of former Monastic Lands, including of **COBHAM COLLEGE** founded in the Parish Church by his Ancestor. He was one of the 4-Lay Peers at the trial of EDWARD SEYMOUR, 1st. DUKE OF SOMERSET (died 1552), LORD PROTECTOR of ENGLAND, and was one of 26-Peers who signed *letters patent* settling the Crown of England on **LADY JANE GREY**, but he later recognized the claim of QUEEN MARY I.



COBHAM COLLEGE

In 1554 **Baron GEORGE BROOKE** was besieged in COOLING CASTLE by his nephew **Sir THOMAS WYATT** during his "**Wyatt's Rebellion**" against the Catholic QUEEN MARY'S engagement to KING PHILIP II of SPAIN and in support of placing her sister, the Protestant QUEEN ELIZABETH on the Throne. Vastly outnumbered, GEORGE BROOKE surrendered after 8-hours of siege and the bombardment badly damaged the Castle.

BROOKE and his son were briefly imprisoned in the TOWER OF LONDON on suspicion of having deliberately failed to defend the Castle. On November 23, 1555 he entertained at Cooling Castle, CARDINAL REGINALD POLE, recently landed at Dover and on his way, via CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL and ROCHESTER CASTLE, with a following of 500 horsemen, to Gravesend and thence by barge to the PALACE OF WHITEHALL to meet QUEEN MARY I and to re-establish the ROMAN CATHOLIC faith in England. Pole would later be responsible for many Protestant martyrdoms.

■ **BROOKE'S MAGNIFICENT CHEST TOMB** and alabaster effigy, with that of his wife **ANN BRAYE** (died 1558), one of the two daughters and co-heiresses of EDMUND BRAYE, 1st. BARON BRAYE, by whom he had 10-sons and 4-Daughters, survives in COBHAM CHURCH before the high altar.



CHEST TOMB MONUMENT and effigies of Lord GEORGE BROOKE, 9th Baron Cobham, and his wife ANNE BRAY, at St. Mary Magdalene's Church, Cobham. Their 14-Children are shown as mourners kneeling on the base.



Lord WILLIAM BROOKE (1527 - 1597)

10th Baron of Cobham, Kent, England.



LORD WILLIAM BROOKE, 10th BARON COBHAM, KG, Lord of the Manor of Cobham, Kent, was **LORD WARDEN OF THE CINQUE PORTS**, and a **MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT** for Hythe. Although he was viewed by some as a religious radical during the **SOMERSET PROTECTORATE**, he entertained **QUEEN ELIZABETH I** of England at Cobham Hall in 1559, signalling his acceptance of the moderate Regime.



BIOGRAPHY

Lord WILLIAM BROOKE was the son of **GEORGE BROOKE, 9th. BARON COBHAM** (died September 29, 1558), and **ANNE BRAYE** (died November 1, 1558).

Before 1544, **BROOKE** attended **THE KING'S SCHOOL, CANTERBURY** and **QUEENS' COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE**. He spent much of his younger life in Europe. In the early 1540s, he visited **PADUA, Italy**.

PADUA is a City in Northern Italy's Veneto region. It's known for the frescoes by Giotto in its Scrovegni Chapel from 1303–1305 and the vast 13th-Century Basilica of St. Anthony. The Basilica, with its Byzantine-style domes and notable artworks, contains the namesake Saint's tomb. In Padua's Old Town are arcaded streets and stylish cafes frequented by students of the University of Padua, established in 1222.

By 1545, **WILLIAM BROOKE** married **DOROTHY NEVILLE**, daughter of George Neville, 5th. Baron Abergavenny, but the marriage was unhappy, and they later separated after 1553. At the end of the decade, he served in northern France, where his father was in charge of **CALAIS**, and in 1549, he accompanied **WILLIAM PAGET'S** embassy to Brussels.

Like his father, WILLIAM BROOKE sympathized with the anti-Marian nobles; he sided with the rebels during WYATT'S REBELLION, and the intervention of his brother-in-law, HENRY NEVILL, 6th. Baron Abergavenny, was needed to keep him from prison. In 1555, he served as MP for Rochester.

In the late 1550s, BROOKE'S opportunities expanded in a number of areas. His father died in 1558, when he was just over 30-years old, and he succeeded him as BARON COBHAM. Soon after, in 1558, his wife DOROTHY died, and on February 25, 1559 at Whitehall, he married 20-year old FRANCES NEWTON (1539-1592) the daughter of Sir John Newton of Barr's Court, Gloucestershire.

WILLIAM BROOKE then became LORD WARDEN OF THE CINQUE PORTS, a position in which he wielded great power over a large number of seats in Parliament. Most importantly, the accession of QUEEN ELIZABETH I, and his close friendship with WILLIAM CECIL, 1st Baron Burghley, made him a powerful noble.

The LORD WARDEN OF THE CINQUE PORTS is a ceremonial official in the United Kingdom. The post dates from at least the 12th century, when the title was Keeper of the Coast, but may be older. The Lord Warden was originally in charge of the Cinque Ports, a group of five (*cinque* in Norman French) port towns on the southeast coast of England that was formed to collectively supply ships for the CROWN in the absence at the time of a formal Navy. Today the role is a sinecure and an honorary title, and fourteen towns belong to the Cinque Ports confederation. The title is one of the higher honours bestowed by the Sovereign; it has often been held by members of the Royal Family or Prime Ministers, especially those who have been influential in defending Britain at times of war.

When QUEEN MARY I of England had died, it was QUEEN ELIZABETH who had assigned him to inform Queen Mary's husband, PHILIP II OF SPAIN, of her death. This embassy was only the first in a long series of missions and intrigues. Along with WILLIAM CECIL, he numbered among his friends several nobles, such as the DUKE OF NORFOLK and the EARL OF ARUNDEL, whose loyalty to QUEEN ELIZABETH was far from certain.

WILLIAM BROOKE suffered some months' HOUSE IMPRISONMENT as a result of a very tangential role in the RIDOLFI PLOT.

The RIDOLFI PLOT was a Catholic plot in 1571 to overthrow Queen Elizabeth I of England and replace her with Mary, Queen of Scots. The plot was hatched and planned by Roberto Ridolfi, an international banker who was able to travel between Brussels, Rome and Madrid to gather support without attracting too much suspicion.

In 1578, he joined FRANCIS WALSINGHAM'S failed Mission to the Low Countries; on this mission, he presumably served as WILLIAM CECIL'S agent. In the late 1580s, he helped JOHN WHITGIFT search for the author of the Martin Marprelate tracts.

The Martin Marprelate tracts are a series of six pamphlets and a broadsheet printed on a secret press between October 1588 and September 1589 and distributed with the help of well organized 'PURITAN' social networks. They attack the Elizabethan Church, particularly Church government by Bishops (hence the pseudonym, Mar-prelate), and argue on behalf of an alternative PRESBYTERIAN system.

WILLIAM BROOKE was made a KNIGHT OF THE GARTER on April 14, 1585, and appointed to the PRIVY COUNCIL by February 12, 1586. He was involved in a minor capacity in the events that ended with the death of MARY, QUEEN OF SCOTS. During the ARMADA crisis, he was on a Diplomatic Mission to ALEXANDER FARNESE, DUKE OF PARMA. In 1589, his eldest daughter ELIZABETH BROOKE married William Cecil's youngest son, Robert Cecil, who would later be made the Earl of Salisbury. By the early 1590s, BROOKE had assumed a less active role in Government. In 1592, BROOKE'S second wife FRANCES died.

He succeeded BARON HUNSDON, as LORD CHAMBERLAIN in August 1596, and held the office briefly until his death on March 6, 1597.

During his time, WILLIAM BROOKE built COBHAM HALL, a Tudor style mansion that remained in his family until the mid-17th Century.



MARRIAGES AND CHILDREN

WILLIAM BROOKE married firstly **DOROTHY NEVILLE** (died 22 September 1559), daughter of **GEORGE NEVILLE**, 5th Baron Abergavenny, by his third wife, **LADY MARY STAFFORD**, daughter of **EDWARD STAFFORD**, 3rd Duke of Buckingham. Through her father, **DOROTHY NEVILLE** was the second-cousin of William's father, **GEORGE BROOKE**, 9th. Baron Cobham.

By his first wife **DOROTHY**, he had a daughter, **FRANCES BROOKE** (b.1549), who married first **THOMAS COPPINGER** (1546–1580), and second, **EDWARD BECHER** (born circa 1545).

He married secondly **FRANCES NEWTON**, daughter of **SIR JOHN NEWTON** and **MARGARET POYNTZ**.

By his second wife **FRANCES NEWTON**, he had 7-Children (4-Sons and 3-Daughters):

1. Sir **MAXIMILIAN BROOKE** (December 4, 1560 – July 1583), eldest son and heir, who pre-deceased his father, and **died without issue.**
2. **HENRY BROOKE**, 11th **BARON COBHAM** (1564 – 1619), who married Lady **FRANCES HOWARD** (1566 – 1628), daughter of **CHARLES HOWARD**, 1st Earl of Nottingham, widow of **HENRY FITZGERALD**, Earl of Kildare, **by whom he had no issue.**
3. Sir **WILLIAM BROOKE** MP. (December 11, 1565 – 1597). **Killed in duel.**

4. Sir GEORGE BROOKE (April 17, 1568 – December 5, 1603), who married his first wife, ELIZABETH BURGH (she died circa 1637), the eldest daughter and co-heir of THOMAS BURGH, 3rd Baron Burgh (died October 14, 1597) by whom he had a Son, WILLIAM BROOKE (1601–1643), and 2-Daughters, ELIZABETH BROOKE and FRANCES BROOKE.

Sir GEORGE BROOKE was executed for plotting against King James I in 1603.

5. ELIZABETH BROOKE (January 12, 1562 – January 24, 1597), who married ROBERT CECIL, 1st Earl of Salisbury, by whom she had issue.
6. FRANCES BROOKE (born January 12, 1562), who married firstly, JOHN STOURTON, 9th Baron Stourton (1553–1588), and secondly, as his second wife, SIR EDWARD MORE (1555–1623).
7. MARGARET BROOKE (June 2, 1563 – 1621), who married, as his second wife, Sir THOMAS SONDES of Throwley, Kent (1544–1593), by whom she had a daughter, FRANCES SONDES (1592 – circa 1634), who married Sir JOHN LEVESON (died 1613).

The husband of MARGARET BROOKE, SIR THOMAS SONDES, became convinced that her daughter FRANCES was not his child, and levied a fine of his lands, thus effectively depriving MARGARET of her jointure, and he died a few months later. His brother and heir, Sir MICHAEL SONDES, honoured Margaret's jointure, but the Sondes family never acknowledged her daughter, Frances; and MARGARET and FRANCES returned to Cobham Hall.

LEGAL JOINTURE: This is a legal term that refers to a type of property arrangement between a husband and wife. It is a way of ensuring that the wife will be provided for in the event of her husband's death. Essentially, the husband agrees to transfer certain property to his wife upon his death, which will then become her property. This is done through a legal agreement called a JOINTURE. It is important to note that this type of arrangement is not commonly used today, as there are other ways to ensure that a spouse is provided for after death.

Before he died on March 6, 1597, WILLIAM BROOKE made his second son, HENRY, promise to care for his daughter MARGARET, and she and her daughter remained at Cobham Hall on their own after his death.

At an unknown date, MARGARET went mad, and on November 4, 1602, it was reported that DOCTOR JOHN DEE had been called in and 'hath delivered the Lady Margaret Sondes of a Devil or of some other strange possession'.

Nothing further is known of her circumstances, apart from the fact that 'the mad Lady Sondes' died in 1621, aged 57-years.

Her daughter FRANCES had 2-Daughters by Sir JOHN LEVESON, named Christian and Frances. After Sir JOHN LEVESON'S death, FRANCES married, as his first wife, THOMAS SAVILE, who later became EARL OF SUSSEX. There was no issue from the marriage.

■ HENRY BROOKE, 11th Baron Cobham (1564–1619)

HENRY BROOKE, 11th Baron Cobham (1564–1619), who married FRANCES HOWARD (1572 – 1628), 2nd daughter of CHARLES HOWARD, 1st Earl of Nottingham and Widow of HENRY FITZGERALD, Earl of Kildare, Ireland.



- HENRY BROOKE was **ATTAINED** in 1603, for his part in a plot to overthrow KING JAMES I, when the Peerage became abeyant instead of becoming extinct.

BILL of ATTAINDER: In English law up to the 19th. Century, ATTAINDER was the harsh consequence of conviction for Treason or a Felony. It resulted in the forfeiture of the convicted person's property. It also involved corruption of blood, which barred the person from inheriting, retaining, or passing title, rank, or property. A person outlawed lost the right to seek protection under the Law.

HENRY BROOKE'S lands were forfeited to the Crown, although in 1604 KING JAMES I granted to his wife, FRANCES BROOKE (born HOWARD), a lease for her life of COBHAM HALL, near Rochester, Kent, where she lived "in solitary state" until her death in 1628, having in the meantime taken "no notice whatever of her husband after his trial", who spent the rest of his life in the **TOWER OF LONDON** and died in poverty.

The King however granted the reversion of the Estate to his 3rd. Cousin, LUDOVIC STEWART, 1st. Duke of Richmond, 2nd. Duke of Lennox (1574–1624) who was never able to live there as he predeceased FRANCES HOWARD.

- On LUDOVIC STEWART'S death in 1624 the Estate was inherited by his heir, his nephew JAMES STEWART, 1st Duke of Richmond (died 1655).

Later holders of the Title of BARON of COBHAM:

- *William Brooke MP* (1601–1643) (heir but for the attainder - abeyant on death)
 - *William Boothby* (1721–1787) (became heir to the peerage, but for the attainder, in 1747)
 - *Mary Disney* (1716–1789) (heiress but for the attainder - abeyant on death)
 - *Gervase Disney Alexander*, 15th Baron Cobham (1880–1933) (abeyance and attainder post-mortem terminated by backdated letters patent to 1916) (abeyant on death)
 - *Robert Disney Leith Alexander*, 16th Baron Cobham (1885–1951) (abeyance terminated in 1951, abeyant again on his death)
- The Title thus again fell into abeyance; the senior co-heir is SIMON RHYS SHAW, a Writer and Great-Nephew of the last Baron.

Barons Cobham; Second Creation (1324)

- *Ralph Cobham*, 1st Baron Cobham (d. 1326)
- *John Cobham*, 2nd Baron Cobham (1324/1325-aft. 1378) (extinct?)

Barons Cobham (of Rundale); Third Creation (1326)

- *Stephen Cobham*, 1st Baron Cobham of Rundale (d. 1332); neither of his descendants were summoned to Parliament.
- *John Cobham*, 2nd Baron Cobham of Rundale *de jure* (1319–1362)
- *Thomas Cobham*, 3rd Baron Cobham of Rundale *de jure* (1343–1394)
- *Reynold Cobham*, 4th Baron Cobham of Rundale *de jure* (d. 1405)
- *Thomas Cobham*, 5th Baron Cobham of Rundale *de jure* (d. 1429) (abeyant on death)

Barons Cobham (of Sterborough); Fourth Creation (1347)

- *Reynold Cobham*, 1st Baron Cobham of Sterborough (c. 1295–1361)
- *Reynold Cobham*, 2nd Baron Cobham of Sterborough (1348–1403)
- *Reynold Cobham*, 3rd Baron Cobham of Sterborough *de jure* (1381-aft. 1446)
- *Margaret Cobham*, 4th Baroness Cobham of Sterborough *de jure* (d. 1466–1471)
- *Thomas Cobham*, 5th Baron Cobham *de jure* (d. 1471) (abeyant on death)
- *Anne Cobham*, 6th Baroness of Cobham (d. 1526)

Barons Cobham; Fifth Creation (1645)

- *John Brooke*, 1st Baron Cobham (1575–1660) (extinct)

Barons Cobham; Sixth Creation (1714)

- *Richard Temple*, 1st Baron Cobham (1675–1749) (extinct)

Barons Cobham; Seventh Creation (1718)

- *Richard Temple*, 1st Viscount Cobham (1675–1749)

SIR EDWARD BRAYE, MP. (1492 - 1558) of Vachery Park, Cranleigh, Surrey, England.

CRANLEIGH, said to be one of the largest Villages in England, is located in the Borough of WAVERLEY, between GUILDFORD and HORSHAM. Sir EDWARD BRAYE was an English Royal Navy Captain, Justice of the Peace, High Sheriff and MP.

Sir EDWARD BRAYE was born the son of JOHN BRAYE (The Younger) (1460 - 1539) of Eaton Bray, Bedfordshire and the younger brother of EDMUND BRAYE (1484-1539). He was admitted to the MIDDLE TEMPLE in 1509.

The HONOURABLE SOCIETY OF THE MIDDLE TEMPLE, commonly known simply as MIDDLE TEMPLE, is one of the four INNS OF COURT entitled to call their Members to the English Bar as BARRISTERS, the others being the INNER TEMPLE (with which it shares Temple Church), GRAY'S INN and LINCOLN'S INN.

OFFICES HELD:

Sir EDWARD BRAYE could not hope to emulate his Uncle Sir REGINALD BRAYE in the Political Field, but in his youth he cut a figure as a Naval and Military Commander. His name was entered in the Middle Temple register for 1509, although he had attended lectures in the previous Christmas vacation, which he was allowed to count as his first. His attendance at the Inn was hardly more than a recognition of his family's importance, for he had no ambitions as a lawyer.

Sir EDWARD BRAYE did not go with Admiral Howard in the Autumn to the Northern Marches, but instead he served in France where his valour at TOURNAI earned him a Knighthood at age 21-years in May 1513.

■ In October 1513, Lord Admiral THOMAS HOWARD appointed Sir EDWARD BRAYE to be the CAPTAIN of his new Flagship, the MARY ROSE; the importance of this Command implies some previous Naval experience by EDWARD BRAYE, perhaps in the attack upon Brest, France earlier in the year, when Admiral Thomas Howard's brother ADMIRAL Sir EDWARD HOWARD, had been killed.

In the following year, 1514, EDWARD BRAYE helped patrol the English Channel while MARQUESS ABERGAVENNY moved his forces to the defence of GUISNES, France and EDWARD BRAYE joined the Admiral for the attack upon NORMANDIE. There followed 8-years of uneasy Peace, until in August 1522, when EDWARD BRAYE accompanied Admiral Thomas Howard to CALAIS, France for a Campaign through Picardie. His association continued with Admiral Howard, who in 1524 succeeded to the DUKEDOM of NORFOLK, and eventually in 1541 brought him a LIEUTENANCY at CALAIS, where he was to remain for 9-years.

(The MARY ROSE sank 31-years later in July, 1545 during the BATTLE OF THE SOLENT, a confrontation between French and English troops on the ISLE of WIGHT Hampshire, England as well as a face-off between their respective fleets in the SOLENT between the ISLE of WIGHT and PORTSMOUTH.)

What happened on that fateful day, 19th July 1545?

The MARY ROSE sank during the BATTLE of the SOLENT, a confrontation between FRENCH and ENGLISH troops on the Isle of Wight, as well as a face-off between their respective fleets in the Solent, the narrow stretch of sea between the Isle of Wight and Portsmouth, Hampshire, England.

The only confirmed eyewitness, a Flemish sailor who escaped from the sinking vessel, claims that the MARY ROSE had fired all her starboard-side guns and was turning, when her sails were caught in a strong gust of wind, pushing the gun-ports, which had been left open, below the waterline.



Sinking of the MARY ROSE in 1545

- Sir EDWARD BRAY (1492 - 1558) was a JUSTICE of the PEACE for Sussex from 1524 to 1540. In 1535, he purchased the MANOR OF SHERE (including the Vachery) in SURREY from his elder brother, Sir EDMUND BRAY (1484 - 1539), to whom it had been bequeathed by his Uncle, Sir REGINALD BRAY (1509 - 1574). Sir EDWARD was appointed HIGH SHERIFF of SURREY and SUSSEX for 1539 and was J.P. for SURREY from 1554 to his death in 1558. He represented SURREY in Parliament as KNIGHT of the SHIRE twice, in October 1553 and April 1554, during the reign of QUEEN MARY.
- Sir EDWARD BRAY (1492 - 1558) was made LIEUTENANT of CALAIS CASTLE (1541–1552), HIGH TREASURER for the Army against France in 1545 and CONSTABLE of the TOWER of LONDON in 1556.

During the Campaigns of the 1540s his services were frequently called upon: he organized the transport for the Army, operated a Spy Network and himself commanded a Company. In November 1544, when the 13th LORD GREY of WILTON was appointed Captain of the Army in Calais and Guisnes, it was to Sir EDWARD BRAY and Sir JOHN WALLOP that he was advised to turn to for direction 'in any great enterprise'. In the following year EDWARD BRAY was appointed TREASURER OF THE ARMY, and early in 1546 he commanded GUISNES TOWN and CASTLE, France in the temporary absence of Lord Grey.

Sir EDWARD BRAY'S services in France ended in 1552, when he exchanged his LIEUTENANCY of CALAIS CASTLE for the CONSTABLESHIP of the TOWER OF LONDON. His military prowess was remembered in 1557, when the Council at Calais advised QUEEN MARY to put him in charge of GUISNES during Lord Grey's further absence in England, but it is not known whether he took up the appointment.

When not involved in Military or Naval campaigning BRAY took part in the Administration of SUSSEX and SURREY. Between 1523 and 1541 he was a JUSTICE OF THE PEACE in Sussex, and also served on Local Commissions in that County and in Surrey. He held property in both Counties. Sir REGINALD BRAY had left the reversion of his lands in Sussex to those of his nephews who married his wards ELIZABETH and AGNES LOVELL.

MARRIAGES:

- Sir EDWARD BRAY (1492 - 1558) was married first to ELIZABETH LOVELL, daughter and co-heir of Henry Lovell of Harting, Sussex (divorced). He married second to BEATRICE SHIRLEY, daughter of Ralph Shirley of Wiston, Sussex, and widow of Edward Elrington of London. His third marriage was to JANE BROWNE, widow of Sir Francis Poyning, and daughter of Sir Matthew Browne (died August 6, 1557) of Betchworth, Surrey, by FRIDESWIDE GUILDFORD, daughter of Sir Richard Guildford.
- Sir EDWARD BRAY and ELIZABETH LOVELL, were later divorced and both remarried. Although it is not clear how far BRAY benefited under his Uncle's Will, in 1524 he was assessed at £100 in lands at Henfield. As Sir EDWARD BRAY 'of SELMESTON', near Lewes, he bought a Manor from Sir JOHN GAGE in 1532, and in the following year the DUKE of RICHMOND'S accounts show BRAY as lessee of the demesne lands at NEWHAVEN, East Sussex, England.

In 1535 EDWARD BRAY'S brother EDMUND sold him the Manors of the VACHERY, CRANLEIGH, Surrey and BARNYARDS, a valuable nucleus of Estates in South-West Surrey. After the *DISSOLUTION OF THE MONASTERIES* he bought one ex-Monastic Manor in Surrey and two others in East Sussex, and in 1545 he offered to supply wood under contract to the City of London. This was also the year in which he acquired the reversion of the Staffordshire Lordship of Madeley, Shropshire previously owned by his third wife's late husband: this he reluctantly sold to a London Merchant in 1547, although William, Lord Paget, had asked that he might purchase part of it.

In what appears to have been his first experience of Parliament, Sir EDWARD BRAY sat for LEWES, County Town of East Sussex, a Borough amenable to the influence of the DUKE of NORFOLK. BRAY was then living near the Town, and this may have helped him at the election of 1529 as much as his kinship with Sir RICHARD SHIRLEY, one of the Knights for Sussex on this occasion, or his business links with Sir JOHN GAGE, the other Knight of the Shire.

At the same time his brother EDMUND was summoned to the House of Lords as 1st LORD BRAY. It is probable that he sat again in 1536, when the King asked for re-election of the previous Members. Three years later he was barred from election in either SURREY or SUSSEX by his OFFICE of SHERIFF, but he may have procured a place in the Parliament of 1539 for a Constituency elsewhere. His duties at CALAIS in the following decade prevented his reappearance in the House of Lords until the 1550s.

After his return from CALAIS, France, BRAY settled in SURREY and acted in Local Government only in that County. He was in favour under the Duke of Northumberland. The Council instructed the Commissioners for the sale of Crown Lands to ensure that BRAY acquired lands from them to the value of £80 a year, and in September 1552 he purchased numerous pockets of CHANTRY LAND (*Monastic Lands from the Dissolution of the Monasteries*) scattered in various Counties, which he presumably re-sold at a profit. EDWARD BRAY nevertheless avoided implication as a partisan of the Duke of Northumberland in the succession crisis, and after Queen Mary's accession he was returned as Senior Knight of the Shire for Surrey in October 1553.

That he was not an enthusiast for the RESTORATION of CATHOLICISM is shown by his inclusion among the Members of this Parliament who 'stood for the true religion', that is, Protestantism, but his loyalty to the Queen was affirmed at the time of WYATT'S REBELLION. As MASTER OF THE ORDNANCE under the Earl of Pembroke, EDWARD BRAY commanded a force in London with Sir HENRY JERNINGHAM which routed a band of rebels at Charing Cross: he received a reward of 200 marks from the Queen and £20 from the City.

In the Parliament which followed the Rebellion, Sir EDWARD BRAY sat as Junior Knight of the Shire for SURREY, the Senior Seat being occupied by Sir ANTHONY BROWNE. It was to be his last appearance in the Commons, perhaps because of the political embarrassment caused him by his nephew JOHN, 2nd. LORD BRAY, who was implicated in the DUDLEY CONSPIRACY and spent nearly a year in the TOWER OF LONDON.

- Sir EDWARD BRAYE made his Will on August 16, 1558 and died the following December 1, 1558. He appointed as Executors his Wife and his brother-in-law, GEORGE BROWNE, and as Supervisor he appointed JOHN CARYLL. He asked to be buried in Cranleigh Church, of which he was patron, and bequeathed the bulk of his lands to his Wife, with the proviso that if his elder son EDWARD interfered with her possession she was to have all his lands in fee simple. Edward Bray was to receive a manor at Ewhurst in Surrey on condition that he discharged a debt of £60, for which he had already received money only to spend it elsewhere. Bray's mistrust of his son was justified: for many years after his death Edward Bray, who fell progressively into debt, disputed the terms of the Will.



Cranleigh Church, Surrey, England.

- Sir EDWARD BRAY (1492 - 1558) of Henfield and Selmeaton, Sussex and the Vachery, Shere, Surrey was succeeded by his son, Sir EDWARD BRAY II, who also became an MP.
- In 1518, 53-year old Lord THOMAS BROOKE (1465 - 1529) married 20-year old Lady ELIZABETH HART (1470 - 1566) in Cobham, Kent, England.

Lady ELIZABETH was the daughter of Sir HENRY HEYDON (1440 - 1503), BARON of BACONSTHORPE and his wife, Lady ELIZABETH ANNE HEYDON (1440 - 1500) of Norfolk, England.

[BACONSTHORPE is a village and civil parish in the North Norfolk district of the English County of Norfolk. It is 4 miles \(6.4 km\) south-east of Holt, 5 miles \(8.0 km\) south of Sheringham and 20 miles \(32 km\) north of Norwich.](#)

- On July 19, 1529, Lord THOMAS BROOKE died at the age of 64-years and was buried on July 24, 1529 in St. Mary Magdalene New Churchyard, Cobham, Kent, England.

WYATT'S REBELLION and the fight against Queen Mary I



■ Few events have captured the volatile essence of the **TUDOR** period more accurately than **WYATT'S REBELLION**.

Led by Sir **THOMAS WYATT** (1521 - 1554), called "the Younger", this uprising in 1554 was a dramatic attempt to challenge the authority of **QUEEN MARY I**, a Monarch whose reign was already fraught with Religious and Political tension.

THE REBELLION was a manifestation of the deep-seated anxieties of an era. At the heart of the uprising lay the proposed marriage between **QUEEN MARY I** and **KING PHILIP II of Spain**—a union that many English subjects found deeply unsettling, fearing it would subordinate England to Spanish interests and further entrench Catholicism in a nation already divided by religious strife.

■ **THE RELIGIOUS CHAOS OF THE TUDOR ERA**

The **TUDOR DYNASTY**, founded by King **HENRY VII**, had already seen its fair share of upheaval by the time **MARY I** ascended to the throne in 1553. Her Father, **King HENRY VIII**, had severed ties with the **ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH** TO establish the **CHURCH OF ENGLAND**, setting the stage for a religious tug-of-war that would persist for decades.

Queen MARY, a devout Catholic, sought to reverse the Protestant reforms initiated by her Father and her half-brother, **EDWARD VI**. Her efforts to restore Catholicism, known as the **MARIAN PERSECUTIONS**, led to the execution of numerous Protestants and earned her the epithet "**BLOODY MARY**."

■ WHAT WERE THE CAUSES OF WYATT'S REBELLION?

It was MARY'S proposed marriage to KING PHILIP II of Spain that lit the fuse for WYATT'S REBELLION. The proposed marriage was deeply unpopular among the English populace, who feared that it would make England a satellite of the powerful and Catholic SPANISH EMPIRE.



QUEEN MARY

- The marriage was not just a joining of two individuals; it was perceived as a merging of two Nations and two Religious Faiths, with potentially dire consequences for England's sovereignty and religious identity.

The discontent was further fuelled by Economic difficulties, including INFLATION and UNEMPLOYMENT, which many blamed on the Ruling Elite's MIS-MANAGEMENT.

SIR THOMAS WYATT the Younger, a well-educated landowner and Soldier, emerged as the leader of the disaffected. Drawing support from various quarters, including disenchanted Nobles and Commoners alike, WYATT sought to prevent the Spanish marriage and, if possible, replace Catholic MARY with her half-sister Protestant, ELIZABETH.

■ HOW THE UPRISING BEGAN

The seeds of discontent finally bore fruit on January 25, 1554, when Sir THOMAS WYATT the Younger and his followers initiated their uprising. The rebellion began in KENT, a County with a long history of dissent against the ENGLISH CROWN. Sir THOMAS WYATT, leveraging his charisma and the widespread dissatisfaction with QUEEN MARY'S policies, managed to gather a force of several thousand men.

The rebellion involved THREE OTHER UPRISINGS in different parts of ENGLAND: Devonshire, Leicestershire, and Herefordshire.

Sir THOMAS WYATT set out from KENT with about 4,000 men and marched towards LONDON. He and his followers had a singular objective: to reach the Capital and force a change in the Royal Policy.

The journey was fraught with challenges, not least of which was the Winter Weather that made the roads muddy and difficult to traverse. Yet, the Rebels pressed on, buoyed by their conviction and the growing support they received from ordinary Englishmen in the Towns and Villages along their route.



■ WHAT HAPPENED WHEN THEY REACHED LONDON

WYATT reached LONDON on February 3, 1554, but he found the gates closed and the bridges blocked. By this time, QUEEN MARY had managed to galvanize her own supporters, strengthening the City's defences. The rebels found themselves at a crossroads, both literally and metaphorically, as they reached SOUTHWARK.

SOUTHWARK'S Old English name of *Sudwerca* means 'southern defensive work or fort'. SOUTHWARK can lay claim to the longest history of any part of LONDON, since it was here that the Romans chose to build the first bridge across the Thames following the invasion of AD43.

The settlement was an integral part of Roman LONDINIUM, with public, industrial and domestic buildings on islands and reclaimed marshland. Its fortunes were always tied to those of the City on the opposite bank as it benefited from the flow of trade and transport across the River Thames and also acted as a place of refuge and retreat.

It was here that WYATT made the fateful decision to bypass the Main Gates and attempt entry through LUDGATE, a choice that would ultimately lead to the Rebellion's downfall.

WYATT and his REBELS tried to cross the River Thames at KINGSTON, but were confronted by a large Army led by the DUKE OF NORFOLK. The two sides fought and WYATT'S forces, though weary from their march, displayed remarkable tenacity. After a fierce struggle, WYATT himself was captured and taken to the TOWER OF LONDON.

The Rebellion had failed.



TOWER OF LONDON

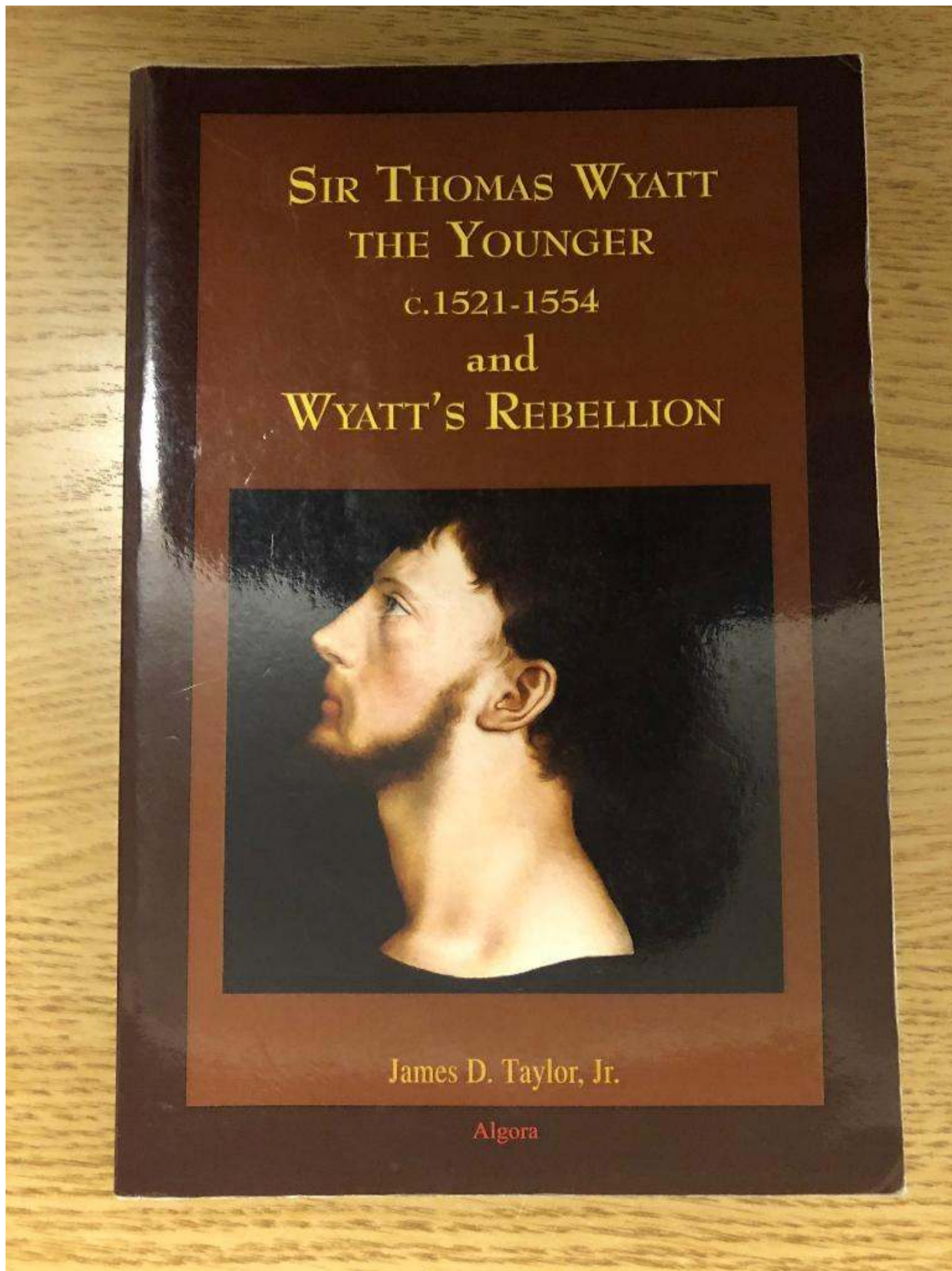
TRIALS, EXECUTION AND THE POLITICAL FALLOUT

WYATT himself was tried for TREASON and, despite a spirited defence, was executed on April 11, 1554.

The other three rebellions were quickly suppressed by the local authorities and militias.

- The **DEVON REBELS** were led by SIR PETER CAREW, who planned to seize EXETER and rally the people against Queen Mary. However, he fled to FRANCE when he learned that his plot had been discovered.
- The **LEICESTERSHIRE REBELS** were led by SIR JAMES CROFT, who intended to join forces with WYATT in London. However, he was arrested at COVENTRY before he could reach his destination.
- The **HEREFORDSHIRE REBELS** were led by SIR WILLIAM THOMAS, who hoped to raise an army in WALES and march on LONDON. However, he was defeated at WORCESTER and executed.

About 90 rebels were ultimately EXECUTED FOR TREASON, including WYATT and his fellow leaders. Many others were imprisoned or fined. The most prominent victim of the rebellion was LADY JANE GREY, who had been proclaimed Queen by the Duke of Northumberland in July 1553, but had been deposed after only 9-days by Mary's supporters. She had been spared by QUEEN MARY until then, but after WYATT'S REBELLION she was seen as a potential threat and a rallying point for future plots. LADY JANE GREY was only 17-years old when she was beheaded on February 12, 1554 in the Tower of London, along with her husband LORD GUILDFORD DUDLEY.



QUEEN MARY'S sister, ELIZABETH was also implicated in the rebellion, as some of the rebels had confessed under torture that they had acted in her name and interest. She was summoned to London from her residence at ASHRIDGE and interrogated by Queen Mary's Council. She denied any involvement or knowledge of the conspiracy, but she was still sent to the TOWER OF LONDON as a prisoner. She remained there for 2-months, until she was cleared of any charges and released under house arrest.

■ ELIZABETH later became Queen of England after Queen Mary's death in 1558.

ALLINGTON CASTLE and the Wyatt Family

Sir THOMAS WYATT the Elder (1503 - 1542): Poet and Courtier

■ SIR THOMAS WYATT the Elder was a renowned Poet, Courtier, and Diplomat who served during the reign of KING HENRY VIII. Born into a prominent and wealthy family, WYATT was educated at St. John's College, Cambridge. He is credited with introducing the Italian sonnet form to English literature and is considered one of the pioneering poets of the English Renaissance. His most famous works include ["Whoso List to Hunt,"](#) ["They Flee from Me,"](#) and ["The Lover's Appeal."](#)

The elder Wyatt's connection to ALLINGTON CASTLE began in 1537 when he inherited the Estate from his father, Sir HENRY WYATT (1460-1537). The elder Wyatt acquired the Castle in 1491 and made significant improvements to it, transforming it into a comfortable and impressive Tudor residence.



Allington Castle, Boxley, Kent.

Sir THOMAS WYATT the Younger: Politician and Rebel.

Sir THOMAS WYATT, the YOUNGER (1521-1554), the son of WYATT the ELDER, was also a prominent figure in English history, although his legacy is more political than literary. He was born at ALLINGTON CASTLE and, like his father, served in the Court of KING HENRY VIII. He later served under KING EDWARD VI and QUEEN MARY I.

Sir THOMAS WYATT the YOUNGER is best known for his role in leading the unsuccessful WYATT'S REBELLION in 1554. The rebellion was motivated by opposition to Queen Mary I's marriage to Philip II of Spain and the fear of the increasing influence of Catholicism in England. The uprising ultimately failed, and WYATT the YOUNGER was captured, found guilty of Treason, and executed. His actions and subsequent execution led to the confiscation of the Wyatt family's lands and properties, including ALLINGTON CASTLE.



The Life & Times of Sir HENRY HEYDON (1440-1503)

Sir HENRY HEYDON was the son of JOHN HEYDON (1416 - 1479) of Baconsthorpe, Norfolk, “the well-known opponent of the PASTON family”.

In 1464, Sir HENRY married 24-year old Lady ISABELLA BOLEYN, the daughter of Sir GEOFFREY BOLEYN, Lord Mayor of the City of London and Great-Grandfather of King Henry VIII's wife, QUEEN ANNE BOLEYN.

■ Sir HENRY HEYDON rebuilt St. JOHN-The-BAPTIST CHURCH in West Wickham, Kent, England.



■ HENRY HEYDON was the son of JOHN HEYDON (died 1479) of Baconsthorpe, Norfolk, and ELEANOR WINTER, the daughter of EDMUND WINTER (died 1448) of Barningham, Norfolk. Trained as a LAWYER, he frequently advised other Norfolk landowners and acted for them as a feoffee and arbitrator. He served as a JUSTICE OF THE PEACE in Norfolk from 1473, and on various Commissions in that County and elsewhere.

■ HENRY HEYDON'S inheritance from his father included at least 16-Manors, and he added to his holdings through the purchase of lands in both Norfolk and Kent. One of his purchases in Kent was WEST WICKHAM, and after establishing himself as a Kent landowner he served as JUSTICE OF THE PEACE there in the late 1480s and in the 1490s.

HENRY STAFFORD, 2nd Duke of Buckingham, was a Trustee for his land purchases in Kent, and **HENRY HEYDON** subsequently acted as **STEWARD** in Norfolk to Buckingham's widow, **CATHERINE WOODVILLE**, Duchess of Buckingham, in the 1490s. He was a Supervisor of the Will of **CECILY NEVILLE**, Duchess of York, and served as her Steward of Household and Chief Bailiff of the Honour of **EYE** in Suffolk.

[EYE is a Market Town and Civil Parish in the north of the English County of Suffolk, about 4 miles \(6 km\) south of Diss, 17.5 miles \(28 km\) north of Ipswich and 23 miles \(37 km\) south-west of Norwich.](#)

Although he was knighted at the Coronation of **HENRY VII**, and was among those present at the reception of **CATHERINE OF ARAGON** when she arrived from Spain in England in 1501, he was 'primarily a local Servant of the Crown rather than a Courtier'.

Some of the wealth he accumulated as a **SHEEP FARMER** was expended in building projects. In Norfolk he completed the **CASTLE** begun by his father at **BACONSTHORPE**, restored the **PARISH CHURCH** at **KELLING** and built a new Church at **SALTHOUSE**, and constructed a causeway between **THURSFORD** and **WALSINGHAM**. In Kent he rebuilt the Church at **WEST WICKHAM**, and built a fortified **MANOR HOUSE** there.



Baconsthorpe Castle, Norfolk, England.

■ **HENRY HEYDON** died at Baconsthorpe between 20 February and 22 May 1504, and was buried beside his father in the **HEYDON FAMILY CHAPEL** which then existed at **NORWICH CATHEDRAL**. A memorial window, said to be his, in the Church at **WEST WICKHAM** depicts a kneeling human skeleton, with the Heydon Coat of Arms.

■ MARRIAGE AND ISSUE

In 1461, Sir HENRY HEYDON, Attorney married ELIZABETH ANNE BOLEYN (1440 - 1510), second daughter of Sir GEOFFREY BOLEYN, Lord Mayor of London, by whom he had 8-Children (3-Sons and 5-Daughters):

1. CHRISTOPHER HEYDON (1468-1540) born in Baconsthorpe, Norfolk, England. **Died in Baconsthorpe, Norfolk, England @ 72-years old.**
2. AMY Le STRANGE (born HEYDON) (1469 - 1509) born in Baconsthorpe, Norfolk, England. **Married Roger Le Strange; Died in Hunstanton, Norfolk, England @ 40-years old.**
3. Lady DOROTHY HEYDON, (1470-1566) married Lord THOMAS BROOKE, 8th. Baron Cobham (1465-1529), by whom she had 7-sons and 6-daughters, including MARGARET, who married Sir JOHN FOGGE (died 1564); FAITH, who married William Ockenden; and ELIZABETH (died 1560), who married firstly the **Poet, Sir THOMAS WYATT (executed October 10, 1542)**, and secondly Sir EDWARD WARNER.
4. HENRY HEYDON (1470-1544) married Anne, the daughter of John Armstrong.
5. WILLIAM HEYDON (1472-1505), slain during **KETT'S REBELLION**, and buried in the Church of St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich.

KETT'S REBELLION was a revolt in the English County of NORFOLK during the reign of Edward VI, largely in response to the enclosure of land. It began at WYMONDHAM near Norwich, on July 8, 1549 with a group of rebels destroying fences that had been put up by wealthy landowners

6. MARGARET HEYDON (1474 - 1515),
7. ROBERT ADAMS HEYDON (1474 - 1557), born in Barton St. David, Somerset, England;
8. ANNE HEYDON (1465-1521), married firstly WILLIAM GURNEY of Instead, Norfolk, and secondly, Sir LIONEL DYMOKE (who died August 17, 1519) in Ashby, Lincolnshire.
9. Sir ADRIAN HEYDON (1476 - 1539), born in Punsbourne, Hertfordshire, England; **Beheaded on Tower Hill?**
10. ELIZABETH ANN HEYDON (1479-1510) married SIR WALTER HOBART, of Hales Hall.
11. BRIDGET HEYDON (1479 – 1554), married Sir WILLIAM PASTON, son of Sir JOHN PASTON and his first wife, MARGERY BREWAR. Bridget was the Mother of ELEANOR PASTON, Countess of Rutland and Grandmother of BRIDGET CHAWORTH.
12. AMY HEYDON (1469-1509) married SIR ROGER L'ESTRANGE of Hunstanton, Norfolk.
13. Sir JOHN HEYDON, (1486-1550) a leading member of the Norfolk Gentry during the reign of Henry VIII, who married KATHERINE WILLOUGHBY, the daughter of Sir CHRISTOPHER WILLOUGHBY of Parham, Suffolk, and MARGARET JENNY.

Sir HENRY HEYDON (1440 - 1503) was the son of JOHN HEYDON of Baconsthorpe, Norfolk, 'the well-known opponent of the Paston family'. He married ANNE BOLEYN, the daughter of Sir GEOFFREY BOLEYN, Great-Grandfather of Henry VIII's Queen ANNE BOLEYN.

Trained as a Lawyer, he frequently advised other Norfolk landowners and acted for them as a feoffee and an arbitrator. He served as a JUSTICE OF THE PEACE in Norfolk from 1473, and on various Commissions in that County and elsewhere.

HENRY HEYDON'S inheritance from his father included at least 16-Manors, and he added to his holdings through the purchase of lands in both NORFOLK and KENT, England. One of his purchases in Kent was **WEST WICKHAM**, and after establishing himself as a Kent landowner he served as Justice of the Peace there in the late 1480s and in the 1490s.

HENRY STAFFORD, 2nd Duke of Buckingham, was a Trustee for his land purchases in Kent, and Heydon subsequently acted as Steward in Norfolk to Buckingham's widow, CATHERINE WOODVILLE, Duchess of Buckingham, in the 1490s. He was a Supervisor of the Will of **CECILY NEVILLE, Duchess of York**, and served as her **Steward of Household** and **Chief Bailiff of the Honour of Eye**.

Although he was knighted at the Coronation of Henry VII, and was among those present at the reception of CATHERINE OF ARAGON when she arrived in England in 1501, he was 'primarily a local Servant of the Crown rather than a Courtier'.

Some of the wealth he accumulated as a Sheep Farmer was expended in building projects. In Norfolk he completed the **Castle** begun by his father at **BACONSTHORPE**, restored the Parish Church at **KELLING** and built a new Church at **SALTHOUSE**, and constructed a Causeway between **THURSFORD** and **WALSINGHAM**. In Kent he rebuilt the Church at **WEST WICKHAM**, and built a Fortified Manor House there.

He died at BACONSTHORPE between 20 February and 22 May 1504, and was buried beside his Father in the HEYDON FAMILY CHAPEL which then existed at NORWICH CATHEDRAL. A Memorial Window, said to be his, in the Church at West Wickham depicts a kneeling human skeleton, with the Heydon Family Coat of Arms.

MARRIAGE AND ISSUE

He married, likely after 1463, ANNE BOLEYN, second daughter of Sir GEOFFREY BOLEYN, Lord Mayor of London, by whom he had 3-Sons and 5-Daughters:

1. JOHN HEYDON, eldest son and heir, a leading member of the Norfolk Gentry during the reign of KING HENRY VIII, who married KATHERINE WILLOUGHBY, the daughter of Sir CHRISTOPHER WILLOUGHBY of Parham, Suffolk, and MARGARET JENNY.
2. HENRY HEYDON, Esquire, who married ANNE, the daughter of JOHN ARMSTRONG.
3. WILLIAM HEYDON, slain during Kett's Rebellion, and buried in the Church of St Peter Mancroft, Norwich.
4. DOROTHY HEYDON, married, as his first wife, THOMAS BROOKE, 8th Baron Cobham (d.1529), by whom she had 7-Sons, including JOHN, GEORGE BROOKE, 9th Baron Cobham, THOMAS, WILLIAM and EDWARD, and 6-Daughters, including MARGARET, who married Sir JOHN FOGGE (died 1564); FAITH, who married WILLIAM OCKENDEN; and ELIZABETH (died 1560), who married firstly the Poet Sir THOMAS WYATT (died October 10, 1542), and secondly Sir EDWARD WARNER, Lieutenant of the TOWER of LONDON.
5. BRIDGET HEYDON, married Sir WILLIAM PASTON (circa 1479 – 1554), son of Sir JOHN PASTON and his first wife, MARGERY BREWES. BRIDGET was the Mother of ELEANOR PASTON, Countess of Rutland and Grandmother of BRIDGET CHAWORTH.
6. ANNE HEYDON (died circa 1521), married firstly WILLIAM GURNEY of Instead, Norfolk, and secondly Sir LIONEL DYMOKE (died August 17, 1519) of Ashby, Lincolnshire.
7. ELIZABETH HEYDON, married Sir WALTER HOBART, Esquire, of Hales Hall.
8. AMY HEYDON, married Sir ROGER L'ESTRANGE of Hunstanton, Norfolk.

The LIFE of Lady ELIZABETH PARR (born Brooke) (1526 - 1565), Marchioness of Northampton.



As the Daughter of GEORGE BROOKE, 9th. BARON COBHAM and his wife, ANNE BRAYE, the young ELIZABETH BROOKE grew up familiar with Court Politics. Born on June 25, 1526, during the reign of HENRY VIII, she would have been 10-years old at the time of ANNE BOLEYN'S execution in 1536. Being at an impressionable age this should have been a great example to ELIZABETH BROOKE of what not to do as a woman at TUDOR COURT, or so one would think. Maybe she didn't understand what was going on at the time.

In 1543, the 17-year old ELIZABETH BROOKE was at the Court of Henry VIII – this was at a time when KATHERINE PARR was Queen Consort. It was the Queen's brother, WILLIAM PARR, Marquis of Northampton, that made the most impact on ELIZABETH and they fell in love. The only problem was that WILLIAM PARR was still married. Even though he had repudiated his Wife for adultery years earlier, he was still married, and that was obviously a serious road block for ELIZABETH.

WILLIAM PARR'S first Wife, ANNE CLAIRE BOURCHIER had reportedly eloped with her lover and then had a child that WILLIAM PARR was unsure was his. This was when they became estranged.

In 1547, ELIZABETH BROOKE privately married WILLIAM PARR and they began living together.

When those in power discovered this (e.g. EDWARD SEYMOUR, LORD PROTECTOR of the REALM and GOVERNOR OF THE KING'S PERSON) they were ordered to separate. ELIZABETH was sent to live with the Dowager Queen, KATHERINE PARR who was at that point married to THOMAS SEYMOUR. ELIZABETH stayed with the couple until April 1548 when her marriage to WILLIAM PARR was declared valid.

When the Lord Protector of England, EDWARD SEYMOUR was ousted in 1552, in favour of JOHN DUDLEY, Duke Of Northumberland, ELIZABETH BROOKE appeared to thrive at Court:

ELIZABETH dazzled as the MARCHIONESS OF NORTHAMPTON, hosting parties, charming Ambassadors and being the light of the Court. Still only 25-years old, Elisabeth had reason to be very happy indeed. She had obtained a very high rank, and she was now an influential woman at Court, the friend of the Regent and the Aunt of the King. As Northumberland's wife had little interest in leading the Court festivities, it was ELIZABETH who performed the duties that usually went to a Queen, and she performed them admirably.

ELIZABETH BROOKE appears to have been involved in the matchmaking which brought together the marriage of LADY JANE GREY and GUILDFORD DUDLEY – Elizabeth was friends with Frances Brandon and Jane Guildford. Some have stated that they believe that Elizabeth accompanied Jane to the TOWER OF LONDON to await her Coronation. (A place JANE would never leave until her execution in 1554.)

Things began to turn sour for ELIZABETH BROOKE when NORTHUMBERLAND was defeated. Her husband, WILLIAM PARR, Marquis of Northampton was arrested, tried and eventually sentenced to death for his part in placing LADY JANE GREY on the throne after the accession of MARY I. He lost all his titles and land. He was eventually pardoned but the damage had already been done – he also lost ELIZABETH by the repeal Act of 1552.

ELIZABETH BROOKE was forced to borrow money to survive. It is assumed that she moved back in with her Mother or her Brother, WILLIAM BROOKE.

When her husband, WILLIAM PARR was released from the Tower for a second time in 1554, ELIZABETH was reunited with him. (It is noted that the two were Godparents to ELIZABETH CAVENDISH and that is how we know when they reunited because she was born in 1555). Unfortunately, the couple remained destitute throughout the reign of QUEEN MARY I and didn't come out of the darkness until after ELIZABETH TUDOR became Queen of England.

In 1559, QUEEN ELIZABETH I restored WILLIAM PARR as Marquis of Northampton and ELIZABETH PARR became one of the Queen's closest lady friends. They were so close that when ELIZABETH PARR, Lady Northampton became ill, QUEEN ELIZABETH came to her side and spent the day with her.

- In 1564, ELIZABETH PARR developed breast cancer – she hoped to find a cure and even traveled to ANTWERP, BELGIUM in hopes of finding one. Unfortunately, they did not. ELIZABETH died on April 2, 1565 at the age of 39-years and QUEEN ELIZABETH I was devastated and paid for her friend's funeral.

[From "Seventy-Nine Ballads" By William Elderton, 1569.]. Printed by University of North Carolina Press.

April 2, 1565: DEATH of LADY MARQUESS OF NORTHAMPTON.

She died 'in her lodging within the COURT OF WHITEHALL at Westminster'.

ELIZABETH BROOKE (1526-1565), 2nd. Wife of WILLIAM PARR, Marquis of Northampton.

FUNERAL: April 27, St Paul's Cathedral.

List of her gifts of jewels and plate begins 'The border of pearl and the heart with the marigold with a black chain to the Queen's Majesty'.

'A proper new Ballad in Praise of my Lady Marquis, whose Death is bewailed. To the Tune of New Lusty Gallant'.

'The fairest flower of my garland, Was caught from Court a great while ago,

For, under the roof of sweet Saint Paul, There lieth my Lady buried in clay..

Methinks she should be still in place, A pitiful speaker to a Queen,

Bewailing every poor man's case, As many a time she hath been seen...

Her comely clothing plainly clad, Her face so sweet, her cheer so good...

Reason saith, now she is dead, Go seek and serve as good as she...

Yet will I come to Court and see...Faint hearts fair ladies never win'.

George Wyatt (1553 - 1624)



GEORGE WYATT, the youngest son of **Sir THOMAS WYATT** and **JANE WYATT**, was born at ALLINGTON CASTLE, near Maidstone, on December 27, 1553. Sir THOMAS WYATT led a Rebellion against QUEEN MARY in January 1554 in an attempt to prevent MARY'S marriage to KING PHILIP of SPAIN. Based at Rochester Castle, Sir THOMAS WYATT soon had 1,500 men under his command.

THOMAS HOWARD, 3rd DUKE of NORFOLK, aged 80, agreed to lead the QUEEN'S ARMY against the uprising led by Sir THOMAS WYATT. As David Loades, the author of "MARY TUDOR" (2012), wrote "*that venerable warrior, the Duke of Norfolk, set out from London with a hastily assembled force to confront what was now clearly a rebellion*". Unfortunately, most of Norfolk's troops consisted of the London Militia, who were strongly sympathetic to Wyatt's cause. On the 29th January, 1554, they deserted in large numbers, and Norfolk was forced to retreat with the soldiers who were left.

When QUEEN MARY heard about WYATT'S actions, she issued a pardon to his followers if they returned to their homes within 24-hours. Some of Wyatt's men took up the offer. However, when a large number of the Army were sent to arrest Wyatt, they changed sides; Wyatt now controlled a force of 4,000 men and he felt strong enough to march on LONDON.

THOMAS WYATT'S REBELLION:

On 1st February, 1554, QUEEN MARY addressed a meeting in the Guildhall, London where she proclaimed THOMAS WYATT a traitor. The next morning, 20,000 men enrolled their names for the protection of the City of London. The bridges over the Thames within a distance of 15-miles were broken down and on 3rd February, 1554 a reward of land of the annual value of £100 a year was offered to the person who captured THOMAS WYATT.

By the time THOMAS WYATT entered Southwark, large numbers of his army had deserted. However, he continued to march towards St. James's Palace, where MARY TUDOR had taken refuge. WYATT reached Ludgate at 2 A.M. in the morning of 8th February, 1554. The gate was shut against him, and he was unable to break it down. Wyatt now went into retreat but he was captured at TEMPLE BAR.

The WYATT REBELLION persuaded QUEEN MARY that BISHOP STEPHEN GARDINER was right and that she had been too merciful to her rebels. **THOMAS WYATT and over 100 of his supporters were executed.** THOMAS WYATT went to the block on TOWER HILL on 11th April, 1554. His corpse was taken to Newgate to be parboiled, after which it was cut into four pieces, and each quarter displayed in different parts of the city. **His head was placed on top of the gibbet at St. James.**

Thomas Wyatt's land was confiscated but Jane Wyatt did receive an annuity from Queen Mary in 1555 to a total value of about £200 per annum.

GEORGE WYATT - HISTORIAN

GEORGE WYATT was granted a small property at Wavering by the Crown, and he entered **Gray's Inn** in 1571. He married JANE FINCH, the daughter of THOMAS FINCH, in 1582 and she gave birth to five sons and four daughters. This included FRANCIS WYATT. THOMAS WYATT saw active service as a soldier and was present at the siege of **Bergen-op-Zoom** in 1588.

During this period he began work on a biography of **ANNE BOLEYN**. His work was based on the reminiscences of his Family and those who had known her, such as her former Maid of Honour, ANNE GAINSFORD. He dismissed the claim made by NICHOLAS SANDER that she had six fingers on her right hand.

"There was found, indeed, upon the side of her nail, upon one of her fingers, some little show of a nail, which yet was so small... albeit in beauty she was to many inferior, but for behaviour, manners, attire and tongue she excelled them all... she was indeed a very wilful woman."

In 1618 he inherited his Mother's properties at Boxley and South Fleet, and in 1622 he recovered his family's possession of **BOXLEY ABBEY**. **He died there in August 1624 and was buried in the Parish Church.**



St. MARY & ALL SAINTS, Parish Church Yard, Boxley, Kent, England.



St. MARY & ALL SAINTS, Parish Church Interior, Boxley, Kent, England.



BOXLEY ABBEY HOUSE, Kent, England

ROYDON HALL - East Peckham, Kent, England

- ROYDON HALL was built in 1535 by THOMAS ROYDON, second son of Thomas Roydon of Roydon Hall in Suffolk. He had married MARGARET WHETENALL from East Peckham, Kent and settled in her Parish.

THOMAS ROYDON had arrived in Kent a very rich man and originally named the house 'FORTUNE' to reflect his own good fortune. He and Margaret had 8-Children; 3-Sons and 5-Daughters. The eldest Son was convicted of murder and hanged and the other two pre-deceased all of their Sisters and all three Sons died without issue. The five daughters then became co-heirs to Thomas' Estate and, on his death, it was bequeathed equally among them. The second-eldest daughter, ELIZABETH ROYDON, bought out her sisters' shares and moved back into ROYDON HALL with her husband, WILLIAM TWYSDEN. The TWYSDENS were a wealthy Kentish family in their own right with a family seat at Chelmington near Great Chart.

After WILLIAM died ELIZABETH twice re-married, but upon her death in 1595 she bequeathed the ROYDON HALL ESTATE to her eldest son, ROGER TWYSDEN. Roger had married ANNE WYATT, daughter of Sir THOMAS WYATT of ALLINGTON CASTLE, near Maidstone, Kent. Their eldest son, WILLIAM WYATT, was born in 1566 and became an Member of Parliament. He inherited the Roydon Hall Estate upon the death of his Father in 1603 and set about greatly improving the house. In 1611 he was made a BARONET. He died in 1628 and was buried in nearby St Michael's Church.

ROYDON HALL continued in the hands of the Twysden family for more than 200-years. In 1834, upon the death of Sir WILLIAM JERVIS TWYSDEN, the 7th. Baronet, the Estate was sold by auction to a Norfolk farmer, WILLIAM COOK.

In January 1862 a gang of poachers from East Malling, Kent were caught in the grounds of the Estate. During the ensuing struggle, the Estate's Head Gamekeeper, JAMES GREY, was shot and killed and the poachers made their escape. In August of that year the Police from West Malling, Kent arrested all but one of the gang and charged them with night-poaching and murder. The Murder charge was later reduced to Manslaughter.

The 573-acre Estate remained in the Cook family until 1962 when it was sold by auction for £60,000 to a Property Company who later put up for re-sale the Main Hall house with 20-acres and 3-Cottages.

ROYDON HALL was reputed at one time to have been purchased by the Beatles' GEORGE HARRISON who handed it over to the TRANSCENDENTAL MEDITATION organisation who used it to run residential courses. The house has undergone some restoration work in recent years, but remains unoccupied and fenced off.



ROYDON HALL post-1962.