



ARCHÆOLOGIA AELIANA

I.—THE DESCENT OF THE MANOR OF ELLINGTON.

BY G. G. BAKER-CRESSWELL AND
H. H. E. CRASTER, D.LITT., F.S.A.

[Read on 23rd February, 1927.]

Ellington was a sub-manor in the manor of Woodhorn, which formed part of the Balliol barony of Bywell. It comprised the vills of Ellington, Cresswell and Hayden.¹ The first owner of Ellington of whom there is direct evidence was Adam de Periton in 1242, with whom the Rev. John Hodgson commenced his pedigree;² but it is possible to carry back the history of the property for eighty years or more. Periton owned, in addition to Ellington, the manor of Faxton in Northamptonshire and that of Oxhill in Warwickshire by inheritance from the family of Dumart. One of that family, Alexander de Dumart, was tenant of four bovates in Ellington between 1197 and 1203.³ Engelram de Dumart, lord of Faxton

¹ Hayden is a vanished vill, the name of which is perpetuated in Hayden lech. In an Exchequer suit (William Scott and others v. John Horsley) in 1587, the defendants affirmed that "longe sithens there was a town called Ayden, upon or within Aydenfield, whereof the same field was parcell, almost as great as Ellington manor, and that the foundations and walls thereof then remained to be seen."—*Exchequer Decrees and Orders*, Vol. XII, fol. 177.

² *Book of Fees*, p. 1121; Hodgson, *Northumberland*, II, ii, p. 96.

³ Hodgson, II, ii, p. 211, evid. 7 and 13. The presence of Robert Bertram as a witness dates the deed.

and of Oxhill in the reign of Henry II, owned land in Northumberland on which he paid a fine in 1178,⁴ and there can be no doubt that that land was Ellington. He occurs as witness to two Northumbrian deeds of feofment; one granted by Bernard de Balliol, the holder of the barony;⁵ the other by Geoffrey de Widdrington, tenant of another sub-manor in Woodhorn.⁶

Engelram de Dumart first makes his appearance in 1166 as owner of Faxton.⁷ That manor, with its vill of Mawsley, Waldegrave, and Moulton, was held, like Ellington, of the Balliols by the service of four knights' fees.⁸ By a charter preserved in the British Museum Engelram granted a fourth part of his Northamptonshire fee to a nephew, Robert Duredent.⁹ The lands so

⁴ *Pipe Roll Soc.* XXVII, p. 61.

⁵ *New History of Northumberland* VI, p. 122, note 4, where Dumares is an incorrect reading of Dummart, and the grantor is identified with Bernard de Balliol I, who died in 1167. The charter may equally well have been issued by Bernard de Balliol II, but is not later than 1182, since Odonel de Umfraville, one of the witnesses, died in that year.

⁶ *Op. cit.*, IX, p. 49, note 1. The date, *circa* 1200, there given for this deed is too late, for Dumart died, as we shall see, in 1185.

⁷ *Pipe Roll Soc.* XI, p. 123.

⁸ *Book of Fees*, pp. 502, 941; *V.C.H. Northants* I, p. 380.

⁹ Ingeram de Dumard omnibus hominibus suis Gallicis et Anglicis et omnibus hominibus tam futuris quam presentibus et omnibus illis hanc meam kartam audientibus salutem. Sciatis quod ego Ingeram de Dumard dedi et concessi Roberto Duredent nepoti meo propter seruitium suum et propter homagium suum masuagium in Faxtona quod fuit Walteri de Baillol auunculi mei, et quartam partem de Faxtona et quarterium de Malesleia, et in Waldegrauia quarterium et in Multona quarterium, quod ibi de feudo habeo, et in bosco et in plano, in pratis, in pastura, in aquis, in viis, in semitis, et in omnibus rebus excepta ecclesia, sibi et heredibus suis, tenendum de me et de heredibus meis, libere et quiete et hereditarie pro omni seruitio, per seruitium unius militis faciendum, et per hanc cartam meam confirmaui. Testibus his, Hugone de Normanuill', Roberto de Clippenuill', Jordano de Octheseluia, Iuone fratre suo, Toma de Periton, Roberto clerico, Jordano de Horburia, Waltero de Baill', Simone de Hornai, Rogero Ladde, Roberto de Alteis, Rogero de Berketot, Ricardo Ladde.

Harl. Ch. 49, F. 53.

conveyed are stated in the deed to have been formerly held by Engelram's uncle, Walter de Balliol, and Dr. J. H. Round rightly comments on it—"This would suggest that the manor was the *maritagium* of his mother, that she was a Baliol, and that Ingeram" (a variant form of Engelram) "derived his name from that family, who were lords of Faxton."¹⁰ It may be also inferred that Ellington was similarly inherited. Engelram had a brother named Gerald, and confirmed an exchange of lands in Faxton and Moulton made by him.¹¹ If Gerald was predecessor, and not a tenant, of Engelram, then the succession will have been (1) Walter de Balliol, (2) Gerald de Dumart, (3) Engelram de Dumart.

Engelram died in 1185 and left no children. His wife, Maud, who survived him, had dower in Faxton; and his Warwickshire fee of Oxhill, which he held of the Crown by the service of one knight's fee as tenant-in-chief, was taken into the king's hands and restored in the following year to his sisters and co-heirs, Emma and Alice.¹² The two sisters were both alive and sharing their brother's inheritance in 1201,¹³ but Alice is not named in any later record. Emma died in 1211, when her son, Egelin, who

Seal: Green wax, 2 in. Equestrian. To the right; in armour; hauberk, surcoat, conical helmet and nasal, sword, long convex shield with central spike: horse galloping. † S[IGILLVM IN]GERAM[I DE DVMA]RT. *Catalogue of Seals in the British Museum*, No. 5889.

Robert Duredent of the foregoing deed is perhaps the Robert Durent who witnessed Alexander de Dumart's grant of land in Ellington (note 3 above). An Andrew Duredent witnessed a grant made by Egelin de Dumart to Bordesley abbey; Madox, *Formulare Anglicanum*, p. 261.

¹⁰ *Pipe Roll Soc.* XXXV, p. 23.

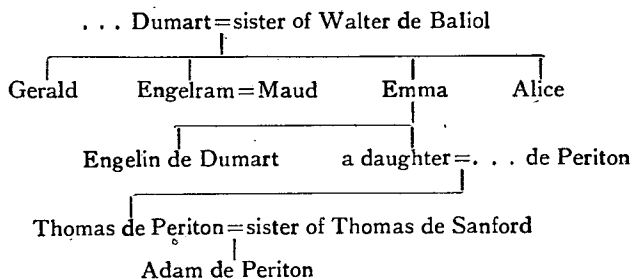
¹¹ *Cartulary of St. Frideswide's* (Oxford Hist. Soc.) II, p. 235.

¹² *Pipe Roll Soc.* XXXIV, p. 104; XXXV, p. 23; XXXVI, p. 123; XXXVII, p. 118. Oxhill was originally part of the Grantmesnil fee, and appears from a charter of about 1183 to have been then held by Engelram from Robert de Stafford; *Historical Collections for Staffordshire* (William Salt Society), 1st ser., Vol. II, Pt. i, p. 259. How the seignorial rights disappeared is not clear.

¹³ *Rotulus Cancellarii*, 3 John, p. 13.

took his mother's name of Dumart, was fined on succeeding to the manor of Oxhill.¹⁴ The only record of Egelin's connection with Northumberland is an entry, in the Pipe Roll for 1219, of payment for a writ against him by Gerard de Widdrington.¹⁵ He died that same year, and livery was made of Oxhill to his nephew and heir, Thomas de Periton,¹⁶ who succeeded likewise to his other estates.

Thomas de Periton, who thus became possessed of the lands of the Dumarts, took his name from Purton in Wiltshire, which he held of Malmesbury Abbey.¹⁷ He did not live long to enjoy his inheritance, but died in 1227, when his son and heir, Adam de Periton, did homage for Oxhill.¹⁸ Thomas appears to have married a sister of Thomas de Sanford, tenant of the serjeanty of Chelsworth and hereditary forester of Braydon in Wiltshire; for when Thomas de Sanford died in 1241, Adam de Periton succeeded him as being his nephew and co-heir.¹⁹ The probable relationship of the early lords of Ellington is shown in the following table :



¹⁴ Pipe Roll of 12 John, cited in Madox, *Formulare Anglicanum*, p. 417.

¹⁵ Hodgson, *Northumberland III*, iii, col. 122.

¹⁶ *Excerpta e Rot. Fin.* I, p. 32.

¹⁷ He occurs in a list of the knights of the abbot of Malmesbury drawn up about 1211-12; *Red Book of the Exchequer*, p. 605.

¹⁸ *Excerpta e Rot. Fin.* I, p. 162; *Close Rolls*, 1227-31, p. 3. Since Thomas de Periton witnessed the deed made by Engelram de Dumart before 1185, printed in note 9, he was an elderly man when he died.

¹⁹ *Close Rolls*, 1237-42, p. 340.

Adam de Periton is found in 1234 bringing a lawsuit against Robert de Cresswell for customs and services due from the vill of Cresswell.²⁰ He was returned in 1242-43 as holding Ellington, Cresswell and Hayden of the barony of Baliol by one knight's fee.²¹ In 1266 he died, leaving no male issue. Of his three daughters, the eldest, Margaret, had predeceased him, as had her husband, William de Kaynes, and their son and heir, Robert de Kaynes, was a minor. His other two daughters, who both survived him, were Isabel, relict of Sir Robert de Welles, and Katherine, wife of Sir John Paynel.²² The partition of property made between the co-heirs has not been recorded in full. It appears, however, from later returns, that Robert de Kaynes took the Warwickshire manor of Oxhill, that Isabel de Welles had the manor of Faxton in Northamptonshire, and that Katherine Paynel took a manor in Dorsetshire named Rampisham. The Wiltshire properties were eventually divided between the Kaynes and Paynel co-heirs. Ellington was at first held in thirds; but in 1272, after he had come of age, Robert de Kaynes surrendered his share of Ellington to his aunt Isabel and to her second husband, Sir William de Vescy, whom she had married in the interval. In return the Vescys assigned to their nephew their share in two of the Wiltshire manors.²³ Isabel de Vescy thus became possessed of two-thirds of Ellington, of which she was found to be seised on her husband's death in 1298.²⁴ Her successor, Adam, third lord Welles, still owned no more than two-thirds when he died in 1345;²⁵ and his son and heir, John, fourth Lord Welles (died 1361) was the first of his line to be returned owner of the whole manor.²⁶

²⁰ *Close Rolls*, 1234-37, p. 156.

²¹ *Book of Fees*, p. 1121.

²² *Calendarium Genealogicum*, p. 120; *Cal. Inquisitiones*, I, p. 200; *Excerpta e Rot. Fin.* II, p. 441.

²³ Harl. Ch. 57, C. 32, printed in Hodgson, *Northumberland* II, ii, p. 211, Woodhorn miscellanea, 16.

²⁴ *Cal. Gen.*, p. 558; *Cal. Inquisitiones*, III, p. 339.

²⁵ *Cal. Inquisitiones* VIII, p. 432.

²⁶ *Inq. p.m.* 35 Edw. III, 2 da pars, No. 81.

The presumption is that Katherine Paynel's third was not acquired by the Welles family before the middle of the fourteenth century, but its descent in the interval has not been traced.²⁷

William de Vescy, the second husband of Isabel de Periton, was younger brother of John de Vescy, lord of Alnwick, whom he succeeded in 1289. He was a competitor for the throne of Scotland in 1291, but his claim was a very bad one. Had it been otherwise, the lady of Ellington would have become queen of Scots. He died in 1297, the last of the Vescy lords of Alnwick, leaving his widow Isabel in enjoyment of the dower of her two husbands, and of her paternal lands of Ellington and Faxton. She assigned a third part of Faxton as dower to her daughter-in-law, Clemence de Vescy, widow of John de Vescy, her only son by her second husband;²⁸ and to her daughters by her first husband, Cecily and Aline de Welles, £20 rent out of the remaining two-thirds of Faxton, and a life tenancy of Ellington manor.²⁹ She survived till 1315, and was succeeded by her grandson, Sir Robert de Welles III, second lord Welles.³⁰

The Welles pedigree has been worked out in a paper contributed by the Rev. E. H. R. Tatham to the

²⁷ There is no mention of Ellington lands in the inquisitions taken on the deaths of Katharine Paynell in 1296 (*Cal. Inquisitions* III, p. 251), of her son and heir, Philip Paynell in 1299 (*op. cit.* III, p. 412), or of his son John in 1325 (*op. cit.* VI, p. 369). Unless this is due to repeated oversight, it would appear that the Paynells alienated their share in Ellington to a third party from whom the Welles family subsequently acquired it. In this connection one may note the fact that John de Coupland and Richard de Bery were returned with Sir John de Welles as owners of Ellington in 1346; *Feudal Aids* IV, p. 53.

²⁸ *Cal. Inquisitions* VIII, p. 372.

²⁹ *Ibid.*, V, p. 292; Harl. Ch. 57, C. 38, printed in Hodgson, *Northumberland* II, ii, p. 212, Woodhorn miscellanea, 17b.

³⁰ *Cal. Inquisitions* V, pp. 292, 312. Robert, second lord Welles, son and heir of Adam, first lord Welles, has been variously represented as grandson and as great-grandson of Sir Robert de Welles II, the husband of Isabel de Perinton. The question is argued in *Lincolnshire Notes and Queries*, XVI, p. 133.

Associated Architectural Societies Reports, XXX (1910), p. 343,³¹ and is summarized as Table I at the end of this article. On five successive occasions the owner of the Welles estate was succeeded by a minor. When John, fourth lord Welles, came of age in 1355, the escheator for Northumberland attorned Robert and Roger de Cresswell to deliver him seisin of his Ellington lands.³² After his death, and during the minority of his son, John, the fifth lord Welles, his widow, Maud, demised the manor of Ellington and Hayden to Roger de Widdrington: this was in 1366.³³ In 1382 the said fifth lord Welles attorned John de Skendilby, chaplain, and Alexander de Cresswell to deliver seisin of Ellington and Hayden to his trustees.³⁴ His marriage to the sister of Thomas Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, raised him to distinction. Their grandson and his heir, Leo, the sixth lord Welles, also made a brilliant match, for he took as his second wife the dowager duchess of Somerset, and through her became connected with the reigning House of Lancaster. Taking the Lancastrian side in the Wars of the Roses, he was slain at Towton field. His name was included in an act of attainder passed on the 4th November, 1461, and his estates were forfeited to the crown.³⁵ On the 28th January following, Ellington was granted to Robert, lord Ogle.³⁶

Lord Ogle remained in possession for only three and a half years, for on July 11th, 1465, Sir Richard Welles, lord Willoughby *jure uxoris*, the eldest son of the sixth lord Welles, had his father's estates restored to him.³⁷ In 1468 lord Willoughby was restored in addition to the Welles barony as seventh lord Welles. But he did not

³¹ See also, for the earlier stages of the descent, *Lincolnshire Notes and Queries* VI (1900), p. 54.

³² Harl. Ch. 48, I. 20.

³³ Hodgson, *Northumberland* II, ii, p. 212, Woodhorn miscellanea, 18.

³⁴ Harl. Ch. 57, G. 14.

³⁵ *Rotuli Parliamentarii* V, p. 477.

³⁶ *Cal. Patent Rolls*, 1461-67, p. 113.

³⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 468; *Rot. Parl.* V, p. 617.

long enjoy that dignity. On March 12th, 1470, he was put to death by king Edward IV for complicity in the Lincolnshire rebellion, in which his only son, Sir Robert Welles IV, lost his life a week later. The Welles estates became forfeited a second time, though not included in a formal act of attainder till 1475.³⁸ That act accorded to Dame Margery, the widow of the seventh lord Welles, a life tenancy in Ellington manor, in compensation for an annuity out of two Lincolnshire properties; secured the life interests of Margaret, duchess of Somerset, and Maud, lady Willoughby, in other estates, and settled the remainder of the Welles lands for life upon Sir Richard Hastings, who had married Joan, the only surviving child and heir general of the seventh lord Welles;³⁹ and on March 16th, 1475, the reversions of the Welles estates, including that of the manor of Ellington on the death of lady Welles, were granted to the king's son, Richard, duke of York, the younger of the "Princes in the Tower."⁴⁰ Ellington presumably passed to the duke of York two months later, for, on May 8th following, lady Welles took the veil and entered a nunnery.⁴¹

When the House of York was overthrown at Bosworth field in 1485, the Welles family rose again to fortune. Its last male representative, John Welles, half-brother and heir male of the seventh lord Welles, had his father's estates restored to him and the heirs of his body,⁴² and was created baron, and subsequently viscount, Welles. Not only so, but he received in marriage the princess

³⁸ *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1467-77, p. 218; *Rot. Parl.* VI, p. 144.

³⁹ *Rot. Parl.* VI, p. 148. Hastings had been accorded the Willoughby lands, inherited from his wife's mother, on the death of his father-in-law in 1470 (*Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1467-77, p. 207). He was summoned to parliament in 1482 as lord Welles and Willoughby. In 1485 he was deprived of the Welles lands by the act that restored them to John, lord Welles; but was allowed to retain the Willoughby estates for his life.

⁴⁰ *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1467-77, p. 508.

⁴¹ *Testamenta Eboracensia* III, p. 343.

⁴² *Rot. Parl.* VI, p. 286. Confirmed by an act of assurance in 1491; *Statutes of the Realm* II, p. 562.



Cecily, daughter of king Edward IV and sister of Henry VII's queen, and thus became brother-in-law to his sovereign.⁴³ He died in 1499, and in 1503 another act of parliament was passed, limiting the succession to his estates. Provision was made that his widow should enjoy his lands, with certain expressed exceptions, for life; that on her death they should revert to the king for the term of ten years; and that, when that term had expired, they should be divided between the heirs of the four daughters of the sixth lord Welles. Under the provisions of the act, William, lord Willoughby, grandson and heir of one of the said four daughters, had various estates in Lincolnshire and Essex assigned to him as his purparty; and it was stipulated that the representatives of the other three co-heiresses should enjoy the residue of the Welles' properties as co-parceners.⁴⁴ The princess Cecily died in August, 1507, and, under the provisions of this act, her lands reverted to the crown. The descendants of the co-heiresses of Leo, lord Welles, became entitled to them in 1517, but it is possible that they did not immediately obtain possession.⁴⁵

The four daughters of Leo, lord Welles, whose descendants now entered upon his estates, were (1) Eleanor, the wife successively of Thomas, lord Hoo and Hastings, and of James Laurence; (2) Cecily, wife of Sir Robert Willoughby; (3) Margaret, wife of Sir Thomas Dymoke of Scrivelsby; and (4) Katherine, who married first Thomas de la Laund of Horblyng, and secondly Robert Tempest of Bowling. William, lord Willoughby,

⁴³ He was already the king's uncle, being half-brother, on the mother's side, of lady Margaret Beaufort, countess of Richmond.

⁴⁴ *Rot. Parl.* VI, p. 542; *Statutes of the Realm*, II, p. 683. The co-heirs already enjoyed the Waterton estates, acquired by the sixth lord Welles on his first marriage, under the provisions of the act of 1475.

⁴⁵ In the Record Office there are receivers' accounts for Crown lands in Ellington, 10-12 Henry VIII (Ministers' Accounts, Hen VIII, 5976) and a rental of Ellington, 16 Henry VIII (Rentals and Surveys, Gen. series, portf. 13, No. 62).

became entitled to the properties specified in the act of 1503, as grandson and heir of dame Cecily Willoughby; and the representatives of the other three co-heirs became possessed of the remaining estates as co-parceners. Ellington fell into the second category, and so the manor became vested in a group of owners. The succession of the thirds of the manor must now be traced, so far as evidence allows, premising that these thirds were held not in severalty but in co-parcenary.

I. The *Hoo and Laurence third*. Lady Hoo and Hastings had three daughters by her first marriage, and, by her second, two sons, of whom the elder, Sir Thomas Laurence, succeeded. He died without issue, leaving as heir his younger brother, John Laurence, who likewise had no offspring. The latter died in 1512, his heirs being the sons of his three sisters of the half blood. These were Sir Roger Copley of Roughey in Sussex, Sir Richard Carew of Beddington in Surrey, and Richard Devenish of Hellingley in Sussex, who consequently each became entitled, in 1517, to one-third of one-third part, or one-ninth, of the manor of Ellington. Sir Roger Copley made settlement, in 1534, of lands in Northamptonshire and Lincolnshire and of his estate in Ellington, therein described as a *third* part of the manor, upon trustees in trust for himself for life, with successive remainders to his wife for life, the heirs male of his body, and his three daughters.⁴⁶ The later descent of the Copley share has not been traced.

Sir Richard Carew died in 1520, leaving a son and heir, Sir Nicholas Carew, knight of the Garter and master of the horse to Henry VIII. Engaging in a conspiracy to set the marquis of Exeter upon the throne, he was executed for high treason in 1539. His lands were forfeited, but were restored in 1553 to his son and heir,

⁴⁶ Feet of Fines, Diverse Counties, Mich. term, 26 Hen. VIII. For the Copley family see Mr. V. C. Sanborn's paper on the Copleys of Roughey and Galton in the *Genealogist*, N.S., XXXIII, p. 73.



Francis Carew.⁴⁷ The last named granted his portion of Ellington manor, and property in Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire, on December 19th, 1573, to Arthur Hall of Grantham.⁴⁸

Richard Devenish included his ninth part of the manor in a settlement made in 1532 to which his son and heir, Thomas Devenish, was a party.⁴⁹ The latter purchased the share of Edward Boleyn, another of the co-parceners, in 1549, and sold his two shares in 1552 to Anthony Pelham.

II. The *Dymoke third*. Dame Margaret Dymoke's third was inherited by her son, Sir Robert Dymoke. Acting in the name of all the co-parceners, he made a lease of the manor of Ellington, on January 6th, 1545, to Thomas Grey for the term of thirty years.⁵⁰ His son, Sir Edward Dymoke, sold his third of the manor on July 26th, 1567, to John Swinburne of Chopwell.⁵¹

III. The *De la Laund and Tempest third*. Katherine Welles, the youngest of the co-heiresses, was twice married, and had a son by each husband. The elder, Thomas de la Laund, died without issue, leaving two sisters and co-heirs: Jane, the wife of Thomas Denton of Denton, and Margaret, wife of Thomas Berkley. The younger, John Tempest, died in his father's lifetime, leaving an only daughter and heiress named Anne. Katherine Welles's share consequently descended in thirds upon her two daughters by her first husband and her granddaughter by her second, each of whom became

⁴⁷ Patent Roll, 1 Mary, par. 8.

⁴⁸ British Museum, Add. Ch. 24166.

⁴⁹ Feet of Fines, Diverse Counties, Mich. term, 28 Hen. VIII.

⁵⁰ Hall and Humberstone's survey, Vol. II, p. 220. Sir Robert Dymoke is named in a receipt, dated August, 1531, as receiver general of lord Welles' lands; Dodsworth MS. 49, fol. 80 verso.

⁵¹ Exchequer decrees, Trin. term, 21 Jas. I. Further assurance was made by fine by Robert Dymoke, son and heir of Sir Edward; Feet of Fines, Northumb., Trin. term, 10 Eliz. John Swinburne had previously purchased, in 1542, the lands of Sir Arthur Darcy, a freeholder in the manor; Feet of Fines, Northumb., Easter term, 34 Hen. VIII; Hil. term, 4 and 5 Philip and Mary.

entitled to one-ninth part of the manor. Thomas Denton, the son of Thomas and Jane Denton, conveyed his ninth share by fine to Henry Knyghtbrige in 1542.⁵² As to the Berkley ninth there is no information. Anne Tempest married Sir Edward Boleyn of Blickling, who sold his wife's ninth to Thomas Devenish in 1549, as recorded above.⁵³

⁵² Feet of Fines, Diverse Counties, Mich. term, 34 Hen. VIII.

⁵³ *Ibid.*, Hil. term, 3 Edw. VI.

TABLE I

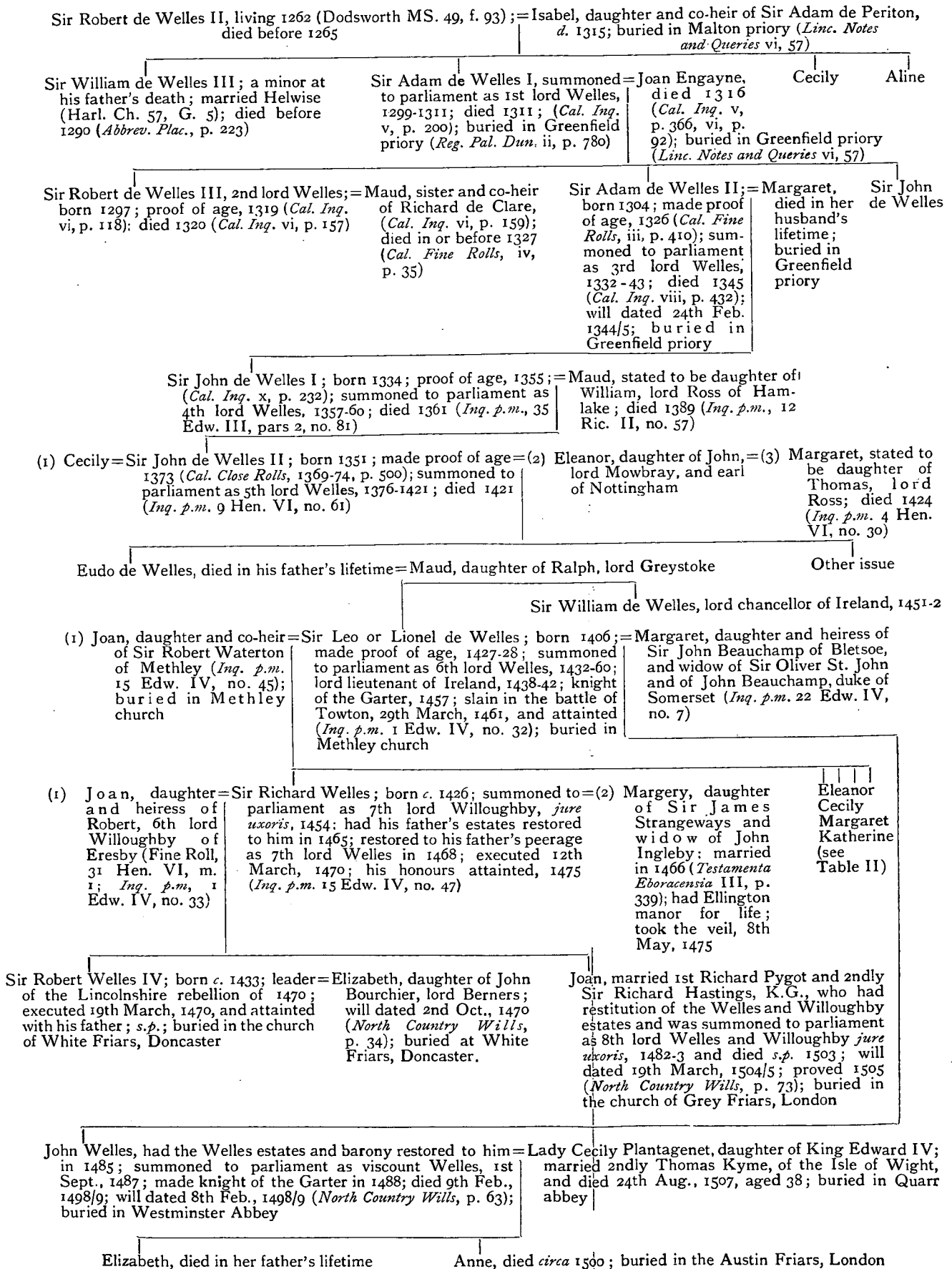


TABLE II

Leo, 6th Lord Welles=Cecily Waterton

