

# Plantagenet Ancestry: A Study In Colonial And Medieval Families

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## ❧ ASTLEY ❧

**GEOFFREY PLANTAGENET**, Count of Anjou, by an unknown mistress, \_\_\_\_\_  
**HAMELIN**, 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Surrey, married **ISABEL DE WARENNE**.  
**MAUD DE WARENNE**, married **HENRY OF EU**, Count of Eu.  
**ALICE OF EU**, Countess of Eu, married **RAOUL D'EXOUDUN**, Count of Eu.  
**MAUD OF EU**, married **HUMPHREY DE BOHUN**, Knt., Earl of Hereford and Essex.  
**ALICE DE BOHUN**, married **ROGER DE TONY**, of Flamstead, Hertfordshire.  
**RALPH DE TONY**, Knt., of Flamstead, Hertfordshire, married **MARY** \_\_\_\_\_  
**ALICE DE TONY**, married **GUY DE BEAUCHAMP**, Knt., 10<sup>th</sup> Earl of Warwick [see TONY 8].

**9. ELIZABETH DE BEAUCHAMP**, married before 1336/7 (as his 2<sup>nd</sup> wife) **THOMAS DE ASTLEY** (or **ASTELEY**), Knt., of Astley, Bentley, and **Weddington**, Warwickshire, Broughton, Leicestershire, and Crick, Northamptonshire, son and heir of **Giles de Astley**, Knt., by **Alice**, 2<sup>nd</sup> daughter and co-heiress of **Thomas de Wolvey**, Knt., of Wolvey, Warwickshire. He was born in or before 1305. They had three sons, **William**, Knt., **Thomas**, Knt., and **Giles**. He was married previously to **MARGARET** \_\_\_\_\_, who was living 15 July 1334. They had no known issue. He was heir in 1325 to his uncle, **Nicholas de Astley**, 2<sup>nd</sup> **Lord Astley**. In 1338 he founded a chantry in Astley, Warwickshire, which, in 1343, he had sanction to change into a collegiate church. He was summoned to Parliament from 25 Feb. 1342/3 to 10 March 1349/50. **SIR THOMAS DE ASTLEY**, 3<sup>rd</sup> **Lord Astley**, was living 3 May 1366.

*J. Nichols Hist. & Antiq. of Leicestershire* 4 Pt. 2 (1811): 811. *W. Dugdale Monasticon Anglicanum* 6 Pt. 3 (1830): 1372-1374. *G. Baker Hist. & Antiq. of Northampton* 2 (1836-1841): 218-219. *R. Surtees Hist. & Antiq. of Durham* 4 (1840): 65 (Beauchamp pedigree). *T.C. Banks Baronies in Fee* 1 (1844): 108-109 (sub Astley). *R. Glover Vis. of Staffordshire 1583* (Colls. Hist. Staffs. 3 Pt. 2) (1883): 36 (Astley pedigree: "Thomas de Astley D'n's de Astley = Elizabetha, filia Thome de Bellocampo, Comitis Warwici"). *R. Tresswell & A. Vincent Vis. of Shropshire 1623, 1569 & 1584* 1 (H.S.P. 28) (1889): 18 (1623 Vis.) (Astley arms: Azure, a cinquefoil ermine) ("[Tho] Lo Astley died 8<sup>th</sup> R. 2 = Elizabeth dau. to Guy Beauchampe Earle of Warwick"). *F. Madan Gresties of Drakelow* (Colls. Hist. Staffs. n.s. 1) (1898): 235. *Desc. Cat. of Ancient Deeds* 5 (1906): 248-249. *VCH Warwick* 2 (1908): 117-120. *C.P. 1* (1910): 283-284 (sub Astley). *W. Cherwynd Hist. of Pirhill Hundred* 2 (Colls. Hist. Staffs. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ser. 1914) (1914): 82-85. *VCH Warwick* 6 (1951): 283 (Astley arms: Azure, three cinquefoils ermine). *G. Paget Baronage of England* (1957) 9: 1-2 (sub Astley).

Children of Elizabeth de Beauchamp, by Thomas de Astley, Knt.:

- i. **WILLIAM ASTLEY** (or **ASTELEY**), 4<sup>th</sup> **Lord Astley**, of Astley, Bentley, and **Weddington**, Warwickshire, justice of the peace for Warwickshire, son and heir, born before 1345. He married (1<sup>st</sup>) before 1370 **JOAN** (or **?KATHERINE**) **WILLOUGHBY**, daughter of **John de Willoughby**, 3<sup>rd</sup> **Lord Willoughby** of Eresby, by **Cecily**, daughter of **Robert de Ufford**, Knt., K.G., 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Suffolk. They had one daughter, **Joan**. He was never summoned to Parliament. In 1370 he had license for an oratory in his manor at **Weddington**, Warwickshire, which license was renewed in 1371. In 1389 he granted a rent charge of 40s. on his manor of **Bentley**, Warwickshire to the collegiate church of Astley, Warwickshire. Sometime in the period, 1384/5-1402/3, he acquired the manors of **Alcott** (in **Coleshill**) and **Bedworth**, Warwickshire from **John Charnels**, Esq., or his heirs. His wife, **Joan**, was evidently living in 1404. He married (2<sup>nd</sup>) before 1413/4 **MARGARET** \_\_\_\_\_. They had no issue. **WILLIAM DE ASTLEY**, 4<sup>th</sup> **Lord Astley**, died in 1420. His widow, **Margaret**, was living in 1434/5. *T.C. Banks Baronies in Fee* 1 (1844): 108-109 (sub Astley). *R. Glover Vis. of Staffordshire 1583* (Colls. Hist. Staffs. 3 Pt. 2) (1883): 36 (Astley pedigree: "Will'm's de Astley D'n's de Astley, miles = Catherine, soror Baronis de Willoughby"). *G. Wrottesley Staffordshire Suits: Plea Rolls* (Colls. Hist. Staffs. 15) (1894): 4. *F. Madan Gresties of Drakelow* (Colls. Hist. Staffs. n.s. 1) (1898): 235. *R. Stretton Regs. of Bishops of Coventry & Lichfield* (Colls. Hist. Staffs. n.s. 8) (1905): 52, 60. *C.P.R. 1399-1401* (1903): 210, 565. *C.P.R. 1391-1396* (1905): 238, 370, 436, 477. *C.P.R. 1401-1405* (1905): 127, 138. *Desc. Cat. of Ancient Deeds* 5 (1906): 248-249. *C.P.R. 1405-1408* (1907): 66, 498. *C.P.R. 1408-1413* (1909): 378. *VCH Warwick* 2 (1908): 117-120. *C.P.R. 1413-1416* (1910): 424. *C.P. 1* (1910): 284 (sub Astley); 6 (1926): 158, footnote d (sub Grey) (abstract of 1404 will of **Thomas Raleigh** mentions his wife, **Joan [Astley]**, and "**Lord of Astley**," and "**Joan, Lady of Astley**," presumably his wife's parents). *C.C.R. 1402-1405* (1929): 73, 401, 475. *C.C.R. 1405-1409* (1931): 182. *C.F.R. 1399-1405* (1931): 255, 319. *VCH Warwick* 4 (1947): 53, 179, 211; 6 (1951): 17, 28, 109, 283. *G. Paget Baronage of England* (1957) 9: 1-2 (sub Astley). *Cal. Inq. Misc.* 7 (1968): 25. *Cal. of Ancient Deeds—Series B 3* (List & Index Soc. 113) (1975): B.9103, B.10662, B.10665, B.10709, B.10763, B.10765, B.10788.

Child of **William Astley**, Knt., by **Joan** (or **Katherine**) **Willoughby**:

- a. **JOAN ASTLEY**, married **REYNOLD GREY**, Knt., 3<sup>rd</sup> **Lord Grey** of Ruthin [see RUTHIN 10].<sup>33</sup>
- ii. **THOMAS DE ASTLEY**, Knt. [see next].
- iii. **ALICE DE ASTLEY**, married **RICHARD CHAMPERNOUN**, Knt., of **Modbury**, Devon [see CHAMPERNOUN 10].<sup>34</sup>

<sup>33</sup> Ancestors of **Christopher Batt**, **Elizabeth Bosville**, **Charles Calvert**, **Matthew Clarkson**, **Thomas Dudley**, **Simon Lynde**, **Mary Johanna Somerset**, **Thomas Wingfield**.

**10. THOMAS DE ASTLEY**, Knt., of Hillmorton, Warwickshire, and, in right of his wife, of Braunstone (in Glenfield) and Little Stretton, Leicestershire, younger son. He married before 12 Dec. 1369 **ELIZABETH DE HARCOURT**, daughter and heiress of Richard de Harcourt, Knt., of Ellenhall, Staffordshire, by Joan, daughter of William de Shareshill, Knt., Chief Justice of the King's Bench. She was born about 1347/9 (aged 22 in 1369 and 21 in 1370). They had two sons, Thomas, Esq., and John, and one daughter, Elizabeth, wife of John Clay, Knt. They were involved in a protracted series of lawsuits regarding the manor of Ellenhall, the reversion of which was awarded to them. She was living in 1383–84. **SIR THOMAS DE ASTLEY** died in 1399.

J. Nichols *Hist. & Antiq. of Leicestershire* 4 Pt. 2 (1811): 442, 811 (Sir Thomas de Astley, of Nailston, kt. 1366; died 1399... Elizabeth... lady of Patshull) (identification of children). *Genealogist* n.s. 17 (1901): 175. *C.F.R. 1368–1377* (1924): 54. T. Hawley et al. *Vis. of Essex 1552, 1558, 1570, 1612 & 1634* 1 (H.S.P. 13) (1878): 138 (1612 Vis.); 2 (H.S.P. 14) (1879): 543 (Misc. Peds.) ("Sir Thomas Astley = Elizabeth d. & heir of Sir Ric. Harcourt"). R. Glover *Vis. of Staffordshire 1583* (Colls. Hist. Staffs. 3 Pt. 2) (1883): 36 (does not include a daughter, Elizabeth). G. Wrottesley *Staffordshire Suits: Plea Rolls* (Colls. Hist. Staffs. 13) (1892): 52–53, 135, 138–139, 144–145, 151, 168, 185–186. G. Wrottesley *Staffordshire Suits: Plea Rolls* (Colls. Hist. Staffs. n.s. 3) (1900): 127–128. *List of Inq. ad Quod Damnum* 2 (PRO Lists and Indexes 22) (1906): 611. *C.P.R. 1370–1374* (1914): 407. R. Mundy *Middlesex Peds.* (H.S.P. 65) (1914): 78–80 (Burbage pedigree: "S<sup>r</sup> John Clay [Clay] lord of the Manor of Thebalds als Tonge & Cresbrook in Com. Hertford. = .... d. of .... Astley."). *Cal. IPMs* 12 (1938): 348–350, 13 (1954): 60. *VCH Warwick* 4 (1947): 25 (Astley arms: Azure, a cinquefoil ermine). G. Paget *Baronage of England* (1957) 9: 1–2 (sub Astley). *VCH Leicester* 5 (1964): 262. *Cal. IPMs* 17 (1988): 191–192.

**11. THOMAS ASTLEY**, Esq., of Ellenhall, Staffordshire, son and heir, born say 1385. He married before 18 Jan. 1423/4 **JOAN GRESLEY**, daughter of Thomas Gresley, Knt., by Margaret, daughter of Thomas Walsh. In 1424 she was granted an annuity of £40 as King Henry VI's former nurse. They had five sons, Thomas, Esq., John, William, Richard, and Henry. He was ejected from Ellenhall by his cousin, Robert Harcourt. **THOMAS ASTLEY**, Esq., died before 13 Jan. 1432, when his widow, Joan, sued Robert Harcourt for dower. In 1446 she founded the gild of Holy Trinity and a chantry in St. Botolph without Aldersgate, London. She was living in 1463 when the King re-confirmed her annuity.

S. Shaw *Hist. & Antiq. of Staffordshire* 2 (1801): 284–285. J. Nichols *Hist. & Antiq. of Leicestershire* 4 Pt. 2 (1811): 811 (identification of sons; "Margaret, daughter of sir Thomas Butler, of Warrington, knt."). T. Hawley et al. *Vis. of Essex 1552, 1558, 1570, 1612 & 1634* 1 (H.S.P. 13) (1878): 138 (1612 Vis.); 2 (H.S.P. 14) (1879): 542 (Misc. Peds.). R. Glover *Vis. of Staffordshire 1583* (Colls. Hist. Staffs. 3 Pt. 2) (1883): 36. G. Wrottesley *Staffordshire Suits: Plea Rolls* (Colls. Hist. Staffs. 17) (1896): 150. *C.P.R. 1461–1467* (1897): 122. G. Wrottesley *Staffordshire Suits: Plea Rolls* (Colls. Hist. Staffs. n.s. 3) (1900): 141. *C.P.R. 1422–1429* (1901): 84, 179. *C.P.R. 1436–1441* (1907): 35–6, 127, 204. *C.P.R. 1441–1446* (1908): 319, 451. *C.P.R. 1446–1452* (1909): 550. *C.P.R. 1452–1461* (1910): 379, 483. *VCH Stafford* 20 (1984): 164.

**12. THOMAS ASTLEY**, Esq., of Nailstone, Leicestershire, Sheriff of Staffordshire, 3<sup>rd</sup> son but eldest surviving son and heir, born say 1415 (adult by 1437). He married **MARGARET BOTELE**, daughter of Thomas Boteler, Knt., by his wife, Elizabeth. They had two sons, William and Richard, Esq. In 1452 he was co-heir to his distant Shareshill cousin, Joan (Peshale) Lee, of Knightley (in Gnosall), Staffordshire, by which he inherited the manors of Patshull, Staffordshire, and Bolinghale, Shropshire. He was living at Easter 1457, when he was sued by his cousin, Robert Harcourt, Knt., in a plea of trespass. **THOMAS ASTLEY**, Esq., died in 1483, and was buried at Wolverhampton, Staffordshire. [Note: Margaret Boteler is presumably related to John Boteler of Eccleshale, Staffordshire, who served as an executor of her husband's grandfather, Thomas Astley's will in 1418 (see G. Wrottesley *Staffordshire Suits: Plea Rolls* (Colls. Hist. Staffs. 17) (1896): 61). Presumably he is the same individual as John Boteler of Coventry, Warwickshire who served as a feeoffee prior to 1413 for Thomas Astley, Esq. (see *Cal. of Ancient Deeds—Series B 1* (List & Index Soc. 95) (1973): 47), or the John Boteler son of Thomas Boteler of Eccleshale by Coventry living 1425 (see *Cal. of Ancient Deeds—Series B 1* (List & Index Soc. 95) (1973): 117). The Boteler family of Coventry is perhaps descended from an earlier Boteler family of Badminton, a cadet of the Wern line (see *C.P. 12 Pt. 1* (1953): 418, footnote j (sub Sudeley)].

J. Nichols *Hist. & Antiq. of Leicestershire* 4 Pt. 2 (1811): 811 ("Thomas Astley = Margaret, daughter of Sir Thomas Butler, of Warrington, knt."). T. Hawley et al. *Vis. of Essex 1552, 1558, 1570, 1612 & 1634* 2 (H.S.P. 14) (1879): 542 (Misc. Peds.) ("Thomas Astley of Patshull in com. Stafford buried at Wolverhampton 1 R. 3 = Margaret d. of Sir Tho. Boteler & of Elizabeth his wife"). R. Glover *Vis. of Staffordshire 1583* (Colls. Hist. Staffs. 3 Pt. 2) (1883): 36. R. Tresswell & A. Vincent *Vis. of Shropshire 1623, 1569 & 1584* 1 (H.S.P. 28) (1889): 18 (1623 Vis.) ("Thomas Astley of Patshull in com. Staff. = Margrett da. of Sir Thomas Butler Kt."). *C.P.R. 1461–1467* (1897): 572. *C.P.R. 1467–1477* (1900): 630. G. Wrottesley *Staffordshire Suits: Plea Rolls* (Colls. Hist. Staffs. n.s. 3) (1900): 224. J.C. Wedgwood *Staffordshire Sheriffs* (Colls. Hist. Staffs. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ser. 1912) (1912): 282. G.P. Mander *Some Ridings Armorial Glass* (Colls. Hist. Staffs. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ser. 1923) (1924): 290 ("Mavesyn pedigree shows "Margaret, d. of Sir Thomas (?) Butler of Wern" married, first, to John Cawarden (c.1421–1477), and second, Thomas Astley of Patshull, 1478). *C.F.R. 1430–1437* (1936): 351, 358. *C.C.R. 1435–1441* (1937): 345. *C.C.R. 1447–1454* (1941–7): 17, 172. *VCH Stafford* 20 (1984): 164.

**13. RICHARD ASTLEY**, Esq., of Patshull, Staffordshire, Nailstone and Little Stretton (in King's Norton), Leicestershire, and Baxterley, Warwickshire, Sheriff of Staffordshire, younger son, born say 1460. He was heir in or before 1497 to his older brother, William Astley. He married **JOAN OTELEY**, daughter of Thomas Oteley (or Orley), Esq., of Pitchford, Shropshire, by Margaret, daughter of John Blount. They had three sons, Thomas, Hugh,

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\* Ancestors of Elizabeth Bosvile, George, Giles & Robert Brent, Humphrey Davie, Mary Launce, Thomas Owsley, Thomas Wingfield.

and Anthony, and three daughters, Elizabeth, Anne, and Jane. **RICHARD ASTLEY**, Esq., died shortly before 12 Nov. 1531, survived by his wife.

J. Nichols *Hist. & Antiq. of Leicestershire* 4 Pt. 2 (1811): 811 (identifies children: Thomas, and Joan, wife of Thomas Bagot, of Blythfield). *Letters & Papers... Henry VIII* 3 Pt. 1 (1867): 396; 3 Pt. 2 (1867): 1019, 1491; 4 Pt. 1 (1870): 901; 5 (1880): 58. R. Glover *Vis. of Staffordshire 1583* (Colls. Hist. Staffs. 3 Pt. 2) (1883): 36 (identifies one daughter only, "Jana, uxor Thomae Bagot de Blythfield"). R. Tresswell & A. Vincent *Vis. of Shropshire 1623, 1569 & 1584* 1 (H.S.P. 28) (1889): 18 (1623 Vis.) ("Richard Astley of Patshull = Joane da. of John Oteley of Pitchford"). R. Cooke & R. Mundy *Vis. of Worcester 1569* (H.S.P. 27) (1888): 16–19. *VCH Warwick* 4 (1947): 25. *VCH Leicester* 5 (1964): 262. *VCH Stafford* 20 (1984): 164 (states Richard Astley died in 1531). *VCH Shropshire* 8 (1968): 119. A.J. Kettle *List of Fams. in the Archbishopric of Stafford 1532–3* (Colls. Hist. Staffs. 4<sup>th</sup> Ser. 8) (1976): 186–187.

Child of Richard Astley, by Joan Oteley:

i. **ELIZABETH ASTLEY**, married **JOHN THORNES**, of Shelvock, Shropshire [see LITTLETON 16].<sup>35</sup>