

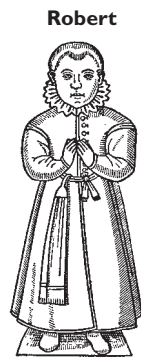
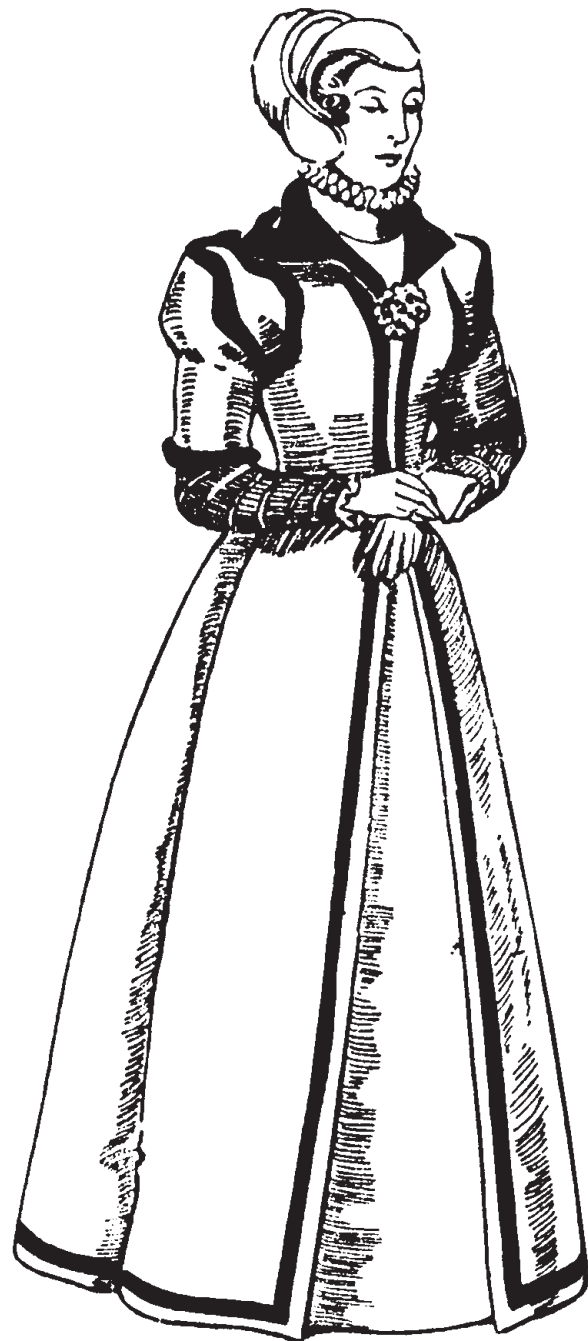
On the 13th October 1573 an entry in the Yardley Parish Register reads, 'Richard Smalbroke the sonne of Richard & Margrett was buried...' Later that year Margaret Smalbroke died and was buried on the 22nd of December.

Richard married again in the mid 1570s. His second wife was Elizabeth Kinnersley. Unfortunately she and Richard did not have any children.

It is possible that Robert Smalbroke was not very strong or that Richard was anxious to secure his direct line through grandchildren. Robert married in 1589—early for the Tudor gentry class. His wife was Elizabeth Shilton.

Robert and Elizabeth's marriage produced two daughters. Barbara, named after Elizabeth's mother, Barbara Shilton, was baptised on August 15th 1593, in Yardley. Another daughter, Joan, was buried on the 8th July, 1594. Her place of baptism is not known. Then, at some point before 1603, Robert died. His widow married again and became Elizabeth Colmore (the Colmores were another wealthy Birmingham merchant family). After her grandfather's death in 1613, Barbara Smalbroke inherited Blakesley Hall and lands.

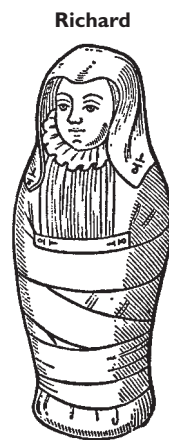
Elizabeth Shilton



Robert



Joan



Richard

The Family in Stuart Times

BARBARA SMALBROKE married Mr. Henry Devereux, 6th son of Sir Edward Devereux of Castle Bromwich Hall, at St. Gile's Church, Sheldon in 1614. In 1615, their first son, Edward, was baptised. Henry Devereux died in 1616 and the little boy in 1618, leaving Barbara a wealthy and childless young widow.

Her second marriage took place in London. At the Church of St. Mildred Poultry, on 20th December 1620 Barbara Devereux was married to Aylmer Foliot, a son of Sir John Foliot of Pirton Court, Pershore in the County of Worcestershire. The record of the baptism of their first son, Aylmer jr., has been lost, but on 20 December 1622, their second son, John, was baptised in Yardley, followed by:

Thomas, baptised 18th July 1624

Francis, baptised 1st January 1625/6 (The year ran March—March at this time so by our calendar, 1626)

Elizabeth, baptised 9th January 1626/7

Henry, baptised 19th June 1628

Barbara, baptised 29th December 1629

Cheney Cullpepper, baptised 31st July 1631

Robert, baptised 19th November 1633



Robert Smalbroke and Elizabeth Shilton

There were three other sons whose baptismal records have been lost, as the Yardley register in the 1630s has damaged pages; one of these sons is known to have been named Anthony. The other two are unknown and may have died soon after birth.

Aylmer Foliot senior was buried at Yardley in 1677 and Barbara, at the grand old age of 86, in 1679. Their eldest son Aylmer Foliot jr inherited the Hall. He had never married and when he died, in 1684, the property went to his oldest surviving brother, Robert. Robert, happily settled in Ireland, sold it to Henry Greswold—a descendent of the Greswold stepsons of Richard Smalbroke. Blakesley Hall and lands were then leased to a local farming family.



THE FAMILY AT Blakesley Hall

RICHARD SMALBROKE married Margaret Greswold, a wealthy widow with two sons, at Yardley on the 17th August, 1568.

The Greswolds were a Warwickshire family from the Solihull area and Richard became step father or 'father in law' to the two boys, Henry and Thomas. Richard's first child was born in 1569 and baptised at St Martin's Church in Birmingham. He was named Robert. A daughter, Joan, was baptised at Yardley on the 4th September, 1571 and Richard's third child, another boy, was baptised as Richard Smalbroke on the 21st July, 1573.

Richard Smalbroke c1545-1613 and Margaret Greswold

