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Was the mother of Hugh Audley “ The Userer” Margaret or Maudelin Hare?

Introduction

Chapter 12 of Audley Pedigrees written by A. L Reade describes the family History of Hugh Audley who was baptised 13 January 1576/7 at St Michael's Wood Street, London.

There is no disputing that his father was John Audley who was buried at St Michael Wood Street. Audley Pedigrees contains transcriptions from the Parish Registers of that church and it records the burial of two people called John Audley one dated 12th October 1577 and the other 22nd February 1577/8. (As an aside to the main subject of this file John Audley's death is probably the latter as a posthumus son George Audley, was baptised 30 Aug 1579 at St Michael's Wood Street, and was buried there 26 Dec 1593. The other John Audley burial could have been the death of another of his sons) Whilst it is not clear which burial is the burial of Hugh Audley's father John Audley, it is clear that Hugh Audley could not have been very old when his father died.

On the other hand there is significant uncertainty regarding the name of the mother of Hugh Audley. Audley Pedigrees states that John Audley married Maudlin the daughter of John Hare, although “Audley Pedigrees” does not give a reference from a Parish Register. Following John Audley's death his widow becomes the second wife of William Harvey. Audley Pedigrees states that “William Harvey married 2^{ndly} Maudlin widow of John Audley” and that “thenceforward she was called Margaret, evidently to distinguish her from his first wife”. This statement is made even though the marriage record in the St Michael Wood Street, Parish Register records that on the 2nd February 1580/1 William Harvey married his 2nd wife Margaret Awdley. William Harvey's first wife Maudlin Bawkin whom he married on 26th May 1560.

Audley Pedigrees is not the only document (or internet website) that refers to John Audley's wife as Maudelin there are several. Some refer to her as “Maudelin or Margaret.”

The aim of this document is to demonstrate that John Audley's wife was Margaret (and not Maudlin) the daughter of John Hare.

Evidence for her name being Margaret

As far as www.audleyfamilyhistory.com is concerned the key pieces of evidence that “Audley Pedigrees does not consider is:

- The Will of John Hare.
- The baptism Margaret Hare 9th July 1542

The will of John Hare.

The will John Hare (National Archive ref PROB11/48) is 5 pages long and was dated the 25th day of August 1564, some 13 years before the death of John Audley. Therefore if John Hare refers to his daughter in his will it will be in her true name.

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There are two references in John Hare's will to his daughter Margaret and no reference to a daughter called Maudlin. In fact in one of the references to Margaret he refers to her as the wife of John Audley.

The evidence is as follows:

Illustration 1 shows a copy of part of one line from page 2 of John Hare's will

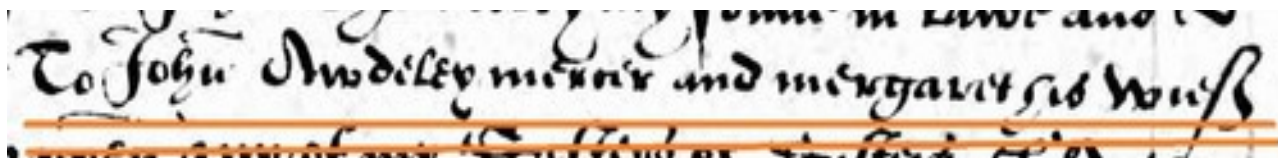


Illustration 1

even to the untrained eye it states :

'To John Audley, mercer, and Margaret his wife'

This section of the will states:

“Alderman and to my Lady his wife To Mr Roger Martin Aldermanne To Mr Edward Jackmanne Alderman To Sir Thomas Gresham Knighte and my lady his wife To master William Hawtrie and his wiff To my cosins Michaell Hare and his wife To master Thomas Rowse and my Cosin his wiff To my Cosens Robert Hare, William Hare and Thomazine Hare To Mr Thomas Tymperley To Mr Thomas Geton and his wyff to Mr Francis Barnham Draper and his wyf To my sister-in-law Elizabethe Danby And to my owne sister Agnes Lingley To my cosin Robert Loffe sonn and heire of Hugh Loffe deceased To Mr Thomas Maston haberdasher and his wyf to Arthur Dawbney and his wife To Thomas Blunte mercer To William Leonerd mercer To Henrie Hawe of Dudlington in the Countie of Norfolk and to his wife To John Chalmeley my son-in-lawe and Isabell his wife To Robert Taylor mercer To John Audley, mercer, and Margaret his wife Provided always that yet? It shall happen any of my sisters or sisters children or any other person or personnes to whom there is any bequest legacie or devise before given willed or bequeathed to be departed this transition ... before my decease Then I will that Legacie and bequeste be made to the partie or parties devised? To be frustrate? Voyde and of none effecte onelie excepted the legacie and bequeste made to my daughter Chemleis children which I will shalbe to the Survyvour Survivours in suche sorte? As I have before willed And whereas my Cosin Hugh Loffe deceased hathe by his last Will and Testament in writing beinge date the ffourthe day in maii in the yere of our Lord god a thousand five hundred fyftie and five devised and given one tenement called the Lyon m Whitchurche together with all the Lands Tenements Meddows and pastures that he purchased of Edward Stockwood dwelling at Lalam? To his wyff for terme of her lyef the remeynder thereof to Robert Loffe his sonne and to the heirs (end of page)”.

Illustrations 2 & 3 below shows a copy of the end of one line and the start of the following line

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from page 1 of John Hare's will.

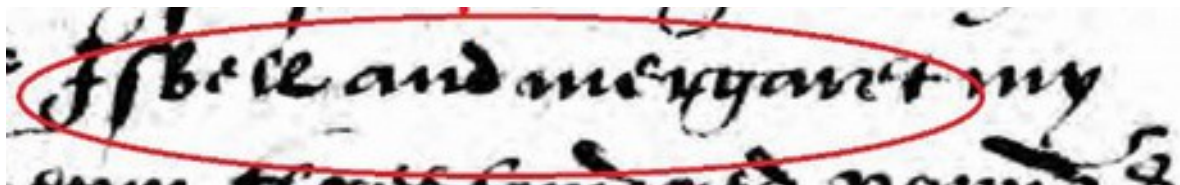


Illustration 2

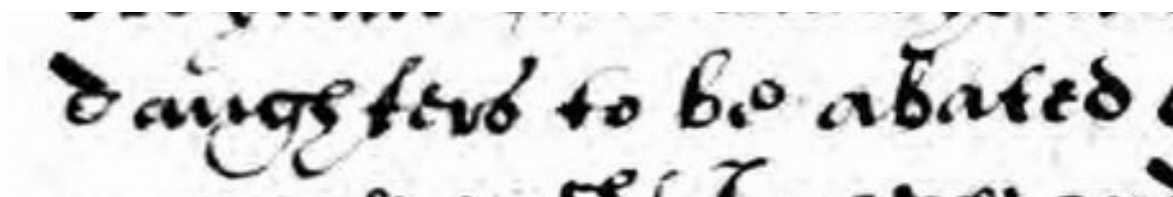


Illustration 3

The above illustrations states

“Isabel and Margaret my daughters”

This section of the will states:

“First I will after my funerals solemnized my will proved and my debtes paid my gooddes and moveables to be equallie devided into three severall and equall partes The one parte to my wyff the other to my children and the third to myself accordinge to the ordynnaces? And annoyent en-tom? Of this Cittie: Saving Isabel and Margaret my daughters to be abated of their portions everie of them three hundred pounds a piece which I gave and paide to their husbands at before and since the day of their saide severall marriages. But my mynde is if it shall happen any surplusage of my gooddes after my dethe upon devision made according to the ---- of the cittie amonge my other children children.”

No reference to anyone called Maudlin has been identified in John Hare's will.

The baptism Margaret Hare 9th July 1542 at St Marylebone London

Illustration 4 shows the baptism of Margaret Hare.

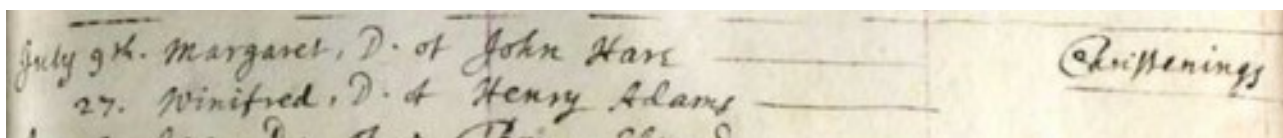


Illustration 4

Her name is clearly Margaret.

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Unfortunately we have not been able to identify the baptism of Isabel Hare.

There is the marriage of a Margaret Hare to a Thomas Gret on the 29th October 1568 at St Giles, Cripplegate, London; but this has been discounted as having any relevance to this family as it does not tie in with John Hare's will.

The evidence for her name being Maudelin

It is known that William Harvey married Maudlin Bawkin his first wife on 26th May 1560 at St Mary Magdalen, Milk Street, London. See Illustration 5 below

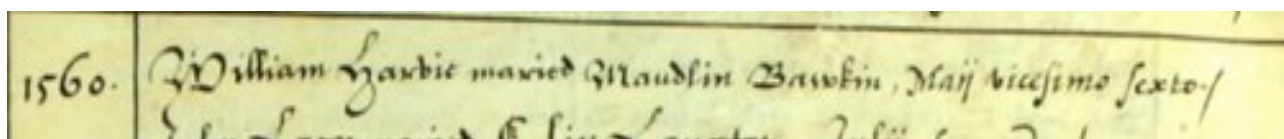


Illustration 5

www.audleyfamilyhistory.com aims to argue that the name Maudelin is incorrectly attributed to John Audley's wife, and comes from the name of William Harvey's first wife. (John Audley's widow became William Harvey's second wife)

The visitations recorded in "Audley Pedigrees" that record Maudlyn Hare as the wife of John Audley were undertaken in the period around 1664, this is approximately 70 years after her death. She was buried on 14th January 1593/4 as Margaret, wife of William Harvye.

The visitation of Hertfordshire in "Audley Pedigrees" is dated 1572 and records Maudlin Hare as having had as her first husband, John Audley, and her second husband was William Harvey; however this conflicts with the parish registers which show that John Audley did not die until 1577 or 1577/8 and William Harvey did not marry his second wife until 1580!! I.e the visitation record could not have been written in 1572

The visitation of Hertfordshire in 1572 is in vol 22 of the Harleian Society and can be read on line at <http://www.heraldry-online.org.uk/HarleianPublications2.htm> Having looked at this document I cannot find the family tree included in "Audley Pedigrees".

Conclusion

In my opinion the most reliable information is that recorded at the time, namely the births marriages and deaths recorded in parish registers and wills. To me informations from visitations are of a lower level of reliability as, I believe, they are recorded by talking to and writing down what people say regarding their ancestry. I am not sure how much detailed checking was undertaken, regarding these visitations

As the result of the above I conclude that the mother of Hugh Audley and the wife of John Audley

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was Margaret Hare and nor Maudlin Hare.

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