

Lot 1035 Portrait of William Parr, Marquis of Northampton, son of Thomas Lord Parr of Kendall 42in x 32 in Holbein School

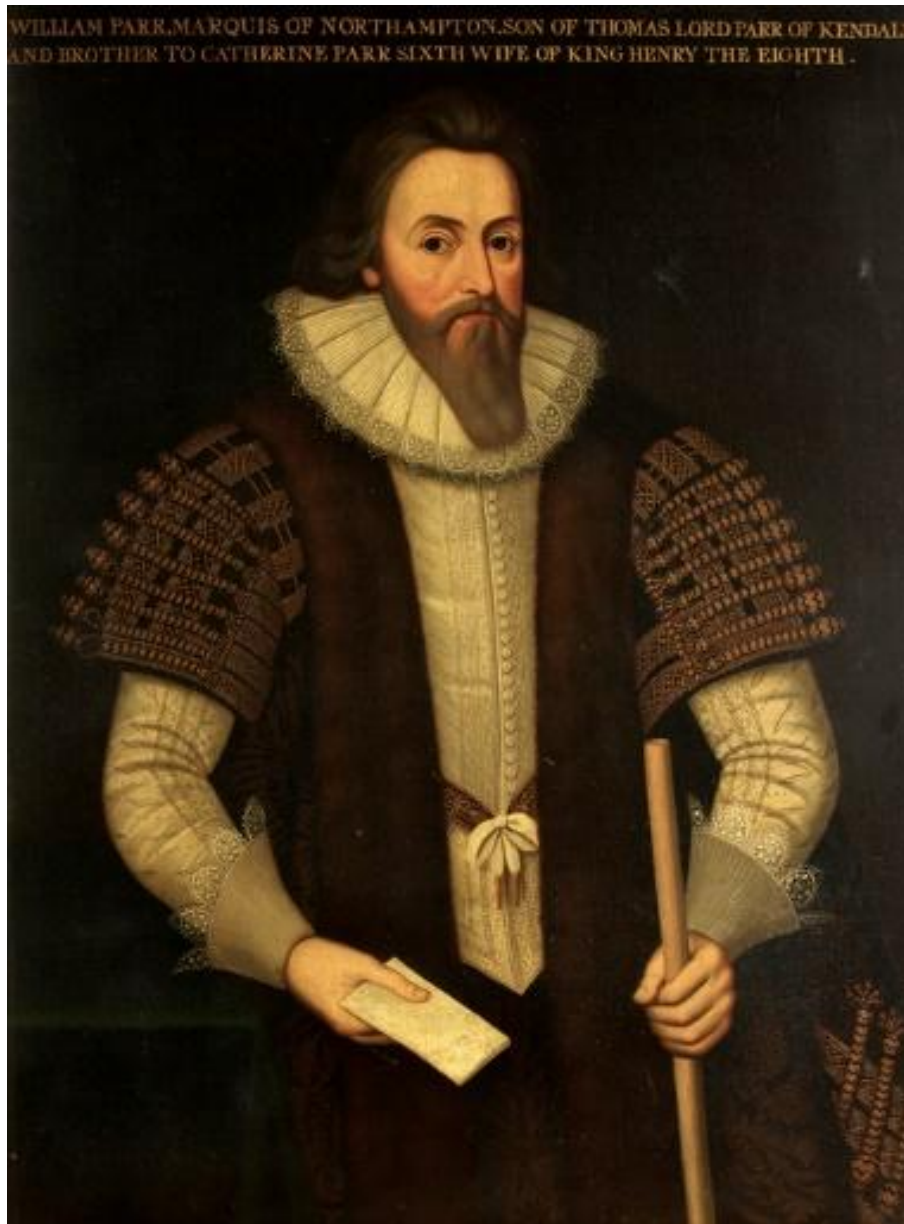


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Caption says: *'William Parr, Marquis of Northampton. Son of Thomas Lord Parr of Kendall and brother to Catherine Parr sixth wife of King Henry the Eighth.'*

The portrait was not one of those bought by Bristol Museums in the 1947 sale. It is not certain who purchased it at the sale, but it was given to the Bristol Museums in 1965 as part of the G.R. Stanton Bequest. It is currently 'In store'.

G.R. Stanton was a curator of archaeology at Bristol Museums and donated this portrait and 2 others from Ashton Court at the same time.

The Ashton Court Inventories show that in 1901 the portrait was hung in the South Corridor, and 1915 in the Broad Landing and described as '*Portrait of William Parr – Marquis of Northampton, Holbein School*'.

Who was William Parr and how was he connected to Ashton Court?

William Parr was the son of Thomas Parr and brother to Catherine Parr, Henry VIII's sixth and surviving wife. William was born in 1513 and died in 1571.

His first marriage was to Anne Bouchier in 1527, the marriage was annulled in 1543.

His second marriage was to Elisabeth Brooke. There were some questions over the validity of this marriage.

Thirdly in May 1571, only 5 months before his death, he married Helena of Snakenborg. After William's death Helena married Sir Thomas Gorges and it is their daughter, Elizabeth Gorges, who provides the link to Ashton Court. Elizabeth Gorges first marriage was to Sir Hugh Smyth of Ashton Court.

William Parr died on 28 October 1571 at Warwick Priory, without issue, when his only surviving title of Marquess of Northampton became extinct. He was buried in the chancel of the Collegiate Church of St Mary, Warwick. Queen Elizabeth I paid for his funeral and burial.

References

*1901 Inventory (Bristol Archives 41648/P 1/71)

*1915 Inventory (Bristol Archives 41648/P 1/72)

*1947 Sale Catalogue (Bristol Archives 44440/1)