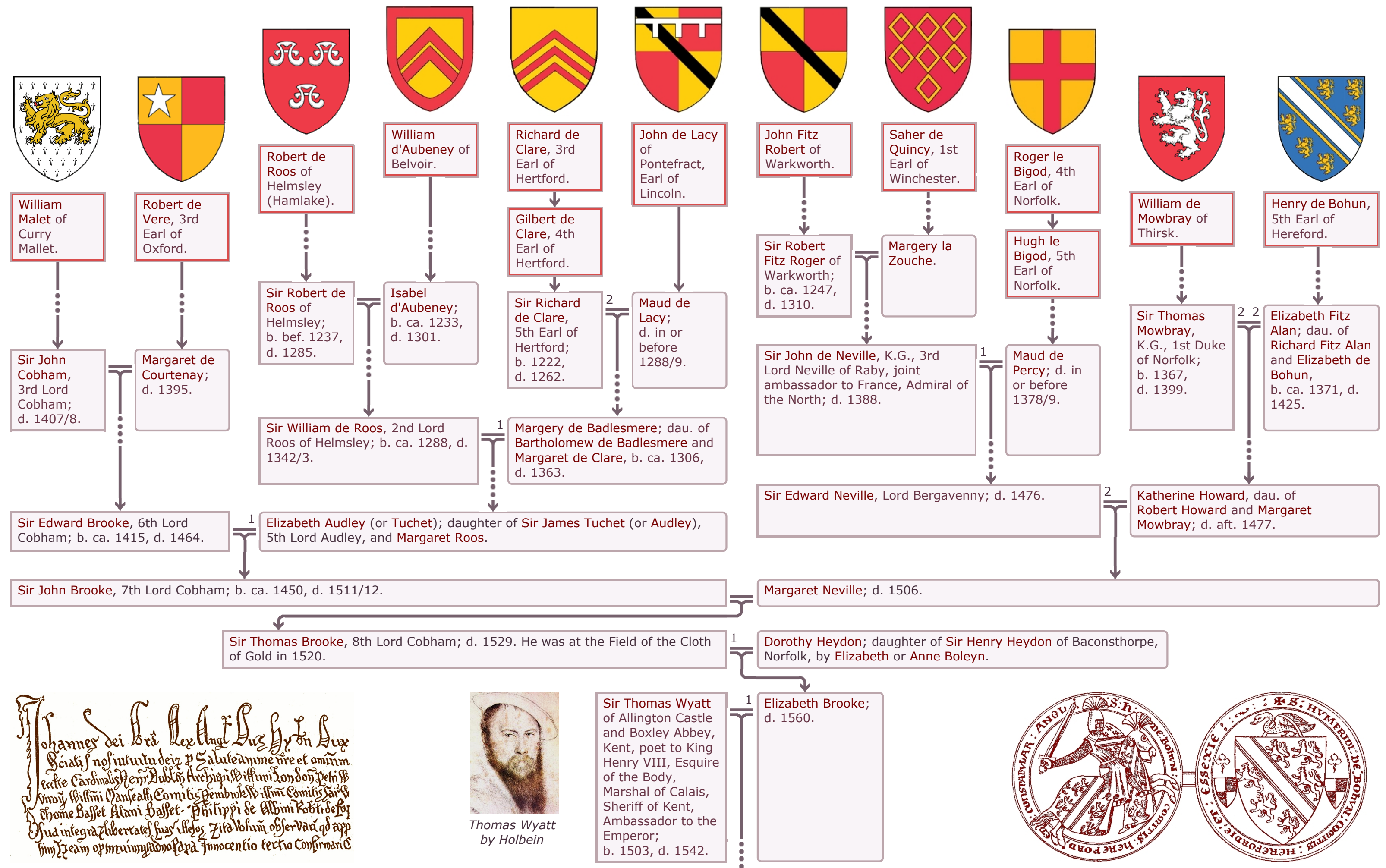


Descents

from Magna Carta Sureties to Elizabeth (Brooke) Wyatt

with additional descents to Benjamin and Susan (Wildsmith) Dowdey

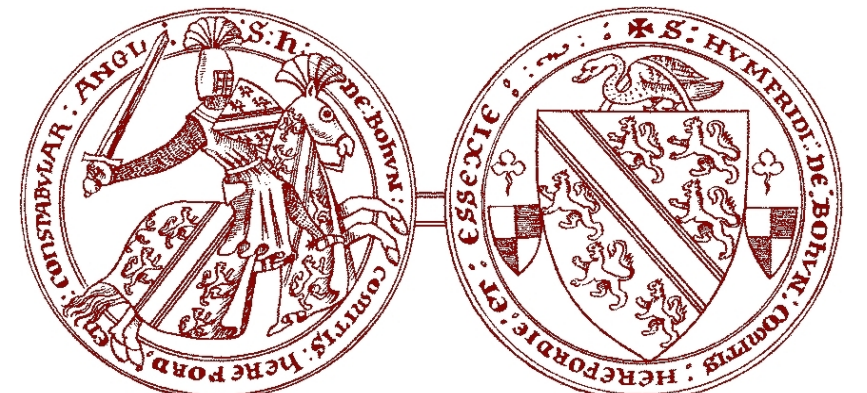


Facsimile of the beginning of the Magna Carta.

King John's unsuccessful military efforts were expensive and required heavy taxes. The barons of the realm finally rebelled and in June 1215 forced the king to accept the Magna Carta or Great Charter. This charter limited the king's powers in various ways, declaring that he was not above the law. It was reissued later in several modified versions. The chart above shows descents from 13 of the 25 barons who were sureties, responsible for guaranteeing that the king followed the charter.



Thomas Wyatt
by Holbein



Seal of Humphrey de Bohun, 1300-1. Humphrey descended from the surety Henry de Bohun (upper right of chart) and was the grandfather of Elizabeth de Bohun, given above as the mother of Elizabeth Fitz Alan. Humphrey's mother was descended from a half-brother of Godfrey of Bouillon, first ruler of the Kingdom of Jerusalem. Godfrey became identified fairly soon after his death with the legend of the swan knight, and some 200 years later many descendants of this family began using swans in their coats of arms. In the counter seal (above, right) the shield of Bohun is hung by a loop enclosing the Bohun swan.

Magna Carta Surety Ancestors of Audrey (Barlow) Almy, and hence of Benjamin Dowdey: William de Huntingfield and William Malet.

Notation: Magna Carta Sureties are displayed in boxes with a red inner border. A dotted line segment indicates one or more omitted generations.

Magna Carta Surety Ancestors of Jane (Finch) Wyatt, and hence of Susan (Wildsmith) Dowdey: Geoffrey de Say, Henry de Bohun, William Malet, Roger and Hugh le Bigod, Robert de Vere, Saher de Quincy, and Richard de Clare.

Magna Carta Surety Ancestors of Barbara (Mitford) Wyatt, and hence of Susan (Wildsmith) Dowdey: Roger le Bigod, Saher de Quincy, and John Fitz Robert.