

next ten years Walter and Anne had another six children, all girls except one. The latter, given the name Leicester, died aged eighteen in 1680. They were baptised in St. Margaret's, Ipswich, beside Christchurch Mansion, as were the Viscount's daughters, Lady Elizabeth and Lady Frances, as they are designated in the register. Lady Elizabeth died less than a fortnight after her birth. Following the death of his wife Anne in 1668, Walter sent his two eldest daughters, Elizabeth and Margaret, to live in their uncle's household at the Mansion. At this time, Elizabeth was aged 16, Margaret 12, and their cousin Lady Frances nine. The three girls were educated together and one of their tutors was Cave Beck, a prominent puritan minister. As master of Ipswich Town Library, Beck would have given his young pupils access to the many learned books held there. Although Viscount Hereford acted as a government agent during Oliver Cromwell's Commonwealth, he was one of the six peers who accompanied King Charles II home from exile in Holland in 1660. Cave Beck, his chaplain, was also among the party. As was pointed out by an anonymous writer in the *Edinburgh Review*, referring especially to magistrates, but applicable also to administrators, 'if all men of honour and principle were to decline office under a government whose title was disputed, or if it was made a test of integrity and patriotism, downright anarchy might ensue.' In 1670 Viscountess Hereford died. and the following year Leicester Devereux married again, this time to Priscilla Catchpole. They had four children in the space of seven years, including, after many generations when male heirs had been in short supply, two sons. Elizabeth (1672-1699) was the eldest child, then a son named Leicester (1673-1683) was baptised at 'Herford' according to an entry in the St. Margaret's registers. Another son, Edward (1675-1700), was baptised at Orford on 11 July 1675 and Anne (1677-1735), the youngest, was born shortly after her father's death.



Christchurch Mansion . An illustration from the margin of Ogilvie's map of Ipswich 1674.
 Could the figures represent the 6th Viscount, his second wife, Priscilla, and Frances, his daughter by his first wife?

When the 6th Viscount died in 1676, he first revoked an earlier will made in 1665 when his first wife was alive (and was significantly the year of the great plague). He left the two mansions, their parks and other properties to Priscilla and her step-daughter Lady Frances, wishing them to live together. Once she reached the age of 19 years, should Frances wish to marry she would receive as her portion £7000 (some £500,000 at today's values), to be raised by selling property outside his main residences and manors. His sons, Leicester and Edward, still infants, were placed in the