

## Richard Molyneux



No Picture Available

Born: 1557 Sefton, ENG

Married: Francis Girard

Died: 24 Feb 1623 ENG

Parents: William Molyneux & Bridget Caryll

**Sir Richard Molyneux**, knighted by **Queen Elizabeth** 24 June 1586, was Receiver General of the Duchy of Lancaster, and married **Frances**, daughter of Sir Gilbert **Gerrard**, of Sudbury, Master of the Rolls. He was created a baronet the 22 May 1611, being the second upon whom the title was conferred, and was Sheriff of Lancashire 31 and 39 Elizabeth.

The plots against Queen Elizabeth and against the Protestant religion having aroused in the nation a spirit of fervent loyalty, an association of Lancashire gentlemen headed by the Earl of Derby was formed for the defence of the Queen against the machinations of **Mary, Queen of Scots**, and the other enemies of the State. A declaration was issued by the association, wherein the members pledged themselves to defend the Queen against all her enemies, foreign and domestic, in confirmation of which they took a solemn oath upon the Holy Evangelists, and in witness thereof affixed their hands and seals, **Richard Molyneux** being amongst the signatories.



The title **Earl of Sefton** was created in the [Peerage of Ireland](#) in 1771 for the [8th Viscount Molyneux](#), and the once [Aristocratic Molyneux](#) family. The Earls of Sefton held the subsidiary titles **Viscount Molyneux**, of Maryborough in the [Queen's County](#) (created 1628), in the [Peerage of Ireland](#), and (from the [2nd Earl](#) onwards) **Baron Sefton**, of Croxteth in the [County Palatine of Lancaster](#) (created 1831), in the [Peerage of the United Kingdom](#).

The Molyneux's powerful allegiances led to an acquisition of lands and wealth throughout the period 1100–1700 when the family were Lords of the manor at Sefton.

All three titles became extinct upon the death of the [7th Earl](#) in 1972. The seat of the Earls of Sefton was [Croxteth Hall](#) in Liverpool. It was bequeathed to the City of Liverpool by the 7th and last Earl of Sefton and his wife, neé Josephine Gwynne (1903–1980), who was the last member of the Molyneux family to live at Croxteth. The American-born Countess of Sefton, nick-named "Foxy" and formerly a fashion model of great beauty, was a life-long friend of the [Duchess of Windsor](#).

Another seat of the Earls of Sefton was the Abbeystead estate in Lancashire, which is currently owned by the Duke of Westminster. Abbeystead was mainly used as a hunting and recreational estate by the Earls of Sefton.

Despite being part of the Peerage of Ireland, the Earldom referred to [Sefton](#) in [Lancashire](#).



[Croxteth Hall](#), ancestral home of the the Earls of Sefton.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earl\\_of\\_Sefton#Molyneux\\_family\\_history](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earl_of_Sefton#Molyneux_family_history)