

Amanda Haney, "Sir Thomas Boleyn: A Man of Power in His Own Right"

History mostly remembers Sir Thomas Boleyn in the context of his daughter, Anne. In this view, he has been remembered as a villainous and greedy man who used his two surviving daughters to promote his own station in life by forcing them to seduce the king of England. History has ignored him and as a result there are very few secondary sources pertaining to the career of Sir Thomas Boleyn. This paper will aim to correct some or alter some of those beliefs by examining Sir Thomas Boleyn's careers before and while his daughters were in King Henry VIII's favor. Using the letters and papers from King Henry VIII's reign along with secondary sources that are mostly focused on his daughter, Anne, this paper will show Sir Thomas Boleyn's career as a highly successful diplomat. Between his intelligence and personality Sir Thomas Boleyn was able to negotiate important treaties and assisted the negotiations to assist merchants in their compensation. This paper will also examine his connection to the earldom of Ormond in Ireland.