

SUMMARY: The document below is the copy on the Close Rolls of a recognizance in the amount of £240 acknowledged by Oxford to Robert Petre on 5 March 1580 in connection with the sale to Petre by indentures dated 28 February 1580 of lands in Gibcrack, Purleigh and Sandon in Essex. For the fine in the Court of Common Pleas by which clear title to lands in Gibcrack, Purleigh and Sandon passed from Oxford to Robert Petre, see TNA CP 25/2/131/1677/22ELIZIEASTER, Item 2.

The Robert Petre who purchased these lands from Oxford would appear to have been Robert Petre, Auditor of the Exchequer, brother of Sir William Petre (1505?-1572), Secretary of State to Henry VIII, Edward I, Mary I and Elizabeth I.

LM: Recognizance between the Earl of Oxford and Petre

Edward, Earl of Oxford, Great Chamberlain of England, having appeared personally before the Lady Queen in her Chancery, acknowledged himself to owe to Robert Petre of Westminster in the county of Middlesex, gentleman, two hundred & forty pounds of good & lawful money of England, to be paid to the same Robert Petre or his designated attorney, executors or assigns on the feast of Easter next to come after the date of this recognizance;

And if he shall not have done [+so], he wishes & grants that the foresaid sum of money be levied & recovered of all & singular his manors, lands, tenements & hereditaments, goods & chattels to the use & behoof of the foresaid Robert, his heirs, executors & assigns wheresoever they may be found within the kingdom of England by these presents;

Witness the said Lady Queen at Westminster on the fifth day of March in the twenty-second year of the reign of the said Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God of England, France & Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith etc.

The condition of this recognizance is such that if the above-bound right honourable Edward, Earl of Oxenford, his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns and every of them, do at all times hereafter and from time to time well and truly observe, perform, fulfil and keep all and every the covenants, grants, articles and agreements which on his and their parts and behalf are and ought to be observed, performed, fulfilled and kept comprised and specified in a certain pair of indentures bearing date the eight and twentieth day of February last past before the date of this recognizance made between the said Earl of Oxenford of thone party and the above-named Robert Petre of thother party according to the tenor, purport, effect and plain meaning of the same indentures, the covenant touching and concerning the delivery of evidences and true copies of evidences in the same indentures contained only except, that then the said recognizance to be utterly void and of none effect, or else to stand in full strength and virtue.

LM: Recognitio inter Oxonie Comitem et Petre

1 Edwardus Comes Oxonie magnus Camararius [sic?] Anglie coram domina Regina in Cancellaria sua personaliter

2 constitutus recognouit se debere Roberto Petre de Westmonasterio in Comitatu Middlesexie Generoso ducentas & quadraginta

3 libras bone & legalis monete Anglie Soluendas eidem Roberto Petre aut suo certo attornato executoribus

4 vel assignatis suis in ffesto Pasche proxime futuro post datum huius Recognicionis Et nisi fecerit vult & concedit

5 quod predicta pecunie summa leuetur & recuperetur de omnibus & singulis Manerijis terris tenementis & hereditamentis bonis &

6 catallis suis ad opus & vsum predicti Roberti heredum executorum & assignatorum suorum vbicumque fuerint inuentis infra

7 Regnum Anglie per presentes Teste dicta domina Regina apud Westmonasterium quinto die Marcij Anno regni dicte domine

8 Elizabethe dei gracia Anglie ffrancie & Hibernie Regine fidei defensoris &c vicesimo secundo