

SUMMARY: The document below is the copy on the patent rolls of the pardon of alienation, dated 27 January 1592, by which the Queen pardoned Lord Burghley for his purchase from Oxford by a fine dated 25 November 1591 without prior licence from the Queen of the honour and castle of Hedingham, and the manors of Hedingham, Shetleford and Parkes.

For the Queen's licence of 2 December 1591 authorizing Oxford to alienate the manors of Castle Hedingham and Gosfield to Lord Burghley and Oxford's daughters Elizabeth, Bridget and Susan Vere, see TNA C 66/1392, mm. 30-31. For the fine in the Court of Common Pleas dated 25 November 1591 by which Oxford transferred clear title to Castle Hedingham to Lord Burghley and his heirs, see TNA CP 25/2/135/1723/33/34ELIZIMICH, Item 74. For the fine dated 9 April 1592 by which Oxford and his second wife, Elizabeth Trentham, transferred legal title to the manors of Castle Hedingham and Gosfield to Lord Burghley and his heirs and Oxford's three daughters by Anne Cecil, see TNA CP 25/2/135/1725/34ELIZIEASTER, Item 44.

For Oxford's settlement of Castle Hedingham on his daughters by Anne Cecil, see also HL/PO/JO/10/1/329/136 and 136a.

For a summary of the complicated transactions between Oxford and the Queen involving Castle Hedingham, see TNA CP 25/2/135/1725/34ELIZIEASTER, Item 44.

LM: Grant(?) of pardon of alienation for William Cecil, knight, Lord Treasurer of England

The Queen to all her bailiffs & faithful to whom etc., greeting. Whereas our well-beloved & faithful counsellor, William Cecil, of the Right Honourable Order of the Garter, Baron of Burghley & our Great Treasurer of England lately, namely in Michaelmas term in the thirty-fourth year of our reign [=25 November 1591], by fine levied in our court before Edmund Anderson, knight, & his fellows then our Justices of Common Pleas, purchased to himself and to his heirs from Edward, Earl of Oxford, the honour of Hedingham alias Heningham and the castle called Castle Hedingham alias Heningham Castle and the manors of Hedingham at Castle Hedingham alias Heningham, Shetleford & Parkes with the appurtenances, and two hundred messuages, two hundred cottages, one hundred tofts, ten mills, forty dovecots, two hundred gardens, two hundred orchards, three thousand acres of land, one thousand acres of meadow, four thousand acres of pasture, one thousand acres of woods, four thousand acres of furze & heath, two hundred acres of moor, one thousand acres of fresh marsh, free fishery, free warren, common of pasture for all beasts, & ten pounds rent with the appurtenances in Hedingham alias Heningham alias Castle Hedingham alias Heningham Castle, Great Maplestead, Little Yeldham, Gestingthorpe, Sibley alias Sible alias Sible Heningham, Gosfield, Nether Yeldham, Over Yeldham, Toppesfield alias Topsfield & Stambourne, and also the chapels of Castle Hedingham, Sible Hedingham, Great Yeldham & Little

Yeldham with the appurtenances, and all and all manner of tithes, portions, pensions, oblations, & obventions whatsoever coming, growing or renewing of & in the parishes of Hedingham alias Heningham alias Castle Hedingham alias Heningham Castle, Great Maplestead, Little Yeldham, Gestingthorpe, Sibley alias Sible alias Sibley Hedingham, Gosfield, Nether Yeldham & Over Yeldham, and also knights' fees, wards, marriages, reliefs, goods & chattels of felons & fugitives, escheats, fairs, markets, tolls, liberties & franchises with the appurtenances, and views of frankpledge & whatever to view of frankpledge belongs with the appurtenances in Hedingham alias Heningham alias Castle Hedingham alias Heningham Castle, Great Maplestead, Little Yeldham, Gestingthorpe, Sibley alias Sible alias Sibley Hedingham, Gosfield, Nether Yeldham, Over Yeldham, Toppesfield alias Topsfield & Stambourne, and also the advowsons & rights of patronage of the churches of Castle Hedingham, Stansted, Sible Hedingham, Great Maplestead, Little Maplestead & Gosfield in our county of Essex which are held of us in chief, as it is said, to have & to hold to the same William and his heirs forever, which certain alienation was made without our royal licence therefore having been beforehand obtained;

Know ye therefore that we, of our especial grace and for forty pounds paid to our farmers, by virtue of our letters patent do pardon the transgression in this respect made, and further we have granted, and for us, our heirs & successors by how much is in us by these presents we do grant to the forenamed William that he may have & hold to himself and his heirs & assigns, by the services owed therefore, & of right customary, the foresaid honour, castle, manor, messuages, lands, tenements and the rest of all & singular the premises with the appurtenances from us, our heirs & successors, forever, without interference, annoyance, molestation, hindrance or oppression of us or our heirs or successors or any of our justices, escheators, sheriffs, bailiffs or ministers or [+those] of our said heirs or successors whatsoever by reason of the foresaid alienation;

In [+testimony] of which thing etc. Witness the Queen at Westminster on the twenty-seventh day of January.

LM: D' per dona alienando pro Willelmo Cecill Milite Domino Thesaurario Anglie

1 Regina Omnibus Balliuis & fidelibus suis ad quos &c Salutem Cum predilectus & fidelis consiliarius

2 noster Willelmus Cecill prenobilis ordinis Garterij Miles Baro de Burghley & magnus Thesaurarius

3 nostri Anglie nuper scilicet in Termino Sancti Michaelis Anno Regni nostri tricesimo quarto per finem in

4 Curia nostra coram Edmundo Anderson Milite & socijs suis adtunc Justiciarijs nostris de Banco leuatum

5 adquisiuerit(?) sibi ac heredibus suis de Edwardo Comite Oxonie honorem de hedingham alias

6 henningham ac Castrum vocatum heddingham Castle alias henningham Castle ac

7 maneria de heddingham ad Castrum heddingham alias henningham Shetteford &

8 Parckes cum pertinentijs ac ducenta mesuagia ducenta Cotagia Centum Tofta decem molendina

9 quadraginta Columbaria ducenta gardina ducenta pomaria tria millia acrarum terre mille acras

10 prati quatuor millia acrarum pasture mille acras bosci quatuor millia acrarum iampni & bruere

11 ducentas acras more mille acras marisci frisci liberam piscariam liberam Warrenam communiam pasture

12 pro omnibus auerijs & decem libratas redditus cum pertinentijs in hedingham alias henningham alias

13 heddingham ad Castrum alias henningham Castle Maplested magna yeeldham

14 parua Gestingthorpe Sybley alias Sible alias Sibley henningham Gosfeild nether

15 yeeldham over yeeldham Toppesfeilde alias Topsfeilde & Stanburne acetiam

16 Capellas de heddingham ad Castrum heddingham Sibley yeldham magna & yeldham

17 parua cum pertinentijs ac omnes & omnimodas decimas porciones penciones oblaciones & obuenciones

18 quacunq̄ crescentia prouenientia siue renouantia de & in parochijs de hedingham alias

19 henningham alias heddingham ad Castrum alias henningham Castle Maplested

20 magna yeldham parua Gestingthorpe Sibley alias Sible alias Sibley Henningham

21 Gosfeild nether yeldham & over yeldham necnon feoda militum Warda maritagia releuia

22 bona & catalla felonum & fugitiuorum escaetas nundina mercata tolmeta libertates & franchisesias cum

23 pertinentijs ac visus ffranci plegij & quicquid ad visum ffranci plegij pertinet cum pertinentijs in hedingham

24 alias henningham alias heddingham ad Castrum alias henningham Castle Maplested

25 magna yeldham parua Gestingthorpe Sibley alias Sible alias Sibley henningham

26 Gosfeild nether yeldham over yeldham Toppesfeilde alias Topsfeild & Stanburne

27 Ac eciam aduocaciones & iura patronatus ecclesiarum de hedingham ad Castrum Stansted

28 hedingham Sible Maplested magna maplested parua & Gosfeild in Comitatu nostro

29 Essex Que de nobis tenentur in Capite vt dicitur habendum & tenendum eidem Willelmo ac heredibus

30 suis imperpetuum Quequidem alienacio facta fuit licencia nostra regia inde prius non obtenta

31 Sciatis igitur quod nos de gracia nostra speciali ac pro quadraginta libris solutis firmarijs nostris

32 virtute literarum nostrarum patentium perdonamus transgressionem in hac parte factam Et vlterius

33 concessimus ac pro nobis heredibus & successoribus nostris quantum in nobis est per presentes concedimus prefato

34 Willelmo quod ipse predictam honorem Castrum Manerium mesuagia terras tenementa ac cetera omnia & singula premissa

35 cum pertinentijs habeat & teneat sibi ac heredibus & assignatis suis de nobis heredibus & successoribus nostris per seruicia

36 inde debita & de iure consueta imperpetuum absque impetitione vexacione molestacione impedimento siue grauamine

37 nostri aut heredum vel successorum nostrarum aut aliquorum Iusticiariorum Escaetorum Vicecomitum Balliuorum seu

38 ministrorum nostrarum aut dictorum heredum vel successorum nostrarum quorumcunque ratione Alienacionis predicte In

39 cuius rei &c Teste Regine apud Westmonasterium vicesimo septimo die Ianuarij