

SUMMARY: The document below is the fine in the Court of Common Pleas dated 27 October 1581 by which clear title to the manor of Earls Fee passed from Oxford to Humphrey Drywood and Robert Drywood for £180. For the recognizance for £500 entered into by Oxford on 19 March 1581 in connection with this transaction, see TNA C 54/1118, Part 22.

The Act of Parliament of 22 January 1552 which restored the 16th Earl's lands to him after Somerset's extortion allocated a life estate in the manor of Earls Fee to Oxford's uncle, Aubrey de Vere (see TNA WARD 8/13 and HL/PO/PB/1/1551/5E6n35). For the will of Aubrey de Vere, dated 18 January 1580, see ERO D/AMR 3/281.

Humphrey and Robert Drywood may have been related to Lord Burghley's servant, Bernard Dewhurst. For the latter's will, which mentions 'my son-in-law, Mr Drywood', see TNA PROB 11/89, f. 54.

This is the final agreement made in the court of the Lady Queen at Westminster one month from Michaelmas in the year of the reigns of Elizabeth, by the grace of God Queen of England, France, & Ireland, Defender of the Faith, etc. from the Conquest the twenty-third [=27 October 1581], before James Dyer, Thomas Meade, Francis Wyndham & William Periam, justices, & others faithful to the Lady Queen then there present, between Humphrey Drywood & Robert Drywood, querents, and Edward, Earl of Oxenford, deforciant, of the manor of Earls Fee with the appurtenances and of one messuage, one cottage, one toft, one garden, forty & four acres of arable land, & one hundred & twenty acres of salt-marsh with the appurtenances in Buryes Gifford alias Bowers Gifford;

Whereof a plea of covenant was summoned between them in the same court, namely that the foresaid Earl has acknowledged the foresaid manor & tenements with the appurtenances to be the right of himself, Humphrey, as those which the same Humphrey & Robert have of the gift of the foresaid Earl, and he has remised & quit-claimed them from himself & his heirs to the foresaid Humphrey & Robert, & the heirs of himself, Humphrey, forever;

And besides the same Earl has granted for himself & his heirs that they will warrant to the foresaid Humphrey & Robert & the heir of himself, Humphrey, the foresaid manor & tenements with the appurtenances against the foresaid Earl & his heirs and against the heirs of John, late Earl of Oxenford, deceased, father of himself, the Earl, forever;

And for this acknowledgement, remission, quit-claim, warrant, fine, & agreement the same Humphrey & Robert have given to the foresaid Earl one hundred & eighty pounds sterling.

Essex

Examined

According to the form of the statute, the first proclamation was made on the twenty-first day of November in Michaelmas term in the twenty-fourth year of the within-written Queen;

The second proclamation on the twenty-third day of November in the same term;

The third proclamation on the twenty-fifth day of November in the same term;

The fourth proclamation on the twenty-eighth day of November in the same term.

The fifth proclamation was made on the sixth day of February in Hilary term in the twenty-fourth year of the within-written Queen;

The sixth proclamation on the eighth day of February in the same term;

The seventh proclamation on the tenth day of February in the same term;

The eighth proclamation on the twelfth day of February in the same term.

The ninth proclamation was made on the twenty-first day of May in Easter term of the twenty-fourth year of the within-written Queen;

The tenth proclamation on the twenty-third day of May in the same term;

The eleventh proclamation on the twenty-sixth day of May in the same term;

The twelfth proclamation on the twenty-eighth day of May in the same term.

The thirteenth proclamation was made on the twenty-seventh day of June in Trinity term in the twenty-fourth year of the within-written Queen;

The fourteenth proclamation on the thirtieth day of June in the same term;

The fifteenth proclamation on the second day of July in the same term;

The sixteenth proclamation on the fourth day of July in the same term.

Examined

1 Hec est finalis Concordia facta in Curia Domine Regine apud Westmonasterium a die sancti Michaelis in

2 vnum mensem Anno regnorum Elizabethae dei gracia Anglie ffrauncie & Hibernie Regine fidei

3 defensoris &c A conquesto Vicesimo tercio coram Iacobo Dyer Thoma Meade ffrauncisco

4 Wyndam & Willelmo Peryam Iusticiarijs & alijs domine Regine fidelibus tunc ibi presentibus

5 Inter Humfridum Dreywood & Robertum Dreywood querentes et Edwardum Comitem

6 Oxonie deforciantem de Manerio de Earles ffee cum pertinentijs ac de vno mesuagio vno cotagio

7 vno tofto vno gardino quadraginta & quatuor acris terre & Centum & viginti acris

8 marisci salsi cum pertinentijs in Buryes Gifford alias Bowers Gifford Vnde

9 Placitum conuencionis summonitum fuit inter eos in eadem Curia Scilicet quod predictus Comes

10 recognovit predicta Manerium & tenementa cum pertinentijs esse ius ipsius Humfridi Vt illa que ijdem

11 Humfridus & Robertus habent de dono predicti Comitis Et illa remisit & quieteclamavit

12 de se & heredibus suis predictis Humfrido & Roberto & heredibus ipsius Humfridi Imperpetuum Et preterea

13 idem Comes concessit pro se & heredibus suis quod ipsi Warantizabunt predictis Humfrido & Roberto

14 & heredibus ipsius Humfridi predicta Manerium & tenementa cum pertinentijs contra predictum Comitem

15 & heredes suos ac contra heredes Iohannis nuper Comitis Oxonie defuncti patris ipsius

16 Comitis Imperpetuum Et pro hac recognicione remissione quietaclamacione Waranto fine &

17 Concordia ijdem Humfridus & Robertus dederunt predicto Comiti Centum & octoginta

18 libras sterlingorum

Essex

examinatus

Secundum formam statuti

Prima proclamatio facta fuit vicesimo primo die Novembris termino sancti Michaelis Anno vicesimo quarto Regine infrascripte

secunda proclamatio vicesimo tercio die Novembris eodem termino

Tertia proclamatio vicesimo quinto die Novembris eodem termino

Quarta proclamatio vicesimo octauo die Novembris eodem termino

Quinta proclamatio facta fuit sexto die ffebruarij termino sancti Hillarij Anno vicesimo quarto Regine infrascripte

sexta proclamatio octauo die ffebruarij eodem termino

septima proclamatio decimo die ffebruarij eodem termino

octava proclamatio duodecimo die ffebruarij eodem termino

Nona proclamatio facta fuit vicesimo primo die Maij termino Pasche Anno vicesimo quarto Regine infrascripte

decima proclamatio vicesimo tercio die Maij eodem termino

vndecima proclamatio vicesimo sexto die Maij eodem termino

duodecima proclamatio vicesimo octauo Maij eodem termino

Terciadecima proclamatio facta fuit vicesimo septimo die Iunij termino sancte Trinitatis Anno vicesimo quarto Regine infrascripte

quartadecima proclamatio tricesimo die Iunij eodem termino

quintadecima proclamatio secundo die Iulij eodem termino

sextadecima proclamatio quarto die Iulij eodem termino

examinatus