

SUMMARY: The document below is the fine in the Court of Common Pleas dated 7 June 1585 by which clear title to lands in Sible Hedingham, Great Yeldham, Castle Hedingham, Toppesfield, Wethersfield & Great Maplestead passed from Oxford to Hugh Towse and Richard Syday for £500.

Hugh Towse may have been related to the wife of Oxford's maternal uncle, George Golding. In her will (see TNA PROB 11/119, ff. 304-5), dated 25 January 1612, Mary Golding leaves a ring of gold to her god-daughter, Joan Towse:

*To Joan Towse, my god-daughter, a ring of gold of twenty shillings' value.*

Mary Golding's god-daughter may be the Joan Towse who was the wife of William Towse (c.1551-1634), a lawyer who had been treasurer of the Inner Temple before being made serjeant-at-law in 1614. His first wife was Joan, the daughter of John French, a Bencher of the Inner Temple. About 1612 William Towse married Katherine, Lady Barnardiston (d.1533), as his second wife. See the entry for Katherine, Lady Barnardiston, in the online edition of *The Dictionary of National Biography*, and <http://tlhs.org.uk/William%20Towse.htm>.

This is the final agreement made in the court of the Lady Queen at Westminster on the morrow of Trinity 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-seventh [=7 June 1585], before Edmund Anderson, Francis Wyndham & William Peryam, justices, & others faithful to the Lady Queen then there present, between Hugh Towse & Richard Syday, querents, and Edward, Earl of Oxford, deforciant, of thirty messuages, thirty gardens, sixty acres of land, twenty acres of meadow, two hundred acres of pasture & one hundred acres of wood with the appurtenances in Sible Hedingham, Great Yeldham, Castle Hedingham, Toppesfield, Wethersfield & Great Maplestead;

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

And besides the same Earl has granted for himself & his heirs that they will warrant to the foresaid Hugh & Richard & the heirs of the same Hugh the foresaid tenements with the appurtenances against all men forever;

And for this acknowledgement, remission, quit-claim, warrant, fine & agreement the same Hugh and Richard have given to the foresaid Earl five hundred pounds sterling.

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According to the form of the statute the first proclamation was made on the twenty-third day of June in Trinity term in the twenty-seventh year of the within-written Queen;

The second proclamation on the twenty-fifth day of June in the same term;

The third proclamation on the twenty-eighth day of June in the same term;

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

The fifth proclamation was made on the twenty-second day of November in Michaelmas term in the twenty-eighth year of the within-written Queen;

The sixth proclamation on the twenty-fourth day of November in the same term;

The seventh proclamation on the twenty-sixth day of November in the same term;

The eighth proclamation on the twenty-ninth day of November in the same term;

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

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

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

The twelfth proclamation on the twelfth day of February in the same term;

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

The fourteenth proclamation on the eleventh day of May in the same term;

The fifteenth proclamation on the thirteenth day of May in the same term;

The sixteenth proclamation on the sixteenth day of May in the same term.

Examined

1 Hec est finalis Concordia facta in Curia Domine Regine Apud Westmonasterium in Crastino sancte

2 Trinitatis Anno regnorum Elizabethhe dei gracia Anglie ffrancie & Hibernie Regine fidei defensoris

3 &c A Conquesto vicesimo septime coram Edmundo Anderson ffrancisco Wyndam & Willelmo Peryam

4 Iusticiarijs & alijs Domine Regine fidelibus tunc ibi presentibus Inter Hugonem Towse & Richardum

5 Syday querentes et Edwardum Comitem Oxonie deforciantem de triginta mesuagijs triginta

6 gardinis sexcentis acris terre viginti acris prati ducentis acris pasture & Centum

7 acris bosci cum pertinentijs in Hennyngham Sible Yeldham magna Hennyngham ad Castrum

8 Toppesfeld Wethersfeld & Maplested magna Vnde Placitum Conuencionis summonitum fuit

9 inter eos in eadem Curia Scilicet quod predictus Comes recognovit predicta tenementa cum pertinentijs esse Ius

10 ipsius Hugonis Vt illa que ijdem Hugo & Richardus habent de dono predicti Comitum Et illa

11 remisit & quietaclamavit de se & heredibus suis predictis Hugoni & Richardo & heredibus ipsius

12 Hugonis Imperpetuum Et preterea Idem Comes concessit pro se & heredibus suis quod ipsi Warantizabunt

13 predictis Hugoni & Richardo & heredibus ipsius Hugonis predicta tenementa cum pertinentijs contra omnes homines

14 Imperpetuum Et pro hac recognicione remissione quietaclamacione Waranto fine & Concordia ijdem

15 Hugo & Richardus dederunt predicto Comiti quingentas libras sterlingorum

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Secundum formam statuti

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Prima proclamatio facta fuit vicesimo tercio die Iunij Termino sancte Trinitatis Anno vicesimo septimo Regine infrascripte

secunda proclamatio vicesimo quinto die Iunij eodem termino

tercia proclamatio vicesimo octauo die Iunij eodem termino

quarta proclamatio tricesimo die Iunij eodem termino

Quinta proclamatio facta fuit vicesimo secundo die Novembris Termino sancti Michaelis Anno vicesimo octauo Regine infrascripte

sexta proclamatio vicesimo quarto die Novembris eodem termino

septima proclamatio vicesimo sexto die Novembris eodem termino

octava proclamatio vicesimo nono die Novembris eodem termino

Nona proclamatio facta fuit quinto die ffebruarij Termino sancti Hillarij Anno vicesimo octauo Regine infrascripte

decima proclamatio octauo die ffebruarij eodem termino

vndecima proclamatio decimo die ffebruarij eodem termino

duodecima proclamatio duodecimo die ffebruarij eodem termino

Terciadecima proclamatio facta fuit nono die Maij Termino Pasche Anno vicesimo octauo Regine infrascripte

quartadecima proclamatio vndecimo die Maij eodem termino

quintadecima proclamatio terciodecimo die Maij eodem termino

sextadecima proclamatio sextodecimo die Maij eodem termino

examinatus