

SUMMARY: The document below is the fine in the Court of Common Pleas dated 25 November 1591 by which Oxford transferred clear title to the honour and castle of Hedingham, the manors of Hedingham, Shetleford and Parkes, the chapels of Castle Hedingham, Sible Hedingham, Great Yeldham & Little Yeldham and the tithes, portions, pensions, oblations & obventions in the parishes of Castle Hedingham, Great Maplestead, Little Yeldham, Gestingthorpe, Sible Hedingham, Gosfield, Nether Yeldham & Over Yeldham to Lord Burghley and his heirs for £800. Proclamation of the fine was made four times, beginning on 29 November 1591 and ending on 30 May 1592.

There are significant differences between the descriptions of the property in the fine of 6 October 1587 by which Oxford transferred title to the 'honour, manor and castle of Hedingham' to the Queen (see TNA CP 25/2/133/1707/29/30ELIZIMICH, Item 45) and the fine below in which Oxford transferred the 'honour of Hedingham and the castle called Hedingham Castle, and the manors of Hedingham at Castle, Shetleford & Parkes' to Lord Burghley and his heirs.

In the fine of 6 October 1587, the property is described as follows:

300 messuages
100 tofts
20 mills
300 gardens
200 orchards
3000 acres of land
1000 acres of meadow
2000 acres of pasture
1000 acres of woods
300 acres of furze & heath
200 acres of moor
100 acres of marsh
£40 rent

In the fine below (and in TNA C 66/1387, mm. 18-19), the property is described as follows:

200 messuages
200 cottages
100 tofts
10 mills
40 dovecots
200 gardens
200 orchards
3000 acres of land
1000 acres of meadow
4000 acres of pasture

1000 acres of woods
4000 acres of furze & heath
200 acres of moor
1000 acres of marsh
free fisheries
free warrens
common of pasture
£10 rent

The reason for the differences in the descriptions of the property in the two fines is unclear.

For the later fine by which Oxford and his second wife, Elizabeth Trentham, transferred the 'manors of Castle Hedingham and Gosfield' to Lord Burghley and his heirs and to Oxford's three daughters Elizabeth, Bridget, and Susan Vere on 9 April 1592 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.

This is the final agreement made in the court of the Lady Queen at Westminster on the quindene of St. Martin 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 thirty-fourth [=25 November 1591], before Edmund Anderson, Francis Wyndham, William Peryam & Thomas Walmesley, justices, & others faithful to the Lady Queen then there present, between William Cecil, knight of the right honourable Order of the Garter, Baron of Burghley & Great Treasurer of England, querent, and Edward, Earl of Oxenford, deforciant, of the honour of Hedingham alias Heningham and the castle called Hedingham Castle 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 wood, four thousand acres of furze & heath, two hundred acres of moor, one thousand acres of fresh marsh, free fisheries, 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 Sibley Hedingham, 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 & 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;

Whereof a plea of covenant was summoned between them in the same court, namely that the foresaid Earl acknowledged the foresaid honour, castle, manors, tenements, fisheries, warrens, common of pasture, rents, chapels, tithes, portions, pensions, oblations, obventions, knights' fees, wards, marriages, reliefs, goods & chattels of felons & fugitives, escheats, fairs, markets, tolls, liberties, franchises & views of frankpledge with the appurtenances and advowsons & rights of patronage aforesaid to be the right of the same William as those which the same William has of the gift of the foresaid Earl, and has remised & quit-claimed them from himself & his heirs to the foresaid William & his heirs forever;

And besides the same Earl has granted for himself & his heirs that they will warrant to the foresaid William & his heirs the foresaid honour, castle, manors, tenements, fisheries, warrens, common of pasture, rents, chapels, tithes, portions, pensions, oblations, obventions, knights' fees, wards, marriages, reliefs, goods & chattels of felons & fugitives, escheats, fairs, markets, tolls, liberties, franchises & views of frankpledge with the appurtenances and advowsons & rights of patronage aforesaid against all men forever;

And for this acknowledgement, remission, quit-claim, warrant, fine & agreement the same William has given to the foresaid Earl eight hundred pounds sterling.

Essex

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

The second proclamation was made on the twenty-seventh day of January in Hilary term in the thirty-fourth year of the within-written Queen.

The third proclamation was made on the second day of May in Easter term in the thirty-fourth year of the within-written Queen.

The fourth proclamation was made on the thirtieth day of May in Trinity term in the thirty-fourth year of the within-written Queen.

1 Hec est finalis Concordia facta in Curia Domine Regine apud Westmonasterium A die sancti Martini in quindecim dies Anno regnorum Elizabethæ dei gratia Angliæ ffrancie & Hiberniæ Regine fidei

2 defensoris &c A Conquesto tricesimo quarto coram Edmundo Anderson ffrancisco Wyndam Willelmo Peryam & Thoma Walmysley Iusticijs & alijs domine Regine fidelibus

3 tunc ibi presentibus Inter Willelmum Cecill prenobilis Ordinis Garterij Militem Baronem de Burghley & Magnum Thesaurarium Angliæ querentem et Edwardum Comitem Oxoniæ deforciantem

4 de Honore de Hedingham alias Henningham ac de Castro vocato Heddingham Castle alias Henningham Castle ac de Manerijs de Heddingham ad Castrum

5 Heddingham alias Henningham Shetteleford & Parckes cum pertinentijs ac de ducentis mesuagijs ducentis Cotagijs Centum toftis decem Molendinis quadraginta

6 Columbarijs ducentis gardinis ducentis pomarijs tribus Millibus acris terre Mille acrarum prati quatuor Millibus acris pasture Mille acris bosci quatuor Millibus acris

7 Iampnorum & bruere ducentis acris more Mille acris marisci frisci libera piscaria libera Warena communia pasture pro omnibus auerijs & decem libratas redditus cum pertinentijs

8 in Hedingham alias Henningham alias Heddingham ad Castrum alias Henningham Castle Maplested magna yeeldham parua Gestingthorpe Sibley

9 alias Sible alias Sibley Henningham Gosfield neither yeeldham over yeeldham Toppesfield alias Topsfield & Stanburne aceciam de

10 Capellis de Heddingham ad Castrum Heddingham Sibley yeldam magna & yeldham parua cum pertinentijs ac de omnibus & omnimodis decimis porcionibus pencionibus

11 oblacionibus & obuencionibus quibuscumque crescentibus prouenientibus siue renouantibus de & in parochijs de Hedingham alias Henningham alias Heddingham ad Castrum

12 alias Henningham Castle Maplested magna yeldham parua Gestingthorpe Sibley alias Sible alias Sibley Henningham Gosfield nether

13 yeldham & over yeldham necnon de feodis Militum Wardis Maritagijs relevijs bonis & catallis felonum & fugitiuorum escaetis Nundinis Mercatis tolnetis

14 libertatibus & franchisesijs cum pertinentijs ac de visibus ffranci plegij & quicquid ad visum ffranci plegij pertinet cum pertinentijs in Hedingham alias Henningham alias Heddingham

15 ad Castrum alias Henningham Castle Maplested magna yeldham parua Gestingthorpe Sibley alias Sible alias Sibley Henningham Gosfield

16 nether yeldham over yeldham Toppesfield alias Topsfield & Stanburne aceciam de Aduocacionibus & iuribus patronatus ecclesiarum de Hedingham ad

17 Castrum Stansted Hedingham Sible Maplested magna Maplested parua & Gosfield Vnde Placitum Conuencionis summonitum fuit inter eos in eadem Curia

18 Scilicet quod predictus Comes recognovit predicta Honorem Castrum Maneria tenementa piscaria Warena communiam pasture redditus Capellas decimas porciones

19 penciones oblaciones obvenciones feoda Militum Warda Maritagia relevia bona & catalla felonum & fugitiuorum escaetas Nundinas Mercata tolmeta libertates franchisesias

20 & visus ffranci plegij cum pertinentijs ac Aduocaciones & iures patronatus predictas esse ius ipsius Willelmi vt illa que idem Willelmus habet de dono predicti Comitis Et illa remisit

21 & quieteclamavit de se & heredibus suis predicto Willelmo & heredibus suis Imperpetuum Et preterea idem Comes Concessit pro se & heredibus suis quod ipsi Warantizabunt predicto Willelmo &

22 heredibus suis predicta Honorem Castrum Maneria tenementa piscaria Warena communiam pasture redditus capellas decimas porciones penciones oblaciones obvenciones

23 feoda Militum Warda Maritagia relevia bona & catalla felonum & fugitiuorum escaetas Nundinas Mercata tolmeta libertates ffranchesias & visus franci plegij cum pertinentijs

24 ac Aduocaciones & iures patronatus predictas contra omnes homines Imperpetuum Et pro hac recognicione remissione quietaclamacione Waranto fine & Concordia idem Willelmus dedit

25 predicto Comiti octingentas libras sterlingorum

Essex

Secundum formam statuti

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

Secunda proclamatio facta fuit vicesimo septimo die Ianuarij termino sancti Hillarij Anno tricesimo quarto Regine infrascripte

Tercia proclamatio facta fuit secundo die Maij termino Pasche Anno tricesimo quarto Regine infrascripte

Quarta proclamatio facta fuit tricesimo die Maij termino sancti Trinitatis Anno tricesimo quarto Regine infrascripte