

SUMMARY: The document below is the fine of 20 January 1584 by which clear title to Colne Park passed from Oxford to Roger Harlakenden (b. about 1539, d.1603) for £800. Earls Colne, including the park, had been among Oxford's manors granted by the Queen to Leicester on 22 October 1563 for the term of Oxford's minority. In the 26th year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth [=1583/4], Oxford acknowledged two recognizances, each in the amount of £1000, to Roger Harlakenden, presumably in connection with the sale of Colne Park (see TNA 30/34/14, Item 3). For the indenture dated 17 November 1583 by which Oxford sold Colne Park to Roger Harlakenden for £2000, see ERO D/DPr 181, available on microfilm under catalogue reference Ph 4/152/5. Roger Harlakenden also states in an undated memorandum to Lord Burghley written circa 1587 that he paid Oxford £2000 for Colne Park (see BL Lansdowne 77/8, f. 198). In the fine below, the sale price is said to have been only £800. The stated consideration in the fictitious lawsuits known as fines is often unreliable.

This is the final agreement made in the court of the Lady Queen at Westminster on the octave of Saint Hilary 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-sixth [=20 January 1584], before Edmund Anderson, Thomas Meade, Francis Wyndham & William Periam, justices, & others faithful to the Lady Queen then there present, between Roger Harlakenden, esquire, querent, and Edward, Earl of Oxford, deforciant, of the park of Colne with the appurtenances and of five messuages, five tofts, five gardens, five orchards, three hundred acres of arable land, two hundred acres of meadow, seven hundred acres of pasture, two hundred acres of wood, & forty shillings' rent with the appurtenances in Earls Colne, Halstead & Markshall;

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

And besides the same Earl has granted for himself & his heirs that they will warrant to the foresaid Roger & his heirs the foresaid park & tenements with the appurtenances against the foresaid Earl & his heirs, and against the heirs of John, late Earl of Oxford, deceased, father of the same Earl, forever;

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

Essex

Examined

1 Hec est finalis Concordia facta in Curia Domine Regine apud Westmonasterium in Octabis sancti

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

3 &c A conquesto vicesimo sexto coram Edmundo Anderson Thoma Meade ffrancisco

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

5 Inter Rogerum Herlakenden Armigerum querentem et Edwardum Comitem Oxonie deforciantem

6 de Parco de Colne cum pertinentijs Ac de quinque mesuagijs quinque toftis quinque

7 gardinis quinque pomarijs trescentis acris terre ducentis acris prati septingentis

8 acris pasture ducentis acris bosci & quadraginta solidatis redditus cum pertinentijs

9 in Earlescolne Hawsted & Markshall Vnde Placitum conuencionis summonitum fuit

10 inter eos in eadem Curia Scilicet quod predictus Comes recognovit predicta Parcum & tenementa

11 cum pertinentijs esse ius ipsius Rogeri Vt illa que idem Rogerus habet de dono predicti

12 Comitibus Et illa remisit & quieteclamavit de se & heredibus suis predicto Rogero & heredibus

13 suis Imperpetuum Et preterea idem Comes Concessit pro se & heredibus suis quod ipsi

14 Warantizabunt predicto Rogero & heredibus suis predicta Parcum & tenementa cum pertinentijs contra

15 predictum Comitem & heredes suos Ac contra heredes Iohannis nuper Comitibus Oxonie

16 defuncti patris ipsius Comitibus Imperpetuum Et pro hac recognicione remissione

17 quietaclamacione Waranto fine & concordia Idem Rogerus dedit predicto Comiti octingentas libras sterlingorum

Essex

examinatus