

SUMMARY: The document below is the copy on the patent rolls of the Queen's licence dated 1 April 1609 authorizing Oxford's widow, Elizabeth Trentham de Vere (d.1612), Countess of Oxford, to alienate the manor of King's Place in Hackney to Fulke Greville (1554-1628). From the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, available online:

*Greville, Fulke, first Baron Brooke of Beauchamps Court (1554–1628), courtier and author, was born on 3 October 1554, the first of two children of Sir Fulke Greville (1536–1606) and Lady Anne (d. 1583), daughter of Ralph Neville, earl of Westmorland. He was probably born at Beauchamp's Court in Alcester, Warwickshire, the home of his paternal grandfather, Sir Fulke Greville (d. 1560), the second son of Sir Edward who married Elizabeth, one of three daughters and coheirs of Edward Willoughby, the only son of Robert, Lord Willoughby. As the sole heir of the Willoughby family Elizabeth—de jure Baroness Willoughby de Broke—brought to the younger branch of the Grevilles not only the right to a title but also thirty-two manors (including Beauchamp's Court) in eight counties. The youngest of the three Fulke Grevilles was thus a member of an influential landowning Warwickshire family with ties to the aristocratic families of Willoughby, Beauchamp, Neville, Ferrers, Grey, Talbot, Devereux, and Dudley.*

According to the ODNB, Greville was created Baron Brooke of Beauchamp's Court in 1621; however his claim to the barony of Willoughby de Broke was denied.

Fulke Greville's mother, Anne Neville, was a sister of the 16<sup>th</sup> Earl's first wife, Dorothy (nee Neville) de Vere (d.1536). Fulke Greville and Oxford's stepsister, Katherine (d.1600), Lady Windsor, were thus first cousins.

For the Queen's licence of 2 September 1597 authorizing the executors of Sir Rowland Hayward (1520-1593) to alienate King's Place, Hackney, to Oxford's second wife, Elizabeth Trentham (d.1612), her brother, Francis Trentham (d.1626), her maternal uncle, Ralph Sneyd (d.1620), and her first cousin, Giles Yonge, see TNA C 66/1476, m. 19.

Oxford died at the manor of King's Place, Hackney, on 24 June 1604.

Grant(?) of licence of alienation between the Countess of Oxford & Greville

The King to all to whom etc., greeting. Know ye that we of our especial grace, and for six pounds paid to our farmers, by virtue of our letters patent have granted & given licence, and for us, our heirs & successors, by how much is in us by these presents do grant & give licence to our dearest cousin Elizabeth, Countess of Oxford, that she might be able to give & grant, alienate or acknowledge by fine or by recovery in our court before our justices of the Common Pleas or by any other manner whatsoever at the pleasure of herself, the Countess, to our beloved & faithful Fulke Greville, knight, the manor of Hackney with the appurtenances and four messuages, two cottages, two tofts, four gardens, four orchards, one hundred acres of land, fifty acres of meadow, one

hundred acres of pasture & twenty acres of woods with the appurtenances in Hackney & Tottenham alias Totnam in our county of Middlesex, which we are held of us in chief, as it is said;

To have & to hold to the same Fulke and his heirs & assigns to the use & behoof of the same Fulke and his heirs & assigns forever of us, our heirs & successors, by the services owed therefore, & of right customary;

And by the tenor of these presents we have similarly given, and for us, our heirs & successors aforesaid, we do give special licence to the same Fulke that he might be able to receive from the forenamed Countess & hold to himself and his heirs & assigns forever of us, our heirs & successors, by the foresaid services, as is aforesaid, the foresaid manors, messuages, lands, tenements, & other the premises with the appurtenances;

Not willing that the foresaid Countess or her heirs, or the forenamed Fulke or his heirs by reason of the premises by us, our heirs or successors, or by our justices, escheators, sheriffs, bailiffs or other officers or ministers or by any of our said heirs or successors might be troubled therefore, molested, interfered with, vexed in anything or oppressed, nor any of them might be troubled, molested, interfered with, vexed in anything or oppressed. In [+testimony] of which thing etc. Witness the King at Westminster on the first day of April.

LM: D' licencie alienando inter Oxonie Comitissam & Grevill

- 1 Rex omnibus ad quos &c salutem Sciatis quod nos de gracia nostra speciali ac
- 2 pro sex libris solutis ffirmarijs nostris virtute litterarum nostrarum patencium
- 3 concessimus & licenciam dedimus ac pro nobis heredibus & successoribus nostris
- 4 quantum in nobis est per presentes concedimus & licenciam damus Charissime
- 5 Consanguinee nostre Elizabethhe Comitisse Oxonie quod ipsa Manerium de
- 6 Hackney cum pertinentijs ac quatuor Mesuagia duo Cotagia duo tofta
- 7 quatuor gardina quatuor pomaria Centum acras terre quinquaginta
- 8 acras prati Centum acras pasture & viginti acras bosci cum pertinentijs in
- 9 Hackney & Tottenham alias Totnam in Comitatu nostro Middlesexie que de nobis
- 10 tenentur in Capite vt dicitur dare possit & concedere alienare aut

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11 cognoscere per finem vel per recuperacionem in Curia nostra coram Iusticiarijs  
12 nostris de Banco aut aliquo alio modo quocunque ad libitum ipsius  
13 Comitisse dilecto & fideli nostro ffulconi Grevill Militi habendum & tenendum  
14 eidem ffulconi ac heredibus & assignatis suis ad opus & vsum ipsius ffulconis  
15 ac heredum & assignatorum suorum imperpetuum de nobis heredibus & successoribus  
nostris  
16 per seruicia inde debita & de iure consueta Et eidem ffulconi quod ipse  
17 predicta Maneria Mesuagia terras tenementa & cetera premissa cum pertinentijs a  
prefata  
18 Comitisse recipere possit & tenere sibi ac heredibus & assignatis suis de  
19 nobis heredibus & successoribus nostris per seruicia predicta sicut predictum est  
20 imperpetuum tenore presencium similiter licenciam dedimus ac pro nobis heredibus  
21 & successoribus nostris predictis damus specialem Nolentes quod predicta Comitissa  
22 vel heredes sui aut prefatus ffulco vel heredes sui ratione premissorum per  
23 nos heredes vel successores nostros aut per Iusticiarios Escaetores vicecomites  
24 Balliuos aut alios Officiarios seu Ministros nostros aut dictorum heredum  
25 vel successorum nostrorum quoscunque inde occasionentur molestentur impetantur  
26 vexentur in aliquo seu grauentur nec eorum aliquis occasionetur molestetur  
27 impetatur vexetur in aliquo seu grauetur In cuius rei &c Teste Regis apud  
28 Westmonasterium primo die Aprilis