

SUMMARY: The document below is the fine in the Court of Common Pleas dated 18 April 1580 by which clear title to the manor of Gutteridge in Essex passed from Oxford to George Knightley for £220. Pardon of alienation was granted to Oxford on 25 June 1582 for having alienated Guttridge Hall two years earlier to Knightley by indenture dated 27 March 1580 (see TNA C 66/1221, m.14). For the For the recognizance in the amount of £1000 which Oxford acknowledged to George Knightley on 27 March 1580 in connection with this sale, see TNA c 54/1095, Part 25.

A life estate in the manor of Gutteridge had been allotted to the 16th Earl's brother, Geoffrey de Vere, by the private Act of Parliament of 23 January 1552 which restored the 16th Earl's lands to him after Somerset's extortion (see TNA WARD 8/13 and HL/PO/PB/1/1551/5E6n35). For the nuncupative last will and testament, dated 3 April 1572, of Geoffrey de Vere, see ERO D/DABW 38/187.

The George Knightley who purchased the manor of Gutteridge from Oxford would appear to have been the George Knightley of London, gentleman, whose will was probated on 29 January 1608 (see TNA PROB 11/111, ff. 29-30). His wife was the sister of Edmund Pyrton, esquire, whose wife Constance (nee Darcy) was Oxford's first cousin.

This is the final agreement made in the court of the Lady Queen at Westminster on the quindene of Easter 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-second [=18 April 1580], before James Dyer, Thomas Meade & Francis Wyndham, justices, & others faithful to the Lady Queen then there present, between George Knightley, esquire, querent, and Edward, Earl of Oxenford, Great Chamberlain of England, deforciant, of the manor of Gutteridge alias Crustich alias Custrich Hall with the appurtenances, and of four messuages, three tofts, two mills, one dovecot, three gardens, two hundred acres of arable land, forty acres of meadow, one hundred acres of pasture, forty acres of wood & twenty shillings rent with the appurtenances in Weeley, Saint Osyth, Much Bentley & Tendring;

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, George, as those which the same George has of the gift of the foresaid Earl, and he has remised & quit-claimed them from himself & his heirs to the foresaid George & his heirs forever;

And besides the same Earl has granted for himself & his heirs that they will warrant to the foresaid George & his heirs 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 the same Earl, forever;

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

Essex

According to the form of the statute the first proclamation was made on the ninth day of May in Easter term in the twenty-second year of the within-written Queen;

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

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

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

The fifth proclamation was made on the fifteenth day of June in Trinity term in the twenty-second year of the within-written Queen;

The sixth proclamation on the seventeenth day of June in the same term;

The seventh proclamation on the twentieth day of June in the same term;

The eighth proclamation on the twenty-second day of June in the same term.

The ninth proclamation was made on the twenty-first day of November in Michaelmas term in the twenty-third year of the within-written Queen;

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

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

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

The thirteenth proclamation was made on the seventh day of February in Hilary term in the twenty-third year of the within-written Queen;

The fourteenth proclamation on the ninth day of February in the same term;

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

The sixteenth proclamation on the thirteenth day of February in the same term.

Examined

1 Hec est finalis Concordia facta in Curia Domine Regine Apud Westmonasterium A die
Pasche

2 in quindecim dies Anno regnorum Elizabethe dei gratia Anglie ffrancie & Hibernie

3 Regine fidei defensoris &c A Conquesto vicesimo secundo coram Iacobo Dyer Thoma

4 Meade & ffrancisco Wyndam Iusticiarijs & alijs domine Regine fidelibus tunc ibi

5 presentibus Inter Georgium Knightley Armigerum querentem et Edwardum Comitem

6 Oxonie Magnum Camerarium Anglie deforciantem de Manerio de Crustwich alias

7 Crustich alias Custrichall cum pertinentijs ac de quatuor mesuagijs tribus toftis

8 duobus molendinis vno Columbario tribus gardinis ducentis acris terre

9 quadraginta acris prati Centum acris pasture quadraginta acris bosci

10 & viginti solidatis redditus cum pertinentijs in Weleigh saynt Osithe Muche

11 Bentley & Tenderinge Vnde Placitum conuencionis summonitum fuit inter eos in

12 eadem Curia Scilicet quod predictus Comes recognovit predicta Manerium &
tenementa cum pertinentijs

13 esse Ius ipsius Georgij Vt illa que Idem Georgius habet de dono predicti

14 Comitum Et illa remisit & quieteclamavit de se & heredibus suis predicto Georgio

15 & heredibus suis Imperpetuum Et preterea Idem Comes concessit pro se & heredibus

16 suis quod ipsi Warantizabunt predicto Georgio & heredibus suis predicta Manerium &
tenementa

17 cum pertinentijs contra predictum Comitem & heredes suos ac contra heredes Iohannis

18 nuper Comitum Oxonie defuncti patris ipsius Comitum Imperpetuum Et pro hac

19 recognicione remissione quieteclamacione Waranto fine & Concordia Idem

20 Georgius dedit predicto Comiti ducentas & vicingi [sic] libras sterlingorum

Essex

Secundum formam statuti

Prima proclamatio facta fuit Nono die Maij termino Pasche Anno vicesimo secundo Regine infrascripte

Secunda proclamatio vndecimo die Maij eodem termino

Tercia proclamatio terciodecimo die Maij eodem termino

quarta proclamatio sextodecimo die Maij eodem termino

Quinta proclamatio facta fuit quintodecimo die Iunij termino sancte Trinitatis Anno vicesimo secundo Regine infrascripte

sexta proclamatio decimo septimo die Iunij eodem termino

septima proclamatio vicesimo die Iunij eodem termino

octava proclamatio vicesimo secundo die Iunij eodem termino

Nona proclamatio facta fuit vicesimo primo die Novembris termino sancti Michaelis Anno vicesimo tercio Regine infrascripte

decima proclamatio vicesimo tercio die Novembris eodem termino

vndecima proclamatio vicesimo sexto die Novembris eodem termino

duodecima proclamatio vicesimo octauo die Novembris eodem termino

Terciadecima proclamatio facta fuit septimo die ffebruarij termino sancti Hillarij Anno vicesimo tercio Regine infrascripte

quartadecima proclamatio nono die ffebruarij eodem termino

quintadecima proclamatio vndecimo die ffebruarij eodem termino

sextadecima proclamatio terciodecimo die ffebruarij eodem termino

examinatus