

SUMMARY: The document below is the fine in the Court of Common Pleas dated 20 January 1584 by which clear title to the manor of Bretts passed from Sir Thomas Heneage (b. in or before 1532, d. 1595) and his wife, Anne (c.1530-1593), to Roger Townshend (c.1544-1590) for £480. Two months later, on 7 March 1584, Townshend sold the manor of Bretts to Oxford (see HL/PO/PB/1/1609/7J1n33). It seems likely that the sale of Bretts was part of an exchange of properties between Oxford and Townshend since by a fine of 6 May 1584 Townshend purchased the manors of Wivenhoe, Battleswick and Great Bentley from Oxford for £2513 (see TNA CP 25/2/132/1693/26 ELIZIEASTER, Item 51).

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 Townshend, esquire, querent, and Thomas Heneage, knight, & Anne, his wife, deforciant, of the manor of Bretts with the appurtenances and of six messuages, six tofts, six gardens, sixty acres of arable land, a hundred acres of meadow, a hundred acres of pasture, a hundred acres of marsh & forty shillings' rent with the appurtenances in West Ham & Flatwick;

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

And besides the same Thomas & Anne have granted for themselves & the heirs of the same Thomas that they will warrant to the foresaid Roger & his heirs the foresaid manor & tenements with the appurtenances against the foresaid Thomas & Anne & the heirs of the same Thomas, and against Michael Heneage, esquire, and his heirs, William Poyntz, gentleman, & his heirs, and against Miles Grey & his heirs forever;

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

Essex

Examined

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

2 Anno regnorum Elizabethe dei gracia Anglie ffrancie & Hibernie Regine fidei defensoris &c a conquesto vicesimo

3 sexto coram Edmundo Anderson Thoma Meade ffrancisco Wyndam & Willelmo Peryam Iusticiarijs

4 & alijs domine Regine fidelibus tunc ibi presentibus Inter Rogerum Towneshend Armigerum querentem et

5 Thomam Henneage Militem & Annam vxorem eius deforciantes de Manerio de Brettes cum pertinentijs

6 ac de sex mesuagijs sex toftis sex gardinis sexaginta acris terre Centum acris prati

7 Centum acris pasture Centum acris marisci & quadraginta solidatis redditus cum pertinentijs in Westham

8 & fflatwyke Vnde Placitum conuencionis summonitum fuit inter eos in eadem Curia Scilicet quod predicti

9 Thomas & Anna recognoverunt predicta Manerium & tenementa cum pertinentijs esse ius ipsius Rogeri vt illa que idem

10 Rogerus habet de dono predictorum Thome & Anne Et illa remiserunt & quieteclamaverunt de ipsis Thoma &

11 Anna & heredibus suis predicto Rogero & heredibus suis Imperpetuum Et preterea ijdem Thomas & Anna

12 Concesserunt pro se & heredibus ipsius Thome quod ipsi Warantizabunt predicto Rogero & heredibus suis predicta

13 Manerium & tenementa cum pertinentijs contra predictos Thomam & Annam & heredes ipsius Thome Ac contra

14 Michaellem Henneage Armigerum & heredes suos Willelmum Poyntz generosum & heredes suos Ac contra

15 Milonem Grey & heredes suos Imperpetuum Et pro hac recognicione remissione quietaclamacione Waranto

16 fine & concordia Idem Rogerus dedit predictis Thome & Anne quadringentas & octoginta

17 libras sterlingorum

Essex

examinatus