

SUMMARY: The document below is the fine of 6 May 1584 by which clear title to the manors of Wivenhoe, Battleswick and Great Bentley passed from Oxford to Roger Townshend for £2513.

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-sixth [=6 May 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 Edward, Earl of Oxford, deforciant, of the manors of Wivenhoe, Battleswick and Great Bentley with the appurtenances and of a hundred messuages, a hundred cottages, thirty tofts, four mills, three dovecots, two hundred gardens, a thousand acres of arable land, a hundred acres of meadow, two thousand acres of pasture, three hundred acres of wood, five hundred acres of furze & heath, a hundred acres of moor, forty acres of rushes, two hundred acres of fresh marsh, three hundred acres of salt-marsh, forty acres of alder, twenty pounds' rent & common of pasture with the appurtenances in Wivenhoe, East Donyland, West Donyland, Colchester, Old Hythe, Greenstead, Elmstead, Frating, Alresford, Great Bentley, Little Bentley, Thorrington & Weeley, and of view of frankpledge & whatever to view of frankpledge belongs with the appurtenances in Wivenhoe, Bentley & Donyland;

Whereof a plea of covenant was summoned between them in the same court, namely that the foresaid Earl acknowledged the foresaid manors, tenements, rents, common of pasture & view of frankpledge 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 manors, tenements, rents, common of pasture & view of frankpledge with the appurtenances against the foresaid Earl & his heirs, and against the heirs of John, late Earl of Oxford, deceased, and against all others claiming by the foresaid Earls & their heirs forever;

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

Essex

Examined

1 Hec est finalis Concordia facta in Curia domine Regine Apud Westmonasterium a die Pasche in quindecim dies Anno regnorum Elizabethhe dei

2 gracia Anglie ffrancie & Hibernie Regine fidei defensoris &c A Conquesto vicesimo sexto coram Edmundo Anderson Thoma Meade ffrancisco

3 Wyndam & Willelmo Peryam Iusticiarijs & alijs domine Regine fidelibus tunc ibi presentibus Inter Rogerum Towneshend Armigerum querentem

4 et Edwardum Comitem Oxonie deforciantem de Manerijs de Wyvenhoo Battelswyck & magna Bentley cum pertinentijs ac de Centum

5 mesuagijs Centum Cotagijs triginta toftis quatuor molendinis tribus Columbarijs ducentis gardinis mille acris terre Centum

6 acris prati duobus millibus acrarum pasture trescentis acris bosci quingentis acris Iampnorum & bruere Centum acris

7 more quadraginta acris iuncarie ducentis acris marisci frisci trescentis acris marisci salsi quadraginta acris

8 alneti viginti libratis redditus & Communia pasture cum pertinentijs in Wyvenhoo Est Donyland West Donyland Colchester Oldhithe

9 Grensted Elmedsted ffratinge Allesford magna Bentley parua Bentley Tharrington & Weelye ac de visu franci

10 plegij & quicquid quod ad visum franci plegij pertinet cum pertinentijs in Wyvenhoo Bentley & Donyland Vnde Placitum conuencionis

11 summonitum fuit inter eos in eadem Curia Scilicet quod predictus Comes recognovit predicta Maneria tenementa redditus communiam pasture & visum franci

12 plegij cum pertinentijs esse Ius ipsius Rogeri vt illa que idem Rogerus habet de dono predicti Comitis et illa remisit & quieteclamavit

13 de se & heredibus suis predicto Rogero & heredibus suis Imperpetuum et preterea idem Comes concessit pro se & heredibus suis quod ipsi

14 Warantizabunt predicto Rogero & heredibus suis predicta Maneria tenementa redditus communiam pasture & visum franci plegij cum pertinentijs contra

15 predictum Comitem & heredes suos ac contra heredes Iohannis nuper Comitis Oxonie defuncti ac contra omnes alias Clamantes

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16 per predictos Comites & heredes suos Imperpetuum et pro hac recognicione  
remissione quietaclamacione Waranto fine & concordia idem

17 Rogerus dedit predicto Comiti duo Mille quingentas & tresdecim libras sterlingorum

Essex

examinatus