

67.23 Selected transcriptions, Elizabeth I, 1558–1603

1567 Licence to Alienate, Elizabeth I

[Coleman believes that Grovebury refers only to the demesne and priory with Leighton being used for the vast majority of the estate.]

‘... Windsor have demised, granted and to farme let unto Robert Christmas ... all that our manno’ of Groveburie in the parish of Leighton Bussard otherwise called the manno’ of Groveburye nere unto Leighton ... And all mann’ of landes leasures pastures Feedings and all other ... unto the same mano’ belongyng ... nowe or late in the occupacion of Willius Duncombe or Will’m Johnson and the rent and reversion of the same.

And all that our tythings or hamlets of Byllington, Egington and Clipston Hethe and the Rache and Stanbridge ... And ... water mille in Leighton Bussard ... [with all courts etc, profits of] markets and feyres in the said Towne of Leighton ... and all other our hereditaments, rights etc ... in and upon the said manors of Groveburye and Leighton Bussard ...

To have and to houlde all the said manors of Groveburye, Leighton Bussard, the said tythings or hamlets of Billington, Egyngton and Clipston Hethe and the Roche and Stanbridge ...’

Beds CRO KK 1, Licence to Alienate

1571 Lease, Elizabeth I

[As above, from 13 September 1566.]

Beds CRO KK 1, Licence to Alienate

Lease, Elizabeth I¹

[George and John Barne to Robert Christmas.]

‘Lease for a year – All those their Mannors of Grovebury, Leighton Bussrade, Studham and Stewkley ...’

Beds CRO KK 5, Lease

Lease, Elizabeth I¹

[Francis Barneham and George and John Barne to Sir Rowlande Haywarde.]

‘... 10 January 1576 by ... Windsor to Francis Barneham and George and John Barne for 99 years.’

Beds CRO KK 7, Assignment of lease

1576 Will, Elizabeth I

[Will of William Doncombe of Ivinghoe Aston, Bucks.]

‘To sonne Edmonde ... a lease of Groveberrie in Layton, all that Mr William Johnson hath at this presente tiyme in his tenure and occupacion and also Wenlo Hill Cloase, Myddle Cloase, Wyndell Cloase, Chappell cloase and twoe meadows the one called Colake meadowe and the other Mantells Meadowe. To

¹ Editor’s note: no date given

Giles Doncombe my sonne all my lease in reversion of part of Groveberry called the Home Grounde.

To Clemence Doncombe my lease in reversion of part of Groveberrie called the Midele Grounde. If said Edmonde Doncombe do decease without issue ... This I will it to remayne to William Doncombe my Godsonne and sonne of Thomas Doncombe.

If Edmond, Giles and Clemence all die then leases to sons Thomas Doncombe and William Doncombe.

To Alice Doncombe my wieff and Clemence Doncombe my sonne another part of lease of Groveberrie bought of Mr William Johnson namely Wenlo Hill Close, Middell Cloase, Wyndmyll Close, One Close called Chappell Cloase wherein the Chappell standethe and two meadows one named Collake meadowe and the other Mantells meadows.'

Bucks Museum, F G Gurney Collection, Will Book XXIII, 1930, 17-18

[Note by Gurney: 'The chapel has long vanished but its site is still obvious, and the "mound" of its small enclosure'.]

1581 Licence, Elizabeth I

[The Dunscombes get permission from Windsor to build the replacement manor house.]

'License to their tenant Clement Dunscombe of Leighton Buzzard in the County of Beds Gent., for £5 paid by him, to erect a dwelling house to be there for 42 years.'

Dalton, J N (ed), 1957. *The Manuscripts of St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle*, 3740

1588/89 Marriage Settlement, Elizabeth I

[Annual payments for the lease; it would seem that Leigh had acquired the whole of the manor including Stanbridge, but the smaller rent is for the demesne alone.]

'Thomas Leigh et al to son John and Ursula, daughter of Christopher Hoddesdon - £179 5s 10³/₄d ... to be paid to the Dean and Canons ... That is to saie for the saide Manno' and pastures of Groveburye and the other p'misses unto the same belonginge £27 16s 8d. And for the saide Manno' of Leighton Bussard and the hamlets of Billington, Stanbridge, Egington and Clipson, Heathe and the Rache, and for the said woodes and underwoodes in Leighton Busard commonly called Kings Woode and for the saide Mylles called Leighton mylles, And for the towls and profit of the faires and markets there and for the saide landes and ten'ts ...'

Beds CRO KK 19, Assignment of lease

1589 Lease, Elizabeth I

[The rent of £27 16s 8d will be that for the Grovebury demesne alone.]

'Thomas Leigh et al to Christopher Hoddesdon and Alice his wife ... to Christopher Hoddesdon alone for 50 years. That is to saie, for the said meadowe and pastures of Groveburie ... £27 16s 8d. And for the the said Mannor of Leighton Bussard ... And further the said Thomas Leighe (et al) doe by these presente by and at the Request of the said Christopher Hoddesdon demise and lease unto the said Alice all those pastures and Demesne groundes whatsoever called the Groveburie in the parrishe of Leighton Bussard nowe or late in the

severall occupacions of Clent Duncombe and Gyles Duncombe gent. And
Edwarde Karville.'

[Beds CRO KK 207, Lease](#)