



## Feet of Fines for the Period of Edward I & Edward II

### The Purpose of a Fine

To add strength and security to a conveyance that had already been virtually effected was then the prime motive for making or, as it was called, 'levying' a fine. This is shown by two Wiltshire examples. On 17 May 1287 Edward I granted by letters patent to Matthew son of John, knight, among other things the castle and manor of Devizes for life.<sup>1</sup> In Michaelmas term in the same year Matthew acquired by fine the same estate from the king and Eleanor the queen.

### 1284 12 Edward I

Morrow of St. John the Baptist<sup>1</sup>. William Russel and Alice his wife, plaintiffs, John le Orfevere and Alice his wife, impedients 1 messuage and 9 acres of land in Westbedewynde.

Writ of covenant [sic]. John and Alice have acknowledged the premises to be the right of William and Alice as those which John and Alice have of the gift of William and Alice, plaintiffs to hold of impedients., rendering yearly 10 pence in moieties at Easter and Michaelmas. (Warranty) Consideration. 9 marks.

### 1288/9 17 Edward I

New Salisbury. Morrow of St. Mathias<sup>2</sup>. William de Haredene, plaintiff Henry de Wyk' and Alice his wife, deforciant<sup>3</sup> 1 messuage in Westbedewynde. Henry has acknowledged the premises to be the right of William. Remise and quitclaim to plaintiff. Consideration. 1 sore sparrow-hawk.

### 1314

Morrow of St. John the Baptist. Thomas de Cantebrigge, of London, plaintiff, Philip de Upton' and Maud his wife, deforciant 1 messuage, 124 acres of land and 21 shillings rent in Westbedewynde, Estbedewynde and Chissebury. Philip and Maud have acknowledged the premises to be the right of Thomas. To hold to deforciant.

Information courtesy of the Wiltshire Record Society

<sup>1</sup> The Conception of St John the Baptist is 24th September.

<sup>2</sup> The feast of Mathias is 24th February.

<sup>3</sup> Defendants