



Feet of Fines for the Period of 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. In Michaelmas term in the same year Matthew acquired by fine the same estate from the king and Eleanor the queen.

1320 13 Edward II

Morrow of St. John the Baptist¹. Walter de Brunedon' and Richard de la More, of Wambergh', plaintiffs Robert de Hungerford', deforciant [defendant]. 2 messuages, 2 carucates of land, 8 acres of meadow and 46s. rent in Middelton' and Estgrafton'.

To hold to plaintiffs. (Warranty.) Consideration. 40 marks.

Information courtesy of the Wiltshire Record Society

¹ The Conception of Saint John the Baptist is 24th September.