



Feet of Fines for the Period of Edward I

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.¹ In Michaelmas term in the same year Matthew acquired by fine the same estate from the king and Eleanor the queen.

Wilts, (Southampton)

1310

Oct. of Trinity¹ John de Dun, plaintiff William de Shireburne, deforciant² Manors of Milleston' and Hynsete, co. Wilts, and the manor of Tudeworth', co. Southampton. Plaintiff to hold during his life, of the king. Successive remainders to Stephen de Brightmerston' and Joan his wife, the heirs begotten between them, George de Brightmerston' and Agnes his wife, the heirs begotten between them and the right heirs of John, to hold of the king. (King's order.)

Information courtesy of the Wiltshire Record Society

¹ In 1310 Trinity Sunday was 14th June so the 8th (Oct) of Trinity was 21st June

² Defendant