



GREAT BEDWYN - CROFTON

FEET OF FINES 1377-1509

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?

1443

Quin. of Eas. Nicholas Ayssheton, Robert Joce, William Hyndeston and John Wydeslade, pl.; William Bourghier and Thomasia his wife, def. Manors of Tawstock (Toustoke), Nymet Tracy (Nymettracy), Bampton (Baunton), Uffculme (Ufcolmp), Holne, Totnes (Little Tottenes), the hundred and borough of Bampton (Baunton) and the advowsons of Tawstock and Nymet Tracy and of the chantry of Bampton, and 2 messuages, 1 toft and 1 carucate in Exeter (Exon), Shillingford (Shillyngford) and Criditon (Criditon), half the manor of Milton Damerel (Milton Daumarll), and 4 messuages, 300 a. of land and 20 a. meadow in Exeter, Milton Damerel, White (Wayte), Braundsworthy (Brendesworthy) and Stadson (Stoddesdon), Devon; manors of Huntspill (Honyspyll), Wigborough (Wyggebeare) and Huntstile (Hunstyle), the advowson of Huntspill and half a messuage, 300 a. of land, 20 a. meadow and 20 a. wood in Quarme (Quarm), Som; half the manors of Crofton and Stanton (Staunton) and of the advowson of Stanton, Wilts; manor of Bentham called Hunt Court (Huntecourt), Glos; a third part of the manor of Dilwyn (Dyllowe), Heref; castle and manor of Whittington (Whytyngton), advowsons of Whittington and Selattyn (Sullaton), and a third part of the manors of Edgmond (Egmondon) and Redcastle, Salop and the March of Wales; manor and hundred of Wantage (Wantynge), Berks; manor of Edlington (Edlyngton), Yorks; and a third part of the manors of Tunstall, Horton, Betley and Heighley (Heley) and 30s. rent in Over Longsdon (Overlangesdon), Staffs. Right of Robert, pl.'s by gift of def. Grant back and render to def. To hold to def. and the heirs of their bodies. Remainder to right heirs of Thomasia.

Abbreviations:

Eas. = Easter
pl = plaintiff
def. = deforciant
a. = acre

OPC Note:

In 1443 Easter Day was on 21st April so the 5th (Quin) of Easter was 25th April.