

# Data from the 1910 Land Valuation Survey for the parish of Crutch



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**Front cover image:** View of Crutch Farm in October 2015

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## Introduction

The Valuation Office Survey of 1910 resulted in the creation of a snapshot of land across the county of Worcestershire, in common with other counties in England. The associated Valuation Summary books are to be found at the Hive in Worcester: these books are of a large format, measuring 43cm by 34cm, cloth-bound with leather corners and the name of the Income Tax Parish (ITP) written on the spine. An ITP may cover just a single civil parish in the county, whilst some ITPs covered two or more parishes: for example, the ITP of Church Lench only contains records for the civil parish of Church Lench, whilst that of Abbots Lench covers the civil parishes of Fladbury, Hill & Moor, Throckmorton and Wyre Piddle, as well as Abbots Lench itself. In some cases, two or more ITPs can be found in the same Valuation Summary book: for example, Conderton and Overbury. The basic unit of valuation was a piece of land in separate occupation, although the application of this principle was not always straightforward.<sup>1</sup> The number of valuation assessments in each civil parish ranges across the county from 1 (Crutch) to 7,171 (Kidderminster Borough).

This series of booklets provides a transcription of the Valuation Summary books for each civil parish in the county of Worcestershire, along with a brief analysis of the transcribed data.

### 1. The Valuation Office Survey of 1910

The valuation of land in 1910 was initiated by the Finance (1909-1910) Act (10 Edw. VII, c.8 section 26(1)) which provided for the levy and collection of a duty on the increment value of all land in the United Kingdom. The main object of the Act was to tax that part of the capital appreciation of real property which was attributable to the site itself, excluding any benefit arising from crops, buildings or improvements paid for by the owners. In this way, private owners were required to pay part of the increase in the site value of their land which had resulted from the expenditure of public money on communal developments such as roads or public services.

Increment value duty was based on the difference between the amount of two valuations. The first was the site value as at 30 April 1909, as determined by the Valuation Survey, which constituted the 'datum line' for these purposes: a second site valuation was to be taken on the occasion of any subsequent sale or grant of a lease, transfer of interest in a piece of land, or the subsequent death of a land owner, in order to determine any potential payment of increment value duty. This second assessment formed part of the on-going role of the Valuation Office, until this duty was repealed by the 1920 Finance Act (10 and 11 Geo. V, c.18). Although this legislation was only in place for around ten years, it has left behind a comprehensive record of land in every county enabling an understanding of the ownership, occupation, extent and value of land. The data collected during the survey for the county of Worcestershire, which has been retained, is contained in four different sets:

- The Valuation Summary books (sometimes referred to as the Lloyd George Domesday books): these are held at the Hive in Worcester (WAAS: BA8585/1 series);
- Forms 37 – Land: these contain the provisional valuations, and are also held at the Hive in Worcester (WAAS: 8585/2-64 series);

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<sup>1</sup> See Brian Short, *Land and Society in Edwardian Britain* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997), pp 131-132.

- Two series of annotated Ordnance Survey maps: the Field Maps (used in the field during survey), some of which are now held at the Hive in Worcester; the Record Maps (originally kept in the Valuation Record office) now held at the National Archives at Kew (TNA: IR129 series);
- The Field Books which contain a complete record of each valuation: again, these are held at the National Archives at Kew (TNA: IR58 series).

With regard to the Valuation Summary books, the first nine columns were compiled from the Rate Book for the parish and all of the books contain this information. Subsequent columns (10–40) were supposed to be completed by the staff of the District Valuation Offices after the initial valuation was complete: however, this was not carried out in a consistent fashion, and indeed, anyone interested in the mechanics and outcome of an individual valuation would be better served by the details contained in the Field Books.

This series of booklets provides a transcription of the first nine columns in that these record the ownership, occupation, extent, and basic valuation of each assessment. After a brief introduction to the parish, an analysis of the data will be presented examining the names of the major landowners and the extent of their property in the parish, along with an analysis of the main farms in the parish. Indexes of owners, occupiers and places appear in subsequent appendices and a final appendix will direct the reader to the appropriate references for the associated Forms 37, Record Maps and Field Books for the parish covered by the booklet.

This booklet presents the data for the civil parish of Crutch: it has been taken from the summary book for the Income Tax Parish of Dodderhill which covers the civil parishes of Dodderhill and Crutch.<sup>2</sup>

## 2. The parish of Crutch in 1910

The parish is located 2 miles north of Droitwich and consists of one farm, on a geology described as ‘Sidmouth Mudstone Formation - Mudstone’ and ‘Droitwich Halite Member – Halite’: the parish extends to 327 acres. The resulting soils are slightly acid loamy and clayey soils with impeded drainage.<sup>3</sup>

When the census was carried out in 1911, the population of Crutch was six (two males and four females) and there was a single inhabited dwelling.<sup>4</sup> From an agricultural viewpoint in the same year, there were no agricultural statistics for the parish of Crutch, in that there would only have been a single return for Crutch Farm, and it was policy not to present data which enabled individual farms to be identified. It is likely that the return would have been included with those for the parish of Dodderhill where the main arable crops were wheat, beans, and oats.<sup>5</sup>

## 3. Land and property in 1910 in the parish of Crutch

The single property in the parish was owned by Edward Partington, and occupied by Harry Christopher Jackson: the estimated extent, gross annual value and rateable value are not given in the Valuation Summary.

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<sup>2</sup> WAAS: BA 8585/1/30, *Inland Revenue. Valuation Summary book for the parish of Dodderhill, Crutch, 1909–10.*

<sup>3</sup> Kelly’s Directory 1912, p. 70. British Geological Survey, *Geology Viewer app – Crutch, Worcestershire* [accessed 25 June 2023]; British Geological Survey, *UK Soil Observatory (UKSO) app, Soilscales for England and Wales – Crutch, Worcestershire* [accessed 25 June 2023].

<sup>4</sup> TNA: RG78/1087. *1911 Census Enumerator’s Summary Books. Worcestershire. Droitwich. Registration Sub-District: Droitwich, including Civil Parish, Township or Place: Crutch.*

<sup>5</sup> TNA: MAF68/2489, *Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and predecessors: Statistics Divisions: Parish Summaries of Agricultural Returns. Worcestershire, 1911.*

**Appendix 1.** Transcribed data from the Valuation Summary for the parish of Crutch.

NOTE: This data has been transcribed as presented in the Valuation Summary without any standardisation of punctuation, abbreviation &c. However, all data presented as superscripts has been included as normal text in this transcription.

No. of assessment	No. of Poor Rate	Occupier	Owner and residence	Description	No	Situation	Estimated extent			Gross annual value			Rateable value		
							A	R	P	£	s	d	£	s	d
425	1	H. C. Jackson	Edward Partington Westwood Park, Nr. Droitwich	House, buildings and land		Crutch									

## **Appendix 2. Index of Owners**

Partington, Edward 425

## **Appendix 3. Index of Occupiers**

Jackson, H. C. 425

## **Appendix 4. Index of Places**

Crutch 425

## **Appendix 5. References to other Land Valuation resources for Crutch**

TNA – The National Archives, Kew

WAAS – Worcestershire Archaeology and Archive Service, The Hive, Worcester

### Forms 37

WAAS: 009:5 BA 8585/11 *Forms 37 – Land, Croome d’Abitot, Crutch, Dodderhill, 1910-15.*

### Field Books

TNA: IR58/93407, *Board of Inland Revenue Valuation Office: Field Books. Worcester. Dodderhill. Assessment No. 401-437, 1910.*

### Record Maps

TNA: IR129/3/712, *Board of Inland Revenue Valuation Office: Record Sheet Plans. West Midland Region: Hereford and Worcester District. OS Sheet Reference: Worcestershire XXII 9, 1910.*

TNA: IR129/3/713, *Board of Inland Revenue Valuation Office: Record Sheet Plans. West Midland Region: Hereford and Worcester District. OS Sheet Reference: Worcestershire XXII 10, 1910.*

TNA: IR129/4/190, *Board of Inland Revenue Valuation Office: Record Sheet Plans. West Midland Region: Kidderminster District. OS Sheet Reference: Worcestershire XXII 6, 1910.*