

Data from the 1910 Land Valuation Survey for the parish of Doverdale



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Front cover image: St. Mary's Church, Doverdale in July 2012

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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.¹ 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);

¹ 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.

The Valuation Summary for the Income Tax Parish of Doverdale covers the civil parishes of Doverdale, Hampton Lovett, Salwarpe and Westwood. This booklet covers the civil parish of Doverdale only.²

2. The parish of Doverdale in 1910

The parish is located 8 miles north from Worcester on a geology described as ‘Sidmouth Mudstone Formation’, extending to 749 acres. The resulting soils are primarily clayey loam to silty loam, with some small areas of sand to sandy loam, and clay to sandy loam.³

When the census was carried out in 1911, the population of Doverdale was 44 (22 males and 22 females): of the 13 properties recorded in the census, nine were inhabited, three were uninhabited, and one was classed as a ‘building not used as dwelling’.⁴ From an agricultural viewpoint in the same year, the total cultivated area of the parish was 577 acres, of which 217 were arable, and 360 acres (62% of the total) were grassland: this included 21 acres of orchards. Of the five agricultural holdings in the parish, three were tenanted properties covering 566 acres (98% of the total). The main arable crops were wheat, beans, and oats, whilst the orchards were growing a range of top fruit. With more pasture land than arable, 109 cattle and 243 sheep were kept.⁵

² WAAS: BA 8585/1/31, *Inland Revenue. Valuation Summary book for the parish of Doverdale, Hampton Lovett, Salwarpe, Westwood, 1909-10.*

³ Kelly’s Directory 1912, p. 73. British Geological Survey, *Geology Viewer – Doverdale, Worcestershire* geologyviewer.bgs.ac.uk [accessed 30 January 2023]; British Geological Survey, *UK Soil Observatory (UKSO) Map Viewer – Doverdale, Worcestershire* <https://mapapps2.bgs.ac.uk/ukso/home.html> [accessed 30 January 2023].

⁴ TNA: RG78/1086. *1911 Census Enumerator’s Summary Books. Worcestershire. Droitwich. Registration Sub-District: Ombersley, including Civil Parish, Township or Place: Doverdale.*

⁵ TNA: MAF68/2489, *Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and predecessors: Statistics Divisions: Parish Summaries of Agricultural Returns. Worcestershire, 1911.* Main acreages of arable as follows: Wheat, 68; Beans, 42; Oats, 36; Barley, 18; Turnips & Swedes, 15; Mangolds, 13; Peas, 11. Orchard acreages: Apples, 11; Plums, 2; Other kinds, 8.

3. Land and property in 1910 in the parish of Doverdale

Of the 16 assessments in the Valuation Summary, five were owned by Edward Partington who lived at Westwood Park and was lord of the manor and principal landowner, owning 65% of the parish land, as shown in Table 2.⁶ The living was a rectory in the gift of Mrs. C. P. Mottram and was held in 1910 by the Rev. Charles Poyntz Sanderson; he also held five of the assessments in the parish.⁷

Table 1: Number of assessments by landowner

Name	No. of assessments
Edward Partington	5
Rev. C. P. Sanderson	5
E. Bromley Martin	3
W. Davies	2
Rev. J. G. Barrow	1
TOTAL	16

Table 2 shows the acreage of land in the parish by major landowner, determined by summing the entries in the Valuation Summary. The other major landowner was E. Bromley Martin who owned 209½ acres, being 28% of the total acreage.

Table 2: Acreage of land by major landowner

Name	Acreage		
	a	r	p
Edward Partington	477	3	0
E. Bromley Martin	209	2	0
Rev. C. P. Sanderson	43	9	0
W. Davies	3	3	0
TOTAL	736	1	0

Those assessments with more than 50 acres of land are listed in Table 3.

Table 3: Assessments in excess of 50 acres

Situation	Acreage		
	a	r	p
Hill Farm	209	2	0
Church Farm	176	2	0
Southall Farm	164	1	0
Pakington Farm	137	0	0

⁶ Kelly's Directory 1912, p. 73.

⁷ Kelly's Directory 1908, p. 72. He was followed by the Rev. Joseph Handforth Bourne from 1911. Kelly's Directory 1912, p. 73.

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

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
1	1.2.3	Sanderson Revd. C.P.	Revd. C. P. Sanderson	House & Garden		Rectory	5	3	0	70	0	0	59	10	0
1	2	Sanderson Revd. C.P.	Revd. C. P. Sanderson	Buildings		Rectory				10	0	0	8	0	0
1	3	Sanderson Revd. C.P.	Revd. C. P. Sanderson	Tithes		Doverdale				111	15	0	100	10	0
2	4	Musson George	Revd. C. P. Sanderson	House & Garden		Glebe				9	0	0	7	15	0
3	5	Sanderson Revd. C.P.	Revd. C. P. Sanderson	Buildings		Glebe				3	5	0	2	10	0
3	6	Sanderson Revd. C.P.	Revd. C. P. Sanderson	Land		Glebe	8	3	0	15	0	0	13	10	0
4	7	Morgan Thomas	Revd. C. P. Sanderson	Land		Glebe	30	3	0	40	0	0	36	0	0
5	8	Hall John	Revd. C. P. Sanderson	Cottage		Rectory				5	0	0	3	15	0
6	9	Moss Mrs. Emma	Edward Partington	House & Garden		Southall Farm				13	15	0	11	0	0
6	10	Moss Mrs. Emma	Edward Partington	Buildings		Southall Farm				6	5	0	5	0	0
6	11	Moss Mrs. Emma	Edward Partington	Land		Southall Farm	164	1	0	111	0	0	100	0	0
7	12	Moss Arthur	Edward Partington	House		Church Farm				13	15	0	11	0	0
7	13	Moss Arthur	Edward Partington	Buildings		Church Farm				6	5	0	5	0	0
7	14	Moss Arthur	Edward Partington	Land		Church Farm	176	2	0	135	0	0	121	10	0
8	15	Nash Thomas	Edward Partington	Cottage & Garden		Church Farm				5	0	0	3	15	0
9	16	Cottrill Mrs.	Edward Partington	Cottage & Garden		Church Farm				5	0	0	3	15	0
10	17	Peart Joseph	Edward Partington	Land		Pakington Farm	137	0	0	114	0	0	102	10	0
11	18	Late Lamb E. H.	W. Davies 98 Soho Road Handsworth B'ham	House & Garden		Doverdale Mill				8	15	0	7	10	0

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
12	19	Lamb E. H.	W. Davies 98 Soho Road Handsworth B'ham	Mill		Doverdale Mill				10	0	0	7	10	0
12	20	Lamb E. H.	W. Davies 98 Soho Road Handsworth B'ham	Land		Doverdale Mill	3	3	0	7	0	0	6	5	0
13	21	Morgan Thomas	E. Bromley Martin	House		Hill Farm				16	0	0	12	15	0
13	22	Morgan Thomas	E. Bromley Martin	Buildings		Hill Farm				6	0	0	4	15	0
13	23	Morgan Thomas	E. Bromley Martin	Land		Hill Farm	209	2	0	103	0	0	92	15	0
14	24	Brown Stephen	E. Bromley Martin	Cottage & Garden		Hill Farm				5	0	0	3	15	0
15 ⁸	25	Jones R A.	E. Bromley Martin	Cottage & Garden		Hill Farm				5	0	0	3	15	0
207		Rector & Churchwardens	Rev. J. G. Barrow, Doverdale Rectory	Parish Church		Doverdale ⁹									

⁸ Below the owner name for this assessment, note added in pencil: Agents A. Buck & Son Worcester.

⁹ Acreage given as: .540 ac.

Appendix 2. Index of Owners

Barrow, Rev. J. G. 207
Davies, W. 11-12
Martin, E. Bromley 13-15
Partington, Edward 6-10
Sanderson, Rev. C. P. 1-5

Appendix 3. Index of Occupiers

Brown, Stephen 14	Moss, Arthur 7
Cottrill, Mrs. 9	Moss, Mrs. Emma 6
Hall, John 5	Musson, George 2
Jones, R. A. 15	Nash, Thomas 8
Lamb, E. H. 12	Peart, Joseph 10
Lamb, E. H., Late 11	Rector & Churchwardens 207
Morgan, Thomas 4, 13	Sanderson, Rev. C.P. 1, 3

Appendix 4. Index of Places

Church Farm 7-9
Doverdale 1, 207
Doverdale Mill 11-12
Glebe 2-4
Hill Farm 13-15
Pakington Farm 10
Rectory 1, 5
Southall Farm 6

Appendix 5. References to other Land Valuation resources for Doverdale

TNA – The National Archives, Kew

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

Forms 37

WAAS: 009:5 BA 8585/14 *Forms 37 – Land, Doverdale, Dormston, 1910-15.*

Field Books

TNA: IR58/93411, *Board of Inland Revenue Valuation Office: Field Books. Worcester. Doverdale (Hampton Lovett). Assessment No. 1-100, 1910.*

TNA: IR58/93413, *Board of Inland Revenue Valuation Office: Field Books. Worcester. Doverdale (Westwood). Assessment No. 201-232, 1910.*

Record Maps

TNA: IR129/3/702, *Board of Inland Revenue Valuation Office: Record Sheet Plans. West Midland Region: Hereford and Worcester District. OS Sheet Reference: Worcestershire XXI 8, 1910.*

TNA: IR129/3/706, *Board of Inland Revenue Valuation Office: Record Sheet Plans. West Midland Region: Hereford and Worcester District. OS Sheet Reference: Worcestershire XXI 12, 1910.*

TNA: IR129/3/710, *Board of Inland Revenue Valuation Office: Record Sheet Plans. West Midland Region: Hereford and Worcester District. OS Sheet Reference: Worcestershire XXI 16, 1910.*