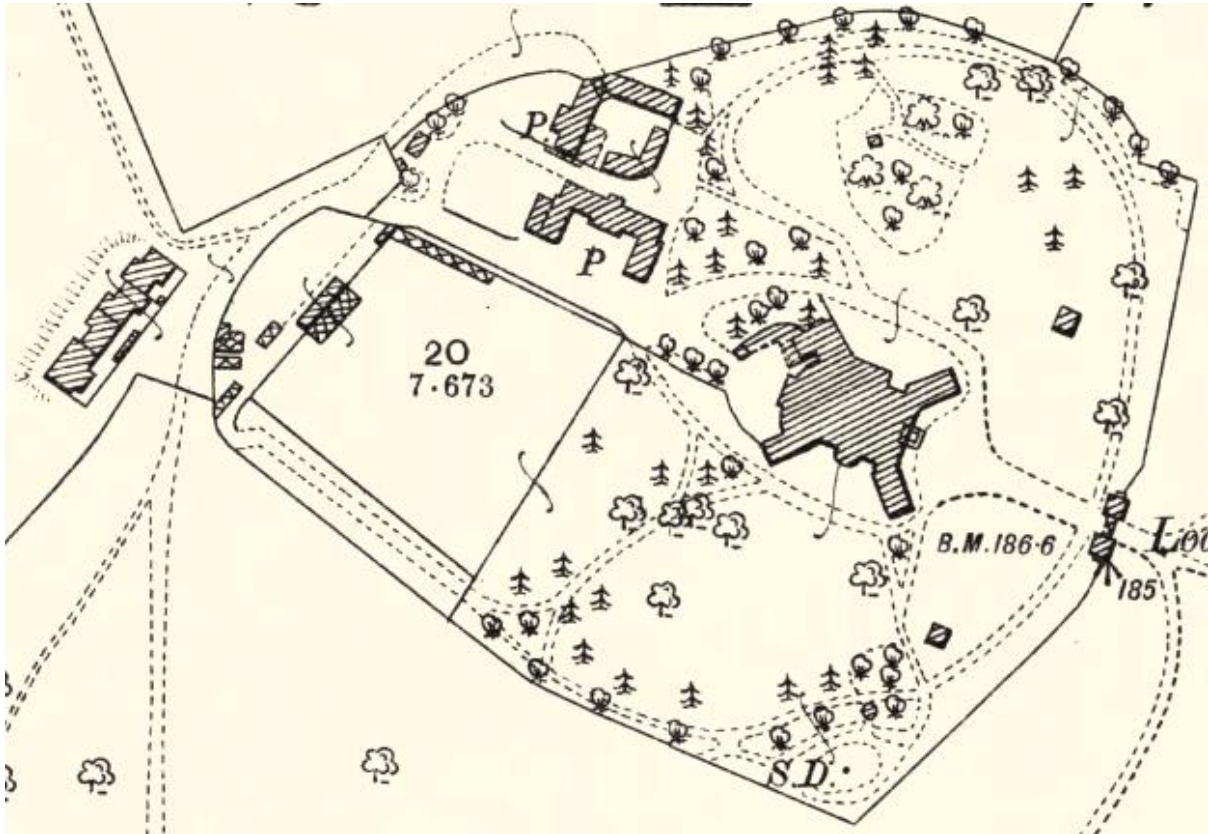


Data from the 1910 Land Valuation Survey for the parish of Westwood



Prepared by David Collier and Alan Wadsworth

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Front cover image: Westwood House as shown on 1901 Ordnance Survey map, Worcestershire Sheet XXII 13 (Source: <https://maps.nls.uk/view/120900091>, reproduced with the permission of the National Library of Scotland, under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC-BY) licence <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>)

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);
- 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

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

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 Westwood: it has been taken from the summary book for the Income Tax Parish of Doverdale which covers the civil parishes of Doverdale, Hampton Lovett, Salwarpe and Westwood.²

2. The parish of Westwood in 1910

Known also as Westwood Park in 1910, the parish is located 1½ miles from Droitwich on a geology described as ‘Sidmouth Mudstone Formation’, extending to 670 acres. The resulting soils are primarily slightly-acid loamy and clayey soils with impeded drainage.³

When the census was carried out in 1911, the population of Westwood was 47 (21 males and 26 females): of the 9 properties recorded in the census, eight were inhabited, and one was uninhabited.⁴ From an agricultural viewpoint in the same year, the agricultural statistics were recorded for the combined parish of Hampton Lovett & Westwood, with the total cultivated area of the combined parish being 2,534¾ acres: thus, Westwood formed around one-quarter of the area. The main arable crops were wheat, beans, and oats.⁵

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

All of the assessments were owned by Edward Partington Esq, J. P. who was lord of the manor. Westwood Park was divided into six parts ranging in size from 26½ to 218¾ acres, and these were occupied by three tenants, J. C. Jackson, John Terry and R. B. Ward.

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. 281. British Geological Survey, *Geology Viewer app – Westwood, Worcestershire* [accessed 28 September 2023]; British Geological Survey, *UK Soil Observatory (UKSO) app, Soilscales for England and Wales – Westwood, Worcestershire* [accessed 28 September 2023].

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

⁵ 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 Westwood.

NOTE:

1. 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.

2. Many of the assessment numbers were not given as complete numbers in the Valuation Summary: for example, between 192 and 200, the numbers are written as 192, 3, 4, ... 9, 200. In order to provide an accurate cross-reference between the data in this appendix, and that in Appendices 2, 3 and 4, the assessment numbers have been completed in full in the table below.

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
192 ⁶	1	Ward R B	Edward Partington	House, Stables & Garden		Westwood	80	3	0	280	0	0	238	0	0
193	2	Wynne Richd.	Edward Partington	First Lodge		Westwood				8	0	0	6	0	0
194	3	Hoare Arthur	Edward Partington	Second Lodge		Westwood				8	0	0	6	0	0
195	4	Dobson Herbert	Edward Partington	Third Lodge		Westwood				5	0	0	3	15	0
196	5	Nicholls Lily	Edward Partington	Cottage Laundry		Westwood				10	0	0	8	10	0
197	6	Durban Wm.	Edward Partington	Cottage & Garden		Westwood				6	0	0	4	10	0
198	7	Bucknill Wm.	Edward Partington	Cottage & Garden		Westwood				6	0	0	4	10	0
199	8	Bint Charles	Edward Partington	Gamekeepers House		Westwood				5	0	0	3	15	0
200	9	Ward R B	Edward Partington	Land		Part of Westwood Park	218	3	0	200	0	0	190	0	0
200	10	Ward R B	Edward Partington	Land		Part of Westwood Park	70	0	0	80	0	0	72	0	0
201	11	Ward R B	Edward Partington	Woods		Part of Westwood Park	95	1	0	45	0	0	42	10	0
202	12	Jackson J C.	Edward Partington	Land		Part of Westwood Park	133	1	0	133	0	0	119	10	0
202	13	Jackson J C.	Edward Partington	Land		Part of Westwood Park	26	2	0	29	0	0	26	0	0
203	14	Terry John	Edward Partington	Land		Part of Westwood Park	116	1	0	102	0	0	92	0	0

⁶ For assessment numbers 192 to 199 inclusive, the estimated extent is grouped with a curly bracket and the following note added: including Pool 80a 3r 0p.

Appendix 2. Index of Owners

Partington, Edward 192-203

Appendix 3. Index of Occupiers

Bint, Charles 199

Bucknill, Wm. 198

Dobson, Herbert 195

Durban, Wm. 197

Hoare, Arthur 194

Jackson, J. C. 202

Nicholls, Lily 196

Terry, John 203

Ward, R. B. 192, 200-201

Wynne, Richd. 193

Appendix 4. Index of Places

Part of Westwood Park 200-203

Westwood 192-199

Appendix 5. References to other Land Valuation resources for Westwood

TNA – The National Archives, Kew

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

Forms 37

No Forms 37 retained for the parish of Westwood.

Field Books

TNA: IR58/93412, *Board of Inland Revenue Valuation Office: Field Books. Worcester. Doverdale. Assessment No. 101-200, 1910.*

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

Record Maps

TNA: IR129/3/706, *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.*

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: IR129/3/714, *Board of Inland Revenue Valuation Office: Record Sheet Plans. West Midland Region: Hereford and Worcester District. OS Sheet Reference: Worcestershire XXII 13, 1910.*

TNA: IR129/3/752, *Board of Inland Revenue Valuation Office: Record Sheet Plans. West Midland Region: Hereford and Worcester District. OS Sheet Reference: Worcestershire XXVIII 4, 1910.*

TNA: IR129/3/765, *Board of Inland Revenue Valuation Office: Record Sheet Plans. West Midland Region: Hereford and Worcester District. OS Sheet Reference: Worcestershire XXIX 1, 1910.*