

The Land Tax of 1798 for Lavendon Parish

In 1692, in the reign of William III and Mary, the country was at war with France and as ever there was a need for the Government to raise more money. As a result, the Land Tax was introduced and after many changes it was only abolished in 1963.

The associated assessments list owners of land in each parish and often the occupiers. From 1798 the tax was fixed at four shillings in the pound and became a permanent annually levied charge on the land. Owners of land valued under one pound a year were exempt. Between 1772 and 1909 the rate remained at four shillings in the pound.

Many records have survived because duplicates were made and are contained amongst the surviving County Quarter Sessions records. This is because the Clerks of the Peace in various counties used them to establish men's electoral rights. From 1780, payment of land tax on freehold property worth £2 or more a year qualified a man to vote.

Many owners were non-residents and so for example woodland in a parish could be "occupied" by landowners whose mansion houses were many parishes away. They may have simply sold the timber out of the woodland for profit. Sums assessed are the amounts of tax charged. Comparison of amounts within a list gives an idea of the size and value of the property.

The assessors and collectors were usually parish officers, such as the Overseers of the Poor, who would already be collecting the Poor Rates for the area.

Note: Despite the excellent quality of handwriting associated with the Lavendon assessment there are still a few entries where for example a name is not entirely obvious; there may therefore be an occasional unavoidable misspelling in the transcription that follows.

NBS: 18 Jan 2013

LAND TAX ASSESSMENT OF 1798 FOR LAVENDON PARISH

COUNTY of *Buckingham*

PARISH of *Lavendon*

An Assessment made in Pursuance of an Act of Parliament passed in the 38th Year of His Majesty's Reign, for granting an Aid to His Majesty by a Land Tax to be raised in Great Britain, for the Service of the Year 1798.

No. of Register	Names of Proprietors	Names of Occupiers	Sums Assessed			Date of Contract
			£.	s.	d.	
	<i>Charles Chester Esq</i>	<i>Mr. Bithrey</i>	37	"	"	
	<i>do</i>	<i>Mr. Perry (Woods)</i>	21	8	"	
	<i>Wm Farrer Esq</i>	<i>Woods</i>	"	12	6	
97020	<i>do</i>	<i>Himself Coppice</i>	6	"	9	
	<i>do</i>	<i>Thos Gent Esq</i>	"	6	"	
	<i>do</i>	<i>J Billing</i>	"	3	"	
	<i>Philip Skeene Esq</i>	<i>Himself</i>	17	8	"	
7101 (	<i>Earl Dartmouth</i>	<i>J Perry</i>	4	18	"	
(	<i>do</i>	<i>Richardson & Hannah</i>	1	"	6	
87890	<i>John Perry</i>	<i>Peter Covington</i>	"	7	"	
	<i>do</i>	<i>Ann Ratcliffe</i>	"	3	"	
	<i>do</i>	<i>Isaac Watts</i>	"	4	"	
	<i>Revd Mr Burton</i>	<i>Tithes</i>	16	10	"	
	<i>Revd Mr Adams</i>	<i>Andrews & Co</i>	36	"	"	
	<i>do</i>	<i>Wid Taddington</i>	"	5	"	
	<i>do</i>	<i>Thos Webster</i>	"	6	"	
97023	<i>Messrs Hales</i>	<i>Uriah Clayson</i>	14	5	"	
97023	<i>do</i>	<i>Thos Bettle</i>	11	12	10	
97020	<i>do</i>	<i>R. York</i>	12	5	"	
	<i>Thos Gent Esq</i>	<i>Land & Homestead</i>		16	"	
	<i>do</i>	<i>late York</i>	2	6	"	
	<i>do</i>	<i>Northy</i>	2	.	6	
	<i>do</i>	<i>W Johnson</i>	"	6	"	
87095	<i>do</i>	<i>H Wykes</i>	"	4	"	
	<i>do</i>	<i>J Clayson</i>	"	10	"	
	<i>do</i>	<i>late Steffs</i>	"	18	"	
	<i>Mrs Longmire</i>	<i>T Gent Esq</i>	6	2	6	
81320 (	<i>Rvd Mr. Verder</i>	<i>W Castledine</i>	3	10	"	
(	<i>Rvd Mr. Parker</i>	<i>do</i>	"	5	"	
	<i>Mr. Wagstaff</i>	<i>T Willmer</i>	2	6	"	
26229	<i>John Higgins Esq</i>	<i>Himself</i>	6	1	6	
	<i>W. Jeff</i>	<i>J Higgins Esq</i>	1	6	-	
	<i>W. Burr</i>	<i>Himself</i>	2	13	10	
	<i>W. Lacey</i>	<i>J Perry</i>	4	11	"	
87092	<i>F Orphin</i>	<i>Himself</i>	"	8	"	
87093	<i>R York</i>	<i>Himself</i>	"	9	"	
	<i>do</i>	<i>J Litfoot</i>	1	"	6	

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No. of Register	Names of Proprietors	Names of Occupiers	Sums Assessed			Date of Contract
	<i>W. Haghton</i>	<i>R Fravell (?)</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>6</i>	
	<i>Perrys Children</i>	<i>W West</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>6</i>	
	<i>Mr. Andrews</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>"</i>	
<i>40089</i>	<i>T. F. Palmer</i>	<i>John Billing</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>6</i>	
<i>21199</i>	<i>B. Cuthbertson</i>	<i>R Croley</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>"</i>	
	<i>T. Ward</i>	<i>Himself</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>"</i>	
	<i>R. Ward & xx(?)</i>	<i>Themselves</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>"</i>	
<i>87094</i>	<i>W. Castledine</i>	<i>Saml. Luddington</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>"</i>	
	<i>W. Bowden</i>	<i>H. Wykes</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	
	<i>W. Smith</i>	<i>R. Nicholls</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>6</i>	
	<i>(F. Davidson</i>	<i>late Webb</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>"</i>	
<i>73522</i>	<i>(do</i>	<i>Himself</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>6</i>	
	<i>(do</i>	<i>Holmes & Hevil</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>"</i>	
<i>92738</i>	<i>T. Clifton</i>	<i>Himself</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>"</i>	
	<i>A. Church</i>	<i>T Panter</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>2</i>	
	<i>W. Davidson</i>	<i>Himself</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>"</i>	
	<i>M. Summerville</i>	<i>Luddington & Co.</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>"</i>	
	<i>Mr. Long</i>	<i>Mrs Crouch</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>"</i>	
	<i>late Lane</i>	<i>Edwd Simcoe</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>2</i>	
	<i>Thomas Skeet</i>	<i>F. Barrill</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>"</i>	
	<i>Thomas Wallis</i>	<i>Himself</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>"</i>	
	<i>John Wallis</i>	<i>Himself</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>"</i>	
	<i>George Longstaffe</i>	<i>George Brice</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>"</i>	
	<i>William Simcoe</i>	<i>Himself</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>"</i>	
	<i>T. Billing</i>	<i>Himself</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>6</i>	
	<i>do</i>	<i>W. Parris</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>"</i>	
	<i>W. Manning</i>	<i>R. Johnson & Co.</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>"</i>	