



Return of Owners of Land Extract 1873



Highworth

In September 1872 the Local Government Board (*created by an Act of 1871, replacing the Poor Law Board*), a supervisory body overseeing local administration in England and Wales were ordered by Act of Parliament to compile a list of owners of land from ratings records held by nearly 15,000 parishes.

One Return was prepared for England and Wales with separate ones undertaken for Scotland in 1874 and Ireland in 1876. **'The Return of Owners of Land 1873'** was published for England and Wales in 1875. It excluded the Metropolis.

All statements contained in the 'Return', with exception to the addresses of the owners, were derived from the rating valuation lists which were used for making assessments under the Poor Law; making wealthy landowners liable to pay tax toward the upkeep of the poor.

The 'Return' records the holdings, in acres, roods and poles (*see note below*), and the estimated yearly rental of all holdings over 1 acre. It is listed by county and landowner together with the principle residence of each owner. The location of the land owned is not given.

Name of Owner			Address of Owner	Extent of Land			Yearly Gross Estimated Rental	
Surname	Given Name	Other		Acres	Roods	Poles	Pounds	Shillings
Alexander	George		Highworth	120	1	23	246	9
Angell	S.	Executors of	Highworth	29	0	35	90	0
Bainge	Richard		Highworth	12	1	21	20	0
Brooks	William		Highworth	14	1	13	36	0
Brown	William		Highworth	74	2	12	118	10
Cresby	Mary Ann	Executors of	Highworth	17	1	20	43	4
Crowdy	William	Executors of	Highworth	34	2	16	113	0
Curtis	George		Highworth	10	1	32	63	7
De Went		Executors of Mr.	Highworth	2	3	0	65	0
Dore	Mary	Miss	Highworth	22	1	31	159	1
Fisher	Thomas		Highworth	2	1	9	9	12
Gibbs	Joseph		Highworth	3	0	1	22	0
Gilmore	William		Highworth	6	0	0	7	10
Gorton	Charles		Highworth	21	0	2	107	0
Harding	Edwin		Highworth	23	2	4	55	0
Harland	Elizabeth		Highworth	9	1	20	43	0
Harris	Edmund		Highworth	31	3	39	120	0
Harris	Maria		Highworth	25	1	19	121	0
		Burial Board of	Highworth	2	0	0	3	1
		Churchwardens of	Highworth	2	1	16	13	0
		Trustees of Zion Chapel	Highworth	4	2	31	62	0
		Board of Guardians	Highworth & Swindon Union	8	0	0	330	17

Notes

Definition of extent of land;

640 Acres = 1 square mile.

1 Rood (*a ploughing strip*) = 220 yards long (*1 furlong*) x 5.5 yards wide (*1 rod, pole or perch*).

4 Roods = 1 Acre.

1 Pole = $30\frac{1}{4}$ square yards.

40 square poles = 1 rood.

The County of Wiltshire;

At the time the return was made in 1873 the county of Wiltshire comprised of a population of 257,177 with 54,874 inhabited houses, contained within 343 parishes (*information as published in the return*).