



GREAT AND LITTLE BEDWYN

Domesday Book Entry

The Domesday Book is a record of the great survey which was completed in 1086, of much of England and parts of Wales.

The survey was executed for William I of England (William the Conqueror) to determine how much each landholder had in land & livestock, and what it was worth. From this it could be determined how much tax was liable. The judgement of the Domesday assessors was final – whatever was written in the books about who held what material wealth or what it was worth, was law and no appeal was available. It was written in Latin and the text was highly abbreviated. The Domesday books were referred to as “the Book of Judgement” “because its decisions, like those of the Last Judgement, are unalterable”.

Section of the Domesday Book relating to (Great and Little Bedwyn): Information from Open Domesday

Hundred	Kinwardstone
County	Wiltshire
Total Population	197 Households
Total Tax assessed	1.5 geld units
Taxable Units	Taxable value
Value	Value to lord in 1086 £3. Value to lord c. 1070 £3
Households	197
Ploughland	Land for 1 plough
Other resources	
Lord in 1066	Father of Bricward the Priest
Lord in 1086	Bricward the Priest
Tenant-in-chief in 1086	King William
Phillimore reference	1.23

Transcription from Domesday in the National Archives

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King Edward held it. It never paid tax and was not assessed in hides. Land for 80 ploughs less one. In lordship twelve ploughs, 18 slaves, 80 villagers, 60 cottagers and 14 freed men with 67 ploughs. 8 mills which pay 100 shillings, 2 woodlands which have 2 leagues length and 1 league width. Meadow 200 acres, pasture 12 furlongs long and 6 furlongs wide. To this manor belong 25 burgesses. This village pays one night's revenue with all customary des. In this manor before 1066 there was a wood which had half a league length and 3 furlongs width and was in the King's lordship. Now Henry of Ferrers holds it

Source Reference:- E 31/2/1/1904 Folio 64v