

Fontmell Magna

Dorset Lay Subsidy Roll

Transcribed by Chris Bellers

A 'lay subsidy' was a tax for a specific purpose, such as subsidising a foreign war, which was distinguished from taxes levied on the clergy. The subsidy was based on a fraction of the value of moveable goods (e.g. livestock and produce). The fraction was one fifteenth for rural and one tenth for urban areas and the royal demesne. The tax was therefore commonly known as the Tenth and Fifteenth. The subsidy became a mainstay of medieval taxation. To start with, the fraction varied with each assessment but, from 1334, the process was simplified by fixing the sums required from each community at the amounts that had been levied in 1332. The subsidy was not abolished until the 17th century.

Dorset Lay Subsidy Roll 1327

Taken from The Dorset Lay Subsidy Roll of 1327, edited by Alexander R. Rumble, Dorset Record Society (Dorchester 1980).

Hundredum de Sexpenne et Hennele

Decenna de Fontemel

De Johanne Pouke	vis. vid.	De Petro le Houperre	xxd.
De Roberto Foyl	iiis.	De Ricardo Short	xiid.
De Ricardo le Blik	vs. vid.	De Roberto Popele	xiid.
De Johanne in la Combe	vis. vid.	De Johanne in la Hyle	iis.
De Waltero Wy trich	iiiis. vid.	De Thoma le Nywe	xiid.
De Roberto Andreu	iiis. iiid.	De Mauricio Gopyl	xiid.
De Johanne Kyng	iiis. vid.	De Johanne Dam Bemette	vid.
De Johanne Crech	iiiis. vid.	De Alicia la Calewe	xiid.
De Roberto Nicol	iis.	De Galfrido Vppehulle	xiid.
De Willelmo Ywon	iis. vid.	De Johanne le Rhouk	vid.
De Johanne le Nywe	iiis.	De Roberto Crynt	xviiid.
De Willelmo Northou	iiiis. vid.	De Roberto le Knygh	viiid.
De Johanne atte Brouke	xiid.	De Galfrido Shene	xviiid.
De Ricardo Broun	iis.	De Willelmo Bolle	viiid.
De Thoma Berde	xviiid.	De Johanne Creche	xvd.
De Thoma Vreke	xvd.	De Willelmo Nyeøuman	xiid.
De Willelmo atte Chirche	xviiid.	De Thoma Shene	vid.
De Ricardo atte Houk	xviiid.	De Willelmo Edmund	xviiid.
De Thoma Louel	xiid.	De Roberto Stefne	vid.
De Hugone le Halueknygh	xiid.	De Waltero Geruasø	viiid.
De Johanne Stefne	viiid.	De Petro Kyng	xiid.
De Henrico Osburn	vid.	De Waltero Denys	xviiid.
De Thoma Fycher	vid.	De Ada le Swon	iis.
De Willelmo Cros	xviiid.	De Johanne le Tannere	ixd.
De Roberto de la Combe	xiid.		
De Thoma Shene	iis.		

// Summa iii li. xis. xd. : probatur.

Dorset Lay Subsidy Roll 1332

Taken from The Dorset Lay Subsidy Roll of 1332, by A. D. Mills, Dorset Record Society. (Dorchester 1971).

Key: s. = solidus = shilling, d. = donarius = penny, ob. = obolus = ½ d., q. = quadrans = farthing
The Roll uses Roman numerals with a -j̄ for the final -ī to make it clear the number has ended (so -xviiij̄ is 18, and not 17, and -vj̄ is 6).

Fontemel

De Willelmo Northow	x.s.	De Ricardo Broun	xviiij. d.
De Johanne Pouke	viiij. s. vj. d. q.	De Johanne atte Broke	ij. s.
De Roberto in la Combø	iiij. s. ix. d. ob.	De Johanne Blykø	ij. s.
De Waltero Wy trichø	vj. s. vj. d. ob.	De Roberto Foyl	ij. s. viiiij. d.
De Adam Andreu	v. s. vj. d.	De Thoma Shoue	xij. d.
De Willelmo Gopyldø	ij. s.	De Petro le Hopere	xij. d.
De Rogero Goudrichø	xviiij. d.	De Johanne de Monketonø	ij. s.
De Willelmo Crosø	ij. s.	De Willelmo le Nywe	xij. d.
De Thoma Ficher	xij. d.	De Ricardo Robet	xviiij. d.
De Henrico Osbern	ij. s.	De Thoma le Bau	xviiij. d.
De Willelmo Ywon	iiij. s.	De Agnete Creychø	xij. d.
De Willelmo Nichole	vj. s. vj. d.	De Ricardo le Gogø	ij. s. vj. d.
De Johanne Creichø	iiij. s.	De Johanne atte Yate	xviiij. d.
De Ricardo atte Okø	ij. s.	De Galfrido Shoue	ij. s.
De Johanne Steuene	xij. d.	De Waltero Denys	xviiij. d.
De Hugone Halueknuyghtz	iiij. s.	De Roberto Crynte	xviiij. d.
De Thoma Louel	viiij. d.	De Willelmo le Hopere	ij. s.
De Johanne Guchø	xij. d.	De Johanne Damebeneyte	ij. s.
De Willelmo atte Churchø	iiij. s.	De Adam le Swon	ij. s.
De Johanne Frele	viiij. d.	De Petro le Kyngø	xij. d.
De Johanne Rawel	iiij. s.	De Willelmo Bolle	xij. d.
De Johanne Kyngø	ij. s.	Summa. Cvij. s. q. prob[atur]	

INQUISITIO NONARUM.

Taken from "The History and Antiquities of the County of Dorset" by John Hutchins, M.A., Volume III

Parochia de Fontemel.

Willielmus atte Halle
Johannes de Sexepenne
Hugo Halve-knyght
Johannes Pouke
Johannes Freke
Johannes Blyke

Galfridus Monketon
Rogerus Goudrigg
Robertus Stevenes
Johannes Rouk
Ricardus Gog
et Adamus Andreu

parochiani ibidem, jurati, presentant quod ecclesia ibidem taxatur in xxxv marcis. Et quod ix^{na} pars garbarum, vellerum et agnorum valet per annum xiiij l. vi s. viij d. Et sic minus taxa ix l. eo quod rector ibidem habet in dominico de dote ecclesiae xxx acras terrae, redditus assisae, et pasturam quae valent per annum xxv s. x d. Item [decimas], feni, decimas minutas, mortuaria, decimas molendini, cum oblationibus et obventionibus, quae valent per annum vii l. xiiij s. iiij d. Summa ix^{nae} partis xiiij l. vj s. viij d.

[Transcriber's note: In 1340, Edward III levied the "Ninth" so called because every ninth sheaf was set aside for the King. The levy was to fund military campaigns in France and Scotland. Because of a shortfall in the revenue expected, the King instigated the "Inquisitio Nonarum" (Inquisition of the Ninth), a parish-by-parish investigation as to why payments were so low.]

Tudor Subsidy Rolls

Taken from Dorset Tudor Subsidies by T. L. Stoate (1982), pages 140, 141 and 143.

The Tudor Subsidy Rolls are, generally, the first taxation lists giving named inhabitants since the subsidies of 1327 and 1332. This is because the Crown stopped being concerned with individuals in the collection of its main tax, the fifteenth and tenth, but settled for a fixed sum from each district.

In 1523, the subsidy taxed everyone on lands, goods or wages down to a lower limit of £1. The two subsidies in 1534 and 1540 only taxed those with land or goods over £20. The subsidy in 1543 dropped the tax on wages but still taxed land and goods down to £1. From 1563, subsidies were based on 4s. in the £ on yearly income from land, with a lower limit of £1, and 2/8 in the £ on the capital value of goods, with a lower limit of £3.

The weakness in the subsidy was that little was done to check that the value of land and goods was actually accurate. Lord North, writing in 1589, said that there was no man assessed before him who was not known to be worth at least ten times more in goods and six times more in lands than his actual assessment, and sometimes very much more than this.

A person could only be taxed in one category, that is (L) land or (G) goods (or wages up to 1543). Those with assessments of less than £1 were not recorded. Goods excluded only standing corn and personal attire. Aliens paid double the normal rate or, if they had no goods or land, they paid a poll tax of 8d.

1 shilling in the £ was levied on income from land.

1 shilling in the £ was levied on the capital value of goods worth £20 or more.

6d in the £ was levied on the capital value of goods worth £2 and upward to, but not including £20.

4d in the £ was levied on the capital value of goods worth £1 and under £2.

4d. was paid by those aged 16 and above and who earned wages of and in excess of £1 a year.

Subsidy 1525

Shaftesbury Division

EST FOUNTEMELL tithing

Robert Vyncent	G 20	Thomas Yong	G 2	Harry Hascoll	G 20
John Pryest	G 10	William Berkeley	G 6	John Berkeley	G 1
William Preest	G 1	William Berkeley jun	G 3	William Hascoll	G 6
John Swetenham	G 7	Richard Skynner	G 14	Thomas Vyncent	G 10
Robert Hascoll	G 1	John Waterman	G 1	Joan Torner wid	G 3
William Hascoll	G 1	Harry Ploughman	G 20		

Total: £4.12.3

WEST FONTEMELL tithing

William Beamond	G 20	William Moncketon	G 5	Robert Beamond	G 5
William Hastylor	G 1	William Hascoll	G 2	Walter Baker	G 4
Harry Yong	G 2	Beezyl Hascoll	G 2	Robert Baker	G 2
William White	G 2	Katherine Swetenham wid	G 6	William Skynner	G 1
Margery Parsons wid	G 6	Agnes Style wid	G 8	John Hilgrove	G 2
Richard Rede	G 1	William Ploughman	G 5	Robert Foyle	G 2

Total: £2.7.6

HARGRAVE tithing

John Skynner	G	20	John Style	G	12	Peter Pope	G	4
Harry Bartor	G	2	John Bowdon	G	2	Robert Kyng	G	3
Thomas Ridoute	G	13	Robert Meteyer	G	1	Edith Kyng	G	8
Margery Ridoute wid	G	3	William Metyer	G	3	Thomas Metyer	G	1
William Cowherd	G	3	John Foyle	G	3	Robert Ploughman	G	1
Robert Cryne	G	2	John Boxley	G	20	John Cryne	G	3
Harry Ridoute	G	3	Richard Boxley	G	1	John Hybbard	G	2
John Dawbney	G	1	John Downe	G	8	John Bowdon	G	6
John Moncketon	G	16	John Kyng	G	3			

Total: £4.11.2

The Subsidy of 1594

Sixpenny Handley Hundred

FONTMELL tithing

William Hunton gent	L	4	Robert Nicholes	G	3	William Vincent sen	G	3
Robert Rydoute	G	4	William Kinge	G	3	Annstice Barter wid	G	5
Thomas Rydoute sen	G	3	Robert Foyell	G	4	John Moncton sen	G	3
John Collins	G	6	Richard Skinner	G	4	Philip Rydoute	G	3
William Lushe	G	3	Philip Beamont	G	3	John Rogers	G	3
William Moncke	G	3	William Plowman	G	3	Alice Still wid	G	4
Thomas Hascole jun	G	3	William Turner jun	G	3	Christopher Metierd	G	4
William Combe	G	3	Alice Williams wid	G	3	John Moncton	G	4
Davy Collier	G	3	William Swetnam sen	G	4			
John Nicholes	G	6	Christopher Vincent	G	3			

Total: £13.12.0