



# Return of Owners of Land Extract 1873



## Devizes

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
		Trustees of Baptist Chapel	Devizes	48	0	27	112	0
		Board of Guardians	Devizes Union	3	1	25	200	0
Anstie	Edward		Devizes	1	0	38	3	0
Anstie	Paul		Devizes	22	1	1	103	0
Biggs	John		Devizes	11	0	34	30	0
Blachley	Gabriel		Devizes	1	0	23	30	0
Bolwell		Mrs.	Devizes	6	1	15	25	0
Bolwell	George		Devizes	4	1	5	20	0
Brabant	W.	Trustees of	Devizes	386	0	29	1129	0
Brown	Sarah		Devizes	72	3	32	174	0
Brown	William		Devizes	2	2	0	106	0
Butcher	Sarah	Mrs.	Devizes	18	1	27	65	10
Champ	John		Devizes	3	2	3	40	0
Chandler	John		Devizes	11	3	1	142	4
Chandler	Thomas		Devizes	11	3	1	142	4
Clarke	Robert		Devizes	1	2	21	60	0
Colston	Charles E.		Devizes	655	1	39	2226	12
Comby	James E.		Devizes	450	0	12	596	7
Cox	George		Devizes	48	0	10	135	12
Cunningham	William		Devizes	3	2	5	95	0
Drew		Mrs.	Devizes	5	2	39	24	5
Edgell		Captain, R.N.	Devizes	487	1	0	290	0
Ewart	William		Devizes	150	2	14	569	10
Giddings		Executors of Mrs.	Devizes	2	2	8	21	0
Glass		Mrs.	Devizes	4	2	0	9	0
Hayward	William P.		Devizes	136	1	15	235	0
Hull	Samuel		Devizes	52	3	36	325	5

## **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 = 30¼ 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*).