



DOMESDAY BOOK

Keevil

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”.

Hundred of Whorwellsdown

Land of Arnulf of Hesin

Arnulf of Hesdin holds Keevil from the King. Brictsi held it before 1066; it paid tax for 16 hides. Land for 16 ploughs. Of this land 7 hides in lordship; 6 ploughs there; 10 slaves.

18 villagers and 14 smallholders with 12 ploughs.

2 mills which pay 55s; meadow, 16 acres; pasture 4 furlongs wide.

Value £26; value when acquired, £20, apart from the revenue of 2 thanes which was in the place.

Many of Arnulf's holdings are passed to Patrick de Chatsworh.

hide: a unit of land reckoned as 120 acres

virgate: a varying measure of land, typically 30 acres.

thane : a man who held land granted by the king or by a military nobleman, ranking between an ordinary freeman and a hereditary noble.

**Source: Domesday Book of Wiltshire, published by
Phillimore & Co. Ltd and © Mrs. Susan Morris 1979**