



North Wiltshire Muster Roll Anno 30 Henry VIII (Year 1539)

In Tudor times each village was responsible for maintaining the necessary arms to defend themselves - this was known as the furnishing of harness. Muster commissioners would inspect the harness (which would include long bows, bills, salets (helmets), brigandines (torso armour) and gorgets (neck and shoulder protectors) and ensure each individual was also assessed with his quota of the cost. The muster roll records who owned the arms, along with value of land (valor terr et tent) or value of goods (valor bonorum) held by the other residents of the village who were liable to provide financial support if necessary. (These values have not been transcribed in the Wiltshire Roll)

There were two main arms used in this period. The bill had a point at one end and a blade at the side, so had a dual purpose in battle, while the bow was a long bow used for archery.

The Hundred of North Damerham The Tithing of Kington St. Michael with North Langley



Surname	Given Name	Status	Notes
Bell	Walter		Byllman
Broke	Thomas		Byllman
Brown	John		Byllman
Brown	Richard		Byllman
Brown	Thomas		Archer
Brown	Wylyyam		Archer
Croker	John		Archer
Dyck	Nicholas		Byllman
Dyke	John		Byllman
Gengill	Richard		Byllman
Gengyll	Robert		Byllman
Gengyll	Wylyyam		Archer
Hammot	John		Archer
Hamont	Wylyyam		Archer
Harrs	Richard		Byllman
Hellyer	George		Byllman



Hollwaye	Thomas		Archer
Loker	Wyllyam		Byllman
Mylls	John		Byllman
Neck	Henry		Archer
Overbury	Adam		Byllman
Russell	Richard		Archer
Sevear	Wyllyam		Byllman
Smyth	John		Archer
Smyth	Wyllyam		Archer
Sparrowe	Robert		Byllman
Startupp	Robert		Byllman
Stockeman	Wyllyam		Byllman
Tanner	Richard		Byllman
Tanner	Richard		Byllman
Taylor	Walter		Archer
Tyler	Wyllyam		Archer
Watts	Edward		Byllman
Watts	Wyllyam		Archer
Woodman	Nicholas		Archer

The whole Tything hath in redynes, j horse, ij harnes with other small wepyns.

For other transcripts of these records visit [Rootschat](#)