

1 Introduction

Land Tax was introduced in 1692 by William and Mary to raise money for the war against France, perhaps as a replacement for the hearth tax which had been abandoned in 1689. Records tend to have survived after 1780, when payment of land tax on freehold property worth £2 (about £260 in 2009) or more entitled a man to vote. Between 1772 and 1909 a standard rate of four shillings in the pound was applied. From 1788, a standard printed form was used. From 1798 landowners could pay a lump sum which resulted in exoneration from the tax, and such properties and their owners were listed separately at the end of the assessment. This procedure was also known as redemption.

Landowners were not necessarily resident in the parish. In the following table, where possible, properties have been identified and comments added about the land owners. These comments are printed in italics.

2 The records

Name of Contractors (with additional notes in italics)	Property and occupiers (with additional notes in italics)	Number of contract and date of exoneration	Tax redeemed and exonerated
Lydia Richardson <i>Probably Lydia Richardson (1728-1810), the eldest daughter of John and Lydia (née Vasie) Richardson, who never married and lived at Old Langbaurgh Hall.</i>	A messuage with appurtenances and 13 acres of meadow or pasture ground in the occupation of herself and another. <i>This will be one of the dwellings at Old Langbaurgh.</i>	28605 25 March 1799	£0..9..0
William Richardson <i>William Richardson (1736-1826) had inherited Old Langbaurgh on his father's death in 1786.</i>	Two messuages and a tan yard with the appurtenances and 114 acres of arable meadow and pasture woodland in the occupation of himself and others. <i>This is probably Langbaurgh Farm. The 1847 Tithe Map gives Langbaurgh Farm as 157 acres. The tan yard was the one set up by his grandfather, William Richardson (1660-1740).</i>	28602 25 March 1799	£2..11..4
William Richardson cont.	7 acres and a half of meadow or pasture land in the occupation of Henry Richardson.		£0..4..6
	6 acres and 1 rood of meadow or pasture land in the occupation of John Kilvington.		£0..3..6
Isaac Martin	A messuage or dwellinghouse and tan yard, 6 cottages or tenements and 31 acres of land with appurtenances in the occupation of himself and others. <i>William Richardson (1700-1794) was a wealthy</i>	47560 25 March 1799	£1..15..10

	<p><i>farmer and tanner. He left the tannery side of his estate to his first surviving grand-daughter Rachel, who had married Isaac Martin. The dwelling house is probably 17 or 18 High Green, and the five cottages those on the west side of High Green, butting on to No 17.</i></p> <p><i>Isaac Martin was also renting 15 acres of land from Francis Glanville and 31 acres of land from William Maud.</i></p>		
Henry Richardson	<p>A messuage with appurtenances, a rape mill and 11 acres of arable meadow and pasture land in the occupation of himself and another.</p> <p><i>Henry Richardson (1741-1818) lived in the Manor House. The mill is the West or Grange Mill, then worked as an oil mill by Joshua Bowron.</i></p>	28609 25 March 1799	£0..15..0
Henry Richardson cont.	21 acres of arable meadow and pasture land in the occupation of himself.		£0..12..0
Henry Richardson cont.	<p>A water corn mill with appurtenances and 22 acres of meadow or pasture land in the occupation of Joseph Ayre.</p> <p><i>This is the East Mill, situated in Mill Terrace.</i></p>		£1..1..4
Henry Richardson cont.	25 acres of meadow or pasture land in the occupation of Thomas Watson.		£0..15..0
Thomas B Skottowe	<p>23 acres of land in the occupation of Robert Atkinson and another.</p> <p><i>Thomas Britiffe Skottowe was the grandson of Thomas Skottowe the elder. He sold off the remains of the Skottowe properties in Ayton.</i></p>	28527 25 March 1799	£0..7..10
Thomas B Skottowe cont.	A farm consisting of a messuage with appurtenances and 194 acres of land in the occupation of Elizabeth Eldon.		£2..6..6
	<p>3 messuages or dwellinghouses with the appurtenances and 50 acres of land in the occupation of Thomas King.</p> <p><i>The Manor House that Thomas Skottowe sold to Henry Richardson in 1801?</i></p>		£0..13..4
Thomas B Skottowe cont.	1 acre of land in the occupation of Sarah Bain.		£0..1..2
Richard Hill	A messuage with appurtenances and several closes	47581	£1..11..4

	<p>or parcels of arable meadow and pasture land in the occupation of himself.</p> <p><i>This farm was near Applebridge, and had been bought from Thomas Skottowe.</i></p>	25 March 1799	
Philip Hesleton	<p>Two messuages or dwellinghouses with the appurtenances and 35 acres of land in the occupation of himself and another.</p> <p><i>William Richardson (1700-1794) was a wealthy farmer and tanner. He left his large house on High Green, now No 5 Richardson Hall, to his granddaughter Mary, who had married Philip Hesleton (1764-1826). He also left her Mangle House and two other houses.</i></p>	47555 25 March 1799	£1..10..0
Rachel Wilson	<p>A mansion house with appurtenances and 30 acres of land in the occupation of herself.</p> <p><i>Rachel Wilson was the widow of William Wilson (1715-1795).</i></p> <p><i>Ayton Hall, which William Wilson had purchased along with 78 acres in 1762.</i></p>	47509 25 March 1799	£1..5..0
Rachel Wilson cont.	<p>45 acres of land in the occupation of Michael Weatherill.</p> <p><i>This is the rest of the Ayton Hall land, rented out to Michael Weatherill.</i></p>		£1..10..4
Rachel Wilson cont.	<p>A garth or parcel of land containing 1½ acres in the occupation of Humphrey Sanderson.</p> <p><i>Humphrey Sanderson would later become the master at Marwood School.</i></p>		£0..4..0
Ralph Jackson	<p>4 messuages or dwellinghouses with the appurtenances, tan yard and garth containing 1½ acres in the occupation of himself and others.</p> <p><i>This is not the Ralph Jackson of diary fame, but the Jackson family who owned the tannery on Yarm Lane, just beyond Low Green.</i></p>	47506 25 March 1799	£0..2..0
John Weatherill	<p>Two closes of land containing about 14 acres in the occupation of himself.</p>	47501 25 March 1799	£0..10..0
Ann Wilson	<p>A garth containing about 14 acres in the occupation of Ralph Jackson.</p>	47492 25 March 1799	£0..2..8
Bartholomew Rudd	<p>A farm consisting of a messuage and outbuildings and 433 acres of arable meadow pasture and woodlands in the occupation of William Curry.</p> <p><i>This is Bartholomew Rudd junior (1726-1808)</i></p>	27742 25 March 1799	£3..15..2

	<i>Aireyholme Farm. Bartholomew Rudd junior had acquired Aireyholme when he married Susannah Duck in 1763. The Curry family came from Nunthorpe. The 1847 Tithe Map gives Aireyholme as 431 acres.</i>		
Nicholas Bean	A farm consisting of a messuage with the appurtenances and about 16 acres of land in the occupation of William Humphrey.	46698 25 March 1799	£0..13..8
Nicholas Bean cont.	A cottage or dwellinghouse with appurtenances in the occupation of Grace Wilcock.		£0..0..8
Nicholas Bean cont.	A cottage or dwellinghouse with the appurtenances in the occupation of Richard Maston.		£0..1..0
John Kilvington <i>He probably lived at the lower end of the High Street.</i>	A messuage with appurtenances in the occupation of himself. <i>John Kilvington was also renting 6 acres from William Richardson.</i>	47542 25 March 1799	£0..1..0
Thomas Watson	Two cottages or dwelling houses with the appurtenances in the occupation of Robert Atkinson and another. <i>Thomas Watson was also renting 25 acres from William Richardson and 11 acres from John Raw.</i>	47540 25 March 1799	£0..1..0
Humphrey Sanderson Humphrey Sanderson would later become the master at Marwood School.	5 cottages or dwellinghouses with the appurtenances and 4½ acres of land in the occupation of himself and others. <i>Humphrey Sanderson was also renting 1½ acres of land at Ayton Hall from Rachel Wilson and 6 acres from Francis Glanville.</i>	47537 25 March 1799	£0..6..0

Thomas Williamson	A messuage or tenement blacksmiths shop and 9 acres of arable meadow and pasture land with the appurtenances. Also a messuage or tenement with a garden and garth or piece of land with the appurtenances in the occupation of himself and another. <i>This blacksmith's shop was adjacent to the present Beech Close.</i>	47531 25 March 1799	£0..9..0
Peter Donaldson	Two messuages or dwellinghouses with the appurtenances and 12 acres of land in the occupation of James Langstaff and another.	47526 25 March 1799	£0..10..4
Thomas Wilson	A messuage or dwellinghouse and shop and two	47523	£0..2..0

	cottages with the warehouse garden and appurtenances in the occupation of himself and another.	25 March 1799	
Thomas Wilson cont.	Two messuages or tenements with the appurtenances in the occupation of William Baker and others.		£0..8..0
Thomas Wilson cont.	A garden or piece of ground in the occupation of himself.		£0..4..0
Daniel Maston	A messuage and garden with the appurtenances in the occupation of himself.	27618 25 March 1799	£0..1..0
Nicholas Richardson	A messuage with appurtenances and 8 acres of meadow and pasture land also 3 messuages or tenements in the occupation of himself and others. <i>This might be Cliff House, between the Roseberry estate and Thief Lane.</i>	47553 25 March 1799	£0..10..4
Nicholas Richardson cont.	A water mill used as a cotton mill and two dwelling houses in the occupation of James Davidson and others. <i>This is the mill at the bottom of Station Road, usually known as Hesleton's mill. James Davidson of Ayton was using it as a cotton mill. On Nicholas Richardson's death in 1801 it passed to his brother-in-law Philip Hesleton - all Nicholas's seven children were daughters.</i>		£0..6..8
Nicholas Richardson cont.	8 acres of arable meadow and pasture land in the occupation of Thomas Weatherill. <i>Thomas Weatherill was also renting 2 closes of land from Thomas Pennitt.</i>		£0..7..6
Simon Hutchinson	9 acres of meadow or pasture land in the occupation of Robert Barker.	47554 25 March 1799	£0..4..0
William Hunter	A dwellinghouse with the appurtenances and 7 acres of land in the occupation of himself. <i>William Hunter was also renting 4½ acres of land from Thomas Postgate.</i>	27601 25 March 1799	£0..6..0
William Hunter cont.	3 cottages in the occupation of John Banks and others.		£0..1..0
William Hunter cont.	3 cottages in the occupation of Thomas Yorke and others. Also two dwellinghouses in the occupation of Robert Wilson and another.		£0..1..0
Thomas Mease	A messuage or dwellinghouse and 3 acres of land with the appurtenances in the occupation of himself.	27608 25 March 1799	£0..2..8

Thomas Postgate	A dwellinghouse and garden with the appurtenances in the occupation of himself also two cottages in the occupation of John Nichols and another.	27626 25 March 1799	£0..1..4
Thomas Postgate cont.	4½ acres of pasture land with the appurtenances in the occupation of Jacob Waller. <i>Jacob Waller was also renting a farm with 30 acres from John Ridley.</i>		£0..4..8
Thomas Postgate cont.	4½ acres of pasture land with the appurtenances in the occupation of William Hunter.		£0..4..8
John Ridley	A farm consisting of a messuage and appurtenances with 30 acres of arable meadow and pasture land in the occupation of Jacob Waller. <i>John Ridley managed the Ayton Banks Alum Works and probably built Ayton Cottage (now White House, Dikes Lane). After the alum works closed around 1774 he returned to Robin Hood's Bay, renting out his properties here. He probably sold this property in 1812.</i>	35833 25 March 1799	£0..18..6
John Ridley cont.	A cottage and garden with the appurtenances in the occupation of Robert Wilkinson. <i>This is probably Ayton Cottage, now White House, Dikes Lane. John Ridley sold Ayton Cottage in 1815, presumably renting it out in the meantime.</i>		£0..2..0
Francis Glanville	13 acres of arable meadow and pasture land in the occupation of William Humphrey. <i>William Humphrey is also renting a farm with 16 acres of land from Nicholas Bean.</i>	24143 25 March 1799	£0..8..8
Francis Glanville cont.	A farm consisting of a messuage with appurtenances and 34 acres of arable meadow and pasture land in the occupation of Robert Barker. <i>Robert Barker was also renting 9 acres from Simon Hutchinson.</i>		£0..18..0
Francis Glanville cont.	6 acres of meadow or pasture land in the occupation of Humphrey Sanderson.		£0..7..4
Francis Glanville cont.	15 acres of arable meadow and pasture land in the occupation of Isaac Martin. <i>Isaac Martin was running the two tan yards to the south and west of High Green, and living in what is now No 17 High Green.</i>		£0..12..0

Francis Glanville cont.	A messuage with the appurtenances and 6 acres of meadow or pasture land in the occupation of Ann Richardson.		£0..4..8
Francis Glanville cont.	8 acres of land in the occupation of William Farmery.		0..5..4
John Raw	A messuage and 90 acres of land in the occupation of George Dobson. <i>The nearest match on the 1847 Tithe Map is Tree Bridge at 90 acres.</i>	47557 25 March 1799	£1..17..2
John Raw cont.	11 acres of land in the occupation of Thomas Watson.		£0..7..4
Ann Skottowe	A messuage with the appurtenances and 50 acres of lands in the occupation of James Davidson. <i>James Davidson had a cotton business in Ayton and rented the mill on Station Road from Nicholas Richardson.</i>	40416 24 June 1799	£2..2..6
William Bolton	A messuage with the appurtenances and a garth containing 1½ acres of land in the occupation of Isabel Atkins and another.	43812 24 June 1799	£0..3..0
Thomas Pennitt	A messuage with the appurtenances and 6 acres of land in the occupation of Fotherley Pannell. <i>Fotherley Pannell was the surgeon in Great Ayton from 1790 to 1826.</i>	43813 24 June 1799	£0..13..4
Thomas Pennitt cont.	2 closes of land in the occupation of Thomas Drummond.		£0..3..4
Thomas Pennitt cont.	2 closes of land in the occupation of James Connel.		£0..6..6
Thomas Pennitt cont.	2 closes of land in the occupation of Joseph Sherwood.		£0..5..2
Thomas Pennitt cont.	2 closes of land in the occupation of William Gowland.		£0..5..0
Thomas Pennitt cont.	2 closes of land in the occupation of Thomas Weatherill. <i>Thomas Weatherill was also renting 6 acres of land from Nicholas Richardson.</i>		£0..12..0
Thomas Wayne	A farm consisting of a mansion house and 24 acres of land in the occupation of himself. <i>This is Ann Grove Hall.</i>	44722 24 June 1799	£0..17..0
Thomas Wayne cont.	A farm consisting of a messuage and 141 acres of land		£3..14..6

	in the occupation of James Bulmer. <i>The nearest match on the 1847 Tithe Map is Greenhow Hill at 140 acres.</i>		
Thomas Wayne cont.	A farm consisting of a messuage and 109 acres of land in the occupation of William Blackburn. <i>The nearest match on the 1847 Tithe Map is Bank House at 108 acres.</i>		£2..13..2
Thomas Wayne cont.	A farm consisting of a messuage and 105 acres of land in the occupation of Robert Easby. <i>The nearest match on the 1847 Tithe Map is Cliff House at 102 acres.</i>		£2..12..2
Thomas Wayne cont.	A farm consisting of a messuage and 72 acres of land in the occupation of Thomas Hardy. <i>The nearest matches on the 1847 Tithe Map are Langbaugh Grange Farm at 72 acres and Greenhow Moor Farm at 71 acres.</i>		£1..13..10
Joseph Garbut	A messuage with the appurtenances and about 54 acres of land in the occupation of James Fawcett.	43804 24 June 1799	£1..10..6
William Maud	31 acres of arable and pasture land with the appurtenances in the occupation of Isaac Martin. <i>Isaac Martin was running the two tan yards to the south and west of High Green, and living in what is now No 17 High Green.</i>	54868 29 September 1799	£1..5..0
Rev William Deason	3 closes of land containing about 6 acres in the occupation of Robert Wilkinson.	71209 25 December 1799	£0..4..8
Thomas Lamb	A messuage and garden with the appurtenances in the occupation of Thomas Hugill.	75801 25 March 1800	£0..0..8
William Gowland	4 messuages with the gardens and appurtenances in the occupation of himself and others.	75800 25 March 1800	£0..1..4
Fotherley Pannell <i>Fotherley Pannell was the surgeon in Great Ayton from 1790 to 1826.</i>	A farm house with the outbuildings and appurtenances and several closes of ground containing about 240 acres in the occupation of himself and another. Dennis Tyerman says this land is probably at Nunthorpe. In 1799 he was renting a house and 6 acres of land from Thomas Pennitt.	93981 24 June 1803	£4..0..0
William Richardson	A messuage and outbuildings and several closes of land containing about 7 acres in the occupation of James	95720 29 September	£0..15..11

<i>This is probably William Richardson (1736-1826) who was living at Old Langbaurgh.</i>	Bovill.	1804	
The North Eastern Railway Company Ltd	Certain land purchased by the said Company for the purposes of the Branch Railway to the Middlesbro' and Guisbro' Railway.	139136 25 December 1862	£0..3..1
James Emerson <i>James Emerson lived at Easby Hall. Emerson's total land holdings in Ayton and Easby were around 2,800 acres.</i>	Message or dwellinghouse with the barn stables cowhouses outbuildings lands hereditaments and premises adjoining thereto known as Cockshaw containing altogether about 59 acres 1 rood and 4 perches in the occupation of John Dixon. <i>This is Bank House Farm at Gribdale. James Emerson of Easby had purchased the farm, possibly from John Young, who owned it at the time of the Tithe Map (1846). The Tithe Map gives the farm as 57 acres. John Dixon (1835-1918) was the oldest son of George Dixon, first superintendent of the Quaker school in Ayton. John seemed unable to settle in a job; at different times he was a miller, bee-keeper, maker of bee-keeping equipment, cabinet maker and farmer.</i>	148604 25 March 1871	£0..8..0
Henry Pease & Ors Plan	A close of land containing about 1 acres 1 rood and 13 perches bounded on the North and West by the Cleveland Lodge Estate on the South by property belonging to the Trustees of the North of England Agricultural School and on the East by the property belonging to the Trustees of the late George Jackson in the occupation of J Thistlethwaite.	151965 25 December 1874	£0..0..8
Henry Pease & Ors Plan	A message or dwellinghouse situate in the town street with a piece or parcel of land thereto adjoining bounded on the North by other property of the said Henry Pease on the West by the township highway leading from Great Ayton to Little Ayton and on the East and South by other property of the said North of England Agricultural School Trustees in the occupation of J B Hodgkin. <i>This could be Harborgill and the Thistlethwaite shop?</i>		£0..0..8
Henry Eeles and Thomas Eeles	A piece or parcel of ground containing about 697 square yards bounded on the North by the Churchyard of Great Ayton on the South by the town street on the East by a lane called Church Lane and on the West by property belonging to the Trustees of Thomas Graham together with a message or dwellinghouse and other erections erected thereon in the occupation of James Cole.	152920 29 September 1875	£0..2..6

	<i>Is this the building now housing the Conservative Club?</i>		
Henry Pease & Ors Plan	<p>Several closes of land being part of a farm called Rye Hill Farm a part in the occupation of the NER Company the remainder in the occupation of George Dixon.</p> <p><i>This is George Dixon junior, youngest son of the first Ayton School superintendent. George Dixon had moved into White House in 1875, renting it from the Cleveland Lodge estate. George seems to have had some land from Rye Hill Farm in addition to the extensive gardens at White House.</i></p>	155225 25 March 1877	£0..17..6
Henry Pease & Ors Plan cont.	<p>Three closes of land other part of the said farm in the occupation of William Jones which said several closes contain about 58 acres 1 rood and 19¾ perches.</p> <p><i>William Jones had been renting White House until 1875, when George Dixon moved in. William Jones had been building Undercliffe Hall, which was completed in 1874. This land is presumably the land on which Undercliffe Hall was built.</i></p>		£0..5..0
Henry Pease & Ors Plan cont.	<p>A close of land commonly called the Gravel Pit (being part of a farm called Rye Hill Farm) containing about 6 acres 1 rood and 5 perches in the occupation of the NER Company.</p> <p><i>There were two gravel pits in the vicinity, one between Rye Hill Farm and Cliff Rigg, the other on the north side of Aireyholme Lane, which was later used as a landfill site. This land is more likely to be the former since it is adjacent to the railway.</i></p>	155539 24 June 1877	£0..5..0