

Definition

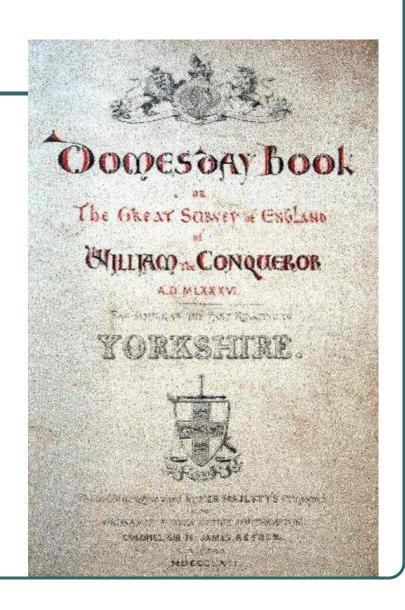
The Domesday Book is a detailed survey of much of England and parts of Wales completed in 1086 by order of King William the Conqueror, the earliest surviving public record,a hugely important historical resource. It contains records for 13,418 settlements in the English counties.



William the Conqueror

Name

The manuscripts do not carry a formal title. It was nicknamed the 'Domesday' Book by the native English, in allusion to the Last Judgement





The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle states:

"While spending the Christmas time of 1085 in Gloucester, William had deep speech with his counsellors and sent men all over England to each shire to find out what or how much each landholder had

• | | | | | | | |



Historical context

- In 1066 William, Duke of Normandy, defeated the Anglo-Saxon King, Harold II, at the Battle of Hastings and became King of England
- In 1085 England was threatened with invasion from Denmark and Norway
- At Christmas 1085 he ordered to discover the resources and taxable values of all parts of England
- The King was essentially interested in recording his royal rights which he wished to maximise



Death of King Harold II at the Battle of Hastings, 1066

The Making Of Domesday

- The task of gathering the information for Domesday began in January 1086. The inquisitors had to ask the following questions:
 - -How many ploughs are there in the manor?
 - How many mills and fishponds?
 - How many freemen, villagers and slaves are there in the manor?
 - How much woodland, pasture, meadow?
 - -What does each freeman owe in the manor?
 - -How much is the manor worth?

Norman officials checked the answers and the punishments for giving false information were severe. The **reeve** from a manor and six peasants were questioned for every manor visited. A reeve was a type of farm manager.

The Domesday Book was written in Latin. However, there were some artificial words inserted for native terms that had no equivalent in Latin. The text was highly abbreviated.

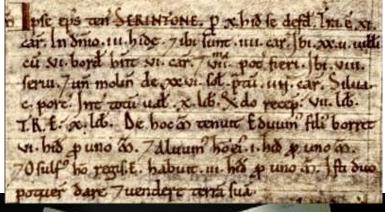


Purpose

 The primary purpose of the survey was to define and record the fiscal rights of the king.

These were mainly:

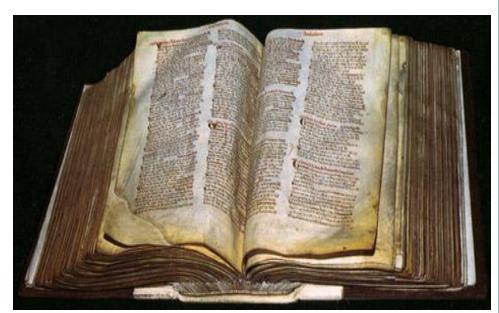
- -the national land-tax
- -the proceeds of the crown lands
- -other significant dues
- estimating economic resources for every manor (The king wanted to discover who owned what, how much it was worth and how much was owed to him as King in tax, rents, and military service)
- maximizing royal rights
- estimating the annual value of all the land in the country
- the threat of war from Denmark and Norway





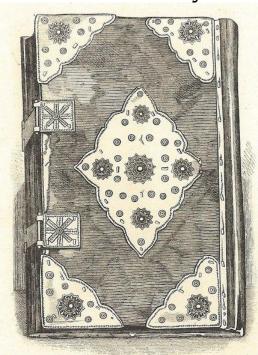
The survey was considered so thorough that one Englishman wrote:

"...so very thoroughly did William have the inquiry carried out, that there was not a single piece of land, not even an ox, cow or pig which escaped the notice of the survey."



Structure

The Domesday Book consists of two independent works: "Little Domesday" and "Great Domesday".





Why were many places listed in the Domesday Book as 'wasted'?

The term 'waste' or 'wasted' described the settlements that William and his army had passed through and left their mark on during their conquest. the term was also used sometimes for manors simply not paying geld for one reason or another

WARWICSCIKE Be Ween Ofmans in lost in becomes that type in may in drive is one to be one to the control of t TERRA RABULT DEMORTEMEN Jubomelas BS TERRA LABOLIT BEMORTENER. In Boarding So.

According to Morramory and Supervised Regard

decording the famous and the property of the second for the second Be Ween Chend what down a sab units Then ware. the x. it pa Value had x lot Samuel liberaring the second given Adams and a feet controlled their event.

The Artern Assess and a feet in the government of the feet of the feet of the second and their given against an Adams of the Made of the Made on the feet of the fe Willela film Antalh ver be pare levente for Godmans deco le famo va boto Trate ac car In drive of the ve car f; caruco the in fust be now with our ptro / where o real book how were car!
the motion of the following to the Last Values on letter motion of the Court or have intelestette tour sear the fune a book or at par Ple W von Sennnechtert e hat in Windows freit un cap In Sens of west 7n form, fouth factored of a cap Value to be most to Se Se Se Storenue Yolung rold mass v. Ed. Sugar live venor T.S.L. Be. Wron' Lourse / Filous in hel wint of or in beauting. Tya v. a. caf. In dies. o una Te. form. Tun milt in horse he Wood Perulan his on hand mirous Trate w. in a talk by me the pre Chairm of the most new following the few most new following the few most new following the few most new following the most new following the most few following the few most few following the few following the most few following most new following account of the most few following most few following fo our In Some a cont Tue born Tox and Tue bord chim, again to most in do no 147, or as from Salant lain to Tox sound law is in some the sound to the s fuch anguitt. The Wich in famal last Valencine fat. Be W. cal Ding-whole a Calcolorcome for a mile and In Smire except Jam. Jan mile you bord est was State in grow Int. John land by. Tole Wills med a low or BERELORS Serge / Tours pro North mer. 1 to m blackbook 5 year. / 1999. /
Sylvin in and the formal form is year from
Value 36. left mysse to like Saudi-connect to the
Des Weer and its to broader, in the men of the
Figure See and in which form you form it you will do
then you hard long you can't be made to be following. Valuer, we led Made voe. A febr 74 to us the menage for the rest Second on the in-between the rest in the second of the value of the rest was a february and the second of the rest was a february for the rest was a february for the rest february february for the rest february Valuer wo. lot. mass xxx. Afche 7 Lleve lite venug there you have been ever the mean to a color, yourself for some year and you found for him and color by the have been here there are a look to man like recover you want to be a color of your to have the some time. There is not to have to make you found you they do not to want to make you have to great you they do not so was to you to you have to you to you to you have to you to you to you have to you to you have to you to you have to No. W rent core less in bushes Train and or In Selections. Res. We not care had no bushlest regionant of informations on figure by and result receiving an exact form in the pretensive argume is how result. Our best, Values to Res. made the form that the last the Res. made the form that the last the last that t W. To open (at Value 7 u.d. I G. Turend Identitues Be & car Limar is no in terriorie Trace near the fame or will brood est Silva Son Louis 15 Jan ge Lar Vilar Tast x. fot. Torobal lette reneur Y K. F. The Se ren lande what dim in Sechaptone for a me cap in serio o una Ton with Jun bort on a car un cap in serio cuma. An auta un berri deste cap.

Ber is era homed. Valuar isan aut el. I penun menun.

Be W. ver Ordere in ha en Nessessant - part, may
be fune in sulli ca plere / m. berri. Sulan au quere

Le fune in Alla Cour. Ch. in node 100 feet for free

J. ver La et Adamour. Ch. in node 100 feet for free

B. W. cen havey a ha sullistation of the versur.

in to establish — net any lighther claim tilly a both

le ver a fra Mann x. b. y node, x. s. d. Hanal be versur. Att Succession of the Successi

