



## 7 RENTS INSTEAD OF TITHES

*Farmers, in particular, felt hard done by because tithes were a heavy tax on them ...*

Tithes originated before the Norman Conquest and were taken as a tax, being a tenth part of produce, income, or profits. Their purpose was to provide an income for the clergy, often money for repair of the church fabric, and poor relief. Normally, tithes were levied as a charge on land. The following were usually exempt: old monastic land, church (or 'glebe') property, Crown forests, barren land and improved wastes for the first seven years after their first cultivation.

In the Middle Ages, tithes were appropriated by laymen, especially lessees of monastic property, and this trend accelerated after the Dissolution of the Monasteries. Tithes were bought and sold and became just another form of property. This break with their original purpose led to avoidance of payment and consequent litigation. Farmers, in particular, felt hard done by because tithes were a heavy tax on them and penalised land improvement.

Tithes were finally abolished by the Tithes Commutation Act of 1836, which converted the duty to a money payment. Between 1836 and 1852, the Tithe Commissioners were responsible for listing property and appointing surveyors to make large scale maps of nearly 12,000 parishes in England and Wales.

This was an enormous undertaking, especially as three copies of each tithe map were drawn, each with an accompanying apportionment book that listed the owners and occupiers of every numbered plot of land together with a description and note of the land use (in Stainforth's case as meadow, pasture or plantation). The size of each plot was listed in acres, rods and perches, and the amount of each rent to be paid.

These maps are very large (Stainforth's measures some 2 by 1.5 metres), beautifully hand drawn and detailed. They are of great interest to historians, especially in rural areas like Stainforth where they often represent the first large-scale map. Originally, one copy would have been for the tithe office, one for the bishop of the diocese, and the third mounted on a wooden roller so that it could be wall-hung for the parish clerk. These are now held, respectively, by the Public Record Office in London, the West Yorkshire Archive Service in Leeds, and the North Yorkshire County Record Office in Northallerton.

A tracing of the 1844 Stainforth Tithe Map held by the Yorkshire Archive Service in Leeds was produced by Peter and Annabel Kemplay and a framed copy is permanently exhibited in the Village Hall. The full apportionment

for Stainforth was also copied and is held by the Stainforth History Group in electronic form.

The extracts from the map showing Stainforth and Knight Stainforth village centres are reproduced below together with a simplified key.



### 1844 Tithe Map Knight Stainforth Centre

Map No.	Owner	Occupier	Description	State
213	Rycroft Sir Richard Henry Charles	Batty John	Low field	Meadow
214	Clapham Thomas	Heseltine Benjamin	Great Cow Pasture	Pasture
215	Clapham Thomas	Heseltine Benjamin	Great Coke	Meadow
216	Clapham Thomas	Heseltine Benjamin	Little Coke	Meadow
217	Clapham Thomas	Heseltine Benjamin	Ned Croft	Meadow
218	Rycroft Sir Richard Henry Charles	Batty John	Cross cutt	Pasture
219	Rycroft Sir Richard Henry Charles	Batty John	Great Croft	Meadow
220	Rycroft Sir Richard Henry Charles	Batty John	Wood	
221	Clapham Thomas	Heseltine Benjamin	Little Cow Pasture	Pasture
258	Witts the Rev'd Francis Edward	Maudsley Thomas	New Close	Meadow
259	Witts the Rev'd Francis Edward & Rycroft Sir Richard Henry Charles	Maudsley Thomas & Batty John	Occupation Road	
260	Rycroft Sir Richard Henry Charles	Batty John	House barn Gardens etc.	
260A	Rycroft Sir Richard Henry Charles	Batty John	Pig Cross	Pasture
260B	Clapham Thomas	Heseltine Benjamin	Garden	
261	Rycroft Sir Richard Henry Charles	Batty John	Far Garden	
262	Rycroft Sir Richard Henry Charles	Batty John	Lane	
263	Rycroft Sir Richard Henry Charles	Batty John	Bull Croft	Meadow
264	Clapham Thomas	Heseltine Benjamin	Calf Croft	Pasture
265	Clapham Thomas	Heseltine Benjamin	Ned Croft	Pasture
266	Clapham Thomas	Heseltine Benjamin	Barn & fold	
267	Clapham Thomas	Proctor William & Proctor John	Cottage & Garden	
268	Clapham Thomas	Heseltine Benjamin	House barn fold & Garden	
269	Clapham Thomas	Heseltine Benjamin	Croft	Pasture
270	Rycroft Sir Richard Henry Charles	Batty John	Lane	
271	Rycroft Sir Richard Henry Charles	Batty John	Hill Croft	Pasture
272	Rycroft Sir Richard Henry Charles	Batty John	Garden	
273	Rycroft Sir Richard Henry Charles	Batty John	Ruin barn & fold	
274	Witts the Rev'd Francis Edward	Maudsley Thomas	Croft	Pasture
275	Witts the Rev'd Francis Edward	Maudsley Thomas	House barn & fold	
276	Witts the Rev'd Francis Edward	Maudsley Thomas	Croft	Pasture
277	Witts the Rev'd Francis Edward	Maudsley Thomas	Barn & fold	
278	Witts the Rev'd Francis Edward	Maudsley Thomas	Hill Croft	Pasture
279	Clapham Thomas	Heseltine Benjamin	Cow pasture	Pasture
283	Witts the Rev'd Francis Edward	Maudsley Thomas	Flatts	Pasture



### 1844 Tith Map Stainforth Centre

Map No.	Owner	Occupier	Description	State
366	Foster James	In Hand	Croft	Pasture
367	Stainforth Church Trustees of	Richardson Rev'd William Incumbent	Church & Church Yard	
368	Brown Christopher devises of	Hudson Miles	Croft	Meadow
369	Ivison James	Twisleton Nanny	Dyer lane	Meadow
370	Brown Christopher devises of	Duckett Mary, Sheperd William & Johnson John	Dyer Lane Cottage Garden Byer & Fold	
371	Brown Christopher devises of	In Hand	House Yard Gardens	
372	Foster Thomas	In Hand	House Coach House gardens & yards	
373	Foster Thomas	In Hand	Kitchen Garden	
374	Stackhouse Anthony (Stainforth)	In Hand	House Yard Gardens, etc	
375	Stackhouse Anthony (Stainforth)	In Hand	Garden	
376	Redmayne Thomas	Armistead John	Croft	Meadow
377	Redmayne Thomas	Armistead John	House, etc.	
378	Redmayne Thomas	Armistead Richard	Crow Croft	Pasture
379	Redmayne Thomas	Armistead Richard	Garden	
380	Redmayne Thomas	Armistead Richard	House barn Garden & fold	
381	Redmayne Thomas	Armistead Richard	Croft	Pasture
382	Stainforth Proprietor	In Hand	School	
383	Foster James	In Hand	Plantation	
384	Foster James	In Hand	Croft	
385	Foster James	In Hand	Plantation	
386	Foster James	In Hand	House Garden Yard & barn	
387	Redmayne Thomas	Greenbank John & Foster Thomas	Barn & butchers shop	
389	Winder Thomas	In Hand	Houe Dye house Yard Croft, etc	
390	Winder Thomas	Hardacre John	Cottage	
391	Foster James	Metcalf William	Inn Cottage & barn	
392	Redmayne Thomas, Stackhouse Anthony, Foster James & Brown Stuart	Lee Thomas	Smithy	
393	Wildman Stephen	Himself, Lee Thomas, Carr Joseph & Moor William	Cottages Yards etc	
394	Foster James	Metcalf William	Crow Croft & shed	Pasture
395	Brown Elizabeth	Coates Christopher & Helm Paul	House Garden & pigyard	
396	Salmon Henry	Rugg Henry	Cottages & Gardens	
397	Stackhouse Anthony (Stainforth)	Lofthouse Thomas	Cottages & Gardens	
398	Redmayne Thomas	Thistlethwaite Thomas	Cottage & Garden	
399	Brown Elizabeth	Coates Christopher & Helm Paul	Barn & Yard	

<b>Map No.</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Occupier</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>State</b>
400	Brown Elizabeth	In hand	Croft & Plantation	
401	Brown Elizabeth	In hand	Garden	
402	Brown Elizabeth	In hand	House Croft & Yard	
403	Brown Elizabeth	In hand	Croft	Pasture
404	Brown Christopher devises of	Hardacre Thomas & Lofthouse William	Two Cottages & Gardens	
405	Brown Christopher devises of	Parker Thomas	House & Garden	
406	Brown Christopher devises of	Parker Thomas & Walker Richard	Joiner's Shop Gardens & Cottage	
407	Foster James	Foster Richard	Cooper's shop Croft & barn	
408	Foster James	Redmayne Marmaduke	House barn shed & croft	Pasture
409	Foster James	Wildman John, Foster Richard & Greenbank William	Cottages & Yards	
410	Brown Elizabeth	In hand	Plantation	
411	Brown Elizabeth	In hand	Barn	
412	Brown Elizabeth	Redmayne Marmaduke	Cow Park	Pasture
413	Brown Elizabeth	Shepard Thomas	Two Cottages & Gardens	
414	Iverson James	Twisleton Nanny	House barn fold & Garden	
415	Iverson James	Twisleton Nanny	Croft	Pasture
416	Brown Christopher devises of	Hudson Miles	House Barn fold Garden & co	
417	Brown Elizabeth	Redmayne Marmaduke	Barn & fold	
418	Brown Christopher devises of	Hudson Miles	Croft	Meadow
419	Surveyors of Highways	In hand	Roads & waste, etc.	