

Extracts from “The Buckinghamshire Posse Comitatus 1798” edited by Ian F W Bennett

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The Posse Comitatus, or civil power, was a survey of all men capable of acting in a military capacity who were neither Quakers, nor clergymen nor already serving in a military unit. Men between the ages of 15 and 60 were included. In addition, the number of horses, wagons and carts available were surveyed. It was prepared to assess the potential availability of military preparedness in the event of invasion by France. By the late 1790s, France controlled, or was allied with, much of continental Europe.

The surviving records for the Bucks Posse Comitatus are among the most comprehensive for any county. The Posse Comitatus, which pre-dated the first census (1801) by three years, is a source of information on the names and numbers of males between the ages of 15 and 60, and their occupations.

However, it's not that easy to see all the entries for Amersham at the same time, as information about Amersham is in a number of different places in the book. Amersham in 1798 seems to have consisted of four parts and Chesham Bois has been added for this record:

- Amersham/Amersham Town
- Amersham Woodrow, presumably the area around Woodrow High House
- Amersham Woodside, which seems to have included Shardeloes
- Amersham Franchise which seems to have included the Old Rectory and the brewery, and possibly the Market Square.

See also <http://amershamhistory.info/research/reference/posse-comitatus/>

Amersham and Chesham Bois Summary

| | Men* | Draught Horses | Wagons | Carts |
|--------------------|------|----------------|--------|-------|
| Amersham Town | 204 | 50 | 80 | 17 |
| Amersham Woodrow | 26 | 18 | 5 | 6 |
| Amersham Woodside | 142 | 102 | 31 | 46 |
| Amersham Franchise | 44 | 10 | 2 | 3 |
| Chesham Bois | 33 | 34 | 11 | 14 |
| | — | — | — | — |
| | 449 | 214 | 129 | 86 |

*Men, not in the military, between 15 and 60 years old

Water mills average weekly production

Amersham

Joseph Gregory 15 quarters of wheat and some barley

Amersham Woodside

John Eeles 9 loads of wheat and 54 sacks of flour

Joseph Impey 8 loads of wheat and 48 sacks of flour

Amersham Town in the Hundred of Burnham – males not in military service

between the ages of fifteen and sixty – 1798

Esquire

William Pearson

Attorney

John Marshall

Attorney's Clerk

Thomas Marshall

Surgeons

John Brickwell

Thomas Brickwell

Henry Rumsey *Apprentice*

James Rumsey

Nathaniel Rumsey *Apprentice*

Lace-dealer

William Morton

Tanners

Robert Hill

Joseph Hoxly

Thomas Shrimpton

John Wingfield

Brewer

William Weller Jnr

Farmers

William Child

John Harding

John Harding Jnr

Edward Smith

Weavers

John Blackman

James Cannon

William Cooper

John Earl

William Haign

William Haws

James Saunders

George Turner

Plumber and Glaziers

Joshua Bateman

John Dolling

Thomas Hailey

Thomas Hessey

Bakers

James Barker *Apprentice*

James Butchers

Thomas Channer *Apprentice*

Henry Codgell

Richard Eeles

Thomas Statham

William Statham Jnr

William Toms

Grocers

John Hodgkison
Richard Norwood
Henry Wingrove

Butchers

John Mills
Thomas Nichols
James Shrimpton
Edward Willcocks

Waggoner

James Lee

Turners

James Baldwin
William Baldwin
William Bennett
John Berry
William Brown
William Butcher
Edward Climpson
John Eaves
Robert Phillips
James Rolf
Richard Stratford

Lame

Bricklayers

John Maycock
John Wade

Carpenters

Jonathon Carter
Edward Cox
Joseph Cox
Joseph Hatch
William Hodgkison
William Shrimpton
William Smith
Henry Woodbridge
John Woodbridge
Joseph Woodbridge

Apprentice

Apprentice

Shoemakers

Joshua Bateman Jnr
William Child
Henry Levens
Simes Line
William Nash
John Simons
William Wingfield

Spinners

Thomas Earl
John Elborn
Thomas Elborn
Patrick Gallakether

Edward Peters

Taylors

John Andrews

Charles Axten *Apprentice*

John Baldwin Jnr

John Bedsworth *Apprentice*

Richard Dulley

Samuel Nailor

Joseph Shrimpton

William Shrimpton

Wheelers

Richard Baldwin *Apprentice*

William Cox

William Line

Blacksmiths

John Ayres

John Miles

Abraham Moors *Apprentice*

John Morecraft

William Reading *Apprentice*

Joseph Tilby

Richard Wilkes

Hempdresser

Richard Hodgkison

Licensed Teacher

Richard Morris

Victuallers

John Fowler

Joseph Haws

Tallow Chandlers

Samuel Potter

William Potter

Barbers

William Elborn

Henry Lovejoy *Apprentice*

Coachmaker

Thomas Hailey Jnr

Collermakers (sic)

William Hobbs

William Jennings

Currier

Ezekiel Norwood

Excise Officer

James Thomas

Pastry-Cook

John Abbott

Millers

Thomas Empty
John Wilkinson

Quaker

Clock and Watchmakers

James Rogers
John Smith

Maltster

John King

Schoolmaster

John Pickett

Cooper

James Rogers

Sawyers

Joseph Hatch
James Hunt

Gardener

William East

Chimney Sweepers

James Hillier
William Stevens

Governor of a Workhouse

William Andrew

Servants

James Boddy
Samuel Cordery
William Dover
Richard Evans
James Hodgkison
Thomas Hodgkison
Luke Lane
George Nash
Henry Pigott
Thomas Procter
John Slade
John Stevens

One Eye

Labourers

John Abbott
Thomas Abbott
John Atkins
John Bailey
James Baker
John Baldwin
William Baldwin
William Baldwin
Jesse Bates
James Battersby

William Beamsly
Richard Beson
William Bignell
John Bolton *A Cripple*
John Briant
Samuel Cannon
John Carter
William Carter
William Carter Jnr
Charles Clark
Henry Compton
William Cooper
John Cox *Lame*
Thomas Cox
William Crackett
William Dover
William Dumberton
William Eaden
Thomas Elliott
William Elliott
William Elliott *Lame*
Thomas Evered
Thomas Field
William Field
James Floyd
Charles Fowler
John Gladman
Richard Hearn
John Hill *One Eye*
William Johnson
Thomas Keen
Thomas Keen
Edward Lewin
Thomas Livens
John Mead
William Mead
John Norman
Joseph Powell
William Prier
Daniel Saunders
Thomas Saunders
William Saunders *Lame*
William Saunders Jnr
William Seabrook
John Sly
John Stops
William Stronnel
Thomas Tayler
John Turner
Joseph Walker
Matthew Whitfield
Thomas Whitmill
John Wingfield
John Witkins

Constables

Thomas Jones
John Smith

Amersham – Draught Horses, Wagons and Carts

| | H | W | C |
|------------------|----|----|----|
| Thomas Brickwell | 7 | 3 | 2 |
| William Child | 6 | 2 | 2 |
| T D T Drake Esq | 11 | 3 | 6 |
| John Fowler | 10 | 2 | 3 |
| Joseph Gregory | 5 | 1 | 2 |
| John Harding | 8 | 2 | 2 |
| Edward Smith | 3 | 5 | — |
| | — | — | — |
| | 50 | 18 | 17 |

Amersham Woodrow in the Hundred of Burnham – males not in military service between the ages of fifteen and sixty – 1798

Farmer

Thomas Allen

Pothawkers

Thomas Godlyman
Richard Stratton
William Young

Corkman

John Ripley

Servants

William Butcher
Richard Darvill
Thomas Griffin
George Kemptster
Thomas Woods

Labourers

Goerge Allnut
James Brackley
Joseph Brackley
William Brackley
William Brassett
William Brown
John Cabb
John Cogdell
William Lane
William Shrimpton
John Straton
John Tapping
Richard Turner
Edward Wingrove

Rabbitman

Joseph James

Constable

Daniel Cogdell

Amersham Woodrow – Draught Horses, Wagons and Carts

| | H | W | C |
|----------------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Thomas Allen | 5 | 1 | 2 |
| Thomas Butcher | 7 | 3 | 3 |
| James Cogdell | 5 | 1 | - |
| Joseph James | 1 | - | 1 |
| | <u>18</u> | <u>5</u> | <u>6</u> |

Amersham Woodside in the Hundred of Burnham – males not in military service between the ages of fifteen and sixty – 1798**Esquire**

Thomas Drake Tyrwhitt Drake

Gentleman

William Complin

Farmers

William Ayres
 Thomas Barker Jnr
 John Curtis
 Jonas Harding *Infirm*
 William Harding
 Richard Lee *Lame*
 Richard Lee Jnr

Blacksmiths

William Ayres
 James Jordan
 Thomas Jordan

Carpenters

John Cox
 William Cox

Publican

John Dean

Shoemakers

Joseph Crockett

James Potten

Weavers

William Ainsworth
John Allen
John Bass
James Eeles
John Eeles
John Hookham
Thomas Moores
John Sharp
George Shrimpton
John Thompson

Mealman

John Eeles *Quaker*

Millers

James Brown
Francis Shrimpton *Quaker*

Apprentices

Thomas Batchelor
Joseph Ebbs

Servants

Thomas Allen
Henry Barrett
William Bass
Thomas Bell
John Bradshaw
William Cocker
William Coote
William Damer
James Eames
William Elurage
William Fipkins
William Gabbard
William Grace Snr
Henry Grover
Josiah Halsey
John Hester
John Higgins *Lame*
Robert Hill
Charles Hobbs
Thomas Jones
John Langley
James Lewis
John Morecraft
Joseph Norwood
James Osborn
John Osborn
John Parsons
Richard Potter

William Rancer
James Smith
Edward Stacey
Thomas Stacey
Henry Stone
John Waller
James Wallington
John Warner
William Watts
James Worley

Labourers

Joseph Abbey
William Abbey
John Ayres
John Ayres Snr
John Ayres Jnr
William Baldwin
James Bass
Thomas Bass
Joseph Batchelor
Samuel Batchelor
William Batchelor
William Batchelor
Thomas Batson
Thomas Belch Snr
Thomas Belch Jnr
Ralph Belch
Thomas Belch
Benjamin Boddy
Charles Brackley
Joseph Briant
William Brooks
John Deering
Robert Dell
John Dorsett
Thomas Edrupt
James Fibbeys
Thomas Gates
Thomas Gates
John Glennister
John Grace
William Grace Jnr
William Gray
John Harris
Joseph Hobbs
William Haynes
Joseph Hobbs
William Hobbs
John Horwood
John Hughes
Philip Jordan
John Keen
William King
Stephen Lane
John Lee
William Line
John Linford

Infirm

John Marks
 Robert Mead
 Allen Moores
 Robert Moores
 Robert Moores
 Thomas Neal
 Daniel Parrott
 William Peedle
 John Powell
 Thomas Robey
 Richard Rogers
 Thomas Sims
 Henry Smith Snr
 Henry Smith Jnr
 Francis Stedge
 Joseph Theed
 John Toms
 William White
 John Witney
 John Wilkins
 Issac Wilcott
 Thomas Wood

Constable

Thomas Barker

Amersham Woodside – Draught Horses, Wagons and Carts

| | H | W | C |
|------------------|-----|----|----|
| William Ayers | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| Thomas Barker | 1 | - | 1 |
| William Carter | 2 | - | 1 |
| John Curtis | 5 | 2 | 2 |
| T D T Drake Esq | 2 | - | - |
| John Grace | 1 | - | 1 |
| John Harding | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| Jonas Harding | 4 | 3 | 3 |
| Mrs Harding | 1 | - | 1 |
| Joseph Hare | 1 | - | 1 |
| Thomas Harvey | 10 | 3 | 3 |
| Mrs Haynes | 7 | 2 | 3 |
| James Hill | 1 | - | 2 |
| Richard Lee | 12 | 3 | 5 |
| James Lovatt | 9 | 3 | 3 |
| Kender Mason Esq | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| Henry Morton | 8 | 2 | 3 |
| Joseph Saunders | 5 | 1 | 2 |
| Thomas Saunders | 5 | 2 | 2 |
| Mrs Schrimshire | - | - | 1 |
| John Steventon | 9 | 3 | 4 |
| John Weller | 8 | 4 | 3 |
| | — | — | — |
| | 102 | 31 | 46 |

Amersham Franchise in the Hundred of Burnham – males not in military

service between the ages of fifteen and sixty – 1798

Doctor in Divinity

Revd John Drake

Gentleman

Henry Clark

Curate

Revd Richard Thorn

Millers

Henry East
Joseph Impey

Blacksmith

John Lewin

Weavers and Spinners

James Chapman
Samuel Haines
Samuel Haines
John Hainsworth
James Hurst
Thomas Moors
William Salter
William Stallion
John Wells
William Wingfield

One Eye

Staymaker

George Woodbridge

Brazier

William Finch

Cordwainers

William Berry
Matthew Dorrell
James Martin
George Rigby

Baker

Thomas Humphrey

Turner

Thomas Bailey

Fisherman

John Salter

Cooper

Richard Hall

Servants

William Davis

John Day

Edward Grant

Richard Grant

Anthony Hornblow

John Purvell

James Riddle

One Eye

Labourers

Francis Adams

James Bateman

Joshua Bateman

James Elborn

Joseph Howell

John Moors

John Salter

Matthew Whitfield

Gabriel Wilks

Constable

John Read

Amersham Franchise – Draught Horses, Wagons and Carts

| | H | W | C |
|------------------|----|---|---|
| Revd Dr Drake | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| John Weller & Co | 6 | 1 | 1 |
| | — | — | — |
| | 10 | 2 | 3 |

Chesham Bois

Gentleman

Charles Kensie

Farmers

Thomas Channer

Robert Hill

Daniel Hunt

George Ware

Nathan Ware

Papermakers

John Allnutt
 Michael Batchelor
 Robert Graves
 Thomas King
 Francis Lonnon
 William Lonnon
 Richard Mason
 John Peacock
 Thomas Turner

Cordwainer

John Hart

Servants

Samuel Darvill
 John Lewis
 William Mose
 Edmund Prickurt
 Richard Simons
 William Smith
 Joseph Staddams
 Thomas Woods

Labourers

James Batchelor
 John Bolding
 John Clark
 Richard Eames
 William Halsey
 Thomas Hart
 William Norwood
 Joshua Payne
 James Whitehart

Chesham Bois – Draught Horses, Wagons and Carts

| | H | W | C |
|----------------|----|----|----|
| John Bailey | 5 | 2 | 3 |
| John Batchelor | 8 | 3 | 3 |
| Robert Hill | 10 | 2 | 2 |
| Daniel Hunt | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| Nathaniel Ware | 7 | 3 | 2 |
| Thomas Wright | - | - | 2 |
| | — | — | — |
| | 34 | 11 | 14 |
