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Title List of Toll Cards, Knaresborough 1730
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FN 199
List of Toll Cards, Knaresborough, 1730

This list of Toll Cards is the oldest of two or three lists preserved in the Town's Ledger, which is among the books and documents which I sorted and to some extent arranged, for the town a few years ago. They are now stored in the Council Offices.

I have not yet made out exactly their use. They were, no doubt, lists for some form of assessment, though apparently different in some way from the "lays" which were levied both before and subsequently. But has lists of house owners or occupiers they may prove very valuable. I copied this list in January 1924 as the succeeding dates show.

A comparison of this list with the Jury List of 1714 (FN 277) shows that this commences with the High Street, but takes the street in the reverse direction, beginning at the top, or south east end, (eg "Iles" and "Burmond") and ending with Andrew's burgage paid for by Sir T. Slingsby (cf. FN 277, Nos. 6-3 & 1). The houses are evidently taken on both sides alternately, as the postman delivers letters. The list includes the "wastes". From the bottom of High Street, this list continues with the houses on the Waterside, as is indicated by Sandbed and Mill Houses; and the next burgage is, apparently, Guisley's and another in Kirkgate (cf. FN 277 – 58).

The next burgage, "Mary Hague (for) Fishes," points to a deviation into Finkle Street (cf. FN 277-59), which is confirmed by several of the succeeding burgages (egg. Charles Benson, John Clark etc).

When, however, Holden is reached in this street, the opportunity is taken to enter his houses in other places (cf. Wheelhouse, FN277-50).

"Holden for Wheelhouse" also forms a link with the Market place, which follows next, the Synagogues (between Jockey Lane and the Market Place) being, apparently, taken with the Market Place (cf. FN277-49), Guisley and Pickersgill, etc). Barber *FN 199) may be an error for Barker (FN277), or vice versa, one being perhaps father of the other.

It must be noted that in the earlier list John Clark (FN277-52) is credited with a house at the back, in High Street, which may not be given to him in the later list.

From the Market Place (Kettlewell's burgage) this list goes, apparently, to Cheapside (cf. George Casse and Holden, FN 277-68 & 69). Mr Thompson for Hewley's is evidently the claim of the Congregational Minister of that time (cf. RN403) claiming for his residence, or perhaps more correctly for the freehold of his church in Gracious Street or Windsor Lane. A similar claim was made successfully, I find, by his predecessor, Mr Hill, who recorded his vote on the strength of it (cf. FN281 & RN 403). Thompson's may, possibly be an older independent burgage.

It is apparent that many of the first named of each couple in this list are owners paying or receiving for houses which they do not occupy. Some of them, the Earl of Burlington for instance, must have been non-resident; and this may apply to small holders like Roger Houseman (two half burgages) as well as the large ones. When only one name is given, it may be assumed that he is both owner and occupier; when two are given, the usual, if not invariable, rule seems to be that the first is the owner who pays for a house of which the second is tenant, actual or traditional. The owner may be either a freeholder or merely a lease holder.