

**Inventory No. 1/4/1**

**Inventory of the Archives of the Receiver of Land  
Revenue,  
1682 - 1830**

Dr. P. Venter

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This inventory is written in English

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**FONDS SPECIFICATIONS****Title:**

Archives of the Receiver of Land Revenue

**Period:**

1682 - 1830

**Fonds Code:**

1/4/1

**Extent:**

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**Repository:**

Cape Town Archives Repository

**Record Creator (origination):**

Receiver of Land Revenue

**Abstract:**

To control hunting in the Cape of Good Hope, licences were issued from the year 1680. With the expansion of the country at the end of the 17th century, grazing licenses were issued and both were registered in the "Oude Wildskutte Boeke". This title was retained when only grazing licenses were entered. Grants to loan farms were also noted in the "Wildskutte" registers. The monies obtained from the licenses for hunting and grazing, the quitrent paid annually for loan farms and buildings, formed the main source of revenue in the country.



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## CONTEXT

### *BIOGRAPHICAL HISTORY*

After the treaty of peace with the Hottentots in 1677 the generally popular sport of hunting increased. This resulted in a sharp decrease in the amount of game and the fear of extinction. From 1680 hunting at certain times of the year was prohibited and when permitted, the colonists were required to obtain hunting licences issued by the Commander.

To encourage emigration to the Stellenbosch district at the end of the seventeenth century, colonists were permitted to graze their cattle in the outlying districts provided permission was obtained from the Governor and registered with the Secretary of the Council of Policy. [2]

From 1703 the register of hunting licences in the series "Oude Wildskutte Boeke" included grazing licences. The title of the "Oude Wildskutte Boeke" was retained even after only grazing licences were registered.

Persons wishing to own a loan farm ( leningsplaas) obtained the necessary permission and on payment of 24 stivers ( "stuivers") (halfpennies) a written authority was granted by the Secretary of the Council of Policy, in which permission and the conditions to graze on the farm was contained. The permit had to be renewed annually and was only valid after payment of the 24 stivers. The Secretary noted the grant in the "Wildskutte" register and forwarded the authority to the official in charge of the district in which the farm was situated. [3]

On 20 December 1791 the first sworn clerk, George Frederik Goetz, was instructed to draw up a plan indicating the Company's main sources of revenue. [4] Goetz's report, laid before the Council on 20 February 1793, found the main sources of revenue to be:

1. The quitrent paid for grazing rights.
2. The quitrent paid annually for the land formerly on loan, but later granted to the inhabitants in ownership on condition that all subsequent owners pay the annual quitrent of 24 stivers.
3. The quitrent of ninepence (4 skellings) for each morgen of land adjoining farms granted to the farmers on long lease tenure (erfpag) for 15 years and the option of extending the time.
4. The tenth, twentieth and fortieth penny on the sale of immovable property and homesteads on loan farms known as " 's Heeren Gerechtigheeden".
5. The money received from annual leases.

He further indicated that the income noted in the "Oude Wildskutte Boeke" comprised a sizable proportion of the Company's revenue.

The Commissioner also pointed out the impossibility of performing all the revenue tasks in the office of the Secretary of the Council of Policy and suggested the appointment of a special official with the title of Receiver or Bookkeeper of the General Revenue or something similar. His report also included several suggestions concerning the administration of the country's revenue. [5]

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2. M.K. Jeffreys (red): Kaapse Argiefstukke. Kaapse Plakkaatboek, I,p. 263.  
 3. C 207 Bylae tot Resolusies, 20.2.1793, Goetz verslag, 11.12.1792, pp. 399 - 400.  
 4. C 94 Resolusies, 20.12.1791, p. 670.  
 5. C 207 Bylae tot Resolusies, 20.2.1793, Goetz verslag, 11.12.1792, pp. 393 - 446.

As a result of Goetz's report, the position of Bookkeeper of the General Revenue (Bookhouder van de Generaale 's Lands Inkomsten) was created on 4 March 1793 and Oloff G. de Wet was appointed. [6]

The most important aspects concerning the receipt of land revenue were:

1. The Bookkeeper, always a member of the Council of Policy, was responsible for the direction and administration of the country's revenue. He was to be provided with copies of all acts, publications, resolutions, accounts and other documents. Income included: quitrent on loan farms, the annual recognition of farms and lands, " 's Heeren Gerechtigheeden" from the sale of homesteads, the lease of privileges and other income received in the Company's favour. The annual and overdue quitrent on loan farms was to be registered.
2. The Bookkeeper was to eliminate uncertainty in connection with loan farms and to receive all particulars from the Fiscal and Landdrosts.
3. Landdrosts were to investigate all applications for loan farms and on establishing that farms could be granted without prejudice to others, issue a certificate which was to be laid before the Governor together with the application. The Bookkeeper then issued an authority, on receipt of the certificates from the Landdrost, and kept the certificate in his office.
4. No farm was to be granted unless a year's quitrent had been paid in advance. The grant expired if payment did not occur within a month after the issue of the authority. This was to be certified by the Cashier.
5. No one could leave a loan farm before notifying the Bookkeeper and paying overdue moneys.
6. Annually the Bookkeeper sent to the various landdrosts a list of all renewed quitrents, moneys received and changes of land ownership, which could be used for comparison purposes.
7. The rent for farms or lands granted in ownership was to be registered separately according to the district in which the farm was situated. On 1 August of each year the Bookkeeper provided each landdrost with a list of such farms in his district. Lands granted on long lease tenure were also registered separately.
8. The Bookkeeper was present at all leasing and would receive the leasing conditions after they had been noted in the Council of Policy. He was to issue authorities, granted to the Cashier, to pay the lease money into the Company's chest. The Cashier was to inform the Bookkeeper monthly of all receipts.
9. The books were to be balanced annually, with a precise account of the year's revenue and arrears laid before the Council. The Bookkeeper was assisted by the First and Second Assistant Bookkeepers. [7]

In terms of a proclamation of 10 October 1795, I.P. Baumgardt was appointed as the receiver of the revenue annually paid by farmers for permission to graze their cattle on Company's land as well as other land revenue. His title was Receiver of Land Revenue (Ontvanger van Landinkomste). [8]

This post was abolished on 31 December 1827 and the duties attached to it transferred to the Treasurer. [9]

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6. C 102 Resolusies, 4.3.1793, p.50.

7. C 103 Resolusies, 27.7.1793, p/137 (vide also RLR 83).

8. S.D. Naude (red.): Kaapse Argiefstukke, Kaapse Plakkaatboek, V, p.7

9. CO 4885 Col. Sec. - Receiver, Land Revenue, 26.11.1827, p. 239.



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## CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

### *SCOPE AND CONTENT*

As is evidenced from the inventory, the order of volume numbers does not follow in strict sequence, e.g. volume 146/1 follows directly on volume 39 and volume 148 precedes volume 44/1, etc.

Since the compilation of the original inventory in 1936, a number of volumes, later discovered, were described in an appendage to the inventory.

On revising the inventory an attempt was made to incorporate these latter volumes within appropriate series thus adhering to the basic principles of arranging and describing archives. This procedure subsequently gave rise to the inconsistent order of volume numbers.

An alternative method to rectify the position would have been a total renumbering of the volumes comprising the archives. This method, however, would have proved impracticable, since the entire archives has undergone rebinding.

The oldest documents, including the "Oude Wildskutte Boeke", 1680 - 1686, have not remained preserved.



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DESCRIPTION OF THE SUBORDINATE COMPONENTS

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## HUNTING, GRAZING AND LOAN FARM LICENCES

For an explanation on the sequence of volume numbers see the section Documents Discussion.

### 1 - 8/2 Licences: Hunting and grazing

1687 Oct. - 1730 Jul.

<b>1</b>	1687 - 1712
<b>2</b>	1712 - 1714
<b>3</b>	1714 - 1718
<b>4</b>	1718 - 1721
<b>5</b>	1721 - 1724
<b>6</b>	1724 - 1727
<b>7</b>	1727 - 1728
<b>8/1</b>	1728 - 1729
<b>8/2</b>	1729 - 1730

### 9/1 - 39, 146/1

- 147/2

Licences: Loan Farms.

1730 - 1816

<b>9/1</b>	1730 - 1731
<b>9/2</b>	1731 Feb. - 1731 Aug.
<b>9/3</b>	1731 - 1733

For missing entries covering the period October 1733 - April 1738 see volume RLR 38/2.

<b>10/1</b>	1738 - 1741
<b>10/2</b>	1741 - 1744
<b>11/1</b>	1744 - 1745
<b>11/2</b>	1745 - 1747
<b>12/1</b>	1748 - 1749
<b>12/2</b>	1749 - 1751
<b>12/3</b>	1751 - 1752
<b>13/1</b>	1752 - 1754
<b>14/1</b>	1754 - 1755
<b>14/2</b>	1755 - 1756
<b>15/1</b>	1757 - 1758
<b>15/2</b>	1758 - 1760
<b>16/1</b>	1760 - 1761
<b>16/2</b>	1761 - 1762
<b>17/1</b>	1762 Feb. - 1762 Aug.
<b>17/2</b>	1762 - 1763
<b>18/1</b>	1763 - 1764
<b>18/2</b>	1764 - 1765
<b>19/1</b>	1765 - 1766
<b>19/2</b>	1766 - 1767
<b>20/1</b>	1767 - 1768.
<b>20/2</b>	1768 - 1770.
<b>21/2</b>	1770 May - Dec.
<b>21/2</b>	1771 Jan. - 1771 Nov.
<b>22/1</b>	1771 - 1772
<b>22/2</b>	1772 - 1773.

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<b>23/1</b>	1773 - 1774.
<b>23/2</b>	1774 - 1775.
<b>24/1</b>	1775 - 1776.
<b>24/2</b>	1776 Mar - 1776 Dec.
<b>25/1</b>	1776 - 1777.
<b>25/2</b>	1777 - 1778.
<b>26</b>	1778 - 1779
<b>27/1</b>	1780 Jan. - 1780 May
<b>27/2</b>	1780 - 1781.
<b>28/1</b>	1781 Jan. - 1781 Oct.
<b>28/2</b>	1781 - 1782.
<b>29</b>	1782 - 1783.
<b>30</b>	1783 Mar. - 1783 Oct.
<b>31</b>	1783 - 1784.
<b>32</b>	1784 Mar. - 1784 Nov.
<b>33</b>	1784 - 1785.
<b>34/1</b>	1785 Apr. - 1785 Nov.
<b>34/2</b>	1785 - 1786.
<b>35/1</b>	1786 - 1787
<b>35/2</b>	1787 - 1788
<b>36/1</b>	1788 - 1789
<b>36/2</b>	1789 - 1791
<b>37/1</b>	1791 - 1792
	Includes an entry dated 27 June 1792.
<b>37/2</b>	1792 - 1793.
<b>38/1</b>	1730 - 1732
	Volumes RLR 38/1 - 39 and RLR 146/1 - 147/2 contain entries which are duplicates of those appearing in volumes RLR 9/1 - 37/2.
	Volumes RLR 38/1 - 39 and RLR 146/1 - 147/2 are incomplete.
<b>38/2</b>	1732 - 1752
<b>39</b>	1747 - 1748
<b>146/1</b>	1763 - 1784
<b>146/2</b>	1784 - 1786
<b>147/1</b>	1787 - 1788
<b>147/2</b>	1788 - 1816

Records after 1806 are not listed

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**INDEXES TO LOAN FARM LICENCES****40 - 42**

Indexes to Loan Farm Licences  
1738 - 1793

Volumes RLR 40 - 43/2, which refer to volume RLR 10/1 - 38/2, contain entries arranged according to the christian names of persons to whom licences were issued.

- 40** A - G
- 41** H - M
- 42** N - W

**43A**

Index A - Z.  
1738 - 1793

This volume refers to volumes RLR 40 - 42 and contains entries arranged according to the surname of persons to whom licences were issued.

**43/1 - 43/2**

Indexes to Loan Farm Licences  
1730 - 1773

- 43/1** A - J
- 43/2** J - W

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**ANNEXURES TO LOAN FARM LICENCES****44/1 - 67, 148** Annexures to Loan farm Licences  
1745 - 1827

The volumes in this series contain declarations concerning applications for land, petitions and letters received both from private individuals and officials. Overlapping of periods is due to the manner in which the annexures have been issued.

Records after 1806 are not listed.

<b>148</b>	1745 - 1804
<b>44/1</b>	1753 - 1775
<b>44/2</b>	1779 - 1782
<b>44/3</b>	1782 - 1787
<b>45/1</b>	1787 - 1790
<b>45/2</b>	1787 - 1790.
<b>45/3</b>	1787 - 1790.
<b>45/4</b>	1790 - 1792.
<b>46/1</b>	1791 - 1793.
<b>46/2</b>	1791 - 1793.
<b>47/1</b>	1786 - 1794
<b>47/2</b>	1786 - 1794
<b>48/1</b>	1794.
<b>48/2</b>	1794 - 1795
<b>49/1</b>	1795 - 1796
<b>49/2</b>	1796 - 1797
<b>50/1</b>	1793 - 1799
<b>50/2</b>	1790 - 1799
<b>51/1</b>	1798.
<b>51/2</b>	1798.
<b>52</b>	1799 - 1800
<b>53/1</b>	1800 - 1801.
<b>53/2</b>	1800 - 1801
<b>54/1</b>	1799 - 1802
<b>54/2</b>	1802 - 1805
<b>54/3</b>	1804.
<b>54/4</b>	1804 - 1805
<b>54/5</b>	1805
<b>55/1</b>	1805 - 1806

**NOTE BOOKS**

**68 - 72, 77** Note Books  
1755 - 1818

The volumes in this series contain particulars concerning names of farmers, farms and conditions under which land was granted.

**68** 1755 - 1770

**69** 1755 - 1780

**70** 1790 - 1794

**71** 1794 - 1798

**72** 1798 - 1804

**77** 1793 - 1818

Includes an entry dated 6 November 1827.



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**REGISTERS OF QUITRENT AND LOAN FREEHOLD FARMS**

- 74 - 76** Registers of Quitrent and Loan Freehold Farms  
1743 - 1824  
Records after 1806 are not listed
- 74** 1770 - 1804.  
**75/1** 1777 - 1811  
**76** 1743 - 1785
- 76** Register: Loan Freehold Farms  
1743 - 1785

### **DIVERSE LISTS OF LOAN AND DESERTED FARMS**

Volumes RLR 78A; 142A; 155 and 157 contain particulars concerning names of occupiers, names of loan farms, dates of licences granted, dates and reasons for the withdrawal of loan farms and dates of the desertion of farms.

Volumes RLR 78, 73, 155 and 157 are arranged in alphabetical sequence according to regions in the various districts of the Cape Colony.

**78, 78A,  
142A, 156**

List: Loan Farms  
1770 - 1811, undated  
**78** undated.

This volume contains information on the situations of loan farms in the Cape, Stellenbosch, Swellendam and Graaff - Reinet districts.

**78A** 1770 - 1794  
**142A** 1785 - 1811  
**156** undated.

**73, 155**

List: Loan Farms Resumes by Government  
1793, undated  
**73** undated  
**155** 1793 Dec.

**157**

List: Deserted Farms  
1793 Dec.

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**LEASE CONTRACTS AND CONDITIONS FOR GOVERNMENT  
FARMS AND LANDS**

**79A** Lease Contracts: Government Farms  
1795 - 1802

**79** Lease Contracts: Lands  
1806 - 1811

**80/1 - 82** Lease Conditions: Lands  
1795 - 1832

Volumes RLR 80/1 and 80/2 include lease conditions for salt - pans.  
Records after 1806 are not listed.

**80/1** 1795 - 1808

**PURCHASE CONDITIONS FOR LANDS****151/1 - 152/3** Purchase Conditions for lands

1769 - 1830

**151/1** 1769 - 1806**151/2** 1806 - 1814

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**INSTRUCTIONS: LAND REVENUE**

- 83/1 - 86** Instructions: Land Revenue  
1682 - 1806
- 83/1** 1686 - 1793
- 83/2** 1793 - 1794
- 84** 1794 - 1795
- 85/1** 1803 - 1804
- 85/2** 1804 - 1806
- 86** 1682 - 1804  
This volume is incomplete

**LETTERS RECEIVED****87/1 - 101**Letters Received  
1793 - 1828

Records after 1806 are not listed

**87/1**

1793 Feb. - 1795 Feb.

Includes a few letters received for 1772, 1775, 1798, 1809, 1812  
and 1814**87/2**

1795 Feb. - 1795 Aug.

**88**

1793 Nov. - 1794 Sept.

**89/1**

1794 Sept. - 1799 Jan.

**89/2**

1799 Jan. - 1814 Feb.

**90/1**

1806 Feb. - 1807 Aug.

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**LETTERS DESPATCHED****102 - 109**Letters Despatched  
1793 - 1828

Records after 1806 are not listed

**102** 1793 Jul. - 1794 Nov.**103** 1793 Apr. - 1795 Jan.**104** 1795 Jul. - 1802 Sept.**105** 1803 Apr. - 1806 Jan.**106** 1806 Apr. - 1813 Sept.**107/1** 1806 Feb. - 1808 Nov.

**FINANCIAL PAPERS**

Records after 1806 are not listed.

- 110 - 114** Ledgers  
1793 - 1825  
Records after 1806 are not listed  
**110** 1793 - 1800  
**111** 1800 - 1807
- 115 - 122/2** Journals  
1792 - 1825  
Records after 1806 are not listed  
**115** 1792 Sept. - 1796 Sept.  
**116/1** 1796 Oct. - 1798 Sept.  
**116/2** 1798 Oct. - 1800 Sept.  
**117/1** 1800 Oct. - 1802 May  
**117/2** 1802 Jun. - 1803 Dec.  
**118/1** 1804 Jan. - 1806 Feb.  
**118/2** 1806 Mar. - 1807 Dec.
- 123 - 131** Day Books: Loan farms.  
1800 - 1828  
Contains: Rental paid for Loan, Perpetual Quitrent, Quitrent, Loan Freehold and Government Farms (Betaalde Rekognie van Lenings - , Ewigdurende Erfpag - , Erfpag - , Leningsseidom - en Regeringsplase)  
Records after 1806 are not listed.  
**123** 1800 Oct. - 1805 Feb.  
**124** 1805 Mar. - 1807 Dec.  
**130/1 - 2** 1800 Oct. - 1807 Sept.  
Volumes RLR 130/1 - 2 and 131 consist of entries for rent paid on immovables existing on loan farms. (Betaalde's Heeren Gerechtigheeden.)
- 153, 159 - 162** Cash Books: Land Revenue  
1798 - 1828  
Records after 1806 are not listed  
Contains: Land Revenue (Landsinkomste)  
**159** 1798 Oct. - 1799 Aug.  
**160** 1799 Oct. - 1800 Sept.  
**161** 1800 Oct. - 1801 Sept.  
**162** 1801 Oct. - 1803 Apr.
- 138 - 141, 154, 163** Statements: Annual Land Revenue Statements  
1779 - 1826  
Statements are arranged according to districts.  
Records after 1806 are not listed.  
**163** 1779 - 1794  
**138** 1793 - 1808



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- 158** Arrear Land Revenue Statements  
1788 Jul.  
Contains paid arrear land revenue entries for the period 1781 - 1788
- 145** Register and Accounts: Inspection Accounts  
1722 - 1813
- 149 - 150** Receipt Books: Rentals  
1785 - 1828  
Includes authorisations by the governor for the receipt of rentals for 1749  
Records after 1806 are not listed.
- 149** 1785 - 1828