

# *Window Tax*

## *1696-1851*

*In 1696 in the reign of William III another form of taxation came into force this was known as the “Window Tax” and would last until 1851.*

*In 1696 there was a financial crisis created by a growing inflation caused by the many conflicts both in Ireland and on the continent. One of the forms of taxation created to help pay the debt was known as the “Window Tax”.*

*By 1700 reforms had taken place by slashing taxes, auditing the accounts showing irregularities, and finally the nine-year war had come to an end in 1697, but the “Window Tax” would stay for another fifty one years.*

*The tax would be paid on a house of more than six windows. Unfortunately none of these records appeared to have survived, one way for a person to by pass the tax was to brick up one or two windows over the stated six, even today on some of the older houses the bricked up windows are still there.*

*In 1792 houses with 7-9 windows had to pay a tax of 2 shillings, and those people with property containing 10-19 windows would pay a tax of 4 shillings.*

*In 1825 the number of windows taxable went from six to eight windows. The Window Tax would be replaced in 1851 with a tax called House Duty.*