

mukhtars, and council of elders of the place to which the *mülk* belonged.⁷⁹ Registrants were asked to bring to the commission their title deeds, whether issued from the courts or other places. Provision for registration for those who did not possess title deeds was also made.

Mülk had been defined in Article 2 of the Land Code of 1858. It consists of a range of properties: buildings within inhabited areas; lands no bigger than one-half a dunam that are adjacent to inhabited places; land conferred by the sultan as private property; and lands in the possession of non-Muslims which had not been seized by the Ottomans at the time of their conquest.⁸⁰ This 1874 *Emlāk* law was both more and less specific regarding *mülk* than the 1858 Land Code had been. It explicitly mentioned as *mülk* trees, shops, vineyards, and gardens in addition to buildings, but neglected to delimit a maximum size for garden lands, as had been done in 1858.

Fees for registration increased proportionately along with the assessed value of a property, as can be seen in Table 1.1 below. The table shows that these fees were nominal in relation to property value. The jump in the rate-scale of fees between properties valued between 90,000 and 100,000 kuruş, and those valued above 100,000 kuruş, together with the singular-sum fee charged for the category, suggests that there were few privately-owned properties in the Empire that were valued above 100,000 kuruş.

⁷⁹ Ibid., Chapter 1, Article 5, p. 231.

⁸⁰ Ongley, 1-2.