

which merit investigation, on the whole the data is congruent and, thus, indicates that the *emlak* registration of 1876 reasonably reflects the entire population of the villages.

In what follows in this chapter, we will aim to understand the *emlak* register on two levels. On one level, we will read and analyze the register to understand the social and economic structures of the villages and the distribution of propertied wealth. On another level, we will read between and beyond the lines of the register's entries to determine the process and procedure of the *emlak* commission. Before proceeding further, the mention of a few notes about the organization of the *emlak* register are in order. The registration of properties followed the same basic pattern in each village. First, a list of residences and other structures within village limits were recorded. This was followed by a list of villagers' lands and trees. Often, entries for gardens (*hākyūres*, *bağçes*), vineyards (*bağs*), olive trees, fruit trees (primarily fig trees and, rarely, lemon trees), and orchards (*bustāns*) were mixed together, and fields (*tarlā*) were recorded last. Lands were measured by dunams and *evleks*, the Turkish dunam being equal to slightly less than the metric dunam (939.3 m²), and the *evlek* equal to one-fourth of a Turkish dunam.¹⁶⁷ With few exceptions, olive trees were measured in terms of numbers of trees, and the land they occupied was not measured, registered, or taxed. (Other trees were measured by dunam.) Assessments of agricultural-property values were relatively standard across the district according to types of property,

¹⁶⁷ Şemseddin Sami dictionary. The terms in Ottoman Turkish are **اولك** and **دونم**.