

Georgian England

In the years before and after 1800, when the Industrial Revolution was in its infancy, the face of England's villages was changing, as the rural populations began to move towards the towns. In Bramham, though, two factors must have worked against this trend: the homes and livelihoods provided by the great landowners who controlled most of the parish; and the effect of the Great North Road passing through and requiring to be serviced. Perhaps this accounts for the remarkable 56% rise in population in the thirty years after 1800. Nevertheless, some of Trevelyan's picture of village life of the period must have applied to Bramham:

This was the last era in our island history when the village was the normal unit of society. Under the first two Georges, most men and women, including many not engaged in any form of agriculture, were in the full sense of the word 'villagers.' They were interested, not in the political, athletic and scandalous chronicle of the world at large, of which they heard seldom and little from the news-sheets of the day, nor in the life of town, factory or trade-union, but simply in the daily human drama of their own village set amid its surrounding fields and woods, with its traditions, its ghost stories, its neighbourliness, its feuds, and its shrewd, ignorant rustic comment on the mysterious world beyond. From that frugal but digestible dish of ideas our ancestors still drew the food for their thoughts on the eve of the Industrial Revolution. What they knew of sport was what they saw and took part in for themselves at the covert side, or on the village green, or on the squire's new cricket ground.

The early Georgian village represented, on the whole, a healthy economic and social order, but with the defect that the power of the great landowners was on the increase, instead of yielding to a more diffused system of landownership and a larger measure of village autonomy. Even in the reigns of the first two Georges, the small yeoman freeholders¹ and the small squires were

¹ The word 'yeoman,' used in Tudor and Stuart times to include tenant farmers as well as freeholders, was used by Arthur Young for freeholders only, and came to have that narrower sense in the Nineteenth Century. But many Eighteenth Century writers, including Adam Smith, used it in the older and larger sense.

declining in numbers. The great period of the yeoman freeholders and of small, compact estates was the Tudor and Stuart epoch. In Anne's reign the acquisitive tendency of the large landowners was becoming more than ever marked. The squires were jealous of the small freeholders as being politically and socially independent of their sway.

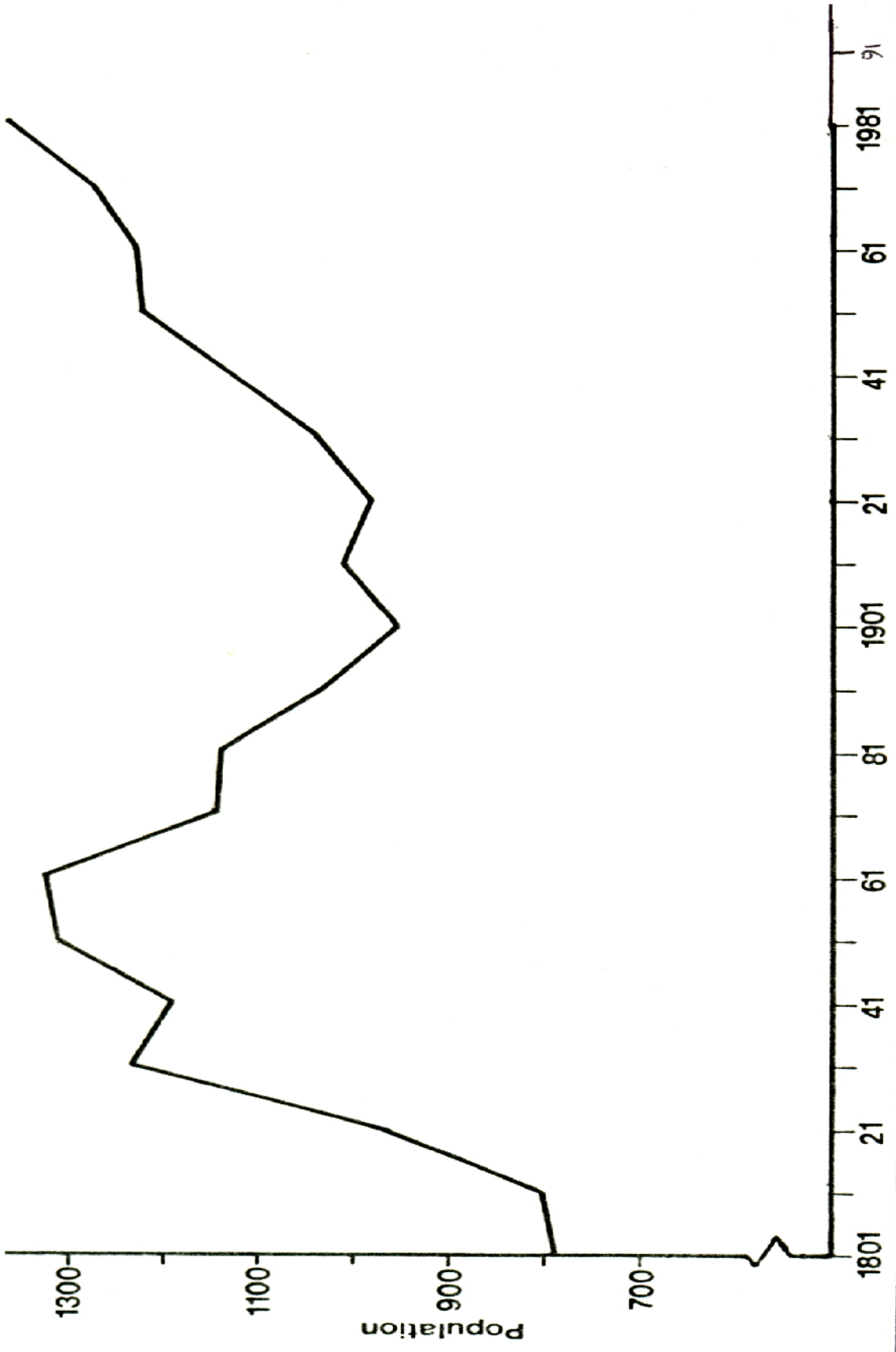
To buy out the small freeholder was an even more satisfactory way of disposing of him. For his part, he often thought he might do better in the modern world than by staying on his farm. All through the Eighteenth Century yeoman families were drifting to the towns, often to become the founders of the great business firms of Modern England. Often, too, they became large tenant-farmers, gaining more perhaps in wealth and importance than they lost in independence.

Census Returns - Brimham

Total Population

1801	792	+ 13.		
1811	805	+ 165	600	500
1821	970	+ 261		
1831	1237	- 43		6
1841	1194	+ 124		
1851	1318	+ 13		8
? 1861	1331	- 101	13.6% drop	9
1871	1150	- 4		
1881	1146	- 112		17
1891	1034	- 79		16
1901	955	+ 58		12
1911	1013	- 29		13
1921	984	+ 58		14
1931	1042			
1941		+ 186		
1951	1228	+ 2		
1961	1230	+ 46		
1971	1276	+ 88		
? 1981	1364		1400	1500
1991	1451			

(later 90's 1288 electors in 683 dwellings)



Years	Population
1801	792
1821	970
1841	1194
1861	1331
1881	1146
1901	984
1921	1042
1941	1228
1961	1230
1981	1364

TOTAL
POPULATION

West Riding of Yorkshire,) An Assesment made in Pursuance of an Act of Parliament
 For the Township of) passed in the 20th Year of His Majesty's Reign for
 Clifford in the said) granting an Aid to his Majesty by a Land-Tax, to be
 Riding. May 2^d 1782) raised in Great-Britain for the Service of the Year 0
 Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty

NAMES OF PROPRIETORS	NAMES OF OCCUPIERS	Sums assessed		
		L	S	D
Bailby THOMSON Esqr for Midlewhite Grange	Bailby Esqr	1	8	0
Ditto for Turner Close and Knapton Wood	Es2 -1s-8d for Clifford Land 19s 8d	35	4	8
Sir George Win for the Tithe	Es5-18s-10d and the Tithe farm 19s-9d	3	1	4
Willmer GOSSIP Esqr	Sir George Win	6	18	7
Robert FARFAX Esqr	Willmer Gossip Esqr	0	8	8
Mrs ATKINSON	Robert FARFAX Esqr	0	9	10
Richard WADDINGTON	Mrs ATKINSON	0	9	10
Thomas TRACERAY	Josef DUFFIEL	0	7	10
Sir John GOODRICK	Peter ADKIN	0	6	0
Richard WADDINGTON	Joseph WARD	3	7	0
John WADDINGTON	Richard WADDINGTON Senr	1	18	0
Samuel WADDINGTON	16s John WADDINGTON	0	18	0
William WADDINGTON	Samuel WADDINGTON	0	16	0
Richard HUNSON	William WADDINGTON	0	16	0
Thomas TURNER	James COLBERT	0	4	0
Sir John GOODRICK	William WILDMAN earth	0	8	1
John JOHNSON	Josef BOVIL for SMITH	0	2	0
Micaell GRAVELER	Sarah WARD	0	3	11
Thomas BRAME	Micael GRAVELER	0	3	11
John HILL	Robert MIDDLETON	0	15	2
Christopher WILLSON	John HILL	0	3	5
Sir John GOODRICK	William WADDINGTON	0	13	10
Christopher POWELL	James HUTSON	1	3	9
Thomas POWELL for what was his Father	Christopher POWELL	0	3	11
Thomas TURNER	Thomas POWELL for his own 2s 0d	0	9	10
John WEATHERILL	Thomas POWELL	1	19	8
Mr BLACKBURN	Thomas TURNER	0	16	0
Richard HOLMS	William WRIGHT	1	6	11
Michael MARSHAL	James PROCKTOR	0	7	9
Thomas POWELL	Richard HOLMS	0	0	0
Matthew ALLEN	Michael MARSHAL	2	12	7
Richard WADDINGTON	Thomas POWELL	0	14	8
	Thomas SMITH	0	16	0
	Richard WADDINGTON jun.	0		
Jorrita DAINY	Samuel HOUSECROFT	0	5	9
John HEDDER	Thomas TURNER	0	3	10
Widow HUNSON	Francis POSON	0	3	10
Samuel BOTTON	Thomas INGLE	0	5	9
Mrs CLETON	William LOPTHOUSE	0	4	0
John ALLEN	Richard HEMSLAY	0	17	4
Josef TATE	Joseph TATE	1	9	1
William MARSHAL For Land Late Bought of	Richard WADDINGTON 2s his own 5s 9d Wm MARSHAL	0	7	9
Samuel WEATHERILL	Tempest LEE	0	8	0
Christopher BOVIL	Christopher BOVIL	0	3	9
Thomas BURDET	Thomas POSON	0	6	0
Thomas WARD	John SANDS	0	5	10
Samuel BOWLING	Samuel BOWLING	0	2	0
Joseph LIDSTER	Josep LIDSTER	0	4	11
John BANKS	John BANK	0	2	0

for the Township of
Clifford in the Division
of Barkston Ash

1798

1803

20th of George the third to Remove certain difficulties
relative to Expences at County Elections and also by an
Act passed in the 38th year of his Majestys Reign for
Granting an aid to his majesty by a Land Tax to be raised
in great Britain for the service of the year...and made
Perpetual by a nother Act passed in the 38th year of his
Preasant Majesty's Reign and also in pursuance of another
Act passed in the 43d year aforesaid for Continuing to his
Majesty a duty on Pensions Offices and Personal Estates.

PROPRIETORS	OCCUPIERS	SUMS ASSESSED & EXONERATED			SUMS ASSESSED NOT EXONERATED		
		£	s	d	£	s	d
Richd THOMPSON Esqr for Micklowaite Grange himself	37	11	4				
Wm GOSSIP Esqr.			17			2	
Wm GOSSIP Esqr.		1	12			10	
Rovd John PEERS		1	11			2	
Saml. TAITE Junkeeper	himself & others ✓	2	17			7	
Saml. HOUGHTON	Saml. LOFTHOUSE						
Miss ATKINSONS	Themselves		7		9	2	
Rovd. Wm ATKINSON <i>retired</i> —	John SANDS		2				
Mrs GOSSIP	herself		4			6	
Rd. DALBY <i>mercer</i>	Wm. DALBY						
John DAY	himself		6		7		
John DAY } <i>mason</i>	John THOMAS		2				
Widow BURDIT	Jonathan BURNLEY		6			3	
Wm GOSSIP Esqr. Late FAIRFAX	himself		9			10	
Grosvenor PERFECT Esqr	himself		1			9	
Frans PRENTICE <i>speculator</i> —	himself <i>bro. of maltster in Willow Green</i>		19			10	
Wm CLARKSON	himself						
Wm BACKUS	John SANDS				2		
Thos. POWELL Boston Junkeeper	himself				2		
Charles BOYINGTON	himself		2			5½ ✓	
Miss Mary HAGGISTON			3			3	
Mrs DAY	Rovd John BENSON				6	10	
James FOX LANE Esqr	Miss OLDFIELD		6			10	
Wm DAY	Thos MILLTHORP	1	3				
John ROBINSON	himself				5	1½	
John WELLS Junkeeper	himself				2	4	
John BANKS & Thos. BANKS	himself Late MOVERLEY ✓				3	2	
Widow WADDINGTON	Thos. BANKS				5	6	
Jas FOX LANE Esqr	Frans ALLON				4	6	
Jas FOX LANE Esqr	ELIZ. THACKERAY				2	8	
Joseph WADDINGTON	Joseph WARD	3	18				
Frans ELLISS	himself	1	12				
Saml WADDINGTON	John GRAY		12				
WALKER and	himself						
Mrs Mary ASSHETON widow	Saml WADDINGTON				12	9	
Trust for Poor Land	herself		5			6	
ohn & Jas. WADDINGTON	John WILDMAN				15	11*	
	(Jas CALVERT 3s 4d.				6	8	
	(Thos. SHAW 1s 10½d				5	2½	
Trust for late Henry FURNISS	Saml. RHODES						
WADDINGTON Sonr	himself				9		
Saml KNOWLES	himself				4	1	
Christ: POWELL	himself				1	9	
J. PROCKTER <i>chandler</i> —	himself				1	8	
Stephen CLARK	himself				1	3	
John WADDINGTON	John LOWND					5	
Jas PROCKTER	himself		7			6	
John WEATHERILL <i>labourer at mill</i>	himself Jno. TEASDALE		7			6	
John HOLMES	John SANDS		9				
Nathan BURNLEY	himself				4	6	
Robt & Robt MARSHALL	Themselves	1	6		2		

farmer nr. Willow Lane,