

The Historical Geography Research Group

A History



ROBIN A. BUTLIN

HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY RESEARCH GROUP

HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY RESEARCH SERIES, NUMBER 44

The Historical Geography Research Group

A History

Robin A. Butlin

**With a postscript by
Carl Griffin, Hayden Lorimer,
and Nicola Thomas**

List of Figures

Figure 1	Professor Harald Uhlig, University of Giessen.	6
Figure 2	Diagrams of different possibilities of open fields.	7
Figure 3	Institute of British Geographers Special Publication Number Nine: <i>Agrarian Landscape Terms: a Glossary for Historical Geography</i> by I. H. Adams.	10
Figure 4	A conference field excursion.	14
Figure 5	Draft mission statement, 1998.	32
Figure 6	HGRG Register of Research in Historical Geography.	33
Figure 7	Volumes 1 to 18 of The Historical Geography Research Series.	42
Figure 8	Geography Research Series, example cover designs.	44
Figure 9	Institute of British Geographers, Special Publication Number Ten, <i>Change in the Countryside</i> , edited by H. S. A. Fox and R. A. Butlin.	45
Figure 10	Special Publication <i>Ecological Relations in Historical Times: Human Impact and Adaptation</i> , edited by Robin Butlin and Neil Roberts.	46

Figure 11	Themed edition of Institute of British Geographers, Transactions.	48
Figure 12	HGRG and BEHS joint publication, <i>Atlas of Industrializing Britain, 1780–1914</i> , edited by John Langton and R. J. Morris.	50
Figure 13	<i>Man Made the Land</i> , edited by Alan R. H. Baker and J. B. Harley.	51
Figure 14	The 4th Anglo-American Seminar on the Medieval Society and Economy	56
Figure 15	Poster for the 15 th International Conference of Historical Geographers, 6–10 August, 2012.	58
Figure 16	Practising Historical Geography conference flyer, 8 November 1995	71

Image credits: Figure 1: we have not been able to trace the owner of the rights to the image of the late Professor Uhlig but would welcome the opportunity to do so; Figure 2 *Geografiska Annaler*/Wiley; Figures: 3, 9, 10, 11 Royal Geographical Society (with the Institute of British Geographers; Figure 4 and cover: Robin Butlin; Figures 5, 6, 7, 8, 16: Historical Geography Research Group; Figure 12: Historical Geography Research Group and the Economic History Society of the UK, Figure 13: David and Charles Publishers; Figure 14: Anglo-American Seminar on the Medieval Economy and Society; Figure 15: Dr Pavel Chromy and International Conference of Historical Geographers.

Thanks to Ed Oliver of the School of Geography at Queen Mary, University of London for help with formatting the images and designing the cover.

Acknowledgments

I am most grateful to a number of scholars who have read and offered critiques both of early and later drafts of this monograph, and to librarians and archivists who have provided access to material, including early numbers of the HGRG *Newsletter*. They include: Dr Alan Baker (University of Cambridge), Professor Felix Driver (Royal Holloway, University of London), and the staff of the library at the University of Leeds. Arrangements for me to have copies of HGRG archive materials were made by Dr Nicola Thomas and Dr Innes Keighren, and copies of material from RGS-IBG library were provided by Julie Carrington. Finally, I am grateful to Dr Tony Phillips (Keele University) for provision of a list of joint conferences with the British Agricultural History Society, to Dr Carl Griffin (Sussex University), Dr Hayden Lorimer (University of Glasgow) and Dr Nicola Thomas (University of Exeter) for writing the valuable *Postscript*, and to Dr Alastair Owens (Queen Mary, University of London) for his expert and imaginative editing of this volume

Robin A. Butlin, June 2013

Robin A. Butlin, Emeritus Professor of Geography and Visiting Research Fellow, University of Leeds, UK

Carl Griffin, Senior Lecturer in Geography, Department of Geography, University of Sussex, UK

Hayden Lorimer, Reader in Geography, School of Geographical and Earth Sciences, University of Glasgow, UK

Nicola Thomas, Senior Lecturer in Human Geography, University of Exeter, UK

Introduction

Publications on the histories of geographical knowledge and their varied institutional and intellectual contexts are steadily increasing in number, including narratives of the origins and development of individual geography departments,¹ and nuanced histories of geography and geographical societies.² One aspect of geography's histories given relatively little attention hitherto, however, is the analysis of the process of increased specialisation of research and research interest within academic subjects such as geography, leading to the proliferation of research groups within national academic institutions. Goodchild and Janelle have studied this phenomenon in the case of the Association of American Geographers (AAG), whose special research study groups developed slightly later than those of the Institute for British Geographers (IBG). In the AAG, 'specialty' groups played a major role in its research development, and were 'a response to the complexity of knowledge and of scientific activity, and as a phenomenon of social organisation'.³

Most learned societies for Geography at university levels have in fact for some time encouraged specialist research or 'specialty' groups, whose research topics are manifested in conferences, publications, interactions with other groups, postgraduate training sessions, the giving of financial support, and involvement with international conferences, and service on a wide range of committees. This essay attempts to outline and analyse the development of such a group—the Historical Geography Research Group (HGRG) of the Institute of British Geographers (IBG) and later of the merged Royal Geographical Society (RGS) with the IBG, of which I was a founder member, between c.1960 and 2000. A postscript has been added, written by Carl Griffin, Hayden Lorimer and Nicola Thomas which brings the history up-to-date. The contexts of the origin and expansion of the HGRG had much to do with the growth of historical geography in Britain

INTRODUCTION

in the later twentieth century and the institutional changes in the parent body—the Institute of British Geographers.

Notes

¹ C. W. J. Withers, Constructing the geographical archive, *Area* 34 (2002) 3, 303–31; H. Lorimer and C. Philo (Guest Editors) Special Issue: Glasgow Geography centenary, *Scottish Geographical Journal* 125 (2009) 3–4.

² F. Driver, *Geography Militant*, Oxford, 2001; M. Heffernan, Geographical societies, in: G. Good (Ed.), *Sciences of the Earth: an Encyclopaedia of Events, People and Phenomena*, vol. 1, New York, 1998, 273–77; M. Jones, Measuring the world: exploration, empire and the reform of the Royal Geographical Society c. 1874–93, in: M. Dauntton (Ed.), *The Organisation of Knowledge in Victorian Britain*, Oxford, 2002, 316–36.

³ M. F. Goodchild, and D. G. Janelle, Specialization in the structure and organization of geography, *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 78 (1988), 1–28.

Part I

Conception, Birth, and Early Development c.1966–1973

The Historical Geography Research Group, which has become an outstanding promoter of and forum for research in its specified field, formally adopted this title in 1973. Its current mission statement includes the following aims: ‘to initiate and foster research in the field of Historical Geography; to promote discussion by means of meetings and conferences; to further co-operation between cognate disciplines and organisations; and to effect the publication of monographs, collected papers and discussion materials’. In practice this happens through provision of administrative and financial support for research and conferences, facilitation of training opportunities for postgraduate students, and publication of a newsletter and a series of research monographs. The success of the Group over the years is shown by its present size—over 600 members—and the fact that it will be celebrating 40 years of existence (under its present title) in 2013, an event marked *inter alia* by the publication of this book.

The sources of evidence for this short reconstruction of the Group’s history include reports in geographical publications such as *Area* (publication of the Institute of British Geographers (IBG, later Royal Geographical Society with the Institute of British Geographers, RGS-IBG) and its predecessor the *IBG Newsletter*, the Group’s own *Newsletter*, together with reports in the *Journal of Historical Geography*, personal memories, and archive materials from the Group. The Group’s archives are at present in the process of being catalogued and expanded, and grants for this purpose are being sought. One interesting challenge at the moment is to decide

CONCEPTION, BIRTH, AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT

the future form and structure of the archives, as more material comes to light. There is also the complication to be faced, both in terms of gathering and interpretation of archive material, as Lorimer and Philo put it, that ‘archives are exceptionally complex things, containing multiple layers of items produced for a plethora of reasons—highly official in some cases and entirely unofficial in others, some seemingly very complete in their provenance, others just seemingly shards in isolation, some engagingly chatty and revealing, others resolutely mute and unyielding—and all telling something’.¹ This is true of the nascent HGRG archives, and will become more evident as new items are added.

One additional aspect which is in urgent need of development is the interviewing of early participants in the affairs of the HGRG and its predecessors. Several of the pioneers (Coppock, Jones, Fox, Prince, and Williams) are sadly deceased, and others are progressing in senior age. Personal collections of photographs, of HGRG field excursions, for example, will gradually disperse and disappear if an effort is not made to replicate/collect and preserve them. New types of ‘evidence’ could be extremely useful—such as personal diaries and correspondence. Anecdotal evidence can help retrieve the individual and collective reminiscences of a group of academics strongly bound by common research interests.

EUROPEAN CONTEXTS AND THE HGRG PREDECESSORS: THE AGRARIAN LANDSCAPE TERMINOLOGY STUDY GROUP AND THE AGRARIAN LANDSCAPE RESEARCH GROUP

These rather clumsy titles were adopted pragmatically for a short time by a group formed within the IBG in the late 1960s, and which was initially convened as a constructive response to work on agrarian landscape terminology that had begun in continental Europe, in Germany in particular, notably the enthusiastic and

seminal research of Professor Harold Uhlig at the University of Giessen, and his assistant Cay Lienau.

The background to this work on terminology has been outlined in several publications.² In essence it involved the recognition by historical geographers, historians and others of the need, at a time of rapidly expanding research and publication on agrarian landscape evolution in many European countries, to have greater clarity and understanding of basic concepts and terminology. The early history of this approach was outlined by the Swedish geographer Staffan Helmfrid, who attributed its origin to work in Germany by Müller-Willer on 'topographic-genetic analysis of the field pattern of villages', a new mode of analysis of settlement forms and evolution, backed by innovative research 'such as pollen analysis, phosphate analysis, air photo interpretation'.³ One way forward was identified as the development of a mutually agreed taxonomy and terminology—a formal classification of rural landscape elements. Initiative and advancement of the project came from within what became known as the Permanent European Conference for the Study of Rural Landscape, whose conferences began in Nancy in 1957, and then were organised in Vadstena in Sweden in 1960 at a symposium following the main assembly of the XIXth International Geographical Union conference in Stockholm, then at a pre- XXth International Geographical Congress (London-based) conference and excursion from Bangor to Leicester in England in 1964, and also at Würzburg in Germany in 1966. Helmfrid claimed that 'the name Permanent European Conference was introduced in 1971 after the Perugia meeting'.⁴

A symposium with the title *Morphogenesis of the Agrarian Cultural Landscape* was held at Vadstena in Sweden from August 14–20 in 1960 (which I attended as a postgraduate research student from the University of Liverpool). Professor Harald Uhlig from the University of Giessen gave a paper on 'Old hamlets with infield and outfield systems in western and central Europe', which was published in the conference proceedings in 1962.⁵ The aim of



Figure 1: Professor Harald Uhlig, University of Giessen.

Uhlig's paper was to publish a range of material from European sources and literature on the subject of old hamlet-type rural settlements which were linked with infields divided into strips, and to do so through English, 'to give also the non-German-speaking colleagues an introduction to the research work of German authors, to stimulate an international discussion, and *to compare the relevant terminology*' [my italics].⁶

In a short note in the preface to the published papers from the Vadstena symposium, Uhlig announced the formation of a *Committee for an International Glossary of the Geographical Terminology of the Agricultural Landscape*.

CONCEPTION, BIRTH, AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT

HARALD UHLIG

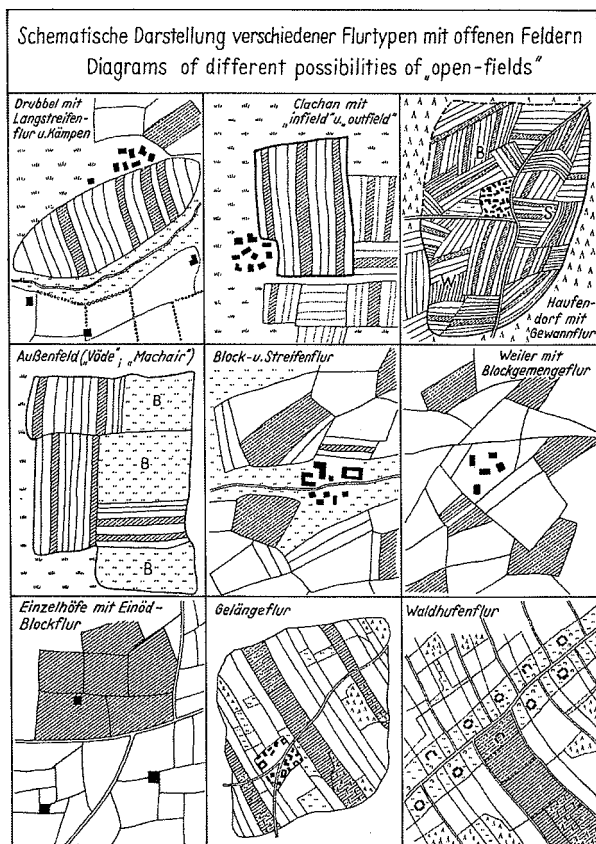


Figure 2: Diagrams of different possibilities of open fields.

A spin-off was the link of this development to the initiation of a working group on agrarian landscape terminology within the IBG, starting at the St Andrews annual conference of the IBG in 1966, formalised by the IBG Council in 1967, and intended to attract interest and attention from historical geographers in particular. The initial response in Britain to what in effect was a German/European initiative was rather weak, partly because the German methodology was substantially based on the careful and

systematic completion of complex *pro forma*/working papers for each rural landscape term. This was a process of which many British historical geographers, in truth, had little experience and for which they found it difficult to raise much enthusiasm. Nonetheless, the group pressed ahead in an effort to reciprocate the energy and admirably intended inclusiveness of continental colleagues, to facilitate some measure of progress in the discussion and definition of landscape terms, and replicate bodies like the French *Commission du Lexique Agraire* and the German *Arbeitsgruppe für die Geographische Terminologie der Agrarlandschaft*.

A Study Group for the Terminology of the Agrarian Landscape was initiated in 1966, as a consequence of a meeting at the annual conference of the IBG at St Andrews. This development was mentioned in the *IBG Newsletter* (the forerunner of *Area*), which 'carried a brief note about a meeting held in St Andrews in order to enlist the support of British historical geographers in the compilation of an international glossary of agrarian terms' and which was renamed The Agrarian Landscape Research Group in 1968.⁷ The constitution of the IBG at the time made provision for such research groups. A report in the *Newsletter* of the IBG for 1969 gives a digest of a meeting of the Study Group for the Terminology of the Agrarian Landscape at the IBG Annual Meeting at Exeter in January 1968:

This meeting comprised a business meeting of the newly-formed study group and an address by Professor Harald Uhlig ... the major feature of 1967 for the study group had been its formal recognition by the Council of the IBG ... Professor H. Uhlig, University of Giessen, spoke on the subject of the development of an international glossary project, and recent developments within Germany. The international project had been first mooted at a symposium in Nancy in 1957, when geographers and historians had realised the need for more accurate definition and correlation of terms used to describe agrarian landscapes. Further discussions had taken place at Vadstena in 1960, Leicester in 1964 and Würzburg in 1966 and during this time funds for research and secretarial assistance at

Giessen had been provided from sources in West Germany, including the Volkswagen Foundation. Work had been initiated by circulating working papers to individuals, who were asked to contribute definitions of terms within their own fields of interest, on the basis of an arbitrary decimal system of classification. This method had not been particularly successful ... The German geographers had recently decided to try a new method of approach to the subject, by concentrating on the terms which describe field patterns and field systems, and by means of intensive seminar discussion had established a new terminological framework for these particular features. Further work would proceed along similar lines, and it was hoped that these definitions would be translated and forwarded to English and French colleagues in order to stimulate further discussion and research.⁸

This continental European set of initiatives had born fruit in Britain partly because of the amount of research on the historical geographies of rural change that was being undertaken in the 1960s and 1970s and beyond, on subjects such as field systems,⁹ enclosures,¹⁰ settlement patterns,¹¹ and tithe surveys.¹² The process of evaluation and modification of relevant terminology did in fact continue in Britain for a few years. Conferences were held on problems of agrarian terminology and on connected subjects.¹³ The culmination of this work was the publication in 1978 by Ian H. Adams (University of Edinburgh) of the book *Agrarian Landscape Terms: A Glossary for Historical Geography*.¹⁴

This was a large book (314 pages), containing a detailed glossary of agrarian landscape terms and a major bibliography. It was produced with the help of a research grant from the Social Science Research Council. In his Introduction, Adams acknowledged the strong German influence on the project. Adams' book was an extensive and authoritative piece of scholarship. Its publication in effect, however, marked the end phase of major interest by historical geographers in Britain in this kind of terminology, at least as the mainstay of a study group which was to broaden its remit with a change of title in 1973.

INSTITUTIONAL CONTEXT—STUDY/RESEARCH
GROUPS AND THE IBG

The broader institutional context to this development was the expansion of British historical geography in the 1960s and 70s, and the overall increase in the number of papers given at the annual conference of the IBG. A consequence was the introduction of parallel sessions (as opposed to the general plenary sessions) at the annual conference and the development from 1961 of specialist study groups, later to become Research Groups. The paternal familial character of the Institute, with its (largely male) camaraderie, and which had favoured plenary lecture sessions at its annual conference, began to change as geography grew in the UK and elsewhere.

The circumstances promoting the creation and development of study groups in the IBG have been outlined by Steel.¹⁶ They included: facilitating the identification of common research interests at a time when the Institute was growing in membership and conference attendance; 'the energy and enthusiasm of the officers of the individual groups'; and the positive response to their creation: 'Members, generally, felt, it seemed, that in these new developments the Institute was offering something that they wanted and needed'.¹⁷ Steel also states that the development of the Study Groups was 'controlled under the aegis of the Institute with specific rules that had to be followed by such groups', but that there was 'no doubt that the groups promoted a great surge of intellectual activity and publication, and drew many young enthusiasts into the affairs of the Institute, and provided very important academic links with members of associated disciplines'.¹⁸

The IBG Council, retaining a measure of patrician control, had some concerns about the potential problems—'fissiparous tendencies' as Steel describes them—of the possibility of separation of some of the groups from the Institute, to the point where it was suggested that a member of Council should attend each of the Study Group meetings, but in practice this rarely

happened. In 1968 the Council of the IBG accepted the recommendation of a working party that small support grants would be awarded to four Study Groups, including the Terminology of the Agrarian Landscape Group, and required that a formal structure be established for each group, to include a Chair, Secretary/Treasurer and a small committee, annual reports, and conditions of membership.¹⁹ These 'Notes for the guidance of officers of formally constituted groups' were published in the IBG *Newsletter*, for September 1968, and give the impression of a Council that was at one and the same time keen to advance the groups' special research interests while also keeping a close watch on their degrees of autonomy and kinds of activity.²⁰ Thus: if the proportion of non-IBG members in each study group exceeded 10 per cent the Council had to be informed, and such people were not allowed to become officers of the groups, though they could be committee members. The section on non-IBG members in these notes is the longest, and gives the clear impression of concern at potential problems that might arise if too great a number of members were recruited from outside the ranks of geography. This concern was probably the result of a seeking of a greater measure of independence which seemed to be characteristic of the strategy of the British Geomorphological Research Group, but not really of the HGRG.

For a trial period from October 1968 a grant of 5 shillings (now worth c.£2.57) per member would be allocated to Study Groups. An annual report was required (and these are useful sources of evidence for group activities). Certain administrative and practical facilities, including clerical support from the central office, and publicity, were made available. The last item in the Notes stated that 'It is the intention of Council to encourage the publication of monographs and theme volumes in a special series running parallel with the *Transactions* and Study Groups are invited to consider the possibility of such publications in their particular fields'.²¹ This was a facility, as we shall see, of which the HGRG took full advantage.

EARLY YEARS: ORGANISATION AND ACTIVITIES

The Historical Geography Research Group, as it eventually became, owed its conception and early development to the growing strength of historical geography in Britain, and particularly to a small group of historical geographers, most of whom had experience of the above-mentioned European landscape conferences and debates, and who made up the initial officers of the group and their successors. Historical geography had been represented in the plenary sessions of the IBG annual conference, always held at the beginning of January. The new study group reflected the increasing number of completions of research degrees in historical geography and the numbers of specialists looking for more opportunity and space for debate at the annual conference and similar gatherings.

The January timing of the IBG annual conference is worth a short note. While not affecting the historical geography symposia more than others, it generally—in the not infrequently very cold weather—produced an environment in which warm seminar and lecture rooms (and halls of residence) were at a premium. As the conference was always held early in the New Year, university halls of residence—the main form of accommodation—and the lecture rooms had to be heated up after their closure during the vacation in time for our arrival, but on occasions rooms were slow in reaching acceptable temperatures, and in at least three cases remained very cold for at least two days. Colin Pooley, in his account of historical geography at the Manchester IBG conference in January 1979, indicates that ‘Through no fault of the organisers the conference held at Manchester University, 2–5 January 1979, faced even greater problems than usual. A combination of Siberian-winter weather conditions, petrol shortages and bus strikes meant that for many it was a major feat simply to arrive at the conference and, inevitably, there were gaps in the programme as participants from far-flung corners of the British Isles failed to make the journey’.²²

Prominent features of the Spring or early summer residential conferences, and, for a while, of the annual IBG conferences, were the field excursions to review many aspects of historical geography of neighbouring regions. These provided further opportunity for discussion, and added much to the camaraderie of the group.



Figure 4: A conference field excursion

The 1960s and 1970s saw an increase in the number of relatively junior staff members working in the field of historical geography in universities and polytechnics, who through social and academic contact at conferences soon constituted an active interest group that slowly took on formal status within the Institute. They were greatly encouraged by a group of established scholars who constructively supported the early endeavours. These included Eila Campbell, Frank Barnes, Glanville Jones, Richard Lawton, Terry Coppock, Frank Emery, Hugh Prince, June Sheppard, Jim Johnston, Helen Wallis, and others. The world of historical geography, unsurprisingly, was also affected by the vicissitudes of

university financing in relation to government policy. In 1982, for example, in his annual report as Hon Secretary of the HGRG, Colin Pooley predicted that: 'The major problem that the HGRG, together with other similar groups, will have to face in 1982, is the effect of continued financial restraint in universities. It is likely that participants at conferences will be reduced in number because of increasing costs, and the HGRG must seek ways of maintaining contact and academic discussion at the lowest possible cost to members'.²³

The fledgling HGRG was undoubtedly influenced by broader currents and trends in the world of historical geography, and in turn it had its own influence upon them. An analysis of the themes of conferences, papers and publications shows change over time, reflecting to a degree the broad tone of canonical statements of influential scholars like Clifford Darby, especially in his paper of 1960 in which he reviewed possible changes to the structure of a book on the historical geography of England to follow and update his classic edited work of 1936, and pointed to significant sources of historical material awaiting the attention of the historical geographer.²⁴ These included 'the varied material dealing with field systems and with enclosure', the 'Tithe Surveys of c.1840, and the Census returns from 1801 onwards'.²⁵ This analysis and prediction was not so much prescient for the research that would in future be associated with members of the HGRG as capturing the trends that were already underway. Darby himself did not play a direct role in the HGRG, but did attend some of its meetings, including the one at Cumberland Lodge in Windsor Great Park in 1974. There were also other indicators of the gathering strengths of historical geography, including publication of two commercial book series, and the Cambridge Occasional Discussions in Historical Geography, convened at Emmanuel College by Alan Baker from 1968 to 1999, and in which some HGRG members participated.²⁶ At a later date another significant group in the promotion of historical geography was established. The London Group of Historical Geographers was set up in September 1981 and convened in its early years by David R.

Green, Humphrey Southall and Richard Dennis who represented three London university colleges (King's, Queen Mary and University College, respectively). Meetings took place at the Institute of Historical Research in the University of London. Since 1989 they have been fortnightly during the academic year, and organization has been by Felix Driver (Royal Holloway) Miles Ogborn (Queen Mary), Gillian Rose (then at Queen Mary), Jenny Robinson (then at the London School of Economics) and David Lambert (then at Royal Holloway).²⁷

By 1970 there had been consolidation of (what was now) the Agrarian Landscape Research Group's (ALRG) activities and there emerged a basic pattern of meetings during a given year, namely a session or sessions at the annual conference of the IBG and another conference in Spring or later in the year, held elsewhere (see Appendix I). Thus in 1970 the annual meeting at Belfast included an ALRG symposium on Settlement and Agriculture in Ireland, and the Spring conference, at the University of Edinburgh, was on 'The Run-Rig System'.²⁸ There also began an important trend towards more joint meetings with other groups from within and outside of the IBG. In November 1970 the British Agricultural History Society resumed its one-day winter conferences, after a gap of three years, with a meeting on agriculture and the history of the environment, at which papers were given by John Sheail and Hugh Prince, indicating a strong historical geography presence. From 1975 the winter one-day conference became a joint effort of the HGRG and the BAHS, and this has continued to the present, with Tony Phillips of Keele University the main co-ordinator. The conferences have generally been held in London in late November or early December. The first conference was held at the Department of Geography at UCL, the rest at three other locations in the following years: The Polytechnic of Central London, The Institute of Historical Research, University of London, and the Senate Chamber, Senate House, University of London.²⁹

COMMITTEES AND MEMBERSHIP OF THE GROUP

The composition of the early committees was largely unstructured, in the sense of not seeking or having a deliberate representation of particular interests, or regional constituencies. The IBG conditions for Study Groups required the appointment of officers of the group (Chair, Hon. Secretary, and Hon. Treasurer), and ordinary members. The early ALRG committees had scholars from Birmingham, Cambridge, Dublin, Durham, Edinburgh, St Andrews, Leeds, London, Keele, and Oxford (see Appendix II). Much of the activity was down to the goodwill and generous time allocation of quite a small group of enthusiasts, who had a sense of the way in which historical geography was developing and of the need for more frequent arrangement of symposia and other means of debate and dissemination of ideas. Much of the logistical input came directly from individual scholars and geography departments, whose heads of department sympathetically supported this kind of activity.

The early committees and the whole operation of the group ran on a shoestring, improving with the available IBG subsidy from 1968. The formal constitution required an elected committee with a Chair, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, and four ordinary committee members, the maximum period of sequential office normally being three years for the first three of these and two for ordinary members. Elections took place at the Annual General Meeting at the IBG annual conference. The first committee, in 1967 had Professor Terry Coppock of Edinburgh University as Chair, Robin Butlin (University College, Dublin) as Hon. Secretary, and Alan Baker (Cambridge), Glanville Jones (Leeds), June Sheppard (Queen Mary College, London), Graeme Whittington (St Andrews) and Ian Adams (Edinburgh) as committee members.

Alan Baker (Cambridge) became Chair of the Agrarian Landscape Study Group from 1968 to the end of 1970. A detailed letter from him, of 13th October 1970, to Brian Roberts (Hon. Secretary) about the arrangements for the following year and the

constitutional processes approved in the ALRG Constitution spells out the possible *modus operandi*:

The Annual General Meeting will this year involve us in elections and I think that it might be useful to give some thought to this now ... As you will recall, I think it useful to ensure some rotation among the officers of the group and I therefore myself intend to retire as Chairman at the end of this year, 1970. Members of the group should also be informed therefore of this vacancy although I shall in fact nominate Robin Butlin to replace me as Chairman and trust that you will support me in this. You are, I know, prepared to take over as Secretary of the group should Robin be elected as Chairman. June Sheppard has one more year to serve as Treasurer and is willing to carry on. This would mean that there remain four vacancies for ordinary members. None of the existing ordinary committee members can be re-appointed, although I think it may well be necessary to co-opt Ian Adams on to the committee because of his work on the glossary. It would be constitutionally possible for me to be nominated for election as an ordinary member, but we would still need to ensure the election of a further three members. So could I ask you to arrange for all members of the group to be circulated about the elections before the end of November? Many thanks.³⁰

The new committee comprised the names mentioned in the letter plus Hugh Clout (University College London), John Patten (Oxford) and Rob Hodgson (Durham).

The early records of committee membership show that there were far more men than women. June Sheppard of Queen Mary College was on the founding committee, and remained a committee member until 1972. In 1989 the IBG was developing a policy on equal opportunities, and circulated committees of study groups with a number of questions on this issue. The Hon. Secretary of the IBG, Bill Gould, had circulated these, and on March 30th 1989 Richard Dennis, of University College London, the Chair of HGRG, replied:

CONCEPTION, BIRTH, AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT

For the past three years the HGRG has included one female member on its committee. Other women have stood for election but have not been elected. We have not had any overt policy of 'positive discrimination' in favour of women or any other groups within the membership (e.g. polytechnic members), but it has been a concern of officers of HGRG to achieve a gender, geographical and institutional balance when making their nominations for future committee membership. Of HGRG members, at least 41 out of 238 are women (probably more—I don't know what lies behind every combination of Dr + initials).³¹

The imbalance of gender on the HGRG committee did not change until the twenty-first century, reflecting the shifting balance in higher education staff overall and the proper and stronger concerns about a better gender balance on committees of learned societies.

The committees of the HGRG and its predecessors have worked very hard over the years to sustain a great variety of activities aimed at advancing research in the subject. Frequently committee members occupied two or three of the offices of Chair, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, sometimes in sequence. The generally relaxed but nonetheless professional tone of contacts between committee members is evident in archived correspondence, with first names predominant in communications. The occasional *cri-de-coeur* does hint, however, at the real frustrations produced by logistical problems. Richard Dennis, retiring as Hon. Secretary at the end of 1989, wrote in the *Newsletter* that

At the end of my three years as Secretary, and compiler, word processing operator and photocopyist of this Newsletter, my thanks to all who have provided information and organised meetings, and my apologies for the sometimes erratic scheduling and increasingly unreliable photocopying of the Newsletter. All donations for a new photocopier for UCL Geography—one that manages to copy both sides without chewing up alternate

sheets, and which doesn't produce striations turning each copy into a geomorphological map—will be gratefully received.³²

One's clear memory of the miscellaneous workings and contacts confirms the impression that circumstances in the 1960s and 1970s, lessening in the 1980s and beyond, were more conducive to the use of academic time to support and enhance the work of learned societies and their sub-groups. Fortunately, notwithstanding the time and priority demands of requirements such as performance indicator evaluations, at the present and in the past, able scholars have continued to play a variety of roles in the HGRG, including those of officers and committee members. The annual reports and minutes of committees of the HGRG are indicative of a very efficiently run group, that sets its own high standards to add to those required by the parent body. This process of recruiting able scholars for these roles has very obviously been helped by active postgraduate recruitment and development from an early date.

For the purpose of keeping up to date with broader policies and issues, the IBG Council convened regular meetings of Study Group representatives, and notes of these exist in the HGRG archives. A meeting of the IBG Study Group secretaries with the IBG Council, for example, was held on Thursday 20th May 1971, and focussed on the financing of groups, and the processes and outputs involved in publishing accounts of the groups' activities, from records of annual meetings to accounts of symposia. This meeting was attended by June Sheppard, the HGRG Hon. Treasurer, and her extensive note on the meeting is in the HGRG archive.³³

Notes

¹ H. Lorimer and C. Philo, Disorderly archives and orderly accounts: reflections on the occasion of Glasgow's geographical centenary, *Scottish Geographical Journal* 3–4 (2009) 227; M. Ogborn, Finding historical data, in N. J. Clifford and G. Valentine (Eds), *Key Methods in Geography*, London, 2003, 101–115; E. Gagen, H.

Lorimer and A. Vasudevan (Eds), *Practising the Archive: Reflections on Method and Practice in Historical Geography*, HGRG Research Series, 40 (2007).

² R. A. Butlin, Some terms used in agrarian history, *Agricultural History Review* 9 (1961) 98–104; S. Helmfrid, The permanent conference and the study of the rural landscape, in: H. Palang, H. Sooväli, M. Antrop, and G. Setten (Eds), *European Landscapes: Persistence and Change in a Globalizing Environment*, Boston, 2004, 467–82.

³ Helmfrid, The permanent conference, 473.

⁴ Helmfrid, The permanent conference, 470.

⁵ H. Uhlig, Old hamlets with infield and outfield systems in Western and Central Europe, in: S. Helmfrid (Ed.), *Morphogenesis of Agrarian Cultural Landscapes*, *Geografiska Annaler* 43 (1962) 285–312.

⁶ Uhlig, Old hamlets, 285.

⁷ H. S. A. Fox, Historical Geography Research Group, *Area* 8 (1976) 158–59.

⁸ R. A. Butlin, Study Group for the Terminology of the Agrarian Landscape. Report of a meeting held at Exeter, January 1968, *IBG Newsletter* 5 (1976) 10–11.

⁹ A. R. H. Baker and R. A. Butlin (Eds), *Studies of Field Systems in the British Isles*, Cambridge, 1973; R. A. Dodgshon, *The Origins of British Field Systems: an Interpretation*, London, 1980.

¹⁰ J. A. Yelling, *Common Field and Enclosure in England 1450–1850*, London, 1977; M. Turner, *English Parliamentary Enclosure*, Folkestone, 1980.

¹¹ J. A. Sheppard, Pre-enclosure field and settlement patterns in an English township: Wheldrake, near York, *Geografiska Annaler* 48 (1966) 59–77; B. K. Roberts, *Rural Settlements in Britain*, Folkestone, 1977.

¹² R. J. P. Kain, Tithe surveys and land ownership, *Journal of Historical Geography* 1 (1975) 39–48.

¹³ A. R. H. Baker, Some terminological problems in studies of British Field Systems, *Agricultural History Review* 17 (1969) 136–40; R. A. Butlin, Recent developments in the studies of the terminology of the agrarian landscape, *Agricultural History Review*, 17 (1969) 141–43.

¹⁴ I. H. Adams, *Agrarian Landscape Terms: a Glossary for Historical Geographers*, Institute of British Geographers, Special Publication 9, London, 1976.

¹⁵ A. R. H. Baker, Historical geography and the study of the European rural landscape, *Geografiska Annaler, Series B Human Geography* 70 (1988) 5–16.

¹⁶ R. W. Steel, *The Institute of British Geographers: The First Fifty Years*, London, 1984.

¹⁷ Steel, *The Institute*, 92.

¹⁸ Steel, *The Institute*, 40.

¹⁹ Steel, *The Institute*, 93.

²⁰ W. Kirk, Notes for the guidance of study groups, *IBG Newsletter* 9 September (1968) 2–4.

²¹ Kirk, Notes for the guidance, 4.

- ²² C. G. Pooley, Historical geography at the IBG, *Journal of Historical Geography* 5 (1979) 431.
- ²³ C. G. Pooley, Historical geography research group, *Area* 14 (1982) 83.
- ²⁴ H. C. Darby, An historical geography of England: twenty years after, *Geographical Journal* 125 (1960) 147–59.
- ²⁵ Darby, An historical geography, 153–155.
- ²⁶ A. R. H. Baker, Cambridge occasional discussions in historical geography 1968–1988, *Historical Geography* 19 (1988) 7–12.
- ²⁷ I am grateful to Dr Alan Baker and Professor Felix Driver for this information. For details of the history of the London group see: www.rhul.ac.uk/geography/documents/pdf/events/lghgthirtyyearson.pdf
- ²⁸ R. A. Butlin The run-rig system, *Area* 1 (1969) 44–46.
- ²⁹ R. J. Johnston, The institutionalisation of geography as an academic discipline, in: R. J. Johnston and M. Williams (Eds), *A Century of British Geography*, Oxford, 2003, 63; Steel, *The Institute*, 94.
- ³⁰ HGRG Archives, Baker to Roberts Box 3 folder 2 Correspondence on elections to the Committee.
- ³¹ HGRG Archives, Box 1 Folder 6, letter from R. Dennis (HGRG Chair) to W. Gould (IBG), regarding equal opportunities.
- ³² R. Dennis, *HGRG Newsletter*, 1989.
- ³³ J. A. Sheppard, Note of meeting of study group secretaries, HGRG Archives Box 3 Folder 2, 1971.

Part II

Growth and Diversification 1973–2000

THE CHANGE TO THE HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY RESEARCH GROUP IN 1973: ORGANISATION AND MEMBERSHIP

In the early years the work of the Group evidenced a gradual change from terminological matters to broader thematic and regional issues. The first (one-day) conference of the Group was held in London on 26th October 1968, and focused on 'The Terminology of Commons, Common Fields, and Field Systems', and included papers on British field systems, and similar features and their relevant terminologies in Scotland and Germany.¹ A review of the proceedings suggested that 'the necessary extension of the debate on terminology is more likely to profit from discussion of specific themes and related terms rather from protracted discussion, *in vacuo* and in a solely lexicographical context, of separate and unrelated terms'.² An IBG Council Minute noted that 'It was reported that since the work of the Agrarian Landscape Group was reaching completion consideration was being given to widening its scope and changing its name'.³ The minute appropriately came from the IBG Hon. Secretary, Richard Lawton, himself a distinguished historical geographer.

The formal constitutional and practical advancement of the ALRG to HGRG status began in 1971, with circulation, by Brian Roberts (Hon. Secretary) and Robin Butlin (Chair), to committee members of a series of documents pertinent to the proposed change of title, and three questions about the

relationship with the IBG, the changed aims of the group (since the ALRG started), and a publication and circulation policy. Brian Roberts points out that 'Our membership rose sharply last year from about 70 to about 120 and with effort this could be increased. A larger committee may well be necessary'.⁴ A circular was sent to all members of the ALRG, stating that:

At a meeting of the Committee of the Agrarian Landscape Research group held at Beamish Hall, County Durham on 20 May 1971 the question of a possible change of title was discussed. The principal reason for this change would be to cover a wider range of problems in our discussions, we have no wish to restrict our activities to agrarian landscape, thus excluding many important aspects of historical geography. Following discussion the committee felt that the title the Historical Geography Research Group seems to be the most appropriate and it was agreed that this should be communicated to the group for an expression of their opinions, either in writing or at the Annual General Meeting in Aberdeen.⁵

Responses were positive, including a note from Professor H. C. Darby at Cambridge: 'I thought that I should write to say that I think this is an excellent idea. I always thought that the other title was inappropriate. It might well refer to modern agrarian work'.⁶ The consequence of this circular and preliminary discussion at the ALRG meeting at Aberdeen in January 1972 was agreement of a change of title to the Historical Geography Research Group, which after further deliberation on the constitution by the ALRG committee and IBG Council approval came into existence at the IBG Annual meeting at Birmingham in January 1973. The new constitution was in many respects the old ALRG constitution but with the aims (section 2) broadened to include the whole of historical geography.⁷

Progress thereafter was speedy and commendable. The annual report for 1976 gives a good idea of the group's past and intended activities in the period that followed its initiation in 1967 and the change in 1973:

GROWTH AND DIVERSIFICATION

Now fully a decade after the first moves by historical geographers to establish a study group within the Institute, it is a pleasure to be able to report on a year of unprecedented activity. In 1966 the Institute's *Newsletter* (precursor of *Area*) carried a brief note about a meeting held at St Andrews in order to enlist the support of British historical geographers in the compilation of an international glossary of agrarian terms. The group which was subsequently established was at first called the Study Group for the Terminology of the Agrarian Landscape. Later it became the Agrarian Landscape Study Group; then, in 1973, its title was changed to the Historical Geography Research Group, and its constitution altered in order to embrace the interests of all historical geographers.

Since its foundation the Group has held seventeen meetings at which over two hundred papers have been presented. The past year's meetings included a conference convened by P. Laxton at Liverpool on the theme of 'Social patterns in nineteenth-century Britain', and a symposium on 'Communities and social contacts in the past' at the Institute's Annual Conference. In addition, two meetings were held in collaboration with other societies. One, a symposium on 'Agricultural improvement post 1600', was organized by A. D. M. Phillips on behalf of the Historical Geography Research Group and the British Agricultural History Society. The other was a symposium at Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario where B. Osborne and the Ontario Group of Historical Geographers welcomed eighteen British delegates to a series of lectures and discussions on aspects of the historical geography of nineteenth-century Britain and Canada. The symposium was made possible by generous grants from the British Council, the Canada Council, the Canadian Association of Geographers, and the Canadian Department of External Affairs, the Institute of British Geographers and Queen's University, Kingston. The past year thus witnessed two notable new developments in the Group's history, namely the organization of joint meetings with other bodies and the establishment of formal international contacts between historical geographers. Both of these developments will be followed up: joint meetings with the Institute's Developing Areas Study Group and Population

GROWTH AND DIVERSIFICATION

Geography Study Group have already been arranged, while plans are being laid for a second British–Canadian symposium in historical geography. The symposium will be held in 1977 at two centres within Britain, and it is hoped that Canadian delegates will subsequently be hosted by a number of British universities.

Several publications are imminent. The Group's first *Register of Members' Research* was a domestic affair, merely listing the research interests of members. Now a second Register is complete and includes details of as many as possible of all research projects being carried out by British historical geographers. The Group's first Special Publication, *Change in the Countryside*, will also appear in 1976. Containing ten essays on aspects of agrarian historical geography, it will be followed by a volume of essays on urban historical geography. Publication will take place soon of a glossary of agrarian terms, a reminder, in the Group's decennial year, of its origin within the field of agricultural terminology.⁸

For the remaining part of the decade the activities were for the most part a continuation of earlier patterns of meeting, but with continuing variety of topic and theme, including: historical studies of diffusion; aspects of historical demography; directions in the historical geography of transport; communities and social contacts in the past; historical geography of less developed countries; the industrial revolution and the English space economy; and the historical geography of mining.

DEVELOPING RESEARCH AGENDAS

In the HGRG archives there is a report from the Historical Geography Research Group, dated October 1980, on 'Research and Funding in Historical Geography.'⁹ Its provenance and target are not immediately clear from this context, but it is most likely aimed at the IBG Council and/or the Social Science Research Council (SSRC and which later became the Economic and Social Research Council). The extract below gives an idea of its import

and its view of the subject seven years after the foundation of the HGRG:

Research in historical geography is diverse and it is difficult to present a brief coherent view of recent trends. The Register of Research produced by the Historical Geography Research Group [in 1980] contains 543 entries ranging widely in time period, topic and regional interest. Many entries are broadly based, but the historical geography of the more recent past is clearly dominant with 51.6 per cent of entries concerned with the nineteenth century or later, and 20 per cent with the eighteenth century. Only 21.5 per cent deal with the seventeenth century or earlier. British historical geographers are also somewhat parochial with only 22.7 per cent of entries referring to areas outside the British Isles.¹⁰

Prominent areas listed are historical demography, the transition from feudalism to capitalism in late medieval and early modern times, studies of nineteenth-century cities, and work 'into the philosophical background to historical investigations', with significant changes forecast in approaches to the subject. Interdisciplinary links were thought likely to continue. University research funds and those of the SSRC were likely to be the main sources of support, and sympathetic awards of studentships in this field would be encouraged. There are some cautious closing comments on the relative value of formal training of postgraduate students in historical geography, though the provision for postgraduate researchers to meet together was encouraged.

The question of finding adequate funding sources for HGRG activities and sponsored research projects has always been important. A potential source of funding for studentships and for research projects in historical geography was the SSRC, which had been established in 1965, and which included geography as a constituent discipline from July 1967, when a Human Geography Committee was established with Michael Chisholm as Chair, and this rapidly became a joint committee with Town Planning at the request of the SSRC Council.¹¹ While the recognition of Human

Geography by the SSRC was an important step forward, there was, almost inevitably, internal disagreement within the broader geographical community, before the establishment of this committee, on the transfer of the agency of postgraduate studentship allocation from the DES (Department of Education and Science) to SSRC. This indicated a potential three-institution responsibility for geography postgraduate studentships (SSRC for most of human geography, DES for historical geography, and NERC for physical geography). The SSRC would not have accepted this, and reported (though probably not very deep or extensive) concern on the part of particular sub-disciplines, including historical geography, of a fear of being overwhelmed by social science theory and quantitative techniques in this eventuality. In the event the problem was resolved by accepting SSRC as the research council responsible for human geography.¹² The SSRC and its successor the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC, 1983) also allocated funds to research in historical geography and related areas such as demographic history. With respect to the efficacy of the engagement between SSRC/ESRC and historical geography in the period before and after the formation of the HGRG and indeed with human geography more broadly conceived, Felix Driver in 2001 pointed out that in the late-developed 'constitutional' relationship between the SSRC and human geography, the SSRC 'had no monopoly of research funding in human geography', for there were other foundations including Wellcome and Leverhulme which also provided modest research funds.¹³ There were other institutions, including The British Academy, followed by the Arts and Humanities Research Board, which provided studentships and research project grants, and, of course, studentships were also offered by individual universities. Driver suggests that 'taking the last 35 years as a whole, the proportion of the total number of human geography postgraduates in British Higher Education who have actually received support from SSRC or ESRC (or indeed any of the Research Councils) must be relatively small', but that it has 'had a big influence on research and research training within human

geography, so that today its influence is proportionately much greater than the volume of research it actually funds'.¹⁴

MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS

From an initial (estimate) of about 40 or 50 members in 1966, which had reached 120 by 1971, the numbers increased to 245 in 1974, and stayed in the range c. 200-250 until the early 1990s. There was a marked increase to over 300 in 1995, the year of the IBG merger with the RGS, and membership had increased further to 416 in 2009, climbing to 650 in 2011 (HGRG figures).¹⁵ Postgraduate students formed a steadily increasing percentage of the membership total, as reflected in membership figures and attendance numbers at the postgraduate training sessions laid on by the HGRG. At the 2010 Annual General Meeting membership was reported as 416, of which 118 were postgraduate students. The numbers of postgraduates who attended the annual 'Practising Historical Geography' training session increased from 30 in 2003 to 55 in 2010. Another interesting basic measure of increasing activity by the HGRG was the sponsorship of 4 sessions at the RGS-IBG conference in 2004, which increased to 9 sessions in 2011.

THE REVIEW AND RESEARCH AGENDA, JUNE 1991

In June 1991 a draft research agenda, was produced through the initiative and leadership of Charles Withers, and a summary paper assembled by the Hon. Secretary of the group Paul Glennie (Bristol), for the HGRG and the IBG Council. Its component parts deal respectively with: Composition of the HGRG; Purposes of HGRG; Current and Future Research Activities; Current and Future Research Publications; and the IBG and its links with the HGRG.¹⁶ This agenda spells out some useful facts about the Group, and at the end lists some notions for future development.

The Study Group, we are informed, 'has nearly 250 members who pay additional subscriptions, depending on which HGRG publications they receive'. By means of article 4 of the constitution, 'membership of the HGRG shall be open to all members of the Institute and the academic staff and research students of institutions of further and higher education, *and* such persons as the committee of the HGRG shall consider eligible'.

The 'Scholarly Purposes' of the HGRG were: 'To initiate and stimulate research in the field of historical geography; to promote discussion and definition by means of meetings and conferences; to further co-operation with cognate disciplines and organisations; and to effect publication of monographs, collected papers and discussion materials'. Major areas of research activity were anticipated as: conferences and seminars; research monographs, and 'financial support for worthy projects and scholars (mainly postgraduates and others of low income)', and it is noted that there had, in fact, been recent expansion in each of these three areas, facilitated by income from outside sales of the twice-yearly research monographs.¹⁷ Additionally, the group was involved 'with four to six conferences a year, of which two (IBG conference and a summer meeting) are residential, the others day meetings. About half are held jointly with other scholarly groups. In the last five years these have included the British Agricultural History Society (annually), Economic History Society, Society for Landscape Studies, and Urban History Study Group, as well as several other IBG Study Groups. International contacts stem mainly from triennial meetings of the International Conference of Historical Geographers. To date, European links have been mainly confined to one-off conferences with particular national groups'.¹⁸

Since 1989 there had been expansion by the Group of financial support for regionally-based seminar series, such as the London Group of Historical Geographers—support which continues to the present. The committee's strategic policy anticipated: maintaining the existing level of conference meetings; broadening the range of co-host organisations; expanding overseas links, especially in Europe; and to continue attempts 'to bridge the

gap, both in research and resources, between full-time academic geographers, historians, and part-time and/or non-academic historical geographers'.¹⁹

Publications were mainly the Group's *Newsletter*, its Research Series, and books stemming from HGRG meetings. It is reported in 1991 that the research series 'has reached twenty-six volumes, normally issued twice yearly. The scale of the series has increased sharply since 1988–1989. Publications are now externally refereed, perfect bound, range in length from 60–140 pages, are regularly reviewed in major journals, and are achieving several hundred outside sales. The increased income generated has enabled expansion of all areas of HGRG activity'.²⁰ The agenda document, which appears to have been intended for IBG Council consumption, goes on to suggest areas for improvement in IBG-Study group links, in this particular case concerned with continuing support for existing priorities, pump-priming costs for some meetings and publications, and further liaison in relation to research training. The HGRG Committee again in 1998 reviewed a Mission Statement—a statement of activities and objectives that were intended to replace a former strategic plan. The draft statement is reproduced below (see Figure 5).²¹

The promotion of research in historical geography has been the main aim of the group since its inception. One measure of this function is the material contained in a number of Registers of Research, produced and circulated by the group from 1973.

Research registers

The first Register of Research was compiled on behalf of the HGRG and circulated in 1973. It was assembled by Trevor Wild and comprised a list of HGRG members and their individual research interests. Three hundred and fifty individuals are listed, mainly with more than one specific research interest in historical geography. In 1976 *A Register of Research in Historical Geography*, listing over 500 current research projects, was compiled by Harold Fox, Hon Secretary of the HGRG. A third register was compiled

GROWTH AND DIVERSIFICATION

by Trevor Wild and published as number 4 of the HGRG Research series in October 1980.

'Strategic Plan' to 'Mission Statement'

At the AGM on **7th January 1998** it was agreed that a statement of the Group's activities and objectives should replace the former Strategic Plan. This is a first draft of our broad policy statement. We would be grateful to hear member's views, comments and suggestions before the next AGM when the final version will be agreed.

HGRG Mission Statement

The Historical Geography Research Group is committed to the following goals:

- i. The HGRG aims to initiate and foster research in the field of historical geography; to promote discussion by means of meetings and conferences; to further co-operation between cognate disciplines and organisations; and to effect publication of monographs, collected papers and discussion materials.
- ii. The HGRG will provide contributions to financial support for conference organisation and for attendance by its members at such gatherings. It will do so through a mix of direct grant-in-aid paid directly to conference organisers and for postgraduates to attend conferences, and loans for organisational or other conference-related purposes.
- iii. HGRG will seek to provide opportunities for postgraduate students through support for conference attendance and through organising conferences and other gatherings in which postgraduate students will be the principal participants and beneficiaries.

At present these aims are met in the following ways

- Tri-annual Newsletter and website management
- Historical Geography Research Series Publications
- Annual HGRG and Cambridge University Press Undergraduate Dissertation Prize
- Annual Undergraduate and Postgraduate Conference
- Co-ordination of RGS-IBG Annual conference sessions
- Conference and Postgraduate Grant Schemes
- Co-ordinate bids for RSG-IBG funds
- Maintain Research Register

Please send comments or suggestions to Catherine Nash before 1 December 1998.

Figure 5: Draft mission statement, 1998.

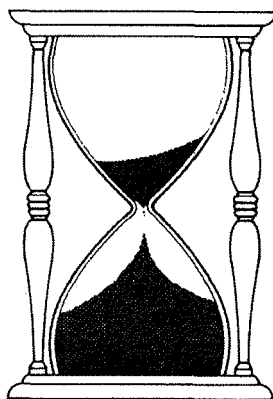
Kathleen A Whyte's *Register of Research in Historical Geography*, followed in 1984 and another in 1988. Two of the registers were published as part of the Research Paper Series, with the hour glass logo on their covers, front and back, of Geobooks of Norwich, which printed and promoted the early numbers in the Research

Series. These registers were useful guides to some of the research being carried out by HGRG members, but after 1988 no more were produced, and *de facto* they were superseded by individual bibliographical searching made possible by the growth in the use of computers. Perhaps the HGRG might consider reviving the research register, but on an online basis on the HGRG website?

Historical Geography Research Series

Register of Research in Historical
Geography 1988

edited by Kathleen A. Whyte



Kathleen A. Whyte. Register of Research in Historical Geography

Number 20

April 1988

**Figure 6: HGRG Register of Research in Historical
Geography.**

A report on research in historical geography from the HGRG in October 1980 indicated the broad range of research topics pursued, within which:

The more recent past is clearly dominant with 51.6 per cent of entries concerned with the nineteenth century or later, and 20 per cent with the eighteenth century. Only 21.5 per cent of topics refer to the seventeenth century or earlier. British historical geographers are also somewhat parochial with only 22.7 per cent of entries referring to research on areas outside the British Isles ... recent reviews of trends ... suggest four main areas of interest that have seen significant developments during the last decade: first, historical demography, mainly through the work of the Cambridge Group for the Study of Population and Social Structure; second, studies of the late medieval and modern period, focusing particularly on the social and economic effects of the transition from feudalism to capitalism; third, studies of all aspects of nineteenth-century cities; fourth, enquiries into the philosophical background to historical investigation.²²

A report on behalf of the HGRG by Richard Dennis (UCL) in July 1987 for the Review of British Geographical Research being prepared for the 1988 International Geographical Congress, highlighted the position of the subject:

Despite cutbacks in funding and staff, historical geography in Britain is thriving, if patchily, reflecting the role of the specialism in human geography as a whole. Much of the best human geography is now conscious of a historical dimension, and the importance of the Marxist, structurationist and humanistic methodologies in human geography has allowed much more scope for historical analysis. However, this does make historical geography institutionally vulnerable, since relatively little historical research is now undertaken by staff employed specifically as 'historical geographers' or researching only in the field of historical geography. There is no guarantee that when they retire or move elsewhere their replacements (if any?) will be equally historically minded.²³

The compilation of reviews of geographical literature in the UK for publication and presentation at major International Geographical Union (IGU) conferences was inevitably a matter of debate and dispute, notably concerning the balances of the reviews given to particular sub-disciplines, such as historical geography. For most of these there was a general sense of under-representation of publications in historical geography, but this sentiment was shared by members of other study/research groups and sub-disciplines: it would realistically have been impossible for the compilers of these reviews to satisfy everyone.

POSTGRADUATE PROVISION AND PARTICIPATION

One of the significant achievements of the HGRG has been the provision of a wide range of opportunities for postgraduate students, including training days, dedicated paper sessions at conferences and financial support for attendance at conferences, including the overseas conferences of the ICHG. Thus in 1986, money was provided to help two postgraduates Martin Phillips and Susanne Seymour to attend the ICHG (International Conference of Historical Geographers) in Louisiana. The HGRG archives contain their reports. In 1988 application was made to the IBG Council for money to help fund the attendance of two postgraduate students at the 7th ICHG at Jerusalem in 1989. Susanne Seymour's report epitomizes the experience of postgraduates at the international conferences:

The conference ... provided me with the opportunity to present a paper to a major conference, and receive constructive feedback. I met several people interested in my field of research who I otherwise would not have met. Subsequently I have corresponded with two US participants with an interest in landscape improvement, meeting up with one of them again when he visited England this year. I also received several useful comments as a direct response to my paper from a wide spectrum of conference participants.²⁴

PUBLICATIONS

There is a reasonable amount of archival material covering the publication activities of the HGRG from its beginning. Of particular interest are the material in the Group and RGS-IBG archives, the annual reports of the study groups and accounts of conferences contained in the publications *IBG Newsletter*, its successor *Area*, the Group's own *Newsletter*, and the *Journal of Historical Geography* (from 1975).

The background to the evolution of the major IBG publications in the first fifty years of its life has been clearly detailed by Robert Steel.²⁵ The *IBG Newsletter* was established in 1964 to provide information to members about events and activities of the Institute, including the work of study groups and of research associations. It appeared regularly from July 1964, at the rate of one issue per year until 1968 when it increased to two. Its success was evident from 'the last issue alone having a remarkable range and variety of content spread over 63 pages'. These included notes for the guidance of officers of formally constituted study groups; accounts of two of the oldest departments of geography in Britain both of which had celebrated their fiftieth anniversaries and establishment of their honours schools—Liverpool (by R. W. Steel) and Aberystwyth (by E. G. Bowen)—and a report by J. R. Tarrant of an extensive enquiry into the use of computers by geographers in different research fields'.²⁶ The material in the *Newsletter* helps to draw an outline of the early history of the original study groups of the Institute, though it must be noted for future reference that very few complete sets of it survive (the RGS-IBG has some copies but not all, though there is a complete set at the Bodleian Library at Oxford). The *Newsletter* was succeeded by *Area* in 1968, edited by Hugh Prince—a distinguished historical geographer—and charged with the production, on a more frequent basis than the *Newsletter* (quarterly), of 'an adventurous forward-looking quarterly that would provide British geographers with a vehicle for the exchange of ideas and news', together with short articles on all aspects of

geography.²⁷ It contained much of the news of official business of the IBG, including annual reports by the study groups, membership of committees, and reports on the IBG annual conference and other conferences during the year. It is an important source of information for the history of study/research groups. The other major publications by the IBG were the *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, published essentially in the post-war period (in the pre-Second World War period the publications were monographs) and providing a most important vehicle—as is still the case now—for research articles in geography, and the *Special Publications* about which more will be said shortly.

The dominant features about the HGRG in journals, however, were those dealing with reports of conferences and administrative matters. The style of the conference reports varies widely, from careful factual recording to strong polemic exegeses of papers and debate. A sophisticated example of the second type is John Langton's account of the conference of the HGRG at Cambridge held in July 1978 on the topic of 'Geographical perspectives on the Transition from Feudalism to Capitalism':

I travelled from Liverpool to the Historical Geography Research Group's conference, 'Geographical Perspectives on the Transition from Feudalism to Capitalism', held at Cambridge last July, with anticipations like those of the Forsaken Mermaid on his return from the certainty of simple pleasures among the wild sea horses of the open ocean to the more complex, disturbing and perhaps excruciating delights of the strand. My forebodings (unlike his) were groundless. The progressive blend of scholarship, theory and ideology promised by the title and programme of the conference proved to be enormously enjoyable. The junction of feudalism and capitalism into an historical sequence was far from a stiff cementation of conceptual monoliths with stodgy ready-mixed theory. It bore more resemblance to an intricate and doomed effort to dovetail two jellies: feudalism and capitalism would not stay still or firm enough to be cut and fitted together, and just when the

Herculean labour seemed to be near success they simply merged so that one became indistinguishable from the other. We heard from the platform that exploitative financial relations could characterize feudalism at its most dynamically feudal; it was suggested from the floor that, notwithstanding centuries of apparent capitalism, feudalism was still with us in late twentieth-century Britain.²⁸

After a detailed and elegant *résumé* and critique of the papers given at the conference, he concludes that, with reference to the state of historical geography, and the engagement of 'thorough and exciting scholarship and intricate and enjoyable theoretical speculation ... Deeper and more diverse conceptual explorations only seem to increase beyond bewilderment the number of dimensions along which functional links can be sought and pursued to contradictory conclusions. Successive empirical revelations only variegate further the intransigence of historical reality. Perhaps the application of a methodology is like life; only in its youth can we believe in a pathway to

that plain...

From whence th'enlighten'd spirit sees

That shady City of palm trees.

Perhaps it is only in a continual stream of methodological novelties that progress can possibly be conceived?²⁹ The author does not cite the source of the quotation, which is in fact from Henry Vaughan's poem *The Retreat* (1650).

The accounts of HGRG activities in *Area* tend to be shorter and more condensed than those in the *Journal of Historical Geography*, presumably because of space limitations, but they are equally valuable guides. *Area* reports also cross-refer to reports in the *Journal of Historical Geography*. The great variety of group activities is shown in reports in both of these journals. Thus, Derek Gregory, in his annual report as Hon. Secretary for the year 1976, tells us that:

The Historical Geography Research Group's last year under the chairmanship of Hugh Prince has been a highly successful one. Five meetings were held during the course of the year, beginning in March with a symposium on aspects of the historical geography of the less developed countries held jointly with the Developing Areas Study Group and convened in Edinburgh by Jeffrey Stone. The month of May saw the Group in Exeter for its annual residential spring conference convened by Roger Kain on the theme of 'Rural industries'. In December, Tony Phillips again arranged for a joint meeting with the British Agricultural History Society: this year the theme was 'Mechanization in eighteenth and nineteenth-century agriculture'. Finally, two full-day historical symposia were held at the Institute's annual conference at Newcastle. A symposium convened by Derek Gregory on 'The industrial revolution and the English space-economy' was followed by a session held jointly with the Population Study Group and convened by Philip Ogden and Harold Fox, with Paul Laxton organizing and chairing the afternoon discussion session.³⁰

For the annual conference of the IBG in January 1968, the IBG *Newsletter* contains reports not only on the activities of the Study Group for the Terminology of the Agrarian Landscape, but also on the historical geography papers given in a plenary session (E), including one by J. C. Goodridge on 'The mining region of South-West England' and one by P. F. Brandon on 'The use of manorial source materials in the study of the historical geography of medieval England'.³¹

Some of the shorter pieces in *Area* are critical of collections of papers given at conferences, both individually and collectively. Jane Springett, in her report on a session on the Historical Geography of Recessions organized at the Durham annual IBG conference of 1984, states that: 'Drawing the session to a close the economist J. Foreman-Peck (Newcastle) led a general discussion blowing a breath of fresh air across the proceedings which exposed British historical geographers to the grim reality of their parochialism. The cyclic nature of alcoholism, patterns of crime and relationships with transitory income, the

cultivation of leeks in the North East and the suffocation of babies on a Saturday night were all areas for further study. Could these be the first steps towards a people's, historical geography as preached by David Harvey the previous evening?³²

The Historical Geography Research Group *Newsletter*

The first number of the Historical Geography *Newsletter*³³ was produced in April 1980, and it continues as an important, innovative and stimulating medium of communication for members of the HGRG. The first number was little more than a 'circular to members', produced in A4 format by the Group's Hon. Secretary—Colin Pooley (Geography, Lancaster)—and contained information on the programme of activities for 1980–81, including a joint conference with the British Agricultural History Society, the programme in historical geography for the forthcoming IBG conference at Leicester, the 4th CUKANZUS (International Conference for Historical Geographers) meeting in Toronto in 1981, a note on publications, including the first two HGRG Research Monographs, a report in production for the IBG of research in historical geography, and notes on subscriptions and other activities. There is also a list of committee members. The second circular was actually titled 'Historical Geography Newsletter', and was circulated in December 1980. What is again apparent from this is the dynamism of the HGRG. It covers: a subscription change; publications (research monographs, *The Atlas of Industrializing Britain*, and a special series in historical geography for the journals *Geographical Magazine* and *Teaching Geography*); details of a summer conference and of the International Historical Geography Conference 'CUKANZUS 1981', and the Permanent Conference for the Study of the Rural Landscape, and several other meetings, including the IGU working group on 'Historical changes in spatial organization'; and finally a request for the views of members on possible future events. International conferences were reported in most of the IBG and historical geography journals, and reports were carried in the HGRG *Newsletter*. In the

Newsletter for December 1989, for example, there is a full report by Hugh Prince on the 7th International Conference of Historical Geographers, held in Israel in July of that year.³⁴ The overwhelming impression from the newsletter is the impressive intensity of activities in which the HGRG was involved, both in its own conferences and research support processes but also joint efforts with other groups and institutions. There is also an impression of generally harmonious relations with the IBG and, later, RGS-IBG.

The format and contents of the *Newsletter* changed steadily over the later years of the 20th century, and early years of the 21st, from a basic A4 or sometimes A5 (two pages per page) on white paper to a similar layout on coloured paper, and finally in a New Year issue for 2007 to an A5 booklet on coloured paper. An hourglass logo (the same one as used on the research publications by the HGRG) was added from June 1991 and periodically from February 2000 an art deco image, looking somewhat like the bridge at Ironbridge.

Research Publications

These have been of two kinds: books, sometimes published by the IBG, and sometimes by commercial publishers; and research monographs, published by the HGRG via *Geo Abstracts* and the IBG. The HGRG has been highly successful with both.

The research series, according to the statement on the inside cover of early numbers, 'is designed to provide scholars with an outlet for extended essays of an interpretative or conceptual nature that make a substantive contribution to some aspect of the subject; for critical reviews of the literature on a major problem; and for commentaries on relevant sources'. The series also included material from North America, though the majority of the first eighteen numbers in the series are by British scholars.

The first two were published in 1980: Andrew Charlesworth's *Social Protest in a Rural Society: the Spatial Diffusion of*

GROWTH AND DIVERSIFICATION

- | | |
|-------|--|
| No. 1 | Social Protest in a Rural Society: The Spatial Diffusion of the Captain Swing Disturbances of 1830-1831.
Andrew Charlesworth (University of Liverpool). |
| No. 2 | The Ordnance Survey and Land-Use Mapping.
Brian Harley (University of Exeter). |
| No. 3 | Medieval Irish Settlements: A Review.
Brian Graham (Ulster Polytechnic). |
| No. 4 | Register of Research in Historical Geography.
M. Trevor Wild (The University, Hull). |
| No. 5 | The Fordham Collection: A Catalogue.
M. J. Freeman (Jesus College, Oxford) and J. Longbotham. |
| No. 6 | Sources for Scottish Historical Geography: An Introductory Guide.
I. D. Whyte (University of Lancaster) and K.A. Whyte (University of Salford). |
| No. 7 | Parish Registers: An Introduction.
Roger Finlay (University of Manchester). |
| No. 8 | British Directories as Sources in Historical Geography.
Gareth Shaw (University of Exeter). |
| No. 9 | Rural Settlements: An Historical Perspective.
Brian K. Roberts (University of Durham). |
| No.10 | Spatial Patterns of Urban In-Migration in Late Nineteenth Century Russia: A Factor Analytic Approach.
R. H. Rowland (California State College, San Bernardino). |
| No.11 | Town and Country in the Development of Early Modern Western Europe.
John Langton (University of Oxford) and Goran Hoppe (University of Stockholm). |
| No.12 | North American Cities in the Victorian Age.
David Ward (University of Wisconsin-Madison) and John P. Radford (York University, Ontario). |
| No.13 | A Gazetteer of English Urban Fire Disasters 1500 - 1900.
E. L. Jones (La Trobe University, Australia), S. Porter (Kings College, London) and M. Turner (University of Exeter). |
| No.14 | Register of Research in Historical Geography 1984.
(ed.) Kathleen A. Whyte (University of Lancaster). |
| No.15 | Urban Epidemics and Historical Geography: Cholera in London, 1848 - 9.
Gerard Kearns (University of Liverpool). |
| No.16 | Late Seventeenth Century Taxation and Population: The Nottinghamshire Hearth Taxes and Compton Census.
Tim Unwin (Bedford College, London). |
| No.17 | Seventeenth Century Monserrat: An Environmental Impact Statement.
Lydia M. Pulsipher (University of Tennessee). |
| No.18 | The Military Survey of Scotland 1747 - 1755: A Critique.
G. Whittington and A. J. S. Gibson (University of St. Andrews). |

Figure 7: Volumes 1 to 18 of The Historical Geography Research Series.

the Captain Swing Riots, and Brian Harley's *The Ordnance Survey and Land Use Mapping*. The first editors of the monographs were Robert Dodgshon (Aberystwyth) and Michael Conzen (Chicago), succeeded by Ian Whyte, Charles Withers, and Philip Howell, as British editors, and Elliot McIntire, and Aidan McQuillan as North American editors. Manuscripts were subject to normal refereeing scrutiny, and the variety of publications that has appeared in this series is impressive and imaginative, embracing a wide area of historical geography. Some external funding was provided for some of these publications, including, for example, a subvention by the British Academy for Number 28. The editors of this series deserve much credit for the insights and energies that they have applied to the production of this fine array of work. When it became technically possible and economically feasible, colour was used in the design of the covers of the Research Series. Two examples of cover designs are given below.

Special Publications and theme numbers of *Transactions*

The IBG took an initiative in publishing research books from 1968 to 1979, largely because, at the time, as Steel put it, 'geography is poorly endowed with commercial publishers prepared to undertake the publication of research as distinct from student textbooks'.³⁵ The problem for the Institute undertaking such a task was financial—the slow return on capital investment in each book—and so in 1979 Academic Press agreed to publish these books, a function later taken over by Blackwell. The Special Publications series ran in various forms and with different publishers from 1968 to 2000, when they were replaced by the RGS-IBG book series, published by Wiley from the year 2000. This new series focuses on single-author, research-orientated works, and continues to the present day. The Series editors in the 1990s included the historical geographer Felix Driver.

Historical geographers from the HGRG took advantage of this opportunity for specialist publication. The ninth Special Publication was Ian Adams' *Glossary* (1976) and the tenth *Change in*

**GEOGRAPHERS ENGAGED IN
HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY IN
BRITISH HIGHER EDUCATION
1931-1991**



Hugh Prince

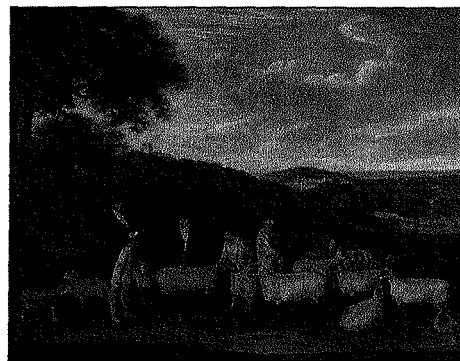
Number 36

**HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY
RESEARCH SERIES**

August 2000

**'THE BUSINESS OF IMPROVEMENT':
AGRICULTURE AND
SCIENTIFIC CULTURE IN BRITAIN,
c.1700–c.1870**

Sarah Wilmot



Coke of Norfolk and his Southdown Sheep, c.1807 by T. Weaver.



Number 24

**HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY
RESEARCH SERIES**

November 1990

Figure 8: Historical Geography Research Series, example cover designs.

the Countryside: Essays on Rural England, edited by Harold Fox and Robin Butlin (1979), which comprised nine essays and an editorial preface. A later Special Publication linked directly with the HGRG included *Ecological Relations in Historical Times: Human Impact and Adaptation*, edited by Robin Butlin and Neil Roberts (1995), but there were others that were of great interest to historical geographers, including *Wetlands: a Threatened Landscape* (1990) edited by Michael Williams, and *Geography and Empire* (1994) edited by Ann Godlewska and Neil Smith.

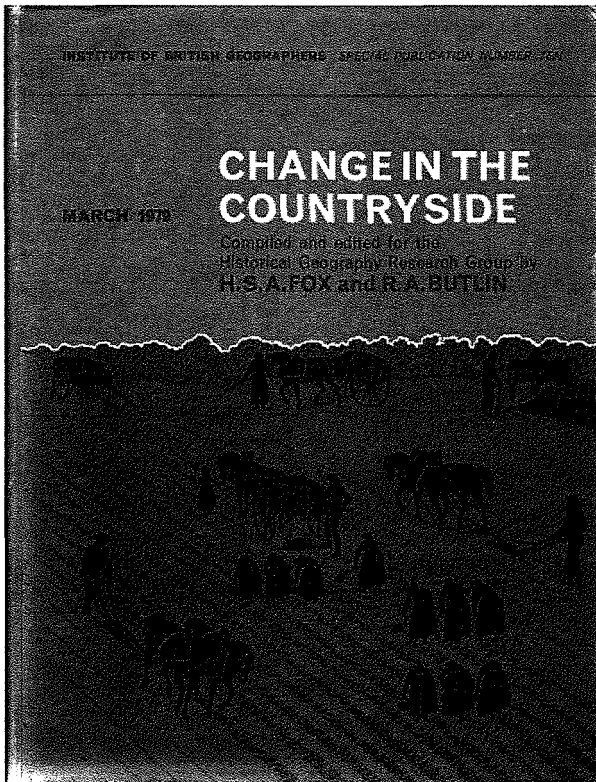
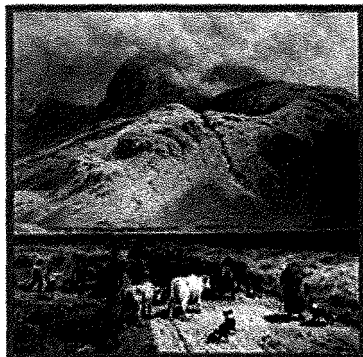


Figure 9: Institute of British Geographers, Special Publication Number Ten, *Change in the Countryside*, edited by H. S. A. Fox and R. A. Butlin.

ECOLOGICAL RELATIONS IN HISTORICAL TIMES

Edited by
Robin A. Butlin and Neil Roberts



B

Figure 10: Special Publication *Ecological Relations in Historical Times: Human Impact and Adaptation*, edited by Robin Butlin and Neil Roberts.

The Adams *Glossary* has been reviewed above, and *Change in the Countryside*, which was 'Compiled and edited for the Historical Geography Research Group', comprised a set of essays from individual scholars interested in the historical geography of rural England. *Ecological Relations*, No 32 in the Special Publications Series, was edited 'on behalf of the Biogeography and Historical Geography Research Groups' of the IBG and was the outcome of a joint two- day session at the annual meeting of the IBG at Royal Holloway, University of London, in January 1993. It had four regional sections (Scotland, England and Wales, The North Atlantic Region, and North America and the Caribbean), sixteen

chapters and an editorial preface. Royalties from this volume accrued to the two Study Groups. The responsibility of editing of the Special Publications lay heavily with the Study Group editors for each volume, but in the early days there were also close links with the IBG editor.

Working with Harold Fox on *Change in the Countryside* was an educative experience in the handling and editing of manuscripts. Once the authors' manuscripts had arrived, the *modus operandi* was to meet—quite often in the University Library at Cambridge—and to check through for missing and incomplete references with great care, a task at which Harold was a setter of high standards and a master, and from whom I learned much about editing.

Periodically the *Transactions* appeared as a theme volume, initiated by members of the HGRG. *Change in the Town*, edited 'for the Historical Geography Research Group' by Jeremy Whitehand (Birmingham) and John Patten (Oxford), was published in 1977, and *The Victorian City*, also initiated by the Group, edited by Richard Dennis (UCL), in 1979. *Change in the Town* had nine essays, and *The Victorian City* ten, both with an editorial introduction. In their preface, the editors of *Change in the Town* state 'That the idea of a volume of this kind first took shape in that most English of settings, Windsor Great Park, at a conference of the Historical Geography Research Group held at Cumberland Lodge in the Spring of 1974. This was the group's first major conference on urban geography and its success reflected partly a resurgence of interest in historical aspects of towns resembling that in America a few years ago'.³⁶

It is worth noting that the process of production of all these volumes was quite slow, in one case taking three or four years, so they varied in how up to date or representative they were of the state of the art. They are, however, good quality samples of a wide range of relevant work by historical geographers. Richard Dennis in his editorial introduction to *The Victorian City* stated that: 'Like its predecessor [*Change in the Town*] it should not be regarded

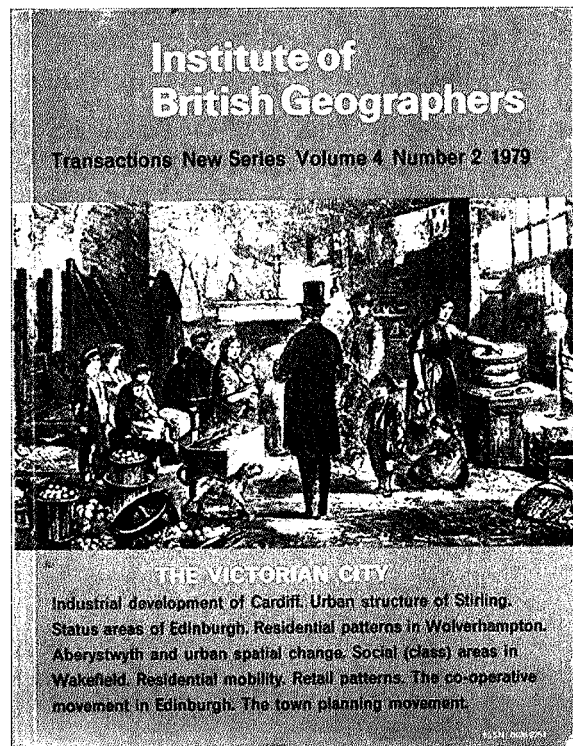
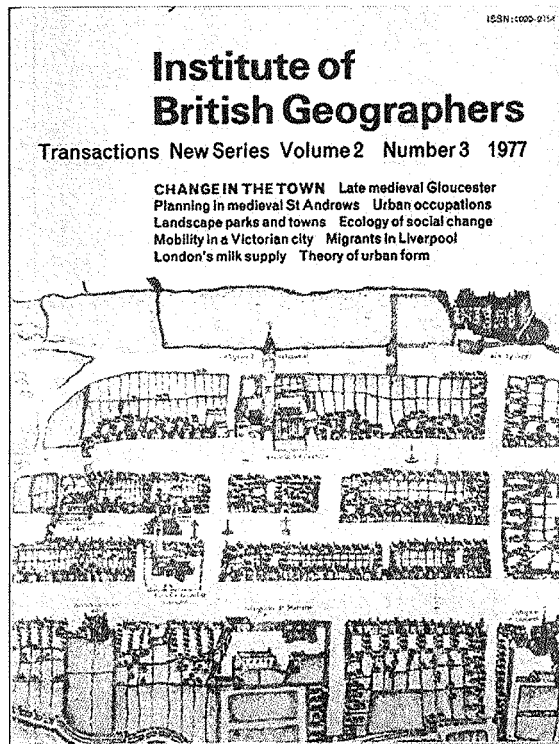


Figure 11: Themed editions of Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers

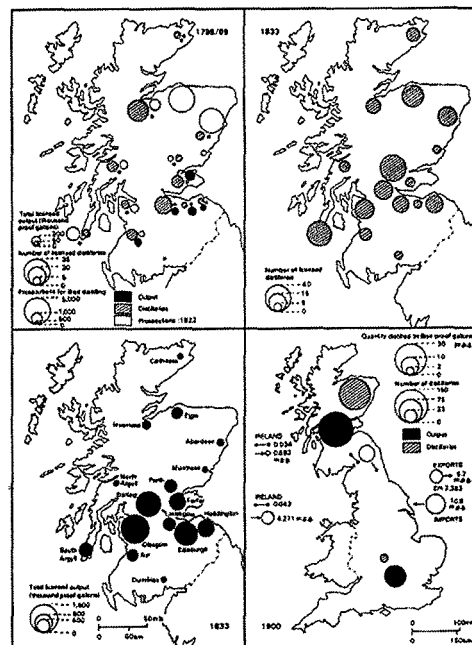
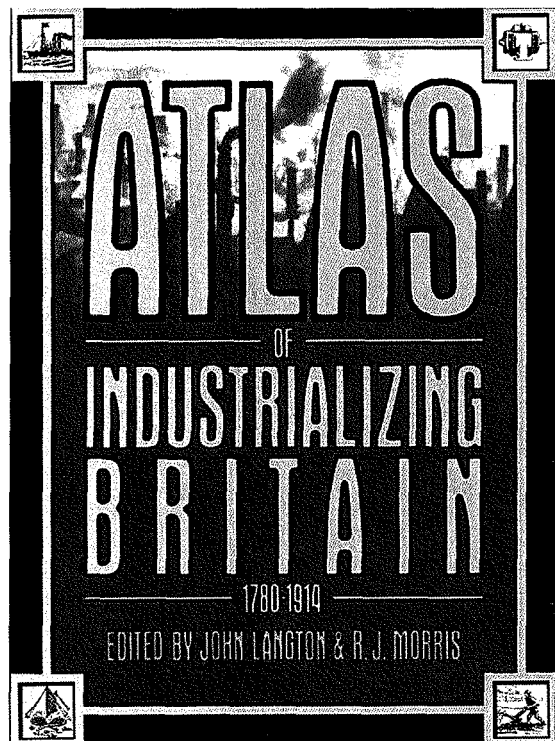
as representative of current research on the subject in terms of either methodology or subject matter'.³⁷ The covers of two of the theme numbers are reproduced above.

Commercial publications

The input of the HGRG was strong in the case of the *Atlas of Industrializing Britain*, edited by John Langton and R. J. Morris, and published by Methuen in 1987. This was a major collaborative effort, by editors, contributors, cartographers, and two scholarly groups—the HGRG and the British Economic History Society (BEHS).

Initial negotiations took place via the publication committee of the BEHS and the committee of the HGRG, starting in 1979, and I well remember an unexpected visit to the BEHS at the LSE, when standing in for Brian Harley. The Chair of the BEHS publications committee—John Harris—was courtesy itself, but one or two members were rather excessively sceptical about the perspectives that could be offered on this topic by historical geography. Nonetheless the meeting went well, and initial agreement was secured to back the project. As the editors show in their Acknowledgements section in the *Atlas*, it was not until 1983 that commissioning of contributors began, and it was four more years before publication. In the interim a whole session by the HGRG at the IBG annual conference at Leeds in January 1985 was given to selected presentations on the *Atlas*.³⁸ Unfortunately during one of the morning presentations the slide projector ceased to function, and the session was suspended for a short time while it was fixed, the speaker at the time, quite properly, refusing to continue until repairs were complete and his valuable maps available to support his discourse.

The *Atlas of Industrializing Britain*, supported and promoted by the HGRG, the British Economic History Society and the Nuffield Foundation (for cartography) was a great intellectual and commercial success. Many copies were sold, and it received



positive reviews. It was translated into Japanese, and noted by the Hon. Treasurer at the AGM at Coventry Polytechnic on 4th January 1989 that 'A substantial element in the Group's income for 1988 was made up of royalties paid on the production of a Japanese edition of the *Atlas of Industrialising Britain*'.³⁹ Both major support groups benefitted financially from its success. *Ecological Relations in Historical Times* also contributed to the financial well-being of the Group.

Publications for a wider audience

On another front the publication of two additional series of articles on historical geography for a broader audience were characteristic of the dynamism and outward reach of the HGRG.

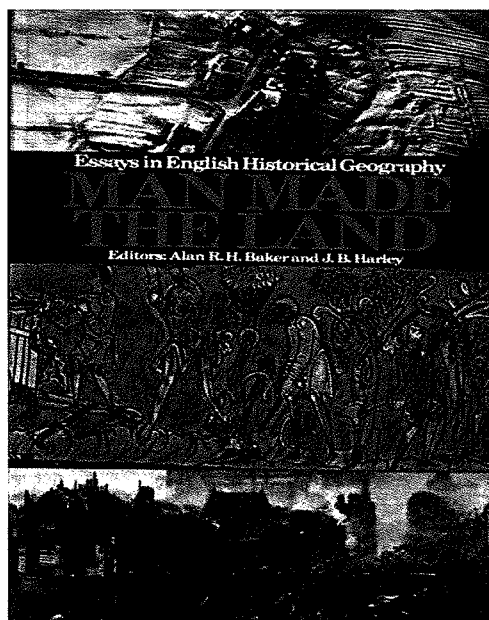


Figure 13: *Man Made the Land*, edited by Alan R. H. Baker and J. B. Harley.

A series of essays on historical geography, initially published in *The Geographical Magazine* from November 1980 to March 1981 was reissued with modifications in book form as *Man Made the Land: Essays in English Historical Geography* edited by Alan Baker (Cambridge) and Brian Harley (Exeter). A second series, entitled 'Problems and sources in historical geography' appeared in the journal *Teaching Geography*, beginning in 1982, and included articles by Marilyn and Colin Pooley on 'Population in the past',⁴⁰ by Brian Roberts on 'Studying rural settlement',⁴¹ Harold Carter on 'Town growth',⁴² and Gareth Shaw and Allison Tipper on 'The historical study of industry and commerce'.⁴³ Both series sought to promote 'sources, methods and new ideas in historical geography' and were aimed 'primarily at school teachers, sixth forms and local historians'.⁴⁴

FINANCING THE PROJECTS

The HGRG has generally existed on the basis of membership subscriptions, per capita and other grants from the IBG (after 1995 RGS-IBG), royalties on commercially-published books, sales of research publications, and grants from external sources, including research councils and learned societies. This finance has covered normal costs of operation, including postage, and supported conferences, postgraduate training and workshops, and facilitated overseas travel to conferences, especially for postgraduate students. On 16th September 1970 Keith Clayton (UEA) the IBG's Hon. Treasurer, sent a cheque for £19-5-0 (c. £187.89 at current worth), calculated at 5 shillings per head of eligible and paid-up members, to the group's Hon. Treasurer, June Sheppard, as payment of the IBG subvention to the HGRG for the year 1969-70.⁴⁵ This was an important element of the Group's finances, further increased by the extra annual subscription charged to members, and ultimately by the Group's research and other publications.

The annual subscription has been, and remains, astonishingly modest and gives substantial value for money. In January 1979 a subscription for Category A members (those who elected to receive HGRG publications) was fixed at £3.50 (current worth *c.* £36). In 1980 there were 162 members, of whom 149 were in Category A. The cumulative effect of the money-raising activities on the Group's finances were impressive. In the report of the AGM at Sussex in the *Newsletter* for February 2000, the Hon. Treasurer reported a balance of £14,354, subject to reduction by payment for the postgraduate funding scheme and for production of research monographs.⁴⁶

Periodically the accurate state of the numbers reported as members had to be checked to assure, *inter alia*, maximum payment from the IBG. Richard Dennis, in his annual report as Hon. Secretary for the year 1987 stated that 'Following a purge of 'sleeping' (i.e. non-paying) members, membership declined slightly to 215, but a recruiting drive is already yielding new members, especially among postgraduates, who are now eligible for a free Category B (newsletter) membership during their first year of research'—not, on the face of it, a particularly generous offer, but nonetheless a step in the direction of much fuller support that was soon to come for postgraduate members.⁴⁷ In 1995 Catherine Nash reported, as Hon. Secretary, that:

The HGRG continues to support postgraduate research. Using both HGRG funds and a grant of £1100 from RGS-IBG we have been able to fund the attendance of three young researchers at the International Historical Geography Conference in Perth (July 1995). New research in historical geography in Britain has been represented by Teresa Ploszajska (Royal Holloway) speaking on representations of imperial landscapes and peoples in British school geography textbooks, 1870–1944, Hayden Lorimer (Loughborough) on the Highlands, Scottish national identity and the inter-War Youth Movement and Philip Harrison (Plymouth) on Royal travel and communications in seventeenth-century England. HGRG also continues to support the Anglo-American Seminar on Medieval

Economy and Society, the Oxford Seminars in Cartography, and has funded the attendance of postgraduates from the Middle-East at the British Israeli Seminar in Historical Geography (April 1995). The group in association with Cambridge University Press has this year also established an Undergraduate Historical Geography Dissertation Prize, in order to encourage and reward undergraduate research in historical geography.⁴⁸

To this summary is added information on support for regionally-based seminar series such as the London Group of Historical Geographers (established, as noted above, in September 1981) and anticipation of expansion of existing activities, including publications. Future developments would include research projects together with other study groups; linking of databases of major historical geographical source materials; and the establishment of new European research networks to enable application for EEC (EU) funds.

HGRG AND LINKS WITH OTHER RESEARCH GROUPS WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE IBG

One of the significant functions of the HGRG has been that of acting as a mouthpiece for historical geography in regard to research councils and to national and international academic bodies. In the UK the major grant-funding body for the social sciences from 1965 was the Social Science Research Council. Geography was not initially a subject included in its remit, but after individual initiatives and subsequently near- complete support by Heads of Department, geography was included from 1967, as outlined above. Grants for work in historical geography are also awarded by the Arts and Humanities Research Board (now Council), the British Academy, and a number of independent trusts such as Leverhulme and Wellcome.

Another of the important functions of the HGRG, through its newsletters and increasingly through more frequent e-mail communication, has been to keep members aware of the

activities of and opportunities for participation in, conferences and meetings arranged by other research societies and groups. From the mid-1970s a one-day winter joint conference was arranged with the British Agricultural History Society, through the good offices of Tony Phillips (Keele). These conferences attracted sizeable audiences, and they have covered a wide range of topics. Something of their character can be seen on the programme for a conference on 'Food Supply and Towns', held at The Institute of Historical Research, University of London, on Saturday 2nd December 1989. The conference fee was £5, and participants had to make their own arrangements for lunch. In the morning papers were given on 'Feeding the city: London's food supply, 1250–1350, a progress report', and 'Feeding the first industrial city: Manchester 1780–1870'. After lunch participants heard papers on 'Adulteration and disease: the social consequences of milk consumption in nineteenth-century London', and 'Divisions of labour in the sphere of exchange: the organisation of food supply in nineteenth-century England'.⁴⁹

The HGRG has been closely associated with an Anglo-American Seminar on the Medieval Society and Economy, initiated and supervised by Bruce Campbell (Queen's University Belfast). These have run every three years. An example of the programme for the fourth seminar, held in 1992 is reproduced below (Figure 14), from a special circular with the HGRG *Newsletter* for November 1991.

An introductory section to the circular shows that previous seminars had been held in Exeter in 1983, Norwich in 1986, and Chester in 1989, and indicates that the HGRG had limited funds available to support postgraduate attendance.

An additional facility for the opening of discourse was the facility offered by the IBG for study groups, including the HGRG, to nominate individuals as guests at the annual conference, a facility that was extensively used by the Group. Hence in 1982, two 'young guests' from Paris, Jean-Claude Boyer and Jean-Robert Pitte, were enabled to attend the conference at Southampton.

HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY RESEARCH GROUP
in conjunction with
THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LOCAL HISTORY,
UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER

FOURTH ANGLO-AMERICAN SEMINAR ON THE MEDIEVAL ECONOMY AND SOCIETY

GRAND HOTEL, LEICESTER: 17-20 JULY 1992

PROGRAMME

FRIDAY

5.00-6.00 p.m. REGISTRATION
6.30 p.m. DINNER
8.00 p.m. TALK:
DR CAROLINE BARRON (Royal Holloway and Bedford New College,
University of London)
"The mercantile class of fourteenth- and fifteenth-
century London"
Chairperson:
Prof Charles Phythian-Adams (University of Leicester)

SATURDAY

8.00-9.00 a.m. BREAKFAST
9.30 a.m. TALK:
DR HAROLD FOX (University of Leicester) and
DR CHRISTOPHER THORNTON (Hertford College, Oxford)
"Medieval peasant farming - any evidence? Specialization
within the federated manor of Taunton"
Chairperson:
Dr John Hatcher (Corpus Christi College, Cambridge)

11.00 a.m. COFFEE
11.30 a.m. TALK:
PROF ROBERT STACEY (University of Washington, Seattle)
"Jewish lending and the medieval English economy"
Chairperson:
Prof Peter Coss (Newcastle Polytechnic)

1.00 p.m. LUNCH
2.30-6.00 p.m. SYMPOSIUM:
"Commercialization 1000-1300"
Chairperson:
DR DEREK KEENE (Centre for Metropolitan History, University
of London)
Panel and titles of pre-circulated papers:
DR RICHARD BRITWELL (University of Durham)
"Commercialization and economic development 1000-1300"
PROF DAVID FARMER (St Thomas More College, University of
Saskatchewan)
"Disposing of a surplus or producing for the market?
Some reflections on woodland and pasture sales on the
Winchester manors in the thirteenth century"
NICHOLAS MAYHEM BSG (Ashmolean Museum, Oxford)
"Modelling monetization in medieval England 1000-1300"
PROF GRAEME SROOKS (Australian National University)
"The dynamic role of the market in the Anglo-Norman
economy"

6.30-7.30 p.m. RECEPTION, Marc Fitch House (c/o Department of
English Local History, University of Leicester)
8.00 p.m. CONFERENCE DINNER

SUNDAY

8.00-9.00 a.m. BREAKFAST
9.30 a.m. TALK:
PROF PAUL HARVEY (Durham)
"Early manorial accounts: Winchester and elsewhere"
Chairperson:
Prof John Langdon (University of Alberta, Edmonton)

11.00 a.m. COFFEE
11.30 a.m. GUEST PAPER:
PROF PAUL BATROCH (University of Geneva)
"Urban systems around 1500 in Europe and other major
civilizations"
Chairperson:
Paul Laxton Esq (University of Liverpool)

1.00 p.m. LUNCH
2.00-6.00 p.m. COACH EXCURSION:
PROF CHARLES PHYTHIAN-ADAMS and DR HAROLD FOX (Department of
English Local History, University of Leicester)
"Church and landscape in rural Leicestershire"

6.30 p.m. AFTERNOON TEA
7.30 p.m. JOINT TALK:
PROF EDWIN DEWINDT (University of Detroit) and
DR ANNE DEWINDT (Detroit)
"The employees of Ramsey Abbey:"
"Jurors, occupations and the changing economy of a small
town": "two reports on work in progress"
Chairperson:
Dr Miri Rubin (Pembroke College, Oxford)

MONDAY

8.00-9.00 a.m. BREAKFAST
CONFERENCE CLOSES

PUBLISHERS' EXHIBITION

There will be an exhibition of books (and an opportunity to
purchase) from Leicester University Press and Paul Watkins
Publishing in the Grand Hotel on Saturday 18th July.

BRITISH ACADEMY

Prof Batroch's attendance at the Seminar is made possible by a
grant from the British Academy.

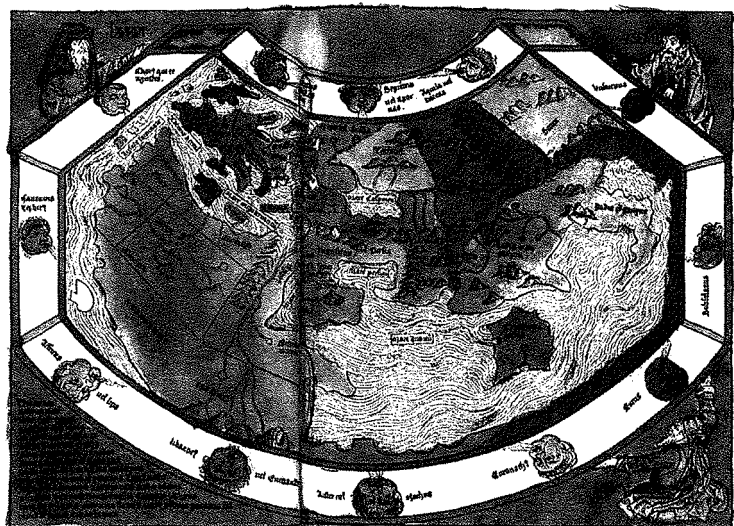
Figure 14: The 4th Anglo-American Seminar on the Medieval Society and Economy

The International Geographical Union

Apart from the many papers on historical geography given at the themed sessions of the four-yearly meetings of the International Geographical Union (IGU), from time to time attempts were made to establish historical geography or some aspect of it as a section of the IGU. In 1976 the IGU established a Working Group on Historical Changes in Spatial Organization which continued in existence until 1984 and *inter alia* organized four symposia (Cambridge, Brno, Warsaw and Rome).⁵⁰ Alan Baker was a member of this group. In 1987 Professor Hans-Jürgen Nitz of Gottingen proposed the formation of an IGU commission/group on 'The early modern world-system' within the IGU, and sought and received support from the HGRG, for a proposal to be made at the IGU in Australia in 1988. The proposal was given support, but was not agreed at the IGU meeting. In addition, in 1986 there was discussion, in the context of the three-yearly international historical geography conferences, of the possible formation of an International Association of Historical Geographers, which was supported in principle by the committee of the HGRG and discussed but not agreed at the Louisiana International Conference of Historical Geographers.⁵¹

International conferences

From 1975 onwards the Group played an active part in the sponsorship, promotion, and funding of international conferences in historical geography. The first of these was held in Canada in 1975, and they have taken place every three years since then, the most recent (the 15th) having been organised in Prague in August 2012.⁵² The next conference is to be held in London in July 2015.



XV. International Conference of Historical Geographers

6.–10. 8. 2012 | PRAGUE, CZECHIA

CHARLES UNIVERSITY IN PRAGUE, FACULTY OF SCIENCE

WWW.ICHG2012.CZ



Figure 15: Poster for the 15th International Conference of Historical Geographers, 6–10 August, 2012.

Notes

- ¹ A. R. H. Baker, Some terminological problems in studies of British field systems, *Agricultural History Review*, XVII (1969) 136–40.
- ² R. A. Butlin, Recent progress in studies of terminology of agrarian landscapes, *Agricultural History Review*, XVII (1969) 141–143.
- ³ IBG Council Minutes 7b, 7 January 1972
- ⁴ HGRG Archives Archive Box 3 folder 2, Committee circular in 1971 re. reorganization, and response.
- ⁵ Letter B. K. Roberts to R. Lawton (IBG Hon Secretary) 23 June 1972, HGRG Archives Box 3 Folder 2.
- ⁶ HGRG Archive Box 3 folder 2 Correspondence re change of title to HGRG.
- ⁷ Letter B. K. Roberts to R. Lawton (IBG Hon. Secretary) 23 June 1972, HGRG Archives Box 3 Folder 2.
- ⁸ H. S. A. Fox, Annual report of the Historical Geography Research Group, *Area* 8 (1976) 156–59.
- ⁹ HGRG Archives, Box 1 Folder 6.
- ¹⁰ HGRG Archives, Box 1 Folder 6.
- ¹¹ R. J. Johnston, Institutions and disciplinary fortunes: two moments in the history of UK geography in the 1960s – II: human geography and the Social Science Research Council, *Progress in Human Geography* 28 (2004) 187–203.
- ¹² Johnston, Institutions and disciplinary fortunes, 194–95; see also M. Chisholm, Human geography joins the Social Science Research Council: personal recollections, *Area* 33 (2001) 428–30.
- ¹³ F. Driver, Human geography, social science, the arts and humanities, *Area* 33 (2001), 432.
- ¹⁴ Driver, Human geography, 432.
- ¹⁵ Data from *Area*, Annual Reports of the HGRG, and HGRG archives. I am grateful to Professor Felix Driver for provision of some of these data.
- ¹⁶ HGRG Archive Box 1 Folder 1, copy of HGRG Research Agenda, June 1991, 1.
- ¹⁷ HGRG Archive Box 1 Folder 1, 1.
- ¹⁸ HGRG Archive Box 1 Folder 1, 1.
- ¹⁹ HGRG Archive Box 1 Folder 1, 2.
- ²⁰ HGRG Archive Box 1 Folder 1, 2
- ²¹ ‘Strategic Plan’ to ‘Mission Statement’, 1998 HGRG Archives Box 4 folder 1.
- ²² HGRG Archives Box 1 Folder 6.
- ²³ HGRG Archives Box 2, Folder 12.
- ²⁴ HGRG Archives, Box 2, Folder 12.

- ²⁵ R. W. Steel, *The Institute of British Geographers. The First Fifty Years*, London, 1984.
- ²⁶ Steel, *The Institute*, 68.
- ²⁷ Steel, *The Institute*, 69; the quotation is from W. Kirk, the Secretary of the IBG.
- ²⁸ J. Langton, Conference report: the pathway of progress in historical geography, *Journal of Historical Geography* 5 (1979) 79.
- ²⁹ *ibid.*, 82
- ³⁰ D. J. Gregory, Historical Geography Research Group, *Area* 9 (1977) 129–30.
- ³¹ *IBG Newsletter*, March (1968) 24.
- ³² J. Springett, Historical geography of recessions, *Area* 16 (1984) 76–77.
- ³³ I am most grateful to Dr Alan Baker for lending me a complete set of *Newsletters* from 1980–2007.
- ³⁴ H. C. Prince, Ideology and landscape in historical perspective, *HGRG Newsletter* December (1989).
- ³⁵ Steel, *The Institute*, 74.
- ³⁶ J. W. R. Whitehand, and J. H. C. Patten, Editorial introduction to *Change in the Town, Transactions, Institute of British Geographers*, New Series, 2 (1977) 257.
- ³⁷ R. J. Dennis, Editorial introduction to *The Victorian City, Transactions, Institute of British Geographers*, New Series, 4 (1979) 125.
- ³⁸ C. W. J. Withers, Mapping the industrial revolution, *Journal of Historical Geography* 11(1985) 196–97; R. A. Butlin, Atlas of the industrial revolution, *Area*, 17 (1985) 69–71.
- ³⁹ R. J. Dennis, *HGRG Newsletter* February (1988), Minutes of the AGM of 4 January 1987, 2.
- ⁴⁰ M. Pooley and C. Pooley, Population in the past, *Teaching Geography* 8 (1982) 37–43.
- ⁴¹ B. K. Roberts, Studying rural settlement, *Teaching Geography*, 8 (1983) 122–28.
- ⁴² H. Carter, Town growth, Part 1, *Teaching Geography*, 10 (1985) 113–19; H. Carter, Town growth, Part 2, *Teaching Geography* 10 (1985) 174–77.
- ⁴³ G. Shaw, and A. Tipper, The historical study of industry and commerce, *Teaching Geography* 10 (1985) 61–67.
- ⁴⁴ C. G. Pooley, *HGRG Newsletter* December (1980).
- ⁴⁵ HGRG Archives, Box 3 Folder 1.
- ⁴⁶ HGRG Newsletter, February 2000, 4.
- ⁴⁷ R. J. Dennis, Historical Geography Research Group, *Area* 20 (1988) 383–84.
- ⁴⁸ C. Nash, Historical Geography Research Group, *Area* (1995) 27, 4.
- ⁴⁹ HGRG Summer Newsletter, 1989.
- ⁵⁰ See, for example, A. R. H. Baker, IGU Working Group on historical changes in spatial organization: Warsaw Symposium, April 1983, *Journal of Historical Geography* 9 (1983) 307–308.
- ⁵¹ HGRG Archives, Box 2, Folder 12 contains correspondence on these proposals.

⁵² R. A. Butlin, The British-Canadian Symposium, *Journal of Historical Geography* 2 (1976) 196; A. R. H. Baker, On the history and geography of the International Conference of Historical Geographers, *Journal of Historical Geography* 36 (2010) 102–104; N. Thomas and K. M. Morin, Historical geography in Prague, *Journal of Historical Geography* 38 (2012) 465–66.

Part III

Maturity: the HGRG at the Turn of the Twenty-First Century

Some millennial reflections are appropriate. An important signpost to the changing focus of historical geography, as seen through the perspectives of the HGRG, was the symposium on 'Historical geographies of the twentieth century' organised by the HGRG at the annual RGS-IBG conference at the University of Sussex in January 2000. The call for papers, by David Gilbert, David Matless, and Brian Short, outlined its objectives:

Call for Papers: Historical Geographies of Twentieth Century Britain. Proposals for papers are invited for a day-long session at RGS-IBG 2000 at Sussex University (4–6 January 2000) on Historical Geographies of Twentieth Century Britain, organised by the Historical Geography Research Group of the RGS-IBG. The session aims to showcase the growing body of work by historical geographers on the 20th century, and to highlight connections between geographical studies and those in related disciplines, including contemporary history, cultural studies and sociology.

Papers may address the following possible themes: Britain and modernity; nationhood(s) in 20th-century Britain; changing identities in 20th-century Britain; the shifting global role of Britain in the 20th century; changing urban, regional and rural geographies; the persistence/emergence of questions of land and environment.

We particularly encourage papers which are broad in scope, addressing developments over a significant part of the century. Proposals for contributions, consisting of a title and

short abstract, should be sent to one of the [following] convenors by 1st April 1999'.

The outcome was a day of extraordinary intellectual sparkle related to a wide range of topics. Some eleven papers were given and discussed, and they received a very positive response. A review in the *Journal of Historical Geography* of these and other historical geography papers given at the Sussex conference concluded that 'in general we enjoyed both the quality and the content of these papers, and the way in which the historical was being conceptualized—in terms of its theorization and contextualisation. The subject matter proved both stimulating and original, and at the start of this new millennium, we believe historical geography could not be in safer hands'.¹

The papers, after due modification, were published as a book in the IBG Book Series, with the title: *Geographies of British Modernity: Space and Society in the Twentieth Century*, with introductory and concluding chapters by the three editors.²

There are three sections. The first is concerned with 'Surveying British Modernity' and has studies of: inequalities in English society; geography and Conservative electoral success during the twentieth century; mobility in the twentieth century; and perceptions of rural change in Britain in the second half of the twentieth century. The second part deals with 'Sites of British Modernity', and includes studies of: the M1; a New England; a man's world!; and Mosques, Temples, and Gurdwaras. The last section is titled 'Geography, Nation, Identity', and has chapters on: suburban modernity; Ireland and the break with Britain; and British geographical writings on colonialism and imperialism.³

This work, which in many ways epitomized the trends and strengths of historical geography in Britain and Ireland at the end of the twentieth century, has been well received in review. Alastair Owens suggested that 'The focus on the geographies of modernity provides a creative intellectual space for the contributors in this book to explore the contradictory senses of the modern as they

emerged at different times and in different spaces of twentieth-century Britain'.⁴

This essay—by a participant who has lived through the whole conception and life of the Group—has attempted to touch upon most of the essential components of its prosopography and logistics, but there is much more to be added to its history/histories from the heterogeneous 'archives' that exist and will develop in future. It has been—and surely will continue to be—a stimulating and rewarding experience.

CONCLUSION

In the last thirty years of the twentieth century there was a distinctive growth of interest in historical geography in Britain, manifest in increases in postgraduate student numbers, vehicles for publication and discussion, in numbers of courses in higher education, and in international debate. A distinctive manifestation was the development of the Historical Geography Research Group of the Institute of British Geographers, growing from a fairly small group in the late 1960s to a substantial presence by the end of the century, and continuing to grow to the present day. Its roots lay in some German initiatives in agrarian terminology, but it soon broadened into a fully-fledged company of historical geographers whose debate and communication covered a very wide range of topics. The initial development was down to a small group of pioneers, which gradually increased in size to incorporate a membership drawn not only from within the ranks of academic geography but also from other subject areas and societies. The merger of the IBG with the Royal Geographical Society in 1995 also helped increase the size of HGRG membership. The present vibrant state of historical geography as reflected in many aspects of the past and present work of the HGRG is substantiated also in very positive terms in the recent International Benchmarking Review of UK Human Geography, in which historical geography

is recognized, with the history and philosophy of geography, to 'continue to be leading sub-disciplines in UK human geography. They produce world leading and agenda-setting research respected by global audiences within and outside the discipline, particularly in history, heritage studies, the history of science, and science studies. Outstanding work continues, especially in the areas of geography and empire, geography, science and technology, global historical geographies, maps and mapping, print and visual culture, historical GIS, and historical geographies of the environment'.⁵

Notes

¹ M. Llewellyn and J. Segrott, Historical geography at the Annual Conference of the Royal Geographical Society with the Institute of British Geographers, University of Sussex, Brighton, 4–7 January 2000, *Journal of Historical Geography* 26 (2000) 294–96.

² D. Gilbert, D. Matless and B. Short (Eds), *Geographies of British Modernity: Space and Society in the Twentieth Century*, Oxford, 2003.

³ Gilbert, Matless and Short, *Geographies of British Modernity*.

⁴ A. Owens, review of D. Gilbert, D. Matless and B. Short (Eds), *Geographies of British Modernity: Space and Society in the Twentieth Century*, Oxford, *Progress in Human Geography* 30 (2006) 266.

⁵ *Group Report, International Benchmarking Review of UK Human Geography*, ESRC/RGS-IBG/AHR, London, 2013, 11; see also F. Driver, *International Benchmarking Review of UK Human Geography: Overview of Research in Historical Geography, 2000–2011*, London, 2012. I am grateful to Professor Felix Driver for providing me with a copy of this report.

Part IV

POSTSCRIPT

The Historical Geography Research Group: a Reflection on the Recent Past and Thoughts on the Future

Carl Griffin, Nicola Thomas, Hayden Lorimer

On its formal institution as a research group of the Institute of British Geographers (IBG), the Historical Geography Research Group (HGRG) was not the only existing sub-disciplinary research group. HGRG (through the Terminology of the Agrarian Landscape group) was one of only four groups formally recognised and funded by the IBG in 1968.¹ Some 45 years later, the HGRG remains one of the most active and largest of all the research groups of the RGS-IBG. While it is difficult to precisely chart change over time, as of the beginning of June 2013 there are 697 members, of which 453 joined directly rather than indirectly through the RGS-IBG. This represents a significant increase in the past decade; in 2004 the membership secretary Hayden Lorimer reported to the group's AGM that the HGRG comprised 391 members, 'slightly down on previous years, primarily due to retirements'.² That, with the arguable exception of the Social and Cultural Geography Research Group, the HGRG has the largest research group membership is an extraordinary thing. As Robert Steel in his analysis of the role of the 'study groups' of the IBG noted, notwithstanding that 'safeguards' were put in place to

‘prevent an excessive proliferation of study groups’, by 1984 there were sixteen research groups, collectively assuming a central role in the wider organisation.³ While this rapid growth prompted some unease about research groups constituting an organising principle for the Annual Conference, the creation of new groups was a simple reflection of different sub-disciplinary fields’ desire to increase their presence in the organisation and the discipline at large. This, at least by 1984, impacted little upon HGRG.

Today, matters are somewhat different. By the start of 2013, the Royal Geography Society (with the Institute of British Geographers) supported 24 research groups, two ‘working groups’, one ‘study group’, and the Postgraduate Forum. This further ‘proliferation’—including the foundation of the History and Philosophy of Geography Research Group—and the fact that many scholars engaged in research in historical geography are also active in cognate subdisciplines—could have led to bifurcation of membership and focus. Furthermore, the consolidation of UK historical geography in a smaller number of academic departments—largely a consequence of the very particular logic of the formal assessment of university research quality—has led to the disappearance of those who might explicitly label themselves as historical geographers from many universities. And yet despite these potential challenges, membership of the group, as noted, is buoyant, while the profile and influence of the group in historical geography and the wider discipline at large is as high as ever. As Felix Driver in his report on the state of historical geography in the UK to the Economic and Social Research Council and Arts and Humanities Research Council International Benchmarking Review of Human Geography noted, HGRG plays a vital role in the intellectual life of the sub-discipline.⁴ The purpose then of this short essay is to reflect on this success and consider the role of the HGRG today. Much of the material detailed is available in the public domain through the HGRG website,⁵ while records from the HGRG’s archive are in the process of being catalogued and, where possible, made available for consultation.

CHANGING MISSIONS? CHANGING PRACTICES?

The HGRG has three interrelated objectives. First, to ‘initiate and foster’ research in historical geography, not least through ‘promot[ing] discussion through workshops and conferences, and publication. Second, to support the funding of conference organisation and attendance. Third, through dedicated assistance for postgraduate ‘training’ and financial support in attending conferences. These, as Robin Butlin notes in his discussion above, have remained largely unaltered since the group’s inception. In practice though, the past decade has seen a decisive shift in emphasis. The second aim of supporting conference organisation has become less important in recent years, this in part a reflection of a conscious decision in the middle of the last decade to attempt to reduce HGRG’s costs, the newsletter then eroding HGRG’s funds year-on-year. HGRG accounts and newsletters over the past decade evidence a shift from supporting conference organisation to supporting the attendance of postgraduates at conferences, not least the triennial International Conference of Historical Geographers. In 2005, funding was granted through the ‘Small Conference and Seminar Funding’ stream of the HGRG to two conferences and seminars: one a £250 grant to support a conference at Leicester on ‘W. G. Hoskins and the Making of the British Landscape’; the other a further £250 to support postgraduate attendance at the seminar series of the London Group of Historical Geographers.⁶ This latter grant was repeated in 2006.⁷ Thereafter, a grant was made to ‘Landscape and Enclosure’ conference at Hatfield to support postgraduate attendance.⁸ An advert for the conference scheme was placed in the Autumn 2009 newsletter, offering grants of up to £250, of which at least £50 had to support postgraduate attendance.⁹ The advert appeared to have some effect, as in 2010 grants were awarded to support two conferences: ‘Correspondence: Travel, Writing and Literatures of Exploration, c.1750–c.1850’ at Edinburgh; and “‘Salty” Geographies: Subaltern maritime spaces, networks and practices’ held at Glasgow. Reflecting this evident

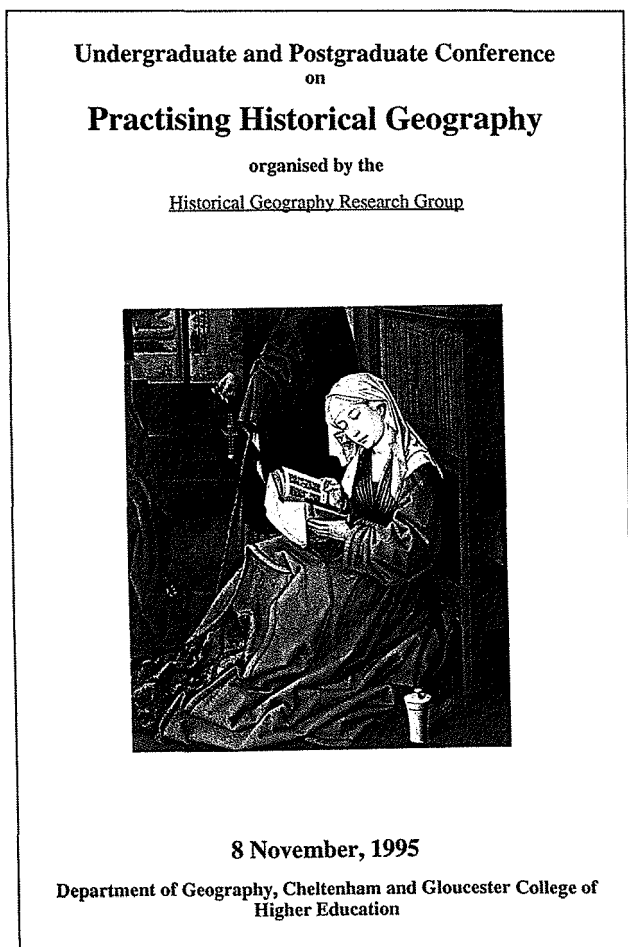
shift, both applications requested HGRG support on the basis that any money awarded would directly support postgraduate attendance and were duly granted on such condition.¹⁰

As noted, while the newsletter remains a vital part of the work of the group, through the last decade the increased expenses of the newsletter were a regular discussion point within committee meetings and at the AGM where members were asked in successive years to shift towards an e-newsletter. By the middle of the decade annual membership dues barely covered the production and postage of newsletter and monograph series, with limited income left for investment in other core activities. As a result there was some caution within the committee on advertising grants that would stretch the group's financial reserves and it was felt that while there was reduced funding available, the core activities of the group should support future generations of scholars. Indeed, the eventual shift from hardcopy newsletter to e-newsletter was largely driven by the need to restructure the finances of the research group to ensure that funding of the group's broader function could be pursued.

It is possible to chart the gradual shift in practice towards the prioritisation of postgraduate support. The chair's addresses at earlier AGMs had emphasised the centrality of this. For example, as Hayden Lorimer noted in 2004: 'As always, much of the work of the committee this year has been in administering postgraduate support'.¹¹ Such comments reflect a trend arguably instituted by a much earlier policy decision. At a committee meeting held at Bristol in October 1994, a 'draft proposal' by then PhD student but soon to be chair of HGRG Catherine Nash was discussed for a postgraduate and undergraduate conference on the theme of 'Place, Space and History'. Those present readily agreed to the idea, and a provisional date of November 1995 and location of Royal Holloway proposed.¹² In the event, Cheltenham and Gloucester College of Higher Education hosted the day, and the title of the conference became 'Practising Historical Geography' (see Figure 16). Chaired by Nash, the day—8 November—was comprised of a series of short papers by established academics and

postgraduates alike in the morning and ‘workshops’ on methods and approaches in historical geography in the afternoon.¹³ The event, as one participant later related, was ‘a very constructive’, with a blend of ‘polished and professional accounts’ a wonderful antidote to conventional conferences of ‘droning voices’.¹⁴ Plans were duly put in place for a second conference, and an application for financial assistance made to the Research and Higher Education Division (RHED) of the then recently merged RGS-IBG.¹⁵ RHED have offered much appreciated financial support for this event ever since.

Eighteen years later, the ‘Practising Historical Geography’ postgraduate and undergraduate conference has become arguably the highpoint of the HGRG calendar and the event that most neatly encapsulates the values and ambitions of the group. From the initial success at Cheltenham, seventeen subsequent ‘Practising’ conferences have been held, the most recent at the University of Hull, the next being at the University of Central Lancashire on 6 November 2013. The blend of papers and workshops established at the first event has been followed, more-or-less, ever since. The day looks rather different though: bookended by ‘keynote’ papers by established geographers, the central focus are two workshops on methods and approaches, talks on their post-PhD experiences by recently graduated historical geographers and, usually, a paper by the winner of the group’s annual undergraduate dissertation prize. The policy adopted in 1996 of rotating the location ‘in order to allow attendance by students in a wide range of departments’ has also been followed ever since, with institutions in all parts of the UK hosting the event. Perhaps not surprisingly, attendance rates have varied depending on the distance away from major conglomerations of historical geographers—the 2007 conference hosted by Queen’s University Belfast attracting 28 participants, that at Edinburgh the following year 43¹⁶—but the long-term trend is upwards. Another recent innovation has been the introduction of a small fee (initially £8, latterly £10) for delegates,



**Figure 16: Practising Historical Geography conference flyer,
8 November 1995.**

as agreed at the 2007 AGM, so as to cover rising costs (including room charges) and maintain the viability of the event. Evidently, this has not put off postgraduates who, as feedback from the 2012 Hull conference related, continue to think the event an invaluable and unique experience.

While the 'Practising' conference has effectively supplanted the annual themed HGRG conference (see Appendix I), HGRG has continued to fund the attendance of postgraduates at other non-HGRG organized conferences. In the past decade, postgraduates have been supported to attend the Association of American Geographers and RGS-IBG annual conferences, one-off thematic conferences, and recent International Conferences of Historical Geographers. Indeed, ten postgraduate members were supported in attending the 15th ICHG held in Prague in August 2012, something the group was able to part fund thanks to a £500 grant from the RHED.

The changing function of the HGRG has also involved a widening of its remit to systematically support the teaching of historical geography, not just in terms of dedicated training through the 'Practising' conference, but through facilitating teaching in universities and other higher education institutes. Thanks to a successful application by (then) chair Nicola Thomas to the Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences (GEES) of the Higher Education Academy, on 19 May 2011 a 'Teaching Historical Geography: Practice and Pedagogy' workshop was held at the RGS. The event attracted a large attendance of teachers of historical geography from throughout the UK, the Republic of Ireland and even Canada, and provided an important opportunity to share ideas and reflect on mutual frustrations. As Thomas noted in autumn 2011 HGRG newsletter, 'The workshop was something of a wakeup call for those attending ... We witnessed concern around the declining presence of historical geography in the curriculum; difficulties in finding useful training materials that support students to undertake historically sensitive research within their undergraduate dissertations; the lack of any formal platform to share best practice and resources across the sub-discipline; and

the absence of sub-disciplinary peer support network around historical geography teaching and learning'.¹⁷ On the back of these identified problems, a further—successful—application was made to GEES to support the creation of an online 'resource bank' for staff and students alike. Hosted through RHED, work on the project is well underway and when the resource goes live it will offer a variety of media to encourage and support students to undertake dissertations in historical geography and enable supervisors to share experiences and good practice.

The creation of the online 'learning and teaching resource bank' is also indicative of a further shift in the way in which the HGRG operates. As Robin Butlin's account above attests, communications with members of the activities of the research group as well as other events and news in historical geography and allied subjects have long been an important part of the functioning of the HGRG. The newsletter remains central to the group's communications—though this is now delivered electronically to members rather than by post—but is now supplemented by a website, Twitter stream (@HGRG_RGS), and the 'e-circulation' of news and events to members via e-mail. By taking advantage of technological advances, the research group is not only better able to quickly disseminate news to members, but also by saving money on printing and postage has been able to redirect funds to support our core missions. Such rationales were also central to the shift to holding 'e-committee' meetings rather the costly gathering of committee members in person.

HGRG's full embrace of digital technologies does not mean, however, that it has forgotten the first commandment of human geography: the importance of 'being there'! As noted, the continued vitality of the 'Practising' event in bringing established academics, post-doctoral members, postgraduates and undergraduates together strongly attests to the group's commitment to showcasing the work of the group and historical geographers throughout the regions. Furthermore, the policy adopted by the RGS-IBG, following the earlier lead of the IBG, in organising their Annual Conference around research group

sponsored sessions, has meant that the work of HGRG (and historical geography at large) has continued to be prominent at one of the most important events in the global geography calendar. Indeed, in the recent past the demand for HGRG sponsorship for proposed sessions has increased markedly, while the range of themes has widened to embrace links to all other areas of human geography (and other research groups). Arguably the highlight of the sessions at the RGS-IBG Annual Conference has become the dedicated postgraduate and post-doctoral 'New and Emerging Research' sessions. Always well-attended and comprising a set of papers that reflect the diversity of historical geography itself, these sessions have become an important way in which 'new' scholars can introduce their work in a high profile yet mutually supportive way. With occasional exceptions—for instance at the International Geographical Union meeting in Glasgow in August 2004—the HGRG's Annual General Meeting has also been held during the RGS-IBG Annual Conference to facilitate the greatest possible number of members to attend without incurring further costs. Through this diverse range of communications, the HGRG's role more than ever is as a bridge between the RGS-IBG, geography departments, academics (including those working beyond the UK, the retired and independent scholars), and postgraduate students.

As well as facilitating networks and offering training and support, HGRG remains committed to providing an important route to publication of research in historical geography. Through the long-established monograph series, HGRG offers a flexible venue for publishing pioneering peer-reviewed work that falls between the academic paper (already well supported by the *Journal of Historical Geography* and *Historical Geography*) and book-length studies. From Andrew Charlesworth's 1979 essay on the spatial diffusion of the Swing Riots of 1830¹⁸—a subject close to one of the authors of this postscript's heart—to this volume, by the summer of 2013 HGRG will have published 44 monographs (see Appendix III). A continued theme in the series has been methodological innovation and reflections on professional

practice, the later theme neatly again evidenced in the existence of this monograph. This spirit of innovation has meant most volumes have remained available and continue to sell well, providing an important revenue stream for the group. But while all monographs have been well received, and many even agenda-setting and influential, it was a volume published by Methuen with the support of the HGRG (and the British Economic History Society) in 1987 that has most significantly impacted upon the future operation of the group: John (Jack) Langton and R. J. (Bob) Morris' *Atlas of Industrializing Britain*.¹⁹ Having foregone any personal profit from the enterprise, Langton and Morris turned their royalties over to support of HGRG and the Economic History Society for which, as Butlin notes, both groups have benefitted hugely. For this act of generosity, we are extremely grateful: the work and careers of several generations of historical geographers have and will continue to benefit from their beneficence.

Another important, direct, way in which HGRG continues to be able to support the careers and ambitions of historical geographers is through professional service on the committee. Today, the HGRG committee is one of the largest research group committees being comprised of thirteen positions: chair, secretary; treasurer; monograph editor; membership secretary; conference officer; website editor; e-circulation officer; newsletter editor; dissertation prize coordinator; learning and teaching officer; and two postgraduate representatives with responsibility for conference coordination. This reflects the growing complexity and reach of the group, but also the need for collective endeavour. It also provides an important opportunity for postgraduates and academics to gain expertise and experience in professional roles beyond the universities. The large number of roles also means that the make-up of the committee can better represent the continued intellectual catholicity of historical geography as well trying to reflect something of the geography of historical geography itself.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS?

After existing for 40 years, HGRG is now, as this publication shows, the subject of historical analysis itself. As noted, making the HGRG archive available for future study is an important agenda for the group. While such concerns are perhaps more immediate to those for whom the study of the past is their very bread and butter, our practices—again—are being held up as a model for other research groups. A successful application for support from the RHED of the RGS-IBG to assist the process of cataloguing and making available our archive is also going to lead to the creation of policy documents that other research groups will follow. Indeed, this is something increasingly important as the record of group activity now invariably takes the form of digital documents and e-mails rather than paper.

Beyond reflecting on our own pasts in the future, it is important that the HGRG thinks carefully about its future role in supporting and shaping historical geography. To this end, later in 2013 members will be surveyed as to the future direction of the group, something important in revivifying our collective mission and sense of purpose. Either way, the group remains committed to the primacy of supporting postgraduate research through the annual ‘Practising’ event and financial support for conference attendance. Funds also remain available for conference organisers. Such commitments do not come cheap, and while careful management of the group’s finances means that these can be met in the short-term, the future support of the group’s key objectives is utterly dependent on maintaining existing membership levels and members paying their full fees.

Beyond such critical but ultimately prosaic matters, several future challenges will need to be met. Hitherto the RHED of the RGS-IBG has offered fantastic practical, administrative and financial support for the group but this state cannot be assumed to exist indefinitely. Campaigns within the membership and fellowship of the RGS to divert funds away from the support of broad research communities, and channel it towards large-scale

expeditionary endeavour present a genuine threat to future activities. Debate about the direction to be taken by the Society is, of course, healthy, and opinion can be represented most effectively by members' votes in RGS Council elections. Beyond this, the aforementioned concentration of historical geographies into fewer UK academic departments represents an on-going challenge that could have potentially significantly consequences for the future vitality and diversity of historical geography. While the committee, as ever, are active in proselyting, the research group is constituted by its members all of whom have a duty to spread knowledge of the group and its activities to all corners of the academy and beyond.

Notes

¹ For example British Society for Geomorphology (formerly the British Geomorphological Research Group) and the Population Geography Research Group (through the Population Studies Group) predated the Agrarian Research Group.

² AGM minutes, 2004.

³ R. Steel, *The Institute of British Geographers: The First Fifty Years*, London, 1984, 90, 95.

⁴ F. Driver, 'Overview of Research in Historical Geography and in the History & Philosophy of Geography, 2001–2011' produced for the International Benchmarking Review of UK Human Geography, March 2012.

⁵ See <http://historicalgeographyresearchgroup.wordpress.com/> (site accessed 10 July 2013).

⁶ HGRG 2005 AGM minutes.

⁷ HGRG 2006 AGM minutes.

⁸ HGRG 2009 AGM minutes.

⁹ HGRG Autumn 2009 newsletter.

¹⁰ HGRG 2010 AGM minutes.

¹¹ HGRG 2004 AGM minutes.

¹² HGRG Committee meeting minutes, 21 October 1994.

¹³ HGRG Practising Historical Geography programme, 1995.

¹⁴ HGRG Letter to C. Nash, 9 November 1995.

¹⁵ Application for a grant from the RGS-IBG RHED to support 'Practising Historical Geography' conference November 1996, 5 July 1996.

¹⁶ Exceptionally, this conference was held across two days, thanks to supportive funding from the Arts and Humanities Research Council.

¹⁷ HGRG Autumn 2011 newsletter.

¹⁸ A. Charlesworth, *Social Protest in a Rural Society: The Spatial Diffusion of the Captain Swing Disturbances of 1830–1831*, Norwich, 1979.

¹⁹ J. Langton and R. J. Morris, *Atlas of Industrializing Britain, 1780–1914*, London, 1986.

Appendix I

Conferences: a Preliminary Listing

Compiled by Robin Butlin

Abbreviations

AC = Annual conference of the IBG/RGS-IBG

BAHS = British Agricultural History Society

ICHG = International Conference of Historical Geographers
(previously known by the uncomfortable acronym CUKANZUS).

1966

AC St Andrews. First meeting of terminology group. Discussion on focus, feasibility and financial support.

1967

AC Sheffield. Formal recognition of the Study Group for the Terminology of the Agrarian Landscape by IBG Council.

1968

AC Exeter. Meeting of the Study Group for the Terminology of the Agrarian Landscape, part business meeting, part address by Prof Uhlig (Giessen).

Group conference on the terminology of commons, common fields and field systems, UCL, 26 October.

1969

AC London. 'Relict Landscapes'. Plenary sessions of IBG included a paper by R. A. French on 'Field Patterns and the Three-Field System: the Case of Sixteenth-century Lithuania'.

Symposium, Musselburgh, nr Edinburgh by the Agrarian Landscape Research Group on 'The Runrig System', May.

1970

AC Belfast. 'Settlement and Agriculture in Ireland'.

Symposium, Monkswood, 'Agricultural Improvement', May.

1971

AC Sussex. Falmer: University of Sussex. 'Analyses of Agrarian Landscapes'. Plenary session papers in historical geography.

Symposium, Beamish Hall, Durham, 'Agriculture and Industry', 20–22 May.

1972

AC Aberdeen. 'Marginal Settlement and Land Use'.

Symposium, Oxford 'Rural-urban inter-relationships', May.

1973

AC Birmingham. Formal change of title to Historical Geography Research Group. 'Methods and Techniques in Historical Geography'.

Symposium, Aberystwyth: 'Historical Aspects of Land, Settlement and Society in Wales', May.

1974

AC Norwich, UEA. 'Historical Geography of Transport'.

APPENDIX I

Symposium, Cumberland Lodge, Windsor Great Park. 'Urban Historical Geography', 21–31st May.

1975

AC Oxford. 'Aspects of Historical Geography'; 'Historical Studies of Diffusion'.

Symposium, Liverpool, 'Social Patterns in Nineteenth-Century Britain'. Excursion, 'Georgian and Victorian Liverpool', 23–25 May.

Start of winter one-day conferences with British Agricultural History Society (BAHS), London, 'Agricultural improvement post 1600', December.

1976

AC Coventry, Lanchester Polytechnic. 'Communities and Social contacts in the Past'.

Symposium, Edinburgh (jointly with Developing Areas Research Group, DARG), on aspects of the historical geography of less developed countries, May.

Symposium, Exeter 'Rural Industries', May.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Farming in and around London and other large cities', 4 December.

1977

AC Newcastle. 'The Industrial Revolution and the English Space-Economy'; 'Historical Demography' (joint with Population Study Group).

Symposium, St Andrews and Essex, second CUKANZUS (ICHG) symposium, summer.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'The Agricultural Consequences of Population Change', 3 December.

1978

AC Hull. 'Developments in Historical Geography'.

Conference, Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, 'Geographical Perspectives on the Transition from Feudalism to Capitalism', 7–9 July.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Recent views on enclosure', December.

1979

AC Manchester. 'Historical Geography of Mining'; 'Public Health and Disease in the Past' (with Medical Geography Study Group).

Conference, Los Angeles, CUKANZUS (ICHG), summer.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Rural discontent', December.

1980

AC Lancaster. With Urban Geography Study Group: 'Historical Processes of Urbanization'. and 'Young Historical Geographers' session.

Conference, Nottingham, 'The Consequences of Climatic Change', 11–13 July.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'The dissemination of agricultural knowledge', December.

1981

AC Leicester. 'Death and Disaster in Britain'; 'Young Historical Geographers' session. Also 'Ethnic Ghettos in American cities'; 'Capitalist Penetration in Developing Areas' (joint with DARG).

Conference, Wolverhampton Polytechnic, 'Land tenure, land use, and development', 7–9 August.

Conference, Toronto, CUKANZUS (ICHG) conference in historical geography, September.

Conference, Edinburgh, 'Scottish Historical Geography', 7 November.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Government policy and agriculture', 5 December.

1982

AC Southampton. 'Historical adjustments to Disaster'; 'Young Historical Geographers' symposium.

One-day symposium at Cheltenham, 'The Cultural Geography of Industrialisation', 27 March.

Seminar, Paris, Franco-British meeting on historical social geography, 28–30 May.

Anglo-German conference, North Germany, on Urban Historical Geography, 19–26 September.

Conference, Liverpool, 'Historical Geography and the State', 9–10 July.

'Historical Population Geography', Cambridge 9–11 September.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Capitalism in agriculture', 4 December.

1983

AC Edinburgh. 'Development and Planning of the Historic City' (joint symposium with Urban Geography and Geography and Planning Study groups); 'Scottish Rural Settlement' (jointly with Rural Geography Study Group).

Conference, 'Aspects of Medieval Economy and Society, 1–3 July.

Conference, Oxford, CUKANZUS (ICHG) meeting, 'Mirrors of the Old World: Europe and its reproduction overseas', 17–23 July.

Anglo-German conference, Cambridge, on Urban Historical Geography, 11–17 September.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Urban consumption and the marketing of agricultural produce', 3 December.

1984

AC Durham. 'Historical Geography of Recessions'; 'Forum for Young Research Workers in Historical Geography'.

Conference, Nottingham, 'Iconography in Historical Geography', 13–15 July.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Conservation of the agricultural past', December.

1985

AC Leeds. 'Atlas of Industrializing Britain'.

Conference, Oxford: 'Regional demographic patterns in the past', 5–7 July.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Regionalism in agricultural practice and agrarian society', December.

1986

AC Reading. Papers on many different aspects of historical geography. Historical Geography of Transport.

Seminar, Birmingham, to celebrate Novocentenary of the Domesday Survey: 'Before Domesday: the historical geography of Medieval England', 10–12 July.

Conference, Birmingham, Historical geography session—'Geography of population and mobility in nineteenth-century Britain', Economic History Society Conference, September.

International Conference of Historical Geographers (ICHG), Baton Rouge and New Orleans, July.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Agricultural censuses and statistics', December.

1987

AC Portsmouth. 'The Rise and Fall of Great Cities' (2-day joint symposium).

Conference, Oxford, 'Woodlands in British Historical Geography', 3–5 July.

Symposium, Loughborough, 'Historical Geography of Inter-war Britain', 31 October.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Agriculture in wartime', December.

1988

AC Loughborough. 'Teaching and learning in Historical Geography'.

Conference, Emmanuel College, 'French Revolutionary Ideals and Historical Geography', Cambridge, 30 June–2 July.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Agriculture and the village', 5 December.

1989

AC Coventry Polytechnic. 'Colonialism and development' (jointly with DARG); Celebration of knighthood and 80th birthday of Sir Clifford Darby.

Symposium, QMC, London, one-day symposium on 'Feminism and Historical Geography', November.

7th International Conference of Historical Geographers (ICHG), Jerusalem, July.

3-day symposium, Emmanuel College, Cambridge, 'Politics and Place: French Revolutionary Ideals and Historical Geography'.

APPENDIX I

Conference, UCL, London (jointly with the Urban History Group), 'Social Relations and Community in 18th- and 19th-Century Towns and Cities', 29 September.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Food supply and towns', 2 December.

1990

AC Glasgow (European City of Culture). 'Urban Renewal and Regeneration in Historical Perspective'; 'Selling Places: the City as Cultural Capital, Past and Present' (jointly with Social and Cultural Geography Study Group).

Symposium, QMC, London, 'Community, Locality, and Welfare', 4 April.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Farmers and landowners', December.

1991

AC Sheffield. 'Local Studies and Historical Geography'.

Conference, RGS, London, 'Geography and Empire 1870–1940', 8 May.

Symposium, Loughborough University, 'Regions and regionalism', September.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Rural society and the poor', 7 December.

HGRG *Newsletter* in electronic format.

1992

AC Swansea. 'Celtic Identity'.

Conference, Royal Holloway, London, 'Images of Empire', 13 May.

Anglo-American Seminar on Medieval Economy and Society, Leicester, 4 July.

International Conference of Historical Geographers (ICHG), Vancouver, 8 August.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'The agrarian history of England and Wales, Vol. III, 1850–1914', December.

1993

AC Royal Holloway, London. 'Human impact and adaptation—ecological changes in historical times' (jointly with Biogeography Research Group).

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Agriculture and the landscape', December.

1994

AC Nottingham. 'Picturing Land and Life'; 'Current Work in Historical Geography'.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Social relationships and the countryside', 3 December.

1995

AC University of Northumbria, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. 'Utopian Geographies'; 'After Alnwick: Studying Urban form in the 1990s'; 'Nature, Environment and Landscape: European attitudes (1920–70)'.

8th International Conference of Historical Geographers (ICHG), Singapore and Perth, June–July.

Conference, Cheltenham and Gloucester College of Higher Education, 'Practising Historical Geography', 8 November.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Farming and the Farm Environment', 7 December.

1996

AC University of Strathclyde, Glasgow. 'Climatic hazards'; 'Travellers and travel writers'; 'Young Research Workers in Historical Geography'; 'Geographies of War'; 'Urban Change and the Industrial Revolution'.

Conference, Royal Holloway, London, 'Practising Historical Geographies', 3 November.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Farming in adversity: patterns of response', 2 December.

1997

AC Exeter. 'Putting the Past in its Place: Historical Applications of GIS'; 'Postgraduate Research in Historical Geography'; 'Commerce and the Creation and use of Urban Space'; 'Pre-modern Transitions and the Emergence of Europe'; 'Imperial Cities: Landscape, Space and Performance in London and Rome';

Conference, 'Practising Historical Geography', November.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Crime in the countryside', 6 December.

1998

AC Kingston. 'Histories of the Earth'; 'Emerging Landscapes of Leisure'.

10th International Conference of Historical Geography (ICHG), Northern Ireland, July.

Conference, Emmanuel College, Cambridge in honour of Alan R. H. Baker, 'Explorations in Historical Geography', 18–19 September.

Conference, 'Practising Historical Geography', November.

1999

AC Leicester. 'Postgraduate Work in Historical Geography'; 'Life Histories/Life Geographies'; 'Celtic worlds: Landscapes and Identities'.

Symposium, 'Fieldwork in Geography: cultures, practices, traditions', 5 May.

Colloquium, Cambridge, Cambridge-Paris Colloquium on Historical Geography, September.

Conference, 'Practising Historical Geography', November.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Commons, common rights and commoners', 4 December.

2000

AC Sussex. 'Historical Geographies of 20th-Century Britain'; 'Postgraduate Work in Historical Geography'. Led to publication *Geographies of British Modernity*.

Conference, UCL, London Practising Historical Geography, 8 November.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Livestock in the farming economy', 2 December.

2001

AC Plymouth '200 Years of the Census of Population'; 'Postgraduate Work in Historical Geography'; 'Field Forest and the Flag: The exploitation of Britain's Colonial Land'; 'Transport Cultures'.

7th Anglo-American Seminar on the medieval economy and Society, Dublin, 13–16 July.

11th International Conference of Historical Geographers, Quebec, 12–18 August.

Conference, London, 'Georgian Geographies', September.

Conference, Swansea, 'Practising Historical Geography', November.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Greater Landowners in rural society', December.

2002

AC Belfast. 'Geographies of Colonialism and Identity Formation in Britain and Ireland'; 'Postgraduate Research in Historical and Cultural Geography'; 'Rural Migration History'; 'Geographies of Post-war Housing'; 'On Display: Exhibition and the City'; 'Landscape Ecology and Place'; 'Geographies of Labour'.

Conference, Durham, 'Practising Historical Geography', 6 November.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Popular protest in rural England', 7 December.

2003

AC London. 'Historical Geographies of the Sea'; 'Oral Histories of Geographical Knowledge', 3–5 September (new move to September, London, RGS-IBG, base for AC)

Conference, National Maritime Museum, London, 'Tropical Views and Visions', 12–13 July.

Symposium, Leeds, 'Home and Colonial' symposium in honour of Robin Butlin, 8–9 September.

Conference, London, 'Practising Historical Geography', November.

12th International Conference of Historical Geographers (ICHG), Auckland, New Zealand, 9–13 December.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Retailing agricultural production', December.

AHRB becomes a Research Council: Arts and Humanities Research Council.

2004

AC Glasgow. 'Postgraduate Research Sessions'; 'Historical Geographies of Morality and Leisure'; 'Historical Geographies of Art and the environment'; 'Geographies of Collecting'.

Conference, 'Practising Historical Geography', November.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Farming in upland Britain', 4 December.

2005

AC London. 'Spaces of Exploration'; 'Geographical Archives'; 'Nature and Health'; 'Re-Materialising Historical Geography'; 'Spaces of Knowledge'; 'GIS and Historical Research'; 'Life Course Transitions in Space and Time'.

Conference, Bristol, 'Practising Historical Geography', 2 November.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'English landed society in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries', December.

2006

AC London. 'Documentary Film and Historical Geography'; 'Postgraduate Research in Historical Geography'; 'Landscape, Mobility and Practice'; 'Counter-factual Geographies: Worlds that Might Have Been'.

Conference, Belfast, 'Practising Historical Geography', 1 November.

13th International Conference of Historical Geographers (ICHG), Hamburg, 20–24 August.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Families and farming', December.

2007

AC London. 'Postgraduate Research in Historical Geography'; 'Gender and Historical Geography'; 'Senses and Memory'; 'Atmospheric Geographies'; 'Negotiating Postcolonial Distance'; 'Liquid Landscapes'.

Conference, Exeter, 'Practising Historical Geography', 7 November

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Approaches to the history of the rural landscape', 4 December.

2008

AC London. 'Gardens and the Geographies of Horticulture', 'Uncertainty and Inference in GIS'; 'Indigenous Knowledge, Resistance and Agency: Telling the Hidden Histories of Geographical Field Science and Exploration'; 'Locating Knowledge: Alternative Spaces, Networks and Histories'; 'Using Histories Politically'; 'Historical Geographies of the Subterranean'; 'Archaeology meets Geography'; 'Imperial Geography'.

Conference, Edinburgh, 'Practising Historical Geography', 6 November.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Weather, climate change and British farming in historical perspective', December.

2009

AC Manchester. 'Histories of (Un)natural Disasters: Knowledge, Blame and Defences'; 'Geography and Religion in the Long Nineteenth Century'; 'Constructing Identities, Personalities and Personas from the Archive'; 'Cartographies of Inclusion and Exclusion'; 'Narrating Landscape and Environment'; 'Art and Geographical knowledge'; 'Cultural Spaces of Climate';

APPENDIX I

‘Constructing Spaces of (Im)-mobility’; ‘New and Emerging Research in Historical Geography’.

Conference, Swansea, ‘Mapping the Medieval City: Space, Place and Identity’, 30–31 July.

Conference, Hertfordshire, ‘Landscape, Enclosure and Rural Society in Post-Medieval Britain and Europe’, 25–26 June.

14th International Conference of Historical Geographers (ICHG), Kyoto 23–27 August.

Conference, Royal Holloway, London, ‘Practising Historical Geography’, 4 November.

Conference, London (with BAHS), ‘History of rural housing: new approaches to old problems’, December.

2010

AC London. ‘*Terra incognita?* Making Space for Medieval Geographies’; ‘What are Surfaces?’; ‘Geographies of Black Internationalism’; ‘Narrating Stories of Travel and Tourism’; ‘Places without a Place: The Geographies of Ships’.

Conference, University of Edinburgh and National Library of Scotland, Edinburgh, ‘Correspondence: Travel, Writing and Literatures of Exploration, c.1750–c.1850’, 7–10 April.

Conference, University of Glasgow, ‘Salty Geographies: Subaltern maritime spaces, networks and Practices’, 10–12 June.

Conference, Royal Holloway, London, ‘Practising Historical Geography’, October.

Conference, London (with BAHS), ‘Woods and their uses in medieval to modern Britain’, December.

2011

AC London. ‘New and Emerging Research in Historical Geography’; ‘Geographies of Collections’; ‘New Imperial

Geographies?'; 'Geographical Publishing and Print Culture: Historical Geographies'; 'Resuscitating Necrogeography'; 'Me Myself and the Archive: Reflecting on Encounters and Enchantments'; 'Art, Science and Geographical Imaginaries'; 'Meteorological Imaginations. Towards geographies of Affective Practices of Weather, Atmospherics and Landscapes'; 'Geographies of Translation'.

Symposium, Royal Holloway, London 'Maritime Round Table: Geographies of Ships', 8 March.

Conference, RGS-IBG, London, 'Practice and Pedagogy: Teaching Historical Geography', 19–20 May.

Conference, Oxford, 'Practising Historical Geography', November.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'British food security in historical perspective', December.

2012

AC Edinburgh. 'New and Emerging Research in Historical Geography'; 'Historical Geographies of Creative Economies'; 'Geographies of Enthusiasm: Exploration and Fieldwork'; 'Decolonisation, Professionals and the Geographies of Expertise'; 'Hope in a Securitised World: Geographies and Histories of Occupation'; 'Creating Geographical Legacies: The Red Road Legacy Project'; 'Historical Narratives of Climate Security'.

Conference, Hull, 'Practising Historical Geography', November.

Conference, London (with BAHS), 'Science and knowledge in agriculture', December.

2013

AC London. 'New and Emerging Research in Historical Geography'; 'Historical Geographies of Internationalism (1900s–1960s)'; 'Connection, Engagement and Negotiation—When

Geographers Collaborate with Museums'; 'The Future of Heritage as Climates Change: Loss, Adaptation and Creativity'; 'Arctic Geographical Traditions? Practices, Politics and Institutions'; 'Historical Geographies of Global Knowledge, c. 1780–1914'; 'Participatory Science: Understanding what Motivates and Sustains Participation in Science'; 'The Making of The English Working Class at Fifty: Space, Agency and History From Below'; 'Radical Geography in the Interwar Period: Disciplinary Trajectories and Hidden Histories'.

Conference, University of Central Lancashire, 'Practising Historical Geography', 6 November.

Appendix II

Committee members

Compiled by Robin Butlin

This is best treated as a provisional list, subject to revision, as dates of committee member changes switched from calendar year (mainly the old IBG administrative year) to (in effect) the academic year starting from 2003, and the 'constitutional' years to which lists apply are not always fully clear from the various sources available.

Abbreviations

C = Chair

CO = Conference Officer

ECO=E-Circulation Officer

ERS = Editor of Research Series

MS = Membership Secretary

NE/S = Newsletter Editor/Secretary

PG/PGC/PGM=Postgraduate representative

PO = Publicity Officer

S = Hon. Secretary

TLO = Teaching and Learning Officer

T = Hon Treasurer

WE = Web Editor

QUB = Queen's University, Belfast; QMC = Queen Mary College (Later = QMW, QMUL), London; UCD = University College, Dublin; UCL = University College, London; RHUL = Royal Holloway, University of London.

1966 Terry Coppock (C, Edinburgh); Convenor: Robin Butlin (UCD).

1967 Terry Coppock, (C, Edinburgh); Robin Butlin (S, UCD); June Sheppard (T, QMC, London); Alan Baker (Cambridge); Glanville Jones (Leeds); Graeme Whittington (St Andrews); Ian Adams (Edinburgh).

1968 Terry Coppock (C, Edinburgh); Robin Butlin (S, UCD); June Sheppard (T, QMC); Ian Adams (Edinburgh); Alan Baker (Cambridge); Glanville Jones (Leeds); Brian Roberts (Durham); Graeme Whittington (St Andrews).

1969 Alan Baker (C, Cambridge); Robin Butlin (S, UCD); June Sheppard (T, QMC); Ian Adams (Edinburgh); Glanville Jones (Leeds); Brian Roberts (Durham); Graeme Whittington (St Andrews).

1970 Alan Baker (C, Cambridge); Robin Butlin (S, UCD); June Sheppard (T, QMC); Ian Adams (Edinburgh); Glanville Jones (Leeds); Brian Roberts (Durham); Graeme Whittington (St Andrews).

1971 Robin Butlin (C, UCD); Brian Roberts (S, Durham); John Patten (T, Oxford); Hugh Clout (UCL); Robin Donkin (Cambridge); Robert Hodgson (Manchester); Brian Harley (Exeter).

1972 Robin Butlin (C, UCD); Brian Roberts (S, Durham); John Patten (T, Oxford); Hugh Clout (UCL); Robin Donkin (Cambridge); Robert Hodgson (Durham); Brian Harley (Exeter).

1973 Robin Butlin (C, QMC); Harold Fox (S, Cambridge); John Patten (T, Oxford); Brian Harley (Exeter); Hugh Prince (UCL); Brian Roberts (Durham); Michael Stanley (Edinburgh).

1974 Hugh Prince (C, UCL); Harold Fox (S, Cambridge); John Patten (T, Oxford); Robin Butlin (QMC); Paul Laxton (Liverpool); Brian Roberts (Durham); Michael Stanley (Edinburgh).

APPENDIX II

1975 Hugh Prince (C, UCL); Harold Fox (S, Cambridge); John Patten (T, Oxford); Robin Butlin (QMC); Robin Glasscock (Belfast); Paul Laxton (Liverpool); John Walton (Aberystwyth).

1976 Hugh Prince (C, UCL); Harold Fox, (S, Belfast); John Patten (T, Oxford); Robin Glasscock (Cambridge); Roger Kain (Exeter); Gwyn Meirion Jones (City of London Polytechnic); John Walton (Aberystwyth); co-opted: Robin Butlin (QMC) and Brian Harley (Exeter).

1977 Brian Harley (C, Exeter); Derek Gregory (S, Cambridge); Robin Butlin (T, QMC); Robert Dodgshon (ERS, Aberystwyth); Philip Ogden (QMC 1981); Colin Pooley (Lancaster); Trevor Wild (Hull); Jeremy Whitehand (Birmingham).

1978 Brian Harley (C, Exeter); Derek Gregory (S, Cambridge); Robin Butlin (T, QMC); Robert Dodgshon (ERS, Aberystwyth); Philip Ogden (QMC); Colin Pooley* (Lancaster), Trevor Wild (Hull), co-opted: Alan Baker (Cambridge), Hugh Prince (UCL).

1979 Brian Harley (C, Exeter), Derek Gregory (S, Cambridge), Robin Butlin (T, QMC), Robert Dodgshon (ERS, Aberystwyth), Philip Ogden (QMC), Colin Pooley (Lancaster); Trevor Wild (Hull); co-opted: Alan Baker (Cambridge); Hugh Prince (UCL).

1980 Alan Baker (C, Cambridge); Colin Pooley (S, Lancaster); Robin Butlin (T, Loughborough); Robert Dodgshon (ERS, Aberystwyth); Gerry Kearns (Cambridge); Philip Ogden (QMC); Martin Parry (Birmingham); Hugh Prince (UCL, co-opted), Michael Williams (Oxford).

1981 Alan Baker (C, Cambridge); Colin Pooley (S, Lancaster); Michael Williams (T, Oxford); Robert Dodgshon (ERS, Aberystwyth); Mark Cleary (Exeter); Gerry Kearns (Liverpool); Martin Parry (Birmingham); Hugh Prince (UCL); Jane Springett (Wolverhampton Polytechnic).

1982 Alan Baker (C, Cambridge); Colin Pooley (S, Lancaster); Michael Williams (T, Oxford); Ian Whyte (ERS, Lancaster); Mark

APPENDIX II

Cleary (Exeter); Stephen Daniels (Nottingham); Mark Overton (Newcastle); Hugh Prince (UCL); Jane Springett (Wolverhampton Polytechnic).

1983 Michael Williams (C, Oxford); Roger Kain (S, Exeter); Stephen Daniels (T, Nottingham); Ian Whyte (ERS, Lancaster); Mark Overton (Newcastle); Mark Billinge (Cambridge); Denis Cosgrove (Loughborough); Terry Slater (Birmingham); Hugh Prince (UCL) co-opted.

1984 Michael Williams (C, Oxford); Roger Kain (S, Exeter); Stephen Daniels (T, Nottingham); Ian Whyte (ERS, Lancaster); Charles Withers (St Paul and St Mary); Mark Billinge (Cambridge); Denis Cosgrove (Loughborough); Terry Slater (Birmingham); Hugh Prince (UCL, co-opted).

1985 Michael Williams (C, Oxford); Roger Kain (S, Exeter); Stephen Daniels (T, Nottingham); Eric Grant (Middlesex Polytechnic); Hugh Prince (UCL, co-opted); Humphrey Southall (QMC); Michael Turner (Hull); Ian Whyte (ERS, Lancaster); Charles Withers (St Paul and St Mary Cheltenham).

1986 Roger Kain (C, Exeter); Richard Dennis (S, UCL); Stephen Daniels (T, Nottingham); Eric Grant (Middlesex Polytechnic, 1988); Hugh Prince (UCL, co-opted); Humphrey Southall (QMC); Michael Turner (Hull, History); Ian Whyte (ERS, Lancaster); Charles Withers (St Paul and St Mary Cheltenham);

1987 Roger Kain (C, Exeter); Richard Dennis (S, UCL); Stephen Daniels (T, Nottingham); Michael Heffernan (Loughborough); Jane Springett (Liverpool Polytechnic); Gerry Kearns (Liverpool); Mark Overton (Newcastle); Ian Whyte (ERS, Lancaster).

1988 Roger Kain (C, Exeter); Richard Dennis (S, UCL); Michael Heffernan (Loughborough, T); Gerry Kearns (Liverpool); Jane Springett (Liverpool Polytechnic); John Sheail (Monkswood); Charles Withers (ERS, Cheltenham).

APPENDIX II

1989 Richard Dennis (C, UCL); Paul Glennie (S, Bristol); Michael Heffernan (T, Loughborough); Charles Withers (ERS, St Paul and St Mary Cheltenham); Andrew Gibb (Glasgow); Gillian Rose (QMC); Bruce Campbell (QUB); John Sheail (Monkswood).

1990 Richard Dennis (C, UCL); Paul Glennie (S, Bristol); Michael Heffernan (T, Loughborough); Charles Withers (ERS, St Paul and St Mary Cheltenham); Gillian Rose (QMC); Felix Driver (RHUL); Sarah Wilmot (Reading).

1991 Richard Dennis (C, UCL); Paul Glennie (S, Bristol); Felix Driver (T RHUL); Robin Butlin (Loughborough); Miles Ogborn (Salford); Alex Gibson (Exeter); Charles Withers (ERS, St Paul and St Mary, Cheltenham).

1992 Paul Glennie (C, Bristol); Miles Ogborn (S, Salford); Felix Driver (T, RHUL); Alex Gibson (Exeter); Charles Withers (ERS, Cheltenham and Gloucester); Martin Purvis (Leeds); Pyrs Gruffudd (Swansea).

1993 Paul Glennie (C, Bristol); Miles Ogborn (S, Lampeter); Felix Driver (T, RHUL); Alex Gibson (Exeter); Charles Withers (ERS, Cheltenham and Gloucester); Martin Purvis (Leeds); Pyrs Gruffudd (Swansea).

1994 Paul Glennie (C, Bristol); Miles Ogborn (S, Lampeter); Pyrs Gruffudd (T, Swansea); Charles Withers (ERS, Cheltenham and Gloucester); Catherine Nash (Lampeter); Martin Purvis (Leeds).

1995 Miles Ogborn (C, QMW); Catherine Nash (S, Lampeter); Pyrs Gruffudd (T, Swansea); David Gilbert (P, RHUL); Charles Withers (ERS, Edinburgh); Jason Roberts (CO, Loughborough); Catherine Brace (PG, Cheltenham and Gloucester).

1996 Miles Ogborn (C, QMC); Catherine Nash (S, Lampeter); Pyrs Gruffudd (T, Swansea); Charles Withers (ERS, Edinburgh); David Gilbert (PO, RHUL); Jason Roberts (CO, Loughborough); Catherine Brace (PG, Cheltenham and Gloucester); Charles Withers (E, Edinburgh)

1997 Miles Ogborn (C, QMC); Catherine Nash (S, Lampeter); Pyrs Gruffudd (T, Swansea); Charles Withers (ERS, Edinburgh); David Gilbert (PO, RHUL); Alan Baker (C, Cambridge); Jason Roberts (CO, Loughborough); Catherine Brace (PG, Cheltenham and Gloucester).

1998 Catherine Nash (C, RHUL); Cheryl McEwan (S, Birmingham); Craig Young (T, Manchester Metropolitan); Keith Lilley (CO, RHUL); Philip Howell (ERS, Cambridge); Georgina Gowans (PG, Southampton); Catherine Brace (PO, Exeter).

1999 Catherine Nash (C, RHUL); Cheryl McEwan (S, Birmingham); Craig Young (T, Manchester Metropolitan); Keith Lilley (CO, RHUL); Philip Howell (ERS, Cambridge); Georgina Gowans (PG, Southampton); Catherine Brace (PO, Exeter).

2000 Catherine Nash (C, RHUL), Cheryl McEwan (S, Birmingham), Craig Young (T, Manchester Metropolitan), Georgina Gowans (CO, UCL), Philip Howell (ERS, Cambridge), John Morrissey (PG, Exeter), Hayden Lorimer (MS, Aberdeen), Alan Lester (St Mary's UL), Catherine Brace, (PO, Exeter).

2001 Cheryl McEwan (C, Birmingham); Catherine Brace (S, Exeter); Craig Young (T, Manchester); Philip Howell (ERS, Cambridge); Dan Knox (CO, Sunderland); John Morrissey (PO Galway); Georgina Gowans (CO, Swansea); Hayden Lorimer (MS, Aberdeen); David Lambert, (NS, Cambridge); Alan Lester, (ERS, Sussex); Dan Knox (PCM, Durham).

2002 Cheryl McEwan (C, Birmingham); Georgina Gowans (S, Swansea); Craig Young (T, Manchester); Alan Lester (ERS, Sussex); Dan Knox (CO, Sunderland); John Morrissey (PO Galway); Hayden Lorimer (MS, Aberdeen); David Lambert (NS, Cambridge); Antonia Douthwaite (PCM, Birmingham).

2003 Cheryl McEwan (C, Birmingham); Georgina Gowans (S, Swansea); Craig Young (T, Manchester); Alan Lester (ERS, Sussex); Dan Knox (CO, Sunderland); John Morrissey (PO

Galway); Hayden Lorimer (MS, Aberdeen); David Lambert, (NS, Cambridge); Antonia Douthwaite (PG, Birmingham).

2004 Hayden Lorimer (C, Glasgow); Catherine Brace (S, Exeter); Jon Stobart (T, Northampton); Alan Lester (ERS, Sussex); John Morrissey (PO, Galway); Yvonne Whelan (CO, Bristol); David Lambert (MS, RHUL); Nicola Thomas (NS, Exeter); Diarmid Finnegan (PGM, Edinburgh); Elizabeth Gagen (OM, Hull); Peter Merriman (OM Reading).

2005 Hayden Lorimer (C, Glasgow); Catherine Brace (S, Exeter); Jon Stobart (T, Northampton); Elizabeth Gagen (ERS, Hull); Peter Merriman (PO, Aberystwyth); Yvonne Whelan (CO, Bristol); David Lambert (HMS, RHUL); Nicola Thomas (NS, Exeter); Merle Patchett (PCM, Glasgow); Diarmid Finnegan (OM, QUB); John Morrissey (WE, Galway).

2006 Hayden Lorimer (C, Glasgow); Catherine Brace (S, Exeter); Jon Stobart (T, Northampton); Elizabeth Gagen (ERS, Hull); Peter Merriman (PO, Aberystwyth); Yvonne Whelan (CO, Bristol); David Lambert (HMS, RHUL); Nicola Thomas (NS, Exeter); Merle Patchett, (PCM, Glasgow); Diarmid Finnegan (OM, QUB); John Morrissey (WE, Galway).

2007 Hayden Lorimer (C, Glasgow); Nicola Thomas (S, Exeter); Jon Stobart (T, Northampton); David Nally (ERS, Cambridge); Peter Merriman (PO, Aberystwyth); Heidi Scott (HCO, Aberystwyth); David Lambert (HMS, RHUL); Jude Hill (HNS, Exeter); Merle Patchett, (PCM, Glasgow); Diarmid Finnegan (OM, QUB); Catherine Brace (WE, Exeter).

2008–9 Hayden Lorimer (C, Glasgow); Nicola Thomas (S, Exeter); Jon Stobart (T, Northampton); David Nally (ERS, Cambridge); Merle Patchett, (ECO, Glasgow); Heidi Scott (CO, Aberystwyth); David Lambert (MS, RHUL); Harriet Hawkins (NS, Exeter); Catherine Brace (WE, Exeter); Diarmid Finnegan (QUB).

2009–10 Nicola Thomas (C, Exeter); Heidi Scott (S, Aberystwyth); Jon Stobart (T, Northampton); David Nally (ERS, Cambridge);

APPENDIX II

Briony McDonagh (NS, Sussex); Catherine Brace (HGRG WE, Exeter); Diarmid Finnegan (QUB); Carl Griffin (ECO, QUB), Isla Forsyth (PGC, Glasgow); Lois Jones (PGC, St Andrews); Franklin Ginn (PGC, KCL); Rebecca Ford (PGC, Nottingham).

2010–11 Nicola Thomas (C, Exeter); Heidi Scott (S, Aberystwyth); Carl Griffin (T, QUB); David Nally (ERS, Cambridge); Lloyd Jenkins (MS, Birmingham); Briony McDonagh (CO, Nottingham); Harriet Hawkins (NS, Bristol); Catherine Brace (HGRG WE, Exeter); Isla Forsyth (PGC, Glasgow); Lois Jones (PGC, ST Andrews).

2011–12 Nicola Thomas (C, Exeter); Harriet Hawkins (S, Aberystwyth); Carl Griffin (T, QUB); Alastair Owens (ERS, QMUL); Ruth Craggs (MS, St Mary's Twickenham); Briony McDonagh (CO, Nottingham); Catherine Brace (WE, Exeter); Oliver Dunnnett (NE, Nottingham); Innes Keighren (DPC, RHUL); Lowri Jones (CO, Nottingham); Edwin Aiken (TLO, Bristol); Jake Holder, (PGC, Nottingham); Kim Ross (PGC, Glasgow).

2012–13 Carl Griffin (C, QUB); Harriet Hawkins (S, RHUL); Briony McDonagh (T, Nottingham); Alastair Owens (ERS, QMUL); Ruth Craggs (MS, Hull); Lucy Veale (CO, Nottingham); Oliver Dunnnett (NE, St Mary's Twickenham); Hillary Geoghegan (DPO, UCL); Hannah Neate, HCO, Univ Central Lancs); Edwin Aiken (TLO, Bristol); Nicola Thomas, Exeter); Jake Hodder (PGR, Nottingham); Kim Ross (PGR, Glasgow).

Appendix III

Research Series

The Historical Geography Research Series is produced by the Historical Geography Research Group of the Royal Geographical Society with the Institute of British Geographers. The Research Series is designed to provide scholars with an outlet for extended essays of an interpretive or conceptual nature that make a substantive contribution to some aspect of the subject; critical reviews of the literature on a major problem; and commentaries on relevant sources. One or two numbers are produced annually. Contributions to the series are always welcome. Volumes should not normally exceed 30,000 words in length, inclusive of notes, tables and diagrams, and should be in English. In addition to single or jointly authored monographs, the Series welcomes themed conference papers or papers grouped around a topic of research relevant to the broad interests of the group. Intending contributors should, in the first instance, send an outline of their proposed paper to the Hon. Editor of the HGRG Research Series.

No. 1 Social Protest in a Rural Society: The Spatial Diffusion of the Captain Swing Disturbances of 1830–1831. Andrew Charlesworth (University of Liverpool)

No. 2 The Ordnance Survey and Land-Use Mapping. Brian Harley (University of Exeter)

No. 3 Medieval Irish Settlements: A Review. Brian Graham (Ulster Polytechnic)

- No.4 Register of Research in Historical Geography. M. Trevor Wild (The University, Hull)
- No.5 The Fordham Collection: A Catalogue. M.J. Freeman (Jesus College, Oxford) and J. Longbotham
- No.6 Sources for Scottish Historical Geography: An Introductory Guide. I. D. Whyte (University of Lancaster) and K. A. Whyte (University of Salford)
- No.7 Parish Registers: An Introduction. Roger Finlay (University of Manchester)
- No.8 British Directories as Sources in Historical Geography. Gareth Shaw (University of Exeter)
- No.9 Rural Settlements: An Historic Perspective. Brian K. Roberts (University of Durham)
- No.10 Spatial Patterns of Urban In-Migration in Late Nineteenth-Century Russia: A Factor Analytical Approach. R. H. Rowland (California State College, San Bernardino)
- No.11 Town and Country in the Development of Early Modern Western Europe. John Langton (University of Oxford) and Goran Hoppe (University of Stockholm)
- No.12 North American Cities in the Victorian Age. David Ward (University of Wisconsin-Madison) and John P. Radford (York University,
- No.13 A Gazetteer of English Urban Fire Disasters 1500–1900. E. L. Jones (La Trobe University, Australia), S. Porter (Kings College, London) and M. Turner (University of Essex)
- No.14 Register of Research in Historical Geography 1984. Kathleen A. Whyte (ed.) (University of Lancaster)
- No.15 Urban Epidemics and Historical Geography: Cholera in London 1848–9. Gerard Kearns (University of Liverpool)

No.16 Late Seventeenth Century Taxation and Population: The Nottinghamshire Hearth Taxes and Compton Census. Tim Unwin (Bedford College, London)

No.17 Seventeenth Century Monserrat: An Environmental Impact Statement. Lydia M. Pulsipher (University of Tennessee)

No.18 The Military Survey of Scotland 1747–1755: A Critique. Whittington and A.J.S. Gibson (University of St. Andrews)

No.19 A Chronology of Epidemic Disease and Mortality in Southeast England, 1601–1800. Mary Dobson (University of Oxford)

No.20 Register of Research in Historical Geography 1988. Kathleen A. Whyte (ed.) (University of Lancaster)

No.21 The Appalachian Frontier: Views from the East and South West. Robert D. Mitchell (University of Maryland) and Milton B. Newton (Louisiana State University)

No.22 The Geography of England and Wales in 1910: An Evaluation of Lloyd George's 'Domesday' of Landownership. Brian Short (University of Sussex)

No.23 People and Places in the Victorian Census: A Review and Bibliography of Publications based substantially on the Manuscript Census Enumerators' Books 1841–1911. Dennis Mills and Carol Pearce (Open University) and Rosalind Davies, Jo Bird and Carol Lee (Cambridge Group for the History of Population and Social Structure)

No.24 The Business of Improvement: Agriculture and Scientific Culture in Britain, c.1770–c.1870. Sarah Wilmot (University of Exeter)

No.25 Distinguishing Men's Trades: Occupational Sources and Debates for Pre-Census England. Paul Glennie (University of Bristol)

- No.26 A Glossary of Urban Form. Peter Larkham and Andrew Jones (University of Birmingham)
- No.27 Nineteenth Century Trade Union Records: An Introduction and Select Guide. Humphrey Southall, Carol Bryce and David Gilbert (Queen Mary and Westfield College, University of London)
- No.28 Nature and Science: Essays in the History of Geographical Knowledge. Felix Driver (Royal Holloway and Bedford New College) and Gillian Rose (Queen Mary and Westfield College, University of London) (eds)
- No.29 Flows of Labour in the Early Phase of Capitalist Development: the time-geography of longitudinal migration paths in 19th-Century Sweden. John Langton (University of Oxford) and Goran Hoppe (University of Stockholm)
- No.30 A Medieval Capital and its Grain Supply: Agrarian Production and its Distribution in the London Region c.1300. Bruce M. S. Campbell (Queen's University, Belfast) and James A. Galloway, Derek Keene and Margaret Murphy (Centre for Metropolitan History, University of London)
- No.31 London's Dreaded Visitation: The Social Geography of Plague in 1665. J.A.I. Champion (Royal Holloway, University of London)
- No.32 A Forbidding Fortress of Locks, Bars and Padded Cells: the locational history of mental health care in Nottingham. Hester Parr (University of Lampeter) and Chris Philo (University of Glasgow)
- No.33 Property Ownership and Urban and Village Improvement in Provincial Ireland, c.1700–1845. Lindsay Proudfoot (The Queen's University, Belfast)
- No.34 Colonial Discourse and the Colonisation of Queen Adelaide Province, South Africa. Alan Lester (St. Mary's University College, University of Surrey)

No.35 Geographical Education, Empire and Citizenship: Geographical Teaching and Learning in English Schools, 18700–1944. Teresa Ploszajska (Liverpool Hope University College)

No.36 Geographers Engaged in Historical Geography in British Higher Education 1931–1991. Hugh Prince (University College, London)

No.37 Chains on the River: The Thames Embankments and the Construction of Nature. Stuart Oliver (St. Mary's University College, University of Surrey)

No.38 Negotiating Colonialism: Gaelic Reaction to English Expansion in Early Modern Ireland, c.1541–1641. John Morrissey (National University of Ireland, Galway)

No.39 Home and Colonial: Essays in Celebration of Robin Butlin's Contribution to Historical Geography. Alan Baker (ed.) (University of Cambridge)

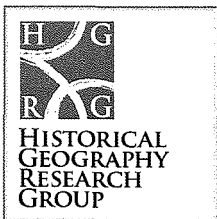
No.40 Practising the Archive: Reflections on Method and Practice in Historical Geography. Elizabeth Gagen (University of Hull), Hayden Lorimer (University of Glasgow), and Alex Vasudevan (University of Nottingham) (eds)

No.41 Patronage and the Production of Geographical Knowledge in France: The Testimony of the First Hundred Regional Monographs, 1905–1966. Hugh Clout (University College London)

No.42 Visual and Historical Geography: Essays in Honour of Denis E. Cosgrove. Veronica della Dora (University of Bristol), Susan Digby (Olympic College) and Begum Basdas (Istanbul Biligi University)

No.43 Collaborative Geographies: The Politics, Practicalities, and Promise of Working Together. Ruth Craggs (King's College London), Hilary Geoghegan (University of Reading) and Innes M. Keighren (Royal Holloway, University of London) (eds)

No.44 The Historical Geography Research Group: A History.
Robin A. Butlin (University of Leeds) with a Postscript by Carl
Griffin (University of Sussex), Hayden Lorimer (University of
Glasgow) and Nicola Thomas (University of Exeter).



Number 44, 2013
Historical Geography Research Series
ISBN 1 870074 26 2