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Studies in historical geography

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STUDIES IN HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY

Submitted by

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for the degree of Doctor of Letters,

Loughborough University of Technology,

1986.

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PUBLICATIONS

Publications provided with this submission are indicated by letter codes. (Individual contributions in edited volumes are specified under 'Articles', below.)

BOOKS

- 1968 Map Reading. Longmans Browne and Nolan. Dublin
- 1973 Studies of Field Systems in the British Isles. Cambridge University Press. (Editor, with A.R.H. Baker) (Paperback edition, 1981).
- 1976 Fields, Farms and Settlement in Europe. Ulster Folk and Transport Museum/H.M.S.O. (Editor, with R.H. Buchanan and D. McCourt).
- 1977 The Development of the Irish Town. Croom Helm. (Editor).
- 1978 An Historical Geography of England and Wales. Academic Press. (Editor, with R.A. Dodgshon).
- 1979 Change in the Countryside: Essays on Rural England 1500-1900. Institute of British Geographers, Special Publication No.10. (Editor, with H.S.A. Fox).
- A12 1982 The Transformation of Rural England c 1580-1800: a study in historical geography. Oxford University Press.

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- C 1 1961 'Some terms used in agrarian history', Agricultural History Review, IX, pp.98-104.
- 1962 'The Brue Valley of Central Somerset', Northern Universities' Geographical Journal, pp.37-48.
- A 1 1962 'Plot's Natural History of Staffordshire, N.Staffs Journal of Field 'Studies', 2, pp.88-95.
- 1964 'Enclosure by agreement in Northumberland', Abstracts, 20th I.G.U. Congress Proceedings, p.262.
- A 2 1964 'Northumberland Field Systems', Agricultural History Review XII, pp.199-220.
- 1965 'Human Geography', Geographical Viewpoint, pp.59-67.
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- B 2 1965 'The Population of Dublin in the late seventeenth century', Irish Geography, 5, pp.51-66.

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- B 3 1966 'Historical Geography and Local Studies in Ireland', Geographical Viewpoint 1, (3), pp.141-154.
- 1966 'The Urban History of Ireland: an introductory survey', Urban History Newsletter, pp.4-7.
- A 3 1967 'Enclosure and improvement in Northumberland in the Sixteenth Century' Archaeologia Aeliana, 4th series, vol.XLV, pp.149-160.
- B 4 1968 'Urban Genesis in Ireland, 1556-1641', in: R.W. Steel and R. Lawton (eds.), Liverpool Essays in Geography, pp.211-226.
- 1968 'The Bantry Bay Crude Oil Terminal', Irish Geography, V, (5), pp.481-484.
- B 5 1969 'Agriculture in County Dublin in the late eighteenth century', Studia Hibernica, 9, pp.93-108.
- 1969 'The Run-rig system', Area, 3, pp.44-47.
- C 2 1969 (with A.R.H. Baker, A.D.M. Phillips and H.C. Prince), 'The Future of the Past', Area, 4, pp.1-6.
- 1969 'Recent progress in studies of terminology of agrarian landscapes', Agricultural History Review, XII, pp.141-3.
- 1969 'Professional Geography in the Irish Republic', The Professional Geographer XXI, 4, pp.279-282.
- B 6 1971 'Irish Agrarian History: Review and Prospect', in F. Dussart (ed.), L'Habitat et les paysages ruraux d'Europe; Les Congres et Colloques de l'Universite de Liege, vol.58, pp.93-108.
- B 7 1972 'Church and landscape in medieval Ireland', in W.P. Adams and F.M. Helleiner (eds.), International Geography, I, pp.402-4.
- A 4 1973 (with A.R.H. Baker), 'Introduction, Materials and Methods', being chapter 1 of A.R.H. Baker and R.A. Butlin (eds.), Studies of Field Systems in the British Isles, pp.1-40.
- A 5 1973 'Field Systems of Northumberland and Durham', being chapter 3 of Baker and Butlin (op.cit.), pp.93-144.
- A 6 1973 (with A.R.H. Baker) 'Conclusion: problems and possibilities', being chapter 13 of Baker and Butlin (op.cit.), pp.619-656.
- B 8 1975 'Urban and proto-urban settlements in Pre-Norman Ireland', chapter 1 of R.A. Butlin (ed.) The Development of the Irish Town, pp.11-27.
- B 9 1975 'Irish Towns in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries', chapter 3 of R.A. Butlin (ed.) The Development of the Irish Town, pp.61-100.

- A 7 1975 'Rural Change in Northumberland, 1600-1880', in A.D.M. Phillips and B.J. Turton (eds.) Environment, Man and Economic Change, pp.218-237.
- 1976 'The diversity of diffusion: cruck-trusses, streetcars and the cedars of Lebanon', Historical Geography Newsletter, 5 (2), pp.31-3.
- 1976 'A Paper Landscape', (Review article), Jnl. British Society of Cartographers, pp.41-2.
- B10 1976 'Land and People c 1600', being chapter V of T.W. Moody, F.X. Martin and F.J. Byrne (eds.), A New History of Ireland, vol.III, Early Modern Ireland, 1534-1691 (Oxford University Press), pp.142-167.
- 1976 'Prologue to an Irish tragedy', Geographical Magazine, vol.49, 2, pp.87-93.
- 1977 'European Economic Community: funds for regional development', Geographical Magazine, 4, pp.228-9.
- 1977 'Ireland in an international world', Geographical Magazine, vol.49, 7, pp.430-437.
- 1977 'From Region to Area: the geographical basis of interdisciplinary Area Studies', in R. Lee (ed.), Change and Tradition: Geography's New Frontiers, pp.61-67.
- 1978 'E.E.C. influence on the Third World', Geographical Magazine, vol.50, 4, pp.233-236.
- B11 1978 'Some observations on the field systems of medieval Ireland', in M. Zaleska (ed.) Rural Landscape and settlement evolution in Europe, (Geographia Polonica vol.38), pp.31-36.
- A 8 1978 'The Late Middle Ages, c 1350-1500', being chapter 5 of Dodgshon and Butlin (eds.) An Historical Geography of England and Wales, pp.119-145.
- 1979 'European Adventure', Geographical Magazine vol.51, 4, pp.268-270.
- 1979 'United Europe by democratic vote', Geographical Magazine vol.51, 9, pp.609-615.
- A 9 1979 'Enclosure and rural change in England in the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries', in P. Flatres (ed.), Paysages Ruraux Europeens, Rennes, pp.337-351.
- A10 1979 'The enclosure of open fields and the extinction of common rights in England, 1600-1750: a review', in H.S.A. Fox and R.A. Butlin (eds.), Change in the Countryside, pp.65-83.
- C 3 1982 'Historical geography in Britain in the 1970's', in A.R.H. Baker and M. Billinge (eds.), Period and Place. Research Methods in Historical Geography. (Cambridge University Press), pp.10-16.

- All 1982 'The Historical Geography of Britain' (text and thematic maps) in The Ordnance Survey Atlas of Great Britain, pp.144-157.
- 1982 Contributions on: 'Man and the landscape' (pp.36-7); 'The growth of population' (pp.40-41); 'The agricultural revolution' (pp.134-139); 'The birth of industry' (pp.144-5); 'Wind, water and steam' (pp.148-151); 'Monasteries' (pp.206-7); 'Cottages and rural homes' (pp.220-221); 'Town houses' (pp.226-272); 'Coal mining towns' (pp.234-5); 'Spas and seaside resorts' (pp.238-241); in A. Marwick (ed.) Britain Discovered, (Mitchell Beazley).
- 1985 'Agrarian changes in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The Experience of the East Midlands', The Historian, 6, pp.10-14.
- 1985 'La politica regional de la CEE', in A.V. Lorca and J.C. Zapatero (eds.), La politica regional de la CEE (Madrid), pp.13-37.
- 1985 'Atlas of the Industrial Revolution' (conference report), Area 17(1), pp. 69-71.
- C 4 1986 'Early industrialisation in Europe', Geographical Journal.
- C 5 1986 (in press) 'Theory and methodology in historical geography', being chapter 1 of M. Pacione (ed.) Progress and Prospect in Historical Geography (Croom Helm).
- C 6 1986 (in press) 'Landscape as evidence and as symbol', in J. Chartres (ed.) Landscapes and Cities: Historical Essays in Honour of Professor Maurice Beresford (Hambledon Press).
- C 7 1986 (in press) 'European rural transformations: some reflections on the contexts of agrarian capitalism', Geographische Zeitschrift.

INAUGURAL LECTURE

- C 8 A Sense of Direction. Inaugural lecture at Loughborough University. Published by Loughborough University, 1982. 32pp.

SERIES EDITOR: BOOKS

(a) Croom Helm Historical Geography Series: General Editor

- R.A. Butlin (ed.) The Development of the Irish Town, (1977).
 I. Adams The Making of Urban Scotland, (1978).
 D. Wishart The Fur Trade of the American West, 1979.
 D. Mills Lord and Peasant in Nineteenth-Century Britain (1980).
 H. Clout Agriculture in France on the Eve of the Railway Age, (1980).

- M. Parry and
 T. Slater (eds.) The Making of the Scottish Countryside, (1980).
 T. Rowley (ed.) The Origins of Open Field Agriculture, (1980).
 L. Cantor (ed.) The English Medieval Landscape, (1982).
 H. Clemenson
 A. Charlesworth
 (ed.) An Atlas of Rural Protest in Britain 1548 to 1900
 (1982).
 A. Gibb Glasgow: the making of a city, (1983).
 A.J. Christopher The Shaping of Colonial Africa, (1984).
 J.M. Wagstaff The Evolution of Middle Eastern Landscapes,
 (1985).
 D. Cosgrove Social Formation and Symbolic Landscape, (1985).

(b) Methuen E.E.C. series: General Editor

- D. Swann Industrial and Competition Policy in the E.E.C.,
 (1983).
 B.A. Hill The Common Agricultural Policy, (1983).
 M. Wise The Common Fisheries Policy, (1984).
 H. Clout Rural Policies in the EEC, (1985).

Brief guide to publications submitted

The publications submitted relate to the research field of Historical Geography, and form the core of a wider range of works which I have published over a period of twenty-five years. This selection represents in my view a sustained, substantial and original contribution to knowledge.

CONTEXT

Historical geography - the geography or possible geography of the past - has a long and strong tradition in Britain, and has developed along varied routes and in varied 'schools' since the mid-1930's. The early traditions related to the detailed reconstruction of the geography of places and phenomena in the past. It was within this tradition that my early work on the 'reconstruction' of the geography of rural England in the early modern period was located. A long period of sustained research in and on Ireland occasioned a change of research topics and source materials. Throughout the whole period covered by the publications submitted I sustained a keen awareness of broader changes in the methodologies and theories of historical and human geography, and addressed some aspects in early publications. More recently, however, I have sought in an intensive way to focus particularly on the problems of methodology and theory in historical geography, and my recent work is a reflection of this proper concern of the mature scholar. My concern here has been as much to clarify and refine the methodological and theoretical structures for future work of both a theoretical and empirical kind. My published work as a whole reflects the continued engagement of theory and practice.

THE GROUPS OF PUBLICATIONS

The works cited fall into three groups. Group A is concerned with the historical geography of England (one includes Wales, one the whole of Britain) mainly, though not entirely in the period c 1600-1900. Group B

concerns aspects of the historical geography of Ireland, and Group C is my main work on theory and methodology in historical geography.

The material in Group A derives from an initial research interest in the nature and functioning of rural societies and landscapes in the past. Early publications (e.g. A2) reflected development of some earlier postgraduate research on Northumberland, which over the following ten years was further developed and extended to a broader regional (A5) and conceptual (A4, A6) basis. In many respects the zenith of this work was the material published on Northumberland and Durham in the major work (A4, A5, A6) on Studies of Field Systems in the British Isles. The chapter on Northumberland and Durham is accepted as the authentic work on the field systems (some would prefer the term 'open fields') of that region, and it is recognised that I added much detail and analysis to this problem. Brassley's recent account (Brassley, 1984) of the Regional Farming Systems of Northumberland and Durham relies very heavily on my work. The work as a whole has become the standard work on the subject, and is discussed and widely cited in a wide range of articles and books published in the last ten years or so (e.g. Kerridge, 1976; Dodgshon, 1979, 1980; Dahlmann, 1980; Rowley, 1981; Baker, 1979; Miller and Hatcher, 1978). Subsequent work on enclosure was a logical extension of the studies of open field systems (A3, A7, A9, A10). The work on enclosure and improvement has attracted support, notably the essay on pre-parliamentary enclosure, which Wordie (1983) has recently used to support his thesis on the importance of pre-parliamentary enclosure in England. The broader contexts of this work were enunciated in publications A8, A11 and A12, and although these were designed for a readership broader than that of a monograph audience, they incorporated original research and have attracted sympathetic comment. A.12, for example has recently been cited by Outhwaite (1986) in his overview of progress and backwardness in English agriculture, 1500-1600,

and by Searle (1986) in his work on the customary economy of Cumbria in the eighteenth century.

The range of material in Group B represents both continuity with and change from my earlier work. Continuity is represented by work on aspects of rural Ireland (B5, B6, B7, B11), and change by the works on the historical geography of urban development in Ireland (B1, B2, B4, B8, B9). The urban work I feel to have been of particular significance, in so far as there had been little attempt previously to provide a comprehensive theoretical and analytical framework for the study of urban development in Ireland. The book The Development of the Irish Town, published in 1977, has been extensively used as a criterion and critical reference point for subsequent studies (Graham, 1979; Harkness and O'Dowd, 1981; Simms, 1979, 1981; Clarke and Simms, 1985; Atlas of Ireland, 1979) which have naturally modified some of its perspectives, particularly on urban origins (B8). The Hearth Tax Returns work on the population of Dublin (B2) is extensively referenced in works on the use of the Hearth Tax and in studies of urban demographic history. In many respects the Irish material represents a series of pioneering works in what had been a relatively untilled field, including B10 - part of a major publication by an inter-disciplinary group.

Section C requires little comment. It represents in all aspects a continuing and expanding conceptual framework and terms of reference. Initially concerned with terminology (C1) and tentative revisions (C2) of view, this work has broadened in horizon and scope to address complex yet critical questions in historical and human geography (C5, C6, C7) against the changing background of quantitative, post-positivist, humanist and post-modernist approaches. In these works I have attempted to stress the continuing importance of retention, albeit in modified form, of earlier traditions of the 'classical' schools of historical geography (represented by different traditions from the Cambridge and Aberystwyth 'schools' for

example) together with the excitements of new theoretical dimensions and developments. Two of the works included (C4, C7) address questions in the context of European development. The European context is of increasing importance in my research in historical geography, and forms the basis of my forthcoming work on fenland community development and the history of historical geography in Western Europe.

The works cited represent a logical evolutionary pattern of research activity, and most of them have provided platforms for a wide range of linked researches by others, including starting-points for postgraduate research. My work is well known and widely acknowledged. In addition to the work submitted, it will doubtless be noted that I have edited a series of works in the field of historical geography (Croom Helm) which I believe have been influential in the subject's development.

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- Baker, A.R.H. (1979) 'Observations on the open fields: the present position of studies in British field systems', Journal of Historical Geography 5, 3, pp.315-323.
- Clarke, H.B. and Simms, A. (eds.) (1985) The comparative history of urban origins in non-Roman Europe.
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- Graham, B. (1979) 'The evolution of urbanization in Ireland', Journal of Historical Geography 5, 2, pp.111-126.
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- Rowley, T.R. (ed.) (1981) The origins of open-field agriculture.
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- Simms, A. (1979) 'Medieval Dublin: a topographical analysis'. Irish Geography 12, pp.25-41.
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- Wordie, J.R. (1983) 'The Chronology of English Enclosure, 1500-1914'. The Economic History Review 2nd series, 36, pp.483-505.

Declaration of joint authorship and
previous submission of material

- (i) Three of the works cited are of joint authorship. C2 ('The Future of the Past') was equally and jointly written with A.R.H. Baker, H.C. Prince and A.D.M. Phillips. A4 and A6 (the opening and concluding chapters of Studies of Field Systems in the British Isles) were equally and jointly written with A.R.H. Baker.

- (ii) None of the publications contained herein has been previously submitted for a higher degree.