

Area reference to Historical Geography Research Group

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- [\(1974\). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, reference unknown.](#)
- [\(1976\). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, 8 \(2\), 158-159.](#)
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- [\(1982\). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, 14 \(1\), 82-83.](#)
- [\(1983\). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, 15 \(4\), 362-363.](#)
- [\(1984\). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, 16 \(4\), 346.](#)
- [\(1985\). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, 17 \(4\), 343-344.](#)
- [\(1986\). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, 18 \(4\), 340.](#)
- [\(1987\). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, 19 \(4\), 361-362.](#)
- [\(1988\). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, 20 \(4\), 383-384.](#)
- [\(1989\). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, reference unknown.](#)
- [\(1991\). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, reference unknown.](#)
- [\(1992\). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, 24 \(4\), 431.](#)
- [\(1993\). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, 25 \(4\), 425.](#)
- [\(1994\). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, 26 \(4\), 402.](#)
- [\(1995\). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, reference unknown.](#)

Extracts:

(1974). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, reference unknown.

Historical Geography Research Group

Two meetings were held during the past year. The first, a residential conference convened by Dr J. H. C. Patten at Cumberland Lodge, Windsor Great Park, was on the theme of 'Urban historical geography', and is reported in Area 6 (1974), 254-6. The second was a numerously attended symposium on 'Historical studies of diffusion' held during the Institute's Annual Conference at Oxford. A report is included in this Area 7(1975), 1, 64-5.

Considerable progress was made with the Group's first Special Publication, Change in the Countryside, which will be ready for the press some time in 1975. The year also saw two other developments in the field of publications. One was the completion of the Glossary of the Agrarian Landscape whose initiation in 1967 was closely connected with the birth of the Study Group for the Terminology of the Agrarian Landscape which later became the Historical Geography Research Group. The Glossary is largely the work of Dr I. Adams, with the collaboration of some Group members. Means of publication are now being investigated. The other was the promotion of a volume of original papers on urban historical geography which is to be compiled by Dr H. S. A. Fox, Dr J. H. C. Patten and Dr J. W. R. Whitehand and submitted to the Institute's Editorial Committee for consideration as a theme volume of Transactions.

At the Group's Annual General Meeting at Oxford Dr J. H. C. Patten was elected Hon. Treasurer; Dr R. E. Glasscock and Mr J. Walton were elected ordinary committee members. Dr. J. W. R. Whitehand was co-opted onto the committee in his capacity as a compiler of the volume on urban historical geography. Membership of the Group rose by 18 to 245 during 1974.

Future meetings include a residential conference on 'Social patterns in nineteenth century Britain' to be held at the University of Liverpool on 23-25 May 1975; a joint meeting with the Ontario Group of Historical Geographers in Canada in September 1975; and a symposium on 'Communities and social contacts' to be held during the Institute's Annual Conference at Lanchester Polytechnic in January 1976. Joint meetings with the Developing Areas Study Group and with the Population Geography Study Group are being actively considered.

A second Register of Research in historical geography will be compiled during the course of 1975. It is hoped that, unlike the first, it will contain entries for geographers who, although not members of the Group

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.

Two publications sponsored by the Group appeared during the course of the year. *Agrarian Landscape Terms: A Glossary for Historical Geography*, the results of a decade of painstaking work by Ian Adams, may be obtained from Central Office at a price of ?4-60 (?3 68 to members of the Institute). A Register of Research in Historical Geography, listing over 500 current research projects, may be obtained at EI -25 from Harold Fox, at the Department of English Local History, University of Leicester.

The Group's membership rose sharply to reach a figure of 316. The committee met three times to discuss current and future plans, particularly the second British Canadian symposium in historical geography organized by Robin Butlin for May 1977. At the Group's AGM on 7 January Brian Harley was elected Chairman, Derek Gregory Honorary Secretary and Bruce Proudfoot and Richard Dennis ordinary committee members; Harold Fox was made an Honorary Life Member of the Group.

Derek Gregory

(1978). *Historical Geography Research Group*. *Area*, 10 (1), 71.

Historical Geography Research Group

The membership of the Group has continued to reflect the growing interest in historical geography both within and without the Institute, and by the end of 1977 had reached the record figure of 348 (1976-316; 1975-260). It is particularly encouraging to record the excellent response from geographers overseas and from scholars working in other disciplines, developments which have been reflected in the Group's programme of meetings. Three of these were held in the course of the year. At the Institute's Annual Conference in January Derek Gregory convened a symposium on 'The Industrial Revolution and the English space-economy' and Philip Ogden and Harold Fox convened a joint symposium with the Population Study Group on 'Historical demography'. May saw Robin Butlin's second British-Canadian symposium in full swing, with formal sessions at Anstruther and Danbury, together with a host of more informal contacts established during the Canadians' visits to individual Departments. In December the Group joined with the British Agricultural History Society to debate 'The agricultural consequences of population change' in London. The proceedings of these various gatherings have been reported in detail elsewhere.

The Group has taken several major initiatives in an attempt to consolidate its publication policy. A theme issue of the *Transactions*, 'Change in the town', was edited on behalf of the Group by John Patten and Jeremy Whitehand, and its much anticipated companion volume, 'Change in the countryside', edited by Robin Butlin and Harold Fox, is in the final stages of the publication process. The Group has also joined with Geo Books Ltd to produce an Historical Geography Research Series, which will start to appear in 1978 and which will be available to members of the Group at a reduced rate.

Derek Gregory

(1979). *Historical Geography Research Group*. *Area*, 11 (1), 24.

Historical Geography Research Group

Membership of the Group is now about 400, and the third Register of Research currently being compiled by M. T. Wild ought to reflect not only the surge of interest in historical geography but also the shift in research areas as new themes are explored and more traditional ones tackled with greater catholic conceptual vigour. These trends were apparent in several of the papers presented to the Group's symposium on 'Developments in historical geography', held during the Institute's Annual Conference at Hull in January, and emerged particularly clearly in the lively debates during the Group's July meeting at Cambridge on 'Geographical perspectives on the transition from feudalism to capitalism'. A third encounter of the year was with the British Agricultural History Society, held in London in December, when 'enclosure' was tackled with a refreshingly open mind.

This Easter will see the first publication in the Historical Geography Research Series, now under the editorship of R. A. Dodgshon and M. P. Conzen, and a theme issue of the *Transactions* on 'The Victorian

city', compiled for the Group by R. Dennis and R. Lawton, is due to appear soon. Discussions are also taking place with the Economic History Society over the production of an Atlas of the Industrial Revolution and it is hoped that the proceedings of the Cambridge meeting will provide the basis for a volume of essays to be published next year.

These various activities are now on such a scale that the Annual General Meeting decided to levy an annual membership fee of ?1.50, rising to £3.50 for subscribers to the Research Series. The Group hopes to have avoided the Peasants' Revolt by negotiating a concessionary rate for the Journal of Historical Geography, which will allow them to recoup the new tithe in full.

D. J. Gregory University of Cambridge

(1980). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, 12 (1), 90.

Historical Geography Research Group

1979 began with two highly successful symposia at the Manchester Conference, one convened by E. Grant on the historical geography of mining, the other by C. Pooley (with the Medical Geography Study Group) on public health and disease in the past. In the spring the group met in Leeds with the newly formed Society for Landscape Studies, and during the summer some 15 members took part in the third in a series of international conferences held at Los Angeles under the leadership of R. Newcomb, R. Vicero and A. Orme, to explore the historical geography of the frontier. The by now traditional year's-end meeting with the British Agricultural History Society tackled distress and unrest in the countryside.

In 1979 the Journal of Historical Geography became firmly established, and Change in the countryside appeared as a special publication of the Institute edited by H. Fox and R. Butlin, and R. Dennis edited a theme issue of the Transactions on the Victorian city. Several other new initiatives were also undertaken: the Historical Geography Research Series, edited by R. Dodgshon and M. Conzen, was inaugurated with the publication of A. Charlesworth's 'Social protest in a rural society' and J. B. Harley's 'The Ordnance Survey and land use mapping'; the group joined with the Economic History Society to start work on an atlas of the industrial revolution, edited by J. Langton and R. J. Morris; and the new Register of Research is currently being seen through the press by T. Wild and should demonstrate the continued strength and vitality of historical geography.

Derek Gregory

(1981). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, 13 (1), 89-90.

Historical Geography Research Group

The HGRG has now completed two years with a separate membership subscription and membership continues to increase. Members are kept in touch with group activities through the circulation of a regular newsletter. The group was involved in two symposia at the 1980 IBG at Lancaster a joint session with the urban group on historical aspects of urbanisation convened by R Dennis and the now regular young historical geographers' symposium convened by W. Bramwell. The summer meeting was convened at Nottingham by C. Delano-Smith and M. Parry on the consequences of climatic change, and was especially valuable as it allowed the interchange of views from a range of disciplinary perspectives. In December a joint meeting with the British Agricultural History Society was held on agricultural diffusion. During 1981 the group will expand its range of meetings, including an international conference in Toronto and a series of one-day regional seminars in Britain.

Four monographs have now been published in the Historical Geography Research Series, with two more to be published early in 1981. The series consists of short monographs which may be original pieces of research or reviews of sources or particular areas of study. Although available through bookshops membership of the group gives automatic receipt of this expanding series at a substantial discount. The group has also provided other publications including a series in the Geographical Magazine and Teaching Geography.

A new venture for the HGRG is in the provision of research training and 1980 saw the negotiation of a contract with SSRC for members of the group to organise a short research training course for postgraduate

students in historical geography. This will be held at Loughborough in April 1981, and it is hoped that SSRC support will allow this to become a regular feature of the group's activities.

Anyone requiring further information about the group should contact the Secretary.

Colin G. Pooley

(1982). *Historical Geography Research Group*. Area, 14 (1), 82-83.

Historical Geography Research Group

The Historical Geography Research Group has three basic aims: first, to provide a wide range of meetings and seminars at which historical geographers, social historians and others working on related themes can discuss topics of mutual interest; second, to promote research in historical geography through the publication of a research monograph series and through liaison with research students; third, to keep members informed of any relevant activities and news through a regular newsletter. 1981 has been an active year for the group, with membership expanding to about 230, and an increased range of activities.

Conferences organised by the HGRG are conceived at three distinct levels: one day workshops; residential meetings in the UK; and international conferences. The group tries to promote a wide range of meetings so that the diverse interests of the membership may be catered for as fully as possible. Three highly-successful one-day workshops were held in 1981, two of them held jointly with other organisations. The value of interdisciplinary contact was clearly seen in both the workshop on urban housing held jointly with the Urban History Group and in the one-day meeting held jointly with the Agricultural History Group and in the one-day meeting held in Edinburgh on Scottish agriculture while more workshops are planned for 1982.

The annual summer residential meeting of the group, held in Wolverhampton on 'Aspects of land tenure', attracted a small but enthusiastic group of participants who generated a great deal of valuable discussion, while in September a number of HGRG members attended an international meeting on the 'Study of the rural landscape' held in Durham and Cambridge. The annual conference of the IBG contained six modules provided by the HGRG, including six papers from postgraduate students and a further eight papers on the theme of historical adjustments to disaster. The sessions were well-attended and provided an interesting and varied diet of historical geographical research. Lastly about 15 British geographers attended the international CUKANZUS '81 meeting held in Toronto in August, which has now become a valuable focus for international cooperation among historical geographers. A similarly varied diet of meetings is planned for 1982 and I particularly thank all those who have convened or contributed to meetings of the group throughout the year.

The research monograph series published by the group now consists of six volumes, with two more planned for the spring. Both this year's publications were reviews of sources, (English parish registers and historical sources in Scotland) but the series also includes original research monographs and more speculative pieces on themes in historical geography. Category A members automatically receive the monograph series (which can also be bought from booksellers or direct from Geo Books), whilst anyone wishing to contribute to the series should contact the Honorary Editor, I. White at Lancaster University. A new venture, designed to improve the research environment for postgraduate students in historical geography, was the research training seminar held for postgraduates at Loughborough University in April with SSRC support. Eleven new postgraduates attended the meeting which generated much valuable discussion, and it is to be regretted that the financial constraints placed on SSRC mean that the venture is unlikely to be repeated in 1982.

The newsletter which goes out to members three or four times a year keeps historical geographers in this country and elsewhere basically in touch with the group's activities, but it is the discussion generated in small-group contact at seminars and conferences which is vital to the continued development of the subject. 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. Despite these problems we expect to see our membership continue to increase in 1982 and we welcome enquiries about membership from anyone with an interest in historical geography.

Colin G. Pooley

(1983). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, 15 (4), 362-363.

Historical Geography Research Group

As both the chairman and secretary of the HGRG retired from office at our January AGM, I would like to begin this report by thanking Alan Baker and Colin Pooley on behalf of our membership for so ably administering the Group's affairs over the past three years. Michael Williams (Oxford) is our new chairman and Mark Billinge (Cambridge), Denis Cosgrove (Loughborough) and Terry Slater (Birmingham) have joined the Committee with myself as secretary and Stephen Daniels as treasurer. Group membership has increased to about 250 for whom a varied programme of meetings has been provided. We have also continued to promote research through our sponsored publications and have kept members informed of Group activities with our regular Newsletter. Subscriptions remain unchanged at £4.50 for Category A membership (to receive Research Monographs as published) and £1.50 for Category B (Newsletter only).

Two meetings were held during the long vacation last year. The first, a symposium on 'Historical population geography' was convened jointly with the Population Geography Study Group at Cambridge, while, for the second, a group of UK historical geographers travelled to Germany for an 'Anglo-German colloquium on urban historical geography'. This visited more than twenty towns en route from Lubeck to Bonn, was dubbed 'Historical geography on the move' by two of its reporters (Area, 15 (1983) pp 1354), and yet still found time to debate contrasting approaches to the study of the urban past in these two countries (Journal of Historical Geography, 9 (1983), pp 65-7). A return meeting on the home ground of London, Cambridge, Birmingham, Liverpool and Exeter is scheduled for September 1983. The first Saturday in December saw our by now traditional one-day joint conference with the British Agricultural History Society. This year papers focused on the theme 'Capitalism in the countryside' and were received by a large audience from both societies. At the Annual Conference, Edinburgh, we joined the Rural, Urban, and Geography and Planning Study Groups to promote three well attended sessions on, respectively, 'The evolution of the rural settlement pattern with special reference to Scotland', 'The development and management of the historical city' and 'The development of planning thought' (reported in Area, 15, (1), 1983). Our year ended with a summer residential conference. On this occasion we convened in Exeter to discuss 'Aspects of the medieval economy and society'. It is pleasing to report that no fewer than twenty of our History colleagues joined us for this meeting, which will be reported in future issues of Area and the Journal of Historical Geography.

Category A members have received the latest in our research monographs series direct from Geo-Books Ltd; this is Richard Rowland's Spatial patterns of urban in-migration in late nineteenth century Russia: a factor analytic approach. Two further articles have been published in our series in Teaching Geography designed to introduce recent trends in Historical Geography to schools and to provide guidance to pupils preparing Historical Geography projects. These are by Colin and Marilyn Pooley on 'Population in the past' and Brian K. Roberts on 'Studying rural settlement' (Vol. 8 (1982) pp 37-43 and (1983) pp 122-8 respectively).

A full programme of meetings is now confirmed until this time next year but it is by no means too early to be planning our programme for winter 1984/5 onwards. I shall be glad to hear from anyone wishing to organise meetings and who would like HGRG support. Our principle is to encourage and foster all such initiatives whenever we can.

R. J. P. Kain

(1984). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, 16 (4), 346.

Historical Geography Research

Group HGRG membership remains at about 250 and the composition of our Committee is also largely unchanged. The one retirement, that of Mark Overton (Newcastle), was matched by the election of Charles Withers (St Paul & St Mary) at our January AGM. Subscriptions remain at £4.50 for Category A members (who receive issues in our Research Series as published) and £1.50 for Category B (Newsletter only).

HGRG has promoted a number of meetings during the period covered by this report ranging from one-day non-residential seminars to a major international conference. Our programme began with the latter, a week-long meeting in our CUKANZUS series convened at Oriel College and the School of Geography,

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Oxford by Michael Williams (Oxford). The theme: 'Mirrors of the Old World: Europe and its reproduction overseas' attracted some 42 presented papers and an attendance of about 75 Group members from the UK, Eire, Italy, Israel, Australia, South Africa and an especially strong contingent of no fewer than 30 from the US and Canada. Members of the Group owe an especial debt to Michael Williams and his assistants for setting our programme of meetings off to such an excellent start. The present strength of international collaboration in historical geography research was further underlined at a second meeting of an Anglo-German seminar in urban historical geography, this time on the home ground of London, Cambridge, Birmingham, Liverpool and Exeter and organised by Terry Slater (Birmingham) and Gareth Shaw (Exeter), 11-18 September 1983. The first Saturday in December saw our by now traditional one-day joint conference with the British Agricultural History Society. On this occasion papers were read on the theme 'Urban consumption and marketing of agricultural produce' to an audience of about 40 drawn from both societies. At the Annual Conference in Durham, HGRG was one of a number of study groups attracted by the 'recession' theme and it sponsored a full day of papers which examined 'the historical geography of recession'. Our convenor, Mark Overton, organised a programme of speakers who focused on late-nineteenth century and inter-war crises. In addition we arranged a half-day forum for postgraduates to present papers on their research. Reports on all meetings convened by HGRG in 1983-4 are published in either or both of Area and Journal of Historical Geography.

Category A members have received the latest issues in our Research Series direct from Geo Books Ltd. These are: No. 11, John Langton and Goran Hoppe, Town and country in the development of early modern western Europe; and No. 12, David Ward and John P Radford, North American cities in the Victorian age. All members of the Group have received three Newsletters and that for summer 1983 included a register of the then 97 postgraduates conducting research for higher degrees in historical geography at UK institutions.

A full programme of meetings is now confirmed until this time next year but it is by no means too early to be planning for Winter 1985/6 onwards. I shall be glad to hear from anyone wishing to organise meetings, especially one-day events for a regional rather than national constituency of members. Our principle is to encourage all such initiatives whenever we can.

R J P Kain University of Exeter

(1985). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, 17 (4), 343-344.

Historical Geography Research Group

The Historical Geography Research Group has three principal aims: to promote conferences and seminars; to encourage research and sponsor publications in historical geography; and to provide information to its 225 members on meetings and events related to historical geography by means of a regular Newsletter. Our subscriptions remain unchanged at /g4.50 for Category A members (who receive issues in our Research Series as published) and J1.50 for Category B (Newsletter only). HGRG officers are also unchanged from last year but three ordinary committee members retired at the January 1985 AGM and E Grant (Middlesex Polytechnic), H Southall (QMC) and M Turner (Hull) were elected in their place.

Our year of meetings began with a residential conference in Nottingham (13-15 July 1984) convened by Denis Cosgrove (Loughborough) and Stephen Daniels (Nottingham) on the theme 'Iconography in historical geography: symbols and images of past environments' which attracted an international and interdisciplinary panel of 15 speakers; reports are published in Journal of Historical Geography 11(4), 1984, 409-10 and Area 16(4), 1984, 289-90. The theme of our annual joint conference with the British Agricultural History Society (1 December 1984): 'Conservation of the agricultural past' brought together an audience of more than 70, one of the largest ever at these meetings. This was also the last HGRG/BAHS one-day conference convened by Mark Overton (Newcastle; now Secretary of BAHS) and HGRG is especially grateful for his work on behalf of both Societies. The IBG Annual conference at Leeds (4-10 January 1985) provided an opportunity to air the approaches, methods and findings of a major HGRG publishing initiative which is nearing completion. This is the project jointly sponsored with the Economic History Society to produce an Atlas of the Industrial Revolution. The call for papers sent to Atlas contributors elicited an encouragingly positive response and twelve short papers were presented, prefaced and concluded by the two Societies' editors, John Langton (Oxford) and Robert Morris (Edinburgh). A full report appears in Journal of Historical Geography 11 (1985), 196-7.

Category A members have received the latest issues in our Research Series direct from Geo Books Ltd. These are: No. 13, E L Jones, S Porter and M Turner, 'A gazetteer of English urban fire disasters, 1500-1900' and No. 14, Kathleen A Whyte (ed.), 'Register of research in historical geography, 1984'. Three further articles for sixth form school-teachers and pupils have been published in Teaching Geography in our series 'Problems and sources in historical geography' (Vol. 10 (1985) parts 3, 4 and 5).

A full programme of meetings is confirmed until this time next year (July 1986). These include two residential meetings to complement the IBG/Royal Historical Society celebrations of the 900th anniversary of Domesday Book and the next in the 'CUKANZUS' series of international Historical Geography conferences (Baton Rouge, Louisiana, July 1986). It is, however, always possible to include extra meetings and then there is the period from winter 1986 onwards. Aspiring conference convenors are invited to contact the Hon. Secretary; HGRG encourages and supports all such initiatives whenever possible.

R J P Kain University of Exeter

(1986). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, 18 (4), 340.

Historical Geography Research Group

The aims of the Group—the promotion of conferences and seminars, encouragement of research and sponsorship of publications, and dissemination of information on historical geography have been vigorously pursued during the year. In July 1985 a meeting in Oxford on 'Regional demographic patterns in the past', convened by Mary Dobson and Richard Smith, attracted 46 participants to hear 11 papers from speakers from North America and Portugal as well as Britain, and from historical demographers and anthropologists as well as geographers. A full report has been published in Journal of Historical Geography 12 (1986), 196-8. The December annual meeting with the British Agricultural History Society also examined a regional theme: 'Regionalism in agricultural practice and society', convened by Tony Phillips (Keele), attracted 64 members of the two societies. At the IBG Annual Conference at Reading, HGRG joined with the Transport Geography Study Group to sponsor a meeting on 'Selected themes in the historical geography of transport' and also convened a whole-day symposium of ten 'Papers in historical geography', the first time for several years that a completely open session had been promoted. A temporally and locationally diverse range of papers was presented, including several by postgraduates and overseas visitors. Reports on the meetings at Reading have appeared in Area 18 (1986), 66-7, 73-4, and Journal of Historical Geography 12 (1986), 308-9.

The Group also contributed a symposium of four papers on 'Geography of population and mobility in nineteenth-century Britain' at the Annual Conference of the Economic History Society held in Cheltenham in April 1986. Thanks are due to Charles Withers (Cheltenham) for not only organising the symposium, but also compiling a 74-page booklet including all four papers, for distribution free to conference participants and now available for purchase. Another co-operative venture with the Economic History Society, the Atlas of industrializing Britain, edited by John Langton and R J Morris, is scheduled for publication by Methuen in late 1986, while the latest issues in our own Research Series, No. 15, G Kearns, 'Urban epidemics and historical geography' and No. 16, T Unwin, 'Late seventeenth century taxation and population: the Nottinghamshire hearth taxes and Compton censuses', have been distributed to all Category A members. Following a change in policy by Geo Books, printing and publishing of the series will in future be handled 'in house' by HGRG, as a result of which it is hoped to adopt a more flexible attitude to length and format of future issues.

Preparations for Annual Conference meetings at Portsmouth ('The rise and fall of great cities' and 'Papers in historical geography') and Loughborough ('Historical geography and higher education') and for July conferences in 1987 ('Woodlands in British historical geography') and 1988 ('Liberty, equality and fraternity') are already advanced, but additional meetings—especially one-day and regional meetings—can always be accommodated.

Richard Dennis University College London

(1987). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, 19 (4), 361-362.

Historical Geography Research Group

At 224, membership of the Historical Geography Research Group, like the annual subscription £4.50 for Category A members receiving publications and newsletters, and £ 1.50 for Category B members receiving

only the latter), remains unchanged. It is also international, including 30 members from outside the United Kingdom.

The year began with a multiplicity of conferences. Several members of the Group participated in the Sixth International Conference of Historical Geographers in Louisiana. A grant from the IBG Study Groups and Research Committee allowed the attendance of two young historical geographers (Martin Phillips, Exeter; Suzanne Seymour, Nottingham), both of whom presented well-received papers. A full report has been published in *Journal of Historical Geography* 13, 1987. 1986 also marked the 900th anniversary of Domesday Book and meetings on pre- and post Domesday society were organised by the Group to precede and follow the major Domesday conference convened by the Royal Historical Society and the IBG. 'Before Domesday', organised in Birmingham by Della Hooke, attracted about 55 participants, including historians and archaeologists, in addition to the 15 speakers. Reports have appeared in *Area* 18, 1986 and *Journal of Historical Geography* 13, 1987. The second Anglo-American seminar on 'Aspects of the late medieval economy and society', convened in Norwich by Bruce Campbell (Belfast), also attracted a large multi-disciplinary and international attendance.

In December, the annual meeting with the British Agricultural History Society examined 'Agricultural censuses and statistics'. At the IBG Annual Conference in Portsmouth, the Group joined with the Urban and Population Geography Study Groups to convene a major two-day, 10-paper symposium on 'The rise and fall of great cities'. Given the restricted focus of this symposium on 19th and 20th-century western cities, a session of 'Papers in Historical Geography', convened by Humphrey Southall, was also arranged, providing an opportunity to hear from younger members and overseas visitors, including Professor Bill Wyckoff (Montana State), who attended the conference as an invited Young Research Worker.

1986-7 also saw the publication by Methuen of the Atlas of industrializing Britain edited by John Langton and Bob Morris on behalf of the Group and the Economic History Society. Several collections of papers from HGRG conferences have also found commercial publishers. In our own Research Series, No 17, L M Pulsipher, *Seventeenth Century Montserrat: an environmental impact statement*, was the last to be published by Geo Books. Because of its considerable length and Geo Books' price of £9.50, it was impracticable to distribute No 17 to Category A members; but No 18, G Whittington and A J S Gibson, *The Military Survey of Scotland 1747-1755: a critique*, also a 'double issue', and published by the Group, as future issues will be, has been distributed to all Category A members. Three more issues, including a new edition of the Research Register, will be published shortly.

A full programme of meetings is scheduled for 1987-88, and it is hoped to initiate joint meetings with landscape and urban historians, similar to the annual meeting with agricultural historians.

Richard Dennis University College London

(1988). *Historical Geography Research Group. Area*, 20 (4), 383-384.

Historical Geography Research Group

The year began with a residential conference at the University of Oxford, convened by Michael Williams and Charles Watkins, and devoted to 'woodlands in British historical geography'. During the autumn term a one-day postgraduate symposium at Loughborough, organised by Mike Heffernan, focussed on aspects of the historical geography of inter-war Britain, while another in the series of meetings held jointly with the British Agricultural History Society, on 'food production, land use and diet during war' also concentrated on early twentieth-century Britain, with papers covering British agriculture and food campaigns during both world wars.

At the IBG conference at Loughborough, a highly successful and well-attended symposium on 'teaching historical geography' ranged from fieldwork in Venice to computer-assisted learning in the east end of London, and from the teaching of history and geography in nineteenth-century France to heritage studies in 1980s Britain. Thanks are due to Denis Cosgrove and Charles Withers for assembling such a stimulating programme.

The academic year ended with a three-day meeting at Cambridge, organised by Alan Baker and Mike Heffernan around the theme of 'politics and place: French revolutionary ideals and historical geography'. Among the twenty-four papers were four by speakers from France, four from the USA and one from Czechoslovakia. The attendance of several young French researchers was in part supported by an IBG Study Groups grant.

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The AGM saw the elevation of Mike Heffernan (Loughborough) to the post of treasurer, following six years of masterly accounting by Steve Daniels; and the election of Bruce Campbell (Belfast) and John Sheail (Monks Wood) to the committee. Charles Withers (Cheltenham) took over as editor of the research series. A vigorous sales campaign is yielding some extra income for the group, particularly following the publication of 19 in the series, Mary Dobson's A chronology of epidemic disease and mortality in southeast England 1601-1800. This was followed by 20, the latest Register of research in historical geography, edited by Kathleen Whyte. Further manuscripts are always welcome, and in-house publication means that we can be more flexible than hitherto about the length of individual issues. It is hoped that the appointment of a new North American editor, Aidan McQuillan (Toronto), will attract both authors and subscribers from across the Atlantic.

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.

Next year promises a bumper crop of meetings, covering the geographical impact of colonialism, upland landscapes, a third Anglo-American seminar on medieval economy and society, the 7th International Conference of Historical Geographers, and a meeting with urban historians on the theme of class and space; but there is still room for more.

Last but not least, 1988 was marked by the creation of the country's first historical geography knight. In the New Year's Honours List, Professor Clifford Darby was awarded a knighthood for services to the study of historical geography.

Richard Dennis University College, London

(1989). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, reference unknown.

Historical Geography Research Group

HGRG has promoted several meetings during the year, some in collaboration with other specialist groups. The year began with a three-day residential conference at Emmanuel College on 'Politics and place: French revolutionary ideals and historical geography', convened by Dr A R H Baker and Dr M Heffernan, which attracted researchers from seven countries. The series of successful joint meetings with the British Agricultural History Society continued in December with a well-attended meeting on 'Agriculture and the village', focussing on the relationships among village morphology, agricultural practice and management, and seigneurial control. By contrast, the one-day meeting with the Society of Landscape Studies on 'British uplands: landscape and agrarian change' attracted little HGRG interest. Four modules at the IBG conference on 'Colonialism and development' were convened jointly with the Developing Areas Study Group by Dr M Heffernan and Dr P Dixon. The papers ranged widely and stimulated considerable discussion. A busy and varied series of meetings have been organised for 1989-90.

During the IBG conference, Dr R Kain and Dr J Sheail, on behalf of the HGRG, arranged a reception celebrating the knighthood and eightieth birthday of Professor Sir H C Darby. About fifty participants heard speeches from Professor J C Holt, Master of Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, Professor R Lawton, and Professor Darby.

At the AGM, Richard Dennis (UCL) became chairman as successor to the tireless Roger Kain, and Paul Glennie (Bristol) took over as secretary. Andrew Gibb (Glasgow) and Gillian Rose (QMC) were elected to the committee. Aidan McQuillan (Toronto) continues as co-opted editor for North America, and HGRG is indebted to him for a vigorous and successful recruiting campaign among North American Historical Geographers. Membership now stands at approximately 240. Membership remains at £4.50 for category A (publications) or £1.50 for category B (newsletter). We have continued our offer of one year's free category B (newsletter) membership to postgraduates during their first year of research. All HGRG members remain eligible for a substantial discount on subscriptions to the *Journal of Historical Geography*.

Two issues in the HGRG Research Series (distributed free to category A members) were published during 1988-89. These were 21, Robert B Mitchell and Milton B Newman's *The Appalachian frontier: views from the East and the Southwest*, and 22, Brian Short's *The geography of England and Wales in 1910: an evaluation of Lloyd George's 'Domesday' of landownership*. Further sales of these papers and of back issues provided useful income for HGRG. Further issues are already in preparation. The use of in-house printing and the adoption of perfect binding now enables us to prepare longer volumes than previously. Further proposals and manuscripts are always welcome. Other new publications involving the group include

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The atlas of industrializing Britain (edited by J Langton and R J Morris for HGRG and the Economic History Society, Methuen 1986) which is to have a Japanese edition. Papers from HGRG meetings have been published in D Denecke and G Shaw, eds *Urban historical geography: recent progress in Britain and Germany* (Cambridge UP, 1988) and M Heffernan and P Gruffudd, eds 'A land fit for heroes'? *The human geography of inter-war Britain* (University of Loughborough Research Series, 1988).

P D Glennie Bristol University

(1991). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, reference unknown.

Historical Geographic Research Group

HGSG has promoted several meetings during the year, some in collaboration with other specialist groups. The year began with an International Conference on Urban Landscape, organised by the Urban Morphology Research Group at Birmingham University. The series of successful joint meetings with the British Agricultural History Society continued in December with a well attended meeting on 'Farmers and Landowners'. The theme for the next joint meeting in December 1991 is 'Rural Society and the Poor'. In May we joined with the Royal Geographical Society with a meeting on 'Geography and Empire'.

At IBG Conference in Sheffield, we promoted four sessions under the title 'Locality Studies and Historical Geography'. Each session consisted of two half-hour presentations, a prepared piece by a discussant, and open discussion. This format was very successful. Session themes were 'Notions of locality', focusing on nineteenth-century British legislation and geography; 'Constructing the meanings of localities', focusing on eighteenth and nineteenth century rural symbolic landscapes; 'Local character and wider structures', focusing on railway and mining communities since c. 1850; and 'Gender, ethnicity and neighbourhood', focusing on nineteenth and early twentieth century North America.

The fortnightly seminar series of the London Group of Historical Geographers, at the Institute of Historical Research has gone from strength to strength with a varied and interesting programme, drawing good attendances. HGRG funds are available to assist researchers to attend these meetings. Details from Dr F Driver, Royal Holloway and Bedford New College, Egham TW20 OEX.

A busy and varied series of meetings have been organised for 1991-92, but members of the committee are always willing to receive suggestions for conference themes, and to consider sponsorship of conferences likely to be of interest to HGRG members. We would also welcome applications for support from other regionally-based seminar groups.

At the AGM, Mike Heffernan (Loughborough) retired as Hon Treasurer and was succeeded by Felix Driver (RHBNC, London). Gillian Rose (QMW, London) and Andrew Gibb (Glasgow) retired from the committee, and Robin Butlin (Loughborough), Miles Ogborn (Salford), and Alex Gibson (Exeter) were elected. Aidan McQuillan (Toronto) continues as co-opted editor for North America.

Dr J Langton and Dr R Morriss have been elected Honorary Life Members of the Group, in appreciation of their editing of the *Atlas of industrialising Britain* (Methuen 1986), which has now appeared in a Japanese edition. Total membership stands at approximately 250. Subscription rates are ?8.00 for category A members (who receive two volumes in the HGRG research series each year-these retail at ?7.95 each) or ?2.00 for category B members. All members receive three issues a year of HGRG newsletter. We continue to offer one year's free category B (newsletter) membership to postgraduates during their first year of research, or a ?2.00 discount on category A membership. All HGRG members remain eligible for a substantial discount on subscriptions to the *Journal of Historical Geography*. It is a considerable help to the Hon Treasurer if members pay their subscriptions by bankers' order. These are obtainable from the Hon Secretary. Three issues in the HGRG Research Series (distributed free to category A members) were published. These were number 24, Sarah Wilmot's *The Business of improvement: agriculture and scientific culture in Britain, c 1700-c 1870*; 25, Paul Glennie's *Distinguishing men's trades: occupational sources and debates for pre-census England*; and 26, Peter Larkham and Andrew Jones' *Glossary of urban form*. The next issue, *Nineteenth-century trade union records*, will be published in autumn 1991. Outside sales continue to run at a high level. Back issues can be obtained from the Hon Editor, Charles Withers, Department of Geography, Cheltenham and Gloucester College of Higher Education, Shaftesbury Hall, St Georges Place, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL50 3PP. There is a discount on back issues for category A members. Future issues are in preparation, and Dr Withers welcomes new proposals and manuscripts. Other publications resulting from HGRG conferences included *Before the Black Death: Essays in the Crisis of the Early Fourteenth Century*, edited by Bruce Campbell (Manchester University Press 1991). These essays stemmed

from papers and roundtable discussion at a meeting in Chester in 1989. Finally, I would ask new IBG members who indicated to IBG that they wished to join HGRG, but have heard nothing further from HGRG. IBG administration do not inform study groups of the choices made by new members. Please contact me directly to be added to our membership list, and to receive newsletters.

P D Glennie University of Bristol

(1992). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, 24 (4), 431.

Historical Geography Research Group

HGRG has promoted a wide variety of meetings this year, some in collaboration with other specialist groups. In September 1991 HGRG supported a two day conference with CORAL on 'Regions and Regionalism' at Loughborough University. The long-standing series of joint meetings with the British Agricultural History Society continued with a well attended meeting in December on 'Rural society and the poor'. One day conferences have been supported on 'Images of Empire', which brought together specialists from a variety of disciplines, and on 'The history of retailing and consumption' which enabled the presentation of postgraduate research.

At the IBG conference in Swansea, HGRG organised a session on ' Celtic identity, national separatism and the European past'. This was divided into three sessions, each with two papers and a discussant following the successful format of the previous year. The sessions were: ' Landscape and identity ', on upland landscapes and celtic identities, ' History and modernity ', on the tensions between past, present and future in nationalist projects; and 'Monument and myth', on the problems of representing nationalism.

The fortnightly seminar series of the London Group of Historical Geographers has continued to provide a strong and interesting programme throughout the year. It has also been the basis for an HGRG publication. HGRG funds are available to assist researchers to attend these meetings. Details from F Driver (RHBNC).

Using both HGRG funds and a grant from IBG we have been able to fund the attendance of three young researchers at the International Historical geography conference in Vancouver (August 1992).

Members of the committee are always willing to receive suggestions for conference themes, and to provide support for conferences and regionally-based seminar groups likely to be of interest to HGRG members. The committee is at present drawing up a set of criteria for financial support.

The HGRG Research Series has continued with Felix Driver (RHBNC) and Gillian Rose's (QMW, London) edited collection of essays from the London Group seminar series ' Nature and science; essays in the history of geographical knowledge'; 28. (Unplanned authorial delays mean that Issue 27 is not yet available). The next issues: ' Flows of labour' and ' A medieval capital and its grain supply' will be published in summer 1992 and autumn 1992 respectively.

Finally, I would ask new IBG members who indicated to the IBG that they wished to join the HGRG, but have heard nothing further from us, to contact me directly to be added to our membership list, and to receive the newsletters. IBG administration do NOT inform study groups of the choices made by new members.

Miles Ogborn University of Salford

(1993). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, 25 (4), 425.

Historical Geography Research Group

HGRG has been involved in cooperating with other specialist groups to provide a wide variety of meetings during the last year. We were involved in funding the ' Anglo-American Seminar on Medieval Economy and Society' (Leicester, July 1992); the annual HGRG and British Agricultural History Society conference on 'Rural Trade and Industry' (London, December 1992); and a seminar on the 'Historical Geography of Retailing and Coconsumption' (Wolverhampton). In addition, using a grant from the IBG Study Groups Committee and a substantial contribution from HGRG funds, we were able to send three postgraduate students to the International Conference of Historical Geographers (Vancouver, August 1992). Reports from

each of them were published in the October Newsletter, and those members of the HGRG Committee who also attended the conference reported on the highly favourable comments made about the high standard of the papers presented by young British historical geographers.

At the IBG's Annual Conference, HGRG was involved in two joint sessions. A day session entitled 'Spaces of Power: Historical and Contemporary', was convened by Felix Driver (Royal Holloway, BNC) for the HGRG and Gillian Rose (QMW, London) for the SCGSG. It discussed the new attention to notions of power within geography and sought to bring together papers on historical and contemporary subject matter in each module. The session included papers by Susan Ford (Bolton), David Sibley (Hull), Linda McDowell (Cambridge), Derek Gregory (UBC), and the HGRG study group guest Catherine Hall (East London). It was very well attended. Another day session entitled 'Human impact and adaptation: ecological relations in historical times' was convened by R A Butlin (Loughborough) for HGRG and C N Roberts (Loughborough) for BGRG. It sought to present interdisciplinary work on the dynamism of the human-environment relation. It involved papers which covered a wide range of time periods and ecologies. There were modules on 'Scotland', 'England and Wales', 'The North Atlantic' and 'Western And Central America and the Caribbean'. The convenors were pleased with the success of the session.

The HGRG Research Series has continued with the publication of Issue 29 in August 1992. This was Goran Hoppe and John Langton's study of Flows of labour in the early phase of capitalist development: the time-geography of longitudinal migration paths in nineteenth century Sweden. Unplanned authorial delays still mean that Issue 27 is not yet available. Issue 30, A medieval capital and its grain supply, is a double-sized issue which will be published in the summer of 1993.

We have made a concerted effort to bring subscriptions up to date, and to standardise the use of bankers orders. This has generally been successful. In addition, much of this year's HGRG Committee meetings have been taken up with discussions of the way ahead for the research group. As a result we have produced a draft strategic plan for the next three years and proposed changes in the composition of the HGRG Committee which will give specialist functions to each Committee member. The strategic plan and the proposals are being put to the membership in the summer Newsletter.

Miles Ogborn Lampeter

(1994). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, 26 (4), 402.

Historical Geography Research Group

HGRG has been involved in several meetings during the last year. The annual HGRG and British Agricultural History Society conference took the theme of 'Agriculture and the Environment' (London, December 1993) and included papers by Oliver Rackham and John Sheail (Institute of Forrestrial Ecology). At the IBG Annual Conference at Nottingham, HGRG was involved in two sessions. A day session entitled 'Picturing Land and Life' was convened by Stephen Daniels (Nottingham) for the HGRG and James Ryan (RHVL) for the SCGSG. It focussed on representations of land and life in a wide variety of media and a wide variety of places. The session included papers by both geographers (including Charles Withers (Edinburgh), David Matless (Oxford) and Susanne Seymour (Nottingham) and non geographers including John Taylor (Manchester Metropolitan), Tim Barringer (Victoria and Albert Museum), Deborah Sugg (East London). The line-up also had a decidedly global flavour including Roy Jones (Curtin University, Perth), Peter Bishop (South Australia) and the HGRG's young research worker Lance Howard (UCLA). With Roy Porter (Wellcome Institute) as the study group guest-arriving just in time to give a paper on Hogarth's London-this was a well attended and highly successful session. The other HGRG day session, in response to requests from the membership, was a general one entitled 'Current Research in Historical Geography', convened by Paul Glennie (Bristol). It sought to present the diversity of historical geographical research with the focus on young research workers. Papers were presented by Martin Purvis (Leeds), Cheryl McEwan (Swansea), Craig Young (Manchester Metropolitan) and Keith Dawson (Exeter) amongst others. Other support has been given to historical research via grants to the JB Harley Fund and to the Oxford Seminars in Cartography.

The HGRG Research Series has continued with the publication of Issue 30 in summer 1993. This was a substantial volume (three times the normal length of HGRG publications) by Bruce Campbell, James Galloway, Derek Keene and Margaret Murphy entitled A Medieval Capital and its Grain Supply: Agrarian Production and Distribution in the London Region c1300. Followers of such things will be pleased to know that Issue 27 in the series has finally been sent to the publishers.

It has also been a busy year for the committee. The draft strategic plan formulated in 1992-3 was circulated among the membership this year, and they were asked for comments and balloted on the constitutional changes that adoption of the plan would involve. Despite a rather low poll the changes were agreed by the vote. However, given a number of strong dissenting voices the low 'turnout' the issues were raised once again in the HGRG AGM in Nottingham. As a result the HGRG Committee has been reorganised and is now working according to the scheme laid out in the strategic plan.

Miles Ogborn QMW, London

(1995). Historical Geography Research Group. Area, reference unknown.

Historical Geography Research Group

In the past year the HGRG has been active in supporting historical geography and involved in several meetings. At the IBG Annual Conference at Newcastle HGRG was involved in three sessions. A one day session entitled 'Utopian Geographies' was convened by Pys Gruffudd (Swansea) and Catherine Nash (Lampeter). The session focused on a wide range of past plans for ideal societies with papers on utopias at a variety of scales such as Ann Knowles' (Aberystwyth) on nineteenth-century Welsh immigrants' visions of America, Miles Ogborn (QMW) on the cultural politics of eighteenth-century information technology and Adrian Passmore (Birmingham) on ideas of community in post-war planning in Britain, and in a variety of contexts including papers on eighteenth-century settlement in Savannah, Georgia (Terry Slater, Birmingham), a fifteenth-century Italian ideal city plan (Alessandro Scafi, Rome) and utopian urbanism in the works of the Dutch artist Constant (David Pinder, Cambridge). HGRG also supported Elaine Sisson (Trinity College, Dublin) as Young Research Worker, who spoke on masculine utopias and nation building in early twentieth century Ireland in this session. HGRG also co-sponsored a joint session with UGSG entitled 'After Alnwick: studying Urban form in the 1990s ' and a session entitled 'Nature, Environment and Landscape: European attitudes' (1920-70), convened by Simon Rycroft (Sussex) and Denis Cosgrove (Royal Holloway). A day conference organised by Dr Peter Dewey (Royal Holloway) for the British Agricultural History Society, entitled 'Agriculture and the Environment' at the Institute of Historical Research also received support from HGRG.

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.

The HGRG Research Series had continued with the publication in 1994 of No 27, Nineteenth Century Trade Union Records: An Introduction and Select Guide by Humphrey Southall, David Gilbert and Carol Bryce. No. 31 *London's Dreadful Visitation: the social geography of plague in 1665*, by J A I Champion is due to be published shortly. Enquiries about the series should be addressed to Professor Charles W J Withers, Department of Geography, The University of Edinburgh, Drummond Street, Edinburgh, EH8 9XP.

At the AGM, Paul Glennie (Bristol) retired as Chair and is succeeded by Miles Ogborn (QMW), who retired as Honorary Secretary, Catherine Nash (Lampeter) was elected as Honorary Secretary, while Pys Gruffudd (Swansea) continues as Honorary Treasurer, David Gilbert (Royal Holloway) as Honorary Publicity Officer and Charles Withers as Honorary Editor of the Research Series. Jason Roberts (Loughborough) has taken up the position of Conference Officer and Catherine Brace (Cheltenham and Gloucester) as Postgraduate Committee member has been active in encouraging post-graduate membership and activity in the organisation. The committee remains committed to implementing the aims of the HGRG strategic plan and ensuring the openness of the organisation to all interests in historical geography. Efforts are being made to compile a database of members' interests, support joint meetings with groups with similar interests in other disciplines and to establish contact with potential members in North America. There are now over 300



members in the group and membership has increased due to new subscriptions from the RGS, post-graduates attending the Medieval Economy and Society Seminar (Cardiff) and from the Open University Local History programme. As Honorary Chair Miles Ogborn has been active in ensuring that the interests of the study groups are represented within the new organisational structure of the RGS-IBG, and has been elected to the new Research and Higher Education Committee.

Catherine Nash University of Wales, Lampeter