

A Vision of Britain through time

The site details a vision of Britain between 1801 and 2001. Including maps, statistical trends and historical descriptions.

The main Vision of Britain site is about places, but much of this information comes from the census reports of the last 200 years. Since 1801, the Census of Population has created a uniquely detailed record of Britain's changing communities. It also links a very good mapping solution.

Site: Vision of Britain

The main part of our site gives you access to census statistics for your chosen area. This part of the site, which is still under construction, is about the census itself, and about the reports it published. Once complete, it will give you access to:

- The introductory text from the main reports of each census, the Preliminary and the General Reports, plus other selected reports.
- Listings of tables in the main part of each report.
- The actual contents of tables computerised by the project, including headings and notes.

Also have a look at some of the Travellers' Tales describing journeys around the UK. It really gives you a real feel for the time. One by Karl Philipp Moritz in 1782 describes various journeys, but one that I mused at was about Nottingham.

Quote:

I was now only a few miles from Nottingham, where I arrived towards noon. This, of all the towns I have yet seen, except London, seemed to me to be one of the best, and is undoubtedly the cleanest. Everything here wore a modern appearance, and a large place in the centre, scarcely yielded to a London square in point of beauty. From the town a charming footpath leads you across the meadows to the high-road, where there is a bridge over the Trent. Not far from this bridge was an inn, where I dined, though I could get nothing but bread-and-butter, of which I desired to have a toast made.

Nottingham lies high, and made a beautiful appearance at a distance, with its neat high houses, red roofs, and its lofty steeples. I have not seen so fine a prospect in any other town in England.

EndQuote