Farm field and fell in Upper Teesdale 1600-1900: a study of historical geography

Britton, Jennifer M.

How to cite:
Britton, Jennifer M. (1974) Farm field and fell in Upper Teesdale 1600-1900: a study of historical geography, Durham theses, Durham University. Available at Durham E-Theses Online: http://etheses.dur.ac.uk/9934/

Use policy
The full-text may be used and/or reproduced, and given to third parties in any format or medium, without prior permission or charge, for personal research or study, educational, or not-for-profit purposes provided that:

- a full bibliographic reference is made to the original source
- a link is made to the metadata record in Durham E-Theses
- the full-text is not changed in any way

The full-text must not be sold in any format or medium without the formal permission of the copyright holders.

Please consult the full Durham E-Theses policy for further details.
FARM FIELD AND FELL IN UPPER TEESDALE, 1600-1900:

A STUDY IN HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY

JENNIFER M. BRITTON

SUBMITTED FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

JUNE 1974

The copyright of this thesis rests with the author. No quotation from it should be published without his prior written consent and information derived from it should be acknowledged.
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Figure Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Upper Teesdale: Drainage and Relief</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Upper Teesdale: Solid Geology, Townships and Commons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Settlement in the Forest of Teesdale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>The Population of Upper Teesdale, 1801-1891</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Development of Middleton in Teesdale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Middleton in Teesdale, 1843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Sizes of holdings in Middleton and Newbiggin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Middle Forest Farms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Ettersgill Farms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Harwood Farms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Farm Buildings in Upper Teesdale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Field Patterns around Middleton, 1843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Enclosure Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Old and New Enclosures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Middle Forest Enclosure Patterns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Ettersgill Enclosure Patterns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Harwood Enclosure Patterns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Plan of Ettersgill Farms, 1763</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Plan of Ettersgill Farms, 1848</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Reclamation in the Forest of Teesdale: A Reconstruction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Newbiggin Tithe Map, 1843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Present Day Enclosure Patterns in Upper Teesdale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Enclosure Banks in Ettersgill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Types of Enclosure Banks in Ettersgill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Reclamation in Ettersgill: A Reconstruction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Enclosure Patterns: the Problems of Cartographic Representation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Upper Teesdale Farms: 1600-1640, and 1660-1700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page</td>
<td>Topic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Land Use in 1848: Harwood and Middle Forest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Land Use in 1848: Ettersgill and Newbiggin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Upper Teesdale: Land Use in 1848</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Upper Teesdale Commons and Stinted Pastures: 1769 and 1848</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>The Lead Industry in Upper Teesdale</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FIGURE 1
UPPER TEESDALE: DRAINAGE

Source: Ordnance Survey Map Sheet 84 "Teesdale"; Scale of one inch to one mile. Seventh Series.

UPPER TEESDALE: RELIEF

Source: Ordnance Survey Map Sheet 84 "Teesdale"; Scale of one inch to one mile. Seventh Series.
FIGURE 2

UPPER TEESDALE: SOLID GEOLOGY

Source: Geological Survey, \( \frac{3}{8} \) " Sheet 4, of North East England. (Enlarged for this map).

UPPER TEESDALE: TOWNSHIPS AND COMMONS


Ordnance Survey Sheet 84 "Teesdale"; Scale of one inch to one mile. Seventh Series.
FIGURE 3
SETTLEMENT IN THE FOREST OF TEESDALE

Sources:
a) 1600-1700. Survey of the Manors of Raby, Brancepeth and Barnard Castle, 1612. (P.R.O.)
Various Probate Inventories of Middleton and the Forest of Teesdale, 1600-1700. (Pal & Dip.)
A Complete Terrier of the Redtory of Middleton in Teesdale in the Bishopric of Durham, 1663. (C.R.O.
Strathmore Collection, Box 88 No. 130).

b) 1769. A Plan of the Manor of Middleton in the County of Durham...belonging to Henry, Earl of Darlington, 1769.
(M.E.O., small map store).


d) 1848 Field Books and Plans of the Townships of Harwood, Forest and Frith and Ettersgill, 1847-63. (M.E.O. bookshelves of small map store).
1851 Census Returns for the Forest of Teesdale. (C.R.O. on microfilm).

Note: • = one dwelling.
FIGURE 4

THE POPULATION OF UPPER TEESDALE, 1801 - 1891

THE POPULATION OF UPPER TESDALE, 1801 - 1891

- Middleton
- Newbigin
- Reay
- Thr

Year: 1800, 1850, 1900, 1950

Units: 1,000, 5,000, 10,000
A: the original form of Middleton as a 'one row' village, aligned east–west, the long tofts extending northwards behind the dwellings.

B: Middleton by about the end of the 9th century: a second row has been added to the village, again aligned east–west, the long tofts extending southwards behind the dwellings. Between the two rows of dwellings was a small village green.

C: Middleton by the end of the 12th century. By now the north–south section has been added, running parallel with Hudshop Beck. At the northern end of this section is the Parish Church.

Sources: Plan of the Manor of Middleton in the County of Durham... belonging to Henry, Earl of Darlington, 1769. (M.E.O., small map store).


Personal Observations.
FIGURE 6
MIDDLETON IN TEESDALE, 1843

Source: Middleton Tithe Map, 1843. (Pal & Dip.)
FIGURE 7
SIZES OF HOLDINGS IN MIDDLETON AND NEWBIGGIN

A. This represents all holdings in Middleton and Newbiggin which are mentioned in the Jacobean Survey of 1612, with the exception of two very large holdings (see below). • = one holding.

B. This represents the unenclosed land in the subdivided fields of Middleton and Newbiggin. • = one holding formed entirely of land in the subdivided fields, as yet unenclosed. X = one holding formed partly of unenclosed land in the subdivided fields, and partly of enclosed land in the subdivided fields and elsewhere.

C. This represents the enclosed lands of Middleton and Newbiggin. • = one holding formed entirely of enclosed land. X = one holding formed partly of enclosed lands, and partly of unenclosed land.

Note: Because of mapping difficulties two farms have been left out of Figure 7: i) 69½ acres held by Thomas Bainbrigge of 'Powell'. 69 acres were enclosed, the remainder in one of the subdivided fields; ii) 120 acres held by Roger Bainbrigge of Friar House: all this land was enclosed.

Source: Survey of the Manors of Raby, Brancepeth and Barnard Castle, 1612. (P.R.O.)
FIGURE 8
MIDDLE FOREST FARMS

1769

Source: A Plan of the Manor of Middleton in the County of Durham... belonging to Henry, Earl of Darlington, 1769. (M.E.O., small map store.)

Key

1. Widdybank Farm (John Walton)
2. Wheysike Farm (Scot's)
3. Sawer Sike Farm (Teward's)
4. Ralldon Farm (Mary Lee)
5. Hunt Hall Farm (Thos. Allison)
6. Vallenge Lodge (?)
7. Kirk House Folds Farm (Tarn's)
8. Teward's House Farm (Collin's)
9. East Under Hurth Farm (Hutchinson's)
10. Lane Side Farm (Bainbridge's)
11. Moss Farm (Anthony Walton)
12. Watgarth Farm (Peter Allison)
13. ? (Wm. Allison)
14. Hangingshaws Farm (Tallentine & Ireland)
15. Forsgarth End Farm (Robson)
16. Eggpot Farm (Beddels)
17. Hurth Pasture
18. Forsgarth Farm (Henry Robinson)

1948

Source: Map of the Township of Forest and Frith, surveyed in 1863.
(M.E.O., Cupboard at rear of back office.)

Key

1. Widdy Bank (George Gibson)
2. Seivy Hill (Jane Redfearn)
3. Langdon Beck Pasture
4. Valence Lodge (Joseph Currah)
5. Langdon Beck (Edward Garget)
6. Langdon (William Scott)
7. Raiton (Mary Scott)
8. Vicarage (Rev. J. Lowe)
9. Intack (Isaac Tarn)
10. Hunt Hall (Thomas Adam)
11. Sawer Hill (John Teward)
12. Mount Pleasant (Nancy Walton)
13. English Hill (Geo Tallentine)
14. Under Hurth (John Steeley)
15. Hurth Pasture
16. Under Hurth (Mary Walton)
17. Hedge Hole (John Walton)
18. Hangingshaws (John Tallentine)
19. Hangingshaws (Joseph Ireland)
20. Bell Hill (Widow Tallentine)
21. Hangingshaws (Wm. Tallentine)
22. Egg Pot (Joseph Beadle)
23. Cocklake (Thomas Walton)
24. Whey Syke (Jacob Scott)
25. Knot Hill (Widow Walton)
26. Moss (Henry Bainbridge)
27. Force Garth End (Henry Robinson)
28. In Dale (Charles Dowson)
29. Moor Riggs (Robert Redfern)
30. ? (Joseph Ireland)
31. Moor Riggs (Thomas Bell)
32. Moor Riggs (Matthew Walton)
33. Lane Side (Thos. Allison)
34. Moor Riggs (Jane Horn)
35. Langdon (Arthur Tallentine)
36. Force Garth End (Widow Walton)
37. Force Garth (Robert Rutter)
38. Force Garth (Isaac Robinson)

Old Folds (Jos. Bainbridge)
Kirkhouse Folds (John Howard)
Under Hurth (John Collinson)
Gillet (Thos. Scott)
Out Dale (Wm. Allison)
Watgarth (Isaac Allison)
Langdon Beck (Jonothan Barker)
1769
Source: A Plan of the Manor of Middleton in the County of Durham... belonging to Henry, Earl of Darlington, 1769. (M.E.O., small map store).

Key
1. Brigg House Farm (William Lowes) 9. Eman's Farm (Thomas Temple)
3. Dirt Pit Pasture (shared by 4, 11) 11. Beckhead (Joseph Garget)
4. Skew Holme (?) 12. ? (Tim Tarn)
5. East Birk Bush Farm (?) 13. Noughtberry Hall (Edmund Garget)
7. Little Out Pry (shared by 4 & 9) 15. Dirt Pit Farm (John Lowe)
8. Great Out Field (shared by 6, 9, 10, 11) 16. Dirt Pit (William Tuer)

1848
Source: Map of the Township of Ettersgill, surveyed in 1863. (M.E.O., cupboard at rear of back office)

Key
2. Brigg House (John Swinbank) 15. Scar End (Hannah Bell)
3. Dirt Pit (John Thompson) 16. Scar End (John Hurchinson)
4. Ash Dub Side (John Bainbridge) 17. Low Beck Head (Mary Tarn)
5. Dirt Pit (George Bainbridge) 18. Low Beck Head (Margaret Anderson)
6. Birth Tree House (Henry Parmanley) 19. Matthew Anderson's Farm
7. Moor Riggs *(Jane Horn) 20. High Beck Head (Mary Hutschinon)
8. Ettersgill Pasture 21. Woolpitts Hill (Timothy Tarn)
11. Walker Hill (Widow Scott) 24. High Force (Thomas Scott)

* 1. The remainder of this farm is in Newbiggin.
* 7. The remainder of this farm is in Middle Forest.
FIGURE 10
HARWOOD FARMS

1769

Source: A Plan of the Manor of Middleton in the County of Durham... belonging to Henry, Earl of Darlington, 1769. (M.E.O., small map store.)

Key
1. Grass Hill Farm (Nixon) 12. Bowes Close Farm (Wm. Toward)
2. Harwood Head Farm (John Winter) 13. Margt. Oliver"s Farm
3. Cocklake Farm (Wm. Atkinson) 14. Part March Gill Farm (Raisbeck)
4. Cow Hill Syke Farm (Jane Race) 15. Part March Gill Farm (Thos. Raisbeck)
5. Hertship Farm (?) 16. Stoney Hill Farm (Thos. Watson)
6. Vipond Farm (?) 17. Rawn Tree Rigg Farm (John Dowson)
7. Ruff Rigg Foot Farm (Mr. Dowson & Isaac Robinson)
8. Force Foot Farm (John Horn)
9. Cousin & Dowson"s Great Pasture
10. Thos. & Wm. Toward"s Ling Pasture
11. Bowes Close Farm (Thos. Toward)

1848

Source: Map of the Township of Harwood, surveyed in 1863. (M.E.O., cupboard at rear of back office.)

Key
1. Rumney Farm (John Rumney)
2. Ash Gill Head (George Watson)
3. Sanders (Wm. Bayles)
4. Harwood Head (Joseph Race)
5. Hertship (Thos. Watson)
6. South Whitefolds (shared between 15, \\
7. Pasture
8. Rough Rigg Head (?)
9. Manse (John Dowson)
10. Rotten Row (Mary Anderson)
11. Rotten Row (Jere. Hutchinson)
12. Pasture
13. Willy Hole (Fanny Tallentine)
14. Clover Yard (John Hunt)
15. Rigg Side (Thos. Heward)
16. Stoney Hall (John Dowson)
17. Force Foot (M. Bull)
18. Stoney Coom (Wm. & Tho. Heward)
19. Pasture (shared by
20. Stoney Coom (Thos. Anderson)
21. Midge Holme (John Anderson)
22. Lingy Hill (Matt. Dowson)
23. Anty"s (George Teward)

15. \\
24. Pasture (Shared by
25. Pasture
26. Marches Gill (Elizabeth Dixon)
27. Marches Gill (Jonothan Raisbeck)
28. Marches Gill (Thos. Toward)
29. Marches Gill (Jeremiah Dowson)
30. Bowes Close (Ann Cousin)
31. Bowes Close (John Toward)
32. Bowes Close Pasture
33. East House (Timothy Collinson)
34. Unthank (John Watson)
35. Unthank (Rachel Robinson)
36. Peghorn (Jacob Tallentine)
37. Green Hills (Thos. Cousin)
38. Red Wing (George Garget)
39. Hertship (Thos. Watson)

Grass Hill (John Anderson)

Water Meetings (Joseph Watson)

Harwood Head (William Bayles)

Rigg Side (Ann Watson)

Hertship (Thomas Watson)

Hortree Top (Joseph Cousin)

Hertship (Thomas Watson)
ETTERSILL FARMS

1769

1848

Plantation

Common Grazing Land

Roads and roadsides

1/4 MILE
A. Woolpitts Hill Farm.

A - Byres  
B - House  
C - Stable  
D - Hay Barn

E - Garth  
F - Water Trough  
G - Coal shed  
H - Store house

Source: survey by the writer in October 1969.

B. Egg Pot Farm.

A - House  
B - Byres  
C - Hay Barn

D - Stable  
E - Stable  
F - Coal shed

Source: as above.

C. Hay Barn.

A - Byres  
B - Hay store

Source: as above.
FARM BUILDINGS IN UPPER TEESDALE

A WOOLPITTS HILL FARM

B EGG POT FARM

C HAY BARN

40 FEET
FIGURE 12

FIELD PATTERNS AROUND MIDDLETON, 1843

Source: Middleton Tithe Map, 1843. (Pal & Dip.)
Sources: 


b) Middleton - Middleton in Teesdale Enclosure Award. (C.R.O.)
FIGURE 14

OLD AND NEW ENCLOSURES

Source: Middleton Tithe Map, 1843 (Pal & Dip).

Note the old head dyke running across the map, dividing the older enclosures to the south from the newly enclosed common in the north.
FIGURE 15
MIDDLE FOREST ENCLOSURE PATTERNS

Sources:

a) 1769. Plan of the Manor of Middleton in the County of Durham...belonging to Henry, Earl of Darlington, 1769. (M.E.O., small map store).

b) 1848 Map of the Township of Forest and Frith. (Surveyed in 1863. Cupboard at rear of back office).
FIGURE 16
ETTERSGILL ENCLOSURE PATTERNS

Sources:

a) 1769. Plan of the Manor of Middleton in the County of Durham...belonging to Henry, Earl of Darlington, 1769. (M.E.O., small map store).

Sources:

a) 1769. Plan of the Manor of Middleton in the County of Durham...belonging to Henry, Earl of Darlington, 1769. (M.E.O., small map store).

(M.E.O., cupboard at rear of back office).
Plan of the Township of Ettersgill in the Parish of Middleton belonging to the Duke Of Cleveland, 1848.
(M.E.O., cupboard at rear of back office).
FIGURE 20.

RECLAMATION IN THE FOREST OF TEESDALE: A RECONSTRUCTION.

Sources: Survey of the Manors of Raby, Brancepeth and Barnard Castle, 1612. (P.R.O.)
Plan of the Manor of Middleton in the County of Durham ... belonging to Henry, Earl of Darlington, 1769. (M.E.O., small map store).
Field Books and Plans of the Townships of Harwood, Forest and Frith and Ettersgill, 1847-63. (M.E.O., bookshelves of small map store).
FIGURE 21

FIGURE 22

PRESENT DAY ENCLOSURE PATTERNS IN UPPER TEESDALE

Source: Ordnance Survey 2½" to 1 mile Sheets
FIGURE 23

ENCLOSURE BANKS IN ETTERS CILL

Source: Personal Observations.
FIGURE 24
TYPES OF ENCLOSURE BANKS IN ETTERSGILL

A. The least pronounced type of bank, often showing only as a slight feature running across a field. It shows a slight ditch on one side, usually no more than one foot deep. This type of bank could be the result of ploughing out of a larger feature, such as B or C below, or was perhaps the foundation for a fence or hedge.

B. A very pronounced feature, forming a very effective boundary. A high bank rising from the general level of the field on one side, with a deep ditch on the other side, in some cases up to five feet deep. One example of this type has a thick hedge growing at the bottom of the ditch, which still forms an extremely good boundary at the present day.

C. The least common type, but quite distinctive where it does occur. This bank stands about two to three feet above the general level of the field in which it occurs. There is a slight ditch on either side of the bank, which has a flat top. This type of bank, although distinctive does not form any kind of boundary feature at the present, and was possibly surmounted by a fence or hedge in the past.

Source: survey by the writer in October 1969.
TYPES OF ENCLOSURE BANKS IN ETTERSGILL
Sources:  Survey of the Manors of Raby, Brancepeth and Barnard Castle, 1612.  (P.R.O.)
Plan of the Manor of Middleton in the County of Durham ... belonging to Henry, Earl of Darlington, 1769.  (M.E.O., small map store).
Field Book and Plan of the Township of Ettersgill, 1847-63.  (M.E.O., bookshelves of small map store).
FIGURE 26
ENCLOSURE PATTERNS: THE PROBLEMS OF CARTOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION

Sources:

a) 1769 Plan of the Manor of Middleton in the County of Durham...belonging to Henry, Earl of Darlington, 1769. (M.E.O., small map store).

b) 1848 Farm Book and Plan of the Township of Ettersgill, 1847-63. (M.E.O., bookshelves of small map store).
ENCLOSURE PATTERNS:
THE PROBLEMS OF CARTOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION

BRIGGE HOUSE FARM

1769

1848

Grote Out Field
Little Out Pry

UNGST LAGE

RIVER LAND

ONE MILE
Source: Various Probate Inventories for Middleton and the Forest of Teesdale, 1600 - 1700. (Pal & Dip.)

Note:  
C = cattle  
S = sheep  
H = horses  
F = farmyard animals, ie. poultry, pigs.  
Hy = hay  
Co = corn  
W = wool
UPPER TEESDALE FARMS
1600-1640

Average figures for the Forest of Teesdale Total of 8 farms

1650-1700

Average figures for the Forest of Teesdale Total of 11 farms

Average figures for Middleton Total of 6 farms

Average figures for Middleton Total of 11 farms
FIGURE 28
LAND USE IN 1848

Sources:


b) Middle Forest. Farm Book and Map of the Township of Forest and Frith, 1847-1857. (M.E.O., bookshelves of small map store).
FIGURE 29
LAND USE IN 1848

Sources:

c) Ettersgill Farm Book and Plan of the Township of Ettersgill, 1847-1863. (M.E.O., bookshelves of small map store).

d) Newbiggin Farm Book and Plan of the Township of Newbiggin, 1847-1863. (M.E.O., bookshelves of small map store).
FIGURE 30
UPPER TREESDALE: LAND USE IN 1848

Sources:

a) 1769 Plan of the Manor of Middleton in the County of Durham...belonging to Henry, Earl of Darlington, 1769. (M.E.O., small map store).

b) 1848 Plans of all the Upper Teesdale Commons, Stinted pastures and Allottments belonging to the Duke of Cleveland, 1848. (M.E.O., cupboard at rear of back office).
No stinting is recorded at this time.

Harwood Pasture.
LBP Langdon Beck Pasture.
HP Hursth Pasture.
EP Ettersgill Pasture.

s Enclosed land.
s Stinted.
u Unstinted.
FIGURE 32
THE LEAD INDUSTRY IN UPPER TEESDALE

Sources:
1732 Map of the Forest of Teesdale and the Lead Mines therein belonging to the Right Honourable the Lord Barnard, 1732. (S.E.O., large store, Drawer 7).
1769 Plan of the Manor of Middleton in the County of Durham...belonging to Henry, Earl of Darlington, 1769. (M.E.O., small map store).

Note:
1: the Eggleshope mines, including Fleakbridge and Mannergill.
2: the Hudshop mines, including Coldberry, Redgroves and Skeers.
3: the Pike Law mines.
4: the Ettersgill mines.
5: the Langdon mines.
6: the Harwood mines.