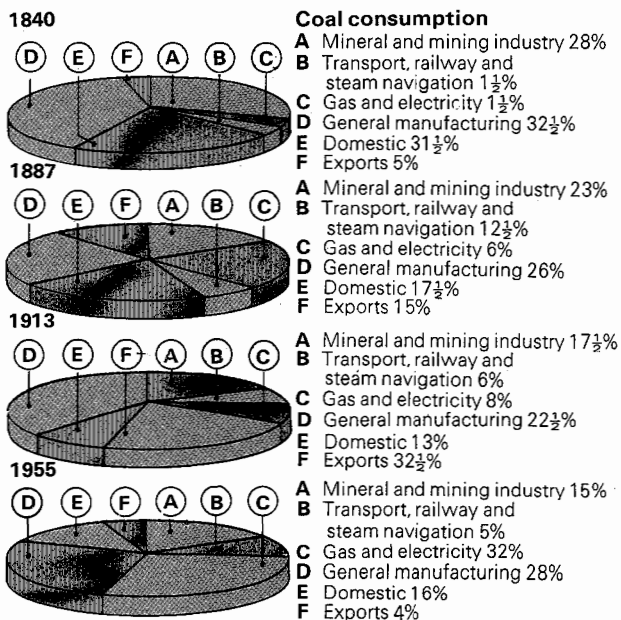
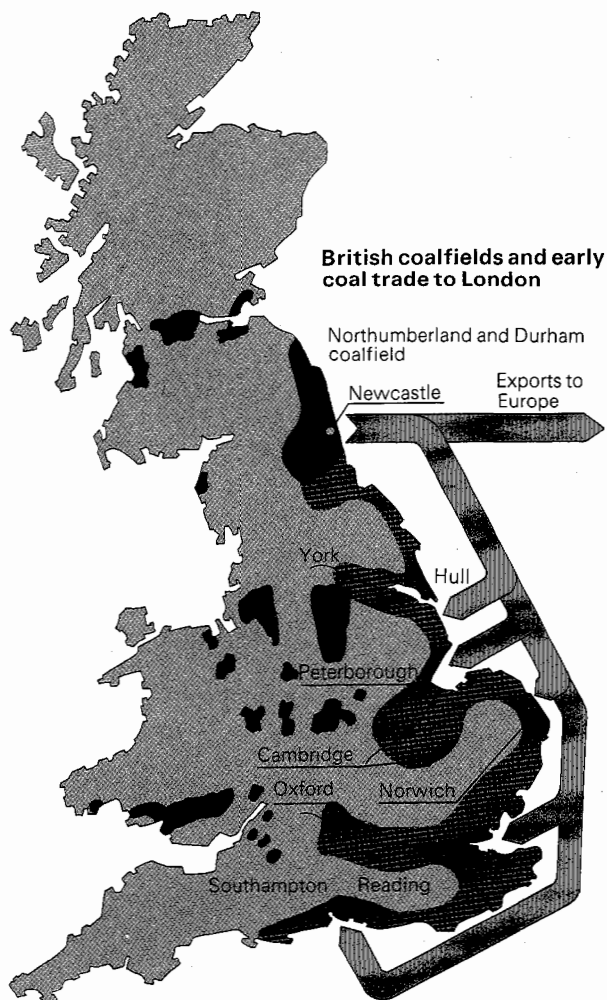
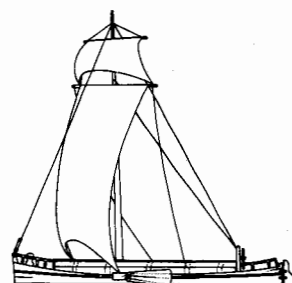


The Industrial Revolution was based on coal, which provided steam power and made large scale iron smelting possible. Before 1700 coal was used for domestic heating, almost exclusively, and because of heavy transport costs coal use was confined to the locality. Output rose in the 18th century with growing demand for coal as a fuel and the development of cheaper forms of bulk transport. During the 19th century its production grew enormously with the expansion of industry.

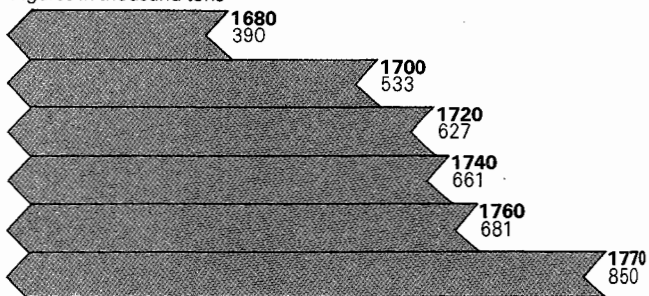


Above Coal consumption has radically altered since the 19th century when much more coal was used for domestic heating and for industrial fuel. In the 20th century demand has declined, both for domestic coal, and steam coal for shipping and exports. Now most coal is used in power stations (p. 48) to generate electricity.



**Coal shipments to London from the NE**

Figures in thousand tons



Far left Coal had been brought to London from the North East by coastal shipping since the Middle Ages. It was then shipped inland by river to places such as York, Cambridge and Oxford. In the North-East coal was taken out to the colliers by small 'keel' boats.