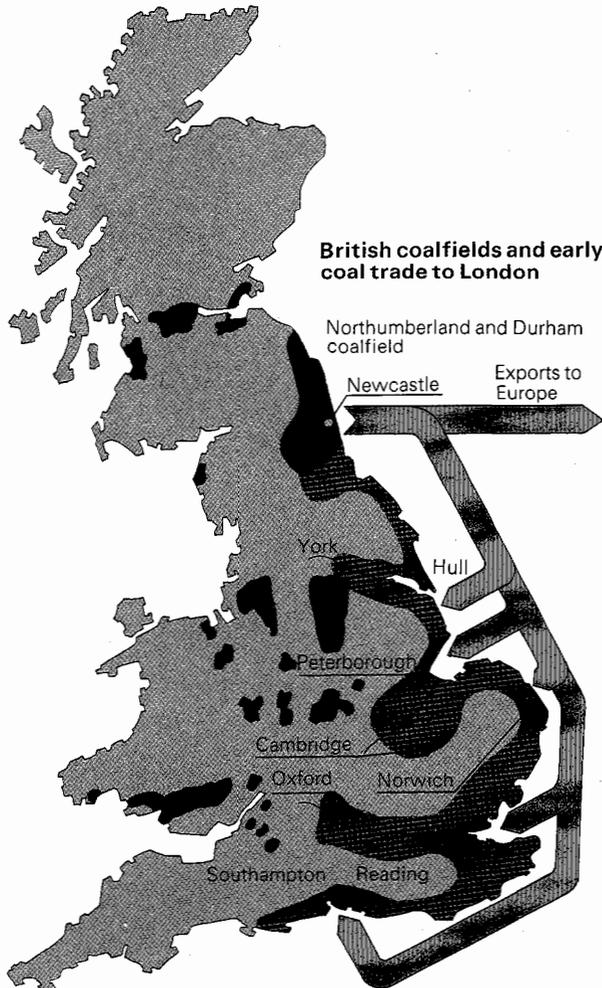
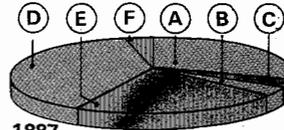


The Industrial Revolution was based on coal, which provided steam power and made large scale iron smelting possible. Before 1700 coal was used for domestic heating, almost exclusively, and because of heavy transport costs coal use was confined to the locality. Output rose in the 18th century with growing 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.



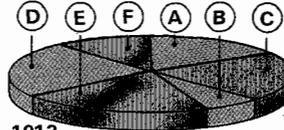
1840



Coal consumption

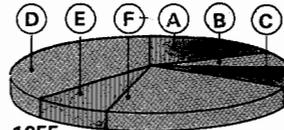
- A Mineral and mining industry 28%
- B Transport, railway and steam navigation 1½%
- C Gas and electricity 1½%
- D General manufacturing 32½%
- E Domestic 31½%
- F Exports 5%

1887



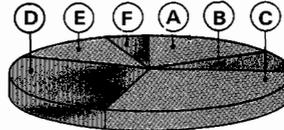
- A Mineral and mining industry 23%
- B Transport, railway and steam navigation 12½%
- C Gas and electricity 6%
- D General manufacturing 26%
- E Domestic 17½%
- F Exports 15%

1913



- A Mineral and mining industry 17½%
- B Transport, railway and steam navigation 6%
- C Gas and electricity 8%
- D General manufacturing 22½%
- E Domestic 13%
- F Exports 32½%

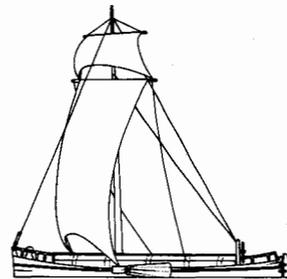
1955



- A Mineral and mining industry 15%
- B Transport, railway and steam navigation 5%
- C Gas and electricity 32%
- D General manufacturing 28%
- E Domestic 16%
- F Exports 4%

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.

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.



Coal shipments to London from the NE

Figures in thousand tons

