Using British History Online to investigate Environmental History.

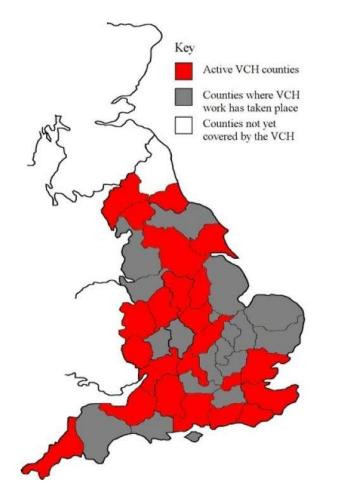
John Levin, editor of B.H.O.

9 March 2023

What is British History Online

- An archive of circa 1,300 volumes
- Fully transcribed texts; not just page images
- Circa 200 volumes behind the paywall
- Not-for-profit
- Ranges from medieval to 20th century sources
- Very strong 17th century political coverage
- Welsh, Scottish and Irish history
- Colonial and Imperial history

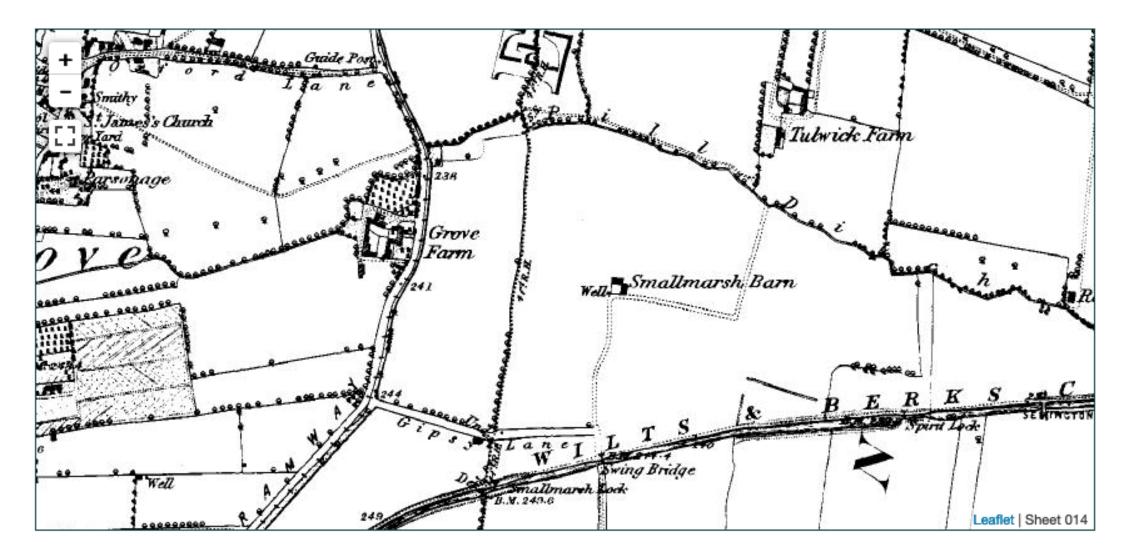
Victoria County Histories



London



Maps



State Sources on B.H.O.

- Calendars of State Papers
- Calendars of Close Rolls and Patent Rolls
- Statutes of the Realm, Acts and Ordinances of the Interregnum
- Journals of the Houses of Commons and Lords
- Calendars of Treasury Books and Papers

Reading State Produced Texts

Dee Waste Lands.

A **PETITION** of the poor Commoners using and enjoying *Saltney* Marsh, and the Commons, in the County of *Flint*, adjoining to the River *Dee*, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, That the Petitioners, and their Ancestors, have, Time out of Mind, enjoyed the Benefit of the said Common; without the Help of which they cannot support their indigent Families; being most of them Cottagers of small Holdings: That they are informed, *Francis Gell* Esquire hath gotten a Grant of the said Marsh and Commons, and intends to turn the Petitioners out of their Possessions: And praying such Relief in the Premises as the House shall think fit.

Ordered, That the Consideration of the said Petition be referred to the Committee of the whole House, to whom the Bill for making the River Dee, in the County of Chester, navigable, is committed.

Dee Navigation.

A Petition of the Gentlemen, and others, inhabiting in *Worrall*, in the County of *Chester*, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, That the Bill, now depending in the House, for making the River *Dee*, in the County of *Chester*, navigable, will most certainly be a great Prejudice to the Petitioners, in case it should pass; and will undoubtedly divest them of their ancient Rights, enjoyed Time out of Mind: And praying, That the said Bill may not pass, so as to prejudice the Petitioners Rights.

Ordered, That the Consideration of the said Petition be referred to the Committee of the whole House, to whom the said Bill is committed.

Ditto.

Another Petition of the Gentlemen, and others, Inhabitants in the Hundred of *Worrall*, in the County of *Chester*, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, That there is a Bill under the Consideration of the House, for making navigable the River *Dee*, in the County of *Chester*; which Bill, if it should pass, will not only bring many Inconveniencies upon the Petitioners, but will also take away their ancient Rights, enjoyed by them, and their Ancestors, Time out of Mind: And praying, That the said Bill may not pass into a Law.

 \sim



section

William III, 1698: An Act for the makeing and keeping navigable the Rivers of Aire and Calder in the County of Yorke. [Chapter XXV. Rot. Parl. 10 Gul. III. p. 4. n. 10]

Statutes of the Realm: Volume 7, 1695-1701

navigable the **Rivers** of Aire and Calder in the County of Yorke.[Rot. Parl. 10 ... named, empowered, at their own Costs, to make navigable the **Rivers** Aire ... and keeping of the **Rivers** of Aire and...

View result



section

William III, 1695-6: An Act for making navigable the Rivers of Wye and Lugg in the County of Hereford. [Chapter XIV. Rot.Parl. 7&8 Gul. III.p.3.n.2]

Statutes of the Realm: Volume 7, 1695-1701

the **Rivers** of Wye and Lugg in the County of Hereford.[Rot.Parl. 7&8 Gul. ... the said **Rivers** were mischievous; The said **Rivers** declared free and common **Rivers**. Whereas the free...

View result



section

William III, 1698-9: An Act for the better preserving the Navigation of the Rivers Avon and Froome and for cleansing paving and inlightning the Streets of the City of Bristoll. [Chapter XXIII. Rot. Parl. 11 Gul

Statutes of the Realm: Volume 7, 1695-1701

the Navigation of the **Rivers** Avon and Froome and for cleansing paving ... from throwing Ballast, Ashes, &c. into the **Rivers**; and from the Losses sustained ... into the **Rivers** of Froome, Avon, and...



British History Online

- <u>https://www.british-history.ac.uk/</u>
- <u>british-history@sas.ac.uk</u>
- <u>https://twitter.com/bho_history</u>
- Hughes, J.D., What is Environmental History?, 2nd ed., Polity, 2016.
- Frankopan, P., The big idea: why you can't leave climate out of history,
- <u>https://www.theguardian.com/books/2023/feb/27/the-big-idea-why-you-cant-leave-climate-out-of-history</u> (accessed 6 March 2023).