

10.3 Industrial Revolution: Urbanization

Historical Background: Manchester, England, became a leading textile manufacturing center soon after its first large mechanized cotton mill was built in 1780. Its population increased from 18,000 in 1750 to over 300,000 by the census of 1851, much of this made up of the working class and immigrants. In the 1832 Reform Bill, Manchester was granted representation in Parliament and middle-class men received the vote. After Queen Victoria's visit in 1851, Manchester was granted a royal charter.

Directions: Read each source and complete the 6Cs.

Prompt: Based on your understanding of the documents, identify the issues raised by the growth of Manchester and analyze the various responses to those issues over the course of the nineteenth century.

1

Source: Thomas B. Macaulay

Macaulay was a liberal Member of Parliament and historian.

Source: Thomas B. Macaulay, "Southey's Colloquies", 1830s.

People live longer because they are better fed, better lodged, better clothed, and better attended in sickness, and these improvements are owing to the increase in national wealth which the manufacturing system has produced. Mr. [Robert] Southey has found a way, he tells us, in which the effects of manufacturers and ag-

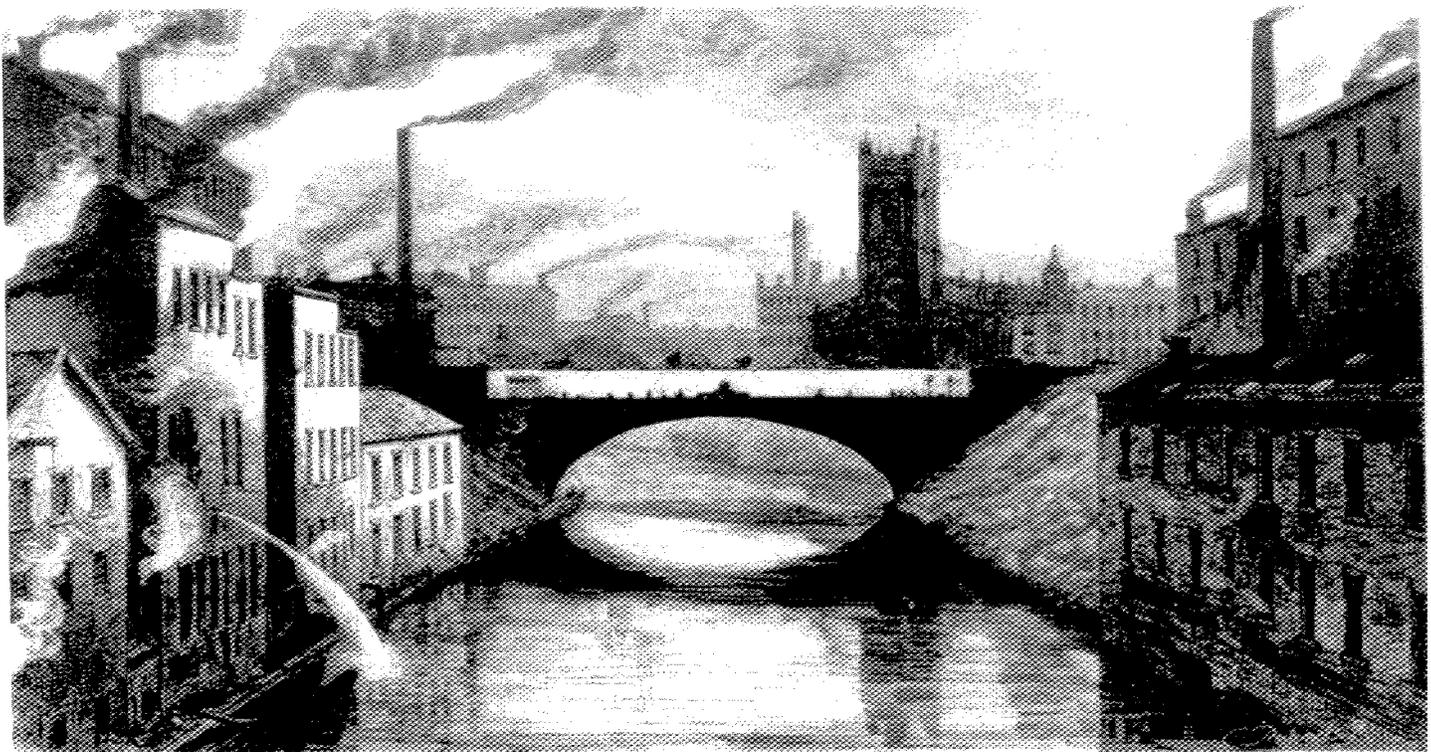
riculture may be compared. And what is this way? To stand on a hill, to look at a cottage and a factory, and to see which is prettier. Does Mr. Southey think that the English peasantry live, or ever lived, in substantial and ornamented cottages, with box hedges, flower gardens, beehives and orchards?

2

Image: Manchester

View from Blackfriars bridge over the River Irwell. Published in the weekly magazine that dealt with social issues.

Source: The Graphic, 1870s



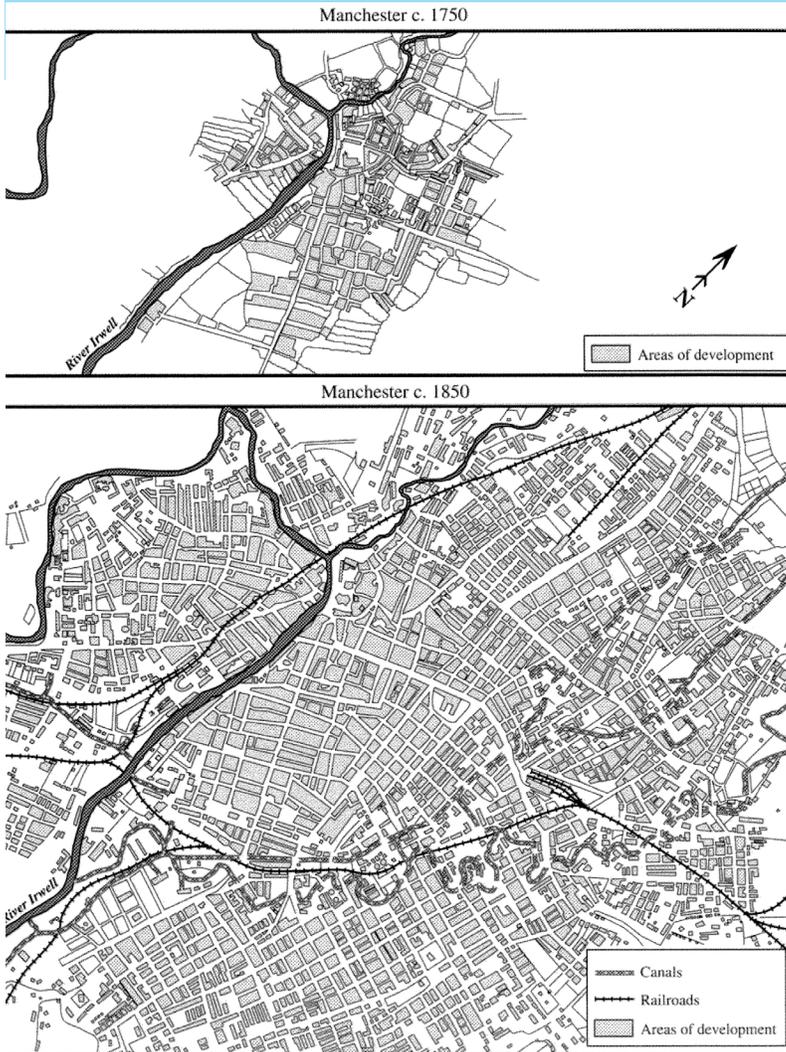
Mary Evans Picture Library. Engraving by Charles Roberts.

3

Map: Manchester 1750 and 1850

Two maps showing the development and changes of Manchester from 1750-1850.

Source: The 1750 map: Thomson, *History of Manchester to 1852, 1850s*. The 1850 map: Adapted from Ashley Baynton-Williams, *Town and City Maps of the British Isles, 1800-1855, late 1850s*.



4

Source: Wheelan and Co

The business directory explains how the granting of a royal charter as a city is an honorable accomplishment.

Source: Wheelan and Co., preface to a business directory, on Manchester being granted a royal charter as a city, 1852.

Perhaps no part of England, not even London, presents such remarkable and attractive features as Manchester, the Workshop of the World. It is to the energetic exertions and enterprising spirit of its population that Manchester is mainly indebted to its elevation as a seat of commerce and manufacture, which it has recently attained and for which it is distinguished beyond any other town in the British Dominions or indeed the world. There is scarcely a country on the face of the habitable globe into which the fruits of its industry have not penetrated.

5

Chart: Average Age at Death

The chart compares the average age at death for people living in rural and industrial areas.

Source: *The Lancet*, British medical journal, founded and edited by Thomas Wakley, medical reformer, 1843.

	Average Age at Death		
	Gentry/Professional	Farmer/Trader	Laborer/Artisan
Rural Districts			
Rutland	52	41	38
Bath	55	37	25
Industrial Districts			
Leeds	44	27	19
Manchester	38	20	17

Works Cited:

College Entrance Examination Board. AP European History Document Based Question. 1. USA: College Board, 2002. 2-9.