

COMMENTS ON *HISTORY OF THE PARISH –Pre 1850*

This area was certainly sparsely populated by today's standards, but Deepcar and Bolsterstone were both strategically placed between the salt routes that ran along the ridges of Hunshelf and Broomhead heights. Population of the Parish in 1851 was less than 1,000.

The church that Rev. Bland built in 1790s to replace the ruined Chapel of St. Mary was actually quite plain. (See photo in J. Kenworthy's *History of Stocksbridge: Handbook 15 Bolsterstone*)

Response to the Anglican Archbishop's Visitation queries in 1743 recorded that there were 3 "Papist" families out of 125 in the Parish.

SPINK HALL was built and owned by the Ellises of Midhope Hall in the 17th. Century. The Grayson family acquired the estate from John Smith and the Hall and farm were extensively rebuilt in the 19th. The newest of the present buildings date from about 1868.

SPINK HOUSE was built as a kind of Dower house and it was there that the Catholic baptisms of which we hold record took place 1809-1819.

B. Duffield