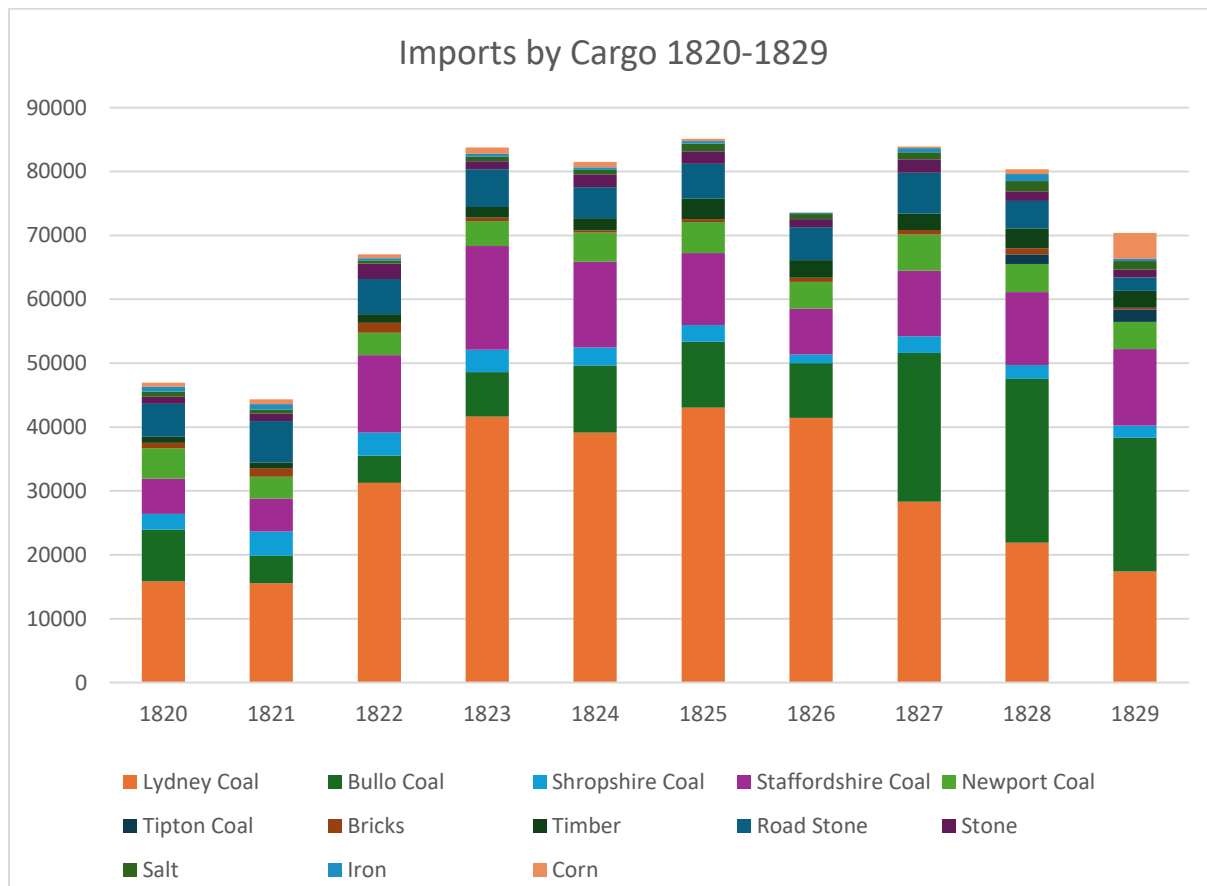


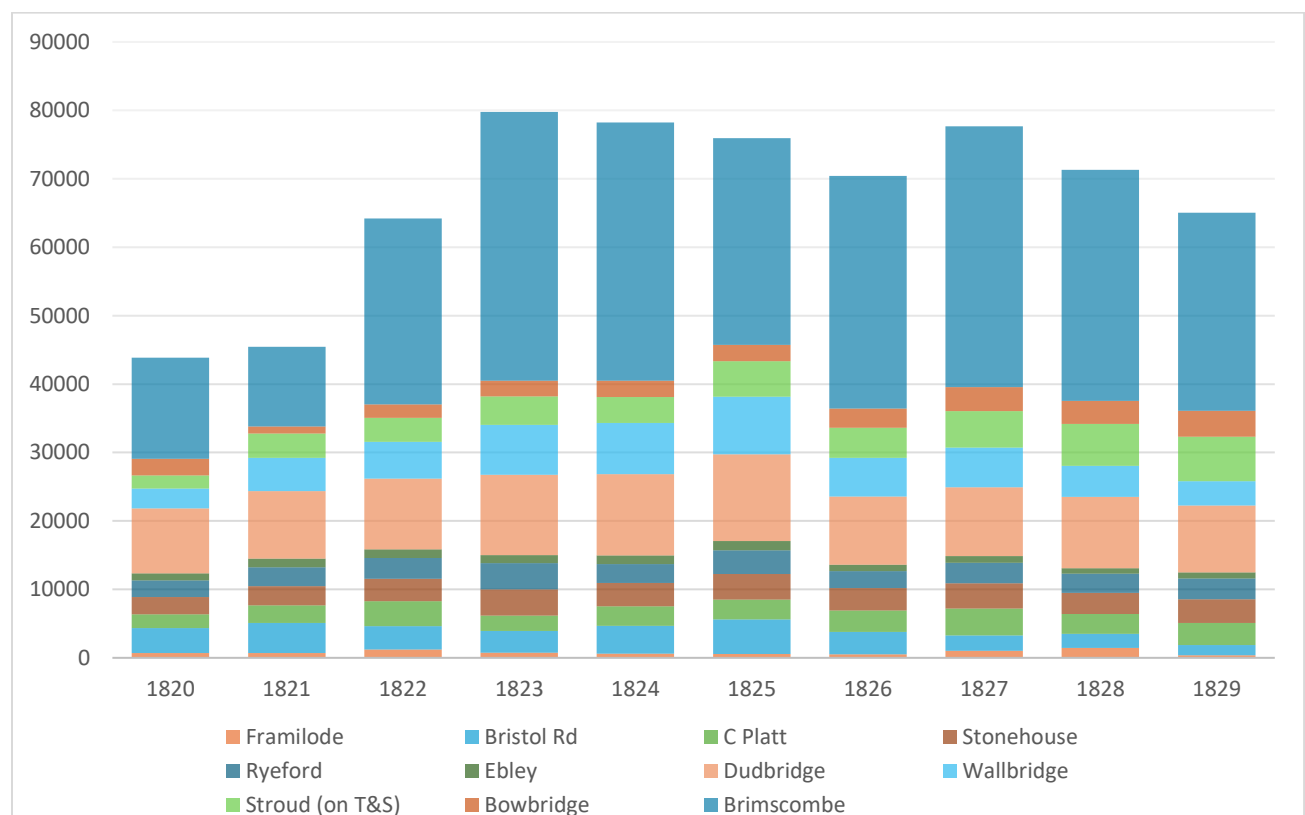
The Era of Steam – Trade on the Stroudwater 1820-1829

It was in the 1820s that steam engines began to be introduced into the mills in the Five Valleys. This led to an increased traffic along the Stroudwater canal, both in coal to feed the mills and in materials to be processed. Figure 1 illustrates this growth in trade.



The first steam engines were not imported until 1821, when two engines arrived in June and October. By 1822 the amount of coal imported from Lydney, the main local source had more than doubled, to over 30,000 tons, with a substantial amount of Staffordshire coal being delivered via Stourport from Cannock Chase. Between 1823 and 1826 over 40,000 tons of coal was being shipped from Lydney, while the amount from Staffordshire decreased as the amount shipped from Bullo Pill increased. By 1827 shipments from Bullo had started to match those from Lydney, and by the end of the decade Bullo Pill had become the major source of coal in the Five Valleys.

NB In 1826 the canal was closed for two months while it was realigned to join with the Gloucester and Sharpness canal at Saul Junction, The Stroudwater was also frozen for 2 weeks in January. As a result, the tonnage for the year is 10,000 less than adjacent years.

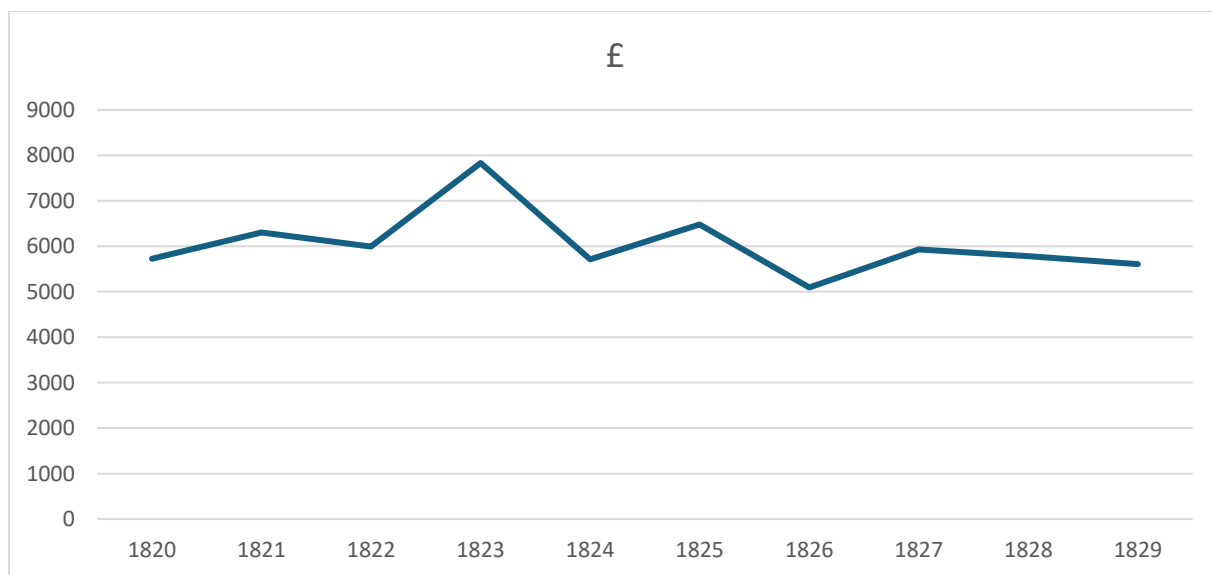


The main destination on the Stroudwater Canal was Dudbridge Wharf, which had connections to both local mills and to those along the Nailsworth Valley. Whilst initially most of the traffic for Stroud was delivered to the wharf at Wallbridge, over time more cargo was being delivered to the wharfs at Stroud on the Thames and Severn Canal.

Once steam engines became used in the mills of the upper valleys, particularly around Chalford, significant volumes of coal was being delivered to Brimscombe Port, where it could be transhipped into boats suitable for transport on the Thames, or sent on to places above Thames Head, such as Cirencester and Lechlade.

Appendix 2 shows the tonnages delivered to each recorded location during the decade.

Figure 3 shows the revenue achieved during each year of the decade. Details are provided in Appendix 3. The total revenue for the decade was almost £60,500.



Appendix 1 – Tonnage of Main Cargoes

Year	Lydney Coal	Bullo Coal	Shropshire Coal	Stafford-shire Coal	Newport Coal	Tipton Coal	Bricks	Timber	Road Stone	Stone
1820	15860	8084	2443	5547	4764	0	836	933	5184	1113
1821	15550	4308	3817	5122	3406	0	1357	853	6513	1230
1822	31288	4238	3580	12154	3508	0	1545	1366	5519	2379
1823	41638	6956	3509	16213	3916	0	539	1684	5896	1274
1824	39117	10539	2804	13418	4579	0	351	1907	4856	1998
1825	43028	10316	2640	11262	4853	0	459	3217	5461	1953
1826	41434	8556	1362	7157	4237	0	650	2733	5144	1254
1827	28317	23302	2605	10239	5662	0	726	2530	6414	2120
1828	21886	25638	2174	11412	4406	1530	960	3084	4331	1482
1829	17371	20969	1917	11936	4248	1955	253	2680	2084	1218
1820-9	295489	122906	26851	104460	43579	3485	7676	20987	51402	16021

Salt	Iron	Corn
798	709	679
592	866	709
523	349	607
708	448	997
679	405	876
1156	447	338
830	189	21
1102	630	257
1597	1122	755
1350	336	4090
9335	5501	9329

Appendix 2 – Cargo Destinations (inbound)

Year	Framilode	Bristol Rd	Eastington	Stonehouse	Ryeford	Ebley	Dudbridge	Wallbridge
1820	699	3664	1992	2527	2447	997	9533	2896
1821	693	4399	2581	2812	2760	1268	9864	4848
1822	1234	3402	3618	3313	3008	1293	10299	5398
1823	756	3149	2255	3847	3846	1175	11731	7291
1824	607	4080	2817	3444	2773	1253	11869	7462
1825	547	5074	2879	3741	3451	1374	12670	8427
1826	531	3246	3137	3263	2492	929	9977	5654
1827	1050	2217	3931	3683	2988	1001	10053	5805
1828	1454	2059	2900	3087	2793	808	10442	4508
1829	385	1483	3250	3441	3057	863	9772	3556
1820-9	7956	32773	29360	33158	29615	10961	106210	55845

Stroud (on T&S)	Bow-bridge	Brimscombe
1905	2423	14767
3531	1068	11634
3486	1963	27207
4170	2261	39308
3816	2391	37701
5189	2376	30236
4374	2833	34008
5337	3514	38081
6132	3373	33775
6500	3805	28953
44440	26007	295670

Appendix 3 – Annual Revenue

Year	£	s	d
1820	5725	0	1
1821	6308	7	7
1822	5992	8	1
1823	7833	15	3
1824	5710	6	1
1825	6482	13	2
1826	5095	5	0
1827	5930	6	10
1828	5784	1	11
1829	5605	1	8