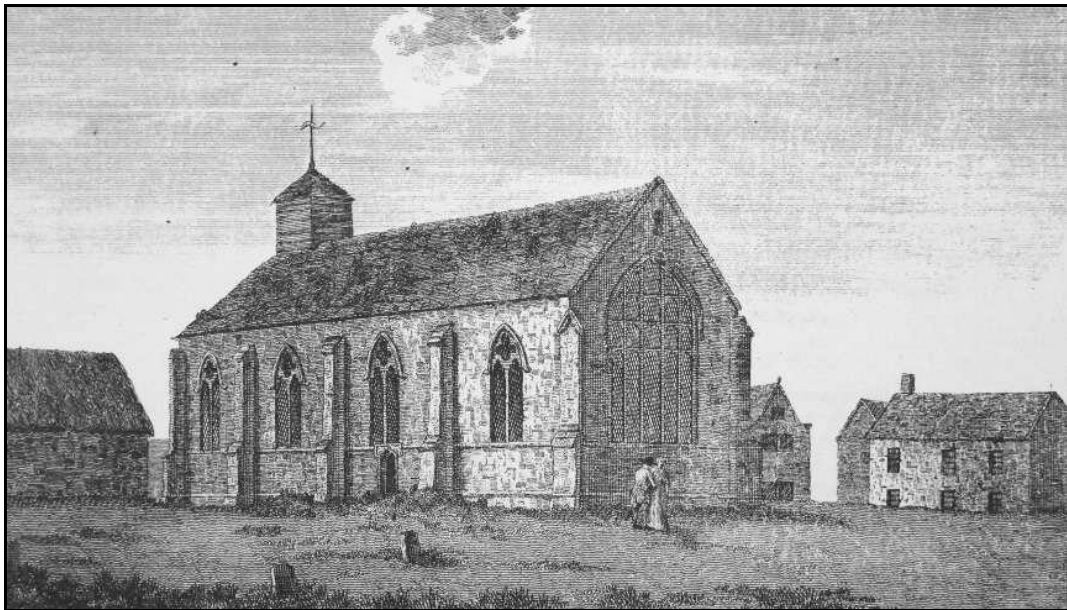


# THE VILLAGE OF OSGATHORPE IN 1785

**1ST DRAFT**



**ENGRAVING OF OSGATHORPE IN 1795 (THE BUILDING ON THE FAR RIGHT BECAME THE RECTORY & THE ENDS OF THE ALM'S HOUSES AND HARLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL ARE SHOWN)**

**BY SAMUEL T STEWART - SEPTEMBER 1785**

## INTRODUCTION

The reason for writing this publication, which is a work in progress, is that the author has managed to obtain from the National Archives at Kew a coloured version of the 1785 enclosure map for Osgathorpe which is a significant improvement regarding clarity, on the B&W version previously obtained from the L&RRO.

The author intends to write a publication on the 1785 enclosure of Osgathorpe if further research material can be obtained to support the map, in terms of the allotment of land from the common etc to individuals.

The purpose of this particular short publication (1st draft), is to demonstrate to the reader what the village was like in 1785, in terms of the Grade II historical buildings / private residences / farm houses / and road layout. On the next page is an enlarged central extract from the map. It must be remembered that the "Charnwood Forest Canal" which ran close to the village had not been constructed at that time.

The map has been annotated by the author to show the names of some of the buildings and houses which he is aware still exist today, however, having never lived in the village, and only visited during the last 12 months, this is something of a handicap. What do they say about a fresh pair of eyes! No modern road names have been given (except Rempstone Road) as most of them didn't exist at that time and were referred to as something different. For example, Chapel lane only became known as that sometime after the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel was built.

It is hoped that some of the current residents of Osgathorpe will be able to recognize their houses on the map so that we can then try and complete which date back to 1785, and perhaps include photographs of how they look now. Maybe it will turn up some more old photographs hidden away somewhere. The author will then update the publication as new information becomes available.

**The population of Osgathorpe at the 1801 census was given as 318 and in 1755 only 13 freeholders polled.**

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