

Cambridge University Press

0521783461 - State Formation in Early Modern England, c. 1550-1700 - Michael J.

Braddick

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

STATE FORMATION IN
EARLY MODERN ENGLAND
c. 1550–1700

This book examines the development of the English state during the long seventeenth century. The main emphasis is on the impersonal forces which shaped the uses of political power, rather than the purposeful actions of individuals or groups – it is a study of state formation rather than of state building.

The author's approach does not however rule out the possibility of discerning patterns in the development of the state, and a coherent account emerges which offers some new answers to relatively well-established questions. In particular, it is argued that the development of the state in this period was shaped in important ways by social interests – particularly those of class, gender and age. It is also argued that this period saw significant changes in the form and functioning of the state which were, in some sense, modernising. The book therefore offers a narrative of the development of the state in the seventeenth century in the aftermath of revisionism.

MICHAEL J. BRADDICK is a Senior Lecturer in History, University of Sheffield.

Cambridge University Press

0521783461 - State Formation in Early Modern England, c. 1550-1700 - Michael J. Braddick

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

STATE FORMATION IN EARLY MODERN ENGLAND *c.* 1550–1700

MICHAEL J. BRADDICK



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press

0521783461 - State Formation in Early Modern England, c. 1550-1700 - Michael J.

Braddick

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

PUBLISHED BY THE PRESS SYNDICATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
The Pitt Building, Trumpington Street, Cambridge, United Kingdom

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 2RU, UK <http://www.cup.cam.ac.uk>
40 West 20th Street, New York, NY 10011-4211, USA <http://www.cup.org>
10 Stamford Road, Oakleigh, Melbourne 3166, Australia
Ruiz de Alarcón 13, 28014 Madrid, Spain

© Cambridge University Press 2000

This book is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception
and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements,
no reproduction of any part may take place without
the written permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 2000

Printed in the United Kingdom at the University Press, Cambridge

Typeface 11/12 $\frac{1}{2}$ Baskerville [vN]

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

Library of Congress cataloguing in publication data

Braddick, M. J. (Michael J.), 1962–
State formation in early modern England, c. 1550–1700/Michael J. Braddick.
p. cm.

Includes bibliographical references.

ISBN 0 521 78346 1 (hb) – ISBN 0 521 78955 9 (pbk.)

1. Great Britain – Politics and government – 17th century. 2. Great Britain – Politics and government – 1558–1603. I. Title.

JN191.B73 2000

320.941'09'031 – dc21 00-023623

ISBN 0 521 78346 1 hardback

ISBN 0 521 78955 9 paperback

Contents

<i>Acknowledgements</i>	<i>page</i> vii
<i>Abbreviations and conventions</i>	ix
 GENERAL INTRODUCTION	 1
 PART I STATE FORMATION IN EARLY MODERN ENGLAND	
Introduction	9
1 The embodiment of the state	11
2 The uses of political power in early modern England	47
Conclusion	96
 PART II THE PATRIARCHAL STATE	
Introduction	101
3 Social order: poverty, dearth and disease	103
4 The courts and social order	136
Conclusion	172
 PART III THE FISCAL-MILITARY STATE	
Introduction	177
5 The state and military mobilisation	180
6 The financing of the state	233
Conclusion	281

vi	<i>Contents</i>	
PART IV THE CONFSSIONAL STATE		
	Introduction	287
7	The claims of the confessional state: local realities	291
	Conclusion	334
PART V THE DYNASTIC STATE		
	Introduction	337
8	Elite formation and state formation in England, Wales and Scotland	340
9	London’s provinces: state formation in the English-speaking Atlantic world	379
	Conclusion	420
	CONCLUSION: actions without design, patterns without blueprints	427
	<i>Index</i>	438

Cambridge University Press

0521783461 - State Formation in Early Modern England, c. 1550-1700 - Michael J.

Braddick

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Acknowledgements

In the course of writing this book I have worked at three universities and held fellowships at a number of other institutions. As a result I have incurred a large number of intellectual debts which are too numerous to detail, but some must be acknowledged here. In particular, Jonathan Clark gave me the initial encouragement to write a book of this kind and read the first draft. John Walter, throughout the time that I have been working on these issues, has been both a friendly and demanding critic. Most of the initial writing was done while living in London and during that period I was very fortunate to have the benefit of almost daily advice and criticism from Justin Champion. I wish that I knew how to thank Emma Davies.

Among the many others to whom I owe considerable debts of gratitude Ann Hughes and John Morrill figure prominently. They both read drafts of the whole book and I am grateful to them, and to the anonymous readers for Cambridge University Press, for their very helpful suggestions about revision. Particular chapters have benefited from critical readings by Dan Beaver, Erika Bsumek, Nicholas Canny, Andrew Gamble, Julian Goodare, Michael Kenny, Ian Kershaw, Peter Lake and Anthony Milton. What I have written also owes much to discussions of the larger questions with Erika Bsumek. For discussions of particular issues I am especially grateful to Tom Cogswell, Faramerz Dabhoiwala, Mark Greengrass, Steve Hindle, Ian Kershaw, Peter Lake, Stephen Salter, Bob Shoemaker, John Styles, Nicholas Tyacke, Tim Wales, Simon Walker, John Watts and Amanda Vickery. Papers outlining the argument of the book, or of parts of it, have been presented at St Peter's College, Oxford, the Huntington Library, the London Group of Historical Geographers, All Souls College, Oxford, the Department of History at the University of York and the Department of Archaeology at the University of Sheffield. I have also spoken on these themes at conferences held at the Institute for European History, Mainz, the

Cambridge University Press

0521783461 - State Formation in Early Modern England, c. 1550-1700 - Michael J. Braddick

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

viii

Acknowledgements

Charles Warren Center at Harvard University and Birkbeck College, London. The final version has benefited considerably from the many helpful comments that were made on those occasions.

Work on this book has been made possible by a number of grants. Between 1991 and 1992, I held a British Academy Postdoctoral Fellowship and the British Academy has also furnished a small research grant. I have also held both a Mayers Fellowship and an Andrew W. Mellon and Fletcher Jones Fellowship at the Huntington Library. The book, in the form in which I eventually wrote it, was planned at the Huntington Library and I profited immensely from the opportunity to work in such a stimulating intellectual environment and on such rich documentary sources. Between 1995 and 1996, I held a Nuffield Foundation Social Science Fellowship and it was during that year that I completed the first draft of the book. Without that fellowship I suspect that the book would never have been written. The final version of the manuscript was produced while I was a fellow at the Max-Planck-Institut für europäische Rechtsgeschichte in Frankfurt. My Department at the University of Sheffield kindly granted me a period of study leave and two periods of special leave which allowed me to take up these fellowships, as well as a number of small sums which greatly facilitated the research and writing of this book. More importantly it has provided a stimulating and challenging intellectual environment in which to develop my ideas on these issues. I am grateful to the staffs of the British Library, Chester City Record Office, the Public Record Offices at Chancery Lane and Kew, the Huntington Library, the Max-Planck-Institut für europäische Rechtsgeschichte, the Institute of Historical Research and the University Libraries in Cambridge and Sheffield. Finally, it has been a pleasure to work with Cambridge University Press. In particular I am grateful to Bill Davies for his patience and sensitivity in seeing the manuscript into press; and to Sheila Kane for her expert and thorough copy-editing once it was there. I am also grateful to the Press for permission to reproduce some material first published in my article 'The early modern English state and the question of differentiation, from 1550 to 1700', *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, 38, 1 (1996), 92–111.

With so many people to thank I ought to be able to blame the remaining flaws and errors on someone else. Sadly, I must take responsibility for those.

Abbreviations and conventions

<i>APC</i>	<i>Acts of the Privy Council of England</i> , ed. J. R. Dasent, 46 vols. (London, 1890–1964)
<i>BIHR</i>	<i>Bulletin of the Institute of Historical Research</i>
<i>BL</i>	British Library
<i>CCRO</i>	Chester City Record Office
<i>CSPD</i>	<i>Calendar of State Papers, Domestic Series</i>
<i>EcHR</i>	<i>Economic History Review</i>
<i>EHR</i>	<i>English Historical Review</i>
<i>HEH</i>	Henry E. Huntington Library
<i>HJ</i>	<i>Historical Journal</i>
<i>HMC</i>	<i>Historical Manuscripts Commission</i>
<i>HP</i>	Hartlib Papers, Sheffield University Library
<i>JBS</i>	<i>Journal of British Studies</i>
<i>PP</i>	<i>Past and Present</i>
<i>PRO</i>	Public Record Office
<i>SR</i>	<i>Statutes of the Realm</i> (London, 1963)
<i>TRHS</i>	<i>Transactions of the Royal Historical Society</i>

NOTE ON DATES AND TRANSCRIPTIONS

Dates are given old style but with the new year taken to begin on 1 January. Where possible original spelling has been preserved in quotations. Punctuation has been added in some cases in order to clarify the meaning.

NOTE ON BIBLIOGRAPHY

A list of secondary works cited is available on the worldwide web at www.shef.ac.uk/~hri/braddick/