

Geologically, the Yorkshire coalfield is related to that of Lancashire. But Yorkshire coal has its own well-defined characteristics, though these vary to such a degree that the general field, divided into West and South Yorkshire, has some fifty different seams. The former has thirty-one distinct seams of coal, with about one-third of the total output, having Wakefield as the trade centre; the latter has nineteen seams, with two-thirds of the output, which is mostly centred for market purposes round Barnsley. The principal seams now being worked are the following :

West Yorkshire.	South Yorkshire.
Woodmoor.	Shafton.
Warren House.	Barnsley Bed.
Haigh Moor.	Swallow Wood.
Flockton.	Parkgate.
Middleton Main or Silkstone.	Thorncliffe.
Beeston.	Silkstone.
Stanley Main.	Lidgett.

These seams include every variety of house, gas, steam, coking and manufacturing coal. All seams, however, have their local variations, so that the virtues of one seam may disappear in one district and reappear in another. Thus, the Swallow Wood coal of South Yorkshire is only workable in the neighbourhood of Rotherham, and is there a good steam coal. Going north it merges into the Haigh Moor seam, where it appears as a high-class house and gas coal. Broadly speaking, the distinctive features of West Yorkshire fields are house and manufacturing coal, and of South Yorkshire, steam, house and gas coal. In West Yorkshire the depth of present workings is generally less over the whole area than in South Yorkshire. The dip of the strata declines strongly towards the east. The most important among the deeper workings of the Barnsley bed seam run from 800 to 840 yards down, a depth which is about the limit of convenient working. Borings made some six miles east of any existing workings have, however, proved the seam to be of good quality at a depth of 1,016