

Useful websites

- www.maps.nls.uk. National Library of Scotland website, providing digital access to 6" OS maps from 1850 to the 1930s
- <http://wytithemaps.org.uk/> West Yorkshire Archive Service project to digitize Tithe maps. Covering Leeds and Bradford.

Useful Books

- Maurice Beresford. East End, West End: The Face of Leeds During Urbanisation, 1684 – 1842 (1988; Thoresby Society: Vols. 60-61). Study of Leeds' transition from rural to urban town. Includes detailed analysis of the relevant maps showing that development **L906 THO**
- Kenneth J. Bonser & Harold Nichols. Printed Maps and Plans of Leeds, 1711-1900 (1960; Thoresby Society: Vol.47). Core text that "list[s] all the known printed plans and maps of Leeds up to and including the year 1900, together with certain points of view." **L906 THO**
- Thoresby Society and Leeds City Libraries. 'Leeds in Maps'. Booklet to accompany set of 10 maps representing "aspects of the growth and development of Leeds through two centuries." **Please ask staff**
- David Thornton. Leeds: A Historical Dictionary of People, Places and Events (2013). Essential guide to the history of Leeds – includes an entry briefly detailing the development of Leeds cartography, while the appendix lists fourteen of the most important maps of the area **LE 914.2 THO**

Opening times

Monday – 9.00am – 8.00pm
Tuesday – 9.00am – 8.00pm
Weds – 9.00am – 8.00pm
Thursday 9.00am – 8.00pm
Friday – 9.00 – 5.00pm
Saturday – 10.00am – 4.00pm
Sunday - Closed

For more information

Local and Family History

Leeds Central Library, Calverley Street,
Leeds, LS1 3AB

T: 0113 378 6982

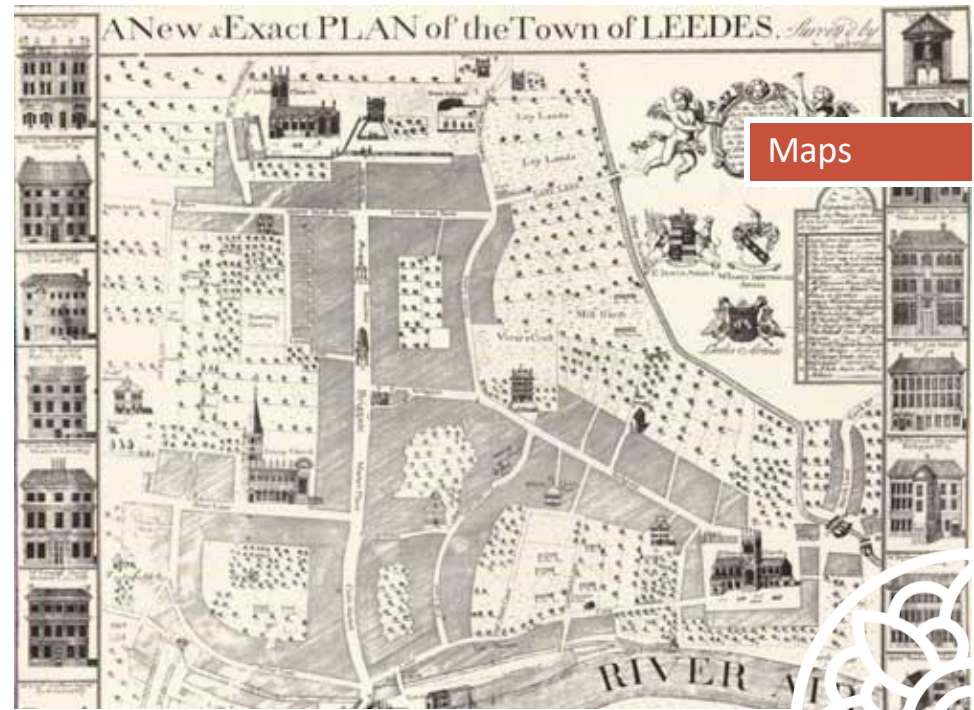
E: localandfamilyhistory@leeds.gov.uk

W: www.leeds.gov.uk/libraries

Blog: secretlibraryleeds.net

Tickets:

ticketsource.co.uk/Leedslibraryevents



Maps of Leeds & Yorkshire

Our Research Guides list some of the most useful, interesting and unique items in Local and Family History at Leeds Central Library. Many others are listed in our online and card catalogues.

Please note: Items marked * require ID to view.

Copyright notice

One A4 copy is permissible from maps under 50-years old

Maps **older than 50-years** are copyright free



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We have a wide range of maps in our collection:

- Search under Maps in our Leeds card catalogue (listed in chronological order)
- For suburbs or townships, look in the card catalogue under District: [place name] for items marked ML[year]
- Ordnance Survey (OS) maps are available after 1850

Pre 1850

For copies of the best pre-1850 maps ask to see the Leeds in Maps folder. Contents include:

- The Prospect of Leeds From the Knostrop Road (1715) – Francis Place
- A New and Exact Plan of the Town of Leedes (1725) – John Cossins
- A Plan of Leeds (1770) – Thomas Jefferys
- Plan of the Town of Leeds and its Environs (1815) – Netlam & Francis Giles
- View of Leeds (c.1826) – Charles Cope
- Plan of the Town of Leeds and the Environs (1831) – Charles Fowler
- Map of the Borough of Leeds (1834) – Baines & Newsome

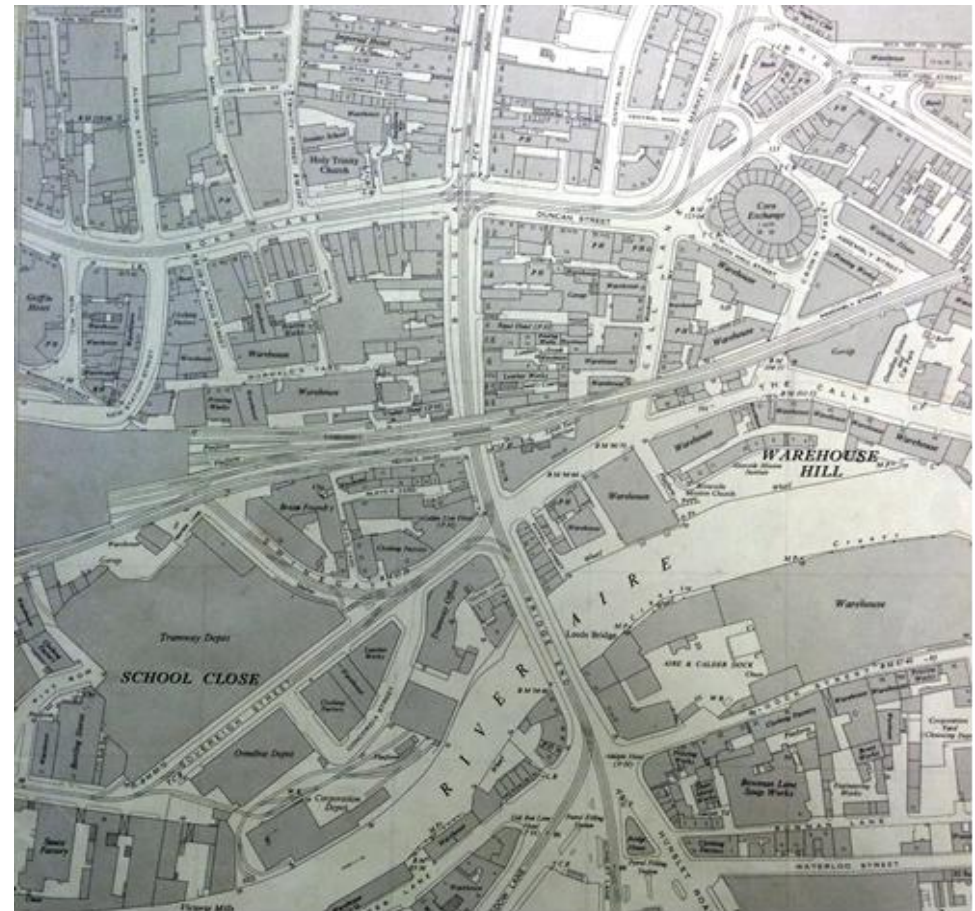
Other interesting pre-1850 maps include:

- A Map of Rothwell, Oulton & Lofthouse, Made in the Reign of Henry VIII ML15— (numbers after 'ML' give the map year; unknown in this case)
- Facsimile of the Earliest Known Map of Leeds ML1560
- The Manor of Harewood ML1698
- A General Map of the Grand-Canal From Liverpool to Leeds ML177-
- Tuke's Map of the Parish or Borough of Leeds ML1781
- Departure Times and Destinations of Coaches From Hotels in Leeds (about 1830) SR388.32 SI13*
- Cholera Plan of Leeds (1833) ML 1833
- Plan of an Estate Purchased For the Proposed Leeds Zoological and Botanical Gardens SR ML1837*
- Sanitary Map of Leeds ML1842

1850

Start of OS maps. Coverage:

- 5ft to 1 mile: Old Leeds Township
- 6" to 1 mile: all of Yorkshire



1:1250 (50" to 1 mile) showing same area of Leeds Bridge, this time stretching as far as the Corn Exchange and Boar Lane. These maps are detailed enough to show individual building numbers.

1850 - 1890

No detailed (OS) maps between 1850 and 1890. As with pre-1850 maps, consult the card catalogue under Maps or District for maps from this period.

Some of the most interesting maps between 1850 and 1890 include:

- Cavalry Barracks **ML1850**
- A Plan of the York Street-Marsh Lane-Shannon Street district Used by the Prosecution in the Trial of William Higgins for Murder **ML1850**
- Plan of Leeds Showing Her Majesty's route at the Opening of Leeds Town Hall **ML1858**
- Isometrical View of the Royal Agricultural Show Ground **ML1861**
- Plan and Sections of the Leeds New Railway station **ML1873**
- Map of the Borough of Leeds Showing the Five Parliamentary Divisions According to the Redistribution Bill of 1885 **ML1885**
- Goat Insurance Plan (showing building usage, including company names: 1886 and then various dates to present) **LF 368 G534**

1890 - 1949

OS coverage:

- 10ft to 1 mile: Old Leeds Township (1889-1911)
- 25" to 1 mile: Most of West Yorkshire with some gaps; patchy coverage for rest of Yorkshire (1893-1938)
- 6" to 1 mile: Whole of Yorkshire (1890s – 1950s)

Other interesting maps between 1890 and 1949 include:

- Leeds: A Map Coloured to Show the Size of the City in 1781, 1831 and 1890 (1900) **L 942.75 H41L**
- Positions of Branches of the Leeds Public Libraries **ML1903**
- Plan of the Leeds Union Workhouse Estate **ML1908**
- Leeds: Proposed City Extension **ML1921**
- City of Leeds: Net Population Density (1949) **LF 312 L517**
- Map of the Slum Clearance Areas and Housing Estates **ML1934**
- Map of Leeds Parishes Showing Boundaries, with Dates Assigned **ML1939**
- German Ordnance Survey Map of Leeds **ML1940**
- Plan of Car Parks in Connection with the Test Match versus Australia, July 1948 **ML1948**



10ft to 1 mile map showing area around Leeds Bridge. These are the most detailed pre-1950s maps

Date: 1891

25" to 1 mile (1:2500) map of Leeds Bridge and surrounding areas. Much less detailed than the 10ft, but still enough detail that some building usage is given.

Date: 1908



1949 – to date

- 1:1250 (50" to 1 mile): Leeds Metropolitan District (1950s to date)
- 1:2500 (25" to 1 mile): Less built-up areas of Leeds Metropolitan District (1960s to date)
- 1:10000 (6" to 1 mile):
- Whole of Yorkshire to the 1980s
 - Leeds (1950s to date)
- 1:25000 (2.5" to 1 mile):
 - Whole of Yorkshire (1949)
 - Leeds and surrounding area. Also known as 'Leisure', 'Explorer' or 'Pathfinder' maps (1970s to date)
- 1:50000 (1" to 1 mile): Leeds and surrounding area. Also known as 'Landranger' maps (1960s and 2004)

Examples of interesting maps after 1949 include:

- Map Showing the Age of Settlements: 1725-1950 **ML1950**
- Pictorial Map of Leeds **ML1951**
- Leeds Corporation Tramways **ML1959**
- Leeds Land Utilisation Map **ML1967**
- Cold War Soviet Map of Leeds **ML1971**
- Map of Leeds with Disconnection of Electricity Rotas Showing Times when Localities at Risk of Disconnection **ML1977**

Yorkshire Maps

In addition to those parts of Yorkshire covered by the OS maps detailed above, one-off maps can be found in the Yorkshire card catalogue, in chronological order.

Some interesting examples include:

- 1936 reproduction of the Yorkshire section from Saxton's Atlas of the Counties of England and Wales **M4274** (1577)
- A Plan of the Town of Dewsbury (Saxton) **MYD519** (1600)
- [A Map of] the West Ridinge of Yorkeshyre with the Most Famous and Fayre Citie Yorke Described **SR M42743*** (1610)
- An Accurate Map of the County of York, Divided into its Ridings and Subdivided into Wapontakes **M4274** (1750)
- Edward Baines' Table of the Reciprocal Distances of the Principle Towns of England and Wales **M4274** (1823)
- Industries of West Yorkshire **M42743** (1946)
- Map for Explorers of Little Hull Hole on Pen-Y-Ghent **M42743** (1961)



5ft to 1 mile map showing wider area around Leeds Bridge, including Briggate.



6" to 1 mile (1:10000) showing Leeds town centre. These maps are mainly useful for getting a contextual sense of a wide area.