

For further help...

If you can't get to the library, we can do a limited amount of research for you. We charge £7.00 per 30 minutes if you live in Leeds, rising to £14.00 for customers outside Leeds. Copies of documents are charged at the usual rate. Write or email your request to the contact details below. (Prices correct at time of printing.)

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

Scan the QR to sign up to our monthly
Newsletter.



Researching the History of your House

The Local and Family History Library has a wide variety of resources to help with researching the history of your house. Maybe you'll discover who lived there, what their occupation was and when the house first appeared on local maps.



Photographs – www.leodis.net

Leodis is a free database of nearly 70,000 images of Leeds, both old and new. Search by area or street name to see if your house is included.

Census records 1841-1911

Find out who lived in your house by using census records. Although Ancestry.com does not allow you to directly search by address, you can browse areas online and use street names as keywords. The Local and Family History Library also has census records 1841-1901 on microfilm for the whole of Yorkshire. These can be searched by street address or village name to find out which families were living at your address. The 1921 census is only available on the Find My Past website for a fee.

Trade Directories

Trade directories list businesses and those in trade and can be searched by street name, surname or trade name. Our collection covers the 19th and 20th century and is very useful for locating who lived in your house and what their profession was. After 1947 the trade directories become telephone books and eventually yellow pages which are not so useful for researchers of house histories.

Electoral Registers

Electoral Registers list all those entitled to vote in local and national elections. The registers are ordered by street name so it is relatively easy to look up your address to see who was living there. Our registers begin in 1832 and continue to present day.

Maps

We hold Ordnance Survey maps of Leeds and Yorkshire from 1850 in various scales. We still collect present day maps of Leeds so you can chart how an area or street has changed over time. Larger scale maps may show names and uses of individual buildings.

Tithe Maps

These can be found at the West Yorkshire Archive Service and cover Leeds and Bradford 1836 -1880. They give details of landowners and tenants. Many have now been digitised and can be found here: <http://wytithemaps.org.uk>

Title Deeds

If a title deed exists it can provide information on former owners and dates of sale. The West Yorkshire Archive Service in Wakefield holds the Registry of Deeds 1704-1970 although it was not compulsory to register deeds until 1974. Find out more here: <https://www.wyjs.org.uk/archive-service/registry-of-deeds-and-family-and-local-history/>

Other records...

The West Yorkshire Archive Service also holds enclosure maps, rate books and land tax records that may also prove useful.

See <https://www.wyjs.org.uk/archive-service/> for more details.