

- **1888** Louis Le Prince shoots a moving picture image from Leeds Bridge. See [The Missing Reel](#) (1990) – Christopher Rawlence **L B LEP**
- **1889** The Thoresby Society – Leeds' historical society – formed
- **1890** The *Yorkshire Evening Post* launches
- **1893** Leeds becomes a City. See [Becoming a City: Leeds, 1893](#) (1992) – Arthur Elton **LP 942.819 ELT**
- **1903** City Square opened. See 'City Square and Colonel Harding' in [Thoresby Society Miscellany Vol. 16, Part 2](#) (1975) **L 906 THO**
- **1908** Mrs Pankhurst addresses a mass suffragette meeting on Woodhouse Moor. See [Suffragette City Tour](#) (2015) – Klara Mills **LQE 324.62 MIL**
- **1916** Explosion at the Barnbow munitions factory. See [The Barnbow Story: A History of Armoured Vehicle Manufacture at Leeds](#) (1999) – Peter McKenzie **L 338.7 BAR**
- **1919** Leeds United Association Football Club founded. See [Leeds United: A Complete Record](#) (2012) – Martin Jarred and Martin McDonald **L 796.334 JAR**
- **1925** Montague Burton has the largest clothing factory in Europe. See [Montague Burton: The Tailor of Taste](#) (1990) – Eric M. Sigsworth **L 380 SIG**
- **1933** Leeds Civic Hall opened by King George V. See [Leeds Civic Hall opened by His Majesty King George V: August 23 1933](#) (1933) **L 725.1 LEE**
- **1941** Quarry Hill Flats completed. See [Memento Mori: The Flats at Quarry Hill](#) (1990) – Peter Mitchell **L 363.5 MIT**
- **1961** The Leeds International Pianoforte competition established. See [The Story of the Leeds Piano Competition](#) (1990) – Wendy Thompson **L 786.2 THO**
- **1974** Leeds Metropolitan Borough created. See [Map showing post-1974 metropolitan boundaries and pre-1974 district boundaries for West Yorkshire](#) (1974) **ML Y 4281**

Bibliography

- Maurice Beresford. [East End, West End: The Face of Leeds During Urbanisation, 1684-1842](#) (1988) **L 906 THO**
- Steven Burt & Kevin Grady. [Illustrated History of Leeds](#) (2002) **LQ 942.819 BUR**
- John Gilleghan. [Leeds: A to Z of Local History](#) (2001) **L 942.819 GIL**
- David Thornton. [Leeds: A Historical Dictionary](#) (2013) **L E 914.2 THO**
- Susan Wrathmell. [Leeds: Pevsner Architectural Guide](#) (2005) **L E 720.942 WRA**

Opening times

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The History of Leeds

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The History of Leeds: A Partial Chronology

- **AD731** Bede makes the first mention of Leeds ("Loidis")
- **1086** Leeds mentioned in the Domesday Book
- **1152** Kirkstall Abbey founded. See Kirkstall Abbey, 1147-1539: An Historical Study (1984) – Guy Barnes **L 906 THO**
- **1207** Maurice Paynel grants a charter to Leeds. See Documents Relating to the Manor and Borough of Leeds, 1066-1400 (1957) – ed., John Le Patourel **L 906 THO**
- **1534** John Leland visits Leeds, writing that "The Toun stondith most by Clothing": the wool textile industry is well-established. See The Woollen Industry of Leeds (1980) – Barbara Nelson **L 338.4767 NEL**
- **1560** First map of Leeds drawn. See Facsimile of the Earliest Known Map of Leeds ML1560
- **1615** Moot Hall built on Briggate and the oldest surviving pub in the city centre, the Nag's Head (now the Pack Horse Inn) opens. See Old Inns and Pubs of Leeds (1988) – Barrie Pepper **LP 647 PEP**
- **1626** King Charles I grants Leeds a Charter, establishing a Council. See A Fragment in the History of the Corporation of Leeds: Under the First Charter of 1626 (1879) **L 352 FRA**
- **1634** John Harrison builds St. John's Church. See St. John's Church, Leeds: A History (1993) – Janet Douglas and Ken Powell **L 726.5 DOU**
- **1700** The Aire and Calder Navigation opened as far as Leeds Bridge. See The Aire and Calder Navigation (1987) – Peter L. Smith **Y 386.48 SMI**
- **1715** Ralph Thoresby publishes the first history of Leeds. See Ducatus Leodiensis (1715) **LQ 914.2819 THO**
- **1754** The *Leeds Intelligencer*, now the *Yorkshire Post*, founded
- **1758** The first Bank in Leeds is formed, later known as Becketts Bank
- **1767** The General Infirmary at Leeds established. See The General Infirmary at Leeds: A Pictorial History (2003) – Malcolm Parsons **L 362.11 PAR**
- **1768** The private Leeds Library is founded. See The Leeds Library: 1768-1968 (1994; 2nd ed.) – Frank Beckwith **L 027.2 BEC**
- **1770** Thomas Jeffreys' survey 'A Plan of Leeds' published. For this and later maps see Printed Maps and Plans of Leeds: 1711-1900 (1960) – Kenneth J. Bonser & Harold Nichols **L 906 THO** and Leeds in Maps (2007) **L E 912 LEE**
- **1771** Leeds Theatre on Hunslet Lane opens. See 'The Theatre in Hunslet Lane' in Thoresby Society Miscellany Vol. 16, Part 2 (1975) **L 906 THO**
- **1775** The White Cloth Hall built in The Calls
- **1792** John Marshall moves his flax mill from Adel to Holbeck and Benjamin Gott begins construction of the Park Mills complex. See The Leeds Woollen Industry: 1780-1820 (1931) – ed., W.B. Crump **L 906 THO**
- **1797** Matthew Murray establishes his engineering works at the Round Foundry. See The Career of Matthew Murray: 1765-1826 (1931) **L B MUR**
- **1798** The first trade directory of Leeds published. See A History of the Town and Parish of Leeds (1798) Griffith Wright **SR 942.819 RYL ***
- **1801** Edward Baines purchases the *Leeds Mercury* newspaper. See Mr. Mercury: The Life of Edward Baines, 1774-1848 (2009) – David Thornton **L B BAI**
- The world's first commercially-viable steam locomotive, designed by Matthew Murray, runs to Middleton Colliery. See A History of Middleton Railway (1994) – S. Bye **LP 385.09428 MID**
- **1816** The Leeds-Liverpool Canal is completed. See The Leeds and Liverpool Canal: its History and Heritage (2011) – Mike Clarke **LP 386.4 CLA**
- **1822** Joshua Tetley buys Syke's Brewery. See Quality Pays: The Story of Joshua Tetley & Son (1985) – Clifford Lackey **LQ 338.7 JOS**
- **1832** A cholera epidemic strikes the city and the 1832 Reform Bill gives Leeds two MPs. See The First Asiatic Cholera Epidemic in Leeds, 1832 (1982) – Dale Victor Smith **LQ 614.514 SMI**
- **1835** The Municipal Corporation Act creates the Municipal Borough of Leeds. See A History of Modern Leeds (1980) – Derek Fraser **L 942.819 HIS**
- **1841** The new Parish Church opened. See Walter Farquhar Hook, Vicar of Leeds: His Work for the Church and the Town, 1837-1848 (2007) – Harry W. Dalton **L 283 DAL**
- **1845** Beckett Street cemetery – the first municipal cemetery in Leeds – opens. See To Prove I'm Not Forgotten: Living and Dying in a Victorian City (2008) – Sylvia M. Barnard **L 942.189 BAR**
- **1847** Armley Gaol and the Great Synagogue opened. See HMP Leeds, 150-years: A Brief History – Tony Kelly **LP ARM 365** and Leeds Jewry: A History of its Synagogues (1995) – Murray Freedman **LP 296 FRE**
- **1848** The Moral and Industrial Training School opens. See The Evolution of St. James's, 1848-1894: Leeds Moral and Industrial Training School, Leeds Union Workhouse and Leeds Union Infirmary (1986) – Pamela M. Pennock **LQ 362.11 PEN**
- **1850** First Ordnance Survey map published (5ft: 1 mile; surveyed 1847)
- **1857** Kirkgate Market opened. See Kirkgate Market An Illustrated History (1992) – Steven Burt and Kevin Grady **QLP 381 BUR**
- **1858** Leeds Town Hall is opened by Queen Victoria and John Barran begins the mass production of ready-made clothes. See A Brief History of Leeds Town Hall (1996) **LP 942.819 BRI** and Barran's of Leeds: 1851-1951 (1951) – David Ryott **L 338.7 JOH**
- **1863** Cuthbert Brodrick's Corn Exchange opens (see 1884)
- **1870** The first public library in Leeds opens and Leeds St. John's rugby club founded (forerunners of the Leeds Rhinos). See Growth of Leeds City Libraries: 1870-1970 (1970) – ed., Graham McKenna **LP 027.4 MI99** and The Leeds Rugby League Story (1992) – Dave Callaghan **LQ 796.333 CAL**
- **1874** The Yorkshire College, later to become the University of Leeds, opens. See Studies in the History of a University: 1874-1974 (1975) – ed., P.H.J.H Godsen & A.J. Taylor **QL 378 GOS**
- **1878** Charles Thornton opens Leeds' first shopping arcade
- **1884** Michael Marks opens a stall on Leeds Market and George Corson's Municipal Buildings, which include the Central Public Library, are opened. See St. Michael: A History of Marks and Spencer (1969) – Goronwy Rees **L 381.1 MAR** and Two Leeds Architects: Cuthbert Brodrick and George Corson (1937) – T. Butler Wilson **SR LQ B COR***