

Acts and Laws

- An ACT for Dividing and Inclosing Certain Open Tract of Land, Called Rothwell Haigh (1785)
- An ACT for Inclosing Lands in the Townships of Rothwell with Royds, and Oulton & Woodlesford, in the Parish of Rothwell (1809)

Social history: education, work, sport, governance and the arts

- Annual Reports of the R.U.D.C. (1950 – 1970)
- The Centenary Chronicle of Rothwell Temperance Band, 1881 – 1981 (1981) - Centenary Celebrations Committee
- Echoes and Reflections: Methley Life, 1900-2000 (2000) – Vera Garland. Reminiscences of Methley through 100-years.
- ‘Farewell to Historic Old Hall’ (1959) – extract from the *Pontefract and Castleford Express*. Concerns Methley Hall.
- Health Reports** (1931 – 1934, 1935 – 1938) – R.U.D.C
- Minutes of R.U.D.C. meetings (January 1960 – March 1974)
- My Rothwell, 1935 – 1953** (1994) – Fred Lunn. Memories.
- New Council Offices (1895) – R.U.D.C. Celebratory brochure.
- ‘Oulton Hall, West Yorkshire’ (19--) – Giles Worsley.
- Pageant of Rothwell Programme** (1951) – Arts Council of Rothwell. Part of the Festival of Britain; play about Rothwell’s past.
- Report on House to House Visitation. 1895** (1895) – R.U.D.C. Sanitation report looking at the condition of housing in the area.
- The Rodillian** (1933 – 1982). Magazine produced by pupils at Rothwell Grammar School.
- Rothwell Colliery “Fanny Pit”, 1867 – 1983 (1983) – National Coal Board, Yorkshire Area. Brief history of this locally important pit.
- Rothwell Urban District: Official Guide** (1926, 1934, 1962, 1967). Photocopies and some originals are at the Central Library.
- Seanor’s Matchworks at Rothwell (1994) – Albert Brown
- Souvenir of Bentley’s Brewery: 1828 – 1928 (1928). Famous Woodlesford brewery.
- Souvenir Programme of the Opening of Rothwell Public Park** (1937) – R.U.D.C.
- The Old White Hall: A Tale of Old Rothwell (1878) – Chas. Gibson
- War Around Rothwell: Collection of Memories (1993) – Rothwell Victoria Junior School. Residents’ WWII memories.

Dedicated to the memory of Joanne Gregory



Rothwell
& District

Rothwell & District

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.

For more information: Local and Family History, Leeds Central Library, Calverley Street, Leeds, LS1 3AB. Tel: 0113 378 6982. Email: localandfamilyhistory@leeds.gov.uk

Please note: Items marked * may require an appointment and ID to view. Items marked ** are held at Rothwell Community Hub & Library



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For a general overview of the area's past see the entries in David Thornton, A Historical Dictionary of Leeds (2013) and John Gilleghan, Leeds: An A-Z of Local History (2001). **Note:** *R.U.D.C.* = *Rothwell Urban District Council*

Histories and historians

- Higgins Collection of Oulton Ephemera** (1914 – 1915). R. V. Higgins
- 'The History of Methley,' in *Publications of the Thoresby Society*, Vol.35 (1937) – H.S. Darbyshire and G.D. Lumb
- A History of the Town of Rothwell* (17--) - Anonymous manuscript
- The History of Rothwell (1877) – John Batty
- The Letters of John Batty: Author of The History of Rothwell** (1910) – ed., J.A. Symington. Manuscript letters to other historians.
- Manuscript Notes for the History of Rothwell, Yorkshire** (no date) – John Batty. Notes forming the basis for his *The History of Rothwell*.
- Notes for a History of Oulton** (Three volumes, no date) – Reverend Geoffrey H. Mercer
- A Short Walk Around the Village Centre (c.1992) – Rothwell Civic Society, Local History Group. Detailed, illustrated heritage trails.
- Topography and Natural History of Lofthouse and its Neighbourhood with the Diary of a Naturalist and Rural Notes (1885) – George Roberts. Includes sections covering Rothwell and district.

Maps

- Goad Maps (Various dates from 1974). Maps showing usage of commercial buildings in Rothwell town centre.
- A Map of Rothwell, Oulton and Lofthouse, made in the Reign of Henry VIII (1531). See R. W. Hoyle, 'Thomas Lord Darcy and the Rothwell Tenants, c. 1526-1534', in *Yorkshire Archaeological Journal*, vol. 63, 1991, pp 85-107, for more on this map.
- Plan of the Township of... (1786). Detailed township maps for Rothwell, Oulton & Woodlesford, Methley, and Carlton.
- Plan of the Township of Rothwell with Rothwell Haigh (1839)
- Rothwell Haigh and Thorpe Stapleton in 1891 (1894)
- Village of Rothwell near to Leeds (1875)

Images

- Around Rothwell (2 vols., 1999 and 2004) – ed., Simon Bulmer
- Methley in Times Past: From Farm to Mine (1987) – Walter and Nellie Minett
- Sketches of Rothwell (19--)** – R. Whitehead. 10 pastel sketches.

Church histories, registers, parish magazines and cemetery records

- The Churches of St. Oswald, Methley and St. Margaret, Mickletown, near Leeds (1955) – George E. Kirk. Brief history.
- History of St. Mary's Church, Rothwell (1998) – Pat Harrison
- History of Wesleyan Methodism in the Rothwell Circuit, 1745-1913 (1913) – A. Marshall
- Holy Trinity Church, Rothwell, nr. Leeds (1952) – George E. Kirk. Short history and overview.
- Holy Trinity Church, Rothwell: Parish Magazine (1878, 1901 – 1971)
- Manuscript Notes from Registers of Rothwell and East Ardsley, Manor Rolls of Wakefield, etc* (c.1910) - transcribed by John Batty.
- Rothwell Haigh Cemetery (no date). Plan of grave plots.
- Parish registers for Rothwell, Oulton, Woodlesford and Methley – including baptisms, marriages, and burials (ask staff for more details).

Newspapers

- Rothwell Advertiser (1975 – 1992). Microfilm. Bound originals for 1959, 1968, 1976, 1968 – 1992 are at Rothwell Library.
- Rothwell and District Presscuttings** (various years to 1971)
- Rothwell: As Time Goes By (1980). One-off look at the town's past.
- Rothwell Courier & Times (1913 - 1923; incomplete). Microfilm.
- Rothwell Review** (1968, 1971, 1974, 1986)
- Rothwell Times (1873 – 1912). Microfilm. Originals from 1887 – 1910*. Some original 1892 issues at Rothwell Library. Continues as *Courier*.

There are also more than 1000 references to Rothwell and district in our local newspaper index. Please ask staff at the Central Library for more information.

Collections

- Albert Brown Collection. Four volumes of Brown's research notes and letters to & from genealogists with family roots in Rothwell.
- E.R. Manley Collection. Photographs – now digitized at www.leodis.net. Manley also wrote books, including *Meet the Miner: A Study of the Yorkshire Miner* (1947) and *A Short History of Rothwell* (1980 – 1989).
- Newscutting Collection. Eight volumes - mainly articles from the 1970s-80s, with an alphabetical index.
- W.H. Banks Collection. Several volumes of material on Rothwell's past, mainly 20th-century and including Banks' own memories. Also available are Banks' articles on the Jaw Bones, the history of sport in Rothwell and a history of the Haigh Road School. Some of the material is at the Central Library and some at Rothwell Library – ask for more details.