

## Contemporary Accounts & Primary Sources

- 'Bell-ringing at Leeds in 1632. A note in the handwriting of Ralph Thoresby' (1915) – G. D. Lumb. PTS, XXII. Miscellanea (vi)
- 'The committee of charitable uses, Leeds. Extracts from the minute-book [1664-83]' (1915) – G. D. Lumb. PTS, XXII. Miscellanea (vi)
- \**The first and second decree of the Committee of Pious-Uses In Leedes* (c. 1740). 18<sup>th</sup> century transcription by Thomas Wilson.
- *The Diary of Ralph Thoresby, F.R.S, 1677-1724: Volumes I & II* (1830) – ed., Joseph Hunter. See also *Letters of eminent men, addressed to Ralph Thoresby: Volumes I & II* (1832); *Letters addressed to Ralph Thoresby...* (1912) – ed., W.T. Lancaster; Mss letters to Thoresby in Vol. 1 of William Boyne's *\*History of Leeds*; and *Ralph Thoresby, the topographer: his town and times* (1885) – D.H. Atkinson
- \**Ducatus Leodiensis* (1715) – Ralph Thoresby. Annotated edition by Thomas Wilson (c.1745)
- *The Manor And Borough Of Leeds, 1425-1662: An Edition Of Documents* (1983) – ed., Joan W. Kirby
- 'Some Civil War accounts, 1647-1650' (1904) – Ethel Kitson and E. Kirston Clark. PTS, XI. Miscellanea [iv]
- \**Vicaria Leodiensis; Or, the History of the Church of Leedes* (1724) – Ralph Thoresby

## Wing Collection

Over 800 items (all \*) printed between 1640 and 1700, mostly Tracts documenting the events, politics, religious debates and social life throughout the turbulent period of the English Civil Wars – including:

- \**A True and Plenary Relation of the Great Defeat given by my Lord Fairfax forces unto my Lord of Newcastle's forces in Yorkshire, January 23* [1642] (1643) – Thomas Crompton. Covers the 1642 'Battle of Briggate'.

## Opening times

Monday – 9.00am – 8.00pm

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Weds – 9.00am – 8.00pm

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Sunday - Closed

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17<sup>th</sup>  
century  
Leeds

# 17<sup>th</sup> century Leeds

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 \* may require advance appointment and ID to view.

PTS = *Publications of the Thoresby Society*



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Essential readings and sources for the long seventeenth century in Leeds – from the first map of the town in 1560 to the famous Cossins plan of the 1720s. The period is defined by the emergence of an ambitious class of cloth merchants, culminating in the Charter of 1626, granting the town powers of self-governance for the first time. The Civil Wars of the 1640s brought division among this urban elite but did not impact the town's general trajectory towards its position as the leading market town of the West Riding. Later in the century, figures such as antiquarians Ralph Thoresby and John Hopkinson demonstrate Leeds' development from intellectually provincial outpost to a place in the broader 'Republic of Letters'.

### General histories of the period

- *East End, West End: The Face of Leeds During Urbanisation, 1684-1842* (1988) – Maurice Beresford
- *History of Modern Leeds* (1980) – ed., Derek Fraser. G.C.F. Forster, 'The foundations: from the earliest times to 1700'. Includes an excellent bibliography.
- *Leeds: A Historical Dictionary* (2013) – David Thornton. Excellent reference resource
- *War, plague & trade : Leeds in the seventeenth-century* (1985) – Steven Burt & Kevin Grady. See also their *Illustrated History of Leeds* (2002)

### Religion and Politics

- *Court Books Of The Leeds Corporation: First Book, 1662-1705* (1936) – ed., J.G.Clark. PTS, XXXIV
- 'The early years of Leeds Corporation' (1979) – G. C. F. Forster. PTS, LIV. Miscellany 16
- \**Leeds Corporation and the first charter, 1626-1661, with special reference to the "Inspeximus" or confirmed copy of 1646 rediscovered and presented to the Corporation in July 1952* (1952) – Leeds Public Libraries. Original documents tracing the Charter's rediscovery in 1952.
- *Leeds in the Seventeenth and Early Eighteenth-centuries* (2008) – ed., Maurice Beresford, G.C.F. Forster & Joan W. Kirby. Includes 'The roots of Incorporation and Jacobean Leeds', 'Leeds under the First Charter of Incorporation', 'Leeds in the Civil War and Interregnum', and 'The Government of Restoration Leeds' - G. C. F. Forster; 'The Aldermen of Leeds (1626-1700) – Joan W. Kirby; and 'Observations on East Prospect of Leedes' – Maurice Beresford. PTS, LXIV (Centenary Publication)
- 'Observations out of the Manor Book, 1684-1741' (1899) – G.D. Lumb. PTS, IX. Miscellanea [iii]

- 'Parson and People: Troubles at Leeds Parish Church' (1961) - G. C. F. Forster. University of Leeds Review, VI, (1961)
- 'The rulers of Leeds: gentry, clothiers and merchants, c. 1425-1626' (1985-86) – Joan W. Kirby. PTS, LIX, Miscellany 18
- \**Worke, more worke, and a little more worke for a masse-priest* (1630) – Alexander Cooke (Vicar of Leeds). Cooke's signature can be seen in \**Missale ad usum Cistercieñ* (1516), a Cistercian liturgical book formerly held at the library of Kirkstall Abbey and at one time in the possession of the Cooke family. For more, see \*'The Puritan ownership of a Cistercian missal from Kirkstall Abbey' (2018) – Philip Wilde.

### People and Places

- *Biographia Leodiensis* (1865) and *Supplement* (1867) – ed., R. V. Taylor. Short biographies of Leeds 'worthies'.
- \**A collection of ye pedigrees and decents [sic] of severall [sic] of the gentry of the West Riding of the County of York and elsewhere* (c.1730) – John Hopkinson, antiquarian of Lofthouse (and later hands). These pedigrees were extensively used by Thoresby in his *Ducatus Leodiensis*.
- \**Dugdale's Yorkshire visitation 1644: with continuation and additions by William Radclyffe to 1827*. Pedigrees collected by William Dugdale.
- *A fragment in the history of the Corporation of Leeds: under the first charter in 1626* (1879) – Richard Jackson. Concerns Richard Cromwell.
- 'John Harrison [1579-1656], the Leeds benefactor, and his times' (1935) – Margaret A. Hornsey. PTS, XXXIII. Miscellanea [x]
- \**Personal study of a row of [17<sup>th</sup> century] houses on Little Woodhouse Street, Leeds* (c. 1965) – Peter Salmon. Includes several photographs.
- 'Survey of the manor of Leeds, 1612' (1904)- H. T. Kelsey. PTS, XI. Miscellanea [iv]
- 'Survey of the manor of Leeds in 1612' (1919) – Jas. Singleton. PTS, XXIV. Miscellanea [vii]

### Maps and Prospects

- [First surviving plan of Leeds] (c.1560). See 'A Leeds law-suit in the 16<sup>th</sup> century' (1899) – Edmund Wilson. PTS, IX, Miscellanea [iii]
- *Leeds as it appears from the Holbeck Road* (1684) – William Lodge. This Prospect appeared in Thoresby's *Ducatus*
- *The Prospect of Leeds from the Knostrop Road* (1715) – Francis Place. This Prospect also appeared in the *Ducatus*
- *A New & Exact Plan of the Town of Leedes* (c.1726) – John Cossins. See 'Two old plans of Leeds' (1899) – Edmund Wilson. PTS, IX, Miscellanea [iii]