

Leeds University Library
GUIDES TO SOURCE MATERIALS FOR RESEARCH

HISTORY & POLITICS OF THE BRITISH ISLES, 1: TO 1800
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The **Brotherton Library** has very extensive collections of manuscript, printed and microfilmed sources for research in British and Irish history. There are important archives from northern England, much material for medieval, ecclesiastical and local history, and large collections of parliamentary and state papers. Printed books go back to the 15th century, and the classic works of writers such as Camden, Clarendon, Dugdale, Madox, Rushworth and Tanner are available, as well as the most recent scholarly publications. Microfilmed sources include further medieval manuscripts and state papers, and almost all English books printed before 1701.

Supporting material includes numerous guides to archives, catalogues, and bibliographies; biographical and other reference works; very many monographs; and long sets of scholarly journals. The Library continues to make extensive acquisitions of sources and supporting material, so as to maintain an important research collection.

To give some indication of the wealth of material available for research, a selection of important sources has been listed below. It includes material unique to this Library, and other works which may not be widely available. There is much more than can be listed - in particular, many volumes of separately-published sources; but the selection should show the range of interests represented in the Library's collections. Small gaps in sets have not been noted.

The arrangement of the list is:

- 1: Sources covering long periods.**
- 2: Medieval sources.**
- 3: 16th-18th centuries.**
- 4: Ireland & Scotland.**
- 5: Church history.**
- 6: Economic, social & local history.**
- 7: Military & naval history.**

Abbreviations:

[co] = photocopies, or other copies; [mf] = microfilm or microfiches;
[ms] = manuscript or typescript; [ms,h] = manuscript or typescript, & a handlist is available;
[rep] = reprint

A list of *Guides to sources, bibliographies and other reference works for British and Irish history, c.500-c.1800* is available in the Library.

Enquiries about the Library's resources for research should be sent by e-mail to **arts@library.leeds.ac.uk** or by post to: Brotherton Library, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT, England.

1. Sources covering long periods

These include *Statutes of the realm* (Record Commission) and *Statutes at large* (Ruffhead, & other editions); the *Proceedings and ordinances* (later, *Acts and Registers*) of the Privy Council, 1386-1645 [partly mf]; *State trials* (1816-28, & earlier editions). There are all volumes (reports & appendices) of the *Historical Manuscripts Commission*, and of the *Camden Society & Camden series*. Long sets of law reports cover cases from 1220 onwards, and include a very extensive collection of *nominate reports*, and the *English reports*. A more unusual source is *English cartoons and satirical prints, 1320-1832, in the British Museum* [mf].

2. Medieval sources

The Library has the manuscript of the *Anonimale chronicle*, an important 14th-century source written in Yorkshire. Other medieval manuscripts are listed in the separate guide for **Medieval studies**. A large collection of charters and other documents relates to the estates of Marrick Priory in Swaledale, from the 12th century to the 19th. The archives of the Dean and Chapter of Ripon include documents from medieval times (for more detail, see the separate guide for **Church history and theology**). On microfilm there are episcopal registers (see section 5); Middle English & illuminated manuscripts from *The medieval manuscripts at Lambeth Palace Library*; and the illuminated manuscripts, theology, sermons, homilies, liturgy and saints' lives from *Lincoln Cathedral Library: the medieval manuscript collection*.

The principal editions of *Domesday book* are those of the Record Commission (1783-1816), Alecto (1986-92), & Phillimore (1975-92). There are all volumes of the *Calendars of ... rolls*, *Calendars of inquisitions* and related publications from the P.R.O., and a complete set of *The Pipe Roll Society*. Only eight volumes are lacking from the publications of the *Record Commissions*. Sources for the study of the medieval Parliament includes the *Rotuli Parliamentorum* [1783], and Palgrave's *Parliamentary writs* (1827-34). The volumes of the *Selden Society* provide material for the study of (especially) later medieval law, and there are also 17th-century editions of the *Year books*. There is a good collection of cartularies, supplemented by further cartularies published by various record societies. Rymer's *Foedera* (3rd ed., 1739-45, & Record Commission edition, 1816-69) prints documents relating to England's relations with other states.

For medieval narrative sources & other texts, the *Rolls series* is pre-eminent. Other series include *Auctores britannici medii aevi*, *Oxford medieval texts*, all series of the *Early English Text Society*, many volumes of the *Roxburghe Club*, and Migne's *Patrologia latina* (printed edition, and also on cd-rom). There are also very many volumes of separately published texts.

3. 16th-18th centuries.

The Library has all series of the *Calendar of state papers* and related series (*Calendar of Treasury books*, etc.), and the *Letters and papers ... of the reign of Henry VIII*. Microfilm of the *Complete state papers domestic*, 1509-1702 supplements the calendars. *Home Office ... correspondence, 1782-1820* (PRO HO 42) [mf] provides a continuation of the state papers domestic. There is also the *London gazette*, originally the *Oxford gazette*, (1665-1800) [mf].

For the history of **Parliament**, there is a good range of early printed debates (D'Ewes, Cobbett, Torbuck, Pittis, Debrett, Almon, etc.), and the more recently published debates from the parliaments held in the period 1559-1641; the *Lords Journals* (1509-), and *Commons Journals* (1547-); *Divisions in the House of Lords: an analytical list, 1685 to 1857* [mf], and *Voting records of the British House of Commons, 1761-1820*.

Sets of parliamentary papers are *The main papers of the House of Lords, 1509-1696* [mf]; *House of Commons sessional papers of the 18th century*, ed. S. Lambert; *Parliamentary papers of the House of Commons, 1715-1801*; *House of Lords sessional papers, 1714-1805*, ed. F.W. Torrington; and *British sessional papers, 1731-1800* [mf]

Other material for the **16th & 17th centuries**: *Lord Burghley's papers* and *The papers of Sir Julius Caesar* [both mf], from the Lansdowne collection in the British Library; *Hastings family correspondence, 1477-1701* [mf]; and *Social & political affairs in the age of the Tudors: the Talbot papers from Lambeth Palace Library* [mf]. *STC books, 1475-1640* [mf], and *Wing books, 1641-1700* [mf] provide the complete texts of all 79,000 volumes known to have been published in those years, and listed in the published short-title catalogues - material for research on every aspect of English/British history; *STC books* is already complete, and *Wing books* is well advanced. The *Somers Tracts* (2nd ed., 1809-15) relate mainly to the 17th and early 18th centuries.

The collections of literature are especially strong in manuscripts and early printed books of the years 1600-1750, and these provide much material for historical research. There are hundreds of volumes published in this period which relate to political, social, or economic affairs, and many prose and verse satires. An on-line database (*BCMSV* - <http://www.leeds.ac.uk/library/spcoll/bcmsv/intro.html>) eases access to the manuscript verse. The collection of later 17th-century drama is particularly strong, and there are pamphlets and tracts from the period of the "Popish Plot".

Sources for the years 1640-60 include the *Marten-Loder Symonds papers* [ms], a substantial group of political, legal and estate papers of Henry Marten and his family; they are partly listed in *HMC 13th report, app. IV*, 1892, pp.378-404. There are also Fairfax family manuscripts, c.1650-1720. The hundreds of 17th-century political pamphlets are largely about the Civil War in Yorkshire, but there is also a collection relating to John Lilburne. Many editions of *Eikon basilike* are held. Other sources include: *Unpublished state papers of the English civil war and interregnum*, ed. M. Hawkins [mf]; *The Thomason tracts, 1640-61* [mf]; *Fast sermons to Parliament, Nov. 1640 - April 1653* [rep], and some newsbooks, including *Mercurius aulicus* (1-118) [rep] and *Mercurius politicus* (1650-59) [rep]. Other newsbooks are available, either originals or as microfilms.

Further sources for **18th-century** history include some 200 letters, mostly from the 1780s, written to T. Townshend, 1st viscount Sidney [ms], and private letters of the 2nd, 3rd and 5th dukes of Leeds [ms]. There is a set of *The craftsman* (1731-37), and 15 pamphlets from the disputes it aroused. *The Blenheim papers from the British Library* [mf] are selected papers of the 1st duke & duchess of Marlborough, and of the 3rd earl of Sunderland. There are also *The Newcastle papers from the British Library* [mf]; *Horace Walpole's correspondence* (1937-83); *The Parliamentary spy* (1-19, 1769-70); and Claeys, *Political writings of the 1790s*. *The eighteenth century: a microfilm collection* will, when complete, provide texts of some 200,000 English books published in the 18th century, and thus source material for research on all aspects of history.

Material relating to the British possessions in North America includes *Proceedings and debates of the British parliaments respecting North America, 1542-1776*; *British pamphlets relating to the American Revolution [1764-83]* [mf]; *America, Britain and the War of Independence: the correspondence and papers of Sir Jeffrey Amherst in the Kent Archives Office* [mf]; and *Charles Townshend papers at Dalkeith: material relating to America [1765-67]* [mf]. (There is a separate guide to sources for **Canadian & United States studies**.)

4. Ireland & Scotland.

Major printed sources for Irish history include the *Calendar of documents relating to Ireland, 1171-1307*; the *Calendar of state papers, Ireland, 1509-1670*; *Calendar of state papers, Carew, 1515-1624*; *Scriptores latini Hiberniae* (1959-). There is a Celtic collection, which includes many Irish texts.

For Scottish history: *The acts of the Parliaments of Scotland, 1124-1707*; *Calendar of documents relating to Scotland, 1108-1516*; *Exchequer rolls of Scotland, 1264-1600*; *Registrum magni sigilli regum Scotorum, 1306-1668*; *Registrum secreti sigilli regum Scotorum, 1488-1580*; *Register of the Privy Council of Scotland, 1545-1691*; *Acts of the Lord High Treasurer of Scotland, 1477-1580*; *Calendar of Scottish papers, 1547-1603*; and Sinclair, *The statistical account of Scotland* (1791-9). There are all volumes of the *Scottish History Society* and of the *Stair Society*, and most volumes of the *Scottish Record Society*. *Records of a Scottish village: Lasswade, 1650-1750* [mf] provide further material for local history.

5. Church history.

[Some material listed in section 2 is relevant, and the separate guide for **Church history and theology** gives more details.] The archives of the Dean and Chapter of Ripon Cathedral [ms,h] include many documents from late medieval times to the 20th century. On microfilm there are the *Registers* of the archbishops of Canterbury, 1279-1645, and of York, 1215-1650, and of the bishops of Carlisle, 1292-1656, of Coventry & Lichfield, 1292-1656, of Durham, 1311-1683, and of Lincoln, 1209-1663.

Printed sources include *Acta sanctorum*; *Calendar of papal registers, 1198-1513*; the *Taxatio ecclesiastica* (Record Comm.); *English episcopal acts* (1980-); *The Henry*

Bradshaw Society; *The Canterbury and York Society*; and the *Parker Society* (1841-53). The volumes of the *Surtees Society* contain much on the province of York. For the study of the Roman Catholic Church there are the publications of the *Catholic Record Society*, and c.300 volumes of *English recusant literature, 1558-1640*. Much material on French Protestants in England can be found in the publications of the *Huguenot Society*.

For the study of Quaker history from the mid-17th century, the extensive records of the Brighouse, Knaresborough, Leeds, Settle, Thirsk and York monthly meetings and of the Yorkshire quarterly meetings of the *Society of Friends* [ms,h] are supplemented by a strong collection of early printed books, especially the *Birkbeck Library* and *Leeds Friends' Old Library*, which together contain c.5000 books & pamphlets, mainly 1651-1800. There are also many microfilmed manuscripts from the library of the Society of Friends and elsewhere.

6. Economic, social & local history.

A collection of over 850 charters & other original documents [ms] relates to the estates of *Marrick Priory*, a Benedictine house in Swaledale, from the 12th to the 19th century, and especially to the ownership of the lands after 1539. The *Wentworth-Woolley Hall papers* [ms,h] cover all aspects of the family's estates and interests from the 14th to the 19th century, with material on Bulwell, Cold Heindly, Notton & Royston, Saddleworth and Woolley; there are deeds, wills, marriage settlements, accounts, rentals, cash books, ledgers, wages books, maps, plans, and notebooks. The *Wilson manuscripts* [ms,h] are more than 1000 original deeds, court rolls and manorial documents, largely relating to Hallamshire from the 13th century onwards.

There are further large collections of Yorkshire deeds, especially of the 17th and 18th centuries, relating to the local possessions of the 2nd duke of Buckingham, 2nd earl of Strafford, Sir Robert Clayton, & the Fairfax family. Other manuscripts are: Register of the honor of Richmond (late 15th cent., or early 16th); 18th-century transcripts of financial accounts relating to the honor of Pontefract, 1544-47; documents relating principally to the Gomersal area, 1551-c.1865; Robert Arthington's account of coal pits at Farnley (near Leeds), 1690-1720; account books & other records of North Biddick Colliery, County Durham, 1722-33; the Lawkland Manor court book, 1739-1857; a land survey of Highfield, Tinsley (near Sheffield), c.1740; documents relating to the Eshton Hall estate (near Skipton), 1784-1891 [ms,h]; and the diary, 1796, of T. Fletcher, land-agent of the duke of Devonshire.

Sources for the textile industry include the *Calverley papers* [ms,h] relating to the renewal of the Broadcloth acts in 1733 & 1741, and records of Leeds White Cloth Hall, 1749-1897 [ms,h] - the handlist is superseded by the list in Patricia Hudson's *The West Riding wool textile industry: a catalogue of business records* (1975)]. Local business archives include some from the 18th century, such as the *Gott papers* [ms,h - also described in Hudson's catalogue], and *Marshall papers* [ms,h].

There is an extensive collection of manuscript commonplace books & miscellanies, mainly c.1650-c.1750, and a valuable collection of travel writings, manuscript & printed, from the 17th & 18th centuries. The outstanding research collection on the literature of the period 1600-1750 is mentioned in section 3. A database of the manuscript verse (see section 3)

gives access to a wide range of social and political comment. A strong collection of cookery books (mostly printed books from the 16th century onwards, with some manuscripts) provides further material for the social historian, as does the **Romany** collection (the largest in the country still under active development) which contains press-cuttings going back to the 17th century, as well as many manuscripts and printed books.

Sources on microfilm which provide further material for the social historian include *Tamworth court rolls, 1284-1584*; *Records of an English village: Earls Colne, 1400-1750*; *English literary periodicals*, giving the text of 341 titles from the 17th, 18th & 19th century; and *Women advising women, pt 1: Early women's journals, c.1700-1832*.

Local newspapers include the *Leeds intelligencer*, 1754-1866 (with some gaps), and *Eighteenth-century English provincial newspapers* [mf], which has titles from Bath, Derby, Ipswich, & Newcastle-upon-Tyne; *Cumberland pacquet, or, Ware's Whitehaven advertiser*, 1774-79 & 1781-83 [mf]; *Felix Farley's Bristol journal*, 1752-1800 [mf]; and *Northampton mercury*, 1720-1850 [mf]. A selection of directories is reproduced in *National and local directories from the Guildhall Library*, pt. 1 (1781-1816/17) [mf]

Published sources are particularly strong for the northern counties of England, but there is much also for other regions. There are sets (mostly complete) of nearly all the English county record societies, and series from Bristol, Leeds, London & Southampton. The many county journals also publish source material. There are many of the classic county histories published in the 18th & 19th centuries, and all volumes of the *Victoria history*. Amongst the older historical literature there is a notable collection on Sheffield, from the library of W.T. Freemantle, and Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham are well covered, as well as Leeds. A *Channel Islands Collection* includes court documents and other manuscripts, and many printed items.

The **Whitaker Collection** comprises atlases, road-books & maps (16th-19th centuries): in 1947 the Library published a catalogue, with the title *The Harold Whitaker collection of county atlases, road-books & maps*. For the genealogist, sources include most volumes of the *Harleian Society*, all volumes of the *Index library*, and the Yorkshire Archaeological Society's *Parish register section*. The volumes of the *English Place-Name Society* and the inventories of the *Royal Commission on Historical Monuments* contain much of value for historical research. The *Calendar of assize records* relates to south-eastern England in the later 16th and 17th centuries.

7. Military and naval history.

Sources include all volumes of the *Navy Record Society*; papers of Samuel Pepys, relating to the Admiralty (vols. 170-216 of Rawlinson A), from *The Rawlinson manuscript collection in the Bodleian Library* [mf]; *Annual British Army lists, 1740-1784* [mf]; and the publications of the *Army Records Society*. *The papers of Henry Bouquet [1755-1767]*, *The correspondence & papers of Sir Jeffrey Amherst in the Kent Archives Office* [mf] and *The Fawcett & Lister papers* (mainly letters of Sir William Fawcett) [mf] provide sources for the study of British military activity in North America.

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