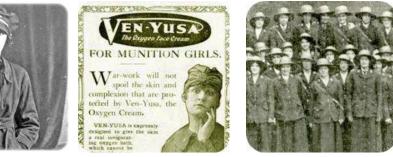
Sources for the Study of Sheffield's Women Workers in World War One







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Front cover illustrations - left to right:

Window Cleaning Girl in uniform, c. 1916 (Sheffield Local Studies Library: Picture Sheffield: s08833)

Advertisement for Ven-Yusa cream, The Bombshell, Nov 1918, (Sheffield Local Studies Library: Picture Sheffield: y05279)

Picture of Sheffield women who have taken positions of postmen in order to relieve men for the Army and Munitions, c. 1914 - 1918 *(Sheffield Local Studies Library: Picture Sheffield: y05280)*

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You can download a copy of this Study Guide from www.sheffield.gov.uk/archives

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Introduction

This booklet lists sources available within Sheffield City Archives and Sheffield Local Studies Library relating to the study of Women Workers in Sheffield in the First World War. It is not intended to be a detailed history of women's work during the War but merely points the reader who wishes to carry out their own research to what is available within Sheffield Libraries and Archives.

General Introduction

As a major centre for the production of armaments, Sheffield experienced little unemployment during the First World War and the ever increasing demand for labour saw a huge number of women being drawn into employment as evidenced by the increase in membership of the Sheffield branch of the National Union of Women Workers from 350 in 1914 to some 5,000 by June 1918. When in March 1915 the Government announced it was compiling a register of women willing to do industrial, agricultural and clerical work, over 1,000 Sheffield women were recorded as being ready to replace men in suitable occupations. Many were involved in traditional women's work such as nursing, both in local military hospitals and overseas, many more took on clerical and adminstrative positions in banks, local government and service industries; many, for the first time, were employed in such trades as window cleaning and meter reading. Sheffield University women students offered their services to farmers whilst cutlery, spoons, forks and razors were required in large quantities for the army. Very many women were employed directly in war work.

Munitions

By far the largest number of women were employed in munitions work, especially at the large shell filling factories at Templeborough (Thos Firth's) and East Hecla Works (Hadfields) and the works of large armaments manufacturers such as Vickers, John Brown and Cammell Laird and some of the other nearly 300 firms given over to the production of war material. At Templeborough, for instance, about 5,000 women workers were employed under the direction of a skeleton staff of men. Many workers came into the City to work in munitions and in December 1915 the Lord Mayor appealed to Sheffield householders to provide temporary accommodation for them pending the erection of huts at Tinsley, Petre Street and Tyler Street. Women were also involved in many other types of war work with specialist processes often being 'diluted' so they could be undertaken by less skilled women workers under male supervision. Examples are the 180 girls at Arthur Lee's who were producing wires for planes, the women who were trained by the Metallurgical Department of the Sheffield University as assistant analysts for Sheffield steel works in order to release junior chemists for the Army and women making twist drills at Samuel Osborns. The business records of local major companies are not very helpful as they contain very little detail about their work forces. Some of the published histories of such companies can provide a quick glimpse but, as so often with women's history, the researcher has to turn to more unusual sources. There are, for instance, a number of photos of women who worked at the National Projectile Factory at Templeborough in the site's official magazine, The Bombshell (available via www.picturesheffield.com). One benefit to come out of the war was the growth of company welfare facilities such as canteens,

and recreational activities such as company choirs and drama groups. Sheffield Council, for instance, purchased premises at Hartshead for a Tramway Women's Club.

Communications

With so many men enlisting in the army, it quickly became apparent that the country's transport system could only be kept functioning if women were taken on as employees. Glasgow Council was the first to appoint women tram conductors but Sheffield quickly followed suit and employed not only women conductors but women tramcar cleaners and labourers. The Sheffield Year Books (*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 032.74 S*) chart a steady increase in their numbers from 360 in 1916 to over 1000 in 1918. Discussions started in 1918 about the possibility of women being employed as drivers but nothing came of it. On the railways women were employed in signalling, stations duties and locomotive and carriage cleaning but they never worked as drivers or firemen – they were considered not of the "build suited to the footplate". By July 1915 fifty women were employed as railway clerks by the Grand Central Railway Company. Women also took over in significant numbers as postmen and telegraph girls.

Women Police

Women police patrols were first formed in 1914 under the auspices of the National Union of Women Workers to patrol parks, streets and less reputable licensed houses to safeguard the moral welfare of women and young girls whilst members of the Women's Police Service were taken on in munitions factories where large numbers of women were employed. The success of these initiatives resulted in the Sheffield Watch Committee deciding to appoint the City's first two women constables for a probationary period of six months in November 1917.

Voluntary Work

Sheffield women were quick to organise to provide services for war relief such as the Soldiers' Personal Comforts Depot, buffets at stations, relief committees, war savings schemes and helping Belgian refugees. Many were volunteers at military hospitals where they provided activities for the patients such as the work of Mrs Carter (later of Painted Fabrics) at Wharncliffe Hospital. Others were members of more military like organisations such as the Women's Defence Corps which undertook activities like fire drills and street collections.

After the Armistice

The expansion of job opportunities for women during the First World War was in many cases a short-lived one. Clerical work and administrative work became a much more acceptable sector for women and the Sex Disqualification Removal Act opened up jury service, the magistracy (Sheffield had its first four women magistrates in 1920), public service and the professions to women. However, the majority of women were expected to return, albeit often reluctantly, to their homes or to their pre-war occupations. Women tram conductors disappeared and the last female works employee at Hadfields was paid off in June 1919. As the Sheffield Telegraph commented on 13 Nov 1918, "The big reduction in the number of women on munitions work no doubt will solve in part a pronounced shortage of domestic help". However, some firms, like Ibbotson Brothers, did keep on their female employees and many contemporary observers believed that women's contribution to the war effort had resulted in a changed status for women workers. It certainly helped to undermine the arguments of the anti-women's suffrage lobby.

Timeline showing key dates

| 4 Aug 1914 | Germany invades Belgium. Britain declares war on Germany. | |
|-------------|--|--|
| 10 Aug 1914 | Imprisoned suffragettes are offered an amnesty. | |
| Sep 1914 | Women's Volunteer Reserve and Women's Defence Relief Corps are set up. | |
| Feb 1915 | Women's Police Service established. | |
| 17 Mar 1915 | War Service Register for Women. | |
| 1915 | 5,000 women work at the National Projectile Factory at Templeborough. | |
| Apr 1915 | Glasgow appoints first women tramway conductors. | |
| May 1915 | Establishment of the Ministry of Munitions. | |
| 3 Jun 1915 | Sheffield Tramways Committee decides to employ women tram conductors and cleaners. | |
| Aug 1915 | National Register for men and women aged between 16 and 65. | |
| Nov 1915 | Establishment of the Women's Employment Committee by the Home Secretary and the President of the Board of Trade. | |
| 1916 | Huts for munitions workers are built at Petre Street, Tyler Street and at Tinsley. | |
| Mar 1916 | Women's National Land Service Corps is formed. | |
| May 1916 | Universal male conscription. | |
| 12 Aug 1916 | Article in <i>The Lancet</i> on the effect of TNT on women workers. | |
| 1 Dec 1916 | Women's Army Auxiliary Corps is created. | |
| 29 Nov 1917 | Women's Royal Naval Service is formed. | |
| 29 Nov 1917 | The Watch Committee decides to appoint the first two women police constables in Sheffield. | |
| 6 Feb 1918 | Representation of the People Act gives the vote to women over 30. | |
| 1 Apr 1918 | Women's Royal Air Force is created. | |
| 8 Aug 1918 | Passing of the Maternity and Child Welfare Act. | |
| 11 Nov 1918 | Armistice signed. | |
| 15 Aug 1919 | Restoration of Pre-War Practices Act. | |

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| Nov 1919 | Gertrude Wilkinson and Eleanor Barton elected as first women on Sheffield City Council. |
|-------------|---|
| 28 Nov 1919 | Nancy Astor becomes first women to take her seat as a Member of Parliament. |
| 23 Dec 1919 | Sex Disqualification Act opens up the professions to women. |

A selection of images from the collections at Sheffield Archives and Local Studies





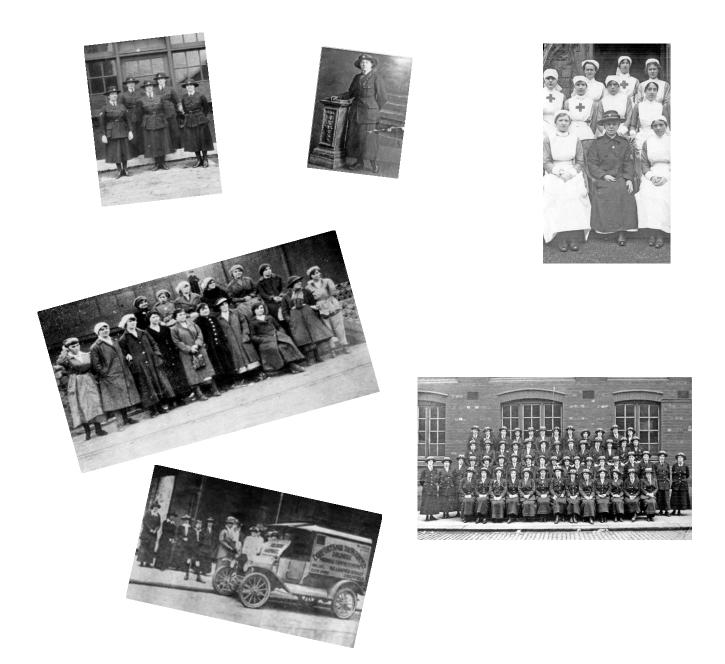








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Munitions Manufacture, Sheffield Simplex Motor Works Ltd, Tinsley, 1900-1919 (*Picture Sheffield: s02070*); The first Women Crane Drivers at Cammell Laird and Co. Ltd, 1916-17 (*Picture Sheffield: s09377*); Munitions Workers at Firth Brown, 1914-18 (*Picture Sheffield: s09244*); Tram Workers, c. 1917 (*Picture Sheffield: s15188*); Nurses at St John's (Abbeydale) Private Hospital, 1915 (Picture Sheffield: y05059); *The Bombshell,* cover edition for Nov 1918; The Women Police of the National Projectile Factory, Templeborough (*The Bombshell,* Nov 1918, *Sheffield Local Studies Library: 052.74 S*), Sheffield's first woman tram inspector, c. 1916 (*Picture Sheffield: s02437*); Post Office Telegram Girls, c. 1916 (*Picture Sheffield: s09248*); 'And we – we feed the guns (*The Bombshell,* Christmas 1917); Miss Moore and Nursing Section, 3rd Northern General Hospital, First Word War (*Picture Sheffield: y00245*); Ladies presenting a motor van to the Wounded Soldiers' Comforts Depot, 1915 (*Picture Sheffield: s02437*)

List of documents, books, photographs and other items available at Sheffield Libraries, Archives and Information

Newspaper reports, etc.

Relevant articles and features may appear in local newspapers. The main titles available at Sheffield Local Studies Library include: *Sheffield Daily Telegraph*, 1855 - 1986; and the *Sheffield Independent* 1819 - 1938. *The Sheffield Guardian*, 1906-1916, the weekly newspaper of the Sheffield Independent Labour Party has some references to women's rates of pay and unionisation. *Transport Cuttings*, Vols 1-2 (1914-2) (available on microfilm) have several articles about women on the trams in both Sheffield and elsewhere.

Archives of some national newspapers are available on the internet, notably *The Times* (<u>http://archive.timesonline.co.uk</u>) and *The Guardian* (<u>http://archive.guardian.co.uk</u>)

Photographs

Over 55,000 images from the Sheffield Local Studies Library photographic collection are available to search online at <u>www.picturesheffield.com</u>. There are images of women in various occupations – several of women manufacturing munitions at the Sheffield Simplex Motor Works and of nurses at the third Northern General Hospital, the main building for which was at the Teachers' College on Collegiate Crescent.

Photograph of Women Tram Conductors in Hall, Chas. C., *Sheffield Transport* (Transport Publishing Co., 1977) (page 141) (*Sheffield Archives: HAL/TRANS and Sheffield Local Studies Library: 388.322 SQ*)

Photograph of Women Tram Conductors in Sheffield City Council Transport Committee: *Tramway Era in Sheffield: A Souvenir Brochure* (1960) (*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 388.4 SQ*)

Photographs of Women Tram conductors in *Sheffield: Number Three in the Super Prestige Collection of Transport History Albums*, Philip Battersby (Venture Publications, 2002) (*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 388.322 S*)

Photograph of ladies presenting a motor van to the Wounded Soldiers Comforts Depot in *The Star Great War Edition* (1964) (*Sheffield Local Studies Library: MP 344 L*)

Photograph of workers at the Munitions Areas Inspection Department, King Street, Sheffield c.1914 - 1918 (*Sheffield Archives: PhC/531/1*)

Photographs of Shell Examiners at Tinsley Central Stores Bond and Women Tram Conductresses in Harvey, Peter, *Sheffield Since 1900: Ninety Years of Photographs*, (Archive Publications in association with the Sheffield Star, 1988) (*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 942.74 SQ*) Photographs of Workers at Firth Brown's Shell Shop and at Steads Cricket Inn Road works in Fielder, Nancy (ed), *100 Years of Stainless Steel Sheffield* (Sheffield Newspapers, 2013) *(Sheffield Local Studies Library: on order)*

General

Sheffield City Council, Council Minutes, 1914 - 1918 (Sheffield Archives: CA-MIN/53-56; also available at Sheffield Local Studies Library: 352.02 SQ)

Braybon, Gail and Penny Summerfield, *Out of the Cage: Women's Experiences in Two World Wars* (Pandora, 1987) has a couple of references to Sheffield (*Sheffield Central Library Reserve Stock: 396.9 ST*)

Sheffield, the Arsenal of the World (1916) has 1911 Census figures for women's work in Sheffield (Sheffield Local Studies Library: 942.74 SST)

Sheffield Trades and Labour Council Executive Committee minutes has information on local conferences to do with women's work and organisation (*Sheffield Archives: LD 1631, LD1632 and LD1633*)

Sheffield Women's History Walk: a guide to local women's history (Sheffield Local Studies Library: 396.1)

Sheffield Year Book and Record, 1915 - 1919 (Sheffield Local Studies Library: 032.74 S)

Demands of the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employees relating to the conditions of employment of female labour and other matters with the proposals of the Management Committee, Sep 1915 *(Sheffield Local Studies Library: MP 4513 S)*

Sources for the Study of World War One (Sheffield Libraries Archives and Information, 2008) (Sheffield Local Studies Library: 016.9403 SQ and Sheffield Archives: STUDY GUIDES)

War Changes: The Demand for Female Labour' in *Sheffield Year Book and Record, 1916* (page 33) (*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 032.74* S)

'Women: Their Part in the Kaiser's Downfall' in *Stocksbridge Gazette* (The Official Journal of Stocksbridge Engineering Steels, March 20 1978 p.4 contains a black and white reproduction of Female Shell Workers at Cammell Laird's Grimesthorpe Works from a painting by E F Skinner (original is at the Imperial War Museum) and of a scene painted by Stanthorpe Forbes RA of women hot forging shell cases at Kilnhurst Steelworks

(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 052.74 SF)

Burke, C., Working Class Politics in Sheffield, 1900-1920: A Regional History of the Labour Party (PhD Thesis 1983), particularly for women's unionisation (Sheffield Local Studies Library: 331.8 SQ) National Union of Women Workers, Sheffield branch, annual reports, 1917 onwards (Sheffield Archives: MD7898)

Sheffield Smelting Company, photograph album refers to women being employed in the laboratory from 1915 'due to the shortage of manpower' *(Sheffield Archives: SSC2/13/21 page 62)*

Sheffield Hospital Supply Depot report, 1917 refers to 'joinering and making articles in tin are not ladies' work, but the way in which they have tackled it is most praiseworthy. They have risen to the occasion, and shown themselves capable of learning distinctively men's work, and of not only doing it, but doing it well ...' *(Sheffield Local Studies Library: MP 4452 S)*

Munitions Works and Armaments Manufacture

Sources for the Study of Sheffield and the Armaments Industry, 1900 - 1918 (Sheffield Libraries Archives and Information, 2013) (Sheffield Local Studies Library: 623.4 SQ; and Sheffield Archives: STUDY GUIDES)

Exhibition of samples of women's work and official photographs at the Mappin Art Gallery, Sheffield illustrating the various types of work upon which women were employed in engineering and other industries on munitions of war (Ministry of Munitions, Labour Supply Department, 1917) (Sheffield Local Studies Library: 623.4 SSTQ)

The Bombshell: the official organ of the National Projectile Factory, Templeborough, 1917 onwards (Sheffield Local Studies Library: 052.74 S)

McKears, A. W., *The First 100 Years: Hadfields of Sheffield* (typescript 1973) (*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 338.4 SQ*)

Marshall, A. C. and Herbert Newbould, *The History of Firth's*, *1842 -1918* (Thos. Firth & Sons Ltd, 1924) (*Sheffield Local Studies Librar: 338.4 S*)

Ibbotson Brothers and Company Limited, salary book (from 1901) (*Sheffield Archives: MD*8197/3/1/1)

Ibbotson Brothers and Company Limited, minutes, 1888 - 1936 (Sheffield Archives: MD8197/1/2/1) Joseph Pennell's Pictures of War Work in England (Heinemann, 1917) – three line drawings of women shell workers at unidentified locations (Sheffield Central Library Store: 741 SPENN ST)

Lee Steel 1874-1974 (Sheffield Local Studies Library: 338.4 SQ)

Samuel Fox & Co Ltd Directors' minutes, c. 1914 - 1918 (Sheffield Archive: Fox)

Samuel Osborn: War Memoir 1914 - 1919 (Sheffield Local Studies Library: 940.467 SST) Phillips, Martin and John Potter, Septimus Bennett: Artist in Arms, A Sheffield Munitions Worker 1915-18 (Pentland Press, 2001) - Bennett had charge of a team of women shell counterborers and give details of production figures, wages, accidents etc

(Sheffield Local Studies Library: B BENN S)

Sheffield City Council, Mappin Art Gallery Committee, draft minutes, 1913 - 1933 (*Sheffield Archives: CA-MAG/2/1*)

Sheffield National Projectile Factory (Firth's and Hadfield's) 1922 from History of the Ministry of Munitions: Volume VIII, Control of Industrial Capacity and Equipment, Part 11, The National Factories (Sheffield Local Studies Library: MP 5876 M)

Grant, A. J., Steel and Ships: a history of John Browns (Michael Joseph, 1950) (Sheffield Local Studies Library: 338.4 S)

Thorncliffe: A Short History of Newton Chambers & Company Limited and its People (1953 - 1958) (Sheffield Local Studies Library: 338.4 SQ)

'Town of Huts: How Munition Workers are Housed' in *Sheffield Year Book and Record, 1917 (*page 53) (*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 032.74 S*)

Sheffield City Council, Police Force sub-Committee of the Watch Committee lists the streets with munitions huts for mail delivery: refers to Tinsley - Norcross Avenue, Inglefield Avenue and First, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Avenue; Tyler Street - Roman Ridge, Road, Tyler Street (continuation), and First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh,. Eighth and Ninth Roads and Petre Street - Munition Street, Petre Street (continuation), and Cyclops Street (continuation) (*Sheffield Archives : CA-WAC/1/18, Police Force Sub-Committee, 15 June 1916*)

Sheffield City Council, City Engineers correspondence and plans regarding temporary dwellings for munitions workers in Petre Street and Tyler Street, 1924 -1936 (Sheffield Archives: CA495/1-2) Greene, Gayle, *The Woman who knew too much: Alice Stewart and the Secrets of Radiation* (University of Michigan Press, 2001) includes references to Stewart's time as a munitions worker at the National Projectile Factory) (*Sheffield Local Studies Library: B.STEW.S*)

Communications

Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, Sheffield No 1 Branch, minutes 1912 - 1919 (*Sheffield Archives: ASLEF*)

Sheffield Tramways Committee signed minutes, 1912 - 1919 (*Sheffield Archives: CA-TMY/1/17-8 and CA-TMY/2/3-5*)

'The experiences of a temporary post woman' (Mildred Chadd) in *The Holly Leaf. A chronicle of the Sheffield Pupil Teacher Centre* (Sheffield Pupil teacher Centre, Apr 1919 (Sheffield Local Studies Library: 373.4274 S)

Voluntary Work

Central Division of Sheffield Conservative and Constitutional Association minute book, 1904 - 1917 (*Sheffield Archives: LD2103*)

City of Sheffield Council Distress Committee signed and draft minutes, 1914-1921 (Sheffield Archives: CA-DTR/1/1 and CA-DTR/2/2)

^{(Distinguished Services: How All Classes Have Helped' in Sheffield Year Book and Record 1915 (page 26)} (Sheffield Local Studies Library: 032.74 S)

Painted Fabrics, 'Comforts for the Wounded', 1915 (*Sheffield Archives: PF/3/7*)

1916 War Charities Act Sheffield Register, 1916 - 1927 (Sheffield Archives: SY140/L6/1)

'Of course we must take them in and look after them: Belgian refugees in Sheffield in the First World War', Diane Gascoyne, in *Sheffield History Reporter* 1998, pp 51-58 (*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 942.74 SQ*)

'War Work Committees: Soldier's Personal Comforts Depot' in *Sheffield Year Book and Record, 1917* (page 73) (*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 032.74 S*)

Album of sketches, cartoons and autographs of Edith Eveline Bromehead, compiled whilst working as a nurse in a military hospital in World War One, c. 1914 - 1916

(Sheffield Archives X605/1)

Miscellaneous

A History: George Jowitt & Sons Ltd (1966) (Sheffield Local Studies Library: 338.4 SQ)

Sheffield City Council Watch Committee minutes, 1912 - 1923 (*Sheffield Archives: CA-WAC/1/18-19 and CA-WAC/2/45-46*)

Sheffield Branch of the British Federation of University Women, minutes 1914 - 1918 (*Sheffield Archives: SY587/G1/2-3*)

Oral History

Local Studies has a collection of oral history tapes, mainly recorded in the early 1980s, which include a number of women talking about war work:

- Tape 242 Mrs C Watkinson: telegram girl
- Tape 249 Mrs Margaret Furniss telegram girl and delivering mail to city centre venues such as J G Graves and the Town Hall. Tape includes information on her sister is became a window cleaner for major retail outlets in the city centre.
- Tape 255 Mrs V Wigfield, telegram girl
- Tape 134 Mrs E Craven short clip towards the end about her making bayonets at Sanderson Brothers & Newbould in 1918

Reminiscences of Tyler Street munition huts, taken from Sheffieldhistory.co.uk, 2012 (Sheffield Local Studies Library: MP 6364 M)

Dickinson, Betty, *Shanty Town: Childhood Memories of Poverty and Happiness in Tyler Street Munition Huts*, (Monteney Community Workshop, 1985) (*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 942.74 S*)

BBC Radio Sheffield recording - a group of women talk about their work during the First World War - all are depicted in a painting called 'The Munitions Girls' acquired by the Science Museum - they talk about the work, pay and conditions, c.1980s (*Sheffield Archives: SY425/8602/4 band 1*)

Websites

Online newspaper archives are a good source for national press articles. See *The Times* (<u>http://archives.timesonline.co.uk</u>) and *The Guardian* (<u>http://archive.guardian.co.uk</u>).

Photograph of a woman munitions worker at an unidentified location on the Time Travel page of the website of The Sheffield General Cemetery Trust http://gencem.org/timeline-2/ (accessed December 2015)

Library and Archive collections held elsewhere

The Bombshell - the official organ of the National Projectile Factory, Templeborough is available at the Imperial War Museum (in addition to Sheffield Local Studies Library) <u>www.iwm.org.uk/collections/item/publication/400000560</u> (accessed December 2015)

Certificate of appreciation awarded to Ada Rodgers at the National Projectile Factory at Templeborough, Sheffield at the Imperial War Museum http://tinyurl.com/cc434z8 (accessed December 2015)

First World War women's 'On War Service' badge issued to Miss R Shale whil working at the National Projectile Factory at Templeborough <u>www.iwm.org.uk/collections/item/object/30076578</u> (accessed December 2015)

Original Painting by E F Skinner of Women File Cutters at Cyclops Steel and Iron Works in 1917 (Science Museum's Science and Society Picture Library Collection (10240912))

Original Painting by E.E.Skinner of Women Shell Workers at Commell Laird and Co

Original Painting by E F Skinner of Women Shell Workers at Cammell Laird and Co Ltd in Sheffield (*For King and Country*) is at the Imperial War Museuem. <u>www.iwm.org.uk</u> (accessed December 2015)

Original Painting by Stanhope Forbes RA of Munition Girls at Kilnhurst Steel Works, 1918

(Science Museum's Science and Society Picture Library Collection (10545339))

Photograph taken while on war service at the National Projectile Factory in Sheffield, by Emeline Mary Vallance Gorringe (nee Bradford), 1918 (*West Sussex Record Office: Add Mss 40.397*)

A Women's Voluntary Service Steel Helmet manufactured by Thomas Firth and Sons Ltd during the First World War at the Imperial War Museum <u>www.iwm.org.uk/collections/item/object/30099952</u> (accessed December 2015)

The Imperial War Museum has a Women's War Work Collection which includes a section on the First World War <u>www.iwm.org.uk</u> (accessed December 2015)

Sheffield Local Records (1914-1919) contains 22 pages of letters and reports relating to Sheffield's contributions to the Soldiers Comforts Fund (Imperial War Museum: shelf mark 36(427.4 [Sheffield] – copy number K 81071)

The four volumes of minutes of the Sheffield Committee on Munitions of War *(Sheffield University Special Collection ref MS 76)* hardly mention women workers. However, they do give details of contracts awarded for the supply of items such as shell gauges, brass cartridges, trench howitzers, grenades and steel helmets to some 90 local engineering and allied trades firms, such as those in the silver trades, for which women may have worked. There is little evidence of women working in foundries – the August 1917 edition of *The Journal of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation* records that "There are 50 electric smelting furnaces at work in the Sheffield district, at two of which girls are employed to regulate the electrodes."

There are a number of clips of women working in various industries during the First World War on YouTube.

The Access to Archives online database (A2A) contains catalogues describing archives held locally in England and Wales <u>www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a</u>.

The Archives Hub contains catalogues describing archives held in universities and colleges in the UK <u>www.archiveshub.ac.uk</u>

The National Archives (TNA) holds records of central government departments and agencies. They have a document pack – Women and the First World War – and you can search the TNA catalogue online at <u>www.nationalarchives.gov.uk</u>.

Sheffield Archives and Local Studies services collect and preserve original records and printed material relating to Sheffield and the surrounding area.

The information dates from the 12th century to the present and relates to Sheffield, South Yorkshire and north Derbyshire.

Included are extensive collections of books • pamphlets • photographs • church registers • newspapers • census records • minutes • diaries • films • maps • deeds • records from schools • hospitals • businesses and charities • family estates • personal papers etc.

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Adding to our collections

Sheffield Libraries and Archives seeks to preserve information about events in our city's history. If you have photographs or personal papers that may be worth preserving please consider safeguarding them for current and future generations by placing them in the care of Sheffield Libraries and Archives. It is only through the generosity of individuals and organisations that we are able to have a complete record of important events in the history of Sheffield and the nation. We are interested in photographs, flyers and posters, minutes of meetings etc. For advice on record keeping and the facilities we offer please contact us: <u>archives@sheffield.gov.uk</u> or 0114 203 9395.

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|---|---|--|
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| | http://shefflibraries.blogspot.co.uk/ | |
| Flickr | www.flickr.com/photos/shefflibraries | |
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