

Sources for the History of Beauchief



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Front cover illustrations from left to right:

Beauchief Abbey cartulary, 15th century
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: Sheffield Archives: MD3414*)

Aerial view of Beauchief, 1935
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: Picture Sheffield s12408*)

Cottages referred to on early maps as the Lodge (Beauchief Abbey), c. 1905
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: Picture Sheffield t05133*)

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

Sources for the history of Beauchief

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This guide gives a brief introduction to the variety of sources available for researching the history of Beauchief at Sheffield Archives and Local Studies Library.

Until 1901 Beauchief, which lies 4 miles south west of Sheffield city centre, was in the county of Derbyshire. Parts were transferred to Sheffield in 1901 and the remainder in 1933.

For advice and guidance on any of the information in this *Guide* please contact Sheffield Archives and Local Studies.

Books

Addy, S. O., *Historical Memorials of Beauchief Abbey* (James Parker/Leader and Sons, 1878)
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library*: 271.79 SQ; *Sheffield Archives*: ADD/LOCAL; *Central Library Store*: 942.821)

Addy, S. O., *Beauchief Hall, an inventory of 1691* (1881)
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library*: local pamphlets, vol. 24 no. 3 (042 S))

Binfield, Clive, *The History of the City of Sheffield 1843 - 1993* (Sheffield Academic Press, 1993) (3 vols)
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library*: 942.74 S; *Sheffield Archives*: SHE/LOCAL; also available from most Sheffield libraries)

Craven, Maxwell, *The Derbyshire Country House* [part] 1 (3rd edition) (Landmark, 2001)
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library*: 728.8 SQ)

Hey, David, *Historic Hallamshire* (Landmark, 2002)
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library*: 942.74 S; also available from most Sheffield libraries)

Hey, David, *A History of Sheffield* (Carnegie, 2005)
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library*: 942.74 S; *Sheffield Archives*: HEY/LOCAL; also available from most Sheffield libraries)

Jones, Clifford H., *Beauchief Heritage: The Story of Fifty Years of Baptist Witness* (1986)
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library*: 286.1 S)

Odom, William, *Beauchief Abbey, Sheffield: its Founder, Benefactors, Canons and Services* (W. C. Leng, 1927)
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library*: 271.79 S; also available in *Central Library Store*: 942.821)

Pegge, S., *An Historical Account of Beauchief Abbey*, 1801
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library*: J271.79 SQ)
Transactions of the Hunter Archaeological Society

(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 913.4274 S; Sheffield Archives: HAS)

Wiltshire, Mary, *Medieval Parks of Derbyshire* (Landmark Publishing Ltd, 2009)
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 712.5 S)

The Church of Thomas A Becket commonly known as Beauchief Abbey: A Guide and Brief History (Beauchief Abbey Executive Council, 2002)
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: MP 4139 S)

Derbyshire Miscellany (Derbyshire Archaeological Society, 1956 - 2011)
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 942.51 SQ)

Derbyshire Archaeological Society journal
(Sheffield Reference and Information Library)

Trade Directories which give a history of the district, main occupants and businesses, 1774 - 1974, and telephone directories thereafter. A full list of trade directories at Archives and Local Studies is available: www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/archives-and-local-studies/collections/trade-directories.html. Most Derbyshire Directories however are available in the Sheffield Reference Library or at [Derbyshire Local Studies Library](#). Some directories are available to view online: www.historicaldirectories.org.

Census returns

These list every resident by household and include names, relationships, occupations, ages and birth places, every 10 years from 1841 through to 1911, available free at every Sheffield library and at Sheffield Archives via www.Ancestry.com

Church registers and records, monumental (gravestone) inscriptions and cemeteries

Beauchief Abbey was founded and endowed in 1183 by Robert Fitz-Randolph, Lord of Alfreton, and dedicated to St Thomas the Martyr and the Virgin Mary. It was dissolved in 1536 and lay in ruins for more than a hundred years. The 14th-century tower is all that remains of the original building. The small chapel now adjoining the tower is not part of the original monastery but was built there c. 1670 out of the Abbey ruins.

Beauchief Abbey cartulary, 15th century

A cartulary is a book of transcriptions of deeds and other documents relating to the foundation, property and rights of a monastery. This original manuscript volume was probably compiled in the early 15th century.
(Sheffield Archives: MD3414)

A translation of the cartulary is available in:

Hey, David; Liddy, Lisa & Luscombe, David, *A Monastic Community in Local Society: The Beauchief Abbey Cartulary* (Cambridge University Press, 2011)

(Sheffield Archives: HEY/ECC HIST; Sheffield Local Studies Library: 016.94274 S)

Beauchief Abbey Commonplace Book, c. 1500

A commonplace book is a collection of information or important passages.

(Sheffield Archives: MD3500)

Sheffield, St James, Norton Anglican Parish, registers and records from 1559

(Sheffield Archives: PR2)

The Parish Registers of St James, Norton, 1559-1812 (1908, 2 vols)

(Sheffield Archives: 929.34251 S)

Abbey Chapel, Beauchief, Anglican parish, registers and records from 1670

(Sheffield Archives: PR31)

Beauchief Abbey, burials 1813-1988

(Sheffield Archives: ROM/13)

Blagg, T. M. *Marriages at Dronfield, 1560-1837; Beighton, 1653-1837; and Beauchief, 1696-1837* (Phillimore, 1913)

(Central Library Store: 929.34251)

Sheffield, Our Lady of Beauchief and St Thomas of Canterbury, Roman Catholic Church, registers and records from 1910

(Sheffield Archives: CATH/20)

For further details on Anglican parish registers see

www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/archives-and-local-studies/collections/parish-registers.html

For further details on non-conformist chapel registers see

www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/archives-and-local-studies/collections/non-conformist-chapel-registers.html

For further details on Roman Catholic church registers see

www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/archives-and-local-studies/collections/roman-catholic-church-registers.html

For further details on cemeteries see

www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/archives-and-local-studies/collections/cemetery-registers.html

For further details on monumental inscriptions (gravestone transcriptions) see

www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/archives-and-local-studies/collections/monumentalinscriptions.html

Diocese of Sheffield, faculties from 1914 onwards (these detail changes made to Anglican church buildings)

(Sheffield Archives: DIOC/FAC)

For records of the Diocese of Southwell (Beauchief, though extra-parochial would have been within this diocese 1884 - c. 1901) contact [Nottinghamshire Archives](#) and for the Diocese of Lichfield (prior to 1884) contact [Lichfield Record Office](#).

Clubs, Societies and Charities

A search of the online catalogues and the card indexes at Archives and Local Studies may reveal records from Beauchief based clubs, societies and charities; for instance:

Beauchief Environmental Group newsletters, 1989 onwards
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 333.7 SQ*)

Beauchief Golf Course handbook, 1936
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: local pamphlets, vol. 123 no. 14 (042 S)*)

Beauchief Golf Course pavilion, official opening brochure, 1935
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: MP 103 S*)

Courts

The Magistrates Court (or Petty Sessions court) records deal mainly with minor offences and licensing the sale and consumption of liquor. Records of the Sheffield Division cover the borough and City of Sheffield and records of Upper Strafforth and Tickhill Division of the West Riding of Yorkshire cover areas outside the borough such as Handsworth, Ecclesfield and Bradfield, c. 1870 - 1976.
(*Sheffield Archives: MC*)

There are also records of the Court of Quarter Sessions from 1880.
(*Sheffield Archives: QS*)

For records of Derbyshire courts (parts of Beauchief were in Derbyshire until 1933) contact [Derbyshire Record Office](#).

Electoral Registers and Poll Books

Sometimes known as Burgess Rolls or voters' lists, in essence, electoral rolls are lists of people that are entitled to vote. The Sheffield Local Studies Library has a comprehensive collection from 1841 onwards. More details are available:
www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/archives-and-local-studies/collections/electoral-registers.html

Poll books list the votes cast by each voter at elections prior to the introduction of the secret ballot in 1872. More details are available:
www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/archives-and-local-studies/collections/poll-books.html

For Derbyshire electoral registers and poll books (parts of Beauchief were in Derbyshire until 1933) contact [Derbyshire Local Studies Library](#).

Families and Estates

Pegge-Burnell Family of Beauchief family papers, deeds (also known as the Beauchief Muniments), 14th - 20th cent.

(*Sheffield Archives: BM*)

Hospitals

Sheffield Archives has records from over 50 hospitals, including annual reports, photographs and administrative records.

For a full list of hospital records see www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/archives-and-local-studies/collections/hospital-records.html

As Beauchief was in Derbyshire until 1933 some hospital records may be at [Derbyshire Record Office](#).

Land, Building and Property Records

The Local Studies Library has a collection of sale particulars (often with plans) dating from the late 18th century; for instance, there is a catalogue of the furnishings of Beauchief Hall, to be auctioned, 1953 (*Sheffield Local Studies Library: sale catalogues, vol. 6 no. 3 (017.3 S)*). In addition some planning applications survive from the late 19th century onwards from Norton Rural District Council (which included Beauchief (*Sheffield Archives: CA207, CA208a and CA208b*)), as well as Sheffield City Council (*Sheffield Archives: CA206*), etc.

There are also deeds to properties and records of land valuations which detail owners and occupiers.

A search of the Archives and Local Studies online catalogues and the card indexes may reveal relevant entries.

(*Sheffield Archives and Sheffield Local Studies Library*)

As Beauchief was in Derbyshire until 1933 some land, building and property records may be at [Derbyshire Record Office](#).

Maps

There are large-scale maps of the Sheffield area from 1853 to the present day. Comprehensive coverage of Sheffield and partial coverage of the surrounding areas is available at Sheffield Local Studies Library. Sheffield Archives has incomplete historic coverage of most of South Yorkshire. More details are available here:

www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/archives-and-local-studies/collections/ordnance-survey-maps.html

Prior to the Ordnance Survey there may be estate and other maps such as tithes www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/archives-and-local-studies/collections/tithe-maps.html and enclosures www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/archives-and-local-studies/collections/enclosure-awards-and-maps.html

A search of the Archives and Local Studies online catalogues and the card indexes may reveal other maps.

(Sheffield Archives and Sheffield Local Studies Library)

For Derbyshire maps (parts of Beauchief were in Derbyshire until 1933) contact [Derbyshire Local Studies Library](#) and [Derbyshire Record Office](#).

Newspapers

The two main Sheffield newspapers are the *Sheffield Morning Telegraph* (later *Sheffield Telegraph*) and *The Star*, and these are available on microfilm at Sheffield Local Studies Library.

The *Sheffield Independent*, 1819 - 1900; *Sheffield Daily Telegraph* 1855 - 1903 and *Sheffield Evening Telegraph*, 1887 - 1897 are available online at <http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/>

For Derbyshire newspapers (parts of Beauchief were in Derbyshire until 1933) contact [Derbyshire Local Studies Library](#).

Photographs and Illustrations

The main series of photographs and illustrations (60,000+) is available online at www.picturesheffield.com. In addition Sheffield Archives has photographs and illustrations within its collections.

(Sheffield Local Studies Library and Sheffield Archives)

Poor Law, Civil Parish and Local Government records

The Ecclesall Bierlow Union was formed in 1837. It comprised the townships of Ecclesall Bierlow, Upper and Nether Hallam, Dore, Totley, the parish of Norton, and Beauchief Liberty. The workhouse was built 1842 -1843 at Cherrytree Hill to replace an old workhouse in Psalter Lane, though few records survive until the 1890s.

(Sheffield Archives: NHS21)

Sheffield Poor Law Union (including parts of Beauchief from 1901): Guardians' minutes 1890-1930 and letter books 1847-1861; officers' appointments 1876-1913; workhouse punishment book 1903-1926, dietary 1919 (*Sheffield Archives CA 692/1-35, CA24, CA 510*); Copy minutes 1891/2–1929/30; Statement of Accounts, 1884–1930 (with gaps); Guardian handbook and list of committees, 1894-1904, 1906-1929 (*Local Studies Library 352.9 S and 352.9 SQ*)

Norton Vestry minutes, 1824 - 1833 (includes meetings of Norton Burial Board, appointment of parish officials, etc. At front are a few notes of payments made to Overseers of the Poor for maintenance of children, 1804 - 1809, and list of Overseers, 1799 - 1833. At back are some notes of the Overseers on applications for relief, 1807, and list of parish apprentices, 1788 - 1822).

(Sheffield Archives: CA29/3)

Norton Parish Council minutes, 1894 - 1932
(*Sheffield Archives: CA29/4-6*)

For more information: www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/archives-and-local-studies/collections/poor-law-records and www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/archives-and-local-studies/collections/workhouses-and-poor-law-unions.html

Norton Rural District Council (parts of Beauchief were in Derbyshire until 1933)
(*Sheffield Archives: CA28 and CA447-454*)

Norton Rural District Council records may also be available at [Derbyshire Record Office](#).

Schools

Sheffield Archives has records from over 200 schools, including admission registers and head teachers' log books (diaries). For a full list of school records see www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/archives-and-local-studies/collections/school-records

As Beauchief was in Derbyshire until 1933 some school records may be at [Derbyshire Record Office](#).

Other libraries and archives

In addition to information held at Sheffield Archives and Local Studies other library and archive services will also hold relevant material:

Prior to 1933, parts of Beauchief were in Derbyshire. For records of Derbyshire contact [Derbyshire Record Office](#) and [Derbyshire Local Studies Library](#).

For records of the Diocese of Southwell (Beauchief, though extra-parochial would have been within this diocese 1884 - c. 1901) contact [Nottinghamshire Archives](#) and for the Diocese of Lichfield (prior to 1884) contact [Lichfield Record Office](#).

Wills and probate records relating to those who died in Beauchief prior to 1858 are held within the Lichfield Diocesan archives at the [Lichfield Record Office](#). Probate records after 1858 are held at [The National Archives](#) (TNA).

Court records will also be held at the [Derbyshire Record Office](#) and at the [National Archives](#).

[The National Archives](#) (TNA) holds records of central government departments and agencies. You can search the [TNA catalogue](#) online.

Information on archaeological sites and ancient monuments is held by the [South Yorkshire Archaeology Service's Sites and Monuments Record](#).

Other titles in this series

Arbourthorne	Darnall	Jordanthorpe	Ranmoor
Attercliffe	Deepcar	Kelham Island	Richmond
Beauchief	Dore	Lodge Moor	Ringinglow
Beighton	Dungworth	Loxley	Sharrow
Bents Green	Ecclesall	Manor	Shirecliffe
Birley	Ecclesfield	Midhopestones	Shiregreen
Bolsterstone	Firshill	Millhouses	Southey
Bradfield	Firth Park	Mosborough	Stannington
Bradway	Frecheville	Nether Edge	Stocksbridge
Brightside	Fulwood	Nether Green	Tinsley
Broomhall	Gleadless	Netherthorpe	Totley
Broomhill	Greenhill	Norton	Uppertorpe
Burngreave	Grenoside	Oughtibridge	Wadsley
Carbrook	Greystones	Owlerton	Walkley
Chapelton and High Green	Hackenthorpe	Park	Whirlow
Crookes	Handsworth	Parson Cross	Wincobank
Crosspool	Heeley	Pitsmoor	Wisewood
Crystal Peaks	Hillsborough	Porter Valley	Woodhouse
			Woodseats

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.

Our facilities include:

Study areas • expert staff on hand to help you make the most of your visit • a library of reference books • photocopying and photography services • free Internet access • microform machines and printers • catalogues and indexes • a range of useful publications for sale • CD-Rom library • on-line image library.

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 (archives@sheffield.gov.uk or 0114 203 9395).

<p>Sheffield Local Studies Library 1st floor Central Library Surrey Street Sheffield S1 1XZ</p> <p>Tel: 0114 273 4753 Fax: 0114 273 5009</p> <p>localstudies.library@sheffield.gov.uk</p> <p>www.sheffield.gov.uk/archives</p> <p>(selected) Sheffield Local Studies Library catalogue https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/archives-and-local-studies/catalogues.html</p>	<p>Sheffield Archives 52 Shoreham Street Sheffield S1 4SP</p> <p>Tel: 0114 203 9395 Fax: 0114 203 9398</p> <p>archives@sheffield.gov.uk</p> <p>www.sheffield.gov.uk/archives</p> <p>(selected) Archives catalogues: https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/archives-and-local-studies/catalogues.html and http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/</p>
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	www.facebook.com/shefflibraries