

# Sources for the History of Bents Green



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Front cover illustrations from left to right:

Bents View, Bents Green, 2009

*(Sheffield Local Studies Library: Picture Sheffield a00440)*

Bents Green shops, Ringinglow Road, 1989

*(Sheffield Local Studies Library: Picture Sheffield s26686)*

Hammer and Pincers, Ringinglow Road, Bents Green. Home and workplace to the Osborne family, in the 18th century, 1980s

*(Sheffield Local Studies Library: Picture Sheffield t00316)*

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# Sources for the History of Bents Green

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

Bents Green lies within the parish of Ecclesall 4 miles south west of Sheffield city centre.

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

## **Books**

Lofthouse, Alistair, *Sheffield S11: then and now* (ALD Design & Print, 2006)  
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library*: 942.74 S; also available from most Sheffield libraries: 942.821)

Ecclesall Local History Society, *Ecclesall* (Tempus, 1998)  
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library*: 942.74 S; also available from most Sheffield libraries: 942.821)

Bramhill, Mary M., *How they lived in old Ecclesall: a Sheffield suburb in the 17th and 18th centuries* (Sheaf Publishing, 1986)  
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library*: 942.74 S; also available from many Sheffield libraries: 942.821)

Vickers, J. Edward, *The Ancient Suburbs of Sheffield* (Jev Publications, 1971)  
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library*: MP 4007 S)

*Transactions of the Hunter Archaeological Society*  
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library*: 913.4274 S; *Sheffield Archives*: HAS)

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)

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)

Harrison, John, *Survey of the Manor of Sheffield with other lands, 1637* [transcribed and edited by James George Ronksley with introduction by R. E. Leader] (Arthur Wightman, 1908)  
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library*: 333.094274 S; *Sheffield Archives*: HAR/LOCAL)

Hunter, Joseph, *Hallamshire: the history and topography of the parish of Sheffield: with historical and descriptive notices of the parishes of Ecclesfield, Hansworth [sic], Treeton and Whiston, and of the chapelry of Bradfield* (1819)  
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library*: 942.74 SSTF; *Sheffield Archives*: HUN/LOCAL)

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](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/archives-and-local-studies/collections/trade-directories.html). Some directories are available to view online: [www.historicaldirectories.org](http://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](http://www.Ancestry.com)

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

Bents Green lies within the parish of All Saints, Ecclesall.

All Saints, Ecclesall parish records, 1784 onwards  
(*Sheffield Archives: PR100*)

Cathedral Church of St Peter and St Paul (formerly Sheffield parish church) parish records, 1560 onwards  
(*Sheffield Archives: PR138*)

All Saints, Ecclesall gravestone / monumental inscriptions  
(*Sheffield Archives: PR100 and MI/51*)

Preachers' plan of United Methodist Free Churches Tabor Circuit, Sheffield (includes Bents Green), 1861  
(*Sheffield Archives: SY21*)

Manning, A. J., *Bents Green Methodist Church, 1932 - 1982*  
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 287.1 S; also available at Sheffield Archives: MAN PAR HIST pamphlet*)

For further details on Anglican parish registers see  
[www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/archives-and-local-studies/collections/parish-registers.html](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/archives-and-local-studies/collections/monumentalinscriptions.html)

### **Clubs, Societies and Charities**

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

Bents Green and District Community Association, 1947  
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: Local pamphlets, volume 172 no. 14 (042 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 Strathmore 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*)

### **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](http://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](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/archives-and-local-studies/collections/poll-books.html)

### **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](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/archives-and-local-studies/collections/hospital-records.html)

## **Land, Building and Property Records**

The Local Studies Library has a collection of sale particulars (often with plans) dating from the late 18<sup>th</sup> century; for instance, there is a catalogue for the sale of a freehold substantially built family residence with entrance lodge, gardens, pleasure grounds, tennis courts, conservatories, stabling and outbuildings called Bents Green Lodge ... 29 June 1905 (*Sheffield Local Studies Library: Sale Plans*). In addition there are planning applications (*Sheffield Archives: CA206*), etc.

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

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*)

## **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](http://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](http://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](http://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*)

## **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/>.

## **Photographs and Illustrations**

The main series of photographs and illustrations (60,000+) is available online at [www.picturesheffield.com](http://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**

Ecclesall Bierlow Poor Law 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. A workhouse was built 1842 -1843 at Cherrytree Hill (later known as Nether Edge Hospital) to replace an old workhouse in Psalter Lane. In c. 1925 Ecclesall Bierlow Union and Sheffield Union were dissolved and the new Sheffield Union was created.

Ecclesall township, vestry minutes, accounts, Highway Board minutes, Overseers accounts, etc., 1808 - 1925  
(*Sheffield Archives: CA17, CA18 and CA139*)

Ecclesall Union Relief Committee minutes, 1929 - 1931  
(*Sheffield Archives: CA55*)

Report of the Board for the Repair of the Highways in the Township of Ecclesall Bierlow for the year ending March 25th, 1859  
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: Local pamphlets, volume 68 (042 SST)*)

Statement of the Ecclesall Bierlow Union accounts for the year ending March 1859  
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: Local pamphlets, volume 68 (042 SST)*)

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

## **Schools**

There are records from over 200 schools, including admission registers and head teachers' log books (diaries). For instance log books / photographs / minutes, etc. of Broad Elms Special School (*Sheffield Archives: acc. 2005/83*) and brochure for the opening of Bents Green Open Air School, 1930 (*Local Studies: local pamphlets vol. 128 no. 2 (042S)*). For a full list of school records see [www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/archives-and-local-studies/collections/school-records](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/archives-and-local-studies/collections/school-records)

Minutes of the Sheffield School Board (1870 - 1902) may also be of interest.  
(*Sheffield Archives: SY350; also available at Sheffield Local Studies Library: 379.4274 S*)

## **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:

For areas formerly in the West Riding of Yorkshire there may be relevant records at the [West Yorkshire Archives Service](#).

Prior to 1914, Bents Green came within the jurisdiction of the Diocese of York. There are extensive archives of the Diocese at the [Borthwick Institute for Archives](#) in York.



Wills and probate records relating to those who died in Bents Green prior to 1858 are held at the [Borthwick Institute for Archives](#) in York. Probate records after 1858 are held at [The National Archives](#) (TNA).

Court records will also be held at the [West Yorkshire Archive Service](#) 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](#).

Ecclesall Local History Society  
<http://www.ecclesall-local-history-society.org.uk/>

### 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	Midhonestones	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 **Sheffield Local Studies Library** services collect and preserve original records and printed material relating to Sheffield and the surrounding area.

The information dates from the 12<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:archives@sheffield.gov.uk) or 0114 203 9395).

## Sheffield Local Studies Library

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Central Library  
Surrey Street  
Sheffield  
S1 1XZ

Tel: 0114 273 4753  
Fax: 0114 273 5009

[localstudies.library@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:localstudies.library@sheffield.gov.uk)

[www.sheffield.gov.uk/archives](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/archives)

(selected) Sheffield Local Studies Library  
catalogue  
<https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/archives-and-local-studies/catalogues.html>

## Sheffield Archives

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[www.sheffield.gov.uk/archives](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/archives)

(selected) Archives catalogues:  
<https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/archives-and-local-studies/catalogues.html>  
and  
<http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>

For 65,000+ images of Sheffield: [www.picturesheffield.com](http://www.picturesheffield.com)



[www.sheffield.gov.uk/archives](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/archives)



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<http://shefflibraries.blogspot.co.uk>



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