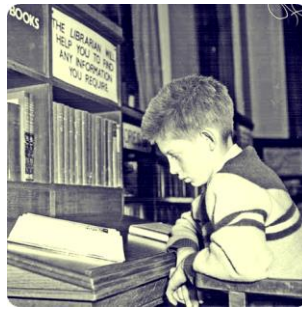


Sources for the History of Firth Park



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Front cover illustrations from left to right:

Medals from 1875 Royal Visit album commemorating the visit of the Prince of Wales to open Firth Park, [1875]

(Sheffield Local Studies Library: Picture Sheffield s13135)

Young reader at Firth Park Library, 1958

(Sheffield Local Studies Library: Picture Sheffield u02895)

Drinking Fountain and Clock Tower Pavilion, Firth Park, 1912

(Sheffield Local Studies Library: Picture Sheffield s11088)

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

Sources for the History of Firth Park

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

Firth Park is a district of Sheffield surrounding a park given to the city by Mark Firth in 1875; it is located 3 miles (5 kilometres) north of Sheffield city centre. For local government purposes it was in the West Riding of Yorkshire and Wortley Rural District Council until 1901 when it was transferred to the city of Sheffield.

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

Books

A [draft] history of Firth Park, c.2000
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 712.5*)

Earl Marshal Adult Education Centre, *No.2 Scrapbook of North-East Sheffield History: Attercliffe, Brightside, Firth Park, Norwood, Pitsmoor, Tinsley etc.*, 1984
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 942.74 SQ; Sheffield Archives: EAR/LOCAL*)

Mel Jones, *Historic Parks and Gardens in and around South Yorkshire*, 2005
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 712.5*)

T. F. Johnson, *The Brushes Story*, 1979
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 942.74 S*)

Sheffield City Libraries, *From Bandstand to Monkey Run: Voices from Firth Park, Shiregreen, Page Hall, Wincobank, Fir Vale and Grimesthorpe*, 1989
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 942.821*)

Hey, David, *A History of Sheffield* (Carnegie, 2005)
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 942.74 S; Sheffield Archives: HEY/LOCAL; also available at 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 at 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: 942.821; 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*)

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

Yorkshire Archaeological Society
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 913.4274 S*)

Trade Directories give a history of the district, main occupants and businesses, 1774 - 1974, and telephone directories thereafter. A full list of trade directories is available: www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/archives-and-local-studies/collections/trade-directories.html. Some directories are available to view online: www.historicaldirectories.org

There are also a number of sources relating to the opening of Firth Park in 1875, for example: Letters regarding the visit of Prince and Princess of Wales to Sheffield to open Firth Park, 16th August 1875 (*Sheffield Archives: MD5025*); Demonstration of Sunday scholars at the opening of the Firth Park by Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales. Hymns to be sung by the scholars [on August 16th, 1875], 1875 (*Sheffield Local Studies Library: MP 1145 M*).

Businesses

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*)

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

Firth Park is situated in the parish of St Cuthbert, Firvale which was formed out of the parishes of Christchurch, Pitsmoor; St Thomas, Brightside and St Mary, Ecclesfield. The church, situated on the corner of Barnsley Road and Owler Lane, opened in 1901 and was consecrated on 24 July 1902. The parish is in the Ecclesfield Deanery.

St Cuthbert, Firvale, parish registers and records, 1902 onwards
(*Sheffield Archives: PR41*)

For entries between c.1846 and 1901 see Christ Church, Pitsmoor (*Sheffield Archives: PR101*) and St Thomas, Brightside (*Sheffield Archives: PR46*). For entries prior to 1846 see St Mary, Ecclesfield (*Sheffield Archives: PR54*).

Firth Park Methodist Church, registers and records, 1909 onwards
(*Sheffield Archives: NR*)

Records of Sheffield (Methodist) North East Circuit (including Firth Park Trinity and Firth Park United Methodist Church), 20th cent.
(*Sheffield Archives: NR*)

Records of Sheffield Pilgrim Circuit (including Firth Park Methodist Church; Firth Park Women's Missionary work; Firth Park Methodist Church Pleasant Monday Afternoon Club Sisterhood; Firth Park United Methodist Church; Firth Park Methodist Church Mission), 20th cent.
(*Sheffield Archives: NR*)

Andrews, A., *Firth Park Methodist Church: the early years*, [20th cent]
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: PAMP 45/1 SQ*)

Diocese of Sheffield, faculties from 1914 onwards (these detail changes made to Anglican Church buildings)
(*Sheffield Archives: DIOC/FAC*)

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

Clubs, Societies and Charities

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

[Copy] minute book of Firth Park Bowling Club, Sheffield, 1917 – 1923
(*Sheffield Archives: MD7142*)

Minute book of Firth Park Labour Party, Sheffield, 1967 – 1975
(*Sheffield Archives: LD2386*)

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 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*)

Prior to 1880 Firth Park came within the jurisdiction of the West Riding Quarter Sessions. Records are held at [West Yorkshire Archives](#).

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

For West Riding electoral registers and poll books (Firth Park was in the West Riding of Yorkshire until 1901) contact [West Yorkshire Archives](#).

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

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 Firth Park was in the West Riding of Yorkshire until 1901, older records will be at [West Yorkshire Archives](#).

Land, Building and Property Records

Sale particulars (often with plans) date from the late 18th century; for instance, particulars and plan of the Fir Vale Estate, Pitsmoor, 1885 (*Sheffield Local Studies Library*); In addition there are planning applications for Sheffield city (*Sheffield Archives: CA206*) and Wortley Rural District Council registers of building plans, 1881 – 1936 (*Sheffield Archives: CA676*). 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 Firth Park was in the West Riding of Yorkshire until 1901, older records will be at [West Yorkshire Archives](#).

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

For example: reference to Thomas Berry's farmland of the Duke of Norfolk betwixt Brushhouse and Winco Woods, 1787 (*Sheffield Archives: FC/FB/64 pp.33-35*)

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 West Riding of Yorkshire maps (Firth Park was in the West Riding until 1901) contact [West Yorkshire Archives](#).

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 www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk

For West Riding of Yorkshire newspapers (Firth Park was in the West Riding until 1901) contact [West Yorkshire Archives](#).

Photographs and Illustrations

The main series of photographs and illustrations (60,000+) is available at Sheffield Local Studies Library in the Central Library. Over 50,000 of these are available online at [Picture Sheffield](#). 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 area now known as Firth Park was in the Wortley Poor Law Union established in 1838. Firth Park became part of Sheffield city in 1901.

Wortley Poor Law Union, minutes and accounts, 1838 - 1929, etc.
(Sheffield Archives: SY164 and CA527)

Wortley Rural Sanitary Authority, minutes, 1872-1896
(Sheffield Archives: CA528)

Wortley Rural District Council – various records, 19th – 20th cent
(Sheffield Archives: MD7629, MD8143, CA624, CA708, X246, X435)

For more information on poor law and workhouse records see:
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

As Firth Park was in the West Riding of Yorkshire until 1901 other records of the poor law and local government may be available at [West Yorkshire Archives](#).

Although Firth Park was situated just outside the boundary of the old Brightside Bierlow township, it is worth noting that the Sheffield Union, established in 1837, comprised neighbouring Attercliffe cum Darnall, Brightside Bierlow and Sheffield. The workhouse was built in 1881 at Fir Vale, and it later became the site of the Northern General Hospital.

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

Schools

Sheffield Archives has records from over 200 schools, including admission registers and head teachers' log books (diaries). For instance there are archives from Firth Park Secondary (*Sheffield Archives: CA724; CA750*) and Hucklow First and Middle schools (*Sheffield Archives: CA35; CA724*). For a full list of school records see www.sheffield.gov.uk/libraries/archives-and-local-studies/collections/school-records

See also: newsletters produced by Firth Park School, 1996 (*Sheffield Local Studies Library: MP 5396a M*); Firth Park School, Memories of Firth Park School, 1921 - 1996, 1996 (*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 373.4282*).

As Firth Park was in the West Riding of Yorkshire until 1901 some school records may be at [West Yorkshire Archives Service](#).

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 (such as Firth Park) there may be relevant records at the [West Yorkshire Archives Service](#).

Prior to 1914, Firth Park 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 Firth Park prior to 1858 are held at the [Borthwick Institute](#) 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](#).

Other titles in this series

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

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 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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<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 http://library.sheffield.gov.uk/uhtbin/webcat</p>	<p>Sheffield Archives</p> <p>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: www.calmview.eu/SheffieldArchives/CalmView and www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a</p>
<p>For 45,000 images of Sheffield: www.picturesheffield.com</p>	

	<p>www.sheffield.gov.uk/archives</p>
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