

Sources for the History of the Porter Valley



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Front cover illustrations from left to right:

View of Forge Dam and Old Forge and Workshops (also known as Whiteley Wood Forge), Whiteley Woods, Bingham Park, Porter Valley [c. mid 20th cent]
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: Picture Sheffield s10415*)

Whiteley Wood Hall, Common Lane, built 1662 (demolished 1959), commanding views over the Porter Valley (former home of Thomas Boulsover, inventor of old Sheffield Plate who died here in 1788), c. 1854
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: Picture Sheffield s05485*)

Demonstration of grinding at the Shepherd Wheel, Whiteley Woods, Porter Valley (a wheel had stood on this site since at least 1584), c. 1930s
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: Picture Sheffield t01407*)

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

Sources for the History of the Porter Valley

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

The Porter Valley is an area of largely parks, woodlands, and farmland (centred on the Porter Brook) lying approximately 3-4 miles south-west of Sheffield City Centre. There are separate [Community History](#) guides for neighbouring areas such as Fulwood and Ranmoor.

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

Books and Pamphlets, etc.

Ardron, Paul A, *Porter Valley landscape history and archaeology: final report* (Friends of the Porter Valley, 2004)
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 913.4274 SQ)

Arksey, Michael, *Photographic Memories of Sheffield 10: Broomhill, Crookes, Nether Green, Ranmoor, Fulwood, Crosspool, Sandygate and the Porter Valley* (Arc. Pub., c. 2008)
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 942.74 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 at most Sheffield libraries)

Hall, Muriel and Robert Blackwell, *The Mayfield Valley* (1972)
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 942.74 S)

Hall, Muriel, *More about Mayfield Valley and Old Fulwood* (1974)
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 942.74 S)

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)

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)

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)

Kennett, Peter, *Mining and Quarrying in the Porter Valley - Delving into the Past* (Friends of Porter Valley, 2006)
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: MP 4147 S; Sheffield Archives: KEN/LOCAL)

Lofthouse, Alistair, *Sheffield S10: Broomhill, Crookes, Fulwood, Crosspool, Lodge Moor, Nether Green: Then and Now* (ALD Design & Print, 2008)
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 942.74 S)

Marsh, Maggie, *High Storrs Roughs: its landscape and twentieth century development* (Friends of the Porter Valley, 2008)
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 719 SQ)

Redfern, Roger, *Fulwood and the Mayfield Valley* (Cottage Press, 2005)
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 914.274 S)

Roberts, John, *Mayfield and Local History: Some Aspects of Local History with some Reference to the Mayfield Valley* [1972]
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 942.74 SQ)

Vickers, J. Edward, *The Ancient Suburbs of Sheffield* (Jev Publications, 1971)
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 942.74 S)

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

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

Bradbury's Enterprise Almanack for Sheffield and District, 1892 - 1905
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 032.74 S)

J. S. C., *Business directory of Sheffield, Rotherham, Masbro' and Attercliffe*, 1862
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 914.274 SST)

The Sheffield and Rotherham directory, including Masbro', the Holmes, Attercliffe, Blackburn, Brightside, Darnall, Grimesthorpe, Heeley, Millhouses, Norton, Shire-Green, Tinsley, Walkley, Wincobank, etc, 1841
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 914.274 SST)

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

Churches in the vicinity of the Porter Valley include Christ Church, Fulwood and Fulwood Old Chapel. The Anglican parish of Christ Church, Fulwood was created out of the Sheffield parish of St Peter and St Paul in 1837.

Christ Church, Fulwood, parish registers and records, 1838 onwards.
(*Sheffield Archives: PR79*)

St Peter and St Paul's Church, Sheffield, parish registers and records, 1560 onwards
(*Sheffield Archives: PR138*)

Fulwood Old Chapel (used by both the Independent and Unitarian church at different times), baptisms, 1827 - 1837, and burials, 1793 - 1795
(*Sheffield Archives: A138 or SY344/K1/1*)

Fulwood Old Chapel, marriages, 1849 - 1873, and burials, 1833 - 1873
(*Sheffield Archives: MD1400*)

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

Goddard, Philip, *A Brief History of Fulwood Old Chapel* (Shortski Publications, 1998)
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 289.1 S*)

McLachlan, H. J., *The Old Nonconformity in Fulwood* (Northend, 1940)
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 288 S*)

The History of Fulwood Old Chapel (no date)
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: Local Pamphlets Vol. 269 No. 12, 042 S*)

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 Porter Valley area clubs, societies and charities; for instance:

Friends of the Porter Valley, *Porter Valley News*
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: Reference Journal*)

Note: various other Friends of Porter Valley publications are available at Sheffield Local Studies Library.

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 the Porter Valley area 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

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

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 (in the Porter Valley area), 'Particulars, plans and conditions of sale of the freehold building estate known as The Meadows Farm Estate with farmstead and outbuildings for dairy farm at Whiteley Wood Road, Trap Lane and Ivy Cottage Lane, Whiteley Wood, Sheffield', 1915 (*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 1 Jun 1915*)

In addition some planning applications survive from the late 19th century onwards (*Sheffield Archives: CA206*) and architectural plans; for instance, 'Sheffield City Council, Planning and Design Department: Shepherd Wheel Restoration, Endcliffe, Sheffield – site plan, roof plan, preparation room', 1973 (*Sheffield Archives: CA517/443-462*)

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*)

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*)

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

Photographs and Illustrations

The main series of photographs and illustrations (60,000+) is available at Sheffield Local Studies Library in the Central Library. Over 55,000 of these are available online at [Picture Sheffield](http://PictureSheffield). 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

Sheffield Town Trustees, records from 1297
(*Sheffield Archives: TT*)

Sheffield Church Burgesses, records from 1304
(*Sheffield Archives: CB*)

Sheffield Borough (later City) Council, records from 1843
(*Sheffield Archives: CA*)

Ecclesall Bierlow Poor Law Union (including the Porter Valley area, in the Upper Hallam township): Guardians' papers, 1837 - 1846 (*Sheffield Archives: BM/93*); correspondence, 1900 - 1904 (*Sheffield Archives: CA510/2b*); reports (with list of officers, accounts, etc.), 1913 - 1924 (*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 352.9S*); Relief Committee minutes, 1929 - 1931 (*Sheffield Archives: CA55*)

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, in the Porter Valley area, there are archives from Fulwood Church of England School, Canterbury Avenue (closed 1974) (*Sheffield Archives: CA35/105-108*). For a full list of school records see 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, the Porter Valley area 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 the Porter Valley area 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](#).

Friends of the Porter Valley

<http://www.fopv.org.uk/>

Other titles in this series

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

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>
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	<p>www.sheffield.gov.uk/archives</p>
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	<p>www.youtube.com/user/SheffieldArchives1</p>
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