

# Lancashire Record Office

*What's in it for Blackburn with Darwen?*

*A collections guide*



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## Who we are and what we do

Lancashire Record Office is a countywide service provided by Lancashire County Council, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council and Blackpool Borough Council. We collect, preserve, and provide access to, and promote the archival heritage of Lancashire, including Blackburn with Darwen.

The Record Office holds tens of thousands of historic documents which help tell the story of Blackburn, Darwen and Turton, and the people who lived there, from the medieval period up to the present day. These archives are the building blocks of history. They are records produced by and for individuals and organisations in the course of their day to day activities and, as unique documents, are preserved because of their value as historic evidence. In many cases the information in these documents cannot be found anywhere else.

The archives are stored in acid-free boxes and folders in climatically controlled strongrooms in the Record Office so that these unique volumes and documents are preserved in the best conditions to ensure that they survive for future generations to use and enjoy.

The searchroom in Preston provides free public access to the archive collections. Staff help visitors to find the material they need for research and can assist in reading and interpreting the information. Staff will always try to help people who cannot visit in person to make the most of the information we hold.



*The conservation workshop, where a team works behind the scenes to ensure that documents are preserved in the best possible condition.*

*Boxes of Blackburn borough plans stored in one of the strongrooms at Lancashire Record Office*



## Visiting Lancashire Record Office

### Admission

Admission is free, and everyone is welcome. There is no advance booking system but a reader's ticket is required for access to original documents. We provide direct public access to the archive collections in accordance with our *Preservation Policy*, our *Access Policy*, *Access Standard*, *Searchroom Rules* and relevant legislation

Our policies and standards can be seen on our website, or you can contact us for copies: [www.archives.lancashire.gov.uk](http://www.archives.lancashire.gov.uk)

### Opening hours

<b>Monday</b>	9am - 5pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	9am - 8.30pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	9am - 5pm
<b>Thursday</b>	10am - 5pm
<b>Friday</b>	9am - 5pm
<b>Saturday</b>	We are usually open on the second Saturday of each month from 10am - 4pm

### Holidays

The Record Office is closed on all English Bank Holidays (and on two other days at Christmas and New Year):

- New Year (usually 1 January)
- Good Friday (date varies)
- Easter Monday (date varies)
- First Monday in May
- Last Monday in May
- Last Monday in August
- Christmas Day and Boxing Day



*Our searchroom, where original documents can be consulted and staff are on hand to help you to identify the archives you need for your research.*



## **Disabled Access**

All public rooms, including the searchroom, are situated on the first floor but there is an accessible lift for those who find stairs difficult to use. Disabled parking is available onsite, and there are also accessible toilets. There is a loop system to assist people with a hearing impairment, and text enhancement facilities for people who find it difficult to read some of the archival material.

## **On Arrival**

Please check in at reception and sign the visitors' book to acknowledge that you accept the rules of the service. You will be asked to use the lockers provided for all your bags and belongings, except the paper and pencils you require for working. Lockers accept a £1 coin, which is refunded. Please note that only pencils are allowed for writing in the searchroom.

## **Reader's Ticket**

Lancashire Record Office belongs to the County Archive Research Network (CARN) which requires you to produce a reader's ticket when you enter and leave the searchroom. This is a security measure to help protect the irreplaceable archives.

If you do not have a ticket issued by one of the participating offices in the Network, we can issue one free of charge when you visit the Record Office. You will need to produce official evidence of your name, address and signature (e.g. driving licence, or credit/debit card accompanied by a bank statement, utility bill or other official communication with your address printed). The ticket is valid for four years and can be used in about forty record offices around the country.

## **Searchroom Facilities**

There are 36 seats available, plus larger tables for maps. There are also 40 microfilm/fiche readers, and 4 public access PCs, 3 of which are linked to the People's Network and available for free internet use. You may bring a laptop and connect to the LCC free Wi-Fi hot spot, but its use is at your own risk. Self-scanning of documents is not permitted, but the Record Office offers a range of copying facilities and you may also arrange to take your own photographs for private study. Our copying policy can be seen on our website.

## **Lancashire Local Studies reference collection**

Thousands of books, pamphlets and articles about Lancashire are also available to use in our searchroom and are all catalogued on the Lancashire Library online catalogue: <http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/libraries>

## **Refreshment Facilities**

The public tearoom offers a water dispenser and a hot drink machine as well as space to eat a packed lunch. Several pubs, shops, and a range of eating places in Preston City Centre are 5-10 minutes' walk away.

## Online access and contact details

Visit the website: [http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/education/record\\_office/index.asp](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/education/record_office/index.asp)

Many of the catalogues giving details of our archive collections can be searched online through:



the Access to Archives website

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a/>

### LANCAT – Lancashire Record Office Online Catalogue

Begin a new search

the Record Office's online catalogue, Lancat:

[http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/education/record\\_office/services/catalogue.asp](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/education/record_office/services/catalogue.asp)

If you want to ask whether a particular type of record is held at the Record Office:

**Email:** [record.office@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:record.office@lancashire.gov.uk)

**Write to:**

The County Archivist  
Lancashire Record Office  
Bow Lane  
PRESTON  
Lancashire  
PR1 2RE

You will receive a written response within 10 working days.

**Phone:** +44(0)1772 533039

**Fax:** +44(0) 1772 533050

Please email or write if you are interested in obtaining a **copy** of a specific document.

## A guide to archive collections for Blackburn with Darwen

This guide aims to show the range of archive material relating to Blackburn with Darwen which is held in Lancashire Record Office. It is not a comprehensive list of sources. There is material relating to the area in many other collections in the Record Office. Information about football, for example, will be found in the Lancashire FA collection (DDX 2708) and the Football League (DDFOL). New accessions of archives arrive at the Record Office several times each week and our ongoing cataloguing programme continues to make material more accessible.

### Arrangement and Catalogue references

Records are arranged to reflect who created them, where they were produced and what they were originally used for, so not all types of records cover all areas.

All the archives which have been fully catalogued are given a unique reference number which identifies each item or bundle and helps us to find it on the 8 miles of shelves in the record office strongrooms. Please note that the references given in this guide are not usually the full catalogue references which you will need to request documents for use or copying.

The references are made up of a combination of letters and numbers. The letters indicate the collection while the numbers show the place of an item within a collection. Very often the collection references reflect the name of the organisation eg **HRBQ** - **H**ospital **R**ecords for **B**lackburn - **Q**ueens' Park hospital or **DDFD** – **D**eposited **D**ocuments of the **F**eilden family

You will need to look at the catalogues themselves to find the precise references. You can do this online or in the Record Office searchroom. Record Office staff are always pleased to help.

### Access

As far as possible we try to make archive collections available for you to use unless:

- there is a statutory exemption prohibiting access
- the owner of the collection has placed a restriction on access
- access is likely to cause physical harm to the archives
- there is a surrogate or other alternative copy available

### Copies

We are pleased to supply copies of material held here whenever possible. We do however always have to consider whether the copying processes might harm the books and documents in our care, as well as copyright implications. Some items are too large or bulky for us to copy without risk of damage, while others are too fragile, or have seals which might be damaged by the photocopying process. Wherever possible we will offer you a safe alternative method of reproducing the document - such as digital scanning, microfilming, or the opportunity to take your own photographs under supervision. There is a charge for these services.

## Maps

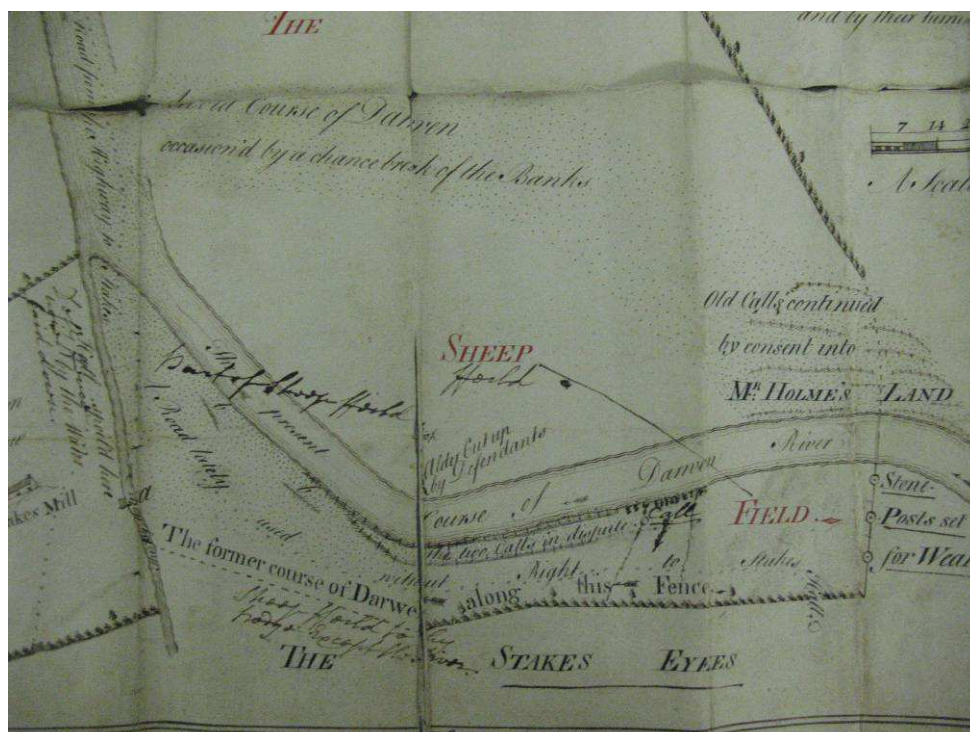
### Estate maps and surveys

These exist from the 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> centuries and were drawn for landowners to show the extent of their estates and to assist in administering them. There are many examples for the area which is now Blackburn with Darwen. The Thwaites collection of maps of the Woodfold estate, although on loan to Lancashire Record Office, is still held in Blackburn Library.

The Feilden collection contains many maps and plans, and the Record Office holds maps of other smaller estates such as those listed below.

Our Reference	Description	Year
DDX 1936*	• Plans of the Woodfold estate	19 <sup>th</sup> -20 <sup>th</sup> cent
DDFD	• Feilden estate plans	1749-1957
DDX 335/16	• Plans of the estates of the Revd Joseph Hindle in Darwen and Blackburn	1862, 1874
DDX 942/2	• Plans of Fowden-Hindle properties in the Blackburn area	1799-1832
DDRF	• Plans of estates of Eccles Shorrock of Darwen	1855

\*Please note that this collection is held at Blackburn Library by request of the depositor



Part of plan of land near the River Darwen at Witton Eyes, 1749 (DDFD 11/1)

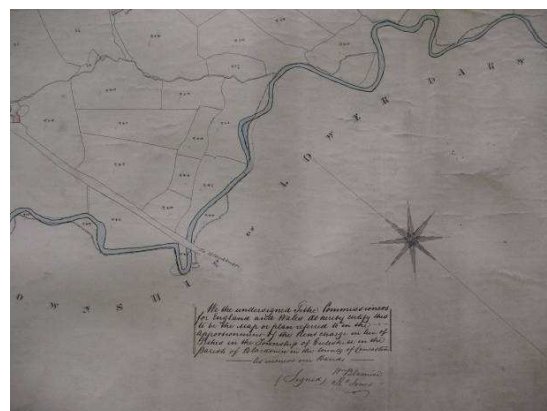


## Tithe maps and schedules

Tithe maps were created between 1836 and the 1850s. They were drawn at a large scale and are accompanied by a schedule listing the owners and occupiers of the lands and buildings shown on the map. Tithe maps usually cover a whole township (a township was the smallest administrative area of Lancashire which levied a separate rate). Although they exist for about 80% of the county there are few for this area because any tithe rent charges would have been commuted previously.

The schedule contains:

- Names of landowners
- Names of occupiers
- Acreage of land held/owned
- Description of property
- State of cultivation
- Amount of rent charge payable
- Names of the tithe owners



Part of Eccleshill tithe map, 1843  
(DRB 1/69)

Our Reference	Township	Year
DRB 1/69	• Eccleshill	1843
DRB 1/218	• Yate and Pickup Bank	1851

## Enclosure awards and plans

Enclosure awards were made either by Act of Parliament or by a private agreement and date from the 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. They are normally accompanied by a plan of the area concerned. Not every area was enclosed so there may not be an award for the area you are researching.

Our Reference	Township	Year
AE 2/4; PR1563	• Lower Darwen	1780
AE 2/5	• Over Darwen	1796
AE 6/4	• Edgworth	1797
PR 1563	• Little Harwood	1776

## Ordnance Survey maps and plans

The Ordnance Survey was the first comprehensive mapping project undertaken in Britain. The resulting printed maps were published from the 1840s up to the present day. The larger scales - 6 inches to 1 mile (1:10,000); and 25 inches to 1 mile (1:2500) are useful for locating individual buildings and there are plans drawn at larger scales (5 feet and 10 feet to 1 mile) for certain towns.

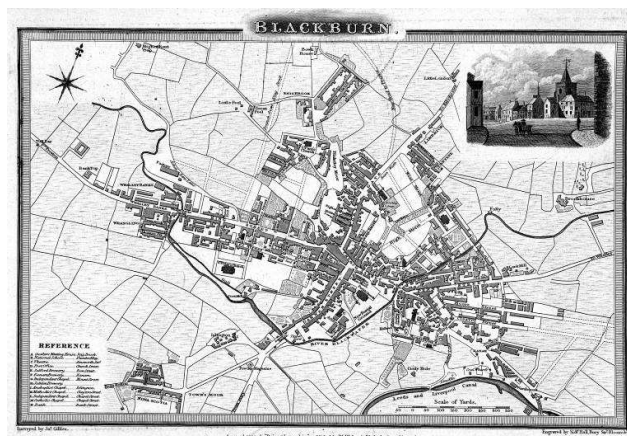
Lancashire Record Office has an extensive range of Ordnance survey maps covering the Blackburn with Darwen area:

- First edition, 6 inches to 1 mile, c1845
- First edition, 25 inches to 1 mile, 1892
- Various subsequent editions
- 5 feet town plans for Blackburn, 1848
- 10 feet town plans for Blackburn and for Darwen, 1893

*Part of 1<sup>st</sup> edition 1:2500 Ordnance survey sheet of Blackburn, 1892 (Lancashire sheet LXII.16)*



Lancashire Record Office also has a copy of the 1824 map of Blackburn engraved for Baines' *History of Lancashire* (DP 175/637). Scanned copies of this map are on sale at the Record Office in a variety of sizes.



## Aerial Photographs

Lancashire Record Office holds aerial photographs of the Blackburn with Darwen area:

- 1946
- 1963
- 1988

All but the 1980s series are also available online at:

<http://mario.lancashire.gov.uk/>

## Photographs

Some of our collections contain photographs of the area including:

Our Reference	Description
DDX 1193	• Photographs of the family of Mrs Riddihough of Blackburn c1900-1917
DDX 1194	• Photograph of managers of Roe Lee New Side Mill, and mill in Eanam c1910
DDX 2117	• Photographs of chemist's shop and school group, Darwen 1908-1925
DDX 2211	• Photograph of All Saints church Blackburn
DDX 2759	• Photographs of people and processes from Star Paper Mill, Blackburn 1960s-2000

Many more photographs are available in Blackburn and Darwen libraries.



*Photograph of mill managers, c1910 (DDX 1194/2/2)*

## Blackburn with Darwen archive collections

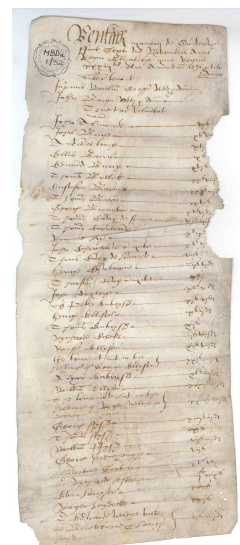
These collections either relate entirely to the Blackburn with Darwen area or contain an important element of material relating to this area. Most are privately owned and placed in the record office on indefinite loan.

### Family and estate collections

Our Reference	Description
MBDA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manor of Over Darwen: court rolls 1658-1809; call books 1770-1771; rental 1591; schedule of leases 1761; Darwen conveyances 1563-1867; copy wills 1704-1811; plan of Bull Hill estate c 1820</li> </ul>
DDFD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feilden family of Witton: family and estate records including documents of title and leases, agreements, financial records, insurance policies, valuations, rentals and surveys, building records and sale particulars, correspondence, maps and plans, parliamentary acts and bills 1535-mid-20th century</li> </ul>
DDX 2257	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feilden family: deeds to property in Blackburn 1906-1948</li> </ul>
DDX 2684	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Witton Estate: deeds and papers 18<sup>th</sup>- 20<sup>th</sup> cents</li> </ul>
DDX 1936 *	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Woodfold estates records including ledgers, rent books, files, maps and plans, and legal papers relating to the administration of the estate of John Fowden Hindle senior; also including papers relating to Daniel Thwaite 1800-1950</li> </ul>
DDX 2757	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deeds and other papers re Woodfold Estate 16<sup>th</sup>- 20<sup>th</sup> cents</li> </ul>
DDX 2113	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Birtwistle of Blackburn including family and executorship and papers on textile industry 1835-1975</li> </ul>
DDHCL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Honour of Clitheroe: court rolls and other records, 14<sup>th</sup> cent - 1925</li> </ul>

\*Please note that this collection is held at Blackburn Library by request of the depositor

*Rental for the Manor of Over Darwen, 1591  
(MBDA 1/32)*



## Local business and organisations

Many archive collections relate to businesses, clubs, societies, trade unions and other organisations in the Blackburn with Darwen area.

### Business records

Our Reference	Business	Description
	<b>accountants</b>	
DDX 1602	Blackburn: Waterworth, Rudd and Hare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Newsletters 1985-1989</li> </ul>
	<b>architects</b>	
	Blackburn: Gordon Thorne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Files for contract work carried out at Whalley Abbey 1990s</li> </ul>
	<b>brewers</b>	
DDX 1578	Blackburn:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>George and Dragon, deeds 1856</li> </ul>
DDX 103	Blackburn: Matthew Brown plc,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deeds of properties 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> cents.</li> </ul>
DDX 2310	Blackburn: Duttons brewery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Administrative, financial, production, property, staff and legal records 1705-1999</li> </ul>
	<b>builders</b>	
DDG	Blackburn: Richard Thompson and son	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Letter book 1848-1858</li> </ul>
	<b>canal transport</b>	
DDX 1769	Blackburn Canal Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Daily lists of loading canal boats 1942</li> </ul>
	<b>chemicals</b>	
DDX 1115	Blackburn: chemical firm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sales journal 1916-1970</li> </ul>
	<b>cinema</b>	
DDX 1425	Darwen: Savoy cinema	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wages account book 1921-1927</li> </ul>
	<b>citizens advice bureau</b>	
CAB 3	Blackburn citizen's advice bureau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes, annual reports, newscuttings and correspondence 1934-1997</li> </ul>
	<b>coal</b>	
DDX 459	Darwen: collieries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deeds and papers re lands and collieries in Over Darwen 1765-1905</li> </ul>
	<b>coffin plate engravers</b>	
DDX 1259	Edgworth: Bentley family,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Volume of names, ages and dates with prices 1858-1878</li> </ul>
	<b>cold storage</b>	
DDX 1751	Blackburn: Palatine Ice and Cold Storage Co Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes and registers of shareholders 1925-1968</li> </ul>
	<b>cotton</b>	
DDX 513	Blackburn: RR Jackson:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Account books 1900-1940</li> </ul>
DDX 577	Blackburn:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Register of under-18s in cotton factory 1842-1844</li> </ul>
DDX 868	Blackburn: William Birtwistle Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trading accounts and balance sheets 1941-1968</li> </ul>



<b>Our Reference</b>	<b>Business</b>	<b>Description</b>
DDX 1198	Blackburn: Birtwistle and Fielding Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building papers for Grange Mill, accounts, textile design pocket book 1905-1907; list of weavers' wages 1937</li> </ul>
DDX 1041	Blackburn: Rodgett and Brierley, cotton-spinners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnership and deeds 1839-1849</li> </ul>
DDX 868	Blackburn: Thomas and Richard Eccles, cotton weavers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pattern books, sample books, order books, design books, private ledger, inventories, stock books, directors' minutes 1897-1972</li> </ul>
DDX 2114	Blackburn: Henry Sharples, cotton weaver/dealer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Papers 1836-1850</li> </ul>
DDX 1869	Blackburn: British Tufting Machines Ltd.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Records including brochures and photographs 1954-70</li> </ul>
DDX 868	Blackburn: Albion Mill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Books and papers 1898-1975</li> </ul>
DDX 1115	Blackburn: Allied Mill, Ewood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cloth sample books and aerial photographs c1920-1954</li> </ul>
DDX 868	Blackburn: Alston Mill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Books and papers 1930-1966</li> </ul>
DDX 868	Blackburn: Cardwell Mill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Books and papers 1920-1961</li> </ul>
DDX 868	Blackburn: Ewood Mill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Books and papers 1889-1964</li> </ul>
DDX 868	Blackburn: Primrose and Waterfall Mills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Books and papers 1889-1964</li> </ul>
DDX 2678	Blackburn: Roe Lees Mills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commemorative brochure etc for Royal visit 1913</li> </ul>
DDX 1829	Blackburn: Whalley Bank Mill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Order books, skip books and financial records 1960-1989</li> </ul>
DDX 2379	Darwen: Holme Mill and Ellenshaw Mill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stock and order book 1925-1937 and wage slips 1937-1938</li> </ul>
	<b>gas</b>	
DDBD 15	Darwen: Over Darwen Gaslight Company	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minutes and papers, 1840-1855</li> </ul>
	<b>ironmongers</b>	
DDX 2087	Blackburn: James Bailey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Various records 1870-1945</li> </ul>
	<b>media</b>	
DDX 1862	Blackburn: Radio Blackburn (now Radio Lancashire)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• News scripts 1972-1980</li> </ul>
DDX 2468	Radio Blackburn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Magazines 1978-1979</li> </ul>
	<b>paper</b>	
DDX 2759	Sappi (UK) Ltd Blackburn Mill (Star Paper Mill)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Photographs and printed material 1950s-c2000</li> </ul>
	<b>pharmacist</b>	
	Darwen: Peter Doyle MPS, dispensing chemist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prescription registers c1880-1977</li> </ul>
	<b>retail</b>	
DDX 2075	Blackburn Cooperative Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports and balance sheets 1932-1946</li> </ul>

Our Reference	Business	Description
	<b>retail</b>	
DDX 2075	Over Darwen Industrial Cooperative Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes; reports and balance sheets, 1881-1968</li> </ul>
	<b>solicitors</b>	
DDX 223	Blackburn: Robinson and sons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Title deeds 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> cents; papers re local businesses and people 18<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> cents.</li> </ul>
DDYA	Darwen: Rushton, Graham, Ibbotson and Clay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Probate and administration papers, clients, files etc 1891-c1960</li> </ul>
DDYA	Darwen: Edwin Yates and son	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clients' files 20<sup>th</sup> cent.</li> </ul>
	<b>wallpaper manufacturers</b>	
DDX 691	Darwen: Potter and Co	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partnership deeds, patents and legal papers 1807-1900</li> </ul>
DDWAL	Darwen: The Wall Paper Manufacturers Ltd (formerly Potters) and successors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes 1939-1968; information on overseas agencies 1945-1952; photo-book of patterns 1927-1932; company secretary's files 1985-2001; records of Shand Kydd 1918-1980</li> </ul>
	<b>waterworks</b>	
WBF	Blackburn Waterworks co	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes, reports, accounts 1848-1875</li> </ul>
DDX 1294	Blackburn, Bolton and Burnley waterworks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Papers 1913-1916</li> </ul>

CANAL TRANSPORT LIMITED, BLACKBURN.

BOATS LOADED, SATURDAY JANUARY 10th 1942.

<u>GORSEY LANE.</u>	<u>LIVERPOOL.</u>	<u>MANCHESTER.</u>	<u>LEEDS.</u>
Belise Wool Keighley.	N I L.	Nidd Tea Blackburn. Lambda Flour Wigan.	Cuse Cotton Manchester.

Wharfe 5½ tons Black Maypole Colliery to Liverpool.

We have accommodation at Keighley for 5,000 Bales Australian Wool.  
at Bingley for 150 tons Canned Goods.  
at Keighley for 500 tons Canned Goods.  
at Bingley for 150 tons Canned Goods.  
at Skipton for 50 tons Canned Goods.  
at Leeds for 200 tons Canned Goods.

arrangements are in hand with the Ministry of Food.

Of our Fleet of 49 power boats and 18 dumb boats  
41 power boats and 14 dumb boats are in work.  
6 power boats and 1 dumb boat are under repair.  
2 power boats and 3 dumb boats are idle for men.

We can still employ 20 boatmen.  
We have ample work in hand.  
Delay has taken place to craft in Manchester on 2 days this week owing to fog.

*Blackburn Canal Transport: daily list of loading canal boats, 1942 (DDX 1769/1/15)*

## Trade Unions

Our Reference	Union	Description
	<b>Textile Unions</b>	
DDX 1269	Amalgamated Association of Beamers, Twisters and Drawers	• Blackburn branch minutes and financial records 1866-1983
DDX 1128	Association of Powerloom Overlookers	• Blackburn branch minutes and accounts 1858-1972
DDX 2379	Textile Federation	• Darwen branch minutes 1914-1927
DDX 2379	Textile Warehousemen's amalgamated society	• Darwen branch minutes 1920-1934
DDX 1078	Weavers' Winders' and Warpings' Association	• Blackburn minutes 1903-1949
DDX 1393	Weavers' Winders' and Warpings' Association	• Blackburn minutes and contribution books 1941-1971
DDX 1078	Weavers' Winders' and Warpings' Association	• Darwen minutes 1888-1957; reports 1886-1960; death money book 1897-1951
DDX 1393	Weavers' Winders' and Warpings' Association	• Darwen minutes 1940-1960
DDX 1208	Weavers' Winders' and Warpings' Association	• Darwen celebration souvenir 1924
	<b>Other Unions</b>	
DDX 2379	Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners	• Darwen branch minutes 1871-1932
DDX 1413 DDX 2379	Carters and Lorrymen's Trade Union	• Darwen branch minutes, 1890-1920
DDX 1445	National Union of Journalists	• <i>Blackburn Weekly Telegraph, Evening Telegraph and Northern Daily Telegraph</i> : chapel records 20 <sup>th</sup> cent
DDX 1443	Typographical Society, Blackburn	• Minutes, balance sheets, registers of members 1871-1981
DDX 1413	Wallpaper, Decorative and Allied Trades Union	• Darwen branch minutes and district trades council register 1919-1965
DDX 2379	Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers	• Darwen branch minutes 1932-1947

## Employers' Associations

Our Reference	Organisation	Description
DDX 1115	Blackburn and District Cotton Manufacturers' Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes, reports, rules, correspondence and letter books, financial records, levy books, wage and price lists etc 1877-1971; papers of Frank Longworth JP 1928-1946</li> </ul>
DDX 1116; DDX 1575	Blackburn Textile Manufacturers' Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes and financial records 1954-1983; levy books 1902-1937</li> </ul>

## Clubs, Societies and other Organisations

Our Reference	Organisation
DDX 2143	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackburn Amateur Swimming Club 1879-1979</li> </ul>
DDX 2444	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preston, Blackburn and District Society of Architects 1957-1961</li> </ul>
DDX 2145	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackburn Caledonian Curling Club 1867-1940</li> </ul>
DRB acc 9661	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackburn Church Schools Association minutes 1936-1996; correspondence 1950s-1960s</li> </ul>
DDX 1371	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackburn Conservative and Unionist Association: St Paul's ward 1906-1962</li> </ul>
DP 520	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackburn branch of Dickens Fellowship 1943-1945</li> </ul>
DDX 1416	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackburn and District Independent Order of Oddfellows 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> cent</li> </ul>
AS1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackburn Industrial Music Circle 1946-1952</li> </ul>
DDX 2722	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackburn: Leyland's charity records 1854-2007</li> </ul>
DP 520	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackburn Literary Society 1933-1958</li> </ul>
DRB acc 10414	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackburn Diocese Mothers' Union including minute book from Blackburn St Stephen 1985-2005</li> </ul>
DP 520	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackburn Naturalists Field Club 1952-1953</li> </ul>
DDX 1772	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackburn Personal Services Society, 1939-1980</li> </ul>
DDX 1793	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackburn Reform Club: architectural drawings 1863-1864</li> </ul>
DP 520	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackburn Philosophic and Scientific Society 1946-1954</li> </ul>
DDX 2691	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackburn 83 Round Table 1964-2004</li> </ul>
PR 3081	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackburn: St Clement's Female Friendly Society 1857-1912</li> </ul>
SDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackburn, Darwen and Turton Social Democratic Party 1981-1988</li> </ul>
DDX 1909	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackburn and District Teachers' Association 1898-1921</li> </ul>
DP 520	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackburn WEA 1938-1955</li> </ul>

DDX 2103	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Save the Heart of Lancashire (group opposing M65 extension to Blackburn) 1988-1994</li> </ul>
DP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cherry Tree Congregational Church Fellowship 1944-1946</li> </ul>
PLC2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Darwen Conservative Association 1868-1949</li> </ul>
DDX 1400	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Darwen and District Independent Order of Oddfellows</li> <li>• 19<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup> cents</li> </ul>
DDX 2646	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Darwen: Market Street Liberal Club minutes 1886-1928; Darwen Division Liberal Association minutes 1895-1947; Darwen Liberal Association minutes 1887-1918, financial records 1908-1918; Darwen Division Women's council minutes 1928-1938.</li> </ul>
DDX 2379	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Darwen Women's Liberal Association 1894-1936</li> </ul>
DP 520	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Darwen Literary Society 1935-1953; Darwen Women's Literary Society 1938-1957</li> </ul>
DDX 2379	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Darwen District Nursing Association 1892-1975</li> </ul>
PR 2878	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Darwen: St James' Sick and Burial Society minutes</li> <li>• 1844-1878</li> </ul>
PR 2864	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Edgworth Agricultural Society 1908-1927</li> </ul>
DP520	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feniscowles Methodist Church Men's Fellowship 1954-1955</li> </ul>
PR 2846	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Livesey Sick Club, 1832-1883</li> </ul>
DDX 2285	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revidge Youth Football Club 1995-2000</li> </ul>
UDTU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Turton Society for the Prosecution of Felons 1789-1856</li> </ul>
DX 492	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Turton Local History Society: newsletters 1974-1975</li> </ul>



*Blackburn Caledonian Curling Club: menu for annual dinner, 1896 (DDX 2145)*



## Smaller Collections

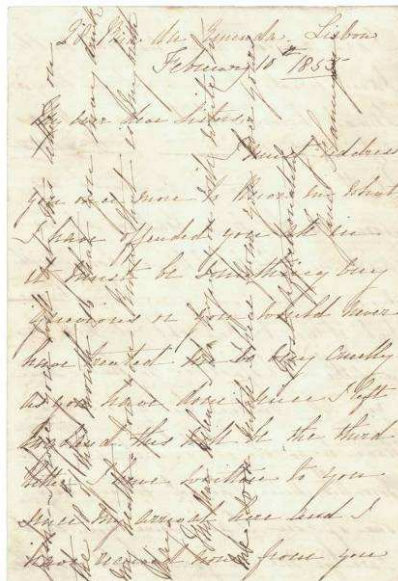
These small archive collections contain a great variety of material relating to local communities and families.

Our Reference	Description
	<b>Deeds and documents of title</b>
DDX 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackburn deed 1788</li> </ul>
DDX 2668	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deeds to property in Cable Street, Brown Street and John Street, Blackburn, including Cable House and the Spread Eagle Hotel, 1788-1986</li> </ul>
DDX 1004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackburn deeds 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> cent.</li> </ul>
DDX 2734	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deeds relating to the estate of Mrs Ellen Hogg of Pleckgate Road Blackburn 1806-1959</li> </ul>
DDX 1243	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deeds and leases of the Whitehead family of Uplands, Lancaster, to property in Blackburn 1812-1882</li> </ul>
DDH Acc 6015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deeds, trusteeship papers, accounts, and legal papers of the Armistead and Fisher families of Blackburn c1820-1900</li> </ul>
DDX 2529	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deeds relating to properties in Blackburn 1862-1935</li> </ul>
DDX 1712	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Auctioneer's recognizance concerning sale of real estate of Ann Hartley of Blackburn 1876</li> </ul>
DDX 1578	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deeds and related papers for 74 Northgate, Blackburn 1880-1977</li> </ul>
DDX 935	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackburn deed 1890</li> </ul>
DDX 871	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deeds and papers relating to Blackburn 1902</li> </ul>
DDX 995	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lower Darwen deeds 1603-1826</li> </ul>
DDX 417	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deeds: Tattersall of Lower Darwen 1675-1853</li> </ul>
DDX 1233	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deeds and papers of the Hindle family of Lower Darwen 1684-1897</li> </ul>
DDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Over Darwen: fine 1686</li> </ul>
DP25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deed relating to Over Darwen 1693</li> </ul>
DDX 691	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deeds and papers of the Potter family of Darwen 1695-1911</li> </ul>
DDX 459	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deeds relating to Over Darwen lands and collieries 1765-1905</li> </ul>
DDX 227	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Over Darwen deeds 1776, 1781</li> </ul>
DDX 226	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Over Darwen deed 1791</li> </ul>
DDX 695	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Darwen deeds 1801, coalmine 1830</li> </ul>
DDX 1083	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Darwen deeds 1823-1963</li> </ul>
DDX 920	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Over Darwen agreement 1870</li> </ul>
DDX 2379	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collection of Howard Peters of Darwen, including deeds relating to property in Darwen 1885-1938</li> </ul>
DDX 861	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Edgworth deeds 1612-1692</li> </ul>
DP 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deed relating to Edgworth 1668</li> </ul>
DDX 496	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Entwistle deed 1658</li> </ul>
DDX 325	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Livesey deeds 1449, 1452</li> </ul>
DDX 462	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Livesey deeds 1691-1895</li> </ul>
DP45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deed relating to Livesey 1692</li> </ul>

DDX 2508	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abstract of title to an estate in Ramsgreave, Blackburn, now called Midge Hall Farm 1816-1870</li> </ul>
DDX 267	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tockholes deeds 1608-1877</li> </ul>
DDX 2128	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tockholes deed 1609</li> </ul>
DDX 1318	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deeds for Shawbrook and Well Head, Tockholes 1686-1878</li> </ul>
DDX 2716	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deeds relating to Blackburn Rectory tithe, Witton township and Feilden family property c1680-c1840</li> </ul>
DP 162	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deed relating to Witton 1706</li> </ul>
DP 478	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Papers relating to a dispute over property known as ' Redlum', Witton 1735-1738</li> </ul>
DDX 1452	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yate Bank, Darwen: deeds 1635-1742</li> </ul>
DDX 403; DDX 737	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documents relating to properties of J R Lord in Blackburn, Over Darwen and elsewhere 17<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup> cents.</li> </ul>
DDX 1082	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deeds: Blackburn 1722-1844; Eccleshill 1729</li> </ul>
DDX 2598	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Title deeds to properties in Blackburn 1732-1910; Livesey 1772-1854 and Over Darwen 1879</li> </ul>
DDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deeds: Blackburn 1746; Over Darwen 1594-1659; Tockholes 1592</li> </ul>
DDX 813	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deeds: Blackburn 1806; Darwen 1820</li> </ul>
DDX 1658	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deeds relating to various properties in Blackburn and Darwen 19<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup> cents</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Plans and surveys</b></p>
DDX 223	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clayton estates survey and plans including Little Harwood and Blackburn 1760</li> </ul>
DDX 949	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elevations of designs for Woodfold Park Lodge 1832</li> </ul>
DDX 335	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plans of Hindle estates in Darwen, Blackburn and elsewhere 1862, 1874</li> </ul>
PR 3031	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blackburn gas, water and extension, statutory plans and book of reference 1877</li> </ul>
DDX 918	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan of Pleasington telephone exchange c1934</li> </ul>
DDX 1292	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blackburn map and street directory c1960</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Other sources for local history</b></p>
DDX 2055	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blackburn Rectory rental and accounts 1752-1765; rental and accounts of an estate in Blackburn 1752-1763; will of John Sudell of Blackburn 1737</li> </ul>
DDX 76	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Handbills of schools in Blackburn 1800-1809</li> </ul>
DDPR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blackburn railway miscellanea 1823-1888</li> </ul>
DDX 850	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brief for Preston to Blackburn new road 1824</li> </ul>
DDX 168	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blackburn Court of Requests: plaint book 1841-1843</li> </ul>
DDX 2193	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blackburn sale particulars 1911; documents relating to Blackburn waterworks 1846</li> </ul>
DDX 577	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accounts for building a house in Blackburn 1858</li> </ul>
DDX 1266	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Privy Council order restricting use of burial grounds in Blackburn, Oswaldtwistle and Over Darwen 1858-1887</li> </ul>
DDX 1101	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land Tax collectors schedules for Blackburn 1933-1946</li> </ul>
DDX 931	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Football scrapbook, Blackburn Rovers 1947-1957</li> </ul>

DDX 1741	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Historical notes relating to Blackburn and surrounding townships compiled c1950-1970</li> </ul>
DDX 1101	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackburn sale particulars</li> </ul>
DDX 2262	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Land tax assessments for Lower Darwen 1755</li> </ul>
DDX 2637	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Over Darwen: sales particulars for Duckworth estate 1919</li> </ul>
DDX 1524	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sale plan for lands in Bradshaw, Edgworth and Turton 1919</li> </ul>
DDX 1114	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Edgworth sale particulars 1919</li> </ul>
DDX 2320	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measurements and descriptions of roads and stone quarries in Tockholes 1622; agreements concerning Baron family of Tockholes 17<sup>th</sup> cent</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Archaeological reports</b></p>
DDX 1915	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lancaster University Archaeology Unit : files relating to Blackburn station, Cheetham Close in Turton, Darwen, and Church Street, Blackburn 1999-2000; Waterloo Pavilions, Blackburn 1999-2001; Higher Hill Farm, Tockholes 2001; Cathedral village Blackburn 2005-2007</li> </ul>
DDX 2475	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Archaeological building surveys: weaving shed at Bastfield Mill, Beech Street, Little Harwood 2003-2004</li> </ul>
DDX 2604	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Archaeology surveys of Horrocks Fold Barn, Edgworth 2005; Wheatsheaf Hill Farm Barn, Plantation Road Edgworth 2009</li> </ul>
DDX 2638	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Archaeological report for Shadsworth, Blackburn 2007</li> </ul>
DDX 2719	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Archaeological reports 53-55 Furthergate, and 57 Furthergate (Wellington Inn) Blackburn 2009</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Personal and family archives</b></p>
DDX 1650	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pedigree of Banastre of Preston, Altham, and Darwen c1182-1955</li> </ul>
DDX 335	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pedigree of Haworth of Highercroft in Darwen 1664-1865</li> </ul>
DDX 1147	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pedigree of Beardsworth of Blackburn 1716-1893</li> </ul>
DDX 2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>De La Prynne family of Blackburn: family and business papers 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> centuries</li> </ul>
DP 506	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lawyer's memorandum book [possibly of John Folds of Blackburn] c1723-1740</li> </ul>
DDX 496	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apprenticeship indenture of Thomas Kirkham of Upper Darwen to Robert Greenhalgh, weaver 1731</li> </ul>
DDX 154	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apprenticeship indenture of Henry Sharp to a Blackburn surgeon 1831</li> </ul>
DDX 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hebden family of Blackburn: correspondence mostly 1847-1857</li> </ul>
DDX 1124	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teaching certificates of Thomas Shorrocks of Blackburn 1865-1884</li> </ul>
DDX 1321	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Labour certificate of Violet Lightburn of Over Darwen 1884</li> </ul>
DDX 2667	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Marriage settlement of Hannah Lawton Cooper of Blackburn, innkeeper with William Whittaker boot and shoemaker 1884; probate copy of will of Hannah Lawton Whittaker 1894</li> </ul>
DDX 920	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Letter from Private W. Cooper at Lucknow (India) to sister Annie at Blackburn 19<sup>th</sup> cent</li> </ul>
DDX 1494	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Executorship papers of James Charnley of Livesey 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> cents</li> </ul>

DDX 1849	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Essays and lectures on art by James Morton (born Darwen 1881) 1900-1919</li></ul>
DDX 149	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Memorial of Alice Beetham of Blackburn, murdered by her lover 1912</li></ul>
DDX 1494	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Papers of the Haydock family of Darwen 1929-1969</li></ul>
DDX 2170	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Miss Edna Beard of Blackburn: diaries of holidays in Switzerland 1947-1948</li></ul>
DDX 1119	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Papers of Muriel Wilcock as Blackburn Textile Queen 1949-1950</li></ul>
DDX 1565	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Papers of M. E. Moore of Darwen including records of Darwen Old Peoples' Club 20<sup>th</sup> cent</li></ul>
DDX 2649	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Letter to Councillor Eileen Roberts from Barbara Castle MP, enclosing a statement on the Common Market 1978</li></ul>
DDX 2694	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pedigree of the Haworth family of Blackburn and Bury</li></ul>
DDYA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Papers of Alderman Edwin Yates of Darwen as magistrate, councillor and member of various committees 20<sup>th</sup> cent</li></ul>



*Cross-written letter from Hebden family correspondence, 1855 (DDX 2005/5)*

## Official Records

### Local Government Records

The catalogues for many of these records are available on LANCAT (the Lancashire Record Office catalogue):

[http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/education/record\\_office/services/catalogue.asp](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/education/record_office/services/catalogue.asp)

### Lancashire County Council

The county of Lancashire was formally created in 1182 and in the mid-14<sup>th</sup> century was granted palatine status (that is, it had its own local courts and administration). The County Palatine of Lancashire covered the area from the central Lake District southwards to the River Mersey – the traditional 'Red Rose' county. Until 1889 this was the administrative area of the county.

In 1889 county councils were established under the Local Government Act of 1888. The councils, among them Lancashire County Council, were democratically elected and took over the administrative duties of the quarter sessions (see page 30). After 1889 they steadily acquired further powers.

However, under the 1888 Local Government Act many larger towns were granted county borough status, which meant that they were fully self-governing and not under the control of the county council. County borough councils exercised all the powers of county councils. In Lancashire 17 towns and cities acquired county borough status, among them Blackburn. From 1889, therefore, Lancashire County Council administered the area of the ancient county palatine *minus* the 17 county boroughs.

In 1974, under the Local Government Act of 1972, county boroughs were abolished and extensive reorganisation of local government took place. The area governed by Lancashire County Council was greatly reduced by the creation of Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Cumbria, and by the extension of Cheshire. The former county borough of Blackburn was amalgamated with the borough of Darwen and became a district council within the new Lancashire County, under the control of the county council.

In 1998, however, Blackburn with Darwen was given unitary status, meaning that it was separated from Lancashire County Council and once more became fully self-governing.

Lancashire Record Office holds the archives of the County Council which contain a wealth of information relating to health, welfare, transport, education, planning and policing within the Blackburn and Darwen areas.



## Blackburn County Borough Council

Blackburn became a municipal borough in 1854 and a county borough, outside the control of Lancashire County Council, from 1889 until 1974. Before this, three Acts of Parliament had established Improvement Commissions for Blackburn to regulate markets, improve streets and public places and erect a town hall. Their functions and their records were taken over by the municipal borough.

Blackburn was policed by the Lancashire constabulary from 1840-1852 and from 1969. Between those dates it was policed by Blackburn borough constabulary. Blackburn police archives are split between Blackburn Library and Lancashire Record Office.

Our Reference	Description
CBBN 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Town Improvement Commissioners' records 1803-1854</li> </ul>
CBBN acc 8198	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Burial Board minutes 1854-1870</li> </ul>
CBBN acc 8198; CBBN acc 9505	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackburn Water Works Company minutes 1844-1875; register of mortgages and transfers 1846-1887; farm rent books 1895-1907</li> </ul>
CBBN 1; CBBN acc 7743	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council and committee minutes 1851-1963 [Education Committee to 1974]</li> </ul>
CBBN acc 8198	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Councillors' declarations 1851-1867</li> </ul>
CBBN acc 8198	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notices of meetings 1865-1871</li> </ul>
CBBN acc 7296 CBBN acc 8198 CBBN acc 8505	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Town clerk's records including memoranda 1873-1881; parliamentary bill papers 19<sup>th</sup> cent-1937; Emergency Committee minutes 1940-1944; plans 1908-1942; cuttings books 1929-1952; year books and diaries 1901-1957; miscellaneous papers 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> cents</li> </ul>
WBF 37/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year book 1960/61-1973/74</li> </ul>
CBBN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seal books 1879-1962</li> </ul>
CBBN 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rate books 1837-1966</li> </ul>
CBBN acc 8198	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Registers of electors for the parliamentary and municipal borough of Blackburn 1907-1983</li> </ul>
CBBN acc 9505	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parliamentary plan for Blackburn Corporation bill 1901 (extension of boundaries; tramways; sessions house)</li> </ul>
CBBN acc 7295; CBBN acc 8198 CBBN acc 9505	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Borough Treasurer's records including printed abstracts of accounts 1878-1974 and ledgers 1852-1978; wage books (electricity and gas) 1897-1918</li> </ul>
CBBN 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Building regulation registers and plans 1870-1974; town planning consents 1948-1969</li> </ul>
CBBN acc 7826; acc 7400	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bridge plans: Salford Bridge 1882; King Street Bridge (Whalley Banks) 1893</li> </ul>
CBBN acc 8198	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Register of adopted streets c1880- c1950</li> </ul>
CBBN acc 8198	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Private drainage plans with index c1855; surveyors plans (unsorted)</li> </ul>

CBBN acc 9016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Register of nuisances reported by police 1866-1869; register of common lodging houses 1901-1974; register of WC conversions and street index 1910-1972; register of cases admitted to corporation hospitals 1931-1943*; infectious diseases notification book 1969-1972*</li> </ul>
CBBN acc 8198; acc 7486	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fire report books 1913-1922, 1932-1974; chief fire officer's monthly reports 1969-1971</li> </ul>
PLA 55	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackburn Borough Police Force: including examination book 1907-1925*; register of candidates 1928-1944*; registers of declarations on appointment as constables 1937-1968*; register of stubs of discharge tickets 1946-1969*; police record sheets 1910-1960s*; discipline book 1920-1968*; alehouse etc licensing books 1894-1971; chief constables' general orders 1919-1929; charge book 1937-1959; register of enemy aliens 1940-1944; chief constable's annual reports 1957, 1966-67.</li> </ul>
DDX 2368	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adoption of devastated French villages – Peronne and Maricourt 1921-1924</li> </ul>

\* access to these records is restricted

## Darwen Municipal Borough Council

Darwen was incorporated as a municipal borough in 1878 and became part of the new district of Blackburn in 1974.

Our Reference	Description
CC/EXDA 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Printed council minutes 1930-1945</li> </ul>
MBDA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council minutes 1948-1968</li> <li>Committee minutes 1923-1964</li> <li>Declarations of acceptance of office 1936-1961</li> <li>Annual accounts 1903-1956</li> <li>Ledgers and other financial records 20<sup>th</sup> cent</li> <li>Water Works department transfer book 1879-1975</li> <li>Gas Works department transfer book 1878-1962</li> <li>Rate books and rate rolls 1864-1967</li> <li>Valuation lists 1913-1973</li> <li>Building regulation plans and indexes 1859-1974</li> <li>Town planning applications 1943-1974</li> <li>Registers of dwelling houses 1933-1938</li> <li>Indexes of private street improvements 1870-1930</li> <li>Medical Officer of Health reports 1902-1971</li> <li>Darwen public library readers' guide 1895</li> <li>Darwen registers of electors 1951, 1953-1971.</li> </ul>
DDX 2379	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Byelaws 1897-1956; register of orders 1890-1925, register of agreements 1891-1974; conveyancing files re Brookside, Atlas and Olive Mills including deeds and plans 1899-1946</li> </ul>

## Turton Urban District Council

In 1894, towns not incorporated as boroughs became urban districts. They absorbed the functions of local boards of health, established at various dates under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1848, and had similar powers to municipal boroughs.

In the local government re-organisation in 1974, Turton Urban District was split between the new districts of Blackburn and Bolton, and it is therefore possible that some archives for this area are held by Bolton Archives.

Our Reference	Description
UDTU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Turton Local Board: records including minutes 1873-1894; correspondence</li><li>• Township records for Belmont, Edgworth, Harwood and Turton 1824- 1914</li><li>• Turton UDC: minutes 1894-1967; bills, acts and byelaws; financial records; valuation records and rate books 1914-1969; building regulation plans 1923, 1932-1974; records of housing, public health and plans 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> cents; Turton Tower 1890-1945</li></ul>

## Blackburn Rural District Council

Rural district councils were also created under the Local Government Act 1894 and replaced the rural sanitary authorities. Their responsibilities included cemeteries, housing, licensing of public entertainment, parks, refuse collection, maintaining local roads, sanitary services, sewerage and the water supply. Blackburn Rural District included the parishes of Eccleshill, Livesey, Pleasington, Tockholes, Witton and Yate and Pickup Bank.

Our Reference	Description
RDBL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Council and committee minutes 1873-1961</li><li>• Ledgers 1937-1971</li><li>• Salaries and wages books 1927-1969</li><li>• Rating survey 1913</li><li>• Valuation lists 1934-1948</li><li>• Rate books 1951/2; 1952/3; 1960/1</li><li>• Plans relating to sewerage schemes 1890s</li><li>• Registers relating to public health and hygiene 1913-1948</li><li>• Overcrowding survey 1936</li><li>• Surveyors and public health inspectors reports 1928-1967</li><li>• Building Regulation registers and plans 1891-1974</li><li>• Housing survey record cards 1946</li></ul>

## Blackburn Borough Council from April 1974

A new local authority was created under the Local Government Act 1972 to administer an area comprising the former Blackburn County Borough, Darwen Municipal Borough, the northern part of Turton Urban District and parts of Blackburn Rural District. Most of the archives are still held by the borough council.

Our Reference	Description
LAU10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Abstracts of account and annual reports 1975-1985</li><li>• Register of environmental health complaints (CLOSED)</li><li>• Building control plans 1974-1980</li></ul>

## Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council from April 1998

The area of the 1974 Blackburn Borough was renamed in 1997 and became a single-tier authority in the following year. Most of the archives are still retained by the borough council although the following cemetery records have been deposited .

Our Reference	Description
CEMBN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Blackburn cemetery registers (indexed) 1857-1999</li><li>• Darwen cemetery registers (some indexes) 1861-1991</li><li>• Pleasington cemetery registers 1943-1999</li><li>• Pleasington crematorium registers 1956-1985 and book of remembrance 1956-1971</li></ul>

## Parish and Town Councils

These were created under the Local Government Act 1894 as the first tier of local government in towns and villages. Some councils from the Blackburn with Darwen area have deposited archives, and some earlier township records have survived.

Our Reference	Council	Description
UDTU	Belmont	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Minutes 1894-1898; National School committee minutes 1875-1898</li></ul>
PR5005	Eccleshill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Minutes 1894-1990</li></ul>
UDTU	Edgworth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Minutes 1853-1898; highway repairs expenditure accounts 1860-1868</li></ul>
PR2943	Livesey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Coronation Celebrations committee 1953</li></ul>
PR5023; PR3006	Tockholes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Minutes 1894-1988</li></ul>
PR5068	Yate and Pickup Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Minutes 1927-1967; treasurer's receipts book 1895-1964; parish rate receipt book 1936-1963</li></ul>

## Electoral Registers

Electoral registers, or rolls, list the addresses and names of people who are allowed to vote. They are usually arranged by street within each electoral district or ward. The registers cover the period from 1832 to the present day, although in the early years not many people had the right to vote and the voting qualifications were different for county and parliamentary elections. Since 1969 everyone over the age of 18 has been eligible to vote. All men over 21 were allowed to vote in 1918 and all women in 1928.

The Record Office has a large, though not complete, collection of electoral registers for the Blackburn with Darwen area. In order to find the relevant register, it is first necessary to identify the electoral division or parliamentary constituency.

In terms of parliamentary constituencies, Most of Blackburn with Darwen was part of the Northern Division, 1832-1867, and in Darwen Constituency from 1867. Turton was however in Westhoughton parliamentary constituency.

There are Blackburn electoral registers in the Blackburn Borough Council archive (see page 23) and Darwen registers in the Darwen Borough Council archive (see page 24). Blackburn with Darwen Library and Information Service also has a large collection (see page 54 for contact details)

We have the registers listed below among the countywide series. Dates given are usually the dates for which the register was in force; qualifying dates are earlier.

### EL1 Registers made under the Representation of the People Act, 1832.

The Northern constituency consisted of the Hundreds of Lonsdale, Amounderness, Blackburn and Leyland. The Southern constituency comprised the Hundreds of Salford and West Derby.

Our Reference	Year	Constituency
EL 1/1-EL1/12	1832-1843	Northern and Southern constituencies;
EL 1/13-EL1/27	1844-1860	Northern
EL 1/31	1866	Northern

### EL2: Registers made under the Representation of the People Act, 1867.

This area was in the North East Division

Our Reference	Year	Constituency
EL 2/1	1868	NE Division
EL 2/2	1870	NE Division
EL 2/3	1875	NE Division
EL 2/4	1880	NE Division
EL 2/5	1885	NE Division

**EL3:** Registers made under the Redistribution of Seats Act, 1885

<b>Our Reference</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Constituencies</b>
EL 3/1/6; 22	1885-1887	Darwen and Westhoughton
EL 3/2/6; 22	1889-1891	Darwen and Westhoughton
EL 3/3/6;22	1894-1895	Darwen and Westhoughton
EL 3/4/6;22	1900	Darwen and Westhoughton
EL 3/5/6;22	1905	Darwen and Westhoughton
EL 3/6/6;22	1910	Darwen and Westhoughton

**EL 5:** Registers made under the Representation of the People (Equal Franchise) Act, 1928

<b>Our Reference</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Constituencies</b>
EL 5/1/3;17	1934-1935	Darwen and Westhoughton
EL 5/2/3;17	1939-1940	Darwen and Westhoughton

**EL 6:** Registers made under the Representation of the People Act, 1945

<b>Our Reference</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Constituency</b>
EL 6/1/3-6/10/3	1945-1946	Darwen
EL 6/1/17- EL 6/10/17	1945-1946	Westhoughton

**EL 7:** Registers made under the Representation of the People Act, 1948

<b>Our Reference</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Constituencies</b>
EL 7/1/3– 7/2/3; EL 7/1/15-7/2/15	1949	Darwen and Westhoughton
EL 7/3/3; 15	1953	Darwen and Westhoughton
EL 7/4/3;15	1955-1956	Darwen and Westhoughton
EL 7/5/3;15	1959-1960	Darwen and Westhoughton
EL 7/6/3;15	1964-1965	Darwen and Westhoughton
EL 7/7/3;15	1965-1966	Darwen and Westhoughton
EL 7/8/3;15	1966-1967	Darwen and Westhoughton
EL 7/9/3;15	1967-1968	Darwen and Westhoughton
EL 7/10/3;15	1968-1969	Darwen and Westhoughton
EL 7/11/3;15	1969-1970	Darwen and Westhoughton
EL 7/12/3;15	1970-1971	Darwen and Westhoughton
EL 7/13/3;12	1971-1972	Darwen and Westhoughton
EL 7/14/3;12	1972-1973	Darwen and Westhoughton
EL 7/15/3;12	1973-1974	Darwen and Westhoughton
EL 7/16/3;12	1974-1975	Darwen and Westhoughton

**EL 8:** Registers made after Local Government Reorganisation, 1974. These cover the *local authority district* of Blackburn Borough council rather than the parliamentary constituencies.

Our Reference	Year	Local authority district
EL 8/1/1	1975-1976	Blackburn
EL 8/2/1	1976-1977	Blackburn
EL 8/3/1	1977-1978	Blackburn
EL 8/4/1	1978-1979	Blackburn
EL 8/6/1	1980-1981	Blackburn (with street index)
EL 8/7/1	1981-1982	Blackburn (with street index)
EL 8/8/1	1982-1983	Blackburn (with street index)
EL 8/9/1	1983-1984	Blackburn
EL 8/13/1	1987-1988	Blackburn
EL 8/23/1	1997-1998	Blackburn (with street index)

**EL 12** Registers made after Local Government Reorganisation, 1974 for the parliamentary constituency of Darwen

Our Reference	Year	Constituency
EL12/1/1-5	1974-1979	Darwen

DARWEN DIVISION OF LANCASHIRE - BLACKBURN POLLING DISTRICT. K 1

**Blackburn.**

OWNERSHIP VOTERS.

No. Poll.	Name	Spelt of each Vote of 40 Polls, or otherwise like list.	Place of Abode.	Nature of Qualification.	Description of Qualifying Property.
E 1	Abbott James Robert		West view Witton	Freehold rent charge	Daisy street and Ferry street James Hladky and others owners
E 2	Abbott John		8 Burlington street Blackburn	Freehold houses	57 and 58 Kenyon street
E 3	Abbott Thomas		Lark hill Blackburn	Freehold houses	5 10 15 Primrose bank
E 4	Abbott Benjamin		Shear how Blackburn	Freehold rent charge	King street William Richardson owner
.....	Agnew Ernest		The Elms Eccles Manchester	Share of freehold rent charge	Addison street Joseph Tapp owner - Goodham site Edward Horwich owner
E 5	Ainsworth James		Roadal street Blackburn	Freehold house	65 Roadal street
E 6	Ainsworth James		8 Satecliffe terrace Newhall lane Preston	Share of freehold rent charge	Nab lane or Hinkley moor E Fowler owner on the Reg for 1884 and 1885
E 7	Ainsworth John		Foxhouse street Blackburn	Freehold houses	5 to 17 Foxhouse street
E 8	Ainsworth Thomas William		Hoghton bank Brindle near Chorley	Freehold rent charge	Four Lane ends Beridge Marjorettes and others on 1885 Register
.....	Ainsworth Thomas		4 Albion road Livesey	Share of freehold rent charge	Beridge lane end John Watson and others owners Register
E 9	Ainsworth Thomas		King street Blackburn	Freehold land	Beridge fold
.....	Ainsworth John		Oriffin street Witton	Freehold houses	27 29 Stanley street
E 10	Ainsworth John Caleb		Norwood Cavendish road Ellmers park Eccles Lancashire	Share of freehold rent charge	Beridge lane end John Washington and others owners
E 11	Ainsworth Thomas		Back lane Blackburn	Freehold houses	26 and 28 Park road
E 12	Ainsworth Joseph		Darwen street Blackburn	Freehold house	10 Frockleton street
E 13	Ainsworth William Henry		19 High King street Whitburn	Freehold houses	28 to 30 Barnley road
E 14	Ainsworth Thomas		Alton street Blackburn	Freehold houses	68 to 72 Alton street
E 15	Ains James		Strawberry gardens Hayslam Lancashire	Share of freehold rent charge	Dukes how Joseph S Smith owner
E 16	Allan Charles German		Somerset house Glastonberry	Share of freehold rent charge	Whalley banks or John Coupe and owners on 1885 list

Page from register of electors, 1885 (EL3/1/6)



## Court Records

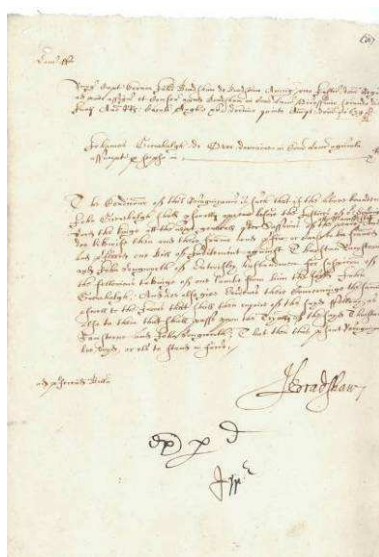
### Quarter Sessions

Quarter Sessions were established during the Elizabethan period to fulfill a combined legal and administrative role for each county. This included looking after highways and bridges, granting permits, keeping lists of prisoners and dealing with crime. In 1889 many of their administrative functions were taken over by the newly-formed county and county borough councils. The Quarter Sessions continued to have a legal purpose until they were replaced by Crown Courts in 1972.

The sessions met four times a year – hence the name. Normally they met in the county town but, as a large county, Lancashire had four or five meeting places: Lancaster, Preston, Wigan/Ormskirk (later Kirkdale) and Salford. One session would be adjourned to another place a few days later.

For administrative purposes Lancashire was divided into six smaller areas known as 'hundreds' – Amounderness, Blackburn, Leyland, Lonsdale, Salford and West Derby. Blackburn and Darwen were in Blackburn hundred but the townships of Edgworth and Turton were part of Salford Hundred. Matters affecting Blackburn with Darwen would typically be dealt with at the Sessions held at Preston or Salford.

Another function of the Quarter Sessions was to act as a public registry for all kinds of business. This included accepting enclosure awards and parliamentary plans of railways and other utilities, registering parliamentary electors, Roman Catholics, freemasons and various other groups which were from time to time under public scrutiny.



*Indictment of Thurstan Rawstorne and John Longworth for stealing a lamb, 1639 (QSB/1/219/20)*

This sample from the Lancashire Quarter Session records, gives a flavour of their diverse content:

<b>Our Reference</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Description</b>
QDL/B/59	1782-1832	Land tax returns for Pleasington
QSB/1/219/20	1639	John Grenehalgh of Over Darwen to indict Thurstan Rawstorne and John Longworth for stealing a lamb.
QDV/1/9	1796-1797	Returns of men in Blackburn enrolled for the army and navy
QEC/5/11	1859	Plans of Darwen police station and court
QJB/39/52	1772	Thomas Cronshaw of Yate and Pickup Bank, weaver: insolvent debtor's papers.
QJD/1/85-88	1841	Depositions relating to riots in Blackburn
QSP/3206/58	1843	Notice and order of removal of George Morley, Margaret his wife and Elizabeth, Mary Ann, Nancy and Harriet their children from Blackburn to Cliddesden, Hampshire
QSP/3055/22	1837	Certificate of Thomas Holden of Pleasington, minister, of use of Roman Catholic Chapel, with request for registration
QSP/2765/63	1820	Order of filiation and maintenance of illegitimate daughter of Joseph Mercer of Lower Darwen, labourer, and Ann Law, singlewoman

Many of the catalogues of Quarter Sessions records can be searched online at:

<http://www.a2a.org.uk/>

## **Blackburn Borough Quarter Sessions**

Blackburn Borough Quarter Sessions were established in 1886 to hear legal cases relating solely to the borough of Blackburn.

<b>Our Reference</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>QBK</b>	Record of proceedings 1886-1937
	Calendars of prisoners 1886-1953; 1970-71
	Order books 1886-1947; 1951-1955
	Court papers 1886-1910
	Recorder's and assistant recorder's notebooks 1968-1971
	Justices qualification books 1868-1970
	List of person exempt from jury service 1900-1962 (CLOSED)
	Prosecution accounts 1886-1898; 1963-1971

## Petty Sessions and Magistrates Courts

The Petty Sessions dispensed summary justice – i.e. a verdict and sentence was delivered by two or more Justices of the Peace without the involvement of a jury. They typically dealt with lesser offences, held licensing sessions and made orders relating to adoption, lunacy, probation etc. In 1974 they were replaced by the Magistrates Courts.

The Blackburn County Petty Session division included Livesey and Pleasington, as well as many places outside the present borough of Blackburn with Darwen. In 1960 it joined with Church to become Blackburn with Church Petty Sessional division. Darwen also had both borough and county sessions.

These records are not all fully open to public inspection.

### Courts of Petty Sessions before 1974

Our Reference	Court	Description
PSBK	Blackburn Borough Petty Sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>minutes 1900-1946; registers 1914-1974; licensing registers 1872-1932; filiation and maintenance orders 1845-1935; approved school orders; probation of offenders register 1908-1957; adoption of children registers 1927-1960; lunacy proceedings registers 1934-1960; account books</li> </ul>
PSBL	Blackburn Hundred/County Petty Sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>minutes 1918-1953; chairmen's notebooks 1956-1968; registers 1880-1974; court files 1949-1967; committal and appeal papers 1960s; licensing: minute books 1872-1934; registers 1931-1960; files 1953-1966; plans of licensed premises including hotels, public houses, cinemas, theatres and clubs; register of maintenance orders 1861-1867; financial records, 1940s-1969</li> </ul>
PSDA	Darwen Petty Sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>minutes 1906-1954; registers 1881-1973; files 1944-1967; domestic court minutes 1960-1980; licensing: minutes 1881-1947; registers 1905-1962; files 1904-1967; plans of licensed premises including hotels, public houses, cinemas, theatres and clubs; financial records; adoption registers 1927-1978</li> </ul>

## Magistrates Courts after 1974

Our Reference	Court	Description
PSBK	Blackburn and Darwen Magistrates Court	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>registers 1974-1979; juvenile court registers to 1977</li> </ul>

Date	Particulars of Licences	Name and Situation of Property	Annual Value of Premises	Name and Address of Owner of Premises	Name of Holder of Licence
22nd August 1872	Beer House	Rose Road 2, Blackgate	£14. 7. 0	Thomas Mutton & Co Salford Brewery	Henry Lonsdale
do	do	Bay Horse Inn 72, New St	£16. 10. 0	Johns & Hudson Blackburn	Thomas Edmondson
do	do	Revolution Tavern 131 Union Buildings	£17. 13. 0	Daniel Hunsley & Co Lancaster Brewery	William Edmondson
do	do	Knights of Honor 47, High Street S.	£17. 13. 0	Joseph Tompfit Blackburn	James Edworth
do	do	Yarwick Street 81, Dickson St	£17. 13. 0	Daniel Hunsley & Co Lancaster Brewery	John Fish

Page from the Blackburn Borough Petty Sessions licensing register, 22 Aug 1872 (PSBK7/1)

## Blackburn County Court

County Courts, often referred to as 'small claims courts' deal with civil matters, such as: claims for debt repayment, personal injury, breach of contract concerning goods or property, housing disputes, and family issues including divorce and adoption.

These records are not all fully open to public inspection.

Our Reference	Description
CYBN 2/1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Workmen's Compensation Acts registers 1898-1971</li> </ul>
CYBN 2/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Workmen's Compensation Acts files 1902-1947</li> </ul>
CYBN 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bankruptcy register 1934-1981</li> </ul>
CYBN 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Register of winding-up orders 1891-1940</li> </ul>
CYBN 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Register of equity suits and other proceedings 1942-1983 (CLOSED for 30 years)</li> </ul>
CYBN 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Registers of actions 1907-1969 (some CLOSED)</li> </ul>
CYBN 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Judges' notebooks 1930-1940</li> </ul>

## Coroners Courts

The coroner is a doctor or lawyer appointed by the Crown to be responsible for investigating deaths in particular situations. He may arrange for a *post mortem* examination of the body and if necessary hold an inquest, a legal inquiry, into the causes and circumstances of a death. Coroners also hold inquests into treasure trove.

Lancashire Record Office holds some registers of deaths and inquest files for the Blackburn with Darwen area. Although access to these is typically restricted for 75 years, information may be made available sooner than this in certain circumstances.

Until 1974, Blackburn with Darwen was covered by the Blackburn Coroner's district.

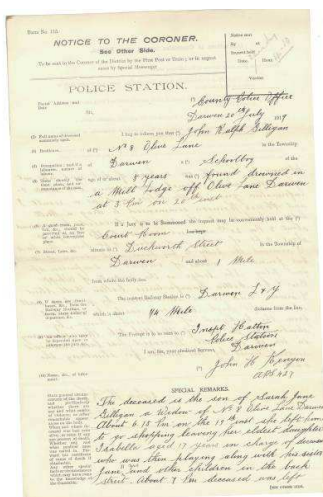
Our Reference	Description
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CR 14/1	Registers of deaths 1950-1974
CR 14/2	Inquest files 1919, 1956-1974

From 1974, Blackburn with Darwen became part of the Blackburn, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley Coroner's district.

Our Reference	Description
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CR 19/1	Registers of deaths 1975-2002
CR 19/2	Inquest files 1975-1993
CR 19/3	Accounts ledgers 1993-1994
CR 19/4	Summaries of expenses 1983



Coroner's inquest report on John Ralph Gilligan aged 5, of Darwen, 1919 (CR14/2/12)

## Probate Records

Before 1858 wills were proved in various church courts around the country. Lancashire Record Office holds original probate documentation – wills, inventories, letters of administration etc - for many of the people from the Blackburn and Darwen areas who died between the mid-sixteenth century and 1858. As this area lies south of the River Ribble most of these wills would have been proved in the Archdeaconry of Chester.

Indexes to these archives have been published by the Record Society of Lancashire and Cheshire. The documents are held in Lancashire Record Office and copies can usually be supplied for a fee.

Partial online indexes are available at:

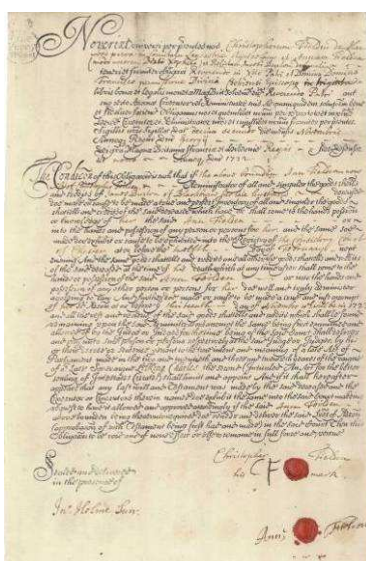
<http://www.xmission.com/~nelsonb/lws.htm>

and on LANCAT (the Lancashire Record Office catalogue):

[http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/education/record\\_office/services/catalogue.asp](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/education/record_office/services/catalogue.asp)

In 1858 the probate system changed and district probate registries were established. Lancashire Record Office holds a copy of the national probate index for England and Wales from 1858 to 1966. We do not hold original wills proved after January 1858 but do have probate registers, which include copies of the wills etc., for the Lancaster Probate Registry, 1858-1938, and the Liverpool Probate Registry 1875-1940.

Copies of wills and letters of administration proved after 12 January 1858 can be obtained from the York Probate Sub-registry, Castle Chambers, Clifford Street, York, YO1 9RG and online at: [www.hmcourts-service.gov.uk/cms/wills.htm](http://www.hmcourts-service.gov.uk/cms/wills.htm)



*Administration bond for James Burton of Blackburn, 1722 (WCW)*



## Education Records

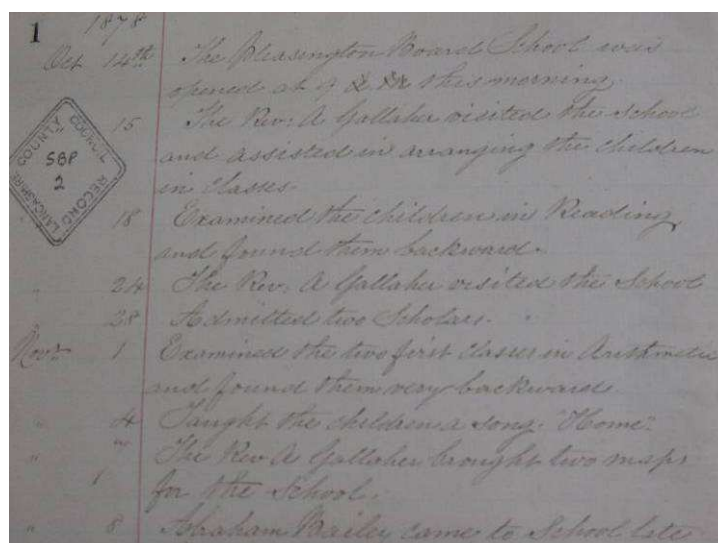
### School Boards

School boards were set up in England and Wales under the Elementary Education Act 1870 following campaigning for elementary education free from "Anglican doctrine". They were created in boroughs and parishes and members were directly elected. Each board could:

- raise funds from a rate
- build and run schools
- subsidise church schools where appropriate
- pay the fees of the poorest children
- create a bye-law making attendance compulsory between the ages of 5-13 if they deemed it necessary
- not impose any religious education, other than simple Bible reading

School boards were abolished by the Education Act 1902, which passed responsibility to local authorities - Blackburn County Borough Council for schools within the borough and Lancashire County Council for those outside.

Our Reference	School Board	School
SBA	Belmont	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minute book 1896-1903</li> </ul>
SBE	Edgworth United	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minute books 1874-1903</li> <li>• Wesleyan evening school log book 1898- 1900</li> </ul>
SBP	Pleasington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minute books 1876-1926</li> <li>• Pleasington Provided school log book 1878-1933</li> </ul>



Extract from Pleasington school log book, 1878 (SBP 12)

## Individual Schools

Many schools from Blackburn with Darwen have deposited records at Lancashire Record Office. Minutes of school governors' meetings will be found among the records of Lancashire County Council (CC/EXDA and LCC14/8). We also hold records of many Sunday schools in the borough; these will usually be found among the appropriate church archives.

Several collections, but not all, include admission registers and school log books. Check the full catalogue listing to see what we hold for each school. These catalogues are also available online at:

[http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/education/record\\_office/services/catalogue.asp](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/education/record_office/services/catalogue.asp)

Area	Our Reference	School
Belmont	LCC 14/8	• Belmont CP
	UDTU 9	• Belmont National
Blackburn	SMBZ 8	• Blackamoor Special
	SMBZ 5; DRB acc 9661	• Blackburn Emmanuel CE
	SMBZ 3 PR 1549; PR 1551	• Blackburn Holy Trinity CE (Trinity National school)
	CUL 8/42	• Blackburn Park Road Congregational
	PR 1551; PR1549/12	• Blackburn St Clements CE
	SMBZ 11	• Blackburn St James CE
	SMBZ 10; CBBN	• Blackburn St John CE
	SMBZ 6	• Blackburn St Luke CE
	DDX 654/2	• Blackburn St Matthews Infant
	CBBN acc 8131	• Blackburn St Peter RC
	CBBN acc 8131	• Blackburn, St Silas
	SMBZ 9	• Blackburn Girls High School
	DDBK; DDX 1457	• Blackburn Grammar School (Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School)
	PR 3073	• Blackburn Grimshaw Park Girls' Charity
DP 326/10	• Blackburn Independent Academy	
SMBZ 2; DDX 1944	• Lammack (Four Lane Ends) CP	
Darwen	SMDA 14	• Darwen Avondale Road Senior Girls
	SMDA 7	• Belgrave British
	SMDA 15	• Darwen Blackburn Road Wesleyan
	SMDA 22	• Darwen Blacksnape
	SMDA 12	• Darwen Bolton Road British
	SMDA 2	• Darwen Duckworth Street Council
	SMDA 17	• Darwen Duckworth Street Commercial Evening

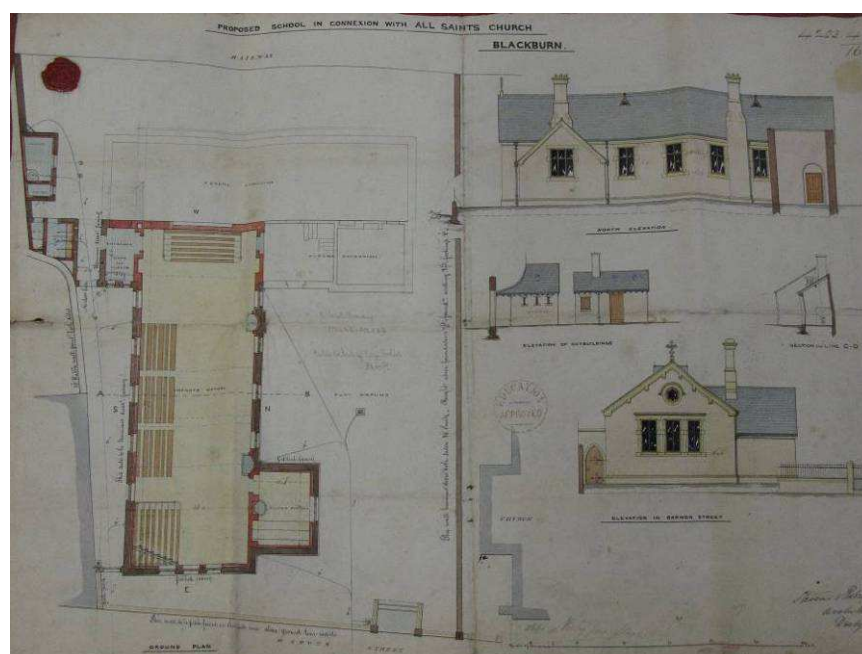
Area	Our Reference	School
Darwen	SMDA 4	• Earcroft CE
	SMDA 18	• Darwen Holy Trinity CE
	SMDA 6	• Darwen Lower Chapel British
	SMDA 20	• Darwen St Barnabas, Culvert Street CE
	SMDA 9	• Darwen St Cuthbert CE
	SMDA 21	• Darwen St Edward RC
	SMDA19	• Darwen St George CE
	SMDA 5; PR 2878	• Darwen St James CE
	SMDA 16; SMDA 24	• Darwen St John CE
	SMDA 3	• Darwen St Joseph RC (formerly St William)
	DDX 2379	• Darwen Technical School
	SMDA 13	• Highfield Congregational
	SMDA10	• Hoddlesden St Paul CE
	SMDA 11	• Hollins British (later Hollins Grove)
	SMDA 7	• Sandhills British
	SMDA 23	• Darwen Technical
	SMDA 1	• Tullyallan Open Air
SMDA 17	• Wesleyan Central	
Edgworth	SME	• Edgworth National Children's home (later Crowthorn)
	CC/EXDA 8	• Eagley County
	DDX 1496	• Hob Lane County
Feniscowles	SME 2	• Edgworth Wesleyan
	SMLS 2; EXRI 38	• Feniscowles Council
Little Harwood	PR 2846	• Feniscowles Immanuel
	SMBZ 7	• Myope Little Harwood
Livesey	SMBZ 4	• Little Harwood St Stephens CE
	SMLS	• St Francis CE, Cherry Tree (formerly Immanuel)
Pleasington	PR2656	• Pleasington
Tockholes	PR3149; SMTK	• Tockholes St Stephens CE (formerly National school)
Turton	SME3;	• Turton St Anne CE
Witton	SMBZ 1	• Witton CE infants
Yate and Pickup Bank	SMYA	• Belthorn Independent Chapel school
Various	DDX 76	• Various private schools

**Please note that access to material which contains sensitive information about pupils or staff is restricted.**

## School Plans

From 1839 the central government Committee on Education provided building grants towards the cost of erecting or improving the schools of the various religious and voluntary bodies. Applicants were required to submit plans of proposed buildings. Lancashire Record Office has a number of these school building grant plans for the Blackburn and Darwen areas.

Our Reference	School	Date
SP31	• Blackburn All Saints	1871
SP32	• Blackburn Bank Top	1855
SP33	• Blackburn Christ Church	1857
SP34	• Blackburn Holy Trinity	1841-1872
SP35	• Blackburn St John	1844
SP36	• Blackburn St Michael	1848-1871
SP37	• Blackburn St Peter	1871
SP38	• Blackburn, St Peter's Street Wesleyan	1860
SP39	• Blackburn St Thomas	1866
SP40	• Blackburn Wensley Fold	nd
SP97	• Darwen, Holy Trinity	1860
SP96	• Hoddlesden, Darwen	1851
SP103	• Edgworth Wesleyan	1861



Portion of plan for All Saints church school, Blackburn, 1871 (SP31)

## Poor Law Records

The 'Old Poor Law', dating from the Elizabethan period established the principle of local responsibility for poor relief and a distinction between the deserving and undeserving poor - the latter category including vagrants, beggars and those who refused to work.

The legislation was administered by overseers of the poor appointed by the justices of the peace. Records relating to poor law administration, including accounts, rate books, payments, affiliation papers and apprenticeship indentures, can often be found among parish church archives and parish council records, as well as in the series of Lancashire Quarter Sessions petitions.

Our Reference	Place	Description
UDTU 9	Belmont	• Poor rates 1914
PR1560	Blackburn	• Settlement certificates 1699-1802
PR 1559	Blackburn	• Removal orders 1706-1806; vagrant passes 1729 -1802
PR 1561	Blackburn	• Poor Law papers 1694-1751; subscriptions for workhouse 1764
PR 1558	Blackburn	• Apprenticeship indentures 1708-1805; bastardy bonds 1690-1798; filiation and maintenance orders 1751-1803
PR 3073/7/1	Blackburn	• Overseers of the poor accounts 1749-1754
PR1559/1	Blackburn	• Orders for relief of militiamen's families 1793-1801
UDTU	Edgworth	• Overseers of the poor receipt and payment books 1866-1912; poor rates 1914
PR 843	Little Harwood	• Poor rate book 1834
CTL7/14	Over Darwen	• Overseers accounts 1811
PR2653	Pleasington	• Apprenticeship indentures 1731-1829
PR2654	Pleasington	• Bastardy papers 1769-1830
PR2655	Pleasington	• Poor law papers 1738-1829
PR 2761	Tockholes	• Settlement certificates 1677-1830; settlement depositions 1800-1826; removal orders 1693-1852; appointments of overseers and guardians of the poor 1802-1854; militia compensation papers 1803-1815; warrants for distress of rates 1811-1820; rate books 1838-1849; apprenticeship indentures 1730-1815; bastardy bonds 1704-1777
UDTU 19	Turton	• Goose Cote Hill Workhouse and poor accounts 1794- 1853
UDTU 18	Turton	• Overseers receipt and payment books 1859-1902; poor rate account 1824-1829; poor rates 1914

## Boards of Guardians of the Poor

The Poor Law Amendment Act 1834 replaced the local administration by overseers of the poor with new poor law unions, covering a much larger area, which were intended to set up workhouses for the able-bodied poor. These were managed by boards of guardians elected by the ratepayers. Poor Law Commissioners supervised the work of the new Boards of Guardians and issued orders on how the new law should be administered.

Blackburn Poor Law Union was established in 1836 and included Darwen and Accrington. A new workhouse was built on Haslingden Road in 1864 and later became Queen's Park Hospital. Lancashire Record Office holds many records relating to the administration of the Poor Law Union.

<b>Our Reference</b>	<b>Poor Law Union</b>	<b>Description</b>
PUK	Blackburn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Minutes and committee minutes 1837-1930; letter book 1837-1861; ledgers and financial records 1837-1930; valuation lists 1862-1880; rate books 1812-1885; declarations of acceptance of office 1894-1933; newspaper cuttings 1893-1894; plan of workhouse 1882</li></ul>
HRBQ	Blackburn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Register and records of inmates from 1885 [see also <i>Queens Park hospital</i>]</li></ul>



## Hospital Records

Some local hospitals have deposited records at Lancashire Record Office. Access to material which contains sensitive information about patients is restricted for 100 years.

People suffering from mental illness would have been admitted to one of the Lancashire asylums or mental hospitals.

Our Reference	Hospital	Description
UDOS14	Blackburn Isolation hospital, Park Lee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Register of cases 1921-1941</li> </ul>
HRBQ	Blackburn Queen's Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registers and records of patients 1885-1964</li> <li>• Birth registers 1936-1952</li> <li>• Death registers 1914-1951</li> <li>• Minutes 1930-1948</li> <li>• Visitors' book 1948-1960</li> <li>• Staff records 1882-1950</li> </ul>
HRBK	Blackburn Royal Infirmary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minutes 1857-1948</li> <li>• Annual reports 1865-1947</li> <li>• Patients' registers and records 1924-1956</li> <li>• Mortuary registers 1948-1976</li> <li>• Financial records 1885-1957</li> <li>• Press cuttings 1911-1945</li> <li>• Visitors' report book 1920-1941</li> </ul>
HRBL	Blackburn and District Hospital Management committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minutes 1948-1974</li> <li>• Annual reports upon the health of Blackburn 1881-1973</li> <li>• Annual reports on the school medical service in Blackburn 1940-1973</li> </ul>
CHC	Blackburn, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley Community Health Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minutes, reports, consultations and surveys, correspondence and newscuttings 1974-2003</li> </ul>



*Order for the reception of Elizabeth Birtwistle of Blackburn into Whittingham Asylum, 1876 (HRW12/1/01518)*

## Turnpike Trusts

Turnpike Trusts were bodies set up by Act of Parliament with powers to collect tolls for maintaining the principal highways in Britain during the eighteenth and nineteenth century. At the peak in the 1830s, over 1000 trusts administered around 30,000 miles of turnpike road in England and Wales, taking tolls at almost 8000 toll-gates and side-bars.

<b>Our Reference</b>	<b>Turnpike Trust</b>	<b>Description</b>
QDT 1	Blackburn and Burscough Bridge; Blackburn to Preston, Blackburn to Walton Cop; Blackburn, Padiham, Burnley. Colne and Yorkshire; Bolton to Blackburn; Bury and Blackburn; Bury, Haslingden Blackburn and Whalley;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual statements of accounts 1820s-1890 with gaps</li> </ul>
TTA	Bury, Haslingden Blackburn and Whalley;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes 1789-1875; note book of accounts and trustees 1820-1840</li> </ul>
TTB	Clitheroe and Blackburn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes 1845-1881; mortgage book 1823-1871; plan of toll roads</li> </ul>
TTE	Blackburn and Burscough Bridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Order book 1755-1793; account books 1755-1803</li> </ul>
TTJ	Blackburn to Preston	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plans, documents re Bill 1824; minutes 1824-1842; Act for maintaining the road 1852</li> </ul>
DDBD 57	Blackburn to Addingham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accounts, statements of expenditure and toll lettings 1817-1872</li> </ul>
DDX 680	Blackburn and Cocking End	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Toll books 1847, 1860s-1880</li> </ul>

## Water Boards

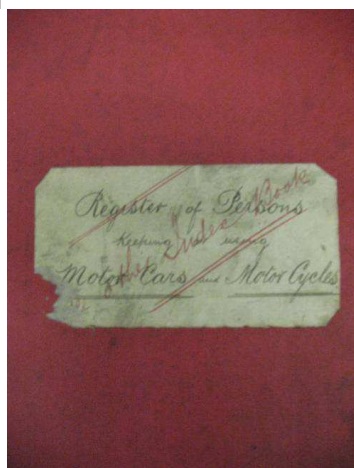
Blackburn and Darwen both had their own waterworks and records can be found among the local authority archives. Blackburn Corporation Waterworks amalgamated with the Fylde Water Board in 1960 and Darwen Waterworks transferred to the board in 1962. Further archives can therefore be found among the archives of Fylde Water Board

Our Reference	Description
WBF30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Blackburn Corporation Waterworks records including rainfall returns for Blackburn and the Bowland catchment area 1882-1958; report on reservoir inspection 1933; plans of purification plant at Wilpshire sewage plant</li></ul>
WBF 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Darwen Borough waterworks records: guage books for the Sunnyhurst Ley and Earnsdale reservoirs 1893-1959</li></ul>

## Motor Vehicle Licensing

The DVLA (Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency) was established in 1969. Before that, and for some years afterwards, vehicle registration in Blackburn was administered by the county borough council.

Our Reference	Description
VLBK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Index to missing register of keepers and users of cars and motor cycles 1903-1905</li><li>File of declarations for corporation tramcar licences 1923-2935; 1937-1949</li><li>Registers of issues of index marks 1954-1974</li><li>Vehicle index cards for withdrawn vehicles, CB series 1921-1974</li><li>Vehicle index cards for withdrawn vehicles, BV series 1932-1974</li><li>Vehicle index cards - later series 1940-1964</li></ul>



*Index to register of persons keeping and using motor cars and motor cycles 1903-1905 (VLBK1/1)*

## 1910 Finance Act records

The Finance Act 1910 included provision for taxing increases in the value of land by carrying out a baseline assessment. District Valuation officers valued all property in England and Wales and the information is kept at The National Archives. Large-scale working maps and registers of duties on land values, known as 'domesday books', which give a brief description of each property and the names of the owner and occupier are held in Lancashire Record Office.

Blackburn was in the Blackburn Valuation district while Darwen was in Accrington Valuation district. Records for Belmont, Edgworth and Turton are held in Greater Manchester County Record Office.

<b>Our Reference</b>	<b>Description</b>
DVAC 1/2	• Valuation books and apportionments for Darwen
DVBK	• Valuation books and maps for Blackburn

## Insurance Committees

Insurance Committees were set up by the National Insurance Act 1911 to administer the national health insurance scheme. They were responsible for arranging medical benefit through local practitioners and sickness, disablement and maternity benefit.

<b>Our Reference</b>	<b>Description</b>
ICBB	• Blackburn Insurance Committee, minutes 1912-1948; financial records 1913-1948

## Rating Assessment Committees

The Inland Revenue set up Rating Assessment Committees to supervise the work of the rating authorities and to revise valuations

<b>Our Reference</b>	<b>Description</b>
RA3	• Blackburn Rating Assessment Committee minutes 1941-1946; sketch books of premises for rating purposes 1920s-1930s

## Church Records

Lancashire Record Office holds registers of baptism, marriage and burial for many Church of England, Roman Catholic and Nonconformist churches in the Blackburn with Darwen areas.

A comprehensive guide to the church registers we hold is available online at:  
[http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/education/record\\_office/records/folk.asp](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/education/record_office/records/folk.asp)

Church archives often also contain many other types of material – administrative and financial records, photographs, plans, parish magazines, churchyard plans etc - as well as the church registers.

Catalogues for many of our church collections can be found online on LANCAT (the Lancashire Record Office catalogue):  
[http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/education/record\\_office/services/catalogue.asp](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/education/record_office/services/catalogue.asp)

On A2A at:  
<http://www.a2a.org.uk/>

Lancashire Record Office has been designated as diocesan record office for the Anglican diocese of Blackburn. In addition to holding records from individual churches in the diocese, the Record Office also holds Blackburn Diocesan administrative records (DRB) and records for Blackburn Area Deanery (RUBN) and Darwen Deanery Chapter (PR3147 acc 9706).

Lancashire Record Office also functions as diocesan record office for the Roman Catholic diocese of Salford, which includes the Blackburn and Darwen area. In addition to holding records from individual churches in the diocese, the Record Office holds 'register returns' for many of the Roman Catholic parishes among the diocesan archive collection (RCSF). Not all of these are fully open to public inspection.

The Record Office also holds a lot of non-register material for Non-Conformist churches including:

- Circuit plans, minutes and other administrative records from the 1780s for Blackburn Methodist Circuit (MBN), and for Darwen Methodist Circuit (MDA)
- Records of the Blackburn Preparative meeting of the Society of Friends, 1824-1979 (FRP18). This meeting was affiliated to the Preston Monthly Meeting until 2002 and to the Marsden Monthly Meeting from 1 Jan 2003; records relating to Blackburn Quakers will be found in those collections.
- Congregational Union administrative records for Blackburn district, 1830-1972 (CUBK) as well as non-register material for Congregational and United Reformed churches in Blackburn (CUBL), Darwen (CUDA) and Edgworth (CUED).

## Church Registers

The following tables summarise the holdings of church registers held at Lancashire Record Office for churches in the Blackburn with Darwen area – these are in a variety of formats:

- Original registers
- Microfiche and microfilm
- Typed or printed transcripts and indexes

A more detailed guide, giving format information, can be found online at:

[http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/education/record\\_office/records/folk.asp](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/education/record_office/records/folk.asp)

### Anglican Church Registers – *Diocese of Blackburn*

Church	Reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
Blackburn, All Saints	PR3088	1872-1979	1872-1964	
Blackburn, Christchurch	PR3074	1859-1995	1860-1975	
Blackburn Hollin Bank Mission [no registers held]	PR 3423			
Blackburn, Holy Trinity	PR3022; PR3076	1845-1962	1854-1980	1852-1859; 1946-1950
Blackburn, St Barnabas	PR3077		1887-1920	
Blackburn, St Gabriel	PR3078	1928-1976	1933-1973	
Blackburn, St James	PR3079	1864-1972	1875-1987	
Blackburn, St John the Evangelist	PR3001	1789-1975	1854-1974	1789-1947
Blackburn, St Jude	PR3080	1901-1932	1915-1940	
Blackburn, St Luke	PR3082	1861-1955	1878-1952	
Blackburn, St Mark	PR3084	1838-1914	1854-1916	
Blackburn, St Mary the Virgin (cathedral)	PR3073	1569-1909	1601-1951	1601-1951
Blackburn, St Matthew	PR3075	1886-1971	1887-1970	
Blackburn, St Michael and All Angels	PR3002; PR3085	1839-1965	1855-1954	1859-1872
Blackburn, St Paul	PR3340	1792-1955	1854-1955	1792-1912
Blackburn, St Peter	PR3087	1821-1981	1854-1973	1821-1947
Blackburn, St Philip	PR3083	1880-1974	1881-1974	
Blackburn, St Silas	PR3428	1886-1989	1909-1971	
Blackburn, St Stephen	PR3090	1892-1983	1909-2000	
Blackburn, St Thomas	PR3081	1865-1983	1866-1980	1953-1982

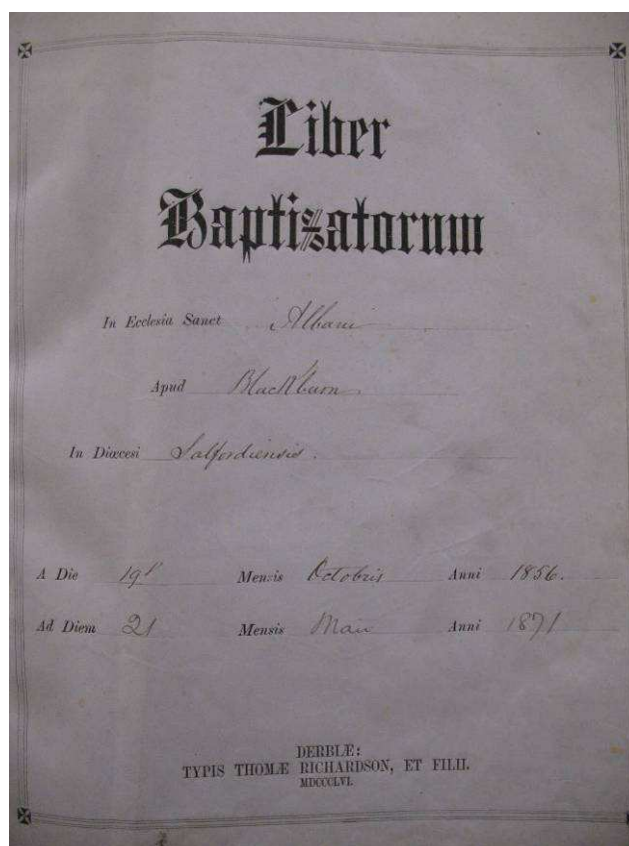


Church	Reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
Blackburn, The Redeemer	PR3341	1982-1999	1982-2001	
Blackburn, The Saviour	PR3091	1901-1971	1923-1968	
Darwen Lower, St James	PR3148	1829-1983	1838-1981	1829-1952
Darwen, Over, St Barnabas	PR3141	1898-1954	1911-1953	
Darwen, Over, St Cuthbert	PR3142; PR3149	1872-1958	1878-1968	
Darwen, Over, St George	PR3144	1903-1974	1904-1973	
Darwen, Over, St James	PR2878; PR3143	1781-1961	1838-1948	1781-1931
Darwen, Over, St John the Evangelist	PR2836; PR3144	1864-1974	1865-1974	
Darwen, Over, St Peter (formerly Holy Trinity)	PR3036; PR3144	1829-1958	1837-1979	1829-1981
Ewood, St Bartholomew	PR3140	1910-1942	1911-1958	
Feniscliffe, St Francis	PR3146	1887-1909	1894-1945	
Feniscowles, Immanuel	PR2846; PR3137	1836-1977	1838-2007	
Hoddlesden, St Paul	PR3145	1863-1913	1863-1969	1863-1933
Livesey, St Andrew	PR3139	1877-1924	1877-1007	
Mill Hill, St Aidan	PR3138	1930-1975	1930-1980	
Tockholes, St Stephen	PR3149	1771-1993	1840-1970	1786-1990

**Please note** that **Belmont** and **Turton** parishes are in the diocese of Manchester and that their registers and records are likely to be in Manchester Central Library.

## Roman Catholic Church Registers – RC Diocese of Salford

Church	Reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials/Deaths
Audley, St Joseph	MF1/164	1874-1939		
Blackburn, Our Lady of Perpetual Succour	RCBQ			1955-1985
Blackburn, St Alban	RCBK	1783-1893	1826-1856	1827-1837
Blackburn, St Anne	RCBD	1862-1925	1852-1930	
Darwen, Sacred Heart and St Edward	MF1/207	1878-1923	1882-1941	
Darwen, St Joseph (formerly St William)	MF1/208-9	1871-1941	1870-1941	
Islington, St Mary	RCBQ	1861-1940	1862-1986	
Mill Hill, St Peter in chains	MF1/165-6	1889-1942	1889-1941	
Pleasington, St Mary and St John the Baptist (Pleasington Priory)	RCPL	1817-1906	1846-1852	1819-1980
Turton, St Aldhelm	RCMR3	1987-1990		



Front pages of the baptism register of St Alban's RC church Blackburn (RCBK1/1)

## Non-Conformist Church Registers

Church	Reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
Belmont Congregational	CUBT4	No registers	no registers	no registers
Blackburn Apostolic	NMR6/1		1981-1988	
Blackburn, Montague Street Baptist	BMR2	1942-1959		
Blackburn, Audley Range Congregational	CUBL3	1892-1895	1891-1895	
Blackburn, Brownhill Congregational	CUBL4	1929-1988		
Blackburn, James Street Congregational	CUBL1	1842-1960	1859-1860	death certs 1850-1922
Blackburn, Park Road Congregational	CUBL2/1	1936-1965		
Blackburn Chapel Street Independent	CUBL5 MF1/66	1777-1837		1785-1878
Blackburn Primitive Methodist (Ebenezer)	MF1/66a	1824-1837		
Blackburn, Altom Street Wesleyan Methodist	MMR5/1-6		1899-1964	
Blackburn, Bentham Road Methodist	MMR5		1959-1996	
Blackburn, Clayton Street Wesleyan Methodist	MBN3/1 MMR5/	1784-1956	1849-1958	1786-1853
Blackburn, Derby Street United Methodist	MMR5	1957-1973		
Blackburn, Fore Street United Methodist	MMR5		1899-2000	
Blackburn, Griffin Street Methodist	MBL	no registers	no registers	no registers
Blackburn, Harwood Street Wesleyan Methodist	MBN11/1 MMR5	1868-1958	1879-1958	
Blackburn, Montague Street Primitive Methodist (Zion)	MBN34 MMR5	1867-1938	1926-1938	
Blackburn, Paradise Lane United Methodist	MBN33 MMR5	1880-1967	1931-1969	
Blackburn, Preston New Road Trinity Methodist	MBN32 MMR5	1879-1964	1879-1964	
Blackburn, Waterfall Buildings	MMR5		1923-1944	
Blackburn, St George's Presbyterian	DDX 2508			
Blackburn, Society of Friends Preparative Meeting	FRP 19/1	births 1839-1923		1828-1935
Blackburn Kingdom Hall Jehovah's Witnesses	NMR8		1973-1999	
Blackburn Synagogue	P188		1896-1943	

<b>Church</b>	<b>Reference</b>	<b>Christenings</b>	<b>Marriages</b>	<b>Burials</b>
Darwen, Bolton Road Baptist	BDA1/1 BMR14/1		1919-1994	
Darwen Ebenezer Chapel Congregational	MF1/65-6	1750-1837		1793-1794
Darwen Lower Chapel Independent/Cong.	CUDA MF1/66	1751-1951	1879-1994	1751-1819
Darwen, Belgrave Independent Meeting House	CUDA	no registers	no registers	no registers
Darwen Primitive Methodist Circuit	MDA2/1	1839-1900		
Darwen Wesleyan Methodist Circuit	MDA1/1-3	1794-1877		1794-1837
Darwen, Lower, United Methodist	MDA12/1		1877-1893	
Darwen, Blackburn Road, Wesleyan Methodist	MDA4/1-2 MMR16	1894-1965	1905-1965	
Darwen, Bolton Road, Wesleyan Methodist	MDA5/1 MMR 16	1876-1946	1885-1952	
Darwen, Duckworth Street United Free Methodist	MDA11 MMR16	1869-1939	1899-1940	
Darwen, Lynwood, Hollins Road, United Methodist	MDA13/1 MMR16	1907-1967	1934-1967	
Darwen, Park Road Primitive Methodist	MDA8/1 MMR16	1900-1979	1912-1980	
Darwen, Railway Road, Wesleyan Methodist	MDA7/1		1883-1931	
Darwen, Redearth Road, Primitive Methodist	MDA9 MMR16	1899-1963	1912-1960	1849-1861
Darwen, Spring Vale Primitive Methodist		no registers	no registers	no registers
Darwen URC chapels	URMR4/1		1994-2002	
Edgworth Independent/ Congregational	MF1/70 CUED1/2	1807-1837 1885-1928	1897-1928	1887-1924
Ewood, Kidder Street Wesleyan Methodist	MBN8 MMR5	1888-1965	1927-1964	
Higher Audley, Oxford Street Primitive Methodist	MMR5		1928-1972	
Higher Croft, Manxman Road Methodist	MMR5		1966	
Hoddlesden Wesleyan Methodist	MDA6/1	1886-1950		
Islington Particular Baptist	MF1/5	1772-1837		1764-1837
Little Harwood, Benson Street, Wesleyan Methodist	MBN18 MMR5	1880-1970	1914-1970	
Livesey, St Andrew, Free Church of England	FCL	1894-1966		
Pickup Bank Congregational	CUDA4		1909-1979	

## Sound Archives

The North West Sound Archive is based at Clitheroe Castle. It has extensive collections relating to Blackburn with Darwen, with hundreds of sound recordings and interviews with local people.

Some examples:

**Samuel J Wadsworth, 1896-1961, professional footballer born Darwen**

He reads his autobiographical manuscript, recalling training and representing St Cuthbert's school, Darwen at football; professional players Jockey Simpson, Billy Meredith and Bob Crompton.

*1992.0011*

**Betsy Barton, born 26 Dec 1886**

Recalls the Guide area of Blackburn; grandfather, a collier; funerals; Boer War; work in the mill; politics; education; pawn shops; unions; trams.

*1993.0019*

**Jim Standen, born Blackburn 1933, fish and chip shop owner**

Recalls early days of the fish and chip trade in Blackburn.

*1995.0214*

**Polly Oldham, born 25 Oct 1896, Blackburn**

Describes family life, children's games, Christmas and work as a weaver

*1995.0220*

**Ida Shaw, born Blackburn**

Moved to Darwen aged 6; recounts her work in Greenfield Mill, where her father was manager, on the sewing machine and as a winder and warper; describes an air raid in World War II and Gandhi's visit

*1998.0131*

**Winifred Baxter**

Recalls Blackburn Chamber of Trade exhibition in 1938 and describes her hosiery business and stalls on Blackburn Market

*1998.0099*

More information about the Sound Archive can be found at:

[http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/education/record\\_office/about/archive.asp](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/education/record_office/about/archive.asp)

**contact details:**

North West Sound Archive, Clitheroe Castle, Clitheroe BB7 1AZ

Phone: 01200 42789

Email: [NWSA@ed.lancscc.gov.uk](mailto:NWSA@ed.lancscc.gov.uk)

## Blackburn with Darwen Library and Information Service



Both Blackburn Central Library and Darwen Library hold a wealth of material for local and family history research. The main sources are:

- Newspapers dating back to 1793, many of which have been microfilmed.
- Census returns from 1841-1901 for the local area. These are available on microfilm for all years and microfiche for 1881, 1891 and 1901.
- General Register Office index (St. Catherine's House index) of births, marriages and deaths from 1837-2004 - on microfiche.
- Copies of parish registers for a selection of churches in Blackburn Diocese - on microfiche.
- Registers of Electors for Blackburn from 1857 to date.
- Trade directories from 1818-1966.
- Maps in different scales and from various dates - 1737 to date
- Copies of cemetery records for the municipal cemeteries of Blackburn, Darwen and Pleasington from 1857-1999 - on microfilm.

The Cottontown website [www.cottontown.org](http://www.cottontown.org) is an extensive digital archive resource covering the local history of both towns, including more than 18,000 images.

Ancestry Library edition - can be accessed via any of the public access computers in all of the Borough's libraries as well as .These are free to use and can be booked in advance as can the microfiche and microfilm machines. (Ancestry is also available free of charge in Lancashire Record Office)

### **Blackburn Library opening hours**

<b>Monday</b>	9am - 7pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	9am - 7pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	9am - 7pm
<b>Thursday</b>	9am - 5.30pm
<b>Friday</b>	9am - 5.30pm
<b>Saturday</b>	9am - 5.30pm
<b>Sunday</b>	10am - 4pm

**Phone:** 01254 661221 or 587919/587959

**Email:** [community.history@blackburn.gov.uk](mailto:community.history@blackburn.gov.uk)

### **Darwen Library opening hours**

<b>Monday</b>	9.30am - 7pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	9.30am - 1pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	9.30am - 7pm
<b>Thursday</b>	9.30am - 5pm
<b>Friday</b>	9.30am - 5pm
<b>Saturday</b>	9.30am - 4.30pm

**Phone:** 01254 706021

**Email:** [darwen.library@blackburn.gov.uk](mailto:darwen.library@blackburn.gov.uk)

For more information about the services offered by Blackburn with Darwen Library and Information Service, check out [www.blackburn.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.blackburn.gov.uk/libraries) or telephone 01254 661221.

*Jmc Nov 2010*