

Bradford Local Studies Library

Trade and Telephone Directories

Margaret McMillan Tower, Princes Way, Bradford, BD1 1NN 01274 433688 localstudies@bradford.gov.uk

www.bradford.gov.uk/libraries



Trade Directories

The collection of local trade directories at Bradford Local Studies Library ranges from the early 19th century to the 1970s. Post Office Directories and Kelly's Directories for Bradford form the main collection but it also includes several 'History, Gazetteer & Directory of the West Riding' and 'Leeds and Clothing District' Directories. Some specialist textile directories are also held such as 'Bradford Exchange Co. Ltd.' 1916-1975, 'Skinners Wool Trade' and 'Worrall's Yorkshire Textile Director' 1910-1971.

The amount of information contained varies according to the date and compiler. Early directories may contain a general account of the district, usually with population statistics, details of local government, an alphabetical list of streets, an alphabetical list of residents (though not comprehensive) and a classified trades section.

Directories published after about 1880, and particularly the 'Post Office Directories', are much more detailed, and in addition to the features listed above usually include the following: advertisements, political information; information about religious institutions, local societies, clubs, theatres, libraries, cemeteries and transport. In addition there may be brief accounts of surrounding villages. A map was usually included with the directories. These have been taken out and are filed in the map collection.

After the Second World War, many firms ceased to produce local directories due to the difficulty of keeping information up-to-date. In the post-war period the Barrett directories began to appear and from 1935 telephone directories supplement these.

Directories are for reference only. Please ask the staff if you cannot see the one that you want on the shelves

Leicester University have compiled a collection of digitised trade directories covering England and Wales from 1766-1919. The collection includes certain Bradford and Yorkshire directories which are available at the Leicester University website: **specialcollections.le.ac.uk.** These are marked in the list below (Leicester University online).

1792	Universal British Directory (Bradford)
1793-8	Universal British Directory - microfiche edition
1798	Leeds Directory (reprint) (Leicester University online)
1809	W. Holden. Triennial Directory, 1809-1811
1822	Baines & Parson. History, Directory and Gazetteer of the County of York. Two vols (vol. 1 covers the West Riding, vol. 2, the East and North Ridings) (Leicester University online)
1828	J Pigot. National Commercial Directory (Covers N. England

1830	Parson & White. Directory of the Borough of Leeds and the Clothing Districts of Yorkshire, including Bradford
1834	J. Pigot. National London & Provincial Directory. (Extract covers Bradford only.
1835	J. Pigot. National Commercial Directory
1837	W. White. History, Gazetteer and Directory of the West Riding (2 vols)
1841	J. Pigot. Royal National and Commercial Directory (Leicester University online)
1942	W. White. Directory and Topography of the Borough of Leeds and the Whole of the Clothing District. (Includes Bradford) (Leicester University online).
1845	J. Ibbetson. Directory of the Borough of Bradford. (Leicester University online)
1845	J.U.Walker. Directory of the Parish of Halifax (reprint)
1847	W. White. Directory and Topography of Leeds, Bradford, Halifax, Huddersfield, Wakefield and the Whole of the Clothing District
1850	J. Ibbetson. General and Classified Directory, Street List and History of Bradford. (Leicester University online)
1851	Collinson & Co. West Riding Worsted Directory. Includes 'A History of the Worsted Trade'
1852	Collinson & Co. West Riding of Yorkshire Woollen and Worsted Directory
1853	W. White. Directory and Gazetteer of Leeds, Bradford, Halifax, Huddersfield, Wakefield and the Whole of the Clothing District (Leicester University online) for 1854)
1854	I. Slater. Royal National Commercial Directory of the Northern Counties
1856	J & C. Lund. Bradford Directory. (Leicester University online)
1857	Kelly & Co. Post Office Directory of Yorkshire.
1861	Kelly & Co. Post Office Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire (Copy in fragile condition, available at discretion of staff)

1861	W. White. Directory and Topography of the Borough of Bradford, Keighley, Bingley and the surrounding towns and villages
1863	Jones & Proud. Jones's Mercantile Directory of Bradford, Baildon, Bingley, Keighley, Shipley etc.
1866	W. White. Directory of Leeds, Bradford, Huddersfield, Halifax, Wakefield, Dewsbury and all the parishes and villages. (Leicester University online)
1867	Kelly & Co. Post Office Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire. (Copy in fragile condition, available at discretion of staff)
1870	W. White. General and Commercial Directory of the Clothing Districts of Leeds, Bradford, Huddersfield, Halifax, Wakefield etc. (Copy in fragile condition, available at discretion of staff). (Leicester University online)
1871	Kelly & Co. Post Office Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire
1872	F. Smith. Directory of Bradford and neighbourhood
1875	I. Slater. Royal National Commercial Directory of the County of Yorkshire
1875	W. White. General and Commercial Directory of the Clothing Districts of Leeds, Bradford, Huddersfield, Halifax, Wakefield etc
1876	County Book of England and Official List. Yorkshire (West Riding), comprising every official person in the county
1877	Kelly & Co. Post Office Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire
1879	WM. Byles. Post Office Bradford Directory (One copy features foreword covering Court of Chancery case Kelly vs. Byles). (Leicester University online)
1881	Kelly & Co. Directory of Bradford and neighbourhood
1881	WM. White. General and Commercial Directory of Leeds, Bradford, Huddersfield, Halifax, Wakefield etc.
1883	WM. Byles. Post Office Bradford Directory (Leicester University online)
1884	A. Craven. Commercial & General Directory of Keighley, Bingley, Skipton and surrounding districts
1887	WM. Byles. Post Office Bradford Directory.

1887	WM. White. General and Commercial Directory of Bradford. (Leicester University online)
1888	Kelly & Co. Directory of Leeds and its neighbourhood (Leicester University online)
1889	Kelly & Co. Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire
1890	T. Bulmer & Co. History, Topography and Directory of North Yorkshire (Part one - Cleveland and Richmond, Part two - Malton, Scarborough, Tadcaster, Whitby etc.)
1891	WM. Byles. Post Office Bradford Directory (Leicester University online)
1893	WM. Byles. Post Office Bradford Directory
1893	Kelly & Co. Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire
1894	WM. Byles. Post Office Bradford Directory
1894	WM. White. Clothing District Directory (Leicester University online)
1898	WM. Byles. Post Office Bradford Directory (Leicester University online)
1900	WM. Byles. Post Office Bradford Directory
1901	Kelly's Directories Ltd. Directory of Bradford and suburbs
1902	Kelly's Dirctories Ltd. Directory of Bradford and suburbs
1903	WM. Byles. Post Office Bradford Directory
1906	WM. Byles. Post Office Bradford Directory
1906	Kelly's Directories Ltd. Manufacturers of Textile Fabrics of the United Kingdom
1908	Kelly's Directories Ltd. Directory of Leeds & Bradford
1908	Kelly's Directories Ltd. Directory of the West Riding
1909	WM. Byles. Post Office Bradford Directory
1911	White's Directory. Directory of Sheffield & Rotherham (Leicester University online)
1912	WM. Byles. Post Office Bradford Directory (Leicester University online)

1912	Kelly's Directories Ltd. Directory of Bradford and suburbs
1916	WM. Byles. Post Office Bradford Directory
1917	Kelly's Directories Ltd. Directory of Bradford and suburbs
1919	Town & County Directories Ltd. Leeds, Bradford & District Trades Directory
1921	WM. Byles. Post Office Bradford Directory
1922	Kelly's Directories Ltd. Directory of Bradford and suburbs
1922	Kelly's Directories Ltd. Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire
1923	WM. Byles. Post Office Bradford Directory
1924	WM. Byles. Post Office Bradford Directory
1925	Kelly's Directories Ltd. Directory of Leeds
1927	Kelly's Directories Ltd. Directory of Bradford and suburbs
1927	Kelly's Directories Ltd. Directory of the West Riding excluding Bradford, Leeds, Rotherham & Sheffield
1927	Town & County Directories Ltd. Bradford & District Trades' Directory
1928	WM. Byles. Post Office Bradford Directory
1928	Town & County Directories Ltd. Bradford & District Trades' Directory
1928	Kelly's Directories Ltd. Textile Industries throughout England, Scotland and Wales
1929	Town & County Directories Ltd. Bradford & District Trades' Directory
1930	Town & County Directories Ltd. Bradford & District Trades' Directory
1931	Town & County Directories Ltd. Bradford & District Trades' Directory
1936	Kelly's Directories Ltd. Directory of Bradford and suburbs
1936	Kely's Directories Ltd. Directory of Leeds
1936	Kelly's Directories Ltd. Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire, excluding Bradford, Leeds, Sheffield & Rotherham

1937	Kelly's Directories Ltd. Kelly's Directory of the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire
1938	Kelly's Directories Ltd. Directory of Bradford and suburbs
1938/39	Town & County Directories, Bradford Leeds, Halifax, Huddersfield & District Trades Directory
1939	Kelly's Directories Ltd. Directory of Hull
1944	Kelly's Directories Ltd. Directory of Sheffield & Rotherham
1947	Kelly's Directories Ltd. Directory of Leeds
1953	Barrett's Publications City of Bradford Directory
1954	County Association Ltd. Huddersfield Civic & Commercial Directory
1955	Barrett's Publications. City of Bradford Directory
1956	Kent Service Ltd. Bingley Directory
1956	Kelly's Directories Ltd. Directory of Scarborough
1958	Barrett's Publications Ltd. City of Bradford Directory
1960	Barrett's Publications Ltd. City of Bradford Directory
1961	Kent Service Ltd. Bingley Directory
1961	Barrett's Publications Ltd. City of Bradford Directory
1961	Charlton Publishing Co. Dewsbury & District Directory
1962	Charlton Publishing Co. Shipley & Bingley Street Directory
1962	Barrett's Publications Ltd. Wakefield & District Street Directory
1963	Barrett's Publications Ltd. City of Bradford Directory
1963	Barrett's Publications Ltd. Shipley & District Directory
1963	Barrett's Publications Ltd. Keighley & District Directory
1964	Barrett's Publications Ltd. Huddersfield County Borough Directory
1964	Barrett's Publications Ltd. Kingston-Upon-Hull Directory

1965	Barrett's Publications Ltd. City of Bradford Directory
1966	Kelly's Directories Ltd. Directory of Scarborough
1966	Barrett's Publications Ltd. City of Leeds Directory
1966	Barrett's Publications Ltd. Halifax County Borough Directory
1966	Barrett's Publications Ltd. Wakefield & District Directory
1967	Barrett's Publications Ltd. Keighley & District Directory.
1969	Barrett's Publications Ltd. City of Bradford Directory
1969	Kelly's Directories Ltd. Directory of Sheffield & Rotherham
1971	Barrett's Directory of Bradford, Halifax & Huddersfield
1973	Kelly's Directories Ltd. Directory of Sheffield & Rotherham
1973	Kelly's Directories Ltd. Directory of York
1973	Chambers Trades Register of Yorkshire, Northumberland & Durham
1976	Kelly's Scarborough Directory

Telephone Directories

In the UK the main telephone providers were the National Telephone Company from 1881-1912, the General Post Office from 1912-1969, the Post Office Telecommunications from 1969-1980 and then British Telecom from 1980 onwards. British telephone books from 1880-1984 can be viewed on www.ancestrylibrary.com. Bradford Local Studies Library keeps a collection of old local telephone directories for Bradford which includes white pages (residential), yellow pages (business) and the Thompson directories.

- 1938-67 Bradford, Leeds and York
- 1968-76 Bradford white and yellow pages in one directory (includes Keighley, and Ikley)
- From 1977 Bradford white and yellow pages as a separate directory (includes Keighley and Ilkley from 1995 onwards.)
- From 1981 Bradford Thompson Local (includes Keighley and Ilkley) April 2018