



A Blackpool Bridg'...



of Blackpool - Defeat  
September in the year

# Lancashire Record Office

What's in it for *Blackpool* ?

A collections guide



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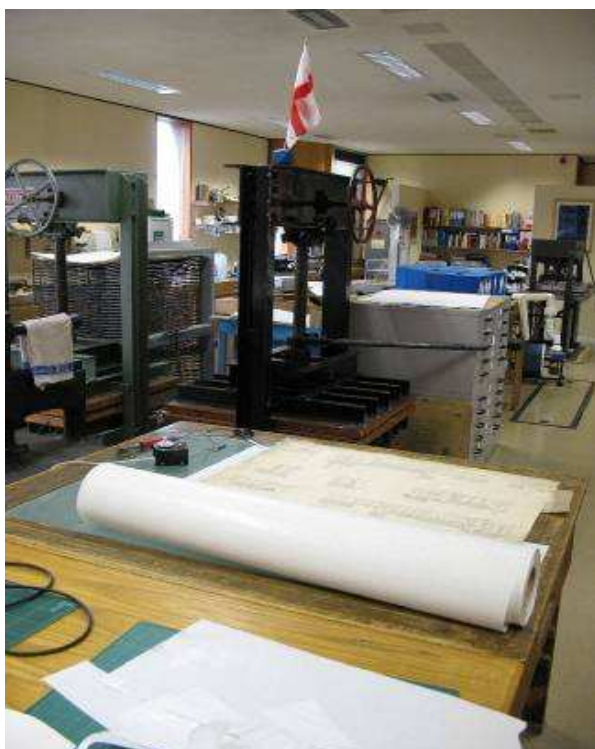
## Lancashire Record Office: who we are and what we do

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 Blackpool.

The Record Office holds tens of thousands of historic documents which help tell the story of Blackpool, 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.*

## 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 with 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 our 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 Blackpool

This guide aims to show the range of archive material relating to Blackpool 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. 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 **HRBp** - **Hospital Records for Blackpool** area hospitals or **DDCL** – **Deposited Documents of the Clifton** family of Lytham.

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

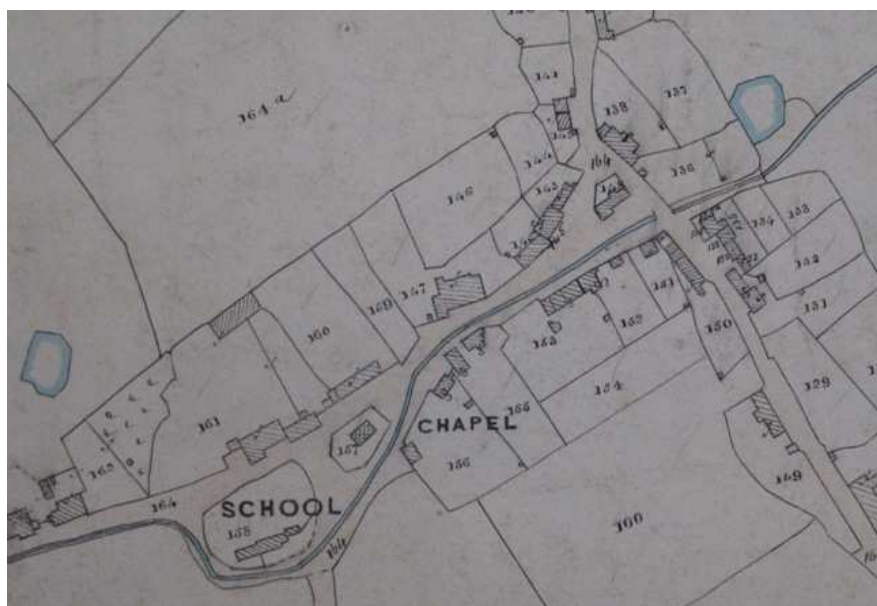
### Tithe maps and schedules

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). They exist for about 80% of the county.

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

Our Reference	Township	Year
DRB 1/18	Bispham with Norbreck	1848
DRB 1/122	Layton with Warbreck	1838
DRB 1/130	Marton	1839



*Detail from the Bispham tithe map 1848 (DRB 1/18)*



## 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 1/5	Layton, Marton and Bispham	1769
DDX 1286	Layton with Warbreck: lantern slides of plans of enclosure allotments on Layton Hawes	1767
P 126	Layton with Warbreck: photocopy lease of enclosure allotment on Layton Hawes	1788

## Ordnance Survey

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 ie: 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.

We have an extensive range of Ordnance survey maps covering the Blackpool area:

- First edition, 6 inches to 1 mile, c1845
- First edition, 25 inches to 1 mile, 1892
- Various subsequent editions
- 10 feet town plans for Blackpool 1890s



*Detail from the Ordnance Survey 25" to the mile 1890s (sheet L.12)*

## Other maps and plans

Our Reference	Description
DDX 1188	Blackpool and Lytham Railway: part section c1860; plan of proposed street linking Crystal Terrace and Victoria Terrace South Shore, 1859
BOT	Board of Trade maps relating to works on the foreshore at Blackpool including piers, South Blackpool jetty, construction of groynes and sea defences, railway works, widening the promenade, diversion of Spen Dyke, 1862-1968
DDX 118 acc 6479	plan of the foreshore 1877
CBBL 50 acc 4600	plans of Central Station 1885-1909
DDRF 18 acc 4227	Blackpool and Fleetwood tramroads plans and sections 1896
DDRF 18 acc 4227	Blackpool and Garstang Light Railway: plans and sections 1891-93
DDX 951 acc 4082	copy plan of Winter Gardens and Pavilion Co estate (street level) early 20th cent
DDX 1292 acc 5760	Ashwell and Nesbitt heating engineers at Leicester: plans of heating systems in Blackpool at Reads Road Chapel 1919, Winter Gardens 1929 and casino 1938
DDX 1580	floor plans of offices at 27-29 Talbot Road, Blackpool, scale: 8 feet: 1 inch 1954
DM1	Census of Distribution maps for Blackpool, scale: 88 feet to 1 mile, 1970

## Aerial photographs

Lancashire Record Office holds aerial photographs of the Blackpool area:

- 1946
- 1963
- 1988

All but the 1988 series are also available online at:

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

## Photographs and Illustrations

Many of our collections contain photographs and illustrations of the area:

Our Reference	Description
DDX 503	Photograph album of Blackpool Aviation Week 1909
DDX 859	Photographs (53) of Blackpool Central Railway Station 1916-1918
DDX 848	Postcards including Blackpool and Little Bispham Sandhills and Promenade 1936
DDX 541	Photographs of Stanley Park and the agricultural showground, Blackpool, 1950s-1960s
DDX 2652	Marjorie Amriding photographic archive containing photographs of Blackpool 1985-2001
DDX 2765	Photographic essay on the MV Riverdance, blown aground at Blackpool on 1 Feb 2008
DDX 1398/3	Postcard of new sea wall 1905
DDX 1711/1	Postcard of North Pier 1906
DDX 1711/2	Postcard of 'River Caves of the World' c1906
DDX 1398/1	Postcard of flying carnival 1910
DDX 735	Postcards including Blackpool Promenade 1918; Hotel Metropole 1913
DDX 1169	Postcard views of Blackpool, early 20 <sup>th</sup> century
DDX 2333	Postcards of Lancashire towns including Blackpool, 20 <sup>th</sup> cent



*Blackpool Central Station c1917 (DDX 859)*

## Blackpool Collections

These collections either relate entirely to the Blackpool area or have an important element of Blackpool material in them.

Our Reference	Description
DDCL	<p><b>Clifton of Lytham estate records</b> including: manorial records: Manor of Layton call-books 1787-1796, 1817-1845; Little Marton Manor court book 1639-1689; papers concerning a turbary dispute on Layton Hawes 1607-1609; Blackpool and Lytham Railway: accounts and other records 1862-1871; plans for Layton, Marton and Lytham c.1530, Marton Moss 1773, Little Marton 1809; Layton and Great Marton 1816 and Blackpool sewerage 1876; title deeds 1596-1875; papers about Blackpool park 1890</p>
DDA	<p><b>Ascroft, Whiteside and Company, solicitors at Blackpool:</b> documents of title relating to Blackpool, Bispham, Layton and Marton, including for Great Marton watermill 1731-1800 and an agreement for sale of copper from the ship <i>Foudroyant</i> 1897</p>
DDX 207	<p><b>Sir Cuthbert Grundy papers:</b> including Grundy family papers 1854-1943; meteorological records for South Shore 1855-1891</p>
DDX 1153	<p><b>Blackpool Lifeboat:</b> returns of services 1864-1953; expense returns 1800s</p>
DDX 706	<p><b>Blackpool Societies and other records collected by the Sweeten family of Blackpool:</b> including records of Blackpool Literary and Scientific Society 1898-1961; programmes and newscuttings of Blackpool Music Festival 1901-1965; history and programmes of Blackpool Glee and Madrigal Society 1892-1931; items relating to the Blackpool branch of the British Music Society, the Fylde Art Society and Blackpool Sketching Club, and the Blackpool Inner Wheel; papers and photographs of the Smith family of Blackpool 1889-c1960; photograph of the ship <i>Foudroyant</i>, <i>The Return</i>, the weekly journal of the King's Lancashire Military Convalescent Hospital, Blackpool 1916-1919</p>
DDRF 7	<p><b>Kemp of Bispham</b> including records for Lodge Farm and other properties in Bispham 1889-1896</p>
DDRF 9	<p><b>Poste of Poulton</b> including valuation of Bispham Lodge and correspondence erection of hotel near the railway station 1894-1897</p>
CAB 3	<p><b>Blackpool Citizens' Advice Bureau:</b> constitution, minutes, financial records, correspondence, newscuttings, photographs, history 1934-1990 <i>Some records are closed for 50 years</i></p>
CAA	<p><b>Blackpool Aerodrome:</b> aircraft movement log books 1958-1961</p>

## Blackpool Library Collection

Blackpool Library Service has deposited collections of archive material relating to the Blackpool and the wider area, including Poulton le Fylde.

Our Reference	Description
DDX 679	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Theatre and concert posters and other records [mostly not relating to Blackpool]</li></ul>
DDX 1320	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Deeds, ecclesiastical, school and legal papers collected by FF Moser of Blackpool, relating to Poulton le Fylde including:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• the Bispham Easter book listing the inhabitants of Bispham, Blackpool and Layton 1827-1830, 1745-1922</li><li>• a lawyer's notebook kept by Geoffrey Hornby of Poulton, detailing constables serving in the Fylde and people bound to appear at the Quarter Sessions 1723-1731</li></ul></li></ul>
DDX 1857/1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Historical and Descriptive Account of Blackpool</i>, manuscript by William Thornber 1836</li></ul>
DDX 1857 acc 7272	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Derby Baths: correspondence and printed ephemera 1930-1969</li></ul>
DDX 1857 acc 7351	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Derby Baths: specification and bill of quantities, plans and programmes 1921-1970</li></ul>
DDX 1857 acc 7321	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Baines Charity, Poulton, trustees' accounts 1718-24</li><li>• Thornton Free School deed 1710</li><li>• Marton Free School accounts 1717-1741</li><li>• Layton Hawes enclosure transcript, no date</li><li>• letter to Rev J W Whittaker at Blackburn 1828</li><li>• plan of Bonny's estate, Blackpool 1873</li><li>• specification for building houses in Birley Street, Blackpool 1860</li><li>• Blackpool Borough Council contract for library and art gallery 1910</li><li>• licensing statistics 1911-16</li></ul>



*Programme for the first Blackpool Music Festival 1901 (DDX 706/1/1/1)*

## Smaller Blackpool collections

Our Reference	Description
	<b>Blackpool entertainment</b>
DDX 1040	Programme and handbill for Prince of Wales Theatre, Blackpool 1877
DDX 879	Handbill for a fair at Blackpool
DDX 595	Blackpool Theatre programmes 1890-1933
DDX 1603	Programmes for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Blackpool 1891
DDX 2125	Programme for Victoria Pier, Blackpool c 1905
DDX 3	Blackpool Children's Pantomime programmes 1915-1963
DDX 2152	Programme for Winter Gardens, Blackpool 1917
DDX 2345	Programme for musical service at Blackpool Central Drive Independent Methodist Church 1938
DDX 2345	Programmes for concerts in Blackpool and Cleveleys 1942-1943
DDX 2498	Programmes for The Hippodrome, North Pier and Winter Gardens, Blackpool 1940s-1950s
DDX 1040	Programmes for Blackpool events and entertainments 1948
DP 514	Printed programme for the New Opera House, Blackpool concert <i>Music for the Millions</i> 14 Aug 1949
DDX 2398	Miscellaneous Blackpool theatre programmes: Queens Theatre, Grand Theatre, Opera House, Royal Pavilion, Winter Gardens Pavilion 1949-1960
DDX 1438	Programme for Royal Command performance at Blackpool Opera House 1955
DDX1379	Programmes for Opera House and Queens Theatre, Blackpool 1950s
DDX 1221	Programmes of entertainments in Blackpool c 1960-1961; Blackpool Sunday School Union procession and order of service 1961
DDX 2468	Programmes for theatrical and other entertainments in Blackpool and other places, 1961-2003; report on Blackpool Tramways, including research notes and interview transcripts 1979-80.
DDX 1368	Programme for performance at the Grand Theatre Blackpool in the presence of the Prince of Wales 1981
DDX 1379 acc 7981	Blackpool Grand Theatre programmes 1981-1996
	<b>Blackpool as a seaside resort</b>
DDX 2340	Printed illustrated guide to Blackpool with engraved panoramic view of the seafront 1880

DDPR 35/23	File of advertising material and correspondence relating to cheap trips organized by James Dearden, Preston, and Richard Stanley, Manchester (Windermere, Liverpool, Fleetwood & Blackpool), including poster advertising "Sea Bathing for the Working Classes", 1850
DDX 3/65	"How to Extend the Blackpool Season" a paper read to the Blackpool Literary and Debating Society 1882
	<b>Blackpool People</b>
DDX 3	Memoranda book of Robert Fisher of Marton 1748-1806
DDX 276	Will of Isabella Forshaw of Blackpool 1835
DDX 154	Sharp family of Blackpool; family papers including financial records and correspondence, diary of Henry Sharp for 1844 recording the weather, memorial cards; probate of will of the Revd Reginald Sharp 1846, 1815-1881
DDX 837	Blackpool electoral expenses 1886 [photocopy]
DDX 2247	Rene Nutter's workbook for a millinery course at Palatine School c1926
DDX 1856 acc 8316	Patent certificate for spraying device for JE Smith of Blackpool 1949
DDX 2282	Miscellaneous records relating to St Stephen on the Cliffs including orders of service, newscuttings and photographs c1950-1977
DDX 2116	Magazine article (1998) about Robert McDougall of Blackpool and his interest in Wallace Hartley, bandmaster on the Titanic
	<b>Blackpool Property including deeds</b>
DDX 664	Bispham deed 1598
DDX 1562	Deeds relating to property in Layton with Warbreck and Marton 1598-c1900
DDX 1026	Blackpool deeds 1690-1830
DDPB	Bispham with Norbreck deeds 18 <sup>th</sup> cent [uncatalogued]
DDX 957	Marton and Layton Hawes deeds 1768-1777
DDX849	Great Marton deed 1769
DDX 2203	Deeds and papers relating to properties in South Shore, Blackpool, Great Marton and Layton Hawes 1770-1915
DDW	Inventory of Bailey's Hotel at Blackpool 1791
DDLA	Blackpool title deed 1797
DDBD 6	Conveyances of a messuage and land called the Croft in North Blackpool, later with the Brewers Arms and cottages built thereon 1797-1874
DDX 223	Blackpool deeds 1799; 1867

<b>Blackpool Property including deeds</b>	
DDX 3	Blackpool deed 1819
DDX 36	Great Marton deed 1836
DDX 1351	Documents of title relating to premises in Church Street, South Shore 1847-1896
DDX 517	Blackpool deeds 1865-1868
DDX 533	Abstract of title to Gynn estate, Blackpool 1897-1919
DDX 1292	Deeds and related papers for property in Lynwood Avenue and Westcliffe Drive 1908-1946
DDX 2543	Deeds papers and plans for 24 Holmfield Road, Blackpool 1914-1986
DDX 2596	Abstract of title relating to an estate called The Hills in Layton with Warbreck 1863
DDX 1582	Inventory of furniture for sale at house in Blackpool 1908
DDX 2571	Abstract of title to 7 dwelling houses in Springfield Road and General Street Blackpool 1919
DDX 2629	Mortgage for 59 Ormond Avenue, Blackpool 1920
DDX 2424	Abstracts of title to 16 Woodstock Gardens, Blackpool, 1920s
DDX 1101	Sale particulars including Blackpool, 20 <sup>th</sup> cent
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	
DDX 642	Extracts from minutes of Blackpool Tramway Company 1891-1922
DDX 1095	Article by H Peters of Fleetwood concerning ships' guns at Fleetwood and Blackpool, 20 <sup>th</sup> cent
DDX 1915	Oxford Archaeology North project file for Elmslie Girls School, Blackpool 2004
DDX 595	Plan of new streets in Blackpool, nd



Detail from a deed granting land for Thornton Free School 1710 (DDX 1857)



## Local business and organisations

Many records relate to businesses, clubs, societies and trade unions in the Blackpool area.

### Businesses

Our Reference	Description
DDX 786	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackpool Electricity Works: including pamphlets and photographs 1893-1943</li> </ul>
DDX 1051	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Henry Maxwell and Co, printers and stationers, Church Street: wage books 1892-1909</li> </ul>
DDX 1444	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackpool Tower Co: agenda books, registers of directors, attendance records c1900-c1950</li> </ul>
DDX 2322	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackpool Grand Theatre: minutes 1981-2000; annual reports 1993-1999</li> </ul>
DDX 1017/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Account book for Sunday sailings from Morecambe to Blackpool 1908</li> </ul>
DDX 1818	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Duple International of Blackpool (later Hestair Duple), coachbuilders: numerous records including minutes, annual reports, drawings, union records 20<sup>th</sup> cent</li> </ul>
DDX 1840	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beaumont and Parkinson Ltd, glass manufacturers: patent specifications and papers c1934-1952</li> </ul>
DDX 2720 acc 10481	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MacKeith, Dickinson and Partners, Chartered Architects: plans including hotels, theatres and other business and residential premises in Blackpool and area 1920s-1970s</li> </ul>
DDX 1738	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackpool Cooperative Society: minutes, financial and other papers, 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> cents</li> </ul>
DDX 1619	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Watmough's Original Biscuit Stall, Abingdon Street Market, Blackpool: financial records 1932-1972</li> </ul>
DDX 2727	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Wool Shop, Blackpool: financial records 1987-2000; notes on The Wool Shop 2009</li> </ul>
DDX 1762	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>D A Kerr and Son, credit drapers 20<sup>th</sup> cent</li> </ul>
DDX 318/1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wellington Hotel accounts 1852-1905</li> </ul>
DDX 1444	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>County Hotel Blackpool records 20<sup>th</sup> cent</li> </ul>

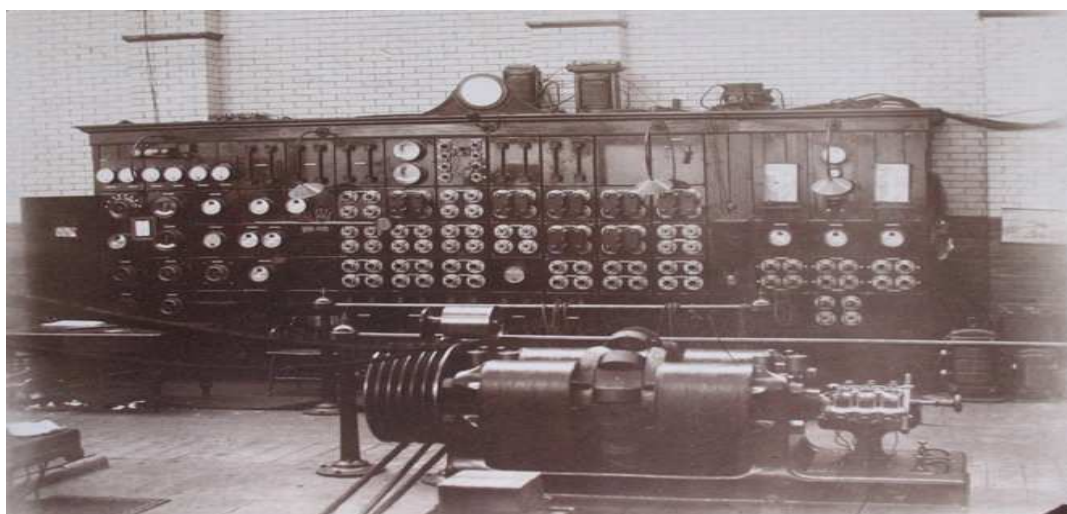
## Clubs and Societies

<b>Our Reference</b>	<b>Description</b>
CBBL 119	Blackpool and Fylde Aero Club: membership book 1935-1936
DDX 234	Women's Junior Air Corps (no 41: 3 <sup>rd</sup> Blackpool): including minutes and log books 1940-1947
DDX 2373	Blackpool and Fylde Association of Graduate Women: minutes 1970-1996
DDX 2056	Blackpool Business and Professional Women's club: minutes, scrapbooks and other records 1943-1994
PLC 5	Blackpool Conservative Association: minute books, cash book and scrap books of Captain CC Erskine-Bolst MP, 1909-1969
DDX 2367	Blackpool Division: Conservative Registration Association balance sheets 1886-1919 and annual reports 1890-1912, among papers of James Dawson, Conservative party agent
DDX 2100	Blackpool Labour Party: minutes and attendance registers 1927-1991
DDX 1404	Blackpool Liberal Association: minute books and financial papers 1901-1970
DDX 1190	Blackpool Lyric Amateur Operatic Society: minutes 1907-1911
DDX 1514	Blackpool and Morecambe Music Festival: programmes 1909-1929
DDX 1200	Blackpool Old Contemptibles: minutes 1961-1974; accounts 1939-1976
DDX 1948	Regnal League Blackpool Circle
DDX 3/64	Original Reviviscent League of the Thumbuppers: membership card nd
DDX 1153	Blackpool Royal National Lifeboat Institution: includes returns of services 1864-1953 and reports 1860s
DDPB	Blackpool Sunday School Sick Society: accounts 1835-1840
DDX 1502	Temperance Masonic Lodge 5303: minute books 1939-1981; other records 1930-1985
DDX 2366	Blackpool Theological Study Group: minutes and accounts 1978-2000
DDX 734	Blackpool and Fleetwood Yacht Club: includes minutes 1907-1914 and regatta entry registers 1910 and 1924-1929
DDX 2421	Foxtan Dispensary: deeds, legal papers and printed rules 1878-1970
AC26	Foxtan Dispensary charity accounts 1903-1946
DDX 1455	Fylde House of Help: minutes, financial and other records 1906-1978
NCLM 2	Lancashire and Cheshire Miners' Welfare Committee:

	convalescent home in Blackpool minutes and reports 1943-1948
DDX 1640	Marton parish church operatic and dramatic society: minutes, annual reports, balance sheets, programmes, history 1930-1980
DDX 2341	Roseacre Townswomen's Guild, Blackpool: scrapbooks 1955-1979
DDX 2675	"Silent Service": notebook of memoranda and accounts of an otherwise unidentified Blackpool organisation for charitable assistance to those in need 1937-1953

## Trade Unions

Our Reference	Description
DDX 1433	Transport and General Workers' Union: Blackpool branch: minutes of branch, passenger committee, passenger and commercial section, and women's guild 1919-64
DDX 2042	Blackpool and District Association of the National Union of Teachers: minutes and other records 1891-1978



*The switchboard at Blackpool Electricity Works 1896 (DDX 786)*

## 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 26). 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, not under the control of the county council. County borough councils exercised all the powers of county councils. From 1889, therefore, Lancashire County Council administered the area of the ancient county palatine *minus* the county boroughs. Blackpool became a county borough in 1904.

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 Blackpool became a district council within the new Lancashire County, under the control of the county council.

In 1998, however, Blackpool 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 Blackpool area

## Blackpool Borough Council

Blackpool received its charter of incorporation in 1876 and became a municipal borough. In 1904 it became a county borough, independent of the administrative county of Lancashire. Various boundary changes have altered the size and composition of the borough at different points in its history. Details can be found in: F. Youngs, *Local Administrative Units: Northern England* (London: Royal Historical Society, 1991)

Our Reference	Description
CBBL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• council minutes 1876-1974</li> <li>• committee minutes 1879-1974 including airport committee 1936-1969; publicity committee 1931-1969; Blackpool and Fylde Show 1945-1954; Blackpool and Fylde Society for the Blind 1923-1978; management committee for Blackpool Air Corps, 1940-1951; committee for the administration of Navy League Sea Cadet Corps 1939-1949.</li> <li>• declarations of acceptance of office 1908-1973</li> <li>• registers of disclosures of interest 1934-1974</li> <li>• registers of membership of committees 1955-1977</li> <li>• common seal registers 1932-1953</li> <li>• Blackpool, Bispham with Norbreck and Layton with Warbreck rate books including poor rate, borough rate and general district rate books 1844-1937</li> <li>• valuation lists, 1858-1934</li> <li>• St John's housing scheme: tenants rent accounts 1968</li> <li>• financial records including local board of health accounts 1873-1875; balance sheets, 1878-1893</li> <li>• town clerk's records, 1905-1976 including arbitration proceedings concerning land at South Shore, 1923-1926; register of contracts 1862-1941; register of loan applications 1900-1944; minutes of evidence for promenade widening 1903; correspondence concerning proposed amalgamation of Bispham with Norbreck 1915-1921; the Development Plan 1947-1962; plans of Bispham with Norbreck cliffs 1916; plans relating to Marton Moss development 1979</li> <li>• local acts and byelaws, 1853-1969</li> <li>• reports to the Local Government Board concerning the application to become a county borough 1903</li> <li>• Education department records: minutes of education sub-committees;1900-1971; Education committee handbook 1934; school medical officer's reports 1942-1959; teachers' application forms 1942-1946; adoption records1927-1975 CLOSED; lists of children in institutions 1940-1945 and employed in entertainment 1949-1960; calculation of costs of comprehensive education 1960s; file on suitability of Blackpool for</li> </ul>

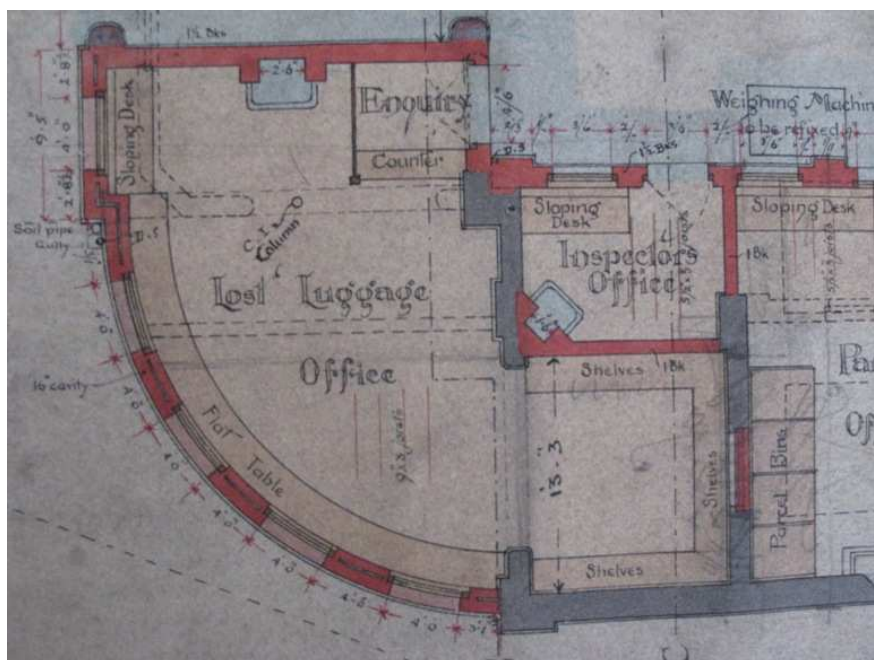
CBBL

- proposed university in North West Lancashire 1960-1965; report on school sanitary accommodation 1964; HMI report on educational provision for 15-18s in Blackpool 1968-1969; *A Hundred Years of Blackpool Education* by PP Hall, 1970
- transport records including financial records 1897-1932; wages book 1931; day books 1902-1940; Blackpool Corporation tramways department: wages and analysis books 1901-1925; scrap material and foundry records 1931-1959; traffic returns and summaries 1918-1940; bus service records 1931-1956; tickets records 1912-1937; accident records 1923-1955; lost and found property registers 1930-1937; press cuttings 1919-1958; plans of Blackpool Central Station 1883-1899
- Blackpool Town Scheme records including registers of applications and permissions for development 1926-1948; caravan site licence register 1962-1972; schedule of planning and building regulation applications 1969-1972; registers of streets declared public highways 1880-1952; building regulation plans for Marton and Carleton c 1900-1932
- Public Health Department records: sanitary inspector's journals 1889-1905, 1913-1919, 1925-1949, 1963; Public Health department journals 1905-1912; Public health prosecutions evidence c1890-1910; Medical Officer's journal 1892-1893; Medical Officer of Health reports 1911-1971; registers of premises inspected 1919-1928; other public health registers 1891-1949; overcrowding survey 1930s; infectious diseases registers 1930-1954 CLOSED
- Civil Defence: records of service 1938-1945; records of lectures on ARP 1938-1967; press cuttings 1939-1943; exercises 1941-1958; emergency measures; maps and operational plans; Civil Defence committee reports, 1950-1969; Civil Defence Committee minutes, 1950-1973; Emergency feeding survey 1964-1965
- Fire Brigade: Public Safety committee minutes and papers 1969-1974; chief officers' reports to the Fire Brigade committee 1947-1969; fire brigade orders 1948-1974; minutes of officers' meetings 1948-1965; fire service circulars 1947-1961; Home Office annual returns and inspections 1969-1974; fire station log books 1947-1974; fire register sheets 1961-1973; fire and special services report forms, 1969-1973; photographs 1951-1966; injury and damage records 1952-1974; petroleum and explosives inspection books 1925-1973; fire prevention inspection records 1956-1973; hydrant inspection records and plans 1955-1973; offshore operation planning papers 1965-1974; training records and c1960-1970; personnel records (sampled) CLOSED until 2020; records relating to local government

CBBL	reorganisation, 1972-1974
WBF37/27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Press cuttings 1960-1973</li><li>• Yearbooks 1960/61-1972/73</li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li></ul>

The catalogue is 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)



*Blackpool Central Station: ground plan of offices 1899 (CBBL 50)*

## Blackpool Borough Council from April 1974

A new local authority was created under the Local Government Act 1972 when Blackpool became one of the 14 second-tier Lancashire districts within Lancashire. Council minutes from this period have been deposited, but most of the other archives are still held by the borough council. Blackpool became a unitary authority in 1998.

Our Reference	Description
LAU 4	Council and committee minutes 1973-1987

## Urban District Councils

In 1894, towns which had not been 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. Bispham with Norbreck was an Urban District for just a few years between 1903 and 1918, when it became part of the county borough of Blackpool.

Our Reference	Council	Description
UDBS	Bispham with Norbreck	minutes 1903-1918
CBBL acc 9703		declarations of acceptance of office 1903-1915

## Rural District Councils

Rural District Councils were created under the Local Government Act 1894. Their responsibilities included: cemeteries, housing, licensing of public entertainment, parks, refuse collection, maintaining local roads, sanitary services, sewerage and water supply. Fylde Rural District included the parish of Marton, and parts of Bispham between 1894 and 1903.

Our Reference	Council	Description
RDF	Fylde RDC	Council and committee minutes 1894-1974; financial records including parochial ledgers, Fylde Rural Sanitary Authority ledgers and Fylde Poor Law Union ledgers 1848-1956; yearbooks 1893-1973; Marton valuation list 1940

## Parish and Town Councils

These were created under the Local Government Act 1894 as the first tier of local government to have oversight of social welfare and civic duties in towns and villages. They are involved in local planning issues and rights of way, promoting tourism, management of village centres and providing community halls. One council from the Blackpool area has deposited records.

Our Reference	Council	Description
PR 1360-1364	Marton Parish Council	minutes 1894-1934



## 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 18 has been allowed 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 registers for the Blackpool area. In order to find the relevant register, it is first necessary to identify the parliamentary constituency. Electoral registers from 1930 are held in Blackpool Central Library.

In terms of parliamentary constituencies, Blackpool was part of Northern Division 1832-1867, North Division 1867-1885, Blackpool Division 1885-1918, Blackpool Borough 1918-1945 and Blackpool North/South 1945-present

We have the following registers for Blackpool:

**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.

<b>Our Reference</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Constituency</b>
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 Division

<b>Our Reference</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Constituency</b>
EL 2/1	1868	North Division
EL 2/2	1870	North Division
EL 2/3	1875	North Division
EL 2/4	1880	North Division
EL 2/5	1885	North Division

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

Our Reference	Year	Constituency
EL 3/1/2	1885-1887	Blackpool
EL 3/2/2	1889-1891	Blackpool
EL 3/3/2	1894-1895	Blackpool
EL 3/4/2	1900	Blackpool
EL 3/5/2	1905	Blackpool
EL 3/6/2	1910	Blackpool
EL3/8/1	1914	Blackpool

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

Our Reference	Year	Local authority district
EL 8/3/2	1977-1978	Blackpool
EL 8/6/2	1980-1981	Blackpool
EL 8/7/2	1981-1982	Blackpool
EL 8/8/2	1982-1983	Blackpool
EL 8/9/2	1983-1984	Blackpool
EL 8/13/2	1987-1988	Blackpool

No.	Christian name and Sur-name of each Voter at full length.	Place of Abode.	Nature of Qualification.	Street, Lane, or other like place where the Property is situate or name of the Property, or name of the Tenant.
<b>LAYTON-WITH-WARBRECK</b>				
603	Dobson, John	Layton	Freehold house and land	Layton-with-Warbreck
604	Fletcher, James	Blackpool	Freehold house	Blackpool
605	Gornall, John	Blackpool	Freehold house and land	do.
606	Gardner, William	Hardhorn-with-Newton	do.	Layton
607	Gaulter, Christopher	Layton	do.	do.
608	Hornby, Daniel	Blackburn	do.	do.
609	Hodgson, John	Layton	do.	do.
610	Hodgson, George	do.	do.	do.
611	Kilner, Thomas	Blackpool	do.	do.
612	Kirkham, Matthew	Warbreck	Occupier of 60a. of land	do.
613	Moore, Thomas	Blackpool	Freehold house and land	do.
614	Moore, Alexander	Preston	do.	South shore
615	Nixon, William	Blackpool	do.	Blackpool
616	Nixon, Thomas	do.	do.	do.
617	Nixon, Cuthbert	do.	do.	do.
618	Rossall, Richard	Layton Hawes	Occupier of 50a. of land	Layton Hawes
619	Rossall, George	Warbreck	Freehold house and land	Warbreck
620	Simpson, John	Blackpool	Occ. of house & 10a. of land	Blackpool
621	Shaw, William	do.	Freehold house and land	do.
622	Thorner, William	do.	Minister of Blackpool Church	do.
623	Threlfall, Richard	Preston	Freehold house and land	do.
624	Topping, William	Blackpool	do.	do.
625	Walker, Benjamin	Halifax	Freehold land	Layton Hawes
626	Whiteside, Richard	Warbreck	Occupier of 40a. of land	Warbreck
627	Walker, Richard	Layton	Joint do. 200a. do	Layton
628	Walker, Joseph	do.	do.	do.
629	Warbreck, Richard	Blackpool	Freehold house and land	Blackpool

*Detail from the electoral register for Layton 1832 (EL 1/1)*

## Court Records

### Quarter Sessions

Quarter Sessions were established during the Elizabethan period to fulfil 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.

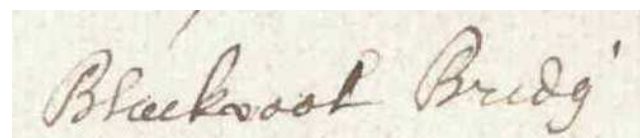
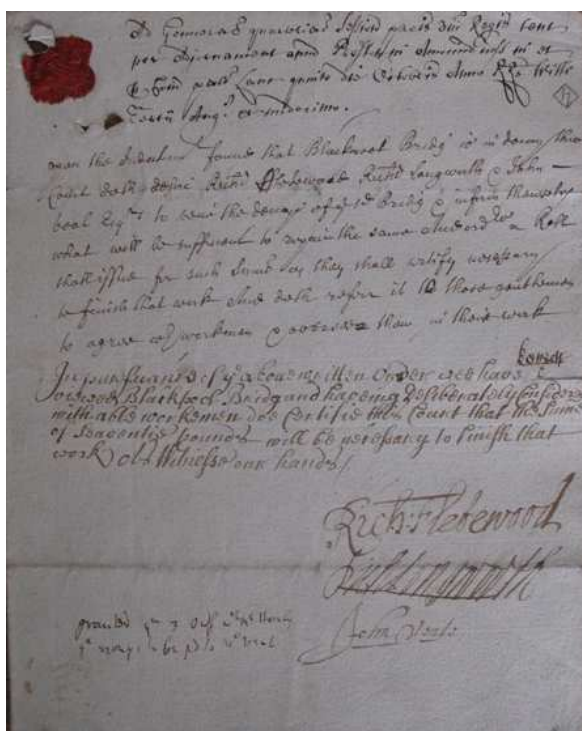
For administrative purposes Lancashire was divided into six smaller areas known as 'hundreds' – Amounderness, Blackburn, Leyland, Lonsdale, Salford and West Derby. Blackpool was in the Hundred of Amounderness and matters affecting this area would typically be dealt with at the Sessions held at Preston.

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.

A sample of the huge volume of Quarter Session records, gives a flavour of their diverse content:

<b>Our Reference</b>	<b>Description</b>
QSP 843/17	Order and certificate of costs for repair of Blackpool Bridge at Layton with Warbreck 1700
QDL/A/6	Land Tax Assessments for Bispham with Norbreck 1781-1831
QDV 1/9/24	Papers relating to an Act for raising Men for the Army and Navy – returns of enrolled men – including Bispham 1796-1797
QSP 2841/89	Order of maintenance for bastard daughter of William Singleton of Blackpool 1824
QSP 3060/18	Certificate of use of Bethesda Chapel in Blackpool as a nonconformist place of worship 1837
PDR 378	Plan of Blackpool Branch Railway 1844

Many of the catalogues of Quarter Sessions records can be searched online at: <http://www.a2a.org.uk/> and LANCAT (see page 5)



Document concerning costs of repair of Blackpool Bridge 1700 (QSP/843/17) with enlarged extract showing "Blackpool Bridg' "

## Blackpool Borough Quarter Sessions

Blackpool Borough Quarter Sessions were established in 1948 to hear legal cases relating solely to the borough of Blackpool.

Our Reference	Description
QBL	• Court record books 1948-1971
	• Index to record books 1948-1964
	• Appeals register 1948-1971
	• Applications under Poor Prisoners Defence Act 1930 1948-1971
CBBL acc 9703	• Case files 1952-1968
	• Borough Justices oaths books 1898-1953

## 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. They also dealt with licences to sell alcohol.

The first sitting of Blackpool borough magistrates was in 1899. In 1974 they were replaced by the Magistrates' Courts. The registers continue as one chronological series; access to the later registers is restricted for 30 years.

<b>Our Reference</b>	<b>Description</b>
PSBP1	Court registers 1900-1993
PSBP2	Juvenile court registers 1933-1958
PSBP3	Licensing registers 1903 - c1949

## Coroners Courts

The coroner is a doctor or lawyer appointed by the Crown to be responsible for investigating deaths in particular situations. They 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. They also hold inquests into treasure trove.

Lancashire Record Office holds some Registers of deaths and Inquest files for the Blackpool area, and, although access to these is typically restricted for 75 years, information can be made available sooner than this in certain circumstances.

Until 1954 Blackpool was covered by Preston Coroners' district. In 1954 Blackpool Borough acquired its own coroners' district, although in practice this was often administered by the Preston Coroner. The Blackpool and Fylde Coroners' District was established in 1968.

<b>Our Reference</b>	<b>Coroners District</b>	<b>Description</b>
CR 15	Preston	registers of death 1949-1974 inquest files (sampled) 1954-1974
CR15	Blackpool Borough	see above
CR 20	Blackpool and Fylde	registers of death 1982-1999 inquest files (sampled) 1977-1994

## Police Records

Blackpool was policed by Lancashire County Constabulary from 22 February 1840 until 30 June 1887. The Blackpool Borough Police Force was established on 1 July 1887 and was responsible for policing the area until the creation of the Lancashire Constabulary on 1 April 1969. Many records relating to the Borough constabulary can be found among the County constabulary archive (PLA) – references of a few items are listed below.

Our Reference	Description
PLA acc 5387	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackpool Borough Police: including police constables' notebooks 1936-1939</li> </ul>
PLA acc 6415	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>correspondence about awards to Blackpool police officers 1916-1977; press-cuttings books 1960s-1970s</li> </ul>
PLA acc 4835	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>notes on police beat areas 1911</li> </ul>
PLA acc 6428	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackpool Borough Police: records including volume of photographs of policemen 1906</li> </ul>
PLB 1-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackpool Borough Police orders 1887-1966</li> </ul>
PLB 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackpool Borough Police: Chief Constables' reports 1912-1959</li> </ul>
PLB 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackpool Borough Police: police wartime instructions 1938-1945</li> </ul>
PLB 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackpool Borough Police: police service records</li> <li>1887-1919</li> </ul>
PLB 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackpool Borough Police: police discipline books</li> <li>1934-1968 <i>CLOSED for 50 years</i></li> </ul>
CC/GP3/1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>plans of Blackpool Police Station and divisional HQ 1971</li> </ul>

## Water Board

The Fylde Water Board supplied water to Blackpool

Our Reference	Description
WBF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fylde Water Board archives: including minutes, legal documents, annual reports, financial records, operational records, newscuttings and photographs 1860-1974</li> </ul>
WBF33	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackpool ARP records 1941-1945</li> </ul>



## Education Records

### School Boards

These 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:

- build and run schools
- raise funds from a rate
- 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 to impose any religious education, other than simple Bible reading

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

Our Reference	Description
SBBP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Blackpool School Board: minutes and committee minutes 1899-1903</li></ul>

### 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 one of these school building grant plans for Blackpool.

Our Reference	School
SP 43	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Blackpool St John 1887</li></ul>



## Individual Schools

Many schools from Blackpool and the surrounding area have deposited records at Lancashire Record Office.

Many collections, but not all, include admission registers and school log books. Check the full catalogue listing to see what we hold for each school.

Minutes of school governors' meetings, HMI reports and other papers relating to individual schools will be found among the records of Blackpool County Borough Council (CBBL) and, after 1974, Lancashire County Council (LCC14/3).

These catalogues are 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)

Please note that access to some of these records is restricted. School admission registers are not fully open to public inspection until 30 years after the date of the last entry; log books until 50 years and punishment books for 75 years.

Our reference	School
CBBL LCC 14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anchorsholme CP: governors' minutes 1966-1988</li> </ul>
DDX 1184 CBBL acc 6346	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arnold High School for Girls; minutes, diaries correspondence, magazines, programmes 1936-1974;</li> <li>governors' minutes 1967-1976</li> </ul>
DDX 1600/5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arnold House School magazine spring 1923</li> </ul>
SMBP 11 CBBL LCC 14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bispham Endowed CE Primary: log books 1877-1981; admission registers 1866-1980;</li> <li>governors' minutes 1936-1988</li> </ul>
DDX 2386	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackpool and Fylde College: plans</li> </ul>
SMBP 14 LCC14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapel Street Temporary Council School: log book 1929</li> </ul>
SMBP 8  CBBL LCC14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Claremont CP; log books 1907-1969, 1984-1995; admission registers 1942-1964; honours books 1932-1947; punishment book 1949-1970; history 1907-1968;</li> <li>governors' minutes 1961-1988</li> </ul>
CBBL acc 5094	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Claremont and Devonshire Road Evening: log books 20<sup>th</sup> cent.</li> </ul>
SMBP 13 CBBL LCC14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackpool Collegiate School for Girls: admission forms 1930-1961; register of leavers 1925-1963;</li> <li>governors' minutes 1967-1988</li> </ul>
SMBP 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Devonshire Road CP: log books 1903-1948; admission registers 1928-1959; attendance books 1957-1966</li> </ul>

Our reference	School
SMBP 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Elmslie Girls School: legal documents 20<sup>th</sup> cent; governors' minutes 1980s-1990s; admission lists and registers 1945-1999; confirmation registers 1963-1998; headteacher's reports 1978-1999; staff records 20th cent; magazines 1919-1994; guides and prospectuses 1930s-1997; scrapbooks 1926-2000; photographs, press cuttings, Friends of Elmslie minutes 1980-1991;</li> </ul>
DDX 2386	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plans</li> </ul>
SMBP 13 CBBL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blackpool Grammar School (Boys) (formerly Blackpool Secondary School to 1925): admission registers 1907-1941;</li> <li>governors' minutes 1967-1971</li> </ul>
CBBL LCC 14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grange Park CP: governors' minutes 1952-1988</li> </ul>
LCC 14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Greenlands High: governors' minutes 1982-1988</li> </ul>
LCC 14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hawes Side CP: governors' minutes 1975-1988</li> </ul>
CBBL LCC 14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Highfield High: governors' minutes 1961-1988</li> </ul>
SMBP 10 LCC14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Highfurlong Special School (formerly Blackpool Open Air School): log book 1928-1964;</li> <li>governors' minutes 1975-1988</li> </ul>
LCC14/3 DDX 2386	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Holy Family RC primary: governors' minutes 1975-1988; plans</li> </ul>
LCC14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Knowle High (formerly Palatine and Tyldesley High): governors' minutes 1982-1988</li> </ul>
LCC 14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Layton CP: governors' minutes 1952-1988</li> </ul>
SMBP 12 LCC 14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Marton: Baines Endowed: log books 1974-1926; admission registers 1937-1950; photographs 1896-1963;</li> <li>governors' minutes 1981-1988</li> </ul>
LCC14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mereside CP: governors' minutes 1975-1988</li> </ul>
CBBL LCC 14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Montgomery High: governors' minutes 1961-1991;</li> </ul>
CBBL LCC14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moor Park CP: governors' minutes 1967-1988</li> </ul>
CBBL LCC14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Norbreck CP: governors' minutes 1967-1991</li> </ul>
LCC14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Our Lady's RC Primary: governors' minutes 1975-1988</li> </ul>
SMBP 6 CBBL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Palatine: log book 1913-1937; admission registers 1913-1940; HMI reports 1914-1958;</li> <li>governors' minutes 1961-1982</li> </ul>
LCC 14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Park Special School: governors' minutes 1975-1988</li> </ul>
SMBP 2 LCC14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revoe Junior; log books 1900-1956; managers' minutes 1903-1936; admission register 1940-1946; history 1907-1953;</li> <li>governors' minutes 1975-1993</li> </ul>
SMBP 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revoe Mixed Senior: admission register 1925-1929</li> </ul>
LCC14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Roseacre: governors' minutes 1975-1988</li> </ul>

Our reference	School
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>St Bernadette RC Primary: governors' minutes 1977-1987</li> </ul>
CBBL LCC14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>St Catherine' RC Secondary: governors' minutes 1961-1977</li> </ul>
LCC14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>St Cuthbert RC Primary: governors' minutes 1977-1987</li> </ul>
LCC14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>St George's High: governors' minutes 1969-1988</li> </ul>
SMBP 1 SMBP 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>St John's CE primary: log books 1867-1921; admission register 1865-1948; minutes 1904-1917</li> </ul>
LCC14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>St Kentigern's RC Primary: governors' minutes 1975-1988</li> </ul>
LCC 14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>St Mary's RC High: governors' minutes 1978, 1986</li> </ul>
CBBL LCC 14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>St Nicholas CE Primary: governors' minutes 1959-1987</li> </ul>
RCPA acc 5766	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>St Thomas of Canterbury RC Secondary Modern School: plans 1964</li> </ul>
DDCL 2233/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>South Shore: report of treasurer of church and school, 1848</li> </ul>
LCC14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stanley CP: governors' minutes 1975-1992</li> </ul>
SMBP 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thames Road: log books 1903-1961; managers minutes 1903-1925;</li> </ul>
LCC 14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>governors' minutes 1975-1988</li> </ul>
SMBP 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tyldesley High (formerly Tyldesley Boys School, Tyldesley Girls School and Tyldesley Secondary School): log books 1925-1981; admission registers 1929-1978, examination returns and certificates 1969-1981; photographs, 1948-1960;</li> </ul>
CBBL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>governors' minutes 1961-1982</li> </ul>
SMBP 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Waterloo Road: log book 1904-1936; managers' minutes 1904-1935</li> </ul>
LCC 14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Waterloo CP: minutes 1975-1988</li> </ul>
SMBP 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wesleyan Day School: log book 1878-1892</li> </ul>
SMBP 15 LCC 14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Westcliffe County Infants: history;</li> <li>governors' minutes 1966-1988</li> </ul>
LCC 14/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Woodlands Special School: minutes 1975-1988</li> </ul>
DDX 1227	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unidentified Blackpool school</li> </ul>

## Hospital Records

Blackpool Victoria Hospital has deposited a large quantity of archives relating to local hospitals at Lancashire Record Office. South Shore Hospital was formerly La Sagesse Nursing Home.

Please note however that Lancashire Record Office has no registers or patient records relating to Glenroyd Maternity Home.

People suffering from mental illness would have been admitted to one of the Lancashire asylums or mental hospitals. Records for these are also held in Lancashire Record Office

Access to material which contains sensitive information about patients or staff is restricted for 100 years.

*Restricted access\**

<b>Our Reference</b>	<b>Hospital</b>	<b>Description</b>
DDX 3/68	Blackpool Victoria Hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prospectus of exhibition in aid of the proposed Blackpool Hospital 1892</li> </ul>
HRBP1	Blackpool Victoria Hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Board of Management and sub-committees minutes 1890-1947</li> <li>• Trustees' minutes 1917-1934</li> <li>• Annual reports 1894-1946</li> <li>• Conveyance of land and declaration of trusts 1893</li> <li>• Specification for new hospital 1933</li> <li>• Evaluation of new ward block 1966</li> <li>• Financial records including accounts 1894-1942; cash book for donations to new building fund 1935-1937; ledger for building works 1933-1938; income and expenditure accounts for the department of Pathology 1944-1947</li> <li>• Wages books 1907-1915, 1922-48*</li> <li>• Staff registers 1895-1967*</li> <li>• Admission registers 1894-1903, 1911-46*</li> <li>• Ward registers 1939-1956*</li> <li>• Operation registers 1907-1911, 1914-1917, 1940-1941, 1962-1971*</li> <li>• Casualty records 1948, 1952-1953, 1959-1965*</li> <li>• E and ENT registers 1937-1944, 1960-1962*</li> <li>• Birth registers 1957-1963*</li> <li>• Lists of x-rays 1948-1974*</li> <li>• Index of patients 1940-1941, 1943-1948</li> <li>• Distinguished visitors books 1937-1967, 1982-1994</li> <li>• Photographs 1865-1970s</li> </ul>

HRBP1	Blackpool Victoria Hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Histories of the hospital, including golden jubilee celebration booklet 1923-1986</li> <li>• Press cuttings 1929-1945, 1961-1983</li> <li>• Programmes and brochures for official openings 1961-1969</li> <li>• Ministry of Health Hospital Survey - the hospital Services of the North-Western area 1945</li> </ul>
CBBL Acc 7980	Blackpool Victoria Hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tuberculosis registers 1915-1948*</li> </ul>
HRBP 1	Victoria Hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Victoria School of nursing: prospectuses; photographs 1940-1970s</li> </ul>
HRBP acc 10126	La Sagesse Nursing Home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• operations record 1967-1973</li> <li>• admission and discharge registers 1972 – 1973</li> </ul>
HRBP acc 10126	South Shore Hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• admission and discharge registers 1974-1978</li> <li>• register of patients 1978-1989</li> <li>• death register 1974-2006</li> <li>• mortuary register 1974-1983</li> <li>• history</li> </ul>
CBBL	Glenroyd Maternity Home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• report on the structural condition 1946</li> <li>• minute book of visiting rota committee 1950-1974</li> </ul>
CHC2/1	Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde Community Health Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual reports 1991-1994</li> </ul>



*Blackpool Victoria Hospital: School of Nursing, no date (HRBP 1 acc 10068)*

## 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.

## 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.

<b>Our Reference</b>	<b>Description</b>
CBBL 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Poor rate books for Layton with Norbreck and Blackpool 1844-1911</li></ul>

The Fylde Poor Law Union, which included the Blackpool area, was established in 1837. Lancashire Record Office holds records (mostly minutes) relating to the administration of the Union and its workhouse. This was originally in Kirkham, but a new workhouse was built in Wesham in 1907. This site later became Wesham Park Hospital.

<b>Our Reference</b>	<b>Description</b>
PUF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fylde Poor Law Union: including Guardians of the Poor minutes and committee minutes 1845-1930</li></ul>
HRWP acc 7531	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• registers of births in the workhouse at Wesham 1866-1942</li></ul>

## 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. A later valuation was carried out in 1931.

The Blackpool Valuation District also covered Fleetwood, Thornton Cleveleys, St Annes, Lytham, Carleton and Poulton le Fylde.

<b>Our Reference</b>	<b>Description</b>
DVBP 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Valuation books and apportionments for Bispham, Blackpool, Marton 1910; 1931</li></ul>

## 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. All Blackpool records before 1936 were destroyed by fire.

<b>Our Reference</b>	<b>Description</b>
ICBP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Blackpool Insurance Committee, minutes 1936-1948; registers of payments to chemists and doctors 1936-1948</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 Blackpool was administered by the county borough council and used the registration marks FR and FV.

<b>Our Reference</b>	<b>Description</b>
VLBL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Registers 1920-1923; 1929-1974</li></ul>

## Church Records

Lancashire Record Office holds registers of baptism, marriage and burial for many Church of England, Roman Catholic and Nonconformist churches in the Blackpool area.

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.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a>

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 Blackpool area, the Record Office also holds bishops' transcripts of the registers, and chapter minutes and conference records of the Blackpool Rural Deanery from 1963 (RUBL).

Lancashire Record Office also functions as diocesan record office for the Roman Catholic diocese of Lancaster, which includes Blackpool.

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 Blackpool Wesleyan Circuit (1866-1934) and the Blackpool North and Blackpool South Methodist Circuits.
- Sunday School registers and minutes and financial records for several Methodist churches (see MBP catalogue)
- Records of the Blackpool Preparative meeting of the Society of Friends, 1950-1987 (FRP18/2). This meeting was affiliated to the Preston Monthly Meeting until 2002 and to the Lancaster Monthly Meeting from 1 Jan 2003; records relating to Blackpool Quakers will be found in those collections.
- Lancashire Congregational Union administrative records include material relating to Blackpool (CUL). There is also non-register material for individual Congregational and United Reformed churches in Blackpool (CUBP and URBP).
- Records of North Shore Unitarian church (UBP)



## Church Registers

The following tables summarise the holdings of church registers held at the Record Office for churches in the Blackpool 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)

### Church of England Church Registers - Diocese of *Blackburn*

#### BISPHAM, All Hallows

Our reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
PR 2909	1599-1809, 1813-1935	1599-1649, 1697-1931	1599-1809, 1813-1922

#### BLACKPOOL, All Saints

Our reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
PR 3200	1907-1978	1907-1966	

#### BLACKPOOL, Christ Church

Our reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
PR 3201	1865-1979	1870-1947	

#### BLACKPOOL, Holy Cross

Our reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
PR 3202	1921-1970	1953-1999	

#### BLACKPOOL, Holy Trinity

Our reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
PR 2921; PR 3203	1837-1968	1838-1970	1837-1918

#### BLACKPOOL, St John

Our reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
PR 2906	1821-1946	1836-1970	1821-1917

#### BLACKPOOL, St Michael and All Angels

Our reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
PR 3424		1981-2001	

### BLACKPOOL, St Paul

Our reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
PR 3207	1899-1982	1900-1992	

### BLACKPOOL, St Peter

Our reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
PR 3208	1921-1979	1921-1991	

### BLACKPOOL, St Thomas

Our reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
PR 3209	1912-1978	1923-1979	

### BLACKPOOL, Layton, St Mark

Our reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
PR 3210	1911-1971	1928-1978	

### BLACKPOOL, Mereside, St Wilfrid

Our reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
PR 3429	1953-1966	1965-1987	

### BLACKPOOL, Squires Gate, St Mary

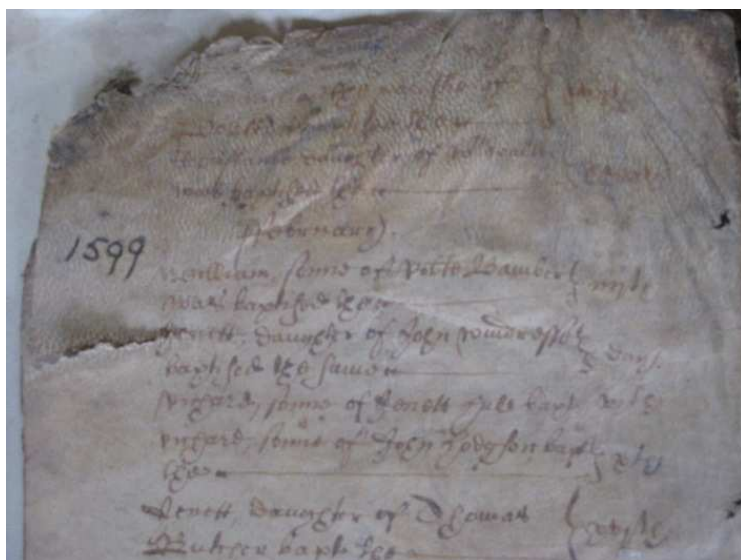
Our reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
PR 3205	1920-1958	1953-1958	

### MARTON, St Paul

Our reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
PR1290-1291; PR 3213	1828-1975	M 1838-1980	B 1828-1985

### MARTON MOSS, St Nicholas

Our reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
PR 3427	1938-1967		



Detail from the earliest parish register for the Blackpool area: Bispham All Hallows 1599 (PR 2909/1/1)

## Roman Catholic Church Registers - *RC Diocese of Lancaster*

Many of the Roman Catholic Church registers for the Blackpool area are still held by the parish priest. Staff at Blackpool Library or Lancashire Record Office can provide contact addresses.

### BLACKPOOL, Sacred Heart

Our reference	Christenings	Marriages	Deaths
RCBH	1855-1902	1860-1921	1873-1966

## Nonconformist Church Registers

### BLACKPOOL, Wesleyan Methodist Circuit

Our Reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
MBP19/1	1884-1893		

### BLACKPOOL, Adelaide St (United Methodist)

Our Reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
MBP8;	1903-1972		
MMR6/25-29		1935-1972	

### BLACKPOOL, Central [formerly Adelaide Street] (Wesleyan)

Our Reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
MBP19/1	1859-1893		

### BLACKPOOL, Claremont, Warley Road (United Reformed)

Our Reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
URBP1	1932-1993		
URMR3		1924-1993	

### BLACKPOOL, Egerton Rd (Primitive Methodist)

Our Reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
MBP7/1-2	1933-1972		
MMR6/1-3		1919-1967	

### BLACKPOOL, Grasmere Rd [formerly Lune Grove] (Primitive Methodist)

Our Reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
MBP24/2	1934-1966		
MMR6/4-6		1926-1966	

**BLACKPOOL, Newton Drive (United Methodist)**

Our Reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
MBP9/1	1904-1967		
MMR6/10-13		1913-1966	

**BLACKPOOL, Newton Drive, Victoria Congregational Church**  
See Victoria Street

**BLACKPOOL, North Shore (Unitarian)**

Our Reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
UBP1-2	1900-1972	1900-1973	1900-1971

**BLACKPOOL, Raikes Parade (Wesleyan Methodist)**

Our Reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
MBP5/1	1890-1942	1992-2004	

**BLACKPOOL, Shaw Road (United Methodist)**

Our Reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
MBP27/1	1949-1956		
MMR6/21-24		1915-1955	

**BLACKPOOL, South Shore, Rawcliffe Street (Wesleyan Methodist)**

Our Reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
MBP22/1	1870-1971		
MMR6/14-20		1906-1971	

**BLACKPOOL, Station Road/Bond Street (Baptist)**

Our Reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
BMR3		1948-1982	

**BLACKPOOL, Whitegate Drive (Baptist)**

Our Reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
BBP3		1928-1986	

**BLACKPOOL, Victoria Street (Independent/ Congregational)**

Our Reference	Christenings	Marriages	Burials
CUBP2		1946-1988	

## Sound Archive

The North West Sound Archive is based at Clitheroe Castle. This has many collections relating to Blackpool, including sound recordings and interviews with local people.

Some examples:

### **Charlie Cairoli the clown**

includes family background, language, his philosophy of clowning, why he joined the Tower Circus (recorded 1979; 44 minutes)

### **Holidays in Blackpool**

group of residents in a nursing home discuss holidays and outings to Blackpool; includes boarding houses, beach activities, music booths, Tower Ballroom and Derby Baths (recorded 1998; 100 minutes)

### **Ron Conway of Blackpool** (born 1937)

describes rented housing, bag-carrying for tourists, schooldays, duties as a Co-op delivery boy, ticket collector for Blackpool Football Club, the 1951 FA Cup Final, Teddy Boys, youth clubs, bands and politics (recorded 2001; 60 minutes)

### **Terry Regan of Blackpool** (born 1940)

Blackpool during WW2 and the 1950s: the Golden Mile, stalls, amusements, freak shows, piers and wakes weeks. Also crime and policing and closure of various firms (recorded 2005; 90 minutes)

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 427897

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

## Local and Family History Centre, Blackpool Council

The Local and Family History Centre in Blackpool is part of the town's library service.



During the period of the Central Library's refurbishment (completion due September 2011) the service is based at:

Lightworks (Illuminations depot),  
Amy Johnson Way,  
off Squires Gate Lane,  
Blackpool  
FY4 2RL

### Opening hours

<b>Tuesday</b>	9.30am - 1.00pm; 2.00pm-5.00pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	9.30am - 1.00pm; 2.00pm-5.00pm
<b>Thursday</b>	9.30am - 1.00pm; 2.00pm-5.00pm
<b>Saturday</b>	9.30am-1.00pm

There is plenty of parking. Bus service no.5 stops outside.

We will return to the first floor of Blackpool Central Library in September 2011.

The Local and Family Centre holds a comprehensive collection of material for people with an interest in the history and heritage of Blackpool and the Fylde.

This includes:

- historic Ordnance Survey maps of the area
- indexes to births, marriages and deaths in England and Wales 1837-2005
- Fylde area trade directories 1816-1969
- Blackpool electoral registers 1930 to date
- comprehensive Census records
- local area newspapers from 1845
- comprehensive local newspaper cuttings files and name indexes
- local historic photographs and images
- historic local holiday guides
- many local and regional parish records
- listings of local cemetery monumental inscriptions

The department also now holds the Cyril Critchlow Collection of Blackpool entertainment ephemera running to 179 volumes, including posters, photographs and historic local theatre programmes. The collection was launched to great acclaim by Ken Dodd in December 2009.

For family historians the Local and Family History Centre provides visitors with free access to the Ancestry website, FindmyPast and Originsnetwork. Visitors, especially those travelling long distances, are advised to contact us in advance as some research may require advance booking of PCs or reader-printer machines.

The Local and Family History Centre is always happy to advise on local or family history research.

**Contact details:**

**Phone:** 01253 478090

**Email:** [localhistory.centre@blackpool.gov.uk](mailto:localhistory.centre@blackpool.gov.uk)