

Local Studies - summary of holdings

Luton Central Library's local studies collection contains material on all aspects of life in Bedfordshire, with special emphasis on Luton. There is also limited coverage of the neighbouring counties of Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire.

The collection consists of the following categories:

Books

- all aspects of life in Luton and Bedfordshire
- limited range of titles on Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire

Newspapers

- local newspapers on microfilm
- newspaper cuttings files

Topic Files

- newspaper cuttings and other material collected together to form project packs

Council Publications

- planning documents, reports, financial statements etc.
- minutes of Luton Borough Council, 1907 to date

Census Material

- Census returns for Luton and surrounding area, 1841 - 1901, in microform
- Ecclesiastical census returns for Luton and surrounding area, 1851, microfilm
- Ecclesiastical census returns, Bedfordshire, 1851, transcription in Bedfordshire Historical Record Society volume 54
- County Reports for Bedfordshire, 1971 - 1991
- Small Area Statistics for Luton, 1971 - 1991
- indexes to 1851 and 1881 Censuses
- 1881 British census on CD-ROM
- 1871 and 1891 Bedfordshire census returns on CD-ROM

Maps

- a selection of historical maps of Luton and surrounding areas

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Directories and Almanacs

- Luton directories, 1903 - 1975
- Bedfordshire directories, 1785 – 1940
- Bedfordshire directories on CD-ROM: 1830, 1847, 1864, 1869, 1877, 1890, 1898
- Luton News almanacs, 1900 - 1916
- Telephone directories, Luton and surrounding area, 1961 to date
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Church Registers

Church of England

- Bedfordshire parish registers up to 1812, transcriptions
- Bedfordshire parish registers post 1812, microfiche

Non-conformist Registers

- Primitive Episcopal Church, Bedford, baptisms and burials, 1832 - 1845, transcription
- Bunyan Meeting, Bedford, church book, 1650 - 1821, facsimile
- Bedfordshire villages, 18th and 19th centuries, transcription
- Luton Baptist Meeting, burials, 1837 - 1854, microfilm
- Wesleyan Chapel, Luton and Luton Methodist circuit, 1803 - 1837, microfilm
- St Paul's, Bedford, Methodist circuit class book, 1781 - 1806, transcription
- Bedford, 18th and 19th centuries, transcription
- Baptist church book, Southill, 1693 - 1851, transcription
- index to Methodist baptisms, Dunstable, 19th and 20th centuries
- index to Methodist baptisms, Luton, 19th and 20th centuries

Indexes to Registers

- International Genealogical Index (IGI), British Isles, 1992 edition, microfiche
- Vital Records Index, 2nd edition, CD-ROM

Burial Records

- Bedfordshire monumental inscriptions, microfiche
- Luton Church Cemetery (Crawley Green Road), 1854 - 1988, microfiche
- The General Cemetery (Rothsay Road), 1855 - 1964, microfilm and CD-ROM
- Index to St Mary's church, Luton burials, 1813 - 1904

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Miscellaneous Records

- Luton Manor Court book, 1732 - 1767, microfilm
- Poor Law minutes, 1835 - 1840, microfilm
- Luton Guild register, 1527 - 1547, microfilm
- Who's Who Bedfordshire, 1909, 1911, microfilm
- Who's Who Hertfordshire, 1894, microfilm

Electoral Registers

- South Bedfordshire, 1948 - 1970, microfilm
- Luton, Burgess Roll 1913 - 1914
- Luton, 1949 to date

Photographs and Slides

- aerial views
- street scenes
- prominent and historical buildings
- industry
- people
- transport
- events

Journals

Including:

- *Bedfordshire County Life Magazine*
- *Bedfordshire Magazine*
- *Bedfordshire Family History Society Journal*
- *Family History News and Digest*
- *Hertfordshire Countryside*
- *Local Historian*

Luton Directories

Date	Edition	Publisher
1903	facsimile	Luton Reporter
1908	facsimile	Luton Reporter
1909	original	Luton Reporter
1910	facsimile	Luton Reporter
1912	original	Town and County
1914	original	Town and County
1915	facsimile	Town and County
1916	facsimile	Town and County
1917	original	Town and County
1918	original	Town and County
1919	facsimile	Town and County
1923	original	Town and County
1925	original	Luton News
1926	original	Luton News
1931	facsimile	Luton News
1933	facsimile	Luton News
1936	original	Luton News
1939	original	Luton News
1950	original	Luton News
1954	original	Luton News
1958	original	Luton News
1960	original	Kelly's
1963	original	Kelly's
1965	original	Kelly's
1967	original	Kelly's
1968	original	Kelly's
1970	original	Kelly's
1971	original	Kelly's
1972	original	Kelly's
1973	original	Kelly's
1974	original	Kelly's
1975	original	Kelly's

Bedfordshire Directories

Date	Edition	Publisher
1785	facsimile	John Ranklin Henington
1823	microfiche	Pigot's
1830	facsimile, CD-ROM	Pigot's
1839	facsimile, microfiche	Pigot's
1847	CD-ROM	Post Office
1850	microfiche	Slater's
1853	facsimile	Craven & Company
1862	facsimile	Edward Casey
1864	facsimile, microfiche, CD-ROM	Post Office
1869	microfiche, CD-ROM	Post Office
1871	facsimile	Mercer and Crocker's
1877	CD-ROM	Post Office
1885	microfiche	Kelly's
1890	original, CD-ROM	Kelly's
1894	microfiche	Kelly's
1898	original, microfiche, CD-ROM	Kelly's
1903	original	Kelly's
1906	original	Kelly's
1909	original	Town and County
1910	original	Town and County
1910	original	Kelly's
1914	original, microfiche	Kelly's
1920	original, microfiche	Kelly's
1924	original	Kelly's
1928	original	Kelly's
1931	original	Kelly's
1936	original	Kelly's
1938	original	Town and County
1940	original	Town and County