

# Library of Birmingham Archives & Collections

## Title Deeds

These can help you trace the owners and occupiers of your house. If the title deeds to your house are not in your possession, they may be with the solicitor or the mortgage company. The survival of older deeds is by no means guaranteed, for the Law of Property Act 1925 limited the need for evidence of title to 30 years. Older deeds may however have survived in a repository as part of a deposited solicitor's collection or collection of family and estate papers. If your property was, for instance, once part of a landed estate, it is quite possible that some title deeds can be found among the papers relating to the estate. Below is a list of major estates in Birmingham and the surrounding areas, these collections may contain some title deeds.

Major estate collections in Birmingham City Archives include:

- ❖ Calthorpe Estate
- ❖ Gough
- ❖ Colmore Estate
- ❖ Galton
- ❖ Smith Ryland Estate
- ❖ Norton
- ❖ Bateman-Scott.
- ❖ Pyddoke

Major solicitors collections in Birmingham City Archives include:

- ❖ Lee Crowder
- ❖ Messrs Wragge & Co
- ❖ Phelps & Savage
- ❖ Messrs Moor & Tibbits
- ❖ Messrs Johnson & Co