

Library of Birmingham Archives & Collections

Quaker Records

Warwickshire and Birmingham have been major centres of Quaker activity since the middle of the 17th century. Although numerically small, Quakers as a group have been disproportionately influential in the social, economic, philanthropic and political life of the area. Quaker businesses and banks played a leading role in manufacturing, industry, and the regional economy. Historically local Quakers have been prominent in local government, charitable and philanthropic initiatives, and at the forefront of social, educational and political reforms. They led the way in kindergarten education, open air schools, Sunday schools, adult education for the working classes, and housing reform in the city. Quaker women played a leading part in anti-slavery campaigns (establishing the first and largest women's abolitionist society in Britain) alongside Joseph Sturge, in the Birmingham Women's Settlement, and in the suffrage movement locally. The pioneering Birmingham Children's Court, which led to similar provision nationally, and other innovative juvenile justice reforms were initiated by local Quakers such as Geraldine Cadbury.

Birmingham Archives & Collections holds a number of archive collections for Quaker organisations and the personal and family papers of a number of Quaker families. Please note that the list below is **not** a complete list of all material relating to Quakers held by Birmingham Archives & Collections but rather a list of the major collections to provide a starting point for research in this area. Many of these collections have more detailed catalogues which you can find in our searchroom or online at <http://calmview.birmingham.gov.uk/CalmView/>.

Printed histories, annual reports of organisations etc. can be found in the general online library catalogue online at <https://library-opac.birmingham.gov.uk/cgi-bin/spydus.exe/MSGTRN/OPAC/HOME> and in the Local Studies indexes and catalogues in the Heritage Research Area on floor 4.

See *Campaigning for Social Justice* in the Learning pages on www.connectinghistories.org.uk for essays and documents relating to Joseph Sturge, the Women's Anti-Slavery Society, and other sources for Quaker involvement in Anti-Slavery campaigns.

Organisational Records:

SF Records of Central England Area Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, 1564 – 2017

This collection includes:

1) Records of the Quarterly Meeting which was the regional meeting, the highest organisational level below the national Yearly Meeting, from 1675. This covered Warwickshire, and at various times, Leicestershire, Rutland and Staffordshire.

2) Records of the Warwickshire Monthly business Meeting from 1662; it later divides into the three Monthly Meetings of Warwickshire North, Middle and South. Also included are the records of Severn Street and Moseley Road adult first day schools, records of Friends' institutes, the Friends Reading Society, the Friends Essay Society, the Friends Sunday School Union, the Friends Temperance Association, Education and Peace Committees, and various committees relating to housing, conscientious objection, enlistment during World War One, war relief here and abroad (including during World War One, the Spanish Civil War and World War Two), penal reform, the welfare of refugees and 'aliens', care of the elderly and so on.

3) Records of the Local/Preparative meetings and their predecessors, including: Baddesley, Barnt Green, Bournville, Bull St., Cotteridge, Coventry, Dudley, Edgbaston (previously George Rd.), Farm St., Fulford Heath, Gooch St., Hall Green, Hartshill, Kings Heath (previously Moseley Rd.), Longbridge, Northfield, Redditch, Selly Oak, Shipston, Stirchley, Stourbridge, Stourbridge and Dudley, Sutton Coldfield (including Kingstanding), Tamworth, Walsall, Warwick (including Leamington), Wiggins Hill.

MS 2160	Records of the Birmingham Friends Book Society	1822-1988
MS 3173 (IIR 62)	Records of the Women's' Anti-Slavery Society	1825-1919
MS 1536	Records of Bournville Village Trust	19-20 th cents
MS 1579	Records of the Barrow Cadbury Trust	20 th cent
MS 2797	Records of Fircroft College	1888-c1980
MS 3033/4/2	Religious Society of Friends congregational lists for Birmingham Meeting	1768-1808
MS 4095	Records of Selly Oak Nursery School, formerly Birmingham People's Free Kindergarten, Greet	1903-2003

A number of printed reports, addresses, programmes, conference papers and other material mainly relating to Severn Street Adult Schools, Friends Sunday School Union, Friends Reading Society and Moseley Road First Day School can be found in the Local Studies Collections. Please see the 'Local Studies Catalogue of Acquisitions pre-1941' available in the Heritage Research Area for details.

Personal and Family Papers:

The following collections include a range of documents relating to the families and their property and business interests as well as records relating to family members' participation in Friends meetings and concerns – for more detailed descriptions of content see the catalogues for individual collections.

MS 1509	Albright family papers	17-20 th cents
MS 1724	Records of Albright & Wilson Ltd.	1841-1940
MS 857	Papers relating to the Bayes family and others, including the Southall family	1807-1978
MS 1529	Papers relating to Cornelius Boeke and his wife Beatrice nee Cadbury	1918 - 1920
MS 466	Cadbury family papers	18-20 th cents
MS 675	Papers of Mary Capper (1755-1845) including family papers, tracts etc.	1668-1837
MS 3101	Galton family papers	1250-1882
546025 IIR 73	E. Gibbins: Records of the Gibbins family	1911
MS 3498 ZZ61a	Diary of Capt. Arthur E. Impey, gunner, covering the British Army's advance from Albert to Mauberge	1918
MS 1061 MS 4039	Lloyd family papers	18-20 th cents
MS 1612	Letters of Alan Scrivener Lloyd	c.1900-14
MS 2013	Pumphrey and Palmer family papers	c.1839-1950s
MS 1513	Papers of the Southall and Shorthouse families	1790s-1990

MS 588	Notebooks and papers of Joseph Edward Southall, artist (1861-1944)	1876-1925
MS 2945	Correspondence between Joseph Southall and Arthur Gaskin	1904-11
MS 614	Letters, photographs and historical notes relating to the Sturge family and to the Friends Proprietary School at Camp Hill.	1831-20 th cent.
MS 3458 ZZ 40	Letters between members of the Quaker community including George Bottomley of Ackworth (Yorks); and J.R. Seekings of Birmingham,	1830-43
MS 3782/14/76/8	Letter from Matthew Boulton to Anne Boulton describing a large meeting of Quakers which was being held at Truro where his friend Catherine Phillips was preaching. He goes on to describe her husband's funeral	17 Aug 1785
MS 4103	Research papers and correspondence of Pamela Williams relating to the publication of 'The Birmingham Quaker Trail' leaflet	2008

Printed resources (held by Reader Services):

Annual Monitor & memorandum books, 1819-1920, **B289.6**

The British Friend, 1894 - 1913, **B289.6**

Friends Historical Society, 1903 - 2000, **B289.6**

Friends Historical Society Supplements, 1907 - 2000, **B289.6**

Friends Quarterly, 1947 - 2012, **B289.6**

Quaker Monthly, 1980 - 2003, **B289.6**

Quakers Yearly Meeting of Friends Philadelphia, 1895 - 1956, **B289.6**

Quaker Social Responsibility & Education Journal, 1979 - 1990, **B289.6**

The Quarterly Examiner, 1867-1910, **B289.605**

Friends Book of Meetings, 1935 - 2011, **B289.6058**

The Friend, 1843 - 1959, **BQ289.6**

Supplement to the Introduction: Warwickshire Nonconformist and Quaker Meetings and Meeting Houses, 1660 -1750' in Warwick County Records, Vol. VIII, Proceedings in Quarter Sessions 1682 - 1690 1682 - 1690, **347.96**

Dec 2017