

# **PHOTOGRAPHS**

## **INFORMATION LEAFLET 19**



*Picton Clock, 1897 (ref: 352 ENG/2/19)*



The Record Office has a large number of photographs in its collections. The most important ones are described in this leaflet.



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## **PHOTOGRAPHS AND SMALL PRINTS**

This collection of illustrations of the city of Liverpool has been compiled from a variety of different sources and includes material dating back to the early nineteenth century. It includes photographs as well as small prints and engravings. The majority of illustrations are of Liverpool, although there are also sections for Lancashire and Cheshire. Sources include local photographers, the City Engineer's Department of Liverpool Corporation, donations to the Record Office and some photographs commissioned by Liverpool Libraries.

An index to the different subjects in the collection was compiled in 1988. Topics include: Churches, Parks and Gardens, Theatres and Cinemas, Hotels and Inns, Docks, Commerce and Industry, Ships, Streets and Districts.

As this collection has been built up over a long period some of the names listed have been superseded. The names of some companies, local authorities etc. may now be obsolete and local authority boundary changes will affect places such as Widnes and Hale.

A selection of the most popular subjects in this collection has been laser copied and is available on a self-service basis. Other items from the collection can be consulted in the Search Room by completing a request slip giving the full details of the subject as given in the index and heading the request form 'Photographs and Small Prints' (P&SP).

Appendices give details of other photographs in Record Office which are not included in this index, such as lists of streets and slum housing and photographs from the collection presented by Father D'Andria, parish priest of St.Peter's, Seel Street.



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## **HOUSING DEPARTMENT PHOTOGRAPHS (352 HOU)**

This collection of 12,000 photographs was deposited by the Housing Department and includes the following:

- Photographs of nineteenth century housing, such as St.Martin's Cottages, the first municipal tenements to be built in the city
- Views of insanitary property, taken in the 1920's
- Suburban housing estates built in the 1920's and 1930's, such as Larkhill, Norris Green, Speke and Woolton.
- Tenements built in the 1920's and 1930's for rehousing in the central area, replacing demolished insanitary property, warehouse and industrial premises, such as South Hill Road, Myrtle Gardens, Fontenoy Gardens
- Perspective drawings and plans
- 1950's and 1960's compulsory clearance areas before demolition

There is an index of individual streets. Items from the collection can be requested by completing a request form quoting the reference number '352 HOU' followed by the number for specific photographs as shown in the list.

## **LOCAL STUDIES CATALOGUE**

Many illustrations, views, photographs etc. in books and magazine articles are listed in the Local Studies Catalogue in the Search Room. This is arranged in alphabetical order. Please look under the subject you are interested in.

Volumes by individual photographers such as Burke, Inston and Eastham working in the late nineteenth century are listed and include views of Liverpool and pictures of street characters.

There have been many local history books published which are based largely on photographic archives. Copies are available for reference.



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## **CITY ENGINEER'S PHOTOGRAPH COLLECTION (352 ENG)**

In 1896 it was decided to keep a photographic record of the work done by the City Engineer's department. This major photographic archive consists of 158,383 images dating from 1897 to 1995.

They were initially used to support the work of the City Engineer, the Surveyor, the Housing Department and the Medical Officer of Health, showing everyday work such as road improvements, refuse collection and the laying of sewers and major projects, such as the infilling of George's Dock to build the Liver Building and the reclamation of land to construct Otterspool Promenade. There are also photographs of the work of other departments, major events and general developments in the city.

This collection is of immense value nationally, as well as locally and gives a detailed view of almost every aspect of the development of the City. It provides a comprehensive record of the work of the City Council, which in the first half of the twentieth century provided such services as water supply, electricity supply and hospitals. It is particularly important in recording the city's pioneering work in town planning, housing, public health and transport.

A database of the first 20,000 photographs covering the period up to 1962 is now available and can be searched by keyword. Over 2000 of the images have been scanned and are being added to all the time and these can be viewed on screen and printed out. These can be accessed in the Record Office and also on the internet at [www.liverpool.gov.uk/archives](http://www.liverpool.gov.uk/archives)



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Lists compiled by the City Engineer's Department give the negative number, but are in chronological order, which makes searching for a specific topic after 1962 very time consuming. Items from the collection can be requested by completing a request form quoting the reference number '352 ENG' followed by the number for specific photographs as shown in the database or City Engineer's list. Copies of a number of photographs from this collection are also included in the Photographs and Small Prints and in the Housing Department photographs.

## **CHAMBRÉ HARDMAN**

A large collection of portraits and some landscapes and local scenes by Edward Chambré Hardman (1898-1988) is held here. Part of the collection is owned by the City Council and part belongs to the National Trust. At the time of writing a Heritage Lottery funded project led by the National Trust is in progress to catalogue a large number of the images. Some have been scanned. They can be searched at [www.liverpool.gov.uk/archives](http://www.liverpool.gov.uk/archives) and at [www.mersey-gateway.org](http://www.mersey-gateway.org) Please contact Emily Burningham, archivist for the collection, for further information on 0151 233 5849.

## **ARCHIVE COLLECTIONS**

Many archive collections contain photographs and details are given in the lists of individual collections. They include records of John Holt and Co (380 HOL), Merseyside Fire Service( M388 MFS), Merseyside Development Corporation (M352 MDC), diaries and papers of the Molyneux family of Sefton (920SEF) and many more.



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## **REQUESTING PHOTOGRAPHS**

All of these photographs, except for the self-service selection and digitized copies, mentioned above, can be consulted in the Search Room. A Reader's Ticket is required and can be issued on production of proof of name and address. Loose photographs will be issued in batches and counted out and back by the staff. Please allow plenty of time for your research and please use the gloves provided at all times and take great care when handling photographs because they are particularly fragile and vulnerable to damage. To prevent damage to valuable originals copies will be used whenever possible.

A large number of photographs from these collections are also featured on the Mersey Gateway website at [www.mersey-gateway.org](http://www.mersey-gateway.org). This also includes a link to the Past Liverpool website at [www.mersey-gateway.com/pastliverpool](http://www.mersey-gateway.com/pastliverpool), which features photographs of housing and schools in Liverpool.

Use of photographs in publications and for anything other than private use is dependent on copyright and may be subject to a reproduction fee. Please always consult the staff.



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**LIVERPOOL RECORD OFFICE, LOCAL STUDIES  
AND FAMILY HISTORY SERVICE**

Central Library, William Brown Street, Liverpool L3 8EW

General enquiries	0151 233 5817
Microfilm/microfiche bookings	0151 233 5811
Fax (Central Library)	0151 233 5886
E-mail	<a href="mailto:recoffice.central.library@liverpool.gov.uk">recoffice.central.library@liverpool.gov.uk</a>

For opening hours, some catalogues and development news please visit our website at [www.liverpool.gov.uk/archives](http://www.liverpool.gov.uk/archives)

Appointments are advisable for viewing sources on microfilm and on microfiche. A reader's ticket is needed to request archives, books, maps, photographs and watercolours. Please bring proof of name and address. You will be asked to leave any bags in lockers before consulting original material.

Annual closure for stock-taking and special projects  
3rd and 4th weeks in June.

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**September 2006**