SUBJECT GUIDE 11 : POOR LAW RECORDS

Introduction
This leaflet is a guide to Poor Law records held at Durham County Record Office, in particular those that might have potential for family history research. The intention is: to indicate which of our catalogues should be consulted for further information about record holdings relating to particular places; to explain some of the terminology in use; and to list records which may contain personal information.

Many poor law records are subject to a 100 year closure under data protection legislation. Sensitive volumes where the latest record is dated within the last 100 years have a restricted access; contact us for details. Research can always be carried out, for relatives, by our Research Service.

Historical development
Since the 16th Century there have been many innovations in statutory provision for the care of the poor (whether homeless, unemployed, disabled, orphaned, widowed or bankrupt). At one time this was mainly the responsibility of the church, through the local ecclesiastical parish authorities, collecting tithes and distributing relief. In the early 19th century the Poor Law Unions were created, uniting the responsibilities of groups of parishes for a more efficient and equitable system paid for through local rates. Each change in the law affects the records that might be kept.

Old Poor Law
1547 Act of Legal Settlement – provision of parish relief and homes for “impotent poor” – administered by the vestry meeting of all rate-paying men in the parish.
1576 An Act For Setting of the Poor on Work, and for the Avoiding of Idleness – institution of the House of Correction (a hostel for the unemployed and homeless). For children born out of wedlock the parish could try to establish the identity of the father, through a bastardy examination, and force him to pay for support, through bastardy bonds and filiation orders, later called maintenance orders.
1597 An Act for the Relief of the Poor – determined parochial responsibility and appointment of unpaid overseers to administer parish relief (paid for by local taxation) providing work for the poor.
1601 Act of Relief for the Poor – consolidation of previous acts.
1662 An Act for the better Relief of the Poor of this Kingdom (The Settlement Act) – settlement and removal regulations mean those moving home between parishes needed a certificate from their home parish and could be removed back to their place of origin if they became destitute.
1697 An Act For supplying some Defects in the Laws for the Relief of the Poor – issuing of pauper badges (till 1810)
1723 Knatchbull’s Act (The Workhouse Test Act) – allowed “indoor relief” through a parish or district workhouse.
1777 a parliamentary report listed existing poorhouses.
1782 Gilbert’s Act – a board of guardians for “Gilbert Unions” providing workhouses for unions of parishes.
1819 Sturges Bourne’s Act – select vestries to scrutinise relief giving.
1831 The Vestries Act (Houbhouse’s Act) – elected vestries.

New Poor Law
1832 Royal Commission on the Poor Laws.
1834 Poor Law Amendment Act – national network of poor law unions with annually elected board of guardians replacing overseers and vestries.
1844 Outdoor Relief Prohibitory Order – an attempt to end outdoor relief
1847 Consolidated General Order – the main rulebook for running workhouses
1852 Outdoor Relief Regulation Order – a further attempt to end outdoor relief
1857 Industrial School Act – care and education of vagrant, destitute and disorderly children at industrial schools.
1866 Poor Law Amendment Act – civil parishes, which gather income for Unions, defined as all areas levyi hunting a rate; workhouses now to keep creed registers.
1875 Rural Sanitary Districts established.
1894 Local Government Act – end of vestries; urban and rural district councils; elections for civil parish councillors
1913 Poor Law Institution Order
1929 Local Government Act – poor law unions replaced by the public assistance committee of the local council.
1948 National Health Service Act – end of poor law.

Scope and Organisation of this Leaflet

Poor Law Union boundaries were based on population and communications and did not always respect parish or county boundaries. This leaflet is organised by Union, with records for parishes listed under the most appropriate.

Old Poor Law Records

Records of Poor Relief between 1547 and 1832 (and even through to 1894) may appear in Vestry Minutes and Accounts, Overseers’ Minutes and Accounts, and Churchwardens’ Minutes and Accounts for any Ecclesiastical Parish or, occasionally, Chapelry or Township. This leaflet lists existing records of all parishes that existed in 1832.

For Settlement Certificates and Removal Orders, Apprenticeship records and Bastardy Bonds the names of the persons concerned will appear under the appropriate parish reference in our on-line catalogue. Filiation and maintenance orders may be found in Petty Sessional court records. Apprenticeship records are listed in Index 617.

Details of disputes arising from poor law decisions can also appear in Quarter Sessions records and in local Solicitors’ papers held at the Record Office.

New Poor Law Records

From 1834, parishes and townships in County Durham were organised into fifteen Poor Law Unions. Each Union had at least one workhouse, to house the homeless and destitute: their actual locations and layouts are given in Peter Higginbotham’s excellent website (www.Workhouses.org.uk) and can be seen on our collection of O/S maps in the record office or on our map viewer (www.durhamrecordoffice.org.uk/article/10532/Search-the-12500-Map-Series).

Surviving Poor Law Union records are mostly concerned with rating assessments and valuations and, while these are useful for house history, they are not listed here. There are some surviving plans of offices, workhouses and hospitals; search our database for the words workhouse and plan. Relief Committee minutes record decisions about local relief, both indoor (workhouse) and outdoor (at home). Guardians’ minutes are chiefly administrative but may sometimes list recipients of relief; there will be various other sub-committee minutes and administrative records. Workhouse masters’ reports can contain personal details. There are also some registers of births and deaths (both for workhouses and for union hospitals), admission and discharge registers, creed registers (listing all inmates) and apprentice registers.

Other Records

County council social services records, such as those for the cottage homes, are not included in this leaflet. We hold registers from 1901 onwards for childrens’ homes in Medomsley, Stockton, Houghton, Penshaw, Lanchester and Birtley, and also records of various convalescent homes and hostels. These have restricted access.

Durham County Council’s Public Assistance Committee minutes are held here. These have restricted access.

Most workhouses had hospitals attached (many of which continue as such today). These often had a postal address so that hospital births could be recorded with an address rather than an institutional name. We also hold some other hospital records, including Aycliffe, Bishop Auckland, Wolsingham, Stanhope, Chester-le-Street, Darlington, Shotley Bridge, Blackhill, Lanchester, Durham County Hospital, and Winterton (the county mental asylum). These have restricted access.

Charity records may occasionally indicate recipients, though most are administrative. These can sometimes be found with parish records and borough records. Workhouse inmates are listed in census returns for 1841 to 1911.

Records Held, by Union

Auckland Poor Law Union Area

New Poor Law (U/Au) - workhouse “100 Cockton Hill”; later Oaklands, now General Hospital
Register of apprentices 1875-1897 (UD/BA 266)
Visiting Committee book 1930-1937 and Register of deaths in poor law institution 1943-1951 (H/SWD 375-376)
Guardians’ minutes 1863-1948 — inc. lists of persons unable to work on medical grounds plus some details of lunatics.
Other minute books (inc. hospital committee), financial records and rates assessment books.
Lady Eden Hospital records (also in H/SWD 178-211)
Old Poor Law
Auckland St Andrew [workhouse in 1777] (EP/Au.SA): Vestry Minutes 1720-1847; Overseers Accounts 1733-1743
Crook and Billy Row (see Brancepeth parish, Durham Union)
Escomb (EP/Es): overseers’ and churchwardens’ accounts 1683-1784, overseers’ accounts 1822-1831, vestry and parochial church council minutes 1888-1930
Hamsterley (EP/Ham): vestry minutes and churchwardens’ accounts 1728-1905, Lynesack and Softley township account book, South Bedburn township account book, early parish registers include vestry resolutions relating to the poor
Merrington (EP/Mer): churchwardens’ accounts and vestry minutes 1621-1955
Whitworth (EP/Whi): vestry accounts 1918-1968
Auckland St Helen, Auckland St Anne, Witton le Wear: no records

Chester le Street Poor Law Union

New Poor Law (U/CS) – workhouse on Front Street; now General Hospital
Relief Committee minutes for Birtley 1911-1923, Chester-le-Street 1904-1922 and Harraton/Washington 1904-1923
Relief order books for Chester-le-Street district 1928-1930 and Washington district 1914-1915
List of claimants, 1915; discharged soldiers, 1916; Records relating to “Birtley Belgians”, 1916-18
Particulars of applications of relief, 1929-30; register of outdoor relief, post-1922; names of those who have started work, 1928-1929; outdoor relief payment book and lists, 1929-42; relief payment cards (Witton Gilbert), 1931-38
Registers of poor persons suffering from TB, 1928
Register of deaths at the asylum, 1907-1913; inmates of asylum, 1907-1914; admissions to asylum, 1919-1928; list of lunatics, 1923-1927
Registers of cow keepers, 1887-1910
Guardians’ minutes, 1840-1926
Rates assessment and valuations and other financial records (see also RD/CS 1-148)
Other committee minutes
Correspondence (inc. Cullercoats children’s home)

Old Poor Law
Chester-le-Street [2 workhouses in 1777] (EP/CS): churchwardens’ and overseers accounts 1606-1703, churchwardens’ and overseers accounts and vestry minutes 1701-1723, churchwardens’ accounts and vestry minutes 1722-1837 and 1848-1936, charity memoranda books, vestry minutes 1828-1837
Lamesley (EP/Lam): vestry minutes 1833-1887, churchwardens’ and overseers accounts 1634-1715, churchwarden’s accounts 1715-1755 & 1815-1869, overseers’ accounts 1812-1831, bastardy bonds, removal orders and various other overseers’ papers
Penshaw (see Houghton-le-Spring)

Darlington Poor Law Union

New Poor Law (U/Da) – workhouse “90-108 Yarm Road”; later Featham’s Infirmary then Municipal Hospital
Register of inmates, and admission and discharge registers, 1912-1958
Cred registers, c.1912-1950
Register of lunatics, 1897-1948; orders for detention of lunatics, 1896-1949
Registers of births, 1911-1939; registers of deaths, 1877-1963
Vagrancy registers, 1941-1957
Hospital reception and departure books, 1949-1956
Medical records, 1931-1948; case histories, 1949-1956
Master’s reports, 1927-1958
Guardians’ minutes, 1837-1930; Children Committee minutes, 1910-1930
Other committee minutes, correspondence, circulars; assessment and valuation and other financial records
Administrative records for workhouse

Old Poor Law
Darlington St Cuthbert [workhouse in 1777] (EP/Da.SC): vestry minutes 1867-1924; churchwardens’ accounts 1630-1948. Also (D/XD 16/30-31) vestry minutes 1824-1835. Also (D/X 666, 667 & 874) apprenticeships, bastardy, settlement, filiation, etc.
Darlington Holy Trinity (EP/Da-HT): vestry minutes and churchwardens’ accounts 1859-1902
Piercebridge, Headlam, Denton – see Gainford
Haughton-le-Skerne (EP/HaS): vestry minutes 1658-1925
Heighington (EP/He): churchwardens’ accounts 1651-1871
Hurworth (EP/Hur): bastardy bonds, register of apprentices 1804-1835, churchwardens accounts 1776-1933
Coniscliffe (EP/Co): churchwardens’ accounts 1767-1890, overseers’ accounts 1767-1774, vestry minutes 1859-1945
Sadberge (EP/Sad): vestry minutes 1862-1920, churchwardens’ account book 1743-1890, overseers’ accounts 1747-1763
Middleton St George (EP/Mi.SG): vestry minutes 1864-1921, churchwardens’ accounts 1895-1920
Dinsdale (EP/Di): vestry minutes 1876-1902, overseers’ accounts 1724-1851, apprenticeships, churchwardens’ accounts 1836-1847 & 1862-1920

Durham Poor Law Union

New Poor Law (U/Du) – workhouse “37 Crossgate”; later St Margaret’s Hospital
Registers of births and of deaths in the workhouse, 1866-1914 (H/Du)
Admission and discharge register, 1937-1948 (H/Du)
Creed and inmates registers, 1905-1942 (H/Du)
Guardians’ minutes, 1837-1902
Valuation lists and ledgers
Financial ledgers (CC/Tr)
Records concerning land on Crossgate (D/X 2/39-53)

Old Poor Law
St Mary the Less (EP/Du.ML): churchwardens’ accounts 1709-1850, overseers’ accounts 1828-1837
St Mary le Bow (EP/Du.MB): churchwardens’ and overseers’ accounts 1678-1868, vestry minutes 1819-1843 & 1881-1943, records of apprenticeships, bastardy, settlement and removals
St Margaret [2 workhouses in 1777] (EP/Du.SM): chapelwardens’ accounts and vestry minutes 1665-1910
Croxdale (EP/Cr): churchwardens’ accounts 1845-1900, vestry minutes 1901-1927
Kelsoe (EP/Ke): no records
Brancepeth (EP/Br): vestry minutes and churchwardens’ accounts 1735-1926
Kimblesworth (EP/Ki): no records
Pittington (EP/Pl): overseers’ accounts, vestry minutes, churchwardens’ accounts 1584-1699, 1838-1922. Also (CP/She 1) vestry minutes 1829-1835

Easington Poor Law Union

New Poor Law (U/Ea) – workhouse on Seaside Lane; later Leeholme Hospital
Relief Committee minutes: North District 1898-1930, Mid District 1925-1931, South District 1905-1933
Relieving officers pay books and cash books, 1939-1948
Guardians’ minutes, 1837-1939 (except 1847-1862)
Hospital Committee minutes, 1897-1939; Boarding Out Committee minutes, 1910-1925; other committee minutes
Some financial records (also ledgers in CC/Tr)
Plans (ND/Ea and RD/Ea and CC/Arch)

Old Poor Law
Castle Eden (EP/CE): vestry minutes 1794-1882
Monk Hesleden (EP/MH): churchwardens’ accounts and vestry minutes 1685-1922
Dalton-le-Dale (EP/DD): overseers’ accounts 1690-1762, vestry minutes 1834-1883, churchwardens’ accounts 1698-1777
Murton (EP/DD-HT): vestry minutes 1885-1963
Seaham (EP/Sea): churchwardens' and overseers' accounts, vestry minutes, etc. 1857-1956, overseers' accounts 1759-1805

Gateshead Poor Law Union
New Poor Law – workhouse in Bensham; later Bensham Hospital
Records are held by the Tyne and Wear Archives
Winlaton plan (D/HH 10/1/2)

Old Poor Law

Hartlepool Poor Law Union (created from Stockton Union in 1859)
New Poor Law – workhouse on Holdforth Road; later Howbeck Hospital, now University (former General) Hospital
Records are held by the Teesside Archives (Middlesbrough).

Old Poor Law
See Stockton

Houghton-le-Spring Poor Law Union
New Poor Law (U/Ho) – workhouse on Sunderland Road/William Street
Creed registers, 1887-1914
Inmates’ property registers, 1908-1969
Relief Committee minutes, 1903-1930
Indoor revision register, 1912-1938
Medical reports, 1928-1941
Admission and discharge books, and registers of inmates, 1887-1969
Register of temporary residents, 1959-1968
British Legion list, 1914-1919
Register of deaths, 1895-1969
Temporary accommodation register and application books, 1959-1969
Boarding Out Committee minutes, 1920-1930; House Committee minutes, 1918-1935; Cottage Homes Committee minutes, 1930-1944; Institution Committee minutes, 1930-1944; Hostel Committee minutes, 1949-1964
Guardians’ minutes, 1837-1930
Other committee minutes
Administrative records including staff files and registers

Old Poor Law
Houghton-le-Spring [workhouse in 1777] (EP/Ho): overseers’ accounts 1752-1829, vestry minutes 1863-1923, churchwardens’ accounts 1595-1864
Silksworth (EP/Si): no records
Penshaw (EP/Pen ): vestry minutes 1881-1948, churchwardens’ accounts 1881-1925, list of paupers 1897

Lancashire Poor Law Union
New Poor Law (U/La) - workhouse on Front Street/Newbiggin Lane; later Lee Hill Hospital
Settlement and removal forms, 1891
Creed registers, 1892-1930; birth registers, 1847-1930; death registers, 1842-1946 (H/NWD)
Valuation records
Staff records (CC/Tr)
Financial records (D/X 1083 and Cp/Coy)
Plans (RD/La 143)
Old Poor Law

Lanchester (EP/La): churchwardens' accounts and vestry minutes 1805-1912
Satley (EP/Sat): no records
Medomsley (EP/Me): vestry minutes 1836-1917, churchwardens' accounts 1803-1853 & 1875-1950
Embleton (EP/Em): no records
Muggleswick: any records would probably be held by the Northumberland Archives

Sedgefield Poor Law Union

New Poor Law (U/Se) – workhouse on King William Street then on Station Road/West End
Admission and discharge registers, 1837-1957
Visiting committee reports, 1893-1905
Lunatic certificates, 1881-1909
Indoor relief lists, 1837-1958
Outdoor relief lists, 1921-1943; relief order books, 1924-1930
Application and report books, 1927-1932
Creed registers, 1869-1945
Registers of inmates and property, 1930-1962
Register of lunatics, 1906-1930
Registers of births, 1837-1931; registers of deaths, 1838-1848, 1866-1930
Medical reports
Register of young persons placed in service, 1875-1888
Boarding out registers, 1911-1928
Register of persons receiving infants for reward, 1923-1928; register of children adopted by DCC, 1930-1948
Master's reports and journals, 1847-1941
Boarding Out Committee minutes, 1912-1933
Relief Sub-Committee minutes, 1930-1943
Visiting Committee minutes
Financial records, letter books, administrative records
Ledgers (CC/Tr)
Plan (D/Br/P 97)

Old Poor Law

Sedgefield [workhouse in 1777] (EP/Se): select vestry minutes 1828-1921, churchwardens' accounts 1826-1924
Embleton (EP/Em): no records
Trimdon (EP/Tr): vestry minutes 1862-1946 including churchwardens' accounts 1864-1906
Bishop Middleham (EP/BM): vestry minutes and churchwardens' accounts 1747-1916, bastardy examinations, Bishop Middleham township select vestry minutes re poor relief 1826-1888 and overseers' accounts 1838-1889
Ferryhill (EP/Fe): churchwardens' accounts 1850-1905, vestry minutes 1849-1990
Great Stainton (EP/GS): annual vestry minutes 1883-1933
Stillington (EP/St): annual vestry minutes with annual accounts 1879-1892
Cormforth (EP/Cor): no records
Trimdon (EP/Tr): vestry minutes 1862-1946, churchwardens' accounts 1864-1906
Aycliffe (EP/Ay): overseers' accounts 1817-1837, vestry minutes 1849-1903, churchwardens’ accounts 1741-1935
Bishopton: see Stockton Union

South Shields Poor Law Union

New Poor Law – workhouse “1 Moor Lane, West Harton” or “169 Harton Lane”; later Westoe/South Shields Dispensary and Harton Institution
Records are held by the Tyne and Wear Archives

Old Poor Law

South Shields [workhouse in 1777] (EP/SS.SH): vestry and select vestry minutes including memo on state of workhouse, overseers’ accounts 1766 – 1789, vestry minutes at which matters concerning the poor of the parish were discussed 1771 – 1794, report on All Saints’ Workhouse 1824 - 1837
Boldon (EP/Bo): overseers' accounts 1705-1830, vestry minutes1876-1967, churchwardens' accounts 1709-1922
Jarrow (EP/Ja.SP): overseers' accounts 1787 – 1801, vestry minutes 1674-1928, churchwardens' accounts 1768-1916
( incomplete)
Whitburn (EP/Whit): churchwardens' accounts and vestry minutes 1813 – 1887, list of pauper children apprenticed under Dr. Trippett's Charity 1665 - 1666

Stockton-on-Tees Poor Law Union

New Poor Law (U/St) – workhouse “50 Portrack Lane”; later St Anne's Hospital
Relief Sub-Committee minutes, 1939-1942
Application and report books, 1882-1903
Outdoor relief lists, 1887-1926
Stockton Union Children's Homes reports and journals, 1911-1950; admission and discharge registers, 1915-1933;
register of children, 1900-1946; register of children in employment, 1911-1929; Stockton Cottage Homes admission and
discharge registers, 1933-1949 (CC/Social Services)
Guardians’ minutes, 1888-1930
Rates assessment records; administrative records; plans
Staff records (CC/Tr)

Old Poor Law

Hart (EP/Ha): vestry minutes 1798-1910, overseers’ accounts 1736-1839, churchwardens’ accounts 1796-1911
Hartlepool [workhouse in early 1800s] (EP/Ha.SH): churchwardens’ and overseers' minutes re property 1894 – 1928,
churchwardens' accounts and vestry minutes 1794-1907
Elwick Hall (EP/Elw): churchwarden's accounts 1726-1766 & 1785-1899
Stranton (EP/Str): churchwardens’ accounts 1697-1867, vestry minutes 1824-1866
Grindon (EP/Gr): overseers’ accounts 1784-1811, churchwardens’ accounts 1854-1923
Stockton [workhouse from 1730] (EP/Sto): vestry minutes 1762-1926, churchwardens' accounts 1735-1785 & 1812-1904,
overseers' accounts 1751-1868, apprenticeship indentures (not itemised), bastardy bonds (not itemised),
settlement, removal and vagrancy certificates (not itemised), appeals for assistance 1739-1817
Billingham (EP/Bi): churchwardens’ accounts 1682-1960
Egglescliffe (EP/Eg): churchwardens' accounts and vestry minutes 1810-1892, churchwardens' accounts 1892-1931,
vestry minutes 1865-1980
Elton (EP/Elt): no records
Bishopton [2 workhouses in 1777] (EP/Bis): overseers’ records – removals, settlement, bastardy, apprenticeships,
overseers’ accounts 1783-1831, vestry minutes 1827-1832 & 1858-1907, churchwardens' accounts 1723 & 1844-
1920
Norton [workhouse in 1777] (EP/Nor): settlement and removal records, vestry minutes 1827-1928, churchwardens’
accounts 1755-1915, vestry minutes 1827-1928
Long Newton (EP/LN): churchwardens' accounts 1746-1750 & 1756-1772, overseers' accounts 1746-1749 & 1752-1791,
churchwardens' accounts 1629-1653 & 1784-1849

Sunderland Poor Law Union

New Poor Law – workhouse on Harley Street then on Hylton Road; later Highfield Hospital, now Royal Infirmary
Records are held by the Tyne and Wear Archives
Sunderland Workhouse plan (NCB 2/57/27)
Apprenticeships, inc. names (D/X 666)

Old Poor Law

Bishopwearmouth St Michael [workhouse from 1750] (EP/BIw): churchwardens' accounts 1661-1689 & 1750-1884, vestry
minutes and relief order book 1805-1836, overseers’ accounts 1693-1792 & 1818-1819
Sunderland [workhouse from 1740] (EP/Su.HT): overseers' accounts, receipts and correspondence 1815-1833, vestry
minutes 1719-1919, churchwardens' accounts 1716-1738, 1817-1959
Monkwearmouth [workhouse in early 1800s] (EP/Mo.SP): churchwardens' accounts and annual vestry minutes 1814-
1907
**Teesdale Poor Law Union**

**New Poor Law (U/Te)** – workhouse on Galgate, Barnard Castle; now Richardson Hospital

Financial records
Administrative records (EP/Rom 7/17, D/St/X 5/10, RD/BC 35-42)
Ledger (CC/Tr)
Legal poor law cases, all named (D/HH 2/17)

**Old Poor Law**


Whorlton (EP/Who): church fund accounts 1870-1911

Winston (EP/Wi): parish books, overseers', churchwardens' and highway accounts 1632-1728, churchwardens' accounts 1778-1912

Staindrop (EP/Stai): churchwardens' accounts 1703-1921; vestry minutes 1795-1908; overseers' accounts 1768-1837; settlement and removal; apprenticeship; bastardy examinations

Gainford [workhouse in 1777] (EP/Gai): overseers' accounts, 1818-1837; churchwardens' accounts 1727-1909. Also (D/X 487/7) poor law documents, (D/Ed 15/1/21) vestry minutes 1863-1873

Cockfield (EP/Coc): churchwardens' accounts 1792. accounts of alms collections, settlement certificates, charities, vestry minutes and memorandum of agreement 1831 re repair of church 1702-1834, churchwardens' accounts and vestry minutes 1834-1925

Eggleston [workhouse in 1777] (EP/Egn): no records


Romaldkirk (EP/Rom): churchwardens' accounts for township of Cotherstone with Hundertwaite including overseers’ disbursement 1701-1726, lists of those receiving weekly pensions 1750-1782, annual audit of overseers’ accounts 1727-1782, churchwardens’ accounts 1771-1917, overseers' accounts 1830-1877, removal orders, apprenticeships, filiation orders


Bowes [workhouse in 1777] (EP/Bow): vestry minutes 1870-1910

Rokeby (EP/Rok): vestry minutes 1861-1865 & 1892-1930

Brignall (EP/Bri): churchwardens', constables and overseers' accounts 1700-1827, churchwardens’ accounts 1833-1900

Barningham (EP/Ba): overseers’ accounts 1783-1820, Hope township overseers' accounts 1784-1837, churchwarden’s accounts 1732-1887, removal orders 1819-1832, apprenticeship records 1804 and 1827, filiation/maintenance orders

Wycliffe (EP/Wy): vestry minutes 1844-1890

Hutton Magna (EP/HM): annual vestry minutes 1879-1934, churchwardens' accounts 1892-1932

**Weardale Poor Law Union**

**New Poor Law (U/We)** – workhouse in Newfield, Stanhope

Parochial lists of indoor and outdoor poor for Wolsingham and Tow Law, 1848-1910 (incomplete)

Orders by Justices of the Peace for the excusal of poor rates on the grounds of poverty, 1861-1905

Guardians’ minutes, 1865-1868; rate books and other financial records

Ledger (CC/Tr)

**Old Poor Law**

Stanhope (EP/St): overseers' account book 1728-1765, militia records, apprenticeships, etc., churchwardens’ accounts 1675-1751, vestry minutes 1675-1750, churchwardens’ accounts (partial) 1759-1875. Also (D/X 384/1) overseers' accounts 1766-1773

Wolsingham [workhouse in 1777] (EP/Wol): vestry minutes 1821-1835 including churchwardens’ and overseers’ accounts, churchwardens’ accounts 1713-1778, orders of the rector and vestry re poor relief 1793, vestry minutes 1796-1865

St John's Chapel (EP/SJ): vestry minutes 1771-1832 & 1866-1951, churchwardens' accounts 1772-1862

Eastgate (EP/Eas): vestry minutes 1888-1911

Edmundbyers and Hunstanworth parish records are held by the Northumberland Archives