



4 Street Directories

Focus: How can street directories help us to find out about local businesses and facilities?

For Teachers

Street Directories were published in county or town volumes for most of the nineteenth century and lingered on until the 1960s. They were made redundant by the growth in telephone use, the internet and business Directories such as Yellow Pages. A good street directory has several features which are invaluable for the local history.

Individual entries might be listed by trade or by street. Often the community has a brief history and a summary of economic activity and facilities. They do not, of course, list every property.

Main Activities

Use a dictionary to make a glossary of the more difficult terms.

Design and draw shop signs for the various trades and shops.

High Spen entries in the Whellan's Directory

Outcomes: What sort of shops, businesses and facilities existed in High Spen in 1914?