

Sources

In approaches to sources, the choice was made to focus within the Camden Town estate, and to exclude materials that mentioned 'Camden Town' but were outside the estate. I did not start from the secondary histories of Camden, that have described other areas. Primary materials at Camden Local Studies and Archives Centre,¹ including documents from the St Pancras Vestry, local maps and pictures and nineteenth century local newspapers have been used by Camden History Society for over fifty years. Among issues previously addressed relating to the Camden Town estate were the impact of the railways and the working of the Poor Law.² A hand-search of the card catalogue using the name of each street within Camden Town estate was advised by the Archivist, but little material from the nineteenth century was found. One unique resource at the Centre, however, the Heal Collection on St Pancras (donated 1913), documenting informal parts of life such as advertisements, events and news-stories, has a card-index and the microfilm (not originals) could be searched by topic.³

The present study has drawn on new sources for Camden Town's history, in national and local records and publications. The London Metropolitan Archives includes significant records from the Camden estate – 1232 listed groups of documents, particularly deeds, and register indexes. Other materials include the Camden Town Paving Commission, the Water Boards and the Regent's Canal. The National Archives (TNA) holds state materials, including wills (free onsite) and private records such as deeds and indentures: these were of particular use for the study of the Jeffreys and Camden family records. The National Archives search engine *Discovery* also links with (an unknown proportion of) local public and private archives. This directs to materials from the Pratt family deposited in the 1970s with Kent County Libraries, which has an excellent digital catalogue: there is correspondence of the Lords Camden with the estate stewards and account books as well as legal records for property.

Held at the London School of Economics and now partly digitised, the 1890s Booth social survey of London has well-known maps of social grading. Some of the notebooks made at the time of the survey are available online, but visiting the archive provided access to the half of the notebooks that are not online, such as those of church ministers, with relevant material for Camden Town. Visits were also made to the Church of England archives at Lambeth Palace and in Bermondsey, where materials were about the prebendary, Thomas Randolph, and the Prebend of Cantlowes, including details of the division of the estate in

¹ London Borough of Camden, 'collections' <camden.gov.uk/ccm/navigation/leisure/local-history/collections>

² *Camden History Review*, 7:16-20; 38:2-9.

³ Ambrose Heal, proprietor of the major furniture store in Tottenham Court Road, Bloomsbury, was actively interested in St Pancras local affairs; he was a supporter of the Camden Town library.

1875. The Bishopsgate Institute has a good digital catalogue with some materials for Camden.

The British Association for Local History has a guide to internet sources as well as its journal.⁴ The *Connected Histories* database provided digital access to further primary sources, including Parliament, British newspapers, the Johnson collection of ephemera and the Proceedings from the Old Bailey (for time reasons not used extensively in this study).⁵ The *Bibliography of British and Irish History* was a valuable source for identifying secondary literature.⁶ Digital *Explore* catalogues have been introduced by the University of London and University College London libraries. The British Library, with excellent digital catalogue was used when no volumes were onsite in Bloomsbury.

In references, some shortened initials have been used –

CLSAC – Camden Local Studies and Archives Centre, Holborn Library, Theobalds Road⁷

LMA – London Metropolitan Archives, Northampton Road, London EC1

KHLC – Kent History and Library Centre, Maidstone, Kent

BL – British Library, Euston Road

⁴ British Association for Local History, 'Internet sites for local historians: a Directory' <balh.org.uk/>

⁵ *Connected histories* <connectedhistories.org>

⁶ *Bibliography* <history.ac.uk/projects/bbih>

⁷ [https://www.camden.gov.uk/local-studies-archives-centre;](https://www.camden.gov.uk/local-studies-archives-centre)