

BUILDING A HEALTHIER CITY

Discover eighteenth-century public health sources at Bath Record Office

The Wellcome Trust has awarded Bath Record Office £138,000 to catalogue, conserve and make available records of the history of public health in Bath.

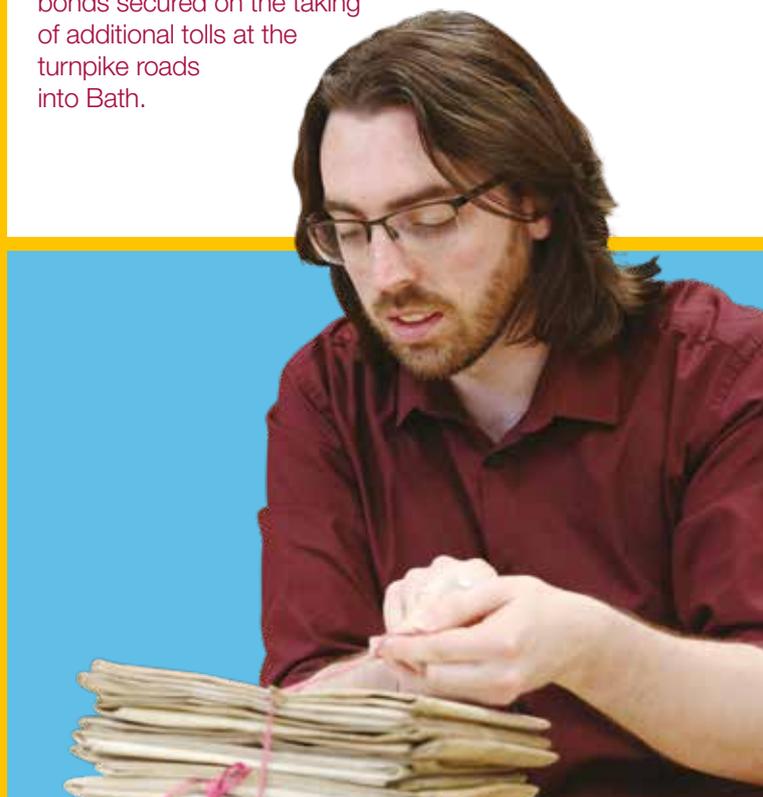
1. BATH COMMISSIONS 1766-1851

Providing amenities, such as paved streets, street lighting, rubbish removal and a night watch, was an important issue in fashionable Bath.

The Corporation set up Commissions for specific purposes covering small areas to make improvements.

A Commission of 1789 was created to protect and enhance the baths and springs.

The works undertaken by the Commissioners were funded by residents, by the Corporation and by issuing mortgage bonds secured on the taking of additional tolls at the turnpike roads into Bath.



FEATURED RECORDS

- Commissioners' minute books, accounts and rate books from 1766
- Commissioners' notices to residents from 1783
- Rotas and wages of night watchmen from 1766
- Correspondence received by the Commissioners, including applications and recommendations for the posts of Watchman and Lamp Lighter; and householders' petitions for lighting, cleansing, paving and watching from 1783
- Report books of lighting inspectors from 1811
- A large collection of deeds for Bath city centre from 1678
- Plans of new buildings and alterations to the baths complex, including the new Pump Room, street-widening and new streets, 1790-1805

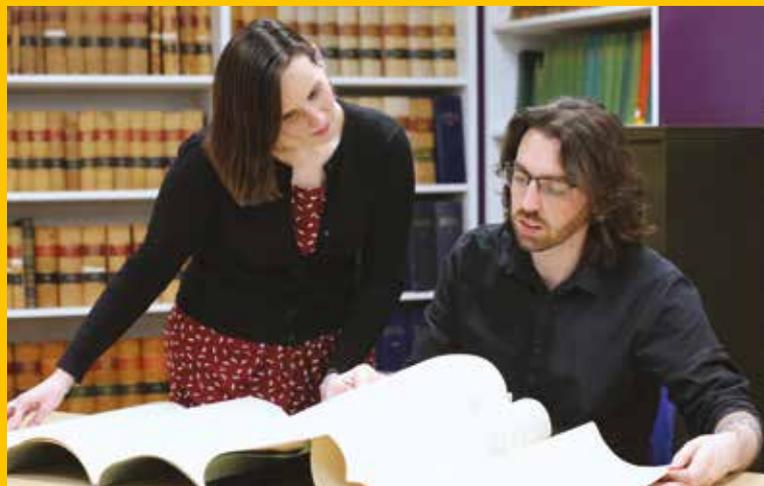
2. WATER SUPPLY

Mid-1700s-1974

The Corporation was involved in supplying water to the city from at least the thirteenth century.

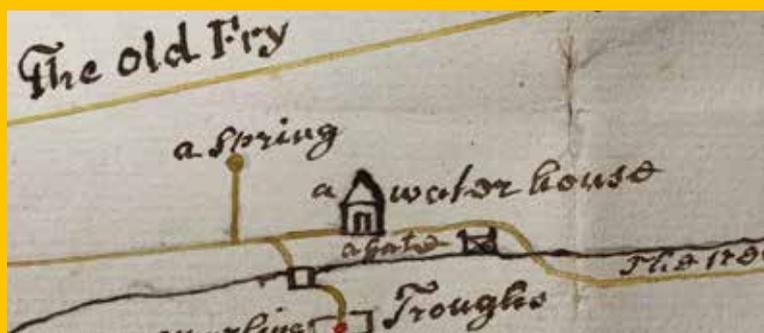
Piped water was a significant attraction to visitors, even though it was initially limited to the city centre, with other areas dependent on private water supplies.

The records enable researchers to study the ways in which the supply of water was managed and extended to different parts of the city.



FEATURED RECORDS

- Regulations to prevent waste of water, 1792
- Surveys of abuses in waterworks, 1805
- Requests to the Cold Water Committee for properties to be connected to the supply, 1814
- Small number of records relating to the acquisition of the Holloway/Magdalen Hill Waterworks, 1740s-1863, including a plan, c.1740s
- Water rentals showing area supplied and amounts paid by users from 1772
- Registers of grants to join Bath Corporation's water mains, 1777-1822
- Daily record of times when water from the Corporation's cisterns was turned on and off, and the level of water in the cisterns, 1779-1884
- Bath City Waterworks Inspector's Report Books, 1793 and 1802
- Surveys of water closets, sizes of cisterns and number of people using the water supplies, nd [late 18th– early 19th c]



**BATH
RECORD
OFFICE**
ARCHIVES AND
LOCAL STUDIES

Bath & North East
Somerset Council

Bath Record Office:
Archives and Local Studies
Guildhall, High Street,
Bath BA1 5AW
01225 477421
archives@bathnes.gov.uk
batharchives.co.uk



The catalogue to water supply records will be available from August 2020 at: someset-cat.swheritage.org.uk/records/BNES/BC/7