Sedgley Maps, Plans and Documents

A selection of historic maps, plans and documents of Sedgley.

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Dudley Archives' Search Room

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Other content coutesy of Carl Higgs.

A page from **Sedgley Manor Court Books**, dated 2nd Sept. **1729**, showing an inventory of the effects, goods and chattels taken on the death of widow Ann **Turton (died** 6th Feb. 1728).

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A page from **Sedgley Manor Court** Books, dated 2nd Sept. 1729, showing an inventory of the effects, goods and chattels taken on the death of widow Ann Turton (died 6th Feb. 1728). **Inventories** such as this often accompanied wills at this date, and are a window into the lives of our ancestors, as they list personal and everyday household items alongside other property. They can exist even where no last will or testament was made. The inventory itself is written in English, though at this date the rest of the wording was still in Latin.

I Farah Hall of Sedgley in the County of Stofferd Widow of Begunner Hate late of the vane place deceased in consideration of the sum of Sweety five founds statung to me paid by abel Hetches of Sedyly apresaid miller do hereby assign and hanefer unto the said abet Heteler all my meiely or other chard and interest in the principal som of Pefly panies seemed to Uw late Thomas clewton by Malgage of the Tolle of the dedgley Old live of Roads and now belonging to me and mo Many land Showard equally, and of and in all Interest new due and herrafter le grow due upon the Sand Wohold unto the said abel Hetcher his execution administrators and ajorgno absolutly In Wilrego whenof I have hereunde det my hand land such the third day of chimnery 1866 Lynes Stated and Delivered by the

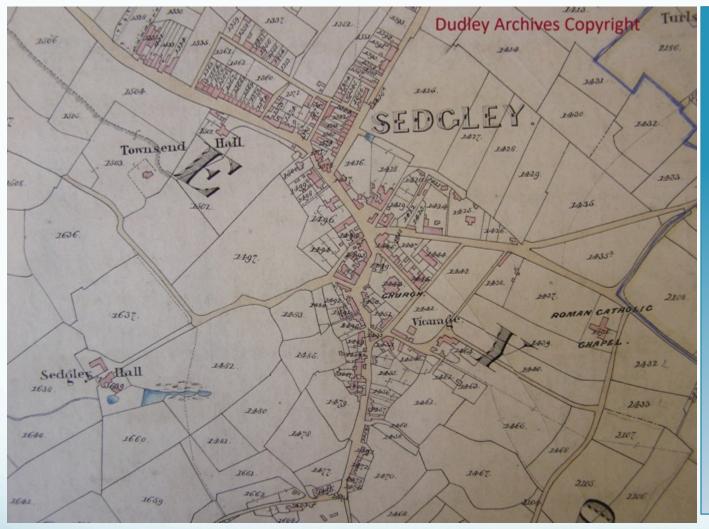
A document pertaining to a transfer of a half share in the profits arising from tolls collected for the **Sedgley 'Old Line of Road'** between **Sarah Hall and Abel Fletcher**, dated 3rd January 1856.

Sarah Hall was the widow of Benjamin Hall, a wheelwright and barrow maker who died in 1851 aged just 39. They had been renting a cottage near the corner of Bilston Street and High Street from Abel Fletcher who had his **steam flour mill** there.

Sarah evidently owned a **half share in the interest** from the tolls, while Mary Ann Sherwood named in the deed (a relative of Sarah's husband) owned the other half share. **Sarah sold her share to Abel Fletcher for £25.**

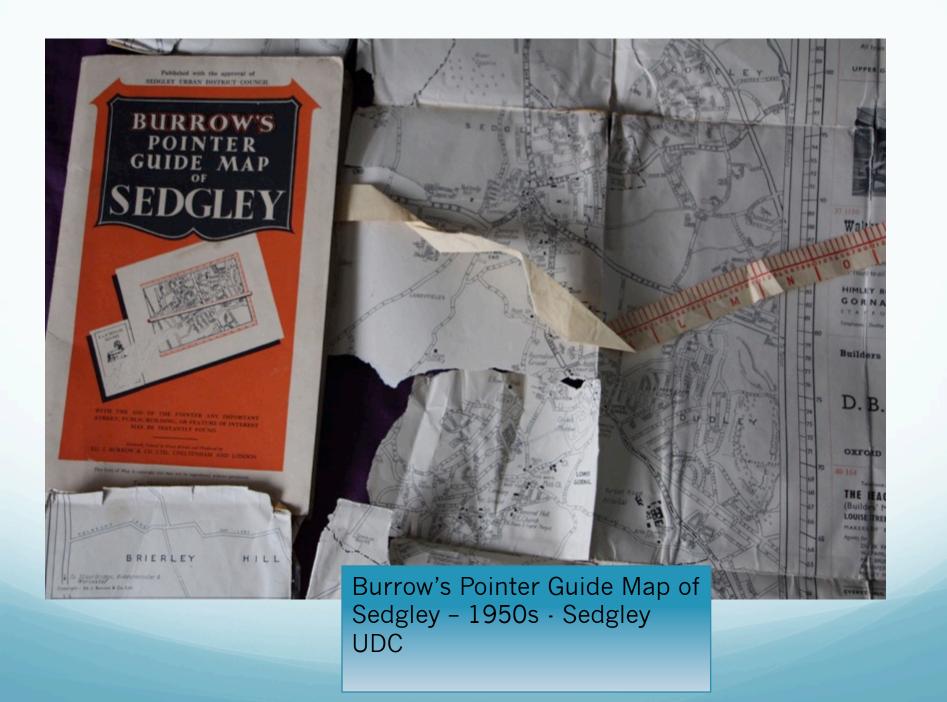
She moved to **Bunker's Hill** where she was living and working as a **boot binder in 1861**. There was already a toll house along **Bilston Street in 1841** and another opened at **Bunker's Hill near the junction of Gate Street and Tipton Road, when Tipton Street was newly cut in 1843.**

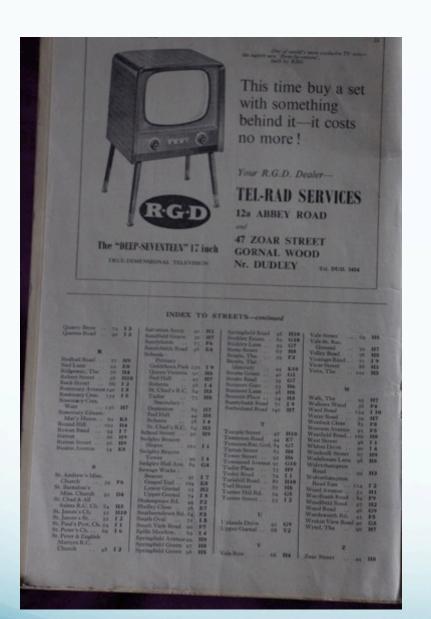
However, the 'Old Line' referred to in the document may indicate tolls collected from the road to **Bilston via Can Lane** (Hurst Hill) where it continued between a **toll house at Deepfields and another on Coseley Road at the later railway station site.**



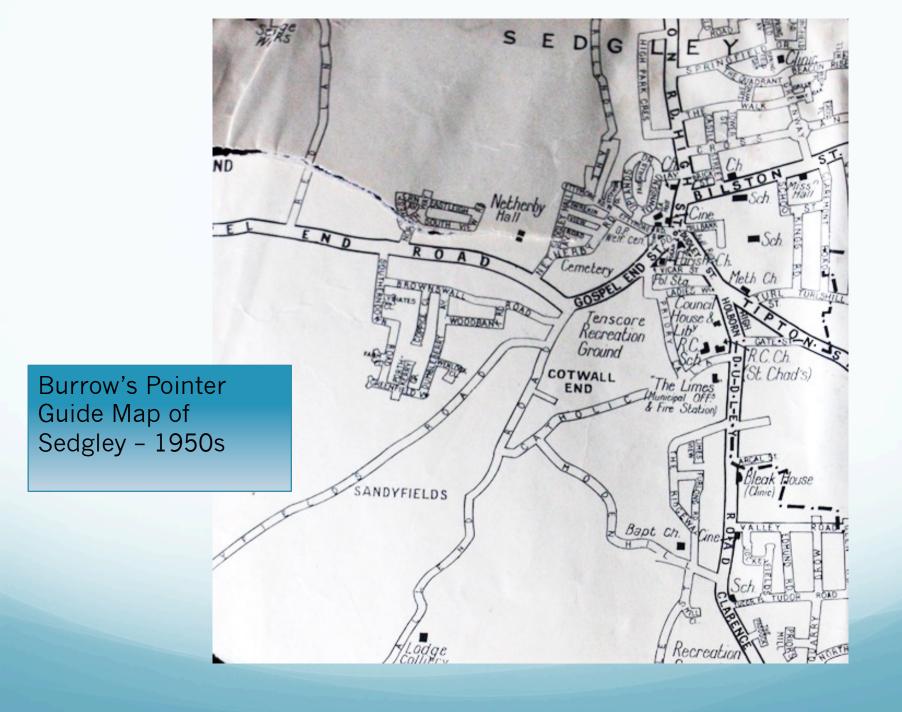
1859 copy of the 1844 **Sedgley Tithe**, showing central Sedgley section (the full map shows the manor and old parish in its entirety, including the nine original villages of Sedgley, Upper and Lower Gornal, Gospel End, Cotwall End, Woodsetton, Ettingshall, Coseley and Brierley). There is an accompanying book of reference which lists every numbered plot on the map, showing names of owner, occupier, type of property (house, shop, garden etc.), and annual rental value.

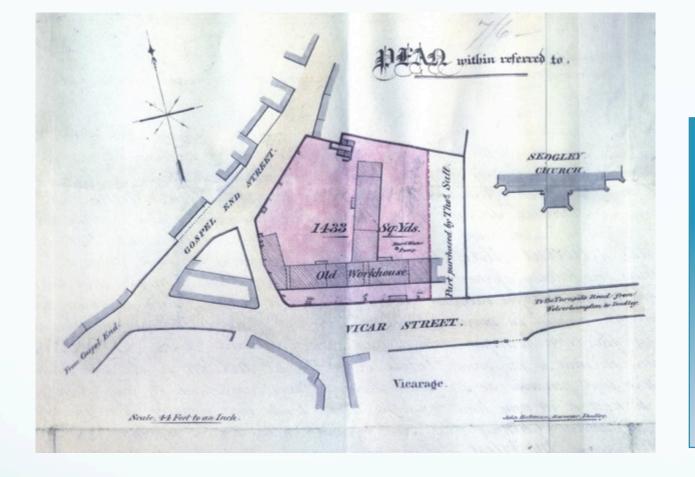
1859 copy of the 1844 Sedgley Tithe





Burrow's Pointer Guide Map of Sedgley – 1950s





Plan of the old parish workhouse (built 1734) at the time of its sale to **Thomas Waterhouse** circa **1860**, for conversion to the 'new' police station.

The basic form of the workhouse building was retained but modified, with the entrance fronting Vicar Street in particular being remodelled, and it had 18 new sash windows installed.

New cells and a magistrates court were added to the rear. Work did not actually start until 1863 and the station was not completed until the very end of 1864 due to the builder going bankrupt.

Even then there were significant teething problems caused by smoking chimneys, lack of heating, a leaky roof, issues with the water supply, and lack of gas lighting in the courtroom!

Wolverhampton Chronicle gives more details:

Wed. 16th September 1863, Page 2

District Intelligence – Sedgley:

THE NEW POLICE COURT, ETC. AND THE ACCOMMODATION TO BE PROVIDED - The building of the new police court at this place, which has been so anxiously waited for by the inhabitants, through the inconveniences of the present place, will be commenced in a few days. The plans and contract are completed. The site is that of the old workhouse. The building will face Vicar Street, but the public entrance to the court will be from Gospel End Street. **The present building will be reduced by one storey**, and some of it converted into present requirements. When completed the entire building will consist of a public court measuring 37 feet by 23 feet, and will have all the usual conveniences, a magistrate's retiring room, charge and reserve rooms, superintendent's parlour and kitchen, with three bedrooms, kitchens and bedrooms for the officers, and a number of cells, etc., etc. The contract of Mr. Charles Hartland, builder, of this place has been accepted at about £740, so that the total cost, inclusive of the land, is £1,200. The county authorities have engaged to take the building, when completed, of Mr. Waterhouse, the owner, on a lease of 14 years, and to pay £60 a year for it.

Dated 11 " October 1864 Thomas Waterhouse Esq": Lesson Removed of mours 1878 Rent \$60 Repairs Quant Coverants to well and sufficiently repair uphold support amend and keep the premises in good and lenantable repair Staffs CRO Copyright and Condition when requisite and so yield up at the seed of the Geren and once in coury three years of the Server to paint with three Coats of good oil bolor the whole of the outside Wood and Iron work and once in every four years with two Coats the whole of the inside Wood Iron and Stone work

Extract from the lease of the 'new' Sedgley police station, 11th Oct. 1864 (Stafford Quarter Sessions Records, Staffs CRO). Extract from the Lease of **Sedgley Police Station**, from **Thomas Waterhouse** (Stafford Quarter Sessions records)

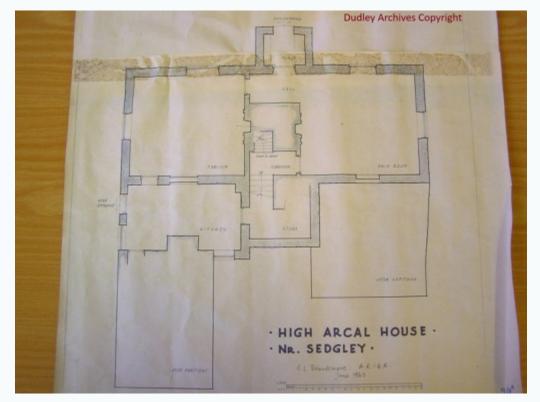
Sedgley Dated 11th October 1864
Thomas Waterhouse Esqr: Lessor
Term 14 years from 29th Sept. 1864
Rent £60
Renewed 7 years from 29th Sept. 1878

Repairs

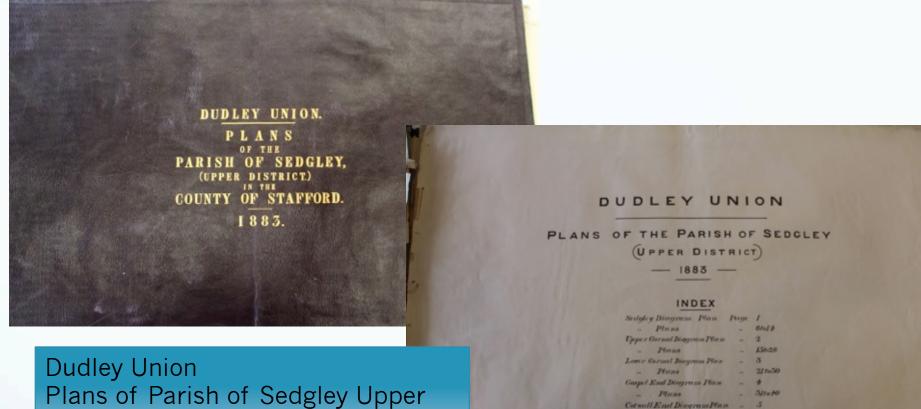
Tenant Covenants to well and sufficiently repair uphold support amend and keep the premises in good and tenantable repair and Condition when requisite, and to yield up at the end of the Term.

And once in every three years of the Term to paint with three Coats of good Oil Color the whole of the outside wood and Iron work and once in every four years with two Coats the whole of the inside Wood Iron and Stone work. To colour grain and varnish such parts as have usually been so done.

To pay all Taxes except property and income Tax.

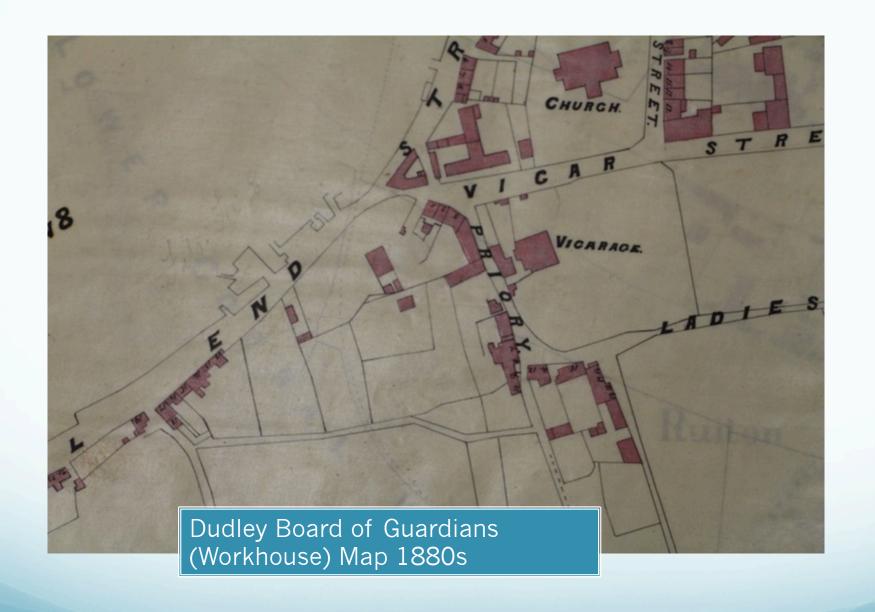


Floorplan of **High Arcal House (Farm)** by B L Beardsmore, June 1963. Made before demolition (presumably in the hope it could be saved) and showing the **typical layout of an early 17th century stone farmhouse** of its type. Brownswall Farm would have had a similar layout. In the mid 17th century High Arcal House was owned by **William Hodgetts** who is credited with hiding the **relics of St. Chad** there, after they had been removed from Lichfield Cathedral for safekeeping. The house was reputed to have been used by **Royalist soldiers** as a lookout post prior to the **siege of Dudley Castle by Parliamentarian troops in 1644.**



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Plans of Parish of Sedgley Upper District 1883





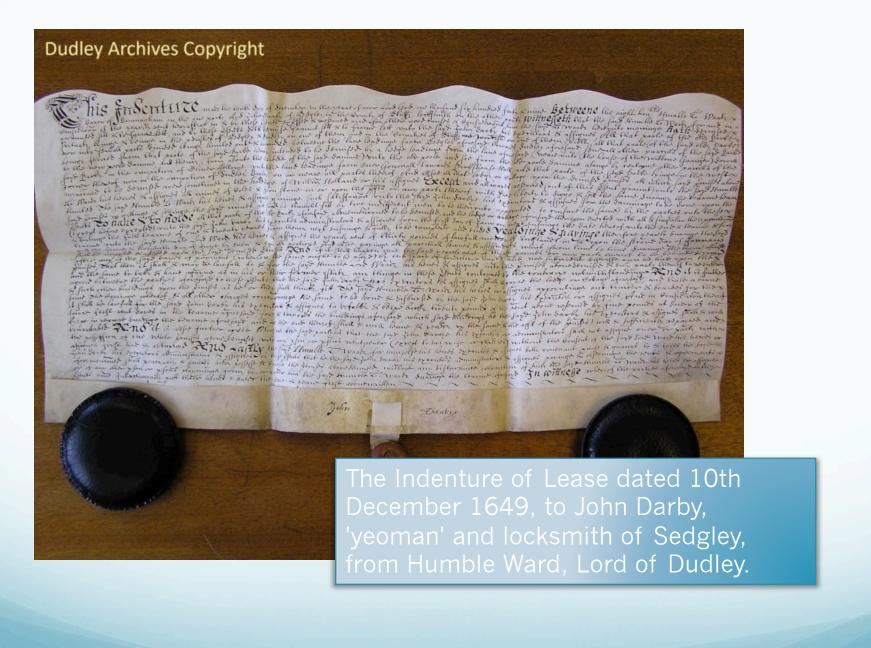
Dudley Board of Guardians (Workhouse) Map 1880s



Darby, who was born in Woodsetton in 1678, developed a method of producing pig iron in a blast furnace using coke instead of charcoal, which was in short supply at the time. It is a move that is widely credited as playing a hugely important role in the Industrial Revolution.

The design for the memorial, drawn up by **Dudley Borough Artist Steve Field**, shows the inside of **Darby's 1709 blast furnace** which was used for his new way of producing iron. It shows pig iron workers **grafting**, with ingots of local cast iron in the ground forming lettering telling the story of the great man.

The inscription **A.D 1709** refers to his initials and the date of his first successful iron castings. The memorial is going on land at the junction of **Sedgley Road** and **Birmingham New Road**.

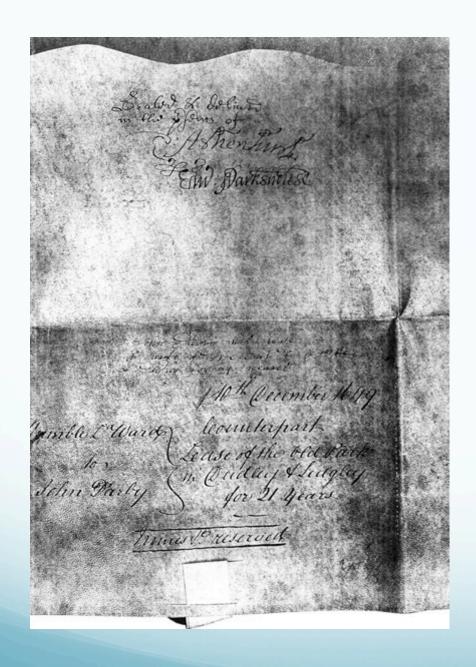


John Darby's dual occupation of farming and metal working was quite typical of the area for the time - and on into the 18th century.

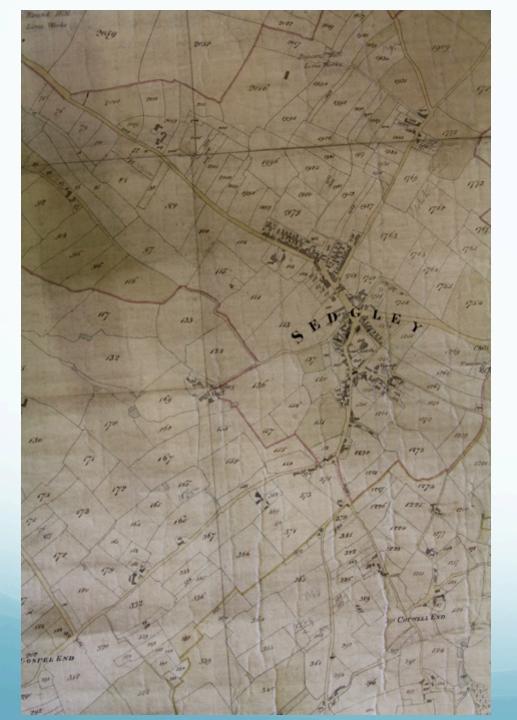
He was the grandfather of **Abraham Darby I** of Coalbrookdale, who was probably born in the same house in 1678.

The site of **Old Farm Lodge** is thought to have been on the north side of **Wrens Hill Road, between Wren's Nest and Mons Hill,** which was included in the village of **Woodsetton** when it was still part of the old parish and manor of Sedgley.

John Darby's signature appears on the deed (spelled "Darbye"). He had married Margaret Parkshouse of Sedgley in about 1643 and they had several children baptised at All Saints', including sons **Edward** (my ancestor) in 1644 and **John** jnr. (ancestor of the Coalbrookdale line) in 1649, the year of this document. 1649 was of course also a momentous year for the country as a whole, as it saw the execution of Charles I, following the English Civil War. John Darby Snr. lived to grand old age for those times and died in 1700. In later years he became a member of the Society of Friends or 'Quakers', as did most of his family, and they attended the **new meeting house** erected in Dudley. The marriage of John and Margaret's eldest son Edward, to Mary daughter of Humphrey Cooper, a blacksmith of Moden Hill, Sedgley, was one of the first Quaker marriages to take place in the area, on 17th March 1671.



The reverse of the John Darby lease bears the signatures of two significant witnesses to the transaction. **Edward Parkshouse** (1612-1685) acting as attorney to John Darby, was a lawyer and coroner for the county of Staffordshire. Funerary plaques to him can be seen on the side walls in the porch of All Saints' Church.



A map of the parish of Sedgley in the county of Stafford 1816: Sedgley centre



A map of the parish of Sedgley in the county of Stafford 1816: Straits and Strait Green



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Sedgley Township 1843: central Sedgley



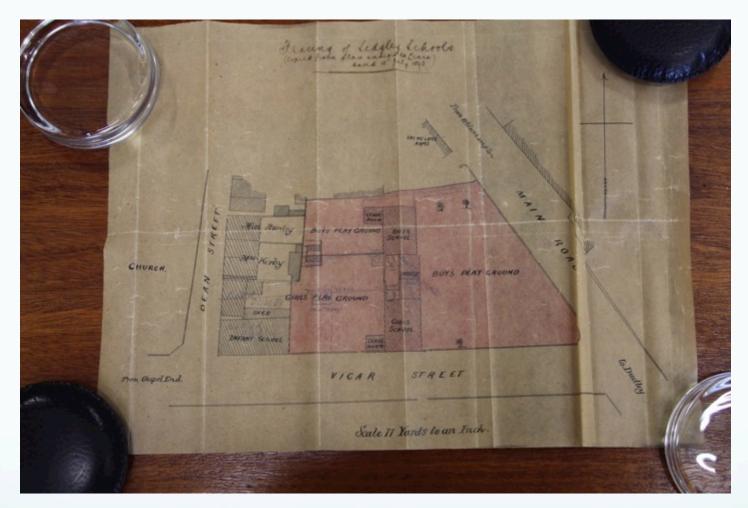
Sedgley Township 1843: High Street Sedgley



Sedgley Township 1843 - Beacon Hill Limeworks



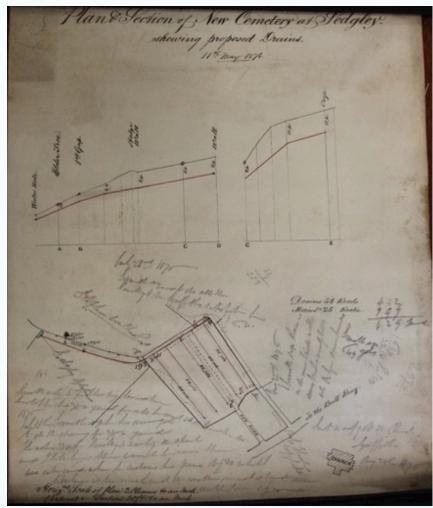
Sedgley Parish - Sedgley Village c1849



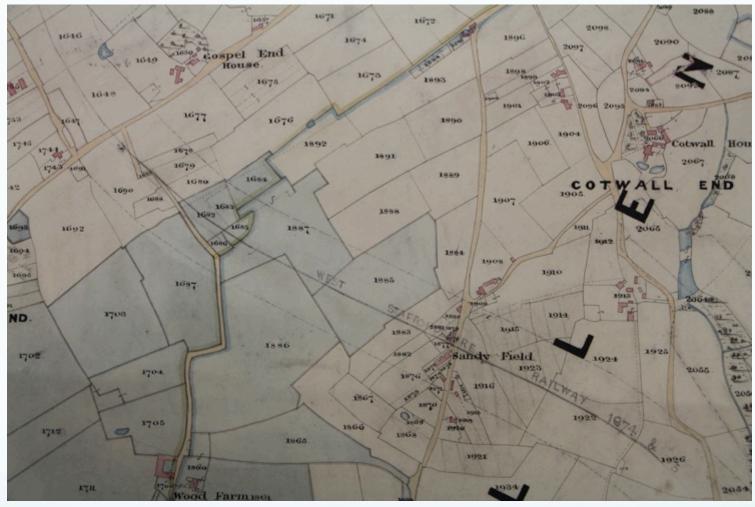
1893 Sedgley Schools (National School) Vicar Street



1873 Swan Inn Gospel End Street



Gospel End Street Cemetery 1876



1876 Sandyfield



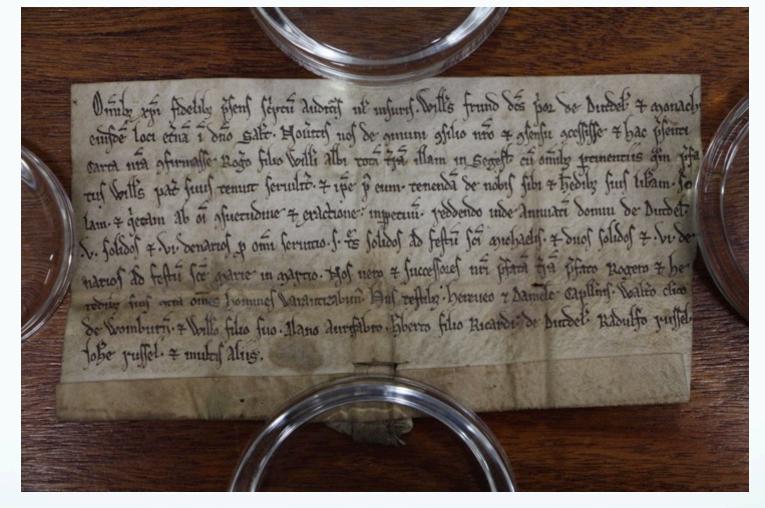
1953 Plan of Brownswall Farm



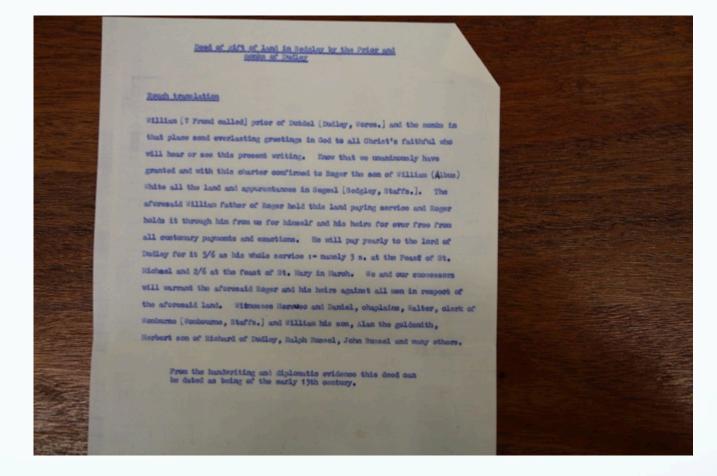
1953 Brownswall Farm



1962 Plan of Sedgley Housing Development

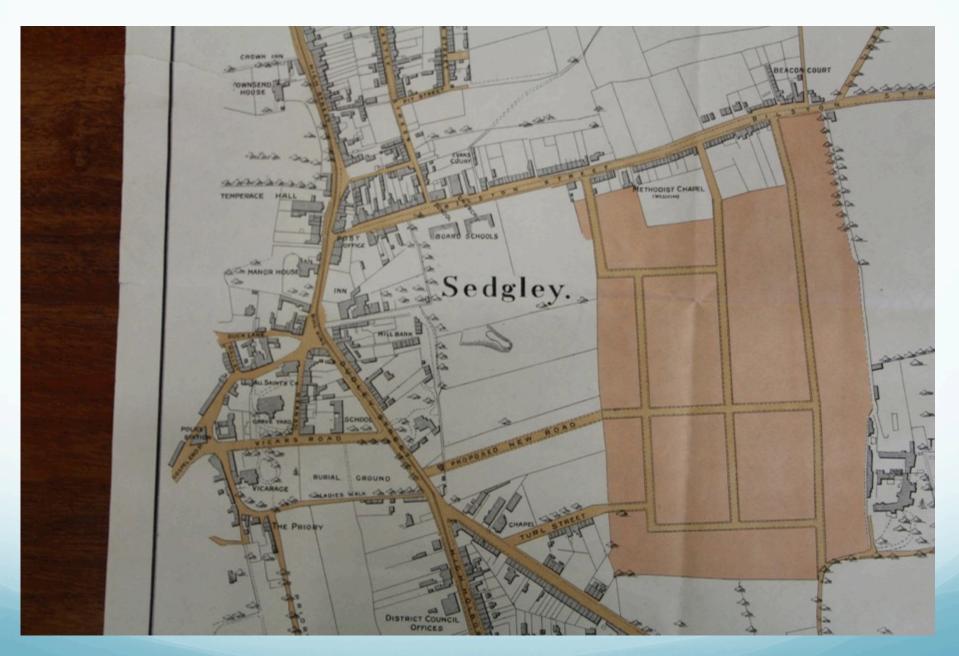


13th century deed



13th century deed

13th century deed translation



1890 Plan of the proposed Turls Hill Estate