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Official Guide

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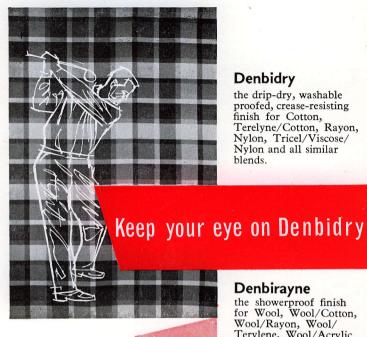


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INTRODUCTION

The traveller northbound from Bradford and Shipley towards Ilkley sees on his west side a lofty moorland hill with stone houses climbing up the quite precipitous slopes. Here and there rocky outcrops may be seen and a belt of woodlands stretches up towards The Glen. This hilltop town is Baildon and the urban district embraces the moor, the town, the steep slopes below and the long winding valley of the Aire.

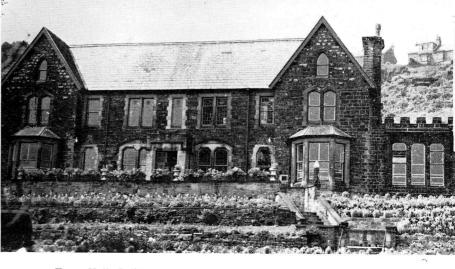
Long a settled area, Baildon has all the homely comfort of a Yorkshire stone town and its streets of shops and houses stand close together on the edge of the breezy open moor that stretches away to the greater areas of Rombalds Moor, one of Yorkshire's famed beauty spots. Here, in the older part of the town, began the first signs of industry in the 16th and 17th centuries when local people made cloth

in their cottage homes.

Today the urban district is in three parts. First is the old Baildon on the hilltop. Here are the shops, many of the newer residential roads (and delightful ones they are), a new school, some of the local industries and, of course, the moor. Secondly, we see the slopes of the moor where houses climb steep steps and where one house's garden may seem to be set on the very chimneys of the house below. Here we have the town hall and above it a steep outcrop of rock that reminds us of some Swiss scene rather than a part of our own county of Yorkshire. Thirdly, at the lowest level is the valley of the Aire and all the northern bank is in Baildon. Here we have the industries such as the Airedale Combing factory and the huge Butterfield tank works. Here, too, are residential areas including the large housing estate built within Baildon's bounds by the Shipley council.

Baildon, today, has many industries to keep its economic life stable, but it is not only an industrial town for its residential qualities attract more city folk to live every year. Easily reached by good roads and frequent bus services, Baildon has all the amenities of a modern town with the added advantage of a wonderful natural position that is right on the doorstep of the beauties of Airedale and Wharfedale. Few towns can, with truth, say that they have a situation to rival that of Baildon. Little wonder that its resident population now stands at over

12,000 and has, in fact, doubled in half a century.



Town Hall, Baildon

Huddersfield District Chronicle

Baildon from the air

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BAILDON URBAN DISTRICT

Historical Outline

(Thanks are due for material for this section from John La Page's 'Story of Baildon'.)

That Baildon was inhabitated at a very early stage we know by arrow points and other early remains which have been found on Baildon Moor. Many of these items are to be seen in the excellent museum at Bradford's Cartwright Hall. These various implements date back to the Neolithic period (2500 to 1900 BC) when man first

began to graze cattle and sheep instead of hunt for his food.

Following these early people came the Bronze Age inhabitants and it was these folk who carved the cup and ring markings on the great stones on Baildon Moor. Although many suggestions have been made as to their exact purpose, little definite is known apart from the fact that they had a religious significance. They may well have been a later development of cave paintings and were probably intended, in some way or other, to give prehistoric man some protection against supernatural forces. These early folk had a religion that was largely based on superstition and various gods and spirits had to be appeased.

The Middle Bronze Age people had different burial methods and many of their cremation urns are to be seen still on Baildon Moor although, unfortunately, many were robbed of stones in the 19th century for road-making purposes. Also from the Bronze Age is the fosse and agger entrenchment at the top of Pennithorne Hill on the road to Eldwick. This earthwork has yielded a fair share of bones, arrow heads and other implements. Some urns and other fragments

from this site are to be seen in Ilkley's Craven Museum.

Some evidence of Iron Age occupation has been found in the Brackenhall area, but of the Roman occupation little more than a single worn coin has been found. By 835 AD when Athelstan, grandson of Alfred the Great, completed the conquest of this part of England under the Danelaw, most of Baildon was put under the Lordship of the Archbishop of York. This is confirmed in the Domesday survey where it is also said that 250 acres of Baildon were included in the Bingley manor of Gospatric, a worthy who was allowed to keep his manors as

tenant in chief to William the First.

The origin of Baildon's name is not entirely certain and various theories are in being. One theory is that the name derives from the old Norse word 'bal' or 'baile' and that the name Baildon thus means 'the hill where the beacon-fire was lit'. On the other hand the first part of the name may derive from a personal name—such as Baegeldon or Baegild—and that, therefore, the town may, in fact, be the 'hill of Beagild'. Yet another authority thinks the name derives from the fact that the hill was chosen as a hill of sacrifice to Bael when the ancient May Day festivals were held. Whatever the source, however, we know that the name has been spelt in over 70 different ways since Domesday was compiled.

By the 14th century Baildon had become a firmly established, though very small, rural settlement and the Poll Tax of 1379 reveals that its population was probably at or just below 100. In this century, too, we are told that the overlordship of the Baildon manors passed

from Hugh de Lelay to St. Peter's at York.

Slightly earlier than this we first find record of a place of worship at Baildon for in or about 1200 we find a charter in connection with Esholt Priory signed by one Alan the Priest of Baildon. He was followed by Thomas the chaplain of Baildon who is referred to in a deed of 1252 whilst in 1306 one Walter de Hawkesworth is recorded as having left a sum of money to the 'service of the blessed John in the Chapel of Baylden'. It is thought that this chapel was destroyed by the Scots after the English defeat at Bannockburn for we know that the rest of Baildon was sacked by them at that time. As a document of 1338 refers to a collection of 600 marks of silver for 'fabric of the church' it would seem that a new church arose at that time from the ruin of the old—a few years later in 1344 references are made to Adam de Ottelai, priest of Baildon. In the 16th century the church was referred to as the 'Baledon Chantry' and this same structure lasted until 1847 when it was pulled down and the present church was built.

Baildon grew but slowly in the mediaeval period and not until the 16th century do we hear of Baildon Green and even then it apparently only had one house. Most of this part of the urban district, however, was built in the ensuing two centuries, and at one period it possessed no fewer than three places of worship. The 17th century

Midgeley Farm is the oldest surviving part of Baildon Green.

A mediaeval industry that has not survived into the present century is that of coal mining which, from records of 1387, was then being carried on. The coal was extracted from Baildon Moor by open workings, day-holes, bell-pits and deep mine-shafts. Apparently the mines produced a rather poor grade of moorland coal right up until 1863 after which any record of coal from Baildon ceases. Chief users of the coal were the mills with their steam engines and by lime-burners. As child and woman labour was used the conditions in the industry were truly appalling. The last pit to close, at the end of the 19th century, was the Lobley Gate Pit. The opening of the railway to Ilkley helped to finish the pits for it enabled better coal to be brought in at a cheaper price.

Other past industries of the area were stone quarrying and the making of bricks and ganister. The latter, which was of good quality, was used for furnace linings and for making furnish silica bricks which

were used at West Riding ironworks.

Up to the 18th century roads, in common with the rest of England, were poor but in that period improvements were made though roads between Shipley and the north still climbed up through Baildon and its hill. In 1825, however, the new road from Shipley to Otley via Charlestown was built thus cutting out all the hill-climbing of the earlier routes. By modern standards, however, it was still a poor road and for many years got little or no regular custom.

Gradually, through the 19th century, the Baildon of today began

to develop. The population grew to 2,934 in 1857 and was 4,778 some twenty years later whilst at the very end of the century it reached 5,797. The residential aspect of the town began to develop too, alongside the industrial scene as more and more people began to realise it was more pleasant to live in Baildon than in, say, the smoky confines of Bradford. Various improvements were made in local amenities and by the 1870's all the streets were lit by gas. (The change-over to electricity did not come until 1926.) To set the seal on the town's new importance, it was formed into an urban district in 1895. There is now a Baildon Electoral Division of the West Riding County Council.

THE COAT OF ARMS

On April 23rd, 1952, the Baildon council petitioned the Earl Marshal (His Grace the Duke of Norfolk) for the grant of heraldic arms. The Earl Marshal authorised and directed the Kings of Arms to grant and assign 'Armorial Ensigns' and this was done by Letters Patent. This document was signed by Sir George R. Bellew (Garter King of Arms), Sir Arthur W. S. Cochrane (Clarenceux King of Arms) and Sir Gerald W. Wollaston (Norroy and Ulster King of Arms).

The negotiations were conducted through Colonel J. R. B. Walker, Rouge Croix Pursuivent and Mr. Rudolph Howard Moore, then Clerk of the Baildon Urban District Council. The cost of the grant was defrayed from donations received from local ladies and gentlemen as well as from firms interested in Baildon. For their generosity, the

council and town was most grateful.

The "blazon" (Heraldic description of the 'achievement') is stated

in the letters patent as:-

"Vert three Chevronels and in chief a Fleece Or. And for the Crest on a Wreath of the Colours A Skylark holding in the beak a sprig of Gorse slipped and flowered proper."

The colours in the Arms are:—

Vert=green. Or =gold.

The Crest consists of a Skylark with a sprig of gorse in its beak, allusive to the Moors in and surrounding Baildon. The Crest stands on a Wreath of gold and green and this rests on a Helm (or helmet).

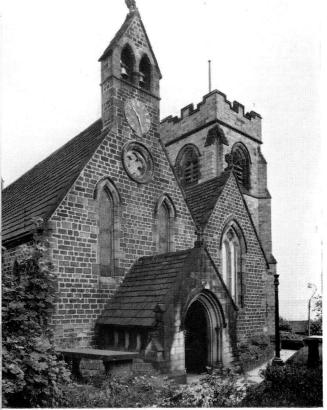
The Helm appropriate to a local authority is that of an esquire,

being of steel, unadorned by gold or silver, set in profile.

The **Shield** is of green (vert) and at the top, known as the "chief" appears the **Golden Fleece**, allusive to the rearing for wool of sheep on the Baildon Moorlands. The Golden Fleece formed an integral part of Baildon's unofficial badge and which badge has been used for very many years. Its origin is unknown but it was an unauthorised badge and not in any way heraldic.

The Golden Fleece is in 'Or' as are the three Chevronels. These three chevronels point to the fact that Baildon is a three-tier Town.

The Motto, "SURGAMUS ERGO STRENUE", means "Let us arise with Vigour", a motto which would have appealed to the civic pride of the hillmen of Baildon and appears to be taken from a hymn attributed to St. Ambrose.





TOP: Baildon Parish Church.

BOTTOM: Baildon Moor and, on the left, the tree-fi Glen.

Photos: C. H. Wood (Bradford) Ltd.

FEATURES OF BAILDON

THE PARISH CHURCH

There was a church at Baildon in the 12th century but the building we see today dates almost entirely from the year 1848. The incumbent who sponsored and tended its rebuilding, Edmund Hodgkinson, unfortunately died the very day after the church's re-opening for service. The old church most probably occupied the site of the present south aisle. The nave arcades, chancel arch, arch into the South chapel and a group of lancet windows in the east wall are all remains of the mediaeval church and thus are by far the oldest parts of the present building. The handsome church tower, which was added in 1928, is Baildon's monument to the fallen of the First World War. In it is a fine peal of 8 bells which was added in 1949 as a memorial to those who died in the Second World War. Also in the tower are two older bells—dated 1717 and 1806—which came from the mediaeval church.

Features of interest in the church include the old mediaeval font on a new base; the original church's Jacobean pedestal pulpit with its fine carving; a handsome iron screen of 1905 and some excellent modern glass. The latter, in lovely colours, shows us Bible scenes and other pictures and we can see the finding of Moses in the bulrushes; John the Baptist as a boy watching fish in a stream; a squirrel eating a nut; a frog watching a fly and a brightly dressed Chinese pheasant up in a tree. The reredos, given in 1901, was carved by Harry Ambler, the well known Baildon craftsman and is rather remarkable in so far as there is an unfinished portion between two of the panels. Also of interest are various plaques and tablets to local worthies; the Royal Arms to be seen on the gallery front and two old hatchments, one of which is to the Meyer family.

In the churchyard may be seen a low sandstone pillar which may be part of an early churchyard cross whilst the gravestones with their often interesting epitaphs give an insight into past Baildon folk. The oldest surviving gravestone dates back to 1671 whilst on another is a twelve verse epitaph, the longest to be seen anywhere in Yorkshire.

Several old cottages abut on to the churchyard and one or two of these are of no little interest. One was said to have been an alehouse with which a curate once augmented his meagre income whilst another, in Manor Fold, is of 18th century build and was the residence of the sexton. The village carpenter and coffin-maker always occupied part of this house which bears the date 1760 above an arch on the south side.

BAILDON MOOR

Baildon Moor comprises 754 acres of open moorland at heights varying from 500 feet above sea level to a highest point of 929 feet. On this point, Baildon Hill, are the famous Cup and Ring Marked Rocks, referred to in the historical section. Though crossed by one or two



Baildon from the moor above the Town Hall C. H. Wood (Bradford) Ltd.

roads the moor is essentially undisturbed and its broad breezy grass slopes provide fine walking and picnicing areas. The various rock outcrops are a notable feature of the moor as are the sheep and horses that are to be seen grazing. It is of interest that, although the moor is in the Baildon urban area, the manorial rights and deeds belong to Bradford Corporation and have done so for some time.

At summer weekends and on bank holidays the moor is visited by thousands of folk from Bradford and Leeds who delight in the wonderful views out across The Glen, or north over the hills and dales around Ilkley or out across Airedale. Baildon Moor is in fact the southern edge of the great Rombalds Moor which stretches up beyond Ilkley towards Skipton and the wild areas around the Lancashire border.

Of note at the edge of Rombalds Moor and forming a landmark for many miles is the Fleece Inn, better known as 'Dick Hudsons'. This is one of Yorkshire's famous inns and Dick Hudson was host from 1850 until his death in 1878. John Nicholson, the Airedale poet, spent his childhood there and lost his life on the evening of Good

Friday, 1843, whilst trying to cross the flooded river at Saltaire. Today the inn is known to thousands of motorists and hikers and its bacon and egg meals are justifiably renowned—nothing could be better after a day on the breezy open moors.

THE GLEN

Partly in Baildon, and partly in Bingley, this delightful tree-filled valley set deep below the heights of the moor is a famed beauty spot and one that attracts thousands of visitors, the younger of whom find the scenic tramway an added pleasure. This latter feature connects the Coach Road with the higher part of Baildon Moor and consists of two tramcars which pass one another, ascending and descending. In winter the service is only arranged for the needs of residents at the upper level but in summer and at other weekends a full and frequent service is provided.

Through The Glen runs the little Loadpit Beck and this clear stream splashes over the rocks and between the tree-clad banks. Rocky outcrops, tumbled slopes and open glades—all are found here amid this tree-filled glen which in all seasons has a splendour all its own though, of course, in the heat of a summer day its sylvan loveliness is seen at

its very best.

The woods that fill The Glen (from the top of Baildon Moor one could seem to be able to walk across their tops so close are the leafy tree-tops) extend east along the slopes of Baildon Moor as far as Baildon Green and the craggy rock outcrop of Baildon Bank which rises sheer behind the town hall. These stretches of woodland—Trench Wood, Walker Wood and Midgeley Wood—form a pleasant oasis of green right into the centre of the town.

The Glen was erroncously named "Shipley Glen" in or about 1840 when the incumbent of the Shipley Bethel chapel realised the scenic

possibilities of this then quite unappreciated sylvan spot.

OLD HOUSES AND FARMS

Hope Farm occupies the site of one of Baildon's oldest buildings and near here in the 14th century existed a pottery. In recent years a number of shards and pieces of mediaeval utensils of this period have been found. Though the present farm is quite new it does include in its structure part of a much older building—possibly of the 17th century—and one may see several blocked-up mullion windows. Attached to it is a picturesque addition known as the 'chapel' though it has never been a place of worship. Built about the middle of the 18th century, this chapel is well below the level of the farmhouse whilst beneath it again is a cellar chamber.

Baildon Hall, a large and handsome building is now the only link in the area with the former Baildon family who were very much associated with the town for several hundred years. It is, in fact, believed that the family were descended from one Esseulf who was an extensive landowner in the first half of the 12th century. The last of

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the Baildon's died in 1679. The hall is believed to date from 1593 but this is not certain, the earliest recorded documentary evidence being in 1623. The house was, however, probably built in the last part of the 16th century and greatly altered in the 17th—it does in fact today bear the general plan and style of a house of that century. Though it has been much altered over the years, Baildon Hall still has several features of interest including fine mullioned windows and a richly carved Elizabethan oak staircase. The oak panelled parlour is well preserved with much of its original woodwork, whilst there are plaster ceilings and friezes and other oak panelling in various parts of the house.

The Old Hall in Westgate was erected in the 17th century and is still a handsome building though, due to internal alterations, it has little of interest left inside. Its external items of interest are the attractive roof finials consisting of Maltese crosses, said to be an indication that the former owners, the well known Stead family, had links with the knights of St. John of Jerusalem. In true traditional style, the Old Hall is said to have had both a haunted room and a secret passage. Next to the Hall is an interesting timbered barn and some cottages built in 1760.

Baildon House on the north side of Station Road was built in 1724 and the date-stone initial RH denote that it formerly belonged to Robert Holden, member of a prominent Baildon family in the 17th and 18th centuries. The family owned most of the land around Baildon station including the original house on the site of Baildon Lodge. Though it has since passed through numerous hands, the house still stands as an elegant example of 18th century design.

In the streets of the town—especially in Towngate, Westgate, Northgate, Browgate and Hallcliffe, other examples of domestic design

Baildon Old Hall

Huddersfield District Chronicle





Westgate

War Memorial, Baildon

Huddersfield District Chronicle



of the last two or three centuries may be seen and such houses as, for example, the 17th century 'Manor House' in Hallcliffe, exhibit features of interest. (This particular house has, however, rather lost its Jacobean character.)

OLD INNS

Baildon has several interesting old inns though their dates and histories are not readily available. Possibly the oldest is the Angel in the central square and though much altered in the 19th century it does date back to at least 1779, for in that year a manor court was held there. The Bay Horse is certainly of the 18th century and may date from 1748 when the new low road to Otley was opened. The present name, first acquired in 1771, is a familiar one in the West Riding. Even older is Malt Shovel which is thought to date from the 17th century and within are interesting plaster ceilings and fireplaces of that period. Several old inns once existed—such as the Cross Keys and the Roebuck—which are now used for other purposes. The 17th century Bull's Head, too, has been replaced by a more modern building.

THE METHODIST CHAPELS

The present Methodist chapel at Baildon was built in 1890 at a cost of £1,650 and is on the site of an earlier chapel that was erected in 1806. Methodism has always been strong in Baildon and John Wesley preached here four times, most of his sermons being made in the old parish church. So great were his congregations that they usually overflowed into the surrounding churchyard. Adjacent to the chapel is the Sunday school which for many years was Baildon's only one and it was used by all denominations.

The Primitive Methodist chapels date from 1865 (at Browgate) and from 1874 (Low Hill). The original Bank End chapel of 1824 still

exists though it is no longer used as a place of worship.

MORAVIAN CHURCH

The Moravian religion first came to Baildon as far back as 1738 though for many years services were only held in private homes. In 1806 the Moravians built their first chapel and this was enlarged by the addition of galleries in 1819. As the congregations increased, the need for a new building became apparent and after the demolition of the church, the present one was erected on the same site in 1868. The Sunday School followed in 1887 and the institute in 1906. The Day School at Woodbottom dates from 1876.

THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE

This prominent building in Towngate was built in 1862 and occupies the site of an older building used for commercial purposes. Edward

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Holden was the prime mover in the building of the institute which is now vested in the Urban District Council. The first clock on the institute was erected in 1870, but the present one was installed only in 1930 after the original one had 'worn itself out'. On one occasion this first clock had continued to strike unchecked until stopped by a mechanic called from bed on a cold winter's night! At one time members of the Swedenborgian Church used to meet in the institute.

INDUSTRY IN BAILDON

THE woollen industry—long the staple trade of Baildon—goes back to the 16th and 17th centuries when most of the weaving was done on handlooms in the workers' own houses. In the 18th century the cloth making trade expanded and Baildon clothiers became engaged mainly in the manufacture of worsted cloth which called for long stapled wool. Part of the process of preparing this wool ready for weaving was that of hand-combing, a long, exhausting and unhealthy business, that was carried out over the heat of a charcoal stove. The health of the workers on this job suffered to such an extent that in 1845 a Commission was set up to enquire into the health of such places as Bradford and Baildon. Its report told us that the combers looked 'pale and cadaverous' and that few lived to reach 50 years of age. The hand-combing, too, was very poorly paid so that combers had to have an alternative source of making money to hand—usually this was poaching! Handcombing was still carried on in Baildon as late as 1887, but by that time had virtually ceased. At the Saltaire exhibition of that year, one Oliver Reynard of Baildon, one of the very last hand-combers, gave a demonstration.

Spinning and weaving were the next processes in the preparation of cloth and both formed part of the Baildon industrial scene. After the introduction of machinery, new spinning mills were set up in the district and, indeed, one of the very first steam engines in a mill was set up at Tong Park. The new shuttles and looms revolutionised weaving, too, and there were looms in all parts of Baildon. After the various final processes the finished or 'dressed' cloth was taken to be sold in Leeds, Bradford or Halifax. For many years after the introduction of power looms in 1826, both power and hand looms were worked side by side in Baildon. Probably the last handloom weaver was William Ellison who worked by this method until 1870.

One of the earliest local mills was built in 1778 by the firm of Halliday and Watson at Tong Park in the north of the district. This business lasted until 1790 and, if it was a mill for spinning worsted yarn, then it preceded Bradford's first such mill by twelve years or

more.

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In the 19th century, of course, the textile trade passed through difficult times and in these troubles Baildon shared. The Baildon Mill, for instance, changed hands several times and managed to 'weather the storm' and continue to give employment to local people. Eventually, however, this mill ceased to be a textile factory and has had various owners and trades since then.

Today, wool and wool processing is still important in Baildon but is not, by any means, the only industry as with the passing years new trades have come and have helped to give the area a better and more balanced economy. Several important wool processing concerns are in the following alphabetical list of firms advertising in this guide.

One of the leading firms in Baildon is still one connected with the 'staple' trade. It is the firm of **Airedale Combing Co. Ltd.**, which was incorporated in 1916 when a relatively small woolcombing plant was installed. Since then, large extensions have been made to buildings and machinery and today it is the second largest individual plant in Great Britain operating both Noble and French combing machinery. These up-to-date premises cover more than five acres.

The site is well chosen—a wide public road runs along the whole extent on one side and the River Aire flows between the company's

properties.

The foundations of Great Britain's reputation in the wool industries of the world rest on centuries of experience. The delicate and difficult task of wool sorting, the processes of converting unwashed greasy fleeces into "Tops" ready for spinning so that the yarn is smooth and even—in suitable form for weaving—all these make for a complex industry in the production of worsted cloths.

Airedale Combing Co. Ltd., as a woolcomber, forms an important and integral part of this great industry. The many unique features in layout and arrangement of floor areas, machinery and production line make its mill at Lower Holme one of the finest in Britain for wool

sorting and wool combing.

The unwashed greasy fleeces received by the company for combing into "Tops" come from all wool growing centres in the world but mainly from Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. On the average the weight of such greasy wool passing through the mill for this conversion into "Tops" is approximately one half million pounds weekly.

Banks Fearnley Ltd. Having retired after over 30 years in the wool textile industry, Mr. H. Banks Fearnley, in partnership with his wife, established the business in the Arndale Shopping Centre, Shipley, for the retail of fine china, earthenware, stainless steel tableware and glass, etc., both English and Continental. Export orders are executed for individual buyers.

It is the belief of the firm that beautiful things are not necessarily expensive and it is hoped that the stall in Shipley Market Hall, which has recently been opened, will appeal to an even wider public.

J. Barnes. This pharmacy in Baildon Road has been established since 1939. National Health dispensing is carried out besides the sale of cosmetics and other sundries.

The Beaumont Knitting Centre has expanded considerably since its inception five years ago when it first started to market knitting wools. In 1961 a mail order and wholesale trade were established and the first shop has recently been opened.

The British Rubber Co. specialise in the wholesale distribution of all kinds of motor tyres and tubes for passenger transport, heavy

haulage and agriculture, for the home and export market.

The present company was formed in 1947, and incorporated in 1950, but the Managing Director has been in business in the tyre trade for 36 years with the exception of four and a half years in the Army during the war.

W. P. Butterfield (Engineers) Limited, of Shipley, is an important engineering firm in the area. They are Lloyd's Class 1 fabricators and their wide range of engineering products includes, cryogenic vessels, road, fuel and storage tanks, welded industrial plant, refuse collection systems and "Star Brand" hollow-ware, galvanized tanks and cisterns.

Central Garage Ltd. was founded by the late Mr. Russel Rose about 57 years ago. The magnificent central showrooms in Town Hall Square, Bradford, occupy the site of the original garage. The firm is

the main Austin distributor in the area.

The Shipley Branch is housed in the Civic Service Station, which is considered to be one of the finest medium sized stations in the north. In fact training facilities there are used by Shell Mex and B.P. to train operatives for station management and forecourt operation. This branch of Central Garage Ltd. was established here in 1959.

Crook Farm Caravan Site is run under the partnership of Messrs.

Alderson and Ackroyd and is situated in West Lane, Baildon.

Fred Dawson. The firm was founded in 1920 by Mr. F. Dawson, who ran the business until his retirement in 1953. Joiners and contractors, the firm manufacture window frames, doors, fitted furniture, gaming tables, counters and bars.

M. B. Jefferson (Baildon) Ltd. is a firm of electrical contractors and service engineers, who also retail electrical domestic equipment and

radio and television.

Murgatroyds Confectioners Ltd. was established with one shop in 1932, a further branch being opened in 1938. The business was continued under difficulties through the war, until today it is a well established family concern specialising in the production of bread and fresh farm creams.

Reliance Motors is a firm of Austin car dealers operating from the

Bridge Garage, Shipley.

Threshfield Bakery Ltd. produces bread and confectionery daily

from the premises at Baildon Road.

Thos. Walker, Lummis & Co. carries out general printing, and of special interest is the imitation die stamping from blocks or type. The firm was originally established in 1861, Walker and Lummis amalgamating in 1920; the firm was taken over by H. E. Biggin in 1937.

William Denby & Sons Limited was established in the year 1820 by the late William Denby, as Wm. Denby & Sons, manufacturers of

textiles from the raw wool to the finished products.

In 1925 the company was converted into a private limited company and in 1927 ceased manufacturing in order to devote the whole of its

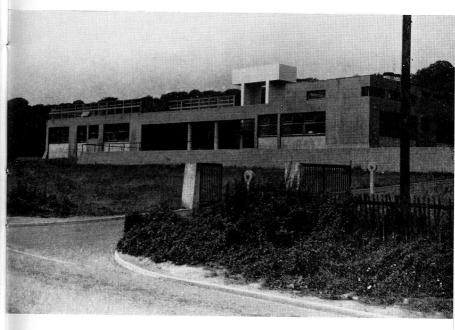
resources to commission dyeing, finishing and proofing.

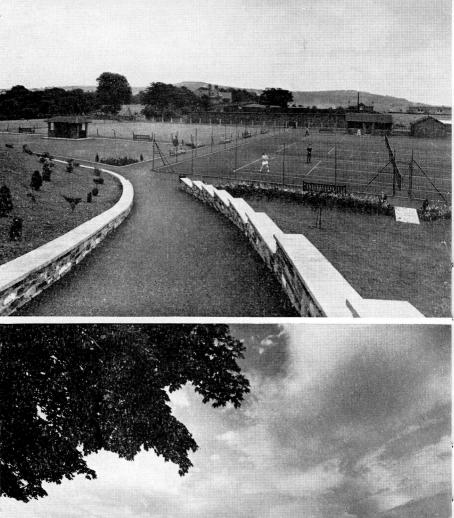
The private limited company was, in 1946, formed into a public limited company and is now considered to be a leading firm of textile dyers, proofers, and finishers in the trade, and is well known by the following registered trade marks: "Denbirayne", "Denbiruy" and "Denbisil".

The Wool Box, situated in the Market Hall, Shipley, retails all the standard requirements for the knitter in main branded goods. The proprietor was with a large hand knitting wool firm for eleven years and thus has an inside knowledge of all manufacturing procedures, besides fashion trends.

Salt Grammar School, Baildon

Huddersfield District Chronicle







THE SURROUNDING COUNTRYSIDE

BAILDON itself, of course, attracts people from the big cities of Leeds and Bradford and other West Riding industrial centres who come here in their hundreds to enjoy the amenities and delights of such places as

Baildon Moor and The Glen.

Baildon, however, is itself also a centre for exploring the lovely scenery of Airedale, of Wharfedale and on the Brontë country which lies only a short way beyond the borders of the Aire. This is at once a lovely countryside and it is all within very easy reach of Baildon. Good roads and frequent bus services connect the town with the surrounding towns and villages. In this necessarily brief summary only a few of the local centres of interest and beauty can be touched upon.

AIREDALE

The most picturesque upper reaches of Airedale are within easy reach of Baildon (though, of course, the City of Leeds and the lower parts of Airedale with the glorious Cistercian Abbey of Kirkstall are also

quite near at hand).

From Bingley it is but a short walk to the old pack horse bridge at Beckfoot whilst another lane leads to the sacrificial Druid's Altar and a lovely moorland walk right on to Keighley. In this part of the valley in the 17th century East Riddlesden Hall, a National Trust property known for its mellowed walls, mullioned windows and great banqueting hall and drawing room. The Hall is open all the year round (except on Mondays and during all of December) from 2 to 6 or till dusk if earlier, and admission costs one shilling.

Keighley, though a busy town of industry, has an interesting museum whilst from the top of the observatory at Earl Crag one gets fine views out over Keighley Tarn and Sutton Moor whilst the views

towards Skipton are especially lovely at sunset.

Skipton is a busy market town with a fine mediaeval castle dating from Edward II, and for long the home of the Cliffords. The imposing entrance gate bears the Clifford motto "Desormais" built into the balustrade. Seen from the canal, the castle appears grim, forbidding and impregnable, but it is a richly colourful picture of mediaeval England nevertheless. The castle is open all the year—from 10 to sunset on weekdays, and 2 to sunset on Sundays. Admission is 2/-. Before leaving Skipton one should also visit the Craven Museum which is open every afternoon except Sunday and Tuesday.

ON OPPOSITE PAGE:

TOP: Tennis courts and bowling green at Baildon's new park BOTTOM: The new secondary modern school, West Lane Photos: C. H. Wood (Bradford) Ltd.



Children's playground, Baildon

Huddersfield District Chronicle

Gargrave is a pleasant spot where road and river keep side-by-side and here the River Aire is a tumultuous stream beckoning us to the moors.

At the delightful village of Kirkby Malham can be seen the 15th century church, with its Jacobean box-pews, niches in the aisle pillars which once contained statues, and some lovely panelling.

Malham nestles quietly and peacefully around a little hump-backed

bridge across a tiny stream, the infant Aire.

Gordale Scar is reached along a very narrow, hilly lane. A path alongside Gordale Beck leads to the Scar which is first seen as a hollow in the hills. As we approach this is seen to be a narrow ravine with great cliffs standing sheer 300 feet high on either side. The overhanging cliffs drip water and as one climbs the rocky course of the beck to the waterfall the scene is truly majestic.

Malham Tarn is another awe-inspiring spot adjacent to Tarn Moss. Malham Tarn, now the property of the National Trust, is encircled by a rustic lane which eventually leads to Malham. The many views from this path of the sparkling waters of the Tarn and of the surrounding woods and moorland are enchanting. The Tarn is about half

a mile across, 1,200 feet above sea-level and somewhere in its depths is the source of the Aire.

BRONTE COUNTRY

South from Keighley one comes to Haworth and the homeland of the Brontë sisters who were born at the village of Thornton. Much has been written about the bleak and depressing nature of Haworth and the surrounding moors. Though this is an apt description on a cold wintry day, on a warm, sunny day one can catch some of the magic which spoke so intimately to the Brontës.

Haworth itself is built on a hill and the steep, cobbled main street is the very essence of Haworth. Its steepness is symbolic of the struggle for existence in this rugged town set on the fringe of lonely

far-flung moors.

The Mecca for tourists from all over the world is the Parsonage Museum, belonging to the Brontë Society. It is here that the Brontës come to life again, and the house is haunted by their presence. In Patrick Brontë's room one sees the couch on which Emily died-and a quaint old-fashioned upright piano mute and forlorn but imbued with significance. In the nursery is the cradle where the children were rocked to sleep and their scribblings and paintings can still be seen on the walls. Elsewhere in the museum are many original manuscripts and letters, all carried out in minute writing. In every room one sees relics of the sisters and their life and work—Emily's writing desk, Charlotte's work-basket, and, perhaps most pathetic sight of all, part of her wedding dress. One can even see the lamp which served for light during the cold hours of darkness when 'Wuthering Heights' was secretly written. This memorable place is open from 11 to 6 (or to 5 in the winter) all the year round and admission is 2/-. On Sundays it is open only in the afternoon.

All the Brontës except Anne were buried at Haworth Church, but only the original tower remains adjacent to the Parsonage grounds. A stiff three-mile climb leads up past the picturesque Falls to 'Wuthering

Heights'.

At the top of the hill is the ruined farmhouse immortalised in 'Wuthering Heights'. Isolated at 1,450 feet above sea level, the deserted farm has a bleak and chill sense of desolation even on a warm summer's day. Other houses associated with the Brontës are seen in this part of Yorkshire and they include weather-rugged Ponden Hall which was the 'Thrushcross Grange' of 'Wuthering Heights' and Wycoller Hall, a ruined 16th century mansion, which represented 'Ferndean Manor' in 'Jane Eyre'.

South from Haworth the road crosses bleak moorland before descending to the Hebden Valley. From this high road one obtains fine views of the glen leading to Hardcastle Crags, a famed beauty spot. Other places of note in this borderland area are the old world village of Heptonstall and the 17th century Todmorden Hall within

whose august walls one actually finds a post office!

WHARFEDALE

The Wharfe has its source beyond Oughtershaw not far from lonely Cam Houses and flows 60 miles east to join the Ouse in the Plain of York. Going towards the source, the beauties of the dale increase all the way. In the east the Wharfe, dignified and serene, winds through the rich pastures of the Plain of York, past Tadcaster, famous for its brewing, and Boston Spa and Wetherby, noted for their good boating. Near here is Harewood House, the 18th century home of Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal and the Earl and Countess of Harewood. A magnificent mansion in the classical style it is set in spacious grounds with extensive gardens, a large lake and many fine old beeches. The house is open on Sundays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from April to September. Admission is 3/6.

Harewood is the gateway to Wharfedale and on the approach to Otley the gentle slopes of the Forest of Knaresborough creep down from the north, and Otley Chevin, a notable viewpoint stands high to

the south.

Ilkley, a bright and sparkling town is a well known Wharfedale resort and Ilkley Moor, approached by White Wells, is famous the world over. Here one sees the Swastika Stone, old crosses, the Cow and Calf Rocks and extensive views up and down the dale. Another beauty spot close by the moor is Hebers Ghyll, a wooded glen especially beautiful in bluebell time. Panorama Rocks are nearby and down by the river is the old packhorse bridge. There are Saxon Crosses in Ilkley churchyard and close by is the newly opened Olicana Museum.

Wharfedale is at its loveliest around Bolton Abbey, and the narrow lane leading to Storiths, Bolton Woods and Barden Bridge is of surpassing beauty. The best view of the 12th century Abbey, which is open daily, is from the east bank, just across the footbridge. The river runs deep in the woods in a deep ravine where it is squeezed between huge slabs of rocks until at one point, the notorious Strid, it is little more than a yard across although very deep. The tortured waters bubble and roar and the rocks are slippery and rather dangerous.

Nearby Barden Tower, although restored in the 17th cenutry, is now once again a ruin. Wharfedale widens at Grassington, a typical Yorkshire town with cobbled square, and one that benefits by invigorating breezes from the moors. Nearby are several quaint little villages

such as Linton, Thorpe and Hebden.

Kilnsey shelters beneath its great limestone Crag whose huge, squat bulk is a landmark for miles. Kilnsey is noted for its sheep fairs. Littondale opens out to the north-west and a lofty road leads over the shoulder of Penyghent to descend steeply into Settle.

Further up Wharfedale is Kettlewell, dominated by Great Whernside (2,310 feet). A lonely road strikes northward over Park Rash, a

hill from whose summit magnificent views are to be obtained.

Wharfedale narrows towards Buckden and from here a road leads over Kidstone Pass into Wensleydale. Wharfedale becomes still lovelier towards Langstrothdale where the river splashes over rocky ledges. Here is Hubberholme with its ancient church possessing one of the few rood-lofts left in Yorkshire. Beyond the remote hamlet of Oughter-

shaw, with its beautifully situated Hall, we can climb over Fleet Moss, the highest road in Yorkshire. From here we get our last view of the now tiny Wharfe from above Nethergill and can look across a desolate range of moorland towards remote Cam Houses, one of the loneliest farmsteads in England. In the far distance is the square-topped Ingleborough, aloof and remote.

TRAVEL INFORMATION

RAII.

Baildon itself now has no rail passenger services but SHIPLEY STATION is within easy reach just across the urban boundary. From this station trains run at frequent intervals to Bradford Forster Square, the journey taking only from 6 to 9 minutes. Trains also run hourly to all stations to Leeds City (25 minute journey); hourly to Bingley, Keighley and Skipton and hourly to Guiseley and Ilkley. Nearly all these services are worked by modern well appointed diesel units. Longer distance trains calling at Shipley include trains to such places as Morecambe; London St. Pancras; Sheffield; Nottingham; Leicester; Derby; Birmingham; Bristol; Exeter and Torquay.

ROAD

The urban district is served by frequent services of the West Yorkshire Road Car Company Ltd. (Time-tables 1/- from the offices at Harrogate.) The following routes serve the urban area:

Service 53. Bradford—Shipley—CHARLESTOWN—Guiseley—Otley—Harrogate. (Every 15 minutes daily Bradford—Otley; every

30 minutes beyond.)

Service 58. Bradford—Bolton Woods—Shipley—BAILDON.

(Peak hours only to Baildon-not Sundays.)

Service 59. Bradford—Shipley—BAILDON. (Alternate routes giving 10 minute frequency during the day and 15 minute frequency from 7.30 p.m. Baildon to Bradford—more frequent at peak hours.)

Service 61. Bradford—Shipley—BAILDON GREEN—BAILDON. (Alternate routes giving 10 minute frequency during the day and 15 minute frequency from 7.30 p.m. Baildon to Bradford—more frequent at peak hours.)

Service 60. Shipley—COACH ROAD. (Every 30 minutes daily.) Service 63. Bradford—Shipley—CHARLESTOWN—Guiseley—

Ilkley. (Every 30 minutes daily.)

Service 65. Bradford—Shipley—CHARLESTOWN—Esholt—Hawksworth. (Daily.)

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Area—2,830 acres.

Banks—Barclays Bank, Hallcliffe. Midland Bank, Northgate.

Caravans—There are three caravan sites in Baildon—Dobrudden Farm, Crook Farm and Glovershaw Farm. There are some 156 caravans on these three sites which are well planned and developed. Cemetery—At Otley Road, Charlestown. Cemetery Registrar, Wilfred Morton. Tel. Shipley 51688.

Churches and Chapels—

Church of England: Parish Church Baildon. St. James' Mission Church, Kirklands. St. Hugh's Church, Coach Road.

Roman Catholic: St. Aidan's Church, Baildon Road.

Methodist: Westgate, Baildon; and Ótley Road, Charlestown.

Independent Methodist: Baildon Green.

Moravian: Browgate and Wellfield.

Baptist: Union Street.

Clubs and Organisations—Many clubs, societies and organisations exist and in addition to sporting clubs (mentioned under 'Sport') the following is a representative selection:

Baildon Aged Persons Welfare Association.

Baildon Aged Persons Havens.

Baildon Veterans Association.

Baildon Afternoon and Evening Townswomens Guilds.

Shipley and Baildon Youth Council. Baildon Home Safety Committee.

Baildon Road Safety Committee.

Baildon Musical Society.

The local Conservative and Working Men's Clubs have premises in Towngate, Northgate and Woodbottom, as have the Soldiers and Sailors Association in Moorgate.

There are also, of course, many organisations connected with the

Churches and Chapels.

Coroner—Stephen Brown, Esq., Skipton. Tel. Skipton 3333. Early Closing—Tuesday.

Education—Education services are provided by the West Riding County Council. The divisional executive officer is P. Doran, B.A., Town Hall, Shipley. Baildon has a fine new Secondary Modern school which is of modern design and is situated amidst its own playing fields high on Baildon Moor. This school was only opened at Easter, 1961. The town also has six primary schools. Adjacent to the housing estate along Coach Road a new Grammar school has been constructed, replacing the 19th century Salt Grammar Schools at Shipley. At Shipley is the Art and Technical Institute and here evening and day classes are available.

Electors—9,060 (1964).

Electricity—Supplied by the Yorkshire Electricity Board. Nearest

offices and showrooms at 34 Market Place, Shipley.

Entertainment-There are cinemas in Shipley and Bradford and theatres in Bradford and Leeds. Dances, socials, amateur stage productions, and other events are organised at local halls and in connection with local clubs and associations.

Gas-Supplied by the North Eastern Gas Board. Nearest offices and

showrooms at Market Square, Shipley.

Health and Welfare-

District Nurse: 40 Pasture Road, Baildon. Tel. Shipley 54218. Midwife: 11 Menin Drive, Baildon. Tel. Shipley 55662.

District Welfare Officer: Tel. Shipley 56141.

Hospitals-Sir Titus Salt's Hospital, Saltaire, Shipley. in 1868.) Shipley Maternity Home. All the hospitals in the Bradford 'A' and 'B' Hospital Management Committees areas.

Justice-Baildon urban district is within the Bingley Petty Sessional Division of the West Riding. Petty Sessional courts are held on Mondays and Thursdays at 10.30 a.m. at Bingley Court House. Clerk

of the Justices: J. G. Ogden, Esq. Tel. Bingley 4676.

Library—Baildon is served by a branch library of the West Riding County Library service. It has lending, reference and children's sections and is open daily (except Sundays). It is situated in North-Tel. Shipley 51425. There is a small branch library on the Knoll Estate and other areas are served by a travelling library.

Local Government—The Baildon Urban District Council consists of 12 members—3 for each of the 4 wards. The Urban District sends

1 member to the West Riding County Council.

Council Offices are at the Town Hall, Baildon. Tel. (all departments except Medical Officer) Shipley 53181/4. Medical Officer, Shipley 51363.

Meetings are held at the Town Hall on Tuesdays at weekly

intervals.

The Council's chief officers are:

Clerk of the Council: Cyril May, F.I.M.T.A., F.R.V.A.

Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer, N. Astley, A.I.M.T.A.

Chief Collector: Charles Myers Mann. Surveyor: G. F. R. Dickinson, B.SC.(ENG.), A.M.I.C.E., M.I.MUN.E. Medical Officer of Health: John Battersby, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. Public Health Inspector: Jack Garforth, CERT.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A.

The urban council provide the following services: allotments; local health services including refuse collection and sewage disposal; housing; highways; parks and a cemetery. Other services such as education, fire and police are provided by the West Riding County Council. Water services are provided by the Rombalds Water Board.

The rateable value was £383,847 at April 1st, 1964, and a rate of 11/3d. in the £ is levied. The net product of a penny rate is £1,590.

There are over 5,000 rated properties in the urban district. Highways: The Council maintain 25.78 miles of road including 5.29 miles of classified roads which are maintained on behalf of the West Riding County authority. Road safety and the provision of street

lighting are also local services and, in winter, snow clearance is quite

an important item.

Housing: The Council owns a total of 787 houses, flats, bungalows and garages-of this total 236 were built between the wars and the rest have been built since the last war. New houses are on modern and well planned estates and all amenities of modern life are provided. Net rents vary as a rent rebate scheme is in operation. Along the Coach Road on the southern border of the urban district is a large estate of 655 houses, flats, garages and shops that has been built by Shipley Urban District Council but within the Baildon urban area. Market-Fridays and Saturdays at Shipley.

Newspapers—Daily: "Yorkshire Post" and "Telegraph and Argus". Weekly: "Shipley Times and Express" (Wednesdays 4d.); "Guardian

Chronicle" (Fridays 4d.).

Parks and Open Spaces-In addition to the Knoll Park and The Dell the council has an excellent recreation ground at Temple Rhydding and this has facilities for football, bowls, putting and tennis. Here also is a children's playground whilst trees and banks of flowers add to the amenities of this very well designed park. On the new estate at Coach Road is Roberts Park which is alongside the Aire and has a cricket ground. This park has an especially beautiful natural setting. There are children's playgrounds at Cliffe Avenue (with paddling pool), Jenny Lane and Otley Road, Charlestown.

Parliamentary—Baildon is within the Shipley Parliamentary Division (Shipley, Baildon and Bingley) and its Member of Parliament is

Geoffrey A. N. Hirst, T.D.

Police-Police Station, Rushcroft Terrace, Baildon. Tel. Shipley 53191. Shipley Sub-Division Police Headquarters. Tel. Shipley 53191. Population-12,640 Mid 1964 (registrar-general's estimate). In 1911 Baildon had 6,052 inhabitants and through the years the figure has steadily increased. (7,794 in 1931 and 9,800 at the outbreak of World War II.) The 1961 census shows a population of over 12,151. In other words, Baildon's population has doubled in 50 years.

Rateable Value-£383,847. Rates—11/3d. in the £ (1964-65).

Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages-The registrar's office is at Richmond House, Otley Road, Guiseley. (Tel. Guiseley 3419.) The registrar, C. E. E. Robinson, attends at Baildon Mechanics Institute on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 4-5 p.m. Sport-

Angling: Available in the River Aire. The Saltaire Angling

Association is the local body.

Archery: A local club have butts at Jenny Lane.

Bowls: A bowling green is located at Temple Rhydding park. Cricket: Baildon Cricket team plays in the Bradford League and various other local teams are established. There is a cricket ground at Roberts Park alongside the Aire on the Coach Road estate. This ground's weekend matches attract large crowds from both Baildon and Shipley. Messrs. C. F. Taylor and Co. Ltd. have their own sports ground and association.

Football: Football pitches at Temple Rhydding park. Local teams—including works teams—play in various leagues including the Wharfedale League. Rugby Union Football is also played at Jenny Lane.

Golf: Baildon Golf Club have an 18 hole course on Baildon Moor some 635 feet above sea level. It is an excellent sporting course with fine views out across the moors and dales. The club originally started in 1891 as the Bradford Golf Club. On this club moving to Hawksworth, the Pennithorne Club took over the greens on the moor and changed its name to the Baildon Golf Club. Its present fine Golf House is the third club house to have existed.

Hunting: The Airedale Beagles (kennels at Eldwick) hunt the

Bingley-Baildon area.

Putting: A putting green is sited at Temple Rhydding park.

Rowing: On the River Aire. Regattas organised by the Bradford

Rowing Club (Saltaire).

Tennis: Hard tennis courts at Temple Rhydding park. Private clubs on Coach Road (Saltaire Tennis Club) and in Roberts park.



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(Baildon) Ltd.

NORTHGATE, BAILDON, SHIPLEY

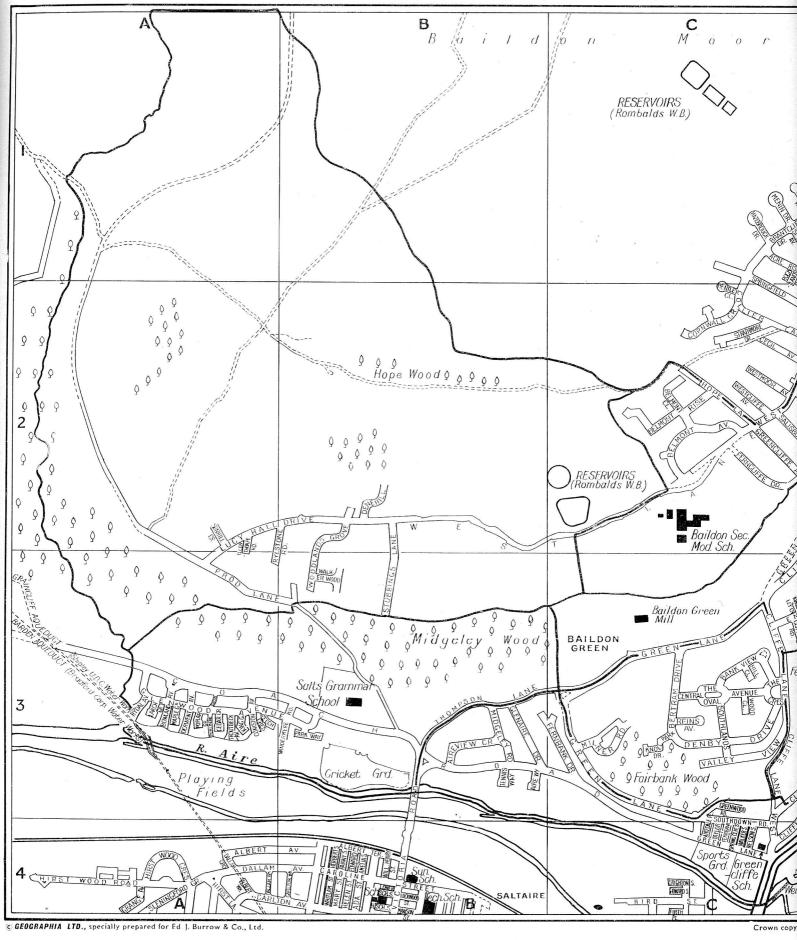
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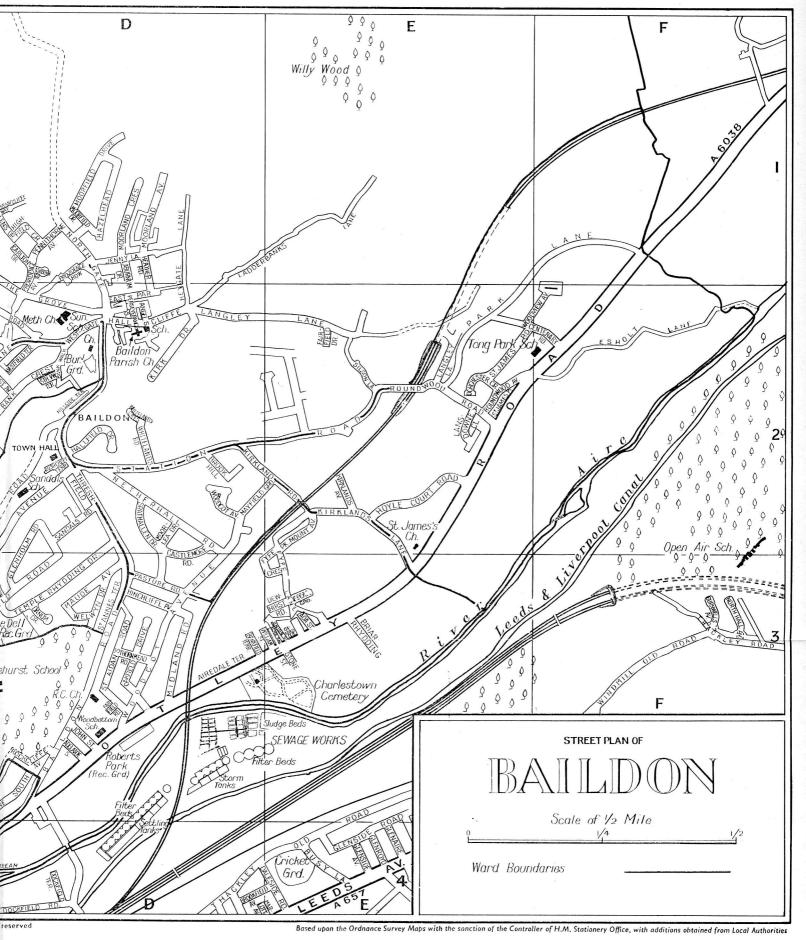
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