

C BRG Records relating to freemen and apprentices 1395-1838
in Kingston upon Hull

Historical Background: Becoming a freeman and burgess of Kingston upon Hull, like many other towns, was particularly important as it carried some considerable privileges within the borough. The charters of 1299 and 1440 granted the burgesses the right to participate in the election of aldermen as well as the coroner and mayor. These rights and privileges were abolished under the reforms of the 1835 Municipal Corporations Act.

The general definitions of the terms of burgess and freeman are:-

Freeman:

- a) A tenant who holds land of the Lord at a fixed rent without the obligation of feudal service.
- b) Before the Municipal Corporations Act, they could claim a share of the profits of the city or borough and claim exemptions from tolls.
- c) Now an honorary title conferred by a city of corporation.

Burgess:

- a) A citizen of a borough having municipal rights
 - b) A member of parliament for a borough or corporate town
 - c) They hold office for life, unless they resign or had to be removed for some notable reason.
- A burgesses-ship conferred other privileges as well as a share in the government of the town; above all it carried the right to set up in a craft or trade, for which non-burgesses were required to pay an annual licence.

In Hull, becoming a freeman or burgess could be achieved by one of two ways; either through patrimony or through apprenticeship, by far the most popular route in the town. This, it has been suggested, shows that many fathers saw the value of apprenticeship for their sons. In addition, across England as a whole, under the Statute of Artificers and Apprentices of 1563, no one was allowed to practice a trade or craft without having served a 7-year period as an apprentice to a master. This was finally abolished in 1814.

Custodial History: Records created as part of the administrative functions of the Borough of Hull and kept in the Records Room within the Town Hall

Description: Registers of freemen, 1395-1886; Index, 1545-1835; Register of apprentices, 1651-1835; Application for admission, 1707-1832; Stamped admission register, 1730-1835; Administrative papers c18-19 cent.

Arrangement:

C BRG/1-5	Registers of persons admitted as burgesses of Hull	1395-1835
C BRG/6-13	Registration of persons bound apprentice to freemen	1651-1788
C BRG/14-29	Not allocated	
C BRG/30-1041	Evidence submitted in support of applications for admission as a freeman	1704-1838

Extent: 6 boxes

Related material: Lists of Freemen may also be found in:-

The Chamberlains Accounts:-

- C BRF/2/344 (1406-1407)
- C BRF/2/345 (1409-1416)
- C BRF/2/346 (1422-1423)

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C BRF/2/347 (1423-1424)
C BRF/2/348 (1424-1425)
C BRF/2/351 (1425-1430)
C BRF/2/362 (1447-1448)
C BRF/2/363 (1448-1449)
C BRF/2/365 (1451-1452)
C BRF/2/366 (1452-1453)
C BRF/2/368 (1456-1457)
C BRF/2/369 (1456-1457)
(Former Stanewell Reference, M479)

The Hull Bench Books

C BRB/1 19V 1451, Mayor Simon Burton
C BRB/1 22V 1452, Mayor John Spencer
C BRB/1 26V 1453, Mayor Richard Anson

C BRE/1/1 General Register/ Bench Book containing copies of deeds and rentals etc

- i) List of burgesses dated 1369, probably a list of those alive at that date
- ii) List of burgesses admitted; 1371-1439 (ff.228-229; 233; 237; 240-246; 252-258 and 265-267)

C TRE/448, a copy of the Freeman Roll of Kingston upon Hull from 1741, compiled under The Municipal Corporations Act, (5 & 6 Will IV Cap 76).

- i) This is a list of persons admitted as freemen from 1741 onwards, arranged in chronological order of initial letter
- ii) It uses the symbol " , which indicates a lack of information rather than a repeat from the line above

Access conditions: Access will be granted to any accredited reader, except C BRG/1 and C BRG/6-12 which are only available to view on microfilm. Please book a machine prior to visit. Individuals entries from C BRG/6-12 can also be searched by surname through the online catalogue.

C BRG/1-BRG/5	Registers of persons admitted as burgesses of Hull 5 volumes	1395-1835
C BRG/1	Bench Book Record of the business and meetings of the Mayor and Aldermen of the Borough of Kingston upon Hull. Formerly known as Bench Book 1. Includes:- i) A list of burgesses admitted in chronological order of admission from 1395-1442, probably a list of those alive at time of compilation. ii) Register of burgesses admitted 1443-1645, with an index from 1545-1645. iii) Customs of the Court of Kingston upon Hull and other ordinances (ff.5-9)	1442-1645

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- iv) Taxes to be levied on various kinds of goods (ff.9)
- v) Assize of bread (ff.2-3 and 9-11)
- vi) Oaths of the Mayor, Bailiff and Steward (ff.12-19)
- vii) Burgesses from various dates (ff.12-19)

[Microfilm Roll 173]

Access will be granted to any accredited reader. This item is only available to view on microfilm [Roll 173].

Please book a microfilm reader prior to your visit.

1 volume

C BRG/2	<p>Register of Burgesses admitted as freemen of Hull It includes:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i) List of burgesses, indexed, partly before the register, partly after the registerii) Qualifications of persons to be admitted burgesses by service patrimony and purchaseiii) List of Mayors, 1645-1693 and the number of burgesses admitted in each year 1645-1675iv) The oaths of the Burgesses, Mayors, Sheriffs, Exchequers, Recorders, Aldermen, Justices of the Peace, Coroners, Chamberlains, and Attorneysv) The allegiance and supremacy, (under an Act of 1 Will and Mary) of the Sergeant at Mace, Town Clerk, Clerk of the Court of Records and the Common Clerk, 30 Sep 1673 and later <p>1 volume</p>	1645-1740
C BRG/3	<p>Register of Burgesses admitted as freemen of Hull Also contains the oaths of the Town Officers. For the index see C BRG/4. 1 volume</p>	1741-1802
C BRG/4	<p>Index for the register of Burgesses admitted as freemen of Hull at C BRG/3 1 volume</p>	1741-1802
C BRG/5	<p>Register of Burgesses admitted as freemen of Hull With index, in a separate book sewn to the register 1 volume</p>	1802-1835

C BRG/6-13	Records relating to the registration of persons bound apprentice to freemen 1 volume	1651-1788
C BRG/6	Registration of persons bound apprentice to freemen Includes Final Concords for the period and a record of persons bound apprentice to freemen of Hull. They give the name of the apprentice, the name of their parents and their occupation and in some cases abode. Also gives name, occupation and abode of the master and names of the witnesses to the indenture. 1565 entries. Only available to view on microfilm, roll 11 item 1, in the library area of the History Centre. Please book a machine before your visit. Alternatively see online catalogue for details. 1 volume	1651-1719
C BRG/7	Registration of persons bound apprentice to freemen This volume has two sequence of numbers, one starting at the each end of the volume. The first sequence covers the dates March 1719-December 1765 and the second, working from the back of the volume covers March 1727-February 1788. There are 27 entries in the second sequence hence there are two sets of piece numbers BRG/7/1-27. 1926 entries. Only available to view on microfilm, roll 11 item 2, in the library area of the History Centre. Please book a machine before your visit. Alternatively see online catalogue for details. 1 volume	28 Apr 1720- 17 Dec 1765
C BRG/8	Registration of persons bound apprentice to freemen A record of the registration of persons bound apprentice to freemen of Hull. 1752 entries. Only available to view on microfilm, roll 11 item 3, in the library area of the History Centre. Please book a machine before your visit. Alternatively see online catalogue for details. 1 volume	13 Jan 1766- 20 Dec 1787

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C BRG/9	<p>Registration of persons bound apprentice to freemen Gives a name of apprentice, their parents and their parents occupation, the name of the freeman and their occupation and who witnessed the indenture. 1333 entries.</p> <p>Only available to view on microfilm, roll 11 item 4, in the library area of the History Centre. Please book a machine before your visit. Alternatively see online catalogue for details. 1 volume</p>	11 Jan 1788- 8 Aug 1799
C BRG/10	<p>Registration of persons bound apprentice to freemen Gives a name of apprentice, their parents and their parents occupation, the name of the freeman and their occupation and who witnessed the indenture. 1464 entries.</p> <p>Only available to view on microfilm, roll 11 item 5, in the library area of the History Centre. Please book a machine before your visit. Alternatively see online catalogue for details. 1 volume</p>	10 Aug 1799- 1 Mar 1809
C BRG/11	<p>Registration of persons bound apprentice to freemen Gives a name of apprentice, their parents and their parents occupation, the name of the freeman and their occupation and who witnessed the indenture. 644 entries.</p> <p>Only available to view on microfilm, roll 62 item 1, in the library area of the History Centre. Please book a machine before your visit. Alternatively see online catalogue for details. 1 volume</p>	4 Mar 1809- 3 Mar 1820
C BRG/12	<p>Registration of persons bound apprentice to freemen Gives a name of apprentice, their parents and their parents occupation, the name of the freeman and their occupation and who witnessed the indenture. 1848 entries.</p> <p>Only available to view on microfilm, roll 11 item 6, in the library area of the History Centre. Please book a machine before your visit. Alternatively see online catalogue for details. 1 volume</p>	3 Mar 1820- 28 Dec 1855

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C BRG/13	Registration of persons bound apprentice to freemen Gives a name of apprentice, their parents and their parents occupation, the name of the freeman and their occupation and who witnessed the indenture. 93 entries. See online catalogue for details. 1 volume	17 Jul 1855- 23 Jun 1886
C BRG/14-29	Not allocated	
C BRG/30-1041	Evidence submitted in support of applications for admission as a freeman of Hull Documents, such as copies of burgess oaths and baptismal certificates submitted as evidence in claims to be admitted as a freeman of the town. See hard copy in the searchroom catalogue for more details. 1011 items	1719-1788
C BRG/30-173	Indentures, oaths and other papers submitted in support of applications for admission as a freeman. See hard copy in the searchroom catalogue for more details. 144 items	1707-1810
C BRG/174-201	Indentures, oaths and other papers related to names beginning with A. See hard copy in the searchroom catalogue for more details. 28 items	1714-1822
C BRG/ 202-300	Indentures, oaths and other papers related to names beginning with B. See hard copy in the searchroom catalogue for more details. 66 items	1743-1830
C BRG/301-365	Indentures, oaths and other papers related to names beginning with C. See hard copy in the searchroom catalogue for more details. 66 items	1761-1837
C BRG/ 336-406	Indentures, oaths and other papers related to names beginning with D. See hard copy in the searchroom catalogue for more details. 71 items	1762-1832

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C BRG/407-419	Indentures, oaths and other papers related to names beginning with E. See hard copy in the searchroom catalogue for more details. 13 items	1784-1820
C BRG/420-447	Indentures, oaths and other papers related to names beginning with F. See hard copy in the searchroom catalogue for more details. 28 items	1755-1826
C BRG/448-495	Indentures, oaths and other papers related to names beginning with G. See hard copy in the searchroom catalogue for more details. 48 items	1758-1830
C BRG/496-567	Indentures, oaths and other papers related to names beginning with H. See hard copy in the searchroom catalogue for more details. 72 items	1704-1826
C BRG/568-582	Indentures, oaths and other papers related to names beginning with J. See hard copy in the searchroom catalogue for more details. 15 items	1797-1830
C BRG/583-600	Indentures, oaths and other papers related to names beginning with K. See hard copy in the searchroom catalogue for more details. 33 items	1747-1830
C BRG/601-643	Indentures, oaths and other papers related to names beginning with L. See hard copy in the searchroom catalogue for more details. 44 items	1777-1826
C BRG/644-695	Indentures, oaths and other papers related to names beginning with M. See hard copy in the searchroom catalogue for more details. 52 items	1767-1826

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C BRG/696-705	Indentures, oaths and other papers related to names beginning with N. See hard copy in the searchroom catalogue for more details. 10 items	1727-1818
C BRG/706-776	Indentures, oaths and other papers related to names beginning with O. See hard copy in the searchroom catalogue for more details. 71 items	1795-1811
C BRG/717-756	Indentures, oaths and other papers related to names beginning with P. See hard copy in the searchroom catalogue for more details. 40 items	1737-1832
C BRG/757-764	Indentures, oaths and other papers related to names beginning with R. See hard copy in the searchroom catalogue for more details. 8 items	1793-1826
C BRG/765-800	Not allocated	
C BRG/801-891	Indentures, oaths and other papers related to names beginning with S. See hard copy in the searchroom catalogue for more details. 91 items	1734-1835
C BRG/892-929	Indentures, oaths and other papers related to names beginning with T. See hard copy in the searchroom catalogue for more details. 38 items	1729-1826
C BRG/930-1018	Indentures, oaths and other papers related to names beginning with W. See hard copy in the searchroom catalogue for more details. 89 items	1718-1837
C BRG/1019-1023	Indentures, oaths and other papers related to names beginning with Y. See hard copy in the searchroom catalogue for more details. 5 items	1760-1811

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C BRG/1024-1076	Indentures, oaths and other papers related to miscellaneous names. See hard copy in the searchroom catalogue for more details. 23 items	1771-1838
C BRG/1077-1106	Administrative papers and stamp duty copies of admission registers. See hard copy in the searchroom catalogue for more details. 30 items	1704-1832