This User Guide details local authority building control plans now housed at Tyne & Wear Archives. It is arranged by present day district boundaries.

The Local Government Act 1858 and successors enabled local authorities to make bye-laws to control buildings and streets. Plans for new buildings, or for extensions to existing property, had to be submitted to the authority for approval before work could commence. Prior to this, local private acts were the only way to enforce control on building development. Boroughs, local boards, sanitary authorities and later urban and rural district councils (formed 1894) were responsible for building control until 1974.

Building control concerns property developments and alterations. Plans therefore include property built before the 1850s if structural alterations have been made since the advent of building control. Only structural work is recorded and not, for example, area water, gas and electricity supply. Boundaries are approximate. The vendors or estate plans often show the layout of building plots in an area. The plot numbers on plans frequently coincide with the plot numbers on building control plans and are a useful reference for the property in a wider context.

Please enquire in advance about access to any unlisted collections.

1. **Gateshead**

   Blaydon UD: plans c1880-1974; registers 1826, 1862-1974 [T282 – unlisted; 3623 - unlisted]

   Chester le Street RD: plans (Birtley and Lamesley parishes only) 1955-1974; index 1964-1974 [RD.CS]

   Felling UD: plans 1881-1974 (incomplete), registers 1869-1974 [T353]

   Gateshead CB: plans 1852-1974; registers 1852-1985 [CB.GA]

   Ryton UD: plans 1868-1974; registers 1868-1972 [UD.RY]

   Whickham UD: plans 1878-1974; registers 1877-1977 [T292]

2. **Newcastle**

   Benwell and Fenham UD: plans 1876-1954 indexed, vendors' plans 1889-1915 indexed [T186]; index to pre 1905 building plans [T366 - unlisted]

Gosforth UD: plans 1874-1974; applications indexed by applicant 1924-1974; applications indexed by street c1875-1966 [UD.GO]

Newburn UD: building and street plan registers 1891-1974; plans 1889-1972 [UD.NB]

Newcastle CB: plans 1853-1957 indexed; vendors' plans 1856-1957 indexed [T186]; registers of building plans submitted 1853-1889 indexed [T366], 1948-1983 [T420]; vendors plans plot sheets c1890s-1920s; Parish Books [T366]; selected plans 1947-1974 [T2, T99, T137, T142 etc]; engineers plans [T94; T157; T422 - unlisted; T428 - unlisted]

Newcastle MD: selected plans 1974-

Walker UD: plans c1870-1956 indexed; plans 1881-1903 indexed [T186]; index to pre 1905 building plans [T366 - unlisted]

3. North Tyneside


Seaton Valley UD: plans 1940s- [T595 - unlisted]


Tynemouth RD: plans 1906 (very incomplete) indexed [T186]; plan nos. 22-1886 1883-1912 [T509 unlisted]; plans 1905-1910 [T659 - unlisted]

Wallsend MB: registers arranged alphabetically by street c1870-1974; plans c1870-1948 (incomplete) [MB.WA]; plans 1940s-1960s [T595 - unlisted], 1969-1973 [acc 3452 - unlisted]

Weetslade UD: plans 1889-1935 [T659 - unlisted]

Whitley Bay MB: register 1884-1919; plans (very few) 1876-1930s; estate plans 1880s-1950s [MB.WB]; registers 1947-1974 [acc 3452 - unlisted]

Willington Quay UD: plans c1885-1948 [UD.WQ; T585 - unlisted] NB after 1904 Willington Quay plans are included in the Wallsend plan index.

4. South Tyneside

Boldon UD (formerly South Shields RD): plans 1884-1974; registers 1967-1974; submitted plans registers 1884-1973 [UD.BO]

Hebburn UD: plans 1875-1974; registers 1875-1974; planning applications 1952-1953 [T230]

Jarrow MB: plans 1864-1974; registers 1865-1974; schedule 1865-1974 [T231]

South Shields CB: plans 1855-1948; estate plans c1877-1942; register of estate plans 1898-1942; register of applications 1899-1949; index to plans 1855-1955; index to estate plans 1872-1933 [CB.SS, T229, T325, MF2041-2043]

South Tyneside MD: selected drawings 1974-1977 [T347 - unlisted]

5. Sunderland

Hetton UD: plans 1894-1934 [acc 220]

Houghton RD: plans 1919-1936 [RD.HS]

Houghton UD: plans 1855-1960; registers 1855-1960 [UD.HS]

Southwick UD: plans incorporated in Sunderland CB


Sunderland RD: plans 1938 (incomplete) [T12]

Washington UD: plans 1898-1946; registers 1898-1946 [UD.WS]

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