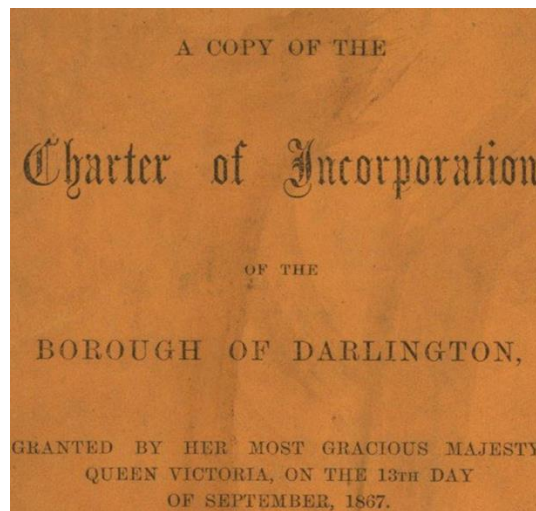
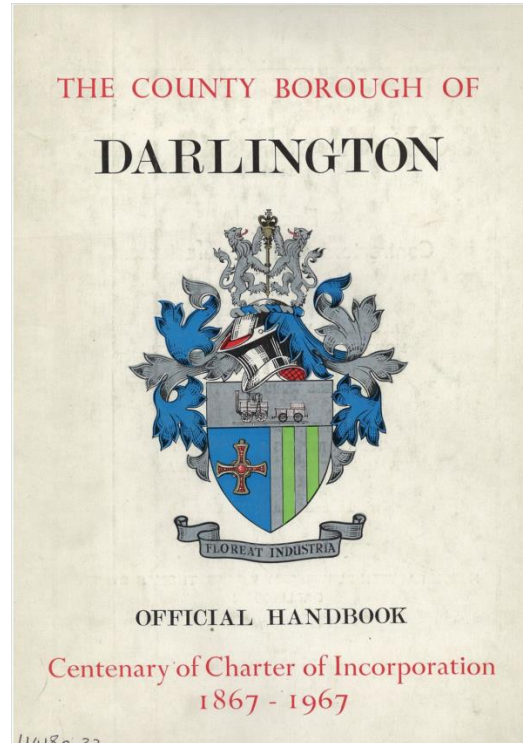


Charter of Incorporation of the Borough of Darlington and The County Borough of Darlington Official Handbook



Although one is no more than a fragile pamphlet, it is a copy of the Charter of Incorporation of the Borough of Darlington. The other book is The County Borough of Darlington Official Handbook for 1967, which is an interesting look at the town in that year, the Centenary of the Charter of Incorporation.



There are descriptions of new housing, schools, shops and businesses and adverts for businesses you may remember. The book also celebrated the

Centenary of the Charter of Incorporation 1867-1967 and includes information about the Mayor's Chain and the Ceremonial Mace.

September 2017 is the 150th Anniversary of the Charter of Incorporation of the Borough of Darlington. The Charter, which was granted by Queen Victoria on 13th September 1867 enhanced the political prestige of the town by enabling Darlington to be democratically self - governed. The Charter meant that Darlington ratepayers could now elect a council and have a voice in local politics.

Darlington's first council election was held in December 1867 and eighteen town councillors were voted into office. The town had been divided into six wards by the Charter and each ward could elect three councillors.

The first Mayor was Henry Pease, son of Joseph. Joseph Pease had been nominated for the role, but owing to his age and infirmity, he declined the office.

The first elected Member of Parliament for Darlington was Edmund Backhouse.