

Uncovering Our Local Past: Become a History Detective

Step back in time—every street corner tells a story waiting to be discovered!

- **Primary sources are original items from the past, such as old photographs, handwritten diaries, or census records, which provide a direct link to the people who lived here before us.**
- **The geography of our local area often dictates its history; towns often grew near rivers for transport or natural resources like coal and iron for industry.**
- **Place names can act as historical clues; for example, a name ending in '-ton' or '-ham' often suggests an old Anglo-Saxon settlement.**
- **Local libraries and county archives are essential storehouses where historians preserve documents that tell us how our community changed during the Victorian era and the World Wars.**
- **Comparing old photographs of your high street with the buildings standing today reveals the impact of modern development and how our daily lives have evolved.**

Did you know? Did you know? You can investigate the history of your own home by looking at a map from 100 years ago! Compare it to a modern digital map to see if your street used to be farmland, a factory, or even a forest before the houses were built.

Key vocabulary: Chronology · Primary Source · Secondary Source · Archive · Settlement · Urbanisation · Industrialisation · Heritage