

# Bedfordshire Archives & Records Service *established 1913*

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Bedford Borough Council and Central Bedfordshire Council working together

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## Heath and Reach School in 1904

North-east elevation of Heath School 1862 [AD3865/19/5]

Bedfordshire County Council became [Local Education Authority](#) for the county in 1903, following the Education Act 1902. In 1904 the County Survey reported on the condition of all the council and voluntary schools under LEA control, excluding those on Bedford and Luton which were under their own executive arrangements. The survey was as follows:

This is a brick and tiled building with a limited space, so no playground or schoolrooms.

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## The Bird in Hand Beerhouse Potton

The Bird in Hand Beerhouse: 59 King Street, Potton

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## Bedford Castle

Artist's reconstruction of Bedford Castle with Castle Quay superimposed May 2009

It is not known when the Norman castle at Bedford was built. The town had defences during the [Anglo-Saxon period](#). The castle is not mentioned in the [Domesday Book of 1086](#) but as the survey was primarily concerned with making an assessment of landholding for taxation purposes this does not prove that a castle was not in existence (absence of evidence is not evidence of absence). It was built on the site of the Anglo-Saxon defences north of the river and may even have included some of them. It was a classic Norman fortification of a mound, or motte, on which were wooden defences, surrounded by an area of dwellings called the bailey. There were, in fact, two baileys separated from it by a wall, an inner bailey which contained the lord's own hall, the chapel and the kitchen, and an outer bailey at some point lined in stone.

## CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!

Our [Community Archives](#) webpages are designed to provide a historic overview of local towns, villages and hamlets, from Domesday to the present day. Would you like to help by researching and writing about your local community?

This project will be an opportunity to:

- ◆ learn how to carry out archival research with professional support and guidance
- ◆ use your time and skills to support the Archive Service in documenting our county's past
- ◆ contribute to the written history of Bedfordshire by sharing your own research online.

**Interested?** Come to a meeting at Bedfordshire Archives on Thursday 22nd September to find out more. There'll be two sessions at 10am and 2pm and you can book in advance using the contact details below.

For more information on the Community Archives visit [www.bedford.gov.uk/archive](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/archive) and follow the link on the left hand side of the page.

Bedfordshire Archives, Riverside Building, Borough Hall, Cauldwell Street, Bedford, MK42 9AP

Contact - Tel: 01234 228833 Email: [archive@bedford.gov.uk](mailto:archive@bedford.gov.uk)