The collections are a rare and unique record of Blackpool’s past. They cover the history of seaside, popular culture and entertainment and Blackpool’s social history. Together they give a unique view of the development of Blackpool as the world’s first and biggest mass seaside resort and a world-renowned centre for popular entertainment.

Access

Collections can be viewed in the History Centre on the first floor of the Central Library.

This service is open to everyone; we do not require letters of introduction, a reader’s ticket or proof of ID.

We do not charge a fee to consult the archives.

Appointment only

Access to collections are strictly by appointment only and no consultation can happen without one.

Please contact us in advance of your visit and give us two working days notice. Only some collections are currently listed and the rest are in the process of being catalogued.

Two days notice is required to search, identify and retrieve collections for access.

There is a noon retrieval from stores on the day of visit but this is dependent on resources on the day and cannot be guaranteed.

- Local History Collections
- Blackpool Council Archive
- Tower Company Archive
- Cyril Critchlow Collection
- Tourism Collection
- Blackpool Illuminations Collection
- Grand Theatre Collection
- Grundy Social History Collection