

Mercers

(formerly Mercers, Grocers, Haberdashers, Ironmongers, and Salters)

Index of Apprentices and Freemen

Indexed records	DCG 11/2, 7-8, 15-16
GUIDE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• This index comprises two lists of Durham City Guilds apprentices (list 1) and freemen (list 2), each in alphabetical order.• Researchers are advised to browse widely among possible variant spellings of surnames.• Apprentices and freemen's parents or guardians' names, where present, precede masters' names: <i>s</i> abbreviates 'son of', and <i>es</i> 'eldest son of'.• Apprentices were often re-assigned or 'turned over' to new masters, in which cases an additional (adjacent) entry has been made in this index. These turn overs can be identified by checking individuals of the same name, parentage and indenture/registration date within the preceding 7-10 years. (While the date of such turn overs, when reported in the original record, is recorded in an underlying database, the first indenture/registration date is repeated in this index at each of an apprentice's subsequent turn overs to aid identification.)• Two dates are usually available for each apprenticeship record, those of the apprenticeship indenture and of registration, the latter usually within a year of the former: where both dates are recorded only the indenture date has been reproduced below. For freemen the date is that of their admission to freedom.• Where an apprenticeship was cancelled or not completed 'X' follows the date: reasons for such cancellations vary from death, abscondment, voluntary withdrawal, enlistment or ejection.• Apprenticeship terms typically ranged from 7 to 10 years, depending on the Company, occasionally with an additional contracted year as the 'hired man' of the master: an apprentice might seek admittance as a freeman of the Company and of the City immediately upon the completion of his term of servitude, (he being over 21 years of age), or after a period of years. Apprentices traditionally served from the age of fourteen. The period of servitude, when known, is stated in round brackets after the admission date, where (N) indicates an unknown number of years.• Eldest sons of freemen might, upon reaching 21 years of age, in turn gain their freedom by 'patrimony' without serving a term of apprenticeship. In the Mercers' Company (and, for a period, in the Drapers' Company as well) <i>any</i> son of a freemen could gain his freedom in this way. Consequently the index of freemen should also be consulted in order to be sure of making a comprehensive search of the indexed guild records for any particular person.• In addition to admission by servitude (apprenticeship) and patrimony, some freemen were admitted by 'redemption'. A few guilds for a time permitted qualified incomers to buy their way into a Durham guild in order that they might be able to trade in the city, but generally such freemen entering by redemption	

were 'gentlemen freemen' who were admitted on the understanding that they would not so trade. Finally, a few local MPs, national politicians and local landed powerbrokers were admitted as honorary freemen.

- The presence of a parent or guardian's name does not necessarily indicate they were living at the time the apprentice was bound to his master.
- Due to the incomplete state of the records there will be many instances where either only an apprenticeship or only an admission record survives for an individual, and on occasion a master will be noted for whom no apprenticeship or even admission record is extant. In general a newly admitted freeman would not immediately take on an apprentice so soon after his own apprenticeship had been completed, but for freemen admitted by patrimony this rule may not apply as consistently.
- With the steady decline of the guilds' power in the city from the 18th century, and with increasing industrialisation, a freeman's guild became less and less indicative of which particular trade he practised; thus, for example, a person apprenticed to a Barber in the later period will probably not have been training in the craft of a barber.
- Durham freemen were exclusively male until 6 February 2012.

Apprentices 1767-1775

Grey, John s John Grey, yeoman, Durham, Durham to John Lambe, 22 Jun 1771.

Ridley, John son-in-law of Robert Levison, yeoman, East Butsfield, Lanchester, Durham to Thomas Dunn the younger, 01 Jul 1775.

Woodness, Thomas s Thomas Woodness, Durham, Durham, butcher, to John Hall, 14 Nov 1767.

Freemen 1722-1850

Adamson, Thomas Briggs to Thomas Chipchase, 16 Jul 1830, Servitude (N).

Airey, Joseph to Thomas Potts, 09 Apr 1766, Servitude (7).

Airey, Joseph to William Kirton, 09 Apr 1766, Servitude (7).

Airson, John s Christopher Airson, 20 Jun 1775, Patrimony.

Airson, John s John Airson, 16 Nov 1789, Patrimony.

Appleby, Edward s Joshua Appleby, 11 Mar 1800, Patrimony.

Appleby, Edward s William Appleby, 03 Dec 1813, Patrimony.

Appleby, George s George Appleby, 17 Jul 1802, Patrimony.

Appleby, Jonathan s William Appleby, 03 Dec 1813, Patrimony.

Appleby, Joshua s Jonathan Appleby, 08 May 1836.

Archer, William s William Archer, 20 Jul 1802, Patrimony.

Atkinson, William s Robert Atkinson, 23 Jan 1830, Patrimony.

Austin, Ralph to William Kirton, 11 Mar 1800, Servitude (7).

Austin, Thomas to Kirton, 25 Aug 1788, Servitude (7).

Bainbridge, Henry s Cuthbert Bainbridge, 18 Nov 1765, Patrimony.

Bainbridge, John to Martin Dunn, 21 Jul 1802, Servitude (7).

Bainbridge, John, 14 Jan 1740.

Best, John to Austin, 02 Aug 1830, Servitude (N).

Brabant, Alfred s William Brabant, 19 Jul 1830, Patrimony.

Brabant, John s William Brabant, 18 Apr 1818, Patrimony.

Brabant, John, 26 Nov 1739.

Brabant, Thomas Thompson s William Brabant, 19 Jul 1830, Patrimony.

Brabant, William s John Brabant, 24 Jul 1802, Patrimony.

Brabant, William s William Brabant, 15 Nov 1813.

Brignal, John Anthony to Shields, 07 Jul 1830, Servitude (N).

Chipchase, James s Thomas Chipchase, 10 Mar 1800, Patrimony.

Chipchase, John s [Thomas] Chipchase, alderman, 02 Dec 1813, Patrimony.

Chipchase, Robert s Thomas Chipchase, 12 Mar 1800, Patrimony.

Chipchase, Thomas s Thomas Chipchase, 10 Mar 1800, Patrimony.

Chipchase, Thomas, Durham, Durham to Thomas Dunn, 26 Feb 1768, Servitude (7).

Crowe, John to Shields, 02 Aug 1830, Servitude (N).

D.

Dixon, John s John Dixon, 14 Nov 1825.

Dixon, John to Benjamin Dunn, 13 Jan 1794, Servitude (7).

Dixon, Ralph second son of John Dixon, 21 Mar 1831, Patrimony.

Dobson, Thomas to Shields, 02 Dec 1813, Servitude (N).

Dobson, Thomas to William Shields, 12 Nov 1804, Servitude (N).

Dobson, Wheatly, 08 Aug 1668.

Dodshon, Edward s John Dodshon, 02 May 1831.

Dodshon, John es John Dodshon, 30 Jun 1783, Patrimony.

Dodshon, John s John Dodshon, 08 Aug 1831.

Dodshon, John s John Dodshon, 17 Jul 1802, Patrimony.

Dodshon, William s John Dodshon, 02 May 1831.

Dunn, Benjamin s Thomas Dunn, alderman, 03 Aug 1830, Patrimony.

Dunn, John s Benjamin Dunn, 12 Mar 1800, Patrimony.

Dunn, John s John Dunn, 16 Mar 1831, Patrimony.

Dunn, Martin s Ben[jamin] Dunn, 13 Jan 1794, Patrimony.

Dunn, Martin s John Dunn, 02 May 1836.

Dunn, Thomas s Benjamin Dunn, 13 Jan 1800, Patrimony.

Dunn, Thomas s Thomas Dunn, 02 Aug 1830, Patrimony.

Dunn, William s Thomas Dunn, 19 Mar 1831, Patrimony.

Dunn, William third son of John Dunn, 08 Aug 1836.

Emmerson, William s William Emmerson to Lane Thompson, 07 Oct 1812, Servitude (N).

Fairless, Thomas to Shields, 02 Aug 1813, Servitude (N).

Finch, George to George Reah, 27 Jun 1774, Servitude (5).

Forster, Christopher s William Forster, clerk, 27 Sep 1790, Patrimony.

Forster, John s Robert Forster, 03 Aug 1830, Patrimony.

Forster, Robert s Robert Forster, 22 Jul 1830, Patrimony.

Foster, Robert s Thomas Foster, 13 Mar 1800, Patrimony.

Glendinning, William to John Dixon, 02 Aug 1819, Servitude (N).

Greenwell, Edward s Thomas Greenwell, 13 May 1807, Patrimony.

Greenwell, George s John Harrison Greenwell, 18 Jun 1818, Patrimony.

Greenwell, Henry s John Harrison Greenwell, 18 Jun 1818, Patrimony.

Greenwell, John Blackett s John Harrison Greenwell, 02 Mar 1804, Patrimony.

Greenwell, John es John Greenwell, 04 Feb 1839.

Greenwell, John Harrison s John Greenwell, 13 Mar 1800, Patrimony.

Greenwell, John s John Greenwell, 08 Aug 1831.

Greenwell, John s John Harrison Greenwell, 13 Jul 1802, Patrimony.

Greenwell, Thomas Henry s John Harrison Greenwell, 18 Jun 1818, Patrimony.

Greenwell, Thomas, Durham, Durham to John Hopper, 18 Nov 1771, Servitude (7).

Greenwell, Thomas, Durham, Durham to Margaret Hopper, 18 Nov 1771, Servitude (7).

Greenwell, William s William Greenwell, 08 Aug 1831.

Greenwell, William second son of John Greenwell, 04 Feb 1839.

Gregson, Harrison second son of John Gregson, 02 Aug 1830, Patrimony.

Gregson, John s John Gregson, 02 Aug 1830, Patrimony.

Gregson, John to Chipchase, 13 Mar 1800, Servitude (7).

Gregson, Thomas Leslie s John Gregson, 18 Mar 1831, Patrimony.

Gregson, Thomas Leslie third son of John Gregson, 17 Nov 1828.

Grisdale, Jonathan to William Shields, junior, 02 Aug 1830, Servitude (N).

Hall, Charles s Hilkieah Hall, 14 Jul 1832, Patrimony.

Hall, Grenville Sharp second son of Hilkiah Hall, 12 Nov 1833.

Hall, Hilkiah s John Hall, 24 Jul 1802, Patrimony.

Hall, John to Thomas Potts, 20 Jul 1767, Servitude (7).

Hall, John to William Kirton, 20 Jul 1767, Servitude (7).

Hall, William John s Hilkiah Hall, 29 May 1839.

Hamilton, John to Kirton, 15 Apr 1784, Servitude (7).

Harbottle, Michael to Shields, 02 Dec 1813, Servitude (N).

Heighington, John, the younger s John Heighington, 18 Nov 1765, Patrimony.

Hepworth, George Wheldon to William Shields, 31 Jul 1830, Servitude (N).

Herrison, 12 Nov 1722.

Hobson, James Elliott to Chipchase, 20 Jul 1802, Servitude (7).

Hopper, 12 Nov 1722.

Hopper, Thomas s Christopher Hopper, 10 Mar 1800, Patrimony.

Hubbock, John, 17 Mar 1668.

Hutchinson, Alan William s John Hutchinson, 18 Mar 1831, Patrimony.

Hutchinson, John s John Hutchinson, 05 Jun 1818, Patrimony.

Hutchinson, John to Chipchase, 21 Dec 1789, Servitude (7).

Hutchinson, William es Lancelot Hutchinson, 11 Nov 1810, Patrimony.

Irvine, Charles Turner to William Shields, 07 May 1832, Servitude (N).

James, William to Shields, 12 Mar 1800, Servitude (7).

Johnson, George to Chipchase, senior, 20 Jan 1814, Servitude (N).

Joplin, Thomas to [William] Dixon, 16 Jul 1830, Servitude (N).

Kendal, Thomas Alfred s Elizabeth Kendal to Dixon, 06 Feb 1809, Servitude (N).

Kendal, Thomas Alfred s Richard Kendal to Dixon, 06 Feb 1809, Servitude (N).

Kidson, John Pexall s Mary Kidson, 08 Aug 1803.

Kidson, John Pexall s Thomas Kidson, 08 Aug 1803.

Kidson, John Pexall s Thomas Kidson, 28 Jun 1830, Patrimony.

Kidson, John s John Pexal Kidson, 21 Mar 1831, Patrimony.

Kidson, Thomas s John Pexall Kidson, 08 Aug 1831.

Kidson, Thomas to Thomas Foster, 01 Nov 1791, Servitude (7).

Kirby, John, 17 Mar 1668.

Kirkup, Stephen Horseley to Dixon, 04 May 1829, Servitude (N).

Kirton, Richard s William Kirton, 10 Mar 1800, Patrimony.

Laing, John to John White, 11 Mar 1800, Servitude (7).

Lamb, Charles s John Rutter Lamb, 02 May 1831.

Lamb, Henry s John Rutter Lamb, 02 May 1831.

Lamb, John Rutter to William Shields, 30 Sep 1799, Servitude (7).

Lamb, John s John Rutter Lamb, 02 Aug 1830, Patrimony.

Lamb, Michael William s John Rutter Lamb, 02 Aug 1830, Patrimony.

Lidster, Michael to Francis Wilson, 05 Aug 1821, Servitude (N).

Milner, Charles, 07 May 1740.

Ord, Jonathan William to Michael Lidster, 08 May 1837, Servitude (N).

Parker, James to Austin, 02 Aug 1830, Servitude (N).

Parker, James to Kirton, 02 Aug 1830, Servitude (N).

Patrick, George s John Patrick, 23 Jul 1802, Patrimony.

Patrick, John s John Patrick, 23 Jul 1802, Patrimony.

Patrick, John Thomas Agnew s George Patrick, 02 Aug 1830, Patrimony.

Patrick, John, Durham, Durham to Christopher Hopper, 30 Nov 1769, Servitude (7).

Patrick, John, Durham, Durham to Thomas Hopper, 30 Nov 1769, Servitude (7).

Patrick, Miles s John Patrick, 10 Mar 1800, Patrimony.

Patrick, Robert Alexander s George Patrick, 08 Aug 1831.

Paxton, George s George Paxton, 02 Aug 1830, Patrimony.

Paxton, George s Michael Paxton, 20 Jul 1802, Patrimony.

Paxton, Michael Henshaw s Michael Paxton, 18 Nov 1805.

Paxton, Michael s George Paxton, 02 Aug 1830, Patrimony.

Paxton, Michael s Ralph Paxton, 22 Mar 1831, Patrimony.

Paxton, Michael s William Paxton, 17 Mar 1800, Patrimony.

Paxton, Ralph s Michael Paxton, 17 Jul 1802, Patrimony.

Paxton, William s Michael Paxton, 17 Jul 1802, Patrimony.

Paxton, William s Ralph Paxton, 22 Mar 1831, Patrimony.

Richardson, William s Daniel Richardson, 01 Jun 1792, Patrimony.

Richardson, William s William Richardson, 13 Jul 1802, Patrimony.

Richmond, George s Thomas Richmond, 21 Mar 1831, Patrimony.

Richmond, Thomas to Christopher Hopper, 12 Nov 1776, Servitude (8).

Ridley, John, merchant to Dunn, 15 Apr 1784, Servitude (7).

Ridley, John, merchant to Finch, 15 Apr 1784, Servitude (7).

Robinson, Garthwaite to Shields, 07 Mar 1793, Servitude (7).

Robinson, Joseph Wade s Garthwaite Robinson, 12 Mar 1818, Patrimony.

Roper, 12 Nov 1722.

s Humphrey Shuttleworth, 03 May 1824.

Sanderson, William to William Shields, junior, 07 May 1821, Servitude (N).

Sanderson, William to William Shields, senior, 07 May 1821, Servitude (N).

Scott, Henry s George Scott, 18 Jun 1818, Patrimony.

Scott, William to William Shields, 04 Aug 1834, Servitude (N).

Shafto, Robert Eden Duncombe, esquire, 05 Mar 1804.

Shaw, James to John Dixon, 04 Aug 1830, Servitude (N).

Shields, John second son of William Shields, 31 Jul 1838, Patrimony.

Shields, Richard John s Richard Shields, 22 Apr 1850, Patrimony.

Shields, Richard s William Shields, 23 Jul 1802, Patrimony.

Shields, William s William Shields, 06 Mar 1800, Patrimony.

Shields, William Thomas s William Shields, 03 Aug 1835.

Shields, William, Durham, Durham to Thomas Dunn, 02 Oct 1780, Servitude (N).

Shuttleworth, Philip Nicholas, D.

Smith, John Herbert to Chipchase, 07 Jun 1830, Servitude (N).

Smith, John s John Smith, 11 Nov 1810, (N).

Smith, John to Thomas Foster, 30 Sep 1768, Servitude (7).

Smith, John to William Appleby, 30 Sep 1768, Servitude (7).

Sowerby, Thomas to Francis Wilson, 04 Aug 1830, Servitude (N).

Spencer, Henry Robert Rowe to George Finch, 22 Feb 1793, Servitude (7).

Spencer, Thomas Paxton to Kirton, 14 Mar 1800, Servitude (7).

Squires, James to William Shields, 07 May 1832, Servitude (N).

Stephenson, 12 Nov 1722.

Stout, William, 15 Jan 1740.

Taylor, Braban s Richard Taylor, 16 Feb 1789, Patrimony.

Taylor, Lawson Henry s Richard Taylor, 16 Feb 1789, Patrimony.

Taylor, Michael es Richard Taylor, 16 Feb 1789, Patrimony.

Telford, Henry to Thomas Chipchase, esquire, 15 Mar 1831, Servitude (N).

Tempest, John, esquire s John Tempest, esquire, 18 Nov 1767, Patrimony.

Thompson, Lane to Garthwaite Robinson, 17 Jul 1802, Servitude (7).

Thompson, Michael to [Thomas] Austin, 24 Feb 1818, Servitude (N).

Thompson, Thomas to [Thomas] Austin, 16 Jul 1830, Servitude (N).

Thompson, Thomas to [William] Dixon, 16 Jul 1830, Servitude (N).

Tweddell, Francis s Francis Tweddell, 01 Mar 1804, Patrimony.

Tweddell, Francis s John Tweddell, esquire, 15 Nov 1802.

Tweddell, George s Francis Tweddell, 12 Nov 1832.

Tweddell, Hubbersty Maddison s Francis Tweddell, 07 Feb 1831.

Tweddell, John s Francis Tweddell, 15 Nov 1830.

Tweddell, William s John Tweddell, 04 Feb 1805.

Tweddle, Francis s George Tweddle, mercer, 02 Aug 1786, Patrimony.

Tweddle, John s Francis Tweddle, 23 Jul 1802, Patrimony.

Ward, John to William Shields, 29 May 1819, Servitude (N).

Ward, John to William Shields, junior, 29 May 1819, Servitude (N).

Ward, Thomas to Kirton, 30 Jun 1783, Servitude (7).

Wardell, George s George Wardell, 04 Aug 1830, Patrimony.

Wardell, George s George Wardell, 10 Mar 1800, Patrimony.

Wardell, Matthew s George Wardell, 22 Mar 1831, Patrimony.

Waugh, Robert, esquire s Robert Waugh, 05 Jun 1818, Patrimony.

Waugh, Robert, gentleman s Robert Waugh, 17 Nov 1788, Patrimony.

Wealands, John to [William] Dixon, 27 Jul 1830, Servitude (N).

Wealands, John to Francis Wilson, 27 Jul 1830, Servitude (N).

Weems, Bryan to Kirton, 17 Jul 1802, Servitude (7).

Weldon, Thomas to Shields, 04 Aug 1806, Servitude (N).

White, John to Shields, 07 Oct 1789, Servitude (7).

Wilkinson, Anthony s Thomas Wilkinson, 04 May 1707.

Wilkinson, Anthony s Thomas Wilkinson, 23 Nov 1810, Patrimony.

Wilkinson, Anthony s Thomas Wilkinson, 31 Jul 1830, Patrimony.

Wilkinson, Anthony, esquire s Thomas Wilkinson, esquire, 06 Mar 1800, Patrimony.

Wilkinson, Fewster s Anthony Wilkinson, 06 Aug 1821.

Wilkinson, George s Anthony Wilkinson, 07 Jul 1830, Patrimony.

Wilkinson, George s Thomas Wilkinson, 23 Jul 1834, Patrimony.

Wilkinson, John s Anthony Wilkinson, 18 Jun 1818, Patrimony.

Wilkinson, John s William Wilkinson, 20 Jul 1802, Patrimony.

Wilkinson, Percival Shearman s Thomas Wilkinson, esquire, 27 Nov 1814.

Wilkinson, Percival, esquire third son of William Wilkinson, esquire, 29 Jan 1783, Patrimony.

Wilkinson, Richard, esquire second son of William Wilkinson, esquire, 29 Jan 1783, Patrimony.

Wilkinson, Thomas Clennell s Thomas Wilkinson, 15 Nov 1830.

Wilkinson, Thomas Clennell s Thomas Wilkinson, esquire, Houghton-le-Spring, Durham, 13 Nov 1809.

Wilkinson, Thomas es Thomas Wilkinson, 08 May 1820, Patrimony.

Wilkinson, Thomas s Anthony Wilkinson, 13 Nov 1822.

Wilkinson, Thomas third son of Percival Wilkinson, 16 Nov 1818.

Wilkinson, Thomas, esquire s Thomas Wilkinson, esquire, 06 Mar 1800, Patrimony.

Wilkinson, Thomas, esquire s William Wilkinson, esquire, 29 Jan 1783, Patrimony.

Wilkinson, William John s Thomas Wilkinson, 06 Mar 1800, Patrimony.

Wilkinson, William s Anthony Wilkinson, 18 Jun 1818, Patrimony.

Wilkinson, William s William Wilkinson, mercer, 31 Aug 1786, Patrimony.

Willson, Francis to Shields, 04 May 1813, Servitude (N).

Willson, John s William Willson, 22 Jul 1802, Patrimony.

Willson, William s William Willson, 04 May 1812.

Wilson, Francis Robert s Francis Wilson, 08 Aug 1836.

Wilson, Hutton s William Wilson, 03 Dec 1813, Patrimony.

Wilson, Martin to Chipchase, the younger, 02 Aug 1830, Servitude (N).

Wilson, Robert s William Wilson, 17 Nov 1806.

Wilson, William to William Archer, 05 Mar 1792, Servitude (7).

Winter, Richard s George Winter to Shields, 02 Aug 1830, Servitude (N).

Winter, Richard s Isabella Winter to Shields, 02 Aug 1830, Servitude (N).

Wolfe, John, Durham, Durham to John Patrick, 30 Jan 1783, Servitude (7).

Wood, John to Robert Waugh, 01 Apr 1782, Servitude (7).

Young, Robert to Dixon, 03 Dec 1813, Servitude (N).

Young, William s Robert Young, 23 Jun 1834.