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Some Useful Sources

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There are few texts that cover social policy from its early origins, usually given with reference to the Poor Law in either 1598 or 1834, to the present. Texts generally divide up their material chronologically, by service area (usually the 'big five'), or by a mix of both approaches.

The Long Duree

Bartholomew, J. (2004), *The Welfare State We're In*, London: Politico's.
Digby, A. (1989), *British Welfare Policy: Workhouse to Workfare*, London: Faber & Faber.
Fraser, D. (2000), *The Welfare State*, Stroud: Sutton.
Fraser, D. (2003), *The Evolution of the British Welfare State*, 3rd edition, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.
Jones, K. (2000), *The Making of Social Policy in Britain from the Poor Law to New Labour*, 3rd edition, London: Athlone.
Lund, B. (2002), *Understanding State Welfare*, London: Sage.
Midwinter, E. (1994), *The Development of Social Welfare in Britain*, Buckingham: Open University Press.

Most of these accounts are arranged largely chronologically from the nineteenth century up to the date of publication, although Midwinter begins in Medieval times. Fraaser (2003) is probably the best-known and best-selling text, and its first edition was reprinted seven times, but it is weaker on the period since 1945. Bartholomew is a revisionist account that argues that welfare was better before the welfare state. Described by Peter Lilley as the British 'Losing Ground', it has been distributed by the IEA to all MPs. Most readers of this journal will probably disagree with most of it, but that is precisely why they should read it! It has a quiz and a website: www.thewelfarestatewerein.com.

The Welfare State since 1945

Glennerster, H. (1995), *British Social Policy Since 1945*, Oxford: Blackwell.
Gladstone, D. (Ed.) (1995), *British Social Welfare. Past, Present and Future*, London: UCL Press.
Gladstone, D. (1999), *The Twentieth-Century Welfare State*, Basingstoke: Macmillan.
Hill, M. (1993), *The Welfare State in Britain: A Political History Since 1945*, Aldershot: Edward Elgar.
Lowe, R. (2005), *The Welfare State in Britain since 1945*, 3rd edition, Basingstoke: Palgrave.
Page, R. and Silburn, R. (Eds.) (1999), *British Social Policy in the Twentieth Century*, Basingstoke: Palgrave.
Sullivan, M. (1992), *The Politics of Social Policy*, Hemel Hempstead: Harvester Wheatsheaf.
Sullivan, M. (1994), *Modern Social Policy*, Hemel Hempstead: Harvester Wheatsheaf.
Sullivan, M. (1996), *The Development of the British Welfare State*, Hemel Hempstead: Prentice Hall/Harvester Wheatsheaf.

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Timmins, N. (2001), *The Five Giants. A Biography of the Welfare State*, 2nd edition, London: HarperCollins.

Most of these books have chapters on the evolution of the main services, but Glennerster and Hill are arranged chronologically. Page and Silburn (1999) and Gladstone (1999) provide some material before 1945. The most comprehensive is Lowe, now at over 500 pages, while the most readable account is Timmins.

Before the Welfare State

Bruce, M. (1968), *The Coming of the Welfare State*, 4th edition, London: Batsford, first published 1961.
Crowther, M.A. (1988), *British Social Policy 1914–1939*, Basingstoke: Macmillan.
Gilbert, B.B. (1970), *British Social Policy 1914–1939*, London: Batsford.
Thane, P. (1996), *Foundations of the Welfare State*, 2nd edition, Harlow: Longman.
Harris, B. (2004), *The Origins of the British Welfare State: Social Welfare in England and Wales, 1800–1945*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

These texts tend to provide chronological accounts. Gilbert and Crowther focus on the neglected inter-war period. The oldest book – and showing its age – is Bruce, while the most comprehensive account is Harris.

Websites

www.historyandpolicy.org

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