

Mary Taylor

(b.1810, d.1887)

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Barbara Winfield

In 1881 **(1)** Mary Taylor, aged 71, was an inmate in the Leeds Union Workhouse. She was stated to be a widow, born in Handsworth, Staffordshire and worked as a 'domestic servant/cook', something which was probably required to do in the workhouse. If the age she gave was correct, she would have been born about 1810.

Unfortunately, no other details have been found about Mary's life before 1881. There were other married women with that name living in the Leeds area, but none born in Staffordshire so perhaps she had only recently come to Leeds. It is not known who her husband was or whether she had any children.

Mary probably entered the workhouse due to her age and possibly failing health. She died in the Leeds Union Infirmary in January 1887 aged 78. **(2)** and was buried in the Anglican section of Beckett Street Cemetery on 26 January **(3)**. She shared her grave with five other adults and four young children. (*Grave number 11391*)

Reference list:

(1) 'Mary Taylor' (1881) Census return for Leeds Union Workhouse sub-district, North Leeds. Public Record Office: PRO RG11/4524, folio 106, p. 17(1881). Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk> (Accessed: 07 April 2022).

(2) 'Mary Taylor (1887). Certified entry recording death on the Civil Registration Index, 1st quarter 1887 Leeds Volume 9b Page 313 Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk> (Accessed: 07 April 2022).

(3) 'Burial of Mary Taylor' 26 January 1887 Leeds, Beckett Street Cemetery (1845 –1987) Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk> (Accessed: 07 April 2022).