

THE LOCAL PHILANTHROPY OF THE
RECKITT FAMILY, WITH PARTICULAR
REFERENCE TO HULL GARDEN VILLAGE.

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Abstract:

Sir James Reckitt, a Quaker, Chairman of Reckitt & Sons, Limited, a manufacturer of laundry and household goods in Kingston upon Hull, was well known as a local philanthropist. His philanthropy, perhaps combined with fear of social unrest, and the firm foundation of his own experience in public life, provided the impetus for Sir James Reckitt to build Hull Garden Village commencing in 1907. A range of house sizes was rented to the workforce and others, within walking distance of the factory. Local architects Runton & Barry supervised all aspects of the building and village layout. Community facilities included social events, sports and gardening for men and women. Reckitt family members donated a club house, shops and almshouses. Hull Garden Village was built largely as the vision of one man, with significant input from family and personal financial resources gained as a major employer in a large port. Almost a century later, it remains a pleasant residential area.

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