

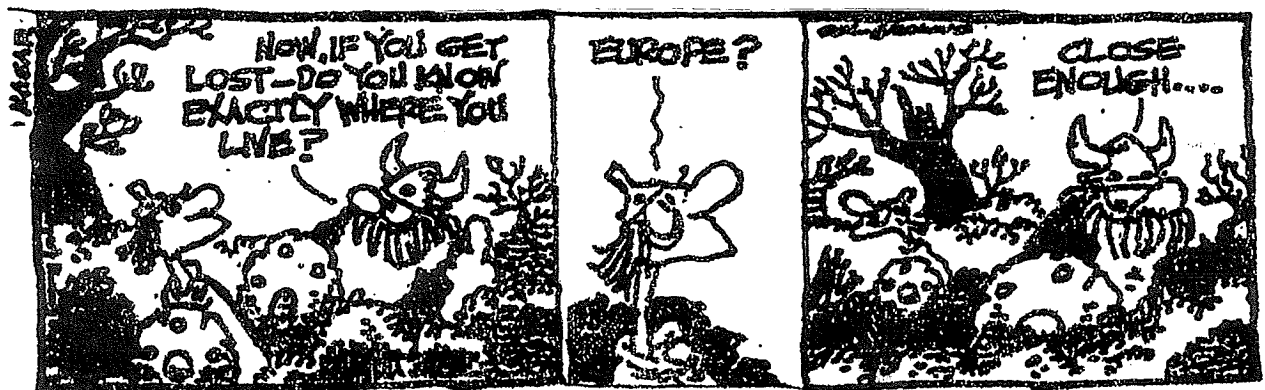
# Lesson 16

## Foreign Research 1

### England/Scotland/Ireland

*Hal and Barbara Hovorka*

503-645-1470



### Major Records of Genealogical Value

Record Type	YEARS				
	1600	1700	1800	1900	2000
1. Home Sources*					
2. Civil Records					
3. Church Records					
4. Census Records					
5. Cemetery Records					
6. Military Records					
7. Land Records					
8. Wills					
9. Court Records					
10. Immigration & Naturalization					
*These records could be found at any time and many exist from very early dates.					

NOTE: This chart gives only a general indication of the periods covered by the record types. The dates from which these records began to be kept may vary by fifty years or more from those shown on the chart.

### Civil (Vital) Registration

Country	YEARS				
	1800	1850	1900	1950	Present
Australia		(1860)*			
Canada			(1890)*		
England and Wales	(1837)				
Ireland		(1864)			
New Zealand	(1840)*				
Philippines			(1900)*		
Samoa		(1870)*			
Scotland		(1855)			
South Africa		(1875)*			
United States			(1900)*		
*These beginning dates are averages since the beginning of civil registration often varied from state to state or province to province.					



E-2

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# ***ENGLAND: CIVIL REGISTRATION***

## **BACKGROUND**

The CIVIL REGISTRATION of births, marriages, and deaths began in England and Wales 1 July 1837. Registration was made on a district basis. Local registrars turned in copies of certificates to the Registrar General. The Registrar General made quarterly indexes to the certificates arranged alphabetically by surname. Until 1875, it is possible that all births were not registered. Therefore, christening records of various churches must be relied upon.

## **CONTENT**

In general the certificates give the following information.

### **A. BIRTHS**

1. When and where born
2. Name and sex
3. Name, surname and rank or profession of the father
4. Name and maiden surname of the mother
5. Signature, description and resident of the informant
6. Baptismal name, if added after registration of birth

### **B. MARRIAGES**

1. When and where and by what religious denomination married
2. Signature, profession and marital condition of both parties
3. Ages
4. Residences at the time of marriages
5. Name and surname and profession of father of both parties
6. Witnesses to the marriage

### **C. DEATHS**

1. When and where died
2. Name, surname and occupation/profession of the deceased
3. Sex and age
4. Cause of death
5. Signature, description and resident of informant

**AVAILABILITY** (See FHLlibrary Catalog on computer for film numbers)

### **A. LDS-FHL has indexes only.**

1. Births- 1 July 1837-1906
2. Marriages- 1 July 1837-1903
3. Death- 1 July 1837-1903

### **B. For all certificates (1 July 1837-present) or indexes write:**

Registrar General  
General Register Office  
St Catherine's House  
10 Kingsway  
London WC2b 6JP UK

## CIVIL REGISTRATION -2

### C. Local Superintendent Registrar

1. Addresses may be obtained from THE OFFICIAL LIST on microfilm number 897,356 item 5
2. For an alphabetical listing of all local registration districts in 1851 consult:  
CENSUS OF GREAT BRITAIN, 1851; INDEX TO THE NAMES OF THE PARISHES, TOWNSHIPS, AND PLACES.... Microfilm number 496,455 item 3

## PECULIARITIES AND GENEALOGICAL USE

### A. Use the Registrar General:

1. for short searches
2. if you have some details
3. when you are not sure of the place of the event

### B. Use the local Superintendent Registrar:

1. for larger searches
2. if you have few details
3. if you are sure of the place where the event took place

C. Addresses on certificates may prove valuable in census searches

D. Occupations may lead to other records

E. Age at death will help to determine the time period for searching in the parish registers for the christening entry.

F. Knowledge of religion from marriages may help to determine which records to search.

G. If all certificates are obtained for a family, the movements of the family may be traced.

H. Send money in the form of an International Money Order.

# SEARCHING ENGLISH PARISH RECORDS

1. First learn something of the background of the area involved. Get a county map such as appear in Lewis' or published by the Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies, or the Ordinance Survey.
2. Locate something about the parish to which the place belongs by consulting Lewis' or Smith's Genealogical Gazetteer. For smaller places, try consulting Bartholomew's, the Imperial Gazetteer, the Population Tables, and directories or histories such as the Victoria county series.
3. Identify the date the parish register's began through Smith's Genealogical Gazetteer or Burke's Key.
4. Determine the extent and condition of the registers through the 1831 Parish Register Abstract and where available, Steel's National Index.
5. Check the FHL card catalog and/or county keys and the Parish and Vital Records Listings-1976 for those records already in Salt Lake City.
6. Check the controlled extraction listings first, if your parish has been treated, for an easy alphabetical entrance into the records. However, double check entries in the library's source which was indexed for additional (and perhaps differing) information. If your people are not found in that place, the IGI may help to pick up the trail again.
7. Extract all entries of the surname of interest to you for at least 30 years during the proper time period.
8. If the registers are not in Salt Lake then:
  - a. Check for the printed catalogs at the FHL for the S.O.G., the county record office, Steel's National Index, and libraries known to have collections in the area of interest to you, such as the Manchester Public and Guildhall libraries, for easy to search records in Centralized localities in England.
  - b. If this fails, determine the status of the B.T.'s and their whereabouts via Smith & Gardner's vol. II. Consider using them if they are in average or better condition through the aid of an agent.
  - c. If all else fails, write the minister by locating his title and address in Crockford's Clerical Directory. It may be necessary to send an agent to this parish for a large search or a more effective one.

## Occupational Studies

Smith's typescript from Lewis' entitled Occupations, Minerals, Resources and Industries in England as of 1831 lists towns where a specific item of economic value was prominent and other towns which followed a similar calling.

# ***ENGLAND: CENSUS RECORDS***

## BACKGROUND

- A. As early as 1801, a census was taken; but because it did not include names, it is not very helpful
- B. The main reason for taking the census has been to determine population distribution in order to levy taxes, establish government representation, and more effectively administer government.
- C. The registration districts and subdistricts created for civil registration were used as geographical units for the census enumeration.
- D. The censuses in England, Wales and Scotland were taken under the same parliamentary act while those in Ireland were taken under a separate act. The English Central Census Office, under which served superintendent registrars, supervised the taking of the censuses. The registrar over a sub-district assigned portions of his subdistrict (called enumeration districts) to individual enumerators who were required to complete their enumeration in one day.
- E. The method of enumerating the censuses amounted to this: The enumerator would leave a "Householder Schedule" with each household or family in a house or tenement one week in advance of the "census day". It was to be filled out for each person "who abode in the house or tenement or apartment on the night of (for example) 30 March 1851. On 31 Mar 1851 the enumerator collected the schedules from each dwelling. If the family left the schedule blank (or any part thereof), the enumerator was to complete it from verbal report of the occupier of the household. When the schedules were gathered, the information was copied into an enumeration book.

## CENSUS DATES:

1841- 7 June	1891- 5 April	1941- WWII (not taken)
1851- 31 March	1901- 31 March	1951- 8 April
1861- 8 April	1911- 2 April	1961- 23 April
1871- 3 April	1921- 19 June	1971- April
1881- 4 April	1931- 26 April	

## CONTENTS:

- A. 1841 Census
  - 1. Only the first and last names given. sometimes initials were given-not names.
  - 2. Exact ages are recorded for persons under 15 years; those over were reported in multiples of five years, with the age entered at the lowest. i.e. one aged 29 in 1841 was shown as 25. However, exact ages were frequently recorded.
  - 3. The age column indicates the sex of those enumerated.
  - 4. Occupations were often abbreviated: HLW= hand loom weaver while PLW= power loom weaver.
  - 5. Exact birthplaces are not given but "yes" means in the county; "no" means some other county in England. S= Scotland; I=Ireland; F= foreign parts.
- B. 1851 Census
  - 1. Address
  - 2. Name
  - 3. Relationship to head of the household.
  - 4. Marital condition
  - 5. Exact age and sex
  - 6. Occupation
  - 7. Place and county if in England other wise the exact birthplace is seldom given.
- C. 1861 Census and thereafter: No significant difference from the 1851.

## ENGLAND: CENSUS RECORDS-2

### AVAILABILITY

#### A. 1841-1871

1. Microfilm copies are available in the LDS-FHL.
2. The returns are bound in books and stored at the PRO in London. All inquires to:  
Public Record Office  
Land Registry Building  
Portugal Street  
London WC2, England

#### B. 1881-1901

1. Available at the: General Register Office  
St. Catherine's House  
10 Kingsway  
London WC2B 6JP
2. Those desiring searches in these censuses should write to the above for an application form. It costs about L20. or \$30.00 each.

#### C. 1911-1991 Not available to the public.

### PECULIARITIES

- A. Census records for 1841-1871 are arranged alphabetically by place or locality. An LDS-FHL has prepared listing the film numbers for each place within the census: place county 1841 film #.
- B. For each of the census years, the larger cities have street address indexes. The streets within each city are arranged in alphabetical order with the corresponding reference numbers. After obtaining the reference for the street, the census search will be considerably easier. On the actual films which are obtained by following the directions in "A" Above, the reference numbers can be found on the description plates preceding the actual census pages.
- C. English census records come under crown copyright and therefore cannot be reproduced except by the Public Record Office. Extract forms for these records are available at the LDS-FHL or other genealogical supply stores.



# ***ENGLISH WILLS AND PROBATE***

## **I. DEFINITION**

Probate records are generally referred to as wills, letters of administration and other documents having to do with the handling of an estate.

## **II. MAJOR PROBLEMS WITH PROBATE RECORDS**

### **A. Jargon**

1. Smith & Gardner, GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN ENGLAND AND WALES Vol 2
2. LDS-FHL HAND LIST OF PROBATE JURISDICTION

### **B. Handwriting**

1. Smith & Gardner, GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN ENGLAND AND WALES Vol 3
2. Emmison, F.G. HOW TO READ LOCAL ARCHIVES 1500-1700 The Historical Association, 59 A Kinnington Park, London SE11 England.

### **C. Jurisdiction**

1. LDS-FHL ENGLISH PROBATE JURISDICTIONS (maps of each county showing pre-1858 jurisdiction boundaries).
2. LDS-FHL HAND LIST OF PROBATE JURISDICTIONS description of records, call numbers of each court.

## **III. TIME PERIOD**

- A. Ecclesiastical: about 1400-1858
- B. Civil: 1858-present

## **IV. CONTENT OF PROBATE RECORDS**

- |                            |                                     |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| A. Name of testator        | D. Names of executors and witnesses |
| B. Names of family members | E. Date the will was written        |
| C. Relationships           | F. Date the will was proven         |

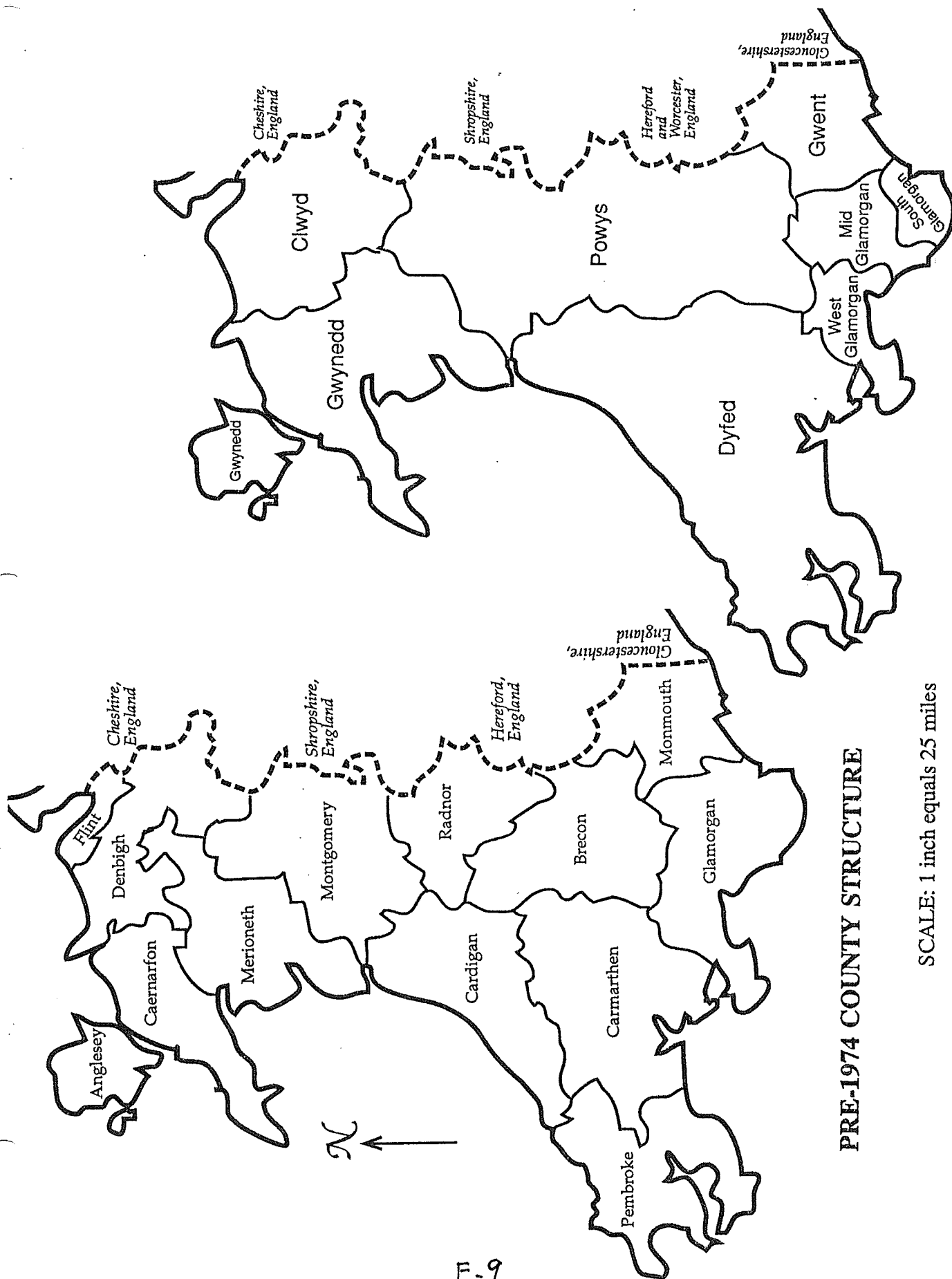
## **V. AVAILABILITY OF PROBATE RECORDS**

### **A. Civil: 1858-present**

1. Located at the Principal Probate Registry at Somerset House, London WC2
2. Index from 1858-1958 on microfilm at the LDS-FHL.

### **B. Ecclesiastical: up to 1858**

1. All are on microfilm at the LDS-FHL.
2. Jurisdictional levels:
  - a. Province
  - b. Diocese
  - c. Archdeaconry
  - d. Rural Deanery
  - e. Parish
3. Method of searching:
  - a. Determine the court of lowest jurisdiction
  - b. Search lowest court first, working your way up through higher courts until you find the probate of interest or all prove negative.
4. To determine the court of lowest jurisdiction and other courts to search, use LDS-FHL pre-1858 ENGLISH PROBATE JURISDICTION maps.
5. After determining the appropriate court to be searched, refer to LDS-FHL HAND LIST FOR PROBATE JURISDICTIONS. Available at branch FHL by film or pamphlet.



SCALE: 1 inch equals 25 miles

POST-1974 COUNTY STRUCTURE

PRE-1974 COUNTY STRUCTURE

# WELSH VOCABULARY

WALES = CYMRU  
 ENGLAND = LLOEGR  
 NAME = ENUR  
 DAY = DYDD  
 FATHER = TAD  
 MOTHER = MAM  
 BORN = GANWYD  
 OCCUPATION = GWAITH  
 RESIDENCE = CHYFEIRIACL  
 SEX = RHYW  
 MAIDEN SURNAME = CHYFENWR MDRWYND  
 BURIED = CLADDWYD  
 DIED = BUFARW  
 CHRISTENED = BEBYDDIWD  
 MARRIED = PRIODWYD  
 SON = MAB  
 CHILD = plentyn  
 DAU = MERCH  
 WIFE = GWRAIG  
 HUSBAND = GWR

JAN. IONAWR  
 FEB. CHWEFROR  
 MAR. MAWRTH  
 APR EBRILL  
 MAY MAI  
 JUNE MEHEFIN  
 JULY GARPHENAF  
 AUG AWST  
 SEPT MEDI  
 OCT HYDREF  
 NOV TACHWEDD  
 DEC RHAGFYR  
 MON DYDDLUN  
 TUES DYDDMAWRTH  
 WED DYDDMERCHER  
 THURS. DYDDIAU  
 FRID DYDDGWENER  
 SAT DYDDSADWRN  
 SUN DYDDSUL

<u>ENWAU</u>	<u>PA ALWD</u>	<u>PRES WYLFOD</u>	<u>GENEDIGAETH</u> <i>Barn</i>	<u>BEDYDDIWD</u>
<u>NAME</u>	<u>OCCUPATION</u>	<u>RESIDENCE</u>	<u>PA BRYD PABLWYF PASIR</u>	<u>BAPT</u>
			<u>WHEN PARISH COUNTY</u>	

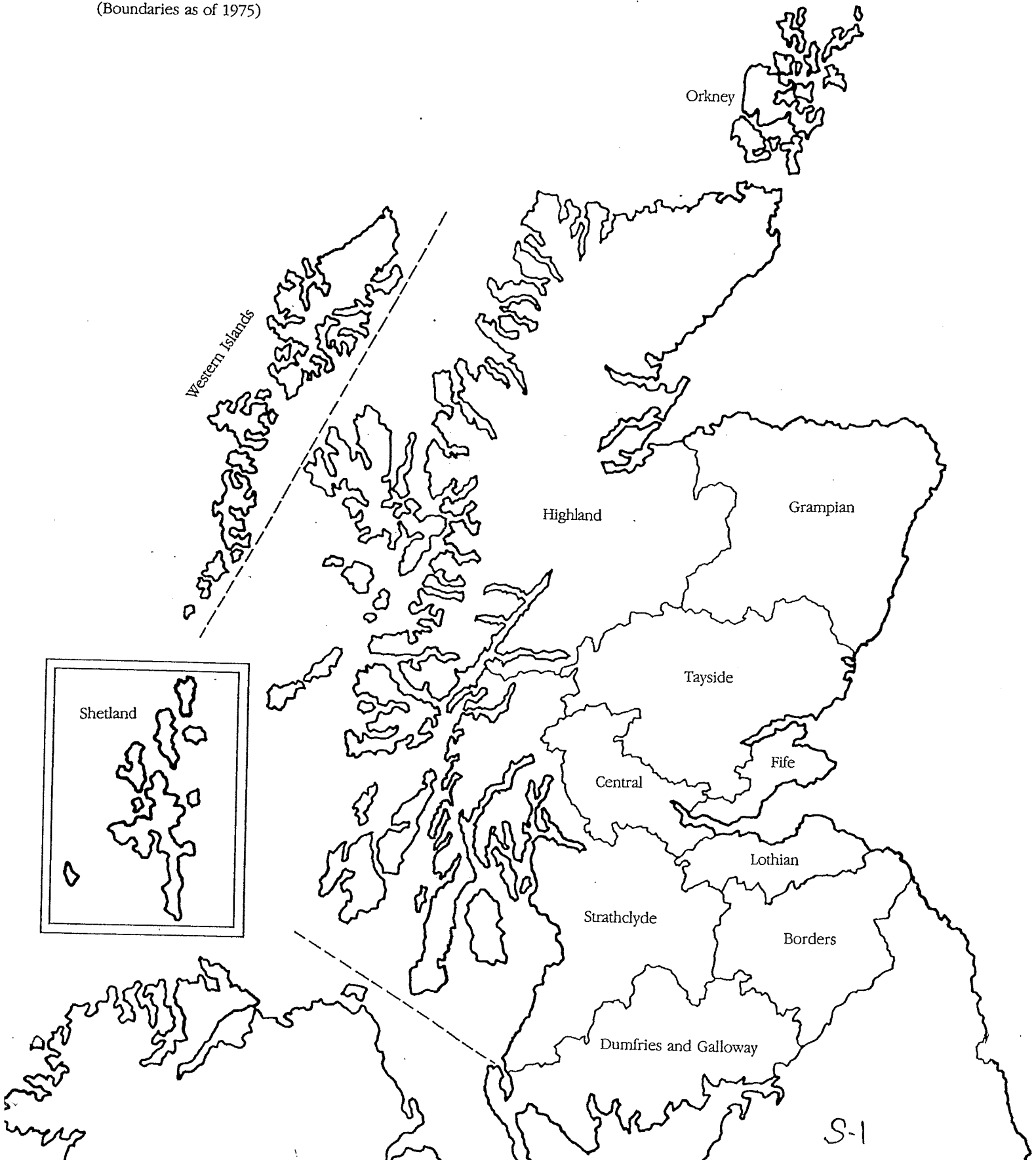
<u>CADARNHAWYD</u>	<u>DIFUDDIWO</u>	<u>ADFERWYD</u>
<u>CONFIRMED</u>	<u>SUSPENDED</u>	<u>RESTORED</u>

<u>TORWYD ALLAN</u>	<u>DERBYNIWYD TRWY LYTHYR</u>	<u>TROSGLWYDDWYD</u>
<u>EXCOMMUNICATED</u>	<u>RECEIVED BY LETTER</u>	<u>REMOVED</u>
<u>AMBA BERTH</u>		
<u>REASON</u>		

YMFUDODDF BUFARW  
EMIGRATED DIED

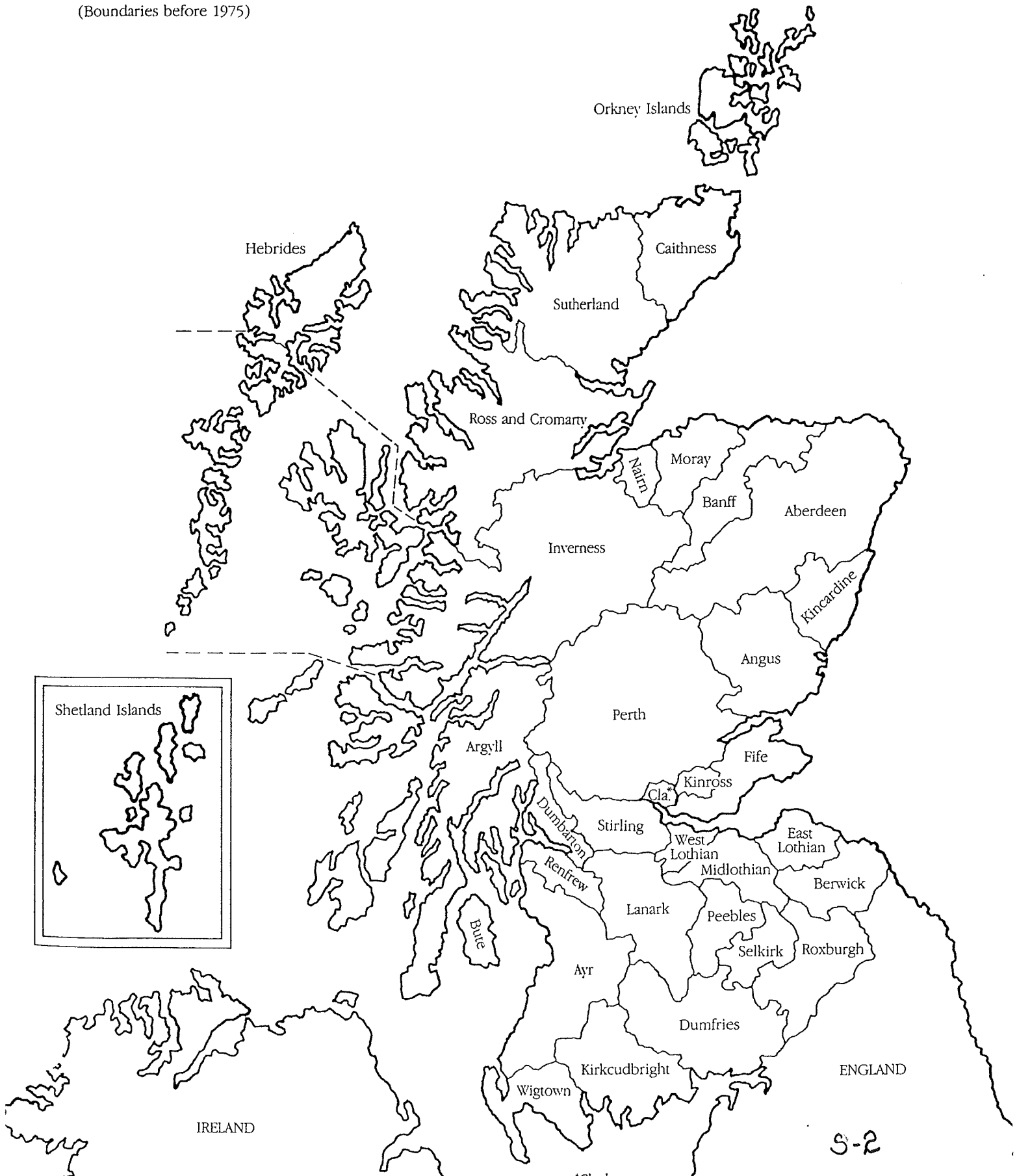
# Scotland

(Boundaries as of 1975)



# County Map of Scotland

(Boundaries before 1975)



# ***SCOTLAND: CHURCH AND PROBATE RECORDS***

## **BACKGROUND**

- 1286 Roman Catholic is the religion of Scotland.
- 1553 Earliest entry in a parish register.
- 1559 John Knox returns from Geneva.
- 1560 Scottish Parliament abolishes Catholicism and establishes Calvinism.
- 1581 Presbyterian Church formally established.
- 1610 James VI established the Episcopal Church.
- 1638 Nation Covenant signed- vow loyalty to Presbyterianism. Episcopacy was abolished by the General Assembly of Presbyterians in Glasgow.
- 1642 Civil War. Scotland supported Oliver Cromwell.
- 1661 Episcopacy re-established under Charles II.
- 1662 Quakers first established in Scotland.
- 1691 Presbyterian Church permanently restored, became Church of Scotland.
- 1707 Union with England.
- 1734 Secession Church broke off from Presbyterian Church.
- 1745 Anti-Burgers Church broke off from Secession Church.
- 1752 Relief Church broke off from Presbyterian church.
- 1778 Roman Catholic Relief Bill.
- 1783 Tax imposed on christening, marriages, and burial entries recorded in church records.
- 1793 Repeal of 1783 tax.
- 1820 New Register books started in parishes. Many delayed entries are found.
- 1843 Secession and Relief Churches join to form United Presbyterian Church.
- 1855 Civil Registration began. New register books to be kept. Many delayed entries are found.

## **CONTENT**

### **A. CHRISTENING AND/OR BIRTHS**

- 1. Name and Surname
- 2. Christening and/or birth date and place.
- 3. Parents' names, including mother's maiden name.
- 4. Occupation and residence of father (sometimes)
- 5. Witnesses (sometimes)

### **B. MARRIAGES**

- 1. Names of bride and groom
- 2. Date and place of proclamation and/or marriage
- 3. Residence of parties (sometimes)

### **C. BURIALS AND/OR DEATHS**

- 1. Names
- 2. Date and place of burial
- 3. Morthcloth dues in lieu of burial
- 4. Parent's names (seldom listed)

## SCOTLAND: CHURCH AND PROBATE RECORDS -2

### AVAILABILITY

#### A. PRESBYTERIAN (CHURCH OF SCOTLAND)

1. Originals have been gathered and are housed at New Register House, Edinburgh
2. LDS-FHL has all registers on microfilm.
3. Reference: V. Ben Bloxham KEY TO THE PAROCHIAL REGISTERS OF SCOTLAND 941 V26B ; also on microfilm at the LDS-FHL
5. Earliest entry in 1553, and end in 1854 .

#### B. SECEDING PRESBYTERIAN GROUPS (FREE CHURCH, UNITED PRESBYTERIAN, ETC.)

1. Most are in local custody or at Old Register House, Edinburgh
2. Reference: Donald J. Steel, NATIONAL INDEX OF PARISH REGISTER vol. 12 SOURCES FOR SCOTTISH GENEALOGY AND FAMILY HISTORY 942 V26 ste
3. A few are on film at the LDS-FHL

#### C. SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH (ANGLICAN)

1. Most are in local custody. See CROCKFORD'S CLERICAL DIRECTORY 942 E4C  
Lists addresses of ministers
2. Reference Steel's book. Vol. 12 pages 244-248 Lists known registers
3. Registers are in existence

#### D. ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

1. Most are in local custody
2. Old Register House is in the process of gathering these records for filming  
Microfilm available at LDS-FHL

#### E. OTHER RELIGIONS (QUAKER, BAPTISTS)

1. Most are in local custody

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

#### A. KIRK SESSION RECORDS CAN BE HELPFUL

1. Records are housed at Scottish Record Office Vol. 94 of Scottish Record Society RECORDS OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND AT THE SCOTTISH REGISTER OFFICE, GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE AND THE REGISTER HOUSE, EDINBURGH
2. LDS-FHL film #844,784 lists known Kirk Session and the time period they cover

#### B. NAMING CUSTOMS

1. The first son is named after the father's father
2. The second son is named after the mother's father
3. The third son is named after the father
4. The first daughter is named after the mother's mother
5. The second daughter is named after the father's mother
6. The third daughter is named after the mother

#### C. NICKNAMES

1. Agnes = Lillas, Nancy, Ann
2. Elizabeth = Betsy, Isabel,
3. Grace = Grizzel, Gireal
4. Jane = Jean, Janet, Jessie
5. Alexander = Alisdair, Sandy
6. Donald = Daniel
7. Peter = Patrick
8. William = Rufus

## SCOTLAND: CHURCH AND PROBATE RECORDS-3

### PROBATE RECORDS

A. BACKGROUND: Until the last half of the 19th century, a Scotsman was not permitted to bequeath his land by will. Therefore, the will, dealing with real property, was non-existent. The Testament, dealing with moveable property, exists as the prime probate document. Because testaments only affected moveable property, many Scottish people never bothered drawing up a document. This also means there are far more Testament Datives (intestate or similar to Letters of Administration) Than Testament Testamentars (testate or left by deceased persons before his death).

The Commissary Courts were courts of probate until 1876 when they were abolished and the Sheriff Courts assumed the right. The Principal Commissary Court at Edinburgh had local jurisdiction, as well as general jurisdiction over the entire country. It was also an appellate court over the local commissaries and handled probate matters of Scottish subjects living or residing abroad (similar to the Prerogative Court of Canterbury in England)

To determine the appropriate Commissary Court before 1823, consult WILLS AND THEIR WHEREABOUTS by Anthony J. Camp. After 1823, boundaries of courts were changed to correspond to Sheriffdoms. To determine these boundaries, consult THE SCOTTISH LAW DIRECTORY by William Hodge and Co., Glasgow. After 1876, it will not be necessary to be concerned about jurisdictions as all probates are at the Scottish Record Office and are referenced in an annual index (similar to the Principal Probate Registry in England.)

B. CONTENT: Information found in testaments generally includes name of the testor, date of death, inventory of personal goods, executors, relatives receiving goods, and places of abode. Quite often maiden names are recorded for married females. As a general rule, the Testament dative will include more information than the Testament Testamentor.

#### C. AVAILABILITY:

1. Previous to 1823: Testaments before 1823(1829 in Edinburgh) are available at the LDS-FHL with indexes. Before 1801, indexes were printed by the Scottish Record Society for each Commissariat, including which parishes. Between 1801 and 1823 (1829 for Edinburgh) a manuscript index is available at the LDS-FHL on microfilm #231, 259.
2. 1823-1876: These records are at the local sheriff Court or on their way to the Scottish Record Office. They may or may not be indexed depending on the Commissariat. The addresses of the Sheriff Courts may be found in THE SCOTTISH LAW DIRECTORY. The LDS-FHL has some microfilm copies of testaments and inventories from c.1824-1876 for the counties of Argyll, East Lothian, Fife, Midlothian, Perth, Renfrew, Ross & Cromarty, Stirling, and West Lothian.
3. After 1876: Testamentary documents are not available at the LDS-FHL but may be obtained at the Scottish Record Office. Annual indexes covering an entire country in one alphabet are also available but only at the Scottish Record Office.



# ***SCOTLAND: CIVIL REGISTRATION***

## **INTRODUCTION:**

Civil registration, the registering of births, marriages and deaths, began 1 January 1855. The certificates were recorded on a parish basis then later sent to the Registrar General where they were indexed and filed. The information on the records has changed periodically over the years but remain superior to many other countries in their content. Information contained is generally as follows:

### **A. BIRTH CERTIFICATES**

1. Name, surname, and baptismal name if different
2. When and where born
3. Sex
4. Name, surname and occupation of the father
5. Name and maiden surname of the mother
6. Signature, qualification and residence of the informant
7. When and where registered
8. When and where parents were married (1855, 1861-present)

### **B. MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES**

1. Name of bride and groom
2. When, where and how married
3. Occupation, whether single or widowed and relationship
4. Age
5. Usual residence
6. Name, surname and occupation of father
7. Name and maiden surname of mother
8. When and where registered

### **C. DEATH CERTIFICATES**

1. Name and surname
2. Occupation and whether single, married or widowed
3. When and where died
4. Age and sex
5. Name and surname and occupation of father
6. Name and maiden name of mother
7. Cause of death
8. Signature, qualification and residence of informant
9. When and where registered

The 1855 certificates give far more information than those in other years. The birth certificates contain parents issue (living and dead) and the age and birthplace of the mother and father. The marriage certificates contain birthplaces of parties and whether second or third marriage. Death certificates contain where born and how long in the district, to whom married, issue (in order of birth) names and ages, and burial place.

## SCOTLAND: CIVIL REGISTRATION -2

### AVAILABILITY

Certificates can be obtained for about L10. (international money order) at this address:

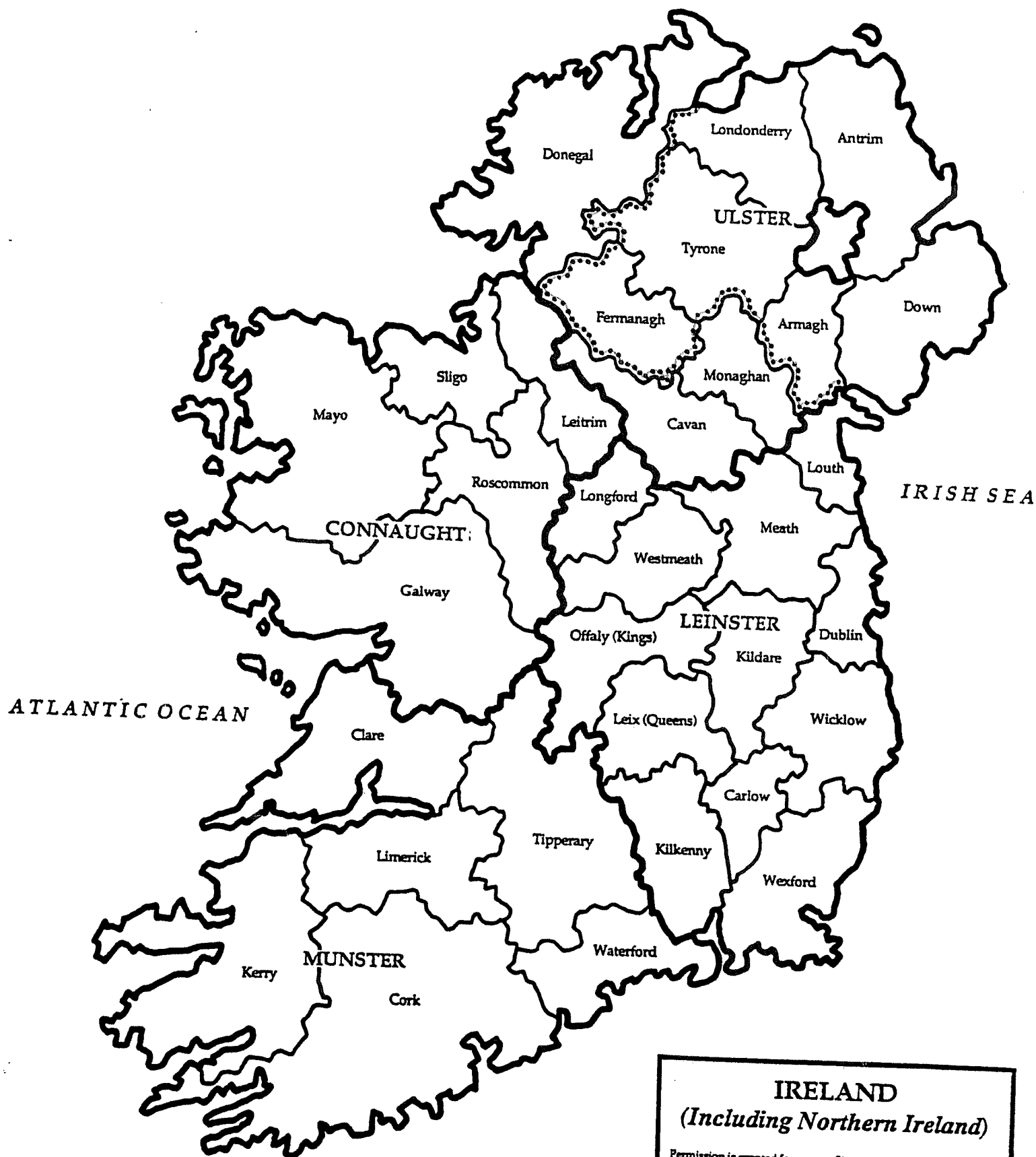
The Registrar General  
Search Unit  
New Register House  
Edinburgh EH1 3YT  
Scotland

The LDS-FHL has the following on microfilm:

Birth, Marriage and Death Indexes---1855-1955  
Birth, Marriages, and Death Certificates---1855-1875, 1881, 1891

### PECULIARITIES

- A. Marriage indexes (1855-65) for females are arranged in alphabetical order with the husbands surname in parenthesis.
- B. Death indexes (1855-65) for females are arranged in alphabetical order under the married name with the maiden surname in parenthesis.
- C. Death indexes (1865-on) for females are arranged alphabetical once under the maiden surname and once under the married surname.
- D. A Mc or MAC surname may be found in the indexes at the end of the "m"'s.
- E. There is an additional index at the end of each yearly index called the Vide Addenda  
This index is for those names missed in the regular index. A cross reference can usually be found in the regular index to the Vide Addenda.
- F. Some parishes in Scotland have been sub-divided. A list of these sub-divisions may be found on LDS-FHL microfilm #233,820. This film is also useful in obtaining parish numbers.



I-1

— Province Boundary

..... Boundary of Northern Ireland

<http://archivemaps.com/mapco/index.htm>

## IRELAND (Including Northern Ireland)

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# ***SCOTLAND: CENSUS RECORDS***

## INTRODUCTORY INFORMATION

The census is an enumeration of all of the people in Scotland living in homes, hotels, institutions, etc. Persons are in the census according to where they were on the night of the census. The census was used for tax levy, representation in government and to have a knowledge of the male population.

## TIME PERIOD

The census was taken on the following nights:

1841 7 June	1881 4 April	1931 26 April
1851 31 March	1891 31 March	1941 WWII (not taken)
1861 8 April	1911 2 April	1951 8 April
1871 3 April	1921 19 June	1961 23 April

## CONTENT

### A. 1841 Census

1. Name and surname of each person in the household
2. Age (exact under 15, over were recorded in multiples of 5 years with the age entered to the lowest five years)
3. Sex
4. Occupations
5. Whether born in the country or not

### B. 1851 Census

1. Name
2. Relationship to the head of the household
3. Marital status
4. Exact age
5. Occupation
6. Place and county of birth if born in Scotland; E- if born in England; I- if born in Ireland; F- foreign

### C. 1861 Census and later

No significant difference from 1851.

## AVAILABILITY

### A. The LDS-FHL has the censuses on microfilm and the larger cities have street indexes.

The microfilm numbers are as follow:

1841-104,115	1851-599,787	1861-104,116
1871-104,117	1881-203,392	1891-208,606

### B. 1911-1991 censuses are not available to the public.

### C. Some of the 1841 census for the county of Fife is missing.

## PECULIARITIES

- A. The maiden surname of the wife or widow is sometimes given
- B. Be cautious of mistakes due to not hearing or not understanding the accent or dialect.
- C. It is essential to know the parish or district number in order to locate a microfilm number for a given census. This parish number may be obtained in INDEX TO THE REGISTRATION DISTRICTS OF SCOTLAND 1855-1955 (LDS-FHL #233,820)

## Finding the Origin of Your Ancestors in Ireland

**I. Learn everything possible** about the immigrant and his family from North American records. It is nearly impossible to trace ancestors without first knowing the place of origin in Ireland. You will want to have search every possible source for clues as to this place of origin before you begin research in Irish records. If you do this it will greatly improve your chance of success in doing Irish research.

(a.) vital records (family records - old letters)

(b.) obituaries

c. church records

d. land records

e. naturalization records

(f.) immigration records \_\_\_\_\_

g. military records

(h.) court records

(i.) counties or local histories

j. probate records

(k.) census records

### Irish Immigration Statistics

Pre-1700.....	Palatines
1715-1750.....	Ulster-Scots
1821-1830.....	51,000
1831-1840.....	210,000
1847-1853.....	920,000
1881-1890.....	660,000

### II. Facts to keep in mind:

a. There were no exact sailing schedules as late as 1850. This resulted in some people moving for a short time to a seaport town. Main seaports towns are: Belfast, Dublin, Cork, and Waterford.

b. Many small ships took people to England (especially Liverpool) to await a larger ship going to America. Some people may have remained in England for a short period.

c. Place names may have been misheard, misspelled, or misquoted.

d. Traditions may be entirely incorrect.

e. Emigrants often moved in groups. If you cannot get the place of origin for your ancestor, trace one or more of the families who might have moved with him or lived near him. They often stayed near each other after settling in North America.

f. Few emigration records exist for people leaving Ireland. There are no official records for emigration from Ireland to North America prior to 1815. Your best source would be United States or Canadian immigration records.

g. History is important because conditions in certain parts of the country (Ireland) might have been causes for emigration.

**III. If, after exhausting all** American records, you have not determined the place of origin in Ireland, there are several general indexes for Ireland which could be consulted.

- a. Civil Registration. 1845-present. Genealogical Society.
- b. Surname Index to Tithe Applotment Records (c. 1830). Ireland.
- c. Surname Index to the Valuation Records (c. 1850-55. Ireland.
- d. Registry of Deeds, Surname Index, 1708-1904. Genealogical Society.
- e. Probate Indexes. These are not always for the entire country but rather for ecclesiastical areas and may be found useful in locating residence. Genealogical Society.
- f. General books about Irish surnames. Genealogical Society.
- g. Index to the Collections at the Genealogical Office in Dublin. Genealogical Society.
- h. Index to the Collections at the Public Record Office in Belfast. Genealogical Society.

**IV. Determine the jurisdiction** of your place in Ireland in as much detail as possible. The following jurisdictions will -all- be important and should be determined:

- a. Province - there are four provinces in Ireland consisting of several counties each. They are: Ulster, Leinster, Connaught, and Munster.
- b. County - there are 32 counties in Ireland. There are two counties that have changed their names, Leix or Laoighis or Laois formerly Queen's County and Offoly (Ua Failghe) formerly King's County.
- c. Barony - the barony is usually an area of land within a county. It is based on old tribal jurisdictions. There are 325 baronies.
- d. Diocese - this is an ecclesiastical division. There are 28 dioceses for the Church of Ireland. The boundary of each diocese does not always correspond to the counties boundaries.
- e. Parish - this is a smaller division of diocese. It can contain several towns or cities or there may be many parishes in a large city. There were 2,447 parishes in Ireland.
- f. City and/or town - this is civil jurisdiction.
- g. Townland - these are small parcels of land which sometimes represent small farms or acreage. There are about 60,000 of them.

**V. For additional information**, there are several printed works.

- a. Margaret Dickson Falley. "Irish and Scotch-Irish Ancestral Research", 2 volumes, 1961-62.

- b. Wallace Clare, "A Simple Guide to Irish Genealogy", 3rd edition, 1966.
- c. Patrick Henchy, "Irish Emigration to North America for the Past Three Centuries", World Conference on Records Paper, 1969.
- d. Heraldic Artists Ltd., "Handbook on Irish Genealogy", 1973.

**Jurisdictions can be determined** by using the following reference books:

- "1871 Census Alphabetical Index to the Towns and Townlands of Ireland", 1877. Excellent and most useful Irish reference book. It lists each townland alphabetically and gives the parish, county, and barony for each one. There is also an alphabetical index by parish and barony. Very helpful.
- "Topographical Dictionary of Ireland", by Samuel Lewis, 1837. Gives details on parishes.
- "County Maps of Ireland, Showing Civil and Catholic Parishes and Baronies", prepared by the National Library of Ireland, Dublin.
- "Special Report on Surnames in Ireland, Together with Varieties and Synonymes and Christian Names in Ireland" by Sir Robert E. Matheson, Baltimore, Genealogical Publishing Co, 1968. This book should be checked to determine the different spellings and variations of surnames.

**Additional references:**

Research Society, c/o The Irish Club, 82 Eaton Square, London, SW 1.  
"A Simple Guide to Irish Genealogy" compiled by Rev. Wallace Clare, 1937, 3rd edition, revised by Rosemary Ffollitt, 1966, Irish Genealogical  
"Irish and Scotch Irish Ancestral Research" by Margaret Dickson Falley. 2 vols, Strasbourg, Virginia, 1962.  
"A History of Ireland", Edmund Curtis, 1936.

# Irish Census Records and Substitutes for Missing Censuses

## I. Background

Religious census returns for certain places were taken in the 18th Century (c.1740-66). These were some of the first census returns in Ireland and some still survive today. However, the first complete census returns were taken in 1813. This enumeration was followed by others in **1821**, **1831**, and every ten years thereafter until **1911**. Most of these census returns have been destroyed. The **1901** census is the first complete census in existence today. Although many of the Census records were destroyed, there are some substitutes that may be helpful.

## II. Content ( available censuses only)

**A. Religious censuses (1740-66)** vary in their details, but may include the heads of households, parish by parish, and indicate their religion; or may give statistics only. Some returns are available for Dioceses such as Ardagh, Armagh, Clogher, Cloyne, Connor, Cork, Derry, Dromore, Down, Elphin, Ferns, Kildare, Kilmore, Ossory, Raphoe and Ross.

**B. 1821** Census gives names of inhabitants, relation to head, ages, occupations, and information about the house and property. Some returns are available for parishes A-M, County Gavan; A-D, County Offaly; A-R, Fermanagh; A-L, Galway; A-T, Meath.

**C. 1831** Census gives names of inhabitants, relation to head, ages, occupations, and information about the house and property. Some returns are available for the following parishes in Londonderry County: Agevey, Aghanloo, Arboe, Artrea, Benagher, Glendermot, Killowen, Macosquin, Tamlaght-Finlagen, Templemore, and Termoneeny.

**D. 1841** Census gives names of inhabitants, ages, sex, relation to head, marital condition, year of marriage, occupation and birthplace (country, county, or city). The only return available is for Killeshandra Parish, County Cavan.

**E. 1851** Census gives the same information as the 1841 plus a list of those people belonging to the family that are not present (including their names, ages, sex, relation to head, present occupation, and country, county, or city of current residence) and a list of those family members who died while residing with the family during the last 10 years (including names, age, sex, relation to head, occupation, season and year of death). Returns are available for Drumkeeran, County Fermanagh and the following parishes in County Antrim: Aghagallon, Aghalee, Ballinderry, Ballymoney, Carncartle, Craigs (Ahoghill), Dunaghy, Grange of Killyglen, Killead, Kilwaughter, Larne, Rasharkin, and Tickmacreevin.

**F. 1901** Census gives name of inhabitants, relation to head, religion, age, sex, occupation, marital condition, birthplace (country, county, or city), information on house and property including the name of the lease holder. This census is available in its entirety.

**G. 1911** census gives same information as the 1901 plus the number of years married, total number of children born alive, and number of children still living. This census is also entirely available.

## III. Availability

**A.** Most of the existing census records are on film at the Genealogical Society up to 1901. For the 1911 census, only parts of County Antrim are at the Genealogical Society.



B. In Ireland, these records are found at the Public Record Offices in Belfast and Dublin and the Genealogical Office in Dublin.

#### **IV. Substitutes**

A. **"Old Age Pensioner's Claims"** (1841-51). In 1908 the Old Age Pension Act was passed and with this act came the need for proof of age. In many instances, census returns of 1841 and 1851 were used. In some cases, actual extracts are available for these censuses. In most cases, Old Age Pension Search Forms are all that survive. These search forms ask for the claimant's name, father, mother, exact address when census was taken, age in census, age at claim, and census year for which the search is requested. These records exist primarily for Northern Ireland and most are on film at the Genealogical Society.

B. **"Tithe Applotment Books"** (1823-38). This record provides a detailed account, parish by parish, of the land occupiers in each townland and includes the extent and value of their individual farms. Those in urban areas are not included. The Tithe Applotment Books for all of Ireland are on microfilm at the Genealogical Society. Indexes for these records are available at the Public Record Offices in Belfast and the National Library in Dublin.

C. **Griffith's Valuation** (1848-64). This government survey of all privately held lands and buildings was taken to determine the amount of tax that each person should pay toward support of the poor and destitute in each Poor Law Union. All occupiers or tenants, and the immediate lessors of all lands, buildings, etc. for private or business use were liable for the tax. In some areas, these valuations start in 1839; but the majority exist from 1848-64. Such information as the name of tenants, lessor, townland, parish, and tax will be found on these records. They exist for all of Ireland and for the most part are available at the Genealogical Society. An index by surname by parish and county is available at the National Library of Ireland in Dublin.

D. **School Records** (c. 1850-1920). These are primarily records of public schools and include names of pupils, ages, religion, days absent or present, occupation of parents, residence of family, and the name of the school. Sometime the name of the county and school last attended may be given or the cause of withdrawal and destination of the pupil. Most of these records are indexed and are at the Public Record Office in Dublin and Belfast or the Genealogical Office in Dublin. The Genealogical Society has microfilmed many of those available from Northern Ireland.

# Irish Civil Registration

**I.** On 1 April 1845, the registering of Protestant (non-Catholic) marriages began in Ireland, Nineteen years later, 1 January 1864, the registering of all births, marriages, and deaths became mandatory. As in England, Ireland was divided into Registration Districts, each of which was under the supervision of a Superintendent registrar. These registrars took down the information and sent a copy to the Registrar General. The family could also purchase a copy of the certificate. In 1922, when six of the counties of Ulster voted to remain with the United Kingdom, two registries were established.

## **II. Content of the records**

### **A. Births**

Name (if given); when and where born including sex; father's name, surname, occupation and residence; mother's name including maiden surname; informant's signature, qualification, and residence; baptismal name and date if added after registration of birth.

### **B. Marriages**

Names of both parties; marriage date and place; age of both parties (sometimes "full" etc); marital status, occupation, and residence of both parties; name and occupation of the father of the bride and groom; denomination performing the marriage; signature of both parties and witnesses.

### **C. Deaths**

Name and surname; when and where died; sex, age, and marital condition; occupation (varies with age and sex of the deceased) Cause of death and duration of illness, informant's, signature, qualifications and residence.

## **III. Availability**

**A.** The certificate and indexes for Protestant marriages 1845-64; all births, marriages, and deaths of Ireland 1864-1922; and births, marriages, and deaths of the Republic of Ireland 1922-present are with the Registrar General in Dublin. All inquiries should be addressed to: The Registrar General  
Custom House  
Dublin C.10 Eire

**B.** The certificate and indexes for all births, marriages, and deaths for Northern Ireland (includes the six counties of Antrim, Armagh, Down, Fermanagh, Londonderry, and Tyrone) from 1922 to the present are with the Registrar General in Belfast. All inquiries should be addressed to: The Registrar General  
Central Register Office  
Fermanagh House  
Ormeau Avenue  
Belfast, BT2 8HK

## Northern Ireland

C. The LDS Genealogical Society has microfilm copies of the following:

<u>Area</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>Indexes</u>	<u>Certificates</u>
All Ireland	B	1864-1921	1864-Mar 1881,
	B	1900-1913	
	M	1845-1921	1845-1870
	D	1864-1921	1864-1870
Republic of Ireland	B	1922-1958	1930-1955
	M	1922-1958	none
	D	1922-1958	none
Northern Ireland	B	1922-1959	1922-1959
	M	1922-1959	1922-1959
	D	1922-1959	1922-1959

### IV. Peculiarities

- A. Indexes and certificates were kept on an annual basis until 1878. Beginning with 1878, both indexes and certificates were kept on a quarterly basis.
- B. There are supplemental volumes of births, deaths, and marriages up to 1870. These are arranged at random by registration district.
- C. Superintendent Registrars may or may not give out copies of certificates. They are generally more willing in Northern Ireland.
- D. Many births in Ireland may be listed as just "male" or "female" with the surname. A person may be given one given name at birth and another at the christening., Use **caution** in searching the indexes.
- E. Surnames are problems because of accents dialects, and spelling errors. Again use caution in the indexes. Watch for all variations.

2. Some records or transcripts are available at the Public Record Offices, Four Courts, Dublin, Eire; and Law Courts Building, May Street, Belfast, Northern Ireland. LDS Genealogical Society has some printed copies.

B. Roman Catholic. Records from about 1750, with most starting about 1830, are all extant. Many of these records are in Latin.

1. Originals are in local custody. (See any good Catholic directory for addresses.)
2. Microfilm copies of originals, except those from Dublin Diocese, are on film at the National Library of Ireland, Kildare Street, Dublin, Eire. Access to these records is only through the staff at the Genealogical Office. Inquiries should be addressed to the Chief Herald, Genealogical Office, Dublin Castle, Dublin, Eire.
3. LDS Genealogy Society has obtained copies of those records at the National Library.

C. Presbyterian. Records generally start about 1800 and all are extant. A fairly complete listing will be found in Falley's book.

1. Originals are mostly in local custody with some of the very early ones at the Presbyterian Historical Society, Church House, Fisherwick Place, Belfast, Northern Ireland
2. Some microfilm copies are available at the Public Record Office in Belfast. LDS Genealogical Society has printed copies.

D. Society of Friends. Records date from c.1670 and are quite good.

1. Records and indexes from Eire are housed at the Friends House Library, 6 Eustace Street, Dublin. (See "Guide to Irish Quaker Records" by Olive C. Goodbody.)
2. Records and indexes for Northern Ireland are at the Friends' Meeting House, Railway Street, Lisburn.
3. LDS Genealogical Society has many transcript copies of the original records arranged in alphabetical order.

E. Methodist (Wesleyan). Records exist after 1878. Before that time, Methodists were mostly recorded in the Church of Ireland or Presbyterian registers. Methodist records after 1878 are in local custody.

F. Other Denominations (Baptists, Congregationalists). Many of these groups came to Ireland about 1640 as soldiers with Cromwell. Records are generally in local custody.

NOTE: An excellent guide to Irish Church records is Margaret Dickson Falley's "Irish and Scotch-Irish Ancestral Research".

# IRISH LAND AND PROBATE RECORDS

## LAND RECORDS

### A. Registry of Deeds

1. It was established for the protection of the purchases of land. It began recording deeds 25 March 1708 and continues to the present. The Registry is housed at: Registry of Deeds; Henrietta Street; Dublin Ireland.
2. The records contain deeds of sale, mortgages, transfer leases, conveyances, and sometimes wills.
3. There are two index series to these records. The Names Index to Grantors (Seller) and the Lands Index. The LDS Genealogical Society has both of these on microfilm.
4. The LDS Genealogical Society also has what is called "Transcript of Memorials of Deeds" on microfilm. These are detailed abstracts of the original documents.

### B. Estate Records

1. Most of the land in Ireland was held by large land owners. The records of their estates can be very helpful.
2. These records contain the following typed documents: Rent Rolls, leases, rent ledgers, maps, wage books, land agents, notebooks, etc.
3. A few estate records are available at LDS Genealogical Society. Many at Public Record Offices in Dublin and Belfast. Many are still in local custody. "Analecta Hibernica" Volumes 15, 20, and 25 (941.5 B2ah) contains a "Survey of Documents in Private Keeping".

### C. Griffith's Valuation (1848-68).

This was a survey made by the government to determine the amount of tax that each rate should pay to support the upkeep of the poor. Arranged by Poor Law Union it lists the following information: name of lessor, each occupier or tenant, townland or city, parish, holdings and tax. These are all available at LDS Genealogical Society. The National Library of Ireland has prepared a surname index arranged by parish and county.

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## **PROBATE RECORDS (from Paul F. Smart)**

**I. 1536 to 1858** -- Wills were probated in one of two ecclesiastical jurisdictions: Perogative (covers all Ireland) or Diocesan (one for each of the 28 dioceses). Many of these wills were destroyed, but some useful material is still extant.

### **A. Perogative Court of Armagh**

1. Original and printed indexes 1536-1858 (LDS-GS)
2. Scattered few original wills, 18th century (LDS-GS)
3. Betham's Abstracts of Wills, pre-1800 (LDS-GS)
4. Betham & Burke's Will Pedigrees, pre-1800 (LDS-GS)

### **B. Diocesan Courts (Consistory Courts)**

1. Original and printed indexes, 1536-1858 (LDS-GS)
2. Some few original wills, late 18th century (LDS-GS)
3. Various types of copies of wills are being collected by the Public Record Office in Dublin. They have a card index to these copies and have a large collection of substitutes for the missing wills. If a will is found in a diocesan index, an inquiry should be sent to the Public Record Office, Front Courts, Dublin, Eire.

**II. 1858 onwards** -- these wills are probated by civil courts. There were twelve of these courts. These courts turned in copies of their wills to the Public Record Office; and, thus, most of them were destroyed up to about 1904. In many cases, however, the district registries kept copies and these exist today.

There is a general index to wills and administrations proved in the "Principal Probate Registry" and in the "Several District Registries," 1858-1920 at the LDS Genealogical Society. Most of the original wills before 1904 were destroyed, especially for the Principal Registry in Dublin. Copies exist for the eleven District Registries, 1858 to about 1890 at the LDS Genealogical Society. In cases where it appears no wills exist, inquiries should be made to the Public Record Office in Dublin as in the case of the Diocesan Courts above.

## Genealogy site rankings

Here are the global rankings for a selection of genealogy-related websites, using Alexa.com, as of 3 September 2011.

ancestry.com 1,103, (1,076), (984)  
myheritage.com 3,524, (4,573), (3,886)  
geni.com 7,768 (7,068), (8,086)  
familysearch.org 8,497, (9,138), (9,120)  
genealogy.com 12,295, (12,691), (12,190)  
archives.gov 17,366 (17,053), (18,209)  
ancestry.co.uk 15,944, (17,199), (17,243)  
nationalarchives.gov.uk 21,600, (21,801), (18,550)  
23andme.com 41,077, (38,146), (41,700)  
genesreunited.co.uk 50,347, (51,699), (46,279)  
ancestry.ca 54,036, (51,631), (42,325)  
familytreedna.com 57,972, (67,246), (80,397)  
findmypast.co.uk 68,220, (69,394), (81,411)  
cyndislist.com 116,532, (101,523), (86,990)  
eogn.com 135,238, (123,589), (150,226)  
jiapu.com 129,664, (176,217), (168,666)  
genuki.org.uk 177,305, (194,673), (193,436)  
freebmd.org.uk 178,177, (204,998), (212,655)  
familytreemaker.com 216,098, (198,889), (161,170)  
worldvitalrecords.com 205,946, (250,031), (175,547)  
familytreemagazine.com 296,260, (309,746), (201,288)  
cwgc.org 304,733, (307,860), (527,236)  
legacyfamilytree.com 325,569, (334,563), (273,131)  
automatedgenealogy.com 471,773, (452,499), (296,376)  
rootsmagic.com 528,067, (469,630), (372,173)  
ngsgenealogy.org 292,785, (507,702), (770,719)  
americanancestors.org 568,638, (413,274), (276,418)

genealogyintime.com 615,133, (839,046), (784,440)  
geneabloggers.com 671,941, (635,502), (438,407)  
genealogywise.com 702,073 (895,754), (525,834)  
whodoyouthinkyouaremagazine.com 1,023,413,  
(993,634), (994,049)  
sog.org.uk 1,050,849, (965,288), (708,746)  
globalgenealogy.com 1,101,224, (1,019,853), (830,338)  
ffhs.org.uk 1,201,950, (1,210,668), (1,267,779)  
anglo-celtic-connections.blogspot.com 1,407,276,  
(1,624,999), (2,418,382)  
scottishancestry.blogspot.com 1,414,288, (-), (-)  
ogs.on.ca 1,487,132, (1,440,397), (1,289,655)  
genealogicalstudies.com 1,555,150, (1,328,035),  
(1,093,695)  
rootsuk.com 2,030,679, (2,724,618), (1,340,610)  
bccgcertification.org 2,329,800, (1,874,498), (1,601,646)  
family-tree.co.uk 2,407,513, (1,684,518) (1,836,425)  
lostcousins.com 2,427,784, (1,815,516), (2,677,921)  
deceasedonline.com 2,452,985, (1,902,137),  
(1,648,569)  
bifhsgo.ca 2,541,927 (4,938,796), (7,145,992)  
familychronicle.com 2,763,979, (2,224,075), (1,881,611)  
arcalife.com 2,803,254, (2,343,474), (2,356,437)  
bcgs.ca 3,361,982 (3,459,358), (3,313,414)  
internet-genealogy.com 10,981,334, (10,510,651),  
(3,234,636)  
qfhs.ca 12,118,104, (9,884,139), (6,654,860)

# Where to look....

<http://images.google.com>

<https://familysearch.org/tree> (Photos & stories)

[www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) (Photos & maps)(Civil War 1860-1870)

[www.deadfred.com](http://www.deadfred.com)

[www.usda.gov/oc/photo/histfeat.htm](http://www.usda.gov/oc/photo/histfeat.htm) (1937-43)

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammen/index.html>

cities/town section-panoramicphotos (1851-1991) Detroit Publishing (1880-1920)-C.W

[www.byu.edu/dlib/historic\\_photos](http://www.byu.edu/dlib/historic_photos)

Google state and college archives: