

Wales

CONTENTS

Introduction	1
Welsh Search Strategies	1
The Family History Library Catalog™	4
Records Selection Table	5
Maps of Wales	6, 7, 8
Archives and Libraries	9
Biography	12
Cemeteries	13
Census	13
Church Directories	17
Church History	17
Church Records	18
Civil Registration	25
Court Records	28
Directories	29
Emigration and Immigration	30
Gazetteers	34
Genealogy	36
Historical Geography	38
History	39
Land and Property	40
Language and Languages	41
Maps	43
Merchant Marine	44
Military Records	46
Names, Personal	52
Newspapers	53
Nobility	54
Occupations	55
Periodicals	55
Probate Records	56
Schools	60
Societies	60
Taxation	62
Other Records	63
For Further Reading	63
Comments and Suggestions	64

INTRODUCTION

This outline introduces you to records you can use to discover your Welsh ancestors. It describes the content, use, and availability of major genealogical records.

Usually, you will need to know the specific parish or town in Wales where your ancestor was born before beginning your Welsh research.

Using This Outline

This outline will help you evaluate the content, reliability, availability, ease of use, time period covered, and the likelihood that your ancestor will be listed in these records.

The “Welsh Search Strategies” section of this outline, which follows, explains the steps to effective research.

The “Records Selection Table” helps you select records to search. The “Family History Library Catalog™” section of this outline explains how to use the library’s catalog to find specific records in the collection.

This outline also discusses in alphabetical order the major topics used for Welsh research, such as “Archives and Libraries” and “Church Records.” The names of these sections are the same as the subject headings used in the Family History Library Catalog.

At the end of this outline you will find a list of additional subject headings under “Other Records” and a short bibliography of sources under “For Further Reading.”

Because Wales has been incorporated into the United Kingdom since the thirteenth century, many Welsh people are mentioned in English records. Many of these records are discussed more fully in the [England Research Outline](#) (34037).

WELSH SEARCH STRATEGIES

Step 1. Identify What You Know about Your Family

Begin your research at home. Look for names, dates, and places in certificates, family Bibles, letters, obituaries, diaries, and similar sources. Ask relatives for any information they may have. Record the information you find on pedigree charts and family group record forms.

Step 2. Decide What You Want to Learn

Choose an ancestor born in Wales for whom you know at least a name, the town or parish where he or she lived in Wales, and an approximate date when he or she lived there. Knowing the religion and names of other family members born there also helps.

Decide what you want to learn about that ancestor. You may want to ask an experienced researcher or a librarian to help you choose a goal.

It is usually best to begin by verifying information about the ancestor you know the most about. You will be more successful when you know more than just the country of birth or marriage.

Step 3. Select a Record to Search

Effective researchers first find background information. Then they survey compiled sources and finally they search original records.

Background Information Sources. You must have some geographical and historical information. This will help to focus your research in the correct place and time period.

- Find the parish or town of residence. Use maps, gazetteers, histories, and other place-finding aids to learn about each place where your ancestors lived. Identify governmental and ecclesiastical jurisdictions and nearby parishes, cities, counties, and other geographical features.
- Review local history. Welsh history was made by your ancestors and affected the records about them (see the “Gazetteers,” “Church History,” and “History” sections of this outline).
- Learn about Welsh jurisdictions. You will need to know about Welsh civil and church boundaries. See the “Gazetteers” section of this outline for more information.
- Use language helps. Welsh records are usually in English, although some are in Welsh. Pre-1733 records may be in Latin (see the “Language and Languages” section of this outline).

Compiled Records. Surveying research already done by others can save time and reveal valuable information. Check the following:

- Printed family histories and genealogies
- The International Genealogical Index®
- Ancestral File™

- The Family Group Records Archive Collections
- Family history society lists of members’ interests
- Other indexes at archives, libraries, and societies

These records are described in the “Biography,” “Genealogy,” and “Societies” sections of this outline. Remember, information in compiled records may have some inaccuracies, and the information in them should be verified.

Original Records. After surveying previous research, you can begin searching original documents, which are often handwritten and copied on microfilm or microfiche. Original documents provide first-hand information recorded at or near the time of an event by a reliable witness. To do thorough research, you should search records of:

- Your ancestor’s religious denomination.
- The jurisdictions that may have kept records about your ancestor.

Most researchers begin with civil registration, census records, church records, or probate records.

Step 4. Find and Search the Record

Suggestions for Obtaining Records. You may be able to get the records you need in the following ways:

- Family History Library™. The Family History Library is open to the public and charges no fees for using the records. For more information, contact the library at:

Family History Library
35 North West Temple Street
Salt Lake City, UT 84150-3400
- Family History Centers™. The Family History Library can loan copies of most records on microfilm thousands of Family History Centers worldwide. There is a small duplication and postage fee for this service.
- Local archives and churches. Although the Family History Library has many records on microfilm or microfiche, others are available only at local or national archives. See the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline for more information.
- Libraries and interlibrary loan. Public, academic, and other research libraries may have some published sources for Welsh research.

Many provide interlibrary loan services that allow you to borrow records from other libraries.

- Look-up Exchange. There are lists of people on the Internet who volunteer to search various types of records for certain areas free of charge. You can locate these lists through the GENUKI Web site at:

www.genuki.org.uk/big/wal/#counties

From the above site:

Click [**County of your choice**].
Click **Genealogy**.
Click **Look-up Exchange**.

- Professional researchers. You can hire a researcher. Many researchers specialize in British records. Others specialize in Welsh records. Lists of qualified professional researchers are available from the Family History Library. Welsh archives or family history societies may also provide lists of people who can do research for you. You may get help by sending a letter for publication in the relevant Welsh family history society's journal, especially if you become a member of the society.
- Photocopies. The Family History Library and some other libraries offer limited photoduplication services for a small fee. You must specify the exact pages you need. Books protected by copyright cannot be copied in their entirety. However, a few pages can usually be copied for personal research. The library does not copy large portions of a microfilm. To get a copy of a major portion of a film, write to the archive where the original material is stored.

To contact libraries or professional researchers or any other family historian, write a brief, specific letter. Enclose a self-addressed, stamped, long envelope when writing within your own country. When writing to a foreign country, enclose three international reply coupons (available from your post office). You will usually need to pay in advance for photocopy or search services.

Suggestions for Searching the Records. Follow these principles as you search the records for your ancestor:

- Search for one generation at a time. Do not try to connect your family to others who have the same surname if they lived more than a generation earlier than your proven ancestor.

- Search for your ancestor's entire family. Records may contain clues for identifying other family members. Search other record types and in other localities to find a missing family member.
- Search each source thoroughly. A small piece of information in a record may be a needed clue.
- Search a broad time period. Dates in some sources may not be accurate. Look several years before and after the date you think an event occurred.
- Look for indexes. Though not every record has been indexed, many have been. Look for an index that includes the time period, event, and place you need. Many indexes only include some of the people mentioned in the record. Make sure you check the original records after consulting an index.
- Watch for patronymics. Surnames in the same family frequently changed with every generation during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. For more information, see the "Names, Personal" section of this outline.
- Watch for spelling variations. Spelling was not standardized until the late nineteenth century, and names were often written phonetically.

Step 5. Use the Information

Evaluate the Information You Find. Decide whether the information you find is complete and accurate. Ask yourself the following questions:

- Who provided the information? Did the informant witness the event?
- Was the information recorded near the time of the event or later?
- Is the information logical and consistent with other sources about the family?
- Does it suggest other places, events, time periods, or records to search?

Record Your Searches and Findings. Copy the information you find and keep notes about each record you search. Note where and by whom the records were made, even those that provided no information.

Share Your Information with Others. Your family history can become a source of enjoyment and education for yourself and your family. You may want to compile your family history and share it with family members, the Family History Library, and other archives. To contribute your genealogical information to Ancestral File, see the publication, *Contributing Information to Ancestral File*[™] (34029).

If you are a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, be sure to submit information about your deceased family members so you can provide temple ordinances for them. Your ward family history consultant or a library staff member can help you.

THE FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY CATALOG[™]

The key to finding a record in the Family History Library's collection is the Family History Library Catalog. The catalog describes each of the library's records and provides the call numbers. The catalog is available on microfiche and on compact disc as part of FamilySearch®. It is at the Family History Library and at each Family History Center.

The Family History Library Catalog on microfiche is divided into four major sections:

- Locality
- Surname
- Subject
- Author/Title

The Family History Library Catalog on compact disc has four types of searches:

- Locality Search
- Surname Search
- Film Number Search
- Computer Number Search

To find the call numbers of the records described in this outline, you will most often use the Locality Search on microfiche or the Locality Search on compact disc. The section headings in this outline that describe types of records, such as "Church Records," are the same as the subjects used in the microfiche edition of the Family History Library Catalog and the topics used in the compact disc edition.

The catalog generally uses the same language that the records are written in to describe the records. The description includes a brief English summary of the content, if the record is in another language.

The Locality Search lists records according to the area they cover. Records relating to the entire country, such as passenger lists, are listed under WALES. Most records are listed under a specific county or parish.

For example, in the Locality search look for:

- First geographic level for a place where an ancestor lived, such as:

GREAT BRITAIN (kingdom)
WALES (country)
WALES, FLINT (country, county)
WALES, FLINT, WHITFORD (country, county, parish)

You may need to look at each geographic level to find all record types for the area of interest.

- Then the record type you want, such as:

GREAT BRITAIN - **MILITARY RECORDS**
WALES - **GENEALOGY**
WALES, FLINT - **PROBATE RECORDS**
WALES, FLINT, WHITFORD - **CHURCH RECORDS**

The catalog is based on the county structure in:

Richards, Melville. *Welsh Administrative and Territorial Units*. See the "Gazetteers" section of this outline for more information.

Call numbers in this outline are preceded by FHL, the abbreviation for Family History Library.

RECORDS SELECTION TABLE: WALES

This table can help you decide which records to search. It is most helpful for research from 1800 to the present.

1. In column 1 find the goal you selected; then in column 2 find the types of records most likely to have the information you need.
2. Read the sections in the outline about those types of records.
3. Look for those types of records in the Family History Library Catalog™.
4. Search the records.
5. If you do not find the information you need, return to column 3 and try those records.

Note: Records of previous research (Genealogy, Biography, History, Periodicals, and Societies) are useful for most goals, but they are not listed unless they are especially helpful.

1. If You Need	2. Look First In	3. Then Search
Age	Census, Civil Registration, Church Records	Cemeteries, Occupations, Military Records
Birth date	Civil Registration, Church Records	Cemeteries, Newspapers, Biography
Birth place	Census, Civil Registration, Church Records	Cemeteries, Biography
Boundaries and origins	Gazetteers, Maps	History, Historical Geography
Children	Census, Church Records, Probate Records	Newspapers, Biography
City or parish of foreign birth	Census, Newspapers	Military Records, Cemeteries
Coat of arms	Heraldry	Nobility
Country of foreign birth	Census, Newspapers	Military Records, Cemeteries
Death information	Cemeteries, Civil Registration, Church Records	Probate Records, Court Records, Land and Property, Biography
Divorce	Civil Registration	Court Records, Newspapers
Emigration information	Emigration and Immigration, Periodicals	Newspapers, Church Records
Historical background	History, Church History	Periodicals, Historical Geography
Immigration date	Emigration and Immigration, Periodicals	Newspapers, Church Records
Language helps	Language and Languages	Archives and Libraries, Societies
Living relatives	Societies, Directories	Newspapers
Maiden name	Civil Registration, Church Records	Newspapers, Cemeteries, Biography
Marriage information	Civil Registration, Church Records,	Newspapers, Cemeteries, Biography
Naming customs	Names, Personal	Periodicals
Naturalization	Court Records	Naturalization and Citizenship
Noble families	Nobility	Genealogy
Occupations	Census, Probate Records, Civil Registration, Church Records	Directories, Court Records, Biography
Other family members	Census, Probate Records	Land and Property, Court Records, Biography
Parents	Church Records, Civil Registration, Census	Cemeteries, Newspapers, Biography
Physical description	Military Records, Court Records	Occupations
Place-finding aids	Gazetteers, Maps	History, Directories
Places of residence	Census, Probate Records, Church Records	Schools, Directories, Taxation
Place of residence when you know only the county	Genealogy, Civil Registration	Probate Records
Previous research	Genealogy	Biography, Societies
Record-finding aids	Archives and Libraries	Societies, Periodicals
Religion	Church History	History, Church Records
Social activities	History, Social Life and Customs	Newspapers
Language terms	Language and Languages	

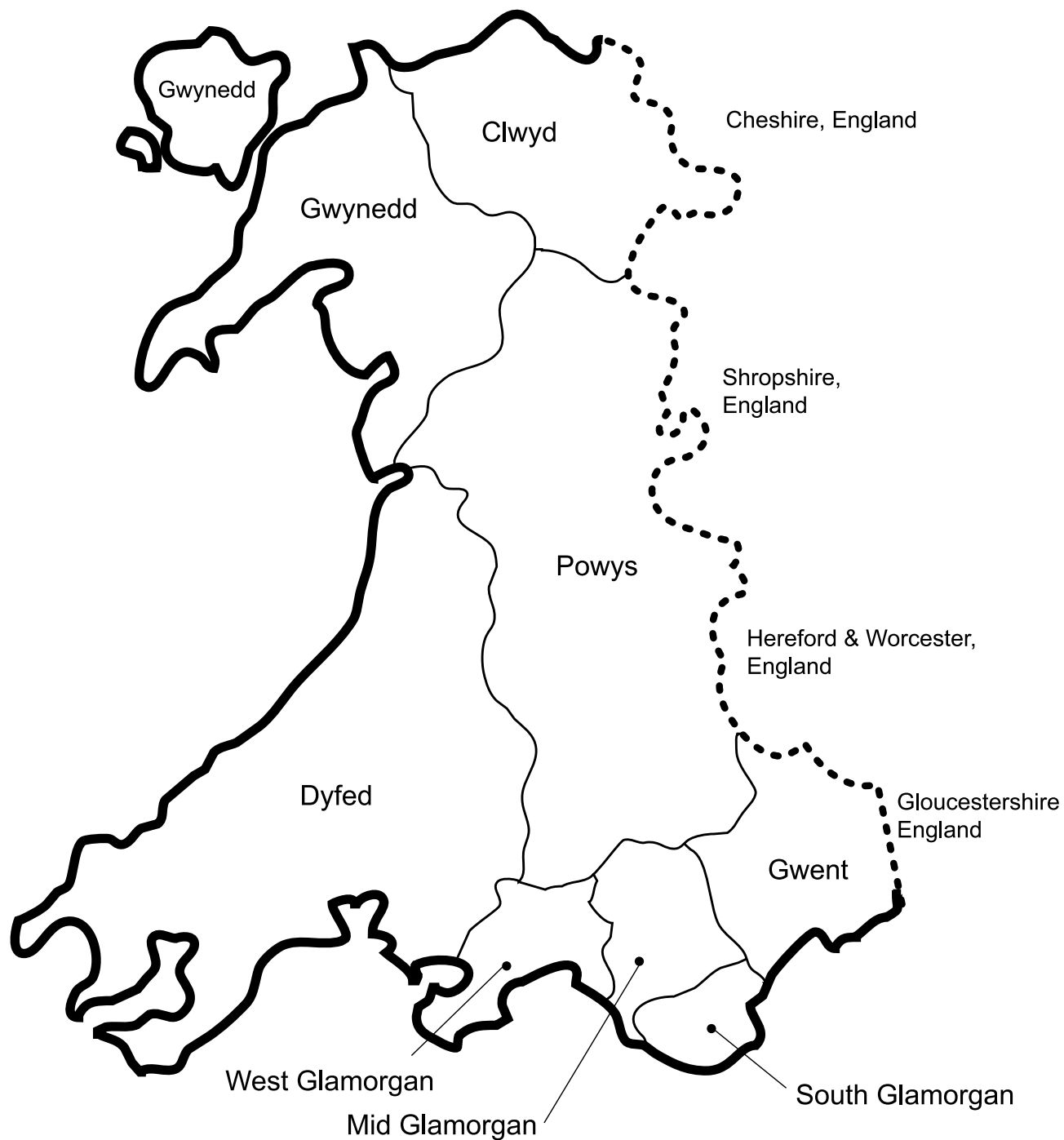
WALES

PRE - 1974 COUNTY STRUCTURE



WALES

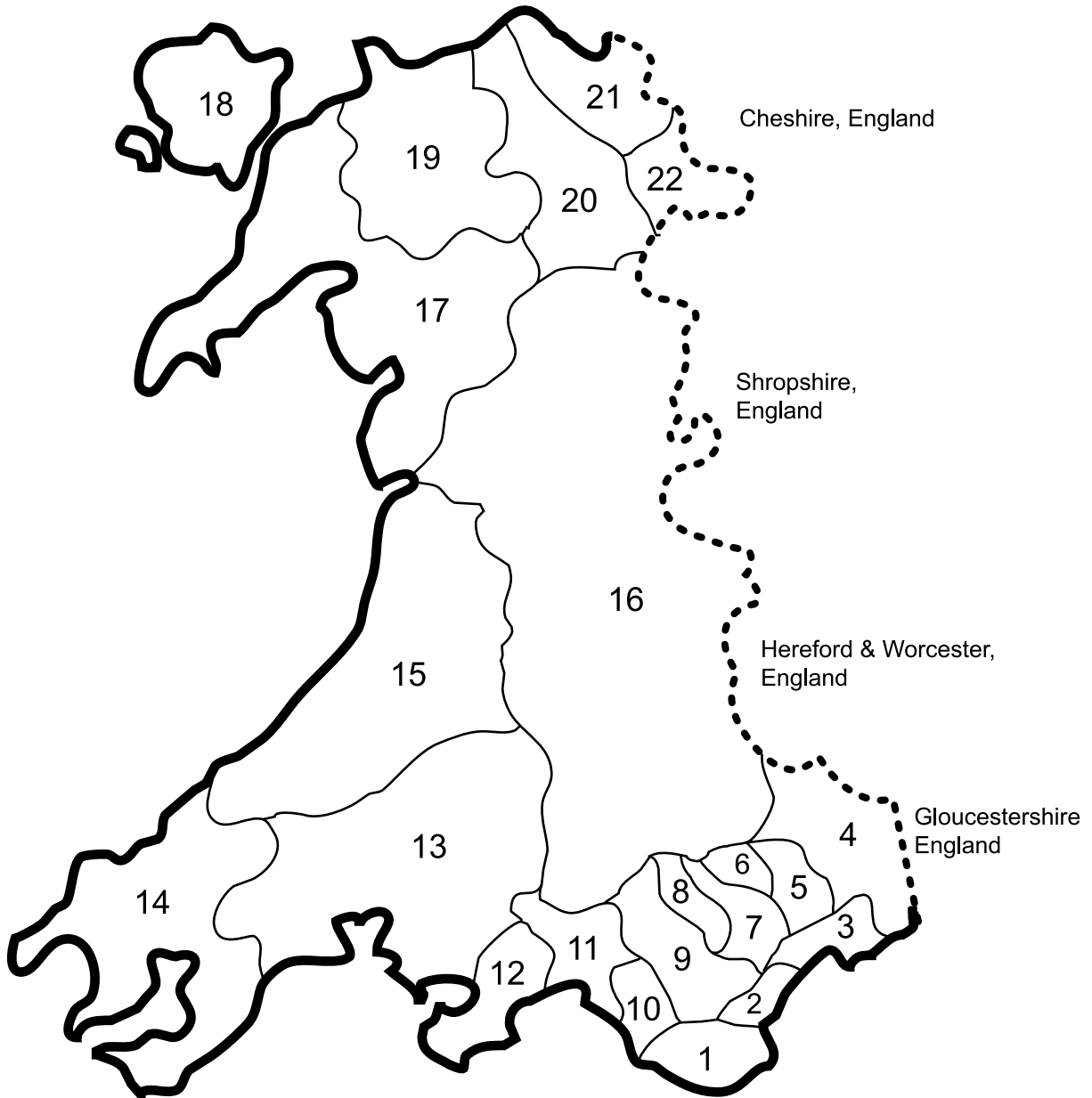
1974 - 1996 COUNTY STRUCTURE



WALES

POST - 1996 COUNTY STRUCTURE

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Vale of Glamorgan | 10. Bridgend | 19. Conwy |
| 2. Cardiff | 11. Neath & Port Talbot | 20. Denbighshire |
| 3. Newport | 12. Swansea | 21. Flintshire |
| 4. Monmouthshire | 13. Carmarthenshire | 22. Wrexham |
| 5. Torfaen | 14. Pembrokeshire | |
| 6. Blaenau Gwent | 15. Cardiganshire | |
| 7. Caerphilly | 16. Powys | |
| 8. Merthyr Tydfil | 17. Gwynedd | |
| 9. Rhondda Cynon Taff | 18. Anglesey | |



ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES

Archives collect and preserve original documents of organizations, such as churches or governments. Libraries generally collect published sources such as books, maps, and microfilm. This section describes the major repositories of genealogical and historical record sources for Wales.

All record repositories in Wales have heavy public use. You should contact the repository you plan to visit several weeks in advance to obtain a reader's ticket, to reserve a seat or a microfilm reader, and to find out hours, services, and fees.

Remember that the Family History Library may have copies of the records you need.

In Wales, there are several types of repositories containing information of genealogical value:

- National archives and libraries
- County record offices
- Public and academic libraries
- Family and local history society libraries
- Special archives

National Archives and Libraries

National Library of Wales. This library houses church, court, probate, census, tax, and land records; copies of newspapers and maps; and many private collections. You must have a reader's ticket to use the collection. However, the ticket may be obtained as you enter the library. You can write to this library at:

National Library of Wales
Department of Manuscripts and Records
Aberystwyth, Ceredigion SY23 3BU
Wales

A helpful guide to the National Library of Wales, Department of Manuscripts and Records is:

Guide to the Department of Manuscripts and Records: The National Library of Wales. Aberystwyth, Wales: National Library of Wales, 1996. (FHL book 942.9 A3g; computer number 0752109.)

The National Library of Wales has a Web site at:

www.llgc.org.uk

The National Archives: The National Archives collect records of the central government, such as parliamentary papers and law courts from 1086 to

the present. It is located in England but has many Welsh records. These records can provide you with much information but are best used after you have gathered information elsewhere. You must have a reader's ticket to use this collection, but you may apply for one when you arrive. You can contact this office at:

The National Archives
Ruskin Avenue, Kew
Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU
England

For a detailed list of the records housed in the The National Archives, see:

Kew Lists: Public Record Office. Norwich, England: Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1986–88. (FHL book 942 A3gp vol. 1; computer number 0541219; *The Current Guide* is on FHL fiche 6092282 pt.1, 42 fiche; 6092283 pt.2, 6 fiche 6092284 index, 10 fiche; computer number 0700225.)

For another helpful guide to The National Archives, see:

Bevan, Amanda, and Andrea Duncan. *Tracing Your Ancestors in The National Archives*. 4th ed. London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1990. (FHL book 942 A5p no. 19; computer number 0529932.)

The National Archives web address is:

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/default.htm

Information is also accessible through the GENUKI Web site at:

www.genuki.org.uk

Office for National Statistics. The Office for National Statistics (formerly known as the General Register Office) is responsible for government birth, marriage, and death certificates from 1 July 1837 to the present for all of Wales. Copies of the office's records are housed at the Family Records Centre in London. See the "Civil Registration" section of this outline for the address.

The Family Records Centre also has copies of census records from 1841 to 1891, nonconformist chapel records, probate records, Regimental Registers, and Chaplains' Returns.

The British Library. The British Library collects all materials published in England and Wales. It also has a manuscript department. You need a reader's ticket to use materials in this facility. Because the library's collection is so complex,

usually only experienced researchers use it. You can contact this library at:

- British Library at St. Pancras
96 Euston Road
London NW1 2DB
England

The British Library has a Web site at:

www.bl.uk


The Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts. This organization houses the Manorial Documents Register (see the “Court Records” section of this outline) and the National Register of Archives (NRA). The Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts has been working to inventory records that are in archives and private collections. The commission’s finding aid, the National Register of Archives (NRA), includes over 191,000 lists of manuscript collections and close to 5,000 finding aids and annual reports from various repositories. These lists are indexed. Searches can be made in these indexes via the Internet. The Family History Library has some of the published indexes. These indexes are divided into three sections by person, business, and organization. Look in the Author/Title Search of the Family History Library Catalog under “Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts.” Also check the Locality Search under:

GREAT BRITAIN - HISTORY - SOURCES
WALES - HISTORY - SOURCES - INDEXES

The NRA may be used to learn about estate records that are in private hands and at various record offices. Many of the records described by the commission have changed hands since being examined. For information about the current location of records surveyed by the commission see:

The Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts.
Guide To The Location Of Collections Described in the Reports and Calendars Series 1870–1980. London: Her Majesty’s Stationery Office, 1982. (FHL book 942 H25gs vol. 3; computer number 0204994.)

You can contact this commission at:

~~Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts~~
~~Quality House, Quality Court~~
~~Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1HP~~
~~England~~ 

The Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts has a Web site at:

www.hmc.gov.uk

There are links from the commission’s home page to both the Manorial Documents Register and the National Register of Archives.

County Record Offices

All Welsh counties have an archive that contains records about its particular area. Genealogical records in these offices include land records, church records, taxation records, probate records, miscellaneous indexes, and collections. Some county record offices have personal or place-name indexes to some of the records in their collection.

County record offices are open to the public. Some require a reader’s ticket. If you write for information, be as concise as possible. The offices are small and have limited staff, so you may have to wait a few weeks for a reply. If the staff does not have the time to search their records, ask for a list of record agents who can search the records for you.

Books listing addresses for the county records offices are:

Istance, Jean and E. E. Cann, comp. *Researching Family History in Wales.* Birmingham: The Federation of Family History Societies (Publications) Ltd., 1996. (FHL British 942.9 A3i; computer number 0798192.)

Mortimer, Ian, ed. *Record Repositories in Great Britain.* 10th ed. Kew, Surrey: PRO Publications, 1997. (FHL British 942 J54r 1997; computer number 0829616.)

Public and Academic Libraries

Public libraries collect many published sources such as local histories, city directories, maps, newspapers, family histories, and parish registers. Some also have manuscript collections. Academic libraries house family papers, estate records, and other historical and genealogical material. You can contact the following academic libraries at:

University College of North Wales Library
Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 2DG
Wales

University College of Swansea Library
Singleton Park
Swansea, West Glamorgan SA2 8PP
Wales

For addresses of public libraries and other university libraries, see the publication *British Archives* listed in “Special Archives” in this section.

Family and Local History Society Libraries

Family and local history societies collect and write histories of the people and places within their area of interest. Some of these societies have libraries.

Addresses of some sources are listed in the following books:

Henderson, S.P.A., and A.J.W. Henderson, ed. *Directory of British Associations & Associations in Ireland*. 13th ed. Beckenham, Kent: CBD Research Ltd., 1996. (FHL book 942 E4hd.)

Pinhorn, Malcolm. *Historical, Archaeological and Kindred Societies in the United Kingdom: A List*. Isle of Wight: Pinhorns, 1986. (FHL book 942 C4h 1986; computer number 0370075.) An update to this book was published in 1995.

Special Archives

City, occupational, and ecclesiastical archives also hold family history information. Holdings and services vary widely. Addresses for libraries and archives can be found in:

Foster, Janet, and Julia Sheppard. *British Archives: A Guide to Archive Resources in the United Kingdom*. 3rd ed. New York: Stockton Press, 1995. (FHL book 942 J54f 1995; computer number 0763911.)

Locating Web sites for Record Offices and Libraries

To locate a Web site for county record offices, public and academic libraries, family and local history society libraries, and special archives, go to the GENUKI Web site at:

www.genuki.org.uk/big/wal/index.html

From the above site:

Click [County of your choice].
Click **Archives and Libraries**.

Inventories, Registers, Catalogs, and Schedules

Most archives have publications that describe their collections and how to use them. If possible, study these guides before you visit or use the records so you can use your time more effectively. Many published inventories, guides, catalogs, and directories for archives and libraries are listed in the Family History Library Catalog under:

GREAT BRITAIN-ARCHIVES AND
LIBRARIES-INVENTORIES,
REGISTERS, CATALOGS-INDEXES
ENGLAND - ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES -
INVENTORIES, REGISTERS,
CATALOGS
WALES - ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES -
INVENTORIES, REGISTERS,
CATALOGS
WALES, [COUNTY] - ARCHIVES AND
LIBRARIES - INVENTORIES,
REGISTERS, CATALOGS
WALES, [COUNTY], [CITY] - ARCHIVES
AND LIBRARIES - INVENTORIES,
REGISTERS, CATALOGS

For a microfiche collection of calendars and finding aids for many British archives, libraries, and museums, see the *National Inventory of Documentary Sources in the United Kingdom and Ireland* (NIDS). It provides a detailed listing of the boxes, folders, or sometimes individual documents contained in various collections.

To use NIDS start with the name and subject index available on microfiche and compact disc (London: Chadwick-Healey, 1986-; FHL fiche 6341118; computer number 0603487; compact disc 1313 no. 10; computer number 0176976.) To find the Family History Library call numbers, look in the Author/Title Search of the microfiche version of the Family History Library Catalog for:

NATIONAL INVENTORY OF
DOCUMENTARY SOURCES IN THE
UNITED KINGDOM AND IRELAND

Currently, the only Welsh repositories included in NIDS are the National Library of Wales, the Anglesey Record Office, the Clwyd Record Office, the Dyfed Archives Service, and the Gwynedd County Record Office. Other Welsh record offices, as well as record offices in other parts of the British Isles, will be added in the future.

Many repositories outside Wales have land and property records relating to Welsh places. When searching indexes to the *National Inventory of Documentary Sources*, try a search for the county in Wales where your ancestor lived to see how many English record offices have records that may help you. If the indexes have no related entries then go to the individual repository schedules that have information about the general area where your ancestor lived.

For more information on archives and libraries look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

GREAT BRITAIN - ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES
ENGLAND - ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES
WALES - ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES
WALES, [COUNTY] - ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES
WALES, [COUNTY], [CITY] - ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES

Computer Networks and Bulletin Boards

Computers with modems can be useful tools for obtaining information from selected archives and libraries. In a way, computer networks themselves serve as a library. The Internet, certain computer bulletin boards, and commercial on-line services can help family history researchers:

- Locate other researchers.
- Post queries.
- Send and receive e-mail.
- Search large databases.
- Search computer libraries.
- Join in computer chat and lecture sessions.

You can find computerized research tips and information about ancestors from Wales in a variety of sources at local, state, national, and international levels. The list of sources is growing rapidly. Most of the information is available at no cost.

You can access the FamilySearch® Internet Genealogy Service at www.familysearch.org. This Web site, created by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, may help you with your family history by allowing you to:

- Search the Church's family history databases that are available on-line.
- Coordinate your research efforts with others.
- Preserve and share your genealogy.
- Search other Internet sites for information about your ancestors.

Addresses on the Internet change frequently. As of July 1999 the following site is an important gateway linking you to many network and bulletin board sites:

www.genuki.org.uk/

GENUKI is a cooperative effort made by many genealogical and historical societies to list databases, libraries, bulletin boards, and other

resources available on the Internet for parishes and counties.

The Family History Library and some Family History Centers have computers with FamilySearch. These computers may not have access to computer on-line services, networks, or bulletin boards. These services are available at many public libraries, college libraries, and private locations.

BIOGRAPHY

A biography is a brief history of a person's life. In a biography you may find the person's birth, marriage, or death information, the names of family members, or highlights of a person's life. Use the information carefully since there may be inaccuracies.

Thousands of biographies have been gathered and published in collections, sometimes called *biographical encyclopedias* or *dictionaries*. These collections usually include only biographies of prominent or well-known British subjects. Prominent residents of Wales may also be listed in English sources. Other works contain biographies of specific groups, such as painters, ministers, architects, and so forth. Important biographical sources include:

Dictionary of Welsh Biography Down to 1940.

London: The Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion, 1959. (FHL book 920.0429 C992c; fiche 6026369; computer number 0273117.)

Roberts, T. R. *Eminent Welshmen: A Short Biographical Dictionary of Welshmen*. 2 vols. Cardiff and Merthyr Tydfil: Educational Publishing Co., 1908. (FHL book 942.9 D34r; film 599808; computer number 0220998.)

Index to British and Irish Biographies. Manchester: Chadwyck-Healey, 1990. (FHL microfiche 6342001; computer number 0473339.) Indexes printed biographies published between 1840 and 1940. Biographies relating to the index are also in the library collection, found in the Author/Title Search of the microfiche version of the Family History Library Catalog under *British and Irish Biographies*.

Glasgow University, Humanities Reference Systems Unit, ed. *British Biographical Index*. London: K. G. Saur, 1990. (FHL book 942 D32bb; computer number 0526508.) This is a surname index to the more than 1200 microfiche which comprise the *British Biographical Archive*. The *British Biographical Archive* indexes 324 biographical works published between 1601 and 1929. Biographies referenced in this index may also be in the Family History Library's collection. The *British Biographical Archive* can be found in the Author/Title Search of the microfiche version of

the Family History Library Catalog under *British Biographical Archive*.

Other sources are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

GREAT BRITAIN - BIOGRAPHY
WALES - BIOGRAPHY
WALES, [COUNTY] - BIOGRAPHY

CEMETERIES

Cemetery records (known as monumental or memorial inscriptions), sometimes provide birth, marriage, death, and occupational information. They sometimes give clues to military service, residence, and cause of death.

To find cemetery records, you need to know where an individual was buried. The person may have been buried in a church, city, or public cemetery—usually near the place where he or she lived or died. You can find clues to burial places in church records, death certificates, or family histories.

Before the Burial Acts of 1852 and 1853, most people were buried in church cemeteries. If the person was buried in a church cemetery, you may need to use church burial records. See the “Church Records” section of this outline for more information on burials.

Welsh family history societies are transcribing the cemetery inscriptions from their local areas. Some societies have also compiled the indexes from several cemeteries. Write to the society in your area of interest to learn more about their work. See the “Societies” section of this outline more information on family history societies.

It is also possible to gain access to cemetery inscriptions through the Internet. There are lists of people on the Internet who volunteer to search various types of records for certain areas free of charge. You can locate these lists through the GENUKI Web site at:

www.genuki.org.uk/big/wal/#Counties

From the above site:

Click **[County of your choice]**.
Click **Genealogy**.
Click **Look-up Exchange**.

The Family History Library has copies of many transcriptions of cemetery inscriptions, including many from Glamorgan, Gwynedd, Dyfed, Clwyd, and Gwent. Look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

WALES - CEMETERIES

WALES, [COUNTY] - CEMETERIES
WALES, [COUNTY], [PARISH] -
CEMETERIES

The following inventory will identify cemetery records which may not be found in the Family History Library Catalog:

Smith, Frank. *Smith's Inventory of Genealogical Sources: Wales*. 14 vols. Salt Lake City: Family History Library, 1994. (FHL book 942.9 D23s; fiche 6110529; computer number 0755490). This is a subject and surname index to items within selected periodicals, books, and films.

CENSUS

A census is a count and description of a population. A census may list only selected persons (such as males between the ages of 16 and 45) or the whole population. The percentage of people listed varies with the purpose of the census and how carefully people were enumerated. Different civil and ecclesiastical authorities have taken censuses for their own purposes, which include:

- Population studies
- Military readiness (militia lists and so on)
- Taxes for relief of the poor (called “poor rates”)
- Recording eligible voters (poll books)

For information on many of these censuses, see the “Military Records,” “Church Records,” and “Taxation” sections of this outline. Poll books are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

WALES, [COUNTY] - VOTING REGISTERS

National Census

The national census records are especially valuable because they list nearly the entire population and are readily available at many repositories, including the Family History Library.

Using the national census is essential for Welsh genealogical research, especially in the industrial districts of South Wales, where most people were originally from a rural area. From 1851 onwards, census records give the parish of birth for each individual in a household.

The British government has taken censuses every ten years since 1801, except for 1941. The first census to list every person by name was taken in 1841. Earlier censuses contain only statistical information, but some parishes did compile lists of names while

gathering information for the census, a few of which survive. See the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

WALES, [COUNTY], [PARISH] - CENSUS

A list of existing pre-1841 census records and other census records is found in both of the following books:

Chapman, Colin R. *Pre-1841 Censuses & Population Listings in the British Isles*. 4th ed. Dursley, England: Lochin Publishing, 1994. (FHL 942 X27cc 1994; computer number 0740281.)

Gibson, Jeremy, and Mervyn Medlycott. *Local Census Listings 1522–1930: Holdings in the British Isles*. Birmingham, England: Federation of Family History Societies (Publications) Ltd., 1992. (FHL 942 X23gj; computer number 0664609.)

Census records less than 100 years old are confidential and cannot be searched by individuals. However, the 1901 census can be searched for you. To obtain an application and information about the cost for this search, write to:

Office for National Statistics
Census Legislation, Room 4303
Segensworth Road, Titchfield
Fareham
Hampshire PO15 5RR
England

The search will be done only if you provide the name and address (at the time the census was taken) of the individual you are seeking. You must also get written consent of the person on the record or of a direct descendant. The individual's age and birthplace will be the only information provided.

Understanding the Census

The 1841 census was taken on 7 June. Most of the later censuses were taken between 31 March and 8 April, every 10 years. Instructions were to list only those persons who spent the night in each household when the census was taken. Those traveling, staying at boarding schools, or working away from home are listed where they spent the night. For example, night watchmen are often listed at their employer's business address rather than with their families.

You will find the following information in the censuses:

- **1841.** This census lists each member of every household with their name, sex, address, occupation, and whether or not they were born in the county or out of the country. The census

takers usually rounded the ages of those over 15 down to a multiple of 5 years. For example, a 59-year-old would be listed as 55.

- **1851 and later.** These censuses list the names, ages, occupations, relationships to the head of the household, and parish and county of birth (except foreign births, which may give country only) of each member of the household.

The census office organized the census by civil registration districts, which were subdivided into enumeration districts. The only exception is the 1841, census which was arranged by hundreds (hundreds are administrative subdivisions of land). On the census films, each enumeration district includes a title page with the district number and a description of the area covered by the district.

Important: A few Welsh census records are lost, including the 1841 census of upper Merthyr Tydfil, the parish of Wrexham, and Ruabon and some of the 1861 census. The Clwyd Record Office, however, has a contemporary copy of the Wrexham return. Sometimes, a lost census return is found. Announcements about records that are found are usually given by a family history society journal for the area that is involved. See the "Periodicals" section of this outline for information on locating a family history society journal. It is sometimes possible to locate another record that can substitute for a census. For example, part of the missing census for Merthyr Tydfil can be supplemented with the following record:

Glamorgan Family History Society. *Register of cottage leases, Dowlais Iron Company, 1818–1877*. [Glamorgan, Wales]: Glamorgan Family History Society, [1996?]. (FHL book 942.97/D2 R2g; computer number 0811650.)

Searching Census Records

When searching census records, remember that:

- Ages may be incorrect.
- Given names may not be the same as the name recorded in church or vital records.
- Information may be incorrect.
- Names may be spelled as they sound.
- Place-names may be misspelled.
- If the family is not at the expected address, search the surrounding area.
- When you find your family in one census, search the earlier or later census records to find additional family members.

- Individuals missing from a family may be listed elsewhere in the census.
- Parts of the 1841 and 1861 censuses are faint and sometimes unreadable.
- Surname indexes are available for select places for some census years. See the section on “Census Indexes” below.
- In big cities, an address will help you find your ancestor in a census, especially where street indexes exist for the city.

The following sources may help you find an address:

- Old letters
- City, occupational, postal, or commercial directories
- Civil registration certificates of births, marriages, and deaths
- Church records of christenings, burials, and marriages
- Probate records
- Newspaper notices
- Court records
- Tax records
- Rate books
- Voting registers or poll books.

Locating Census Records

Pre-1900 original census records are at the Public Record Office (see the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline for an address). The National Library of Wales, most county record offices, the Family History Library and the Family Records Centre (see the “Civil Registration” section of this outline for the address) have microfilm copies of the census records.

Census Records at the Family History Library

The Family History Library has microfilm copies of all of the government censuses from 1841–1891. The following work, commonly known as the *Census Register*, gives film numbers for each census year and is arranged by parish, town, village, or city:

Index of Place Names Showing the Library Microfilm Numbers for the 1841–1891 Census Records of England, Wales, Channel Islands and Isle of Man. Salt Lake City, Utah: Family History Library, 1992. (FHL book 942 X2pi; microfiche 6024509; computer number 0685602.)

The microfilm and microfiche numbers may also be found in the Family History Library Catalog in the Locality Search under:

WALES, [COUNTY], [PARISH] - CENSUS

Population tables (see the “Civil Registration” section of this outline) and other aids may help you pinpoint a location on the microfilm or solve unusual difficulties you may have in finding a locality on the census.

Census Indexes

Census indexes can reduce the time it takes to search a census. Some surname or street indexes exist for some areas.

Surname Indexes. Before you search the actual census, look for a surname index. There are many surname indexes for Welsh censuses. Most of these indexes have been produced by family history societies in Wales, and many are available at the Family History Library. The indexes vary in format and information. Some list surnames only, while others give complete transcriptions.

Before you use an index, make sure it covers the area you need. An index may cover part of a parish, a whole parish, a town, a subdistrict, or a district.

Surname indexes produced in Wales give the Public Record Office reference, which usually includes a piece or bundle number. To convert the bundle number in the surname index to a Family History Library call number, use:

1841	FHL book 942 X22p 1841; film 599273 (computer number 0002520)
1851	FHL book 942 X23c (computer number 0520104)
1861	FHL book 942 X2pib (computer number 0445465)
1871	FHL book 942 X23cp (computer number 0786738)
1881 . . .	FHL book 942 X22g; microfiche 6035786 (computer number 0380288)
1891	FHL book 942 X22i 1891 (computer number 0633294)

The Family History Library Catalog lists surname indexes under:

WALES, [COUNTY] - CENSUS - [YEAR] - INDEXES
WALES, [COUNTY], [DISTRICT] - CENSUS - [YEAR] - INDEXES
WALES, [COUNTY], [PARISH or TOWN] - CENSUS - [YEAR] - INDEXES

You can also check the *Census Surname Index Register* (uncataloged typescript) at the Family History Library. This register is not available at Family History Centers.

To find surname indexes which may not be available at the Family History Library, look in:

Gibson, Jeremy, and Elizabeth Hampson, eds. *Marriage, Census and Other Indexes for Family Historians*. 6th ed. Birmingham: Federation of Family History Societies (Publications) Ltd., 1996. (FHL book 942 D22m 1996; computer number 0775294.) This is an inventory of the indexes that are available for marriage, census and other helpful genealogical records. It is arranged by country and then by county.

1881 Census. There is a complete transcription and index on microfiche for the 1881 census returns of England, Wales, Scotland, Isle of Man, Channel Islands, and the Royal Navy. The index is also available on compact disc, with a partial transcription.

The index and transcription were produced through a joint effort of the Federation of Family History Societies and the Genealogical Society of Utah.

The compact disc version, *1881 British Census and National Index* (50169), is available for purchase. It can be searched either nationwide or by region. The regions include the following counties:

- East Anglia-Bedford, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Lincoln, Norfolk, Northampton, Rutland, Suffolk
- Greater London-London, Middlesex, Berkshire, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Oxford, Surrey, Buckingham, Essex, Hertford, Sussex, Kent
- Midlands-Cheshire, Hereford, Shropshire, Stafford, Worcester, Derby, Leicester, Nottingham, Warwick
- North Central-Lancashire, York
- Northern Borders and Miscellany-Channel Islands, Cumberland, Durham, Isle of Man, Northumberland, Royal Navy, Westmorland, Miscellaneous

- Southwestern-Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Gloucester, Somerset, Wiltshire

- Scotland
- Wales and Monmouth

The microfiche version is available for use at the Family History Library, Family History Centers, and other record repositories (see the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline). The microfiche can be searched either nationwide or by county.

Within the nationwide index are two indexes:

- Surname Index (alphabetical by surname, then given name)
- Birthplace Index (alphabetical by birthplace, then surname)

Within each of the county indexes are seven sections:

- Surname Index (alphabetical by surname, then given name)
- Birthplace Index (alphabetical by surname, then birthplace)
- Census Place Index (alphabetical by surname, then census place)
- Census Record-as-Enumerated
- Miscellaneous Notes (alphabetical by surname, then given name)
- List of Vessels/Ships (alphabetical by ship’s name)
- List of Institutions (alphabetical by institution’s name)

See *1881 British Census Indexes* (34933) and *Using the 1881 British Census Indexes* (34700) for additional information.

To locate the microfiche numbers for the 1881 census indexes, look in the Family History Library Catalog under:

[COUNTRY] - CENSUS - 1881 - INDEXES
[COUNTRY], [COUNTY] - CENSUS - 1881 - INDEXES

Street Indexes. If you know the address at which an ancestor may have lived, a street index can help you quickly find your ancestor in the census. Street indexes are available for major cities in Wales.

You can also determine if a street index is available at the Family History Library by looking in:

Register of Towns Indexed by Streets, Salt Lake City, Utah: Family History Library, 1998. (FHL book 942 X22r 1999; microfiche 6026692; computer number 0832008.)

If the above register does not list the town or district you need for a particular year, look for a street index in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

WALES - CENSUS - [YEAR] - INDEXES
WALES, [COUNTY] - CENSUS - [YEAR] - INDEXES
WALES, [COUNTY], [CITY, PARISH OR DISTRICT] - CENSUS - [YEAR] - INDEXES

CHURCH DIRECTORIES

Church directories list church ministers, dioceses, and parishes. An annual directory that lists all of the ministers of the Church in Wales is:

Crockford's Clerical Directory, 95th ed. London: Church House Publishing, 1998–99. (FHL book 942 E4c 1998–99; computer number 0009995.) *Crockford's* has been produced annually since 1858. The library has many editions on microfilm, microfiche, or in book form.

Similar directories for other denominations are also available. They are often organized by the jurisdictional areas of the denominations. These directories may help you identify neighboring congregations of the same faith.

To find church directories in the Family History Library Catalog, look under:

WALES - CHURCH DIRECTORIES
WALES, [COUNTY] - CHURCH DIRECTORIES

CHURCH HISTORY

Effective research in church records requires some understanding of your ancestor's religion and the events that led to the creation of church records.

In 1531 King Henry VIII declared himself to be supreme head of the Church of England, which became the state religion. Individual church units, called parishes, controlled poor relief, military conscription, and some law enforcement and taxation.

The Church in Wales (Church of England) is also known as the Established, Anglican, or Episcopal Church.

In 1922 an Act of Parliament disestablished the Church of England in Wales. The Church in Wales became independent from the Church of England.

The following major events affected Welsh church and chapel history and records:

- 1531 Henry VIII recognized as head of the newly created Church of England. All ties with the Pope and the church in Rome severed.
- 1538 Thomas Cromwell ordered all parish ministers to record christenings, marriages, and burials.
- 1563 The Test Act excluded Roman Catholics from governmental offices and fined them for not attending Church of England services.
- 1588 Bishop William Morgan translated the Bible into Welsh.
- 1598 Parishes began sending annual copies of parish registers to the bishop of the diocese. These are called bishop's transcripts.
- 1598 Parish registers were required to be kept on parchment and previous registers copied onto parchment.
- 1606 A law forced Roman Catholics to be baptized and married by Church of England clergy and to be buried in the churchyard. Many complied in regard to burials, but they continued to baptize and marry in secret.
- 1639 The first nonconforming church in Wales was the Independent congregation in Llanfaches, Monmouthshire.
- 1642–60 Civil war caused political and religious upheaval. Parish registers were poorly kept or destroyed.
- 1645 Some Independent congregation members at Llanfaches left and formed the first Baptist church in Wales at Llantrisant and Llangwm, Monmouthshire.
- 1662–88 This was a period of intense persecution for nonconformists. Many were jailed or lost their property, especially members of the Society of Friends (Quakers). From the 1680s, many Welshmen emigrated to Pennsylvania. The Acts of Toleration were passed in 1688, allowing nonconformist sects to worship freely.

- 1695– A tax was assessed on parish register entries. To avoid the tax, some people did not register events.
- 1706
- 1733 English replaced Latin in many registers. The exact date English was adopted by each parish varies considerably.
- 1737 Howell Harris and Daniel Rowlands introduced Calvinistic Methodism in Wales. In 1811 the Calvinistic Methodists separated from the Church of England and became a separate sect.
- 1752 The first day of the year changed from 25 March 25 (Lady's Day) to 1 January.
- 1754 Lord Hardwicke's Act required a separate register for marriages and outlawed marriages outside of the Church of England. Common law and nonconformist (except for Quaker and Jewish) marriages were outlawed.
- 1812 The George Rose Act required Church of England christening, marriage, and burial records to be kept in separate registers, starting 1 January 1813. Printed forms were used.
- 1837 Civil registration of births, marriages, and deaths began. Events were still recorded in church records. Bishop's transcripts became less common, and they completely ceased by 1900.
- 1840 The first missionaries of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints began preaching in Wales at Overton, Flintshire.
- 1851 A religious census was taken which indicated that 75 per cent of the people were nonconformists.
- 1910 The government commissioned a study which determined that more than 25 percent of the people present at religious services regularly attended the Church of Wales.
- 1922 The Church of Wales became independent from the Church of England by an act of Parliament.

Parish Histories

Histories written about individual parishes can provide information on the church and possibly your ancestor. The Family History Library has a good collection of histories about various religious groups. Look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

WALES - CHURCH HISTORY

WALES, [COUNTY] - CHURCH HISTORY
 WALES, [COUNTY], [PARISH] - CHURCH HISTORY
 WALES - HISTORY
 WALES, [COUNTY] - HISTORY

CHURCH RECORDS

Church records are an excellent source for accurate information on names, dates, and places of birth, marriage, and burial. Most people who lived in Wales before the mid-nineteenth century are in a church record. Since civil authorities did not begin registering vital records until July 1837, church records are the best source of family information before this date.

Some church records were destroyed by fire, lost, stolen, defaced, or damaged by dampness or aging. To protect their records, most parishes have deposited their early registers in county record offices.

The Church in Wales (Church of England) Records

The parish is the most basic unit of church administration, although the parish was often divided into townships or tithings. Large parishes had small chapels of ease, or chapelries, for those who lived too far away to attend the parish church. Gazetteers can help you locate parishes and townships. See the "Gazetteers" section of this outline for more information.

Maps that show parish boundaries can help you determine which parish records to search and identify neighboring parishes. Remember that some parish boundaries have been altered. See the "Maps" section of this outline for more information.

A group of parishes form a diocese, which is headed by a bishop. Some dioceses have one or more archdeaconries (administered by an archdeacon), which may be divided into rural deaneries (headed by a rural dean). Each deanery consists of several parishes.

The amount of information in registers varies from parish to parish. Later records generally give more complete information than earlier ones. Some early parish registers are in Latin. A few very early registers are in Welsh or have occasional entries in Welsh. Local dialects may have affected the spelling of names or places.

In the 1930s, the National Library of Wales sent a questionnaire to all parishes in Wales, asking for details of surviving records, including churchwarden's accounts and vestry minutes. The results were published in:

Parish Registers And Civil Records Of The Parishes Of The Welsh Diocese Included In The Returns Relating To Ecclesiastical Records In The Parishes Of The Diocese Of: Swansea and Brecon; St. David's; St. Asaph; Bangor; Llandaff; Monmouth.

The Family History Library has copies of this information on the following films. All films have the same FHL computer number 0409668.

- Swansea and Brecon FHL film 104175
- St. David's FHL film 104176
- St. Asaph FHL film 104177
- Bangor FHL film 104177
- Llandaff FHL film 104178
- Monmouth FHL film 104178

This information is organized by diocese and then alphabetically by parish. To find the name of the diocese for a specific parish, consult one of the gazetteers listed in the "Gazetteers" section of this outline or the *The Phillimore Atlas and Index of Parish Registers* in the "Maps" section of this outline.

Christenings (Baptisms)

Children were usually christened (baptized) within a few weeks of birth. Christening records give at least the infant's name and the christening (baptismal) date. You may also find the father's name and occupation, the mother's first name, the child's birth date and legitimacy, and the family's place of residence or street address. Sometimes a later entry will record the child's acceptance into the congregation.

Marriages

Couples usually married in the bride's parish. Typically, the Welsh married in their mid-20s.

Early parish registers often record only the marriage date and the names of the bride and groom. The records may also include the marital status and parish of residence of both parties, groom's occupation, name of the bride's or groom's father, minister's name, and signatures of the witnesses.

There were two ways to meet the requirements to marry:

By Banns. You may find records that show a couple's "intent to marry," called banns, in addition to the records of the actual marriage. Unless they obtained a license, couples were required to have the

minister announce their intent to marry or post notice on the church door for three consecutive Sundays. This gave others the opportunity to object to the marriage. Beginning in 1754, officials recorded banns in separate registers. Banns registers are almost identical to marriage registers, except for the witnesses and marriage date.

The banns should have been recorded in both the bride's and the groom's parishes. The marriage is recorded only in the parish where it took place. Sometimes, the couple registered their intent to marry but never married. The Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog lists banns or marriage registers under:

WALES, [COUNTY], [PARISH] - CHURCH RECORDS

By License. A couple applied to the proper church authority, usually the bishop, for a license when:

- Circumstances made it desirable to marry without waiting the three weeks required for the proclamation of banns.
- The bride and groom lived in different dioceses.
- A couple preferred not to subject themselves to publication of banns (common among upper classes and nonconformists).

The licensing process created three types of documents, which may provide additional information to that found in the marriage record.

- A marriage bond is a written guarantee made by the groom and another person swearing to the legality of the planned marriage.
- A marriage allegation is the statement filed by the couple in support of their license application, recording the couple's names, ages, and parish of residence. The allegation sometimes states where the marriage should take place or gives a parent's name or signature.
- A marriage license is the actual document given to the couple to present to the minister. This document seldom survives but is sometimes found in family papers.

Marriage licenses could be granted by the Archbishop of Canterbury, bishops, archdeacons, or their surrogates within their respective jurisdictions. If a couple married by license but the bond or allegation can not be found in the records for that diocese, check the records of the Vicar General and the Faculty Office which had a higher level of jurisdiction.

The National Library of Wales has original marriage bonds and allegations for marriages in Wales and a surname index to them for the years 1616 through 1837.

The Marriage Bond Index covers about 90,000 marriages by license in Wales. Write to the National Library to have the index searched. When writing, send as much information as possible, such as the names of the couple, their home parishes, the date of marriage, and the name of the church where they married.

The Family History Library has microfilm copies of the bonds and allegations listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

WALES - CHURCH RECORDS
WALES, [COUNTY] - CHURCH RECORDS

You can also find the film numbers in:

Marriage Bonds and Allegations, Register of Contents. Typescript; Salt Lake City, Utah: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1968. (FHL book 942.9 V25ab; film 599275 item 6; computer number 0168920.)

Burials

Pre-1813 burial records give the deceased's name and burial date and sometimes the age, place of residence, cause of death, or occupation. The husband's or father's name is sometimes given. Post-1813 records have the name, age, residence, burial date, and minister's signature.

Burial registers may mention infant children who were not christened, including stillbirths. Christening records never record stillbirths.

A married woman in Wales whose husband had died might have reverted to her maiden name and eventually be buried under that name.

Copies of Parish Registers

Copies of parish registers may be available in manuscript or published form. These copies include transcripts and abstracts, some of which may have errors or omissions. Compare the transcript to the original parish register, if available.

Individuals and societies collect and compile copies of parish registers. Both the Society of Genealogists in London and the Family History Library in Salt Lake City have major collections of such records.

Bishop's Transcripts. Each year, beginning in 1598, a copy of the parish register was made and sent to the bishop of the diocese. These copies are called bishop's transcripts. Bishop's transcripts were meant

to be exact, but entries were sometimes abbreviated and may contain additional or variant information from that found in the parish registers. If the original register has been lost, the transcript may be invaluable as the only source of information. In Wales these transcripts survive from about 1662. Most begin in the eighteenth century and have many years missing. Search both bishop's transcripts and parish registers, when available, because of the differences that may exist between them.

Parish Chest Records

Church records were kept in a chest (or strongbox), known as the parish chest. Records kept by the parish other than the parish registers were called parish chest records. Some of these records exist from the sixteenth century, but many do not begin until the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century.

Many parish chest records are available at county record offices. These records include:

Vestry Minutes. A vestry is a parish's presiding council. Minutes of vestry meetings often mention individuals, appointments of parish officers, and other affairs, such as agreements for the care of illegitimate children and lists of apprentices, parish newcomers, officials, and men eligible to serve as parish officers.

Poor and Other Rates. Parishes recorded payments made to the poor and rates, or taxes, assessed to meet welfare needs. Parishes charged rates for such costs as night watch, lighting, highway, pest control, constable expenses, sewer, and victim's or soldier's relief. They kept records of assessment, receipt, and disbursement. Such records are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

WALES, [COUNTY], [PARISH] - CHURCH RECORDS
WALES, [COUNTY], [PARISH] - POORHOUSES, POOR LAW
WALES, [COUNTY], [PARISH] - TAXATION

Bastardy Bonds. When an unmarried woman was expecting a child, parish officials pressured her to reveal the father's name, so the father, not the parish, had financial responsibility for the child. A bond of indemnification, also known as a bastardy bond, guaranteed that the father was responsible for the child. Bastardy bonds or records of the mother's examination before the parish authorities may exist in the parish chest records or among quarter session records (see the "Court Records" section of this outline). Churchwardens (church officials) sometimes bypassed the bond with a gentlemen's agreement, records of which are among churchwardens' accounts or vestry minutes.

Churchwardens Accounts. Churchwardens, generally appointed at the Easter vestry meetings, were responsible to the bishop or the magistrate to present any wrongdoings at quarter sessions, including failure to provide for the poor, failure to attend church, drunkenness, or other undesirable behavior. They were to report misbehavior of the vicar or other vestry members as well. Churchwarden's records often list men qualified to serve as churchwardens.

Settlement and Removal Records. Before 1834 every individual had a place of legal settlement or residence. The parish of settlement was responsible for the welfare of family members, including elderly family members. A removal order was a document that directed a constable to transport the family back to their parish of settlement. Some settlement and removal records can be found among the quarter session records (see the "Court Records" section of this outline for more information.)

Apprenticeship Records. A child's father often arranged his apprenticeship, but sometimes the parish arranged a child's apprenticeship since it was cheaper for the parish to pay for an apprenticeship than to support a poor child. Apprenticeship records often list the apprentice's father, his master, the length of apprenticeship, and the occupation. The child's name may also be in vestry minutes where the vestry decided to put the child out as an apprentice. You may also find apprenticeship information in other sources; see the "Occupations" section of this outline.

Parish chest materials at the Family History Library are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

WALES, [COUNTY], [PARISH] - CHURCH RECORDS

For further information on parish chest material, see:

McLaughlin, Eve. *Annals of the Poor*. 3rd ed. Solihull, England: Federation of Family History Societies (Publications) Ltd., 1986. (FHL Book 942 H6mev; computer number 0429077.)

Tate, W. E. *The Parish Chest*. 3rd ed. Chichester, Sussex: Phillimore, 1969. (FHL book 942 K2t; computer number 0168578.)

Nonconformist Church Records

An act passed in 1662 required everyone to conform to the Church of England. Those who did not were called nonconformists. Quakers, Baptists, and Independents (Presbyterians) were the first Welsh nonconformist groups.

When persecution eased at the beginning of the eighteenth century, nonconformity increased

steadily. By 1851, about 75 percent of the Welsh population belonged to a nonconformist sect.

Nonconformist registers vary greatly. Sometimes they contain more information than Anglican parish registers, often including the person's birth date, baptism date, father's name and residence, and mother's name (including maiden name). A few give the birthplace of the father and mother.

Some nonconformist records contain less information than parish registers. For example, they seldom contain marriage records. Between 1754 and 1837, nonconformists could not legally marry outside the Church of England, except for Quakers and Jews. The registers contain some burial entries, though nonconformists were often buried in the Anglican churchyard when their chapel did not have a burial ground.

Some nonconformist groups never kept registers, and all evidence of their baptisms, marriages, and burials may be lost. Other nonconformist records include membership lists, minute books, pew rent books, membership transfer lists, Sunday School records, monumental (tombstone) inscriptions, and chapel histories. You may be able to use these records to fill the void caused by missing registers.

In 1836, all nonconformist groups were asked to turn in their registers to the Registrar General. Not all complied, but the records of those that did are now at the Public Record Office. Some groups quit keeping registers when civil registration began. The Family History Library has copies of those that were deposited. To find film numbers, look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

WALES, [COUNTY], [PARISH] - CHURCH RECORDS

You can also find film numbers in:

General Register Office List of Non-Parochial Registers Main Series (FHL book 942 B4pro vol. 42; **film number 924800**; computer number 0193058). Many names in these records are in the International Genealogical Index.

Most Welsh nonconformist sects have historical societies and publish regular journals that can be extremely useful. Those in the Family History Library collection are found in the Locality Search under:

WALES - CHURCH HISTORY
WALES, [COUNTY], [PARISH] - CHURCH HISTORY

From early times, denominational magazines were published. These contain invaluable references to members, including often lengthy notices of

baptisms, marriages, and obituaries. See the "Periodicals" section of this outline for more information on how to locate journals in the Family History Library Catalog.

Baptists, Independents (Congregationalists), Presbyterians

Many nonconformist religions evolved from sixteenth-century Puritanism. The Independent Church is also known as the Congregational Church. The records of these religions are similar to those of the Church of England. Baptists did not christen children; they baptized people who had reached a mature decision to be members. The person could have been as young as 14. The records may only contain the members' names and baptism dates. They do not usually give the parents' names. Some congregations kept a register of the births of members' children, but this was rare.

For information and history about Baptists, contact:

Baptist Historical Society
15 Fenshurst Gardens
Long Ashton, Bristol BS18 9AU
England

For a history of the Welsh Baptists, see:

Jones, David. *Hanes Bedyddwyr yn Neheubarth Cymru* (A History of the Baptists in South Wales). Caerfyrddin, Wales: Argraffwyd, 1839. (FHL film 994005; computer number 0182264.)

Breed, Geoffrey R. *My Ancestors Were Baptists: How Can I Find Out More About Them?* London: Society of Genealogists, 1988. (FHL book 942 K23bg 1988; computer number 0570007.)

The Independents baptized infants. The registers contain information similar to that recorded in Church of England christening registers. The Welsh Independents [*Annibynwyr Cymraeg*] are a very strong nonconformist sect. Their history is in:

Rees, Thomas, and John Thomas. *Hanes Eglwysi Annibynol Cymru* (History of the Independent Churches in Wales). 5 vols. Vols. 1–4 published by Liverpool, England: Argraffwyd yn Swyddfa y "Tyst Cymreig," 1871–75. Vol. 5 published by Dolgellau, Wales: Argraffwyd a Chyhoeddwyd gan William Hughes, 1891. (For vols. 1, 2, 5, see FHL film 994019 items 1–3; for vols. 3–4, see FHL film 1559405 items 3–4; computer number 0182127.)

Clifford, D. J. H. *My Ancestors Were Congregationalists in England & Wales: With a List of Registers*. London: Society of Genealogists, 1992. (FHL book 942 K23cd; computer number 0675609.)

The Family History Library filmed pre-1837 Presbyterian records from the Presbyterian Historical Society. The Presbyterian and Congregational churches are now combined. For information and history about either denomination, contact:

United Reformed Church History Society
86 Tavistock Place
London WC1H 9RT
England

For information on Presbyterians, see:

Ruston, Alan R. *My Ancestors Were English Presbyterians/Unitarians: How Can I Find Out More About Them?* London: Society of Genealogists, 1993. (FHL book 942 K23ra; computer number 0723606.)

Dr. Williams' Library. Many congregations did not keep consistent records. In January 1743 officials formed a central birth registry for Independents, Baptists, and Presbyterians called *Dr. Williams' Library*.

This registry contains about 50,000 birth records for England and Wales. Information recorded includes the child's name, parents' names, birth date, address, names of witnesses, registration information, and sometimes grandparents' names.

The original records are housed at the Public Record Office. Copies of these records with indexes (to 1837) are in the Family History Library on film. To find the film numbers, look in the Author/Title Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

DR. WILLIAMS' LIBRARY (LONDON)

Welsh Wesleyan Methodists

There are several groups of Methodists in England: Wesleyan, Primitive, New Connexion, and so on. The Wesleyan group is the largest. Some groups recorded their baptisms and burials in the Church of England until the nineteenth century.

The first Welsh Wesleyan Methodist chapel was founded in 1800. This sect grew rapidly in North Wales but was not strong in South Wales. The National Library of Wales houses many of this denomination's records. Copies of many are on film at the Family History Library.

A comprehensive history of the Welsh Wesleyan Sect is:

Jones, Hugh. *Hanes Wesleyaeth Gymreig* (History of Welsh Wesleyans). 4 vols. Bangor, Wales: Llyfrfa Wesleyaidd, 1911–1913. (FHL film 994020; computer number 0182256 and 0182452.)

For historical material, contact:

The Methodist Archives and Research Centre
John Rylands University Library
Deansgate, Manchester M3 3EH
England

To find the location of birth and burial records, contact:

Wesley Historical Society
34 Spiceland Road
Northfield, Birmingham B31 1NJ
England

A useful guide for tracing Methodist ancestors is:

Leary, William. *My Ancestors Were Methodists: How Can I Find Out More About Them?* 2nd ed. London: Society of Genealogists, 1990. (FHL book 942 D271 1990; computer number 0648623.)

The Wesleyan Methodist Metropolitan Registry recorded over 10,000 Wesleyan Methodist births and baptisms that occurred between 1773 and 1838 throughout England, Wales, and elsewhere. The records and an index are on microfilm at the Family History Library and in the Public Record Office (see the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline for the address). To find the records in the Family History Library, look in the Author/Title Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

Wesleyan Methodist Metropolitan Registry at Paternoster Row Register of Births and Baptisms, 1818–1841.

Calvinistic Methodists

The Calvinistic Methodists began in the late 1730s. Their leaders advocated reforming the Church of England but not separating from it. Societies were formed, and weekday meetings were held for preaching and singing. On Sunday, members attended their local parish church for communion. This changed in 1811 when the Calvinistic Methodists began ordaining their own ministers and keeping their own records. Today, this sect is known as the Presbyterian Church of Wales. The National Library of Wales is the official repository for this sect’s records, however; many pre-1837 registers were turned into the Registrar General in 1837.

Society of Friends (Quakers)

Also known as Quakers, the Society of Friends did not have appointed clergy to perform baptisms. The Society recorded births instead. Burial registers usually include the date of death. Quakers also recorded marriages to ensure their validity.

The organization of Quaker religious groups follows:

- The preparative meeting, made up of the local church group, is about the size of a parish.
- The monthly meeting, made up of several preparative (local) groups, is the primary meeting for church affairs, including recording births, marriages, and deaths.
- The quarterly meeting, made up of two to seven monthly meetings, is similar to a diocese and covers roughly a county.
- The yearly meeting includes representatives from the quarterly meetings and Friends from other countries.

Quakers began keeping registers of births, marriages, and deaths in the late 1650s. The Society made digests of its records to about 1837, which cover some Welsh meetings. The digests are arranged first by date and then alphabetically by surname. Copies of digests and original registers are in the Family History Library. The original records are in the Public Record Office (see the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline for the address).

Many residents of Wales joined the Society of Friends during its early years. Quakers were persecuted heavily, so many emigrated to Pennsylvania in the United States. Because of this, the Society of Friends almost ceased to exist in Wales after 1750. The most important collection of original Welsh Quaker registers is deposited in the Glamorgan Record Office.

The Society of Friends has a flourishing membership at the present day, has a historical society, and publishes journals. Early records, including digests, are housed at the Society’s London headquarters.

For a valuable booklet on this subject, refer to:

Milligan, Edward H., and Malcolm J. Thomas. *My Ancestors Were Quakers: How Can I Find Out More About Them?* London: Society of Genealogists, 1983. (FHL book 942 D27m; computer number 0239306.)

Church Record Indexes

Some county record offices have indexes to church records. Many indexes have been compiled by local family history societies. To learn how to find county record offices or family history society addresses, see the “Archives and Libraries” and the “Societies” sections of this outline.

The Family History Library has microfilm copies of some indexes. Look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

WALES, [COUNTY] - CHURCH RECORDS - INDEXES

WALES, [COUNTY], [PARISH] - CHURCH RECORDS - INDEXES

The International Genealogical Index is a major index for Welsh parish records. See the “Genealogy” section of this outline for more information.

There are many Welsh marriage indexes. Some are still being compiled by family history societies. The Family History Library has some of these indexes, but others might only be available in Wales. If you find information in an index, check the original record. There may be more information, or the index may contain an error.

Locating Church Records

The Family History Library does not have many parish registers for Wales but does have many bishop’s transcripts. By utilizing the look-up exchange mentioned earlier, you may be able to find a volunteer who is willing to search the parish register for you if it is not available at the library.

To find Welsh church records in the Family History Library, look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

WALES, [COUNTY], [PARISH] - CHURCH RECORDS

WALES, [COUNTY] - CHURCH RECORDS

The catalog uses the parish names given in *Welsh Administrative and Territorial Units*. See the “Gazetteers” section of this outline for help in finding a parish name. Local residents may have used the name of the parish patron saint (such as St. John or All Saints) rather than the actual parish name.

For towns with more than one parish, the Family History Library Catalog uses the patron saint’s name and the name of the city to identify different parishes. For example, Cardiff has two parishes: St. John and St. Mary.

Chapelry records are usually listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under the parish with which the chapelry is affiliated.

To locate the chapel where a nonconformist family worshiped, you can use the following published list of chapels:

Jones, Ieuan Gwynedd, and David Williams. *The Religious Census of 1851: A Calendar of the Returns Relating to Wales*. Cardiff, Wales: University of Wales Press, 1976, 1981. (FHL book 942.9B4b no. 30 [South Wales] and 31

(North Wales); fiche 6054483–4; computer number 0037410.)

Chapel and denominational histories can help you gain a broad understanding of the chapels in a certain district. Most chapel or denominational histories are written in Welsh.

Large-scale ordnance survey maps used with the religious census returns and chapel histories can help you locate chapels. See the “Maps” section of this outline for help in locating maps.

Wales has no single repository of church records although the records are usually available at a county record office or the National Library of Wales. Some sources describing the location or survival of church records are:

Rawlins, Bert J. *The Parish Churches and Nonconformist Chapels of Wales: Their Records and Where to Find Them*. Vol. 1. Salt Lake City, Utah: Celtic Heritage Publishing, 1987. (FHL book 942.9 K2rp; computer number 0424146.) This is a complete guide to parish church records and nonconformist chapels up to 1851 (later for some sects). It covers the counties of Cardigan, Carmarthen, and Pembroke.

Williams, C. J., and J. Watts-Williams, comp. *Cofrestri Plwyf Cymru* (Parish Registers of Wales). Aberystwyth, Wales: National Library of Wales, 1986. (FHL book 942 V26ste v. 13; computer number 0429068.) This book lists all Welsh parish registers, providing the beginning and the ending dates of the registers, locations, and other details about them.

Ifans, Dafydd, ed. *Cofrestri Anghydffurfiol Cymru* (Nonconformist Registers of Wales). Aberystwyth, Wales: National Library of Wales and Welsh County Archivists’ Group, 1994. (FHL book 942.9 K23c; computer number 0738441.)

The Internet is another way to access to some church records and indexes. There are lists of people on the Internet who volunteer to search various types of records in certain areas, free of charge. You can locate these lists through the GENUKI Web site at:

www.genuki.org.uk/big/wal/#Counties

From the above site:

Click **[County of your choice]**.
Click **Genealogy**.
Click **Look-up Exchange**.

Records at the Family History Library

The Family History Library has microfilm copies of Welsh bishop's transcripts. To find the film numbers by county and parish, use:

Bishop's Transcripts. Rev. ed. Salt Lake City, Utah: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1989. (FHL book 942.9 V27b; film 599276; computer number 0168878.)

The Family History Library has some parish registers, parish register transcripts, bishop's transcripts, and parish chest materials from the Church of Wales on film. The library also has microfilm copies of the nonconformist records deposited with the Public Record Office (see the "Archives and Libraries" section for the address). In addition some of the nonconformist records at the National Library of Wales have been filmed.

CIVIL REGISTRATION

The government began recording births, marriages, and deaths in 1837. These records are known as civil registration records. They are indexed and cover most of the population. Civil registration records are important sources for genealogical research.

General Historical Background

Before 1837, only churches recorded vital records in Wales (see the "Church Records" section of this outline). Birth, marriage and death registration by a civil authority began on 1 July 1837.

Civil registration in Wales is administered locally by superintendent registrars and nationally by the Office of National Statistics (formerly the Registrar General). The registration district is the jurisdictional unit upon which civil registration is based. Each county is divided into districts, and each district has a superintendent registrar, who is responsible to register all vital events within the district, perform marriages, and send a copy of the certificates to the Office of National Statistics. The original registrations remain in the district offices.

Births and deaths are registered with the superintendent registrar by an individual who was present at the event. Marriages are registered by the minister or public official who performed the marriage. Quarterly, Church of England ministers send copies of their marriage records to the superintendent registrar. Quaker and Jewish marriages are registered by their own representatives directly with the Office of National Statistics. Until 1898 the superintendent registrars were accountable to see that marriages performed by other nonconformist denominations were registered.

It has been estimated that 90 to 95 percent of births and nearly all deaths and marriages were recorded. There was no penalty imposed for failure to register until 1874. By 1875, 99 percent of all births, marriages, and deaths were recorded.

For more information on civil registration records, see:

Cox, Jane and Stella Colwell. *Never Been Here Before? A Genealogist's Guide to the Family Records Centre*. Kew, England: PRO Publications, 1997. This guide about the Family Records Centre in London includes information about the birth, marriage, and death records of the Office for National Statistics. It also includes information about microfilms of census records, nonconformist chapel records, wills, and estate duty registers.

Wood, Tom. *An Introduction to Civil Registration*. Birmingham, England: Federation of Family History Societies (Publications) Ltd., 1994. (FHL book 942 V27w; computer number 0751227.)

McLaughlin, Eve. *St. Catherine's House*. 8th ed. Solihull, England: Federation of Family History Societies (Publications) Ltd., 1991. (FHL book 942 V27m 1991; computer number 0485632.) The records from this office were transferred to the Family Records Centre in 1998.

Other guides are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

WALES - CIVIL REGISTRATION - HANDBOOKS

Information Recorded in Civil Registers

Births

Birth certificates give the child's name, sex, birth date and place; the parents' names (including the mother's maiden name); the father's occupation; and the informant's signature, residence, and "description" (often a relationship). If the child was illegitimate, the father's name is usually not given.

Marriages

Marriage certificates give the marriage date, place, and denomination (if a church marriage); the names of the bride and groom, whether they were single or widowed, their ages, occupations, and residences at the time of marriage; the names and occupations of their fathers (and often whether deceased); and the signatures of the bride, groom, and witnesses. If either of the parties was illegitimate, the name of the father may be suspect or missing altogether.

Divorces

Divorce required an act of Parliament until 1858 and was uncommon before the mid-nineteenth century. Private divorce acts are mainly found at the House of Lords Record Office:

House of Lords Library
London, SW1A 0PW
England

Civil divorce registration began in 1858. These divorce records are confidential for 75 years. Records more than 75 years old can be consulted at the Public Record Office, Kew. Indexes for 1858 to 1958 are available.

The Family History Library does not have any British divorce records.

Deaths

Death certificates show the name, age and occupation of the deceased; death date, place, and cause of death; and signature, relationship, and residence of the informant. The informant did not have to be related to the deceased. A spouse's name is sometimes given. If the deceased was a child, a parent's name was often written in the space for "occupation."

Although the information on a death certificate may be sparse, the data is still valuable since a death certificate is usually the only civil registration record for persons born or married before July 1837.

Locating Civil Registration Records

Civil registration records are kept at the superintendent registrar's district office. Duplicates are kept at the Office for National Statistics (formerly the Registrar General). The Family History Library has microfilm copies of the indexes from 1837 through 1980 and microfiche copies of the indexes from 1837 to 1983. You can obtain certificates in person at:

The Family Records Centre
1 Myddelton Street
London EC1 1UW
England

You can order copies by mail from:

Office for National Statistics
Smedley Hydro
Trafalgar Road
Southport, Merseyside PR8 2HH
England

Civil registration certificates are not open to public inspection, but you can request individual certificates. Indexes are available (see "Indexes to Civil Registration Records" at the end of this section). To see more information than is given in the index, you must obtain a copy of the actual certificate. Certificates will be less expensive if you supply the index reference numbers.

When requesting a certificate by mail, bear in mind that it takes several weeks to obtain a reply. When you write, send:

- A check or money order in British pounds for the search fee (the amount varies).
- The information from the index, if you searched one, including the name of the individual, the year and quarter where you found him or her, the district name, and the volume and page number from the index.

If you did not search an index, send the following information along with the check or money order:

- The full name and sex of the person sought
- The names of the parents or spouse, if known
- The approximate date and place of the event

If you know the registration district, you may wish to order a certificate from the superintendent registrar since search policies are often more liberal and mail order requests less expensive than if you ordered one through the Office for National Statistics.

Registrars usually will not search marriage records because of the complex marriage registration procedures.

The superintendent registrars' addresses are found in:

The Official List of Registration Offices. London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1993. (FHL book 942 X4g 1993; computer number 0768171.)

District Register Offices in England and Wales. 6th ed. Yorkshire, England: East Yorkshire Family History Society, 1989. (FHL book 942 E4ew 1989; computer number 0510247.)

Addresses for the superintendent registrars for England and Wales can be found through the GENUKI Web site at:

www.genuki.org.uk/big/eng/#RegOffice

Keep in mind that over time district boundaries have changed, and some districts have been abolished.

The Office for National Statistics has records for British subjects outside England, including registrations of events at sea, at consulates and embassies, and for military personnel. For further information, see:

Yeo, Geoffrey. *The British Overseas*. 3rd ed. London: Guildhall Library, 1995. (FHL book 942 V24y 1995; computer number 0764123.)

Indexes to Civil Registration Records

An index can help you find an entry for your ancestor. The Registrar General compiled nationwide indexes after receiving the quarterly returns from the local superintendent registrars. These indexes are arranged by calendar quarter. A surname and given name, registration district, volume, and page number are shown in each entry. Later indexes also include:

- Age at death (post-1865 death indexes).
- Mother's maiden name (post-June 1911 birth indexes).
- Spouse's surname (post-1911 marriage indexes).

Searching Civil Registration Records and Indexes

With the index reference, you can send for the certificate (see "Locating Civil Registration Records" in this section for the address). If you cannot find an index entry, remember:

- Surnames are listed in strict alphabetical order and are often found under unexpected spellings.
- Events are filed by the date registered, not the date occurred (for example, a birth on 20 March registered on 6 April will be in the April-June quarter, not the January-March quarter).
- Indexes were hand-prepared and may contain copying errors and omissions.
- A person may have been registered under a different name than was used later in life.
- Persons with common names may be difficult to identify in the index.
- Information (particularly age at death) is sometimes misleading.
- Some deaths were registered without a name (unknown).

- The surname for a woman in the marriage index may be her surname by a previous marriage, not her maiden name.
- Marriages may be recorded under a patronymic name.
- An illegitimate child may be registered under the mother's maiden name.
- When a given name had not been selected before registration, a child was listed in the index as "male" or "female" under the surname.

The names of the places shown in the index are the names of registration districts, which are not usually the names of the places where the events happened. A district is a civil jurisdiction, and in rural areas, many villages and parishes belong to one district. Large cities may encompass several districts.

If you know the town or parish where your ancestor lived the following source will help identify the district for that location:

Wilson, John M. *The Imperial Gazetteer of England and Wales*. 6 vols. Edinburgh: A. Fullerton, [1870]. (FHL book 942 E5i; films 897325-7; fiche 6020308-36; computer number 0070193.) This is one of the few gazetteers which lists the district name. If you can't find the place here, it may be too small to be mentioned. Look up the name of the place in another gazetteer to find its parish name or a nearby larger town; then return to this gazetteer to discover the district name.

Population tables, available each census year, are another source that can help you identify a district for a location. They are arranged by county, district, and parish. Population totals for the various census years are also shown. The indexes to these tables are very helpful because they are arranged in alphabetical order by parish or town name, showing the name of the district for each place. Refer to these indexes to determine changes in district boundaries. The Family History Library call numbers for the indexes follow:

1841 FHL book 942 X22ip 1841
(fiche 6036965; computer number 0088492)

1851 FHL book 942 X22ip 1851
(fiche 6036964; computer number 0087178)

1861 FHL book 942 X22ip 1861
(fiche 6036966; computer number 0087006)

1871 FHL book 942 X22ip 1871
(fiche 6036967; computer number 0086935)

- 1881 FHL book 942 X22ip 1881
(fiche 6036968; computer number 0086923)
- 1891 FHL book 942 X22ip 1891
(fiche 6036969; computer number 0088503)
- 1951 FHL book 942 X2i 1951
(films 410102–3; computer number 0310013)
- 1961 FHL book 942 X2p 1961
(film 990257; computer number 0195402)
- 1971 FHL book 942 X2p 1971
(not filmed; computer number 0037469)

The following sources contain alphabetical lists of districts in each county. The first source also has a series of maps. Sometimes it is helpful to use these maps when you want to know the names of the adjacent districts or to see where a district is in relation to others.

A Guide to the Arrangement of the Registration Districts Listed in the Indexes to the Civil Registration of England and Wales, 2nd ed. Salt Lake City, Utah: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1977. (FHL book 942 V2icr 1977; film 990269 item 4; fiche 6020287; computer number 0111281.) This guide contains nineteenth-century maps and lists of districts.

Newport, J. A. *An Index to the Civil Registration Districts, 1837 to Date*. Selsey, West Sussex: P. Pledger, 1989. (FHL book 942 V22nj; computer number 0576340)

Records at the Family History Library

The Family History Library has microfilm and microfiche copies of the civil registration indexes for births, marriages, and deaths from July 1837 through 1983. The library does not have any copies of the certificates. Microfilm or microfiche numbers for the indexes are listed in separate catalog entries in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

WALES - CIVIL REGISTRATION -
INDEXES

Miscellaneous Indexes

Several surname indexes have been compiled for other records, such as military records and colonial office records. The original indexes are housed at the Family Records Centre in London. Copies are now on microfiche in the Family History Library. They are found in the Family History Library Catalog under:

GREAT BRITAIN - CIVIL REGISTRATION

COURT RECORDS

Court records relate to civil and criminal matters. They may refer to a local or rural area or to the nation. They involve people from all walks of life.

Court records may mention some of your ancestors as defendants, plaintiffs, jurors, or witnesses. They can establish family relationships and places of residence and occasionally provide occupations, descriptions of individuals, and other family information. They seldom provide birth, marriage, or death information.

Most researchers use court records after they have investigated other records. Court records are written in Latin before 1733 and may include terms unfamiliar to you. Some are indexed and with patience you can find much information.

Court of Quarter Sessions. From the sixteenth century onwards, this court dealt with many items including crime, land, licensing, oaths of denization, militia, county rates, roads and bridges, taxes, religion, social welfare, lunatics, and so on. Many middle class and poor people are mentioned.

The original records are usually housed in a local record office. Copies of some quarter session records are in the Family History Library.

A more detailed discussion of these records is in:

Emmison, F. G., and Irvine Gray. ***County Records***. Rev. ed. London: The Historical Association, 1973. (FHL book 942 H2ha no. 62 1973; computer number 0202625.)

A list of available records is:

Gibson, J. S. W. ***Quarter Session Records for Family Historians: A Select List***, 4th ed. Birmingham, England: Federation of Family History Societies (Publications) Ltd., 1995. (FHL book 942 P23gjs 1995; computer number 0766682.)

Court of Great Sessions. Great sessions courts were used only in Wales. They were established when England and Wales were united through the Acts of Union of 1536 and 1543 and were abolished in the 1830s. Wales was divided into four circuits. Court was held twice a year, usually dealing with the more serious criminal cases. Judges also arbitrated between local landlords and in inter-jurisdictional disputes. Many middle class and some poor people are mentioned here. For more information, see:

Parry, Glyn. *A Guide to the Great Sessions in Wales*. Aberystwyth: National Library of Wales, 1995. (FHL book 942.9 P27p; computer number 0793009.)

Williams, W. Llewelyn. *An Account of the King's Court of Great Sessions in Wales*. London: Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion, 1916. (FHL book 942.9 P2w; computer number 0167314.)

Since the handwriting on these records may be difficult to read, it may help you to see a transcribed, printed copy of some of the documents. The following book is a good example. The introduction is also helpful in understanding the records.

Chapman, Murray, trans. and ed. *Criminal Proceedings In the Montgomeryshire Court of Great Sessions: a Transcript of Commonwealth Gaol Files, 1650–1660*. Aberystwyth: National Library of Wales, 1996. (FHL book 942.94 P2c; computer number 0805607.)

You can find the original copies of the Great Session records at the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth. Some copies are on film at the Family History Library.

Manorial Court. Records of these courts give information about the day-to-day life on a manor (an estate held by a landlord), including petty crimes, land transfers, manorial appointments, customs, rental fees, and so forth. It regulated the responsibilities and interrelationship of the manorial lord, his steward and bailiff (law officer), and the village people. Manorial court records began about 1066 and ended in the early 1900s. Some of Wales was not under manorial tenure. More detail is given in:

Park, Peter B. *My Ancestors Were Manorial Tenants: How Can I Find Out More About Them?* 2nd ed. London: Society of Genealogists, 1994. (FHL book 942 D27pp; computer number 0812934.)

Ellis, Mary. *Using Manorial Records*. London: PRO Publications in association with The Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts, 1994. (FHL book 942 J77e; computer number 0320038.)

Guide to the Department of Manuscripts and Records. Aberystwyth: National Library of Wales, 1994. (FHL book 942.9 A3g; computer number 0752109.)

The Family History Library has a copy of *Indexes to Schedules* from the National Library of Wales. These indexes include a topographical index by

county, parish, manor, and capital message. This index can help you to locate documents at the National Library of Wales for a particular manor or a parish. The index is on a series of microfilms. (FHL films 1597275–7 and 1597224–6; computer number 0502794.)

The *Manorial Documents Register* is a listing of the manors and the location of all known records. While the National Library of Wales is a major depository of manorial court records, other repositories also house these records. It is best to check this register first. You can locate information about this register by contacting the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts, which maintains it. For a mailing address and information about the commission's Web site, see the "Archives and Libraries" section of this outline.

Court of Chancery. Records from the Chancery Court begin in 1199 and relate to wealthy people. The court heard disputes about such items as property or land rights, debts, inheritance, trusts, and frauds. Many witnesses from all walks of life were called to testify for the plaintiff or defendant. A helpful guide about these records is:

Garrett, R. E. F. *Chancery and Other Legal Proceedings*. Oakhill, Somerset: The Oakhill Press, 1968. (FHL book 942 P2ga; computer number 0146469.)

Chancery Court records are housed in the Public Record Office in London. The Family History Library has microfilm copies of some records.

Several other courts created records which related to people in Wales, such as the Court of the Exchequer, the Court of Request, and the Court of Star Chamber. To learn more about these courts and their records, refer to *Tracing Your Ancestors in the Public Record Office* (see the "Archives and Libraries" section of this outline). Probate court records are discussed in this outline in the section called "Probate Records."

Court records available in the Family History Library are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

WALES, [COUNTY] - COURT RECORDS
WALES, [COUNTY], [PARISH OR MANOR]
- MANORS
WALES, [COUNTY], [PARISH or MANOR] -
COURT RECORDS

DIRECTORIES

Directories are alphabetical lists of names and addresses. They list information for the year they are published. In Wales, directories first appeared in the late eighteenth century and continue to the

present day. They show the name of a person, usually the head of the household, with his or her address and occupation. They seldom show the entire population. Directories can also include information such as:

- City maps.
- Indexes to streets.
- Addresses of churches or cemeteries.

A person's inclusion or omission in directories for successive years may show when he came into the city, left the city, or died. Also, knowing an individual's address can help you search a census of a large city.

There are various types of directories:

- Postal or commercial directories provide alphabetical lists of people living in an area, usually including those engaged in some kind of trade or profession.
- Trade directories contain alphabetical lists of trades and professions and the people engaged in the trade or profession.
- Street directories have alphabetical lists of the principal streets and the people living there.
- Court directories list the city officers, government officials, and "private" residents.
- Law directories list judges, staff of various courts, lawyers, police, notaries, and registration officers.
- Church directories give information and addresses for dioceses and parishes (see the "Church Directories" section of this outline).
- Telephone directories give names, addresses, and telephone numbers of individuals, societies, libraries, newspapers, and other businesses. This information can help you identify modern descendants of a family. Current telephone directories are published on microfiche by British Telecom and are also available on compact disc and the Internet (see the "Archives and Libraries" section of this outline).

Directories usually cover a large section of Wales (such as North Wales) and are divided into counties and towns.

Several bibliographies of directories have been compiled. A few of these are:

Current British Directories. Rev. ed. Beckenham, Kent: CBD Research Ltd., 1985. (FHL British book 942 E43c; computer number 0377690.)

Newington-Irving, N. J. N., ed. *Directories and Poll Books in the Possession of the Society of Genealogists*. 6th ed. London: The Society of Genealogists, 1995. (FHL British 942.1/L1 D23so 1995; computer number 0812999.)

Norton, Jane E. ***Guide to the National and Provincial Directories of England and Wales, excluding London, Published before 1856***. London: Offices of the Royal Historical Society, 1950. (FHL British 942 C4rg no. 5; computer number 0055124.)

Shaw, Gareth and Allison Tipper. ***British Directories and Guide to Directories Published in England and Wales (1850–1950) and Scotland (1773–1950)***. Leicester, England: Leicester University Press, 1989. (FHL book 942 E43s; computer number 0522786.)

Through the GENUKI Web site, it is possible to locate a volunteer who will search some directories for you free of charge. You can visit this site at:

www.genuki.org.uk/big/wal/#Counties

From the above site:

Click **[County of your choice]**.

Click **Genealogy**.

Click **Look-up Exchange**.

The Family History Library has a small collection of Welsh directories. Directories and bibliographies of directories are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

ENGLAND - DIRECTORIES
WALES - DIRECTORIES
WALES, [COUNTY] - DIRECTORIES
WALES, [COUNTY], [CITY] -
DIRECTORIES
ENGLAND - DIRECTORIES -
BIBLIOGRAPHIES
WALES - DIRECTORIES -
BIBLIOGRAPHIES

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

Emigration and immigration records are records of people leaving (emigrating) or coming into (immigrating) Wales. Records include passenger lists, permissions to emigrate, records of passports issued, lists of transported prisoners, or registers of assistance to emigrate. These records may contain

the name, age, occupation, destination, place of origin or birthplace, the ship, and date of arrival. Names of fellow passengers may help construct family groups or provide hints on place of origin or destination.

Welshmen began emigrating to other countries including the United States, India, Canada, Australia, South Africa, New Zealand, and South America as early as the 1600s. One of the earliest groups of Welsh emigrants was the John Miles congregation of Baptists who settled in Rehoboth, Massachusetts. The most significant early Welsh emigrants to America settled in the “Welsh Tract” of Pennsylvania. They came at the invitation of William Penn, and the first group arrived in the early 1680s. For several decades after this, many Welsh nonconformists emigrated to Pennsylvania.

Emigration to America declined sharply during the eighteenth century but picked up again during the nineteenth century. It increased after 1815, when it became a means of poor relief. Emigration also increased during the gold rushes in Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and the United States.

In the first half of the nineteenth century, the Welsh established communities in Pennsylvania, Vermont, Ohio, and up-state New York. These early settlements became the nucleus for later migration into Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, Missouri, and Iowa. Beginning in the 1840s, many skilled iron workers and coal miners emigrated from Wales. Over 250,000 Welshmen have emigrated to America over the last 300 years.

Movements within the United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Isle of Man, and Channel Islands) and to its colonies required no documents. Records were not required for free emigrants to the United States until 1776; Canada before 1865; or Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa until the twentieth century.

Finding the Emigrant’s Place of Origin

Once you have traced your family back to a Welsh emigrant, you must determine the parish he or she was from. There are several sources in the destination country that may reveal where your ancestor came from. You may learn your ancestor’s place of origin by talking to older family members. Other relatives or a library may have documents naming the place, parish, city, or county, such as:

- Birth, marriage, and death certificates.
- Obituaries.
- Journals.
- Photographs.

- Letters.
- Family Bibles.
- Church certificates/records.
- Naturalization applications and petitions.
- Passenger lists.
- Newspaper announcements or articles.
- Passports.
- Family heirlooms.

If the individual emigrated after 1 July 1837, you may find the place of origin by using the nationwide indexes to births, marriages, and deaths (see the “Civil Registration” section of this outline). There is no complete nationwide index to birth, marriage, or death records before 1837. The International Genealogical Index and local marriage indexes are partial indexes that you may try before searching emigration records.

For further information about finding the origins of immigrant ancestors, see the *Tracing Immigrant Origins Research Outline* (34111).

Emigration From Wales

There was no systematic, official method of emigrating from Wales. The following types of emigrants account for most persons who left Wales:

- **Free emigrants.** Beginning in the 1630s, emigrants left Wales to promote trade or set up military outposts and way stations for merchant ships. Later, free emigrants sought opportunity in a new land or fled poverty or oppression in Wales.
- **Assisted emigrants.** From 1815 to 1900, qualified emigrants received passage money or land grants in the destination country as an alternative to receiving poor relief. After 1840 New Zealand and Australia offered money or land grants to skilled workers to encourage immigration.
- **Transported prisoners.** More than 200,000 criminals were conditionally pardoned, exiled, and transported to penal colonies before 1870. Before 1775 over 50,000 prisoners were sent to America, primarily to Virginia and Maryland. From 1788 to 1869 over 160,000 prisoners were sent to Australia.

- **Military personnel.** Upon discharge, soldiers serving overseas were offered land or other inducements to settle in the colony where they were serving. This was a common practice in Australia from 1791, in Canada from 1815, and in New Zealand from 1844.
- **Latter-day Saints.** About 1840, thousands of Welsh members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints emigrated to the United States. Most settled in Utah. For more information, see the *Utah Research Outline* (31081).

Records of Welsh Immigrants in Their Destination Countries

Usually, you will find the best information about your immigrant ancestor in the country he or she immigrated to. You may find the immigrant's name, place of origin, occupation, and age. Knowing an approximate date and port of arrival or ship name will probably help you search immigration records.

Naturalization records in the destination country may be an excellent source for determining your ancestor's place of origin. See the "Naturalization and Citizenship" section of the research outline of the destination country. Most immigration records at the Family History Library are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

[COUNTRY or STATE] - EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

[COUNTRY or STATE], [COUNTY], [CITY] - EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

United States. Most Welsh immigrants to the United States arrived at New York. Immigrant lists are the main source of information on those arriving in the United States. More than 1,000 lists are indexed in an ongoing series by:

Filby, P. William. *Passenger and Immigration Lists Index*. Detroit: Gale Research, 1981-. (FHL book 973 W32p; computer number 0122828.)

A bibliography of over 2,500 published lists is:

Filby, P. William. *Passenger and Immigration Lists Bibliography, 1538-1900*. 2d ed. Detroit: Gale Research, 1988. (FHL book 973 W33p 1988; computer number 0482522.)

The Family History Library has post-1820 passenger lists for most U.S. ports. Most are indexed. For further information, see the *United States Research Outline* (30972).

A few books about Welsh arrivals are also available, such as:

Browning, Charles H. *Welsh Settlement of Pennsylvania*. Philadelphia: Wm. J. Campbell, 1912. (FHL 974.8 F2bc; computer number 0025391.)

To locate other books on immigration to the United States, look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

UNITED STATES - EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

[STATE] - EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

[STATE], [COUNTY] - EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

India. Many British subjects went to East India for trade or to settle. Until 1834, no British subject could go to India without permission from the East India Company. The Family History Library has some records from the India Office Library. Original records are deposited at the British Library, Oriental and India Office Collection (see the "Military Records" section of this outline for the address).

Canada. From 1815 to 1850 Canada was the one of the primary destinations of Welsh emigrants. Before 1900, most immigrants arrived in Quebec City or Halifax. Passenger lists into Canada are rare before 1865. Microfilm copies of lists from 1865 to 1900 are at the Family History Library. See the *Canada Research Outline* (34545) for further information.

Australia. Australia was founded as a British penal colony in 1788. A few Welshmen were transported as prisoners, while some settled voluntarily in Australia. Most went in the late nineteenth century. They settled mainly in the mining districts, but some settled in agricultural areas.

Immigration records vary by state in content and coverage. Some list the immigrant's birthplace, residence in Wales, and education; his or her mother's maiden name and parents' names; and his or her father's name, occupation, and residence. Some records are indexed. You might find the ship and arrival date in death certificates or published sources. Copies of most pre-1900 records are at the Family History Library. Look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

AUSTRALIA - EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

AUSTRALIA, [STATE] - EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

South Africa. The British took South Africa from the Dutch in 1795. Few Welsh settled in South Africa until a group of 3,675 British subjects settled in eastern Cape Province in 1820. These settlers are well-documented. A memorial museum that has genealogies of their descendants is located at:

Albany Museum
Somerset Street
Grahamstown 6140
South Africa

A list of arriving passengers was usually published in the government gazette for the province of arrival. Before 1836 only Cape Province had white settlements. Microfilm copies of many immigration records are available at the Family History Library. Look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

SOUTH AFRICA - EMIGRATION AND
IMMIGRATION
SOUTH AFRICA, [PROVINCE] -
EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

New Zealand. The British began colonizing New Zealand in 1840. Immigration records usually give settlement details and the wife's and children's names and ages. Most immigrants received assistance from either the New Zealand Company or from a government or church association formed to encourage immigration. Microfilm copies of many of these records are at the Family History Library. Look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

NEW ZEALAND - EMIGRATION AND
IMMIGRATION
NEW ZEALAND, [PROVINCE] -
EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

Argentina. A group of Welsh people settled at Patagonia, Argentina, in the nineteenth century. This settlement, known as "Y Wladfa," has been studied in considerable detail. Several books have been written about it. These books can be found in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

ARGENTINA, PATAGONIA - EMIGRATION
AND IMMIGRATION
ARGENTINA, PATAGONIA -
COLONIZATION

British Records of Emigration

To search emigration records effectively, you should know the approximate date of emigration, the name of the ship, the type of or reason for emigration, or the emigrant's previous residence in Wales. If you know the ship's name, you may find

additional details about the ship, including ports of embarkation and arrival, in:

Lloyd's Register of British and Foreign Shipping.
fiche ed. LaCrosse, Wis.: Brookhaven Press,
1981. (FHL fiche 6024581–6025295; computer
number 0106601; does not circulate to Family
History Centers.)

Passenger Lists. Port records listing the names of departing or arriving passengers are called passenger lists. Passenger departure lists are rare before 1890. After 1890 they are arranged chronologically by port of departure. These lists, which usually give the emigrant's name, age, occupation, address, and sometimes destination, are kept at the Public Record Office (see the "Archives and Libraries" section of this outline for the address).

Assisted Emigrants Registers. Persons who applied for assistance to emigrate were recorded in assisted emigrants registers, which often contain name, age, occupation, residence, destination, name of sponsor, address of relative, and size of family. Records of emigrants who received assistance to emigrate from their parish or landlord can be found in parish records and estate records. See the "Church Records" and "Land and Property" sections of this outline. Those available at the Family History Library appear in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

[DESTINATION COUNTRY] -
EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION
ENGLAND - EMIGRATION AND
IMMIGRATION
GREAT BRITAIN - EMIGRATION AND
IMMIGRATION
WALES - EMIGRATION AND
IMMIGRATION

Probate Records. Probate records may mention emigrant relatives. Probates of persons dying overseas who owned property in Wales should have been proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury (until 1858) or at the Principal Probate Registry (after 1857). The following work lists some American wills proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury:

Coldham, Peter W. *American Wills and Administrations in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, 1610-1857*. Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Publishing Company, Inc., 1989. (FHL book 942 P27c; computer number 0015448.)

For more information, see the "Probate Records" section of this outline.

Other Records. The Public Record Office has many other records that refer to emigrants. Of particular importance are the poor law union papers, which among many other things includes some records of poor relief emigration from 1834 to 1900. For information on these and other emigration records at the Public Record Office, use the *Kew Lists* (see the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline).

There are other lists of emigrants by authors such as Peter W. Coldham, Michael Tepper, and P. William Filby. See the Author/Title Search of the Family History Library Catalog for works by these authors.

Immigration into the British Isles

Immigration to the British Isles was primarily from continental Europe. Specific immigrant groups include refugees from wars (such as the French Revolution) or from religious persecution (such as Huguenots and Jews).

Beginning in 1836, there are certificates of aliens, arranged by port, giving name, nationality, profession, date arrived, country last visited, and signature.

Starting in 1878, there are lists of incoming passengers giving the passenger’s name, birthplace, last residence, and sometimes an address of a relative in the country of origin. However, passengers from Europe or the Mediterranean did not have to be listed. All of these immigration records are at the Public Record Office.

Immigration records at the Family History Library are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

ENGLAND - EMIGRATION AND
IMMIGRATION
WALES - EMIGRATION AND
IMMIGRATION

As there are few English immigration sources, you may need to search the emigration records for your ancestor’s country of origin.

GAZETTEERS

A gazetteer is a dictionary of place-names. Gazetteers describe towns, villages, parishes, counties, rivers, mountains, population, and other geographical features. The place-names are usually in alphabetical order, similar to a dictionary. Use a gazetteer to look up the name of the place where your family lived and to determine the civil and church jurisdictions over those places. You will need to find the parish name to continue your

research. A sample gazetteer entry might be “Llanfihangel-Abercowin, a village and a parish in the district and county of Carmarthen. There are chapels for Calvinist Methodists and Wesleyans.”

The same place-name can be used many times in various parts of Wales. A gazetteer can help you identify the most common spellings and the counties that have a place by that name.

Spellings vary widely in Welsh place-names. Check several gazetteers under each probable spelling. For more information on place-names, see “Place-Name Problems” in this section.

Because many people in the same parish had the same name (such as John Thomas), the Welsh often used farm names or birthplaces to identify themselves (John Thomas of Pen-y-Benglog). Farm names, small hamlets, manors, and estates may not be listed in gazetteers. Be aware that many farms have the same names. If the farm name is unusual, the National Library of Wales can help you identify the place. It may be possible for you to find the farm name using other sources such as land tax records, tithe apportionments, or various Ordnance Survey maps. The following gazetteer has information for Wales and England that does list some farm names. Remember that the spelling you have may be a variant of the one in the gazetteer. See:

The Ordnance Survey. *Ordnance Gazetteer of Great Britain: All Names from the 1:50 000 Landranger Map Series*. Great Britain: Macmillan, 1992. (FHL book 942 E5o 1992; computer number 0683114.)

Place-Name Problems

Many place-name problems occur because:

- Welsh place-names can easily be confused with personal names and other words. For example, Tachwedd is Welsh for November. This word could easily be misconstrued as a personal name or place-name.
- Welsh place-names are often descriptive. Many begin with Aber (meaning “estuary” or “mouth of a river”) or Llan (meaning “parish” or “church”).
- Many place-names are common to two or more counties. Dyffryn is found in every county; it means valley.
- Places are often known by different names at the same time. For example, in Breconshire the parish of Tyr yr Abad is also known as New Church, Llandulas, and Aberdulas.

- Records may not always use the same name to refer to the same place. For example, a couple living at Peterwell, Carmarthenshire had their place of residence listed as Peterwell in some entries and as Ffynnon bedr (the Welsh equivalent of Peterwell) in others.
- Townships, hamlets, farms, and other place-names within a parish are sometimes known by the parish name. The parish of Hope in Flintshire is called *Estyn* in Welsh. Hope contains a hamlet called Estyn and a township called Hope Owen. Each of these names also designate the parish itself.
- Welsh place-names may use an English spelling. Conversions occur when letters not in the Welsh alphabet are used in the place-name. For example, in Welsh the *c* is pronounced like the English *k*, which is not in the Welsh alphabet. Thus, “Cellan” is sometimes spelled “Kellan.”
- Because Wales uses both English and Welsh place-names, names can be spelled, spoken, and written in many ways.
- People unfamiliar with the Welsh language often misspelled place-names, resulting in unusual interpretations such as Murphy Tredwell for Merthyr Tydfil, Happytarley for Abertillery, or Townroost for Llanrwst.
- Place-names evolved over time. For example, Ysgeifiog, a parish and village in Flint, has been called Schivaiau, Escynant, Skeynyave, Ysceifoc, and Skifiog.
- Many place-names in Wales begin with “Llanfair.” Both currently and in the past, these places are simply called *Llanfair*. This can create considerable confusion in an area where there are many places with names beginning with “Llanfair.”
- Some parishes have both a Welsh name and an English name. For example, the Welsh name for Swansea is Abertawe. This is especially true of Pembrokeshire, Glamorganshire, Flintshire, and Monmouthshire. Melville Richard’s *Welsh Administrative and Territorial Units* lists both the English and the Welsh versions of many place-names.

For a better understanding of Welsh place-names see:

Davies, Dewi. *Welsh Place-Names and Their Meanings*. Aberystwyth, Wales: The Cambrian News, 198?. (FHL book 942.9 E2d; film 994051 item 2; computer number 0302675.)

Jones, Bedwyr Lewis. “Place-Names.” In *Welsh Family History: A Guide to Research*, ed. by John and Sheila Rowlands. 2nd ed. Wales: Federation of Family History Societies (Publications) Ltd., 1998, pp.76–83. (FHL book 942.9 D27w 1998; computer number 0828364.)

Finding Place-Names in the Family History Library Catalog

Place-names in the Family History Library Catalog are listed under the names and counties used before 1974. To find the county under which a town or parish is listed in the catalog, use the “see” references on the first microfiche of the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog for Wales or the Locality Browse on the compact disc version of the Family History Library Catalog.

Because Welsh place-names can have many different spellings, one gazetteer is used by the Family History Library as the standard for spellings. All Welsh places are listed in the Family History Library Catalog by the spellings shown in:

Richards, Melville. *Welsh Administrative and Territorial Units: Medieval and Modern*. Cardiff, Wales: University of Wales, 1969. (FHL book 942.9 E5w; fiche 6026396; computer number 0082705.) This work lists medieval, early modern, and modern jurisdictions, such as urban district councils and urban sanitary districts. These were formed from earlier jurisdictions, such as parishes, townships, and hamlets.

Other Welsh Gazetteers

The most reliable and extensive Welsh gazetteer is the one by Melville Richards (mentioned previously). Others are:

Elwyn Davies, ed. *Rhestr O Enwau Lleoedd* (A Gazetteer of Welsh Place-Names). Cardiff, Wales: University of Wales Press, 1967. (FHL book 942.9 E5b; computer number 0185452.) This gazetteer has a useful list of place-names. It also contains a Welsh/English glossary of terms relating to places, a mutation table, and a pronunciation guide.

Hill, Ellen, and Del Ora Guymon Cook. *A Gazetteer of Wales*. 5 vol. Salt Lake City, Utah: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1953. (FHL book 942.9 E5g; film 823795; computer number 0172893.) This gazetteer incorporates all places listed in *Bartholomew’s Gazetteer*, *Lewis’s Topographical Dictionary*, *Crockford’s Clerical Directory*, *The Parish Register Abstract*, and *Burke’s Key to the Ancient Parishes of England and Wales*.

Lewis, Samuel. *Topographical Dictionary of Wales*. 2 vols. London: S. Lewis, 1833. (FHL book 942.9 E5l; film 599780 item 2–3; fiche 6026723; computer number 0171642.) While many gentlemen's seats (landed families' residences), lakes, mountains, and other places are included, they are mentioned under the parish or town in which they are located.

Cassell's Gazetteer of Great Britain and Ireland. 6 vols. London: Cassell and Company, Ltd., 1894–8. (FHL book 942 E5ca; films 599360–1 and 924936; computer number 0170245.) This work gives parish names and descriptions.

Some gazetteers are available for a single county such as Pembrokeshire for an even smaller places such as Dinas Powys hundred. Gazetteers and similar place-name guides are found in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under one of the following:

GREAT BRITAIN - GAZETTEERS
WALES - GAZETTEERS
WALES, [COUNTY] - GAZETTEERS
WALES - NAMES, GEOGRAPHICAL
WALES, [COUNTY] - NAMES,
GEOGRAPHICAL

GENEALOGY

The term *genealogy* is used in this outline to describe records that contain family information gathered by individuals, societies, or archives. These records may include pedigree charts, compiled family information, correspondence, ancestor lists, research exchange files, record abstracts, and collections of original or copied documents. These excellent sources can save you valuable time. However, they may contain inaccuracies, and you should verify the information found in them.

Major Collections and Databases

The Family History Library has several sources that contain previous research or can lead you to others who are interested in sharing family information. These sources include:

- *International Genealogical Index*. This index provides names and vital information for millions of deceased persons who lived in Wales. This valuable research tool lists birth, christening, or marriage dates. The index for Wales includes names extracted from parish registers and chapel records by volunteers and names submitted by other researchers.

The International Genealogical Index is available on microfiche and on compact disc. If

you are using the microfiche, you need to know which county to search. If you are using the compact disc edition, the computer will search the entire country for any name.

Because of patronymic naming customs, the International Genealogical Index lists Welsh entries under both given names and surnames. On the compact disc edition, you can also search for either a given name or a surname.

The International Genealogical Index for Wales can be difficult to use unless you understand a few points. The Welsh names in the International Genealogical Index have come from two main sources: a systematic extraction of the christenings, births, and marriages in church and chapel records and entries submitted by individual researchers. The *Parish and Vital Records List* is a list of the records and time periods that were systematically extracted. This list is available in print or microfiche formats at the Family History Library and in the Family History Centers.

Many Welsh people did not have surnames in much of the period covered by the International Genealogical Index. They used patronymics. For an explanation of patronymics (see the "Names, Personal" section of this outline). Other families had established surnames. In 1813, the Established Church in Wales started using a standard, printed form for their parish registers, which included a column for surname. This made it relatively easy to determine if the family was using patronymics. Before that date, there wasn't a surname column, so there was no way to determine if "William the son of John Thomas" would grow up to be "William John," "William Jones," "William Thomas," or by another name.

Welsh naming customs created a need to standardize the extraction of names for the International Genealogical Index. Before 1813, all births or christenings were extracted as a patronymic name, even though the family may have had an established surname.

Some entries in the early registers include a string of names, such as "Rachel daughter of Thomas John Charles of Glasgoed." These multiple names carry their owner's genealogy, but create problems when trying to index them. The International Genealogical Index treats the first two names as the most important and discards the rest. In the example, Rachel would be listed as the daughter of Thomas John.

In an effort to help you with these problems, the Wales International Genealogical Index has two indexes: the "given name index" and the

“surname index.” Most entries are indexed twice, once under a person’s surname and once under his or her given name. When doing a given name search, take into account that the Welsh and English equivalents for a given name were sometimes indexed together (Dafydd and David) and sometimes indexed separately (Griffith, Guto and Griffin).

In order to compensate for the problems, follow these suggestions:

- When searching for a specific baptism or birth after 1812, use the surname index. If you know that your ancestor used patronymics or came from an area where patronymics were still being used after 1812, you may need to search the given name index.
- In the computer version, a parent search can be done only when the father’s surname is in all capital letters. The records extracted as patronymics prior to 1813 do not consider the father’s second name as a proper surname; therefore, the parent search will not work on most pre-1813 entries.
- When searching for a specific baptism or birth before 1813, search the given name index, not the surname index. The index will list all children by the same name, such as William, listing them in order from the earliest date of baptism or birth to the most recent. You may use the surname index if you know your family was using patronymics and you know the father’s given name.
- Search for a marriage under the surname of the bride or groom.
- Search for all marriages after 1812 with a specific surname, as in a one-name study.

In summary, use the surname index (or surname search) for births and baptisms after 1813 and for marriage at all times, but use the given name index (given name search) for births and baptisms before 1813. Use the parent search on the computer version only when the father’s surname is in all capital letters. Always check the entries you find with the original record from which they were extracted.

- **Ancestral File.** This file, part of FamilySearch, contains family history information linked in family groups and pedigrees that have been contributed since 1979. Ancestral File contains thousands of Welsh families. It can print pedigree charts, family group records, and

individual summary sheets for any person in the file.

- **Family Group Records Collection.** Millions of family group record forms have been microfilmed in the Family Group Records Collection. These forms include many Welsh families. There are two major sections: the Archive Section and the Patrons Section. The film numbers for both sections are listed in the Author/Title Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

FAMILY GROUP RECORDS COLLECTION

Family Histories

Many families have produced histories or newsletters that may include pedigrees, biographies, photographs, or other valuable information.

The Family History Library has a few Welsh family histories and newsletters listed in the Surname Search of the Family History Library Catalog. Only the major surnames discussed in a history are listed in the catalog.

Genealogical Collections

Due to the intricacies of early Welsh land tenure and the unchallenged jurisdiction of tribal laws, a tribe member, upon reaching 14 years of age, had to establish his freeborn status with the tribe. Knowing his genealogy for at least nine generations was required for him to get his inheritance. Many Welsh pedigree collections have been produced from this tradition.

The Family History Library has some collections of Welsh genealogical material, including published and unpublished collections of family histories and lineages as well as the research files of prominent genealogists.

The National Inventory of Documentary Sources in the United Kingdom and Ireland lists major manuscript collections and a few published guides (see the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline).

The Golden Grove pedigrees are a large manuscript collection on film in the Family History Library (FHL **film 104349–52**; computer number 0716866). They are indexed on **film 104351** but require some time to search because of the way the index was compiled.

Three sources for finding Welsh pedigrees compiled from manuscript pedigrees at the National Library of Wales are:

Bartrum, Peter C. *Welsh Genealogies A.D. 1400–1500*. 18 vols. Aberystwyth, Wales: National Library of Wales, 1983 (FHL book 942.9 D2bw; computer number 0264817.) Eight of the 10 volumes are indexes to the pedigrees.

Bartrum, Peter C. *Welsh Genealogies A.D. 300–1400*. 8 vols. Aberystwyth, Wales: National Library of Wales, 1974 (FHL fiche 6025561; computer number 0128988.) This source is indexed.

Smith, Frank. *Smith's Inventory of Genealogical Sources: Wales*. 14 vols. Salt Lake City: Family History Library, 1994. (FHL book 942.9 D23fs; fiche 6110529; computer number 0755490). This work is a subject and surname index to items within selected periodicals, books, and films.

The following books contain alphabetical lists of surnames for which published pedigrees of at least three generations were found. Under each surname, the brief title of the published book(s) is given.

Marshall, George W., ed. *The Genealogist's Guide*. Reprint of 1903 ed. Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1980. (FHL book 929.142 M356g; film 496451; computer number 0191131.) This book, continued in the following books by Whitmore and Barrow, is a valuable source to use when looking for pedigrees.

Whitmore, John B. *A Genealogical Guide: An Index to British Pedigrees in Continuation of Marshall's Genealogist's Guide (1903)*. London: Walford Bro., 1953. (FHL book 929.142 M356g supp.; fiche 6054492; computer number 0375591.) This book continues Marshall's guide and is continued by Barrow.

Barrow, Geoffrey B. *The Genealogist's Guide: An Index to Printed British Pedigrees and Family Histories, 1950–1975*. London: Research Publishing, 1977. (FHL book 929.142 M356g; fiche 6026284; computer number 0008520.) This book continues those by Marshall and Whitmore.

A few collections are discussed in the “Biography” and “Nobility” sections of this outline.

Genealogical collections are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

GREAT BRITAIN - GENEALOGY
ENGLAND - GENEALOGY
WALES - GENEALOGY
WALES, [COUNTY] - GENEALOGY

Since most persons with the same surname are not related, you may have to do some research to connect your family to a family listed in one of these sources.

Research Coordination

Many Welsh family history societies produce a “Directory of Member Interests” that lists members of their society and the surnames of families in which they are interested. For more information, see the “Societies” section of this outline.

The following publications show names and addresses of individuals and the family names they are researching. Using them may help you coordinate your research efforts.

Federation of Family History Societies. *British Isles Genealogical Register*. S.l.:The Federation, 1997. (FHL fiche 6344978 for the address list and 6344979 for the index.) This work is often referred to as the “Big R.”

Johnson, Keith A. and Malcolm R. Sainty. *Genealogical Research Directory*. Sydney: Genealogical Research Directory Editors, 1996. (FHL book 929.1025 G286grd; computer number 0507132.) Search all editions since the directory is published yearly and specific family names may appear in only one edition.

It is also possible to find lists of people who are researching certain surnames through the GENUKI Web site at:

www.genuki.org.uk

From the above site:

Click [**County of your choice**].
Click **Genealogy**.
Click **Surnames List**.

The Guild of One Name Studies publishes a list of organizations that study specific surnames:

Register of One-Name Studies. 12th ed. London: Guild of One-Name Studies, 1996. (FHL book 942 D24re 1996; computer number 0775295.)

HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY

Learning about the places where your ancestors lived helps you find and understand the records about them. Local histories and gazetteers have information about changes in the land and community in which people lived.

Counties evolved more slowly in Wales than in England. The county boundaries in Wales changed

in 1974, then again in 1996. The new county names are used on recent maps and in current addresses. The pre-1974 county names are used in the Family History Library Catalog and for most research purposes.

Monmouthshire, a pre-1974 county, was sometimes considered part of England and other times part of Wales. After 1974 Monmouth became the Welsh county of Gwent and then reverted to Monmouth in 1996. Monmouth is listed in the Family History Library Catalog under the country of England.

The following books explain more about Welsh historical geography. You can find these and similar materials at the Family History Library and many other research libraries.

Rees, William. *An Historical Atlas of Wales*. 2nd ed. London: Faber and Faber, 1972. (FHL book 942.9 E3r; computer number 0164588.)

Davis, Margaret. *Wales in Maps*. 2nd ed. Cardiff, Wales: University of Wales Press, 1958. (FHL book 942.9 E3d; computer number 0164587.)

Other sources are found in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

WALES - HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY
WALES - HISTORY
WALES - MAPS

HISTORY

You will need to understand the historical events that affected your ancestors and the records about them. Knowledge concerning wars, local events, laws, migrations, settlement patterns, and economic or religious trends will help you find records, such as settlement certificates or military records, where your ancestors are mentioned.

Some key dates and events in Welsh history are:

1282– Anglesey, Caernarfon, Cardigan, Flint, and
1536 part of Carmarthen were consolidated and put under English rule. This military conquest was resisted and not completed for centuries. The area became known as the Principality of Wales. The other parts of Wales were slowly absorbed into the United Kingdom and had a varied history of administration.

1536 Wales and England are united politically. The Welsh language could no longer be used for official documents. Henry VIII dissolved the monasteries and broke with the Roman Catholic church creating the Church of England and the Church of Wales.

1642– Civil War. Oliver Cromwell became Lord
60 Protector of Wales, bishop's courts were abolished, many other changes affected records.

1733 English replaced Latin in official records, but local practice varied greatly.

1752 The new Gregorian calendar was adopted. The first day of the year changed from March 25 (Lady's Day) to January 1.

1780– The industrial revolution resulted in the
1900 growth of towns, the depopulation of many rural areas, and emigration to England and overseas.

1800– The population of Wales doubled, bringing
51 about many social changes, particularly increased emigration.

1832 The first railway was built in Wales.

1834 Poor Law Unions are created to administer relief to the poor.

1837 Civil registration began on 1 July.

1841 The first census to list every individual by name was taken.

1858 Principal Probate Registry began handling all Welsh probates.

1974 County boundaries changed dramatically.

1996 County boundaries changed.

For dates and records of wars, and key dates relating to church records, see the "Military Records" and "Church History" sections of this outline. For dates of the reigns of British rulers, see:

Cheney, C.R., ed. *Handbook of Dates for Students of English History*. London: Offices of the Royal Historical Society, 1978. (FHL 942 C4rg no. 4; computer number 0182298.)

Two of the many available historical sources are:

Tomas, Hugh, E.D. Evans, and A.H. Dodd. eds. *A History of Wales*. 3 vol. Cardiff, Wales: University of Wales Press. (FHL book 942.9 H2wh; computer numbers 0055323 and 0105786.) The volumes are organized by time period, 1465–1906.

Williams, David. *A History of Modern Wales*. London: John Murray, 1977. (FHL book 942.9 H2w; computer number 0051901.) This history covers from 1485 to the twentieth century.

You can find other histories in the Family History Library Catalog under:

GREAT BRITAIN - HISTORY
WALES - HISTORY

Many bibliographies of histories are available. A helpful one is:

Annual Bibliography of British and Irish History. Annual vols. Brighton, England: Harvester Press, 1976–. (FHL book 942 A3e; computer number 0092251.)

Others are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

GREAT BRITAIN - HISTORY -
BIBLIOGRAPHY
WALES - HISTORY - BIBLIOGRAPHY

Local Histories

A local history describes the economy; prominent families; and the founding of churches, hospitals, schools, and businesses in an area. Even if a local history does not mention your ancestor, you may find important clues that suggest other records to search.

For some localities there may be several histories. There are many histories of Welsh parishes. Local and parish histories are available at the Family History Library and often at major public and academic libraries and archives. Those at the Family History Library are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

WALES, [COUNTY] - HISTORY
WALES, [COUNTY], [PARISH] - HISTORY

Calendar Changes

The Gregorian calendar, the one commonly used today, is a correction of the Julian calendar. Because of miscalculated leap years, the Julian calendar was 11 days behind the solar year by 1752.

Great Britain began using the new calendar in 1752. Eleven days were omitted to bring the calendar in line with the solar year. The day after Wednesday, 2 September 1752, became Thursday, 14 September 1752.

Also at that time, the first day of the year changed to 1 January. Before 1752, the first day of the year was 25 March.

Pre-1752 dates may be confusing. Dates between 1 January and 24 March are often recorded using a technique called double dating. For example, the day after 31 December 1696 would be 1 January 1696/7 and the day after 24 March 1565/6 was 25 March 1566.

LAND AND PROPERTY

Land records can help you learn where and when an individual lived in a specific place. They can also help you establish patronymic family ties and provide information not found in church or chapel records. The wealthy owned the land, but they kept records about the poor who rented the land from them.

Estate Records

Estate records, dating from medieval times into the twentieth century, are Welsh land and property records. They are some of the best sources of information about the poorer classes. The types and survival of material in estate records vary greatly. Generally, the documents can be grouped into three main categories:

- **Personal records.** These include letters, diaries, household accounts, and memorabilia of the owner and his family.
- **Business records.** These include deeds, conveyances, rent rolls, receipts and disbursements, and duty books. Manor records are also included in this category.
- **Governmental records.** Often included among private estate papers are official governmental papers. Families who owned land served as county officials. Some county records have been found among private papers. Other governmental records include land tax records, court minutes, and official correspondence.

To locate estate records you need to know the name of the estate owner. Approximately four out of five people in Wales rented the property they lived on. If you can locate your ancestor in the tithe apportionment or land tax records, you will find the name of the owner of the property. For more

information, see the “Taxation” section of this outline.

Availability of Estate Records

If any estate records of a land owner survive, they may be in a record office or library, where you can search them for references to the family you seek. The National Library of Wales has many estate records in its manuscript department. Most county record offices also have collections of estate papers. For a general description of the collections containing estate records at the National Library of Wales see:

The National Library of Wales. *Guide To The Department of Manuscripts And Records: The National Library of Wales*. Aberystwyth, Wales: National Library of Wales, 1996. (FHL book 942.9 A3g; computer number 0752109.)

The staff of the National Library of Wales is preparing various indexes to these estate records. The Family History Library has filmed some of these indexes. The Topographical Index and Estate Index will help you identify estate records and which collection they are a part of. The codes given on the index cards may be interpreted by using the *Key to Schedules Indexed*. (FHL film 1597120 item 2; computer number 0502794.) For more information on how to use the indexes and schedules see:

Department of Manuscripts And Records. *Indexes To Schedules: Introduction*. Aberystwyth, Wales: The National Library of Wales, 1978. (FHL film number 1597120 item 1; computer number 0502794.)

Look for the indexes, calendars and schedules in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

WALES - LAND AND PROPERTY -
INDEXES
WALES - LAWS AND LEGISLATION -
INDEXES
WALES - LAND AND PROPERTY
WALES, [COUNTY] - LAND AND
PROPERTY

Some record offices also have indexes to their estate records. The *National Inventory of Documentary Sources in the United Kingdom* contains many calendars to estate records on microfiche. See the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline.

Many estate records are still in private hands. One way to locate these records is through the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts. See the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline.

Further information about estate records can be obtained from:

The Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts. *Guides to Sources for British History based on the National Register of Archives. Principal Family And Estate Collections: Family Names A–K*. London: Her Majesty’s Stationery Office. 1996. (FHL book 942 H25gs v.10; computer number 0776840.) This volume is currently available in the library. The volume containing surnames L–Z is not yet available.

Manorial Records

Manorial records include information about land transfers and rent payments for tenants of the manor. See the “Court Records” section of this outline for more information about manorial records.

LANGUAGE AND LANGUAGES

Though most Welsh records are written in English, understanding some basic elements of the Welsh language can help you with your research. Do not, however, rely on a translation of a record made by using a dictionary. Get help from someone who knows the language.

The Welsh Alphabet

Though the Welsh and English alphabets are very similar, each has some letters not used in the other. The letters *j*, *k*, *q*, *v*, and *z* are not used in the Welsh language. The following double letters are treated as a single letter in Welsh: *ch*, *dd*, *ff*, *ll*, *ng*, *ph*, *rh*, and *th*. These letters are part of the Welsh alphabet.

When you use a Welsh dictionary or an index written in Welsh, use Welsh, not English, alphabetical order.

Welsh Pronunciation

The sounds produced by certain letters in the Welsh alphabet are often misinterpreted and spelled incorrectly. This is particularly true of Welsh sounds not used in English. For example, the sound made by a double *l* (*ll*) is formed by placing the tongue at the roof of the mouth and blowing air sharply out the side. The sound comes when using it in conjunction with other letters. Words with *ll* are often misspelled. For example, *Slanvihangel* should be *Llanfihangel*, and *Tlhangthovery* should be *Llanddoverly*.

The letter *dd*, which forms the soft *th* sound, also causes confusion. *Pontypridd* should be pronounced with *pridd* rhyming with the word *breathe*.

The following table lists Welsh letters and their sounds:

Letter	Pronunciation
a	Ah as in father.
b	Same as English <i>b</i> .
c	K as in cat, never soft as in cease.
ch	Like Scottish <i>ch</i> as in <i>loch</i> .
d	Like English <i>d</i> .
dd	Voiced <i>th</i> as in <i>breathe</i> .
e	The sound as in <i>breath</i> .
f	Like English <i>v</i> .
ff	Like English <i>f</i> .
g	Hard <i>g</i> as in <i>get</i> .
ng	Sound as in <i>longer</i> .
h	Like English <i>h</i> .
i	Long <i>e</i> as in <i>meet</i> .
l	Like English <i>l</i> .
ll	No English equivalent. Made by putting tip of tongue on roof of mouth and blowing.
m	Like English <i>m</i> .
n	Like English <i>n</i> .
o	Long <i>o</i> as in <i>go</i> .
p	Like English <i>p</i> .
ph	Like English <i>f</i> as in <i>phone</i> .
r	Trilled <i>r</i> .
rh	No English equivalent. Made by blowing while trilling an <i>r</i> .
s	Soft <i>s</i> as in <i>sat</i> , never as in <i>advise</i> .
t	Same as English <i>t</i> .
th	Unvoiced <i>th</i> as in <i>wreath</i> .
u	Long <i>e</i> as in <i>tea</i> .
w	<i>Oo</i> as in <i>broom</i> .
y	<i>Uh</i> as in <i>come</i> ; or long <i>e</i> as in <i>family</i> .

Note: The letters *j*, *k*, *q*, *v*, and *z* are not used in Welsh.

Using a Welsh Dictionary

If you cannot find a word in the dictionary, it may be that:

- Your dictionary is too small.
- The word is mutated (see below).
- The word is a conjugated verb. For example, *dod* (to come) is in the dictionary, but *daeth* (he came) is not.

- The word is a conjugated preposition. *Am* (about) is in the dictionary, but *amdani* (about her) is not.
- The word is a comparative or superlative adjective. *Hen* (old) is listed, but *h n* (older), and *hynaf* (oldest) are not.
- The word is a contraction. *O* (from) and *yr* (the) are both listed, but their contracted form *o'r* (from the) is not.
- The word contains double letters such as *ch*, *dd*, *ll*, *ng*, and *rh*, which are filed after single letters. For example:

The word	Would follow
<i>rhad</i> (free)	<i>ruban</i> (ribbon)
<i>dichell</i> (treachery)	<i>dicter</i> (anger)
<i>goddef</i> (to bear)	<i>godro</i> (to milk)
<i>gwyllt</i> (wild)	<i>gwyllan</i> (seagull)

If a word you find in a dictionary does not make sense in the record's context:

- It may be part of a two-word preposition. *Ol* is a noun meaning "track." When it is combined with *ar* (on), the result is the preposition *ar ol*, meaning "after."
- It may be part of an idiomatic expression. *Hen* by itself means "old," but *hen bryd* means "high time."
- It may be an archaic word or have a changed meaning.

Books that can help you understand Welsh are:

Bowen, John T., and T. S. Rhys Jones. *Welsh: A Complete Course for Beginners*. David McKay Company Inc., 1960. (FHL book 942.9 A8b; computer number 0164405.)

Evans, H. Meurig, and W. O. Thomas. *Y Geiriadur Mawr* (The Complete Welsh-English English-Welsh Dictionary). Swansea, Wales: C. Davies, 1981. (FHL book 491.66321 Ev15y; computer number 0113294.)

Geiriadur Prifysgol Cymru (A Dictionary of the Welsh Language). Vol. 1-. Caerdydd: Gwasg Prifysgol Cymru (Cardiff, Wales: University of Wales Press), 1950-. (FHL book 403.429 W465g; computer number 0258257) This dictionary is being published in volumes; publication is still in progress. It is the most authoritative dictionary and gives Welsh spellings and English definitions.

Williams, Stephen J. *A Welsh Grammar*. Cardiff, Wales: University of Wales Press, 1980. (FHL book 942.9 G2ws; computer number 0344127.)

You may also find more language aids, including a audio recording of the pronunciation of some Welsh place-names, through the GENUKI Web site at:

www.genuki.org.uk/big/wal/#Lang

From the above site:

Click **Sounds of Wales**.

Language books can be found in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

WALES - LANGUAGE AND LANGUAGES

They can also be found in the Subject Search under:

WELSH LANGUAGE - DICTIONARIES - ENGLISH

Mutations

In Welsh, the first letter of a word often changes or disappears. This is called *mutation*. For example, *teulu* (family) can be *deulu*, *nheulu*, or *theulu*. Mutated words are not in Welsh dictionaries, so use the following chart to change a mutated word back to its original form:

If the word			
Begins with	Look under	Begins with	Look under
a	g	mh	p
b	p	n	d and g
ch	c	ng	g
d	t	ngh	c
dd	d	nh	t
e	g	o	g
f	b and m	ph	p
g	c	r	g and rh
h	all vowels (including w and y)	rh	r
i	g	th	t
l	g and ll	w	g
m	b	y	g

Latin

Until 1733 many records were kept in Latin. Sometimes records written in English contain some Latin words. Knowing some Latin will help you read these records. For help with Latin words, see the *Latin Genealogical Word List* (34077) or the following books:

Ainsworth, Robert. *Thesaurus Linguae Latinae Compendarius*. London: F. Westly and A. H. Davis, 1836. (FHL book 473 Ai65a 1836; film 599788; computer number 258012.)

Simpson, Elizabeth, comp. *Latin Word-List for Family Historians*. Birmingham: Federation of Family History Societies, 1985. (FHL book 478.1 S581; computer number 0428366.)

MAPS

Maps can help you find where your ancestors lived. There are many types of maps. Each can help you in a different way. Historical maps describe economic growth and development, boundaries, migration and settlement patterns, and other historical information. Road maps provide details on highways, rivers, and town size. Other types of maps include parish, county, topographical maps, enclosure, civil district, and church diocesan.

Maps are published separately or in bound collections, called atlases. You may find maps in gazetteers, guidebooks, local histories, directories, or history texts.

Since 1800, the Ordnance Survey has been the major source of topographical maps. English, Welsh, Scottish, and Irish maps are available in 1, 6, and 25 inches to the mile. The series has been revised and published at different dates. There are also Ordnance Survey maps of greater detail (up to 10 feet to the mile).

Using Maps

Use maps carefully because:

- Often several places have the same name. For example, there are many references to Glasfryn (Green Hill) or Bryn Hyfryd (Mount Pleasant) in Wales.
- The place-name on the map may not be spelled as expected (names were often spelled as they sounded).
- Parish boundaries are seldom indicated; however, the larger scale ordnance survey maps do show parish boundaries.

Finding the Specific Place on the Map

Because many localities have the same name, you may need some additional information before you can find on a map where your ancestor lived. Learn all you can about the area, including:

- The parish and county in which the place is located.
- The civil registration district that served your ancestor's parish (after 1837).
- The names of the churches and chapels.
- The size of the town and parish.
- The names of other villages in the parish.
- Your ancestor's occupation (this may indicate the industries or the size of the area).
- Nearby localities, such as large cities.
- Places where related ancestors lived.
- Nearby features, such as rivers and mountains.
- The area's industries.

Finding Maps and Atlases

Maps and atlases are available at historical societies, county record offices, and public and academic libraries. The earliest large-scale ordnance survey maps not only show the churches and chapels in each parish but also the name and denomination of each. The 6 inch scale maps also show parish and township boundaries. The 6 inch ordnance survey maps are ideal for doing research in rural Wales because of their detail.

You can get a catalog of available modern ordnance and survey maps from:

Ordnance Survey Office
Dept. LM
Romsey Road, Maybush
Southampton SO9 4DH
England

The Ordnance Survey Office also has an Internet Web site at:

www.ordsvy.gov.uk/home/index.html

Information is also accessible through the GENUKI Web site at:

www.genuki.org.uk

You can get photocopies of early editions of the ordnance survey maps from:

National Library of Wales
Maps and Prints Department
Aberystwyth
Dyfed SY23 3BU
Wales

You may also gain access to some maps through the GENUKI Web site at:

www.genuki.org.uk/big/#Maps

Some maps at the Family History Library are:

Ordnance Survey. Scale 1:50,000. Rev. ed. Southampton: Director General of the Ordnance Survey, 1972. (FHL map 942 E7me; computer number 0173014.) The 1-inch-to-the-mile edition contains nine sheets covering most of South Wales.

Ordnance Surveyors' Drawings, 1790–1840. On microfiche, 2- and 3-inches-to-the-mile. (FHL fiche 6066967; computer number 0507535.) There are 425 microfiche in this set, and the first three fiche are an index to the set. The first ordnance survey maps were made from these ordnance survey drawings. They are very detailed, and represent the best maps in the Family History Library for Wales.

Gardner, David E., et. al. **A Genealogical Atlas of England and Wales.** Scale (est.) 1:300,000. Provo, Utah: Stevenson's Genealogical Center, 1974. (FHL book 942 E3g 1974; computer number 0474726.) This is a reprint of 1840s Samuel Lewis maps with an index to parish churches. It shows just over 5 miles to the inch.

Humphery-Smith, Cecil R. **The Phillimore Atlas and Index of Parish Registers.** Chichester, Sussex: Phillimore & Co., 1995. (FHL book 942 E7pa 1995; computer number 0081953.) This work includes an indexed parish boundary map and general topographical map for South Wales, Mid-Wales, and North Wales.

MERCHANT MARINE

A merchant marine is a person who worked aboard commercial vessels. You may want to search merchant shipping records if you find one of the following terms in records about your ancestor: captain, mariner, seaman, mate, boatswain (bosun), or super cargo.

Records of Welsh ships and seamen can be found at the Cardiff branch of the National Museum of Wales and the Gwynedd Record Office. The latter publishes the following journal, which is a very

good source of information on Welsh seafarers and their ships.

Gwynedd Archives Service, Editorial Board and Contributors. *Cymru A'r Mor* (Maritime Wales). Caernarfon, Wales: Gwynedd Archives Service, 1976-. (FHL book 942.9 H25m; computer number 0379796.)

Details about Welsh seamen can also be found with records about English seamen. The Board of Trade (BT) kept merchant marine records. Some are discussed in this section. The numbers for the record classes are added for convenience.

Ship's Muster Rolls and Agreements and Crew Lists (BT 98). The ship master had to carry a written agreement with every crew member stating his wages, the capacity in which he was serving, and the nature of the voyage. These records were kept from 1747 to 1860. Pre-1854 records are arranged by port and ship number. Post-1854 records are arranged by ship number. *Lloyd's Marine Collection* can provide the ship number.

Lloyd's Marine Collection. This collection contains several types of records. One example is the captains' registers from 1869 to 1947. These show the captain's birth date and place, certificate number, examination date and place, the vessels on which he served, and death date.

More information about this marine collection is in:

Hall, Christopher A. *A Guide to the Lloyd's Marine Collection at the Guildhall Library*. London: Guildhall Library, 1985. (FHL book 942.1/L1 A3hc; computer number 0463853.)

Register of Seamen (BT 112, 119, 120). These registers contain copies of the certificates issued to individuals authorizing them to serve on a ship. The registers exist for the years 1835 to 1856 and give the man's age, birthplace, date of first going to sea, rank, service record, and the ship's name. Those from 1844 to 1856 give a physical description of the man. The registers for some years are indexed.

Births, Deaths, and Marriages Occurring On Board British Merchant Vessels (BT 158-60). Shipboard events were recorded in a ship's log. They cover the years 1854 to 1890. Some of these records are indexed.

Surname Index to the 1861 Census Returns of Ships. This is an alphabetical list (FHL fiche 6025598, 8 fiche; computer number 0506739) of all people who were on board merchant and smaller vessels when the 1861 census was taken. Some naval ships are also included. These ships are not emigrant ships. The few passengers listed are

usually family members of the crew. The information includes name, age, occupation, birthplace, name of the ship, and reference numbers for finding the records either in the Family Record Centre (see the "Archives and Libraries" section for the address) or in the Family History Library.

Census returns for other years include lists of persons on board ships. They are filed with the returns of the port city where the ship was docked.

Trinity House Petitions. These appeals for relief from poverty-stricken merchant seamen or their widows exist for 1780 to 1880 and often include birth, marriage, and death information. There are several Trinity Houses in Great Britain. Some of the records are indexed. For an index to the petitions for the London hospital, see:

The Trinity House Petitions. London: Society of Genealogists, 1987. (FHL book 942 U3tr; computer number 0427261.)

Certificates of Competency and Service: Masters, Mates and Engineers (BT 121-127, 139-142). If a man wanted to become a master or mate, he had to take an examination. A certificate showing the name, the date and place of birth, and the date and place the certificate was issued was given to the man after the examination. Registers were kept of these certificates. They start in 1845, but few were kept until compulsory registration in 1850.

Two valuable pamphlets on researching merchant marine records are:

Records of the Registrar General of Shipping and Seamen. London: Public Record Office, 1983. (FHL book 942.1/L1 A3pa no. 5; computer number 0746297.) Discusses records available at the Public Record Office.

Watts, Christopher T., and Michael J. Watts. ***My Ancestor Was a Merchant Seaman: How Can I Find Out More About Him?*** Reprint with addendum. London: Society of Genealogists, 1991. (FHL book 942 U37w 1991; computer number 0432166.) This guide explains the contents of a variety of records as they relate to the merchant seaman, including *Lloyd's Marine Collection*.

Foreign Consular Records. Foreign consular records include records of seamen who died at sea. The place where the seaman came from is often included. The records are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

GREAT BRITAIN - CIVIL REGISTRATION

Records in the Family History Library

The Family History Library has copies of the captains' registers, Trinity House petitions, and all Board of Trade records discussed here except the Certificates of Competency and Service. The Board of Trade records are now housed in the Public Record Office. *Lloyd's Marine Collection* is in the Guildhall Library. The merchant marine records in the Family History Library are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under one of the following:

ENGLAND - MERCHANT MARINE
GREAT BRITAIN - MERCHANT MARINE

MILITARY RECORDS

Military records can be of great genealogical value and may provide information not found in any other source. These records identify individuals who served or were eligible to serve in the military. Military service (other than the militia) was usually a lifetime career. Officers came from the upper classes; soldiers usually came from the poor. A compulsory draft was seldom used, except by the militia.

You can discover that an ancestor served in the military from family records, biographies, censuses, probates, civil registration, or church records.

The "regular army" and the navy were the major branches of the military. Militia, fencibles, yeomanry, territorial armies, coast guard, royal marines, and merchant marines were also branches of the armed forces that kept their own records. See "Other Records" in this section for more information about these groups.

History and Background

Men from England and Wales were almost always involved in some military action. Some of these were:

- 1455–1485 ***Wars of the Roses.*** These ongoing wars involved mostly knights pledged to lords or vassals. Few commoners were involved, and few records were kept.
- 1642–1649 ***Civil War and Cromwellian period.*** Disputes over the form of government and religion led to civil war. Only very brief military records of officers still exist.

- 1755–1762 ***Seven Years War.*** Called the French and Indian Wars in North America, this war involved 120,000 British soldiers; from this time on a continuous series of army records were kept.

- 1775–1783 ***U.S. Revolutionary War.*** There were 135,000 men in the British army when fighting broke out in North America. After the war, some men remained in Canada, but most returned to England. Records of "Loyalists" and others who remained in Canada are separate from other military records.

- 1805–1815 ***Napoleonic Wars.*** Numerous battles across Europe involved 365,000 British soldiers and 300,000 seamen. These battles include the "Peninsular Wars" in Portugal and Spain.

- 1854–1856 ***Crimean War.*** 225,000 troops were involved in the Crimea (Russian Black Sea).

- 1857–1860 ***Indian Mutiny.*** Many of the troops discharged after the Crimean War were recalled to quell the revolt in India.

- 1877–1901 ***South African (Boer) Wars.*** The first Anglo-Boer War led to South African independence in 1881. The second Anglo-Boer War (1898–1901) led to the unification of South Africa in 1910.

- 1914–1918 ***First World War.*** About 35,000 Welsh servicemen died.

- 1939–1945 ***Second World War.*** About 20,000 Welsh servicemen died.

Army Records. The army began as a permanent organization in 1660. Earlier armies were raised as needed, usually as county militia units. For information on pre-1660 military records, see the handbooks listed at the end of this section.

Pre-1847 English army service was usually for life. Some soldiers were discharged early for disability, which was liberally defined. A soldier was often discharged by the age of forty.

Pre-1872 army records are organized by regiment. Most regiments have published histories that tell the places where they served and the battles they fought. For a bibliography of these histories, see:

White, Arthur S., comp. ***A Bibliography of Regimental Histories of the British Army.*** Dallington, East Sussex: Naval and Military Press Ltd., 1992. (FHL book 942 M23was; computer number 0666228.)

Military histories or regimental histories are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

GREAT BRITAIN - MILITARY HISTORY
WALES - MILITARY HISTORY

Navy Records. The first permanent naval fleet was formed during the reign of King Henry VIII (1509–47). For many years Britain had the strongest navy in the world. The earliest surviving navy records are from 1617, but the majority of the extensive collection date from the mid-1600s. Many records are available only at the Public Record Office. Several sources list navy ships with descriptions and the dates on which they were placed in service. One such work is:

Colledge, James J. *Ships of the Royal Navy*. Annapolis, Md.: Naval Institute Press, 1987. (FHL book 942 M3c; computer number 0510642.)

Naval *Official List* books, available from 1673, give ports of call for ships during each year. Some of these lists are available in the Family History Library.

Seamen often moved between the navy and the merchant marines. Until 1853, enlistment was informal and lasted for the ship's commission, usually three years. After 1853, seamen (ratings) were assigned continuous service numbers, and records were maintained for the duration of their careers.

Royal Marines. This branch originally maintained military discipline on navy vessels. It has been a separate branch of the military since 1755. Alphabetically arranged records of marines exist from 1790, some by enlistment date and others by discharge date.

Twentieth Century Records

Lists of British soldiers who died in World War I and World War II have been compiled from official casualty lists and published in:

Soldiers Died in the Great War, 1914–1919. Reprint. 80 parts. Colchester: J. B. Hayward, 1988–89. (FHL book 942 M23s; computer number 0175532.) This work gives birth place, place of enlistment, rank, date of death, and cause of death.

The War Dead of the British Commonwealth and Empire. London: Imperial War Graves Commission, 1957. (FHL 942 M2wdf; film 1441037; computer number 0138318.) This work gives the name, rank, regiment, and grave

location for the casualties buried in France during World War II.

The Web site of the Commonwealth War Grave Commission is:

www.cwgc.org

For information on twentieth century army records, see:

Holding, Norman H. *World War I Army Ancestry*. 2nd ed. Solihull, England: Federation of Family History Societies (Publications) Ltd., 1991. (FHL book 942 M2hol; computer number 0265826.)

Holding, Norman H. *More Sources of World War I Army Ancestry*. 2nd ed. Solihull, England: Federation of Family History Societies (Publications) Ltd., 1991. (FHL book 942 M24hr; computer number 0640527.)

Understanding Military Records

Before you can use British military records, *you must determine the specific army regiment or navy ship on which your ancestor served*. For suggestions on finding this information, see “Search Strategies” at the end of this section.

Once you know the regiment or ship, the following records may help you trace your ancestor's career, age, and birthplace.

Muster Rolls. A commanding officer made every effort to list everyone on his muster rolls since the number of men determined his funding. The records usually list each person assigned to a ship or regiment at the muster date, his age on joining, the date on which he joined, the place where he joined, and sometimes information such as a dependent list (in later army musters) and birthplace (on sea musters from 1770). Army musters exist for 1760 to 1878. Navy musters cover 1667 to 1878. Naval musters contain alphabets (indexes organized by the first letter of the surname) from 1765.

Description Books. The army description book for each regiment includes each recruit's full name on attestation (enlistment), age when he joined, place where he joined, birthplace, previous trade, and physical description. Most books start about 1805 and continue to 1850. Many no longer exist. Similar records were kept for each navy ship from 1790, but many were never turned in or no longer exist.

Returns of Service. In 1806, the War Office compiled the first return of service, listing all men in the army. The scope, content, and frequency of

returns of service vary greatly. Returns of officers' service tend to be more complete, including the names of the officer and his wife and children; birth and marriage dates and places; and a complete summary of stations, regiments, and promotions.

The returns of officers' services for 1828 and 1829 have been transcribed and are found at the Family History Library. The following books serve as an index to the original returns of service for 1828 and 1829:

Children of Officers on Full or Half-pay, 1828.
Bound manuscript. N.p., n.d. (FHL book 942 M23ber; computer number 0173085.)

Children of Officers on Full-pay, 1829. Bound manuscript. N.p., n.d. (FHL book 942 M23be; computer number 0173131.)

Similar returns of naval officers begin in 1817. The naval returns are indexed at the Public Record Office (ADM 10). See the "Archives and Libraries" section of this outline for the address.

Pension Records. These records often contain details of an individual's reason for pension, his fitness on discharge, and sometimes the address where pension payments were sent.

Army pension records start in 1690. Pensions were awarded for length of service, disability, or wounds to most individuals who legally left army service. Sometimes the widows or children of military men received the payments. Payments to retired officers, called half-pay, were not considered pensions. Many different types of pension records covering different time periods still exist.

Naval pension records begin as early as 1617 and give the name of pensioner, reason for discharge, and sometimes next of kin, birthplace, age, and physical description.

Widow's or children's pension records often include marriage or baptismal certificates in support of the claim for assistance.

There are many other pension-related records among those of the Paymaster General (Class PMG) at the Public Record Office. The Family History Library also has some pension records.

Pay Records. Pay records include the following:

- Pay lists give the name and rate of pay and sometimes "to whom paid" (which may be a spouse or other relative). Navy pay lists were kept by ship and are not indexed. Active duty army personnel were paid from the muster rolls, and separate pay lists do not always exist.

- Pay warrants are records of actual payment filed with the Exchequer records at the Public Record Office. Final pay warrants often mention a will or administration and the death date.
- Pay ledgers contain the assignments of pay, addresses to which pay was sent (from 1837), and sometimes birth dates.
- Half-pay registers contain officers' names, ranks, regiments, dates of first half-pay, rates of pay, and sometimes death dates.

Ship Logs. While ship logs usually give limited information such as position, weather and sightings of other ships, they sometimes give shipboard events, including the names of individuals. Ship logs exist from 1673.

Continuous Service Engagement Books. From 1853, navy ratings (seamen) were assigned continuous service numbers. Continuous service engagement books give the name, birth date and place, description, and ship. Brief career details were later added. From 1872 until 1892, merchant seamen were included.

Registers of Service. These records tell which ship a man served on. For officers, these start in 1846. Those for warrant officers and seamen cover 1802 to 1871. Once you know the ship, use muster rolls for further details.

Soldiers' Documents. These records of army service relate only to those soldiers who were discharged to pension. The records contain the reason for discharge and details on age, birthplace, and trade or occupation on enlistment. They are arranged by regiment, then alphabetically by surname for the years 1760 through 1872. The records for 1873 to 1882 are alphabetically arranged by corps (cavalry, foot soldiers, guards, and so forth). From 1883 to 1914, these records are arranged in one alphabetical series.

The Public Record Office has a computerized index to the soldiers' documents from 1760 to 1854. The index shows the name, age, birthplace, year of enlistment and discharge, the regiment, and the reference to the original document.

Chaplains' Returns. Army chaplains throughout the British Empire kept records that list the baptisms, marriages, and burials of officers, soldiers, and their families. These returns (from 1760 to 1971) are indexed and are available by correspondence from the Office of National Statistics (formerly the Registrar General). See the "Archives and Libraries" section of this outline for the address. The indexes are available on microfiche in the Family History Library as listed below:

- Births 1796–1880 FHL fiche 6137330
(computer number 0827251)
- Marriages 1796–1955 FHL fiche 6137413
(computer number 0827644)
- Deaths 1786–1880 FHL fiche 6137109
(computer number 0821314)

Regimental Registers. Regiments kept birth, marriage, and death records for officers and men. Births and baptisms are indexed. These records (1761–1924) are available by correspondence from the Office of National Statistics (formerly the Registrar General). See the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline for the address. The indexes are available on microfiche in the Family History Library (FHL fiche 6137402–3; computer number 0827564).

Records of Service. These records, similar to soldiers’ documents, were kept for army officers from 1771 until 1911. However, they are incomplete before 1828. They contain the officer’s birth date and place; promotions; transfers; marriage date and place; his spouse’s name; and his children’s names, birth dates, and birthplaces.

Lists of Officers. Published annually, these records give an officer’s name, rank, regiment or ship, and date of commission. See:

Army List. London: several publishers, 1754–. (FHL book 942 M25g; films 856427–452 and others.) First published in 1740, they have been published continuously since 1754 and are indexed beginning in 1766. They list army officers and are arranged by regiment. Half-pay (semi-retired) officers were not included in the early indexes.

Navy List. London: several publishers, 1782–. (FHL book 942 M25gba; films 918928–940, 990323–326.) The *Navy List* names all commissioned officers, including masters, pursers, surgeons, chaplains, yard officers, coast guardsmen, and reservists.

World War I Service Files. These records are the service files of soldiers who were discharged from the British army between 1914 and 1920. They are a collection known as the “unburned documents.” They represent about 8 percent of the soldiers who served during those years.

The files usually contain the soldier’s unit name and number, birthplace, age at time of enlistment, name and address of next of kin, and date and reason for discharge. They may also include the names of his parents, spouse, and children. Some mention his occupation before he enlisted in the

service and show the assignments he had in the service. Some files contain death certificates.

The files are arranged alphabetically, but many documents are missing. Therefore, you will not find every soldier in these files.

The original files are at the Public Record Office in England. The Family History Library has microfilmed copies, which are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

GREAT BRITAIN - MILITARY RECORDS - ARMY - WORLD WAR, 1914-1918

Militia Lists and Musters. Militia lists contain the names of men eligible for military service. Militia musters are lists of men in the militia. Early militia lists and most militia musters contain only the men’s names. A brief explanation of musters and the location of available pre-1757 lists are given in:

Gibson, Jeremy and Alan Dell. *Tudor and Stuart Muster Rolls*. Solihull, England: Federation of Family History Societies (Publications) Ltd., 1989. (FHL book 942 M2gj; computer number 0037822.)

From 1757 to 1876, lists of men ages 18 to 55 were compiled by individual parishes and turned in to the shire (county) lieutenant. These lists usually contain each man’s name, parish of residence, age, fitness for service, and sometimes cause for exemption (such as a man with more than two young children, a disability, or an exempt occupation).

For further information on militia lists and musters, see:

Medlycott, Mervyn, and Jeremy Gibson. *Militia Lists and Musters, 1757–1876*. 3rd ed. Solihull, England: Federation of Family History Societies (Publications) Ltd., 1994. (FHL book 942 M2gmm; computer number 0740207.)

Other Records. Many other records are available, such as records on medals, casualties, promotions, desertion, and courts-martial. The following military branches have separate records:

- *Fencibles* were army units raised for home service only. Fencibles were usually classed with the militia, and records are kept with militia records.
- *Yeomanry* were volunteer regiments, records of which often do not survive or are less complete than other military records.

- *Colonial armies* are forces raised in other countries. Records of these forces are usually in the country where the forces were raised. A notable exception is the British army in India, for which many records are held at:

The British Library at St. Pancras
Oriental and India Office Collections
96 Euston Road
London NW1 2DB
England

- *Coast Guard* (1816–1923) and *Royal Marines* (1790–1914) kept their own records, including pension, description, and other records.

These records are at the Public Record Office. For further information on military records for branches of the service other than navy or regular army, see the military record handbooks at the end of this section.

Locating Military and Naval Records

Pre-1914 records for both army and navy are at the Public Record Office. Post-1914 army records are at:

Army Records Centre
Bourne Avenue
Hayes, Middlesex UB3 1RF
England

Post-1914 navy records are at:

Ministry of Defense
Main Building, Whitehall SW1A 2HB
England

Records at the Family History Library

The Family History Library's collection of British army records includes:

- Army soldiers' documents (before 1882)
- Description books
- World War I Service Files
- Officers' records of service
- *Army List* 1740 to the present
- Indexes to the Regimental Registers and the Chaplains' Returns
- Regimental histories
- Miscellaneous army records

For the navy, the library has:

- Continuous service engagement books
- Indexes to commission and warrant books
- Bounty papers
- Various published sources

Some Royal marine attestation (enlistment) records are also at the library.

A number of name indexes to some military records containing birth, marriage, or deaths are in the Family History Library. These indexes can be found in the Locality Search under:

GREAT BRITAIN - CIVIL REGISTRATION

The library staff has compiled a typescript listing of army records. (FHL book 942 M2a; film 990313 item 5; computer number 0172550.)

Library records are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

GREAT BRITAIN - MILITARY RECORDS
GREAT BRITAIN - MILITARY HISTORY
GREAT BRITAIN - MILITARY RECORDS -
ARMY
GREAT BRITAIN - MILITARY RECORDS -
NAVY

You may also find military records listed under the same topics for the following localities:

ENGLAND
WALES

Search Strategies

It is difficult to locate an individual's record without knowing his ship or regiment. If you do not know this, you may find it in other types of records. Once you know the regiment or ship, consult the muster rolls, records of service, or other records available for that ship or regiment. Other strategies for finding the ship or regiment follow.

Soldiers. The Welsh who joined the army were assigned to regular English army regiments. However, many Welsh were assigned to either the 24th Regiment of Foot (called the South Wales Borders), the 41st Regiment of Foot (known as the Welsh Regiment), or the 23rd Regiment of Foot (the Welsh Fusiliers). A history of these regiments is in:

Brereton, J. M. *History of the Royal Regiment of Wales (24/41 Foot) and its Predecessors, 1689–1989*. Cardiff, Wales: Published by the Regiment, 1989. (FHL book 942.9 M2b; computer number 0584381).

If your ancestor married, died, or had children while in the army after 1760, he may be listed in the Chaplains' Returns or Regimental Registers. If you cannot find your ancestor's regiment from these records, the other sources you should search will depend on what you know:

- If you know a campaign or battle in which the ancestor fought, a place he was stationed, or a place where a child was born while he was in the service, use:

Kitzmiller, John. *In Search of the "Forlorn Hope"*, 2 vols. plus supp. Ogden, Utah: Manuscript Publishing Foundation, 1988. (FHL book 942 M2j; computer number 0469639.) This work will help you find where regiments were stationed during a range of years.

- If you know the area where the individual was living during his late teens, use the handbooks at the end of this section or regimental histories to find which regiments were recruited in that area.
- If you know where he died after receiving an army pension, search district pension returns. For more information about district pension returns, see:

"District Pension Records of the British Army" in *Irish at Home and Abroad*, by Dwight A. Radford, vol. 4 no. 1 (1997), p. 11–17. (FHL 941.5 D25ih; computer number 0714490.)

- If you know that he was in the army in 1806, you may wish to search the return of all men in army service on 24 June 1806 (not including commissioned officers). While the 1806 return is indexed only by regiment, it is more complete and easier to search than other sources, such as soldiers' documents.
- If you know approximately when he died, search probate records. Before 1858, search the Prerogative Court of Canterbury first. For information on probates, see the "Probate Records" section of this outline.

Army Officers. You can usually find names of army officers in the *Army List* (1740 to the present). If your ancestor does not appear in the *Army List* for the right time period, consult the card index to officers, available only at the Public Record Office.

If an officer was alive in 1828 or 1829, you can use the indexed returns of service. "Birth certificates" submitted with widow's pension applications may reveal an officer's name. If you still cannot find a record, use the search strategies for soldiers.

There are separate records for commissariat officers, staff officers, medical officers (surgeons), chaplains, and others. Board of Ordnance officers (artillery, engineers, sappers, miners, artificers, and others) are not always included in an *Army List* and have their own records until 1855.

Seamen. If your ancestor was in the navy after 1852, search the index to Continuous Service Engagement Books or the *Surname Index to the 1861 Census Returns of Ships* (see the "Merchant Marine" section of this outline for more information on the latter source). Before 1853, the source to use will depend on what you know about your ancestor. If you know:

- The name of a ship on which he served, search the ship musters, pay lists, and ship logs for the time period he should have been aboard.
- A port where your ancestor landed on a specific date, search the *List Books*, a geographically arranged list of ship locations at the Public Record Office (class ADM 8).
- A battle or campaign in which his ship was involved, search the medal rolls.
- The name of an officer serving with your ancestor, search the *Navy List* for that officer's ship.

Since many seamen also served in the merchant marines during their careers, search the records described in the "Merchant Marine" section of this outline.

Navy Officers. You can usually find navy officers in the *Navy Lists* (1782 to the present). A list of naval officers from 1695 to 1742 is in:

Index to Commission and Warrant Books. N.p., n.d. (FHL films 824516–7; computer number 0374247.) It gives dates of commission and a reference to further details available at the Public Record Office.

Many officers are included in published biographies, such as:

Commissioned Sea Officers of the Royal Navy, 1660–1815, 3 vols. N.p., n.d. (FHL book 942 M23cs; films 908026–027; computer number 0172791.)

Handbooks for Military Records

If your ancestor is not listed in the above sources, consult the handbooks listed below for other records or clues to finding your ancestor:

Bevan, Amanda and Andrea Duncan. *Tracing Your Ancestors in the Public Record Office*. See the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline.

Hamilton-Edwards, Gerald. *In Search of Army Ancestry*. London: Phillimore & Co., Ltd., 1977. (FHL book 942 M2ha; computer number 0168879.)

Higham, Robin. *A Guide to the Sources of British Military History*. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1972. (FHL book 942 M2h; computer number 0168877.)

Kew Lists. See the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline.

Records of Officers and Soldiers Who Have Served in the British Army. London: Public Record Office, 1984. (FHL book 942 M2am no. 1; computer number 0168749.)

Rodgers, N. A. M. *Naval Records for Genealogists*. 2nd ed. London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1988. (FHL book 942 A5p no. 22; computer number 0501982.)

Swinson, Arthur S., ed. *A Register of the Regiments and Corps of the British Army*. London: Archive Press, 1972. (FHL book 942 M2am; computer number 0168749.)

NAMES, PERSONAL

Before record keeping began, most people only had a first name. As the population increased, people began adding descriptive information, such as John “the smith,” to a person’s name to distinguish him or her from others with the same name. At first, a surname applied only to one person and not to the whole family.

Patronymic Names in Wales

Patronymic surnames are based on the father’s given name. Generally, *ap* or *ab* was added between the child’s name and the father’s name. For example, David ab Owen is David son of Owen. For a woman’s name, the word *ferch* or *verch*, meaning daughter of, was used. There were many exceptions to this:

- The family could drop the *ab* or *ap*. In this case, his name would have been simply David Owen.

- The family could drop the *a* and attach the remaining *p* or *b* to the father’s name. For example, David ab Owen could have been David Bowen.

In dealing with patronymic names, remember:

- The absence of *ap* or *ab* does not mean the family adopted a permanent surname. In South Wales particularly, patronymic surnames appeared without the *ap* or *ab*.
- Different naming patterns were often used in the same family. For example, Harry John’s six sons were named Griffith ap Harry, John Parry, Harry Griffith, Richard Parry, Miles ap Harry, and Thomas Parry. They might equally have used the surname John(s) or Jones.
- An illegitimate child may have used the given or surname of the reputed father, the surname of the mother, or the given or surname of the family who raised the child.
- Some families used patronymics after adopting a permanent surname. Never assume that a surname is a permanent surname.
- The father’s given name may be spelled differently as a surname even though it is pronounced the same (for example, Davies from David).
- The name may have been anglicized.
- Patronymic surnames changed with each generation.
- A widow may have reverted to using her maiden surname.

Other Types of Surnames

Surnames also developed from the following sources:

Descriptive or Nickname. Surnames are sometimes based on a unique quality of a person. Occasionally this term was modified and accepted as a permanent surname. For example, Llwyd (meaning gray) was changed to Lloyd. Sometimes a descriptive term immediately followed the given name, such as Gwilym ap Fychan. (*Fychan* means small and often became Vaughan.)

Locality. Some surnames are based on the individual’s birthplace or residence. Thomas Mostyn lived in Mostyn.

Occupational. Other surnames are based on the person's trade, such as Wil Saer (or Wil y Saer), meaning Will the carpenter. Occupational names are sometimes modified. For example, Saer could take the permanent form of Sayer.

Adopting a Surname

Some families adopted permanent surnames much earlier than others. Generally, families lower on the social scale used the patronymic system longer than those higher up the social scale. Patronymics lingered the longest in the north and central-western counties. Most noble families adopted surnames by the sixteenth century. The gentry adopted them during the eighteenth century, while some farmers, tenant farmers, and workers did not take surnames until the nineteenth century or later. Generally, the patronymic naming pattern and the various naming customs were coming to an end by 1837, but later usage occurs and there has been a modern revival of the practice.

Any one of the following patterns were used when adopting a surname. The pattern used by one generation was not always used by the next generation.

Father's Given Name. Using the father's given name as the surname was the most common. Sometimes, the father's name was changed to serve as a surname. Iago son of Rhys could have been known as Iago Rees, Iago Prees, or Iago Price.

Father's Surname. Sometimes a son was given his father's surname. This is done today. Owen, the son of John Price, may have become Owen Price.

Grandfather's Given Name. Occasionally, a family adopted the grandfather's given name as a surname. For example, the surname of Thomas Pugh, son of Jasper ap Hugh is a form of his grandfather's name, Hugh.

Maternal Grandfather's Name. In some areas, the mother named her first-born son after her own family, usually her father. Godfrey Prydderch married Ann Lloyd, daughter of Reece Lloyd. Their eldest son's surname is Lloyd.

Grandmother's Name. An individual's surname could be based on the grandmother's family name. Rees Llewelyn married Gwenllian Lloyd. Their son, Griffith ab Rhys, named his son David Lloyd. David Lloyd's descendants kept the surname Lloyd.

Many pre-1800 church registers record the father's name in several different ways, one or more of which may be abbreviated. For example, "Jane Thomas, daughter of Thomas Dd. William James was baptized the 26th May 1732." Without further

evidence, it is impossible to determine which name(s) the father used during his lifetime.

For more information on Welsh names, see:

Morgan, T. J., and Prys Morgan, *Welsh Surnames*. Cardiff, Wales: University of Wales Press, 1985. (FHL book 942.9 D4m; computer number 0314663.)

Rowlands, John, and Sheila. *The Surnames of Wales for Family Historians and Others*. Genealogical Publishing Co.: Baltimore, 1996. (FHL book 942.9 D4r; computer number 0775322.)

Welsh First Names for Children: Their Meanings Explained. Cardiff, Wales: Emerald, 1978. (FHL book 942.9 D4w; computer number 0471248.)

NEWSPAPERS

English border towns began publishing newspapers in the 1690s. Early English newspapers, such as Berrow's *Worcester Journal* (beginning in 1710) and the *Gloucester Journal* (1730), have Welsh items. The first successful Welsh newspaper, *The Cambrian*, began publication at Swansea in 1804 and continues today as the *Herald of Wales*. It was followed by the *North Wales Gazette* 1808 in Bangor and the *Carmarthen Journal* in 1810. The first newspaper published in the Welsh language was *Seren Gomer*, which was published in 1814 at Swansea.

Because of a tax on printed paper, local newspapers did not flourish until the tax was lowered in 1836. Hundreds of newspapers started in 1855 when the tax was abolished. Useful information found in local nineteenth-century newspapers includes:

- Birth announcements (usually the father's name only).
- Death announcements.
- Reports of court cases (often in detail).
- Gun licenses granted (at quarters sessions).
- Details of inquests, divorces, funerals, and marriages.
- Local events.

Welsh newspapers are at many repositories and libraries. For a bibliography of repository holdings, see the following publication:

Jones, Beti. *Newsplan: Report of the Newsplan Project in Wales; Adroddiad ar gynllun Newsplan yng Nghymru*. London: British Library, 1994. (FHL book 942.9 B33j; computer number 0771128.) This work is an inventory of the newspapers held in various archives and libraries in Wales.

The most complete collection is at the National Library of Wales (see the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline for the address). Many Welsh newspapers are on file at the:

British Library
Newspaper Library
197 Blackfriars Road
London SE1 8NG
England

A bibliography that lists holdings by town of publication is:

Catalogue of the British Newspaper Library. 8 vols. London: British Museum Publications, 1975. (FHL book 942 A5cn; computer number 0182816.) This work is an inventory of the newspapers held at the Newspaper Library in London, arranged by the locality.

The Family History Library has no Welsh newspapers. It does, however, have some abstracts and transcriptions. The library also has the *Gloucester Journal* from 1731 to 1802, which contains some references to Wales. For library holdings, look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

WALES - NEWSPAPERS
WALES, [COUNTY] - NEWSPAPERS

You may also gain access to some newspapers through the GENUKI Web site at:

www.genuki.org.uk/big/wal/#Counties

NOBILITY

The nobility is a class of people who had special political and social status. The noble class was a very small percentage of the Welsh population; at first most of them were English migrants.

Most noblemen did not emigrate, and few disowned family members for unacceptable behavior. Thus, most traditions of an ancestor's being “erased” or “eliminated” from all records are unfounded.

Illegitimate children are not entitled to noble status and often do not appear on family pedigrees. They may, however, be granted a variation of the father's coat of arms.

Noblemen were entitled to a coat-of-arms, and people so entitled were called armigers. The study of coats-of-arms is called heraldry. Because of frequent false claims to coats-of-arms, the king's heralds required descents to be documented. These pedigrees are called visitations. Some visitations from the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries have been published in:

Dwnn, Lewys. *Heraldic Visitations of Wales*. 2 vols. Llandovery, Wales: William Rees, 1846. (FHL 942.9 D23d; film 176668; computer number 0164565.)

For other visitation records, see the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

WALES - VISITATIONS, HERALDIC

The publications of Burke's Peerage Limited, Debrett's, and others are widely used sources of information on noble families. Many titles and editions have been published. Most of Burke's publications have been indexed in:

Burke's Family Index. London: Burke's Peerage Limited, 1976. (FHL book 942 D53b; computer number 0149543.) This work indexes the many pedigrees published by the company. It is available in most major libraries.

A discussion of heraldic terms, their use in Wales, and some of the families who held coats of arms are discussed in:

Siddons, Michael Powell. *The Development of Welsh Heraldry*. 3 vols. Aberystwyth: The National Library of Wales, 1991–93. (FHL book 942.9 D6s; computer number 0702999.)

Records of peerage creations and related documents are kept at:

College of Arms
Queen Victoria Street
London EC4V 4BT
England

The Family History Library has many records of noble families other than family histories. These records are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

GREAT BRITAIN - NOBILITY
WALES - NOBILITY
WALES - HERALDRY

OCCUPATIONS

Knowing an ancestor's occupation can help you distinguish him from other individuals with the same name. The records associated with your ancestor's occupation could provide information about his life and family.

Some occupations are more likely to have records about the people in those occupations than others. There are many records of people in trades such as bootmakers, tailors, watchmakers and so on.

To learn a trade, an individual had to be apprenticed. Depending on a person's social standing, he could be apprenticed by his parents or by a parish or charity. When a person was apprenticed, a record called an indenture was usually created. It was a legal agreement that bound the apprentice to serve a number of years, usually seven. Indentures usually contain the names of the apprentice and the master who would teach him, the master's trade and residence, the terms of apprenticeship, and sometimes the name, occupation, and residence of the apprentice's father. Indentures are the only surviving records for some occupations, like carpentry, stone masonry, and weaving.

Starting in 1710, a tax was levied on apprenticeship indentures, except those of poor children. For more information on the apprenticeship tax, see the "Taxation" section of this outline.

Parishes and certain charities indentured poor children as apprentices. These records may survive in parish records. For more information on the apprenticeship indentures for poor children in parish records, see the "Church Records" section of this outline.

After learning the trade, the apprentice became a journeyman. A journeyman was an employee who received wages and continued to refine his skills.

The level after a journeyman was a master. A master was the most skilled craftsman or the owner of the business where the trade was practiced.

Craftsmen such as clock makers, gold and silver smiths, coach makers, and so forth worked in Welsh towns and boroughs rather than in farming and mining areas.

In large cities craftsmen would often band together and form a guild. Welsh towns and boroughs were not large enough to have separate guilds for individual trades and crafts, so men from different occupations formed associations of burgesses to regulate and control the market. Burgesses were inhabitants of a chartered town, and they were

freemen who owed no obligation to a feudal lord. They did pay rent and other dues to a lord, but they were more free than other inhabitants.

Freemen borough records are more useful than apprenticeship records, often providing ages, parentage, occupation, and sometimes place of origin (if other than the borough).

Doctors, lawyers, ministers, and other professionals were educated at British schools and universities rather than through apprenticeships. While not members of guilds, they did have organizations that published biographical directories of members and sometimes histories.

Definitions of occupations can be found in:

Murray, Sir James A.H., ed. *Oxford English Dictionary*. 13 vols plus supps. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1933-. (FHL book 423 M964o; computer number 0222041.)

A bibliography of sources for occupations can be found in:

Raymond, Stuart A. 2nd ed. *Occupational Sources for Genealogists*. Birmingham, England: Federation of Family History Societies (Publications) Ltd., 1996. (FHL book 942 U23rs 1996; computer number 0105048.)

Occupational histories, records, and related items can be found in county record offices and at the National Library of Wales. Those found at the Family History Library are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

WALES - OCCUPATIONS
WALES, [COUNTY] - OCCUPATIONS
WALES, [COUNTY], [PARISH] -
OCCUPATIONS

PERIODICALS

A periodical is a regularly published magazine, newsletter, or journal. In Britain, periodicals are called journals. Journals are published by family history, local history, religious, one-name (organized to study a specific surname), and national societies. The articles often include:

- Family genealogies and pedigrees.
- Transcripts of church records, migration lists, and cemetery records.
- Suggestions for research procedures.
- Information about local records, archives, and services.

- Book advertisements and book reviews.
- Research advertisements.
- Researchers' queries or requests for information about their ancestors.

Periodicals useful for Welsh research are:

Family History News and Digest. Birmingham: Federation of Family History Societies, 1975–. (FHL book 942 B2ff; computer number 0196337.) This publication reports on the activities of its member societies. Articles published in the member society journals are summarized. A list of publications is included, offering low-priced, well-written booklets on various records.

Family Tree Magazine. Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire: Michael Armstrong, 1984–. (FHL book 942 D25f; computer number 0350532.) Features of this journal include informative articles, book reviews, advertisements, a question and answer column, and much more.

The Local Historian. Chichester, Sussex: British Association for Local History, 1970–. (FHL book 942 B2ah; computer number 0202266.) Continued from the previous title of *The Amateur Historian*. This periodical can help you understand life in England and Wales. It also contains detailed articles on genealogical records.

National Library of Wales Journal (Cylchgrawn Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru). Aberystwyth: National Library of Wales, 1939–. (FHL British book 942.9 B2j; computer number 0253229.) This periodical has many articles that will help you understand life in Wales.

The Transactions of the Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion. London: The Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion, 1892–. (FHL book 942.9 C4c; computer number 0227453.) This publication contains many articles that will help you understand life in Wales. In the 1948 volume, there is a long article on Welsh genealogies.

Williams, Gareth Haulfryn. *Mynegai I'r Cymmrodor a Thrafodion Anrhydeddus Gymdeithas y Cymmrodorion, 1878–1982* (An Index to Y Cymmrodor and the Transactions of the Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion, 1878–1982). N.p., [1982]. (FHL book 942.9 B22w; computer number:)

Nearly every county in Wales has a local history, family history, or antiquarian society that publishes

journals. To find journals in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog, look under:

WALES - PERIODICALS
WALES - ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES - PERIODICALS
WALES - GENEALOGY - PERIODICALS
WALES - HISTORY - PERIODICALS
WALES - SOCIETIES - PERIODICALS

You may also find journals listed under the same topics for the following localities:

WALES, [COUNTY]
ENGLAND

PROBATE RECORDS

Probate records are court records dealing with the distribution of a person's estate after death. Information recorded may include the death date, names of heirs and guardians, relationship, residence, inventories of the estate (including trade and household goods), and names of witnesses. Any person, regardless of class or wealth, may have left a will or might be mentioned in one.

While probate records are one of the most accurate sources of genealogical evidence, use them with caution because they may:

- Omit the name of the eldest son who received his inheritance according to law, others who previously received their inheritance, or deceased family members.
- Mention children who are from a spouse's previous marriage.
- Mention a spouse who is not the parent of the children named.

Types of Probate Records

Will. Technically, a will conveys real (immovable) property to heirs after an individual's death. A registered will is an official copy made by a court clerk.

Testament. A testament conveys personal (moveable) property to heirs. The term *will* eventually referred to both a will and a testament.

Administration, Letters of Administration, or Admon. These names refer to a document appointing someone to supervise the estate's distribution for someone who died intestate (without a will). This document gives very little information but may contain some useful clues, such as the name of the administrator, who was usually a relative of the deceased.

Admon with Will. This record grants administration to someone else when the executor named in the will is deceased, unwilling, or unable to act as executor. A copy of the will is attached.

Inventory. An inventory lists belongings and their values, including such items as household goods, tools, and personal items. Occupations are often mentioned.

Bond. A bond is a written guarantee that a person will faithfully perform the tasks assigned to him by a probate court. The executor posted a testamentary bond, the administrator posted an administration bond, and the guardian of a minor child posted a bond of tuition or curation.

Laws and Customs

Wills were made primarily by the middle and upper classes, mostly by males with property. Before 1882 a wife who died before her husband could not make a will except with her husband's consent or under a marriage settlement created before her marriage. A widow, however, could make a will.

Before 1750 heirs often did not prove wills to avoid court costs. The will was often kept in case someone later objected to the distribution of the property. As a result, sometimes wills were probated decades after the testator's death. Some archives have collections of unproved wills. Others may be among family papers.

Until 1833 real property could be entailed. This specified how property would be inherited in the future. An entail prevented subsequent inheritors from bequeathing the property to anyone except the heirs specified in the entail.

Guardianship

When a father or widow died leaving minor children, relatives usually took in the children without court sanction. Sometimes, the court appointed a guardian or curator to look after the children's interests until they reached the age of 21. If a child was under marriageable age, guardianship was called tuition. Under age was considered 12 for girls and 14 for boys. If the child was of marriageable age, but under 21, it was called curation.

Probating a Will

Usually the location of the deceased's property determined which court had jurisdiction (see "Determining the Court" in this section). The probate process began by presenting the will to the court. The court recorded a probate act authorizing executors to carry out the will's provisions. The

original will was endorsed and filed in the court's records. A handwritten copy was given to the executors. (Before 1600 the executors may have received the original.) The clerk may also have copied the will into a book of registered wills.

If a person did not agree with how the court handled the will, he or she could appeal to a higher court. This led to additional documents in the court of appeal, including assignation books (calendars of petitions of appeal, annotated with action taken) and other documents. Unless a complaint was filed, there were usually no further court records. Probating a will took place anytime after the person died sometimes many years later.

Pre-1858 Probate Courts

In Wales, four types of church courts probated wills: peculiar, archdeaconry, bishops', and the Prerogative Court of Canterbury. Usually the court with primary jurisdiction probated the will, but wealth, status, or convenience could have affected which court was used.

Following are descriptions of the four types of Welsh probate courts:

- Peculiar courts had limited jurisdiction over small areas (sometimes just one parish). The only peculiar court in Wales is the Hawarden Peculiar, which covers Hawarden parish in Flintshire.
- Archdeaconry courts were divisions of a diocese. The only archdeaconries which had probatory jurisdiction were in the diocese of St. David's. The probate records for St. David's diocese were divided into two groups: the Archdeaconry Court of Brecon, and the combined archdeaconries of St. David's, Cardigan, and Carmarthen and Gower.
- Bishops' courts (also called episcopal, commissary, diocesan, or consistory courts) were the highest local courts. In Wales there were four main bishops' courts: Bangor, Llandaff, St. Asaph, and St. David's. A small area in Flintshire and Denbighshire was under the jurisdiction of the Bishops' Court of Chester in England. Parts of Montgomeryshire and Radnorshire were under the jurisdiction of the Bishops' Court of Hereford.
- The Prerogative Court of Canterbury (PCC) was the highest court. This court was used if the deceased had property in more than one diocese.

If a court's decision was disputed, additional records may be found among later records of the same court or in any court of higher jurisdiction.

Decisions made in the diocesan and archdeaconry courts in Wales could be appealed to the Prerogative Court of Canterbury and then to the Court of Arches (of Canterbury). Final appeals from all courts were taken to the Pope until 1533. They were then taken to the Court of Delegates until 1832, after which the Privy Council handled them.

Original wills in Wales have survived from 1565, depending on the court where they were probated. The courts have a continuous run of wills from then until 1858, when ecclesiastical probate courts were abolished.

Post-1857 Probate Courts

On 11 January 1858, a network of courts called the Principal Probate Registry replaced all ecclesiastical probate courts. All wills and administrations were probated at district courts or at a central court in London called the Principal Registry.

Estate Duty Wills and Administrations

Beginning in 1796 a tax was levied on probates of estates valued over £10. Copies of the probate documents were filed with the Estate Duty Office in London when the tax was paid. Over the years various exceptions to the laws could have exempted the tax from being paid and a will from being filed.

Locating Probate Records

There are four steps to locating probate records:

- Determine when and where the will might have been proven.
- Determine which court or courts had jurisdiction.
- Search the indexes of the court or courts.
- Search the appropriate probate documents.

Determining the Court

After 1857 it is not necessary to determine the court before searching for a probate record. To determine the court for pre-1858 probates, use one of the following publications:

Handlist of Probate Records Pertaining to the Diocese of St. David's, St. Asaph, Bangor, and Llandaff, Wales and of the Peculiar and Exempt Court of Hawarden, Flint County, Salt Lake City, Utah: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1970. (FHL book 942.9 S2w; fiche 6054481; computer number 0190023.)

This work contains color-coded maps to help determine the courts in which an estate would be proved. It also lists call numbers for indexes, wills, and administrations that apply to each court.

Gibson, Jeremy, comp. 4th ed. *Probate Jurisdictions: Where to Look for Wills*. Birmingham, England: Federation of Family History Societies (Publications) Ltd., 1997. (FHL book 942 P23g 1997; computer number 0804058.)

Indexes

Many Welsh probate records have indexes. Some indexes are calendars, which are lists of wills organized by date with a separate section for each letter of the alphabet. Surnames with the same first letter are listed together but are not in alphabetical order. The following are of particular importance.

Welsh Probate Indexes Pre-1858. An index to probate records for the various courts in Wales before 1858 was compiled by the National Library of Wales. It is available at the National Library of Wales and at the Family History Library. The indexes are arranged alphabetically and then chronologically and include references to wills, administration bonds, grants of administration, inventories, and other types of probate documents. The index lists the name of the person who left the will (testator), the parish and abode, the occupation, and the references needed to go directly to the correct page in the wills.

The index is listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

WALES - PROBATE RECORDS - INDEXES

Abstracts of Welsh Wills Pre-1858. An important collection of Welsh probates are the abstracts (summaries) and indexes to the abstracts of the wills that are on microfiche at the Family History Library. The abstracts and indexes are by diocese; however, there is a separate set for the Archdeaconry of Brecon and the peculiar of Hawarden. The abstracts are arranged by year and contain the name of every person mentioned in the will, including the witnesses. There are separate indexes for each year for the:

- Testator's residence
- Testator's surname
- Testator's given name(s)

Estate Duty Records. A national index of estate duty registers makes it possible to search for a probate even when the ancestor's residence is not

known. These indexes contain the names of the testator and the executor(s) and the court which proved the will or administration. The indexes and abstracts are on film in the Family History Library.

Principal Probate Registry. From 1858, all the wills and administrations that were proved in any of the district courts in Wales were indexed in the *Calendar of the Grants of Probate and Letters of Administration made in the Principal Registry* (see *England and Wales Principal Probate Registry Including: General Index 1858–1957 Principal Registry 1858–1925 District Courts 1858–1925* in this section). The indexes include an abstract of the probate document with the date proved and the name of the court in which it was proved.

Probate Records at the Family History Library

The Family History Library has an excellent collection of Welsh probate records and indexes, including most pre-1925 records.

To find call numbers for the probate records, look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

WALES - PROBATE RECORDS
WALES - PROBATE RECORDS - INDEXES
WALES, [COUNTY] - PROBATE RECORDS
WALES, [COUNTY] - PROBATE RECORDS - INDEXES

Some probate records, including those of the Principle Probate Registry, the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, and the Estate Duty, are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

ENGLAND - PROBATE RECORDS
ENGLAND - PROBATE RECORDS - INDEXES

The following helpful books are available at the Family History Library:

Hand List of Probate Jurisdictions in Prerogative Court of Canterbury (P.C.C.) and Filmed and Printed Probate Records Pertaining to Prerogative Court of Canterbury in the Genealogical Society Library. Salt Lake City, Utah: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1967. (FHL book 942 S2ha vol. 23; film 599220; fiche 6026312; computer number 0194449.) This work contains call numbers for indexes and probate documents for the Prerogative Court of Canterbury. At the front of this register is a list of printed indexes. These indexes give the testator's name and place of residence along with the year and folio where the original is located.

England and Wales Principal Probate Registry Including: General Index 1858–1957 Principal Registry 1858–1925 District Courts 1858–1925. Salt Lake City, Utah: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1997. (FHL book Reg 942 S2cp 1997; microfiche 6037050; computer number 0808287.) Contains a list of the microfilm numbers for the indexes and probate documents for the Principal and District courts.

Records not at the Family History Library

The original pre-1858 probate records are held by the National Library of Wales (see the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline.). However, the records of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury and the Estate Duty Registers are deposited at the Public Record Office (see the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline).

For copies of wills or administrations after 1857 you can write to:

York Probate Sub-Registry
Duncombe Place
York YO1 2EA
England

If you choose to visit England, the office location is:

Probate Search Rooms
First Avenue House
42–49 High Holborn
London WC1V 6NP

Sometimes solicitors (attorneys) kept will books, copies of wills they had prepared for clients. These books have often found their way into record offices. The books may include wills that were later revoked or never probated.

Difficulties in Locating a Pre-1858 Record

You may have difficulty locating a probate record because:

- In many courts, there are separate indexes for administrations and wills. Search both indexes.
- For the executor's convenience, a totally different court may have been used. Search other courts.
- When a higher church authority made an official visit, the lower court was inhibited (prevented from acting). This was called an ecclesiastical visitation. Records of estates probated during an ecclesiastical visitation are often with the records of the higher court.

- If the presiding officer position was vacant, the will was probated in another court.
- Your ancestor's probate may have been used as evidence in another court action. Other courts, such as the Court of Common Pleas or the county quarter sessions, may have probated or received a copy of the will.
- Some wills and many disputes over real property were handled by the Chancery Court of England. Some of the wills in this and other national courts are listed in:

A List of Wills, Administrations, Etc. in the Public Record Office, London, England: 12th–19th Century. Baltimore: Magna Carta Book Company, 1968. (FHL book 942 S2po; computer number 0195335.)

To overcome the above problems, search the records of all probate courts having jurisdiction over the areas where the individual had property. You may also need to extend your search several years after the individual's death.

SCHOOLS

School records may contain valuable information about your ancestor, such as his name, place of birth or residence, father's name, and some biographical detail.

Education for the general population in Wales was limited before the nineteenth century. The British and Foreign Schools Society founded many schools in the early to mid-nineteenth century. In 1870 the Education Act called for the election of school boards in areas where privately organized schools were deficient. Public education to the age of 13 was made compulsory in 1880.

Records for public education before 1870 are difficult to find. Records that do survive are usually found in county record offices. See the "Archives and Libraries" section of this outline to locate addresses for these offices.

If your ancestor was educated in a British college or university, he may be in the institution's enrollment records and alumni books. Some of these records have been published, notably for the sixteenth to the nineteenth centuries. Records of universities can be found in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under the city in which the university was located and the subject "Schools".

School records held at the Family History Library are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

WALES - SCHOOLS
WALES, [COUNTY] - SCHOOLS
WALES, [COUNTY], [PARISH] - SCHOOLS

SOCIETIES

Welsh societies and organizations may have valuable genealogical information. They can be set up to cover a region, a county, or a portion of a county. Most publish helpful journals, transcripts, and compiled genealogies. They may have ongoing projects such as creating indexes or transcribing records. Some publish queries about Welsh ancestors or maintain lists of members' research interests.

You may want to join one of these societies and support its efforts. This section discusses only Welsh and some English societies, but do not overlook societies in the country your ancestors may have emigrated to.

See the "Periodicals" section of this outline for more information about the journals and newsletters published by Welsh societies.

Family History Societies

Membership in family history societies is open to anyone. As a member you can receive the society's journal and have access to the indexes it produces. In addition, most societies regularly produce a "directory of member interests." This useful tool can put you in touch with other people interested in tracing the same lines. Some members may be willing to do limited research for other members, particularly those who do not have access to records. Some Welsh societies will publish letters of inquiry in their journals, but they may expect the writer to join or pay a small fee.

To join a society, write to the secretary of that society for an application. Return the application with the amount required to join. Most societies have reasonable membership fees. You can normally find the membership fees and the society's address in the journal it produces. Many societies have Web sites which include information about becoming a member. You may locate Web sites for societies through the GENUKI site at:

www.genuki.org.uk/big/wal/#Counties

From the above site:

Click **[County of your choice]**.

Click **Societies**.

Association of Family History Societies of Wales

The Welsh family history societies formed the Association of Family History Societies of Wales in 1981. The function of this association is to encourage the study of Welsh family history and to publish helpful works for the Welsh genealogist. The association works with the Federation of Family History Societies mentioned below, in promoting genealogy and family history worldwide.

Some Welsh societies are:

- Gwent Family History Society
- Glamorgan Family History Society
- Powys Family History Society
- Clwyd Family History Society
- Gwynedd Family History Society
- Dyfed Family History Society
- Cardiganshire Family History Society

The Federation of Family History Societies

The Federation of Family History Societies serves as the coordinating body for the local family history societies. It supports and encourages genealogy and family history among its member societies. With its journal, *Family History News and Digest* (see the “Periodicals” section of this outline), the Federation helps keep individual societies informed of what others are doing. For information about this organization, write to:

Administrator
c/o The Benson Room
Birmingham and Midland Institute
Margaret Street
Birmingham B3 3BS
England

Or you may visit their Web site at:

www.ffhs.org.uk

Information is also accessible through the GENUKI Web site at:

www.genuki.org.uk

Local History Societies

There are many organized groups that study and publish journals on local history. The British Association for Local History is a coordinating organization for many local history groups. You may write for information about this association to:

British Association for Local History
Shopwyke Hall
Chichester, Sussex PO20 6BQ
England

The following periodical contains scholarly articles on local history, book reviews, and notes:

The Local Historian, London: National Council for Social Service, 1952–68. (FHL 942 B2ah; films 0973337–8; computer number 0202266.) This periodical was formerly called the *Amateur Historian*.

Addresses for local history societies in Wales are found in the following:

Henderson, S. P. A., and A. J. W. Henderson, eds. *Directory of British Associations & Associations in Ireland*, 13th ed. Beckenham, Kent: CBD Research Ltd., 1996. (FHL book 942 E4hd.)

Pinhorn, Malcolm, ed. *Historical, Archaeological and Kindred Societies in the United Kingdom: A List*. Isle of Wight: Pinhorns, 1986. (FHL book 942 C4h; computer number 0370075.)

One-Name Groups

Some organizations gather information about all individuals with a particular surname. If you are interested in such an organization, contact:

Guild of One-Name Studies
Box G
14 Charterhouse Buildings
Goswell Road, London EC1M 7BA
England

A published list of one-name studies is:

Register of One-Name Studies 1997, 13th ed. London: Guild of One-Name Studies, 1997. (FHL book 942 D24re 1997; computer number 0804109.)

Locating Records at the Family History Library

Society publications are referenced in the Author/Title Search of the Family History Library Catalog under the society name. They are also listed in the Locality Search under:

WALES - SOCIETIES
WALES, [COUNTY] - SOCIETIES
WALES - GENEALOGY
WALES, [COUNTY] - GENEALOGY
ENGLAND - SOCIETIES
ENGLAND - GENEALOGY

Copies of some records gathered by societies are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under the record type. For example, cemetery transcripts done by a local family history society are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

WALES, [COUNTY], [PARISH] -
CEMETERIES

TAXATION

Tax lists record names of people who were assessed taxes. They may show a name, the amount assessed, and a place and a date. Tax records are very useful for tracing Welsh families. Records exist for different taxes levied throughout Welsh history.

Originally revenues from property owned by the Crown financed the government. National taxation began on a small scale as an additional source of revenue during specific times of financial need. National taxes were separate from local taxes. Local taxes were called rates and were collected by the parishes for local services and poor relief (see the "Church Records" section of this outline). A few tax records are discussed below:

Hearth Tax. A tax of a shilling for each fireplace or stove (except those of paupers) was collected twice a year from 1662 to 1689. Records exist for much of Wales, showing the name and number of hearths in each residence. The names of those who were exempt were included from 1663. Records of 1662 to 1666 and 1669 to 1674 are in the Public Record Office, Chancery Lane. The other years are among records of quarter sessions (see the "Court Records" section of this outline).

Land Tax Assessment. Since 1693, the government assessed a tax on all land valued over a fixed annual rent of 20 shillings. Originally, these records contained only the proprietor's name and the sum assessed. In 1772, the occupier's name was added. In 1798, the date of contract of commutation (redemption from further payment) was added.

Land tax records are valuable for tracing patronymic name changes. You can usually recognize name changes by tracing the name of a family that lived on the same farm for several generations.

These tax records can also provide you with the name of the proprietor of the land on which your ancestor lived. When you know the proprietor's name, you can find records pertaining to his estate (see the "Land and Property" section of this outline). Some land tax assessments will be found among the estate records of some large land owners.

To use these records you must know the name of the parish and also the hundred that the parish was in. A *Topographical Dictionary of Wales* (see the "Gazetteers" section of this outline) will identify the hundred that a parish was in.

While records of this tax are generally found in the county record office, those of 1798, when the national land tax assessment was taken, are kept in the Public Record Office. Copies of the 1798 assessment are available at the Family History Library. (FHL films 1483001–64; computer number 0505539.)

Tithe Apportionment. Tithe apportionments were compiled for most parishes around 1840. They show who owned each piece of land in the parish and who resided on that property at the time the tithe apportionment was made. The tithe apportionments and the maps that accompany them provide a very important index to the land ownership in Wales.

The National Library of Wales has an almost complete set of tithe maps and schedules, and there are copies in most county record offices. The Family History Library has a few of these records on film. Look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

WALES, [COUNTY], [PARISH] - LAND
AND PROPERTY

For more information about tithe records see:

Kain, Roger J. P., and Richard R. Oliver. *The Tithe Maps of England and Wales: A Cartographic Analysis and County-by-County Catalogue*. Cambridge, England: Cambridge University Press, 1995. (FHL book 942 E7k; computer number 0776608.)

Apprenticeship Tax. A tax was assessed on the money a master received for an apprenticeship indenture. This tax was also called a stamp duty. From 1710 to 1811 a register of apprenticeships was kept. The tax was due within one year after the term of indenture expired. Apprentices put out by a parish or charity were exempt from the tax.

The original records are at the Public Records Office. The Society of Genealogists in London indexed and abstracted apprenticeship tax records from 1710 to 1774. The Family History Library has a copy of this index (FHL films 477624–637; computer number 0374156).

For more information on apprenticeships, see the “Occupations” section of this outline.

Other Taxes. From 1642 to 1680, each parish was assessed a tax called the monthly assessment.

In 1661, the restored monarch improved his poor financial condition with a tax called the free and voluntary present. Records of this tax are arranged by place and are held at the Public Record Office.

From 1695 to 1706, a marriage tax was assessed on bachelors, widowers, and childless couples. It was also charged for parish register entries of baptism, marriage, and burial. Few records survive, but those that do serve as a surname index to parish registers.

A tax on each window in a dwelling was collected from 1696 to 1798. Records of the window tax give the owner’s name and number of windows in his residence. Those that survive are at county record offices. Some are among the papers of the different estates.

Records at the Family History Library™

The Family History Library has some tax records including published and original lists. They are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

WALES - TAXATION
WALES, [COUNTY] - TAXATION
WALES, [COUNTY], [PARISH] -
TAXATION

Some tax records are published by societies in journals or periodicals. Some of these are available in the Family History Library and are referenced in *Smith’s Inventory of Genealogical Sources: Wales* (see the “Genealogy” section of this outline).

For more information about tax records, see:

Beresford, M. W. *The Lay Subsidies and the Poll Taxes*. Canterbury: Phillimore & Co., 1963. (FHL book 942 A1 no. 836; computer number 0214826.) This work explains the history and surviving records of early English taxes.

Gibson, Jeremy. *The Hearth Tax, Other Later Stuart Tax Lists and the Association Oath Rolls*. 2nd ed. Birmingham, England: Federation of Family History Societies (Publications) Ltd., 1996. (FHL book 942 R43g 1996; computer number 0775283.) This reference gives the types of taxes, dates covered, and repository catalog numbers by county of surviving tax records.

Gibson, Jeremy, Mervyn Medlycott, and Dennis Mills. *Land and Window Tax Assessments*. Birmingham, England: Federation of Family History Societies (Publications) Ltd., 1993. (FHL book 942 R4g 1993; computer number 0367052.) This book gives the dates of records held by each repository, arranged by county name.

Apprenticeship. Salt Lake City: Family History Library, 1980. (FHL book 942 U27a; computer number 0050117.) A short discussion of apprenticeship records precedes the library film numbers.

OTHER RECORDS

Although the following subject headings are not listed as section headings in this outline, they may be useful to you in your research and can be found as subject headings in the Family History Library Catalog:

BIBLIOGRAPHY
DESCRIPTION AND TRAVEL
HANDWRITING
MANORS
MEDICAL RECORDS
MIGRATION, INTERNAL
MILITARY HISTORY
MINORITIES
NAMES, GEOGRAPHICAL
OBITUARIES
POORHOUSES, POOR LAW, ETC.
SOCIAL LIFE AND CUSTOMS
VISITATIONS, HERALDIC
VOTING REGISTERS

FOR FURTHER READING

Handbooks define genealogical terms, discuss research procedures, and explain records in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

WALES - GENEALOGY - HANDBOOKS

The following handbooks may be useful:

Collins, Audrey. *Basic Facts About Using the Family Records Centre*. Birmingham, England: Federation of Family History Societies (Publications) Ltd., 1997.

FitzHugh, Terrick V. H. *The Dictionary of Genealogy*. 3rd rev. ed. London: A & C Black Ltd., 1991. (FHL book 942 D26f 1991; computer number 0664018.) In this work, genealogy terms are defined alphabetically.

Gardner, David E., and Frank Smith. *Genealogical Research in England and Wales*. 3 vols. Salt Lake City, Utah: Bookcraft Publishers, 1956–64. (FHL book 929.142 G172g; computer number 0005581.) This resource describes records and includes maps as well as handwriting and Latin aids.

Herber, Mark D. *Ancestral Trails: The Complete Guide To British Genealogy And Family History*. Stroud, England: Sutton Publishing Ltd, in association with the Society of Genealogists, 1997. (FHL book 942 D27hm, computer number 0809924.) This work covers many aspects of British research in great detail. It includes samples of records and gives Public Record Office class numbers.

Istance, Jean, and E. E. Cann. *Researching Family History In Wales*. Birmingham, England: The Federation of Family History Societies (Publications) Ltd., 1996. (FHL book 942.9 A3i; computer number 0798192.)

May, John. *Reference Wales*. Cardiff, Wales: University of Wales Press, 1994. (FHL book 942.9 A5m; computer number 0771139.)

Richardson, John. *The Local Historian's Encyclopedia*. 2nd ed. New Barnet, Herefordshire: Historical Publications Ltd., 1986. (FHL book 942 H2rjo 1986; computer number 0482310.) This valuable guide describes records and sources and defines commonly used terms.

Richardson, Joy. *Looking at Local Records*. London: Batsford Academic and Educational Ltd., 1983. (FHL book 942 D27rl; computer number 0380449.) This is an easily understood, illustrated guide to records in county and local record offices.

Rowlands, John, and Sheila Rowlands, eds. *Welsh Family History: A Guide to Research*. 2nd ed. Birmingham, England: The Federation of Family History Societies (Publications) Ltd. in conjunction with The Association of Family History Societies in Wales, 1998. Distributed by the Federation of Family History Societies. (FHL book 942.9 D27w 1998; computer number 0828364.) This is a guide to family history research procedures and records in Wales.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

The Family History Library welcomes additions and corrections that will improve future editions of this outline. Please send your suggestions to:

Publications Coordination
Family History Library
35 North West Temple Street
Salt Lake City, UT 84150
USA

We appreciate the archivists, librarians, and others who have reviewed this outline and shared helpful information.

© 1993, 1999 by Intellectual Reserve, Inc. All rights reserved. Printed in the USA. Third Edition August 1999. English Approval: 8/99

No part of this document may be reprinted, posted on-line, or reproduced in any form for any purpose without the prior written permission of the publisher. Send all requests for such permission to:

Copyrights and Permissions Coordinator
Family History Department
50 E. North Temple Street
Salt Lake City, UT 84150-3400
USA
Fax: 801-240-2494

FamilySearch, International Genealogical Index, and Personal Ancestral File are registered trademarks of Intellectual Reserve, Inc. Ancestral File, Family History Center, Family History Centers, Family History Library, and Family History Library Catalog are trademarks of Intellectual Reserve, Inc.

File: BRIT-WALES

34130



Wales Historical Background

Guide

Effective family history research requires an understanding of the historical events that affected your ancestors and record keeping. Learning about wars, local events, laws, migrations, settlement patterns, and economic or religious trends may help you understand family movements. These events may have led to the creation of records that mention your ancestors. Your family history research will be more interesting if you learn about the events that shaped your ancestors' lives.

Historical Overview

This list contains some key dates and events in Welsh history. Use the links to go directly to the period you are most interested in.

- [1536 to 1600](#)
- [1600 to 1700](#)
- [1700 to 1800](#)
- [1800 to present](#)

1536-1543	Anglesey, Caernarvon, Cardigan, Flint, and part of Carmarthen were consolidated and put under English law. This military conquest was resisted and not completed for centuries. The area became known as the Principality of Wales. The other parts of Wales were slowly absorbed into the United Kingdom and had a varied history of administration.
1538	Thomas Cromwell ordered all parish ministers to record christenings, marriages, and burials.
1588	Bishop William Morgan translated the Bible into Welsh.
1598	Parishes began sending annual copies of parish registers to the bishop of the diocese. These are called <i>bishop's transcripts</i> .
1606	A law forced Roman Catholics to be baptized and married by Church of England clergy and to be buried in the churchyard. Many complied in regard to burials, but they continued to baptize and marry in secret.
1639	The first nonconforming church in Wales was the Independent congregation in Llanvaches, Monmouthshire.
1642-60	Disputes over the form of government and religion led to Civil War. Civil war caused political and religious upheaval. Oliver Cromwell became Lord Protector of Wales, bishops courts were abolished, and many other changes affected records. Parish registers were poorly kept or destroyed.

1645	Some Independent congregation members at Llanvaches left and formed the first Baptist church in Wales at Llantrisant and Llangwm, Monmouthshire.
1662-1688	This was a period of intense persecution for nonconformists. Many were jailed or lost their property, especially members of the Society of Friends (Quakers). From the 1680s, many Welshmen emigrated to Pennsylvania. The Acts of Toleration were passed in 1688, allowing nonconformist sects to worship freely.
1733	English replaced Latin in official records, but local practice varied greatly.
1737	Howell Harris and Daniel Rowlands introduced Calvinistic Methodism in Wales. In 1811, the Calvinistic Methodists separated from the Church of England and became a separate sect.
1752	The new Gregorian calendar was adopted. The first day of the year changed from March 25 (Lady's Day) to January 1. For more information, see Calendar Changes.
1754	Lord Hardwicke's Act required a separate register for marriages and outlawed marriages outside of the Church of England. Common law and nonconformist (except for Quaker and Jewish) marriages were outlawed.
1755-1762	Seven Years War. Called the French and Indian Wars in North America, this war involved 120,000 British soldiers; from this time on, a continuous series of army records were kept.
1780-1900	The industrial revolution resulted in the growth of towns, the depopulation of many rural areas, and emigration to England and overseas.
1800-51	The population of Wales doubled, bringing about many social changes, particularly increased emigration.
1805-1815	Napoleonic Wars. Numerous battles across Europe involved 365,000 British soldiers and 300,000 seamen.
1811	Methodists split from the Church of England.
1812	Rose's Act required that marriages, baptisms, and burials be recorded in prescribed printed registers.
1832	The first railway was built in Wales
1837	Civil registration began on 1 July. Events were still recorded in church records. Bishop's transcripts became less common, and they completely ceased by 1900.
1840	The first missionaries of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints began preaching in Wales at Overton, Flintshire.
1841	The first genealogically useful census was taken.
1854-1856	Crimean War. 225,000 troops were involved in the Crimea (Russian Black Sea).
1857-1860	Indian Mutiny. Many of the troops discharged after the Crimean War were recalled to quell the revolt in India.

1858	Principal Probate Registry began handling all Welsh probates.
1877-1901	South African (Boer) Wars. The first Anglo-Boer War led to South African independence in 1881. The second Anglo-Boer War (1898-1901) led to the unification of South Africa in 1910.
1914-1918	First World War. About 35,000 Welsh servicemen died.
1922	Wales became a province of the Church of England. It has since become known as <i>the Church in Wales</i> . There is now an Archbishop of Wales and bishops presiding over six Welsh dioceses.
1939-1945	Second World War. About 20,000 Welsh servicemen died.
1974	County structure changed.
1996	County structure changed again.

Historical Sources

A few of the many available historical sources are—

- Williams, Glanmor, Geraint H. Jenkins, and Kenneth O. Morgan. *The History of Wales*. 3 vols. The volumes are organized by period, 1415 to 1980.
- Thomas, Hugh and E. D. Evans. *A History of Wales*. 2 vols. The volumes are organized by period, 1465-1815.
- Davies, John. *A History Of Wales*.
- Rees, Thomas. *History of Protestant Nonconformity in Wales from Its Rise in 1633 to the Present Time*.
- Williams, David. *A History of Modern Wales*. This history covers from 1485 to the twentieth century.
- Lloyd, John Edward, Sir. *History of Wales: From the Earliest Time to the Edwardian Conquest*. 2 vols. This work covers Welsh history from prehistoric times to 1282.

Similar sources may be available at public and university libraries.

Local Histories

A local history describes the economy, prominent families, and the founding of churches, hospitals, schools, and businesses in a specific area. Even if a local history does not mention your ancestor, you may find important clues that suggest other records to search. Local histories also provide background information about your family's lifestyle, community, and environment.

There are many histories of Welsh parishes, churches, and chapels. Those available at the Family History Library will be listed in the Family History Library Catalog. Go to What to Do Next, select the **Catalog**, and look for a specific locality and the topics of **History** or **Church History**. Similar histories are often available at major public and university libraries and archives and may be available for purchase at bookstores.

Calendar Changes

The Gregorian calendar, the one commonly used today, is a correction of the Julian calendar, which, because of miscalculated leap years, was 11 days behind the solar year by 1752. Wales began using the new calendar in 1752. Eleven days were omitted to bring the calendar in line with the solar year. The day after Wednesday, 2 September 1752, became Thursday, 14 September 1752.

Also at that time, the first day of the year changed to 1 January. Before 1752, the first day of the year was 25 March.

Pre-1752 dates may be confusing. For example, the day after 24 March 1565 was 25 March 1566. Dates between 1 January and 24 March are often recorded using a technique called double dating. An example of double dating is 16 February 1696/7.

For more information, see the *Handbook of Dates for Students of English History*, by C. R. Cheney.

UNDERSTANDING A WELSHMAN'S BACKGROUND

By

Dr. Melville Richards

Most Welshmen have a lurking consciousness of the fact that their ancestors lived in a much greater area than the geographical entity which we now call Wales. Let us look for a moment at the movements of the so-called Celtic peoples, for this will involve us in a subject which has more or less dominated this World Conference, namely migration.

The heartland or homeland of the Celtic peoples, in the light of our present knowledge, was that part of Europe which lies between the headwaters of the Rhine and Danube, more or less that area which we now know as Austria, Czecho-Slovakia, Southern Germany and Switzerland. The evidence of place-names proves this. Archaeology also shows that the peoples living here developed a high standard of civilization known to archaeologists as Hallstadt and LaTene. Historical evidence shows how the Celts pushed their way to all points of the compass. Some of them went south-east into Macedonia, and Asia Minor, where the province of Galatia still bears their name, and when St. Paul addressed an Epistle to the Galatians, he was in fact writing to a people who spoke a form of Celtic language. Others went south across the Alps and even threatened Rome itself. Others crossed the Rhine into Gaul (the modern France), and were later brought under Roman domination by Julius Caesar. Others passed down the Rhine into the Low Countries and thence to Britain. The ones who went furthest west were those who crossed to Ireland, partly by crossing over Britain and partly by direct immigration from the Continent.

The Celts of Britain whom we should now call Britons were made up of several tribes, each under its own supreme king, and these were the peoples who were gradually to be conquered by successive Roman expeditions, until Britain became another province in the Roman Empire. During the four centuries of Roman occupation many of these Britons became bilingual, British and Latin, and this fact has been of cardinal importance in the history of the Welsh language, because during the course of time many Latin words passed naturally into British and thence to Welsh. I shall never forget the thrill I had when I first learned Latin at school to find that the Latin word for a window was fenestra and that I used this word daily in Welsh in the form of Ffenestr and it was much later that I realized that the ill fated Queen Boadicea who rebelled against the Romans bore a Welsh name, Buddug (Victoria) and, that Caratcus who was taken in chains to Rome was the same name as the later Welsh Caradog.

This structure is one part of our heritage. Roman influence is apparent in Wales itself especially in the many Roman forts and stations, including Caernarvon, (Segontium), and Carmarthen (Maridunum), and this had conditioned us and made us aware of our far-off past.

We know too that the part historical and part legendary figure of Cassivellannus (Welsh - Caswallon) was king in London.

Next came the Anglo-Saxon settlements, even before the end of the Roman occupation, settlements which were intensified when Rome withdrew her legions. It is no part of my purpose to detail these, save to say that the Anglo-Saxons gradually advanced from the eastern and south eastern coasts. In many cases, these were peaceable settlements and many Britons must have been absorbed into the Anglo-Saxon pattern. Indeed, many place names in England still preserve their Welsh forms but in an English guise. Not that there was no bitter fighting. This is reflected in the earliest recorded Welsh poetry of the sixth century.

Incidentally, it was during the confused and anarchial period of the fourth and fifth century that British gradually became Welsh. By the sixth century the Anglo-Saxons were pressing hard upon the surviving British kingdoms in the north west, the Midlands and the south west. And the poetry of the sixth century is mainly concerned with the struggle between the British kingdoms of Southern Scotland and North West England and the English Kingdom of Northumbria. So that the earliest Welsh poetry was composed not in Wales but in what Welsh tradition calls the Old North.

Meanwhile, other royal dynasties had been established within Wales itself and it was not until the eighth century that the border between England and Wales was finally stabilized by Offa, King of Mercia, with the building of Offa's Dyke or Clawdd Offa - one of the other abiding, conscious and subconscious memories of a Welshman, for Offa's Dyke became the symbol of the difference between the two nations, Welsh and English. Crossing Offa's Dyke, a Welshman was passing over into another country.

I should perhaps stress here that it was a very long time before Welshmen were able to regard their own country as one political unit. Wales was made up of several provinces reigned over by single royal dynasties, and it was not until the day of Hywel Dda in the 10th century that Wales became aware of the possibility of one single nation. Indeed even today, one of the abiding characteristics of a Welshman is an unswerving loyalty to his own small home territory and this identification with particular location must always be taken into account.

The next extensive influence was the Norman Conquest, or rather the Anglo-Norman conquest, a process which took over 200 years to accomplish in its entirety, from the early Norman penetrations soon after 1066 up to 1282. The 200 year struggle threw up many able leaders and princes on the Welsh side which coincided with a remarkable flowering of Welsh literature, both in prose and poetry. The event which symbolized the end of the fight was the killing of Llewelyn, last independent Prince of Wales in 1282, and this is another indelible part of our Welsh memory. But a more far reaching and important step was taken two years later by the Statute of Wales. Rhuddlan, in 1284 by which Wales was divided into two parts, first the Principality (northern) and the Marcher Lordships of the rest of Wales, and Edward I embarked on his policy of castle building in conjunction with the new Boroughs. This introduced a new concept into Welsh life, this concentration of population into a confined

space. Welshmen were not at first allowed to become burgesses, and towns came to symbolize alien influences. But life in the country went on much as before, and many of the gentry Welsh families held important positions under the new dispensation. But they were still conscious of being a conquered nation and rebellion would flare up every so often.

The most notable of these was that of Owain Glyndwr at the beginning of the fifteenth century. Owain himself was a descendant of all the ruling dynasties of Wales and he seemed to concentrate within himself all the aspirations of the Welsh people. We can never overestimate the significance of blood relationship in the alliances which were formed at this period, and it is still not fully worked out what family promptings were responsible for the various line ups for and against Owain. The rebellion was very successful at first and it certainly constituted a severe threat to English power, especially after Owain's alliances with France and Scotland.

The rebellion failed and Owain retired to die in obscurity, but his very successes made him a figure of legend and he joined that select band of heroes, including Arthur who deemed not to have died, but who are awaiting a recall to help Wales once again at its hour of need.

The hatred of the Welsh for the English continued after the Glyndwr revolt and was a major factor of the Baron's wars, commonly known as the "Wars of the Roses". The majority of Welshmen favored the Lancastrians because of the increasing importance of the Tudor family and the prophetic poetry of the fifteenth century which concentrated on the probable occupation of the English throne by a Welshman once again. This prophecy was fulfilled when Henry Tudor landed near Milford Haven in Pembrokeshire and gathered Welsh support on his way to Bosworth Field in 1485. His standard was the Welsh dragon, his standard bearer was a Welsh knight and the Standard was displayed in St. Paul's cathedral, London.

It seemed that Wales had at last come into her own, and this fervent loyalty to the Tudors helps to explain why such major political revolutions as the Acts of Union between Wales and England were possible in 1536 and 1542, and why the Protestant Reformation and the Dissolution of the monasteries were accepted in Wales. Accepted even though Wales became part of England, even though the provisions of the Act of Union made it necessary for any Welshman who held public office to use English.

The acceptance of Protestantism had one major effect. The translation of the Bible into Welsh, although it was designed by Elizabeth to turn Welshmen into English speakers, had an unforeseen consequence. The Welsh language which was at that time in grave danger of splitting up into several dialects was given a dignified and authoritative form and the language of the Bible still remains standard literary.

The Tudor period opened the door to much greater mutual influence between Wales and England. London became familiar to Welshmen who came there to make a fortune, and a good indication of their numbers is the amount of Welsh that one finds in Shakespeare and Jonson and other Jacobean dramatists. You would be surprised at the amount of actual Welsh put into the mouths of Welsh characters at this period. Ben Jonson, we know, studied Welsh grammar

and some of his plays have large chunks of Welsh.

I must now hasten on to the eighteenth century with the far-reaching movements of the Methodist revival. Wales had already partaken of the spirit of Nonconformity from the church by accepting the ideas of the Quakers, the Congregationalists (or independents) and the Baptists. and here I should like to interject that although these movements came into Wales from England, they were always changed in character the moment they crossed the Border. This has happened time and again. New ideas find their way into Wales, but are rarely accepted without some modification which identifies them with the modes of thought and attitudes of the Welsh people. and this is particularly true of the eighteenth century. There are several features which distinguish Methodism in Wales from Methodism in England. Further, the preparatory work of men like Gruffydd Jones of Llanddowror. He worked for the S.P.C.K. (an English Society) and set up circulatory schools which aimed to teach Welsh people to read the Book of Common Prayer and the Catechism. These schools were established all over Wales and in a comparatively short space of time, many Welshmen became literate. Now, once you have learned to read, it is an easy step to extend your reading matter, and this fact is of prime importance in the later history of Welsh culture.

When the Methodists began to succeed in their missions. this was through the medium of Welsh (You must remember that Wales at this time was practically monoglot). This is why and how the great Welsh Hymns of the methodist movement (those of Pantcelyn for example) became so popular and well known.

Another point is this, when Sunday Schools began parallel with the Sunday School movement in England, this was another difference between Wales and England. In England, the Sunday Schools catered mainly for children and young people. In Wales, however, the Sunday Schools became a sort of general educational medium for young and old, so that they served the whole population. Generations of Welsh people became familiar with the beautiful words of the Welsh Bible, and with Welsh hymns, and this in many cases was the only formal education which they received. In this way. the numbers of literate Welshmen were proportionately much greater than the number of literate English people in England, and I am convinced that the foundations which were laid down in the eighteenth century in the circulatory schools and the Sunday Schools explain the great hunger for education which is so marked a characteristic of the Welsh people in the nineteenth century.

The nineteenth century is probably the most complex century in the history of the Welsh people. It was a period of vast economic, social. political and religious changes.

Shall we trace the economic changes first? This was the time of poverty and land hunger and dissatisfaction with conditions of life. Some of you will already have heard of the causes of migration from England and Wales to the new countries. and I do not propose to go into this in any detail. There have clearly been heavy movements to Pennsylvania and Ohio and to New York State (Utica and Ithaca and Pennsylvania became household names in Wales). There was the settlement in Tennessee with which the name of Samuel Roberts is associated. There

was the development of smelting in Pennsylvania, copper in Baltimore and silver in Colorado and California. There was the slate industry at Bangor in Pennsylvania, and of course the incredible journey to Patagonia and the history of the Welsh colony there. All these matters are well known to you.

What is important is that these Welsh emigrants, like other nationalities from Europe, remained Welsh emigrants in their new country and tended to group together and to retain their own national characteristics, including their language. Scarcely a family in Wales has no one who was not an emigrant. And as Dr. Chaloner pointed out on Tuesday morning, the Welsh emigrants found it difficult at times to integrate themselves with the new communities in which they found themselves.

But all this is so familiar to you that I shall leave it for other matters.

The economic changes within Wales itself are bound up with the massive industrialization of the nineteenth century, the results of which are momentous for Wales. The heavy industries of coal, iron, steel and tin drew workers from England, Scotland and Ireland - drew them to the Southeastern industrial region of Glamorgan and Monmouthshire until it created a terrific imbalance in the population, and because this immigration into Wales itself was so huge and so sudden, native Welsh speakers could not cope with it, could not absorb the newcomers. In a comparatively short space of time, the numbers of English speakers outgrew the native Welsh speakers, so that Wales became a Bilingual country, with the English speakers concentrated in a relatively small area.

In political affairs, we can see the results of the nonconformist sects, at first with the older dissenters with their emphasis on individual freedom revolting against the idea of autocratic and upper class domination. Gradually, the Methodists at first conservative in their attitude came round to these beliefs and embraced those liberal and radical ideas which were sweeping over Europe at the time, and not only this, the struggles of other nations in Europe to overthrow centuries of oppression in political, social and religious matters, found ready sympathizers in Wales. Pictures of Garibaldi and Mazzini, the liberators of Italy, or Kosciusko of Hungary, were hung in many Welsh homes. The growth of literacy fostered the publication of works in Welsh and it is true to say that no other country in the world at that time supported so many papers and journals and magazines relative to its size, and this was the climate in which an institution like the Eisteddfod could flourish. From modest beginnings at the end of the National gathering which was not only concerned with Welsh literature and music, but also acted as a forum for the discussion of matters of public interest. It served too to focus the activities of the poets and the essayists and the musicians and to provide a means of self-expression unrivalled in any other country in the world. The standards might be low at times, but this is not the point. Here we have a whole nation being concerned with the things of the spirit and not only with material benefits.

The roots of our educational system go back to the nineteenth century. In 1870, the School Boards were established and the first University College. In 1889, came the Welsh

intermediate Schools Act which gave us a system of grammar (high) schools far superior to England. But here I must add a sad note. When these different systems were established, the climate of opinion was such that it was felt that knowing English was the best means of advancement. Indeed, in the Board Schools, Welsh was forbidden, and children were punished for speaking Welsh at school. In the grammar schools and in the University, English was thought to be the best medium of instruction, although Welsh was taught as one subject in the curriculum. This has been an invidious situation and it has deprived many Welsh people of the opportunity of using Welsh for all manner of subjects. The opportunity was lost at that time to secure for Wales a truly bilingual system of education and we have been the hapless victim of a century of neglect.

True, we are now seeing attempts to regain lost ground when the use of Welsh for subjects other than Welsh is being increased in schools, colleges and universities, but it is too soon yet for us to know whether we shall be able to reverse the present position in which Welsh speakers in Wales are in a minority.

Politically, Wales as we have seen became radical and the early Liberal party found much of its support in Wales. By the end of the century, one of the planks in the Liberal platform was Home Rule and under Gladstone, we came very near to achieving it, but that opportunity too was lost, and the Liberals lost ground to the new socialist movement.

By today the majority of Welshmen are voting the Labour (or Socialist) ticket. In 1925, a new political party was formed, the Nationalist party, which was pledged to the attempt to gain Home Rule or autonomy for Wales with Dominion status within the English Commonwealth. This was at first an intellectual party which drew its support from University students, but it has now grown to command the allegiance of some of the general public as well. A few years ago, it sent its first member to Parliament. It has become steadily more militant and tends to endorse the dictum of one of its prophets that Welsh blood must flow before independence is achieved. Although it disclaims the attempts of some of its more extremist members to use violence in order to draw attention (outrages of various kinds), yet the public at large is disposed to believe that violence is identified with nationalism, and this may well hinder its general acceptance as a serious political party.

There are many other facets of Welsh life which I have neglected to mention, but I am deliberately not taking the full schedule this morning in order to allow more time to ask questions and to take part in discussion so that we may together either elaborate on some point which I have made, or indicate others which should have been made.

In conclusion, may I say that I was privileged on Monday to visit Brigham Young University at Provo to address members and students at the English faculty there and to see the collection of Welsh books in their University Library. That collection seemed to me to exemplify what I have been saying. It is typical of that which one might have found in any Welsh household either in the States or in Wales itself. Religious works prominent - Bibles and hymnals, biographies of well known preachers and their sermons, but not only that; Welsh

literary works in prose and poetry, works dealing with Welsh traditions and history and it sent a wave of nostalgia over me.

Map of Wales



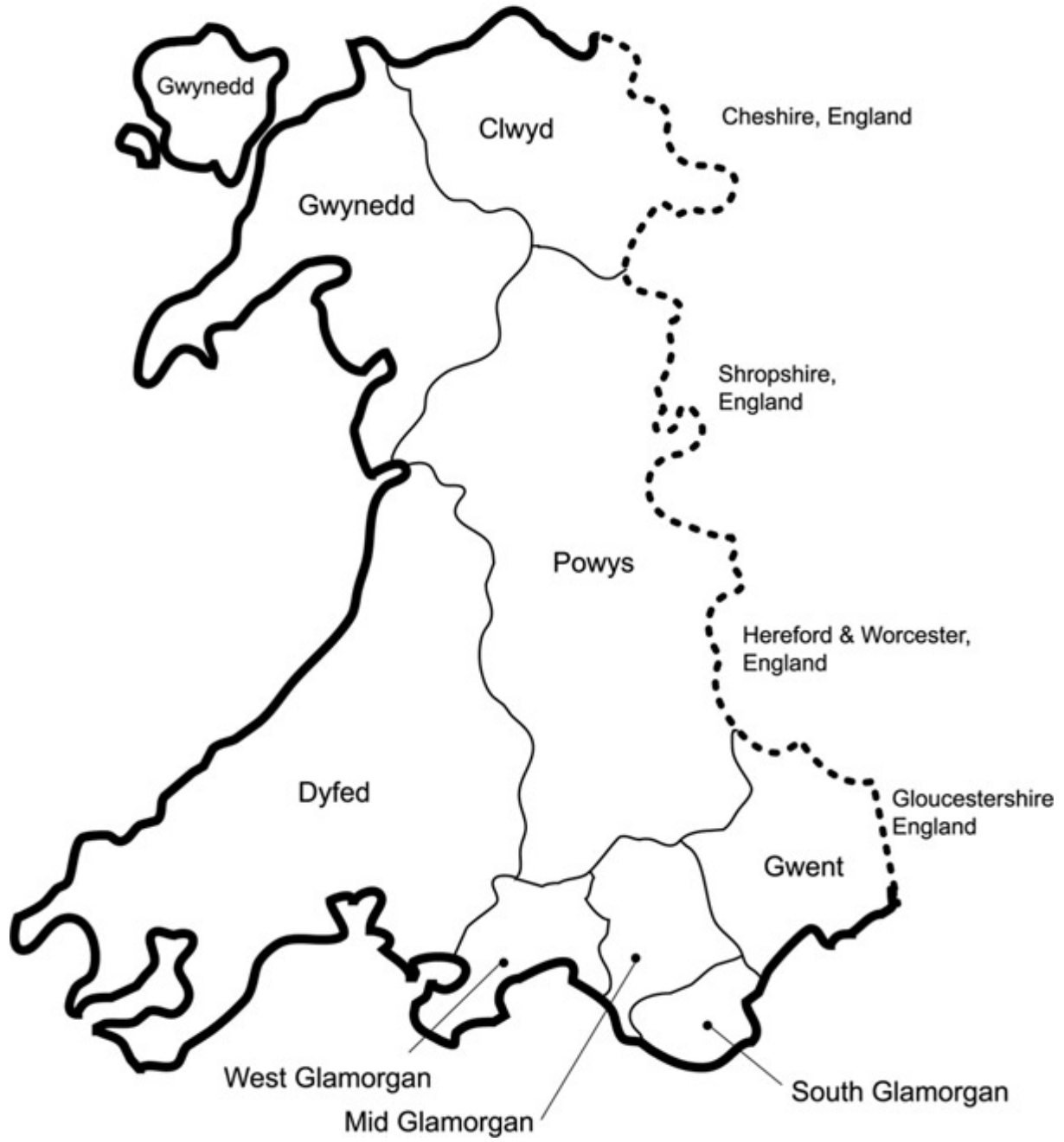
WALES

PRE - 1974 COUNTY STRUCTURE



WALES

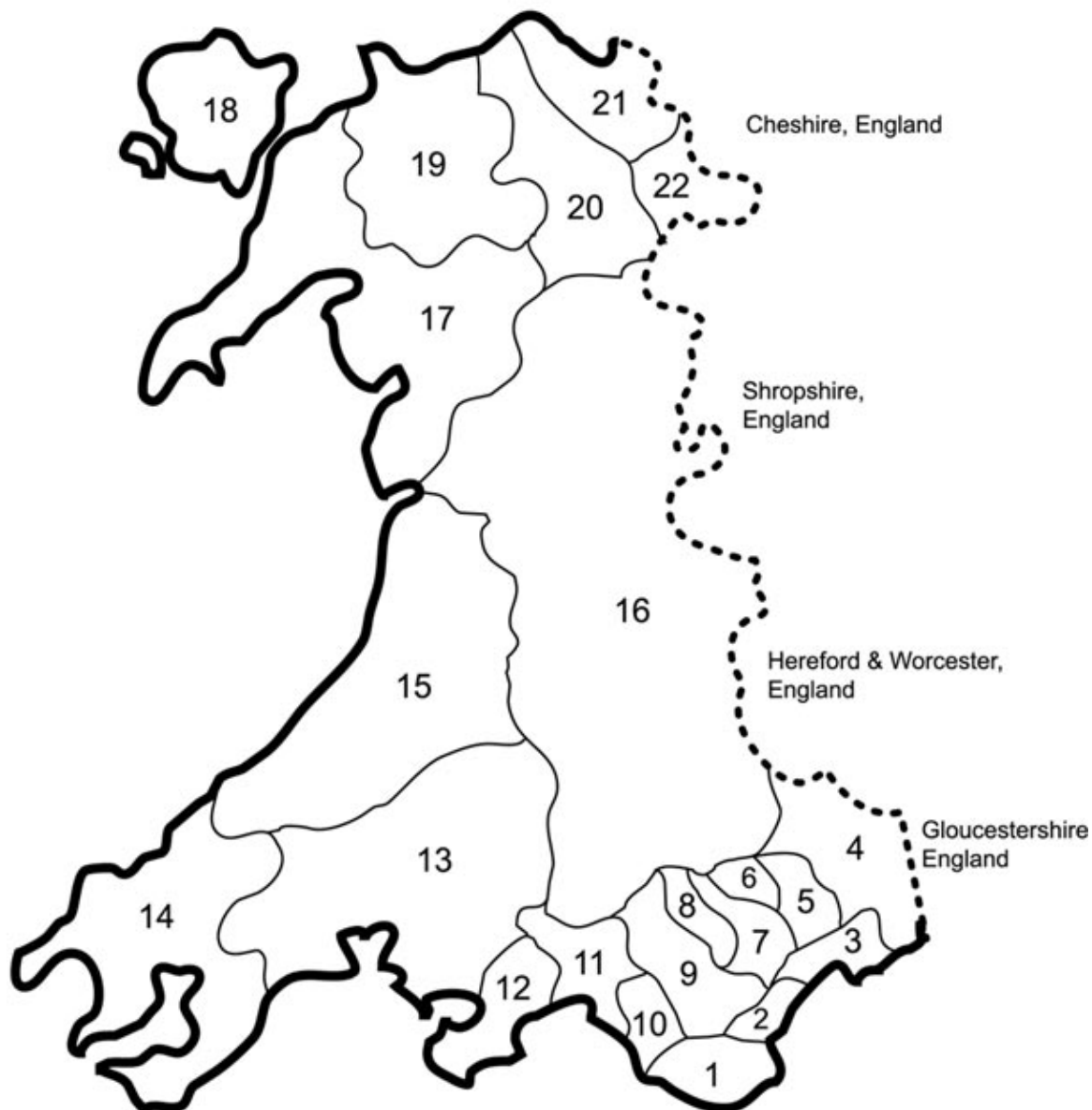
1974 - 1996 COUNTY STRUCTURE



WALES

POST - 1996 COUNTY STRUCTURE

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Vale of Glamorgan | 10. Bridgend | 19. Conwy |
| 2. Cardiff | 11. Neath & Port Talbot | 20. Denbighshire |
| 3. Newport | 12. Swansea | 21. Flintshire |
| 4. Monmouthshire | 13. Carmarthenshire | 22. Wrexham |
| 5. Torfaen | 14. Pembrokeshire | |
| 6. Blaenau Gwent | 15. Cardiganshire | |
| 7. Caerphilly | 16. Powys | |
| 8. Merthyr Tydfil | 17. Gwynedd | |
| 9. Rhondda Cynon Taff | 18. Anglesey | |



Wales Rural and City Maps

A

	Cnty	Year	Call Number	Comments
Aber	CAE	1848	942.9 E3a	Tithe map
Aberaeron	CGN	-	942.95 C4a Vol. 3 #3	Local manors & lordships map
Aberaeron	CGN	1845	942.95 H2wj	Town plan
Aberarth	CGN	18th Cent.	942.95 C4a Vol. X1 #4	Neuadd estate properties map
Abercarn	MON	1845	942.43/A4 K2p	Town map
Aberconway	CAE	1786	942.92 C4hs Vol. 17	Road map
Aberdare	GLA	1898	942.97/M1 P3t	Street map
Aberdare	GLA	1874	942.9 U3m	Collieries map
Aberdovey	MER		942.925/A1 E6a	Town plan
Abergavenny	MON		942.43 D25j No. 24	Town map
Abergavenny	MON		942.43 E6o	Rural district map
Abergavenny	MON		942.43 H2cw	Town plan
Abergele	DEN		942.9 E4o Vol. 2	District maps
Abermule	MGY	-	942.94 C4mp Vol. 57	Town plan
Aberteifi	CGN	1610	942.95 H2wj	Town plan
Aberystwyth	CGN	----	942 E7nb	Town plan
Aberystwyth	CGN	1834?	942.95 C4a Vol. 9 #2	Town plan
Aberystwyth	CGN	18th Cent.	942.95 C4a Vol. 3 #4	Several town plans maps
Aberystwyth	CGN	1834	942.95/A1 P2e	Town plan
Aberystwyth	CGN	1832	942.95 H2wj	Town plan
Aberystwyth District	&CGN	1841-1871	942.95 C4a Vol. 9 #2	Enumeration dist. & place names map
Aberystwyth	CGN	1795	942.95 H2wj	Town plan

Airdrie	MON		942.43/A1 H2a	Street map
Airdrie	MON	1825	942.43/A1 H2k	Town plan
Aled	DEN		942.9 E4o Vol. 2	Rural district map
Alyn Valley	FLN	-	942.935 B2j Vol. 29	Area map
Anglesey	AGY		942.9 E5L Vol. 1	County map
Anglesey	AGY	1795	942.91 H25s Vol. 7	Roads map
Anglesey	AGY		942.91 H25s Vol. 5	Location of schools map
Ar y Ffin	DEN		942.93 E6j	Area map
Arwystli	MGY	19th Cent.	942.94 R2j	Manorial (several maps)
Arwystli	MGY	-	942.94 C4mp Vol. 54	Manor map
Arwystli	MGY	-	942.94 C4mp Vol. 71	Manorial map
Aston	FLN	c.1730	942.935 B2j Vol. 15	Enclosure map
Aston	FLN	c. 1735	942.935 B2j Vol. 15	Enclosure map

B

	Cnty	Year	Call Number	Comments
Bangor	CAE	1786	942.92 C4hs Vol. 17	Road map
Bangor	CAE	1840	942.92 C4hs Vol. 31	Tithe map & area map
Bangor	CAE	1831	942.92/B2e	Area map
Bangor	CAE	1933-35	942.9 E3a	Town map
Bannel	FLN	c.1651	942.935 B2j Vol. 15	Estate map
Bannel	FLN	c. 1651	942.935 B2j Vol. 15	Hawarden estate map
Banwy Valley	MGY	-	942.94 C4mp Vol. 57	Enclosure map
Barmouth	MER	1748	942.925/B1 U38L	Area map
Barmouth	MER		942.9 A1 No. 34	Town map
Barry	GLA	mid 19th Cent.	942.97/B2 H2b	Town plan
Barry	GLA	1780	942.97/B2 H2b	Manor map
Barry	GLA	1622	942.97/B2 H2b	Manor map
Barry	GLA	1904	942.97/C1 N2c	Rural district O.S. 1"-1 mile map
Barry	GLA	1977	942.97/B2 H2b	Area map
Barry Island	GLA	1762	942.97/B2 H2b	Farm map
Barry, East	GLA	1767	942.97/B2 H2b	Farm map

Beaumaris	AGY	1786	942.91 C4a 1954	Area road map
Bedwellty	MON		942.43 E6o	Urban district map
Berriew	MGY	1799	942.94 C4mp Vol. 77	Township enclosure map
Bersham	DEN		942.93/W1 H2paL	Area map
Bettws	GLA	-	942.97 H2ef	Rural district map
Bettws	GLA	1881	942.97 W2j	Rural district map
Bistre	FLN	-	942.935 B2j Vol. 33	Township map
Bistre	FLN	Late 19th	942.935 B2j Vol. 33	Township map
Black Mountain	CMN		942.98 C4ab Vol. 27	Rural district map
Blaenafton Garnddyrys	&MON	c. 1865	942.43 H2bc	Works & communications map
Bodaeoch	MGY	-	942.94 R2j	Township pre-enclosure map
Brecknock	BRE	1834	942.9 B2j Vol. 19	Town map
Brecknockshire	BRE		942.9 E5L Vol. 1	County map
Brecon	BRE	-	942.965 H2bw	Streets map
Brecon	BRE		942.9 E6gt	Town plan
Brecon County	BRE	-	942.965 H2r	Lordships map
Bretton	FLN	C.1651	942.935 B2j Vol. 15	Estate map
Bretton	FLN	c. 1651	942.935 B2j Vol. 15	Hawarden Estate map
Brithdir	MGY	-	942.94 R2j	Township pre-enclosure map
Bryn	MON	1840s - 1920	942.43/L2 H2b	Village maps
Brynderwen	MGY	-	942.94 C4mp Vol. 78	Rural district map
Builth Wells	BRE		942.9 E4o Vol. 1	Urban district map
Burry Port	CMN		942.9 E4o Vol. 1	Urban district map
Burton	PEM	-	942.99/B2 Vol. 3p 2nd Ed.	O.S. 25" map

C

	Cnty	Year	Call Number	Comments
Cadoxton	GLA	1842	942.97/B2 H2b	Tithe map
Cadoxton	GLA	1763	942.97/B2 H2b	Village & surroundings map
Cadoxton	GLA	1601	942.97 E7t	Lordship map
Caerleon	MON		942.43 H2cw	Town plan
Caernarvon	CAE	1800	Q942 E2h Vol. 1	Several maps, town plan
Caernarvon	CAE	1610	942.92/C2 H2j	Town plan
Caernarvon	CAE	1834-89	942.9 E3a	Town maps
Caernarvonshire	CAE	c. 1800	942.92 H2gr	Roads map
Caernarvonshire	CAE	1809-11	942.92 E6cae Vol. 2	Roads map
Caernarvonshire	CAE		942.9 E5L Vol. 1	County map
Caerphilly	GLA	1904	942.97/C1 N2c	Rural district O.S. 1"-1 mile map
Caersws	MGY	-	942.94 R2j	Township pre-enclosure map
Caersws	MGY	-	942.94 C4mp Vol. 73	Several maps
Caerwent	MON	Roman	942.43 H2cw	Town plan
Caldey Island	PEM	-	942.99/C3 K2b	Area map
Caldicot	MON	1842	942.43 B2p No. 44	Parish map
Camaes	PEM		942.9 E4o Vol. 3	Rural district map
Cardiff	GLA	1974	942 E7mt	Street map
Cardiff	GLA	1981	Q942 E7br	Town plan
Cardiff	GLA	----	942 E7nb	Town plan
Cardiff	GLA	1968	942 E7ra	Atlas map
Cardiff	GLA	1610	942.97/C1 H2s	Town plan
Cardiff	GLA	-	942.97/C1 K2b	Partial town plan (prison area)
Cardiff	GLA	1904	942.97/C1 N2c	Rural district O.S. 1"-1 mile map
Cardiff	GLA	1878	942.97 E6d	Streets map
Cardiff	GLA		942.9 E4o Vol. 3	Rural district map
Cardiff	GLA		942.9 E6h	Street map
Cardigan	CGN	-	942.95 C4a Vol. 9 #4	Town plan
Cardigan	CGN	1610	942.95/C1 H2	Town plan
Cardigan	CGN	c.1830	942.95/C1 H2L	Borough map
Cardigan	CGN	1834	942.95/C1 H2	Town plan

Cardigan	CGN	1846	942.95/C1 H2	Tithe map
Cardigan	CGN	1890	942.95C1 H2L	Town plan
Cardigan	CGN	1834	942.95 H2qj	Town plan
Cardigan County	CGN	-	942.95 C4a Vol. 3 #3	Commotes map
Cardigan County	CGN	-	942.95 H2p	Houses of the gentry map
Cardigan County	CGN	-	942.95 V3j	Ports map
Cardigan County	CGN	-	942.95 H2L	Commotes map
Cardigan County	CGN	-	942.95 H2wj	Parishes map
Cardigan County	CGN	-	942.95 H2wj	Schools map
Cardiganshire	CGN		942.9 E5L Vol. 1	County map
Carmarthen	CMN	----	942 E7nb	Town plan
Carmarthen	CMN	1610	942.98 H2L	Town plan
Carmarthen	CMN	1829	942.98 C4ab Vol. 22	Inns & taverns map
Carmarthen County	CMN	18th C.	942.98 H2	Methodism map
Carmarthen-shire	CMN		942.9 E5L Vol. 1	County map
Carnedd	MGY	-	942.94 R2j	Township pre-enclosure map
Castlemartin	PEM	1787	942.95 C4a Vol. X #2	Parish (field & farm boundaries) map
Ceiriog	DEN		942.9 E4o Vol. 2	O.S. map
Chepstow	MON		942.43 E6o	Rural district map
Chepstow	MON		942.43 H2cw	Town plan
Chepstow	MON		942.43 H2cw	Piercefield grounds plan
Chepstow	MON		942.43/C1 B4c	Town maps
Chepstow	MON		942.43/C1 H2w	Town & district maps
Chepstow	MON		942.43/C1 V26w	District map
Cheriton	GLA	-	942.97 B4ds	Rural district map
Chirkland	DEN	1568	942.93 R2c	Area map
Churchstoke	MGY	-	942.94 C4mp Vol. 34	Parish map
Cilmachallt	MGY	-	942.94 R2j	Township pre-enclosure map
Clawdd Coch Llannym-nynech	MGY	-	942.94 C4mp Vol. 11	Area plan
Cogan	GLA	-	942.97/P2 H2th	Parish map
Colwyn	DEN		942.93/C1 H2r	Street plan
Connah's Quay	FLN		942.9 E4o Vol. 2	Urban district map

Conway	CAE		942.92/C1 H2c	Town plan
Corris	MER		942.925/A2 H2h	Area map
Cowbridge	GLA	C.18th Cent.	942.97/C2 H2j	Town plan
Cowbridge	GLA	-	942.97/C2 H2j	Rural district & tithe map
Cowbridge	GLA		942.9 E4o Vol. 3	Rural district map
Criccieth	CAE	c.1800	942.92 C4hs Vol. 27	Town plan
Croesllwyber	MGY	-	942.94 R2j	Township pre-enclosure map
Cwm Ffrwd	MON		942.43 B2p No. 42	Railroad map
Cwmbran	MON		942.43 E6o	Urban district map
Cwmcidy	GLA	1624	942.97/B2 H2b	Penmark Manor map
Cwmerau	CGN	1887-88	942.95 C4a Vol. X1 #1	Rural district map
Cwmyoy	MON	c. 1850	942.43 B2p No. 47	Farms map
Cyfeiliog	MGY	1201 - 1836	942.9 B2j Vol. 24	Boundaries maps
Cyfeiliog	MGY	-	942.94 C4mp Vol. 60	The commote map
Cymydmaen	CAE	Early	942.92 C4hs Vol. 24	Area map

D

	Cnty	Year	Call Number	Comments
Defynnog	BRE	1744	942.97 E7t	Estate map
Denbighshire	DEN		942.9 E5L Vol. 1	County map
Dethenydd	MGY	-	942.94 R2j	Township pre-enclosure map
Deudraeth	MER		942.9 E4o Vol. 3	Rural district map
Devil's Bridge	CGN	-	942.95 C4a Vol. X1 #3	Rural district map
Deytheur	MGY	-	942.94 C4mp Vol. 32	Manor map
Dinas Powys	GLA	-	942.97 E2p	Hundred map
Dinas Powys	GLA	-	942.97/D1 H2t	Town plan
Dinas Powys	GLA	-	942.97/D1 H2a	Rural district (O.S.) map
Dolbenmaen	CAE		942.92 C4hs Vol. 17	Area map
Dolgellau	MGY	1853	942.94 C4mp Vol. 75	Area map
Dolgelley	MER		942.9 E4o Vol. 3	Urban district map
Dolgwden	MGY	-	942.94 R2j	Township pre-enclosure map

Dyffryn	GLA	1792	942.97 E7t	Estate map
Dyffryn Ceiriog	DEN		942.93 E6j	Area map
Dyffryn Langollen	DEN		942.93 E6j	Area map
Dylife	MGY	1903	942.94/D1 H2b	Rural district map

E

	Cnty	Year	Call Number	Comments
Ebbw Vale	MON		942.43 D25j No. 22	Town map
Ebbw Vale	MON	1779 - 1815	942.43/E1 H2g	Boundaries map
Ebbw Vale	MON	1881 - 1965	942.43/E1 H2g	Urban district map
Eglwysilan	GLA	1763	942.97 E7t	Estate map
Eglwysilan	GLA	1766	942.97 E7t	Estate map
Esclusham Above	DEN	1845	942.93/W1 H2paL	Area map
Esclusham Above	DEN	1845	942.93/W1 H2paL Pt. 5	Tithe map
Esgeiriaeth	MGY	-	942.94 R2j	Township pre-enclosure map
Esgob	MGY	-	942.94 R2j	Township pre-enclosure map
Ewloe	FLN	c. 1781	942.935 B2j Vol. 16	Manor of Ewloe map

F

	Cnty	Year	Call Number	Comments
Felindre	GLA	1900	942.97/P7 H2p Vol. 2	Rural district map
Fishguard	PEM	----	942 E7nb	Town plan
Fishguard Goodwick	&PEM		942.9 E4o Vol. 3	Urban district map
Flintshire	FLN	c.1284	942.935 H2f Vol. 1	Lordships map
Flintshire	FLN	C.1350	942.935 B4fL #2	Commotes map
Flintshire	FLN	1750	942.935 P2p	Hundred map
Flintshire	FLN	1284 - 1536	942.935 B2j Vol. 30	Administrative units map
Flintshire	FLN	1086	942.935 B2j Vol. 11	Place names map
Flintshire	FLN	1801	942.935 B2j Vol. 25	Civil Parishes map
Flintshire	FLN		942.9 E5L Vol. 1	County map
Fonmon	GLA	1622	942.97/F1 H2m	Manor map
Four Crosses	MGY	-	942.94 C4mp Vol. 77	Rural district map

G

	Cnty	Year	Call Number	Comments
Garw Valley	GLA	1881	942.97 W2j	District map
Gelligaer	GLA	-	942.97 B2ge Vol. 3	Rural district map
Gellygaer	GLA		942.9 E4o Vol. 3	Urban district map
Gest	CAE		942.92 C4hs Vol. 18	Area map
Gilfach Goch	GLA	1871	942.97/L9 H2d	Area map
Glamorgan	GLA	1670	942.9 B4s Vol. 10	Hearth tax assessment maps
Glamorgan County	GLA	1901	942.97 D25g No.13	Civil registration districts map
Glamorgan County	GLA	-	942.97 H2g Vol. 12	Iron ore mines map
Glamorgan County	GLA	-	942.97 H2co	Member Lordships map
Glamorgan County	GLA	-	942.97/B2 H2b	Hundreds maps
Glamorgan County	GLA	17-19 Cent.	942.97 H2jp	Gentry family seats map
Glamorgan-shire	GLA		942.9 E5L Vol. 1	County map
Glynhafren Iscoed	MGY	-	942.94 R2j	Township pre-enclosure map
Glyntrefnant	MGY	-	942.94 R2j	Township pre-enclosure map
Gogerddan	CGN	1836	942.95 C4a Vol. 7 #2	Demesne farm map
Gower Road	GLA	1876/7	942.97 H25g Vol. 36	O.S. 6"-1 mile 1st edition map
Gwent	W		942.43 D25j No. 18	Area map
Gwent	MON	1700-60	942.43 K2jb	Baptist preaching stations & missions map
Gwent	MON	1800-50	942.43 K2jb	Welsh language chapels map
Gwerneirin	MGY	-	942.94 R2j	Township pre-enclosure map
Gwynionydd Cerdyn	CGN	1651	942.95 C4a Vol. 4 #4	Manor map
Gwyrfa	CAE		942.9 E4o Vol. 1	Rural district map
Gwysaney	FLN	19th cent.	942.935 B2j Vol. 15	Rural district map
Gwysaney	FLN	c. 1845	942.935 B2j Vol. 15	Area map

H

	Cnty	Year	Call Number	Comments
Hafod	CGN	-	942.95 C4a Vol. X1 #3	Rural district map
Hafod	GLA	1921	942.9 U25c No. 1	10" to mile O.S. map
Hanmer	FLN	-	942.935/H1 H2h	Parish map
Haverfordwest	PEM	----	942 E7nb	Town plan
Hawarden	FLN	c.1750	942.935 B2j Vol. 16	Lordship & Manor of Evlow map
Hawarden	FLN		942.9 E4o Vol. 2	Rural district map
Hay-on-Wye	BRE	-	942.965/H1 H2f	Town plan-2 maps
Hengynwydd Fach	MGY	-	942.94 R2j	Township pre-enclosure map
Hengynwydd Fawr	MGY	-	942.94 R2j	Township pre-enclosure map
Highlight	GLA	1767	942.97/B2 H2b	Farm map
Hill Mountain	PEM	-	942.99/B2 V3p 2nd Ed.	O.S. 25" map
Holt	DEN	1872	942.93 H2p	Town plan
Holton	GLA	1763	942.97/B2 H2b	Hamlet plan
Holyhead	AGY	----	942 E7nb	Town plan
Holyhead	AGY	1786	942.91 C4a 1954	Area road map
Holyhead	AGY		942.91/H1 H2h	Area map
Holywell	FLN	1693 - 1795	942.935 B2j Vol. 18	Mines & roads map
Holywell	FLN	1833	942.935/H3 H2d	Town plan
Hope Manor	FLN		942.935 B2j Vol. 31	Townships map
Hopkinstown	GLA	1921	942.9 U25c	10" to mile O.S. map

I

	Cnty	Year	Call Number	Comments
Ial	DEN		942.93 E6j	Area map
Is Coed Uwch Hirwern	CGN	1651	942.95 C4a Vol. 4 #4	Manor map

J

No places for this letter.

K

	Cnty	Year	Call Number	Comments
Kemeys	PEM		942.9 B2c Ser. 3 Vol. 8	Lordship map
Kenfig	GLA	-	942.97 H2ef	Rural district map
Kerry	MGY	-	942.94 C4mp Vol. 60	Parish map
Kerry	MGY	1795	942.94 C4mp Vol. 43	Roads & settlements map
Knighton	RAD		942.9 E4o Vol. 3	Rural district map

L

	Cnty	Year	Call Number	Comments
Lavernock	GLA	1824	942.97 E7t	Estate map
Lavernock	GLA	-	942.97/P2 H2th	Parish map
Lisvane	GLA	1845	942.97/L19 H2r	Parish map (several)
Llai	DEN	-	942.935 B2j Vol. 21	Ordnance survey map
Llan-ganffraid	CGN	1846	942.95 C4a Vol. 9 #1	Tithe map
Llanarthney	RAD	1797	942.96 D25c Vol. 1 # 7	Estate map (Langwn)
Llanbedr	CGN	1845	942.95 H2wj	Village plan
Llanblethian	GLA	c.1700	942.97/L4 R2r	Parish map
Llandaff	GLA	12th C.	942.9 B4s Vol. 5	Diocese map
Llandaff	GLA	18th C.	942.9 B4s Vol. 7	Diocese map
Llandaff	GLA		942.9 B4s Vol. 7	Deanery maps
Llanddewi Brefi	CGN	-	942.95/L1 H2r	Parish map
Llandeilo	CMN		942.9 E4o Vol. 1	Rural district map
Llandilo	CMN		942.98/L1 V3w	Rural district map
Llandinam	MGY	19th Cent.	942.94 R2j	Township pre-enclosure map
Llandough	GLA	-	942.97/P2 H2th	Parish map
Llandovery	CMN		942.9 E4o Vol. 1	Borough boundary map
Llandovery	CMN		942.9 K2es	Area map
Llandrindod Wells	RAD		942.9 A1 No. 28	Area map

Llandudno	CAE	----	942 E7nb	Town plan
Llandudno	CAE	1847	942.92 A5cr	Allotments map
Llandudno	CAE		942.92/L1 H2L	Area map
Llandyfodwg	GLA	1881	942.97 W2j	Rural district map
Llandysilio	AGY	1815	942.91 C4a 1946-48	Area map
Llandysul	CGN	19th Cent.	942.95 C4a Vol. 4 #2	Town plan
Llandysul	CGN	c.1540	942.95 C4a Vol. 3 #2	Area map
Llandysul	CGN	1845	942.95 H2wj	Village plan
Llandysul Is-Cerdyn	CGN	1861	942.95 C4a Vol. 4 #2	Township map
Llandysul Uwch-Cerdyn	CGN	1861	942.95 C4a Vol. 4 #2	Township map
Llanedeyrn	GLA	1767	942.97 E7t	Estate map
Llanelly	BRE	1776	942.97 E7t	Estate map
Llanelly	CMN		942.9 E4o Vol. 1	Rural district map
Llanfabon	GLA	1795	942.97 E7t	Estate map
Llanfabon	GLA	1763	942.97 E7t	Estate map
Llanfihangel yng Ngwynfa	MGY	-	942.94/L2 H6ra	Several maps
Llanfyllin	MON		942.9 E4o Vol. 3	Rural district map
Llanfynnyd	FLN	-	942.935 H2f Vol. 1	Rural district (o.s.) map
Llangadfan	MGY	1840	942.94 C4mp Vol. 79	Townships maps
Llangathen	CMN	-	942.96 D25c Vol. 3 # 9	Rural district map
Llangattock-high-Usk	MON		942.43/L2 H2b	Parish map
Llangattock-high-Usk	MON		942.43/L2 H2b	River Usk & area map
Llangeinor	GLA	1840	942.97 E7t	Estate map
Llangeinor	GLA	1881	942.97 W2j	Rural district map
Llangenydd	GLA	-	942.97 B4ds	Rural district map
Llangurig	MGY	1845	942.95 C4a Vol. 9 #1	Tithe map
Llangy Felach	GLA	1826	942.97 E7t	Estate map
Llangyniew	MGY	-	942.94 C4mp Vol. 32	Rural district map
Llangynwyd	GLA	1802	942.97 E7t	Estate map
Llangynwyd	GLA	c.1780	942.97 E7t	Parish estate map
Llangynwyd	GLA	-	942.97 H2ef	Rural district map

Llanidloes	MGY	-	942.94 R2j	Township plan/pre-enclosure map
Llanidloes	MGY	1832	942.94 C4mp Vol. 73	Several maps
Llanidloes	MGY	-	942.94 C4mp Vol. 43	Borough plan
Llanilid	GLA	1799	942.97/P7 H2p Vol. 1	Rural district map
Llanllechid & Llandegai	CAE	1866	942.9 B2c Ser. 4 Vol. 3	Parishes map
Llanmihangel	GLA	c.1779	942.97 E7t	Estate map
Llanrhidian	GLA	-	942.97 B4ds	Rural district map
Llanrhystud Mefenydd	CGN	-	942.95 C4a Vol. 6 #4	Rural district map
Llanrug	CAE	1846	942.92 C4hs Vol. 7-8	Parish map
Llanrwst	DEN		942.9 E4o Vol. 2	Street map
Llantrisant	GLA	-	942.97/L10 H2d	Ordnance survey map
Llanwynno	GLA	-	942.97/L6 H2t	Parish map
Llchwyr	GLA		942.9 E4o Vol. 3	Urban district map
Llyslyn	MGY	-	942.94 R2j	Township pre-enclosure map

M

	Cnty	Year	Call Number	Comments
Machen Farm	MON	1767	942.43/T10 H2p	Estate map
Maes-y-Cwmmwr	GLA	-	942.97/M4 H2j	Ordnance survey map
Maesmawr	MGY	-	942.94 R2j	Township pre-enclosure map
Maestregymer	MGY	-	942.94 R2j	Township pre-enclosure map
Manledd	MGY	-	942.94 R2j	Township pre-enclosure map
Margam	GLA	1814	942.97 E7t	Estate map
Margam	GLA	-	942.97 H2ef	Rural district map
Margam Abbey	GLA	-	942.97/M2 K2b	Area map
Melindwr	CGN	-	942.95 C4a Vol. 9 #4	Rural district map
Merioneth	MER	1733-65	942.925 P2wj	Parishes & townships map
Merioneth	MER		942.9 B2j Vol. 19	Boundaries & tithe maps
Merionethshire	MER		942.9 E5L Vol. 1	County map
Merthyr Dyfan	GLA	c.1790	942.97/B2 H2b	Wenvoe estate map
Merthyr Mawr	GLA	1794	942.97 E7t	Estate map
Merthyr Mawr	GLA	c.1601	942.97 E7t	Estate map

Merthyr Mawr	GLA	1794	942.97/M3 H2t	Estate map
Merthyr Mawr	MON	1921	942.43 B4s Vol. 1	O.S. map
Merthyr Tydfil	GLA	1766	942.97 E7t	Estate map - Garth hamlet
Merthyr Tydfil	GLA	1850	942.97/M1 X4c	Several maps
Merthyr Tydfil	GLA	1884	942.97/M1 P3t	Street map & others
Merthyr Tydfil	GLA	1832	942.97/M1 H2wg	Town plan
Merthyr Tydfil	GLA	-	942.97/M1 H2mt	Area map
Merthyr Tydfil	GLA	1801	942.97/M1 H2mt	Hamlets map
Merthyr Tydfil	GLA	-	942.97/M1 H2mer	Borough map
Michaelston-le-Pit	GLA	ante 1767	942.97 E7t	Estate map
Michaelston-le-Pit	GLA	-	942.97/D1 H2a	Rural district (O.S.) map
Milford Haven	PEM	1832	942.99/M1 H2t	Town plan & local area map
Milford Haven	PEM	1960's	942.99/M1 H2m	Urban district/several maps
Milford Haven	PEM	1644	942.99/M1 H2b	Area map
Moelfel-igarth	MGY	1841	942.94 C4mp Vol. 79	Land ownership map
Mold	FLN	1795	942.935 B2j Vol. 31	Rural district map
Monmouth	MON	1800	942.43 B2p No. 40	Town plan
Monmouth	MON		942.43 H2cw	Town plan
Monmouth	MON	1835	942.43/M1 H2k	Town plan
Monmouth	MON	1611	942.43/M1 H2k	Town map
Monmouthshire	MON	1581 - 1625	942.43 B4s Vol. 4	Recusants distribution maps
Monmouthshire	MON	Pre-1832	942.43 D25j No. 20	Ecclesiastical jurisdictions map
Monmouthshire	MON	1767	942.43 D25j No. 30	Hundreds map
Monmouthshire	MON	1844	942.43 E4p	County map
Monmouthshire	MON		942.43 E7s	Diocese of Monmouth sketch map
Monmouthshire	MON	1577 - 1836	942.43 E73m	Numerous county maps
Monmouthshire	MON		942.43 H2bc	Walks & industrial sites location map
Monmouthshire	MON	Roman	942.43 H2cL Vol. 1	County map
Monmouthshire	MON	Pre-Norman	942.43 H2cL Vol. 1	Administrative divisions map
Monmouthshire	MON	15th C.	942.43 H2cL Vol. 1	Norman Lordships map
Monmouthshire	MON	Roman	942.43 H2cw	Roman stations & roads maps

Monmouthshire	MON		942.43 H2cw	County map
Monmouthshire	MON	1637	942.43 P2h	County map
Monmouthshire	MON	Celtic Roman	942.43/R1 H2r	Castles map
Monmouthshire	MON	Early	942.43/R1 H2r	Abbeys, churches & chapels map
Montgomery	MGY	1610	942.94 C4mp Vol. 77	Town plan
Montgomeryshire	MGY	-	942.94 H2d	Canal map
Montgomeryshire	MGY	1637	942.94 C4mp Vol. 75	County map
Montgomeryshire	MGY	1701	942.9 D25c Vol. 39	County map
Montgomeryshire	MGY		942.9 E5L Vol. 1	County map
Montgomeryshire	MGY	1201-26	942.94 C4mp Vol. 5	Manors map
Morganstown	GLA	-	942.97 H2tw	Sketch map
Mountain Ash	GLA		942.9 E4o Vol. 3	Urban district map

N

	Cnty	Year	Call Number	Comments
Nant Conway	CAE		942.9 E4o Vol. 1	Rural district map
Neath	GLA	c.1750	942.97 E7t	Estate map
New Quay	CGN		942.9 E4o Vol. 1	District map
Newcastle Emlyn	CMN		942.9 E4o Vol. 1	Rural district map
Newport	GLA	1904	942.97/C1 N2c	Rural district O.S. 1'-1 mile map
Newport	MON		942.43 H2cw	Town, liberties & borough map
Newport	MON		942.43/N1 H2a	Town plan
Newport	MON		942.9 E6h	Street map
Newport	MON	1968	942 E7ra	Atlas map
Newport, Gwent	W	1880	942.9 B2j Vol. 24	Several distribution maps
Newtown	MGY	-	942.94/N1 H2rm	Several maps
Newtown	MGY	-	942.94 C4mp Vol. 57	Town plan
North Wales	W		942.9 E6cg	Area map

O

	Cnty	Year	Call Number	Comments
Ogmore Valley	GLA	1881	942.97 W2j	District map
Ogwr Fach	GLA	1840	942.97/L9 H2d	Area map
Overton	FLN		942.9 E4o Vol. 2	Rural district map
Oxwich	GLA	1783	942.97 E7t	Estate map

P

	Cnty	Year	Call Number	Comments
Padeswood	DEN	1870	942.93 U3w	O.S. 6" to mile map
Panteague	MON	1853	942.43/P6 H2L	Kemeys estate map
Panteague	MON	1827	942.43/P6 H2L	Edwards estate land map
Paterchurch	PEM	1836	942.99/P1 H2c	Ward map
Pembroke	PEM	1836	942.99/P1 H2c	Ward map
Pembroke	PEM	Medieval	942.99 H25ph	Town plan
Pembroke	PEM		942.9 E4o Vol. 3	Rural district map
Pembroke Dock	PEM	-	942.99/P1 V3h	Street map
Pembrokeshire	PEM		942.9 E5L Vol. 2	County map
Penarth	GLA	-	942.97/P2 V3s	Town plan scale 1:1250
Penarth	GLA	-	942.97/P2 H2th	Street map & parish map
Penarth	GLA	1879	942.97/P2 H2th	(Ordnance Survey) Area map
Penclawdd	GLA	-	942.97/P4 H2c	Several maps
Penmark	GLA	1622	942.97 E7t	Manor (part of) map
Penrice	GLA	-	942.97 B4ds	Rural district map
Penstrowed	MGY	-	942.94 R2j	Parish pre-enclosure map
Penstrowed	MGY	-	942.94 C4mp Vol. 71	Parish map
Pentir	CAE		942.92 C4hs Vol. 31	Area map
Plenylgloddfa	MGY	1848	942.94/N1 H2rm	Tithe map
Pont-Y-Mynach	CGN	-	942.95 C4a Vol. X1 # 3	Rural district map
Pontardawe	GLA		942.9 E4o Vol. 3	Rural district map
Pontyberem	CMN	1982	942.98/P2 V3m	Town plan
Pontypool	MON	----	942.43 E6o	Rural district map

Pontypool	MON		942.43 D25j No. 43	Town map
Pontypool	MON		942.43 E6o	Rural district map
Pontypridd	GLA	-	942.97/P3 H2r	Area map
Pool	MGY	1818	942.94 C4mp Vol. 7	Borough map
Porthcawl	GLA		942.9 E6gt	Town map
Portmadoc	CAE		942.92/P1 U3he	Town plan
Portmadoc	CAE		942.9 E4o Vol. 1	District map
Presteigne	RAD	-	942.96 R2r	Locals manors map
Pwllheli	CAE	1834	942.92/P2 H2w Vols. 1-2	Town plan
Pwllheli	CAE	1800	942.92/P2 H2h	Town plan
Pwllheli	CAE	1834	942.9 E3a	Town plan

Q

There are no places for this letter

R

	Cnty	Year	Call Number	Comments
Radnor	RAD	-	942.96 R2r	Manor map
Radnorshire	RAD	-	942.96 H2g	Baptist chapel locations map
Radnorshire	RAD		942.9 E5L Vol. 2	County map
Radnorshire	RAD	----	942.96 H2q	Several maps
Radyr	GLA	-	942.97 H2tw	Sketch map & estate plan
Reynoldston	GLA	-	942.97 B4ds	Rural district map
Rhossili	GLA	-	942.97 B4ds	Rural district map
Rhossili	GLA	1754	942.97 E7t	Estate map
Rhuddlan	FLN	1839	942.935/R1 H2t	Tithe map
Rhydaes	MGY	1890	942.94 R2j	O.S. 6" -1 mile Rural district map
Rhyfaes	MGY	-	942.94 R2j	Township pre-enclosure map
Rhyl	FLN	1875	942.935/R1 H2t	Area map O.S. 6" to 1 mile
Rhyl	FLN	1894	942.935/R1 H2t	Street map

Risca	MON		942.43 E6o	Urban district map
Risca	MON	1843	942.43/R1 H2r	Parish map
Risca	MON		942.43/R1 H2r	Settlements growth map
Ruabon	DEN		942.93 H2pa	Townships map

S

	Cnty	Year	Call Number	Comments
Sardis (Burton Parish)	PEM	-	942.99/S4 V3p 2nd Ed.	O.S. 25" map
Sirhowy	MON		942.43 D25j No. 37	Fields map
Sker	GLA	1814	942.97 E7t	Estate map
Skokholm	PEM	-	942.99 E6h	Sketch map
Skomer	PEM	-	942.99 E6h	Sketch map
Snowdonia	CAE		942.92 U3b	Mines map
South Pembrokeshire	PEM		942.9 A1 No. 26	Road & railway map
South Wales	W	19th C.	942.43 H2w	Population centres & coalfield map
South Wales	W	c. 1839	942.43 H2w	Mining map
South Wales	W	1839	942.43 H2w	Uprising map
South Wales	W		942.9 E6gt	Area map
South Wales	W		942.9 E6h	Area map
St. Andrews	GLA	1762-63	942.97 E7t	Estate map
St. Andrews	GLA	-	942.97/P2 H2th	Parish map
St. Andrews Major	GLA	1798	942.97 E7t	Estate map
St. Andrews Major	GLA	1840	942.97/D1 K2g	Parish map
St. Brides Major	GLA	-	942.97/S2 H2b	Rural district map
St. Brides Major	GLA	1779	942.97 E7t	Estate map
St. David's	PEM	1840	942.99/S1 H2j	Tithe map
St. Woollos	MON	1764	942.43/T10 H2p	Parish map
Stredalfedan	MGY	1819	942.94 C4mp Vol. 74	Enclosure map
Sudbrook	MON	1884	942.43 B2p No. 50	Town plan
Surnant	MGY	-	942.94 R2j	Township pre-enclosure map
Swansea	GLA	----	942 E7nb	Atlas map

Swansea	GLA	1968	942 E7ra	Atlas map
Swansea	GLA	Medieval	942.97/S1 H2t	Town plan
Swansea	GLA	1803	942.97 E7t	Town plan
Swansea	GLA	1826	942.97 E7t	Estate map
Swansea	GLA	c.1280	942.97/S1 H2s	Manorial structure map
Swansea	GLA		942.9 E6h	Street map

T

	Cnty	Year	Call Number	Comments
Taibach	GLA	c.1790	942.97/T1 H2e	Rural maps
Teifside	CGN		942.9 E4o Vol. 1	Rural district map
Tenby	PEM	-	942.99/T1 J2h	Based on ordnance survey map
Tenby	PEM	-	942.99/T1 E6t	Area map
Tenby	PEM		942.99 E6L	Street map & town plan
Tenby	PEM		942.9 A1 No. 26	Town & street map
Tenby	PEM		942.9 E6gt	Town plan
Tenby	PEM		942.9 E6h	Street map
Tir Iarll	GLA	-	942.97 H2ef	District map
Tredeggar	MON		942.43 E6o	Urban district map
Tredeggar	MON	c. 1900	942.43/T10 H2p	Estate sketch map
Tredeggar	MON	1767	942.43/T10 H2p	Machen farm map
Tredeggar	MON	1764	942.43/T10 H2p	Estate map
Trefeglwys	MGY	1848	942.95 C4a Vol. 9 #1	Tithe map
Treflyn	MGY	-	942.94 R2j	Township pre-enclosure map
Treflys	CAE		942.92 C4hs Vol. 18	Area map
Tregaron	CGN	1845	942.95 H2wj	Town plan
Trehelig	MGY	c.1799	942.94 C4mp Vol. 41	Common fields map
Trewern	MGY	c.1635	942.94 C4mp Vol. 76	Rural district map
Trewythan	MGY	-	942.94 R2j	Township pre-enclosure map
Trwstywelín	MGY	1799	942.94 C4mp Vol. 54	Pre-enclosure map

U

	Cnty	Year	Call Number	Comments
Upper Cwmbran	MON		942.43 B2p No. 46	Area map
Usk	MGY	1763	942.9 C4w 1993/4	Estate manor map
Usk	MON		942.43 E6o	Urban district map
Usk	MON		942.43 H2cw	Town plan
Uwchlawrcoed	MGY	-	942.94 R2j	Township pre-enclosure map

V

	Cnty	Year	Call Number	Comments
Vale of Glamorgan	GLA	Medieval	942.97 K2o	Churches map
Vale of Glamorgan	GLA	-	942.97/C2 H2j	Area map
Valley	AGY		942.9 E4o Vol. 1	Rural district map

W

	Cnty	Year	Call Number	Comments
Wales	GLA	-	942.97 D25g No.15	Drovers' Routes to England map
Wales	W		942.43 D25j No. 18	Country map
Wales	W	c. 1100	942.9 A1 No. 6	Border map
Wales	W	1188	942.9 A1 No. 6	Area map
Wales	W	Ancient	942.9 A1 No. 20	Industries map
Wales	W		942.9 A1 No. 21	Principal waterways map
Wales	W		942.9 A1 No. 27	Counties map
Wales	W	1815	942.9 B2j Vol. 19	Parishes enclosure awards maps
Wales	W		942.9 B2j Vol. 20	Monastic Houses map
Wales	W	17th - 19th C.	942.9 B2j Vol. 21	Central borderland counties maps
Wales	W	18th C.	942.9 D27h	Welsh dioceses map
Wales	W	Medieval	942.9 D6s Vol. 2	Tribal divisions map
Wales	W	1832	942.9 E5L Vol.1	Transportation county map
Wales	W		942.9 E6g	Counties maps
Wales	W		942.9 E6go	Drovers' roads maps
Wales	W		942.9 E6j	Welsh border country map

Welshpool	MGY	1840	942.94 C4mp Vol. 74	Tithe map
Welshpool	MGY	1885	942.94/W1 H2t	Streets map
Welshpool	MGY	1629	942.94/W1 H2jo	Town plan
Welshpool	MGY	1818	942.94/W1 H2jo	Borough map
Wenvoe	GLA	1762-63	942.97 E7t	Estate map
Wenvoe	GLA	1798	942.97 E7t	Estate map
West Wales	W		942.9 E6c	Coast & railway map
Whitchurch	GLA	-	942.97 H2ch	Parish map
Wig	MGY	-	942.94 R2j	Township pre-enclosure map
Wrexham	DEN	1839-44	942.93 H2pa	Area map 6" to mile map
Wrexham	DEN	Pre-1643	942.93/W1 H2d	Town plan
Wrexham	DEN	1844	942.93/W1 H2paL Pt. 5 Supp.	Parish map showing townships
Wrexham Abbot	DEN	1844	942.93/W1 H2paL Pt. 4	Tithe map
Wrexham Regis	DEN	Pre-1643	942.93/W1 H2d	Town plan
Wrexham Regis	DEN	1844	942. 93/W1 H2paL Pt. 4	Tithe map

X

There are no places for this letter.

Y

	Cnty	Year	Call Number	Comments
Ystradgynlais	BRE		942.9 E4o Vol. 1	Area map
Ystradgynlais	BRE		942.9 E4o Vol. 1	Rural district map
Ystradhynod	MGY	-	942.94 R2j	Township pre-enclosure map
Ystumlllyn	CAE		942.92 C4hs Vol. 18	Area map

Z

There are no places for this letter.

ORDERING BIRTH, MARRIAGE AND DEATH CERTIFICATES FROM ENGLAND:

Only the indexes to the birth, marriage, and death records of England have been microfilmed. A copy of the original record needs to be ordered from England. In order to obtain a copy of a birth, marriage, or death certificate from England, do the following:

1. Locate Name in Index

- A. Need date and place of event - It helps to have a date and place of birth, marriage, or death from a family source or an approximate year of birth and place of birth from a census, etc.
- B. Obtain film number - find the film number for the appropriate index by looking in the Vital Records Register which is located on the same register table as the U.S. census. Check the section for England. There is a separate index for births, marriages, and deaths. The indexes at the BYU Library end with the year 1906 for births and 1903 for deaths and marriages. The library in Salt Lake has the indexes up to 1945. Each year is divided into four quarters.

<u>Quarters</u>	<u>Months Covered in the Quarter</u>
March (1st)	Jan., Feb., and Mar.
June (2nd)	Apr., May., and June
Sep. (3rd)	July, Aug., and Sep.
Dec. (4th)	Oct., Nov., and Dec.

Record the film number for the appropriate year, quarter, and section of the alphabet. The films are located in the genealogy film collection and arranged by number.

- C. Search index - The index entries are arranged alphabetically by surname. Each index includes (1) the name, (2) registration district, (3) volume number, and (4) page number.

Example of a Death Entry:

<u>Surname, Given Name</u>	<u>Registration District</u>	<u>Volume No. Page No.</u>
Dunwell, Eliza	Camberwell	1d 623
Surnames are arranged alphabetically by the way they were spelled. Check other possible spellings.	The registration district covers an area which includes several parishes, town, villages, etc. For helps in locating needed registration district, see listing of the registration districts and maps in above mentioned <u>Vital Records Register</u> . These items follow the film numbers. (see item D for more details)	In the <u>Vital Record Register</u> , see listing following the film numbers for the volumes covered in each pre-1974 county. This listing is divided into two sections with one section covering from 1837-1851 and the other section from 1852 - Aug 1946.

If possible entry is not found in the quarter the event should have occurred, look in the index for the next quarter. It may have been registered later and, thus, in a later quarter.

D. For help in determining the registration district, use the following:

1. Wilson, John Marius. The Imperial Gazetteer of England and Wales. Edinburgh: A. Fullarton, 1870.

An excellent gazetteer of place name throughout England and Wales. It shows jurisdictional, institutional, and political information for each of the towns, villages, and counties in England and Wales. It also indicates if a particular place is a parish or not, and the civil registration district to which the parish belongs.

This gazetteer is available at the BYU Library on microfiche in the GS Microfiche collection - #6,020,308 - 6,020,336.

2. Great Britain - Census Office. Population Tables, 1801-1851. BYU Film Number is 372,154 and 372,155.

Determine the registration district of a place by checking the alphabetical list of places at the end of the Film #372-155.

3. Great Britain - Public Record Office. 1871 Census of England and Wales Population Tables. London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1872. BYU Film Number is 828,286. At the end of the film is an alphabetical list of places.

2. Filling Out the Form and Ordering the Certificate

These certificates are no longer ordered through the Utah Valley Family History Center. Certificates can be ordered through the Family History Department in Salt Lake City.

England, How To Use Pre-1858 Probate Records

Guide

Introduction

Probate records are court records dealing with the distribution of a person's estate after his or her death. They include:

- Wills.
- Testaments.
- Administrations.
- Codicils.
- Inventories.
- Guardianships.
- Act books.
- Bonds.

These records are very helpful in documenting ancestors because probate actions were recorded long before births (or christenings), marriages, and deaths (or burials).

Prior to 1858, the ecclesiastical courts of the Church of England probated the estates of deceased persons in England. This guide will teach you how to determine whether your ancestor left a probate record and how to obtain a copy.

For more information about probate records, including details of what may be found in the records, see [Background](#).

What You Are Looking For

You are looking for a pre-1858 probate record for one of your ancestors, which could be a will or an administration with related documents. The information you will find varies from record to record. The records may provide:

- Names of heirs.
- Other family members.
- Witnesses.
- Guardians.
- Relationships.
- Residences.
- Property names.
- An inventory of the deceased's personal property.

Steps

These 9 steps will help you find pre-1858 probate records.

Step 1. Select an ancestor.

Select an ancestor or other individual for whom you wish to find a pre-1858 probate record.

Step 2. Determine your ancestor's year of death.

Determine your ancestor's approximate year of death from what you know about his or her life. See Tip 1.

Step 3. Determine which probate court to search.

To find a probate record for an ancestor, you must determine which ecclesiastical court(s) had jurisdiction over the area where he or she lived and may have owned property. The jurisdictions of the pre-1858 probate courts were based on the organizational hierarchy of the Church of England. For an explanation of the hierarchy, see **Pre-1858 Probate Courts** in the *England Research Outline*.

When searching for probate records, you should start with courts of local jurisdiction and, if necessary, work up to courts of higher or broader jurisdiction. Several sources are available to help you determine which courts had various levels of jurisdiction over the many parishes and counties of England. For a list of these, see Tip 2.

Step 4. Find an index for the court.

The records of all of the pre-1858 ecclesiastical probate courts have been indexed to some extent. An index will indicate whether your ancestor left probate records and will give you a date and/or a reference number to use to locate a copy of the records. For more information about indexes, see Background.

You will find the indexes listed in the England Probate Guides mentioned in Tip 2, or you can look in the Family History Library Catalog. Go to What to Do Next and select the catalog. Find your county of interest. Look through the list of probate records for indexes pertaining to your court of interest. Make note of the library call numbers for the index(es) for your needed time period.

Step 5. Obtain a copy of the index.

Obtain a copy of the index for your court of interest. See Where to Find It.

Step 6. Search the index.

Search the index for a reference to a probate record for your ancestor. Search several years if needed.

An index reference may give:

- Name of the deceased.
- His or her residence.
- Date of probate.
- Whether the probate is for a will or an administration.
- Folio number.
- Estate value.

If you find a reference to a probate record for your ancestor, record all of the information, including the library call number of the index, on your research log.

Tip: If the wills and administrations of the court are indexed separately, search both.

Step 7. Obtain a copy of the probate record.

With the index reference, you are now ready to obtain a copy of the probate record of your ancestor.

Start with the collection of the Family History Library. Go to What to Do Next and select the Family History Library Catalog. Find your county of interest. Look through the list of probate records of your court of interest. Find any records that cover the date of probate. Most records will be available on microfilm. If the index gave a volume number, match the volume number to the correct microfilm number. Make note of the microfilm number on your research log.

To obtain a copy of the probate record, see Where to Find It.

Step 8. Copy the information and note the source.

Copy the family information from the probate record onto the family group sheets and pedigree chart for your ancestor. If possible, make a photocopy of the record in addition to extracting the information.

Be sure to note the source of the record you found. When you note your source, you document the record. If you should ever need to find the source of the record again, your documentation will show you where to find it. If anyone else should consult your research, they will also see where to find the source.

Note your source on your research log, and include the library call number. Your research log will serve as a guide to your research. When making a photocopy of a record, also note the source on the copy.

For further tips on record keeping, see the Society of Genealogists' (London, England) leaflet Note Taking & Keeping for Genealogists.

Step 9. Analyze the information obtained from the probate record.

Compare the information you obtained from the will to what you already know about your ancestor. Does it:

- Support what you know?
- Add to what you know?
- Conflict with what you know? (If it does, use other sources to verify the information.)

Then ask yourself:

- Did the source have the information I wanted?
- Is the information accurate?
- Does the information suggest other sources to search?

Background

Description

Before 1858, over 300 Church of England probate courts existed in a hierarchy of jurisdiction and importance. Any given place in England lay within the jurisdiction of two or more courts. This can

complicate the search for a probate record. However, guides to probate jurisdictions can help you determine a court; and numerous indexes, both original and published, have been created for probate records.

The Prerogative Court of Canterbury was the highest court in England and is usually the last court to search. However, if your ancestor was wealthy, you may want to start with the Prerogative Court.

The records of all courts have been indexed to some extent. The nature and formats of the indexes vary:

- Some indexes were created by the court clerks as estates were probated, and some were created at a much later date.
- Some indexes are hand written, and some are typed.
- Some indexes are strictly alphabetical and cover broad periods of time, and some indexes are calendar style and are arranged by year, by the first letter of the last name, then by probate date.

Probate records were not created for every person who died. One estimate says fewer than 10 percent of the estates of English heads of households were probated before 1858. However, many more people were named in wills than left wills. Perhaps as much as one-fourth of the population either left a will or was mentioned in one.

Due to the availability of indexes, and because of the wealth of genealogical information that can be found in wills, you should always search for wills of your ancestors and their relatives.

For more background information, including an explanation of the hierarchy of the Church of England probate courts, see **PROBATE RECORDS** in the *England Research Outline*.

Tips

Tip 1. How do I determine when my ancestor died?

To determine when your ancestor may have died, ask yourself:

- When was my ancestor born?
- How long might he or she have lived?
- When were his or her children born?
- What is the latest known fact about my ancestor?"

You might want to create a time line for the ancestor. Sample time line:

Tip 2. How can I determine which court(s) to search?

Use one of these sources to determine which court(s) had jurisdiction over your place of interest:

- The Family History Library has compiled probate guides for each county of England. These give the call numbers for the pre-1858 probate records (including indexes) available at the library and include maps showing the probate jurisdictions. These guides are available in booklet form at the Family History Library. They are also available on microfilm and fiche. See *England Probate Guides* for a list of the call numbers by county.
- *The Phillimore Atlas and Index of Parish Registers*, edited by Cecil Humphery-Smith (1995), includes color-coded maps of each county showing the pre-1858 probate jurisdictions. The atlas is available at the Family History Library and also at some larger Family History Centers. In addition, the atlas and the individual maps are available for purchase from the Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies in England.

- *Probate Jurisdictions: Where to Look for Wills*, by Jeremy Gibson (4th ed. 1994, 1997), is arranged by county and repository, includes maps, and gives brief information about each pre-1858 court's jurisdiction, records, and indexes. This booklet is available for purchase from the Federation of Family History Societies in England.
- *Wills and Their Whereabouts*, by Anthony J. Camp (1974), is arranged by county and repository, describes each pre-1858 probate court and its jurisdiction, and gives a bit more detail about the records, including indexes. This book is available at the Family History Library (FHL book Brit Ref 942 S2wa). It is not available on film or fiche.

Where to Find It

Family History Center

Most Family History Centers will not have microfilms of probates records in their permanent collections, but centers can borrow microfilms from the Family History Library. A small fee is charged to have a microfilm sent to a center.

Family History Centers are located throughout the United States and other areas of the world. Find a Family History Center near you.

Family History Library

The Family History Library has a large collection of pre-1858 probate records and indexes for England, mostly available on microfilm. There is no fee for using the microfilms in person.

See Library Services and Resources for more information about using the Family History Library and Family History Centers.

In England

Original probate records of the pre-1858 ecclesiastical courts of the Church of England are located in record offices throughout England. The records of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury (PCC) may be searched at the Family Records Centre in London. For more information, see the centre's leaflets on Wills and Probate Records.

County repositories hold probate records for their local areas. Addresses for many English repositories can be obtained on the Internet by choosing **Repository Lists** on the ARCHON home page.

TRANSLATION OF WELSH RECORDS

Cofres. Lyfr Aelodau Eglwys Saint Y Dyddiau Diweddaf Ymgynnulledig Yn Ghangen Merthyr Tydfil Ddwyreiniol
Conference Records Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Branch Records Merthyr Tydfil Morganwg

Genedegaeth <i>Nativity</i>	Bendithiwd <i>Blessing</i>	Bedyddiwyd <i>Baptized</i>	Cudarnhawyd <i>Confirmed</i>
--------------------------------	-------------------------------	-------------------------------	---------------------------------

Enwau <i>Name</i>	Pa Alwad <i>Occupation</i>	Preswylfod <i>Residence</i>	Pa Bryd <i>When</i>	Pa Blwyf <i>Parish</i>	Pa Sir <i>County</i>	Oed <i>Age</i>	Pa Bryd <i>When</i>	Gan hwy <i>by Whom</i>	Pa Bryd <i>When</i>	Genhwy <i>by Whom</i>
----------------------	-------------------------------	--------------------------------	------------------------	---------------------------	-------------------------	-------------------	------------------------	---------------------------	------------------------	--------------------------

Difuddiwyd <i>Disfellowship</i>	Pa Bryd <i>When</i>	Am ba beth <i>for What</i>	Adferwyd <i>Restored</i>	Pa Bryd <i>When</i>	Torwyd Allen <i>Excommunicated</i>	Pa Bryd <i>When</i>	Am ba beth <i>for What</i>	Ymfudiwyd <i>Emigrated</i>	Bu Farw <i>Died</i>
------------------------------------	------------------------	-------------------------------	-----------------------------	------------------------	---------------------------------------	------------------------	-------------------------------	-------------------------------	------------------------

Trogslwyddye <i>Removed</i>	Pa Bryd <i>When</i>	I ba Gagen <i>to What Branch</i>	Derbyniwvyd <i>Received</i>	Trwy Lythyr <i>by Letter</i>	Pa Bryd <i>When</i>	O ba Gengen <i>from What Branch</i>	yn ddechreuol <i>Whence Originally</i>	Nodiadau <i>Remarks</i>
--------------------------------	------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------------	------------------------------------	------------------------	--	--	----------------------------

Ordeiniwyd <i>Ordained</i>	yn Ddicon <i>a Deacon</i>	Pa Bryd <i>When</i>	Gan bwy <i>by Whom</i>	Ordeiniwyd <i>Ordained</i>	yn Offeriad <i>a Priest</i>	Pa Bryd <i>When</i>	Gan bwy <i>by Whom</i>
-------------------------------	------------------------------	------------------------	---------------------------	-------------------------------	--------------------------------	------------------------	---------------------------

Ordeiniwyd <i>Ordained</i>	yn Athraw <i>a Teacher</i>	Pa Bryd <i>When</i>	Gan bwy <i>by Whom</i>	Ordeiniwyd <i>Ordained</i>	yn Henuriad <i>an Elder</i>	Pa Bryd <i>When</i>	Gan bwy <i>by Whom</i>
-------------------------------	-------------------------------	------------------------	---------------------------	-------------------------------	--------------------------------	------------------------	---------------------------

GLOSSARY**Numerals:**

- 1 un
- 2 dau, dwy (fem.)
- 3 tri, tair (fem.)
- 4 pedwar, pedair (fem.)
- 5 pump, pum
- 6 chwech, chwe
- 7 saith
- 8 wyth
- 9 naw
- 10 deg, deng
- 11 un ar ddeg
- 12 deuddeg
- 13 tri (tair) ar ddeg
- 14 pedwar (pedair) ar ddeg
- 15 pymtheg
- 16 un ar bymtheg
- 17 dau (dwy) ar bymtheg
- 18 deunaw
- 19 pedwar (pedair) ar bymtheg
- 20 ugain
- 30 deg ar hugain
- 40 deugain
- 50 hanner cant
- 60 trigain
- 70 trigain a deg, deg a thrigain
- 80 pedwar ugain
- 90 deg a phedwar ugain
- 100 cant, can
- 1,000 mil

Days:

- dydd Sul, Saboth Sunday
- dydd Llun Monday
- dydd Mawrth Tuesday
- dydd Mercher Wednesday
- dydd Iau; Difiau Thursday
- dydd Gwener Friday
- dydd Sadwrn Saturday

Months:

- Ionawr; Ionor January
- Chwefror; Chwefrol; Mis Bach
February
- Mawrth March
- Ebrill April
- Mai May
- Mehefin June
- Gorffennaf; Gorphenaf July
- Awst August
- Medi September
- Hydref October
- Tachwedd November
- Rhagfyr December

- a aned who was born
- a anwyd who was born
- a fagwyd ganddynt who was
brought up by them
- a foddodd who drowned
- a fu farw who died
- a gladdwyd who was buried
- ab son (of)
- aberth, ebyrth sacrifice, -es
- ach, -au lineage; pedigree, -s
- aelod, -au member, -s
- aer, -es, -esau heir, -ess, -esses
- ail o Ionawr second of January
- am for; at
- am 8 mlynedd for 8 years
- amddifadwyd was deprived,
orphaned
- annwyl, anwylaf dear, -est
- ap son (of)
- ar faes y frwydr on the field of
battle
- ar y 7fed o Fai on the 7th of May
- arf, -au weapon, -s; plural arms
(heraldic)

arfbais coat of arms
arglwydd, -i lord, -s
argraffydd printer
arian silver; money
arolygwr, -wyr superintendent, -s
arweinydd y gân precentor
asiedydd joiner
athraw, -es -on; teacher (male, female); -s
athro teacher; professor

baban baby
babandod infancy
bach small
bardd poet
bedydd baptism
bedyddiad, -au baptism, -s
bedyddiwyd was baptised
bedd, -au grave, -s
beddfaen tombstone
blaenor, -iaid deacon, -s
blwyddyn year
blynedd years (after a number)
bonheddig noble; nobility; noble descent
bonheddwr gentleman
brawd, brodyr brother, -s
brenin king
brwydr, -au battle, -s
bu farw he (or she) died
bugail shepherd; pastor
bychan little, junior
byd world; life
byddin army
bywyd life

cabden captain
caifn, ceifn third cousin
calan first day (of month or season)
Calan Gaeaf All Saint's Day
Calan Mai Mayday
capel, -i chapel, -s

capten captain
carreg, cerrig stone, -s
cartref, -i home, -s
cefnder first cousin (male)
ceiniog penny
cerddor musician
claddedigaeth, -au burial, -s
claddfa burial-ground
claddwyd was buried
clochydd sexton
clwyf, -au wound, -s
cof memory, remembrance
cofadail monument
cofio to remember
coffa memory; memorial
coffadwriaeth remembrance
colier coal-miner
collodd he (she) lost
collwyd was lost
corff A the body of A
corph body
cowper cooper
crydd shoemaker
crythor fiddler
curad curate
cydweithiwr, -weithwyr colleague, -s
cyfarfu â'i ddiwedd he met his end (died)
cyfnither first cousin (female)
cyfreithiwr attorney
cyfyrder second cousin (male)
cyfyrdres second cousin (female)
cyffredin common, ordinary
cymynnu bequeath
cymynnwr testator
cyntaf first
cystudd, -iau affliction, -s

chwaer, chwiorydd sister, -s
chwarelwr quarryman

gwehydd, gwëydd weaver	hydref autumn
gweinidog pastor, minister	hynaf eldest
gweithgar hard-working	
gweithiwr worker	i to, for
gwniadwraig seamstress	ieuangaf, ieuengaf youngest
gwniyyddes seamstress	isod below
gŵr man, husband	
gŵr Ann Ann's husband	lladdwyd was killed
gŵr bonheddig gentleman	llafurwr, -wyr labourer, -s
gwraig woman, wife	llaw hand
gwraig David Jones wife of David Jones	lle place; where
gwreigan poor or insignificant little woman	llenor literary person
Gŵyl Ddewi St. David's Day, 1st March	llog interest (monetary)
gwyilmabsant, gwylyfabsant feast of patron saint	llong, -au ship, -s
Gŵyl Mihangel Michaelmas day, 29th Sept.	llong-lywydd ship's captain
Gŵyl (San) Steffan St. Stephen's day, 26th Dec.	lludw ashes
gynt o Gwm-bach formerly of Cwmbach	Llungwyn Whitmonday
gyrfa, -oedd life; career, -s	llwch dust, ash
	llysdad stepfather
haf summer	llysfab stepson
heb without	llysfam stepmother
hefyd also	llysfarch stepdaughter
hen, -af old, -est	llystad stepfather
hengaw great-great-great-grandfather	llythyrdy post-office
hi she, her	llywodraethwr governor; executor
hoff fond	llywydd president
hon this (fem.)	
honno one spoken of (fem.)	mab, meibion son, -s
hunod mewn hedd may he (she) sleep in peace	mab yng nghyfraith son-in-law
hunodd yn yr Iesu he (she) died (lit. fell asleep) in Jesus	mab yr uchod son of the above
hwn this (masc.)	mabwysiedig adopted
hwy, hwynt they, them	maen stone
	maes, meysydd field, -s
	magwyd was brought up
	mam mother
	mam-gu grandmother
	mam honno her mother
	mam wen stepmother
	mam y rhain the mother of these
	marchog, -ion knight, -s
	marw to die
	masnachwr merchant; shopkeeper

damwain accident
darfodedigaeth consumption,
tuberculosis
diacon, -iaid deacon, -s
dilledydd clothier
dim plant no children
(y) diweddar (the) late
diwethaf last
diwrnod, -au day, -s
dydd, -iau day, -s
Dydd Calan New Year's Day
Dydd Gwener y Groglith Good
Friday
Dydd Iau Dyrchafael Ascension
Thursday
Dydd Mawrth Ynyd Shrove
Tuesday
dymchwelyd overturn
(y) dywededig (the) said

ef he, him, it
eglwys, -i church, -es
ei annwyl wraig his loving wife
ei blant his children
ei blentyn his child
ei briod his spouse
ei fab his son
ei ferch his daughter
ei gŵr her husband
ei hannwyl ŵr her loving husband
ei mab her son
ei merch her daughter
ei phlant her children
ei phlentyn her child
ei phriod her spouse
eigion depth, ocean
eisoed already
enwyd was named
er cof am in memory of
er coffadwriaeth am in memory of
er serchus gof am in loving
memory of

esgobaeth diocese
etifedd, -es heir, -ess
eto again
eu mab their son
eu merch their daughter
eu plant their children
eu plentyn their child
ewyllys, -iau will, -s
ewythr uncle

ffermwr farmer
fferyllydd pharmacist
ffyddlon faithful

gadael leave
gaeaf winter
galar grief
ganwyd was born
gardd goffa garden of
remembrance
gefail smithy
gefell, gefeilliaid twin, -s
gelyn, -ion enemy, -ies
glofa colliery
glöwr collier
gof blacksmith
gorchaifn fourth cousin
gorchaw fifth cousin
gordderch concubine; illegitimate
child
gorffennodd ended, finished
gorffwys rest
gorffwysodd oddi wrth ei lafur he
rested from his labours
gorphwys rest
gorwedd to lie down
gorwyr, -ion great-grandchild, -ren
gosodwyd was placed
gwanwyn spring
gwasanaethodd served
gweddillion remains
gweddw single, solitary; widow

Dawr big, great
meddiant, -iannau possession, -s
meddyg medical doctor
meistr master
men waggon
merch, -ed daughter, -s
merch yng nghyfraith daughter-in-law
mhab (see **mab**)
mherch (see **merch**)
milfeddyg veterinary surgeon
mis, -oedd month, -s
modryb aunt
môr sea
mordaith voyage
morwr, **morwyr** sailor, -s
morwyn, -ion maid, -s
mwynwr miner (lead, copper)
mynwent graveyard

Nadolig Christmas
nai, **neiaint** nephew, -s
nain, **neiniau** grandmother, -s
nith, -oedd niece, -s
nod mark
Nos Calan New Year's Eve

o from; of
oddi wrth from
oed, **oedran** age
oedd was
offeiriad priest
olaf last
o'r dref hon of (or from) this town
o'r lle hwn of (from) this place
o'r plwyf hwn of this parish
o'r un lle of (from) the same place
ordeiniwyd was ordained

pais coat (heraldic)
pais arfau coat of arms
prychedig reverend

parchus respectful; respectable
(Y) Pasg Easter
pentref, -i village, -s
perthynas, **perthnasau** relation, -s
plant children
plas mansion
plentyn, **plant** child, -ren
plentyn gordderch illegitimate child
plwyf, -i parish, -es
pregethwr preacher
priod spouse
priodas, -au marriage, -s
priododd married
punt pound (money)

rhagddywededig aforesaid
rhagenwyd aforenamed
rhieni parents
rhoddi give
rhyfel war

saer, **seiri** carpenter, -s
saer llongau shipbuilder
saer maen mason
serchog affectionate; pleasant
serchus affectionate
sir county
suddiad sinking
Sulgwyn Whitsunday
swllt shilling
sydyn sudden
symud move
syr sir
syrthiodd fell

tad, -au father, -s
tad-cu grandfather
tafarnwr innkeeper
taid, **teidiau** grandfather, -s
tanchwa explosion
teiliwr tailor

telynor harpist
teulu, -oedd family, -ies
teyrnged, tribute
tir, -oedd land, -s
tlotyn pauper
tref, -i town, -s
trefnu arrange
trwy ddamwain by accident
trysorydd treasurer
tŷ, tai house, -s
tyddyn smallholding
tylwyth family, ancestry
tyner tender
tyst, -ion witness, -es
tywysog, -ion prince, -es

uchod above
unig blentyn only child
urddo ordain

ŵyr, -ion grandson (also grand-
 daughter), grandchildren
wyres, -au grand-daughter, -s
wythnos, -au week, -s

y the
yma here
yma y gorwedd here lies
ymadawedig departed, deceased
ymadawodd â'r byd hwn departed
 this life
ymadawodd â'r fuchedd hon
 departed this life
yn y plwyf hwn in this parish
yn 52 mlwydd oed 52 years old
yr the
yr hon a who (fem.)
yr hwn a who (masc.)
yr un dydd the same day
ysbyty hospital
ysgol, -ion school, -s
ysgolfeistr, -es schoolmaster,
 -mistress
ysgrifennydd secretary
ysgutor, -ion executor, -s
ysgweier esquire

NOTES TO CHAPTER 9

¹ Good examples are to be found in J.E. Hughes, *Englynion Beddau Dyffryn Ogwen* (Llandysul, 1979) and E. Jones, *Dagrau Gwerin* (Caernarfon, 1982). For other examples, see Chapter 23.

² J.E. Lloyd and R.T. Jenkins (eds), *The Dictionary of Welsh Biography down to 1940* (London, 1959).

³ For example, *Y Cyfaill o'r Hen Wlad, 1838-1933*.

Names of the months in English and Welsh

January	Ionawr
February	Chwefror
March	Mawrth
April	Efril
May	Mai
June	Mehefin
July	Gorphenhaf
August	Awst
September	Medi
October	Hydref
November	Fachwedd
December	Rhagfyr

SOURCES FOR RESEARCH IN WELSH GENEALOGY

**Compiled by Judith P. Roach
Local History and Genealogy Reading Room**

INTRODUCTION

This guide has been prepared primarily as an aid to researching Welsh genealogy and local history at the Library of Congress, but it will also be useful for those searching Welsh genealogy in other large libraries. It is not comprehensive and should be supplemented by Judith P. Reid's Research Guide No. 30, *Sources for Research in English Genealogy*, and P. William Filby's *American & British Genealogy & Heraldry: a Selected List of Books* (Z5311.F55 1983). The English bibliography contains many references pertaining to Welsh genealogy; the Filby book offers a chapter on Welsh genealogy. For research purposes, it is not possible to completely separate Wales from the rest of Britain. It is, therefore, wise to consult all of these reference tools.

Welsh genealogy researchers are also referred to The National Library of Wales Website at <http://www.llgc.org.uk/> There one will find a section on Family History that includes the option of searching the Welsh Biography Online. GENUKI for Wales, another Website at <http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/wal/>, offers information about archives and libraries, bibliography, biography, cemeteries, census, and many other topics of interest.

CONTENTS

- Handbooks
- Pedigrees and Family Histories
- Bibliographies
- Parish Registers
- Local History
- Biographical Information
- Records
- Maps, Atlases, Gazetteers
- Geographical Names
- Personal Names
- Periodicals
- Religions
- Welsh in the United States

HANDBOOKS

Second Stages in Researching Welsh Ancestry. Edited by John & Sheila Rowlands. Ramsbottom, Bury, Lancs.: Federation of Family History Societies in conjunction with the Dept. of Continuing Education, University of Wales, Aberystwyth, 1999. xiv, 348 p. Ill., maps, geneal. tables, bibliographic references, index.

CS453.W4551999 LH&G

00302662

Welsh Family History: a Guide to Research. Edited by John and Sheila Rowlands. 2nd ed. Birmingham [England]: Federation of Family History Societies; [Aberystwyth]: Association of Family History Societies of Wales, 1998. xii, 325 p. Ill., facsim., geneal. tables, maps, bibliographical references, index.

CS453.W45 1998 LH&G

00302653

PEDIGREES AND FAMILY HISTORIES

Bartrum, Peter C.

Early Welsh Genealogical Tracts. Edited with notes and indexes by P.C. Bartrum. Cardiff: Wales U.P., 1966. x, 228 p. Three plates (facsim.), diagr., bibliographical references.

CS456.B37 LH&G

66066362

Bartrum, Peter C.

Welsh Genealogies, A.D. 300-1400. 8 vols. [Cardiff]: University of Wales Press [for] the Board of Celtic Studies, 1974. Geneal. tables.

CS456.B38 1974 LH&G

Contents: vol. 1. Adam ab Ifor-Cydifor Fawr; vol. 2. Cydrych-Gosawl; vol. 3. Grant-Malpas; vol. 4. Marchudd-Yswatan Wyddel; vols. 5-8. Index.

77353402

Bartrum, Peter C.

Welsh Genealogies, A.D. 1400-1500. 18 vols. Aberystwyth: National Library of Wales, 1983. Geneal. tables, 1 map.

CS459.A2 B37 1983

85173904

Bradney, Joseph Alfred, Sir.

A History of Monmouthshire from the Coming of the Normans into Wales Down to the Present Time. 4 vols. in 13. London: Mitchell, Hughes and Clarke, 1904-1933. Ill.

DA670.M7 B8

06040918

Clark, George Thomas.

Limbus Patrum Morganiæ et Glamorganiæ. Being the Genealogies of the Older Families of the Lordships of Morgan and Glamorgan. London: Wyman & Sons, 1886. 2 p. leaves, 620 p. Folded geneal. tables.

Microfilm 8718 C MicRR

16010156

Glenn, Thomas Allen.

Merion in the Welsh Tract: with Sketches of the Townships of Haverford and Radnor, Historical and Genealogical Collections Concerning the Welsh Barony in the Province of Pennsylvania, Settled by the Cymric Quakers in 1682. Norristown [Penn.: Herald Press.], 1896. Reprint. Baltimore: Clearfield Pub. Co., 2001. ix, 394 p. One leaf, ill. (incl. coats of arms), plates, facsim. (1 folded).

F159.M5 G5

01010705

Glenn, Thomas Allen.

Welsh Founders of Pennsylvania. 2 vols. Oxford: Fox, Jones and Co., 1911-1913. Reprint. Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1970. Ill. front. (v. 2), plates, ports., folded tables.

F160.W4 G5 LH&G

14020395

Griffith, John Edwards.

Pedigrees of Anglesey and Carnarvonshire Families, with Their Collateral Branches in Denbighshire, Merionethshire and Other Parts. Horncastle, Eng.: printed for the author, by W. K. Morton and Sons, Ltd., 1914. Reprint. Wrexham, Clwyd: Bridge Books, 1985. 3 p. leaves, 410 p.

CS458.A6 G7

15003755

Jones, Francis.

The Princes and Principality of Wales. Cardiff: University of Wales, 1969. xxv, 204 p. Ill., coat of arms, tables, maps, port., bibliography.

A714.J58

79461776

Lloyd, Jacob Youde William.

The History of the Princes, the Lords Marcher, and the Ancient Nobility of Powys Fadog, and the Ancient Lords of Arwystli, Cedewen and Meirionydd. 6 vols. London: T. Richards, 1881-1887. Ill., plates, plans.

Microfilm 17654 CS

10007185

Nicholas, Thomas.

Annals and Antiquities of the Counties and County Families of Wales; Containing a Record of all Ranks of the Gentry. 2 vols. London: Longmans, Green, Reader, & Co., 1872. Reprint. Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1991.

Microfilm 9132 (DA) MicRR

08022930

Siddons, Michael Powell.

Visitations by the Heralds in Wales. London: Harleian Society, 1996. xvi, 297 p. Ill., bibliographical references, indexes.

CS454.S56 1996

Publications of the Harleian Society, 1351-5438, New Ser., vol. 14.

96216248

Williams, John.

Llyfr Baglan: or The Book of Baglan. Compiled Between the Years 1600 and 1607. Transcribed from the Original Manuscripts Preserved in the Public Library of Cardiff, and Edited with Explanatory Notes, by Joseph Alfred Bradney. London: Mitchell, Hughes and Clarke, 1910. xii, 385 p.

CS458.B3 W5

23014537

Yorke, Philip.

The Royal Tribes of Wales. London: Sold by B. Crosby and Co., [1799]. 192 p. Twelve ports. DA708.Y65 Rare Bk Coll : Pre-1801 Coll
Microfilm 86/7070 (DA) MicRR

03017057

BIBLIOGRAPHIES

Blackwell, Henry.

A Bibliography of Welsh Americana. 2nd ed. Aberystwyth: [National Library of Wales], 1977. x, 126 p.

Z2071.B62 1977

78-306018

Holt, Constance Wall.

Welsh Women: an Annotated Bibliography of Women in Wales and Women of Welsh Descent in America. Metuchuen, J.J.: Scarecrow Press, 1993. xxv, 834 p. Indexes.

Z7964.G72 W345 1993 MRR Alc

93022208

Huws, Gwilym, and D. Hywel E. Roberts, comp.

Wales. Oxford, England; Santa Barbara, Calif.: Clio Press, 1991. xv, 247 p. Map, bibliographical references, indexes.

Z2071.H89 1991

World Bibliographical Series, vol. 122.

92122690

Jack, R.I.

Medieval Wales. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press. [1972]. 255 p. Bibliographical references.

Z2081.J3

The Sources of History: Studies in the Uses of Historical Evidence.

79037005

Jones, Philip Henry.

A Bibliography of the History of Wales. 3rd ed. Compiled for the History and Law Committee of the University of Wales. Cardiff: University of Wales Press, 1989. 75 p.

Z2081.W229 1989

90187648

PARISH REGISTERS

Cofrestri Anghydffurfiol Cymru=Nonconformist Registers of Wales. Dafydd Ifans, editor.

Aberystwyth: Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru a Grwp Archifyddion Sirol Cymru, 1994. xl, 195 p., [12] p. of plates, ill., facsim., map.

CD1068.A2 C64 1994 LH&G

Text in Welsh and English.

95207017

Rawlins, Bert J.

The Parish Churches and Nonconformist Chapels of Wales: Their Records and Where to Find Them. Salt Lake City: Celtic Heritage Research, 1987-. <vol.1> Ill., maps.

CD1068.A2 R39 1987 LH&G

Contents: vol. 1. Carmarthenshire, Cardiganshire, and Pembrokeshire.

870178791

Williams, C.J. (Christopher John), and J. Watts-Williams, comp.

Cofrestri plwyf Cymru=Parish Registers of Wales. [Aberystwyth, Dyfed]: National Library of Wales & Welsh County Archivists' Group in association with the Society of Genealogists, 1986. xxx, 217 p. Ill. incl. [12] p. of plates.

CD1068.A2 W55 1986 LH&G

87131311

LOCAL HISTORY

Jenkins, J. Geraint (John Geraint).

Getting Yesterday Right: Interpreting the Heritage of Wales. Cardiff: University of Wales Press, 1992. 179 p. Ill., maps.

DA737.J46 1992

95227689

Lhuyd, Edward.

Parochialia: Being a Summary of Answers to "Parochial Queries in Order to a Geographical Dictionary, etc., of Wales." Rupert H. Morris, editor. London: Cambrian Archaeological Association, 1909-1911. 3 vols. in 1. Ill.

DA734.L49 1909

Archæologia Cambrensis. Supplement; April 1909-July 1911.

86195010

Lloyd, John Edward, Sir.

A History of Wales from the Earliest Times to the Edwardian Conquest. 3rd ed. 2 vols. London: New York [etc.] Longmans, Green, and Co., [1939]. Folded map, geneal. tables.

DA715.L8 1948

11009062

Welsh Society and Nationhood: Historical Essays Presented to Glanmor Williams. R.R. Davies, editor. Cardiff: University of Wales Press, 1984. 274 p. Ill.

DA71.W44 1984

83231233

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

The Dictionary of Welsh Biography Down to 1940. Under the auspices of the Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion. [John Edward Lloyd, and R. T. Jenkins, editors]. London, 1959. lvii, 1,157 p. Map, bibliography.

DA710.A1 B91

An online searchable version is on the National Library of Wales website:
<http://yba.llgc.org.uk/>

59004309

The Dictionary of Welsh Biography, 1941-1970: Together with a Supplement to The Dictionary of Welsh Biography Down to 1940. London: Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion, 2001. xxi, 449 p. Index.

DA710.A B9213 2001

Translation of *Y Bywgraffiadur Cymreig, 1951-1970.*
2003467251

Fisher, Deborah C.

Who's Who in Welsh History. Swansea: Christopher Davies, 1997. 187 p. Bibliographical references.

CT833.F57 1997

99221582

Great Britain. Board of Education. Welsh Department.

Famous Welshmen. Cardiff: University of Wales Press Board, 1944. 141 p., 1 leaf.

DA710.A1 G7 1944

44045820

Pughe, William Owen.

The Cambrian Biography: or, Historical Notices of Celebrated Men Among the Ancient Britons. London: E. Williams, 1803. Reprint. New York: Garland, 1979. 2 p. leaves, vii, 345 p.

DA716.A1 P9

04034326

Rees, Thomas Mardy.

Notable Welshmen (1700-1900) . . . with Brief Notes, in Chronological Order, and Authorities. Carnarvon: The "Herald" Office, 1908. xlii p., 1 leaf, 474, [6] p.

DA710.A1 R5

09006020

Roberts, T.R.

Eminent Welshmen: a Short Biographical Dictionary of Welshmen Who Have Attained Distinction from Earliest Times to the Present. 1 vol. Cardiff & Merthyr Tydfil: The Educational Publishing Company, Ltd., 1908-. Front., ports.

DA710.A1 R8

"The Biographical Dictionary of Eminent Welshmen," by the Rev. Robert Williams, M.A., published in 1852 has long been out of print. The present dictionary brings that work up to date." (Preface.)

13008572

Rowland, E. H. (Helen Elwy).

A Biographical Dictionary of Eminent Welshmen Who Flourished from 1700 to 1900.
[Wrexham]: The Authoress, 1907. 2 p. leaves, 295, [1] p.

DA710.A1 R85

12013416

Salisbury, Enoch Robert Gibbon.

Border Counties Worthies. 2 parts in 1 vol. London [etc.]: Hodder and Stoughton [etc.],
1880.

DA740.B7 S2

02006143

Who's Who in Wales. 1st ed. Cardiff: Western Mail Limited, 1921. xxiv, 555, [1] p.

CT833.W5 1921

22002328

RECORDS

Breese, Edward.

*Kalendars of Gwynedd: or, Chronological Lists of Lords-Lieutenant, Custodes Rotulorum
Sheriffs and Knights of the Shire, for the Counties of Anglesey, Caernarvon, and Merioneth,
and of the Members for the Boroughs of Caernarvon and Beaumaris.* Notes by William
Watkin Edward Wynne. London: J.C. Hotten, 1873. vii p., 161 p. Col. front (facsim.).

DA700.B6

unk82054429

Great Britain. Public Record Office.

Calendar of Ancient Petitions Relating to Wales: Thirteenth to Sixteenth Century [held in the]
Public Record Office. Edited with introduction by William Rees. Cardiff: University of Wales
Press, 1975. xxxviii, 559 p. Map, bibliography, pp. [xxxvii]-xxxviii.

KD9430.C3

Board of Celtic Studies, History and Law Series; no. 28
76377676

Henson, Nia.

Index of the Probate Records of the Bangor Consistory Court. <vol.1> Aberystwyth: National
Library of Wales, 1980-.

KD8688.B36 H46

An index to all the pre-1858 probate records housed in the National Library of Wales. This
volume contains pre-1700 probate indexes.

N. L. W. Probate Indexes, no. 1
81157580

Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

Welsh-Americans: the Manuscript Collection. vol. <1> Marcella Biro Barton, editor.
Lanham, Md.: University Press of America, 2000-.

Z1329.W255 2000 LH&G

Welsh-American Reference Series
99052245

Jones, Francis.

Report on the Welsh Manuscripts Contained in the Muniments of the College of Arms.
London: College of Arms, 1957. Fifty-four leaves, [5] leaves of plates, maps.

Z5313.G69 J66 1957

87460326

Jones, Nansi C.

Archdeaconry of Brecon Probate Records. <vol.1> Aberystwyth: National Library of Wales, 1989-. Bibliographical references and indexes.

S453.J66 1989

This volume contains pre-1660 probate indexes. National Library of Wales Probate Indexes;
no. 2

90115049

Watt, Helen.

Welsh Manors and Their Records; With an Introduction on the Origins and Development of the Manorial System in Wales to the Sixteenth Century, by Michael Rogers. Aberystwyth: National Library of Wales, 2000. 240 p. Ill., maps, bibliographical references, index.

DA737.W38 2000 LH&G

The National Archives of England, Wales, and the United Kingdom has a searchable database of Welsh manorial records, the Manorial Documents Register (MDR) that identifies the location of manorial records.

00456836

MAPS, ATLASES, GAZETTEERS

Lewis, Samuel.

A Topographical Dictionary of Wales, Comprising the Several Counties, Cities, Boroughs, Corporate and Market Towns, Parishes, Chapelries, and Townships, with Historical and Statistical Descriptions. 2 vols in 1. London: S. Lewis and Co., 1833. Ill. (coats of arms), maps (1 folded).

DA734.L47 G&M

43047570

Rees, William.

An Historical Atlas of Wales from Early to Modern Times. New ed. London: Faber and Faber, 1972. vii, 71 p., [71] p. of plates. Ill., maps (some color).

G1821.S1 R4 1972 G&M

72650190

Richards, Melville.

Welsh Administrative and Territorial Units, Medieval and Modern. Cardiff: University of Wales Press, 1969. xviii, 228 p.; 104 maps, pp. 229-324.

JS4012.L7 R5 LH&G

79430767

GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

Charles, B. G. (Bertie George).

Non-Celtic Place-Names in Wales. London: University College, 1938. xlvii, 326 p.

DA734.C4 LH&G

39010958

- Davies, B. (Brian).
Welsh Place-Names Unzipped. Ralybont, Ceredigion: Y Lolfa Cyf., 2001. 96 p.
 DA734.D37 2001 LH&G
 It's Wales.
 2002392945
- Davies, Dewi.
Welsh Place-Names and Their Meanings. [Brecon: The author, 1977]. 60 p.
 DA734.D38
 78321731
- Morgan, Thomas.
The Place-Names of Wales. 2d and rev. ed. Newport, Monmouthshire: J. E. Southall, 1912. 2 p. leaves, 262 p.
 DA734.M7
 12016818
- Owen, Hywel Wyn.
The Place-Names of Wales. Cardiff: University of Wales Press: Western Mail, 1998. xxii, 103 p. Map, bibliographical references, index.
 DA734.O94 1998 MRR Alc
 Pocket Guide (Cardiff, Wales)
 98217929
- Wales. University. Board of Celtic Studies, Language and Literature Committee.
Rhestr o Enwau Lleoedd. 3. arg. Caerdydd: Gwasg Prifysgol Cymru, 1967. xxxvii, 119 p.
 Two maps, diagram.
 DA734.W3 1967
 68071418

PERSONAL NAMES

- Davies, Trefor Rendall.
A Book of Welsh Names. London: Sheppard Press, [1952]. 72 p.
 PB2183.D3 LH&G
 52068246
- Lasker, Gabriel Ward.
Atlas of British Surnames: With 154 Maps of Selected Surnames. C.G.N. Mascie-Taylor.
 Detroit: Published for the Guild of One-Name Studies by Wayne State University Press,
 [1990]. x, 86 p. Maps, bibliographical references, index.
 CS2507.L37 1990 LH&G
 89070574
- Morgan, T.J.
Welsh Surnames. Prys Morgan. Cardiff: University of Wales Press, 1985. 211 p. Ill.,
 bibliography.
 CS2445.M67 1985 LH&G
 84244687

Rowlands, John, and Sheila Rowlands.

The Surnames of Wales: for Family Historians and Others. Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1996. xii, 217 p. Maps, indexes, bibliography.

CS2445.R69 1996 LH&G

96076077

PERIODICALS

Archaeologia Cambrensis, the Journal of the Cambrian Archaeological Association. [Vol. 1, no. 1] (Jan. 1846-) [London: W. Pickering, 1846-.]

DA700 .A66

Irregular serial.

Title varies. Some indexes available, see *National Union Catalog*.

Vols. Published 1850-1854 are called new ser. Vols. 1-5 (1855-1869) are called 3rd ser.; vols. 1-14 (1870-1883) are called 4th ser.; vols. 1-17 (1884-1900) are called 5th ser.; vols. 1-20 (1921-1928) are called 7th ser.; vols. 1-8, and also called vols. 76-83. Vols. 84- began publication in 1929.

09004049

Bye-Gones, Relating to Wales and the Border Counties. 2nd ser., vol. 1. Oswestry: Printed at the Caxton Works, 1889-.

56DA700.B9

09000563

Y Cymmrodor, Embodying the Transactions of the Cymmrodorion Society of London. Vol. 1, pt. 1 (Jan. 1877)-[Vol. 50 (1951?)]. [London]: The Society, 1877-[1951].

DA700.C9

Title varies. In later years individual contributions comprise the entire volume.

Not published in 1879.

13011954

Old Wales: a Monthly Magazine of Antiquities for Wales and the Borders. 3 vols. Talybont, Breconshire: "Old Wales" Office, 1905-1907.

DA700.O6

13003056

South Wales and Monmouth Record Society.

Publications. [Cardiff: W. Lewis (Printers), 1932-.]

DA700 .S62

51029907

Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion (London, England).

The Transactions of the Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion. Session 1892/93- . London: The Society, 1893- .

DA700.C94

Annual. Index to 1-23 (1877-1912) in its 1911/12 issue, includes the index to *Y Cymmrodor, Embodying the Transactions of the Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion of London.* Vols. 1-6, (1877-1883), and *Y Cymmrodor*, vols. 7-23 (1883-1912). Previous to 1892 the *Transactions* were included in *Y Cymmrodor*.

13011943

West Wales Historical Records. The Annual Magazine of the Historical Society of West Wales.
Vol. 1-14 (1910-1929). Carmarthen: Printed by W. Spurrell & Son, 1912-1929.

DA700.W5

Annual.
12018618

RELIGIONS

The American Baptist Heritage in Wales. Edited by Carroll C. and Willard A. Ramsey.
Lafayette, Tenn.: Church History Research and Archives Affiliation, 1976. xxii, 121, ix, 76 p.
Ill.

BX6291.A43

76369399

Great Britain. General Register Office.

The Religious Census of 1851, a Calendar of the Returns Relating to Wales. 2 vols. Cardiff:
University of Wales Press, 1976-1981. Facsim.

BR773.G7 1976

Contents: vol. 1. South Wales; vol. 2. North Wales. History and Law Series, no. 30-31
77367709

WELSH IN THE UNITED STATES

Ashton, E.T. (Elwyn Thomas).

The Welsh in the United States. Hove, Sussex: Caldra House, 1984. 182 p. Ill., bibliography.

E184.W4 A84 1984 LH&G

85125126

Browning, Charles Henry.

Welsh Settlement of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia: W.J. Campbell, 1912. Reprint. Baltimore:
Genealogical Pub. Co., 1967. 631, [1] p. Ill., maps, front., plates.

F160.W4 B8 LH&G

12031019

Dennis, Ronald D.

The Call of Zion: the Story of the First Welsh Mormon Emigration. Provo, Utah: Religious
Studies Center, Brigham Young University, 1987. xii, 243 p. Ill., bibliography.

E184.M8 D46 1987

Religious Studies Center Specialized Monograph Series; vol. 2.
87070665

Hartmann, Edward George.

Americans from Wales. Boston: Christopher Pub. House, [1967]. 291 p. Bibliography.

E184.W4 H33 LH&G

67023750

Thomas, R.D. (Robert David).

Hanes Cymry America = A History of the Welsh in America. Translated by Phillips G. Davies.
Lanham, Md.: University Press of America, 1983. xxi, 517 p. Bibliographies.

E184.W4 T413 1983 LH&G

83014549

Other Resources

National Library of Wales Family History Resources

<http://www.llgc.org.uk/index.php?id=121>

Non-Conformist Records in England and Wales

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/familyhistory/bmd/step1a.htm>

FamilySearch Wiki

<https://wiki.familysearch.org/en/Portal:Wales>

Abstracts of original wills : Episcopal Consistory Court, St. David's Diocese, Wales

http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Library/fhlcatalog/supermainframeset.asp?display=title&details&titleno=3351&disp=Abstracts+of+original+wills%20%20&columns=*,0,0

The BYU Family History Center has some of these films

Article on Wales Patronymics

<http://www.leigh.org/genealogy/welshnames.html>

Welsh Surnames

<http://www.data-wales.co.uk/names.htm>

Welsh Place names

http://www.everything2.com/index.pl?node_id=1708676

Welsh patronymics and place names in Wales and Monmouthshire

http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Library/fhlcatalog/supermainframeset.asp?display=title&details&titleno=357032&disp=Welsh+patronymics+and+place+names+in+Wal%20%20&columns=*,0,0

The BYU Family History Center does NOT have this Film Number (6020295)

List of Various Films concerning LDS members in Wales

http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Library/fhlcatalog/supermainframeset.asp?display=title&hitlist&columns=*,0,0&keyword=LDS+Wales&prekeyword=LDS+Wales

Pre-1858 Welsh probate jurisdictions, North Wales : a genealogical research guide to probate courts having jurisdiction in the counties of Anglesey, Caernarvon, Denbigh, Flint, Merioneth and Montgomery

http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Library/fhlcatalog/supermainframeset.asp?display=title&details&titleno=360269&disp=Pre%2D1858+Welsh+probate+jurisdictions%20%20&columns=*,0,0

The BYU Family History Center does NOT have this Film Number (6036677)

Pre-1858 Welsh probate jurisdictions, South Wales and Monmouthshire : a genealogical research guide to probate courts having jurisdiction in the counties of Brecon, Cardigan, Carmarthen, Glamorgan, Monmouth (England), Pembroke and Radnor

http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Library/fhlcatalog/supermainframeset.asp?display=title&details&titleno=360272&disp=Pre%2D1858+Welsh+probate+jurisdictions%20%20&columns=*,0,0

The BYU Family History Center does NOT have this Film Number (6036678)