

England Genealogy page in FamilySearch

https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/England_Genealogy

England Genealogy

Notice:
This page has recently been restructured. For more information, see [New Country Page Changes](#).

Europe → **England**

Guide to **England ancestry, family history and genealogy**: parish registers, transcripts, census records, birth records, marriage records, and death records.

Country Information [[edit](#) | [edit source](#)]

England is one of the four constituent countries of the [United Kingdom](#) (together with [Scotland](#), [Wales](#) and [Northern Ireland](#)). It has a history that goes back over a thousand years. In 1707, the Kingdom of England joined the [Kingdom of Scotland](#) in union to become the [Kingdom of Great Britain](#). The official language is English.^[1]

[England Online Genealogy Records](#) [Online Research Help](#) [Getting Started](#)

England Wiki Topics

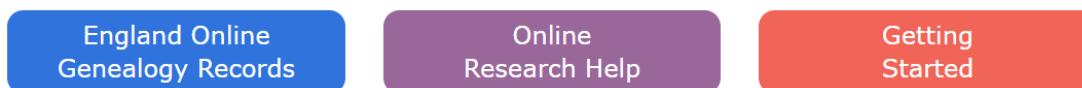
England Beginning Research

- [Finding Town of Origin](#)
- [Getting Started](#)
- [Guided Research](#)
- [Online Learning](#)
- [Record Finder](#)
- [Research Strategies](#)

The FamilySearch website has an excellent reference page on England Genealogy. This page is a research guide for England ancestry and is useful to both the beginner in England genealogy research as well as those with more knowledge and experience. The page is divided into sections to organize the material and links to other webpages for specific topics. There are many topics listed in the “**England Wiki Topics**” sidebar on the right side of the England Genealogy page (highlighted in red box in the illustration above). Some of the helpful links are highlighted below.

This page was recently revised and includes a notice that the webpage was restructured as part of an overall restructuring of all country pages in the FamilySearch research wiki. The notice includes a link for “New Country Page Changes” to a separate webpage with more information about this restructuring.

The new England Genealogy page includes three colored buttons illustrated below.



The **blue** button existed previously and is still available. This is a link to a vast collection of online records for England research.

The **purple** button links you to resources for help with online research, such as getting an online consultation with a research specialist from the FSL in SLC, as well as contacting a FS community group or research group for England.

The **red** button will help you get started with your England research. It is geared to beginners and if you consider yourself a beginner, this is where you may want to look for some beginner tips. There is a very good section on that webpage -- Beginning Research in England -- where you will find tips and guides for Beginning Research in England:

Beginning Research in England [\[edit | edit source \]](#)

- [Guided Research](#) for finding birth, marriage and death information
- [Record Finder](#) to determine what records to search
- [Online Learning](#) - presentation/webinar recordings
- Additional [Research Tips and Strategies](#)
- See the country sidebar (to the right of the screen) for articles about various records in England
- See the map and sub-jurisdictions below for more localized information

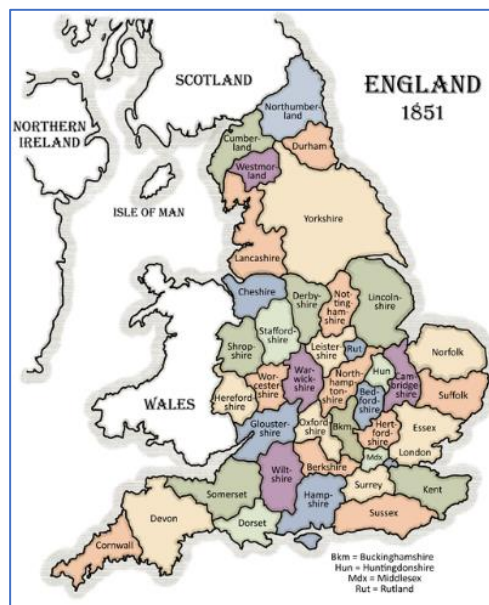
This section includes links to other specialized webpages for England research such as [Guided Research](#) and the England [Record Finder](#) to support your research.

This section also includes a map of England counties.

The counties on this map are the so-called “historic counties” we use in our England research. Those are the counties that existed before 1974, when a major reorganization of counties in England took place.

If you click on one of the counties on this map it will connect you to a separate webpage dedicated to genealogy for just that county.

Below the map is an alphabetical list of the historic counties. If you click on a county name in the list it will connect you to the county page where you can find your parish in that county.



Counties and Parishes [\[edit | edit source \]](#)

The England counties listed below are **based on historic boundaries pre-1974**. Genealogy records are kept on the county and parish level in England. These counties are used throughout the FamilySearch system to organize access to records and articles. Click on a county or parish name below to go to the relevant wiki article listing more information.

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| • Bedfordshire (parishes) | • Herefordshire (parishes) | • Rutland (parishes) |
| • Berkshire (parishes) | • Hertfordshire (parishes) | • Shropshire (parishes) |
| • Buckinghamshire (parishes) | • Huntingdonshire (parishes) | • Somerset (parishes) |
| • Cambridgeshire (parishes) | • Kent (parishes) | • Staffordshire (parishes) |
| • Cheshire (parishes) | • Lancashire (parishes) | • Suffolk (parishes) |
| • Cornwall (parishes) | • Leicestershire (parishes) | • Surrey (parishes) |
| • Cumberland (parishes) | • Lincolnshire (parishes) | • Sussex (parishes) |
| • Derbyshire (parishes) | • London (parishes) | • Warwickshire (parishes) |
| • Devon (parishes) | • Middlesex (parishes) | • Westmorland (parishes) |
| • Dorset (parishes) | • Norfolk (parishes) | • Wiltshire (parishes) |
| • Durham (parishes) | • Northamptonshire (parishes) | • Worcestershire (parishes) |
| • Essex (parishes) | • Northumberland (parishes) | • Yorkshire (parishes) |
| • Gloucestershire (parishes) | • Nottinghamshire (parishes) | |
| • Hampshire (parishes) | • Oxfordshire (parishes) | |

If you click on the name of a county in the list above, it will connect you to the county page where you can use this tool to find your parish in that county:

Parishes [edit | edit source]

Click on a letter for a list of Wiki page links to Kent **parishes**:
[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [W](#) [Y](#)

Another very useful reference page is the [England Jurisdictions](https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/England_Jurisdictions) page in the research wiki (https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/England_Jurisdictions). This page provides a brief description of, and link to, the online interactive [historical map for 1851 jurisdictions](https://www.familysearch.org/mapp) (<https://www.familysearch.org/mapp>). The page also provides a list of jurisdictions with descriptions.

England Jurisdictions

[England](#) → [England Jurisdictions](#)

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 - 3.1 County Abbreviations and Chapman Code

Interactive England Jurisdiction Map 1851

[edit | edit source]

FamilySearch has an interactive map of the [1851 Jurisdictions of England](#). This map allows the user to choose a jurisdiction (such as a county, parish, or diocese) then choose different nearby jurisdictions (like hundred, rural deanery, or province) to see where vital records were housed. A table pops up showing what years parish registers exist, the names of other associated jurisdictions, and other similar search tools.

Jurisdictions

[edit | edit source]

A jurisdiction is an area governed by a system of laws. Each jurisdiction has a geographic boundary with some type of authority (i.e., manor, parish, town, county). This authority has the power to apply and enforce the laws. In England birth, marriage, death, census, and other genealogical records are organized and stored in different governmental levels such as parish, town, and county.

If you are researching other parts of the British Isles in addition to England, you can use the FamilySearch website to find similar genealogy reference pages for Wales, Scotland, and Ireland with reference information, links for Wiki topics and research tips and guidance.

Wales: https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Wales_Genealogy

Scotland: https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Scotland_Genealogy

Ireland: https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Ireland_Genealogy