



Gateway to
the history
of Shropshire
and Telford

Short guide to researching the clergy at Shropshire Archives

After finding the general genealogical information from parish, census and civil registration records, the following sources can help to give further information about Anglican clergy. You need a Reader's Ticket for sources marked Search Room.

◆ Clergy Database

<http://db.theclergydatabase.org.uk/jsp/search/index.jsp>

See relevant Diocesan Record Office - often the county town record office (although Shropshire is split into the Diocese of Lichfield, Hereford and St Asaph).

◆ Clerical Directories

Alphabetical lists containing details of education, dates of ordination and incumbencies.

- ◆ Crockford's Clerical Directory 1865-2009 (Reading Room)
- ◆ Clergy Lists, 1846, 1848, 1865, 1876 (Reading Room)

◆ Ecclesiastical Census of 1851 (Reading Room - on microfiche)

This census was a voluntary census, but many Anglican clergymen submitted forms about themselves and their churches.

◆ Compton Census 1676 (C63 – request from staff)

Census of all inhabitants of England and Wales in 1676. The minister was often the enumerator for the parish.

◆ Walker and Calamy and the clergy during and post the Civil Wars.

- ◆ Walker, John *'The sufferings of the clergy of the Church of England during the Great Rebellion.'* (C97 – request from staff)
- ◆ Calamy, Edmund. *'A continuation of the account of the ministers, lecturers, masters and fellows of colleges and schoolmasters who were ejected or silenced after the Restoration in 1660 by or before the Act of Uniformity.'* (ref: C98 – request from staff)

◆ Oxford and Cambridge University Alumni (Reading Room)

◆ Newspapers

- ◆ Shrewsbury Chronicle 1772-1950 (Reading Room - on microfilm)
Newspapers are useful for references and photographs of clergymen. They may also contain local obituaries. There is a name index to the Shrewsbury Chronicle (Reading Room – on microfiche)

There is a printed list of other Shropshire newspapers and their locations.

◆ **Periodicals**

- ◇ Gentleman's Magazine 1731-1818 (request from staff)

This periodical is useful for references and obituaries of clergymen.

◆ **Dictionary of National Biography** (Reading Room)

The Dictionary gives a potted history of some clergymen's lives, careers and works.

The collection in the Reading Room is an early edition. The current online edition is available through Shropshire Libraries Online Reference Service, ask staff for details.

◆ **Parish records**

- ◇ Parish registers

Details of the clergy recording christening, marriages and burials can be found in parish registers. (mostly on microfiche – Reading Room). In the Parish Register Society publications, lists of incumbents are often included in the introduction. (Reading Room).

- ◇ Tithe apportionments

These records contain details of the clergyman in receipt of the tithes. (Reading Room - on microfilm)

- ◇ Glebe terriers

The glebe terriers of Shropshire Volumes 1 & 2 give references to records about glebe land in Shropshire (Reading Room , C63.8)

- ◇ Incumbent records

Some parish collections include document relating to incumbents and their benefices. These are listed in the 'E' and 'F' sections of the collections and can be searched for on our online catalogue www.shropshirearchives.org.uk or in the blue parish folders (Search Room)

◆ **Personal papers and collections**

Search online catalogues and websites:

- ◇ Our online catalogue www.shropshirearchives.org.uk

- ◇ National Register of Archives (www.nationalarchives.gov.uk) – use the 'advanced search' and look for 'record creators'.

◆ **Wills**

See our short guide to wills.

◆ **Further reading**

- ◇ Towey, P. (2006). *My ancestor was an Anglican Clergyman*, Society of Genealogists. (Reading Room ref: 929.3)

This gives a comprehensive list of records and publications held elsewhere that can be used to research the history of clergymen.

Shropshire Archives

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