



Lambeth Palace Library Research Guide British and Irish Local History





Lambeth Palace Library Research Guide

Sources for British and Irish Local History

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1 Introduction

Lambeth Palace Library is rarely the best place to start local history research. We suggest that you first explore the resources offered by the local studies library and/or record office for the county or town in which you are interested. Basic sources which should be available locally include:

The Victoria County History. Founded in 1899, the V.C.H. aimed to produce an historical encyclopaedia of England, by county, hundred and parish. The project is still ongoing: (www.victoriacountyhistory.ac.uk)

The Survey of London is an ongoing project begun in 1894 and now undertaken by English Heritage (www.english-heritage.org.uk). It is a detailed and well-illustrated reference work on urban and architectural history, published in the form of area studies of individual parishes.

J.P. Anderson, *The Book of British Topography: a Classified Catalogue of the Topographical Works in the British Museum relating to Great Britain and Ireland* (London, 1881; reprinted 1976).

Royal Historical Society, *Texts and Calendars*, E.L.C. Mullins (2 vols.) Gives full titles of publications of local and national local history societies to 1982.

N.B.L.Pevsner, *Buildings of England series*



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C.R.J. Currie and C.P. Lewis eds., *English County Histories: a Guide*, (1994)

The Vision of Britain website (www.visionofbritain.org.uk/index.jsp) and the GENUKI website: (www.genuki.org.uk) might also be of interest.

This guide was compiled referring specifically to the historic collections of Lambeth Palace Library. Please note that the collections of the former Church of England Record Centre, now held at Lambeth Palace Library, also contain significant series relevant to local history. For further information, please try searching the online archives catalogue, or contact the Library for advice.

2 How this Guide is Arranged

To help you find the sources of greatest value to your research, this guide has been arranged by county (England only) or country (Wales, Scotland and Ireland).

The emphasis of the guide is on material which might be overlooked. It will not contain all material held by Lambeth Palace Library relating to the county in question. For further information about specific sources consult the collections section of our website. As most of our material dates from before county boundary changes in 1974, old county names have been used throughout, with place names and county based on Bartholomew's Gazetteer 9th edn. (Edinburgh, n.d.).

See also the [place name search](#) on the online archives catalogue.

3 Bedfordshire

Archbishops' registers and Act Books

Carte Miscellanea

Court of Arches

Temporalities and Estate Documents: Includes a rental of the estates of the prebend of Bedford Major, 1459-87 (Estate Documents 225).

Commonwealth Records

Incorporated Church Building Society

4 Berkshire

Manuscripts: includes a return for the schools in the diocese of Salisbury by John Fisher, Bishop of Salisbury. Arranged by county and parish, with tabulated information about endowed, charity and Sunday schools, 1808 (MS 1732).

Archbishops' registers and Act Books

Carte Miscellanea

Court of Arches: Includes records relating to the peculiar of Chipping Farringdon, 1632-72 (Ff 254).

Commonwealth Records

Incorporated Church Building Society



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5 Buckinghamshire

Manuscripts: Includes valuations of Waddesdon rectory, 1756 and 1771-7 (MS 1722).

Archbishops' registers and Act Books

Carte Miscellanee

Court of Arches: Includes a parish register for Dorney, 1696-1726 (Ff 296).

Temporalities and Estate Documents: Includes records relating to Boarstall, Brill and Wotton Underwood.

Commonwealth Records

London visitation returns

Incorporated Church Building Society

6 Cambridgeshire

Manuscripts: Includes papers of William Lloyd (1637-1710) as Bishop of Peterborough, including visitation returns and arbitration papers on a dispute concerning the French Church at Thorney, 1664-84 (MS 3897).

Archbishops' registers and Act Books

Carte Miscellanee

Court of Arches: Includes a rate book for Melbourn, 1839 (Ff 58).

Temporalities and Estate Documents Includes records of the estates of the bishops of Ely.

Commonwealth Records

Incorporated Church Building Society

7 Cheshire

Archbishops' registers and Act Books

Carte Miscellanee

Court of Arches

Commonwealth Records

Incorporated Church Building Society

8 Cornwall

Manuscripts: Includes the Launceston Cartulary, fifteenth century, comprising copies of mainly fourteenth and fifteenth-century documents (MS 719).

Archbishops' registers and Act Books

Court of Arches: Includes churchwardens' accounts for Minster, 1756-88 (Ff 47) and churchwarden's accounts for St. Stephens, nr. Launceston, 1729-50 (Ff 35).

Commonwealth Records

Incorporated Church Building Society

9 Cumberland

Archbishops' registers and Act Books

Carte Miscellanee



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Court of Arches
Commonwealth Records
Incorporated Church Building Society

10 Derbyshire

Manuscripts: Includes a report on schools in Derbyshire by the Rev. John Allen, Inspector of Schools, to the Committee of Council on Education, 1841, on 59 schools inspected (MS 1799). The Shrewsbury and Talbot papers contain some material on the Derbyshire estates of the Earls of Shrewsbury (MSS 694-710 and 3192-3206).

Archbishops' registers and Act Books

Carte Miscellanea

Court of Arches: Includes deeds relating to Dronfield tithes, 1588-1723 (Ff 197-205) and churchwardens' accounts for Sandiacre, Derbyshire, 1816-41 (Ff 59).

Commonwealth Records

Incorporated Church Building Society

11 Devon

Manuscripts: Includes an extra-illustrated copy of J.N. Dalton, Collegiate Church of Ottery St. Mary, MSS 1612-13

Archbishops' registers and Act Books

Carte Miscellanea

Court of Arches: Includes a list of deeds, 1727, copy of order for seating, 1637, certificate of parishioners, 1769 and churchwardens' accounts for Ashburton, 1615-1703 (Ff 192-3; Ff 225 and Ff 299); printed report on the episcopal visitation of Exeter cathedral, 1874 and drawings of the roof bosses, 1876 (Ff 66-7); list of Easter dues and tithes paid for Martin, 1575-1614 (Ff 271) and accounts for Poghill, 1792-1710 (Ff 250)

Temporalities and Estate Documents

Commonwealth Records

Incorporated Church Building Society

12 Dorset

Archbishops' registers and Act Books

Court of Arches

Commonwealth Records

Incorporated Church Building Society

13 Durham

Archbishops' registers and Act Books

Court of Arches

Commonwealth Records

Incorporated Church Building Society



Lambeth Palace Library Research Guide

14 Essex

Archbishops' registers and Act Books
Carte Miscellanea
Court of Arches: Includes an assignment of conveyance for Frowick Farm, Chiche St. Osyth, 1734 (Ff 236)
Temporalities and Estate Documents
Peculiars (location; vicar general records)
Commonwealth Records
London visitation returns
Incorporated Church Building Society

15 Gloucestershire

Manuscripts: Papers relating to Longford's School, Minchinhampton, 1941-90 (MSS 3699-3706); deeds relating to properties held by the Hale family of Alderley and others, including Frampton Cotterell, Kingswood and the manor of Rangeworthy.
Archbishops' registers and Act Books
Carte Miscellanea
Court of Arches
Temporalities and Estate Documents: Includes records of the estates of the bishops of Bath and Wells and the prior and convent of Worcester
Commonwealth Records
Incorporated Church Building Society

16 Hampshire

Manuscripts: Includes bailiff's accounts for estates at Alton, Holybourne and Worldham, 1745-61, (MS 1778)
Archbishops' registers and Act Books
Carte Miscellanea
Court of Arches: Includes an abstract of title to the manor of Bicton, Fordingbridge, 1561-1739 (Ff 196)
Temporalities and Estate Documents: Includes records of the estates of the bishops of Bath and Wells and the bishops of Winchester
Commonwealth Records
Incorporated Church Building Society

17 Herefordshire

Manuscripts: The Shrewsbury and Talbot papers contain some material on the Herefordshire estates of the Earls of Shrewsbury (MSS 694-710 and 3192-3206)
Archbishops' registers and Act Books
Carte Miscellanea
Court of Arches: Includes churchwardens' and overseers' accounts for Ewyas Harold, 1700-12 (Ff 15)
Commonwealth Records
Incorporated Church Building Society



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18 Hertfordshire

Manuscripts: Includes indenture between Henry VIII and Sir Richard Page relating to property formerly held by the nunnery of St. Giles-in-the-Wood, Flamstead, 1538 (MS 4299); newspapers cuttings and printed papers on the destruction by fire and rebuilding of All Saint's church, Hertford, 1892-1906 (MS 1966)

Archbishops' registers and Act Books

Carte Miscellanea

Court of Arches: Includes a parish register for North Mimms, 1592-1627 (Ff 1)

Temporalities and Estate Documents: Includes records for Ashwell, 1330 (Estate Documents 212) and Tring manor, 1414-15 (Estate Documents 1075-6)

Visitation returns

Commonwealth Records

Incorporated Church Building Society

19 Huntingdonshire

Archbishops' registers and Act Books

Court of Arches

Commonwealth Records

Incorporated Church Building Society

20 Kent

Manuscripts: The manuscript holdings of Lambeth Palace Library are particularly rich for Kent and this list can only give a selection of relevant records. They include:

Papers on Trinity Hospital Croydon (MS. 275); Sevenoaks town papers (MS 672); Sir John Parker's memorandum book, sixteenth-century (MS 737); Archbishop Secker's visitations of the diocese of Canterbury, 1751 (MS 1134); the Cartulary of the See of Canterbury, thirteenth and fourteenth-century (MS 1212); papers of Sir Roger Twysden, 2nd bt. (1597-1672) of Royden Hall, East Peckham, including papers on Kent county administration (MSS 1389-94). See Kent Archaeological Society, Kent Records X, ed. G. Scott Thomson. Also the Kent collections of Nicholas Battely (d.1704), Vicar of Bekesbourne and Rector of Ivechurch, (MS 1250); reports on schools in the diocese and archdeaconry of Canterbury, 1885, (MS 3208, ff.61-70); papers on Blackheath chapel, 1697-1705 (MS 3220); records of the hospital of St. John the Baptist, Northgate Canterbury, 1560-1687 (MS 1355); transcript of records by Charles Sandys (1786-1859), antiquary and solicitor of Canterbury relating to the liberties and boundaries of Canterbury (MSS.1225-6); the Cartulary of Dover Priory, 1372 (MS 241); records of the hospital of St. Nicholas, Harbledown (MSS 1131-2, 1169 and 1355); notes on All Hallows, Hoo by Leland Lewis Duncan (1862-1923) (MS 1395); tithes and fees for the parish of Hunton, by Theophilus Higgons, rector, (c.1578-1659), (MS1637); a history of Saltwood parish church, 1963 (MS 1821); farming accounts for an estate at Sharsted, 1851-2 (MS 1601)

Archbishops' registers and Act Books

Carte Miscellanea

Court of Arches



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Temporalities and Estate Documents
Peculiars (location; vicar general records)
Commonwealth Records
Incorporated Church Building Society
Visitation Returns

21 Lancashire

Manuscripts: Records of the Rt. Rev. Eric Treacy (1929-76) on the parish of St. Mary Edge Hill, Liverpool and the Shrewsbury School Mission at Liverpool, 1929-53 (MSS 3567, ff.1-15v and 3574, ff.1-74)
Archbishops' registers and Act Books
Commonwealth Records
Carte Miscellanee
Court of Arches
Temporalities and Estate Documents Includes records for Blackburn, Rochdale, Thornley, Wheatley and Whalley
Incorporated Church Building Society

22 Leicestershire

Manuscripts: Includes a valuation of Kibworth parish 18th-century (MS 1722)
Archbishops' registers and Act Books
Carte Miscellanee
Court of Arches: Includes a rate book for All Saints, Leicester, 1708-9 (Ff 16)
Commonwealth Records
Incorporated Church Building Society

23 Lincolnshire

Archbishops' registers and Act Books
Carte Miscellanee
Court of Arches
Commonwealth Records
Incorporated Church Building Society

24 London and Middlesex

Manuscripts: The manuscript holdings of Lambeth Palace Library are particularly rich for London and Middlesex and this list can only give a selection of relevant records. They include:

A catalogue of the inhabitants of several parishes in London, relating to the London tithe dispute, 1638 (MSS 272-3); monumental inscriptions from London churches (MS 1485); tithe assessments after the Great Fire (MS 1701); book of certificates of transfers of remains from the churchyard of St. Michael, Crooked Lane, (MS 1717); Queen Anne churches (MSS 2690-2750) report on a public garden adjoining Fulham Palace, Fulham, 1994 (MS 3208, ff.97-103); papers on chambers in Lincoln's Inn



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(MS 3131); newspaper cuttings on Church House, Westminster, 1886-1930, (MSS 3173-8); churchwarden's accounts and minutes of vestry meetings for the parish of Holy Trinity Minories, 1566-1686 (MS 3390); register of the Dutch Church in London, 1615-42 (MS 3586); papers of the Rev. St. John Beverley Groser (1890-1966) on the Catholic Crusade, unemployment and political activities in the East End of London, 1924-55 (MS 3562)

Archbishops' registers and Act Books

Carte Miscellanea

Court of Arches: Includes a grant by Elizabeth I of lands (including in St. Botolph, Aldgate), 1593 (Ff 148); deeds for St. Botolph, Aldgate, 1613-58 (Ff 150-2); rate book for All Hallows, Barking, 1730 (Ff 20); rate book for Chelsea, 1751 (Ff 36); rate book for St. Andrew, Holborn, 1780 (Ff 42); rate books for St. Faith, London, 1753-5 (Ff 37-9); deeds relating to properties in White Hart Lane, Tottenham, 1726 and 176 (Ff 194 and Ff 218); deeds relating to tenements in St. Giles in the Fields, Westminster, 1688-1707 (Ff 175-85); deeds relating to land in Whitechapel, 1683-1732 (Ff 206-12)

Temporalities and Estate Documents Includes records for Harrow, 1507-10 (Estate Documents 477-8)

Peculiars (location; vicar general records)

Commonwealth Records

Fulham papers

London visitation returns

Incorporated Church Building Society

25 Norfolk

Manuscripts: Includes a survey of church goods in the hundreds of Blofield and Walsham, 1549, MS 1924; Ingham Roll, (MS 2078).

Archbishops' registers and Act Books

Carte Miscellanea

Court of Arches: Includes a rate book for St. Margaret, King's Lynn, 1839 (Ff 57); churchwardens' accounts, 1697-1735 and churchwardens' expenses, 1732-3 for St. Michael at Thorne, Norwich, (Ff 23 and Ff 282); rate books and accounts for St. Paul and St. James, Norwich, 1737-42 (Ff 24-6)

Temporalities and Estate Documents Includes records of the properties of the prior and convent of St. Benet at Holme and of Drayton in Taverham.

Vicar General: Includes estate records of Bishop Hayter

Commonwealth Records

Incorporated Church Building Society

26 Northamptonshire

Archbishops' registers and Act Books

Court of Arches: Includes a copy of a terrier for Crick, 1696 (Ff 238); cartulary of Fineshade abbey, 14th century (Ff 291) and a grant by Elizabeth I of lands (including in Greens Norton), 1593 (Ff 148)

Commonwealth Records

Incorporated Church Building Society



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27 Northumberland

Archbishops' registers and Act Books
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28 Nottinghamshire

Manuscripts: The Shrewsbury and Talbot papers contain some material on the Nottinghamshire estates of the Earls of Shrewsbury (MSS 694-710 and 3192-3206).
Archbishops' registers and Act Books
Carte Miscellanee
Court of Arches
Commonwealth Records
Incorporated Church Building Society

29 Oxfordshire

Manuscripts: Includes an account of the charity, day and Sunday schools in the diocese of Oxford, arranged by parish. Includes information on how the schools are supported, what subjects are taught, numbers of pupils, population of the parish and whether there are schools for Dissenters, 1808 (MS 1731).
Archbishops' registers and Act Books
Carte Miscellanee
Court of Arches
Commonwealth Records
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30 Rutland

Archbishops' registers and Act Books
Court of Arches: Includes a churchwarden's book for Shipton under Wychwood, 1554-1696 (Ff 12)
Commonwealth Records
Incorporated Church Building Society

31 Shropshire

Manuscripts: the Shrewsbury and Talbot papers contain some material on the Shropshire estates of the Earls of Shrewsbury (MSS 694-710 and 3192-3206)
Archbishops' registers and Act Books
Carte Miscellanee
Court of Arches
Temporalities and Estate Documents: Includes records of Stoke St. Milborough
Commonwealth Records
Incorporated Church Building Society



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32 Somerset

Archbishops' registers and Act Books

Court of Arches: Includes chapelwardens' accounts for St. Mary's Walcot, 1734-1801 and marriage licences, 1812-19 (Ff 65)

Temporalities and Estate Documents: Includes records of the estates of the bishops of Bath and Wells and the bishops of Winchester

Commonwealth Records

Incorporated Church Building Society

33 Staffordshire

Manuscripts: Includes papers of James Riddell (1794-1878), rector of Hanbury, with accounts of Hanbury vicarage, 1837-60 (MS 4322)

Archbishops' registers and Act Books

Carte Miscellanea

Court of Arches: Includes a release of ground in Stafford, 1703 (Ff 158); a rate book for Tamworth, 1861-2 (Ff 64) and overseers' accounts for Ware, 1656-99 (Ff 13)

Commonwealth Records

Incorporated Church Building Society

34 Suffolk

Manuscripts: Papers on Melford Hospital (MS. 671); papers of William Lloyd (1637-1710) as Bishop of Norwich, including papers on a dispute over use of funds at Sakeford Almshouse, Woodbridge, 1688 (MS 3898, items 12-14)

Archbishops' registers and Act Books

Carte Miscellanea

Court of Arches: Includes a rate book for Dalham (Ff 1679-1720); churchwardens' and overseers' accounts, 1693-1741 and deeds relating to St. Margaret, Ipswich, 1596-1698 (Ff 27-9 and 154-74)

Temporalities

Commonwealth Records

Incorporated Church Building Society

35 Surrey

Manuscripts: The manuscript holdings of Lambeth Palace Library are particularly rich for Surrey and this list can only give a selection of relevant records. They include: Watercolours of the grounds of Addington Park (MS 1403); Andrew Coltee Ducarel's history of Croydon, 1755 (MSS 958 and 1165); papers on, 1724-60 and a set of statutes of Dulwich College, 1626 (MSS 1118 and 1254); monumental inscriptions from London churches (MS 1485); a survey of parish churches and services, 1908-14 (MSS 2023-5); statutes and collections on Guildford Hospital (MS 1354 and 1410-14); Andrew Coltee Ducarel's history of Lambeth Palace, 1758 (MS 1163); papers on Lambeth Palace and parish, (MS 1726); accounts for Stangate estate, Lambeth, 1826 (MS 1779); a perambulation of the parish of Lambeth, 1811 (MS 1785); papers on the Lambeth enclosure, 1808-12 (MS 1786); indenture between



Lambeth Palace Library Research Guide

Henry VIII and Sir Richard Page, relating to Page's estate at West Molesey, 1538 (MS 4299)

Archbishops' registers and Act Books

Carte Miscellanea

Court of Arches: Includes a churchwardens' book for Chertsey, 1691-1724 (Ff 18)

Temporalities and Estate Documents

Peculiars (location; vicar general records)

Commonwealth Records

London visitation returns

Incorporated Church Building Society

36 Sussex

Archbishops' registers and Act Books

Carte Miscellanea

Court of Arches: Rate books for Brighton, 1847 (Ff 61-2)

Temporalities and Estate Documents: Includes records of Earham, Portslade and Upwatham.

Commonwealth Records

Incorporated Church Building Society

37 Warwickshire

Archbishops' registers and Act Books

Carte Miscellanea

Court of Arches

Commonwealth Records

Incorporated Church Building Society

38 Westmorland

Archbishops' registers and Act Books

Court of Arches

Commonwealth Records

Incorporated Church Building Society

39 Wiltshire

Manuscripts: Includes a return for the schools in the diocese of Salisbury by John Fisher, Bishop of Salisbury. Arranged by county and parish, with tabulated information about endowed, charity and Sunday schools, 1808 (MS 1732). Also a survey of timber in Blackland Wood and notes on sales of timber, 1816-17 (MS 1595) and churchwardens' accounts for Dinton and Teffont Magna, 1653 (MS 3152, ff.86-7)

Archbishops' registers and Act Books

Carte Miscellanea

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40 Worcestershire

Archbishops' registers and Act Books
Carte Miscellanea
Court of Arches
Temporalities and Estate Documents: Includes a court roll for Bredon, 1406 (Estate Documents 284)
Commonwealth Records
Incorporated Church Building Society

41 Yorkshire

Manuscripts: Includes accounts and rentals of Brafferton manor, 1695-1705 (MSS 1097-8); the Shrewsbury and Talbot papers contain some material on the Yorkshire estates of the Earls of Shrewsbury, including the manor of Sheffield (MSS 694-710 and 3192-3206); papers and correspondence of Eric Treacy (1929-76) as Bishop of Wakefield, including papers on the collieries and Wakefield Prison, 1955-79 (MS 3575)

Archbishops' registers and Act Books
Carte Miscellanea
Court of Arches
Temporalities and Estate Documents: Includes a record of the manor of Farmanby, 1590 (Estate Documents 448)
Vicar General
Commonwealth Records
Incorporated Church Building Society

42 Wales

Manuscripts: Includes information about sequestered livings, mainly in Wales, 1649-62 (MS 1027); papers of William Lloyd (1637-1710) as bishop of Llandaff (MS 3896)
Carte Miscellanea: Includes correspondence and papers on the Council of the Marches, 1570-93 (Carte Miscellanea I/84-111)
Court of Arches: Includes account books of Thomas Smith for estates in Cardiganshire, 1803-17 (Ff 51-4d); churchwardens' accounts and assessments for Guildsfield, Montgomeryshire, 1726-45 (Ff 31-2); churchwardens' book of rates and vestry minutes for Mynwere, Pembrokeshire, 1835-59 (Ff 63); foundation charter by John de Grey of a college for regular priests in St. Peter's church, Ruthin, 1310 (Ff 146); licences from Aninai, bishop of Bangor to John de Grey to found the college, 1310 (Ff 147); grant by Elizabeth I of lands (including in Ruthin), 1593 (Ff 148); inspeximus by James I of a grant of Henry VII of the lordship of Ruthin, 1605 (Ff 149)
Commonwealth Records
Incorporated Church Building Society

43 Ireland

Manuscripts: Carew MSS; photograph album of Archbishop Benson in Ireland, 1896 (MS 3977)



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44 Scotland

Manuscripts: Includes papers on Scottish ecclesiastical history collected by Francis Carolus Eeles, 1682-1854(MSS 1520, 1522-7, 1533-5, 1539-44) and a journal of a tour of Scotland and Northern England, 1846 (MS 1600)