

Trade sources and background information talk and workshop 14-11-2020.

This talk giving the sources for brickmaking research examples can also be used to give an idea of the sources that might be available for other trades. The author has used the same principles for researching Calico Printing, Ratcatching Rural Life and Market Gardening and Shipbuilding.

The information in this presentation may be limited by time but it is hoped this handout will help you find sources for your ancestor's trades and occupations.

1) Certificates.

- a) Birth. Typically, Harry Samuel WHEATLEY son of RICHARD HENRY WHEATLEY labourer in a brickfield 1859
- b) Marriage. Typically, RICHARD HENRY WHEATLEY brickmaker to MARY ANN ELIZABETH FLETCHER 1851. They were the children of Labourers which later were proved to be brickfield labourers. This is typical for brickmaking families to marry into other brickmakers' families.
- c) Death. Typically, JAMES ASSETTER, brickmaker 1841 Natural Decay.

2) Census.

- a) 1841 Census: Example EDWARD CROP of Erith HO107 482.
- b) 1881 Census: LDS Index Version. Example ALBERT SAUNDERS and JOHN ARGENT.
- c) 1871 Census: Example RICHARD COUSINS of Winkfield, Berks RG10 1295 Fig 5.
- d) 1939 Register: Has date of birth and occupation.

3) Church and Parish records.

- a) Parish registers give trade of fathers after c1813.
- b) Settlement and Examinations post 1662 give occupations with other family details.
- c) Poor law parish records include apprenticeship records.
- d) Clergy is recorded and indexed in Crockford's Directory published from c1858.
- e) Clergy of the Church of England Database. Online at www.theclergydatabase.org.uk gives details of the Clergy of the Church of England 1540-1835.
- f) Non-Conformist and Roman Catholic Registers.
- g) Church yards and MIs: Example Mausoleums and tombstones may have occupation references.

4) Occupation Terms a list of terms for jobs in the brickfield,

This leads to the need to understand the meaning of an occupation. There are dictionaries of trades and occupations that give some explanation but in a very brief form.

5) Dictionary of Trades.

- a) Introduction to Occupations by Joyce Culling pub by FFHS
- b) 1921 Census CD ROM of Occupations in the 19thc. A Dictionary of Occupational Terms.
- c) The Book of Trades or Library of Useful Arts 1811. Pub. by Wiltshire FHS in 3 Vols.
- d) A Dictionary of Old Trades, Titles and Occupations by Colin Waters. Pub by Countryside Books.
- e) Occupations and descriptions of Yesteryear folk by Devon FHS.
- f) Extract from the Shorter Oxford English Dictionary on Historic Principles.
- g) Tony Robinson's 'The worst jobs in History' which mentions ratcatchers.

6) County History, Atlas & Gazetteers

- a) Victoria History Volumes by County. Not all counties covered. History of Cornwall.
- b) Sussex, Molly Beswick. Brick in Essex by Pat Ryan.
- c) An Historical Atlas of Norfolk, Kent and Hertfordshire

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7) Directories.

- a) Early Example: Pigot's Directory of 1839 for Crayford. In smaller less populated areas, the entries are divided into Residents-Nobility Gentry and Clergy and Commercial
- b) Trade Example: Kent Trade Directory with an advert for the Aylesford Pottery Co Ltd. And the S & D brand and brickmark of Smeed Dean. Kelly's 1924.
- c) Example: Kelly's 1899
- d) Example: Harrow on the Hill.
- e) Adverts – Check these pages as they give trade details. Examples 1) Steam Cart & Wagon Co. Ltd. 2) Thomas Pascall.

8) Maps

- a) OS Maps. Great, Burton near Ashford, Kent. The four editions show the changes to the brickfield location over time. 1871, 1898, 1907 & 1933.
- b) Tithe Maps. Example; Dartford Tithe Map 1838. Kent Tithe map schedule is freely available online from the KAS web site. The maps are available on CD disk from KCC Library and History Centre, Maidstone, Kent,
- c) Estate Maps. Example: Part of the Estates belonging to the Parish of Dartford, Kent 1826. Surveyed by W Hubbard.
- d) Sales details of properties and estates. The Enfield sales properties map of the 1780's mentions at Southbury Street WILLIAM CUFLEY a market gardener.
- e) 'The Times London History Atlas', Here the map of the Rivers of Greater London has been marked up by me to show the Calico printing grounds and the migration triangle.

9) Wills, Probates and Inventories.

- a) Wills give trade of deceased and his property and sometimes his tools and stock.
- b) 'A Glossary of Household, Farming and Trade Terms from probate Inventories' by Rosemary Milward published by the Derbyshire Record Society, 1983
- c) See Obituaries in Newspapers, Magazines and Trade Journals.

10) Newspapers & Magazines.

- a) Times, Palmers Index. The original paper index was very quirky in the way entries where catalogued. Now CD -ROM Keyword search available.
- b) Times - Accidents. Boiler explosion at Thomas Crampton's
- c) Times - Production. Brickmaking Season 24 Oct 1839 and 29 Oct 1877 Smeed Dean. 60 Million bricks per season. 1 No berth (6 persons) made 1,000,000 per season.
- d) Times - Bankruptcy. JOHN NIXON and JOHN CARLEY FARREN trading in partnership as the Ferry Brick Company. Higham Ferrers, Northamptonshire, brick manufacturers.
- e) Times - Wages. 28 April 1874 wife and three children earn £8-7s-2½d.
- f) London Gazette contains official notices of bankruptcies, partnerships and companies, as well as military and civil service appointments and awards.
- g) Disputes and strikes are other reasons for articles and reports in Newspapers.
- h) Illustrated News. Illustrations of Cry from the Brickfield, 1870.
- i) 'The Builder' published in the 19th century and available on the Internet as pdf images. Part of the Internet Library of early journals. (see [www. Bodley.ox.ac.uk/ilej](http://www.Bodley.ox.ac.uk/ilej)) Also has 'Annual Review', 'Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine', 'Gentleman's Magazine', 'Notes and Queries', 'Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society'.
- j) The Manufacturer & Builder an American journal the equivalent of the Builder available on the Internet as pdf images. Part of Cornell University making of America web site. ([www. Cdl.library.cornell.edu/moa/moa_browse.html](http://www.Cdl.library.cornell.edu/moa/moa_browse.html))

11) Parliamentary and Legal Paper etc.

- a) The National Archives: Example TNA 'Discovery' search engine.
- b) Factories Act. Example 1878-1895 Registers and Certificates. Swan's Brickworks Gillingham. List of Children employed and List of Young persons under 18 years of age employed in this factory. Child is under 16, Young person 16 and over.
- c) The Brickfield Act. Times 16 Sept 1873, Rutters of Crayford allowing a girl under 16 to be employed. Times 19 July 1877 at Slough WILLIAM TREDDAWAY employed his daughter under the age of 16 years.
- d) Brick Tax. 23 June 1727. An Act to Prevent abuses in the making of Bricks & Tiles within 15 miles of the City of London. By 1784 brick tax came into use and large bricks paid the same tax as small bricks. Joseph Wilkes made large bricks to avoid tax these were Wilkes Gobs. In 1805 the double tax was applied to large bricks so the size became regulated to approx 9" x 4.5" x 3" (225x115x75). Tax repealed in 1855.
- e) Agreement.
 - i) Brickmakers Agreement Thomas Rowe. Available online various sites.
 - ii) Brickmakers notebook keeping his record of bricks made and the pence money to be paid. Example at Library Erith, Kent.

12) Guilds, Livery Companies and Trade Unions

- a) Guilds and London Livery Companies hold their own records unless they have been passed to the local record offices.
- b) Trade Unions hold their own records unless they have ceased or merged with another Union. TNA, Warwick University, Bishopsgate Institute and other archives have collections associated with labour and Union history.

13) Books.

- a) Society of Genealogists series of London Apprentices. Vol. 2 Tylers & Bricklayers. Note check all volumes in the index series as sometimes the fathers trade differs from the apprentice masters trade.
- b) Edward Dobson's 'A Rudimentary Treatise on manufacture of bricks and Tiles' published 1850. Example of Victorian technical publication.
- c) London Labour, London Poor' by Henry Mayhew published in four volumes between c1850 and c1864. Social History of people telling their stories of work, home and place.
- d) General topic titles. Example: Bricks to build a house by John Woodforde, Published by Routledge & Kegan Paul.
- e) Craft. Example; Boy's Book of Trade c1860. Specialist facsimile reproduction by Prior Publications Whitstable, Kent 1999.
- f) History of..... Shire Books. Bricks and Brickmaking by Martin Hammond
- g) Company Histories.
 - i) "Clay That Burns", A History of the Fletton Brick Industry by Richard Hillier.
 - ii) "Butterley Brick, 200 years in the making" by Roy Christian published by Henry Melland Ltd for Butterley Brick Limited.
 - iii) 'Dig it, burn it sell it. The inside story of Ibstock, Britain's Largest Independent Brickmaker' by Michael Cassell published by Pencorp Books.
- h) Transport.
 - i) Bucks Bricks by Robert Cook. Tells of the Lorries used by London Brick Co.
 - ii) Bricks & Brickies by Frank G Wilmot. Tells of the north Kent brickfields and barges used to transport bricks to London and refuse back to the brickfields
 - iii) 'Historic Waterways Scenes, London & South East England' by Martyn Denny pub by Moorland Pub Co. Ltd

14) Pictures.

- a) Local History Archives Photograph Collection: Example, Erith Brickfields-Hack barrow. Crayford Brickfields - Clamp unloading. Crayford Crowders.
- b) Engravings: Example Working Class London by Gustave Dore 1877.
- c) People Example: Eastwoods, Quay Lane, Rainham in early 1900's.
- d) Tools. Edward Dobson's 'A Rudimentary Treatise on the Manufacture of Bricks and Tiles' pub 1850; Scaled drawings: Example London Stool, Hack Barrow, Clay Washing Mill.
- e) The jobs - Norfolk Broads Photograph collection of 1886 Brickmaking.
- f) Crafts Old Kiln, Leamington, Warwickshire. Pencil Sketch
- g) 'Microcosm of Great Britain, Early Trades and Industries' Drawings by W H Pyne, text by C Grey published 1808 republished by Luton Museum 1974.

15) Museums etc.

- a) Bursledon Brickworks, near Southampton, Hampshire
- b) Weald and Downland Living Museum, Singleton, Sussex.
- c) Bulmer Brickworks, Sudbury, Essex holds open days occasionally.
- d) Beamish Museum: details online www.beamish.org.uk. **Beamish** is an open air **museum**, telling the story of life in North East England during the 1820s, 1900s, 1940s and 1950s.
- e) Local History Centres, County Record Offices include archived materials such as Estate papers or wage & account books Example Pinders Farm near Longfield.

16) Societies

- a) British Brick Society.
- b) Industrial Tools. The Tool & Trades History Society.
- c) Institute of Civil Engineers. Example 1886 Article by Henry Ward gives details of East Wickham and Pluckley Brickworks.
- d) Archaeological Societies. Kent Underground Research Group map of Alliance Road (East Wickham Brickfield)
- e) Local History Societies. East Anglian Tractor Engine Society. 'Bricks and Rollers' the story of the Faircloughs of East Anglia.
- f) Family History Societies NWKFHS Journal - Wheatley Brickmakers Articles.

17) Specialist Indexes.

- a) Papermakers index. Jean Stirk.
- b) Gun makers index. Stan Cook
- c) Index of Occupation sources 'Surrey and Sussex Occupations' by Stuart A Raymond. Londoners Occupations, A genealogical Guide' by Stuart A Raymond.
- d) Bibliography by DRC as part of his web pages.
- e) Bibliography of Trades by Nicholls.
- f) Brick Fill and other Maps from the Brickmakers Index database using GENMAP.
 - i) Croydon Brickfields map from various sources (produced from the brickmakers index).
 - ii) Map of Canterbury. (produced from the brickmakers index).
 - iii) Map of Essex distribution of brickfields (produced from the brickmakers index).

18) Other handouts available.

- a) How to research Trade and Work Places. A flow diagram produced by NWKFHS.
- b) Bibliography – Brickmaking.
- c) Bibliography - Calico Printing.
- d) Bibliography – Ratcatching.