

Ancestors on the Margins

tracing the misfortunate

Janet Few

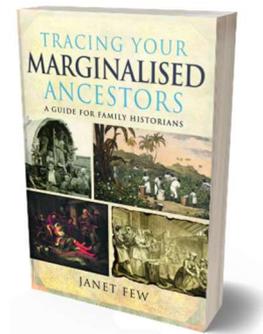


www.thehistoryinterpreter.com



@JanetFew.bsky.social

The speaker's book *Tracing your Marginalised Ancestors* (Pen & Sword 2024) is available from www.pen-and-sword.co.uk/Tracing-Your-Marginalised-Ancestors-Paperback/p/24417



There is an extensive list of sources and other background information for tracing the marginalised on the A Few Forgotten Women website www.fewforgottenwomen.com/resources

Lawbreakers

The British Newspaper Archive www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk can also be accessed via Findmypast www.findmypast.co.uk

Day, Chris *How to Trace your Criminal Ancestors*

<https://blog.nationalarchives.gov.uk/trace-criminal-ancestors> 2016

Old Bailey Online: index to trials at the Central Criminal Court 1674-1913

www.oldbaileyonline.org

National Archives Research Guide to researching Criminals and Convicts

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/criminals-and-convicts

The Prison: the story of an institution <http://theprison.org.uk>

Scotland's Court and Criminal Database 1708-1909

www.scottishindexes.com/ScotlandsCriminalDatabase.aspx

Hawkin, David T *Criminal Ancestors: a guide to historical criminal records in England and Wales* (The History Press 2009) The eight appendices list hundreds of classes of criminal records and their whereabouts.

Park, Peter *My Ancestors were Manorial Tenants* (Society of Genealogists 2002)

Stuart, Denis *Manorial Records: an introduction to their transcription and translation* (Phillimore 2005)

Wade, Simon *Tracing your Prisoner Ancestors: a guide for family historians* (Pen and Sword 2020)
Waller, Ian *Introducing Manorial Records: unlocking the mysteries of the manor for family historians* (The Family History Partnership 2020)
Williams, Lucy and Godfrey, Barry *Criminal Women 1850-1920: researching the lives of Britain's female offenders* (Pen and Sword (2018)
Williams, Lucy *Wayward Women: female offending in Victorian England* (Pen and Sword 2016)

Asylum Inmates

The History of the Asylum

<http://thetimechamber.co.uk/beta/sites/asylums/asylum-history/the-history-of-the-asylum>

Hospitals, Asylums and Sanatoriums (worldwide) from Cyndi's List

www.cyndislist.com/medical/hospitals/

County Asylums www.countyasylums.co.uk. Some admissions registers are on Ancestry and FindmyPast www.findmypast.co.uk

Bethlem Hospital Records <https://britishonlinearchives.com/collections/104/records-from-bethlem-royal-hospital-1559-1932>

Lunacy Commission and Board of Control: Patients Admission Registers class MH94 1846-1960 at The National Archives available on Ancestry www.ancestry.co.uk up to 1921.

Records of the National Lunatic Asylum at The National Archives. Case Books and Admissions Registers from 1683-1932 available on FindmyPast www.findmypast.co.uk

Scottish Asylum Patients www.oldscottish.com/asylum-patients.html

The Sick

Reports of Medical Officers of Health for London boroughs from 1848-1972 are available at <http://wellcomelibrary.org/moh>. Reports for some other areas are also available on this website.

There are also over 60,000 reports, for all parts of the country at

<https://archive.org/details/medicalofficerofhealthreports>

For more detail about medical statistics see:

<http://wellcomelibrary.org/collections/subject-guides/introduction-to-mortality-statistics-in-england-and-wales/#anchor1>

www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/deaths/articles/causesofdeathover100years/2017-09-18

Lost Hospitals of London <http://ezitis.myzen.co.uk>

British Lying-in Hospital records at London Metropolitan Archives

http://search.lma.gov.uk/scripts/mwimain.dll/144/LMA_OPAC/web_detail/REFD+H14?SESSIONSEARCH

The Royal Society of Medicine Library www.rsm.ac.uk/library/ has complete holdings of Bills of Mortality for 1657-1814.

See also <http://wellcomelibrary.org/item/b20663717#?c=0&m=0&s=0&cv=0&z=-0.1377%2C-0.0718%2C1.2753%2C1.4363>

For another account of seventeenth century causes of death see

<https://archive.org/details/obituaryofrichar44smituoft> where Richard Smythe of London, lists the deaths of his family and acquaintances, together with many causes of death.

From 1851, the disability column of the census records certain disabilities.

1861 Long-term workhouse inmates available on Ancestry www.ancestry.co.uk and FindmyPast www.findmypast.co.uk

Hospitals, Asylums and Sanatoriums (worldwide) from Cyndi's List

www.cyndislist.com/medical/hospitals/

Representative Medical Records of Servicemen, relate to wounded British World War 1 and 11 soldiers. In class MH106 at The National Archives available on Findmypast

www.findmypast.co.uk. For more information about this class of record, see www.scarletfinders.co.uk/125.html.

HMS Dreadnought Seaman's Hospital Admissions 1826-1920

www.zooniverse.org/projects/msalmon/hms-nhs-the-nautical-health-service

The History of Disability

<https://historicengland.org.uk/research/inclusive-heritage/disability-history/>

Jarrett, Simon *Disability in Time and Place*

<https://historicengland.org.uk/content/docs/research/disability-in-time-and-place-pdf/>

National Archives guide to disability history

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/disability-history/

Analysis of English and Welsh 1871 census disabilities

www.thesocialhistorian.com/blind-deaf-and-dumb-imbecile-or-lunatic

Black, N *Walking London's Medical History* (Royal Society of Medicine Press 2006)

Ryan T *The History of Queen Charlotte's Lying-In Hospital* (1885)

Webb, Cliff *An Index of London Hospitals and their Records* (Society of Genealogists 2002)

The Poor

National Archives Podcast *Living the Poor Life: poverty and the workhouse in the nineteenth century* Paul Carter <https://media.nationalarchives.gov.uk/index.php/living-the-poor-life-power-relations>

National Archives Research Guide *Poverty and Poor Laws*

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/poverty-poor-laws

National Archives Research Guide *Workhouse Inmates and Staff*

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/workhouse-inmate-or-member-of-staff

National Archives Research Guide *Workhouses*

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/workhouse

Overseers of the Poor Accounts

www.genguide.co.uk/source/overseers-of-the-poor-accounts-parish-amp-poor-law/97/

Poor Law Records pre-1834

https://priesthood.familysearch.org/wiki/en/England_and_Wales_Poor_Law_Records_Pre-1834

Poor Law and Rural Communities www.mdlp.co.uk/resources/general/poor_law.htm

Images of Scottish Poor Law applications for some counties are on Ancestry.

Settlement www.victorianweb.org/history/poorlaw/settle.html

Workhouses www.workhouses.org.uk

Bagley, John J & Bagley, Alexander John *The English Poor Law* (Macmillan 1968)

Burlison, Robert *Tracing your Pauper Ancestors: a guide for family historians* (Pen and Sword 2009)

Cole, Anne *An Introduction to Poor Law Documents before 1834* (FFHS 2nd edition 2000)

Fowler, Simon *Workhouse: the people, the places, the life behind doors* (Pen and Sword 2014)

Hawkings, David T *Pauper Ancestors: a guide to the records created by the poor laws in England and Wales* (The History Press 2011)

Higginbotham, Peter *The Workhouse Encyclopaedia* (The History Press 2014)

in England and Wales (Society of Genealogists 2004)

Tate, W E *The Parish Chest* (Phillimore 3rd edition 2011)

The Illegitimate

Bastardy Examinations, Bonds and Warrants may survive in County Archives A few are online at Ancestry www.ancestry.co.uk

Scotland's Antenuptial Relationship Index 1661-1780 is available on FindmyPast www.findmypast.co.uk

Paley, Ruth *My Ancestor was a Bastard* (Society of Genealogists (2011)

Prostitutes

Sources that may mention prostitutes include censuses, parish registers, workhouse and asylum admissions registers, court records and newspapers.

Records of prostitution at the National Archives

<https://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/details/r/b4de3e9e-cf9b-477a-9935-c33b22a49a20>

The Enslaved

Slave registers for 1813-1834 are held at The National Archives in class T71 most of which are available on Ancestry www.ancestry.co.uk. They can be searched by the name of the owner or the enslaved person.

The Legacy of British Slave-ownership www.ucl.ac.uk/lbs/

Slave Voyages www.slavevoyages.org

Searching for Jamaican Families www.jamaicanfamilysearch.com/Samples/Registers.htm

Slavery and British Country Houses [https://historicengland.org.uk/images-](https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/slavery-and-british-country-house/slavery-british-country-house-web/)

[books/publications/slavery-and-british-country-house/slavery-british-country-house-web/](https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/slavery-and-british-country-house/slavery-british-country-house-web/)

African Freedom in Tudor England

www.ourmigrationstory.org.uk/oms/african-freedom-in-tudor-england-dr-hector-nunes-request

Switching the Lens Project www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/things-to-do/history-and-heritage/london-metropolitan-archives/about-lma/switching-the-lens-project

Those Accused of Witchcraft

List of English witch trials www.witchtrials.co.uk Although this site is ostensibly about the Essex witch trials, it contains a great deal of general information including details of the witchcraft acts and a long list of those tried for witchcraft in Essex.

Witchcraft legislation www.parliament.uk/about/living-heritage/transformingsociety/private-lives/religion/overview/witchcraft/

The Salem witch trials <http://salem.lib.virginia.edu/home.html>

Witches in Early Modern England <http://witching.org/>

MacFarlane, Alan *Witchcraft in Tudor and Stuart England: a regional and comparative study* (Routledge 1970)

Martin, Lois *The History of Witchcraft* (Pocket Essentials 2007)

Maxwell-Stuart, P.G. *Witchcraft a History* (Tempus Publishing Ltd. 2000)

Winsham, Willow *Accused: British witches throughout history* (Pen & Sword 2016)

Winsham, Willow *England's Witchcraft Trials* (Pen & Sword 2018)