How can I research a London clergyman?

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I. How can I research a London clergyman?

This section offers tips on how to research London’s Anglican clergy. It should be used in conjunction with Lambeth Palace Library’s and Guildhall Library’s extremely useful source guide on Anglican Clergy, along with Peter Towey’s excellent My
Ancestor was an Anglican Clergyman. The prominent role played by the clergy in parochial, diocesan and national life ensures that they left behind an easily traceable trail of information for you to follow.

i. Biographical Resources

The best place to start is biographical resources in which some of the research has been done for you. You may not in fact need to consult the original sources at all! This list is currently alphabetical. Crockford’s is the best place to start. However, for information on clergy prior to 1858, you should consult The Clergy List together with The Clerical Guide. The Lambeth Palace Library card index will provide information on eighteenth-century clergy, whilst directories of London clergy can be used in conjunction with the above from 1865.

The Clerical Guide, or Ecclesiastical Directory

Before the Clergy List, this earlier effort to offer a clerical who’s who appeared in 1817, 1822, 1829 and 1836. The Clerical Guide, or Ecclesiastical Directory offered a format similar to that of the Clergy List. It can be consulted in the British Library and Guildhall Library.

The Clergy List

First published in 1841, The Clergy List was an annual publication divided into two parts. The first consisted of alphabetical lists of benefices, giving the incumbent’s name, year of institution, curate and patron. The second part was an alphabetical list of the clergy, giving abbreviated Christian names, current appointment, and educational qualification. Thus the Clergy List gives a snapshot of where clergymen were in any given year. By 1897, it followed a similar format to Crockford’s. Intermittently, it also provided details of overseas clergy. The Clergy List can be consulted at Lambeth Palace Library, and at major copyright libraries such as the British Library.

[Entry from the Clergy List]

Crockford’s Clerical Directory

Crockford’s was first published in 1858 as The Clerical Directory, a Biography and Statistical Book of Reference and Facts Relating to the Clergy and the Church, Compiled by the Conductors of ‘The Clerical Journal’. Further editions followed in 1860, 1865, 1872 and 1874. Crockford’s then appeared annually until 1949, save for 1928 and 1942-4. Lambeth Palace Library holds a complete run of Crockford’s; Ancestry.com (www.ancestry.com) has recently digitised six copies [1868, 1874, 1885, 1898, 1908, and 1932] and published them online in a searchable form [name, place, keyword and date], although you will need to subscribe to access them. Crockford’s can also be consulted in many major reference libraries.
After its first publication, in which the material sent in by clergy was published as it arrived, resulting in a confusing arrangement, Crockford’s provides an alphabetically-arranged set of potted biographies of all living Anglican clergy (even if retired), rather like a modern Who’s Who. Most entries provide details of education, dates of ordination as deacon and priest, and past and present livings. All entries detailed current livings, patronage, and tithes and from 1899 this was expanded to include information on the diocese in which clerics worked, their patron, and the dates of appointment of both incumbents and curates. Where clergy were appointed to posts overseas, the Missionary Society financing the position was also noted. An example of a Crockford’s entry can be seen below [NB: Abbreviations used are explained at the front of each edition of Crockford’s]

[Page from Crockford’s]

Directories of London Clergy

The Clerical Guide, or Ecclesiastical Directory, The Clergy List and Crockford’s are all national publications. The London Diocese Book, on the other hand, one of a number of London-specific directories, was first published in 1865 and lists incumbents and curates within the Diocese of London. It is arranged by parish, but it is also indexed by clerical surnames, topic and parish at the back. A contents page can be found at the front. Clergy entries give the dates of ordination and appointment of each incumbent, and details of curates’ licensings. Lambeth Palace Library holds copies of the London Diocese Book for the following dates: 1868; 1880; 1883; 1885; 1892; 1893; 1895; 1896; 1903; 1904; 1906-1918; 1920-1936; 1938-1998 [H5107.L8]. It can also be consulted in the British Library and Guildhall Library.

The London Diocese Book can be used in conjunction with George Hennessy’s Novum Repertorium Ecclesiasticum Parochiale Londinense, or, London Diocesan Clergy Succession from the Earliest Time to the Year 1898, with Copious Notes (London: Swann, 1898) which also deals specifically with London clergy. It lists bishops, suffragan bishops, and cathedral clergy. Novum Repertorium is arranged by parish. Parochial incumbents are then listed separately under their benefices. It is a good place to start if you don’t know or are unsure of the names the clergy you wish to research. It details their clerical career, date of ordination, education and date of death. However, more detailed information can be found in Crockford’s for those in post after the 1860s. There is a general index at the back which is arranged alphabetically by surname and location. This directory can be consulted in Lambeth Palace Library [H5107.L8]. Guildhall Library also holds copies of Crockford’s for 1858, 1860, 1870, 1872, 1874 and annually from 1876 to date. Senate House Library, based at the Institute of Historical Research (IHR), has copies of Crockford’s from 1913 and thereafter copies at roughly ten year intervals.

[Entry from London Diocese Book]

Lambeth Palace Library card index
Lambeth Palace Library also holds a handwritten card index of 18th-century London clergy. This can be found immediately outside the reading room. It is arranged alphabetically by surname and lists the date of ordination (deacon and priest), with references to where this information can be found in the Fulham Papers (the archives of the Bishops of London held at Lambeth Palace Library).

Oxford Dictionary of National Biography

Clerical Directories can be further supplemented by information in the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (DNB)*. The DNB is a collection of more than 57,000 biographical articles concerning people who are believed to have shaped the history of the British Isles. Articles come with short bibliographies (and web links in the online version). Obviously, only a small percentage of London’s clergymen are covered, but since one criterion for inclusion in the original 19th-century publication was authorship, there are a disproportionate number of 18th- and 19th-century clerics among the articles, and none of these have been excluded from the new edition published in 2004. The hefty volumes of the DNB are held at Lambeth Palace Library and in many major libraries. An electronic copy is available at [www.oxforddnb.com](http://www.oxforddnb.com), which can be accessed at many public libraries and archives.

Who’s Who and Who was Who

It is more likely that clergymen will be found in *Who’s Who*, which has been published since 1849. From 1896, when *Who’s Who* was acquired by A&C Black, autobiographical details were included. This included recreations, education, career, marital status, children, publications, clubs and address. Entries relating to deceased persons formerly in *Who’s Who* were later assembled under the title *Who was Who?* which has an index entitled *A Cumulated Index to Who was Who 1897-2000*. More recently, both *Who’s Who* and *Who was Who* have been put online [www.ukwhoswho.com](http://www.ukwhoswho.com). Many public libraries and the British Library have subscriptions to this service. *Who Was Who* is on open shelves in Lambeth Palace Library, and in many major public libraries.

Modern English Biography

The *Modern English Biography* was compiled by Frederic Boase at the turn of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. It contains over 30,000 short biographical sketches of people who died between 1851 and 1900. It is divided into six volumes. The first three volumes are divided alphabetically (I-A-H; II-I-Q; III-R-Z), whilst the latter three are supplements to the earlier volumes (Supplement Vol. I A-C;
Supplement Vol. II: D-K; Supplement Vol. III L-Z). You should consult both the first three volumes and the later supplements, because essential information may be contained in there. Boase gathered his information from obituaries and articles written in *The Times*, *Illustrated London News*, local newspapers and other published sources. He cites the source used in the sketch. He was particularly concerned with writing biographies of people who had achieved some importance in their lives. It is an essential tool for historical research into the long nineteenth century, as it may provide information on an important but not necessarily eminent clergyman. The *Modern English Biography* includes birth and death dates, schooling, short biographical account and a publications list. There is an alphabetical index at the back of each volume. This consists of entry names arranged alphabetically by surname, occupations, topic and curious facts.

**University Alumni lists**

Both Oxford and Cambridge Universities benefit from published details of students and alumni from the sixteenth to the nineteenth centuries. It is likely that many Anglican clergy would have attended an Oxbridge college prior to their ordination, and before the early nineteenth century these were the only higher education institutions in England and Wales producing graduate clergy (others came from Ireland, Scotland, America and continental Europe). Both alumni lists include short biographical notes including age at matriculation and their father’s name and residence. A few colleges also published their own directories. These directories are particularly useful for finding information on clergy before the publication of *Crockford’s* and *The Clergy List*.

For Oxford, see: J. Foster, *Alumni Oxonienses: The Members of the University of Oxford, 1715-1886: their parentage, birthplace, and year of birth, with a record of their degrees: being the matriculation register of the University, alphabetically arranged, revised, and annotated* (Oxford: Parker, 1891-1892). This book is on the open shelves of the Lambeth Palace Library reading room [PF524.(F6) [R]]. The entries are often extremely brief, and occasionally prone to error. It can also be consulted on-line at ancestry.com on their ‘Oxford University Alumni, 1500-1886’ searchable database.

For Cambridge see: J. and J. A. Venn, *Alumni Cantabrigienses: A Biographical List of all Known Students, Graduates and Holders of Office at the University of Cambridge, from the earliest times to 1900* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1922-54). This can be consulted in Lambeth Palace Library reading rooms [PF124.(C2) [R]]. It is also available online at Ancestry.com ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)) where you can research by name, birth, death and keyword. A subscription will be needed to consult this material. Details can be found on their website. Venn is far superior to Foster in providing much more by way of career detail, and often correcting errors in Foster. See also W. D. Peckham, *Additions & Corrections to J. & J. A. Venn, Alumni Cantabrigienses* (Chichester: Sussex Archaeological Society, 1968). This should be
used in conjunction with the Venns’ volumes, and can also be found in Lambeth Palace Library’s reading rooms. [PF124.(P3) [R]]

Both these directories contain additional references from other printed materials, including obituaries from the national press and the Gentleman’s Magazine (see below).

Similar books exist for Durham and London universities, which both trained clergy from the 1830s. Some London clergy may be found in the directories for Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Trinity College Dublin, Glasgow and St. Andrew’s Universities. There are also a number of published registers for schools.

**The Gentleman’s Magazine**

This periodical is useful for establishing death dates from the extremely brief obituary notices that were a staple part of its contents. Lambeth Palace Library and other major archival libraries hold indexes for this periodical; Lambeth has copies of the magazine itself from 1731 to 1818. Please note that Vol. 2 and Vol. 60/2 are missing from this series [YY752.G3]. write in years

**The Clergy of the Church of England Database 1540-1835 (CCEd)** ([www.theclergydatabase.org.uk](http://www.theclergydatabase.org.uk))

‘The Clergy of the Church of England Database 1540-1835’ (CCEd) is an AHRC-funded resource available for free public access online. It allows users to search for details on the lives and careers of clergy serving in England and Wales between the Reformation and 1835. Coverage is gradually extending with bimonthly updates of newly linked data (the database as a whole contains some 1.5 million records), and the records for the diocese of London from the mid-18th century are among the most recent additions.

The database contains all major events in clerical careers such as ordination, appointments to benefices and cathedral positions, licensings as curates, lecturers, readers and schoolmasters, and in many cases details patronage and the names of clergy leaving positions. The records of events are linked to both persons and places. Two search engines, one ‘Basic’ and the other ‘Advanced’, are available to investigate the records, as well as a Browse facility. It is possible to allow for variations in spelling in making searches Searches by person will generate an account of the clerical career the project team believe to be associated with a named individual, also identified by a unique CCed Person ID (which you might want to make a note of for future reference, particularly useful if dealing with a ‘John Jones’). There is also an option to browse by ‘location’, useful in establishing which clerics were associated with a particular office. This website also contains a host of useful aids, such as descriptions and maps for dioceses, lists of bishops and parishes, a glossary of terms, and an Online Journal containing essays and ‘notes and queries’.
But what about Curates and Unbeneficial clergy?

Information on clergy who did not hold a parish incumbency, and details of the curacies held early in the career of clergy, can be hard to establish, not least since many clergy who spent their careers as curates were non-graduates (“literates” in the terminology of the time) and so do not feature in the university alumni lists. The CCEd (see above) is a vital resource for such clergy.

And what about Chaplains?

Chaplains were employed by a number of institutions or individuals. Papers relating to those employed as chaplains by the armed forces are held by The National Archives. Noblemen and members of the royal family also employed domestic chaplains, of which there are several registers in the Fulham Papers held by Lambeth Palace library [Terrick 16; Porteus 5; Randolph 14; Jackson 50; Temple 42 and 43]. Bishops, too, had domestic and examining chaplains, whose appointments are generally recorded in the bishop’s act books held at Guildhall Library.

ii. Digging Deeper

If the biographical resources detailed above leave gaps in your knowledge, or you want to find out even more, there are important original archives in Lambeth Palace Library and elsewhere which may be able to supply what you want, although it will take more effort and you are more likely to hit a dead end.

Act/Licensing books

These volumes record the appointments made by the bishops of London during their tenures, and are the most important record of such appointments that have survived, the actual papers associated with the transactions in many cases having been lost (and moreover being complex to handle, as appointment was a process involving several stages). These books formed the diocesan record of those appointed to serve under the bishop’s jurisdiction, and saw brief accounts of each appointment set down in chronological order. In most cases they are very clearly written, and not only have comprehensive indexes to names and places, but also have marginal titles added on each page to help locate the records. The act books generally contain records of all appointments to parish incumbencies, cathedral positions and diocesan offices, and in some but not all cases licensings to assistant curacies. Details of patronage and the name of a vacating cleric are also generally supplied (where a cleric submitted a formal resignation of a position this appears as a separate event). Act books also record the ordinations conducted by the bishop of London, and cases where he sent candidates to other bishops for ordination (letters dimissory). In most cases, the act books note the degrees and university details of
the candidates ordained, and whether they were to be ordained as deacon or priest: in some cases they also record the position for which the candidate was ordained (the ‘title’). Licensing books record the names of those appointed to stipendiary curacies, and in some cases as schoolmasters. In these cases the salary of the curate is also generally recorded, but there is no record of the date at which such employment terminated. Before 1835, all these records have generally been incorporated in the Clergy of the Church of England Database.

**Ordination Papers**

When a candidate presented himself for ordination, he was required to provide evidence that he was qualified for the orders he sought. In part this was ascertained by examination by the bishop’s chaplains, but documentary evidence was also required of any university degree the candidate possessed; the position to which he hoped to be appointed once ordained (known as the ‘title’ for ordination), and testimonials as to character and conduct from those who knew the candidate. These sometimes survive as a bundle known as ‘ordination papers’, and in many cases the date of ordination is also recorded. It is unlikely that ordination papers will provide you with different information from that gained from the kinds of sources already outlined above.

**Plurality Certificates**

There were rules concerning the maximum distance between and combined value of livings to be held together (‘in plurality’) by a single clergyman. Plurality Certificates provided the evidence that such livings met with these requirements. Such documents survive in the Terrick, Lowth and Porteus collections within the Fulham Papers, and can help confirm whether a London clergyman held another living outside the diocese of London (although this can often also be established using the CCEd).

**Resignation Deeds**

Resignation Deeds, submitted to the bishops by clergy voluntarily or of necessity giving up a living, only survive in the Fulham Papers for 1765-77 in the Terrick papers (9). They establish the precise date at which a cleric left a position, which can otherwise be difficult to establish precisely (although such resignations are also recorded in the Bishop’s act books, kept at the Guildhall Library).

**Newspapers and Periodicals**
In addition to these sources, an obituary might have appeared in a local or national newspaper or in other periodicals. Lambeth Palace Library holds a number of Anglican newspapers and periodicals, including the *British Magazine* [1832-1849], *The Christian Observer* [1802-77], *The Church Times* [1863-] and *Ecclesiastical Gazette* [1838-1900]. More details can be found on their website. At times, you may be asked to look at them on microfilm.

A major development of recent years has been the digitization of many such sources, making them available online by subscription or free of charge. Such resources are often made freely available at the British Library and in some local libraries. The great advantage of such resources is that they are searchable (this is the case, for example with *The Times* and many other nineteenth-century provincial and London papers. Formerly a researcher would have had to visit the newspaper section of the British Library at Colindale and search by hand with only an occasional index (such as that to the *Times*) to help. Many of the digitization projects have been carried out with the help of the British Library, and they can be consulted free of charge in their reading rooms or from your own computer with a subscription ([www.bl.uk](http://www.bl.uk)). The same library holds very good collections of periodicals, of which there were a great profusion in the nineteenth century, and to which clergy were frequent contributors, even in instances where the periodicals were not explicitly religious. Some nineteenth-century periodicals have been digitised by [http://pao.chadwyck.co.uk](http://pao.chadwyck.co.uk). Some of the latter also carried obituaries of clergy. A good indication of the range of publications produced in the nineteenth century with a religious dimension can be found in Josef Altholz, *The Religious Press in Britain, 1760-1900* (Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 1998).

Towards the end of the nineteenth century, newspapers and periodicals were starting to use photography in their articles, and you may find images of the clergyman that you're researching. Photographs of some individual clergy from across England along with a brief biography can also be found in *The Church Portrait Journal: A Monthly Paper for Church People* for the period 1876-1889 held in Lambeth Palace Library [H5197.C4].

**Tip:** When using either ‘19th Century British Library Newspapers’ or ‘Periodicals Archive On Line’ remember to use several variations of a name (initials and surname, full name) and title (‘The Reverend’ and ‘Rev.’).

**Sermons and pamphlets**

Sermons and religious pamphlets were one of the most important genres of Victorian publishing. Sermons often appeared as pamphlets, later to be bound by collectors into volumes, or as collections in book form. Many clergy published at
least a single sermon, and a good place to start looking is the online catalogue of the British Library (www.bl.uk) or Copac (www.copac.ac.uk), which brings together the catalogues of many important libraries. Lambeth Palace Library itself holds a very fine collection of pamphlets, not least those previously owned by Sion College, an organization of London clergy. Such publications are often the best way of establishing the theological leanings and ideas of individual clerics.

**Autobiographies and biographies**

The nineteenth century also witnessed an explosion of life-writing (autobiographies, biographies, memoirs and ‘Lives and Letters’). You might be surprised by the obscurity of some individuals who were judged immediately after their death to merit some sort of memoir or who themselves felt it important to set down their own testimony. To find out if your clergyman left a published autobiography, you should search Copac (www.copac.ac.uk) with their name either in keyword search or in author. This will allow for a more detailed search. Remember to use several variations of a name (initials and surname, full name). Furthermore, a number of clerical diaries have recently been published for their rich local descriptions. Lambeth Palace Library will not stock all clerical life writing, and it is worth checking your local public/local studies library as well.

**Personal Testimony**

Published material is not the only means of getting to know your local clergy. Letters, journals and diaries have been deposited by a number of clergyman or their families in local archives. Papers of individual churchmen can be traced through the published guide produced by the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts in their *Guides to Sources for British History*, Series - no.6, *Papers of British Churchmen 1780-1940* (HMSO 1987). This book lists the churchman’s name, area of ministry, and the composition of the collection and where they have been deposited. A copy of this report can be found in Lambeth Palace Library reading room [KA25.M1 (R)]. It is, however, far from comprehensive and is now a bit dated in what it records. For more up-to-date and comprehensive information you should search the National Register of Archives (NRA) at www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/nra. You should also contact your local archive and library to find out if they have any diaries, journals and correspondence in their collections that have not been catalogued.

It may be the case that the clergyman you are researching did not leave a collection in their own name. The NRA list will also indicate sizeable deposits of letters from them in other people’s papers, while the Lambeth Palace manuscript catalogue will help establish if any letters to or from the bishop of London relating to the cleric survive there. The Blomfield papers, covering the early-mid 19th century, for example, are rich in letters to incumbents in parishes across the diocese of London.
Visitation Returns

Answers returned by clergy or churchwardens to bishops or archdeacons in response to questionnaires on the state of their church and parish make up an important part of the Fulham Papers. Intermittently they allow us hear the voice of clergy commenting on the condition of their parish (or churchwardens commenting on the condition of the cleric!). For the most part, however, routine questions elicit rather routine replies (frequently laconic ‘all well’\textquotesingle s’). However questions could cover such issues as provision of curates, parsonage house, schools and hospitals, and presence of Christians outside the Established Church such as Catholics, Methodists and dissenters in the parish. By the nineteenth century there might be questions on youth and behaviour in the parish, and detailed quizzing on the number of people attending Sunday service, how Sunday was observed by both the clergy and parish, and the material fabric of the Church. The list of questions kept growing: Tait moved from Blomfield\textquotesingle s eighteen questions to thirty-seven enquires- mention dates. The questions include are listed at the end of ‘What can I find in the...FULHAM PAPERS?’

Returns survive for 1763, 1766, 1770, 1778, 1790, 1810, 1815, 1842, 1862, 1883 1891, 1895 and 1900 (for 1891 and 1895 the originals are lost and all we have are tabulated summaries [Temple 44]).

Despite the prominence of the Visitation Returns in the Fulham Papers, a few are absent:

Winnington-Ingram\textquotesingle s visitation returns for 1905 and 1911 were instead deposited at Guildhall Library entitled ‘Completed articles of enquiry, 1905’ and ‘Completed articles of enquiry, 1911’ (Ms 17885 and Ms 17886). Furthermore, no returns exist for Hayter or Fisher. Hayter\textquotesingle s sudden death in 1762 meant that no visitation was conducted in his name. The Second World War might have prevented Fisher from conducting his primary visitation. However, visitations were also discontinued in the period.

Charles Booth interviews

The Charles Booth interviews were conducted between 1886 and 1903 as the basis for the Religious Influences series published within the Life and Labour of the People (a copy can be found in Lambeth Palace Library). 1,800 interviews were eventually conducted and recorded in notebooks. The majority of those interviewed for the Booth series were Anglicans in the diocese of London, although Roman Catholic priests and Nonconformist ministers were also interviewed along with Anglican ministers in what is now the diocese of Southwark (then the diocese of Rochester). Anglican ministers were sent Schedule A. The majority of questions were concerned with the involvement of the church in the local population. However, the character
and comments of the clergy being interviewed appear to have been just as important. The interview would be two and half hours long, with some being much longer. During this time, the interviewer was expected to observe the interviewee. They would, therefore, comment on the character, reliability and in some cases, appearance of the clergyman in question. Reports were then written. These recorded the name and status of subject and date and location of the interview; a brief description of the interviewee, including age, length of service, previous experience, outline of physical characteristics, responses to questions and any additional assessments made by the interviewer.

The original notebooks can be found at the London School of Economics (LSE) Archives. The originals are particularly valuable since many of the personal comments made by the interviewer were not transcribed in the published Religious Influence series. Moreover, not all of the interviews were published. You can search survey notebooks at [http://booth.lse.ac.uk/](http://booth.lse.ac.uk/) by name and place. This database will tell you the notebook number and fold pages. The notebooks themselves, however, have not been digitised. You will therefore need to visit the LSE Archives (see London Archives for details on how to visit).

**Parochial Sources**

Parish registers may also give you a glimpse of a clergyman’s personality, especially if they made comments on their parishioners or parish. This was especially the case before the mid-eighteenth century. This practice became much rarer in our period (1790-1939). Towards the end of the nineteenth century incumbents often set up parish magazines, almanacs and calendars. The survival of this material, however, is very much a matter of chance. Where they have survived, they should have been deposited in London Metropolitan Archives. You can search their online catalogue. Please note that when you search this website for the word ‘Saint’, it needs to be written out fully for your search to be successful. If you find that the LMA does not have material from your local church, then that may mean that your church did not have a magazine or that it has not been deposited. You should therefore contact the current incumbent or churchwarden to find out if the church still holds copies.

**Charities and Societies**

Clergymen were involved in a plethora of local and national charities and societies. Membership or support of a certain society or charities can inform you of a clergyman’s religious affiliation, beliefs and personality. Charities and societies were often set up as a response to a social injustice or for the clergy themselves. Home missionary work was an important sphere of work for active clergymen. As Jeffrey Cox noted in his *The English Churches in Secular Society: Lambeth 1870-1930*,
In 1899 and 1900 churches and chapels in Lambeth alone sponsored at least 58 thrift, slate and friendly societies, 57 mothers’ meetings, 36 temperance societies for children, 36 literary or debating societies for young men, 27 bible classes, 27 girls’ or young women’s club, 25 cricket, tennis, or other sports club, 25 savings or penny banks, 24 Christian Endeavour societies, 21 boot, coal, blanket, or clothing clubs, 19 temperance societies, 17 branches of the Boys Bridge or Church Lads’ Brigade, 13 vocational or adult classes, 13 men’s club, 10 gymnasiums (usually devoted to recreational classes of some sort), and 10 maternity societies.

Below is a list of charities that might be of interest:

- **Clergy Orphan Corporation** established in 1749 to educate the orphaned children of the clergy. They had two schools: St Edmund’s, Canterbury (for boys) and St Margaret’s Bushey, Herts (Girls). Lambeth Palace Library holds the papers (minute books, ledgers and architectural plans) relating to the St Edmund’s School for the period 1787-1997.

- **London Clerical Education Aid Society** provided funds for young Evangelical candidates to go to Oxford and Cambridge. Papers are held by Birmingham University Information Services. These consist of financial records, minutes and correspondence for the period 1845-1985.

- **Queen Anne’s Bounty** was established in 1704 for the augmentation of the incomes of poorer clergy. Occasionally the benefaction took the form of a gift of land or tithes to the benefice or living. From the 1920s, they provided and repaired parsonage houses for incumbents. An illustrated history can be found on the Church of England website:

  http://www.cofe.anglican.org/about/churchcommissioners/ccorigins/.

  Papers are held by the Church of England Record Centre. These include application forms, grants, deeds, correspondence.

- **Society for the Relief of Poor Clergymen** was founded in 1788 as the Society for the Relief of Poor Pious Clergymen to aid distressed clergyman and their dependants in times of financial distress due to sickness, bereavement or other difficulties. It is still operation today. The records comprise minute books and registers for the period 1788-1864 and are held by Lambeth Palace Library.

- **Sons of the Clergy (Corporation of and Festival of)**: The festival began in 1655 to raise funds for the distressed Anglican clergy and their families. The Cooperation received its charter in 1678. The festival involved an annual meeting of church and state dignitaries accompanied by a service with a sermon under the dome of St Paul’s. The 350th such festival was celebrated
in 2004. Papers are held by Lambeth Palace Library and London Metropolitan Archives. Some of the papers have been closed for 100 years to protect the identity of beneficiaries. Few papers on the early organisation of the festival exist, but there is good material for the nineteenth century.

- You should also check the Fulham Papers to see if there is any correspondence from these charities to the bishop of London. Temple 48, for instance, includes letters from the Charity of James Peter for Poor Clergy, The Committee of the Clergy Orphan Schools, Clergy Orphan Corporation, the establishment of the Clergy Pensions in 1885 and the Health Insurance Association. ‘Accounts of A. F. Stepney’ (volume 1) not only detailed monies given for ‘Convalescing’, ‘building churches’, ‘hospitals’, ‘Poor’ and ‘General’ but also for clerical distress. A list of donors is along the left hand side with the date and the amount given in the column.

iii. Reading List


Lambeth Palace Library, *Lambeth Palace Library Source Guide: Biographical Sources for Anglican Clergy*. This guide is available on their website [www.lambethpalacelibrary.org](http://www.lambethpalacelibrary.org), from their home page go to ‘About Collection’ which has a link to their downloadable ‘Resource Guides’.

Peter Towey, *My ancestor was an Anglican clergyman* (London: Society of Genealogists Enterprises, 2006). This is an excellent source for researching Anglican Clergyman. It is available in Lambeth Palace Reading Rooms [JS432.P7T6]. Alternatively, you can buy it from The Society of Genealogists website which established the series ‘My Ancestor was...’. Other titles include ‘My Ancestors were Londoners’ ‘My Ancestors were Baptists’, ‘My Ancestors were Congregationalists’, and ‘My Ancestors were in the Salvation Army’.

Peter Towey, ’Researching Anglican clergymen: The clergy of the Church of England database 1540-1835,' *Genealogists’ Magazine*, 28:7 (2005), pp.310-12. This is a shorter version of the above. Copies of the *Genealogists’ Magazine* from 1925 to the present are held by Lambeth Palace Library [JS410.G3].

iii. Glossary of Websites
www.ancestry.com has digitised six volumes of *Crockford’s Clerical Dictionary*. You will need a subscription to view entries. Further details can be found on their website.

booth.lse.ac.uk has a searchable database for the survey notebook. This website is also a useful introduction to the collection and Booth’s *Life and Labour of the People*

www.theclergydatabase.org.uk ‘is an AHRC-funded resource available for free public access online. It allows users to search for details on the lives and careers of clergy serving in England and Wales between the Reformation and 1835. Coverage is gradually extending with bimonthly updates of newly linked data (the database as a whole contains some 1.5 million records), and the records for the diocese of London from the mid-18th century are among the most recent additions.

www.copac.ac.uk a search engine for books. This might be a good place to start when seeing if your local clergy wrote an autobiography or has a biography as it includes the catalogues of all

www.cofe.anglican.org/about/churchcommissioners/ccorigins/ has an illustrated history of the Queen Anne Bounty.

www.lambethpalacelibrary.org is home of the Lambeth Palace Library and the *Lambeth Palace Library Source Guide: Biographical Sources for Anglican Clergy*. From their home page you go to ‘About Collection’ which has a link to their downloadable ‘Resource Guides’.

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/nra can be used to search for archival collections all over the country.

www.oxforddnb.com is a collection of more than 57,000 specially written biographies. It provides biographical details of noteworthy people who are believed to have shaped the history of the British Isles. Online access is by subscription only. Check you public library or if you have access your University library. Remember that paper copies are available at Lambeth Palace Library.

www.ukwhoswho.com *Who Was Who* list autobiographical details of important contemporaries and this included the clergy. Access is by subscription only. You will either have to obtain an Athens or Shibboleth username and password. Alternatively many local libraries subscribe to this service and you should check with your library to see if they are member. Paper copies of *Who Was Who* and the most *Dictionary of National Biography* can be consulted in the Lambeth Palace Library rooms, where they are on open shelves.