

QUICKIE UK RESEARCH

By Ann Rabinowitz

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GOVERNMENT SITE

- **The National Archives** - <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/> Has numerous records of various kinds and is a great resource as it is free.

SUBSCRIPTION SITES

- **Ancestry.com** – American-based, so you would need a world subscription to obtain records for the UK. It has not only a giant collection of records, but family trees and other items. It has a Jewish record collection. You can obtain a 14 day free trial subscription.
- **findmypast.co.uk** – UK-oriented site which you can pay for either annually or for shorter periods and they often have a 14 day trial subscription. Continually adding records of various types. Contains census, immigration, military and naturalization records among other things. You can also obtain US records, but not State Census records yet. I find this subscription site the most helpful for UK research.
- **MyHeritage.com** – Claims access to over 6 billion worldwide historical records. Many family trees with 1.5 billion entries, but not necessarily correct ones as they are subscriber submitted. Large newspaper archive. Chief Genealogist is Daniel Horowitz.
- **Geni.com** – Claims access to 140 million entries into family trees. Trees are not always correct as members don't always confirm data. Has a Smart Match function which delivers names from other family trees that match yours via e-mail alerts. Also, has a subscription option for more advanced searches called Geni Pro for which you can get a 14 day free trial.

FREE SITES

- **familysearch.org** – The familysearch.org site has the largest collection of free genealogy-related records in the world. It has not only records, family histories and other things, but provides training videos in their Learning Center. One of the interesting videos for British research is entitled: "Dependence, Intolerance and Expulsion: The Story of the Jews of England, 1066-1290. It is 42 minutes in length. There are a great many other videos which cover various types of available records such as estates, census and others which can be seen at the following link: [https://familysearch.org/learningcenter/results.html?fq=place:"England"](https://familysearch.org/learningcenter/results.html?fq=place:) When you go to familysearch.org's site, you can click on SEARCH and then click on the world map at the bottom of the page to bring up what is available in that area. It is important to seek out these free types of resources in order to enhance your knowledge of the country your family settled in. Training sessions of various types are also available through the online JewishGen Learning Center and their InfoFiles and other resources as well such as Jewish Genealogical Societies (JGS's), who hold learning seminars throughout the year.
- **FreeBMD** – This site, <http://www.freebmd.org.uk>, provides a free transcription of the indexes to births, marriages and deaths in the UK from as early as 1837 through 1975. Search can be conducted by name, town or county.

MILITARY SITES

- **AJEX** - <http://www.ajex.org.uk/> - the Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen and Women. Includes a Record of Honor database where individual records, some with photos of the service persons from 1939-1960 are provided.

- **1914-1918 Prisoners of the First World War, Archives of the International Committee of the Red Cross**, <http://grandeguerre.icrc.org/>
- **World War I and II Alien Internees Records** – The National Archives
<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/looking-for-person/internees.htm>

NEWSPAPER SITES

- **The Jewish Chronicle** - thejc.com – Extensive archive of articles searchable by name, city, or topic. You can search for free on various name and key words, but you need to have a subscription to obtain the actual articles.
- **The Jewish Telegraph** - jewishtelegraph.com – Covers several areas in the UK such as Manchester, mostly in the north, which are outside London. Genealogy-related inquiries accepted regarding families.

JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY SITE

- **Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain (JGSGB)** – Has a journal “Shemot”, a Facebook page for info and inquiries and is on the JewishGen Digest and has a Jewish Communities and Records (JCR-UK) database also on JewishGen at <http://www.jewishgen.org/JCR-UK/> Their All UK Database covers England, Scotland, Wales, Channel Islands, Isle of Man, Gibraltar and includes both northern and southern Ireland.

ONLINE REFERENCE BOOKS

- “A Commercial Directory of the Jews of the United Kingdom”, G. Eugene Harfield, London and Richmond, U.S.A.: Hewlett & Pierce, 1894, <http://www.archive.org/stream/commercialdirect00harfiala#page/n0/mode/1up>. See article about it on the JewishGen Blog <http://jewishgen.blogspot.com/2009/09/commercial-directory-of-jews-of-united.html>

IRELAND

GOVERNMENT SITE

- **National Archives** - <http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/>. Free site for the 1901 and 1911 Census of Ireland.

FREE SITE

- **Irish Jewish Community** - <http://www.jewishireland.org/irish-jewish-history/genealogy/> Stuart Rosenblatt is the keeper of the records of the Irish Jewish community and is head of the Irish Jewish Genealogical Society, <http://www.irishjewishroots.com/names/>, which has 52,069 records of the Jews of Ireland from 1700 to 2014. He can be contacted via e-mail.

NEWSPAPERS

- **The Irish Times**, <http://www.irishtimes.com/>, has an archive which covers 150 years of Irish history. You can search the archives, but cannot access the actual articles without a subscription. They have a monthly subscription plan, but very often they will have trial subscriptions.