

RESEARCH GUIDE

Introduction to wills for London, Middlesex and Surrey before 1858 held at LMA

Research Guide 6: Wills for London, Middlesex and Surrey before 1858

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Introduction

Before 1858 the proving of wills and related testamentary matters came within the jurisdiction of courts administered by the church. There were many such courts operating at different levels.

Archbishop's or Prerogative Courts

The court with over-riding jurisdiction in England and Wales was the Prerogative Court of Canterbury (PCC). It had sole jurisdiction over those dying with property in more than one diocese in the southern province (the Prerogative Court of York had similar jurisdiction in the northern province) or with property in both provinces and over those who died overseas. It was largely but not exclusively used by the wealthy. The Court of Arches was the court of appeal for the Province of Canterbury.

Bishop's or Consistory Courts

Each diocese had a bishop's or consistory court which had jurisdiction throughout the whole diocese.

Commissary Courts

Some dioceses were divided into smaller areas and administered by bishop's commissaries (deputies).

Archdeacon's or Archdeaconry Courts

Courts administered by archdeacons whose jurisdiction was limited to their respective archdeaconries or parts of them. The archdeacons' jurisdiction was often inhibited (suspended) for part of the year and during episcopal visitations and at those times the bishop or his commissary dealt with business which would otherwise have come before the archdeacons' courts.

Peculiars

In most dioceses there were small areas exempt from the jurisdiction of the local archdeacon's or bishop's court. They were known as peculiars and the wills of people dying with property in them would be proved in the appropriate peculiar court.

Court of Husting

Also, within the City of London prior to 1688, there was another court, the Court of Husting, a secular court of the City of London Corporation, which enrolled wills dealing with City property.

Wills after 1858

From 11 January 1858 church courts were replaced by a centralised system of civil probate registries. The Principal Probate Registry was based at Somerset House. Copies of wills proved in England and Wales from 1858 onwards can be obtained online and by post:

To order online please go to the [probate service website](#).

To order by post, please send the details to The Postal Copies and Searches Department, District Probate Registry, York House, 31 York Place, Leeds, LS1 2BA.

The National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858-1966, 1973-1995 can be searched on the [Ancestry](#) website.

Types of Records

Wills survive in court records in two forms: the original, having been presented in court for probate and having been inscribed with the probate act, would be filed; a copy of the will and act would be entered in a register.

When a person died without making a will (intestate) the court would grant the next-of-kin, or creditors, letters of administration (often abbreviated as an admon or admin) enabling them to deal with the deceased's estate. Letters of administration with the will annexed could be granted in cases where the executors named in the will had died or refused to act.

The court would usually record in an act book the acts granting probates and administrations (a probate and administration act book). Sometimes grants of administrations were entered in will registers. Bonds entered into by executors and administrators faithfully to carry out their responsibilities were retained by the court with other related papers.

Inventories detailing the deceased's goods and chattels (often room by room), debts owing to him or her and plantations abroad were made and presented in court as part of the probate process. These have not always survived. Calendars of or indexes to the records were often compiled. The series indexed were usually original wills, registers of wills and administrations and probate and administration act books.

The indexes to names of testators or to names of the deceased might be in pure alphabetical order or in alpha-chronological order (all the names beginning with one letter put in date order). Many modern indexes to probate records have been, or are in the process of being, published and are often easier to use than the contemporary indexes.

Looking for a will

The executors or administrators of those who died with property within the jurisdiction of one archdeaconry or commissary court should properly have gone to that court. If the deceased had goods worth £5 or more within the jurisdiction of more than one of these courts but within one diocese then the will should have been proved in the consistory court of that diocese. If the property lay in more than one diocese then the matter should have been dealt with by the appropriate archdiocese. However it is clear from the records that such rules were not always followed and when searching for a will it is advisable, if the will is not found in the obvious court, to check all the courts in the geographical area of the deceased's known property as well as the records of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury.

Probate copies of wills (made by the court and given to the executor) and a few original wills may be found in other series of records in London Metropolitan Archives (LMA). Researchers should consult our online catalogue.

Wills and the probate of them or the administration of the estate might be disputed. Records of disputed testamentary causes (cases) may be found among the records of many church courts. Searchers should consult staff about the records.

London north of the Thames and Middlesex

Wills of residents of London north of the Thames and Middlesex should have been proved in one of the following courts:

- Prerogative Court of Canterbury- Held at The National Archives
- Deanery of the Arches- Held at Lambeth Palace Library
- Consistory Court of the Bishop of London - Held at LMA
- Commissary Court of London (London Division) - Held at LMA
- Archdeaconry Court of London - Held at LMA
- Archdeaconry Court of Middlesex (Middlesex Division) - Held at LMA
- Peculiar Court of the Dean and Chapter of St Paul's Cathedral - Held at LMA
- Peculiar Court of the Deanery of Croydon - Held at Lambeth Palace Library
- Royal Peculiar of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster - Held at City of Westminster Archives Centre and Westminster Abbey
- Royal Peculiar of St Katherine by the Tower - Held at LMA
- Court of Husting - Held at LMA

London South of the Thames and Surrey

Wills of residents of London south of the Thames and Surrey should have been proved in one of the following courts:

- Prerogative Court of Canterbury - Held at The National Archives
- Deanery of the Arches - Held at Lambeth Palace Library

- Archdeaconry Court of Surrey - Held at LMA
- Consistory Court of Winchester - Held at Hampshire Archives and Local Studies
- Commissary Court of the Bishop of Winchester in the Archdeaconry of Surrey - Held at LMA
- Peculiar of the Archbishop of Canterbury in the Deanery of Croydon - Held at Lambeth Palace Library
- Consistory and Archdeaconry Courts of Canterbury - Held at Kent Archives
- Consistory Court of Rochester and Archdeaconry Court of Rochester - Held at Kent Archives

Consistory Court of the Bishop of London, 1362-1858

Jurisdiction: This court had jurisdiction over the whole diocese of London except the peculiars. This comprised the City of London and Middlesex and, until 1846, Essex and part of Hertfordshire. In 1846 the parishes of Charlton, Deptford, Eltham, Greenwich, Lee, Lewisham, Plumstead, and Woolwich were transferred to this diocese from the diocese of Rochester and the parishes of Barnes, Mortlake, Newington, Putney, Walworth and Wimbledon were transferred from the Deanery of Croydon.

Surviving records include:

- Original wills and administrations 1507-1858, with gaps (DL/C/0418-0544) - [On Ancestry](#)
- Registers of wills and administrations 1492, 1514-1858, with gaps (DL/C/0354-0417)
- Vicar General's books, which include probate and administrations acts, 1521-1644, 1661-1685 (DL/C/0330-0345)
- Wills 1362-1559 are also entered in the Bishop's registers (DL/A/A/004/MS09531)
- Very few probate inventories have survived for this court

Indexes:

- Indexes for 1362-1751 are available in our Information Area on the shelves with the catalogue of the records
- Indexes for 1670-1858 can be consulted on microfilms X019/009-011 (DL/C/0348-0353)

Published transcripts available in LMA library:

- London Record Society. *London Consistory Court wills 1492 - 1547*. edited by Ida Darlington. The Society, 1967. (60.34 LRS) This is available on [British History Online](#)

Commissary Court of London (London Division), 1374-1857

Jurisdiction: Acton, Bethnal Green, Bloomsbury, Bow, Bromley-by-Bow, City of London (part), Cowley, Ealing with Old Brentford, Edgware, Edmonton, Enfield, Finchley, Fulham with Hammersmith, Greenford, Hackney, Monken Hadley, Hampstead, Hanworth, Harefield, Hendon, Hornsey, Ickenham, Islington, Kingsbury, Limehouse, Marylebone, Northolt, Paddington, Poplar, Ruislip, St George-in-the-East, St Giles-in-the-Fields, St Paul Shadwell, Christ Church Spitalfields, South Mimms, Stanmore, Stepney, Teddington, Tottenham, Wapping, Whitechapel.

It also included the Essex parishes of Chingford, Epping, Leyton, Loughton, Nazeing, Waltham Holy Cross (Waltham Abbey), Walthamstow and Woodford.

Surviving records include:

- Original wills 1523-1857, with gaps (DL/C/B/005/MS09172) - [On Ancestry](#)
- Registers of wills 1374-1857, with gaps (DL/C/B/004/MS09171) - must be consulted on microfilm after 1600
- Act books 1496-1858, with gaps (DL/C/B/001/MS09168) - must be consulted on microfilm after 1600
- Administration bonds and related papers 1664-1857 (DL/C/B/014/MS09173)
- Probate inventories 1634-1741 (DL/C/B/030/MS09174)

Indexes (Published indexes available in LMA library and on [Findmypast](#)):

- Historical Manuscripts Commission. *Index to testamentary records in the Commissary Court of London (London Division), Volume I, 1374-1488*, edited by Marc Fitch. HMC, 1969
- Historical Manuscripts Commission. *Index to testamentary records in the Commissary Court of London (London Division), Volume II, 1489-1570*, edited by Marc Fitch. HMC, 1974
- British Record Society. *Index to testamentary records in the Commissary Court of London, (London Division), Volume III, 1571 - 1625*, edited by Marc Fitch. Index Library/BRS, 1985 (vol. 97)
- British Record Society. *Index to testamentary records in the Commissary Court of London, (London Division), Volume IV, 1626 - 1649 and 1661-1700 (Surnames A-G)*, edited by Marc Fitch. Index Library/BRS, 1992 (vol. 102)
- British Record Society. *Index to testamentary records in the Commissary Court of London, (London Division), Volume IV, 1626 - 1649 and 1661-1700 (Surnames H-S)*, edited by Marc Fitch. Index Library/BRS, 1996 (vol. 108)
- British Record Society. *Index to testamentary records in the Commissary Court of London, (London Division), Volume IV, 1626 - 1649 and 1661-1700 (Surnames T-Z)*, edited by Marc Fitch. Index Library/BRS, 1998 (vol. 111)

These published indexes use the following conventions:

[] indicates information derived from the act books (DL/C/B/001/MS09168)

< > indicates information derived from original wills (DL/C/B/005/MS09172)

No brackets indicate information derived from the will registers (DL/C/B/004/MS09171)

- Unpublished indexes to will registers and administrations 1625-1858 (DL/C/B/019/MS09173A/010-039) can be ordered from the stores
- Microfilm copies of indexes 1374-1858 are available in the Information Area
- An index to probate inventories by personal name, place name and occupation is available on the open shelves in the Information Area

Commissary Court of the Bishop of Winchester in the Archdeaconry of Surrey, 1662-1858

Jurisdiction: Whole of the ancient county of Surrey except for the peculiars.

Surviving records include:

- Original wills 1663-1856, with gaps (DW/PC/05/1663-1856) - [On Ancestry](#)
- Registers of wills 1674-1696, 1729-1857 (DW/PC/07/001-008)
- Probate and administration act books 1662-1858, with gaps (DW/PC/01/001-015)
- Administration bonds 1674, 1731-1858 (DW/PC/06/1674-1858)

Indexes:

- Webb, Cliff. *Nominal Index to Commissary Court Wills. Draft 1663-1751*
- West Surrey Family History Society. *Commissary Court of the Bishop of Winchester in the Archdeaconry of Surrey : index to the original wills... also : Peculiar Court of the Archbishop of Canterbury in the Deanery of Croydon : index to the wills : 1752 - 1858*, compiled by Cliff Webb. 2nd edition. The Society, 1992. (60.34 WES)

Archdeaconry Court of London, 1393-1807

Jurisdiction: City of London (part), St Andrew Holborn with St George the Martyr, St James and St John Clerkenwell, St Leonard Shoreditch

Surviving records include:

- Original wills 1524-1807, with gaps (DL/AL/C/003/MS09052) - [On Ancestry](#)
- Registers of wills 1393-1807, with gaps (DL/AL/C/002/MS09051) - must be consulted on microfilm after 1600
- Act books 1564-1807, with gaps (DL/AL/C/001/MS09050) - must be consulted on microfilm after 1600
- Administration bonds and related papers 1663-1786 (DL/AL/C/004/MS09053)
- Probate inventories 1662-1705 (DL/AL/C/007/MS09898)

Published indexes available in LMA library and on [Findmypast](#):

- British Record Society. *Index to testamentary records in the Archdeaconry Court of London, Volume I, 1363 - 1649*, Index Library/BRS. HMC, 1979
- British Record Society. *Index to testamentary records in the Archdeaconry Court of London, Volume II, 1661 - 1700*, Index Library/BRS. HMC, 1985

These indexes use the following conventions:

[] indicates information derived from the act books (DL/AL/C/001/MS09050)

< > indicates information derived from original wills (DL/AL/C/003/MS09052)

No brackets indicate information derived from the will registers (DL/AL/C/002/MS09051)

- Webb, Cliff. *An index of wills proved in the Archdeaconry Court of London 1700 - 1807*. Society of Genealogists, 1996. (R60.34 WEB)

2. Unpublished indexes for 1368-1781, with a few entries to 1807, can be ordered from the stores

(DL/AL/C/006/MS09054/1-3); they are also available on microfilm in the Information Area.

The unpublished indexes use the following conventions:

A.B. + number indicates act book (DL/AL/C/001/MS09050) and volume

Reg. + number indicates will register (DL/AL/C/002/MS09051) and relevant volume.

- An index to probate inventories by personal name, place name and occupation is available on the open shelves in the Information Area.

Archdeaconry Court of Middlesex (Middlesex Division), 1608-1810

Jurisdiction:Bedfont, Chelsea, Cranford, Feltham, Hampton, Hanwell with New Brentford, Harlington, Harmondsworth, Heston with Hounslow, Hillingdon with Uxbridge, Isleworth, Kensington, Laleham, Littleton, St Anne Soho (Westminster), St Clement Danes, St George Hanover Square, St James Piccadilly (Westminster), St Martin-in-the-Fields, St Mary-le-Strand, St Paul Covent Garden, Shepperton, Staines with Ashford, Stanwell, Sunbury, Twickenham

Surviving records include:

- Original wills 1608-1611, 1662-1810 (DL/AM/PW/1609-1810) - [On Ancestry](#)
- Registers of wills 1664-1677, 1718-1779 (DL/AM/PBR/001-009)
- Probate and administration act books 1660-1810, with gaps (DL/AM/PBA/001-016)
- Administration bonds 1667-1760, with gaps (DL/AM/PPB/001-074)
- Probate inventories 1667-1758. The probate business of this court virtually ceased in the 1780s (DL/AM/PI/01/1672-1737 and DL/AM/PI/02/1633-1781)

Indexes:

- A calendar of wills and administrations 1608/9-1810 can be consulted on microfilm X001/155 (DL/AM/P/CAL/001)

Published transcripts available in the LMA library:

- Curle, B.R. *Kensington and Chelsea Probate Inventories 1672 - 1734*. (typescript, 1970) (60.34 CUR)

Archdeaconry Court of Surrey, 1480-1858

Jurisdiction: whole of the ancient county of Surrey except for the peculiars.

Surviving records include:

- Original wills 1534-1857, with gaps (DW/PA/05/1534-1857) - [On Ancestry](#)

- Registers of wills 1480-1821, with gaps (DW/PA/07/001-033)
- Probate and administration act books 1674-1858, with gaps to 1725 (DW/PA/01/001-007)

Indexes (available in the LMA Library):

- Webb, Cliff. *Union index of Surrey probate records which survive from before the year 1650*. British Record Society, 1990
- Webb, Cliff. *Archdeaconry Court Wills 1660-1751*. A Provisional Index
- West Surrey Family History Society. *Index of wills proved in the Archdeaconry Court of Surrey 1752 - 1858*, compiled by Cliff Webb. 2nd edition. The Society, 1994. (60.34 WES)
- Surrey Record Society. *Surrey wills (Archdeaconry Court, Spage Register), 1484-1489..* Surrey Record Society, 1921 (60.9 SUR)
- Surrey Record Society. *Surrey wills (Archdeaconry Court, Herringman Register), 1595-1600..* Surrey Record Society, 1915-20 (60.9 SUR)
- Surrey Record Society. *Surrey wills (Archdeaconry Court, Herringman Register), 1600-1607..* Surrey Record Society, 1915-20 (60.9 SUR)
- Surrey Record Society. *Surrey wills (Archdeaconry Court, Herringman Register), 1607-1608..* Surrey Record Society, 1915-20 (60.9 SUR)
- Holman, Joan and Herridge, Marion. *Index of Surrey probate inventories 16th-19th centuries*. Domestic Buildings Research Group (Surrey), 1986 (60.34 HOL)

Peculiar Court of the Dean and Chapter of St Paul's Cathedral, 1535-1837

Jurisdiction: Albury, Barling, Belchamp St Paul, Brent Pelham, Chiswick, City of London (part), Friern Barnet, Furneaux Pelham, Heybridge, Precinct of Hoxton in Shoreditch, St Luke Old Street, Navestock, Precinct of Norton Folgate, St Pancras with Highgate, Precinct of Portpool (in parish of St Andrew Holborn), Stoke Newington, Tillingham, West Drayton, Wickham St Paul, Willesden

Surviving records include:

- Original wills 1660-1837 (CLC/313/K/C/006/MS25628) - [On Ancestry](#)
- Registers of wills 1535-1837 (CLC/313/K/C/003/MS25626) - Must be viewed on microfilm
- Act books 1646-1837 (CLC/313/K/C/001/MS25625) - Must be viewed on microfilm
- Probate inventories 1660-1725 (CLC/313/K/C/009/MS19504)
- Administration warrants and related papers 1660/1-1830 (CLC/313/K/C/011/MS19505)

Indexes:

- An index to registers of wills 1535-1643 and 1660-72 (CLC/313/K/C/004/MS25627) is available on microfilm.
- Copy calendars of probate and administration act books 1646-50 and 1660-1837, and will registers 1672-1837, are available on the open shelves in the LMA Library.
- Indexes to probate inventories by personal name, place name and occupation, together with a calendar of the inventories, are available on the open shelves in the LMA Library.
- A surname index to probate inventories presented in this court is also available on the [former Guildhall Library Manuscripts website](#).

Royal Peculiar of St Katherine by the Tower, 1688-1818

Jurisdiction: Liberty of St Katherine by the Tower

Surviving records include:

- Original wills 1689-1818 (CLC/199/TD/002/MS09732, MS09733, MS09735)
- Administration warrants and bonds 1688-1740 (CLC/199/TD/004/MS09733)
- Act books containing probate and administration business 1698-1793 (CLC/199/TD/001/MS09741)

Indexes:

- Indexes to wills and administrations 1698-1804 are available on microfilm
- Calendars of the St Katharine's Hospital archive, including probate material, are available on the shelves in the information Area (CLC/199/TD/017/MS09742A) and from the stores (CLC/199/TD/016/MS09742)

Court of Husting, 1258-1688

Jurisdiction: City of London and liberties.

Any beneficiary of property within the City of London could cause a will to be enrolled in the Court, but often only the relevant part of the will relating to real property was entered on the rolls. The last recorded enrolment of a will in this court was in 1688, but the probate jurisdiction of the Court of Husting had been in decline for some years before this.

Records:

- Court Rolls (Deeds and Wills) 1252-1695 (CLA/023/DW/01/001- 352)

Indexes (available in the LMA Library and on British History Online, [Volume 1](#) and [Volume 2](#)):

- Sharpe, Reginald R. *Calendar of the wills proved and enrolled in the Court of Husting, London, Volume 1, 1258-1358*, Corporation of the City of London, 1889 (60.1 LON)
- Sharpe, Reginald R. *Calendar of the wills proved and enrolled in the Court of Husting, London, Volume 2, 1358-1688*, Corporation of the City of London, 1890 (60.1 LON)

Online Resources

Ancestry

The original wills of the following courts have been digitised and made available on [Ancestry](#). Please see the database titled 'London, England, Wills and Probate, 1507-1858':

- Consistory Court of the Bishop of London
- Commissary Court of London (London Division)

- Archdeaconry Court of London
- Archdeaconry Court of Middlesex (Middlesex Division)
- Peculiar Court of the Dean and Chapter of St Paul's Cathedral
- Archdeaconry Court of Surrey
- Commissary Court of the Bishop of Winchester in the Archdeaconry of Surrey

Please note that the Will Registers and Court of Hustings rolls have not been digitised.

Findmypast

The [Findmypast](#) website includes the following datasets:

- London Probate Index
- Surrey Peculiars Probate Index, 1660-1751
- Surrey & South London Wills & Probate Index, 1470-1856
- Kent Wills & Probate Indexes 1328-1890
- England & Wales Published Wills & Probate Indexes, 1300-1858

Records held elsewhere

Prerogative Court of Canterbury 1384-1858

Location of records: The National Archives

Jurisdiction: England and Wales

Wills proved in this court can be searched and viewed [on Ancestry](#)

Deanery of the Arches 1620-1780, 1832

Location of records: Lambeth Palace Library

Jurisdiction: City of London (part), Disputed testamentary causes in the Province of Canterbury

Index in LMA Library: British Record Society. *Index to testamentary records of the Deanery of the Arches in Lambeth Palace Library 1620 - 1845*, edited by Janet Foster. Index Library/BRS, 1985 (vol. 98). (60.34 BRS)

Consistory Court of Winchester

Location of records: Hampshire Archives and Local Studies

Jurisdiction: Surrey and Hampshire except peculiars

Consistory and Archdeaconry Courts of Canterbury 1396-1857 and 1449-1858

Location of records: Kent Archives

Jurisdiction: In 1846 the parishes of Addington and Croydon were transferred to this jurisdiction from the Diocese of Winchester and the Deanery of Croydon respectively.

Consistory Court of Rochester 1440-1858 and Archdeaconry Court of Rochester 1635-1857

Location of records: Kent Archives

Jurisdiction: Included inner London parishes of Charlton, Deptford, Eltham, Greenwich, Lee, Lewisham, Plumstead, Woolwich (which in 1846 were transferred to Diocese of London, Consistory Court of London).

Peculiar Court of the Deanery of Croydon 1664-1841 (North of the Thames)

Location of records: Lambeth Palace Library.

Jurisdiction: Harrow with Pinner, Hayes with Norwood

Peculiar of the Archbishop of Canterbury in the Deanery of Croydon 1602, 1614-1841 (south of the Thames)

Location of records: Lambeth Palace Library

Jurisdiction: Barnes, Burstow, Charlwood, Cheam, Croydon, East Horsley, Merstham, Mortlake, Newington, Putney, Roehampton, Walworth, Wimbledon (In 1846 Barnes, Mortlake, Newington, Putney, Walworth and Wimbledon were transferred to the Diocese of London, see Consistory Court of London)

Indexes:

- Webb, Cliff. *Union index of Surrey probate records which survive from before the year 1650*. British Record Society, 1990
- West Surrey Family History Society. *Commissary Court of the Bishop of Winchester in the Archdeaconry of Surrey : index to the original wills... also : Peculiar Court of the Archbishop of Canterbury in the Deanery of Croydon : index to the wills : 1752 - 1858*, compiled by Cliff Webb. 2nd edition. The Society, 1992. (Record series vol.3). (60.34 WES)

Royal Peculiar of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster 1504-1803

Location of records: City of Westminster Archives Centre and Westminster Abbey

Jurisdiction: City of London (part), Paddington, Precincts of the Abbey, St John the Evangelist Westminster, St Margaret Westminster (but jurisdiction in most parishes had passed to the Consistory Court of London or the Archdeaconry Court of Middlesex by the early eighteenth century).

Index in the LMA library:

- Burke, Arthur Meredyth. *Indexes to the ancient testamentary records of Westminster*. Eyre and Spottiswoode, 1913. (60.34 BUR)

This volume includes indexes to the following series:

- The testamentary records of Peculiar Court, 1504 - 1700
- Westminster wills and administrations preserved among the records of the Consistory Court of London, 1540 - 1556.
- Miscellaneous testamentary records preserved in the Muniment Room of Westminster Abbey, 1228 - 1700.

Reading List

The LMA Library has the following works on probate jurisdiction as well as copies of printed indexes and calendars of probate records, some held by LMA, others held elsewhere. This is not a complete list of all relevant printed works for which the main library catalogue should be consulted. For guides to probate jurisdictions, see the works by Anthony Camp or J.S.W. Gibson listed below.

- Addy, John. *Death, money and the vultures : inheritance and avarice, 1660 - 1750*. Routledge, 1992. (60.34 ADD)
- Camp, Anthony J. *Wills and their whereabouts*. 4th edition. The Author, 1974 (60.34 CAM)
- Coldham, Peter Wilson. *American wills proved in London, 1611 - 1775*. Genealogical Publishing Co., 1992. (60.34 COL)
- Cox, Jane. *An introduction to - Affection defying the power of death : wills, probate and death duty records*. Federation of Family History Societies, 1993. (R60.34 COX)
- Furnivall, Frederick J. *The fifty earliest English wills in the Court of Probate, London. AD 1387 - 1439 : with a priest's of 1454*. Oxford UP, 1882, reprinted 1964. (Early English Text Society original series no.78. (60.34 FUR)
- Gibson, J.S.W. *Probate jurisdictions : where to look for wills*. 4th edition Federation of Family History Societies, 1994. (60.34 GIB)
- McLaughlin, Eve. *Somerset House wills from 1858*. 3rd edition. Federation of Family History Societies, 1985 (a McLaughlin Guide). (60.34 MAC)
- Society of Genealogists. *An index to the Bank of England will extracts 1807 - 1845*. The Society, 1991. (60.34 SOC)