

SURREY HISTORY CENTRE'S GUIDE TO TRACING BLACK ROOTS



Tracing black ancestors, particularly if they have been slaves, can be difficult. There are few records in Britain. However, it is not an impossible task and Surrey History Centre can help you.

Sources that may be useful include:

- Birth, marriage and death records (slave marriages are rare, and slave burials were often unrecorded as they usually occurred in the grounds of the plantation or house)
- Baptism register (the baptism of slaves was discouraged until the late 19th century)
- Military records
- Wills
- Newspapers
- Directories
- Electoral Registers
- Land and Property papers
- Plantation Records
- Records of the Slave Registry and Slave Compensation Commission (19th century)
- Personal records
- Quarter Sessions

Surrey History Centre, 130 Goldsworth Road,
Woking, Surrey, GU21 6ND

www.surreycc.gov.uk/sureyhistorycentre

Tel: 01483 58737 Email: shs@surreycc.gov.uk



MOVING HERE
www.movinghere.org.uk



200 years of migration in England

Moving Here is a website dedicated to the last 200 years of migration to England.

The site has images of over 150,000 original items from 30 museums, archives and libraries across the UK. A wide range of sources can be searched, including photographs, newspapers, oral history and film. All the items can be downloaded free of charge.

You can also add your own stories to the archive and upload your favourite images.

The Migration Histories section includes stories of the Jewish, South Asian, Irish and Caribbean communities. However, a vast range of other communities are featured on the site ranging from Italy to Vietnam and China to Ecuador.

In the 'Tracing your Roots' gallery there are useful tips on how to research your ancestors.

