

Searching for the record of a burial

Introduction

Burial registers are kept to record when and where a person's remains are buried. They usually contain information including the person's name, their burial plot and the date of the burial.

There are [nine cemeteries and one crematorium](#) in the London Borough of Bromley as well as numerous churchyards.

What information do I need before I start?

To increase your chances of a successful search try to find out:

- the name of the person
- their date of death
- their place of death/last known address
- their religion.

Which records can I see at Bromley Local Studies and Archives?

We have been designated as a Diocesan Record Office for the Dioceses of Rochester and Southwark. As a result we hold some burial registers of those Church of England parishes which fall within the London Borough of Bromley.

Burial registers are transferred to us once they are no longer in use by the parish. If we do not hold a burial register, it may still be in the custody of the parish.

Not every Church of England parish has a churchyard. Often a service would be performed at the church and the burial made in a civil cemetery. We do not hold the burial records of burials made in civil cemeteries.

Are your records indexed?

We hold indexes for many of the burial registers that we hold, as well as some indexes of registers that are still in the custody of their creating parish. Please see the end of this guide for a detailed list of the indexes that we hold.

Indexes may also be found online at the following sites;

- Find a Grave www.findagrave.com
- Kent Archaeological Society
<http://www.kentarchaeology.org.uk/Research/research.htm>
- Kent Online Parish Clerk <http://www.kent-opc.org/>

Which records are available elsewhere?

We do not hold the records of cremations or burials made in the civil cemeteries or cemeteries run by private companies.

For enquiries regarding civil cemeteries, please contact the council's cemeteries team on 01689 853617 or cemeteriesbromley@thelandscapegroup.co.uk

For enquiries regarding the private cemetery and crematorium at Beckenham please contact Dignity UK at 020 8658 9495 or 020 8650 0322, or beckenhamcrematorium@dignityuk.co.uk

For enquiries regarding the private cemetery at Kemnal Park please contact Kemnal Park Cemetery on 020 8300 9790.

Cremations performed at Eltham crematorium can be searched for free online at www.deceasedonline.com

Burials made in other local authority areas

If the person you are searching for had been living close to the boundary with another local authority there is a possibility the burial took place in a cemetery situated in the adjacent local authority. Contact details for other local authorities are as follows:

Bexley: <http://www.bexley.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=3608>

Croydon: <https://www.croydon.gov.uk/community/births-deaths-marriage/deaths/cemetery>

Greenwich:

http://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/directory/35/directory_cemeteries_and_crematorium

Kent: <http://www.kent-opc.org/Cemeteries.html>

Lewisham:

<http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/birthsdeaths marriagesCP/deaths/Pages/cemeteries-and-crematoriums.aspx>

Top Tip!

If there is a last known address for the individual (perhaps from the death certificate) locate the address on a map. It may be possible to find alternative cemeteries or churchyards to the one which was presumed as most likely. However, check to see if the cemetery would have been open when the individual was buried.

Top Tip!

Death notices and/or obituaries which may have been published in the local newspapers may reveal details of where the burial took place. Microfilm copies of local newspapers can be accessed in the Local Studies Library.

Church of England parish burial registers held at Bromley Local Studies and Archives

Find a grave =

KAS =

Parish reference	Parish	Dates of registers	Transcript/Index at Local Studies?	Monumental Inscriptions
P/19	St George's, Beckenham	1538-1976	Yes for 1538- 1976	Yes
P/47	St Peter and St Paul, Bromley	1587-1950	Yes for 1578- 1941	Yes
P/47C	Holy Trinity, Bromley Common	1844- 1960	Yes for 1844- 1986	Yes
P/92	St Nicholas, Chislehurst	1559-1928	1559- 1899	Yes
P/92B	The Annunciation, Chislehurst	1871- 1936	No.	
P/104	St Paulinus, St Pauls Cray	1580- 1983	Yes for 1579- 1851	Yes
P/107	St Peter and St Paul's, Cudham	1653- 1800 1813-1949	Yes for 1653- 1851 1907-1949	Yes
P/123	St Mary's, Downe	1539- 1904	Yes for 1539- 1851	Yes
P/144	St Giles, Farnborough	1558- 1624, 1662- 1678, 1813- 1990	Yes for 1558- 1747 1752- 1851	Yes
P/180	St Mary the Virgin, Hayes	1539-1761, 1772- 1943	Yes for 1539- 1851	Yes
P/208	Keston	1542- 1685, 1690- 1943	Yes for 1540- 1851	Yes
P/277	All Saints, Orpington	1560- 1904	Yes for 1560- 1851	Yes
P/277B	St Mary, St Mary Cray	1580-1692, 1695- 1941	Yes for 1579- 1941	Yes

Other burial register transcripts

We also hold transcripts for the following Church of England and non-denominational parishes where we do not hold the physical registers.

Parish	Dates of index	Monumental inscription
St Mary's, Plaistow, Bromley	1865- 1888	Yes
St Martin, Chelsfield	1558-1851 1958-1986 -Interments (Ashes)	No
Knockholt	1548- 1812	Yes
St John, West Wickham	1558- 1900	Yes
St Mary's RC Church, Chislehurst		Yes
Holy Trinity, Beckenham	1975-1986 1891-1970 (interments in Elmers End Cemetery)	No

We also hold transcripts for the following Church of England parishes which neighbour the London Borough of Bromley. The original registers will be in the custody of the parish, or at Bexley Local Studies and Archives

Parish	Dates of index	Monumental inscription
Foots Cray	1559-1812	Yes
North Cray	1538- 1812	Yes