

Liverpool RECORD OFFICE

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS

Copies of inscriptions from grave stones and wall tablets often give biographical details of the deceased. There are a number of sources for these of which James Gibson's Epitaphs and Inscriptions (reference : H929.5 GIB) is one of the most useful. As Gibson died in 1886 only deaths which took place before that date are commemorated. This would only cover a very small percentage of interments.

HANDLIST

A detailed Liverpool Record Office Handlist of Cemetery and Burial Records is available for purchase.

CEMETERIES OFFICE

The Liverpool Cemeteries Office also holds some records. You should contact:

Liverpool Cemeteries Office
Allerton Lodge
Woolton Road
Liverpool L19 5NF
Tel: 0151 233 3004 (via Liverpool Direct)

LIVERPOOL RECORD OFFICE, LOCAL STUDIES AND FAMILY HISTORY SERVICE

Central Library: William Brown Street Liverpool L3 8FW

General enquiries 0151 233 5817
0151 233 5811
Fax (Central Library) 0151 233 5886
E-mail recoffice.central.library@liverpool.gov.uk

For opening hours, some catalogues and development news, please visit our website at www.liverpool.gov.uk/archives

Appointments are not essential for viewing sources on microfilm and on microfiche. A reader's ticket is needed to request archives, books, maps, photographs and watercolours. Please bring proof of name and address. You will be asked to leave any bags in lockers before consulting original material.

Annual closure for stock-taking and special projects 3rd and 4th weeks in June.



May 2008

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BURIAL RECORDS

INFORMATION LEAFLET - 6



Burial records are an invaluable source of information not only for family history but also for demographic and social studies. Liverpool Record Office holds the records of Liverpool churchyards and cemeteries and much related material.

WHERE TO FIND BURIALS

Until the 19th century most people would have been buried in a Church of England graveyard, though the burial registers usually give very little information and were often included in the same parchment registers as baptisms. Often only the name of the deceased and the date of death would be given. From 1812 registers had to record:

Name
Abode
Date of burial
Age



The City of Liverpool

Liverpool RECORD OFFICE

As with C. of E. records, early Roman Catholic registers of death give only simple information but later registers (Libri Defunctorum) record:

Date of death
Name of deceased
Address
Age
Date of burial
Name of cemetery

Quite often the date and place of burial is not entered.

Church and parish cemetery burial registers are listed with parish records under 283 or 282 references.

CEMETERY RECORDS

By the 1820s church yards within the town of Liverpool were becoming crowded so three proprietary or privately run cemeteries were opened. The Necropolis in 1825, St. James Cemetery in 1829 and St Mary's Cemetery, Kirkdale in 1837. All three kept burial registers and St. James maintained a name index of those buried. It also has a website with a partial index of interments: www.stjamescemetery.co.uk

In the 1850s the closure of overcrowded parish graveyards created an urgent need for new out of town cemeteries and, under the terms of the Burial Acts, the big municipal cemeteries were opened:

Toxteth Park in 1856
Anfield in 1863
Everton in 1880
Kirkdale in 1881
West Derby in 1884
Allerton in 1909

In addition there is also the large parochial cemetery (Walton Parochial Cemetery) in Rice Lane which opened in 1856 and is divided into free and paid for ground.

Liverpool RECORD OFFICE

The RC Archdiocese opened a cemetery at Ford in 1859, Ainsdale in 1884 and Yew Tree, West Derby in 1893. These have a name index and also a plot index which lists the interments for each grave. It is on microfiche (box 26). There is a computer printout of yearly burials in the search room to Ford cemetery (1859-1989), Yewtree (1893-1989) and Ainsdale cemetery (1883-1941).

Some of the cemeteries had separate denominational sections, C. of E., R.C., and Nonconformist. Register entries are in date order of burial, not name order, and give the following details:

Register (running) number	Date of burial
Name	Age
Rank or profession	Abode
Parish or District	Mode of burial
Section	Grave number

Cemetery order books duplicate much of the information given in the burial registers but they can be used to trace all the interments in one grave. If you know the grave and section number the Cemeteries Office can provide a series of order numbers relating to that grave which can then be checked in the order books here to give details of all individuals buried in it. This is applicable only to private and purchased graves. Many poorer people would have been buried in public or communal graves.

Cemetery records are listed under the reference 352 CEM. Many of these records are now available on microfilm only.

We now hold copies of municipal cemetery plans.

CREMATION

Until 1885 cremation was illegal in this country. The Liverpool Crematorium was opened at Anfield Cemetery in 1896. Springwood Crematorium was opened at Allerton cemetery in 1975. Crematorium Registers are available on microfilm from 1908 to 1992 and are listed under the reference 352 CRE.