

Ideas for Researching 17th-century Anglican Clergy

- Oxford Dictionary of National Biography
- Alumni Oxonienses and Cantabrigienses [Oxford and Cambridge Universities and archives]
- Clergy of the Church of England Database

[CCEd | Clergy of the Church of England Database](#)

The Clergy of the Church of England Database 1540-1835 (CCEd), launched in 1999 and funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council, makes available and searchable the principal records of clerical careers from over 50 archives in England and Wales with the aim of providing coverage of as many clerical lives as possible from the Reformation to the mid-nineteenth century. The Database fills major gaps in our knowledge of one of the most important professions in early modern England and Wales. It provides an invaluable research tool for both national and local, academic and amateur historians, and genealogists who often need to discover biographical information about individual clergymen or information relating to a particular locality, as well as for anyone undertaking a more structural investigation of the church and its personnel from the Reformation to the mid-nineteenth century.

- Minutes of the sessions of the Westminster Assembly of Divines while engaged in preparing their directory for church government, confession of faith, and catechisms .. by [Westminster Assembly \(1643-1652\)](#); [Church of Scotland. General Assembly](#); [Mitchell, Alexander Ferrier, 1822-1899](#); [Struthers, John, 1815-1888](#)
- "The Sufferings of the Clergy" by John Walker, published in 1714, is a historical account of the Anglican clergy's experiences during the English Civil War and the Interregnum.
- Calamy revised being a revision of Edmund Calamy's Account of the ministers and others ejected and silenced, 1660-2, by A. G. Matthews, M.A.
- A Catalogue of the names of the divines approved of by the House of Commons, for each several county in this kingdom of England and Wales, London : Printed by T. Fawcet for Thomas Bankes, 1642
- *A History of the English Church During the Civil Wars and Under the Commonwealth, 1640-1660* by William Arthur Shaw
 - Vol 2 includes lists of Scandalous or Malignant (Royalist) Clergy ; Puritan Lecturers ; Sequestered Ministers, Royalists and their Puritan replacements
- *A list of emigrant ministers to America, 1690-1811 [taken from the records of the Bishop of London which jurisdiction in overseas places where there was no Bishop* by Gerald Fothergill, 1904
- TNA Records of the Office of First Fruits and Tenths (a tax levied on the clergy to provide income as a whole) <https://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/browse/r/h/C568>

These are the records of the Office of First Fruits and Tenths, with some of its successor, the Office of the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty, which administered the income from clerical taxation following the Reformation. They comprise:

The Valor Ecclesiasticus in E 344

Certificates of institutions to livings in E 331 and E 332

Information about changes of incumbency in E 339 and E 340

Records relating to their payment or non-payment in E 333, E 334, E 342 and E 343

Records of proceedings in cases arising from these in E 337 and E 338

Administrative records of the offices in E 335 - E 347

The purpose of the certificates was to inform the appropriate authorities from whom payment of first fruits was due. These were a charge upon the incumbent, not upon the living, and represented the profits of a benefice for the first year of an incumbency. Only one certificate, for the diocese of St Asaph, survives from the reign of Henry VIII. A few are extant from the reign of Philip and Mary for the dioceses of London and Rochester. For most dioceses the series of surviving certificates begins with the reign of Elizabeth I.