



Lobley Link 2009



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Julia and I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

In 2009, there has been a considerable increase in the number of online family history resources available to family historians. Even more significantly, these resources include images of actual records - not simply transcripts. Every family historian should be very wary of the accuracy of transcripts and indexes. Even with the best intentions, names can be misspelled, dates transposed and even whole records omitted.

So - even with these new records, it is always worthwhile searching for possible variants or misspellings in indexes and scrolling through pages of actual record images if the record you are searching for is not immediately obvious.

A Merry Christmas to one and all.

Phil and Julia

London Parish Records go online

The London Metropolitan Archives and Guildhall Library Manuscripts Section recently announced a partnership with Ancestry™ to digitise genealogical sources.

The first records were launched on Ancestry.co.uk in March 2009, and more have recently been made available. Even more a promised!

It is expected that the full digitising and indexing programme will include the following types of records:

- Parish baptisms, marriages and burials from more than 10,000 Greater London parish registers from the 1530s
- Non-conformist baptisms, marriages and burials
- Diocesan marriage bonds and allegations
- Consistory Court of London Matrimonial and Testamentary Papers
- Poor Law documents - relating to the administration of poor relief, including workhouse registers from 1834 onwards

- London school admissions – records from 843 individual London schools dating from the early Victorian times through to 1911, providing admission and personal details for millions of London students
- Electoral registers, overseers returns and poll books, Land tax records, Wills, City of London Freedoms. Middlesex Sessions – Transportation Contracts

Ancestry is a subscription site. Both the LMA and the Guildhall Library provide free access to the indexes and images in their public rooms.

The latest batch of records include:

- London, Births and Baptisms, 1813-1906
- London, Deaths and Burials, 1813-1980
- London, Marriages and Banns, 1754-1921
- London, Baptisms, Marriages and Burials, 1538-1812

Over the last few months, I have therefore been avidly searching Ancestry for some of my London Lobleys and have already struck gold. I have also found the quality of the images to be excellent. However, there are one or two points to note before you dive in:

- The new parish records are only indexed from 1813 onwards (for baptisms and burials) and from 1754 (for marriages). Earlier years can be browsed, but those indexes will follow later;
- Don't restrict your searches to 'Exact Matches Only'. This sometimes appears to cause Ancestry not to display some results;
- Before starting a search, check what parishes or Poor Law Union details have been indexed - and what years are covered. For example, under 'Marriages & Banns 1754-1921', if you select 'Tower Hamlets', you will get a list of 66 parishes. Selecting one of the parishes will show which years are covered.

As an example of what one can uncover, here is the baptism of Mary Ann Lobley on 3rd February 1822 at St Botolph without Bishopsgate in London. Note the profession of her father William James Lobley.



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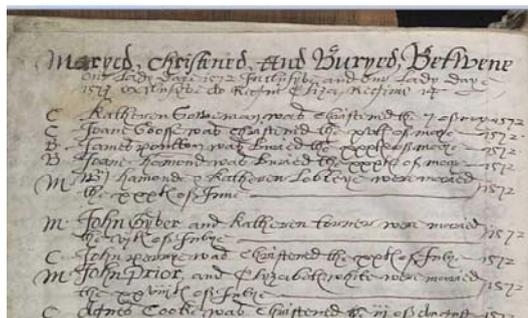
Essex Parish Registers

The Essex Record Office have also dipped their toes into online publishing and are slowly making original images of parish records available - free of charge, at <http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk/default.asp>

Once at the site, select "Essex Ancestors", then complete the drop-down menus to find the parish and church(es). As a rule of thumb, only the earliest years are currently available 'Digital image'. Most of the later records are only available on microfiche at the Record Office itself. *N.B. Copies of some microfiches are available for purchase from the Record Office.*

Indexes may be available for the records, but these are not available online. It is, however, possible to scroll through the images - they are of a very high quality.

An extract from the marriage register of Great Easton for 1572 is shown below. Spot the Lobley!



Northamptonshire Loblays - the mystery continues

Last year, I reported that I had found a reference to what appeared to be a small nest of Loblays in the parish of Eye in Northamptonshire between 1728 and 1776. As I had found no previous reference to the Lobley name in that county, I resolved to investigate.

Accordingly, on New Year's Eve I travelled to Northamptonshire Record Office and delved into the records. Surprisingly, the entries were not those of 'Cobley' or 'Tobley', but were indeed those of a genuine Lobley family.

It appears that Benjamin Lobley arrived in Eye in the early 1700s, possibly already married to his first wife - Dorothy. They had 5 children. After Dorothy's death in 1734. Benjamin married

Elizabeth West. It appears that Elizabeth died five years later. Benjamin married for a final time in 1741 to Mary Pridmore and had one further child.

I cannot find any other Lobley families in Northamptonshire at that time, and do not yet know what happened to the family after about 1776, when Mary died. Benjamin had predeceased her in 1745.

Another Lobley painting



**GENTLE BREEZES, CHRISTCHURCH HARBOUR
JOHN HODGSON LOBLEY, 1921**

You may find further information on it, and similar paintings, on the gallery website at:

www.juliaauctions.com/auctions/div_catalog_25...

Finally - a Gary Larsen 'Far Side' Cartoon for you to enjoy. Have a Happy Christmas!



Dirk brings his family tree to class