

BDA Source Description Pages
<http://www.bda-online.org.au>
Church Registers: St James Church of England, Sydney NSW

This page provides details of all available versions of the St James registers, with a guide to the sources actually used in BDA. Those marked "Online" are included in BDA and are available online

Baptisms

Church Registers	1824	Jul 1832	ML: SAG Reel 61	Online
	1832	1841	ML: SAG Reel 62-68	Online
	1842	1856	ML :SAG Reel 61-62	Online
Clergy Returns	1824	1825	SRNSW: Reel 691, Vol. 2/8294	Not processed
	1826	1826	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5002, Vol. 10	Not used*
	1827	1827	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5003, Vol. 11	Not used*
	1828	1828	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5003, Vol. 12	Not used*
	1829	1829	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5003, Vol. 13	Not used*
	1830	1830	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5003, Vol. 14	Not used*
	1831	1831	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5003, Vol. 15	Not used*
	1832	1832	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5003, Vol. 16	Not used*
Kerrison James	1824	1831	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5001, Vol. 1	Not used*

Marriages

Church Registers	1824	1831	ML: SAG Reel 61	Online
Clergy Returns	1824	1825	SRNSW: Reel 691, Vol. 2/8294	Not processed
	1826	1826	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5002, Vol. 10	Not used*
	1827	1827	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5003, Vol. 11	Not used*
	1828	1828	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5003, Vol. 12	Not used*
	1829	1829	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5003, Vol. 13	Not used*
	1830	1830	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5003, Vol. 14	Not used*
	1831	1831	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5003, Vol. 15	Not used*
	1832	1832	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5003, Vol. 16	Not used*
Kerrison James	1824	1831	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5002, Vol. 3	Not used*

Burials

Church Registers	1824	1856	ML: SAG Reel 61	Online
Clergy Returns	1824	1825	SRNSW: Reel 691, Vol. 2/8294	Not processed
	1826	1826	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5002, Vol. 10	Not used*
	1827	1827	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5003, Vol. 11	Not used*
	1828	1828	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5003, Vol. 12	Not used*
	1829	1829	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5003, Vol. 13	Not used*
	1830	1830	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5003, Vol. 14	Not used*
	1831	1831	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5003, Vol. 15	Not used*
	1832	1832	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5003, Vol. 16	Not used*
Kerrison James	1824	1831	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5001, Vol. 2	Not used*

Banns

Church Registers

Mar 1824

Apr 1832

ML SAG Reel 61

Online

Notes re the St James registers:

Church Registers

The entries from the St James church registers were used for BDA's transcriptions of baptisms, marriages and burials. The entries from 1824 to 1856 (and beyond) are found in the Society of Australian Genealogists' microfilm reels 61 to 68 and 136 to 137 (held by SAG and ML). For more information about the years covered in these microfilms, particularly for the post-1856 period, see *Index to the Microform Collection of the Society of Australian Genealogists as at 31 January 1990* (SAG, Sydney, 1990, p.24).

Banns Registers

Banns registers were only kept for a very small number of Church of England parishes. Banns consisted of the clergyman reading out to the congregation the intention of two people to marry, thus giving time for any objection to come forward. They were read out on three successive Sundays.

It should not be taken that the couple then married as many did not do so. In some cases a couple advised the clergyman that they wished to be married and were recorded, but no banns or sometimes only once were they read out indicating the couple decided not to proceed. The marriage register should therefore be consulted.

Clergy Returns

These are copies of the church registers sent to the government (similarly to the Bishop's Transcripts in England), and begin in 1824 for St James. Marriage and burial entries have survived from early 1824 to September 1825, and baptisms from July 1824 to September 1825 (confirm that the first two quarters of 1824 are missing).

For the period from 1824 to 1825, the Clergy Returns were documented differently to the church registers, and were sent to the Governor every quarter. These early returns sometimes included additional or different information to the Church Registers. Any differences will be incorporated into BDA's transcription to generate more detailed composite entries. When such information is added, the source-reference for the Clergy Returns will be added to BDA's transcription.

For the period from 1826 onwards, the Clergy Returns were identical to the Church Registers. Accordingly, the Clergy Returns were only examined if specific entries were difficult to read in the original registers.

Kerrison James Index

This index was not used as a transcription source for these BDA entries as it is merely an index extracted from the church registers and contains many errors. Sometimes, however, the Kerrison James list was examined if specific entries were difficult to read in the pre-1826 period.

NSW Registry of Birth, Death & Marriage Indexes

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For the pre-1856 period, the online Indexes published by the NSW Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages provides index entries for baptisms, marriages and burials found in registers they hold. For the pre-1826 period for St James, the BDM Indexes sources entries from:

1. The Kerrison James Index listed above; that is Volumes 1-3 of ARK.
2. Their own copy of the St James Church Register, which is listed as Volume 149 and is not published in ARK (which finishes at Volume 123).

For the period from 1826 onwards, the BDM Indexes also source its entries from the Clergy Returns listed above. These are published in ARK.

*Not used: These sources are copies of the originals and were only used if the originals proved difficult to read.

For more detailed information about the different types of church registers and for the list of other church registers included in the BDA see

<http://www.bda-online.org.au/sources/church-registers>

Historical resources available from the BDA Shop

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