

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

This page provides details of all available versions of the St Philips registers, with a guide to the sources actually used in BDA.

Those marked "Online" are included in BDA and available online.

**Baptisms**

Document	Start	End	Location	In BDA
Church Registers	1787	1809	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5002, Vol. 4	Online
	1809	1811	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5002, Vol. 5	Online
	1809	1825	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5002, Vol. 6	Online
	1809		SRNSW: ARK Reel 5002, Vol. 7	Online
	1812	1818	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5002, Vol. 7	Online
	1819	1825	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5002, Vol. 8	Online
	1826	1841	ML: SAG Reel 90+	Online
	1841	1856	ML: SAG Reel 91	Online
Clergy Returns	1811	1825	SRNSW: Reel 691, Vol. 2/8293	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*
Colonial Office Clergy Returns (being located)	Jul 1813	Dec 1813	ML: PRO Reel 33, CO 201/72 pp.191-97	Not processed
Kerrison James	1787	1831	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5001, Vol. 1	Not used*

**Marriages**

Church Registers	1787	1809	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5002, Vol. 4	Online
	1809	1811	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5002, Vol. 5	Online
	1812	1818	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5002, Vol. 7	Online
	1819	1825	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5002, Vol. 8	Online
	1826	1832	ML: SAG Reel 90	Online
	1833+			Not processed
Clergy Returns	1811	1825	SRNSW: Reel 691, Vol. 2/8293	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 5003-04, Vol. 16	Not used*

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Colonial Office Clergy Returns (being located)	Jul 1813	Dec 1813	ML: PRO Reel 33, CO 201/72 pp.191-97	Not processed
Kerrison James	1787	1831	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5002, Vol. 3	Not used*

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### Burials

Church Registers	1787	1809	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5002, Vol. 4	Online
	1809	1811	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5002, Vol. 5	Online
	1812	1818	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5002, Vol. 7	Online
	1819	1825	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5002, Vol. 8	Online
	1826	1831	ML: SAG Reel 90	Online
	1832+			Not processed
Clergy Returns	1811	1825	SRNSW: Reel 691, Vol. 2/8293	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*

Colonial Office Clergy Returns (being located)	Jul 1813	Dec 1813	ML: PRO Reel 33, CO 201/72 pp.191-97	Not processed
Kerrison James	1787	1831	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5001, Vol. 2	Not used*

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### Churchings (for explanation, see Notes below)

Church Registers	1811	1818	SRNSW: ARK Reel 5002, Vol. 4	Online
Clergy Returns	1811	Mar 1813	SRNSW: Reel 691, Vol. 2/8293	Not processed

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## Notes re the St Philips registers:

### Church Registers

The entries from the church registers themselves were used for BDA's transcriptions of baptisms, marriages and burials.

As copies of the pre-1826 St Philips registers are found in the State Records of New South Wales' Archives Kit (ARK) which is available in many local libraries, we have provided ARK as the primary source for these early entries to enable easy access for users. It is worth noting that all entries from 1787 to 1856 (and onwards) are also found in the Society of Australian Genealogists' microfilms 90 and 91 (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.25).

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The duplication/cross-over in dates for the pre-1825 period is due to the entries being listed in different sections based upon status (free/convict, married/single, etc.)

### **Clergy Returns**

These are copies of the church registers sent to the government (similarly to the Bishop's Transcripts in England), and begin in 1811.

For the period from 1811 to 1825, the Clergy Returns were documented differently to the church registers. They were produced quarterly rather than being divided into sections like the St Philips registers. All quarters have survived from January 1811 until December 1825 except for April-June 1813. Churchings are also found in these quarterly returns for the period from Jan 1811 to March 1813.

These early Clergy Returns sometimes included additional information which 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 examined only if specific entries were difficult to read in the original registers.

### **Colonial Office Clergy Returns**

Copies of the Clergy Returns were sent back to Britain among the Governor's Despatches and are found within the Colonial Office records held by The National Archives, Kew, London. BDA staff are examining the microfilms of these despatches and copying useful lists for inclusion in BDA, so these will be added to the above lists when located.

The Colonial Office versions of the Clergy Returns are duplicates and will only be used if the SRNSW version is missing or unreadable.

### **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 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.

### **Churchings**

Churchings were ceremonies in which women were blessed after giving birth. The origin of this ceremony appears to lie in the Jewish purification ritual (google Churching of Women for further information). Churching ceremonies were performed even when a child was stillborn, so a reference to a woman in the churching registers without any concomitant baptism or infant burial entry can provide a clue to the existence of another child, or explain a long gap in childbearing.

### **NSW Registry of Birth, Death & Marriage Indexes**

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 Philips, the BDM Indexes users two sources:

1. The Church Registers listed above; that is, Volumes 4 to 8 of ARK;
2. The Kerrison James listed above; that is Volume 1 of ARK.

For the period from 1826 onwards, the BDM Indexes use the Clergy Returns listed

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above.

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

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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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