

Searching the 1841 to 1911 censuses

When ever a birth, marriage or death date falls between two census dates you can use the census to search for further information.

Births

If a birth occurred between two census dates, e.g. between 1881 and 1891, you would search the 1891 census for that child living with the known parents in the county the child was born in. You would then search the 1901 census, bearing in mind that they would be about ten years older, which may provide entries of younger siblings of your relative. By searching an earlier census you may then find older siblings.

Marriages

If a marriage took place between two census dates, e.g. between 1861 and 1871, you would search censuses 1871 through to 1901 for this couple. This will provide details such as where they were living: their occupations and children born to them with their ages, gender, occupations and where they were born, as well as any other relatives who may live with them.

Deaths

If a death date falls between two census dates, e.g. between 1861 and 1871; search the 1861, 1851, 1841 censuses for that person. This may give you further information such as their occupations, where they lived, where they where born and their family.

Hints

Christenings, marriages and burials are often performed at the same church - for a whole family - as a tradition, therefore you could search christening, marriage and burial registers for that particular church.

Transcription errors may be a problem to you

The census started in 1841 and this first census contains only basic information. Censuses taken in later years contain more information. You may well come across variations in spellings and differences in ages, so carefully check the records as you search.