

New Year, New Hobby? Shop Top Ten
Hints for Family Historians

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New Year, New Hobby?

We asked Jessamy Carlson, our Family & Local History Engagement Lead, for her **top ten hints** for those wanting to begin learning about their own family history.

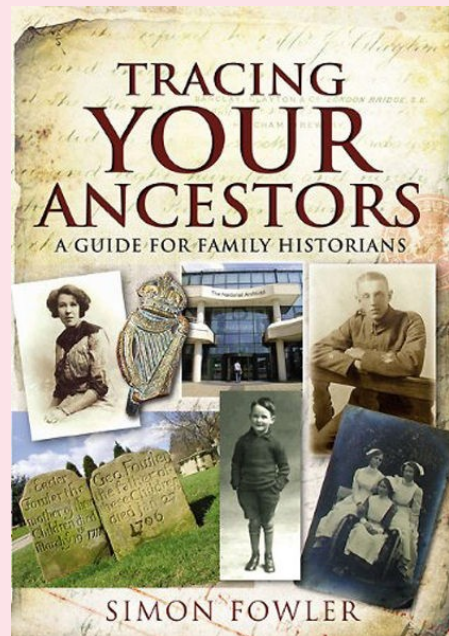
Have a look at invaluable books to anyone about to embark on a genealogical adventure.

Enjoy free delivery on UK orders over £50*.

1. Getting Started

This volume is an excellent introduction to getting going on your family history, and covers core records for any family historian. The Tracing Your Ancestors book series covers a whole range of subjects that are of interest to genealogists.

[Shop the book series now](#)



2. Ruler Pencil

No family historian should ever be without their trusty pencil, and this one doubles up to help with measurements.

[Buy tools for genealogists](#)

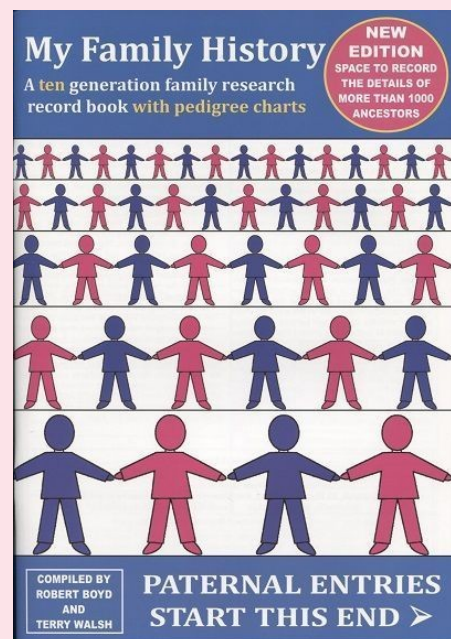


3. My Family History Record Book

There are lots of ways to document your family history research and this one is one of the most straightforward.

Remember, always write down where you found a piece of information when researching. You never know when you'll want to double check.

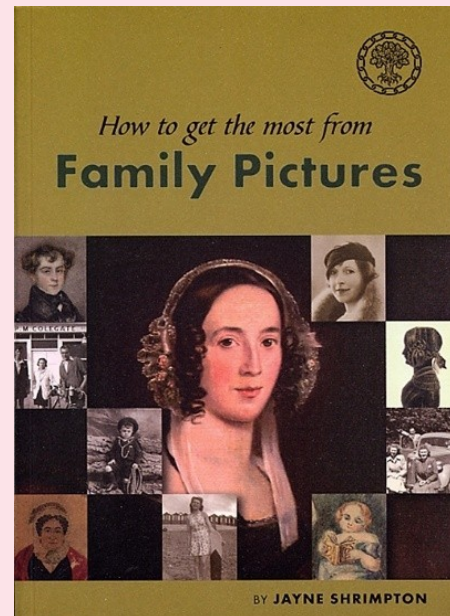
[Buy now | £9.99](#)



4. Interpreting Photographs

If you're lucky enough to have some old family photos, it can be fascinating to try and unpick the details in photographs. Volumes like this one can inform your guesswork when looking at old photos, and tell you more than you realised you could deduce!

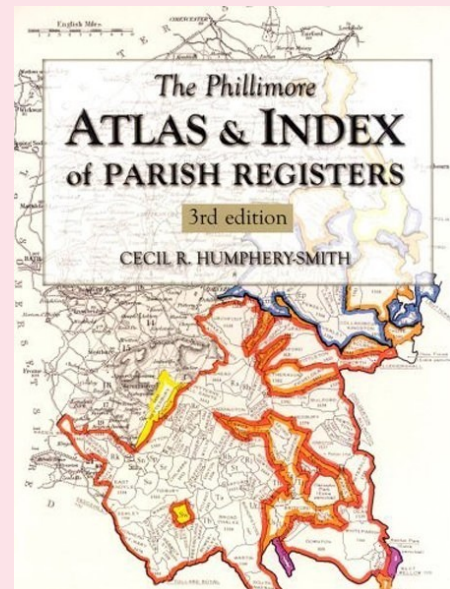
Buy now | £12.99



5. Parish Records

This volume is a mainstay of family history bookshelves and is very useful when looking for records outside of the civil registration system. It's such a useful reference guide, and well worth looking over.

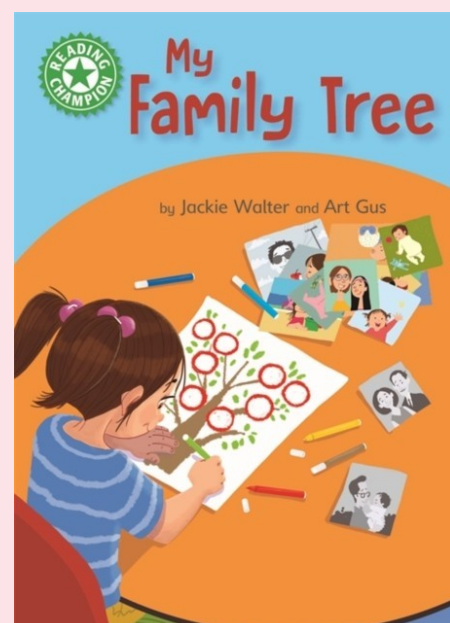
Buy now | £50



6. The Next Generation

If you have younger generations to pass the family history bug onto, then a volume like this can be an excellent way of introducing kids to their family history and starting to record it. It might even prompt some questions to allow you to further your own research!

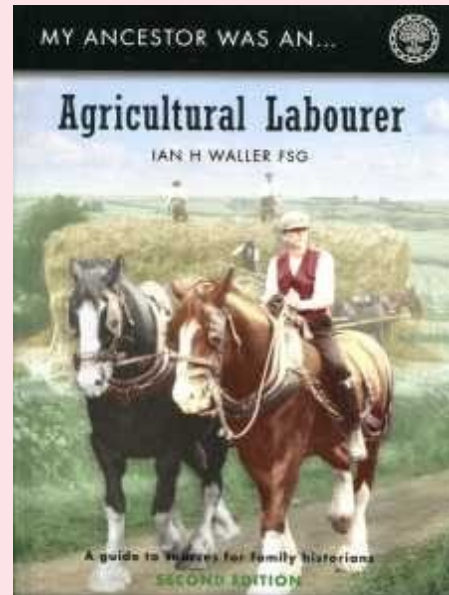
Buy now | £9.99



7. My Ancestor Was...

This book series is really useful in terms of pinpointing records for individuals who had particular trades (e.g. coal miner, lawyer) or who had specific life experiences (in an asylum, was a freemason), and are well worth a read if there's a volume relevant to you.

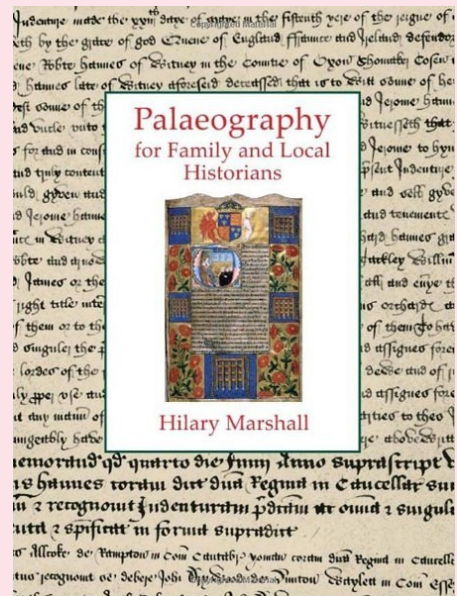
Shop the full book series now



8. Palaeography For Family & Local Historians

If your research takes you back beyond the nineteenth century, then the chances are you're going to encounter some handwriting that seems unfamiliar! This volume has lots of useful pointers and is well worth using to build up or brush up your palaeography skills.

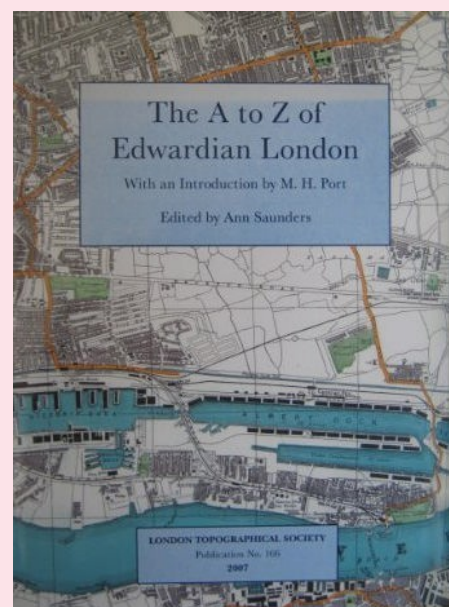
Buy palaeography books



9. Street Maps

If you're researching a particular place, especially if you're not all that familiar with it as a location, it can be invaluable to be able to check a map of the locality. Books of historic street maps can be very helpful. If your ancestors lived in London, for example, there are various map books arranged by historical period.

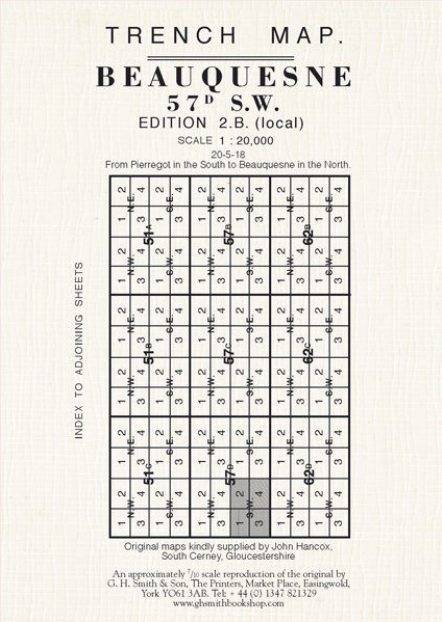
Buy books of historic street maps



10. Trench Maps

If you know where your ancestor served on the Western Front, then these maps can be fascinating, giving you insight into where they may have served. You'll need to cross reference to the Operational Unit War Diaries for the First World War in WO 95 to get the most out of these, but they're very interesting to look at!





Buy replica trench maps




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