

## ONLINE SOURCES *contd.*

[www.genuki.org.uk](http://www.genuki.org.uk) Database of sources of information for genealogy in the UK, including libraries, record offices, local societies etc.

[www.nationalarchives.gov.uk](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk) UK National Archives – full details, including Family Records Centre, Census etc.

[www.a2a.org.uk](http://www.a2a.org.uk) Describes archives held in record offices and libraries throughout England, including more than 2000 lists from the Lancashire Record Office.

<http://www.nara.gov/> United States National Archives in Washington, DC. links to

<http://www.archives.gov/genealogy/start-research/>

which offers expert advice on how to conduct research and guides the user to other sources available to them in the United States. Some of those links are included below.

[http://www.gwest.org/gen\\_libs.htm](http://www.gwest.org/gen_libs.htm) Directory of Genealogy Libraries in the U.S.

<http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~holdiman/LSG/libraries.htm> lists genealogy libraries worldwide.

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchswww/> National Centre for Health Statistics, offers a list of vital records offices in the United States at the following site:

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/howto/w2w/w2welcom.htm>

<http://www.census.gov/genealogy/www/faqgene.txt>

contains very useful advice for the beginning researcher using resources in the United States.

## Contacts in the Library

### For help with Bermuda research questions contact:

Local Studies Librarian

Available: 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday

Call for appointment to avoid disappointment

Tel. (441) 296-1297 ext. 223

Fax. (441) 292-8443

e-mail: [ejhollis@gov.bm](mailto:ejhollis@gov.bm)

### For help with general research questions contact the Adult Services Information desk:

Tel. (441) 295-3104

Available during Library opening hours



GOVERNMENT OF BERMUDA  
Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs  
**Bermuda National Library**  
Technical Services

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## BERMUDA NATIONAL LIBRARY

Bermuda History ~

# Genealogy : researching your family tree



At your service, Bermuda!

## REFERENCES IN THE LIBRARY

The following list is just a representation of the sources available in the Library. Please come in and see what else is available.

### Circulating Collection

924.3 S Stryker-Rodda, Harriet. *How to climb your family tree : genealogy for beginners.* 1987.

929.1 H Helm, Matthew. *Genealogy online for dummies.* 2004.

929.1072 G Gates, Henry Louis. *Finding Oprah's roots : finding your own.* 2007.

### Bermudiana Collection

301.412 M Musson, Nellie E. *Mind the onion seed.* 1979.

326 P Packwood, Cyril Outerbridge, 1930- *Chained on the rock : slavery in Bermuda.* 1975.

720.97299 B Bermuda National Trust. *Bermuda's architectural heritage.* (Series 1995 onwards)

780.92 W Writers Machine. *Jazz of the Rock : the musical heritage of Bermuda and its people* (part two). 1978.

785.067 D Doars, Erskine. *The history and memoirs of the North Village Band.* 1988.

929.37296 H Hallett, C. F. E. *Early colonists of the Bahamas : a selection of records.* 1996.

929.37299 H Hallett, Archibald Cameron Hollis. *Early Bermuda records 1619-1829 : a guide to the parish and clergy registers with some assessment lists and petitions.* 1991.

929.37299 H ---. *19th century Bermuda wills, 1835-1913 : -summarized and indexed : a genealogical reference book.* 2000.

929.37299 H ---. *19th century church registers of Bermuda.* 2005.

929.37299 H Hallett, C. F. E. *Bermuda index 1784-1914 : an index of births, marriages, deaths, as recorded in Bermuda newspapers.* 1989.

929.37299 H ---. *Early Bermuda wills, 1629-1835 : summarized and indexed : a genealogical reference book.* 1993.

972.99 R Robinson, Kenneth Ellsworth. *Heritage : including an account of Bermudian builders, pilots and petitioners of the early post-abolition period 1834-1859.* 1979.

972.990044 M Mudd, Patricia Marirea. *Portuguese Bermudians : early history and reference guide, 1849-1949.* 1991.

### Reference Collection

355.0025 J Johnson, Richard S., and Debra Johnson Knox. *How to locate anyone who is or has been in the military : armed forces locator guide.* 5th ed. 1993.

929.1 W Wright, Raymond S. *The genealogist's handbook : modern methods for researching family history.* 1995.

929.42 H Hanks, Patrick, and Flavia Hodges. *A dictionary of surnames.* 1988.

## ONLINE SOURCES

[www.1837online.com/Trace2web/](http://www.1837online.com/Trace2web/) Copy of the indexes of births, marriages and deaths for England and Wales from 1837 to 2001. This is a charged service.

[www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) Genealogical databases for Britain and the United States. It includes British Census records for 1871, 1881, 1891 and 1901 and birth, death & marriage records for England & Wales. This is a charged service.

[www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org). This Mormon database for family history includes International Genealogical Index (I.G.I.) and 1881 Census for UK, as well as American sources.

<http://freebmd.rootsweb.com> Registrar General's Indexes to births, marriages and deaths for England and Wales. The indexes are being added gradually.

[www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org) Commonwealth War Graves Commission database giving details of 1.7m Commonwealth sailors, soldiers and airmen who died during two world wars, and where they are buried.

# Genealogy in Bermuda

## Genealogy – How do I start?

Start with the information you have or can gather from family members and work back, step by step, to your parents, grandparents, great-grandparents and so on. Look in family records such as personal letters, family Bibles, photo albums, scrapbooks, diaries, newspaper clippings, etc. Ask family members to tell stories from their childhood; what seems like a small detail may become important later (i.e. nicknames mistaken for legal names).

### Example:

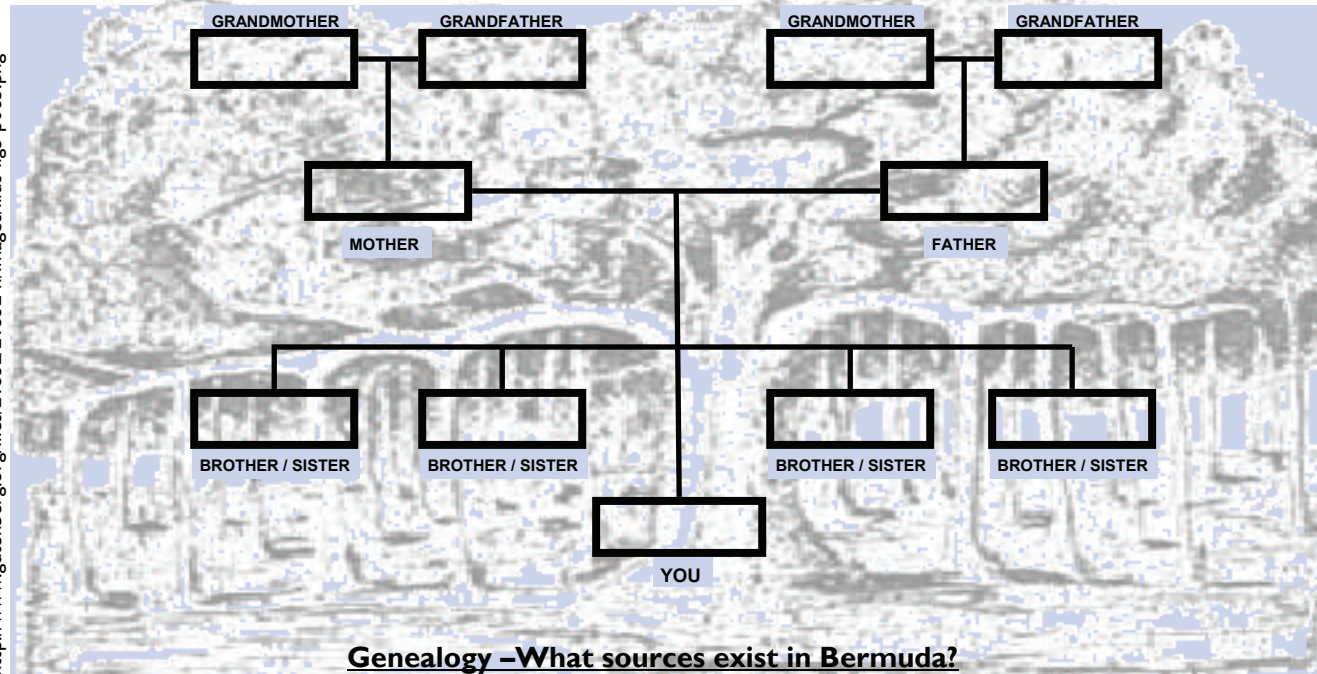
Name: Self: Ellen Jane Hollis  
Parents: Father: Thaddeus Arthur Hollis II (known as Thad or "TA")  
Mother: Catherine Ellen Jane McDonald  
Siblings: Brother: Thaddeus Arthur Hollis III (known as Thad)  
Sister: Adria Catherine Russo  
Father's parents:  
Father: Thaddeus Arthur Hollis (known as "Arthur" or T. Arthur)  
Mother: Doris Louise Denman  
Mother's parents:  
Father: William James McDonald (known as "Mac")  
Mother: Winifred Beatrice Powell (Occasionally called "Fred")

This gives a very basic family tree which can be filled in with aunts and uncles, great-aunts and great-uncles, nephews, nieces and cousins!

### For example:

Name: Thaddeus Arthur Hollis II  
Siblings: Sister 1 Edith Matilda Mia  
Sister 2 Thelma Audrey (known as Audrey)  
Sister 3 Doris Louise (known as Louise)  
Sister 1 married Charles Z. Mann  
Children: Son 1 Andrew  
Son 2 Ian  
Sister 2 married Jim Cloud  
Children: Daughter 1 Candice  
Daughter 2 Stacey  
Sister 3 married Wallace Sheffield  
Children: Son 1 Arthur  
Son 2 William

<http://www.gutenberg.org/files/21832/21832-h/images/illus-fig5-p065.png>



## Genealogy –What sources exist in Bermuda?

### Indexes & Certificates of Births, Marriages, Deaths

All births, marriages and deaths in Bermuda should have been registered with the local registrar. Information about Bermuda's Registry General can be found at: <http://www.registrygeneral.gov.bm/>. Members of the public may search the Birth, Marriage and Death records at the Public Search Facility, located on the 1st floor of the Government Administration Building, Hamilton, on payment of an hourly fee.

Queries can be emailed to:  
kminors@gov.bm—Births, deaths  
mperinchief@gov.bm—Marriages

Alternately, please contact the staff at:  
The Registry General  
1st floor, Government Administration Building  
30 Parliament Street, Hamilton HM 12, Bermuda

For births, deaths and marriages prior to 1866 please contact the Bermuda Archives. Alternatively, you can use several books that have been created from those early sources. These books are available at the Bermuda Archives and at the Bermuda National Library.

### Wills

Wills can be a very useful source of information for historians as they may give details of family circumstances and often indicate the transfer of property. Microfilm copies of the books of wills from the 1600s to the 1974 (probated wills) are available at the Government Archives in the public reference room. Early Bermuda wills have also been transcribed and published by Dr. and Mrs. Hallett. [Please see following list of recommended books]. For probated wills dated after 1974 the researcher is encouraged to contact the Registry of the Supreme Court.

Address:  
Registry of the Supreme Court (Court 3)  
Old Town Hall, 113 Front Street,  
Hamilton HM 11, Bermuda

### Church Registers

The Bermuda Archives holds a collection of private papers relating to Bermuda which have been donated by private organizations, institutions, and members of the public. Many of these collections

support genealogical research and include the Anglican, Methodist and Presbyterian Church registers as well as records of the Parish Vestries.

### Parliamentary Registers

Parliamentary Registers give the addresses and names of those who are allowed to vote. They are normally arranged by street within each parish. Current editions are available at the Bermuda National Library, Post Offices and online. Several of the older Registers can be seen upon request at the Bermuda National Library and at the Government Archives.

### Local Newspapers

Newspapers are full of information that can assist you in developing your family tree. They contain not only the news, but also interviews with, and profiles of, local personalities, accounts of court cases, birth, marriage and death announcements, obituaries and tributes, photographs and advertisements.

The Bermuda National Library collects the local newspapers and has microfilm copies of these newspapers available for public use. The earliest Royal Gazette we hold is from 1784. The original copies of the newspapers are maintained in an off-site storage facility. Public access to the originals is very limited so that these rare documents can be preserved. The Bermuda Index is an annotated index to the local newspapers which assists staff and researchers to find the location of articles of Bermuda interest.

### Genealogy – What sources exist online?

The Internet offers many additional ways to help you with your family tree. A good place to start is [www.rootsweb.com/~bmuwgv/bermuda.htm](http://www.rootsweb.com/~bmuwgv/bermuda.htm) the Bermuda Genealogy Group website.

A number of other useful websites are listed over the page.

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