

## EMIGRATION

The **difference** between “immigrate” and “**emigrate**” is that “immigrating” is the act of entering a foreign country to live while “emigrating” is the act of leaving a country to live in another.

### **Emigration from England**

There was no systematic, official method of emigrating from England. The following types of emigrants account for most persons who left England:

**Free emigrants.** Beginning in 1606 emigrants left England to promote trade or set up military outposts and way stations for merchant ships. Later free emigrants sought opportunities in a new land or fled poverty or oppression in England.

**Assisted emigrants.** From 1815 to 1900, qualified emigrants received passage money or land grants in the destination country as an alternative to receiving poor relief.

**Transported prisoners.** From 1611 to 1870, more than 200,000 criminals were conditionally pardoned, exiled, and transported to penal colonies. Before 1775, more than 50,000 prisoners were sent to America—primarily to Virginia and Maryland. From 1788 to 1869, more than 160,000 prisoners were sent to Australia.

**Military personnel.** Upon discharge, soldiers serving overseas were offered land or other inducements to settle in the colony where they were serving. This was common practice in Australia from 1791, Canada from 1815, and New Zealand from 1844.

**Latter-day Saints.** About 1840, converts to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints emigrated to the United States. Most settled in Utah.

European Emigration Card Index 1849-1925 Crossing the Ocean Index

### **Find My Past**

Early emigration from Britain 1636-1815

Britain, early emigration to Barbados

### **ANCESTRY**

**Sweden, Emigration Registers, 1869-1948 (in Swedish)**

**Emigrants from England to the American Colonies, 1773-1776**

**New York, Emigrant Savings Bank Records, 1850-1883**

**IMMIGRANT ANCESTORS PROJECT**    <http://immigrants.byu.edu>

Immigrant Ancestors is a project sponsored by Brigham Young University's Center for Family History and Genealogy. To create the database, student interns gather **emigrant records from repositories throughout Europe**, then bring them back to the project team at Brigham Young University (BYU).

**BOOKS**

**ORIGINAL LISTS OF PERSONS WHO WENT FROM GREAT BRITAIN TO THE AMERICAN PLANTATIONS 1600-1700** (London 1874) by John C Hotten

Based on Colonial Office records, as well as the Registers of Licenses to Pass beyond the Seas kept by the Exchequer (series E 157) for passengers requiring licenses to travel to New England, Barbados, Maryland, Virginia and other colonies 1634-1639 and 1677.

**DIRECTORY OF SCOTTISH SETTLERS IN NORTH AMERICA**, David Dobson

Draws on records in the Audit Office accounts Prince Edward Island original correspondence Home Office correspondence and papers, Scotland and the Treasury registers

**VOYAGERS TO THE WEST: EMIGRATION FROM BRITAIN TO AMERICA ON THE EVE OF THE REVOLUTION** by Bernard Bailyn

Utilizes the registers kept by port customs officials of emigrants leaving for the New World and are available to view on Findmypast.co.uk

**COMPLETE BOOK OF EMIGRANTS 1607-1660** by Peter Wilson Coldham

**COMPLETE BOOK OF EMIGRANTS IN BONDAGE 1614-1775** by Peter Wilson Coldham

**CHILD EMIGRATION**

Child emigration schemes operated in Britain from 1618 to 1967. About 150,000 children were sent to the British colonies and dominions during this time, with numbers peaking between the 1870s and 1914 when approximately 80,000 children were sent to Canada alone.

The Poor Law Amendment Act 1850 provided a response, allowing Boards of Guardians to send children under 16 overseas for the first time. The majority of schemes began in 1870. Frequently it was the voluntary organizations that arranged for the child's migration.

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/emigration/>