

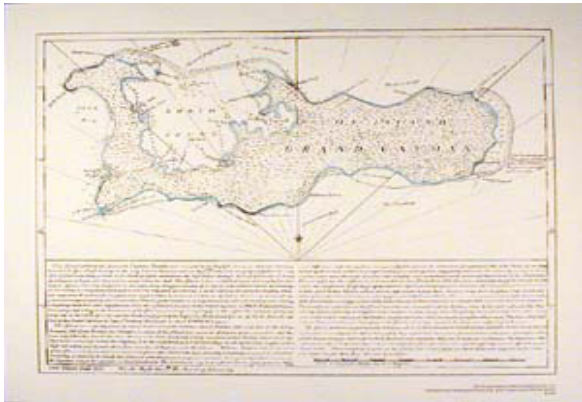
GENEALOGICAL SOURCES

The Cayman Islands National Archive (CINA) holds many records which contain genealogical information. Following is a list of the main records which may pertain to your search.

Pre 1800

- **Gauld Map**

This is a 1773 survey map of Grand Cayman by George Gauld, an English navy hydrographer. At the bottom of the map are Gauld's observations which makes mention of settlers.



1800- to present

- **1802 Census**

The first census of the Cayman Islands is the only one that gives details such as the name of the head of the household and the numbers (including slaves) in each family.

- **Public Recorder's Volumes 1810-1949**

A series of volumes, which contain entries of wills, deeds, sales of slaves, articles of association etc., which were voluntarily recorded to be registered as government records. These are the earliest records held by CINA.

- **Slave Compensation Records 1835**

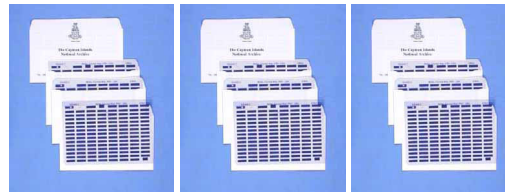
These include registers for slave registration and compensation which arose from the abolition of slavery. They contain lists of slaves, their owners and the owner's claims.

- **Frederick McTaggart Records 1857-1905**

These are the private records of Mr. McTaggart, who was a Presbyterian schoolteacher and Registrar of Births for the districts of West Bay and George Town.

- **Birth, Marriage and Death Registrations**

These records date from 1885 and are one of the earliest records in our collections. All registrations are accessible via microfiche.



- **Central Registry 1888-1970s**

These records reflect the many activities of Government (including personnel), from its infancy through to its rapid expansion. It should be noted that some items are restricted due to personal information or preservation issues.

- **Blue Books 1927-1951**

These volumes contain annual statistics for each colony. Each volume has a section for the civil establishment and legislature, with details such as names of post-holders, commencement dates and salaries.

- **Compiled Family Histories**

As part of our private donations, the Archive has acquired family trees and other biographical items.

- **Baptismal Records**

Our private donations also contain baptismal records from The Bay Islands. These are found in the Dr. Lord Collection and date from the mid-1800s. The United Church in Jamaica and The Cayman Islands Collection, dating from the 1850s, contain local baptismal registers and other genealogical records.

- **Cemetery Records**

Members of the online genealogy group, Cayman Connections, have compiled a Cemetery listing of Grand Cayman and Cayman Brac. You can also find a Utila (Bay Islands) Cemetery listing in Dr. Lord's Collection.

OTHER RECORDS

- *Notes on the History of the Cayman Islands*, 1910 by Dr. George S.S. Hirst is the first history written about the Cayman Islands. Dr. Hirst, who was Commissioner at the time, dedicates a section of the book to genealogy and the origin of names. This book forms part of the National Archive's Reference Library.

- Oral history also plays an important role in genealogical research. The Oral History Programme actively collects and preserves Cayman's oral history through recorded interviews.

These interviews are transcribed, so while listening to an interview, you also can read along. Summaries are also produced which describe the main topics discussed.



PREPARING FOR YOUR VISIT

Researching the holdings of the Cayman Islands National Archive will be most beneficial if you prepare by gathering as much as information as possible. Here are some helpful hints:-

- Starting with yourself and your relatives, work backwards to obtain dates and places.
- Look through family bibles, deeds, wills etc.
- Contact the General Registry Office for all recent birth, marriage and death registrations.

YOUR VISIT TO THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

To aid you in your search through these records, ask for assistance in locating these items from the Archivist on duty in the Reading Room. There are no fees for viewing the records, but copying charges do apply.

Appointments are recommended to ensure that time and space in the Reading Room is available. The Reading Room is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 4:30pm. We take our last appointment at 3:30pm.

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**GENEALOGICAL
RECORDS**

**AN AID TO LOCATING
YOUR ANCESTORS**