



Burgess Lists and Electoral Registers

Our Registers cover the Swansea West, Swansea East, Lliw Valley (from 1991 onwards) and Gower areas. The earliest Register in the Local Studies Library dates from 1836. There is an incomplete run until 1939 and a fuller set after the Second World War, up to 2002. The majority of our registers are available for people to browse on the open shelves in the Local Studies area.

Some Notes on Using the Registers

Inclusion in early Electoral Registers or Burgess Lists was dependent on property ownership and women were totally excluded until 1918 (even then they had to be over 30). Fortunately, later Electoral Registers were less exclusive. Nineteenth century registers listed voters by surname within wards, whereas registers from Edwardian times swapped to listing people by address within their local ward. Thus to use the registers to find people in the twentieth century you will need to have an address or at least an idea of the ward or area they lived in. Later volumes also contain street indexes. Also please remember borough boundaries have changed over the years.

The *Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2002* meant that the full electoral registers could no longer be held by the Central Library. The current and recent registers can be found in West Glamorgan Archives, also located in Swansea Civic Centre. They also have a fuller set of historic electoral registers for all of the former county of West Glamorgan. The historic registers in the Archives are on closed access so you will need to ask staff for access. Please see <https://www.swansea.gov.uk/article/23235/Visiting-West-Glamorgan-Archives> for further information.

The Swansea area registers from 1839-1966 in West Glamorgan Archives have been digitised and can be searched by name and by location via *Ancestry.com*. *Findmypast.com* has a searchable database of the *England & Wales, Electoral Registers 1832-1932* provided by the British Library. Swansea library members can search *Ancestry* and *Findmypast* for free via our subscriptions. See our **Online Resources** on our website for details.

The meanings of the codes used in the registers are:

R Residence qualification

BP Business premises qualification

O Occupational qualification (occupation in this case is occupation of a property, not employment)

HO Qualification through husband's occupation

NM Naval or military voter

J Eligible to serve as juror

SJ Eligible to serve as special juror

a Absent voter

BP Business premises register

CI Civilian residence register

SE Service register

RR Ratepayers register

From 1928, the following codes can be found:

R Residence qualification (man)

Rw Residence qualification (woman)

B Business premises qualification (man)

Bw Business premises qualification (woman)

O Occupational qualification (man)

Ow Occupational qualification (woman)

D Qualification through wife's occupation

Dw Qualification through husband's occupation

NM Naval or military voter

Burgess Lists and Electoral Registers held in Swansea Central Library

1836	SWANSEA [Alphabetical listing by ward]
1845 - 1846	GLAMORGAN [Alphabetical listing by ward]
1869 - 1871	GLAMORGAN [Alphabetical listing by ward]
1874	SWANSEA [Alphabetical listing by ward]
1875	SWANSEA [Alphabetical listing by ward]
1878	SWANSEA BURGESS ROLL - LIST OF PARLIAMENTARY VOTERS, SWANSEA
1879	SWANSEA BURGESS ROLL - LIST OF PARLIAMENTARY VOTERS, SWANSEA
1880	SWANSEA [Alphabetical listing by ward]
1882	SWANSEA [Alphabetical listing by ward]
1884	SWANSEA [Alphabetical listing by ward]
1888 -1889	SWANSEA TOWN & NORTH AND EAST WARDS [Alphabetical listing by ward]
1907 -1908	SWANSEA [Listing by address within Wards]
1908 -1909	SWANSEA
1909 -1910	SWANSEA
1910 -1911	SWANSEA
1911-1912	SWANSEA
1912 -1913	SWANSEA
1913 -1914	SWANSEA
1914 -1915	SWANSEA
1919	SWANSEA [Damaged volume stored in basement. Please ask if you need access.]
1921	INCOMPLETE - MAINLY SWANSEA WEST
1925	GOWER ONLY
1926	SWANSEA EAST AND WEST
1936	SWANSEA EAST AND WEST (NO FFYNONE WARD) [Some wards have a Street index
1938	SWANSEA EAST AND WEST [Wards have a Street index listing at the end of the section.]
1939	SWANSEA EAST AND WEST & GOWER [Wards have a Street index listing at the end of the
1945	CIVILIAN RESIDENCE REGISTER (SWANSEA) [Combined street Index]
1946	CIVILIAN RESIDENCE REGISTER (GOWER)
1946	ELECTORAL REGISTER SWANSEA EAST AND WEST & GOWER
1948 - 2002	ELECTORAL REGISTER SWANSEA EAST AND WEST & GOWER
1991-1993	LLIW VALLEY (Part) [Partial volumes covering areas like Pontarddulais, Gorseinon, Loughor]
1994-1996	LLIW VALLEY (Complete)

Welsh and Swansea Trade Directories

Local trade and commercial directories were published from the late 18th Century onwards. The earliest held in the Local Studies Library is dated 1816. They vary in content - some list only professional and trades-people, others include private residents and a few contain a street index. Further publication details on individual titles in this list can be found by checking our online catalogue. Most of these items are on the open shelves for browsing in the Local Studies Library though some later Kelly's directories for South Wales are stored in our glass cabinets. Please ask staff for access.

Many of the Library's Trade Directories were supplied on loan for digitisation, in a co-operative initiative, to a Lottery-funded project, *Historical Directories of England & Wales*, organised by the University of Leicester. These may be freely searched online at:

specialcollections.le.ac.uk/digital/collection/p16445coll4

They also can also be searched in the *Ancestry.com* collection *UK, City and County Directories, 1766 - 1946*. Swansea library members can search *Ancestry* for free via our subscription. Please see our **Online Resources** on our website for details.

We also have a collection of trade directories and telephone directories for the Swansea area for the period after 1970. Please consult the online library catalogue or ask staff for further details.

Trade Directories held in Swansea Central Library (To 1970)

Key - Extra: N = Includes Name Index S = Includes Street Index

Date	Publisher	Area Covered	Extra
1816	MATTHEWS	SWANSEA	N
1830	MATTHEWS	SWANSEA	
1840	ROBSON	LONDON. WESTERN COUNTIES. SOUTH WALES	
1844	PIGOT'S	ENGLAND & WALES	
1848	HUNT	BRISTOL. NEWPORT. WELSH TOWNS	
1849	HUNT	GLOUCESTER. BRISTOL. WELSH TOWNS	
1850	HUNT	BRISTOL & WELSH TOWNS	
1850	WHITE'S	DEVON	N
1852	SCAMMELL'S	BRISTOL & SOUTH WALES	N
1854	PEARSE	SWANSEA	N
1856	PEARSE	SWANSEA	N
1858 - 59	SLATER'S	GLOUCESTERSHIRE. MONMOUTHSHIRE. NORTH	
1863	WAKEFORD	CARDIFF. LLANDAFF. CANTON. ELY. MAINDY.	
1866	POST OFFICE	GLAMORGANSHIRE	N
c.1867	SLATER'S	SOUTH WALES	
1869	PEARSE & BROWN	SWANSEA	N
1871	KELLY / POST OFFICE	MONMOUTHSHIRE	

1873 - 74	BUTCHER	SWANSEA	N
1875	WORRALL	SOUTH WALES	
1875 - 76	BUTCHER	SWANSEA & NEATH	
1875 - 76	BUTCHER	CARDIFF. NEWPORT. PONTYPRIDD	S
1881 - 82	BUTCHER	SWANSEA	S
1883	WILLIAM & WRIGHT	SWANSEA	S
1884	KELLY'S	SOUTH WALES	S
1884	WILSON	WALES	
1885	WILSON	WALES	
1887	CAMBRIA DAILY LEADER	SWANSEA	S
1889 - 90	WRIGHT	SWANSEA & LLANELLY	S
1891	KELLY'S	MONMOUTHSHIRE & SOUTH WALES	S
1895	KELLY'S	SOUTH WALES	S
1895	SLATER'S	MID & NORTH WALES	N
1895 - 6	TELEGRAPH	PEMBROKESHIRE	
1899	WRIGHT	SWANSEA	S
1899	TOWN & COUNTRY	CARDIFF & DISTRICT	
1899	BENNETT	SOUTH WALES	
1900	SOUTH WALES DAILY POST	SWANSEA	S
1900	TOWN & COUNTRY	SWANSEA & DISTRICT	
1900	BENNETT	SOUTH WALES	
1901	BENNETT	WESTERN COUNTIES & WALES	
1901	KELLY'S	MONMOUTHSHIRE & SOUTH WALES	N
1903	TRADES DIRECTORIES	WALES	
1904 - 05	TOWN & COUNTRY	SWANSEA & DISTRICT	
1904 - 05	WRIGHT	SWANSEA	S
1905 - 06	TOWN & COUNTRY	SWANSEA & DISTRICT	
1906	KELLY'S	MONMOUTHSHIRE & SOUTH WALES	N
1906	TRADES DIRECTORIES	WALES	
1906 - 07	TOWN & COUNTRY	SWANSEA & DISTRICT	
1907 - 08	PURRIER'S	SWANSEA	S
1908 - 09	PURRIER'S	SWANSEA	S
1909	TRADES DIRECTORIES	WALES	
1910 - 11	PURRIER'S	SWANSEA	S
1911 - 12	PURRIER'S	SWANSEA	
1914	TRADES DIRECTORIES	WALES	
1914	KELLY'S	MONMOUTHSHIRE & SOUTH WALES	N
1915	BENNETT	WALES	

1918	TRADES DIRECTORIES	WALES	
1919 - 20	TOWN & COUNTRY	SWANSEA & DISTRICT	
1920	KELLY'S	MONMOUTHSHIRE & SOUTH WALES	N
1922	TRADES DIRECTORIES	WALES	
1922-23	TOWN & COUNTRY	SWANSEA & DISTRICT	
1923	KELLY'S	MONMOUTHSHIRE & SOUTH WALES	N
1923	COPE	MONMOUTHSHIRE & SOUTH WALES	
1923 - 24	TOWN & COUNTRY	SWANSEA & DISTRICT	
1924 - 25	TOWN & COUNTRY	SWANSEA& DISTRICT	
1926	KELLY'S	SOUTH WALES	N
1926 - 27	TOWN & COUNTRY	SWANSEA & DISTRICT	
1927	TRADES DIRECTORIES	WALES	
1927 - 28	TOWN & COUNTRY	SWANSEA & DISTRICT	
1928	TRADES DIRECTORIES	WALES	
1928 - 29	TOWN & COUNTRY	SWANSEA & DISTRICT	
1929	CHAMBER OF TRADE	SWANSEA	S
1929	TRADES DIRECTORIES	WALES	
1929 - 30	TOWN & COUNTRY	SWANSEA & DISTRICT	
1930 - 31	CHAMBER OF TRADE	SWANSEA	S
1930 - 31	TOWN & COUNTRY	SWANSEA & DISTRICT	
1931	TRADES DIRECTORIES	WALES	
1932	TRADES DIRECTORIES	WALES	
1937	KELLY'S	HEREFORDSHIRE & SHROPSHIRE	N
1937	KELLY'S	MONMOUTHSHIRE	N
1937	WESTERN MAIL	CARDIFF	S
1937	JOHN'S	NEWPORT	S
1938	CHAMBER OF TRADE	SWANSEA	S
1939	KELLY'S	COLWYN BAY	S
1939	KELLY'S	LLANDUDNO & COLWYN	S
1948	INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION	WALES & MONMOUTHSHIRE	
1949	KELLY'S	CARDIFF	S
1950	THOMAS & PRYER	SWANSEA	S
1950	KELLY'S	NEWPORT	S
1952	KELLY'S	CARDIFF	S
1952	PRYER	SOUTH & WEST WALES	
1952	INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION	WALES & MONMOUTHSHIRE	
1953	KELLY'S	NEWPORT	S
1953 - 54	TOWN & COUNTRY	SWANSEA, CARDIFF, NEWPORT	

1953 - 54	TRADES DIRECTORIES	NORTH & SOUTH WALES	
1953 - 54	PRYER	MIDLANDS. LANCASHIRE. YORKSHIRE. SOUTH	
1954 - 55	COUNTIES PUBLISHING	SOUTH WALES	
1955	KELLY'S	CARDIFF	S
1955	KELLY'S	NEWPORT	S
1955	PRYER	MIDLANDS. LANCASHIRE. YORKSHIRE. SOUTH	
1955 - 56	TOWN & COUNTRY	SWANSEA. CARDIFF. NEWPORT	
1955 - 56	TRADES DIRECTORIES	NORTH & SOUTH WALES	
1956	INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION	WALES & MONMOUTHSHIRE	
1956 - 57	COUNTIES PUBLISHING	SOUTH WALES	
1957 - 58	COUNTIES PUBLISHING	SOUTH WALES	
1958	KELLY'S	CARDIFF	S
1960	KELLY'S	NEWPORT	S
1960	INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION	WALES & MONMOUTHSHIRE	
1961	KELLY'S	CARDIFF	S
1961	CHAMBERS	SOUTH WALES. MONMOUTHSHIRE & BRISTOL	
1961 - 62	COUNTIES PUBLISHING	SOUTH WALES & MIDLANDS	
1961 - 62	TRADES DIRECTORIES	NORTH & SOUTH WALES	
1962	CHAMBERS	SOUTH WALES. MONMOUTHSHIRE & BRISTOL	
1963 - 64	COUNTIES PUBLISHING	SOUTH WALES & MIDLANDS	
1963 - 64	TOWN & COUNTRY	SWANSEA. CARDIFF. NEWPORT	
1964	KELLY'S	CARDIFF	S
1964	CHAMBERS	SOUTH WALES & SOUTH WEST ENGLAND	
1965	CHAMBERS	SOUTH WALES & SOUTH WEST ENGLAND	
1966	KELLY'S	NEWPORT	S
1966	CHAMBERS	SOUTH WALES & SOUTH WEST ENGLAND	
1967	KELLY'S	NEWPORT	S
1967	CHAMBERS	SOUTH WALES & SOUTH WEST ENGLAND	
1967	TRADES DIRECTORIES	NORTH & SOUTH WALES	
1968	CHAMBERS	SOUTH WALES & SOUTH WEST ENGLAND	
1968	DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION	WALES	
1969 - 70	TOWN & COUNTRY	SWANSEA. CARDIFF. NEWPORT	
1970	KELLY'S	CARDIFF	S
1970	KELLY'S	NEWPORT	S
1970	CHAMBERS	SOUTH WALES & SOUTH WEST ENGLAND	
1970 - 71	TRADES DIRECTORIES	WALES	

If you have any further questions please contact Library Line on Swansea (01792) 637503 or email libraryline@swansea.gov.uk .