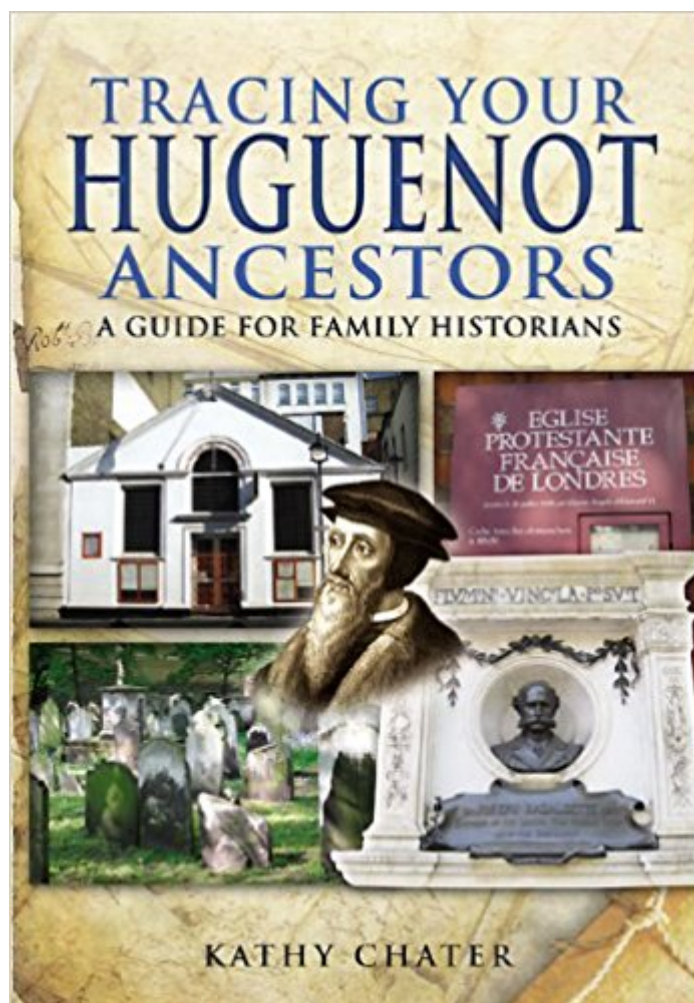


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Tracing Your Huguenot Ancestors: A Guide For Family Historians



Synopsis

Between the sixteenth and eighteenth centuries, many thousands of Protestants fled religious persecution in France and the Low Countries. They became one of the most influential immigrant communities in the countries where they settled, and many families in modern-day Britain will find a Huguenot connection in their past. Kathy Chater's authoritative handbook offers an accessible introduction to Huguenot history and to the many sources that researchers can use to uncover the Huguenot ancestry they may not have realized they had. She traces the history of the Huguenots; their experience of persecution, and their flight to Britain, North America, the West Indies and South Africa, concentrating on the Huguenot communities that settled in England, Ireland, Scotland and the Channel Islands. Her work is also an invaluable guide to the various sources researchers can turn to in order to track their Huguenot ancestors, for she describes the wide range of records that is available in local, regional and national archives, as well as through the internet and overseas. Her expert overview is essential reading for anyone studying their Huguenot ancestry or immigrant history in Britain.

Book Information

Paperback: 192 pages

Publisher: Pen and Sword (April 19, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 184884610X

ISBN-13: 978-1848846104

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.4 x 9.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (6 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #817,436 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #900 in [Books > Reference > Genealogy](#) #30768 in [Books > History > World](#)

Customer Reviews

I bought this book with eyes wide open. Reviews that stated it focused on British information. I simply hoped I could find other sources as well. My family is french, probably Huguenot, at least non-conformist. I hoped to find additional background. This book was helpful, but only in a very basic context. Like many others, my ancestor was driven out of France by Roman Catholic repression and, in modern terms, war crimes. I was interested especially in Palatine and Dutch records to try to trace the path of refuge before embarking for America. There are website links

provided to further your research, but the vast majority of the links and sources are designed for people who have ancestors that lived in Britain. There are numerous listings of churches, congregations and other records that are detailed and helpful to the Huguenot scene in England. This is great info and very valuable to those who fit this bill. I just don't happen to be one of them. If you are one of them, buy this book, it will help. If you are more like me, with ancestors that are linked to America directly from Europe, don't have high expectations. One of the most valuable tidbits I gleaned from the book was that Huguenots tended to give their children Old Testament names at a time when New Testament names were the usual for the mainstream of Catholic society. Perhaps it will prove more helpful as I explore the links it provides, but I am not optimistic.

Unfortunately, this book is so general, I would only recommend it to someone who does not know any Huguenot history. It does not give prominent names; it is also outmoded in that anyone can obtain the information online. It also does not quite live up to the title. I would not know how to begin tracing my ancestors upon reading this. I dislike leaving poor feedback, but this book needs to be updated or rewritten.

I had borrowed this book from the inter-library loan program, so I knew it was something I wanted. This book tells the history of the Huguenot movement, their many relocations, and how to trace your ancestors through multiple moves

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