

## **A new GenealogySA Project:**

### **Cornish-born South Australians and their first-generation descendants**

Over 10% of people living in South Australia today have an ancestor who migrated here from Cornwall in the United Kingdom, more than twice the percentage that settled in any other Australian State or Territory. Many of these came in response to vigorous recruitment campaigns in London and Cornwall, seeking a wide variety of skilled tradespeople and labourers in our State's early days. This was especially true of miners after rich deposits of copper and other ores were found as early as 1841.

The recruiting campaigns were very successful, as evidenced by the large numbers of Cornish people who arrived on our shores in SA's first 50 years and contributed significantly both to agricultural expansion and our colony's growing wealth.

Over the past several years, GenealogySA has assembled very comprehensive databases of both the early German and early Irish settlers, each with well over 20 000 entries. Now, with the Cornish-born South Australians (CBSA) project, the aim is to construct an equally large and comprehensive database of people who were born in Cornwall (before 1900) and emigrated from their birth country to South Australia. Genealogy SA already has some small data sets of limited scope which will be augmented by the results of this widespread, ongoing CBSA survey being launched today. We expect the database will be of invaluable use to family historians in South Australia, and also to others well beyond our boundaries.

So that Genealogy SA can begin gathering information about these early Cornish pioneers, forms for compiling this information, along with "How to" samples of the forms and guides are now available for download from our website

<https://www.genealogysa.org.au/resources/handouts> - Cornish Born South Australians project or from the library (post COVID-19 restrictions).

We welcome and encourage your involvement in this uniquely Cornish project.

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