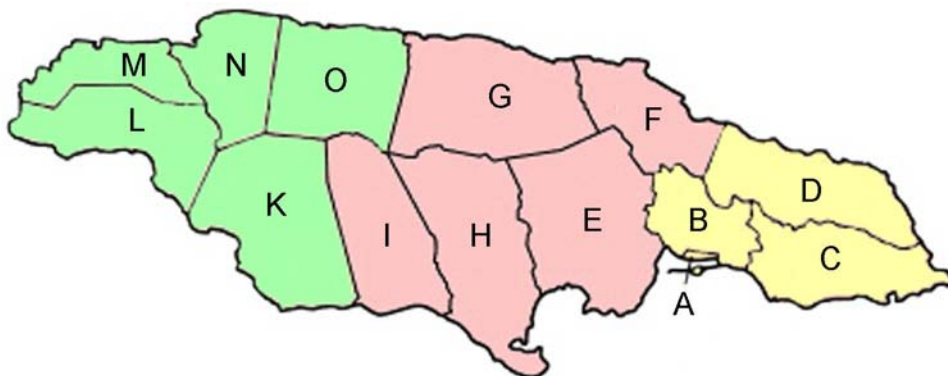# Jamaica's parishes and civil registration districts
[updated 2010 Aug 15]

(adapted from a Wikimedia Commons image)

Parishes were established as administrative districts at the English conquest of 1655. Though the boundaries have changed over the succeeding centuries, parishes remain Jamaica's fundamental civil administrative unit. The three counties of Cornwall (green, on the map above), Middlesex (pink), and Surrey (yellow) have no administrative relevance. The present parishes were consolidated in 1866 with the re-division of eight now-extinct entities, none of which will have civil records. A good historical look at the parishes as they changed over time may be found on the privately compiled "Jamaican Parish Reference," http://prestwidge.com/river/jamaicanparishes.html (cited 2010 Jul 1).

Civil registration of vital records was mandated in 1878. For civil recording, parishes were subdivided into named registration districts. Districts record births, marriages (but not divorces), and deaths since the mandate. Actual recording might not have begun in a district until several years later after 1878. An important comment on Jamaican civil records may be found in the administrative history available on the Registrar General's Department Website at http://apps.rgd.gov.jm/history/ (cited 2010 Jul 1).

This list is split into halves: 1) a list of parishes with their districts organized alphabetically by code; and 2) an alphabetical index of district names as of the date below the title. As the Jamaican population grows and districts are added, the list of registration districts lengthens. The parish code lists are current to about 1995. Registration districts created after that date are followed by the parish name rather than their district code. In creating the district codes, the letter J is not used (an old English chancery practice).

Civil registration numbers are alphanumeric codes, for instance: KAC8538. The first part is a two- OR three-character alphabetic code, where the first character represents the parish and the second (and third) represent the district. The second part of the number is a sequentially assigned registration number. Until at least 1930 (and probably later), when a registrar's code reached 10000, the series started over: *e.g.,* FB9999, FB10000, FB1, FB2, etc. Registration numbers for urban districts obviously turned over more frequently than isolated rural ones. This means that no registration number is absolutely unique

This guide is intended as an informal help chiefly for the use of records indexers and those outside Jamaica pursuing late nineteenth- and twentieth-century genealogical research. It does not substitute for the accurate information in the *Genealogical Research Handbook* published by the Registrar General's Department, nor the reference works by people who really know Jamaican records.

Richard Saunders
saunders.church@yahoo.com

_____

Part I
Registration Districts and District Codes, by Parish

Cornwall County [green]

Hanover parish

MA	Lucea		MI	Church Hill
MB	Flint River (bef. ___)		MK	Hopewell
MB	Sandy Bay (aft. ___)		ML	Gurney's Mount
MC	Green Island		MM	Askenish
MD	Riverside		MN	Cessnock
ME	Ramble		MO	Jericho
MF	Chester Castle		MP	Mount Peto
MG	Mount Hannah		MQ	Haddington
MH	Brownsville			

Saint Elizabeth parish

KA	Black River		KT	Retirement
KB	Cambridge		KV	Parottee
KC	Cheltenham		KW	Pepper
KD	Shaws		KX	Ginger Hill
KE	Lacovia		KY	Myersville
KF	Siloah		KZ	Braes River
KG	Balaclava[1]		KAA	Portsea
KH	Santa Cruz		KAB	Munro College
KI	Southfield		KAC	Elderslie
KK	Pedro Plains		KAD	Carisbrook
KL	Newell		KAE	Bill Savanna
KM	Williamsfield		KAF	Junction
KN	Malvern		KAG	Nain
KO	Mountainside		KAH	Aberdeen
KP	Lititz		KAI	Top Hill
KQ	Mulgrave		KAK	Brighton
KR	New Market		KAL	Giddy Hall
KS	Springfield			

Saint James parish

NA	Montego Bay		NM	Catadupa
NB	Adelphi		NN	Vaughansfield
NC	Little River		NO	Reading
ND	Mont Pelier		NP	Sign
NE	Springfield		NQ	John's Hall
NF	Salter's Hill		NR	Lottery
NG	Mount Horeb		NS	Somerton
NH	Cambridge		NT	Hopeton
NI	Orange Hill		NV	Niagara
NK	Maldon		NW	Bickersteth
NL	Mocho		NX	Roehampton

Trelawny parish[2]

OA	Falmouth	OL	Bounty Hall
OB	Stewart Town	OM	Waldensia
OC	Rio Bueno	ON	Lowe or Low River[3]
OD	Ulster Spring	OO	Wait-A-Bit
OE	Clark's Town	OP	Albert Town
OF	Bunker's Hill	OQ	Sawyer's Market
OG	Deeside	OR	Troy
OH	Duncan's	OS	Jackson Town
OI	Bellvue	OT	Warsop
OK	Salt Marsh	OV	Rock Spring

Westmoreland parish

LA	Savanna la Mar	LM	Darliston
LB	Grange Hill	LN	Porter's Mountain
LC	Bluefield	LO	Townhead
LD	Kings	LP	Sutcliffe Mount
LE	Saint Paul's	LQ	Friendship
LF	Petersfield	LR	Ashton
LG	Seaford Town	LS	Cornwall Mountain
LH	Saint Peter's	LT	Glenislay
LI	Saint John's (bef. 1883)	LV	Beeston Spring
LI	Bethel Town (aft. 1883)	LW	Cave
LK	Sheffield	LX	Negril
LL	Bigwoods	LY	Holly Hill

Middlesex County [pink]

Clarendon parish

HA	May Pen	HV	Mocho
HB	Four Paths	HW	Clarendon Park
HC	Chapelton	HX	Mason's River
HD	Milk River	HY	Crooked River
HE	Alley	HZ	Smithville
HF	Rock River	HAA	Beckford Kraal
HG	Grantham	HAB	Yarlogie
HH	Saint Jago	HAC	Richmond Park
HI	Hayes	HAD	James Hill
HK	Bull Head	HAE	Race Course
HL	Rosewell	HAF	Wood Hall
HM	Portland	HAG	Kelltis
HN	Alston	HAH	Frankfield
HO	Crofts	HAI	Keys
HP	Thompson Town	HAK	Lionel Town
HQ	Mears	HAL	Salt River
HR	Aenon Town	HAM	Moravia
HT	Spaldings	HAN	Cross

Manchester parish

IA	Mandeville	IC	May Hill
IB	Porus	ID	Mile Gully

IE	Newport		IT	Old England
IF	Asia		IV	Coleyville
IG	Shooter's Hill		IW	Harmons
IH	Christiana (bef. 1924)		IX	Comfort Hall
IH	Devon (aft. 1924)		IY	Craig Head
II	Alligator Pond		IZ	Banana Ground
IK	Watson's Hill		IAB	Lincoln
IL	New Broughton[4]		IAC	Kendal
IM	Maidstone[5]		IAD	Auctembeddie
IN	Victoria Town		IAE	Royal Flat
IO	Keynsham[6]		IAF	Hatfield
IP	?		IAG	Moravia
IQ	Christiana (aft. 1924)		IAH	Spaldings
IR	Davyton		IAI	Knockpatrick
IS	Harry Watch			

Saint Ann parish

GA	Saint Ann's Bay		GO	Sturge Town
GB	Brown's Town		GP	Stephany
GC	Ocho Rios		GQ	Mount Moriah
GD	Moneague		GR	Watt Town
GE	Dry Harbour (?)		GS	Runaway Bay
GF	Alexandria		GT	Keith
GG	Pedro		GV	Bensonton
GH	Guy's Hill		GW	Blackstonedge
GI	Little Kent		GX	Walker's Wood
GK	Gibraltar		GY	Alderton
GL	Claremont		GZ	Linton Park
GM	Cave Valley		GAA	Lime Tree Garden
GN	Yankee		GAB	Lodge

Saint Catherine parish

EA	Spanish Town			
EB	Old Harbour			
EC	Linstead		ER	Rentcome
ED	Ewarton		ES	Caymanas (bef. 1894)
EF	Saint Faith's		ES	Seafield (aft. 1894)
EG	Pear Tree Grove[7]		ET	?
EH	The Rectory		EV	Bermaddy
EI	Guanaboa Vale		EW	Redwood
EK	Point Hill		EX	Mount Hermon
EL	Barton's		EY	Buxton Town
EM	Marlie Hill[8]		EZ	McCook
EN	Harewood		EAA	Bog Walk
EO	Highgate		EAB	Guy's Hill
EP	Allman Hill		EAC	Troja
EQ	Bellas Gate		EAD	Watermount
			EAE	Mount Industry

Saint Mary parish

FA	Annotto Bay		FB	Port Maria

FC	Richmond		FS	Scott's Hall
FD	Retreat		FT	Hampstead
FE	Chesterfield		FV	Guy's Hill
FF	Gayle		FW	Brainerd
FG	Enfield		FX	Bonny Gate
FH	Mount Regale		FY	Camberwell
FI	Carron Hall		FZ	Jeffrey Town
FK	Mount Angus		FAA	Belfield
FL	Long Road		FAB	Wood Park
FM	Oracabessa		FAC	Cascade
FN	Lenna[9]		FAD	Albany
FO	Clonmel		FAE	Long Road
FP	Tom's River (bef. ___)		FAF	Fellowship Hall
FP	Castleton (aft. ___)		FAG	Lucky Hill
FQ	Islington		FAH	Epsom
FR	Woodside			

Surrey County [yellow]

Kingston parish

AA	Kingston		AB	Port Royal

Portland parish

DA	Port Antonio		DN	Skibo (bef. ___)
DB	Manchioneal		DO	Fruitful Vale
DC	Priestman's River		DP	Fellowship
DD	Buff Bay		DQ	Long Bay
DE	Hope Bay		DR	Hector's River
DF	Moore Town		DS	Belvedere (bef. ___)
DG	Claverty Cottage		DS	Prior Park (aft. ___)
DH	Birnamwood & Silver Hill		DT	Comfort Castle
DI	Fairfield		DV	Orange Bay
DK	Saint Margaret's [Bay?]		DW	Skibo (aft. ___)
DL	Fairy Hill		DX	Balcarres
DM	Swift River			

Saint Andrew parish

BA	Half Way Tree		BM	Crossroads
BB	Gordon Town		BN	Saint James
BC	Content Gap		BO	Brandon Hill
BD	Mount Charles		BP	Galloway
BE	Golden Spring (bef 1892)		BQ	Cavaliers
BE	Temple Hall (aft. 1892)		BR	August Town
BF	Cold Spring		BS	Salisbury Plain
BG	Constitution Hill (bef. 1921)		BT	Red Hills
BG	Dallas Castle (aft. 1921)		BV	Manning's Hill
BH	Bull Bay		BW	Mary Brown's Corner
BI	Stony Hill		BX	Whitfield Town
BK	Lawrence Tavern		BY	University College of the West Indies
BL	Woodford		BZ	Cockburn Pen

Saint Thomas parish

CA	Morant Bay		CK	Cedar Valley
CB	Bath		CL	Sunning Hill
CC	Golden Grove		CM	Eleven Mile
CD	Easington (bef. 1893)		CN	Airy Castle
CD	Yallahs (aft. 1893)		CO	Bowden
CE	Woburn Lawn		CP	Spring Garden
CF	Trinity Ville		CQ	Dalvey
CG	The Abbey		CR	Wilmington
CH	Port Morant		CS	Whitehorses
CI	Blue Mountain Valley			

Notes

1. Some early birth records from Balaclava are misstamped EG
2. Some birth registrations stamped either OD or OL record births for a Hampden reg. dist.
3. Spelling changed to "Lowe" some time after 1910 and before 1921
4. Some early Maidstone birth records have been stamped IL
5. Often misspelled "Maidestone"
6. Sometimes misspelled "Keysham"
7. Some early birth records from Balaclava (St. Elizabeth parish) are misstamped EG
8. Also spelled "Marley"
9. Unless the Registrar General's Office is in error, Lenna is a registration district name common to St. Mary (FN) and St. Andrew parishes

Part II
Registration Districts Alphabetically by Name

The Abbey (CG)
Aberdeen (KAH)
Adelphi (NB)
Aenon Town (HR)
Aenon Town (Saint Ann)
Airy Castle (CN)
Albany (FAD)
Albert Town (OP)
Alderton (GY)
Alexandria (GF)
Alley (HE)
Alligator Pond (II)
Allman Hill (EP)
Alston (HN)
Annotto Bay (FA)
Ashley (H
Ashton (LR)
Asia (IF)
Askenish (MM)
Auchtembeddie (IAD)
August Town (BR)
Balaclava (KG)
Balcarres (DX)
Bamboo (Saint Ann)
Banana Ground (IZ)
Barton's (EL)
Bath (CB)
Beckford Kraal (HAA)
Beeston Spring (LV)
Belfield (FAA)
Bellas Gate (EQ)
Bellevue (OI)
Belvedere (bef. ___) (DS)
Bensonton (GV)
Bermaddy (EV)
Bethel Town (aft. 1883) (LI0
Bickersteth (W)
Bigwoods (LL)
Birnamwood & Silver Hill (DH)
    [CHECK SP]
Black River (KA)
Blackstonedge (GW)
Blue Mountain Valley (CI)
Bluefields (LC)
Bog Walk (EAA)
Bois Content (Saint
    Catherine)
Bonny Gate (FX)
Bounty Hall (OL)
Bowden (CO)
Braes River (KZ)
Brainerd (FW)

Brandon Hill (BO)
Breeze Mill (Clarendon)
Brighton (Saint Elizabeth)
Brown's Town (GB)
Brownsville (MH)
Buff Bay (DD)
Bull Bay (BH)
Bull Head (HK)
Bull Savannah (KAE)
Bunkers Hill (OF)
Burnt Savannah (Saint
    Elizabeth)
Buxton Town (EY)
Byndloss (Saint Catherine)
Camberwell (FY)
Cambridge (KB)
Cambridge (NH)
Carisbrook (KAD)
Carron Hall (FI)
Cascade (FAC)
Castleton (aft. ___) (FP)
Catadupa (NNM)
Cavaliers (BQ)
Cave (LW)
Cave Valley (GM)
Caymanas (bef. 1894) (ES)
Cedar Valley (CK)
Cessnock (MN)
Chapelton (HC)
Cheltenham (KC)
Chester Castle (MF)
Chesterfield (FE)
Christiana (aft. 1924) (IQ)
Christiana (bef. 1924) (IH)
Church Hill (MI)
Claremont (GL)
Clarendon Park (HW)
Clarks Town (OE)
Claverty Cottage (DG)
Clonmel (FO)
Cockburn Pen (BZ)
Cold Spring (BF)
Coleyville [Coleyton] (IV)
Comfort Castle (DT)
Comfort Hall (IX)
Constitution Hill (bef. 1892)
    (BG)
Content Gap (BC)
Copse (Hanover)
Cornwall Mountain (LS)
Craighead (IY)
Cramle (unknown)

Crawle River (Clarendon)
Crofts Hill (HO?)
Crooked River (HY)
Cross Roads (BM)
Dallas Castle (aft. 1921) (BG)
Dalvey (CQ)
Darliston (LM)
Davyton (IR)
Deeside (OG)
Devon (aft. 1924) (IH)
Discovery Bay (Saint Ann)
Dover (Saint Mary)
Duanvale (Trelawney)
Duncans (OH)
Easington (bef. 1893) (CD)
Elderslie (KAC)
Eleven Miles (CM)
Enfield (FG)
Epsom (FAH)
Ewarton (ED)
Fairfield (DI)
Fairy Hill (DL)
Falmouth (OA)
Fellowship (DP)
Fellowship Hall (FAF)
Flint River (bef. ___)
    (Hanover)
Four Paths (HB)
Frankfield (HAH)
Free Town (Clarendon)
Friendship (LQ)
Fruitful Vale (DO)
Galloway (BP)
Garlogie (Clarendon)
Gayle (FF)
Gibraltar (GK)
Giddy Hall (KAL)
Ginger Hill (KX)
Ginger Ridge (Saint
    Catherine)
Glen Islay (Westmoreland)
Golden Grove (CC)
Gordon Town (BB)
Goshen (Saint Elizabeth)
Grange Hill (Westmoreland)
Grantham (HG)
Green Hill (Portland)
Green Island (MC)
Gregory Park (Saint
    Catherine)
Grove Town
Guanaboa Vale (EI)

Gurney's Mount (ML)
Guy's Hill (EAB)
Guy's Hill (FV)
Guy's Hill (GH)
Haddington (MQ)
Half Way Tree (BA)
Hampstead (FT)
Harbour View (Saint Andrew)
Harewood (EN)
Harmons (IW)
Harry Watch (IS)
Hatfield (IAF)
Hayes (HI)
Hector's River (DR)
Highgate (EO)
Holly Hill (LY)
Hope Bay (DE)
Hopeton (NT)
Hopewell (MK)
Islington (FQ)
Jackson Town (OS)
James Hill (HAD)
Jeffrey Town (FZ)
Jericho (MO)
Johns Hall (NQ)
Junction (KAF)
Keith (GT)
Kellits (HAG)
Kendal (IAC)
Keynsham (IO)
Keys (HAI)
Kilmarnock (Saint Elizabeth)
Kings (Westmoreland)
Kingston (AA)
Knockpatrick (IAI)
Lacovia (KE)
Lawrence Tavern (BK)
Leinster (Saint Mary)
Lenna (FN)
Lenna (Saint Andrew)
Lime Hall (Saint Ann)
Lime Tree Garden (GAA)
Lincoln (IAB)
Linstead (EC)
Linton Park (GZ)
Lionel Town (HAK)
Lititiz (KP)
Little Kent (GI)
Little River (NC)
Lodge (GAB)
Long Bay (DQ)
Long Road (FL) (FAE)
Lottery (NR)
Lowe River (ON)
Lucea (MA)
Lucky Hill (FAG)
Lucky Valley (Saint Catherine)

Maidstone (IM)
Main Ridge (Clarendon)
Maldon (NK)
Manchioneal (DB)
Mandeville (IA)
Manning's Hill (BV)
Marlie Hill (EM)
Mary Brown's Corner (BW)
Masons River (HX)
May Hill (IC)
May Pen (HA)
McCook (EZ)
McNie (Saint Ann)
Mears (HQ)
Mendez (Saint Catherine)
Mile Gully (ID)
Milk River (HD)
Mocho (HV)
Mocho (NL)
Moneague (GD)
Mont Pelier (ND)
Montego Bay (NA)
Moore Town (DF)
Moores (Clarendon)
Morant Bay (CA)
Moravia (HAM)
Moravia (IAG)
Mount Charles (BD)
Mount Hannah (MG)
Mount Horeb (NG)
Mount Industry (EAE)
Mount Moriah (GQ)
Mount Peto (MP)
Mount Salem (Saint James)
Mount Zion (Saint James)
Mountainside (KO)
Mt. Angus (FK)
Mt. Hermon (EX)
Mt. Regale (FH)
Mulgrave (KQ)
Munro College (KAB)
Myersville (KY)
Nain (KAG)
Negril (LX)
New Broughton (IL)
New Market (KR)
New Port (IE)
Newell (KL)
Niagara (NV)
Norris (Saint Thomas)
Norwich (Portland)
Ocho Rios (GC)
Old England (IT)
Old Harbour (EB)
Oracabessa (FM)
Orange Bay (DV)
Orange Hill (NI)

Palmers Cross (Clarendon)
Parks Road (Saint Andrew)
Parottee (KV)
Patten Park (Saint Catherine)
Pear Tree Grove (EG)
Pedro (GG)
Pedro Plains (KK)
Pepper (KW)
Petersfield (LF)
Pisgah (Saint Elizabeth)
Plowden (Manchester)
Plum Park (Saint James)
Point Hill (EK)
Port Antonio (DA)
Port Maria (FB)
Port Morant (CH)
Port Royal (AB)
Porters Mountain (LN)
Portland Cottage (HM?)
Portsea (Saint Elizabeth)
Porus (IB)
Priestman's River (DC)
Prior Park (aft. ___) (DS)
Quickstep (Trelawney)
Race Course (HAE)
Ramble (ME)
Reading (NO)
The Rectory (EH)
Red Hills (BT)
Redwood (EW)
Rentcome (ER)
Retirement (KT)
Retreat (FD)
Richmond Park (HAC)
Rio Bueno (OC)
Riverside (MD)
Rock River (Clarendon)
Rock Spring (OV)
Roehampton (NX)
Rosewell (HL)
Royal Flat (IAE)
Runaway Bay (Saint Ann)
Saint Jago (HH)
Salisbury Plain (BS)
Salt Marsh (OK)
Salt River (HAL)
Salt Spring (Saint James)
Salters Hill (NF)
Sandy Bay (aft. ___)
   (Hanover)
Savanna-la-Mar (LA)
Sawyer's Market (OQ)
Scott's Hall (FS)
Seafield (aft. 1894) (ES)
Seaford Town (LG)
Shaws (KD)
Sheffield (LK)

Shooters Hill (IG)
Sign (NP)
Silver Spring (Clarendon)
Skibo (aft. ___) (DW)
Skibo (bef. ___) (DN)
Smithville (HZ)
Somerset (Saint Andrew)
Somerton (NS)
Spaldings (HT)
Spaldings (IAH)
Spanish Town (EA)
Spring Garden (CP)
Spring Vale (Saint Catherine)
Springfield (NE)
St. Ann's Bay (GA)
St. Faith's (EF)
St. James (BN)
St. Margaret's Bay (DK?)
St. Paul's (LE)
St. Peters (LH)
Stepney [Stephany] (GP)

Stewart Town (OB)
Stony Hill (BI)
Sturge Town (GO)
Sunning Hill (CL)
Sutcliffe Mountain (LP)
Swift River (DM)
Temple Hall (aft. 1892) (BE)
Thompson Town (HP)
Tom's River (bef. ___) (FP)
Top Hill (KAI)
Town Head (LO)
Trinity Ville (CF)
Troja (EAC)
Troy (OR)
Ulster Spring (OD)
University of the West Indies
   (BY)
Vaughansfield (NN)
Victoria Town (IN)
Wait-A-Bit (OO)
Wakefield (Trelawney)

Waldensia (OM)
Walkerswood (GX)
Warsop (OT)
Watermount (EAD)
Watsons Hill (IK)
Watt Town (GR)
White Hall (CS)
White Horses (CS)
Whitfield Town (BX)
Williamsfield (KM)
Williamsfield (Manchester)
Wilmington (CR)
Windsor Castle (Portland)
Woburn Lawn (CE)
Wood Hall (HAF)
Wood Park (FAB)
Woodford (BL)
Woodside (FR)
Worthy Park (Saint Catherine)
Yallahs (aft. 1893) (CD)
Yankee (GN)

_____