

Simple Birth Certificate

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Introduction

This plugin records a Birth Certificate based on the format of the England and Wales Birth Certificate since 1837. To ensure consistency, it uses the Civil Registration Certificate Template as the layout for saving the source record.

The screen has been designed to look like the physical birth certificate, to make input easier. It is a single screen to capture the information and to save the relevant information to Family Historian.

Apart from saving the actual birth certificate as a source record, it also formats the text of the certificate as in the source text and copy the image of the certificate to the appropriate media directory.

If provided the occupation of the father is added as a fact. The name of informant is recorded as a witness to the Birth, but not as facts to those individuals.

The formatted text produced is best edited in the Source record in Family Historian itself.

Screen

Below is an example of a completed screen for births. The Region, Repository, Assessment, Image Directory and Media Directory fields are pre-populated after the first Birth certificate has been saved. The Registration and Where Born Place lists are populated with the current list of places.

Add Birth Certificate for George Frederick Martin - 12 August 1923

Region	England and Wales	
Repository	General Registers Office	
-----Birth Certificate Details-----		
Registration District	St. George in the East, London, England St. George in the East, London, England Thorpe St Andrew, Norfolk, England Whitechapel, London, England	
Entry Number	62	
Date of Birth	11/ 6/1847	
Address	7 Lower Groves Street	
Where Born	St. George in the East, London, England St. George in the East, London, England Thorpe St Andrew, Norfolk, England Whitechapel, London, England	
Name Recorded	George Frederick	
Sex	Boy	
Name and Surname of Father	George Martins	
Name and Maiden Name of Mother	Elizabeth Ann Martins formerly Joyner	
Rank or Profession of Father	Sugar Baker	
Name of Informant	Mother The mark of Elizabeth Ann Martins	
Qualification of Informant	Mother	
Residence of Informant	7 Lower Groves Street	
Place	St. George in the East, London, England St. George in the East, London, England Thorpe St Andrew, Norfolk, England Whitechapel, London, England	
When Registered	22/ 7/1847	
Registrar	W S Howell	
Assessment	Primary information	
-----Birth Certificate File-----		
Image Directory>>	C:\Users\Normie\OneDrive\Family Tree\Certificates\2020_02_03	
Media Directory>>	C:\Users\Normie\OneDrive\Family Historian Projects\Blank\Blank.fh_data\Media\Births	
As Source	Birth certificate of George Frederick Martin, 11 June 1847	
Media	Please select a file to select the image to copy	
Image File	C:\Users\Normie\OneDrive\Family Tree\Certificates\2020_02_03\George Frederick Birth.jpg	
Status	Birth Certificate Saved	
Save	Exit	Help

Pre-Requisites

Before it can be used, the "Civil Registration Certificate" template from the Essentials collection must have already been added to the project. This can be done by selecting Tools>Source Template Definitions and then highlighting the Civil Registration Certificate template and adding it to the project.

This plugin does NOT create any individual. Before the plugin is called the deceased must be selected (i.e. have the focus in Family Historian).

Guidance

The plugin will adapt its size to compensate for different screen resolutions. As a result, the plugin may show a scrollbar for the Certificate details; as such not all fields will be visible.

When you first run the plugin, the dialog form will be completely blank, except for the list of places, names of husband, wife and fathers. This means that you will need to select the **Region** where the Birth took place, **Repository** if you intend to use them, the **Assessment** you will associate with the Birth certificate and the **Media Directory** where the certificate will be copied to. You may also wish to specify the default directory (**Image Directory**) where the original image of the certificate is to be found. All these fields are saved after a certificate is saved, and consequently will be shown on the form the next time the plugin is run.

Region, Repository and Assessment are drop-down lists, where you can select the appropriate value. The image and media directories can be determined by pressing the image or media directory button which will display a windows folder dialog to select the appropriate folder path from. In the case of the media directory, it will start with the media directory for the current project. You may wish to create a sub folder at this point to save the Birth certificates to. Alternatively, you can type the directory paths directly into the adjacent fields to the button.

Completing the main part of the form is essentially copying the information from the certificate. The information you enter, will be transferred to the source text as is. You can change any of the name of individual, and these changes will only appear on the source text and will not change the names of the individual.

The date of the Birth and When Registered will initially be set to today; these MUST be changed to the correct dates.

You can select the applicable place from the drop-down list of places or type a new place name in that field if it does not already exist.

The only information that must be transferred from the certificate are Registration District, Date of Birth, Place of Birth, Name, Mother, Sex, Informant, Registration Date and Registrar.

You also need to identify where the birth certificate image is to be copied from. This is done by pressing the **Media** Button which will display a windows file dialog to select the file. The name given to the file when copied can be either **As Source** (the title given to the source record itself), **As Filename** (the name of the original file) or **My Choice** where you type the name you want the file to be called when copied.

The Informant can be recorded as a **Name Only** or against the **Mother** or **Father**. This is selected from the drop down list against the informant field. If the Mother or Father is selected, then the informant will be linked to the appropriate individual and a residence fact be recorded for that individual. If Name Only is selected, no residence fact will be created.

When you are happy with the information you should press the **Save** button. This will first validate the information and report any information that needs to be provided before saving the certificate details. If successful, it will indicate this in the status message and change the **Cancel** button text to Exit.

Pressing the exit button will then exit the form. If the Cancel button is pressed whilst the text is 'Cancel' (i.e. before a certificate is saved) you will be asked to confirm this.

Pressing the **Help** button at any time will display the Help dialog form for the plugin.

Results

When saved the following changes are made:

The following **templated source record** is created.

Source Record [37] - 3 citations

Title: Birth certificate of George Frederick Martin, 11 June 1847

Template: Civil Registration Certificate

- Type: Birth
- Region: England and Wales
- Principal: George Frederick Martin
- Principal 2: ... if marriage or divorce
- Date: 11 Jun 1847
- Location: St. George in the East, London, England
- Address: 7 Lower Groves Street
- Reference: 62
- Repository: General Registers Office
- Collection: Online data collection if any

Within the source, the text has been formatted to be like the actual certificate. This can be edited here if necessary.

Certified Copy of an Entry of Birth
1847 Birth in St. George in the East, London, England

No	When and where born	Name, if any	Sex	Name, and surname of father	Name, surname and maiden name of mother	Occupation of father	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	Name entered after registration
62	11 June 1847 7 Lower Groves Street St. George in the East, London, England	George Frederick	Boy	George Martins	Elizabeth Ann Martins formerly Joyner	Sugar Baker	The mark of Elizabeth Ann Martins Mother 7 Lower Groves Street St. George in the East, London, England	22 July 1847	W S Howell	

And a media record copied to the appropriate media record and linked to the source record. In this case, the name of the media record matches the title of the source.

Media	Fmt	Pref	Date	Fl...	Cit.
Birth certificate of George Frederick Martin, 11 June 1847	jpeg	1	11 Jun 1847		-

The following facts were created:

Birth fact

Birth		
Date:	<input type="text" value="11 Jun 1847"/>	Age: <input type="text"/>
Place:	<input type="text" value="St. George in the East, London, England"/>	
Address:	<input type="text" value="7 Lower Groves Street"/>	
Note:	<input type="text"/>	
Sentence:	<input type="text" value="He was born on 11 June 1847 in St. George in the East, London, England. The informant on the birth certificate was Elizabeth Ann"/>	

Occupation fact of Father

Occupation:	<input type="text" value="Sugar Baker"/>	
Date:	<input type="text" value="11 Jun 1847"/>	Age: <input type="text"/>
Place:	<input type="text"/>	
Address:	<input type="text"/>	
Note:	<input type="text"/>	
Sentence:	<input type="text" value="On 11 June 1847 he was a Sugar Baker."/>	

Informant fact of Mother

Elizabeth Ann Joyner was informant on the birth certificate for George Frederick Martin or		
Date:	<input type="text" value="11 Jun 1847"/>	
Place:	<input type="text" value="St. George in the East, London, England"/>	
Address:	<input type="text" value="7 Lower Groves Street"/>	
Note:	<input type="text"/>	
Sentence:	<input type="text" value="She was informant on the birth certificate for George Frederick Martin on 11 June 1847 in St. George in the East, London, England."/>	

Residence fact of Mother

Residence		
Date:	<input type="text" value="11 Jun 1847"/>	Age: <input type="text"/>
Place:	<input type="text" value="St. George in the East, London, England"/>	
Address:	<input type="text" value="7 Lower Groves Street"/>	
Note:	<input type="text"/>	
Sentence:	<input type="text" value="On 11 June 1847 she lived in St. George in the East, London, England."/>	

Help Dialog Screen

The information shown on the help screen from the plugin is below.

This plugin records a Birth Certificate based on the format of the England and Wales Birth Certificate since 1837.

It also creates of birth and father's occupation facts. To ensure consistency, it uses the Civil Registration Certificate Template for the source.

Prerequisites

Before it can be used, the "Civil Registration Certificate" template from the Essentials collection must have already been added to the project. This can be done by selecting Tools>Source Template Definitions and then highlight the template(s) and add to project.

This plugin does NOT create any individuals. Before it is called, It requires that a person is first selected.

To avoid replication of input, the following fields are saved to be displayed next time the plugin is used:

Region, Repository, Assessment, Image Directory and Media Directory.

The Region is a dropdown list of Regions declared in the source template; Repository is a dropdown list of Repositories you have set up;

and Assessment is a dropdown list of valid assessments for the source.

Image Directory is the windows directory where the birth certificate image can be found. It can be populated by typing the directory name in manually, or found by pressing the 'Image Directory' button to the left of the field and showing a Windows Folder Dialog screen.

Media Directory is where the image of the Birth Certificate will be saved. It can be populated in the same method for the Image Directory. Note you can create the appropriate media directory in the Windows Folder Dialog screen.

Form Fields

Region (Required):- this is a list of Regions declared in the source template

Repository : - this is a list of Repositories you have already set up

Registration District (Required) : Place where birth registered - either select from drop down for existing place or type new place which will be added as a new place

Entry Number: - Entry number of certificate (if known)

Date of Birth (Required): - Date of birth

Address: - Address where born (if known)

Where Born (Required): - Place where born

Name Recorded (Required): -Pre selected on loading form - can be amended

Sex (Required): - Pre selected on loading form - can be amended

Name and Surname of Father: -Pre selected on loading form - can be amended

Name and Maiden Name of Mother (Required): -Pre selected on loading form - can be amended

Rank or Profession of Father: Occupation of father (if known)

Name of Informant (Required): - Name of person registering death

Qualification of Informant: - qualification of person registering death

Residence of Informant: - address of informant

When Registered (Required): - date birth registered

Registrar (Required): - Name of registrar

Assessment : - Dropdown list of valid assessments

Image Directory : - Directory to initiate search for image of certificate

Media Directory (Required): - Directory where image will be saved
As Source : -
Dropdown list to determine name given to file when saved in the media directory

Options are As Source - filename same as source title

As Filename - filename same as original filename

My Choice - type your own filename in Image File field

Media : - Button to invoke windows file dialog to identify certificate image to be copied

Image File (Required): - name of media file to be created

Status : - status of form - e.g. errors or certificate saved

When you press the save button, the form is validated and any errors reported in the status bar.

If the action is successful, then the appropriate message is shown in that status bar.

When the certificate is saved, the ini file is updated to retain the Region, Repository, Assessment, Image Directory and Media Directory fields.

Saving a Certificate will create a source record for the birth certificate and create a formatted 'text from source' and a link to a newly created media record. The source record is linked to the Birth Fact.

The text written to the 'text from source' contains the values derived from the form as you have entered them.

This text can later be amended in the Citation record in Family Historian to correct any textual errors.

If the information has been provided, then the father's occupation fact is created and linked to the source record.

You will need to press the Exit button, after saving, to exit the form and return back to Family Historian.