

How to Index a Mrs A B Smith entry using the BDM Index

As an example, consider this obituary and how it is indexed:

1863 - 1947) / Sat 30 Nov 1895 / Page 2

Obituary.

WE regret to chronicle the death of the late wife of Mr. T. J. Fuller, and sister to Mr. R. O. and the Misses Kendall, which sad event occurred on Thursday evening last at about 8 o'clock. Deceased had been ailing for several days from obstruction to the bowels. Dr. T. P. Anderson attended the patient with diligence and skill, and on Sunday last a consultation with Drs. Terrey and Cunningham was held, and as a result an operation was successfully performed. The deceased rallied somewhat afterwards, but acute peritonitis set in, and death rapidly and quietly came at the hour mentioned. The deceased lady was 50 years of age, and was the second wife of Mr. T. J. Fuller, and leaves a large family in bereavement. The funeral will leave her late residence at 2 p.m. this afternoon for the Kendall Private Cemetery. Much sympathy is expressed for the bereaved friends, in which we join.

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Prepare to Zip

Help

Options

Font

Newspaper and Issue Date

30/11/1895

* FULLER, (Mrs T J)

Name: FULLER, (Mrs T J)

Date: 28/11/1895

Death

At:

Place of:

Formerly of:

Age: 50

Years

Notice type: Obituary

Prev name 1: FULLER, [Mary Cecilia]

Prev name 2: KENDALL, [Mary Cecilia]

Prev name 3:

☒ To be checked - notice partially illegible

Notes:

1. It's hard to distinguish the round brackets from the square brackets in the print above – (Mrs T J) is in round brackets, [Mary Cecilia] in square brackets.
2. The notice only ever refers to the lady as Mrs T J FULLER, so that becomes the primary entry.
3. Having found her in the BDM index as Mary Cecilia FULLER, we then add a Prev Name 1 entry to link the BDM name with the primary entry.
4. The notice gives us her maiden surname (KENDALL), so we add a Prev name 2 entry, using what we now know to be her given names, to link with the primary entry.
5. At no stage do we combine (Mrs T J) and [Mary Cecilia] in the same entry – all linkage is done by creating cross-ref records.