



SAMPLE – Orphan works licensing scheme diligent search checklist: literary works

Right holder	Joe Public (c1810 - 1880) Current copyright owner: Unknown		
Title or description of work(s)	Letter to Mr A Taylor from Mr J Public regarding alterations to the Chapel gallery, 7 March 1876		
Brief explanation of why this person is thought to be the right holder	Joe Public was the creator of the letter and so was the original copyright owner.		
Narrative of the diligent search, including the sources consulted and justification on why others were not	<p>The letter is part of a number of papers found in a local archive concerning proposed alteration work by Joe Public. I searched the UK orphan works register and the bona vacantia list and found no reference to Mr J Public, the creator of the letter. However, the letter includes a signature and business name and address and I used these when carrying out a general internet search. I found references to relatives in Mr Public's business, a notice of bankruptcy for him and his son, and a call for creditors to make claims against his estate. I found little information, and was unable to determine who made claims against the estate and what they may have received. I also searched various archives namely the National Archives, AIM25 and ArchivesHub. I came across a reference to Hackney Archives Department and emailed them for more information. On 14/7/16, I received a reply to say they were unsure whether they could share contact details of depositor and invited me to access physical items at the Archive. I visited on 28/7/16. The documents held provided a clear indication that property and mortgages were transferred or surrendered by Mr J Public as a result of financial difficulties. A search of various digital newspaper archives resulted in finding some information in relation to his daughter's wedding and information on filing for bankruptcy.</p> <p>As a result of searching Ancestry.com, I found reference to several descendants but although all were subsequently found to be deceased, I was unable to confirm exact death dates. I was unable to find any reference to any contemporary descendants who may hold copyright. A search of the Virtual International Authority Files (VIAF), the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (Oxford DNB), and UK Who's Who, found no reference to Mr J Public.</p> <p>Summary: The author, Mr J Public, filed for bankruptcy 2 years prior to his death and following proving of his will, an invitation was made to his claimants and creditors to make a claim against the estate. Joe Public's will does not give a definitive indication of where copyright was disposed. I was unable to find the papers of the Executor of the will or the Executor's solicitor so have been unable to discover where copyright may have been assigned. I did find reference to several descendants but all were deceased. The provenance of the work did not offer any further information to assist in identifying the right holder.</p>		
Date started and completed	4/7/16 - 1/8/16	Diligent search completed by (name)	A N Other

Part 1

Sources for <u>all</u> literary works	Checked (Yes/No)	Date searched
UK orphan works register	Yes	4/7/16
EUIPO orphan works database – include reference number if you are relying on this search	Yes	4/7/16
The provenance of a work (where the work was found)	Yes	4/7/16
General internet searching	Yes	4/7/16
Digitised newspaper archives	Yes	4/7/16
Wills – searching for family members or connections of the author	Yes	5/7/16
Archives	Yes	4/7/16
Treasury Solicitors (Government Legal Department)	Yes	4/7/16
Genealogy websites	Yes	4/7/16
Any other sources identified (not listed below in relevant sources) – specify which VIAF, Oxford DNB, Who's Who	Yes	4/7/16-5/7/16

Part 2

Additional sources for unpublished literary works	Checked (Yes/No)	Date searched
Signatures, notes, annotations and other information appearing on the work Author name, address and business name	Yes	4/7/16

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