

# Scotland's Resources: there's more to Scottish research than Scotland's People!

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- Where to Start
- Scottish Naming Conventions
- Criminal Records
- Immigration/Emigration
- Military
- Maps & Directories
- Online Resources

## Where To Start?

- Look for places where your surname is most common
  - [www.johngrenham.com/surnames](http://www.johngrenham.com/surnames)
  - [www.clanscottsociety.org/linked/MostCommonScottishSurnames.html](http://www.clanscottsociety.org/linked/MostCommonScottishSurnames.html)
- Check immigration records for possible emigration city
  - [www.abdn.ac.uk/emigration](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/emigration)
  - [www.immigrantships.net](http://www.immigrantships.net)
- Use the town names where your ancestors lived in the U.S. .e.g. Gretna, N.Y.; Elgin, IL; Ayr, NE
  - [www.rampantscotland.com/placenames/placenames2.htm](http://www.rampantscotland.com/placenames/placenames2.htm)
- Reasons for coming to America can help explain where they settled
  - [www.genealogymagazine.com/scots.html](http://www.genealogymagazine.com/scots.html)

## Scottish Naming Conventions

- Giving specific names to children based on birth order
- <http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~scottish/ScottishNamingPatterns.html>
- <http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~steve/namingse.htm>
- <http://www.behindthename.com/names/usage/scottish>

## **Scotland's Places [www.scotlandsplaces.gov.uk](http://www.scotlandsplaces.gov.uk)**

- Tax rolls live at the National Records Office and include the following types of taxes
  - Carriage Tax
  - Male/Female Servant Tax
  - Window Tax (applied to homes with more than 7 windows or a rental value above £5)
  - The entire collection has been digitized and is available here.
  - Post-Union taxes (after 1707) were managed by the Exchequer and can be found in that record group
- Ordnance Surveys and Name Books
  - Represent 1700 books compiling every place, both man-made and natural, named in the Ordnance Survey maps drawn in Scotland from the 1840s to 1878
  - Shows owners of property as well as a description of the land and occasionally tenants
- Gazetteers and Directories
  - 1892 Counties & Parishes
  - Atlas of Scottish History to 1707

## **Criminal Records:**

- Types of courts:
  - Franchise Court- Local court ruled on small cases like rioting, scandal, and theft
  - Justice of the Peace- Local court handling cases like poaching, illegal fishing and prostitution
    - Prisoner records from 1840-1870 are kept by the Home Health Department. Records include height, weight, age, date and place of birth, and marital status
    - While the vast majority of these records are not available online, the National Archives of Scotland website has some thorough guides plus accurate search capabilities on their website
  - Most records for Jacobites, Covenanters & others groups who bore arms against the British Government are kept at the National Archives in London

- Web Resources
  - <http://catalogue.nrscotland.gov.uk/nrsonlinecatalogue/welcome.aspx>
  - [www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/guides/high-court-criminal-trials](http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/guides/high-court-criminal-trials)
  - [www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/guides/crime-and-criminals](http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/guides/crime-and-criminals)
  - [www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/guides](http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/guides)
  - U.K. Prison Hulk Registers <http://search.ancestry.co.uk/search/db.aspx?dbid=1989>
  - Find My Past: Crime and Punishment [www.findmypast.co.uk/crime-prisons-punishment?\\_ga=1.250024710.1892757381.1432898486](http://www.findmypast.co.uk/crime-prisons-punishment?_ga=1.250024710.1892757381.1432898486)

## **Emigration/Immigration Records:**

- Emigration records are scarce before 1890 when the government began requiring detailed passenger lists. Some lists do exist and can be found at these websites:
  - National Library of Scotland [www.nls.uk/family-history/emigration](http://www.nls.uk/family-history/emigration)
  - Scots Abroad! Scottish Emigration Stories: <http://digital.nls.uk/emigration>
  - Find My Past: <http://search.findmypast.co.uk/search-world-records/passenger-lists-leaving-uk-1890-1960>
  - University of Aberdeen Emigration Database [www.abdn.ac.uk/emigration/search.html](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/emigration/search.html)
  - Canadian Immigration: <http://jubilation.uwaterloo.ca/~marj/genealogy/thevoyage.html>
  - [www.libertyellisfoundation.org](http://www.libertyellisfoundation.org)
  - [www.castlegarden.org](http://www.castlegarden.org)
  - [www.immigrantships.net](http://www.immigrantships.net)
  - [www.olivetreegenealogy.com/ships/scotstousa.shtml](http://www.olivetreegenealogy.com/ships/scotstousa.shtml)
  - The Scots Archive Network (SCAN) has a database for emigrants within the Highlands and Islands: [www.scan.org.uk/researchrtools/emigration.htm](http://www.scan.org.uk/researchrtools/emigration.htm)

## **Military Records:**

Pre 1707 records are housed at the National Archives of Scotland. Post 1707 are at the U.K. National Archives in London. Records are listed by military regimen/company/troop.

Commissions were granted by the crown starting in 1670 and are in Exchequer Warrant Books.

- National Archives of the United Kingdom <http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk>
- Soldier's Wills are available for the Great War [www.scotlandsppeople.gov.uk](http://www.scotlandsppeople.gov.uk)
- Find My Past <http://search.findmypast.com/search-world-records-in-military-service-and-conflict>

- Forces War Records [www.forces-war-records.co.uk](http://www.forces-war-records.co.uk) has digitized records from the British National Archives and the Imperial War Museum plus other private sources.
- Commonwealth War Graves Commission [www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org)
- Imperial War Museum [www.iwm.org.uk/research](http://www.iwm.org.uk/research)
- Genuki Military records [www.genuki.org.uk/big/MilitaryRecords](http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/MilitaryRecords)

## **Maps Gazetteers and Directories**

- A Vision of Britain [www.visionofbritain.org.uk](http://www.visionofbritain.org.uk)
- Internet Archives <https://archive.org/details/nationallibraryofscotland>
- National Library of Scotland Digital Map Collection <http://maps.nls.uk/os>
- National Library of Scotland Directories and Gazetteers [www.nls.uk/family-history/directories](http://www.nls.uk/family-history/directories)

## **National Online Resources:**

- Scottish Genealogical Society [www.scotsgenealogy.com](http://www.scotsgenealogy.com)
- UK and Ireland Genealogy [www.genuki.org.uk/big/sct](http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/sct)
- Scottish Handwriting [www.scottishhandwriting.com](http://www.scottishhandwriting.com)
- Scottish History Society <http://scottishhistorysociety.com>

## **Archives, Libraries and Societies:**

- Local History Online [www.local-history.co.uk](http://www.local-history.co.uk)
- Glasgow and West of Scotland Family History Society [www.gwsfhs.org.uk](http://www.gwsfhs.org.uk)
- Highland Family History Society [www.highlandfamilyhistorysociety.org](http://www.highlandfamilyhistorysociety.org)
- Hebridian Connection [www.hebrideanconnections.com/home.aspx](http://www.hebrideanconnections.com/home.aspx)
- Fife Family History center [www.fifefhs.org](http://www.fifefhs.org)
- National Archives of Scotland–Archives Finder:  
<http://apps.nationalarchives.gov.uk/archon/searches/locresult.asp?lctry=Scotland>
- Archives Hub [www.archiveshub.ac.uk](http://www.archiveshub.ac.uk)
- Robert Burns Center, Kilmarnock: <http://eastayrshireleisure.com/index.php?a=landing&id=8&sid=235&mid=267>

## **Great Places to Share and Crowdfsource!**

- Facebook
- Flickr