

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
 - www.clanscottsociety.org/linked/MostCommonScottishSurnames.html
 - www.scotland.org/features/getting-started-in-scottish-genealogy
- Check immigration records for possible emigration city
 - www.abdn.ac.uk/emigration
 - www.immigrantships.net
- Use the town names where your ancestors lived in the U.S. .e.g. Gretna, N.Y.; Elgin, IL; Ayr, NE
 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Locations_in_the_United_States_with_a_Scottish_name
 - www.rampantscotland.com/placenames/placenames2.htm
- Reasons for coming to America can help explain where they settled
 - www.genealogymagazine.com/scots.html
 - www.theclearances.org/clearances/main.php

Scottish Naming Conventions

- Giving specific names to children based on birth order
- www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/content/help/index.aspx?561
- <http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~scottish/ScottishNamingPatterns.html>
- Surnames were popular as middle names during the Victorian Era
- No set order for middle names. Often represent the maiden names of female family members or those family members who passed away shortly before the birth
- <http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~steve/namingse.htm>
- Nicknames, diminutives & Gaelic forenames—we are familiar with Ian for John, but would you expect Grizel is another name for Grace; Morag for Sarah; or Alastair for Alexander?
- <http://www.behindthename.com/names/usage/scottish>

Scotland's People www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk

- Births Marriages and Deaths
 - Old Parochial Registers. (Presbyterian) 1538-1854
 - Catholic Records 1703-1908
 - Statutory Records (i.e. civil registrations of vital records) 1855-2012
- Census Records 1841-1901
- Valuations (Real Estate Taxes)
- Wills & Testaments

Scotland's Places 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.
 - Short lived- these taxes were phased out by 1800.
 - 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.nas.gov.uk/doingResearch/remotely.asp
 - www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/guides/high-court-criminal-trials
 - www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/guides/crime-and-criminals
 - 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
 - Familysearch Wiki gives a brief overview of Scottish court records here: https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Scotland_Court_Records

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
 - 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
 - Canadian Immigration: <http://jubilation.uwaterloo.ca/~marj/genealogy/thevoyage.html>
 - Ellis Island www.libertyellisfoundation.org
 - Castle Garden www.castlegarden.org
 - Immigrant Ships Transcribers Guild www.immigrantships.net
 - 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
 - Familysearch.org https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Scotland_Emigration_and_Immigration

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 regiment then by companies and troops. Commissions in the Army were granted by the crown starting in 1670 and appear in Warrant Books governed by the Exchequer

- www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/guides/military-records
- National Archives of the United Kingdom <http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk>
- Soldier's Wills are available for the Great War www.scotlandspeople.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 Forces War Records has original content digitized from the British National Archives and the Imperial War Museum plus other public and private sources. The site offers both monthly and yearly subscriptions.
- Commonwealth War Graves Commission www.cwgc.org

- Imperial War Museum www.iwm.org.uk/research
- Genuki Military records www.genuki.org.uk/big/MilitaryRecords

Maps Gazetteers and Directories

- A Vision of Britain www.visionofbritain.org.uk
- Internet Archives <https://archive.org/details/nationallibraryofscotland>
- National Library of Scotland Digital Map Collection <http://maps.nls.uk/os>
- Zoomable overlay maps of Ordnance Surveys on top of a google platform.
<http://maps.nls.uk/os/6inch/index.html>
- National Library of Scotland Directories and Gazetteers www.nls.uk/family-history/directories

National Online Resources:

- Scottish Genealogical Society www.scotsgenealogy.com
- UK and Ireland Genealogy www.genuki.org.uk/big/sct
- Scottish Handwriting www.scottishhandwriting.com
- Rampant Scotland Genealogy Page www.rampantscotland.com/genealogy.htm
- Scottish History Society <http://scottishhistorysociety.com>
- Dictionary of the Scots Language www.dsl.ac.uk

Local Online Resources

- Local History Online www.local-history.co.uk
- Glasgow and West of Scotland Family History Society www.gwsfhs.org.uk
- East Ayrshire Family History Center www.eastayrshirefhs.co.uk
- Perthshire and Caithness www.pkc.gov.uk/article/3249/Family-history-at-the-Archive
- Highland Family History Society www.highlandfamilyhistorysociety.org
- Hebridian Connection www.hebrideanconnections.com/home.aspx
- Renfrewshire Family History Center <http://renfrewshirefhs.co.uk>
- Fife Family History center www.fifefhs.org

Archives Libraries and Repositories

- National Archives of Scotland–Archives Finder:
<http://apps.nationalarchives.gov.uk/archon/searches/locresult.asp?lctry=Scotland>
- SCAN Scottish Archives Network www.scan.org.uk
- Archives Hub 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
 - Scottish Genealogical Society www.facebook.com/pages/Scottish-Genealogy-Society-Family-History-Centre/101771526551620?nr
 - Fife Family History Society www.facebook.com/FifeFamilyHistorySociety
 - Highland Archive Center www.facebook.com/highlandarchives?fref=photo
 - Happy Haggis www.facebook.com/HappyHaggisgenealogy?fref=nf
- FLIKR:
 - Scotland National Gallery www.flickr.com/photos/nationalgalleries
 - National Library of Scotland www.flickr.com/photos/nlscotland
 - National Trust for Scotland www.flickr.com/groups/389442@N21
 - Lanarkshire Constabulary Photo Archives www.flickr.com/groups/1811634@N24
 - Scottish Heritage www.flickr.com/groups/1811634@N24

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