



# Sources for Scottish Research



**ScotlandsPeople:** [www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk](http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk) they provide access to civil registration records, parish registers, wills, valuation records, and more. A great deal of free information is available on initial searches and you pay for scans of the originals.

For their advice on name variations see; <https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/guides/surnames>

**Family Search:** [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) this hosts two useful Scottish vital records indexes 1) Scotland Births and Baptisms 1564-1950 and 2) Scotland Marriages 1561-1910. These mainly contain Church of Scotland records prior to 1855 and statutory records from 1856-1874/75. A particular recommendation is the video presented by Paul Milner who gives the background to and how best to access and use the Old Parochial Registers.  
<https://www.familysearch.org/ask/learningViewer/241>.

**Scottish Indexes:** [www.scottishindexes.com](http://www.scottishindexes.com) the Maxwells have created this site to provide information from many difficult-to-access record sets held within the National Records of Scotland, including paternity cases and asylum records. The index information is fairly detailed and free, and you can pay for the original scans.

**Memento Mori:** [www.memento-mori.co.uk](http://www.memento-mori.co.uk) this contains free-to-access indexes of monumental inscriptions from Glasgow and Central Scotland listing names of the deceased, dates of death and ages when given. Further information requires a payment, but this site will help you to identify when and where ancestors were buried.

**The Scottish Association of Family History Societies (SAFHS)** [www.safhs.org.uk](http://www.safhs.org.uk) there are two free finding aids on this site. 1) the Burial Grounds database notes where all known Scottish burial grounds exist, if their inscriptions have been recorded/published, and where available to consult. 2) the Pre-1841 Population List database notes the locations of useful early census substitutes.

**ScotlandsPlaces:** [scotlandsplaces.gov.uk](http://scotlandsplaces.gov.uk) this provides free access to 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century tax records, as held at the National Records of Scotland. Original document images and transcriptions are available for dog tax records, window tax, hearth tax, farm horse tax and more. Various other resources are also freely accessible on the site.

**National Records of Scotland:** for access to list of Parish Registers see:  
<https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files//research/list-of-oprs/detailed-list-of-old-parochial-registers-of-scotland.pdf>

To access online catalogue <http://catalogue.nrscotland.gov.uk/nrsonlinecatalogue/welcome.aspx>

In "Search" box put **a)** Name of Parish in top box. **b)** the "CH" reference in 2<sup>nd</sup> box **c)** dates in 3<sup>rd</sup> box.

**CH2** – Church of Scotland: **CH3** – Free Church: **CH12** – Episcopal Church: **CH17** – Catholic Church.

For all the records of a Parish enter the name of the Parish in the top box and CH only in the 2<sup>nd</sup> box. All the records of that Parish will then come up.

**National Library of Scotland Maps:** <https://maps.nls.uk/> this is a free to access map collections and is by far the most definitive and accessible mapping collection in the UK. It has thousands of maps for Scotland from 1560 -1964 but also holdings for England, Britain, Ireland and more.

**Scottish Military Research Group:** [www.scottishmilitaryresearch.co.uk](http://www.scottishmilitaryresearch.co.uk) this is a charitable organisation set up to educate and inform the public about how to research their Scottish military ancestry. As well as providing free access to rolls of honour, it has the most comprehensive collection of Scottish military war memorials online, accessible via its Commemorations Project.

**Scottish Mining:** <https://nationalminingmuseum.com> this provides a treasure trove of information and resources on those who worked in Scotland's Central belt. There are detailed parish reports, gazetteer and newspaper articles, reports on accidents and strikes and more, with some 22,000 miners named, including information on 15,000 fatalities.

### **National Library of Scotland Internet Archive:**

<https://archive.org/search.php?query=national%20library%20of%20scotland> this aspect of the NLS is accessed through the Internet Archive web site and lists a different aspect of what the NLS has to offer.

**Electric Scotland:** [www.electricscotland.com](http://www.electricscotland.com) this site created by Alistair McIntyre is packed with resources dealing with Scottish ancestry and history, including Francis Groom's Ordnance Gazetteer of Scotland and thousands of books covering a range of subjects, such as the Scottish worldwide diaspora.

**Perth Records:** [www.culturepk.org.uk/archive-local-family-history](http://www.culturepk.org.uk/archive-local-family-history) the Friends of Perth and Kinross Archives have indexed many record collections which have been presented in free-to-access databases. Among the collections are Perth burial records from 1794-1855; militia collections, Jacobite resources and the Perthshire People and Kinross-shire Kin.

**Dundee Records:** [www.fdca.org.uk](http://www.fdca.org.uk) this site offers Church records, burial records, burgh registers, trade directories, school records, Poor Law registers and more, all freely available.

**Virtual Mitchell:** [www.mitchelllibrary.org/virtualmitchell](http://www.mitchelllibrary.org/virtualmitchell) if your ancestors came from Glasgow check out the city archive's Virtual Mitchell website where you can view and download hundreds of historic images of streets, buildings, and images from daily life. You can search by area, street name, or subject.

**The Gazette:** [www.thegazette.co.uk](http://www.thegazette.co.uk) is the combination of three publications: The London Gazette, The Belfast Gazette and **The Edinburgh Gazette**. The Gazettes are official journals of record. As a publication, The Gazette consists largely of statutory notices. The Edinburgh Gazette, now incorporated, was considered the official paper of record for Scotland and appeared, irregularly up to 1793. It has appeared twice weekly since then and is freely available. Use the site to search for business notices, bankruptcies, military promotions, civil honours and much more.

**Statistical Accounts of Scotland:** <http://stataccscot.edina.ac.uk/static/statacc/dist/home>. There were two Statistical Accounts written, the first covered the period 1791-1799, called the Old Statistical Account and the second, 1834-1845 referred to as the New Statistical Account. These uniquely rich and detailed parish reports, written by Church of Scotland ministers, detail social conditions in Scotland and are an invaluable resource for anyone interested in Scottish history.

**Scottish Archive Network (SCAN)** [www.scan.org.uk](http://www.scan.org.uk) many research documents needed for our research still lie in archives. The SCAN catalogue is a good starting point to search holdings from over 50 archives across Scotland. The site had not been updated in many years, however, so local archive websites should also be consulted.

### **Monumental Inscriptions**

Make contact with local Scottish Family History Societies from your area of interest listed on SAFHS site

Scottish Monumental Inscriptions (<https://scottish-monumental-inscriptions.com>) a pay-to-view site but with many cemeteries digitised throughout Scotland

**(N.B. When attempting to enter any of the sites listed you may have to insert the https:// protocol before the www insert.)**