

# Scotland's Resources: There's More to Scottish Research Than ScotlandsPeople!

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

## Where to Start?

- Understanding Scotland and Scottish Records [www.genuki.org.uk/org/help/visitors](http://www.genuki.org.uk/org/help/visitors)
- Look for places where your surname is most common
  - [www.johngrenham.com/surnames](http://www.johngrenham.com/surnames)
  - [www.familyeducation.com/baby-names/browse-origin/surname/scottish](http://www.familyeducation.com/baby-names/browse-origin/surname/scottish)
  - [www.visitscotland.com/things-to-do/research-your-ancestry](http://www.visitscotland.com/things-to-do/research-your-ancestry)
- 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/List\\_of\\_place\\_names\\_of\\_Scottish\\_origin\\_in\\_the\\_United\\_States](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_place_names_of_Scottish_origin_in_the_United_States)
- Rampant Scotland- Place Names [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/scottish-migration](http://www.genealogymagazine.com/scottish-migration)
  - [www.theclearances.org/clearances/main.php](http://www.theclearances.org/clearances/main.php)

## Scottish Naming Conventions

- Giving specific names to children based on birth order
- <https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/guides/research-guides/forenames>
- <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 (occasionally ministerscotlandsplas)
  - <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?
  - [www.behindthename.com/names/usage/scottish](http://www.behindthename.com/names/usage/scottish)

- **Scots to Ireland**

- John Grenham [www.johngrenham.com](http://www.johngrenham.com)
- National Library of Ireland [www.nli.ie](http://www.nli.ie)
- National Archives of Ireland [www.nationalarchives.ie](http://www.nationalarchives.ie)
- Public Records Office of Northern Ireland [www.nidirect.gov.uk/campaigns/public-record-office-northern-ireland-proni](http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/campaigns/public-record-office-northern-ireland-proni)
- Ulster Foundation [www.ancestryireland.com](http://www.ancestryireland.com)
- Roots Ireland [www.rootsireland.ie](http://www.rootsireland.ie)
- Irish Genealogy [www.irishgenealogy.ie](http://www.irishgenealogy.ie)

## Scotland's People [www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk](http://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

## FamilySearch [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)

- Many of the Scottish records originally available through microfilm lending have been made available digitally to Affiliate Libraries. [www.familysearch.org/locations](http://www.familysearch.org/locations)
  - Vital records
  - Church records
  - Wills & Probates
  - Cemetery Records

## 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.
  - Short lived- these taxes were phased out by 1800.
  - Post-Union taxes (after 1707) are managed by the Exchequer & can be found in that record group
- Maps, 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
- Photographs and Drawings

## 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
    - The vast majority of these records are not available online, the National Archives of Scotland website has 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
- NRS Welcome Page <https://catalogue.nrscotland.gov.uk/nrsonlinecatalogue/welcome.aspx>
  - [www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/guides/crime-and-criminals](http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/guides/crime-and-criminals)
  - Scottish Criminal Indexes [www.scottishindexes.com/ScotlandsCriminalDatabase.aspx](http://www.scottishindexes.com/ScotlandsCriminalDatabase.aspx)
  - 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)
  - FamilySearch Wiki gives a brief overview of Scottish court records here: [www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Scotland\\_Court\\_Records](http://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/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](http://www.nls.uk/family-history/emigration)
- National Records Office [www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/guides/emigration-records](http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/guides/emigration-records)
- 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: <https://library-archives.canada.ca/eng/collection/research-help/genealogy-family-history/immigration/pages/immigration.aspx>
- Ellis Island <https://www.statueofliberty.org/discover/passenger-ship-search>
- Castle Garden [www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1849782](http://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1849782)
- Immigrant Ships Transcribers Guild [www.immigrantships.net](http://www.immigrantships.net)

- Olive Tree Genealogy [www.olivetreegenealogy.com/ships/scotstousa.shtml](http://www.olivetreegenealogy.com/ships/scotstousa.shtml)
- The Scots Archive Network (SCAN) [www.scan.org.uk/researchrtools/emigration.htm](http://www.scan.org.uk/researchrtools/emigration.htm) has a database for emigrants within the Highlands and Islands
- FamilySearch [www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Scotland\\_Emigration\\_and\\_Immigration](http://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Scotland_Emigration_and_Immigration)
- Emigrants to Australia 1852-1857  
[www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/81751?availability=Family%20History%20Library](http://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/81751?availability=Family%20History%20Library)

## Military Records

Pre 1707 records are in the National Archives of Scotland. Post 1707 are in 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

- National Archives of the United Kingdom <http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk>
- National Archives Military [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides)
- Soldier's Wills are available for the Great War [www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk](http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk)
- FamilySearch Soldier Documents (by regiment) 1760-1872  
[www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/161618?availability=Family%20History%20Library](http://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/161618?availability=Family%20History%20Library)
- 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) 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](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>
- Zoomable overlay maps of ordnance surveys on a google platform:  
<https://maps.nls.uk/geo/explore/#zoom=6.0&lat=57.20557&lon=-2.54893&layers=5&b=1>
- National Library of Scotland Directories and Gazetteers <http://maps.nls.uk/os/6inch/index.html>

## 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)
- Rampant Scotland [www.rampantscotland.com](http://www.rampantscotland.com)
- Scottish History Society <http://scottishhistorysociety.com>
- Dictionary of the Scots Language [www.dsl.ac.uk](http://www.dsl.ac.uk)

## Local Online Resources

- Angus Alive <https://angusalive.scot/local-family-history>
- 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)
- East Ayrshire Family History Center [www.eastayrshirefhs.co.uk](http://www.eastayrshirefhs.co.uk)
- Highland Family History Society <https://highlandfhs.org>
- Hebridean Connection [www.hebrideanconnections.com/home-page](http://www.hebrideanconnections.com/home-page)
- Renfrewshire Family History Center <http://renfrewshirefhs.co.uk>
- Fife Family History Center [www.fifefhs.org](http://www.fifefhs.org)

## Archives Libraries and Repositories

- National Archives of Scotland-Archives Finder <https://bit.ly/2TBJhq4>
- SCAN Scottish Archives Network [www.scan.org.uk](http://www.scan.org.uk)
- Archives Hub [www.archiveshub.ac.uk](http://www.archiveshub.ac.uk)
- Edinburgh City Archives <https://bit.ly/2FYrxxl>
- Perth-Kinross Archives [www.culturepk.org.uk/archive-local-family-history](http://www.culturepk.org.uk/archive-local-family-history)
- Robert Burns Center, Kilmarnock <https://eastayrshireleisure.com/culture/burns-monument-centre>

## Great Places to Share and Crowdfsource!

- Facebook
  - Scottish Genealogical Society <https://en-gb.facebook.com/ScottishGenealogySociety>
  - Fife Family History Society [www.facebook.com/FifeFamilyHistorySociety](http://www.facebook.com/FifeFamilyHistorySociety)
  - Edinburgh City Archives [www.facebook.com/Edinburgh-City-Archives-866641726707773](http://www.facebook.com/Edinburgh-City-Archives-866641726707773)
  - Highland Archive Center [www.facebook.com/highlandarchives?fref=photo](http://www.facebook.com/highlandarchives?fref=photo)
  - Scottish Genealogy Network [www.facebook.com/ScotGenNet](http://www.facebook.com/ScotGenNet)
  - Scottish Genealogy (Public Group) [www.facebook.com/groups/sftrscottishgenealogy](http://www.facebook.com/groups/sftrscottishgenealogy)
- FLICKR:
  - Scotland National Gallery [www.flickr.com/photos/nationalgalleries](http://www.flickr.com/photos/nationalgalleries)
  - National Library of Scotland [www.flickr.com/photos/nlscotland](http://www.flickr.com/photos/nlscotland)
  - National Trust for Scotland [www.flickr.com/groups/389442@N21](http://www.flickr.com/groups/389442@N21)
  - Lanarkshire Constabulary Photo Archives [www.flickr.com/groups/1811634@N24](http://www.flickr.com/groups/1811634@N24)
  - Scottish Heritage [www.flickr.com/groups/1811634@N24](http://www.flickr.com/groups/1811634@N24)

