

# Researching Scottish Ancestors

*Class 4: Other Scottish Records*

Rhonda R. McClure, Senior Genealogist

THE BRUE FAMILY LEARNING CENTER



American Ancestors®  
by NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

# Meet today's presenter



Rhonda R. McClure  
Senior Genealogist

# OVERVIEW

- **Presentation (60 mins.)**
  - Wills & Testaments
  - Land Records
  - Court Records
  - Military Records
  - Occupational Records
- **Q&A (30 mins.)**

# Other Records

- Wills & Testaments
- Land Records
- Court Records
- Military Records
- Occupational Records



*Voice of*  
Rhonda R. McClure  
Senior Genealogist

# Wills & Testaments

# Wills & Testaments

- Not as useful to family historians as in other countries
- Often do not list names of relatives
- Up until 1868 only moveable property (things other than real estate) could be included in testaments

# Laws of Inheritance

- Eldest son inherited everything heritable (land, buildings, other immoveable property)
- Law of primogeniture (eldest son inherits) in effect from 1868 to 1964
- All other children received equal share of moveables (money, animals, tools, furniture)

# Moveable Property

- Anything you can pick up and move
- In testaments known as “*goods, gear, sums of money and debts*”
- Moveable property divided in three parts:
  - *Jus relictæ* – the widow’s third
  - *Legitim* – the bairns (children other than oldest) split equally
  - *Deids part* (part disposed of by deceased according to his or her wishes)

# Execution of Testament

- Widow's and bairns' part were automatically handled
- Executor only had to give up the *deids* part for confirmation to the Commissary Court
- If no *deids part* in the testament, it was taken up by next of kin by confirmation
- If no widow or kids, next nearest kin (brothers/sisters) distributed equally

# Important Terms

- *Testament Testamentar* – deceased left a will
- *Testament Dative* – deceased did not leave a will

John Barkus Esq. Surgeon in Dumfries (captioned)

Ja. Johnston }  
 in }  
 Alton }

The Testament Testamentary & Inventory of the Personal Estate, which belonged & was owing to Wm. James Johnston in Alton at the time of his decease viz: the 31<sup>st</sup> day of Decem<sup>r</sup>. 1815. Years has he fully made out and given up by himself in so far as concerns the nomination of his Executors after mentioned, and in so far as concerns the said Inventory by Malley Johnston in Chapplizill, John Johnston in Easter Dawick, Michael Johnston in Breichbank and Peter Johnston residing at Alton Sons of the said Deceased whom he by his General Disposition and Deed of Settlement dated the 27<sup>th</sup> day of May 1811. Years nominated and appointed to be his Sole Executors and Intromitters with the whole of his moveable or Personal Estate which might belong, or be owing to him at the time of his decease, as the said General Disposition and Deed of Settlement, which is Recorded along with the Inventory and Oaths adjected thereto, in the Record of Inventories kept for the Commissaries of Dumfries on the day of March Court and after engrossed now fully bears

There were justly owing to the said Wm. James Johnston at the time of his decease the several Sums of Money then written B

Testament: James Johnston, 1816

# Land Records

# Land Records

- Until 2004 Scotland had a feudal system
- All land belonged to the Crown
- Ownership passed to immediate “vassal”
- Originally military duty for land granted
- Became payment of *tiends* (tithes) of produce or money
- Heirs did not automatically inherit land

# Land Terms

- *Heritable immoveable property*: The land under the ownership of a vassal
- *Retours of services of heirs*: Return of the jury who decides the rightful heir; goes to the Royal Chancery
- *Clare Constat*: “Clearly shows”; system used by subject superiors for their own vassals to inherit

# Retours of Services of Heirs

- Recorded in the records of the Chancery (NRS C22 and C28)
- Index by Thomas Thomson in 3 volumes:
  - Vol A: Special Inquisitions, Aberdeen-Kircudbright (1544-1699)
  - Vol B: Special Inquisitions, Lanark-Wigton (1544-1699)
  - Vol C: Decennial Indexes to Services of Heirs, 1700-1859; Inquisitiones Valorum; Inquisitiones de Possessione Quinquennali, 1544-1699; General Table

INQUISITIONVM  
AD CAPELLAM DOMINI REGIS  
RETORNATARVM,  
QVAE  
IN PVBLICIS ARCHIVIS SCOTIAE  
ADHVC SERVANTVR,  
ABBREVIATIO.

VOL. I.

PRINTED BY COMMAND  
OF  
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IN PURSUANCE OF AN ADDRESS OF  
THE HOUSE OF COMMONS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

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RETORNATARVM,  
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QVAE  
IN PVBLICIS ARCHIVIS SCOTIAE  
ADHVC SERVANTVR,  
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23,3

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Joannes, de Appilgirth, 175, 391.  
**JOHNSTOUN, JHONESTOUN, JONSTOUN;**  
 Adamus, 383.  
 Alexander, de Elshiesheillis, 324.  
 Andreas, de Milnebank, 171.  
 ——— de Rutonsyde, 230.  
 ——— de Turmour, 388.  
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 ——— de Girtheid, 206.  
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 ——— de Beirholme, 51, 52.  
 ——— de Braikensyde, 268, 338.  
 ——— de Darshag, (vel Earshag), 395.  
 ——— de Dunskeillie, miles, 33, 55, 56, 119.  
 ——— de Eodem, 33, 56, 119, 393.  
 ——— de Midilgill, 52, 80.  
 ——— (Dominus), de Westerhall, 359.  
 ——— de Westraw, 156, 201, 362.  
 Joannes, de Westraw, 156, 201, 362.

Volume 3 Dumfries Name Index

(357) Maii 31. 1699.  
 ADAMUS CRAIK de Arbigland, *hæres* Gulielmi Craik de Arbigland nuper præpositi burgi de Drumfries, *patris*,—in binis tribus partibus 10 mercatarum terrarum de Kilpatrick, nuncupatis The Gate antiqui extensus, infra parochiam de Dalgarno, redimabilibus per Joannem Young de Guilhill.—A. E. .... N. E. .... —(Vide Kirkcudbright.) xlviii. 135.

(358) Jul. 31. 1699.  
 EDMONDUS MAXWELL filius Georgii Maxwell de Isle, *hæres* Janetæ Maxwell sponsæ dicti Georgii, *matris*,—in dimidio annui redditus 120*m.* correspondente 2000*m.* de 20 solidatis terrarum de Hielaw, et 50 solidatis terrarum de Blackfoord, tanquam propriis partibus 40 mercatarum terrarum de Castlemilk, infra parochiam de St. Mungo et senescallatum de Annandale.—E. 1*d.* *albe firmæ.* xlviii. 174.

(359) Apr. 25. 1700.  
 JOANNES JOHNSTON de Westerhall, *hæres masculus* Domini Jacobi Johnstoune de Westerhall, *patris*,—in 12 mercatis terrarum

1700.

DUMFRIES.

de Daldurham (vel Saldurham) jacentibus infra parochiam de Westerkirk et dominium de Eskdaill :—A. E. 12*m.* N. E. 36*m.*—7½ mercatis terræ de Glendoning ;—9 mercatis terris de Carneugh ;—7 mercatis terris de Glencash (vel Glencrash) ;—5 mercatis terris de Glenshark (vel Glenshank) ;—20 solidatis terris de Cannotsheills ;—terris de Salholme (vel Sheillholme), extendentibus ad 5½ mercatas terræ aut eo circa antiqui extensus ;—terris de Rig, partibus dictarum terrarum de Daldurham, omnibus infra dominium de Eskdaill ;—unitis in baroniam de Westerhall.—A. E. 35*m.* 6*s.* 4*d.* N. E. 106*m.* 6*s.* 4*d.* xlviii. 550.

bus 4 solidatarum t  
 Dinmow (vel Dun  
 Christianhill ;—din  
 —8 solidatis terrar  
 terrarum de Auld  
 infra 20 libratas t  
 rochiam :—A. E. 1.  
 de Guiseland, et p  
 quæ est pars 40 s  
 rochiam prædictam  
 de Over et Nethir

Volume 1 Dumfries Abridgement

Thomson's Volumes

## Registers of Retours and Services of Heirs

NRS Reference	Description	Dates
C22-27	Registers of Retours and Papers	1530-1912
C28-30	Service of Heirs	from 1847

### Indexes

#### Services of Heirs before 1700 (NRS reference C22)

'Inquisitionum Retornatarum Abbreviatio, 1425-1700'. Published in 3 volumes. Index of persons and places arranged by county in volume 3. Printed. These have been published on CD-ROM by the Scottish Genealogical Society.

#### Services of Heirs after 1700 (NRS reference C22 and C28)

Each volume contains two indexes: one by the name of the heir, the other by name of the ancestor.

## Indexes to Services of Heirs from 1700

Series	Volume number	Date	Format
1st	1	1700 -1749	Printed
1st	2	1750 -1799	Printed
1st	3	1800 -1829	Printed
1st	4	1830 -1859	Printed
2nd	1	1860 -1869	Printed
2nd	2	1870 -1879	Printed

[www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/research-guides/research-guides-a-z/chancery-records](http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/research-guides/research-guides-a-z/chancery-records)

# Land Records

- Also found in Sasine Registers
- *Sasine*: relates to *seize* – a landholder was seized of the land (aka physical holding of the land)
- Before 1617 handled by notaries
- After 1617 became the Register of Sasines
- Includes changes in ownership and secured debts up until 1981

# Registers of Sasine

- Before 1781 are incomplete
- After 1781:
  - Indexes are good
  - Printed abridgements arranged by county
- Similar to deeds in America – recorded within a few days of being drawn up
- Exception: Sole heir already residing on premises



## Scottish Indexes

[Home](#) [Advanced Search](#) [Record Sets](#) [Search Help](#) [Research Services](#) [Learning Zone](#) [Bookshop](#) [About Us](#) [Blog](#)

### Register of Sasines Index - Search Result ?

<b>Indexing Source</b>	Particular Register of Sasines Minute Book (Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles)
<b>Deed Type</b>	Sasine
<b>Minute Text</b>	James Burn tenant in Maxwellheughmill of an annualrent of £20 sterling furth of the Lands of Templehall or Templelands of Morebattle and teinds thereof, Parish of Morebattle, Roxburghshire, and of the said lands and teinds in security thereof, and of the principal sum of £400 sterling penalty etc, on a heritable bond and disposition by James Hope mason in Morebattle dated 8 February 1780.
<b>County/Counties</b>	Roxburghshire
<b>Date of Recording</b>	28 February 1780
<b>NRS Minute Book Reference</b>	RS82/8 fo. 21
<b>Date of Deed</b>	8 February 1780
<b>NRS Volume Reference</b>	RS57/24



[< Back to Search Results](#)

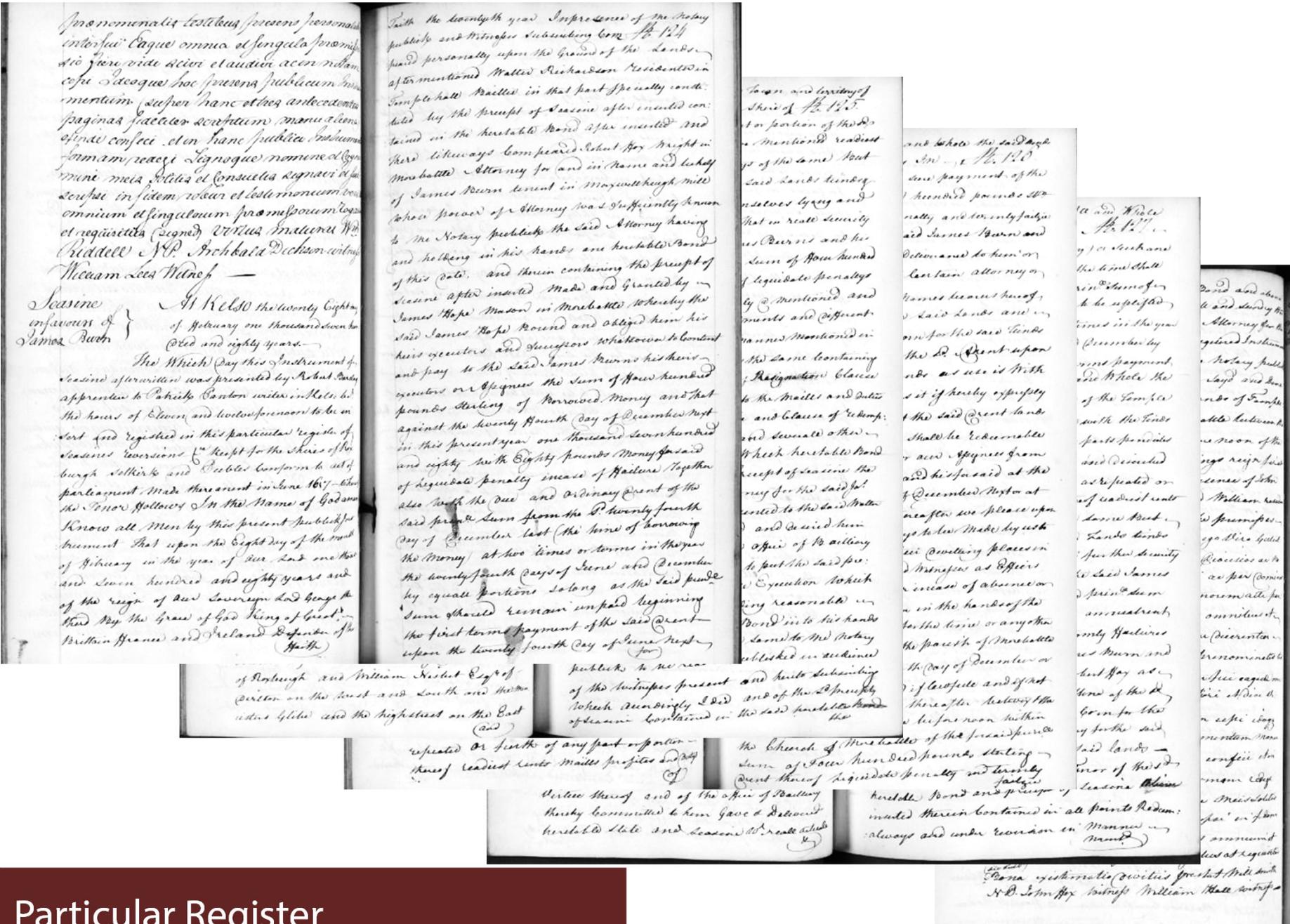
Share this Entry:



<http://www.scottishindexes.com/sasinesearch.aspx>

At Kelso the twenty eight day of  
February 1780 and eighty years  
(Be. 11. and 12 forenoon —  
Seasine in favours of James Burn tenants in  
Mafwelheughmice, of an annual rent of twenty  
pounds sterling. Louth of the lands of Templehase  
or Temple lands of Morebattle, and tenas thereof  
lying in the parish of Morebattle and Shire of  
Roxburgh, and of the said Lands and tenas  
in security thereof, and of the principal sum  
of Four hundred pounds ster, penalties &c  
Proceeding on an heritable Bond and Disposition  
granted by James Hope mason in Morebattle,  
of date the eight day of February current —  
Presented by Robert Barclay apprentice to  
Patrick Barton writer in Kelso. Dated the  
8<sup>th</sup> February 1780. (Robert Barclay)  
Will. Ker ell

Original Minute Book



# Particular Register

Tip

Abbreviations & Latin  
help found in Durie's  
*Scottish Genealogy*

# QUESTIONS?

# Court Records

# Legal History

- Scottish law differs from laws of England and Wales even after the union of 1707
- Scotland, England, and Wales make up Great Britain
- United Kingdom is the above three plus Northern Ireland (all of Ireland prior to 1922)

# Scottish Legal System

## Statute Law

- Comes from bodies with legislative powers:
  - Royal proclamations
  - Acts of Parliament
  - European Community Treaties

## Common Law

- Comes from judgments in the courts
- Based on Scots legal tradition
- Relies on precedent
- Comes from:
  - Roman law
  - Canon law

# Why court records?

- Court records include:
  - Criminal cases
  - Civil cases
  - Wills
- Valuable to family historians

# Order of Authority

## Criminal Courts

- High Court of Justiciary
- Sheriff Court
- District Court

## Civil Courts

- Supreme Court  
(previously House of Lords in London)
- Court of Session
- Sheriff Court

## Research Guides A-Z

Adoption Records

Birth, Death and Marriage Records

Buildings

Burgh Records

Canal Records

Catholic Parish Registers

Census Records

Chancery Records

Church Records

Coal Mining Records

Coats of Arms

Commissary Court Records

Company Registration Records

Court and Legal records

Court of Session Records

[Extracted Processes](#)

[Unextracted Processes](#)

## Court of Session Records

The Court of Session is Scotland's supreme civil court and National Records of Scotland (NRS) holds records of the court from the 16th century onwards.

Please note that although Court of Session record groups are normally freely open to public access, those dating after 1915 are currently (October 2017) subject to a temporary re-closure pending a sensitivity review. Before visiting our search rooms please contact staff for more information.

If you are visiting us to research Court of Sessions (CS) records, you may wish to print out our guides, familiarise yourself with them, and refer to them during your visit. Start with this first guide, which acts as an introduction for inexperienced searchers.

The other guides deal with different types of Court of Session records:

[Unextracted Processes](#) (UPs) after 1660

[Extracted Processes](#) (EPs) after 1660

[Other Court of Session series](#)

[Sequestrations](#)

## Catalogues and finding aids

When searching for processes, you will normally have to look up:

- Our online [electronic catalogue](#)
- Card indexes
- Indexes in volumes

## Unextracted processes (UPs) and extracted processes (EPs)

The distinction between the unextracted and extracted processes is simply stated:

[www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/research-guides/research-guides-a-z/court-of-session-records](http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/research-guides/research-guides-a-z/court-of-session-records)



## Scottish Indexes

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### Record Sets

As well as the [global search](#) it can be useful to search our historical record sets individually to find those elusive ancestors!

We have indexed historical records which will help you solve family history mysteries and build the bare bones of your Scottish family tree.

Each record set has a corresponding [Learning Zone](#) section where you can find useful tips and how to guides to help you trace your ancestors and find out more about each record set.

### Record Sets

To find out exactly what you are searching, see the [coverage pages](#). Discover more about each record set and why they will help you trace your Scottish family tree here in our [Learning Zone](#).

[Mental Health Records](#)

[Scotland's Criminal Database](#)

[Scottish Paternity Index](#)

[Poor Relief Records Index](#)

[Deeds Index](#)

[Register of Sasines](#)



<http://www.scottishindexes.com/recordsets.aspx>



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## Search Results

### High Court - Crown Office Precognitions

Name and Designation	Age	Birthplace	Role	Year	
James (or James Bell) Carruthers alias Bell, miller, Belfast, Antrim, Ireland	39	Dumfries	Accused	1863	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Anderson, labourer, Watson Street Model Boarding House, Glasgow, Lanarkshire	32	Dumfries	Accused	1900	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Bell Carruthers, miller, Garscube Road, Glasgow, Lanarkshire	33	Dumfriesshire	Accused	1857	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Berry, slater, Inverkip, Renfrewshire	37	Dumfries	Accused	1867	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Brown, packman (brought up in Irvine), Bridgegate, Glasgow, Lanarkshire		Dumfries	Accused	1833	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Convery, old clothes dealer, New Wynd, Glasgow, Lanarkshire	34	Dumfries	Accused	1854	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Devlin, married, gardener, Cumberland Street Lane, Edinburgh, Midlothian	27	Dumfriesshire	Accused	1856	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Douglas, labourer, Dumfries, Dumfriesshire	24	Tinwald	Accused	1844	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Hunter, collier (in the employment of Campbell Snodgrass, coalmaster, Thornhill), Johnstone, Abbey, Renfrewshire		Thornhill	Accused	1829	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James King, chimney sweep, No fixed abode		Annan, Dumfriesshire	Accused	1831	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Martin, dyer (son of William Martin, cowfeeder), Sciennes, Edinburgh, Midlothian	21	Dumfries	Accused	1832	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Scott, journeyman blacksmith, Todhill, Dumfriesshire	24	Canonbie, Dumfriesshire	Accused	1832	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Smith alias Morrison, No fixed abode	22	Dumfries	Accused	1885	<a href="#">Full Record</a>

## Criminal Database Search

## High Court of Justiciary Trial Papers

### Name and Designation

Name and Designation	Age	Birthplace	Role	Year	
James (or James Bell) Carruthers	39	Dumfries	Accused	1863	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Anderson	32	Dumfries	Accused	1900	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Bell Carruthers	33	Dumfriesshire	Accused	1857	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Berry	37	Dumfries	Accused	1867	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Convery	34	Dumfries	Accused	1854	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Devlin, married	27	Dumfriesshire	Accused	1856	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Douglas, labourer, Dumfries, Dumfriesshire	24	Tinwald	Accused	1844	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James King		Annan, Dumfriesshire	Accused	1831	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Scott	24	Canonbie, Dumfriesshire	Accused	1832	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Smith alias Morrison	22	Dumfries	Accused	1885	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Smith, joiner, Stoop, Dumfries, Dumfriesshire	41	Dumfries	Accused	1844	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
John Tait alias James Robert Burnside	27	Dumfries	Accused	1850	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
John Wilson alias Patrick McCabe alias James Ferguson	21	Dumfries	Accused	1863	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
Oliver Lockhart alias James Stewart	29	Dumfriesshire	Accused	1833	<a href="#">Full Record</a>

## Sheriff Court Criminal Records

No results found

## Prison Register Index

### Name, Occupation and Residence

Name, Occupation and Residence	Age	Birthplace	Prison	Year	
James Adair, Hostler, Dumfries	19	Dumfries	Dumfries (Maxwelltown)	1877	<a href="#">Full Record</a>

# Criminal Database Search

## High Court of Justiciary Trial Papers - Search Result ?

<b>Title</b>	Trial papers relating to James Smith, James Douglas
<b>Name</b>	James Douglas
<b>Role</b>	Accused
<b>Designation</b>	labourer, Dumfries, Dumfriesshire
<b>Age</b>	24
<b>Approx Birth Year</b>	1820
<b>Crime</b>	Theft by housebreaking, habit and repute, and previous conviction
<b>Trial Date</b>	29 April 1844
<b>Trial Location</b>	Dumfries
<b>Verdict</b>	Guilty
<b>Verdict Comments</b>	Guilty in terms of own confession - theft by housebreaking, and previous conviction.
<b>Sentence</b>	Imprisonment - 18 months
<b>NRS Reference</b>	JC26/1844/146 

### Related Documents

[AD14/44/17](#)

### List of Accused

Name and Designation	Age	Birthplace	Crime	
James Douglas, labourer, Dumfries, Dumfriesshire	24	Tinwald	Theft by housebreaking, habit and repute, and previous conviction	<a href="#">Person Details</a>
James Smith, joiner, Stoop, Dumfries, Dumfriesshire	41	Dumfries	Theft by housebreaking, habit and repute, and previous conviction	<a href="#">Person Details</a>

[< Back to Search Results](#)

Criminal Database Search

## Prison Register Index

Name, Occupation and Residence	Age	Birthplace	Prison	Year	
James Johnston, Tailor, Lochmaben	62	Kirkmahoe	Dumfries	1848	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Johnston, Farm Servant, Kells	23	Dumfries	Kirkcudbright	1851	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Johnston, Hawker, Dumfries	25	Dumfries	Wigtown	1852	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Johnston, Mason, Dryfesdale	33	Dryfesdale	Dumfries	1853	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Johnston, Ploughman, Lockerbie	20	Dunscore	Dumfries	1857	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Johnston, Graindealer, Maxwelltown	47	Lochmaben	Kirkcudbright	1859	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Johnston, Hawker, Dumfries	34	Dumfries	Jedburgh	1861	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Johnston, Stockingmaker, Kelso	34	Dumfries	Kelso	1861	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Johnston, Grocer, Maxwelltown	51	Lochmaben	Maxwelltown	1861	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Johnston Senr., Labourer, Moffat	55	Moffat	Lanark	1870	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Johnston Junr., Labourer, Moffat	30	Moffat	Lanark	1870	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Johnston, Carter, Dumfries	46	Dunscore	Dumfries (Maxwelltown)	1878	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Johnston or Harrow, Mason, Sanquhar	28	Thornhill	Dumfries (Maxwelltown)	1878	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Johnston or Farrow, Mason, Sanquhar	29	Thornhill	Dumfries (Maxwelltown)	1879	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Johnston, Labourer, Dumfries	49	Dunscore	Dumfries (Maxwelltown)	1882	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Johnston, Mason, Dumfries	32	Thornhill	Dumfries (Maxwelltown)	1882	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Johnston, Labourer, Dumfries	50	Dunscore	Dumfries (Maxwelltown)	1883	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Johnston, At school, Dumfries	9	Dumfries	Dumfries (Maxwelltown)	1883	<a href="#">Full Record</a>
James Johnston, Labourer, No fixed	39	Dumfries	Dumfries (Maxwelltown)	1904	<a href="#">Full Record</a>

## Criminal Database Search

# Prison registers - Search results

Advanced people search >

For help with your results, please consult our [prison registers guide](#).

The  icon is displayed to the left of each result. Click on this to view more details about the entry.

If an entry states that the individual has alias/other name(s) recorded in the register, click on  to view the corresponding alias/other name(s).

*You searched for: Forename: 'Johnston', Forename Option: 'Starts', Prison: 'PERTH PRISON'*

## 3 Results

Showing 1-3 of 3 (1 page)

<

Turn off 'Tips'

Save search >

Search registers of people admitted to Scottish prisons to 1921. Currently, registers for Perth Prison are available.

Read how to search prison registers and understand their contents in our [prison registers guide](#), or how to [sort and filter search results](#) and how to activate [search tips](#) on this page.

	Surname	Second surname	Forename	Has alias/other name(s)	Age	Where born	Year admitted	Prison	Image View
	CAMPBELL	----	JOHNSTON	----	23	PERTH	1904	PERTH PRISON	<a href="#">View image (6 credits)</a>
	INNES	----	JOHNSTON	----	31	AUCHTERMUCHTY	1890	PERTH PRISON	<a href="#">View image (6 credits)</a>
	LAWSON	----	JOHNSTONE	----	19	DAMHEAD ST ANDREWS	1908	PERTH PRISON	<a href="#">View image (6 credits)</a>

# ScotlandsPeople Prison Register

REGISTER OF CRIMINAL PRISONERS AND

C/N. and Sex.		Date of Admission.	Committing Magistrate or Court.	Previous Imprisonments in any Prison.		NAME.	Age.	Height.		Where Born.	Prisoner's Home.	Occupation.
M.	F.			No.	Last C/N. in this Prison			Ft.	In.			
		1840										

OF THEIR RELIGIOUS PERSUASIONS.

Religion.	Health as reported by Medical Officer.	Offence.	Particulars of Trial.			Sentence if convicted.	Liberated or Removed.			Remarks.
			Date.	Court.	Where.		Date.	By whose Authority.	To what Place.	
			1840							

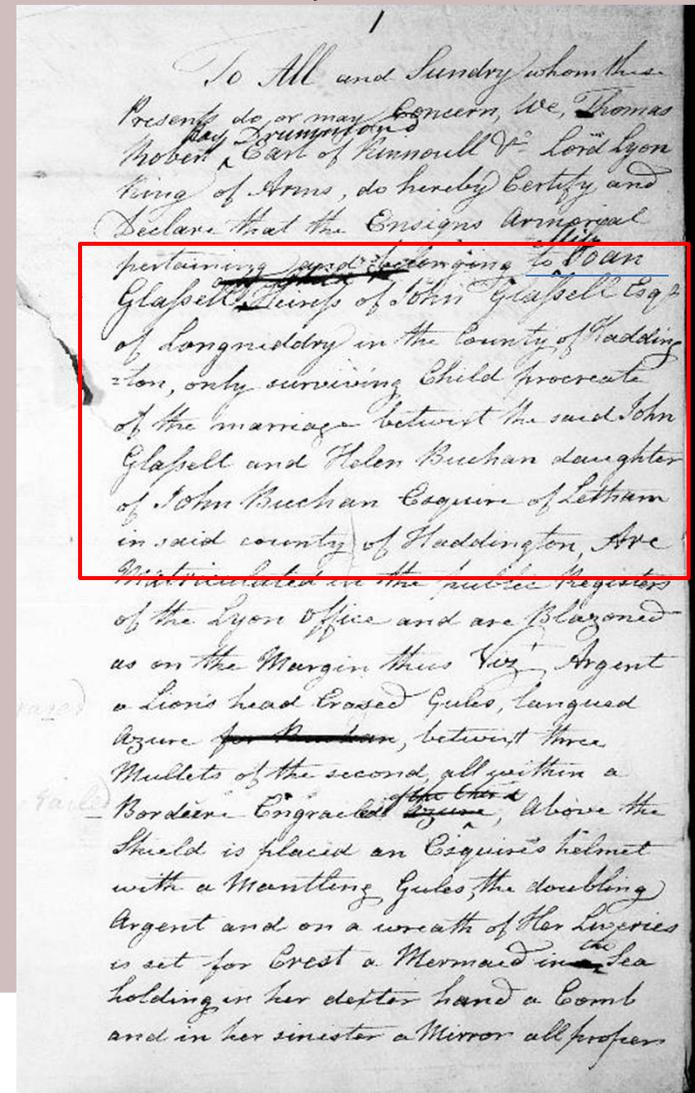
ScotlandsPeople Parish Register

Tip

There are also  
specialty courts

# Court of the Lord Lyon

- Heraldic and genealogical matters
- Criminal and civil enforcement of use of arms
- Right to use certain names and titles



# Kirk Sessions

- Acted as a church court
- Responsible for:
  - Poor relief
  - Education
- Records
  - Minute books
  - Accounts and financial records
  - Deacons' Court (Free Church)
- Lists of members

## Records for Dumfries

A parish in the county of Dumfries. It was a quoad omnia parish (a parish for civil and religious purposes).

[← Back](#)

### Records in Virtual Volumes

#### Kirk session records

[Dumfries, St Michael's kirk session](#)
[Dumfries, St Mary's \(quoad sacra\) kirk session](#)
[Dumfries, Greyfriars kirk session](#)


## Place search

[Search by place](#)
[Browse an A-Z list of places](#)
[How to search by place](#)

### Records not in Virtual Volumes

Several record sets (indexed by personal name and in other ways) allow searching or sorting results by place name, street name, parish, county, burgh or district. Read our guide on [searching by place](#).

Search [maps and plans](#).

Search [statutory registers of birth, marriage, death, civil partnership, divorce and dissolution](#).

Search [census returns](#).

Search [church registers of baptisms, marriages and burials](#).

## ScotlandsPeople Kirk Sessions

Purchase Previous Next Zoom in Zoom out Fit height Fit width Rotate Rotate Invert Contrast Brightness Contents

Dumfries kirk session, Minutes (1808-1820), CH2/537/11, Image CH000200537-00011-00001- National Records of Scotland. Copyright restricted. For enquiries regarding the re-use of this image contact National Records of Scotland.

Volume contents X

- [1 - Minutes, 1808](#)
- [15 - Minutes, 1809](#)
- [48 - Minutes, 1810](#)
- [91 - Minutes, 1811](#)
- [123 - Minutes, 1812](#)
- [156 - Minutes, 1813](#)
- [178 - Minutes, 1814](#)
- [203 - Minutes, 1815](#)
- [223 - Minutes, 1816](#)
- [249 - Minutes, 1817](#)
- [274 - Minutes, 1818](#)
- [307 - Minutes, 1819](#)
- [333 - Minutes, 1820](#)
- [349 - Minutes, index](#)

CH2/537/11, Dumfries kirk session, Minutes (1808-1820)

## ScotlandsPeople Kirk Sessions

Tip

Use ScotlandsPlaces to  
make sure you have the  
right kirk session

1804	Janry 1 <sup>st</sup> .
Carruthers	William lawful son of William Carruthers & Janet Mawhinny in Flesh.
	Janry 21 <sup>st</sup>
Irving	Ann lawful Daughter of Tho. Irving & Agnes Jackson in Cove Greenhead.
	Janry 29 <sup>th</sup> .
Douglass	Eli lawful son of Will <sup>m</sup> Douglass and Sibilla Steel Dalwanswells.
	Mar <sup>ch</sup> 15 <sup>th</sup> .
Little	Isabella lawful Daughter of Tho. Little & Jean Heathy in Graham's Hill.
	Mar <sup>ch</sup> 16 <sup>th</sup> .
Johnston	James lawful son of Jas. Johnston & Janet Irving in Williamsfield.
	April 9 <sup>th</sup> .
Mitchel	Jean lawful Daughter of Jas. Mitchel &

## Baptism - 1804



OS1/10/33/113

Records / Ordnance Survey Name Books / Dumfriesshire OS Name Books, 1848-1858 / Dumfriesshire volume 33 / OS1/10/33/113

Parish of Kirkpatrick Fleming No. 21. Sheet 55.16 Trace 3

List of Names as written on the Plan	Various modes of Spelling the same Names	Authority for those modes of Spelling	Situation	Descriptive Remarks, or other General Observations which may be considered of Interest
Williamsfield	Williamsfield do do	Colonel Graham Mossknowe M <sup>r</sup> S. Beattie Williamsfield M <sup>r</sup> Marshall Redhouse	1 mile S.W. of Mossknowe	A farm house with outbuildings and farm attached the property of Colonel Graham
	Catharine Moss do do	M <sup>r</sup> James Armstrong Burnhill Andrew Johnston do Francis Park Redhouse		A small mess on the farms of Burnhill & Burnhill This is not a proper place

<https://scotlandsplaces.gov.uk/>

# Virtual Volumes

Kirkpatrick-Fleming kirk session, Minutes (1783-1825), CH2/232/1

Image number

00001

GO >

[Add to timeline](#)



Report an issue

The screenshot displays the Virtual Volumes interface. At the top, there is a toolbar with icons for Download, Previous, Next, Zoom in, Zoom out, Fit height, Fit width, Rotate, Rotate, Invert, Contrast, Brightness, and Contents. Below the toolbar is a large image of a handwritten document page. The text on the page includes "of Kirkpatrick-Fleming" and "Decr 7<sup>th</sup> 1783." The document is watermarked with "ScotlandsPeople". On the right side, there is a "Volume contents" sidebar with a list of entries:

- 1 - Minutes, 1783
- 3 - Minutes, 1784
- 11 - Minutes, 1785
- 28 - Minutes, 1786
- 34 - Minutes, 1787
- 45 - Minutes, 1788
- 54 - Minutes, 1789
- 61 - Minutes, 1790
- 69 - Minutes, 1791
- 76 - Minutes, 1792
- 89 - Minutes, 1793
- 95 - Minutes, 1794
- 116 - Minutes, 1795
- 127 - Minutes, 1796
- 141 - Minutes, 1797
- 146 - Minutes, 1798
- 157 - Minutes, 1799
- 179 - Minutes, 1800
- 183 - Minutes, 1801

<https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>

1

Records of the Session  
of Kirkpatrick-Fleming

Decr 7<sup>th</sup> 1783.

This day the Session of Kirkpatrick - Margaret's  
Fleming being met & constituted. Mr W. H. Graham's  
Moncrieff modr, J<sup>ns</sup> Johnston, Smith & Currie <sup>Coupland's</sup> Confession  
Elders. Compeared Margaret Coupland, &  
acknowledged that she had brought forth a  
child in uncleanness, & having been exhorted to  
be ingenious in her Confession & interrogated  
at the Kirk-

## Kirkpatrick-Fleming Kirk Sessions

according to her confession.  
Kirkpatrick-Fleming 13<sup>th</sup> Febr'y 1803  
P<sup>o</sup> P<sup>o</sup> P<sup>o</sup>. The session being met and constituted, there was produced by the Mod<sup>r</sup>. a letter from the Kirk session of Graitney - the tenor whereof follows - Graitney 6<sup>th</sup> Febr'y 1803 -  
P<sup>o</sup> P<sup>o</sup> P<sup>o</sup>. The Session of Graitney Present the Rev<sup>d</sup>. John Morgan Mod<sup>r</sup>. with John Townie Thomas Johnston & James & John Berris Elders. Compared Euphemia Downie daughter to Archibald Downie in Stewartfield, who having acknowledged herself to be with child in uncleanness, and being exhorted to be ingenuous and examined, Declared that Walter Miller in Grahams-hill was the father of her child and that the guilt was committed on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of Aug<sup>r</sup>. last between Carlisle and

## Kirkpatrick-Fleming Kirk Sessions

# Adoption

- Not handled legally until passage of the Adoption of Children (Scotland) Act 1930
- Arranged through Sheriff Courts (1930+)
- Private adoptions (pre-1930) were arranged by:
  - Barnardos
  - Quarriers
- Informal adoptions may be noted in birth records and census records



# Support children and families arriving from Ukraine

[Donate now](#)



**Barnardo's Ukrainian support helpline**

<https://www.barnardos.org.uk/>

# Our history

We've kept our promise to protect children and young people for over 150 years

## Beginnings – the Ragged School

Thomas John Barnardo was born in Dublin, Ireland, in 1845. As a young man he moved to London to train as a doctor. When he arrived, he was shocked to find children living in terrible conditions, with no access to education. Poverty and disease were so widespread that one in five children died before their fifth birthday. When a cholera epidemic swept through the East End, leaving 3000 people dead and many orphaned children, the young Barnardo felt an urgent need to help.

His first step, in 1867, was to set up a 'ragged school' where children could get a free basic education. One evening a boy at the mission, Jim Jarvis, took Barnardo around the East End, showing him children sleeping on roofs and in gutters. What he saw affected him so deeply he decided to abandon his medical training and devote himself to helping children living in poverty.



Thomas Barnardo at his desk



## No child should be turned away

In 1870, Barnardo opened his first home for boys. As well as putting a roof over their heads, the home trained the boys in carpentry, metalwork and shoemaking, and found apprenticeships for them.

<https://www.barnardos.org.uk/>



Care and support  
since 1871

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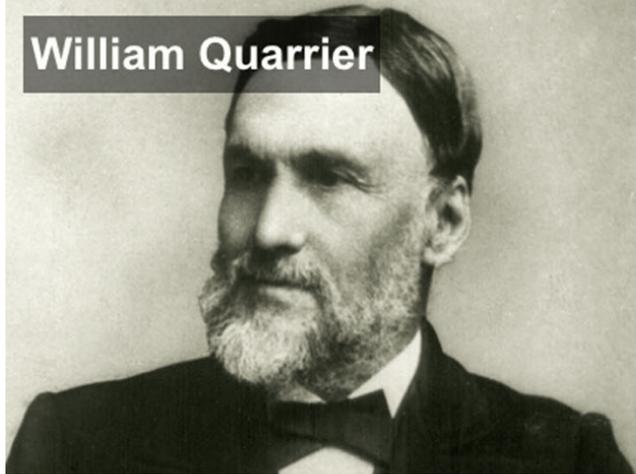
7 ways we can help

3 things you can do

<https://www.quarriers.org.uk/>

## Our history

Quarriers is a unique, inspirational Scottish charity that grew from one man's vision to an organisation that supports thousands of people to reach their potential. Its fascinating history spans 150 years, and it all began with William Quarrier.



William Quarrier

### Early life

William Quarrier was born in Cross Shore Street in Greenock in 1829. After his father died, his family moved to Glasgow. Aged just seven, William began working as a pin maker, and at age eight, he was an apprentice shoemaker. He went on to become a successful shoe merchant, owning several shops in Glasgow.



### Inspiration

One night in 1864, William met a boy who was crying. He had been selling matches and some older boys had stolen them and now he would have no money. William decided that now that he was no longer poor he had to help and established a Shoeblack Brigade for children living on the streets. The boys went out cleaning shoes on street corners – they kept some of the money they earned and the rest was used to replenish the

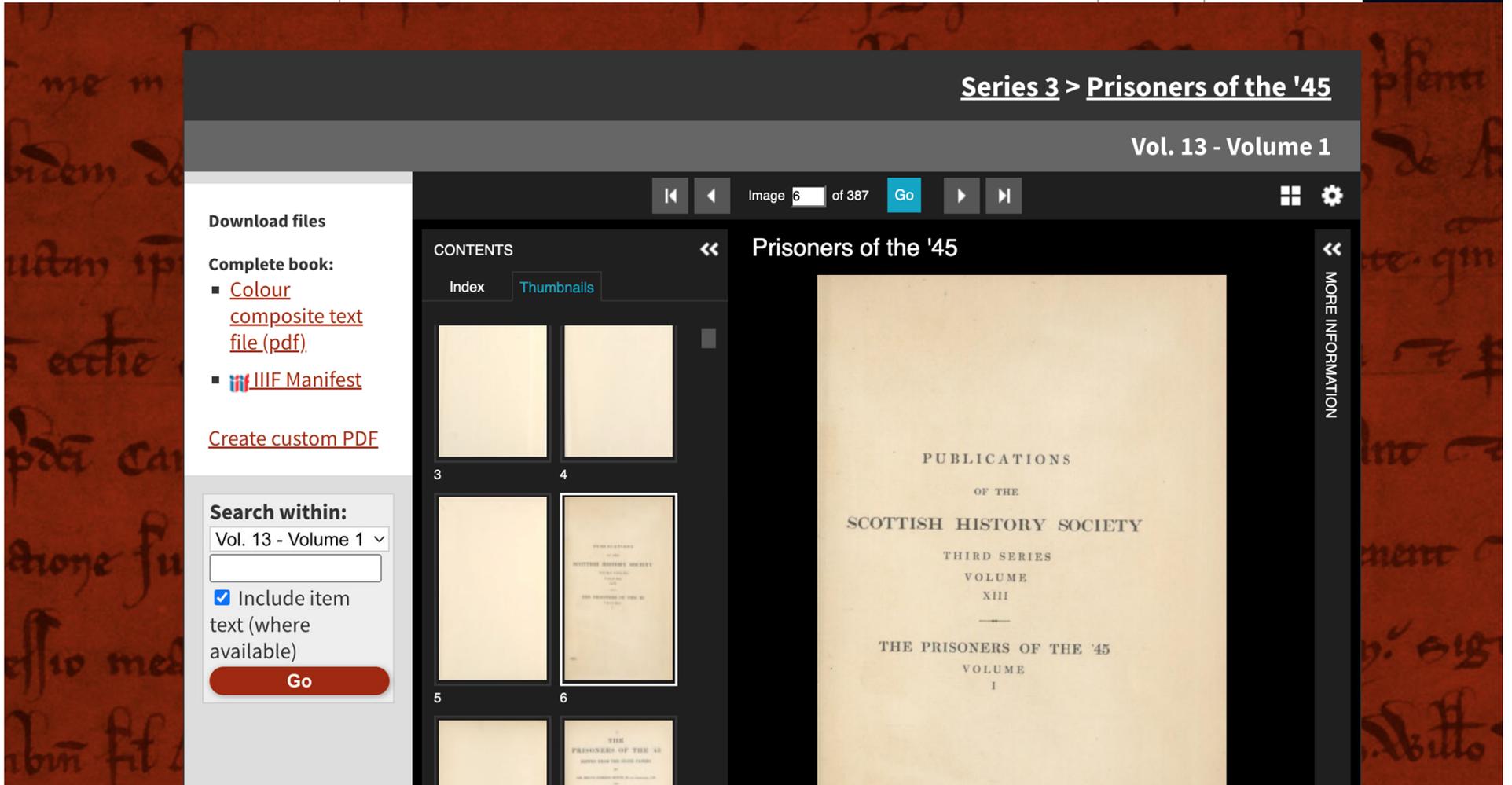
<https://www.quarriers.org.uk/>

# QUESTIONS?

# Military Records

# Military Records

- Before 1707:
  - Scotland had its own military
  - They were called up as needed and dismissed after
- In 1707:
  - Governments of England and Scotland combined
  - Military of England and Scotland combined
- 1707 forward:
  - Records housed at PRO in England

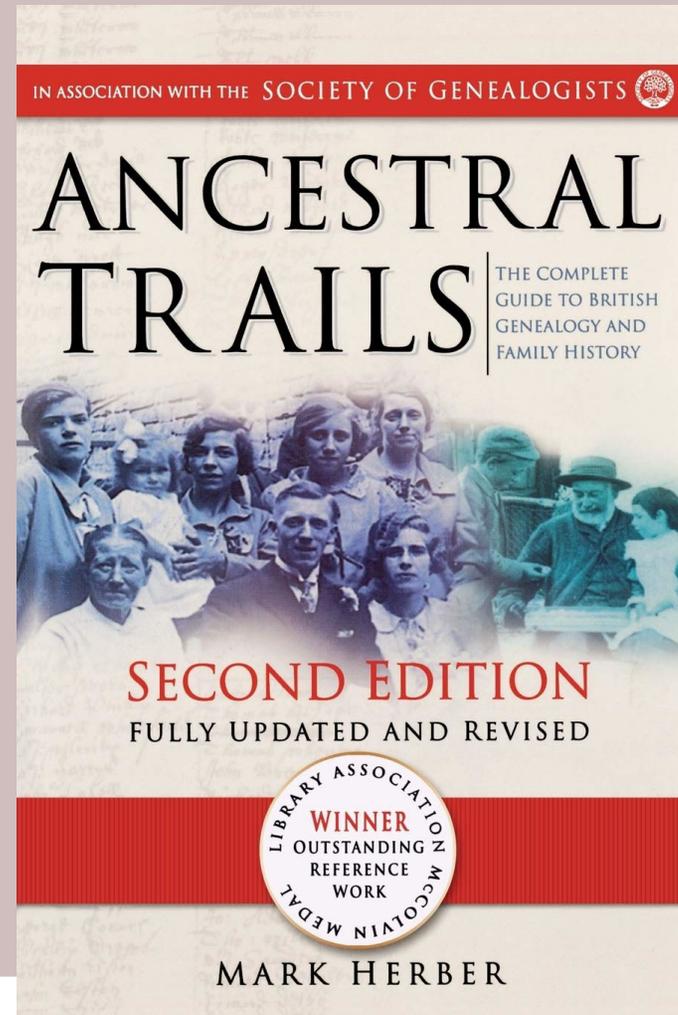


The screenshot displays the digital archive interface for 'Prisoners of the '45'. The main header shows 'Series 3 > Prisoners of the '45' and 'Vol. 13 - Volume 1'. Below this, a navigation bar includes 'Image 6 of 387' and a 'Go' button. The central area is divided into a 'CONTENTS' sidebar with 'Index' and 'Thumbnails' tabs, and a main view showing a grid of thumbnails (3, 4, 5, 6) and a large preview of the book's title page. The title page text reads: 'PUBLICATIONS OF THE SCOTTISH HISTORY SOCIETY THIRD SERIES VOLUME XIII THE PRISONERS OF THE '45 VOLUME I'. A 'MORE INFORMATION' sidebar is visible on the right. On the left, there are options to 'Download files', including a 'Complete book' section with links for 'Colour composite text file (pdf)' and 'IIIF Manifest', and a 'Create custom PDF' option. A 'Search within:' section is also present, set to 'Vol. 13 - Volume 1' with a search box and a 'Go' button. A checkbox for 'Include item text (where available)' is checked.

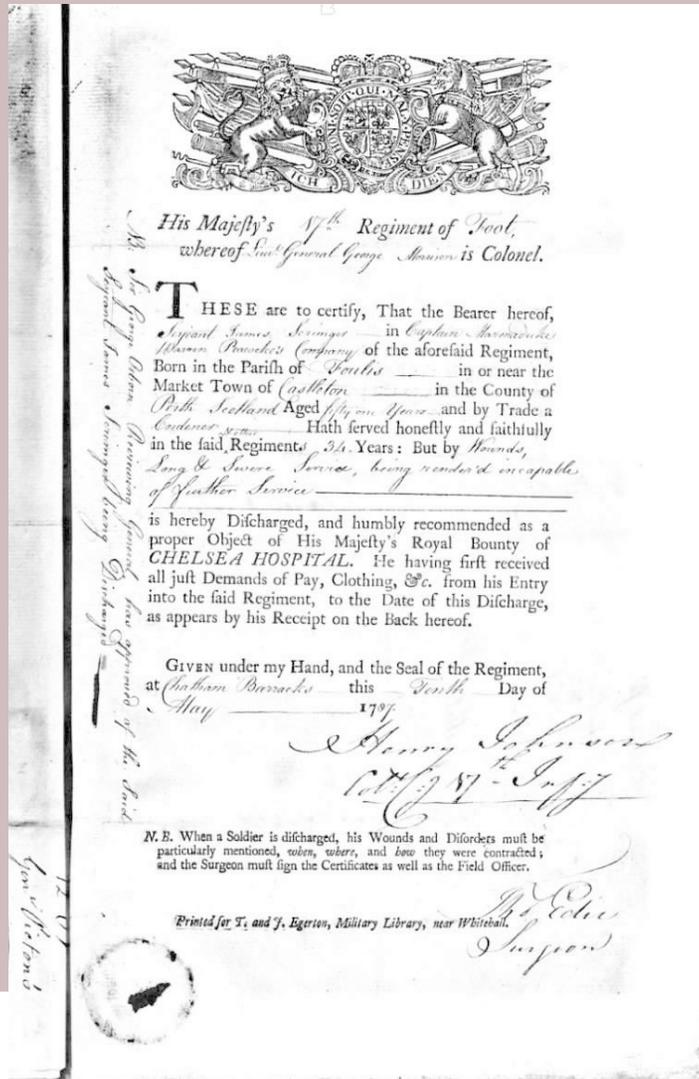
[digital.nls.uk/scottish-history-society-publications/browse/archive/125885851](https://digital.nls.uk/scottish-history-society-publications/browse/archive/125885851)

# Ancestral Trails

- By Mark Herber
- 2nd Edition
- Offers detailed chapter on military records



# Military for Life



- Military service was an occupation for life
- Officers came from upper class
- Soldiers from working class
- Substitutes could be purchased

Tip

Vital records may be  
found in military  
papers

61

**STATEMENT of the Services of** *Lieutenant Arthur Gray* **of the 23rd Regt. of**  
**Where Born** *Scottish Scotland* **Date of Birth** *11<sup>th</sup> July 1892*

*Private* **with a Record of such other Particulars as may be useful in case of his Death.**  
**Age on his first Entrance into the Army** *18 Years*

Rank and Regiment, in which the Officer first entered the Army, and the successions of his Rank and Regiment on every subsequent Promotion, Removal, or Exchange, whether to Full or Half-Pay.				FULL PAY. Whether obtained with or without Purchase; and, if by exchange, whether with or without paying the Difference.	HALF PAY. Whether obtained by reduction, or by the Purchase of a Half Pay Commission; whether in consequence of his being from ill health incapable of Service, or under what other circumstances; and, if by Exchange, whether with or without receiving the difference.	List, and Dates of any Battles, Sieges, and Campaigns, in which the Officer was present; specifying the Regimental or Staff Situation he held on each occasion, and the name of the Officer in the chief command.	Instances in which the Officer has distinguished himself by gallant, or skilful conduct, when, where, and on what occasion; and whether noticed in General Orders.	Wounds received in Action, specifying when, where, and on what occasion; what grant of Pay has been received; Rate of Pension; Date; and whether permanent or temporary.	Titles, Honorary Distinctions, and Medals, obtained; and if conferred for any specific Service, when, and on what occasions.	Service Abroad.		
										Period.		Station.
Ranks.	Regiments.		Dates.						From	To		
	Full Pay.	Half Pay.										
<i>Private</i>	<i>24th Foot</i>		<i>11 July 1910</i>	<i>Without Purchase</i>		<i>Commissioned in the 23rd Regt of Foot on 11th July 1910. Served in France from 1914 to 1918. Received 10 Medals and 10 Bars. Mentioned in Despatches 10 times. Received the Victoria Cross for gallant conduct at the Battle of Arras on 9th April 1917. Received the Distinguished Conduct Medal for gallant conduct at the Battle of Cambrai on 30th November 1917. Received the Distinguished Service Medal for gallant conduct at the Battle of Arras on 9th April 1917. Received the Distinguished Service Medal for gallant conduct at the Battle of Arras on 9th April 1917.</i>			<i>1914</i>	<i>1918</i>	<i>France</i>	
<i>Private</i>	<i>24th Foot</i>		<i>11 July 1910</i>	<i>Without Purchase</i>					<i>1914</i>	<i>1918</i>	<i>France</i>	
<i>Private</i>	<i>24th Foot</i>		<i>11 July 1910</i>	<i>Without Purchase</i>					<i>1914</i>	<i>1918</i>	<i>France</i>	
<i>Private</i>	<i>24th Foot</i>		<i>11 July 1910</i>	<i>Without Purchase</i>					<i>1914</i>	<i>1918</i>	<i>France</i>	
<i>Private</i>	<i>24th Foot</i>		<i>11 July 1910</i>	<i>Without Purchase</i>					<i>1914</i>	<i>1918</i>	<i>France</i>	
<i>Promoted to Captain in Regt on 15th July 1917</i>												

If the Officer be Married*, specify					If the Officer has any legitimate Children, specify		
When.	Where.	To whom.	The Wife living at the Date of.	Minister who married the Parties, and of what Church.	Names.	Dates of Birth.	Where Baptized.
<i>10th October 1919</i>	<i>Scotland</i>	<i>Miss Mary Elizabeth Gray</i>	<i>1919</i>	<i>Rev. Mr. Gray</i>	<i>James</i>	<i>10th July 1920</i>	<i>Edinburgh</i>
					<i>Mary</i>	<i>10th July 1920</i>	<i>Edinburgh</i>
					<i>John</i>	<i>10th July 1920</i>	<i>Edinburgh</i>

\* Note. A Report to be made to the War Office within six months of the Marriage.—See Regulations for Widows' Pensions.

Service on	Years.		I do hereby certify, upon my honour, that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, this statement is in all respects correct and true.
	Abroad.	At Home.	
Full Pay . . . . .	<i>6</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>Arthur Gray</i> Signature of the Officer.
Half Pay . . . . .	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	
Total up to 31st December, 1929 . . . . .	<i>6</i>	<i>10</i>	We do hereby certify, that We are satisfied of the general correctness of this statement.
Full Pay . . . . .			<i>John Gray</i> Signature of the Commanding Officer.
Half Pay . . . . .			<i>A. J. Gray</i> Paymaster.
			<i>John Gray</i> Adjutant.

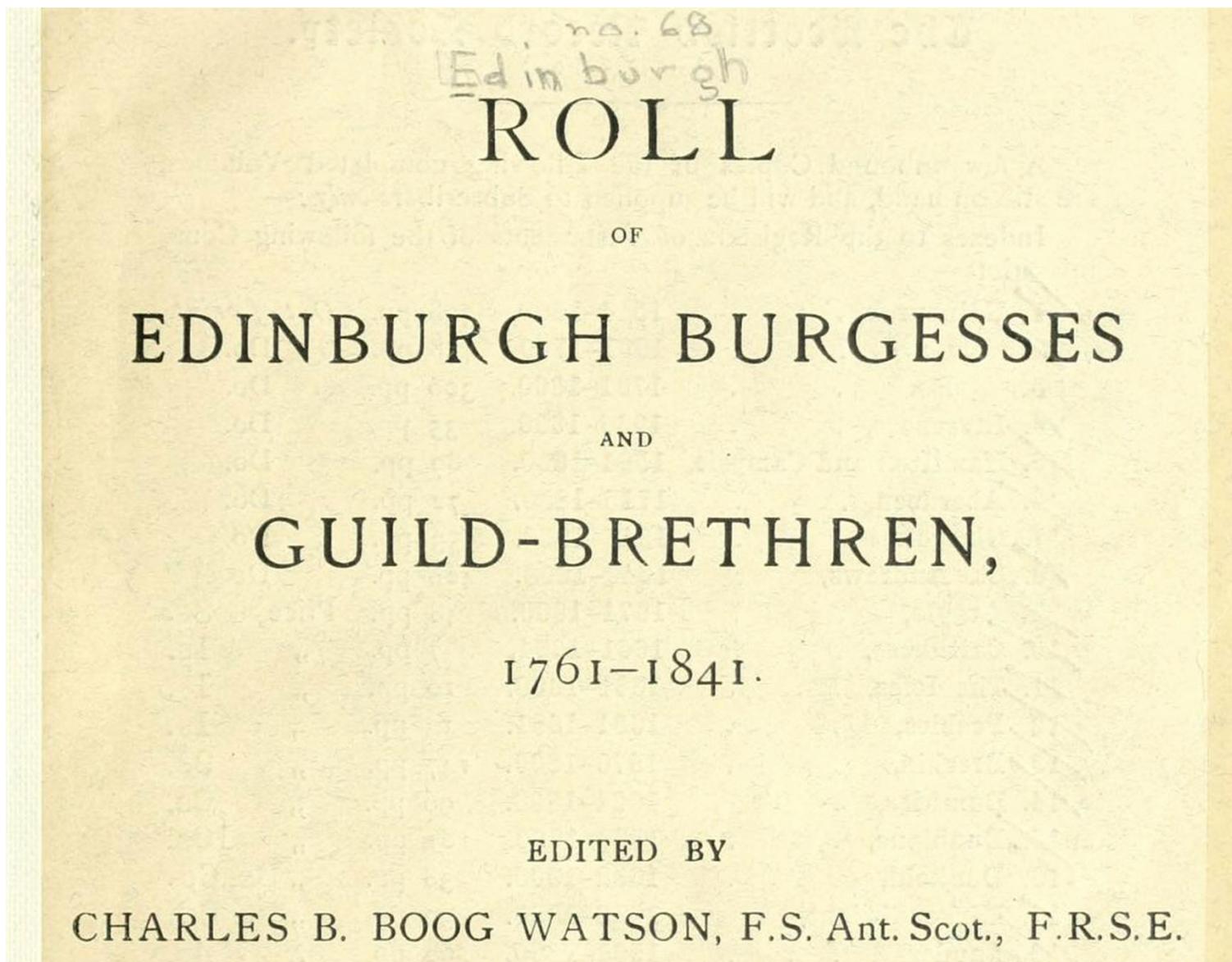
# Great Britain: War Office Register



# Occupational Records

# Burghs and Burgesses

- To work in a burgh, you had to join a guild of the Incorporated Trades
- To join the guild, had to have Burgess Ticket as a freeman of the burgh
- The Burgess Rolls can be traced back for centuries
- Burgess system continued until 1975
- Rolls listed admitted burgesses who could vote



Archive.org

# Roll of Edinburgh Burgesses, 1761-1841.

---

<b>Abercrombie (Abercromby)</b> , Alexr., grocer, B., in r. of w. Elizabeth, dr. of David Cunninghame, baxter, B.	28 Sept. 1786
„ David, printer, B., in r. of late fr. Alexr. A., grocer	27 Mar. 1812
„ John, surgeon, B.	31 Oct. 1804
„ Major-Genl. Ralph, of Tullybody, B. and G., gratis, by act of C.	22 Dec. 1790
„ Col. Robert, of the 37th regt. of foot, and aid-du-camp to His Majesty, B. and G, by act of C.	5 July 1786
„ Capt. Wm., B. and G., gratis, by act of C. of 22 Feb. (where he is s. of Lieut.-Genl. James A., and is of the <i>(blank)</i> regt. of foot	29 Feb. 1764
<b>Aberdour</b> , James, founder, B., by r. of w. Isobel, dr. of George Aitken, smith, B.	20 Apr. 1763
„ The Right Hon. Lord Sholtoe, B. and G., gratis, by act of C.	8 July 1761
„ Wm., founder, B., in r. of w. Helen, dr. of John Burns, mt., B.	2 Sept. 1761
<b>Abernethy</b> , Alexr., shoemaker, B., in r. of w. Elizabeth, dr. of Hugh Newton, weaver, B.	25 Nov. 1781
„ Alexr., baker, B., as p. to Thomas White, baker, B.	21 May 1787
„ Alexr., candlemaker, B., as p. to John Kedic, candlemaker, B.	22 June 1807
„ Alexr., painter, B., in r. of late fr. Alexr. A., shoemaker, B.	8 Dec. 1807
„ James, mt., B.	10 Jan. 1782
„ James, corkcutter, B., in r. of fr. James A., mt., B.	17 Jan. 1782
„ Thomas Liddell, mt., B., in r. of fr. Alexr. A., baker ; also G.,	

## Burgess Roll

**LIST**  
**OF**  
**FREEHOLDERS**

**STANDING ON THE OLD ROLL,**

**AND OF**

**THE ELECTORS**

**ADMITTED UNDER THE ACT, 2. & 3. WILL. IV.**  
**Chap. 65.**

**Taken from the Certified List made up by the Sheriff-clerk;**

**WITH AN**

**APPENDIX,**

**Containing an**

**ABSTRACT OF THE CLAUSES OF THE ACT**

**RELATIVE TO THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR AND MODE**  
**OF ELECTIONS, AND OF POLLING,**  
**&c. &c. &c.**

**LIST**  
**OF**  
**FREEHOLDERS**

**OF THE**

**COUNTY OF ABERDEEN,**

**STANDING ON THE OLD ROLL,**

**1832.**

The Act declares, (§ 27.) that "every Voter shall poll at the Polling-Place of the district within which the premises, or any part of them, in respect of which he claims to vote, may be situate;"—so that those Freeholders, whose superiorities are situated in two or more districts, may vote at the Polling-Place appointed for either of these districts. The letter **p**, in the following List, denotes Parish or Parishes, which are annexed to the names of the Freeholders, for the purpose of pointing out the Polling-Places at which they are entitled to vote.

- ANDERSON, Major John, of Candacraig, p.**  
**Udny, Fyvie, Turriff**  
**Arbuthnot, Maj.-Gen. Hon. Hugh, of Hat-**  
**ton, p. Old Deer**  
**Arbuthnot, Capt. Hon. William, of Towie, p.**  
**Turriff, Auchterless, Fyvie**  
**Anderson, John, liferenter of Saithley, p.**  
**Strichen**  
**5 Arbuthnott, George, of Invernettie, p. Peter-**  
**head, Kintore**
- BURNETT, Sir Robert, of Leys, Bart. p. Lum-**  
**phanan, Kincardiné O'Neil**  
**Burnett, John, of Kemnay, p. Kemnay**  
**Bannerman, Charles, of Kirkhill, p. Newhills**  
**Bisset, Rt. Rev. Dr. Wm. Lord Bishop of Ra-**  
**phoe, p. Drumblade**

**Burgess Roll**

# The Glasgow Trades

- Craft and trade guilds in Scotland often pre-date their counterparts in England
- Oldest Craft is the Masons of Glasgow, incorporated in 1057 by Malcolm III
- Trades meet at the Trades Hall
- Many crafts date to 1500s

# Incorporated Trades - Glasgow

- Hammermen (1536)
- Tailors (ca 1546)
- Cordiners (1558)
- Maltmen (????)
- Weavers (1528)
- Bakers (????)
- Skinners (1516)
- Wrights (ca 1567)
- Coopers (ca 1569)
- Fleshers (ca 1580)
- Masons (ca 1057)
- Gardeners (ca 1690)
- Barbers (1559)
- Dyers & Bonnetmakers (ca 1597)

RECORDS  
OF THE  
INCORPORATION OF BARBERS,  
GLASGOW,

FORMERLY  
**The Incorporation of Chirurgeons and Barbers.**

EXTRACTED AND NARRATED  
BY  
JAMES B. TENNENT  
DEACON OF THE INCORPORATION, 1890-91

SUPPLEMENT BY JAMES R. ANDERSON



DATE MICROFILM  
*April 8, 1977*  
MICROFILM  
*#3*  
CAMERA NO.  
*SLC 10*  
CATALOGUE NO.  
*XLTB 8-100 #153*

GLASGOW:  
PRINTED BY WILSON GUTHRIE & CO.,  
335 ST. VINCENT STREET, GLASGOW.  
1930

*941.43/61*  
*C4 50*

they were not mentioned in the Act referred to, and latterly, such practice ceased entirely.

It was the custom, and was so recognised by the Trade, that servants classed as valets or ladies' maids were allowed to dress the wigs or hair of their masters and mistresses. Those servants were expected to qualify themselves for such work, by serving for a term with a member of the Trade. This service required to be booked, and there are numerous entries of the kind.

The few extracts which follow, will sufficiently elucidate some of the methods of the Trade referred to.

4th September 1728. William Selkrig, freeman of this Incorporation, being convened for his packing and peeling with an unfreeman in his trade, in as far as within this eight days last, he received, resett and keepled in his shop above the Cross, a parcel of periwigs to the number of ten or thereby, belonging to one George Stirling living in Edinburgh and not free with this Incorporation, and that there some of the said periwigs were sold and disposed of. Five of the wigs had been seized by the Officer, and the accused admitted that his servant had assisted in selling the remainder. The Trade found him convicted of receiving and resetting, and packing and peeling with a stranger, but considering the seizure of the said five wigs, no further fine was exacted.

8th December 1729. Upon a complaint by one of the freemen that John Buchanan, journeyman, had deserted his service and was working for himself privately, the said John Buchanan was convened before the Deacon and Masters. He admitted having sold two wigs and told the purchaser that they were his own, having "made them under the way of cardowing as it is commonly called." Under the thirteenth Act of the Trade he was ordained to pay in to the Collector Ten pound Scots, or otherwise to be put in prison till he pay the same.

Incorporation of Barbers

# QUESTIONS?

**Hire Research Services**

*research@nehgs.org*

**Chat with a Genealogist**

*AmericanAncestors.org/chat*



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Signature Projects

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Home | Researching Scottish Ancestors 2022

# Researching Scottish Ancestors 2022

**Thank you for registering for the online course, *Researching Scottish Ancestors*!**

Scots have been migrating to and settling in America and Canada for centuries. Today, there are an estimated 25 million Americans of Scottish descent. Tracing your Scottish heritage is rewarding, but not without its challenges. This five-session online seminar will provide you with key historical context, strategies, and resources setting you on the right path to trace your ancestry back several generations in Scotland.

This course includes five 90-minute classes; exclusive access to handouts and recordings of each presentation; and in-depth q&a sessions with the instructors.

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Click here to join the live sessions: <https://zoom.us/j/91855370989>

*If you are unable to attend a live session, you will be able to watch a recording posted below.*

## COURSE SCHEDULE

[AmericanAncestors.org/researching-scottish-ancestors-2022](https://AmericanAncestors.org/researching-scottish-ancestors-2022)



# THANK YOU!

AmericanAncestors.org



NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC  
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

---

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