

Tracing Scottish Ancestry: Records, Resources, and Research Strategies

Class 4: Other Scottish Records

Rhonda R. McClure, Senior Genealogist

THE BRUE FAMILY LEARNING CENTER



American Ancestors[®]

A NATIONAL CENTER FOR FAMILY HISTORY, HERITAGE & CULTURE

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.)**



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 immovable 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

Testament Testamentar

- Consists of four parts:
 1. Introductory clause
 2. An inventory of the deceased's possessions
 3. Confirmation clause
 4. Copy of the will
- If will isn't attached, reference to where it is filed, usually Register of Deeds

John Bankes Esq. Surgeon in Dumfries (attested)

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 31st day of Decem^r. 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 Chappell Hill, 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 27th 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 was justly owing to the said Wm. James Johnston at the time of his decease the said sum 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.

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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 extentus, 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 extentus ;—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

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

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Register of Sasines Index - Search Result ?

Indexing Source	Particular Register of Sasines Minute Book (Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles)
Deed Type	Sasine
Minute Text	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.
County/Counties	Roxburghshire
Date of Recording	28 February 1780
NRS Minute Book Reference	RS82/8 fo. 21
Date of Deed	8 February 1780
NRS Volume Reference	RS57/24



[< Back to Search Results](#)

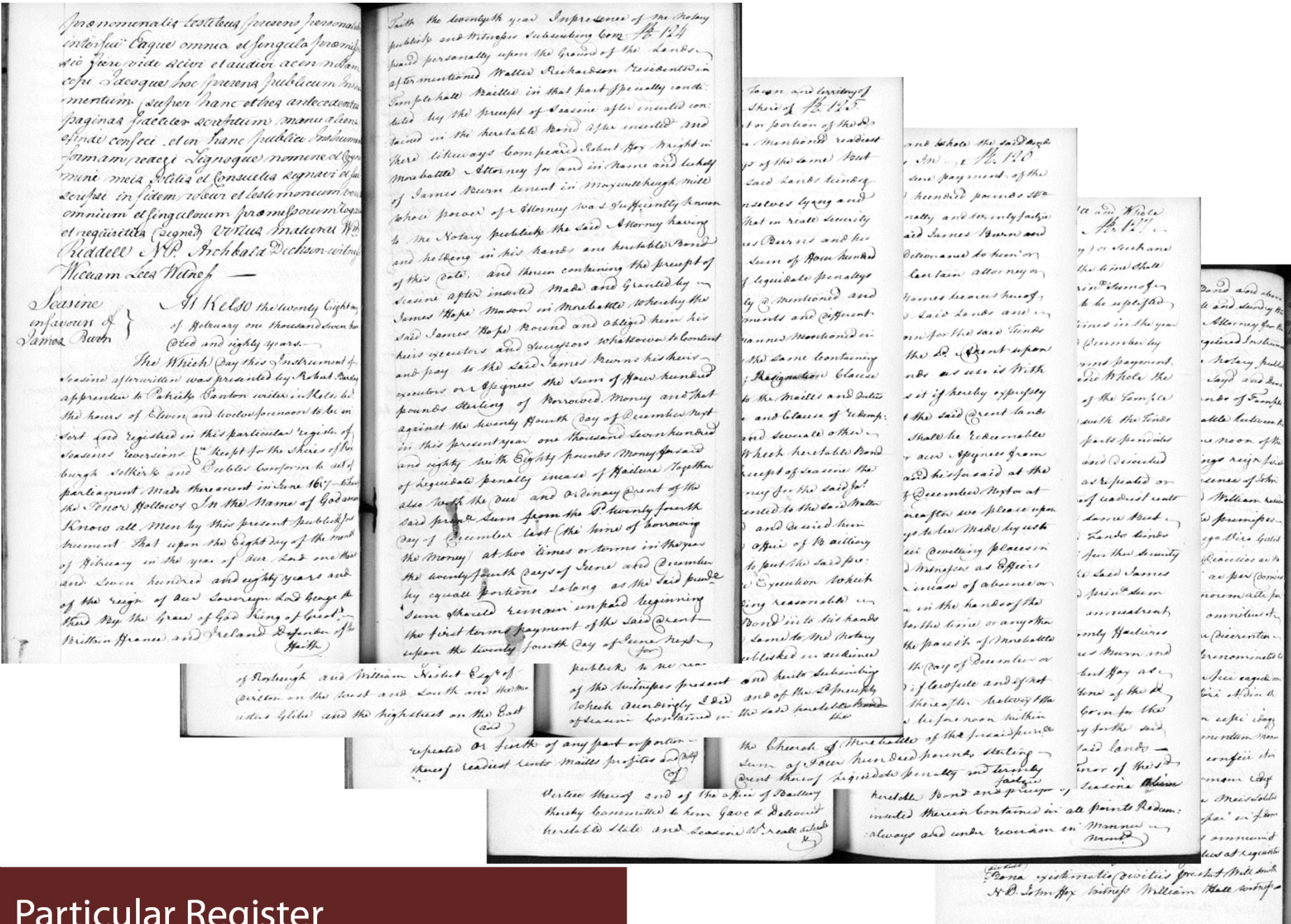
Share this Entry:



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 tenant in
Mafwelheughmice, of an annual rent of twenty
pounds sterling. Lenth 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
8th February 1780. (Robert Barclay)
Will. Ker ell

Original Minute Book



Particular Register

[eI]

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:

nrscotland.gov.uk/research/research-guides/research-guides-a-z/court-of-session-records



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Search Our Record Sets

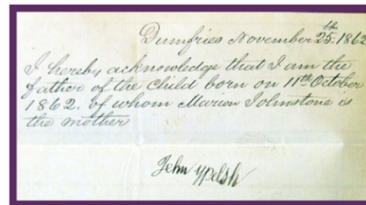
As well as the [global search](#) it can be useful to search our historical record sets individually to find those elusive ancestors!

We have indexed historical records which will help you trace your Scottish family tree. These range from prison records to property records, health records and court records. You find out more about each record set in our [Scottish Genealogy Learning Zone](#).

You can either [click here](#) to search all records simultaneously or select a category below. Visit our [coverage pages](#) to see a detailed breakdown of what you can search on this site.



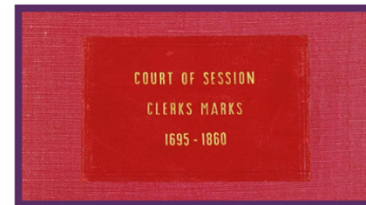
[Search Scotland's Criminal Database](#)



[Search Scottish Paternity Index](#)



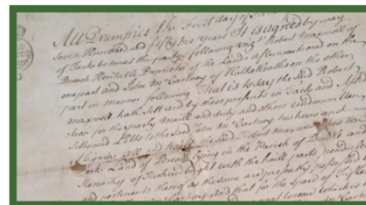
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Search Results

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

Criminal Database Search

High Court of Justiciary Trial Papers

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

Sheriff Court Criminal Records


No results found

Prison Register Index

Name, Occupation and Residence	Age	Birthplace	Prison	Year	
James Adair, Hostler, Dumfries	19	Dumfries	Dumfries (Maxwelltown)	1877	Full Record

Criminal Database Search

High Court of Justiciary Trial Papers - Search Result ?

Title	Trial papers relating to James Smith, James Douglas
Name	James Douglas
Role	Accused
Designation	labourer, Dumfries, Dumfriesshire
Age	24
Approx Birth Year	1820
Crime	Theft by housebreaking, habit and repute, and previous conviction
Trial Date	29 April 1844
Trial Location	Dumfries
Verdict	Guilty
Verdict Comments	Guilty in terms of own confession - theft by housebreaking, and previous conviction.
Sentence	Imprisonment - 18 months
NRS Reference	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	Person Details
James Smith, joiner, Stoop, Dumfries, Dumfriesshire	41	Dumfries	Theft by housebreaking, habit and repute, and previous conviction	Person Details

[< 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	Full Record
James Johnston, Farm Servant, Kells	23	Dumfries	Kirkcudbright	1851	Full Record
James Johnston, Hawker, Dumfries	25	Dumfries	Wigtown	1852	Full Record
James Johnston, Mason, Dryfesdale	33	Dryfesdale	Dumfries	1853	Full Record
James Johnston, Ploughman, Lockerbie	20	Dunscore	Dumfries	1857	Full Record
James Johnston, Graindealer, Maxwelltown	47	Lochmaben	Kirkcudbright	1859	Full Record
James Johnston, Hawker, Dumfries	34	Dumfries	Jedburgh	1861	Full Record
James Johnston, Stockingmaker, Kelso	34	Dumfries	Kelso	1861	Full Record
James Johnston, Grocer, Maxwelltown	51	Lochmaben	Maxwelltown	1861	Full Record
James Johnston Senr., Labourer, Moffat	55	Moffat	Lanark	1870	Full Record
James Johnston Junr., Labourer, Moffat	30	Moffat	Lanark	1870	Full Record
James Johnston, Carter, Dumfries	46	Dunscore	Dumfries (Maxwelltown)	1878	Full Record
James Johnston or Harrow, Mason, Sanquhar	28	Thornhill	Dumfries (Maxwelltown)	1878	Full Record
James Johnston or Farrow, Mason, Sanquhar	29	Thornhill	Dumfries (Maxwelltown)	1879	Full Record
James Johnston, Labourer, Dumfries	49	Dunscore	Dumfries (Maxwelltown)	1882	Full Record
James Johnston, Mason, Dumfries	32	Thornhill	Dumfries (Maxwelltown)	1882	Full Record
James Johnston, Labourer, Dumfries	50	Dunscore	Dumfries (Maxwelltown)	1883	Full Record
James Johnston, At school, Dumfries	9	Dumfries	Dumfries (Maxwelltown)	1883	Full Record
James Johnston, Labourer, No fixed	39	Dumfries	Dumfries (Maxwelltown)	1904	Full Record


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	View image (6 credits)
	INNES	----	JOHNSTON	----	31	AUCHTERMUCHTY	1890	PERTH PRISON	View image (6 credits)
	LAWSON	----	JOHNSTONE	----	19	DAMHEAD ST ANDREWS	1908	PERTH PRISON	View image (6 credits)

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

[eI

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

To All and Sundry whom these
Presents do or may concern, We, Thomas
Robert ^{1st Earl of Kinnoull} Lord Lyon
King of Arms, do hereby Certify and
Declare that the Ensigns Armorial
pertaining ~~and belonging~~ to John
Glappell ~~Heir of John Glappell Esq^r~~
of Longmoleby in the County of Hadding-
ton, only surviving Child Procreate
of the marriage betwixt the said John
Glappell and Helen Buchan daughter
of John Buchan Esquire of Lettham
in said County of Haddington, are
Matriculated in the public Registers
of the Lyon Office and are Blazoned
as on the Margin thus Viz, Argent
a Lion's head erased Gules, langued
Azure for Buchan, betwixt three
Mullets of the second, all within a
Bordure Engrailed ~~Argent~~ ^{of the third}, Above the
Shield is placed an Esquire's helmet
with a Mantling Gules, the doubling
Argent and on a wreath of Her Liveries
is set for Crest a Mermaid ~~in~~ ^{the} Sea
holding in her dexter hand a Comb
and in her sinister a Mirror all proper

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

Start your search

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Volume search

Search for a specific volume by reference or search all volumes by date range.

[Search for a volume >](#)



Record creator search

Search for records of a kirk session, presbytery or other court or institution.

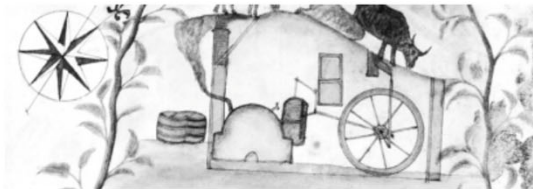
[Search record creators >](#)



Place search


Search for all records relating to a place such as a parish, county or city.

[Search places >](#)



Virtual Volumes

Virtual Volumes results

 Privacy information ▼

You searched for - Record Creators: "Dumfries", Search type: "all"

Refine search ▼

Showing 1 to 6 of 6 (1 pages)

Name	Description	Type	More info	
Dumfries - Greyfriars kirk session	A church court that sat within the presbytery of Dumfries and the synod of Dumfries.	Church court	more	View
Dumfries - St Mary's kirk session	A church court that sat within the presbytery of Dumfries and the synod of Dumfries.	Church court	more	View
Dumfries - St Michael's kirk session	A church court that sat within the presbytery of Dumfries and the synod of Dumfries.	Church court	more	View
Dumfries presbytery	A higher court of the Church of Scotland.	Church court	more	View
Dumfries synod	A higher court of the Church of Scotland.	Church court	more	View
Ordnance Survey - Dumfries county	Great Britain's national mapping agency. Records relating to Dumfries county, a county in the south west of Scotland, also known as Dumfriesshire.	Government body	more	View

ScotlandsPeople Virtual Volumes

Dumfries - St Michael's kirk session

A church court that sat within the presbytery of Dumfries and the synod of Dumfries. The church was granted to Kelso Abbey at the beginning of the twelfth century.

Records available

- Minutes (1712-1735) ([CH2/537/1](#))
- Minutes (1735-1743) ([CH2/537/2](#))
- Minutes (1743-1750), Accounts (1747-1750) ([CH2/537/3](#))
- Minutes (1750-1754) ([CH2/537/4](#))
- Minutes (1754-1759) ([CH2/537/5](#))
- Minutes (1759-1768) ([CH2/537/6](#))
- Minutes (1768-1776) ([CH2/537/7](#))
- Minutes (1776-1785) ([CH2/537/8](#))
- Minutes (1785-1795) ([CH2/537/9](#))
- Minutes (1795-1808) ([CH2/537/10](#))
- Minutes (1808-1820) ([CH2/537/11](#))
- Minutes (1820-1838) ([CH2/537/12](#))
- Minutes (1648-1661) ([CH2/537/13](#))
- Minutes (1668-1688) ([CH2/537/14](#))
- Minutes (1689-1699) ([CH2/537/15/1](#))



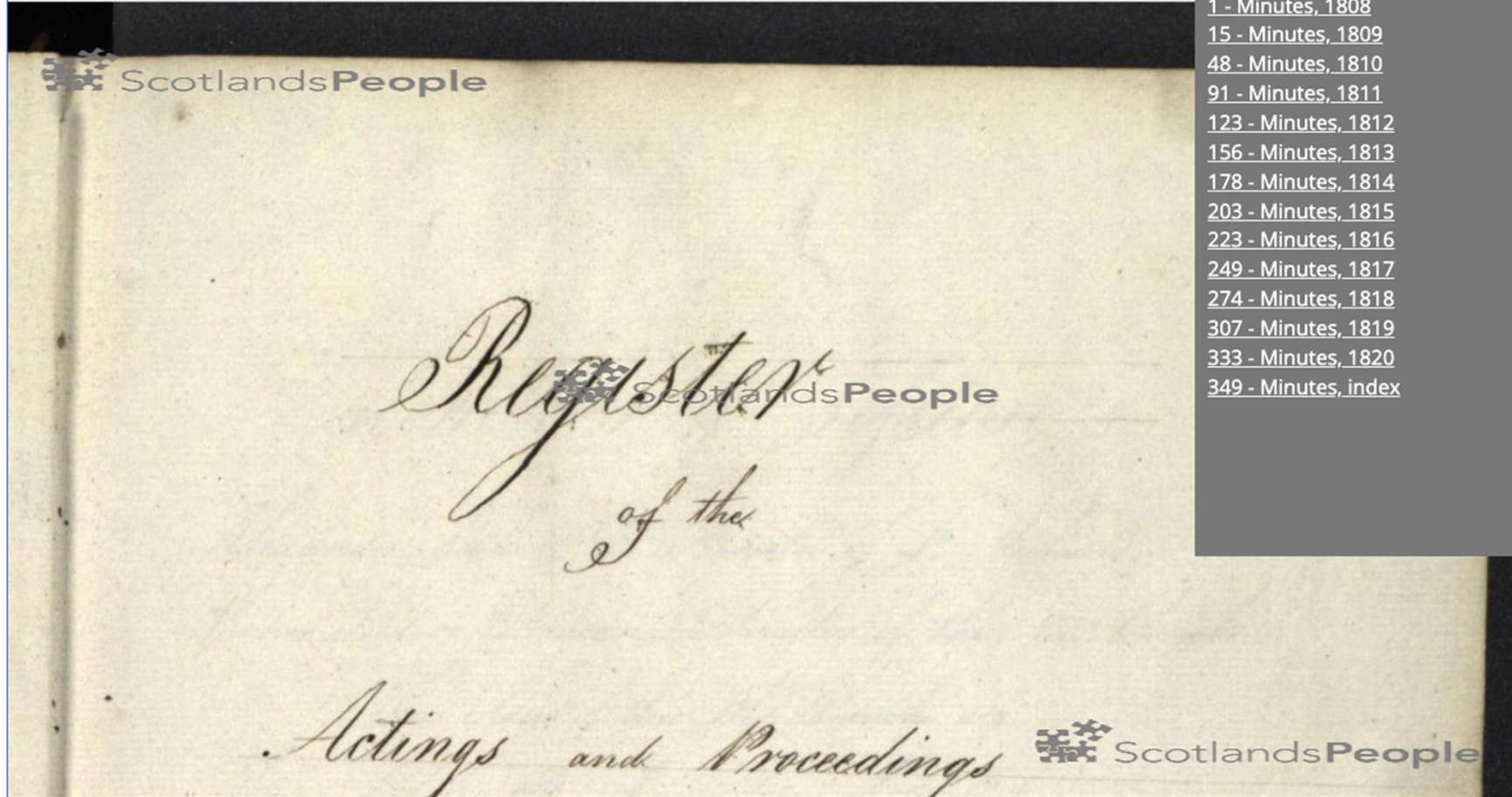
St. Michael's Kirk Sessions Records

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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

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

Baptism - 1804

[eI

Use the Ordnance Survey
volumes to find places



Volume search

Search for a specific volume by reference or search all volumes by date range.

[Search for a volume >](#)



Record creator search

Search for records of a kirk session, presbytery or other court or institution.

[Search record creators >](#)



Place search

Search for all records relating to a place such as a parish, county or city.

[Search places >](#)



Scottish Cabinet records search

Search for Cabinet records of the Scottish Government.

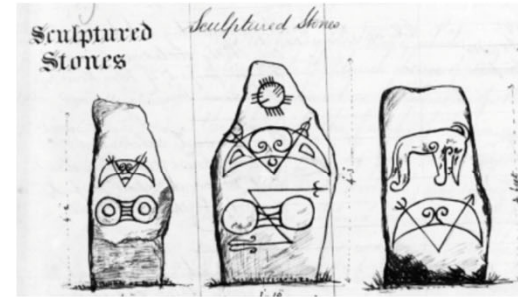
[Search Cabinet records >](#)



Tax rolls

Search for 17th-19th century tax rolls.

[Search tax rolls >](#)



Ordnance Survey Name Books

Search for Ordnance Survey Name Books.

[Search OS Name Books >](#)

scotlandspeople.gov.uk/search-records?tab=virtual_volumes#search_records

Reference	Record Creator	Short Description	Starts	Ends	More info
OS1/10/28	Ordnance Survey - Dumfries county	OS Name Books - Dumfries county - Volume 28 - Parish of Johnstone	1848	1858	more View OS1/10/28
OS1/10/29	Ordnance Survey - Dumfries county	OS Name Books - Dumfries county - Volume 29 - Parish of Keir	1848	1858	more View OS1/10/29
OS1/10/30	Ordnance Survey - Dumfries county	OS Name Books - Dumfries county - Volume 30 - Parish of Kirkconnel	1848	1858	more View OS1/10/30
OS1/10/31	Ordnance Survey - Dumfries county	OS Name Books - Dumfries county - Volume 31 - Parish of Kirkmahoe	1848	1858	more View OS1/10/31
OS1/10/32	Ordnance Survey - Dumfries county	OS Name Books - Dumfries county - Volume 32 - Parish of Kirkmichael	1848	1858	more View OS1/10/32
OS1/10/33	Ordnance Survey - Dumfries county	OS Name Books - Dumfries county - Volume 33 - Parish of Kirkpatrick Fleming	1848	1858	more View OS1/10/33
OS1/10/34	Ordnance Survey - Dumfries county	OS Name Books - Dumfries county - Volume 34 - Parish of Kirkpatrick - Juxta	1848	1858	more View OS1/10/34
OS1/10/35	Ordnance Survey - Dumfries county	OS Name Books - Dumfries county - Volume 35 - Parish of Langholm	1848	1858	more View OS1/10/35
OS1/10/36	Ordnance Survey - Dumfries county	OS Name Books - Dumfries county - Volume 36 - Parish of Lochmaben	1848	1858	more View OS1/10/36
OS1/10/37	Ordnance Survey - Dumfries county	OS Name Books - Dumfries county - Volume 37 - Parish of Middlebie	1848	1858	more View OS1/10/37
OS1/10/38	Ordnance Survey - Dumfries county	OS Name Books - Dumfries county - Volume 38 - Parish of Moffat	1848	1858	more View OS1/10/38
OS1/10/39	Ordnance Survey - Dumfries county	OS Name Books - Dumfries county - Volume 39 - Parish of Moffat	1848	1858	more View OS1/10/39

List of OS volumes - Dumfries



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 3 113

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	Colonel Graham Moss House		A farm house with outbuildings and farm attached the property of Colonel Graham
	do	M ^r S. Beattie Williamsfield	1 mile S.W. of	
	do	M ^r Marshall Redhouse	Moss Knowe	
Catharine's Moss	do	M ^r James Armstrong Burnhill		A small mess on the farms of Catharine's Moss & Burnhill This is not a proper place.
	do	Andrew Johnston do		
	do	Francis Park Redhouse		

scotlandspeople.gov.uk/

Virtual Volumes

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

Image number

00001

GO >

[Add to timeline](#)



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of Kirkpatrick-Fleming
ScotlandsPeople
Decr 7th 1783.
This day the Sesson of Kirkpatrick
Fleming being met & constituted. Mr W. H.
Moncreff modr, Mr Johnstone, Smith & Co
Elders. Compeared Margaret Coupland
acknowledged that she had brought forth a
child in uncleanness, & having been exhorted to

Volume contents ×

- 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

scotlandspeople.gov.uk/

1

Records of the Session
of Kirkpatrick-Fleming

Decr 7th 1783.

This day the Session of Kirkpatrick - Margaret's
Fleming being met & constituted. Mr W. H. Graham's
Moncrieff modr, In^{os} Johnston, Smith & Currie ^{Coupland} Confessor
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

...and was returned for one year ...
according to her confession.
Kirkpatrick-Fleming 13th Februry 1803
P^o P^o P^o. The session being met and constituted, there was produced by the Mod^r. a letter from the Kirk session of Graitney - the tenor whereof follows - Graitney 6th Februry 1803 -
P^o P^o P^o. The session of Graitney Present the Rev^d. John Morgan Mod^r. 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 26th day of Aug^r. 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

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.

barnardos.org.uk/



LIVING FULLER LIVES

Manage consent

quarriers.org.uk/



Donate



The Story of William Quarrier
Quarriers Charity

From a regulated UK healthcare provider

Q:ARRIERS

THE STORY OF
WILLIAM
Q:ARRIER

Watch on YouTube

The video player features a black and white portrait of William Quarrier on the right and a woman on the left. A red play button is centered over the text. The Quarriers logo is in the top right corner of the video frame. In the bottom right corner, there is a 'Watch on YouTube' button. In the bottom left corner, there are icons for share and refresh.

The story of William Quarrier

Manage consent

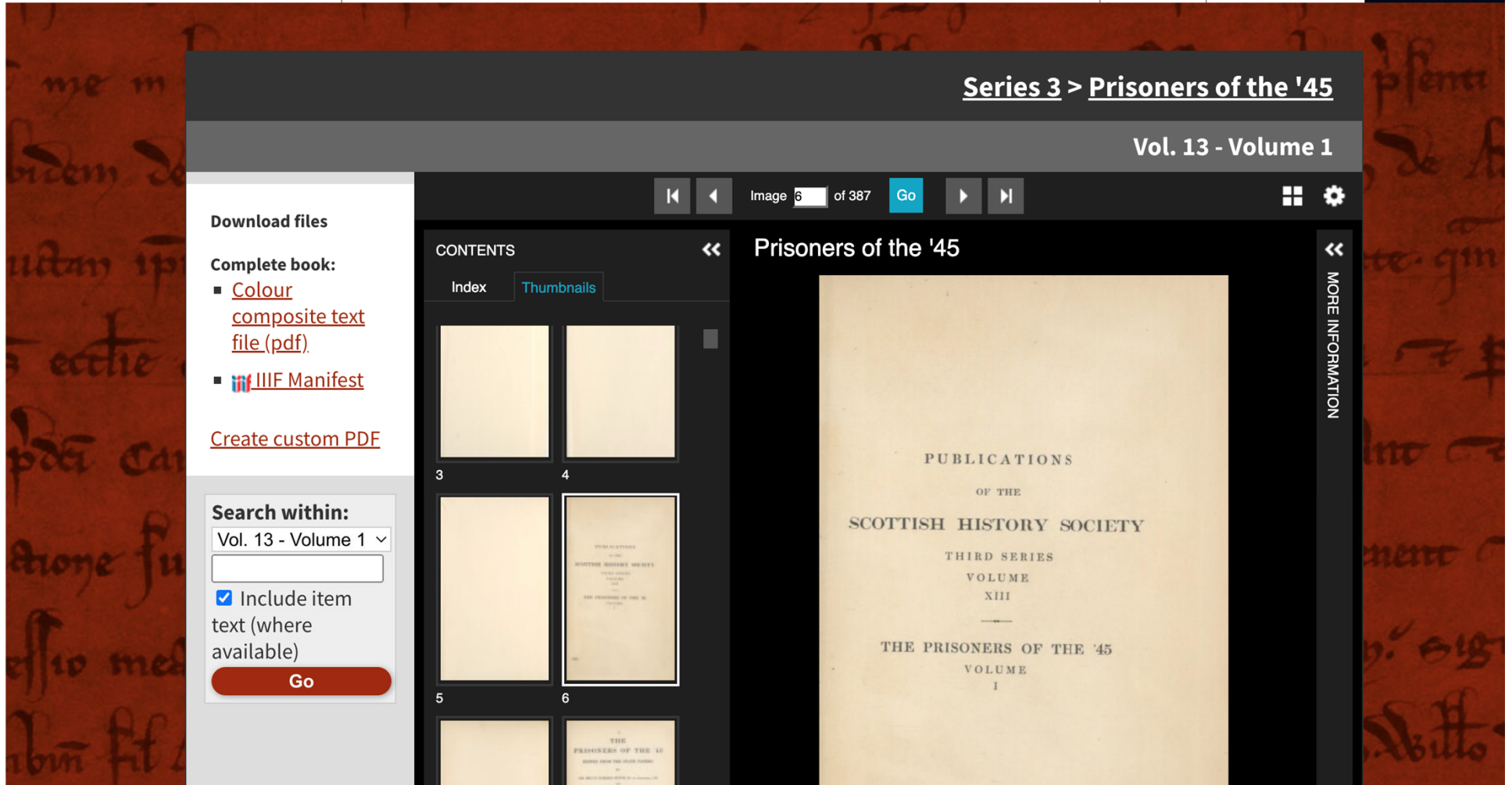
quarriers.org.uk/

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

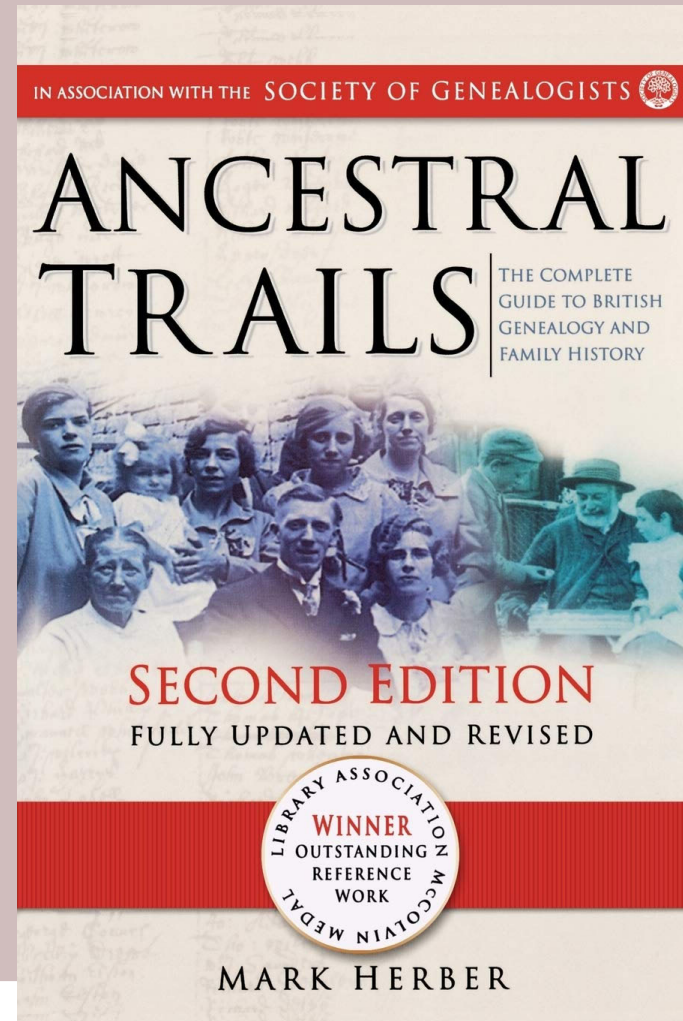


The screenshot displays the digital archive interface for 'Prisoners of the '45'. At the top, the breadcrumb trail reads 'Series 3 > Prisoners of the '45' Vol. 13 - Volume 1'. Below this, a navigation bar shows 'Image 6 of 387' with navigation arrows and a 'Go' button. The main content area is divided into three sections: a left sidebar, a central 'CONTENTS' grid, and a large preview image. The sidebar contains options for 'Download files', including a 'Complete book' section with links for 'Colour composite text file (pdf)' and 'IIIF Manifest', and a 'Create custom PDF' option. Below this is a 'Search within:' section with a dropdown menu set to 'Vol. 13 - Volume 1', a search input field, a checked checkbox for 'Include item text (where available)', and a 'Go' button. The 'CONTENTS' section has tabs for 'Index' and 'Thumbnails', with a grid of six thumbnail images labeled 3 through 6. The large preview image shows the title page of the book, which 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.

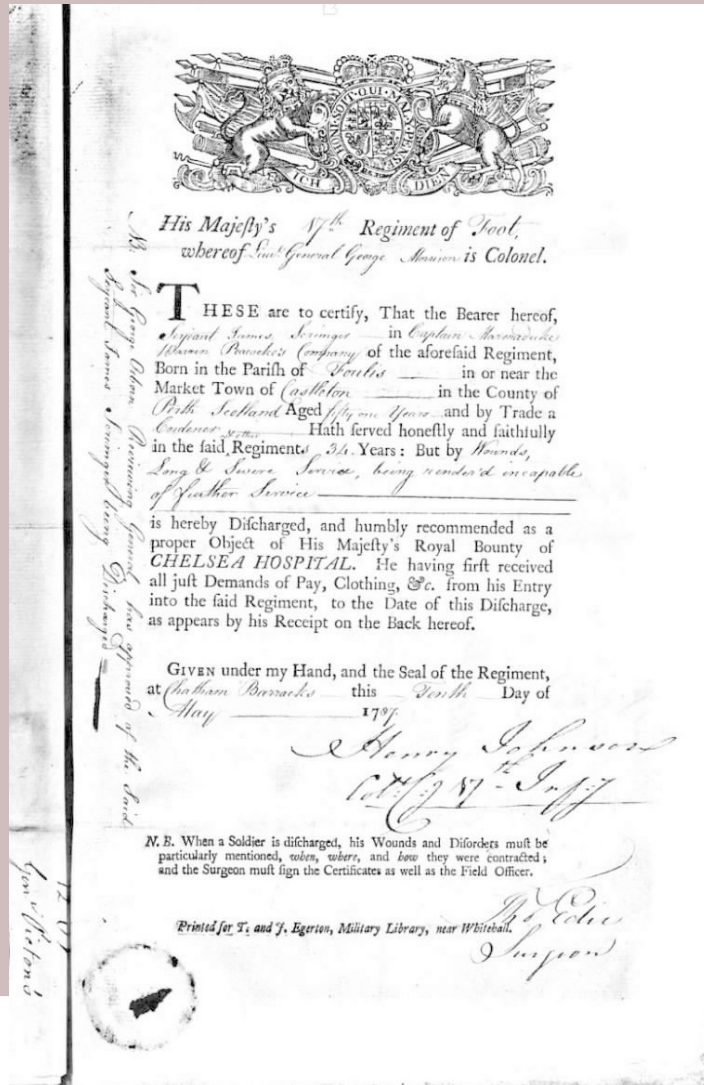
digital.nls.uk/scottish-history-society-publications/browse/archive/125885851

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

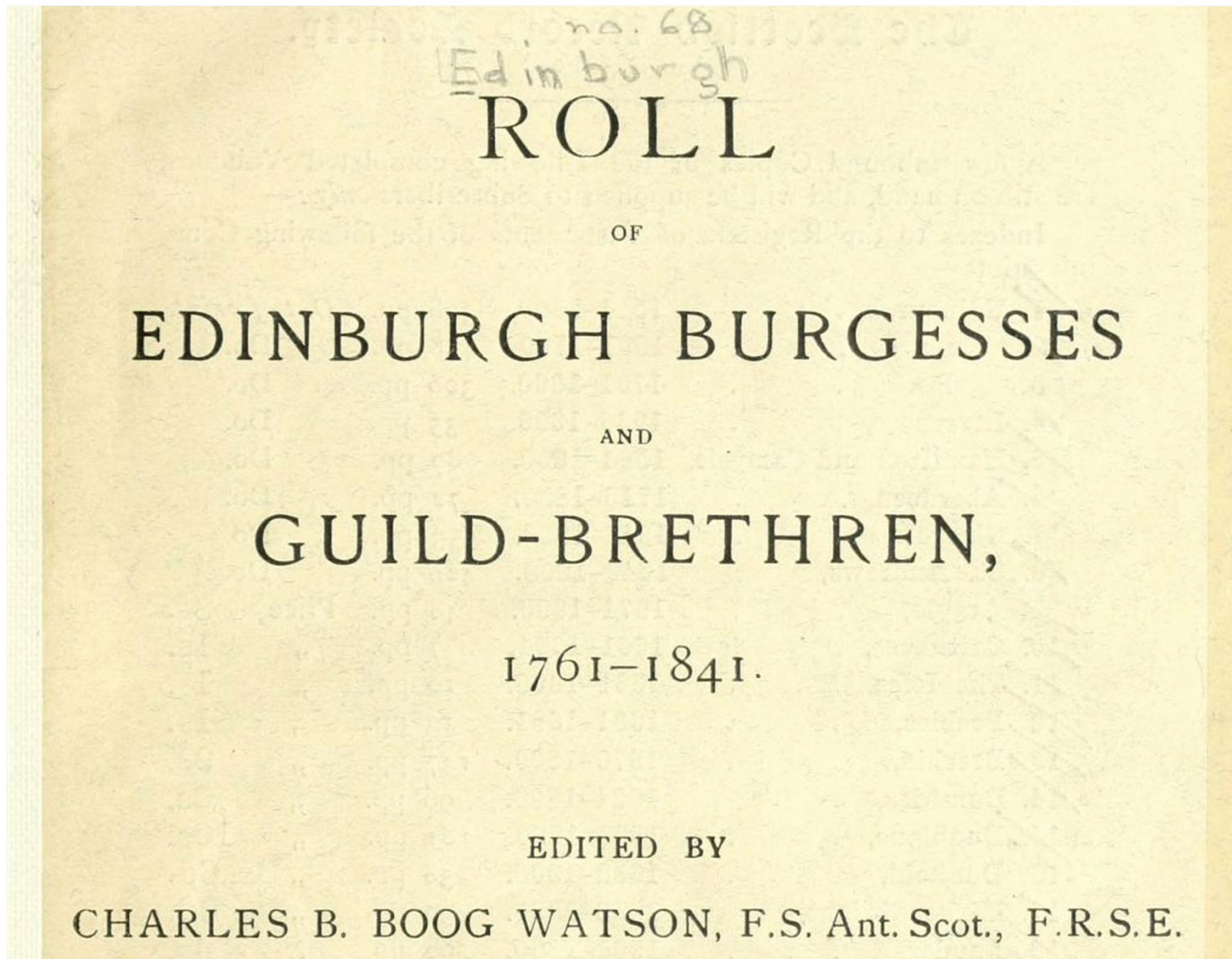
[eI

Vital records may be
found in military papers

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.

Abercrombie (Abercromby) , 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
Aberdour , 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
Abernethy , 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.

Burgess Roll

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 these 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

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



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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 kept 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?

Schedule a consultation

consultations@americanancestors.org

Hire Research Services

research@americanancestors.org

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Thank you for registering for the online course, *Tracing Scottish Ancestry: Records, Resources, and Research Strategies!*

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AmericanAncestors.org/tracing-scottish-ancestry-2026



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NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

AmericanAncestors.org

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