Lancashire Family History & Heraldry Society

Chorley Branch Education Group
Talk Handout
Further Steps
Tracing Your Family History in Scotland

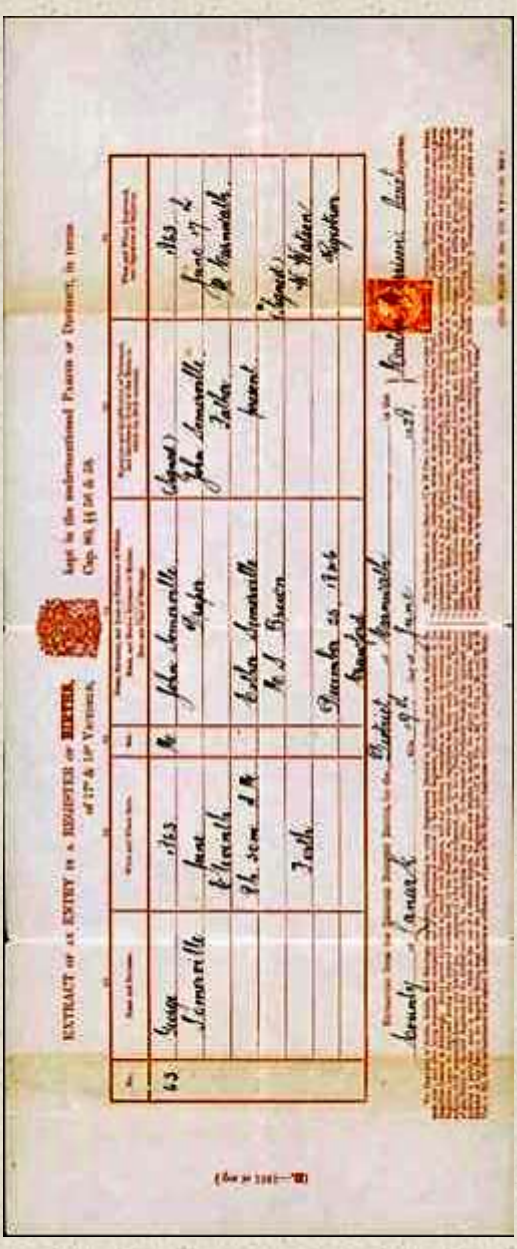
Scottish Civil Registration began in 1855.

The certificates are held in 3 places:

- The place where the event happened (Local Registrar)
- Scottish Registrar in Edinburgh (New Register House)
- By the person concerned

What information is given in Scottish Birth Certificates?

- Name and sex
- When and where born
- Name and occupation of father
- Name and maiden name of mother
- Date and place of marriage of parents (except 1856-60)
- Name and relationship of informant, and address if not present
- When and where registered, and name of registrar
- Other children of parents (1855 only)
- Parents' ages and place of birth (1855 only)



Birth Certificate

President Steve Ward

Birth Register

Web-Site: www.lfhhs.org.uk

Reg. Charity No. 513437

1869. BIRTHS in the Parish of Fossoway in the County of Kinross

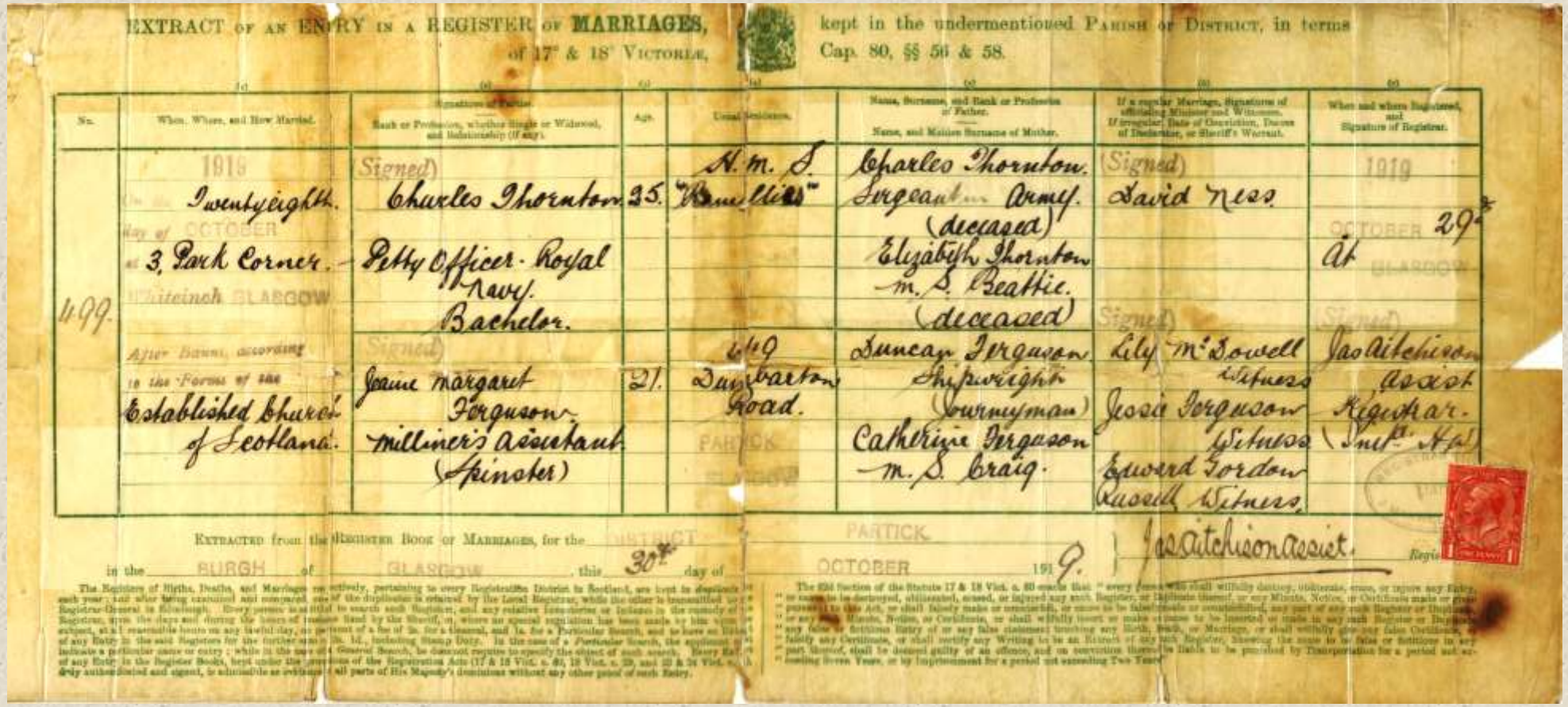
No.	Name and Surname. (1.)	When and Where Born. (2.)	Sex. (3.)	Name, Surname, & Rank or Profession of Father. Name, and Maiden Surname of Mother. Date and Place of Marriage. (4.)	Signature and Qualification of Informant, and Residence, if out of the House in which the Birth occurred. (5.)	When and Where Registered, and Signature of Registrar. (6.)
1	Elizabeth Scott (Illegitimate)	1868 December Tenth 9h 0m A.M. at Wood of Oldhain Parish of Fossoway	F	Marjory Scott Domestic Servant	Margaret Scott Mother present	1869 2nd January at Fossoway School House William Hunter Registrar
2	Ann Downie	1868 December Twenty-Seventh 3h 0m P.M. at Sownill Parish of Fossoway	F	Thomas Downie Labourer Janet Downie M. S. Dayburgh 1868 March 5th at Dunfermline	Ann + Dayburgh her Mark Grandmother present William Hunter Registrar Witness	1869 7th January at Fossoway School House William Hunter Registrar
3	David Wilson	1869 January Third 7h 45m A.M. at Braughty Parish of Fossoway	M	David Wilson Farm-Servant Isabella Wilson M. S. Fowler July 1862 at Cameron Fife	David Wilson Father present	1869 21st January at Fossoway School House William Hunter Registrar

William Hunter Registrar

1855 Birth Register

What information is given in Scottish Marriage Certificates?

- Names and occupations of bride and groom, marital status and relationship (if any)
- Ages of bride and groom (birthplace, where and when registered 1855 only)
- When and where married
- How married – Church of Scotland etc.
- Usual residence
- Names of both sets of parents, occupations of fathers, maiden surnames of mothers, and whether alive or dead
- When and where registered
- Number of children by any other marriage (1855 only)



EXTRACT OF AN ENTRY IN A REGISTER OF **MARRIAGES**, kept in the undermentioned PARISH OF DISTRICT, in terms of 17° & 18° VICTORIÆ, Cap. 80, §§ 56 & 58.

No.	When, Where, and How Married.	Signature of Parties. Rank or Profession, whether Single or Widowed, and Relationship (if any).	Age.	Usual Residence.	Name, Surname, and Rank or Profession of Father. Name, and Maiden Surname of Mother.	If a regular Marriage, Signature of officiating Minister and Witnesses. If irregular, Date of Conviction, Decree of Declarator, or Sheriff's Warrant.	When and where Registered, and Signature of Registrar.
499.	1919 On the Twentyeighth day of OCTOBER at 3, Park Corner. Whiteinch GLASGOW After Banns, according to the Forms of the Established Church of Scotland.	(Signed) Charles Thornton. Petty Officer - Royal Navy. Bachelor. (Signed) Jeanie Margaret Ferguson. Milliner's Assistant (Spinster)	25. 21.	H. M. S. "Ramillies" 649 Dumbarton Road. PARTICK	Charles Thornton. Sergeant Army. (deceased) Elizabeth Thornton M. S. Beattie. (deceased) Duncan Ferguson Shipwright (Journeyman) Catherine Ferguson M. S. Craig.	(Signed) David Ness (Signed) Lily McDowell Witness Jessie Ferguson Witness Edward Gordon Russell Witness.	1919 OCTOBER 29th At GLASGOW (Signed) Jas Aitchison Assist. Registrar. (Inst. H.W.)

EXTRACTED from the REGISTER BOOK OF MARRIAGES, for the DISTRICT PARTICK in the BURGH of GLASGOW, this 30th day of OCTOBER 1919. Jas Aitchison Assist. Regis

The Registers of Births, Deaths, and Marriages respectively, pertaining to every Registration District in Scotland, are kept in duplicate for each year; and after being examined and compared, one of the duplicates is retained by the Local Registrar, while the other is transmitted to the Registrar-General in Edinburgh. Every person is entitled to search such Registers, and any relative Inventories or Indexes in the custody of the Registrar, upon the days and during the hours of business fixed by the Sheriff, or, where no special regulation has been made by him upon the subject, at all reasonable hours on any lawful day, on payment of a fee of 2s. for a General, and 1s. for a Particular Search, and to have an Extract of any Entry in the said Registers for the further sum of 2s. 1d., including Stamp Duty. In the case of a Particular Search, the applicant must indicate a particular name or entry; while in the case of a General Search, he does not require to specify the object of such search. Every Extract of any Entry in the Register Books, kept under the provisions of the Registration Acts (17 & 18 Vict. c. 80, 19 Vict. c. 29, and 23 & 24 Vict. c. 86), duly authenticated and signed, is admissible as evidence in all parts of His Majesty's dominions without any other proof of such Entry.

The 63d Section of the Statute 17 & 18 Vict. c. 80 enacts that "every person who shall wilfully destroy, obliterate, erase, or injure any Entry, or cause to be destroyed, obliterated, erased, or injured any such Register, or Duplicate thereof, or any Minute, Notice, or Certificate made or given pursuant to this Act, or shall falsely make or counterfeit, or cause to be falsely made or counterfeited, any part of any such Register or Duplicate, or any such Minute, Notice, or Certificate, or shall wilfully insert or make or cause to be inserted or made in any such Register or Duplicate any false or fictitious Entry of or any false statement touching any Birth, Death, or Marriage, or shall wilfully give any false Certificate, or falsify any Certificate, or shall certify any Writing to be an Extract of any such Register, knowing the same to be false or fictitious in any part thereof, shall be deemed guilty of an offence, and on conviction thereof be liable to be punished by Transportation for a period not exceeding Seven Years, or by Imprisonment for a period not exceeding Two Years."

Mirriage Certificate

1900. MARRIAGES in the Parish of Cambusnethan in the County of Lanark

No.	When, Where, and How Married.	Signatures of Parties. Rank or Profession, Whether Single or Widowed, and Relationship (if any).	Age.	Usual Residence.	Name, Surname, and Rank or Profession of Father. Name, and Maiden Surname of Mother.	If a regular Marriage, Signatures of officiating Minister and Witnesses. If irregular, Date of Conviction, Decree of Declarator, or Sheriff's Warrant.	When & Where Registered, and Signature of Registrar.
165	1900 on the Second day of November at The Trows Overtown After Banns according to the Forms of the Free Church of Scotland	(Signed) Matthew H. Paton Waggon Builder (Journeyman) Bachelor	24	194 Caledonian Road Wishaw	Matthew Forsyth Paton Joiner (Journeyman) Deceased Janet Ogilvie Formerly Paton M. S. Simpson William Finlayson Railway Platelayer Jane Finlayson M. S. Weir	(Signed) Jas. J. Kelly F. C. Wishaw. (Signed) Alex. Ogilvie Witness Maggie Finlayson Witness	1900 November 5th At Wishaw Thos. Steele Registrar.
		Grace S. Finlayson Dressmaker (Spinster)	23	The Trows Overtown			
166	1900 on the Sixth day of November at Rayfield Cottage Overtown After Banns according to the Forms of the Established Church of Scotland	(Signed) James Pobbie Colliery Labourer (Widower)	68	Wheat Park Cottage Overtown	William Pobbie Bottomer (Coal Pit) Deceased Agnes Pobbie M. S. Marshall (Deceased)	(Signed) P. L. Thomson minister Overtown	1900 November 7th At Wishaw
		(Signed) Margaret Hamilton Grocer Widow of John Whilton Coalminer	66	Rayfield Cottage Overtown	Gilbert Hamilton Iron worker (Deceased) Agnes Hamilton M. S. Nelson (Deceased)	(Signed) Hugh Allan Witness Janet Allan Witness	Thos. Steele Registrar.

(1.) (2.) (3.) (4.) (5.) (6.) (7.)

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Thos. Steele. Registrar.

President Steve Ward
Marriage Register
Web-Site: www.lfhhs.org.uk
Reg. Charity No. 513437

1855 Marriage Register

What information is given in Scottish Death Certificates?

- Name, sex and address of the deceased and marital status
- When and where died
- Age and occupation
- Names of parents, with father's occupation and mother's maiden surname, and whether alive or dead
- Cause of death, and name of doctor who certified death
- Name, relationship and residence of informant (name only 1855)
- When and where registered, and signature of registrar
- Place of birth and length of time in district (1855 only)
- Spouse's name if married (omitted 1856-60)
- Issue in order of birth, names and ages they were when the death was registered (1855 only)
- Burial place and name of undertaker

President Steve Ward

Death Register

Web-Site: www.lfhhs.org.uk

Reg. Charity No. 513437

1901. DEATHS in the District of Carloway in the County of Ross

No.	Name and Surname. Rank or Profession, and whether Single, Married, or Widow(er).	When and Where Died.	Sex.	Age.	Name, Surname, & Rank or Profession of Father. Name, and Maiden Surname of Mother.	Cause of Death, Duration of Disease, and Medical Attendant by whom certified.	Signature & Qualification of Informant, and Residence, if out of the House in which the Death occurred.	When and where Registered, and Signature of Registrar.
4	James Ducat Light House Keeper Married	1900. December Fifteenth Flannan Islands Usual Residence Light House Station Breasclete Carloway Ross-shire	M	43 years	James Ducat Louisa Ducat M.S. Guild	Probably Drowning Body not recovered ~~No Medical Attendant~~	Registered on the information of Lerg. MacKenzie Procurator Fiscal	1901. February 21st At Knock Carloway Argyus MacLeod Registrar.
5	Thomas Marshall Light House Keeper Single	1900. December Fifteenth Flannan Islands Usual Residence Light House Station Breasclete Carloway Ross-shire	M	28 years	May Marshall M.S. Love	Probably Drowning Body not recovered ~~No Medical Attendant~~	Registered on the information of Lerg. MacKenzie Procurator Fiscal	1901. February 21st At Knock Carloway Argyus MacLeod Registrar.
6	Donald MacArthur Tailor Married	1900. December Fifteenth Flannan Islands Usual Residence Breasclete Carloway Ross-shire	M	40 years	Malcolm MacArthur Leroster Annie MacArthur M.S. MacLeod	Probably Drowning Body not recovered ~~No Medical Attendant~~	Registered on the information of Lerg. MacKenzie Procurator Fiscal	1901. February 21st At Knock Carloway Argyus MacLeod Registrar.

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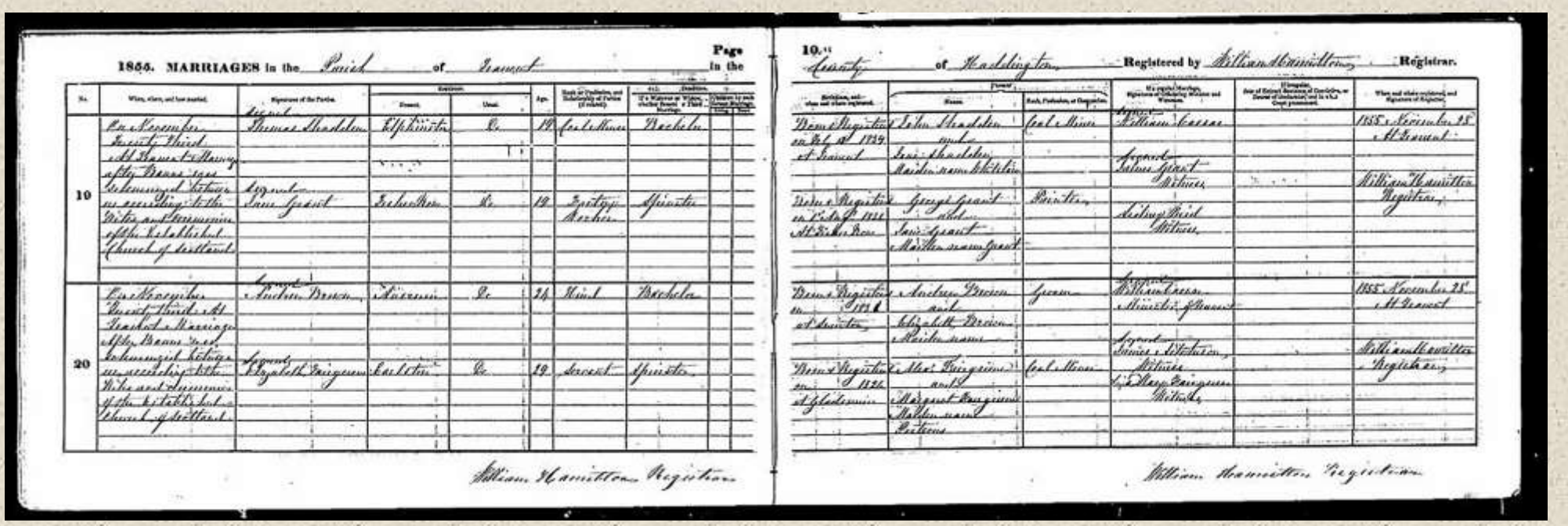
Argyus MacLeod Registrar.

President Steve Ward



1855. MARRIAGES in the Parish of Dunnet Page in the

No.	When, where, and how married.	Signature of the Parties.	Residence. Groom.	Residence. Usual.	Age.	Rank or Profession, and Scholarship of Parties (if Males).	(1.) Condition. If a Widower or Widow, whether Second or Third Marriage.	(2.) Children by each former Marriage. Living.	(2.) Children by each former Marriage. Dead.
19	One November Second Third / Third Banns of Marriage after Banns read / solemnized between us according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church of Scotland	Groom. Thomas Sheddden / Bride. Jane Grant	Elphinstone	Do.	19 / 19	Coal Miner / Spinster	Bachelor / Spinster		
20	One November Second Third / Third Banns of Marriage after Banns read / solemnized between us according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church of Scotland	Groom. Andrew Brown / Bride. Elizabeth Ferguson	Tarvemin / Carlston	Do. / Do.	24 / 19	Weaver / Servant	Bachelor / Spinster		

William Hamilton Registrar

10.

County of Haddington Registered by William Hamilton Registrar.

Birthplace, and when and where registered.	Parents. Names.	Parents. Rank, Profession, or Occupation.	If a regular Marriage, Signature or Subscribing Witness and Witnesses.	If irregular, Date of Entered Declaration or Cert[ificate] or Decree of Constitution, and by what Court pronounced.	When and where registered, and Signature of Registrar.
Born in Registration District of Haddington in the Year 1824 and at Dunnet	Father. Thomas Sheddden / and / Mother. Jane Sheddden / Maiden name Whittle	Coal Miner	Groom. William Hamilton / Witness. Agnes Grant / Witness.		1855 November 28 / at Dunnet
Born in Registration District of Caithness in the Year 1832 and at Dunnet	Father. George Grant / called / Jane Grant / Maiden name Grant	Painter	Bride. Jane Grant / Witness.		William Hamilton / Registrar.
Born in Registration District of Caithness in the Year 1828 and at Dunnet	Father. Andrew Brown / and / Mother. Elizabeth Brown / Maiden name	Groom	Groom. William Hamilton / Minister of Dunnet		1855 November 28 / at Dunnet
Born in Registration District of Haddington in the Year 1824 and at Gladsmuir	Father. Alex[ander] Ferguson / and / Mother. Margaret Ferguson / Maiden name / Cottens	Coal Miner	Bride. Servant / Dunnet / Station. / Witness. / Mary Ferguson / Witness.		William Hamilton / Registrar.

William Hamilton Registrar

Web-Site: www.lfhhs.org.uk

1855 Death Register

Reg. Charity No. 513437

Census

- Taken at the same time as in the rest of the British Isles.
- Format and information should be the same.
- Wife's surname her husband's, not her maiden name.

Old Parish Registers (OPR)

- Pre-1855
- Parish Ministers and Session Clerks were responsible for noting all births and marriages.
- Recording variable, and all years may not have survived.
- Baptisms (and sometimes birth dates), both parents, residence, witnesses, perhaps occupation of father
- Marriages and/or proclamations. At least date, names of bride and groom and residences
- Deaths: records of death and burial are usually brief, but may include details of mort cloth dues and location of graves

Access to Scottish Records

- The General Register Office Scotland (GROS) (New Register House) deals with registration matters and family history research. Within this building is the Scotlands People Centre for family research.
- The National Archives of Scotland (NAS) keeps records created by Scottish government, as well as private records created by business, landed estates, families, courts, churches and other corporate bodies. Records are held at General Register House and West Register House.

General Register House (east end of Princess St.)

Historical Search Room

- Records of the pre-1707 Scottish government
- Church records: Church of Scotland, Free Churches, dissenting congregations, RCs.
- Legal registers: deeds and sasines; service of heirs; adoption
- Court records
- Burgh Records; valuation rolls
- Family, legal, estate, institution, society papers

West Register House (Charlotte Square, west end of Princess St.)

- Modern government files
- Court records, excluding wills but including divorces to 1983
- Records of former nationalised industries
- Business records
- Maps and plans
- *But please note that reorganisation of National Archives of Scotland is taking place, so check availability before visiting.*

http://www.scan.org.uk

The Scottish Archives Network (SCAN). This site aims to provide access to the holdings of over 50 Scottish archives participating in the network, with a host of resources and articles which will prove invaluable for anyone interested in the written history of Scotland. This site was not working the last time I tried it.

http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/

The site provides access to

- It also has the Statutory Registers of Birth, Marriage & Death
- The Old Parish Registers (OPR) Birth & Baptism, Banns & Marriage, Death & Burial
- Catholic Registers Birth & Baptism, Banns & Marriage, Death & Burial, Other Events
- Valuation Rolls 1905, 1915
- The complete collection of wills and testaments of Scots from 1500-1901. Searches are free, testaments can be downloaded at a charge.
- Coats of Arms

http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk

The General Registry Office is for official copies of Birth, Marriage & Death, but in addition they have

- Official Extract from the 1939 National Identity Register
- Irregular Boarder and Scottish Runaway Marriages

http://www.nas.gov.uk/

From 1 April 2011, the General Register Office for Scotland merged with the NAS to become the National Records of Scotland (NRS). This website will remain active until it is replaced in due course by a new website for NRS.

http://www.nls.uk/

National Library of Scotland for Books, Manuscripts, Films, Maps and Post Office Directories

http://www.scotsgenealogy.com

The Scottish Genealogical Society

The Society has built up a diverse, fascinating and unique collection of books and manuscripts including local histories, military, trades and profession lists, directories, Scots outwith Scotland, peerage and heraldry, school and university rolls and individual family histories

The Library also has: -

- Monumental Inscriptions, burial, death and mortcloth records - the largest collection in Scotland
- Old Parish Registers [OPR] with the original in microfilm for every parish in Scotland with OPR and IGI indexes
- Over 4000 books and CDs on family history and related subjects
- Censuses - a large collection of originals in microfilm, and indexes and transcriptions in print
- Journals from all major Scottish family history societies and some from abroad

- Internet access including a world subscription to ancestry.com

http://www.anglo-scots.mlfhs.org.uk/

Anglo-Scottish Family History Society

The Anglo-Scottish FHS was formed in 1982 by members of the M&L FHS to assist in tracing their links back to Scottish origins. We have members in the USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. We are full members of the Scottish Association of Family History Societies and send a representative to their meetings in Edinburgh.

http://info.dumgal.gov.uk/HistoricalIndexes/

Dumfries & Galloway Historical Indexes

http://www.rcahms.gov.uk

Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland

- The National Collection of Aerial Photography

  RCAHMS holds one of the largest and most important collections of aerial imagery in the world.
- Photographic Collections

  Around 2.5 million photographs relating to the built environment are held by RCAHMS.
- Drawings Collection

  RCAHMS holds a vast collection of over 2 million prints and drawings dating from the 17th century to the present day.
- Digital Collections

  For more than a decade RCAHMS has been collecting and generating digital material relating to Scotland's built heritage.

http://www.scotlandsplaces.gov.uk/

ScotlandsPlaces is a website that allows users to search across different national databases using geographic locations. The user is able to enter a place name or a coordinate to search across these collections or they can use the mapping in the website to both define and refine their search. The results pages provide the data relevant to the search conducted, from each of the project partners.

http://www.theglasgowstory.com/index.php

TheGlasgowStory tells the story of Glasgow in words and pictures. Told by some of Scotland's best writers, and illustrated with thousands of images from the collections of the city's world-famous libraries, museums and universities.

Plus

- Valuation Rolls 1913-1914
- Ward Maps

Lancashire Family History & Heraldry Society

Chorley Research Centre at Astley Hall Farmhouse

Opening times

First & Third Saturdays Noon—4:00pm
Monday, Wednesday & Friday 10:00am—4:00pm

Last appointment 3:00pm

Booking advisable—Tel. 01257 231 600 (When centre is open),
Tel 01257 262 028 (When centre is closed)
or
Book in line at - Chorley Family History Research Centre Website – www.cfhrc.com

Research Enquires - chorleyresearch@lffhs.org.uk

Chorley Branch Website - www.lfhhschorleybranch.com

LFHHS

President – Steve Ward
Society Website – www.lfhhs.org.uk
Reg. Charity Number - 513437