

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)

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)

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 (1855 only)
- Burial place and name of undertaker

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 \(SCAN\)](http://www.scan.org.uk). 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.origins.net/sowelcome.aspx>

Scottish Place search, and expert articles and discussion on Scottish history.

<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@lfhhs.org.uk

Chorley Branch Website - www.lfhhschorleybranch.com

LFHHS

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