



Tips for Tracing Your 18th Century Scottish Ancestors Online - Links from my Scottish Indexes Conference presentation Sept 19th 2026

1. [Detailed list of the Old Parochial Register of Scotland \(1872\) \(nrsotland.gov.uk\)](https://nrsotland.gov.uk)
This guide available from the National Records of Scotland website highlights the Old Parish Register coverage for baptisms , marriages and deaths in every parish including gaps in the records.
2. [Scottish Genealogy Society online Shop](#)
Monumental inscription guides for many parts of Scotland available to download as pdfs. (payment required)
3. [Memorial Inscriptions | Dumfries and Galloway Family History Society \(dgfhs.org.uk\)](https://dgfhs.org.uk)
Monumental inscription guides for most Dumfries & Galloway parishes available to download as pdfs. (payment required)
4. [Land tax rolls 1645-1831 | Scotland's People Virtual Volumes](#)
Valuation rolls showing the owners of estates and farms
5. [Explore over one million historical newspaper pages for FREE | Blog | findmypast.co.uk](https://findmypast.co.uk)
Free access is available to a number of historical newspapers including the Caledonian Mercury which provides the best coverage for 18th century Scotland. Great for farm sales and tenancies in particular.
6. [Farm horse tax rolls 1797-1798 | Scotland's People Virtual Volumes](#)
A de facto list of tenant farmers in 1797-1798
7. [Window tax, 1748-1798 | Scotland's People Virtual Volumes](#)
A good way of tracking the middle classes in Scottish burghs
8. [Statutory Deaths Search | Scotland's People](#)
Use 'Statutory Deaths' smartly to learn the most about 18th century characters.
9. [Scottish Post Office directories - National Library of Scotland \(nls.uk\)](https://nls.uk)
Earliest PO directories start in 1773
10. [Statistical Accounts of Scotland](#)
Unparalleled local parish information from the 1790s.
11. [National Library of Scotland Town Plans](#)
Many town and burgh maps with property owners named
12. [Trade Incorporations of Royal Burghs](#)
Digitised versions of histories of trade incorporations across Scotland
13. [Internet Archive: Digital Library of Free & Borrowable Books, Movies, Music & Wayback Machine](#)
Fabulous collection of local histories published in late 19th and early 20th centuries

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