

# Dive Deeper Into Scottish Church Records

A quick list of resources referred to in this presentation.

## **Records Online**

ScotlandsPeople

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

FamilySearch

<https://www.familysearch.org>

FindMyPast

<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/discover/churches-and-religion/religious-ceremonies/scotland-antenuptial-relationship-index-1661-1780>

Scottish Indexes

<https://www.scottishindexes.com/default.aspx>

## **Finding Records in Archives**

National Records of Scotland, General Register House, Princes St, Edinburgh

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

Catalogue:

<https://catalogue.nrscotland.gov.uk/nrsonlinecatalogue/welcome.aspx>

Scottish Archive Network

<https://catalogue.nrscotland.gov.uk/scancatalogue/welcome.aspx>

Scottish Catholic Archives [currently closed, remote queries only]

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

Your Scottish Archives

<https://yourscottisharchives.com>

## **Reference Works**

Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticae – Directory of Church of Scotland Ministers

[https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Fasti\\_Ecclesiae\\_Scoticae](https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Fasti_Ecclesiae_Scoticae)

Ecclegen - Free Church of Scotland Ministers

<https://www.ecclegen.com>

The Statistical Accounts of Scotland 1791-1845

<https://stataccscot.ed.ac.uk/static/statacc/dist/home>

## **Handwriting & Language**

Scottish Handwriting

<https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/scottish-handwriting>

Scottish Handwriting Kit – a free downloadable self-help pack

<https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/publications/scottish-handwriting-1500-1700-a-self-help-pack/>

Early Modern Scottish Palaeography: Reading Scotland's Records

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/ems-palaeography>

Latin Genealogical Word List

[https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Latin\\_Genealogical\\_Word\\_List](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Latin_Genealogical_Word_List)

Dictionaries of the Scots Language <https://dsl.ac.uk/>

## **Further Reading**

Baptie, Diane. *Parish Registers in the Kirk Session Records of the Church of Scotland*. ISBN 0-874722-17-X. A catalogue of the kirk session records that include birth, marriage, death, and population records, both before and after 1855. It also lists where these records may be held, as many of them are not on ScotlandsPeople. NB This book is several years old so it's best to check the record locations with the NRS catalogue or local archives.

Church Registers. Lists different denominations, categories of records, and indexed congregations available on the ScotlandsPeople platform

<https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/help-and-support/guides/church-registers>

Clarke, Tristram. *Tracing Your Scottish Ancestors: The Official Guide*. 7<sup>th</sup> ed. ISBN 978-1780276335. The NRS's definitive handbook for learning about many different types of records held there, and what they can tell you.

Dobson, David. *Scottish Catholics at Home and Abroad 1680-1780*.

ISBN 978-0-8063-5492-7. Listings compiled from a variety of British sources as well as European seminary records.

Kirk Session Records Guide. Describes the kind of information you may come across in these particular records.

<https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/help-and-support/guides/kirk-session-records>

Leneman, Leah. "The Study of Illegitimacy from Kirk Session Records: Two Eighteenth-Century Perthshire Parishes",  
[http://www.localpopulationstudies.org.uk/PDF/LPS31/LPS31\\_1983\\_29-33.pdf](http://www.localpopulationstudies.org.uk/PDF/LPS31/LPS31_1983_29-33.pdf)  
An interesting case study by a postgraduate student.

Nicoll, Andrew R. *Scottish Catholic Family History: a family historian's guide to Catholic Parish Registers and Cemetery Records for Scotland and the Bishopric of the Forces*. ISBN 978-0-9557591-7-8. Help on accessing and understanding Catholic records in Scotland. Contains detailed lists, directories, and maps of parishes.

Tales of witchcraft in Kirkcaldy. Some examples from ScotlandsPeople of witch-hunting cases found in the kirk session minutes.  
<https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/article/tales-witchcraft-witch-hunting-kirkcaldy-kirk-session-minutes>

*The Parishes, Registers & Registrars of Scotland*  
ISBN 978-1-874722-21-2 (New edition). Scottish Association of Family History Societies.

If you have questions about this presentation, you can contact me via

E-mail: [acspring@gmail.com](mailto:acspring@gmail.com)

Website: <https://scotsancestors.weebly.com>

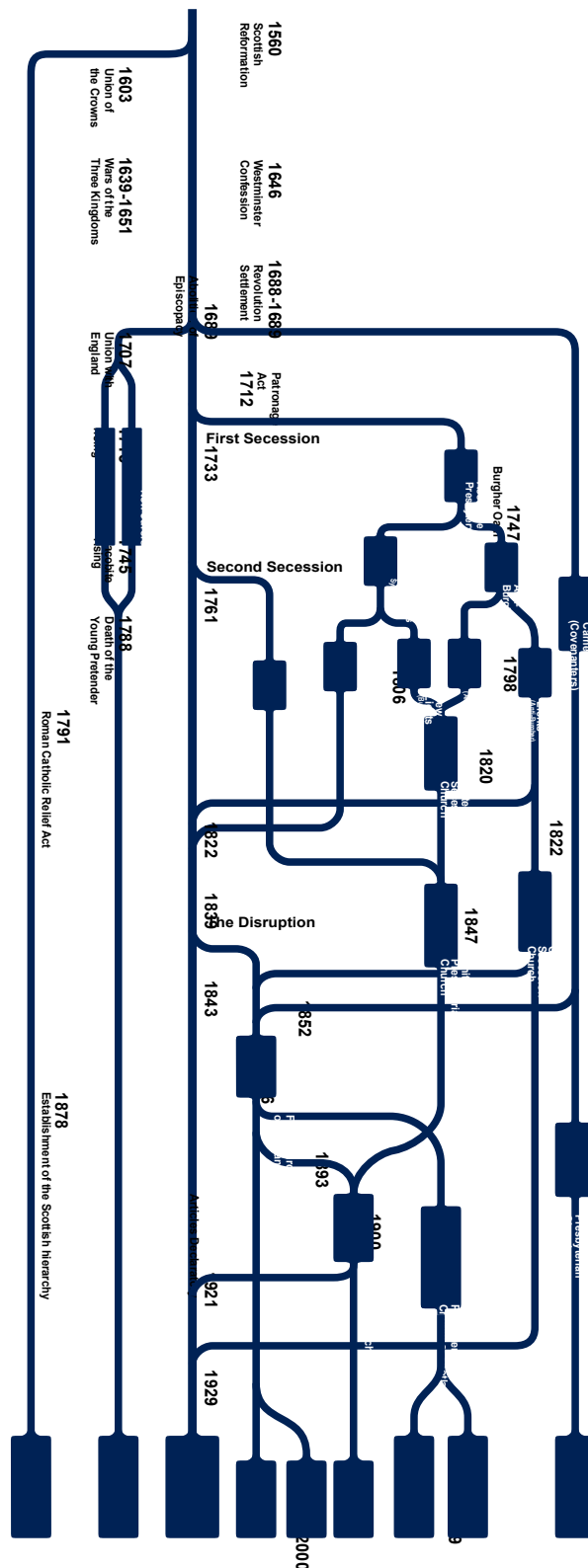
Frugal Family Historian Blog: <https://scotsancestors.blogspot.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/scotsancestors>

Bluesky: <https://bsky.app/profile/acspring.bsky.social>

A Diagram of the Development of Scottish Churches since the Reformation follows on the next page...

## Diagram of the Development of Scottish Churches since the Reformation



[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Churches\\_of\\_Scotland\\_timeline.svg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Churches_of_Scotland_timeline.svg)