

Keekin for Kin



Researching your Family
History in Perth and Kinross





Keekin for Kin

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Researching your Family
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Introduction

Have you ever wondered where your ancestors came from? What they did and how they lived? Whether you are just starting to research your family history or are already well down the path of tracing your ancestry this booklet provides ideas and sources of information to help you in your search.





Where to Start

Before contacting the organisations included in this booklet, it would be useful to check what information you already have. If you are just starting your research begin by writing down all you know about your own parents, grandparents and other members of the family. If you have no other sources begin with your own birth certificate which might include the date and place of your parents' marriage. The next step would then be your parents' marriage certificate. This will give details of both their parents, including the mother's maiden name, and confirm whether they were alive at the time of the marriage. From these simple beginnings you have the start of your family tree.

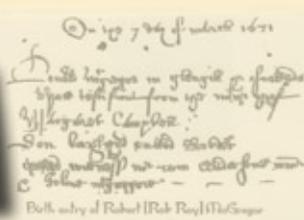




Here is a list of valuable sources which you may have amongst your family documents.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Birth | Marriage | Death | Citizenship Papers |
| Birth Certificate | Marriage Certificate | Death Certificate | Naturalisation |
| Baby Book | Wedding Book | Obituary | Passport |
| Adoption record | Wedding/Anniversary Invitation | Funeral Book | Visa |
| School | Every Day Life | Will | Licenses |
| Reports | Journal | Legal/Financial | Business/ Occupation |
| Awards | Biography | Deeds | Hunting/Fishing |
| Certificates | Letters | Mortgage | Firearms |
| Employment | Photographs | Leases | Driver's |
| Apprenticeship Record | Autograph Album | Divorce Papers | Family |
| Achievement Awards | Newspapers | Financial Records | Bible |
| Pension Records | Scrapbooks | Estate Records | Histories |
| Income Tax Records | Engraved items | Health | Coat of Arms |
| Union Records | Stitched Sampler/Quilt | Hospital Records | Clan History |
| Retirement Records | Religious Activity | Medical Records | Military Service |
| | Baptism/Christening | X-Rays | Pension Records |
| | Confirmation | Vaccination Reports | Disability Records |
| | | | Service Medals |
| | | | Discharge Records |

Registration Office/Family History Centre



The Family History Centre in the Registration Office in Perth offers assisted searches by friendly and experienced staff who will help you find the information you require. A search can also be booked at the AK Bell Library or at one of the area registration offices in Pitlochry, Blairgowrie, Crieff, Auchterarder or Kinross.

Digitised records provide quick and easy access to genealogical records. Registration in Scotland became compulsory in 1855 and your local registration office has access by computer to the statutory records of births, deaths and marriages from this date to the present day for the whole of Scotland. Scottish Divorces from May 1984 are also available.

Census returns from 1841 to 1901 for Scotland can be consulted and are very useful in establishing where and when a person was born and in tracing other family members. They also provide additional information such as occupations and addresses.

Before the introduction of compulsory civil registration in 1855, the parish ministers or session clerks of the Church of Scotland kept the Old Parish Records. These mostly recorded births and baptisms; proclamations of banns and marriages and some deaths and burials. The oldest register in Scotland is from Errol in Perthshire and was written in 1553. Whilst the surviving registers are far from complete and the standard of record keeping varied, they can still be useful in obtaining information. They can be researched at any of our computerised offices.

From the Family History Centre in Perth you can also have your family tree produced as a comprehensive report in book format. These books make an excellent gift for that special occasion.

For further information and details of charges visit www.pkc.gov.uk/registrars To make an appointment please contact the Registration Office by telephone 01738 475122 or email perth-registrars@pkc.gov.uk



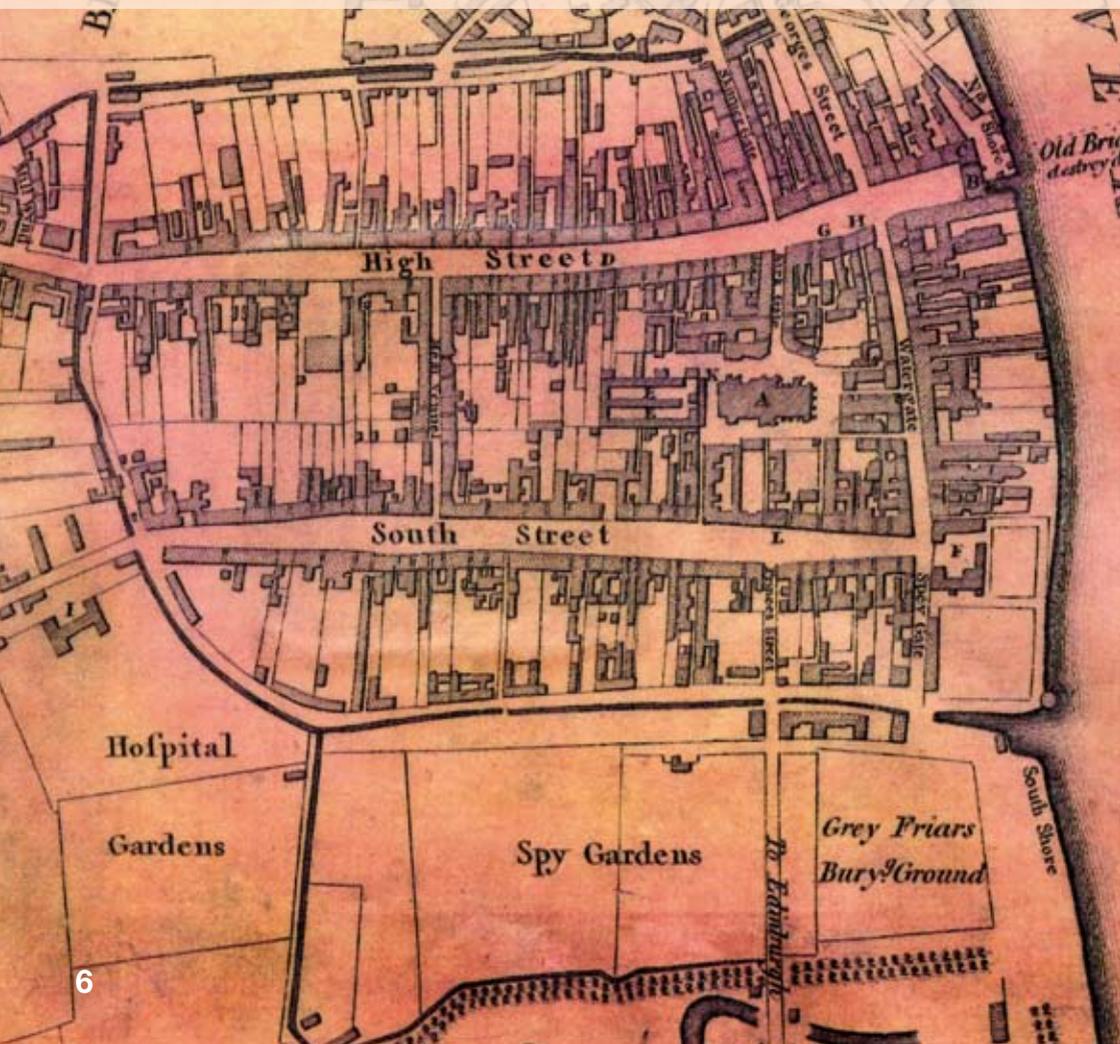
PERTH

NORTH

INCH

Local Studies

The Local Studies department of the AK Bell Library in Perth has source materials such as the International Genealogical Index (IGI), the in house newspaper index, the local directories and the map collection covering three hundred years.





It can also provide you with access to the old parish records, and full census information for the Perth and Kinross area. Background information on your ancestors' parish or town is available in the large collection of local books, some of which are available for loan. You may have luck finding an appropriate picture or postcard in the large selection of images.

All libraries in Perth and Kinross have free access to the Ancestry set of websites, which hold index information for the Scottish census and full records on the English, Welsh and American census collections. Access to these databases is free when you book to use a People's Network computer in any Perth and Kinross library.

Most importantly the Local Studies department has friendly knowledgeable staff who can point you in the right direction for your next step in your family history journey. Also you only have to pay if you are unable to do the research yourself or would like print outs. For further information, details of holdings and charges visit www.pkc.gov.uk/localstudies Contact Local Studies by telephone 01738 477062 or email localstudies@pkc.gov.uk



The Council Archive

Visit Perth & Kinross Council Archive in the A K Bell Library to find out more about your ancestors and how they lived. The Archive holds the records of Perth & Kinross Council and its predecessors, as well as records of various individuals, families, estates, businesses and local clubs and societies.

The Local Studies department and the Registration Office hold all the basic tools you will need for genealogical research, but after you have consulted their parish registers, statutory registers and the census returns you may wish to flesh out the skeletons of your family using the Archive's collections.

The records date from the twelfth century to the present day and range from medieval parchments to modern files, from the formal records of local government to personal letters and diaries. The Archive also has photographs of people and events, plans of buildings and maps of the towns, countryside and estates of Perthshire and Kinross-shire.

All the catalogued collections are listed in the pamphlet, *Summary of Holdings*, available in the Council Archive search room. You can download a copy from www.pkc.gov.uk/archives where you can also view summary descriptions of the collections.

*... of the Venants possessing that House in the Meal
Venel Donging to me Viz:—*

William Graham Meseller. from Auchterarder parish

William Bryson Mason... in this parish

William Sharp Doctor. from Arngast parish

Alex; M Intyre Taylor } from Duly parish
John M^c Donald Sabourer }

William Reid Sabourer from Kenkell parish

~~Elizabeth~~ Kathrine Duff a widow } from Dull parish
Elizabeth Stewart D. . . }

8
Samuel Robertson } from Fortingall parish
Cathrine M^c Dougall }

Roll of Paupers.

The Meeting then proceeded to revise the Roll of paupers and the Inspector is instructed to give effect to pottings made by the Chairman relative to the paupers and the Roll as adjusted is as follows.

| No. | Names | Residence | Age | Marital | Allow | Revised | Remarks |
|-----|---|------------------------|-----|---------|--------|---------|-------------------------------------|
| 8. | Alexander Cameron | (fatuous) Belachraggan | 38 | .. | 10 | .. | 10 .. 1. |
| 9. | Christy Cumming | Carie Rannoch | 80 | .. | 8 | .. | 8 .. 2. |
| 35. | Christy Dewar | Boyceldy | 80 | .. | 8 | .. | 9 .. 3. Increase of per Cal. month. |
| 37. | Widow Janet Forbes | Killichastric | 85 | .. | 8 | .. | 8 .. 4. |
| 38. | Sean Scott | Pophouse | 70 | | | | 5. |
| 46. | M ^{rs} Margaret Shaw | Murthly Asylum | 63 | 26 | perman | 26 | .. 6. dead |
| 47. | M ^{rs} Donald M. Green | D ^o | 70 | 26 | .. | 26 | .. 7. |
| 48. | James Robertson | (fatuous) Dull | 42 | 7 | .. | 7 | .. 8. |
| 62. | M ^{rs} Isabella Irvine or McNaughton | Murthly Asylum | 63 | 26 | .. | | 9. Remove to daughter at Dundee |
| 69. | John Robertson | D ^o | 38 | 26 | .. | 26 | .. 10. |
| 75. | M ^{rs} Susan Stewart | D ^o | 41 | 26 | .. | 26 | .. 11. |
| 85. | Widow Mary Robertson | Moulin | 69 | .. | 10/10 | perman | 10/12. dead |
| 87. | Marshall Nichol | Dunstrath | 59 | .. | 9 | .. | 9 .. 12. |

Hours of Opening

The records are available for free consultation in the Archive search room on the first floor of the AK Bell Library, Perth. Photocopies of documents can often be supplied. If you are unable to visit the Archive yourself, staff can search the collections on your behalf for answers to specific enquiries. Current charges for these services are available on the website or on request.

The search room is normally open Monday - Friday, 9.30 am - 5.00 pm and any closures are posted on The Archive's website. Appointments can also be made subject to availability to consult the records on Tuesday or Thursday evenings between 5.00 pm and 8.00 pm.

For further information visit www.pkc.gov.uk/archives Contact the Archive by telephone 01738 477012 or email archives@pkc.gov.uk





Bereavement Services

Bereavement Services hold the burial registers for Perth and Kinross at Perth Crematorium. Burial records can be searched to obtain the location and interments of a particular grave.

There are 143 burial grounds within the Perth and Kinross district which includes the following areas - Perth, Blairgowrie, Crieff, Kinross and Pitlochry. The majority of the registers date from 1900 but a few earlier records are also available. Most registers are now computerised although there are several of the older cemeteries which can only be researched by using the original registers. Anyone wishing to have an ancestral search carried out should telephone Burial Enquiries on 01738 446865 or email esburials@pkc.gov.uk Please try to provide as much information as possible to enable a search to be carried out. Visitors are more than welcome to visit and view the registers but it is advisable to telephone beforehand to arrange an appointment.

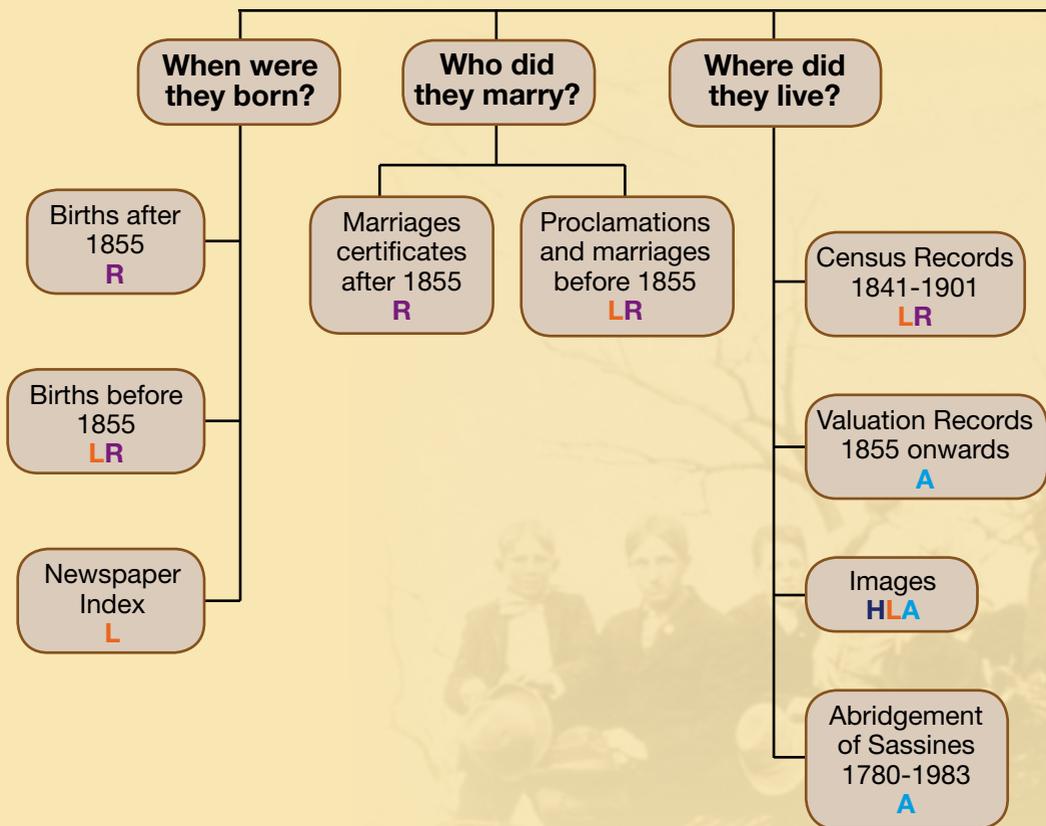
Perth Crematorium records begin in 1962. Any enquiries relating to cremations can normally be dealt with promptly through the computerised system. For a search please telephone 01738 625068 or email escremations@pkc.gov.uk

The Gardens of Remembrance at Perth Crematorium are open all year round and anyone can visit at any time.

The friendly and welcoming staff at Perth Crematorium are available to assist with any enquiry and will be more than happy to hear from you should you require any information on burial grounds or cremations.

For further information and details of charges contact Bereavement Services by telephone 01738 446865 or email esburials@pkc.gov.uk





| | | |
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| B | Bereavement Services | Page 11 |
| BW | Black Watch | Page 16 |
| H | Heritage Service | Page 15 |
| L | Local Studies | Page 6 |
| R | Registrars | Page 5 |

**What did
they do?**

Census Records
LR

Electoral Rolls
A

Trade Directories and
Advertisements
LH

Collections and
exhibitions
H

Newspapers
L

Council, Business,
Estate and Personal
Records
A

Black Watch
Archives
BW

School Records
Police and Court
Records
A

**When did
they die?**

Death Certificates
after 1855
R

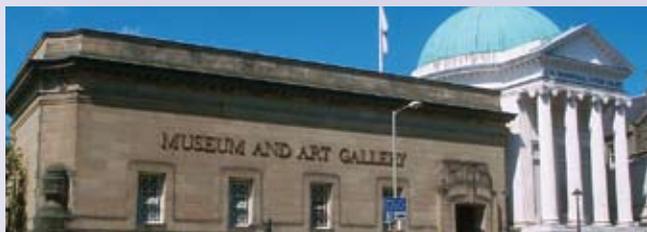
Monumental
Inscriptions Newspaper
Notices
L

Burial, Cremation
Records and Lairs
B

Perth City Burials
1794 - 1973
A

Wills Calendars of
confirmation
L





The Heritage Service

The Heritage Service, through its facilities at Perth Museum & Art Gallery, the Fergusson Gallery and Alyth Museum, holds collections of objects and information associated with the history of Perth and Kinross from earliest times to the present day.

For over 200 years it has collected history, natural history and art to document the changing environment of Perth and Kinross. The Service can help you identify objects and answer your questions about local history, natural history and art.

Whether you are hoping to see an item associated with your ancestor, whether you are looking for a family portrait or a historical detail or simply a context for your ancestral research, the collections could help. Perth Museum and Art Gallery has a photographic collection of around 120,000 images. Most of these relate to Perth and Perthshire from 1850 to the present day and provide excellent interpretive, display, publication, research and education material.

The collections are too big for everything to be on display at the same time but staff at the museum will happily show you any item not on display, by appointment.

Access to Heritage Service museums and galleries is free. Perth & Kinross Heritage Service is recognised for the national significance of its entire collections and won the prestigious ICON UK Conservation Award 2007.

For further information visit www.pkc.gov.uk/museums
Contact the Heritage Service by telephone 01738 632488 or email museum@pkc.gov.uk

Black Watch Museum

The Black Watch Regimental Museum is housed in historic Balhousie Castle set in its own grounds beside the North Inch in Perth. The museum holds the Regimental Archive.

The Black Watch has had a long connection with the City of Perth dating from the 1870s when Queen's Barracks became The Black Watch Depot. On the closure of the Barracks, Regimental Headquarters and the Museum moved to Balhousie Castle in 1962. The Regimental Archive includes official documents, Muster Rolls, Order Books, Enlistment Books, War Diaries, Personal Diaries, Memoirs, and Press Cutting Books. There is also a large Photographic Archive with the earliest images dating from the 1860s.

Service records for the 19th century and First World War are held at the Public Record Office in Kew. The First World War Records were damaged during the Second World War and only 40% have survived. These are currently being entered into an online database. The War Diaries are also online at www.nationalarchives.gov.uk For the later period, the records are administered by the Service Personnel and Veterans Agency, visit www.veterans-uk.info for more information.

For further information visit www.theblackwatch.co.uk/museum



(Courtesy of FG Proctor)

Far left and above courtesy of the trustees of the Black Watch Museum

Family History Societies

The Scottish Association of Family History Societies includes all established family history societies in Scotland, as well as several national and regional bodies throughout the world. Its main aims are to promote and encourage the study of Scottish family history, and provide a forum for the exchange, collection and distribution of information among members.

For further information and a list of all members visit www.safhs.org.uk

Two local Family History Societies are:

Tay Valley Family History Society, 179-181 Princes Street, DUNDEE DD4 6DQ. For further information visit www.tayvalleyfhs.org.uk telephone 01382 461845 or email tvfhs@tayvalleyfhs.org.uk

North Perthshire Family History Group is located in Pitlochry, Perthshire. For further information visit www.npfhg.org

Blairgowrie Genealogy Centre

Blairgowrie Genealogy Centre is based at Blairgowrie Library in Leslie Street. Volunteers from Blairgowrie and Rattray Local History Trust are available to help with family history enquiries related to the local area.

The service is free to residents in the Perth and Kinross area, but a nominal charge is made to others.

For further information telephone 01250 872905 or email blairgowrielibrary@pkc.gov.uk

Clans

The origin of the word “clan” is derived from the Scots Gaelic word “clann” meaning children, offspring or descendants. Not all surnames in Scotland or even the Highlands became “clans” (surnames only came into use from the 12th century).

Smaller families who did not have the status of the larger clans would often seek the protection of their powerful neighbours. They retained their own names and some degree of independence but became a “sept” or branch of the larger clan.

Two local clans are:

Clan Donnachaidh

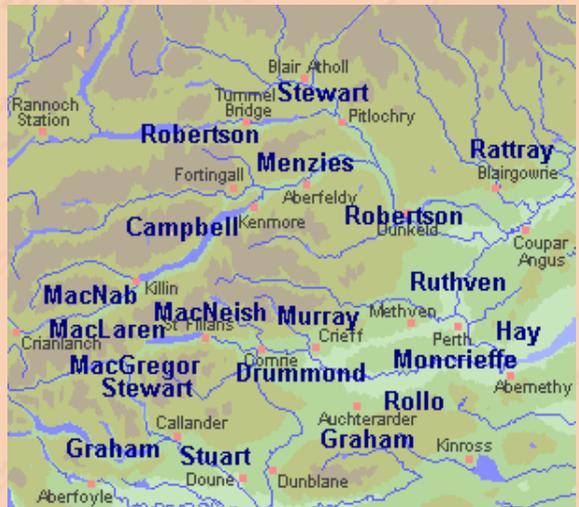
The main clan name and that of the chiefs is Robertson, but many other names can be considered septs of the clan. The most prominent of these septs are Duncan and Reid.

For further information visit www.donnachaidh.com

Clan Menzies

The name Menzies is most likely Norman in origin with the family originating from Mesnieres near Rouen France. Once established in Weem the same family lived there for over four hundred years and was at one time the oldest family in Strathtay.

The Menzies Clan Society hold their Clan Gathering in Castle Menzies, the 16th Century Clan seat. Robert Menzies, the volunteer clan genealogist, may be able to assist with your enquiries into Menzies families. For further information visit www.menzies.org or email robmenz@ihug.co.nz



A map of the Perthshire clans (courtesy of Perthshire-Scotland.co.uk)

Sites of Historical Interest

There are numerous places of historical interest to visit in Perth and Kinross and some of these are listed below.

Balvaird Castle was built in 1500 by Sir Andrew Murray, a member of the Murray family of Tullibardine. Visit www.historic-scotland.gov.uk for more information.

Blair Castle was traditionally the home of the Duke of Atholl. Specialised tours can be arranged. Visit www.blair-castle.co.uk for more information.

Castle Menzies is a spectacular 16th century castle restored by Clan Menzies. Visit www.menzies.org for more information.

Dunkeld Cathedral Chapter House Museum and Archives contains a collection of photographs, records and memorabilia relating to the Cathedral and community of Dunkeld and Birnam and the surrounding area. It also holds the former records of the Scottish Horse Regiment. Visit www.dunkeldcathedral.org.uk/chapter_house_museum.htm for more information.

Elcho Castle dates back to about 1570. Visit www.historic-scotland.gov.uk for more information.

Huntingtower Castle Two families, the Ruthvens and the Murrays, made the castle their home. Visit www.historic-scotland.gov.uk for more information.

Loch Leven Castle is located on Castle Island in Loch Leven. Visit www.historic-scotland.gov.uk for more information.

Scone Palace - Moot Hill in the grounds of Scone Palace is known as the Crowning Place of Scottish Kings. Visit www.scone-palace.co.uk for more information.

Stanley Mills is an interactive visitor centre at an 18th-century water mill complex beside the River Tay. Visit www.historic-scotland.gov.uk for more information.

The Scottish Crannog Centre at Kenmore, Loch Tay features an authentic reconstruction of an early Iron Age loch-dwelling. Visit www.crannog.co.uk for more information.

Some Websites of Interest

Perthshire

www.pkc.gov.uk

Guide to all Council Services. Use the A-Z to look up the service you are interested in eg A-Archives, R-Registrars etc.

www.perthshire.co.uk

Visit Perthshire website.

www.perthshire-scotland.co.uk

Pictorial directory and guide to the County of Perthshire.

www.pkht.org.uk

The Historic Environment Record for Perth and Kinross.

www.perthshire.com/ancestry

Information from this booklet as well as details of the other family history groups, societies, museums, libraries and historical attractions.

www.perthshireheritage.co.uk

A good website for researching landed families.

www.edina.ac.uk/stat-acc-scot/

Statistical accounts for the parishes of Perthshire.

Archives/Libraries

www.scan.org.uk

Useful information on a wide variety of genealogical sites. Has a glossary of legal terms, currency converter and lots more information.

www.nas.gov.uk

A descriptive catalogue of the collections in the Scottish National Archives.

www.archiveshub.ac.uk

A gateway to descriptions of archive collections held by UK universities and colleges.

www.ancestry.co.uk

Full records of English, Welsh and American census collections freely available in all Perth and Kinross Libraries. Also holds information on First World War Medals.

www.nls.uk/sitemap/databases.html

Several databases online dealing with activities of Scots abroad.

Museums

www.museumsgalleriesscotland.org.uk

Information about registered museums in Scotland.

www.nms.ac.uk

The website for the National Museum of Scotland.

www.theblackwatch.co.uk/museum/

The website for the Museum of the Black Watch.

Other Sites of Interest

www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk

An online source of original genealogical information.

www.electricscotland.com

Information on Scotland especially useful for the history of Scotland.

www.scotlandsfamily.com

A site which points to free online data and information including data on Poor Houses, Ships and Passenger Lists.

www.scotsfamily.com

Information on clan crests, parish lists, maps and old occupations.

www.rampantscotland.com/clans

Features Clans, Tartans and Regiments.

www.bbc.co.uk/scotland/history/scottishroots

A guide to starting your family history research pointing to further useful websites.

www.familysearch.org

The largest collection of free family history, family tree and genealogy records in the world.

www.genesreunited.co.uk

This site allows you to share your tree with other members.

www.cyndislist.com

A family history 'portal' site which can provide a good starting point for research.

www.cwgc.org

This site of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission allows you to search 'The Debt of Honour Register' which lists service personnel from Commonwealth forces who died in the two world wars.

Contact Details

Perth Registration Office

Chief Executive's Service

Perth & Kinross Council

5 High Street

PERTH

PH1 5JS

Tel 01738 475121

Fax 01738 444133

Email perth-registrars@pkc.gov.uk

Website www.pkc.gov.uk/registrars

Open Monday - Friday, 8.45 am - 5.00 pm

Local Studies

A K Bell Library

Education & Children's Services

Perth & Kinross Council

York Place

PERTH

PH2 8EP

Tel 01738 477062

Email localstudies@pkc.gov.uk

Web www.pkc.gov.uk/localstudies

Open Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9.30 pm - 5.00 pm

Tuesday and Thursday 9.30 am - 8.00 pm, Saturday 9.30 am - 4.00 pm

The Archive

A K Bell Library

Education & Children's Services

Perth & Kinross Council

York Place

PERTH

PH2 8EP

Tel 01738 477012

Email archives@pkc.gov.uk

Web www.pkc.gov.uk/archives

Open Monday - Friday, 9.30 am - 5.00 pm

Bereavement Services

The Environment Service

Perth & Kinross Council

Perth Crematorium

Crieff Road

PERTH

PH1 5PE

Tel 01738 625068

Fax 01738 445977

Email esburials@pkc.gov.uk

Open Monday - Friday, 9.00 am - 5.00 pm, Saturday

9.00 am - 1.00 pm

The Heritage Service

Perth Museum and Art Gallery

78 George Street

PERTH

PH1 5LB

Tel 01738 632488

Fax 01738 443505

Email museum@pkc.gov.uk

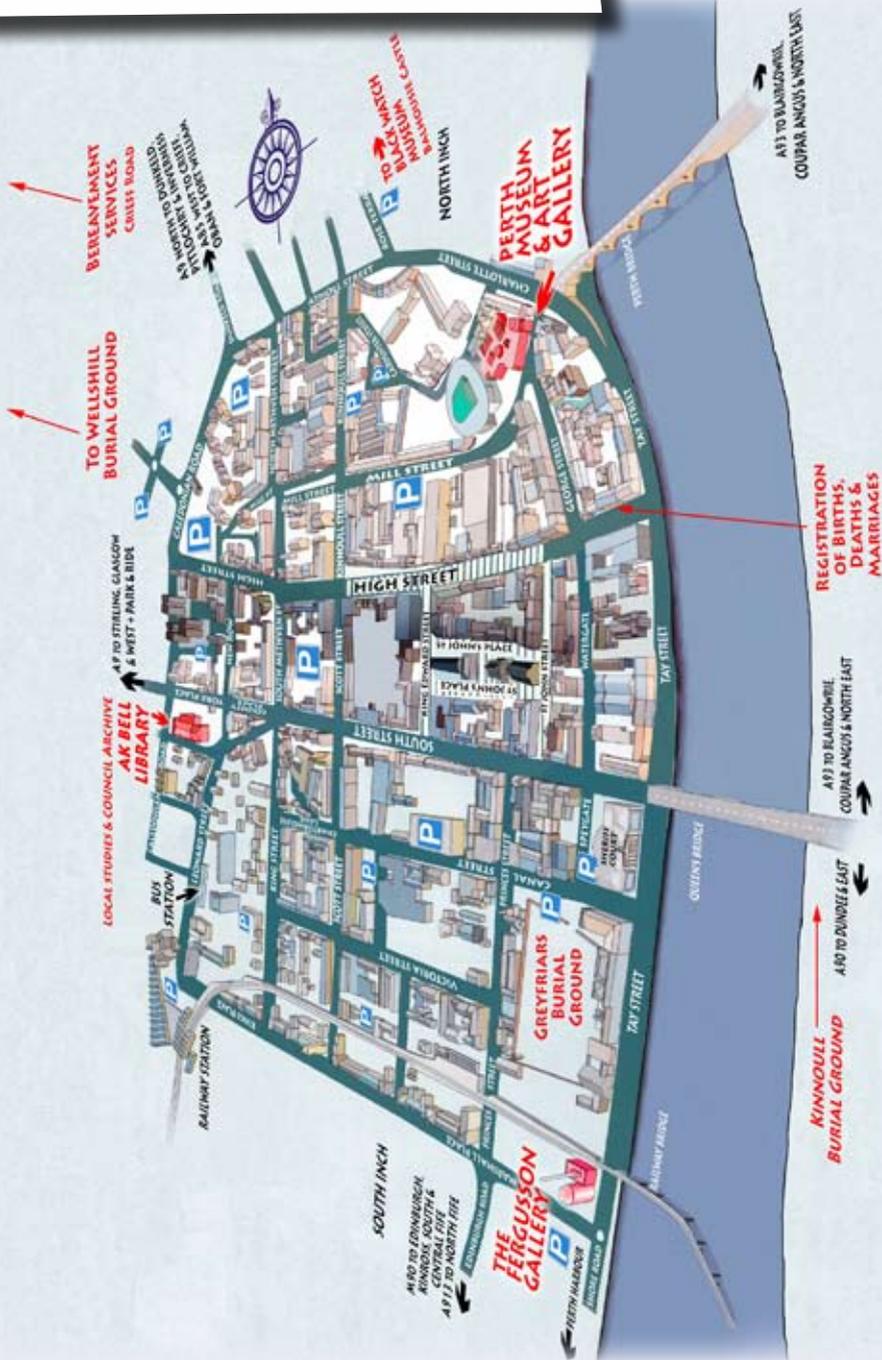
Web www.pkc.gov.uk/museums

Open Monday - Saturday, 10.00 am - 5.00 pm

All details are correct at the time of going to press. This book is for guidance only and does not claim to be comprehensive.

Good luck in your search for your family history. Remember we are here to help you in your quest.

Perth City Centre Map



If you or someone you know would like a copy of this document in another language or format, (on occasion only a summary of the document will be provided in translation), this can be arranged by contacting Registrars on 01738 475121

ان احتجت أنت أو أي شخص تعرفه نسخة من هذه الوثيقة بلغة أخرى أو تصميم آخر فيمكن الحصول عليها (أو على نسخة معدلة للملخص هذه الوثيقة مترجمة بلغة أخرى) بالاتصال ب: Registrars الاسم: رقم هاتف للاتصال المباشر: 01738 475121

اگر آپ کو یا آپ کے کسی جاننے والے کو اس دستاویز کی نقل دوسری زبان یا فارمیٹ (بعض دفعہ اس دستاویز کے خلاصہ کا ترجمہ فراہم کیا جائے گا) میں درکار ہے تو اسکا بندوبست سروس ڈیولپمنٹ Registrars سے فون نمبر 01738 475121 پر رابطہ کر کے کیا جاسکتا ہے۔

如果你或你的朋友希望得到這文件的其他語言版本或形式 (某些時候，這些文件只會是概要式的翻譯)，請聯絡 Registrars 01738 475121 來替你安排。

Jeżeli chciałbyś lub ktoś chciałby uzyskać kopię owego dokumentu w innym języku niż język angielski lub w innym formacie (istnieje możliwość uzyskania streszczenia owego dokumentu w innym języku niż język angielski), Proszę kontaktować się z Registrars 01738 475121

P ejete-li si Vy, anebo n kdo, koho znáte, kopii této listiny v jiném jazyce anebo jiném formátu (v n kterých p ípadech bude p eložen pouze stru ný obsah listiny) Kontaktujte prosím Registrars 01738 475121 na vy ízení této požadavky.

Если вам или кому либо кого вы знаете необходима копия этого документа на другом языке или в другом формате, вы можете запросить сокращенную копию документа обратившись Registrars 01738 475121



Council Text Phone Number 01738 442573

All Council Services can offer a telephone translation facility



Designed by Chief Executive's Service (2008109 - Aug 08)