

Occupations

The ScotlandsPeople Centre Library holds guides to occupational terms and classifications as well as directories of particular trades and professions.

Reference

To find out the meaning of occupational terms in the records check this late 19th century dictionary:

The imperial dictionary of the English language

Volume 1: A to Depascent	D 001.000.01
Volume 2: Depasture to Kythe	D 001.000.02
Volume 3: L to Scream	D 001.000.03
Volume 4: Scream to Zythum	D 001.000.04

Classification of occupations and industries

Instructions to the clerks employed in classifying the occupations of the people

Census of England, 1871	F 690.205
Census of England and Wales, 1911	F 690.208
Classification of occupations	
1921 census	F 690.210.21
1951 census	F 690.210.51
1961 census	F 690.210.61
1966 sample census	F 690.210.66
1971 census	F 690.210.71
1981 census	F 690.210.81
Classification of occupations and directory of occupational titles (Administrative, technical, clerical and service occupations)	F 690.215.02
Production occupations	F 690.215.03
Census 1931 - classification of industries	F 690.230

General

Oliver and Boyd Edinburgh almanacs [1823-1931]	DR 040.058
Scottish trades and professions: a selected bibliography	F 701.180
The Scottish national register of classified trades, 1963	F 701.182.63
The Scottish national register of classified trades, 1979	F 701.182.79

Accountants	Scottish accountants		DR 054.000
Apprentices	Register - Edinburgh	1583-1755 1756-1800	SH 015.000.28 SH 015.000.92
Barbers	Incorporation of Barbers, Glasgow, 1722-1930		T 402.050
Burgesses	Aldermen, provosts, etc, Aberdeen, 1272-1895		DR 060.200
	Aberdeen	1399-1631	DR 060.205.01
	Aberdeen	1631-1700	DR 060.205.02
	Arbroath	1743	SH 015.001.13
	Canongate	1622-1733	SH 015.000.83
	Dumbarton	1600-1846	SH 015.000.73
	Dumfries	1644-1980	DR 060.230
	Dundee	1513-1886	DR 060.240
	Edinburgh	1406-1700	SH 015.000.59
	Edinburgh	1701-1760	SH 015.000.62
	Edinburgh	1761-1841	SH 015.000.68

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			Reference
Burgesses	Fife	1700-1800	DR 060.250
	Glasgow	1573-1750	SH 015.000.56
	Glasgow	1751-1846	SH 015.000.66
	Inveraray	1665-1963	SH 015.001.14
	Inverurie	1646-1682	F 700.100
			No 82 (Feb 2002), pp18-20
	Perth	1600-1699	DR 060.270
	St Andrews	1700-1775	DR 060.250
Church Officials	See the Library guide pages for:		
	- Episcopal Church of Scotland		
	- Free Church of Scotland		
	- Presbyterian churches		
	- Roman Catholic		
	- Miscellaneous church records		
Clock and watch makers	Scottish clock and watch makers 1453-1900: a listing of over 5,500 craftsmen		DR 060.801
Doctors	The medical register) [1930-1989]		DR 034.019
	The medical directory)		DR 034.119
	Dundee, 16 th century		T 181.010
	Wamphray		T 636.800
Gardeners	History of the Incorporation of Gardeners, Glasgow 1626-1903		T 402.500
Government Officials	British imperial calendar and civil list, [1910-1973]		DR 033.019
	Civil Service yearbook, [1974-1998]		DR 033.019
	The London diplomatic list June 1993		DR 031.619.93
	Foreign Office. The Diplomatic Service list 1996		DR 031.519.96
Law	Scottish law list and legal directory [1924-1963]		DR 059.019
	Scottish law directory [1968-1995]		DR 059.019
	Faculty of Advocates in Scotland, 1532-1943		SH 015.000.76
	History of Society of Advocates in Aberdeen		T 112.400
	Court of the Lord Lyon: list of His Majesty's Officers of Arms and other officials, 1318-1945		SH 015.000.77
	Society of Writers to His Majesty's Signet		DR 059.026
Mariners	1851 seamen's crewlists – Scotland		e-Library
	1861 census marine returns		MT 138.001
	Aberdeen and North Scotland, 1600-1700		DR 060.810
	Angus, 1600-1700		DR 060.811
	Clyde and West Scotland, 1600-1700		DR 060.812
	Kirkcaldy and West Fife, 1600-1700		DR 060.813
	Lothians, 1600-1700, part 1		DR 060.814.01
	Lothians, 1600-1700, part 2		DR 060.814.02
	St Andrews and East Neuk of Fife, 1600-1700		DR 060.815
	Aberdour port book, 1852-62 [indexes to ships, masters]		T 235.110
	Scottish whalers		DR 060.805

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		Reference
MPs	Glasgow directory 1786	DR 018.017.86 (fiche)
	Scottish MPs based on return for 1880 [1357-1882]	DR 057.000
Miners	The Binnend oilworks and the Binn village	T 249.500
	Central Scotland, 1778-1878	F 671.000
	Wanlockhead (lead-mining village), 19 th century	F 002.800
Painters	Biographical dictionary, 1301-1700	SH 015.001.07
Parliamentary Officials	British imperial calendar and civil list, 1910-1973	DR 033.019
	Civil Service yearbook, 1974-1998	DR 033.019
Police	Edinburgh police register, 1815-59	T 495.810
Railway	Directory of records on rail staff (UK)	F 695.300
Royal Navy	1861 census marine returns	MT 138.001
Soldiers	See the Library guide to Military records	
Teachers	Auchterderran: a parish history	T 246.000
	Dundonald: a contribution to parochial history, volume 2	T 367.000.02
	Falkirk, earliest times to [1898]	T 249.200
	Logie (Stirlingshire): a parish history [1654-1862]	T 301.000
	Wamphray history and traditions	T 636.800
Weavers	Old Glasgow weavers: being records of the Incorporation of Weavers, 1591-1920	T 408.000

See also the chapters on individual occupations in 'Tracing your Scottish ancestors' (5th edition) for information about records held by the National Archives of Scotland.