

**your archives / your history / your stories**  
Discover the fascinating stories of Glasgow and its people.



# glasgow's archives

**Church Records:** Discover vital clues to your family's history in church registers across a wide-range of denominations.



## episcopal records:

Diocesan records, 1838-1991

Parish registers which include:

Baptismal  
Confirmation  
Marriage  
Burial

The parish registers for  
St Andrews-by-the Green include:

Baptisms from 1754  
Marriages from 1758  
Burials from 1798

# the archives

Church records are our single most important category of private records for the family historian. Glasgow City's Archives is designated as the official repository for both the records of the Church of Scotland (Glasgow Presbytery) and the Episcopal Church of Scotland (Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway). In addition the Archives hold records of many other denominations for Glasgow, and for other areas across Scotland.

## Church of Scotland

The largest collection is that of the established church which include the records of the Presbytery of Glasgow, whose boundaries extend beyond the city, as well as its individual parishes. These

include the records of the many seceding churches, which reunited with the Church of Scotland in 1900 and 1929.

## Presbytery

The Presbytery was responsible for appointing parish school masters until the mid-19th century and also for approving divinity students and ordaining ministers. The minutes include details of those discipline cases which were: more serious in nature, on appeal from the session, or related to those of high social status. Separate Registers include details of ministers and their families.

## Parishes

The records of the individual parishes include registers of baptisms, marriages and burials. In former seceding churches, these may date before 1855, and are not included in the Old Parish Records. Membership records may include communion and adherent rolls and there are occasional census and lists of heads of households. There are various accounts records, e.g. poor, mortcloths and pews.

The kirk sessions were responsible for supervising the spiritual life of the parish and enforcing discipline. Their minutes include cases of irregular marriages, discipline, e.g. drunkenness, slander, or breaching the Sabbath. The most frequent cases relate to fornication and often record illegitimacy.

## the records of other denominations include:

- **Congregational and Evangelical Union, Scotland**, including individual church records and church histories, 1838-1991
- **Methodists, Glasgow and west of Scotland**, including baptismal registers and membership rolls, 19th-20th centuries
- Also records relating to **Baptists, Quakers, and Unitarians**, 18th-20th centuries.

# services

The public searchroom has a large number of finding aids, including databases for the family historian, as well as paper catalogues and indexes of most of our holdings. You can also access summaries of many of our catalogues online at [www.scan.org.uk](http://www.scan.org.uk). The duty archivist is happy to help and will point you towards records which will assist with your enquiry. Those undertaking a research project may wish to make an appointment with an archivist to discuss possible sources. Some records may be closed for 30 to 100 years in line with Data Protection. We can supply photocopies of documents and plans, as well as laser and other photographic services.

**Talks and workshops:** We are happy to talk to groups, either in The Mitchell or elsewhere.

## preservation of historical documents

The Archives exist to preserve and give access to the historical records of Glasgow. We are always keen to accept further gifts and deposits (on long-term loan) of records of historical significance, which will help us understand the ordinary and extraordinary people and events, which helped shape the history of Glasgow.

### Searchroom Opening Hours

Mon / Wed - Sat 9am-5pm  
Tues 9am-8pm

### Document Productions

Mon / Wed - Fri 9am-1pm, 2pm-4pm  
Tues 9am-1pm, 2pm-7pm  
Sat 9am-12pm, 2pm-4pm

Please check to confirm about evening and Saturday productions.

### Archives and Special Collections

The Mitchell Library  
North Street  
Glasgow G3 7DN

T: 0141-287 2910  
F: 0141-226 8452  
E: [archives@glasgowlife.org.uk](mailto:archives@glasgowlife.org.uk)

[www.glasgowlife.org.uk/archives](http://www.glasgowlife.org.uk/archives)

### How to find us:

