Irregular Border and Scottish Runaway Marriages

5th Edition

This list of Custodians and Owners of all the known existing records of Scottish Irregular and Runaway Marriages, is based upon an original list compiled in 1927 by Mr G W Shirley of the Ewart Library in Dumfries. The list was extended by Mr George Crighton in a leaflet published by the Society of Genealogists, and after considerable research and communication with all the Custodians, further extended by myself. Having taken great care to authenticate the accuracy of the information gathered, I feel able to present this list as up to date and fully comprehensive.

Ronald Nicholson
28 April 2000

N.B. Some Custodians require a fee for search and copy of Register Entries.
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Covering Dates	Place	"Priests"	Descriptive Notes	Locations of Owners & Custodians
1754 - 1826	Portpatrick Stranraer Stonykirk Leswalt	Dr John McKenzie	Irregular Marriages Extracted from Parish Records by Arthur Brack 247 entries Irish Runaways	Mr A Brack 17 Lockharton Gardens Edinburgh EH14 1AU Copies held by: Society of Genealogists Dumfries & Galloway Family History Society

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1762 - 1795	Haddington	J Buchanan Minister	Register of the Episcopalian Chapel of Holy Trinity Church, Haddington These are regular marriages but are included because they are Runaway Marriages, 3 Volumes Thin Quarto 222 entries	National Archives of Scotland Transcript in 'Northern Notes & Queries' Vol III (1889) Vol IV (1890)

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1782 - 1856	Coldstream	William Dickson, William Armstrong & others	Extracts from the Coldstream Registers by F L Carter 45 entries	Berwick-upon-Tweed Record Office

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1783 - 1895	Springfield Gretna Green	David Lang, Simon Lang, William Lang	4 Bound Volumes 2 Paper Bound Volumes 3 Bound Index 1 Unbound Index 1 Chest containing photos and numerous documents including statements of residence, bills and receipts	Institute of Heraldic & Genealogical Studies
Covering Dates	Place	"Priests"	Descriptive Notes	Locations of Owners & Custodians
1793 - 1797	Coldstream	Not Known	1 Volume (633 entries)	Coldstream Museum Copies held by Berwick-upon-Tweed Record Office Scottish Borders Archive and Local History Centre
Covering Dates	Place	"Priests"	Descriptive Notes	Locations of Owners & Custodians
1797 - 1854	Blue Bell Inn Annan	Isaac Hope	Irregular Marriages extracted from Parish Records by Arthur Brack 405 entries	Mr A Brack 17 Lockharton Gardens Edinburgh EH14 1AU Copies held by Society of Genealogists Dumfries & Galloway Family History Society
Covering Dates	Place	"Priests"	Descriptive Notes	Locations of Owners & Custodians
1804 - 1816 1849 - 1855	Lamberton Toll	George Lamb, George Sharpe	Index only 2000 entries approx.	Northumberland Record Office
Covering Dates	Place	"Priests"	Descriptive Notes	Locations of Owners & Custodians
1808 - 1864	Coldstream, Lamberton & Eastern Borders	Not known	Extracted from Berwick Newspapers by staff of Northumberland County Record Office 1996 Entries	Northumberland Record Office
Covering Dates	Place	"Priests"	Descriptive Notes	Locations of Owners & Custodians
1811 - 1840	Springfield Gretna Green	Robert Elliot and a number of Joseph Pasley	2 Bound Volumes 6 Booklets 3 Unbound Booklets	Durham University Library Archives & Special Collections

		entries	1 Small Notebook 33 Envelopes & Folders containing parts of notebooks, loose sheets & fragments, some dating from 1746	
Covering Dates	Place	"Priests"	Descriptive Notes	Locations of Owners & Custodians
1820 - 1897	Lamberton & Area	Andrew Lyons & others	Extracts from various registers by A C A Steven 52 entries	Berwick-upon-Tweed Record Office
Covering Dates	Place	"Priests"	Descriptive Notes	Locations of Owners & Custodians
1820 - 1840	River Tweed Union Bridge, Paxton, Lamberton, Coldstream, Mordington	John Forster, Joseph Atkinson, Edward Gray, Henry Collins, Thomas Dunn, Peter Moodie, D P D Muddiless or Mordilee, John Armstrong, A N Pringle	Irregular Border Marriage Certificates 74 Marriage Certificates collected and transcribed by Linda A Bankier MA DAA	Berwick-upon-Tweed Record Office
Covering Dates	Place	"Priests"	Descriptive Notes	Locations of Owners & Custodians
1825 - 1855	Gretna Hall	John Linton & others	1 Bound Volume 1 Contemporary Index 1 Modern Index 36 Files of Duplicate Certificates & Roll of Tables of Correction 1233 Entries Index 1829 - 1855 printed by Scottish Record Society 1949 1130 entries	Ewart Library, Dumfries Copies held by Public Library The Lanes, Carlisle Ewart Library, Dumfries Gretna Hall Hotel Old Blacksmith Shop, many libraries and genealogical societies
Covering Dates	Place	"Priests"	Descriptive Notes	Locations of Owners & Custodians
1832 - 1835	Sark Toll Bar Gretna	George McQueen	3 Bound Volumes (342 entries)	Ewart Library, Dumfries
Covering Dates	Place	"Priests"	Descriptive Notes	Locations of Owners & Custodians
1834 - 1843 1844 - 1849	Lamberton Toll	Henry Collins	2 Volumes (2544 entries) Transcription & Index published by	General Register Office for Scotland Copy on microfilm at

			Northumberland & Durham Family History Society Bolbec Road Westgate Road Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 1SE Tel: 0191 261 2159	Northumberland Record Office Copies at Society of Genealogists and many libraries and family history societies
Covering Dates	Place	"Priests"	Descriptive Notes	Locations of Owners & Custodians
1840 - 1841	Lamberton Toll, Mordington & Paxton	Unknown	Miscellaneous papers Deposit No AD58/125 from Lord Advocates Office 48 entries Transcribed by Arthur Black	National Archives of Scotland Transcription Published & held by Northumberland & Durham Family History Society
Covering Dates	Place	"Priests"	Descriptive Notes	Locations of Owners & Custodians
1843 - 1862	Queens Head Inn Springfield Gretna	John Douglas	4 Bound Volumes (934 entries)	General Register Office for Scotland Photocopy at Ewart Library, Dumfries National Archives of Scotland and Register Office Central Avenue Gretna Dumfriesshire
Covering Dates	Place	"Priests"	Descriptive Notes	Locations of Owners & Custodians
1843 - 1865	Allisons Toll Bar Gretna	John Murray & Daughter	16 Bound Volumes (6828 entries)	Mounseys Solicitors 19 Castle Street Carlisle CA3 8SY Tel: 01228 525195
Covering Dates	Place	"Priests"	Descriptive Notes	Locations of Owners & Custodians
1896 - 1940	Blacksmiths Shop Gretna Green (Headless Cross)	Peter Dickson, Thomas Johnstone, Jessie Graham, Richard Nugent, Richard Rennison & others	22 Bound Volumes (11 Volumes of Certificates plus 11 Volumes of Registers) 4054 entries	Gretna Museum & Tourist Services Ltd The Old Blacksmith Shop Gretna Green Dumfriesshire Tel: 01461 338441
Covering Dates	Place	"Priests"	Descriptive Notes	Locations of Owners & Custodians

1928 - 1933	Gretna Toll Bar	Arthur Stephenson	Bound Volume of Certificates and a contemporary index (142 entries)	Mr J Stephenson 46 Pretoria Road Eastriggs Annan Dumfriesshire DG12 6NU
Covering Dates	Place	"Priests"	Descriptive Notes	Locations of Owners & Custodians
1937 - 1940	Gretna Hall	David Ramsay McIntosh, Jessie Graham	2 Bound Volumes (473 entries)	North British Trust Hotels Gretna Hall Hotel Gretna Green Tel: 01461 337635