North East Inheritance



2006-2009

North East Inheritance Project

- Conservation
- Cataloguing and repackaging
 - Process
 - Outputs and Outcomes
 - Progress
- Some documentary examples
- Other similar UK probate projects

Conservation

Conservation

- Surface cleaning, washing, de-acidifying documents, and resizing
- Repairing with Japanese paper and wheat starch paste
- Repackaging in non-acidic materials (boxes, folders, inert polyester)
- Creation of digital image archival surrogates – so documents will receive significantly less wear and tear in future

Conservation of the most fragile documents, and improving the packaging for long-term storage, is a key part of the North East Inheritance project.

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Will of James Chaittor of Newcastle, yeoman, dated 11 May 1640

16+3/63/1

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Japanese paper repair to paper lost at edges and folds

Some discolouration remains even after surface washing and cleaning



An old archival storage box of bonds *before* cataloguing, re-boxing and repackaging has begun...



Cataloguing

Cataloguing Process

- 2½ full-time archivists; 10 volunteers drawn from a 20 mile radius of Durham
- ~90,000 persons; ~150,000 documents (1527-1858); 3 years – to complete in early 2009.
- Using ModesXML software to construct catalogue records conformant with EAD (Encoded Archival Description)

What information do we record?

- name
- pre-title + title
- epithet
- place of residence
- occupation
- status
- marital status
- other descriptor
- date of probate
- date of death
- date of each document
- estate value

Search Fields

- Name
- Place of residence
- Occupation
- Date of probate
- Keywords

NEI volunteer cataloguers at work in 'the dungeon' at Palace Green Library.



photograph roughly corresponding to the extent of the old Durham diocese.

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 - <addressline>Hamsterly in the county of Durham</addressline></addressline>
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And this is the raw XML code behind the MODESXML editing interface, and which will be used to generate the HTML catalogue records viewed online.

Encoded Archival Description

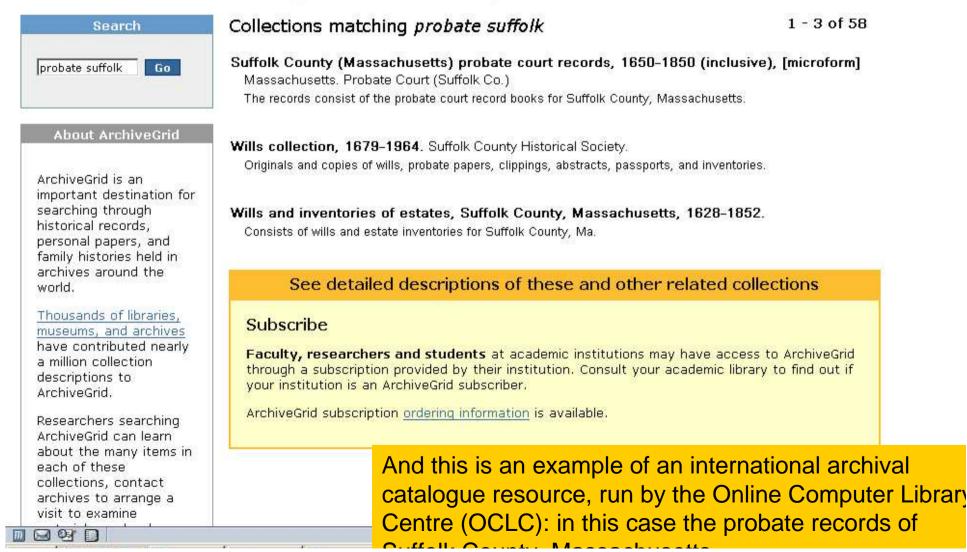
- Non-proprietary encoding standard
- For information about <u>archives</u> (extensive, interrelated, hierarchical, ISAD)
- Networked access to catalogue
- Supports interoperability and data sharing
- A data structure (DTD) using defined XML tags
- Converted to HTML for online output

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Archival History	<u>a2a.org.uk</u> is an example of an online catalogue uniting many English and Welsh archival collections using EAD and XML: in this case some Salisbury probate records.
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Table of Contents	Reference and contact details: <u>GB 33</u> DPR/1
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Collection Level Description: Durham Probate Records Durham Probate Records pre-1858 Durham Probate Registers, 1858-1940	Dates of Creation: ca. 1526/7-1858 Extent: 246 metres Name of Creator: Durham Diocesan Registrar
	Scope and Content
Relying on the same international data interoperability standards, the Archives Hub is a gateway to collection-level descriptions of archives in UK universities and colleges: in this case the Durham diocesan pre-1858 probate	Records of the pre-1858 probate jurisdiction administered through the consistory court of the Church of England diocese of Durham, together with pre-1858 probate records relating to ecclesiastical peculiars associated with the diocese and the Dean and Chapter of Durham (for details of the extent etc. of the diocese and peculiars see under Administrative etc. history). The chief groups of records in the collection are as noted below. Surviving material from the Bishop of Durham's Allertonshire peculiar up to 1846 (see under Administrative etc. history) is kept in the main series of probate material for the diocese of Durham described in groups DPR I/1-5 and 7-8 below, whereas material for the Dean and Chapter of Durham's Allerton and Allertonshire peculiar forms a separate sequence (DPR I/6 below, with an index in DPR I/7/7):
records held in Durham University Library Archives and Special Collections – which records are	Browse Indexes Advanced Search Print Description Cheshire Cheshire Collec Print Description Cheshire Collec Micros Micros Micros Cheshire Collec Cheshire Collec



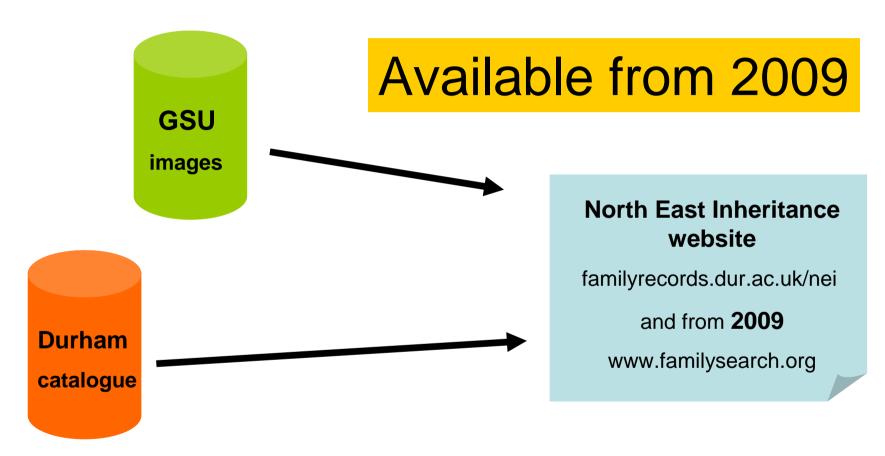
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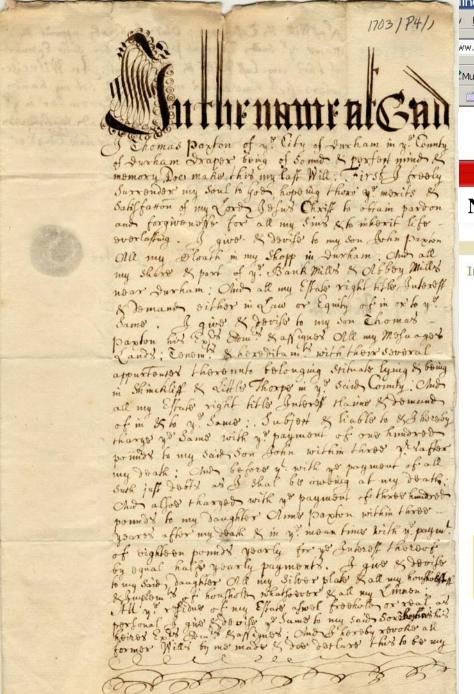


The NEI Catalogue

- Outputs
 - Catalogue: searchable under Name, Place,
 Occupation, Date and Keywords
 - images of every probate document (GSU)
 - NEI presentations, articles, website
- Research outcomes for:
 - family & local historians
 - academic historians
 - schools

The NEI Catalogue





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Help

ww.nationalarchives.gov.uk/documentsonline/details-result.asp?Edoc_Id=375467&queryType=1&resultcount=7

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North East Inheritance

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Image details

Description	Will of William Raine of Barnard Castle, Durham
Date	23 January 1790
Catalogue reference	PROB 11/1187 🖪
Dept	Records of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury
Series	Prerogative Court of Canterbury and related Probate Jurisdictions: Will Registers
Piece	Name of Register: Bishop Quire Numbers: 1 - 53
Image contains	1 will of many for the catalogue reference

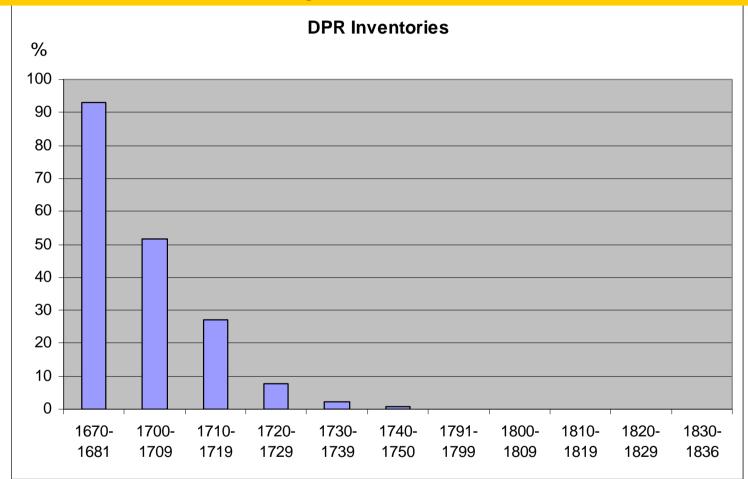
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Catalogue entry + Document image

(mock-up from Documents Online)

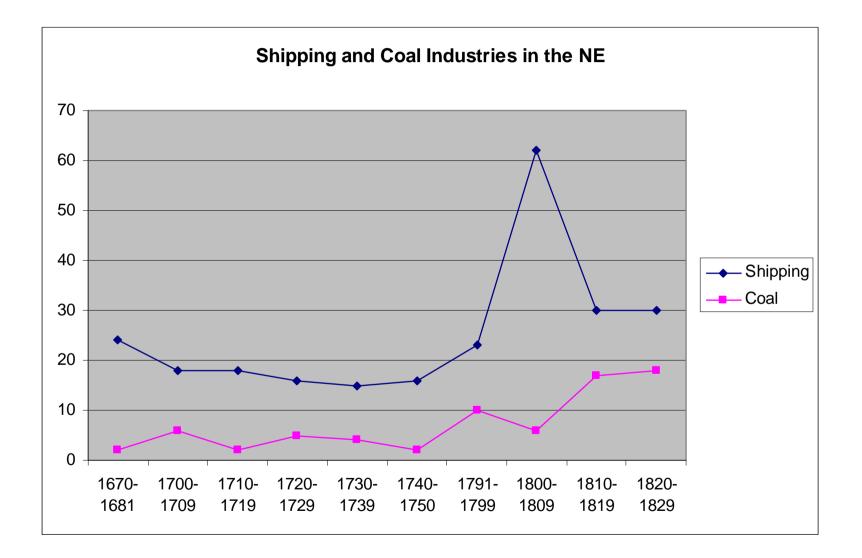
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The completed catalogue will immediately enable statistical analyses such as these, accomplishing in minutes what used to take months, and with no additional wear and tear to the original documents.



This is a bar chart indicating the declining number of inventories filed as a percentage of the number of wills filed in the DPRI probate collection at Durham University Library; the trend is much the same in diocesan probate collections throughout England and Wales.

...and this, a graph illustrating the comparative numbers of persons giving as their occupation jobs in the shipping and coal industries.





Rich and Poor in **Tudor Times** What can inventories tell us?

Home

Links Worksheet

Home > What can inventories tell us?

What can inventories tell us?

Introduction

Take a look at the people in the street or people appearing on the television or in the newspapers and magazines. Would you be able to say whether they were rich or poor or somewhere inbetween? The answer is probably yes. How can you tell? Well, you could m WWW.dur.ac.uk/4schools/ a quess by looking at their clothes, the type of car that they drive, the kind of house that they live in, the job that they do, even what kind of mobile phone they use. You might not be able to say exactly how much money they have but you would, for example, be able to tell that the Beckhams are richer than the members of McFly.

So how can you tell who was rich and poor in Tudor times? It's more difficult but you can look at the same kind of things. You can find out about people's clothes by looking at paintings from the period. Some paintings can also tell you about people's work, the houses that they lived in and how they entertained themselves. And there are still some Tudor houses such as Bolling Hall, Bradford and Palmer's Farm, Stratford-upon-Avon (formerly known as Mary Arden's house) which you can visit. Another thing you can use are historical records such as inventories.



A Key Stage 2 module on Tudor period inventories (part of the Durham diocesan probate records series), created as part of the **4schools** Durham **University Library's** education zone.



Cataloguing Progress

- 90,000 persons, or 150,000 documents in 3 years (2006-2008)
- 3-pronged effort: pre-1750 wills series (archivist 1); post-1750 wills series (archivist 2); all bonds series (volunteers)

Conservation Progress

- bonds completed
- 1620-1649 wills currently being conserved

Original wills and inventories proved by the bishop of Durham, 1751-1857
Original wills and inventories proved by the bishop of Durham, 1660-1750
Original wills and inventories proved by the bishop of Durham, 1527-1650
Original wills and inventories proved by the dean and chapter, 1666-1845
Original probate bonds, 1791-Jan 1858
Original probate bonds, 1695-1790
Original probate bonds, 1565-1694
Original probate bonds and inventories proved by the dean and chapter, 1670-1808
Registered copies of wills, 1550s-1740s
Registered copies of wills, 1750s-Jan 1858
Conservation of most fragile wills and bonds (too damaged to produce or copy)
Conservation of additional fragile items

Planned completion date: summer 2009.

Key

in progress

Project milestones (Jan 2008)

☑ completed

Some examples of probate documents and the stories they can tell...

To make & ordain this my Last will & Costimont in manuar following (vi

An artistic clerk, and its opportunistic wrapper made of cut-down parchment.

17.42/189/2

O OUT most Sevene Frince and Sovereign Lord y corgette Socond by the Grace of God of Great Brittain Defender of the Faith, and so for the We Rechard Chandler master of the to Vicar General and Official principal lawfully constitue Tather in God Edward by Divino providence Low Bishop of Durham with all Duty Jubin fion and Obodionice due to so Illa and thish Prosperily how and howafter in him by whom Kings Beign and Princes bear Ando Wee Do with all humble Obod Father boung out of his Diocoso) horoby Signifio and make known to your Royal majosty that the Worshipfull William Pycs to the said Richard Chandler Vicar Generaland Official Orincipal abrosate of our Consistorial and Episcopal Court of Dur in a contain protondod lauso of Defamation or Standor latoly instructed before him rightly and duly proceeding Did at on of Ann Rogerson Wifo of Robert Rogerson) of Waphan within the Parish of Houghton to Spring in the Diocoso of Surham 2 of Joseph Carr) of the Parish and Dio cose iforosaid (for hor manifosh Contemphand Continuacy in not paying or causing to be regerson the Sum of Two pounds of Good and lawfull monoy of Great Britage for the Casts of Suite of the aid In Legerson with the Sum of Four Shillings and Four ponce of like lawfill Monoy for the Foe of a Monition duely executed upon her for the Contrinacious and upon pass of Such hor continuacy Stath Decreed hor to Go Excommunicated and that she hath by our and Episcopal boon publickly and sponly Dononneod Excommunicate in the Face of the Church by a Prosby tor lawfully authorize the groater part of the congregation were present to hear Divine Source and under this Soutence of Eccommunication to inco the publishing theroof through an obstinate and incorrigible Disposition stood and Doth stand in Contompt of you

Children were expected to make suitable marriages.

From the end of the will of Henry Bainbridge of Witton Gilbert, County Durham, gentleman, dated 10 July 1772 Controlling your son's marriage from beyond the grave...

such Recognizance as aforesaid - And I declare and direct that if my said Son William Grieveson Shall at any time intermarry with the faid Mary Lumley the whole of such remaining part of his Thare of the money to arise by the means aforesaid shall from the time of fuch Marriago case and become forfeited and the whole of such principal and Interest then due shall immediately on fuch for feiture be paid or transferred to my said You Henry Grieveson his Executors Administrators and Asigns - But my chind and wile is that if The said William Guersfor shale at any time intermarry with any breditable Woman to the 2 approbation of my Executors then that the whole of his said Share or so much of it as Shale then be remaining unhaid Shall be paid to him orbe applied as he shale direct becept Nevertheles as to the said Sum of Swenty bounds before mentioned to be retained asm

From the will of John Grieveson of Silver Street in Durham, cooper, made 19 February 1811

n the Name of fod Amen I Thomas Tennich of the Town and Gunty of New Catter upon Type Mariner being Weak in Poor bus of Town and discourge mand and memory thanks beto God to the due and belonging to me from the Chest at Chatham for the lofs of my right Hands on board his Majustiis Ship Newarks in an Engagemen a gainit the French Captain Richard Clark being as that time Commander in the Year One Thousands Seven hundred and four, together with all

1735/F4/1

From

tor to

HMS Newark led the 4th division at Gibraltar that year, and was an 80-gun 500 man ship of the line. The action was probably the Battle of Malaga, fought just after the capture of Gibraltar on 13-15 August. Indecisive, it nevertheless prevented the French and Spanish recapturing the Rock.

at Savenor

Will of Thomas Fenwick of Newcastle upon Tyne, mariner, dated 28 July 1735

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Probate process note, recording the swearing of the executor and a witness by the Official Principal's surrogate, John Cowling, 16 Dec 1735

1 10° Docember 135

tem This Totibilant Dots, Doclaro that at the to doath of the Ja John Ja Tues of or thereabout to ouass 15 was Jaco Ship was then at brouna phas mado a vory unfortunato boyago s of hor Owners o in hor roturn home the great zouch p zaufornod by the Al Gibjon this hars part own Mongy/ J ull. om tong Dode nothing romany in th aut of the is advibe

Captured by the French

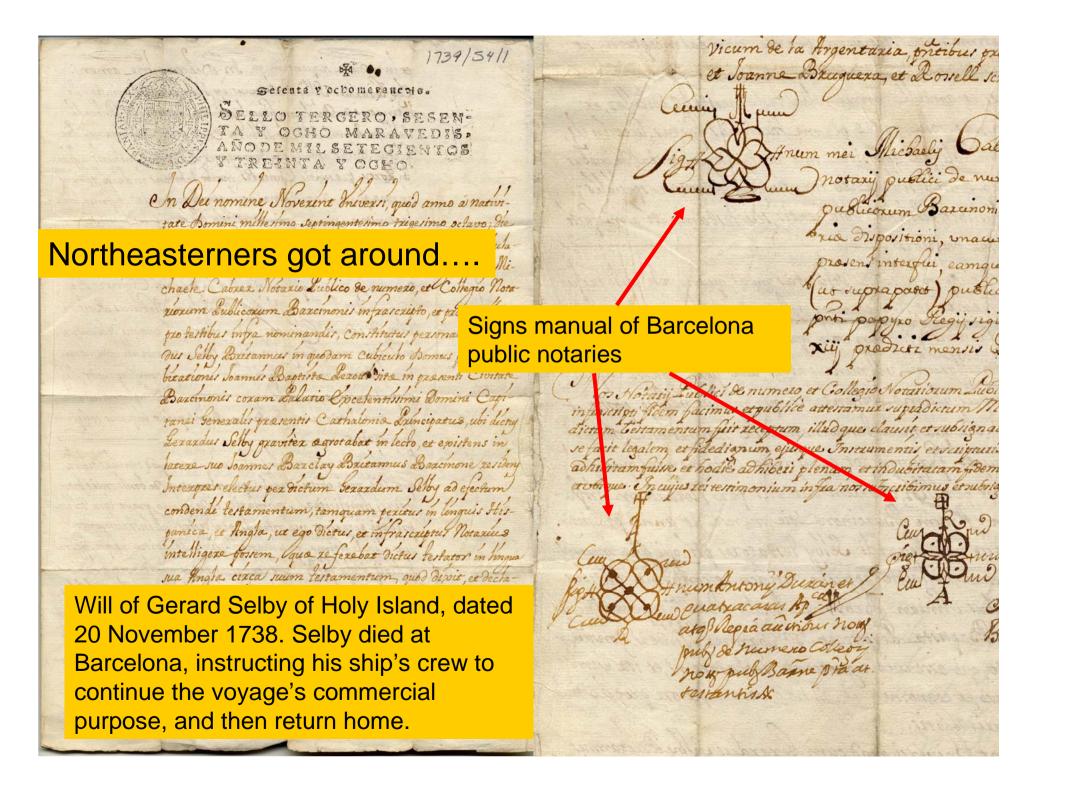
The War of Spanish Succession (1701-1714) was fought by Britain, Austria, the Dutch Republic and their allies against the French and Spanish.

Affidavit written alongside inventory of the goods of John Taylor of Newcastle upon Tyne, cooper, 1707

To promote the interests of science...

) his is the last will and testament of me Peter Borolby of Hd Host near the city of Durham gentleman . __ In order to promote the interests of science I direct that as soon after my death as conveniently may be, my body be delivered to W. Clifton or the Hilliam Green for the buspose of being deficited . I desire that the remains may allowards he interred buside the body of my deceased wife ; and that my funcial shall

Will of Peter Bowlby of Old Elvet, Durham, gentleman, dated 7 July 1825



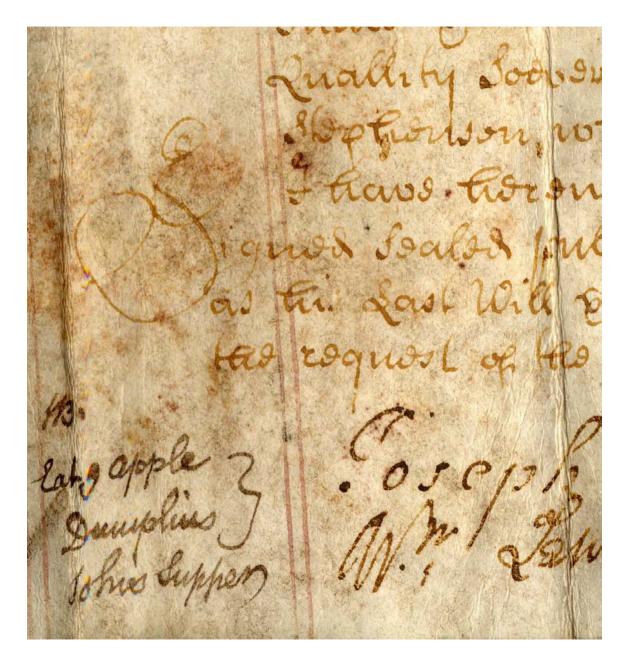
A very modern butcher.

appoint my Sinis Morophon John Crumber Sole Counterly this my lift mill & 2 oftamont In nitresso me out finglaboos Rorsonto Set my hand ind Soulo the Day your fight aboos written Signed Scaled and Declaros

Will of Peter Trumble (Trumbel) of Gateshead, butcher, from 1689.

Trumble's (wood-block) stamp appears on a 1678 will he witnessed, also in the DPRI series.

And the inexplicable....



The morning after the night before?

The marginal note reads: 'Eat 9 apple Dumplins to his Supper'

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(www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk), and the Wiltshire Wills Project.