A PoMS Tutorial: Using the Database

Dr Amanda Beam, PoMS Research Associate

The PoMS database is now live and this feature will provide information on how to use the interface for basic and advanced searches.

Key Points

- The database can handle searches by the following facets (or criteria): PEOPLE AND INSTITUTIONS, SOURCES, RELATIONSHIPS, TRANSACTIONS and TERMS OF TENURE. This short tutorial will focus on a PEOPLE search.
- There are two main ways to search the PoMS database: (i) a basic SEARCH or (ii) a more advanced BROWSE.
- By using the keyword search boxes, any whole or partial words can be searched. For instance, typing in 'earl of Angus' will produce a list of results where you may find these words together, whether that be Adam, earl of Angus, or Angus, clerk of Earl Henry of Atholl. Words can also be entered only partially: for example, typing in 'Ball' will result in members of the Balliol family, the Church of Dunballoch, and Jocelin of Ballindard. The BASIC SEARCH should be used for quick, initial enquiries on FACTOIDS, SOURCES, PLACES or PEOPLE, while the BROWSE should be used for a more investigative search.
- Persons in the database are found by a standardised 'headline' form of their names and (where relevant) title. For instance, Jocelin, abbot of Melrose, was elected bishop of Glasgow in 1174, an office which he held until his death in 1199. He is therefore found in a headline form as 'Jocelin, bishop of Glasgow (d.1199)' in a BASIC SEARCH. An easy way around this is to perform an advanced BROWSE search, where a combined search for the FORENAME **Jocelin** with the TITLE **abbot of Melrose**, will bring up the desired result.

Basic Search

If you wish to focus on a particular person, for example, Gilbert de Umfraville, earl of Angus (d.1307), you can start with the BASIC SEARCH, which allows you to search a specific keyword or phrase, such as **Umfraville** or **earl of Angus.** When searching a person by this method, be sure to select the PEOPLE AND INSTITUTIONS filter under the search box. You can search for a person or name by selecting FACTOID, SOURCES or PLACES, which will show all results with that particular

name in the heading. You may also narrow down the date range for results, if relevant for your search, by using the sliding buttons at the bottom of the search box.

Once your selection is made you will see the results on the right. You can then select the person you want to view. You can also filter the results by the headings above the results, such as FLORUIT DATE, FORENAME, or SURNAME. The ribbon next to the earl of Angus's name signifies that a seal matrix exists.

Basic Search



FIG. 1: Searching by Factoid

Matching Records (26)

Listing items 1 to 26, page 1 of 1



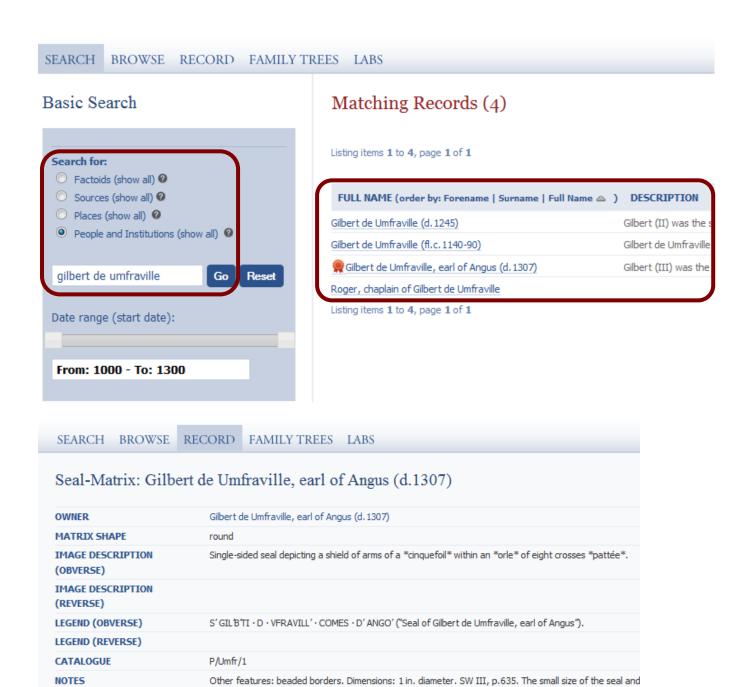


FIG. 2: Basic search for Gilbert de Umfraville with seal matrix page

You can also use the BASIC SEARCH for forename- and surname-only searches, such as **Robert**, **William** or **Lindsay**. These will produce numerous results, though, and will encapsulate every instance where the keyword appears in a headline form of a name, as in this example:



FIG. 3 Basic search for 'Robert', showing numerous results

It is more efficient, therefore, to use the BASIC SEARCH for very quick enquiries on PEOPLE, SOURCES or FACTOIDS, and not for browsing or for more investigative searching.

Searching by Titles (Basic)

Persons are also searchable by their titles. Therefore, Gilbert de Umfraville can also be found by searching **earl of Angus**.

Only those titles which appear in a person's headline-form will be produced in a BASIC SEARCH for PEOPLE AND INSTITUTIONS. If one wanted to search for Jocelin as abbot of Melrose, there would be no results because Jocelin's headline-form is 'Jocelin, bishop of Glasgow'. This type of query would be better as an advanced BROWSE search.



FIG. 4 Searching by title

Advanced Searching

The advanced BROWSE search option is the best way to browse all the information in the database, as well as to make more specific queries and refine your search. When using the BROWSE search, the user will notice several different facets – or categories – from which to choose search criteria, including PEOPLE AND INSTITUTIONS, SOURCES, RELATIONSHIPS, TRANSACTIONS and TERMS OF TENURE. Each facet also includes several other ways to refine your search, as will be described in more detail below. You can jump to a facet by navigating through the drop down box on the right.

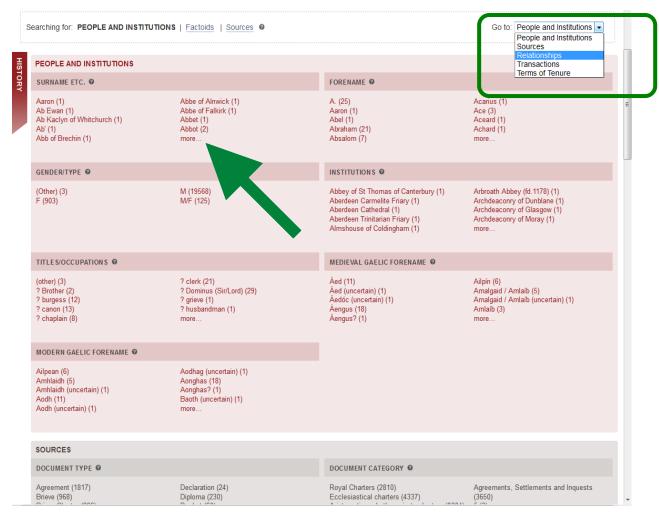
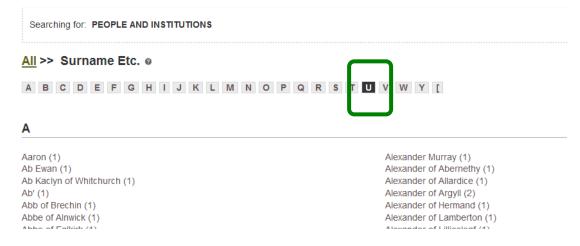


FIG. 5 Refining your search by different facets

Searching by People and Institutions

There are several filters for searching or browsing in the PEOPLE AND INSTITUTIONS facet, allowing for a variety of search options.

Taking the example of Gilbert de Umfraville again, we can find him by browsing his SURNAME, FORENAME, and/or TITLE. Select the 'More' option under a filter to find an alphabetical list from which to navigate (see figure 5 above).



U

De Ulceby (1) Uhtred (20) Uhtred of Ashkirk (1) De Umbersand (1) Uhtred of Dundas (1) Uhtred of Grubbit (2) De Umfraville (14) De Urbe (1) Uhtred of Pitroddie (1) Uhtred of Reston (1) Of Ulchester (1) Uhtred of Terregles (1) Of Ulston (3) Ulf (3) Of Upleatham (1) Ulfkill (1) Of Upper Ayton (1) Ulkil (4)

Ε

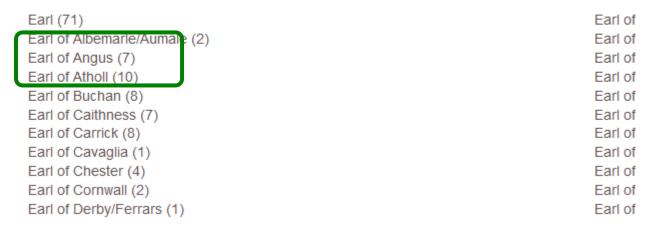


FIG. 7 Browsing by titles

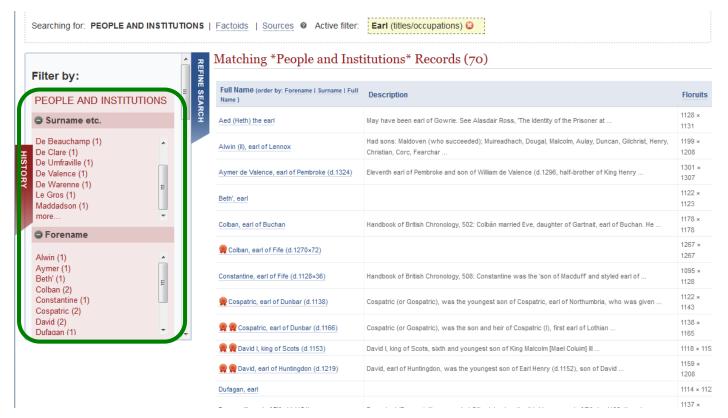


FIG. 8 Earl search

Use the tab 'Refine Search' to filter down your results. This works best for large queries, such as 'Earl' which has 71 entries, rather than 'earl of Angus' which only has 7. This facilitates the search by filtering out items that would produce no results.

Searching by Relationships

Persons can also be searched according to their relationship to another person, whether this is a familial, employment or tenurial relationship. It should be noted that the relationships included in the database are those specifically mentioned in our sources; assumptions have not been made. For example, we may know that a person is a tenant of another by the nature of a particular transaction. However, unless the person is referred to as 'my tenant' or similar, no relationship has been entered.

To view the list of relationships, be sure to select FACTOIDS rather than people. Or, select SOURCES to see what sources this relationship appears in.

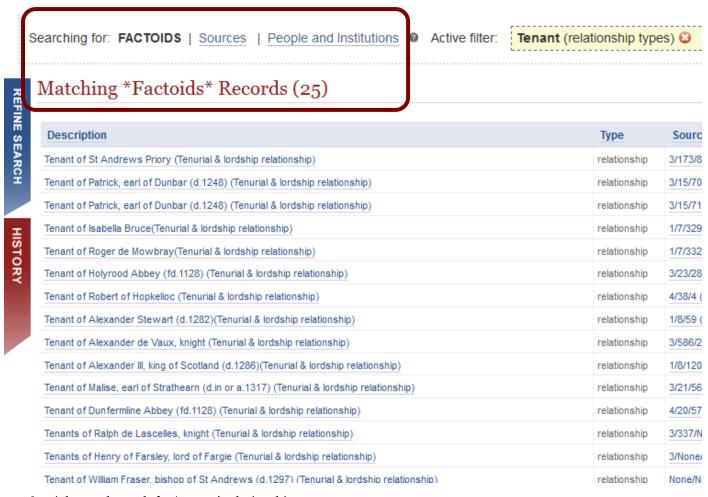


FIG. 9 Advanced search for 'tenant' relationship

Associated People (3):	Witnesses (5): Possessions: Lan	ds (1):	
Listing items 1 to 3, page 1 of 1			
ROLE	NAME	NAME (ORIGINAL LANGUAGE)	NAME (TRANSLATION)
Grantor	Alexander II, king of Scots (d. 1249)	Alexander	Alexander, king of Scots
Beneficiary	Matthew of Moncreiffe	Matho de Muncref	Matthew of Moncreiffe, tenant of Roger de Moubray
named person (transaction)	Roger de Mowbray	Rogeri de Mubray	Roger de Moubray

FIG. 10 Tenant relationship as it appears in a transaction

Searching by Place-date

Documents can be searched by place-date, or the place where that particular document is dated. Not all documents record where the events took place, so this feature will only produce those documents which clearly state this. Places are given in both the original spelling and modern equivalent, but are only searchable by the modern form.

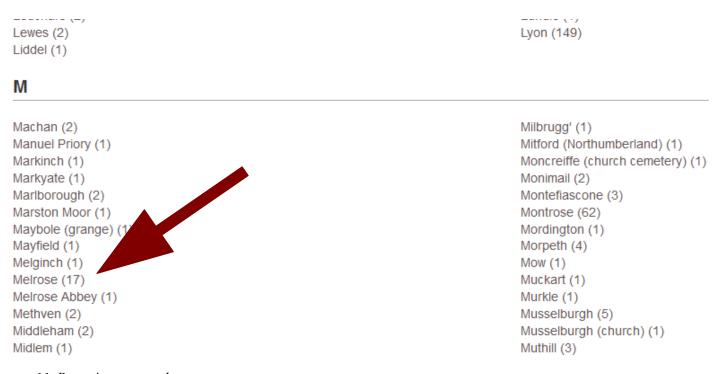


FIG. 11 Browsing sources by PLACE DATE

Using Montrose as an example, the results show that 17 documents are specifically dated there. If the PEOPLE AND INSTITUTIONS facet is selected, one can view how many people appeared in those 17 documents dated at Melrose (FIGS. 12 and 13).

Matching *Sources* Records (17)

Calendar number	Description
1/6/283 (RRS, ii, no. 312)	King William comman
1/6/336 (RRS, ii, no. 365)	King William to Melro
1/0/210 (RRO, II, 110. 207)	King William to Kinlos
1/8/49 (Melr. Lib., no. 309)	Alexander, king of S
1/8/44 (Midl. Chrs., no. 41)	Alexander, king of S
1/7/173 (RRS, iii, no. 146)	King Alexander II cor
1/7/238 (RRS, iii, no. 211)	King Alexander II for
4/32/49 (Dryb. Lib., no. 192)	A[dam], abbot of Me
4/8/27 (Dryb. Lib., no. 208)	An agreement is for
3/547/76 (Melr. Lib., no. 325)	Alexander, steward
2/10/None (Melr. Lib., no. 349)	William, bishop of Sa
3/203/None (Melr. Lib., nos. 354, 411)	William of Durham, th
3/254/None (Melr. Lib., no. 378)	John of Graham, sor
3/254/None (Melr. Lib., no. 379)	John of Graham writ
None/None (Stevenson, Docs., i, no. 188)	Peter Burdet, keeper
None/None (CDS, ii, no. 1226)	[Sir Hugh de Audele
None/None (Stevenson, Docs., ii, no. 600)	Letter to King Edwar

FIG. 12 Sources dated at Montrose

Searching for: **PEOPLE AND INSTITUTIONS** | Factoids | Sources **O** Active filter:

REFINE SEARCH

Matching	*People	and Institutio	ns* Records	(86)

Full Name (order by: Forename Surname Full Name)	Description
Adam de Tilletai, abbot of Rievaulx (1240-60)	Adam succeeded Leon, abbot of Rievaulx, who had died on 8th Janua
Adam of Harcarse, abbot of Melrose (d.1245)	Watt and Shead, Heads, 150, 159: Adam was cellarer of Newbattle w
Adam, son of Hugh, baillie	
Alan Stewart, son of Walter (d.1204)	Alan, son of Walter, was heir of Walter the Stewart (d.1177) and his w
Alexander Balliol of Cavers (d.c.1311)	last appearance April 1310; dead by end of year
Released Rel	Alexander II was the son of William I of Scotland (d.1214) and his wife
🥷 🥷 🥷 Alexander III, king of Scots (d.1286)	Alexander III was the only son of Alexander II and his second wife, Mε
Alexander Stewart of Dundonald (d.1282)	Also known as Alexander of Dundonald, Alexander was the eldest so
Ancestors of John Graham	
Archibald, abbot of Dunfermline (d.1198)	Watt and Shead, Heads, 67: Archibald occurs as abbot of Dunfermline
Arnold, abbot of Rievaulx (1189-99)	Watt and Shead, Heads, 149: Arnold, or Ernald, appears as abbot of M

Searching by Role

Persons can also be searched by their role in a transaction, that is, whether they are the grantor, beneficiary, sealer or in any other role. This may be particularly useful for users who wish to research, for example, witnesses, consentors or perhaps perambulators.



FIG. 14 Browsing by Role

Sources

Finally, one can also search by DOCUMENT TYPE, DOCUMENT CATEGORY, and GRANTOR CATEGORY. Document types are sorted according to their diplomatic form, such as Diploma, Charter or Brieve (these are explained in the Glossary). Document and grantor categories are sorted by the type of grantor, such as royal documents or those issued by a bishop or abbot.

SOURCES		
DOCUMENT TYPE @		DOCUMENT CATEGORY @
Agreement (1817) Brieve (968) Brieve-Charter (206) Charter (11598) Charter/Brieve (134)	Declaration (24) Diploma (230) Docket (60) English Royal Administration (2464) more	Royal Charters (2810) Ecclesiastical charters (4337) Aristocratic and other private charters (93
GRANTOR CATEGORY @		PLACE DATE MODERN @

FIG. 15 Searching by Source

Viewing records

Having found the SOURCE or PERSON one wishes to investigate, one can view the person's individual record-page or the source in more depth.

From the DOCUMENT page, users can see all the factoids associated with that document and other information such as the original and modern spelling of place-dates, a short summary of the document and its language and date.

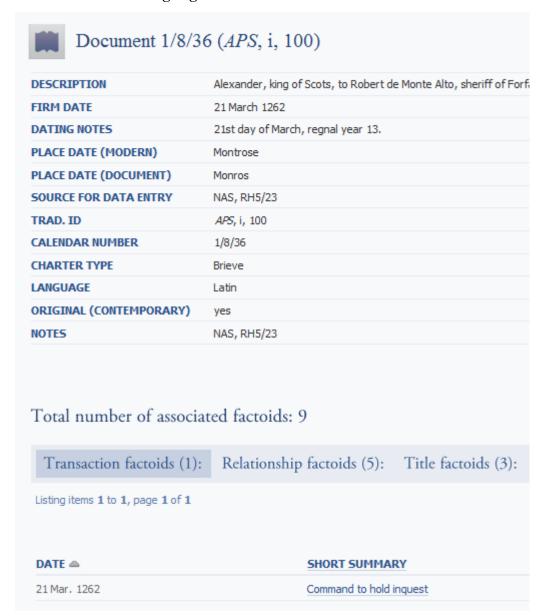


FIG. 16 Document page showing a short summary (or calendar entry), date and place-date, language and if the document survives as an original (with modern archival reference if known), and the factoids associated with it.

By clicking on the TRANSACTION of a DOCUMENT, one is able to view all associated persons in that transaction as well as various charter elements which appear. Although this is essentially a database of persons and not of charters, we have nevertheless offered the user a selection of

searchable charter elements, including common burdens, legal pertinents, *sicut* clauses, sealing, warrandice, the use of *dei gratia* in titles, and more. The amount of information given about a document, however, has had to be limited to a certain extent; so, for example, perambulations (the detailed description of boundaries of lands) have not been included, but the fact that a charter includes a perambulation is recorded in the database. These charter elements can be examined on individual transaction pages, as in the example below.

SEARCH BROWSE REC	CORD FAMILY TREES LABS
Transaction: Giff	t of land of Hospital of Lauder and Pilmuir (BW
TYPE OF TRANSACTION	Gift
FROM SOURCE	3/416/12 (<i>Dryb. Lib.</i> , App., no. 1)
FIRM DATE	1175 X 1190
DATING NOTES	Consecration of Jocelin, bishop of Glasgow × death of Richard de Moreville
PRIMARY	yes
DARE	yes
TENENDAS	in (free, pure and/or perpetual) alms
TENENDAS ORIGINAL LANGUAGE	in puram et perpetuam elemosinam
EXEMPTIONS	free and quit from all service and/or aid, custom and exaction
EXEMPTIONS ORIGINAL LANGUAGE	ab omni seculari seruitio et exactione
RENDER DATES	Nativity of BVM [8 Sept.]
NOMINAL RENDERS	incense
SICUT CLAUSE	Included; kingdom; Scotia
PERAMBULATION	yes
SPIRITUAL BENEFITS	Ancestors (pro salute anime); Any Spiritual Benefit; Children (pro salute anim Successors (pro salute anime); Wife (pro salute anime)
Associated People (16):	Witnesses (9): Possessions: Lands (2): Possessions: R
Listing items 1 to 16, page 1 of 1	

FIG. 17: Transaction record

Once on the TRANSACTION page, users will see the associated persons and witnesses for each transaction. It is here that one can view who appeared alongside whom, where they appeared together, and in what capacity. Equally important is the order in which witnesses appear, which is why the PoMS database displays witness lists in their given order. Users should be aware that

where charters have multiple primary transactions, witnesses will only be entered on the 'main' primary transaction. Subsequent primary transactions are marked by *. This was done so that witnesses were not counted more than once for a particular charter. However, from the DOCUMENT page, users can see quickly if a transaction is primary or if there are any witnesses present.

Associated People (1	6): Witnesses (9): Possessions: Lands (2):	Possessions: Revenues in kind (3):	Possessions: Privileges (4):	
listing its one of the diff, page of				Previous 1 Ne
ROLE 🖴	NAME	NAME (ORIGINAL LANGUAGE)	NAME (TRANSLATION)	FLORE
Beneficiary	Mary, Blessed Virgin	beate marie	Blessed Mary	1122
Beneficiary	Saint Leonard	sancto Leonardo	St Leonard	1164
Beneficiary	Hospital of Lauder	infirmis fratribus hospitalis de Louueder	infirm brethren of hospital of Lauder	1175
Grantor	Richard de Moreville (d. 1189 or 1190)	Ricardus de Moruilla	Richard de Moreville, constable of the kingdom of the Sco	ots 1152 >
named person (transaction)	Unknown, smith of Lauder	faber meus de Louueder	my smith of Lauder	
named person (transaction)	Baillies of Lauder	ballivos meos de Louueder	my baillies of Lauder	
Neighbouring landholder	Melrose Abbey (fd. 1136)	monachorum de melros	monks of Melrose	1147 >
Neighbouring landholder	Dryburgh Abbey (fd. 1150)	monachos	monks [of Dryburgh]	1150 >
Perambulator	Jocelin, bishop of Glasgow (d. 1199)	Johannes	John [sic, Jocelin], bishop of Glasgow	1174 >
Perambulator	Richard de Moreville (d. 1189 or 1190)	ego	myself	1152 >

FIG. 18 People associated with a TRANSACTION

Associated People (16): W	itnesses (9):	Possessions: Lands (2):	Possessions: Revenues in kind (3):	Possessions: Privileges (4):	
Listing items 1 to 9 , page 1 of 1					
NAME			NAME (ORIGINAL LANGUAGE)	NAME (TRANSLATION)	FLORUITS
William de Moreville (d. 1196)			Willelmo de Moruilla filio meo	William de Moreville, my son	1166 × 1196
Avice of Lancaster, wife of Richard de M	oreville (d. 1191)		Auicia vxore meo	Avicia, my wife	1174 × 1190
Herbert, clerk (Moreville)			Herberto	Herbert	1170 × 1175
Thomas, master, physician (fl. 1144-117)	3×89)		Thoma	Thomas, physician	1159 × 1175
Clement, chaplain of Richard de Moreville	2		Clemente	Clement, my chaplain	1190 × 1190
Alan of Thirlestane (son of Aelsi)			Alano de Thirlestan	Alan of Thirlestane	1188 × 1203
Henry Sindair (early 13C)			Henrico de Sender	Henry Sindair	1190 × 1240
Peter de Haig (12C)			Petro de Haga	Peter de Haig	1189 × 1190
Thomas, clerk of Morlund (Moreville)			Thoma	Thomas, derk	1189 × 1190

FIG. 19 Witnesses associated with a TRANSACTION: names appear as in the original, and in translation with titles

Users are encouraged to navigate between witnesses and other associated persons to investigate their social networks more thoroughly. By clicking on a specific person, one can also view that person's own 'biography' page and examine other places within the database where they occur. Also included on an individual's page is basic biographical information, where available, and their *floruit* dates where known. All associated factoids are also listed, and are grouped according to when the person appears in a transaction (with a preview of witnesses) or in a *pro anima* clause, with a title or possession, and as a witness in a transaction.

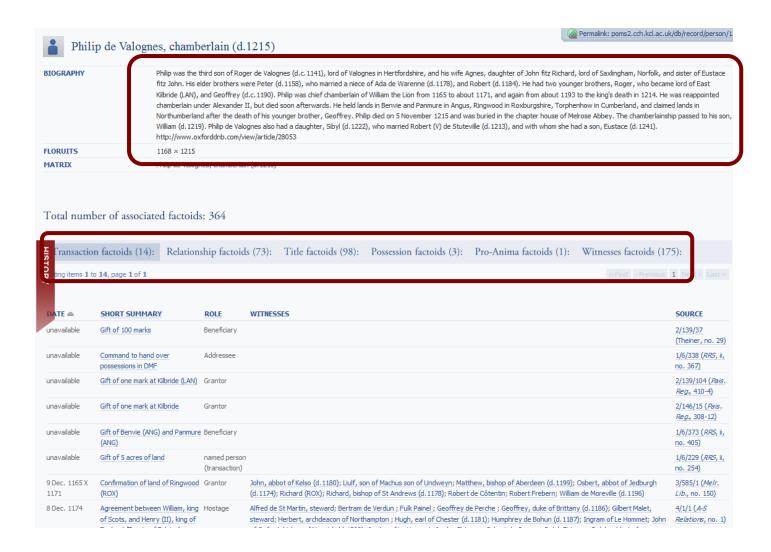
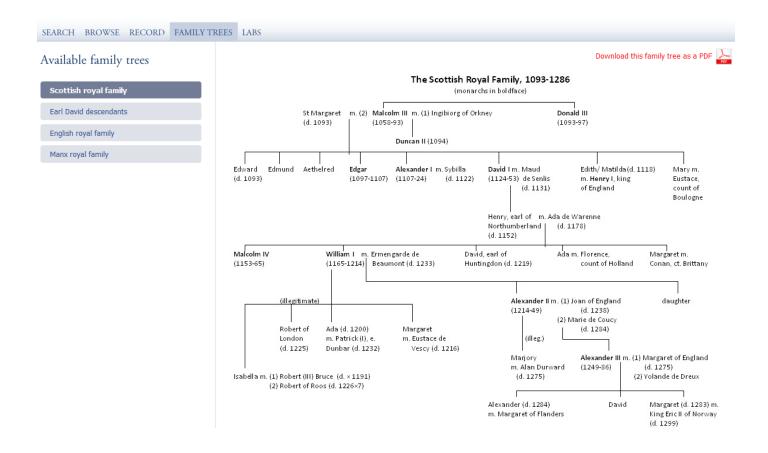


FIG. 20 Person record page

Other Features of the Database

Though limited at present, it is hoped that the database will include numerous family trees of those families which appear in Scotland during this period. Each tree will have active links, taking users to any named person who appears in the database.





Labs section

The labs section of the database features applications that are 'quick hacks' and previews of new features that haven't yet been fully developed. The labs exist to foster discussion and the development of further ideas so we encourage users to explore this area of the database.

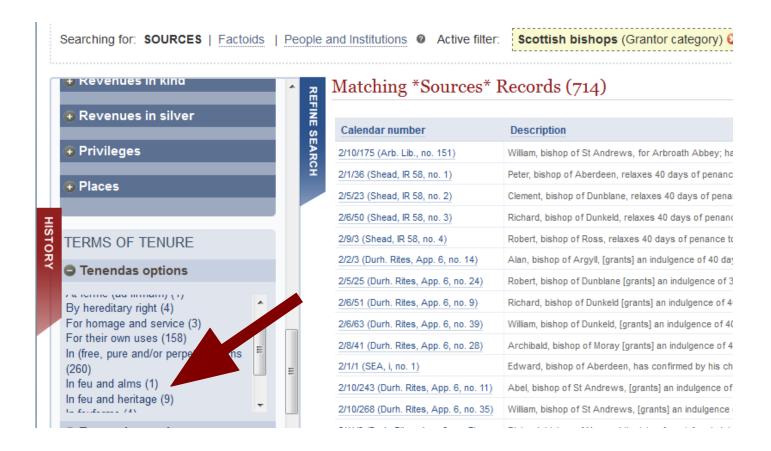
Sample Searches

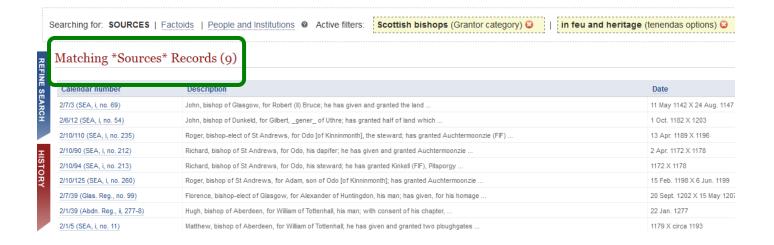
The following is an example of how one might search for *tenendas* clauses within charters issued by Scottish bishops.

First, the user should select the 'Sources' tab on the Browse page. Then, select 'Scottish Bishops' from the 'Grantor Category' facet. This will show all the charters of Scottish bishops for our period (714).

SOURCES				
DOCUMENT TYPE @		DOCUMENT CATEGORY @		
Agreement (273) Brieve (345) Brieve-Charter (50) Charter (4503) Charter/Brieve (21)	Declaration (3) Diploma (16) Docket (5) English Royal Administration (947) more	Royal Charters (1626) Ecclesiastical charters (2156) Aristocratic and other private charters (2596)	Agreements, Settlements and Inquests (474) 5 (1)	
GRANTOR CATEGORY @		PLACE DATE MODERN @		
Agreements: between ecclesiastics (85) Agreements: between laypeople (25) Agreements: between religious (130) Agreements: ecclesiastics and lay (122) Agreements: kings and queens (7)	Archdeacons and officials (12) Bishop's relatives (2) Burgesses (96) Canons regular (107) more	'Badindath' (prob. Bandeath, STL) (1) 'Baneth' (1) 'Carsse' (1) 'Coledunes' (in Kingoldrum parish, ANG) (1) 'Dunref' (poss. Dumcreiff near Moffat or	'Holdetoun' in the barony of Drumlanrig (1) 'Hou Ingren' (1) 'Moneny' (Minnonie ABD?) (1) 'Rothenann' (1) more	
LANGUAGE @		SOURCE FEATURES @		
English (1310) French (332) Gaelic (7)	Latin (7414) Spanish (1)	Chirograph (163) Duplicate Original (contemporary) (43) Duplicate Original (non-contemporary) (5)	Letter Patent (373) Original (contemporary) (2301) Original (non-contemporary) (20)	

Next, search under Terms of Tenure in the 'Refine Search' drawer for 'Tenendas options'. Users will be able to see all available tenendas clauses for those particular charters. To view the records where 'in feu and heritage' is mentioned in a charter, simply select this from the drop down menu. The number in brackets indicates that there are nine results. Keep in mind that the only available options are those which are relevant to the previous search terms.





Finally, the search has been narrowed down to 9 matching records.

Results

Results are searched for and displayed under three tabs: SOURCES, FACTOIDS, PEOPLE AND INSTITUTIONS. One should choose the appropriate tab for one's search before beginning the faceted search to simplify the search. If one is searching for information about a person or institution, the most appropriate results will probably be found in the PEOPLE AND INSTITUTIONS tab. If one is searching for features in particular sources, then the SOURCES tab should produce the most relevant results. If one wishes to search for particular types of transaction, relationship, or title, then the FACTOID tab should be selected. For example, if one wishes to search for females who acted as grantor, then the PEOPLE AND INSTITUTIONS tab will provide all females who have the role of grantor; if, however, one were to perform the same search under SOURCES or FACTOIDS, then all SOURCES or FACTOIDS that contain both a female and a person with the role of grantor will be displayed. Similarly, if one wishes to find out how many times Jocelin is called Abbot of Melrose, one should search under FACTOIDS; and if one wishes to know how many charters of Gift contain a Sicut-Clause that mentions Lothian, then one should search under SOURCES.