

**Subject:** Record of the divorce, Nicol Brown Fletcher and Ellen or Helen Gorman

**FOI reference:** FOI/17/02886

**Date received:** 19 November 2017

**Date responded:** 11 December 2017

**Information requested:**

Record of the divorce of Nicol Brown Fletcher and Ellen or Helen Gorman, who were married in 1891.

**NRS Response:**

If a couple, who married in Scotland, got divorced in Scotland prior to 1 May 1984, this was recorded in the Register of Corrected Entries (later the Register of Corrections, Etc). A cross-reference to the Register of Corrected Entries (RCE) was added to the entry in the Statutory Register of Marriages. Please note that you can search the Statutory Register of Marriages via the ScotlandsPeople website (<https://www.scotlandsppeople.gov.uk/>). An RCE reference is inserted beside the original entry in the statutory register of marriages. As some of the information requested is available from the ScotlandsPeople website, under section 25(1) of FOISA, we do not have to provide the information if it is already reasonably accessible to you.

We have searched our electronic catalogue, which can be accessed via our website at (<http://catalogue.nrscotland.gov.uk/nrsonlinecatalogue/welcome.aspx>, for court papers of the divorce. It was not possible to identify the Decree of Divorce in our electronic catalogue. We checked 'extracted' processes of the Court of Session, 1830-1994 (CS46) and found no 'extracted' process listed for this divorce case. In addition, we checked the unextracted processes, c 1860-1911 (CS250), but no 'unextracted' process was listed for this divorce case. More information on extracted and unextracted processes of the Court of Session can be found at the following page on the NRS website:

<https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/guides/court-of-session-records>

Please note that the search can be furthered by looking through the bound volumes of Register of Acts and Decrees (CS45). The extracts in these volumes are bound in order of the date of extraction. As there is no corresponding warrant (CS46) listed on the catalogue, there is no way of knowing the date of extraction, which makes the search very difficult, as the process might not have been extracted until months, or even years, after the date of the decree. A starting point for the search would be the 16 volumes which cover 1907 (CS45/1019-1032).

CS45/1019-1032 can be accessed by visiting our Historical Search Room in Edinburgh. Users of the Historical Search Room need a Reader's Ticket. More information on how a Reader's Tickets can be obtained is available on our website (<https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research/visit-us/historical-search-room/readers-ticket>).

If you are planning a visit, please be aware that CS45/1019-1032 are out-stored, and we require at least one working day's notice by telephone (0131 535 1334), or two working days' notice by e-mail ([historical\\_enquiries@nrscotland.gov.uk](mailto:historical_enquiries@nrscotland.gov.uk)), to have them brought in to General Register House for consultation in the Historical Search Room. We can accept orders for up to 12 items per day.

General Register House is open Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 4.30pm, apart from designated public holidays (please see our website for dates: <http://nrscotland.gov.uk/about-us/contact-us>). There is no need to make an appointment; seats are allocated upon arrival.

Please see the following link to our Search Room regulations for your information:

<http://nrscotland.gov.uk/research/visit-us/historical-search-room/historical-and-legal-search-room-regulations>