

Walter Scott

He was the father of the historical novel. He was born in 1771 in Edinburgh and had a life based on literary studies and writing.

He was interested in Scottish history and did research on this topic. Many of his works, in fact, are based on stories of Scottish heroes (linked with English history). In 1811 he started to build a cottage but he didn't have enough money and had to write till his death (happened in 1832) to meet his debts.

The historical novel

Scott has an impartial vision of history in his novels and tells stories of "middle class" and "middle heroes". He represents the largest part of people that don't take extreme positions. His main source of inspiration is Scotland: he

knows its culture and regrets at the
disintegration of the tribal system of the
clans. He has Jacobite sympathies.

The works based on Scottish history are
more faithful to historical truth than
the ones based on English or Medieval
history.