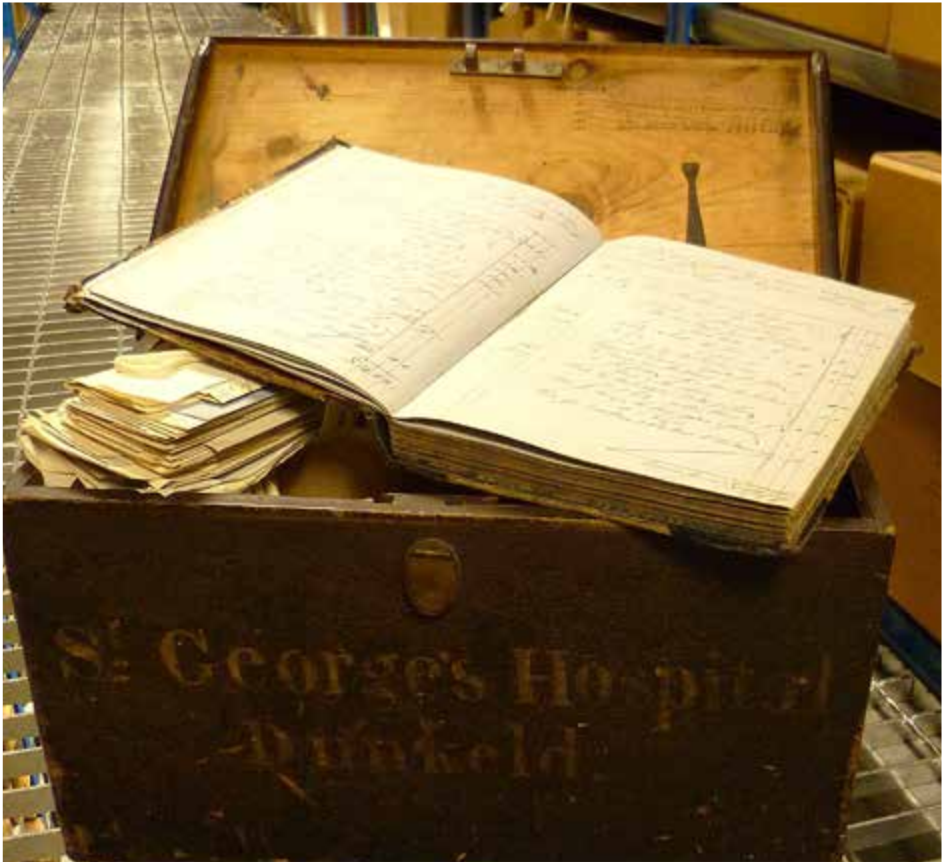


A Guide to the History and Culture of

Highland Perthshire

through the Archive



Perth & Kinross Council Archive

Foreword

While I have been a member of the Friends of Perth & Kinross Council Archive for some time I only became a Committee member last year. Thus my being asked to become the chair of the Committee at this year's AGM was, from my perspective, rather rapid promotion! Now I have been given the great honour of writing this foreword to the Friends' latest publication, a survey and guide to sources of information on every aspect of life in Highland Perthshire as encapsulated in the collections of the Archive.

In it you will find a comprehensive overview of the huge range of collections relevant to this topic including history, genealogy, industry, settlements, estates and anything else you may be interested in. Some of the material is "official", like local authority documents, police and Justice of the Peace records. However, there is also guidance on exploring community-based collections put together by local people who were determined their "story" would live on and be accessible to anyone who was interested.

There are also many illustrations of documents of different types with informative notes beside each one. These are, of course, merely a glimpse of the rich and varied sources which exist and can be explored with the help of the staff of the Archive.

A feature which we hope will be seen as innovative, and was the brainchild of the authors, is a specimen analysis of a document which is designed to show you what you can learn from it whether you are a family, house or local historian, or just interested in maximising the information that a document can provide.

The Friends hope that this will be the first of a series of area-based guides designed to make finding out about the past of the different parts of Perth and Kinross easier. I have no doubt that this publication will become indispensable to anyone seeking to explore the history of Highland Perthshire and wish to record my thanks to its authors, Jackie Hay and Margaret Smith, for the immense amount of work they have done to prepare it for publication.

Councillor Alan Grant

Chairman

Friends of Perth & Kinross Council Archive

A Guide to the History and Culture of Highland Perthshire through Perth & Kinross Council Archive

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Cover illustration: Box in which the records of St George's Hospital, Dunkeld (1818-1958) arrived at the Archive. Now re-housed, arranged and described, the collection is listed as MS207.



*Ballinluig Post Office staff, c1898
Ref: MS119/4/Bundle 1*

History of Perth & Kinross Council Archive

Perth & Kinross Council Archive dates its foundation back to the aftermath of local government reorganisation in 1975. The old counties and burghs were replaced by a two-tier system comprising district and regional councils. This meant that records had to be divided among the new authorities, including those that the defunct councils had inherited from their predecessors. The division was made mainly by function. Regions dealt with the big ticket departments (roads, education, social work etc) and districts were given a wide range of responsibilities (environmental health, housing, libraries and museums etc).

The Scottish Record Office had surveyed local authority records in 1970, suggesting what should be kept. The new Perth & Kinross District Council started moving these to the Sandeman Library from the various town council offices around Perth and Kinross. The agency regional archivist in Dundee started gathering in most of the old Perth & Kinross County Council records. It was fairly soon realised that the main interest in the earlier county records would be from the residents of Perth and Kinross, so an agreement was made to relocate school board, parish council, turnpike trust and a myriad of other series to the Sandeman Library in Perth.

Library staff, along with some temporary helpers had been managing all this, but in 1978, on the advice of the Scottish Record Office, it was decided to appoint a full-time, permanent archivist. Through the 1980s and 1990s the Perth & Kinross District Archive grew by accepting further official records and increasingly gifts and deposits of private records from

local businesses, associations, trade incorporations, trade unions, families, estates and individuals. The Manpower Services Commission was a source of temporary project help with cataloguing and organising this influx of material. By the early 1990s the present complement of three staff: Archivist, Assistant Archivist and Archives Assistant was in place. The new AK Bell Library opened in 1994 and within it was a purpose built archive - a great improvement on the adapted premises occupied in the basement of the Sandeman Library. Shortly thereafter local government was again reorganised creating unitary authorities. This led to a further influx of records from Tayside Regional Council. The service changed to its present name of Perth & Kinross Council Archive in 1996.

The Friends of Perth & Kinross Council Archive organisation was inaugurated in 2001 and has been a great support to the staff. Thousands of volunteer hours have been forthcoming and projects like the one producing this booklet have been very welcome. I add my thanks to Jackie Hay and Margaret Smith for their splendid efforts and for being brave enough to take on the first of what we hope will be a series. I am also greatly indebted to Jan Merchant, Assistant Archivist, who has supervised the whole process, as she has so many others over the last decade. This excellent publication is her swansong and we wish her well in her new post at the University of Dundee Archives.

We are also very grateful to Dr David Robertson for his generous financial support.

Steve Connelly
Perth & Kinross Council Archivist

Introduction

This guide is intended as an introduction to the wide variety of records held by Perth & Kinross Council Archive that relate to Highland Perthshire. The parishes covered are Blair Atholl, Dull, Aberfeldy Burgh, Dunkeld & Dowally, Fortingall, Kenmore, Little Dunkeld, Logierait, Moulin, Pitlochry Burgh and Weem. Parish boundaries changed over time and the map below is based on the 1974/1975 Valuation Rolls.

The records cared for by Perth & Kinross Council Archive are divided into two sections. The **official records** are those of the justices of the peace, constabulary and local authority (town, burgh, district and county councils, as well as commissioners). There are also the **community collections**, which are

arranged into six themes: people, family and community; unions, guilds and associations; estates and lands; religion and philanthropy; education, leisure and recreation and business and industry.

This booklet can only offer a flavour of the records available in the Archive. We frequently receive new additions to our collections, so if you don't see what you are looking for here, please ask us, or take a look at our website at www.pk.gov.uk/archives where you will find a link to our online catalogue.

Please note that for legal or confidentiality reasons or because of the fragility of individual items, it may be that some records are not available to view. We will be happy to advise.



Highland Perthshire parishes based on the 1974-1975 Valuation Rolls

How You Can Use the Records

Records held by Perth & Kinross Council Archive contain a wealth of information for those researching their family, house or the local history and culture of Highland Perthshire, whether it be in the local authority collections, or in the wide-ranging community collections.

Genealogical information can be found in records containing lists of individuals: the most comprehensive official records relate to tax assessment, and electoral records and school records all contain information about individuals.

County cess and valuation rolls were compiled to facilitate the collection of cess (land tax) prior to 1855, and often include the names of landowners.

Valuation rolls were compiled annually 1855-1989, naming the property, the owner, the tenant or occupier and a rental value.

Electoral registers give the names and addresses of registered voters, and Perthshire Freeholders records list those eligible to vote for county representation prior to 1832.

The most useful **school records** for family historians are admission registers, which often detail name, date of birth, address and dates of admission and leaving.

Parochial records cover the administration of poor relief, by parish, and the records of the Atholl, Weem & Breadalbane Combination Poorhouse have survived.

Legal records can often provide information about legal transactions, licences to sell alcohol, marital or financial disputes or criminal activities.

Police records range from descriptions of prisoners to employment details of policemen.

The **community collections** include business and personal papers which can contain details of named individuals, from farm tenants, domestic servants and other employees, to the members of clubs and guilds. Some family collections include journals and reminiscences, and domestic accounts which give us an insight into how people lived.



*Unidentified couple from Aberfeldy, c1865
Ref: MS316/6*

House historians aim to build a picture of a particular house or property through time, and they might begin with the **abridgements of sasines**, which are the official record of the transfer of ownership of heritable property, ie lands or buildings. The **cess and valuation rolls**, as mentioned above, often name landowners, tenants or occupiers. There are **housing surveys** for the Burgh of Aberfeldy, and **street surveys** and **Dean of Guild records** for the Burgh of Pitlochry. The Archive holds a large collection of plans and maps of various dates. The **community collections** can sometimes give surprising glimpses into the history of a particular property, and might include drawings, builders' estimates, invoices and photographs in estate and household records.

Local history comes to life in the Archive collections. The **local authority records** include minutes, correspondence and plans relating to all aspects of life in Highland Perthshire, including housing, education, transport, health, sanitation and more. **Justices of the Peace records** and **Police records** can help with your research into vagrancy, militia recruitment, licensing of alehouses and theatres. The **community collections** can be used to show the impact of transport links, tourism, the leisure industry and hydro electricity in Highland Perthshire, while collections relating to a particular parish, town or village can shed light on local businesses, events and people.



*Pitlochry United Presbyterian Choir on an outing, 1908
Ref: MS119/Box4/Bundle1*

Local Authority Records

CC1 Perth County Council and Perth & Kinross County Council, 1650-1975

Perth County Council was formed in 1889, taking over powers from the Commissioners of Supply, County Road Trust, and other local authorities. Perth & Kinross Joint County Council was created in 1929. At this time, district committees, standing joint committees, commissioners of supply, parish councils, education authorities and other bodies were abolished, and all or most of their functions were transferred to Perth & Kinross Joint County Council, including education, poor law and public health, as well as roads and policing. Perth & Kinross Joint County Council was abolished in 1975 and its powers transferred to Tayside Regional Council and Perth & Kinross District Council.

Ref no	Description	Dates
CC1 /1	Perthshire commissioners of supply minutes; constabulary committee/standing joint committee minutes, prison board records, public buildings committee, finance and valuations committees, local authority (diseases of animals) minutes, valuation rolls and cess books, commissioners of supply abstracts of accounts, assessed taxes appeals, cash books and adjusted lists of Perthshire commissioners of supply.	1650-1930
/2	Perthshire highway authorities records including: Perthshire highway commissioners and trustees, turnpike roads trustees minutes.	1765-1910
/3	Records of Perth County Clerk and Perth & Kinross County Clerk's Department including: county council minutes, Perthshire standing joint committee minutes, Perth County Clerk and County Council abstracts of accounts (incomplete), minutes of the committee on JP matters, letter books, official guides, tenders and national registration.	1852-1975
/4	Treasurer's department records for Perth County and Perth & Kinross County, including: abstract of accounts, registers of decontrolled dwelling houses, and county fund papers.	1890-1975
/5	Perth & Kinross County education records including: education authority/education committee minutes, educational trust records, school log books and admission registers, school board/management committee/local education sub-committee minutes.	1841-1986
/6	County of Perth district committees records.	1879-1932
/7	County of Perth civil parishes records: parochial boards and parish councils.	1845-1930
/8	Perth & Kinross County assessor: valuation rolls for the counties of Perth and Kinross.	1855-1986
/9	Medical officer of health journals and annual reports including: papers of Perth County and Perth & Kinross County sanitary inspector and director of environmental health plus county school health service annual reports.	1891-1973

Ref no	Description	Dates
/10	Perth & Kinross County departmental reports including: county road surveyor, trading standards, weights & measures, County Constabulary Chief Constable reports.	1931-1975
/11	Lunacy and hospital administrative records.	1858-1949
/12	Perthshire Lieutenancy records.	1801-1925
/13	Perthshire Freeholders minutes.	1724-1831
/14	Licensing records including County of Perth Justices of the Peace quarter-session minute books.	1770-1977
/15	Committees and boards records including: public hall committees and Perthshire rents tribunal records, joint police committee records, joint road safety committee records, joint fire committee and joint civil defence committee records, district steering committee and Tay River purification board minutes.	1879-1975
/16	Inventories and indexes to council records.	1934, 1970
/17	Perth County housing department lists and registers.	1924-1975
/18	Perth & Kinross County planning department including: minute books, registers and indexes of applicants and locations.	1944-1975
/19	Atholl, Weem & Logierait Combination Poorhouse records.	1859-1981
/p	Maps and plans relating to utilities, buildings, feus, districts and development.	1703-1975



*Extract of plan of Dall Estate, showing the main house, offices, gardens and policies, 1861
Ref: CC1/P545*

HDC Highland District Council, 1930-1975

Highland District Council was formed in 1929, and was responsible for the letting of houses, the upkeep of cemeteries and, until 1948, the poor law, as well as certain functions such as scavenging or water supply, financed by additional rates. Highland District Council covered the parishes of Blair Atholl, Dull, Dunkeld and Dowally, Fortingall, Kenmore, Little Dunkeld, Logierait, Moulin, and Weem. It was abolished in 1975 and replaced by Tayside Regional Council and Perth & Kinross District Council.

Ref no	Description	Dates
HDC /1	Minute books, ledger and surveyors' account book.	1930-1975
/2	Letter books dealing with general administrative matters.	1931-1974
/3	Acharn Special District Committee minutes.	1953-1964
/4	Ballinluig & Logierait, Blair Atholl & Bridge of Tilt, Dunkeld & Birnam, Kenmore, Kinloch Rannoch, Strathtay & Grandtully Local Committee minute books.	1938-1975
/5	Cuil-an-Daraich Home, Ballinluig committee of management minutes. Miscellaneous files: planning correspondence, notices of meetings and applications, general district council correspondence, papers relating to transport, bridges, roads, local government and Castle Menzies restoration.	1952-1975 1937-1975



Gardens, Houses and Hills, Pitlochry, 19th century
Ref: ACC05/12

This image comes from a set of plate glass negatives of unidentified groups and individuals, found after a house sale. This view was identified after appearing on the Archive's Flickr page at www.flickr.com/photos/pkcarchive



*Extract from plans
for a Drill Hall for the
Volunteer Battalion Royal
Highlanders, Aberfeldy,
c.1900*

Ref: AF/DGP/14b

*On the lintel above the
door, you can just see the
initials BW, standing for
Black Watch, and the date
1899.*

AF Burgh of Aberfeldy, 1887-1975

Aberfeldy, which originally was partly in Logierait and partly in Dull parishes, was created a police burgh in 1887. In 1899 the burgh was transferred wholly into the parish of Dull. Burgh administration was carried out by police commissioners who were responsible for the cleansing, lighting, policing and public health of the burgh. The town was a centre for agricultural trade and a growing tourist industry, aided by the opening of a railway in 1863. The police commissioners were replaced by Aberfeldy Town Council in January 1901, when its responsibilities were extended to include housing, buildings, and burials. The Town Council was abolished in 1975 and its powers were assumed by Tayside Regional Council and Perth & Kinross District Council. These in turn were replaced by Perth & Kinross Council in 1996.

Ref no	Description	Dates
AF /1	Town Clerk's department, including police commissioners' and town council minutes (1887-1975), committee minutes (1898-1940), Dean of Guild Court Registers (1914-1975) and places of public refreshment register (1913-1943).	1887-1975
/2	Town Chamberlain's department including abstracts of accounts and loans registers.	1898-1975
/3	Housing records including registers, loans records and surveys. Miscellaneous papers including papers relating to the formation of the burgh and extension of its boundaries.	1925-1975 1887-1974

PL Burgh of Pitlochry, 1929-1975

Pitlochry, in the parish of Moulin, Perthshire, was created a burgh in 1947, administered by Pitlochry Town Council, whose responsibilities included housing, sanitation, licensing and burials. The town council was abolished in 1975 and its powers were assumed by Tayside Regional Council and Perth & Kinross District Council. These in turn were replaced by Perth & Kinross Council in 1996.

Ref no	Description	Dates
PL /1	Town Clerk's department including town council minutes (1947-1975), Dean of Guild records (1947-1975 incomplete), official guides (1950-1972), visitors book (1957, 1973).	1947-1975
/2	Town Chamberlain's department including abstracts of accounts (1948-1975), Pitlochry Public Hall account book (1929-1955).	1929-1975
/3	Burgh Surveyor's register of streets.	1949
/4	Housing registers. Files including reports, correspondence, cuttings, certificates, circulars, schedules relating to amenities, housing, tourist miscellanea, formation of burgh, administration etc.	1950-1969 1952-1975



Postcard of Pitlochry and Ben Vrackie, 1880s
Ref: Acc13/21

This belongs to a small group of postcards that was acquired by the Friends on behalf of Perth & Kinross Council Archive.

Other Official Records

Abridgements of Sasines, Perthshire, 1781-1986

Volumes of abridgements of sasines can be searched in the Archive. These are extracts of records which detail the transfer of ownership of heritable property (lands and buildings). They often include details such as occupations and family relationships and can be very useful if you are trying to trace the history of a property or a family.

JP20 County of Perth Justices of the Peace, 1708-1959

The justices of the peace first came into existence in Scotland in 1587, but did not become an important administrative force until the eighteenth century. By this time, they had both civil and criminal jurisdiction. JP's criminal jurisdiction was mostly confined to the preservation of the public peace, while criminal matters were dealt with by the sheriff courts. Civil jurisdiction included the Small Debt Court (1795-1825) and the power to regulate wages and conditions of servants and rural workers. JPs had oversight of weights & measures, roads, carting regulations, militia recruitment, administration of the poor law and vagrancy, licensing of alehouses, theatres and friendly societies. In 1889, many JP administrative powers were transferred to the county council, with the exception of licensing and judicial powers. Justice of the Peace Courts were abolished in 1975.

Ref no	Description	Dates
JP20 /1	Commission of the peace (1878), registers of oaths of allegiance and judicial oaths (1868-2004), supplemental list of JPs (1950-1974).	1868-2004
/2	Minute books, quarter sessions (1736-1856), decreets (1708-1720), impressments, army and navy (1778-1795).	1708-1856
/4	Court books (incomplete).	1864-1959
/6	Process papers.	1729-1864



The photographic conviction records note the details of prisoners released from Perth prison.

Ref: POL1/42/7

POL1 Perthshire Constabulary and Perth & Kinross County Constabulary, 1842-1975

Perthshire Constabulary had been established by 1842, administered by a police committee made up of Commissioners of Supply, the Lord-Lieutenant and the Sheriff of the county. In 1889 their powers were transferred to Standing Joint Committees and in 1929 the supervision of county constabularies was placed under the police committees of county councils. At this time, Perthshire Constabulary was amalgamated with the police force of Kinross-shire to form Perthshire & Kinross-shire Constabulary and this, in turn, amalgamated with Perth City Police in 1964 to form Perth & Kinross Constabulary.

Tayside Police was active from 1975 until 2013, when all police forces merged to form Police Scotland.

Ref no	Description	Dates
POL1 /1-9	Administrative records including: police committee minutes (1855-1922); general order books (1842-1969); letter books and memoranda (1849-1975); miscellanea including Tay River Police report book (1862-1866).	1842-1975
/16-27	Establishment records including: registers of appointment as constables (1845-1880); enrolment book (1855-1880); register of officers and constables of Perthshire Constabulary (1862-1921); register of declarations and affirmations (1881-1919); register of candidates for Perthshire Police (1897-1922); registers of police transfers, meritorious conduct and defaulters (1842-1891); superannuation and funeral funds records (1846-1950); railway constabulary records (1845-1877); register of appointments of private constables (1878-1905); circulars, reports, regulations.	1842-1950
/36-53	Criminal records including: criminal registers (1855-1946); registers of juvenile offenders (1903-1965); charge books (1855-1897, incomplete); information books (1855-1897); occurrence books (1939-1959); photographic conviction records (1875-1955); reports of sudden deaths and casualties (1904-1956); miscellanea including Dunkeld section road patrol book (1860-1863).	1855-1965

Additional records are available at Tayside Police Museum, Dundee.

18th April 1874
 Committed in W. n. 17th April 1874 from the
 Bleaching green in front of the Established Minster at
 Fortingall in the Parish of Fortingall occupied by
 David Campbell Minister residing there. By John Brown
 32, a Bricklayer and John Campbell 35, Navvie having
 no fixed residence who did steal and theftuously away
 take, Three night shirts, value 14/- recovered.
 The property of the said David Campbell.
 Reported by H. Cameron

Perthshire Constabulary Criminal Records,
 Information Book, 1878-1881

Ref: POL1/39/3, page 286

This shows that John Brown and John Campbell were charged that they "did steal and theftuously away take ... Three night shirts, value 14/-..." belonging to the minister of Fortingall parish.



Perthshire Constabulary Criminal Records, photograph album

Ref: POL1/42/7

Police kept a photographic record of newly released prisoners known to have moved residence to another area within Perthshire. Prisoner Donald McTavish, convicted of theft by housebreaking and previous convictions at Aberfeldy, had been released after 6 months.

Community Collections

These collections have been gifted or are on indefinite loan to the Archive and offer a wide variety of information. To give some idea of how they might be used, we have listed collections containing information about Highland Perthshire under specific topics and themes.

Estate records often contain details of the proprietors, farm tenants, agricultural workers, domestic servants and help to build a picture of life in rural Highland Perthshire. In its **church and philanthropy** collections, the Archive holds some records relating to local congregations and charities and these often name individuals as part of their activities. **Business and industry collections** can include lists of employees, financial and administrative records, title deeds, advertising ephemera, plans and, occasionally, personal and

recreational papers. **Unions, guilds and associations** can illuminate the social or political activities of members of the many clubs, societies and organisations, whose records are held in the Archive. **People, family and communities records** can include the personal papers of individuals and families, as well as histories of specific towns and villages. **Education, leisure and recreation** collections can range from the minute books of the Pitlochry Scottish Women's Rural Institute to photographs of curlers at Dunkeld. **Politics and the State** includes records from times of conflict and political unrest.

Although we have listed these collections by theme, you will often find that your research will lead you to explore across many community and official collections.

Business and Industry

Ref no	Description	Dates
MS14/127	Captain J G Fraser, Scottish Tour Garage, grocers and hotel accounts for motorcar tour around St Fillans, Pitlochry and Kinloch Rannoch.	c1922-1923
MS14/177	North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Constructional Scheme No2 Descriptions of Tummel-Garry and Gairloch projects with maps showing proposed sites of work and catchment areas.	1945
MS14/204	Blacksmith's Ledger, Pitlochry Ledger of work and clients, including clients in Pitlochry and Cluny.	1842-1850
MS14/205	'A Perthshire Whisky Trail' Manuscripts (digital) by Irvine Butterfield of the histories of distilleries in Perthshire in the 18th-20th centuries, including distilleries in Highland Perthshire.	2007
MS14/208	William McLaren, Joiner, Pitlochry Ledger Day Book, listing work done and for whom.	1851-1863
MS14/234	The Highland Railway Plans and sections of proposed extension from Murthly near Dunkeld by Bankfoot to Perth.	1865

Ref no	Description	Dates
MS24	Robert Keay, Elder and Younger, Papers Jeweller and silversmith in Perth whose business papers includes orders for medals for the Athole Gathering and items of highland dress; c1830. Blair Atholl.	1790-1872
MS68/13/1	MacGregor Mitchell & Co, Solicitors, Perth Trust sederunt book of John Kinnaird, merchant, Birnam, 1912-1921. One of the benefactors of this trust was the Birnam Institute.	1866-1954
MS100/ Bundles 1135-1136, 1143-1145, 1147-1149	Kinnaird Papers, Tummel Garry Scheme Papers relating to Lord Kinnaird's objections to the Hydro Electric Scheme. See also MS14/177.	1943-1945
MS106/114- 121	United Auctions (Scotland) Ltd Volumes relating to Aberfeldy Sales. Livestock and farm sales including Aberfeldy ledger of A MacDonald, Fraser & Co Ltd.	1944-1977
MS292	Buchanan's of Dunkeld Cash books for ladies, gents and children's outfitters, established in 1804 by Archibald Buchanan.	1959-1969



The Square, Aberfeldy, early 20th century
Ref: MS316/22

Education, Leisure and Recreation

Ref no	Description	Dates
MS2	Robert Scott Fittis Papers Correspondence relating to his interests and publications about angling, genealogy, wildlife, sport and local history.	1868-1895
MS5	P D Malloch, Perth Records concerning fishings managed or owned by P D Malloch in Perthshire including fishing at Kenmore, Dunkeld, etc.	1883-1937
MS14/48	Dunkeld Highland Games Handbill, list of events, prizes and winners.	1868
MS14/80	Major General Robertson of Lude, Blair Atholl Manuscript volume of poetry in English and Gaelic and letters from John MacLauchlan concerning gaelic poetry.	c1789-1843
MS14/127	Captain J G Fraser, Scottish Tour Garage, grocers and hotel accounts for tour in Chevrolet around St Andrews, St Fillans, Pitlochry and Kinloch Rannoch.	c1922-1923
MS14/132	Hugh Mitchell, FSA Manuscript copy of talk on 'Atholl' to the Gaelic Society of Perth which includes newspaper cuttings relating to Atholl, Killiecrankie, Aberfeldy and Pitlochry.	1920s
MS14/157	Education Census Tables derived from the Educational Census including Dalguise and Little Dunkeld divisions.	1893
MS14/161	A 19th Century Swiss Tourist in Scotland Transcript of journal by Samuel Tzaut about his tour of Scotland including details of visits to Aberfeldy, Kenmore, etc.	1859
MS14/162	Logierait Curlers & Blair Castle Photographs, all winter scenes, showing members of Logierait Curlers and Blair Castle, staff and family.	19th century
MS14/217	Mathematical Exercise Book John Sinclair's book of mathematical exercises from Kenmore School.	1833
MS14/228	Breadalbane Academy Magazines Three annual school magazines.	1919-1921
MS91	Rev R Fowler's Papers Notes on the environment, history and archaeology of the Rannoch area.	1960s-1970s
MS111	Stanley Nairne, MA, OBE, Scottish Association of Boys Clubs Includes correspondence re setting up of Stanley Nairne Centre in 1968 at Dalguise	c1897-1969

Ref no	Description	Dates
MS119	JER Macmillan Papers Newspaper cuttings, postcards, photographs, magazines, catalogues, notes and letters relating to the Pitlochry Festival Theatre, Mid-Atholl, Strathtay and Grandtully, Logierait Church, Mid-Atholl Hall, Dunkeld, Killiecrankie, Blair Atholl.	1822-1994
MS56	Stewart-Meiklejohn of Edradynate Includes papers relating to the administration of Daniel Stewart's Free School, 1819-1889.	1484-1892
MS166	Pitlochry Scottish Women's Rural Institute Minute books, committee minutes and cash book.	1936-1995
MS214	Perthshire Society of Natural Sciences Minutes, accounts, correspondence and ephemera.	1867-1990
MS244	East Templar School, Bunrannoch, Forthingall Parish Volume containing constitution, accounts and list of pupils of subscription school which taught English and Gaelic.	1820-1839
MS254	The Munro Society Papers, photographic and audio-visual materials relating to the society, established in 2002, which brings together information and expertise from those who have completed all Munros, including those in Highland Perthshire.	1922-2010



*Group of people and their dogs enjoying the outdoors, 19th century
Ref: MS14/162*

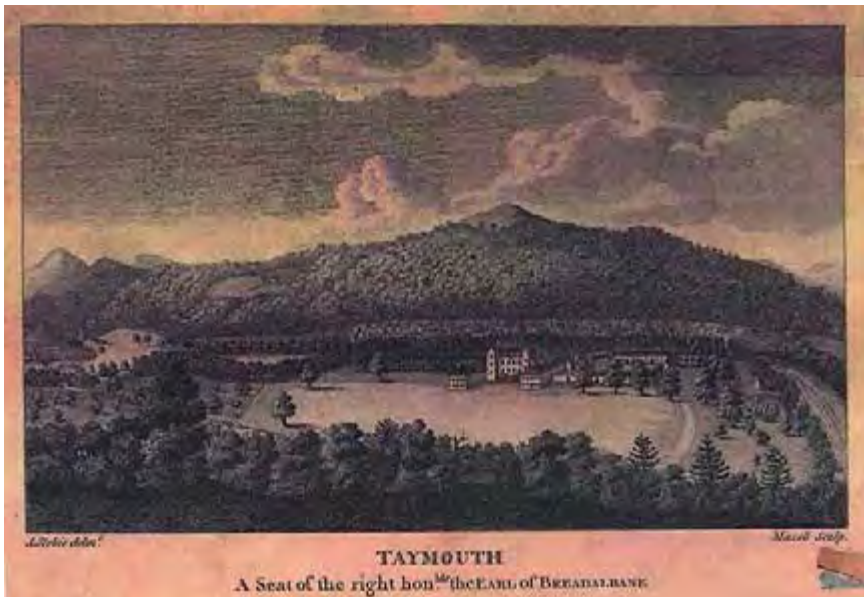
Estates and Lands

Ref no	Description	Dates
MS14/5	Kinloch Estate, Dunkeld Items relating to the sale of the estate.	1922-1923
MS14/41	Instrument of Sasine by Thomas Grieg in favour of John Ballantine and Margaret Clark, his spouse, of a tenement of land in Dunkeld.	1743
MS14/180	Grantully Castle Copies of typescript, 'Grantully Castle, A Brief History' and selling agents brochure.	1990
MS14/199	Duncan F Dempster, Edinburgh and Derculich Papers relating to the lease for Derculich mansion house, near Aberfeldy.	1895-1896
MS14/214	'Erigmore', Birnam Document giving particulars of the Erigmore estate, with press cutting and photograph, probably of Erigmore.	1881
MS34/ Bundles 27 and 38	Drummond Hay of Seggieden Valuations, reports and other papers concerning the estate of Urrard in Moulin Parish.	1818-1833
MS56	Stewart-Meiklejohn of Edradynate Papers include titles and copy legal documents relating to lands on the Edradynate estate in Perthshire, inc Fothergill, Bonskeid, Bonvannich, Strathardle, Killibrochan, Moness, Edradynate, 1460-1787.	1460-1965
MS79	Fergusson of Baledmund, Moulin Legal papers, letters, family and estate records.	1328-1948
MS185	Stewart of Ballechin Papers relating to the estate of Dunfallandy otherwise called Fonab, in Logierait Parish, and the estate of Ballechin.	1767-1932
MS225	Stewarts of Balnakeilly Papers relating to the Balnakeilly estate in Moulin parish.	1565-1920
MS249	The Atholl Experience Histories of the parishes, farms and estates of the old parish of Blair Atholl and Struan.	1960s-2007



Above: Opening of the salmon season, Loch Tay, 1935 • Ref: MS5/Ph1

Below: Extract of Stobie's map of the Counties of Perth and Clackmannan, showing Taymouth, 1783



People, Family and Community

Ref no	Description	Dates
MS1	Andrew Alexander Jeffress, Perth & Kinross County Librarian's Miscellaneous Letter Collections Letters to and from individuals connected to Perth and Kinross including the Duke of Atholl, Marquis of Breadalbane.	1745-1928
MS2/4/39	Robert Scott Fittis, Author and Antiquarian, Perth Papers include family history notes for the Robertsons of Faskally for the period c1424-1722; 1890.	1789-1896
MS14/113	History of Amulree and District Typescript by unidentified author.	c1960
MS14/119	Ferguson Genealogy Notes Photocopy of genealogical notes on the family of Rev Adam Ferguson, Minister of Moulin and his son, Neil Ferguson, Advocate, Edinburgh, by George Drummond.	19th century
MS14/132	Hugh Mitchell, FSA Manuscript copy of talk on 'Atholl' to the Gaelic Society of Perth which includes newspaper cuttings relating to Atholl, Killiecrankie, Aberfeldy and Pitlochry.	1920s
MS14/134	Dunkeld Bridge Notices of public meetings relating to the tolls which were exacted on Dunkeld Bridge and concerning the Atholl family.	1869
MS14/139	McLae Burgess Ticket Perth Honorary Burgess Ticket of Duncan McLae, Minister in the parish of Dull.	1724
MS14/164	The Logierait Bridge Renovation Phase II Brochure produced to raise money to resurface approach roads, giving history of the bridge and its renovation.	2002
MS14/167	Fortingall Parish Survey Manuscript notes and outlines for 'Survey of the Parish of Fortingall', by Thomas Finlayson, Aberfeldy.	c1949, 1963
MS14/168	Robertson of Lude Account book with monthly expenditure noted. Believed to be written by James Robertson of Lude, Blair Atholl.	1768-1782
MS14/189	Beatrix Potter, Letters Photocopies of two letters sent to Beatrix Potter by her father from Dalguise House, Dunkeld.	1874
MS56/7	Stewart-Meiklejohn of Edradyate Papers include household account book, correspondence and legal papers; papers relating to the Allan family, later Murray Allan of Glenfeochan, including legal papers and letters, 1727-1892; papers relating to members of the Green family of Dublin, 1727-1789; papers concerning genealogy of the Stewart-Robertson family, 18th-19th centuries.	1484-1892

People, Family and Community

Ref no	Description	Dates
MS111	Stanley Nairne, MA, OBE, Scottish Schoolboys Club, Scottish Association of Boys Clubs Includes correspondence on the setting up of Stanley Nairne Centre in 1968 at Dalguise.	c1897-1969
MS119	JER Macmillan Papers Newspaper cuttings, postcards, photographs, magazines, catalogues, notes and letters relating to the Pitlochry Festival Theatre, Mid-Atholl, Strathtay and Grandtully, Logierait Church, Mid-Atholl Hall, Dunkeld, Killiecrankie and Blair Atholl.	1822-1994
MS132/ Box 4/13	Alexander Robertson Collection Typed document entitled 'The Old Bells of Logierait'.	1724-1989
MS146/1/5	Thomas McLaren Papers Typescript of a Latin inscription and notes relating to a mural tablet in Logierait churchyard of James Murray, 1884.	1746-1947
MS164	John McEwan, Forestry Consultant Includes papers on his work in forestry and land ownership in Scotland, including Highland Perthshire.	1894-1999
MS207	St George's Hospital, Dunkeld Papers relating to the administration of the hospital and its dependents.	1818-1958
MS228	Dicks of Tullymet Includes letters and photographs of the Dick family and the Tullymet estate in Logierait parish, papers and scrapbook relating to the Dick family tree.	1807-1994
MS316	Aberfeldy Photo Album Album of photographs and newspaper cuttings relating to buildings and people in the Aberfeldy area.	c1860-1971
MS318/1	William Davie: Businessman, Poet and Philanthropist Trust, disposition and settlement documents relating to William Davie of Dunkeld (formerly of Blairgowrie) and Sarah Davie or Nicoll.	1899-1904
MS320	Volunteer Aid Detachment, Hospital Album, Aberfeldy Album containing annotated photographs, sketches and letters of the Voluntary Aid Detachment Hospital at Aberfeldy, featuring the progress of Belgian patients.	1915-1918
MS323	Veitch Family Papers, Pitlochry Includes correspondence, family photographs and other papers.	1893-1995



*Aberfeldy Fire Brigade, 1925
Ref: MS316/33*

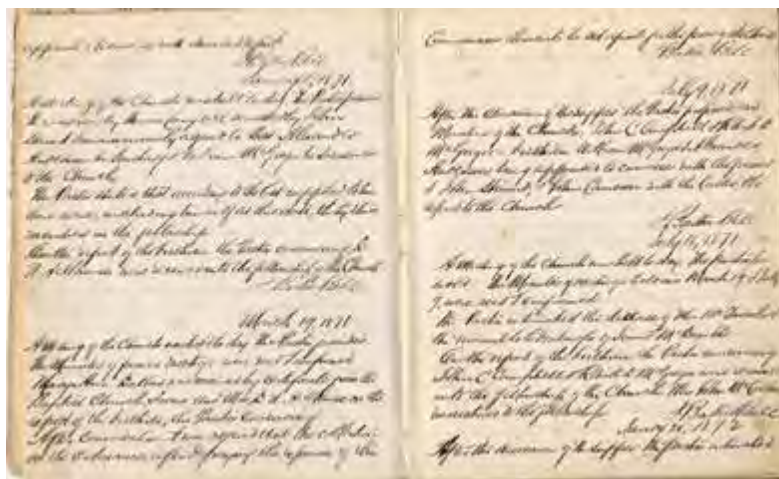
Crew: John Menzies, James MacDonald, Charles Munro, Danny Stewart, Stewart Robertson and James MacGregor. In the background is the Fire Engine which was a horse-drawn vehicle with a steam driven pump. It originally came from Taymouth Castle and was bought at the dispersal sale in 1922.

Politics and the State

Ref no	Description	Dates
MS14/80	Major General Robertson of Lude, Blair Atholl Includes newspaper cuttings and letters relating to his career in the army.	c1789-1843
MS79	Fergusson of Baledmund, Moulin Includes correspondence relating to the family's part in the 1715 and 1745 rebellions.	1328-1948
MS148	Hugh Barclay, Sheriff Substitute of Perthshire Bound session papers in appeals from judgements containing manuscript annotations by Barclay. Includes cases relating to claimants/defendants from Highland District.	1832-1880
MS164	John McEwan, Forestry Consultant Includes papers relating to his political beliefs and land ownership in Scotland, including Highland Perthshire.	1894-1999
MS225/5/3	Stewarts of Balnakeilly List of subscriptions for the militia for Moulin and Logierait parishes.	not dated
MS264	Volunteer Aid Detachment War service record book detailing female volunteers and the military and Red Cross Hospitals in which they worked. Only four pages with entries. Hospitals include Bonskeid and Fonab.	1915-1919
MS305	Samuel Black Watson Letters written by Black Watson during his time in the army, including details of life at the Scottish Horse Camp when it was stationed at Blair Atholl 1913-1914.	1913-1918
MS320	Volunteer Aid Detachment, Hospital Album, Aberfeldy Album containing annotated photographs, sketches and letters featuring the progress of Belgian patients.	1915-1918
MS323	Veitch Family Papers, Pitlochry The bulk of these are letters to and from John Alex Veitch during the First World War and papers dealing with his death in action.	1893-1995

Religion and Philanthropy

Ref no	Description	Dates
MS14/13	East Church of Dunkeld Manuscript and letter concerning the conversion of the church.	1935
MS14/139	McLae Burgess Ticket Perth Honorary Burgess Ticket of Duncan McLae, minister of the gospel in the parish of Dull.	1724
MS14/195	Glasite Letter Letter from the congregation of the Church of Christ in New Hampshire to 'The Church of Christ in Dunkeld & to all Churches in Britain'.	1766
MS79	Fergusson of Baledmund, Moulin Includes items showing legal and social relationships with ministers of the Kirk.	1328-1948
MS99	Aberfeldy Congregational Church Documents relating to church administration and congregation records.	1870-1986
MS104	United Diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane Administrative records, correspondence and photographs.	1787-1969
MS119	JER Macmillan Papers Includes material relating to Logierait Church.	1822-1994
MS181	Very Revd George Taylor Shillito Farquhar, Dean of Diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane Diaries containing his thoughts on liturgy, politics, Presbyterian churches, etc including references to Birnam and Pitlochry.	1881-1927
MS207	St George's Hospital, Dunkeld Papers relating to the administration of the hospital and its dependents.	1818-1958
MS219	St Andrews Episcopal Church, Strathtay Registers, minutes, accounts and material relating to church property.	1856-c1950
MS280	Perth and County Children's Holiday Home and County Children's Fund (Pitlochry) Trustees minutes and memorandums of the fund to assist children from poorer homes and resident in institutions to enjoy holidays, outings and treats.	1937-1972
MS282	Perthshire Bible Society Stock book and record of accounts including those for Dunkeld, Kenmore and Killiecrankie.	1854-1861
MS303	St Andrews Clerical Society Minute books containing minutes of meetings and information on members including those of Aberfeldy and Pitlochry.	1889-1941



Aberfeldy Congregational Church Minutes, 1871
 Ref: MS99/1/1

Church records can be useful tools in family history research as they name individuals and locate them in a particular place.

Unions, Guilds and Associations

Ref no	Description	Dates
MS74	Bankfoot & District Junior Agricultural Club, including Murthly Minute Books of the club, which is a member of the Scottish Association of Young Farmers' Clubs.	1950-1981
MS166	Pitlochry Scottish Women's Rural Institute Minute books, committee minutes and cash book.	1936-1995
MS303	St Andrews Clerical Society Minute books containing minutes of meetings and information on members including those of Aberfeldy and Pitlochry.	1889-1941
MS319	Fearnan & District Scottish Women's Rural Institute Papers including minutes, visitors' book, letter books, photograph album and correspondence.	c1968-2009

Illustrations from the Collections



Bill for supplies from D Cameron at Kinloch Rannoch, to Captain J G Fraser, who was on a motor tour of the Highlands, August 1923
Ref: MS14/127/11

This document shows how rural businesses needed to diversify and offer a wide range of products and services, from motor repairs to household supplies such as coals, paraffin, and foodstuffs and tobacco.



Mr Tom G Fyffe, first stationmaster at Aberfeldy railway station, c1875
Ref: MS316/30



Above: Aberfeldy photo album, Menzies scout troop, 1920s • Ref: MS316/18

Below: Pitlochry Festival Theatre entrance, c1965 • Ref: PL/Misc





*Ben More from Ben Lawers,
by Irvine Butterfield, c 1975
Ref: MS254/2/1/18(1)*

A 110 *Munro's Tables of the 3000-foot Tops.*

TABLE I
THE 3000-FOOT TIPS

(In the Revised Edition (1929) "Munro's" Tables of Top 3000' of the British Isles)

No.	Name	Height	Ascent	Remarks
1	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
2	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
3	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
4	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
5	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
6	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
7	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
8	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
9	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
10	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
11	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
12	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
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27	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
28	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
29	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
30	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
31	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
32	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
33	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
34	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
35	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
36	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
37	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
38	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
39	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
40	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
41	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
42	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
43	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
44	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
45	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
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47	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
48	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
49	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
50	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
51	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
52	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
53	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
54	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
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79	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
80	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
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91	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
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93	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
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95	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
96	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
97	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
98	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
99	Ben Alder 3000	3000		
100	Ben Alder 3000	3000		

The Munro Society, 1922-2010
The Archive holds papers, photographic and audio-visual materials relating to the society, which was established in 2002, and which brings together the experiences, information and expertise from those who have completed all Munros. Ref: MS254.

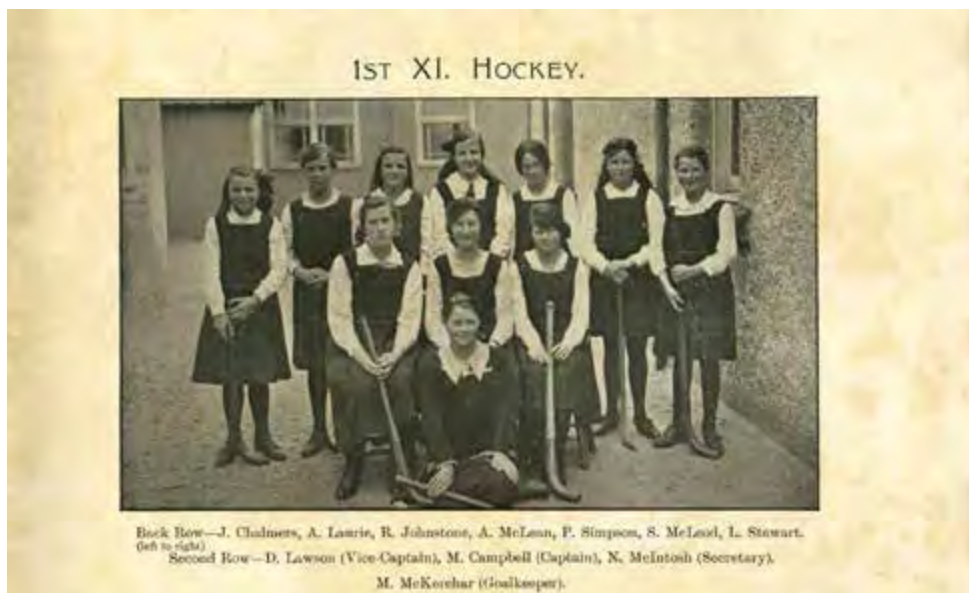
Left: A page from Dow's copy of 'The Munro Tables of Scotland's Mountains' (1929), annotated with the dates of his ascents (some prior to 1929), with his signature on the cover. John Dow (Munroist No 5) was the first recorded person to complete the Munros, tops and mountains furth of Scotland in 1933, 1947 and 1956 respectively.

Ref: MS254/2/10

*SWRI Atholl Group,
with banners, c1950
Ref: ACC07/08*

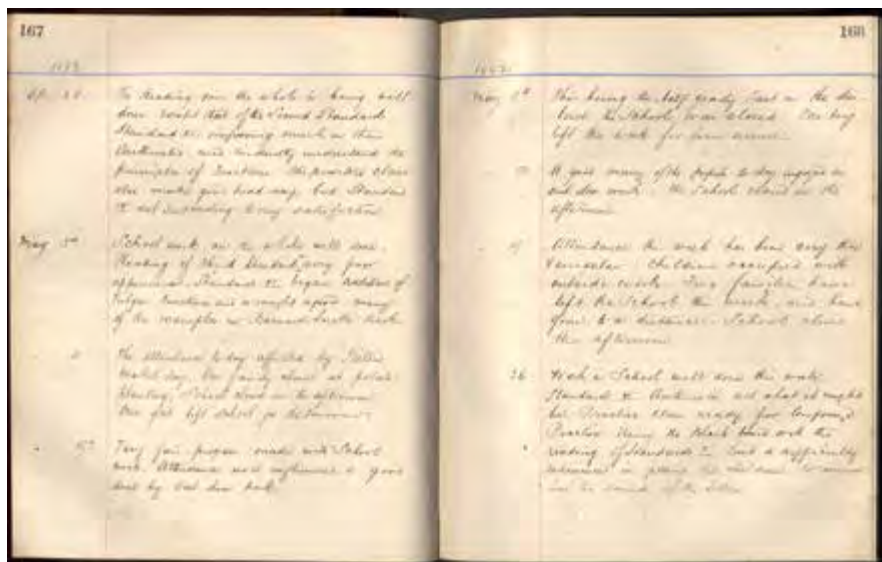
The Women's Rural Institute was formed in Canada in 1897, spreading to Europe and arriving in Scotland in 1917. The SWRI aims to provide educational, recreational and social opportunities for women living in the country or who are interested in country life. It also promotes the preservation

of Scotland's traditions and rural heritage and aims to improve rural living conditions. Institutes organise their own social and educational meetings and outings and are affiliated to one of the 34 Federations in Scotland. The Atholl Group comprised branches from the area, many now defunct.



*Extract from Breadalbane Academy Magazine, 1921
Ref: MS14/228/3*

School log books from the parishes of Kenmore and Dull, showing how children's schooling was affected by outside events.

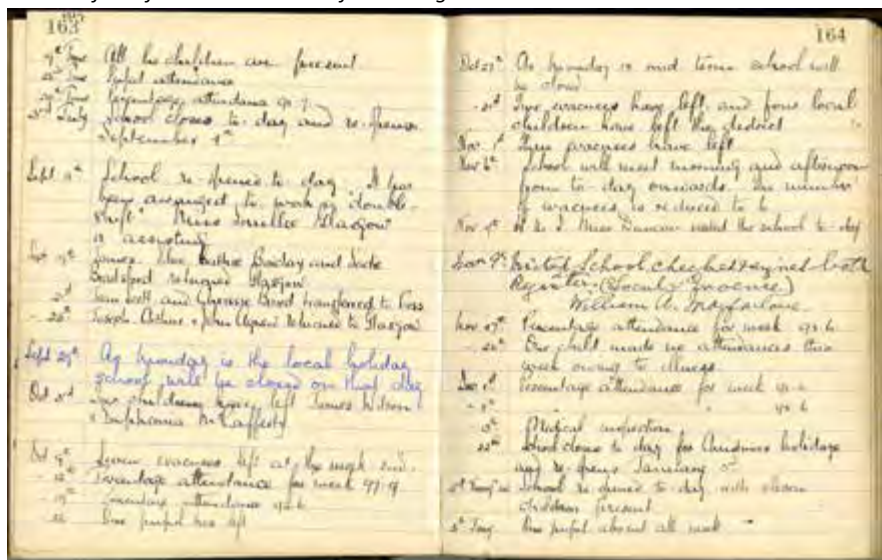


Above: Ardtalnaig school log book, 1882 • Ref: CC1/5/7/157

References are made to pupils' absence from school to attend Killin market, or to help with potato planting.

Below: Dull school log book, 1939 • Ref: CC1/5/7/34

Note how the school day was rearranged into a double shift to accommodate the influx of wartime evacuees from Glasgow.



Feb 22 1864

Revised Shorter Catechism to 1st Communion
ment - Most of the children repeat
correctly and have a reasonable under-
standing of its doctrines.

23

Tested how 2^d Class could express them-
selves in English & found some able
except in Gaelic to say what - for
instance, what a conolly or a window, is

26

Master reproved scholars for speaking
Gaelic to one another & exhorted them to
form the habit of expressing themselves
in Victoria's language.

Dull school log book, February 1864
Ref: CC1/5/7/33

Note that the pupils native tongue is
Gaelic and the teacher instructs them
to express themselves in English.



School class, Aberfeldy, 19th century
Ref: MS316/7



Above: Tummel-Garry Hydro Electric Project, 1945
Ref: MS14/177

This was a major project which, as can be seen from the records, caused much controversy at the time.

Below: Tummel Garry Project, Pitlochry Dam, c1945
Ref: PTC/427/1





Sketch of the River Garry Bridge, not dated

Ref: MS34/Bundle 26

List of subscribers who will pay to build a bridge over the River Garry at Aldgirnig, not dated

Ref: MS34/Bundle 31

Subscriptions for a Bridge over the River of Garry at Aldgirnig

We the Subscribers agree to pay, when collect upon the several names hereby subscribed by us, an order for a bridge built over the Garry at Aldgirnig.

<i>John Gray for the bridge and building over the river</i>	<i>£100</i>
<i>John Stewart - fifty pounds</i>	<i>50</i>
<i>John Gray Thoms & Co</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>James Gray Thoms & Co</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>J. & K. Miller</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>John Stewart (Under)</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>James D. Stewart</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>John Stewart</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>John Stewart (Under)</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>John Stewart (Under)</i>	<i>1</i>

In the 18th century capital projects like this depended on landowners and other better-off persons to contribute to the whole costs.



Family Tree of the late Robert Dick Esq. of Ballickitwie, Tullymet, Perthshire

who was three times married & died 24th January 1824, aged 91 years

Children

- | | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| 1 James Dick | 6 Janet Dick | 12 Margaret Dick | 18 Allan Dick |
| 2 B. Wilson Dick | 7 Robert Dick | 13 Mary Dick | 19 Mary Dick |
| 3 Marcella Dick | 8 Susan Dick | 14 Lieut General Aber Dick | 20 Helen Dick |
| 4 John Dick | 9 Isabella Dick | 15 Jean Dick | 21 Robert Dick |
| 5 James Dick | 10 Charlotte Dick | 16 Major General Hope Dick | 22 Peter Dick |
| | 11 Eliza Dick | 17 Charles Dick | |

Grandchildren

- | | | | |
|---|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| 23 Major General Sir Robt
Henry Dick KCB | 41 Ann Dick | 60 John Robertson | 79 Elizabeth Stewart |
| 24 William Dick | 42 Eliza Dick | 61 | |
| 25 Alexander Dick | 43 Robert Dick | 62 | |
| 26 Eliza Dick | 44 Margaret Dick | 63 | |
| 27 James Dick | 45 Margaret Dick | 64 | |
| 28 Elizabeth Dick | 46 Eliza Dick | 65 | |
| 29 John Dick | 47 Jean Louisa | 66 | |
| 30 Charlotte Marjorie | 48 Susan Louisa | 67 | |
| | 49 John Louisa | 68 | |



First pages of Dick family tree, 1824-1939
Ref: MS228/2/1

Tullymet estate pin, not dated
Ref: MS228/4/2

Family history can be researched in family collections, official and parish records.

Right: Logierait Episcopal Church Extract of congregational roll showing baptisms, 1866

Ref: MS219/1/1

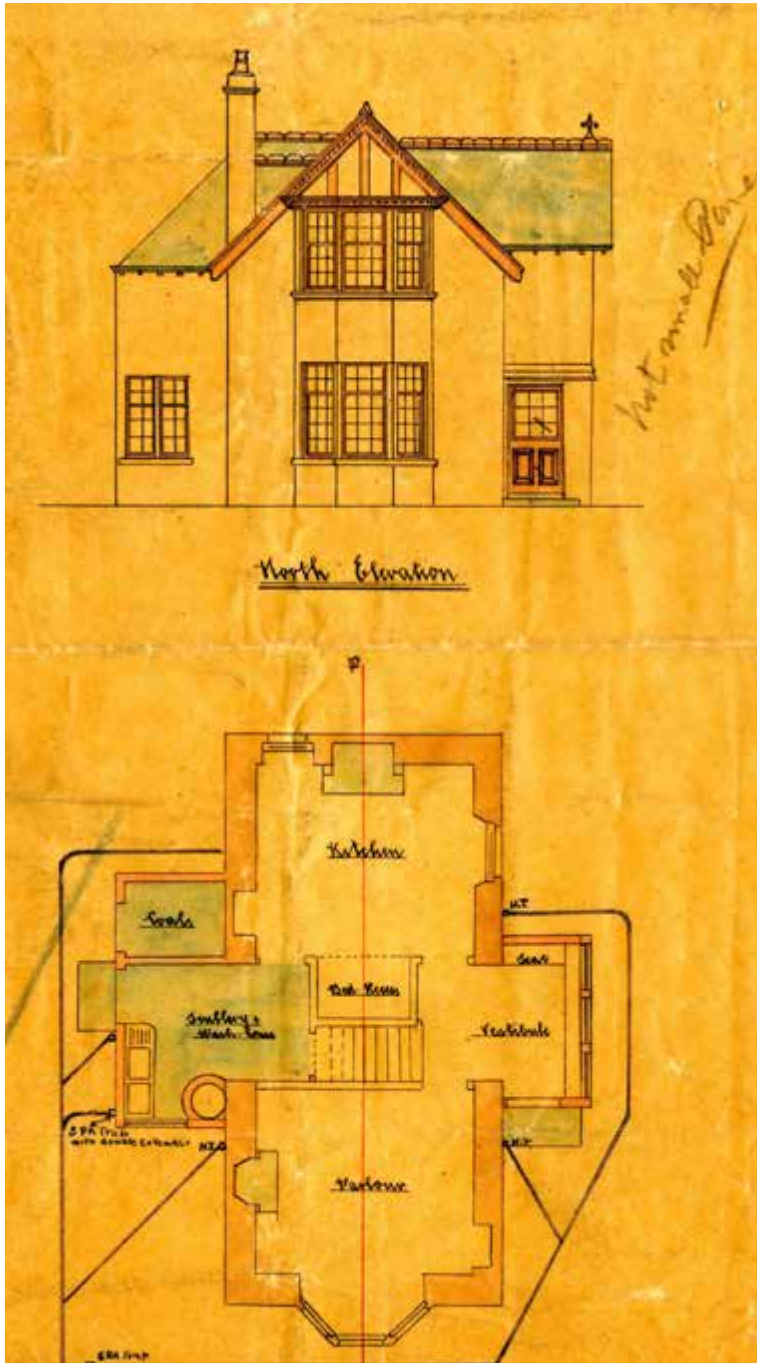
BAPTISMS solemnized in the Parish of Logierait, Diocese of Dunblane, in the County of Perth, in the Year 1866						
No. of Baptisms	Christian Name	Parents	Minister	Place	Day, Month, & Year	By whom solemnized
144	John	John & Mary	McDonald	Logierait	10th Aug	John Mc Donald
145	John	John & Mary	McDonald	Logierait	10th Aug	John Mc Donald
146	John	John & Mary	McDonald	Logierait	10th Aug	John Mc Donald
147	John	John & Mary	McDonald	Logierait	10th Aug	John Mc Donald
148	John	John & Mary	McDonald	Logierait	10th Aug	John Mc Donald
149	John	John & Mary	McDonald	Logierait	10th Aug	John Mc Donald
150	John	John & Mary	McDonald	Logierait	10th Aug	John Mc Donald
151	John	John & Mary	McDonald	Logierait	10th Aug	John Mc Donald
152	John	John & Mary	McDonald	Logierait	10th Aug	John Mc Donald
153	John	John & Mary	McDonald	Logierait	10th Aug	John Mc Donald
154	John	John & Mary	McDonald	Logierait	10th Aug	John Mc Donald
155	John	John & Mary	McDonald	Logierait	10th Aug	John Mc Donald
156	John	John & Mary	McDonald	Logierait	10th Aug	John Mc Donald
157	John	John & Mary	McDonald	Logierait	10th Aug	John Mc Donald
158	John	John & Mary	McDonald	Logierait	10th Aug	John Mc Donald
159	John	John & Mary	McDonald	Logierait	10th Aug	John Mc Donald
160	John	John & Mary	McDonald	Logierait	10th Aug	John Mc Donald

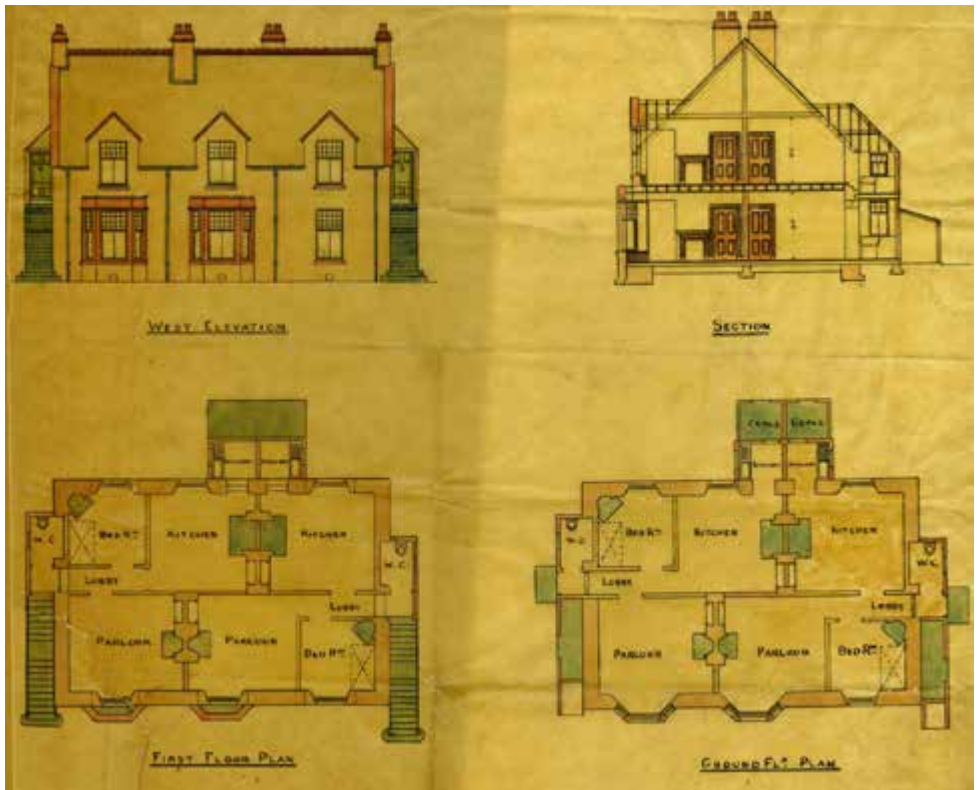
Below: Extract from the cess rolls, listing landowners in Dull parish and the annual tax paid on their lands, 1667

Ref: CC1/1/8/2

Dull parish	
Land of Woduns	0655 06
William monzie for tax and derry	0140 00
Thomas monzie for derry	0106 13
John barnd and wode samel monzie	0205 06
James campbell for derry	0126 00
James Stewart for derry	0266 13
John Stewart for derry	0116 00
John Stewart for derry	0216 00
Robert Stewart for derry	0108 00
Robert Stewart for derry	0325 00
Robert Stewart for derry	0495 00
Robert Stewart for derry	1000 00
James Stewart for derry	0046 00
Andrew Stewart for derry	0053 00
John Stewart for derry	0048 00
Patrick and John Stewart for derry	0070 00
John Stewart for derry	0066 13
John Stewart for derry	0045 00
Robert Stewart for derry	0055 00
James Stewart for derry	0033 06
John Stewart for derry	0055 00
John Stewart for derry	0003 09
John Stewart for derry	0026 13
John Stewart for derry	0445 00
John Stewart for derry	0200 00
John Stewart for derry	0055 00
Total	4911 04
Should be	4911 18

Plan of Villa,
Aberfeldy, 1902
Ref: AF/DGP/6a





Plan of Easter Aberfeldy Cottages, c1900 • Ref: AF/DGP/8b

Each burgh had a Dean of Guild Court which acted as the planning authority and decided which buildings could be built, altered or extended.

These plans show how the interiors of houses have changed over the past 100 years. Even the names we give to the rooms are very different. In 1900, visitors would enter into the lobby or vestibule and proceed to the parlour, whereas today we would call these rooms the hall and the lounge or living room.

While the name of the kitchen has not changed, the houses also have sculleries where the sinks are situated and any washing would be done. The kitchen would probably be more like our living/dining room and the parlour may not have been used every day.

The cost of heating would be a factor in this - all the rooms, including the bedrooms, have fireplaces and each house has its own storage area for coal situated next to the scullery. The plans show the biggest fireplace space is in the kitchen where the stove used for cooking would be, making it the warmest room in the house. It is also worth noting that the two cottages each have a kitchen, a parlour and one bedroom but only a toilet. Baths would be taken in a tub in the kitchen. The villa, however, has a bathroom upstairs (not shown).



This page shows extracts from the Veitch family papers, Pitlochry, 1893-1995.

Ref: MS323

Dunmurray
Pitlochry
23/11/17
Friday Aug.

My dear John Alex.

We were very pleased to receive your nice post Card to Dad, & letter to Netta both written on 17th & both rec^d today, & to hear that you were quite well, and above all, that you were out of the first line trench. Since you wrote that letter there has been a great advance of the British & heavy fighting between Bullecourt, Banpaume, Cambrai & St Quentin direction & we have been & are very anxious about you. There will be so many counter-attacks, that it will not be quiet thereabouts for a considerable time & we all most earnestly hope that you have not been in any of the severe engagements. We will not likely hear from any reliable news that you are visit of Jean McHaw tonight so we heard from you etc. It



Top: Envelope, returned on 4 December, saying that John Alex had died of his wounds. Marked with official stamp "Deceased"
Ref: MS323/3/11

Middle: Letter to John Alex from his mother, at Dunmurray, Pitlochry, 23 November 1917
Ref: MS323/3/7

Bottom: Photograph of John Alex Veitch, 1917
Ref: MS323/3/3

Note that the letter was written two days before John Alex's death from wounds received in the trenches in France, 25 November 1917.



Extract from album containing annotated photographs, sketches and letters of the Voluntary Aid Detachment Hospital in Aberfeldy, 1915-1918

Ref: MS320, p1

This hospital was situated in a house lent by Provost and Mrs Haggart, and opened 16 December 1914, when the first patients from Belgium arrived. The Voluntary Aid Detachment (VAD) was a British voluntary organisation providing field nursing services, mainly in hospitals. It was founded in 1909 with the help of the Red Cross and Order of St John. By the summer of 1914 there were over 2,500 Voluntary Aid Detachments in Britain. Each individual volunteer was called a detachment, or simply a VAD. Of the 74,000 VADs in 1914, two-thirds were women and girls.

The Archive also holds a war service record book detailing female VADs working in hospitals including those in Bonskeid and Fonab, 1915-1919 - Ref: MS264.

Gentlemen

Yesterday I had the honour to arrive here in Company with his royall Highness the Prince to assert his Majestys undoubted right and as you have ever continued to Act as Loyall Subjects and Lovers of your Country, It leaves me no room to doubt that you will on this Occasion manifest to the world your Zeale and Attachment to the royall family by Appearing immediatly in Arms with all the men you can get together to Join the royall Standard I shall be heartily Sorry that your delay to Appear should oblige me by his Highness orders to use more disagreeable methods Therefore I hope you will by no means fail, ^{to join} our Army with all Speed & I am

Your most affect[ionate] hu[m]ble Serv[an]t

Atholl

From the Camp at Blair
the 1st Sept[embe]r 1745

Letter signed by the Duke of Atholl relating to the '45 Rebellion, 1 September 1745, transcribed below • Ref: MS79/1/286

"Gentlemen, Yesterday I had the honour to arrive here in Company with his royall Highness the Prince to assert his Majestys undoubted right and as you have ever continued to Act as Loyall Subjects and Lovers of your Country, It leaves me no room to doubt that you will on this Occasion manifest to the world your Zeale and Attachment to the royall family by Appearing immediatly in Arms with all the men you can get together to Join the royall Standard I shall be heart[il]ly Sorry that your delay to Appear should oblige me by his Highness orders to use more disagreeable methods Therefore I hope you will by no means fail/to Join\ our Army with all Speed & I am Your most Affect[ionate] hu[m]ble Serv[an]t Atholl From the Camp at Blair the 1st Sept[embe]r 1745"

What Can the Documents Tell Us?

The Archive contains mostly unpublished, unique items. They are irreplaceable. Sometimes hundreds of years old, they may have been folded and shoved in a pocket, tied in a neat bundle, left in a corner. If they have not been damaged by that leaky roof, or crumpled and thrown on the fire; if they have survived time and occasional neglect to reach us, it is almost a miracle. **So what can one piece of paper tell us?**

The document on the opposite page is, at first sight, a little difficult to read and, of course, it has been reduced in size for this publication. Entitled *“List of Young men presently Residing in Little Dunkeld parish”* and dated *“August 28th 1797”*, it tells us that the list has been produced to comply with the recent Militia Act, immediately drawing us into Scottish national history. The parish, at this time, was an administrative unit for the state, useful for organising taxes, surveys and statistics.

Local historians will be pleased to find named individuals, with dates of birth between 1774 and 1778. Place names, such as Cablea, Tombaine, and Castle Campbell, together with the given occupations can illuminate population spread and working life in the area. The majority are weavers, there is evidence of apprenticeship in the trade, and some men are shown as *“weavers or farmers”*, perhaps pointing to seasonal work. There are wrights, a smith, a shoemaker, a servant and a tailor, while some have no stated occupation. Some health issues are highlighted: *“idiot and lame”*, *“troubled with deafness etc”* and some qualification *“said to be troubled with ulcers and tumours”*.

Family historians might also be interested to find names, occupations, place of work or residence, family relationships and more. Hugh McLaren was the son of Donald McLaren, North Amulree, born 9 October 1776. And then there is John Arthur, weaver in Dalguise, who didn't know his date of birth, only that he was born on the third Wednesday of September in 1776, and poor David Black at Trochrie, who was *“said to be afflicted with a Rupture”*.

What does this document *not* tell us?

It doesn't explain (because everyone at the time knew) that the 1797 Militia Act empowered county lieutenants to raise a militia in order to strengthen Scotland's defence against potential French invasion. Lists were drawn up (usually this uncomfortable job fell to the local schoolmaster) of eligible, healthy young men of the parish aged between 19-23. It was possible to find and pay a substitute to take your place, but otherwise, if picked, you had no choice. This compulsory conscription was an unpopular measure among families whose main breadwinner might be called up for service, and there was much opposition across Scotland, sometimes violent, and lists were often destroyed to delay recruitment.

This single document can give us a fascinating insight into national, local and family history, all in one little piece of paper. Why not visit the Archive to see what else you can find?

List of young men presently residing in Little Dunkeld parish		1797
Hugh M. Laverie	to James M. Laverie & Catharine	October 9 th 1776
James M. Mullane	Bathurst (Pilot & Barrow)	Dec ^r 13 1775
James M. Farlane	Do. Weaver	July 14 1775
John Nicol	to John Nicol Miller	Aug ^r 13 1775
James M. Thomson	Warriner Weaver (Apprentice)	Do 21 1776
John M. Mearns	Blacksmith (traveller with Dr. Farlane &c)	July 12 1775
James, son to David Farlane	Blacksmith, & Weaver	Nov ^r 22 1776
William, son to David M. Farlane	Warriner Weaver as former	July 1777
James, son to John Cameron	Wright Blacksmith	Do 22 1775
John Campbell	Senior Weaver Blacksmith	Oct ^r 22 1777
David M. Laverie	to John M. Laverie (Cable)	May 11 1777
John Cameron	to John Cameron (Cable)	April 7 1778
John Thomson	to John Thomson (Cable)	Dec ^r 22 1775
David M. Laverie	to David M. Laverie (Cable)	April 20 1775
James M. Farlane	to James M. Farlane (Cable)	October 20 1774
John M. Mearns	Blacksmith Weaver	3 rd Monday September 1776
David M. Laverie	to David M. Laverie (Cable)	March 20 1775
William Mearns	at present of Forfar Weaver (said to be troubled with Measles & Consumption)	July 14 1777
George Mearns	to George Mearns (Cable)	March 6 th 1776
John Mearns	to John Mearns (Cable)	August 8 1775
James Mearns	to James Mearns (Cable)	Jan ^y 7 15 1775
James Mearns	to James Mearns (Cable)	Nov ^r 21 1775
James Mearns	to James Mearns (Cable)	July 2 1775
William Mearns	to William Mearns (Cable)	Nov ^r 11 1776
David Mearns	to David Mearns (Cable)	Sept ^r 15 1776
James Mearns	to James Mearns (Cable)	August 25 1777
John Mearns	to John Mearns (Cable)	Nov ^r 27 1774
James Mearns	to James Mearns (Cable)	Nov ^r 15 1776
James Mearns	to James Mearns (Cable)	August 1 1776
John Mearns	to John Mearns (Cable)	March 25 1774
James Mearns	to James Mearns (Cable)	Sept ^r 14 1774
James Mearns	to James Mearns (Cable)	August 25 1777

List of young men residing in Little Dunkeld parish, 28 August 1797
 18.5cms x 30cm, ink on paper
 Ref: Acc06/17

Clues to the development of a place over time can be discovered in the **valuation rolls**. These official records, published annually between 1855-1989, were produced by county and royal burgh assessors. They listed properties and land with their actual or theoretical annual rental value, forming the basis of local taxation.

The document opposite is an extract from the *Valuation Roll of the County of Perth for the year 1865-6, Dunkeld District, Parish of Little Dunkeld*, a page which relates to Birnam. The schedule describes the property, names the proprietor and occupier, and lists the value. No house numbers are given, merely the street or area, for example, Torwood Place, Heath Park, Birnam New Feus. Properties are described by type: smithy, bakehouse, five-stalled stable, house & land, house & garden, house & shop with attics and rooms above. Individuals are named, and often their occupation is given. For example, William Scott, a waiter at The Birnam Hotel, paid rent of £14 per annum for a house at Birnam New Feus owned by John McDonald, wright of Inver, Strathtay.

There was very little built property listed in the 1855-56 valuation roll and this 1865-66 document offers clues to the expansion of the village in the intervening 10 years: Mrs McIntyre is a “*servant at station*” and George Duncan is a “*platelayer*”, a railway employee responsible for inspecting and maintaining the railway track. The railway came to the area in 1856, and its property is first listed under Perth & Dunkeld Railway Company and later under Highland Railway Company.

By the 1880s the train regularly discharged passengers onto the platform overseen by John Kinnaird, stationmaster, where they could take tea in Miss Rhoda Greenaway’s

refreshment rooms. Visitors could stay at the hotel, or lease houses for the summer months. The artist John Everett Millais was a tenant at Erigmore on Torr Hill. There are letters from Lady Millais in the Archive, and photographs of Beatrix Potter and her family visiting the area too.

The 1900-01 valuation roll has evidence of the town’s leisure facilities: The Birnam Institute, a temperance hotel, the pavilion in Terrace Park owned by the committee of Birnam Highland Games and, to record all this activity, A F MacKenzie’s photographic studio on Station Road.

These are just a few “snapshots” of Victorian life in Birnam. Used in conjunction with other resources, close examination of the **valuation rolls for your area** can help you to a better understanding of your local history. What will you discover?

Opposite page: Valuation roll of the County of Perth for the year 1865-6, Dunkeld District, Parish of Little Dunkeld, page 150
Ref: CC1/8/1/9

VACATION BILLS OF THE COUNTY OF WESTCH, for the Year 1842.—BY THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

No.	Description of Bill.	Proposer.	Amount and Contents.	Value of Bill as per Report.	Amount.	By whom reported.	No.
257	Bill of Lading, Donkeld.	Ben. Daniel Macfarlane, ditto	Ben. Daniel Macfarlane, ditto	£18 4 0			257
258	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	John A. Harris, Proprietor of said Lumber, ditto	John A. Harris, Proprietor of said Lumber, ditto	20 0 0			258
259	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	5 0 0			259
260	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 5 0			260
261	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 5 0			261
262	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			262
263	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			263
264	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			264
265	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			265
266	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			266
267	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			267
268	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			268
269	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			269
270	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			270
271	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			271
272	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			272
273	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			273
274	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			274
275	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			275
276	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			276
277	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			277
278	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			278
279	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			279
280	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			280
281	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			281
282	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			282
283	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			283
284	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			284
285	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			285
286	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			286
287	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			287
288	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			288
289	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			289
290	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			290
291	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			291
292	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			292
293	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			293
294	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			294
295	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			295
296	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			296
297	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			297
298	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			298
299	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			299
300	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			300
301	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			301
302	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			302
303	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			303
304	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			304
305	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			305
306	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			306
307	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			307
308	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			308
309	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			309
310	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			310
311	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			311
312	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			312
313	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			313
314	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			314
315	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			315
316	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			316
317	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			317
318	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			318
319	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			319
320	Bill of Lading of Lumber, ditto	ditto	ditto	4 10 0			320



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*Dick Fotheringham, bell ringer in the
Aberfeldy area, c1930s Ref: MS316/31*