

A Guide to the History and Culture of

Kinross-shire

through the Archive



**PERTH &
KINROSS
COUNCIL**



Foreword

I am delighted that the Friends of the Archive are now able to publish the second of their planned area booklets, this time about Kinross-shire. Like the rest of Perth and Kinross the history of Kinross-shire, and the former Burgh of Kinross, is fascinating in many different ways. I hope this new booklet will allow everyone who is interested, be they residents of Kinross-shire or not, to explore that history in meaningful ways.

In the booklet 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.

Personally I am much taken by the selection of illustrations of all aspects of life in Kinross-shire. 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.

On page 6 there is a brief but comprehensive description of the types of records which are available and how they can be used to facilitate information searches of all kinds. If anyone is looking for particular information I would encourage them to read this section first.

I have no doubt that this publication will become indispensable to anyone seeking to explore the history of Kinross-shire and wish to record my thanks to its authors, Jackie Hay and Margaret Smith, for another exemplary piece of work. It will make accessing information about the area much easier than in the past and will be relevant for many years to come.

Councillor Alan Grant

Chairman

Friends of Perth & Kinross Council Archive 2015

A Guide to the History and Culture of Kinross-shire through Perth & Kinross Council Archive

Authors: Jackie Hay and Margaret Smith, Friends of Perth & Kinross Council Archive

Editor: Steve Connelly, Archivist, Perth & Kinross Council Archive, 2015

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Cover illustration: Extract from invoice, David Young, Tea & Coffee Warehouse, Kinross, 1878
Ref: MS204/6/8(5)



*Scottish and Prussian members of the Steedman family, c1871
Ref: MS204/2/3(5)*

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.

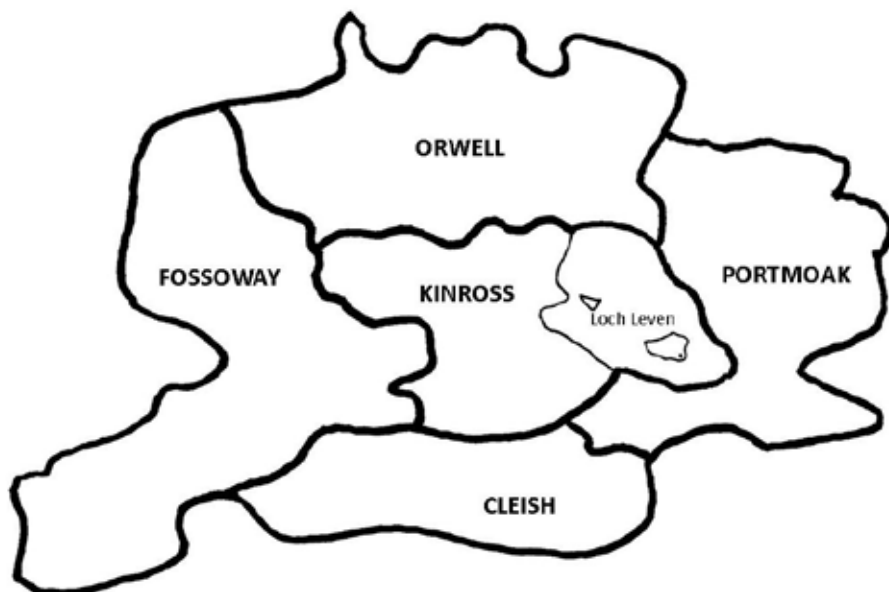
The Friends of Perth & Kinross Council Archive organisation was inaugurated in 2001 and has been a great support to the staff. Thousands of volunteer hours have been forthcoming and projects like the one producing this booklet have been very welcome. I add my thanks to Jackie Hay and Margaret Smith for taking on the second in this series of local guides and hope that this one is as well received as *'A Guide to the History and Culture of Highland Perthshire through the Archive'*. Thanks also to Christine Wood, Assistant Archivist and Claire Devine and Lorna Westwater, Senior Archive Assistants for their help.

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 Kinross-shire. Parish boundaries changed over time and the sketch-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: business and industry; education, leisure and recreation; estates and lands; people, family and community; religion and philanthropy, and unions, guilds and

associations. 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.pkc.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.



Kinross-shire 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 Kinross-shire, 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 & 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 from 1855-1990, naming the property, the owner, the tenant or occupier and a rental value. After 1990 they only list non-domestic properties.

Electoral registers give the names and addresses of registered voters, and **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 board and parish council records cover the administration of poor relief at a local level, 1845-1930.

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

Police records can 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.

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. 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 Kinross-shire, covering 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 and the leisure industry in Kinross-shire, while collections relating to a particular parish, town or village can shed light on local businesses, events and people.



These two images show that you can find interesting information where you might least expect it.

Left: Photograph labelled Katie Murie. This lady is pictured in a ruffled cap, tied at the chin, and shawl pinned at the breastbone. What could be discovered about her long life?

Ref: MS204/9/3(57)



Right: The reverse of the same photograph shows the highly detailed logo of the photographer, Peter Ewing, giving us an insight into business life in Kinross in the late 19th century.

Local Authority Records

In 1970 the Scottish Record Office surveyed the records of Scottish local authorities to identify the important records that should be preserved when these bodies ceased to exist after local government reorganisation. This has affected the way our records are organised, as the SRO surveys were used as the basis for the present catalogues. It has meant, for instance, that the records of Kinross-shire parochial boards and parish councils are listed under Kinross County Council (CC2), whereas the records of Kinross-shire school boards and school management committees are listed under Perth County Council/Perth & Kinross Joint County Council (CC1). Researchers are advised to make use of both sets of records.

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

Perth County Council was formed in 1889, taking over most 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, parish councils, education authorities and other bodies were abolished, and all or most of their functions were transferred to P&KJCC, including education, poor law and public health, as well as roads and policing. P&KJCC was abolished in 1975 and its powers transferred to Tayside Regional Council and Perth & Kinross District Council.

Ref no	Description	Dates
CC1 /2	Perthshire highway authorities prior to 1890, including the records of the turnpike trustees for the Great North Road, running through Kinross-shire from Queensferry to Perth.	1770-1878
/3	Records of Perth & Kinross County clerk's department, including county council minutes.	1930-1975
/4	Perth & Kinross treasurer's department including abstracts of accounts, combined county fund cash books, salaries and wages books and superannuation joint committee ledgers.	1930-1975
/5	Perth & Kinross Joint County Council education committee records including minutes, ledgers, cash books, teachers' salary books, educational endowment records, school log books and admission registers, school board/management committee/local education sub-committee minutes.	1873-1976
/8	Kinross County Assessor: valuation rolls and electoral rolls for the county of Kinross (National Records of Scotland for valuation rolls, 1855-1871).	1872-1974
/9	Perth & Kinross medical officer of health, sanitary inspector and director of environmental health annual reports plus county school health service annual reports.	1931-1973
/10	Perth & Kinross County departmental reports including county road surveyor, trading standards, weights & measures.	1931-1975

Ref no	Description	Dates
/14	Licensing records relating to the sale of methylated spirits also petroleum act registers with index of licensees, c1946-1976.	1937-1976
/15	Committees and boards records including Perth & Kinross joint committees on policing, road safety, fire, civil defence and Perth & Kinross District steering committee.	1879-1975
/16	Inventories and indexes to council records.	1934, 1970
/18	Perth & Kinross County planning department, including minute books, registers, indexes of applicants and locations.	1944-1975
/20	Clerks of works notes and sketch books, including details of police stations at Milnathort and Kinross, and Leven House, Kinross.	1930-1950
/p	Maps and plans relating to utilities, buildings, feus, districts and development.	1795-1975



*Stereoscopic view of Cleish Castle,
19th century
Ref: MS204/9/5(1)*

CC2 Kinross County Council, 1738-1975

The County Council was formed in 1889, inheriting almost all the functions of the Commissioners of Supply and other local authorities. The Commissioners of Supply formed part of the membership of the standing joint committee - the police authority, 1890-1929. The County Council also took over some powers from the justices of the peace, but not their licensing or judicial functions. In 1929, Commissioners of Supply, district committees and other bodies were abolished and their functions transferred to county councils and Kinross County Council was combined for most purposes with Perth County Council to form Perth & Kinross Joint County Council (see CC1). County councils were abolished in 1975, and their powers were transferred to regional and district councils.

Ref no	Description	Dates
CC2 /1	Kinross Commissioners of Supply: minutes, including standing joint committee [see also JP21], finance committee, preventive police committee, prison board and Kinross Prison records, valuation and financial accounts, freeholders and voters records, clerk of supply/ sheriff clerk letter books and local authority (diseases of animals acts) minutes.	1738-1929
/2	Kinross County statute labour trustees, Kinross County roads trustees, district statute labour trustees for Kinross & Orwell, Portmoak and Cleish.	1808-1930
/3	Kinross County Clerk: minutes, letter books, clerk of the peace letter books, official guides.	1890-1975
/4	Kinross County Treasurer: abstracts of accounts, ledgers, day and cash books, valuation rolls, letter books, collection books and other records.	1876-1975
/5	Kinross Secondary Education Committee and Kinross Education Authority minutes, ledgers and cash books.	1893-1930
/6	Parochial boards/parish councils: Cleish, Fossoway & Tulliebole, Kinross, Orwell and Portmoak.	1831-1930
/7	Miscellanea, including Milnathort special water drainage, lighting and scavenging district, explosive and petroleum acts registers, motor car registers and licences, licensing court, registers of societies and places of public refreshment, Edward H Mann bequest (coals for the aged and infirm in Orwell Parish), Road Transport Lighting Act fines, medical officer of health reports, weights and measures regulations, youth service panel minutes.	1826-1976
/8	Kinross Lieutenancy minutes.	1803-1917
/9	Kinross-shire Yeomanry Cavalry account book.	1817-1828
/10	Kinross County housing registers.	1939-1971
/11	Miscellaneous Kinross county bye-laws.	1896-1927

The Archive holds a small collection of stereoscopic views of Kinross-shire. Each card contains two very slightly different photographs of the view, which would be projected simultaneously onto a screen as one image.

*Kinnesswood, late 19th century
Ref: MS204/9/5(4)*



Ref no	Description	Dates
CC2 /CS	County of Kinross Clerk of supply papers.	1782-1914
/JP	Kinross justices of the peace papers [see also JP21 following].	1824-1955
/LA	Kinross-shire local authority papers.	1883-1924
/PB	Kinross Prison board papers.	1840-1879
/PC	Kinross Police committee papers.	1806-1959
/Roads	Kinross County road board/county road trustees papers.	1879-1893
/Plans	Kinross County Council plans.	1943-1967

Perth & Kinross District Council (PKDC)

Perth & Kinross District Council (PKDC) was established in 1975. It was the successor authority to Perth & Kinross County Council, Perth County Council, Kinross County Council and the burghs, including Kinross burgh. PKDC and its regional authority, Tayside Regional Council, were replaced by Perth & Kinross Council in 1996.

Ref no	Description	Dates
PKDC /1	Administrative records, including minutes, official diaries, district court registers, annual reviews, official guides and photographs.	1974-1996
/2	Financial records, including abstracts of accounts, annual reports, financial statements, revenue budget, estimates, financial papers relating to charities and trusts, annual reports relating to direct labour and services organisations, management budgets.	1975-1996
/3	Planning records, including registers of applications, and indexes to planning applicants.	1975-1996
/4	Register of new houses.	1975-1986
/5	Licensing board register of applications.	1976-1979
/PDP	Planning department photographs, including several of Kinross and Milnathort.	1972-1987



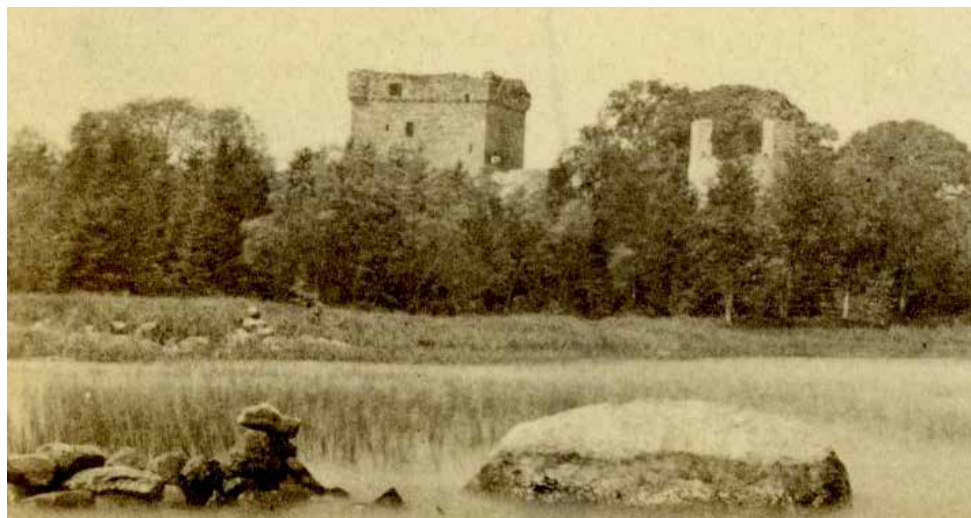
This is an extract from the Kinross Commissioners of Supply minutes of 1769, when the rental valuation of Tillybole Parish was £1,200. Records like this can show how parcels of land were divided, and often give the names of individual landowners, such as John Kelly of Newbigging. Tillybole [Tulliebole] was originally a separate parish which, after boundary changes in 1891, became part of Fossoway Parish.

Ref: JP21/2/1

Burgh of Kinross (KR)

Kinross was created a burgh of barony in 1541 by James V for Sir Robert Douglas of Loch Leven; and a burgh of regality in 1685 for Sir William Bruce of Kinross. It was created a police burgh in 1864. Burgh administration was carried out by police commissioners who were responsible for the cleansing, lighting, policing and public health of the burgh. The police commissioners were replaced by Kinross Town Council in 1901. 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
KR /1	Town Clerk's department, including police commission/town council minute books, town & parish library committee, burial ground joint committee, miscellanea (registers of houses), official publications, letter books, government evacuation scheme files.	1883-1975
/2	Burgh treasurer, letter books, cash books, ledgers, mortgage book, abstracts of accounts.	1897-1974
/4	Burgh surveyor, including sanitary inspector's journal, local fuel overseer's letter books, register of common lodging houses, registers of workshops, food & drug samples and water samples, annual reports on sanitary condition.	1903-1973
/5	Housing, including registers and ledgers.	1922-1974



Stereoscopic view of Loch Leven Castle Island, 19th century
Ref: MS204/9/5/(8)

Other Official Records

Abridgements of Sasines, Kinross-shire 1821-1908 and 1962-1986

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.

JP21 County of Kinross Justices of the Peace, 1738-1975

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. JPs 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. JP courts were abolished in 1975.

Ref no	Description	Dates
JP21 /1	Commissions of the peace, registers of justices, oaths, etc.	1781-1972
/2	Minute books and records of quarter sessions, including licensing court.	1766-1937
/4	Court books, registers of conviction, small debt court books.	1800-1950
/5	Miscellanea, including registers of fines and cases.	1906-1975
/6	Warrants, petitions and other process papers, including minutes, cases and reports.	1738-1899

Stationery was expensive in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, so practical cost-saving measures were often used. If you consult JP21/2/1 you will discover that it contains the JP minutes from 1766-1811. Turn the volume over, and you will find the Commissioners of Supply minutes, 1766-1812, starting from the other end. If the meetings were held consecutively the clerk only had to remember one book.

POL1 Perthshire and Kinross-shire Constabulary/Perth & Kinross Constabulary, 1930-1975

The main records of Kinross-shire Constabulary to 1929 have not survived, apart from the police committee reports listed below for the period 1858-1868 and a small quantity of papers among the Kinross County Council records (CC2). In 1889 responsibility for police matters was transferred to standing joint committees, whose membership included the Commissioners of Supply, and the minutes of this committee's meetings are found among the commissioners minutes. In 1929 the supervision of county constabularies was placed under the police committees of county councils and the Kinross-shire force was amalgamated with Perthshire Constabulary to form Perthshire & Kinross-shire Constabulary. 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. (*See also CC1/15 P&KC joint police committee records.*)

Please be aware that access to some of these records may be restricted.

Ref no	Description	Dates
POL1 /1-9	Kinross-shire Police Committee Reports Perthshire & Kinross-shire Constabulary/Perth & Kinross Constabulary administrative records: general order books, letter books and memoranda.	1858-1868 1930-1975
/16-27	Perthshire & Kinross-shire Constabulary superannuation and funeral funds records, circulars, reports and regulations.	1930-1950
/36-53	Criminal records, including criminal registers, registers of juvenile offenders, occurrence books, photographic conviction records, reports of sudden deaths and casualties.	1930-1965

Additional records are held by Police Scotland, but it is possible these will be deposited in the Council Archive in the near future.

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 Kinross-shire 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 Kinross-shire. In its **religion and philanthropy collections**, the Archive holds some records relating to church committees and a plan of Kinross Old Churchyard. Business and industry collections can include financial and administrative records, title deeds and, occasionally,

personal 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 community records** can include the personal papers of individuals and families, as well as shedding light on local history.

Education, leisure and recreation collections reflect the activities and interests of various groups. **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
MS14/24	Robert Marshall, Writer, Kinross Legal styles book. Single volume detailing standard forms of legal documents, including references to Lands of Barony and valuation of cattle.	late 18th century
MS14/174	Margaret Rennie, Kinross Legal papers relating to Margaret Rennie, widow of James Rennie, Innkeeper in Kinross, later spouse of Robert Miller, draper and clothier, Falkirk, including decret and execution of charge on behalf of the Devon Valley Railway Company, whose line ran from Alloa to Kinross via Crook of Devon.	1858-1872
MS28	J W & N B Williamson, Writers, Kinross Title deeds, client papers and other legal documents relating to properties in Kinross-shire including lands in Portmoak, Kinross, Orwell, Fossoway and Cleish parishes, 1615-1863; papers relating to the division of commonties (common land) around Kinnesswood, 1815-1838; business book, day book and cash book of J W & N B Williamson, 1844-1852; cash book of the Whinfield Trust, 1830-1853.	1615-1876

Business and Industry

Ref no	Description	Dates
MS48	<p>J & G Wilson, Solicitors, Kinross</p> <p>Founded in 1888 by John Wilson, a solicitor and notary public, the firm became known as J & G Wilson when his son, George, joined the business around 1925. Title deeds, client papers and other legal documents including papers relating to: the lands of Cockcairn and Dalgueith in the County of Kinross, 1629-1696; Thomas Dott (b 1821), manufacturer specialising in woollen goods, Kinross, c1859-1903; the estate of Miss Margaret Steedman, Portobello, 1865-1901; the interests of David Marshall FSA Scot (1831-1902); rules and regulations of the Hammermen Society of Kinross, 1783; map of the division of the muir of Kinross, 1781.</p>	1629-1903
MS204	<p>Steedman Family Papers</p> <p>The collection comprises personal correspondence, business, legal and domestic papers of the Steedman family, who were tenant farmers around Kinross. Includes financial papers of Kinross Power Loom Company, receipts from local traders, and reference to Kinross Woollen Mill.</p>	1523-2002
MS232	<p>Blacks of Tillywhally, Family Papers</p> <p>Correspondence and legal documents of the Black family of Tillywhally in Orwell parish, including documents relating to Milnathort Mill and to the Kinross and Milnathort Gas Light Company.</p>	c1735-1942

an action before the Sheriff Court of said shire, at the instance of The Devon Valley Railway Company, Incorporated, by The Devon Valley Railway act, Eighteen hundred and fifty eight, and the Devon Valley Railway act, Eighteen hundred and sixty one; Pursuers,

Extract decree, Devon Valley Railway Company, April 1862. The line ran from Alloa to Kinross via Crook of Devon.

Ref: MS14/174/2

Education, Leisure and Recreation

Ref no	Description	Dates
MS14/192	'Michael Bruce, The Poet of Lochleven' Published lecture by Peter Smellie delivered to the Rymour Club, Edinburgh.	1933
MS22	Loch Leven Angling Association Papers including minute book, share books, receipt book, annual list of members, share certificates and correspondence.	1874-1910
MS72	George Martin, India and Kinross Personal correspondence of George Mackenzie Martin (1891-1984) who resided at Restenet, The Muirs, Kinross from 1946. Includes some photographs and newscuttings relating to Kinross Art Club, of which he was president for many years. Also constitution and rules of Kinross-shire Society for Antiquarian and Historical Research, c1950 and papers relating to Kinross Development Committee, 1962.	c1937-1984
MS204	Steedman Family papers The collection comprises personal correspondence, business, legal and domestic papers of the Steedman family, who were tenant farmers around Kinross. Includes papers relating to the Kinross-shire Agricultural Society (1818-1833), the Kinross-shire Fishing Club (1861-1862) and the Loch Leven Angling Association (1859-1889).	1523-2002
MS310	Olympic Torch Relay Carried by Torch Bearers as part of the Olympic Torch Relay, the Olympic Flame came through Perth and Kinross on 12 and 13 June 2012, where it was photographed and filmed by supporters along the route. The public were encouraged to send in their images to the Archive to appear on Flickr, creating a new archive collection and recording the Relay as an historic event. Includes a few images of Milnathort, Kinross and Crook of Devon.	2012



Heraldic devices of Steedman family members, c1885
 Both images show the anchor, snails and thistle. The image on the right depicts flags of Scotland and England and also references to military life, including a drum, cannon, cannon balls. The original document is annotated with the words: "I carry all the things that are mine with me".
 Ref: MS204/2/4/(8 & 23)

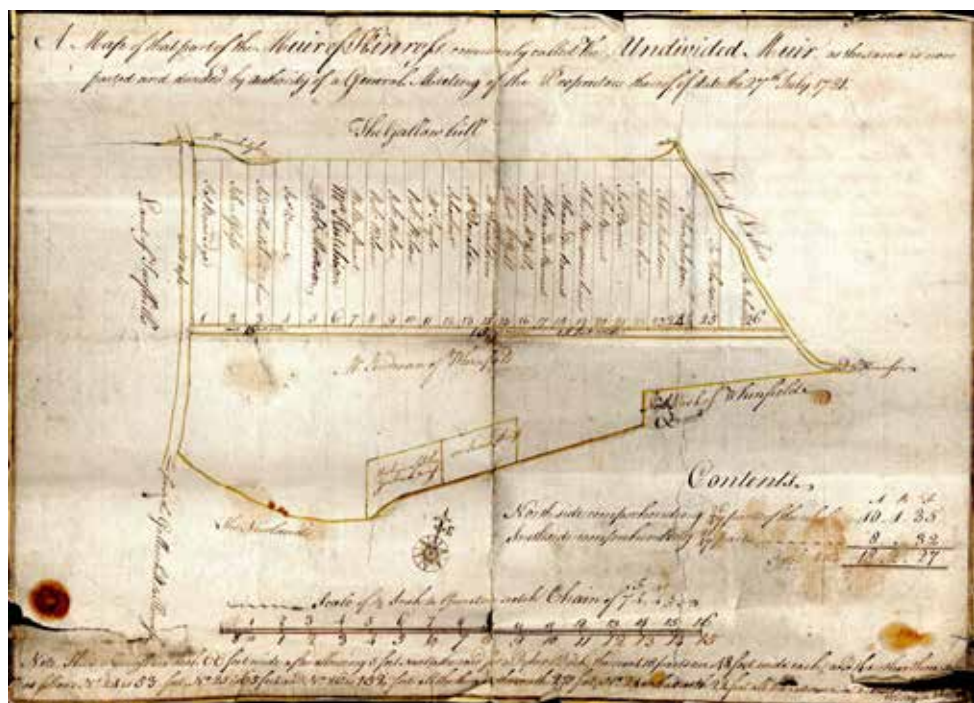
Estates and Lands

Ref no	Description	Dates
MS14/62	Glendevon House Microfilm of account books relating to Glendevon House and the farms.	c1829-1853
MS14/129	Hattonburn House Servants Microfiche copies of servants' wages book, Hattonburn House, Kinross, kept by Montgomery family.	1864-1944
MS14/185/1	Fox & Sons, Southampton Particulars, plans and conditions of sale brochure for Naemoor Estate, Kinross-shire.	1946
MS21	Kinross and Burleigh Estate Papers Registers of payment of feu duty with details of lands of the estate of Kinross & Burleigh in Arngask Parish, Kinross Parish, Portmoak Parish, Orwell Parish and Cleish Parish.	1865-1940

(continued)

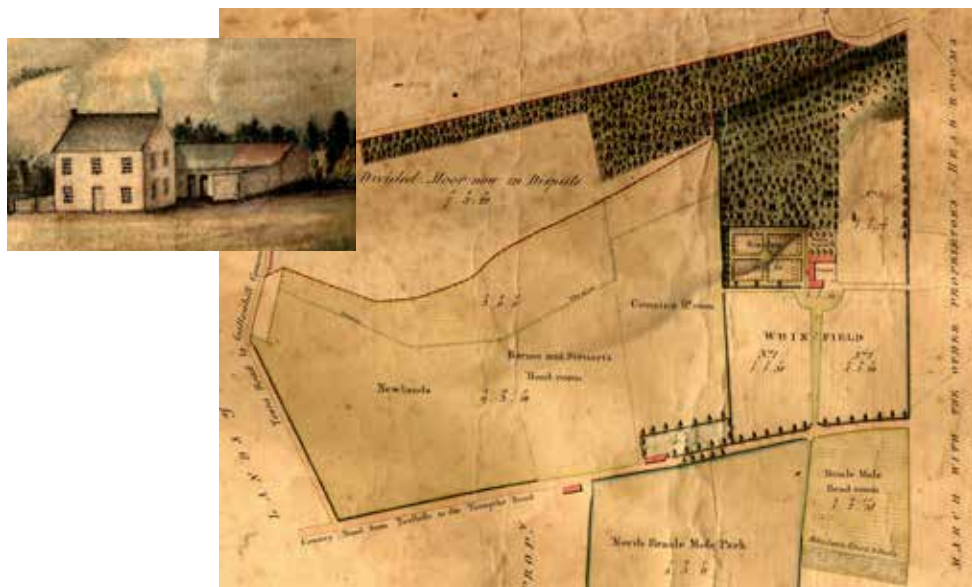
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MS28	J W & N B Williamson, Writers, Kinross Title deeds, client papers and other legal documents relating to properties in Kinross-shire including lands in Portmoak, Kinross, Orwell, Fossoy and Cleish parishes, 1615-1863; papers relating to the division of commonlands (common land) around Kinnesswood, 1815-1838; cash book of the Whinfield Trust, 1830-1853.	1615-1876
MS34/ Bundles 1 & 4	Drummond Hay of Seggieden Papers Assignment, instrument of sasine and registered disposition relating to the Kirk Session of Orwell.	1770, 1772
MS48	J & G Wilson, Solicitors, Kinross Title deeds, client papers and other miscellaneous legal documents relating to land, including: the lands of Cockcairn and Dalgueth in the County of Kinross, 1629-1696; map of the division of the muir of Kinross, 1781.	1629-1903
MS183	Cleish Estate Title deeds and legal papers concerning the lands of Cleish, with references to the Young family and property in Wester Nivingston, Kirkton of Cleish, Boreland of Cleish, Bogside of Cleish, Georgetown, Kirkhill Common, also Burleigh Estate.	c1695-1933
MS204	Steedman Family Papers The Steedman family were tenant farmers around Kinross. The collection contains legal papers relating to various properties including East Nivingston; Drumlochermouth or Drumlochran (now Blair Adam); Fruix (of Dowhill).	1523-2002
MS232	Blacks of Tillywhally, Family Papers Correspondence and legal documents of the Black family of Tillywhally in Orwell Parish, including details of lease agreements, roup roll, feu duties and estate valuation.	c1735-1942



Above: Plan of Kinross Muir, 1781 • Ref: MS48/5/2

Below: Detail Whinfield Estate, with the house inset, 1794 • Ref: MS204/1/4/44



People, Family and Community

Ref no	Description	Dates
MS2/1/ Bundle 21/6	Robert Scott Fittis Papers Copy testament of Laurence Mercer, minister of Fossoway and Tulliebole, 1658, transcribed from sheriff court records of Perthshire.	Not dated
MS14/129	Hattonburn House Servants Microfiche copies of servants' wages book, Hattonburn House, Kinross, kept by Montgomery family. Shows names of servants, their positions within the household, their wages, and their signatures.	1864-1944
MS14/174	Margaret Rennie, Kinross Various legal papers relating to Margaret Rennie, widow of James Rennie, innkeeper in Kinross and later spouse of Robert Miller, draper and clothier, Falkirk. Includes titles to properties in Kinross and testament and inventory of James Rennie, died 1856.	1858-1872
MS14/192	'Michael Bruce, The Poet of Lochleven' Published lecture by Peter Smellie delivered to the Rymour Club, Edinburgh.	1933
MS14/198	Effects of the Late John Beveridge, Kinross Notebook listing lots made up from John Beveridge's effects, drawn and awarded to various legatees including David Marshall, Thomas Marshall, members of the Beveridge family, Isobel McCarter and Peter Malcolm.	1842
MS14/226	Kinross Old Churchyard Plan, 1850 Coloured copy of plan showing lair numbers and table of the buried.	2008
MS22	Loch Leven Angling Association Papers including minute book, share books, receipt book, annual list of members, share certificates and correspondence. This gives details of individual shareholders and members, often with their place of residence and occupation.	1874-1910

People, Family and Community

Ref no	Description	Dates
MS28	<p>J W & N B Williamson, Writers (Solicitors), Kinross</p> <p>John Wright Williamson (d 1879) was Sheriff Clerk of Kinross for 31 years. He and his son Nisbet Balfour Williamson (1825-1862) were writers in Kinross. This collection includes title deeds and miscellaneous legal papers relating to people and properties in Kinross-shire. These contain references to named individuals, sometimes their occupations and places of residence. J W Williamson was also the administrator of the Whinfield Trust, the estate of his late father-in-law, James Stedman (1749-1830).</p>	1615-1876
MS48	<p>J & G Wilson, Solicitors, Kinross</p> <p>Founded in 1888 by John Wilson, a solicitor and notary public, the firm became known as J & G Wilson when his son, George, joined the business around 1925. Both John and George were town clerks and William Shand, a partner in the firm also became town clerk in 1966. Title deeds, client papers and other miscellaneous legal documents relating to local people including: Thomas Dott (b 1821), manufacturer specialising in woollen goods, Kinross c1859-1903; David Marshall FSA Scot (1831-1902), local historian and genealogist in Kinross whose notes and reports cover the period 1650-1902. Signatures of members are listed in the rules and regulations of the Hammermen Society of Kinross, 1783. Proprietors are shown on the map of the division of the muir of Kinross, 1781 and individuals are named in title deeds relating to the lands of Cockcairn and Dalgueith in the County of Kinross, 1629-1696 and also in many of the other miscellaneous papers collected by the firm, 1629-1903.</p>	1629-1903

People, Family and Community

Ref no	Description	Dates
MS72	<p>George Martin, India and Kinross</p> <p>Personal correspondence of George Mackenzie Martin (1891-1984) who resided at Restenet, The Muirs, Kinross from 1946. He worked in the jute industry in Calcutta, was awarded an MBE for his assistance to the RAF in India during the Second World War, and later served in the Colonial Service in Nigeria. He married Clare Vandyke and they had two daughters, Jean Martin and Alison Martin and he and his family settled in Kinross in 1946. The collection includes letters, 1937-1984, from their daughter Jean, while in school in India and from the USA where she settled after her marriage to Johnem Verdi in 1947; letters and some photographs from airmen serving with the 79 Squadron (Madras Presidency) RAF based in India 1942-1944 and various business letters to and from George Martin, 1957-1969. A keen painter, he founded the Kinross Art Club and was its president for many years.</p>	c1937-1984
MS183	<p>Cleish Estate</p> <p>Title deeds and legal papers concerning the lands of Cleish, with references to the Young family and property in Wester Nivingston, Kirkton of Cleish, Boreland of Cleish, Bogside of Cleish, Georgetown, Kirkhill Commony, also Burleigh Estate. These papers contain many references to named individuals, including a pedigree of the Young family.</p>	c1695-1933
MS204	<p>Steedman Family Papers</p> <p>The collection comprises personal correspondence, business, legal and domestic papers of the Steedman family, who were tenant farmers around Kinross, and includes papers and ephemera relating to the Steedman/Stedman genealogy. Contains information about community life and individuals in Kinross and Kinross-shire, including papers relating to the Kinross-shire Agricultural Society; the Kinross-shire Fishing Club; the Kinross Power Loom Company; receipts from local traders; farming roup rolls and inventories; military papers; portrait and group photographs, 19th and early 20th century. Also includes secondary source material based on the collection, c1980-2002.</p>	1523-2002

People, Family and Community

Ref no	Description	Dates
MS232	Blacks of Tillywhally, Family Papers Correspondence and legal documents of the Black family of Tillywhally in Orwell Parish. Includes marriage contracts, receipts and discharges, dispositions and assignations. Contains details of named individuals, sometimes with their place of residence and occupation.	c1735-1942
MS236	Charles Stein, Probate Document, 1854 Last will and testament of Charles Stein of Hattonburn, county of Kinross, in order to dispose of his personal estate situated in Elveford, Middlesex, England with extract of registration by the master keeper or commissary of the prerogative court of Canterbury. Mentions family members and gives details of other individuals and their occupations.	1854



Photographs of Miss A Laird; John Wright Williamson; Miss K Bogie (Mrs Jas Steedman) from the Steedman family papers, 19th century.

Ref: MS204/9

Head Quarters
Kinross 1st July 1869

The 1st Kinross-shire Rifle Volunteers will parade at the Railway Station Kinross on Saturday the 10th instant at 4 o'clock P.M. and will proceed with the 4.10. train to Dunfermline for Drill with the Dunfermline and Lochgelly Corp.

Geo Boje Capt.

This entry in the order book of the Kinross-shire Rifle Volunteers, 1 July 1869, states that they will parade at Kinross Railway Station prior to taking the 4.10 train to Dunfermline for drill with the Dunfermline & Lochgelly Corp.
Ref: MS204/8/5

Politics and the State

Ref no	Description	Dates
MS14/25	Kinross Liberal Unionist Association Letter book containing copies of letters sent out from the association in regard to meetings, speakers, etc, some of which name individual members.	1889-1904
MS204	Steedman Family Papers The collection comprises personal correspondence, business, legal and domestic papers of the Steedman family, who were tenant farmers around Kinross. Includes military lists, passes, programmes and receipts, and references to named individuals in the Kinross-shire Light Dragoons and the Kinross-shire Volunteer Rifle Corps, 1860-1891.	1523-2002
MS232	Blacks of Tillywhally, Family Papers Correspondence and legal documents of the Black family of Tillywhally in Orwell Parish. Including papers relating to the life and death of 2nd Lieutenant S B Black, 6th Battalion The Seaforth Highlanders, 1942.	c1735-1942

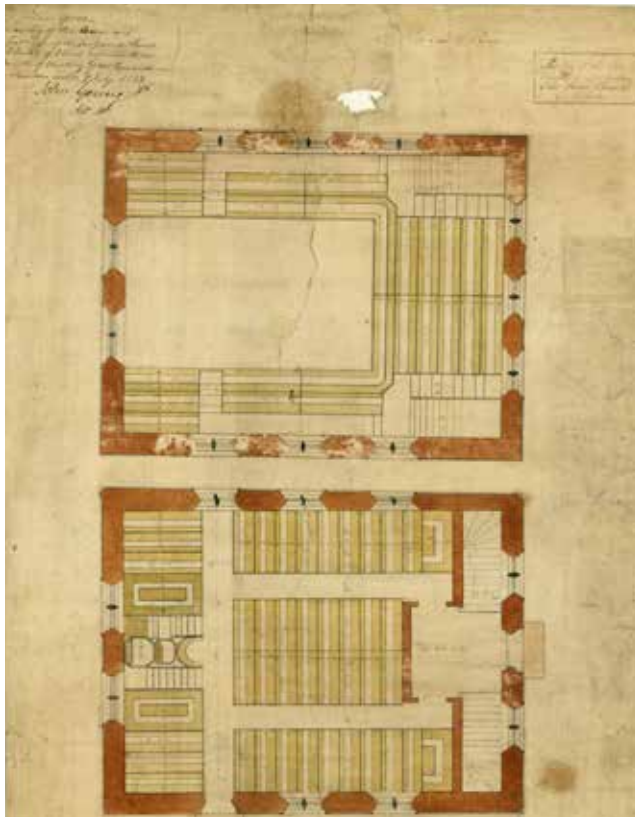


Invoice from W McKimmie to Major Steedman, 1888.
Ref: MS204/8/4(1)

From this document - an invoice from an Edinburgh tailor and clothier dated Midsummer 1888 - we learn that Major Steedman of Kinross, ordered and was billed for his army uniform. A fine dark grey beaver regulation great coat and cape cost £5.15s, while the badges of rank were an extra 5s6d. A couple of months later, Major Steedman's scarlet doublet was altered to new regulation, with new cuffs and collar, cleaned and pressed for £1.18s. Further research would be needed to discover more about Major Steedman's military service.

Religion and Philanthropy

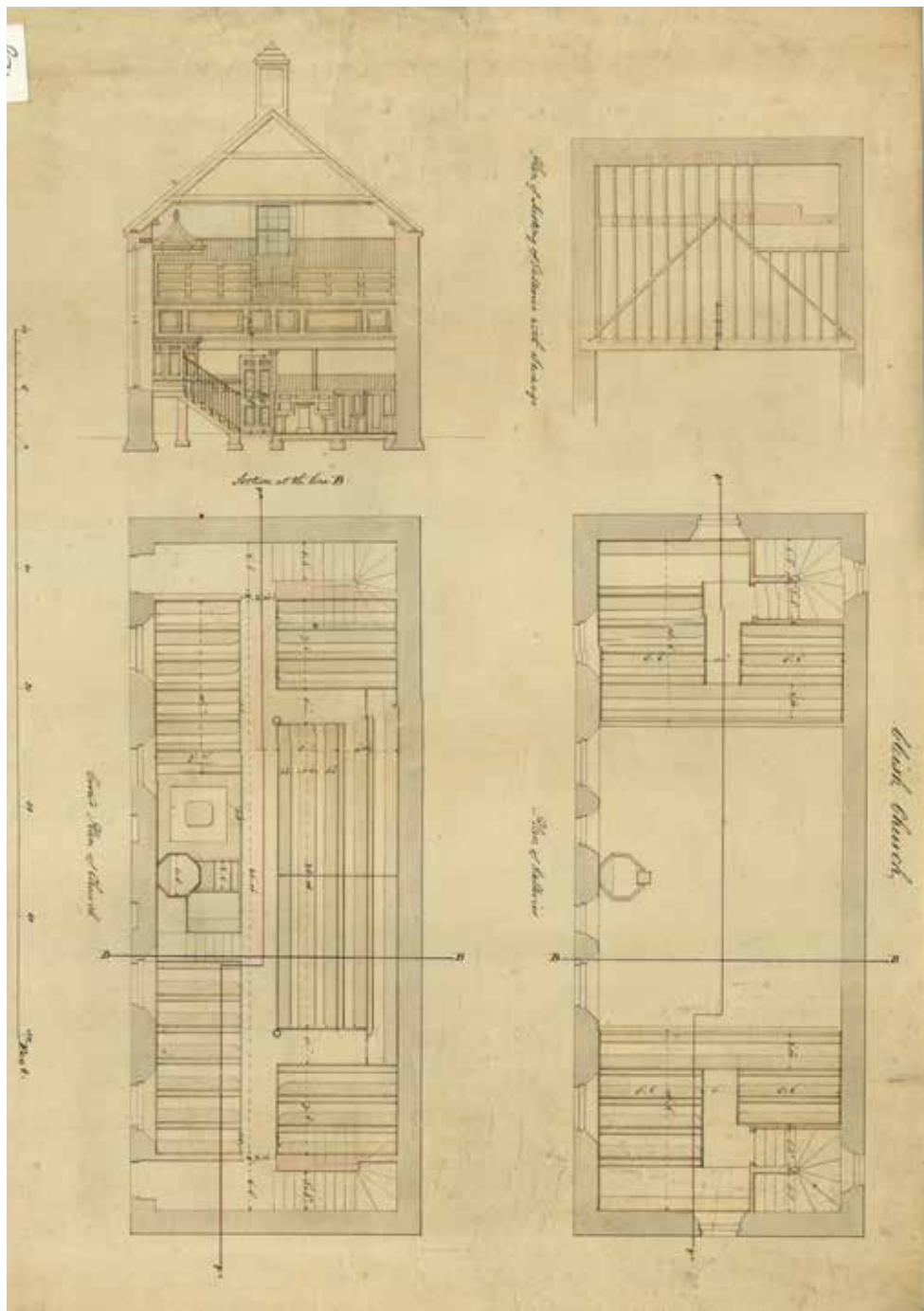
Ref no	Description	Dates
MS14/148	Kinross Steeple Committee Extracts from minutes of the committee from c1742-1872, compiled by David Marshall FSA (Scot).	c1890
MS14/226	Kinross Old Churchyard Plan, 1850 Coloured copy of plan showing lair numbers and table of the buried.	2008
MS232	Blacks of Tillywhally, Family Papers Correspondence and legal documents of the Black family of Tillywhally in Orwell Parish, including letter of complaint from Members of the Associate Session of Orwell Parish to the Moderator of Presbytery concerning the behaviour of their Pastor, 1783.	c1735-1942



*Left: Plan of the seating of the ground floor and galleries of the "... Proposed Parish Church of Cleish referred to in the Minute of Meeting of the Committee of Heritors dated 9 July 1832", 1832.
Ref: CC1/P72*

*Opposite page: Section of proposed Cleish Church, c1832.
Ref: CC1/P71*

Cleish Church, which had been redesigned in 1775 by architect John Adam, of Blairadam, was destroyed by fire in 1832. These plans show proposals for the design of the new church to be built in its place.



Unions, Guilds and Associations

Ref no	Description	Dates
MS14/25	Kinross Liberal Unionist Association Letter book containing copies of letters sent out from the association in regard to meetings, speakers, etc, some of which name individual members.	1889-1904
MS14/88/ 1-2	Kinross Friendly Society Articles and regulations. Society set up for financial and welfare support of its members which provided insurance cover for sickness benefit, funeral expenses and widow's pension.	1799, 1822
MS14/89/ 1-2	Kinross Society of Weavers Articles and regulations. Society set up for financial and welfare support of its members which provided insurance cover for sickness benefit, funeral expenses and widow's pension.	1806, 1823
MS14/90	Hammermen Society of Kinross Regulations, with signatures of deacon and treasurer. Society for all metalworkers, including blacksmiths, jewellers, tinsmiths and saddlers, set up for financial and welfare support of its members which provided insurance cover for sickness benefit, funeral expenses and widow's pension.	1808
MS22	Loch Leven Angling Association Papers including minute book, share books, receipt book, annual list of members, share certificates and correspondence.	1874-1910
MS48/4/ 1&2	J & G Wilson, Solicitors, Kinross Regulations of the Hammermen Society of Kinross, containing signatures of members, 1783. Also a 20th century transcript.	1783, 20th century
MS72	George Martin, India and Kinross Personal correspondence, of George Mackenzie Martin (1891-1984), who resided at Restenet, The Muirs, Kinross from 1946. Includes some photographs and newscuttings relating to Kinross Art Club, of which he was president for many years. Also constitution and rules of Kinross-shire Society for Antiquarian and Historical Research, c1950 and papers relating to Kinross Development Committee, 1962.	c1937-1984
MS204	Steedman Family Papers The collection comprises personal correspondence, business, legal and domestic papers of the Steedman family, who were tenant farmers around Kinross. Includes papers relating to the Kinross-shire Agricultural Society (1818-1833), the Kinross-shire Fishing Club (1861-1862) and the Loch Leven Angling Association (1859-1889).	1523-2002

MS204/6/2 (40)

NOTICE.



The Annual Competition of the KINROSS-SHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, will take place in the PARK behind KINROSS GREEN INN, on MONDAY the 6th August 1849, when the Premiums in the annexed list will be awarded,

§3 The Cattle to be exhibited must be on the ground by 12 o'clock at latest.

1	For the best Bull above two and under five years old, bred or bought,	...	1..	£3	0	0	<i>Mr Ballingall, Sevington</i>
2	do. do.	...	...	2	0	0	<i>Handley, Sevington</i>
3	do. do.	...	...	1	0	0	<i>no competitor</i>
<i>Which Bulls must have served in the district this Season.</i>							
4	For the best one year-old Bull, bred or bought,	...	...	1	0	0	<i>Mr Beveridge, Canyons</i>
5	do. do.	...	...	0	15	0	<i>Mr Begg, Dalrymple Park</i>
6	For the best Cow for breeding,	...	...	1	10	0	<i>Mr John Pollock, Sevington</i>
7	do. do.	...	...	...	0	0	<i>Mr John Pollock, Sevington</i>
8	do. do.	...	...	0	15	0	<i>Mr John Pollock, Sevington</i>
9	For the best three year-old Cow in Milk,	...	...	1	0	0	<i>Mr John Pollock, Sevington</i>
10	do. do.	...	...	0	10	0	<i>Mr John Pollock, Sevington</i>
11	For the best pair of two year-old Queys, bred by a member,	...	...	1	0	0	<i>Mr John Pollock, Sevington</i>
		...	...	0	15	0	<i>Mr John Pollock, Sevington</i>

Proposed to be black but the cow could not complete

Notice of the annual competition of the Kinross-shire Agricultural Society to be held in the park behind Kinross Green Inn on Monday 6 August 1849. The document lists livestock exhibition categories including "Best Leicester Tup Lamb"; "Best Brood Sow"; "Best Harness Horse or Mare". Ref: MS204/6/2(40)

Illustrations from the Collections



Family documents can often tell us a surprising amount about local history, as this collection of household and business accounts from Kinross-shire businesses shows.

*Steedman family papers,
late 19th century
Ref: MS204/6/8*



KINROSS.

The Liquidation of the Messrs. Power & Co

Bought of Charles Hepburne
IRONMONGER AND SEEDSMAN,
Grocer, Tea, Wine & Spirit Merchant.

Grates, Fenders & Fire-Irons, Locks, Hinges, Nails, Spades,
 Shovels, Bar Iron & Steel, Gate-Blocks & Cart Bushes, Hanks,
 Oils, Brushes, &c.

1879




Mr Hepburne has been liquidated

no. *Mr Steedman for*
KIRKLAND'S HOTEL.
Center (London)
To R. HARRIS.
 MACHINES AND HORSES ON HIRE.

Kinross, 24 July 1879
Thomas Steedman Esq for Templeton
To GEORGE PORTEOUS,
 PLUMBER, GASFITTER, TINSMITH, AND BELLHANGER.

1879

KINROSS. 18

Mr Steedman for Templeton
BOUGHT OF JOHN SANDS.

WHOLESALE & RETAIL
Tea, Wine & Spirit Merchant.

FARM AND GARDEN SEEDS.

HOUSE FURNISHINGS,
 KITCHEN RANGES,
 REGISTER & KINNAIRD
 GRATES,
 FENDERS, FIRE IRONS,
 AND
 IRON BEDSTEADS.

SPORTING AMMUNITION,
 LAMPS, OILS,
 PAINTS, SPADES,
 SHOVELS, ROPES,
 FENCING WIRE, NETTING
 NAILS,
 &c. &c.

1890

KINROSS

Power Loan Coy Limited
Bought of John Scott
 Fancy Bread and Biscuit Baker.
 CONFECTIONER &c.

1876



RESALUTATION HOTEL

KINROSS.

JAMES THOMSON,
 PROPRIETOR.
 HIRING & POSTING.

Year: 1885-1895

REGISTER OF

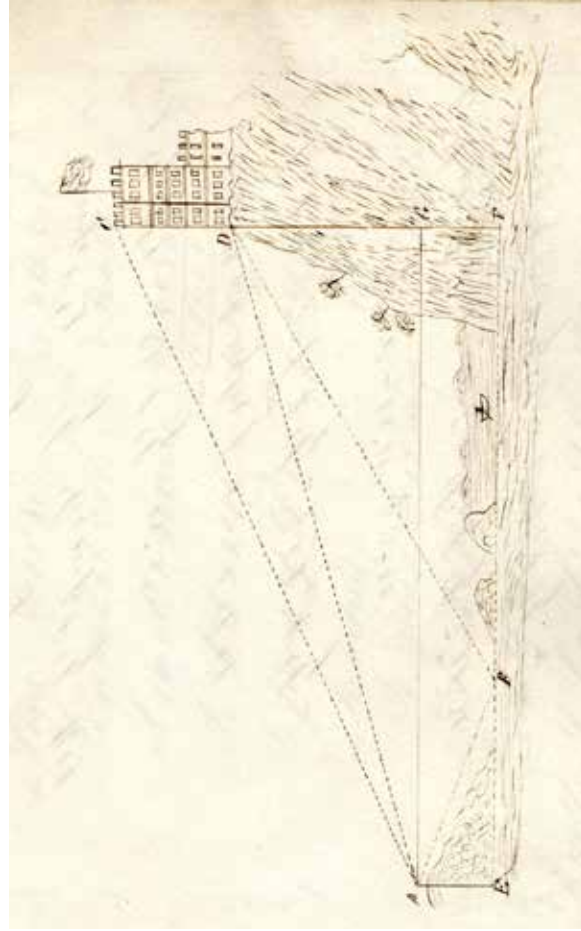
ADMISSION.

Number	Date of Admission or Re-admission			Name of Children Full			Name of Parent or Guardian			Address of Parent or Guardian			Date of Census		No.	Score of Last School Exam Standard	Marked in which Class with which mark made
	Day	Month	Year	Day	Month	Year	Day	Month	Year	Day	Month	Year	Day	Month				Year
1	16	6	85	Agnes	Simpson	George	Simpson	Carver	None	2	7	86					
2	25	5	85	Arthur	Richardson	James	Richardson	Tetroyoko	None	11	15	86					
3	22	11	86	Marian	Harris	Mr	Harris	Rowell	None	1	4	87					
4	27	7	87	Jane	Hazel	Charles	Hazel	Solvent	None	21	10	87					
5	2	5	87	Jesse	Barclay	Mrs	Barclay	Carbo	None	34	5	88					
6	16	4	88	Marian	Wickie	George	Wickie	Wickie	None	21	12	88					
7	16	7	88	Janet	Anderson	Mrs. D.	Anderson	Carbo	None	18	7	88					

Above: Extracts from Carbo School register of admission, 1885-1895, giving names of children, their parents or guardians, their dates of birth and the date of entry to the school.
Ref: CC1/5/8/9

Right: Exercise book showing an example of mensuration of height, 1837.
Ref: MS14/76/3

Basic arithmetic was taught, but separate lessons covered the practical application of mathematics, such as land measurement. You might just be able to see the little rowing boat in the sketch here!



A letter from Mr Carnegie's Secretary in the following terms was laid before the meeting:-


Kilbracken,
Dunrobin, Lutherland
May 27th 1904

Prosser Cunningham,
Kinross.

Dear Sir,

Mr Carnegie has considered your letter of 20th March. He notes that previously it has been pointed out through Mr Morrison that Innerleithen had been promised eighteen hundred pounds for their library, but you will observe that Innerleithen guarantees fifty pounds a year from the Ferry side and fifty pounds a year from an equivalent grant, while your revenue is only thirty-two pounds a year. Mr Carnegie, however, will be glad to increase the sum offered to Kinross for the erection of the library building to eighteen hundred pounds at all, since Kinross has Loch Leven and Queen Mary's Castle to boast of, and besides, Mr Carnegie says he has fished on Loch Leven.

Respectfully



Extract from the minutes of Kinross Public Library Committee, showing a letter received from Andrew Carnegie's Secretary, offering a donation of £1,800 for the erection of the library building in Kinross "... since Kinross has Loch Leven and Queen Mary's Castle to boast of, and besides, Mr Carnegie says he has fished on Loch Leven."

Minute dated 1 June 1904
Ref: KR1/2/1

No. 25 Mrs Stedman Fruix

	L.	S.	D.
TO Duty on 7 Windows from Whitsunday 1815 to Whitsunday 1816		18	
To Duty on a Horse Valued at £. from do. to do.			
To Duty on Male Servant from do. to do.			
To Duty on Carriage or Saddle Horse from do to do. for the number kept from 24th			
To Duty on 1 Work Horse, from do. to do. } May 1815 to 23rd May 1815		17	6
To Duty on Dog from do. to do.			
	£.	15	6

Received Payment.

Alex Hogg

MS 204/4/5

A receipt for taxes from Mrs Stedman of Fruix, showing that she was taxed for seven windows and one work horse, 1816.
Ref: MS204/4/5

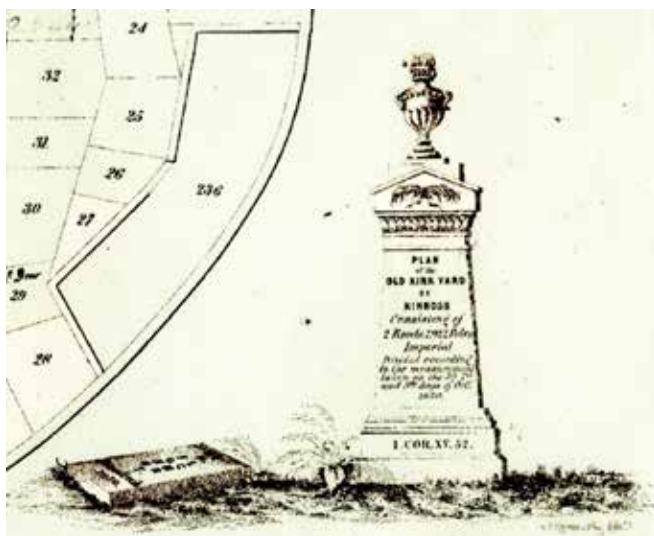
Blairingone Public School
 13th November 1894
 The School Board met this Saturday 10th Nov.
 at 8.30 p.m. present Mrs. Dobie Cameron,
 Cairns and Russell, Mr. Dobie Chairman.

Minutes of the meeting held on 22 September and
 subsequent adjourned meeting on 26th September
 were read approved of and signed by the Chairman
 _____ Female Assistant _____

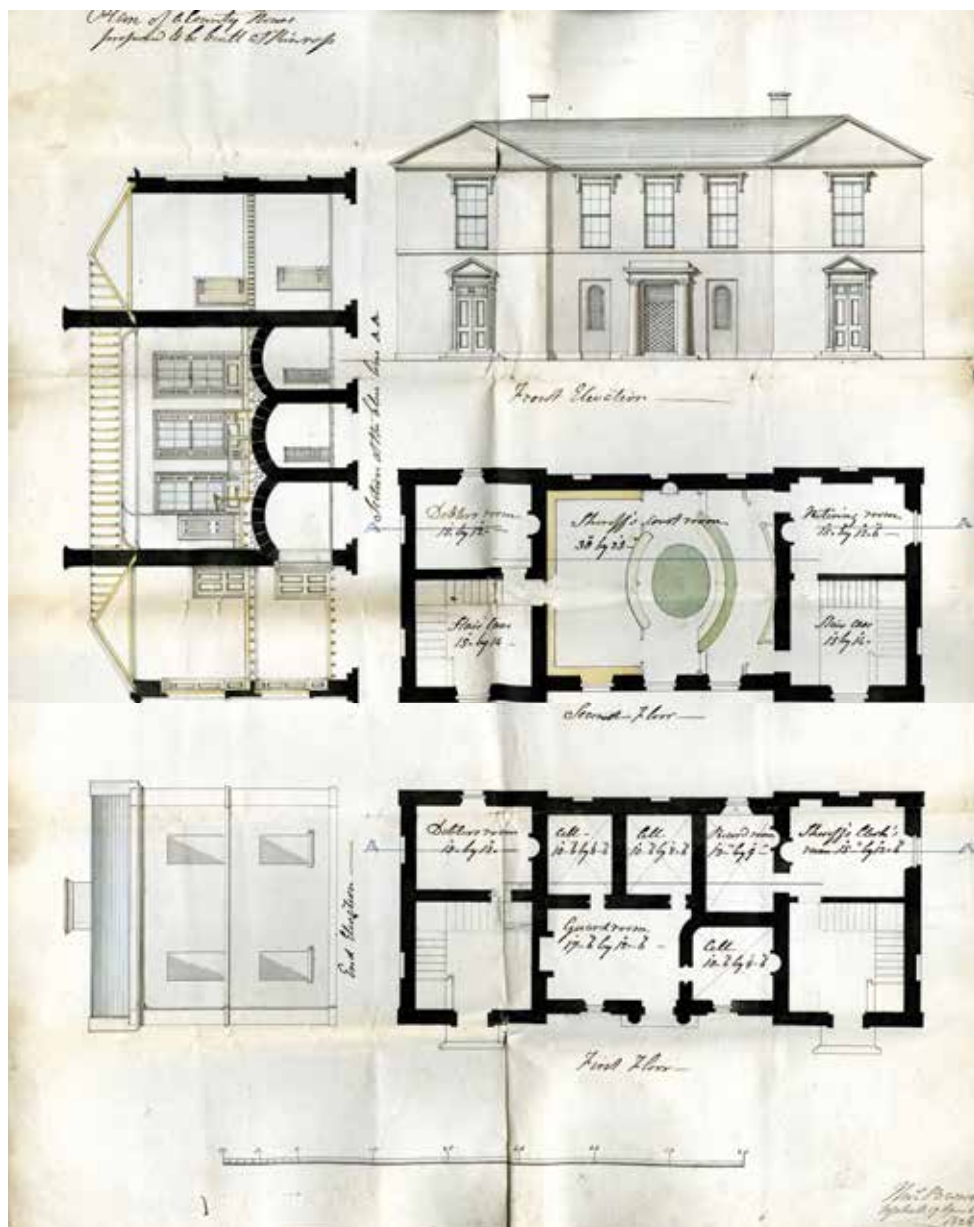
The clerk reported that Miss Mary A. Duncan
 began her duties on Monday 22 October and that
 prior to that date Miss Betty Frye had been
 assisting Mr. Morrison in the Infant Department,
 from the opening of the School after the holidays on
 Monday 1st October, for three weeks at the rate of
 6/8 per week.

Left: Extract minute of Blairingone School Board, 10 November 1894. This lists members of the school board and gives rates of pay for female assistants.
 Ref: CC1/5/29/1

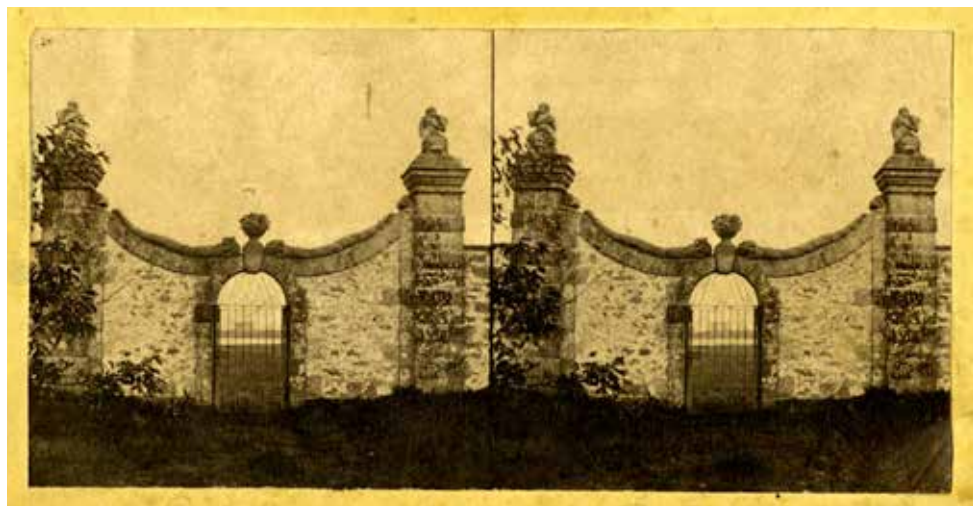
Right: Images cropped from copy of Kinross Old Churchyard plan as at 1850, which gives details of burying grounds, including names of individuals and some occupations.
 Ref: MS14/226



21	Charles Taylor	-	-	-	8	48	410	611	3
22	Robert Ellis, millwright	-	-	-	8	18	11	39	8
23	Robert Crombie	-	-	-	6	56	49	810	2
24	John Whyte, weaver,	-	-	-	2	1010	57	7	8
25	Heirs of Mr Taylor, Schoolmaster	-	-	-	8	97	47	87	11
26	Euphemia Adie as heir to James Hume	-	-	-	6	66	48	36	3
27					11	810	10	3	1



Kinross County Building plan, 1824
Ref: CC2/PC/Bundle 9



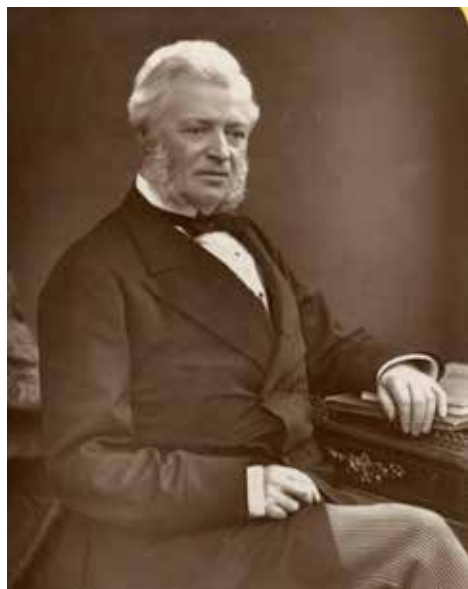
*Nineteenth century stereoscopic view of Kinross House fish gate, so called because the central sculpture above the keystone of the arch represents a basket of various fish found in the loch.
Ref: MS204/9/5/(6)*



*Photograph of Catherine Stedman.
Name on reverse includes "Lennox, Wright
Williamson"
Ref: MS204/2/2(2)*



*Photograph of the Rev Mr Smith
Ref: MS204/9/3(64)*



Collections of family papers can be a valuable source of photographic images of people in the wider community, as well as family members, as this selection of 19th century photographs illustrates.

*Left: Photograph of Mr Readman, Clydesdale Bank
Ref MS204/9/4(3)*

*Below, left: Photograph of Lamont children
Ref: MS204/9/3/21*

*Below, right: Photograph of "Seal of the Abbot of St Serfs in Loch Leven, 1237"
Photographed by P Ewing, Kinross
Ref: MS204/9/6(4)*





Above: Loch Leven Angling Association Limited share certificate, 1898 • Ref: MS22/39
Below: Survey of Loch Leven, 1900 • Ref: CC1/P196





Above: Directors of Loch Leven Angling Association Limited, 1904 • Ref: MS22/40

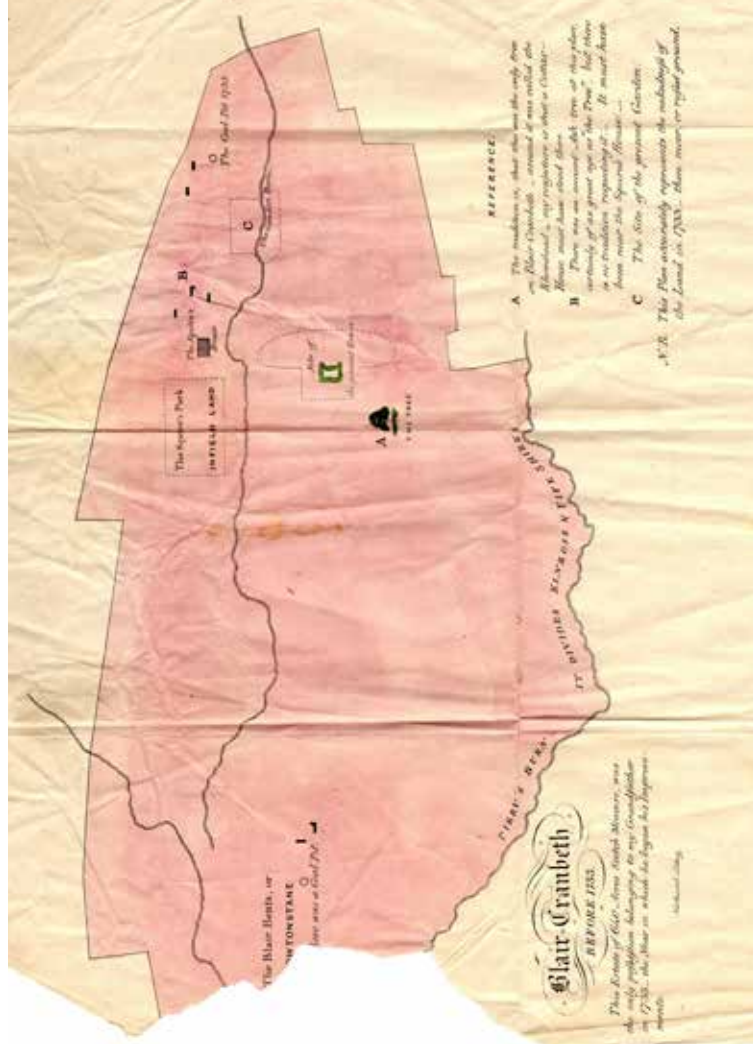
Below: Extract from minute book of Loch Leven Angling Association Ltd, showing part of the list of shareholders as at 14 January 1875, including details of place of residence and occupations.
Ref: MS22/1A (p9)

16	James Gordon Henry Montgomery	Stobs Castle	1	One
17	Sir Graham Graham Montgomery	Do	19	Swintun
18	Rob Burns Begg Jr	Writer Kinross	2	Two
19	George Henderson of Starhills	Do	1	One
20	Stamford Robert Lamesdame	Colneburgh	2	Two
21	George Morall	Shackler Maker ^{Dundee} Bluchar Craig	2	Two
22	James H Low	Ironfounder Monifieth Dundee	2	Two
23	J St Walker	Flax Spinner Do	2	Two
24	James Guthrie	Orchar Engineer Wallace Boudry Do	2	Two
25	M ^r Robertson	Engineer & Ironfounder Do	2	Two
26	Silvester Rait	Wybrants Merchant Blackness Terrace Do	2	Two
27	John Ireland	Shuttlemahey Bell Street Do	1	One
28	Charles Robertson	Exchange Street Do	1	One

Plan of Blair Cranbeth Estate
before 1733, c1835
Ref: MS204/11/2(1)

"This Estate of 640 Acres
Scotch Measure, was the
only possession belonging to
my Grandfather in 1733 - the
Year in which he began his
Improvements."

There are two further
coloured plans in this small
bound volume, showing Blair
Adam at John Adam's death
in 1792, and Blair Adam
as arranged by the Right
Hon William Adam, 1834,
showing the development of
the estate over time.



The estate was renamed Blair Adam when it was bought in the 1730's by William Adam, the leading Scottish architect of his time. He developed the estate and built a house which has remained in the family to the present day. He set up coal mines in the area and established the village of Maryburgh for the miners to live in. His sons, John, James and Robert were also architects. Robert Adam created the neo-classical style of architecture and designed many of the buildings in Edinburgh's New Town. In the early 19th century Sir Walter Scott visited Blairadam regularly for the annual meeting of the Blairadam Antiquarian Club. It is recorded that he enjoyed the views from the estate across to Loch Leven.

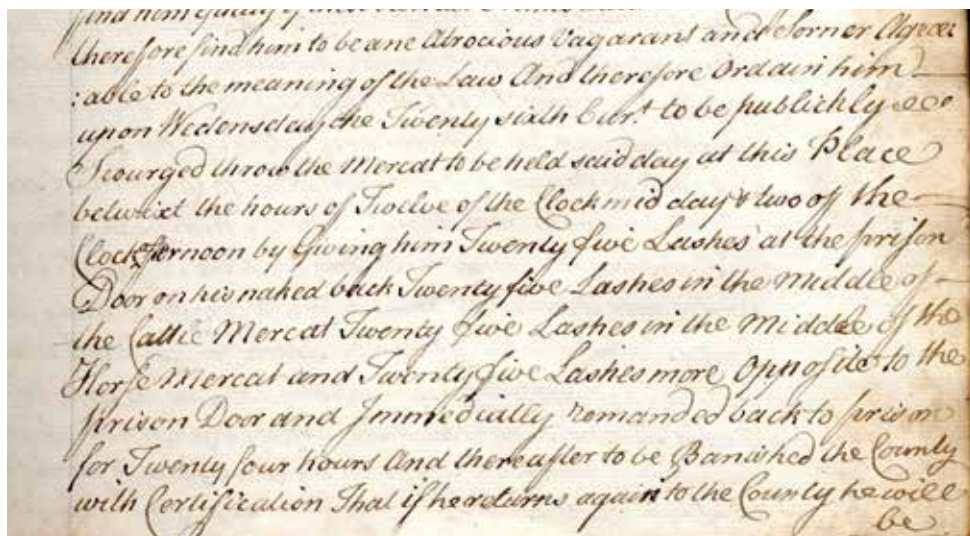
What Can the Documents Tell Us?

On the subject of **crime and punishment**, for example, different types of records are available - such as building plans, justice of the peace minutes, journals of the prison governors, surgeons and chaplains - which can provide information for local and family history researchers, and give an insight into the social history of the period.

Family historians will find details of names, residence, occupations, and sometimes physical descriptions. Kinross Prison records include a register of criminals, shown on the next page, which records not just the crime committed, but also the prisoner's physical attributes and skills. For instance, we know that a 47 year old female from Milnathort, was 5ft 1 inch in height, full of face and stout made, of ruddy complexion, with black hair and grey eyes. She was twice imprisoned in 1841: first serving 20 days for theft of a printed cotton gown and 33 days for theft of cabbages from a garden. She could read with difficulty, but couldn't sign her name. Some prisoners are shown to improve in literacy and practical skills ("*can knit stockings*") during their time in prison.

The extract below, from the justices of the peace minutes of 1769, illustrates the severity of punishment in the eighteenth century. Found to be an "*Atrocious Vagarant and Sorner*" [a menacing scrounger] John Robertson was sentenced to be whipped through the market for two hours, being given 25 lashes "*on his naked back*" at Kinross Prison door, 25 lashes in the Horse Mercat and 25 lashes opposite the prison door, imprisoned for 24 hours then banished from the county.

The plans for the County Buildings, Kinross, 1860, show the lock-up housing the prisoners on the ground floor, with the policeman's accommodation upstairs.



Therefore find him to be an Atrocious Vagarant and Sorner Agree-
able to the meaning of the Law And therefore order him
upon Wednesday the Twentysixth Ebr. to be publicly cor-
porated thro the Mercat to be held said day at this Place
between the hours of Twelve of the Clock mid day & two of the
Clock afternoon by Giving him Twenty five Lashes at the Prison
Door on his naked back Twenty five Lashes in the middle of
the Cattle Mercat Twenty five Lashes in the middle of the
Horse Mercat and Twenty five Lashes more opposite to the
Prison Door and immediately remanded back to prison
for Twenty four hours and thereafter to be Banished the County
with Certification That if he returns again to the County he will
be

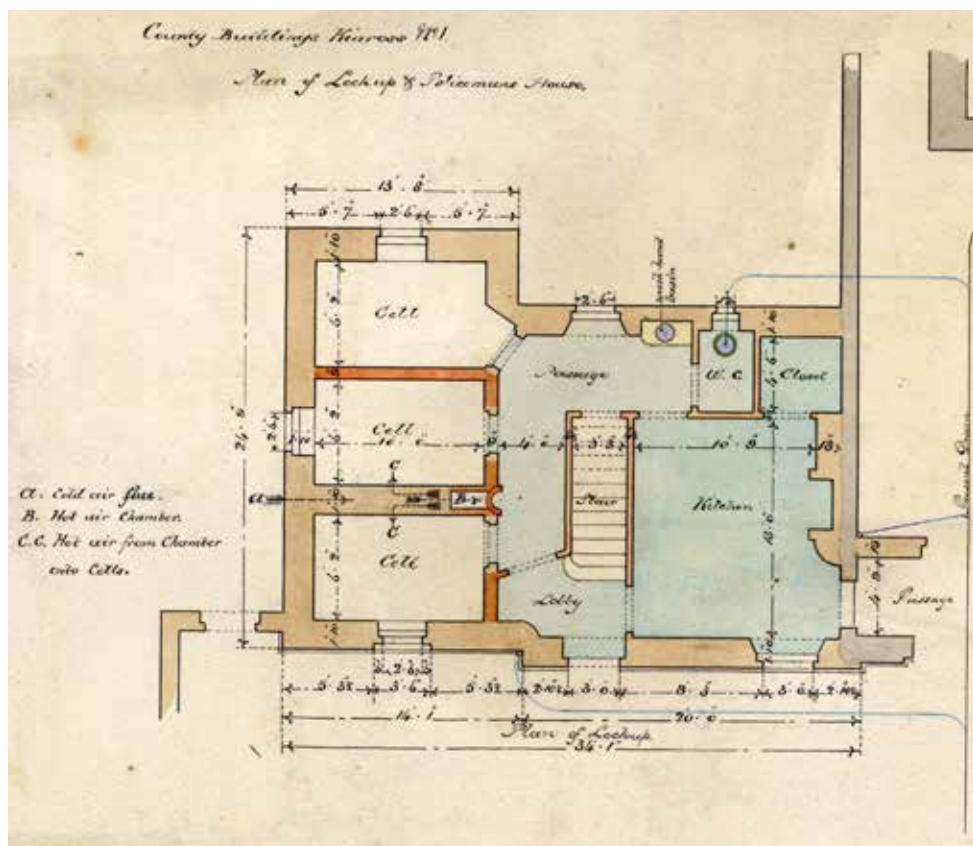
Above: Extract from justices of the peace minutes, 1769 • Ref: JP21/2/1

Height.		Description.				Offence.
Feet.	Inches.	Complexion.	Hair.	Eyes.	Marks, &c.	[State the precise Offence; as, in name of the Articles stolen, &c.]
5	1	Ruddy	Black Dark gray		Fall in forehead & round in body	Steal of a printed cotton gown
5		Ruddy	Black gray		Stout in stature	Steal of some iron found notes
5	2	Ruddy	Brown Gray		Stout in figure & round in body	Steal of a crown & a bag of money

Above: Extract from Kinross Prison register of criminals, 1841 • Ref: CC2/1/4/11 part 2

Below: Extract from plan of lock-up and policeman's house Kinross, showing the ground floor lock-up, 1860. Staff accommodation was in the two-bedroom and kitchen apartment on the first floor [not shown].

Ref: CC1/P285



Family Papers



Extracts from Blacks of Tillywhally, correspondence, 1942.
Ref: MS232/2

These documents illustrate the poignant effect war had on Kinross-shire families. Stewart Belfrage Black set sail with the 6th Seaforth Highlanders in March 1942. In a letter to his mother in Milnathort he wrote *"we are still at sea and speculating as to our destination"*. But despite his later cable stating that he is safe and well, his mother received a telegram dated 21 May reporting his death in Madagascar, an island off the south east coast of Africa. Later documents inform her of his burial there, such a long way away from home.

But why were the British Forces in Madagascar? Why did they attack this French colony? Further research reveals that after the fall of France in 1940, Madagascar was controlled by the pro-German French Vichy government and the Allies feared that the Japanese would move into the island and use it as a strategic base in the Indian Ocean. During *"Operation Ironclad"*, an invasion of the island on 5 May, over 100 British personnel were killed in action before the Allied Forces gained control of the island.

Even a small envelope of documents can set research off in surprising directions.

Valuation Rolls

Valuation rolls, produced by county assessors, were published annually between 1855-1989, and listed actual or theoretical annual rental to form the basis of local taxation. These documents are of interest to researchers of local, family and house history.

This extract relates to Orwell Parish, 1876-1877. *Description of subjects* shows land use (grazing, shootings, woodland) and the function of buildings on the land (shop, sawmill, loom-stance). The document is in alphabetical order of the *proprietors*, many of whom lived elsewhere (Carlisle, Perth). Other properties were owned by people living as far afield as Australia and the Cape of Good Hope. Proprietors, and *tenants/occupiers* of property over £4 are named, and sometimes occupations are given (farmer, fletcher, tailor). The record shows that the Orwell Vale Woollen Mill was owned by Milnathort Spinning Company and names the Company's four equal partners.

Comparison of valuation rolls for different years can provide clues to the development of a place over time. Used in conjunction with other resources, close examination of the valuation rolls for your area could provide a better understanding of your local history. What will you discover?

No.	Description of Subject.	Proprietor.	Tenant or Occupier.	Yearly Rent or Value.
LANDS VALUATION ROLL FOR THE COUNTY OF KINROSS, FOR THE YEAR COMMENCING AT WHITSUNDAY, 1876.				
PARISH OF ORWELL, CONTINUED				
M				
256	House and Garden, Stirling Street	Miss Macraughton	said Miss Macraughton	£6 0 0
257	Lands of Springhall 130 ac.	Mrs. Jean Mailler	said Mrs. Mailler	134 15 0
258	Woodlands, do. 4 ac.	do.	do.	1 5 0
259	Shootings, do.	do.	do.	2 0 0
260	House and Shop, New Road	Trustees of Rev. Jessie Whyte Mailler	Alexander Gordon, fletcher	8 0 0
261	House, do.	do.	Andrew Buchanan, sawyer	5 0 0
262	House, Westcloan	Mrs. William Marshall	said Mrs. Marshall	3 0 0
263	House, do.	do.	do.	2 5 0
264	House and Stable, Backloan	Dr. William Marshall	said Dr. Marshall	12 0 0
265	House and Loom-stance, South Street	Andrew Martin, brewer, Canal Street, Perth	Tenant under £4	3 0 0
266	House, Office, and Garden, Athrosshall 50 ac.	James Martin, timber merchant, Carlisle	said James Martin	25 0 0
267	Lands of do. 108 ac.	do.	do.	55 0 0
268	Woodlands, do.	do.	do.	69 0 0
269	Saw mill and Water-power, do.	do.	do.	3 0 0
270	House and Saw-mill, Mearns	do.	do.	25 0 0
271	Part of Cottage, Athrosshall	do.	Alexander Haeig, contractor	4 10 0
272	Part of Cottage, do.	do.	do.	2 10 0
273	Lands of Hallgreig	do.	said James Martin	100 0 0
274	Woodlands, do.	do.	do.	48 0 0
275	Cottage and Garden, Tillyrie	do.	Thomas Syme, farmer, Tillyrie	5 0 0
276	House, do.	do.	Tenants under £4	8 10 0
277	Farm of Tarhill and Cosaly 150 ac.	Trustees of late George Martin	John Hamilton, farmer	260 0 0
278	Woodlands, do. 1 ac.	do.	said Trustees	1 0 0
279	House, Garden, and Smithy, Westcloan	Thomas McBride, (a minor)	Joseph McBride, blacksmith	11 0 0
280	House, do.	do.	John Watson, joiner	4 0 0
281	House and Attic Rooms, do.	do.	Robert A. Kay, tailor	4 0 0
282	House and Garden, Mearns Road	Alexander Miller, teacher	said Alexander Miller	14 0 0
283	House and Loom-stance, do.	James Miller, weaver	said James Miller	5 18 0
284	House, Westcloan	Robert Miller, weaver	said Robert Miller	4 14 0
285	House and Garden, Backloan	William Miller, mason	said William Miller	5 0 0
286	House, do.	do.	do.	2 0 0
287	Orwell Vale Woollen Mill, Milnathort	Milnathort Spinning Company, Partners—Michael Chapman, Milnathort (¼ share); John Ewing, Bannockburn (¼ share); Henry Robertson, manufacturer, Milnathort (¼ share); Wm. Bannage, manufacturer, Milnathort (¼ share)	said Company	505 0 0
288	Free Church Manse and Garden, New Road	Rev. Alexander Mitchell	said Rev. A. Mitchell	30 0 0
289	House and Garden, Mill How	John Mitchell, labourer	said John Mitchell	5 0 0
290	Part of Farm of Barlugh 200 ac.	Sir G. G. Montgomery, Bart.	Robert H. Anderson, farmer	121 0 0
291	Lands, Walkmill of Berlugh 10 ac.	do.	do.	20 0 0
292	Grange of Tarhill Wood 11 ac.	do.	do.	8 0 0
293	Woodlands, Tarhill	do.	said Sir G. G. Montgomery	2 0 0

Extract of valuation roll for the parish of Orwell, 1876-1877 • Ref: CC1/8/2/4A



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Extract from plan of Whinfield Estate near Kinross, c1794 • Ref: MS204/1/4/44

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