The Angel’s Share: Stirling Council Archive’s holdings.

Jane Petrie
Assistant Archivist
What are Archives?

• the precious small percentage of all records produced considered worthy of long term preservation

• records created by clubs, societies, businesses, schools, councils, private individuals, estates, families…

• archives are determined by their information value - *not* their age or format!
Evidential & information value
• Illustrate how organisations function
• Demonstrate and confirm decisions and actions
• Archives provide public accountability

Historical Value
• Written memory of organisations & individuals who create them
• Provide a framework for our understanding of the past
• ‘community heritage chest’
Stirling Council Archives

- Central Region Archives 1975 – Old High School, Stirling
- 1989 Moved to Burghmuir Industrial Estate
- 1996 Reorganisation
  - Stirling Council Archives
  - Falkirk Archives
  - Clackmannanshire Archives
- 2005 Moved to Springkerse
Core Holdings: Council Records

• Stirling Burgh
  • Services of Heirs, Burgh register of Probative Writs
  • Sasines
  • Council Minutes
  • Burgh Court Books
  • Dean of Guild
  • Guildry
  • Charters

• Protocol books
• Church Records
• Maps & Plans
• Education Records
• Clubs and Societies
• Photographs
Burgh Accounts and Financial Papers, B66/25/520, 26 Nov. 1653

‘Discharge by James Ewing to John Macknair, treasurer, for 1. £24 Scots for ‘attending and keiping and guyding the toune knock and for furnishing oyll therto’ from Michaelmas 1652 to Michaelmas 1653, and 2. £4.12s Scots for ‘going throw the toune with the bell tuentie thrie severall times for proclaiming the duties belonging to the toune’ for same period at 4s. Each time ‘the old ordinar price’. 
Services of Heirs

Card indexes available

1751 - 1796 B66/12/1-2,


B66/14/2, p330: Dec 1842

McKillop/Flyn/Munro/Benn

Mrs. Frances McKillop or Flyn, Carlton St., Edinburgh, one of the daughters of the now deceased William McKillop, writer in Stirling, and widow of Lieut. Col. John Flyn, formerly of Glasgow, and Miss Mary Mosely Munro, Stirling, and Mrs. Helen Munro or Benn, spouse of Lieut. Anthony Benn of the Royal Artillery, presently at Malta, only children of late Capt. William Munro of the Royal Artillery, who was only son of Mrs Helen McKillop or Munro, another of the daughters of the said deceased William McKillop, wife of now deceased Major Alexander Munro, sometime residing in Stirling, as heirs to deceased William McKillop, writer in Stirling, 2nd son of the said deceased William McKillop, their brother and Granduncle respectively…’
‘Jean Stark (nee Miller) wife of John Stark lately residing in Laurieston now residing in the township of Willoughby in the district of Niagara county of Lincoln and province of Upper Canada, as heiress of the deceased Joseph Miller Junior sailor on board the Naiad Man of War and sometime residing in Laurieston’
People and Places – Sasine Registers

Stirling Burgh 1674 - 1809

Abridgements

- Stirling County 1781 – Date
- Perth County 1869 - 1986
Estate Plans

Ordnance Survey Map 1st Edition 1858
Electoral Registers

[with gaps]

Stirling County:
(West, East Stirlingshire)
1885-86, 1964-1973 [with gaps]

Perth County:
(Doune and Deanston)
Valuation Rolls

- Stirling Burgh
- Stirling County
- Perth County
Church Records – Kirk Sessions

and the said Anne Brown being called to perjury,
and being further interrogated as to the said Anne Brown being called to perjury,
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CH2/722/2

At Sterling on thursday [th]e xvii day of septe[m]ber 1590

Church Records - Registers
Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Stirling. Baptisms 1814

While the Episcopalian Church did not see itself as ‘moral guardian’ of its flock in the way the Presbyterian Kirk did, we can still detect Gleig’s subtle disapproval:

‘Reid Margaret the daughter of Christian Robertson and, is she says, of her late husband John Reid ploughman in Dunfermline. The woman says that John Reid died nine months ago, and that the Child is six months old, but I convicted her of one falsehood & she may have told more.’ Sept 7th 1814.

PD205/1/1
Baptism April 1820
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Names</th>
<th>Residence</th>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>Where Buried</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1819</td>
<td>James Mitchell</td>
<td>St Ninians</td>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>St Ninians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>John Stirling</td>
<td>Loudenford</td>
<td>Old Age</td>
<td>St Ninians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Beatrice Bruce</td>
<td>Dumbarton</td>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>St Ninians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mrs Bruce</td>
<td>Dumbarton</td>
<td>Old Age</td>
<td>St Ninians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Hugh Richardson</td>
<td>Dumbarton</td>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>St Ninians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>James Richardson</td>
<td>Dumbarton</td>
<td>Old Age</td>
<td>St Ninians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>James Stirling</td>
<td>Dumbarton</td>
<td>Cancer</td>
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<td>St Ninians</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
XA2/1/17 - lair register with 15th C charter used as cover.
31.12.28 School was closed today for the Christmas vacation. The usual Christmas treat with tree and gifts to the children. Ane.

Gargunnock Admissions 1872
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Residence</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Date of Memo of Parish Board</th>
<th>Place of Birth</th>
<th>Parochial Relief</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michael Rabbit</td>
<td>St. Marys, Dumbarton</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>26th April 1880</td>
<td>Left to Support by Friends in Ireland</td>
<td>Protestant, Non-Church of Scotland</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Earnings, Means, and Resources, besides Poor Relief</th>
<th>Nature of Settlement</th>
<th>Date of Change of Circumstances and Subsequent Proceedings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Residence</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Susan Seaton</td>
<td>Churchyard</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>17th Oct 1879</td>
<td>Scotland, Parish of Stirling</td>
<td>Single, Widowed, with Child or Children living in family</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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</table>
Local Crime: Stirling Burgh Court act book known as the ‘Vagabond Book’ 1752 - 1787
B66/19/4

Punishment

Bartholomew Byrne and Laurence Byrne who were yesterday committed as vagrants having no certificate or pass along with them, being brought before the said Bailie, and having confessed to banish themselves the town of Dunblane and forsooth thereof in all time coming, The Bailie hereby banishes them the town with bodily, if they be afterwards found therein, they shall be disgracefully put forth of the Burgh and banished under more severe conditions, and this sentence judiciously read over and intimated to them.

Bartholomew Byrne

Rob. Alexander
The Council receive and admit William Foware, weaver, in Stirling, husband of Jean Shuray, daughter of James Shuray, merchant burgess of this burgh, to the liberty and freedom of a burgess qua fabbro in broch, and he being present made faith as use is, and paid the treasurer eight pounds, the money as the dues of his entry.

James Mair, Stirling Council

Stirling Burgh minutes 18 January 1783

Stirling Burgess Roll 1659 - 1902
Trade Associations

Stirling Guildry minute 8 August 1800

“…authorised Mary Thomson in Stirling to open a shop… and to carry on the business of a merchant during her life…”

Stirling Incorporated Trade of Baxters 1816

“…William Watt performing a say of a veal pie, the Trade approves of the same…”
Working Lives

D & J MacEwen & Co. Grocers, Port Street, Stirling c. 1920

Plough horses and haymaking team at Manor Farm, near Stirling c. 1930
Stirling Burgh Police 1914

Cowie Colliers c. 1910

Plean Junction Station at Cowie c. 1904
Estate Papers

- Polmaise
- Gargunnock
- Balquhidder Estate
- West Plean...

PD189 re-enveloped and packed in acid free boxes.
Estate Papers

Bolton of West Plean: -
• Correspondence
• Legal papers
• Photographs

PD50/2/1
Newspapers held at Stirling Council Archives - some indexes for SO & SJ&Ad available

- Stirling Journal & Advertiser
- Stirling Journal
- Stirling Observer - town and county editions
- Bridge of Allan Reporter
- Stirling Sentinel
- Stirling Gazette
Putting all the pieces together...
Postman

‘The Band Race’ Callander Highland Games c. 1890
Callander Highland Games c. 1890
Tree barking
The work of the Archive

• Accessioning and cataloguing collections
• enquiries - 2010-11: 828 enquiries
  • family history 41%
  • local history 29%
  • internal council enquiries 11%
  • academic/education 6%
  • other 13%
• productions: 4000 + individual items 2010-11
• visitors: 1100+ people, mostly Local History
• volunteering programme - 20 volunteers at the moment
Researchers & Topics

• Local historians
• Academics
• Family historians
• Internal users
• School children
• researching house history or plans
• volunteering opportunities
• Remote research service
• group tours and talks by appointment….
• use of the archives is FREE to all!
Stirling Council Archives
5 Borrowmeadow Road, Springkerse, Stirling
Opening Hours: Monday to Thursday 9:00 – 12:30 & 1:30 – 4:30
Tel: 01786 450745 E-mail: archive@stirling.gov.uk
Website: www.stirling.gov.uk/archives