

Reproducible Material

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Documentary Evidence Primary Sources Local Studies

A) Aberdeen Central Library

Open 9.00am - 8.00pm Monday -Thursday and 9.00am-5.00pm Friday & Saturday. It is advisable to contact the department the day before so they can find more information (Tel: 01224 652512 and ask for Local Studies Department).

1. Parish Records

Aberdeen City Library holds Parish Records from the mid 1700s onwards. They were compiled by the Minister of each parish. The basic information included in these records are the names of people who got married, were baptised, who brought children to be baptised and those who died as well as where they came from. In some cases the Minister has also included the occupation of men.

2. Census Records

These are available from 1841-1901 (there is a 100 year embargo on access to census information). It is arranged by parish and contains information relating to who was staying in any one house on the night the census was taken. It gives details of street, and in rural area farm or township names; names ages and occupations of people and whether they were born in the parish in which they were staying. In the earlier returns house numbers are not given, but later they are included. The census is taken every 10 years.

When using census returns it is useful to compare the information over a period of about 30 years as it helps to show how an area has developed and the movement of people within it. In an agricultural area it may show people moving from farm to farm or the abandonment of an upland township. In villages and towns census returns give an insight to which trades are practised, how many professions are represented and how many people are in service or in receipt of poor relief.

The microfilm editions of both parish records and census returns are facsimiles of the original entries. This means that the handwriting is often difficult to read and the spelling of place names variable. Because both parish records and census returns are arranged geographically it is useful to have to hand an Ordnance Survey 1:25 000 map of the area you are interested in and a copy of an Ordnance Survey First Edition 6 map if possible. This helps to unscramble some of the place names included in either parish records or census returns.

3. Statistical Accounts

The first of these, the Statistical Account for Scotland (sometimes referred to as the Old Statistical Account) was produced in the 1790s. This was carried out for the whole of Scotland and compiled for each parish by its Minister. These give an account of the area in which the parish is situated including physical features; flora and fauna; population statistics; employment details e.g. wages and main providers of employment; language (especially in highland areas); education, provision of churches; roads and bridges; advantages and disadvantages of the Parish and local antiquities. Because the range of information contained in the account is so varied it is not very detailed. It is an excellent account of a ministers view of his parish. In 1845 the New Statistical Account for Scotland was produced as an updated version of what was happening in each parish. The most recent in the series is the Third Statistical Account For Scotland, which was published in the 1950s.

B) Aberdeenshire & Aberdeen City Archives

(Contact Dr Judith Cripps, City Archivist. Tel 01224 522521)

Online at <http://www.edina.ed.ac.uk/statacc/>

1. Poor Relief

Minutes and registers of Parochial Boards who administered poor relief are available between 1845 and 1894 and the Parish Councils between 1894-1930. (Available for Aberdeen County (except the City), Banff, Kincardine and Moray). The Registers give detailed accounts of all the people in receipt of poor relief including name, age, place of birth, current address, state of health, occupation if any and any know

relatives. The latter was important, as the parish recouped their relief payments from any relatives who lived in the same parish. The parish was only responsible for those with no family. (The manuscripts are not indexed).

2. Property Valuation

These are arranged by the parish, estate or street and give the names of the proprietor, tenant and occupier of each property and the yearly value. (These are not indexed).

Kincardine County: 1862/63, 1869/70, 1873,74,1878/79,1991/82,1974/75 (except for Inverbervie Burgh before 1930/31).

3. Education

Admission Registers of pupils and School Log Books from 1873 onwards and Minutes of Parish and Burgh School Boards between 1873 and 1919 and of City and County Education Authorities between 1919 and 1975. (No indexes for Banff, Kincardine and Moray).

Maps

Note: All maps are drawn for a purpose, so there will always be a bias towards a particular feature e.g. Pont Rivers, Roy Military Roads.

A series of historic maps has been included in this pack.

1 The earliest is an extract from one of Timothy Ponts maps of the North East of Scotland, first printed c.1590. Ponts maps were based on rivers and their drainage patterns, so settlements are shown in relation to rivers rather than roads which are not shown at all. Copies of his original map can be obtained from the Map Library, National Library of Scotland, 33 Salisbury Place, Edinburgh EH9 1SL (Tel 0131 466 3813 ext 3413, e-mail maps@nls.uk).

2 The next are extracts from General Roys Maps of Military Roads made in 1750. These maps show settlement and land-use patterns in areas near to military roads including drainage patterns. The original map also contained physical features such as hills but these have not been included in the extracts. Colour slides from the original maps

are available from the British Library in London but you need to know the catalogue number for the area you want. For information contact the Map Library, National Library of Scotland (Tel 0131 446 3813 ext 3412).

3 John Robertsons map of 1822 shows the existing road network as well as physical features and settlements. Both the City Library and Aberdeenshire Library Service at Oldmeldrum have a number of Robertsons maps.

4 Ordnance Survey Maps, First & Second Editions. These are available at 6 inch to the mile and 1:25 000 scales. They are similar to modern Ordnance Survey maps and are contoured at 100-foot intervals including some spot heights. These maps were originally surveyed in the mid to late 1860s and the Second Edition was revised around 1900. They are not divided into grid squares like modern Ordnance Survey maps. Aberdeen City Library have a wide range of First & Second Edition Ordnance Survey maps and copies can be obtained from there.

All of the maps and map extracts included in this pack are free from copyright restrictions and can be copied for schools use. The copyright of the original copies of Pons Maps are held by the National Library of Scotland, and the copyright of the original survey done by General Roy is held by the British Library.

Summary of map extracts

1. ORDNANCE SURVEY FIRST EDITION
Collieston
Surveyed c1868-69
2. ORDNANCE SURVEY FIRST EDITION
Old Rayne
Surveyed c1868-69
3. ORDNANCE SURVEY FIRST EDITION
Tolquhon Castle
Surveyed c1868-69
4. ORDNANCE SURVEY FIRST EDITION
Monymusk
Surveyed c1868-69
5. ORDNANCE SURVEY FIRST EDITION
Logie Elphinstone
Surveyed c1868-69
6. ORDNANCE SURVEY FIRST EDITION
Mither Tap
Surveyed c1868-69
7. ORDNANCE SURVEY FIRST EDITION
Hill of Dunnideer
Surveyed c1868-69
8. JOHN THOMSON, EDINBURGH
Collieston, 1826
9. JOHN THOMSON, EDINBURGH
Tolquhon, 1826

10. GENERAL ROY'S MILITARY SURVEY
Collistown, Slanes
1750
11. GENERAL ROY'S MILITARY SURVEY
Old Rain
1750
12. GENERAL ROY'S MILITARY SURVEY
Monymoth
1750
13. GENERAL ROY'S MILITARY SURVEY
Falwhon
1750
14. GENERAL ROY'S MILITARY SURVEY
Castle of Duniere
15. TOMOHTY PONT
Ellan to Colestown
c1590