

## Fishing resources in Special Collections

September 2021

QG HCOL019

### The Wolfson Reading Room

#### Special Collections Centre

The University Library  
University of Aberdeen  
Bedford Road  
Aberdeen  
AB24 3AA

---

### Introduction

Many individuals, families, organisations and businesses have deposited their papers with the University and as a result, it has acquired an unrivalled collection of material, not solely relating to the history and culture of the north-east of Scotland but of national and international importance.

### Archival collections

#### Family and estate papers

Many notable families have deposited their papers with the University and these archives are fantastically rich for the study of estate management including development of harbours and establishment of fishing communities.

Fraser of Philorth papers relating to the construction of a new pier in Fraserburgh, agreement with the Northern Lighthouse Commissioners about their buildings and maps and plans of the site. In addition there are a series of papers relating to the Broadsea fishing village including an inventory of fishing boats and houses from 1789 and other related papers about the community (MS 3004).

Gordon of Cluny papers: Buckie Harbour plans: 1875 – 1877 (MS 3600).

#### Organisation papers

Aberdeen Shipmaster Society: 1590 – current (MS 2940 & MS 3070).

Aberdeen Fish Curers and Merchants Association: 1888 – 1947 (MS 3054).

Aberdeen Fish Salesmen's Association: 1896 – 2003 (MS 3874).

National Union of Dock Labourers: 1912 – 1927 (MS 2879).

National Union of Seamen: 1926 – 1959 (MS 2644).

Scottish Sea Fishers' Union: 1899 - 1957 (MS 2680 & MS 2880).

Ship Constructors' and Shipwrights' Association: 1916 – 1965 (MS 2670).

Steamfishing Vessels, Engineers' and Firemen's Union: 1906 – 1957 (MS 2680 and MS 2880).

#### Business papers

George Washington Wilson and Co., photographers (for images of shipping and fishing): 1850 – 1905 (MS 3792)

Aberdeen Harbour Board Photographic Collections: 1880s - 1930s (MS 3595).

Aberdeen Trawlers Records: 1891 – 1913 (MS 2791).

Aberdeen Trawlowners' and Traders' Engineering Company Ltd.: 1900-1971 (MS 3248).

Records of Flett and Sutherland, fish salesmen of Findochty, Banffshire: 1899 – 1921 (MS 3229).

#### Personal papers

Brooke, G.: fishing registers recording salmon catches on the rivers Spey and Dee, Speyside and Aberdeenshire: 1931 – 1959 (MS 3644).

Cardno, David Hawthorn: journals of whaling and sealing voyages, 1866 – 1960s (MS 3090).

Forbes, John, Admiralty employee: papers relating to the survey of fishing grounds: 1948 – 1964 (MS 3389).

Henderson, Walter, diary of a whaling voyage from Peterhead to Greenland: 1853 (MS 2719).

Kerr, George: Diary of whaling expedition: 1791 (MS 2238).

Penny, Captain William, ship master: papers: 1842 – 1854 (MS 2295).

Diary of a whaling voyage from Aberdeen to the David Straits by an unknown author: 1831 (MS 673).

### Other relevant collections

Davidson and Garden, advocates, Aberdeen: 15<sup>th</sup> century – 20<sup>th</sup> century. This collection consists of papers from various organisations and businesses (MS 2769).

Aberdeen Stock Exchange: 1845 – 1952. Papers include company records such as articles of association and annual reports. Those included are: Scottish Steam Herring Fishing Co. (MS 2756).

Scots statutes relating to fishing, etc.: created c. 1720, statutes date from 1237-1597 (MS 2299).

### Printed collections

The Local Collection, accessible via The Wolfson Reading Room, contains relevant printed

---

materials such as publications from the Aberdeen Harbour Commissioners.

### **Access**

Materials are available upon request for consultation in the Reading Room. Please search online catalogues to identify individual items.

### **Further reading**

For further reading please also see the studies of a number of manuscripts, printed books and collections in the journals *Aberdeen University Library Bulletin*, *Aberdeen University Review* and *Northern Scotland*.