Fishing resources in Special Collections
Andrew MacGregor, May 2018
QG HCOL019 [www.abdn.ac.uk/special-collections/documents/guides/qghcol019.pdf]

The Wolfson Reading Room
Special Collections Centre
The University Library
University of Aberdeen
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Aberdeen
AB24 3AA
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E-mail: speclib@abdn.ac.uk
Website: www.abdn.ac.uk/special-collections

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.

Please note that this factsheet should be consulted in conjunction with the factsheets QG HCOL013: Agricultural and farming resources in Special Collections and QG HCOL018: Family and estate papers in Special Collections.

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 Seamen: 1926 – 1959 (MS 2644).
Scottish Sea Fishers' Union: 1899 - 1957 (MS 2680 & MS 2880).
Steamfishing Vessels, Engineers’ and Firemen’s Union: 1906 – 1957 (MS 2680 and MS 2880).

Business papers
Aberdeen Harbour Board Photographic Collections: 1880s - 1930s (MS 3595).
Aberdeen Trawlers Records: 1891 – 1913 (MS 2791).
Aberdeen Trawlers’ Engineering Company Ltd.:1900-1971 (MS 3248).
Records of Flett and Sutherland, fish salesmen of Findochty, Banffshire: 1899 – 1921 (MS 3229).

Personal papers
Cardno, David Hawthorn: journals of whaling and sealing voyages, 1866 – 1960s (MS 3090).
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: 15th century – 20th 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: www.abdn.ac.uk/special-collections/search-catalogues/catalogues-60.php.

**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.

**Links**
National Register of Archives
http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/
George Washington Wilson & Co. Photographic Collection
www.abdn.ac.uk/special-collections/george-washington-wilson.php
Aberdeen Harbour Board Photographic Collection
www.abdn.ac.uk/special-collections/aberdeen-harbour-board.php
Aberdeen Built Ships
www.aberdeenships.com/.