

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

Local reference books, booklets and papers :

Gruinard and Letterewe The Lairds and The Clearances – William MacRobbie

The Heroes of Gairloch Parish World War 1 – Ann Roots and William MacRobbie

The Heroes of Gairloch Parish World War 11 – Ann Roots and William MacRobbie

Achgarve the history of a west highland crofting community - William MacRobbie

The History of Achtercairn Gairloch – Jeremy Fenton

Achtercairn Paths Gairloch Archaeology and Nature Walks – Jeremy Fenton

The Road to the Lighthouse exploring Smithstown to Melvaig and beyond – Dorothy Malone

Exploring Gairloch's South Side from Kerry Bridge to Craig – Dorothy Malone

Around Aultbea from Drumchork to Slaggan – Dorothy Malone

On Foot in Gairloch Flowerdale, Inchgowan, Charleston, the Harbour, Achadesdale, Achtercairn & Strath – Dorothy Malone

Following in the Steps of Queen Victoria : her visit to Gairloch – Dorothy Malone

The Story of Fishing in Gairloch – James R. Coull

The Settlement Names of Gairloch Parish – Ian Fraser

Many booklets about Lonemore

Many booklets about Port Henderson

Many booklets etc. about various townships etc. from the last exhibition (e.g. Melvaig/ Flowerdale area/South Erradale/Badachro Farm/Laide & area/Mills & Kilns/the Boom/Altantarsin/croft 56

Mellon Charles/Sand Passage/Roads & Bridges

Londhu Burial Ground

Folders about the time line

Eighty Years in the Highlands the Life and Times of Osgood H. Mackenzie of Inverewe 1842-1922 – Pauline Butler

Published books :

Place Names of Ross & Cromarty – Watson

People and Settlement in Wester Ross – edited by John Baldwin

General View of the Agriculture of the Counties of Ross and Cromarty: with observations on the means of its improvement (1813)

Gairloch and Guide to Loch Maree – Dixon

Hints for the Use of Highland Tenants and Cottages : by a Proprietor – Inverness 1838

The Improvement of Highland Crofts – J. MacKenzie 1842

Napier Commission Report – 1884

Ordnance Gazetteer of Scotland – Francis Groome 1st ed. 1882-1885 & 2nd ed. 1892-1896 (on-line)

The Historic Land-use Assessment of Wester Ross – Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland

A Hundred Years in Wester Ross 1900-2000 – Donald Shaw

A Hundred Years in the Highlands – Osgood Hanbury MacKenzie

The Making of the Crofting Community – James Hunter

'Back to the wind, front to the sun' the traditional croft house – Caroline Hirst

The Highland Clearances – Eric Richards

The Drove Roads of Scotland - Haldane

Pigeon Holes of Memory the Life and Times of Dr. John Mackenzie (1803-1886)- Christina Byam Shaw

My School and Schoolmasters – Hugh Miller

Local archives :

1) Statistical Accounts of Scotland – detailed descriptions of every parish in Scotland

- First or 'Old' Statistical Account (1791-1799) (on-line)
- Second or 'New' Statistical Account (1834-1845) (on-line)
- Third Statistical Account (1951-1992)

2) Gazetteers

3) Trade Directories

- Slater's Directory

4) Old newspapers

5) Travel journals

- Thomas Pennant
- James Hogg

6) Census records

7) Valuation rolls

8) Gairloch rental records

9) Gairloch estate records

10) Estate papers

11) Inland revenue survey

12) OPR (baptisms/marriages from c. 1790-1855) on micro-fiche

13) School log books (some)

14) Boxes of original archive material

15) Folders of gathered material

16) Miscellaneous files (genealogy etc.)

On-line resources :

1) NLS Digital Map Library – www.nls.uk/maps

- OS maps (early 1st and 2nd editions)
- Roy's Military Survey maps (copies in Museum)
- Marine maps
- Early printed maps (Blaeu, Moll)
- Pont's Maps of Scotland
- The north part of Sky island and the adjacent main of Scotland – Mackenzie 1775

2) SCRAN – www.scran.ac.uk

- subscription

3) Am Baile – www.ambaile.org.uk

- newspaper accounts (5 Highland newspapers 1807-1939) – can get up to 10 articles per request
- Crofters Commission Reports 1888-1906
- Slater's Directory 1911

4) RCAHMS/Canmore – www.rcahms.gov.uk

- lots of information held such as site descriptions, collection details, digital photos

5) Statistical Accounts of Scotland – www.edina.ac.uk/stat-acc-scot

Gairloch's Community Timeline

Mesolithic (c.8500-c.4000BC) – hunter gatherers/fishermen/living in tents, roundhouses, caves?

- Redpoint stone tool-making sight with examples of lithics – rock shelters? – shell midden

Neolithic (c.4000-c.2500BC) – farming/hunter gatherers/fishermen/living in rectangular framed houses, roundhouses?

- Polished axe head from Cove - Leaf-shaped arrowhead from Redpoint - Carved ball from Kinlochewe

Bronze Age (c.2500-c.700BC) – peat layers/metals/round houses in enclosed and unenclosed settlements

- Beaker burials along Loch Maree - Flint blade near Tournaig - Metalwork from river Ewe area and Poolewe - Copper/bronze ingot - Spearhead

Iron Age (c.700BC-c.1000AD) – iron/fortified settlements – duns & crannogs/round houses

- Many round houses – some isolated, some in settlements
- Burnt mounds?
- Crannogs
- Duns

Late Iron Age/Pictish

- Long cist
- 2 Pictish symbol stones

Vikings/Norse

- Maybe one long house near North Erradale?
- Place names

Medieval? Chapels/churches

- St. Maelrubha, Gairloch
- Londubh Old Graveyard
- Chapel of Sand of Udrigle, Laide
- Isle Maree
- Culinellan, Kinlochewe

Reformation to Industrial Revolution (c.1560s-c.1750) – mansion houses

- Flowerdale - Udrigle House
- Early maps
- Ironworking – Letterewe, Old Smiddy (Poolewe), Fasagh etc.

Industrial Revolution to 21st century (c.1750-present)

- Elite houses (Letterewe)
- Barns (Flowerdale, Bank barn, Poolewe, Kerrysdale)
- Cottars and croft housing – crofting township maps
- Shielings
- Abandoned townships (clearances?)
- Villages (Poolewe, Port Henderson)
- SSPCK schools
- Churches (Poolewe Telford, caves)
- Ice houses
- Fishing station remains – harbours/piers
- Limekilns
- Corn-drying kilns
- Mills
- Roads – military roads, destitution roads
- Bridges
- Lighthouse
- WW1 remains
- WW11 remains

Site recording

Type of site

- Single building (house/barn/byre/church/farmstead/sheiling site etc.)
- Group of buildings (crofting township/village)
- Structure (wall/well/bridge etc.)

Site description : setting & surroundings

- Position (slope/flat ground etc.)
- Relationship to other features (burn/path/fields etc.)
- Direction

- Altitude (take from map)
- Appearance (shape/condition etc.)

Details

Size & shape (internal/external)

Any distinctive or unusual features

Any apparent changes over the years

Functions

Building materials

Descriptions of adjoining features