

FALKIRK ARCHIVES

Customs and Excise records

Grangemouth Outport and District Records Finding Aid

Customs and Excise are central government functions which operated through local customs outports and excise districts. The two functions were administered separately as the Scottish Board of Customs 1707-1829 and the Scottish Board of Excise 1707-1830. The two Boards were combined from 1830 onwards and full details of the administrative history of these government departments can be found on the website of the National Records of Scotland.

Customs and Excise records are held in local archives under the charge and superintendence of the National Records of Scotland. The arrangement and numbering system in use is standardised across all customs and excise records and this is detailed at the end of this finding aid. This finding aid lists the records held for Grangemouth customs outport and excise district.

<i>Reference No</i>	<i>Production date</i>	<i>Brief Description</i>
CE68/1/1	1810-1813	Letter book, Collector to Board. Indexed.
CE68/1/2	1813-1814	Letter book, Collector to Board. Indexed.
CE68/1/3	1814-1815	Letter book, Collector to Board. Indexed.
CE68/1/4	1815-1816	Letter book, Collector to Board. Indexed.
CE68/1/5	1816-1819	Letter book, Collector to Board. Indexed.
CE68/1/6	1819-1823	Letter book, Collector to Board. Indexed.
CE68/1/7	1823-1828	Letter book, Collector to Board. Indexed.
CE68/1/8	1829-1837	Letter book, Collector to Board. Indexed.
CE68/1/9	1838-1846	Letter book, Collector to Board. Indexed.
CE68/1/10	1846-1855	Letter book, Collector to Board. Indexed.
CE68/1/11	1855-1858	Letter book, Collector to Board. Indexed.
CE68/1/12	1858-1861	Letter book, Collector to Board. Indexed.
CE68/1/13	1861-1866	Letter book, Collector to Board. Indexed.
CE68/1/14	1866-1872	Letter book, Collector to Board. Indexed.
CE68/1/15	1872-1878	Letter book, Collector to Board. Indexed.
CE68/1/16	1878-1882	Letter book, Collector to Board. Indexed.
CE68/1/17	1882-1885	Letter book, Collector to Board. Indexed.
CE68/1/18	1885-1888	Letter book, Collector to Board. Indexed.
CE68/1/19	1888-1892	Letter book, Collector to Board. Indexed.
CE68/1/20	1892-1896	Letter book, Collector to Board. Indexed.
CE68/1/21	1897-1902	Letter book, Collector to Board. Indexed.
CE68/1/22	1902-1903	Letter book, Collector to Board. Indexed.
CE68/1/23	1903-1904	Letter book, Collector to Board. Indexed (wet copy)
CE68/2/1	1814-1816	Letter book, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE68/2/2	1816-1822	Letter book, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE68/2/3	1810-1813	Letter book, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE68/2/4	1813-1816	Letter book, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE68/2/5	1817-1821	Letter book, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE68/2/6	1820-1848	Letter book, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE68/2/7	1856-1880	Letter book, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE68/2/8	1862-1902	Letter book, Board to Collector. Indexed.

CE68/2/9	1810-1826	Letter book, Board to Collector. Landwaiter's Copy. Indexed.
CE68/3/1	1890-1903	General letter book. Indexed.
CE68/3/2	1903-1905	General letter book. (wet copy) Indexed.
CE68/3/3	1905-1907	General letter book. (wet copy) Indexed.
CE68/4/1	1810-1826	Letter book, Tide Surveyor to Collector. Indexed.
CE68/4/2	1903-1908	Letter book, (wet copy) Board of Trade etc. Indexed.
CE68/4/3	1886-1902	Register of Ages and Capacities
CE68/4/4	1954-1987	Fees and Deeds Book
CE68/4/5	1855-1984	Appropriation Book
CE68/4/6	1897-1984	Particulars of wreck (Droit Book)
CE68/4/7	1954-1977	Particulars of wreck (Droit Book)
CE68/4/8	1933-1959	Record of Board's decisions, based on samples submitted, of duties to be levied on various goods
CE68/4/9	1890-1959	Register of Seamen Deserters
CE68/11/1	1931-1959	Register of Sea Fishing Boats (part 4)
CE68/11/2	1831-1984	Annual and Quinquennial Returns of Shipping
CE68/11/3	1857-1961	Register of Shipping
CE68/11/4	1855-1893	Register of Shipping
CE68/11/5	1887-1893	Register of Sea Fishing Boats in Scotland
CE68/11/6	1903-1918	Register of Sea Fishing Boats in Scotland
CE68/11/7	1836-1891	Register of Transactions relating to ships registered prior to May 1855
CE68/11/8	1857-1929	Register of Steam Boat Certificates delivered
CE68/11/9	1927-1944	Summary returns of Registered Fishing Boats

Administrative history of Customs & Excise

The Scottish Board of Customs was established following the Act of Union of 1707. In 1722 a statute (9 Geo. I c.21) authorised the creation of a single Board of Customs for Great Britain and in the following year a unified board was established by patent. However, certain of the commissioners named in this unified board were deputed to reside in Edinburgh for the transaction of Scottish business. In 1742 an independent Scottish Board of Customs was again appointed in terms of a new patent and was continued until the year 1823 when a unified board for the United Kingdom was established by statute (4 Geo. IV c.23). Certain powers were delegated to a subordinate board in Scotland. This subordinate board ceased to operate with effect from 5 July 1829 and was formally abolished in 1833 (3 & 4 Will. IV. c.51). Until 1 May 1798 the Commissioners of Customs also controlled the collection of the salt duties

Following the Act of Union of 1707, Commissioners were appointed to control the Excise in Scotland except for the Salt Duties, the collection of which was delegated to the Scottish Commissioners of Customs. From 1 May, 1798, however, the management of the Salt Duties in Scotland was transferred to the Scottish Board of Excise. In 1823 the administration of the excise throughout the United Kingdom was entrusted to a single board, certain powers being delegated to a subordinate board in Scotland (4 Geo. IV c. 23). The constitution of this subordinate board was modified in 1829 (10 Geo. IV c. 32) and it ceased to function with effect from 27 January, 1830.

Arrangement of records

The records are arranged into 11 series, not all of which will exist for individual places. The first five series are customs records and relate to the local customs outport; series 6-10 are the equivalent series for excise records and relate to the local excise district; and series 11 relates to the registration of ships and boats which was a function of customs outports.

1 Collector to Customs Board

Entry books of letters written by the Collector to the Scottish Board of Customs and to its successor bodies, including the Board of Customs and Excise after 1909

2 Customs Board to Collector

This series comprises two types of communications. (1) General orders addressed by the Board to all collections and (2) particular correspondence addressed by the Board to individual ports. Sometimes these two types of correspondence were entered in separate series of letter books. But it was a not uncommon practice to mix both together and the titles of various series "Boards orders", Board's General Orders", "Board's Letters", "General Letters" etc give no reliable indication of the character of the material. In addition it frequently occurs that no master set of Board's Orders was maintained in a port - each official keeping sets of those Orders which concerned his own particular functions. All volumes containing particular material addressed by the Board to a port have been retained and general material has been retained in all cases where it is not substantially duplicated in other series.

3 General Letter Books

These are entry books of out-letters addressed by the Collector to firms and individuals outside the service of the Board

4 Customs Miscellanea

This class can include Registers of Ages and Capacities, Board of Trade letter books, letter books containing internal correspondence within the post, Seizures Registers, lists of furniture and premises, charges against officers, Wreck Letter

books, Report books, Arrival books, Sailing books, King's warehouse registers, Registers of fees and deeds, etc. This class also includes Royal Naval Reserve registers which were administered by the Collector on behalf of the Royal Navy

5 Material Originating in Subordinate Ports or Creeks

6 Collector to Board of Excise

Entry books of letters written by the Collector to the Scottish Excise Board and its successor bodies including the Board of Customs and Excise after 1909.

7 Board of Excise to Collector

This series parallels series 2 and similarly may include both general and particular letters of the Board of Excise and its successor bodies including the Board of Customs and Excise after 1909

8 Excise General Letter Books

This series comprises entry books of out-letters and volumes of in-letters between the Collector and firms, and individuals outwith the service

9 Miscellaneous Excise records

This series includes inter alia Registers of Frauds and Seizures, Store and General Registers, account and cash books, stock inventories, rates of duties, etc.

10 Material Originating in Subordinate Excise Stations

11 Shipping Registers

This series includes Registers of Sea Fishing Boats in Scotland, Registers of Fishing Boats, and Registers of Shipping. These registers record title and property rights in ships and the descent and passage of that property from the date a ship is built until its registration is closed. The registers were administered by the Collectors of Customs in the ports of registration.