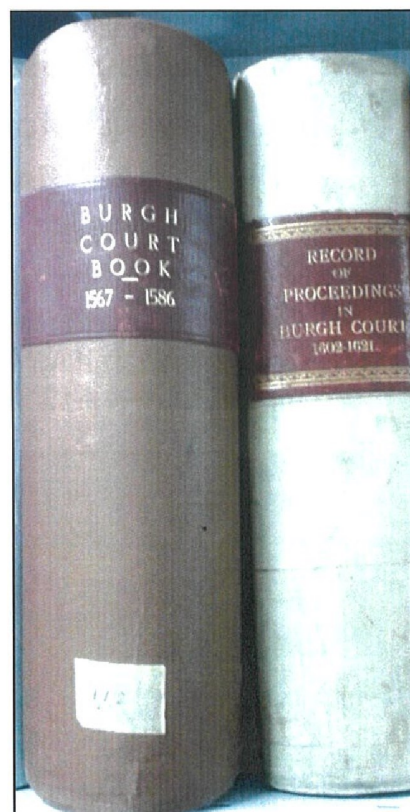
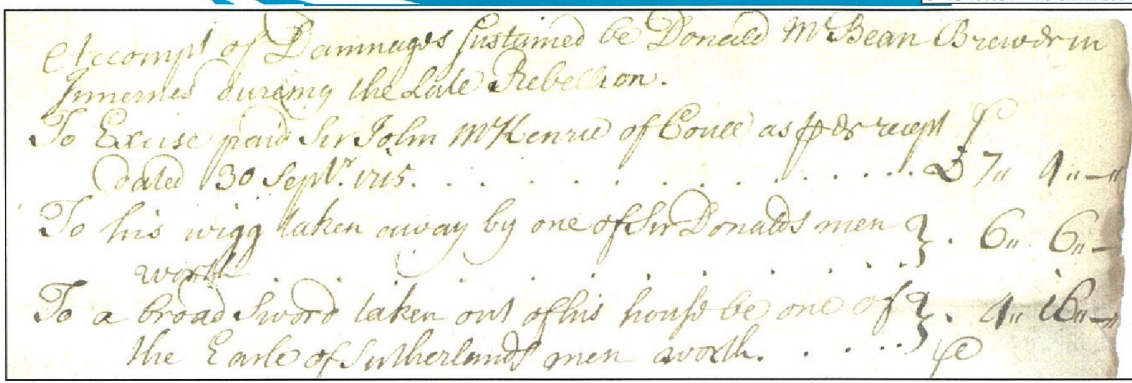


- ◆ **What are they?** As a royal burgh, Wick was run for hundreds of years by a body of men who acted as magistrates, baillies and burgesses - maintaining control over trade and legal processes in the burgh. The rich collection of records detailing the administration of Wick and Thurso burghs includes **Town Hall Minutes, Legal Records, Dean of Guild Court, Burgh Poor Law Records, Burgh Valuation Rolls, Electoral Registers** and a range of other records.
- ◆ **What dates do they cover?** The Wick and Thurso Burgh collection contains documents with a date range of 1660-1995. The **Town Council Minutes for Wick** cover the dates 1660-1975, **Thurso** covers 1861-1975, and the **Burgh Valuation Rolls** date from 1855-1970.
- ◆ **What can I use them for?** To understand how Caithness was run in the past and how the towns of Wick and Thurso developed; to trace an ancestor who appeared before the burgh court; to learn how national and international events impacted Wick and Thurso (i.e. the two World Wars: to trace a family member who lived or traded in the burghs; to see the plans of certain buildings; to learn about the social history of the Highlands; to trace someone who received poor relief in the county.
- ◆ **What will they tell me?** The burgh collection can provide information on the court system; houses within the burgh and people applying for poor relief in addition to giving the names of certain traders, apprentices and magistrates in the burgh. The **Minute Books** and **Treasurer's Accounts** detail the administration of the burgh.





- ◆ **Will there definitely be useful information in there?** This collection is full of fascinating information. If you're researching a person who resided in Wick between 1855-1970 you are likely to find him/her in the **Burgh Valuation Rolls**. If you're researching Highland history, court processes or a particular event the **Town Council Minutes** are an essential place to look.
- ◆ **Do I need to know anything first?** If you're using the records for family history purposes any information you have will be helpful in trying to locate them in the records. If you're researching Highland history or a specific subject it's entirely up to you where you start!
- ◆ **Are there any viewing restrictions?** Yes - due to the sensitive information within the **Parochial Board (Poor Law) records** are closed for **100 years**.
- ◆ **Can I have photocopies?** Yes. The charges are listed at the desk.
- ◆ **Can I take photographs?** Yes. The charges are listed at the desk.
- ◆ **Where can I find out what you hold?** Our Wick Burgh and Thurso Burgh holdings are listed in a **black folder in the searchroom**.
- ◆ **Where do I go next?** If you're tracing a person why not move to the County of Caithness records to see if they went to school in Caithness. If you're researching the burgh system why not look at another of the smaller burgh collections?

