

P15 Caithness Field Club

RECORDS' IDENTITY STATEMENT

Reference number: GB1741/P15

Alternative reference number:

Title: Caithness Field Club

Dates of creation: 1902- 2024

Level of description: Fonds

Extent: 8 boxes

Format: Paper, photograph, slides

RECORDS' CONTEXT

Name of creators: Caithness Field Club

Administrative history: Caithness Field Club was formed in 1902 during a meeting at the Carnegie Public Library. The Club was funded by subscriptions and aimed to promote and facilitate the study of geology, botany, archaeology, and allied subjects with particular reference to Caithness. Meetings, excursions, and lectures were arranged, and the Club was initially popular. By 1926 however interest had declined and the only two meetings following this, in 1928 and 1929, failed to reach a quorum. The Club was disbanded in 1933. 1966 saw the centenary of the death of Robert Dick (1811-1866) a noted local naturalist and geologist and a small committee was formed to set up an exhibition commemorating this. The exhibition was met with such enthusiasm that the Field Club was reformed with some success, organising lectures and outings and publishing bulletins regularly from 1973. The Club ceased to operate in 2024.

Custodial history: Part of the collection was deposited by Wick Library in 1995. A subsequent deposit was received following the death of a former Secretary of Caithness Field Club in 2021.

Further deposits were received in 2024

following the death of former Chair Geoff Leet and the Club's closure.

RECORDS' CONTENT

Description: Records of Caithness Field Club including minutes, financial records, correspondence, photographs and information regarding Field Club outings, Field Club Bulletins and research material.

Appraisal:

Accruals:

RECORDS' CONDITION OF ACCESS AND USE

Access: Open

Closed until:

Access conditions: Available within the Archive searchroom

Copying: Copying permitted within standard Copyright Act parameters

Finding aids: Available in Archive searchroom

ALLIED MATERIALS

Related material:

Publication:

Notes:

Date of catalogue: Sep 2024

Ref.	Description	Dates
P15/1	Minute Books [see also P15/8/1]	1902- 1933
P15/1/1	Volume containing Minutes, Roll of Members, and newspaper cuttings of outings for the Caithness Field Club. (1 volume)	1902- 1933
P15/2	Financial Records	1921- 1987
P15/2/1	Accounts notebook with rough details of membership subscriptions, fares paid for outings and expenditure incurred. (1 item)	Apr 1921- Jul 1929

P15/2/2	Rough notes of costs incurred on club excursions and membership subscriptions both paid and outstanding. (11 items)	23 May 1921- 29 Aug 1924
P15/2/3	Receipts to members upon payment of annual subscription fees. (7 sheets)	Jun 1922- Jul 1926
P15/2/4	Deposit account book, in the name of Renwick James Gunn Miller, President of the Caithness Field Club. (1 item)	6 Sep 1932- 10 Jul 1933
P15/2/5	Receipts from Alexander Miller, Family Grocer in Argyle Square, Wick. (2 items)	9 Jan 1911- 11 Jul 1922
P15/2/6	Receipts from A.F. Kelly, Family Grocer and Wine Merchant, Market Place, Wick, for butter, cakes, biscuits, and cheese, as purchased by Club. (7 items)	28 Jun 1912- Aug 1925
P15/2/7	Receipts from Peter Reid & Co., Ltd., Proprietors and Publishers of the John O'Groat Journal, for advertising Club meetings and excursions. (11 items)	22 Apr 1921- 19 Jul 1929
P15/2/8	Receipts from Alexander Robertson and Son, Motor & Cycle Agents of Bridge Street in Wick for the hire of buses for excursions. (4 items)	25 May 1921- 24 Apr 1926
P15/2/9	Receipts from E Campbell and Co., Bakers, Confectioners and Grocers of Dempster Street in Wick, for cakes and biscuits purchased. (4 sheets)	15 Jun 1921- 13 Jul 1922
P15/2/10	Receipts from William Nicholson, Baker and Confectioner of High Street in Wick, for bread and butter purchased. (4 items)	23 Jun 1921- 30 Aug 1924
P15/2/11	Receipts from Alexander Sinclair, Auctioneer and Livestock Salesman of the Auction Mart in Wick, for hire of wagonettes. (2 items)	3 May 1921- 13 Jul 1921
P15/2/12	Receipts from Harold and Miller, Motor Hirers and Engineers in Wick, for hire of motor car. (2 items)	12 Jul 1922- 16 Jul 1924
P15/2/13	Receipts from Alexander Robertson & Son, Authorised Ford Dealers of Bridge Street in Wick, for hire of cars for excursions. (4 items)	12 Jul 1922- 27 Jun 1925
P15/2/14	Receipts from the Pentland Hotel in Thurso, for tea on excursion. (2 items)	12 Jul 1922- 3 Jul 1926
P15/2/15	Receipts from Walter E. Craig, Bookseller, Stationer, Bookbinder, & Proprietor of "Northern Ensign" of Stafford Place in Wick, for advertising of Club outings. (2 items)	9 Jul 1924- 20 Aug 1924

P15/2/16	Receipts from Wilfred Weir, Grocer, Tea, Wine and Spirit Merchant of Bridge Street in Wick, for loaves and butter, as purchased by the Club (2 items)	Jul 1926
P15/2/17	Various receipts for advertising, car hire, confectionery and other goods purchased by the club (1 bundle)	27 Apr 1921- 16 Jul 1924
P15/2/18	Caithness Field Club Accounts (1 volume)	1970-1984
P15/2/19	Quotation from William R. Rendall for typesetting 'Visits to Ancient Caithness' (2 items)	1976
P15/2/20	Various accounts for Caithness Field Club expenses (1 bundle)	1985-1987
P15/3	Correspondence	1924- 1933
P15/3/1	Telegrams to Miss Sinclair, Tolbooth Lane, in her capacity as secretary of Caithness Field Club. Messages mainly regarding arrangements for outings. (11 items)	1924- Jul 1926
P15/3/2	Correspondence to Miss Sinclair in her capacity as secretary to the Caithness Field club mainly concerned with arrangements for Field Club outings. Includes MS. letter from Peter W. Murray Threipland, Dale House, Halkirk, Caithness, thanking the Caithness Field Club for their "...kind telegram ...sent for my coming of age..." (1 bundle)	21 Sep 1924- 22 Jul 1929
P15/3/3	Letters to Renwick James Gunn Millar, Editor of the John O'Groat Journal, president of the Caithness Field Club. Letter from Alex Gunn requesting Millar to invite Peter Murray Threipland to a meeting of the club as he is "...very anxious to join the Caithness Field Club..." Letter from David Campbell enquiring about becoming a member of a potentially revived Caithness Field Club. (2 items)	25 Aug 1925- 24 Jun 1933
P15/4	Caithness Field Club Outings	c. 1970- 2018
P15/4/1	Various colour photographs of Field Club outings. Many have descriptions on the back. (1 bundle)	c. 1970- c. 1990
P15/4/2	Folder entitled 'Field Club Weekends etc.' containing loose historical notes, map and newspaper cutting. (1 item)	c. 1984
P15/4/3	Various information leaflets pertaining to a weekend trip to Scourie. (1 bundle)	May 1986
P15/4/4	'The Caithness Coastal Footpath' by Trevor	1987

	Middleton, 1987 and 4 loose maps. (5 items)	
P15/4/5	Photograph album containing colour photographs of a trip along the West Highland Way in September 1996. Includes itinerary. (1 item)	Sep 1996
P15/4/6	Photograph album containing colour photographs of an outing to Stroma. (1 item)	1989
P15/4/7	Photograph album containing colour photographs of an outing to Iona. (1 item)	c. 1989
P15/4/8	Photograph album containing colour photographs of an outing to Fountain Forestry in September 1989 and an outing to Tongue in August 1989. (1 item)	Aug 1989- Sep 1989
P15/4/9	Colour photographs of Quatercentenary trip to John o' Groats. (6 items)	1989
P15/4/10	Colour photographs of outing to Dunbeath Castle. (10 items)	c. 1989
P15/4/11	Colour photographs of low walk at Scaraben. (6 items)	c. 1989
P15/4/12	Colour photographs and information pertaining to a weekend trip to Cape Wrath and Durness. (1 bundle)	c. 1990
P15/4/13	Colour photographs and various information leaflets and booklets pertaining to a weekend trip to Strathpeffer and the Black Isle. (1 bundle)	1993
P15/4/14	Colour photographs and various information leaflets and booklets pertaining to a weekend trip to Beaully (1 bundle)	1994
P15/4/15	Various information leaflets and possible itinerary for a weekend trip to Ullapool. (1 bundle)	1997
P15/4/16	Information leaflets pertaining to a weekend trip to Contin and Strathpeffer. (1 bundle)	1998
P15/4/17	Information leaflets and itinerary for weekend trip to Huntly. (1 item)	May 1999
P15/4/18	Colour photographs, information, and account of trip to Skye. (1 bundle)	2000
P15/4/19	Information leaflets and list of names of those attending trip to Blair Atholl. (1 bundle)	2001
P15/4/20	Colour photographs and various information leaflets and booklets pertaining to an outing to Orkney. (1 bundle)	2004

P15/4/21	Various slides of Field Club trips, including to Lairg and Ullapool. (1 envelope)	c. 1980- c.1990
P15/4/22	Various guidebooks for locations throughout the Highlands. (14 items)	c.1980-2000
P15/4/23	Maps and historical and local interest information for various places in Caithness, compiled by Gordon Wilson for Caithness Field Club outings (1 box)	c.1977-c.2010
P15/4/24	Maps and historical and local interest information for various places, mainly in the Highlands and Islands. Compiled by Gordon Wilson for Caithness Field Club outings (1 box)	c.2010
P15/4/25	Rules and guidance for outings, risk assessment method and completed risk assessments for various Field Club outings (1 file)	2004-2011
P15/4/26	Papers from a Field Club weekend in Kyle (4 items)	May 2008
P15/4/27	Provisional programme for weekend at Gairloch (2 items)	Apr 2018
P15/5	Various	1914- 2005
P15/5/1	Copies of circulars detailing arrangements for meetings and excursions of the Club. (3 items)	3 Jun 1914- 16 Jul 1924
P15/5/2	List of Caithness Field Club Members, together with their addresses and indication of whether subscription is paid. (4 items)	13 Jun 1921
P15/5/3	Caithness Field Club Rules and Constitution (2 items)	Apr 1974
P15/5/4	Booklet <i>The Island of Stroma</i> by Margaret Aitken. (1 item)	c.1975
P15/5/5	Copy of a map of the island of Stroma showing the last croft holders and householders (1 item)	c.1980
P15/5/6	The Wild Flowers of Caithness: A Checklist, by E.R. Bullard, J.K. Butler, J.M. Gunn, and V. Hewison (Wick: Caithness Field Club, 1977) (1 volume)	1977
P15/5/7	Robertson Award parchment certificates presented to the Caithness Field Club for Enterprise in Publication with covering documents (4 items)	1983-1984
P15/5/8	Information on an 'Earth Resistivity Meter' (1 file)	Jan 1997
P15/5/9	Summer 2001 Extra Programme (1 item)	2001
P15/5/10	List of Field Club Bulletin items on caithness.org (9	6 Apr 2005

	items)	
P15/6	Research	c.2010-2024
P15/6/1	Research used for an article for the Society on the Schooner "Bessie" and her owners and captains by Janet Mackenzie (1 file)	c.2010-2016
P15/6/2	Research used for an article for the Society on the Schooner "Bessie" including sources and research guides by Janet Mackenzie (1 file)	c.2010-2016
P15/6/3	Working file with unfinished research on the Old Wolfburn Distillery by Janet Mackenzie (1 file)	2016-2021
P15/6/4	Unfinished research on the Old Wolfburn Distillery by Janet Mackenzie (1 file)	2016-2021
P15/6/5	'Caithness and Bagimond's Roll', an article by Gordon Johnson, intended for 2024's CFC magazine but never published (2 items)	2024
P15/7	Caithness Field Club Bulletins	Apr 1973-Apr 2016
P15/7/1	Caithness Field Club Bulletin Volume 1, Numbers 1-8 (No.5 missing) (7 volumes)	Apr 1973-Oct 1976
P15/7/2	Caithness Field Club Bulletin Volume 2, Numbers 2-8 (7 volumes)	Oct 1977-Oct 1980
P15/7/3	Caithness Field Club Bulletin Volume 3, Numbers 1-8 (8 volumes)	Apr 1981-Oct 1984
P15/7/4	Caithness Field Club Bulletin Volume 4, Numbers 1-8 (8 volumes)	Apr 1985-Oct 1988
P15/7/5	Caithness Field Club Bulletin Volume 8, Number 1 (1 volume)	Mar 1990
P15/7/6	Caithness Field Club Bulletin Volume 10, Number 1 (1 volume)	Jul 1992
P15/7/7	Caithness Field Club Bulletin Volume 11, Number 1 (1 volume)	Jun 1993
P15/7/8	Caithness Field Club Bulletin Volume 5, Number 8 (1 volume)	Apr 1996
P15/7/9	Caithness Field Club Bulletin Volume 6, Numbers 1-8 (8 volumes)	Apr 1997-Apr 2003
P15/7/10	Caithness Field Club Bulletin Volume 7, Numbers 1-3, 7-8 (5 volumes)	Apr 2005-Apr 2012

P15/7/11	Caithness Field Club Bulletin Volume 8, Number 4 (1 volume)	Apr 2016
P15/8	Records of Geoff Leet, former Chairperson	c.1975-c.2015
P15/8/1	Caithness Field Club Records	1990-c.2015
P15/8/1/1	Caithness Field Club Records. Includes correspondence and information on the Club's programme of activities (1 bundle)	1990-1996
P15/8/1/2	Caithness Field Club Records. Includes meeting minutes, correspondence, and information on the Club's programme of activities (1 bundle)	1996-1997
P15/8/1/3	Caithness Field Club Records. Includes meeting minutes, correspondence, and information on the Club's programme of activities (1 bundle)	1999-Apr 2000
P15/8/1/4	Caithness Field Club Records. Includes meeting minutes, correspondence, and information on the Club's programme of activities (1 bundle)	2005-2009
P15/8/1/5	File entitled 'Field Club Meetings' (1 file)	c.2015
P15/8/2	Research Material collected by Geoff Leet	c.1975-c.2011
P15/8/2/1	Articles 'Origin of Blanket Mires' by Peter D. Moore and 'The Mystery of the Brochs' by Dr Euan MacKie (1 file)	c.1975
P15/8/2/2	Copy of 'Report concerning the Northeast Coast of Scotland', c.1790 (1 file)	c.1980
P15/8/2/3	File on Standing Stones in Caithness, the Baligill Tunnel, and the Souterrain at Rosal, Strathnaver (1 file)	c.1980
P15/8/2/4	File on stone beehives, grain kiln floors and other stone structures and remains in Caithness and Sutherland (1 file)	c.1981
P15/8/2/5	File on wrecks in the Pentland Firth and Coastguards (1 file)	c.1981-1987
P15/8/2/6	File containing information on Freswick Links and Wife's Geo. Includes photographs (1 file)	1981-1985
P15/8/2/7	File on Muckle Skerry, Orkney (1 file)	c.1981
P15/8/2/8	File on Broubster/ Brubster (1 file)	c.1982
P15/8/2/9	File on Kiln Barns. Contains correspondence between Geoff Leet and Elizabeth Beaton regarding a kiln barn	1982-1986

	and Pictish Stones at Sandside. Includes photographs, plans and elevations of kiln and barn at Sandside Estate and Rothiemay (1 file)	
P15/8/2/10	File on aircraft crashes in the Highlands and Islands (1 file)	1986
P15/8/2/11	John o' Groat Journal article 'The story of the Caithness tinklers' by Alice Calder (1 item)	4 Dec 1992
P15/8/2/12	File of mixed research material (1 file)	c.1996
P15/8/2/13	File of research for Bulletin articles. Includes information on WWII and the raising of the S.S. Great Britain (1 file)	c.1999
P15/8/2/14	File regarding Lloyd's of London Signal Station records (1 file)	2002
P15/8/2/15	File on scroll skewputts. Includes correspondence with Elizabeth Beaton (1 file)	2003
P15/8/2/16	File entitled 'Castles' (1 file)	c.2003
P15/8/2/17	Research file on 'The Secret Army' in Caithness (1 file)	c.2004
P15/8/2/18	Notes from CAT AGM and copied pages from 'Inventory of Monuments, etc., in County of Caithness' (1 file)	2008
P15/8/2/19	Article on Core Paths management (1 item)	c.2011