

## FALKIRK ARCHIVES

### Customs and Excise records

#### Bo'ness 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 Bo'ness customs outport and excise district.

CE58/1/1	1868-1882	Letter book, Collector to Board. Indexed. This volume contains a note to the effect that all previous volumes were destroyed by fire.
CE58/1/2	1882-1890	Letter book, Collector to Board. Indexed.
CE58/1/3	1890-1902	Letter book, Collector to Board. Indexed.
CE58/1/4	1902-1914	Letter book, Collector to Board. Indexed.
CE58/2/1	1862	Board's Orders. Indexed.
CE58/2/1/1	1780	Board's Order. (1 page)
CE58/2/2	1867	Board's Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/3	1868	Board's Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/4	1869	Board's Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/5	1870	Board's Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/6	1871	Board's Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/7	1872	Board's Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/8	1873	Board's Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/9	1874	Board's Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/10	1875	Board's Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/11	1876	Board's Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/12	1877	Board's Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/13	1878	Board's Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/14	1879	Board's Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/15	1880	Board's Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/16	1881	Board's Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/17	1882	Board's Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/18	1883	Board's Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/19	1884	Board's Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/20	1885	Board's Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/21	1886	Board's Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/22	1887	Board's Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/23	1780-1813	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/24	1814-1823	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/25	1854	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/26	1855	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/27	1856	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.

CE58/2/28	1857	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/29	1858	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/30	1859	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/31	1860	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/32	1861	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/33	1862	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/34	1863	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/35	1864	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/36	1865	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/37	1866	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/38	1867	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/39	1888	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/40	1889	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/41	1890	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/42	1891	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/43	1892	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/44	1893	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/45	1895	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/46	1896	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/47	1897	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/48	1898	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/49	1899	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/50	1900	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/51	1901	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/52	1902	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/53	1903	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/54	1904	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/55	1905	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/56	1906	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/2/57	1908	Board's General Orders, Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/3/1	1888-1914	Collector's General letter book. Indexed
CE58/4/1	1887-1914	Wrecks letter book. Indexed
CE58/4/2	1868-1894	Appropriation of Ships' Official Numbers
CE58/4/3	1897-1984	Record of Deeds
CE58/5/1	1783-1843	Board's General Orders. Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/5/2	1851-1852	Board's General Orders. Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/5/3	1853-1854	Board's General Orders. Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/5/4	1855-1856	Board's General Orders. Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/5/5	1857-1859	Board's General Orders. Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/5/6	1860-1862	Board's General Orders. Board to Collector. Indexed.
CE58/10/1	1914-1973	Linlithgow 1st station Operations Register. Wet Goods
CE58/10/2	1917-1968	Record of overtime payments and allowances to officers for night attendance at Bo'ness Distillery
CE58/11/1	1905-1926, 1973	Register of Sea Fishing Boats in Scotland (part B);
CE58/11/2	1929-1964	Register of Sea Fishing Boats (part 4)
CE58/11/3	1870-1955	Annual Returns of changes to Register of Shipping
CE58/11/4	1903-1984	Register of Shipping
CE58/11/5	1855-1902	Register of Shipping
CE58/11/6	1880-1894	Register of Sea Fishing Boats (under the Sea Fisheries Act, 1868)
CE58/11/7	1887-1902	Register of Sea Fishing Boats in Scotland
CE58/11/8	1904-1921	Register of Steam-boat certificates delivered
CE58/11/9	1855-1879	Register of Transactions relating to ships registered prior to 1855
CE58/11/10	1953-1975	Register of motor 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.