

Guide to the Photographs in Falkirk Council Archives

Falkirk Council Archives has an extensive collection of photographs relating to the local area, from the 1840s to the present day. These photographs include a wide variety of subjects.

- work places, streets, houses or other places
- people in their daily lives
- enjoying sports, football matches, quoiting games, cricket and curling
- children playing in the streets
- schools and schoolchildren
- people at work
- many local events, gala days and special occasions
- archaeological sites and historic buildings
- ships built locally
- canals, road, rail and transport

Grangemouth Dockyard Company Photographic Collection

Grangemouth Dockyard Company built ships from 1885 to 1972. The photographic collection was commissioned by the company to record most of their ships. Most are views of individual ships at sea, but there are also some photographs of the ships under construction, ships being launched and some detailed photographs of workers building the ships.

Local Authority Collections

Several departments of the local authorities in the Falkirk area have made photographic records of their work. These include the Leisure Services Collection, which shows sports events, Family Days and Spring Flings, the Children's Theatre, outdoor events and Muiravonside Country Park fairs during the 1970s and 1980s. There is an important public health collection which shows refuse vehicles, street cleaning and snow clearing. There is also a useful collection of photographs of houses, roads and buildings taken by the Planning Department along with a few photograph albums of interiors and exteriors of people's homes, taken by the Housing Department.

Local Photographers

The photographic collections also include some significant work by both amateur and professional local photographers. These include the photographs of an Edwardian photographer, Thomas Easton, some of whose work has been published in "*Thomas Easton's Falkirk*". Others include Telfer Drummond, (1930s -1950s), Adam Baptie, (1960s -1970s) and John P Munn (1920s-1959). Local professionals include J Collier Brown and B Millar, who were responsible for many of our photographs of ships as well as local places and people.

Archaeological Excavations, Sites and Monuments

When Falkirk Museums staff undertake an archaeological excavation, the site is carefully photographed, along with any finds. Whenever possible, there is also a photographic record made of buildings, monuments and structures of historical interest.



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Purchasing copies of old Photographs

You can buy copies of most of the photographs (subject to copyright restrictions). We order individual copies of the photographs on request and this generally takes about two weeks. Come in to the History Research Centre at Callendar House to order photographs.

- Customers should look at the image before ordering a copy – there are lots of photographs to choose from.
- Orders usually take up to two weeks.
- All sizes are approximate as the original photographs often are not regular sizes.
- No responsibility is taken for any blemishes on the original negatives or slides.
- A full price list is available on request
- The cost of any individual photograph you order will depend on whether the copy has to be made from a negative, a transparency or a print – the staff will help you when you make your selection.
- You may be able to purchase copies of a few of the most popular old views of the area in the museum shop but the majority of the photographs do have to be ordered.

If you are publishing a book or making a film or video or television broadcast or using photographs in a talk, we may have the photographs you need. We reserve the right to charge reproduction fees for any public use of the collections in addition to the cost of the images.

Researching photographs

Anyone can look at photographs in the collection, free of charge. The photographs are generally available for viewing in transparency format (35mm slides) and we have a light box and magnifying glasses to make this easier. There are far too many photographs to browse through the entire collection but the staff will help you select the ones you want to see using the index terms on our database. If you have internet access, you can find over 1,500 of our photographs on the Scottish Cultural Resources Access Network website (www.scran.ac.uk).

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Email: callendar.house@falkirk.gov.uk

Opening hours: 10.00-12.30, 1.30-5.00; Monday to Friday
(closed on public holidays)



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