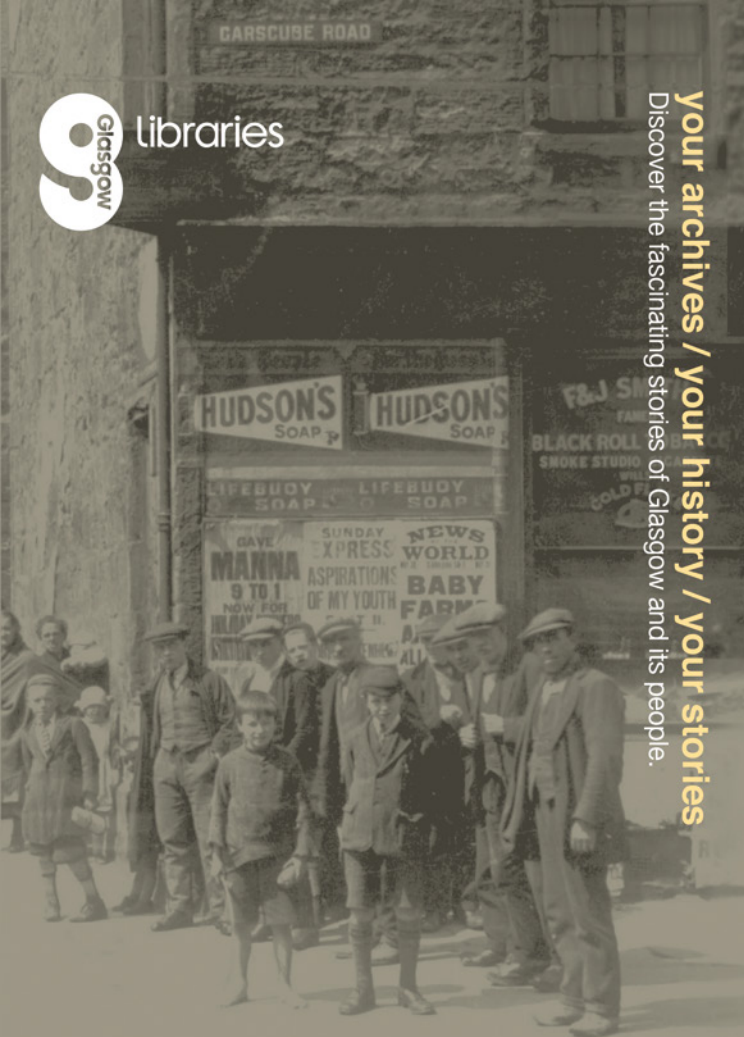


your archives / your history / your stories
Discover the fascinating stories of Glasgow and its people.



glasgow's archives

City Archives: The wonderful documentary heritage of Glasgow over eight centuries.



maps
photographs
council minutes
building records
school records
family history
local history
poor law records
ship building
estate records

the archives

The City Archives are housed in the Mitchell Library and include the official records of various local authorities and also a large number of private archive collections (see box below).

The largest single collection is the records of the city of Glasgow itself. These include records from the modern City Council and its predecessors and the separate burghs which once ringed the city and were later absorbed by it, including Govan, Partick and Hillhead.

Glasgow City's own archives include:

Council Minutes

The main record of the town council dating from 1574.

Building Records

Detailed plans of almost every building erected or altered within the city boundaries since 1885.

Poor Law Records

More than a million poor law applications from the mid 19th century.

School Records

Log books, some photographs and records of school pupils for over 300 city schools.

Other Records

A large quantity of records covering the other functions of the Glasgow Corporation, which at different times supplied the city with its tramways, houses, water supply, police, gas, electricity, even its telephones.

These records have a wide variety of uses. Building plans are used by students of architecture, but also individual householders or property owners wishing to alter commercial or industrial buildings. Poor Law applications are a wonderful source for the social and family historian.

the archives hold private records of:

- Shipbuilding, including thousands of ship plans and photographs, yard lists and a large-scale index with information on over 20,000 Clyde-built ships
- Landed families such as the Campbells of Succoth, Colquhouns of Luss, Kildalton, Maxwells of Pollok, Stirlings of Keir and others. The estate records of these families are a vital source for the social and economic history of the area, and include the oldest records in the Archives
- Businesses of all kinds from large engineering works to small shopkeepers
- Churches of most denominations
- Law firms and thousands of their clients, with material for genealogists and business historians
- Clyde Navigation Trust, a prime source for the trade of the city and the creation of the Clyde as an international waterway
- The Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society and scores of small co-operatives all over Scotland
- A large number of clubs, societies, charities and political groups.

services

The public searchroom has a large number of finding aids, including databases for the family historian, as well as paper catalogues and indexes of most of our holdings. You can also access summaries of many of our catalogues online at www.scan.org.uk. The duty archivist is happy to help and will point you towards records which will assist with your enquiry. Those undertaking a research project may wish to make an appointment with an archivist to discuss possible sources. Some records may be closed for 30 to 100 years in line with Data Protection. We can supply photocopies of documents and plans, as well as laser and other photographic services.

Talks and workshops: We are happy to talk to groups, either in The Mitchell or elsewhere.

preservation of historical documents

The Archives exist to preserve and give access to the historical records of Glasgow. We are always keen to accept further gifts and deposits (on long-term loan) of records of historical significance, which will help us understand the ordinary and extraordinary people and events, which helped shape the history of Glasgow.

Searchroom Opening Hours

Mon / Wed - Sat 9am-5pm
Tues 9am-8pm

Document Productions

Mon / Wed - Fri 9am-1pm, 2pm-4pm
Tues 9am-1pm, 2pm-7pm
Sat 9am-12pm, 2pm-4pm

Please check to confirm about evening and Saturday productions.

Archives and Special Collections

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E: archives@glasgowlife.org.uk

www.glasgowlife.org.uk/archives

How to find us:

