

## FALKIRK ARCHIVES

### Records of Churches

#### Presbytery finding aid

This finding aid details the records held for the presbyteries of various denominations which cover the geographical area of present-day Falkirk presbytery.

The predominant form of church government in Scotland since the Reformation has been Presbyterian. Between 1560 and 1690 the form of church government was not settled as church and state struggled to establish agreement but from 1690 under the Act of Settlement the Church of Scotland was firmly Presbyterian in governance.

The Presbyterian structure involves governance by a series of church courts. The lowest level is the Kirk Session which governs the work of a single congregation and which is made up of the elders of the congregation and moderated (or convened) by the minister (also known as the teaching elder). Above this is Presbytery, which consists of all the ministers in a geographic area plus at least one elder from each congregation, and on the principle of parity of membership, there are additional elders as counterparts to any ministers without a congregation (such as retired ministers or ministers in chaplaincy or administrative posts). In larger churches there will be up to two further tiers of church courts, typically Synods and then a General Assembly. Some smaller denominations use Synod as the top level court, while others have abolished Synods and use only a General Assembly as the top level court.

#### **United Secession Church. Presbytery of Stirling and Falkirk**

The United Secession Church was formed in 1820 with the union of the New Licht Burghers and the New Licht Anti-Burghers. In 1847 the United Secession Church joined with the Relief Church to form the United Presbyterian Church

This collection consists of the minutes of the Presbytery of Stirling & Falkirk, which was one of the church courts of the United Secession Church.

<i>Reference Code</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Brief Description</i>
CH3/287/1	1793-1805	Minutes
CH3/287/2	1805-1820	Minutes, Burgher Presbytery
CH3/287/3	1820-1832	Minutes, Presbytery of Stirling and Falkirk
CH3/287/4	1833-1847	Minutes, Presbytery of Stirling and Falkirk

#### **United Presbyterian Church. Presbytery of Falkirk**

The United Presbyterian Church was formed in 1847 by a union of the United Secession Church and the Relief Church. In 1900 the United Presbyterian Church united with the Free Church to form the United Free Church of Scotland.

This collection consists of the minutes of the Presbytery of Falkirk, which was one of the church courts of the United Presbyterian Church.

<i>Reference Code</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Brief Description</i>
CH3/127/1	1847-1859	Minutes
CH3/127/2	1859-1874	Minutes
CH3/127/3	1874-1887	Minutes
CH3/127/4	1874-1884	Minutes (duplicate)
CH3/127/5	1884-1887	Minutes (duplicate)
CH3/127/6	1887-1896	Minutes
CH3/127/7	1887-1894	Minutes (duplicate)
CH3/127/8	1894-1896	Minutes (duplicate)
CH3/127/9	1896-1900	Minutes
CH3/127/10	1896-1900	Minutes (duplicate)

### **Church of Scotland: Presbytery of Linlithgow and Falkirk**

Following the 1929 union of the Church of Scotland and the United Free Church of Scotland, the boundaries of presbyteries and synods were re-organised. The Presbytery of Linlithgow & Falkirk was established as part of this re-organisation, taking in some of the congregations which had previously been under the jurisdiction of the United Free Church Presbytery of Linlithgow & Falkirk or the Church of Scotland Presbytery of Linlithgow. In 1976, as a result of local government re-organisation, presbytery boundaries were altered and this presbytery was replaced by the Presbytery of Falkirk and the Presbytery of West Lothian

This collection consists of the minutes of the Presbytery of Linlithgow & Falkirk. Additionally a separate deposit of the records of the Rev J M Munro includes papers relating to his work as Presbytery Clerk of the Presbytery of Linlithgow & Falkirk.

<i>Reference Code</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Brief Description</i>
CH2/1621/1	1929-1935	Minutes
CH2/1621/2	1936-1941	Minutes
CH2/1621/3	1942-1946	Minutes
CH2/1621/4	1947-1951	Minutes
CH2/1621/5	1952-1956	Minutes
CH2/1621/6	1957-1961	Minutes
CH2/1621/7	1962-1969	Minutes
CH2/1621/8	1970-1975	Minutes
A1473.001	1946	Draft Minutes of Linlithgow & Falkirk Presbytery, with Minutes of a meeting of the Business Committee of Linlithgow & Falkirk Presbytery
A1473.002	1931-1949	Standing Order and Circulars of the Presbytery of Linlithgow and Falkirk, the circulars relating to such matters as church properties, Sunday School Teachers Conference and Rally, fees for Proclamation of Banns, St Helen's, High Bonnybridge, Young Men's Guild, Registration of Youth,

A1473.003	1944-1951	Youth Committee, Suggested Evangelistic Campaign, Conference on Church Music, supply of alcohol on a Sunday and gambling Church of Scotland Reports and Instructions to Presbyteries, including Reports on the Survey of the Parochial System, the Town and Country Planning Act, Church Finance, Union of Congregations, General Assembly Overtures Under the Barrier Act, The Marriage of Foreigners, also letters on Christian reconstruction in Europe and the Findings of the Commission on the Interpretation of God's Will in the Present Crisis
A1473.004	1951-1952	Schedules of Quinquennial visitations of parishes in the presbytery of Linlithgow and Falkirk, includes Abercorn, Airth North, Airth South, Blackbraes and Shieldhill, Bo'ness Old, Bo'ness St Andrews, Bonnybridge, Bothkennar & Carronshore, Carriden, Carron, Condorrat, Cumbernauld St Ninians, Dalmeny
A1473.005	1951	Schedules for Financial Statistics for each parish in the Linlithgow & Falkirk Presbytery
A1473.006	1952	Schedules for Financial Statistics for each parish in the Linlithgow & Falkirk Presbytery
A1473.007	(1949) {nd}	Statement showing the state of contributions by congregations in the Linlithgow & Falkirk Presbytery to the National Church Extension Appeal launched in 1944, detailing the ten year target for each charge and the amount actually raised
A1473.008	1949-1952	Correspondence and other papers relating to hospital chaplains, including memoranda from the Department of Health for Scotland concerning the appointment and remuneration of hospital chaplains, also including correspondence, lists and resolutions relating to the appointment of Hospital Chaplains within the Linlithgow & Falkirk Presbytery
A1473.009	1950	Correspondence and other papers relating to Industrial Chaplaincies, including answers from various parishes relating to large industrial concerns in their parish and whether the minister has any dealings with the welfare of the employees, also lists compiled from the questionnaires answers received from all the Parishes in the Presbytery, also Industrial Chaplaincy Bulletin from the Church of Scotland Home Board, also notice of Industrial Conference in Larbert
A1473.010	1948-1952	Correspondence and notes concerning Territorial Army and Sea Cadet Chaplains, including letter listing Sea Cadet Chaplains in the Presbytery of Linlithgow and Falkirk, also letter relating to the proposed appointment of a Territorial army Chaplain, also Notes for the Information of T A chaplains and letter concerning the position of Chaplains who had served during the WWII
A1473.011	1943-1944	Correspondence concerning a petition by Bathgate Presbytery to General Assembly for the 14 West Lothian parishes which are currently in the Linlithgow & Falkirk Presbytery to be disjoined to the Bathgate Presbytery, including copy of Petition
A1473.012	(1940s) {nd}	Blank Forms relating to Church of Scotland Eventide

A1473.013	1950	Home, Powfoulis House, Bothkennar, including application for admission, Rules for Residents, Ministers Recommendation Form and Medical Certificate Correspondence and other papers relating to Bothkennar and Carronshore Parish, including correspondence, report and Basis of Union relating to the Union of Bothkennar and Carronshore Parish, also correspondence relating to the sale of Carronshore Manse, also correspondence relating to Teind Roll and other parish matters, also parish statement of account, 1961
A1473.014	1915, 1938-1950	Correspondence and other papers relating to Carriden Parish, including Court of Teinds Minute in Petition for the Authority to Feu the Glebe of Carriden, also correspondence relating to the locating of an A.R.P. post in Carriden Glebe, also correspondence relating to the proposed purchase of the former Blackness Episcopal Church by Carriden Parish Church
A1473.015	1944-1946	Correspondence and other papers relating to Carron Parish, including correspondence and minutes on the Carron Vacancy Schedule, also correspondence relating to the change of constitution and the transfer of titles required for the award of a grant for the repair of the church hall and manse
A1473.016	1937, 1952	Correspondence relating to Cumbernauld Parishes, including correspondence relating to the lease of part of the glebe for use as a tennis court, also correspondence and Basis of Union relating to the Union of Cumbernauld St Andrews and Cumbernauld St Ninians
A1473.017	1942-1948	Correspondence relating to Denny Old Parish, including correspondence relating to an application for a retirement annuity on the Appointment of a Colleague and Successor, also correspondence relating to the appointment of Rev R G Lawrie, also correspondence concerning the proposal to apply for the release of the Manse and Vestry from military Occupation, also correspondence relating to surplus teinds, also letters concerning the repair of the Church steeple clock and preferred candidates for Presbytery Moderator
A1473.018	1942-1949	Correspondence relating to Denny West Parish, concerning the proposed Union of Denny West and Broompark Churches following the vacancy at Denny West, also relating to the decision to allow Denny West full status as a parish following a temporary appointment of one minister for the two parishes, also relating to the attempt by Denny Town Council to requisition the Denny West Manse
A1473.019	1943-1950	Correspondence relating to Falkirk Erskine Church, concerning the John Baird Bequest
A1473.020	1940-1943	Correspondence relating to Falkirk Old Parish, also correspondence relating to the balance available of the Stipend of the Parish of Falkirk which mentions the matter of the Appeal by Slamannan St Laurence Kirk Session relating the decision by the Church of Scotland Stipend Sub Committee not to allocate part of the Falkirk Old Stipend to them and their subsequent revision of that decision

A1473.021	1938-1945	Correspondence relating to Kirkliston Parish, including correspondence concerning the Union of Kirkliston Old and Newliston, also concerning the surrender of teinds of the lands of Listonshiels, also correspondence concerning stipends, also correspondence concerning the proposed sale of Kirkliston Old Manse and the proposed conversion of Newliston Church to a Church Hall
A1473.022	1938-1946	Correspondence relating to Larbert East Parish, concerning the sale of the Manse at Larbert East and the proposed building of a new one, also correspondence concerning arrangements for the maintenance of the churchyard, also correspondence concerning an annuity from the Aged and Infirm Minister's Fund for Rev J W Fulton, also including an Inventory of the Property and Effects of Larbert East Church
A1473.023	1953	Papers relating to the Petition of Larbert Old Church for the disjunction of Larbert Old Parish and Dunipace Old Church, including Copy Petition and reply to the Petition by Dunipace Old Kirk Session,
A1473.024	1935-1946	Correspondence relating to Larbert and Dunipace Old Parish, including correspondence relating to the proposed purchase by the Larbert Kirk Session of property at Friarbank, Larbert, also including correspondence relating to the sale of Dunipace Glebe field to the Royal Scottish National Institution, Larbert, also letter concerning the proposed demolition of Larbert Old Church Manse
A1473.025	1944-1947	Correspondence relating to Queensferry Parish, including correspondence on the vacancy at Queensferry South, also correspondence relating to the purchase of a Hersey Bank as a manse for Queensferry South, also
A1473.026	1939-1945	Correspondence and other papers relating to Laurieston Parishes, including letter relating to the Statutory and Additional Endowments of Laurieston St Columba, also including correspondence relating to the retiral of Rev W Paxton and the subsequent Union of Laurieston St Columba and Laurieston West, including Basis of Union,
A1473.027	1939-1945	Correspondence relating to Linlithgow St Ninians Parish, concerning the application by Rev L L Davidson to resign from his position as Minister
A1473.028	1933-1946	Correspondence relating to Polmont North Parish Church, including correspondence relating to proposed extensions of Polmont Churchyard by Stirling County Council, also letter concerning the ceasing of occupancy of Beancross Hall
A1473.029	1942-1945	Correspondence relating to Shieldhill Parish, including correspondence concerning the decision of Rev G Lowson Watt to take up Missionary Service in Africa, also correspondence relating to the linking of Shieldhill and Blackbraes for the period of the war and for six months after, also letter concerning the letting of Shieldhill Manse
A1473.030	1936-1943	Correspondence and other papers relating to Slamannan Parishes, concerning the Petition of Slamannan Parish to the Presbytery of Linlithgow & Falkirk applying for the teinds for the portion of Slamannan Parish formerly

A1473.031	1935-1939	belonging to Falkirk Parish, including Petition and also Brief Statement of Dissent and Complaint by Slamannan Parish to the Synod of Lothian and Tweeddale, also including note on the possibility of a future union of Slamannan St Laurence and Balquhatstone, also including correspondence concerning the use of some of the Glebe of Slamannan for the formation of the Avon Water Bridge
A1473.032	1947-1948	Correspondence relating to Westquarter Mission, concerning the building of a Church Hall at Westquarter Correspondence relating to Redding and Westquarter, including correspondence relating to the creation of Redding and Westquarter as a Church Extension Charge of Polmont North, also correspondence including correspondence and newspaper cutting relating to controversy on the appointment of a final year student as student assistant at the Redding and Westquarter

