

HERITAGE HUB SOURCE LIST

JACOBITES AND JACOBITE REBELLIONS

INTRODUCTION

The term “Jacobite” is derived from the Latin “Jacobus” for James and referred to the supporters of the exiled Royal House of Stuart.

When Charles II died in 1685, with no legitimate children, his brother James II became king. James had converted to Catholicism and there were fears he intended to become an absolute monarch like his cousin Louis XIV. The birth of a son provided the country with a Catholic heir and James’ Protestant enemies appealed to William of Orange (married to James’ daughter Mary) to “*rescue the constitution, preserve the established religion and call a free parliament*”. James his wife and infant son James Francis Edward Stuart fled abroad into exile.

Following the death of James II in 1701, his son, known as the “Old Pretender” was recognised by Jacobite supporters as the legitimate sovereign. In 1715 John Erskine the Earl of Mar raised James’ standard at Braemar, but the campaign lacked decisive leadership and soon faltered after the Battle of Sheriffmuir.

The birth of a son to James – Charles Edward Stuart, “The Young Pretender”, provided a new focus for the Jacobite campaign and led to the “45”. Charles’ standard was raised at Glenfinnan in the Highlands. He led his supporters south, occupied Edinburgh though not the castle, and routed the government army at Prestonpans, before marching south through the Borders for Carlisle.

The “1745” advance came to a halt at Derby and was followed by a retreat back into Scotland on a route west. The Jacobite army was pursued by the Duke of Cumberland and defeated near Inverness at the Battle of Culloden in 1746 - the last major battle on British soil.

The information below concentrates on the times when the Borders saw Jacobite armies and support and does not provide a comprehensive history. For further detail please see one of the publications listed below.

BOOKS

Held at the Heritage Hub

BEATTIE, David Johnstone. Prince Charlie and the Borderland

ROBERT, A.E. The 1745 and the Southern Scottish Lowlands

CRAIG – BROWN, T. History of Selkirkshire. Vol 1. pages 222-225, 229-232

CRAIG – BROWN, T. History of Selkirkshire. Vol 2. pages 91-92, 107, 111, 112-113, 353-357

Held by Scottish Borders Council Library Service

ALLARDYCE, Colonel James Historical Papers relating to the Jacobite Period

BARTHORP, Michael Jacobite Rebellions 1689-1745

CAMPBELL, John. The Diary of John Campbell

REID, Stuart. The Scottish Jacobite Army 1745-46

EVENTS IN THE JACOBITE MOVEMENT RELATING TO THE SCOTTISH BORDERS

1715

In the summer of 1715 James Stuart 'The Old Pretender' called on the Earl of Mar to 'raise the clans'. A rising in the North of England in the October of 1715 and one in the South of Scotland brought the Jacobite allies together at **Kelso** in the Scottish Borders on 22 October. They spent a few days arguing over their options - to move the army south or to draw the enemy north.

Traquair

The 4th and 5th Earls of Traquair were noted Jacobite supporters. There is a lot of Jacobite history connected to the Stuart's of Traquair such as Lady Nithsdale's rescue attempt of her husband after 1715 and the closure of the Bear Gates after Charles Edward Stuart's visit in 1745. There are many artefacts on display at Traquair House including a fine selection of Jacobite glass.

See: <http://www.traquair.co.uk/index.html>

1745

On 3rd November 1745 3 divisions left Edinburgh and marched south. One went by **Peebles**, one by **Lauder, Selkirk and Hawick** and one by **Kelso**. The last division was under the command of Charles Edward Stuart. He stayed at various towns in the Borders during the march south including a house in Castlegate, Jedburgh.

At **Peebles**, orders stated:

'It is seriously recommended to all officers, to take care that the most exact discipline is observed, as they are to be answerable for their respective corps. It is forbid, above all things, to shoot sheep, hend etc, or break open the country people's houses, or cause any disturbance.'

Page 78, MacRobert, A.E., *The 1745 Rebellion and the Southern Scottish Lowlands*, (2006)

In the Statistical Account for Roxburghshire 1796-97, it mentions a place near the **River Teviot** used to hide horses from Jacobite troops as they moved through the parish. In a letter Sir Walter Scott received in 1828 it is mentioned that the people in **Darnick** were very alarmed at the approaching Jacobite army and they established a watch.

Borders support for the Jacobites was limited. Only 4 from Duns and 5 from Kelso were included in a list of 2,520 Jacobites compiled from information transmitted to the Commissioners of Excise by the Supervisors of Excise in Scotland in response to a letter of 7 May 1746. Even on the march from Edinburgh to Carlisle about a 1000 of the Jacobite Army deserted. The Borders witnessed this as the march south took three routes through the region.

The 25th Regiment of Foot (later The King's Own Scottish Borderers)

This regiment was in the second line of the left wing of the Duke of Cumberland's Army at Culloden in opposition to the Jacobites. There were other Scottish regiments such as volunteer regiments who were involved and could have contained men from the Scottish Borders.

Afterwards

There was migration of the Highlanders, forced off their land after Culloden, to the Scottish Lowlands. Many worked in agriculture but some also worked in the industries of the area. They may be found in other records we hold at the Heritage Hub

Of the prisoners listed after the battle of Carlisle there is a Surgeon listed – James Stratton of **Berwickshire**. This is one example of a Borderer involved in the rebellion. There are likely to be others listed elsewhere.

RECORDS HELD AT THE HERITAGE HUB

Council Records that survive from the major towns in the Borders such as Selkirk, Jedburgh and Hawick will comment on the movement of the Jacobite troops through the Borders. Some of these are part of unlisted collections. Please ask staff for access.

The Walter Mason Collection - the records listed below are catalogued and held at the Heritage Hub. There are a number of known records relating to Jacobites held in the museum's Walter Mason Collection. Please ask staff for further details.

D45/16

This collection includes oaths of supremacy and allegiance to the King sworn by Selkirk Town Council, 1722 and 1759.

D47/58

This collection includes oaths of allegiance and Abjuration to the King sworn by Selkirk Town Council, 1722.

D47/64/4

This item is an oath of allegiance to the King sworn by Selkirk Town Council 5 Oct 1744

D48/18/1-2

This collection includes oaths of allegiance to the King sworn by Selkirk Town Council, 1702

The Watson Collection is catalogued and held at the Heritage Hub. It mainly relates to Berwickshire.

Watson Collection/ Folio 6/ Folder 10

List of Heritors who attended a rendezvous on Fogo Moor to swear an oath of allegiance to William of Orange, 1696.

Watson Collection/ Folio 3/ Folder 23

Roll of ministers who prayed not for their majesties (William and Mary).

Watson Collection/ Folio 6/ Folder 12

Receipt for a Prisoner, Ludovick Drummond of Drummond Castle, a noted Jacobite, April 1715.
(This shows precautions were being taken before the 1715 rebellion).

Watson Collection/ Folio 6/ Folder 13

Roll of deputies, 1715.

Watson Collection/ Folio 9/ Folder 42-46

Records showing repair and the keeping of roads by Lord Kames 1746. (This shows a reaction to the rebellion and resulting actions to improve roads and access in Scotland for army movement).

Watson Collection/ Folio 12/ Folder 28

A manuscript poem from 1746 on the life and death of Lord Balmerino, a Jacobite supporter involved in both the 1715 and 1745 rebellions. He was an officer in the Jacobite army at Culloden, taken prisoner and tried for treason. He was found guilty and was beheaded. Balmerinoch stated at his execution "If I had a thousand lives, I would lay them all down in the same cause".

This is not a comprehensive list and there may be many more records in our collections that provide information on Jacobite history. Please let us know if you come across other records that we can add to this source list,

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