



Church Recording Society

RECORDING ITEMS IN THE PRESBYTERIAN TRADITION

Before beginning to record, consult "The Church in Scotland" for terminology and the Scottish section of the CRS website.

The services of the Presbyterian Tradition follow closely the teachings of the Bible. The Pulpit is often in the most prominent position and the seating arranged so that the preacher can be seen and heard easily by the congregation. In a pre-reformation church re-ordering may not have been possible and a simple Communion Table, will have taken the place of the Altar.

000-99 MEMORIALS

After the Reformation and for many years, memorials were not permitted within the church. In 1643 the General Assembly passed an Act which prohibited 'Honours of Arms or any such like monuments' to be displayed in any church. The elaborate burial rites and rituals were banned as was the use of burial vaults inside the church. Instead burials were in the earth and memorials were placed on external walls or as upright stones in the churchyard. Some will have become badly eroded by time and weather. Note what you can see. Do not record any which are not actually set into the wall.

External Memorials

021	WALL TABLET Ph	Jean Smith d.18(?)	EXTERNAL EAST WALL
1	Rectangular stone framed by pillars with palmate leaves and surmounted by very worn decorative work (possibly representing a skull). Placed centrally is the dedication in incised Roman caps, worn in places.		
2	Sandstone		
3	-		
4	h. 89 x w. 61cm		
5-8	-		
9	HERE LYES / JEAN SMITH / BORN 9 th OF FEBRUARY / 1788 / DIED 18 th MARCH 18(?) / AND IS INTERRED (IN) / THIS SAME GRAVE / HER HUSBAND ANGUS / DIED 1835 /		
10	-		

100-199 METALWORK

Pewter is often the metal used for the Communion service. Some will have makers marks. If in doubt consult a pewter expert. Communion Tokens, rarely used now, were sometimes made of pewter, but more often of varying base metals. Often found stored in the vestry (see website for history and purpose) Sometimes encountered are metal trays for distributing communion in individual glasses.

121 FLAGON Ph**VESTRY**

- 1 A tapered cylindrical pewter flagon on moulded base with single collet at the waist and a plain strap handle. The hinged cover has a 2-lobed thumbpiece, engraved with two parallel lines at the rim and a small central circle. Maker's mark, KINIBURGH stamped inside centre of base enclosed in an engraved circle. No other marks or inscriptions.
- 2 Pewter
- 3 Early 19th c (ref. a)
- 4 wt. 1710gm. h. 25cm, cover diam. 12cm, base diam. 16cm.
- 5-6 Maker. Robert Kiniburgh, Edinburgh 1794-1831 (ref.a)
- 7-9 -
- 10 a) "Old Pewter. Its Makers and Marks" H.H. Cotterell, Batsford 1963 p192

122 COMMUNION TOKENS Ph**IN THE CARE OF THE CHURCH**

Box of metal Communion Tokens. 17 rectangular stamped Crom 1. 3 x w .5cm and 16 circular discs diam. 2cm having on one side CROMARTY 1833 in roman caps, on reverse THIS DO / IN REMEMBRANCE / OF ME / and below LUKE XX11 19 / , held together within a wooden box with sliding fielded lid, holding 359 rectangular tokens and 1 circular disc. Sizes vary.

146 SET OF COMMUNION TRAYS & COVER Ph**VESTRY**

- 1 A set of seven oval, double-tiered stacking trays with a cover. Each tray can hold 24 individual Communion glasses, 168 glasses in total, and has a carrying handle. The cover also has a carrying handle and a central opening which allows the handle of each tray to slot in and be carried together. The handle of each tray and the cover is in the form of an 'm' shape. On the rim of the cover and each tray are four flat-topped cones which allow each tray to slot into the tray above. The cover stands on four bun feet. St. DUNSTAN / CHURCH CRAFT is stamped on the underside of the cover and each tray. The memorial inscription is in sans serif capitals.
- 2 Silver Plate
- 3 -
- 4 Tray overall: h.16cm including handle. Tray: h.4 x w.32.4 x d.24.4cm; between tiers of each tray 3.3cm; cover h.13.5 x w.32.4 x d.24.4cm. Glasses: h.4 x diam. 3.2cm.
- 5-6 St Dunstan, Church Craft.
- 7-8 -
- 9 WITH THANKSGIVING FOR MARY DOUGLAS, ST COLME'S / AND FOR ALL THE FAITHFUL WHO ARE WITH THE LORD /
- 10 -

300-399 WOODWORK

The authority of the Pulpit is evident by its prominence. Record as in the Sample Pages, immediately after the Communion Table, which may be in another part of the Church. Note the requirements of reformed worship. *For other items specific to Presbyterian worship see "The Church in Scotland."*

301 PULPIT Ph**CHANCEL**

- 1 The octagonal shaped pulpit has access on the East side by a flight of five steps with a hand-rail. It is supported on an octagonal stepped base which has quatre-foil blind tracery. In seven panels, separated by carved brackets. The door is a plain panel with a brass door knob. There is a separate catch. The seven other panels have gothic designs in blind tracery. The height has been increased by a rail which is patterned with quatre-foil blind fretwork. Inside there is a seat, a reading desk and a bookshelf. The seat is upholstered in dark red velvet, which also covers the top rail. The carpeting is red. On the outer face of one of the top panels is screwed a wrought iron bracket which originally held the Baptismal Bowl.
- 2 Pine
- 3 -
- 4 h. 212 x diam 155cm
- 5 – 6 -
- 7 Brought from St Andrew’s Church of Scotland, Berwick after the church was demolished in 1987 (ref.a)
- 8 – 9 -
- 10 a) The Church Guide and by the Minister orally.

321 COLLECTION LADLES (2) Ph**VESTRY**

Cylindrical oak turned handles, ending in small rectangular boxes to hold the offerings. Originally lined with red material. Ladle 1 – handle l. 78 cm, Ladle 2 - handle l. 89 cm, both boxes h. 6.5 x w.17 x l.9cm

400-499 TEXTILES

Because the Communion Service is held only at certain times in the year, the fair linen may be kept outwith the church, in the care of the Session Clerk, or in the Manse. Robes worn at services are usually the property of the Minister, (if so, do not record) these may include a preaching scarf. The 1-10 format may not be necessary for the Linen, unless of particular memorial or historic interest. *See “The Church in Scotland” for explanation of use.*

401 FAIR LINEN**Held at the MANSE**

All items of white linen unless stated.

- a) Communion Table Runner l. 400 x 360cm 5cm machine hemstitched hems. Squared corners.
- b) Communion Napkins
- i) Two l. 41 x w. 39.5cm. 1.5cm hemstitched hems. Squared corners. 5cm up from one long edge is a Latin Cross. l 14 x w 11.5cm. worked in white embroidery thread. A drawn thread design in squares depicting cobwebs and flowers divided by worked bars. Outlined with close buttonhole stitch, which is then outlined with pin point hem stitch. Squared corners.
- ii) Two l. 41 x w. 39cm Detail as b(i)
- iii) One l. 41 w. 42cm Detail as b(i)
- c) Pew Runners.
There are nine. All have some iron-mould marks and a few have drawing pin tears.

l. 240 w 43cm; l. 242 w 42cm; l. 243 w 42cm; l. 245 w 42cm; Two l. 268 w 42cm; l. 268 w 45cm; l. 270 w 42cm; l. 270 w 43cm
 All have 0.5cm hems on one long side and both short sides. One long side selvage edge. Squared corners.

600-699 LIBRARY

Numbers 600 – 604 are recorded according to the LIBRARY SECTION HEADINGS in the Scottish Section of the Website.

600 REGISTERS AND RECORDS OUTWITH CHURCH KEEPING

i)	Kirk Session Minutes	1697 – 1710
ii)	Disbursements and poors money	1697 - 1752 1756 – 1762
iii)	Further minutes	1742 - 1744 1759 – 1762
iv)	Collections	1855 - 1858 1878 – 1780
v)	List of Ministers	1694 - 1905

601 REGISTERS AND RECORDS WITHIN CHURCH KEEPING

i)	List of inhabitants of the parish, giving details of members in each family	1811
ii)	List giving details of occupations of inhabitants	1831
iii)	Minutes	1868 – 1908 1908 – 1959
iv)	Baptismal Register	1855 – 1899
v)	Communion Rolls	1868 – 1895 1896 – 1917 1920 – 1940

602 LETTERS AND PERMISSIONS

i)	Estimate for repairs to the Manse	1919
ii)	Call, with 11 signatures for the incoming minister to the parish	2 September 1819
iii)	Architectural plan of the church, showing proposed heating apparatus	14 April 1936
iv)	Letters from parishioners re positioning of central heating pipes	1936 – 1937

603 PROPERTY REGISTERS, INSURANCE CERTIFICATES, FABRIC INSPECTION REPORTS

- i) Envelope containing fabric insurance certificates
- ii) Correspondence re Public Liability.

604 BIBLE

PULPIT

This Bible forms a central part in Presbyterian worship, and is carried ceremonially before the Minister to the pulpit at the start of the service. Record with the same detail as a pre 1851 Bible. (see sample pages under 604)