



WOODLAND HISTORY DETECTIVES: RESOURCES FOR SCOTLAND

Dr Coralie Mills, Nov 2024, Dendrochronicle <https://dendrochronicle.co.uk>

Historic maps and LiDAR:

<https://maps.nls.uk/>

Key maps: look for Pont, Bleau Atlas, Roy Military Survey, Estate maps, County Maps, OS maps. I usually start by looking at Roy (mid 18thC) compared with OS 1st ed 6" (mid 19thC) in the SIDE BY SIDE VIEWER. However, Roy is only for mainland Scotland, not islands.

The Estate maps section on NLS maps includes many for D&G added through the 'Dumfries Archival Mapping Project' (DAMP) – they have a Facebook page.

Scotland's national LiDAR coverage is also available on NLS maps site through the Side-by-Side Viewer.

Outside Scotland? NLS maps have historic OS maps coverage for all of the British Isles.

Info on ancient trees, guides to tree recording and tree-forms; volunteer, add new records

Ancient Tree Inventory (Woodland Trust) – UK wide, active groups in Scotland

<https://ati.woodlandtrust.org.uk/>

<https://ati.woodlandtrust.org.uk/how-to-record/species-guides/>

<https://ati.woodlandtrust.org.uk/how-to-record/recording-guide/how-to-record-a-quick-guide/>

Dendrochronology

The Dendrochronicle website <https://dendrochronicle.co.uk> – eg see Publications page for free articles and links, see FAQs page guidance for prospective users.

The ScARF Dendrochronology Research Framework for Scotland:

<https://scarf.scot/thematic/dendrochronology/>

The Forestry and Land Scotland *Dendrochronology Learning Resource*:

<https://forestryandland.gov.scot/what-we-do/biodiversity-and-conservation/historic-environment-conservation/learning/dendrochronology>



Archaeological sites, historic buildings and landscapes in Scotland

NB many archaeological sites remain unrecorded, especially in woodland.

CANMORE, HES National Record of the Historic Environment, search for information about known (recorded) individual sites in your area or woodland: <https://canmore.org.uk/>

Pastmap, find out more about the heritage of your local area: <https://pastmap.org.uk/>

Designated cultural heritage sites (Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Gardens and Designed Landscapes etc):

<https://portal.historicenvironment.scot/apex/f?p=PORTAL:HOME:::::>

Historic Environment Records managed by Scottish Councils, usually managed by an archaeologist in the Planning Department: eg Dumfries & Galloway:

<https://new.dumgal.gov.uk/planning-building/conservation-regeneration/archaeological-historic-sites>

Forestry and Land Scotland, Historic Environment information for the National Forest Estate:

<https://forestryandland.gov.scot/what-we-do/biodiversity-and-conservation/historic-environment-conservation>

Documentary Records

Old (1790s) and New (1834-1845) Statistical Accounts of Scotland: Description of each parish by their ministers <https://stataccscot.ed.ac.uk/static/statacc/dist/home>

National Records of Scotland: <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/research>

Local archives, libraries and museums are brilliant sources of relevant records.

ANYONE INTERESTED IN HISTORY OF SCOTTISH WOODLANDS SHOULD READ THIS BOOK

Smout, T C, MacDonald, A R & Watson, F 2005 *A history of the native woodlands of Scotland, 1500-1920*. Edinburgh University Press.

Details of individual surveyed native woods and regional overviews

Native Woodland Survey of Scotland (NWSS, published 2014): eg for Dumfries & Galloway

<https://www.forestry.gov.scot/images/corporate/pdf/fcs-nwss-dumfries-galloway.pdf>



Examples of published Woodland History Studies in Scotland

Barhill Wood, Kirkcudbright (Galloway Glens booklet): <https://glenkens.scot/reports-resources-archive/galloway-glens-booklets>

Ardura Community Forest, Mull – Case Study in ScARF Dendrochronology Research Framework for Scotland: <https://scarf.scot/thematic/dendrochronology/dendrochronology-case-studies/case-study-dendrochronology-and-woodland-history-at-ardura-community-forest-mull/>

Loch Katrine coppices and wood pastures FCS/FLS case study: Downloadable PDF available in the Dendrochronicle website Publications section on Woodland History: <https://dendrochronicle.co.uk/publications/>

Balgownie Wood, West Fife - Quelch, P & Mills, CM 2016 'Planting phases in Balgownie Wood, Fife: Evidence from Historic Woodland Survey', in Mills CM (ed.) *Plantations in Scotland*, NWDG Scottish Woodland History Conference XVIII (2013), 9-17. (PDF available from NWDG website www.nwdg.org.uk in the History archive section).

Dougalston, Milngavie – wooded designed landscape history: Downloadable PDF available in the Dendrochronicle website Publications section on Woodland History: <https://dendrochronicle.co.uk/publications/>

Dendrochronicle Events

Look out for forthcoming Dendrochronicle events here:

<https://dendrochronicle.co.uk/events/>

Organisations in Scotland with related events and outputs:

Alliance for Scotland's Rainforest: <https://savingscotlandsrainforest.org.uk/>

Borders Forest Trust: <https://bordersforesttrust.org/>

sign up for their e-newsletter here: <https://bordersforesttrust.us8.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=d71de06b2dfede71d79ee7a36&id=f69214299c>

Community Woodlands Association: <https://www.communitywoods.org/>

D&G Woodlands: <https://dgwoodlands.org.uk/>

Native Woodlands Discussion Group – excellent day visits etc: <https://nwdg.org.uk>

Reforestation Scotland: <https://reforestingscotland.org/>



Royal Scottish Forestry Society: <https://www.rsfs.org.uk/>

Trees for Life / Dundreggan Rewilding Centre: <https://visitdundreggan.co.uk/>

Woodland Trust Scotland: <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/about-us/where-we-work/scotland/>

England: Good place to start is with the work of Emeritus Professor Ian Rotherham (Sheffield Hallam Uni) and colleagues at UKEconet. Many publications and events on woodland history including a guide to researching history of woods in England: <https://www.ukeconet.org/>