

TRADES OF PERTH



Perth was a rich and important royal burgh in medieval times. It was widely known as a crafts town and became rich from manufacturing and commerce. Trade was regulated by the guilds. They supervised prices, the quality of goods, weights and measures and any breaches of monopolies. Goods made in Perth were of very high quality. The twelve incorporated crafts were especially powerful. They represented the hammermen, baxters (bakers), glovers, shoemakers, fleshers (butchers), tailors, websters (weavers), wrights (making wheels), skinnners, tanners, maltsters and brewers.

- Perth's Merchant Guild dates back to 1210.
- The names of the vennels (alleyways) in the centre of Perth, especially leading to the kirk, remind us of the crafts that took place there.
- Gloves from Perth were often presented at official functions, as status symbols, to dignitaries and royalty.
- Local produce and goods, such as leather, skins, fleeces, wool, grain, flax and timber provided the raw materials for craftsmen.
- Other important materials, such as metal, generally arrived by ship.



Perth on 11th May 1559.



MEDIEVAL TRAIL PERTH

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