

The Highland Clearances

The Highland Clearances stands out as one of the most emotive chapters in the history of Scotland. This book traces the origins of the Clearances from the eighteenth century to their culmination in the crofting legislation of the 1880s. In considering both the terrible suffering of the Highland people as well as the stark choices that faced landowners during a period of rapid economic change, it shows how the Clearances were one of many 'attempted' solutions to the problem of how to maintain a population on marginal and infertile land, and were, in fact, part of a wider European movement of rural depopulation. In drawing attention away from the mythology to the hard facts of what actually happened, The Highland Clearances offers a balanced analysis of events which created a terrible scar on the Highland and Gaelic imagination.

Storm clouds always gather over the story of the Highland Clearances. The eviction of the Highlanders from the glens and straths of the Highlands and Islands of the north of Scotland still causes great historical dispute more than a century after the events. The Highland Clearances also generated a great deal of contemporary controversy and documentation. The record comes in diverse forms and with radically different provenances, offering excellent material for exercises in historical analysis and selection. Debating the Highland Clearances introduces the Highland Clearances as a classic historical problem. Eric Richards reviews the historical debate and examines the methods and sources employed by the combatants past and present. The debates among historians, novelists, politicians and economists are no less passionate today and raise major questions about interpretation and the appropriate frame of reference for the noisy and continuing public debate about the Highland Clearances. This book prese

Sets out the political background to the Highland Clearances, describes the traditional way of life in the Highlands, and looks at the clearances themselves-- the reasons for them and their effects. Suggested level: intermediate, junior secondary.

Debating the Highland Clearances

Stories of the Highland Clearances

The Dynamics of Heritage

Fir for Luck

The Highland Clearances Volume One

The tragedy of the Clearances, brought about by cynical, often absentee landlords, is a black page in Scotland's history. Written while the effects it describes were still unfolding, Mackenzie's history brings the distress before the reader.

There has been much academic interest in the role of museums as places where understanding of the past is shaped and legitimised for a wide and increasingly diverse public. This book focuses on the museum representations of the Highland Clearances - a much neglected aspect of one of the most disputed and politically-charged issues in modern Scottish history. Drawing together a range of inter-disciplinary themes and notions, it considers the cultural legacy of the period, brings to light the socially and historically conditioned meanings and values encapsulated in museum narratives of the Clearances, and shows the significance of collective memory in the negotiations inherent in heritage work. Examining both national and local museums in Scotland and concluding with comparisons with Australian museums of migration, Dynamics of Heritage contributes to our understanding of the processes of heritage construction, and its relationship to issues of memory and other modes of engagement with the past.

'A superb book ... Anybody interested in Scottish history needs to read it' Andrew Marr, Sunday Times Eighteenth-century Scotland is famed for generating many of the enlightened ideas which helped to shape the modern world. But there was in the same period another side to the history of the nation. Many of Scotland's people were subjected to coercive and sometimes violent change, as traditional ways of life were overturned by the 'rational' exploitation of land use. The Scottish Clearances is a superb and highly original account of this sometimes terrible process, which changed the Lowland countryside forever, as it also did, more infamously, the old society of the Highlands. Based on a vast array of original sources, this pioneering book is the first to chart this tumultuous saga in one volume, with due attention to evictions and loss of land in both north and south of the Highland line. In the process, old myths are exploded and familiar assumptions undermined. With many fascinating details and the sense of an epic human story, The Scottish Clearances is an evocative memorial to all whose lives were irreparably changed in the interests of economic efficiency. This is a story of forced clearance, of the destruction of entire communities and of large-scale emigration. Some winners were able to adapt and exploit the new opportunities, but there were also others who lost everything. The clearances created the landscape of Scotland today, but it came at a huge price.

A History of the Highland Clearances

The History of the Highland Clearances; Containing a Reprint of Donald MacLeod's Gloomy Memoiries of the Highlands; Isle of Skye in 1882; And a Verbatim Report of the Trial of the Braes Crofters

The Desperate Journey

The Highland Clearances, an Introduction

The Stonemason

In the terrible aftermath of the moorland battle of Culloden, the Highlanders suffered at the hands of their own clan chiefs. Following his magnificent reconstruction of Culloden, John Prebble recounts how the Highlanders were deserted and then betrayed into famine and poverty. While their chiefs grew rich on meat and wool, the people died of cholera and starvation or, evicted from the glens to make way for sheep, were forced to emigrate to foreign lands. Mr Prebble tells a terrible story excellently. There is little need to search further to explain so much of the sadness and emptiness of the northern Highlands today. The Times.

The heart-wrenching tale of a girl's courage to save her village from the Highland Clearances.

Winner of the Saltire Society Scottish History Book of the Year Award In April 1816 Patrick Sellar was brought to trial in Inverness for

culpable homicide for his treatment of the Highlanders of Strathnaver, the most northerly part of the Scottish highlands. In the process of evicting them from their ancient lands he had allegedly burnt houses, destroyed mills and wrecked pastures. There is perhaps no more hated nor reviled individual in Highland history. This outstanding new book, however, gives a balanced assessment of the man, a vivid account of a terrible episode in Highland history, and a riveting narration of a tormented life. Richard's book is an account of Sellar's life and times: that he was ruthless, avaricious, devious and cruel is beyond question. But his letters suggest a streak of idealism: did he really believe that the displaced highlanders would be better off, better fed, educated and housed in their new homes? Have the Highlands in the end become more productive and prosperous? In the course of his fast-moving and gripping account, Eric Richards looks carefully at these vexed questions.

The Sutherland Clearances

Landscapes of the Highland Clearances

The History of the Highland Clearances. With a New Introd. by Ian Macpherson

Containing a Reprint of Donald MacLeod's Gloomy Memories of [i.e. In] the Highlands ; Isle of Skye in 1882 ; and a Verbatim Report of the Trial of the Braes Crofters

Debating the Highland Clearances. Debates and Documents in Scottish History

The Highland Clearances is one of the most emotive episodes in Scottish history. In this book, David Craig and photographer David Paterson provide a written and visual record of around 25 of the communities throughout the Highlands and Islands that were abandoned.

Twins Kirsty and David Murray are forced to leave their crofting home in the north of Scotland, and struggle to cope with life in Glasgow, where the work is hard and dangerous. Then comes a chance for a new adventure on a ship bound for Canada. Will they survive the treacherous Atlantic crossing, and what will they find in the strange new land? The Desperate Journey is Kathleen Fidler's best-known story, a true Scottish classic whose thrilling plot will keep children gripped till the end.

Accounts of the Highland Clearances have tended to focus on the political aspects, overlooking the depth of suffering and ill-health of the dispossessed crofters. The pace of the relocation was extraordinarily rapid; the new sites were overcrowded, had poor sanitary conditions, and were unsuitable even for subsistence farming. Destitution and disease were rampant. This is the first book to recount the traumatic changes wrought in the lifestyle and health of those who were uprooted. It examines nutrition, health, and disease in the Highlands and Islands in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and also discusses the reforms in religion, land tenure, medicine, and health care which, in the century after the Clearances, began to rectify the grossest injustices. This is the first time the story has been told and it is a powerful indictment of man's inhumanity to man.

Highland Clearances

The Heather on Fire

History of the Highland Clearances

History, Memory and the Highland Clearances

The Highland myth as an invented tradition of 18th and 19th century and its significance for the image of Scotland

Storm clouds always gather over the story of the Highland Clearances. The eviction of the Highlanders from the glens and straths of the Highlands and Islands of the north of Scotland still causes great historical dispute more than a century after the events. The Highland Clearances also generated a great deal of contemporary controversy and documentation. The record comes in diverse forms and with radically different provenances, offering excellent material for exercises in historical analysis and selection. Debating the Highland Clearances introduces the Highland Clearances as a classic historical problem. Eric Richards reviews the historical debate and examines the methods and sources employed by the combatants past and present. The debates among historians, novelists, politicians and economists are no less passionate today and raise major questions about interpretation and the appropriate frame of reference for the noisy and continuing public debate about the Highland Clearances. This book presents a representative anthology of documents illustrating the historical foundations on which the debate is built. The debate is set in context and the author explains why it is not only important for Scottish patriots but for history in general.

First published in 1985, A History of the Highland Clearances: Volume 2 explores the various types of communal and intellectual responses, contemporary and retrospective, to the experience of the clearances. The first section considers the legacy of the two hundred years' debate about the Highland problem and the place of the clearances therein. The second section assesses the scale, range and timing of the emigrations of the Highlanders, as well as some of the motivations. The third section contemplates the direct popular response to the clearances, the collective memory and the tradition of physical resistance. The fourth section is about the career, trial and reputation of Patrick Sellar, which together embodied much of the social history, ruling ideas, and the necessary mythology of the clearances. The final section considers the fundamental economic problem of the Highlands in the age of the clearances, and the moral and economic alternatives that faced the community, the landlords, and the nation.

The forced removal of family farmers across the Scottish Lowlands in the 18th and 19th centuries is chronicled in this enlightening social history. The Scottish Agricultural Revolution came at great cost to the poor cottars and tenant farmers who were driven from their homes to make way for livestock and crops. The process of forced evictions through the Highlands known as the Highland Clearances is a well-documented episode of Scottish history. But the process actually began in the Scottish Lowlands nearly a century before—in the so-called Age of Improvement. Though largely overlooked by historians, the Lowland Clearances undeniably shaped the Scottish landscape as it is today. They swept aside a traditional way of life, causing immense upheaval for rural dwellers, many of whom

moved to the new towns and cities or left the country entirely. With pioneering research, historian Peter Aitchison tells the story of the Lowland Clearances, establishing them as a significant aspect of the Clearances that changed the face of Scotland forever.

Clans and Clearance

Clans and Clearance: The Highland Clearances Volume One

Donald Macleod's Chronicle of Scotland's Highland Clearances

The Glens of Silence

Or, A Strange Return by the Highland Chiefs for the Fidelity of the Clans: Being an Account of the Glengarry ... and Other Evictions in the Highlands Since the Battle of Culloden: with an Appendix ...

Before the Rebellion of Prince Charles in 1745, each Highland clan owned its own land. No one else, including the Government in Edinburgh, had the power to deprive them of it. (Travellers saw that in the mountains every crag was a new fortress for men defending their own country.) But the Highland Jacobite rebels having been defeated at Culloden and scattered, and the Lowland Government in Edinburgh now being much stronger since the Union with England in 1707, the British authorities decided to incorporate the Highlands into Great Britain in fact, as well as in theory. The anglophone legal system was successfully imposed, and the clan chiefs were made into landlords, owning all the land which had once belonged to their clans. Scots law now gave each chief-landlord the right (for any reason or no reason) to turn his entire clan out of their homes and farms, and keep the whole clan land as his private back garden, if he wanted. So when the new landlords realized that big grazing farms, for cattle or sheep, would make a lot of money, the clearances started. Well-to-do Highlanders, Lowlanders, even a few Englishmen, rented the clan lands; the chiefs evicted their folk; and the chief/landlord found his income shooting up over the years to five times or fifteen times what it had been (and there was no income tax!). Many of the evicted Highlanders were given an acre or two of worthless, barren land, and told to make it fertile: and when by donkey-work the crofters were able to grow a few potatoes, they had to pay rent for the value they themselves had created. Others - either immediately or after years of rack-rented drudgery on the croft - went to the Lowland factories, or abandoned Scotland entirely for arduous pioneering lives in North America (those who survived the journey). The Earls of Sutherland were chiefs of the Sutherland clan, Murrays, MacKays, Sutherlands and others. Adam Gordon married a daughter of the Earl of Sutherland about 1500, and managed to cheat the rest of the family out of their land-charters. After that the Earls of Sutherland were Gordons. The 18th earl died in 1766 leaving a year-old daughter, Elizabeth Gordon, to succeed him. She inherited nearly two-thirds of the county of Sutherland, over 1250 square miles, an estate about the size of Gloucestershire. The long wars with France between 1793 and 1815 meant there was a desperate need of soldiers, such as the Sutherland small tenants could provide: but (despite being married to one of the richest men in England, the Marquis of Stafford) she wanted the much higher rents which big sheep farms would supply. (You can never have too much money.) She was indifferent to the fate of the small tenants - "a good many of them", would "inevitably be tossed out", she wrote; they would be "driven from their present dwellings by the sheep farms". She cleared her estate between 1807 and 1821, greatly increasing her rents. She and her husband became the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland. The second greatest Sutherland landowner was Lord Reay, the chief of the Reay MacKay clan. Reay cleared his estate even before Elizabeth Gordon, beginning about 1800. (Thirteen smaller landlords owned the rest of the county, and rivalled the countess and Lord Reay with their own clearances.) Reay belonged to a London firm which provided finance to slave-traders, and spent most of his time in gambling dens and brothels. Having wasted vast amounts of money, he sold his estate to the Sutherlands in 1830, and bought a slave plantation in the West Indies. When the slaves were freed in 1833, like the other slave-owners he was compensated. (The slaves weren't.)

If you go to the Scottish Highlands now, you will find many valleys almost without people. Yet we know from history and archaeology that many people lived in the Highlands for thousands of years. What happened? Between about 1740 and 1900, the Highland landlords decided to clear out the people, and establish great sheep farms instead. Five volumes will tell the story, starting with volume one - "Clans and Clearance". In Highland histories, some beliefs (though clearly at odds with the evidence) re-appear regularly, all these, and other, misapprehensions are dealt with in "Clans and Clearance" e.g- * There was an enormous Highland population increase in the century after 1750: this never happened - the highest possible increase is 37% in the years 1750-1840 - during which time food production doubled or trebled.*. Some figures in original documents are clearly inaccurate, but have been accepted by writers who feel that documents cannot lie; they claim that Highland parishes averaged 400 square miles. This is clearly wrong, and can be disproved by anyone who has an atlas and a ruler: the average was about 100 square miles. * The clearances were carried out by "the English". In reality they were carried out by the clan chiefs, after the Lowlanders and the English conquered the Highlands, following the Battle of Culloden, 1746. The British state forced the private-property system on to the Highlanders; the clan chiefs were made into landowners, who suddenly realized they could make themselves rich by driving out the clansfolk and letting the land to large farmers. * Most of the Highlanders were Catholics. In fact 96% of the Highlanders were Protestant. * The old Highlanders were "crofters". In fact the Highlanders were hunter-gatherers, with a second ample food source in their vast flocks and herds. The crofters appeared only after the clearances, when some of the evicted were kindly allowed to try growing potatoes in an acre or two of barren, waste ground. * The clan chiefs were tyrants, jailing and executing clansfolk indiscriminately. No, the chiefs had no state apparatus - police, soldiers, lawyers, courts, jails, torturers, executioners etc - so had to rule with the general approval of the clansfolk. * The Highlanders' cattle lived under the same roof as the Highlanders. No, the herds far too large; this only happened after the clearances, when Herds no longer had enough pasture for their great flocks, and therefore had very few animals left - and very little grazing, so the cow had to be housed in the same building. * The clansfolk were wildly licentious, drinking enormous quantities

of whisky, while at the same time they fervently believed in a strait-laced religion. No, both these opposite convulsions appeared as extreme reactions to the social misery caused by the clearances.

The Highland Clearances Trail answers the where, why, what and whens of the Highland Clearances. Taking you around the significant sites of the Highland Clearances this vivid guide gives a scholarly introduction to a tragic moment in Scotland's history. Perthshire, Ross-Shire, Arran, Sutherland and Caithness are among the many areas covered. With full background information supplied, along with maps and illustrations, The Highland Clearances Trail provides an alternative route around the Highlands that will leave the reader with a deeper understanding of this sublime landscape.

Patrick Sellar and the Highland Clearances

A History of the Dispossessed, 1600-1900

The Highland Clearances and the End of Isolation

Scotland's Silent Revolution 1760–1830

The History of the Highland Clearances

First published in 1982, A History of the Highland Clearances looks at the forcible clearance of tenants from land they had farmed for centuries by landlords in the Highlands of Scotland in the early nineteenth century. It examines the general context of historical change, provides a full narrative of the clearances and offers a critical evaluation of the documentary sources upon which the entire story depends. By placing his subject in its historical perspective and into the context of the rest of Britain and Europe, Eric Richards vividly illustrates the realities of the Highland experience in the age of the clearances.

Educational website about the Highland Clearances.

These volumes draw the Highlands into the wider debate about the process of agrarian transformation and the consequences of industrialisation through an exploration and examination of the early nineteenth century clearances.

The Survival of the Unfittest

The Highland Clearances Volume Three

The Scottish Clearances

Set Adrift Upon the World

Emigration, Protest, Reasons

Presents first-person account of a man who, along with his family and neighbors, was evicted and persecuted during Scotland's 19th century Highland Clearances when landlords replaced their tenants with livestock.

Unlike some other reproductions of classic texts (1) We have not used OCR(Optical Character Recognition), as this leads to bad quality books with introduced typos. (2) In books where there are images such as portraits, maps, sketches etc We have endeavoured to keep the quality of these images, so they represent accurately the original artefact. Although occasionally there may be certain imperfections with these old texts, we feel they deserve to be made available for future generations to enjoy.

This true story of a mass eviction in nineteenth-century Scotland is “a moving, gripping, definitive account of a struggle for survival (Scots Magazine). A Saltire Society History Book of the Year They would be better dead, they said, than set adrift upon the world. But set adrift they were—thousands of them, their communities destroyed, their homes demolished and burned. Such were the Sutherland Clearances, an extraordinary episode involving the deliberate depopulation of much of a Scottish Highlands county. What was done in the course of it was planned and carried out by a small group of men and one woman, seeking a more profitable use of the land. Most of those involved wrote a great deal about their actions, intentions, and feelings, and much of it has been preserved. There are no equivalent collections of material from those whose communities ceased to exist. Their feelings and fears are harder to access, but by no means irrecoverable. In this book, James Hunter tells the story of the Sutherland Clearances. His research took him to archives in Scotland, England, and Canada, to the now deserted valleys of Sutherland, to the frozen shores of Hudson Bay. The result is a story of a people’s struggle for survival in the face of tragedy and disaster, covering experiences not featured in any previous such account. “Detailed and unsparing . . . [The author] is careful to present the evidence for all he records.” —London Review of Books

Homicide, Eviction and the Price of Progress

The Highland Clearances Trail

The Lowland Clearances

People, Landlords and Rural Turmoil

The Highland Clearances

The lives, customs and traditions of the Scottish Highlanders before the "Highland Clearances" drove most of them out of the Highlands, and an investigation into who was responsible, along with some remarks on the way these events have been treated by orthodox historians, and some general thoughts on the clearances themselves.

Seminar paper from the year 2005 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Culture and Applied Geography, grade: 2, University of

Hannover, course: Peripheries in British 19th-Century History: Scotland and Ireland, 12 entries in the bibliography, language: English, abstract: If people around the globe are asked what they associate with Scotland or the Scots, tartan kilts, bagpipes, clans and the Highlands are the most common answers. Especially tourist interest concentrates on these landmarks of Scotland, which are said to be insignias of Scottish tradition, glory and identity, and which dominate the image of Scotland. But are these landmarks really linked to a tradition from times immemorial? Do they really represent a link to Scotland's Gaelic roots? This paper will investigate this question by introducing Eric Hobsbawm's term of "invented tradition" to denote and to outline the process of creation of these Scottish symbols. The following portrait of the historical background will show the social, political and economic developments in the 18th and 19th century which led to the invention of tradition as part of the creation of a Highland myth as a result of and as reaction to Scotland's union with England in 1707. Furthermore, the worldwide spreading of the Highland myth, which has determined the image of whole Scotland ever since, will be described. The paper will finish by showing contemporary parallels to the historic developments and trends, and suggesting further topics of investigation.

In this account of the Highland Clearances of the 18th century, Eric Richards draws attention to the brutal evictions as being one amongst many solutions to the problem of maintaining marginal and unfertile land and reasserts that as we enter the 21st century, we have yet to find a solution.

Agrarian Transformation and the Evictions 1746-1886

A Tale of the Highland Clearances (Classic Reprint)

Excerpt from The Heather on Fire: A Tale of the Highland Clearances No traveller can have failed to be struck by the solitude and desolation which now constitute the prevalent character of the Scottish Highlands. About the Publisher Forgotten Books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books. Find more at www.forgottenbooks.com This book is a reproduction of an important historical work. Forgotten Books uses state-of-the-art technology to digitally reconstruct the work, preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy. In rare cases, an imperfection in the original, such as a blemish or missing page, may be replicated in our edition. We do, however, repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully; any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works.