

Alba 1891: Gàidhlig (Scottish Gaelic) Local Profile

No. 043

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Area: Caladar (Cawdor): Caladar, Baile an Lagain, Ruigh Ailean, Druim Fheàrnaidh, Dubh Ghlaic, Dail Choille, Achadh nan Coitear, Cnoc a'Mhadaidh & Baile an Todhair

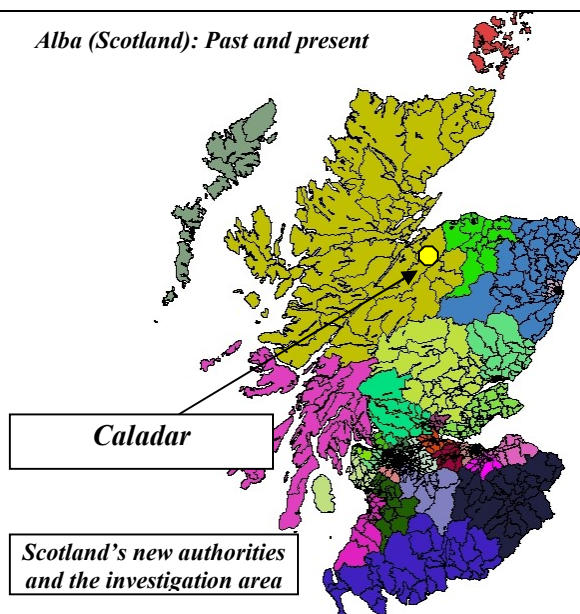
(Names of enumeration locations used on census forms: Cawdor Village, Newton of Budgate, Holmeporter Lodge, Little Budgate, Ballagan, Ruallan, Drumornie, Dubhghlaic, Dallaschoill, Cotterton, Doghill & Ballintore)

Number of households: 66 Population present at census night: 269

Share of resident population (aged 3 years or over) speaking Gàidhlig: 31.8 %

County	Civil parish	Registration district	Enumeration district number	Census form pages
Nairnshire	Cawdor	Cawdor	1 2	1 – 5 1 – 8 (part)

Alba (Scotland): Past and present



State of Gàidhlig in 1891:

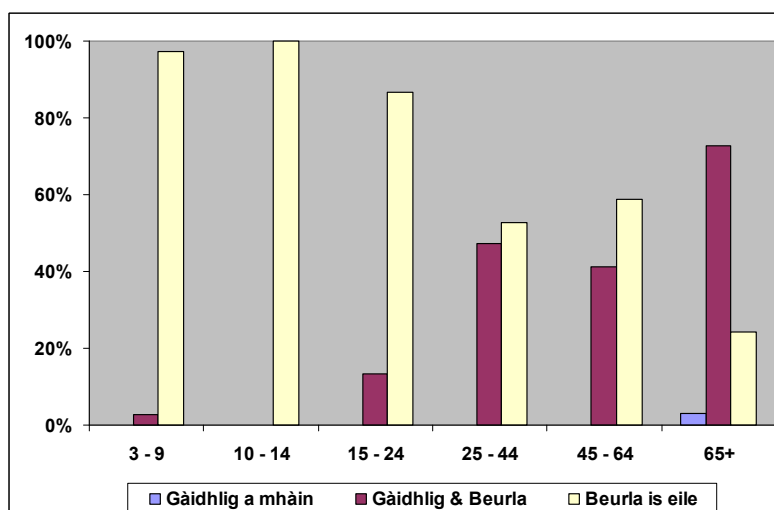
The language had apparently declined in use since the 1870s as the age structure of the Gàidhlig speaking community suggests. It is quite clear that *Caladar* (Cawdor) had been a genuine part of the Gàidhlig speaking world as also locally born people were returned as speaking the traditional language as well as English.

Gàidhlig was less strong in the village (26.6%) than in some other locations nearby like *Baile nan Coitear* & *Baile an Todhair* (Cotterton & Ballintore) where 64.3% still spoke the language.

Area description:

This factsheet is concerned with the village of *Caladar* (Cawdor) and some of its neighbouring hamlets around *Baile an Lagain* (Ballagan) and *Ruigh Ailean* (Ruallan) in the former county of *Narann* (Nairn).

Apart from the more diversified occupations in the village itself most residents were living from the land either as farmers or agricultural labourers or servants.



Age profile: Share of population speaking (1) Gàidhlig, (2) Gàidhlig & English, or (3) no Gàidhlig at all

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	Population enumerated				Usually resident population (3+)			
	Total	Aged 0-2	Deaf & dumb	Visitors etc. ³	Total ⁵	Gàidhlig	Gàidhlig & English	Gàidhlig speakers (%)
Age								
Total	269	14	0	13	242	1	76	31.8 %
3-4	8		0	0	8	0	0	0.0 %
5-9	27		0	0	27	0	1	3.7 %
10-14	28		0	0	28	0	0	0.0 %
15-24	49		0	4	45	0	6	13.3 %
25-44	59		0	4	55	0	26	47.3 %
45-64	50		0	4	46	0	19	41.3 %
65+	34		0	1	33	1	24	75.8 %
Gender								
Female	138	7	0	2	129	1	43	34.1 %
Male	131	7	0	11	113	0	33	29.2 %
Place of birth								
Born in parish	110	13	0	1	96	0	26	27.1 %
In neighbouring parish¹	55	0	0	5	50	0	17	34.0 %
Gaidhealtachd elsewhere²	27	0	0	3	24	0	22	91.7 %
Other places	77	1	0	4	72	1	11	16.7 %

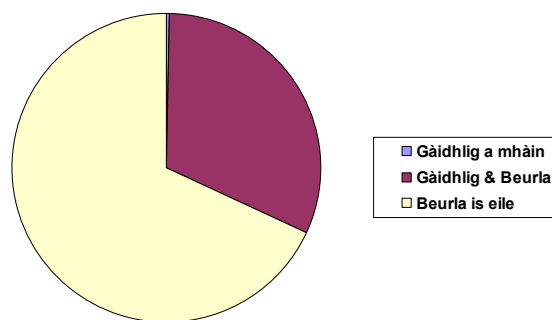
Notes:

¹ Civil parishes of Croy & Dalcross (Inverness), Nairn, Ardclach and Croy (all Nairn).

² Other parishes in Scotland with more than 50 % Gàidhlig speakers in the 1891 census.

³ People described as visitors, boarders, lodgers or other similar terms. This column includes also railway workers living in temporary huts.

⁵ Number of enumerated persons who were (1) older than 2 years of age, who were (2) not deaf & dumb and who (3) did not live only temporarily in the area.



Share of population speaking (1) Gàidhlig, (2) Gàidhlig & English, or (3) no Gàidhlig at all

Background of Gàidhlig (Scottish Gaelic) Local Profiles:

The 1891 census was the first such enumeration exercise with an unequivocal language question. After more than 100 years the original census forms are publicly available for detailed analysis. During research concerned with the “Gàidhlig (Scottish Gaelic) Local Studies” a vast number of such local statistics have been gathered about the Gàidhlig speaking population of Scotland in that year. As many of these results could not be included in the reports these concise fact-sheets are a welcome way to publish some of the “local gems”. More information is provided at http://www.linguae-celticae.de/GLP_english.htm.

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	House-holds	Usually resident population (3+)			
		Total	Gàidhlig	Gàidhlig & English	Gàidhlig speakers (%)
Caladar	66	242	1	76	31.8 %
Individual communities					
<i>Am Baile Ùr & Baile an Lagain</i> (Newton of Budgate & Ballagan)	15	67	0	22	32.8 %
<i>Caladar</i> (Cawdor)	39	139	0	37	26.6 %
<i>Ruigh Ailean & Dail Choille</i> (Ruallan & Dallaschoill)	7	22	1	8	40.9 %
<i>Baile nan Coitear & Baile an Todhair</i> (Cotterton & Ballintore)	5	14	0	9	64.3 %
Language of parents					
Both parents Gàidhlig speaking	7	34	0	16	47.1 %
Single parent Gàidhlig speaking	4	14	1	8	64.3 %
One parent Gàidhlig speaking	6	30	0	6	20.0 %
No Gàidhlig speaking parent	12	55	0	1	1.8 %
Households with no children (0-14)	37	109	0	45	41.3 %
Occupation of head of household					
Crofter, farmer, fisherman, etc.	9	36	1	12	36.1 %
Shepherd, gamekeeper or similar	1	3	0	1	33.3 %
Clergyman, teacher, physician, etc.	5	14	0	2	14.3 %
Mason, carpenter, merchant, etc.	12	52	0	11	21.2 %
Living on private means	1	1	0	1	100 %
Manager, coachman, cook, etc.	2	11	0	1	9.1 %
Worker, farm/domestic servant, etc.	36	125	0	48	38.4 %
Remaining occupations	0	0	0	0	-

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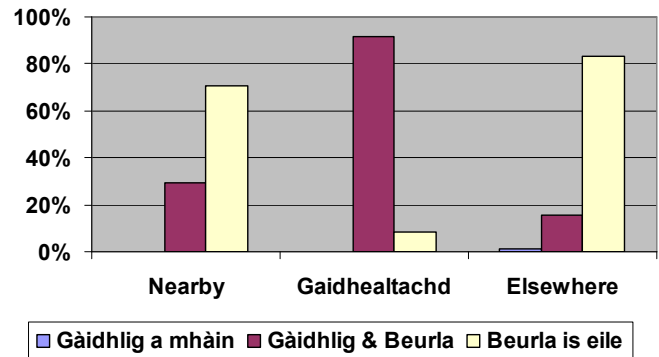
Place of birth and Gàidhlig speaking:

Roughly 25 % of locally born persons did also speak Gàidhlig. Those from the *Gaidhealtachd* itself were of course predominantly Gàidhlig speaking. Residents born elsewhere were highly unlikely to speak anything other than English – which in most cases would have been Lowland Scots/Doric.

Notes:

¹ Born either in Cawdor (Nairnshire) or in the parishes of Croy & Dalcross (Inverness), Nairn, Ardclach and Croy (all Nairn).

² Born in other parishes of Scotland with more than 50 % Gàidhlig speakers in the 1891 census.



Speakers according to place of birth (1) nearby¹
(2) in remaining *Gaidhealtachd* ², or (3) elsewhere

Remarks:

1. In original census report terms, the district had a population of 269 persons of all ages. There was one Gàidhlig monolingual person counted in this area and in addition 80 enumerated inhabitants spoke “Gaelic and English”. This led to an “official” share of Gàidhlig speakers of 30.1 %. This figure was a slight under-estimate of 1.7 % of the figures of the usually resident population.
2. The single monolingual Gàidhlig speaker found was the 79-year-old wife of a forester in *Dubh Ghlac*. She was born in *Inbhirnis* (Inverness).