

# Alba 1891: Gàidhlig (Scottish Gaelic) Local Profile

No. 048

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**Area:** *An Gart Mòr (Gartmore): Dubh Chraoibh, Coilltidh, An Coire, Achadh Alltaidh, An Leathad, Cinn Droma, Clais Mòr, An Spìdeal, Gart Cloiche, Gart Currachan, Am Bad, Dail Màiri, Achadh an Tròig, Gartachan, Fraochan & An Gart Mòr*

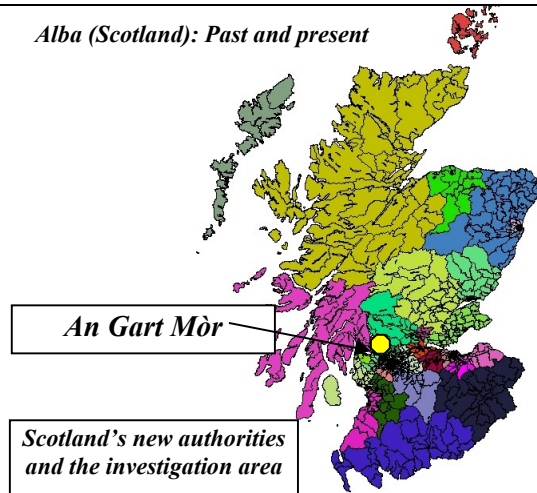
(Names of enumeration locations used on census forms: Paricknowl, Old Corrie, Drumleahart, Corrie, Auchalty, Leade, Kindrom, Clashmore, Duchray, Keltie, Blairviach, Blarnabord, Spittal, Borland, Ballinling, Baad, Barbadoes, Crinagart, Drummit, Culligart, Gartelach, Doulet, Gartcurrachan, Wester Garchel, Dalmary, Auchentroig, Crooks, Gartfarran, Gartachan, Garchel, Freuchan & Gartmore)

**Number of households: 160    Population present at census night: 815**

**Share of resident population (aged 3 years or over) speaking Gàidhlig: 10.8 %**

County	Civil parish	Registration district	Enumeration district number	Census form pages
Perthshire Stirlingshire	Port of Menteith Drymen	Port of Menteith Drymen	5	1 – 17
			3	1 - 12
			5	1 – 6

*Alba (Scotland): Past and present*



## State of Gàidhlig in 1891:

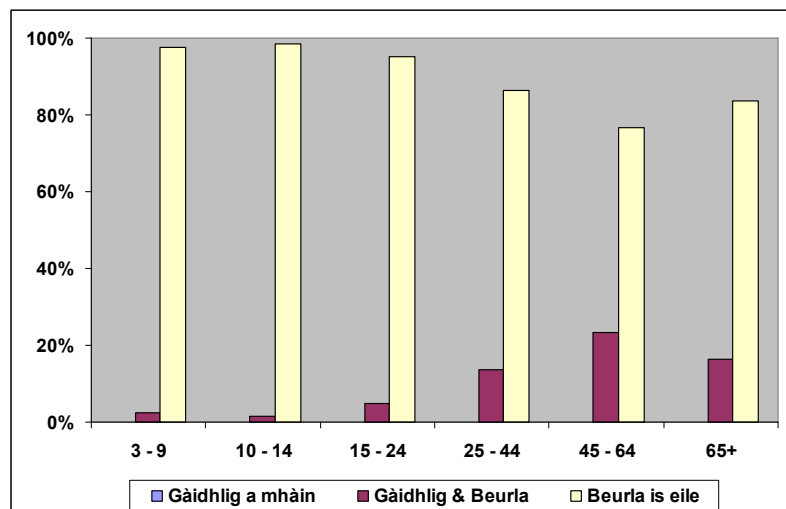
Most of the enumerated Gàidhlig speakers were born in the wider *Gaidhealtachd* and only a handful of locally born residents spoke the language. The great majority of speakers of course were members of the older generation although a few children were found which spoke still the traditional language.

*Gàidhlig* as a normal means of communication had retreated from *An Gart Mòr* (Gartmore) and the surrounding land some decades earlier.

## Area description:

The rural district described is the old ecclesiastic parish of *An Gart Mòr* (Gartmore) on both sides of the boundary between the counties of *Peairt* (Perth) and *Sruighlea* (Stirling). The village of *An Gart Mòr* was the natural centre of this diverse district on the verge of the Highlands.

At the time of the census construction was ongoing for the Keltie Water Works in 1891. Therefore, a large workforce and their engineers were present at census night.



**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. <sup>3</sup>	Total <sup>5</sup>	Gàidhlig	Gàidhlig & English	Gàidhlig speakers (%)
<b>Age</b>								
<b>Total</b>	<b>815</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>509</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>10.8 %</b>
<b>3-4</b>	<b>33</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0 %</b>
<b>5-9</b>	<b>74</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3.4 %</b>
<b>10-14</b>	<b>96</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1.5 %</b>
<b>15-24</b>	<b>122</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4.9 %</b>
<b>25-44</b>	<b>230</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>13.5 %</b>
<b>45-64</b>	<b>166</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23.5 %</b>
<b>65+</b>	<b>55</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>16.3 %</b>
<b>Gender</b>								
<b>Female</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>10.0 %</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>11.8 %</b>
<b>Place of birth</b>								
<b>Born in parish</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2.6 %</b>
<b>In neighbouring parish<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>57</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>26.9 %</b>
<b>Gaidhealtachd elsewhere<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>46</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>91.9 %</b>
<b>Other places</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.5 %</b>

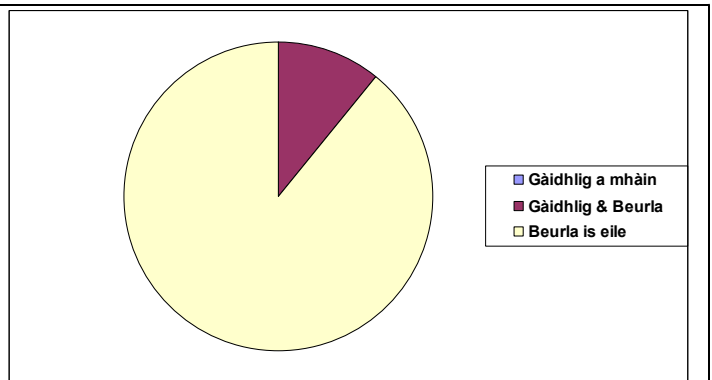
## Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Civil parishes of Buchanan, Killearn, Gargunnoch, Kippen (all Stirlingshire) or Callander and Aberfoyle (both Perthshire).

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

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

<sup>5</sup> 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](http://www.linguae-celticae.de/GLP_english.htm).

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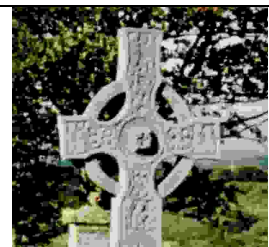
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	House-holds	Usually resident population (3+)			
		Total	Gàidhlig	Gàidhlig & English	Gàidhlig speakers (%)
<i>An Gart Mòr</i>	160	509	0	55	10.8 %
<b>Individual communities</b>					
<i>Dubh Chraoibh &amp; Coilltidh</i> (Duchray & Keltie)	44	125	0	18	14.4 %
<i>Dail Màiri &amp; Achadh an Tròig</i> (Dalmary & Auchentroig)	24	118	0	15	12.7 %
<i>An Gart Mòr</i> (Gartmore Village)	68	193	0	11	5.7 %
<i>Am Bad &amp; Fraochan</i> (Baad & Freuchan)	24	98	0	11	11.2 %
<b>Language of parents</b>					
Both parents Gàidhlig speaking	8	33	0	19	57.6 %
Single parent Gàidhlig speaking	3	10	0	5	50.0 %
One parent Gàidhlig speaking	9	55	0	12	21.8 %
No Gàidhlig speaking parent	76	300	0	1	0.3 %
Households with no children (0-14)	64	111	0	18	16.2 %
<b>Occupation of head of household</b>					
Crofter, farmer, fisherman, etc.	19	105	0	3	2.9 %
Shepherd, gamekeeper or similar	15	65	0	25	38.5 %
Clergyman, teacher, physician, etc.	5	19	0	0	0.0 %
Mason, carpenter, merchant, etc.	38	121	0	5	4.1 %
Living on private means	2	7	0	0	0.0 %
Manager, coachman, cook, etc.	10	24	0	7	29.2 %
Worker, farm/domestic servant, etc.	71	168	0	15	8.9 %
Remaining occupations	0	0	0	0	-

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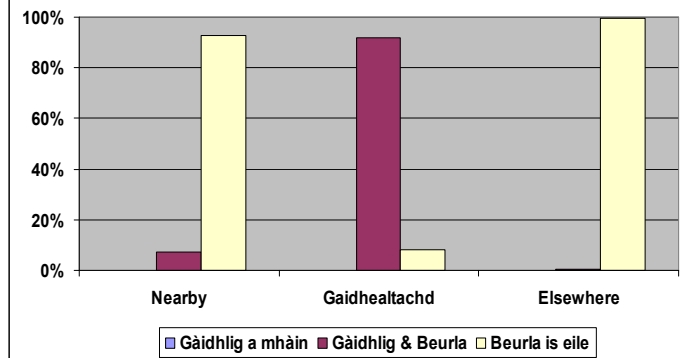
## Place of birth and Gàidhlig speaking:

Only a handful of locally born residents spoke the language. Almost all entries came from people with a birthplace in the wider *Gaidhealtachd*.

### Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Born either in Port of Menteith (Perthshire), Drymen (Stirlingshire) or in the parishes of Buchanan, Killearn, Gargunnoch, Kippen (all Stirlingshire) or Callander and Aberfoyle (both Perthshire).

<sup>2</sup> Born in other parishes of Scotland with more than 50 % *Gàidhlig* speakers in the 1891 census.



**Speakers according to place of birth (1) nearby<sup>1</sup> (2) in remaining *Gaidhealtachd* <sup>2</sup>, or (3) elsewhere**

## Remarks:

1. In original census report terms, the district had a population of 815 persons of all ages. 77 enumerated inhabitants spoke “Gaelic and English”. This led to an “official” share of *Gàidhlig* speakers of 9.4 %. This figure was a slight under-estimate of 1.4 % of the figures of the usually resident population.
2. At the time of the census there were intensive engineering operations ongoing for the construction of tunnels and pipes for the Keltie Water Works. In this context it has to be mentioned that 267 people on the census sheets lived only temporarily in the area. Among them 22 *Gàidhlig* speakers were recorded – mostly workers from elsewhere in the Highlands. These census returns, however, were not considered in these statistics because only the usually resident population was of interest.