

Resource Pack

Can you complete the *Trade and the Burghs* quest?

You may need to do a little extra research:

- Visit the SCRAN website <http://www.scran.ac.uk/> and access the relevant records using the SCRAN ID numbers provided under each resource
- Visit [places of interest](#)
- Do your own research by following [links](#)
- Investigate the CD-ROM *The Scottish People 800-1450 – People of a kingdom*, Learning and Teaching Scotland www.ltscotland.org.uk, email: enquiries@LTScotland.com, tel: Customer Services +44 (0)8700 100 297

Scotland's trade and burghs

- The 12th and 13th centuries were periods of great expansion in Scottish overseas trade
- Early burghs were small, often containing only a few hundred people
- Norman settlers brought new farming techniques to Scotland in the 12th century
- Burgh society was built on local and foreign trade



Drawing of a market scene showing stalls and trading, at St John's Kirk, Perth.

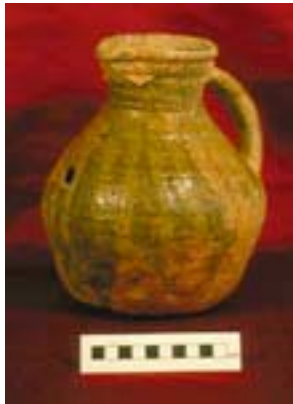
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Finding Facts

1. Who was the first monarch to grant certain towns the privileged trading rights of *royal burgh*?
2. What was the name of the rules which regulated trading in a burgh?
 - (a) The Burgh Bill
 - (b) Trading Oaths
 - (c) Statutes of the Guild
3. Who was the first Scottish monarch to mint coins?

Looking at Evidence

4.



This is an example of a local pottery jug from Aberdeen, used in the 13th and 14th centuries.

SCRAN 000-000-001-085-C



Here are some sherds of pottery jugs from France dating from the 13th and 14th centuries, found in Aberdeen.

SCRAN 000-000-001-216-C

Looking at the evidence, what can you say about trade in Aberdeen in the 13th and 14th centuries. Where might Aberdeen have traded? What might it have exported and imported?

Map showing Aberdeen on the east coast of Scotland.

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5.



This map shows Scotland's early royal burghs under David I, c.1153.

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This map shows all the burghs that had developed in Scotland by 1430.

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Look at these maps. How can you tell trade increased over this period? What can you say about the distribution of burghs in Scotland? With which countries do you think Scotland traded?

6.



(a) This is an Arabic coin from a hoard buried at Storr Rock, Skye around 935-940.

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(b) This is an Arabic coin, dating from around 921-922 found at Stevenston Sands, Ayrshire.

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(c) This bead was found at the Brough of Birsay, Orkney. It dates from 875-975.

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(d) Map showing a Viking trade route (from the Norse perspective) from Norway to Ireland.

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Consider the evidence. How does the map (d) explain the objects (a), (b) and (c)?

Now look at these maps showing the extent of Viking trade. How do they support the evidence (a), (b) and (c) ?



(e) Map showing the Viking trade network.

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(f) Map showing the Viking trade network outside Europe.

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Interpretation

7. Why was Berwick Scotland's most important royal burgh in the 13th century? Consider location and the export trade.

8. What effects do you think the *Wars of Independence* had upon Scotland's trading with Europe?

Links

<http://nms.ac.uk>

The National Museum of Scotland presents the history of Scotland – its land, its people and their achievements – through its rich collections built up over more than two centuries.

<http://www.scran.ac.uk/>

SCRAN is the award winning history and culture website providing instant access to images, sounds, movies and learning resources. It contains over one million records from museums, galleries and archives.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/scottishhistory/>

On this site you'll find in-depth articles, multimedia (like games, virtual tours and animations) as well as bite-size material like timelines and short biographies of historic figures. All is designed for you to get more out of your interest in History.

<http://www.nts.org.uk/>

This site contains useful information, whether you want to know more about the National Trust for Scotland's vital conservation work or are planning to visit some of the places of interest.

<http://www.ntseducation.org.uk/>

On this site there are sections which are intended to assist teachers with various topics in the school curriculum. They provide useful background material for teachers intending to explore these topics with their students.

<http://www.nationalgalleries.org/>

Education is at the heart of the work of the National Galleries of Scotland. Each of the Galleries provides a rich and lively learning resource. Our inclusive approach offers many different ways of learning to give everyone a chance to become actively engaged with art.

<http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk>

Historic Scotland safeguards the nation's built heritage and promotes its understanding and enjoyment. You can find information on more than 300 properties and scheduled ancient monuments. We also have resources for schools and details on technical conservation and research.

<http://www.nls.ac.uk>

The National Library of Scotland – Scotland's largest library and the world centre for the study of Scotland and the Scots. A vast reference library, covering all subjects, from art to mountaineering, and from early times to the digital age.

<http://www.nas.gov.uk>

The National Archives of Scotland (or NAS) is the main archive for sources of the history of Scotland as a separate kingdom, her role in the British Isles and the links between Scotland and many other countries over the centuries.

Places of Interest

Berwick-upon-Tweed

Mercat crosses at Stirling and Edinburgh

Answers

1. David I

2. (c) Statutes of the Guild

3. David I captured Carlisle and the mint of King Stephen of England.

4. Aberdeen is placed on the east coast of Scotland. It is well placed for trade with Europe. Pottery was imported from England, the Low Countries (Holland, Belgium and Luxembourg) and France. Jugs may have been used to transport wine.

The sea near the town was filled with salmon, cod and herring and so exports included fish as well as local wool and hides.

5. As trade developed and the economy increased, more burghs were created. They developed mainly in places with good trade links abroad. As the economy increased, society began to demand luxury goods unavailable locally in Scotland. A great number of burghs are situated along the east coast, well placed for trade with northern Europe. Other burghs were established in inland areas good for farming.

6. Evidence (a), (b) and (c) are objects of Viking trade. The map of the Viking trade route (d) supports their presence in the west coast of Scotland and Orkney.

Material reached Scotland from right across the Viking world. Objects came from England, Europe and beyond. Maps (e) and (f) outline the vast extent of the Viking trade network both within Europe and right across the Atlantic.

Objects were often taken first to Ireland, then moved on to Scotland and eventually back to Scandinavia.

7. Berwick is situated at the lowest crossing point of the River Tweed – it was well placed to receive wool from the surrounding sheep farms. Its economy was built on the manufacture and trade of cloth. Its proximity to both England and Europe was most beneficial. A good harbour developed and over the 12th and 13th centuries, Berwick became a bustling port and popular market place for local and foreign goods.

All kinds of imports came into Scotland through Berwick and many foreign traders and seafarers lived there. In 1296, both Scotland and England wanted to control its wealth and trade.

8. The *Wars of Independence* interrupted and seriously damaged Scotland's status as a trading nation. Scottish seas and burghs became more dangerous and less attractive to foreign merchants. However, the *Wars* also enabled Scotland to develop stronger political and commercial alliances with countries in Europe. When trade began to pick up again in the 14th century most Scottish exports and imports went through the port of Bruges in Flanders.