

**August 2016**

**Q.I am trying to trace historical visitor rates for a research project involving patterns of movement with the University of Glasgow. I was wondering if you were able to tell me which government organizations were responsible for the area in the 1900s prior to its formation as a national park? Have visitor records been archived by the park authority or have they been placed elsewhere?**

**I was wondering if you were able to tell me which government organizations were responsible for the area in the 1900s prior to its formation as a national park**

A.Our history as an organisation only goes back as far as 2002, when the Park Authority was set up, therefore we do not hold any information about government organisations who would have been responsible for the area in the 1900's. Accordingly I have to advise under S10(4)(a) of the EIRs that this information is not held.

It may be helpful for you to know that prior to the establishment of the Park Authority, the geographical area of the National Park came under the remit of four local authorities:

- Argyll and Bute Council
- West Dunbartonshire Council
- Stirling Council
- Perth and Kinross Council

Each of the above councils may have historical records to show what form of local government was in place before they were set up.

**Q. Have visitor records been archived by the park authority or have they been placed elsewhere?**

A.The Park Authority does not hold records of visitor numbers to the National Park. Accordingly I have to advise under S10(4)(a) of the EIRs that this information is not held.

The information you are looking for may not be held in one central location. There are different factors that could be considered which may be helpful in your research.

Country estates and hotels which provided for tourists in the 1900s would probably have recorded details of their guests in visitor books, which may still be held by older properties. For example,

Queen Victoria visited Callander and the Falls during a stay at Inverrossachs House around 1870, and she also stayed at Tigh Mor Trossachs (former Trossachs Hotel), in Callander .

Historic Scotland could possibly provide information about properties within the National Park where wealthy Victorians and Edwardians would have stayed in on their holidays. Otherwise, the Land Register would have records of properties within the National Park dating back to the 1900's.

The history of the Scottish rail network will have had an impact on visitor numbers to the area that is now recognised as Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park. As you are no doubt aware, trips down the Clyde on paddle steamers from where visitors could explore the Trossachs were extremely popular in the 1900s, there may be passenger logs of these trips which would some indication of visitor numbers to the area.

Visit Scotland publishes tourism statistics and could perhaps advise on where historical tourism records could be found. The National Archives of Scotland in Edinburgh could also

perhaps advise on records that would be useful to your research.