

M/H Montgomeryshire Highway Boards

The creation of Highway Districts was authorised by the Highway Acts of 1862 and 1864, empowering justices in Quarter Sessions to make orders setting up Highway Districts headed by boards made up of the “waywardens” elected by the parishes in the district, and the local justices. A provisional order for dividing Montgomeryshire into Highways Districts was made by Quarter Sessions at 1873M and confirmed at 1874H. The four Districts were:

Pool and Forden (M/H/F, M/HB/A)
Newtown and Llanidloes (M/H/N)
Machynlleth
Llanfyllin (M/HB/B)

Highway Boards were abolished in 1895, their powers passing to Rural District Councils.

Some papers relating to the work of the Highway Boards will be found among the Quarter Sessions records (M/Q/AH) and County Council (M/C/CMR).

The survival of a relatively large quantity of records of the Pool and Forden Board is probably due to the fact that the secretary of the Board throughout the period 1874-1895 was G D Harrison, deputy Clerk of the Peace and then Clerk of the Peace.

/F POOL AND FORDEN BOARD

/M Minute books

/1	Draft minutes	1874-1875
/2	Rough minute book	1883-1895
/3	Minute book	1887-1895
[M/HB/A/1]	Minute book [M/352.91] [Acc no 451]	1874-1886

/C Correspondence

/1	Letters to the clerk	1874
/2	Letters to the clerk	1875
/3	Letters to the clerk	1876
/4	Letters to the clerk	1877
/5	Letters to the clerk	1878
/6	Letters to the clerk	1879
/7	Letters to the clerk	1880
/8	Printed matter, all probably enclosed with letters, including illustrated catalogue of stone-breaking equipment, statements of neighbouring Highway Boards	1874-1877
/9	Loose papers removed from M/HB/F/M/3, mostly letters	1892-1895

Vouchers

The bundles in which these vouchers were originally tied were mostly broken and the vouchers disordered. Those that form numbered series have been reassembled. Generally speaking there appears to have been a series of un-numbered day labour and contract labour sheets (arranged by parishes), sometimes with corresponding vouchers: these are brought together in a single bundle for each quarter. Then again for each quarter, there were up to five numbered series of vouchers (totalling between 100-200): each numbered series is now made up as a single bundle. There was generally a separate series for parishes, for turnpike 1st and 2nd districts and for the highways account, but there is much variation in method, inexplicable in the absence of the corresponding audit books. From 1880 the series of numbered vouchers cease. They are replaced by monthly wage sheets signed by the labourers and material and team labour account sheets signed by the contractors.

/1	Vouchers	Dec 1874
/2-3	Vouchers	Mar 1875
/4-6	Vouchers	Jun 1875
/7-9	Vouchers	Sep 1875
/10-13	Vouchers	Dec 1875
/14-17	Vouchers	Mar 1876
/18-21	Vouchers	Jun 1876
/22-25	Vouchers	Sep 1876
/26-31	Vouchers	Dec 1876
/32-33	Vouchers	Mar 1877
/34-38	Vouchers	Jun 1877
/39-42	Vouchers	Sep 1877
/43-47	Vouchers	Dec 1877
/48-51	Vouchers	Mar 1878
/52-56	Vouchers	Jun 1878
/57-59	Vouchers	Sep 1878
/60-62	Vouchers	Dec 1878
/63	Vouchers	Mar 1879
/64-66	Vouchers	Jun 1879
/67	Vouchers	Sep 1879
/68	Vouchers	Dec 1879
/69	Vouchers	Mar 1880
/70	Vouchers	Jun 1880
/71-75	Vouchers	Sep 1880
/76-77	Vouchers	Dec 1880
/78	Vouchers	Mar 1881
/79	Vouchers	Dec 1881
/80	Vouchers	Mar 1884
/81	Un-numbered vouchers, mostly tradesmen's bills and salaries of officials	1874-1879
/82	Un-numbered vouchers, mostly tradesmen's bills and salaries of officials	1877-1879
/83	Un-numbered vouchers, mostly tradesmen's bills and salaries of officials	1880-1881

/X	Miscellaneous	
/1	Agreements, and drafts, between the Board and Turnpike Trusts for the maintenance of turnpike roads, and with Sir O Wakeman for the supply of stone from Wilmington Quarry, Chirbury, Salop	1874-1875
/2	Reports from committees, mostly the finance committee (30 reports in all), and from the clerk	1874-1880
/3	Financial papers, including list of rateable values, statements and estimates	1874-1878
/4	Order book: printed counterfoils of orders of the Board to parish overseers to make payments in respect of highway repairs	1876-1878
/5	Order book: printed counterfoils of orders of the Board to parish overseers to make payments in respect of highway repairs	1878-1879
/6	Cheque books (counterfoils)	1874-1879
/7	Certificates of appointment of waywardens. Certificates were sent by the chairmen of parish vestries. Bundles are complete (return for each parish) for 1875, 1876, an 1877. Only one certificate for each 1878 and 1879.	1875-1879
/N	NEWTOWN AND LLANIDLOES BOARD	
	In addition to the records listed below, the statement of receipt and expenditure for the Board for 1875 (and those of the Llanfyllin Board for 1874 and 1875) will be found in M/HB/F/C/8	
/M	Minute Books	
/1	Minute books	1890-1895
/X	Miscellaneous	
/1	Letter book. Press copies. Indexed.	1882-1895
M/HB/B	LLANFYLLIN BOARD	
/1	Minute book [Acc 46]	1885-1892