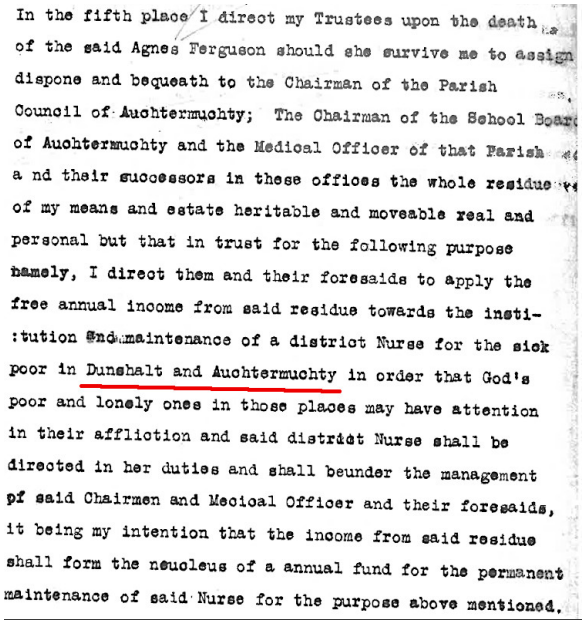
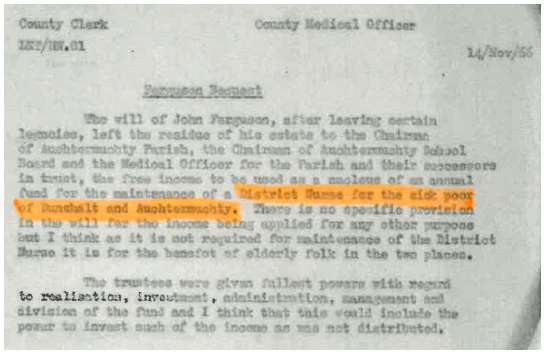
Ferguson Trust Documents



In the fifth place I direct my Trustees upon the death of the said Agnes Ferguson should she survive me to assign dispone and bequeath to the Chairman of the Parish Council of Auchtermuchty; The Chairman of the School Board of Auchtermuchty and the Medical Officer of that Parish and their successors in these offices the whole residue of my means and estate heritable and moveable real and personal but that in trust for the following purpose namely, I direct them and their foresaids to apply the free annual income from said residue towards the institution and maintenance of a district Nurse for the sick poor in Dunshalt and Auchtermuchty in order that God's poor and lonely ones in those places may have attention in their affliction and said district Nurse shall be directed in her duties and shall beunder the management of said Chairmen and Medical Officer and their foresaids, it being my intention that the income from said residue shall form the neucleus of a annual fund for the permanent maintenance of said Nurse for the purpose above mentioned.



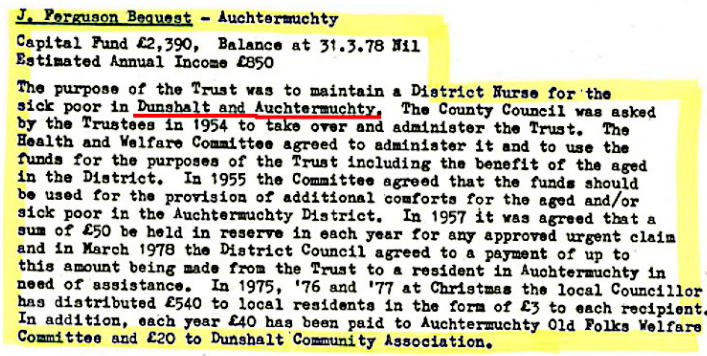
County Clerk County Medical Officer

LET/HW.81 14/Nov/66

Ferguson Bequest

The will of John Ferguson, after leaving certain legacies, left the residue of his estate to the Chairman of Auchtermuchty Parish, the Chairman of Auchtermuchty School Board and the Medical Officer for the Parish and their successors in trust, the free income to be used as a nucleus of an annual fund for the maintenance of a District Nurse for the sick poor of Dunshalt and Auchtermuchty. There is no specific provision in the will for the income being applied for any other purpose but I think as it is not required for maintenance of the District Nurse it is for the benefot of elderly folk in the two places.

The trustees were given fullest powers with regard to realisation, investment, administration, management and division of the fund and I think that this would include the power to invest such of the income as was not distributed.



J. Ferguson Bequest - Auchtermuchty

Capital Fund £2,390, Balance at 31.3.78 Nil
Estimated Annual Income £850

The purpose of the Trust was to maintain a District Nurse for the sick poor in Dunshalt and Auchtermuchty. The County Council was asked by the Trustees in 1954 to take over and administer the Trust. The Health and Welfare Committee agreed to administer it and to use the funds for the purposes of the Trust including the benefit of the aged in the District. In 1955 the Committee agreed that the funds should be used for the provision of additional comforts for the aged and/or sick poor in the Auchtermuchty District. In 1957 it was agreed that a sum of £50 be held in reserve in each year for any approved urgent claim and in March 1978 the District Council agreed to a payment of up to this amount being made from the Trust to a resident in Auchtermuchty in need of assistance. In 1975, '76 and '77 at Christmas the local Councillor has distributed £540 to local residents in the form of £3 to each recipient. In addition, each year £40 has been paid to Auchtermuchty Old Folks Welfare Committee and £20 to Dunshalt Community Association.

The complete Ferguson Trust document has been obtained from Fife Council. This is available on the village website www.dunshaltvillage.co.uk

It can be downloaded from www.dunshaltvillage.co.uk/dunshalt-or-dunshelt/historical-documents