

Section 2: Sample Worksheet Investigating Archival Documents

Fundamental Charter of Stonehaven, 1624

Does the document look old or new? What makes it look like that?

When do you think it was written?

Describe the handwriting. For example, what shapes are being used (e.g. angular, loops)? How similar is it to modern handwriting?

What is it written on?

Where can you find a signature on the document? Why has it been signed?

Charter of Robert II to Banff Burgh, 1372

Does the document look old or new? What makes it look like that?

When do you think it was written?

Describe the handwriting. For example, what shapes are being used (e.g. angular, loops)? How similar is it to modern handwriting?

What is it written on?

Describe the unusual attachment to the document? Why do you think it is there?