

McLauchlan, Anna (2017) *Glasgow's swimming pools 1804-2014*. University of Leeds. [Dataset] <https://doi.org/10.5518/118>

Glasgow's swimming pools 1804-2014: names, locations and dates when they became operative and, if applicable, when they closed.

Abstract

This dataset provides an overview of Glasgow's swimming pools 1804-2014 indicating their names, locations and dates when they became operative and, if applicable, when they closed. A list of pools currently in operation was derived from sportscotland (following Lamb et al 2010) and cross referenced with internet sources (for example British Swimming and The ASA, 2015; Glasgow Life, 2015). Information was sought from published and unpublished sources (Particularly Campbell, 1993; O'Brien, 2010), Glasgow City Archives (including minutes of Glasgow Corporation and Glasgow City Council), university archives (Glasgow, Edinburgh and Strathclyde libraries), together with planning records (Glasgow City Council, 2015), architectural records (for example Dictionary of Scottish Architects, 2013) and design plans for buildings. Newspaper archives indicated opening dates for pools within commercial sports centres, including hotels, together with revealing the existence and closures of some public and school pools. Details retrieved from archival sources have been prioritised over more recently published secondary sources (such as O'Brien 2010).

Swimming pools in the UK are often referred to as 'baths' as a result of their historical association with washhouses. This study focusses on swimming pools, and thus only facilities with swimming pools or 'ponds' have been included. Pools have been classified in relation to their management as Public, Private, Commercial, School, University/College or Residential (further details about these classifications are provided in the descriptive metadata). To enable the list of pools to be mapped (McLauchlan, 2017) British National Grid map projection coordinates were derived from Mastermap Roam (Available from Digimap 2015) in conjunction with satellite data. Data derived from desk based research was accompanied by site visits by bicycle giving an understanding of the current state of provision, for example, in summer of 2013 St Cuthberts', a primary school classed as 'in operation' by sportscotland, was being demolished (McLauchlan and Lee, forthcoming). "Where possible I swam in the pools" (McLauchlan, 2017, p.3).

References

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Descriptive metadata (associated with data_jan17.csv)

Column header	Description
pool	Present or most recent name of the swimming pool. Pools often change name: the Private Members Clubs, Arlington and Western have retained their names since they first came into operation. Although most Commercial clubs (exempting Glasgow's first baths) opened comparatively recently (since 1990), many have changed names as a result of takeovers, for example David Lloyd was previously Next Generation. Schools often change names a number of times, for example the original Bellahouston Academy building on Paisley Road West was known variously as Govan High and most recently Iqra Academy. Schools may also retain their name but move to a different location for example St Mungo's Academy.
address	Swimming pool address. As this study contains historical information addresses may no longer relate to street names currently in use.
postcode	Swimming pool postcode. Not all pools have postcodes and this study contains historical information meaning postcodes may no longer be operative. If mapping the data use or convert 'xdata' and 'ydata'.
xdata	x data, British National Grid Map Projection. The sportsscotland list provided information to locate facilities at points but following Lamb et al (2010) discrepancies were found in this data and so it was cross referenced with Mastermap Roam. Postcodes were available for other sites and these helped to determine the coordinates for actual buildings, using Mastermap Roam in conjunction with satellite images (google maps and Aerial Roam).
ydata	y data. Refer to information related to x data.
class	Classification of swimming pools according to their management: <i>Public</i> : Pools managed by Glasgow Corporation, Glasgow District Council, Glasgow City Council and Glasgow Life. <i>Private</i> : Private facilities answerable to a membership and managed on a not for profit basis. <i>Commercial</i> : Commercial and hotel facilities normally requiring membership. Hotel pools can be accessed by hotel guests. <i>School</i> : School facilities including primary, secondary and additional support for learning (ASL) schools. Truant schools have been included in the latter category. Historically, school pools have often been publicly accessible. <i>University/ College</i> : University and Further Education (college) facilities. University and College facilities tend to have restricted public access. <i>Residential</i> : Pools in houses or apartments, not publicly accessible. The portal where this information was derived from is available online but address details for residential sites have been omitted. [It was assumed that construction and eventual 'opening' or indeed 'demolition' of the pool would happen sometime after planning permission was given – therefore a period of six months has been added to all dates to approximate when pools became operative.]
date_operative	Year when swimming pools came into operation. Where dates are approximate a 'c' for circa has been added in front of the year.
date_closed	Year when swimming pool closed. Please note, the abbreviation 'n/a' has been used to indicate where there is no closure date due to swimming pools still being operative. Where dates are approximate a 'c' for circa has been added in front of the year.
date_operative_source	Source of 'date operative' referenced using the Harvard referencing system. Full references are available from the associated document 'sources.pdf'.
date_closed_source	Source of 'date closed' referenced using the Harvard referencing system. Full references are available from the associated document 'sources.pdf'.
notes	Information regarding how sources have been interpreted.