

Welcome to the Special Collections Centre

September 2021

QG HCOL001

The Wolfson Reading Room

Special Collections Centre

The Sir Duncan Rice Library
University of Aberdeen
Bedford Road
Aberdeen
AB24 3AA

Tel. (01224) 272598

E-mail: specialcollections@abdn.ac.uk

Website: www.abdn.ac.uk/special-collections/

Our location

The **Special Collections Centre** is located on the lower ground floor of The Sir Duncan Rice Library and is accessible by both the lift and the stairs adjacent to the Welcome Desk. For location and travel information please see: [Contact Us | Special Collections | The University of Aberdeen \(abdn.ac.uk\)](#)

Visiting the Wolfson Reading Room

The collections of printed and archival materials can be consulted in the Reading Room, which is open Monday to Friday. Please visit the website for current opening hours: [Opening Hours | Special Collections | The University of Aberdeen \(abdn.ac.uk\)](#)

All University Library members can access the collections and visiting researchers can apply for an Access Pass. Please contact us for further information.

Reading Room Guidelines

To help us safeguard the collections, staff will ask you to comply with the Reading Room guidelines, whilst working with us.

For example, you may bring what you need to work with, such as your notes or laptop, but staff will ask you to leave coats and bags (including empty laptop cases) in the lockers provided.

Staff will ask you to work in pencil only and to use the special book rests when consulting material.

Eating and drinking is not permitted in the Reading Room and mobile phones may only be used in the foyer area.

For more information see: [Guidance | Special Collections | The University of Aberdeen \(abdn.ac.uk\)](#)

Reading Room facilities

Facilities include PCs for accessing catalogues, microfilm reader-printers, a listening room for accessing the Oral History Collections and a map/plan consultation table.

Access to material

Closed access archive and Special Printed Collections materials

These materials are available upon request for consultation in the Reading Room. Search the online catalogues at [Catalogues | Special Collections | The University of Aberdeen \(abdn.ac.uk\)](#) to identify individual items. Then fill out a request card in the Reading Room or email your requests. Ensure you supply shelfmark or archive references, along with the title, author and date details.

Fetching times for closed access materials

For current fetching times please see the website.

Please note that not all materials can be made available immediately and that some can only be made available by prior arrangement. Staff will be happy to advise further on accessibility and availability of specific materials.

In order for us to help you to make the most of your visit and so that staff can ensure that materials are available for you, please contact us in advance of your visit, particularly if you are travelling from outwith Aberdeen.

For more information see: [Requesting Materials | Special Collections | The University of Aberdeen \(abdn.ac.uk\)](#)

Reading Room open access collections

Local history, bibliographic and print history texts and selected runs of historical periodicals are on open access and are available to browse.

Copying and reproduction services

All research copy requests are assessed in the first instance according to the condition of the individual item; for example, some items may be too fragile to copy.

Copy requests must also comply with current copyright and personal information legislation and any archive deposit conditions that may apply. Staff will be happy to assess material and advise on suitability for copying on an individual basis.

Self-copying for research purposes is also permitted, according to the condition and copyright status of the material.

All reproduction for publication is undertaken by staff from whom specific permission must be sought to reproduce and/or publish material.

For more information see: [Images for research and publication | Special Collections | The University of Aberdeen \(abdn.ac.uk\)](#)

Aberdeen: an introduction and description. (Manchester: Manchester University Press with the University of Aberdeen, 2011)

There are also articles on the manuscripts, printed books and collections in the journals *Aberdeen University Library Bulletin*, *Aberdeen University Review* and *Northern Scotland*, and in the series *Aberdeen University Studies*; see also *Rare and Fair: a visitor's history of Aberdeen University Library*.

Further reading

Beavan, Iain; Davidson, Peter; Stevenson, Jane, *Library and archive collections of the University of*

The following factsheets and guides are available on the website:
www.abdn.ac.uk/special-collections/search-catalogues/factsheets-61.php

Factsheets

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Art and artists resources	QG HCOL015
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Fishing resources	QG HCOL019
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Hebraica and Judaica resources	QG HCOL008
Jacobite resources	QG HCOL021
Labour history resources	QG HCOL022
Legal history resources	QG HCOL023
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Natural history resources	QG HCOL026
Oil and gas industry resources	QG HCOL011
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Paper manufacturing, printing and publishing resources	QG HCOL028
Performing arts resources	QG HCOL029
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Transport resources	QG HCOL035
Travel diaries and journals	QG HCOL036
University staff resources	QG HCOL037

University student and alumni society resources	QG HCOL038
University student lecture notes	QG HCOL039
University student resources	QG HCOL040
Women's history resources	QG HCOL041
World War One resources	QG HCOL012
World War Two resources	QG HCOL042
Geographical	
Aberdeen City	QG HCOL043
Aberdeenshire	QG HCOL044
Banffshire, Morayshire and Nairnshire	QG HCOL045
Highlands and Islands	QG HCOL046
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Guides

Infinite Riches: Five centuries of Historic Collections
The Judaica Collections
The Medical Collections: The Leaves of Life
Satirical Prints, Pamphlets and Polemics at Aberdeen
Beyond Words: Illustrated Books in Aberdeen University's Historic Collections
Highland Connection: The Scottish Holdings
The Aberdeen Connection: Scottish Ties and Exploration in Canada
This most beautiful country: American materials in Aberdeen
North - Aberdeen's Circumpolar Collections