

Resources relating to Kincardineshire in Special Collections

September 2021

QG HCOL047

The Wolfson Reading Room

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

Introduction

Many individuals and institutions have deposited their papers with the University; as a result it has acquired an unrivalled collection of material not solely relating to the history and culture of the north-east of Scotland but also of national and international importance.

The parishes included are: Arbuthnott, Banchory-Devenick, Banchory-Ternan, Benholm, Bervie, Dunnottar, Durris, Fettercairn, Fetteresso, Fordoun, Garvock, Glenbervie, Kinneff, Laurencekirk, Maryculter, Markykirk, Nigg, St Cyrus and Strachan.

Archival collections

Family and estate papers

Arbuthnott of Arbuthnott: 13th century – 20th century (MS 2764).

Burnett of Leys (Crathes Castle papers): 14th century – 20th century (MS 3361).

Dalrymple of Tullos, Nigg, Aberdeen: 1813 – 1937 (MS 3700).

Douglas of Glenbervie and Nicolson of Glenbervie: 15th century – 20th century (MS 3021).

Dunecht Estate Office (Viscounts of Cowdray): 18th century to 20th century (MS 3040).

Innes of Cowie: 16th century – 20th century (MS 2970).
Irvine of Drum: 18th century (MS 3263). Please note that the main collection of papers are still held by the family.

Johnston family of Caskieben, Hilton and Portlethen, Aberdeenshire and Kincardineshire: 1709 – 1920s (MS 3338).

Keith of Kintore: 15th century – 20th century

(MS 2707, MS 3064 and MS 3538). This also includes some records of Baird of Ury.

Shand of The Burn, Fettercairn and Straloch: 1816 – 1835 (MS 3652).

Organisations' papers

Aberdeen Burgh and Shire, poll book: 1696 (MS 568).

Banchory Farmer Friendly Society: 1776 – 1866 (MS 3244/7).

Drumlithie Free Church, Kincardineshire records: 1865 – 1890 (MS 3032).

Kincardineshire Unionist Association minute book (copy): 1901 – 1930 (MS 2725).

Kincardineshire Volunteers, muster rolls, correspondence and circulars (part of Earls of Kintore papers): 1859 - 1867 (MS 3064).

Kirk session records extracts for Aberdeenshire and Kincardineshire: 17th century – 19th century, compiled early 20th century (MS 1083).

Extracts from the Presbytery and Kirk Session records of Kincardineshire: 16th century – 19th century, compiled early 20th century (MS 2192).

Kirk Session records extracts, Maryculter: 1719 – 1812, compiled early 20th century (MS 2041).

Mearns militia and volunteers papers (part of Earls of Kintore papers): 1794 - 1803: (MS 3064).

Scottish Episcopal Church, Diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney. Also relating to individual churches at St Ternan's Banchory: 20th century (MS 3320).

Stonehaven Music Club: 1950 – 2006 (MS 3866).

Business papers

There is much relevant material across collections of solicitors and surveyors. For example:

Davidson and Garden, advocates, Aberdeen: 15th century – 20th century. This extensive collection contains records of some 200 families, estates, businesses, trusts and other organisations which the firm represented: including Alexander Thomson

of Banchory, the Burnett-Ramsay family of Banchory and Portlethen estate (MS 2769 and MS 3744).

Ledingham Chalmers, solicitors: 18th century – 20th century. Includes papers from various families and estates such as Davidson/Douglas of Inchmarlo and Burnett of Leys (MS 3257, MS 3277, MS 3394, MS 3662, MS 3665 and MS 3713).

F. A. MacDonald and Partners, engineers and surveyors, Aberdeen (incorporating Walker & Duncan, Aberdeen): 18th century – 20th century (papers MS 2626 and maps and plans MS 3860).

Personal papers

For papers relating to individuals see the separate factsheet

Some collections are particularly useful for local history research:

Alexander, William McCombie, polymath: Placenames of Kincardineshire notes: early 20th century (MS 2494 and 2495).

Simpson, William Douglas, historian and archaeologist, papers including collection of archaeological, monumental and architectural plans, 19th century – 20th century (MS 2729, MS 2818 and MS 3759).

Stewart, William of Carnaveran, sheriff clerk in Stonehaven, correspondence: 1781 – 1848 (MS 2514).

Stonehaven Tolbooth: historical notes by R.D.S. Grant: 1950 – 1959 (MS 2327).

Kincardineshire legal papers: 1530 – 1809 (MS 2606).

Other relevant collections

Scottish Catholic Archives

There are numerous sources within the records of the Scottish Catholic Church. This extensive collection relates to the Catholic Church from the 12th century prior to the restoration of the Scottish Catholic Hierarchy in 1878. The collection contains material of regional, national and international significance and provides evidence of the survival of Catholicism both in Scotland and abroad through the archives of its missions, seminaries and colleges. There are also extensive collections relating to prominent Catholic families many in the north of Scotland. Relevant material include the records relating to Blairs College in Kincardineshire (SCA).

NHS Grampian Archives

The archive dates from the founding of Aberdeen Infirmary in 1739 and contains substantial material relating to hospital provision, notably general and specialist hospitals, cottage hospitals and asylums.

Relevant collections include Arduithie Hospital Stonehaven, Glen O'Dee Banchory, James Mowat Nursing Home and Woodcot Hospital Stonehaven, Executive Council for the Counties of Aberdeen and Kincardine, Kincardine and Deeside Local Health Council, Kincardineshire Hospitals Board of Management and Kincardineshire Insurance Committee (GRHB).

Medico-Chirurgical Society

The Aberdeen Medico-Chirurgical Society was founded in 1789 in response to the perceived lack of medical teaching offered by both King's and Marischal Colleges. Its members contributed to the development of medical teaching and practice in Aberdeen and beyond in profound ways. For more information see the website but please note that although the catalogue is available via the University, the papers are held by the Medico-Chirurgical Society (AMCS).

Printed collections

The Local Collection of printed material geographically speaking covers the north-east corner of Scotland and is available to consult on open-access in our Reading Room. It contains local area histories, plans and maps and reports of local institutions. Also in the Local Collection you will find a number of local newspapers.

Access

Materials are available, upon request, for consultation in the Reading Room. Please search our online catalogues to identify individual items.

Further reading

For further reading please see the studies of a number of our manuscripts, printed books and collections in the journals *Aberdeen University Library Bulletin*, *Aberdeen University Review* and *Northern Scotland*.

Johnstone, James. *A concise bibliography of the history, topography and institutions of the shires of Aberdeen, Banff and Kincardine* (Aberdeen, 1914)

Johnstone, James and Robertson, Alexander. *Bibliographia Aberdonensis: being an account of books relating to or printed in the shires of Aberdeen, Banff, Kincardine or written by natives or residents or by officers, graduates or alumni of the Universities of Aberdeen* (Aberdeen, 1929)

Robertson, Alexander. *Handlist of bibliography of the shires of Aberdeen, Banff and Kincardine* (Aberdeen, 1893)

