

National Library of Scotland

Principal Accessions – February 2006 to April 2006

Within sections, items are arranged chronologically, as far as possible.

Printed Books:

- 1 Commissioners and Trustees for Improving Fisheries and Manufactures in Scotland. *Instructions given by the commissioners and trustees for improving the fisheries and manufactures of Scotland to [blank] wreck and cure-masters of herrings.* [Edinburgh?, 1728?]
- 2 This broadside was printed for national distribution. It provides a fascinating glimpse into the early 18th-century Scottish herring fishery, a major and lucrative industry for Scotland right up until the mid-20th century. It gives instructions to the local officials responsible for supervising the curing and packing of herrings. This is an extremely rare work; only two other known copies are listed in the English Short Title Catalogue.
(Dealer)
- 3 Dupont, John, *et al.* [Four anti-Jacobite pamphlets]. York, 1745–1746.

These four rare anti-Jacobite pamphlets were published in York. Jacobitism had a strong base of support south of the border in counties such as Northumberland, Yorkshire and Lancashire. However, very few men from northern England were prepared to commit to the Jacobite cause in the 1745 Rebellion. These violently anti-Jacobite, and also anti-Catholic, pamphlets served as a warning to the local population of the dangers of supporting the Stuarts.
(Dealer)
- 4 Girvin, John. *A letter to Adam Smith.* Dublin, 1786.

This is an early reply to Smith's *The wealth of nations* (1776); no other copies of it exist in public ownership in Scotland. John Girvin (1734–1804) was a Dublin merchant who wrote extensively on trade policy. He takes issue in particular with Smith's analysis of the herring industry. He argues that Smith does not understand the trade, and expresses concern for the Irish trade if Smith's arguments for changing the bounty arrangements are accepted.
This copy has never been read – it is uncut and unopened.
(Dealer)

- 5 Beatson, Alexander. *Flora Sta. Helenica*. Saint Helena, 1825.

Alexander Beatson (1759–1830), of Dundee, was governor of St. Helena from 1808 to 1813. During this time, he established a printing press on the island. This item is one of four works he printed there. In it, Beatson comments that the island, due to its elevation and to “having its situation within the Tropics, possesses varieties of climate appropriate to very different plants”.

Only three copies of this work have been traced in the UK, none of which are in Scotland.

(Dealer)

- 6 Brewster, David, Somerville, Mary, *et al.* [Collection of offprints presented to or collected by James Veitch]. 1812–1831.

This is a remarkable collection of nine scientific papers presented to James Veitch. Veitch (1771–1838), a self-educated polymath from Inchbonny near Jedburgh, was acquainted with a number of prominent scientists. He worked as a ploughwright, but also found the time to dabble in mathematics, mechanics and astronomy. By the late 1820s he had stopped making ploughs and devoted his time to making telescopes and clocks. Veitch is best known today as the man who inspired the young David Brewster (1781–1868), the inventor of the stereoscope and the kaleidoscope, to take an interest in scientific matters.

- 7 Markham, Clements. *The threshold of the unknown region*. London, 1876.

The geographer Sir Clements Robert Markham (1830–1916) had been interested in Arctic exploration from an early age. He later became the president of the Royal Geographical Society. His *Threshold of the unknown region* describes the frontier region round the North Pole and argues in favour of a renewal of English Arctic exploration. This is a presentation copy given by Markham to the library of the “Discovery”, the National Antarctic expedition 1901–1904 under Robert Falcon Scott.

(Graham Brown Fund)

- 8 Phillips, Philip. [40 photographs of the Forth Rail Bridge]. [1887]

The Forth Railway Bridge, begun in 1883 and completed in 1890, was the world's first major steel bridge. These photographs capture the development of the bridge at weekly or fortnightly intervals in 1886–1887, and appear to be extremely rare. The 40 silver gelatin prints were produced by the photographer Philip Phillips, son of Joseph Phillips, who was one of the contractors. They show an extraordinary degree of detail down to individual rivets.

(Dealer)

- 9 [211 nineteenth-century pamphlets on education]

This is a collection of 12 bound volumes containing 211 nineteenth-century pamphlets on education. They formerly belonged to the library of the Educational Institute of Scotland. Founded in 1847, this is the oldest teaching union in the world. Liverpool and Scotland feature strongly in the collection, and there are items from the United States, Wales and other parts of England. Some of the pamphlets were produced by the pupils on their press in an Edinburgh disabled pupils school. Important authors represented include William Godwin, George Combe and Thomas Chalmers.

(Dealer)

- 10 [Four dinner menus from the British Antarctic Expedition 1910–1913]

(Graham Brown Fund)

- 11 Frazer, William Miller. *Perth: the Fair City*. Glasgow, 1930.

This vivid lithographed poster dates from the golden age of the railway poster in Britain, the interwar period. Most posters depicted a romanticized view of the British countryside and indeed the weather. They also tried to give the impression that travelling by train was one of life's great pleasures, whereas the reality was somewhat different. Frazer (1864–1961) was born in Scone. He was a brilliant art student and later established himself as a landscape painter of repute. He exhibited numerous works at the Royal Scottish Academy.

- 12 Kahn, Nicholas, Selesnick, Richard. *City of Salt*
New York: Aperture, 2005.

(LD)

- 13 Taylor, Jane. *Jordan from the air*
Amman: Al-'Uzza Books, 2005.

(LD)

- 14 Albright, Madeleine. *The Mighty & the Almighty: reflections on power, God, and world affairs*
London: Macmillan, 2006.
(LD)
- 15 Begg, Moazzam. *Enemy combatant: a British Muslim's journey to Guantanamo and back*
London: Free Press, 2006.
(LD)
- 16 Capote, Truman. *Summer crossing: a novel*
Leicester: W F Howes Ltd, 2006.
(LD)
- 17 Crenshaw, Paul. *Rembrandt's bankruptcy: the artist, his patrons, and the art market in the seventeenth-century Netherlands*
Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006.
(LD)
- 18 Dromgoole, Dominic. *Will and me: how Shakespeare took over my life*
London: Allen Lane, 2006.
(LD)
- 19 Goldblatt, David. *Art and Ventriloquism*
London: Routledge, 2006.
(LD)
- 20 Langsbury, Gordon, Ogilvie, Malcolm. *The Birds of Islay: a celebration in photographs*
Bruichladdich: Lochindaal Press, 2006.
- 21 Lawry, James V. *The Incredible shrinking bee: insects as models for microelectromechanical devices*
London: Imperial College Press, 2006.
(LD)
- 21 Reilly, Philip R. *The Strongest boy in the world: how genetic information is reshaping our lives*
New York: Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, 2006.
(LD)

Bindings:

- 1 *Sailm Dhaibhidh*. Edinburgh, 1787.

This book of psalms in Gaelic has been bound in the style of William Scott, probably not long after it was published in 1787. The text is John Smith's revision of the Gaelic Psalter, published by the Synod of Argyll. Smith was assistant minister of the parish of Kilbrandon and Kilchatten, and subsequently minister at Campbeltown. The front flyleaf is signed by a Duncan Campbell, which may be Duncan Campbell the clerk of the Synod of Argyll.

Maps:

- 1 Soviet Union. Sovetskaia Armiia Generalnyshtab
Aberdin. [Sheet] 0-30-104 (2). Scale 1:10,000. [Moscow?], 1981.
Map.I.88.25

Soviet Union. Sovetskaia Armiia Generalnyshtab
Velikobritaniia: Shotlandiia. Scale 1:200,000. [Sheet] N-30-III,
Edinburg. [Moscow?], 1984.
Map.I.88.26

With the ending of the Cold War, Soviet mapping became available in the West in the early 1990s. This included maps of Britain derived from Ordnance Survey maps: copyright protection is often an early casualty of war. Although there is unlikely to be new topographic information on these maps, one of the Library's collecting policy aims is to acquire maps of Scotland published overseas, and over ten years ago the Map Division made a bid for additional funding of £10,000 to acquire these maps. This was granted, but before the maps could be ordered, a more urgent use for the money diverted the funds elsewhere, and the purchase had to be postponed.

It is pleasing, therefore, to report that some purchases of Soviet mapping have now been possible, although a selection of sample scales were all that could be acquired within the available budget, and coverage has been limited to Scotland, rather than the UK. It was decided to collect a complete set (158 sheets) of 1:100,000 maps of Scotland as this scale is not published by the Ordnance Survey. All the available town plans at 1:10,000 (Aberdeen is displayed) have been purchased, together with specimens of maps at 1:200,000 (Edinburgh area is displayed), 1:500,000 and 1:1,000,000 scales.

Manuscripts:

- 1 Papers of Archibald Shiells, merchant in Edinburgh (1677-1752) and his family, 1720-1841; papers of and relating to the family of Wilsone of Murrayshall, Stirlingshire, 1701-1925; miscellaneous Scottish charters and other legal and administrative documents, mainly from Fife.
Acc.12591
(Dealer)
- 2 The John Murray Archive, pre-1920 section.
Acc.12604
(Private Purchase)
- 3 Highland travel journal, 1795, of Peter Mark Roget.
Acc.12610
(Dealer)
- 4 Minutes, 1796-1803, of the Glasgow Committee of the London Missionary Society, with modern transcript.
Acc.12590
(Donation)
- 5 Letter, 1836, of Thomas Rickman, architect, to David Roberts enquiring whether Roberts had been paid for a proposed design for the Scott Monument in Edinburgh.
Acc.12611
(Auction)
- 6 Journal, 1837, of a Continental tour by R. H. Leach.
Acc.12616
(Dealer)
- 7 Papers describing the General Election in Hawick, July-August 1837, and the associated riot and civil disturbances.
Acc.12614
(Dealer)
- 8 Five miscellaneous letters, 1837-76. Writers include William Baring, Lord Ashburton after the death of his wife, to Thomas Carlyle, with annotations by Carlyle; and Thomas Chalmers to Sir David Brewster.
Acc.12605
(Dealer)
- 9 Letter, 1838, of William Henry Playfair to David Roberts asking him to colour two architectural drawings.
Acc.12612
(Auction)

- 10 Journal, 1849, of an Irish couple's Scottish tour, with illustrations and detailed accounts for expenses incurred on the trip.
Acc.12615
(Dealer)
- 11 Incomplete journal, 19th century, of visits to the cities and cemeteries of Etruria, authorship unknown, but certainly not David Roberts nor George Dennis (as once believed).
Acc.12613
(Auction)
- 12 Papers, 1896-2004, of the Franco-Scottish Society.
Acc.12602
(Deposit)
- 13 Photograph of the Fellows of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, 1901-2.
Acc.12559
(Deposit)
- 14 Papers, 1939-1976, of Ethel Ross, concerning Willa and Edwin Muir, including a typescript of a novel and a manuscript journal of Willa Muir.
Acc.12592
(Donation)
- 15 Four letters, 1949-1957, of Edwin Muir to Hazel Eardley-Wilmot.
Acc.12586
(Private Purchase)
- 16 Further papers, 1967-2000, of the Edinburgh Jewish Literary Society; mainly minutes and correspondence.
Acc.12602
(Deposit)
- 17 Photographs, n.d., by Hamish Brown of expeditions from Braehead School, Buckhaven, and of the Bass Rock from M.V. *Gardyloo*, 1985; with related printed ephemera.
Acc.12595
(Donation)
- 18 Drafts of and notes for the contribution of Dennis Smith (formerly of NLS staff) to *For the Encouragement of Learning* (1989), on the National Library from 1925.
Acc.12607
(Donation)

- 19 Papers of Alasdair Gray, 1995-2003, relating to *The Ends of Our Tethers*.
Acc .2609
(Private Purchase)
- 20 Papers, 1997-2003, of the Scottish Committee of the World Day of Prayer, including minutes, and service material.
Acc.12599
(Donation)
- 21 Papers, 1940s-1970s, of Trevor Clark, Colonial Civil Servant.
Acc.12598
(Donation)
- 22 Further papers, 20th century, of Iain Crichton Smith.
Acc.12600
(Private Purchase)
- 23 Research notes of Donald Whyte, genealogist, on the family of Houston, Walter Macfarlane, Scottish clock- and watch-makers, and passenger lists of ships taking Scottish emigrants to Canada, 1770-1854.
Acc.12606
(Donation)
- 24 Carbon copy of typescript, c.2000, of 'Poor Angus', a novel by Robin Jenkins.
Acc.12593
(Donation)
- 25 Football commentary notes, 2003-2005, of Alastair Alexander (b.1937), BBC Sports Radio Commentator, with a ticket for Hearts v Rangers match, 13 March 2004.
Acc.12597
(Donation)
- 26 DVD 'Old Places New Faces: Four Stories of Leith', 2006.
Acc.12594
(Donation)
- 27 E-mail print-out of Alec Finlay containing eulogy given at the funeral of Ian Hamilton Finlay, 10 April 2006.
Acc.12608
(Donation)