

## **Conference autumn 2024**

### ***Estate, Household and Family Collections and their Use in Research***



Vignette from a plan of the lands of Craigend, Stirlingshire, 1798.  
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**Scottish Records Association**

in conjunction with

**Scottish Association of Country House Archivists**

**Wednesday 23 October 2024**

Sir Duncan Rice Library, University of Aberdeen and online

**Friday 15 November 2024**

Soutar Theatre, A K Bell Library, Perth and online

**Palaeography Workshops**

**Tuesday 22 and Thursday 24 October 2024**

Sir Duncan Rice Library, University of Aberdeen

The Scottish Records Association and the Scottish Association of Country House Archivists are holding a two-part conference on estate, household and family papers in private and public ownership and their use in historical and other types of research. The first of two events will take place at the Sir Duncan Rice Library at the University of Aberdeen, with associated palaeography workshops the day before and the day after. This event will look specifically at estate papers. The second event will take place at the Soutar Theatre, Perth, and will look at wider country house collections, including correspondence and household papers and libraries. For further details please see below.

## ***Estate, Household and Family Collections and their Use in Research: Part 1***

**Wednesday 23 October 2024**

Sir Duncan Rice Library, University of Aberdeen and online

### **Speakers**

**Dr Alan MacDonald**, Senior Lecturer, University of Dundee

*Loss and Survival: what estate records tell us about estate records*

**Dr Alan Borthwick**, Archive Depositor Liaison Branch, National Records of Scotland (NRS)

*The NRS Experience of Collecting and Managing Estate Papers over the Past Century*

**Irene Hallyburton**, doctoral researcher, University of Dundee

*Secession and Improvement: the rental book of Culfargie*

**John Moore**, retired academic librarian

*A View of the Landscape: a research project to produce a coherent list and record of the pre-Ordnance Survey Scottish estate plans*

**Scott Macfie**, doctoral researcher, University of Glasgow

*Agricultural Improvement on the Isle of Bute (1755-1814)*

**Bob Reid**, volunteer researcher at the Argyll Papers

*The Marriage Customs of Seventeenth-century Scotland that Controlled the Property Rights of the Bride's and Groom's Families*

**Craig Thomas**, Assistant Archivist, Buccleuch Living Heritage Trust

*Buccleuch: Industrial opportunism or future-proofing?*

**Dr Fiona Salvesen Murrell**, Curator, Paxton House

*Paxton House and Caribbean Connections 1750-1850*

The conference is expected to run (approximately) between 10:00 and 16:00 UK time beginning with an optional viewing of a **selection of estate papers held by Special Collections and Archives of the University of Aberdeen** (limited to on-site attendees only). Final programme and details of lunch arrangements will be sent later to those booking or registering an interest in attending the conference. The presentations will be delivered at the Sir Duncan Rice Library and simultaneously online via Zoom. Delegates can attend either at the Sir Duncan Rice Library or online. The conference fee is the same. At the venue, refreshments will be served in the morning and in the afternoon and a buffet lunch is optional.

**Closing date for bookings: 17 October 2024**  
**(Aberdeen event and Palaeography workshops)**

## ***Estate, Household and Family Collections and their Use in Research: Part 2***

**Friday 15 November 2024**

Soutar Theatre, A K Bell Library, Perth, and online

### **Speakers**

**Professor Annie Tindley**, Head of School of History, Classics and Archaeology, University of Newcastle

*Working with and for community benefit in estate archives*

**Kelsey Jackson Williams**, Associate Professor in English Studies, University of Stirling

*Scottish Country House Libraries: Undiscovered Treasures*

**Daryl Green**, Head of Heritage Collections and Co-Director of the Centre for Research Collections, University of Edinburgh

*Rewriting Scottish Book History in the Country House Library*

**Ingrid Thomson**, Archivist, Glamis Castle

*Women of Glamis: Privilege and Privation*

**Rachel Beattie**, Curator, land and sport, National Library of Scotland

*Women and sport in the estate papers at the National Library of Scotland*

**Ellen Engseth**, Curator of Immigration History Research Center Archives and Head of Migration and Social Services Collections, University of Minnesota

*Archival theory and other visitors to a country house*

**Tessa Spencer**, Head of Outreach and Learning, National Records of Scotland

*The Balfour legacy: exploring the papers of the Balfour of Whittingehame family, Earls of Balfour*

**Margaret Fox**, Archivist, Traquair House

*William Maclver: estate factor, curator and linchpin of the family*

The conference is expected to run (approximately) between 10:00 and 16:30 UK time. Final programme and details of lunch arrangements will be sent later to those booking or registering an interest in attending the conference. The presentations will be delivered at the Soutar Theatre and simultaneously online via Zoom. Delegates can attend either at the Soutar Theatre or online. The conference fee is the same. At the venue, refreshments will be served in the morning and in the afternoon and a buffet lunch is optional.

**Closing date for bookings: 2 November 2024  
(Perth event)**

***Palaeography Workshops***  
**Tuesday 22 and Thursday 24 October 2024**  
Sir Duncan Rice Library, University of Aberdeen



Participants at an SRA palaeography workshop in Perth.  
Image copyright Perth & Kinross Council Archives

### **Palaeography Pointers: reading Scottish historical handwriting**

A two-hour workshop for anyone starting to use early-modern handwriting in their research.

**Tuesday 22 October 2024, 11am-1pm**

Open to all.

Maximum number of places: 8

For more details or to book a place, please contact Mr R. Urquhart at:  
[sra-membership@abbotshall.net](mailto:sra-membership@abbotshall.net).

### **Palaeography for Household Papers and Correspondence in Private Collections**

A one-day class (including a lunch break) aimed at those who have had some palaeography training (such as the SRA Palaeography Pointers workshop). It is based on inventories, accounts, correspondence and other household records, and is particularly useful for anyone researching the history of medicine or material culture (such as furniture and furnishings).

**Thursday 24 October 2024, 10.30am-3.30pm**

Open to all.

Maximum number of places: 10

For more details or to book a place, please contact Mr R. Urquhart at:  
[sra-membership@abbotshall.net](mailto:sra-membership@abbotshall.net).

### **Bookings and enquiries**

To make a booking for the conference, please use the attached booking form.

To book a place on the palaeography workshops, please contact Mr R. Urquhart at:  
[sra-membership@abbotshall.net](mailto:sra-membership@abbotshall.net) or by post to Mr R. Urquhart (SRA), 13 Loom Road, Kirkcaldy KY2 5LL.

## Conference and workshop fees

	<b>SRA and SACHA members and their guests</b>	<b>Non-members</b>
<b>Conference (part 1):</b> <i>Estate, Household and Family Collections and their Use in Research</i> Sir Duncan Rice Library, University of Aberdeen <b>23 October 2024</b>	<b>£13</b> (does not include lunch)	<b>£17.50</b> (does not include lunch)
<b>Conference (part 2):</b> <i>Estate, Household and Family Collections and their Use in Research</i> Soutar Theatre, AK Bell Library, Perth <b>15 November 2024</b>	<b>£13</b> (does not include lunch)	<b>£17.50</b> (does not include lunch)
<b>Palaeography workshop (Palaeography Pointers)</b> Sir Duncan Rice Library, University of Aberdeen <b>Morning 22 October 2024</b>	<b>£5</b>	<b>£10</b>
<b>Palaeography workshop (Palaeography for Household Papers and Correspondence in Private Collections)</b> Sir Duncan Rice Library, University of Aberdeen <b>24 October 2024</b>	<b>£7</b>	<b>£12</b>

### Privacy

When you make an enquiry about the conference and / or workshops, or book to attend the conference and / or workshops, the Scottish Records Association (SRA) collects personal information about you, including your name, address and email address, but only for the purposes of the conference and /or workshops. The SRA does not make personal information available to third parties. Any email or letter received will be kept solely for the purposes of conference or workshop organisation and will be deleted within two years of receipt.

**The Scottish Records Association (SRA)** <https://www.scottishrecordsassociation.org/> was founded in 1977 (Scottish Charity number SC008896) and is concerned with the preservation and use of historical records in Scotland. It provides a forum for users, owners and custodians of records to discuss matters relating to the records, their custody and conservation and research.

**The Scottish Association of Country House Archivists (SACHA)** is a constituted group established in 2017 to raise the standard of curation and conservation in Scottish country house archives; to ensure a better understanding of current and future issues, such as the curation of digital archives, security, risk assessment and so forth, through publications, access for research and for education at all levels; and to provide a forum for sharing knowledge, skills and experience and to promote mutual assistance.