

War Studies: Sources

How to use this list of sources

This is a list of some of the collections that may provide a useful starting point when researching this subject. It gives the collection reference and a brief description of the kinds of records held in the collections. More detailed lists are available in the searchroom and from the Duty Archivist – see contact details at the end of this source list.

University Records

The following is a selection of the items available in the GUA collection. Remember that, in addition to these specific items, all of the records of the University during times of conflict indicate ways in which the functioning of the institution both was and wasn't affected. Minutes of University meetings, and University Calendars (which also include information about the Officer Training Corps, University Air Squadron and University Naval Division), will be particularly relevant.

See also our First and Second World War Roll of Honour websites, for biographies of the Glasgow alumni who served.

1715 Jacobite Rising

GUA 78257

Subscription of the Masters of the University of Glasgow to Queen Anne for maintaining 51 men against the invasion. Signed. 1708

GUA 3043

Copy of oath abjuring loyalty to the Stuarts in general and the Chevalier de St George in particular and promising loyalty to the descendants of the late Princess Sophia, Electress and Dutchess of Hanover, and recognising King George I, together with and 'explicatory clause' which reserves discretion to Scotsmen if confronted with any act inconsistent with the tenets of the Church of Scotland or its government. The words 'So help me God' are scored out after the first part of the oath c1715

GUA 27107-27128

Correspondence discussing the Rising - Charles Morthland to John Stirling 1715

GUA 27118b

Copy address from the University of Glasgow to King George I pledging allegiance to the King in his defence of the Protestant faith and succession (transcript enclosed) [1715]

GUA 78278

Letter from [illegible] at Fort William to unknown person, written in two different hands. First is asking to send the enclosed to Lord Livingstone and Grant of Montrose, and asking for news from the same. Second hand notes that they are now cut off from communication and provisions from the low country, and informs of numbers of troops and their movements. Transcript available. 1715

GUA 46836-46850

Bundle including: Address of loyalty to George I from the University of Glasgow signed by the Principal and Professors, Feb 1716 (plus 5 copies); *copy address to Queen Anne from the City of Glasgow offering themselves 'in defence of your Majesty's person and Government and of your Religion, Laws and Liberties against the threatened Invasion [French and Popish] and the aforesaid pretended Prince of Wales', 1708*; address to the king made on the failure of the rebellion of 1715 or 1745 (plus 2 copies)

GUA 43234

Letter from John Lumsden to Principal Stirling requesting that he, as a member of the General Assembly, support his cause to have action brought against deposed Episcopalian ministers who are still continuing to preach and support the Jacobite Cause 1717

GUA 46236

Receipt for payment of 'a crown for the use of one Mr Graham, a merchant and elder in Burntisland, almost ruined by the persecution of the Jacobite party there on the account of Mr Dugud'

1745 Jacobite Rising

GUA 30279

Receipts (3) for money totalling £62 10s of the Masters of the University of Glasgow for the maintenance of 50 men at Stirling in the King's service against the Rebels, 29 September, 15 October and 7 November [1746]

GUA 30280

Letter from the Marquis of Tweeddale to Principal Campbell, University of Glasgow, acknowledging the University's offer to 'raise and maintain a Company of 50 men to be employed wherever His Majesty's Service should require' 17 Dec 1745

GUA 78258

Subscription of members of the University of Glasgow to raise and maintain a company of 50 able-bodied men for His Majesty's service. 28 Nov 1745
 Receipt for money received totalling £39 from Alexander Dunlop, Professor of Hebrew, for one month's subsistence for Glasgow's Volunteers, dated 16 Apr 1747 (see also GUA 30279)

For more info see also 'The Gaelic Story at the University of Glasgow: 18th C Jacobites & Whigs' <http://sgeulnagaidhlig.ac.uk/18th-c-jacobites-whigs/?lang=en>

Napoleonic Wars

See "Battle of Waterloo" source guide

1st World War

GUA 34361

Gospel of St John (little soldiers) as issued in 1914 belonging to John Telfer, former student 1914

GUA 25243	Draft representation to His Majesty in Council of the University Courts of the Universities of St Andrews, Glasgow, Aberdeen and Edinburgh relating to the intake of students during the present war	1915
GUA 57669	Bill to extend powers of the Scottish universities during the war	15 Jul 1915
GUA 31627	Documents relating to Scotland Emergency arrangements made by Universities and Colleges to meet the case of students whose courses of study have been interrupted by the war	1918
GUA 34428-34486, 34491-34498, 34501-34537	Applications from students to be awarded degrees under war service allowances	1919-1922
GUA 56481	Correspondence and presscutting relating to the dispute over the reinstatement of Ludwig Becker, Professor of Astronomy, after the First World War, including correspondence with the Scottish Office and the Privy Council Offices, Whitehall	1919-1921
2nd World War		
GUA 53766	Reports, correspondence and memoranda relating to Scottish Universities Entrance Board mainly concerning wartime arrangements	c1939-c1946
GUA 24394-24461	Memoranda regarding the registration and enlistment of (male and female) students for National Service	1941-1946
GUA 25771-26001 & 26422-26468	Correspondence concerning the part-time National Service/war duties of named individuals and applications for exemptions (including medical references) Access to these records will be in line with the provisions of the Data Protection Act	1941
GUA 26469	Form to be completed by Commanding Officer when student applies for exemption from STC	1942
GUA 32829	Correspondence concerning women students at Glasgow University relating to war service and national service	1942-Oct 1944
GUA 32830	Correspondence concerning women students at Glasgow University relating to war service and national service	Nov 1944-1945
GUA 32831	Correspondence concerning Marian Steele, war service and national service	Nov-Dec 1944

GUA 32832 Correspondence concerning further education and training scheme relating to those on war service and national service	1943- 1948
GUA 34360 Identity card belonging to John Telfer, former student	1943
GUA 53764 Papers include provisions for wartime	1925-1946
GUA 53770 Newsletter summarising wartime activities of Principal Hetherington	c.1943
GUA 53788 Circulars and correspondence relating to National Service; the examination of prisoners of war; male students military training requirements; senior leaving certificate; pension scheme for clerical and library staff; student numbers after the war; training of graduates for the shipbuilding industry	1943
GUA 25664 Memorandum relating to War Degrees in the Faculties of Arts and Science	[1945]
GUA 31931-31932 Papers relating to War Degree applications	1946-1947
GUA 55508-55529 Papers including receipt for pictures deposited in the National Gallery store during the Second World War	1910-1963
GUA 53777 Correspondence concerning claims to the War Damages Commission	1939-195 1946-1948

Biafra

GUA 53823 Court correspondence concerning overseas students, Scottish Universities Entrance Board's regulations regarding African qualifying examinations and the financial position of Biafran students at Glasgow as a result of the Biafran Civil War, including list of overseas students	1966-1967
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Sources in our Deposited Collections

- DC112** **Lumsden Family of Arden, Dumbartonshire, stationers** 1836-1889
 Includes letters from George Lumsden about his activities in Argentina, Brazil and the United States, with a brief account of the war between the Government of the Argentine and General Santa Cruz of Bolivia and the French blockade of Buenos Aires and records of his involvement in blockade -running during the American Civil War.
- DC120** **MacFie Family, sugar refiners, Greenock, Glasgow, Edinburgh and Liverpool**
 Includes map of Spain and Portugal showing marches of British Army in the Peninsula War; accounts of rebellion in Canada in 1838; leaflets for Crimean War fast day; notes on the invention of the tank. 1813-1919
- DC 99** **Glasgow University Officers' Training Corps**
 Minutes, Military Education Committee 1908-71
 Photographs, pamphlets, registers, historical notes etc 1911-77
- ACCN2999** **Universities of Glasgow and Strathclyde Air Squadron**
 Photographs of members and records of their activities 1941-2006
- DC171** **Honorina Somerville Keer, 1883-1969, medical student, University of Glasgow**
 Includes correspondence and photographs from her time at the Scottish Women's Hospital at Salonica 1915-1918
- DC26** **Archibald Cameron Corbett, 1856-1933, 1st Baron Rowallan**
 Includes letters, journals and photographs of family members who fought or nursed in WWI or WWII, (including e.g. Elsie Corbett's journal of her time with the British Red Cross Society's 2nd Serbian nursing unit 1915-1916
- DC 35** **Sir James Lithgow, 1883-1952, Shipbuilder and Controller of Shipping in WWII**
 Includes correspondence and reports on shipbuilding, repair and maritime transport policy during both world wars.
- DC6** **Sir John Graham Kerr, 1896-1957, Professor of Natural History, University of Glasgow, 1903-1935**
 Includes correspondence and photographs concerning war 'dazzle' camouflage for ships 1911-1950
- DC 77** **Archibald Allan Bowman, 1883-1936, Professor of Moral Philosophy, University of Glasgow, 1927-36**
 Includes manuals, correspondence and notes from his army service, 1915-1919, including his period as a PoW and subsequent repatriation.
- DC8** **Sir Hector James Hetherington, Principal, University of Glasgow, 1936-1961.**
 Includes speeches and correspondence on war policy and the effects of the war on University life.
- DC 57** **Thomas Ferguson, 1900-1977, Professor of Public Health (Henry Mechan Chair), University of Glasgow, 1944-1964**
 Includes photographs of the WWII hospital at Gleneagles Hotel.

- DC 81** **Thomas Ferguson Rodger, 1907-1978, Professor of Psychological Medicine, University of Glasgow, 1948-1973**
Includes lectures, correspondence and notes on the psychology of civil defence, war conditions, nuclear war, etc. 1942-1961
- DC 96** **William Douglas Weir, first Viscount Weir of Eastwood, 1877-1959), industrialist and public servant**
Scottish Director of Munitions for the Ministry of Munitions during WWI, while his company, G & J Weir Ltd produced shells and aeroplanes; Director General of Explosives at the Ministry of Supply, 1938-1941; became Chairman of the Tank Board in 1942.
- DC 106** **Sir Alec Cairncross, 1911-1998, Professor of Applied Economics, 1951-1961, Chancellor, University of Glasgow, 1972 -1996.**
Civil Servant 1940-1945; Director of Programmes, Ministry of Aircraft Production, 1945.
Includes diary and Board of Trade reports during WWII, reports on Anthrax and 1945 mission to the German Air Industry.
- DC 161** **Robert Hamilton**
Robert Hamilton was an ARP Warden in Bearsden and the collection includes booklets and leaflets on progress of the war and precautions to be taken at home.
War time publications 1935-1946
- DC 371** **John Scott Maclay, First Viscount Muirshiel of Kilmacolm, 1905**
MP (National Liberal and Conservative) for Montrose Burghs, 1940-50; for Renfrewshire West, 1950-64; Parliamentary Secretary Ministry of Production May-July, 1945; Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation, 1951-52; Minutes of State for Colonial Affairs, October 1956 - January 1957; Secretary of State for Scotland, Jan 1957 - July 1962.
Correspondence, diaries and reports 1940-1988
- DC 19** **Scottish Temperance Alliance**
Minutes of committees and associated bodies 1846-1938
Includes discussion of wartime restrictions on the licensed trade.

Sources in our Business Collections

Please also see our source lists on 'Blockade Running During the American Civil War' and 'Shipping and Shipbuilding'; and the Tennents collection in the Scottish Brewing Archive for minute books covering the 2nd World War.

FRAS Army & Navy Co-operative Society Ltd

The Army & Navy was founded by British officers to ensure that the comforts of home would be made available around the Empire. The illustrated catalogues offered everything from hair lacquer to rifles; customer names are given in the gun stock books.

UGC21 Highland Girls' Club Munitions Workers

Minute book, 1916-1923, of club for women brought from Stornoway to Glasgow to do munitions work.

UGD 4 Alexander Stephen & Sons, Shipbuilders, Linthouse

Includes photographs of women war workers, WWI.

Administration records	1856-1952
Financial records	1824-1879
Production records	1918-1966
Photographs	1908-1960.

UGD 11 North British Locomotive Co Ltd, Locomotive Builders, 1903-1963, Glasgow

In particular, UGD11/12/1, *An Account of the Manufacture of the North British Locomotive Co Ltd, during the period of the War, 1914-1918* c.1918 – includes images of locomotives, tanks, shells etc, and women workers in the factory.

UGD 100 William Beardmore & Co, Engineers, Glasgow

(See also UGD127, UGD137 & UGD179).

Beardmore's were heavy engineers who supplied tanks, artillery and aircraft during the two World Wars, as well as the naval ordnance and armoured plate in which they specialised.

Administration Records	1864-1976
Financial Records	1901-1965
Staff Records	1902-1937
Production Records	1910-1971
Photographs	1861-1953

UGD255 Anchor Line, Shipping line

Includes war service records	1900-1948
losses of Moor Line vessels	1915
1WW memorial unveiling	1925
Currie Line files relating to torpedoing of ships and convoys in the North Atlantic	1941-1945

UGD 347 Alcan plc, formerly British Aluminium Co Ltd, Aluminium smelters

Includes photographs of ARP training at aluminium plants; reports of bombing raids on factories; use of aluminium for war production, especially aircraft manufacture.

Administrative records	1883-1995
Financial records	1897-1995
Production records	1897-1995

UGD 295 Barr & Stroud, Optical Instrument Makers, 1888-1988, Glasgow

Barr & Stroud rangefinders were widely used, e.g. by the Japanese Navy during the 1904-5 Russo-Japanese War and the British Navy during WWI; from 1930, Barr & Stroud supplied binoculars to the Navy.

UGD 309	Babcock & Wilcox Ltd , Boilermakers; 1891-1985, Renfrew	
	Babcock produced Churchill tanks during the Second World War and continues to be a major defence contractor.	
Administration records		1881-1988
Financial records		1887-1988
Staff records		1897-1985
Production records		1810s-1985
Photographs		1897-1987
Plans		1873-1962
UGD 131/1	Ellerman City Line Ltd , Shipping line	
Includes war service records		1939-1945
Masters' wartime reports and correspondence		1940-1948
UGD 335	Morris Furniture , Furniture manufacturers, Glasgow, 1920s-1992	
	Morris' wood-processing skills were impressed during the Second World War for the production of aircraft components and rifles.	
Administrative records		1914-1982
Financial records		1934-1982
Production records		1936-1978