

P65 Sir John Sinclair Papers
RECORDS' IDENTITY STATEMENT

Reference number: P65

Alternative reference number:

Title: Material relating to Sir John Sinclair

Dates of creation: 1924

Level of description: Fonds

Extent: 9 sheets

Format: Paper

RECORDS' CONTEXT

Name of creators:

Administrative history: Sir John Sinclair, 1st Baronet (10 May 1754 – 21 December 1835) was a Scottish politician, writer on finance and agriculture and the first person to use the word statistics in the English language, in his vast, pioneering work, *Statistical Account of Scotland*, in 21 volumes.

Sinclair was the eldest son of George Sinclair of Ulbster, a member of the family of the Earls of Caithness, and was born at Thurso Castle, Thurso, Caithness. After studying at the University of Edinburgh, University of Glasgow and Trinity College, Oxford, he was admitted to the Faculty of Advocates in Scotland, and called to the English bar, but never practised.

In 1780, he was returned to the British House of Commons for Caithness constituency, and subsequently represented several English constituencies, his parliamentary career extending, with few interruptions, until 1811. Sinclair established at Edinburgh a society for the improvement of British wool, and was mainly instrumental in the creation of the Board of Agriculture, of which he was the first president.

Sir John Sinclair, who was created a baronet in 1780,[1] was twice married. He

had two daughters by his first wife. He married, secondly, to Diana, daughter of the first Lord Macdonald, by whom he had thirteen children. His eldest son, Sir George Sinclair, 2nd Baronet (1790–1868) was a writer and a Member of Parliament, representing Caithness at intervals from 1811 until 1841. His son, Sir John George Tollemache Sinclair, 3rd Baronet, was member for the same constituency from 1869 to 1885. The first Baronet's third son, also John (1797–1875), became Archdeacon of Middlesex; the fifth son, William (1804–1878), was Prebendary of Chichester and was the father of William Macdonald Sinclair (b. 1850), who in 1889 became Archdeacon of London; the fourth daughter, Catherine Sinclair was an author.

Custodial history:

RECORDS' CONTENT

Description:

'Imperial and Royal Correspondence and Reminiscences', a newspaper clipping about Sir John Sinclair, and two pictures of him - mainly about a journey through Europe

Appraisal:

Accruals:

RECORDS' CONDITION OF ACCESS AND USE

Access:

open

Closed until:

Access conditions:

Available within the Archive searchroom

Copying:

Copying permitted within standard Copyright Act parameters

Finding aids:

Available in Archive searchroom

ALLIED MATERIALS

Related material:

Publication:

Notes:

Ref.	Description	Dates
P65	Sir John Sinclair Papers	1924
P65/1	<p>Pages from a printed book:</p> <p>Title page, "Part I – Imperial And Royal: Correspondence and Reminiscences Imperial and Royal Correspondence and Reminiscences";</p> <p>Sir John Sinclair's Correspondence Vo. I, "Autographs of several distinguished characters" (including Lord Nelson, Lord North, General Washington, Horace Walpole, Adam Smith, William Pulteney, etc.);</p> <p>Sketch of Sir John Sinclair's Journey Through the Northern Parts of Europe;</p> <p>Engraving of Sir John Sinclair;</p> <p>Engraving of The Right Honourable Sir John Sinclair of Ulbster</p> <p>[1 bundle]</p>	1924
P65/2	Newspaper cutting, Glasgow Herald, "A Great Work: The Statistical Account of Scotland – New Edition Called For" [1 newspaper cutting]	10 Jun 1924