

MOW John Mowat Collection

RECORDS' IDENTITY STATEMENT

Reference number: MOW

Alternative reference number:

Title: John Mowat Collection

Dates of creation: c.1850-1947

Level of description: Fonds

Extent: 12 boxes

Format: Paper

RECORDS' CONTEXT

Name of creators: Compiled by John Mowat

Administrative history: John Mowat was a historian and author who was born in the parish of Canisbay in Caithness.

Custodial history: Collection deposited with the Caithness Archive Centre by family members

RECORDS' CONTENT

Description: Maps, historical notes, published works relating mainly to Caithness

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:

Date of catalogue:

July 2013

Ref.	Description	Dates
MOW	John Mowat Collection	1627-c.1980
MOW/1	Local History Transcriptions	1627-1935
MOW1/1	Counties	1654-1748
MOW/1/1/1	Handwritten transcript of the Caithness Presbytery Register (minutes of Caithness Presbytery) [1 folder]	1654-1688
MOW/1/1/2	Handwritten transcript of the Register of the Diocesan Synod of Caithness, Sutherland and Strathnaver, the first page of the transcript identifies gaps in the transcript as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- the opening part of the minute for July 1682- the closing part of the minute for July 1683- 1684-1686- the opening part of the minute for July 1687	1662-1688
MOW/1/1/3	Handwritten extracts of the Synod Register of Caithness and Sutherland, these appear to be topical notes relating to various issues, there is a partial index (the first page in the folder) but it only indexes pages 1-12 of 83. Topics in the index include; fast days, Sabbath breach, witchcraft and the seceders [1 folder]	1704-1748
MOW/1/2	Parishes – Old Parish Registers and Kirk Sessions	1652-1920
	Canisbay	1652-1813
MOW/1/2/1	Handwritten transcripts of Canisbay Kirk Session Registers (minutes) [1 folder]	1652-1666
MOW/1/2/2	'Excerpts from the Register of Baptisms, Marriages kept by the Kirk Session of the Parish of Canisbay, 1740-1813' Handwritten transcript [1 volume]	1740-1813
	Watten	1752-1920
MOW/1/2/3	Folder containing handwritten baptismal and marriage transcripts taken from the old parish registers of	1752-1761

	Watten and what appear to be notes and extracts taken from the Kirk Session minutes of Watten also. Arranged chronologically [1 folder]	
MOW/1/2/4	Folder containing handwritten baptismal and marriage transcripts taken from the old parish registers of Watten and what appear to be notes and extracts taken from the Kirk Session minutes of Watten also. Arranged chronologically [1 folder]	1762-1769
MOW/1/2/5	Folder containing handwritten baptismal and marriage transcripts taken from the old parish registers of Watten and what appear to be notes and extracts taken from the Kirk Session minutes of Watten also. Arranged chronologically [1 folder]	1770-1779
MOW/1/2/6	Folder containing handwritten baptismal and marriage transcripts taken from the old parish registers of Watten and what appear to be notes and extracts taken from the Kirk Session minutes of Watten also. Arranged chronologically [1 folder]	1780-1788
MOW/1/2/7	Folder containing handwritten baptismal and marriage transcripts taken from the old parish registers of Watten and what appear to be notes and extracts taken from the Kirk Session minutes of Watten also. Arranged chronologically [1 folder]	1789-1799
MOW/1/2/8	Folder containing handwritten baptismal and marriage transcripts taken from the old parish registers of Watten and what appear to be notes and extracts taken from the Kirk Session minutes of Watten also. Arranged chronologically [1 folder]	1800-1811
MOW/1/2/9	Folder containing handwritten baptismal and marriage transcripts taken from the old parish registers of Watten and what appear to be notes and extracts taken from the Kirk Session minutes of Watten also. Arranged chronologically [1 folder]	1812-1821
MOW/1/2/10	Folder containing handwritten transcripts of Mowat family baptisms and marriages taken from the old parish registers of Watten and what appear to be notes and extracts taken from the Kirk Session minutes of Watten also. Arranged chronologically. [1 folder]	1824-1840
MOW/1/2/11	Folder containing handwritten baptismal and marriage transcripts taken from the old parish registers of Watten and what appear to be notes and extracts taken from the Kirk Session minutes of Watten also. Arranged chronologically [1 folder]	1841-1854

MOW/1/2/12	Handwritten transcripts of Watten parish registers [1 folder]	1855-1881
MOW/1/2/13	Handwritten transcripts of Watten parish registers [1 folder]	1882-1920
MOW/1/2/14	Handwritten transcript of Watten Kirk Session minutes [1 folder]	1701-1727
MOW/1/2/15	Handwritten transcript of Watten Kirk Session minutes [1 folder]	1728-1754
	Wick and Thurso	1660-1751
MOW/1/2/16	Handwritten notes taken from what appear to be church records; old parish registers and kirk session minutes, and some unidentified sources. It is not always clear which parish these are taken from but many seem to be from Thurso parish. They are arranged in chronological order and generally relate to people [1 folder]	1660-1684
MOW/1/2/17	Handwritten notes taken from what appear to be church records; old parish registers and kirk session minutes, and some unidentified sources. Many of the old parish register transcripts relate to members of the Mowat family It is not always clear which parish these are taken from but many seem to be from Thurso and Wick parishes. They are arranged in chronological order [1 folder]	1685-1728
MOW/1/2/18	Handwritten notes taken from what appear to be church records; old parish registers and kirk session minutes, and some unidentified sources. It is not always clear which parish these are taken from but many seem to be from Thurso parish. They are arranged in chronological order and generally relate to people [1 folder]	1729-1751
MOW/1/3	Sasines	1627-1935
MOW/1/3/1	Handwritten 'Extracts from the Register of Sasines Caithness with other notes' including Caithness Valuations 1683-1794, Registers of Testaments 1623-1822 and Deeds 1665-1819 volume VIII [1 volume]	1627-1855
MOW/1/3/2	Handwritten 'Extracts from the Register of Sasines Caithness with other notes' volume I [1 volume]	1647-1674
MOW/1/3/3	Handwritten 'Extracts from the Register of Sasines Caithness with other notes' volume II, this also includes extracts from the Register of the Privy	1527-1935

	Council 1527-1622, Acts of Parliament 1663-1709 and cutting from the John O’Groat Journal of a letter discussing the Caithness vernacular dated 3 rd April 1935 [1 volume]	
MOW/1/3/4	Handwritten ‘Extracts from the Register of Sasines Caithness with other notes’ volume III [1 volume]	1693-1742
MOW/1/3/5	Handwritten ‘Extracts from the Register of Sasines Caithness with other notes’ volume IV [1 volume]	1742-1759
MOW/1/3/6	Handwritten ‘Extracts from the Register of Sasines Caithness with other notes’ volume V [1 volume]	1697-1837
MOW/1/3/7	Handwritten ‘Extracts from the Register of Sasines Caithness with other notes’ volume VI [1 volume]	1786-1826
MOW/1/3/8	Handwritten ‘Extracts from the Register of Sasines Caithness with other notes’ volume VII [1 volume]	1828-1875
MOW/1/3/9	Handwritten volume IX, has extracts of settlements, deeds and testaments [1 volume]	1623-1819
MOW/1/4	Censuses	1806
MOW/1/4/1	Handwritten transcript of the Watten 1806 census, with individuals named, relationships and place but no ages or occupations [1 bundle]	1806
MOW/1/5	Handwritten manuscripts	1697-c.1930
MOW/1/5/1	Handwritten transcripts of documents all relating to Sir Patrick Dunbar, dating from 1697-1791 [1 bundle]	1697-1791
MOW/1/5/2	Various extracts from wills and loans, handwritten and pasted together [1 folder]	1838-1871
MOW/1/5/3	Bundle of various handwritten essays of Thomas Sinclair, published between 1863-1865 [1 bundle]	1863-1865
MOW/1/5/4	Manuscript of ‘The Failure of Altruism’ published in Fraser’s Magazine, 1879 [1 roll] CLOSED IN NEED OF CONSERVATION	1879
MOW/1/5/5	Handwritten manuscript of ‘Travel Sketch’ by Thomas Sinclair, published 1890 [1 bundle]	1890
MOW/1/5/6	Handwritten manuscript of ‘The Fiction of Truth’ by Thomas Sinclair c.1890 [1 folder]	c.1890
MOW/1/5/7	Handwritten manuscript of ‘Literary Storing’ by Thomas Sinclair, 1900 [1 bundle]	1900
MOW/1/5/8	Handwritten notes on Caithness history including	c.1930

	Wick Churchyard inscriptions and biographies of the Earls of Caithness 1626-1899 [1 folder]	
MOW/1/5/9	'Caithness Events: A discussion of Caithness ? and historical narratives and an account of the ? by Thomas Sinclair, author of 'The Gunns' and 'The Sinclair's of ?'. All handwritten by John Mowat – this could perhaps be a first draft of book [1 folder of loose pages]	c.1930
MOW/1/5/10	Handwritten loose pages, a draft of 'The Sinclair's of England' written by John Mowat [1 folder]	c.1930
MOW/1/5/11	Handwritten manuscript of 'Essays, In Three Kinds' by Thomas Sinclair, 1899 [1 bundle]	c.1930
MOW/1/5/12	Handwritten transcript of 'Antiquities, Description of Parishes' [1 envelope]	c.1930
MOW/1/5/13	Unidentified handwritten manuscript which appears to relate to the evolution of language, this does not look to be in John Mowat's handwriting [1 bundle]	n.d.
MOW/2	Handwritten historical notes	c.1930
MOW/2/1	General History of Europe and Scotland	c.1930
MOW/2/1/1	Notebook containing historical notes dating from 1100 to 1905 [1 volume]	c.1930
MOW/2/1/2	Handwritten historical notes on Scotland with sources in the right hand margin of the page. Covering the years 296-1299 [1 bundle]	c.1930
MOW/2/1/3	Handwritten historical notes on Scotland with sources in the right hand margin of the page. Covering the years 1300-1498 [1 bundle]	c.1930
MOW/2/1/4	Handwritten historical notes on Scotland with sources in the right hand margin of the page. Covering the years 1500-1599 [1 bundle]	c.1930
MOW/2/1/5	Handwritten notes on the history of Scotland, mostly these appear to be extracts from other writings. there are some sources written in the left hand margin of the page with a date, c.1550-c.1850 [1 volume]	c.1930
MOW/2/1/6	Handwritten historical notes on Scotland with sources in the right hand margin of the page. Covering the years 1600-1632 [1 bundle]	c.1930
MOW/2/1/7	Handwritten historical notes on Scotland with sources in the right hand margin of the page. Covering the	c.1930

	years 1633-1659 [1 bundle]	
MOW/2/2	Caithness	c.1920-c.1980
MOW/2/2/1	Transcripts and notes on various Caithness individuals including Captain George Johnston, nineteenth century [1 notebook]	c.1920
MOW/2/2/2	Notes on the Earl of Caithness, beginning in 1570 [1 notebook]	c.1980
MOW/2/2/3	List of sources and bibliography, there is no indication what this bibliography relates to [1 bundle]	n.d.
MOW/3	Genealogical Notes	c.1980
MOW/3/1	Information relating to the Mowat family and their history, covering the period 1030-1918 [1 notebook]	c.1980
MOW/3/2	Folder containing information on the Murray family of Watten, covering the period 1226-1881 [1 folder]	c.1980
MOW/3/3	Information relating to the Calder's of Watten and their history covering the period 1294-1887 [2 notebooks]	c.1980
MOW/3/4	Information relating to the Sutherland's of Watten and their history, covering the period 1458-1899 [1 folder]	c.1980
MOW/3/5	Notebooks with information on the Mowat family and its history, covering the period 1601-1907, the volumes are numbered II and III, there is no volume I [2 volumes]	c.1980
MOW/3/6	Information relating to the Mowat's of Watten and their history [1 bundle]	n.d.
MOW/4	Original Documents	1762-1978
MOW/4/1	List of Caithness historical documents and original 1762 Bond of Provision from the Countess of Caithness to Miss ? Primrose [1 folder]	1762
MOW/4/2	Folder containing an account of the erection of a new parish church in Wick, a small excerpt regarding duties and taxes, signed by John Reid, Surveyor and one item of correspondence from John Reid to William [Waters] [1 folder]	1810-1822
MOW/4/3	'Roll of men named by Ballies in the county of Caithness in the year 1825, under the authority of the Act 42 and summoned to attend at Dingwall upon Thursday the 30 th day of June 1825 for the purpose of	1825

	being trained' [2 large sheets]	
MOW/4/4	Folder containing small extract regarding duties and taxes of property signed by Alex Grant [Seton], Surveyor and detailed list and value of contents of house occupied by David Gunn, list written and prepared by Ja Sinclair [1 folder]	1829-1830
MOW/4/5	Folder containing correspondence and certificate relating to the case of William Waters, imprisoned in the gaol at Wick [1 folder]	1837
MOW/4/6	Folder containing letters relating to Caithness matters including correspondence from the Glasgow Caithness Literary Association [1 folder]	1851-1954
MOW/4/7	Folder containing writings, newspaper cuttings, correspondence relating to and by Marwood Sutherland who is described as being a philosopher, spiritualist and author [1 folder containing 1 bundle and 1 notebook]	1869-1955
MOW/4/8	John Mackie correspondence [1 folder]	1870-1893
MOW/4/9	Folder containing information relating to the Caithness Railway and the proposed through line from Loch Watten to the Sutherland railway at Brora, particulars of the Barony and Estate of Sandside and summons of the Declarator at the instance of His Grace the Duke and Earl of Sutherland against the Provost and Magistrates and Town Councillors of the Burgh of Wick [1 folder]	1880
MOW/4/10	Mowat family letters, mainly to John Mowat of Southampton Drive, Kelvinside, Glasgow [1 folder]	1880-1956
MOW/4/11	Correspondence to James Duncan Esq. [1 folder]	1885-1897
MOW/4/12	Bundle of correspondence to Lord John Pender, mostly arranging meetings when he is in London [1 folder]	1887-1895
MOW/4/13	Signatures with occupations and positions of Caithness residents, and also some from Edinburgh and Glasgow [1 notebook]	1888
MOW/4/14	County of Caithness, Second Annual Report of the Health and Sanitation of the County by John Alexander M.D., Medical Officer of Health [1 volume]	1892
MOW/4/15	Family tree chart of John Sinclair and Elizabeth Rushall of Stain, Keiss, Elizabeth is recorded as dying 6 th February 1680, this chart was prepared by Ella Sinclair in 1897. Short biography of W. Leith	1897

	Bremner, born in Keiss 1835 [1 folder]	
MOW/4/16	Folder containing correspondence and documents relating to Wick Harbour and its rates [1 folder]	1889-1935
MOW/4/17	County of Caithness, Annual Report of the Health and Sanitation of the County by John Alexander M.D. Medical Officer of Health [1 volume]	1900
MOW/4/18	County of Caithness, Annual Report of the Health and Sanitation of the County by George Banks, Physician, Medical Officer of Health and Donald Reid, Sanitary Inspector [1 volume]	1904
MOW/4/19	Mowat family letters, mainly to John Mowat of Southampton Drive, Kelvinside, Glasgow and later of the Schoolhouse, Latheron [1 folder]	1910-1952
MOW/4/20	Correspondence to Sir Alexander Rae, Provost of Wick [1 folder]	1963-1978
MOW/5	Newspaper excerpts and articles	c.1851-1909
MOW/5/1	Newspaper articles cut from an Edinburgh newspaper, many relating to the Royal Physical Society (interests in experimental biology and natural history) [1 folder]	c.1851
MOW/5/2	Humorous newspaper cuttings and some handwritten poems and jokes, from local Caithness papers showing examples of Caithness humour [1 folder]	c.1900
MOW/5/3	'Nature Notes' articles cut out of the local newspaper [1 folder]	1908
MOW/5/4	Extracts cut from the Northern Ensign newspaper which are a series of articles entitled 'The Ecclesiastical History of Caithness', the articles seem to have been published over a matter of weeks on page 2 of the paper [1 folder]	1908
MOW/5/5	Newspaper cuttings relating to Governor Major General Arthur St Clair [1 folder]	1909
MOW/6	Published or bound sources	1767-1961
MOW/6/1	'The Caithness Earldom Papers 1767-69' bound volume partially printed with handwritten original documents also. Including official documents relating to the Earls of Caithness with family history information [1 volume]	1767-1769
MOW/6/2	'Sketches from John O'Groats in Prose and Verse' by	1842

	James T. Calder [1 volume]	
MOW/6/3	'Ye towne of Wick in ye Oldene Tymes' by John Horne [1 volume]	1895
MOW/6/4	'Traditions of the Covenanter' by Simpson [1 volume]	c.1890
MOW/6/5	'A Bibliography of Caithness' by John Mowat, this appears to be an earlier edition originally printed in the newspaper [1 volume]	c.1900
MOW/6/6	'A Bibliography of Caithness, with notes' by John Mowat, only 130 copies printed of which this is number 85 [1 volume]	1909
MOW/6/7	'Ecclesiastical History of Caithness and Annals of Caithness Parishes' by Reverend D. Beaton, traces the ecclesiastical history of Caithness from Pagan times to the early 20th century. The chapters were first published in the 'Northern Ensign' between June 1908 and May 1909. [1 volume]	1909
MOW/6/8	'Castletown and Vicinity' published by W.M. Begg, Castletown. Volume of photographs of Castletown area [1 volume]	c.1910
MOW/6/9	Bound volume 'Records of Caithness, Anitquarian, Historical and Genealogical, collected by John Mowat' with contents at the beginning. This volume is comprised of cut out newspaper articles which have been pasted into the volume [1 volume]	1900-1947
MOW/6/10	'Books and Printing in Caithness' by John Mowat, printed booklet [1 booklet]	1920
MOW/6/11	'Hutchinson's Britain Beautiful' magazine, part 6, this edition contains photographs of Caithness sights with accompanying article [1 booklet]	1924
MOW/6/12	'Journalism' by Thomas Sinclair, Northern Whig, Evening Times, articles cut out of the newspaper and pasted into the volume, the articles seem to be general historical accounts of Great Britain and Europe It is unclear if Thomas Sinclair is the writer or the collector of the articles [1 volume]	c.1930
MOW/6/13	'Journalism' by Thomas Sinclair, The Glasgow Herald, various articles relating to history and historical events and people cut out and pasted into the volume. It is unclear if Thomas Sinclair is the writer or the collector of the articles [1 volume]	c.1930
MOW/6/14	'Journalism' by Thomas Sinclair, Standard &c, various articles relating to history and historical	c.1930

	events and people cut out and pasted into the volume. It is unclear if Thomas Sinclair is the writer or the collector of the articles [1 volume]	
MOW/6/15	'Records Vol 1' Thomas Sinclair, excerpts of Caithness records and articles that have been printed in the local newspapers of Caithness relating to local stories and history bound in one volume [1 volume]	c.1930
MOW/6/16	'Catalogue of Books in Caithness Section' lists of books which must have been part of the library's local section [1 notebook]	c.1930
MOW/6/17	'The Broynach Earls of Caithness, volume 1 'by Thomas Sinclair articles and excerpts from the local newspapers relating to the Broynach Earldom [1 volume]	c.1930
MOW/6/18	'The Broynach Earls of Caithness, volume 2 'by Thomas Sinclair articles and excerpts from the local newspapers relating to the Broynach Earldom [1 volume]	c.1930
MOW/6/19	'Records Vol 2' Thomas Sinclair, excerpts of Caithness records and articles that have been printed in the local newspapers of Caithness relating to local stories and history bound in one volume [1 volume]	c.1930
MOW/6/20	'The Bicentennial of Major General Arthur St Clair' by Mrs Frederic Krull, reprinted from Indiana History Bulletin, volume 11, number 5 [1 volume]	1934
MOW/6/21	'The Journal of the Orkney Agricultural Discussion Society, volume X' printed by the proprietor of the Orkney Herald [1 volume]	1935
MOW/6/22	'A New Bibliography of the County of Caithness with notes' by John Mowat, printed Wick, 1940, [1 volume]	1940
MOW/6/23	'Some Peculiarities and Characteristics of the Caithness Dialect' by John Mowat, these are his handwritten notes which have been bound [1 volume]	1948
MOW/6/24	'The Story of Farm Tools' Young Farmers Club Booklet, number 24, published by Evans Brothers Limited for the National Federation of Young Farmers' Club [1 volume]	1961
MOW/7	Maps	1714-c.1928
MOW/7/1	Map of the 'shires of Caithness and Sutherland with Strath Naver which is part of Sutherland shire', by H Moll Geographer [1 cardboard backed map]	1714

MOW/7/2	Blacks New Large Map of Scotland, Sheet 10, mounted on cloth, showing Caithness and the Orkney and Shetland Islands 2 copies [2 maps]	1862
MOW/7/3	Blackwoods County Maps, Caithness, showing parish boundary lines [1 map]	1864
MOW/7/4	Bartholomew's reduced ordnance survey, sheet 27, Caithness [1 map] NO ACCESS CONSERVATION NEEDED	c.1895
MOW/7/5	Ordnance Survey, Scotland, sheet 116, Caithness, 1 inch to 1 mile, [1 map]	1903
MOW/7/6	Ordnance Survey map of Kildonan and District, sheet 109, 1 inch to 1 mile [1 map]	1903
MOW/7/7	Ordnance Survey map of Reay and District, sheet 115, 1 inch to 1 mile [1 map]	1903
MOW/7/8	Adam & Charles Black, reduced ordnance survey maps of Scotland, Caithness district, sheet 8, 2 miles to the inch [1 map]	c.1905
MOW/7/9	Black's large tourist map of Scotland, Caithness, Orkney & Shetland sheet 10, 4 miles to 1 inch [1 map]	c.1928
MOW/7/10	W and A K Johnston New 3 Miles to the Inch Map of Scotland, sheet 14 showing Caithness and Sutherland [1 map] (this item is fragile please handle with care)	c.1958
MOW/8	Photographs	1938
MOW/8/1	Framed photograph of the Wick Education Committee, taken on the 16 th April 1938. With all individuals named on the photograph mount [1 framed photograph]	16 th April 1938
MOW/8/2	Photograph of man building barrel [1 photograph]	n.d.