

P1035 Papers of John Cormack

RECORDS' IDENTITY STATEMENT

Reference number: GB1741/P1035

Alternative reference number:

Title: Papers of John Cormack

Dates of creation: 1984-2024

Level of description: Fonds

Extent: 6 files

Format: Paper

RECORDS' CONTEXT

Name of creators: John Cormack, various

Administrative history: John Cormack was born in 1933 in Lerwick, Shetland, to William and Winifred Cormack. His father was a veterinary surgeon. The family moved to Wick in Caithness in 1938 and lived at Fairlea in Francis Street. John and his elder brother Billy attended the old South School for a year before the family moved to Fernhill in George Street and the boys started at the North School in 1939. In 1940 another brother, Robin, was born.

During the Second World War airmen from RAF Wick were billeted with the Cormack family at Fernhill.

John went on to have a long career in Dounreay where he met his wife, Joan. He is an active member of Wick's St Fergus Church and looks after the Church's archives.

Custodial history: Deposited by John Cormack

RECORDS' CONTENT

Description: Handwritten and typed accounts of John Cormack's childhood memories of 1940s Wick. Includes many details of life in Wick during the Second World War. Typed accounts of "My Life at Dounreay 1956 onwards" written by John Cormack. Includes descriptions of machines and processes John was involved with.

Also, electoral rolls and various local interest articles.

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 the archive searchroom and [online](#)

ALLIED MATERIALS

Related material:

Publication:

Notes:

Date of catalogue: 2023

| Ref. | Description | Dates |
|----------------|--|---------------------|
| P1035/1 | Childhood Memories of John Cormack in 1940s Wick | 1940s-c.2020 |
| P1035/1/1 | Handwritten account of John Cormack's childhood memories in 1940s Wick. Includes cover note addressed to his grandnephew Angus (1 bundle) | 1940s-c.2020 |
| P1035/2/2 | Typed account of John Cormack's childhood memories entitled 'Stories of Old (1940s)'. Subjects include rationing, billeting, Wick Aerodrome, Grampa's Farm, and snow (1 bundle) | 1940s-c.2020 |
| P1035/2 | Dounreay Memories by John Cormack | 1956-2024 |
| P1035/2/1 | Typed account of John Cormack's working life at Dounreay from 1956 onwards. Subjects covered include expansion tests on various metals that could be used in Nuclear reactors in the future (12 items) | 1956-2024 |
| P1035/3 | Various | 1984-2020 |

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| P1035/3/1 | Caithness District Register of Electors (1 bundle) | 1984-1999 |
| P1035/3/2 | John O' Groat Journal 150 th Anniversary Year supplement (1 item) | 1986 |
| P1035/3/3 | Copy of the first edition of the John O' Groat Journal produced to mark the 150 th anniversary of the newspaper (1 bundle) | 1986 |
| P1035/3/4 | Quatercentenary Review: A Celebration of Wick's 400 th Anniversary as a Royal Burgh (1 item) | 1989 |
| P1035/3/5 | Articles from Wick Old Parish Church newsletters written by 'Old Codger' aka Harry Gray (1 bundle) | 2007-2008 |
| P1035/3/6 | Newspaper article regarding work at Wicks Memorial Garden (1 item) | 2008 |
| P1035/3/7 | Photographs of the demolition of the chimney of Wick's first electrical power station and explanatory note (3 items) | 2008 |
| P1035/3/8 | Minutes of the AGM of the Seafarers Memorial Group (1 bundle) | Jan 2020 |
| P1035/3/9 | List of historic Wick buildings and streets and their present locations (2 items) | n.d. |
| P1035/3/10 | List of occupations from the 1880's to the 1890's (2 items) | n.d. |
| P1035/3/11 | Article on the Caithness Banking Company titled 'Background to a Caithness Bank' by A.Y. Swainston (1 bundle) | n.d. |
| P1035/3/12 | Photocopy of Indenture twixt Mr James Bremner and William MacBeath and transcript, 1836 (8 items) | n.d. |
| P1035/3/13 | Photocopy of reference and letter of introduction written by Rev. Charles Thomson, minister of the Free Church, Wick, for William McBeath [who was emigrating to Sydney, Australia], 1841 (5 items) | n.d. |
| P1035/3/14 | New Testament presented by the National Bible Society of Scotland to those on active service in 1916 (1 volume) | 1916 |