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**SN 5550 - Economists' Papers: A Guide to Archive and Other Manuscript Sources
for the History of British and Irish Economic Thought, 1750-2000**

Study Documentation

ECONOMISTS' PAPERS 1750-2000

**THE COMMITTEE OF THE GUIDE TO ARCHIVE SOURCES IN THE
HISTORY OF ECONOMIC THOUGHT IN 1975**

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ECONOMISTS' PAPERS 1750-2000

A Guide to Archive and other Manuscript Sources for the History of British and Irish
Economic Thought

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SOCIETY

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INTRODUCTION TO THE 1975 VERSION OF THE BOOK

There has recently been a significant expansion of research and publication in the history of economic thought. The number of reprints of economic classics has grown apace, major biographical studies and scholarly editions have appeared or are in process, and the flow of historical or interpretative monographs and scholarly articles has steadily increased. Moreover, it is evident that this resurgence of interest and activity will continue in the foreseeable future. Antiquarian motives have, inevitably, played a part in this movement; but questions of considerable importance and current concern to a number of disciplines are also involved, which go beyond the history of economic theory, techniques and their applications to include the relations between economic ideas and policy, and the history, sociology and general cultural significance of economics and related social sciences as manifestations of the development of intellectual professions in modern society.

Recent improvements in the quality of the research undertaken in the history of economics, requiring in those who undertake it a full command of the techniques of the historian as well of economic analysis, have led to an increased interest in the of manuscript material. This has brought to light serious deficiencies in the preservation, cataloguing and publicising of such materials, and emphasised the need for a systematic guide to sources of this kind in Britain. Although several guides to printed materials exist,¹ there is no single specialist index to the papers of economists. In an effort to remedy these deficiencies a committee of members of an informal international History of Economic Thought group based in Britain decided to launch a systematic enquiry into the location and condition of the surviving papers of British economists who lived in the period 1700-1950. The present Guide to Archive Sources represents the fruits of this endeavour.

¹ For example. the *Catalogue of the Kress Library*, the *London Bibliography of the the Catalogue of the Goldsmiths' Library of Economic Literature*, vol. I (Cambridge, 1970), and Henry Higgs' *Bibliography of Economics, 1751-1775* (Cambridge, 1935).

The committee responsible for the Guide comprised Professor R.D. Collison Black, Queen's University, Belfast (Chairman); and Professors A.W. Coats, University of Nottingham; Bernard Corry, Queen Mary College, London; and Donald N. Winch, University of Sussex. Expert assistance was provided by Mr Roger H. Ellis, the Secretary of the Historical Manuscripts Commission, while Lord Robbins acted as a general adviser. The project was made possible by generous grants from the Social Science Research Council and the Royal Economic Society. With the aid of these funds a full-time Research Assistant, Mr Paul Sturges, was employed for three years from 1 August 1970, in the work of locating and recording the details of the surviving manuscript sources. The committee would like to take this opportunity of thanking the Royal Economic Society and the Social Science Research Council for their support of the project, as well as the many librarians, archivists and other colleagues who freely gave expert assistance during the course of the work, and the Director and staff of the University of London's Institute of Historical Research who provided accommodation and other facilities for Mr Sturges during his tenure of the Research Assistantship. The committee also wish to record their appreciation of Mr Sturges' unfailing enthusiasm and dedication to the project.

The first task of the committee was to agree on a list of economists in the period since 1700 whose influence and general reputation would justify the location and recording of any of their surviving papers. Before Mr Sturges began his work the committee had already compiled a list of over four hundred British economic writers who might fall into this category. This compilation inevitably presented certain problems, given the difficulty of defining the term 'economist', particularly in more distant times.

The next, more important, step was to decide what type of survey to carry out. Two types can be distinguished: a broad one dealing mainly with personal papers of a great number of people, or a more intensive one which attempts to list the personal papers and correspondence of a more select group. The former is exemplified by Roy McCleod's *Archives of British Men of Science* (Mansell, 1972, microfiche), and the latter by John Brooke, *The Prime Ministers' Papers, 1801-1902* (H.M.S.O., 1968).

After discussion and consultation, the latter was adopted as a model. A major consideration in this choice was the significance of correspondence in the development, modification and dissemination of economic ideas. The latter type of survey provides more detailed information on correspondence.

A brief account of the procedures adopted in preparing this Guide may be helpful both to its users and to those embarking upon similar projects in the future. The initial list of economists provided a basis for the collection of biographical data and a search of the published literature for clues to the whereabouts of known collections. A check of the indexes and lists at the National Register of Archives proved especially helpful at this stage, and was followed by the despatch of letters to institutions known to hold relevant papers, and specific enquiries to other likely institutions. Wherever the response was positive, visits were undertaken, beginning with the major London repositories - such as the British Museum, London School of Economics, University College, etc. - and subsequently extending to other parts of the British Isles. Where possible, information was taken from the repositories' own lists and indexes and, where necessary, from the actual collections. In cases where the collections were large and ill-organised, or where lists and indexes were poor, full information as to the contents was sometimes unobtainable at the time. After about sixteen months the majority of visits to repositories had been completed, and serious efforts were then made to trace papers as yet unknown or unused by scholars, especially those in private hands. Investigations of a largely genealogical character, centring on wills at the General Register Office at Somerset House, and utilising a wide range of directories and biographical dictionaries, had already been initiated in between visits to repositories. And as these visits declined in frequency the genealogical investigations were increased. Whenever the descendants of economists were traced they were approached by letter and, if appropriate, a visit was arranged. The results of these enquiries were often negative, either because nothing had survived, or because the families had died out or disappeared leaving no clues to the fate of the economist's papers. Nevertheless, the Guide gives some indications of these negative cases and will therefore save the time and energy of future researchers. The project has confirmed the general impression, gained from the results of other surveys and conversations with archivists, that investigations of this kind, though very demanding in time and effort, succeed in disclosing only a very small proportion of entirely new material.

They do, however, perform a valuable function by drawing together in one place widely scattered and sometimes forgotten information about papers in private hands. The hope may be expressed that distinguished living persons will consider bequeathing their papers to some of the major libraries where they can be properly preserved and made available to posterity.

Nature of the Guide and directions for its use

This Guide contains a finding list of personal papers and correspondence of the most distinguished British economists, as well as a considerable number of lesser contributors to the subject in one or other of its forms. The lists printed here comprise all those cases where a significant body of material is known to exist, whatever its content. Indeed, in a few cases, such as Isaac Butt and Fleeming Jenkin, little or nothing of what is listed is directly economic in content. The individuals listed include personalities from the universities, banking, business, politics, the Civil Service, journalism and other fields. The Guide will therefore be useful not only to specialist historians of economics, but also to all concerned with the role of economic ideas in political debate, public and private decision-making, and in the formation of public opinion.

Wherever possible, three main types of information have been recorded:

1. A brief description of the main group or groups of personal papers which the economist accumulated during his lifetime. It indicates the nature of the material (e.g. whether in-letters, drafts, or copies of out-letters, manuscripts of published or unpublished works, diaries, memoranda, etc.); period of origin; quantity; and, if relevant, the state of preservation or organisation. Reference is also made to many of the artificial collections of papers relating to prominent figures assembled or acquired by libraries, usually after the subject's death. The geographical location of the material listed is largely confined to Great Britain and Ireland, with some additions from the more obvious sources on the continents of Europe and North America. The locations of collections are indicated (a) by name of repository in abbreviated form; (b) N.R.A. numbers, where appropriate (see list of N.R.A. numbers on p. xxi); (c) footnote-type numbers (see list of these on p. xxii).

2. A list of persons to whom the economist wrote, information as to the whereabouts of his out-letters and, where possible, an indication of the numbers and period of the surviving correspondence. For eight economists (David Hume, Jevons, J. M. Keynes, Smith, Bentham, Burke, Ricardo and J. S. Mill) this section is omitted as extensive editions of their correspondence are now complete or in progress, and provide much fuller lists than could be offered here.

3. A brief note of the principal published works largely or wholly consisting of material from the economist's papers, including substantial biographies and other printed works using or containing references to his papers. References to articles in five major biographical dictionaries and encyclopaedias are given in abbreviated form, and there is some information as to the whereabouts of the subject's portrait.

In the case of the first and last of these categories, no comments are required. In the case of category 2, however, it should be noted that limitations of time made it impossible to trace all the economist's letters which might exist in the possession of the descendants of his known or presumed correspondents.

Consequently, many more groups of letters are listed for the major nineteenth-century figures, some of whom were more famous outside the field of economics, than for more recent or less well-known individuals. Since many lists and indexes omit this information, it has not always been possible to indicate the quantity and the period of groups of letters. However, some indication of the numbers has been provided, and the terms 'a few', 'several' and 'many' may be taken as roughly equivalent to 'two or three', 'about a dozen' and 'more than a dozen' respectively. The term 'items' includes letters, enclosures, drafts of replies, etc.

The most important class of records omitted is that contained in the Public Records Office. Collections of politicians' papers given to or deposited with the PRO are referred to in so far as the PRO's indexes permit. But it has not been possible to undertake a systematic search through the papers of a relevant ministry or department to trace the letters and memoranda of an economist who was employed there. Research workers are, however, advised to examine the papers of government departments where appropriate, as these often constitute rich sources of material. The Bank of England is another important source which has not been investigated for the purposes of this Guide.²

² With a 30 year rule in operation, the records of the Bank of England are now open on the same basis as the PRO.

Notes for those using the Guide

1. The Guide is designed to assist the research worker at the beginning of his enquiries by enabling him to find the items listed and obtain some idea of their size and scope. It does no more to reveal the contents of any collection. The reader is advised that lists of the kind provided herein can never be exhaustive, and those who wish to obtain as complete a coverage of the manuscript material as possible will look beyond these pages.
2. The Guide does not distinguish between papers owned by a library or repository and those merely loaned or deposited there by the owners or their trustees. In the latter case, permission to publish material from the papers will be required from both the library and the owner; and in certain cases the owner's permission will be required before the papers can be viewed. It is therefore advisable to enquire about the accessibility of papers before visiting a collection.
3. Some collections are privately owned and retained in the owner's private residence or business premises. A reference to a collection in the Guide does not necessarily mean that the owner is prepared to grant access to each and every enquirer. Wherever possible, an indication of the conditions under which the owners are prepared to grant access has been given below.
4. Finally, research workers are reminded of the need to familiarise themselves with the law of copyright. Descendants of an individual listed herein may retain copyright in his out-letters even when the item concerned forms part of the recipient's archive and is legally the possession of the present owners of the archive.

LIST OF ECONOMISTS

(Asterisks indicate those for whom a list is not included in this volume.)

A

Anderson, James
Ashley, Sir W. J.
Ashton, T. S.
*Attwood, Matthias
Attwood, Thomas

B

Babbage, Charles
Bagehot, Walter
*Bailey, Samuel
Baring, Alexander,
 Lord Ashburton
Baring, Sir Francis
Barton, John
Bastable, C. F.
Bentham, Jeremy
Bonar, James
Bowley, Sir A. L.
*Bray, Charles
Bray, John Francis
Burke, Edmund
Butt, Isaac

C

Cairnes, J. E.
Cannan, Edwin
*Cantillon, Richard
Chalmers, Thomas
Chapman, Sir S. J.
Clapham, Sir J. H.
Cobbett, William
Cobden, Richard
Collet, Clara
*Craig, John
Cunningham, William

E

Eden, Sir F. M.
Edgeworth, F. Y.
Ellis, William

F

Fawcett, Henry
Ferguson, Adam
*Forster, Nathaniel
Foxwell, H. S.
*Fullarton, John

G

Giffen, Sir Robert
Goschen, George
 Joachim, Lord
 Goschen
Graham, Sir J. R. G.
Gray, Sir Alexander
*Gray, John
Gregory, T. E. G.

H

*Hall, Charles
Hancock, William
 Neilson
Henderson, Sir Hubert
Higgs, Henry
Hirst, F. W.
Hobson, John Atkinson
Hodgskin, Thomas
Horner, Francis
Hume, David
Hume, James Deacon
Hume, Joseph
Huskisson, William
*Hutcheson, Francis

I

Ingram, John Kells

J

*Jacob, William
Jenkin, H. C. Fleeming
Jevons, W. S.
Jones, Richard
Joplin, Thomas

K

Keynes, John Maynard, Lord Keynes
 Keynes, John Neville
 *King, W. T. C.

L

*Lalor, John
 *Lavington, Frederick
 *Law, John
 Leslie, T. E. Cliffe
 Levi, Leone
 *Lloyd, W. F.
 *Longe, F. D.
 *Longfield, Mountifort
 Lowe, Robert, Lord Sherbrooke
 Loyd, S. J., Lord Overstone

M

McCulloch, J. R.
 *Macdonell, Sir John
 MacGregor, D. H.
 Macleod, H. D.
 Maitland, James, Lord Lauderdale
 Mallet, Sir Louis
 Malthus, T. R.
 *Marcet, Jane
 Marshall, Alfred
 Martineau, Harriet
 Merivale, Herman
 Mill, James
 Mill, John Stuart
 Millar, John
 *Munro, J. E. C.

N

Newmarch, William
 Nicholson, J. Shield

O

Owen, Robert

P

Palgrave, Sir R. H. I.
 *Palmer, John Horsley
 Parnell, Henry Brooke, Lord Congleton
 Pennington, James

Pigou, A. C.
 Place, Francis
 Porter, G. R.
 Price, Bonamy
 Price, Richard

R

*Rae, John
 *Read, Samuel
 Ricardo, David
 Robertson, D. H.
 Rogers, J. E. Thorold
 Rose, George

S

Scott, W. R.
 Scrope, G. P.
 Senior, Nassau W.
 *Shaw, W. A.
 Sidgwick, Henry
 Sinclair, Sir John
 Smart, William
 Smith, Adam
 *Spence, William
 Spencer, Herbert
 Spring-Rice, T., Lord Monteagle
 Steuart-Denham, Sir James
 Stewart, Dugald

T

Tawney, R. H.
 Thompson, T. Perronet
 *Thompson, William
 Thompson, C. E. P.,
 Lord Sydenham
 Thornton, Henry
 Tooke, Thomas
 Torrens, Robert
 *Townsend, Joseph
 Toynbee, Arnold

U

Unwin, George

W

Wakefield, Edward

Wakefield, Edward Gibbon

*Wallace, Robert

Webb, S. J.

*West, Sir Edward

Whately, Richard

*Whale, P. B.

*Wheatley, John

Whewell, William

Wicksteed, P. H.

Wilmot-Horton, Sir R. J.

Wilson, James

*Withers, Hartley

Y

Young, Arthur

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

BL	British Library
BLPES.	British Library of Political and Economic Science, Archives Department, London School of Economics
Boase	F. Boase, <i>Modern English Biography</i> , 6 vols. re-issue (London, 1965)
Bodleian	Bodleian Library, Oxford
ODNB	<i>The Oxford Dictionary of National Biography</i> , eds. H. C. G. Matthew and Brian Harrison (Oxford, 2004) online edition
Durham DP	Durham University, Department of Palaeography
ESS	<i>Encyclopaedia of the Social Sciences</i> , ed. Edwin R. A. Seligman and Alvin Johnson, 15 vols. (New York, 1930)
GUAS	Glasgow University Archive Service
GULSC	Glasgow University Library Special Collections
IESS	<i>International Encyclopaedia of the Social Sciences</i> , ed. David L. Sills, 17 vols. (New York, 1968)
KC	King's College Modern Archive Centre, Cambridge
Manchester J RU L	Manchester, John Rylands University Library
NLI	National Library of Ireland
NLS	National Library of Scotland
NLW.	National Library of Wales
NPG	National Portrait Gallery
NRA	National Register of Archives
Palgrave	R. H. I. Palgrave, <i>Dictionary of Political Economy</i> (London, 1894)
New Palgrave	The New Palgrave Dictionary of Economics, 4 volumes, eds John Eatwell, Murry Milgate, and Peter Newman, (London, 1987)
P R O.	Public Record Office (now known as the National Archives)
PRONI.	Public Record Office of Northern Ireland
RDFC	R. D. Freeman Collection
RO	Record Office
SNG	Scottish National Gallery
SNPG	Scottish National Portrait Gallery
UCL	University College London
U L	University Library

DETAILS OF PRIVATE COLLECTIONS CITED IN TEXT BY NRA NUMBER

The NRA Reports on these collections provide further details, especially as to access. They can be consulted at the NRA's Search Room at the National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU. There are also NRA Reports on many of the other collections cited in the text which are held by public institutions.

- 0001** MSS. of the Earl of Buckinghamshire, Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies, County Hall, Aylesbury, Bucks HP20 1UU.
- 0842** Disraeli papers. Bodleian Library, Oxford
- 1019** Ruggles-Brise papers. Application should be made initially to the Essex Record Office.
- 1561** Harrowby papers. Harrowby Manuscripts Trust, Sandon Hall, ST18 OBZ. The NRA Report should be consulted for special conditions.
- 2634** Graham papers. British Library
- 8128** Hickleton papers. Borthwick Institute for Archives, University of York
- 8681** Lowe papers. House of Lords Record Office: Parliamentary Archives
- 9954** Adam papers. Enquiries to National Register of Archives for Scotland.
- 10169** Home MSS. Enquiries to National Register of Archives for Scotland.
- 10172** Hope of Luffness papers. Enquiries to National Register of Archives for Scotland.
- 10410** Spencer papers. Northamptonshire Record Office, Wootton Hall Park, Northampton, NN4 8BQ.
- 10552** Sinclair of Ulbster papers. Enquiries to National Register of Archives for Scotland.
- 10832** Gourock Ropeworks Co. papers. Enquiries to National Register of Archives for Scotland.
- 11184** Lambton papers. The Estate Office, Lambton Park, Chester-le-Street, Co. Durham, DE3 4PQ.
- 11630** Mackenzie papers. Enquiries to National Register of Archives for Scotland.
- 12396** Thorold Rogers papers. Bodleian Library, Oxford University.
- 12609** Crawford papers. Enquiries to National Register of Archives for Scotland.

- 12889** Broadlands papers. Enquiries to National Register of Archives.
- 14863** Papers of the Labour Party. Labour History Archive and Study Centre, 103 Princess Street, Manchester M1 6DD
- 15719** Petworth House Archives. Applications, at least one week in advance, to West Sussex Record Office, County Hall, West Street, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 1RQ
- 16603** Jenkin papers. Churchill College Archives, Cambridge University

DETAILS OF PRIVATE COLLECTIONS CITED IN TEXT BY NUMBER

Attwood papers ¹	Not known at present
Torlesse papers ¹	
Wakefield papers ¹	
Bagehot papers ²	Lord St John-Stevas, House of Lords
Bickerdike papers ³	Not known at present
Clapham papers ⁴	King's College Modern Archive Centre, Cambridge
Saltmarsh papers ⁵	King's College Modern Archive Centre, Cambridge University
Mallet papers ⁶	Balliol College Library, Oxford
Edgeworth papers ⁷	The Librarian, Nuffield College Oxford OX1 1NF
Collet papers ⁸	Modern Record Centre, Warwick University,
Palgrave papers ⁹	Enquiries to the National Archives
William Ritchie's MSS. ¹⁰	Scotsman Publications Ltd, 108 Holyrood Road, Edinburgh (these papers are not currently available)
Macleod papers ¹¹	Not known at present
Congleton papers ¹²	University of Southampton Library
Clark papers ¹³	Photocopies of Colin Clark's papers in the Marshall Library, Cambridge
Baring Bros. Archives ¹⁴	ING Bank (NV) Barings, 60 London Walk, London, EC2M 5TQ
Archives of the Equitable Life Assurance Society ¹⁵	Equitable Life Assurance Society. Warwick Court, Paternoster Square, London, EC4M7DX
Lauderdale MSS. ¹⁶	Thirlestane Castle Lauder, Berwickshire Consult National Register of Archives for Scotland

Archives of John Murray ¹⁷

National Library of Scotland

Kinnordy MSS. ¹⁸

Not known at present

Royal Statistical Society ¹⁹

It is necessary to apply in advance by letter to the Secretary for permission to use the Library.