

Please note, this guide has not been updated since it was published. We therefore recommend that you also check the Archives catalogue (<http://archives.collections.ed.ac.uk>) and Print catalogue (<http://discovered.ed.ac.uk>) in addition to using this guide.

Rare books, manuscripts and archives are held at the Centre for Research Collections within the Main Library, University of Edinburgh.

Please see our webpages for more information:  
[www.ed.ac.uk/is/crc](http://www.ed.ac.uk/is/crc)

### South Asia Library Group Directory of South Asian Library Resources

<b>NAME OF LIBRARY</b>	Edinburgh University Library	
<b>ADDRESS</b>	George Square, Edinburgh EH8 9LJ, Scotland	
<b>FAX</b>	0131 650 3380	
<b>TELEX</b>	-	
<b>LIBRARIAN/DIRECTOR</b>	Ian R M Mowat, MA BPhil FLA FRSE	
<b>SPECIALIST LIBRARIAN</b>	Margaret Dowling, BA ALA	
<b>CONTACT E-MAIL ADDRESS</b>	<a href="mailto:Library@ed.ac.uk">Library@ed.ac.uk</a>	
<b>WWW ADDRESS</b>	<a href="http://www.lib.ed.ac.uk">www.lib.ed.ac.uk</a>	
<b>HOURS OF OPENING</b>	Term: Mon – Thurs	0900-2200
	Fri & Sat	0900-1700
	Sun	1200-1700
	(Delayed opening on Wednesdays in November and February)	
	Vac: Mon – Fri	0900-1700
	Wed (Main Library only excl. Christmas Vacation)	0900-2100
	Sat & Sun	Closed
	(Closed normally from c.23 December to c.3 January, and Edinburgh Spring and Autumn Holiday Mondays – see Web site for details)	

#### **ADMISSION** (for details, see the Library Web site)

External users are asked to complete a registration form at the Service Desk of any of the main sections of the Library. Applications are normally processed there and then by the member of Library staff in charge, so that fees (if applicable – see the Web site) are paid at once, external user's Library cards completed, and users begin using the Library immediately. If you have any queries, you may telephone or write to the Section of the Library (see the Web site) which you are most likely to wish to use, or write to the Reader Services Librarian. If you wish to use material in the Library's Special Collections of rare books and manuscripts, it is helpful - and will save time in the long run - if you make the necessary arrangements in advance with the Special Collections Librarian and his staff in the Main Library (0131-650 8379).

Undergraduates from other universities and colleges are not normally admitted during term time except on production of a letter of introduction from their own university or college library indicating a special need to use the Library at that time.

<b>CATALOGUES</b>	Author/title	Yes
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Subject	Yes (post 1985)
Card	Yes (older, on some sites)
Computerised	Yes (partial retro-converted)
Other	Guardbook 1580-1984

**Published**

*Catalogue of the printed books in the Library of the University of Edinburgh*, 3 vols (Edinburgh, 1918-23)

*Guardbook catalogue 1580-1984* [microfiche] (Edinburgh, 1986)

*Index to [post-mediaeval] manuscripts*, 2 vols + First [and only] supplement (Boston, 1964-81) (accessible online via the Library Web site as SCIMMS)

Catherine R. Borland *A descriptive catalogue of the of the Western mediaeval manuscripts in Edinburgh University Library* (Edinburgh, 1916)

Mohammed Ashraful Hukk, Hermann Ethé and Edward Robertson *A descriptive catalogue of the Arabic and Persian manuscripts in Edinburgh University Library* (Hertford, 1925)

**FACILITIES**

Lending to	(a) persons	Yes, on payment of a fee
	(b) Ill through BLLD	Yes
Open Access		Yes; most modern collections

**Accessions included in**

Union lists of serials (eg Shaw & Quraishi)	Not in Shaw & Quraishi. In BUCOP, ELF, SALSER,
Others	COPAC; Wainwright & Matthews & Supplement by J D Pearson

**Photographic services**

Microfilm	Yes
Electrostatic	Yes
Others	Black and white prints, original or from microfilm
Self-service copying	Yes for most modern materials

**Microforms**

Readers provided	Yes
Reader/printers provided	No

**South Asian material**

**General statement of purpose:**

EUL was founded in 1580. It now comprises 25 libraries serving nine Faculties, and totals 3 million printed volumes and pamphlets, MSS and archives, microforms, maps, theses, audio-visual and electronic materials. It receives 9,500 serials in hard copy and provides access under licence to over 500 more titles online.

From its early years its collections included accounts of foreign travel, including maps and atlases, to all parts of the world. Its interest in South Asian material began during the C17, increased during the C18 and C19, and has been enhanced by the donation and bequest of a number of private collections (listed below).

Most of the Library's post-1920 collections on South Asia are listed in the online catalogue. They are acquired to support the research and teaching in all faculties, and especially in economics, education, history, language and literature (including Sanskrit), law and constitutional history, natural resources and veterinary medicine, politics, comparative religion, sociology, on South Asia as focused in the University's Centre for South Asian Studies. Materials on Christian missions and the Christian church in South Asia are held in the Centre for the Study of Christianity in the Non-Western World.

No of volumes: 5000+ items Very large

**Material about South Asia (estimated)**

Books	5001+
Periodicals	5001+
Newspapers	0-500
Government publications	501-2000
Maps	501-2000

**Material from/about India**

Books	5001+
Periodicals	5001+
Newspapers	0-500
Government publications	501-2000
Maps	501-2000

**Material from/about Pakistan**

Books	2001-500
Periodicals	0-500
Newspapers	0-500
Government publications	501-2000
Maps	501-2000

**Material from/about Bangladesh**

Books	501-2000
Periodicals	0-500
Newspapers	0-500
Government publications	0-500
Maps	0-500

**Material from/about Sri Lanka**

Books	501-2000
Periodicals	0-500
Newspapers	0-500
Government publications	501-2000
Maps	0-500

**Material from/about Nepal/Bhutan/Ladakh**

Books	5001+
Periodicals	5001+
Newspapers	0-500
Government publications	501-2000
Maps	501-2000

**Material from/about Tibet**

Books	501-2000
Periodicals	0-500
Newspapers	0-500
Government publications	0-500
Maps	0-500

**Language collections**

Sanskrit	501-2000 items
Prakrit	501-2000 items
Hindi	501-2000 items

**Collections of special interest****Arthur Berriedale Keith Collection**

The library of Arthur Berriedale Keith (1879-1944), Professor of Sanskrit and Comparative Philology in the University of Edinburgh University 1914-1944, was given by his sister to the Library on his death. It consists of c.1,600 books and well over 1,500 pamphlets, mainly on Indian literature, history and politics, and the constitutional history of the British Empire. All material appears in the Library's pre-1985 guardbook catalogue. There is also a shelf-list in the Department of Special Collections.

**Hugh F.C. Cleghorn Bequest**

In 1895 about 300 items on forestry, land use and botany, in particular relating to India, were presented from the library of Dr Hugh F.C. Cleghorn of Stravithie (1820-1895). The collection consists of largely C19 publications, many of them printed in India on local presses. All items are catalogued in the Library's pre-1985 guardbook catalogue. Shelf-lists of the collection (Att. 64-67; Xf.1-2) show its extent.

**Dugald Stewart Collection**

The combined libraries of Colonel Matthew Stewart, his father, Dugald Stewart (1753-1828), Professor of Moral Philosophy at Edinburgh 1785-1810, and of his grandfather, Matthew Stewart (1717-1785) Professor of Mathematics at Edinburgh 1747-1775, gifted by the United Service Club in London to Edinburgh University Library in 1910. Some further books from the Stewart library have been acquired since then from other sources.

A general collection of circa 4,000 volumes covering many topics but particularly strong in political economy, moral philosophy and mathematics, it includes significant numbers of pamphlets on the East India Company and other works on oriental subjects. A short description of the collection is given in an article

by K.C. Crawford in *The Bibliothek*, 10 (1980), 31-34. All the books appear in the Library's pre-1985 guardbook catalogue, and a small proportion have recently been recatalogued on the on-line catalogue. A shelf list and author catalogue are available in the Special Collections Department.

### **Robert Bertram Serjeant and William Montgomery Watt Collections**

The recently-donated personal libraries of Robert Bertram Serjeant (1915-1993), Professor of Arabic and Director of Middle East Centre at the University of Cambridge, and of William Montgomery Watt (1909- ) Professor (Emeritus) of Arabic and Islamic Studies at the University of Edinburgh, focus on the Islamic and Arabic worlds, but include a few works of relevance to South Asian Studies.

### **BBC Press Cuttings Collection**

This collection, formerly the BBC's Central Press Cuttings Collection, was one of several maintained by the Corporation for the use of programme staff chiefly in news and current affairs. It was transferred to Leicester University Library in the early 1980s and, for reasons of lack of storage space there, came to Edinburgh University Library in 1985. It comprises about 10 million mounted cuttings, from British national and provincial newspapers, contained in c.1,300 boxes. There are four sequences: countries, subjects, people and places, but owing to the slightly idiosyncratic and sometimes hurried filing - it was a working resource - cross checking is advisable. The files cover the period c.1945-1975.

A succinct description is given in a leaflet compiled by Leicester University Library when the collection was in that library and copies of it are available. There is also a typed index to two of the categories, countries and subjects, kept in the Special Collections Department. The People files include many notable figures, and some, especially politicians such as Sirimavo Bandaranaike, Mahatma and Indira Gandhi, Mohammed Ali Jinnah, Lord and Lady Mountbatten, and Pandit Nehru have one or more boxes of cuttings to themselves.

### **Historical collections of printed books**

The Library's general historical collections of some 500,000 printed books and pamphlets, mostly acquired on or near publication from 1600 to 1920, include more books and serials on and from South Asia than can readily be identified. These books are shelved in historic fixed location sequences, and have no subject catalogue. Only those titles which have been retrospectively added to the on-line catalogue begin to reveal the extent and depth of the South Asian collections. Strengths include accounts of travel and exploration, diaries of residence in South Asia, accounts of the Mysore Wars, the Indian Mutiny, and other military episodes of the British Raj in the Indian sub-continent; C19 and early C20 survey gazetteers of the Indian provinces and catalogues of Indian archives and museum collections; C18 and C19 serials of Asiatic societies; extensive part-sets of selected C19 and C20 Indian university calendars and academic journals, especially in the sciences; and the literature, history and natural history of South Asia.

### **Manuscript collections**

The Library's collections of over 650 items is notable for two Arabic MSS written in Persia in the early 14th century and both illuminated with miniatures extremely important in the relationship western and eastern schools of art. They are the World History of the Mongol vizier Rashid al-Din, and the Chronology of Al-Biruni. Most

of these collections are in Arabic or Persian, and were collected in India and gifted or bequeathed to the Library by collectors including David and James Anderson (fl. 1770-1810), colleagues and friends of Warren Hastings; John Baillie of Leys (1772-1833), Professor of Arabic at Fort William College, Calcutta; Robert B M Binning (1814-1891), administrator in the Madras civil service, linguist and traveller (some of Binning's MSS were originally gifted to New College, Edinburgh and have been transferred to the Main Library Special Collections). Others were bequeathed to the Library in 1878 by the Scottish antiquary and book-collector David Laing. They are listed in the *Descriptive catalogue* by Hukk, Ethe and Robertson (see above).

South Asian religious texts are also represented by a collection of 120 MSS on palm leaves - Sanskrit, Tamil and Tibetan. There are also Sanskrit charters on copper plates, and an illuminated Sanskrit MS of the Mahabharata on a roll of silk, 230 feet long.

A dozen miscellaneous volumes from Carberry Tower, five miles east of Edinburgh, were presented in 1961, when the house was given to the Church of Scotland as a conference centre. Most notable is Or MS 471, The memoirs of Shah Shujah al-Mulk, after his exile from Kabul, presented by the author to the Hon. Mountstuart Elphinstone of Afghanistan, who was one of several Elphinstones connected with Carberry Tower.

### Archival and record collections

#### *Specific collections:*

A recent addition is a collection of about 300 letters (1776-1796) which are the correspondence of **Kenneth Murchison**, a Scots surgeon with the East India Company in Calcutta. The Library acquired these as part of a collection related to his son Sir Roderick Impey Murchison, the geographer and geologist after whom the Chair of Geology chair in the University of Edinburgh is named. These letters have not yet been catalogued.

The botanical notes and papers of **Francis Buchanan (later Hamilton) (1762-1829)**, naval surgeon and natural philosopher, include a number of notebooks and correspondence on the botany and zoology of India and Burma. Some of his correspondence was with Robert Jameson (1774-1854), Professor of Natural History at the University of Edinburgh.

The papers of **Arthur Berriedale Keith (1879-1944)** Regius Professor of Sanskrit and Lecturer in Constitutional History in the University of Edinburgh, include his personal files (Gen. 146) on the Government of Asia Bill, 1931-1935 (he was counsel to the European Delegates to the Indian Round Table Conference, and his Oriental papers and correspondence, including his Sanskrit notebooks (Gen. 152-153).

The papers of **Sir William Muir (1819-1905)** Indian administrator, Principal of the University of Edinburgh (and brother of John Muir (1810-1882) professor of Sanskrit and Comparative Philology in the University of Edinburgh) include his Agra correspondence 1857 (original correspondence and typed transcripts) which were published as *Records of the Intelligence Department of the N. W. Provinces of India during the mutiny of 1857*; edited by W. Coldstream (2 vols, 1902) [Gen. 182-185]

### ***General collections***

The Library's historical collections of post-mediaeval manuscripts and personal papers include a significant number of notebooks, letters, and other documents mostly written by British people in India. Among the larger collections are:

#### **Assam**

- Assam statistical report for 1835 addressed to W H Macnaghten, Secretary to the Government of India Revenue Department, Fort William by F Jenkins, Commissioner of Revenue & Circuit, Assam. [Gen. 2120]

#### **Burma**

- Journal of a residence in the Burman Empire 1795, by Francis Buchanan, afterwards Hamilton. 2 vols [Dc.1.73-74]

#### **Ceylon**

- Transcripts of reports on cholera in Ceylon transmitted to the Deputy Inspector of Hospitals, Colombo, 1819 [Dc.4.78]
- Singhalese practice of medicine and Materia Medica, by J. Hoatson, 1822 [Dc.4.90f.1]
- Translation of the first book of Daniel into Singhalese, by Philip Anstruther. Printed title-page. 1824 [La.III.596]
- Letters (3) about a coffee plantation in Ceylon, from E Rawdon Power to D Laing, 9, 20 July 1847 [La.IV.17]

#### **India**

- Accounts in Hindi. [La.III.597-598]
- Letters of Neil Campbell and Patrick Campbell mentioning the appointment of General Archibald Campbell as Governor of Madras and possibilities of patronage. 1785. [Dk.7.53/37-41]
- Letterbooks (16) of General T Goddard, 1778-1782, and 1 notebook containing minutes of Goddard's statements in Council at Bombay, 26 July 1781-1787, Oct 1782. [La.II.624]
- Letterbook of George Kilpatrick, surgeon, kept on a voyage to Bombay, 1781-1782. [Gen. 1956]
- Correspondence relating to Robert Haldane's attempt to organise a missionary settlement in India, 1796-1797. [*In* La.II.500]
- Letters (6) from the Rev D Hill in India and Ceylon to G and W Nicoll, booksellers in London. 1799-1800. [La.II.423/142-7]
- The practice of medicine among the natives of India, by William Geddes. 19<sup>th</sup> cent. 495pp. [Dc.4.73]
- Illustrations of litters and howdahs used at Cawnpore by Gen [Sir John] Grey's force. 19<sup>th</sup> cent. Lith., hand coloured. 6f. [Phot. III. 14]
- Minutes and reports by Lt Col J Brunton, Military Auditor General in Madras, 1801-1806. [Dk.6.11-12]
- Log-book of H C ship *Streatham* on a voyage to India. 1811-1812. [Dk.6.10]
- Copy of Mountstuart Elphinstone's printed *Report on the territories conquered from the Paishwa*, Calcutta, 1821 with extensive MS additions and alterations, mainly in the hand of a secretary but some probably autograph. [Dh.7.46]



- Lectures on the East, by James S Buckingham. Including, Egypt, Persia, India, Chin. Watermark 1827. 102pp [Dc.8.30]
- Letters (4) to James Farish, warehouse keeper, about sales of opium. Bombay, 1829 [Gen. 715/9]
- Lists of specimens from Madras for Natural History Museum, Edinburgh University. 1832 [Gen. 129/114-115]
- Details of passage to, travels in N W Provinces, big game hunting, etc. described in letters of William Jameson. 1838-1848 [Gen. 1996/5/40-44]
- Letters (4) about the geology of India, from J McClelland to Sir C Lyall. 10 Feb 1841, 17 Oct 1843, 12 May and 11 Nov 1844. [Gen. 1429/6 nos 4-6, 9]
- Letters (4) about the climate and geology of India, from N Wallich to Sir C Lyall. 22 Nov, 21 Dec 1844, 11 Jan 16 Feb 1845. [Gen. 1429/6 nos 12-14, 16]
- Letters (38) of William Jameson about tea plantations, the Sikh War, travels in N W Provinces, etc. 1845-1861. [Gen. 1996/5/1-38]
- Letters about life in India from Mrs Emily Jameson, 1849-1854 & undated. [Gen. 1996/5/48-91]
- Rudyard Kipling, holograph of *A Diversity of Creatures* (1917) and *The Eyes of Asia* (1916) – not to be used for collation, at the author's request. [Dk.2.8]

### **East India Company**

- 'A prospect for a navigation and Writing School by the East India Company of Scotland', by David Grgory. Oxon, 10 April 1696. [Dc.1.61 pp. 751-754]
- Letters and papers illustrating relations between the East India Company and the native State of Bengal. Campbell Papers. 1750-1760. [Dc.1.67, pp. 301 ff]
- Account of the East India Company's affairs in Bengal and the Coromandel Coast, 1765-1770. Written by an officer of the Company (?) after his return to Britain in 1770. 58pp. [La.II.77]
- Letters concerning the East India Company. 1775-1784 & undated. [La.II.73/112, 124-5, 156-8, 165]
- Receipts for stock bought by Professor J Black. 1780-1793. Gen. 874/VII/2, 6, 10]

### **Descriptive references**

#### ***Specific***

*Sources of information in the Main Library for senior honours geography students of Asia: an introductory guide.* Revised ed. (Library guide 14). Edinburgh: 1979.

*Statistical sources for the study of the geography of monsoon Asia: a selected list.* (Library Guide 15) [Edinburgh: 1978]

*A checklist of maps and atlases of Asia, published since 1950, held in the Main Library, and in the Department of Geography, supplemented by a selection of those in the National Library of Scotland, for senior Honours geography studies.* (Library Guide 16) Edinburgh: 1979.

Peter B Freshwater, Resources for South Asian studies in Scottish libraries. *SALG newsletter*, no. 35, January 1990, 1-5.

J V Howard, South Asian Manuscripts in Edinburgh University Library, June 1994  
(<http://www.ed.ac.uk/sociol/sas/#manuscripts>)

Peter B Freshwater, Historic collections of printed books on South Asia in Edinburgh University Library. *Centre for South Asian Studies at the University of Edinburgh newsletter*, no. 2, Autumn 1994, 1-5 [plus an illustration on page 7].

*Warren Hastings and British India: an exhibition of books and manuscripts in Edinburgh University Library, February - April 1988; in association with the Warren Hastings Impeachment Bicentenary Commemoration*; [catalogue by Peter Freshwater]. Edinburgh, 1988.

*A miscellany of Asiatica: Scottish and South Asian connections from books and manuscripts in Edinburgh University Library; an exhibition on the occasion of the 16th European Conference on Modern South Asian Studies, Edinburgh, September 2000*; [catalogue by Peter Freshwater]. Edinburgh, 2000.

### **General**

*Edinburgh University Library 1580-1980: a collection of historical essays*; edited by Jean R. Guild and Alexander Law. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Library, 1982.

*Special Collections of printed books in Edinburgh University Library: a user's guide*. 2nd edition. (Library Guide 17). Edinburgh: 1998

*Manuscript collections in the Main Library: a user's guide*. (Library Guide 51). Edinburgh: 1995.