

## FALKIRK ARCHIVES

### **Russel & Aitken Papers finding aid (26) Papers of the Adam Smith, 1656-1889**

The finding aid for the Russel & Aitken Papers has been divided into 59 parts. This part contains a list of records relating to Adam Smith and his Executry Trust.

#### Family history

Adam Smith was born in about 1815 and brought up in Falkirk. He had two sisters, Catherine and Margaret. His father, Robert Smith was a Brewer / Publican in Baxter's Wynd. The family appears to have had a long connection with Falkirk. He started his career with Russel & Aitken and, with a reference from them, went as a clerk/apprentice to James Bain, Writer in Dunblane. He married Bain's daughter, Isabella and they had a son and three daughters. He established a legal practice in the High Street of Falkirk. Initially he and his family lived in rented accommodation including Carronvale House and Dorrator House. He built or extended a house named Duncarron at Boghead, Denny. He purchased the farms of Wester Seamores, Dumbreck and Drumshanty (in East Dumbartonshire) and Canglour (near Plean), which was part of the estate inherited by Thomas Stuart Smith of Glassingall, who founded the Smith Art Gallery and Museum in Stirling. His aim was to benefit from the proceeds of mineral extraction. He also had other properties in Falkirk, Bo'ness, Grangemouth and Edinburgh. Duncarron was built on the lands of Boghead. For most of his life he was at odds with his close family mostly for financial reasons. He ignored the terms of the Ante-Nuptial Contract keeping his wife short of money. His explanation was that he was building up capital in heritable properties which would benefit his family in the long run. He was pressed in this matter by his wife's solicitors and her brother. He had a long term dispute with his son, John George Cayley Smith who was a London barrister and who raised Court of Session proceedings against him unsuccessfully. The son took the part of his mother and sisters. Adam Smith's two sisters supported him with loans. One of them expressed her "disappointment" after he died.

He was usually at odds with his tenants and there is not much evidence of success with mineral extraction. He was also at odds with the Burgh of Denny against whom he raised Court of Session proceedings about the Burgh's claim for access to a well. There is no evidence of Adam Smith's professional activities other than a comment following his death in 1886 that his business books showed he had not made a profit for the 18 years preceding his death. A petition for his sequestration was raised just before his death. Russel & Aitken acted for him in his final days and in his sequestration and in his executry. His estate was not bankrupt and there was a small residue to divide among his beneficiaries.

#### Scope & Contents Note

Miscellaneous papers from early in Adam Smith's life including Westquarter Cess Roll (1813-1824), letters from his father. Lease of Carronvale House and 1821 Schedule of Division of the seats in Denny Kirk. Titles, correspondence and other papers relating to the farm of Wester Seamores. Titles of subjects in Bo'ness, Grangemouth and High Street, Falkirk. Papers and titles relating to Dumbreck, Drumshanty and Canglour. Titles and papers relating to the purchase of Boghead. Details of coal workings there. Building/extension of Duncarron. Correspondence with his wife's solicitors as to his failure to provide for his wife and children. Papers relating to arbitration between Adam Smith and Kilsyth & Bonnybridge Railway Co. Bound Pleadings in Court of Session case raised by Adam Smith against Burgh of Denny as to the right of the public to access a well at Boghead. Papers relating to Adam Smith's sequestration. Correspondence with tenant of Meikle Canglour. Papers relating to the sales of Duncarron and its contents, Wester Seamores, Canglour, Dumbreck and Drumshanty. Correspondence with Mrs Smith's

solicitors. Executry papers. Business Accounts with Russel & Aitken and passbooks 1858-1889.

Date range: 1656-1886

Reference Code: A1826

Item list

<i>Reference No</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>
A1826.001	1734-1877	Collection of papers relating to Adam Smith. Includes: Title to family burying ground, in Kirk Wynd, Falkirk, 1734, in name of "one of our family ancestors" with note, 1847, by Adam Smith "for the priviledge granted to him of marking his burial place with a lying through stone." (The ancestor's name was Leishman); Cess Roll of Westquarter income to feuars including Peter Bell, Tea Dealer for his land and meadow in Randygate and 37 other Falkirk properties, 1834; Character reference for Adam Smith by the Rev Henry Belfrage, 1833; Letters from Robert Smith, brewer, Falkirk, to Adam Smith, clerk to James Bain, writer, Dunblane, 1833 Reference from James Bain, Writer, Dunblane for Adam Smith following his time as a clerk in his office "on the recommendation of Russel & Aitken, 1834; Minute of Agreement, 1838, between Adam Smith and Henry Belfrage Munro, son of Alexander Munro, Falkirk, for a three year apprenticeship. witnesses, Alexander Smith and John Cowie, apprentices to Adam Smith; Copy letter to Stirling Observer sent anonymously by Adam Smith complaining about the appearance at the Sheriff Court of a "self- licensed" Procurator without any qualification, 1842; Death Certificate by Dr. James Tennent for Robert Smith, Brewer and innkeeper, Falkirk, 1846; born 1788 Lease of Carronvale House by Robert Haldane to Adam Smith for three years, 1852; Copy correspondence between Adam Smith and Alexander McFarlane, Bank of Scotland agent, of Kersehill House as to interest on bills due to Adam Smith by McFarlane, 1862; Fire Policies covering Adam Smith's properties in High St, Falkirk including his office, Wester Seamores, Longcroft House, Drumshanty and Dumbreck, (Dumbartonshire) and Meikle Canglour, 1882 & 1884; Also includes Analysis by William Arnot, Analytical Chemist, of decoction of tea received from George Ramsay of Falkirk, 1877.
A1826.002	1821	Plan of the Judicial Division of the area of Denny Kirk and Schedule of Division of the seats in the Parish Church with details of heritors and sittings referred to in the Decree of Division by the Sheriff Substitute of Stirlingshire on 5th October 1821
A1826.003	1741-1854	Papers relating to subjects in Wester Seamores. Includes Disposition by Archibald Dobbie in favour of Adam Smith, 1854; Instrument of Sasine in favour of Thomas Russell and Allison Leishman, his spouse ( with a note by Adam Smith, that Allison Leishman was "ancestrally related to the Smith

- family"), 1741; and Search for Incumbrances over Boghead, Denny and Drumshanty (Dumbartonshire).
- A1826.004 1722-1786 Papers relating to subjects in Wester Seamores with note by Adam Smith "Antiquated and useless writs of heritable debt over Wester Seamores long since extinguished". Includes Instruments of Sasine in favour of William Henderson, of John Henderson, of James Patrick, of James Paterson and of John Short
- A1826.005 1709-1885 Papers relating to Wester Seamores. Includes inventories of titles; Agreement with William Wilson, Banknock for use of road over Wester Seamores; Linen plan by A Black, 1854, of proposed feu at Wester Seamores, not proceeded with; Pencil sketch of proposed house for tenant at Wester Seamores; Memorandum by Adam Smith as proprietor of Wester Seamores and part of Boghead in the Locality of Denny 1867; Rectified Locality of the Stipend of the Parish of Denny showing all heritors, 1877.
- A1826.006 1786-1888 Papers relating to subjects in Wester Seamores previously owned by members of the Dobbie family. Includes Tacks by Adam Smith to Findlay family 1855-1873; Inventory of titles of Seamores (1678-1782) and of Wester Seamores (1725-1785); various discharged security writs; Trust Dispositions by William Dobbie (reg.1856) and Archibald Dobbie (reg.1837); Ranking of creditors of William Dobbie including Adam Smith, 1855; letter, Adam Smith to Mr Hopkins, tenant of Wester Seamores; and Table of contents of Wester Seamores farmhouse, 1887; and tack and copy Partial Discharge and Deed of Restriction by the Factor and Attorney of Alexander Bell of a Bond and Disposition in Security.
- A1826.007 1721-1882 Papers relating to the farm and lands of Wester Seamores (owned by Adam Smith). Includes Charter of Confirmation (1771) by Sir Lawrence Dundas in favour of James Russell of the 20/- land of Wester Seamores called Longcroft; Inventory of writs and papers belonging to the Trust estate of James Russell of Longcroft (1678-1852), Inventory of the titles of Broomridge including subjects in Easter Seamores (1678-1852; Excerpts from Feu Contracts between the Earl and Countess of Wigtown and James Brown and spouse 1678 (Wester Seamores) and the Earl and Countess of Wigtown and James Johnston and copies of these Feu Contracts; extract Decree Arbitral in court of session case over coal workings and correspondence between Adam Smith and James Aitken of Darroch; and Copy Claim by Adam Smith and others in submission between them and the Honourable Cornwallis Fleming and William Wilson and Extract Decree Arbitral in the Arbitration as to damages caused by mine workings by Fleming's tenant, William Wilson, Banknock.
- A1826.008 1849-1886 Papers relating to Adam Smith's property in Boghead and Wester Seamores. Includes Sale Bill for piece of Wester Seamores, 1851 (1 rood 23 poles 2 yds bounded on the east by the public road from the Queen's Highway to Underwood); Search over Boghead and Drumshanty; and Report on proposal by Messrs. Robert Addie & Sons to work coal under the lands of Boghead (1886) with plan of Herbertshire Coal

		workings showing Adam Smith's property, to be worked from Pit 3, Herbertshire.
A1826.009	1656-1698	Titles for subjects in Bo'ness and Grangepans.
A1826.010	1838-1849	Title Deeds and securities for subjects in Grangemouth on the south side of the Canal and in the north division of Calton in Edinburgh called the 'Sclate land' which became Adam Smith's property in 1848. Includes contract of marriage between Alexander Lyle, flesher and cattle dealer, Grangemouth, and Henrietta Warwick, 1838; and disposition and assignation by Henrietta Warwick to Adam Smith, 1848
A1826.011	1837-1879	Papers relating to the following subjects: parts of the lands of Boghead and Bog and Meadow in the parish of Denny, shop or ground flat in tenement on the north side of High Street Falkirk let to P & J Gentleman, Drapers, Falkirk by Adam Smith, Dorrator House and to the Villa of Duncarron near Denny. Includes, tacks, missives of leases and Inventory of effects in shop belonging to Adam Smith.
A1826.012	1757-1883	Papers relating to subjects on north of High St, Falkirk which was conveyed in a Disposition and Settlement by James Russell (Wright, Dennyloanhead) to his sons Robert and William Russell and which became the property of Adam Smith (Writer, Falkirk). Includes copy Extract decree if Disjunction of John Knox's few, 1840; copy Extract Remit on Petition for disjunction of valuation for James Duncanson, Mathew Middlehurst Robert Muirhead, James Russell, Mrs Jane Douglas or Scott and others.
A1826.013	1856-1889	Papers regarding land in Wester Seamores, Duncarron and Meikle-Canglour (St. Ninian's, Stirling). Tack between Adam Smith and John Finlay senior and John Finlay junior for Wester Seamores, 1856; Advertising Poster for let of Meikle Canglour, 1874; Fire Policy(copy) for Dumbreck, Canglour and Wester Seamores; Notes on Searches of properties belonging to Adam Smith (Meikle Canglour, Wester Seamores, Drumshanty and Drumbreck) 1882; Notice re intended application to be made to Parliament to provide new and original water supply for the Burgh of Falkirk, 1886; and miscellaneous searches relating to the sale of Wester Seamores, 1888-89.
A1826.014	1857	Decreet of sale of Slamannan Superiorities and Feuduties in favour of John Dundas and James Gray.
A1826.015	1847-1849	Executry papers of Archibald Cuthill who sold Boghead, (later known as Duncarron) to Adam Smith. Includes list of debts and liabilities of Archibald Cuthill, accounts with Doctor, Baker, Grocer and others and measurement of ground at Denny belonging to Adam Smith.
A1826.016	1799-1881	Papers relating to Duncarron and Boghead. Includes papers relating to various leases at Boghead; papers relating to the purchase of Boghead/Duncarron, 1849, including extract decree in Oswald v Cuthill (1799) regarding payment for ditches between their properties; two posters regarding let of coalfield at Boghead, 1856;. arbitration papers between Adam Smith and The Scottish Central Railway Co about effect of erection of railway on Duncarron (1856/57); list of articles of a tenant of the Red Lion Inn, Falkirk ; particulars as to

- Duncarron Cottage; and Articles of Roup of Duncarron and Boghead, with measurement of ground showing separation of villa and garden ground, 1881.
- A1826.017 1773-1869 Papers relating to Boghead, Denny. Includes bore journals and analysis of coal, sketch of Boghead and adjoining houses and park of Denny, Inventory of writs and Title Deeds of subjects in Main St of Denny, copy correspondence between Adam Smith and the Scottish Central and Caledonian Railway officials about defective culverts at Boghead, sketch for a garden and shrubbery at Boghead (scale 3 inches to 100 feet), Disposition of Westhaugh, Seven Butts, Hardland, Spotmeadow and Drummie.
- A1826.018 1862 Plans and specifications for addition of new kitchen and new stable & byre at Duncarron, Denny.
- A1826.019 1878-1879 Court of session papers relating to the House of Lords appeal by Adam Smith against the Commissioners of Police and Local Authority of the Burgh of Denny and Dunipace about Adam Smith's claim that he is proprietor of certain wells in Denny and that the Commissioners of Police and Local Authority have no right to conduct operations to enable them to be used by members of the public. Includes Petition and Appeal, Appellant's case, Respondent's case, appendix and plan showing wells in question and surrounding areas in Denny (scale 1 inch to 200 feet) and witness evidence.
- A1826.020 1857-1858 Correspondence between Adam Smith and Adam Paterson, WS, Edinburgh, David Bain (his brother in law) and William Pollock (a friend) as to the suggested failure of Adam Smith to provide for his wife and children in terms of the Pre – Nuptial Marriage Contract.
- A1826.021 1887-1888 Papers relating to arbitration between Adam Smith and the Kilsyth and Bonnybridge Railway. Co with plan of ground actually taken (at Longcroft, Wester Seamores ).
- A1826.022 1887-1888 Business accounts of Adam Smith with Russel & Aitken relating to arbitration between Adam Smith and the Kilsyth and Bonnybridge Railway.
- A1826.023 1886 Business account of representatives of the late Adam Smith with Russel & Aitken.
- A1826.024 1887-1889 Papers regarding Adam Smith's sequestration. Includes Report on an examination of the cash books etc of the late Adam Smith for 18 years prior to his death; inventory of books and papers at Duncarron and list of business books sent to Romanes & Simson
- A1826.025 1847-1889 Papers regarding Adam Smith's Sequestration. Includes estimate of Adam Smith's estate, 1886; Copy Ante-Nuptial Marriage Contract, 1847; Valuations of Meikle Canglour, Wester Seamores, Dumbreck and Drumshanty; Reports by Adam Smith's Trustees to meeting of creditors and beneficiaries, 1887 and 1889; and Memorandum and suggestions for management & administration of Trust Estate of Adam Smith, 1880
- A1826.026 1855-1887 Papers regarding Adam Smith's sequestration. Includes Tack of 1855 between Adam Smith and John Alexander and Alexander Ure of Drumbreck and Drumshanty; Correspondence with Mrs Alison Smith or Walker (relation?)

- tenant of Meikle Canglour re action for unpaid shootings with court Productions in this action (Munro v Gordon) 1887; Papers re action by George John Cayley Smith, Barrister-at-Law, London against his father, Adam Smith, asking for alimant with discharged Inhibition; Minute of Meeting of Creditors 25 Oct 1886; Minute of opening of repositories of Adam Smith 2 Aug 1886; State of claims against Adam Smith's Trustees; Letter about costs of mournings for Mrs Smith, son and two daughters; and Agreements with staff at Canglour.
- A1826.027 1875-1889 Papers regarding Adam Smith's Sequestration. Includes estimate of liabilities and assets, 1886; Petition George Rankine for sequestration of estate of deceased Adam Smith, 1889; bond of annuity by Adam Smith to Catherine and Margaret Smith, 1875; bond of annuity by Catherine Smith and Adam Smith to Alison Smith or Walker, 1876; closed record in appeal, Alison Smith or Walker against Trustee in Adam Smith's sequestration, 1889; correspondence; list of claims not admitted and death certificate of Adam Smith
- A1826.028 1873-1889 Papers regarding Adam Smith's Sequestration. Includes discharges and related correspondence; correspondence between Russel & Aitken and John Romanes SSC and Romanes & Simson, (sic) WS; correspondence re Russel & Aitken's account; and correspondence with tenant farmers.
- A1826.029 1887-1889 Business accounts of the Trustees of Adam Smith to Russel & Aitken. Also includes List of vouchers sent to Romanes & Munro, CA, Edinburgh.
- A1826.030 1847-1887 Adam Smith's Executry papers. Includes Testament Testamentar; copy Ante-nuptial contract; estimate of Adam Smith's estate; Inventory and Valuation of effects of late Adam Smith by Thomas Binnie; copy Roup Roll for sale of Household furniture at Duncarron; abstract State of Sale; Lair certificate-Falkirk Cemetery; List of vouchers for Romanes & Munro, Edinburgh; vouchers; residuary account; bond of assignation in security by Isabella Bain or Smith and daughters to John Romanes, SSC; and Memorial for Adam Smith's Trustees for opinion of Counsel.
- A1826.031 1882-1887 Adam Smith's Trust Disposition and Settlement and Codicils, and List of debts due to the deceased Adam Smith.
- A1826.032 1858-1887 Adam Smith's Bank of Scotland pass books, 1858-1865, 1869-1873, 1874—1878 and 1880-1887
- A1826.033 1886-1889 Claims against Executry of Adam Smith. Includes claims by Bank of Scotland; W Blackwood, legal books and supplies; John Steven, Founder, Denny.; Crown Hotel; Joseph Gartshore, Seedsman Comely Park; George Rankine; George Ramsay; Romanes & Simpson, Edinburgh, John Findlay, Longcroft; Thomas Paterson, boot and shoemaker, Denny; Archibald Ure, publican; and Catherine Smith
- A1826.034 1886-1889 Advertisements of Smith property. Also includes note dated March 1875 in Adam Smith's handwriting "Sundry advertisements worth reading by my successors as very suggestive"
- A1826.035 1854-1889 Papers relating to Drumbreck and Drumshanty. Memorandum as to proposed let of minerals, 1886; Report on

- Dumbreck minerals, 1887; Precognitions about boundaries of Drumshanty Moss, 1887; Tack between Adam Smith and John Aitken and John Allan, 1854; and Tack between Adam Smith and John Allan & Alexander Ure of Drumbreck and Drumshanty Farms, 1854
- A1826.036 1878-1888 Papers regarding Drumbrech and Drumshanty (Dunbartonshire) and the lands of Gartshore. Includes excerpts from sasines of Dumbarton, 1673-1724, copied 1878; copy correspondence with Murray & Falconer and Col Gartshore, 1880; copy Charters of Confirmation of 1744, 1809, 1841 and 1858; Memorial for Adam Smith by Gartshore & Kinnaird, 1861; translated abstracts of titles of Wester Gartshore, 1666-1727, and State for settlement of price of the lands of Dumbeath and Drumshanty, 1888.
- A1826.037 1886-1889 Minutes of meetings of creditors and of Trustees of Adam Smith of Duncarron, Denny.
- A1826.038 1887 Papers relating to sale of Adam Smith's property, Duncarron, Denny. Includes Articles of Roup of lands of Boghead and Duncarron; and advertisement of sale of household furniture, books, silver plate etc at Duncarron Villa.
- A1826.039 1833 Letter, Robert Smith to Adam Smith c/o James Bain, writer, Dunblane. Relates mainly to family news and deaths. Also "The stentmasters are gathering names for their petition to the Commons against the new Burgh Act for this town. I am rather disposed to dread the appointment of Provost, Baillies and Councillors..."