

FALKIRK ARCHIVES

Russel & Aitken Papers finding aid (32) Papers of Johnston family of Meadowbank, 1636-1843

The finding aid for the Russel & Aitken Papers has been divided into 63 parts. This part contains a list of records relating to the Johnston family of Meadowbank.

Family history

Henry Johnston of Meadowbank acquired property in Redding, Middlerigg Whitesiderig and Reddingrig including collieries. In 1786 he was a wine cooper in Calcutta.

His eldest son, William Johnston of Meadowbank was a coal owner and dealer. His heritable estate included subjects in Middlerigg such as the colliery, and others in and around the commonty of Whitesiderig and Reddingrig such as Summerhouse and Glenend collieries. His estate was sequestrated on 30 August 1841 and he died during the proceedings. It was a substantial sequestration with many well known creditors and the Trustee for the creditors was James Russel of Blackbraes (Banker, Falkirk), son of James Russel who began the firm Russel & Aitken.

Another son of Henry was John Johnston of Blairlodge, also a coal owner and dealer, who married Eliza Cubie. His estate included subjects in Blairs in Redding, Candiehead, a portion of the muir of Muiravonside, coal in Middlerigg and Standridge, subjects in North Newlands Gateside and Shankhead farm, Netherton, Middlequarter, Glensplace and in Glasgow. The estate was sequestrated on the same day as William Johnston's and the Trustee for the creditors was Alexander McFarlane of Thornhill.

Meadowbank was sold and became a boy's school and thereafter St. Margaret's in Polmont. Blair Lodge was bought by the Rev Mr Cunningham and became a well known boy's boarding school..

Scope & Contents Note

Papers relating to the sequestration of the estates of William Johnstone of Meadowbank and his brother, John Johnston of Blairlodge; heritable bonds over subjects in Redding owned bny their father, Henry Johnston of Meadowbank, dispute between Henry Johnston and Captain James Primrose relating to Calcutta; Henry Johnston's objection to Teinds for Polmont Parish, Middlerigg, Summerhouse and Glenend Collieries, annual rents for lands in Redding; wages and expenditure and sales for the colleries at Glenend, Middlerig and Summerhouse; and correspondence with other merchants, the Canal Co and the Railway Co.

Date range: 1636-1843

Reference Code: A1832

Item list

<i>Reference No</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>
A1832.001	1841-1846	Notices in the Edinburgh Gazette and the London Gazette by Trustees for creditors on the sequestrated estates of William Johnston of Meadowbank and John Johnston of Blairlodge announcing sequestrations, meetings, availability of details of state of intromissions and funds and the meetings for consideration of discharge of the duties of Trustees.
A1832.002	1636-1789	Papers relating to lands of Redding including east and west Claddings, Sunnybrae, Walhillbrae, Lochgarry and Properhill Rood, the Coalziums, Croftland which later belonged to William Johnston of Meadowbank. Includes disposition, Andrew Monteath & spouse to Robert Hearst, 1636 of annual rents of Redding, Contract of Marriage between Robert Hairt and Mary Johnston, and progression of instruments of sasine.
A1832.003	1690-1811	Papers relating mainly to heritable bonds over subjects owned by Henry Johnston in Redding such as Croftland, Mountainblow farm and Greenloan, and in Middlerigg. Includes instrument of sasine in favour of Robert Murray of annual rent on lands in Redding acquired by Henry Johnston from deceased Patrick Heart, 1793; instrument of sasine in favour of David Balfour of annual rent on lands in Middlerig, 1795 and assignation of same to James Wemyss, 1796; heritalbe bond, Henry Johnston of Middlrig to James Wemyss, 1803.
A1832.004	1819-1830	Accounts for coal sales, draft undated agreement by co-partnery of Henry Johnston and John Thom with William Johnston of lease of Middlerig coalfield; papers relating to sequestrated estate of Thomas Kincaid, merchant in Leith, including bond, Thomas Kincaid , James Walker of Weedingshall, Henry Johnston of Meadowbank, Christopher Middlemass of Dunbar and Alexander Kincaid , Bowhouse to the Commercial Banking Co of Scotland, 1819; discharge by Marion Johnston & others to William Johnston, 1826; and letters concerning construction of railway across William Johnston's lands in Middlerigg, 1830.
A1832.005	1778-1808	Correspondence and papers relating to Charter of Confirmation for Henry Johnston's entry to lands of Redding and to Henry Johnston's objection to the augmentation of the stipend of Polmont. Includes Copy Augmentation of Stipend, State of fee and teind duties of Middlerig and Redding belonging to Henry Johnston, 1803 Also includes account of expense of fences belonging to John Easton and Patrick Heart, Polmont Kirk, 27 May 1778
A1832.006	1786-1803	Papers relating to dispute raised by Henry Johnston over Captain Primrose's request for payment as a result of a bond granted in Calcutta. Includes correspondence, Objections, Answers, Replies and notes.
A1832.007	1832-1837	Papers relating to Heritable Bond per £1000 over lands in Redding which was originally granted by William Johnston of Meadowbank in favour of General Sir William Maxwell of Calderwood, Baronet, the continuation of the Bond between the former and the son of the latter, Sir William Alexander Maxwell

- of Calderwood Baronet, the Discharge and Renunciation of the Bond and papers relating to Heritable Bonds over same lands granted by Henry Johnston such as a Restriction and Renunciation.
- A1832.008 1841-1842 Claims and affidavits by creditors on sequestrated estate of William Johnston.
- A1832.009 1841-1844 Minutes of meetings of creditors and of Trustee and Commissioners on sequestrated estate of William Johnston's estate.
- A1832.010 1842-1844 Papers relating to sequestration of William Johnston's estate. Includes report on minerals of Middlerigg and lease of said minerals, accounts of charge and discharge of intromissions and statement showing fund of division among creditors.
- A1832.011 1841-1843 Papers relating to sequestration of William Johnston's estate, to subjects in Redding, to the various claims of debts owed by William Johnston and to agreement between the Edinburgh & Glasgow Railway Co and William Johnston of Meadowbank over land acquired by the former. Includes valuation of machinery at Middlerigg, roup roll of potatoes sold, John Johnston's letter of concurrence to the sequestration of William Johnston's estate, and draft disposition by James Russel junior as Trustee to John Glassford Hopkirk
- A1832.012 1822-1842 Miscellaneous papers relating to sequestration of estate of William Johnston and to lands of Elrig, Middlerigg, Croftandie, Grayrig in and around the commonty of Reddingrig and Whitesiderig. Includes copy Charter of Resignation and Sale of Lands of Middlerigg to Robert Hunter, 1774; and correspondence.
- A1832.013 1821, 1841-1843 Papers relating to sequestration of William Johnston's estate which included Meadowbank and collieries at Glenend, Middlerig and Summerhouse. Includes advertisement of sequestration in the Edinburgh Gazette, Inventory of Title Deeds of Meadowbank, Report as to valuation of Meadowbank, account of intromissions of Trustee, draft Disposition of colliery in Summerhouse.
Also includes Court of Session Petition, 1821, relating to dispute raised by William Davidson against Mr Walker over damage to his lands in Over Polmont as a consequence of coal workings.
- A1832.014 1841-1843 Papers providing details of production, costs and wages at Summerhouse and Glenend collieries. Includes accounts, statements, lists of coal output and receipts for payments and valuation of weight of iron sold at Glenend Colliery.
- A1832.015 1841-1842 Papers relating to sequestration of William Johnston's estate. Includes receipts for wages paid to workers at Summerhouse Colliery, for taxes, advertising and insurance policies, States of sale of Meadowbank and stocking there.
- A1832.016 1841-1843 Papers relating to sequestration of William Johnston's estate. Includes receipts for wages paid to workers at Summerhouse Colliery, for taxes, advertising and insurance policies, States of sale of Meadowbank and stocking there and account of the creditors.
- A1832.017 Papers relating to sequestration of William Johnston's estate. Includes Roup Roll of potatoes, Schedule of Intimation, Requisition and Protest, Inventory of Title Deeds of Middlerig,

- Articles of Roup of Summerhouse, Henry Johnstone's accounts with William Johnston and ms draft notices of meetings of creditors sent to the Edinburgh Gazette.
- A1832.018 1841-1844 Papers relating to sequestration of William Johnston's estate and the various claims of debts owed by William Johnston and his brother John Johnston of Blair Lodge and to the lands previously owned by Henry Johnston, their father: Croftland, Collyums in Redding. Includes Petition, Memorial and Queries, accounts and letters of inhibition and advertisement for sale of houses and feu-duty near Redding
- A1832.019 1841-1843 Papers relating to estate of John Johnston (and its sequestration) which included subjects in Blairs in Redding, Candiehead, a portion of the muir of Muiravonside, coal in Middlerigg and Standridge, subjects in North Newlands Gateside and Shankhead farm, Netherton, Middlequarter, Glensplace and in Glasgow. Includes bonds and dispositions in security granted by John Johnston and his brother William in favour of the North British Insurance Co and the Commercial Bank of Scotland, correspondence and minute of meeting of Trustee and Commissioners on sequestrated estate.