

FALKIRK ARCHIVES

Russel & Aitken Papers (34) Papers of MacKay family, 1842-1930

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

Family history

The Mackay family figure prominently in Grangemouth nineteenth century history.

John Selby's probable date of birth in Aberdeen was 1757. Originally a seafarer with his own craft he served in the Royal Navy, having been captured by the Press Gang. About 1795 he was appointed Collector for the Forth and Clyde Canal Company at Grangemouth. He retired in 1835 after 40 years' service. He died in 1836.

John Selby's sister Margaret married David Younger, shipmaster in Airth. Their daughter Margaret married Andrew Mackay, LL.D, teacher of mathematics and astronomy in Aberdeen and London, an eminent scholar in his time. Their children were John Selby MacKay, Alexander Lindsay MacKay, Marion Jane Stoddart MacKay and Margaret MacKay or Bridges

John Selby Mackay, banker and coalmaster in Grangemouth, succeeded his uncle, John Selby, in the office of Collector of canal dues for the Forth and Clyde Canal Company at Grangemouth. John Selby MacKay was also manager of the Grangemouth branch of the Commercial Bank in or before 1836. He also became Treasurer and a Director the Grangemouth Gas Company. He was closely involved in Grangemouth Coal Co, Grangemouth Traders Building Co and Grangemouth Towing Co as well as owner of several heritable properties and the owner of shares in several ships along with his brother, George Gray MacKay. He was also collector of subscriptions to the local Volunteer Force from 1860. He was the first Chief Magistrate for Grangemouth, from 1872 to 1878, there being no Provost at the time. John Selby MacKay had a family as follows: Andrew MacKay, Joseph Bogue MacKay, John Selby MacKay, (advocate) William George MacKay, Marion Johnston MacKay, Margaret Johnston MacKay and Isabella Jane Mackay.

George Gray Mackay began the activities of the Grangemouth Coal Company in 1839 under a Lease from the Earl of Zetland and in 1845 John Selby MacKay became involved and the village of Skinflats was created. In addition the brothers owned the lands of Springfield and Thrislet for coal extraction. The coal was worked out by 1911. George Gray MacKay had a son, Andrew Younger MacKay. There is no evidence with the papers of the names of the rest of George Gray Mackay's family.

Andrew Mackay JP, Fairfield, Grangemouth, son of John Selby MacKay was a merchant in Grangemouth. He was Chief Magistrate from 1892-1893 and the first Provost of the Burgh from 1893 to 1900.

Andrew Younger Mackay, son of George Gray MacKay, succeeded his cousin as Provost from 1900 to 1911. The two were known as Black Andrew and Red Andrew.

Information about John Selby in James Love Notes and Queries Vol1 p347 and about John Selby MacKay, George Gray MacKay and the two Andrew MacKays

Robert Porteous Grangemouth's Modern History. See also the papers of the Grangemouth Coal Company (Russel & Aitken Finding Aid 44)

Scope & Contents Note

Papers relating to John Selby MacKay during his lifetime, his executry and testamentary Trust papers, some items from his son Andrew's lifetime and Andrew's executry and Trust papers and also executry papers for John Selby Mackay's daughter Margaret Johnston MacKay.

Although there is regular mention of George Gray MacKay and his son, it would appear that other solicitors acted for him and for his son Andrew Younger MacKay. There is no evidence of the identity of other agents who may have acted.

Date range: 1842-1930

Reference Code: A1834

Item list

<i>Reference No</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>
A1834.001	1842-1886	Includes Ante-nuptial Contract of Marriage between John Selby MacKay and Margaret Swanston Bogue or MacKay 1842; Post-nuptial Contract of Marriage, 1874; Agreement between Messrs MacKay and William Fraser (bone dust manufacturer) about debts, Memorial and Queries for Counsel and copy correspondence, 1866; Fire Policy for furniture at Roseville, 1878; Tack between J.S.MacKay and G.G.Mackay and Grangemouth Coal Company for the Farm and Lands of Springfield, 1884; Inventories of titles of subjects at Grangemouth, 1857; Correspondence about permission given to the National Telephone Co. to erect a pole on Bank building, 1886; Letter from A.Gulstag, Ship Broker Boness, 1886; Bills of Sale by G.G.MacKay, Coalmaster, of shares in SS Abergrange and SS Aberforth, 1886; and Abstract of Royalty payable at Grangemouth Colliery, 1860.
A1834.002	1874-1890	Testamentary documents including Trust Disposition and Settlement, 1874 (Registered 1890) and abstract, 1890; death certificate: Testament Testamentar, 1890; holograph codicil, 1889; draft codicils for servants and sons, 1882; and notes relating to Andrew and Joe living rent free at Roseville and Elmbank (Helensburgh) with options to buy the properties on their father's death 1882.
A1834.003	1889-1909	Valuations of estate of John Selby MacKay and papers relating to his sons. Includes valuations of heritable properties in South Basin Street, Grangemouth, of shares in ships of interests in Grangemouth Gas Company, Grangemouth Coal Company, Grangemouth Towing Company, contents of Roseville (1909), trial balance of John Selby MacKay's books and States of Affairs of Andrew MacKay and Joseph Bogue MacKay
A1834.004	1889-1890	Vouchers for debts, including servants' mournings and cancellation of debts due by Andrew MacKay and Joseph

A1834.005	1891-1926	Bogue MacKay. Discharges by beneficiaries of the John Selby MacKay Trust, agreements and notes of division of shares in ships and companies between beneficiaries
A1834.006	1890-1906	Minutes of meetings of the family of John Selby MacKay and the Trustees.
A1834.007	1890-1899	Correspondence and receipt for final settlement of the debt due by George Glen's Executors to John Selby Mackay
A1834.008	1862-1913	Papers relating to lands of Springfield and Thrislet. Includes Inventory of title deeds, 1862; typed advertisement for sale of Springfield and Articles of Roup of farm and lands of Springfield
A1834.009	1891-1926	Includes List of tenants and rents in Grangemouth properties (nd); copy missive of lease between the Trustees and Margaret Sturrock for Post and Telegraph Office in South Basin Street, 1891; Minute of Agreement between the Trustees of John Selby MacKay & George Gray MacKay and Grangemouth Coal Company, 1891; and final Russel & Aitken business account with the Trustees, 1926.
A1834.010	1899-1920	Miscellaneous papers. Includes letter re work required on Roseville roof, 1899; Minute of Agreement between Andrew MacKay, Fairfield, and Andrew Younger MacKay, Lea Park, dissolving partnership and transfer of shares in ships Saxon Britain, Norberto and Aberfoyle, 1911; and Land Value Inland Revenue Return for Fairfield, 1914
A1834.011	1909-1915	Andrew MacKay's account book for groceries, coals, stamps, laundry and trains.
A1834.012	1917-1920	Claim under the Treaty of 1918 against the firm of Aug Cords, Rostock, in relation to Andrew MacKay's interest in the ship Grete Corde, 1300 tons, Letter from Aug Corde of 1920 and enclosed full accounting, Includes notification of the liquidation of his shares in the Friedrich Carow steamer and the Grete Cords steamer by the German Government in 1917.
A1834.013	1919-1930	Executory papers of Andrew MacKay. Includes extract registered Trust Disposition and Settlement, 28 Feb 1902 and registered 5 Mar 1920; Testament Testamentar, 1920; Details of items taken from Fairfield by family members Inventory and Valuation of floor cloth, carpet, fenders, fire irons and curtain poles at Fairfield, Grangemouth, 1921; Valuation of stock exchange securities and valuations of shares in the Grangemouth Coal Company (in liquidation), of Grangemouth Towing Company and Grangemouth Traders Building Company, 1920 with letter by R.C.Greig & Co, Stockbrokers, Glasgow; Receipts in respect of interim division, 1920; extract registered Discharge by residuary legatees and receipts, 1922; vouchers and accounts, 1919-1922; Letter concerning Russian Securities indicating that the Russian Government may before long acknowledge their liabilities, 1922; and Minute of Trustees following final dividend from Grangemouth Coal Company (in liquidation) and final receipts, 1930.

A1834.014	1922	Business account of Trustees of Andrew MacKay Trust with Russel & Aitken
A1834.015	1891-1907	Executry papers of Marion Johnston MacKay. Includes Testament dative, 1906; Bill of Sale of shares to Marion Johnston MacKay of shares in SS Aberforth, 1891; Bill of Sale of shares in SS Aberforth, by Margaret Younger Mackay and Isabella Jane MacKay, 1907 ; Holograph Will, Residuary accounts and Estate duty accounts, and legacy receipts.