



Inventory

Acc.4490

James Bruce Papers

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The originals of these papers are in the Yale Center for British Art, New Haven, Connecticut, USA. A microfilm is NLS, MS.Acc.4490. Details of the correspondence and some related papers contained in reels 1-4 have been entered in the order in which they occur on the film in a dBase file (BRUCEMF.DBF), giving date, place, writer, recipient, comment, and reel number. Only the minimum of effort has been expended on reconciling contradictory spellings and identifying dates, places, and persons. The first two reels are in almost correct chronological order, but the last two are not in any particular order. It has not been possible to give any more precise reference than the reel.

DATE. This is in the form 17650101 (year, month, day). Where only the year is known or conjectured it appears as 17650000, and so before definite dates in the same year. Totally undated documents appear under 0, at the beginning of the sequence. A chronological listing (date, place, writer, recipient, reel) may be obtained thus: USE Brucemf index datind; REPORT FORM Brurepl.

WRITER. Unidentified writers appear under "unknown" at the end of the sequence. An index of writers (with date and reel) may be obtained thus: USE Brucemf index writind; REPORT FORM Brurep2. (To omit the obviously very common Bruce, James and Bruce, C L Cumming add: for.not. (writer="Bruce, James".or.writer="Bruce, C L Cumming").)

RECIPIENT. Unidentified recipients (also documents with no real recipient) appear under "unknown" at the end of the sequence. An index of recipients (with date and reel) may be obtained thus: USE Brucemf index recind; REPORT FORM Brurep3. (Omission as for writer).

COMMENT. This gives such information as draft, copy, unsigned, signature uncertain, enclosed with ..., etc.

Note that for any of these listings the order within identical headings is that of the documents on the film.

Acc.4490

Microfilms of Bruce of Kinnaird Papers

Correspondence and papers of James Bruce, African traveller (originals – lists of these available with MSS Dept copy of this inventory in Yale Center for British Art, 1080 Chapel Street, New Haven, Connecticut 06520, to whom requests for publication must be referred).

A. CORRESPONDENCE

Reel 1 Twelve manilla folders containing correspondence of James Bruce arranged in a single chronological sequence, 1757-77, 1787-96 (including a few letters written after his death), n.d.

Folder 1 1757-62

Folder 2 1763

Folder 3 1764

Folder 4 1765

Reel 2 Folder 5 1766

Folder 6 1767

Folder 7 1768

Folder 8 1769

Folder 9 1770-7

Folder 10 1787-96

Reel 3 Folder 11 n.d.

Folder 12 letters in Greek and Arabic

Nine pocket files containing correspondence of Bruce together with some containing correspondence of Luigi Balugani 1763-73 and C L Cumming Bruce mostly 1820.

Pocket file no 1 inscribed "Algerian Consulship" containing holograph drafts of letters of Bruce to Lord Halifax and others, 1764-5, n.d., in a bundle inscribed "letters from Mr Bruce to Lord Halifax etc during his consulate at Algiers"; incoming correspondence 1761-6, n.d.; and a copy of the memorial of James Bruce to the King on his proposed destruction of war material in Ferrol Harbour.

Pocket file no 2 inscribed “Letters from Mediterranean countries to and from J B[ruce], academic diplomas, etc” containing letters to Bruce, 1763-79, n.d., with a few holograph drafts of his letters.

Pocket file no 3 inscribed “Comments on Travels Burney’s History of Music” containing a small quantity of letters to Bruce from Hon Daines Barrington, Hugh Blair, Charles Burney, Bishop of Carlyle (afterwards Bishop of Salisbury), John Douglas, Ezra Styles and others, 1774-94, n.d.

Reel 4 Pocket file no 4 inscribed “Ferrol – Memorial etc” containing letter (in French), 1758, to Bruce; bifolium entitled “Explanations of the Letters of Reference Contained in the Plan”; and copy of memorial submitted by Bruce concerning projected destruction of armaments in the harbour of Ferrol.

Pocket file no 5 inscribed “draft letter on journey to Fondar – for Wood?; list of medals”, containing draft of letter of Bruce dated 1 March 1770 to an unidentified correspondent; two letters 1767 to Luigi Balugani; and lists (in French) of medals.

Pocket file no 6 inscribed “Arabic etc, letters, diplomas”, containing letters to Bruce in Greek and Arabic, and what appears to be a passport in Turkish.

Pocket file no 7 inscribed “Balugani MSS letters” containing correspondence and papers of Luigi Balugani 1763-73, n.d. (the letters are mostly incoming).

Pocket no 8 inscribed “Balugani – Notes and Accounts”, containing correspondence 1764-73, papers and financial accounts of Luigi Balugani.

Pocket file no 9 inscribed “Cumming Bruce Correspondence, drawings, biography of James Bruce, etc, negotiations for new edition”, containing correspondence and papers of C L Cumming Bruce 1821-54, n.d.

B. NOTES, ARTICLES AND REPORTS

Reel 5 Pocket file [labelled file no 10] inscribed “North Africa – architecture, inscriptions, etc”, containing notes and reports concerning the Island of Tabaria: the amphitheatre at El Djemm; Kubber Romeah (written

on paper watermarked 1818); the Aqueduct at Aniana; Lambesa; and Tripoli; and copies of inscriptions from Roman architectural remains.

Pocket file [labelled file no 11] inscribed "Astronomical, etc Observations" containing a small quantity of notes, some in French.

Cartridge-paper folder [labelled file no 12] entitled "Original Sketches & Descriptions of Plants by Mr Bruce, and Luigi Balugani", containing: notes on ancient cities; "An Extract from Account of the Drawings Made by James Bruce ... Written by Alexr Murray ... 1811"; notes on fish, birds, myrrh, and coffee; two drawings on the coffee plant and two of a bird; and a printed "Ode to James Bruce, Esq".

Cartridge-paper folder [labelled file no 13] with black wax seals, inscribed "Original Sketches and Notes" in an 18th cent hand containing drawings of plants (in pencil) with notes in Italian (in ink) and drawings of fishes (in colour).

C. NOTEBOOKS

Reel 6 Notebook with brown leather covers (most of back cover cut away) commencing with note in French on Erzeron. 7" x 4½". No.1.

No.2. Notebook commencing "From Benghasi to Ougela". 7" x 4½".

Notebook commencing (f.1) "Bota Tambouc Hinducaduc" with list of "Books to be Purchased" at the end (inverted". 7" x 4½". No.3.

Notebook starting at Leffah, with account starting from Muraz southwards at back (inverted). Unbound. 5¾" x 4½". No.6.

Journal commencing "Sunday Octr 28 we sent out from Gondar". 7" x 4½". [No.NLS/1]

Notebook commencing "La moneta piu corrente in Gedda..." 7" x 4¾". [No.NLS/2]

Notebook with brown covers entitled "Memorie Diverse" with printed material pasted in inside the back cover. 7" x 4½". [No.NLS/3]

Vellum-covered notebook with flap, containing press-cutting entitled "The Great Failure in Aberdeen", containing notes commencing with

“Danger from Snowball” [?ie snowfalls] mentioning on same leaf
Novalesa and Susa. [No.NLS/4]

Vellum-covered notebook with flap and broken green tag containing
“Journal 1757 – from Corunna to Toledo in Spain” 10½” x 7½”.
[No.NLS/5]

Reel 7 Vellum-covered volume with flap & green tag containing description of
temples at Paestum. Loosely enclosed is a note by Miss A H Scott
Elliot. 10½” x 7½”. [No.NLS/6]

Volume commencing “Misure degl’ Ucelli chi si sono ritrovati nel
Viaggio di Abissinia ... 1769” [No.NLS/7]

Volume commencing “Descrizione degl’ Alberi, Arbuste e Piante che si
sono ritrovati nel Viaggio di Abissinia ... 1769” [No.NLS/8]

Volume with yellow covers containing “Original Descriptive Catalogue
of the Oriental MSS collected by James Bruce of Kinnaird ... by Dr
Alexander Murray”. 10” x 8½”. [No.NLS/9]

Vellum-covered volume containing notes on Italy (apparently a History
of Paestum) with references to Greek and Roman authors. 12” x 9”.
[No.NLS/10]

Vellum-covered volume containing notes on Italy (apparently a History
of Paestum) with references to Greek and Roman authors. 15” x 11”.
In the front of the volume are notes in French. [No.NLS/11]

Reel 8 Volume in green covers entitled: “Iovrnal of a voyage to the Sources of
the Nile” 1768-1771. 10” x 14½”. [No.NLS/12]

Reel 9 Bound volume containing printed maps of various parts of the world.
Late 18th century. 22” x 17”.

Collection of plans and maps (the numbers are those written on the
backs of the items in a contemporary hand):

Map (cloth-backed) n.d. showing the Nile, the Arabian Gulf and
adjacent land. No.3.

Three plans, faintly drawn in pencil, labelled “Plans of Carthage
Harbour”. No.4.

Two plans of roads and harbour at Jubba. No.5.

Two printed maps: a. Carte de l'Ile d'Elba, 1814. b. Carta della Toscana, 1817. No.6.

Printed table of data about the Solar System, n.d. [shortly after 1781]. No.8.

Map showing river [?Nile] with towns or villages along banks. No.9.

Printed map showing Arabian Gulf and East coasts of Africa, with names in Roman ?Sanskrit, 1793. No.10.

Map of Egypt, Arabian Gulf and adjacent lands, cut into eight strips. No.13.

Plan of the Harbour of Bengazi, with notes in an 18th century hand. Not numbered. Large.

Map of Lake Tzana and Source of Nile (damaged) enclosed within two printed copies of same. Not numbered. Medium.

Plan of the Island of Masuah, and printed and MS maps of 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battles of Serbraxos, 1772 (total of seven items). Not numbered. Small.

D. SKETCHES AND DRAWINGS

Reel 10 An extensive and miscellaneous collection of drawings, some almost fully worked up, a few in colour, contained in a large damaged portfolio. They are arranged in the order in which they appear in the inventory compiled by Miss A H Scott Elliot, Librarian, Windsor Castle Library, and are followed by the following apparently unlisted items:

ISDRUS or EL DJEMM (EL GEMMI): [old nos:] 55, 59, 60, 61, 63, 64, 65 & 66, 67, continued in a vellum folder, together with:

i) bill for £6-7-Od to James Bruce Esqr, receipted 28 March 1776;

ii) pencil tracing, ?18th cent, of map of part of N Africa (modern Egypt & Syria).

iii) bifolium containing description in Italian and ground plan of amphitheatre at El-Djemm, 18th cent.

Remains of a large portfolio, containing the following drawings, many stained with damp:

Two maps apparently of the Nile, both made up of about twenty sheets of paper (apparently Turkish) each struck to the next with wax.

Sheet containing pencil sketches of figures (including two in chariots) on recto, and architectural details on verso.

Sheet containing lines of perspective on recto, and pencil-sketch of columns on verso.

Sketch-map in pencil showing the names Cairo nad Cairo Vecchio.

Drawing of partly collapsed columns.

Bifolium containing map of river with adjacent towns (Gidda the most southerly).

Map (in French) of Egypt, Nubia, Abyssinia and the Kingdom of Tripoli.

Map of east coast of African continent (from Lower Egypt to Cape of Good Hope).

Map inscribed (in pencil) The Lake of Dembea.

Map showing what appears to be N African coast-line (area contained in modern Libya).

Unidentified torn map containing scale drawing of compass face, with names of places added in pencil.

Bifolium containing map of northern end of the Red Sea (Suez marked).

Part of sketch map showing what appears to be river and trackways (Dongola in lower right hand corner).

Sketch map in ink showing what appears to be a river and trackway. (Bareos in top right hand corner).

Map in ink of territory now covered by Lebanon and Syria.

Pencil drawings of arms and legs.

Sheet of paper almost blank, except for the name Gabba in the top left-hand corner.

Points of the compass in English, and scale of miles in Italian.

Sheet showing what appears to be a river and a track (dotted line) going through various places.

Sheet, split down the middle, showing wandering line with names by the side.

Sheet showing dotted crooked line with names (of places?) by the side.

Plan of the Circular Temple at Baalbec, and back view of the same, stuck on to the same sheet of paper.

Bifolium showing Order of the great Temple.

Plan of the most entire Temple at Baalbec.

Bifolium showing Plan of Great Temple of Baalbec & of the Portico of the Courts leading to it.

Scale drawing showing three pediments.

Plan of building tipped on remains of sheet of paper, with elevation of building (two corners cut off).

Rough drawing in pencil of plan of building.

Upright of the Niche of the semi-circular Exedra, & between the Pilasters ... tipped on small sheet of paper.

Plan and upright of the Tabernacle above the Niche, stuck on sheet of paper, with Order of the Two Courts stuck on verso of sheet.

Plan and upright of the semi-circular Exedra, tipped on small sheet of paper.

Cross-section of seating at an amphitheatre.

Drawing of detail of column of Amphitheatre of Vespasian, with measurements.

Plan of a building.

Elevation/drawing of building tipped on a smaller sheet of paper, with a smaller drawing in pencil of upright of portico pasted on verso of sheet.

4 architectural drawings & two small sheets of notes, in ink.

Plan of amphitheatre in ink with two octagonal plans in pencil on verso.

Elevation of a building, in ink, with scale (in feet) added at end of page.

E. MISCELLANEOUS

Reel 11 Bound thin strips containing an account of Bruce's travels in North Africa. (Not in correct order).

Three papers, apparently passports in Turkish issued to Bruce.

Portfolio in black covers inscribed "No.5".

Portfolio 18" x 12" inscribed "MSS//Mr Bruce's Travels" containing the following accounts, all in confusion and apparently incomplete:

"Giornale del Viaggio d'Imbo a Gidda & de Gidda a Loheia 1769",
"Giornale del Viaggio di Abbissinia fatto negl' Anni di Nostra
Salute. 1769, 1770".

"Observations Faites au Caire sur le Baromètre & sur les Vens qui y
Regnent Depuis le premier Janvier 1769 Jusqu'en 1770 au mois de
Juillet".

"Osservazioni fatte nel Cairo sopra l'Accrescimento delle aque nel
Nilo ..." 1769-1770, followed by a confused and chaotic miscellany
of astronomical, meteorological and other observations, in English,
French and Italian.

Portfolio inscribed "No.8".

F. COLOUR TRANSPARENCIES

1. Large painting of buildings.
2. Folder No.1 of assorted (3) plant paintings.
3. Folder No.2 of plant, animal and bird paintings.
4. Folder No.6 entitled "Drawings of Plants in the Royal Garden of ?"
5. Folder containing miscellaneous paintings of various sizes.
6. Volume containing 34 paintings of birds.
7. Volume containing 35 paintings of fishes, animals and birds.
8. Volume containing 28 paintings of birds.
9. Volume containing ? paintings of fishes.
10. Coloured items contained in microfilms.