

Detail of beadwork belt, South Africa, University of Aberdeen Museums and Special Collections.
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African and Caribbean Collections in Scottish Museums

Review of African and Caribbean Collections in Scottish Museums

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Ere ibeji figures, Lamidi Fakeye and apprentices, Nigeria, 1959.
© Hunterian, University of Glasgow

African and Caribbean Collections in Scottish Museums Introduction

Introduction

This report is the main outcome of the first phase of the partnership project *Reveal and Connect: African and Caribbean Collections in Scottish Museums*. Funded by Museums Galleries Scotland, the project has been led by National Museums Scotland; Glasgow Life Museums; The Hunterian, University of Glasgow; and University of Aberdeen Collections. The group has worked in partnership with organisations across Scotland which hold African and Caribbean collections, a Steering Group representing museums in Africa and the Caribbean, diaspora organisations in Scotland, focus groups of heritage and community representatives in Africa, the Caribbean and Scotland, and a Curatorial Network Group responsible for African and Caribbean collections in Scottish museums. This collaboration has two main aims: to *reveal* African and Caribbean collections of material culture in Scottish museums through a national review and published report; and to foster a network that *connects* collection holders with museums and communities in Africa and the Caribbean, and people of African and Caribbean descent in Scotland. This review report is intended to be a starting point for future research, partnerships and dialogue.

Reveal and Connect is part of a broader movement to proactively address Scotland's involvement in, and profits from, empire and the transatlantic trade of enslaved people. This history has particular significance for museums, which have been shown to function as authoritative sites, implicated in the maintenance and reproduction of imperial control through mechanisms of collecting, exhibiting and educating. For many, museum collections of cultural heritage extracted from former colonial territories represent a particularly potent example of colonialism's 'durable presence'.¹ Subsequently, institutions in Europe and North America have faced growing public scrutiny over their colonial-era holdings. In recent years, this has been stimulated by the Black Lives Matter movement and efforts to decolonise museums. There have been calls to return cultural heritage to descendent communities and appeals for collection information to be made publicly available.² International research and database projects, such as Digital Benin and the International Inventories Programme, have respectively compiled information about Nigerian and Kenyan material held in museums across the world.³ In the UK, museums have completed collaborative projects to research and develop new practice around colonial-era collections, such as *Making African Connections* (2019-2021), *Rethinking Relationships and Building Trust around African Collections* (2019-2021), *Devolving Restitution: African Collections in UK Museums Beyond London* (2020-2023), and the *African Collections Futures project*.⁴

In Scotland, Museums Galleries Scotland has undertaken the *Empire, Slavery and Scotland's Museums* project (2020-2022).⁵ Sponsored by the Scottish Government, the project's Steering Group developed recommendations for how Scotland's involvement in empire, colonialism and historic slavery can be addressed using museum collections and museum spaces. These recommendations, developed through a national consultation, were accepted by the Scottish Government in 2024. *Reveal and Connect* provides baseline information and possibly some of the networks that will support these. At the same time, *Reveal and Connect* partners have been exploring diverse ways of engaging with legacies of

¹ Stoler, Ann Laura. (2016). *Duress: Imperial Durabilities in Our Times*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press: 9.

² Savoy, Bénédicte and Felwine Sarr (2018). *The Restitution of African Cultural Heritage. Toward a New Relational Ethics*. Trans. Drew S Burk, November 2018:

https://www.about-africa.de/images/sonstiges/2018/sarr_savoy_en.pdf

³ <https://digitalbenin.org/> <https://www.inventoriesprogramme.org/>

⁴ <https://www.makingafricanconnections.org/s/archive/page/about>

<https://www.horniman.ac.uk/project/rethinking-relationships/>

<https://www.prm.ox.ac.uk/african-restitution>

<https://www.ccc.cam.ac.uk/initiatives/african-futures/>

⁵ <https://www.museumsgalleriesscotland.org.uk/project/empire-slavery-scotlands-museums/>

transatlantic slavery and colonialism embedded in their institutions. National Museums Scotland has worked with partner museums across the UK on *Exchange: Community-Led Collections Research* (2021-2022).⁶ The Hunterian, University of Glasgow has developed the *Curating Discomfort* project and collaborations with the University of the West Indies.⁷ In 2021, the University of Aberdeen returned material to Nigeria that was looted from Benin City by British troops in 1897, and in 2020, Glasgow Life created the post of Curator of Legacies of Slavery and Empire to address these issues. *Reveal and Connect* has been informed by, and contributes to, this spectrum of ongoing work.

A key forerunner of this project was *A Wider World: Collections of Foreign Ethnography in Scotland* (1991-1993). Conducted by the Foreign Ethnographic Collections Research Programme, the project was conceived and managed by the Scottish Museums Council, National Museums Scotland, and the University of Glasgow. *A Wider World* compiled a database of non-European collections held in Scotland, which has since become obsolete, and the Scottish Museums Council produced a publication, *A Wider World: Collections of Foreign Ethnography in Scotland* (Kwasnik, 1994). This historical survey differs from the current review because it focused on all non-European or 'ethnographic' material and reported collection size by continental sub-region. Nevertheless, the publication remains an important resource for those interested in colonial-era collections in Scotland, and a record of how collections have changed over time. It was consulted at the beginning of this project to identify museums with relevant material. The *Reveal and Connect* report encapsulates a new map of African and Caribbean collections in Scotland that reflects changes in museum services and local authorities over the past three decades. It presents 32 collections, many of which are currently undigitised, and brings together unpublished information and previously unidentified material. Additionally, it provides summaries and breakdowns of individual museum collections that highlight countries and regions represented, types of objects included, and who collected or donated them. In doing so, it aims to support wider access and engagement with these collections.

The following report is structured in two parts. The first includes characterisations of each collection. These characterisations provide a summary of each museum's history, an estimate of the relevant collection size, an overview of the contents, and notable donors or collectors. A table provides a breakdown of the collection by country, major sources and object types. A small selection of object images is also included. This part of the report is structured according to the geographical location of museum organisations, and the geographical divisions follow the borders of local authorities. The second part of the report includes a table arranged by African and Caribbean countries.⁸ This allows users to search for particular countries represented in individual collections. Museum reports may then be consulted for more detail.

This review is primarily concerned with objects of material culture that were made in Africa or the Caribbean. Short summaries of associated material are included where relevant. Because of their great importance to descendent communities, the report also indicates where museums hold partial skeletal human remains from Africa or the Caribbean. A comprehensive review of material beyond this remit, such as natural science, pictorial collections, or archival material, has not been possible within the timeframe, but such material represents important areas for future research. Ancient Egyptian material has been

⁶ <https://www.nms.ac.uk/collections/departments/global-arts-cultures-design/projects/exchange>

⁷ <https://www.gla.ac.uk/hunterian/about/changing-museum/curating-discomfort/>

⁸ For the purpose of this review, countries and regions have been organised according to the UN Geoscheme. Belize, Guyana and Suriname are included because they are culturally affiliated with the Caribbean region within CARICOM.

the subject of a previous national review and is therefore not included here.⁹ However, more recent Egyptian material is included in the present review.

The *Reveal and Connect* national review and report were completed over the equivalent of 15 months between 2022 and 2024. Forty-eight museum organisations were contacted at the beginning of the project. Relevant material was identified at 36 of these, although due to concurrent commitments, only 32 were able to take part.¹⁰ The first stage of the review involved a survey of digital records, either supplied by participating museums or extracted from their online collection databases. In some cases, information was derived from paper records. Following this, the Project Curator conducted site visits to 24 partner museum organisations between 2022 and 2023 to complete visual surveys. Some undocumented material was identified in this way but, due to the size of collections, it was only possible to view a small sample. Running alongside this work, regular meetings took place with the project partners, the Steering Group, and Curatorial Network Group. During these meetings, initial findings, data and images were shared and discussed. Results were also shared in June 2023 with focus groups whose members explored ways in which to begin connecting these collections with stakeholder communities.

African and Caribbean material can be found in museums across the country, from Dumfries Museum in the south to Shetland Museum and Archives in the north. A broad range of organisations are represented, including national, local authority, university, and independent museums. Collections vary greatly in size from the smallest, at Surgeons' Hall Museums in Edinburgh, with only two African objects, to the largest, National Museums Scotland, with over 9,093 African and 388 Caribbean objects. The review located an estimated 23,263 African objects in 32 collections and 1,013 Caribbean objects in 16 collections.

Due to the scale and diversity of the collections, and the time limit and staffing constraints of the project, limitations to the scope of this report should be noted. Much of the collection information is derived from historical museum records. These may be partial and subjective and, in the case of colonial-era records, may contain absences and silences. In the time available, it was not possible to comprehensively review and update this information with appropriate consultation with stakeholder communities. For this reason, information is generally reported as it currently appears in records and inevitably contains errors, inaccuracies, and omissions. Further research and meaningful consultation are required. This report does not claim to be an authoritative and exhaustive account of African and Caribbean material culture in Scottish museums. Instead, it should be understood as a starting point, with a commitment to support wider access and engagement with these collections and facilitate new modes of research and museum practice.

⁹ <https://www.nms.ac.uk/our-impact/national-work/collections-reviews/scotlands-ancient-egyptian-collections>

¹⁰ Relevant material was also identified in the following collections: The National Trust for Scotland; The University of Edinburgh; The Cameronians Scottish Rifles Regimental Museum, South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture; The Dick Institute, East Ayrshire Leisure Trust.



Detail of wax print sundress, The Bahamas, 1950s.
© Aberdeen City Council (Archives, Gallery & Museums Collection)

African and Caribbean Collections in Scottish Museums Aberdeen and North East

Aberdeen and North East

- Aberdeen Archives, Gallery and Museums (Aberdeen City Council)
- Aberdeenshire Museums Service (Live Life Aberdeenshire)
- Elgin Museum (The Moray Society)
- Falconer Museum (Moray Council)
- University of Aberdeen Collections

Aberdeen Archives, Gallery and Museums

Aberdeen City Council

Contact General enquiries info@aagm.co.uk
Collections enquiries AAGMcurators@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Location of collections

In storage

Aberdeen Treasure Hub
Granitehill Road
Aberdeen
AB16 7AX

Size of collections

52 African objects
6 Caribbean objects

Online collections

<https://emuseum.aberdeencity.gov.uk/collections>

Selected objects

Africa

- Chief's chair, Angola, ABDMS038350
- Power figure, Democratic Republic of the Congo, ABDMS050717

Caribbean

- 1950s wax print dress, Bahamas, ABDMS037738

History of the collection

Aberdeen Archives, Gallery and Museums cares for collections of objects and historical records on behalf of the people of Aberdeen. Collections are recognised by UNESCO and the Scottish Government as nationally and internationally important. The service began life in the 1800s as an art gallery run by a committee and shifted focus to include industrial heritage and 'folk-life' in the 1900s. In the 1930s it came under the jurisdiction of the town council and several new museums opened in the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s. Historically, the service has focused on the arts and local social history. Donations of non-European material were more typically given to the Marischal Museum at the University of Aberdeen.

Overview of the collection

Africa

There are three main collections of African material, mostly dating from the late 19th and 20th centuries and originating from southern and central Africa. Material from southern Africa makes up around 60% of the entire collection of African material.

The most significant collection of at least 16 items was collected by Sir Robert Williams, 1st Baronet of Park (1860-1938), a mining engineer and railway developer active in South Africa, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Zambia and Angola from the late 1800s to the late 1920s. His collection is made up of objects originating from these countries, including walking sticks, carved snakes, domestic utensils, a Songye/Lulua power figure, a Chokwe chair, comb, and staff or walking stick. One of the 'walking sticks' has a polished end much like a knobkerrie and is mounted with a plaque to commemorate Williams's mining activity at Kambove, Democratic Republic of the Congo, 1911. Another walking stick of twisted wood is recorded as being made in the Amathole Mountains, South Africa by 'Nampocki'.

The most striking object in the collection is a Chokwe chair, most likely collected in the Moxico region of Angola during the construction of the Benguela railway (1902-1929). It features a laced hide seat, carved decorations and a dark black patina. The chair back is decorated with a chief or ancestor figure and geometric patterns, and the legs and stretchers depict scenes from everyday life, bats, and monkeys. Noted in the associated material section are significant collections of archival material pertaining to Williams's life in Africa.

The second group of material is around 23 items of South African beadwork, including necklaces, beaded gourds, pipes, and two carved wooden heads decorated with beads. Listed as Zulu and Mpondo, the majority were borrowed for exhibition in the 1970s and accessioned in the 1990s. An accompanying brochure suggests they were made in KwaZulu-Natal for the tourist market.

The third group of material is comprised of eight dolls reportedly made in Africa. These include part of a collection assembled by Miss Margaret Barclay, a local teacher who collected costume dolls on her travels abroad between 1925 and 1992. The collection was designed to represent different countries and includes examples recorded as 'African' and 'South African'.

Caribbean

Aberdeen Archives, Gallery and Museums cares for a small collection of dresses and handbags made in Trinidad, Jamaica, and the Bahamas in the mid-20th century.

Five of these items belonged to American fashion editor Frances Farquharson (1903-1991) and members of her family and were collected during trips to the Caribbean in the 1950s. They include an embroidered handbag and two sundresses from 'Mademoiselle' on Bay Street, Nassau, Bahamas, and a white linen dress and matching bag embroidered with red poinsettia from Jamaica. Farquharson was fashion editor for *Vogue* and *Harper's Bazaar* throughout the 1930s.

The collection also contains an organza, lace and taffeta wedding dress made in 1957 by a local dressmaker in Trinidad for Miss Margaret Violet Grant from Aberdeen. She travelled to the island to marry Mr Norman Stuart who worked in the oil industry.

Associated material

Aberdeen Archives, Gallery and Museums holds much material of note that does not fall within the scope of this review.

Africa

A significant body of material relates to Robert Williams's activity in Africa, including rock samples, wall maps, certificates, newspaper cuttings, cartoons, and correspondence from

Cecil Rhodes (1853-1902). A large photograph collection contains images of African landscapes; mining and railroad building activity; Williams with Leopold II of Belgium; 'Mwenda the son of Msiri of Katanga region'; and 'King Lewanika of [former] Barotseland' in Scotland.

Other material of note includes correspondence, sketches, and a large collection of photographs by Scottish artist James McBey (1883-1959) made during his time as Official War Artist in Egypt and later in Morocco; correspondence from Scottish missionary Mary Slessor (1848-1915); stereograms of the South African War; and colonial era numismatics from across the African continent.

Caribbean

Associated material includes technical drawings of machinery for sugar plantations on the Brampton Bryan Estate, Trelawney, Jamaica (1895); a stereogram of cocoa pickers, Jamaica (c.1900); photographs of Cuba by Scottish artist James McBey (1940); and numismatics from British Caribbean Territories, Virgin Islands, Bermuda and Barbados dating from the late 1700s to early 2000s.

Notable donors

Frances Farquharson (1903-1991)

Sir Robert Williams, 1st Baronet, of Park (1860-1938)

Areas for further research

The Robert Williams collection holds much potential for further research. Williams was mainly active in former Belgian and Portuguese colonial territories, and this offers uncommon perspectives on Scottish and European colonial history. Many of the photographs are labelled with exact locations, dates, and names. Some images depict key relationships that Williams developed with European and African leaders. Further research would provide opportunities to better understand Williams's activity in Central and Southern Africa, the potential impact this had on people and places, and the role played by others in this history.

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Africa unspecified		15	
	Sir Robert Williams		Basket, carved snakes, carved wooden crocodile, dolls, walking sticks, wicker tray
Central Africa		5	
Angola	Sir Robert Williams	3	Chair, comb, walking stick/ staff
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Sir Robert Williams	2	Power figure, walking stick

Southern Africa		31	
South Africa	Sir Robert Williams	31	Beadwork, carved wooden heads, dolls, fur bedspread, straining spoon, walking stick
Western Africa		1	
Nigeria	Sir Robert Williams	1	Thumb piano

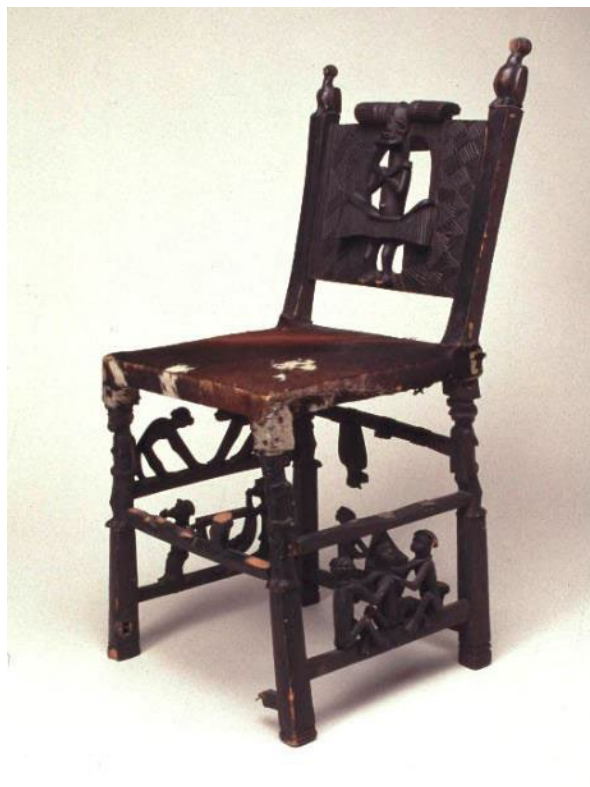
Regions and countries represented: Caribbean

Country	Major Sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
The Bahamas	Frances Farquharson	3	Bag, dresses
Jamaica	Frances Farquharson	2	Bag, dress
Trinidad and Tobago		1	Wedding dress

Selected object images

Africa

Chief's chair, Angola, ABDMS038350



Power figure, Democratic Republic of the Congo, ABDMS050717



Caribbean

1950s wax print dress, The Bahamas, ABDMS037738



Aberdeenshire Museums Service

Live Life Aberdeenshire

Contact museums@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Location of collections

In storage

Discovery Centre
Station Road
Mintlaw
AB42 5EE

Size of collections

290 African objects
No known Caribbean objects

Online collections

<https://aberdeen-asp.adlibhosting.com/search/simple>

Selected objects

- Tunic or *jibba*, Sudan, H3783.116
- Spear, Sudan, H3783.37
- Beadwork necklace, southern Africa, F249
- Beadwork bag, southern Africa, F365
- House post or sculpture, Nigeria, NN442

History of the collection

Aberdeenshire Council Museums Service cares for over 500,000 objects and multiple museums, including Aberdeenshire Farming Museum and Banchory Museum. Significant portions of its collection are on loan to Banff Museum, Maud Railway Museum, Fordyce Joiners Workshop, and Sandhaven Meal Mill. Most objects relevant to this review are in storage at the Discovery Centre in Mintlaw. The collection is composed of many smaller collections from local museums, some of which are no longer open to the public, for example the Arbutnot Museum in Peterhead, the Brander Museum in Huntly, and Inverurie Museum. As a result of these historic transfers, very little provenance information is available and at the time of writing staff are undertaking major work to update documentation and digitisation.

Overview of the collection

Approximately 47% of the African collection is made up of weaponry, arms and armour. The largest single collection formerly belonged to Major George Whitefield Anderson (1856-1915) and includes spears, bows, daggers, throwing axes, and clubs. Most items were collected during Anderson's military service in the Egyptian War of 1882 and the campaign to reconquer Sudan in 1896-1898. For example, leaf-shaped spears from Sudan, in one case recorded as taken from the Battlefield of Atbara (April 1898). Notable items in the Anderson collection include a tunic or *jibba*, a steel helmet, and a split-ring chainmail haubergeon, recorded as taken from amirs of the forces of Abdullah-al-Taishi on the battlefield at Kerreri

(near Omdurman) in September 1898. Other items with noted provenance include North African flintlock muskets recorded as taken after the battle of Hafir (September 1896) and rifles recorded as taken from the battlefield of Tel El Kebir (September 1882). One object of interest is a rifle with Arabic numbers and the 'Mahdi mark' along with an Egyptian police property mark stamp, indicating that it was used by both the Sudanese and Egyptian armies. It should be noted that the Anderson collection also includes around 46 weapons and armour that were likely made in Europe but commissioned or adapted by Egyptian and Sudanese soldiers. Because it was not possible to ascertain their exact provenance or usage in the time available, they have been counted in this review under 'north Africa unspecified'.

In addition to the Anderson collection, there are many unprovenanced shields, spears, axes, clubs, quivers and arrows, mostly from northern and southern Africa. One of the only objects with a recorded donor is a Zulu war shield presented by ship Captain James Collie of Peterhead in the late 19th century. Other unprovenanced objects of note include a highly decorated shield from Ethiopia and a Maasai shield.

Northern and southern African material makes up the majority of the collection. There are around 25 items of southern African beadwork, including collars, necklaces, belts, a staff, gourds and bags. These include objects recorded as Xhosa 'nursing charms' and Zulu 'love letter' necklaces. Other items are recorded as VhaVenda and Mfengu. It is likely that many date from the 19th century, but no provenance information was available at the time of writing.

Another significant body of material is a collection of around 16 archaeological stone implements from Somalia, including spearheads, knives, scrapers and projectiles, donated by British amateur archaeologist, Heywood Walter Seton-Karr (1859-1938).

One of the most unusual objects in the collection is a carved and painted Yoruba sculpture or house post depicting three women. A partially removed historic label describes the object as a 'Goddess of Fertility' collected in former Togoland (likely referring to present day Volta region, Ghana).

Associated material

Africa

This review identified colonial era numismatics, including around 11 coins from across the African continent; a photograph of a Zulu woman (c.1885); and a telegram notifying the recipient of the Surrender of Bloemfontein by the Boers to British forces (1900).

Caribbean

An indenture from 1807, transferring legal ownership of an estate and enslaved people in Jamaica, has recently been identified in the collection. Both parties involved (Hayes and Forbes) are likely Scottish. The indenture is unaccessioned and was found in papers belonging to James Mcpherson, Lord Lieutenant of Banffshire (1927-2012). There is also one coin from Haiti, dated 1817.

Notable donors

George Whitefield Anderson (1856-1915)
Heywood Walter Seton-Karr (1859 -1938)

Areas for further research

At present most of the collection is unprovenanced and would benefit from further research. This will be aided by documentation and digitisation work currently being undertaken. If historic accession registers are located, individual objects and their histories can be further explored, and a fuller picture of the entire collection may emerge. One example where this would be particularly useful is the Yoruba sculpture which features a partially removed historic label recording that the object was donated by 'Dr. Re [...]'. If the full name could be identified in historic records this might yield insights into exact provenance. Researchers should note that letters preceding accession numbers correspond with originating museums/collections. For example, accession numbers beginning with 'I' formerly belonged to Inverurie Museum; 'B' Banff; 'P' Peterhead; 'H' Huntly; and 'F' Fraserburgh.

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Africa unspecified		79	
			Arrows, bottle, bows, bracelet, domestic utensils, drumstick, flywhisks, gourd vessels, letter opener, mace, manilla, metal water pot, purse, skull cap, spearheads, spears, staff, stone implements, swords, throwing axes, tobacco pipes, whips
Northern Africa		92	
Northern Africa unspecified	George Whitefield Anderson	67	Bayonets, blunderbusses, bracelets, camel rein, cartridge belt, chainmail, coffee pots, container, dagger, domestic utensils, fencing foils, helmet, horse furniture, muskets, pistols, rifles, sabres, swords, tobacco pouch, water jugs
Sudan	George Whitefield Anderson	25	Arrows, knives, Koranic amulet, quivers, spears, tunic
Eastern Africa		19	
Eastern Africa unspecified		1	Shield
Ethiopia		2	Shields
Somalia	Heywood Walter Seton-Karr	16	Chert core, chert projectile, chert scraper, flint knife, flint spearhead, Neolithic and

			prehistoric stone implements
Central Africa		1	
Democratic Republic of the Congo		1	Sword
Southern Africa		69	
Southern Africa unspecified	Captain Mathieson Captain James Collie	67	Beadwork bag, beadwork belt, beadwork, beadwork necklace, clubs, domestic utensils, knee ornament, knobkerrie, leg band, shields, skin bag, snuff container, snuff spoon, spear, staff, throwing axe, tobacco pipe
Lesotho		1	Sweat scraper
Namibia		1	Axe
Western Africa		30	
Western Africa unspecified		15	Body ornaments, domestic utensils
Ghana		10	Asante gold weights
Nigeria		5	Domestic utensils, knife, Koranic amulet, leather bag, Yoruba figure

Selected object images

Tunic or *jebba*, Sudan, H3783.116



Spear, Sudan, H3783.37



Beadwork necklace, South Africa, F249



Beadwork bag, South Africa, F365



House post or sculpture, Nigeria, NN442



Elgin Museum

The Moray Society

Contact curator@elginmuseum.org.uk

Location of collections

Elgin Museum
1 High Street
Elgin
IV30 1EQ

Size of collections

212 African objects
No known Caribbean objects

Selected objects

- Hausa trousers, Ghana, ELGNM:1837.10
- Weight and spoon from gold weighing set, Ghana, ELGNM:1839.2.2.3 + ELGNM:1839.2.1
- Shield, Democratic Republic of the Congo, ELGNM:1887.12
- Ceremonial knife, Democratic Republic of the Congo, ELGNM:1887.19
- Ivory horn, Democratic Republic of the Congo, ELGNM:1842.2
- Prayer scroll, Ethiopia, ELGNM:1978.1555

History of the collection

Elgin Museum opened in 1843, making it Scotland's oldest independent museum. It was originally founded by the Elgin and Morayshire Scientific Association, which was established in 1836. The building was purpose-built, and extensions were added in 1896 and 1921. The museum underwent major refurbishments between 1988 and 1990, and redesigns in 2003. Today the museum holds around 36,000 objects and is owned and managed by The Moray Society. Collections include material described as ethnographic, natural history, costume and textiles, art, archaeology, fossils, and local history. Some of the earliest accessions of African material date from the late 1830s and were probably part of the Elgin and Morayshire Scientific Association's collections before the museum opened. Museum records suggest that much non-European material was deaccessioned or sold in the 1950s.

Overview of the collection

According to internal records at the time of writing, around 28% of the African collection is not currently attributed to a country or region. Approximately 19% of the entire collection is attributed to eastern Africa, 16% to central Africa, 14% to northern Africa, 11% to western Africa and 10% to southern Africa.

Some of the most significant objects come from Ghana. These include a pair of trousers (ELGNM:1837.10) that were donated to the Museum in 1837 by the son of Colonel Grant, a former Governor of Sierra Leone. The trousers are Hausa style but were obtained in Ghana,

most likely during a so-called punitive expedition led by Grant against the Asante in 1824, following their defeat of Sir Charles McCarthy. They are notable because they were taken during a conflict that marked the beginning of decades of Anglo-Asante wars, and because they highlight Hausa trade networks spanning west Africa at this time. Elgin Museum also holds an Asante gold weighing set, a zoomorphic gold weight (ELGNM:1839.2.1) and a lock, donated in 1839 by William Topp (1807-1877), secretary to Governor George Maclean of Cape Coast Castle.

The largest collection of material attributed to a single country comes from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Of note is material donated by James Brown Eddie in 1887, including ceremonial knives (ELGNM:1887.19), shields (ELGNM:1887.12) and spoons. Records suggest that Eddie was a missionary from Elgin and based at Boyoma Falls, formerly known as Stanley Falls. One of the earliest accessions is an ivory horn (ELGNM:1842.2), recorded as coming from the Democratic Republic of the Congo and donated in 1842 by Lieutenant W J Cooper of the Royal Navy.

The collection contains several objects that appear to have been taken during episodes of colonial warfare. For example, a Sudanese soldier's knife recorded as being taken during the Battle of El Teb (February 1884) and a Zulu staff taken during the South African War (1899-1902). These objects were donated by the legatee of collector John Brander of the New Zealand Loan Company, who originally came from Elgin. Several other objects, including shields, drums, and pottery, are attributed to William Gordon Cumming. Cumming was active in the so-called Anglo-Zulu War (Battle of Ulundi, 1879), Anglo-Egyptian War (1882), and Mahdist War (1884-1885). The Museum also holds an item described as a 'slave yoke' that is recorded as being taken in central Africa by Captain Walter Gordon Cumming when serving under Sir Harry Johnston during an expedition to suppress the trade of enslaved people. Historical records suggest that several spears from the Battle of Isandlwana (South Africa, 1879) were donated, but these have not yet been identified. This review identified a bronze bell from Benin City, Nigeria. The finish and style suggest that its production postdates the notorious 1897 sacking of Benin City by British forces. The collection includes a 19th-century prayer scroll (ELGNM:1978.1555) from Ethiopia that was reportedly owned by Haile Selassie (Emperor of Ethiopia 1930-1974).

Associated material

The Museum also holds a collection of natural history specimens, including bird eggs and tusks from Kenya, Sudan, and Sierra Leone; a small numismatics collection dating from 1790 to 1959, including coins and banknotes from Egypt, Morocco, former British South and West Africa, Nigeria, and Kenya; a collection of glass lantern slides dating from 1889 to 1920, including scenes from Algeria and Morocco; a collar made of broderie anglaise reportedly associated with David Livingstone (1813-1873); military medals from the South African War and Battle of Tel El Kebir; early 20th-century colonial literature and pamphlets; and an explosive shell taken from the Battle of Isandlwana, South Africa (1879).

Associated Caribbean natural history material includes a collection of molluscs and coral.

Notable donors

James Brown Eddie (dates unknown)
William Topp of Ashgrove (1807-1877)

Areas for further research

Staff and volunteers have been undertaking research and auditing to match objects with historical records and the museum also holds records of all the material that has been deaccessioned, which may provide relevant information for current collections.

The Museum holds correspondence from James Brown Eddie that may shed light on how objects were collected. It is possible that he was involved with the American Baptist Mission or part of the Congo-Balolo Mission, a British Baptist missionary society that was active in the present-day Democratic Republic of the Congo from 1889 to 1915.

The collection currently contains several South African objects attributed to General Gordon. This may refer to the high-profile British Army Major-General Charles George Gordon who is known for campaigns in Egypt and Sudan. Gordon does not appear to have been active in South Africa, however, so further research is required.

Miss Pirie donated a diverse collection from across the continent in 1939, including a paddle from Nigeria, a necklace from Ghana, and clubs and a staff from South Africa. Pirie was the niece of Professor Reid at the University of Aberdeen, and the objects all came from his personal collection. Additional information about these objects could potentially be identified through archival research at the University of Aberdeen.

Records note that several carved figures and masks were sold to 'Mr Webster of London' in 1955. Sold objects include a 'Witch Doctors Face Mask' from Nigeria, and a wooden 'Idol' from 'Opobo, West Coast of Africa'. This may refer to Kenneth Athol Webster (1906-1967), a collector and dealer who is better known for his interest in Oceanic material. This highlights how dealers of 'ethnographic' material obtained objects from local and regional museums in the mid-20th century and reflects the increasing market value of non-European 'artworks' at this time.

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Africa unspecified		61	
	Dr George Gordon Esq MD RN [Royal Navy] (HMS <i>Pandora</i>). Miss Grisel Haig. Arthur Hay. Sir William Gordon Cumming Bart. Therese Sophie Levack.		Armlet, arrow, barkcloth, beadwork, billhook, bowl, bracelet, charm, clay bust, dagger decorated tusks, drums, drumstick, figurine, hat, headrest, ivory crocodile, pottery, snuff bottle, spear, spoon, strainer, whip
Northern Africa		29	
Northern Africa unspecified		9	Basketry, pottery, spoons
Algeria	Mrs Gordon Duff. Sir William Gordon Cumming Bart.	3	Pottery, spur

Egypt	Sir William Gordon Cumming Bart	7	Donkey chains, flywhisk, hat, pot stand, pottery, skirt
Morocco	Major G Boyd Anderson	4	Pottery, plaque, funnel
Sudan	Miss Holloway	4	Knife, flywhisk, pipe, spearhead
Tunisia	John Brander/Miss Holloway. Sir William Gordon Cumming Bart.	2	Knife, pottery
Eastern Africa		41	
Eastern Africa unspecified		6	Spearhead, spoons, water bottle,
Ethiopia		2	Manuscripts/prayer scrolls
Mozambique	Mrs Therese Sophie Levack	1	'Bride trunk'
Somalia		17	Neolithic and Palaeolithic flint tools
United Republic of Tanzania	Miss Dressler. Therese Sophie Levack	13	Bottle, bowl, comb, cup, currency, hat, ladle, necklace, spoon
Zimbabwe	Mrs C L Gordon	2	Headrest, pipe
Central Africa		35	
Central Africa unspecified	Sir William Gordon Cumming Bart	1	
Democratic Republic of the Congo	James Brown Eddie. R Stollery. Mrs Therese Sophie Levack. Lt W J Cooper RN	34	Knives, pestle, shields, spoons. Carved ivory objects: armlet, bracelet, fork, horn, necklace, rattle, spoon
Southern Africa		21	
Botswana	Mr Leith	1	Giraffe hair hat
South Africa	John Brander/Miss Holloway. Miss Pirie. Mr Seregi De Vesselitsky. Mrs Geddie Winchester. Mrs Muir. Sir William Gordon Cumming Bart. General Gordon	20	Basket, clubs, cup, knobkerrie, pipes, spoon, shields, staff, staff/walking stick, thumb piano
Western Africa		25	
Western Africa unspecified	Miss Pirie	1	Crown
Ghana	Miss Pirie Mr William Topp	6	Asante trousers, gold weighing set, goldweight, lock, necklace, pipe
Niger	Miss Hay	1	Bell

Nigeria	Miss Pirie. Sir William Gordon Cumming Bart/ Karen Andreasen	17	Carved figure, carved heads, cosmetic bottle, drum, fan, gourd, manilla, necklace, paddle, quiver and arrows, robes, sword
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Selected object images

Hausa trousers, Ghana, ELGNM:1837.10



Weight and spoon from gold weighing set, Ghana, ELGNM:1839.2.2.3 + ELGNM:1839.2.1



Shield, Democratic Republic of the Congo, ELGNM:1887.12



Ceremonial knife, Democratic Republic of the Congo, ELGNM:1887.19



Ivory horn, Democratic Republic of the Congo, ELGNM:1842.2



Prayer scroll, Ethiopia, ELGNM:1978.1555



Falconer Museum Moray Council

The Falconer Museum has been closed to the public since 2019

Contact museums@moray.gov.uk

Location of collections

Falconer Museum
Tolbooth Street
Forres
Moray
IV36 1PH

Size of collections

30 African objects
No known Caribbean objects

History of the collection

The Falconer Museum was founded in 1871 and named after locally-born brothers, Alexander Falconer (1797-1856), a merchant in Calcutta, and Hugh Falconer (1808-1865), a prominent figure in the scientific community who also spent time in India. Alexander bequeathed £1,000 for the establishment of a public museum in Forres. The Museum was acquired by Moray Council in 1979 and has been closed to the public since 2019. During this review it was not possible to gain access to the collection. This summary is based on database information shared by Moray Council. It has not been possible to identify significant objects from the information available.

Overview of the collection

Current records suggest that the Falconer Museum holds 30 objects originating from Africa, excluding numismatic, ancient Egyptian, and natural history collections. According to these records, around 24% of the African collection is not currently attributed to a country or region. Around 4% of the entire collection is attributed to eastern Africa, 26% to central Africa, 7% to northern Africa, and 4% to southern Africa. Accession dates range from 1873 to 1988.

Much of the collection was donated by members of the Gordon-Cumming family, Scottish aristocrats based at Altyre. Of note are objects associated with William Alexander Gordon Gordon-Cumming (1848-1930), a soldier who served in South Africa, Egypt and Sudan. His uncle, Roualeyn Gordon-Cumming (1820-1866), made five hunting trips to southern Africa between 1844 and 1849. Objects donated by these individuals include shields, a spade, a drum, and a scabbard. Also of note are two spears listed as Malagasy from Madagascar, donated by a Mr W Mackenzie and accessioned in 1875.

Associated material

The Falconer Museum holds a numismatics collection from Egypt, South Africa and Tunisia. The African zoology collection includes antelope, molluscs and eggs.

Notable donors

Anne Pitcairn Gordon-Cumming of Altyre (d.1888)

Constance Frederica Gordon-Cumming (1837-1924)

Roualeyn Gordon-Cumming (1820-1866)

William Alexander Gordon Gordon-Cumming (1848-1930)

Areas for further research

Material from the Gordon-Cumming family could be researched according to their known movements in Africa. In particular, Roualeyn Gordon-Cumming described his activities in *Five Years of a Hunter's Life in the Far Interior of South Africa* (London, 1850).

Regions and countries represented – Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Africa unspecified		11	
	Mr J H Murray. Roualeyn Gordon-Cumming. James Peterkin. Miss C F Gordon-Cumming.		Axe, bow, daggers, spears, headrest, shield, walking stick
Northern Africa		3	
Algeria	A P Gordon-Cumming	1	Pottery flask
Egypt	Lady A P Gordon-Cumming	1	Pottery cup
Sudan		1	Sword
Eastern Africa		2	
Madagascar	Mr W Mackenzie	2	Spears
Central Africa		12	
Central Africa unspecified	William Gordon-Cumming	10	Drum, scabbard, shield, spade
Democratic Republic of the Congo		2	Sheath, dagger
Southern Africa		2	
South Africa	Mr J Gillan John Green	2	Spears

University of Aberdeen Collections

Contact museums@abdn.ac.uk

Location of collections

University of Aberdeen
Museum Collections Centre
Marischal College
Broad Street
Aberdeen
AB10 1YS

Size of collections

3,247+ African objects
66 Caribbean objects

Online collections

<https://calm.abdn.ac.uk/museums/>

Selected objects

Africa

- Ogboni drum, Nigeria, ABDUA:5993
- Stool and figure by Lamidi Fakeye, Nigeria, ABDUA:58812 + 58813
- Yoruba house post, Nigeria, ABDUA:6555
- Stool from Kumasi, Ghana, ABDUA:7260
- Ox hide shield covered with purple velvet and ornamental brass designs, Ethiopia, ABDUA:59241
- Dolls, Angola, ABDUA:7085 + ABDUA:7093
- Woven vegetable fibre skirt, Republic of Congo, ABDUA:7375

Caribbean

- Quartzite axe blade, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, ABDUA:8446
- Canoe paddle and detail, Guyana, ABDUA:25936
- 'Boar teeth' necklace, Guyana, ABDUA:8836
- Dyed grass basket, Guyana, ABDUA:8896

History of the collection

The University of Aberdeen was formed in 1860 with the merger of King's College (founded 1495) and Marischal College (founded 1593). Given this long history, it is possible that parts of the collection are some of the earliest in Scotland. However, in 1912, Professor of Anatomy and Honorary Curator, Robert W Reid, suggested that most of the non-European material entered the University collections from around 1800. From this point, 'ethnographic' material, including objects from Africa and the Caribbean, were displayed in various University buildings. In 1907, this material was brought together in the Marischal Museum

adjoining the Mitchell Hall. Known as the Anthropological Museum, displays were designed to illustrate 'the habits, customs and culture of the different races of Man' and were arranged according to a geographical schema. The Marischal Museum closed to the public in 2008 and, at the time of writing, operates as a collection centre, including stores and a conservation lab.

Overview of the collection

Africa

Eastern African objects represent the largest percentage of the African collections at around 37%, followed by southern Africa (26%), western Africa (23%), central Africa (7%), northern Africa (2%) and 5% unidentified. The majority were donated to the University by staff, students, alumni, associated individuals, and local families. Much like other museums across Scotland, three major provenance strands are evident with objects obtained through various examples of colonial conflict, colonial careers (particularly engineering and medicine) and missionary activity.

Eastern Africa

At the time of writing, most of the east African material with provenance information available is recorded as coming from 'Ethiopia/ Sudan/ Somalia' and was acquired by John Lawrence Baird of Urie, 1st Viscount Stonehaven (1874-1941), who served in East Africa as a British diplomat around the turn of the 20th century. The collection is diverse and includes swords, clubs, knives, daggers, food vessels and water bottles, musical instruments, headrests, personal ornaments, and processional crosses made of brass. Objects of note include two velvet cloaks and a shield reportedly associated with Menelik II (Emperor of Ethiopia, 1889-1913) with whom Baird would have come into contact. Another object of interest, not associated with Baird, is an Ethiopian prayer scroll.

Other notable east African material includes objects recorded as originating from Uganda and Kenya that were donated by individuals involved in the building of the Uganda railway in the 1890s. The two major donors were Major General Sir James Ronald Leslie Macdonald (1862-1927) and Dr Ian Rose (also known as John Alexander Rose in University records). Macdonald was born in Aberdeen and worked for the Imperial British East Africa Company, surveying the railway route from 1891 to 1892. Ian Rose was a medical doctor and alumni of the University of Aberdeen who worked on the Uganda railway construction in the late 1890s. In total there are over 100 objects (excluding human remains and photographs) attributed to Rose and Macdonald which could be researched further. Objects recorded as Ugandan include musical instruments, shields, stools, barkcloth, spears, and domestic utensils. Material recorded as Kenyan includes an antelope skin cape with beads, ostrich feather headdresses/ brow and face pieces, chain ear ornaments, necklets, whips, and spears.

Southern Africa

South African material represents the largest collection from any single country. More research is required into these extensive holdings, but it is likely that a high proportion of the weapons, body ornaments and utilitarian items were taken during, or as a result of, colonial conflicts in the region towards the end of the 1800s. A collection of 19 spears, for example, is recorded as 'belonging to Zulu chief. Battlefield of Gurghilevo, Ulundi'. The Battle of Ulundi took place at the Zulu capital of Ulundi (Zulu: oNdini) on 4 July 1879 and was the last major

battle of the so-called Anglo-Zulu War. One headrest is recorded as a 'Zulu Pillow brought home during Boer War 1899-1902'. Even where no note is made to provenance, some named donors have clear military affiliations, such as Corporal George Ogilvie and Lt Col William Lachlan Forbes. The Ogston catalogue may provide further research leads. One entry lists 'eighteen beadwork articles', including neck ornaments, waistbands, snuff calabashes, and pouches, 'presented' by Robert Welsh and coming from Umtata/Mthatha in the present-day Eastern Cape province.

Western Africa

Nigerian material represents the second largest collection from any single country and is currently undergoing major auditing work. Notable material includes objects donated by Sir William MacGregor (1846-1919), governor of former Lagos Colony from 1899 to 1904, including dance rattles, amulets, belts, fans, decorated gourd calabashes, flywhisks, medical equipment, knives, and daggers and spears. Of this collection, objects recorded as 'axes used as charms by Shango priests' and a carved Yoruba stool and house post would particularly benefit from further research.

Other notable parts of the Nigerian collection include material donated by Sir Charles Stuart Burnett (1882-1945) who was active in the West African Frontier Force in Nigeria from 1904. In 1906, Burnett took part in so-called punitive expeditions in Northern Nigeria, accounts of which are held in the museum archive. Objects of note attributed to Burnett include a drum from an Ogboni house carved in the style of Osi Ekiti, and an Emir's ornate tin staff from Hadejia that was potentially taken by force.

More contemporary Nigerian material includes a Yoruba stool and figure carvings by Lamidi and Akin Fakeye. Part of a renowned multigenerational group of Yoruba sculptors active in the mid-20th century, Fakeye was apprenticed at the Oye Ekiti workshop, based in a Roman Catholic mission.

In October 2021, the University of Aberdeen repatriated a bronze head depicting an Oba of Benin that was looted in 1897. The University has reported to Digital Benin and the Nigerian National Commission for Museums and Monuments that one potentially looted object remains in the collection. This is an iron hanging lamp, recorded as coming from the 'King's Kraal', although the exact provenance remains unclear. Internal records list an additional ten objects from Benin city that were donated by Dane Marsh in 2011. Marsh studied in Aberdeen and worked as a Forestry Officer in West Africa from 1949 to 1966. Previous reviews of this material suggest that its production postdates the notorious 1897 sacking of Benin City by British forces.

The majority of the Ghanaian collection was donated by Dr F W Moir who was reportedly a member of the West African Medical corps and active across Ghana around the turn of the 20th century (records state 1905-1906). Material includes 68 gold weights, ceremonial paddles, medical equipment, domestic utensils, archaeological material, dance rattles, and aprons. The collection also contains a carved wooden Asante stool that is recorded as coming from Kumasi. This may be connected to British plundering of the Asante capital Kumasi (1874), but further research is required to determine likely provenance details.

Central Africa

The majority of central African material originates from Angola and Democratic Republic of the Congo. The Angolan collection is almost exclusively from English anthropologists Diana and Antoinette Powell-Cotton. The sisters undertook their first trip to Angola in 1936 to

document the lives, traditions and customs of local people, which they believed to be under threat from European colonisation. The collection of material that they donated to the University of Aberdeen in 1942 includes domestic utensils, personal ornaments, and a notable collection of 'dolls' made of dried maize cobs and decorated with clay, textiles and beads.

Material from the Democratic Republic of the Congo reflects missionary activity in the region. Most was donated by Rev Arthur Billington of the American Baptist Mission Union. Billington had a station at Tshumbiri-Bwemba in former Haut-Congo Province and had probably been in the region since the 1880s. His collection was presented to the University around 1909-1912 and includes *Nkisi* figures and charms, cut pile raffia textiles, tobacco pipes, domestic utensils, basketry, axes and knives. Less is known about Rev Frank Innes, who gave a small collection including two 'figures' (probably *Nkisi* figures) and a sample of rope made from tree bark. Correspondence in a supplementary folder suggests his donation arrived before 1933.

Northern Africa

Much of the north African collection is made up of arms, armour and associated objects which were probably acquired during colonial wars, such as the Anglo-Egyptian and Egyptian-Sudanese wars of the 1880s and 1890s. Material includes weapons, utilitarian items and clothing and Koranic charms attributed to the specific battles of Omdurman, Tel el Kebir, Sonakin, and Tamai. The collection includes two tunics or *jibbas* which were most likely taken from high-ranking Sudanese emirs or generals, although no information on this is recorded, and more unusual cloth caps that were probably worn underneath metal helmets. The collection also contains suits, helmets and shirts of chainmail armour that are listed as Sudanese but were collected in Northern Nigeria by Charles Burnett in 1906.

Caribbean

74% of the Caribbean collection is made up of Guyanese objects, which are mainly weapons, basketry and personal ornaments. A collection of 31 arrows represents nearly half of the material. There are two types of arrows recorded: one made of bamboo and poisoned with curare; the second made from grass flower shoots with decorated wood heads tipped with tail spines of stingray. There are 16 items of basketry, including sieves, 'pillows', and rattles, some of which appear to be miniature versions of domestic and utilitarian objects. There are around five necklaces made of different materials, including one of blue beads, two of 'boar teeth', and two of black wooden beads. The 'boar teeth' necklaces, along with two cups containing poison for arrows and two boxes of poison tipped arrows, are recorded as being presented by Alexander Stuart in 1827 and/ or 1887.

Material from Belize represents the second largest collection of Caribbean material and the ten objects appear to be excavated archaeological material. These include two shards of a large pottery object or vessel showing human faces, which historical records list as 'Maya sculpture' from former British Honduras. There is also a 'grey ware amulet' or 'figurine' and a 'clay whistle in human form'. The only objects with clear provenance at the time of writing are two eccentric flints, a flint axe and two spearheads, recorded as being taken from a 'mound near Rio Hondo, [former] British Honduras' and donated by a Dr Keyt in 1902.

Other objects of interest include stone axes from Saint Vincent donated by Sir William MacGregor in 1920; two balls of dye, most probably annatto dye from Guyana and listed as

used for body painting; and lacebark specimens donated by Mr Alexander Thomson (no date).

Associated material

Africa

Archival collections include albums of photographs donated by John Lawrence Baird, 1st Viscount Stonehaven; a collection of photographs, notebooks and albums, written and photographed from 1944 to 1945 in Ghana, Nigeria and Morocco by Lt Col A C Stevenson; 22 photographs of people and sites in Uganda from Dr Ian Rose; five images of Morocco in the 1950s by/donated by H H Kynett.

The University also holds military badges and buttons from South Africa, 1900-1902.

Caribbean

Archival collections include seven pictures of Havana made in 1944 by/donated by H H Kynett; an album of pen and ink drawings of scenes from Trinidad, Seychelles, Mauritius and an album containing photographs of Trinidad, Fiji, Seychelles, Canada, probably made by Arthur Charles Hamilton-Gordon, 1st Baron Stanmore.

Other material includes ten coins from Jamaica; a commemoration medal '100 years of annexation of Trinidad to British Empire'; and a 'Jamaica Militia' badge.

Notable donors

John Lawrence Baird of Urie, 1st Viscount Stonehaven (1874-1941)

Sir Charles Stuart Burnett (1882-1945)

Sir William MacGregor (1846-1919)

Major General Sir James Ronald Leslie Macdonald (1862-1927)

Antoinette Powell-Cotton (1915-1997)

Diana Powell-Cotton (1908-1986)

Areas for further research

Africa

Since this survey was conducted, major auditing and rehousing work has continued and further research based on up-to-date records would be beneficial.

The University holds supplementary folders, diaries, documents and photograph albums related to the life of John Lawrence Baird of Urie, 1st Viscount Stonehaven (1874-1941), which may be useful to researchers interested in the East African objects that he acquired. These include photograph albums titled '1903 The Butter's Expedition'; '1904 Mullah Campaign'; '1900-1903 Somali Land'; '1899 Upper Nile'; 'East Africa 1903 - Abyssinia-Borana'; 'Zeila to Lake Tsana 1899-1900'; '1899-1901 Upper Nile'; 20 photographs of people, sites, soldiers, taken in Sudan and Egypt; and 82 photographs of people, scenery, hunting, sites in Ethiopia.

Information about objects from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, donated by Arthur Billington, may be mentioned in Billington's correspondence which is held in the American Baptist Historical Society archives at Mercer University Libraries. Some of this material is digitised and letters appear to recount details of his activity.

The construction of the Uganda railway was a significant event that linked the interiors of Uganda and Kenya with the Indian Ocean port of Mombasa in Kenya. Researching Ugandan and Kenyan objects collected by James Macdonald and Ian Rose during construction would provide a unique perspective on this history. It should be noted that Ian Rose also took human remains from the region, detailed below.

Relationships between Sir William Macgregor and figures of authority in Nigeria may be worth investigating further. In 1904, Macgregor reportedly invited the Alake of Abeokuta to Aberdeen. Around the same time, he donated beadwork items to the British Museum that he had confiscated from the Elepe of Epe. These were loaned to the University of Aberdeen in the mid-1980s for exhibition.

Caribbean

The whole collection would benefit from further research and a visual survey of stores may yield more finds. Guyanese canoe paddles, for example, were identified by museum staff during this review.

Pieces of lacebark donated by Mr Alexander Thomson (no date) carry a historic label that reads 'Lace Tree, West Indies, W. H. Pickering'. It is possible that these are associated with William Henry Pickering (1858-1938), an American astronomer who spent much of his later life at his private observatory in Jamaica.

Items from Guyana are potentially associated with Alexander Stewart (1811-1879) who was attorney and manager of a plantation called Lusignan, near Georgetown, Guyana. Stewart died in Edinburgh.

Dr Keyt, who donated two eccentric flints, a flint axe and two spearheads from former British Honduras in 1902, was possibly Dr Frederic Keyt (b.1866). Keyt studied in Aberdeen and was Colonial Surgeon and District Commissioner in present day Belize from 1892 to 1902.

Human remains and casts

Africa

The University of Aberdeen holds partial sets of skeletal human remains of up to 23 individuals that are identified as originating from Africa. One is recorded as 'likely African' and 22 have specific countries or regions of origin listed: Uganda (ten or 12 people, two unidentified); Madagascar (one person); Somalia (one person); South Africa (six people); Malawi (one person); east Africa (one person). All entered the University between 1870 and 1923. The collection also contains a display box of filed teeth from Africa, most likely Mozambique, accessioned around 1911-1914.

The collection also contains a plaster model of two Khoesan individuals, moulded from life by D Brucciani & Co (London) in 1851. The object was commissioned and donated by John Struthers (1823-1899), Professor of Anatomy at the University of Aberdeen. Struthers reported that the two individuals had been performing at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh. Surgeons' Hall Museums in Edinburgh holds a cast from the same mould.

Caribbean

The University of Aberdeen holds one partial set of skeletal human remains labelled 'Carib, S. America' which was accessioned in 1896.

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Africa unspecified		165	
	Mrs Henry Steven. Sir William MacGregor. Dr John McPherson. N Grahame. Sydney, Viscountess Stonehaven. J Sutter. Hassani. General Sir James R L MacDonald. Mr G Davidson, Aberdeen. Miss A N Clark. Mr P L Shanks. Mackintosh Collection. Grant Bey Collection. Lt Col Adler, Brechin. Mr W A Sutherland. Miss Ronald. Lady Sybil Burnett.		Armour, beadwork, camel furniture, ceramics, clothing and textiles, 'doll', domestic utensils, fan, figures, flywhisk, footwear, gourd vessels, headrest, medical equipment, musical instrument, painted ostrich egg, personal hygiene instruments, personal ornaments, snuff box, stool, traditional medicine equipment, walking sticks, weapons
Northern Africa		79	
Northern Africa unspecified	David Randall-Maclver. J C Henderson Trustees. Captain J B Fergusson. Wilson Collection.	11	Ceramics, domestic utensils, textiles and clothing, weapons and armour
Algeria	Countess of Kintore. J C Henderson Trustees. Grant Bey Collection.	7	Dress items, jewellery, musical instruments
Sudan	Ethel Keith-Falconer. Sydney Viscountess Stonehaven. Sydney, Charlotte Montagu, Countess of Kintore. Professor Sir Alexander Ogston. Lady Sibyl Burnett.	60	Baskets, domestic utensils, dress items, horse furniture, jewellery, musical instruments, religious amulets, textiles and clothing, weapons and armour

	Dr Grant Bey Collection. Captain J B Fergusson. R W Troup. Dr Robert Wilson.		
Tunisia	Professor Sir Alexander Ogston	1	Purse
Eastern Africa		1,179	
Eastern Africa unspecified	Dr John McPherson. Mr Donald A Fraser. Rev F A Innes. Lt Col John Robb (representatives of).	593	Arms/weapons, domestic utensils, flywhisks, footwear, jewellery, musical instruments, smoking utensils, walking sticks
Djibouti	Lt Col J Robb	1	Basket
Ethiopia	John Lawrence Baird of Urie, 1st Viscount Stonehaven, given by his wife Ethel Sydney Keith-Falconer, Viscountess Stonehaven. Charlotte Montagu, Countess of Kintore, the mother of Ethel Sydney Keith- Falconer, Viscountess Stonehaven.	64	Clothing and textiles, domestic utensils, headrest, horse furniture, jewellery, musical instruments, religious metalwork
Ethiopia/ Sudan/ Somalia	John Lawrence Baird of Urie, 1st Viscount Stonehaven, given by his wife Ethel Sydney Keith-Falconer, Viscountess Stonehaven. Countess of Kintore, Keith-hall, Aberdeenshire (mother of Ethel Sydney Keith- Falconer, Viscountess Stonehaven).	58	Jewellery/personal ornaments, horse furniture, weapons and armour
Kenya	Dr Ian Rose. Lt Col J Robb. General Sir James R L MacDonald.	79	Armour, beadwork, clothing and textiles, divining equipment, ostrich feather headdresses, personal

	Professor Sir Alexander Ogston. Dr Grant Bey. Dr G E Turner. Dr J R Levack. W H A Jamieson. Dr S Grant. J Foster.		ornaments, snuff box, weapons, whips
Kenya/ Uganda/ Tanzania	Lt Col J Robb	20	Arms/weapons, domestic utensils, personal ornaments
Madagascar	Miss P E Pirie	7	Caps, combs, sandals, snuffboxes
Malawi	Rev Alexander Hetherwick. Dr Alexander Reith. Dr Laws. Rev F A Innes. Mr Alexander Carnegie Ross. Dr Alexander Brown. Dr G A Turner. Mrs W Angus. Marischal College, Aberdeen.	179	Animal models, armour, ceremonial clubs, combs, domestic utensils, headrests, mats, musical instruments, nets, personal ornaments, snuff boxes, walking sticks, weapons and tools, whips
Mozambique	J J Simpson. Dr G A Turner. Dr William Cruickshank. J A Barclay.	43	Baskets, domestic utensils, headrest, Koran stand, musical instruments, personal ornaments (ring necklet, belt), weapons (spears, bows, arrows, knives, club)
Seychelles	Professor Sir Alexander Ogston	1	Plant material
Somalia	Dr I Rose. John Lawrence Baird of Urie, 1st Viscount Stonehaven given by his wife Ethel Sydney Keith-Falconer, Viscountess Stonehaven. Mr Seton-Karr. R Skeffington Smyth. Mr Alexander Thomson.	29	Domestic utensils, flint implements, weapons and armour
Uganda	Dr Ian Rose. General Sir James R L MacDonald. Professor J Craig.	28	Arms and armour, barkcloth, domestic utensils, musical

	Dr John McPherson. Major Milne. General C J Robertson. Ogston Collection. Lt Col J Robb. Mr A G Nicol Smith.		instruments, pottery, walking sticks, stools
United Republic of Tanzania	Dr E Henriques. Sir William MacGregor.	9	Domestic utensils, musical instruments, personal ornaments, weapons
Zambia	Mrs Archibald Reith. Dr Alexander Brown. A J Wolhuter. Rev F A Innes. Mr Alexander Carnegie Ross.	36	Baskets, body ornaments, domestic utensils, musical instruments, tobacco pipe, tools, weapons
Zimbabwe	Mr Charles Murray. Mr W A Sutherland. Mrs Angus.	32	Axe, bag, club, daggers, domestic utensils, flywhisk, footwear, musical instruments, personal ornaments, snuff container, tobacco pipe
Central Africa		239	
Central Africa unspecified	Mr Alexander Carnegie Ross. Rev F A Innes. Mrs Archibald Reith.	3	Daggers, rope
Angola	Misses D & A Powell-Cotton	122	Body ornaments, ceremonial dress, ceremonial items, children's toys, 'dolls', domestic utensils and tools, hair ornaments, pigment, poison, scent, snuff boxes, weapons
Cameroon	Dr Robert Wilson Trust Fund	1	Stool
Chad	Major P H G Powell-Cotton	1	Lip plug
Republic of Congo and Democratic Republic of the Congo	Rev A Billington. Rev F A Innes. Misses D & A Powell-Cotton. Sr William McGregor. J M H MacLeod. Ogston Collection. Trustees of late T J C.Henderson.	112	Armour, baskets, ceremonial weapons, domestic utensils, dye, footwear, headrest, local currency, metal body ornaments, model house musical instruments, power figures, textiles and clothing, tobacco pipes, weapons, wood samples

	Miss M F Michie. Curator, Glenesk Museum.		
Southern Africa		829	
Southern Africa unspecified	Dr G A Turner. Dr Alexander Brown. Lt Col J Robb. Charles Alford Murray. Rev F A Innes.	206	Armour, domestic utensils, musical instruments, personal ornaments, snuff box
Eswatini	Mr F Singer. Dr G E Turner.	2	Counting device, headrest
Lesotho	C W Morrison	5	Personal ornaments, pottery
Namibia	Misses D & A Powell- Cotton	4	Anklet, headdress, necklace, scent
South Africa	Professor Sir Alexander Ogston. Mr A W E Marr. F W Moir. H Y Miller. David Caston. Miss E Pirie. Dr G E Turner. Dr G A Turner. Rev Mr Thom. Lt Col W Lachlan Forbes. Dr van Niekirk. Dr Mehliiss Reitfontein. Miss E Pirie. Mr George Ogilvie. Mr Charles Murray, Alford, Aberdeenshire. Miss B J Morrison. Sydney, Charlotte Montagu, Countess of Kintore. A W E G Marr. Mrs Lawrence. George Johnston. A Hill. Mr Peter Harvey, Aberdeen. D Fordyce. A Cormack, Stoneywood School. A M Beggs.	612	Armour, beadwork (aprons; ornaments for neck, wrist, arm, ankle, leg; belts, bags, gourds), clothing and textiles, clubs/staff, divining kits, 'doll', domestic utensils (dishes, milk pots, calabash vessels, strainers), flywhisks, hair ornaments, headdresses, headrests, horse furniture, musical instruments, painted ostrich egg, personal ornaments (metal, shell, beads), rattles, snuff boxes, stone tools, tobacco pipe, tools, walking stick weapons (spears, axes, ammunition belts, gun), whips

	Lyn Borchard. Mrs M Campbell, Stonehaven. Mr Alexander Carnegie Ross.		
Western Africa		756	
Western Africa unspecified	Sr James McGrigor. Mr Irvine. F W Moir. M A Morris. Ogston Collection. Mrs Hugh Ross. E W Wood Mason.	90	Clothing and textiles, domestic utensils, footwear, local currency, mask, musical instruments, religious amulets, weapons, wooden figures
Benin	Sir William MacGregor	2	Axes
Côte d'Ivoire	F W Moir	1	Canoe
Gambia	Rev F A Innes	3	Flywhisks, harp
Ghana	Dr F W Moir. Sir William MacGregor. Professor Sir Alexander Ogston. Dane E M Marsh. Miss J Gordon. Mr Emmanuel Asibey, Ghana. Mrs Barron.	167	Beads, calabash vessels, ceramics, ceremonial dress, clothing and textiles, domestic utensils, fishing equipment, footwear, gold weighing equipment, medical instruments, musical instruments, paddles, religious writing board, snuff box, stone axe heads, stool, weapons, wooden figures
Guinea and Guinea-Bissau	Sibyl Burnett, Lady Leys	3	Box, charm, skirt
Nigeria	Sir Charles Burnett. Sir William MacGregor. Dane E M Marsh. Dr J G Copland, Africa. Dr F W Moir. Professor Sir Alexander Ogston. Professor Robert W Reid. Christ's College, Aberdeen. Dr. Robert Wilson Trust Fund. Prof and Mrs T A I Gill, Ife University. Miss J Gordon.	422	Basketry, beads, bronze and brass commemorative altar figures, charms and amulets, clothing and textiles, currency items, dance costumes, domestic utensils, fans, flywhisk, footwear, gourd vessels, horse furniture, leatherwork, masks, medical instruments, musical instruments, paddles, religious texts, staffs, stool, weapons, whips, wooden figures, wooden panels

	J C Henderson, Trustees. George Johnston. Dr J Pickles, South Africa. Mrs Hugh Ross. Rev A G Somerville, Nigeria.		
Senegal	Sir James McGregor	22	Harp, arrows
Sierra Leone	Sir James McGrigor. Mr F S Maxwell Esq BA. R M Johnston, Aberdeen. Mrs Hugh Ross. E W Mason Wood. F W Moir. D M Spring.	46	Body ornaments, clothing and textiles, combs, game board, leatherwork, masks, musical instruments, weapons, whip, wooden figure

Regions and countries represented: Caribbean

Country	Major sources/donors	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Caribbean unidentified	Mr Alexander Thomson. Mrs Peter, Rubislaw Den	2	Jug, lacebark specimens
Jamaica		1	Razor strop
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Sir William Macgregor	4	Stone axe heads
Culturally affiliated with the Caribbean region (within CARICOM)			
Belize	William Alexander Robertson Dr Keyt	10	Axe heads, ceramic figurine, clay whistle, flint tools, pot sherds, spear heads, stone axe heads
Guyana	Sir William Stokes, Dublin Alexander Stuart	49	Basketry, canoe paddles, domestic utensils, dyes, necklaces, poison, rattles, weapons (clubs, arrows)

Published Information

Hunt, Charles (1991). 'The Elepe's Beadwork: A Question of Legitimacy'. In Susan Pearce (ed) *Museum Economics and the Community 2*. London: Athlone Press, 177-87.

Reid, R W (1912). *Illustrated Catalogue of the Anthropological Museum, University of Aberdeen*. Aberdeen: Aberdeen University Press.

Reid, R W (1912). *Catalogue of Specimens Deposited by Sir William MacGregor GCMG MD in the Anthropological Museum, Marischal College, University of Aberdeen, 1899-1909*. Aberdeen: Aberdeen University Press.

Selected object images

Africa

Ogboni drum, Nigeria, ABDUA:5993



Stool and Figure by Lamidi Fakeye, Nigeria, ABDUA:58812 + 58813



Yoruba house post, Nigeria, ABDUA:6555



Stool from Kumasi, Ghana, ABDUA:7260



Ox hide shield covered with purple velvet and ornamental brass designs, Ethiopia, ABDUA:59241



Dolls, Angola, ABDUA:7085 + ABDUA:7093



Woven vegetable fibre skirt, Republic of Congo, ABDUA:7375



Caribbean

Quartzite axe blade, St Vincent and the Grenadines, ABDUA:8446



Canoe paddle and detail, Guyana, ABDUA:25936



'Boar teeth' necklace, Guyana, ABDUA:8836



Dyed grass basket, Guyana, ABDUA:8896





Wooden club with plant fibre binding, Guyana.
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African and Caribbean Collections in Scottish Museums Edinburgh and Lothians

Edinburgh and Lothians

- Museums & Galleries Edinburgh (City of Edinburgh Council)
- National Museums Scotland
- Surgeons' Hall Museums (The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh)

Museums & Galleries Edinburgh

City of Edinburgh Council

Contact museumsandgalleries@edinburgh.gov.uk

Location of collections

Museum of Childhood
42 High St
Edinburgh
EH1 1TG

Museum Collections Centre
10 Broughton Market
Edinburgh
EH3 6NU

Museum of Edinburgh
142 Canongate
Edinburgh
EH8 8DD

Lauriston Castle
2A Cramond Road South
Edinburgh
EH4 5QD

Size of collections

52 African objects
2 Caribbean objects

Selected objects

Africa

- Banana leaf football, Malawi, MC874.97
- Push along wire Land Rover made by children, Malawi, MC883.97
- 'Bawo' game, Malawi, MC865.97

History of the Collection

Museums & Galleries Edinburgh cares for 220,000 objects that relate to historical and cultural life in the city of Edinburgh. They are also responsible for the care of over 200 monuments, memorials and statues. Collections span social history, literature, childhood, archaeology and fine and applied art. Many are recognised by the Scottish Government as being of national significance. Collections are on display in 13 venues across Edinburgh, with the majority stored at the Museum Collections Centre. Museums & Galleries Edinburgh began life as the city's Corporation Museum and the Council started collecting from around 1870. The original museum was housed in a room at City Chambers which was made public in 1904. What is now the Museum of Edinburgh opened in 1932, and the Museum of Childhood was established in 1955.

Overview of the collection

Africa

The majority of African objects relevant to this review are held at the Museum of Childhood. These are predominantly late 20th-century toys collected in Africa.

The majority of the collection comes from eastern Africa. The largest single collection comes from Malawi and includes toys made for and by children. Objects include 'dancing' dolls, an

abacus, a 'Bee in Tree' game, a football made from banana leaf, toy guns made of wood and wire, a Land Rover made of wire, a 'Bawo' game, and a tin whistle in the shape of a bird. The collection was donated by the family of John McCracken (1938-2017), an Edinburgh-born historian of Malawi. McCracken taught in Malawi in the early 1960s, but this collection was most likely made by his family between 1980 and 1983 during his secondment as professor of history at Chancellor College, University of Malawi.

Another significant collection contains toys made in Botswana in the mid-1990s by the Botshelo Project, a craft cooperative affiliated with NGO Skillshare International. The objects were likely produced by craftspeople in the Marulamantsi community, a San community on the northwest of Serowe village. Objects were donated by Maris Bruce, a British project volunteer, and were intended specifically for a 1997 exhibition that examined links between Scotland and Africa.

The Guthrie collection is made up of costume dolls and tourist memorabilia dating from the 1950s to 1960s and contains dolls made in Morocco, South Africa, and Egypt. The British donor designed the collection to represent different nationalities and cultural groups. Dolls are named and given fictitious biographies, some including outdated and potentially offensive stereotypes.

The social history collections also contain material relevant to this review. The most significant are objects donated by the family of Field Marshal Douglas Haig (1861-1928). Born in Edinburgh, Haig started his military career in the Anglo-Egyptian army in Sudan in 1898. He took part in the Battle of Atbara (8 April 1898) and the Battle of Omdurman (2 September 1898). Haig later served in the South African War (1899-1902). Objects directly relevant to this review include one spear head and six spears which correspondence suggests were taken by Egyptian soldiers following the conflict at Atbara and later purchased by Haig.

Other objects of interest include a piece of bark, reportedly from the tree under which Scottish missionary David Livingstone's heart is buried in Zambia, and a small gold weight in the shape of a bird that was excavated in Mali in 1903.

Caribbean

Two dolls have been identified from internal records. One doll is from Barbados and is part of the Guthrie collection of costume dolls and tourist memorabilia dating from the 1950s to 1960s. The second doll is recorded as being produced in Suriname in 1935 or earlier. The donor's family lived on a banana plantation and the doll was reportedly made for the donor's mother by a person of African descent employed by the family.

Associated material

Africa

The Lovett collection of dolls held at the Museum of Childhood has not been included in this survey because it is a long-term loan from the National Museum of Wales and undergoing review at the time of writing. Donated by Edward Lovett (1852-1933), an English folklorist with a particular interest in dolls, this collection contains around seven relevant items, including an *Akua'ba* fertility doll from Ghana and a 'spirit doll' from Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The Museum of Childhood holds associated slides, posters, books, newspapers and magazines. For example, a 'View-Master' reel of stereoscopic images of South Africa (1969); a poster of traditional toys published by the Botswana Postal Service; and a booklet titled *General Gordon's expedition to the Sudan* with ten colour pictures illustrating the Nile expedition of 1884-1885.

The Social History collections include various associated booklets, documents, photographs, and military related artefacts. The collection associated with Field Marshal Douglas Haig includes around 31 relevant items, including photographs of Haig and other British officers in Africa; a plan of the diamond fields of South Africa (1893) and rock sample; freedom scrolls presented to Haig by cities across Africa; and military uniforms, belts, badges, decorations and medal ribbons.

Other associated material in the social history collection includes a contract between the Union Boating Company of Algoa Bay, South Africa, and Newhaven Seamen (1889); photographs of the official visit of Sudanese president El Ferik Ibrahim Abboud to the Forth Road Bridge (1964); and documents belonging to Colonel Maule Horne concerning the South African War (1899-1902).

Caribbean

Associated Caribbean objects identified in internal records include a book titled *Caribbean Alphabet* (Frané Lessac, 1989) and photographs of pupils at F E Pollard Primary School in Georgetown, Guyana, titled 'Dancing with the masquerade band, our African Heritage' (undated).

Other items, including books, magazines, comics and toys, were chosen by members of the Edinburgh Caribbean Association to be displayed in the exhibition *Respect! Caribbean Life in Edinburgh* held at the Museum of Childhood in 2022-2023. Although not all these objects originate from the Caribbean, they were selected to explore what it is like to grow up in the Caribbean, what it means to be Caribbean, Caribbean links with Scotland, and how Caribbean food and music has influenced British culture.

Associated material in the wider collection includes an empty glass bottle of Lang's Jamaica Rum (date unknown) in the social history collection and a set of postage stamps from the British Virgin Islands at the Writer's Museum.

Areas for further research

The collection of late 20th-century African toys at the Museum of Childhood may be of interest to researchers concerned with the post-independence period. They highlight how Scottish presence in Botswana and Malawi continued after independence, with individuals working at universities and NGOs.

In recent years, attention has been paid to how Edinburgh residents have supported and benefited from slavery and colonialism, and how this history is physically present in the fabric of the city. Although the African and Caribbean object collections at Museums & Galleries Edinburgh are relatively small, expanding investigations to include the monuments, memorials and statues cared for by the organisation would provide new perspectives and potentially uncover more important connections between Edinburgh, Africa, and the Caribbean.

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Africa unspecified		1	'Fish-shaped pick' toy
Northern Africa		10	
Egypt	Guthrie	2	Fancy dress costume, toy horse
Morocco	Guthrie	1	Doll
Sudan	Haig	7	Spear head, spears
Eastern Africa		31	
Kenya		10	'Banana skin' picture, batik wall hangings, carved wooden rhinoceros, carved wooden warthog, doll, mask, 'soapstone' figurine, wooden swords
Madagascar		2	Bird whistle, push along bird.
Malawi	McCracken	17	Abacus windmill, banana leaf football, 'Bawo' game, 'Bee in Tree' game, bows and arrows, catapult, cup, dolls, popguns, push along bird, rattle, wire Land Rover, wooden truck
Uganda		1	Jigsaw puzzle
Zambia		1	Piece of 'Mvula' bark from the David Livingstone tree
Southern Africa		9	
Botswana	Maris Bruce	4	'Mantadile' traditional carved wood toy, 'Moraka' traditional board game, 'Sefuu-Fuu' traditional wooden toy
South Africa	Guthrie	5	Car, dolls, tambourine
Western Africa		1	
Mali		1	Goldweight

Regions and countries represented: Caribbean

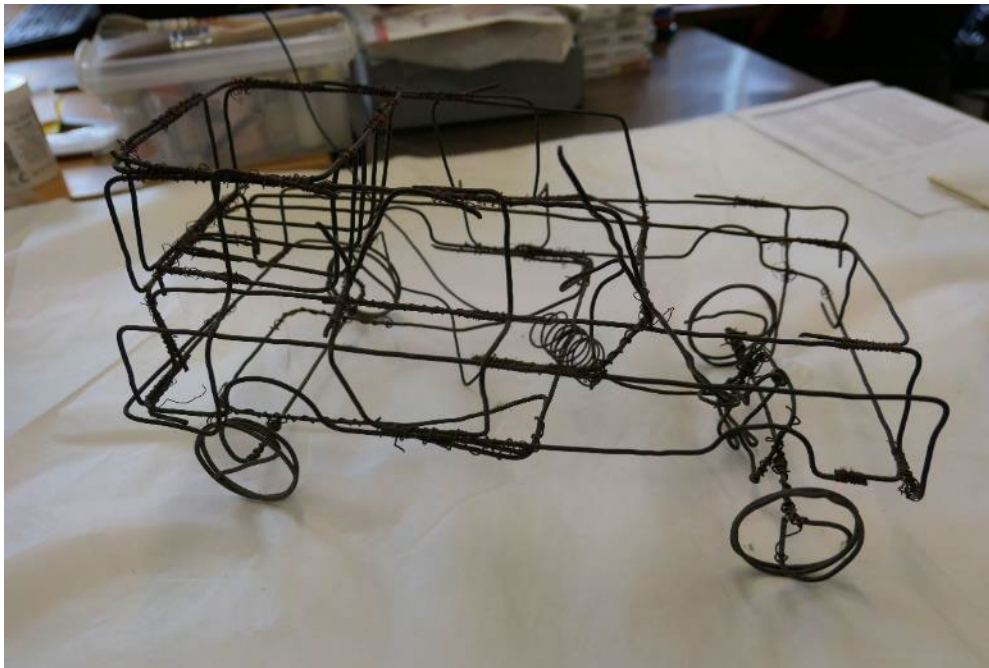
Country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Barbados	Guthrie	1	Doll
Culturally affiliated with the Caribbean region (within CARICOM)			
Suriname		1	Doll

Selected object images

Banana leaf football, Malawi, MC874.97



Push along wire Land Rover made by children, Malawi, MC883.97



'Bawo' game, Malawi, MC865.97



National Museums Scotland

Contact GACD.enquiries@nms.ac.uk

Location of collections

On display

National Museum of Scotland
Chambers Street
Edinburgh
EH1 1JF

In storage

National Museums Collection Centre
242 West Granton Road
Edinburgh
EH5 1JA

Size of collections

9,093 African objects
388 Caribbean objects

Online Collections

<https://www.nms.ac.uk/search-our-collections>

Selected objects

Africa

- Raffia cut pile embroidered textiles from the Kingdom of Loango, 18th century, A.UC.629
- Textiles from the Yoruba kingdom of Ijebu, Nigeria, acquired 1790s by Captain Corran, A.716.29
- *Shango* staff from the collection of Leon Underwood, Nigeria, A.1947.26
- Central section of a three-part ivory saltcellar, West Africa, probably Sierra Leone region, 16th century, A.1956.1155
- Copper alloy figure showing a hornblower, Benin City, Nigeria, 17th-18th century, A.1985.630
- Carved wooden figure of a woman, Temne people, Sierra Leone, collected by William Fergusson, 1830s or early 1840s, A.1956.1159
- Mask of the Yoruba Gelede society, collected by Dr J W Rowland, probably at Lagos, Nigeria, early 1880s, A.1885.100

Caribbean

- Dancing headdress consisting of a cylindrical framework of split Maranta stems concealed by feathers, Guyana, A.UC.81
- Basket of flowers made of shells, Jamaica, A.1878.11.1
- Beadwork necklaces made at St Cuthbert's Mission, Guyana, 1960s, V.2022.136

- Jar of Job's tears with a label that reads 'A Token of Gratitude from the Mission Schools, Brownsville Jamaica, 1878. Thy Kingdom Come. Pray for Us', Jamaica, K.1997.981
- Stone hatchet, Saint Vincent or Saint Lucia, A.1890.79
- Anvil-shaped dark wood club with plant fibre binding around the base and shaft, Guyana, 19th century, A.1956.785
- Anvil-shaped dark wood club with curvilinear designs incised onto the front, Guyana, 19th century, A.1887.139

History of the collection

National Museums Scotland (NMS) was founded in 1854 as the Industrial Museum of Scotland (1855-1864), the first national museum outside London. The building in Chambers Street opened in 1866 as the Edinburgh Museum of Science and Art (1866-1904), later renamed the Royal Scottish Museum (1904-1985). In 1985, the Royal Scottish Museum and the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland (1858-1985) were formally merged to become National Museums of Scotland, renamed again in 2006 to National Museums Scotland. The Museum today is divided into four distinct departments, Science and Technology; Scottish History and Archaeology; Natural Sciences; and Global Arts, Cultures and Design. This review focuses on the collections held in the department of Global Arts, Cultures and Design, although it does include a short summary of associated material in other departments. Ancient Egyptian material has been the subject of a previous national review and is therefore not included.

The African and Caribbean collections at NMS are some of the oldest in Britain, because they come from three other Edinburgh institutions that were founded before the Industrial Museum of Scotland. On its founding in 1854, the Industrial Museum formally acquired the collections of the University of Edinburgh Museum of Natural History (c.1692) and the Royal Society of Edinburgh (c.1783). In 1956, the Royal Scottish Museum also took in selected collections from the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland (c.1780), with the remaining collections arriving in 1985. About 101 extant African and 18 Caribbean items from the University of Edinburgh Museum of Natural History collections are currently identified within the NMS collection, and 68 African and six Caribbean objects from the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

Overview of the collection

Africa

Approximately 34% of the entire African collection is from western Africa, 31% is from eastern Africa, 13% from central Africa, 9% from northern Africa, and 5% is from southern Africa. Around 7% is not currently attributed to a particular region or country. The largest collections from single countries are from Nigeria (1,954 objects), Ghana (825), Malawi (787), and Kenya (489). Around 912 objects are from Republic of the Congo or Democratic Republic of the Congo.

As a consequence of the early founding of its contributing institutions, the NMS African collections hold historically important early items, especially from central and western Africa. The highlights include rare, high-quality raffia cut pile embroidered textiles from the Kingdom of Loango, probably made in the 18th century, and elite 16th-century sculpted ivory salt cellars in different styles, made by specialist 'Sape' ivory carvers on what was then called

the 'Guinea Coast'. From an archaeological and historical point of view the collection also includes very important mid-19th century collections from Bioko Island (now Equatorial Guinea). These include plaited bead armbands (*epa*) and a medicinal or protective necklace of the Bubi ethnic groups, as well as wooden spears and arrows. Significant ceramic and jewellery collections from northern Africa are also represented among the early collections.

Over 13% of the African collection consists of diverse items of arms and armour, which were acquired by various means, but often by Scottish or British soldiers. Although they have important significance regarding African metal working technologies, they also embody histories of colonial violence and appropriation. In addition, numerous African items of great cultural and political significance were originally acquired through European colonial military exploits. These include important Ethiopian items from Maqdala (now Amba Mariam), originally taken when a British military force attacked and looted the fortress of the Emperor Tewodros in 1868. The African collections also include sacred royal artworks in copper alloys and ivory from Benin City in Nigeria, looted by a British force that attacked and took over the Edo Kingdom in 1897. Other significant collections that were acquired by force during the colonial era include the regalia of a Fante chief from Ghana, deposed by the British in about 1903, and the collections from central and eastern Africa acquired by Dr Moloney during the notorious mercenary 'Stairs Expedition' to Katanga of 1891-1892. Many significant items, especially from central Africa, that were acquired in unknown ways and purchased by the Museum from dealers and collectors may also have been originally taken under violent or oppressive colonial conditions. In particular, the valuable goldwork items purchased from R and S Garrard in 1875 are recorded as having been looted at the 'capture of Kumasi' during the so-called 'Anglo-Asante war' of 1873-1874.

Early collecting for the Industrial Museum of Scotland after its foundation in 1854 brought in a disparate collection of utilitarian, household, and other artefacts, intended to exemplify 'native' African 'decorative' and 'industrial' arts, and this seems to have been a theme of much subsequent collecting. The relatively large collection from modern day Malawi (close to 800 objects), and the preponderance of Scottish missionary donors responsible for gifting and selling them to the Museum in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, speaks to the lasting legacy of the relationships that David Livingstone (1813-1873) established in the region and the following that he attracted from Scotland. In western Africa, a similar centre of missionary collecting focused on the Calabar mission in south-eastern Nigeria that was substantially built up by the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland missionary, Hope Waddell, and others, including Mary Slessor from 1876. Known contributors to the NMS African collection, who served as Calabar Mission missionaries, include Zerub Baillie and his brothers Andrew and John, Archibald Hewan, Mary Slessor, Rev Alexander Robb, and Halbert Dalgleish.

Rich early 20th-century collections from the Congo region, and especially the upper Congo River, are strong in items of clothing and body adornment, probably reflecting the interests of the Scottish missionaries who collected them. However, the numerous acquisitions made by the missionaries, of highly valued items of personal status and adornment, cannot be detached from the broader context of the severe economic stresses caused by the brutal impoverishment of central Africans under the regime of Leopold II's 'Congo Free State' and its Belgian successor regime.

By far the largest collection (about 2,000 objects) comes from Nigeria with a wide variety of object types represented from at least 25 ethnic groups. However, Hausa objects, mostly from northern Nigeria, amount to almost a quarter of the Nigerian collection. In addition to

the collection from Benin City mentioned above, and the Efik and Ekoi items from south-eastern Nigeria, the Yoruba and Hausa textile and clothing collection from western and northern Nigeria are large and important. There are also significant textile collections from Mali, Ghana and eastern Africa.

The Sierra Leone collection includes masks from the women's Sande initiation society as well as a series of historically important initiation society 'medicine' figures in wood and another series of soapstone *nomoli* figures, primarily unearthed during agricultural or mining works.

NMS holds a significant collection of musical instruments from many African countries, but with a focus on Cameroon, Ethiopia, Mali, Nigeria, Tanzania, Tunisia, and Uganda. The instrument collection is complemented by a collection of LP records and sound recordings sold and bequeathed by the American-born ethnomusicologist Jean Jenkins.

Acquisitions for the African collections over recent decades have had an emphasis on textiles from eastern, western, and southern Africa. These build on a rich textile assemblage that includes pieces acquired from across the continent, exemplifying a wide variety of technologies and material techniques. Acquisitions in recent years have focused particularly on commemorative cloth from several African countries which give dynamic expression to more recent political and religious identities and institutional affiliations.

Notable sources

Notable early donors who are significant in the context of Scottish colonial histories and legacies include a significant number of doctors, doctor missionaries, and doctor soldiers who were alumni of the University of Edinburgh. For example, Sir James McGrigor (1771-1858), a physician, military surgeon and botanist, who donated western African and South African items to the Museum in 1826. Dr William Fergusson (1795-1846), who in 1813 was the first person of African descent to graduate from the University of Edinburgh, served as a colonial surgeon in Sierra Leone and was appointed Governor of the Colony of Sierra Leone in 1845. He donated an important early figure from Sierra Leone to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. Dr J W Rowland, a colonial surgeon in western Africa, made an early collection of culturally important religious items from Nigeria, which he donated to the Museum in 1885 and 1890.

Notable Scottish missionary collectors who worked in eastern and central Africa include David Livingstone, who donated five items to the African collections. Livingstone had met George Wilson, who became director of the Scottish Industrial Museum (1855-1859), while studying chemistry in London in 1838. Several Scottish missionaries and missionary doctors followed in Livingstone's wake to work in what is now Malawi and neighbouring regions, including the Rev Alexander Hetherwick (1860-1939), a Church of Scotland missionary who donated a collection of 125 objects from Malawi in 1889. Neil Macvicar (1871-1949) established a hospital at Blantyre in Malawi in 1896 and the collection his sister donated to the Museum includes numerous examples of late 19th-century beadwork and personal adornment from Malawi. Mr and Mrs Malcolm Moffat, who opened a mission station in 1906 at Chitambo near the place of Livingstone's death, also contributed to the eastern African collections.

Adam Darling Purves worked for the London Missionary Society in central Africa in the 1890s. A total of 359 objects, collected by Purves from Congo, Malawi, Tanzania, and Zambia, were either sold to the Museum by Purves or donated by his daughter, Isobel

Common, and Mrs G Innes. Rev James Moon worked for the Regions Beyond Missionary Union at the Balolo Mission in Leopold II's 'Congo Free State'/ Belgian Congo, from 1907 to 1910 and from 1913 to 1916. The Museum holds over 260 objects from his collecting activities. The collection is complemented by a collection of 'ethnographic' photographs taken by friends of Moon in places in which he worked.

Collectors associated with the Calabar Mission in southeastern Nigeria include Dr Archibald Hewan (1832-83), who presented around 40 objects to the Industrial Museum in 1859. Hewan was born in Jamaica and grew up on the Hampden sugar plantation. He travelled to Scotland at the age of 19, with the help of the Scottish Missionary Society, to train as a doctor. In 1855 he travelled to Calabar to work as the medical missionary surgeon for the Old Calabar Mission. The Museum also received objects in 1859 from the Edinburgh missionary Rev Zerub Baillie (1831-1865), who went to Calabar in 1856 and returned to Edinburgh in 1859. A small group of objects were also registered from the Calabar Mission founder, Rev Hugh Goldie (1815-1895), whose publication *Calabar and its Mission* (1890) provides descriptions and observations related to the objects. In 1868, another group of Calabar mission related objects were presented by Rev Alexander Robb, while Halbert Dalgleish, a trainer at the Hope Waddell Training Institution in Calabar, sold an item to the Museum in 1897.

NMS holds notable Northern Nigerian collections from Dr R E Miller, a science teacher at Kaduna College, who collected a full range of Hausa material culture with particular emphasis on tools, objects of everyday life, and clothing.

The sister of Dr Joseph Moloney, Miss L Lovat-Fraser, sold a total of 84 objects to NMS that were acquired by Dr Moloney during his participation in the 1891-1892 mercenary 'Stairs expedition' that resulted in the killing of King M'siri and the seizure of his territory in Katanga, Central Africa, for the Belgian King Leopold II. Moloney's collection at NMS includes a figurative staff that M'siri had carried, along with various other items from Kantanga, Malawi and Tanzania.

Notable collections from western and central Africa were presented by Olive MacLeod (1880-1936), a member of the Scottish aristocracy. MacLeod spent from August 1910 to May 1911 travelling through western and central Africa with a botanical, zoological and anthropological survey expedition led by Amaury Talbot and his wife Dorothy. The expedition covered about 2,500 miles. MacLeod published an account of her trip in 1912 titled *Chiefs and Cities of Central Africa*. In addition to the donations she made to NMS, artefacts from her expedition went to the British Museum, the Liverpool Museum, the Pitt Rivers Museum in Oxford, and this review has identified material at the Watt Institution in Greenock.

Over 100 African objects, many Nigerian, were purchased by NMS from Harriet Astley (née Corran) in 1861, including items associated with Scottish explorers, the Lander brothers and John Duncan. Astley was the daughter of Captain Corran, a Liverpool ship captain who participated in the transatlantic trade of enslaved people, and a few items are documented as having been acquired by Corran during the period before abolition.

NMS purchased Somali and Kenyan objects from the Secretary of the Kenya Empire Exhibition Committee of the British Empire Exhibition of 1924 and 1925 (A.1925.794-816). This exhibition, held at Wembley Park, London, included displays of 'Nigerian craftsmen at work' and an African Village 'occupied by Hausas, Yorubas, Fantis, Mendes and other races.'

The African performers who inhabited these living dioramas may have worn or used some Somali and Kenyan artefacts among their props.

NMS has at least seven works from the collection of Leon Underwood (1890-1975), a British artist who engaged with the 'primitivist' movement (eg A.1947.26). He was a friend to museum curators and a collector of African art who contributed to the re-evaluation of African 'ethnographic specimens' as 'art' according to a universal notion of sculpture. William F C Ohly (1883-1955), an artist and art dealer, also sold a variety of items to the Museum, principally from Sierra Leone and Zambia.

NMS received objects from the various distributions of Wellcome Historical Medical Museum collections, conducted via the British Museum by the Wellcome trustees following the death of Sir Henry Wellcome (1853-1936). Diverse African items, including some from Benin City, were received from distributions in 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952 and 1953. African items from Harry Beasley's 'Cranmore Museum', including some from Benin City, were also presented to NMS by Irene Beasley in 1947, 1948 and 1952.

Caribbean

Approximately 64% of the entire Caribbean collection is from Guyana, 10% is from Belize, 8% from Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, 7% from Barbados and 2% from Trinidad and Tobago. Representing less than 2% each are collections from Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Haiti, Saint Kitts and Nevis, and Saint Lucia.

The Caribbean collections, cared for by the Department of Global Arts, Cultures and Design at NMS, contain early material brought back to Scotland by missionaries, plantation owners, government officials, and their families. As a result of the transfer of early collections from the University of Edinburgh Museum of Natural History and the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, the Museum today cares for a small but significant collection of historically important early items. While most of this early collection consists of weapons or tools, it also includes a dancing headdress (A.UC.81) and two items of early basketry (A.UC.82 and A.UC.97) from Guyana. The early collections also include biocultural collections; a box of arnatto seeds from Saint Vincent and the Grenadines used to make red dye (A.UC.80) and a glass jar of plant roots used as a fish poison from Guyana (A.1884.82.160).

From the collections of the Industrial Museum of Scotland is a descriptive catalogue containing 38 specimens of barkcloth collected by Captain Cook during his three voyages in the Pacific (A.1074), which includes a sample of Jamaican lacebark, *lagetta lagetto*, showing an earlier stage of fibre processing. Compiled at the request of Alexander Shaw in 1787, around 68 of the catalogues have been identified in museum collections around the world, but it is believed around 80-100 were produced. Several catalogues, including that held by NMS, contain a sample of Jamaican lacebark not part of the barkcloth collections compiled during the three Cook voyages. The lacebark may have come from a larger piece purchased at the sale in 1786 of the Portland Museum collection owned by the Duchess Dowager of Portland (Margaret Cavendish Bentinck).

Guyana has the highest representation with 249 objects. Of the 34 weapons from Guyana, 18 are flared quadrilateral wooden clubs known as *macana*, each inscribed with individual curvilinear and anthropomorphic designs on the shaft. Some also still include their original fibre binding around the handle, including an early example transferred from the National

Museum of Antiquities of Scotland (A.1956.785). Another club (A.1887.139), purchased from the dealer A Dowell, has been identified as a particularly good example of the diamond and curl club form.

Approximately 35% of the Caribbean collection are tools and weapons, with 30% making up pottery fragments excavated on archaeological sites. Significant material includes 108 potsherds donated in 1925 by Sir Everard im Thurn (A.1925.139-246). The potsherds were excavated at Enmore Plantation in Demerara, Guyana, a sugar plantation owned by the Porter family. The find was reported by Rashleigh Porter, owner of the plantation. The material was exhibited in the 1885 British Guiana and West Indian Exhibition, where it is thought that im Thurn may have acquired it.

Twenty-nine objects came to NMS via international and colonial exhibitions, which sought to exhibit the economic potential of the colonies through their raw materials as well as depicting the material culture of the indigenous peoples of the region. Objects were purchased from the 1862 International Exhibition and the 1884 Forestry Exhibition. Out of 29 objects, 23 are from Guyana with the remainder from Trinidad and Tobago. This reflects Scotland's colonial interests in the Caribbean region at that time.

A small number of objects have known associations with mission work in the region. A group of seven objects were collected by a Rev W Ritchie, who was based in Demerara, Guyana, and donated to the Museum in 1897. They include material culture from Macusi peoples as well as objects that may have been used by Ritchie himself, such as a knife, ruler and mallet. Another missionary, Rev J Campbell who was based in Jamaica, sold an ornamental basket of flowers made from shells and mounted onto a presentation board to the Museum in 1878 (A.1878.11.1). The Museum acquired a basket and spray of flowers from the Bahamas made from shell work in 1865 (A.1865.82.1 and A.1865.3-6) and a bouquet of flowers made from bird feathers and including several beetle specimens, broadly provenanced to the Caribbean, purchased from Monsieur Carchon in Paris (T.1867.33.1). These unusual objects, which reflect a Victorian fascination with the natural world, require more research. A jar of Job's tears, bearing the label 'A Token of Gratitude from the Mission Schools, Brownsville Jamaica, 1878. Thy Kingdom Come. Pray for Us' was purchased by the Museum in 1997 (K.1997.981). Collections donated to NMS in 2022 by Barbara Evans and her husband John Evans, who worked as a cartographic surveyor for the British Government, include beadwork necklaces made for sale to tourists at St Cuthbert's Mission, Guyana, in the 1960s (V.2022.136-138).

Notable donors/collectors

Thomas Graham Briggs (1833-1887) was a Barbadian-born collector of Caribbean antiquities in the 19th century. Briggs inherited the Farley Hill estate in Barbados and later owned Stony Grove, Old Manor and Round Hill in Nevis. Briggs collected shell implements and stone tools from Black Barbadians. After his death his collections were dispersed by his family amongst the British Museum, NMS and the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Cambridge. The collections held by NMS were purchased from Briggs' nephew Charles Kenrick Gibbons in 1890.

Sir Everard im Thurn (1852-1932) was an anthropologist, archaeologist, traveller and colonial official. He was a graduate of the University of Edinburgh and curator of the British Guiana Museum from 1877 to 1882, moving to become a government agent from 1891 to 1899. He donated 108 Carib potsherds which were excavated at Enmore Plantation and a group of 20 glass plate negatives (currently unregistered) depicting indigenous peoples of

Guyana. Lady Alice Janet Chalmers (1857-1941) was the wife of Scottish-born Sir David Chambers, Chief Justice of British Guiana from 1878 to 1893 who served in the Colony of Jamaica in 1894. She donated a small collection of weapons, personal ornaments and clothing made by indigenous peoples in Guyana to the Edinburgh Museum of Science and Art in 1896, and the Royal Scottish Museum in 1932.

Edmund Knight Taylor, a property owner at Brandons, St Michael, Barbados, excavated objects on his property, including pottery and shell tools. Most of the material found is now in the Barbados Museum. In 1895 he donated 11 objects to the Edinburgh Museum of Science and Art, including a photograph depicting the excavation. The photograph is no longer held by NMS. A small collection of domestic utensils from Guyana were donated in 1963 by the family of Sir Gordon Lethem (1886-1962), an Edinburgh-born colonial administrator who was Governor of former British Guiana in the 1940s.

Associated material

The departments of Global Arts, Cultures and Design; Science and Technology; and Scottish History and Archaeology hold associated material that may be of interest to researchers.

Africa

Global Arts, Cultures and Design holds 71 coins from African countries and the collection of Jean Jenkins, an American-born ethnomusicologist and former musical instrument curator at the Horniman Museum. Jenkins sold and bequeathed a large collection of LP records, slides, and musical sound recordings collected primarily in Ethiopia, Tanzania, Uganda, Nigeria and Ghana from the 1960s to the 1980s. These African music-related collections form one part of a diverse collection of indigenous instruments and recordings from many parts of Africa, Asia and the Middle East that NMS acquired from her collection. The Jean Jenkins audio collection includes 95 LP records and some 2,860 audio tape recordings. The audio tape recordings have been digitised and are accessible to researchers as digital audio files. The audio archive is complemented by a large collection of field photographs in slide form, of which 436 have been digitised and are downloadable via the Axiell database. There is considerable potential for further research on this audio archive. Records and instruments have been included in the object totals of this review, but digitised sound recordings and photographs have not.

Science and Technology holds around 60 objects associated with Africa, including geological specimens, maps, model canoes and boats, metrological instruments, microscope slides, and material from public health campaigns.

Scottish History and Archaeology has approximately 985 objects associated with Africa, including currency; military medals and colonial dress uniform; photographs, letters and diaries related to military service in Africa; and a commemorative wooden cross associated with David Livingstone. Of note are an Ethiopian drinking horn taken from the camp of the Governor of Samen, Ayto Tesfos Ethiopia, 1771; a horn cup of Ethiopian origin, said to have belonged to Emperor Tewodros II and taken at the looting of Maqdala, 1868; a gourd of Asante origin, taken during the so-called Third Anglo-Asante War, 1873-1874, Ghana; a drum of Asante origin, taken during the Third Anglo-Asante War, 1873-4, Ghana. These objects are included in the report of the 2017-2021 research project *Baggage and Belonging: Military Collections and the British Empire, 1750-1900*.

Caribbean

There are 19 coins and three postage stamps in the Americas section of Global Arts, Cultures and Design. Seven silverware objects are cared for by the European Decorative Arts section of Global Arts, Cultures and Design. The collections of audio-visual material are small with three recordings of Afro-Cuban religious ceremonies made by Jean Jenkins in the Americas section of Global Arts, Cultures and Design. Sir Everard im Thurn also donated a group of 20 glass plate negatives (currently unregistered) depicting indigenous peoples of Guyana.

Science and Technology holds around 20 objects associated with the Caribbean, including samples of 'products' such as wood, fruit, nuts, seeds and cotton, geological specimens, lantern slides, microscope slides and maps.

Scottish History and Archaeology has approximately 264 objects associated with the Caribbean, including around 58 items of silverware, currency, military medals and buttons, engravings and letters.

Notable donors

Africa

Harriet Astley (née Corran) (dates unknown), Harriet Astley and Liverpool Dealers

Rev Zerub Baillie (1831-1865)

Dr William Fergusson (1795-1846)

Rev Hugh Goldie (1815-1895)

Rev Alexander Hetherwick (1860-1939)

Dr Archibald Hewan (1832-1883)

Miss L Lovat-Fraser, sister of Dr Joseph A Moloney (1857-1896)

Neil Macvicar (1871-1949)

Dr R E Miller (dates unknown)

Rev James Moon (dates unknown)

Sir James McGrigor 1st Baronet (1771-1858)

Adam Darling Purves (1865-1901)

William F C Ohly (1883-1955)

Dr J W Rowland (dates unknown)

Olive Temple (née MacLeod) (1880-1936)

Leon Underwood (1890-1975)

Caribbean

Thomas Graham Briggs (1833-1887)

Lady Alice Janet Chalmers (1857-1941)

Lady Kate Lethem, relative of Sir Gordon Lethem (1886-1962),

Edmund Knight Taylor (dates unknown)

Sir Everard im Thurn (1852-1932)

Areas for further research

Africa

The early African collections from the first half of the 19th century would benefit from in-depth research.

Significant research has been conducted on Scottish missionary collectors' contributions to western science, but far less has been done on their relationships to colonial as well as African authorities and how their interests may have been served by wider colonial contexts and resulting political and economic conditions in the locations in which they worked. This is an area for further research in the field of colonial histories and legacies.

Dr William Fergusson and Dr Archibald Hewan are notable early donors that merit further research. After the abolition of the slave trade in the early 19th century, persistent paternalistic attitudes and racist ideas about Africans' special resistance to tropical afflictions accounted for a number of Jamaicans with Scottish connections, including Fergusson and Hewan, being trained for colonial medical and missionary roles in Africa. Although they served as agents of Empire, and contributors to colonial 'knowledge gathering' institutions, they also developed critiques of the way European colonialism was pursued in Africa. The links and networks they established with African groups and with decision makers and campaigning groups in the UK, enabled them to influence the course and expressions of colonialism in Africa. Fergusson, for example, sought to deracialise colonial medical knowledge in Sierra Leone and Hewan pursued botanical and medical studies and promoted better health services for Africans in southeast Nigeria. In 1888 and 1890 another Edinburgh medic, William Rowland (colonial surgeon, Lagos, Nigeria), donated Nigerian items to the NMS collection. However, his significance for further research relates to the fact that he was to disagree with Fergusson's earlier work and thus helped to reaffirm the racialization of colonial medical knowledge.

Items in the collection from Harriet Astley, originally collected by Captain Corran, have important historical significance and represent an area for further research. In addition to the Ijebu textile collected in 1790 (A.716.29), the items A.716.34 & A.716.52 from the south-eastern Nigerian town of Bonny are also noteworthy and are documented as having belonged to the king and queen of Bonny. The Ibani Ijaw town of Bonny was the economic and political centre of the Niger Delta during the greater part of the 18th and 19th centuries. The royal 'House of Pepple', which reigned from the 18th to the 19th centuries, oversaw the transition from the trade of enslaved people to the trade in palm oil and other 'legitimate' commodities, in collaboration with former Liverpool slave-trading firms, after abolition in 1807.

Caribbean

The whole Caribbean collection requires further detailed research. Of particular interest are the collections brought together by Thomas Briggs and Edmund Knight Taylor, the collections from Guyana, the 18 objects transferred from the University of Edinburgh Museum of Natural History, and the unregistered collection of 20 glass plate negatives from Guyana donated by Sir Everard im Thurn.

Human remains

NMS hold partial sets of skeletal human remains of up to 13 individuals that are identified as originating from Africa. Twelve of these people have specific countries or regions of origin recorded: Botswana (one person); Central Africa (two people); Kenya (one person); Mozambique (one person); Nigeria (6 people); and South Africa (one person). One remaining individual is recorded as African, with no additional information available. NMS also holds skeletal and mummified human remains of 18 individuals from Ancient Egypt.

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Africa unspecified		631	
Northern Africa		860	
Algeria	J F S A Curle J Jenkins E L Nassos G F Lawrence Victoria and Albert Museum	100	Ceramics, jewellery, LP records, textiles and clothing, toys, weapons
Egypt	Arab Art Museum, Cairo Dr J I Murray H Wallis	392	Amulets, baskets, ceramics including archaeological fragments, dolls, jewellery, LP records, musical instruments, pipe heads, religious furniture, screen prints, textiles and clothing, weaving equipment, writing equipment
Libya		4	Textiles
Morocco	T C Archer Capt J H Brooks Sir J H D Hay E L Nassos	244	Baskets, ceramics, horse trappings, LP records, musical instruments, textiles and clothing, weapons
Sudan	Lt C A Osborne	90	Basketry, body ornaments, charms, 'dolls', household items, musical instruments, textiles and clothing, weapons
Tunisia	H Astley. Bethnal Green Museum. J Jenkins.	30	Ceramics, jewellery, lithographs, musical instruments, textiles and clothing
Eastern Africa		2,866	
Burundi	J Jenkins	3	Basket, LP record, musical instrument
Eritrea	J Welstead	25	Basketry, ceramics, cosmetics, household items, musical instruments, textiles and clothing
Ethiopia	W Collie Lt Col A T Curle Col W J Holt J Jenkins Sir W Mackenzie	168	Basketry, body care items and ornaments, currency items, headpieces, leatherwork, LP records, musical instruments,

	Dr P W R Petrie Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh		paintings and manuscripts, religious jewellery and metalwork, religious medallion, textiles and clothing, weapons and fetters
Kenya	E J Brown. Dr R W Felkin. P B Handyside. C W Hobley. C M G Johnston. H H Ramsay-Fairfax. Col W G H T, Secretary of Kenya Empire Exhibition Committee.	489	Amulets, blacksmith's equipment, body care items and ornaments, ceramics, fire sticks, fishing equipment, household items, musical instruments, pipes, snuff paraphernalia, textiles and clothing, weapons
Madagascar	H Astley. W Burns Thomson. Rev W Deans Cowan. J Jenkins. Miss J E Ronald. National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland. University of Edinburgh.	125	Basketry, commemorative sculpture, household objects, LP records, models, musical instruments, pipes, scales and weights, snuff paraphernalia, textiles and clothing, tools, weapons
Malawi	Miss S Beck P G Boyle Rev A Hetherwick Dr R Laws Dr D Livingstone Miss MacVicar Dr Moloney A D Purves Rev T C Young Mrs T C Young S Worden	787	Basketry, beads, body ornaments, ceramics, headrests, household items, medical paraphernalia, musical instruments, snuff paraphernalia and pipes, staffs, stamps, textiles and clothing, tools, weapons and hunting equipment, wooden figures
Mozambique	Rev I Forbes Dr J Kirk Dr D Livingstone	160	Basketry, body ornaments, ceramics, clothing and textiles, headrests, mask, models of household objects, musical instruments, pipes, tools, weapons
Rwanda	Mrs A Smythe J Giblin W D Webster	17	Baskets, musical instrument

Seychelles	C Trotter	2	Basketry
Somalia	Miss Blair. Lt Col A T Curl. Mr & Mrs D F Edminson. F G Fenton & Sons. J Jenkins. National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland. Secretary, Kenya Empire Exhibition Committee. Secretariat, British Somaliland.	239	Basketry, body ornaments, camel trappings, clothing and textiles, headrests, household items, musical instruments, spoons, stone tools, tools, weapons and shields
South Sudan	Dr R W Felkin C Gross Dr D J Guthrie Dr A Mactier Pirrie	198	Amulets, body ornaments, combs, fire sticks, leatherwork, musical instruments, pipes, trap, weapons, wooden figure
Uganda	Dr R W Felkin. Mrs A H C Hanbury-Tracy. Jose Hendo C W Hobley CMG Johnston J Jenkins Mrs Scott Dr Van Someren [Alur Lyre] Dr A Wilson	177	Barkcloth and barkcloth beaters, basketry, body ornaments, ceramics, clothing and textiles, face masks, game, headrests, household items, model canoe, musical instruments, pipes and tobacco items, staffs, stone figures, weapons and tools
United Republic of Tanzania	A D Purves I Common J Jenkins A Lawson Rev T C Young	238	Basketry, body ornaments, ceramics, household objects, musical instruments, pipes, staffs, textiles and clothing, tools, weapons, weaving equipment
Zambia	P N R Cave-Browne A D Purves I Common Chilala Habeenzu Mrs Innes Rev Moffat W F C Ohly W O Oldman D W I Piggott P Van Velsen	117	Basketry, body ornaments, currency items, household items, mask, musical instruments, staffs, textiles and clothing, tools and weapons, wooden figures, wooden vessels
Zimbabwe	J Ballantyne Rev I Forbes	121	Body ornaments, ceramics, divining instruments,

	W D Webster Surgeon-Major W Johnstone, National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland		headrests, household items, musical instruments, snuff paraphernalia and pipes, textiles and clothing (including barkcloth), toys and models, weapons and tools
Central Africa		1,136	
Angola	Gallery Menist NV Mrs I M Beasley KJ Hewett Ltd S G Fenton Ltd Wellcome Museum W T Wilson	20	Amulets, baskets, ceremonial staffs, combs, masks, net slings, seat, weapons and tools
Cameroon	J I C B Austin H Astley (Liverpool) W Cross (Liverpool) F Ferguson K J Hewett Ltd J Jenkins M Kirwan H E Rogers (Liverpool) E T Uldall JFG Umlauff J Salmons A Taylor W D Webster	65	Ceramic pipeheads and lamps, hats, raphia bags and textiles, LP records, looms, musical instruments, staffs, stools, weapons, wooden figures and masks
Chad	A Lawson O Temple	27	Brass bracelets, fishing net, head armour, milk pots, musical instruments
Republic of the Congo and Democratic Republic of the Congo	W Cross (Liverpool). Hon M W Elphinstone. SG Fenton & Sons Ltd. J Jenkins Sir H H Johnston Rev D Livingstone Dr Moloney Rev J Moon Capt J Moon Rev F Oldrieve Mrs Payne A D Purves Rev J L Roger W J Steedman Mrs Templeton	912	Baskets, body ornaments, ceramic vessels, ceremonial staffs, combs, currency items, divination apparatus, fish traps, Loango carved ivory tusks, musical instruments, power objects, stone tools, textiles and clothing (including barkcloth), weaponry and tools, wooden masks and figures, wooden stools and headrests, wooden vessels

	University of Edinburgh W D Webster Mrs Webster Wellcome Museum		
Equatorial Guinea	Astley Collection (Liverpool). W Cross (Liverpool). Dr W F Daniell. Dr A Hewan. H E Rogers (Liverpool). University Collection	20	Bubi Plaited beadwork, Fang beaded headpieces, wooden spears and arrows
Gabon	H Gibson Capt D Munro W D Webster	92	Ceramic pipe bowls, currency items, ivory body ornaments, musical instruments, raphia textile, weapons and ceremonial knives, wooden masks and figures
Southern Africa		457	
Botswana	Rev H Calderwood J Garrow W Johnstone	47	Body ornaments, eggshell vessel, flywhisk, tools, weapons
Eswatini	D Forbes Sir P B Handyside	20	Ceramic vessels, body ornaments, dress, headrests, snuff apparatus, stone pipe bowls, tools,
Lesotho	A B Balfour A Fullarton	43	Amulets, bead masks, body ornaments, ceramics, dolls, sewing equipment, snuff paraphernalia, tools
Namibia	W Cross (Liverpool) H E Rogers (Liverpool) J F G Umlauff	8	Daggers, body ornament, spears
South Africa	Mrs H Astley. Mrs Baggaley. Rev H Calderwood. W Campbell. Cape Colony Commission (Paris Exhibition 1867). R Dennis. A Fullarton. Rev A Hetherwick. D Lindsay Carnegie.	339	Basketry (including wire weaving), beadwork and body ornaments, clothing and textiles, eggshell beads and water vessels, glass beads, ceramics (and shards), leatherwork, pipes and snuff paraphernalia, staffs, stone digging stick weights, stone implements, weapons (including hunting), wooden utensils

	Dr D Livingstone. National Museum Of Antiquities of Scotland. Col FAV Thurburn. University of Edinburgh. W D Webster. Dr E Ward.		
Western Africa		3,143	
Benin	H Astley Distington Museum Major W Birrell- Gray	27	Basketry, brass genre figures, ceremonial weapons, studio sculpture, wooden masks and figures
Burkina Faso	The Berkeley Galleries Frida Craft Stores	2	Mask, textile
Côte d'Ivoire	S B Burney J Jenkins Wellcome Museum	31	LP records, masks and wooden figures, musical instruments, textiles and clothing, vessels
Gambia	H Astley. Crown Agents for the Colonies. Commander C M Dundas. J Jenkins.	44	Amulets, donkey bit, household utensils, leatherwork, LP records, musical instruments, religious manuscripts, saddle frame, tally sticks, tools, weapons, weaving equipment and textiles, writing boards
Ghana	A Aranow. H Astley. H Balfour. G Bonavia. Dr O S Browne. E B Cunynghame. Mrs A Davidson- Houston. Rev I Forbes. P B Handyside. G M Hunter. Ms J Igoe. J Jenkins. G F Lawrence. Major D Lindsay Carnegie. Dr A MacPherson. Mrs Millar. K Nicklin & J Salmons.	825	Adinkra stamps, amulets, baskets, beads, brass vessels, ceramics and pottery shards, clothing and sandals, coffin, combs, flags, gold ornaments and jewellery, gold weights, household items, leatherwork, LP records, masquerade costume and material samples, memorial figures, metal figures, model stools, musical instruments, pipe heads, scoops and scales, staffs, stone tools, stools, textiles, weapons, wooden figures

	W O Oldman. R and S Garrard, Rowland Ward Ltd, A C Russell. L Underwood. Prof H Walton. W D Webster. Mrs Webster. Wellcome Museum.		
Guinea/ Guinea-Bissau	J Jenkins	1	LP record
Liberia	H Astley S Burney G F Lawrence Mrs E Mason Crown Agents for the Colonies	16	Ceramics, ceremonial sword, leatherwork, masks, paddle, snuff mill, textile, wooden figures
Mali	The Berkeley Galleries. S Brett-Smith. Crown Agents for the Colonies. B E Evans. Frida Craft Stores. P Goldman. J Jenkins. Dr A MacPherson. H E Rogers. University of Edinburgh. S Worden. Adama Yanogue.	50	Body ornaments (including goldwork), door locks, hats, horse trappings, leatherwork, LP record, masquerade headdresses, paddle, textile dyeing samples, textiles and clothing, wooden figures, wooden vessels
Mauritania	J Jenkins	1	LP record
Niger	O Temple J Jenkins	21	Body ornaments, household items, LP record, musical instruments
Nigeria	H Astley. Rev Z Baillie. Mrs I M Beasley. S Burney. W Campbell. J Clark. W Cross. A Dickson. Exhibition Commissioner, Nigerian Section, British Empire Exhibition.	1,954	Basketry, beads, body ornaments, brassware, bronze and brass commemorative altar figures, cast brass bells, ceramics, charms and divination equipment, commemorative ivory, currency items, equid trappings, games, gourd vessels, household objects, leatherwork, masks, musical instruments, religious texts and writing boards, screenprints,

	Lady Fraser of Tullybelton. F G Fenton & Sons. F A Fleming. F Gillespie. Gordon Reece Gallery. Sir P B Handyside. A Hewan. D Idiens. Inverclyde District Council. J Jenkins. G F Lawrence. Mary Slessor Foundation. Prof E Mbamali. E McConchie. J S G McJannet. J B I Mackay. McLean Museum Greenock. Dr R Miller. National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland. Capt H L Norton-Traill. W Oliphant. Mrs J Olaore. P Oyelola. W Renwick. Rev A Robb. Dr J W Rowland. Mrs E T Uldall. L Underwood. Capt L H T Sloan. O M Temple. J R G Watters. W D Webster. Wellcome Museum.		textiles and clothing, tools, weapons, wooden boxes and panels, wooden figures
Senegal	University of Edinburgh	9	Textile, weapons
Sierra Leone	Major J S Bisset. Crown Agents for the Colonies. W Campbell. Lt A C H Duke. J S Fenton. Mrs M Fenton.	137	Bags & textiles, baskets, body ornaments, clothing, combs, currency items, games, household utensils, ivory salt cellars, leather work, masks and figures, medical paraphernalia, musical instruments, shoes,

	W Ferguson. Sir P B Handyside. J Hartley-Duff. Dr W A Hart. G M Hunter. J Jenkins. R Kerr (RSM). Dr J Kirk. G O Marke. National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland. E J F Ohly. R Ritchie. H E Rogers (Liverpool). J A Tobin (Liverpool). Wellcome Museum.		snuff paraphernalia, staffs, stone sculpture, weapons
Togo	Dr A MacPherson	25	Household items, musical instruments, textiles, weapons

Regions and countries represented: Caribbean

Country	Major Sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Caribbean unspecified		2	Ornamental feather work
Antigua and Barbuda	Thomas Graham Briggs. Dr George Edmund Pierez. Barbara and John Evans.	6	Domestic utensils, clothing and accessories, tools, vessels, weapons
The Bahamas	Science and Art Department, Edinburgh Museum of Science and Art	5	Ornamental shell work
Barbados	Thomas Graham Briggs. Edmund Knight Taylor. C Harper Bourne. Miss Boulton. Miss K Pennycook. National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland.	29	Tools, vessels

Dominica	Dr Normal Willison Simmonds	1	Finger trap
Dominican Republic	David Forbes	1	Pottery
Jamaica	David Deuchar Rev J Brunton J Campbell The British Museum	4	Barkcloth sample, decorative art, plant material, tools
Haiti	Mrs Reid. William Downing Webster.	5	Tools
Saint Kitts and Nevis	Thomas Graham Briggs	7	Personal ornament, tools
Saint Lucia		2	Tools
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Thomas Graham Briggs. University of Edinburgh Museum of Natural History. J W Forrest. Miss Brown. Dr Alexander. Charles Stephen. The British Museum.	30 (9 are possibly Saint Lucia)	Plant dye, tools
Trinidad and Tobago	International Exhibition 1862. Dr Normal Willison Simmonds.	8	Basketry, fan, textile, vessel, weapon
Culturally affiliated with the Caribbean region (within CARICOM)			
Belize	Herbert T Grant. Captain Morgan. Robert and Marianne Huber. National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland. R C O'Hara. Dr Smith Osborne Browne.	40	Ceramics, clothing and textiles, musical instrument, personal ornaments, weapons
Guyana	Sir Everard im Thurn. Crown Agent for the Colonies. University of Edinburgh Museum of Natural History. Lady Janet Alice Chalmers. Barbara and John Evans. International Exhibition 1862.	248	Clothing and accessories, domestic utensils, fans, fish trap, model boat, musical instruments, plant materials, potsherds, weapons, whip

	<p> Lady Kate Lethem. A Dowell. Harriet Astley. Andrew Gordon. Mrs Baggaley. Dr George William Balfour. William Campbell. J Dickson. John Alexander Elphinstone, 17th Lord Elphinstone. R Ferguson. Gall and Inglis. Gilbert Macintyre Hunter. John Stewart Hepburn. E Howden. James Stewart. Sheila and Hugh Kilpatrick. Mrs Dalgleish. Mrs I M Lyon. Mrs Kerr. Mrs Reid. National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland. Rev W B Ritchie. S G Fenton and Sons. Sim Collection. J C Stevens. Professor Thomas Stewart Traill. Rev W B Ritchie. W Campbell. W Johnson. Mrs Webster. William Downing Webster. Wellcome Historical Medical Museum. </p>		
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Caribbean

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Selected object images

Africa

Raffia cut pile embroidered textiles from the Kingdom of Loango, 18th century, A.UC.629



Textiles from the Yoruba kingdom of Ijebu, Nigeria, acquired 1790s by Captain Corran, A.716.29



Shango staff from the collection of Leon Underwood, Nigeria, A.1947.26



Central section of a three-part ivory saltcellar, showing four armed Portuguese figures, West Africa, probably Sierra Leone region, 16th century, A.1956.1155



Copper alloy figure showing a hornblower, West Africa, Nigeria, Edo State, Benin City, 17th-18th century, A.1985.630



Carved wooden figure of a woman collected by William Fergusson 1830s or early 1840s, Temne people, Sierra Leone, West Africa, A.1956.1159



Mask of the Yoruba Gelede society, collected by Dr J W Rowland, probably at Lagos, Nigeria, West Africa, early 1880s, A.1885.100



Caribbean

Dancing headdress consisting of a cylindrical framework of split Maranta stems concealed by feathers, Guyana, A.UC.81



Basket of flowers made of shells, from Rev J Campbell, Jamaica, A.1878.11.1



Beadwork necklaces made at St Cuthbert's Mission, Guyana, 1960s, V.2022.136



Jar of Job's tears with a label that reads 'A Token of Gratitude from the Mission Schools, Brownsville Jamaica, 1878. Thy Kingdom Come. Pray for Us', Jamaica, K.1997.981



Stone hatchet, Saint Vincent or Saint Lucia, A.1890.79



Anvil-shaped dark wood club with plant fibre binding around the base and shaft, Guyana, 19th century, A.1956.785



Anvil-shaped dark wood club with curvilinear designs incised onto the front, Guyana, 19th century, A.1887.139



Surgeons' Hall Museums

The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh

Contact museum@rcsed.ac.uk

Location of collections

Surgeons' Hall Museums
The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh
Nicolson Street
Edinburgh
EH8 9DW

Size of collections

2 African objects
No known Caribbean objects

Online Collections

<https://museum.rcsed.ac.uk/the-collection/search-the-museum-collections-adlib>

Selected objects

- Traditional healer equipment, Zimbabwe, HC.Z.4.3
- Gourd used for enemata, Ghana or Sierra Leone, HC.Z.5.6

History of the collection

The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, founded in 1505, established the museum as a teaching collection for students of medicine. The collections grew significantly from 1699 and expanded in the 1800s to include the collections of surgeons and anatomists, Sir Charles Bell and John Barclay. The Museum, in which the collections still reside today, was opened to the public in 1832, making it one of the oldest in Scotland still in its original location. Surgeons' Hall Museums includes the Wohl Pathology Museum, the History of Surgery and Dentistry Museum and Body Voyager Galleries. The Museum houses one of the most comprehensive historical medical collections in Scotland, detailing Scotland's prominent role in the development of medicine throughout history, both in the UK and worldwide.

Overview of the collection

Surgeons' Hall Museums holds two objects of African origin that come under the remit of this review. These are a collection of traditional healer equipment, recorded as a 'Witchcraft Outfit', from present day Zimbabwe, and a gourd used for auto-administration of enemata from Sierra Leone or Ghana.

The traditional healer equipment was presented to Scottish otolaryngologist and historian of medicine, Dr Douglas Guthrie (1885-1975), by the former National Museum of Southern Rhodesia. According to the object records, the material belonged to an individual named 'Nyamadinya' of the Sena people, who died at Bulawayo in 1949. The collection includes horns and tortoiseshells filled with medicine, a belt made of iguana skin, a gourd with red

seed decoration used for treating ear problems, a corked gourd filled with oil, a comb and knife, a carved root, and a piece of wood wrapped in a wire. The collection also contains bones used for divination, including two of possible human origin, which are included in the human remains section of this report.

Associated material

Associated documents include a map of Africa that belonged to Denis Parsons Burkitt (1911-1993), an Irish surgeon who spent time in present day Kenya and Somalia during the Second World War, later settling in Kampala, Uganda.

The Museum also holds a cast of the left humerus of Scottish missionary David Livingstone, who, some years before his death, had his arm broken by a lion and the fracture remained ununited.

Notable donors

Douglas James Guthrie (1885-1975)

Areas for further research

The Museum holds historic catalogues and object history files which may contain further information on relevant collections. The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh contains College and Museum minute books which may document individual acquisitions and donors.

Human remains

Surgeons' Hall Museums holds partial sets of skeletal human remains from up to 12 individuals that are identified as originating from Africa. Five of these people have specific countries of origin recorded. They came from Nigeria, Ghana, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, and Tanzania. Two are associated with the traditional healer equipment (HC.Z.4.3) and are potentially from present day Zimbabwe. Five remaining individuals are recorded as African, with no additional information available. Additionally, the Pathology collections hold tissue samples from 13 people that are identified as originating from Africa. One is recorded as African, with no additional information available. Twelve have specific countries of origin recorded: Liberia (one person), Togo (one person), Ghana (one person), Democratic Republic of the Congo (one person), Tanzania (four people) and Sierra Leone (four people).

The collection also contains a plaster model of two Khoesan individuals, moulded from life by D Brucciani & Co (London) in 1851. The object was commissioned and donated by John Struthers (1823-1899), Professor of Anatomy at the University of Aberdeen. Struthers reported that the two individuals had been performing at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh. The University of Aberdeen holds a cast from the same mould.

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Eastern Africa		1	
Zimbabwe	Douglas James Guthrie	1	Traditional healer equipment

Western Africa		1	
Western Africa unspecified	G M Hunter	1	Gourd medical instrument

Selected object images

A gourd with red seed decoration used for treating ear problems, one part from a collection of traditional healer equipment, Zimbabwe, HC.Z.4.3



A corked gourd filled with oil, one part from a collection of traditional healer equipment, Zimbabwe, HC.Z.4.3





Tray of beaten and decorated
brass work, Nigeria, pre-1894.
© CSG CIC Glasgow Museums
and Libraries Collections

African and Caribbean Collections in Scottish Museums Glasgow and Strathclyde

Glasgow and Strathclyde

- Auld Kirk Museum (East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture Trust)
- David Livingstone Birthplace Museum
- Glasgow Life Museums
- The Hunterian, University of Glasgow
- Paisley Museum (OneRen)
- Rozelle House Museum and Galleries (South Ayrshire Council)
- Watt Institution (Inverclyde Council)

Auld Kirk Museum

East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture Trust

Contact museums@eastdunbarton.gov.uk

Location of collections

Auld Kirk Museum
Cowgate
Kirkintilloch
G66 1HN

Size of collections

4 African items
No known Caribbean items

Selected objects

- Sword, Sudan, AKM.1974.15.2
- Scabbard, Sudan, AKM.1975.176

History of the collection

The Auld Kirk and its graveyard are Category A listed, and the Auld Kirk's collection reflects the history of the local area. From Roman artefacts to innovations of the 20th century, around 13,000 objects reveal the social, industrial and everyday activities of people who lived or worked in East Dunbartonshire.

Overview of the collection

At the time of writing, staff at the Auld Kirk Museum are aware of four objects in the collection that originate from Africa. These are a sword and scabbard, a dagger, and a whip, most likely from Sudan. Although nothing is currently known about the donor, Mr D MacLeod, or how the objects were acquired, it is likely that they were obtained from Sudanese soldiers during the so-called Anglo-Egyptian or Egyptian-Sudanese wars of the 1880s and 1890s. Material from these conflicts can be found in museums across Scotland.

Regions and countries represented – Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Northern Africa		4	
Sudan	Mr D MacLeod	4	Dagger, sword and scabbard, whip

Selected object images

Sword, Sudan, AKM.1974.15.2 (left)

Scabbard, Sudan, AKM.1975.176 (right)



David Livingstone Birthplace Museum

Contact info@dltrust.uk

Location of collections

David Livingstone Birthplace
165 Station Road,
Blantyre
South Lanarkshire
G72 9BY

Size of collections

670 African objects
No known Caribbean objects

Online Collections

<https://collection.david-livingstone-birthplace.org/>

Selected objects

- Beaded gourd, Eastern Africa, BLTDL21700
- Zulu double neck rest, Southern Africa, 459
- Brass leg ornaments, Nigeria, 978a+b
- Wooden comb, Eastern Africa, BLTDL21992
- Chief's chair, Botswana, 1425
- Milking pot, Lesotho, BLTDL21835

History of the collection

The David Livingstone Birthplace Museum is dedicated to the life and work of the Scottish traveller, missionary and abolitionist David Livingstone (1813-1873). The David Livingstone Trust was established in 1927 with the ownership of David Livingstone Birthplace, which includes the building of Livingstone's birth and surrounding parkland. The museum holds a collection of 5,000 objects which were acquired from the 1920s onwards through public calls for donations. Ostensibly, all objects in the collection have a connection to Livingstone, although these are based on reported information from donors. Some material was collected by Livingstone himself, but the majority is associated by place and missionary connections. In recent years, The Birthplace Project reinterpreted Livingstone's story for a new generation in the context of Scotland's role in slavery and colonialism.

Overview of the collection

At the time of writing, available collection data identifies at least 670 objects of African origin, excluding natural history specimens, objects associated with the trafficking of enslaved people, and documents such as maps. Object records do not currently have a country attribution and within the scope of this review it has not been possible to survey the entire collection comprehensively to establish accurate figures for each region. The summaries

listed here are based on a limited visual survey of the collection and potential provenance information recorded in description fields.

In his lifetime, Livingstone travelled through 14 southern, southeastern and central African countries, and this geographical focus is reflected in the collection. The majority of material appears to come from southern, eastern and central Africa, including objects from present day Malawi, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Botswana, South Africa and Democratic Republic of the Congo. Material includes many examples of ivory armlets and beadwork (eg BLTDL21700), including gourd containers and objects described as necklaces or jewellery. Some of those surveyed probably date to the mid to late 1800s. Similarly, there are multiple examples of basketwork items, thumb pianos, knives and combs with little accompanying information. Current records identify some objects as Zulu and Shona, for example multiple throwing spears, shields, clubs, and staffs. This survey has also identified around 20 Congolese ceremonial and throwing knives and *Nkisi* figures, some still to be audited when this review was being conducted (eg BLTDL21688 and BLTDL20482). The collection also holds a number of stools and neck rests, including a Zulu double neck rest (459).

The collection also holds a limited number of eastern and western African objects. For example, from Nigeria, an Igbo maiden spirit mask (872), Igbo brass anklets (978a+b), ceremonial paddles (994a+b), and a Hausa leather hat (1083). Material from Kenya includes a Kikuyu shield (464).

Some of the objects with the most detailed provenance information are recorded as being taken by Livingstone himself, or those he worked closely with. For example, Livingstone described the purchase of a 'Man'janga Ivory Upper Lip-ring' (BLTDL20583) in an accompanying letter. A wooden comb with carved design (BLTDL21992) is recorded as being given to Livingstone by the 'wife of an African chief'. The name of this individual is not recorded. It is likely that she would have been part of a community local to the Zambezi River in eastern Africa.

The collection also contains objects linked to named African individuals. For example, a Chief's chair (1425), recorded as belonging to Botswanan ruler Sechele I a Motswasele 'Rra Mokonopi' (1812-1892), and a wooden milking pot from Lesotho (BLTDL21835) associated with Doda, the son of Puthi leader 'Morosi/Moorosi' (d.1879). Objects belonging to Abdullah Susi and James Chuma, Livingstone's southern African colleagues, have a dedicated display in the Museum. This includes a flask, raffia cloth, and an urn. Also of note is a collection of around 14 objects recorded as 'traditional healer apparatus' donated by the Livingstone Museum (formerly Rhodes-Livingstone Museum) in 1947.

Associated material

The collection contains many objects associated with the trafficking of enslaved people, probably dating from the mid 1800s. These include a yoke which David Livingstone reportedly removed from an unnamed enslaved person, manacles, a hippopotamus hide whip, collars, and chains. Also of note are documents, such as a map annotated by David Livingstone in 1856 with his route, and a bible in Tswana/Setswana printed in 1853. The collection also contains natural history specimens, including mounted horns and hippopotamus skulls.

Areas for further research

During this review, the David Livingstone Birthplace Museum was conducting an audit. Little provenance information was available for most of the collection. Post audit, further visual

surveys and consultation work with a focus on southern, south-eastern and central African material would be beneficial. Studying objects themselves may give further clues to provenance. For example, historic labels attached to the milking pot from Lesotho (BLTDL21835) indicate that it was part of a missionary loan exhibition.

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Africa unspecified		600	
	Alan G J Dalton, Invermay, Easthaven, Carnoustie. Alex Marshall, Rutherglen. Alex Waddell, Jedburgh. C Ian Fraser, grandson of W F Webb, Newstead Abbey. D Brodie, South Africa. David Livingstone's grandchildren. Mr Seton-Karr. John D Reid. John Gibbs. Miss A Scott, Tunbridge Wells. Miss Black, Ladybank. Robert Melrose. R Earnshaw. Mrs R A S Hamilton.		Anklet, armlet, arrow quiver and arrows, axe, barkcloth, basketware, bell, belt, bottle, bow, bracelets, brush, calabash bottle, chain, charm, cloak, club, collar, comb, cowbell, cowrie shells, cup, dagger dish, drum, flask, flywhisk, hat, headrest, jewellery, knife, lip ring, loud-speaker, mask, mat, neck rings, necklace, neck rest, ostrich egg, paddle, pipe, plate, pottery, pouch, raffia, rattle riding crop, rope, serving plate, shield, snuff-box, spear, spear head, spoon, staff, stool, sweat scraper, sword, textile, thumb piano, tray, trumpet, urn, utensil, walking stick, water bottle weapons, whip, whistle xylophone
Eastern Africa		34	
Kenya	Alex Waddell, Jedburgh	2	Shields
Malawi	Rev J Archibald Smith. Milanje, Malawi. Miss Lennox, Edinburgh.	32	Basket, beadwork, belt, drum, mat, tray, shield, spear, staff
Central Africa		22	
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Rhodes-Livingstone Museum, 1947	22	Carved figures, knives
Southern Africa		3	
Botswana	Mr Allan G J Dalton.	2	Chief's chair, bust

	W Somerville Shanks ARSA.		
Lesotho	John Stephen	1	Wooden milking pot
Western Africa		11	
Nigeria		11	Bowl, hat, leg ornament, mask, paddles, riding crop

Selected object images

Beaded gourd, Eastern Africa, BLTDL21700



Zulu double neck rest, Southern Africa, 459



Brass leg ornaments, Nigeria, 978a+b



Wooden comb, Eastern Africa, BLTDL21992



Chief's chair, Botswana, 1425



Milking pot, Lesotho, BLTDL21835



Glasgow Life Museums

Contact museumcollections@glasgowlife.org.uk

Location of collections

On display

Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum
Argyle Street
Glasgow
G3 8AG

The Burrell Collection
Pollokshaws Road
Pollok Country Park
Glasgow
G43 1AT

The People's Palace
Glasgow Green,
Glasgow,
G40 1AT

In storage

Glasgow Museums Resource Centre
200 Woodhead Road
South Nitshill Industrial Estate,
Glasgow
G53 7NN

Size of collections

4,616 African objects
299 Caribbean objects

Online collections

<http://collections.glasgowmuseums.com/mwebcgi/mweb?request=home>

Selected objects

Africa

- Sowe mask by the carver Pessima, Sierra Leone, A.1985.13.v
- *Ngaady Mwaash* dance mask, Democratic Republic of the Congo, 1910.88.fw
- Wooden dance shield or *ndome*, Kenya, 1910.103.o
- Ceremonial shield of rhinoceros hide covered with red velvet and gold filigree, Ethiopia, A.1958.5.2
- 'Soul-washer' badge or *akrafokonmu*, Ghana, 18.1
- Tray of beaten brass work, Nigeria, 1894.58.d
- Beadwork headdress or *Dingaka tsa dinaka*, South Africa, ETHNN.619

Caribbean

- Flywhisk or *irukere*, horsehair with leather grip and strap, The Bahamas, 1907.42.g
- Finger ring, Trinidad, 1916.37.t
- Standing human figure of carved wood, eyes of shell inlay, Barbados, 1916.66.ai
- Section of bark from lacebark tree, Jamaica, ETHNN.337
- Orisha figure 'Osain' by Filberto Mora, 2001, Cuba, A.2002.2.1.a

History of the collection

Glasgow Museums is a group of 11 museums and galleries owned by the City of Glasgow and managed by Glasgow Life. In total, they hold around 1.6 million objects. The most relevant museums for this review are Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum, The Burrell Collection, and The People's Palace. The original Kelvingrove Museum opened in 1876 in an 18th-century mansion to the north-east of the current site. The construction of the current museum was partly funded by the proceeds of the 1888 International Exhibition held in Kelvingrove Park. The museum opened in 1901 as the Palace of Fine Arts for the Glasgow International Exhibition held in that year. The Burrell Collection was the personal collection of William Burrell (1861-1958), a wealthy Glasgow shipping magnate and art collector, gifted to the city of Glasgow Corporation in 1944. Burrell provided funds for the construction of a museum to house his collection, which opened to the public in 1983. The building reopened in 2022 following major refurbishment. The People's Palace was opened on 22 January 1898 by the 5th Earl of Rosebery for the people of Glasgow. The building originally provided reading and recreation rooms with a museum and gallery. Since the 1940s, it has been a museum of social history that tells the story of the city of Glasgow and its people from 1750 to the present day.

Overview of the collection

Africa

Around 34% of the entire African collection is from western Africa, 23% from eastern Africa, 16% from southern Africa, 11% from central Africa, and 6% from northern Africa. Approximately 10% is not currently attributed to any region or country. The largest collections from single countries are from South Africa (636 objects), Nigeria (569 objects), Sierra Leone (306) and Democratic Republic of the Congo (305). The earliest accession date is 1870 and material appears to have been accessioned throughout the late 19th century, 20th century and up until the present day.

Western Africa

Sierra Leonean material is a major collection with over 300 objects. A large percentage was donated by the family of Guy Massie-Taylor (1919-1985), a sculptor who spent seven years based in Sierra Leone as an Education Officer in the British Colonial Service. Objects include masks, figures, board games, textiles and clothing, amulets and charms, domestic utensils and vessels, paddles, model canoes, combs, knives, dolls, beadwork, rattles, headdresses and wigs. The collection has received some attention to date, and can be seen online via the Sierra Leone Heritage website:

https://www.sierraleoneheritage.org/search/search_db/findc%5B0%5D=5&page=1

The collection contains three objects known to have been taken during the so-called Anglo-Asante wars of the 19th century. One stool was taken from the Royal Palace of Kumasi on 4

February 1874 by Brigadier General Sir Archibald Alison, when he led part of the British Army's invading force against the Asante people. Alison donated the stool to the museum three months later. This stool is of a type known as *Mma' gwa* or woman's stool. The incised decorative motifs along the base indicate that this stool was used by a queen mother or *Asantehemaa*. As the stool was taken from the Royal Court it is believed to have belonged to Afua Kobi I, the 9th *Asantehemaa* from 1857 to 1883. There is one other small Asante stool in the collection, known as *Adammadwa* (two penny stool; poor man's stool) and dated 1886. The Burrell collection holds a gold *akrafokonmu* or 'soul washer's' badge. This large circular pectoral ornament was worn suspended from the neck by those responsible for the purification of the Asantehene's soul (the ruler of the Asante state). The *akrafokonmu* was part of Burrell's collection, donated to the city in 1944.

Glasgow Life Museums holds 19 objects from Nigeria that were taken during the sack of Benin City by British forces in 1897. These include one altar tusk, three commemorative heads, two ivory flutes or side-blown trumpets, one brass plaque, one ceremonial sword, wood panels, altar pieces including a bell, and a staff head or finial. These objects were acquired from dealers, private donations, and the Wellcome Medical Museum collection. At the time of writing, 19 objects are subject to repatriation. More information about the full collection of objects from Edo State (including those made post 1897) can be found on the Digital Benin website: <https://digitalbenin.org/institutions/53>

The Nigerian collection also includes 214 objects from the bequest of Rev James K MacGregor, Principal of the Hope Waddell Institution in Calabar, Cross River State, Nigeria, from 1907 to 1943. The collection includes at least 13 objects inscribed with Nsibidi script. In 1909, MacGregor published an article entitled 'Some Notes on Nsibidi'. He was the first colonial official to state that Nsibidi, a system of symbols associated with the Ejagham or Ekoi people of northern Cross River State and southwestern Cameroon, met the Western definition of written language.

Other notable Nigerian objects include a tray of beaten and decorated brass work from Cross River State, Nigeria, donated in 1894 by Alexander Sinclair. These trays were imported from Birmingham and decorated with hammered designs by Efik women and often sold back to European missionaries. This example appears to depict Mami Wata (Mother Water), an African spiritual tradition that worships water spirits. Also of note is a richly beaded and embroidered Ifá necklace or *Òdigbà Ifá*, ceremonial regalia of the Yoruba people, donated by a Mrs Maureen Brocklehurst and accessioned in 1979.

Eastern Africa

Material from eastern Africa includes 143 objects from Kenya donated by Church of Scotland missionary Marion Scott Stevenson (1871-1930) and her brother, Professor William Barron Stevenson (1869-1954). Marion Scott Stevenson was based in former British East Africa from 1907 to 1929, primarily at Tumutumu, Kikuyu. Objects date to the early 20th century and include beadwork dress items, ear ornaments, dance shields, dance rattles, snuff boxes, clubs, coiled clay pots, and domestic utensils. Although most of the material is recorded as Kikuyu and from Kenya, there is at least one example of a Maasai ostrich feather headdress and barkcloth from Uganda. Glasgow Life Museums also holds photographs related to Scott's life in Kenya, gifted by John Arthur.

Eighty-three objects in the collection are associated with, or collected by, Scottish missionary David Livingstone (1813-1873). Objects include weapons, personal ornaments, domestic utensils, and a basin used by Livingstone during his last journey and brought back to

Scotland after his death by his southern African colleagues Abdullah Susi and James Chuma. Between 1877 and 1900, material was donated by his son, Thomas Livingstone (1849-1876), and by oil refiner James 'Paraffin' Young (1811-1883), mentor and friend of Livingstone.

The collection includes 58 eastern African items collected by William Govan Robertson (1869-1928), a lay missionary with the Scottish Presbyterian Church Livingstonia Mission from 1892 to 1897. Govan Robertson was reportedly dismissed from the Livingstonia Mission in 1896 after raiding a 'slavers' camp and taking their weapons. The collection includes an ammunition belt, recorded as being taken during this raid, in addition to examples of body ornaments, weapons, tools, and utensils. Govan Robertson was recruited by the London Missionary Society for their Central Africa Mission and from 1897 until 1928 was posted to their Central Africa Mission Lake Tanganyika.

Material from Ethiopia includes six items presented to Lord Inverclyde in Addis Ababa in 1951 by Haile Selassie, Emperor of Ethiopia from 1930 to 1974. These include a ceremonial shield of rhinoceros hide, covered with red velvet and ornamented with gold filigree, a bi-pronged spear, a sword with rhinoceros horn hilt, a belt, and a gold cigarette case.

Another object of note is a Northern Ndebele shield or *isihlangu*. The shield is attributed to King Lobengula Khumalu, the last King of the AmaNdebele nation of Matebeleland from 1870 to 1894, in present-day Zimbabwe. It was taken from his homestead during the first so-called Matabele War (1893-1894) between the Ndebele Kingdom and the British South African Company.

Central Africa

Objects from the Democratic Republic of the Congo include examples that were owned and used by the missionary William Henry Sheppard (1865-1927). Sheppard is notable as one of the first African Americans to become a missionary for the Presbyterian Church. He spent 20 years in Africa, primarily in and around the Democratic Republic of the Congo. This material was donated by William B Scott, a Scottish ship's engineer with the SS *Lapsley II*, the American Presbyterian Mission's Clyde-built paddle steamer. Scott's donation of around 170 objects includes examples of raffia cloth, ceremonial masks and rattles, ceremonial weapons, dress items, musical instruments, tools, and domestic utensils.

The collection also includes around 30 objects associated with Dr Joseph A Moloney (1857-1896) and his participation in the 1891-1892 mercenary 'Stairs Expedition', which resulted in the murder of King M'siri and the seizure of his territory in Katanga, Central Africa, for the Belgian King Leopold II. Objects also relate to Moloney's later expedition to former North-Eastern Rhodesia, where he was sent in 1895 by the British South Africa Company to negotiate treaties with Ngoni chiefs. These objects were donated by Moloney's sister, Miss L Lovat Fraser, following his death in 1896. They include stools, weapons, snuff containers, and carved wooden figures.

Northern Africa

The collection contains at least 27 objects taken from the battlefield of Omdurman, Sudan, 2 September 1898, during the so-called Anglo-Egyptian conquest of Sudan. Objects include weapons, water bottles, camel saddles, armour and dress items. The collection also contains two banners belonging to the Mahdist Sudanese army and a piece of carved and painted wood panelling recorded as being taken from the Mahdī's sarcophagus.

Southern Africa

The majority of the southern African collection is recorded as South African specifically. It includes material accessioned in 1870, making it some of the earliest material in the collection. It was not possible to review the 636 South African objects during this review, and they remain an important area for future research. One object of note that has been identified is a beadwork headdress or *dingaka tsa dinaka*, recorded as being worn by a Sotho diviner known as Ngaka. No further provenance information is currently available. Material from Botswana includes a large number of arrows acquired in 1889, beadwork, bracelets and necklaces, snuff containers, clubs, and contemporary paintings accessioned in 2003. A small collection from Lesotho, accessioned in the 1880s and 1890s, includes beadwork necklets, 'aprons' and bags, snuff containers, and an axe.

Caribbean

Around 80% of the Caribbean collection is from Guyana, 7% from Barbados, 3% from Antigua and Barbuda, 3% from Cuba, 2% from The Bahamas, 2% from Jamaica, 2% from Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and under 1% each from Saint Kitts and Nevis, Trinidad and Tobago, Suriname, and Belize.

The earliest Caribbean accession to the collection was a shallow bowl of grey earthenware with red slip from Suriname, donated in 1876 by Robert Kirke of Burntisland (1815-1894), owner of sugar plantations in Suriname, including the 'Waterloo' estate.

The largest single acquisition from the Caribbean islands is a collection of 31 stone and shell implements from the Lesser Antilles, purchased in 1890 from Sir Thomas Graham Briggs (1833-1887), owner of Farley Hill Estate in Barbados.

From Guyana, 35 items of Carib material from the coast were donated by Miss A T Anderson in 1948. The collection of 55 Wai Wai artefacts from the upper Essequibo-Mapuera region, purchased from Mr J Brown in 1953, includes ceremonial body ornaments. Seventy-eight objects from the Wai Wai, Wapishana, Patamona and Macushi people are associated with Sir Gordon Lethem (1886-1962), former Governor of Guyana, and were donated in 1963.

The coastal South American collections from Guyana are dominated by material from the Upper Essequibo River, on the border with Brasil, that represent indigenous Amazonian cultures.

The most recent acquisitions include a contemporary *papier mâché* Orisha figure associated with the Santeria religion in Cuba, commissioned from Filiberto Mora in 2001; contemporary multimedia sculpture, *the shadow of the object fell upon the ego*, by the Barbadian diaspora artist Beth Forde, commissioned for *African Voices*, a 2007 exhibition at St Mungo Museum for Religious Life and Art; and contemporary multimedia artworks relating to the 2019 Gallery of Modern Art installation *Between a Whisper and a Cry* by the Barbadian artist Alberta Whittle.

The Caribbean collection has strong associations with plantations, the transatlantic trafficking of enslaved people, indentured labour, and the diaspora populations. One example is a finger ring of silver work worn by an Indian woman from Caroni Sugar Estate, Trinidad, West Indies. Objects that clearly illustrate the cultural influence of enslaved African people in the Caribbean include a flywhisk, or *irukere*, from the Bahamas, associated with the Ifá religion of diasporic West African Yoruba origin, and a calabash container from Guyana, painted with a design of the Yoruba deity Osun.

Notable donors/collectors

Africa

Brigadier General Sir Archibald Alison (1826 -1907)
David Livingstone (1813-1873)
Rev James K MacGregor (dates unknown)
Guy Massie-Taylor (1919-1985)
Dr Joseph A Moloney (1857-1896)
William Henry Sheppard (1865-1927)
Marion Scott Stevenson (1871-1930)

Caribbean

Thomas Graham Briggs (1833-1887)
Robert Kirke (1815-1894)
Sir Gordon James Lethem (1886–1962)

Areas for further research

Africa

At the time of writing, donor names/sources were not available for the African collection. Subsequently, some have been provided and added to the table below. Known donors/collectors have been noted in the summary above, but future research may reveal many more important sources and connections. Although parts of the eastern and western African collections have been the subject of curatorial and academic research in recent decades, the southern and northern African material remains understudied. The South African material, as it makes up such a large percentage of the African collection, merits further investigation.

This review has highlighted several connections to collections in other institutions that researchers may find useful. These include material associated with Dr Joseph A Moloney at National Museums Scotland; Marion Scott Stevenson material at The Hunterian, University of Glasgow; David Livingstone material at National Museums Scotland and the David Livingstone Birthplace Museum; and William Govan Robertson material in collections at Ditsong Museums of South Africa. Glasgow Life has also received transfers from other Scottish museums in the past, such as Dumfries Museum.

Caribbean

The Caribbean material at Glasgow Museums has not been the subject of any systematic research and does not form a coherent collection. Research into the archaeological material in terms of chronology and typography would be valuable. Research into the connections of the collectors/donors of the material to the plantation economy in the Caribbean would add to the information being amassed on Glasgow's connections with transatlantic slavery. Information on the donors of the major collections would help to contextualise the objects. The cultural assemblages of the Carib, Wai Wai, Wapishana, Patamona and Macushi people should be researched in collaboration with the communities themselves. Staff report that some objects in the collection demonstrate the influence of relationships between enslaved African people and the indigenous rainforest communities of Guyana, which could be investigated further. Robert Kirke, who donated earthenware from Suriname, is known to have also donated a large collection of mammals, birds, and insects to the Glasgow Museum in 1876. Historian David Alston has published information about Kirke, which can

be found online:

<https://www.spanglefish.com/slavesandhighlanders/index.asp?pageid=607903>

Associated material

Africa

Associated African material includes two photograph albums of black and white prints taken on the continent; 18 lantern slides by Arthur Mitchell taken in Egypt and Sudan; 18 photographs of Sierra Leone life, chiefs, agricultural markets, transport, house types, thatching, and farming; 15 photographs of Kenya 1911-193; 12 photographs of Nigeria c.1942; and two photographs of Algeria.

Caribbean

There are object files for about 8% of the Caribbean collection. The original accession registers and associated correspondence are stored at Glasgow Museums Resource Centre. There is a photographic record of some objects at the Burrell Photo library. There are object files for about 30% of the collection from Guyana. In 1963, Glasgow acquired the collection of the former Governor of Guyana, Sir Gordon Lethem, including a photographic archive of the Wai Wai, Wapishana and Patamona peoples and their villages taken by Lethem on a tour of duty in the 1940s. These are held in the archives at Glasgow Museums Resource Centre, as is a collection of colour digital images of the Patamona taken for Glasgow Museums in 2005 by the Jesuit Missions. The accessioned collection includes a copy of the *Grenada Free Press*, 27 August 1828.

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Africa unspecified		445	Agricultural implements, bags, body ornaments, canoe model, carved figures, clothing and shoes, costume, currency, doll, domestic tools, domestic utensils, engraving, gourd vessels, household items, hunting equipment, musical instruments, paddle, painting, shields, smoking paraphernalia, staff, weapons
Northern Africa		295	
Northern Africa unspecified		63	Amulet, body ornaments, chain mail armour, clothing and shoes, currency, domestic utensils, household items, lamps, musical instruments, painting, smoking

			paraphernalia, wall hanging, weapons
Algeria	Thomas Hall Henry G Farmer Ken Johnston Miss Jean McLean Mr Ensor Warden	61	Ceramic jars, ceramic lamps, household items, musical instruments, shoes
Egypt	William Turner. Bennett Burleigh. The Egyptian House Charitable Trust. Scottish Maritime Museum.	57	Cosmetic bottles, dress items, drums, earrings, fan, flywhisk, musical instruments, personal ornaments, smoking paraphernalia, spindle, weapons
Libya	Miss Jean McLean	1	Collection of arrowheads
Morocco	Mr Joseph Davies Henry G Farmer Bailie A B Mackay Miss Jean McLean	22	Household items, musical instruments, shoes, weapons
Sudan	Mr G Cameron. Sali Dirar. Miss L D Dunn. Henry G Farmer. Mrs Annie Glover. Col James Stevenson Hamilton. Misses MacBean. Rupert Roddam. Scottish Maritime Museum. Mr Archie H Service. William Turner.	91	Armour, banner, chain mail armour, charms, clothing, helmets, horse saddle, <i>jibba</i> garment, medal, musical instruments, personal ornaments, raffia work, weapons, wood panel
Eastern Africa		1,058	
Eastern Africa unspecified		140	Basketry, body ornaments, clothing, cowbell, flywhisk, gourd containers, headrest, household items, musical instruments, rattle, weapons
Ethiopia	John Allan Burns, 4th Baron of Inverclyde	13	Headdress, headrest, necklace, weapons
Kenya	William and Doreen Heaney. A M Jones. Kerr, Keeper, Dept of Art and Ethnology, Royal Scottish Museum. Mr T McLachlan.	179	Beadwork dress items, body ornaments, carved figures, ceremonial cape, charms, clothing and shoes, cowbell, dance shield, domestic utensils, fire stick, gourd vessels, handloom, headdress,

	Mrs Anne Rado. Marion Scott Stevenson. William Stevenson. Sir John Barron Shearer. Mr Peter Scott.		headrest, household items, musical instruments, rattle, smoking paraphernalia, stool, textiles, weapons
Madagascar	Mr J G W Biggar	1	<i>Valiha</i> instrument
Malawi	Evelyn J Stewart. Henry Brown. William Govan Robertson. Donald Sutherland. Mrs McKay. Thomas Steele Livingstone. Miss E J Stewart. Alexander Sinclair.	181	Body ornaments, canoe model, clothing, domestic utensils, fishing equipment, furniture, basketry loom, musical instruments, paddle-shaped implement, smoking paraphernalia, textiles, weapons
Mozambique	Hugh McOuat John Henderson	29	Cigar case, purse, toys, textiles, weapons
Rwanda	Wellcome Collection	1	Wrist guard
Seychelles	The Sheffield Public Museum Committee, per E Howarth, Curator	1	Flask
Somalia	William Turner H W Seton-Karr Mr Bill Ferguson	117	Clothing, household items, stone tools, weapons
South Sudan	John Dickson	5	Necklace, Shilluk head-fillet
Uganda	Mrs Alfred Peacock. Mrs Anne Rado. Miss Annie Smith. Marion Scott Stevenson.	85	Board game, body ornaments, clothing and shoes, cosmetic items, headrest, musical instruments, shields, smoking paraphernalia, stool, textiles, vessels, weapons
United Republic of Tanzania	Nikita Lysenko. Mrs Anne Rado. Representative from Tanzanian Embassy. Wellcome Collection.	70	Basketry, board game, body ornaments, clothing, cosmetic items, household items, musical instruments, sculpture, textiles, weapons
Zambia	Col James Stevenson Hamilton. Thomas Steele Livingstone. William Govan Robertson.	103	Animal figurines, basketry, body ornaments, fertility charm, mask, shields, snuff paraphernalia, textiles, tools, walking stick, weapons, woodcut

	Miss L A Lovat Fraser		
Zimbabwe	R Wilson Thom William McLean William Smith Matthew Park	133	Amulet, basketry, domestic utensils, gourd containers, headrest, household items, hunting equipment, musical instruments, ostrich egg sculpture, rattle, shields, snuff paraphernalia, textiles, tools, weapons, wood carvings
Central Africa		489	
Central Africa unspecified	Thomas Steele Livingstone	123	Basketry, body ornaments, carved figures, ceremonial weapons, clothing, comb, currency, fire-making apparatus, household items, hunting equipment, musical instruments, stool, textiles, tools, weapons
Angola	Thomas Steele Livingstone	4	Gourd bottle, plant dyestuff, textiles
Cameroon	Capt W E Giffard	8	Canoe model, mask, pottery sherds, stool
Chad	Dr David Alexander	17	Clothing, musical instruments, weapons
Democratic Republic of the Congo	A M Haz. Mrs Beatrice Heywood. Miss L A Lovat Fraser. Mrs Margaret Mather. Rev W Cassie Murdoch. Mrs Isabella Robertson. William B Scott. Wellcome Collection. Rowand Wilson. Thomas Steele Livingstone.	305	Basketry, blacksmith tools, body ornaments, canoe model, ceremonial weapons, clothing, currency, dance rattles, divinatory apparatus, domestic utensils, household items, hunting equipment, loom, mask, musical instruments, personal care items, power figure, shields, smoking paraphernalia, snuff paraphernalia, staff, stool, textiles, weapons
Equatorial Guinea	Alexander Henderson	4	Figure, ceremonial object, weapons
Gabon	Thomas and John Neil	28	Domestic utensils, carved figure, ceremonial weapons, headdress, musical instruments, personal care items, textiles, tools, weapons

Southern Africa		754	
Southern Africa unspecified		39	Beadwork dress items, body ornaments, hunting equipment, sherd of pottery, weapons
Botswana	Tom Hardbattle	58	Basketry, body ornaments, carved figure, clothing, domestic utensils, fire stick, household items, snuff paraphernalia, textiles, tools, weapons
Eswatini	Ludovic McLellan Mann	2	Headrest, stone implement
Lesotho	E M Krohn. Col James Stevenson Hamilton.	19	Beadwork dress items, body ornaments, domestic utensils, snuff paraphernalia, weapons
South Africa	Mrs A G Lochhead Miss L A Lovat Fraser James A Swan James Sommerville R Broom Miss E M Dewar Mr Dunlop Thomas Dunn. Col James Stevenson Hamilton. Mr Hedderwick. Margaret Hope. Wagstrom. Knight, Trustees of Rev G A Frank. Mrs James Lyon. Christopher Mackay. Mr W E Massy. Mrs Walter McFarlane. John Morrison. Mrs Lilian C Ponsford. Jean Robertson. William Govan Robertson. William Smith. Col Charles Louis Spencer. James A Swan. Trustees of the late Dr Quintin McLennan, per Messrs Baird, Winter and Cameron.	636	Beadwork dress items, body ornaments, carved figure, ceremonial staff, clothing and shoes, currency, domestic utensils, flint implements, gourd containers, headrests, household items, hunting equipment, mask, models, musical instruments, ostrich egg vessel, personal care items, pottery fragment, shields, smoking paraphernalia, snuff paraphernalia, stone axe heads, textiles, tools, toys, weapons

	Wellcome Collection. William Wilson.		
Western Africa		1,575	
Western Africa unspecified		387	Agricultural implements, body ornaments, carved tusk, clothing and shoes, currency, domestic utensils, headdress, household items, hunting equipment, musical instruments, paddle, smoking paraphernalia, staff, textiles, toys, weapons, weaving equipment
Burkina Faso	Thomas and John Neil	5	Currency, hunting equipment, musical instruments, weapons
Côte d'Ivoire	Mr A F Thompson	5	Figure, mask, weaving apparatus
Gambia	The Sheffield Public Museum Committee, per E Howarth, Curator	4	Shoes, textiles
Ghana	Sir Archibald Alison. Miss Berry, per Miss Carmichael. Barbara MacLeod (executor for estate of Margaret Burke). Margaret Aku Sika. Mrs Anne Rado. Naa Densua Tordzro. Fullerton Boyd. Edward Lovett. George G MacKenzie. Wellcome Collection. D H Moore.	282	Agricultural implements, basketry, body ornaments, ceremonial/religious equipment, clothing and shoes, coffin, currency, domestic utensils, fertility dolls, gold weighing equipment, household items, mask, model stools, musical instrument, personal care items, sculpture, smoking paraphernalia, stools, textiles, weapons
Liberia	Mrs Mary Gordon	2	Ceremonial gown, <i>kufi</i> cap
Mali	Jeff Kerzner	11	Figure, saddle bag, textiles
Nigeria	Miss Berry, per Miss Carmichael. Mark Donaldson. Mr Duncan Gillies. Mr J K Jenkins. H Macgregor, Richmond CA. Executor of the Reverend J K	569	Altar tusk, animal figures, basketry, bell altar pieces, brass plaque, ceremonial sword, charms, clothing, commemorative altar figures, currency, divination equipment, domestic utensils, household items, masks, masquerade

	Newton, M B. S M Nichol. Mrs C L Temple. Alexander Sinclair. Maureen Brocklehurst. Mr J A Wilson. Rev W R Inglis. Miss Gunn. Robert T Graham. John Wire. Mrs Davidson Walker.		costume and equipment, musical instruments, personal care items, smoking paraphernalia, snuff paraphernalia, staffs, statuettes, stools, textiles, wall ornament, warri board, weapons, wood panels
Senegal	Margaret Aku Sika	3	Headscarf, trousers, tunic
Sierra Leone	Julian & Judith Massie-Taylor and Vivien Scarth Wellcome Collection Thomas and John Neil Dr Henry Scanlan RN James Robb Mr William Roberts	306	Adze, masks, agricultural implements, basketry, boardgame, body ornaments, calabash vessels, carved figure, charm/amulet, clothing, currency, hammock, masquerade costume, model boat, musical instruments, paddle, personal care items, snuff paraphernalia, staffs, statuettes, textiles, weapons, wooden animals
Togo		1	Bracelet

Regions and countries represented: Caribbean

Country	Major Sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
The Lesser Antilles unspecified	Sir Thomas Graham Briggs (C Kenwick Gibbons)	1	Stone axe head
Antigua and Barbuda	William Gibson	9	2014 Commonwealth Games ephemera, seed jewellery, stone axe head
The Bahamas		5	<i>Irukere</i> , shell and fish scale jewellery
Barbados	Sir Thomas Graham Briggs (C Kenwick Gibbons)	21	2014 Commonwealth Games ephemera, contemporary artworks, figure carving, seed reticule, shell jewellery, shell tools

Cuba	Filiberto Mora	10	<i>Papier-mâché</i> Orisha figures symbolising the Santeria religion from Cuba
Jamaica		4	Embroidered napkin, seed rosary, section of bark from lacebark tree <i>Lagetta lagetto</i> , souvenir saltshaker
Saint Kitts and Nevis	Sir Thomas Graham Briggs (C Kenwick Gibbons)	2	Stone axes
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Sir Thomas Graham Briggs (C Kenwick Gibbons)	4	Stone axes
Trinidad and Tobago	William Gibson	2	Candlestick, silver jewellery
Culturally affiliated with the Caribbean region (within CARICOM)			
Belize		2	Artificial flower of shells, 2014 Commonwealth Games ephemera
Guyana	Miss A T Anderson MBE Sir Gordon Lethem (Lady Katherine Lethem) Mr J Brown	238	Basketry, body ornaments, ceramic vessels, coconut and gourd containers, costume, crafts, domestic artefacts, furnishings, furniture, hammock, hunting equipment, musical instruments, paintings, ritual and religious equipment, smoking paraphernalia, souvenirs, textiles, tools, war and dance clubs
Suriname	Robert Kirke	1	Earthenware dish

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Digital Benin: <https://digitalbenin.org/institutions/53>

Sierra Leone Heritage:
https://www.sierraleoneheritage.org/search/search_db/findc%5B0%5D=5&page=1

Selected object images

Africa

Sowe mask by the carver Pessima, Sierra Leone, A.1985.13.v



Ngaady Mwaash dance mask, Democratic Republic of the Congo, 1910.88.fw



Wooden dance shield or *ndome*, Kenya, 1910.103.o



Ceremonial shield of rhinoceros hide with red velvet and gold filigree, Ethiopia, A.1958.5.2



'Soul-washer' badge or *akrafokonmu*, Ghana, 18.1



Beadwork headdress or *Dingaka tsa dinaka*, South Africa, ETHNN.619



Tray of beaten brass work, Nigeria, 1894.58.d



Necklace or *Òdìgbà Ifá*, Nigeria, A.1979.10.a



Caribbean

Flywhisk or *irukere*, horshair with leather grip and strap, The Bahamas, 1907.42.g



Finger ring, Trinidad, 1916.37.t



Standing human figure of carved wood, eyes of shell inlay, Barbados, 1916.66.ai



Section of bark from lacebark tree, Jamaica, ETHNN.337



Orisha figure 'Osain' by Filberto Mora, 2001, Cuba, A.2002.2.1.a



The Hunterian University of Glasgow

Contact hunterian-enquiries@glasgow.ac.uk

Location of collections

The Hunterian
University of Glasgow
82 Hillhead Street
Glasgow
G12 8QQ

Size of collections

1,385 African objects
129 Caribbean objects

Online Collections

<https://www.gla.ac.uk/collections/#/>

Selected objects

Africa

- *Efe Gelede* mask, Nigeria, GLAHM:E.1981.5
- *Ere ibeji* figures, Lamidi Fakeye and apprentices, 1959, Nigeria, GLAHM:112829, GLAHM:112830, GLAHM:112831, GLAHM:112832
- *Ndome* or shield, Kenya, GLAHM:E.1936.15/4
- Prayer scroll, Ethiopia, D.1955.30,
- Musical instrument, Sierra Leone, GLAHM:E.75
- *Minsere* figure, Sierra Leone, GLAHM:E.26

Caribbean

- *Queyu* or beaded apron, Guyana, GLAHM:E.192
- Clubs, Guyana, GLAHM:E.137/4, GLAHM:E.137/5, GLAHM:E.137/6, GLAHM:E.665
- Earthenware figure, Barbados, GLAHM:E.1955.7

History of the collection

The Hunterian Museum was built on the legacy and collection of Dr William Hunter (1718 - 1783). Born locally and educated at the University of Glasgow, Hunter was renowned as a teacher of anatomy and built up a large private collection. In 1783, he bequeathed the collection to the University along with money to create a suitable museum. The Hunterian was founded in 1807, making it Scotland's oldest public museum. In 1870, the Museum and collections were moved to its current location. Today, the Hunterian collections are a Recognised Collection of National Significance and cover diverse subjects, including the history of medicine, natural sciences, and art. African and Caribbean material is predominantly held in the World Cultures and Archaeology collection and was donated to the

Museum from the early 19th century onwards, often by staff, alumni and associated individuals.

Overview of the collection

Africa

Around 57% of the African collection is from western Africa. This material is predominantly from Ghana, which makes up 36% of the entire African collection. Collections from eastern and southern Africa are the second largest, at around 17% each; 7% of the collection is from central Africa; and 2% is from northern Africa. Most of the objects appear to have been donated by former staff or alumni and often reflect how training in Glasgow prepared individuals for a range of colonial careers, from medicine to engineering. Missionary links are also represented.

Western Africa

The large Ghanaian collection contains around 427 items of Akan gold weighing equipment, including weights, scoops, containers and scales. This material was donated by six major donors: Mrs Cathleen Duff (2015), Mr Donald Wintersgill (2004), Professor Frank Willett (2003), G Bonavia (1977), Peter Mercer Hume (1932) and Mrs F A Stewart (1931). Material also includes a collection of adinkra stamps purchased from Christie, Manson and Woods in the 1990s, and a set of model stools purchased from the same vendor in the 1980s.

The Nigerian collections are also of note, partly due to Frank Willett (1925-2006), Director of the Hunterian from 1976 to 1990. Willett was an archaeologist and worked for the Nigerian Antiquities Service in the 1950s and 1960s. He was a colleague of Nigerian artist Justus Akeredolu (1915-1984), and the collection contains a large number of Akeredolu's miniature thorn carvings. Willett was well connected to prominent Africanists in the UK, including William Fagg (1914-1992) of the British Museum. Fagg purchased objects for the Hunterian's collection that reflected his interest in sculptural form. Items acquired by Fagg include a Yoruba *Efe Gelede* mask, and the collection contains several other Nigerian masquerade masks. Willett also donated a series of four *Ere ibeji* wooden figures, carved in 1959 by renowned mid 20th-century Yoruba sculptor Lamidi Olonade Fakeye (1925-2009) and his apprentices, Ganiyu Fakeye, Joseph Fakeye, and Amusa Akande.

Some of the earliest material in the African collection is from Sierra Leone, including a *minsereh* figure donated in 1807 and musical instruments dating from the 18th or 19th centuries.

Eastern Africa

Objects are mainly from Kenya, Malawi and Uganda. Much of the Kenyan material was donated by Professor William B Stevenson, brother of Church of Scotland missionary Marion Scott Stevenson (1871-1930), who was based in former British East Africa from 1907 to 1929, primarily at Tumutumu. The collection from Stevenson is predominantly listed as Kikuyu and includes shields, body ornaments, rattles and wooden figures. Most of the material from Malawi, including charms, body ornaments and pipes, was donated in 1911 by Dr William Young Turner Junior. Turner became a Presbyterian Medical Missionary in 1905 and worked at the United Presbyterian Church mission station at Bandawe on the shores of Lake Malawi from 1905 until 1911.

Much Ugandan material was donated by Scottish entomologist Alexander Hadow (1907-1976) who is recognised for his work at the Uganda Virus Research Institute from the 1940s to 1960s. Objects include knives, billhooks and headrests and many come with specific geographic provenance information. The Ugandan collection also includes colourful woven mats and baskets, arrows, knives and stools, dating from the mid 1960s and donated by J and M Calder.

Southern Africa

Like other museums across Scotland, the Hunterian has many southern African objects that are not currently attributed to specific countries. They were donated by diverse individuals and would benefit from further research. Within the sizeable southern African collection, two major donors stand out. Around 38 objects, including armlets, spoons, spears, pipes and stone candlesticks, were donated in 1877 by Dr Johann Balthazar Knobel (1853-1931). A South African medic of German ancestry, Knobel undertook medical training at the University of Glasgow during the 1870s before returning home to enter practice. Another 81 objects, including stone tools, ostrich eggshell necklaces, tortoiseshell containers, hairpin, armlets, and medicine, were donated Dr Percy Ward Laidler in 1925. Laidler was a British expatriate dental surgeon and amateur archaeologist based in South Africa throughout the early 20th century. It should be noted that both men are also recorded as giving southern African human remains to the University of Glasgow, and that human remains collected by Laidler in the Northern Cape are also to be found in the collections of the Iziko South African Museum.

Caribbean

Around 52% of the Caribbean collection is from Guyana. The second largest collection is from Suriname (19%), followed by Grenada (12%), Belize (10%), Barbados (5%) and Jamaica (2%). Most of this material, apart from archaeological material, dates from the 19th century.

The collection from Guyana contains blow pipes, quivers, darts, clubs, baskets, arrows, beaded 'aprons', a flute, and knuckle dusters. Much of this material would have been made by indigenous groups of people, possibly living inland. Notable material includes a collection of around ten beaded 'aprons' or *queyu* that were transferred from the Andersonian museum and are dated from 1700 to 1888. The collection also contains around 15 clubs of various designs and shapes that could potentially date from the late 1700s or early 1800s.

Notable donors of the Guyanese material include Dr Alexander Napier (1851-1928) who gave darts, blow pipes and quivers in 1880. Napier was Professor of Materia Medica at the University of Glasgow's Medical School. As a young man, he served as ship's doctor aboard Cunard Line transatlantic services for two years and it is thought his Guyanese donations are attributable to this time. Martha Brown of Lanfine donated several clubs in 1898 that probably belonged to her father, Thomas Brown of Lanfine (1774-1853), a surgeon and Deputy Professor of Botany at the University of Glasgow from 1799 to 1816.

The collection from Suriname was almost entirely donated by Mrs Barber in 1878 and consists mainly of bows and arrows. Material from Barbados, Belize and Grenada was mostly donated in the 20th century and is archaeological in nature. Objects include stone and conch shell tools and implements, pot sherds and earthenware figures recorded as Maya. Material from Belize was donated by Dr David R Stoddart (1937-2014), an English physical geographer and expert in coral cays and atolls. In 1983, he donated a small collection of Maya plainware sherds to the Hunterian, following a period of geographical fieldwork on Grand Bogue Island in Belize.

Associated material

The African collection contains five gramophone records from South Africa and three photographs from Nigeria and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Archives and Special Collections at the University of Glasgow holds documentary material from Willett associated with his time in Nigeria and likely much relevant material for the whole review. The Hunterian Library holds further documentary material from Willett.

Notable donors

Martha Brown of Lanfine, daughter and executrix of Thomas Brown of Lanfine (1774-1853)
Prof John W Gregory (1864-1932)
Professor Alexander Haddow (1912-1978)
Peter Mercer Hume (d.1934)
Dr Johann Balthazar Knobel (1853-1931)
Dr Percy Ward Laidler (dates unknown)
Dr Euan W MacKie (1836-2020)
Dr Alexander Napier (1851-1928)
Marion Scott Stevenson (1871-1930)
Dr David R Stoddart (1937-2014)
Frank Willett (1925-2006)
Dr William Young Turner Jnr (dates unknown)

Areas for further research

Although much of the Hunterian's collection of African material is relatively contemporary compared to other Scottish museums, some items have been stylistically attributed to the 18th or 19th centuries, and parts of the collection are recorded as being transferred from the Andersonian Museum in 1889. The Andersonian Museum collection grew from 1796 and was opened to the public in 1831, and this early material may be of particular interest for future research.

Staff have noted that Harold Saxon, the grandfather of Professor David H Saxon, was employed by the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation, and the objects that he donated from Ghana, Nigeria and Mali may date from 1873-1945. Further research, particularly into some of the Hausa garments, would be beneficial.

This review identified a prayer scroll from Ethiopia that warrants further research. Similar objects have been found across Scotland, often unregistered, and they appear to be quite early. Some have direct links to the British siege of Maqdala in 1868.

The Hunterian holds an unusual collection of 71 spears and two knives from Gabon, recorded as Fang and donated in 1830 by a currently unidentified W Wales. Nothing is currently known about the donor and provenance of the objects but, given their nature and early date, further research is warranted.

Frank Willett was an important figure in the mid to late 20th-century development of African art studies, particularly in relation to Nigerian material. The collection that he acquired, alongside rich archival holdings in the University's Special Collections department and the Hunterian Library, are an important source for scholars studying this period and associated individuals.

The entire Caribbean collection would benefit from further research. Of particular note is the very early material from Guyana, including the clubs and beaded aprons or *queyu*, as well as other more unusual items like jaguar-bone shamanic flutes and a feathered comb. Little is currently known about how and when these objects were collected. The collection from Suriname is relatively unusual in Scotland as it came from a former Dutch colony. Specialists may be interested in the archaeological material from Barbados, Belize and Grenada.

Human remains and casts

At the time of writing, the Hunterian holds partial sets of skeletal human remains from seven individuals that are identified as originating from Africa. These are currently held in the World Cultures collection (four people) and the Anatomy collection (three people, plus two plaster face-casts taken from life in the mid-19th century). All nine of the above entered the Museum's collections between 1848 and 1925. The four in World Cultures originate from the Northern Cape Province, South Africa (three people) and the Western Cape Province (one person). The three in the Anatomy collection originated in South Africa or Namibia (two people) and West Africa (one person). More accurate information about the origin of these individuals is not currently available.

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Africa unspecified		15	
	Prof Frank Willett. Mr Andrew H Bishop. The Andersonian Museum. W Liddle, Kelvingrove Art Gallery & Museum.		Bowl, fork, knife, musical instrument, shirt, smoking-pipe, quiver, spear, spear-shaft, spoon, tooth-pick, tunic
Northern Africa		20	
Northern Africa unspecified	Mrs N Carrick Mr Emil Rado	3	Bracelet, figure
Egypt	Prof William B Stevenson	4	Booklet, charm
Morocco	M Robertson-Marshall	1	Musical instrument
Sudan	Prof Mike Hansell. Scottish Development Board. Sir Archibald Hunter. Miss Storrie. Misses Cameron. Purchase from Christie, Manson and Woods. Mrs N Carrick.	12	Arrow, bracelet, cup, headrest, necklace, spear, ring, tobacco pipe
Eastern Africa		237	

Eastern Africa unspecified	Scottish Development Board. Dr Robert L Turner. Prof William B Stevenson. Mr and Mrs D C Andrew. Prof John W Gregory. Prof Alexander J Haddow.	52	Adze, armlet, arrow, axe, bag, ball, bead, bow, bracelet, club, ear-ornament, figure, flake, girdle, gunpowder-horn, manilla, model, necklet, pounder, purse, quern, scraper, shield, sketchbook, spear, spear head, spoon, strap, weight, whip
Ethiopia	Joseph Swift Peter Holmes	6	Knife sheath, paintings, scroll
Kenya	J & M Calder. Mr and Mrs D C Andrew. Joseph Swift. Prof Alexander J Haddow. Prof John W Gregory. Prof William B Stevenson. Transferred from Kelvingrove Art Gallery & Museum.	81	Anklet, armlet, arrow, basket, bell, bottle, bowl, bracelet, bullroarer, canoe, charm, club, collar, core, cowbell, earring, fastener, feather, flake, girdle, gunpowder horn, initiation shield, knife, pot, necklace necklet, neck ring, peace emblem, quiver, shield, snuff box, spear, stool, sword, thigh bell, tool/implement, whip
Malawi	President Elson Bakili Muluzi. Dr William Y Turner Jnr. Dr Hastings Banda.	34	Anklet, basket, charm, charm anklet, charm bracelet, charm necklace, chair, club, figure, fire stick, flywhisk, medicine container, quiver, sandpaper, smoking pipe
Rwanda	J & M Calder	1	Arrow
Somalia	J & M Calder H W Seton-Kerr	2	Spear head, stone tool
Uganda	J & M Calder Prof Alexander J Haddow Prof William B Stevenson	50	Arrow, atlas, barkcloth, basket, billhook, bottle, bow, button castanet, finger-knife, flywhisk, headrest, knife, knife sheath, map, mat, neck ring, pot, rattle, <i>sansa</i> , shield, sketchbook, spearhead, staff, stool
United Republic of Tanzania	Prof Alexander J Haddow	3	Boat model, comb, staff
Zambia	Mrs Joyce S Avery	7	Bow, painting, spear, <i>sansa</i>
Zimbabwe	Prof R Pickford	1	Axe

Central Africa		94	
Angola		1	Quartz flake
Cameroon	Dix Noonan Webb	1	Currency
Republic of Congo/ Democratic Republic of the Congo	Dix Noonan Webb	1	Currency
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Purchase from Dolphin Coins. Mrs Maureen L Robertson. Prof Frank Willett. Dix Noonan Webb. J & M Calder. Dr Alexander Napier. Prof Alexander J Haddow. Prof Frank Willett. Purchase from Christie, Manson and Woods.	16	Arrow, blade, bow, bracelet, chair, currency, figure, mask, mat, textile
Gabon	W Wales	75	Knife, spears
Southern Africa		235	
Southern Africa unspecified	Dr Johann B Knobel. Miss Ramsay. Dr G D Ross. Scottish Development Board. Dr Allen Thomson. Transferred from The Andersonian Museum. Miss Annie Murray. Dr Percy W Laidler. Queen Margaret College, Glasgow. Miss Buchanan. Mr & Mrs D C Andrew. Transferred from University of Glasgow Library, Special Collections. Prof Stevenson. Transferred from Kelvingrove Art Gallery & Museum.	59	Adze, armlet, arrow, bag, belt, bow, club, spear, dance shield, figure, flywhisk, girdle, horse whip, knife, macehead, necklace, ornament, pendant, pipe, polisher, pounder, powder box container, purse, shield, spoon, walking-stick
Botswana	Mrs Maureen L Robertson. Dr Alexander Napier. Dr Percy W Laidler.	8	Bag, boat, charm, collar, kohl pot, macehead, model, pendant, quiver

Namibia	Dr Andy Mills Dr Percy W Laidler	17	Bag, bangle, cape, ear ornament, girdle, mat, pipe
South Africa	Transferred from The Royal Scottish Museum. Dr Andy Mills. Dr J A Blain. William Y Turner. Dr Johann B Knobel. Dr Dalziel. Scottish Development Board. Miss Ramsay. Dr G D. Ross. Miss Fullarton. Dr Percy W Laidler. Dr Euan W Mackie.	151	Apron, armlet, arrow, bag, basket, blade, bow, brooch, bullet, candlestick, collar, container, core, cosmetic box, decorated egg, flake, girdle, gunpowder horn, hammerstone, handaxe, knife, macehead, medicine, necklace, pipe, polisher, quern, scraper, shirt, smoking pipe, spear, spoon
Western Africa		784	
Western Africa unspecified	Prof David H Saxon Hugh L Anderson Jnr Lt H S Walton M Robson Mr Emil Rado Prof Frank Willett	15	Axe, barkcloth, bow, currency, cushion, musical instrument, quiver, ornament, spear
Benin	P Mercer Hume	1	Figure
Burkina Faso	Purchase from Christie, Manson and Woods	1	Figure
Côte d'Ivoire	Prof Frank Willett W Fagg	2	Masks
Ghana	G Bonavia G Davies Lt H S Walton Mr Andrew H Bishop Mr Donald Wintersgill Mrs F A Stewart P Mercer Hume Prof Frank Willett. Purchase from Christie, Manson and Woods.	499	Adze, brush, drum, figure, gold dust balance, gold dust box, gold dust scoop, gold weights, model stool, talking drum, whetstone
Mali	Prof David H Saxon. Commonwealth Institute Scotland. Mr Emil Rado. P Mercer Hume.	40	Anklet, metal figurine, spear
Nigeria	Prof Frank Willett Prof David H Saxon Mrs Cathleen Duff Mrs Joyce S Avery	208	Apron, axe, bead, book, bowl, bracelet, canoe, cap, ceremonial stave, chesspiece, chopper,

	Mrs Connie Willett Prof William Hastie J Scott Prof John W Gregory William C Cowan Dr J M Hendry. Purchase from Christie, Manson and Woods. Miss Sophie Docherty Mrs Marion Robson Mr M Egan Mrs U L Isenburg Peter Hall Mrs June Hutcheson Mr Doig Simons Mr A Clarke		cushion, dagger, divination bowl, divination chain, doll, fan, figure, firescreen, flake, hat, <i>ibeji</i> Koran, mask, model, overgarment, panel, paper knife, pouch, pounder, <i>sansa</i> , sash, skirt, souvenir, spear, spoon, table, talking drum, tapper, textile, tobacco pipe, tray, trousers, tunic
Senegal	Prof Frank Willett Dix Noonan Webb	5	Gourd, pottery
Sierra Leone	Mrs E Bell William Hart Dr Hart K Bovey Mr A Aitken Prof Frank Willett Ronald Lean. Scottish Development Board. Purchase from Christie, Manson and Woods.	13	Comb, currency, figure, mask, musical instrument, sherd, sling,

Regions and countries represented: Caribbean

Country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Barbados	G T Barton	7	Axe, conch shell hoe, earthenware figure, scraper, sherd,
Grenada	Dr Euan W Mackie. Prof John W Gregory.	16	Axe, pot sherds, set of stone implements
Jamaica	Donated by Queen Margaret College, Glasgow from Miss Jeanie Cockburn. Peter Fisher.	2	Bag, lacebark
Culturally affiliated with the Caribbean region (within CARICOM)			

Belize	Dr David R Stoddart Dr Euan W Mackie	13	Blade, sherds
Guyana	Transferred from The Andersonian Museum. Dr Alexander Napier Mrs Barber. Rev Dr George Turner. Martha Brown of Lanfine.	67	Apron, arrowhead, basket, blowpipe, comb, clubs, darts, duster, flute, knuckle duster, necklace, quiver, rattle
Suriname	Mrs Barber	24	Arrow, bow, staff

Published Information

Campbell, M, N Flis and L Sanchez-Jauregui (2018). *William Hunter and the Anatomy of the Modern Museum*. New Haven: Yale Center for British Art.

Keppie, L (2007). *William Hunter and the Hunterian Museum in Glasgow, 1807-2007*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.

Selected object images

Efe Gelede mask, Nigeria, GLAHM:E.1981.5



Ere ibeji figures, Lamidi Fakeye and apprentices, 1959, Nigeria, GLAHM:112829, GLAHM:112830, GLAHM:112831, GLAHM:112832



Ndome or shield, Kenya, GLAHM:E.1936.15/4



Detail of prayer scroll, Ethiopia, D.1955.30



Musical instrument, Sierra Leone, GLAHM:E.75



Minsere figure, Sierra Leone, GLAHM:E.26



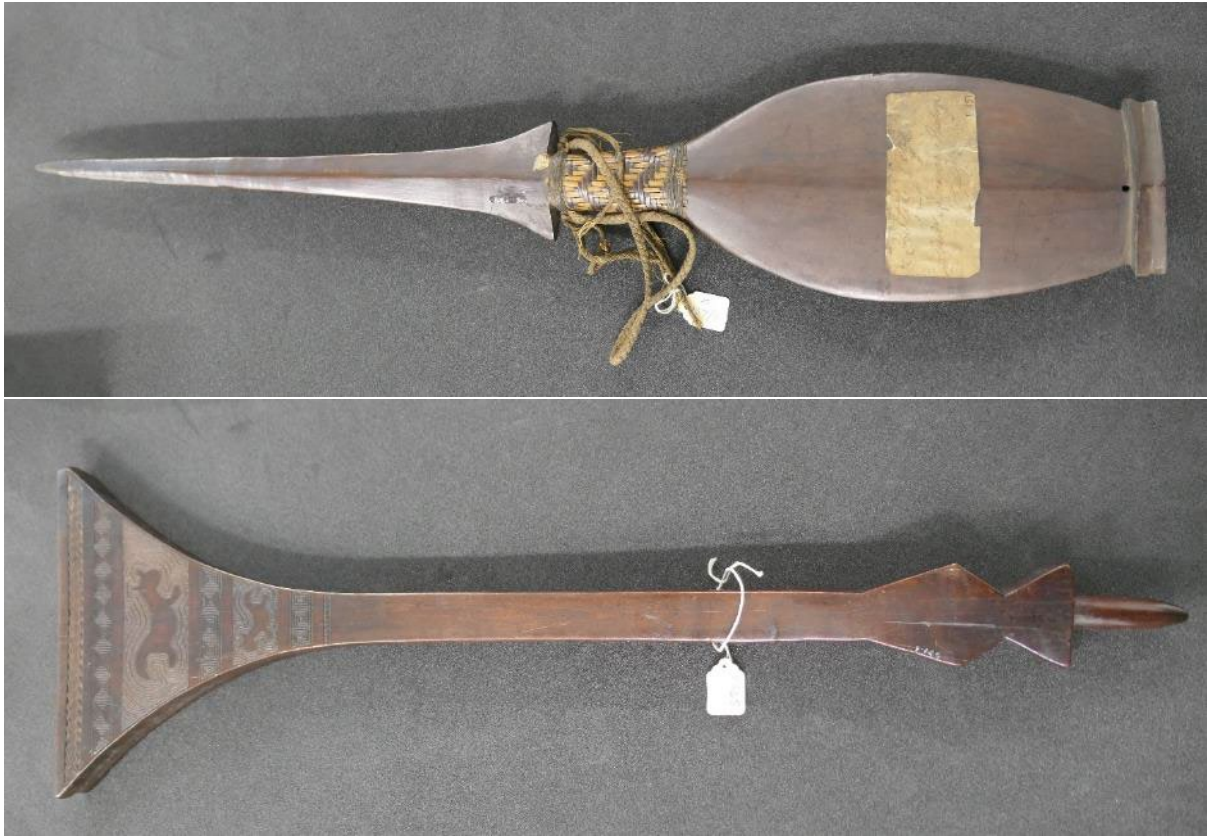
Caribbean

Detail of *Queyu* or beaded apron, Guyana, GLAHM:E.192



Clubs, Guyana, GLAHM:E.137/4, GLAHM:E.137/5, GLAHM:E.137/6, GLAHM:E.665





Earthenware figure, Barbados, GLAHM:E.1955.7



Paisley Museum

OneRen

Contact paisleymuseum@renfrewshire.gov.uk

Location of collections

Paisley Museum	The Secret Collection
High Street	9 High Street
Paisley	Paisley
PA1 2BA	PA1 2AE

Size of collections

493 African objects
27 Caribbean objects

Selected objects

Africa

- *Ekpe* costume, Nigeria, TEMP.2018.52
- Headrest, Kenya, 1906.538.bf
- *Agbada*, Western Africa/ Nigeria/ Equatorial Guinea, TEMP.2017.2325
- Brass dish, Nigeria, TEMP.2017.3801

Caribbean

- Beaded dress item or *Vorskokki*, Suriname, no number

History of the collection

Paisley Museum was Scotland's first municipal museum and opened in 1871, funded by Peter Coats, a partner in the large firm of thread makers, J&P Coats. The museum originally housed large collections amassed by the Paisley Philosophical Society since 1808. In 1882, art and sculpture galleries were added, and the building was further extended in 1901 and 1933. Collections from Africa and the Caribbean appear to have been predominantly donated after the extension of the museum in 1882, at which point the institution had a specific space to display objects taken from colonies around the globe. At the time of writing, the museum is closed to the public for major redevelopment. Collections have been decanted and are held at The Secret Collection, the first publicly accessible museum store on a UK high street.

Overview of the collection

Africa

Around 42% of the African collection is currently unattributed to a country or region. Approximately 29% comes from eastern Africa, 13% from western Africa, 12% from southern Africa, 4% from northern Africa, and less than 1% from central Africa. Recent documentation updates have assigned countries, but staff acknowledge that historic and present-day distribution of ethnic groups means that many objects could potentially be recorded under

different countries. The largest collections from single countries originate from Tanzania (12% of entire African collection), Nigeria (11%), South Africa (10%) and Kenya (9%).

Much of the Tanzanian and Kenyan material was donated by Scottish engineer William Carlile Fraser (1861-1911) who travelled to eastern Africa to work on the Uganda Railway, which was constructed in the 1890s. He donated a collection of around 150 objects that staff have identified as Chaga, Massai, Bantu, Taita, Taveta, Rombo, Kamba, and Ugweno material. The collection consists of weaponry, shields, headrests, domestic utensils, instruments, game boards, models of household items, snuff boxes and clothing. Another key eastern African collection was donated in 1953 from James Charles Hunter, whose family annually funded Scottish mission houses across eastern Africa. The collection is very similar to that donated by Fraser but also contains shields supposedly taken by Ugandan statesman Semei Kakungulu (1869-1928) at Mount Elgon in 1901 when fighting for British colonists against Bantu groups.

According to recent research undertaken by staff, the Nigerian collections originate almost entirely from the Presbyterian mission at Akwa Akpa (known as Old Calabar during the colonial era). They were donated directly by Scottish missionary Euphemia Sutherland (1820-1821), or via Mary Henderson of Park, between 1871 and 1882. Objects include 'secret society' clothing, masks and a headdress, domestic utensils, Efik dictionaries, textiles, basketry, satchels, currency, fans, and combs.

The South African collections require further research and were donated by multiple individuals, including Scottish trader and politician Sir William Dunn (1833-1912). It is likely that many of the South African objects were taken during, or as a result of, colonial warfare in the region. For example, some of the shields, weaponry and objects of everyday use are recorded as being taken during the so-called Anglo-Zulu war of 1879. There are also examples of clothing, recorded as belonging to a Zulu chief.

Other objects of note include a brass dish which was reportedly donated by Efik Prince Magnus Ephraim Adam-Duke (possibly 1842-1890) of southern Nigeria, and a large indigo *agbada*, probably Hausa or Nupe, thought to have been donated by Royal Navy Officer and hydrographic surveyor Captain Charles Gepp Robinson (1805-1875). Robinson surveyed the eastern coast of Africa from 1821. The *agbada* is likely a very early example and staff believe it may have been collected in Bioko Island (Equatorial Guinea) before 1829 when Robinson was stationed there. Records highlight that the Museum once had a smoking pipe belonging to King Kofi Karikari, which was taken in 1874 during the sack of Kumasi, and an 'Abyssinian missal' taken during the sack of Maqdala in 1868. However, these objects have historically been unidentifiable within the collection and are therefore deemed to be lost.

Caribbean

At the time of writing, staff are aware of 27 items in the collections that originate from the Caribbean. Three of these objects are clubs or *macana*, most likely collected in former British Guyana during the 19th century. The remaining 24 objects originate from present day Suriname and were donated by Henry Guillaume Wesenhagen in 1884. The collection consists mainly of basketwork and domestic utensils, in addition to baby toys and a rattle, and beadwork dress items. Historical records appear to note versions of local names for some of these objects. For example, *Sugi Notto* ('a type of nut'), *Blakka Podhi* ('a doll representing a female'), *Paletu Tikie* ('for stirring or beating eggs'), *Nawaja* ('for fanning the fire'), *Pagara* ('Jewel basket'), *Manari* ('sieve'), *Kerki Bockoe* ('Religious Book'). Wesenhagen grew up in the capital, Paramaribo. His father was a colonial official put in

place by the Governor of Suriname to sign receipts for the allowance of compensation to be paid to plantation owners following the abolition of slavery by the Netherlands in 1863.

Notable donors

Prince Magnus Ephraim Adam-Duke (possibly 1842-1890)

Sir William Dunn (1833-1912)

William Carlile Fraser (1861-1911)

Captain Charles Gepp Robinson (1805 -1875)

Euphemia Sutherland (c.1820-1881)

Henry Guillaume Wesenhagen (dates unknown)

Areas for further research

Approximately 42% of the African collection is not currently attributed to a specific country or region and further research and documentation updates would make this material more accessible. In particular, the eastern African collections from Uganda and Kenya, and the southern African collection, would benefit from further research.

It is very likely that there are more Caribbean items than those identified during this review, and further investigations and visual surveys may bring these to light. Material from former Dutch colonies in the Caribbean is relatively unusual in Scottish museums and for this reason the material from Suriname would benefit from further research. Some of the objects from Suriname have yet to be identified in the collection.

For the Nigerian collections associated with Euphemia Sutherland, researchers may find useful information in the publication *Memorials of Mrs. Sutherland, missionary, Old Calabar*, by Agnes Waddel (1883).

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major Sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Africa unspecified		206	
	William Carlile Fraser. Stuart H Brown. James Charles Hunter. Dr J A Dickson John Taylor Sir William Dunn Miss A Crawford		Armour, basketry, domestic utensils, musical instruments, personal ornaments, smoking equipment, snuff containers, weapons
Northern Africa		18	
Algeria	Mrs James Miller	17	Musical instruments
Sudan		1	Knife sheath
Eastern Africa		141	
Eastern Africa unspecified	Miss McEwan	1	Pipe
Kenya	William Carlile Fraser	45	Domestic utensils, headrest, musical

	James Charles Hunter		instruments, personal ornaments, snuff containers, textiles, weapons and armour, wooden figure
Somalia	William Carlile Fraser	8	Domestic utensils, footwear, musical instrument, weapons and armour
United Republic of Tanzania	William Carlile Fraser Eric L Hellyer	61	Armour, domestic utensils, model household items, personal ornaments, stool, textiles and costume, walking stick, weapons
Uganda	James Charles Hunter	15	Armour, domestic utensils, footwear, musical instruments, textiles, weapons
Zimbabwe	Mr C Souter James Charles Hunter J B Reid	11	Domestic utensils, wooden animal figurines
Central Africa		4	
Central Africa unspecified	A M Stewart	1	Model loom
Democratic Republic of the Congo	James Murray	1	Wooden figure
Gabon		2	Armlet, whip
Southern Africa		61	
Southern Africa unspecified	James Charles Hunter	7	Domestic utensils, textiles, weapons
Botswana	J Robertson Cochrane	1	Necklace
South Africa	Miss Kelso Mrs Holm Alexander Love Stuart H Brown James Charles Hunter James Russell Sir William Dunn L Gow Esq	53	Beadwork, domestic utensils, headrests, personal ornaments, snuff container, textiles, weapons and armour
Western Africa		63	
Western Africa unspecified	Robert Hart	1	Model canoe
Gambia	A G Stewart	2	Musical instrument, weapon

Ghana	William Orr	4	Bowl, medical equipment, pipe
Nigeria	Euphemia Miller Sutherland. Mrs Henderson of Park. Phillip Craig Mrs Flynn R C Clark Robert C McWhirter John McKim	56	Basketry, ceremonial costume, domestic utensils, fan, footwear, hammock, loom, mask/headdress, musical instruments, paddles, personal care items, textiles

Regions and countries represented: Caribbean

Country	Major Sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Culturally affiliated with the Caribbean region (within CARICOM)			
Guyana		3	Clubs
Suriname	Henry Guillaume Wesenhagen	24	Basketwork utensils, beadwork 'apron', cigar stand, 'doll', domestic utensils, shell utensils, religious book, toys and rattles

Published Information

Fagan, Joel (2003). 'Paisley's Empire: Representation, Collection and Display'. In Emma Bond and Michael Morris (eds), *Scotland's Transnational Heritage: Legacies of Empire and Slavery*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2023, 120-35.

Selected object images

Ekpe costume, Nigeria, TEMP.2018.52



Headrest, Kenya, 1906.538.bf



Agbada, Western Africa/ Nigeria/ Bioko Island, TEMP.2017.2325



Brass dish, Nigeria, TEMP.2017.3801



Beaded dress item or *Vorskokki*, Suriname, no number



Rozelle House Museum and Galleries

South Ayrshire Council

Contact rozelle.house@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Location of collections

Rozelle House Museum and Galleries	SAC Museum Store
Rozelle Park	Ayr Grammar & Archive Centre
Monument Road	South Harbour Street
Ayr	Ayr
KA7 4NQ	KA7 1JA

Size of collections

4 African objects
3 Caribbean objects

Selected objects

Africa

- 'Trumbash', Democratic Republic of the Congo, AYRRH:000533
- Knife, Democratic Republic of the Congo, AYRRH:2002.15.2

Caribbean

- Stone axehead, probably West Indies, 1906 SAC
- Large stone axe head, probably West Indies, 1908 SAC

History of the collection

Rozelle House Museum and Galleries displays objects, artefacts and works of art from the South Ayrshire Council collections. It houses the Maclaurin Art Gallery and the Ayrshire Yeomanry Museum. Rozelle House was gifted to the Royal Burgh of Ayr in 1968 by the Hamilton family whose ancestor, Robert Hamilton, co-owner of two Jamaican plantations, had originally bought the estate when it was sold to reduce the Burgh debt. Rozelle House, built on the profits of the trafficking of enslaved people, was named after his La Rochelle plantation.

Overview of the collection

Africa

The African collection is comprised of two knives from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and a collection of oyster shells and stone hand axe from eastern Africa. One of the Congolese knives is a 'trumbash', a ceremonial and prestige weapon typical of the Mangbetu people. A historic museum label suggests that the oyster shells and hand axe are from excavations led by British archaeologist Henry Seton-Karr (1853-1914) in eastern Africa (1893) and present-day Somalia (1896).

Caribbean

The Caribbean objects that come under the remit of this review are three stone axe heads, probably originating from the West Indies.

Associated material

Associated African material includes a 1909 one cent coin from former East Africa Protectorate.

The collection includes natural science material from the Caribbean, including a sample of unidentified wood, a bag of cashew nuts, a bag of nuts from the nutmeg tree, a jar of castor oil seeds, and samples of sealed sugar cane. These items are all recorded as coming from Grenada, West Indies.

Notable donors

Henry Seton-Karr (1853-1914)

Areas for further research

The historical connections that Rozelle House has to Jamaica through Robert Hamilton suggest that the Caribbean collection would benefit from further research, including the associated natural science material listed below.

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Eastern Africa		2	
Eastern Africa unspecified	Henry Seton-Karr	1	Palaeolithic tools (oyster shells)
Somalia	Henry Seton-Karr	1	Stone hand axe
Central Africa		2	
Democratic Republic of the Congo		2	Knives

Regions and countries represented: Caribbean

Country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
West Indies unspecified		3	Stone axe heads

Selected object images

'Trumbash', Democratic Republic of the Congo, AYRRH:000533



Knife, Democratic Republic of the Congo, AYRRH:2002.15.2



Stone axe head, probably West Indies, 1906 SAC



Large stone axe head, probably West Indies, 1908 SAC



The Watt Institution Inverclyde Council

Contact wattinstitution@inverclyde.gov.uk

Location of collections

Watt Institution
15 Kelly Street
Greenock
PA16 8JX

Size of collections

155 African objects
9 Caribbean objects

Online Collections

<https://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/community-life-and-leisure/heritage-services/collections/collections-online>

Selected objects

Africa

- *Aken'ni Elao* or altar tusk, pre-1897, Benin City, Nigeria, 1981.1230
- *Eroro* or bell, pre-1897, Benin City, Nigeria, 1981.1162
- *Egba* or bracelet, pre-1897, Benin City, Nigeria, 1981.1171
- *Isanren* or key, pre-1897, Benin City, Nigeria, 1981.1175
- *Agbada* or dagger, pre-1897, Benin City, Nigeria, 1981.1177
- Stool, Ghana, 1987.271
- Tobacco pipe bowl, Nigeria, 1987.234
- Fan, Nigeria, 1987.232
- Prayer scroll, Ethiopia, 1987.268

Caribbean

- *Macana* or clubs, Guyana, 1981.569 + 1981.572
- Sailor's Valentine, Barbados, 1981.1417

History of the collection

The Watt Institution comprises the McLean Museum and Art Gallery, the Watt Library and Inverclyde Archives. The Watt Library opened in 1837. The majority of the African and Caribbean collections belong to the McLean Museum and Art Gallery, which opened in 1876 as an addition to the Watt Library. Much of the material dates from the late 19th and early 20th centuries and includes weapons, utilitarian and ceremonial items, musical instruments and personal items such as jewellery. Much of the collection reflects the activities of people from Inverclyde across the British Empire.

Overview of the collection

It was not possible to obtain an inventory of the African and Caribbean collections during this review. This report has been compiled from the Inverclyde Council online collections search and a visual survey conducted in March 2023. It should be noted that the *Wider World* survey (1994) identified around 250 African objects, so it is possible that the actual size of the collection is larger than the current estimate suggests.

Africa

According to those records available at the time of writing, 39% of the entire African collection is currently attributed to western Africa, 20% to southern Africa, 18% to eastern Africa, 5% to northern Africa and 3% to central Africa. Around 15% is not currently attributed to a country or region.

This review has identified around 18 objects from Benin City, Nigeria, donated in 1919 by William Northrup McMillan (1872-1925). These were potentially taken during the British sacking of Benin City in 1897 by Major Charles Ringer (1860-1912). McMillan bought a Kenyan hunting estate from Ringer in 1906 and he may have acquired the material as part of this sale.¹¹ Alternatively, museum records suggest that McMillan may have purchased the material when he moved to London in 1898 and acquired various items from western Africa. This material was identified during a visual survey with the discovery of an *Aken'ni Elao*, or carved altar tusk, featuring bands of carved design and symbols of an *Ada* or ceremonial sword. These objects were placed at the ancestral shrines of the *Qba* (traditional rulers of the Kingdom of Benin). Further investigations on the online database suggest that the museum also holds four *Erero* or brass bells, eight *Egba* or bracelets/armlets (five ivory, three metal), one *Isanren* or key, three *Agbada* or daggers, and one 'skewer or pin bracelet'. This material is likely to be the residue of a larger collection that was transferred to National Museums Scotland in the 1990s. Staff were not aware that material from Benin City, Nigeria, remained in the collection.

Also of note is a carved wooden stool from Ghana that was transferred to the museum from the Watt Library in 1876. It is possible that this stool was taken during the so-called Anglo-Asante wars of the 1870s, but further research is needed to determine provenance. The donor described the stool as being from Cape Coast Castle, Ghana.

The western African collection also contains several items donated by Olive Temple (1880-1936) who travelled through western and central Africa from August 1910 to May 1911 (eg 1987.234 + 1987.232). She collected extensively and donated material to National Museums Scotland, Liverpool Museum, the Pitt Rivers Museum and the British Museum. Items include a circular metal fan from Northern Nigeria, tobacco pipes and bracelets.

Records suggest that many of the southern African objects were accessioned in the 1870s to 1890s, and two shields are recorded as being taken from the Battle of Isandlwana (22 January 1879). This was the first major encounter in the so-called Anglo-Zulu War between the British Empire and the Zulu Kingdom and resulted in a major defeat for the British forces. It is possible that some of the South African beadwork and other items were also taken from conflicts around this time.

¹¹ See Phillips, Barnaby (2021). *Loot: Britain and the Benin Bronzes*. London: Oneworld Publications, p183 for more information about the relationship between Ringer and McMillan.

This review identified an Ethiopian prayer scroll that would benefit from further research. It was donated by Thomas Pettigrew of Greenock in 1890. The Museum also holds an interesting and early collection of headrests from southern and eastern Africa, including ornate examples from South Africa and Zimbabwe. Some of these have donor names and dates attached, for example one from Mozambique that was donated by James Duncan (1834-1905) in 1891. Duncan was a Scottish sugar refiner and friend of missionary David Livingstone, who may have given him the headrest.

Caribbean

Highlights of the Caribbean material include four clubs or *macana* from Guyana. These hardwood block clubs are bound with fibre and have thongs or handles attached. They are recorded as coming from the historic Demerara region and the Macusi (or Macushi) people. The Museum also holds an octagonal, glass-fronted, hinged wooden box inlaid with intricate and symmetrical designs of seashells, known as a 'Sailor's Valentine'. It is understood that these objects were made by women in Barbados in the mid-1800s and sold to sailors as souvenirs.

Associated material

The collection contains a 19th-century treaty on paper between 'King Pepple' of the River Bonny, Nigeria, and British naval officers Robert Taylor and Charles Caine from the ships *Lady Worsely* and *Georgiana*, dated 2nd December 1849. 'King Pepple' was William Dappa Pepple I (Dappa Perekule) who died in 1866. The document was given to the Museum in 1877 by Mr C P Choun.

Notable donors

James Duncan (1834-1905)

William Northrup McMillan (1872-1925)

Olive Susan Miranda Temple (1880-1936)

Areas for further research

Greenock's wealth in the 19th century and links to various colonial enterprises make it likely that more notable material would be identified with auditing and archival research. The whole African collection would benefit from further research, and it is probable that more Caribbean material could be identified in the collection. The online collections search does list some donors and accession dates, which may provide research leads for objects not covered in this report.

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Africa unspecified		23	
	David McAllister William Northrup McMillan Arthur Oughterson Leitch		Axe, basket, boat model, bottle, comb, dagger, flywhisk, headrest, horn, musical instrument, necklace, skimmer, spatula, spearhead, spoon

Northern Africa		11	
Northern Africa unspecified		1	Dagger
Egypt	James Watson	1	Pen holder
Libya		1	Pot sherds
Morocco		1	Sword
Sudan		3	Daggers, throwing knives
Tunisia	Mr Saville James McCunn	4	Oil lamp, religious plaque
Eastern Africa		27	
Ethiopia	Thomas Pettigrew	8	Headrests, musical instruments, scroll, stone reliquary, sword
Kenya	William Northrup McMillan	3	Tusks
Madagascar	John Tait	1	Grass mat
Mozambique	Joseph Duncan Scott. William A Cameron. Grierson Macara.	3	Headrest, hide dress, ivory beads
Somalia	William Davidson. William Northrup McMillan.	5	Clubs, dagger, shield, spoon
Uganda	William Northrup McMillan	3	Drums, drumsticks
United Republic of Tanzania	Grierson Macara	1	Coral necklace
Zimbabwe		3	Bride doll, headrests
Central Africa		4	
Democratic Republic of the Congo	James Lyon	4	Ceremonial knife, mask, musical instruments
Southern Africa		31	
South Africa	Ebenezer Ramsay. William Cairns. Joseph Duncan Scott. John William Crawford. Arthur Oughterson Leitch.	31	Axe, bracelets, cloak, headrests, musical instruments, necklaces, pipe, shields, snuff boxes, spoons, stone arrow heads
Western Africa		59	
Western Africa unspecified		1	Dagger
Côte d'Ivoire		1	Blanket
Gambia		1	Horseman's sword
Ghana	Mr Gurock.	18	Ceramic water vessel, flute, metal figurines, stool, wooden bust

	Mr Castle Snr. Watt Library, Greenock		
Nigeria	Olive Susan Miranda Temple. William Northrup McMillan.	37	Axe, bells, bracelets, carved tusk, daggers, fan, hairpin, ivory and metal armlets, key, tobacco pipes
Sierra Leone		1	Kissi penny currency

Regions and countries represented: Caribbean

Country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Barbados		1	Sailor's valentine
Jamaica	Grierson Macara Bequest	1	Machete
West Indies unspecified		3	Basket, bracelets
Culturally affiliated with the Caribbean region (within CARICOM)			
Guyana		4	Clubs

Selected object images

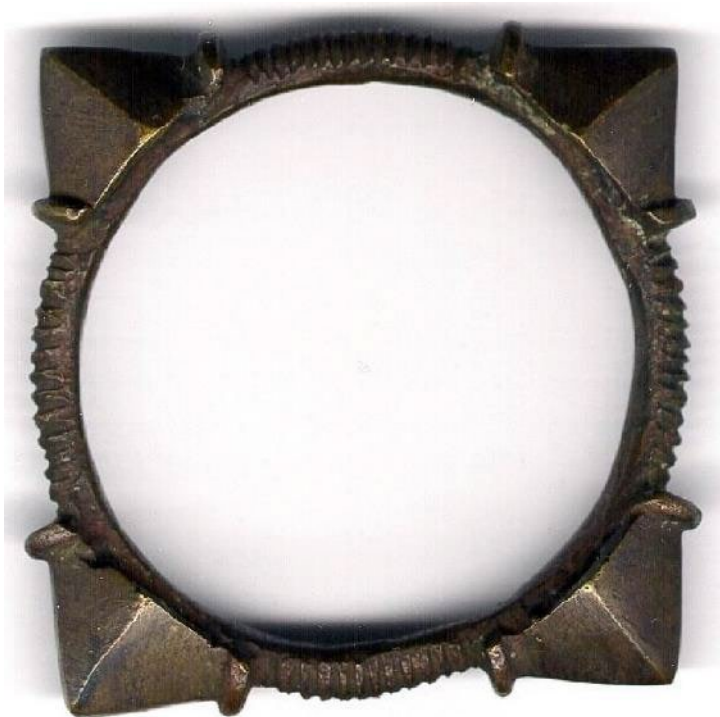
Aken'ni Elao or altar tusk, pre-1897, Benin City, Nigeria, 1981.1230



Ẹroro or bell, pre-1897, Benin City, Nigeria, 1981.1162



Ẹgba or bracelet, pre-1897, Benin City, Nigeria, 1981.1171



Isanrẹn or key, pre-1897, Benin City, Nigeria, 1981.1175



Agbada or dagger, pre-1897, Benin City, Nigeria, 1981.1177



Stool, Ghana, 1987.271



Tobacco pipe bowl, Nigeria, 1987.234



Fan, Nigeria, 1987.232



Detail of a prayer scroll, Ethiopia, 1987.268



Macana or clubs, Guyana, 1981.569 + 1981.572





Sailor's Valentine, Barbados, 1981.1417





Detail of raffia textile, Democratic Republic of the Congo.
© Rebecca Marr - Stromness Museum

African and Caribbean Collections in Scottish Museums Highlands and Islands

Highlands and Islands

- Inverness Museum and Art Gallery (High Life Highland)
- Nairn Museum
- Shetland Museum and Archives (Shetland Amenity Trust)
- Stromness Museum (Orkney Natural History Society)
- Tain & District Museum
- West Highland Museum (West Highland Museum Trust)

Inverness Museum and Art Gallery

High Life Highland

Contact inverness.museum@highlifehighland.com

Location of collections

Inverness Museum and Art Gallery
Castle Wynd
Inverness
IV2 3EB

Size of collections

5 African objects
No known Caribbean objects

Selected objects

- Mandinka dress sword, West Africa, 1985.011

History of the collection

Inverness Museum and Art Gallery is managed by registered charity High Life Highland on behalf of The Highland Council. Inverness Museum started life as part of the Northern Institution for the Promotion of Science and Literature in 1825. Its first premises displayed early collections including social history and natural science specimens. The Institution held its final meeting in 1835 and over the next 40 years the museum collections were moved to the Inverness Royal Academy and then to the Town Hall. In 1876 the Inverness Scientific Society and Field Club took responsibility for the remaining museum collection and a permanent site was sought. Money was raised by public subscription and a new building was completed in 1881. This was cleared for redevelopment in 1963, and the current museum, gallery and library complex was built in its place. Records suggest that most of the non-European collections were transferred to National Museums Scotland in the 1960s.

Overview of the collection

Due to the transfer in the 1960s, very little relevant material remains. Five African items have been identified that were donated in recent decades. These include three spear heads and a Nigerian loop dagger that were found behind a slab at the former Marine Hotel in Rosemarkie in 2015. The most significant object in the collection is a Mandinka horseman's sword, possibly from the Gambia, donated by Mrs Reid of Edinburgh in 1985. The sword is a 'dress sword' and would have been worn as a symbol of high status by wealthy or high-ranking Mandinka men. It doesn't feature a hand guard and would not have been used in combat. The blades of Mandinka dress swords were typically imported French cavalry sabres, reflecting networks of European colonial influence in West Africa. These swords are recognisable by the intricate dyed and woven leatherwork on the scabbard and straps, which represent a strong culture of dyed, tooled and plaited leatherwork in much of West Africa.

Associated material

Africa

The collection contains examples of 'African blackwood' used for bagpipes, mineral samples from South Africa, photographs of Cape Town Highlanders and South African scenery, and colonial era numismatics from South Africa, West Africa, Mombasa, and Zanzibar. The collection also contains a miniature portrait in bronze of Ranavalona III, last Queen of Madagascar (1861-1917). France annexed Madagascar in January 1896 and abolished the monarchy and exiled Ranavalona to Algeria in 1897. She made several trips to France where she was received by high society and was popular with the French public. It is likely that this portrait was produced in the early 1900s during her first trips to Europe.

Caribbean

This review has identified a shoulder-belt plate for VI West Indies Regiment, 1795-1817 (made in London, 1795), and a gilded button of the Jamaica Militia. The archival collections contain papers related to the Inglis family who were involved in the trade of enslaved people in St Vincent and the ownership and management of plantations in Demerara and Berbice (Guyana) from the mid 1700s. The archives also hold the 1814 will and testament of Susanne Kerr, a free woman of mixed race from St Vincent who had four children with George Inglis (1764-1847), all of whom were brought to Inverness to be educated. For more information, see David Alston, 'A Forgotten Diaspora: The Children of Enslaved and "Free Coloured" Women and Highland Scots in Guyana Before Emancipation'. *Northern Scotland* 6, no 1 (1 May 2015): 49–69.

Areas for further research

The donor of the Mandinka dress sword also gifted military items, including a belt plate from an officer of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders or 79th Regiment of Foot, and a belt plate from the 3rd (Dundee Highland) Volunteer Battalion, Black Watch. Records suggest the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders were in active service in West Africa, supplying men for the so-called 'Ashanti Campaign' in 1873. Further research into the donor and military connections may shed more light on the provenance of the dress sword.

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Africa unspecified		3	Spear heads
Western Africa		2	
Western Africa unspecified	Mrs Reid	1	Mandinka dress sword
Nigeria		1	Loop dagger

Selected object images

Mandinka dress sword, West Africa, 1985.011



Nairn Museum

Contact Manager@nairnmuseum.co.uk

Location of collections

Nairn Museum
Viewfield House
Viewfield Drive
Nairn
IV12 4EE

Size of collections

105 African objects
7 Caribbean objects

Selected objects

Africa

- Leopard skin cloak, Ethiopia, 22366
- Ivory walking stick, Uganda, 20401
- Fibre hat, Sierra Leone, 20613

Caribbean

- Beaded apron, Guyana, 22360
- Wooden clubs, Guyana, 20470 + 20314.002

History of the collection

Nairn Museum collection was founded in 1858 when Dr John Grigor (1814-1886), a medical practitioner and former provost of Nairn, began acquiring objects from individuals with Nairnshire connections. The first museum was established in 1860 on Nairn's High Street. The collection was moved at the start of the Second World War when the army requisitioned the building. After the war, it was moved to the current site, a Georgian mansion that was formerly the town courthouse. The museum collection largely relates to the town and its history.

Overview of the collection

Africa

According to current records, around 60% of the African material at Nairn Museum is from western Africa, 15% southern Africa, 10% northern Africa, 10% eastern Africa, 1% central Africa, and 4% is unattributed.

Over half of the African collection is recorded as Nigerian. Objects include Hausa swords, knives, and spears; drums; various types of basketwork; domestic utensils; and an object described as a 'hornbill decoy'. Many of these are recorded as being donated by a David Douglas in 1940. The western African material also includes two combs and a fibre hat from

Sierra Leone, donated by Dr John McEwan Dalziel (1872-1948) of the West African Medical Service.

Material from South Africa makes up around 15% of the entire African collection. Of note are horn headdresses, probably from Zulu rickshaw pullers. Other southern African material includes spears, a club, and snuff containers.

One of the potentially most significant objects in the collection is a leopard skin cloak, possibly connected to the British looting of Maqdala in Ethiopia in 1868. The cloak was donated by the Ketchen family in 1869 and is recorded as 'being purchased at the late King Theodore's sale after the capture of Magdala'. Other material associated with British military activity are three spears, probably taken from Sudanese soldiers during the Battle of Omdurman in 1898. The collection also contains a hammock that is recorded as coming from Cape Coast Castle in Ghana in 1859, donated by Benjamin Lumsden Gordon who served with the British army in India.

Another object of note is an ivory walking stick from Uganda. Records suggest that it was gifted by the Kabaka of Buganda to 'Mr E. K. Borup', a Danish missionary, in appreciation of his work as the first man to introduce the cultivation of cotton into Uganda.

Caribbean

This survey has identified seven objects that probably originate from former British Guyana. The collection holds six wooden clubs, often recorded as war clubs or 'macana', and one beaded belt or apron. There is currently no further provenance information available for these items.

Areas for further research

The leopard skin cloak from Ethiopia and ivory walking stick from Uganda are of particular interest and would benefit from further research. Many of the Ketchen family, who donated the cloak, were born in India and served in the Indian Army. Further research may highlight a direct link to the British looting of Maqdala, because the field force involved was composed of British and Indian troops. *History of Nairnshire* by George Bain (1893) discusses the Ketchen family and may provide key information.

The ivory walking stick was donated by a retired indigo planter, Henry Alfred Baily, who died in Nairn in 1950. Baily's connection to Borup and Uganda is currently unclear. 'Mr E. K. Borup' is most likely Kristen Eskildsen Borup (1866-1938) of the Christian Missionary Society Industrial Mission. Borup has been credited with introducing cotton seed to Uganda in the early 1900s. This object is potentially significant as it highlights histories related to missionary activity, royal gifting, and industry in Uganda.

Objects donated by Dr J M Dalziel also hold research potential because information about his career in West Africa is available. Dalziel worked for the West African Medical Service and spent time in all former British West Africa colonies. He had a particular interest in Northern Nigeria and the natural sciences, collecting botanical and zoological specimens. He published *A Hausa Botanical Vocabulary* in 1916. It is possible that he donated some of the currently unprovenanced Nigerian material.

Regarding Caribbean material in the collection, Bain's 1893 *History of Nairnshire* notes that the Ketchen family property, 'Kingillie', was purchased in 1890 by a David Anderson with links to Demerara. Research into local connections such as these may provide a starting

point for further investigations. More generally, there are key links with the East India Company and British military in Nairnshire and research into the collection would illuminate these histories further.

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Africa unspecified		6	
			Dagger, hunting equipment, shield, spear, wall hangings
Northern Africa		22	
Egypt		1	Fez
Sudan	David Douglas	10	Spears
Eastern Africa			
Eastern Africa unspecified		3	Bracelet, shield, sword
Ethiopia	Ketchen	2	Cloak, spear
Somalia	H W Seton-Karr	4	Shields, stone implements, walking sticks
Uganda	Dr Bailey	1	Ivory walking stick
United Republic of Tanzania	Mrs Christine Kennedy	1	Two-handled bowl
Central Africa		1	
Chad		1	Knife
Southern Africa		16	
South Africa		16	Axe head, club, horn headdress, snuff container, spear
Western Africa		60	
Western Africa unspecified		1	Drumsticks
Ghana	Benjamin Gordon	1	Hammock
Nigeria	David Douglas	55	Axe, basket, beadwork, bottle, bow, drumsticks, flywhisk, hornbill decoy, knife, necklace, pick/axe, shield, spear, spoon, strainer
Sierra Leone	J M Dalziel	3	Combs, hat

Regions and countries represented: Caribbean

Country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Guyana		7	Beaded apron, clubs

Published Information

Bain, George (1893). *History of Nairnshire*. Nairn: Telegraph Office.

Selected object images

Leopard skin cloak, Ethiopia, 22366



Ivory walking stick, Uganda, 20401



Fibre hat, Sierra Leone, 20613



Beaded apron, Guyana, 22360



Wooden club, Guyana, 20470



Wooden club, Guyana, 20314.002



Shetland Museum & Archives

Shetland Amenity Trust

Contact info@shetlandmuseumandarchives.org.uk

Location of collections

Shetland Museum & Archives
Hay's Dock
Lerwick
Shetland
ZE1 0WP

Size of collections

3 African objects
No known Carribean objects

Selected objects

- Leopard skin stole, Kenya, APP2013.93
- Leopard skin muff, Kenya, APP 2013.94
- Cheetah skin handbag, Kenya, APP 2013.92

History of the collection

The current Museum opened in 2007 in a new building on the waterfront in Lerwick, bringing together the museum and archive collections for the first time. The collections relate to all aspects of the islands' history.

Overview of the collection

Shetland Museum & Archives holds a cheetah skin handbag, a leopard skin muff and leopard skin stole from Kenya that were made in the 1940s. These belonged to Agnes Grace Gibb (1895-1981) from Aith, Shetland. Following the Second World War, she moved to Nairobi to work as a lady's maid to a Mrs Silver. While in Nairobi she met and married an English settler farmer, Harold Gibb. These objects were reportedly made from a cheetah and leopard which she shot to protect livestock. The skins were tailored by John Richmond of Nairobi.

Associated material

The Museum also contains artworks and medals that do not come under the remit of this review but may be of interest to researchers. Those with African connections include artworks by Bretta Astrid Laurenson (1893-1945) made during her time working as a governess for the Salvesen family at the Lone Cow Estate, Banket, present day Zimbabwe, in the 1930s. The 54 artworks depict landscapes, villages, adults, and children of the area. An 1871 portrait of George Reid Morrison (1819-1892) by William Richard Waters (1813-1880) is notable for Morrison's reported role in suppressing slavery and piracy on the south and west coasts of Africa. The collection also contains eight military medals with links to South Africa, including a medal of service in the Anglo-Zulu War, 1877-1890.

A portrait of surveyor and cartographer John Robertson (1753-1829) has connections to Jamaica, where he arrived in 1778. He surveyed the island between 1796 and 1799 and published a map series in 1804. The oil painting is potentially the work of Philip Wickstead, a portraitist in Jamaica between 1774 and 1786.

Areas for further research

The specific context in which these objects were made may be of interest to those researching histories of settler agriculture in eastern Africa.

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Eastern Africa		3	
Kenya		3	Cheetah skin handbag, leopard skin muff, leopard skin stole

Selected object images

Leopard skin muff, Kenya, APP 2013.94



Leopard skin stole, Kenya, APP2013.93



Stromness Museum

Orkney Natural History Society

Contact custodian@stromnessmuseum.org.uk

Location of collections

Stromness Museum
52 Alfred Street
Stromness
Orkney
KW16 3DH

Size of collections

93 African objects
No known Caribbean objects

Online Collections

<https://www.stromnessmuseum.org.uk/collections>

Selected objects

- Wooden bowl in the shape of a turtle, Nigeria, E083
- Kola offering bowl, Nigeria, E102
- Caryatid stool, Democratic Republic of the Congo, E209
- Raffia cut-pile textile, Democratic Republic of the Congo, E094
- Zanze or thumb piano, Gambia River, E124
- Beadwork bands, South Africa, E104+E105
- Chair, Zanzibar, A662

History of the collection

Stromness Museum was founded in 1837 as the museum of the Orkney Natural History Society. The Society actively built collections, but these did not have a permanent home until 1862 when the current museum was opened with support from the Magistrates and Town Council. During the 18th and 19th centuries, Stromness was at the crossroads of a maritime network that stretched from the South Pacific to the North Atlantic. These connections are reflected by important collections of non-European material that were brought back from across the world in the 19th and 20th centuries. African material was likely given to the museum by seafarers stopping off in Stromness for water and supplies, as well as Orcadians who travelled to the continent.

Overview of the collection

The collection of 93 African objects is predominantly from western Africa, Nigeria specifically. Material currently attributed to Nigeria makes up 37% of the entire African collection and much of this was probably donated by William Balfour Baikie (1825-1864). Baikie was a doctor and explorer from Orkney who played a key role in opening Nigeria to British trade from 1854. The collection is predominantly domestic items, utensils and ornaments. Objects

that have been directly attributed to Baikie include a wooden food bowl and cover in the shape of a turtle. Another donor of Nigerian material was Harry Mowatt who spent his life as a missionary and teacher at the Hope Waddell Training Institution in Calabar. Objects attributed to Mowatt include a raffia fan made at the Hope Waddell Institution, manillas, and a leather bag and amulet necklace from Northern Nigeria. Other objects of note with less clear provenance include a straw and cowrie shell kola offering bowl, two votive pots recorded as being taken from the oracular shrine at Aro Chukwu, and two miniature thorn carvings. The Nigerian collection also includes some brass work from Benin City that was made for sale during the 20th century.

The second largest collection from any single country comes from the Democratic Republic of the Congo and was mainly donated by Mr and Mrs J Bews, date unknown. Material includes basketwork, raffia cut-pile textiles, and a caryatid stool. Other objects of note include a *Zanze* or thumb piano that is recorded as being 'taken off the body of a chief' killed during conflict on the Gambia River. It was taken by Henry Salter, one of the crew of HMS *Arrogant* (Commander Edmonton), around 1859-1860. There are some examples of beadwork from southern Africa that were donated in 1912 by Mr Thompson. These include beadwork 'bands' that may be Zulu rolled headbands, necklaces, or waistbands (*Umgingqo*). More unusual items in the collection include a pottery figure recorded as coming from Cameroon, and an ivory hairpin attributed to Gabon.

The most striking object in the collection is a Swahili *kiti cha enzi* or a 'Chair of Power', probably made in Zanzibar or the east coast of Africa during the 19th century. The high-backed chair is highly decorated with string panels and ivory or bone inlays. It was probably acquired around 1902-1905 by Robert Hamilton (1867-1944), a Scottish politician who was appointed Assistant Judge of the High Court of East Africa at this time.

Notable donors

William Balfour Baikie (1825-1864)

Robert Hamilton (1867-1944)

Harry Mowatt (dates unknown)

Areas for further research

Although material was not formally accessioned until the early 20th century, object donations are sometimes listed in minute books of the Orkney Natural History Society from the 1800s. These could be used to identify object sources, for example, it may be possible to link further objects with Baikie.

The collection from the Democratic Republic of the Congo deserves further research, particularly as nothing is currently known about the donors or their activities in central Africa. Mr and Mrs J Bews may possibly be related to Professor John William Bews (1884-1934) who was born in Kirkwall and educated in Edinburgh. He was a botanist and worked in South Africa from 1910 to 1934 on botanical surveys and as Professor of Botany at Natal University College and University of South Africa.

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Africa unspecified		29	
	William Balfour Baikie. Gunnie Moberg. Mr J Sabiston.		Armlet, arrowhead, bowl, containers, dish, pottery, textiles
Eastern Africa		1	
United Republic of Tanzania	Lady Hamilton, Edinburgh	1	Chair
Central Africa		18	
Cameroon		2	Loom, pottery figure
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Mr and Mrs J Bews	15	Basketwork, bracelet, cartridge pouch, caryatid stool, charm, comb, knife, raffia cut-pile textiles
Gabon		1	Hippo tooth hairpin
Southern Africa		4	
South Africa	Mr Thompson Mrs Buchan	4	Beadwork, model wagon
Western Africa		41	
Western Africa unspecified		6	Armlets, ear weights, straw dish covers
Gambia		1	Thumb piano
Nigeria	William Balfour Baikie Dr McLetchie Harry Mowatt	34	Amulet, armlet, basketwork, brass casting, dress items, fan, leather bag, manillas, offering plate, raffia textiles, ring, saddle cloth, sandals, sheaths, 'slave irons', spoons, strainer, thorn carving, votive pot/bowl

Selected object images

Wooden bowl in the shape of a turtle, Nigeria, E083



Kola offering bowl, Nigeria, E102



Caryatid stool, Democratic Republic of the Congo, E209



Raffia cut-pile textile, Democratic Republic of the Congo, E094



Zanze or thumb piano, Gambia River, E124



Beadwork 'bands', South Africa, E104+E105



Chair, Zanzibar, A662



Tain & District Museum

Contact info@tainmuseum.org.uk

Location of collections

Tain & District Museum
Tower Street
Tain
IV19 1DY

Size of collections

4 African objects
2 Caribbean objects

Selected objects

Africa

- Two 'anklets', Nigeria, TDM 0813.005.1ab + 0813.005.2 ab
- Two 'bracelets', Nigeria, TDM 0813.005.3 + 0813.005.4

Caribbean

- Mounted 'saw' of a sawfish on wooden base, Guyana, 0775
- Bamboo quiver, Guyana, unaccessioned

History of the collection

Established in 1966, the Tain & District Museum, incorporating the Clan Ross Centre, is an independent, volunteer-run museum. Collections represent the history of Easter Ross and its people.

Overview of the collection

Africa

The museum holds two 'anklets' and two 'bracelets' that are recorded as Nigerian. Currently, no further documentation is available.

Caribbean

Staff have recently identified two objects that probably originate from Guyana. These are the rostrum or 'saw' of a sawfish that has been mounted on a wooden base, and what is thought to be a bamboo quiver.

Staff believe that the mounted sawfish rostrum may have been sent to Tain by Alexander MacPherson (1803-1861). MacPherson travelled to Guyana in 1825 and became manager of plantations numbers 17 and 18 in Berbice. In a letter written to his mother, he mentioned a number of 'curiosities' that he was sending back to Tain, including the 'saw of a saw, a Sword Fish'.

The object that may be a bamboo quiver has only recently been identified and is currently unaccessioned. It carries an inscription that is partly illegible but appears to read: 'Presented by Tourdanea Chief of the Warrow Indians of Equivee Creek Commander of the Karahouun Casahours to GB August 1811'. It is possible that 'Warrow' refers to the Warao, an indigenous Amerindian people, and that 'Equivee Creek' is a spelling variation of Essequibo, a river region in Guyana. No other documentation is available.

Notable donors

Alexander MacPherson (1803-1861)

Areas for further research

Tain has many historical connections to the Caribbean through local families associated with plantations, particularly in Berbice. The two Guyanese objects in the collection illuminate this history and deserve further research.

Alexander MacPherson, who is the likely collector of the mounted saw fish rostrum, worked on cotton plantations owned by James Blair (1788-1841), an absentee planter, owner of enslaved people, and minister of British parliament.¹² Following abolition, Blair reportedly claimed for more enslaved people and received more money than any other enslaver in the British Empire.¹³ He has been the subject of some research to date.¹⁴ Plantations numbers 17 and 18 in Berbice, of which MacPherson was manager, included 350 enslaved people and covered an area of 2,000 acres. McPherson also served as a lieutenant in the 2nd Battalion of the Berbice Militia. Following the abolition of slavery in 1833, he left former British Guiana. He appears in British parliamentary papers as a claimant receiving £63 for owning one enslaved person at the time of abolition. McPherson arrived in Canada in 1835 and settled at Whitby, Canada West. His letters, some digitised, are held by Whitby Public Library in Ontario, Canada: <https://vitacollections.ca/whitbynews/3739246/data>

Further research is needed into the inscription on the bamboo quiver, which may be significant. The former colony of Demerara-Essequibo was created in 1812 when the British combined the colonies of Demerara and Essequibo. The quiver, as a potential diplomatic gift from the Warao of Essequibo to someone in Great Britain, could potentially be understood in this context.

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Western Africa		4	
Nigeria		4	Anklets, bracelets

¹² <https://vitacollections.ca/whitbynews/3739246/data>

¹³ Rodgers, Nini (2007). 'The Irish and the Atlantic Slave Trade'. *History Ireland* 15, No 3, Ireland and Slavery (May-Jun 2007): 17-23.

¹⁴ <https://www.spanglefish.com/slavesandhighlanders/index.asp?pageid=221882> Burnard, T and J Coffey (2023). 'Slave Registers and British Guiana: Life and Resistance on Slave Plantations'. *Histories of People and Place* 18 (1-2): 43-65. <https://doi.org/10.1080/28334299.2023.2283117>

Regions and countries represented: Caribbean

Country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Guyana	Possibly Alexander MacPherson	2	Bamboo quiver, sawfish blade on a wooden base

Selected object images

'Anklets', Nigeria, TDM 0813.005.1ab



'Bracelets', Nigeria, TDM 0813.005.3



Mounted blade of a sawfish on wooden base, Guyana, 0775



Bamboo quiver, Guyana, unaccessioned



West Highland Museum

West Highland Museum Trust

Contact curator@westhighlandmuseum.org.uk

Location of collections

In storage

West Highland Museum
Cameron Square
Fort William
PH33 6AJ

Size of collections

7 African objects
No known Caribbean objects

Selected objects

- Fish spear with head of five serrated bones, Africa unspecified, 1953.019.004
- Two African throwing spears, Africa unspecified, 1953.019.005
- Two African spears with wooden shafts and metal binding, Africa unspecified, 1953.019.006
- Knobkerrie, Southern Africa, K14
- Iron spearhead, Eastern Africa, 1486

History of the collection

The West Highland Museum at Fort William is one of the oldest museums in the Highlands. It was founded in 1922 by Victor Tylston Hodgson who had devoted many years to a detailed study of the history and archaeology of the western Highlands. The museum originally collected croft house furniture and other artefacts. In 1925, after several temporary exhibitions and the acquisition of significant collections, the Museum launched a fundraising appeal and in 1926 purchased the present building, a former branch of the British Linen Bank. Descendants of Victor Hodgson are still involved with the Museum today. The Museum's remit is to collect, conserve and present items of significance and historical and cultural interest related to the West Highland area. The collections span a wide range of subjects, from archaeology to modern industry, with a special emphasis on the Jacobite risings of the 18th century. The museum also holds a collection of clothing, weapons, medals, and other paraphernalia relating to the Highland regiments, from the South African War to the Second World War. The small number of African objects in the collection reflect this military history because they were presented to the donor by Major Ranald W Macdonald of North Uist.

Overview of the collection

The small collection of seven weapons ascribed to Africa are outwith the normal scope of the West Highland Museum's collections and come with very little documentation. Six of the objects are spears, one of which, described as a fish spear, may not be African. The seventh is a knobkerrie. Five of the spears carry a historical label that reads: 'These African weapons

were presented to Dr. M.J Mackenzie of Scolpaig, North uist by Major Ranald W. Macdonald C.M.G., O.B.E, of Nyasaland, East Africa, of Rudha-nan-Gall, Lochmaddy.' They were part of the collection of Dr John Mackenzie of Skye, gifted to the West Highland Museum in 1953. The sixth iron spearhead was found in Strontian in early 1959 and has no accompanying documentation. The knobkerrie came from Culloden House but has no known donor.

Areas for further research

All seven objects require research to identify their geographical and cultural provenance. Further research is also needed into the one known collector, Major Ranald W Macdonald and his time in Malawi (former Nyasaland).

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Africa unspecified		5	
	John MacKenzie		Fishing spear, four throwing spears
Eastern Africa		1	
Eastern Africa unspecified		1	Spear
Southern Africa		1	
Southern Africa unspecified		1	Knobkerrie

Selected object images

From left to right, fish spear with head of five serrated bones, Africa unspecified, 1953.019.004; two African throwing spears, Africa unspecified, 1953.019.005; two African spears with wooden shafts and metal binding, Africa unspecified, 1953.019.006; knobkerrie, southern Africa, K14; iron spearhead, eastern Africa, 1486







Ivory bracelet, Sudan.

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African and Caribbean Collections in Scottish Museums Scotland South

Scotland South

- Abbotsford The Home of Sir Walter Scott (The Abbotsford Trust)
- Dumfries Museum] (Dumfries and Galloway Council)
- Hawick Museum (Live Borders Museums, Galleries and Archives)
- Peebles Library, Museum and Gallery (Live Borders Museums, Galleries and Archives)

Abbotsford The Home of Sir Walter Scott

The Abbotsford Trust

Contact research@scottsabbotsford.co.uk

Location of collections

Abbotsford House
Melrose
TD6 9BQ

Size of collections

26 African objects
No known Caribbean objects

Selected objects

- Ceremonial knife, Democratic Republic of the Congo, T.AT.2349

History of the Collection

Abbotsford was the home of 19th-century novelist and poet, Sir Walter Scott (1771-1832). Constructed from 1811 on the proceeds of Scott's literary career, the house and collection largely remain as Scott left them following his death. The African objects exhibited in the historic rooms at Abbotsford are mostly part of the personal collection that Scott amassed during his lifetime.

Overview of the collection

The majority of objects are weaponry (functional and ceremonial) such as spears, bows, axes, daggers and knives and include examples from southern Africa, Democratic Republic of the Congo, northern Africa, and Ethiopia. Most are from southern Africa and include Zulu throwing spears (assegai) and a battle axe that is possibly Sotho. One of the most unusual items is a highly decorated knife from Democratic Republic of the Congo. The blade shape is typical of Salampasu knives, but the copper bindings and blade engravings are more typical of Tetela knives. This was most likely a high-status ceremonial weapon. Most of these objects probably date to the first half of the 19th century. Scott never travelled to Africa or wrote about Africa, and these objects were probably obtained through gift or purchase for his armoury display.

Scott never inventoried his collection, and the contents of the Armoury have limited provenance details in comparison with other types of objects in the Abbotsford collections. It is possible that some of the southern African material was donated by Thomas Pringle (1789-1834), a poet and abolitionist originally from Kelso. Scott was a friend of Pringle and helped him to secure a free passage and British Government resettlement offer of land in South Africa, where Pringle emigrated in 1820. Correspondence suggests that he sent animal horns to Scott in 1822 and 1826, although no mention of other objects has been identified. Scottish poet and linguist John Leyden is another potential candidate for sourcing objects. A copy of his 1799 publication *A Historical and Philosophical Sketch of the*

Discoveries and Settlements of the Europeans in Northern and Western Africa, at the Close of the Eighteenth Century is preserved in Scott's Library.

Areas for further research

Scott's writing and letters sometimes mention particular objects. To date, no African objects have been identified this way, but further research could be directed towards his large correspondence collections. The National Library of Scotland holds 10,000 of Scott's letters and Edinburgh University Library has an online resource designed around their extensive Corson Collection of Walter Scott material.

Additional information may be found in *Reliquiae Trotcosienses or the Gabions of the late Jonathan Oldbuck Esq of Monkbarns*, a fictionalised account of an antiquary's house and collection, based on Abbotsford and written by Scott towards the end of his life. Two other potential sources were written in the late 1800s by Scott's granddaughter, Mary Monica Maxwell Scott: *Abbotsford. The Personal Relics and Antiquarian Treasures of Sir Walter Scott* (1893) and *Catalogue of the Armour & Antiquities at Abbotsford* (1897). The catalogue corresponds to numbered copper tags on some of the objects, although no relevant information was identified from these during this review. Objects from the collection can also be found in the Magnum Opus notes to Scott's Waverley Novels.

At one time, the Scott family held correspondence about items of armoury sent to Walter Scott by Thomas Pringle, but these were recorded as lost when the Abbotsford Trust was established. These documents may be found with further work on the extensive archive at Abbotsford.

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major Sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Africa unspecified	Walter Scott	3	Dagger, knife, spear
Northern Africa		4	
Northern Africa unspecified	Walter Scott	3	Gourd flask, knife, powder horn
Egypt	Walter Scott	1	Pair of earrings
Eastern Africa		1	
Ethiopia	Walter Scott	1	Spear
Central Africa		1	
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Walter Scott	1	Knife
Southern Africa		17	
Southern Africa unspecified	Water Scott	17	Battle axe, long bow, throwing spears

Published Information

Maxwell-Scott, Mary Monica (1893). *Abbotsford. The Personal Relics and Antiquarian Treasures of Sir Walter Scott*. London: Adam and Charles Black.

Maxwell-Scott, Mary Monica (1897). *Catalogue of the Armour & Antiquities at Abbotsford*.
Printed by T and A Constable at the Edinburgh University Press.

Selected object images

Ceremonial knife, Democratic Republic of the Congo, T.AT.2349



Dumfries Museum

Dumfries and Galloway Council

Contact dumfriesmuseum@dumgal.gov.uk

Location of collections

Dumfries Museum and Camera Obscura
The Observatory
Rotchell Road
Dumfries
DG2 7SW

Size of collections

68 African objects
4 Caribbean objects

Online collections

<https://www.dgculture.co.uk/collections>

Selected objects

Africa

- Beadwork encasing a mirror, South Africa, DUMFM:1964.150.34
- Hide and bead 'apron', South Africa, DUMFM:1967.155
- Pot, Tanzania, DUMFM:1966.119
- Headrest, Zimbabwe, DUMFM:1964.139.29
- Axe, Zimbabwe, DUMFM:1967.491

Caribbean

- Calabash cup, Guyana, DUMFM:1974.156.4.3

History of the collection

Dumfries Museum started life in 1835 when the Dumfries and Maxwelltown Astronomical Society purchased the current site, a derelict windmill tower, and converted it into an observatory with a telescope and camera obscura. Members began to donate 'antiquities, curiosities and bygones' and in 1862 the Main Hall was constructed as an extension to accommodate the growing collections. In November 1862, The Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society was formed and collected a large body of historical material which was exhibited in the extended space. A historical inventory of Scottish museum holdings from 1888 lists the 'Museum in Maxwellton [sic], Dumfries' as holding African items. By the early 1930s the Astronomical Society's finances were failing and the Town Council of Dumfries acquired the building and grounds with the agreement of financing what became the Dumfries Burgh Museum. At this point much of the non-local material in the collection was dispersed. In 1948, Alfred E Truckell was appointed Curator and took an active interest in building up the non-European material once again. Truckell acquired

material from other museums and local house sales, including the Royal Scottish Museum (now National Museums Scotland), Stranraer Museum, Langholm Museum and Dr T B Grierson's Museum in Thornhill. Much of the African material is likely to be from these transfers and could potentially date to the mid nineteenth century. Dr Grierson's Museum, for example, was a private collection built up from 1842 and opened to the public in 1872.

Overview of the collection

Africa

At present, 68 items can be identified as African. This review was based on a working inventory and a visual survey, and it is possible that around 20 additional objects could be identified with further auditing. Multiple historical numbering systems are currently listed in the inventory and staff are working on matching objects with accession numbers, identifying duplicate records, and locating unnumbered objects in the store. Around 28% of the objects currently identified as African are not currently attributed to a country or region; around 21% are from southern Africa; 19% are from western Africa; 15% are from eastern Africa; 10% are from northern Africa; and 7% are from central Africa.

Highlights of the collection include a Shona headrest and axe from Zimbabwe, South African beadwork items including a beaded mirror and hide 'apron', black earthenware pots from Tanzania, and ceremonial paddles from Nigeria. Records suggest that the headrest possibly came from Stranraer Museum and may previously have belonged to John Dalrymple, 10th Earl of Stair. The Tanzanian pots were transferred from the Langholm Museum Collection, and historic labels suggest they were donated by Dr Gibb. Some of the South African beadwork was acquired from the Royal Scottish Museum and the sale of Marchfield House in Dumfries. Marchfield House was built by the Houston family, who are listed as members of the Black Watch regiment. The Black Watch was active in the South African War (1899-1902), and it is possible that material dates from this conflict.

Staff at National Museums Scotland have conducted some research into a necklace and armlet from Equatorial Guinea, which were transferred from the Royal Scottish Museum in the 1960s. They suggest that the donor was probably Dr Archibald Hewan (1832-1883), the Jamaican botanist/ missionary doctor, who made donations in 1859 and is known to have made a collecting trip to Bioko.

Caribbean

Dumfries Museum holds a calabash cup and two silver-coloured vases believed to have belonged to James Dalgleish Patterson (1775-1842). He travelled to Demerara, Guyana, in 1806 and was a key figure in the development of the export trade in timber. He was associated with plantation Christianburg and several other estates. He appears in British parliamentary papers following the abolition of slavery as a claimant for 322 enslaved people. The calabash cup and two silver vases were probably owned by Dalgleish Patterson in Guyana. The calabash cup is engraved with his initials. The Museum also holds a stone axe from the West Indies, transferred from the Royal Scottish Museum.

Associated material

The museum is currently displaying a set of cylindrical clay beads, decorated with gold paint and lines of molten glass, probably made in Venice. Beads of this type were reportedly used to barter for enslaved people on the west coast of Africa in the 1780s. There are examples of merchants, ship's captains and crews from Dumfries and Galloway moving to Liverpool

where they organised and participated in the traffic of enslaved people. These beads came from Langholm Museum, and may have belonged to James Irving, a ship's captain active in the traffic of enslaved people from Liverpool.

Dumfries Museum also holds notable historical documents and objects pertaining to the activity of local people in the Caribbean. These include a Plantation Account Book (1771-1776) most likely from the Taits Concordia Plantation on Tobago. There are also several items associated with the Denholm-Young family and Samuel Denholm-Young (1777-1854) who had links to Antigua, including seven oil paintings, one George III table, and a ceremonial staff, believed to be Rod of Office of the Governor of Antigua.

Areas for further research

The entire African collection would benefit from further research and auditing. If objects could be matched with historical records, this might provide avenues for donor and provenance research. Some information may be found in the historical 'X registers' at National Museums Scotland for the objects transferred from the Royal Scottish Museum. For example, one cowhide fan from the Niger region (DUMFM:1967.157/X104) is recorded at National Museums Scotland as coming from the 'Astley collection', which may refer to Harriet Astley, the daughter of a Liverpool ship's captain who participated in the transatlantic slave trade. Her husband's collection was auctioned in 1861, and African objects were purchased by the Royal Scottish Museum.

The Caribbean collection, especially associated material, may provide research potential for better understanding the role and activities of people from Dumfries and Galloway in the Caribbean from the 1770s. James Dalglish Patterson has received some attention from historian David Alston which can be found online:

<https://www.spanglefish.com/slavesandhighlanders/index.asp?pageid=299595>

Dumfries and Galloway Council is also responsible for Stranraer Museum and The Stewartry Museum, Kirkcudbright. Representatives of these museums report that The Stewartry Museum (established in the 1880s) underwent a 'rationalisation' of non-British collections in 1955 and material was potentially transferred to museums in Edinburgh and Glasgow. It is also possible that material from both museums was transferred to Dumfries Museum. No known African or Caribbean material remains in either collection apart from a partial set of skeletal human remains at Stranraer Museum, noted later in the report. These historic transfers may provide research leads for material in other collections.

Human remains

Dumfries Museum holds a partial set of skeletal human remains from one individual from South Africa. Historical museum records suggest that this person was Xhosa and that their remains were brought from South Africa in the 1880s, either by Mr W Johnstone of Grahamstown or by Mr Ferguson of the Cape, originally to Dr T B Grierson's Museum in Thornhill.

Stranraer Museum reports that they hold a partial set of skeletal human remains from one individual from South Africa. Historical museum records suggest that this person was San and that their remains entered the Museum in the 1950s as part of a larger transfer from the Earl of Stair or Anderson collections.

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Africa unspecified		19	
	Mrs Elder Dr & Mrs MacKenzie		Armlets, basket, bow, bracelet, brush, carved figure (made for tourists), comb, drum, earrings, gourd vessel, hat, ladle, neck rings, snuff bottle, staff/stick, whip
Northern Africa		7	
Northern Africa unspecified		4	Dagger, head ornament, skull cap, sword scabbard
Algeria		1	Spoon
Sudan		2	Leather pouch, leather writing case
Eastern Africa		10	
Eastern Africa unspecified		4	Axes
United Republic of Tanzania	Dr Gibb	3	Pots
Zimbabwe		3	Axes, headrest
Central Africa		5	
Central Africa unspecified		3	Axe, bracelets, powder horn
Equatorial Guinea	Royal Scottish Museum	2	Armlet, necklace
Southern Africa		14	
Southern Africa unspecified	Royal Scottish Museum	6	Beadwork: necklets, pouches, purses, knobkerrie
Lesotho	Royal Scottish Museum	1	Basket
South Africa	Royal Scottish Museum. Marchfield House Collection. Mr McKay.	7	Arrows, beadwork mirror, beadwork necklet, leatherwork apron, quiver, shield, spoons
Western Africa		13	
Western Africa unspecified	Royal Scottish Museum	5	Fan, gourd bowl, knife, necklace, manilla
Nigeria		7	Fibre pouch, paddles
Sierra Leone		1	Kissi penny currency

Regions and countries represented: Caribbean

Country		Collection size estimate	Types of material
West Indies unspecified	Royal Scottish Museum	1	Stone axe
Guyana	Mrs Hyslop	3	Calabash cup, two white metal vases

Published Information

Truckell, Alfred (1992). Addenda Antiquaria: Some 18th Century Transatlantic Trade Documents. *Transactions of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society* 67: 86-88.

Wilkins, Frances (2007). *Dumfries and Galloway and the Transatlantic Slave Trade*. Kidderminster: Wyre Forest Press.

Wilkins, Frances (2013). *A History of Dumfries and Galloway in 100 Documents Part 2*. Kidderminster: Wyre Forest Press, 26-48.

Information on some objects and donors: <http://www.futuremuseum.co.uk/collections.aspx>

Historical lists: [archiveDownload \(archaeologydataservice.ac.uk\)](http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk) p82.

Selected object images

Beadwork encasing a mirror, South Africa, DUMFM:1964.150.34



Hide and bead 'apron', South Africa, DUMFM:1967.155



Pot, Tanzania, DUMFM:1966.119



Headrest, Zimbabwe, DUMFM:1964.139.29



Axe, Zimbabwe, DUMFM:1967.491



Calabash cup, Guyana, DUMFM:1974.156.4.3



Hawick Museum

Live Borders Museums, Galleries and Archives

Contact museums@liveborders1.org.uk

Location of collections

Hawick Museum
Wilton Lodge Park
Hawick
TD9 7JL

Size of collections

55 African objects
No known Caribbean objects

Selected objects

- Carved and painted wooden stool, Somalia, HAKMG: 9117
- Throwing knife, Sudan, HAKMG: 8765
- Ivory bracelet, Sudan, HAK.20.0052
- Comb, Africa unspecified, HAK.20.0062

History of the collection

Hawick Museum, located in an 18th-century mansion house in Wilton Lodge Park, opened in 1910. The collection was founded by the Hawick Archaeological Society, formed in 1856.

Overview of the collection

Around 70% of the African objects held at Hawick are not currently attributed to a particular region or country; around 11% are from northern Africa; 7% are from eastern Africa; 7% are from southern Africa; and 5% are from western Africa. It is likely that northeastern Africa is better represented than current figures suggest, but a more accurate characterisation of the collection has not been possible within the timeframe of this project.

Identifiable objects include three throwing knives (eg HAKMG: 8765) and an ivory bracelet (HAK.20.0052) from Sudan, a brass Coptic cross from Ethiopia, and earrings from Egypt. Historical records suggest that a Lord Rosebery donated over 30 objects from present day Somalia, although it has only been possible to identify four in the current collection: a peaked saddle, sandals, a stool (HAKMG: 9117) and a mat. This was most likely Harry Primrose, 6th Earl of Rosebery (1882-1974) who served with the Grenadier Guards in former British Somaliland, 1901-1904.

The collection also contains several ivory armlets, snuff or scent containers, combs, daggers and axes. One comb (HAK.20.0062) still carries a historical museum label that suggests it was donated by a James Wilson of the Royal Navy Engineers.

Notable Donors

Harry Primrose, 6th Earl of Rosebery (1882-1974)

Areas for further research

The African objects identified in this review are what remains of the historic collections accumulated by the Hawick Archaeological Society. Many others were probably transferred to National Museums Scotland in the late 1950s to early 1960s. Although no records of these deaccessions are held in Hawick Museum, information may be found in accession registers at National Museums Scotland. Much of the Hawick collection would have been donated by landed gentry and local businessmen who travelled for trade. Possible avenues for future research include notes of accessions in transactions published by the Archaeological Society and the accession book from 1910. More Somalian objects may be identified from Lord Rosebery's donation list, published in *Transactions of Hawick Archaeological Society, 1903* (January meeting, p3), a publication held at the Museum.

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Africa unspecified		38	
	Mrs Macleay James Wilson		Armlets, axe, basket, bottle, combs, daggers, embroidered quills, flywhisk, gourd container, ivory armlets, necklaces, scent bottles, shisha pipe, snuff spoons, spindles, stool, swords
Northern Africa		6	
Northern Africa unspecified		1	Mat
Egypt	Rev W A P Johnman	1	Earrings
Sudan	Mrs Macleay	4	Knives, bracelet
Eastern Africa		4	
Ethiopia		1	Coptic cross
Somalia	Lord Rosebery	3	Mat, peaked saddle, sandals, stool
Southern Africa		4	
Southern Africa unspecified		1	Knife
South Africa	Mrs Macleay	3	Combs
Western Africa		3	
Western Africa unspecified		3	Drum, horn, stool

Selected object images

Carved and painted wooden stool, Somalia, HAKMG: 9117



Throwing knife, Sudan, HAKMG: 8765



Ivory bracelet, Sudan, HAK.20.0052



Comb, Africa unspecified, HAK.20.0062



Peebles Library, Museum and Gallery

Live Borders Museums, Galleries and Archives

Contact museums@liveborders1.org.uk

Location of collections

Peebles Library, Museum and Gallery
Chambers Institution
High Street
Peebles
EH45 8AG

Size of collections

28 African objects
No known Carribean objects

Selected objects

- Throwing knife, Democratic Republic of the Congo, PEEBM:05295
- Ivory armlet, Sudan, PEEBM:05365
- Harp, Democratic Republic of the Congo, PEEBM:07147

History of the collection

The Museum, located in the Chambers Institute which was remodelled with the bequest of locally born publisher William Chambers (1800-1883), opened in 1859 to provide a library, museum and hall for the Peebles community. An extension funded by Andrew Carnegie (1835-1919) opened in 1912.

Overview of the collection

Current records suggest that around 21% of the entire African collection is from northern Africa, 11% is from eastern Africa, 11% from central Africa, 11% from western Africa, and 3% from southern Africa. Around 43% of the collection is not currently attributed to a country or region.

Objects of interest include two ceremonial paddles and a Hausa dagger from Nigeria, and a throwing knife and sword recorded as being collected in Democratic Republic of Congo. An ivory armlet, probably from southern Sudan, is recorded as Shilluk from the 'White Nile'. The donor of the armlet is recorded as 'Master of Elibank' which may refer to Alexander William Charles Oliphant Murray, 1st Baron Murray of Elibank (1870 -1920). Although no direct link to southern Sudan has been identified, Murray did visit present day Botswana, Johannesburg, Pretoria and Maputo Bay following the South African War (1899-1902). The collection also contains a mask recorded as Tanzanian and a Mangbetu style harp from Democratic Republic of Congo, which were most likely made for sale to Europeans.

Notable donors

Alexander William Charles Oliphant Murray, 1st Baron Murray of Elibank (1870 -1920)

Areas for further research

Nearly half of the African collection is currently unattributed to a region or country and visual surveys and archival research may provide more information about these objects. Of the material that is attributed, northern African material makes up a large percentage and for this reason would particularly benefit from further research. The Museum holds historic registers, catalogues and minute books, dating back to 1859, which could provide a starting point for future investigations.

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Africa unspecified		12	Axe, drum, knife, necklet, shield, spear
Northern Africa		6	
Egypt		1	Pipe
Sudan	Mr Forrest Master of Elibank	5	Armlet, axe, knife, tray
Eastern Africa		3	
Eastern Africa unspecified		2	Spear
United Republic of Tanzania	J Fisher	1	Mask
Central Africa		3	
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Mrs E Turner	3	Harp, knife, sword
Southern Africa		1	
Southern Africa unspecified		1	Axe
Western Africa		3	
Nigeria		3	Dagger, ceremonial paddles

Selected object images

Throwing knife, Democratic Republic of the Congo, PEEBM:05295



Ivory armlet, Sudan, PEEBM:05365



Harp, Democratic Republic of the Congo, PEEBM:07147





Sailor's Valentine, Barbados, c.1850.
© Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum

African and Caribbean Collections in Scottish Museums Tayside, Central and Fife

Tayside, Central and Fife

- Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Regimental Museum (The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Regimental Trust)
- Montrose Museum (ANGUSalive)
- Museums of the University of St Andrews
- OnFife Museums and Galleries
- Perth Museum (Culture Perth and Kinross)
- Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum
- The Black Watch Museum (The Black Watch Regimental Trust)
- The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum (Leisure and Culture Dundee)

Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Regimental Museum

The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Regimental Trust

Contact museum@argylls.co.uk

Location of collections

The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Museum
The Castle
Stirling
FK8 1EH

Size of collections

15 African objects
No known Caribbean objects

Selected objects

- Engraved club or knobkerrie, South Africa, 0397
- Bread bowl, South Africa, 30/63d.1
- Headrest, South Africa, 30/63g.1
- Shield, Kenya/ eastern Africa, 907/87

History of the collection

The Museum is situated in Stirling Castle and tells the story of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. Created under the Childers Reforms in 1881, the regiment was an amalgamation of the 91st Argyllshire Highlanders and 93rd Sutherland Highlanders but traces its history back to the raising of the Stirlingshire Militia in 1639. Importantly for this review, the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders were involved in numerous colonial conflicts during the 19th century, including the so-called Anglo-Zulu Wars of 1879-1896.

Overview of the collection

Fourteen out of the 15 African objects identified are from South Africa and could be described as trophies of war, taken during the Anglo-Zulu War of 1879. Two Zulu clubs or knobkerrie and one assegai or spear were taken from the Battle of Gingindlovu (uMgungundlovu) which was fought on 2 April 1879 between British colonial troops and a Zulu impi of King Cetshwayo. Both clubs have been converted into walking sticks, engraved with the name of the person who took them and the date and site of the battle. Nine objects are linked to the Battle of Ulundi on 4 July 1879, the last major battle of the Anglo-Zulu War, resulting in the defeat of the main Zulu army and the capture and sacking of the royal homestead of oNdini. These objects include domestic items, such as two necklaces, a scent bottle, two headrests, a spoon, and a bread bowl.

One shield in the collection appears to be from Kenya or eastern Africa, possibly Maasai. Unlike the other objects, it does not have recorded provenance.

Notable donors

William F Elliot (dates unknown)

Areas for further research

The majority of the African collection, including the domestic items, were taken by Major William F Elliot. Research into his actions during the Anglo-Zulu War may shed further light on the exact provenance of the objects.

Research into the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders history in eastern Africa may indicate the likely origin of the undocumented shield that appears to be Maasai.

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Eastern Africa		1	
Eastern Africa unspecified		1	Shield
Southern Africa		14	
South Africa	Gerald L J Goff Alexander C Bruce William F Elliot J Denholm	14	Clubs or knobkerrie, headrests, necklaces of wood and bone, scent bottle, shield, spears, spoon, wooden bread bowl

Selected object images

Detail of engraved club or knobkerrie, South Africa, 0397



Bread bowl, South Africa, 30/63d.1



Headrest, South Africa, 30/63g.1



Shield, Kenya/ Eastern Africa, 907/87



Montrose Museum

ANGUSalive

Contact collections@angusalive.scot

Location of collections

On display

Montrose Museum
Panmure Place
Montrose
DD10 8HF

In storage

Meffan Museum and Art Gallery
20 West High Street
Forfar
DD8 1BB

In storage

The Yard
Queenswell Road
Forfar
DD8 3HZ

Size of collections

134 African objects
3 Caribbean objects

Selected objects

Africa

- Leather writing case, Nigeria, M1980.4618
- Brass bowl, Nigeria, M1980.4620
- Comb, Ghana, 575
- Cloth, Madagascar, M1980.4651
- Stool, Cameroon, TN.1057
- *Nkisi* figure, Democratic Republic of the Congo, TN.1992

Caribbean

- Clubs, Guyana, A1982.169 + A1982.170

History of the collection

The Museum, founded by Montrose Natural History and Antiquarian Society, opened in its present building in 1842. One of the first purpose-built museums in Scotland, it tells the story of Montrose and its people. In 1962 the Museum and collection formally passed to the local council and has been managed since 2015 by ANGUSalive, Angus Council's culture, sport and leisure trust.

Overview of the collection

Africa

When this review was conducted in March 2023, less than half of the collection was on the collection management database. This summary is based on the database records available at the time of writing, lists of 'ethnographic' material compiled by former museum staff, and a visual survey of objects in storage. The Museum is currently working on a full audit and in 2023 received funding from Museums Galleries Scotland for a project which will include work to catalogue, research and safely store their 'world cultures' holdings. Object totals in this report were updated to reflect the most recent findings in autumn 2024, but it is likely that much more material and provenance information will be identified as work progresses.

According to the information available at the time of writing, Montrose Museum holds at least 134 objects from Africa, 14% of which are not currently attributed to any country or region. Around 38% of the material is probably from southern Africa, 26% from western Africa, 15% from eastern Africa, 4% from northern Africa, and 3% from central Africa.

Southern African material makes up a large percentage of the collection, and historic records suggest there may in fact be up to 66 objects from the region. Much of this was probably collected as a direct result of colonial-era conflict. For example, two spears (M1980.4702+05) are recorded as being donated by C Bruce in 1889, but taken during the war of 1877, which most likely refers to the so-called ninth Anglo-Xhosa War (1877-1879). Other material includes beadwork, shields and clubs, many of which were donated in the 1870s, 1880s and 1890s. For example, a beadwork necklet and girdle, donated by J Wishart in 1890, and five staffs and knobkerries donated by D Corsar in 1876.

West African material includes a Nigerian ceremonial paddle (M1980.4622), a brass bowl from Bida (M1980.4620), and a Hausa leather writing case (M1980.4618), donated by Lt H Renny of the Niger Constabulary and accessioned in 1897. Objects from Ghana include at least nine Asante 'charms', including one of pangolin skin, with no provenance information available. These are potentially amulets associated with Asante military attire. The collection also contains a comb (575) which historic records suggest was taken at Cape Coast Castle in Ghana by a Mr Salmond, accessioned in 1874.

East African material includes a drum and gunpowder horn from Uganda (dated 1880s) and a stool from Kenya, donated in 1895 by Mr A Alexander of Mombasa; a shield and barkcloth from Uganda, donated in 1892 by J Kyd; a wooden bowl from Uganda, donated in 1893 by J Mackie; and Kikuyu beadwork from Kenya, donated in 1921 by a Dr Philip.

Some of the earliest accessions date to the 1830s. These include a 'dagger' or 'parrying shield' made of antelope horn, recorded as being donated by a T Webster in 1839 (M1980.4916). Other early accessions include raffia cloth from Madagascar, donated in 1844 by a J Bremner of the Royal Navy (M1980.4651). Also of note is a stool recorded as coming from Cameroon (TN.1057) and *Nkisi* figure from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (TN.1992). Both were identified during a visual survey, but no further provenance information is currently available.

Caribbean

Although the collection database does not record any objects from the Caribbean, a visual survey of storerooms identified three clubs from Guyana (A.1982.341, A.1982.169, A.1982.170). Historic lists of 'ethnographic' material also note a fan from Guyana; a gold earring from Cuba, donated by a Miss M Masson in 1852; and a headdress from the West Indies, donated by a Captain W M Allan before 1867. It was not possible to locate these items during the review.

Associated Material

Africa and the Caribbean

In the first half of the 18th century, Montrose had a thriving tobacco trade with America which relied on the transatlantic trafficking of enslaved people from the African continent.

Documents in the collection attest to this history. Of note is a contract, signed on 15 July 1751 by Montrose tobacco merchants Thomas Douglas & Co and Thomas Gibson, master of their ship *Potomac*. The contract details an agreement to transport a cargo to the West

Coast of Africa, to sell or barter the cargo, purchase enslaved people with the proceeds, and travel on to the West Indies or America. Records show that the ship sailed to the West Coast of Africa and loaded 260 enslaved people on board, of whom only 197 survived the journey across the Atlantic. The collection also contains an 'African Company' document, dated 8 January 1698 and signed by Charles Ogilvie and Robert Rennald, Provost of Montrose.

The Museum holds hundreds of African coins which have not been included in this review.

Material associated with the Caribbean includes five small-scale dioramas of villages and people from the Essequibo region in Guyana. These are recorded as being donated by a J G Campbell in 1876.

Areas for further research

Given the age of the Museum and the region's historical links with Africa and the Caribbean, it is likely that the collection holds much more material of note that would benefit from further research. The current auditing process is crucial for future research. For example, historic records include a 'sword walking stick of King Theodorus, Ethiopia', donated by a Captain S Farquar in 1871 (498). If located, this may prove to be a highly significant object related to the British sacking of Maqdala in 1868. Within the timeframe of this project, it has not been possible to research donor biographies which may shed further light on how some of these items were obtained. Researchers may find useful Angus Council archives pertaining to museums, in addition to minute books, director's reports, correspondence and historical catalogues held at Montrose Museum itself. An examination of objects may be beneficial as many still retain their historical museum labels.

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Africa unspecified		19	Terracotta figures, arrowheads, spears, wooden needle, comb, model boat, spindle, dagger
Northern Africa		6	
Northern Africa unspecified		4	Fan
Sudan	Miss Adamson	2	Spears
Eastern Africa		20	
Eastern Africa unspecified		9	Barkcloth, anklets, necklaces
Kenya	Dr Phillips Mr A Alexander	2	Necklace, stool
Madagascar	J Bremner	1	Cloth
Uganda	Mr A Alexander John Kydd	5	Barkcloth, drum, shield
United Republic of Tanzania		1	Necklace

Zimbabwe	Mr A P V Dellanzo	2	Weaponry
Central Africa		4	
Cameroon		1	Stool
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Captain Dorward	3	<i>Nkisi</i> figure, sword, water jug
Southern Africa		50	
Southern Africa unspecified	Mr John Crow J Wishart D Corsar	48	Beadwork, shields, spears, clubs, strainer, necklaces, beaded aprons, cloth
South Africa	C Bruce	2	'Assegai' spears
Western Africa		35	
Mali/ The Gambia/ Senegal/ Guinea		1	Quiver
Ghana	Mr Salmond	13	Asante charms, comb
Nigeria	Lt H Renny	21	Writing case, bag, basket, brass bowl, ceremonial paddles, dagger, drum, kola nut bowl, manilla, sandals, utensils

Regions and countries represented: Caribbean

Country	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Culturally affiliated with the Caribbean region (within CARICOM)		
Guyana	3	Clubs

Selected object images

Leather writing case, Nigeria, M1980.4618



Brass bowl, Nigeria, M1980.4620



Comb, Ghana, 575



Cloth, Madagascar, M1980.4651



Stool, Cameroon, TN.1057



Nkisi figure, Democratic Republic of the Congo, TN.1992



Clubs, Guyana, A1982.169 + A1982.170



Museums of the University of St Andrews

Contact museumenquiries@st-andrews.ac.uk

Location of collections

Museums Collections Centre
87 North Street
St Andrews
KY16 9AE

Size of collections

115 African objects
No known Caribbean objects

Online Collections

<https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/collections/>

Selected objects

- Fertility doll, Zambia, ET4
- Diviner's wand, Zambia, ET8
- Ceremonial axe, Zambia, ET14
- Glass bracelets, Egypt, HC1996-1-3

History of the collection

The University of St Andrews was Scotland's first university, founded in 1413. The University museums hold around 115,000 objects of national and international importance that reflect several centuries of academic enquiry. The University and the town's Literary and Philosophical Society jointly founded the first official museum in 1838 in College Hall. Material, including non-European objects, was actively collected for around 70 years, forming a collection of natural history, archaeology and 'ethnographic' items. In 1904, full ownership of the collections was transferred to the University. In 1912, these collections moved into the newly built Bell Pettigrew Museum. The collections were subsequently dispersed in the 1960s when the scale of the museum was reduced, with archaeological, 'ethnographic' and other collections transferring to related academic Schools, or to other institutions, including the Royal Museum of Scotland (now National Museums Scotland), Fife Council, and St Andrews Cathedral (now part of Historic Environment Scotland). Oversight of the collections was managed by the academic subject-relevant Schools until the late 1980s, when a centralised museum unit emerged.

Overview of the collection

The African material (ET:C17) currently looked after by the Museums of the University of St Andrews is mainly from northern Africa (47% of African collection) and eastern Africa (44% of African collection). Despite the long history of the University collections, much of it is relatively modern and dates to the late 20th century.

The northern African collections consist mainly of Moroccan and Sudanese material. The Moroccan material is relatively modern and was donated from 2011 by Dr Hamish Brown. Items are mainly domestic ware such as dishes, bowls, tagines, oil lamps, a butter churn and basin. The Sudanese material includes one sword that possibly dates to the Mahdist War of 1881-1889. Other items of note include a dagger and a scimitar from Sudan, possibly donated by Rev Alexander Allan Milne in the 1930s. Objects from Egypt include glass bracelets (HC1996-1-3) donated in 1912 by Miss Ellen Paterson. An historic object label suggests that these were originally exhibited in a Missionary Loan Exhibition at Dundee YMCA.

The East African collection is possibly the most significant because of the large collection (ET:C27) donated by Professor of Social Anthropology Ladislav Holý (1933-1997). This material dates from between 1961 and 1986 when Holý completed fieldwork in the region. The collection comes mainly from Zambia, although he also donated objects from Kenya, Zimbabwe, Uganda and Sudan. Holý was Director of the Livingstone Museum in Zambia from 1968 to 1972 and was responsible for acquiring national collections. The objects in St Andrews were acquired by Holý, or on his behalf by the missionary Father Corbeille, between the early 1960s and mid-1980s. They include a Bemba snuff box (ET13), a Nkoya finger piano (ET16.1&2), a Gwembe Tonga fertility doll (ET4) and the wand of a Toka diviner (ET8). There is also a ceremonial axe (ET14), reportedly sold to Holý in 1969 by Chief Kasempa's councillors (Kisinga Village). Other material includes an ink pot and quill (ET1), a pipe (ET5), a gourd water vessel (ET9), knives (ET3) and daggers (ET12). Geographical provenance and ethnic group names are recorded in most cases. These include Malilansola village and Kaloma District in Zambia, and groups recorded as Bemba, Berti, Maasai, Toka and Gwembe.

Little provenance information is available for other parts of the collection, but one exception is material from Kenya and Nigeria donated by Rev Alex Ferguson. Cattle bells, wooden spears, an ivory bracelet and hide whip (ET1984(4)) were donated by Ferguson, reportedly a missionary in Calabar during the mid-20th century. His mother collected in Kenya prior to 1910.

Human remains

The University of St Andrews holds skeletal human remains for up to five individuals identified as originating from Africa. One is recorded as West African and four are recorded as Egyptian.

Notable donors

Dr Hamish M Brown (b.1934)
Rev Alex Ferguson (dates unknown)
Ladislav Holý (1933-1997)

Areas for further research

It is possible that more provenance information could be located for some objects in the original accession registers and minute books of the Literary and Philosophical Society of St Andrews.

The Zambian collections may be of interest to researchers and connections to collections at the Livingstone Museum may provide insights into an interesting post-independence period in African museum history.

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Northern Africa		55	
Egypt	Miss Ellen Paterson	3	Ceramic crocodile, glass ornaments
Morocco	Dr Hamish Brown	32	Basin, basketry, bottle, brush, butter churn, camel charm, candle holder, children's dress items, comb, glasses, goat and camel hair bag, 'Hand of Fatima', head covering, kettle, mat, model of mill, oil lamp, padlock, pottery dish and bowl, rope, teapot, toothbrush
Sudan	Ladislav Holý	20	Dagger, clothing and footwear, knife, number square or amulet, quill pen, sword, writing board
Eastern Africa		51	
Kenya	Mrs Ferguson Ladislav Holý	3	Bark vessel, club, whip
Uganda	Ladislav Holý	1	Ceremonial axe
Zambia	Ladislav Holý	43	Animal bones, basketry, ceremonial axes, dagger, domestic items, finger piano, horns, pottery and glass sherds, shells, sound chamber for snuff box, stones, witch doctor or diviner's wand, wooden human figures
Zimbabwe	Ian Carradice Ladislav Holý	4	Fertility doll, pipe, wooden drum, wooden mask
Southern Africa		1	
South Africa	Dr Joseph Coplans	1	Bust of Jan Christiaan Smuts
Western Africa		8	
Nigeria	Rev Alex Ferguson Capt Alex Smith	8	Antelope ornament, axe head, three bracelets of beaded leather, crocodile ornament, flamingo ornament, leopard ornament, manilla

Selected object images

Fertility doll, Zambia, ET4



Diviner's wand, Zambia, ET8



Ceremonial axe, Zambia, ET14



Glass bracelets, Egypt, HC1996-1-3



OnFife Museums and Galleries

Contact museums.enquiries@onfife.com

Location of collections

Fife Collections Centre
Bankhead Central
Bankhead Park
Glenrothes
Fife
KY7 6GH

Laing Museum (currently closed)
120 High Street
Newburgh
KY14 6DX

Size of collections

187 African objects
No known Caribbean objects

Selected objects

- Tabwa chair, Zambia, NEGLM:1981.0011
- Staff, Zambia, NEGLM:1981.0005
- Armlet, southern Africa/Lesotho, CUPMS:1992.0059
- Shield, southern Africa, CUPMS:1984.0279
- Janiform skin-covered mask, Nigeria, KIRMG:1927.0226

History of the collection

OnFife Museums and Galleries looks after collections that were previously held by three museum services in the region. The organisation is now responsible for over 110,000 objects, across seven museums and the Collections Centre, that pertain to the social and cultural heritage of Fife, including material of local, national and international significance. African material in the collection is predominantly from the former museum services in Kirkcaldy and North-East Fife. The latter includes the Laing Museum, Newburgh, where the Tabwa chair is currently located. The history of the entire collection is complex because it originates from multiple local museums, each founded for different reasons at different times. Further research is required to fully understand these histories. It is known that the Laing Museum was established in 1896 when local banker, Alexander Laing (1808-1892), bequeathed his collection of antiquities to the town. Some collections originate from local societies founded in the late 19th century. For example, the Duncan Institute which was established in 1870 for the workers of Cupar, Dairsie and Kilconquhar parishes. Past inventories for some of the original museums are held at the Collections Centre in Glenrothes, where most of the African material is currently stored.

Overview of the collection

OnFife Museums and Galleries holds a diverse collection from across the African continent. Southern African material represents the largest percentage at around 40%, followed by eastern Africa at around 11%, central Africa around 10%, northern Africa 9%, western Africa 2%, and 28% is currently unattributed.

The majority of southern African material is beadwork of various forms, in addition to utilitarian items such as snuff containers and spoons. Alexander Laing is believed to be the main donor of this material. There are no records to suggest that Laing ever travelled to Africa and further research is needed to ascertain how material was acquired. Due to their probable age, it is possible that some objects were taken during the South African Wars of 1879-1915. There is evidence that objects donated by James Bonnar (1849-1930) were taken during the so-called 'Gun War' (1880-1881), including an armlet (CUPMS:1992.0059) reportedly taken from the body of a soldier from Lesotho who was killed in the Orange River region. An historical object label states that the armlet was taken by his brother, John W Bonnar (b.1853), who commanded the 'Abalondolozu regiment of the Amahlengwoni Zulus' from 1880 to 1881. Based on a newspaper article from 1879, it is possible that a South African headrest (CUPMS:1992.0129) and a Zulu shield (CUPMS:1984.0279) were acquired by George Lindsay Bonnar junior (1856-1926) and originally donated to the Duncan Institute.

Some of the most significant material in the collection is from Zambia and was donated by Robert Andrew Young (1867-1932) who worked for the British South Africa Company. Key items include a Tabwa throne or chair (NEGLM:1981.0005), a staff (NEGLM:1981.0011) and bows (NEGLM:1981.0013 and NEGLM:1981.0014). A newspaper article from 1905 reports that Young also donated swords, arrows, 'idols', charms, cups, and water bottles. It is possible that additional objects in the collection could be identified with further research. Museum records state that Dr Allen Roberts (University of California, Los Angeles) has found that this is the largest example out of eight known still to exist, and it is one of the most elaborately decorated. Chairs of this type, thought to have been status objects for high-ranking people, were produced for a short period from around 1850 to 1880 and would have been made by a specialist carver. Young's diary states that it was gifted to him in 1901 by Chief Matipa. The chair stands at 1.5 metres tall and is topped by a male ancestor figure on the backrest. The back of the chair features *balamwezi* triangular patterns decorated with red and white pigmentation that are thought to reference the rising of the new moon and lunar phases. Staff have recently identified a piece of wood that is reportedly from the tree under which Scottish missionary David Livingstone's heart was buried in Zambia (TEMP:2013.0411). An attached label is signed by Robert Andrew Young and bears the stamp of the British South Africa Company.

Other objects of note include a janiform skin-covered mask or headdress from Nigeria. Typically associated with the Ekoi people and part of masquerade culture, this object was donated by a Mr Morton from Kirkcaldy in 1927 (KIRMG:1927.0226). Other noteworthy objects include a wooden 'female figure' (TEMP:2011.0044) that is probably Nigerian (Igbo) and a *Nkisi* or power figure (CUPMS:1992.0200) and staff (CUPMS:1992.0662), both likely from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The staff is described as a 'slavers stick' in a 19th-century museum label. These objects do not have provenance information at the time of writing.

Associated material

Africa

This review has not included 20th-century coins and archaeology. The collection contains around 24 coins from southern and eastern Africa dating from 1894 to 1976.

Caribbean

Although the collection does not contain any objects that come under the remit of this review, staff did identify two coins from Jamaica dating to 1871, one coin from Cuba dating to 1915, and a cigar box from Havana, Cuba.

Notable donors

James Bonnar (1849-1930)

John W Bonnar (b.1853)

George Lindsay Bonnar junior (1856-1926)

Alexander Laing (1808-1892)

Robert Andrew Young (1867-1932)

Areas for further research

More research is needed to ascertain how the large quantity of material attributed to Alexander Laing was acquired, and this would be particularly beneficial for the southern African collection. It is understood that his father, Peter Laing, emigrated to the Cape of Good Hope sometime after 1816, which may provide an avenue for future research. There are probably more objects donated by James, John, and George Lindsay Bonnar (sometimes spelt Bonar or Boner) than current records confirm, and further research could be conducted into the brothers' military and settler activity in South Africa.

Although the Tabwa chair has received some scholarly attention, there is potential to further research objects, original owners, and makers through the detailed diaries of Robert Andrew Young. Some of these have been transcribed and are currently held by OnFife Museums and Galleries alongside articles and obituaries that outline Young's career. More generally, the diaries record Young's involvement with the paramilitary forces of the British South African Company and his relationships with local people, which could provide insights into the wider colonial structures of extraction that were taking hold in the region at the turn of the 20th century.

Many individual objects in the collection would benefit from further research, including the janiform skin-covered mask donated by Mr Morton in 1927 (KIRMG:1927.0226), 'female figure' (TEMP:2011.0044), the *Nkisi* (CUPMS:1992.0200) and staff (CUPMS:1992.0662), which currently have no provenance information available. Historical museum records may provide starting points in these cases.

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Africa unspecified	Alexander Laing	50	Beadwork, domestic utensils, snuff equipment, stone knives and axes, tools, weapons, wooden figures
Northern Africa		16	
Northern Africa unspecified		6	Domestic utensils, footwear, stone tools
Egypt		10	Amulets, coins, clay pot, figures, oil lamp
Eastern Africa		21	
Eastern Africa unspecified	Alexander Laing	5	Personal ornaments
Kenya	Alexander Laing	9	Personal ornaments
Zambia	Robert Andrew Young	7	Chair, staff, weapons, wooden figures
Central Africa		18	
Central Africa unspecified	Alexander Laing	16	Weapons
Democratic Republic of the Congo		2	<i>Nkisi</i> figure, staff
Southern Africa		78	
Southern Africa unspecified	J Bonnar	6	Armour, personal ornaments
Lesotho	J Bonnar	3	Beadwork personal ornaments
South Africa	Alexander Laing Thomas Urquhart	69	Beadwork, clothing, club, domestic utensils, snuff equipment
Western Africa		4	
Western Africa unspecified		2	Local currency, weapons
Nigeria	Mr Morton	2	Janiform skin-covered mask, wooden female figure

Selected object images

Chair, Zambia, NEGLM:1981.0005



Staff, Zambia, NEGLM:1981.0011



Armlet, southern Africa/Lesotho, CUPMS:1992.0059



Shield, southern Africa, CUPMS:1984.0279



Janiform skin-covered mask, Nigeria, KIRMG:1927.0226



Perth Museum

Culture Perth and Kinross

Contact museum@culturepk.org.uk

Location of collections

In storage

Perth Art Gallery
78 George Street
Perth
PH1 5LB

Size of collections

334 African objects
17 Caribbean objects

Online collections

<http://collectionsearch.pkc.gov.uk/brief.aspx>

Selected objects

Africa

- Gold dust containers *or kudu*, Ghana, 1978.749 + 1978. 750
- Figure or hunting charm, Nigeria/ Democratic Republic of the Congo, 1935.17
- Prayer scroll, Ethiopia, 1979.1606
- Rattle, Republic of the Congo/ Democratic Republic of the Congo, 1978.575
- Horned dish cover, Uganda, K1972.210

Caribbean

- Club or *macana*, Guyana, 1978.735
- Beadwork apron, Guyana, 1978.704
- Basketwork pillow, Guyana, 1978.11
- Lacebark whip, Caribbean/ Jamaica, 1004,

History of the collection

The earliest collections held by Perth Museum were formed by the Perth Literary and Antiquarian Society, which was founded in 1784. In 1824 the Society opened a library and museum building which is one of the UK's oldest purpose-built museums. In 1914, it was gifted to the city of Perth by the Society. It is likely that many African and Caribbean objects date back to this early history of the museum. The earliest recorded accession dates are 1832 for Caribbean material, and 1850 for African material. Over the decades, non-European material from other local museums was incorporated into the collection, for example, from Kinross Museum in the 1970s. During this review the former Perth Museum and Art Gallery completed a major redevelopment project. The new Perth Museum opened in spring 2024 in the former City Hall and displays the story of Perth and Kinross. There is no on-site storage

so collections remain at Perth Art Gallery (the former Museum and Art Gallery) until the new collections store project is reinstated.

Overview of the collection

Africa

This review is based on current collection management database figures provided by the Museum. These suggest that the Museum currently holds around 334 African objects, although further research and auditing is required.

According to current records, around 33% of the African collection is from southern Africa, around 23% from western Africa, 22% from eastern Africa, 4% from central Africa, and 3% from northern Africa. Around 15% is currently unattributed to a country or region. Nigerian material makes up the largest collection from a single country.

The southern African material includes many beadwork and dress items, in addition to domestic utensils, and weapons such as clubs and spears. Little information is available about this material, but it is likely that some was taken during the South African Wars of the late 1800s. Some objects do have clear provenance, for example, a spear recorded as being taken from the 'Battle of Isandlwana' of 1879. The collection also contains a walking stick recorded as belonging to Field Cornet Du Voits and used during the South African War (1899-1902).

The western African collection contains notable material from Ghana, including two *Kuduo* or gold dust containers (1978.749 + 1978.750) that probably date to the first half of the 19th century. They were donated by John Ross, but no further information is available. The collection also contains one small ivory bead that is recorded as being taken from the body of a 'Chief' killed during the British sacking of Kumasi in 1874, donated by a Mr Lindsay. Material from Nigeria includes a collection of arrows that are recorded as being taken from 'Katsina Palace, Hadeiga Expedition', donated by a Mr McKinlay. There are also embroidered linen mats from Arochukwu, East Nigeria, associated with Scottish missionary Mary Slessor (1848-1915). The mats were made by local women, and the patterns are reportedly based on traditional body markings. One object that requires further research is a figurative wooden charm (1935.17) covered with beads and animal skins that is recorded as being taken from a shrine in Akwa Akpa, Southern Nigeria, in 1894. However, the style suggests that it could be a hunting charm originally made in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Other objects of note include an Ethiopian Ge'ez prayer scroll (1979.1606) that may have been taken during the British siege of Maqdala in 1868. Text written on the outside of the scroll reads 'Scroll. Abyssinian. Taken from King Theodios House.' The register entry records the donor as Captain Dewhurst of Thurso (no date). The collection also contains two items from the Republic of the Congo or the Democratic Republic of the Congo that would benefit from further research. These are a staff and Yombe initiation rattle (1978.575), bought at Murie House sale in 1920. This sale probably dispersed the collections of John Broun Morrison who owned Murie in the late 19th century. Items transferred from Kinross Museum include a small collection recorded as Ugandan, donated by Major G L Thomson (no date). Objects include conical and horned dish or gourd covers made of woven grass (K1972.210).

Caribbean

Around two-thirds of known Caribbean material at Perth Museum is from Guyana. Objects include a beadwork 'apron' accessioned in 1832, three wooden clubs or *macana*, and various basketwork including pouches, pillows and a rattle. This review has identified two lacebark whips, one of which was donated in 1855 by Lt G F Stewart. Stewart is recorded in the register as a member of the 36th regiment. These are currently listed as African but were most likely made and collected in the Caribbean or Jamaica specifically. The collection also contains stone axe heads, a conch shell chisel recorded as coming from the Virgin Islands, and a piece of barkcloth from Belize. It is possible that more Caribbean material would be identified by a comprehensive visual survey.

Associated material

Staff recently identified fetters that museum records suggest came from a ship named 'Negrinha' (probably Portuguese) used for trafficking enslaved people, captured off Grenada by 'HMS Vestal' on 20 September 1836. They were given to the Perth Literary and Antiquarian Society in 1837 by Dr Maclaren, a Royal Navy surgeon.

Areas for further research

The African and Caribbean collections at Perth Museum remain understudied and would both benefit from further research. Records of the Perth Literary and Antiquarian Society, historical registers and cards for the Perth collections, and documents from transferred collections, provide important opportunities for archival research that may uncover more information.

Much material is likely undocumented and within the timeframe of this review it has not been possible to research the biographies of donors. Future work on this may help identify the geographic provenance of some material.

Because it makes up the largest percentage of the African collection and very little is known about it, the southern African material would benefit from further research. From the Caribbean, Guyanese material, particularly the beadwork apron, warrants further investigation due to its early accession date.

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Africa unspecified	Thomson	49	Apron, arrow, bag, bangle, baton, bracelet, cloth, comb, headrest, ivory, key, knife, ladle, manicure set, mousetrap, necklace, pipe, razor, shield, spear, spearhead, spoon, staff, stick, stilleto, whip, wooden waistband
Northern Africa		9	
Northern Africa unspecified		3	Jug

Egypt		1	Camel stick
Sudan	Melville-Grey	5	Shield, spear, staff
Eastern Africa		74	
Eastern Africa unspecified	McLean Shanks Douglas McCoudach	34	Arrowhead, figure, flywhisk, headdress, necklace, shield, spear, spearhead, spoons, staff, strainer, walking stick
Ethiopia	Captain Dewhurst	1	Prayer scroll
Malawi	Alexander	4	Bead necklace, beadwork apron, carved elephants' tusks, wooden figure
Mozambique		1	Fan holder
Somalia		5	Ivory comb, pair of shoes, water bottle, wooden spoon, woven bracelet
Uganda	G L Thomson Major McKeith	9	Arrows, dish cover, ivory anklets, lyre, pair of shoes, spear
United Republic of Tanzania		1	Spear
Zambia	Fairweather	3	Walking stick, whip
Zimbabwe	Fairweather	16	Axe, basket, bottle, flywhisk, headrest, pipe, pipebowl, spear, spoon, vessel
Central Africa		14	
Central Africa unspecified	Melville-Grey	4	Arrow, dagger, spear
Angola	Fairweather	3	Axes
Republic of the Congo and Democratic Republic of the Congo	Fenwick Moody-Stuart Melville Gray	7	Dish, figure, gong, knife, rattle, staff
Southern Africa		110	
Southern Africa unspecified	Rutherford Lamb Shanks Cameron Douglas Howie Fleming Duncan MacGregor McCoudach Buchanan Whyte Howie	105	Anklet, apron, armlet, bangle, belt, bottle, bracelet, club, collar, cup and saucer, cup, girdle, hat, necklace, necklet, ornament, pendant, pouch, sash, shield, signal horn, skimmer, snuff bottle, spear, spoon, staff, stool, walking stick
South Africa	Miss Glass	5	Cloaks, costume, skirt

Western Africa		78	
Western Africa unspecified	Miss E A Mitchell	8	Bag, bow, cloth, mask, spear, whip
Benin	Mitchell	5	Brass figure, cotton cloth
Ghana	Ross	3	Brass vessel, ivory bead
Nigeria	Rankin Jacobson Howie Stephen Christie Paterson Cummings McKinlay	60	Arrow, bag, bead, beater, bottle, bowl, box, bracelet, cap, case, cloths, collar, currency, cushion covers, dagger, fan, figure, gong, mask, mat, pouch, powder horn, raft, ring robe, spool, spoon, staff, sword and sheath, thorn carving, tray, vessel, zither
Senegal	Moustapha Mrs Hymers	2	Mask, thumb piano

Regions and countries represented: Caribbean

Country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Jamaica	Lt G F Stewart	2	Lacebark whip
Virgin Islands	Roy	4	Axe heads, chisel, conch shell
Culturally affiliated with the Caribbean region (within CARICOM)			
Belize	MacTavish	1	Barkcloth
Guyana	Macpherson	10	Beaded apron, clubs, pillows, pouch, rattle

Published Information

Idiens, Dale (1983). *Catalogue of the Ethnographic Collection: Oceania, America, Africa*. Perth: Perth Museum and Art Gallery.

Idiens, Dale (1991). African Collections in Edinburgh and Perth. *Journal of Museum Ethnography* No 3: 31-41.

Selected object images

Gold dust containers or *kuduo*, Ghana, 1978.749 + 1978. 750



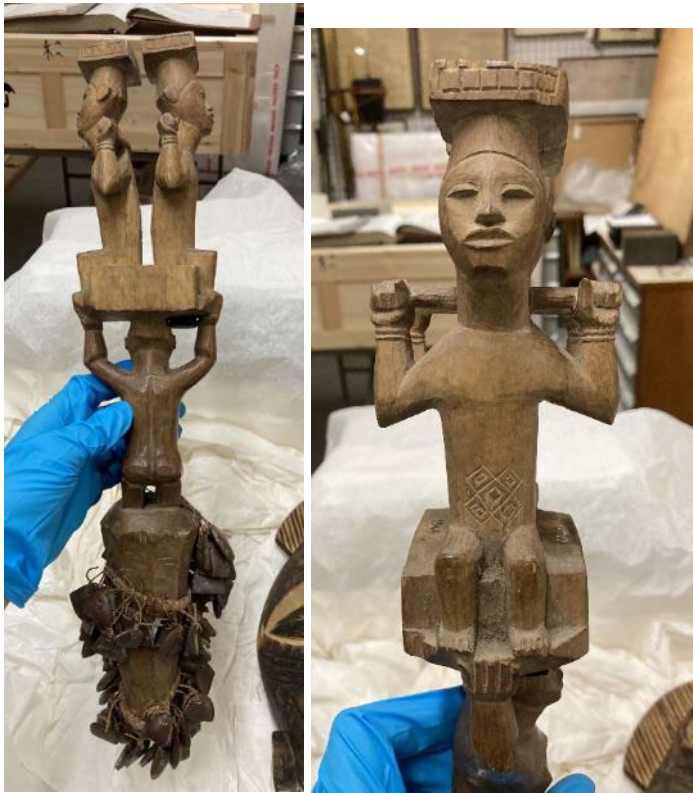
Figure or hunting charm, Nigeria/ Democratic Republic of the Congo, 1935.17



Detail of prayer scroll, Ethiopia, 1979.1606



Rattle, Republic of the Congo/ Democratic Republic of the Congo, 1978.575



Horned dish cover, Uganda, K1972.210



Club or *macana*, Guyana, 1978.735



Beadwork apron, Guyana, 1978.704



Basketwork pillow, Guyana, 1978.11



Lacebark whip, Caribbean/Jamaica, 1004



Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum

Contact collections@thesmith.scot

Location of collections

Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum
40 Albert Place
Dumbarton Road
Stirling
FK8 2RQ

Size of collections

610 African objects
40 Caribbean objects

Selected objects

Africa

- Chair or *Kiti cha enzi*, Zanzibar/Tanzania, 03969
- Stool, Ghana, 17294
- Ivory armlet, South Africa, 17300
- Staff with figure, Democratic Republic of the Congo, 06113

Caribbean

- Sailor's Valentine, Barbados, 04934
- Lacebark whip, Jamaica, 04487.003
- Rattle/ pipe with feathers, Guyana, 17217
- Necklace of capybara teeth and bird skin, Guyana, 17235

History of the collection

The Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum, formerly The Smith Institute, was founded in 1874. Funded by a bequest from artist Thomas Stuart Smith (1815-1869), it was originally a gallery of contemporary art, with a museum and library reading room for local residents. Objects from Africa and the Caribbean were donated during the early years of the Museum and in many cases reflect the activity of Stirling residents and families across the British Empire, including traders, missionaries and soldiers.

Overview of the collection

Africa

Around 57% of the African collection is made up of material from southern Africa; 10% is from northern Africa; 9% eastern Africa; 9% central Africa; 6% western Africa; and around 9% is currently unattributed to a region or country. Records suggest that the majority of African objects entered the Museum between 1880 and 1950. Many were probably acquired in the late 1800s and donated later as a bequest. Regular accessions continued until the 1980s.

Southern African material makes up the majority of the collection. Around 50% of this material was donated in 1933 by Major General Donald Charles Frederick MacIntyre (1859-1938) and was reportedly taken during the South African War of 1899-1902. Staff believe that some of these objects may have belonged to General Joseph Oates Travers (1867-1936) who served in South Africa, and who had family in Bridge of Allan. This collection is predominantly made up of arrows and spears, but also includes an axe, bows, quivers, clubs, a knife, beadwork, domestic utensils, baskets, bags, and a headrest. MacIntyre donated a total of 225 objects, the largest donation from one person in the African collection. One of the earliest acquisitions is an ivory armlet that, according to records, belonged to 'Kreli', who led the Xhosa against the British Empire in the so-called ninth Anglo-Xhosa War of 1877-1878. This may refer to Sarili kaHintsisa (c.1810-1892), the King of the Xhosa nation from 1835 to 1892. The armlet was donated by a J Ormiston in 1881.

The western African collections include teeth-cleaning sticks and a raffia fan from Nigeria that are reportedly associated with a Dr Thompson, the first missionary sent from Alloa West United Presbyterian Church to Calabar. The Nigerian collection also includes three ceremonial canoe paddles. One of the most notable items from western Africa is an Asante stool from Ghana, loaned to the Stirling Smith by Major Johnston in 1886. Due to the date and apparent military connection of the donor, this object is potentially connected to the so-called Anglo-Ashanti wars of the 1870s.

The northern African collection is predominantly made up of 44 items donated in 1928 by Colonel C M Drew of the Royal Army Medical Corps. Much of this material is recorded as being taken during the so-called Anglo-Egyptian conquest of Sudan in 1896-1899, and includes spears, arrows, and clubs.

Central African material includes around 43 items from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, including bows and arrows, ceremonial knives, flywhisks and a staff topped with a wooden figure. Donated by Miss H E Carson in 1949, records suggest that these were collected by the donor's uncle, Mr Alex Carson, a missionary in the Lake Tanganika area from 1886 to 1896.

The eastern African collection is mostly from Zimbabwe, and includes axes, spears, headrests, a snuff container, and *sansa* or thumb piano. Donors include a Miss E W Graham, who reported that the objects had been collected by her brother before he was killed in the 'Ndebele uprising' of the late 1890s. The eastern African collection also includes an elaborate chair or *kiti cha enzi* from Zanzibar that was donated by Agnes Marion Christian Kidston (1872-1950) before 1928.

Caribbean

The Caribbean collections held by the Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum were acquired between the 1880s and 1930s. A total of 55% of the Caribbean collection is attributed to Jamaica, 20% is attributed to Guyana, 15% to the West Indies, and 10% to Barbados.

The Jamaican material includes necklaces made from seeds and 'beetle eggs', hats made of coir, a cowbell, basket, palmetto palm brushes, a lacebark whip, and 'charms' made of beans. According to museum records, most were produced before 1932 and donated in 1936 by Mrs Elizabeth E F Dall. Her donation also included necklaces, a bracelet, a pin cushion and a trinket box from the West Indies.

Material from Guyana includes a basketwork sieve or *zebucan*, probably for preparing cassava; a necklace made of capybara teeth and a bird skin; and a 'rattle' or pipe. These were donated by a John Virtue (1844-1896) and were accessioned in 1882. They are recorded as coming from the Demerara region and were potentially made by indigenous groups of people living inland. Virtue was a resident of Demerara and his wife, Maggie Pollock, was from Stirling.

The Caribbean collection also contains archaeological material, namely two conch shell chisels and an adze head from Barbados. These were donated by Colonel John Stirling Stirling of Gargunnock (1832-1900). His father, Charles Stirling of Gargunnock, appears in British parliamentary papers as a claimant for estates in Jamaica following the abolition of slavery. One of the conch shells has an inscription that reads 'St Michail's Barbados 1868'.

The object in the Caribbean collection that has received most research to date is a Sailor's Valentine. It is an octagonal, glass-fronted, hinged wooden box inlaid with intricate and symmetrical designs of seashells. It is understood that these objects were made by women in Barbados in the mid-1800s and sold to sailors as souvenirs.

Notable donors

Major General Donald Charles Frederick MacIntyre (1859-1938)

Colonel John Stirling Stirling of Gargunnock (1832-1900)

John Virtue (1844-1896)

Areas for further research

Africa

A large percentage of the African collection is recorded as being taken during colonial wars, and many of the donors appear to have military connections. More research could be conducted into the events and individuals associated with these objects, particularly the southern African and Sudanese weaponry, the Asante stool, and the armlet recorded as belonging to 'Kreli' / Sarili kaHintsia.

Additional documentation for objects with named donors may be located. Little is known about J Wright and how he acquired 38 items from Nigeria, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Botswana, and East Africa, probably before 1886. Likewise, very little is known about Miss H E Carson's uncle, Alex Carson, who was reportedly a missionary in the Lake Tanganyika area of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Agnes Marion Christian Kidston, the donor of the chair from Zanzibar, was married to Scottish botanist and palaeobotanist Robert Kidston (1852-1924). To date, neither have any known connections to Eastern Africa. More generally, the large southern African collection deserves further attention, including the examples of beadwork.

Caribbean

The whole Caribbean collection would benefit from further research. Little is currently known about named donors or how the objects were acquired. Of particular note is the early material from Guyana and archaeological material from Barbados, due to the donors' known connections to Demerara and Jamaica. Researching these objects could shed further light on Scottish involvement in the Caribbean's plantation economy and exploitation of enslaved people.

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major Sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Africa unspecified	Mr J Wright. Miss Hunter. Maj Gen D C F MacIntyre.	60	Domestic utensils, flywhisks, personal ornaments, weapons
Northern Africa		61	
Northern Africa unspecified	J Johnston	5	Domestic utensils, personal ornaments, textiles, weapons
Egypt	Shearer M Smith A Marshall	4	Baskets, corn doll, leg irons
Morocco	E E F Dall	6	Clothing, mirror, weapons
Sudan	Col C M Drew. Maj Gen D C F MacIntyre.	46	Charms, flywhisk, headrest, weapons
Eastern Africa		52	
Eastern Africa unspecified	Mr J Wright	8	Arrows
Kenya	Miss A B McJannet Lt J Laing R Anstruther	6	Armour, domestic utensils, tourist souvenir, weapons
Malawi	H Sanderson M Bain	6	Beadwork clothing, tobacco pipe
Mozambique	Maj Gen D C F MacIntyre	1	Headrest
Uganda	A MacLean	5	Arrows and quiver
United Republic of Tanzania/Zanzibar	A M C Kidston	2	Chair or <i>kiti cha enzi</i> , bracelet
Zambia	Rev J McNeil H L Moodie	2	Axe, <i>sansa</i>
Zimbabwe	J Wright Capt A W Simpson E W Graham	22	Domestic utensils, headrest, <i>sansa</i> , snuff container, weapons, wooden animal figures
Central Africa		53	
Cameroon	S Moore	1	Basket
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Miss H E Carson. E M Dewar. Maj Gen D C F MacIntyre.	52	Ceremonial and utilitarian weapons, currency, domestic utensils, personal ornaments, staff, textiles
Southern Africa		346	
Southern Africa unspecified	Mr J Wright	2	Axe, digging stick weight

Botswana	E W Graham	1	Axe
Lesotho	Capt G Kilgour. Maj Gen D C F MacIntyre. E W Graham.	3	Axes
South Africa	Maj Gen D C F MacIntyre. H L Moodie. Capt G Kilgour. Mr J Wright. H Stevenson Ferguson. J Stuart. Capt A W Simpson. J Ormiston.	340	Bags, basketwork, beadwork, clothing, clubs, domestic utensils, flywhisks, personal ornaments, snuff containers, weapons
Western Africa		38	
Western Africa unspecified	J Wright. J Johnston. Ruby Henderson Oulton.	10	Clothing, currency, flywhisk, personal ornaments, powder horn, whip
Ghana	Maj C Johnston	1	Stool
Nigeria	J Wright E E F Dall J B Messer A Douglas Mr R Oulton S Moore J Dickson	27	Book, basketry, clothing, domestic utensils, footwear, paddles, <i>sansa</i>

Regions and countries represented: Caribbean

Country	Major Sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Barbados	Col J S Stirling Miss H L Moodie	4	Adzehead, conch shell chisels, 'sailor's valentine'
Jamaica	Mrs Elizabeth E F Dall Mr J Wright Miss H L Moodie	22	Basketry, brushes, 'charms', cigarette papers, cowbell, hats, lacebark whips, ornaments, rattle/beater, tooth powder and sticks
West Indies unspecified	Mrs Elizabeth E F Dall	6	Bottle, bracelet, pin cushion, trinket box, necklaces
Culturally affiliated with the Caribbean region (within CARICOM)			
Guyana	A Sawers J Virtue	8	Arrowhead cotton for blow gun, darts, necklaces, sieve or <i>zebucan</i> , rattle/ pipe

Selected object images

Chair or *Kiti cha enzi*, Zanzibar/Tanzania, 03969



Stool, Ghana, 17294



Ivory armlet, South Africa, 17300



Detail of staff with figure, Democratic Republic of the Congo, 06113



Sailor's Valentine, Barbados, 04934



Lacebark whip, Jamaica, 04487.003



Rattle/ pipe with feathers, Guyana, 17217



Necklace of capybara teeth and bird skin, Guyana, 17235



The Black Watch Museum

The Black Watch Regimental Trust

Contact curator@theblackwatch.co.uk

Location of Collections

Balhousie Castle
Hay Street
Perth
PH1 5HR

Size of collections

37 African objects
No known Caribbean objects

Selected objects

- Basket, Sudan, A679.1
- 'Shawl', Sudan, A679.2
- Tunic or *jibba*, Sudan, 2020.75.1
- Two swords, Sudan, 2020.75.2.2 + 2020.75.2.1
- Drum, Nigeria, A2059.12
- Staff, Nigeria, A2059.7

History of the collection

The Black Watch Museum is the regimental museum of The Black Watch (Royal Highlanders) regiment of the British Army. It's collection of African material was taken by members of the regiment during military campaigns across the continent from the 1880s to the 1950s. Objects were sometimes kept in the officers' mess or in private collections that were later donated. The collection was not formalised until 1938, when the first accessions were recorded. The museum collection moved to the current site at Balhousie Castle in the early 1960s. A major redevelopment project began in May 2012 and the redeveloped The Black Watch Castle and Museum opened in June 2013.

Overview of the collection

The African collection is predominantly made up of objects removed as spoils or souvenirs of war. Most of the collection can be traced to specific military events and was donated by members or associates of the regiment. Nearly half of the African material is northern African of Sudanese and Egyptian origin, with smaller numbers of objects from Nigeria, South Africa, Kenya, Mauritius and Ethiopia.

The Sudanese and Egyptian material was taken between 1882 and 1898 and is mostly documented as being taken during the so-called Anglo-Egyptian War (1882), Anglo-Egyptian conquest of Sudan (1886-1899), and Mahdist War (1881-1899). In many cases, there are records of how, when, and where objects were taken. For example, one sword is recorded as being 'captured' from the tent of Egyptian Commander Colonel Ahmed 'Urabi by Captain George Malcolm Fox following the Battle of Tel-El-Kebir (13 September 1882) during the

Anglo-Egyptian War. Four spears are described as being 'taken' by Captain A Scott-Stevenson following the Battle of Tamai (13 March 1884) and the Battle of Kirbegan (10 February 1885). The collection also includes a Sudanese flag and pole 'presented' by Brigadier General Hector Archibald MacDonald following the Battle of Omdurman, 2 September 1898, during the Anglo-Egyptian conquest of Sudan. Two of the most significant objects are a basket (A679.1) and 'shawl' (A679.2), recorded as being 'captured' from Osman Digna's tent by Captain Alfred Campbell Bald (c.1861-1905), after the Battle of Tamai during the Mahdist War. Digna was reportedly the Mahdī's leading amīr or general in the Red Sea Hills region of eastern Sudan. In 2020, the Museum acquired a tunic or *jibba* (2020.75.1) and two swords (2020.75.2.2 + 2020.75.2.1) that reportedly belonged to a Sudanese amīr, brought to the UK by General John Grenfell Maxwell (1859-1929) in the late 1800s and probably taken following the battles of Atbara or Omdurman (1898). Maxwell is notorious for his controversial handling of the 1916 Easter Rising in Ireland, but prior to this was posted in Egypt, Sudan, and South Africa.

The collection contains eight objects from Nigeria, including two drums (A2059.12), a staff (A2059.7), an engraved horn, a whip, two spears, and a bundle of objects described as 'joss sticks'. These are recorded as being 'brought back' and 'taken' from Katsina in 1909 by Captain Duncan Campbell (1880-1915). As Lieutenant in the West African Frontier Force from 1905 to 1910, records suggest Campbell was based in Northern Nigeria and took part in the 'Kano Campaign' and/or 'Hadejia Campaign' of 1906.

The Black Watch Museum also holds at least five objects from Kenya, including two spears, a quiver with 15 arrows, a simi knife, and a knobkerrie. These are recorded as being 'found' or 'picked up' in Kenya and almost certainly date to The Black Watch involvement in suppressing the Mau Mau, 1953-1954. Exact provenance is limited, one spear is recorded as 'found in Muranga', the quiver and arrows 'from the Mau Mau Kenya', and the knobkerrie 'picked up by D Skea in Kenya'.

Other material includes beadwork from South Africa, and tortoiseshell containers from Mauritius.

Associated material

The Museum also contains relevant archival material, such as photograph albums of troops and battlefields and soldiers' diaries. These include a photograph album, *Egypt & The Sudan 1882*, and the diaries of Captain Duncan Campbell who was based in Northern Nigeria in the early 1900s.

Areas for further research

The 1986 *Museum Ethnographers' Group Survey* noted that the collection contained Ghanaian material in the 'Ashantee Turret Room', including West African weapons, drums, and a scrapbook of the 'Ashantee campaign 1873-1874'. These were not identified during this review but may be located with further research.

Very little is known about the eight Nigerian objects donated by Captain Duncan Campbell. Further research into the objects themselves could be conducted in addition to research into his diaries, which are held in the museum archives. Campbell was based in northern Nigeria around 1906 and it's possible he refers to objects in his diary entries.

The *jibba* and two swords that reportedly belonged to a Sudanese amīr and were brought to the UK by General John Maxwell deserve further research. Although Maxwell's response to

the 1916 Easter Rising has received critical attention, his actions in Egypt and Sudan have not received the same level of scrutiny.

Notable donors

Captain Alfred Campbell Bald DSO (c.1861-1905)

Captain Duncan Campbell (1880-1915)

General John Grenfell Maxwell (1859-1929)

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Northern Africa		18	
Egypt	Capt George Malcolm Fox	1	Sword
Sudan	Capt Alfred Campbell Bald. Brig Gen Hector Archibald MacDonald. Gen John Maxwell. Capt A Scott-Stevenson.	17	Basket, crocodile skin shield, daggers, drums, flag, <i>jibba</i> , leather bag, rifle, 'shawl', spears, swords, water bottles
Eastern Africa		8	
Ethiopia		1	Silver filigree basket
Kenya	D Skea	5	Knobkerrie, quiver and arrows, simi knife, spears
Mauritius		2	Tortoiseshell containers
Southern Africa		3	
South Africa		3	Beads, flywhisk
Western Africa		8	
Nigeria	Capt Duncan Campbell	8	Two drums, engraved horn, 'joss sticks', spears, staff, 'whip'

Published Information

Some objects were included in the 2017-2021 AHRC-funded research project *Baggage and Belonging: Military Collections and the British Empire, 1750 -1900*, *Project Catalogues*: <https://nms-supercool.files.svdcdn.com/production/Documents/Research/Baggage-and-Belonging-Catalogues/black-watch-museum.pdf?dm=1720792606>

Selected object images

Basket, Sudan, A679.1



'Shawl', Sudan, A679.2



Tunic or *jibba*, Sudan, 2020.75.1



Two swords, Sudan, 2020.75.2.2 + 2020.75.2.1



Drum, Nigeria, A2059.12



Detail of staff, Nigeria, A2059.7



The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum

Leisure and Culture Dundee

Contact themcmanus@leisureandculturaldundee.com

Location of collections

Albert Square	Broughty Castle Museum	The Collections Unit
Meadowside	Castle Approach	Barrack Street
Dundee	Dundee	Dundee
DD1 1DA	DD5 2TF	DD1 1PG
		<i>By appointment only</i>

Size of collections

1,131 African objects
11 Caribbean objects

Online collections

<https://www.mcmanus.co.uk/collections>

Selected objects

Africa

- Crocodile head plaque, Nigeria, 1913-137-112
- Pendant plaque, Nigeria, 1913-137-106-2
- Penannular copper anklet, Nigeria, 9999-1135
- Skin-covered dance headdress, Nigeria, 1913-137-153-1=3
- Stool covered in studwork, Democratic Republic of the Congo, 1893-14
- Raffia belt, Democratic Republic of the Congo, 1983-270-2
- Prayer scroll, Ethiopia, 9999-1172

Caribbean

- Lacebark whip, West Indies, 1915-239
- Pipe, West Indies, 1935-64
- Spindle, Guyana, 1936-206-1

History of the collection

The origin of the current museum and collection lies in the establishment of the Watt Institute in 1824, which gradually built up a library and collection of objects, before closing in the mid-1800s. The collections were taken over by the Town Council in 1869 and a purpose-built museum opened in 1872. The first museum inventory was started in 1874. It is likely that non-European material was part of the original collections. Significant loans of African material are known to have been added to displays in 1898 and 1902. In the early 1950s, work began on displays dedicated to Scottish missionary Mary Slessor (1848-1915). Today, the majority of African material is displayed in the 'Dundee and the World' gallery, which

focuses on the City's international collections and highlights Dundee's long involvement in overseas trade.

Overview of the collection

Africa

Just under 45% of the African collection is from western Africa, 18% from eastern Africa, 13% from central Africa, 11% from southern Africa, 3% from northern Africa and around 10% is not currently attributed to a region or country.

The McManus has particularly strong Nigerian holdings which represent around 34% of the entire African collection. Much of this was acquired from medical missionary Dr Peter Rattray (d.1932), who is notable for donating the single largest collection of African material held by the Museum. Objects from Rattray include two cast metal items recorded as being 'taken from the ruins of the King's palace Benin City'. These are a pendant plaque in the form of three figures, probably a Royal figure flanked by two attendants, and a crocodile head plaque. Both have a ceremonial *eben* sword engraved on the underside. The collection also contains a cast metal figure, thought to be a warrior, broken off at the knees, which may have been part of a tableau of figures to be placed on an altar. The exact provenance for this item is not recorded. Although Rattray was not involved directly in the so-called punitive expedition of 1897, he was posted to Nigeria in 1898, and it is plausible that he took objects himself from the ruins of Benin City. Other objects donated by Rattray and attributed to Benin City include carved ivory combs, lacework and a charm purse. Other noteworthy Nigerian objects include bifurcated knives, a leopard skin knife sheath, skin-covered dance headdresses, an Ibo ceremonial kola nut dish, and an Efik decorated wall box.

Much of the Nigerian material is notable because of its association with Mary Slessor, a well-known Scottish missionary. Slessor spent her life as a missionary in the Calabar region and many others followed in her footsteps. The Calabar mission was originally founded in 1846 by Rev Hope Waddell. Slessor arrived in 1876. The collections associated with Slessor were mainly donated by former missionaries who had worked alongside her, or colonial officials working in the same region. Some objects of note from these individuals include large bronze anklets donated by Agnes Siddons Arnot (1911-1948), an elaborate axe in the form of a human head donated by Alice Louise Beveridge, and a ceremonial paddle donated by Sir John Middleton (1870-1954). The collection also contains examples of body painting designs produced by local women in the Mary Slessor Home, Calabar. The missionary schools discouraged women from painting their bodies and instead instructed them to use the designs as inspiration for embroideries. The collection contains examples of designs painted onto a paper template in the shape of a woman's back and cloths embroidered with the same patterns.

The broader west African collection contains examples of spiritual and ceremonial items, including *Bhundu* masks and *Minserih* figures from Sierra Leone (donated 1912) and an Ekpe raffia masquerade costume from Nigeria.

The second largest collection from any single country comes from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The three primary donors of this material are Peter Whytock, Hermann Wallbaum, and a Mrs Lamont, with material accessioned between 1893 and 1916. Whytock and Wallbaum were associated with the Congo-Balolo Mission located in Pool Malebo (formerly Stanley Pool). The material is mostly recorded as originating from the 'Upper Congo' and Kasai regions. More research is required into the potential circumstances

surrounding acquisition. Objects of note include a stool covered in studwork (accessioned in 1893), a cup carved in the form of a female head (accessioned in 1916), raffia belts with large pompoms (accessioned in 1911), and a ceremonial axe with intricately decorated blade.

Other objects of note include an Ethiopian prayer scroll that is recorded as coming from the Palace of Emperor Tewodros II during the British siege of Maqdala in 1868. A collection of throwing spears donated by J C Edwards are reportedly from the battle of Omdurman, Sudan (1898). Objects taken during the so-called Anglo-Zulu War of 1879 by Lt Lindsay include a club, spear, shield, and loin cloth from the battlefield of Ginginhlovu. The McManus also holds a very large collection of pipes that were donated by collector Mr J G Henderson in 1935. The collection includes examples from across the African continent that were bought from London dealer William Ockleford Oldman. Correspondence regarding these purchases is held in the museum archives.

Caribbean

The Caribbean material includes three items from Guyana donated by Colonel Tyrie in 1936: a cotton and bead armlet, a rabbit tooth necklace, and spindle of cotton. A further eight items are attributed to the West Indies, including lacebark whips donated by J Murray in 1915, axe heads, coconut carvings, beaded necklaces, and one pipe from the collection of Mr J G Henderson.

Associated material

The McManus holds a large collection of around 430 objects that were either owned by, or are associated with, Mary Slessor. This review has only included items that were made in Africa, such as spears, paddles, and bracelets. The wider collection contains material such as lantern slides, photographs, letters, spectacles, a watch, a compass, books, bibles, lesson plans, Scottish bank notes, medals, music sheets, and postcards. Key pieces of associated material are on loan from the Church of Scotland.

Notable donors

Sir John Middleton (1870-1954)

Dr Peter Rattray (d.1932)

Agnes Siddons Arnot (1911-1948)

Areas for further research

The Museum published a catalogue of its non-European holdings in 1994 which provides a good starting point for exploring the collection and identifying research leads. In many cases donors are named but little more is known about them, and further research may provide information about the circumstances surrounding the acquisition of objects. The large Nigerian collections have received some attention to date, but the central, southern and eastern African collections would benefit from further investigation. Likewise, very little is known about the Caribbean collection and investigation of the named donors may prove a helpful starting point to better understand the material.

Regions and countries represented: Africa

Region/country	Major sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
Africa unspecified	Angus District Council. Janet Brown. Robert Butter Esq. Mrs C Duff. Mrs Hay. J G Henderson. W Anne Henderson. C W B Hoy. Mr A H Macdonald. Mrs Alice Mair. Meffan Institute. Sir John Middleton. Miss J Noble. Mr A Ogilvie. Dr Peter Rattray. Mr Reid Robertson, (ex-Lord Dean of Guild). Mrs M Robertson. Miss Scott. D Smart. Albert Stanley Smith Esq. Mr W T Smith. Mr A Sommerville.	117	Armlet, animal figure, arrowhead, basket, bead, bell, bottle, bow, bowl, bow-stave, box bracelet, cap, cloth, raffia comb, cowrie shells, darts for blowpipe, drum, earring, flywhisk, girdle belt, gourd hairpin, head ring, knife, lamp, manillas, mask, model, napkin rings, necklace, packets of seeds, pipe bowl, potholder, pottery vessel, purse, quiver, razor, shawl, shield, skirt, spear, spindle whorl, spoon, table mat, coil of tobacco, wagon, walking stick
Northern Africa		33	
Northern Africa unspecified	Mr Ian Campbell F Rough Miss Scott Mr W T Smith	5	Dagger and sheath, knife, pair of earrings, razor, spike fiddle
Algeria	Mrs Mary Petrie	1	Pottery
Egypt	William Leng Miss Scott Mr W T Smith Miss Isabella Tyrie	6	Bowl, cigarette, cups and cover, deity figure, figure, headscarf
Libya		1	Container
Morocco	Miss Isabella Tyrie	2	Beaded slippers, woman's dress
Sudan	John C Edwards J G Henderson Mrs Marryat	17	Arrowhead, carrying girdle, girl's staff, headrest, pipe, shield, spear, stick
Tunisia		1	Shoe

Eastern Africa		208	
Eastern Africa unspecified	Dr P Rattray Master Gordon Mills Mr W T Smith Miss Scott J G Henderson	27	Barkcloth, betel-nut cutter, charm container, crocodile lute, figure, gourd, headdress, medical instruments, neck ring, pipe sheath, sandals, spear, tobacco box
Ethiopia	T Wise	2	Scrolls
Kenya	J McCarthy A Sommerville R Heron John Thoms Dr Peter Rattray	13	Arrow, animal carvings, bow, carved wooden head, flywhisk, fork and spoon, knife, knife and sheath, pipe, shoes, whip, wooden carvings
Madagascar		2	Raffia textile, spoon
Malawi	J G Henderson Miss M J Webb	5	Club, gourd, knobkerrie, pendant, pipe, pipe bowl
Mozambique	Dr Peter Rattray	2	Spoons
Somalia	Mr R Martin	35	Arrow, beaker, bottle stoppers, box, combs, dish and lid, forks, knife, quiver, sheath, spoon, sticks, vessels, whip, wooden chains
Uganda	A Sommerville J G Henderson E F McShane Dr Peter Rattray	71	Animal figure, arrow, barkcloth, basket, beer tube, bow, bow harp, box, cap, comb, cup, drum, earring, flute, flywhisk, girdle, gourd containers, hat, hoe, human figure, hunting bag, jar, knife, lamp, lid, mallet, masks, milk pot, neck ornament, necklace, pipe, pipe bowl, raft zither, rope, sandals, spindle, stool, string of cowrie shells, throwing spears, tobacco pouch, vessels
United Republic of Tanzania	Dr Peter Rattray Miss Scott	29	Armlet, basket, bow, bracelet, pair of candlesticks, charm for childbearing, ear ornaments, figure, finger rings, fishing knife and spike, girdle/loin panel, head of a harp, hook,

			necklace, paddle, pipe, porter's tag, pot, razor, stick, snuff box, tobacco
Zambia	A Sommerville	4	Ceremonial drum, shield, spearhead, spears
Zimbabwe	J G Henderson Mr A H Macdonald Mrs Alice Mair Mrs Steggall	18	Axe, figures of birds, model trek wagon figure, pipe bowl, tuned sticks, wooden chain
Central Africa		151	
Central Africa unspecified	J G Henderson Mr H Wallbaum	11	Axe, knife sheath, pipe, raffia costume, raffia mat, spear, sword in sheath
Angola	J G Henderson	5	Pipes
Cameroon	Miss Bena Ferguson. Miss Elizabeth Beveridge. J G Henderson.	9	Carved wooden face, figure, mask, pipe bowl
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Mrs W Bruce-Porter. Dr W Graham Campbell. J G Henderson Mrs Lamont D D Lyell Mrs Alice Mair Dr Peter Rattray Mr W T Smith Mr H Wallbaum Peter Whytock	113	Armlet, arrow, axe, bag, basket and lid, belt, bow, bowl, box and lid, bracelet, canoe paddle, carved tusk, ceremonial knives, charms, collar, comb container, currency, 'katanga cross' currency, drum, fan, finger-piano, flywhisk, girdle, gong, harp, headrest, helmet mask, horn vessel, mat, necklace, <i>Nkisi</i> figure, ointment cup, pipe, quiver and arrows, raffia loom, rattle bracelet, shield, slit drum, spear, spears, spoon, staff, stool, sword
Gabon	Albert Stanley Smith Esq	13	Fan, hand loom, knife and sheath, <i>kosi</i> figure, ladle, napkin ring, necklace, pipe, whip
Southern Africa		122	
Southern Africa unspecified	Charles Air Esq David Air Esq Angus District Council Richard Burn Robert Butter, Esq Mrs Nancy Greig Henderson, J G Mr A H Macdonald Mars Training Ship	67	Axe, bag, bangle, beaded headdress, belt, blanket, bottle, bow, charm/amulet, figure of a fish, girdle, head ring, knife, knobkerrie, ladle, <i>marimba</i> , necklace, pair of bracelets, pipe, pot, pottery head, rattle, snuff bottle, snuff box, <i>assegai</i>

	Misses Marshall Mrs H McIntosh J P Napper Mr A Ogilvie Mr W T Smith T Thoms		spear, spoon, string of beads, whip, xylophone
Botswana		2	Spoons
South Africa	Charles Air Esq R N C Lindsay Lt Morty Mr John Napper Esq John P Soutar Mrs T Thoms Miss Mackenzie E M S Robertson, (ex- Lord Dean of Guild) J G Henderson	53	Apron, amulet, armlet, arrow, bracelet, belt, box, girdle, hat, knobkerrie, model of Boer trek wagon, necklet, pipe, pot, powder horn, purse, rattle, scabbard, <i>ishulunga</i> shield, snuff spoon, <i>assegai</i> spear, staff, tapestry, <i>umgingqo</i> , <i>umutsha</i>
Western Africa		501	
Western Africa unspecified	Angus District Council Mrs Maggie Gordon J G Henderson Mr H Wallbaum Dr H F Wilson	52	Animal figure, bangle, bracelet, calabash, comb, cowrie-shell currency, dish, drumsticks, fan, flywhisk, harness, knife and sheath, manillas, necklace, necklace basket, pair of armlets, pin/hair, pipe bowl, pouch, purse, quiver and arrows, rope, seed purse, sword, textile purse, walking stick, whistle, xylophone
Benin		1	Axe
Côte d'Ivoire	Mr A G Walker	1	Carved <i>Baule</i> figure
Ghana	Mrs F L Bridge Mr Ian Campbell. Mr Frederick M Downs. G Findlay Margaret Foggie Mrs M Hardman J G Henderson A F Kerr Miss E MacDonald A R Walker	54	Bow, charms, <i>Akua'ba</i> figure, <i>Sasabonsam</i> figure, finger ring, gold weight, hat, knife, pipe, stool, textile
Mali/Niger		4	Textiles
Nigeria	Angus District Council. Mrs A S Arnot.	378	Anklet, armlet, bangle, ashtray, axe, bag, basket, basketry, bead necklace,

	Mrs Agnes Siddons. Miss Elizabeth Beveridge. D S Bisset Esq. McLaren Cameron. Mr Ian Campbell. Church of Scotland Mission. Miss Bena Ferguson. Mrs Gemmel. Mrs Maggie Gordon. Mrs Groves. W Anne Henderson. Miss Edith Henry. Miss A Hutchison. Mrs Lamont. The Hon Mallam Abubakar Madawaki. Miss McIntosh. Miss Hannah McRobbie. Sir John Middleton. Dr Peter Rattray. Mrs M Robertson. Miss Yewande Sosanya. T Thoms. Mr H Wallbaum. Dr H F Wilson. A M Yacomini Esq.		belt, body painting designs, bottles, bow, bowl, box, bracelet, charm, cloth, comb, costume, currency, cushion cover, dagger and sheath, dancing rattle, dish, drum drumstick, embroidery for a man's garment, fan, <i>ibeji</i> figure, finger rings, finger-piano, fly whisk, goblet, gong, gourd, gourd vessels, hair ornament, hat, headdress, headpiece, jug, knife and sheath, bifurcated knife, Koran, lacework, ladle, mask, mat, milk gourd, mirror, model boat with figures, paddle, padlock and key, perfume bottle, pipe bowl, purse, crocodile head plaque, pendant plaque, plate covers, ceremonial pot, raffia bag, quiver and arrows, child's rattle, razor, shoes, skirt, spear, spoon, sword in scabbard, textiles, toothstick, toy animal, tray, tunic, trousers, waistbelts, walking stick, wall box, wall hanging, whip, wood panel
Sierra Leone	Alexander Aitken Esq J G Henderson Mr G Mudie	10	<i>Minserah</i> figure, <i>Nomoli</i> figure, <i>Bhundu</i> mask, <i>Sowei</i> mask, pipe, <i>Sehgbura</i> rattle, sword and scabbard
Togo		1	Clay elephant

Regions and countries represented: Caribbean

Country	Major donors/sources	Collection size estimate	Types of material
West Indies unspecified	J G Henderson J Murray, 1915	8	Axe heads, coconut carvings, lacebark whips, necklaces, pipe bowl
Culturally affiliated with the Caribbean region (within CARICOM)			
Guyana	Col Tyrie, 1936	3	Armlet, necklace, spindle of cotton

Published Information

Proctor, Andrew (1994). *Cultures of the World: The Ethnographic Collections of Dundee Art Gallery and Museums*. Dundee: Dundee Art Gallery and Museums.

Selected object images

Crocodile head plaque, Nigeria, 1913-137-112



Pendant plaque, Nigeria, 1913-137-106-2



Penannular copper anklet, Nigeria, 9999-1135



Skin-covered dance headdresses, Nigeria, 1913-137-153-1=3



Stool covered in studwork, Democratic Republic of the Congo, 1893-14



Raffia belt, Democratic Republic of the Congo, 1983-270 -2



Prayer scroll (detail), Ethiopia, 9999-1172



Lacebark whip, West Indies, 1915-239



Pipe, West Indies, 1935-64



Spindle, Guyana, 1936-206-1





Wooden comb with carved
design, Eastern Africa.
© David Livingstone
Birthplace Museum

African and Caribbean Collections in Scottish Museums Conclusion

Results and conclusions

The 32 collections reviewed during the first phase of *Reveal and Connect* highlight the scale and diversity of material from Africa and the Caribbean currently held in Scottish museums. The characterisations in this report begin to form a picture of what these collections hold, acquisition patterns, and connections between collections. What follows is a condensed review of findings, an overview of provenance patterns that connect African and Caribbean collections in Scottish museums, and a summary of potential future research directions.

Review of findings

Africa

This review has identified 23,263 objects from Africa, recorded as originating from at least 53 countries. Around 31% is attributed to western Africa, 26% to eastern Africa, 14% to southern Africa, 10% to central Africa, and 7% to northern Africa. Approximately 12% is currently unattributed to a country or region.

Most material originates from former British colonies in western and eastern Africa. Notable exceptions include the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Republic of the Congo.¹⁵

The countries with the most material held by Scottish museums are Nigeria (3,888 objects), South Africa (2,397), Ghana (1,883), Democratic Republic of the Congo/Republic of the Congo (1,610), Malawi (1,245), Kenya (929), Sierra Leone (517), Egypt (493), Somalia (481) and the United Republic of Tanzania (432).

Proportionally, the region with the most material without recorded country attribution is southern Africa (over 19%), followed by eastern Africa (14.5%).

Major object groups include weapons and ceremonial weapons, textiles and clothing, personal ornaments, domestic and household items, agricultural and hunting equipment, spiritual and religious artefacts, and musical instruments.

Caribbean

This review has identified 1,013 objects from the Caribbean, recorded as originating from at least 17 countries. Most of this material, over 63%, is recorded as originating from Guyana. Other sizeable collections are attributed to Belize (6.5%), Barbados (6.2%), Suriname (4.9%), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (3.8%) and Jamaica (3.8%). Smaller collections have been identified from Grenada (1.6%), Antigua and Barbuda (1.5%), The Bahamas (1.3%) and Trinidad and Tobago (1%). A few objects representing less than 1% of the total come from the Virgin Islands, Saint Lucia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Haiti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, and Cuba. Around 2.5% of the material is currently unattributed to a country of origin.

Most material originates from former British colonies in the Caribbean. A notable exception is Suriname.

Major object groups include material made by indigenous American peoples, including weapons, personal ornaments and domestic utensils, archaeological material including shell and stone tools, laced bark whips, feather and shell craft, and biocultural material.

¹⁵ Material currently attributed to the Democratic Republic of the Congo potentially includes objects from the Republic of the Congo and these collections do require more investigation.

Provenance patterns

Formally accessioned from the early 19th century to the present day, and in some cases dating back to museums founded in the late 1600s, these collections inevitably reflect Scotland's mutually constitutive relationship with the British Empire and transatlantic slavery. By mapping material across the country, we can begin to understand how these collections have been shaped by imperial networks. For example, collections in central Scotland correspond with recruiting grounds of Scottish military regiments that fought in key imperial campaigns in Africa.¹⁶ Port towns, including Montrose in the east of Scotland, participated directly in the transatlantic traffic of enslaved people.¹⁷ In the west, Glasgow was once known as the second city of the British Empire, Greenock supplied colonies with provisions and was a key gateway for the trade in sugar, and in the 1800s Paisley played a role in training missionaries for work overseas.¹⁸ Strong links have been established between families in the Highlands of Scotland and the Caribbean plantation economy, and towns such as Stromness in Orkney were historically at the crossroads of the maritime world.¹⁹ Renowned 18th-century medical schools in Edinburgh and Glasgow supplied the great majority of doctors working in British colonies.²⁰ The collections identified reflect the geographic arrangement of these centres of trade and commerce, military recruitment, university education, and religious training. In line with these observations, distinct provenance strands can be identified and are summarised below.

Africa

Sources of African material can broadly be divided into the following closely related and often intersecting categories:

Military acquisition

Objects were often obtained directly from Scottish or British soldiers or their families, but some objects took a more convoluted route into collections via collectors and dealers. Notable examples include stools, goldwork items, and clothing, recorded as taken by British troops in Ghana during the so-called Anglo-Asante wars from the 1820s to 1870s. Objects looted from the fortress of Maqdala in Ethiopia by a British military force in 1868 include prayer scrolls and a leopard skin cloak. Although some Scottish institutions have returned, or are in the process of returning, material to Nigeria that was looted from Benin City in 1897, previously unreported material has also been identified, including a crocodile head plaque and an *Aken'ni Elao* or altar tusk. Museums across Scotland hold a very large amount of material attributed to the so-called Anglo-Egyptian War (1882), Anglo-Egyptian conquest of Sudan (1886-1899), Mahdist War (1881-1899), South African War (1899-1902), Anglo-Zulu

¹⁶ For example, the regimental museum of The Black Watch, which was the county regiment of Fifeshire, Forfarshire and Perthshire, is located in Perth. The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders regiment, which recruited in western and central Scotland, has a regimental museum in Stirling.

¹⁷ <https://www.scotsman.com/whats-on/arts-and-entertainment/scotlands-slave-trade-and-montroses-key-role-1479125>

¹⁸ Mullen, Stephen (2022). *The Glasgow Sugar Aristocracy. Scotland and Caribbean Slavery, 1775-1838*. London: University of London Press, p30; Fagan, Joel (2023). 'Paisley's Empire: Representation, Collection and Display'. In E Bond and M Morris M (eds). *Scotland's Transnational Heritage: Legacies of Empire and Slavery*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, p126.

¹⁹ Alston, David (2021). *Slaves and Highlanders: Silenced Histories of Scotland and the Caribbean*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.

²⁰ Between 1751 and 1800, over 85% of medical graduates from Britain were trained in Scottish universities. Devine, T M (2004). *Scotland's Empire*. London: Penguin Books Ltd, p233.

War (1879) and the Anglo-Xhosa War (1877-1878). This material is largely comprised of weapons, personal ornaments, and clothing. University of Aberdeen Collections holds an Emir's ornate tin staff from Hadejia that was potentially taken by force during so-called punitive expeditions in Northern Nigeria in 1906. Both National Museums Scotland and Glasgow Life Museums hold objects taken by Dr Joseph A Moloney (1857-1896) during his participation in the 1891-1892 mercenary 'Stairs expedition' in Central Africa. Many objects were taken as trophies or souvenirs, and therefore come with records of how, when and where they were obtained. However, the majority have no provenance information available.

Colonial careers – medics, engineers, traders, colonial officials

Prestigious universities in Aberdeen, Edinburgh, and Glasgow trained a large number of medical professionals and engineers who went on to work in British colonies. For example, Sir James McGrigor (1771-1858), a physician and military surgeon, trained in Aberdeen and Edinburgh and donated western and southern African material to the University of Aberdeen and National Museums Scotland. Stromness Museum holds Nigerian material donated by William Balfour Baikie (1825-1864) who studied medicine at the University of Edinburgh and entered the Royal Navy as an assistant surgeon in 1848. His later travels in Nigeria helped open the country to British trade. Within this category there are other notable examples of individuals involved in imperial enterprises that promoted colonisation and economic exploitation. For example, University of Aberdeen Collections and Paisley Museum hold Ugandan and Kenyan material collected by engineers and doctors working on the Uganda railway in the 1890s. Aberdeen Archives, Gallery and Museums holds a collection of Angolan material donated by Robert Williams, the engineer responsible for the construction of the Benguela Railway from 1899, and business partner of Cecil Rhodes (1853-1902) and King Leopold II of Belgium. OnFife holds objects from Zambia donated in 1898 by Robert Young, a paramilitary official for the British South Africa Company. Glasgow Life Museums holds a Fang figure from Gabon, donated in 1876 by Thomas Sinclair of Orkney, an agent for the Liverpool trading company Hatton and Cookson. In addition, many Scottish individuals established themselves in senior colonial governance roles. Stromness Museum holds a Swahili *kiti cha enzi* or a 'Chair of Power' donated by Robert Hamilton (1867-1944), a Scottish politician who was appointed an Assistant Judge of the High Court of East Africa in 1902. University of Aberdeen Collections holds Nigerian material including a Yoruba house post, donated by William Macgregor (1846-1919), governor of former Lagos Colony, from 1899 to 1904. Elgin Museum holds an Asante gold weighing set donated in 1839 by William Topp (1807-1877), secretary to Governor George Maclean of Cape Coast Castle. Much of this material was collected over extended periods of time and reflects the personal interests of collectors, local political and economic structures, and relationships with African leaders.

Missionaries

Renowned Scottish missionary David Livingstone (1813-1873), and those who followed in his footsteps, account for a great deal of material in Scottish museums. Livingstone is primarily associated with Malawi, which probably explains why this relatively small country is so well represented in Scottish collections. Similarly, Mary Slessor (1848-1915) and others based at the Hope Waddell Training Institution in Calabar, Nigeria, account for much of the material from south-eastern Nigeria. However, many more collections have been found that are not related to these individuals and centres of collecting. For example, previously unresearched material associated with Baptist missions in the Democratic Republic of the Congo can be found at University of Aberdeen Collections and Elgin Museum. Glasgow Life Museums holds material attributed to William Sheppard (1865-1927) who was notable as one of the first African Americans to become a missionary for the Presbyterian Church, primarily in and around the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Both Glasgow Life Museums and the Hunterian, University of Glasgow hold material from Kenya that was collected by Scottish missionary Marion Scott Stevenson (1871-1930).

Mid-20th century

Although much of the material dates to the late 1800s, at the height of imperial expansion in Africa, there are also later examples that point to the continued presence of Scots in African countries in the declining years of empire and following independence. For example, the Hunterian, University of Glasgow holds Nigerian material that was donated by Frank Willet (1925-2006), former director of the Hunterian, who was employed as an archaeologist and curator in Nigeria in 1950s and 1960s. The Hunterian also holds Ugandan material donated by Alexander Haddow (1912-1978) who was a Scottish entomologist recognised for his work at the Uganda Virus Research Institute from the 1940s to 1960s. University of Aberdeen Collections holds material from Dane Marsh, a Forestry Officer in West Africa from 1949 to 1966. Other collections of note reflect the shifting perceptions and market value of African objects in the mid-20th century. Examples include masquerade masks and objects valued for their sculptural qualities, acquired by British Museum keeper William Fagg and artist Leon Underwood (1890-1975). Carvings by renowned Yoruba sculptor Lamidi Fakeye (1925-2009) can also be found at the Hunterian, University of Glasgow and University of Aberdeen Collections.

Caribbean

Most recorded European sources for collections from the Caribbean can broadly be divided into the following categories.

Plantation owners and managers

Scottish individuals were deeply involved with the plantation economy in the Caribbean and this is reflected by the review findings.²¹ Much material appears to be from indigenous American peoples, but the contexts in which this was acquired are not clear. The Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum holds indigenous American material from Guyana, including basketwork utensils, a necklace, and a 'rattle' or pipe. These were donated by John Virtue (1844-1896) who was a resident of Demerara and probably involved in the management of estates. University of Aberdeen Collections holds necklaces and arrows from Guyana that are potentially associated with Alexander Stewart (1811-1879) who was attorney and manager of a plantation called Lusignan, near Georgetown. Archaeological material is also common, for example, stone and shell implements and pottery sherds. It is likely that these were excavated on plantations, either by enslaved people working the land or deliberate archaeological excavations. Both Glasgow Life Museums and National Museums Scotland hold shell implements and stone tools collected by Thomas Graham Briggs (1833-1887). Briggs inherited the Farley Hill estate in Barbados and later owned Stony Grove, Old Manor, and Round Hill in Nevis. The Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum holds archaeological material from Barbados donated by Colonel John Stirling Stirling of Gargunnoch (1832-1900), who had familial links to estates in Jamaica. Examples of less common material include a calabash cup and two silver-coloured vases at Dumfries Museum, recorded as belonging to James Dalgleish Patterson (1775-1842) who travelled to Demerara in 1806 and led the development of the export trade in timber. He was associated with Christianburg plantation and several other estates. Tain & District Museum holds a decorative mounted saw fish rostrum that was probably collected by Alexander MacPherson (1803-1861), manager of plantations in Berbice owned by James Blair (1788-1841). Glasgow Life Museums holds earthenware donated by Robert Kirke of Burntisland (1815-1894), owner of sugar plantations in Suriname, including the Waterloo estate. Multiple lacebark whips have

²¹ Devine, T M (2004). *Scotland's Empire*. London: Penguin Books Ltd; Alston, David (2021). *Slaves and Highlanders: Silenced Histories of Scotland and the Caribbean*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.

also been found. These collections cannot be detached from the broader context of people trafficking and enslaved labour on which the plantation economy relied.

Colonial governors and officials

This category further illustrates the range of roles Scottish individuals took up in the Caribbean and is predominantly represented by indigenous American and archaeological material. National Museums Scotland holds potsherds and glass plate negatives donated by Sir Everard im Thurn (1852-1932). Im Thurn was a graduate of the University of Edinburgh, an anthropologist, archaeologist, and colonial official. He was a curator at the British Guiana Museum from 1877 to 1882, becoming a government agent from 1891 to 1899. Also at National Museums Scotland is a collection associated with Scottish-born Sir David Chambers, Chief Justice of former British Guiana from 1878 to 1893, later serving in Jamaica from 1894. This collection is comprised of indigenous American weapons, personal ornaments, and clothing from Guyana. National Museums Scotland and Glasgow Life Museums both hold indigenous American material from Guyana, associated with Sir Gordon Lethem (1886-1962), an Edinburgh-born colonial administrator and Governor of former British Guiana from 1941 to 1946, and acting Governor from 1946 to 1947. University of Aberdeen Collections holds eccentric flints, a flint axe and spearheads from present day Belize. These were donated by Dr Frederic Keyt (b.1866) who was Colonial Surgeon and District Commissioner of former British Honduras from 1892 to 1902. University of Aberdeen Collections also holds stone axes from Saint Vincent recorded as being donated by Sir William MacGregor (1846-1919) who was a colonial administrator and governor of Lagos colony Nigeria, Mauritius and the Seychelles, highlighting the transatlantic career paths of many colonial officials. Paisley Museum holds 24 objects, mainly basketwork and domestic utensils, originating from present day Suriname that were donated by Henry Guillaume Wesenhagen. His father was a colonial official put in place by the Governor of Suriname to sign receipts for compensation to plantation owners following the abolition of slavery by the Netherlands in 1863.

Less frequent examples of the following sources can also be found:

Missions

National Museums Scotland holds an ornamental basket of flowers made from shells, donated in 1897 by Rev W Ritchie who was based in Demerara, Guyana. Similar decorative objects of feather and shell work have been found in other collections. Other missionary related collections at National Museums Scotland include indigenous American material from Rev J Campbell (1878), who was based in Jamaica, and a jar of Job's tears from the Mission Schools, Brownsville, Jamaica, donated in 1878.

International exhibitions

National Museums Scotland holds material from Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, purchased from the 1862 International Exhibition and the 1884 Forestry Exhibition.

Summary of Potential Future Directions

This review offers multiple avenues for future research and collection-based work. Collection specific suggestions are listed in the characterisations. The summaries that follow outline broad themes that connect multiple collections. These summaries roughly correlate with the provenance categories listed previously and are illustrative of the multiple ways these collections can be explored in the future. It should be acknowledged that these themes reflect current European research interests, which may not be shared by descendent

communities. The setting of research agendas by people from Africa and the Caribbean, and the diaspora in Scotland, remains an overarching priority for future work.

Africa

Violent acquisition

Museums across Scotland hold material acquired by violent force during British military and mercenary operations in Africa, taken from battlefields, shrines, palaces, and homesteads. Much remains underreported and under-researched. Current debates often focus on a few notable examples, material from which can be found in Scottish museums, namely the British sacking and looting of royal compounds at Maqdala, Ethiopia (1868), Kumasi, Ghana (1874), and Benin City, Nigeria (1897). Important as these cases are, this review highlights that most material in this category originates from less frequently discussed, but highly significant, episodes of colonial violence. These include, but are not limited to, Britain's colonial wars in Egypt and Sudan in the 1880s and 1890s, and in southern Africa from the 1870s to early 1900s. Research into these relatively understudied collections would shed light on the volume and diversity of material taken by force, and its historical and contemporary significance. Although many examples in this category demonstrate clear evidence of violent acquisition, it should be noted that other material identified in separate categories cannot be detached from broader colonial contexts of oppression and extraction.

Colonial careers

Collections amassed by doctors, engineers, traders, and colonial officials provide opportunities to further explore the variety of ways Scottish individuals forged and maintained the British Empire, and how this in turn shaped Scotland. These collections provide site-specific lenses to explore the political, economic, and cultural contexts in which they worked and their relationship with local African populations and authorities. Understanding of this history can be nuanced through collections donated by individuals such as Dr William Fergusson (1795-1846) who, in 1813, was the first person of African descent to graduate from the University of Edinburgh and went on to serve as a colonial surgeon in Sierra Leone; and Jamaican born Dr Archibald Hewan (1832-1883) who studied medicine in Scotland and later became a Christian missionary doctor in Nigeria.

Missionaries

The prevalence of missionary donors is notable across Scottish museums. Prominent among these are Malawian collections associated with David Livingstone, and Nigerian collections associated with Mary Slessor and the Hope Waddell Training Institution. These examples are relatively well known but this review identifies multiple other individuals whose histories, significance and associated collections remain obscure. For example, Baptist missionaries in present day Democratic Republic of the Congo, such as James Brown Eddie (c.1887) at Elgin Museum, and Arthur Billington at University of Aberdeen Collections. Understanding of these histories can be further nuanced by collections associated with individuals such as William Henry Sheppard (1865-1927) who was one of the earliest African Americans to become a missionary for the Presbyterian Church in Central Africa. Collections associated with Dr Archibald Hewan and Rev Hugh Goldie (1815-1895) can be used to explore missionary links between Jamaica and Africa.

African agency

Provenance research based on biographies of Scottish donors and collectors inevitably perpetuates a limited account of history that serves to further obfuscate the agency of original makers and users of objects, and the contemporary significance of objects for

stakeholder communities. Further research would reveal more about how African individuals have shaped these collections. Relevant examples already identified include an ivory walking stick held at Nairn Museum, recorded as being gifted by the Kabaka of Buganda to Danish missionary Kristen Eskildsen Borup (1866-1938). Objects gifted by Haile Selassie (1882-1975), former Emperor of Ethiopia, to his Scottish hosts in the 1930s can be found at Glasgow Life Museums. Paisley Museum holds a brass dish which was reportedly donated by Efik Prince Magnus Ephraim Adam-Duke (possibly 1842-1890) of southern Nigeria.

Women in Africa

Research that explores under-represented voices in collections could be extended to investigate women who lived, worked and travelled in Africa. Collections from relevant individuals identified by this review include lesser-known missionaries such as Euphemia Sutherland (c.1820-1881) at Paisley Museum, travellers such as Olive Temple (1880-1936) at the Watt Institution and National Museums Scotland, and anthropologists Diana Powell-Cotton (1908-1986) and Antoinette Powell-Cotton (1915-1997) at University of Aberdeen Collections.

Mid 20th-century collections

Collection based research concerned with colonial histories often focuses on the late 19th century and height of imperial expansion in Africa. However, the story of these collections is also inextricably connected to, and shaped by, the decline of European empires during the mid-20th century. Collections identified across Scotland can contribute to our understanding of the period surrounding constitutional decolonisation. Objects collected by archaeologists, forestry officers, teachers, scientists and academics highlight how Scottish 'engagement' with Africa endured and evolved into the post-independence period.

Caribbean

Scots in the Caribbean

Many of the Caribbean objects identified do not currently have provenance details recorded. Those that do usually reflect Scottish involvement in the trafficking of enslaved African people and plantation economies of the Caribbean, particularly through collections associated with plantation owners, managers, and colonial officials. It is likely that more objects, information, and connections could be located with extensive archival research and visual surveys.

Collections from Guyana and Suriname

Guyana has been described as the 'last frontier' of the British Empire, where Scottish individuals continued to make fortunes up to and beyond the end of British colonial slavery.²² Additionally, the former colonies of Demerara, Berbice and Essequibo have been identified as some of the most Scottish of the Caribbean colonies.²³ This is potentially why a large majority of the Caribbean collections identified originate from Guyana. However, very little is known about this material and how, when, and why it was collected, and this remains an important area for further research, ideally in consultation with associated indigenous groups. Material from Suriname, a former Dutch colony, also merits research.

²² Alston, David (2021). *Slaves and Highlanders: Silenced Histories of Scotland and the Caribbean*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, p109.

²³ Ibid.

Archaeological material

Stone and shell implements and pottery sherds were often excavated on plantations and are therefore of interest to researchers of colonial histories. Additionally, they could be of interest to specialists in Caribbean archaeology.

Natural history, archival, and photographic collections

Current disciplinary boundaries that divide museum collections are often artificial from a collecting histories perspective. For example, this report includes earthenware from Suriname donated to Glasgow Life Museums by plantation owner Robert Kirke of Burntisland (1815-1894). However, Kirke's donation included a large collection of mammals, birds and insects that do not come under the remit of this review. Collections such as these potentially reveal much about the environmental impacts of plantations. Following feedback from Steering Group members, the next phase of *Reveal and Connect* will include a review of Caribbean natural science collections in Scottish museums. Archival and photographic collections remain an important area for future research.

Documentation and Access

Audits and data cleaning

Future research and knowledge exchange will partly depend on accurate collection information being made available. At the time of this review, some of the participating museums were undertaking audits, and others were in the process of transitioning to a central collections management system, digitising their collections, or amalgamating numerous inventories. This important work is ongoing, and it is likely that more accurate records will be available in the future.

Object identification

A large percentage of African and Caribbean material in Scottish museums is currently unidentified or potentially identified inaccurately. Documentation that does exist was in many cases based on information and interpretation provided by British collectors and donors. This remains a key area for future work, and an opportunity to develop new ethical and consultative research practices.

Documentation updates

To make documentation more accessible and inclusive, work is needed to update what is often inaccurate, outdated and offensive terminology in records. Place names and ethnic group names require particular attention. Records could also be improved by including local names for objects where possible. Much of this work will require consultation with descendent communities.

Returns

The return of material extracted from former British colonies is a pressing issue for museums across Europe and North America. Objects identified in this review may be of interest to descendent communities who may wish to submit claims for the return of their cultural heritage.

Feedback from project partners

In June 2023, focus groups were asked what *Reveal and Connect* should prioritise for development in the next phase of the project. Representatives from African and Caribbean museums, Scottish museums, and African and Caribbean diaspora groups prioritised collaborative community research, knowledge exchange, new interpretation, and safer spaces for engagement. In addition, Scottish museums also requested practical support in conservation and storage of African and Caribbean collections. Subsequent phases of *Reveal and Connect* will focus on developing ethical and workable practices to address these priorities.

Total number of objects by region/country: Africa

Region/country	Total number of objects in Scottish museums	Museums holding material	Object total per museum
Africa unspecified	2,662	Aberdeen Archives, Gallery and Museums	15
		Aberdeenshire Museums Service	79
		Abbotsford the Home of Sir Walter Scott	3
		David Livingstone Birthplace Museum	600
		Dumfries Museum	19
		Elgin Museum	61
		Falconer Museum	11
		Glasgow Life Museums	445
		Hawick Museum	38
		Inverness Museum and Art Gallery	3
		Montrose Museum	19
		Museums & Galleries Edinburgh	1
		Nairn Museum	6
		National Museums Scotland	631
		ONFife Museums and Galleries	50
		Paisley Museum	206
		Peebles Library, Museum and Gallery	12
		Perth Museum	49
		Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum	60
		Stromness Museum	29
		The Hunterian	15
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	117
		The Watt Institution	23
		University of Aberdeen Collections	165
		West Highland Museum	5
Northern Africa			
Northern Africa unspecified	185	Aberdeenshire Museums Service	67
		Abbotsford the Home of Sir Walter Scott	3
		Dumfries Museum	4
		Elgin Museum	9
		Glasgow Life Museums	63
		Hawick Museum	1
		Montrose Museum	4

		ONFife Museums and Galleries	6
		Perth Museum	3
		Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum	5
		The Hunterian	3
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	5
		The Watt Institution	1
		University of Aberdeen Collections	11
Algeria	191	Dumfries Museum	1
		Elgin Museum	3
		Falconer Museum	1
		Glasgow Life Museums	61
		National Museums Scotland	100
		Paisley Museum	17
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	1
		University of Aberdeen Collections	7
Egypt	493	Abbotsford the Home of Sir Walter Scott	1
		Elgin Museum	7
		Falconer Museum	1
		Glasgow Life Museums	57
		Hawick Museum	1
		Museums & Galleries Edinburgh	2
		Museums of the University of St Andrews	3
		Nairn Museum	1
		National Museums Scotland	392
		ONFife Museums and Galleries	10
		Peebles Library, Museum and Gallery	1
		Perth Museum	1
		Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum	4
		The Black Watch Museum	1
		The Hunterian	4
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	6
		The Watt Institution	1
Libya	7	Glasgow Life Museums	1
		National Museums Scotland	4
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	1
		The Watt Institution	1
Morocco	313	Elgin Museum	4
		Glasgow Life Museums	22

		Museums & Galleries Edinburgh	1
		Museums of the University of St Andrews	32
		National Museums Scotland	244
		Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum	6
		The Hunterian	1
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	2
		The Watt Institution	1
Sudan	426	Aberdeenshire Museums Service	25
		Auld Kirk Museum	4
		Dumfries Museum	2
		Elgin Museum	4
		Falconer Museum	1
		Glasgow Life Museums	91
		Hawick Museum	4
		Montrose Museum	2
		Museums & Galleries Edinburgh	7
		Museums of the University of St Andrews	20
		Nairn Museum	10
		National Museums Scotland	90
		Paisley Museum	1
		Peebles Library, Museum and Gallery	5
		Perth Museum	5
		Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum	46
		The Black Watch Museum	17
		The Hunterian	12
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	17
		The Watt Institution	3
		University of Aberdeen Collections	60
Tunisia	38	Elgin Museum	2
		National Museums Scotland	30
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	1
		The Watt Institution	4
		University of Aberdeen Collections	1
Western Sahara	0		0
Eastern Africa			
Eastern Africa unspecified	888	Aberdeenshire Museums Service	1
		Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Regimental Museum	1

		Dumfries Museum	4
		Elgin Museum	6
		Glasgow Life Museums	140
		Montrose Museum	9
		Nairn Museum	3
		ONFife Museums and Galleries	5
		Paisley Museum	1
		Peebles Library, Museum and Gallery	2
		Perth Museum	34
		Rozelle House Museum and Galleries	1
		Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum	8
		The Hunterian	52
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	27
		University of Aberdeen Collections	593
		West Highland Museum	1
British Indian Ocean Territory	0		0
Burundi	3	National Museums Scotland	3
Comoros	0		0
Djibouti	1	University of Aberdeen Collections	1
Eritrea	25	National Museums Scotland	25
Ethiopia	271	Aberdeenshire Museums Service	2
		Abbotsford the Home of Sir Walter Scott	1
		Elgin Museum	2
		Glasgow Life Museums	13
		Hawick Museum	1
		Nairn Museum	2
		National Museums Scotland	168
		Perth Museum	1
		The Black Watch Museum	1
		The Hunterian	6
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	2
		The Watt Institution	8
		University of Aberdeen Collections	64
Ethiopia/Sudan/Somalia	58	University of Aberdeen Collections	58
French Southern Territories	0		0
Kenya	929	David Livingstone Birthplace Museum	2
		Glasgow Life Museums	179

		Montrose Museum	2
		Museums & Galleries Edinburgh	10
		Museums of the University of St Andrews	3
		National Museums Scotland	489
		ONFife Museums and Galleries	9
		Paisley Museum	45
		Shetland Museum and Archives	3
		Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum	6
		The Black Watch Museum	5
		The Hunterian	81
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	13
		The Watt Institution	3
		University of Aberdeen Collections	79
Kenya/Uganda/ Tanzania	20	University of Aberdeen Collections	20
Madagascar	141	Falconer Museum	2
		Glasgow Life Museums	1
		Montrose Museum	1
		Museums & Galleries Edinburgh	2
		National Museums Scotland	125
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	2
		The Watt Institution	1
		University of Aberdeen Collections	7
Malawi	1,245	David Livingstone Birthplace Museum	32
		Glasgow Life Museums	181
		Museums & Galleries Edinburgh	17
		National Museums Scotland	787
		Perth Museum	4
		Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum	6
		The Hunterian	34
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	5
		University of Aberdeen Collections	179
Mauritius	2	The Black Watch Museum	2
Mayotte	0		0
Mozambique	240	Elgin Museum	1
		Glasgow Life Museums	29
		National Museums Scotland	160
		Perth Museum	1

		Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum	1
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	2
		The Watt Institution	3
		University of Aberdeen Collections	43
Réunion	0		0
Rwanda	19	Glasgow Life Museums	1
		National Museums Scotland	17
		The Hunterian	1
Seychelles	4	Glasgow Life Museums	1
		National Museums Scotland	2
		University of Aberdeen Collections	1
Somalia	481	Aberdeenshire Museums Service	16
		Elgin Museum	17
		Glasgow Life Museums	117
		Hawick Museum	3
		Nairn Museum	4
		National Museums Scotland	239
		Paisley Museum	8
		Perth Museum	5
		Rozelle House Museum and Galleries	1
		The Hunterian	2
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	35
		The Watt Institution	5
		University of Aberdeen Collections	29
South Sudan	203	Glasgow Life Museums	5
		National Museums Scotland	198
Uganda	451	Glasgow Life Museums	85
		Montrose Museum	5
		Museums & Galleries Edinburgh	1
		Museums of the University of St Andrews	1
		Nairn Museum	1
		National Museums Scotland	177
		Paisley Museum	15
		Perth Museum	9
		Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum	5
		The Hunterian	50
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	71
		The Watt Institution	3
		University of Aberdeen Collections	28

United Republic of Tanzania	432	Dumfries Museum	3
		Elgin Museum	13
		Glasgow Life Museums	70
		Montrose Museum	1
		Nairn Museum	1
		National Museums Scotland	238
		Paisley Museum	61
		Peebles Library, Museum and Gallery	1
		Perth Museum	1
		Stromness Museum	1
		The Hunterian	3
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	29
		The Watt Institution	1
		University of Aberdeen Collections	9
United Republic of Tanzania/ Zanzibar	2	Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum	2
Zambia	323	Glasgow Life Museums	103
		Museums & Galleries Edinburgh	1
		Museums of the University of St Andrews	43
		National Museums Scotland	117
		ONFife Museums and Galleries	7
		Perth Museum	3
		Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum	2
		The Hunterian	7
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	4
		University of Aberdeen Collections	36
Zimbabwe	369	Dumfries Museum	3
		Elgin Museum	2
		Glasgow Life Museums	133
		Montrose Museum	2
		Museums of the University of St Andrews	4
		National Museums Scotland	121
		Paisley Museum	11
		Perth Museum	16
		Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum	22
		Surgeon's Hall Museums	1
		The Hunterian	1
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	18

		The Watt Institution	3
		University of Aberdeen Collections	32
Central Africa			
Central Africa unspecified	172	Dumfries Museum	3
		Elgin Museum	1
		Falconer Museum	10
		Glasgow Life Museums	123
		ONFife Museums and Galleries	16
		Paisley Museum	1
		Perth Museum	4
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	11
		University of Aberdeen Collections	3
Angola	158	Aberdeen Archives, Gallery and Museums	3
		Glasgow Life Museums	4
		National Museums Scotland	20
		Perth Museum	3
		The Hunterian	1
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	5
		University of Aberdeen Museums and Special Collections	122
Cameroon	88	Glasgow Life Museums	8
		Montrose Museum	1
		National Museums Scotland	65
		Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum	1
		Stromness Museum	2
		The Hunterian	1
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	9
		University of Aberdeen Collections	1
Central African Republic	0		0
Chad	46	Glasgow Life Museums	17
		Nairn Museum	1
		National Museums Scotland	27
		University of Aberdeen Collections	1
Democratic Republic of the Congo	578	Aberdeen Archives, Gallery and Museums	2
		Aberdeenshire Museums Service	1
		Abbotsford the Home of Sir Walter Scott	1
		David Livingstone Birthplace Museum	22
		Elgin Museum	34

		Falconer Museum	2
		Glasgow Life Museums	305
		Montrose Museum	3
		ONFife Museums and Galleries	2
		Paisley Museum	1
		Peebles Library, Museum and Gallery	3
		Rozelle House Museum and Galleries	2
		Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum	52
		Stromness Museum	15
		The Hunterian	16
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	113
		The Watt Institution	4
Democratic Republic of the Congo/ Republic of Congo	1,032	The Hunterian	1
		National Museums Scotland	912
		Perth Museum	7
		University of Aberdeen Museums and Special Collections	112
Equatorial Guinea	26	Dumfries Museum	2
		Glasgow Life Museums	4
		National Museums Scotland	20
Gabon	211	Glasgow Life Museums	28
		National Museums Scotland	92
		Paisley Museum	2
		Stromness Museum	1
		The Hunterian	75
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	13
Sao Tome and Principe	0		0
Southern Africa			
Southern Africa unspecified	632	Aberdeenshire Museums Service	67
		Abbotsford the Home of Sir Walter Scott	17
		Dumfries Museum	6
		Glasgow Life Museums	39
		Hawick Museum	1
		Montrose Museum	48
		ONFife Museums and Galleries	6
		Paisley Museum	7
		Peebles Library, Museum and Gallery	1
		Perth Museum	105

		Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum	2
		The Hunterian	59
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	67
		University of Aberdeen Collections	206
		West Highland Museum	1
Botswana	124	David Livingstone Birthplace Museum	2
		Elgin Museum	1
		Glasgow Life Museums	58
		Museums & Galleries Edinburgh	4
		National Museums Scotland	47
		Paisley Museum	1
		Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum	1
		The Hunterian	8
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	2
Eswatini	24	Glasgow Life Museums	2
		National Museums Scotland	20
		University of Aberdeen Collections	2
Lesotho	76	Aberdeenshire Museums Service	1
		David Livingstone Birthplace Museum	1
		Dumfries Museum	1
		Glasgow Life Museums	19
		National Museums Scotland	43
		ONFife Museums and Galleries	3
		Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum	3
		University of Aberdeen Collections	5
Namibia	30	Aberdeenshire Museums Service	1
		National Museums Scotland	8
		The Hunterian	17
		University of Aberdeen Collections	4
South Africa	2,397	Aberdeen Archives, Gallery and Museums	31
		Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Regimental Museum	14
		Dumfries Museum	7
		Elgin Museum	20
		Falconer Museum	2
		Glasgow Life Museums	636
		Hawick Museum	3
		Montrose Museum	2

		Museums & Galleries Edinburgh	5
		Museums of the University of St Andrews	1
		Nairn Museum	16
		National Museums Scotland	339
		ONFife Museums and Galleries	69
		Paisley Museum	53
		Perth Museum	5
		Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum	340
		Stromness Museum	4
		The Black Watch Museum	3
		The Hunterian	151
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	53
		The Watt Institution	31
		University of Aberdeen Collections	612
Western Africa			
Western Africa unspecified	599	Aberdeenshire Museums Service	15
		Dumfries Museum	5
		Elgin Museum	1
		Glasgow Life Museums	387
		Hawick Museum	3
		Inverness Museum & Art Gallery	1
		Nairn Museum	1
		ONFife Museums and Galleries	2
		Paisley Museum	1
		Perth Museum	8
		Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum	10
		Stromness Museum	6
		Surgeons' Hall Museums	1
		The Hunterian	15
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	52
		The Watt Institution	1
		University of Aberdeen Collections	90
Benin	36	National Museums Scotland	27
		Perth Museum	5
		The Hunterian	1
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	1
		University of Aberdeen Collections	2
Burkina Faso	8	Glasgow Life Museums	5
		National Museums Scotland	2

		The Hunterian	1
Cabo Verde	0		0
Côte d'Ivoire	41	Glasgow Life Museums	5
		National Museums Scotland	31
		The Hunterian	2
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	1
		The Watt Institution	1
		University of Aberdeen Collections	1
Gambia	55	Glasgow Life Museums	4
		National Museums Scotland	44
		Paisley Museum	2
		Stromness Museum	1
		The Watt Institution	1
		University of Aberdeen Collections	3
Ghana	1,883	Aberdeenshire Museums Service	10
		Elgin Museum	6
		Glasgow Life Museums	282
		Montrose Museum	13
		Nairn Museum	1
		National Museums Scotland	825
		Paisley Museum	4
		Perth Museum	3
		Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum	1
		The Hunterian	499
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	54
		The Watt Institution	18
		University of Aberdeen Collections	167
Guinea	0		0
Guinea-Bissau	1	National Museums Scotland	1
Guinea/Guinea-Bissau	3	University of Aberdeen Collections	3
Liberia	18	Glasgow Life Museums	2
		National Museums Scotland	16
Mali	102	Glasgow Life Museums	11
		Museums & Galleries Edinburgh	1
		National Museums Scotland	50
		The Hunterian	40
Mali/Niger	4	The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	4
Mali/The Gambia/Sengal/Guinea	1	Montrose Museum	1
Mauritania	1	National Museums Scotland	1
Niger	22	Elgin Museum	1

		National Museums Scotland	21
Nigeria	3,888	Aberdeen Archives, Gallery and Museums	1
		Aberdeenshire Museums Service	5
		David Livingstone Birthplace Museum	11
		Dumfries Museum	7
		Elgin Museum	17
		Glasgow Life Museums	569
		Inverness Museum and Art Gallery	1
		Montrose Museum	21
		Museums of the University of St Andrews	8
		Nairn Museum	55
		National Museums Scotland	1,954
		ONFife Museums and Galleries	2
		Paisley Museum	56
		Peebles Library, Museum and Gallery	3
		Perth Museum	60
		Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum	27
		Stromness Museum	34
		Tain and District Museum	4
		The Black Watch Museum	8
		The Hunterian	208
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	378
		The Watt Institution	37
		University of Aberdeen Collections	422
Saint Helena	0		0
Senegal	41	Glasgow Life Museums	3
		National Museums Scotland	9
		Perth Museum	2
		The Hunterian	5
		University of Aberdeen Collections	22
Sierra Leone	517	Dumfries Museum	1
		Glasgow Life Museums	306
		Nairn Museum	3
		National Museums Scotland	137
		The Hunterian	13
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	10
		The Watt Institution	1
		University of Aberdeen Collections	46

Togo	27	Glasgow Life Museums	1
		National Museums Scotland	25
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	1
Total	23,263		

Total number of objects by country: Caribbean

Country	Total number of objects in Scottish museums	Museums holding material	Object total per museum
Caribbean unspecified	4	National Museums Scotland	2
		University of Aberdeen Collections	2
The Lesser Antilles unspecified	1	Glasgow Life Museums	1
Antigua and Barbuda	15	Glasgow Life Museums	9
		National Museums Scotland	6
The Bahamas	13	Aberdeen Archives, Gallery and Museums	3
		Glasgow Life Museums	5
		National Museums Scotland	5
Barbados	63	Glasgow Life Museums	21
		Museums & Galleries Edinburgh	1
		National Museums Scotland	29
		Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum	4
		The Hunterian	7
		The Watt Institution	1
Cuba	10	Glasgow Life Museums	10
Dominica	1	National Museums Scotland	1
Dominican Republic	1	National Museums Scotland	1
Grenada	16	The Hunterian	16
Jamaica	38	Aberdeen Archives, Gallery and Museums	2
		Glasgow Life Museums	4
		National Museums Scotland	4
		Perth Museum	2
		Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum	22
		The Hunterian	2
		The Watt Institution	1
		University of Aberdeen Collections	1
Haiti	5	National Museums Scotland	5
Saint Kitts and Nevis	9	Glasgow Life Museums	2
		National Museums Scotland	7
Saint Lucia	2	National Museums Scotland	2
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	38	Glasgow Life Museums	4
		National Museums Scotland	30

		(9 objects are possibly Saint Lucia)	
		University of Aberdeen Collections	4
Trinidad and Tobago	11	Aberdeen Archives, Gallery and Museums	1
		Glasgow Life Museums	2
		National Museums Scotland	8
Virgin Islands	4	Perth Museum	4
West Indies unspecified	21	Dumfries Museum	1
		Rozelle House Museum and Galleries	3
		Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum	6
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	8
		The Watt Institution	3
Culturally affiliated with the Caribbean region (within CARICOM)			
Belize	66	Glasgow Life Museums	2
		National Museums Scotland	40
		Perth Museum	1
		The Hunterian	13
		University of Aberdeen Collections	10
Guyana	645	Dumfries Museum	3
		Glasgow Life Museums	238
		Montrose Museum	3
		Nairn Museum	7
		National Museums Scotland	248
		Paisley Museum	3
		Perth Museum	10
		Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum	8
		Tain and District Museum	2
		The Hunterian	67
		The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum	3
		The Watt Institution	4
		University of Aberdeen Collections	49
Suriname	50	Glasgow Life Museums	1
		Museums & Galleries Edinburgh	1
		The Hunterian	24
		Paisley Museum	24
Total	1,013		

List of museums by size of collection: Africa

Museum	Collection size
National Museums Scotland	9,093
Glasgow Life Museums	4,616
University of Aberdeen Collections	3,247
The Hunterian, University of Glasgow	1,385
The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum, Leisure and Culture Dundee	1,131
David Livingstone Birthplace Museum	670
Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum	610
Paisley Museum, OneRen	493
Perth Museum, Culture Perth and Kinross	334
Aberdeenshire Museums Service, Live Life Aberdeenshire	290
Elgin Museum, The Moray Society	212
OnFife Museums and Galleries	187
The Watt Institution, Inverclyde Council	155
Montrose Museum, ANGUSalive	134
Museums of the University of St Andrews	115
Nairn Museum	105
Stromness Museum, Orkney Natural History Society	93
Hawick Museum and Peebles Museum, Live Borders Museums, Galleries and Archives	83
Dumfries Museum, Dumfries and Galloway Council	68
Aberdeen Archives, Gallery and Museums, Aberdeen City Council	52
Museums & Galleries Edinburgh, City of Edinburgh Council	52
The Black Watch Museum, The Black Watch Regimental Trust	37
Falconer Museum, Moray Council	30
Abbotsford The Home of Sir Walter Scott, The Abbotsford Trust	26
Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Regimental Museum, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Regimental Trust	15
West Highland Museum, West Highland Museum Trust	7
Inverness Museum and Art Gallery, High Life Highland	5
Rozelle House Museum and Galleries, South Ayrshire Council	4
Tain & District Museum	4
Auld Kirk Museum, East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture Trust	4
Shetland Museum & Archives, Shetland Amenity Trust	3
Surgeons' Hall Museums, The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh	2
Total	23,263

List of museums by size of collection: Caribbean

Museum	Collection size
National Museums Scotland	388
Glasgow Life Museums	299
The Hunterian, University of Glasgow	129
University of Aberdeen Museums and Special Collections	66
Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum	40
Paisley Museum, OneRen	27
Perth Museum, Culture Perth and Kinross	17
The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum, Leisure and Culture Dundee	11
The Watt Institution, Inverclyde Council	9
Nairn Museum	7
Aberdeen Archives, Gallery and Museums, Aberdeen City Council	6
Dumfries Museum (and Stranraer Museum), Dumfries and Galloway Council	4
Montrose Museum, ANGUSalive	3
Rozelle House Museum and Galleries, South Ayrshire Council	3
Museums & Galleries Edinburgh, City of Edinburgh Council	2
Tain & District Museum	2
Total	1,013

Notable donors

African collections

Adam-Duke, Prince Magnus Ephraim (possibly 1842-1890) was an Efik of southern Nigeria and may have studied in England.

Alison, Brigadier General Sir Archibald (1826-1907) was a Scottish soldier who achieved high office in the British Army in the 1880s. In 1873 Alison was given command of the British brigade in West Africa during the so-called Anglo-Asante wars and fought at the Battle of Amoafu in 1874.

Anderson, George Whitefield (1856-1915) was born in the Muir of Rhynie, Aberdeenshire. In 1874 he joined the 91st Highlanders and later transferred to the Seaforth Highlanders. He served in the Egyptian War of 1882 which led to the establishment of British control over Egypt. Anderson was also involved in the campaign to reconquer Sudan in 1896-1898. He was attached to the Egyptian Army in 1901 with the rank of Major and was subsequently promoted to Lieutenant Colonel. He died in Cairo, Egypt, on 31 August 1915.

Arnot, Agnes Siddons (1911-1948) was a missionary in Calabar, appointed by the United Free Church of Scotland to take over the mission station at Use after the death of her friend **Mary Slessor** in 1915. Arnot established the Slessor Memorial School for Women and Girls at Arochuku and worked there until she retired in 1948.

Astley, Harriet and Liverpool Dealers. Harriet Astley (née Corran) (dates unknown) was the daughter of a Liverpool ship captain who participated in the transatlantic trade of enslaved people. She was the wife of John Astley, a collector whose 'small museum of foreign curiosities' was auctioned in 1861. Over 100 remaining African objects were purchased by National Museums Scotland from Harriet Astley in the same year, including items associated with Scottish explorers the Lander brothers and John Duncan.

Baikie, William Balfour (1825-1864) was an explorer and philologist whose travels into Nigeria helped open the country to British trade. Educated in medicine at the University of Edinburgh, Baikie entered the Royal Navy as an assistant surgeon in 1848 and served on several ships as well as on land (1851-54). In 1854 he joined an expedition up the Niger River and, on the death of the ship's captain, took command of the expedition. With a crew made up chiefly of African people, he explored the Benue River, the main tributary of the Niger, travelling 250 miles further inland than any European had before. He published his narrative of this expedition in 1856. In 1857, with the rank of consul, Baikie embarked on another Niger expedition, but his steamer was wrecked in rapids. At Lokoja, where the Benue joins the Niger, he founded a trading settlement where he practised medicine, compiled African vocabularies, and translated parts of the Bible into the Hausa language. In 1862 he travelled 250 miles northward to Kano.

Baillie, Rev Zerub (1831-1865) was sent by the congregation of the United Church of Scotland in Broughton Place, Edinburgh, to the Old Calabar Mission, Nigeria, in May 1856.

Baird, John Lawrence of Urie, 1st Viscount Stonehaven (1874-1941) was a member of the Scottish aristocracy who served in East Africa as a British diplomat around the turn of the 20th century. In 1899 he was posted to Ethiopia and from 1902 to 1903 accompanied an expedition to define the frontier between the Ethiopian empire and former British East Africa.

Bald, Captain Alfred Campbell DSO (c.1861-1905) entered the British Army in 1882 and saw active service in Sudan in 1884, in the Nile Expedition 1884-85 and in the South African War, 1899-1900.

Bonnar, James (1849-1930). After training in the flax industry in Dundee, Liverpool and Glasgow, James Bonnar sailed for South Africa in 1872. There, with his brother John W Bonnar, he commenced farming in Natal, 5,800 feet above sea level. He served in the South African War (1899-1902). He moved back to Cupar in 1906 after retiring from farming and set up a school museum there around 1913. The museum closed and its collections were transferred to the Duncan Institute in 1923-1924.

Bonnar, John W (b.1853) attended Madras Academy in St Andrews and settled in South Africa with his brother, **James Bonnar**, in 1872. Historical records suggest that Bonnar commanded the 'Abalondolozu regiment of the Amahlengwoni Zulus' during the so-called 'Gun War' of 1880-1881. The Abalondolozu regiment appears to have been a multi-racial volunteer corps, formally gazetted as a British unit in 1880. John W Bonnar was listed as a member of Natal Hussars regiment in 1874.

Bonnar, George Lindsay (1856-1926) moved to South Africa in 1870. In 1881, following the so-called Anglo-Zulu War, he returned to Edinburgh to study at the University, before returning to South Africa.

Brown, Dr Hamish M (b.1934) is a professional writer, lecturer and photographer with wide-ranging interests in historic and prehistoric cultures, who specialises in outdoor activities, education and travel. He donated a collection of ethnographic material to Museums of the University of St Andrews between 2011 and 2022. The material was collected by Dr Brown on his many journeys to Morocco and is used in teaching. The collection focuses heavily on recycled materials.

Brown, Martha of Lanfine was the daughter and executrix of Thomas Brown of Lanfine (1774-1853), a surgeon and Deputy Professor of Botany at the University of Glasgow, 1799-1816. Brown donated a very large collection of geological material to the Hunterian, University of Glasgow, although his collection also contains small components of early 'ethnographic' material, as well as Egyptian archaeological material.

Burnett, Sir Charles Stuart (1882-1945) enlisted as a private in the Imperial Yeomanry to fight in the South African War in 1899. In August 1904, he was seconded to the West African Frontier Force and during the next five years was active in Northern Nigeria. Burnett resigned his commission in September 1909 and then entered business as part-owner of a shop in Portuguese Guinea. By 1911 was employed by the British diplomatic service as the assistant resident in Ilorin, Nigeria.

Campbell, Captain Duncan (1880-1915) saw active service in South Africa from 1899 to 1900 and again from 1901 to 1902. From 1905 to 1910 he was based in the West African Frontier force and spent time in Northern Nigerian for the 'Kano Campaign'/'Hadeija Campaign' in 1906.

Duncan, James (1834-1905) of Duncan, Bell and Scott, was a sugar refiner from Greenock.

Dunn, Sir William (1833-1912) was a Scottish trader and politician. He was born in Paisley and emigrated to South Africa in 1852, later returning to London.

Eddie, James Brown (dates unknown) was a missionary from Elgin, based at Boyoma Falls, formerly known as Stanley Falls, Democratic Republic of the Congo. It is possible that he was involved with the American Baptist Mission or part of the Congo-Balolo Mission, a British Baptist missionary society that was active in the present-day Democratic Republic of the Congo from 1889 to 1915.

Elliot, William F (dates unknown) was a Major who served in the 2nd Battalion of The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, attached to the Army Staff during the Anglo-Zulu War in 1879.

Frances Farquharson (1903-1991) was an American fashion editor for *Vogue* and *Harper's Bazaar* throughout the 1930s. In 1949 she married Alwyne Compton Farquharson, 16th Laird of Invercauld, and moved to the Invercauld Estate.

Ferguson, Rev Alex (dates unknown) was a missionary in Calabar, Nigeria in the 1950s. He donated to the University of St Andrews in 1987. He is also known to have donated material collected by his mother from Kenya prior to 1910.

Fergusson, Dr William (1795-1846) is understood to have been, in 1813, the first person of African descent to graduate from the University of Edinburgh. His father was Scottish, and his mother was Jamaican of African descent. He served as a colonial surgeon in Sierra Leone and was appointed Governor of the Colony of Sierra Leone in 1845.

Fraser, William Carlile (1861-1911) was an engineer, born in Paisley, who travelled to eastern Africa to work on the Ugandan Railway from 1888.

Goldie, Rev Hugh (1815-1895) was a Presbyterian missionary in Jamaica and Nigeria. He arrived in Calabar, Nigeria, in 1847. His first posting was in Duke Town, and in 1858 he returned to Calabar itself, succeeding Rev Hope Masterton Waddell (1804-1895). In 1862 he brought out the first translation of the New Testament in Efik. His Efik-English dictionary was published two years later. In 1890 he published an account of the Calabar mission.

Gordon-Cumming, Roualeyn (1820-1866) was educated at Eton and in the East India Company before going to Africa to hunt big game. He made five hunting trips to Southern Africa between 1844 and 1849. There he met Scottish missionary **David Livingstone**. In 1850 he published a book about his trips and in 1851 exhibited his collection of hunting trophies at the Great Exhibition in London. The collection, known as The South Africa Museum, was exhibited across the United Kingdom. In 1858 Gordon-Cumming went to live at Fort Augustus, Scotland, where the exhibition continued to attract visitors.

Gordon-Cumming, William Alexander Gordon (1848-1930) was the nephew of **Roualeyn Gordon-Cumming**. A Scottish landowner, soldier, and socialite, after inheriting a baronetcy he joined the British Army and saw service in South Africa, Egypt, and Sudan. Other donors from the Gordon-Cumming family are most likely Anne Pitcairn Gordon-Cumming of Altyre (d.1888) and Constance Frederica Gordon-Cumming (1837-1924).

Gregory, Prof John W (1864-1932) was a professor of geology at the University of Glasgow, 1904-1929, noted for his pioneering work on plate tectonics and volcanism. He was instrumental in the academic recognition of the East African Rift's significance. He donated ethnographic collections to the Hunterian, University of Glasgow from many parts of the world, but those from eastern Africa are relevant here.

Guthrie, Douglas James (1885-1975) was a Scottish medical doctor, otolaryngologist and historian of medicine.

Haddow, Professor Alexander (1912-1978) was Professor of Administrative Medicine at the University of Glasgow, 1971-1978. He initially studied zoology at the University, then graduated MBChB in Medicine in 1938. In 1941 he went to Entebbe, Uganda, to work as an entomologist at the Yellow Fever Research Institute. He was a key member of the investigative team who originally discovered the Zika virus. Haddow's DSc (1957) examined the natural history of yellow fever in eastern Africa with a focus on insect-borne disease. He was elected FRSE in 1972 in recognition of his work on the epidemiology of insect-borne virus disease.

Hamilton, Robert (1867-1944) was appointed an Assistant Judge of the High Court of East Africa in 1902. In 1905 he was appointed Principal Judge and Chief Justice of the East Africa Protectorate. In 1925 he married Gertrude Williamson of Kirkwall, Orkney. Hamilton was selected as Liberal candidate for the constituency of Orkney and Shetland at the 1922 general election. In 1931 he served on the Joint Select Committee on East Africa. He became Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies in the National Government in September 1931.

Hetherwick, Rev Alexander (1860-1939) was ordained by the Church of Scotland in the Kirk of St Nicholas in Aberdeen in 1883. In 1885 he moved to the mission in Blantyre in present day Malawi and worked on the Zomba plateau.

Hewan, Dr Archibald (1832-1883) was born in Jamaica and grew up on the Hampden sugar plantation. He travelled to Scotland at the age of 19 with the help of the Scottish Missionary Society to train as a doctor. In 1855 he travelled to Calabar, Nigeria, to work as the medical missionary surgeon for the Old Calabar Mission.

Holý, Ladislav (1933-1997) was a Czech anthropologist and Africanist of the British School of Social Anthropology. Between 1968 and 1972 he undertook fieldwork with the Toka people of Zambia. In 1979 Holý joined the University of St Andrews as a Reader, establishing the Department of Social Anthropology and becoming a professor there in 1987.

Hume, Peter Mercer (d.1934) was educated in Glasgow. He was employed by the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation at Obuasi, Ghana, probably from the late 1920s.

Knobel, Dr Johann Balthazar (1853-1931) was a South African medic of German ancestry, born in the Northern Cape. He undertook his medical education at the University of Glasgow during the 1870s before returning home to enter practice.

Laidler, Dr Percy Ward (dates unknown) was a British expatriate dental surgeon, public hygienist and amateur archaeologist, based in South Africa throughout the early 20th century. Almost the entirety of the southern African archaeological collection at the Hunterian, University of Glasgow can be attributed to his excavations. He also donated unethically collected human remains from the Northern Cape.

Laing, Alexander (1808-1892) was born in Newburgh and educated locally. He worked as a draper until 1850 when he joined his uncle, Thomas Anderson, in the Commercial Bank in Newburgh. Laing was also a scholar with an interest in local and Scottish history and elected a fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland in 1856. In 1860 Laing began a movement for the foundation of a Public Library in Newburgh and he eventually bequeathed his own library and antiquarian collection to the town, along with funds to erect a building to house them.

Livingstone, David (1813-1873) was a Scottish physician, abolitionist, traveller, and pioneer Christian missionary with the London Missionary Society in Africa. He became one of the

most popular British heroes of the late 19th century. He sought to bring Christianity, commerce, and 'civilization' to Africa and undertook three extensive expeditions throughout much of the continent. His work had an important influence on Western attitudes toward Africa. Material at Glasgow Life Museums was donated by his son, Thomas Livingstone (1849-1876), and his friend, James 'Paraffin' Young (1811-1883), who is known for discovering how to distil oil from coal and opening the first commercial producing oil refinery in the world.

Macdonald, Major General Sir James Ronald Leslie (1862-1927) was a British engineer, explorer, military officer and cartographer. He surveyed for railways in former British India and East Africa, explored the upper Nile region, and led balloon sections during the South African War. As Chief Engineer for the Imperial British East Africa Company, Macdonald surveyed a railway route from Mombasa on the Indian Ocean to Port Florence on the shores of Lake Victoria. The Survey began in December 1891 and took more than a year. In 1897, Macdonald was appointed leader of another expedition to Uganda, ostensibly to review the northern boundaries. He was the general officer commanding in Mauritius from 1900 until he retired from active service in 1912.

MacGregor, Rev James K (dates unknown) was Principal of the Hope Waddell Institution in Calabar, Cross River State, Nigeria, from 1907 to 1943. The Institution was founded by missionaries from the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland in 1895. In 1909 MacGregor published an article that argued Nsibidi, an ancient system of symbols associated with the Ejagham people of northern Cross River State and southwestern Cameroon, met the Western definition of a written language.

MacGregor, Sir William (1846-1919) was a medical practitioner and colonial administrator. He studied at the Universities of Aberdeen and Edinburgh. In February 1873, MacGregor became assistant medical officer in the Seychelles, and in 1874 he was appointed resident at the hospital and superintendent of an asylum in Mauritius. From 1899 to 1904 he was governor of former Lagos Colony, Nigeria.

MacIntyre, Major General Donald Charles Frederick (1859-1938) served in the British Army in India. It is believed that he donated objects to the Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum that belonged to his father, General John MacKenzie MacIntyre, and a Mrs Travers from Bridge of Allan. Some of the objects from Mrs Travers belonged to her nephew, General Joseph Oates Travers (1867-1936), who served in South Africa from 1899 to 1902.

MacKie, Dr Euan W (1836-2020) was curator of archaeological and ethnographic material at the Hunterian, University of Glasgow throughout the late 20th century. An accomplished field archaeologist of Scotland, he is best remembered for his extensive research into Iron Age brochs, although he undertook considerable research into the Hunterian's world cultures collection.

Macvicar, Neil (1871-1949), an Edinburgh medical graduate trained in tropical medicine, established a hospital at Blantyre in Malawi in 1896.

Massie-Taylor, Guy (1919-1985) was a sculptor who spent seven years based in Sierra Leone as an Education Officer in the British Colonial Service.

Maxwell, General John Grenfell (1859-1929) was a British Army officer and colonial governor. Born in Liverpool, he was commissioned into the 42nd foot (Royal Highlanders) in 1879. In 1882 Maxwell was part of George Wolseley's expeditionary force to Egypt and he served with The Black Watch in the Anglo-Egyptian War of 1882. He saw active service at Tel-El-Kabir, Giniss, and Bemazaih and took part in the Nile expedition in 1884-1885. He saw active service in the Mahdist War in Sudan, taking part in the battles of Atbara and

Omdurman, reportedly leading the march on the Khalifa's palace. He was appointed Governor of Nubia in 1897 and Governor of Omdurman in 1898. Maxwell served during the South African War (1899-1902) and was appointed Military Governor of Pretoria and the Western Transvaal in 1900. He commanded British forces in Egypt in 1908 and was deployed to the Western Front during the First World War, returning to Egypt in 1914. Maxwell is best known for his controversial handling of the 1916 Easter Rising in Ireland, where he arrested thousands of civilians and ordered the execution of rebellion leaders.

McGrigor, Sir James 1st Baronet (1771-1858) was a physician, military surgeon and botanist, said to be the person who was largely responsible for creating the Royal Army Medical Corps. He graduated from the University of Aberdeen in 1788 and entered training in medicine at the University of Edinburgh in September 1789.

McMillan, William Northrup (1872-1925) was an American-born businessman with Scottish ancestry. McMillan first travelled to Africa in 1902 and in 1905 settled in Kenya. Here he purchased a hunting estate from Major Charles Ringer in 1906. Ringer is known to have been a Captain involved in the British sacking of Benin City, Nigeria, in 1897.

Middleton, Sir John (1870-1954) was born in Midlothian and began his career in the Colonial Service in Nigeria in 1901. He was appointed Senior Assistant Colonial Secretary in 1908 and was posted to Mauritius. He was a friend of **Mary Slessor** during his time in Nigeria.

Miller, Dr R E (dates unknown) was a science teacher at Kaduna College, Nigeria, and collected a full range of Hausa material culture with particular emphasis on tools, objects of everyday life, and clothing.

Moloney, Dr Joseph A (1857-1896) was an Irish medical officer on the 1891-1892 'Stairs Expedition' which seized Katanga in Central Africa for the Belgian King Leopold II, killing its ruler, Msiri, in the process. Moloney took charge of the expedition for several weeks when its military officers were dead or incapacitated by illness. In 1895, Moloney returned to central Africa with an expedition, this time with the British South Africa Company (which had been his competitor in the Stairs Expedition) to negotiate treaties with African leaders in former North-Eastern Rhodesia. Moloney returned to London and died at the age of 38. Material from Moloney was donated to Glasgow Life Museums by his sister Miss L Lovat Fraser.

Moon, Rev James (dates unknown) worked for the Regions Beyond Missionary Union at the Balolo Mission in Leopold II's 'Congo Free State'/ Belgian Congo, from 1907 to 1910 and from 1913 to 1916.

Mowatt, Harry (dates unknown) was from Graemsay, Orkney, and completed an apprenticeship as a joiner before travelling to the Hope Waddell Training Institution in Calabar, Nigeria, where he spent his life as a missionary and teacher. He retired to Orkney and built a house on Graemsay that he named *Oban Elu*, said to be an Ibo term for 'house above the water'.

Murray, Alexander William Charles Oliphant 1st Baron Murray of Elibank (1870-1920) was a Scottish aristocrat and Liberal politician. Murray is known to have visited Botswana, Johannesburg, Pretoria and Maputo Bay following the South African War (1899-1902).

Ohly, William F C (1883-1955) was an artist and art dealer with German connections but active in the UK as a printer, painter and sculptor. He had an interest in African art and sold a variety of items to National Museums Scotland, principally from Sierra Leone and Zambia.

Powell-Cotton, Diana (1908-1986) and **Antoinette Powell-Cotton** (1915-1997) were English sisters who worked together as anthropologists (without formal training). They shared an interest in collecting with their father, hunter and explorer Major Percy Powell-Cotton (1866-1940). He established the Powell-Cotton Museum at the family home in Quex Park, Birchington, Kent, in 1896. In March 1936 the sisters embarked on their first trip to Angola and Namibia with the aim of documenting the lives, traditions, and customs of indigenous peoples.

Primrose, Harry, 6th Earl of Rosebery (1882-1974) was a British soldier and Liberal politician. He served with the Grenadier Guards in former British Somaliland from 1901 to 1904. He was appointed Secretary of State for Scotland in 1945.

Purves, Adam Darling (1865-1901) worked for the London Missionary Society in Central Africa in the 1890s. He opened a station in the Luapula Valley at Mbereshi, a few miles from the Lunda chief Kazembe's enclosure, after Kazembe had been forced to submit to the colonial concession company that took control of the region under Leopold II's remit.

Rattray, Dr Peter (d.1932) was born in Dundee and studied medicine at the University of Edinburgh, 1890-1895. He became a medical missionary for the Church Mission Society First and was posted to Uganda for two years in 1895 and to Old Calabar, Nigeria, 1898-1906.

Robinson, Captain Charles Gepp (1805-1875) was a Royal Navy Officer and hydrographic surveyor. He joined the Navy in 1819. His first overseas posting was with William Fitzwilliam Owen on HMS *Leven* from 1821 to 1826, surveying the eastern coast of Africa. More than half of the crew were lost to tropical diseases, and Robinson was one of the few officers to return alive to England. Promoted to Lieutenant in 1826, he returned to Africa with Owen on HMS *Eden* on a mission to establish a settlement at Fernando Po, now known as Bioko Island (Equatorial Guinea).

Rowland, Dr J W (dates unknown) was an Edinburgh medical graduate who served as a colonial surgeon in west Africa.

Seton-Karr, Henry (1853-1914) was a British explorer, hunter and archaeologist.

Seton-Karr, Heywood Walter (1859-1938) was born in Bombay, India and is primarily remembered as an 'explorer', big-game hunter, and collector of archaeological artefacts. Following a university education at Oxford, he served in the British Army in Egypt, first in the Berkshire regiment before transferring to the Gordon Highlanders, finally leaving the military in 1884. He went on to travel widely in Africa, Asia, Europe and North America, amassing a large collection of artefacts which he distributed to museums across the world. In 1896, Seton-Karr found small, worked flints in Somalia which were hailed as the first evidence of Stone Age man in Sub-Saharan Africa. He died in London on 12 January 1938.

Sheppard, William Henry (1865-1927) was a pastor and missionary, social worker, traveller, and collector of African art. He was one of the earliest African Americans to become a missionary for the Presbyterian Church. Sheppard was ordained in Atlanta in 1887 and two years later was commissioned to establish a mission station in the present Democratic Republic of the Congo. He spent over 20 years in Africa, primarily in and around the former Congo Free State. He is remembered for his efforts to publicise the atrocities committed against the Kuba and other Congolese people by King Leopold II's Force Publique. Material owned or used by Sheppard was donated to Glasgow Life Museums by William B Scott, a Scottish ship's engineer with the SS *Lapsley II*, the American Presbyterian Mission's Clyde-built paddle steamer.

Slessor, Mary (1848-1915) was born in Aberdeen. The family moved to Dundee in 1859 where she worked in the jute industry and became active in the local United Presbyterian Church. In 1876 she trained as a missionary in Edinburgh and travelled to Calabar in Nigeria. She was based at inland stations and learned the local languages. She was instrumental in founding the Hope Waddell Training Institution in Calabar in 1895, which provided practical vocational training for African people. In 1892 she was appointed vice-consul in Okoyong and, in 1895, vice-president of Ikot Obong court. She died in Africa on 13 January 1915.

Stevenson, Marion Scott (1871-1930) was a Church of Scotland missionary in British East Africa from 1907 to 1929, primarily based at Tumutumu, Kikuyu. She is notable as the person who established the first European-style girls' school in eastern Africa and for her vocal opposition to Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). She donated material directly to Glasgow Life Museums. Additional material was donated by her brother, Professor William Barron Stevenson (1869-1954), seven years after her death at his home in Glasgow. He also donated material to the Hunterian, University of Glasgow.

Sutherland, Euphemia (c.1820-1881) was a missionary who was posted to Calabar, Nigeria, from 1849 until her death.

Temple, Olive Susan Miranda (née MacLeod) (1880-1936) was the daughter of Sir Reginald MacLeod of MacLeod. In 1910-1911 she travelled through west and central Africa with a botanical, zoological and anthropological survey expedition led by Amaury Talbot and his wife Dorothy. The expedition covered about 2,500 miles. She published an account of her trip in 1912 titled, *Chiefs and Cities of Central Africa*. MacLeod collected avidly and continuously throughout the expedition. At the Maiduguri market alone, she claims to have bought more than 200 objects. She later met and married the colonial official Charles Lindsay Temple and wrote a second book about northern Nigeria.

Topp, William of Ashgrove (1807-1877) was born at Sheriffmill, Elgin. Educated at Elgin Academy and Marischal College, Aberdeen, he intended to enter the Church but accepted the position of Secretary to Governor George Maclean of Cape Coast Castle, Ghana. Topp had retired to Elgin by 1851 where he bought the property of Ashgrove in 1858. He died there on 2nd April 1877.

Turner, Dr William Young Jnr (dates unknown) was the son of Dr William Young Turner Snr, and the grandson of the Rev Dr George Turner who were notable London Missionary Society missionaries in Oceania during the 19th century. He graduated MA from the University of Glasgow in 1901, and MBChB (medicine and surgery) in 1904. In 1905, he became a Presbyterian Medical Missionary and worked at the United Presbyterian Church mission station at Bandawe on the shores of Lake Malawi. He was there from 1905 until 1911, when he donated a collection of well-documented traditional medicinal charms to the Hunterian, University of Glasgow.

Underwood, Leon (1890-1975) was a prolific British artist who engaged with the 'primitivist' movement. He was a friend to museum curators and a collector of African art who contributed to the re-evaluation of African 'ethnographic specimens' as 'art' according to a universal notion of sculpture.

Willett, Frank (1925-2006) was an archaeologist and museum curator. He was Keeper of the Department of Ethnology and General Archaeology, Manchester Museum, 1950-58; Honorary Surveyor of Antiquities, Nigerian Federal Government, 1956-57, 1957-58; Archaeologist and Curator, Ife Museum, Nigeria, 1958-63; Research Fellow, Nuffield College, Oxford, 1964-66; Professor of African Art and Archaeology, Northwestern University, 1966-76; Director and Titular Professor, Hunterian Museum and Art Gallery,

Glasgow University, 1976-90 (Emeritus), Honorary Senior Research Fellow, 1990-2006; CBE 1985; and Research Collaborator, Smithsonian Institution, 1992-2004.

Williams, Sir Robert 1st Baronet, of Park (1860-1938), was a mining engineer and railway developer, born and educated in Aberdeen. He was involved in the exploitation of large copper deposits in Katanga Province (now Democratic Republic of the Congo) and Northern Rhodesia (now Zambia). He founded the mining and railway company Tanganyika Concessions Limited in 1899, and in 1902 was granted a concession by the Portuguese government to build the Benguela railway through Angola, providing a rail link to the Atlantic Ocean. Williams was also vice-president of the Compagnie de Chemin de fer du Katanga, a railway company in the former Congo Free State and Belgian Congo providing access to the mining regions. He was closely associated with Cecil Rhodes (1853-1902) and was also a partner of King Leopold II of Belgium, with whom he jointly founded the Union Minière du Haut-Katanga in 1906. Following the First World War, Williams bought Park House, a mansion in Drumoak, Aberdeenshire.

Young, Robert Andrew (1867-1932) was born in Newburgh. In 1890 he enrolled in the Border Police force in former British Bechuanaland and later in the Mounted Police in former Mashonaland and Matabeleland. In 1894 he joined the British South Africa Police and in 1895 was appointed Assistant Collector for the British South Africa Company. He spent time in Nyala, Mirongo, and Chinsali. He was appointed so-called 'Native Commissioner' in 1901 and 'Justice of Peace' in 1902. His job involved tax collection and hearing grievances, which brought him into contact with many local people.

Caribbean collections

Briggs, Thomas Graham (1833-1887) was a Barbadian-born collector of Caribbean antiquities. Briggs inherited the Farley Hill estate in Barbados and later owned Stony Grove, Old Manor and Round Hill in Nevis. He was a fellow of the Royal Horticultural Society and regularly corresponded with Joseph Hooker at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Briggs collected shell implements and stone tools from Black Barbadians. He sent collections to the Colonial and Indian Exhibition at South Kensington in 1886. After his death, his collections were dispersed by his family to the British Museum, National Museums Scotland, and the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, University of Cambridge.

Chalmers, Lady Alice Janet (1857-1941) was the wife of Scottish-born Sir David Chambers, Chief Justice of British Guiana from 1878 to 1893, later serving in the Colony of Jamaica in 1894.

Kirke, Robert (1815-1894) was born in Carnock, Fife, and was the nephew of James Balfour who was established as a medical practitioner in Berbice and with properties in Suriname. Kirke moved to Suriname before 1841 and inherited properties, including the Waterloo plantation. He returned to Scotland around 1863, when he received compensation for the emancipation of enslaved people on his estates. He was known to be one of the last owners of enslaved people in Scotland. In 1876, Kirke also presented a large collection of mammals, birds, and insects to the Glasgow Museum.

Lethem, Sir Gordon James (1886-1962) was a British colonial administrator from Leith. He was Governor of the Seychelles from 1934 to 1936; Governor of the Leeward Islands from 1936 to 1941; Governor of former British Guiana from 1941 to 1946, and acting Governor from 1946 to 1947. He also served in Nigeria. The city of Lethem, Guyana, is named after him. Lady Kate Lethem was a relative.

MacPherson, Alexander (1803-1861) was probably from Tain and travelled to Guyana in 1825 to manage plantations numbers 17 and 18 in Berbice. His employer was James Blair (1788-1841), an absentee planter, enslaver, and British Minister of Parliament.

Napier, Dr Alexander (1851-1928) was Professor of Materia Medica at the University of Glasgow's Medical School. As a young man, he served as ship's doctor aboard Cunard Line transatlantic services for two years and it is thought his Guyanese donations are attributable to this time.

Stirling, Colonel John Stirling of Gargunnoch (1832-1900) was a Scottish aristocrat with family links to plantations in Jamaica. His father, Charles Stirling of Gargunnoch, appears in British parliamentary papers as a claimant following the abolition of slavery.

Stoddart, Dr David R (1937-2014) was an English physical geographer from Stockton-on-Tees, a world expert in coral cays and atolls. In 1983, he donated a small collection of Maya plainware sherds to the Hunterian, University of Glasgow, following a period of geographical fieldwork on Grand Bogue Island in Belize. He spent much of his later career working at the University of Berkeley.

Taylor, Edmund Knight (dates unknown) was a property owner at Brandons, St Michael, Barbados. He excavated objects on his property, including pottery and shell tools and most of the material found is now in the Barbados Museum.

Thurn, Sir Everard im (1852-1932) was an anthropologist, archaeologist, explorer and colonial official. He was a graduate of the University of Edinburgh and curator of the British Guiana Museum from 1877 to 1882, moving to become a government agent from 1891 to 1899. He was later appointed Lieutenant Governor of Ceylon (1901-1904) and Governor of Fiji (1904-1910). He wrote books and papers about his time in Guyana and took photographs. Im Thurn also established *Timehri*, the journal of the colony's Agricultural and Commercial Society.

Virtue, John (d.1896) was a resident of Demerara. He married Maggie Pollock of Stirling in Georgetown in 1870.

Wesenhagen, Henry Guillaume (dates unknown) grew up in Paramaribo, capital of Suriname. His father was a colonial official put in place by the Governor of Suriname to sign receipts for the allowance of compensation to be paid to plantation owners on the abolition of slavery in 1863. Wesenhagen stayed in Paisley until at least 1885 when he moved to Liverpool as a draughtsman. He became a British subject in 1893, changing his name to Henry Guillaume Wetharne.

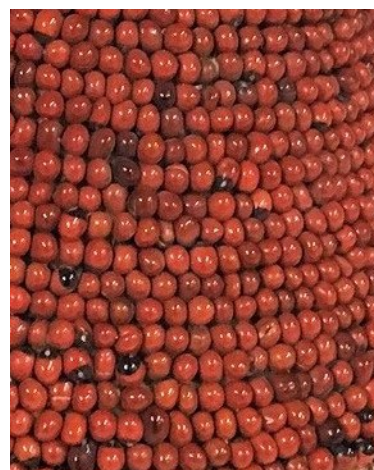
General advice for storage and handling of hazardous materials in world cultures collections

PPE (Personal Protective Equipment)

Nitrile gloves are a basic requirement when handling objects. Depending on the condition of stores, a standard dust mask or a FFP3 mask may be required. A FFP3 mask filters out pollutants and gives some protection against toxic, carcinogenic, and radioactive particles. Depending on storage conditions, it may be sensible to wear a lab coat or similar to protect your clothing. For example, consider wearing a mask and lab coat if working with furs where the hairs are readily detaching from the hide substrate.

Toxins

Where possible, identify the materials on an object, particularly composite objects with applied decoration. *Abrus precatorius*, an attractive small red seed with a black spot, is found on many objects from sub-tropical regions, commonly Africa, Asia, and Australia. It has a hard outer shell which, if pierced or cracked, will allow the poisonous alkaloid abrin inside to come into contact with the skin. This will cause irritation and, if swallowed, can be fatal. The seeds are commonly attached to an object by a resinous material which becomes brittle over time, making it easier for seeds to detach. When moving or transporting objects containing *Abrus* seeds, ensure that the seeds do not become detached and unaccounted for; if found by a child and chewed they will be fatal. Watch out for any puncture holes or cracks in the seeds, wear gloves and do not touch your face with gloved hands. The Calabar Bean or Ordeal Bean (*Physostigma venosum*) is an extremely toxic bean from south-east Nigeria which can cause paralysis, seizures, coma, and death. If it occurs in museum collections it would likely be in its natural state (not as an adornment to an object) with items associated with traditional spells and witchcraft.



Applied toxins

Applied toxins, designed to kill or debilitate prey, have been deliberately added to objects, such as on spears, arrows, blow darts, etc as part of their working life. While not toxic to humans in such small quantities, they would be toxic to fish or small mammals. In the case of spears, arrows and darts, the toxin is usually smeared on the tip in the form of a sticky resin. The most common toxins found in museum collections are Curare, on darts and arrows from South and Central America, and Strophanthus, on arrows from Africa. Both are derived from plants and work most effectively when introduced directly to the bloodstream. Animal-based toxins are also found on arrows, in particular the larvae of the *Diamphidia nigroornata* or Bushman arrow-poison beetle, found in southern Africa around the Kalahari desert region. These compounds are generally unstable and unlikely to remain active, but their manufacture is so variable that we cannot be certain of this. Storing these objects in clearly labelled boxes is the safest option but if this is not possible, due to size in the case of some spears, cover any sharp points with plastazote or similar and ensure they are not sited in high transit areas of the store. It is rarely possible to analyse all objects for the presence of applied toxins so safe handling and storage practices should be applied universally. Do not rely on historic catalogue records to determine if an item contains toxins.

Pesticides

Pesticides are a range of applied poisons used to prevent damage to organic materials resulting from insect attack. There is often no visible evidence that an object has been

treated with pesticide, although sometimes white crystals or powder may be visible. Spot tests are available for arsenic, mercury, etc. It should be emphasised that, although spot test analysis can show that these pesticides are present, it does not tell us in what quantity or whether there is enough to cause potential harm. It is good practice to assume that hazardous pesticides are present even if tests might suggest otherwise. It is unlikely that tests have been carried out for every possibility or on every part of an object. If, for example, you have a feather object which remains pristine after over 100 years in the collection, this should ring alarm bells. Materials most likely to contain residues of organic and inorganic pesticides are fur, feather, skin (leather, hide, etc), barkcloth, and textiles. Consider the composite nature of many world cultures objects when applying this rule of thumb. Also consider that chemicals may have been sprayed indiscriminately over objects in cases and in storage, rather than being targeted at specific problems. Other pesticides to be aware of are paradichlorobenzene and naphthalene used in moth balls. Exposure through inhalation over long periods can cause headaches and nausea.

Pesticides and access

Increasingly, representatives of originating communities are visiting museums to reconnect with their material heritage. Requests to handle objects removed from communities for generations must be handled sensitively. This may include not insisting on the wearing of gloves. It is worth explaining why museum employees wear gloves and the historic use of pesticides so that community members can make an informed decision. If they choose not to wear gloves it is important that hands are thoroughly washed after contact. If an item is being repatriated, the object must be properly tested for the presence of pesticides and the community made aware of the results, particularly in the case of ceremonial objects intended for traditional use, objects which will have unrestricted access, or objects which will be cremated.

Mould

Mould can potentially be found on any object material. Although it grows in organic materials (for example, leather, paper, and textiles) it can also grow in the layers of dust and dirt on top of inorganic materials such as metal and glass. In the UK typical conditions for indoor mould growth occur in temperatures of 10-35°C and relative humidity above 65%. Wear nitrile gloves and avoid skin contact. Wash hands thoroughly after removing gloves. When vacuuming mould, use only high-efficiency particulate absorbing filters (HEPA) and never use a normal vacuum cleaner. It is not uncommon for African collections, particularly vessels made from gourds or hide or wooden objects treated with oils or fats, to develop a white surface which initially resembles mould. Known as a fatty bloom or fatty spew, this is caused by fatty deposits migrating to the surface. Fatty blooms are unsightly but harmless. Seek conservation advice if you are unsure.

Biohazards

Biohazards refer to biological agents that pose a health hazard, such as microorganisms that cause disease. They can include viruses, bacteria, and fungi. Biological agents are too small to see with the naked eye but may be found in infected tissue, body fluids, blood, faeces, and urine. It is possible that makers of some African objects may have used mixtures of mud and blood during manufacture to create a surface patina. Most biological agents outside a host organism have brief hazardous time spans, often measured in hours or days. Techniques to prevent deterioration, for example spirit preservation and processing of animal skins, should eliminate biological agents from infected tissue. However, skin tanning processes can be variable and spores like anthrax can remain dormant. The risk of developing anthrax from handling an animal hide is considered very low. Anthrax is something to be considered if the museum is collecting contemporary objects incorporating skin.

Cellulose nitrate

Plastics have been available for much longer than most people realise, with moulded plastic objects dating from as early as 1870. A very diverse range of museum objects have been found to contain cellulose nitrate, often used to replicate precious materials such as amber or tortoiseshell. Cellulose nitrate (CN) is very unstable and extremely flammable. Look out for a crazed or pitted surface. Also look at any damage to surrounding materials. Metal can become seriously corroded by proximity to cellulose nitrate. Similarly, adjacent organic materials such as leather can be burnt. Cellulose nitrate burns rapidly and intensely and produces toxic smoke. In warm and humid conditions nitrate will deteriorate faster. Deteriorating nitrate releases harmful acidic chemicals which will accelerate the deterioration of the nitrate and cause corrosive damage to nearby materials. It can also spontaneously combust. Label CN objects as a flammable material and warn others about its presence. Separate them from other objects owing to dual risks of flammability and acidic chemicals. Store items in cool, dry, well-ventilated conditions and periodically review their condition to check for deterioration.

Further reading

Museum of London Hazards in Collections eTool:

<https://hazardsincollections.org.uk/>

Charlton, A, K Domoney and J Uden (2014). Pesticide residues on the Cook-voyage collections at the Pitt Rivers Museum, University of Oxford. *ICOM-CC 17th Triennial Conference Preprints, Melbourne, 15-19 September 2014*, J Bridgland (ed), Paris: International Council of Museums. Although focused on objects from the Pacific, the pesticides encountered would be relevant to all world cultures collections.

https://ora.ox.ac.uk/objects/uuid:13c3517a-55f7-44bf-8636-a416c1709d78/download_file?file_format=application%2Fpdf&safe_filename=0401_042_CH_ARLTON_ICOM-CC_2014.pdf&type_of_work=Conference+item

National Museums Scotland's online collections care resources include Integrated Pest Management (IPM), object handling, object packing and object labelling:

<https://www.nms.ac.uk/about-us/our-services/training-and-guidance-for-museums/collections-care-training/>

Display and Storage of Cellulose Museum Objects Containing Cellulose Nitrate – Canadian Conservation Institute (CCI) Notes 15/3:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/conservation-institute/services/conservation-preservation-publications/canadian-conservation-institute-notes/display-storage-objects-cellulose-nitrate.html>

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<https://www.spanglefish.com/slavesandhighlanders/index.asp>

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Online resources

African Collections Futures:

<https://www.ccc.cam.ac.uk/initiatives/african-futures/>

Baggage and Belonging: Military Collections and the British Empire, 1750-1900: Project Catalogues. Research project funded by AHRC, 2017-2021

<https://www.nms.ac.uk/collections/departments/scottish-history-archaeology/projects/baggage-and-belonging>

Curating Discomfort (The Hunterian, University of Glasgow)

<https://www.gla.ac.uk/hunterian/about/changing-museum/curating-discomfort/>

Digital Benin: <https://digitalbenin.org/>

Glasgow Life Museums: <https://digitalbenin.org/institutions/53>

Devolving Restitution: African Collections in UK Museums Beyond London:

<https://www.prm.ox.ac.uk/african-restitution>

Empire, Slavery and Scotland's Museums (Museums Galleries Scotland):

<https://www.museumsgalleriesscotland.org.uk/project/empire-slavery-scotlands-museums/>

Exchange: Community-Led Collections Research (National Museums Scotland):

<https://www.nms.ac.uk/collections/departments/global-arts-cultures-design/projects/exchange>

Rethinking Relationships and Building Trust around African Collections (Horniman Museum & Gardens):

<https://www.horniman.ac.uk/project/rethinking-relationships/>

Sierra Leone Heritage:

https://www.sierraleoneheritage.org/search/search_db/find?c%5B0%5D=5&page=1

The International Inventories Programme. Documenting 32,000+ Kenyan objects across institutions worldwide (2018-2022):

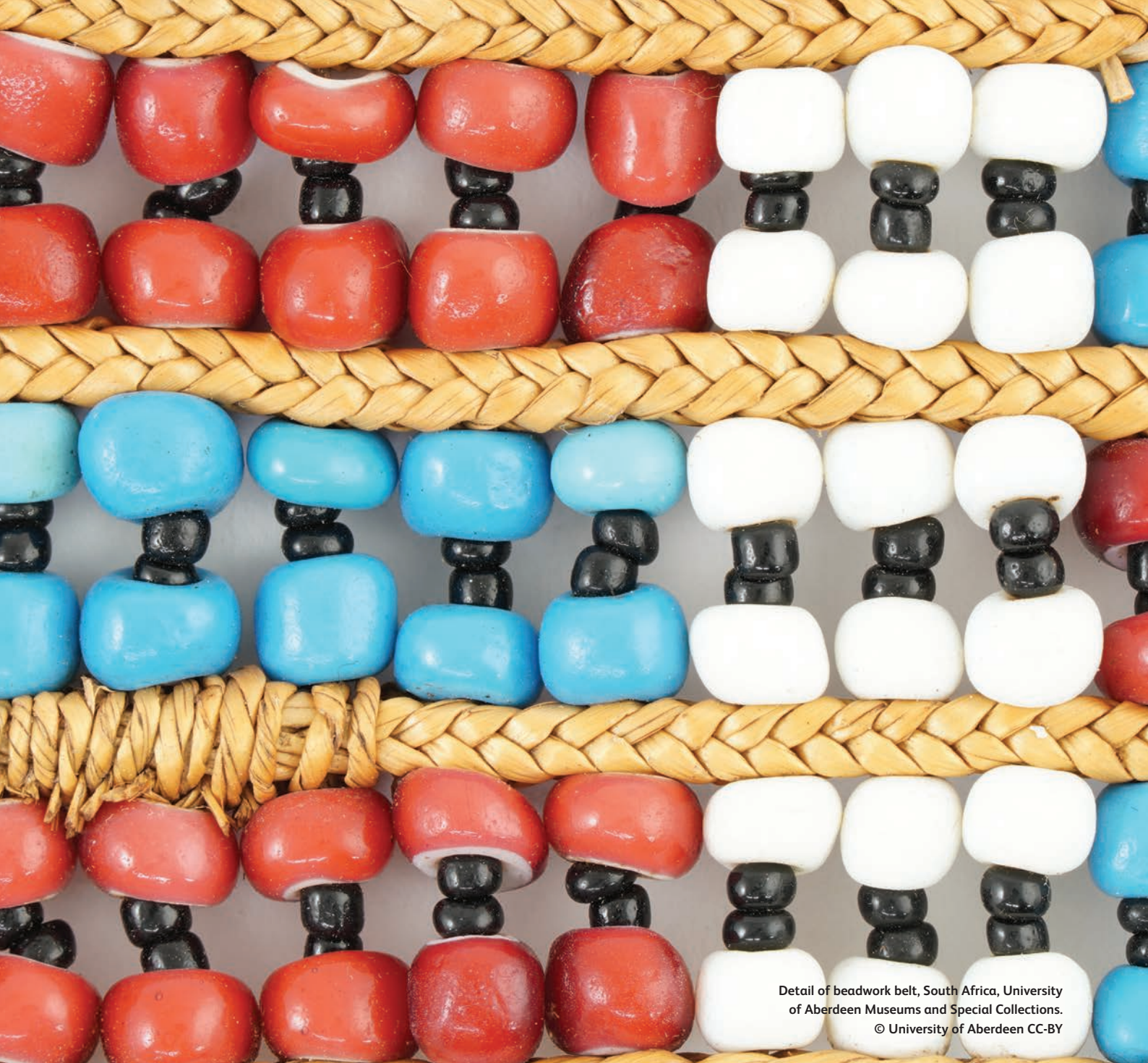
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The Making African Connections Digital Archive:

<https://www.makingafricanconnections.org/s/archive/page/about>

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<https://vitacollections.ca/whitbynews/3739246/data>



Detail of beadwork belt, South Africa, University of Aberdeen Museums and Special Collections.
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African and Caribbean Collections in Scottish Museums