

Special Collections, Hartley library

Archives Information Sheet 4 – Sources for eighteenth-century studies

The Archives and Manuscripts contains a range of manuscript material for the eighteenth century. There is an eclectic mix of smaller collections, a number of which were acquired by the Hartley Institution, the nineteenth-century predecessor of the University, collections of Anglo-Jewish focus and two substantial collections of family and estate papers. Information on the collections can be found in the Guide to Archive Collections at www.southampton.ac.uk/archives. The site also contains details of the Archives service, opening hours, procedure for obtaining access.

The smaller collections include a number of manuscripts from the collection of Sir William Cope relating to Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, c.1655-1889 (MS 5) such as Thomas Gatehouse's manuscript history of Hampshire (MS5/15). Other items are a commonplace book of poetry, c.1739-early 19th century (MS7); 'Claridoro I Rosamira: poema mixta', a volume containing a Spanish text, a romantic work largely in prose (MS 19); and 'Tratado sobre la contribution del estado ecclesiastico': a treatise on the taxation of the clergy, 27 May 1710 (MS20). While the Anglo-Jewish Archives is much richer for the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, collections of family papers encompass earlier material, for instance that of the Waley family papers (MS 119) or the Franklin family (MS 120). For anyone interested in furniture for the eighteenth century a source is the working papers of Lindsay Boynton (MS 301) relating to Gillow furniture designs.

The *Broadlands archive* (MS62) includes considerable holdings for Temple, Cowper Temple and associated family members from the seventeenth century onwards. **Henry Temple, first Viscount Palmerston** (1673-1757), was a notable patron of the arts; a manuscript copy of *Prometheus* by Jonathan Swift (BR3/36) is numbered amongst the poetry in his collection. There also are a detailed series of account and letter books for the first Viscount, c.1701-57, providing a fascinating mix of personal and estate accounts, servants' wages, medicinal recipes, memoranda concerning persons recommended for jobs, postal directions and instructions for ink making (BR2). Papers of **Henry Temple, second Viscount Palmerston** (1739-1802) include a series of travel journals, 1758-1800 (BR13, BR15), which not only provide a record of his explorations throughout Great Britain and Europe and of his interest, knowledge and acquisition of art works, but details of his mission to Paris in 1791 and 1792, a dangerous time for aristocrats in France. There is a parallel series of wide ranging correspondence, 1761-1801. Correspondence of his second wife, **Mary Mee**, 1784-1804, mixes the domestic, such as details of the health of her children, dismay at the trimming of the elms at Broadlands, and reports of bells being rung in Romsey when it was known that Lord Palmerston was not a prisoner in France in 1791, with discussions of society and politics, and, in the letters to her brother, descriptions of the family's travels in Europe. This material is supplemented by diaries, 1788-99, 1803, and a travel journal, 1800, accounts, and books of verse in Lady Palmerston's handwriting (BR18).

In parallel to the family papers within the Broadlands archive is extensive material of importance relating to estates mainly in Hampshire and Ireland, but also for property in London and a number of other English counties, together with manorial records for Romsey Infra, 1669-1844. Covering the period from the sixteenth to the twentieth centuries, this material encompasses papers for Broadlands house, gardens and estate; maps of Hampshire estates, eighteenth to twentieth centuries; title deeds for the Irish estates with rentals maps and other estate papers for County Sligo and Dublin, 1620 to early twentieth century.

Amongst the papers reflecting the management of the Broadlands estate are a series of rentals, 1744-1920; estate surveys, 1723-1893, including accounts of the quality of timber on the estate, 1757-8; papers on poaching and trespassing; accounts; and extensive estate correspondence. A fascinating series of papers also reflects the development of the house and its grounds, such as lists of works of art, furniture and household items at Broadlands and the contents of its library, together with plans, correspondence and related papers on alterations to the house and its grounds. A letter from Lancelot (Capability) Brown in 1779 concerns work undertaken at Broadlands between 1766 and 1779 (BR103/18/7). The extensive papers for the Irish estates are much more than mere property management records, they document the social, political and economic developments of Ireland in periods of considerable change.

The *Congleton archive* (MS64) contains the personal, family, estate and political papers of the Parnell family, Barons Congleton, 1567-1904. While there is considerably more family and political material for the nineteenth century, the collection does contain material for **Sir John Parnell, second Baronet**, Chancellor of the Exchequer of Ireland, relating to elections and the Parnell interest in Maryborough and Queen's County, 1776-78 (MS64/2); letters on financial affairs in Ireland and France and on the Union of Ireland with Great Britain, c.1795-9 (MS64/8-9).

The estate papers, which are substantial, include deeds for property at Congleton, Cheshire, 1624-1899 (MS64/363, 371, 409-12), and for estates in Westmeath, County Meath, County Tipperary, Queen's County, King's County and Dublin, 1567-1892; extensive accounts for the Irish estates, 1837-96, for Westmeath, with weekly accounts for Gurteen farm demesne at Anneville, Rostella, Park of Dunamase, Rathleague and Meelick, 1848-96; rentals for Maryborough, 1776-8, and for property in Queen's County, 1792-1884. There are account books, 1801-42 (MS64 A905/2-7).

Rev 03/10