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[1] Economic History at Glasgow before 1957

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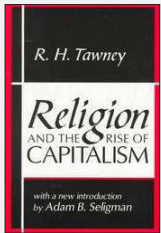


The golden jubilee
of the Department of
Economic and Social
History 2007



The young R. H. Tawney.
Source: University of Utah.

The origins of Economic History as a distinct discipline lie in the nineteenth century. Dissatisfaction with the traditional concerns of historians with constitutional, political and ecclesiastical history led the Oxford historian, James E. Thorold Rogers, to write his monumental *History of Agriculture and Prices in England* (seven volumes, 1866-1902). Rogers occupied the Drummond Chair of Political Economy, outside the History School, although economic history topics were covered in the examinations in both Political Economy and History. At Cambridge, economic history appeared in the Political Economy and History Triposes. Other universities and colleges offered Economic History in the early twentieth century. At Glasgow, short courses were offered on 'social and economic history' under the auspices of the School of Social Study and Training, which had been established in 1909.



Modern history itself first appeared in the Glasgow curriculum only in the late nineteenth century. A Professor of Modern History (Richard Lodge) was first appointed in 1894, and a Professor of Scottish History and Literature (Robert Sangster Rait) followed in 1913. The first economic historian at the University was

probably R. H. Tawney. Born in 1880 and educated at Rugby School and Balliol College Oxford, Tawney spent three years at Toynbee Hall in the East End of London, and then two years from 1906 to 1908 as an Assistant Lecturer in Political Economy at the University of Glasgow. While at the University, Tawney also wrote for the *Glasgow Herald*, and carried out a study of juvenile labour in the city. He left to take up a post with the Workers' Educational Association and the University of Oxford. His first book, *The Agrarian Problem in the Sixteenth Century*, was published in 1912, but Tawney was best known for *Religion and the Rise of Capitalism* (1926). In 1932 Tawney claimed that history 'is concerned with the study, not of a series of past events, but of the life of society, and with records of the past as a means to that end'. It is not clear what Tawney's teaching at Glasgow actually involved, although he recalled that his time spent at the University put him off economic theory for life.

The first Lecturer in Economic History was Robert Richards, who is first listed in the University Calendar for 1910-11. For the next 47 years, Economic History was taught as part of the Political Economy curriculum. Richards's syllabus emphasised the 'interdependence of historical facts [and the] Importance of the subtle but constant pressure exerted by Economic forces upon



national institutions.' An ambitious syllabus – focusing on British history – covered manorial England, the Black Death, imperialism and the agricultural and industrial revolutions. The set books were George Townsend Warner, *Landmarks in English Industrial History* (1899) and Hugh Owen Meredith, *Outlines of the Economic History of England* (1908).

After Richards's short tenure of the lectureship, Donald Stalker was appointed, and after a short vacancy at the end of the First World War, two women held the post: Theodora Keith (1919-21) and N. M. Scott (1921-3). Keith, the first woman to hold a full-time lecturing post at the University, was the author of *Commercial Relations of England and Scotland 1603-1707* (1910), and two articles in the *English Historical Review* on the trading privileges of Scottish burghs. Under Scott, a Cambridge Economics graduate, two Honours courses were taught: 'Scottish Economic History to 1760' and 'English Economic History to 1860'. C. F. Smith, Lecturer from 1923 to 1930, taught much the same syllabus, until he was replaced by John A. Buyers. Buyers remained at Glasgow, joining the Department of Economic History when it was founded in 1957. In 1938-9 students were still required to read Townsend Warner's *Landmarks in English Industrial History*, but by the 1950s G. M. Trevelyan's *English Social History* was a key item of reading.



View from the University tower, 1904, showing University Gardens in the foreground. Lilybank House is behind University Gardens. Photograph courtesy of University of Glasgow ImageBase.

Theodora Keith, article in the English Historical Review in 1913.
Source: JSTOR.

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Text by Rosemary Elliot and Mark Freeman. We are grateful to Laura Brouard, Forbes Munro, Scott O'Donnell, Neil Rollings and Tony Slaven for their assistance with the preparation of this display.



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[2] Establishment of the Chair in Economic History

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Sydney Checkland, Professor of Economic History, 1957-1982.
Source: Glasgow University Archives, PH/PR/2667.

After the Second World War, science, engineering and medicine at Glasgow had been ‘revitalised’, but there was ‘uncertainty’ in the Faculty of Arts, which was the largest Faculty in terms of student numbers. Funding was a problem for traditional Arts disciplines, at Glasgow and elsewhere, and in the climate of the early post-war years the social sciences looked more promising. From 1944 to 1946 the economic historian Sir John Clapham – author of economic history textbooks and the history of the Bank of England – chaired a government committee, which presented a dim view of social science in British universities, recommending increased funding. As a result, the University Grants Committee set aside £1.2 million for the development of the social sciences in the period 1947-52.

At Glasgow, the social sciences were helped by a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation in 1945: this was used to establish a Department of Social and Economic Research in 1946. This Department undertook social surveys of Scotland, and had a sub-Department for the study of the Soviet Union. It was part of the Faculty of Arts, where all the social sciences were based until the 1970s. The Faculty admitted 466 students in the session 1956-7. History was strong in the Faculty, which had a Department of History and Law as well as Scottish History and Literature. By the early 1950s, the Faculty was considering how to develop its history teaching, and appointed a committee to discuss the question in January 1954. On 26 October 1954, having considered the appointment of a professor in ‘very modern history’, the Faculty minuted its preference for a chair in Economic History. There was already a Lecturer in Economic History, the long-serving John A. Buyers, based in the Department of Political Economy. Moreover, a leading economic historian, Alec Cairncross, later Chancellor of the University, had taken up a chair in Applied Economics in 1949.



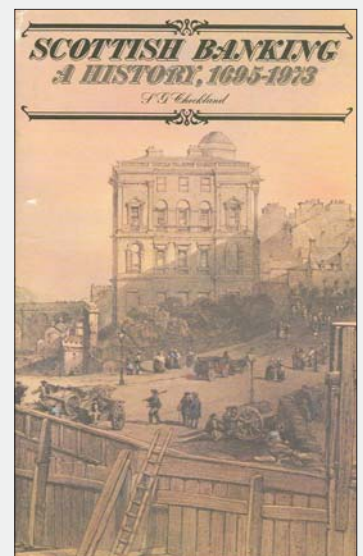
Alec Cairncross,
Professor of Applied
Economics and later
Chancellor of the
University of Glasgow.
Source: World Bank photo gallery.

An ordinance establishing a chair in Economic History at Glasgow was approved on 1 December 1955, and applications for the chair were invited. On 6 October 1956 *The Times* reported the appointment of Sydney Checkland. Checkland was a Canadian, a graduate of the University of Birmingham and former president of the National Union of Students. He had spent seven years as a Lecturer in Economic Science at the University of Liverpool, from where he moved to Cambridge, becoming a Lecturer in History. He started at Glasgow on 1 January 1957, and remained until 1982. He established the Department of Economic History, and appointed a number of lecturers and research assistants, as

well as developing a ‘balanced’ programme of teaching in the discipline. Checkland was the author of a number of key texts in Scottish, English and international economic history, including *The Rise of Industrial Society in England* (1964), *The Mines of Tharsis: Roman, French and British Enterprise in Spain* (1967) and *Scottish Banking: A History* (1975). He also wrote a ‘family biography’ of the Gladstones, published in 1971. Checkland died in 1986.



The Times, 6 October 1956, reports the appointment of Sydney Checkland to the new Chair.
Source: The Times digital archive.



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[3] The early years of the Department

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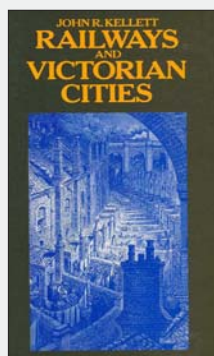
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University Gardens. Number 5 was the original home of the Department.
Source: Glasgow University Archives, PHU/37/18.

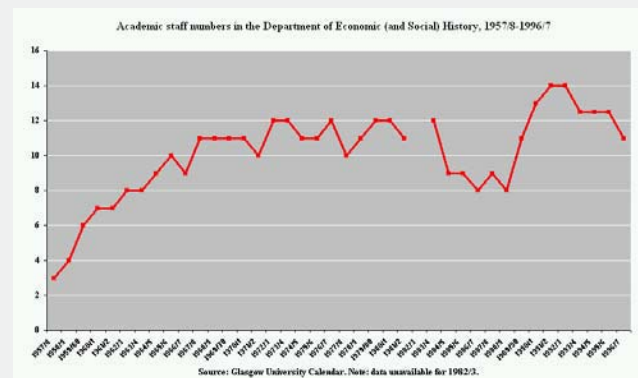
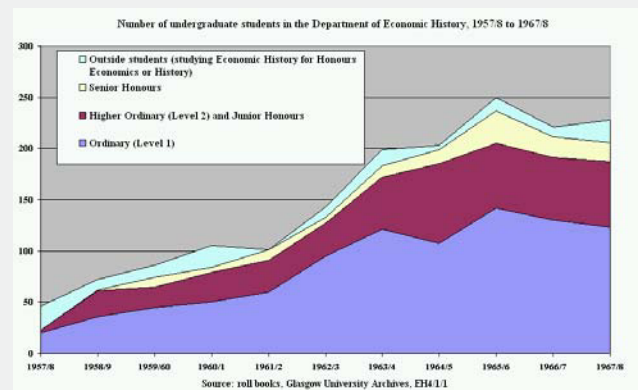
The new Professor of Economic History, Sydney Checkland, was welcomed to his first meeting of the Faculty of Arts on 5 February 1957. In the first teaching year of the Department, 1957-8, the Ordinary (Level 1) class had four lectures a week, all at 9am. The course was 'The Economic History of Britain to 1914', and the set texts included W. J. Ashley's *The Economic Organisation of England*, G. C. Homans's *English Villagers of the Thirteenth Century*, and W. H. B. Court's *Economic History of Britain from 1750*. Checkland had studied under Court when he was an undergraduate at Birmingham. According to the University Calendar, at Ordinary level, 'The Lectures will provide an outline of British economic history from Roman times to the twentieth century. The material will be presented in terms of the general problems of economic behaviour and the processes of change, including those involving social attitudes and organisation.'

The Higher Ordinary (Level 2) class focused on Scottish economic history, including both the medieval and modern periods, ending in 1939. As with the Ordinary class, there were four lectures a week. Junior Honours students studied 'The Economic History of the Great Powers', in which the main topics were 'the economic evolution of the major European powers, the Atlantic community, and the western expansion in Africa'. The Senior Honours class studied 'Selected Topics in Economic History in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries', spending half their time in the 'intensive study' of the British economy, and the other half in the study of 'leading economic problems: population, stability, initiative, investment, human relations, the financial system, and general method'. The first research student was admitted in October 1957. The first library allocation for Economic History was £35, smaller than for Scottish History (£57), Political Economy (£85) and History (£136). The Department was originally based in 5 University Gardens, until it moved to the new Adam Smith Building in 1968.



In the early years of the Department, student numbers increased rapidly. There were 20 students in the Ordinary (Level 1) class in 1957-8, 36 in the following year and 45 in 1959-60. Honours in Economic History was first offered in 1958-9, when there were 10 Junior Honours students, as well as a number of students taking courses in the Department as part of other Honours degrees. John A. Buyers, the Lecturer in Economic History, joined the Department at its inception, and Roy Campbell also arrived in 1957, followed by John Kellett in 1958, Barbara Crispin in 1959, Derek Aldcroft in 1960 and Anthony Slaven (who had been a member of the very first cohort of

students in the Department) in the same year. The latter, who left in 1962 but returned in 1964, became the longest serving member of staff in the Department, starting as a Research Assistant, becoming a Lecturer in 1964, and later occupying the Chair in Business History.



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[4] The Colquhoun Lectureship



Patrick Colquhoun, eighteenth-century merchant and Lord Provost of Glasgow, after whom the Colquhoun Lectureship was named.
Source: Electric Scotland.

Following the institution of the Chair and Department of Economic History in 1957, the new Professor, Sydney Checkland, immediately sought funds to establish a lectureship in Business History within the new Department. In a memorandum to the business community in Glasgow, written with colleagues from Political Economy and Applied Economics (Alec L. MacFie, Alec Cairncross and Thomas Wilson), Checkland wrote of the many opportunities locally for the historical study of commerce and trade, asserting that ‘The business man and his firm are central to the understanding of economic growth and trade’. Glasgow, the writers claimed, was ideally situated for this new lectureship, as it had long been one of the world’s great business centres.

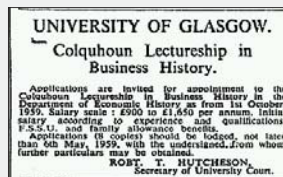
Checkland and his colleagues appealed to the business community to raise funds to finance a lectureship for five to seven years. Thereafter, they hoped, having proved its worth, the financing would be taken over by the university. They aimed to raise a total sum of £6,000 for what was a pioneering venture in Britain at the time. There were a number of Business Schools in the United States, led by Harvard, but Glasgow hoped to assume the lead in ‘the older portion of the English speaking world, where, in fact, the roots are deeper and the expanse of time available for study is much greater’.

The new lectureship was to be known as the Colquhoun Lectureship after the eighteenth-century Glasgow merchant Patrick Colquhoun, who came from a leading family that made its money in tobacco and the slave trade. Colquhoun was a celebrated business man and political arithmetician, became the Lord Provost of Glasgow in 1783 and also founded the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce in the same year. As well as teaching, the remit of the Colquhoun Lectureship included collecting and collating the surviving records of historical value from local businesses. For Checkland and his colleagues, a collection of business records was seen as ‘the essential prerequisite for an orderly attack upon the study of British business history’. A further role was to consult with local businesses on matters of history and to advise in the preparation of local business histories. The position was therefore very much seen as a way of connecting the University of Glasgow with Glasgow and west of Scotland commercial interests.

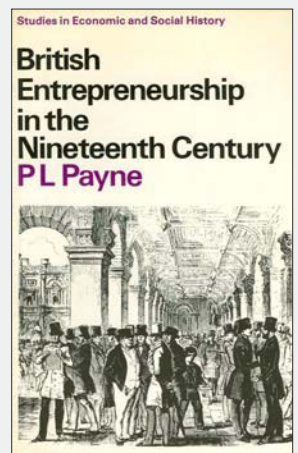


The Glasgow Chamber of Commerce, pictured in 1983. The Chamber of Commerce supported the establishment of the Colquhoun Lectureship.
Source: Scran Trust.

The appeal for funds was supported by the University’s Principal, Hector Hetherington, and the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce, which wrote to all its members on the University’s behalf. The appeal was well-received: within a year, enough funds had been secured to proceed with the establishment of the lectureship. The Department also received offers to assist in the uncovering of historical sources and for consultation over their interpretation. The post was filled, in 1959, by Peter L. Payne, author of *The Savings Bank of Baltimore 1918-1966: A Historical and Analytical Study* (1956). Moves were immediately set afoot to provide Payne with a research assistant to help catalogue the formidable number of business records which were coming forward. While working at Glasgow, Payne published *Rubber and Railways in the Nineteenth Century: A Study of the Spencer Papers* (1961), and edited *Studies in Scottish Business History* (1967). Payne held the Colquhoun Lectureship until 1969. On his departure the post ceased to be separately funded, but the title was taken by Anthony Slaven, who was also a Lecturer in Economic History. Later, in the 1990s, the Colquhoun Lectureship was held by Alan McKinlay.



Job advertisement in *The Times*, 1 April 1959.
Source: The Times digital archive.



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[5] The Business Archives Council of Scotland

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The Upper Clyde Shipbuilders shipyard at Govan, 1971.
Source: Scran Trust.

Following the success of the appeal to establish the Colquhoun Lectureship in Business History, its incumbent, Peter L. Payne, was soon inundated with material coming from Glasgow business houses. This support from the business community in Glasgow was essential to the success of the lectureship and of the status of business history in Scotland.

One of the most important collections that Payne received was from William Dixon and Sons, one of Scotland's largest colliery units in the nineteenth century, and still operational into the twentieth. This collection was remarkable for its comprehensiveness, and included over 400 bound volumes of material on the colliery and its ironworks.



Document from Scott's Shipbuilding Company Ltd archives, 1923.
Source: Glasgow University Archives, GD/323/3/12/23.

The material allowed a unique insight into the changing structure of the labour force, details of employees and their families, and wages and prices. Summarising the material, Payne wrote in 1959 that 'research into the Dixon records seems certain to produce quantitative findings of great value to the economist and the economic and social historian'. The problem for Payne, however, was the sheer volume of material he had to cope with. The Professor of Economic History, Sydney Checkland, made

representations to the Principal in the same year for a research assistant to prevent Payne from being 'submerged in the mass of records descending upon him'.

Checkland was also concerned to widen the geographical scope of business history in Scotland beyond Glasgow and the west of Scotland, and he discussed this issue at length with Payne and David Wilson Reid, the University Archivist. Initial approaches were made to the London-based Business Archives Council, established in 1934, to create a Scottish branch. However, finances did not permit this and it became clear that the best option was to found an autonomous Business Archives Council of Scotland (BACS). This was formed in 1960 with the objective of 'encouraging the preservation and study of archives which bear on the history of commercial and industrial enterprise'.

Fairly early on, however, BACS faced criticism that, although it was intended to be a Scottish body, its activities were largely confined to the west of Scotland. Many records were being destroyed simply because companies were not aware that the archive existed. In an attempt to redress this situation, the Abertay Historical Society began to act as a local committee in Dundee and a bi-annual newsletter was set up in 1966, but the focus remained on the west of Scotland. In 1974, the newsletter announced the success of BACS efforts to secure the records of

the constituent companies of Upper Clyde Shipbuilders when it went into receivership. These records cost £18,000, a price set by the liquidator, half of which was paid by the Treasury, and half by Glasgow Corporation, Dunbartonshire County Council and Clydebank Town Council. The records were a notable acquisition, a complete collection dating back to 1847 and covering every stage of shipbuilding and shipbuilding technique. In 1976, the newsletter was incorporated with a newsletter from the Scottish Society for Industrial Archaeology to become the journal *Scottish Industrial History*.



Letter to The Times from Sydney Checkland announcing the acquisition of the Upper Clyde Shipbuilders archive.
Source: The Times digital archive.

Initially, the two main constraints on BACS were staffing and space: much of the material had to be catalogued before it could be studied. In the early days, Payne wrote that 'the basements and ground floor rooms of houses in University Gardens, Bute Gardens and Ashton Road threatened to become choked with piles of ledgers, letter books and rusting deed boxes'. Fortunately, space for the material was made available in the Adam Smith Building, before the archive moved to its current premises on Thurso Street. The archive merged with the University Archives in 1996 to become the Glasgow University Archives and Business Records Centre, which became Glasgow University Archive Services (GUAS) in 2000. BACS still operates as an independent archive body, funded by business donations and a grant from the National Archives of Scotland, concerned with preserving Scotland's business records. GUAS holds unrivalled records of business and commerce in Scotland over the last two hundred years.



Plate from the Scottish Brewing Archive, housed by Glasgow University Archive Services.
Photograph courtesy of University of Glasgow ImageBase.

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The Adam Smith Building was built in the 1960s. The Department moved into it in 1968.
Source: Glasgow University Archives, PHU/6/3.

Throughout the 1960s, the number and variety of courses taught to students in the Department increased markedly at Honours level. In 1961-2 students were required to offer four compulsory papers at Honours on 'The Economies of the Great Powers 1815-1914', 'The Development of the World Economy 1815-1950', 'The Economic History of Scotland to 1950', and 'The Economic History of Britain 1750-1950'. The fifth paper was to be either a thesis on a subject 'agreed with the Professor' or one of six optional subjects: 'The Economy of Britain and the Empire in the Revolutionary Period 1776-1815'; 'Social Psychology'; 'International Relations'; 'The History of Political Thought from Hobbes to the Present Day'; 'Economics for Economic Historians'; or 'British Economic History to 1760'.

By the end of the 1960s, the Honours course had further expanded to include a wider range of optional subjects including 'The Economic History of Modern China', 'Economic and Social History of Modern Africa 1800-1950', 'The Age and Ideas of Adam Smith', and 'The Evolution of the Modern City'. A requirement to complete a summer research project, normally at Register House in Edinburgh, was also introduced for those entering Senior Honours; this was designed as an introduction in historical records. Economic History was also taught to students in other departments, particularly to law students preparing for the Honours exam in Jurisprudence and Political Economy or for the Honours exam in Private Law and Political Economy. Alongside this expansion in teaching went an expansion in student numbers and academic staff. The wider geographical remit of the Honours courses reflected the appointment of new members of staff in the second half of the 1960s, notably Mark Elvin (a specialist in Chinese history) and J. Forbes Munro, whose field was the economic history of Africa, and who remained in the Department until his retirement in the 1990s. Terry Gourvish and Keith Burgess, whose research focused on Britain, were also appointed to the Department in the late 1960s, as was Tom Hart, who joined in 1966 and also remained until the 1990s.

Although the Department was part of the Arts Faculty, there was a movement throughout the 1960s to make the social sciences a discrete body of subjects. Initially, this took the form of a Co-ordinating Committee in Social Studies, set up in 1961, with responsibility for Political Economy, Social and Economic Research, Politics and Sociology, International Economic Studies, Town and Regional Planning and the School of Social Study, as well as Economic History. This Committee convened two weeks prior to each Arts Faculty meeting to allow time for items to be placed on the Arts Faculty agenda. Sydney Checkland and Peter Payne represented Economic History as permanent members, while other staff were elected as non-permanent members. The Committee was also intended to provide a forum for discussion



of problems affecting social science subjects, planning of large research applications, and consideration of the facilities, accommodation and library provision for social sciences departments.

J. Forbes Munro joined the Department in 1965. He is pictured here in his office in 1994.
Source: Forbes Munro.

In 1968, the Department moved from 5 University Gardens to the new Adam Smith Building, along with the other social science disciplines, which were brought together in a Sub-Faculty, within the Faculty of Arts, in 1969. The eight separate departmental libraries were merged to create the Adam Smith Library, which by 1971 had over 20,000 books, almost 1,000 periodicals and was open 12 hours a day. The move to the new building did not go entirely smoothly. There were frequent complaints about the building from staff: pressure on parking, excessive heating, noisy heating pumps, and lack of curtains or blinds to block out daylight when using audio-visual equipment were all mentioned. There were also grumbles about timetabling problems and the increased workload which students faced: in 1966, the Dean of the Arts Faculty met with non-professorial staff across the Faculty to discuss 'the strain imposed on some students', and the issue was raised again two years later.



(TOP) Construction of the Adam Smith Building, 1964. Lilibank House, later home to the Department, can be seen in the background.
Source: Glasgow University Archives, PHU/6/17.



(BOTTOM) Another view of the construction of the Adam Smith Building, with University Gardens in the foreground.
Photograph courtesy of University of Glasgow ImageBase.

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[7] The 1970s

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The Adam Smith Library.

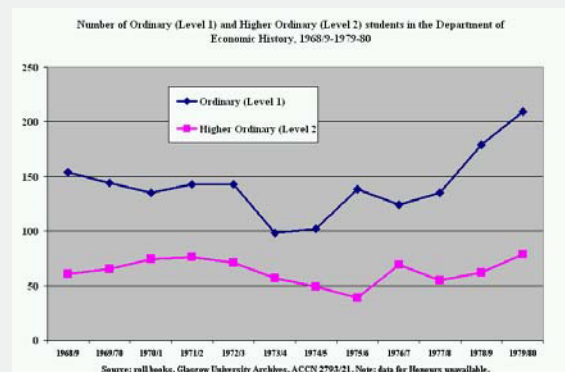
Photograph courtesy of University of Glasgow ImageBase.

By the mid-1970s the Department had a staff of ten, plus two honorary lecturers. The Ordinary (Level 1) class had four lectures a week, at 3pm, in the Adam Smith Building. The course of study was 'The Economic and Social Evolution of the Modern World'. According to the University Calendar, the course was a historical introduction to the social sciences, but would also be 'a useful background for those reading general history'. It was assessed by a single three-hour examination, although 'Class work may be taken into account in considering whether to pass a borderline failure on the examination.' The Higher (Level 2) class dealt with 'The Economic and Social History of Britain 1700-1960', and was assessed in the same way.

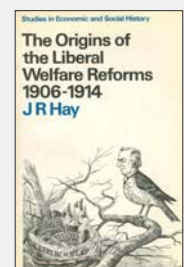
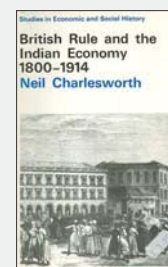
At Junior Honours, students explored 'The Advanced Economies to 1939', and Senior Honours students had to choose four 'Themes in Economic History' from a list of 12. There was also a compulsory research project. The specialised courses on offer to students included 'The Pre-Industrial World to 1760', 'The Age and Ideas of Adam Smith' and 'Social Movements and Economic Change in Britain 1880s-1920s'. Undergraduate numbers dipped in the mid-1970s, when the Ordinary (Level 1) class fell to fewer than 100 students, but had increased significantly by the end of the decade.

There were no taught postgraduate courses in the Department, unlike some other departments, but MLitt and PhD research was carried out. The Department's publicity emphasised the range of research opportunities: business history, urban history, the history of transport and banking, social structure and employment, labour history and social protest, and philanthropy were all possible areas of study for research degrees. There were comparatively few research students at this time: the Department has only four completed theses from the 1970s. However, the strength of the Department's research was emphasised towards the end of the decade, when, from 1977 to 1980, Sydney Checkland was President of the Economic History Society.

Institutionally, the Department's position was changing. In the late 1960s the Department had joined a new Sub-Faculty of Social Sciences, within the larger Faculty of Arts. The Adam Smith Building, in which the Department was based, continued to be the subject of a number of complaints at meetings of the Sub-Faculty: one meeting hoped that planting shrubs would make the surroundings 'less squalid'. Eventually, in 1977, a separate Faculty of Social Sciences was established, the result of the growing size and complexity of the Faculty of Arts, and the conviction that the social sciences 'form an identifiable academic group'.



In recognition of the broadening scope of the Department's work, as early as 1968 a proposal had been made to change its name to the Department of Economic and Social History, but this change was not implemented until the 1990s. Some changes did occur in the 1970s, including the appointment of new members of staff. Roy Hay, Charles Munn, Neil Charlesworth, Robert Holton and Rick Trainor joined the Department during the decade; and in 1979 the first female lecturer, Anne Crowther, was appointed. (Barbara Crispin, an 'assistant', was the first female member of the academic staff, in 1959-60.)



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[8] Student life



Neil Charlesworth, Tony Slaven and a group of students at a reading party in Ross-shire, mid-1970s.
Source: Forbes Munro.

By the 1970s, Economic History had a thriving calendar of social events for students, organised by the Economic History Club, which appears to have been formed in 1965. The Club ran social gatherings and a more formal programme of talks by prominent historians and public figures. In 1970, *Glasgow University Magazine* reported on the success of 'a series of talks with speakers ranging from Norman Buchanan MP, Esmond Wright MP to Mr William Forsyth [which] proved both informative and most entertaining'. This showed, the article concluded wryly, that 'historians, it seems, do have a sense of humour'.

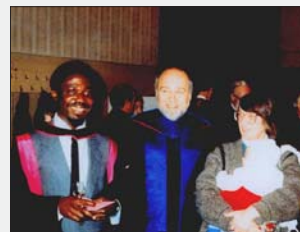
The Club was funded by a subscription from members of 5/-, which rose to 6/- in 1970; the same year, the opportunity to take out a joint subscription with the Adam Smith Society, another student body in the social sciences, was introduced. The Club's committee also sought to raise funds with the Adam Smith Society by running social evenings on a commercial basis and selling alcoholic drinks at a late bar. This turned out to be somewhat difficult, not only because of the licensing laws but also the difficulty of finding a suitable hall within the university. In the end, the common rooms of the Adam Smith Building were used, on the conditions that members of staff must be invited and the social was advertised as 'an evening with the staff'. Despite these constraints, a good time was apparently had by all. Other events included an annual cocktail party as well as trips to a distillery, a coal mine and Cumbernauld, a former textile village reborn in 1956 as a designated New Town and home to many new industries.

In 1970, the reading party was also introduced for Junior Honours students. Initially, students were required to attend either a field exercise extending over several days or a residential reading party, extending over one weekend. Initially, the venue for the reading party was Morven in Argyll, and in the mid-1970s it was held in Ross-shire. It was organised by Tony Slaven and Forbes Munro. Organisation of the reading party was taken over Anne Crowther on her arrival in 1979 and took in many different places, including Stirling, Crieff and St. Andrews. In the 1990s Dumfries was the venue, and in the 2000s it has been held at Drymen, Perth and Portobello. It continues to be held annually to provide Junior Honours students with an introduction to the discipline of Economic and Social History, to each other and to members of staff.

SYLLABUS — 1968-69	
1968	1969
Tue Oct. 15—Opening Social, 7.30 p.m. A.C.B.	Jan. 8—Visit to Dalrymple?
Wed Oct. 22—Trip to Coat Mear, 2 p.m.	15—Joint Social of all Clubs
Tue Oct. 28—Nathan Buchan, M.P.	21—Prof. Ness: "The Social Implications of the 20s."
Fri. Nov. 13—Esmond Wright, M.P. A.S.H.	28—W. Forsyth: "No Man City"
Tue Nov 26—Dr T. C. Brown: "Disturbance of the Natural Forces in Scotland."	Feb. 11—Prof. Chickland/Prof. Browning
End of Term—Cocktail Party	12—Cumbernauld Visit

The 'syllabus' of the Economic History Club, 1968-9.
Source: Glasgow University Archives, DC/157/5/30

In the 1990s, the Economic History Club evolved into the Economic and Social History Society. The Society continues to organise social events, most notably the graduation ball, which is held in collaboration with students from other departments. Memorable balls in the 2000s have been held at the Marriott Hotel, the People's Palace and St Andrew's in the Square.

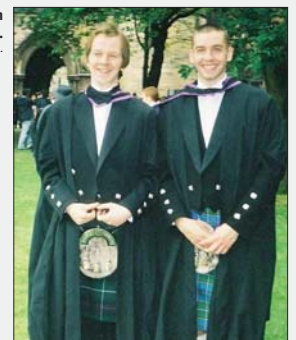


Forbes Munro with two PhD students at a graduation in 1986.
Source: Forbes Munro.



Staff and graduates of the Department assembled on the Lion and Unicorn Staircase in 1996.
Source: Mike French.

Students at an MA (Hons) graduation in the early 2000s.
Source: Niall MacKenzie.



Students at an MA (Hons) graduation in 2003.
Source: Mark Freeman.

Credits

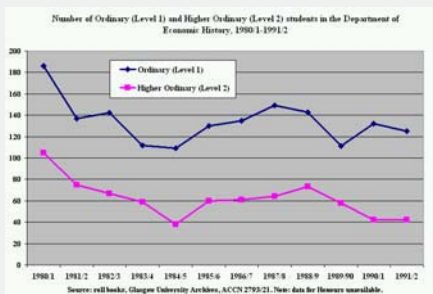
Text by Rosemary Elliot and Mark Freeman. We are grateful to Laura Brouard, Forbes Munro, Scott O'Donnell, Neil Rollings and Tony Slaven for their assistance with the preparation of this display.



Tony Slaven, Charles Munn and Roy Campbell,
members of the Department in the early 1980s.
Source: Forbes Munro.

In the early 1980s the Department's Ordinary (Level 1) and Higher (Level 2) courses were similar to those on offer in the previous decade, except that the Higher course was renamed 'Scotland and England: Economy and Society since 1700'. Optional Honours-level courses included the long-standing 'Evolution of the Modern City' and 'The Age and Ideas of Adam Smith', as well the newer 'British Social Policy 1906-1939', and other courses that reflected the research interests of new members of staff. The options available changed little during the decade, partly because, after Mike French joined the Department in 1981, no new members of staff were appointed, and the number fell to eight in 1988-9.

Sydney Checkland, the first Professor of Economic History, left the Department on his retirement in 1982. Student numbers also fell: whereas in 1981 the Ordinary (Level 1) class numbered almost 200 and the Higher Ordinary (Level 2) class over 100, by 1991-2 the numbers had fallen to around 120 and 40 respectively.



In terms of teaching, the most significant change during the decade was the introduction of history and computing into the curriculum. By 1988-9 'Computing for Historians' was a compulsory part of the Junior Honours course. The Department was involved with the DISH (Design and Implementation of Software for Historians) project, which commenced in 1985 with a grant of £93,000 from the Computer Board for Universities and Research Councils. The Departments of Modern History and Scottish History, and the University Archives, were the other participants. The DISH laboratories, in 1 and 2 University Gardens, started with 16 computers, linked to a single hard disk and to the University's ICL 2988 mainframe. By the early 1990s, three Honours courses were using the laboratories, including Rick Trainor's 'Elites in Nineteenth-Century British Society'. The Higher (Level 2) courses also used DISH. The DISH project also supported the research of members of staff – for example, 'Marriage Patterns and Social Structure in the West Midlands 1837-1914' and 'Politics and Society in the USA 1850-



Rick Trainor joined the Department in 1979. In the 1990s he was Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Vice-Principal of the University. Reproduced with the permission of Rick Trainor.

1860'. A new research grouping, 'Enterprise, Public Policy and Society', emerged from the work of members of the DISH project team. An early leaflet promoting DISH emphasised its contribution to student employability: 'Skills derived from using computers to make informed judgements on complex problems are directly transferable to the workplace.' By the early 1990s the computers had been replaced with RM Nimbus machines.

The research strength of the Department increased in the 1980s. Thirteen students completed research degrees: most were on Scottish economic and social history, but there were also theses on India, Canada and the Gold Coast. The Centre for Business History in Scotland was established in 1987, and two years earlier the Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine was started. Although not part of the Department at this time, the Wellcome Unit later became the Centre for the History of Medicine and joined the Department. In 1989 the Department moved from the Adam Smith Building to 4 University Gardens, where it remained until 2005.



The DISH laboratory, 2 University Gardens, in 1988.
Source: Glasgow University Archives, PHU37/25/1988



Credits

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[10] The Centre for the History of Medicine

ESH 50



The golden jubilee
of the Department of
Economic and Social
History 2007

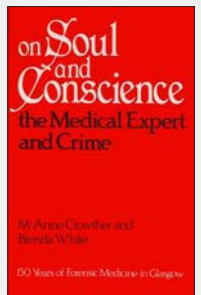
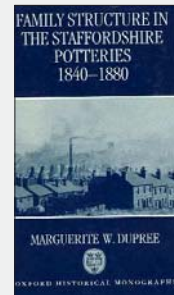


John MacVicar and Ian Donald using Tom Brown's automatic ultrasound scanner in the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, c. 1959.
Source: British Medical Ultrasound Society.

The Wellcome Trust established the Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine (then one of only three in the UK) at Glasgow University in 1985, under the direction of David Hamilton with two core staff members, Marguerite Dupree and Stephen Jacyna, replaced by Malcolm Nicolson in 1990, and a secretary, Ann Mulholland. Initially located in the newly refurbished top floor of 5 University Gardens, with staff and running costs funded by the Wellcome Trust, the Unit came to Glasgow as a result of collaboration among the Medical, Social Sciences and Arts Faculties and the University Archives. Through Anne Crowther, the Department of Economic History (as it was then known) was involved from the initial planning stage. The Unit's aims were to undertake and promote research in the history of medicine, particularly in Scotland.

The Unit established a regular seminar series in 1985 – supplemented more recently by a workshop series – that has brought over 250 speakers to Glasgow. The Unit/Centre has hosted an annual one-day Regional Forum since 1995, either on aspects of Scottish medical history or on topics in the broader history of medicine by historians based in Scotland and the north of England. Built up steadily since 1985, the Centre's library has been financed by a major grant from the Walton Trust, annual grants from the Wellcome Trust and periodic donations of books. At the outset the Unit set up a series of occasional publications, ultimately including nearly twenty titles.

the University who reflect the wide range of fields and collaborations which have supported the Unit and now Centre since 1985 and will help it to continue in the future as a lively, outward-looking centre of excellence for the history of medicine.



Collaborating with cognate departments, the Unit developed a postgraduate programme in the history of medicine, recognised by the Wellcome Trust and receiving every year since 1995 one or more quota awards from the Wellcome Trust. A steady stream of students has gone on to obtain funding from not only the Wellcome Trust, but also the ESRC and Glasgow University, and to complete PhDs under the supervision of staff members. Several have become postdoctoral research fellows and assistants and three are now university lecturers at Glasgow and elsewhere. In addition, staff members contribute to undergraduate teaching in the Medical Faculty and in the Arts and Social Sciences (now Law, Business and Social Sciences) Faculties.



Celebrating CHM graduation early 2000s
Source: Mark Freeman.

Johanna Geyer-Kordesch succeeded David Hamilton as director, serving from 1990 until 2000, when Anne Crowther took over until her retirement in 2006; she was succeeded by Malcolm Nicolson. Marguerite Dupree continues as a core staff member. Rose Elliot holds a University Award from the Wellcome Trust and is now also a core staff member. At its start, the Unit established, and regularly added to, a group of Research Associates from within and outside



Malcolm Nicolson and John Fleming re-enacting Ian Donald's ultrasound experiments in 1996.
Source: British Medical Ultrasound Society.



Staff and postgraduate students in the Centre for the History of Medicine, December 2006.
Source: Rosemary Elliot

Credits

Text by Marguerite Dupree, and edited by Rosemary Elliot and Mark Freeman. We are grateful to Laura Brouard, Forbes Munro, Scott O'Donnell, Neil Rollings and Tony Slaven for their assistance with the preparation of this display.



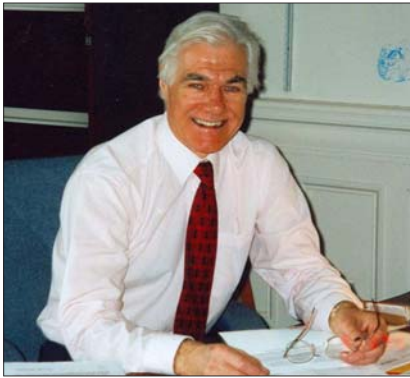
UNIVERSITY
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[11] The Centre for Business History in Scotland

ESH 50



The golden jubilee
of the Department of
Economic and Social
History 2007



Tony Slaven, Director of the Centre for Business History in Scotland, pictured in his office in 1994.
Source: Forbes Munro.

Since its inception, the Centre for Business History in Scotland has been closely linked to the Department of Economic and Social History (known as the Department of Economic History until 1992). In September 1987 the University Court accepted a generous offer of funding from the newly established Aggregate Foundation which would provide an income earmarked for the support of what was to become the first permanently funded research centre for business history in the United Kingdom.

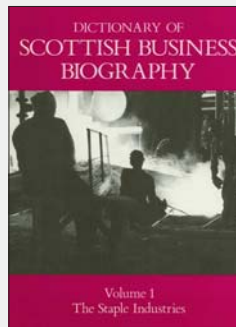


Leaflet advertising the Centre, mid-1990s. The leaflet shows a front elevation of 4 University Gardens, home of the Centre and Department, from the original architect's plans.
Source: Centre for Business History in Scotland.

The Centre's original four broad objectives were: to promote research and publication in business history; to provide a forum for the exchange of views and cultivation of interests between academic and business communities; to promote co-ordination and development in the discipline of business history; and lastly, through the medium of the Ballast Trust (which was created in 1988), to promote the location, preservation and interpretation of business records, along with supporting the work of other agencies and individuals with similar interests. These remain essentially the same today, with current research focusing on four main themes: internationalisation of business enterprise; business, energy and the environment; the role

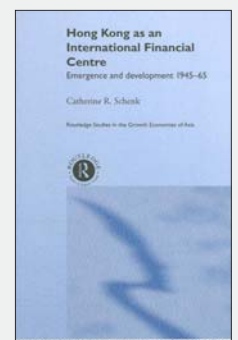
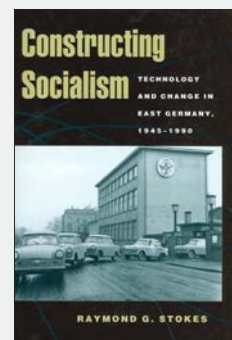
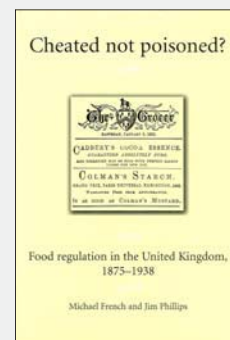
of business in innovation systems and policy; and the evolving relationship between the state-owned, state influenced and private sectors.

The Centre's first Director was Anthony Slaven, who had been appointed to the new Chair of Business History, created by the University in response to the Aggregate Foundation's commitment. Slaven was assisted by Alan McKinlay, holder of the Colquhoun Lectureship in Business History, who remained with the Centre until 1995 when he left to take up a Chair in Business Strategy at the University of Stirling. McKinlay is now Professor of Management at St. Andrews University. In 1996, J. Forbes Munro joined the Centre as Associate Director, a position he held until 1999. The Centre was a prime mover in the formation of the Association of Business Historians, which was established in 1990, and was also closely involved with the foundation of the European Business History Association, whose founding Presidency was taken up by Anthony Slaven in 1994.



Throughout its life the Centre has drawn in a steady stream of staff from the Department of Economic and Social History as associate members who have been involved a variety of research projects covering a diversity of fields. When Slaven retired in 2005, he was succeeded as Director by Professor Ray Stokes who had become an associate member in 1995, subsequent to his joining the Department.

In its new home at Lilybank House, the Centre for Business History in Scotland is currently embarking on a programme which will build on its existing strengths, not least by an increasing involvement in seeking funding from research councils in order to extend its core objectives.



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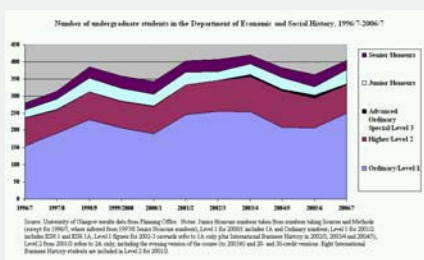


Lilybank House. The Department moved here, from 4 and 5 University Gardens, in 2005.
Source: departmental website.
Photograph by Anne Cameron and Gayle Davis.

In 1992 the Department of Economic History became the Department of Economic and Social History, arguably an overdue change of name for an institution where social history had long formed an important part of the undergraduate curriculum. In contrast to the previous decade, the 1990s were a period of expansion for the Department: the number of staff grew significantly, from eight academics in 1988-9 to 14 in 1992-3, although the latter figure included three research assistants (later styled research fellows). These numbers fell back a little in the mid-1990s, but, following the absorption into the Department of the former Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine – which became the Centre for the History of Medicine – the number of academic staff in 2006-7 stands at 17 (including one Senior Research Fellow). In 2005 the Department left its premises in 4 and 5 University Gardens and moved to the newly refurbished Lilybank House.

Postgraduate numbers also expanded rapidly. By the turn of the millennium there was a thriving community of postgraduate students, research and taught, in the Department, and this continued to grow in the 2000s, helped by the arrival of a number of research students in the Centre for the History of Medicine. A number of research degrees have also been undertaken with the support of the Centre for Business History in Scotland.

However, despite the wide range of research interests among the staff of the Department, the topics studied by research students in the Department in the 1990s became more narrowly focused. All the research degrees awarded during this decade were on Scottish or British topics, and this dominance continued into the 2000s, when only a handful, at the most, of the doctoral students in the Department were researching international topics.



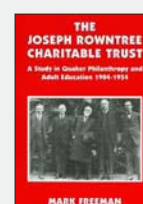
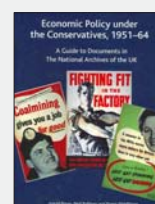
Undergraduate student numbers have expanded, although unevenly, in recent years. The graph above shows that overall student numbers, including Levels 1, 2 and 3, and Honours, increased from below 300 in the mid-1990s to over 400 in some years of the third millennium. However, this expansion gives little indication of the growing reach of the Department's teaching. The Department makes a major contribution to the teaching of the MSc in Management, and became part of the University of Glasgow Business School in 2004. Staff also contribute to the teaching of students in the Faculty of Medicine.



Members of staff at a Christmas dinner, early 2000s. Source: Mark Freeman.

In the late twentieth century, the Department's staff filled a number of senior administrative roles in the University. Forbes Munro was Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences in the late 1980s and Clerk of Senate from 1991 to 1996; and Rick Trainor was Dean in the early 1990s, and was succeeded by Anthony Slaven in 1996. Trainor was a Vice-Principal of the University from 1996 to 2000, when he left to become Vice-Chancellor of the University of Greenwich, later moving to King's College London. Currently, with two Associate Deans and a Senior Advisor, the Department is also well represented at senior levels in the Faculty of Law, Business and Social Sciences.

The Department has developed close links with learned societies. The administrative secretary of the Economic History Society is based in the Department, and Rick Trainor and Mike French have served as Secretary and Treasurer of the Society respectively. The 75th anniversary conference of the Society was held in the Kelvin Conference Centre at the University of Glasgow in 2001. The Department has also been represented on the Society's council, and on the executive committees of the Social History Society, the Association of Business Historians, and other learned societies. Duncan Ross is the editor of the *Financial History Review*, published by Cambridge University Press. A number of significant research grants have been awarded to members of staff, bringing new research fellows and students to the Department.



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