CAMBRIDGE PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY ARCHIVES:
INTRODUCTION

History of the Society: The Cambridge Philosophical Society was founded in 1819 on the initiative of Adam Sedgwick (1785-1873, geologist), John Stevens Henslow (1796-1861, botanist) and Edward Daniel Clarke (1769-1822, mineralogist). Its purpose was to promote scientific study at a time when little science was taught in the University of Cambridge, meeting fortnightly for the reading of papers and for discussion, Fellows of the Society being graduates of the University. Selected papers were published in the Society’s Transactions and later in the Proceedings. A Reading Room was established very soon after the foundation.

Meetings for the first few months were held in the museum of the old Botanic Garden [on what was later to be the New Museums site] before moving in April 1820 to rented rooms above a shop in Sidney Street, facing up Jesus Lane.

The Society became a body corporate by virtue of a Royal Charter granted on 6 August 1832. From 1833 to 1865 the Society occupied its own house on All Saints Passage on land leased from St John’s College. From 1865, the Society and its Library were housed in the new Department of Zoology and Comparative Anatomy on the University of Cambridge’s New Museums Site, thus beginning the formal association of the Society with the University. In 1865 the Society’s Museum was donated to the University and much of it formed the nucleus of the University’s present Museum of Zoology.

In 1872, Associate membership was established in order to allow use of library facilities by graduate research students from other universities who were precluded from becoming Fellows.

In 1881, the Society’s Library was opened to the whole University in return for which the University took financial responsibility for housing and staffing it. In 1967 the Library was renamed the Scientific Periodicals Library and in 1976 it became a dependent library of Cambridge University Library while retaining its links with the Society.

Meantime the Society and its Library had moved in 1935 to the Arts School off Bene’t Street. During the 1920s and 1930s a revamp of the Society’s programme of publications brought renewed prosperity. By the 1930s many meetings took the form of visits to places of interest within the University and beyond. Ultimately fortnightly meetings were replaced with evening
lectures and symposia during the Michaelmas and Lent Terms, which are now open to all. Visits to research establishments of interest are still arranged each year.

The Society founded the William Hopkins Prize (for mathematical and physical sciences) in 1867 and the William Bate Hardy Prize (for biological sciences) in 1964. From the late 20th century the Society began awarding grants for research and travel.

This is a very condensed historical note, drawn chiefly from the archives and from published histories. For more detailed accounts of the Society’s membership, premises, museum, library, publications etc see the headnotes to the relevant sections of the catalogue as well as the published histories.

**Arrangement of the archives:** The archives have been arranged largely by their function, eg constitutional records, Council records, financial records, membership records etc. Each section and sub-section is arranged broadly chronologically.

**Covering dates:** 1799-2014 (some papers, eg personal papers of members, predate the foundation of the Society).

**Extent:** 86 boxes as at August 2015.

**Publications:** A history was published by the Society in 1969 to commemorate its 150th anniversary: see A Rupert Hall, 'The Cambridge Philosophical Society: A History 1819-1969'. An earlier history, entitled ‘The Foundation and Early Years of the Society’, is recorded in an address delivered to the Society by John Willis Clark on resigning office in October 1890: the address was published in Vol VII of the Proceedings of the Society in 1891.

**Cataloguing:** The archives were catalogued by Joan Bullock-Anderson in 2015. The catalogue was commissioned by the Society in order to facilitate the compilation of a bicentenary history and also to ensure that its archives were adequately recorded in advance of the refurbishment of the Arts School building.
CAMBRIDGE PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY ARCHIVES
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CPS 1 CONSTITUTIONAL RECORDS

This section contains records relating to the foundation and early history of the Cambridge Philosophical Society; the Society's charter and bye-laws; the Society's seal; and legal agreements.

Covering dates: 1819-1978

Extent: 14 items

CPS 1/1 Foundation and early history

This sub-section contains papers relating to the foundation of the Society and some early accounts of its history.

CPS 1/1/1 'Copies of Four Documents of the Foundation of the Philosophical Society Presented by the Registry (Mr J W Clark) 3 February 1902'

Four documents found in an envelope inscribed as above, as follows:

1) Printed record of proceedings ‘at a Meeting of Members of this University, which took place on Tuesday, November 2, in the Lecture-Room under the Public Library’, dated 3 November 1819;

2) Printed resolutions of a ‘Meeting of the Committee appointed to form the regulations of a Society, to be instituted in this University for Philosophical Communication’, dated 8 November 1819;

3) Printed ‘Regulations of the Cambridge Philosophical Society adopted at a Public Meeting held in the University November 15 1819’

4) Printed ‘Address read at the first meeting [1819] of the Cambridge Philosophical Society stating the design and objects of its institution, written at the request of the Council by Edward Daniel Clarke LLD’ [late fellow and tutor of Jesus College; Professor of Mineralogy in Cambridge University and Librarian of Cambridge University], printed by Cambridge University Press 1821.

1819-1821 1 file
CPS 1/1/2  Foundation documents

Collected file comprising chiefly photocopies of documents, papers from the Cambridge University Reporter etc, relating to the establishment and early years of the Cambridge Philosophical Society, together with some written accounts of the early history of the Society. The file was probably compiled for exhibition purposes. It contains the following:

1) Photocopy of a flyer advertising a meeting to be held 2 November 1819 in the Lecture Room under the Public Library;

2) Photocopy of a printed address read by E D Clarke at the first meeting (as above), printed 1821;

3) Photocopy of a ‘brief statement of the circumstances which led to the formation of the Cambridge Philosophical Society’, being the preface to the ‘first part of its Transactions’ [no date];


5) Printed ‘Rules of the Cambridge Philosophical Library’ 28 October 1881;

6) Photocopy from CU Reporter reporting the offer to the University of the use of the Society’s Library, 1881;

7) Handwritten notes made from the Cambridge Chronicle of matters relating to the Society 1819-1820 and 1869 (2 pages);

8) CU Reporter pages 541-5 (early 20thC?) concerning the Philosophical Library and Museum;

9) CU Reporter note concerning the establishment of the William Bate Hardy Prize [1962?];

10) Reports on the financial position of the Society and its Library, 1922;

11) CU Reporter report of the General Board on the rules and regulations for the Philosophical Library, 1963;

12) Copy of John Willis Clark’s address on ‘The Foundation and Early Years of the Society’ (delivered by him in 1890 on resigning the office of President and printed in the Proceedings);
13) 'Short Account of the Cambridge Philosophical Society': 2 page typescript draft, no date, no author [circa 1969, possibly written for the 150th anniversary];

14) Photocopy of pages 190-193 of ‘Scientific and Literary Institutions’ from C H Cooper, ‘Memorials’ III, being a brief account of the establishment of the Society;

15) Photocopy of various pages of Clark and Hughes, ‘Life and Letters of Sedgwick’, 1890, relating to Adam Sedgwick’s part in the establishment and early years of the Society;


1819-1969 1 file

CPS 1/2  Charter and Bye-Laws

This sub-section contains the Royal Charter of the Cambridge Philosophical Society, printed copies of bye-laws, and related papers.

CPS 1/2/1  Charter

Royal charter of the Cambridge Philosophical Society. Rolled in leather bound box with seal of William IV in metal box attached to the charter by plaited strings.

6 August 1832

CPS 1/2/2  'Copies of the Charter, Laws, Lease &c of the Cambridge Philosophical Society'

Volume largely blank but contains the following:

1) Printed copy of the charter and bye-laws of the Society [as at 1832?];

2) Printed copy of the laws and bye-laws [as at 1846?]

3) Handwritten copy of the ‘Lease of the Society’s House’, ie a lease from St John’s College for forty years (1846-86), on payment of £220 and a yearly rent of £20, of the Society’s house on All Saints Passage, comprising 9 pages, covering rights of way, drains and sewers, rates and taxes,
maintenance, access, fire insurance, and restrictions (eg no keeping of ‘hogs, boars, sows, pigs or other offensive cattle’), 1847.

1832-1847 1 volume

**CPS 1/2/3  Documents relating to new bye-Laws of the Cambridge Philosophical Society**

1) New bye-laws made 6 November 1843 relating to an increase in annual subscriptions and subscription arrangements for non-resident Fellows;

2) New bye-law made 30 May 1846 forbidding dividends etc to be paid to members, signed by James Challis, President, G S Paget, Treasurer, W Hopkins, Secretary, W Miller, Secretary, and Charles C Babington, Secretary, Cambridge 15 March 1847, and certified in London March 1847, 2 sheets.

1843-1847 1 file containing 3 sheets

**CPS 1/2/4  Loss and recovery of the charter of the Cambridge Philosophical Society**

Correspondence with Domville, Lawrence, Graham and Long of 6 New Square, Lincoln’s Inn, 12-18 March 1881 (4 items), relating to the loss and recovery of the charter (together with an envelope addressed to Prof Newton, Magdalene College Cambridge), in connection with the case of Cambridge Philosophical Society against the churchwardens and overseers of the Parish of the Holy Sepulchre, Cambridge, 1852-54 (a dispute over the payment of parish taxes).

1881 1 file

[See also CPS 7/2/9 for further records relating to the dispute with the Parish of the Holy Sepulchre.]

**CPS 1/2/5  Charter**

Two printed copies of the Charter, Abstract of Laws Prescribed by Charter, Bye Laws, and Regulations for the William Hopkins Prize and the William Bate Hardy Prize.

1978 1 file containing 2 items
CPS 1/2/6  Photographs of the charter of the Cambridge Philosophical Society
Two b/w photographs, each 21cm x 16cm.
circa 1965  [No date found but possibly 1960s]   2 items

CPS 1/3  Seal of the Society
Sub-section containing sealing apparatus for wax and paper seals and examples of seal impressions.

CPS 1/3/1  Seal matrix
Wooden box with Cambridge Philosophical Society paper seal impressions pasted onto it, containing a presentation box holding the Society's seal matrix (for impressing wax seals).
Date unknown.

CPS 1/3/2  Seal apparatus for impressing paper seals
1950s?

CPS 1/3/3  Examples of the Society’s seal impressions in wax and paper
No date.       1 file
CPS 1/4  Legal Agreements

*Sub-section containing legal agreements relating to publications, copyright, memorial funds etc.*

CPS 1/4/1  Memoranda of agreement between the Cambridge Philosophical Society and Cambridge University Press

Agreements for the printing and publishing of the Society's Proceedings and Biological Reviews. Both 3 February 1956, together with amendment of Clause II, 1 January 1961.

1956-1961  1 file

CPS 1/4/2  Trust deed for the G I Taylor Memorial Fund

Relating to funds collected in memory of Professor Sir Geoffrey Taylor of Trinity College, investment of same, and use of the proceeds to fund an annual lecture, namely the G I Taylor Lecture.

2 October 1978  1 file

CPS 1/4/3  Agreement relating to copyright in E H Hankin, 'Animal Flight', 1914

The agreement assigns copyright in the book to the Cambridge Philosophical Society, royalties and copyright having been bequeathed to the Society in the will of E H Hankin.

22 June 1939  1 item
CPS 2  COUNCIL RECORDS

This section contains minutes, papers and correspondence of the Council of the Cambridge Philosophical Society, together with related papers such as items previously contained in the minute books.

Covering dates: 1819-2000
Extent: 24 items

CPS 2/1  Cambridge Philosophical Society: Council minutes

Volumes 5-11 are paginated. From 1850 additional items are often tipped or pasted in to the volumes. The minutes are written by hand from 1819 to 1933 (Volume 1 to part way through Volume 8). From 11 December 1933 the minutes are on typescript sheets tipped or pasted into the volumes.

1819-2000  15 volumes

A card index to the Council minutes is held in the office of the Executive Secretary.

CPS 2/1/1  Council minutes Volume 1

From May 1824 there is little recorded in this volume other than lists of those present at meetings
17 November 1819-21 April 1828

CPS 2/1/2  Council minutes Volume 2

The minutes for 19 May 1828 are inverted at the end of the volume.
5 May 1828-6 November 1837

CPS 2/1/3  Council minutes Volume 3

From 1850 additional items tipped / pasted in include:
Letter to [Charles C] Babington at St John’s College from L[eonard] Jenyns concerning Jenyns’ cabinet of insects destined for the Society’s museum, 23 November 1850;
Report of a committee appointed on 24 February 1851 to report on the Curator’s insolvency, 3 March 1851.

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13 November 1837-7 November 1853

CPS 2/1/4  Council minutes Volume 4

Items tipped / pasted in include:

Printed notice announcing the publication of Part II of Volume VIII of the Society’s Transactions, 28 October 1844 (pasted in at front of volume);

Letter to the Secretary from L[eonard] Jenyns concerning his collection of Cambridgeshire insects, 14 May 1855;

Letter from J A Preston at 27 St Andrews Street to C C Babington, Secretary, at St John’s College, concerning the possibility of rearranging and augmenting the Society’s collection of lepidoptera, 19 November 1857;

Letter to C C Babington from R J Jones, at Lea Rectory, Gainsborough, concerning the transfer to the University of the ‘Mad[eira]n Fishes’ in the Society’s collection, 19 June 1865;

Note concerning the award to Prof G G Stokes of the Hopkins Prize, 15 April 1867;

Letter from L Jenyns, from Bath, to C C Babington, expressing his hurt at the treatment of his collection of insects, 17 October 1867;

Letter from J De Morgan concerning a proposed paper on the history of logic, 15 December 1868;

Printed list of individuals and organisations to whom the Transactions are to be sent [1870].

Loose at 12 November 1866: note concerning porter’s duties at the New Museums in respect of the Society’s rooms and meetings, 1866.

14 November 1853-17 October 1871

CPS 2/1/5 Council minutes Volume 5

Items tipped / pasted in include:

Note concerning the possibility of associate membership for undergraduates, based on a reading of the charter;

Report by J W Clark on work done in the Library during the Long Vacation, together with suggestions for its future management, 19 October 1874;
Printed notices concerning the proposed move of the Library to a larger room at the New Museums site and ongoing management of the Library, 1880-81, and letters concerning the offer to the University of Cambridge of the use of the Society’s Library, including a letter to E H Perowne, Vice-Chancellor (original letters loose / tipped in, but also copied into the volume).

Loose: letter from W H Miller at 7 Scroope Terrace concerning the possibility of the deposit at the Society of the papers of ‘Elphinstone of Trinity’, May 1873.

30 October 1871-19 October 1885

CPS 2/1/6 Council minutes Volume 6

Items tipped / pasted in include:

p.11 Letter from Oscar Browning, King’s College, to R T Glazebrook, concerning the proposed transfer to the Society of the functions and instruments of the Cambridge Anthropometric Committee, 26 January 1886 (agreed at the meeting of 1 February 1886);

p.12 Letter from Horace Darwin, The Orchard, Huntingdon Road, concerning the numbers of people measured by the Anthropometric Committee, payments made, maintenance of instruments etc, 31 March 1886;

p.58 Auditor’s report, 30 May 1887 (Horace Darwin and W Shaw, auditors);

p.102 (loose) Letter from John Willis Clark, President of the Society, to the Master of Peterhouse asking if the syndics [of Cambridge University Press] will undertake the whole cost of printing the Society’s Proceedings as well as the Transactions, 29 October 1888;

p.108 Reply from James Porter, Deputy Vice-Chancellor; also printed statement of accounts of the Society for 9 February to 31 December 1888, 24 January 1889 (A S Lea and H M Taylor, auditors);

p.116 Letter from G G Hopkins and J C Adams recommending the award of the Hopkins Prize to W Thomson for mathematical research, 2 March 1889;

p.123 Note from the adjudicators of the Hopkins Prize concerning the award to Prof G H Darwin FRS ‘for his researches upon the physics of the Earth’;

p.142 Printed list of names proposed for honorary membership [1890], annotated by hand;
p.235 Note concerning the award of the Hopkins Prize to J J Thomson, 1894.

p.142 Printed list of names proposed for honorary membership [1890], annotated by hand;

From 1889 the following items are regularly included: notes concerning the Hopkins Prize; printed statements of accounts; printed lists of dates of meetings; and letters concerning the Library and printing of the Society’s publications.

26 October 1885-14 May 1906

**CPS 2/1/7 Council minutes Volume 7**

The following items are regularly included: printed balloting lists for election of officers at the annual general meeting; printed statements of accounts; notes recommending Hopkins Prize winners; letters and notices concerning costs of publications, accessions to the Library etc.

Other items tipped / pasted in include:

p.14 Letter from A R Forsyth, Trinity College, concerning the possibility of a Cambridge meeting of an international congress of mathematicians in connection with the British Association, 5 February 1907;

p.32 Data compiled in connection with a proposal to establish a life membership category;

p.85 Report of a committee appointed to consider arrangements for the International Congress of Mathematicians, January 1909;

p.99 Letter from A Sedgwick, declining to continue as President of the Society, 8 October 1909;

p.185 Printed notice cancelling the anniversary dinner on account of the death of Sir George Darwin, former President of the Society, 1912;

p.193 Letter from J Stanley Gardiner apologising for the dirty state of the meeting room, 1913;

p.211 Letter concerning the death of Alexander Ross Clark, an honorary member for circa 60 years, 11 February 1914;

p.213 Letter from Courtney Kenny, Downing College, advocating the election of women as honorary members, 24 February 1914;
p.235 Notice from the Official Press Bureau, Whitehall, advocating the exercise of vigilance in the publication of periodicals of learned societies in order to prevent the conveyance of ‘information of a kind to serve the purposes of the enemy’, 1 February 1916;

p.245 Letter from Karl Pearson of University College, London requesting free copies of Proceedings, 25 May 1916;

p.251 Official Press Bureau notice, 16 November 1916;

p.253 Two letters from Courtney Kenny, Downing College, concerning the donation by the Society to the Squire Library of Carnegie law books, 12 and 20 February 1917;

p.261 Three page document by G H Hardy, Honorary Secretary for Mathematics, containing suggestions for improvement of the Society’s publications [1918];

p.275 Report of the Committee on the Publications of the Philosophical Society, 1918;

1920 [no pagination from this point]: Minutes of the meeting of the Centenary Volume Committee, 8 December 1919 [concerning proposals for a centenary history];

1920: List of contents of the safe, drawn up by Mr C T R Wilson, November 1920;

7 January 1921: Letter recommending donation of books ‘to the unhappy men of science in Russia’;

9 February 1921: Memorandum of the Philosophical Library Committee concerning a proposal to extend the Library into the ‘Lecture Room of the Botanical Dept’, to be vacated by the Dept of Engineering;

1 March 1922: Letter from Henry Fairfield Osborn accepting an invitation to represent the Society at the Second International Congress of Eugenics in New York;

22 January 1922: list of proposals adopted by the Council concerning fees, associate membership and grants;

22 February 1922: Confidential printed reports concerning the financial position of the Society and its Library;

22 October 1922: Report on the Proceedings of the Society including the suggestion of a new Biological Journal;
22 December 1922: Report of the Committee appointed to consider the publication of a new series of Biological Proceedings;
5 March 1923: copy of a minute passed by the Syndicate of Cambridge University Press writing off the Society’s debt to the Press for 1922.
22 October 1906-16 July 1923

**CPS 2/1/8  Council minutes Volume 8**

The following items are regularly included: printed balloting lists for election of officers at the annual general meeting; congratulatory addresses to other learned societies, universities etc, on their anniversaries (chiefly overseas); lists of those elected to associate membership, including women students from Girton College and Newnham College; printed statements of accounts; Hopkins Prize notices; reports of the Finance Committee and the Library Committee (from 1937); Library accounts (from p.455).

Other items tipped / pasted in include:

p.1 Stock list of Transactions and Proceedings, July 1923;
p.77 Report of the committee on Biological Proceedings;
p.103 Letter from H Munro Fox resigning as secretary to the Biological Proceedings;
p.126 Letter from the Royal Society inviting nomination of a representative of the Cambridge Philosophical Society to replace E W Hobson on the National Committee for Mathematics, 1 October 1927;
p.145 Invitation to the Society to designate delegates to the International Congress of Mathematicians in 1928 in Bologna;
p.223 Invitation from the University of Cambridge to the Society to take part in the commemoration of the centenary of the birth of James Clark Maxwell, 1931;
p.225 Note of the costs of printing ‘Proceedings’ and ‘Biological Reviews’, 1928-30;
p.231 Letter from the Royal Society concerning a donation towards the cost of publishing Proceedings and Biological Reviews, 3 July 1931;
p.291 Memorandum on the Future of the Philosophical Library (1933);
1933-37: Minutes of joint meetings of the Council of the Society and the Philosophical Library Committee;
1935: Report concerning the move of the Philosophical Library to the Arts School;

p.383 Recommendations of the Periodicals Sub-Committee;

p.390 Letter from the Royal Society concerning a donation towards the cost of publications, 9 July 1937;

p.404 Suggested alterations to the 1929 bye-laws;

p.411 Letter from H Munro Fox to J D Cockcroft concerning an honorarium to be paid to H M F as editor of Biological Reviews for a period of three years;

p.413 Report from the Editorial Committee for the Proceedings;

p.417 Note on publication of ‘Research Notes’ in the Proceedings;

p.491 Letter from E K Rideal of Cambridge University Dept of Colloid Science (and President of the Society) to A H Wilson of Trinity College concerning the possibility of the establishment of a Department for the History of Science and a Museum, a scheme involving the Society, 17 January 1944.

15 October 1923-4 June 1945

CPS 2/1/9 Council minutes Volume 9

Many meetings in the mid-1940s were held in the tea room of the Mond Laboratory.

The following items are regularly included: reports and minutes of committees, including Periodicals, Finance, Library, and Editorial (Proceedings); reports on accounts; and nominations of associate members of the Society.

Additional items pasted in include:

p.1 Typescript list of ‘Countries of origin of the Contributions to Biological Reviews from its beginnings up to Oct 1945’ received from H Munro Fox November 1945;

p.89 Copy of a letter from H A Hollond to W A H Rushton concerning the possibility of the election of non-graduates as Fellows, 6 July 1947;

p.105 Report of a sub-committee appointed to consider and arrange meetings in the various departments of the University [ie visits of interest to members, talks, lectures etc], 10 December 1947;
5 November 1945-3 May 1954

CPS 2/1/10 Council minutes Volume 10
The following items are regularly included: reports and minutes of committees and sub-committees, including the Editorial Sub-Committee (Proceedings) (on pink paper), Finance Committee (on yellow paper), Periodicals Sub-Committee (on blue paper); and Philosophical Library Committee; and nominations for associate membership.

Additional items pasted in include:
p.47 List of undergraduate scientific societies [1955];
p.54 Memorandum by the Treasurer concerning the rise in publishing costs and possible payment by the General Board of Cambridge University to the Society in return for use by the University of the Philosophical Library, particularly periodicals (which would otherwise have to be purchased by the University if it wished to maintain a central scientific library);
p.58 Proposal for revision of Bye-Law XIII relating to custody of the common seal, charter and deeds of the Society;
p.83 Minutes of a special meeting with an impression of the new engraving seal affixed, 14 May 1956;
p.120 Treasurer’s report on the Hopkins Prize Fund [1957];
p.234 Proposed draft agreement on ‘Relations between the University Science Library and the Cambridge Philosophical Society [1960];
p.439 Nomination of Prof Rodney Hill for the International Prize and Gold Medal awarded by the Academy of Sciences in Turin in honour of Prof Modesto Panetti [1965].
3 May 1954-28 October 1965
CPS 2/1/11 Council minutes Volume 11
This volume contains only minutes of meetings: there are no additional items pasted in.
10 January 1966-11 October 1976

CPS 2/1/12 Council minutes Volume 12
1977-1983

CPS 2/1/13 Council minutes Volume 13
1984-1990

CPS 2/1/14 Council minutes Volume 14
1990-1995

CPS 2/1/15 Council minutes Volume 15
1995-2000

CPS 2/2 Cambridge Philosophical Society: Council minutes, papers and correspondence
The minutes in these files more or less duplicate the contents of the volumes of signed minutes at CPS 2/1 above. However, most of the papers and correspondence are unique to these files. The files are inscribed 'Librarian's file': they were, however, found with a note reading '1969 - filed in Executive Secretary's Office (Prior to 1969 the Librarian also acted as Executive Secretary - these are the original Society archives and not Library copies)'.
1955-1968 7 files

CPS 2/2/1 Council minutes, papers and correspondence: File 1
1955-1958
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>CPS 2/2/2</td>
<td>Council minutes, papers and correspondence File 2</td>
<td>1959-1961</td>
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<td>CPS 2/2/3</td>
<td>Council minutes, papers and correspondence File 3</td>
<td>1962-1963</td>
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<td>CPS 2/2/4</td>
<td>Council minutes, papers and correspondence File 4</td>
<td>1964-1965</td>
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<td>CPS 2/2/5</td>
<td>Council minutes, papers and correspondence File 5</td>
<td>1966</td>
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<td>CPS 2/2/6</td>
<td>Council minutes, papers and correspondence File 6</td>
<td>1967</td>
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<td>CPS 2/2/7</td>
<td>Council minutes, papers and correspondence File 7</td>
<td>1968</td>
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<td>CPS 2/3</td>
<td>'Cambridge Philosophical Society: Letters and Notes from Council Minute Book Vol. I'</td>
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<td>Exercise book with cover inscribed as above. Contains notes made on early</td>
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<td>Council minutes and a note of letters pasted in, 1819-1843. Author and date</td>
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<td>of these notes unknown - possibly early 20thC notes made with a view to</td>
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<td>compiling a history of the Society.</td>
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<td>circa 1915</td>
<td>1 notebook in file</td>
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<td>CPS 2/4</td>
<td>'Letters from Council Minute Book'</td>
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<td>Items found in a file labelled as above: presumably loose items removed</td>
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<td>from Council minute book. Comprising letters, notes etc, as follows:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>List of foreign members of the Society [mid-19thC?], including notes on</td>
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<td></td>
<td>those amongst them who are likely to be still alive;</td>
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Letters from other bodies concerning the exchange of Proceedings, including Trinity College Dublin, 1867, the Philosophical Society of Glasgow, 1868 and the Royal Society, 1869;

List of subscription arrears up to the end of 1858;

Two letters concerning interest due on Society bonds, 1859, and two concerning money due on the bonds of the Bishop of Melbourne, Australia, 1871;

Letter from J Challis to T G Bonney, Secretary of the Society, concerning adjudication of the Hopkins Prize, April 1867;

Five page letter from Harold Jeffreys, of St John’s College, to the Electors to the Isaac Newton Studentships, being a report on his work, 25 January 1916, and applying for renewal of his studentship (the report concerns his work on investigation of the causes of the annual variation of latitude and also notes that he has undertaken war research at the Cavendish Laboratory under Sir J J Thomson).

1858-1916 1 file
CPS 3  GENERAL MEETINGS
This section contains minutes and papers of General Meetings and Special
General Meetings of the Cambridge Philosophical Society.
Covering dates: 1819-2014
Extent: 16 items

CPS 3/1  Cambridge Philosophical Society: General Meeting minutes
Volumes 1, 5-8 and 10 are paginated (volume 1 is paginated to p. 51 only).
Additional items are often tipped or pasted in to the volumes. The minutes
are written by hand from 1819 to 1935 (Volume 1 to part way through
Volume 7). From 28 October 1935 the minutes are on typescript sheets
tipped or pasted into the volumes.

Early minutes record the following: reading and confirmation of minutes of
the previous meeting; motions brought / notices and letters etc read out to
the meeting; proposal and election of members and honorary members;
‘communications’ made [papers read] to the meeting; receipt of gifts of
books, transactions, artefacts etc from other societies and individuals. By the
mid-1860s the business recorded usually consists only of confirmation of the
minutes of the previous meeting; proposal and election of new fellows; and a
note of papers read.

A record of visits to places of interest begins in volume 7: these appear to
tail off from the late 1960s.

‘Anniversary’ meetings (annual general meetings) record election of new
officers and the auditing of the treasurer’s accounts. They are called annual
general meetings from 1857. They were originally held in May; from
volume 4 they take place in October. From volume 5 papers for AGMs are
pasted in, including statements of accounts and balloting lists for the election
of officers.

From 1827 papers given are recorded more concisely; from volume 5 so
many papers are listed to be read that a number are ‘taken as read’.

From volume 4, early 1880s, papers by women begin to be presented to
meetings, though they are often presented by male colleagues.

From 1881, printed flyers announcing meetings and speakers are pasted in.

From the late 1890s, meetings begin to be held in a variety of places, chiefly
University laboratories and lecture rooms.

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From volume 6, lists of those elected to associate membership are included. From 1939, the minutes become shorter and more basic: sometimes they record only the date of the meeting, the name of the lecturer and the title of the lecture or the name of the institution visited.

1819-2014  13 volumes

**CPS 3/1/1  General Meeting minutes Volume 1**

30 October 1819: ‘The resident members of the University, who have taken their first degree, are hereby invited to assemble at the Lecture Room, under the Public Library at twelve o’clock, on Tuesday Nov 2, for the purpose of instituting a society, as a point of concourse, for scientific communications’.

The minutes of a meeting held on 3 November 1819, chaired by Dr Haviland, record that the society was duly instituted at the meeting on 2 November. P.3: report of the committee elected on 8 November, comprising 20 resolutions made for regulating the Society. P. 6: regulations of the Cambridge Philosophical Society, adopted at a public meeting held ‘in the University’ on 15 November, a society instituted ‘for the purpose of promoting scientific enquiries & - - - the advancement of Philosophy’; meetings to be held once a fortnight during full term.

The first meeting proper of the Society was held in the Museum of the Botanic Garden, 13 December 1819, with Prof Farish in the chair.

A meeting of 6 March 1820 resolved that ‘a paper by Prof Sedgwick of the Geology of Cornwall &c be the first communication read to the Society at the next general meeting’.

P.16: motion to style the Society ‘The Cambridge Philosophical & Literary Society’.

P.46: extraordinary meeting 3 December 1821 concerning proposals for a Reading Room;

25 March 1822: record of Reading Room rules and regulations drawn up by a committee appointed for that purpose;

Regular contributors of papers include Charles Babbage, the Rev J Hailstone, Adam Sedgwick, William Farish, James Cumming, William Whewell, George Biddell Airy, John Henslow and George Peacock.

30 October 1819-22 March 1830
CPS 3/1/2  General Meeting minutes Volume 2

16 May 1832: resolution concerning the building of a ‘new house for the Society’;

15 May 1833: impression of the Society’s seal ‘representing a figure of Sir Isaac Newton resembling the statue in the Chapel of Trinity College’;

16 November 1835: extracts of letters were read from Sir J Herschel and Charles Darwin, the latter containing ‘accounts of the geology of - - - the Andes and S. America’;

14 December 1835: further communications from Charles Darwin;

30 April 1844: special meeting concerning the British Association meeting to be held in Cambridge in the summer of 1845.


26 April 1830-24 February 1851

CPS 3/1/3  General Meeting minutes Volume 3

9 February 1857: bye-laws pasted in, initialled and confirmed by George Paget;

25 February 1861: note of the British Association meeting to be held in Cambridge in the summer of 1862;

10 November 1862: a letter from the Duke of Devonshire, Chatsworth, 8 November 1862, accepting the Society’s invitation ‘to succeed the lamented Prince Consort as Patron’ is tipped in;

5 February 1866: special general meeting agrees to affix the Society’s seal to a deed assigning the lease from St John’s College to the Society for 40 years from Michaelmas 1860 of the house and premises on All Saints Passage to Mr Carpenter of Post Office Terrace for £1200.

10 March 1851-26 May 1873

CPS 3/1/4  General Meeting minutes Volume 4

9 May 1881: printed report of the Council of the Society, 25 April 1881, relating to premises, Library and relations with the University of Cambridge;

26 February 1883: reading of first paper by a woman? (Miss Johnson ‘On the development of the pelvic girdle and hind limb of the chick’);

13 February 1888: loose, printed note entitled ‘Preliminary note on the Physiology of Sponges by George Bidder, BA, Trinity College’;

1889 and 1890: statements of accounts for 1888 and 1889 respectively pasted in.


20 October 1873-2 December 1895

CPS 3/1/5  General Meeting minutes Volume 5

Meetings recorded in this volume were held variously at the Cavendish Laboratory; the Chemical Laboratory; the Optical Lecture Room; the Observatory; the School of Agriculture; the New Medical School; the Botany School; the Comparative Anatomy Lecture Room; the University Botanical Laboratory; and the Engineering Laboratory.

5 June 1899: special meeting held at the Cavendish Laboratory for the presentation of papers to be published in a volume commemorating Sir George Stokes’ long association with the Society;

17 February 1914: special meeting at which Dr Max Wolf showed slides of recent work at Heidelberg on the Nebulae and their Spectra;
18 May 1914: a printed list of honorary members, including Max Planck, elected at the meeting of that date is tipped in;

23 February 1920: a typed list of ‘Exhibits’ is tipped in.


27 January 1896-22 November 1920

CPS 3/1/6 General Meeting minutes Volume 6

Meetings recorded in this volume were held variously at the Cavendish Laboratory; the Chemical Laboratory; the Optical Lecture Room; the Observatory; the School of Agriculture; the New Medical School; the Botany School; the Comparative Anatomy Lecture Room; the University Botanical Laboratory; and the Engineering Laboratory.

8 March 1922: special meeting to consider the financial situation of the Society, with various related printed papers tipped in;

12 June 1923: special meeting to elect Niels Bohr an honorary member, with typescript address of welcome tipped in;


p.228: printed charter and bye-laws tipped in, as amended 1929;

p.244: E T S Walton, ‘The Production of High Speed electrons by indirect means’ was ‘taken as read’, 29 July 1929.

24 January 1921-25 November 1929

**CPS 3/1/7 General Meeting minutes Volume 7**
Meetings recorded in this volume were held variously at the Cavendish Laboratory; the Chemical Laboratory; the Botany School; the Comparative Anatomy Lecture Room; the Engineering Laboratory, Scroope House; the Pathology School; the Molteno Institute of Parasitology; the Physical Chemistry Laboratory; the School of Agriculture; the Physiology Lecture Theatre; the Zoological Laboratory; the Department of Geography; the Department of Colloid Science; the Department of Anatomy; the University Farm, Huntingdon Road; the Strangeways Research Laboratory, Hills Road; and the Department of Mineralogy and Petrology. Some of these meetings took the form of specific visits to/tours of the said laboratories, departments etc.

Tipped in at front: printed charter/abstract of laws prescribed by the charter/bye-laws/regulations for the Hopkins Prize, 1938; printed list of fellows and honorary members as at 1939;

p.102: a report on the future of the Philosophical Library, ie its accommodation, including proposals for a possible move to the Arts School, is pasted in;

9 June 1947: special general meeting to consider amendments to the bye-laws, including the addition of a new bye-law concerning Senior Associates.

Few papers were actually read at meetings by this date, but authors of note whose papers are mentioned in the minutes include: P A M Dirac, E V Appleton, J Larmor, J Needham, G Gamow, E D Adrian, H F Baker, J B S Haldane, J D Cockcroft, E T S Walton, F P Bowden, C P Snow, J D Bernal, E Rutherford, and Honor Fell.

27 January 1930-15 November 1948

**CPS 3/1/8 General Meeting minutes Volume 8**
Meetings were held variously at the Mill Lane Lecture Rooms, the Arts School, the Department of Radiotherapeutics, and the Zoology, Chemical,
Engineering and Cavendish Laboratories. From the early 1960s onwards many took place in the Arts School.

Some meetings were held jointly with other bodies, including: the Cambridge University Meteorological Society; the Physics Society; the Archimedeans; the University Veterinary School, the University Engineering Society; the University Chemical Society and the Chemical Society (London); the University Medical School; and the Society for the Application of Research.

By this date most meetings appear to consist of a single lecture or external visit or a symposium with a handful of speakers. Speakers of note include: Dr J S Mitchell, Fred Hoyle, Lawrence Bragg, Max Perutz, Sir Charles Darwin, Francis Crick, Joseph Needham, William Hawthorne, Edward Bullard, J D Bernal, F S Dainton, D W Sciama, H E Huxley, Alex Todd, N Barnes Wallis, M V Wilkes, George Thomson, Aaron Klug, Roy Calne, Brian Pippard and Alan Cottrell.

External visits for demonstrations of research work etc include: the University Farm; the University Press; Pye Ltd; ‘the new Bore Hole’; the Botanic Garden; the Hydraulic Model at the Great Ouse River Board, Coldham’s Lane; Cranfield College of Aeronautics; ICI Welwyn Garden City; the School of Veterinary Medicine; the Babraham Institute; the Cambridge Observatories; the Mullard Radio Astronomy Laboratory; the John Innes Institute; Tube Investments Research Laboratories; DSIR Water Pollution Research Laboratory Stevenage; the British Welding Research Association; the Department of Chemical Engineering; Unilever Research Laboratory near Bedford; MoD Services Electronics Research Laboratory, Baldock; Monks Wood Experimental Station, Abbots Ripton, Huntingdon.

External visits appear to tail off from the late 1960s.

p.100, pasted in: menu for dinner held on 14 October 1957 to commemorate William Harvey (1578-1657);

p.121: minute 11 of AGM 27 October 1958 notes the possibility of the establishment of a University Science Library;

p.123, pasted in: note by the Archimedeans minutes secretary (D M Blackburn) concerning the Larmor Memorial Lecture 1958, delivered by Prof J L Synge;

p.222: note of a dinner held by the Society 20 May 1966 at Gonville and Caius College in honour of Academician P Kapitza, ‘one of its most distinguished foreign members’.
7 February 1949-22 November 1971

CPS 3/1/9  General Meeting minutes Volume 9
Meetings were held chiefly at the Arts School; also the Cavendish Laboratory, the University Chemical Laboratory, and the Cockcroft Lecture Theatre at the New Museums site. Some meetings did not host a speaker and record only minutes of business and membership matters.
Speakers of note include: George Salt, Antony Hewish, Lord Ashby, Joseph Needham, D W Sciama, Frederick Sanger, and Martin Rees.
External visits for demonstrations of research work etc include: Tracked Hovercraft Ltd, Earith; Huntingdon Research Centre; Fisheries Laboratory, Lowestoft; Holme Fen, Welney and Wicken Fen; Mullard Radio Astronomy Laboratory; Equine Research Station, Newmarket; Welding Institute, Abington; University Botanic Garden; Hamilton Kerr Institute, Whittlesford; Radiochemical Centre, Amersham; Ford Motor Co Ltd, Dagenham; and the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.
28 October 1974, tipped in with record of AGM: printed charter / bye-laws / regulations for William Hopkins Prize and William Bate Hardy Prize, 1974;
26 January 1976: special general meeting concerning co-ordination of provision for scientific and medical periodicals in the University Library, the Scientific Periodicals Library and the Medical Library.
17 January 1972-22 November 1982

CPS 3/1/10  General Meeting minutes Volume 10
Meetings were held chiefly at the Arts School or the Cockcroft Lecture Theatre at the New Museums site.
Speakers of note include: Janet Watson, FRS; Terry English FRCS (Papworth Hospital surgeon); James Melcher, MIT; Archie Howie, D Lynden-Bell, A C Renfrew; and Sir Hans Kornberg.
External visits for demonstrations of research work etc include: Kodak Ltd, Harrow; Tube Investments Research Laboratories, Hinxton Hall; Napp Laboratories, Cambridge Science Park; Johnson Matthey Chemicals Ltd, Royston; Plant Breeding Institute, Trumpington; Greene King Brewery, Bury St Edmunds; and Southern Fenland, including Denver Sluice.
CPS 3/1/11 General Meeting minutes Volume 11
1988-1997

CPS 3/1/12 General Meeting minutes Volume 12
1997-2013

CPS 3/1/13 General Meeting minutes Volume 13
2014-

CPS 3/2 ‘Account of the proceedings of the Cambridge Philosophical Society at their meeting of March 18, 1867 - - -
‘- - - with a few reflections suggested by those proceedings.’ Manuscript with alterations and annotations, written 20 March 1867.
Together with a letter from Herbert W Turnbull (whose father, W P Turnbull, wrote the account) to Professor Baker, 4 September 1926, in which he says the paper was ‘read I think at an Essay Society known as the Parallelepiped, which consisted of six members, including W K Clifford, Moule (late Bishop of Durham), my father and three others. You were interested in the extract from this printed in my book on my Father’.
[William Peveril Turnbull (circa 1842 - 1917) and his son Herbert Turnbull (1885-1961) both studied mathematics at Trinity College, Cambridge. William and Herbert were Second Wranglers in the Mathematics Tripos in 1864 and 1907 respectively. William became an Inspector of Schools in 1871 and Herbert was ultimately Regius Professor of Mathematics at the University of St Andrews.]
1867-1926 1 file

CPS 3/3 Special general meetings concerning provision of scientific and medical periodicals
Two files as follows:
1) Papers concerning i) special general meetings of the Cambridge Philosophical Society held (chiefly under the presidency of Dame Honor Fell) to discuss the Draft Report of the General Board on the co-ordination of the provision for scientific and medical periodicals in the University Library, the Scientific Periodicals Library and the Medical Library (the principal recommendation being that the SPL and the Medical Library should become organisationally part of Cambridge University Library) and ii) the relationship generally between the University and the Society – accommodation, library etc - 1974-76;

2) ’G.B. Scientific Periodicals Committee’ (ie General Board of the Faculties Committee on Scientific Periodicals, established 1972) papers, 1972-1976, with background papers dating from 1958.

1972-1976 2 files in 1 bundle
CPS 4 COMMITTEE RECORDS

The committee records listed here derive largely from committees set up to oversee the production of Cambridge Philosophical Society publications. There are also financial committee records and records of a committee set up to organise the sesquicentenary celebrations in 1969.

Covering dates: 1966-1998

Extent: 10 items

Minutes of many ad hoc committees, also minutes of the Library Committee, the Finance Committee and various publications committees, are pasted into the Council minutes at CPS 2.

CPS 4/1 Editorial Committee for Proceedings: minutes
Typescript signed minutes bound into a volume.
April 1966-November 1976 1 volume

CPS 4/2 Editorial Committee for Biological Reviews: minutes
Typescript signed minutes bound into 2 volumes in 1993.
1967-1987 2 volumes

CPS 4/2/1 Editorial Committee for Biological Reviews: minutes
Volume 1
October 1967-October 1976

CPS 4/2/2 Editorial Committee for Biological Reviews: minutes
Volume 2
May 1977-October 1987

CPS 4/3 Publications Committee

This committee was set up to review all aspects of the publishing activities of the Cambridge Philosophical Society, with special reference to Proceedings, including: the cost of publishing Proceedings; the desirability of dividing Proceedings into two sections covering pure and applied
mathematics; the possibility of changing the title to make the scope of the journal more explicit; and the desirability of publishing a third journal. The committee was convened by Jack Ratcliffe.

1972-1973 1 volume and 1 file

**CPS 4/3/1  Publications Committee: Item 1**

Typescript signed minutes bound into a volume.

December 1972-March 1973 1 volume

**CPS 4/3/2  Publications Committee: Item 2**

Minutes, reports, papers and correspondence, including background papers relating to historical costs and sales. Correspondents include: David Kendall; Brenda Smith (Executive Secretary); Jack Ratcliffe; M F Atiyah; Peter Whittle, John Kingman; Peter Swinnerton-Dyer; James Lighthill; and George Batchelor. The Committee's final report to Council includes a short history of the Society's publications.

1972-1973 1 file

**CPS 4/4  Investments Committee: minutes**

Signed minutes. Originally the Finance Committee: became the Investments Committee in 1970.

1966-1998 3 volumes

**CPS 4/4/1  Investments Committee: minutes Volume 1**

[Finance Committee until 1970.]

1966-1976
CPS 4/4/2  Investments Committee: minutes Volume 2
1977-1987

CPS 4/4/3  Investments Committee: minutes Volume 3
1988-1998

CPS 4/5  1969 Committee
The committee was appointed to draw up a programme of events to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Society.
1966-1969  1 volume and 1 file

CPS 4/5/1  1969 Committee: Item 1
Signed minutes.
February 1968-October 1969

CPS 4/5/2  1969 Committee: Item 2
Minutes, papers and correspondence.
1966-1969
CPS 5    FINANCIAL RECORDS

This section lists accounts, cash books, papers relating to investments, and receipts etc kept by the Treasurer.

Covering dates: 1819-2010
Extent: 29 items

CPS 5/1    Cambridge Philosophical Society Annual Accounts

This sub-section contains statements of accounts and balance sheets, printed annual accounts, and abstracts of accounts.

CPS 5/1/1    Statements of accounts and balance sheets

Produced for the Cambridge Philosophical Society by Price Waterhouse & Co (1938-54) and Peters Elworthy & Moore (1955 to date). Year ending 31 July (to 1955); then 1 August 1955 to 31 December 1956; then year ending 31 December. From 1993 to 1996 they are entitled 'Financial Statements'; from 2007 onwards 'Report of the Council of Management and Financial Statements'.

1938-2010 2 boxes and 1 file

CPS 5/1/1/1 Statements of accounts and balance sheets: Bundle 1
1938-1965 1 box

CPS 5/1/1/2 Statements of accounts and balance sheets: Bundle 2
1966-1999 1 box

CPS 5/1/1/3 Statements of accounts and balance sheets: Bundle 3
2000-2010 1 file
CPS 5/1/2  Printed annual statements of accounts
1888-1983  [Incomplete date coverage.]  1 file

CPS 5/1/3  Abstracts of accounts
1836-1862  1 bundle in file

CPS 5/2  Cambridge Philosophical Society cash books / income and expenditure accounts

Many of the volumes listed in this sub-section include a record of subscriptions paid to the Cambridge Philosophical Society.

See also CPS 6/3 for further records of subscriptions.

CPS 5/2/1  'Treasurer's account book'
Comprises income and expenditure accounts 1822-33. Also contains, at front of volume, lists of life subscribers to the Society, 1819-28, and life subscribers to the Reading Room, 1822-37; and, at back of volume, inverted, lists of life subscribers 1829-34.
1819-1834  1 volume

CPS 5/2/2  'Treasurer's account books'
Comprising chiefly income and expenditure accounts.
1821-1920  [1821-1897 and 1920]  2 volumes

CPS 5/2/2/1 'Treasurer's account books':
Volume 1
Contains annual signatures of those examining the accounts.
Also includes lists of subscribers of 10 guineas each or more, 1820-22,
and lists of annual subscribers, 1820-21, including note of arrears.

Also contains, in middle of volume, Museum Fund accounts 1838-65 and Hopkins Testimonial Fund accounts 1866-73 and, inverted at back, Building Fund accounts 1832.

1821-1875

CPS 5/2/2/2 'Treasurer's account books': Vol 2
Also contains accounts relating to the Hopkins Testimonial Fund. Volume three quarters blank.

1876-1920 [1876-1897 and 1920]

CPS 5/2/3 Cash books
Comprising income and expenditure accounts, the volumes are variously described on the cover as 'Accounts' or 'Cash books' but clearly form a series. They also contain a record of subscriptions.

1938-1971  15 volumes

CPS 5/2/3/1 Cash books: Volume 1
1938-1943

CPS 5/2/3/2 Cash books: Volume 2
1943-1947

CPS 5/2/3/3 Cash books: Volume 3
1947-1950

CPS 5/2/3/4 Cash books: Volume 4
1950-1952

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CPS 5/2/3/5 Cash books: Volume 5  
1952-1954

CPS 5/2/3/6 Cash books: Volume 6  
1954-1955

CPS 5/2/3/7 Cash books: Volume 7  
1956

CPS 5/2/3/8 Cash books: Volume 8  
1957

CPS 5/2/3/9 Cash books: Volume 9  
1958

CPS 5/2/3/10 Cash books: Volume 10  
1959

CPS 5/2/3/11 Cash books: Volume 11  
1960

CPS 5/2/3/12 Cash books: Volume 12  
1961

CPS 5/2/3/13 Cash books: Volume 13  
1962

CPS 5/2/3/14 Cash books: Volume 14

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CPS 5/2/3/15 Cash books: Volume 15
1964-1971

CPS 5/2/4  Petty cash book
1931-1969  1 volume

CPS 5/3  Cambridge Philosophical Society Investments
This sub-section includes records of investment in the Cambridge Philosophical Society and investments made by the Society.

CPS 5/3/1  'Bonds drawn up by the CPS and related correspondence, dated primarily from the 1850s'
File contains bonds drawn up between the Society and various members for loans to the Society of £50 (1833-35) and £100 (1855), together with receipts for repayment by the Society, with interest, 1865-66 and 1872. The following made loans: Thomas Thorp; Rev Robert Willis; John Haviland; Dr T Thackeray; Adam Sedgwick; Thomas Mortlock; Rev Jonathan Hymers; Rev Francis Martin; Samuel Earnshaw; Henry J Hailes Bond; Rev H Holditch; Rev William Whewell; Mrs Sarah Boys; William Hallows Miller; Rev Thomas Hedley; and Charles Perry, Bishop of Melbourne.
1833-1872  1 bundle

CPS 5/3/2  'Securities Price Lists'
Flyleaf of volume inscribed 'Cambridge Philosophical Society Stock Prices (equities) Stock Lists (gilt edged)'. Lists stocks held and their values. Three quarters of volume blank. The first few pages of the volume have been cut out.
1954-1961  1 volume
CPS 5/4  Bank books and miscellaneous

This sub-section includes bank books, receipts, invoices etc.

CPS 5/4/1  Miscellaneous receipts, invoices and cheque stubs

Receipts etc for books, furniture, gaslight, parish taxes (paid to the Parish of the Holy Sepulchre), fire insurance, printing, fuel, services, newspapers, rent (to St John's College), repairs, and maintenance. Including receipts from booksellers and stationers such as John Bowtell, John Deighton and W H Smith. Also some receipts and other papers relating to Society bonds.

1838-1938  [Chiefly 1840s - 1860s]  1 bundle in file

CPS 5/4/2  Miscellany of notes, receipts etc, presumably kept by the Treasurer

File contains:

Note from the Treasurer exhorting members to pay subscriptions and arrears as soon as possible, 25 May 1835;

List of arrears of subscriptions, arranged by College then alphabetically, no date but probably 1820s?;

‘Cambridge Philosophical Society in account with J N Parker’ [bookseller?: appears to be a record of stock of Transactions held by J N P to sell on behalf of the Society], 1847-48;

List of expenses paid by the Society to Prof Challis, 2 September 1851;

Receipt for £12 10s, being the quarterly salary of the Curator, due Michaelmas 1851, received from the Treasurer and signed W T Purchas, 29 September 1851;

Receipt for 5s received from the Society for ‘names of Preachers at Great St Mary’s from Mids. to Xmas’, signed H Smith, 26 December 1851;

‘List of those who are willing to become Subscribers to the News Room at a payment of £1 10s per annum’, 1 May 1856;

Additional signatures of those wishing to become subscribers to the News Room, forty additional names being needed to cover expenses (nine additional names only on this list), 14 May 1856;
List of signatures of those who ‘desire to have the Reading Room re-established after its connection with the Philosophical has terminated on Dec 31 1856’;

Letter from H F Newall to [A E] Shipley, Treasurer, concerning his perusal of the records of the Society’s investments, 1892-99, and his recommendation of investment of £94 for the Hopkins Fund, 17 March 1899;

Printed balance sheet recording receipts and expenditure in connection with a portrait of Sir Archibald Geikie, 15 June 1915.

circa 1825-1915 1 bundle in file

CPS 5/4/3 Barclays Bank pass books for Cambridge Philosophical Society accounts

File contains:

1) Pass book with miscellaneous cancelled cheques tucked into pocket at front, 1931-32;

2) Deposit account pass book, 1922-32;


1922-1939 3 items in file
CPS 6  MEMBERSHIP RECORDS

This section includes lists and indexes of fellows and associates of the Cambridge Philosophical Society; proposal forms for fellows and associates; letters of acceptance sent by those elected to honorary membership; and records of subscriptions to the Society.

Covering dates: 1819-1984

Extent: 99 items

CPS 6/1  Patrons and Honorary Members

This sub-section includes a letter concerning Prince Albert’s election as Patron of the Cambridge Philosophical Society and original letters of acceptance from honorary members.

CPS 6/1/1  Letter concerning Prince Albert's election as Patron of the Cambridge Philosophical Society

Letter addressed from Buckingham Palace, from C B Phipps to William Hopkins, Secretary of the Society, expressing Prince Albert's pleasure at being elected patron of the Society and indicating his acceptance. Sole item found in a file inscribed 'Letters of special interest'.

14 May 1847 1 file

CPS 6/1/2  Honorary Members letters of acceptance

Two large presentation boxes, each containing two presentation volumes. The volumes contain, tipped in, original letters of acceptance from those elected honorary members of the Cambridge Philosophical Society.

1819-1971 [1819-1891 and 1914-1971] 4 volumes

CPS 6/1/2/1 Honorary Members letters of acceptance: Volume 1

1819-1822
CPS 6/1/2/2 Honorary Members letters of acceptance: Volume 2
1823-1891

CPS 6/1/2/3 Honorary Members letters of acceptance: Volume 3
1914-1971

CPS 6/1/2/4 Honorary Members letters of acceptance: Volume 4
[Volume blank but prepared for additional letters.]

CPS 6/1/3 Honorary Membership certificates
Bundle of blank certificates of election to honorary membership of the Cambridge Philosophical Society, one of them bearing both paper and wax seal of the Society.
circa 1870 [No specific date found but possibly mid-late 19thC] 1 file

CPS 6/1/4 'John and Edward Troughton, Mathematical Instrument Makers'
Offprint of an article by A W Skempton and Joyce Brown from Notes and Records of the Royal Society, 27, No 2, February 1973. [Edward Troughton was elected one of the first Honorary Members of the Cambridge Philosophical Society. In 1820 he gave to the Society the barometer and thermometer which are shown on page 64 of A Rupert Hall, ‘The Cambridge Philosophical Society: A History 1819-1969’.]
1973 1 file

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CPS 6/2 Fellows and Associates: membership lists and applications

This sub-section contains an early register of Fellows, together with proposal forms for Fellows and Associates and various card indexes of members.

CPS 6/2/1 Register of Fellows of the Cambridge Philosophical Society

The flyleaf of the volume is inscribed 'This register was drawn up from the minute books of the Society in December 1857'. It contains the following:

1) alphabetical register, 1820-61 (compiled retrospectively in 1857 and continued to 1861);

2) chronological register 1861-96.

Each entry records the following information: date of election; name of Fellow and college; date of withdrawal where relevant (resignation / death). For 'election date' the word 'original' is occasionally entered, presumably indicating a founding fellow, 1819/20. Page 1 includes ‘Albert, HRH Prince LLD, Trinity, Chancellor, elected 8 May 1847’.

The volume also contains some loose inserts, chiefly relating to subscriptions in arrears, also a letter from F Bashforth of St John's College (elected 27 January 1845) to 'My dear Campion', in which he says he encloses a bank draft for £5 5/- 'provided the Society will accept that in lieu of all further payments by me to the Society - - -'.

1820-1896 1 volume

CPS 6/2/2 Photocopy of list of original Fellows of the Cambridge Philosophical Society

1820-1826 1 file

Date of copy unknown: possibly made for exhibition purposes in 1969.

CPS 6/2/3 Fellows and Associates Proposal Forms

Printed forms filled in by hand recording name of person being proposed; degree (eg BA); college and place of residence (eg Clare College, 2 Melbourne Place); date of meeting at which the proposal was made (this is often blank); and the signatures of those (usually several existing Fellows of
the Society, including one ‘from personal knowledge’) proposing the person
to be a Fellow or Associate of the Cambridge Philosophical Society.
Some forms are annotated with the word 'elected', but it is not always clear
whether a proposal resulted in election.
Early forms have the word ‘Fellow’ struck through and overwritten with
‘Associate’ (and very occasionally ‘Senior Associate’) as appropriate.
[Associate membership had been established in 1872.] From 1930 a separate
form was printed for the proposal of Associates. Women's names begin
appearing more frequently in proposals for Associate membership from circa
1919.
The forms appear to have been archived in batches over the years and they
have been listed broadly as found.
1879-1983 42 files

**CPS 6/2/3/1 Fellows and Associates Proposal**
*Forms: File 1*
1879-1887

**CPS 6/2/3/2 Fellows and Associates Proposal**
*Forms: File 2*
1888-1899

**CPS 6/2/3/3 Fellows and Associates Proposal**
*Forms: File 3*
Surnames A-L.
1900-1919

**CPS 6/2/3/4 Fellows and Associates Proposal**
*Forms: File 4*
Surnames M-Y.
1900-1919
CPS 6/2/3/5 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 5
Surnames A-D.
1920-1929

CPS 6/2/3/6 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 6
Surnames E-K.
1920-1929

CPS 6/2/3/7 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 7
Surnames L-Q.
1920-1929

CPS 6/2/3/8 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 8
Surnames R-W.
1920-1929

CPS 6/2/3/9 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 9
Fellows only. Surnames A.
1930-circa 1983

CPS 6/2/3/10 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 10
Fellows only. Surnames B.
1930-circa 1983
CPS 6/2/3/11 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 11
Fellows only. Surnames C.
1930-circa 1983

CPS 6/2/3/12 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 12
Fellows only. Surnames D.
1930-circa 1983

CPS 6/2/3/13 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 13
Fellows only. Surnames E.
1930-circa 1983

CPS 6/2/3/14 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 14
Fellows only. Surnames F.
1930-circa 1983

CPS 6/2/3/15 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 15
Fellows only. Surnames G.
1930-circa 1983

CPS 6/2/3/16 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 16
Fellows only. Surnames H.
1930-circa 1983
CPS 6/2/3/17 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 17
Fellows only. Surnames I-L.
1930-circa 1983

CPS 6/2/3/18 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 18
Fellows only. Surnames M.
1930-circa 1983

CPS 6/2/3/19 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 19
Fellows only. Surnames N-Q.
1930-circa 1983

CPS 6/2/3/20 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 20
Fellows only. Surnames R.
1930-circa 1983

CPS 6/2/3/21 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 21
Fellows only. Surnames S.
1930-circa 1983

CPS 6/2/3/22 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 22
Fellows only. Surnames T-V.
1930-circa 1983
CPS 6/2/3/23 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 23
Fellows only. Surnames W-Y.
1930-circa 1983

CPS 6/2/3/24 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 24
Associates only. Surnames A-B.
1930-1969

CPS 6/2/3/25 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 25
Associates only. Surnames C-D.
1930-1969

CPS 6/2/3/26 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 26
Associates only. Surnames E-F.
1930-1969

CPS 6/2/3/27 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 27
Associates only. Surnames G-H.
1930-1969

CPS 6/2/3/28 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 28
Associates only. Surnames I-L.
1930-1969
CPS 6/2/3/29 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 29
Associates only. Surnames M.
1930-1969

CPS 6/2/3/30 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 30
Associates only. Surnames N-P.
1930-1969

CPS 6/2/3/31 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 31
Associates only. Surnames Q-R.
1930-1969

CPS 6/2/3/32 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 32
Associates only. Surnames S.
1930-1969

CPS 6/2/3/33 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 33
Associates only. Surnames T-V.
1930-1969

CPS 6/2/3/34 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 34
Associates only. Surnames W-Z.
1930-1969
CPS 6/2/3/35 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 35
Associates only. Surnames A-B.
1970-1983

CPS 6/2/3/36 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 36
Associates only. Surnames C-D.
1970-1983

CPS 6/2/3/37 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 37
Associates only. Surnames E-G.
1970-1983

CPS 6/2/3/38 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 38
Associates only. Surnames H-K.
1970-1983

CPS 6/2/3/39 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 39
Associates only. Surnames L-M.
1970-1983

CPS 6/2/3/40 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 40
Associates only. Surnames N-R.
1970-1983
CPS 6/2/3/41 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 41
Associates only. Surnames S.
1970-1983

CPS 6/2/3/42 Fellows and Associates Proposal
Forms: File 42
Associates only. Surnames T-Z.
1970-1983

CPS 6/2/4   Card indexes of members of the Cambridge Philosophical Society
Two drawers in a wooden cabinet. The cards contained in the drawers appear to record current members and former members as at circa 1970. They appear to include members from circa 1870 to circa 1970 and are presumed to have been compiled circa 1970 for reference, with information drawn from current and archival sources at that date.

The series is arranged alphabetically and records name; degree; College / department of the University; employer elsewhere; date of death / resignation; date coverage of membership; and subscriptions paid.

Some cards contain additional notes, eg ‘No more journals’; ‘does not want to renew after - - - ‘; ‘Presumed resigned’; ‘Presents journals instead of subscribing’; ‘Stencil destroyed’; ‘Left Cambridge’; ‘PROC.’ [Proceedings?].
circa 1970       2 card index drawers

CPS 6/2/5   Associates Record Cards
Arranged alphabetically by surname, recording the following information: name; dates of membership and record of subscriptions paid; date of election; degree / university; Cambridge College / Department; ‘P.K.’ [this may stand for ‘Personal Knowledge’, ie the name of a person who knows the applicant personally and proposed them for associate membership of the Cambridge Philosophical Society].

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The cards are often annotated with later details, eg contact made to check whether they are still in Cambridge; moves to other departments; those not wishing to renew etc.

Some cards also record the following: date of achieving PhD (noted from the Cambridge University Reporter in some instances); date of death; whether the Associate has Cambridge University MA status; date of re-election and/or election as a Fellow; date of leaving Cambridge; date of resignation.

The cards are arranged in two alphabetical subseries: CPS 6/2/5/1-8 date from circa 1947 to circa 1968; CPS 6/2/5/9-16 date from circa 1964 to circa 1984.

A label on the original box holding CPS 6/2/5/1-8 read '1950' with a later date of 17.6.80. added in red [possibly the date at which the cards were archived?].

CPS 6/2/5/1 Associates Record Cards: File 1
Surnames A-B.
circa 1947-circa 1968

CPS 6/2/5/2 Associates Record Cards: File 2
Surnames C-D.
circa 1947-circa 1968

CPS 6/2/5/3 Associates Record Cards: File 3
Surnames E-G.
circa 1947-circa 1968

CPS 6/2/5/4 Associates Record Cards: File 4
Surnames H-K.
circa 1947-circa 1968
CPS 6/2/5/5 Associates Record Cards: File 5
Surnames L-M.
circa 1947-circa 1968

CPS 6/2/5/6 Associates Record Cards: File 6
Surnames N-Q.
circa 1947-circa 1968

CPS 6/2/5/7 Associates Record Cards: File 7
Surnames R-S.
circa 1947-circa 1968

CPS 6/2/5/8 Associates Record Cards: File 8
Surnames T-Z.
circa 1947-circa 1968

CPS 6/2/5/9 Associates Record Cards: File 9
Surnames A-B.
circa 1964-circa 1984

CPS 6/2/5/10 Associates Record Cards: File 10
Surnames C-D.
circa 1964-circa 1984

CPS 6/2/5/11 Associates Record Cards: File 11
Surnames E-G.
circa 1964-circa 1984

CPS 6/2/5/12 Associates Record Cards: File 12

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Surnames H-K.
circa 1964-circa 1984

CPS 6/2/5/13 Associates Record Cards: File 13
Surnames L-M.
circa 1964-circa 1984

CPS 6/2/5/14 Associates Record Cards: File 14
Surnames N-Q.
circa 1964-circa 1984

CPS 6/2/5/15 Associates Record Cards: File 15
Surnames R-S.
circa 1964-circa 1984

CPS 6/2/5/16 Associates Record Cards: File 16
Surnames T-Z.
circa 1964-circa 1984

CPS 6/2/6 Prospectus for membership of the Cambridge Philosophical Society
Together with a note concerning an increase in the annual subscription.
1982 1 item
CPS 6/3  Subscription Records

This sub-section contains Treasurer's records of subscriptions paid to the Cambridge Philosophical Society together with miscellaneous letters concerning arrears, fines, resignations etc. There appears to be a gap in the main record of subscriptions for the period 1859-1882.

See also CPS 5/2 for further records of subscriptions contained in the Treasurer's income and expenditure accounts.

CPS 6/3/1  'Treasurer's Memorandum Books / Check Books' (subscriptions)

Labelled thus, these comprise a record of the subscriptions of early members of the Cambridge Philosophical Society. They are arranged broadly alphabetically by surname within various categories:

Resident in the University; non-resident; subscribers to the Reading Room; arrears; Fellows who are members of the Reading Room; Fellows who are not members of the Reading Room; Fellows paying life subscriptions.

Volumes 6 and 8 have printed Reading Room regulations attached at back of volume, including a list of those publications which are taken in.

The flyleaf of Volume 1 is inscribed ‘Annual Subscription Book of the Cambridge Philosophical Society’; gives instructions relating to the payment of subscriptions and the entering of names in the book, including the option of paying 10 Guineas for life membership; and is signed ‘B[ewick] Bridge, Treasurer’.

A separate series of subscription books, which partially overlaps with this series and fills the gap from 1828-29, was begun in 1828 (see CPS 6/3/2 below).

1821-1837  [1821-1827 and 1830-1837]  10 volumes

CPS 6/3/1/1 'Treasurer's Memorandum Books / Check Books' (subscriptions):
Volume 1
1821-1822
CPS 6/3/1/2 'Treasurer's Memorandum Books / Check Books' (subscriptions):
  Volume 2
  1823

CPS 6/3/1/3 'Treasurer's Memorandum Books / Check Books' (subscriptions):
  Volume 3
  1824

CPS 6/3/1/4 'Treasurer's Memorandum Books / Check Books' (subscriptions):
  Volume 4
  1824-1825

CPS 6/3/1/5 'Treasurer's Memorandum Books / Check Books' (subscriptions):
  Volume 5
  1825

CPS 6/3/1/6 'Treasurer's Memorandum Books / Check Books' (subscriptions):
  Volume 6
  1826

CPS 6/3/1/7 'Treasurer's Memorandum Books / Check Books' (subscriptions):
  Volume 7
  1827

CPS 6/3/1/8 'Treasurer's Memorandum Books / Check Books' (subscriptions):
  Volume 8

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1830-1831

CPS 6/3/1/9 'Treasurer's Memorandum Books / Check Books' (subscriptions):
Volume 9
1832-1833

CPS 6/3/1/10 ‘Treasurer's Memorandum Books / Check Books' (subscriptions):
Volume 10
1834-1837

CPS 6/3/2  Subscription Books
These volumes record date; name of person paying; name of member; name of the Cambridge College of which they are a member; and amount paid in subscription to the Cambridge Philosophical Society. Loose inserts found in the volumes for 1836 and 1841 have been extracted and catalogued as CPS 6/3/2/9a and CPS 6/3/2/14a respectively.
1828-1858 16 volumes and 2 files

CPS 6/3/2/1 Subscription Books: Volume 1
Reading Room regulations, including a list of publications taken in, pasted in at back of volume.
1828

CPS 6/3/2/2 Subscription Books: Volume 2
Reading Room regulations, including a list of publications taken in, pasted in at back of volume.
1829

CPS 6/3/2/3 Subscription Books: Volume 3
1830

CPS 6/3/2/4 Subscription Books: Volume 4

1831

CPS 6/3/2/5 Subscription Books: Volume 5

1832

CPS 6/3/2/6 Subscription Books: Volume 6

1833

CPS 6/3/2/7 Subscription Books: Volume 7

1834

CPS 6/3/2/8 Subscription Books: Volume 8

1835

CPS 6/3/2/9 Subscription Books: Volume 9

1836

CPS 6/3/2/9a Subscription Books: Volume 9

loose inserts

Loose items extracted from Volume 9, as follows:

Letter from J B Bourne, from Milnthorpe, Lancashire, to the Rev Prof Henslow, Secretary to the Society, querying the likely usefulness of his election as a member [1836?];
Note from Mr Lodington of Clare Hall, 15 April 1836, which was enclosed with his subscriptions for 1830-36;

Letter from Nicholas Walters, Guernsey, to George Peacock, Trinity College, 1836, apologising for his subscription arrears;

Letter from James Jerwood, London, 2 February 1836, to William Whewell, Trinity College, which was enclosed with his subscriptions, promising more punctual payments in future.

1836 1 file

CPS 6/3/2/10 Subscription Books: Volume 10
1837

CPS 6/3/2/11 Subscription Books: Volume 11
1838

CPS 6/3/2/12 Subscription Books: Volume 12
1839

CPS 6/3/2/13 Subscription Books: Volume 13
Includes, loose, a 'List of Fellows who are in arrears with the Philosophical Society 1841', arranged by College of the University.
1840

CPS 6/3/2/14 Subscription Books: Volume 14
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Includes, at back, list of those paying life subscriptions and list of those subscribing to the Museum Fund.

1841

**CPS 6/3/2/14a Subscription Books: Volume 14 loose inserts**

Loose items extracted from Volume 14, as follows:

Manuscript and printed lists of subscribers to ‘The Collection of British Birds’ purchased for the Society [1841?]; also to Audubon’s ‘Birds of America’; the ‘Collection of British Insects’; Mr Bowdich’s ‘Freshwater Fishes of Great Britain’; and an astronomical clock;

Letter from Lyttelton, 1840, concerning a bank order made to pay his arrears and subscriptions;

Notes from Frederick Hildyard of Trinity Hall, 27 March 1840, and J W Donaldson of Winfrith Rectory near Dorchester, 14 November 1840, concerning their respective resignations from the Cambridge Philosophical Society on leaving Cambridge permanently;

List of those in arrears [1841?], annotated with notes concerning efforts to chase these up;

Lists of those in arrears 1836, 1841 and 1842.

1836-1842 1 file
CPS 6/3/2/15 Subscription Books: Volume 15
List of those who died or resigned during this period at back of volume.
1842-1849

CPS 6/3/2/16 Subscription Books: Volume 16
List of those who died or resigned, 1850-51, at back of volume.
1850-1858

CPS 6/3/3 Subscription book
Recording names, entrance subscription and annual subscription, noting those members who have paid a compound subscription to the Cambridge Philosophical Society. Alphabetical by surname in separate chronological sequences as follows:
1883-1889; 1888-1894; 1895-1901; 1902-1908; 1909-1915; 1916-1922; 1923-1928.
1883-1928 1 volume

CPS 6/3/4 Miscellaneous letters concerning subscriptions, compounding of subscriptions, resignations, and fines
Presumed to have been originally held loose in various Cambridge Philosophical Society subscription books, as in some of the volumes at CPS 6/3/2 above. The letters are not filed in any particular order.
1821-1901 1 file

CPS 6/3/5 Rise in subscriptions
Printed notice concerning a rise of 5/- per annum in subscriptions to the Cambridge Philosophical Society.
11 November 1843 1 item
CPS 7  PREMISES RECORDS

This section contains papers relating to various premises occupied by the Cambridge Philosophical Society from its beginnings. The Society held its first meetings in the Museum of the (old) Botanic Garden before moving, in April 1820, to rented rooms above a shop managed by Mr C Bulstrode in Sidney Street, facing up Jesus Lane. In 1832 the Society leased land from St John’s College in All Saints Passage and built its own house there, raising money by selling bonds to Fellows (see CPS 5/3/1). The Society occupied this house from 1833 until 1865. From 1865 until 1935, the Society was housed in a room on the upper floor of the new Department of Zoology and Comparative Anatomy on the University of Cambridge’s New Museums Site, thus beginning the formal association of the Society with the University. The Society’s Library was housed from 1881-1935 in a large room on the ground floor of the same building (a small portion of this building still stands on the New Museums site as at May 2015 but is to be demolished as part of the redevelopment of the site). In 1935 the Society and its Library moved to the Arts School. See the headnote to CPS 9 for a more detailed account of the Library's history and its premises.

Covering dates: 1832-1978

Extent: 21 items


See also CPS 11/3/2/7 for some historical reference materials relating to the Society's premises.

CPS 7/1  Sidney Street Rooms

Note by Charles Humfrey, architect, on the state of repair in which the Cambridge Philosophical Society left 'Mr Smith's house' [presumably the rented rooms in Sidney Street which the Society occupied from 1820 until 1833]. He recommends that 'the Society should pay Mr Smith £5'.

1833  1 file
CPS 7/2    All Saints Passage

This sub-section contains records relating to the building and maintenance of the Cambridge Philosophical Society's house on All Saints Passage, including a building specification, bills, and papers concerning lighting and ventilation.

See also the following: CPS 5/3/1 for bonds drawn up to raise funds for the building of this house; CPS 5/2/2/1 for Building Fund accounts 1832; and CPS 1/2/2 for a copy of the lease of the house as at 1847.

CPS 7/2/1  'Specification for the [Cambridge] Philosophical Society's House in All Saints Passage'

12 page booklet written by Charles Humfrey, architect, together with 2 pages of questions on the specification [1832?] and manuscript and typescript transcripts of the specification [1982?].

1832-1982    1 file

CPS 7/2/2    Accounts

Accounts rendered to the Cambridge Philosophical Society by William Bell & Sons, builders, for the Society’s house in All Saints Passage

1832-1833    3 sheets in 1 file

CPS 7/2/3    Account for building works

28 page account for ‘Extra Works in additions to a Contract & Omissions therefrom for Erecting and finishing the new Rooms for the Philosophical Society Cambridge’ [in All Saints Passage] by William and Josh [Joseph?] Charles Bell, under headings for: Bricklayer & Digger; Mason; Plasterer; Carpenter & Joiner; Plumber; Glazier; Smith; Painter. Together with certificate of execution of the works by Charles Humfrey, architect, on last page.

1833    1 booklet
CPS 7/2/4  Bill for payments to 'Mr Nicholls'
Bill to Cambridge Philosophical Society for payment due to a Mr Nicholls (‘By direction of Charles Humfrey Esq. Architect’) ‘For a Measurement & Valuation of the several Works done in Additions to a Contract & in Omissions therefrom for Erecting & finishing the Society’s new Rooms &c in All Saints Passage’, October - December 1833, together with covering letter from Thomas Nicholls of Little Distaff Lane [City of London], 7 December 1833, to Charles Humfrey.
1833 2 items in 1 file

CPS 7/2/5  Estimates for gaslighting and for ventilating and warming the Cambridge Philosophical Society's house in All Saints Passage
File contains:
1) Estimate by Thomas Prince, with an amendment by P Grafton, for gas lighting in the house at All Saints Passage, 1833, for £38 5s;
2) Estimate by H C Price, London, 24 October 1832, for ventilating and warming by hot water apparatus of the rooms at All Saints Passage for £220.
1832-1833 1 file

CPS 7/2/6  Letters concerning ventilation of the Cambridge Philosophical Society's house in All Saints Passage
Five letters from H C Price, chiefly addressed from Bristol, concerning ventilation problems arising from the installation in the house in All Saints Passage. The letters are addressed to several people, as follows:
29 October 1833 to Mr Crouch [Curator] at the Cambridge Philosophical Society;
5 November 1833 to the Rev George Peacock at Trinity College;
21 January 1834 to Charles Humfrey, architect;
March 1834 to the Rev George Peacock at 16 Suffolk Street, London (redirected from Trinity College), containing the final account;
8 May 1834 to George Peacock at Trinity College.
1833-1834 5 letters in 1 file
CPS 7/2/7  Architect's bill for the Cambridge Philosophical Society house on All Saints Passage

Bill sent by Charles Humfrey, architect, for £205, together with covering letter, 21 April 1834. The file also contains the following:

Bill for £29 10s for two marble chimney pieces and packing and delivery, 3 March 1834;

Receipt for payment by the Society to Charles Humfrey of £29 10s, 7 April 1834;

Receipt for payment by the Society to Charles Humfrey of £184 11s 6d on completion, 12 September 1834;

Letter from Charles Humfrey to Frederick Thackeray, Treasurer of the Society, 3 November 1834, concerning a further claim on the Society of £37 17s.

1834 6 items in 1 file

CPS 7/2/8  Additional costs for the Cambridge Philosophical Society's house in All Saints Passage

File contains 2 sheets [watermarked T Gilling 1831], as follows:

1) List of costs (appears to be a list of additional costs presented to a committee);

2) Report explaining the reasons for the additional costs.

circa 1834 1 file

CPS 7/2/9  'Papers relating to the dispute over poor tax between the Cambridge Philosophical Society and the Churchwardens and the Overseers of the Poor of the Holy Sepulchre which occurred in 1854'

File containing:

Assessments from R Peters, tax collector, of 26 Northampton Street, to Mr Purchas of CPS for poor rates, paving rates and church rates to be collected on behalf of the Parish of the Holy Sepulchre, and related correspondence;

Copy of ‘An act to exempt from County, Borough, Parochial and other local Rates, Land and Buildings occupied by Scientific or Literary Societies’, 28 July 1843;
Correspondence between the Society (particularly Dr Paget) and its solicitors at 6 New Square, Lincoln’s Inn, London (variously Denton Kinderley / Denton Kinderley & Domville) concerning the case, heard in the Court of the Queen’s Bench;

Legal documents relating to the case (including many background documents touching on the Society’s activities and finance, including copies of the charter; bye-laws; Reading Room regulations; abstracts of receipts and disbursements 1849-52; list of scientific institutions to which the Transactions of the Society are sent; list of magazines, periodicals and newspapers supplied to the reading room of the Society; and regulations for the attendance of the Curator in the Society’s house);

Certificate of exemption from rates 14 July 1854.

[The Society was made exempt, in 1843, from the payment of local rates and enjoyed that exemption until 16 April 1852 when it was assessed to the poor rate. The resulting dispute concluded that the Society remained exempt from rates in respect of the whole house but ‘it would be well to have a separate assessment in respect of the reading room since possibly the actual use of that room may render the Society rateable in respect of it alone’.]

The file also contains a note by a ‘Committee appointed - - - to consider the Fine for the renewal of the Lease of the Society’s house’, which considers that ‘the Fine asked by St John’s College is too high’, 26 November 1846.

1843-1854 1 file

**CPS 7/2/10 Letter from Charles Babington to Dr Paget**

Concerning encroachment of the Cambridge Philosophical Society's house on All Saints Passage on 'Goode's property'.

circa 1845 [Headed 'Thursday', no date given as such.] 1 item in file

**CPS 7/2/11 Estimate**

Estimate from J H Goode for painting the outside of the Cambridge Philosophical Society's house on All Saints Passage (it having not been painted since 1845), addressed to Dr Paget, Caius College.

August 1851 1 item in file
CPS 7/2/12 Chimney sweep's account
Account of George Smith, chimney sweep, for sweeping chimneys at the Cambridge Philosophical Society's premises in All Saints Passage, January 1860 - October 1863. 'Settled Apr. 12 1864' and signed by George Smith.
1864 1 sheet in file

CPS 7/2/13 Usage of No 2 All Saints Passage (former home of the Cambridge Philosophical Society)
Letter from St John's College, 1967, containing historical information on the usage of No 2 All Saints Passage (including use by the Hawks Club of Cambridge University), with a covering note from R C Evans, 1982.
1967-1982 1 file

CPS 7/3 New Museums site premises
This sub-section contains records relating to the premises occupied by the Cambridge Philosophical Society in the Department of Zoology and Comparative Anatomy on the New Museums site from 1865-1935.

CPS 7/3/1 Bill
Bill from James Tompkin & Son for £13 11s 9d, addressed to C C Babington of the Cambridge Philosophical Society, 3 February 1866, for work done June - August 1865 in removing, altering and refixing bookcases [presumably in connection with the move from the house in All Saints Passage to new premises at the New Museums site].
1866 1 item in file

CPS 7/3/2 Plans for extension
Plans drawn up by W[illiam] Sindall, builder and contractor, for the extension of the Cambridge Philosophical Society Library gallery on the south side, for bookcases, and for bookshelves in the Library store room. Found in an envelope addressed to 'A E Shipley Esq MA, The Museums'.
1905 2 items in file
The plans are on flimsy tracing paper and have some tears.

**CPS 7/3/3  'Philosophical Library Cambridge. Proposed Addition'**

Large plan (22.25" x 15.25") by William Sindall showing south elevation, plan view and Section A. Scale: 8 feet to 1 inch. [NB: this building is the 'New Lecture Rooms and Museum in the Old Botanic Garden' as in the etching hanging on the window wall in the Henslow Room of the Society as at May 2015.]

circa 1909 1 item, rolled

Drawn in pencil.

See also CPS 7/3/4 below.

**CPS 7/3/4  Letter concerning plans for enlargement of Library**

Letter from William Sindall, builder and contractor, Mill Lane, Cambridge, to the Cambridge Philosophical Society, in which he enclosed 'plan as requested' for a proposed enlargement of the Library at an estimated cost of £2000.

27 April 1909 1 item in file

See also CPS 7/3/3 above.

**CPS 7/3/5  New Museums site plans**

Plans by I & C Marshall of the layout of the New Museums site as at 1925: 2 plans in roll, scale 8 feet to 1 inch:

1) Ground Floor: showing Zoology Rooms and Museum; Newton Room; private room of Prof R Punnett; Engineering Department rooms and workshops; Mineralogical Laboratory and room; and Philosophical Library [Cambridge Philosophical Society Library];

2) Second Floor: showing further Zoology rooms; Newton Library; Balfour Library; Balfour Laboratory; and Sedgwick Laboratory.

1925 2 items in roll
CPS 7/4  Arts School premises

This sub-section contains records relating to premises occupied by the Cambridge Philosophical Society in the Arts School from 1935. [In 1976, the Library became a dependent part of Cambridge University Library while retaining its links with the Society.]

CPS 7/4/1  Plans

Plans of Cambridge Philosophical Library layout as at 1962

1962  1 roll

CPS 7/4/2  Scientific Periodicals Library alterations

Plans of proposed alterations to the Scientific Periodicals Library drawn up Cambridge University Estate Management and Building Service. Drawing numbers 10458A / 1 and 10458A / 2A. Scale 1:50.

December 1978  2 items in roll
By the late 1830s the Cambridge Philosophical Society had acquired, through donations and purchases, a sizeable museum of natural history, comprising collections of British birds, shells, fish and insects, together with fish, insects and various curiosities from China, South America and elsewhere. The Society employed a curator to look after the collections. Apart from several hundred species of fish presented by Charles Darwin, however, the museum never really attained scientific importance. In 1865 it was donated to the University of Cambridge and formed the basis of the University’s Museum of Zoology.

There are no surviving records deriving solely and directly from Museum administration and activities, although there are a few items relevant to the Museum listed here. The Museum is, however, referred to in other records of the Cambridge Philosophical Society: see, for example:

CPS 1/1/2, containing Leonard Jenyns’ account of the establishment of the Museum, circa 1838;

CPS 3/1, minutes of general meetings, which include a record of early donations to the Society;

CPS 5/2/2/1, Treasurer’s Account Book, containing Museum Fund accounts, 1838-65;

CPS 5/4/2, containing a note of the Curator’s salary, 1851;

CPS 6/3/2/14, subscription book including a list of those subscribing to the Museum Fund, 1841;

CPS 7/2/9, containing regulations for the attendance of the Curator in the Society’s house, circa 1850;

CPS 9/2/3, two volumes recording donations to the Library and Museum, 1851-1874;

CPS 11/3/1/2, including a list of ten stuffed birds formerly belonging to the Society displayed at an exhibition at the Museum of Zoology exhibition in 1982.

Covering dates: 1847-1865

Extent: 2 files
CPS 8/1   List of marine specimens; and letter from L Jenyns concerning his collection of insects

File contains:

1) Letter from L[eonard] Jenyns to Dr Paget, addressed from Swaffham Bulbeck 25 November 1847, concerning his collection of insects, which he intends ultimately to donate to the Cambridge Philosophical Society;

2) Manuscript list of marine specimens, found in a small envelope inscribed ‘Lowe’s Fishes – to be kept carefully and given to the Rev L Jenyns when he [is] at the Philosophical’ and initialled C.C.B. [Charles Babington], envelope postmarked 1849.

1847-1849 1 file

CPS 8/2   University of Cambridge Grace

Photocopy of University of Cambridge Grace whereby the Museum of the Cambridge Philosophical Society is accepted by the University

1865 [Date of photocopy unknown] 1 item

In Latin
CPS 9  LIBRARY AND READING ROOM RECORDS

The Cambridge Philosophical Society established a Reading Room and Library within a couple of years of its foundation. As the 19th century progressed the ‘Philosophical Library’ came to be seen as a vital resource to the University of Cambridge: when the Society sold its house on All Saints Passage in 1865, the University granted it the use of a room on the New Museums site to house the Library. In 1881, when the Library had become cramped, the University agreed to house and staff the Library in return for its use being extended to all members of the University. In 1935 the Society and its Library moved into the University’s Arts School building.

From its early years the Library’s acquisitions had comprised chiefly periodicals, many acquired by exchanges with other learned societies worldwide: this is reflected in the Philosophical Library’s change of name in 1967 to the Scientific Periodicals Library. In 1976 it became a dependent library of Cambridge University Library while retaining its links with the Society. It was renamed the Central Science Library in 1995 when some of the collections were moved to the University’s Betty and Gordon Moore Library on the site of the Centre for Mathematical Sciences on Clarkson Road. At the time of writing, the Central Sciences Library is expected to close in June 2015, as part of the planned redevelopment of the New Museums Site, and amalgamate its core collections with the Betty and Gordon Moore Library.

The Library records listed here include an unbroken series of borrowing records from 1845 to 1964, together with some early 20thC Library accounts and a miscellany of records relating to acquisitions and general administration of the Library.

Covering dates: 1834-1990

Extent: 30 items

CPS 9/1  Library Accounts

Accounts of Cambridge Philosophical Society library income and expenditure. Expenditure includes periodicals, binding, fuel, salaries, booksellers, Cambridge University Press and cleaning.

1913-1939           1 volume
CPS 9/2  Acquisitions and holdings of books and periodicals

This sub-section contains papers and correspondence relating to the acquisition by the Cambridge Philosophical Society of books, periodicals, maps etc, including donations books dating from 1851-1874. The donations books listed at CPS 9/2/3 record donations to the Society's Library and its Museum.

CPS 9/2/1  Acquisition by the Cambridge Philosophical Society of publications from overseas

Correspondence and papers concerning the transport of, receipt of, duty on, and poste restante arrangements for parcels of publications from other bodies, including the Smithsonian Institution, Washington; the Société des Sciences, Bordeaux; and the Academy of Munich; also items from Vienna and Italy. Agents of transport include Williams & Norgate of 14 Henrietta Street, Covent Garden; C F Molini of 17 King William Street, West Strand; Golden Cross Foreign Office, 41 Regent Circus, Piccadilly; and Hippolyte Baillière, 219 Regent Street. The file also contains (undated) manuscript lists of other societies to which the Cambridge Philosophical Society sent its Transactions, including overseas societies.

1834-1858 [1834-35 and 1851-58.] 1 file

CPS 9/2/2  Ministère de la Marne et des Colonies

List of maps and books sent to the Cambridge Philosophical Society by the Ministère de la Marne et des Colonies, Paris

5 February 1850 1 item

In French

CPS 9/2/3  Donations Books

Listing gifts made to the Cambridge Philosophical Society

1851-1874 2 volumes

CPS 9/2/3/1 Donations Books: Volume 1
Begins 'List of the Presents to the Library and Museum of the Cambridge Philosophical Society received since Midsummer 1851'.

1851-1863

**CPS 9/2/3/2 Donations Books: Volume 2**

Begins 'List of presents made to the Society at its meetings'. A portrait inscribed 'C. W. Short' is attached to the inside of the front cover of the volume.

1864-1874

**CPS 9/2/4 History of the Library**

A short history of the Cambridge Philosophical Society Library and its acquisition of books and periodicals. 4 page typescript, including a list of notable donations 1882-1942. The first page is annotated by hand ‘As given to G.B. Standing Committee on Libraries 17 August 1967’. The file also contains a printed list of journals etc received by the Society as as May 1884.

1884-1967 1 file

**CPS 9/2/5 'Challenger' Report**

Correspondence between Alfred Newton (Cambridge Philosophical Society and Magdalene College), Mr Glazebrook (the Society), John Murray (Challenger Expedition Office, 32 Queen Street, Edinburgh) and The Controller of the Stationery Office concerning a request by the Society for a gift of a series of the volumes of the ‘Challenger’ [expedition] Report (referring also to a similar request made some years previously). [The Challenger Expedition of 1872-76 was a scientific exercise whose discoveries laid the foundations of oceanography. The gift was ultimately granted by the Stationery Office October 1887.]

April 1887-October 1887 1 file
CPS 9/2/6  Lists of holdings
Manuscript lists of journals and periodicals held by the Library
circa 1910           1 file

CPS 9/2/7  'Beagle Letters and the Beagle Record'
Two letters to R D Keynes, April and May 1979, concerning the purchase from him by the Cambridge Philosophical Society of a copy of R D Keynes, ‘The Beagle Record’, together with a cutting from the Cambridge Evening News, 29 March 1979, concerning the publication of the book and a letter written by Charles Darwin to the Society on 1 December 1835 before the Beagle sailed for Lima. The cutting quotes parts of Darwin’s letter.
1979           1 file

CPS 9/3   Library and Reading Room general administration and correspondence
This sub-section includes: rules and regulations; user guides; general correspondence and papers concerning administration; comments on proposals for a University Science Library in 1958; and an unbroken series of borrowing records from 1845 to 1964.

CPS 9/3/1  Borrowing Books
Volume 1 is entitled 'Account of books &c taken out of the [Cambridge] Philosophical Society Reading Room 1845-90'. Volumes 2-10 are entitled 'Memorandum of Books Borrowed from the Philosophical Library'. The volumes record date, title, classmark; name of borrowing member; date returned; fines.
1845-1964           10 volumes

CPS 9/3/1/1 Borrowing books: Volume 1
1845-1890

Created on 10/13/2015 4:17:00 PM
CPS 9/3/1/2 Borrowing books: Volume 2
1890-1907

CPS 9/3/1/3 Borrowing books: Volume 3
1907-1922

CPS 9/3/1/4 Borrowing books: Volume 4
1922-1930

CPS 9/3/1/5 Borrowing books: Volume 5
1930-1935

CPS 9/3/1/6 Borrowing books: Volume 6
1935-1943

CPS 9/3/1/7 Borrowing books: Volume 7
1943-1951

CPS 9/3/1/8 Borrowing books: Volume 8
1951-1956

CPS 9/3/1/9 Borrowing books: Volume 9
1957-1961

CPS 9/3/1/10 Borrowing books: Volume 10
1961-1964
CPS 9/3/2  Reading Room regulations of the Cambridge Philosophical Society
Two copies.
circa 1850 1 file

CPS 9/3/3  Miscellaneous information relating to the Library of the Cambridge Philosophical Society
File contains:
Blank admission ticket, no date;
Printed rules of the Library 28 October 1881;
Photocopy of Cambridge University Reporter detailing proposals for the Library, no date [early 20thC?];
Miscellaneous posters, leaflets etc formerly displayed in the Library including information relating to classification systems and shelf locations, opening times, how to get hold of keys, and instructions on locking up and switching lights out: no date but possibly 1940s - 1960s.
1881-circa 1965 1 file

CPS 9/3/4  'Students admitted to the [Cambridge Philosophical Society] Library in accordance with Rule 3'
Manuscript list giving name and student and name of person recommending them. Pasted onto board with hanger - presumably displayed in the Library.
1913-1918 1 item

CPS 9/3/5  Key Books
Two volumes which appear to record the temporary borrowing of keys from the Library of the Cambridge Philosophical Society, noting date, name, number of key, and return of key. Dating from 1953-76 and 1955-76, they appear to have been kept concurrently.
Also one volume, 1955-76, which appears to record more long term loans of keys, noting name, date, and signature (from 1974), and occasionally annotated with date of return of key, lost keys, date of death etc.
[Keys were presumably issued to members of the Society to allow them to enter and use the Philosophical Library at times when it was normally closed to its wider clientele.]

1953-1976 3 volumes in 1 bundle

**CPS 9/3/6  'Answers from Fellows to questionnaire re the Science Library'**

Two bundles of signed forms on which Fellows of the Society agree or disagree in principle with the ‘recommendation of the Council of the Cambridge Philosophical Society that the Society should participate in the establishment of a University Science Library’, many Fellows adding detailed comments on the proposal.

1958 2 bundles in 1

**CPS 9/3/7  Principia**

Letter to the Librarian of the Cambridge Philosophical Society from Dr M A Hoskin enquiring on behalf of Prof I B Cohen (who is preparing a critical edition of Isaac Newton’s Principia) about possible sources in the Society’s archives relating to its plans in about 1904 to produce a collected edition of the works of Isaac Newton. The letter is annotated in pencil with a note of relevant sources.

24 November 1965 1 file

**CPS 9/3/8  Miscellaneous information bulletins and user guides**

File contains:

Printed 'Guide to the Scientific Periodicals Library' as at October 1978;


‘Scientific Periodicals Library: Find Your Information Fast! Use Our Computer Reference Service’ [no date - circa 1990?].
1978-1990                  1 file

**CPS 9/3/9  Commemorative plaque in the Library of the Cambridge Philosophical Society**

Correspondence and papers concerning the inscribing of a plaque in the Library (displayed on the second floor of the Library as at May 2015) commemorating the founding of the Library in 1821 and its transfer in 1976 to become a dependent branch of Cambridge University Library.

The file includes a drawing of the plaque by Mark Bury of Oakington, 1980, also correspondence and papers concerning a visit to the Scientific Periodicals Library by the Chancellor (Prince Philip) on 27 March 1980 and a press cutting mentioning that visit alongside a report of the Chancellor’s visit on the same day to open the new magistrates’ courts in Cambridge.

1980                    1 file

**CPS 9/3/10  Crick and Watson and the Double Helix**

Photocopy of various pages of James D Watson, 'The Double Helix', 1968, referring to visits to the Library of the Cambridge Philosophical Society in the course of his work with Francis Crick.

1968                   [Date of photocopy unknown]               1 file
CPS 10  PUBLICATIONS

This section contains records relating to the main publications of the Cambridge Philosophical Society, namely Transactions, Proceedings (from 1975 Mathematical Proceedings), and Biological Reviews, together with some records relating to occasional publications.

The Transactions of the Society began in 1821. 23 volumes had been published when the series was terminated in 1928.

The Proceedings of the Society first appeared in 1844. Originally it contained all communications to the Society, either in abstract or in full, some briefly abstracted papers being reserved for full publication in the Transactions.

By about 1920 the Proceedings were almost wholly devoted to mathematics and physics, whereas the Transactions had become a more miscellaneous collection including work on biology. In 1923 a separate journal now known as the Biological Reviews of the Cambridge Philosophical Society was started, and the scope of Proceedings became more restricted. Biological Reviews appears to have brought renewed prosperity to the Society under the editorship of H Munro Fox.

By the mid-20th century Proceedings had come to contain only papers on pure and applied mathematics. As a result, it was renamed Mathematical Proceedings in 1975.

Covering dates: 1820-1984

Extent: 55 items


CPS 10/1  Transactions and Proceedings of the Cambridge Philosophical Society

This sub-section contains chiefly records relating to stock and accounts of publications sold and given as gifts, together with some copies of early Transactions and miscellaneous papers relating to printing, editing and development of the Society's main publications.

Bound volumes of Transactions and Proceedings are held on the shelves of the Henslow Room as at May 2015.
CPS 10/1/1 Transactions of the Cambridge Philosophical Society  
Softbound volumes of Transactions 1821-1827 (papers read 1820-27).  
1821-1827 4 volumes

CPS 10/1/1/1 Transactions of the Cambridge Philosophical Society: Volume 1  
Volume 1 Part I. Containing papers read 1820. Includes a list of Honorary Members of the Society.  
1821

CPS 10/1/1/2 Transactions of the Cambridge Philosophical Society: Volume 2  
Volume 1 Part II. Containing papers read 1821.  
1822

CPS 10/1/1/3 Transactions of the Cambridge Philosophical Society: Volume 3  
Volume 2 Part I. Containing papers read 1822-1824.  
1824

CPS 10/1/1/4 Transactions of the Cambridge Philosophical Society: Volume 4  
Volume 2 Part II. Containing papers read 1824-27.  
1827
CPS 10/1/2 Transactions of the Cambridge Philosophical Society
Uncut, unbound printed papers which were contained in early Transactions, including papers by William Whewell, William Mandell, John Okes, J S Henslow (on the geology of Anglesey) and Mr Hailstone, together with various plates.
circa 1825-circa 1830 [No dates found.] 1 file

CPS 10/1/3 Microfilm copies of Transactions of the Cambridge Philosophical Society
Positive films of Transactions Volumes 1-23 (1822-1928), made by Micro Methods Ltd of Wakefield.
circa 1980
[Approximate date of filming: no date found but the films were packed in a box with a 1980 copy of the Cambridge Evening News]
11 reels of microfilm

CPS 10/1/3/1 Microfilm of Transactions: Reel 1
Volumes 1 and 2 of Transactions (1822 and 1827).

CPS 10/1/3/2 Microfilm of Transactions: Reel 2
Volumes 3 and 4 of Transactions (1830 and 1833).

CPS 10/1/3/3 Microfilm of Transactions: Reel 3
Volumes 5 and 6 of Transactions (1835 and 1838).

CPS 10/1/3/4 Microfilm of Transactions: Reel 4
Volumes 7 and 8 of Transactions (1842 and 1849).
CPS 10/1/3/5 Microfilm of Transactions: Reel 5
Volumes 9 and 10 of Transactions (1856 and 1864).

CPS 10/1/3/6 Microfilm of Transactions: Reel 6
Volumes 11 and 12 of Transactions (1866 and 1871-78).

CPS 10/1/3/7 Microfilm of Transactions: Reel 7
Volumes 13 and 14 of Transactions (1883-89 and index to Volumes 1-12).

CPS 10/1/3/8 Microfilm of Transactions: Reel 8
Volumes 15, 16 and 17 of Transactions (1889-93; 1896-98; and 1898-99).

CPS 10/1/3/9 Microfilm of Transactions: Reel 9
Volumes 18 and 19 of Transactions (1899-1900 and 1903-04).

CPS 10/1/3/10 Microfilm of Transactions: Reel 10
Volumes 20 and 21 of Transactions (1905-08 and 1908-12).

CPS 10/1/3/11 Microfilm copies of Transactions of the Cambridge Philosophical Society: Reel 11
Volumes 22 and 23 of Transactions (1912-23 and 1923-28).
CPS 10/1/4 Accounts of Transactions of the Cambridge Philosophical Society sold / given as presents

These volumes record copies sold to members, copies sent to booksellers, and copies sent as gifts to individuals and organisations.

1821-1851 4 volumes

CPS 10/1/4/1 Accounts of Transactions sold / given as presents: Volume 1

Entitled 'Memorandum Book for the Philosophical Society's Transactions'. Comprises chiefly lists of ‘copies sent to Members & not yet paid for’, annotated accordingly when payment made. Also some lists of presentation copies made. A note written by Bewick Bridge, circa 1822, reads ‘It will be extremely difficult for the Treasurer to keep the Account for Books sold unless they are paid for at the time they are taken’.

1821-1825

CPS 10/1/4/2 Accounts of Transactions sold / given as presents: Volume 2

Front cover inscribed ‘Account of copies of the Philosophical Society’s Transactions Sent to Booksellers’, containing lists for 1825 only. Back cover inscribed ‘Account of Transactions sold - - - ’, containing lists for 1825-27, including a record of ’Transactions sold and not paid for’, 1825.

1825-1827
CPS 10/1/4/3 Accounts of Transactions sold / given as presents: Volume 3

Front cover inscribed ‘Account of Transactions Sent as Presents’, containing lists for 1827-34, chiefly of institutions to which Transactions were sent. Back cover inscribed ‘Account of Transactions sold to members of the Cambridge Philosophical Society’, containing lists 1827-28.

1827-1834

CPS 10/1/4/4 Accounts of Transactions sold / given as presents: Volume 4

Front cover inscribed ‘Account of Transactions sent as Presents’, containing list of organisations and individuals receiving Transactions as a gift. Back cover inscribed ‘Account of Transactions sold to Members’.
Pasted onto flyleaf at front: letter from Stationers’ Hall, 9 March 1837, concerning the five copies of books required to be sent to Stationers’ Hall for the British Museum, Oxford [Bodleian Library], Cambridge University Library, Trinity College Dublin and the Advocates Library, Edinburgh. Pasted onto flyleaf at back: acknowledgement of receipt of two sets of Volume 8 of Transactions to be deposited ‘with the bookseller of the Dublin University’, signed W H Stokes 23 December 1850.

1835-1851
CPS 10/1/5 'List of the Fellows of the Philosophical Society to whom one copy of Vol. XI no. 2 of the Transactions has been supplied gratis'
Together with a related letter from T G Bonney, St John's College, 7 October 1869, to [G D] Liveing [both secretaries of the Society].
1869 1 booklet

CPS 10/1/6 Short list of societies to which the Proceedings and Transactions of the Cambridge Philosophical Society were sent (chiefly overseas)
No date found - mid-late 19thC? 1 file

CPS 10/1/7 'Philosophical Society's Directing Lists'
List of ‘Institutions [chiefly overseas] to Receive ‘Proceedings’ ‘. At back of volume, list of institutions receiving ‘Biological Reviews’. Lists begun 1941 - most institutions appear to have continued receiving the publications until at least 1948. Note: approximately half the pages at the front of the volume have been cut out. The volume may have been begun [for this or another purpose] as early as 1927 as the inside front cover is stamped ‘Cambridge University Press 2 June 1927’.
1941-1948 1 volume

CPS 10/1/8 Stock list of Transactions of the Cambridge Philosophical Society
Manuscript.
10 April 1869 1 sheet in file

CPS 10/1/9 'Transactions Stock Book begun April 12 1869'
Listing price of publications of the Cambridge Philosophical Society, items taken out of stock, and names of organisations or individuals to whom sold, 1869-1888. On inside front cover, note of minutes of the Council of the Society relating to Transactions 1820, 1821, 1829 and 1867 concerning printing, numbers of copies to be sent to authors etc.
Note: this volume was originally used as a ‘Letter Book: commencing 17 July 1851’ (back cover inscribed thus). One letter has been copied in, 20 August 1852, to the Rev E J Hillier, Grammar School, Bury St Edmunds, enquiring as to whether he wishes to cease his membership of the Society.

1851-1888 1 volume

**CPS 10/1/10 Publications Stock Books**

Recording the following information relating to stock of publications of the Cambridge Philosophical Society: date of publication; number of copies bound; names of organisations / booksellers / individuals to whom sent with date and number of copies sent. 'Out of Print' noted as appropriate. Both volumes paginated. Covering Proceedings, Transactions, Biological Reviews and Charter.

1886-1946 2 volumes

**CPS 10/1/10/1 Publications Stock Books:**

**Volume 1**

1886-1925

**CPS 10/1/10/2 Publications Stock Books:**

**Volume 2**

1925-1946

**CPS 10/1/11 Miscellaneous loose papers relating to publications of the Cambridge Philosophical Society**

File includes the following:

Stock list [of Transactions? of the Cambridge Philosophical Society] Volumes 1-14 [circa 1900?];

Printed list of organisations to which Transactions sent ‘At Home’ and ‘Abroad’ [circa 1880?];

Manuscript list of publications of other bodies received by the Society [circa 1890?]
Manuscript list of extracts from minutes of the Council of the Society, 1820-69, concerning publication matters, including editing, printing, costs, where copies are to be sent, pricing, exchanges etc [written circa 1870?].
circa 1870-circa 1900 1 file

CPS 10/1/12 'Cambridge Philosophical Society Stock on July 31 1933'
Manuscript list of stock begun in 1933 and continued to 1941. Covers Transactions Volumes 1-23 (1821-1928); Proceedings Volumes 1-34 (1844-1938); and Biological Reviews Volumes 1-13 (1923-38).
1933-1941 1 booklet

CPS 10/1/13 'The Origin and Development of Biological Reviews'
Offprint of an article from 'Biological Reviews' of the Cambridge Philosophical Society, Volume 40, written by its editor, Harold Munro Fox. A b/w photograph of the author faces page 1.
1965 1 file

CPS 10/1/14 Flyers for Mathematical Proceedings of the Cambridge Philosophical Society
File contains:
Flyer announcing the change of title, beginning with Volume 77 Part I January 1975, from Proceedings to Mathematical Proceedings [to emphasise the fact that Proceedings had become a journal of pure and applied mathematics], including notes concerning forthcoming issues, submitting papers for publication etc. Also sample cover of a copy of the newly titled publication, January 1975;
Stock form [1974?] sent out to solicit papers for Mathematical Proceedings.
1974-1975 2 items in file
CPS 10/2  Original manuscripts of articles

This sub-section contains the original manuscripts of various articles read at meetings and / or submitted for publication by the Cambridge Philosophical Society, together with related reports and correspondence.

CPS 10/2/1 Various

Original manuscripts of various papers read to the Cambridge Philosophical Society and / or published in its Transactions

File contains:

1) H B Leeson, addressed to the Rev G Peacock: no date, no title, but begins ‘The explosive nature of the compound resulting from the mixture of the Oxygen and Hydrogen Gases - - - has hitherto presented a - - - barrier to the free use of that powerful Agent in experimental researches’, illustrated;

2) J B Emmett, ‘Researches into the Mathematical Principles of Chemical Philosophy’, 15 pages, illustrated;

3) Very rough and much annotated / amended draft of a text beginning ‘It is here supposed that steam produces a vacuum - - - but this is far from being the case’;


1820                  [Most items bear no date.]               1 file

CPS 10/2/2 'Notes on Spectrum'

Experimental notes on various chemicals with which the writer worked relating to colours; visibility; brightness / faintness / cloudiness / dullness.

circa 1850  [No date found but possibly mid-19thC]     1 booklet of 34 pages

CPS 10/2/3 'On the Transit of Venus'

12 page manuscript by J B Pearson. [This paper was printed in Proceedings of the Cambridge Philosophical Society Volume 5 p. 321.]

6 December 1882       1 file
CPS 10/2/4 'Remarks on Sir G B Airy's paper of 31 October 1887' by H J Candy

[The paper was entitled 'On a special algebraic function and its application to the solution of some equations' and is noted in the general meeting minutes at CPS 3/1//4.]

1887 1 file

CPS 10/2/5 Two letters from William Thomson to Sir Joseph Larmor about a paper by K Pearson

[Possibly the paper entitled 'On impulsion stress in shafting - - - ' noted in the general meeting minutes of 29 October 1888 at CPS 3/1/4.]

1 November 1888-11 December 1888 1 file

CPS 10/2/6 Reports and correspondence concerning a paper by Professor Pearson

Reports by A E H Love and W H Macaulay, 1889, on Professor Pearson's paper on Impulsive Stress in Shafting, together with two related letters from Karl Pearson to Sir Joseph Larmor, 26 October and 14 November 1889.

1889 1 file

CPS 10/2/7 Letter from C Chree

Letter to Sir Joseph Larmor about a paper for the Proceedings of the Cambridge Philosophical Society

27 January 1891 1 item

CPS 10/2/8 Report

'Report on Mr Chree's paper on the Equations of an isotropic elastic solid in Polar and Cylindrical Coordinates, their solution and application'

circa 1891 1 file

CPS 10/2/9 'Observations upon the simultaneous liberation of electricity and of heat'
39 page typescript article by the Rev Professor M C Potter, with illustrations, together with related correspondence between Professor Potter and the Cambridge Philosophical Society [the paper was apparently not published by the Society].

February 1940-June 1940 1 file

CPS 10/3 Illustrations

This sub-section contains a miscellany of material used to illustrate articles in publications of the Cambridge Philosophical Society, including copper plate engravings, original drawings, glass slides and copies of coloured plates from the Transactions and Proceedings of the Society.

CPS 10/3/1 Copper plate engravings

26 copper plates, chiefly measuring 30cm x 25 cm, used to produce illustrations in early publications of the Cambridge Philosophical Society. Engravers, all of London, include William Pontifex Sons & Wood, Shoe Lane; R Pontifex & Son, 23 Lisle Street, Soho & 1 Upper St Martin's Lane; G Harris, 31 Shoe Lane; G Harris & Co, Harp Alley, Shoe Lane; Large, New Street, Shoe Lane; Hughes, 8 Peterborough Court, Fleet Street; and an indecipherable name of 9 Ratcliff Row, Bath Street, City Road.

Most of the illustrations are either unidentified or the captions are too small to read but a few have paper labels, including: Mr Willis on the Mechanism of the Larynx, Vol 4 Plate 22; Mr Willis on the Vowel Sounds & on Reed Organ-Pipes, Vol 3 Plate 4; Sir J F Herschel on a Machine for resolving &c Vol. 4; Mr Jenyns’s Monograph on the British Species of Cyclas and Pisidium Vol. 4 Plate 21; Mr Morton on the Focus of a Conic Section Vol 3 Part I Plate 4; Mr Challis on Small Vibratory Motions &c Vol. 3 Plate 6.

circa 1826-circa 1833 1 bundle

CPS 10/3/2 Drawings by M Young

Original drawings by M Young for prints to accompany R T Lowe, 'Piscium Maderensium - - - ' in Transactions Vol 6 of the Cambridge Philosophical Society
1834 5 drawings in file

**CPS 10/3/3 Coloured plates of illustrations by M Young**

Coloured plates from Transactions of the Cambridge Philosophical Society Volumes 4 and 6

Copies of coloured plates of fishes drawn by M Young to illustrate R T Lowe, ‘Fishes of Madeira’ in Transactions Vol 6 - the lithographer was M Gauci [a well-known book illustrator of the 1830s] - 1838; also 2 colour plates of shells from Transactions Vol 4 (Plates 5 and 6), 1833.

1833-1838 1 file

**CPS 10/3/4 Glass slides**

8 glass slides presumed to have been used to illustrate a lecture or article for the Cambridge Philosophical Society but no context found (no date, no creator). The slides are numbered 1-8: no 2 may show some constellations?: no 3 is labelled 'Albrecht 1900-05'; and no 4 is labelled 'Albrecht 1890-7'.

circa 1905 1 box

**CPS 10/3/5 Röntgen Plates**

Envelope inscribed '4 photographic plates illustrating paper by H Haga & C H Wind on 'Diffraction of Röntgen Rays' 1902', containing 4 glass plates, each measuring 30cm x 7.5cm and wrapped in tissue and protected with wooden boards.

1902 4 items

**CPS 10/3/6 Copper plated blocks**

Large collection of small wooden blocks mounted with engraved copper plates: presumably plates from which illustrations were made for various publications of the Cambridge Philosophical Society. Some are annotated on the underside of the wooden block with the relevant number of Biological Reviews [launched in 1923] and Proceedings (including volumes 24-29).

No dates found - all 1920s? 5 boxes
CPS 10/3/7  Copy of Plate 1 from Proceedings of the Cambridge Philosophical Society Vol 68 No 2

Plate facing p. 490, illustrating 'distortion of dye sheets - - - ', together with the copper plate engraving from which the illustration was made.

1970 1 file

CPS 10/3/8  Helmholtz glass slides

Small box labelled ‘Gelatine-Emulsionsplatten, J Gädicke, Berlin’, containing six glass slides relating to Hermann von Helmholtz [1821-94, German physician and physicist], being images of him and his scientific equipment. [Presumed to have been used to illustrate a Cambridge Philosophical Society lecture or article?]

The slides are numbered 1-6 and the box contains a handwritten list:

1. Helmholtz 27 years old;
2. Helmholtz 73 years old [from a pastel drawing by Leubach, 1894];
3. Helmholtz aged 70, lecturing, photographed by Mr Man (there is a crack across the slide);
4. Fallpendel für Zeiterinnerung;
5. Vibrationsmikroskop und Ophthalmometer;

No date found. Late 19th / early 20th century? 6 items in box

CPS 10/4  Occasional publications

This sub-section contains copies of some of the occasional publications of the Cambridge Philosophical Society together with some related correspondence and papers.

CPS 10/4/1 'On the Examination of a Hybrid Digitalis'

File contains the following:
1833-1981 1 file

**CPS 10/4/2 'Quantum Theory'**
1946-1969 1 file

**CPS 10/4/3 'Sale of Beagle Letters'**
Papers relating to the sale by the Cambridge Philosophical Society of a pamphlet containing copy extracts of letters addressed by Charles Darwin to J S Henslow.
1960-1962 1 file

**CPS 10/4/4 'A Photometric Atlas of the Spectrum of Arcturus'**
By R F Griffin. Published by the Cambridge Philosophical Society.
1968 1 volume

This sub-section contains copies of the Society's sesquicentenary history, 1969, written by A Rupert Hall, together with related papers and correspondence.


Two copies of Rupert Hall's sesquicentenary history of the Society, together with a reprint of page 64 and related printer's erratum slip, also a note reading that the history was withdrawn from sale in 1984.

1969-1984  1 file

CPS 10/5/2 Correspondence and papers relating to A Rupert Hall's sesquicentenary history of the Society

Three files in 1 bundle as follows:

2) List of illustrations for the book, together with set of Xerox copies and spare prints;
3) File containing some of Rupert Hall’s source materials, 1968/69.

1968-1969  1 bundle of 3 files

CPS 10/5/3 Correspondence and papers concerning the writing and publishing of A Rupert Hall, 'The Cambridge Philosophical Society: A History, 1819-1969'

Three files in one bundle including correspondence and notes relating to reviews of the book and illustrations used in the book.

1968-1970  1 bundle of 3 files
CPS 11  EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

This section includes records relating to lectures and meetings of the Cambridge Philosophical Society; also dinners; anniversary events; and other special events and visits.

Covering dates: 1845-2013
Extents: 45 files

See minutes of general meetings at CPS 3/1 for earlier records of lectures and meetings.

CPS 11/1  Lectures and meetings

This sub-section contains chiefly posters for lectures delivered at meetings of the Cambridge Philosophical Society.

CPS 11/1/1  Lecture posters

Posters advertising lectures to be given under the aegis of the Cambridge Philosophical Society.

1947-2013  7 files

CPS 11/1/1/1 Lecture posters: File 1
1947-1960

CPS 11/1/1/2 Lecture posters: File 2
1961-1970

CPS 11/1/1/3 Lecture posters: File 3
1971-1980

CPS 11/1/1/4 Lecture posters: File 4
1981-February 1990
CPS 11/1/1/5 Lecture posters: File 5
1990-2000

CPS 11/1/1/6 Lecture posters: File 6
2001-2010

CPS 11/1/1/7 Lecture posters: File 7
2011-2013

CPS 11/1/2 'Scientific Films'
Correspondence and papers relating to the hire by the Cambridge Philosophical Society of scientific and educational films for use at meetings, as organised by Christopher Thorne of St Catharine’s College, also Miss M B Smith, Executive Secretary of the Society. File includes catalogues of films for hire from various organisations, including the Biochemical Society, London; BASF; Cambridge University; French Embassy Scientific Section; Petroleum Films Bureau; Shell-Mex and BP Film Library; BBC; British Association for the Advancement of Science; and Connoisseur Films Ltd.
1969-1973 1 file

CPS 11/1/3 Lecture cards
Cards containing lists of speakers and titles for Cambridge Philosophical Society meetings Lent Term 1980 and Michaelmas Term 1981.
1980-1981 2 items in file

CPS 11/1/4 'The Cambridge Botanic Garden and its Historical Background'
Poster advertising a lecture to be delivered by Prof William T Stearn for the Cambridge Philosophical Society on 27 April 1981 as part of the 150th anniversary celebrations of the Cambridge University Botanic Garden.
1981 1 item
CPS 11/2  Dinners

This sub-section lists records of the annual dinners held regularly by the Cambridge Philosophical Society in its early years, known as 'anniversary dinners'; of dinners held to celebrate specific anniversaries such as the Society's centenary; and of dinners held for special visitors.

CPS 11/2/1 'Anniversary Dinners'

Record of annual dinners and some special dinners of the Cambridge Philosophical Society, noting date, time, venue, signatures of those attending, menus and seating plans. The record appears to be incomplete but the following years are recorded: 1845 (the cost of a ticket being 13/6); 1878-1932 (no dinner was held in 1912 because of the death of George Darwin, President, and dinners were suspended 1914-18), 1935, 1938, 1966 (dinner for Academician Pyotr Kapitza held at Gonville and Caius College), 1969 (150th anniversary dinner held at St Catharine's College); and 1982 (dinner to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the granting of the Society’s Royal Charter, held at St Catharine’s College).

Additional items pasted in include: press cuttings concerning speeches given at the 1932 dinner to celebrate the charter centenary; flyers; and invitations.

Dinners were held variously at: The Eagle (1845); Christ’s College (1892, 1897, 1905, 1907, 1913); Clare College (1893); Corpus Christi College (1880); Downing College (1921); Emmanuel College (1881, 1900); Magdalene College (1885); King’s College (1923, 1935); Pembroke College (1879, 1902, 1932); Peterhouse (1884, 1890); Queens’ College (1878); St Catharine’s College (1883, 1969, 1982); St John’s College (1898, 1899, 1906, 1909, 1925, 1930); Sidney Sussex College (1896, 1919); Trinity College (1895, 1889, 1908, 1910, 1911, 1927, 1938).

1845-1982 1 volume

CPS 11/2/2 'The Dinner Book'

Records annual dinners of the Cambridge Philosophical Society held at various colleges and other venues, including handwritten accounts, together with various items pasted in, including flyers, menus, invoices and receipts.

1885-1932 1 volume
ARCHIVE CLASSLIST

CPS 11/2/2a 'The Dinner Book': loose inserts
Loose items found in the Dinner Book at CPS 11/2/2. Including items relating to the Centenary Dinner, 1919 and the Charter Centenary Dinner, 1932.
1913-1932 1 file

CPS 11/2/3 Dinners 1919 and 1932
Photocopies of items relating to dinners held by the Cambridge Philosophical Society in 1919 and 1932 (probably used in an exhibition) including: seating plan and invitation for 1919 Centenary Dinner at Sidney Sussex College; reports in Nature and the Cambridge Review on the dinner held in 1932 to celebrate the centenary of the granting of the charter, and list of guests and representatives of other learned societies at that dinner; and reports in the Cambridge Chronicle and Hunts Gazette relating to the establishment of the Society.
1919-1932 [Date of copies unknown] 1 file

CPS 11/2/4 Centenary Dinner
[Centenary of the grant to the Cambridge Philosophical Society of its royal charter]
File containing the following items relating to the Centenary Dinner held at Pembroke College on 12 November 1932: typescript of speech given by the President, Prof A Hutchinson; ‘A Guest’s Impressions’ - photcopy of an article from the Cambridge Review, 18 December 1932; seating plan; flyer / invitation 6 October 1932; preliminary notice 22 July 1932; guest list; cuttings from the Cambridge Daily News 14 November 1932 with lengthy report of speeches, toasts etc; typescript of speech given by HRH Prince George.
1932 1 file

CPS 11/2/5 Kapitza Dinner
ARCHIVE CLASSLIST

1966    1 file

CPS 11/3    Anniversaries
This sub-section contains records relating to the celebration of Cambridge Philosophical Society anniversaries, including charter anniversaries; the 150th anniversary of the Society in 1969; and anniversaries of other learned societies.

See also CPS 11/2 for records of dinners held to celebrate anniversaries.

CPS 11/3/1    Charter Anniversaries
This sub-sub-section contains papers relating to the Cambridge Philosophical Society's charter centenary in 1932 and its charter sesquicentenary in 1982.

CPS 11/3/1/1    Charter Centenary
Address of congratulation sent by the Yorkshire Philosophical Society to the Cambridge Philosophical Society to congratulate the Society on the centenary of the grant of its charter.
7 November 1932    1 item

CPS 11/3/1/2    Charter Sesquicentenary
Documents relating to events held by the Cambridge Philosophical Society to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the granting of its charter. Including:
Poster advertising a lecture by Lord Briggs (Provost of Worcester College, Oxford) on the Social and Cultural Context of Science, 1832-51, to be held 8 November 1982;
Two audio cassette tapes of Lord Briggs’ lecture, as above, 8 November 1982 (master tape and copy tape);
Lecture card listing Cambridge Philosophical Society lectures to be held Michaelmas Term 1982 (including Lord Briggs’ lecture as above);
24 colour photographs (with list of names, subjects etc) taken at a reception in the Museum of Zoology, Cambridge, 8 November 1982;

Correspondence and papers concerning a small exhibition held at the above reception, including draft captions, some of which comprise short biographies of early members, including John Henslow, Adam Sedgwick, Edward Daniel Clarke, William Farish, Charles Babbage, George Green, and Srinivasa Ramanujan;

Manuscript list of ten stuffed birds formerly belonging to the Society displayed at the Museum of Zoology exhibition.

1982 1 file

CPS 11/3/2 Cambridge Philosophical Society Sesquicentenary

This sub-sub-section contains papers relating to the many events and activities organised in 1969 to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Society.

See also CPS 4/5 for related committee records and CPS 10/5 for records relating to the 150th anniversary history of the Society.

CPS 11/3/2/1 Sesquicentenary administrative files

Correspondence and papers compiled chiefly by the Executive Secretary of the Cambridge Philosophical Society concerning organisation of events to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Society in 1969.

1968-1970 12 files

CPS 11/3/2/1/1 Sesquicentenary administrative files: File 1

‘Lecture Programme (Dr Field)’. File contains correspondence and papers concerning lectures delivered, October - November 1969, as part of the sesquicentenary celebrations, including lists; correspondence between Jack Ratcliffe (President) and those chairing lectures; letters of thanks etc.


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CPS 11/3/2/1/2 Sesquicentenary administrative files: File 2

‘Dinner (Dr Evans)’. File contains correspondence and papers concerning arrangements for the sesquicentenary dinner held on 3 November 1969, including seating arrangements, costs, venue, guests, publicity etc, and minutes of a meeting of the 1969 Committee (see also CPS 4/5) concerning publicity. File comprises chiefly correspondence of Jack Ratcliffe (President), also: draft menu, guest list, typescript of part of the President’s speech given at the dinner, and table plan. The file also contains a typescript list of major Cambridge Philosophical Society dinners 1919-38, giving date, venue, number present and whether guests were present.

CPS 11/3/2/1/3 Sesquicentenary administrative files: File 3

‘Publicity 1969’. File contains the following: very brief introduction to the history of the Society and its 1969 celebrations; papers concerning timetabling and organisation of events; short account of the Society (2 pages); programme of events for 1969; list of colleges noting those which have scientific / mathematical / medical societies as at 1969; publicity literature for 1969 events; correspondence and papers concerning the printing of literature for advertising of events, including advertising in colleges and in various publications and a schedule of printing dates.

CPS 11/3/2/1/4 Sesquicentenary administrative files: File 4

‘Articles for the Press’, ie press cuttings concerning the Society’s sesquicentenary. Also drafts of articles written by the Society for the press, including a 5 page article entitled ‘The Changing Functions of a Scientific Society’, written by Jack Ratcliffe, President, and suggestions made by the PR officer concerning press arrangements for the sesquicentenary.

The cuttings include:

Cambridge Evening News 4 November 1969 concerning the dinner, showing a photograph of Professor Sir Lawrence Bragg;
Cambridge Evening News 26 September 1969 – article by Douglas Oliver reviewing the history of the Society entitled ‘The group who revived science’;

Nature, 1 November 1969, short article entitled ‘Another Anniversary’;

New Scientist 20 November 1969, short article entitled ‘Philosophical Society moves on’;

Cambridge News 1 November 1969 with photograph captioned ‘Scientists Receive Honorary Degrees’, showing Professor Sir William Lawrence Bragg and Professor Harrison Scott Brown leading the procession into the Senate House of the University.

1969               (Former reference: S73EE)

**CPS 11/3/2/1/5 Sesquicentenary administrative files: File 5**

‘Prof Willmer: Entertaining Special Guests and Honorary Members’. File contains correspondence and papers concerning special guests at the sesquicentenary celebrations, including honorary graduands of Cambridge University and others who were entertained as guests of the Society during 1969. Includes a list of honorary graduands: Prof Henri Paul Cartan; Prof M[ichael] Polanyi; Prof Sir Vincent Wigglesworth; Prof Harrison Scott Brown; Prof Sir W Lawrence Bragg; Dame Honor Fell; and Prof R N Robertson.

1969               (Former reference: S73F)

**CPS 11/3/2/1/6  Sesquicentenary administrative files: File 6**

‘Garden Party’ [held at St John’s College 5 July 1969]. File contains guest list; Cambridge News cutting illustrated with photographs including Jack Ratcliffe, President of the Society, with Lord Adrian, Chancellor of the University; invitation; and a small quantity of administrative correspondence relating to the event. The file also contains 3 b/w photographs taken by Cambridge Evening News, each 15cm x 10cm, including the photograph used in the news article above.

1969               (Former reference: S73G)

**CPS 11/3/2/1/7  Sesquicentenary administrative files: File 7**
‘Acknowledgements of ‘History’ and Letters of Congratulation on Sesquicentenary’. File contains letters of thanks for copies of Rupert Hall’s history of the Society and letters of congratulation on the sesquicentenary, chiefly from overseas institutions, including greetings telegrams and a formal address from the Director of the Library of Tartu State University.

1969                     (Former reference: S73H)
In English, French and Italian

CPS 11/3/2/1/8   Sesquicentenary administrative files: File 8
‘Sesquicentenary Exhibition’. File contains papers concerning an exhibition illustrating the history of the Society from its foundation arranged by staff of the Scientific Periodicals Library in Room H on the first floor of the Arts School, held 27 October to 29 November 1969. File includes: draft of ideas for the exhibition; and catalogue of items exhibited in 13 showcases and other items (which included the Society’s ballot box (see CPS 16/1), other artefacts, and framed portraits and mounted photographs).

1969                     (Former reference: S73J)

CPS 11/3/2/1/9   Sesquicentenary administrative files: File 9
‘Sesquicentenary Accounts’. File contains accounts of income from and expenditure on sesquicentenary events and activities and related papers (invoices, receipts etc).

1969-1970                     (Former reference: S73K)

CPS 11/3/2/1/10  Sesquicentenary administrative files: File 10
‘Sesquicentenary Written Account’. File contains short typescript reports compiled after the event by Miss J E Larter, Secretary on: A R Hall’s history; the exhibition; lectures; posters; the dinner; the garden party; publicity and printing; arrangements for guests; and office organisation, including a note of criticisms of the arrangements. Together with a letter from J A Ratcliffe, President, to Miss Larter, 26 November 1969, suggesting she write up events for Council and for the general record.

1969-1970                     (Former reference: S73L)
CPS 11/3/2/1/11  Sesquicentenary administrative files: File 11

‘Honorary Degrees. Prof Willmer’. File contains correspondence and papers concerning honorary degrees awarded by the University of Cambridge to mark the sesquicentenary of the Cambridge Philosophical Society, 1 November 1969. Including correspondence concerning arrangements for the ceremony; cutting from the Cambridge Evening News concerning proposed names, 4 June 1969; order of proceedings at the Senate House; programme for the ceremony including the speeches of the University Orator; b/w photograph by Cambridge Evening News, 15cm x 10cm, showing the procession outside the Senate House [with Professor Sir Lawrence Bragg (right) and Prof Harrison Scott Brown (left) leading the procession]; and list of honorary graduands [as in CPS 11/3/2/1/5 above].

1968-1969  

(Former reference: S73D)

CPS 11/3/2/1/12  Sesquicentenary administrative files: File 12

‘Sesquicentenary: Honorary Degrees and Special Guests, Miscellaneous papers’. File contains photocopies of biographical notes, chiefly Who’s Who entries for honorary graduands and special guests of the Society, including ‘A’ list and ‘B’ list.

1969

CPS 11/3/2/2  'Cambridge Philosophical Society Sesquicentenary 1969'

Commemorative volume containing a collection of printed items from the 1969 celebrations, including:

Printed programme of events - garden party; honorary degree ceremony; admission of honorary members; dinner; and lectures;

Sample of letter sent to various bodies informing them of the forthcoming gift of a copy of A Rupert Hall’s history of the Society;

Invitation to garden party at St John’s College on 5 July 1969;

Short history of the Society;

Menu for a lunch held at St Catharine’s College 1 November 1969 (after honorary degree ceremony);

Speeches of the University Orator at the honorary degree ceremony;

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Menu for dinner at St Catharine’s College, 3 November 1969, with seating plan;
Posters for lectures.
1969 1 volume

**CPS 11/3/2/3  Congratulatory address**
Formal address of congratulation sent by the Botanical Society of Edinburgh to the Cambridge Philosophical Society on its sesquicentenary.
1969 1 item

**CPS 11/3/2/4  ‘Sesquicentenary Reports 1969’**
File contains reports and notes, compiled after the events of 1969, on: invited VIPs; entertainment provided by the Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University; arrangements for guests; dinner at St Catharine’s College, 3 November; garden party at St John’s College, 5 July; Rupert Hall’s history; exhibition on the history of the Society at the Scientific Periodicals Library, October – November; office organisation; and publicity and printing. Many of the reports were compiled by Miss J E Larter, Librarian and Executive Secretary, and some of them duplicate items listed at CPS 11/3/2/1/10.
1969 1 file

**CPS 11/3/2/5  Cuttings**
Newspaper and journal cuttings relating to the sesquicentenary of the Cambridge Philosophical Society
1969 1 file

**CPS 11/3/2/6  Index cards**
Index cards detailing those involved in the sesquicentenary celebrations of the Cambridge Philosophical Society
These cards were found loose and may not be exactly in their original order. Some of the cards are coded with coloured stickers but the specific significance of these is not known.
The cards are subdivided under the following headings: representatives of Societies (eg the Royal Society); University officials; miscellaneous; Departmental visitors; honorary graduands (including Sir Vincent Wigglesworth, Dame Honor Fell, Prof R N Robertson and Sir W Lawrence Bragg); hosts; lecturers; honorary members of the Society.

1969  1 bundle

**CPS 11/3/2/7  Exhibition papers**

Photocopies of documents and captions used for an exhibition relating to the premises of the Cambridge Philosophical Society [probably for the sesquicentenary celebrations in 1969]

File contains:

Various pages of  A E Shipley, ‘ ‘J’: a Memoir of John Willis Clark’, 1913, touching on his involvement with the Society and the University of Cambridge, particularly the Museum of Zoology;

p. 54 of ‘Cambridge Revisited’, mentioning the Society’s use of rooms over Bulstrode’s shop in Sidney Street from 1820 to 1833;

Colour snap of former Society building in All Saints Passage, as used by the University of Cambridge Hawks Club as at September 1965;

View of Bene’t Street from the Arts School, August 1967, by Ray Hoile [?Hoilen?];

Sketch plan of ‘The Museums on the site of the old Botanic Garden 1873’ (adapted from A E Shipley, ‘J - - - ‘ as above), showing, inter alia, the Perse School on Free School Lane;

‘Plan of Mr C Bulstrode’s premises 1854’ (stamped University Library Cambridge) on the corner of Bridge Street and All Saints Passage, also showing the Society’s building on All Saints Passage;

‘Plan of Site and Buildings for Museums of Natural Science’, circa 1885?; also notes location of other previous features / use / ownership of the area, including the course of the King’s Ditch, the estate of E J Mortlock; and the garden of the Augustinian Friars;

Pages 160-161 of an unspecified publication with an illustration of the Chemical Laboratory from Downing Street, looking west and showing, in the foreground, the gate by which the Botanic Garden was originally entered;
Site plan of ‘The Museums in 1873’, from A E Shipley, ‘J - - - ‘ as above;
Site plan of ‘The Laboratories in 1912’ (New Museums site, again adapted from A E Shipley);
‘Plan of Properties in Cambridge, 1850, showing Mr C Bulstrode’s property on the corner of All Saints Passage and Bridge Street facing the entrance to Jesus Lane;
Two page ‘Site plan of the New Examination Rooms and Lecture Rooms Showing Foundations etc of old [Augustinian] Friary discovered during Recent Excavations’ (from Cambridge Antiquarian Society’s Communication XIV) [circa 1900?];
‘Plan showing Bulstrode’s Shop (1820) and the Society’s House (1832) in Relation to Present Day Buildings’ [no date but All Saints Church is marked].
Most papers in the file have a pencil number: relates to its use in an exhibition?
1969 [Copies probably made in 1969] 1 file

CPS 11/3/2/8 Organisation Charts
Two large handwritten sheets showing a detailed breakdown of the structure and activities of the Cambridge Philosophical Society, including the 1969 Committee and its activities, also ways in which the Society connects with the University of Cambridge. Possibly drawn up in connection with the 1969 celebrations.
circa 1969 1 file
CPS 11/3/3 Anniversaries of other societies

This sub-sub-section contains papers and artefacts relating to anniversaries and events celebrated by other learned societies in the UK and overseas, including copies of formal addresses of congratulation sent by the Cambridge Philosophical Society.

CPS 11/3/3/1 Greetings

Printed copies of formal addresses of greeting and congratulation sent by the Cambridge Philosophical Society to other learned societies in recognition of their anniversaries:

Yorkshire Philosophical Society centenary 1922;
Royal Society tercentenary, 1960 [Adam Sedgwick, one of the founders of the Cambridge Philosophical Society, was also prominent among the founders of the Royal Society];
Société Royale de Botanique de Belgique centenary, 1962;
Fondation Curie, 50th anniversary 1971 [Marie Curie was elected an honorary member of the Cambridge Philosophical Society in 1914].

1922-1971 1 file

CPS 11/3/3/2 Medals

Medals sent to the Cambridge Philosophical Society commemorating anniversaries of various learned societies:

Medal commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Societa Italiana delle Scienze, 1882;
Semi-Centennial medallion of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters, with explanatory leaflet enclosed (50th anniversary 1920);

1882-1922 3 items in box
CPS 11/3/3/3  Rice University, Houston Texas: formal opening

Large rolled parchment bearing an invitation to the Cambridge Philosophical Society from the Rice University of Liberal and Technical Learning to send a representative to attend the ‘formal opening of the new university’ in October 1912. Together with an illustrated commemorative booklet about the university (to be opened to students in the autumn of 1912).

1912 1 roll

CPS 11/4  Special Visits and Events

This sub-section contains records relating chiefly to meetings of other learned bodies hosted and/or attended by members of the Cambridge Philosophical Society, together with some special events of the Society itself.

CPS 11/4/1 'Autographs'


Also, tipped into the volume, a printed list of books, letters and papers exhibited in the Cambridge Philosophical Library by permission of the committee, 20 June 1905.

1905-1909 1 volume

CPS 11/4/2 'At Home'

Invitation card for a Cambridge Philosophical Society 'At Home' to Fellows and Associates, held 16 May 1916 in the Engineering Laboratory, Free School Lane. 2 copies.

1916 2 items in file

CPS 11/4/3  British Association Meeting 1936

The records listed here relate to an exhibition of scientific instruments organised by the Cambridge Philosophical Society in connection with a
meeting of the British Association hosted by the Society in Cambridge in 1936.

1935-1938  3 items

CPS 11/4/3/1 British Association Meeting 1936: 
Item 1

File of correspondence and papers, compiled by J D Cockcroft, concerning loans to a Cambridge Philosophical Society exhibition of scientific instruments, including some papers concerning insurance.

The committee organising the exhibition consisted of A Hutchinson (chairman); H Hamshaw Thomas (secretary); J D Cockcroft; P I Dee; H F Newall; E K Rideal; and F J M Stratton.

Items were loaned by the following: the Archaeological Museum; the Cavendish Laboratory; various colleges including Trinity, St John’s, Jesus, Gonville and Caius, King’s and St Catharine’s; the Weights and Measures Office of the Borough of Cambridge; various Cambridge University departments and laboratories including the Department of Mineralogy, the Botany School and the Zoological Laboratory; the Lewis Evans Collection, Oxford; the Oxford Museum of the History of Science; the Royal Society; the Sedgwick Museum; the Fitzwilliam Museum; and individuals.

1935-1938  1 file
CPS 11/4/3/2 British Association Meeting 1936:
Item 2
Poster produced by Cambridge University Press for an exhibition of ‘Historic Scientific Instruments’ held in the old mineralogy gallery of the Cavendish Laboratory, August [1936] and hosted by the Cambridge Philosophical Society.
1936 1 item

CPS 11/4/3/3 British Association Meeting 1936:
Item 3
Visitors Book, containing signatures and college / city / country etc of those visiting the Cambridge Philosophical Society’s ‘Loan Exhibition of Historic Scientific Apparatus in Cambridge 8-21 June 1936 in the East Room of the Old Schools’, including those attending a reception held for about 150 guests.
1936 1 volume

CPS 11/4/4 Scientific Periodicals Library reception
Correspondence and papers concerning a reception held in the Scientific Periodicals Library, 1 October 1980, attended by the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge.
1980 1 file
CPS 12 RESEARCH

This section contains papers deriving from research projects conducted by the Cambridge Philosophical Society.

CPS 12/1 Anthropometric Committee record cards

Approximately 9,000 printed cards, one per subject, filled in by hand with the following information: reference number; name; college; birthplace; date of birth; ‘Origin’ (ie ‘N. or S. England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland &c’); date of observations; details of eyes, eyesight, strength of pull, strength of squeeze, breathing power, head dimensions, height, weight, and span of arms. The format of the cards changed, circa 1897, to include extra information on eyes, hair, ears, facial measurements and features, and colour sense; also place of origin of both father and mother.

As various researchers had used the cards before this catalogue was compiled, it is not possible to ascertain whether the cards were originally ordered alphabetically, by reference number, chronologically or in some other fashion. However, as many were found mostly in annual bundles, they have been arranged broadly chronologically. Most of the information is written in pencil but appears to be relatively clear.

Historical note: the Cambridge Anthropometric Committee began measuring subjects in 1884 using apparatus designed by Sir Francis Galton. Early cards bear the printed heading ‘Cambridge Union Society’: this is presumably where measurements took place for the first few years. In 1886 the instruments were transferred to the care of the Cambridge Philosophical Society. Measurements then began of readers using the Society’s Library and continued into the early years of the 20th century. The cards were sent on loan to Professor Sir Karl Pearson at University College, London in 1924 for research purposes: they were returned to the Cambridge Philosophical Society in 1962.

1884-1909 12 boxes

See CPS 2/1/6 (Council minutes 1885-1906) for minutes and letters concerning the transfer to the Society of the functions and instruments of the Cambridge Anthropometric Committee, 1886, in particular p.11, a letter from Oscar Browning of King's College to R T Glazebrook concerning the proposed transfer, 26 January 1886 (agreed at the meeting of 1 February 1886).
CPS 12/1/1 Anthropometric Committee record cards: Box 1
1884-1886

CPS 12/1/2 Anthropometric Committee record cards: Box 2
1887

CPS 12/1/3 Anthropometric Committee record cards: Box 3
1888-1889

CPS 12/1/4 Anthropometric Committee record cards: Box 4
1890-1891

CPS 12/1/5 Anthropometric Committee record cards: Box 5
1892

CPS 12/1/6 Anthropometric Committee record cards: Box 6
1893

CPS 12/1/7 Anthropometric Committee record cards: Box 7
1894

CPS 12/1/8 Anthropometric Committee record cards: Box 8
1895
CPS 12/1/9 Anthropometric Committee record cards: Box 9
1896

CPS 12/1/10 Anthropometric Committee record cards: Box 10
1897-1899

CPS 12/1/11 Anthropometric Committee record cards: Box 11
1900-1909

CPS 12/1/12 Anthropometric Committee record cards: Box 12
This box contains seven bundles with their original labels, as follows:
Women: chiefly from Newnham College, plus some from Girton College and some visitors, 1894-97;
‘Different type of cards’ (all Newnham College, 1894);
‘India’, 1897-1903;
‘One or both parents foreign or no statement’, 1897-1904;
‘No age’, 1897-1903;
‘Age under 18’, 1897-1904;
‘See former cards’, 1901-04 [presumably some subjects were measured more than once].
1894-1904
CPS 12/2   'Francis Galton & Anthropometric Committee'

File containing correspondence and papers relating to the Anthropometric Committee record cards and their use, including:

Outline history of the Galton apparatus and its use, including extracts from Philosophical Society Council minutes 1886, 1895 and 1924 relating to the apparatus and the committee set up to supervise its use, also the use by Karl Pearson of the data;

Photocopy of a letter from Horace Darwin to R T Glazebrook, 1886, concerning the costs of maintaining the apparatus and performing measurements;

Correspondence with UCL concerning the return in 1962 of cards borrowed by Karl Pearson in 1924;

‘A Victorian jack of all science’: article from the Times Higher Education Supplement, 12 July 1974, concerning Sir Francis Galton;

Correspondence with various enquirers requesting to use the anthropometric record cards for research, 1986-87.

1962-1987     1 file
CPS 13  GRANTS

This section contains papers relating to research grants and studentships administered and awarded by the Cambridge Philosophical Society.

CPS 13/1  Flyers

Miscellaneous flyers relating to grants awarded by the Cambridge Philosophical Society:

1) flyer concerning the Working Parties Fund (which awarded grants to help Fellows and Associates of the Society to bring groups of colleagues to Cambridge to further their research), 1973;

2) flyer for Research Studentship Fund soliciting applications for awards, 1981.

1973-1981  1 file
CPS 14 PHOTOGRAPHS AND PORTRAITS

This section contains photographs and other images chiefly of people and premises connected with the Cambridge Philosophical Society.

Covering dates: 1900-1995

Extent: 15 files

CPS 14/1 People

This sub-section includes photographs and other images of people connected with the Cambridge Philosophical Society and its Library.

CPS 14/1/1 Edward Daniel Clarke

Printed card showing a portrait of 'Edward Daniel Clarke 1769-1822 Fellow, Bursar and Senior Tutor [of Jesus College] from the portrait by John Opie at the College'.

No date. 1 item

CPS 14/1/2 Joseph Larmor

Studio portrait photograph of Joseph Larmor, head and shoulders, black and white, 30cm x 20cm mounted on card 30cm x 45cm. Taken by Adolf Eckstein's Verlag, Berlin-Charlottenburg.

circa 1900 [No date found.]

CPS 14/1/3 'A Souvenir of Your Visit to the Monotype Works at Salfords, Surrey, 22 July 1958'

Folder printed with the above title, containing 2 b/w photographs, each 20cm x 10cm, showing group photographs of those attending a Cambridge Philosophical Society visit to the Monotype Works. A key to names is given. Miss J E Larter, Executive Secretary and Librarian of the Society, is among those attending.

1958 1 file
CPS 14/1/4 Biological Reviews Editorial Committee
Colour group photograph, 25cm x 20cm, of the Biological Reviews Editorial Committee of the Cambridge Philosophical Society, taken at Queens' College on the occasion of a lunch held to mark the retirement of Dr M A Message. With key to names.
circa 1970 [No date found.]

CPS 14/1/5 Library Staff
Three colour photographs [colour fading] of the staff [?] of the Scientific Periodicals Library, taken in front of the main door of the Arts School next to the plaque reading 'Scientific Periodicals Library'.
circa 1975 [No date found: could be mid-1970s] 3 items

CPS 14/1/6 Library Staff
Two colour photographs of staff in the Scientific Periodicals Library, both on one mount, 18cm x 22cm, taken at the foot of the gallery stairs in the Library.
circa 1979 [No date found but probably late 1970s] 2 items

CPS 14/1/7 Visit of the Duke of Edinburgh
Nine colour photographs of the visit of the Duke of Edinburgh (as Chancellor of the University) to the Scientific Periodicals Library, each 20cm x 15cm.
1980 1 file

CPS 14/1/8 Cambridge University Library Staff
Appears to be a group photograph of the whole staff of Cambridge University Library staff (presumed to include the staff of the Scientific Periodicals Library), taken in front of the University Library. Mounted on board, 37cm x 20cm. With key to names.
1981 1 item
CPS 14/1/9  Cambridge Philosophical Society staff

Nine colour snaps, each 10cm x 12cm, presumed to be of the office staff of the Society. Four of the snaps show four women at the bottom of the external spiral staircase of the Society's offices. Two of them appear to have been taken in the Society offices. The remaining three show the book chute from the Library gallery.

circa 1995  [No dates found but possibly mid-1990s]  1 file

CPS 14/1/10  Framed portraits

Portraits of various people of significance to the Cambridge Philosophical Society, hanging on the walls of the Henslow Room as at July 2015, as follows:


Engraving of a portrait of E D Clarke, head and shoulders, no date [circa 1800?];

Engraving of a portrait by T H Maguire [?] of J S Henslow, half figure, full face, 1849;

Engraving of Henry Cavendish FRS, no date;

Photograph of unknown young man, seated, profile, holding a circular item, no date [early 20thC?]?


circa 1800-circa 1900  6 items
CPS 14/2  Premises

This sub-section includes photographs of Cambridge Philosophical Society and Library premises.

CPS 14/2/1 'Front Elevation of the New Lecture Rooms and Museums in the Old Botanic Garden'

Photograph of engraving entitled as above, 21cm x 16cm, taken from C H Cooper, 'Memorials of Cambridge', 1866. [Framed engraving hanging on wall of Henslow Room as at August 2015.]
Date of photograph unknown.  1 item

CPS 14/2/2 All Saints Passage

B/w photograph by Edward Leigh [photographer of 19 King’s Parade, Cambridge], 15cm x 20cm (as used on p 25 of Rupert Hall's history of the Cambridge Philosophical Society) of the building erected by the Society on All Saints Passage and occupied by it from 1833 to 1865.
1969  1 item

CPS 14/2/3 Scientific Periodicals Library

B/w photograph by Edward Leigh of the 2nd floor of the Scientific Periodicals Library in the Arts School, 15cm x 20cm.
1969  1 item

CPS 14/2/4 Scientific Periodicals Library

Two b/w photographs, each 25cm x 20cm, of the 2nd floor of the Scientific Periodicals Library: one taken from floor level, the other taken from the gallery.
circa 1973  [No date found: possibly early 1970s]  2 items

CPS 14/2/5 Scientific Periodicals Library

Seven colour photographs, each 20cm x 20cm, of the Scientific Periodicals Library on the 1st and 2nd floors of the Arts School building.
circa 1978       [No date found: possibly late 1970s]     1 file

**CPS 14/2/6 Library commemorative plaque**

Photograph, in mount, of plaque [still on the wall of the 2nd floor reading room of the Central Science Library as at May 2015] reading 'This Library was founded in 1821 by the Cambridge Philosophical Society. Since 1865 it has been housed by the University of Cambridge and became part of the University Library in 1976'.

Date of photograph unknown.     1 item
CPS 15 PERSONAL PAPERS

This section contains papers of individual members of the Cambridge Philosophical Society which have been found amongst the official archives of the Society or deposited with the Society.

Covering dates: 1799-1930

Extent: 7 files

CPS 15/1 'Young's Notes on Dispersion of Crystalline &c'

Nine letters from Thomas Young addressed to Dr W H Wollaston, Cecil Street, Strand, concerning their respective research and experiments on dispersion of crystalline, containing references to the work of Ramsden and to Newtonian theory of dispersion.

The letters are dated 16 November 1800 to circa August 1801.

The paper in which the letters had been wrapped by Dr Wollaston is a printed form issued by the City of London Lying-in Hospital for Married Women at the corner of the City Road on which a Mary Doran records her thanks for the safe delivery of a daughter, 8 May 1799.

The letters were donated to the Cambridge Philosophical Society by Howard W Elphinstone: the file includes a related letter from him, addressed from Wimbledon Park, 17 December 1910.

1799-1910 1 file

CPS 15/2 Miscellaneous Letters

1) Letter to J W Lubbock from Thomas Tonkins, 17 December 1829, in reply to Lubbock’s letter to Tonkins of 10 November; discusses the subject of flooding on the river Neva and the population of Moscow and St Petersburg, referring to previous flooding in 1824 and a bill of mortality for Moscow;

2) Letter from David Brewster to James Thomson, 16 September 1843, on the threat to Brewster’s job because of the Free Church Movement;

3) Letter from James D Forbes to James Thomson, 14 April 1845, from Edinburgh, concerning Thomson’s son.

[J W Lubbock was an early member of the Cambridge Philosophical Society; David Brewster was an honorary member, elected 1820.]
CPS 15/3  Personal Papers of Sir Joseph Larmor Larmor (1857-1942, theoretical physicist)

Joseph Larmor grew up in Belfast. He entered St John’s College, Cambridge in 1876. He left Cambridge only briefly (1880-85), returning to take up a lectureship in mathematics in 1885. He was Lucasian Professor of Mathematics from 1903 until his retirement in 1932. His chief work was in the area of electromagnetic theory. He was one of the Secretaries of the Cambridge Philosophical Society from 1886-1895, President from 1898-1900, and a generous benefactor to the Society’s Library.

The papers listed here comprise letters and notes found in the Larmor Collection, ie books which Joseph Larmor donated to the Library of the Cambridge Philosophical Society.

CPS 15/3/1 Papers of Joseph Larmor: File 1

Miscellaneous letters to Joseph Larmor, some annotated in pencil with a note of the book in which they were found. Writers include:

H Baker, 1930;
Horace Brown, 1907;
Robert Ball, 1889;
A Gray, 1901;
A E H Love, 1899;
H Middleton, 1910;
A [?] Sommerfeld, 1899
D’Arcy Wentworth Thompson, 1917;
W E Wilson, 1907.

1889-1930 1 file

In English, French and German
CPS 15/3/2 Papers of Joseph Larmor: File 2
Draft copy of a letter written by Joseph Larmor on St John’s College headed paper in which he thanks the recipient [unknown] for their ‘estimate of my memories on aether theory’, together with Larmor’s note on some of the recipient’s criticisms.
16 October 1898 1 file

CPS 15/3/3 Papers of Joseph Larmor: File 3
Letters to Joseph Larmor, 1903-29, from the following: Alice Birtwistle; H A Bumstead; C Chree; J C Graham; John Leathem; G D H Parker; J Sevin (in French); M Wilderman; and R Wright of Cambridge University Press.
Also a letter from Henry James at the Ordnance Map Office, Southampton, to G G Stokes, 20 October 1856.
1856-1929 [1856 and 1903-1929] 1 file
In English and French

CPS 15/3/4 Papers of Joseph Larmor: File 4
Miscellaneous notes found in the Larmor Collection. A few notes are annotated in pencil with a note of the book in which they were found.
1904-1921 [Dates include 1904 and 1921 but few dates found] 1 file

CPS 15/3/5 Papers of Joseph Larmor: File 5
This file contains chiefly miscellaneous notes: undated, but some note the book in the Larmor Collection in which they were found.
The file also contains proofs for some short articles by Joseph Larmor, including the following: ‘Escapements and Quanta’, 1921; ‘On Non-Radiating Atoms’, 1921; and ‘The Mechanics of the Ascent of Sap in Trees’ [no date];
Also: menu for a dinner at Peterhouse, 29 October 1902, on which is scribbled a note reading’ A propos of total internal reflection - Do you remember Airey’s pathetic remark (re [symbol indicating 'the square root of minus 1'], which Fresnel had done). It is improbable that this can have no meaning. What can the meaning be?’; invitation to Larmor to a dinner at Peterhouse.
King’s College 5 June [no year given]; and a letter from George Kale to Joseph Larmor, 1929, thanking him for his ‘superb great volumes’.
circa 1870-1920 1 file
CPS 16 ARTEFACTS

Historical artefacts belonging to the Cambridge Philosophical Society, located in the Henslow Room as at August 2015.

Covering dates: circa 1820-circa 1950 [Few dates found.]
Extent: 12 items

CPS 16/1 Ballot Box
Box used by the Cambridge Philosophical Society for casting votes in Society elections.
Date unknown

CPS 16/2 Gyroscope
Date unknown

CPS 16/3 Small working telescope
Date unknown
Part of the Joseph Larmor collection.

CPS 16/4 Library date stamp
Wooden handle with metal stamp and small removable date stamps, all in small wooden box.
Date unknown.

CPS 16/5 Weighing scales for inland letter post
Metal scales mounted on wooden block, manufactured by Waterlow & Sons, London.
Date unknown
CPS 16/6  Small glass prism and glass lens
Function unidentified. In box.
Date unknown

CPS 16/7  'Wellington SCP Lantern Plates for Gaslight Printing & Development'
Box labelled thus containing 2 glass slides numbered 7 and 8, subject unknown.
Date unknown: possibly late 19thC?

CPS 16/8  Barometer and Thermometer
[Fixed to end of bookshelves inside the door of the Henslow Room as at June 2015.]
circa 1820     2 items
Given to the Cambridge Philosophical Society in 1820 by Edward Troughton, one of the Society's first Honorary Fellows.

CPS 16/10  Bust of John Hunter
[? John Hunter, FRS, surgeon, 1728-1793.]
Date unknown

CPS 16/11  Longcase clock
Astronomical regulator manufactured by Molyneux & Sons of London.
circa 1820