Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh Archives

Scottish Alpine Botanical Club catalogue

GB235 SAB

Founded 9 August 1870

“The austerity of Scottish life extends relentlessly to its alpine flora as to any of its other inhabitants.”

From SABC notes on the Flora of Ben Lawers, June 1932.

Dates of creation: 1870-1947

Extent and Medium: 3 boxes, 1 leather briefcase containing photograph album, snuff mull, leather bag

SAB/1: Minute Books
SAB/2: Accounts
SAB/3: Correspondence / papers
SAB/4: Publications
SAB/5: Photo Album
SAB/6: Maps
SAB/7: Ephemera / Objects

Box 1 of 5

GB235 SAB/1: Minute Books

SAB/1/1 volume 1, Minute Book, ms., 1870–1890. Includes reprint of John Sadler’s “Notice of Salix Sadleri (Syme) and of Carex Frigida (Allioni),” Trans. Boc. Soc., Sadler’s notes on Ben Nevis (see SAB/2), and newspaper cuttings on botanical excursions; misc. correspondence, including letters to I.B. Balfour; 1 photograph of members.

SAB/1/2 volume 2, Minute Book, ms., 1890–1906. Includes publication on the club’s founding, list of members, and details on excursions, 1899; correspondence; reprints of Boc. Soc. articles on club excursions.

SAB/1/3 volume 3 Minute Book, ms., 1906–1931. Includes photographs of members, sites of botanical excursions, and plants.


Box 2 of 5

GB235 SAB/3: Correspondence / Papers:


GB235 SAB/5: Photo Album


GB235 SAB/6: Maps

Ten boxes of Ordnance Survey of Scotland maps, 10 maps per box; 10 loose maps, Ordnance Survey of Ireland. SABC labels on boxes and maps listing sites of the club’s excursions and OS sheet numbers.

Box I: Loch Awe (South) (37); Ben Lomond (38); Iona (43); Mull (44); Ben Cruachan (45); Killin (46); Ben Lawers (47); Ben Nevis (53); Ben Alder (54); Schiehallion (55).

Box II: Glen Shee (56); Arisaig (61); Glen Spean (62); Sow of Athole (63); Ben Macdhui (64); Lochnagar (65); Cuillin Hills (70); Skye (71); Glen Affric (72); Glen Moriston (73).
Box III: Cairn Gorm (74); Ben Avon (75); Portree (80); Applecross (81); Lochalsh (82); Dingwall (83); Loch Gairloch (91); Loch Maree (92); Ben Wyvis (93); Tain (94).

Box IV: Ullapool (101); Loch Shin (102); Dornoch (103); Loch Assynt (107); Ben More Assynt (108); Helmsdale (109); Latheron (110); Cape Wrath (113); Ben Hope (114); Farr (115).

Box V: Wick (116); Middleton-in-Teesdale; Ingleborough Hill; Kirkby Lonsdale; Windermere; Helvellyn; Penrith; Fort William and Ben Nevis (53); Arisaig (61).

Loose maps: Ireland: Clare Island, Inishbofin Island, Inishturk Island (73); Murrisk (74); Bencullagh, Urrisbeg (93); Benbaun (94); Galway, Moycullen, (95); Co. Kerry: Dingle, Ventry, Brandon Mt. (160; 171); Co. Kerry: Tralee Bay (161); Co. Kerry (183; 191); Killarney (173); Co. Kerry: Kenmore (184).

Box 5 of 5
GB235 SAB/7: Ephemera / Objects

SAB/7/1 Snuff Mull made from horn of feral sheep with etched silver decorations and still with snuff inside. Mull held inside soft chamoix leather bag. Presented to the Club by William Brack Boyd in 1880.

SAB/7/2 Large leather bag donated to the SABC by Alex Cowan of Penicuik (on shelf alongside collection)

Description compiled by M.R.

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