

## Library Special Collections

## PAPERS OF MARGARET SWAIN

Margaret Helen Swain (1909-2002) was a historian of embroidery and textiles. The author of several books and numerous articles, she also lectured widely, and her papers reflect these activities. Her early publications were on Ayrshire needlework but she became an expert on embroidery in general and Scottish work in particular. Her books included *Historical Needlework* (1970), *The Needlework of Mary, Queen of Scots* (1973) and *Scottish Embroidery* (1986). Her advice was frequently sought by curators and collectors and she became a consultant to the National Museum of Scotland and the National Trust for Scotland. She was asked to help to improve the displays in the Palace of Holyroodhouse, which led to the publication in 1988 of her catalogue of the tapestries and textiles there.

The files are arranged in general subject groups, but there is considerable overlapping and material on a particular subject may be found in more than one file or group. Most of the files contain notes, photographs and correspondence. Under 'Title', the headings are those given to the files by Margaret Swain, but words and phrases in square brackets have been supplied. Dates given in the finding list should be taken as a rough guide only; much of the material is undated.

General subject groups are as follows:

Item numbers	Subject
1/1-2/9	Styles of needlework
2/10-3/7	Needlework pictures and colifichets
3/8-4/6	<u>Tapestries</u>
4/7-5/11	<u>Furnishings</u>
5/12-7/3	Chair covers
7/4-7/11	<u>Costume</u>
7/12-8/2	<u>Vestments</u>
8/3-8/10	Needlework in country houses
9/1-9/5	<u>Holyroodhouse</u>
9/6-9/8	Mary, Queen of Scots

 9/9-10/10
 Needlewomen

 10/11-11/12
 Sources of designs

11/13-11/18 Canadian and American work

12/1-13/4 <u>Miscellaneous subjects</u>

13/5-14/5 Correspondence

14/6-14/12Student and early notes15/1-15/2Bibliographical notes15/3-15/5Articles by Margaret Swain15/6-16/7Articles by other authors

16/8-16/9 Outlines for talks and lists of slides

16/10 <u>Personal papers</u>

17-26 Single volumes and boxes

27-48 Printed books with annotations or enclosures

Reference	Title	Contents	Date	Container
MHS 1/1-2/9	Styles of needlework			
MHS 1/1	Knotting.		1966, 1986	Wallet
MHS 1/2	Blackwork.	Correspondence with enclosures.	1983-87	Folder
MHS 1/3	Tailors patchwork.		1975-90	Folder
MHS 1/4	Patchwork [and quilting].	Printed items; also photographs of Canadian and American quilts.		Envelope
MHS 1/5	Turkey work.	Includes typescript of article 'Textile covers and the 'farthingale' chair from: the evidence from Holyroodhouse' by Margaret Swain, 1979.	1975-86	Folder
MHS 1/6	Turkey work.		1987-91	Folder
MHS 1/7	Tambouring.	Notes and correspondence.	1961-61	Wallet
MHS 1/8	Whitework and handkerchiefs.	Notes and correspondence, mostly on Edinburgh shawls.	1956-59	Folder
MHS 1/9	Whitework	(a) detail of trade sampler; (b) pincushion with boy with hoop. From the Misses Bowie, embroidery firm, Edinburgh. Photographs and notes.		Envelope
MHS 2/1	Whitework (Dresden work, etc.).	Mostly photographs.	1961-87	Folder
MHS 2/2	Dresden work.	Correspondence.	1954-68	Wallet
MHS 2/3	Details of flounces, Dresden work, etc.	Photographs from the Victoria and Albert Museum.		Folder
MHS 2/4	[Ayrshire embroidery and lace].		1954-83	Folder
MHS 2/5	Pitsligo lace.		1961-62	Wallet
MHS 2/6	Lace (various).		1971, 1986	Folder
MHS 2/7	Het Sterckshof. Exhibition of lace.		1967	Wallet
MHS 2/8	Damasks and shawls.	Correspondence, notes and two articles by A. Cavallo. Also typescript of an article 'Edinburgh shawls' by Margaret Swain.	1960-66	Wallet
MHS 2/9	False Florentine.		1975-78	Envelope

MHS 2/10-3/7	Needlework pictures and colifichets			
MHS 2/10	Needlework pictures, 17 <sup>th</sup> cent. Allegorical	Photographs.		Folder
	and pastoral.			
MHS 3/1	18 <sup>th</sup> c. needlework pictures.		1989-94	Wallet
MHS 3/2	[Needlework pictures].	Photographs and letters about four pictures owned by Miss Ann Parkinson.	1992	Folder
MHS 3/3	Embroidered Georgian pictures.	Photographs and correspondence. See also MHS 39.	1966	Wallet
MHS 3/4	[Embroidered Georgian pictures:] illustrations.	Photographs and correspondence. See also MHS 39.	1991-95	Wallet
MHS 3/5	Colifichets.		1960-81	Wallet
MHS 3/6	Colifichets.		1961-98	Wallet
MHS 3/7	Colifichets. Spamer A.	Photostats from a publication probably by Adolf Spamer (1883-1953).		Wallet
MHS 3/8-4/6	Tapestries			
MHS 3/8	17 <sup>th</sup> c. Flemish tapestry hangings in Scotland.	Lectures.	1986, 1991	Folder
MHS 3/9	Oudenaarde (Cawdor)	Papers concerning the Oudenaarde tapestries at Cawdor Castle, with a typescript of a paper on the subject by Margaret Swain.	1989-97	Folder
MHS 4/1	Dalmahoy tapestries.	Letters, notes and transcripts.	1977, 1985	Wallet
MHS 4/2	NTS tapestries: Newhailes [and] Falkland.		1980-99	Wallet
MHS 4/3	Prestonfield tapestries.		1986-97	Wallet
MHS 4/4	Tapestries at Wemyss Castle.		1977-96	Folder
MHS 4/5	Tapestries at Wemyss Castle.	Includes material on Stanway House tapestries.	1982-94	Folder
MHS 4/6	Saumarez Manor tapestries, Guernsey.		1988-98	Folder
MHS 4/7-5/11	Furnishings			
MHS 4/7	Screens.	Wallington and elsewhere.	1975, 1988	Folder
MHS 4/8	Screens.	Holyrood, Newhailes, etc.	1983	Folder
MHS 4/9	Screens.	Correspondence with Elizabeth Price of Houston, Texas.	1972-77, 1991	Folder
MHS 4/10	Mirrors.	Photographs only.	1987	Folder
MHS 4/11	Welbeck. Bonheur du jour.		1988	Envelope

MHS 4/12	Card tables.		1970, 1993	Wallet
MHS 4/13	Dummy boards.		1987	Folder
MHS 5/1	Needlework caskets.		1968, 1985- 87	Wallet
MHS 5/2	Needlework boxes.		1989-96	Wallet
MHS 5/3	Embroidered cabinet.	Cabinet, c.1720, in the Centraal Museum, Utrecht. Photographs only.		Envelope
MHS 5/4	Philadelphia cabinet.	Correspondence with Jay R. Stiefel.	1977	Wallet
MHS 5/5	Cushions.	Photographs.		Folder
MHS 5/6	[Valances, etc.]		1973-96	Folder
MHS 5/7	Curtains at Haddo House, Aberdeenshire.	Mostly photographs.		Envelope
MHS 5/8	Curtains at Haddo House.	Mostly photographs.		Envelope
MHS 5/9	Scotch carpets.		1971-78	Wallet
MHS 5/10	Mary Erskine table carpet.	Correspondence and a few notes.	1964-65	Wallet
MHS 5/11	[Table carpet. Charles van der Heyden.]		1985	Envelope
MHS 5/12-7/3	Chair covers			
MHS 5/12	Chair covers.		1975-98	Folder
MHS 6/1	Chair covers.	Includes xeroxes but no photographs.	1968-99	Wallet
MHS 6/2	Chair covers.	Mostly photographs.		Wallet
MHS 6/3	Chair covers: Mrs Delany.		1991	Envelope
MHS 6/4	Chair covers: Nunwick Arbury.	Photographs only.		Envelope
MHS 6/5	[Chair covers:] pictorial.		1976-77, 2000	Folder
MHS 6/6	[Chair covers:] pictorial (Lady Lever Art Gallery).		2001	Folder
MHS 6/7	[Chair covers:] flowered.			Folder
MHS 7/1	[Chair covers:] Florentine work.		1975	Folder
MHS 7/2	[Chair covers:] not canvas.		1977	Folder
MHS 7/3	Tapestry chair seats.	Material for an article in Country Life.	1991	Folder

MHS 7/4-7/11	Costume		
MHS 7/4	Aprons.	Postcards only.	Wallet
MHS 7/5	Caps.	Photographs.	Folder
MHS 7/6	Ayrshire caps.	Photographs.	Folder
MHS 7/7	Men's nightcaps.		Wallet

MHS 7/8	Ayrshire gowns.		1981-85	Folder
MHS 7/9	Eglinton.	Photographs of costume, etc., belonging to the Earl and Countess of Eglinton.	1996	Envelope
MHS 7/10	Purses: ceremonial.		1968-80	Envelope
MHS 7/11	Costume: ceremonial.		1984-85	Folder
MHS 7/12-8/2	Vestments			
MHS 7/12	Vestments.		1981-83	Wallet
MHS 8/1	Vestments: Blairs College, Aberdeen; Traquair, etc.		1970-73	Wallet
MHS 8/2	Vestments at Traquair.		1992-95	Folder
MHS 8/3-8/10	Needlework in country houses			
MHS 8/3	Textiles in Scottish country houses.	Typescript catalogue entries.	1981	Folder
MHS 8/4	[Needlework at Balcarres.]	Includes a list of manuscript designs for needlework and letters about Margaret Swain's article 'A Wild Sort of Imagination.'	1977	Folder
MHS 8/5	Cowdenknowes.	Photographs of embroideries (by Katherine M. Hope?).	1995	Envelope
MHS 8/6	Mellerstain panel.	(No. 21 in the exhibition Needlework from Scottish Country Houses).	1963-70	Wallet
MHS 8/7	Newliston panels.	Notes, photocopies, etc.		Wallet
MHS 8/8	Newliston panels.	Mostly correspondence.	1964-82	Folder
MHS 8/9	Gawthorpe Hall catalogue.	Typescript lists of costume, embroidery and related collections.		Clip binder
MHS 8/10	Hardwick Hall.	Photographs.		Folder
MHS 9/1-9/5	Holyroodhouse			
MHS 9/1	Hamilton inventories. Holyrood.			Folder
MHS 9/2	Holyrood furniture.	Photographs and letters.	1978, 1983	Folder
MHS 9/3	[Tapestries at] Holyrood.	Photographs and letters. See also MHS 48.	1978, 1990	Folder
MHS 9/4	[Silk wall coverings at Holyrood.]	Correspondence.	1992	Envelope
MHS 9/5	Turkeywork chairs, Holyroodhouse.		1975-80	Folder
MHS 9/6-9/8	Mary, Queen of Scots			
MHS 9/6	Mary, Queen of Scots.	Notes, photocopies and letters. See also	1972-76	Folder

		MHS 32.		
MHS 9/7	Mary, Queen of Scots.	Mostly photographs.		Folder
MHS 9/8	Mary, Queen of Scots.	Photocopies of inventories, etc.		Wallet
MHS 9/9- 10/10	Needlewomen			
MHS 9/9	Needlewomen.	Includes material on Mary Linwood, Anne Eliza Morritt and Mary Knowles.	1980-94	Folder
MHS 10/1	Autograph needlework designs.		1953, 1975	Folder
MHS 10/2	G. Wingfield Digby, 'Lady Julia Calverley, embroideress.'	Letter from Mary Ireland and photostat of article in the <i>Connoisseur</i> cxlv.	1959-60	Folder
MHS 10/3	20 <sup>th</sup> century needlewomen. Ann Macbeth, Mrs Newbery [and others].			Folder
MHS 10/4	Studio 1.	Photocopies of articles in <i>Studio</i> 1 (1898-1900) on Glasgow designers including Ann Macbeth and Mrs Newbery.		Clip file
MHS 10/5	Studio 2.	Photocopies of articles, mainly on Ann Macbeth.		Clip file
MHS 10/6	Ann Macbeth, 1875-1948.		1972-73	Wallet
MHS 10/7	Mrs Newbery.		1970-78	Folder
MHS 10/8	Joan Drew.	Retrospective exhibition of her embroidery, 1978.	1983	Folder
MHS 10/9	Sketches made by Mrs [Isabel A.] Simpson, "Carita".	Needlework designs.		Sketch pad
MHS 10/10	[Illustrations of women sewing].		1986, n.d.	Folder
MHS 10/11- 11/12	Sources of designs			
MHS 10/11	Designs from a manuscript book lent by Mrs G. Anderson.	Photostats.		Folder
MHS 10/12	Designs from manuscript book labelled Mrs Mercer of Gorthy.			Envelope
MHS 10/13	Needlework design.	Correspondence.	1970-79	Folder
MHS 10/14	Lorimer designs for embroidery.	Photocopies, with a few photographs of other designs and of the process of pricking.		Folder
MHS 10/15	17 <sup>th</sup> -c Biblical [designs in embroideries].	Biblical designs in embroideries.	1979-91	Folder

Folder
Wallet
Folder
Wallet
Folder
2 folders
Folder
Envelope
Envelope
Envelope
Folder
Folder
Folder
Folder
Ring binder
Folder
Folder

MHS 12/2	[Luigi Ruffini].	Correspondence and notes concerning Ruffini (d. ca. 1807), a professional embroiderer in Scotland.	1953-2000	Folder
MHS 12/3	[Testaments in the National Archives of Scotland].	Photocopies and transcripts.		Wallet
MHS 12/4	Wemyss School of Needlework.	Notes and typescript catalogue of the collection.		Wallet
MHS 12/5	Scottish calico printing.		1961-64	Folder
MHS 12/6	Block printing and embroidery.		1969-76	Folder
MHS 12/7	[Embroidered bookbindings].		1966-89	Folder
MHS 12/8	Tools, etc.		1979	Folder
MHS 12/9	Emblems.	One letter only.	1977	Folder
MHS 12/10	Cut paper.	·		Envelope
MHS 12/11	[Biographical notes on Scottish figures].	Card index.		Small envelope
MHS 12/12	Mrs Delany.	Photographs and MS extracts from her <i>Life</i> and Correspondence.		Folder
MHS 12/13	[Russborough].	Postcards of Russborough, Co. Wicklow, and its paintings.		Small envelope
MHS 12/14	[Photographs].	Packets of photographs and negatives taken by Margaret Swain, including the Wemyss tapestries.	1980-85	Wallet
MHS 13/1-3	[Photographs].	Photographs, mainly of embroideries.		3 folders
MHS 13/4	[Miscellaneous papers].		1953-89, n.d.	Folder
MHS 13/5- 14/5	Correspondence			
MHS 13/5	[General correspondence].		1993	Folder
MHS 13/6	[General correspondence].		1994	Folder
MHS 13/7	[General correspondence].		1995	Folder
MHS 13/8	[General correspondence].		1996	Folder
MHS 13/9	[General correspondence].		1997	Folder
MHS 13/10	[General correspondence].		1998	Folder
MHS 13/11	[General correspondence].		1999	Folder
MHS 13/12	[General correspondence].		2000	Folder
MHS 13/13	lan Gow.	Correspondence.	1996-99	Wallet

MHS 14/1	Monreith.	Correspondence and photocopies from Ian Gow concerning Monreith House.	1997	Folder
MHS 14/2	Publishers' letters.		1954-80	Folder
MHS 14/3	Mrs Jamieson's portrait.	Correspondence.	1994	Folder
MHS 14/4	Re Mrs Cabot's letters.	Correspondence concerning the gift of the letters to the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, with photocopies of three letters, 1964, 1969.	1996-97	Folder
MHS 14/5	[Danièle Denise].	Correspondence with Danièle Denise, Fontainebleau.	1995-56	Folder
MHS 14/6- 14/12	Student and early notes			
MHS 14/6	[English literature].	Student notes.	1928?	Notebook
MHS 14/7	[Designs for needlework].	Three exercise books, probably early, containing designs for needlework and notes mostly from printed sources.		Envelope
MHS 14/8	[History of art].	Notes from lectures on the history of art. Originally in a ring binder.	1961-61	Folder
MHS 14/9	[European painting].	Notes.	1962	Ring binder
MHS 14/10	[European painting].	Notes from lectures. Originally in a ring binder.	1963	Folder
MHS 14/11	[Linen trade].	Notes on the linen trade, needlework, etc.	1950s	Ring binder in envelope
MHS 14/12	[Needlework].	Notes on needlework, mostly from printed sources.		Small ring binder in envelope
MHS 15/1- 15/2	Bibliographical notes			
MHS 15/1	[Bibliographical notes].	Bibliographical notes on textiles and related subjects.	1960s?	Ring binder in envelope
MHS 15/2	[Book lists and library call-slips].	•		Envelope
MHS 15/3- 15/5	Articles by Margaret Swain			
MHS 15/3	Published articles by MS.	Includes MSS, typescripts, newspaper	1928-77	Wallet

		cuttings and offprints.		
MHS 15/4	Published articles by MS.	Includes MSS, typescripts, newspaper cuttings, offprints and photocopies.	1978-97, n.d.	Wallet
MHS 15/5	George Harrison & Co.	Correspondence, notes and typescript of Harrisons of Edinburgh, 1863-1963 by M.H. Swain, 1964.	1962-64	Wallet
MHS 15/6- 16/7	Articles by other authors			
MHS 15/6	Figures on Fabric.	Pages from a scrapbook containing mostly reviews of and letters concerning <i>Figures on Fabric</i> by Margaret Swain, 1980.		Folder
MHS 15/7	[Publications by others].	Off-prints and articles by other authors.	1957-98, n.d.	Folder
MHS 15/8	The Needle's Excellency.	Photostats of <i>The Needle's Excellency</i> (London, 1640).		Envelope
MHS 15/9	['Tissus anciens'].	Photostats of E. Chartraire, 'Les tissus anciens du trésor de la cathédrale de Sens', Revue de l'art chrétien (1911).		Folder
MHS 16/1	French needlework at the Bowes Museum.	Article by Sydney E. Harrison in the Connoisseur (1934) with additional photographs.		Envelope
MHS 16/2	Coventry ribbons and ribbon pictures.	Article by Sylvia Groves in <i>Country Life</i> , 13 Feb. 1948.		Folder
MHS 16/3	[York vestments and weavers].	Typescripts of articles by Sylvia Hogarth: 'Ecclesiastical vestments in York (1985) and 'York silkweavers' (1992).		Folder
MHS 16/4	Kunigunda von Fleckenstein, 1651-1707: Lucerne needlewoman.	Article by Robert L. Suter (1988).		Folder
MHS 16/5	[Costumes in the Sistine Chapel].	Edward Maeder, 'The Costumes worn by the ancestors of Christ in Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel,' 1990. Typescript.		Folder
MHS 16/6	[History of the bedgown].	Clare Rose, 'The early history of the bedgown,' 1993. Typescript and letters.	1993, 1995	Envelope
MHS 16/7	[Edith Standen].	Memorial tribute to Edith A. Standen by Thomas Campbell, 1998.		Envelope

MHS 16/8- 16/9	Outlines for talks and lists of slides			
MHS 16/8	Outlines for talks and lists of slides.	MSS and typescripts.	1973-83	Folder
MHS 16/9	Outlines for talks and lists of slides.	MSS and typescripts.	1984-99	Folder
MHS 16/10	Personal papers			
MHS 16/10	[Personal papers].	Personal papers including obituaries.	1966-2002	Folder
MHS 17-26	Single volumes and boxes			
MHS 17	Needlework from Scottish Country Houses.	Scrapbook of cuttings and other papers relating to the exhibition, 1966.		Volume
MHS 18	[Scrapbook].	Scrapbook of photographs, cuttings, etc.	1969-71	Volume
MHS 19	Textile furnishings.	Volume of slides.		Volume
MHS 20	Tapestries.	Volume of slides.		Volume
MHS 21	[Photographs].	Five large mounted photographs of whitework and three (unmounted) of chair covers.		Brown paper parcel
MHS 22	A Devotional Miscellany.	Photographs.		Box
MHS 23	Glass negatives.	Illustrations from A. Lescure, <i>Fonds de bonnets du xix</i> <sup>e</sup> <i>siècle</i> , 1927, and elsewhere.		Small box
MHS 24	[Card index].	Index cards and postcards. Two drawers: 'Costumes' and 'Furnishings.'		Wooden cabinet
MHS 25	[Card index].	Index cards and postcards. Two drawers: [label missing] and 'Tapestries.'		Wooden cabinet
MHS 26	[Royalties and fees].	Card index of royalties, fees and other payments		Small box
MHS 27-49	Printed books with annotations or enclosures			
MHS 27	A Devotional Miscellany.	Author's copy.		Book
MHS 28	Historical Needlework.	By Margaret Swain (1970). Includes letters and notes (MHS 28/1).	1970-71	Book
MHS 29	Figures on Fabric.	By Margaret Swain (1980). Enclosing a letter (MHS 29/1).	1983	Book
MHS 30	A Dictionary of Edinburgh Furniture Makers.	By Francis Bamford (1983). Enclosing letters (MHS 30/1) and notes (MHS 30/2).	1983	Book
MHS 31	Connoisseur.	Issue for Aug. 1973 containing the article 'A		Magazine

		New Year's Gift from the Princess Elizabeth' by Margaret Swain. Enclosing notes from Alison Plowden, <i>The Young Elizabeth</i> (MHS 31/1).		
MHS 32	Needlework of Mary, Queen of Scots.	By Margaret Swain (1973). Enclosing letters (MHS 32/1) and notes, photocopies and typescript of 'The Oxburgh hangings' (MHS 32/2). See also MHS 9/6-9/8.	1972-87	Book
MHS 33	Scots Magazine.	Issue for March 1965 with an article 'Turkey Red' by Margaret Swain. Enclosing two letters (MHS 33/1).	1964	Magazine
MHS 34	Needlework from Scottish Country Houses.	Exhibition catalogue, 1966. Annotated copy enclosing letters (MHS 34/1).	1966	Booklet
MHS 35	Needlework from Scottish Country Houses.	Exhibition catalogue, 1966. Annotated copy enclosing letters (MHS 35/2).	1972, 1974	Booklet
MHS 36	Clothes from Scottish Houses.	Exhibition catalogue, 1969. Text with annotations (MHS 36/1) and Picture book (MHS 36/2).		Two pamphlets
MHS 37	Ayrshire and other Whitework.	By Margaret Swain (1982). With annotations and a letter (MHS 37/1).	1982	Booklet
MHS 38	Embroidered Stuart Pictures.	By Margaret Swain (1990). With reviews (MHS 38/1).	1991-93	Booklet
MHS 39	Embroidered Georgian Pictures.	By Margaret Swain (1994). Enclosing a letter and photocopies (MHS 39/1). See also MHS 3/3 and 3/4.	1994-97	Booklet
MHS 40	[Redburn (antiques)].	Catalogue, [c.1975]. Enclosing a letter (MHS 40/1).	1975	Pamphlet
MHS 41	The Fetternear Banner.	By David McRoberts. Annotated copy.		Booklet
MHS 42	[Loose Covers or Cases].	Article by Margaret Swain in <i>Furniture History</i> xxxiii (1997). Off-print enclosing a letter (MHS 42/1).	1997	Pamphlet
MHS 43	Harrisons of Edinburgh, 1863-1963.	Enclosing a printed circular and a letter (MHS 43/1).	1964	Booklet
MHS 44	Leeds Arts Calendar.	Issue for 1974, enclosing a photograph (MHS 44/1).		Booklet
MHS 45	The Green Man in Scotland.	Enclosing a letter from Betty Willsher (MHS 45/1).	1990	Pamphlet

MHS 46	[Selection from the gift of textiles from Twickel and Weldam].	Published by the Rijksmuseum (1991). With a letter from the curator, Kees Burgers (MHS 46/1).	1991	Pamphlet
MHS 47	Works of Art.	By Peter H. Tillou (?1993). Enclosing a letter and photograph (MHS 47/1) and an exhibition catalogue of English decorative needlework (MHS 47/2).	1993	Book
MHS 48	Tapestries and Textiles at the Palace of Holyroodhouse.	By Margaret Swain (1988). Enclosing letters (MHS 48/1), reviews and cuttings (MS 48/2), papers concerning the Oxburgh "Catte" panel (MHS 48/3) and miscellaneous papers (MHS 48/4). See also MHS 9/3.	1989-99	Book