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**Title:** Bruce of Kinnaird Collection

**Name of creator:** Cumming, Sir Duncan (1903-1979) Knight

**Dates of creation of material:** 1971

**Level of description:** Fonds

**Extent:** 1 volume

**Biographical history:** Cumming, Sir Duncan (1903-1979) Knight

Born 10 August 1903. Educated Giggleswick and Gonville & Caius College, Cambridge. Sudan Political Service, 1925; Chief Administrator, Cyrenaica, 1942; Chief Civil Affairs Officer, Middle East, 1945-1948; Governor, Kordofan Province, Sudan, 1949; Deputy Civil Sec., Sudan Govt., 1950-1951; Chief Administrator of Eritrea, 1951-1952. Married 1930, Nancy Acheson Houghton (d. 1971) - 1 daughter. Died 10 December 1979.

Bruce, James (1730-1794) of Kinnaird, Traveller

Born 14 Dec 1730, son of David Bruce laird of Kinnaird and Marion (daughter of Judge James Graham, Dean of Faculty at Edinburgh University. James Bruce was educated in the family of Councillor William Hamilton in London. In 1742, he went to Harrow School. In May 1742 enrolled in the faculty of law at Edinburgh University. After the death of his father in 1758, James Bruce returned home to assume the responsibilities of the laird of Kinnaird. In 1760, he signed a contract with Carron ironworks to supply coal from his mines at Kinnaird. This provided the capital to enable James Bruce to travel. Served as consul-general at Algiers 1763-1765. Travelled from Tunis to Tripoli and Benghazi and then to Aleppo. Undertook an expedition to Abyssinia in order to discover the source of the Nile. Returned to London in 1774. Upon retirement wrote 'Travels to Discover the Source of the Nile'. Died 1 Aug 1793.

**Scope and content:** Article by Sir Duncan Cumming in the *Geographical Journal*, 137, I, 1971 "Seven unpublished letters of James Bruce of Kinnaird".

**Access conditions:** Open

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**Finding aids:** In Guide; Handlist

**Archivist's note:** Fonds level description created by Clare Brown 15 Jun 1998 and revised by Debbie Usher 5 May 2025. Biographical history for James Bruce based on information for the entry for Bruce, James, of Kinnard (1730-1794) in the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography.