State Papers Online: The Stuart and Cumberland Papers from the Royal Archives, Windsor Castle

Image: Bonnie Prince Charlie Entering the Ballroom at Holyroodhouse before 30 Apr 1892. Royal Collection Trust/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2018.
The Stuart Papers were acquired by George IV when Prince Regent, following the death of Henry Benedict Stuart, Cardinal York, and were originally kept in the Prince’s Library at Carlton House. Comprising 541 bound volumes of the ‘Main’ documents, plus 89 ‘Miscellaneous’ volumes, 9 sets of ‘Additional’ papers, and 925 seals, The Stuart Papers are an invaluable collection detailing the fortunes of the last Stuarts after the exile of James II and VII in 1688. The majority of these papers concern the period 1713 to 1770, and provide an insight into Jacobite attempts to regain the throne, while later papers concern Cardinal York’s relations with the Vatican until his death in 1807.

Deposited in the Royal Archives at its foundation, The Cumberland Papers are the military papers of William Augustus, Duke of Cumberland, dating from 1649-1765, alongside his military correspondence and order books from the campaigns of the War of the Austrian Succession, the 1745 Jacobite Uprising and the Seven Years’ War. They also contain household accounts from Cumberland Lodge and records of the Duke’s tenure as Ranger of the Great Park at Windsor, until his death in 1765.

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WHY IS THIS ARCHIVE IMPORTANT?

Scholars and students will have online access to The Stuart Papers and The Cumberland Papers for the first time. Covering the span of the Jacobite movement from the Glorious Revolution in 1688 to the death of the last Stuart heir, Henry Benedict, Cardinal Duke of York in 1807, The Stuart Papers provide intimate insights into the social, military and personal worlds of the Jacobite claimants and their followers. With the private and diplomatic correspondence of James II and VII, James III and VIII and Bonnie Prince Charlie alongside those of the nobles, exiles, soldiers and spies who made up the European Jacobite network, the collection includes detailed coverage of the failed rebellions of 1715 and 1745, the international correspondence and plots of the Jacobites, and the daily workings of the Stuart government-in-exile.

Digitising these papers alongside those of the Duke of Cumberland, the second surviving son of George II and a key figure in the Hanoverian monarchy, allows direct perspectives simultaneously into both Jacobite plots and uprisings, and the methods used to suppress them.

The inclusion of searchable metadata for the documents, created from the HMC Calendars to the Stuart Papers, as well as writer and addressee index cards from the Royal Archives, allows researchers streamlined and incisive access to thousands of documents.

- Differing perspectives on key domestic and international events facilitates research into both Jacobite and Hanoverian policy
- The wide range of documents enables scholars to explore a broad range of topics and themes
- Cross-searchability between the two collections allows the researcher to contextualise events and discover hidden connections
- Ease of discovery of over-looked or previously little studied aspects of Jacobitism in the eighteenth century

"The digitisation of The Stuart and Cumberland Papers is one of the most important projects I’ve ever been involved with. By digitising those two collections, we’re going to make accessible the underground archive of revolutionary movement in the 18th Century and the means used to suppress that movement simultaneously.”

Daniel Szechi

ACADEMIC ADVISOR: DANIEL SZECHI
Emeritus Professor of Early Modern History, University of Manchester, UK

Daniel Szechi has been exploring and researching the Jacobite mind for over 30 years and is eminently recognisable as an expert in his field. As well as being a prolific author and lecturer, Daniel is also a Chair of the Jacobite Studies Trust.

Scholarly essays have been written by Professors John Miller, Edward Corp, Murray Pittock, Daniel MacCannell, Paul Monod and Drs Nathalie Genet-Rouffiac, Éamonn Ó Ciardha, Anita Gillespie, Jonathan Oates as well as Laura Hobbs, Archivist at the Royal Archives.
The treasure trove of material in *The Stuart and Cumberland Papers* provides immeasurable benefits to scholarship. Examples of the content and range of the historical documents include:

- James II and VII and Mary of Modena’s letter books from 1688
- Plans and correspondence surrounding the Jacobite Rebellion of 1715
- Discussion over the hunt for a wife for James Edward around the courts of Europe, and subsequent letters about the Polish Princess Clementina Sobieska
- Details around a failed Jacobite plot with Spain in 1719
- Letters surrounding the Atterbury plot 1721-1723
- Details of the battles of Falkirk Muir, Prestonpans and Culloden, and the ‘pacification’ of the Scottish Highlands after the Rebellion of 1745
- Henry Benedict Stuart’s decision to accept a cardinalate in June 1747
- Accounts of Charles Edward’s arrest at the Paris Opera in 1748, including his own
- Details of the British army under the Duke of Cumberland in the War of the Austrian Succession
- British colonial ambitions and movements in India and the Americas as seen in the Cumberland Papers
- Quarrels and religious tension between the Protestant and Catholic factions of the Stuart court-in-exile

**RELEVANT TO RESEARCHERS IN**

- Early Modern British and European History
- Eighteenth Century History and Politics
- Jacobite Studies
- Military History
- Scottish and Irish Studies
- Court Studies
WHO’S WHO

JAMES II AND VII (1633–1701/ REIGNED 1685–1688)
Son of Charles I and brother to Charles II, James’ Catholic faith led to the Exclusion Crisis of 1679-81, and ultimately to the Glorious Revolution of 1688. His escape to France in that year was deemed a de facto abdication and his throne taken by his daughter, who ruled as Mary II with her husband, William of Orange (William III). James thereafter lived at St Germain-en-Laye, near Versailles, given to him during his exile by his cousin, Louis XIV of France.

JAMES FRANCIS EDWARD STUART “THE OLD PRETENDER” (1688–1766)
The son of James II and VII and Mary of Modena, his birth as a Catholic heir to the thrones of England, Ireland and Scotland was a key factor in the Glorious Revolution. Raised in St Germain-en-Laye, he became the Jacobite James III and VIII on his father’s death in 1701 and outlived five reigning monarchs of the British Throne, Mary II, William of Orange, Anne, George I and George II.

CHARLES EDWARD STUART “THE YOUNG PRETENDER” (1720–1788)
Best known later as the Bonnie Prince Charlie of the Jacobite Uprising of 1745, the eldest son of James Francis Edward and Clementina Sobieska, Charles was granted powers of regency to the Jacobite throne by his father in 1743 and led the Jacobite Rising of 1745.

HENRY BENEDICT STUART, CARDINAL DUKE OF YORK (1725–1807)
Younger brother of Charles Edward Stuart and the final Jacobite claimant to the throne, Henry Benedict outraged his brother by becoming a Cardinal in 1747, and spent most of his life in Rome.

WILLIAM AUGUSTUS, DUKE OF CUMBERLAND (1721–1765)
Second surviving son of George II, and George III’s uncle, the Duke of Cumberland was an important figure in Georgian Britain, first as a military commander and later as an adviser to his nephew. He led campaigns on the Continent and in Britain itself, and was involved in Britain’s colonial policy and wars in the Americas and India.
The Stuart and Cumberland Papers is cross-searchable with the original State Papers Online series, harnessing all the same search technology to deepen the research process.

On State Papers Online the original historical manuscripts are linked to fully searchable Calendar entries or other metadata, offering access to these documents via search in addition to browse by manuscript series, or volume.

Users can carry out basic and advanced searches with limiters, view illustrations and maps, magnify or rotate images, make notes on a document in an integrated notepad and view two manuscripts or calendar entries side-by-side to draw comparisons.

Research tools include essays by leading scholars with links to the documents mentioned, key documents, chronologies, an image gallery of contextual images, related links and references.

For more information visit gale.com/scp
If *The Stuart and Cumberland Papers from the Royal Archives, Windsor Castle* is a valuable resource to you, you will be interested in other Gale archives, especially:

**State Papers Online, 1509-1714**, published in four parts, is a digitisation of the British “State Papers” (SP) series from the National Archives, Kew, and offers researchers a ground-breaking online resource for understanding two hundred years of British and European history, from the reign of Henry VIII to the end of the reign of Queen Anne. The correspondence, reports, memoranda, and parliamentary drafts from ambassadors, civil servants and provincial administrators present a full picture of Tudor and Stuart Britain.

**State Papers Online: Eighteenth Century, 1714-1782** represents the final section of the *State Papers* series from the National Archives in the UK before the series was closed and replaced by the Home Office and Foreign Office series in 1782. Covering the reigns of the Hanover rulers George I (1714-1727) and George II (1727-1760) and part of the reign of George III (up to 1782), the series provides unparalleled access to thousands of manuscripts that reveal the behind-the-scenes, day-to-day running of the British Government during the eighteenth century. The archive is vital to any understanding of the political, social, and economic history of the period and an essential resource for any scholar or student studying Britain and Europe in the eighteenth century.

**Eighteenth Century Collections Online** (ECCO) contains every significant English language and foreign-language title printed in the United Kingdom between the years 1701 and 1800. ECCO Part I and Part II include more than 32 million pages of text. While many works in ECCO are in the English language, researchers will also discover a rich vein of works printed in Dutch, French, German, Italian, Latin, Spanish, and Welsh.

**17th and 18th Century Burney Newspapers Collection** and the **17th and 18th Century Nichols Newspapers Collection** complement each other, in an unparalleled digital reference resource. These archives represent the largest single collection of English news media from these two centuries, including titles from England, Scotland, Ireland, and several British colonies.

To learn more information about these archives please visit [gale.com/primary-sources](http://gale.com/primary-sources)
For a free trial, pricing, or further information, find your local representative at gale.com/rep or email emea.enquiries@cengage.com

Image: Bonnie Prince Charlie Entering the Ballroom at Holyroodhouse before 30 Apr 1892. Royal Collection Trust © Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2018.