

Reference code(s): GB 0124 DBDT

Title: Debenham Tewson - Bute records

Creation date(s): 1849-1976

Level of description: Fonds

Extent: 800 items

Name of creator(s): Trustees to the Bute Estate; Debenham Tewson Solicitors, Cardiff

CONTEXT

Administrative/Biographical history: The Bute family are descended from King Robert II of Scotland and came to own lands in Glamorgan following the marriage of John, Lord Mountstuart to a local hieress Charlotte Windsor in the 1700s. The family came to Cardiff in 1766 and in the process acquired huge estates and mineral rights across the Welsh valleys. In the 18th and 19th centuries, the rapid growth of the coal mining industry caused the Bute family to become extremely wealthy and by the time the third Marquis (1847-1900) inherited the estate following his father's death in 1848 he was considered one of the wealthiest men in Britain. The third Marquis, however, was only an infant on his father's death hence the running of the Glamorgan estate was administered by two trustees during the long period of his minority. By the death of the third Marquis in 1900 the Bute estate amounted to 20,000 acres over the Glamorgan area. These lands were divided unequally between his sons John (the 4th Marquis), and Colum, who received most of the Bute lands in the Vale of Glamorgan. During the fourth Marquis' lifetime the Bute family lost a number of interest in Glamorgan which began with the sale of urban lands in 1909, the sale of the Bute collieries and lands and properties on the coalfield and the sale of the Bute docks and railways during the 1920s. Therefore the major department of the estate administration had been extinguished before the Second World War. These records relate specifically to the period of the 3rd and 4th Marquis' and their properties in Glamorgan.

CONTENT

Scope and content/abstract: Debenham Tewson - Bute records comprising of leases, letters, conveyances, licences, deeds and miscellaneous documents relating to various premises and lands owned by the Marquis of Bute in Cardiff, Aberdare, Cogan, Eglwysilan, Gelligaer, Lavernock, Leckwith, LLandough, Llanharan, Llanishen, LLantrisant, LLantwit Fardre, Llanwonno, Penarth, Pentyrch, Pontypridd, Rhigos, Rudry, Ystradyfodwg, 1849-1976 inclusive.

ACCESS AND USE

Language/scripts of material: English

System of arrangement: Debenham Tewson - Bute records are arranged under sub-headings which denote the geographical area that the documents relate to. Sub-headings are arranged alphabetically as follows: Cardiff, Aberdare, Cogan, Eglwysilan, Gelligaer, Lavernock, Leckwith, LLandough, Llanharan, Llanishen, LLantrisant, LLantwit Fardre, Llanwonno, Penarth, Pentyrch, Pontypridd, Rhigos, Rudry, Ystradyfodwg

Conditions governing access: No restrictions

Conditions governing reproduction: Normal Glamorgan Record Office conditions apply

Finding aids: Handlist available at the Glamorgan Record Office

ARCHIVAL INFORMATION

Accruals: Accruals are not expected

Archival history: Presumably, these records were created by the trustees of the 3rd Marquis and at some point came into the possession of Debenham Tewson solicitors in Cardiff before being handed over to the Record Office in the 1990s

Immediate source of acquisition: Deposited by Debenham Tewson solicitors, 3 Castle Street, Cardiff, June 1991

ALLIED MATERIALS

Related material: See DA (Bute Estate Coorespondence) and DB (Other Bute Estate Records), both held in the Glamorgan Record Office. The main bulk of Bute Estate records, however, are held at the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth.

DESCRIPTION NOTES

Archivist's note: Compiled by Annabel Wickham for the ANW Project; Sources used: Glamorgan Record Office finding aids, information page on Cardiff at www.aboutbritain.com

Rules or conventions: Description follows Archives Network Wales guidelines based on ISAD(G) second edition; AACR2 and LCSH.

Date(s) of descriptions: January 2006

