

**Reference:** GB 237 EUA IN18  
**Title:** United Free Church of Scotland Training College, Edinburgh  
**Dates of creation:** 1847-1968  
**Extent:** 1.5 metres

### **Administrative/Biographical History**

The creation of the United Free Church Training College followed the disruption of the Church of Scotland in 1843, when the United Free Church of Scotland established its own teacher training college. The College officially welcomed students after considerable alterations, in 1848. In 1907 it merged with the Church of Scotland College to become the Edinburgh Provincial Training Centre. All classes and teaching practice took place at Moray House, Edinburgh. This accommodation continued to be used after the merger in 1907.

Subjects that the trainee teachers had to be proficient in included Religious Knowledge, English, Geography, History, Penmanship, Arithmetic, French, Vocal Music, Drawing, Algebra, Geometry, Latin, Domestic Economy, Greek Trigonometry, and School Management. Trainee Teachers were not only assessed by examination in subjects set, but also at their skill in teaching and in their general conduct.

The former student society 'The Moray House Club' continued long after the college changed its name, status and structure.

#### **1/ Progress and Character of Students [probably Free Church, no defining marks to say one way or another]**

No. in Catalogue; Name; Age; Date of Entry; Attendance (times absent); Attention to Studies; Progress in Religious Knowledge, English (reading, spelling, grammar and composition), Geography, History, Penmanship, Arithmetic, French, Vocal Music, Drawing, Algebra, Geometry, Latin, Greek, Trigonometry.; Papers and Answers at Examination; Skill in Teaching; General Conduct; Date of Leaving; Address at Leaving

1 Session 1849/50 - 1855/56 (First Date of Entry Oct. 1847)

#### **2/ Certificate Registers**

Certificate headed by engraving of Moray House building and Free Church Training College, Moray House, Edinburgh Name of student, Date of Enrolment, Date of Leaving having completed the full course of Training prescribed by the Committee of Council on Education and the Education Committee of the Free Church of Scotland. On Reverse Qualifications and character as reported by the Teachers of the respective Classes : For Males : Attendance; Punctuality; Attention to Home Studies, Attention in Class; Attainments in Religious Knowledge, English viz. Reading, Grammar, Composition, Geography, History, Penmanship, Arithmetic, Mental Arithmetic, Theory of Music, Vocal Music, Drawing, Maths, Physics, Latin, Greek, School Management, Political Economy, French; Place in Class determined by Written Examination; Skill in Teaching; General Conduct For Females : Attendance; Punctuality; Attention to Home Studies, Attention in Class; Attainments in Religious Knowledge, English viz. Reading, Grammar, Composition, Geography, History, Penmanship, Arithmetic, Mental Arithmetic, Theory of Music, Vocal Music, Drawing, School Management, Domestic Economy, Sewing and Cutting Out; Place in Class determined by Written Examination; Skill in Teaching; General Conduct.

Also includes photographs of individual students and classes, correspondence and memorial cards.

- 1 Males, 31 Dec. 1873 - 31 Dec. 1876  
Females, 31 Dec. 1872 - 31 Dec. 1876
- 2 Males, 31 Dec. 1877 - 31 Dec. 1882
- 3 Males, 31 Dec. 1883 - 31 Dec. 1890
- 4 Males, 31 Dec. 1891 - 7 July 1899
- 5 Males, 6 July 1900 - July 1907
- 6 Females, 31 Dec. 1877 - 31 Dec. 1887
- 7 Females, 31 Dec. 1888 - 31 Dec. 1893
- 8 Females, 31 Dec. 1894 - 8 July 1898
- 9 Females, July 1899 - July 1902
- 10 Females, July 1904 - July 1907

## Moray House Club

The Moray House Club was founded by former students of the Normal School Moray House at a meeting in the Cafe Royal, Edinburgh, 22 September 1878. "The club was founded for former students as the means of enabling the members to testify their regard for their normal school and of preserving and promoting friendly intercourse". The Club provided a forum for ideas and social gatherings, established prizes and scholarships and set up a free Kindergarten in the Canongate. It had an extensive circulation library for serving teachers and also a staff benevolent fund.

In 1907 the Free Church training College at Moray House joined with Edinburgh Church of Scotland Training College to form the Edinburgh Provincial Training Centre. Moray House Club resolved not to amalgamate their club with the Edinburgh Church of Scotland Training Club (see memorandum pasted in Minute Book 3; 28 November 1908) and Annual General Meeting, 17 September 1909. Membership was therefore restricted to those who had been students or teachers at the Normal College prior to the retirement of Dr Maurice Paterson, Principal at the merger in 1907. Membership numbers naturally dwindled over time, to the point when the club decided to disband as the youngest members were in their eighties.

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|---|---------------------------|--|
| 1 | <b>Minutes, 1878-1968</b> |  |
| 1 | 1877-1891                 | Minutes of Committee and Annual General Meetings: 22 September 1877 - 18 September 1891<br>[Condition: fragile spine becoming detached from cover, old repairs (sellotape)]  |
| 2 | 1891-1905                 | Minutes, 18 September 1891 - 17 June 1905<br>Pasted in back cover, page from "Weekly Club" column of newspaper. Moray House: address to debating Club in 1865 with text of humorous address about College life in verse presented by Alexander Jeffrey, student.<br>[Condition: fragile, covers becoming detached from spine]  |
| 3 | 1905-1918                 | Minutes, 15 September 1905 - 26 October 1918<br>(Pasted in front cover: newscutting from Scottish Education Journal: Moray House, article describing history of house, built about 1628 by Mary, Countess of Home, its connection with the Act of Union, 1707 "the bribery and wire-pulling which brought about the Union?? was done here. If a gramophone recorder could have been fitted up in Moray House, we would have been able to re-write Scotch history". Its subsequent use as the British Linen Company Bank featured in R L Stevenson's <u>Kidnapped</u> .) No date. |

Pasted at end of volume - newscutting from Education News: Personal Obituary 27.4.17: Miss Maria Shanks  
 13.17.17: Obituary of Mr Robert Robertson, both former students  
 15.6.17: Dr Maurice Paterson: an appreciation by an old student.  
 Pasted in back cover: The Moray House Club. Circular notice of Annual General Meetings and Class Reunions, with lists of class representatives, 1912, 1913.  
 [Condition: good].

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|---|-------------|---|
| 4 | 1919-1946   | Minutes, 18 January 1919 - 26 October 1946<br>Pasted in last page: Newscutting from Scottish Education Journal 18.11.1921: <u>The Moray House Club</u> by Alexander Macrae MA, Rector of Shepall, Hertfordshire, recounting his experiences as a student in 1871.<br>[Condition: good].   |
| 5 | 1947-1968   | Minutes, 6 June 1947 - 24 July 1968 (wound up)<br>At the Annual General Meeting of 10 June 1967 agreed to close down the club after a special reunion on 6 June 1968, to celebrate its 90th Anniversary, because all of the members were 80 or over.  |
| 2 |             | <b>Account Books</b><br>Income including subscriptions, advertisements, interest on savings etc and expenditure such as printing, annual meeting, benevolent fund income and expenditure.   |
| 1 | 1907-1930   | September 1907 - February 1930  |
| 2 | 1930-1968   | March 1930 - 30 June 1968<br>with interleaved in pages recording final balance of Club funds:<br>receipts for expenses of final meeting, stationery and presentation book<br>Edinburgh Savings Bank savings book for Moray House Club account for providing scholarships, 1963 - 1968 (account closed)<br>Edinburgh Savings Bank savings book for Moray House Club Benevolent Fund, 1960 - 1967 (account closed). |
| 3 |             | <b>Annual Reports and List of Members</b>   |
| 1 | 1881 - 1882 | Annual Report and List of Members   |
| 2 | 1882 - 1883 | As above  |

3	1883 - 1884	As above
4	1885 - 1886	As above
5	1887 - 1888	As above
6	1888 - 1889	As above
7	1889 - 1890	As above
8	1890 - 1891	As above
9	1893 - 1894	As above
10	1894 - 1895	As above
11	1895 - 1896	As above
12	1896 - 1897	As above
13	1897 - 1898	As above
14	1898 - 1899	As above
15	1899 - 1900	As above
16	1900 - 1901	As above (flier - Moray House Club Third Supplementary Catalogue of Circulating Educational Library - interleaved in front cover)
17	1901 - 1902	As above (inscribed in pencil on cover - Secretary)
18	1902 - 1903	Annual report and List of members
19	1903 - 1904	As above
20	1904 - 1905	As above (2 copies)
21	1905 - 1906	As above (2 copies)
22	1906 - 1907	Annual report and List of members
23	1907 - 1908	As above (2 copies)
24	1908 - 1909	As above (2 copies - one very discoloured, with sellotape mark)
25	1909 - 1910	As above (2 copies)

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| 26 | 1910 - 1911 | As above (2 copies)  |
| 27 | 1911 - 1912 | As above (2 copies - one inscribed on front cover: Secretary)  |
| 28 | 1912 - 1913 | As above (2 copies - one inscribed on front cover: The Secretary)  |
| 29 | 1916 - 1917 | As above (names for addressing of Abstracts number 1424 ordered 1450 copies)   |
| 30 | 1919 - 1920 | Annual report and List of members  |
| 31 | 1922 - 1923 | List of members only   |
| 32 | 1928        | Jubilee number 1878 - 1928:<br>List of members, historical sketch 1878 - 1928: In Memorium, the late Alexander Somerville MA FEIS [Club Secretary] |
| 33 | 1935        | List of members revised to 1 May 1935  |
| 34 | 1947 - 48   | Annual report and List of members<br>[Label appended with sellotape: Lists from 1910 to 1947 no further lists were printed. JR [James Reside]].    |