

H. Malcolm Fraser Collection

MS 1095; MS 5485

The collection consists of 86 notebooks as well as articles, offprints, photographs and correspondence, all relating to bees and beekeeping.

The Collection covers the year's c.1925-c.1962.

The physical extent of the collection is 17 boxes.

Introduction

Henry Malcolm Fraser was born in Wandsworth in 1874, the first of four children born of the second marriage of James Fraser, a prosperous Colonial Broker who had two adult children from his first marriage. Malcolm took a B.A. degree from London University and became a schoolmaster at various small private schools before obtaining a post at Alleyne's Grammar School in Stone, Staffordshire where he remained for the rest of his teaching career, eventually becoming Headmaster.

Malcolm Fraser entered enthusiastically into Staffordshire life, in particular as a member of the North Staffordshire Field Club, a society researching the natural history and archaeology of the area. It was probably through this association that he became interested in bees and beekeeping and it was certainly the bequest, in 1925, of two Latin works on agriculture from another member of the club, the Reverend Thomas Barns, vicar of Hilderstone near Stone, that formed the basis for Fraser's extensive collection of books on bees. Malcolm Fraser began to research the history of beekeeping and eventually submitted a thesis on Beekeeping in antiquity to London University which was accepted for a PhD in 1930 and published in book form the following year. In 1936 he also published a translation of the entries in the Domesday Book relating to Staffordshire and dedicated it to the memory of Thomas Barns and to his friends in the Field Club.

On his retirement Malcolm Fraser and his wife moved south in the 1940s to the leafy suburbs of London, first to Pinner and then to Northwood. He continued to keep bees and to write and lecture on the subject and engaged in correspondence with many other experts and amateurs. His book collection grew throughout the 1940s and 1950s but he was always willing to lend even his rarest volumes to fellow enthusiasts. Malcolm Fraser was also closely involved with the British Beekeepers' Association (BBKA), serving as a member of the Council until the reorganisation in 1945. He then became Chairman of the Central Association of Bee-keepers, a body newly formed to encourage the individual scientific approach to the subject, rather than focussing on local groups.

Eventually, after a long and active retirement, H. Malcolm Fraser died in 1970 at the age of 95.

- MS 1095/1/1** Loose-leaf note book containing notes on Italian authors of books on bees and bee-keeping
1939-1940
- 1 item
- MS 1095/1/2** Loose-leaf note book containing notes on bees in medieval literature and notes from more recent works on bee-keeping
c.1940
- 1 item
- MS 1095/1/3** Loose-leaf note book containing notes from non-English writers on bees and bee-keeping D-H
c.1947
- 1 item
- MS 1095/1/4** Loose-leaf note book containing typed translation of 'The posthumous complete of bee-keeping' by Anton Janscha (1790)
c.1945
- 1 item
- MS 1095/1/5** Loose-leaf note book containing extracts from and notes on references to bees in the ancient laws of Wales
1955
- 1 item

MS 1095/1/6 Loose-leaf note book containing notes from non-English writers on bees and bee-keeping J-O
c.1947

1 item

MS 1095/1/7 Loose-leaf note book containing notes on bee-keeping in Britain before AD 1066, including the draft of a conference paper
c.1954

1 item

MS 1095/1/8 Three small mounted photographs of bee-hives
c.1950

1 item

MS 1095/1/9 Loose-leaf note book containing notes on references to bees and bee-keeping in the ancient laws and institutions of Ireland
c.1947

1 item

MS 1095/1/10 Loose-leaf note book containing typed list of articles on bee-keeping from 'Schweizerische Bienen Zeitung'
1945

1 item

MS 1095/2/1 Loose-leaf note book containing typed notes on the writings of Jacques Phillipse Maraldi on bees and beekeeping
1945

1 item

MS 1095/2/2 Note book containing a translation into English of 'Polish bee-keeping past and present' by L. Kosikowski
1935

1 item

MS 1095/2/3 Loose-leaf note book containing typed notes from Armbruster, L. 'Die Biene im' Orient (1931)
1945

1 item

MS 1095/2/4 Loose-leaf note book containing typed notes from publications on bees and bee-keeping
c.1945

1 item

MS 1095/2/5 File of summaries in English of the XVIth International Bienenzucher-congress, Vienna
1956

1 item

MS 1095/2/6 Typescript of an unpublished history of the literature of bees and bee-keeping, by H. Malcolm Fraser
c.1950

1 item

MS 1095/2/7 Typed translation of 'Discussion of the swarming of the bees' by Anton Janscha (1771)
c.1940

1 item

MS 1095/3/1 File of papers delivered at the XIVth International Beekeeping Congress, Leamington Spa
1951

1 item

MS 1095/3/2 File of English summaries of papers delivered at the XVth International Bee-keeping Congress, Denmark
1954

1 item

MS 1095/3/3 Loose-leaf note book containing typed notes from 'Luxemburgische Bienen Zeitung'
Jan-46

1 item

MS 1095/3/4 Loose-leaf note book containing notes on the history of bee-keeping in England, with special reference to John Thorley and Frederic Cesi
1937-1954

1 item

MS 1095/3/5 File of articles on 'Early English methods of beekeeping' (The Bee World)
May-June 1942

1 item

MS 1095/3/6 File of sundry papers relating to International Bee-keeping congresses
1949-1954

1 item

MS 1095/4/1 File of notes and queries relating to bees and bee-keeping from British journals dated between 1849-1933
c.1945

1 item

MS 1095/4/2 Loose-leaf note book containing notes on the bibliography of bees and bee-keeping
1958

1 item

MS 1095/4/3 Typescript of a transcript of 'Let the bees tell you' by S H Smith
1942

1 item

MS 1095/4/4 Typescript of biographical notes on Sir George Wheler and notes on Joseph Warder (1655-1724)
undated

1 item

MS 1095/4/5 Loose-leaf note book containing bibliographical and other notes on the history of bee-keeping A
c.1945

1 item

MS 1095/4/6 Loose-leaf note book containing bibliographical and other notes on the history of bee-keeping B
c.1945

1 item

MS 1095/4/7 Loose-leaf note book containing bibliographical and other notes on the history of bee-keeping P-V
c.1945

1 item

MS 1095/4/8 File containing a transcript of 'The modern art of breeding bees' a poem by Joshua Dinsdale (1740)
undated

1 item

MS 1095/4/9 File of notes on John Gedde (c.1630-c.1682)
c.1946

1 item

MS 1095/5/1 Loose-leaf note book containing notes from German works on the history of bee-keeping
c.1947

1 item

MS 1095/5/2 File of notes on Bartholemus Anglicus (fl.1230-1250) and Benjamin Smith Barton
c.1946

1 item

MS 1095/5/3 Loose-leaf note book containing bibliographical and other notes on the history of bee-keeping P
c.1939

1 item

MS 1095/5/4 Loose-leaf note book containing biographical notes on the history of bee-keeping
c.1938

1 item

MS 1095/5/5 Loose-leaf note book containing notes from 'Memoires pour servir a l'histoire des insectes', v.5, by Ferchault de Reaumur (1740)
1943

1 item

MS 1095/5/6 Note book containing notes from 'The ordering of the bees' by John Levett (1635)
1955

1 item

MS 1095/5/7 Loose-leaf note book containing notes on bees and bee-keeping from 'Schweizerische Bienen Zeitung'
1940-1945

1 item

MS 1095/5/8 Annotated copy of 'Descriptive catalogue of a library of bee-books collected and offered for sale by Lt. Col. H J O Walker'
undated

1 item

MS 1095/5/9 Note book containing extracts from the 'British bee journal'
1873-1954

1 item

MS 1095/6/1 File containing a coloured photocopy of an illustration of bee-
keeping, from a 15th century MS of Virgil's 'Georgics'
undated

1 item

MS 1095/6/2 Loose-leaf note book containing typed notes from 'Imkereei
Betriebsformen' I by Ludwig Armbruster
1943

1 item

MS 1095/6/3 Note book containing notes from reports of the Middlesex
Beekeepers' Association
1885-1938

1 item

MS 1095/6/4 Note book containing transcripts and notes from 'A sure way to
order bees and fruit trees: or, A compleat bee-master' (c.1730)
1935

1 item

MS 1095/6/5 Note book containing notes from Anton Janscha
1944

1 item

MS 1095/6/6 Note book containing notes from German works on the history of
bee-keeping
1944

1 item

MS 1095/6/7 Note book containing extracts from the 'Gentleman's magazine',
1744-1817
c.1940

1 item

MS 1095/6/8 Note book containing extracts from 'Rara liber' by R. Russell
(1834)
1954

1 item

MS 1095/6/9 Note book containing notes from 'Rural economy of Yorkshire in
1641' by Henry Best
c.1940

1 item

**MS
1095/6/10** Note book containing extracts from the 'Philosophical
transactions' of the Royal Society 1670-1790
c.1945

1 item

**MS
1095/6/11** Note book containing extracts on bee-keeping from the 'Family
economist', v.2 1849
undated

1 item

- MS 1095/6/12** Note book containing notes on the Purchas family
c.1945
- 1 item
- MS 1095/6/13** Note book containing notes from 'The experimental bee-keeper'
by Bryan J'Anson, Bromwich (1783)
c.1945
- 1 item
- MS 1095/6/14** Note book containing notes and extracts from Slater's 'The
handbook of the honey bee with notes on hives' (1850)
1936
- 1 item
- MS 1095/7/1** Loose-leaf note book containing bibliographical notes on foreign
writers on bees and bee-keeping
1929
- 1 item
- MS 1095/7/2** Loose-leaf note book containing notes on foreign writers about
bees and bee-keeping S
1947
- 1 item
- MS 1095/7/3** Note book containing notes and extracts from the bestiary and
other medieval works on bees and bee-keeping
c.1940
- 1 item

- MS 1095/7/4** File containing typed papers and articles by H M Fraser and others on the history of bee-keeping
c.1945
- 1 item
- MS 1095/7/5** Album of news cuttings on bees and bee-keeping
1925-1939
- 1 item
- MS 1095/7/6** A collection of photographic prints illustrating the history of bee-keeping
c.1940-1960
- 1 item
- MS 1095/8/1** Typescript of papers on bees and bee-keeping
1952-1959
- 1 item
- MS 1095/8/2** Loose-leaf note book containing a typed translation of 'Die alte Bienenzucht Ostdeutschlands und ihre Volker - und Staumerkhindbelien Grundlagen' by Ulrich Berner (1954)
1958
- 1 item
- MS 1095/8/3** Note book containing a typed translation of 'Abhandlung von Schwarmen der bienen' by Anton Janscha (1771)
1940
- 1 item

MS 1095/8/4 Loose-leaf note book containing part I of a typed translation of 'Grundlicher und untzlicher Unterricht von Wartung der Bienen' by Jacob Nickel (1700)
1952

1 item

MS 1095/8/5 Loose-leaf note book containing part II of a typed translation of 'Grundlicher und untzlicher Unterricht von Wartung der Bienen' by Jacob Nickel (1700)
1952

1 item

MS 1095/8/6 Loose-leaf note book containing a transcript of the 'Arte of Rhetorique' by Thomas Wilson (1560)
1958

1 item

MS 1095/8/7 Loose-leaf note book containing a transcript of 'Perfecta y curiosa declaracion' by Gil Jayme (1621)
1960

1 item

MS 1095/8/8 Note book containing notes on the anatomy of the bee and on the history of bee-keeping
1943

1 item

MS 1095/8/9 File of correspondence between Cyril L. Whittles and H M Fraser on 'A swarm in May' by William Mayne (1955)
1957-1958

1 item

**MS
1095/8/10** File of notes on the bibliography on bees and bee-keeping
c.1935

1 item

MS 1095/9/1 File of correspondence and notes by H M Fraser on bees and
beekeeping
1958-1959

1 item

MS 1095/9/2 Typescript of parts of 'Geaponica', translated by T Owen (1805)
undated

1 item

MS 1095/9/3 Typed copy of a translated article on 'Zeidling and the
Bavarians' ('Archiv fur Bienenkunde', part VIII, 1938)
undated

1 item

**MS
1095/10/1** Typed notes on the history of bee-keeping, mainly in Germany
c.1940

1 item

**MS
1095/10/2** Loose-leaf note book containing a transcript and partial
translation of 'Sungehia or about the relationship which hinders
marriage'
undated

1 item

MS
1095/10/3 Loose-leaf note book containing notes on the tools of the bee-keeper
c.1945

1 item

MS
1095/10/4 Loose-leaf note book containing notes on Luis Mendes de Torres, with a transcript and translation of his 'Tratado breve de la cultivacion y cura de las colmenas' (1587)
undated

1 item

MS
1095/10/5 Loose-leaf note book containing transcripts and notes on beekeeping by Pauly Wissowa
c.1940

1 item

MS
1095/10/6 Loose-leaf note book containing typed translation of 'Ein Leben mit den Bienen' by Gottlob Schmautz
c.1945

1 item

MS
1095/10/7 Loose-leaf note book containing notes on H J O Walker, Walter de Henley, Robert Watt, bibliographical notes
c.1936

1 item

- MS**
1095/11/1 File of papers relating to the 14th International Beekeeping congress, Leamington Spa
1951
- 1 item
- MS**
1095/11/2 Typed transcript of the Transactions of the Western Apiarian Society (1807)
1937-1939
- 1 item
- MS**
1095/11/3 Handwritten transcript of Transactions of the Western Apiarian Society (1800) and other papers
1937-1940
- 1 item
- MS**
1095/11/4 File of papers relating to the 13th International Beekeeping congress, Amsterdam
1949
- 1 item
- MS**
1095/11/5 File of sundry articles on the history of beekeeping 1953-1963
1949
- 1 item
- MS**
1095/11/6 Transcript with partial translation of 'Der Bienenstand als volk rkundliches Dentemal' by Ludwig Armbruster (1926)
undated
- 1 item

- MS**
1095/12/1 Typed list of articles on beekeeping from various journals
1955-1959
- 1 item
- MS**
1095/12/2 Sundry photographs, relating partly to bee-keeping
c.1955
- 1 item
- MS**
1095/12/3 Loose-leaf note book containing notes from German works on
bees and bee-keeping
c.1940
- 1 item
- MS**
1095/12/4 File of printed notes on the bibliography of bee-keeping,
including a list of works by L von Armbruster
c.1953
- 1 item
- MS**
1095/12/5 Loose-leaf note book containing partial transcript and translation
of 'De propinquitae matrimonium impediende regula' by
Charles Butler (1625)
c.1940
- 1 item
- MS**
1095/12/6 Note book containing notes from various sources on Petrus de
Crescentius
1938
- 1 item

MS
1095/12/7 Note book containing notes from 'A treatise concerning the right use and ordering of bees' by Edmund Southerne (1593)
c.1938

1 item

MS
1095/12/8 Stencilled translations into French and German of The history of beekeeping in the lands in which the French language is spoken by H. Malcolm Fraser. A paper prepared for the 14th International Beekeeping congress, Leamington Spa
1951

1 item

MS
1095/12/9 Typescript entitled, 'The history of bee-keeping in the British Isles prior to 1066 AD with some inferences which can be drawn from it' by H.M. Fraser, read to the 15th International Congress of Beekeepers
1954

1 item

MS
1095/12/10 Typescript of 'The control of acarine disease in bees' by O. Morgenthaler (1947)
undated

1 item

MS
1095/12/11 Typed transcript of 'An essay on the management of bees' by John Mills (1766)
c.1940

1 item

MS
1095/12/12 Typed notes on the history of bee-keeping
c.1962

1 item

MS
1095/13/1 Typed notes on Ngindo honey hunters, bee-keeping among the Arcamba, in ancient Egypt and among American Indians
c.1936

1 item

MS
1095/13/2 Loose-leaf note book containing notes on French writers on bee-keeping, C-M
c.1935

1 item

MS
1095/13/3 File of correspondence and notes on references to bees and bee-keeping in classical literature
1952-1954

1 item

MS
1095/13/4 Loose-leaf note book containing a typed translation of Wildmann unmasked by Johann Riem (1774)
1933

1 item

MS
1095/13/5 Typescript of 'Beeswings advice to bee-keepers'. 3rd ed [n.d.]
c.1963

1 item

MS
1095/13/6 Typed biographical note on Sir George Wheler (1650-1723)
c.1945

1 item

MS
1095/13/7 File of biographical notes on Edward Bevan (1770-1860)
c.1940

1 item

MS
1095/13/8 File of historical and biographical notes and transcripts of 'The
reformed commonwealth of bees' (1637) by Samuel Hartlib
(1657) and 'A discourse or history of bees' by Richard Remnant
undated

1 item

MS
1095/13/9 Transcript and English translation of a text on bees by Anton
Janscha
c.1940

1 item

MS
1095/13/10 Typed transcript of 'Die Biene: popular statement about the
bodily structure and life of the honey bee' by Fritz Leuenberger
(1929)
c.1940

1 item

MS
1095/13/11 File of notes and transcripts from 'Rhetoricae libri duo' by
Ramus Petrus (1597)
c.1940

1 item

MS
1095/13/12 Loose-leaf note book containing a transcript of 'A profitable instruction of the perfite ordering of bees', by Thomas Hill (1579) 1938

1 item

MS
1095/13/13 Transcript of a work on bees by Georgius Pictorius (1563) c.1938

1 item

MS
1095/13/14 Translation of parts of a work on bees and bee-keeping by Georgius Pictorius (1563) c.1938

1 item

MS
1095/14/1 Loose-leaf note book of sundry photographs, notes and correspondence on bee-keeping in England R1 c.1935

1 item

MS
1095/14/2 Loose-leaf note book containing sundry photographs, notes and correspondence on bee-keeping in England P c.1939

1 item

MS
1095/14/3 Loose-leaf note book containing sundry photographs, notes and correspondence on bee-keeping in England R2 c.1939

1 item

MS
1095/14/4 Loose-leaf note book containing sundry notes and cuttings on
bee-keeping in England T
c.1952

1 item

MS
1095/14/5 Loose-leaf note book containing notes and cuttings on bee-
keeping in England S
c.1941

1 item

MS
1095/14/6 Loose-leaf note book containing notes and correspondence on
bee-keeping in England U-Z
c.1938

1 item

MS
1095/15/1 Loose-leaf note book containing notes on the history of bee-
keeping in England A
c.1937-1947

1 item

MS
1095/15/2 Loose-leaf note book containing notes on the history of bee-
keeping in England B
1938-1940

1 item

MS
1095/15/3 Loose-leaf note book containing notes on the history of bee-
keeping in England Bf-Bri
1938-1955

1 item

MS
1095/15/4 Loose-leaf note book containing notes on the history of bee-keeping in England B
1928-1938

1 item

MS
1095/15/5 Loose-leaf note book containing notes on the history of bee-keeping in England C
c.1940

1 item

MS
1095/15/6 Loose-leaf note book containing notes on and references to bee-keeping in Domesday Book
c.1940

1 item

MS
1095/16/1 Loose-leaf note book containing notes on the history of bee-keeping in England DAN-F
c.1939

1 item

MS
1095/16/2 Loose-leaf note book containing notes on the history of bee-keeping in England from sources in the British Museum
c.1958

1 item

MS
1095/16/3 Loose-leaf note book containing notes on the history of bee-keeping in England G
c.1940

1 item

MS
1095/16/4 Loose-leaf note book containing notes on the history of bee-keeping in England G
c.1940

1 item

MS
1095/16/5 Loose-leaf note book containing notes on the history of bee-keeping in England H
c.1942

1 item

MS
1095/16/6 Loose-leaf note book containing notes on the history of bee-keeping in England F
c.1950

1 item

MS
1095/17/1 Loose-leaf note book containing notes on the history of bee-keeping in England L
c.1935-1938

1 item

MS
1095/17/2 Loose-leaf note book containing notes on the history of bee-keeping in England Ma-Mar
1937-1941

1 item

MS
1095/17/3 Loose-leaf note book containing notes on the history of bee-keeping in England Mar-Moi
1939-1940

1 item

**MS
1095/17/4** Loose-leaf note book containing notes on the history of bee-keeping in England Mom-Myo
1938-1943

1 item

**MS
1095/17/5** Loose-leaf note book containing notes on the history of bee-keeping in England N-C
1943-1953

1 item

**MS
1095/17/6** Loose-leaf note book containing notes on the history of bee-keeping in England I
1937-1947

1 item

**MS
1095/17/7** Bibliography on cards of books on bee-keeping
c.1945

1 item

MS 5485 H. MALCOLM FRASER Additions
1936-1961
Mainly correspondence with Fraser. Includes notes on beekeeping, a typescript article entitled An ancient beekeeper, a copy of The Alleynian, 1961, with a letter from the Headmaster of Alleyn's Grammar School