Scottish Archives book review guidelines

Scottish Archives welcomes book reviews from authors from a range of backgrounds including early career archivists and academics, and postgraduate students.

We invite reviews for recently published books relating to archives and archival research and also welcome suggestions.

If you are interested in reviewing a recently published book, please contact the Reviews Editor, Chris Cassells reviewseditorscottisharchives@gmail.com

For referencing and other styles, please consult the general Guidelines for Authors.

Reviews should be approximately 1,000 words in length. A review should begin with publication information (title, author, publisher, date and place of publication) and should address the following questions:

- What are the main themes and topics of the book?
- How does the author organize the presentation (i.e. chronologically, by topic, etc.)?
- Is the presentation clear?
- From which perspective is it written? Is the methodology appropriate?
- How does the book relate to other work in the field?
- What original contribution does it make?
- What insights does it offer? What questions does it raise?
- What are the aims of the book and to what extent does it achieve them?
- What is the intended audience? Who else might the book be useful for?
- How coherent is the argument presented by the author(s)?
- What is the context in which the book is written? Why is it relevant now?

Chris Cassells, November 2025