

# Call for Papers

Business and Industrial History: A Journal of Archival Research - Special Issue 2027

## The Business of Archives: Professor Tony Slaven at 90

The Business Archives Council of Scotland and the University of Glasgow's Centre for Business History in Scotland invite submissions for a special issue of Business and Industrial History. The issue will celebrate the 90th birthday of Professor Anthony (Tony) Slaven and reflect on the long relationship between business history, archival rescue, surveying, and research use in Scotland and beyond.

Professor Tony Slaven has been central to the development of business history at Glasgow and to the wider institutional life of the field. He succeeded Peter Payne as Colquhoun Lecturer in Business History in 1969, later became Professor of Business History, and in 1987 was appointed the first director of the Centre for Business History in Scotland. His work helped consolidate Glasgow as one of the major centres for business history research in Britain.

Slaven's career also overlapped closely with the growth of business archives in Scotland. During the early 1970s, as business records surveying expanded through regional registrars and then through a dedicated Scottish surveying role (also celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2027), he was involved in the rescue of vulnerable business records in the west of Scotland, including material endangered during the collapse of Upper Clyde Shipbuilders. That practical commitment to identifying, preserving and using business archives has remained a defining feature of the Glasgow tradition.

As a scholar, Slaven has ranged widely across the history of shipbuilding, regional development, Scottish enterprise, and the relationship between business, economy and place. His publications include *The Development of the West of Scotland, 1750-1960*, *British Shipbuilding, 1500-2010: A History*, co-edited works on business and urban history, and the *Dictionary of Scottish Business Biography*. Just as importantly, he helped shape the field institutionally: he was one of the key founders of the Association of Business Historians, whose annual doctoral workshop now bears his name and the first president of the European Business History Association.

This special issue therefore takes Tony Slaven's 90th birthday as an opportunity not only to honour an individual career, but also to reflect on the wider business of archives: how collections are found, saved, interpreted and turned into history. We welcome contributions that engage with themes inspired by Slaven's scholarship, by the history of business archives and records surveying, and by the continuing dialogue between archivists and historians.

### Possible topics include, but are not limited to:

- the development of business history as a field in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries
- business archives surveying, collection development, and the rescue of records at risk
- relationships between archivists, historians, universities, businesses, and professional networks
- shipbuilding, industrial decline, regional development, and other themes associated with Slaven's scholarship
- use of archival collections in new research on business, industry, enterprise, management, or economic life
- reflections from archivists on how surveying and collecting practices have shaped the collections they manage
- case studies focused on particular business archive collections, repositories, or research projects
- other anniversaries, milestones, or retrospectives that illuminate the changing place of business archives and business history

## Submissions

We welcome articles, review essays, case studies, 'collections in focus' pieces, and reflective essays. Research articles will typically be 5,000-8,000 words, while other formats may be shorter. Prospective contributors who would like to discuss an idea are welcome to contact the editors with the word 'journal' in the subject line at [businessarchivesscotland@gmail.com](mailto:businessarchivesscotland@gmail.com).

### Key dates

<b>Call for Papers</b>	June 2026
<b>Paper submission deadline</b>	31 October 2026
<b>Publication date</b>	Summer 2027

All articles are peer reviewed in an open, transparent and supportive manner. Submissions are particularly encouraged from PhD students and early career researchers and archivists.

Full contributions should be submitted to the Editorial Committee by 31 October 2026 via the journal's open access platform hosted by the University of Glasgow.

## Essay Prizes in Memory of Michael Moss and Lesley Richmond

Two prizes, each of £300, will be awarded annually in memory of Michael Moss and Lesley Richmond. Both were former Convenors of the Business Archives Council of Scotland and major supporters of business archives, business history, and this journal in Scotland and internationally.

**Professor Michael Stanley Moss** (1947-2021) began his archival career in Scotland in 1970 as Registrar of the Western Survey of the National Register of Archives (Scotland) at the University of Glasgow. His work locating, listing and rescuing records held by businesses, institutions, charities and individuals helped preserve important collections across the west of Scotland.

During more than three decades at Glasgow, including his years as University Archivist from 1974 to 2001, Moss helped create one of the UK's largest collections of business archives. He also wrote extensively on archival science and business and industrial history, including, with John R. Hume, the landmark history of Scotch whisky.

**Lesley Marion Richmond** (1956-2022) was a remarkable figure in business archives in both the United Kingdom and internationally. Her career began with roles as a research assistant in 1978 and as the second Business Archives Surveying Officer for Scotland in 1979.

Her belief in the importance of business archives, their social significance and their research potential was evident throughout her career, including work with the Business Archives Council, Chubb & Son, and more than thirty years at the University of Glasgow, where she supported the continued development of the Scottish Business Archive and the surveying officer role until her retirement in 2017.

### Essay Prizes

The Moss and Richmond essay prizes are aimed at archivists, postgraduate students and early career researchers. Entries may explore any aspect of business and industrial history that uses archival resources, or reflect on archival practice within the context of corporate archives and repositories that collect business records.

We welcome essays developed from postgraduate work, professional practice, or original research. Submissions should be between 3,500 and 7,000 words and follow the journal's submission requirements. Winning entries will each receive £300 and, subject to peer review, will be eligible for publication in *Business and Industrial History*.

Please contact the editors if you would like to discuss a potential essay-prize submission, using the subject line 'essay prize' and writing to [businessarchivesscotland@gmail.com](mailto:businessarchivesscotland@gmail.com).