Instructions of the court of directors of the Company of Scotland Trading to Africa and the Indies, 1696-1701

These records are part of a collection held by NatWest Group Archives relating to the Company of Scotland Trading to Africa and the Indies.

The whole collection is inscribed on UNESCO’s UK Memory of the World Register, in recognition of its importance to our shared cultural heritage.

background In their preparations for the expedition to Darien, the directors of the Company of Scotland had to issue instructions to various employees, agents, suppliers and fellow directors. This volume contains the Company’s own copies of these instructions.

document The book contains copies of instructions issued between June 1696 and May 1701. These instructions include: advice to two directors regarding the procurement of suitable ships; secret sailing orders to the ships’ captains for the first expedition, detailing how to sail to Darien; the ‘Charters and Constitutions of Caledonia in America,’ setting out the rules under which the Darien colony was to be governed; and sailing orders for the second expedition.

physical description 180 pages, conserved and rebound. Handwritten in ink on paper. Dimensions: 41 x 28cm.

online access to records These records have been digitised and are available to view online at www.natwestgroup.com/heritage/companies/company-of-scotland-hub.html