

Andrew Crombie Ramsay

From Earthwise

[Jump to navigation](#) [Jump to search](#)

[Pioneers of BGS - Home](#) [A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

□

Contents

- [1 Images](#)
- [2 Timeline](#)
- [3 Biographies and obituaries](#)
- [4 Publications](#)
 - [4.1 Survey publications](#)
 - [4.2 Maps](#)
 - [4.3 External publications](#)
- [5 BGS archives](#)
- [6 Other archives](#)
- [7 Andrew Crombie Ramsay as Director General of the Survey](#)

Images



Timeline

Date

Details

1814 Born in Glasgow. Educated in Glasgow.

1840 Exhibited map and model of Arran at British Association.

1841 Published "Geology of Arran".

Joined Survey as Assistant Geologist.

1846 "On the denudation of South Wales and adjacent counties of England".

- 1848 Appointed to Chair of Geology at University College. London.
- 1849 Elected F.R.S.
- 1851 Appointed to Professorship of Geology in Royal School of Mines.
- 1856 President of Geological Section, British Association at Cheltenham. Address: "On breaks in succession of British rocks".
- 1857 Deputed by Geological Society to American Association for Advancement of Science. Visited Canada and North States with Logan and Hall.
- 1862 President of Geological Society, elected Knight of the Order of St. Maurice of St. Lazarus. Paper to the Geological Society "On Glacial origin of certain lakes in Switzerland."
- 1866 LL.D. (Edinburgh).
President of Geological Section, British Association. Geological map of the British Isles and "On the physical geology and geography of Great Britain" published.
- 1867 Appointed Director of England and Wales Survey.
"The geology of North Wales".
- 1871 Appointed Director-General.
Wollaston Medal.
- 1879 Royal Medal of Royal Society.
- 1880 President of British Association at Swansea. Address: "The recurrence of certain phenomena in geological time".
- 1881 President of the Geology Section, British Association "The origin and progress of present state of geology".
Resigned from Survey, December 31st.
Knighted December 7th.
- 1891 Died December 9th.

Biographies and obituaries

[IV. The Geological Survey under Sir Andrew Crombie Ramsay, 1871-1881](#) From: Flett, J.S. 1937. The History of the Geological Survey of Great Britain. London: His Majesty's Stationery Office.

[1872 Ramsay, Director General](#) From: Bailey, Sir Edward. Geological Survey of Great Britain. London: Thomas Murby, 1952.

Geikie, James, . The late Sir Andrew Crombie Ramsay LL.D., F.R.S., etc. [Obituary.]. Transactions of the Edinburgh Geological Society. v. 6 p.233-240.

Geikie, A. Obituary - Sir Andrew Crombie Ramsay, former Director-General of the Geological Survey. [In Anniversary Address.]. Proceedings of the Geological Society in Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society. v. 48 p.38-47. 1892

[Obituary - Sir Andrew Crombie Ramsay, Knt., LL.D., F.R.S., F.G.S. Born 1814, died 9th December 1891.](#) Geologists Magazine. New Series. v. 9 p.48. 1892

Memoir. A. Geikie (1895)

Nature (December 17th, 1891)

Geological Magazine (1882) p. 289

Scotsman Dec. 16th 1891. [Copy with the (Guppy) ms.]

[Andrew Ramsay \(geologist\)](#) — Wikipedia article

[Ramsay, Andrew Crombie](#) Encyclopedia.com

[Portrait of Sir Andrew Crombie Ramsay \(1814-1891\)](#)

Publications

Memoir (Geikie) pp. 367-374

List of maps - Memoir (Geikie) pp. 374-376

List of horizontal sections - Memoir (Geikie) pp. 376-379

Memoirs: Memoir Geological Survey vol. I Essays in...(1846)

Memoir Geological Survey vol. III North Wales (1881)

Also contributed to : Lower Findhorn (1923).

Contributed to: Central Ross (1913)

Contributed to: Parts of Wiltshire and Gloucestershire (1858)

Works listed in the BGS Library catalogue

Survey publications

Ramsay, A.C. ; Salter, J.W. ; Etheridge, R. ; Museum of Practical Geology (1881). The geology of North Wales. 2nd ed.. (Memoir (District) Geological Survey of GB; 3). London : HMSO.

Ramsay, A.C. ; Salter, J.W. ; Museum of Practical Geology (1866). The geology of North Wales. (Memoir (District) Geological Survey of GB; 3). London : HMSO.

Ramsay, A.C. ; Aveline, W.T. ; Hull, E. ; Etheridge, R. ; Museum of Practical Geology (1858). The geology of parts of Wiltshire and Gloucestershire, (sheet 34). (Memoir (Sheet) Geological Survey of Great Britain (England & Wales) - Old Series). London : HMSO.

Ramsay, A.C. (1867). (Explanation of horizontal section, sheet 40) Illustrative of geological map, sheet No 78 (No 1 Section from Porth Llanlliana...). (Geol Surv G B Explan Horiz Vert Sect). London : HMSO.

Ramsay, A.C. ; Bristow, H.W. ; Bauerman, H. ; Geikie, A. ; Geological Museum (1859). A descriptive catalogue of the rock specimens in the Museum of Practical Geology, with explanatory notices of their nature and mode of occurrence in place. 2nd edition with additions. London : HMSO.

Ramsay, A.C. ; Bristow, H.W. ; Bauerman, H. ; Geological Museum (1858). A descriptive catalogue of the rock specimens in the Museum of Practical Geology, with explanatory notices of their nature and mode of occurrence, and of the places where they are found. London : HMSO.

Ramsay, A.C. ; Bristow, H.W. ; Geikie, A. ; Bauerman, H. ; Geological Museum (1862). A descriptive catalogue of the rock specimens in the Museum of Practical Geology, with explanatory notices of their nature and mode of occurrence in place. 3rd edition revised and partly re-written. London :

HMSO.

De La Beche, H.T. ; Ramsay, A.C. ; Forbes, E. (1846). [Essays by De la Beche, Ramsay, Forbes &c]. (Memoirs of the Geological Survey of Great Britain and of the Museum of Economic Geology in London; 1). London : Longman, Brown, Green and Longmans.

Ramsay, A.C. ; Hull, E. (1859). Explanation of horizontal sections, Sheet 44. (Geol Surv G B Explan Horiz Vert Sect). London : HMSO.

Ramsay, A.C. (1859). Explanation of horizontal sections, Sheet 54 : illustrative of geological maps, 61 N.E., S.E, and 62 N.W., S.W.. (Geol Surv G B Explan Horiz Vert Sect). London : HMSO.

British Geological Survey ; Ramsay, A.C. ; Howell, H. ; Geikie, A. ; Clough, C.T. ; Barrow, G. ; Crampton, C. B. ; Maufe, H.B. ; Bailey, E.B. ; Anderson, E. M. (1910). Sheet 33 Haddington [solid and drift]. [Solid and drift ed.]. (Geological Survey of Scotland 1:63 360/1:50 000). Southampton : Ordnance Survey for the Geological Survey.

Ramsay, A.C. (18--). Illustrative of geological map, Sheet No. 78. (Geol Surv G B Explan Horiz Vert Sect). London : HMSO.

Ramsay, A.C. (1846). On the denudation of South Wales and the adjacent counties of England. In: Memoirs of the Geological Survey of Great Britain, and the Museum of Practical Geology in London, Vol.I. (Memoirs of the Geological Survey of Great Britain, and the Museum of Practical Geology in London; 1). London : HMSO. 297-335.

Maps

British Geological Survey ; Geikie, A. ; Howell, H.H. ; Ramsay, A.C. (October 1860). Sheet 33 [Haddington] [solid]. [Solid ed.]. (Geological Survey of Scotland 1:63 360/1:50 000). Southampton : Ordnance Survey for the Geological Survey.

External publications

Ramsay, A.C. ; Stanley, A.P. ; Roberston, J. Geological account of the Coronation Stone : Appendix to: A.P. Stanley; Historical memorials of Westminster Abbey; 2nd ed; John Murray 1868.

Ramsay, A.C. (1879). Geological map of England & Wales ca. 1:710 000. 4th ed. London : Edward Stanford.

Ramsay, A.C. (1872). Geological map of England & Wales ca. 1:710 000. 3rd ed. London : Edward Stanford.

Ramsay, A.C. (February 22nd 1859). Geological map of England & Wales, 12 miles to an inch [ca. 1:710 000]. London : Edward Stanford.

Ramsay, A.C. ; Geikie, J. (1876). Geological map of Gibraltar 1:2 500 or 25.344 inches to a mile. [s.n.].

Ramsay, A.C. (no date given). Geology. no publisher stated.

Ramsay, A.C. Geology. Survey pamphlets 16p.

Ramsay, A.C. (1841). The geology of the Island of Arran from original survey. Glasgow : R. Griffin.

Ramsay, A.C. How Anglesey became an island : Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society of London 32(2) 1876 p.116-122.

Nash, E. ; Ramsay, A.C. (1879). A lecture on pre-Adamite London: given in the theatre of Merchant Taylor's School, Charterhouse Square, London, 13th February, 1879. London : Blades, East and Blades.

Geikie, A. ; Ramsay, A.C. (1895). Memoir of Sir Andrew Crombie Ramsay. London : Macmillan and Co..

Oldroyd, D.R. ; McKenna, G. ; Ramsay, A.C. A note on Andrew Ramsay's unpublished report on the St. David's area, recently discovered : notes and correspondence. IN: Annals of Science 52 1995 p193-196.

Hunt, R. ; Spencer, T. ; Davy, H. ; Kobell, F.V. ; Ramsay, A.C. (1845). Novelties in experimental science : comprising practical treatises on photography, daguerreotype, mineralogy, geology, and electro-chemistry. Glasgow : R. Griffin.

Ramsay, A.C. (1860). The old glaciers of Switzerland and North Wales. London : Longman, Green, Longman and Roberts.

Ramsay, A.C. ; British Association for the Advancement of Science. On the geological position of the black slates of Menai Straits, etc. : Report of the British Association for the Advancement of Science (20th), 1850, Trans Sect. C p.102.

Ramsay, A.C. (1878). On the geology of Gibraltar. Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society (1878) p. 505-541 (1878) ; p. 505-541.

Ramsay, A.C. (1872). On the river-courses of England and Wales. Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society (1872) p. 148-160 (1872) ; p. 148-160.

Ramsay, A.C. (1852). On the science of geology and its applications (being the introductory lecture to the course of geology, session 1851-1852). (Rec Sch Mines; 1/1). London : HMSO.

Ramsay, A.C. (1848-1849). Passages in the history of the geology : being an inaugural lecture at University College, London. London : Printed for Taylor and Walton.

Ramsay, A.C. (1874). The Physical geology and geography of Great Britain. 4th ed. London : E. Stanford.

Ramsay, A.C. (1872). The physical geology and geography of Great Britain. 3rd ed. London : E. Stanford.

Ramsay, A.C. (1863). The physical geology and geography of Great Britain : a course of six lectures delivered to working men in the Museum of Practical Geology, Jermyn Street, in January and February, 1863, by Professor A.C. Ramsay. London : Stanford.

Ramsay, A.C. ; Woodward, H.B. ([1894]). The physical geology and geography of Great Britain : a manual of British geology. 6th ed. London : E. Stanford ltd.

Ramsay, A.C. (1878). The physical geology and geography of Great Britain : a manual of British geology with a geological map printed in colours. 5th ed. London : E. Stanford.

Ramsay, A.C. (1864). The physical geology and geography of Great Britain : six lectures to working men delivered in the Royal School of Mines in 1863. 2nd ed. London : Edward Stanford.

Ramsay, A.C. (1877). Report on the question of the supply of fresh water to the town and garrison of Gibraltar. London : Harrison and Sons Ltd..

Ramsay, A.C. The superficial accumulations and surface markings of North Wales : Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society of London 8(3) 1852 p.371-376.

Ramsay, A.C. ; Spencer, J.W. ; Murchison, R.I. (1890). Upon the origin of Alpine and Italian lakes, and upon glacial erosion. (Humboldt library; 122). New York, N.Y. : Humboldt.

BGS archives

Ref No	Title	Description
GSM/DC/A/C/3/13,32	A.C. Ramsay: Letters of appointment and promotion.	
GSM/DC/A/C/3/81	A.C. Ramsay: Letters about Ordnance maps.	
GSM/DC/A/C/3/98,106,108,126,152,197,258,304,381	A.C. Ramsay: Quarterly returns.	
GSM/DC/A/C/3/102	A.C. Ramsay: Letters about W.T. Aveline and others.	
GSM/DC/A/C/3/102	H.W. Bristow: Letter from H.T. De la Beche to A.C. Ramsay, mentioning Bristow.	
GSM/DC/A/C/3/102	W.T. Aveline: Letter from H.T. De la Beche to A.C. Ramsay mentioning Aveline.	
GSM/DC/A/C/3/248	A.C. Ramsay: Letters from H.T. De la Beche.	
GSM/DC/A/C/3/248	H.T. De la Beche: Letters to A.C. Ramsay.	
GSM/DC/A/C/3/288	A.C. Ramsay: Letters about J. Trimmer.	
GSM/DC/A/C/3/288	J. Trimmer: Letters to A.C. Ramsay.	
GSM/DC/A/C/3/336	A.C. Ramsay: Annual Report.	
GSM/DC/A/C/4/19, 48, 168	A C Raamsay: Quarterly returns.	
GSM/DC/A/C/4/122	A C Ramsay: Annual Report	
GSM/DC/A/C/4/161, 163, 174, 177, 191	A C Ramsay: Letters about J. Trimmer.	
GSM/DC/A/C/4/161, 174, 177	J Trimmer: Letters to A C Ramsay.	
GSM/DC/A/C/4/164	A C Ramsay: Letters from H T De la Beche	
GSM/DC/A/C/4/164	H T De la Beche: Letters to A C Ramsay.	

GSM/DC/A/C/4/211	A C Ramsay: Letters about J.C. Gapper.
GSM/DC/A/C/4/211	J C Gapper: Letter from H T De la Beche to A C Ramsay about a pay rise for Gapper.
GSM/DC/A/C/4/241	A C Ramsay: Annual Report.
GSM/DC/A/C/4/250	A C Ramsay: Letters on pay.
GSM/DC/A/C/4/288	A C Ramsay: Annual Report.
GSM/DC/A/C/4/318	A C Ramsay: Letters about E. Hull.
GSM/DC/A/C/4/340	A C Ramsay: Annual Report.
GSM/DC/A/C/6/10	A C Ramsay: Annual Report.
GSM/DC/A/C/6/79,135	A C Ramsay: Letters from H T De la Beche.
GSM/DC/A/C/6/79,135	H T De la Beche: Letters to A C Ramsay.
GSM/DC/A/C/6/86	A C Ramsay: Letters on Ordnance Survey maps of Scotland.
GSM/DC/A/C/6/92	A C Ramsay: Quarterly returns.
GSM/DC/A/C/6/106	A C Ramsay: Annual Report.
GSM/DC/A/C/6/133	A C Ramsay: Letters about J. Trimmer.
GSM/DC/A/C/6/133	J Trimmer: Letters to A C Ramsay.
GSM/DC/A/C/6/148,165	A C Ramsay: Letters about Scotland.
GSM/DC/A/C/6/186-190	A C Ramsay: Letters on a quarrel with Kinahan.
GSM/DC/A/C/6/193	A C Ramsay: Mentioned in connection with water supply of Warwick.
GSM/DC/A/C/7/67	A C Ramsay: Letters on his health.
GSM/DC/A/C/7/67	R I Murchison: Letters. Staff. Ramsay's health.
GSM/DC/A/C/7/121	A C Ramsay: Letters about J. Cotton.
GSM/DC/A/C/7/121	J cotton: Letter from A C Ramsay to R I Murchison reporting on Cotton, with reply.
GSM/DC/A/C/7/137	A C Ramsay: Letters about Scraesdon fault.
GSM/DC/A/C/7/220	A C Ramsay: Letters about staff of Survey.
GSM/DC/A/C/7/257	A C Ramsay: Letters about Royal School of Mines.

GSM/DC/A/C/7/262,265,268	A C Ramsay: Letters on his salary.
GSM/DC/A/C/7/262,265,268	R I Murchison: Letters. Staff. Ramsay's salary and duties.
GSM/DC/A/C/7/323	A C Ramsay: Letters of travelling expenses.
GSM/DC/A/C/7/365,373	A C Ramsay: Letters about work of Survey.
GSM/DC/A/C/7/424	A C Ramsay: Letters about drift maps.
GSM/DC/A/C/7/476	A C Ramsay: Letter from R I Murchison.
GSM/DC/A/C/7/476	R I Murchison: Letter to A C Ramsay.
GSM/DC/A/C/7/532	A C Ramsay: Letters on Gibraltar.
GSM/DC/A/C/8/50	A C Ramsay: Letters about Gibraltar.
GSM/DC/A/C/8/240	A C Ramsay: Letter on removal of the School of Mines. [By Ramsay and others.]
GSM/DC/A/C/8/293	A C Ramsay: Letters on publication of Royal Coal Report.
GSM/DC/A/C/8/294	A C Ramsay: Letters of appointment and promotion.
GSM/DC/A/C/8/294	A C Ramsay: Letters on appointment as Director General.
GSM/DC/A/C/8/294	Letters on retention of professorship.
GSM/DC/A/C/8/311	A C Ramsay: Letters on G.H. Kinahan.
GSM/DC/A/C/8/341-344	A C Ramsay: Letters on organization of the Survey and Museum.
GSM/DC/A/C/8/346-347	A C Ramsay: Letters on report on British Guiana.
GSM/DC/A/C/8/349	A C Ramsay: Letters on shortage of space in Museum.
GSM/DC/A/C/8/351	A C Ramsay: Letters on coal from South Africa.
GSM/DC/A/C/8/356	A C Ramsay: Letters on evening opening of Museum.
GSM/DC/A/C/8/363,366,380,385-388	A C Ramsay: Letters on Library catalogue.
GSM/DC/A/C/8/367,369	A C Ramsay: Letters on official secrets.
GSM/DC/A/C/8/375-376	A C Ramsay: Letters on loan of a model.

GSM/DC/A/C/8/378	A Stevens: Mentioned in letter from T. Reeks to A C Ramsay.
GSM/DC/A/C/8/393	A C Ramsay: Letters on water supply at Cork Harbour.
GSM/DC/A/C/8/397-398,401	A C Ramsay: Letters on loan of maps and models.
GSM/DC/A/C/8/402-404,407	A C Ramsay: Letters on leave of absence for Rudler.
GSM/DC/A/C/8/410,417,406-407,500,490,424	A C Ramsay: Letters on Certificate for teachers.
GSM/DC/A/C/8/414	T Sopwith: Letter to A C Ramsay about the loan of a model.
GSM/DC/A/C/8/532	A C Ramsay: Memorandum on transfer of reserve specimens to J.W. Judd in South Kensington.
GSM/DC/A/C/9/42, 53, 82	A C Ramsay: Letters on use of lecture theatre
GSM/DC/A/C/9/44	A C Ramsay: Letters on gold from Newfoundland.
GSM/DC/A/C/9/74	A C Ramsay: Letters on employment of a writer
GSM/DC/A/C/9/90, 96-97	A C Ramsay: Letters on specimens from Gold Coast
GSM/DC/A/C/9/92-96	A C Ramsay: Letters on books, fossils and models for School in South Kensington.
GSM/DC/A/C/11/79	A C Ramsay: Letters of appointment and promotion.
GSM/DC/A/C/11/140,216	A C Ramsay: Annual Progress Reports.
GSM/DC/A/C/12/44,127	A C Ramsay: Annual Progress Reports
GSM/DC/A/C/12/144	A C Ramsay: Salary increases
GSM/DC/A/C/12/169	A C Ramsay: Letters from H T De la Beche
GSM/DC/A/C/12/169	H T De la Beche: Letters to A C Ramsay
GSM/DC/A/C/13/19	A C Ramsay: Letters about J C Gapper
GSM/DC/A/C/13/34	A C Ramsay: Annual Report
GSM/DC/A/C/13/37	A C Ramsay: Letters about E Hull
GSM/DC/A/C/13/59	A C Ramsay: Annual Progress Reports
GSM/DC/A/C/14/34	A C Ramsay: Annual Progress Reports
GSM/DC/A/C/14/202	A C Ramsay: Salary increases

GSM/DC/A/C/15/74	A C Ramsay: Letters about work of Survey
GSM/DC/A/C/15/207	A C Ramsay: Letters about Gibraltar
GSM/DC/A/C/16/78	A C Ramsay: Letters of appointment and promotion
GSM/DC/A/C/16/79	A C Ramsay: Letters about his professorship
GSM/DC/A/C/16/186-189	G H Kinahan: Letters on a quarrel with Ramsay
GSM/DC/A/C/16/243	A C Ramsay: Letters about Gibraltar.
GSM/DC/A/C/17	Original letters sent to Director, A.C.Ramsay
GSM/DC/A/C/17/200	E Desor: Letter from Ramsay on Geological Survey maps
GSM/DC/A/C/18/22, 44, 46, 72, 84, 97	A C Ramsay: Letters about Gibraltar
GSM/DC/A/C/23/2-54	A C Ramsay: Letters on quarrels with Kinahan.
GSM/DC/A/C/23/10	W E Forster: Letter on Ramsay; salary
GSM/DC/A/C/23/10,15	A C Ramsay: Letters on appointment of temporary staff.
GSM/DC/A/C/23/14	A C Ramsay: Letters on report on British Guiana
GSM/DC/A/C/23/70	A C Ramsay: Letters on 19 Piccadilly.
GSM/DC/A/C/23/90-91,95	A C Ramsay: Letters on new staff.
GSM/DC/A/C/23/131-136,146	A C Ramsay: Letters on Civil Service Inquiry Commission.
GSM/DC/A/C/23/152	A C Ramsay: Letters on leather manuscript cases.
GSM/DC/A/C/23/161-162	A C Ramsay: Letters on sub-Wealden exploration.
GSM/DC/A/C/23/194	A C Ramsay: Letters on colliery valuation.
GSM/DC/A/C/23/196-197	A C Ramsay: Letters on duties of Keeper of Mining Records.
GSM/DC/A/C/23/230a	A C Ramsay: Memorandum on Major Donnelly's remarks on the Treasury letter.
GSM/DC/A/C/23/248	A C Ramsay: Letters on cost of an address plate.
GSM/DC/A/C/23/a1	A C Ramsay: Letters on distribution of memoirs to staff.

GSM/DC/A/C/23/a9	A C Ramsay: Letters on instruments from British Guiana.	
GSM/DC/A/C/23/a10-a11	A C Ramsay: Letters on his salary.	
GSM/DC/A/C/30	Director General's Out Letters (Press copy book).	Letters of Ramsay and Geikie. Includes annual report of the Mining Record Office 1876.
GSM/DC/A/C/31	Director General's Out Letters (Press copy book).	Letters of Ramsay and Geikie. Includes annual reports of the Mining Record Office
GSM/DC/A/C/31/1	A C Ramsay: Letters on museum cases	
GSM/DC/A/C/31/8,46	A C Ramsay: Letters on Yorkshire coalfields memoir	
GSM/DC/A/C/31/13,18,25	A C Ramsay: Letters on items for new office	
GSM/DC/A/C/31/19	A C Ramsay: Letters on museum rock collection	
GSM/DC/A/C/31/27	A C Ramsay: Letters on chemical analyses for Survey	
GSM/DC/A/C/31/43	A C Ramsay: Letters on supply of 6 inch coalfield maps	
GSM/DC/A/C/31/50	A C Ramsay: Letters on course of work in Ireland	
GSM/DC/A/C/31/98	A C Ramsay: Letters on fading blue on maps.	
GSM/DC/A/C/31/150	A C Ramsay: Letters on petition on travelling allowances.	
GSM/DR/Ge/A/5	Correspondence on various matters: letters to J.Craik, J.Evans, F.H.Hatch, J.Horne, D.R.Irvine, B...	

GSM/DR/Ra	Andrew Crombie Ramsay	Ramsay succeeded Murchison as Director General of the GSGB. He had formerly been Director for...
GSM/DR/St/A/27	(1) Sir A Geikie (2) Prestwich: Particulars in the life of Sir Andrew Ramsay	
GSM/GL/Bw	Henry William Bristow	Bristow joined the Survey at the outset in 1845 as one of six field staff. He worked on the...
GSM/GL/Bw/29/35	J Brown: Mentioned in letter of A.C. Ramsay.	
GSM/GL/Hu/1	Correspondence with other geologists inc Geikie, Ramsay and Rudler.	
GSM/GL/Jk/2	Correspondence with other geologists inc. De la Beche, Murchison, Ramsay and Reeks.	
GSM/GL/SI	J.W.Salter	John William Salter was appointed as Assistant to Edward Forbes in 1846 and became...
GSM/GL/SI/1	Correspondence inc. letters to H.De la Beche with details of geology of Devon, R.I.Murchison, E.T...	
GSM/MG/A/R/8	Letter from Ramsay re practice of opening the Museum two evenings in the week and suggesting this...	
GSM/MG/C/40	India Museum: report on mineral collection by F.W.Rudler for A.C.Ramsay	
GSM/MG/L/9	Correspondence of Ramsay and T.Reeks suggesting preparation of Library catalogue	

GSM/MG/P/4/27	Letter to F.W. Rudler about Ramsay's Bust.	
GSM/MG/P/8	Correspondence with Trenham Reeks, Curator of Museum	Letters to B.N.Peach, A.C.Ramsay and others.
GSM/MG/P/9	Mss statement on T.Reeks' official position by A.C.Ramsay	
GSM/MG/X/14	Letter from Ramsay to Sec. of Dept. of Science and Art suggesting Mr Rudler should prepare a...	

Other archives

[Archives Hub](#)

[List of Papers Sir A. C. Ramsay FRS 1814-1891](#) Imperial College.

[A.C. Ramsay Cambridge Digital Library](#)

Andrew Crombie Ramsay as Director General of the Survey

Extract from: From: Wilson, H.E. Down to earth - one hundred and fifty years of the British Geological Survey. Edinburgh:Scottish Academic Press, 1985. [In all directions: developments under Sir Henry's fourteen successors In all directions: developments under Sir Henry's fourteen successors]

Murchison died in harness at the age of 79 in 1871 and was succeeded by the faithful Ramsay, who had carried most of the administrative load for the last sixteen years. Ramsay's command was reduced by the removal of the Royal School of Mines which was to be governed by a Council of the Professors, though Ramsay continued to lecture in the School for a further five years and was presumably on the governing body. His immediate concern, however, as Director-General, was the Survey, the Museum of Practical Geology, and the Mining Records Office. In the first it can be fairly said that he set the pattern which was to be followed for almost a century — primary mapping on the six-inches to one mile scale and publication of maps on the one-inch scale, with six-inch publication in the coalfields — spurred on presumably by the Coal Commission.

The zest for map publication, at the expense of the explanatory memoirs which should have accompanied them, is perhaps the major criticism we can make of Ramsay's term as Director General. Only in Ireland did Jukes and his successor, Hull, make sure that their men 'wrote-up' their notes before moving on to pastures new, and every one-inch sheet in Ireland has an accompanying 'Explanation' — some better than others but all at least useful.

Apart from Hull in Dublin, Ramsay had two other Local Directors — W.H.Bristow, who seems to have been a fairly solid, not to say stolid, citizen and Archibald Geikie who since 1867 had been Director in Edinburgh. Geikie, apart from the local Directorship, was the first Professor of Geology in the University of Edinburgh and, though an able geologist, was for thirty years undoubtedly the most unpopular man in the Survey. When Ramsay retired in 1881 Geikie (1835-1924) was appointed Director-General and moved to London.

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[Category:](#)

- [Pioneers of the British Geological Survey](#)

Navigation menu

Personal tools

- Not logged in
- [Talk](#)
- [Contributions](#)
- [Log in](#)
- [Request account](#)

Namespaces

- [Page](#)
- [Discussion](#)

Variants

Views

- [Read](#)
- [Edit](#)
- [View history](#)
- [PDF Export](#)

More

Search

Navigation

- [Main page](#)
- [Recent changes](#)
- [Random page](#)
- [Help about MediaWiki](#)

Tools

- [What links here](#)

- [Related changes](#)
- [Special pages](#)
- [Permanent link](#)
- [Page information](#)
- [Cite this page](#)
- [Browse properties](#)

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- [Privacy policy](#)
- [About Earthwise](#)
- [Disclaimers](#)

