

Clients/connections of Sir John Soane and Robert Adam who were Directors of the East India Company, profited from the East India Company or other colonial positions/connections
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Sources:

Oxford DNB online

History of Parliament online

UCL website: Legacies of British Slave Ownership: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/lbs/search/>

Directors of the East India Company:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_East_India_Company_directors

Name (alphabetically by family name)	Architect/property (if known)	Details
William Adair Jackson (?-1804)	Soane client: Fountain Court, off Aldermanbury, London (1798, 1802)	Director East India Co.: 1803-04. Source: Wikipedia list of EIC directors.
Sir Claudius Amyand	Adam client: Mount Street, London	Sir Claudius's father, Sir George Amyand (1720-66) was a Contractor during the Seven Years War and a Director of the East India Company. Source: Wikipedia list of EIC directors.
William Astell (born Thornton) (1774-1847)	Soane client: Everton House, Beds. (1811)	<p>Second son of Godfrey Thornton of Moggerhanger who assumed the name Astell in 1807. Director East India Co. 1800, 1802-05, 1807-10 (Deputy Chairman 1809, Chairman 1810), 1812-15, 1817-20, 1822-25 (Deputy Chairman 1823, Chairman 1824), 1827-30 (Chairman 1828 & 1820, Deputy Chairman 1829), 1832-35, 1837-40, 1842-45. Source: Wikipedia list of EIC directors.</p> <p>Note: Soane also worked for other members of the Thornton family who were not Directors of the East India Company – Godfrey and Stephen Thornton at Moggerhanger, Thornton and Bayley at 6 King’s Arms Yard, Samuel Thornton at 22 St James’s Square, Stephen Thornton at 54 Old Broad Street, Down Thornton and Free at Bartholomew Lane* and Claude Thornton at Marden Hill. Henry Thornton (1760-1815) (info from History of Parliament online) 3rd son of John Thornton, Russia merchant and Director of the Bank of England of Clapham. Brother of Robert Thornton and Samuel Thornton. Inherited partnership in the London Bank of Down, Thornton and Free* from his father in 1790. Cousin of William Wilberforce with whom he shared an enthusiasm for abolition of the slave trade. Chairman of the Sierra Leone Company 1791-1811 – founded in July 1791 to promote African</p>

		<p>commerce and civilisation. Around him and Wilberforce gathered the Clapham Sect.</p> <p>Other members of the Thornton family who were Directors of the East India Company but for whom Soane didn't work were William Thornton (died 1801), Director 1759, 1761-64; and Robert Thornton (died 1826), Director 1787-88, 1790-93, 1795-98, 1800-03, 1810-13 (Chairman 1813), disqualified April 1814.</p> <p>Source: Wikipedia list of EIC directors.</p>
Lieutenant General Humphrey Bland (1686-1763)	Adam client: Thistleworth (1759)	Governor of Gibraltar in 1749-51. Source: Oxford DNB.
Joseph Bosanquet Jr (1755-1828)	Soane connection (not a client)	<p>Cousin of Samuel Bosanquet Jr (1744 – 1806), Governor of the Bank of England from 1791 and for whom Soane worked at Forest House, Leytonstone (1786), on the monument to Claude Bosanquet at St Stephen's, Coleman Street (1786), on 9 Lime Street, EC3 (1790), on 24 & 25 Watling Street, EC3 (1790) and on the monument to Samuel Bosanquet, St Mary's Church, Leytonstone (1806) (commissioned by Mrs Samuel Bosanquet).</p> <p>Also cousin of Richard Bosanquet (q.v.)</p> <p>Jacob Bosanquet was a Director of the East India Co.: 1782-83, 1785-88, 1790-93, 1795-98 (Deputy Chairman 1797 and Chairman 1798), 1800-03 (Deputy Chairman 1802, Chairman 1803), 1805-08, 1810 -13 (Deputy Chairman 1810, Chairman 1811 and 1813), 1815-18, 1820-23, 1825-26, disqualified March 1827.</p> <p>NB: Soane lobbied him as a Director in 1796 over the East India House competition.</p> <p>Source: Wikipedia list of EIC directors.</p>
Richard Bosanquet (?-1809)	Soane client: A small house at Falmouth (1806), executed but for which no drawings survive.	<p>Cousin of Samuel Bosanquet Jr and of Jacob Bosanquet Jr (q.v.). Soane had originally met him in Italy while on his Grand Tour (1778-80) and they had remained friends.</p> <p>Director East India Co.: 1768-69, 1771-72.</p> <p>Source: Wikipedia list of EIC directors.</p>
John Calcraft (1726-72)	Adam client: Ingress (1765)	Invested heavily in East India stock. Source: History of Parliament.
Robert Child (1739-82)	Adam client: Osterley Park (1761); Upton (1772); Berkeley Square, London (1769)	Francis and Robert Child were both Directors of the East India Company. Robert was chairman in 1715. Source: Wikipedia list of EIC directors.
Sir George Colebrooke (1729-1809)	Adam client: Arlington Street, London (1771)	<p>Chairman of the East India Company. Source: UCL database.</p> <p>He speculated in EIC stock c.1766-72 on the London and Amsterdam markets. Director, E. I. Co. 1767-71, 1772-3, dep. chairman 1768-9, chairman 1769-71, 1772-3. MP</p>

		for Arundel 1754-74. Failures in raw materials speculation led to his bankruptcy and in 1778 the EIC voted him a pension of £200 per annum. He later recovered a portion of his property in Britain. Source: History of Parliament.
Duncan Davidson	Adam client: Cromarty (1789)	Davidson was described in 1788 as a 'rich West India merchant'. By 1774 he was established as a merchant at 14 Fenchurch Buildings, London. He was an East India Company stockholder. Source: History of Parliament.
Colonel William Fullarton	Adam client: Fullarton Castle (1790)	<p>Elected MP for Plympton Erle in 1779, but did not stand at the general election of 1780. Instead he resolved to play his part in the now general war between Britain and the continental powers. He raised a regiment from his estates and was gazetted lieutenant-colonel of the 98th on 29 May 1780. He was originally meant for Mexico, to seize the annual Spanish transport of treasure. Instead, they set off for the Cape of Good Hope, only to see their design on the Dutch colony foiled by prior arrival of French reinforcements. They continued to India, to help in the war against Haidar Ali of Mysore. Fullarton landed at Madras, and in summer 1781 commenced diversionary operations to lure the enemy out of the Carnatic. In June 1782 he was gazetted colonel a second time, in the army of the East India Company. The following winter he suppressed the Kollars of Madura, and captured Karur and Dindigul. In May 1783 he assumed general command of forces in the southernmost part of the Carnatic, invading Mysore and taking Dharapuram, Palghat, and Coimbatore. Further feats of arms were forestalled by the peace patched up with Tipu, who had succeeded his father, Haidar. Fullarton's time in India left him with disgust for loot and pillage. In 1802 he became the first commissioner to Trinidad which had been captured from Spain in 1797, with an annual salary of £3,000. He changed as little as possible in Spanish laws and usages, while welcoming aristocratic refugees with their enslaved people from the French islands and granting them lands.</p> <p>With talk of abolition, Fullarton did not encourage plantations in Trinidad, but rather sought to attract free settlers who would make the island a base for British trade to South America. He was in resident in Trinidad for only 7 months, and during that time he quarrelled with his second in command, Colonel Thomas Picton (who had commanded Trinidad since its capture and had essentially been demoted). Picton was eventually tried for extorting confession of a certain Luisa Calderón; he had authorized her interrogation by means of the 'picket', by which she was suspended</p>

		from one wrist with her weight resting only on a sharp pointed stake. The horror of this cruel punishment caused a huge sensation in Britain, fuelled by pictures and indignant pamphlets from both sides, including Fullarton's Statement, Letters and Documents, Respecting the Affairs of Trinidad (1804). Picton was found guilty but later acquitted in 1808, after Fullerton had died. Source: Oxford DNB.
Sir Samuel Hannay, 3rd Bt. (c1742-90)	Adam client: Kirkdale (1787); Hill House, Putney Heath (1786)	Hannay was an eminent London drug merchant, a Scottish baronet, with considerable East India investments. Source: History of Parliament.
Alderman the Hon. Thomas Harley (1730-1804)	Adam client: Aldersgate Street, London (1771)	Wine merchant from c.1752, Alderman from 1761-death. By 1763, during the Seven Years War he was also a military contractor – the supply of money, clothing & blankets to troops in North America became particularly profitable. From 1778 he was also a partner in the banking house Raymond, Harley, Webber & Co. of George Street. Lord Mayor of London 1767-68. MP for London 1761-74 & Herefordshire 1776-1802. In 1772 he was chairman of the secret committee on East India affairs, and as such introduced the bill to restrain the Company from sending out supervisors to India. He had no personal interest in the Company. Source: History of Parliament.
Sir George Howard	Adam client	2nd wife, Elizabeth Beckford (d.1791) daughter of Peter Beckford, speaker in the Jamaican assembly, and sister of William Beckford of Fonthill Abbey. Source: Oxford DNB.
Sir Abraham Hume, 2nd Baronet (1749-1838)	Adam client: Wormleybury, (1777); Hill Street, London	The Hume family fortune had been made by Sir Abraham's uncle, a Director of the East India Company, who had acquired Wormleybury in 1739. Source: Oxford DNB.
Sir William James (1722-83)	Adam client: Gerrard Street, London (1781)	He was a naval officer and Director of the East India Company. He is thought to have married in 1744 Elizabeth Birch (d.1753) the widow of an East India captain. He became a first mate and then an officer of East India Company ships from 1747. In 1751 he was made commodore of the Bombay marine. He returned to England in 1759 with considerable wealth from prize money and private commerce. He was elected a director of the EIC in 1768. In 1776 he was elected the EIC deputy chairman, then again in 1778 and 1781, and chairman in 1779. In 1778 he was made a baronet. Source: Oxford DNB.
Hon. Augustus Keppel (1725-86)	Adam client	Naval officer. At the end of 1754 he took temporary command of all the ships on the North American station. Source: History of Parliament.
James Macpherson	Adam client: Ballaville House (1790)	Wrote to Pitt informing him that the nawab, weary of the claims on him of the East India Company, which he denied, 'throws himself upon the laws of Great Britain'.

		He was a critic of Henry Dundas both in Indian and Scottish affairs, and an investor in East India Company stock.' Source: History of Parliament.
Charles Mills (1755-1826)	Soane client: 12 Mansfield Street, London (1799)	Director East India Co.: 1785-86, 1788-91, 1793-6, 1798-1801 (Deputy Chairman and Chair), 1803-06, 1808-11, 1813-14, disqualified March 1815. Source: Wikipedia list of EIC directors. NB: Soane lobbied him over the East India House competition.
William Mure (1718-76)	Adam client: Caldwell (1771)	Before his resignation Bute secured for Mure the position of the Receivership General of Jamaica. Source: History of Parliament.
Patrick Murray, 5th Lord Elibank (ND)	Adam client: Monument to Lady Elibank (c.1762)	He pursued a variety of economic interests, subscribing to the Firth and Clyde Canal and holding a partnership in a Dumfries bank. He was also an East India Company proprietor. Source: Oxford DNB.
Richard Oliver (1735-84)	Adam client: Low Leyton (1767)	Born in Antigua, son of Rowland Oliver, a judge and member of the council in Antigua 1753-62. Oliver was raised in London in the counting house of his uncle, Richard Oliver, whose daughter he later married. The uncle was a draper and Caribbean merchant. Oliver was an Alderman of London 1770-78, but retired from business after succeeding to his father's estates in Antigua. In 1778 he declined becoming a candidate for Lord mayor and resigned his alderman's gown as in November 1778 he sailed for Antigua. He died on the return voyage to England in 1784. Source: History of Parliament.
William Petty, 2nd Earl of Shelburne, later 1st Marquis of Lansdowne (1737-1805)	Adam client: Bowood (1760)	Invested heavily in East India Company stock. Source: Oxford DNB.
Sir William Pulteney (formerly Johnstone) (1729-1805)	Adam client: Bath New Town (1777); Bath, Pulteney Bridge (1768); Bath Prison (1771); Shrewsbury Castle (c.1768)	As an MP he took an interest in Caribbean affairs. He was sympathetic to American objects to taxation without representation. But was an opponent of American independence. Source: UCL database. MP for Cromartyshire in 1768-74 & Shrewsbury in 1775-1805. In 1778 he published his views on the American conflict in a pamphlet, <i>The Present State of Affairs with America</i> . Sympathetic to the American objection to taxation without representation, he denied that there was any parallel between America and the unrepresented parts of Britain. Source: History of Parliament. Pulteney's American interests appear to have stemmed from the appointment of his brother George Johnstone as governor of West Florida in 1763 and existing

		<p>Johnstone family interests in the Caribbean. On the outbreak of the American War of Independence in 1776 he and his brother George, by then also an MP, became involved in attempts at reconciliation. George Johnstone joined the Earl of Carlisle's peace mission to America while Pulteney undertook a secret mission, under the alias of Mr Williams, to Paris to attempt negotiations with Benjamin Franklin, the American ambassador to France. Neither initiative bore fruit but subsequently Pulteney made his views known in pamphlets criticizing government policy, pointing out the cost of the American war, and supporting a more generous treatment of the rebellious colonists. Pulteney applied a similar approach to Indian affairs. His brother John Johnstone held a post with the East India Company, and the brothers corresponded regularly on Indian affairs. In 1783 Pulteney wrote a pamphlet entitled <i>The Effects to be Expected from the East India Bill upon the Constitution of Great Britain</i> criticizing Fox's policies and setting out his views on a proper relationship with the subcontinent. Source: Oxford DNB.</p>
John Robinson	Adam client: Harwich (1778)	<p>If this John Robinson: John Robinson (1727-1802)? Son of a merchant, Charles Robinson of Appleby, Westmoreland. Married Mary, daughter of Nathaniel Crowe, Caribbean merchant. Started his career as steward and land agent to Sir James Lowther. He was MP for Westmorland 1764-74 and Harwich 1774-1802. He took responsibility for the political management of the East India Company, and played a considerable role in developing schemes for the control of the Company's administration of India. Source: History of Parliament.</p>
John Sargent (1715-91)	Adam client: Downing Street, London (1764)	<p>Director of the Bank of England 1753-67. Sargent was a draper trading with North America, and also had a contract with the Post Office to supply packet boats for conveyance of mail to the Caribbean. He was friendly with Benjamin Franklin before 1759 and was his banker in England. Their friendship resumed after the American War of Independence. Source: History of Parliament.</p>
David Scott (1746-1805)	Adam client also Soane client: Dunninald House, Angus (1795)	<p>Aged 17-40 Scott was a merchant in Bombay and became wealthy. He returned in 1786 as a respected and influential man. He was elected Director of the East India Company in 1788-1802 and became an intimate of Dundas. He was also deputy chairman of the EIC in 1795-96 and chairman 1796-97 and 1801. In the late 1790s his health deteriorated. In 1799 he left his convalescence in Bath to counter accusations of illicit trading and traitorous intercourse with France. He was cleared, but his health and wealth were permanently damaged. Source: History of Parliament.</p>

		<p>At the age of seventeen, like many well-educated but impecunious Scots, he sought his fortune in India. Lacking a nomination in the East India Company service, he engaged in private trade as a ship's officer, entered into partnerships with Parsi businessmen and servants of the company, and founded the agency house of Scott, Tate, and Adamson at Bombay. Some of his capital came from his happy marriage to a rich widow, Louisa Jervis, <i>née</i> Delagard (<i>d.</i> 1803), with whom he had three daughters and a son. It was the enterprise of private merchants like Scott, often in partnership with East India Company servants, which had slowly built up the trading connections of the British in western India. In 1786 Scott moved to London, where he directed the English business of his agency house and kept up close connections with his partners and friends in Bombay. He quickly won the confidence of Pitt, and the friendship of Henry Dundas, the head of the India Board of Control. Dundas helped Scott to become a director of the company in 1788, and to be elected MP for Forfarshire from 1790 until he was defeated in 1796. He was then elected for the Forfar burghs, a seat which he held until his death. In the court of directors Scott was opposed by the shipping interest, which controlled the company's ships and was hostile to private traders who threatened their monopoly. In 1793 the shipping interest attacked Scott by banning directors from trading with India. Scott responded by vesting his son David, aged eleven, with control of his agency house. As deputy chairman he succeeded in 1795 in reforming the shipping system. In 1798 he proved how India-built ships could reduce the company's shipping costs, but his open support of private British traders alienated his fellow directors and this measure was defeated. The following year his enemies accused him of trading illicitly with the French. Source: Oxford DNB.</p> <p>Director of the East India Co.: 1788-91, 1793-96 (Deputy Chairman 1795, Chairman 1796), 1798-1801 (Deputy Chairman 1800, Chairman 1801). Resigned April 1802. NB: As Chairman in 1796 Soane lobbied him over the East India House competition.</p> <p>His son, David Scott (1782-1851) was also a Director 1814-17, 1819-20, disqualified August 1820, but was not a Soane client.</p> <p>Source: Wikipedia list of EIC directors.</p>
George Smith (1765-1836)	Soane client: Burn Hall, Co. Durham (1783); Marlesfield,	Brother of Robert Baron Carrington (1752-1838). See document: Clients of Sir John Soane and Robert Adam connected with the trade in enslaved people.

	Suffolk (1783); Piercefield, Gwent (1785)	Soane acted as one of the assignees in the bankruptcy of George Smith and his banking partner Curre, 1793 ff. Director E India Co.: 1795, 1797-1800, 1802-05 (Deputy Chairman 1805), 1807-10, 1812-15, 1817-20, 1822-25, 1827-30, 1832-33, disqualified July 1833. Source: Wikipedia list of EIC directors.
Samuel Smith and Mr Smith	Adam client (1780)	If this is Samuel Smith (1755-93)?, he was an East India Company director. Source: History of Parliament.
John Stewart (c.1723-81)	Adam client: Mitcham (1771)	By 1759 Stewart was a partner in his father, Archibald Stewart's wine merchant business. From 1764 he was active in the East India Company. Source: History of Parliament.
Hon. Keith Stewart	Adam client: Glasserton House (1787)	Was a naval officer and served in the East Indies 1799-80. Source: History of Parliament.
George Woodford Thellusson (1764- 1811)	Soane client: Wall Hall, Herts. (1800)	Director East India Co.: 1796-97, 1799-1802, 1804-07. Source: Wikipedia list of EIC directors. See document: Clients of Sir John Soane and Robert Adam connected with the trade in enslaved people.