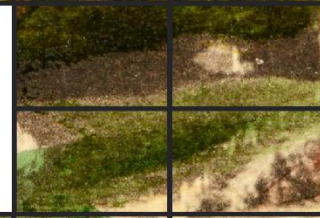
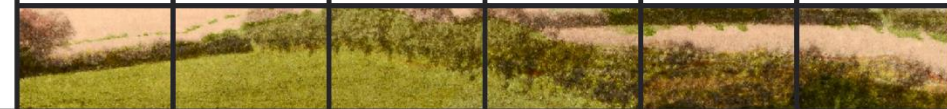
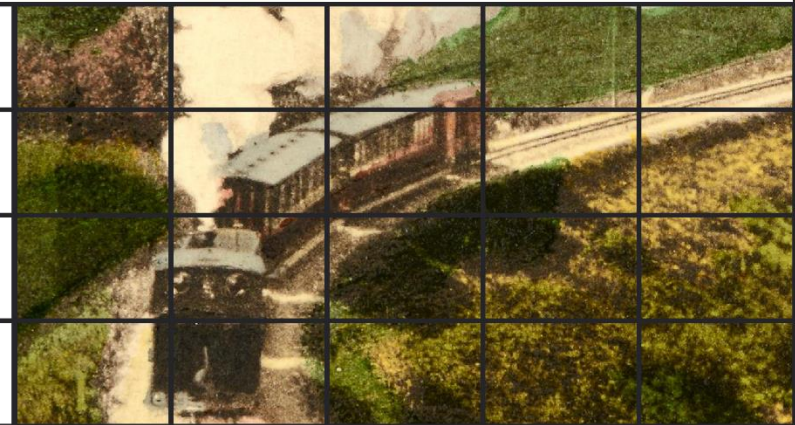
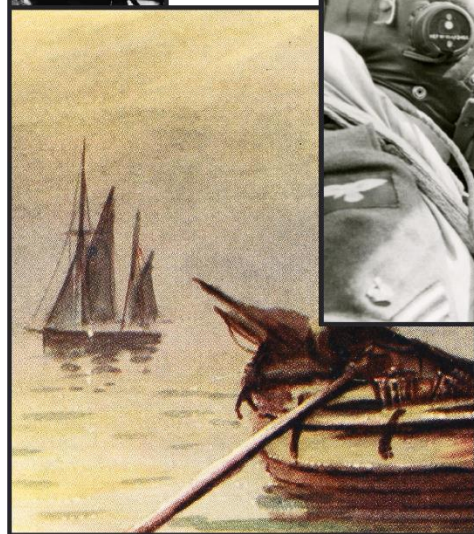


ROUTE TO-GOLF CLUB
VIA BAYS-DECHLES-DAUMETTY
15
GARRISON-DAYRELLS 10

The Aviation and Aerospace Archive Initiative: towards a land transport archive initiative?



Mike Rogers
19 April 2020



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Outline

- ❑ The role of The National Archives
- ❑ Networks
- ❑ Networks in Action: The Aviation and Aerospace Archives Initiative
- ❑ Towards a land transport archive initiative?
- ❑ Comments and Questions



Royal mail loading platform by artist Grace Golden

The role of The National Archives

We are a non-ministerial department, and the official archive and publisher for the UK Government, and for England and Wales. We are the guardians of over 1,000 years of iconic national documents.

We are expert advisers in information and records management and are a cultural, academic and heritage institution. **We fulfil a leadership role for the archive sector and work to secure the future of physical and digital records.**



The National Archives repositories



The reading rooms

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Archives Sector Development Department

- Regional and Networks Team
- Standards and Improvement Team
- Programmes and Policy Team
- Collections and Audience Insight Team

Includes functions of Historical Manuscripts Commission, e.g. database of accessions to repositories.

Works alongside the Research and Academic Engagement Department

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Regional and Networks Team

- ❑ Tina Morton – Head of RANT
- ❑ Caroline Sampson – National and Networks
- ❑ Owen Munday – Strategic Partnerships
- ❑ Hannah Jones – East and the Arts
- ❑ David Morris – Yorkshire, North East and Historic Houses
- ❑ Tim Powell – South West, Religion and Science & Technology
- ❑ Kathryn Preston – North West and Charities
- ❑ Mike Rogers – Midlands, Transport & Schools
- ❑ Georgie Salzedo – London and Business
- ❑ Philippa Turner – London and Business

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We liaise with:

- Arts Council England
- Museum Development Organisations
- National Lottery Heritage Fund
- Libraries Connected
- Crisis Management Team for Business Archives
- Research Libraries UK
- Archives and Records Association
- Networks

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We support and advise:

- Local authority record offices
- University Archives
- School Archives
- Business Archives
- Charity Archives
- Community Archives
- Archives in Museums
- Religious groups
- Archives in private hands
- Any other organisations creating or holding records

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Networks



Map of Tokyo, Japan, showing canals, roads, buildings and parks, 1861

MPI 1/504 (1)

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Regional Networks

- Archives First
- Archives for Yorkshire
- Archives Connected East Midlands
- Archives West Midlands
- East of England Regional Archives Network
- Greater Manchester Archives & Local Studies Partnership
- London Archives Partnership
- North East Archives Partnership
- North West Heads of Repositories
- South Yorkshire Archives Partnership

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Thematic Networks

- Aviation and Aerospace Archives Initiative
- Religious Archives Group
- Science and Technology Archives Group
- School Archives and Records Association
- CHARM [Charity Archives and Records Managers]
- Historic Houses Archivists Group
- Health Archives and Records Group
- Film Archives UK

- Business Archives Council
- Sporting Heritage

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Collaborative Networks of Archive Services

- ❑ Multiple services, sharing a common vision, goals and purpose
- ❑ Initial activities should centre on working with members, senior managers and stakeholders to define the strategic objectives that will be achieved by the network
- ❑ Management and governance structure depends on what works best for that individual network
- ❑ Work together to develop business plans and actions plans
- ❑ Jointly beneficial projects that lead to positive change for the network and the individual archive service members
- ❑ Use pooled resources, knowledge and expertise to effect positive change and improvement to collective leadership, service delivery, and collections management

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Successful Collaborative Networks

- ❑ A successful collaborative network encourages the sharing of information, advocacy, learning experiences, expertise, equipment and approaches to common problems, leading to projects and initiatives designed to benefit all in the network rather than a single archive service
- ❑ The benefits of participating in the network can include more efficient use of resources, raising standards, increased strength and resilience and the development of innovative ideas
- ❑ Network collaboration can increase the impact of archive service activities and lead to the delivery of effective products and services that demonstrate clear outcomes and increased value for money.

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Shared Knowledge

Shared Resources

Shared Expertise

Shared methods and approaches

Membership of network

Improved efficiency

Raising standards

Building resilience and strength

Develop innovative projects

Successful Collaborative Network

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Networks in Action

The Aviation and Aerospace Archives Initiative



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Aviation and Aerospace Archives Initiative

- ❑ Recognised needs:
 - ❑ Many collections held in volunteer-run museums or by individuals
 - ❑ What is where, and how can it be accessed?
 - ❑ Training, standards, terminology – best practice
 - ❑ Issues relating to manufacturers, operators and researchers



Lord Masham's Balloon, 1899

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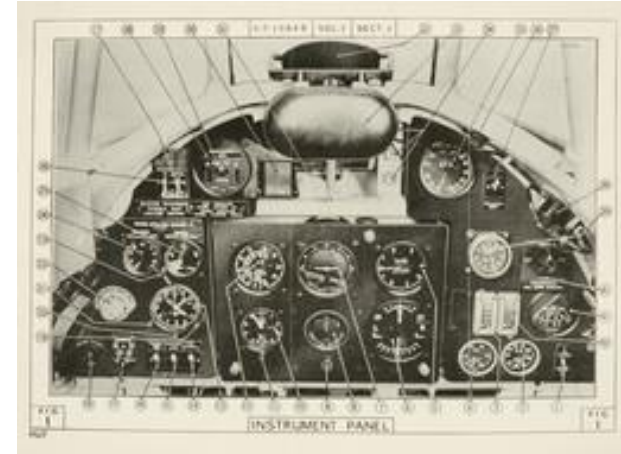
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Aviation and Aerospace Archives Initiative

- ❑ Initial scoping meetings, Nov 2018 & Apr 2019: representatives from:
 - ❑ TNA
 - ❑ Royal Aeronautical Society
 - ❑ Air Britain Trust
 - ❑ Aviation Heritage UK
 - ❑ Manufacturers
 - ❑ Museums
 - ❑ Business Archives Council



Instrument Panel, Hurricane II, 1940

AIR 10/2373 (1)

Aviation and Aerospace Archives Initiative

- ❑ Steering group and three workstreams:
 - ❑ Conference
 - ❑ Documentation
 - ❑ Surveying



SS Type Airship, 1918

AIR 11/241 (1)

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Aviation and Aerospace Archives Initiative

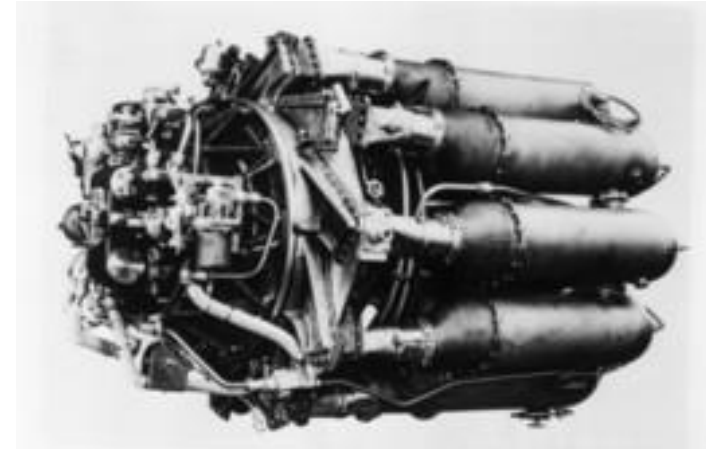
- ❑ Conference Workstream:
 - ❑ “To Infinity and Beyond” conference held at Aerospace Bristol on 11 February 2020.
 - ❑ Financial support from Royal Aeronautical Society, and use of their online ticketing system and free venue courtesy of Aerospace Bristol, kept costs down
 - ❑ Over 100 attendees.
 - ❑ Well received.



Graf Zeppelin with R100, 1930
AIR 11/237 (2)

Aviation and Aerospace Archives Initiative

- ❑ Documentation Workstream:
 - ❑ Guidance for non-professionals developed. Pragmatic – recognising limited resources
 - ❑ Definitions
 - ❑ Collecting and Accessioning
 - ❑ Arrangement
 - ❑ Cataloguing
 - ❑ Storage
 - ❑ Collections Care
 - ❑ Access
 - ❑ Legal Issues
 - ❑ Digitisation
 - ❑ Sustainability
 - ❑ Case Studies
 - ❑ Templates
 - ❑ Further reading

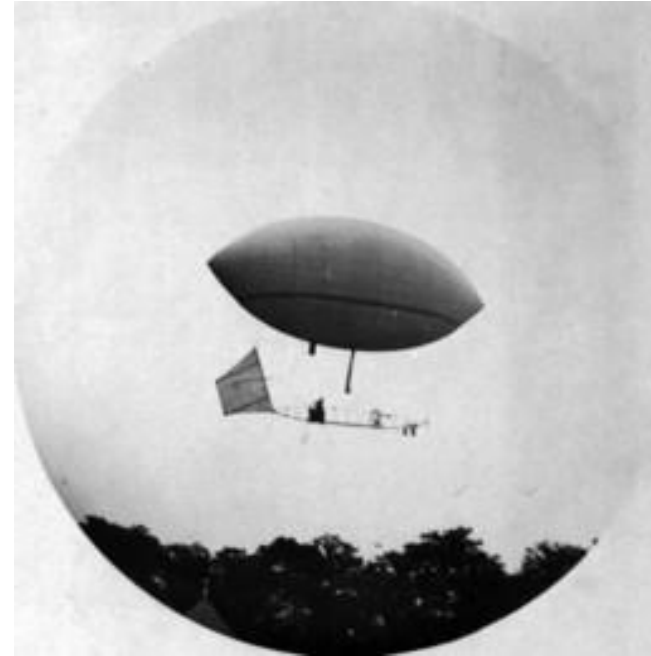


Power jet W2-700 enging, 1944

AIR 62/582

Aviation and Aerospace Archives Initiative

- ❑ Surveying Workstream:
 - ❑ Investigating how to gather and disseminate information on records about the UK's aviation heritage
 - ❑ Build up a comprehensive database of the locations of archives of aircraft manufacturing in the UK and highlight gaps in the coverage.



Spencer Airship in flight at York, 1904

COPY 1/476

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Aviation and Aerospace Archives Initiative

- Next steps:
 - Publish Guidance online
 - Continue and expand survey work. Make available online.
 - Another conference?
 - Formal constitution, membership etc?



M Delagrance and Bleriot
aeroplane, 1909

COPY 1/539 (50)

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Aviation and Aerospace Archives Initiative

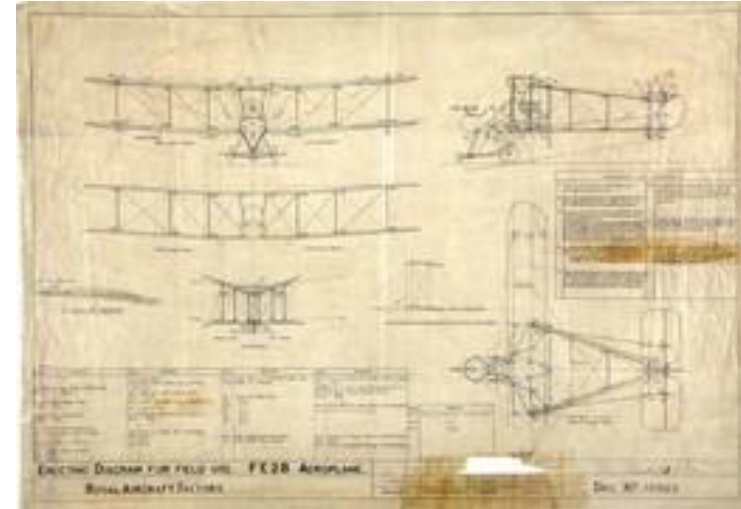
❑ For more information:

❑ Website

<https://aviationarchives.simdif.com/index.html>

❑ Jiscmail mailing list

<https://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/cgi-bin/webadmin?A0=AVIATIONARCHIVES>



FE2B aeroplane erecting diagram,
1915

AVIA 14/21/1/4

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Maritime and Shipbuilding

- ❑ Former Naval and Maritime Libraries and Archives Group
- ❑ Maritime Curators Group replaced by...
- ❑ UK Maritime Heritage Network [ACE-designated Subject Specialist Network for maritime curators, archivists, museums, historic vessels etc.



Cunard Line to New York, Boston, 1907

COPY 1/263 (20)

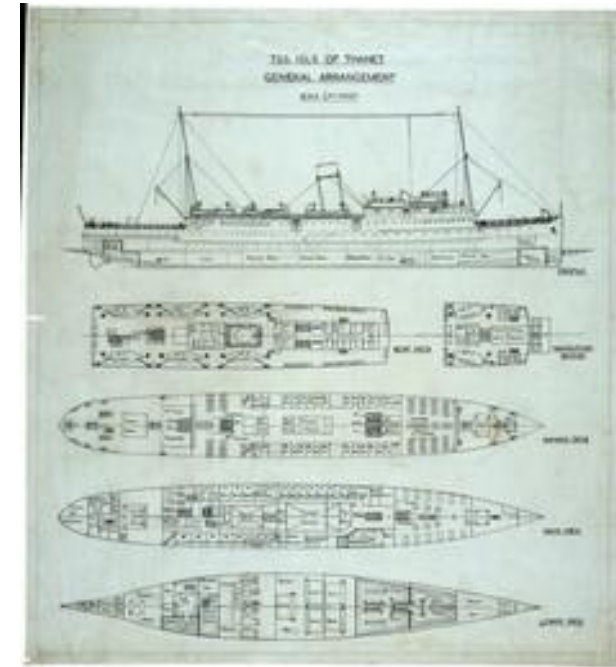
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Maritime and Shipbuilding

- ❑ Sessions on archives at the annual UK Maritime Heritage Forum
- ❑ Workshop on shipbuilding records at the National Maritime Museum, including session on networks, 28 October 2019
- ❑ Also the Inland Waterways Heritage Network (another SSN); though museum focused



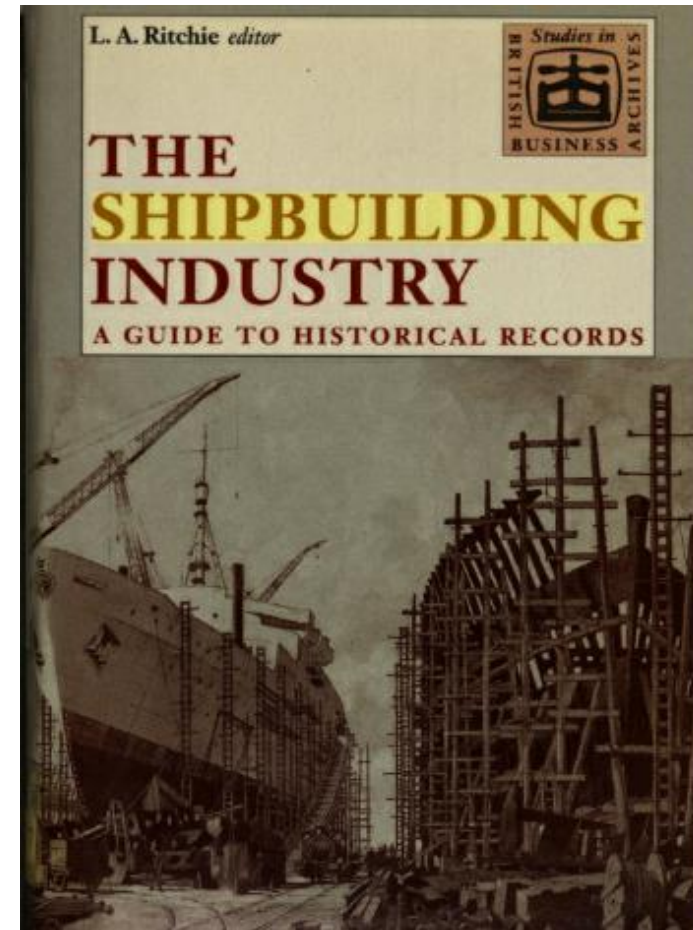
TSS Isle of Thanet general arrangement plan, 1023-1944

RAIL 655/14

Maritime and Shipbuilding

The Shipbuilding Industry: A Guide to Historical Records, L A Ritchie ed., Manchester University Press, 1992

Available on Google Books



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Towards a land transport archives initiative?

With the air and maritime sectors now active, is there a need for something to cover land transport archives?



George Hoy's challenge to the directors of the Eastern Counties Railway Company, to race his donkey against their trains, 1856

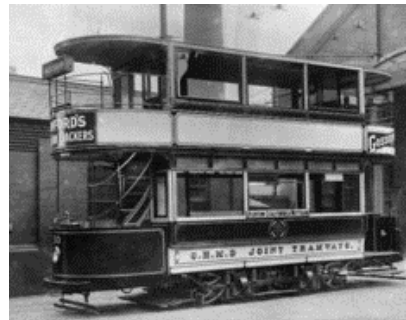
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Land transport can take many forms



Potential interest (groups)

- Manufacturers
- Commercial Operators
- Heritage Operators
- Archive offices
- Museums
- Heritage sites
- Interest groups and societies
- Publishers
- Individuals



Dunlop Tyres, 1903

COPY 1/203 (356)

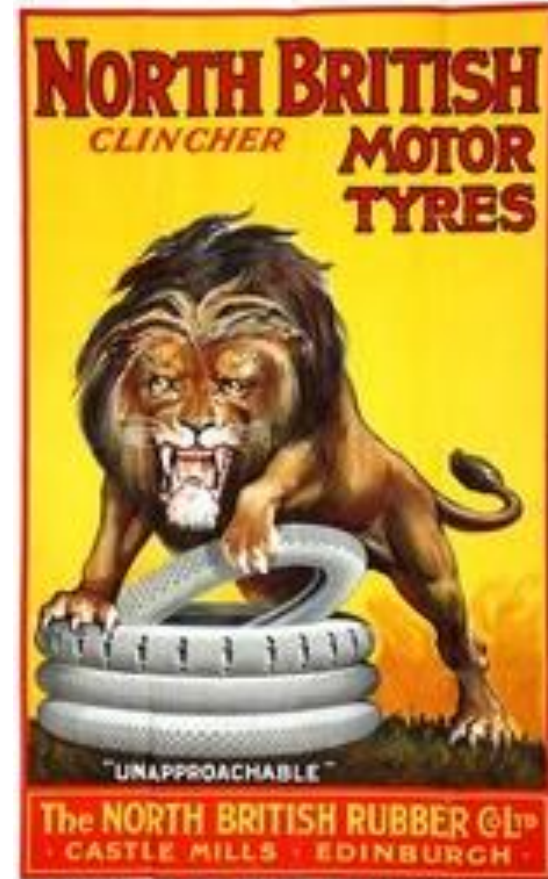
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Potential interest (individuals)

- Archivists
- Custodians of current business records
- Curators with museum training
- Volunteers looking after archival material, but with no formal training
- Collectors
- Authors
- Researchers



North British Motor Tyres, 1910
COPY 1/295 (55)

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One network for road; another for rail?

Advantages:

- Stronger common interests
- Not dominated by one part of sector
- Key participants already know each other
- An existing umbrella organisation could lead activities and host outputs?

Disadvantages:

- Where to draw the distinction – e.g. where do trams fit?
- Duplication of efforts
- Dilution of resources
- Smaller pool of potential active participants?
- Still need to ensure fair representation – motorcycles, cycles, buses, road haulage etc

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A joint network for all land transport?

Advantages:

- Less (for me) to organise
- Many underlying common interests and issues
- No artificial split (except maybe hovercraft!)
- Larger pool of potential active participants

Disadvantages:

- No single umbrella group, so need to form a new group (formal or informal)
- Where to host outputs?
- Need for all sub-sectors to be fairly represented, to avoid domination by one

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What could a network potentially do?

- Practical advice on collections care for non-professionals
- A forum for sharing advice and issues
- Peer support
- Conferences/meetings/training events
- Website
- Newsletter
- Surveying collections



Waterloo omnibus, 1900

COPY 1/169 f391

It's up to you ...

Practicalities

- ❑ Establish a pool of interested participants
- ❑ Arrange an initial meeting to gauge interest, scope potential work and decide a route forwards
- ❑ TNA happy to co-ordinate, get things rolling, and provide technical advice, but limited capacity to lead long-term



Daimler works, Coventry, erecting shop, 1906

COPY 1/500 (290)

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So, what do you think?

- Any questions?
- Any comments?
- A single group or more than one?
- What could/should the group aim to do?
- Interest in participating in a steering group? (I already have some contacts in railways, trams etc)
- Any offers to host a scoping meeting? (I can offer Kew, but am aware it's not easy for everyone to get to)



Ford 10hp car
COPY 1/483 (343)



The Pack Pullmanette Sussex
Motor Coach Works, 1910
COPY 1/297 (525)

Contact :

mike.rogers@nationalarchives.gov.uk

I'll be around all day if anyone would like to discuss anything arising from this presentation.

<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/archives-sector/>



Royal East African
Automobile Association, new
roads, 1924

CO 533/399

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