

NATIONAL MUSEUMS **LIVERPOOL**

**MARITIME ARCHIVES & LIBRARY**

**RECORDS OF THE LIVERPOOL STEAMSHIP  
OWNERS' (& AGENTS) ASSOCIATION**

**Ref. Code: D/SS  
Acc. No.: MMM.1991.48**

**Listed by  
Dawn Littler  
Curator of Maritime Archives  
and  
Captain M. Jones  
Liverpool Steamship Owners' (& Agents) Association  
1999**

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### **THE LIVERPOOL STEAMSHIP OWNERS' ASSOCIATION**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The Liverpool Steamship Owners' Association was established in 1858 to lobby the newly formed Mersey Docks & Harbour Board. It attracted a substantial membership from leading liner companies and as a result, became an influential body in national as well as local affairs, and was consistently consulted by parliamentary committees on the shipping industry. The minute books, which begin in 1858 and are almost complete, together with annual reports (1859-1981) and miscellaneous reports (1890-1965), show the wide-range of interests of the Association. At the outset, in 1858, the steamship owners were chiefly concerned with preventing railway companies from operating steamship services; in 1887 they were critical of MDHB's arrangements for master portorage; during 1906 the Association lobbied the Liberal Government on its merchant shipping bill; in 1925 taxation of war-time profits was a major concern and in 1960 the Association complained to the British Government of the "nationalistic policies of foreign governments through the adoption of flag discrimination, subsidies and other artifices designed to maintain national merchant fleets regardless of economic considerations".<sup>1</sup>

The names in the records are like a roll-call of the great names in shipping and its history is very much the history of the deep sea liner trade. At the time of the formation of the Association, the total tonnage of British steamships was a mere 381,000 tons (less than 10%), compared with the total of 4,200,000 tons for all British shipping. Six shipowners formed the founding committee, representing 70,000 tons only. By 1958, the membership was 67, representing 4,631,240 tons.

It was the steamship that was largely responsible for the development of the British Empire, enabling not only grain but frozen meat and other perishable commodities to be carried quickly and independently of the elements from one corner of the globe to the other. The chain of coaling and servicing facilities needed, brought business to colonial outposts such as Aden, Singapore and Colombo. It was Liverpool that dominated the European passenger and emigrant trade for the best part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. So the records of this Association are not merely those of a local port, but of an extremely powerful body representing the interests of international trade.

Never did the Association join any national grouping. Indeed, it opposed state interference of any kind. In the words of its official historian, it ".....has never sought to interfere with the individual freedom of its members or to obtain for them relief from the due responsibility of their acts. On the contrary, it has consistently opposed all measures, calculated either by way of official controller by excessive rigidity of rules and standards, to hamper development. It has recognised that the first duty of the shipowner is to secure the safety of the lives and property entrusted to his care, but it has maintained that the individual shipowner, discharging that duty in a right manner, is entitled to carry on his own business in the manner which he believes will be productive of the best results".<sup>2</sup> This is a classic statement of free trade policy, owing much to Adam Smith's economic theories, and giving the thumbs down to reformers such as Samuel Plimsoll, after which the load line gets its name, on the

grounds that the shipowner can be trusted to do his duty by his employees. Indeed, R.H. Thornton argued that "the Holts, the Bibbys and men like McIver, of the Cunard, Ismay of the White Star", did far more to raise the general level of safety of life at sea than did the efforts of Samuel Plimsoll. Be that as it may, this remark illustrates the fact that the Association remained a bastion of classic Liberal philosophy and independence of thought. Shipping subsidies and unfair taxation were alike the targets of the Association's opposition. Indeed, it continued to be argued that the policies of successive British governments provided disincentives to shipping enterprise.

In 1988, the Association merged with the Liverpool Shipowners' Association, founded in 1810, which had covered sail and tramp ships. That same year, Ocean Transport & Trading plc, once the largest shipping company, having sold its deep sea shipping interests, resigned its membership. Nonetheless, the Port of Liverpool's total tonnage that year was 19,500,000 tons, but of course not necessarily brought by British ships using British labour.

The records of the Association emphasise the achievements of a glorious era and provide unrivalled scope, not only for the study of shipping in one of its most revolutionary centuries but of economic and political thought and practice, the industrial and social policy of a crucial sector of the national economy and also of worldwide issues affecting the history of many nations.

The minute books, in particular, are remarkable in that they contain not only a detailed account of each meeting of the Association, but all correspondence sent to the Association, but all correspondence sent to the Association, reports and memoranda (confidential, unofficial and official), the Annual Reports of the Association and every piece of parliamentary legislation (and associated documents) having a bearing on the mercantile marine. Correspondents include the Board of Trade, Lloyds of London, Chambers of Commerce, overseas steamship owners' associations and harbour and port authorities throughout the world. Subjects covered range from imports into Liverpool (especially of cotton and grain), commodity prices, bills of lading and marine insurance, to unionised dock-side labour, safety at sea, the policing of the world's navigable rivers and the ice code - to name but a few. Documentation for the years covering the World Wars is particularly thorough. The minute books (1888-1952) are available on microfilm.

The Association has recently undergone a change of name to the "Liverpool Steamship Owners' & Agents Association". This reflects the extended functions of ship owning brought about by the dramatic changes of the past thirty years.

#### **Important Note**

Sections 1-5 of the collection were acquired in 1982 and sections 6-22 were acquired in 1999 leading to the revision of the following catalogue. Material in the Mersey Docks & Harbour Board collection (legal section) relating to the Association has also been included. Further information relating to the scope of the collection for researchers can be found at the end of this catalogue.

#### **References**

1. Annual Report, 1960, D/SS/2/7; L.H. Powell, *History of the Liverpool Steamship Owners Association, 1858-1958* (Liverpool, 1958) passim.
2. Powell, p. 16.

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22/1-5	Miscellaneous	1965 - 1993
23	Material in Mersey Docks & Harbour Board Collection	1903 - 1908
24	Source Guide for Researchers	1999

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**Title of Deposit:** Liverpool Steamship Owners' Association

Ref. Code	Description	Date(s)
D/SS/1/1 - 74	<b><u>MINUTE BOOKS</u></b>	<b><u>1858 - 1989</u></b>
	(Please use the microfilms for Volumes 1-66 to avoid wear and tear on the original volumes)	
1		15 Dec 1858 - 12 Aug 1880
2		28 Aug 1880 - 15 Apr 1889
2a		5 May 1889 - 21 Jan 1896
3		3 Jan 1896 - 7 Mar 1899
4		10 Apr 1899 - 8 Mar 1901
5		25 Mar 1901 - 20 June 1902
6		22 Aug 1902 - 28 Oct 1903
7		17 Nov 1903 - 8 Feb 1905
8		15 Feb 1905 - 4 Dec 1905
9		12 Dec 1905 - 8 Nov 1906
10		7 Nov 1906 - 10 Feb 1908
11		6 Mar 1908 - 25 June 1909
12		23 June 1909 - 12 Jul 1910

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Ref. Code	Description	Date(s)
D/SS/1/1 – 74	<b><u>MINUTE BOOKS</u></b> (cont)	<b><u>1859 - 1989</u></b>
13		12 Jul 1910 - 10 Jul 1911
14		1 Aug 1911 - 19 June 1912
15		24 Jul 1912 - 21 Oct 1913
16		29 Oct 1913 - 17 Jul 1914
17		7 Aug 1914 - 17 Sept 1915
18		23 Sept 1915 - 19 Jul 1916
19		10 Aug 1916 - 7 Aug 1917
20		28 Aug 1917 - 27 May 1918
21		23 May 1918 - 23 Sept 1918
22		30 Sept 1918 - 7 May 1919
23		8 May 1919 - 23 Jan 1920
24		10 Jan 1920 - 28 Oct 1920
25		4 Nov 1920 - 13 Apr 1921
26		18 Apr 1921 - 5 Dec 1921

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Ref. Code	Description	Date(s)
D/SS/1/1 - 74	<b><u>MINUTE BOOKS</u></b> (cont)	<b><u>1859 - 1989</u></b>
27		6 Dec 1921 - 27 June 1922
28		12 Jul 1922 - 21 Mar 1923
29		26 Mar 1923 - 3 Dec 1923
30		4 Dec 1923 - 27 June 1924
31		9 Jul 1924 - 8 Apr 1925
32		28 Apr 1925 - 4 Jan 1926
33		5 Jan 1926 - 27 Jul 1926
34		7 Sept 1926 - 17 May 1927
35		6 May 1927 - 14 Feb 1928
36		14 Feb 1928 - 19 Nov 1928
37		20 Nov 1928 - 11 June 1929
38		17 June 1929 - 8 Jan 1930
39		3 Feb 1930 - 8 Dec 1930
40		9 Dec 1930 - 16 June 1930

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Ref. Code	Description	Date(s)
D/SS/1/1 - 74	<b><u>MINUTE BOOKS</u></b> (cont)	<b><u>1859 - 1989</u></b>
41		22 June 1931 - 23 Feb 1932
42		29 Feb 1932 - 2 Dec 1932
43		7 Dec 1932 - 18 Jul 1933
44		5 Sept 1933 - 1 May 1934
45		29 May 1934 - 22 Jan 1935
46		12 Feb 1935 - 13 Nov 1935
47		12 Nov 1935 - 16 June 1936
48		30 June 1936 - 12 Apr 1937
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54		16 Apr 1940 - 9 Oct 1940

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D/SS/1/1 - 74	<b><u>MINUTE BOOKS</u></b> (cont)	<b><u>1859 - 1989</u></b>
55		20 Nov 1940 - 17 Jul 1941
56		4 Sept 1941 - 5 May 1942
57		28 Jul 1942 - 6 Apr 1943
58		24 May 1943 - 17 Dec 1943
59		4 Jan 1944 - 16 Aug 1944
60		18 Aug 1944 - 27 Mar 1945
61		23 Nov 1964 - 24 Nov 1970
62		1 Feb 1946 - 23 Jan 1947
63		28 Jan 1947 - 2 Mar 1948
64		4 Mar 1948 - 8 Mar 1949
65		3 May 1949 - 28 Nov 1950
66		23 Jan 1951 - 19 Aug 1952
	N.B. End of microfilm copies	
67		9 Sept 1952 - 18 Nov 1953

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D/SS/1/1 – 74	<b><u>MINUTE BOOKS</u></b> (cont)	<b><u>1859 - 1989</u></b>
68		15 Dec 1953 - 7 Sept 1955
69		7 Nov 1955 - 23 Jul 1957
70		26 Sept 1957 - 18 June 1959
71		6 Aug 1959 - 21 May 1962
72		29 May 1962 - 2 Sept 1964
	N.B. No Minute Books for 1965 - 1970	
73		7 Jan 1971 - 6 Dec 1979
74		15 Jan 1980 - 27 Oct 1989

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Ref. Code	Description	Date(s)
D/SS/2/1-34	<b><u>PRINTED ANNUAL REPORTS</u></b>	<b><u>1859 - 1989</u></b>
	(Reports do not appear to have been presented annually until 1868.) Nos. 1-7 Bound Volumes includes Rules and Regulations.	
Nos. 1		1859, 1861, 1868 - 1893
2		1893 - 1907
3		1908 - 1918
4		1918 - 1925
5		1926 - 1936
6		1937 - 1949
7		1950 - 1961
8		1962
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17		1971
18		1972

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D/SS/2/1-34	<b><u>PRINTED ANNUAL REPORTS (cont)</u></b>	<b><u>1859 - 1989</u></b>
Nos. 19		1973
20		1974
21		1975
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23		1977 - 1978
24		1978 - 1979
25		1979 - 1980
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27		1981 - 1982
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29		1983 - 1984
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34		1988 - 1989

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Ref. Code	Description	Date(s)
D/SS/3/1-40	<b><u>MISCELLANEOUS VOLUMES OF REPORTS</u></b>	<b><u>1890 - 1965</u></b>
1		1890 - 1898
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D/SS/3/1-40	<b><u>MISCELLANEOUS VOLUMES OF REPORTS (cont)</u></b>	<b><u>1890 - 1965</u></b>
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23		1940 - 1941
24		1942 - 1943
25		1944
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31		1950
32		1951
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Ref. Code	Description	Date(s)
D/SS/4/1-44	<b><u>REPORTS OF ANNUAL MEETINGS, CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH AND COMMENTS, ETC.</u></b>	<b><u>1931 - 1994</u></b>
	(Loose in one envelope)	
1		1931
2		1944
3		1945
4		1946
5		1947
6		1948
7		1949
8		1950
9		1951
10		1952
11		1953
12		1954
13		1955
14		1956
15		1957
16		1958
17		1959
18		1960
19		1961
20	(x 2)	1962

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D/SS/4/1-44	<b><u>REPORTS OF ANNUAL MEETINGS, CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH AND COMMENTS, ETC.</u></b> (cont)	<b><u>1931 - 1994</u></b>
21		1963
22		1965
23		1966
24		1967
25		1968
26		1969
27		1970
28		1971
29		1972
30		1973
		No 1974
31		1975
32		1976
33		1978
34		1981
35		1982
36		1983
37		1984
38		1985
39		1986
40		1987

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Ref. Code	Description	Date(s)
D/SS/4/1-44	<b><u>REPORTS OF ANNUAL MEETINGS, CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH AND COMMENTS, ETC.</u></b> (cont)	<b><u>1931 - 1994</u></b>
41		1989
42		1990 - 1991
43		1992 - 1993
44		1993 - 1994

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Ref. Code	Description	Date(s)
D/SS/5/1-2	<b><u>WARTIME DOCUMENTS</u></b>	<b><u>1937 - 1945</u></b>
1	Lecture on port and supply problems in a future war. Given by Sir Lionel A.P. Warner, CBE, at the Imperial Defence College.	4 Oct 1937
2	Minutes of meetings on "Losses of and Damage to Imports".	24 Nov 1942 - 14 Dec 1945

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Ref Code:	Description	Date(s)
D/SS/6/1-18	<b><u>PILOTAGE COMMITTEE</u></b>	<b><u>1911-1988</u></b>
1/1-6	<b><u>The Pilotage Commission</u></b>	<b><u>1911 - 1988</u></b>
1	Pilotage Commission returns of number of pilots employed in the UK.	1961-1988
2	Annual Report & Accounts, and press release.	1982
3	Departmental Committee (HMG) Report on Pilotage, includes issue of <i>The Pilot</i> , 1945.	1911
4	Letch Report with correspondence.	1 Jul 1947- 22 Nov 1978
5	Dept. of Trade Report on Marine Pilotage in UK.	June 1974
6	Report on draft bylaws for Liverpool Pilotage.	n.d., c1980
2	LSSOA Pilotage Committee minutes of meetings and related and correspondence.	13 Apr 1965- 18 Aug 1988
3	Pilotage Working Party sub-committee minutes	5 Oct 1973- 23 Jan 1974
4	Folder of Liverpool Pilotage bylaws with correspondence.	1960-1970
5	Booklets & lists of Liverpool Pilotage rates and dues. [18 items]	1971-1988
6	Liverpool District Pilotage Fund bylaws and correspondence including notices, circulars re proposed re-organisation of Liverpool Pilotage District (c.1973).	8 Mar 1972- 5 Nov 1975
7	"Work Index" Study re hours and pay of Liverpool pilots with correspondence.	7 June 1968- 1 Dec 1986
8	Study of number of pilots employed in Liverpool Pilotage District and SCOP report produced by the Pilotage Committee of the Chamber of Shipping and Pilotage Service Review sub-committee on Marine Pilotage in UK, with circulars and correspondence	c.15 Nov 1973- 26 July 1974

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<b>Ref Code:</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>
D/SS/6/1-18	<b><u>PILOTAGE COMMITTEE (cont)</u></b>	<b><u>1911 - 1988</u></b>
9/1-3	<b><u>Pilotage Annuity scheme:</u></b>	<b><u>1950 - 1975</u></b>
1	Folder containing circulars, notices and correspondence re Liverpool Pilots annuity scheme and severance fund.	27 Feb 1950 - 8 Jan 1974
2	Annuity bylaws	1957/1969/ 1972
3	Correspondence re Liverpool Pilots severance scheme.	1975
10	Report "The General Directions for Navigation in the Port of Liverpool re the future of Liverpool Pilotage service, with correspondence.	19 Jan 1987 - 3 June 1988
11	Correspondence and circulars re appropriated pilots.	31 Dec 1968 - 14 May 1976
12/1-2	<b><u>Circulars &amp; Correspondence re Pilotage</u></b>	<b><u>1969 - 1974</u></b>
1	Study re pilotage of larger vessels in the Mersey and other UK ports, with correspondence and circulars.	3 Jan 1969 - 13 Jan 1974
2	Circulars and correspondence re special high tonnage pilotage dues.	15 Mar 1974 - 9 Jul 1974
13	Circulars and correspondence re Dock Pilotage.	1 June 1970 - 29 June 1977
14	Correspondence re compulsory pilotage.	4 Mar 1977
15	Enquiry into Liverpool Bay Western Boarding Station, notices, circulars and correspondence.	26 July 1974 - 6 Oct 1977
16	Correspondence re dispute over boundaries of Liverpool Pilotage District.	4 Feb 1969 - 19 Sept 1971
17	File containing correspondence re Manchester ship canal dues and charges, pilotage exemptions for ship canal and proposed compulsory ship canal pilotage.	21 May 1971- 12 May 1988
18	Correspondence with M.P.s re high cost of Liverpool pilotage.	7 July 1982 - 11 Aug 1982

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<b>Ref Code:</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>
D/SS/7/1-6	<b><u>PORT OPERATIONS/PORT USERS COMMITTEE</u></b>	<b><u>1962-1989</u></b>
1	Minutes.	13 Feb 1980 - 22 Feb 1989
2	Correspondence.	4 June 1980 - 16 Nov 1989
3	Lists of Committee members.	1982/1988
4	Chairman's report and Committee report	c.19 June 1989
5	Correspondence re port productivity, tonnage measurements and cargo handling charges	16 Dec 1970 - 22 June 1982
6	Folder containing: Booklets on cargo handling charges produced by MDHB and Liverpool Master Porters & Master Porters Association. Booklet re F.O.B. (Free on board) Contract for UK ports. "Mersey Mammoth" floating crane booklets and charges	1978 - 1981  1962/65 1987

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Ref Code:	Description	Date(s)
D/SS/8/1	<b><u>SHIOWNERS/STEVEDORING COMMITTEE</u></b>	<b><u>1972-1979</u></b>
1	Minutes and list of committee members, with correspondence.	26 Jan 1972 - 5 Dec 1979

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Title of Deposit: Liverpool Steamship Owners' Association		
Ref Code:	Description	Date(s)
D/SS/9/1-14	<b><u>MARINE SUPERINTENDENTS COMMITTEE</u></b>	<b><u>1975-1979</u></b>
1	Minutes. Includes correspondence re future of committee (1975)	13 Nov 1975 - 6 Dec 1979
2	List of members.	1978
3	Printed committee report and accounts.	1921/1974
4	Correspondence re collision rules, MDHB Mersey Collision rules, 1924, 1953-4, 1960, 1970, 1979.	1924 - 6 Mar 1979
5	Correspondence re oil pollution on navigable waters Bill	9 Sept 1970 – 7 Sept 1972
6/1-3	<b><u>Port Security</u></b>	<b><u>1972 - 1986</u></b>
1	Port Security Committee minutes.	1 June 1974 - 14 Dec 1979
2	Reports produced by the Mersey Docks Liaison Committee Liverpool & Bootle Constabulary re security of Dock Estate. [3 items]	1971/1972
3	HM Government guidance notes "Protection of shipping against terrorism and sabotage.	August 1986
7	Correspondence re MDHB requirement to fit VHF radios.	17 Aug - 29 Oct 1971
8	Correspondence re Royal Seaforth container terminal	13 Oct 1971 - 6 Feb 1978
9	Anglesey Marine Oil Terminal: Correspondence re exclusion area and proof of evidence re Revision Order Anglesey Terminal Act, etc.	4 June 1974 - 2 Feb 1981
10	MDHB general directions for navigation in the Port of Liverpool with correspondence.	4 Apr 1973 - 2 Sept 1988.
11	Correspondence re oil drilling in Liverpool Bay.	27 Jul 1973 - 20 Jul 1976
12	Correspondence re fendering at Gladstone lock	15 Aug 1973 - 15 Dec 1978

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Ref Code:	Description	Date(s)
D/SS/9/1-14	<b><u>MARINE SUPERINTENDENTS COMMITTEE (cont.)</u></b>	<b><u>1975-1979</u></b>
13	Correspondence, etc. re proposed Mersey Barrage.	7 Jul 1986 - Feb 1991
14	Correspondence re light dues	19 Jul - 31 Jul 1990

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<b>Ref Code:</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>
D/SS/10/1-5	<b><u>TOWAGE (Incl. Liverpool Tug Owners Association minutes)</u></b>	<b><u>1946-1990</u></b>
1	Correspondence re Mersey towage and towage restrictions by TGWW and other unions.	16 Sept 1946 - 3 May 1990
2	Towage rate cards for various companies.	1963-1986
3	Correspondence re terms, conditions and charges for Mersey towage.	26 Jan 1965 - 10 July 1980
4	Liverpool Tug Owners Association: Correspondence and minutes.	23 Apr 1980 - 11 May 1988
5	General Council on British Shipping Investigation into UK towage, and correspondence.	18 Aug - 9 Sept 1980

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Ref Code:	Description	Date(s)
D/SS/11/1-4	<b><u>PORT EMPLOYERS COMMITTEE</u></b>	<b><u>1966-1984</u></b>
1	General file re dock labour, etc.	2 July 1973 - 24 Mar 1992
2	Employer's Association of Port of Liverpool Policy sub-committee report.	1984
3/1-3	<b>Booklets:</b>	
1	The Employer's Association Rules	1966
2	Dock Work Regulations Bill	1967
3	Agreement with Association of Clerical Staff	25 Aug 1971
4	Correspondence with local shipping companies re special pay awards as compensation for handling dirty or special cargoes.	8 Aug 1968 - 25 Sept 1969

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D/SS/12/1-7	<b><u>BOATMEN &amp; SHORE GANGS COMMITTEE</u></b>	<b><u>1960-1993</u></b>
1	Rules for the employment of gigboat men.	1960
2	Correspondence re mooring services	20 Sept 1973 - 7 Apr 1993
3	General correspondence re boatmen.	7 Jan 1969 - 4 Oct 1977
4	Minutes of meetings with MDHC and Boatmen and shore gang unions.	1973/1976
5	Correspondence re handling of voyage stores	21 Mar 1977
6	Reports on disputes.	9 Feb 1978 - 4 May 1978
7	Port of Liverpool Ancillary Services, terms and conditions for line handling.	4 Feb 1975

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<b>Ref Code:</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>
D/SS/13/1-7	<b><u>TRAFFIC COMMITTEE (Includes cargo and shipping documents)</u></b>	<b><u>1976-1985</u></b>
1	Minutes.	14 Dec 1976 - 31 Mar 1987
2	General correspondence including General Council on British Shipping (GCBS) et al re customs export documentation, etc.	13 Oct 1977 - 15 Nov 1985
3	List of committee members.	1983
4	Report "Simpler export documents"	1965
5	Report of the International Chamber of Shipping "Standard Formats for Bills of Lading"	1971
6	Report by Sitpro "Port Procedures"	1978
7	Report by Sitpro "The use and misuse of shipping notes"	1983

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Title of Deposit: Liverpool Steamship Owners Association		
Ref Code:	Description	Date(s)
D/SS/14/1	<b><u>GENERAL COMMITTEE</u></b>	<b><u>1990-1994</u></b>
1	Minutes.	4 Jul 1990 - 26 May 1994

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<b>Title of Deposit: Liverpool Steamship Owners Association</b>		
<b>Ref Code:</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>
D/SS/15/1-28	<b><u>SECRETARIAL CORRESPONDENCE</u></b>	<b><u>1948-1992</u></b>
1-5	<b><u>Loose Correspondence:</u></b>	<b><u>1950-1984</u></b>
1	Correspondence with shipping companies re entry of tonnage, sale of ships	3 May 1950 - 29 Jan 1958
2	Correspondence re appointment and resignation of shipping companies as members	23 May 1957 - 31 Jan 1984
3	Correspondence re relationship of Association with MDHC and possible merger with The Liverpool Shipowners' Association	21 Jan 1969 - 8 Feb 1972
4	Correspondence re EDC Port Congestion Working Group	10 Aug 1970 - 10 Nov 1971
5	Correspondence with individuals re appointment and resignation from committees and/or the Association	21 Feb 1974 - 27 Feb 1981
6-10	<b><u>Files of Correspondence:</u></b>	<b><u>1948-1969</u></b>
6	Correspondence with shipping companies re sale/transfer of ships, membership, etc.	2 Mar 1948 - 3 June 1957
7	As above	13 Mar 1958 - 3 Mar 1967
8	As above.	30 Jan 1967- 10 Dec 1969
9	Correspondence re appointment, retirement and death of individual members, etc.	13 Apr 1948 - 23 Dec 1961
10	As above.	14 Jan 1963 - 1 May 1969
11-21	<b><u>L.S.S.O.A. Circulars:</u></b>	<b><u>1971-1988</u></b>
11		30 June 1971- 12 Oct 1971
12		14 Mar - 4 July 1974
13		6 Jan - 31 Dec 1977

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<b>Ref Code:</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>
D/SS/15/1-28	<b><u>SECRETARIAL CORRESPONDENCE (cont)</u></b>	<b><u>1948 - 1992</u></b>
	<b><u>L.S.S.O.A. Circulars: (cont)</u></b>	<b><u>1971-1988</u></b>
14		13 Jan - 4 Dec 1978
15		10 Jan 1979 - 5 Dec 1979
16		8 Jan 1980 - 23 Dec 1980
17		19 Mar 1981- 11 Dec 1981
18		29 Dec 1981- 4 Sept 1982
19		14 Jan 1983 - 7 Dec 1983
20		24 Feb 1984 - 11 Dec 1986
21		26 Feb 1987 - 20 Apr 1988
22-28	<b><u>Files of Correspondence:</u></b>	<b><u>1971 - 1992</u></b>
22	General correspondence	22 May 1982 - July 1992
23	Correspondence re Merchant navy fire-fighting courses in Liverpool.	25 May 1971 - 28 Feb 1983
24	Correspondence re carriage of dangerous goods	17 Nov 1976 - 16 June 1987
25	Correspondence with Dept. of Health & Social Security re inspection of ships and derating (ie rodent removal) charges.	23 June 1980 - 7 Aug 1990
26	Correspondence with Manchester Ship Canal Users Association.	2 Feb 1985 - 7 Mar 1988

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<b>Ref Code:</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>
D/SS/15/1-28	<b><u>SECRETARIAL CORRESPONDENCE (cont)</u></b>	<b><u>1948 - 1992</u></b>
	<b><u>Files of Correspondence: (cont)</u></b>	<b><u>1971 – 1992</u></b>
27	Correspondence re Gold clause agreement.	14 July 1977- 29 Apr 1982
28	Correspondence re Conwy Tunnel (Supplementary Powers Bill)	1982

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Title of Deposit: Liverpool Steamship Owners Association		
Ref Code:	Description	Date(s)
D/SS/16/1-2	<b><u>FINANCIAL</u></b>	<b><u>1957-1991</u></b>
1	Cash book	25 Feb 1957 - 7 Apr 1966
2	Statement of accounts	31 Dec 1975 - 30 Dec 1991

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Title of Deposit: Liverpool Steamship Owners Association		
Ref Code:	Description	Date(s)
D/SS/17/1-9	<b><u>ADMINISTRATION</u></b>	<b><u>1942-1994</u></b>
1	Rules of the LSSOA, amended 1980 & 1985	1942
2	Centenary Dinner menus (x2) and invitation	1958
3	Printed vol.: <i>A Hundred Years On: History of the LSSOA</i> by L H Powell	1958
4	Articles produced for publication in <i>Journal of Commerce</i> and other newspapers & magazines	23 July 1962 - 17 Oct 1972
5	Circular to members of the General Purposes Committee re constitution of said committee	29 Dec 1971 - 14 Jan 1972
6	LSSOA membership lists and lists of committee members	c.1970-1992
7	Menus for luncheons in honour of President of the General Council on British Shipping (x15). Also guest list, news cuttings, etc.	c.1976-1994
8	Meetings signature register	24 May 1980 - 25 Apr 1986
9/1-15	<b><u>CVs and career resumes of chairmen, some with photographs:</u></b>	<b><u>(Dates=when served)</u></b>
1	Andrew Alexander	1984/85
2	H. Leslie Bowes CBE (article)	1954
3	William L. des Landes	1986/87
4	Capt. Barry W. Fowler	1986/87
5	James D.M. Forbes (no photograph)	1977
6	Charles Wilson Harrison	1978
7	R.H. Hobhouse (photograph only)	1975/76
8	E.A. Jenkins OBE	
9	Keith William Mayhew (Vice-chairman) (article)	1984/85
10	Frederick R. Orman (no photograph)	n.d.
11	Edwin S.R. Warwick (Vice-chairman)	1982/83
12	David S. Taylor “ “ (photo only)	1975/76
13	J. M Weir	1978
14	Unidentified	n.d.
15	Unidentified	n.d.

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Ref Code:	Description	Date(s)
D/SS/18/1	<b><u>H.M.CUSTOMS</u></b>	<b><u>1977-1985</u></b>
1	Correspondence re Direct Trader Input	2 Dec 1977 - 29 Aug 1985

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<b>Title of Deposit: Liverpool Steamship Owners Association</b>		
<b>Ref Code:</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>
D/SS/19/1-2	<b><u>MERSEYSIDE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE</u></b>	<b><u>1985-1993</u></b>
1	Minutes of Chamber of Commerce Port & Transport Committee.	19 Dec 1985 - 17 Feb 1993
2	Correspondence re "Conecon 1985", port subsidies, "Liverpool Land Bridge", Mersey Tunnel Tolls, etc.	30 Jul 1985 - 25 Mar 1992

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<b>Title of Deposit: Liverpool Steamship Owners Association</b>		
<b>Ref Code:</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>
D/SS/20/1-2	<b><u>LIVERPOOL SCHOOL OF TROPICAL MEDICINE</u></b>	<b><u>1960-1993</u></b>
1	File re LSSOA representatives.	15 Nov 1960 - 15 Dec 1967
2	Correspondence re termination of LSSOA involvement.	4 Feb 1987 - 29 Mar 1993

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<b>Title of Deposit: Liverpool Steamship Owners Association</b>		
<b>Ref Code:</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>
D/SS/21/1	<b><u>MERSEY DOCKS &amp; HARBOUR COMPANY</u></b>	<b><u>1984-1989</u></b>
1	Correspondence and circulars re Liverpool Free Port status, 1984, Harbour Revision Order, 1988, etc.	1984-1989

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<b>Ref Code:</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>
D/SS/22/1-5	<b><u>MISCELLANEOUS</u></b>	<b><u>1965-1993</u></b>
1	Reports by General Council on British Shipping re laid up tonnage due to lack of employment. Nos. 43-53.	31 Dec 1985 - 31 Oct 1986
2	Typescript of speech given by Sir John Brocklebank upon his appointment as chairman, and press release. (see section 4/1-20 for reports of annual meetings and chairmen's speeches).	27 Apr 1965
3	Report of the U K Chamber of Shipping "Exemption clauses in contracts. Answers to the Inquiry of the Working Party appointed by the Law Commission.	Mar 1967
4	Framed sign of the LSSOA.	n.d.
5	Limited edition print "Help at Hand" A scene from the Battle of the Atlantic painted by Les Towle and signed by Admiral Sir Nicholas Hunt GCB.LVO.1993	1993

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<b>Ref Code:</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>
D/SS/23/1-27	<b><u>MATERIAL IN MDHB COLLECTION</u></b>  This material is held in the MDHB Archive under MDHB/LEG/17/1-27.	<b><u>1903 - 1908</u></b>
	<b><u>Merchant Shipping (TD for Propelling Power) Bill</u></b>  Documents re the above	<b><u>1903 – 1908</u></b>
1	In Parliament Session 1907, correspondence.	27 Mar 1907 - 21 May 1907
2	In Parliament Session 1907, correspondence.	22 May 1907 - 3 Aug 1907
3	In Parliament Session 1907, correspondence.	6 Aug 1907 - 13 May 1908
4	Newspaper extracts (including references to move of White Star liners to Southampton).	1907
5	Notes in support of the Bill in H.L. (2 copies).	1907
6	Report and special report from the Select Committee on the Bill with the proceedings of the Committee.	17 Jul 1907
7	Correspondence (confidential) and news cuttings between W.C. Thorne and various parties re the Bill.	16 Oct 1906 - 26 Mar 1907
8	Tonnage measurements and registration of 7 varying sized vessels, including <i>Lusitania</i> , <i>Oceanic</i> and <i>Campania</i> (Cunard liners).	
9	Package containing statistics of tonnage, passengers, number of voyages per annum for various ships and shipping lines.	
10	Board's Tonnage Bills reports to Party committee.	1903 - 1904
11	Statement on behalf of dock authorities and shipowners against the motion to refer the Bill to a Select Committee (2 copies).	14 Aug 1907

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<b>Ref Code:</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>
D/SS/23/1-27	<b><u>MATERIAL IN MDHB COLLECTION</u></b> (cont)	<b><u>1903 - 1908</u></b>
	<b><u>Merchant Shipping (TD for Propelling Power) Bill</u></b> (cont)	<b><u>1903 – 1908</u></b>
12	Petitions against the Bill – shipowners and dock owners.	1907
13	Tonnage measurements - allowance for the propelling power of steamships Board of Trade.	Apr 1905
14	Memorandum (containing draft memo, 4 copies).	Apr 1907
15	Water ballast amendment, Mr. Brace's notes (3 copies).	24 June 1907
16	Lords amendments to the Bill for H.C.	23 Aug 1907
17	Observations to counsel on behalf of Mersey Docks & Harbour Board.	1907
18	Draft amendments.	15 June 1907
19	Statement showing how the gross tonnage, and the allowances from that tonnage are arrived at in the principal maritime countries.	n.d.
	<b><u>BOOKLETS</u></b>	
20	3 booklets of Parliamentary debates (Tonnage Bill).	24 May 1907 - 2 Aug 1907
21	<i>West, On the Tonnage Laws and the Assessment of Harbour Dues and Charges</i> (2 copies).	1904
22	"Tonnage Measurements Reform"; a series of articles reprinted from the <i>Liverpool Journal of Commerce</i> .	1907
23	Liverpool Steam Shipowners Association report of 1906.	11 Feb 1907
24	Liverpool Steam Shipowners Association Annual Report and list of vessels entered in the Association.	18 Feb 1907
25	Liverpool Shipbrokers' Benevolent Society 12 <sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet (D. Lloyd George, President of the Board of Trade, Guest of Honour).	8 Dec 1906
26	Liverpool Shipbrokers' Benevolent Society Annual Report, 1906.	1907

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<b>Title of Deposit: Liverpool Steamship Owners Association</b>		
<b>Ref Code:</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>
D/SS/23/1-27	<b><u>MATERIAL IN MDHB COLLECTION</u></b> (cont)	<b><u>1903 - 1908</u></b>
	<b><u>Merchant Shipping (TD for Propelling Power) Bill</u></b> (cont)	<b><u>1903 – 1908</u></b>
27	Copy of an agreement between the Admiralty, the Board of Trade, the Postmaster General and the Cunard Steamship Co., Ltd. (30 July 1903) (with the Treasury minute thereon) (31 July 1903), and Articles of Association.	1903

## **MARITIME ARCHIVES & LIBRARY**

### **D/SS/24/ Source Guide for Researchers Liverpool Steamship Owners' Association**

#### **Scope of the Collection**

Liverpool Steamship Owners' Association was established in 1858 to lobby the newly formed Mersey Docks & Harbour Board. Its membership was drawn from the leading liner companies and its history is very much the history of the deep sea liner trade. It became an influential body in national as well as local affairs, to the extent that it was often consulted by parliamentary committees on the shipping industry. In 1988 the Association merged with the Liverpool Shipowners' Association, founded in 1810, the equivalent association for sail and tramp ships. The Association is now known as the Liverpool Steamship Owners' & Agents Association.

The archive of the Association consists of the Minute Books which begin in 1858 and run through to 1964, the Annual Reports (1859-1981) and Miscellaneous Reports (1890-1965). The Minute Books are the most important record, for they are remarkable in that not only do they perform the standard function of providing an extensive and well-indexed legal record of the meetings of the Association, but they also contain much additional material enclosed in the volumes. This includes correspondence sent to the Association, reports and memoranda (confidential, official and unofficial), the Annual Reports of the Association and parliamentary legislation (and associated documents) relating to matters mercantile marine. Correspondents include the Board of Trade, Lloyd's of London, chambers of commerce, overseas steamship owners' associations and harbour and port authorities around the world. Information can be found relating to the imports into Liverpool, for example cotton and grain, commodity prices, bills of lading, etc., and also on port employment, safety at sea and other marine insurance matters, to name but a few of the subjects covered.

#### **Scope for Research**

The Minute Books, Annual Reports and Miscellaneous Reports show how wide-ranging the interests of the Association were, for example, at its outset the members were concerned with preventing competition from the railway companies operating steamship services, and thirty years later, in 1887, they were critical of the Mersey Docks & Harbour Board's arrangements for master portage. The Association was also active politically and during 1906 they lobbied the Liberal Government on its Merchant Shipping Bill. In 1925 the taxation of post-war profits was a major concern, and in 1960 the Association complained to the British Government about the "nationalistic policies of foreign governments through the adoption of flag discrimination, subsidies and other artifices designed to maintain national merchant fleets regardless of economic considerations" (Annual Report, 1960, D/SS/2/7).

The membership from its very beginning represented a "Who's Who" of the great names of both the Liverpool and national shipping scene, involved primarily from their need to represent their business interests with the formation of the MDHB. Leading on from the more general business of the Association, much can be gleaned of the members own

companies activities and interests, and of their powers both as an influential body and individually in national as well as local affairs and politics.

The records of the Association provide unrivalled scope for students wishing to study shipping in the age of the rise to world dominance of the steamship with all the associated national economic, political, industrial and social implications. The importance of the port of Liverpool in world shipping and trade does not need to be highlighted here, and the records of the Liverpool Steamship Owners' Association are therefore not only important for the study of mercantile marine on a local and national level, but also for recording the activities of a powerful organisation in world trade.

### **Disadvantages**

As with all forms of meetings minutes, those of the Steamship Owners' are only the official record of what took place in a meeting, recorded in rather concise terms. Whilst the Minute Books of the Association are unusual for the amount of correspondence and additional material which they contain, the minutes cannot give the student the complete picture of the business which went on outside the meetings, when the decisions of the Association which would very often be made before the meeting had even begun. The power of certain members both commercially and privately, their wealth and influence, their private interests, together with underlying issues, motives, tensions and alliances of members, can only be guessed at, and perhaps, from personal and/or business records, discovered elsewhere.