

Merseyside Record Office

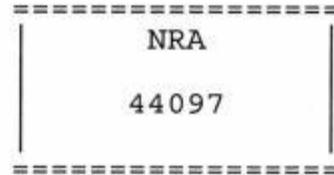
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J Blake & Co Ltd, motor agents, Liverpool

Merseyside Record Office

Central Library
William Brown Street
Liverpool L3 8EW

Correspondence address:-

Liverpool Record Office and Local History Servic

Reference no: M380 BLA

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M380 BLA

J. BLAKE AND COMPANY LIMITED

Accession Number

2002/13

Description

Records of J. Blake & Co. Ltd (M380 BLA/1), The Albany Garages Ltd. (M380 BLA/2), West Kirby Marine Services Ltd. become Blakes Marine Services Ltd. (M380 BLA/3), Blakes Motor Ltd. (M380 BLA/4) and Blakes Benevolent Trust (M380 BLA/5) including minute books, deeds, shareholding records and accounting records.

Covering dates

1896-1999

Extent

47 volumes, 41 files, 245 items

Administrative history

In 1871, Joseph Blake opened a carriage building firm in Liverpool, called 'J. Blake and Company. Logically, as motor vehicles developed, the company became involved with both using and selling this new form and transport.

In 1896, the year that the motorist was allowed to drive on the road with a man carrying a red flag preceding him, James Graham Reece took over from Joseph Blake, his father-in-law.

In 1910, J. Blake & Co. Ltd. became Merseyside's first Ford dealer. From 1908 to 1920 Blakes was in charge of the transporting of Royal Mail in and around the Liverpool area.

In the late forties, James Graham Reece was succeeded by his son, Stanley Blake Reece, and between them they opened up showrooms and workshops in Liverpool, Manchester, Birkenhead and Chester. They were distributors for several leading manufacturers, including Ford.

They also wholly owned a subsidiary company, the Albany Garages Ltd., which became Albany Lease Ltd.

The firm went into liquidation in 1998.

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Custodial history

Donated by the Blake's Benevolent Fund via the Museum of Liverpool Life in December 2002

System of arrangement

The collection is arranged as follows:

M380 BLA/1: J. Blake & Company Ltd.

M380 BLA/1/1: Corporate and Management

M380 BLA/1/2: Financial and Accounts

M380 BLA/1/3: Staff and Employment

M380 BLA/1/4: Operational

M380 BLA/1/5: Premises and Property

M380 BLA/1/6: Public Relations

M380 BLA/2: The Albany Garages Ltd.

M380 BLA/2/1: Corporate and Management

M380 BLA/2/2: Financial and Accounts

M380 BLA/2/3: Staff and Employment

M380 BLA/2/4: Operational

M380 BLA/2/5: Premises and Property

M380 BLA/3: West Kirby Marine Services Ltd. / Blakes Marine Services Ltd.

M380 BLA/3/1: Corporate and Management

M380 BLA/3/2: Financial and Accounts

M380 BLA/4: Blakes Motor Ltd., Manchester

M380 BLA/4/1: Corporate and Management

M380 BLA/4/2: Financial and Accounts

M380 BLA/5: Blakes Benevolent Trust

M380 BLA/5/1: Statement of accounts

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Access conditions

Access will be given to any accredited reader

Related material

The Museum of Liverpool Life keeps photographs about J. Blake & Co. Ltd. They are available by appointment under the following accession number: MMM2002.15.

For other photographs, see 'Photographs and Small Prints : Commerce + Industry : Firms : Blake, J., garage'.

Information about Blakes can also be found in The Liverpool and Merseyside Illustrate, Nov 1961, pp.16-17, ref. H2 050 ILL and in Illustrated Liverpool News, Nov 1965, pp.18-19, ref. H2 050 ILL.

Catalogued by

Anne-Sophie Maure

Date of cataloguing

24/01/2003

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M380 BLA/1	J. BLAKE AND COMPANY LIMITED	1896-1999
	32 volumes, 35 files, 157 items	
M380 BLA/1/1	Corporate and Management	1918-1990
	10 volumes, 1 file, 2 items	
M380 BLA/1/1/1	Minute Books & Attendance book	1922-1990
	5 volumes	
M380 BLA/1/1/1/1	Minutes of General Meeting	1922-1990
	1 volume	
M380 BLA/1/1/1/2	Minutes of Directors' Meeting	1922-1932
	1 volume	
M380 BLA/1/1/1/3	Minutes of Directors' Meeting	1933-1961
	1 volume	
M380 BLA/1/1/1/4	Minutes of Directors' Meeting	1961-1975
	1 volume	
M380 BLA/1/1/1/5	Directors' attendance book	1922-1963
	1 volume	

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M380 BLA/1/1/2	Shareholding records	1918-1973
	5 volumes, 1 file, 2 items	
M380 BLA/1/1/2/1	Memoranda and Articles of Association, 6 Apr 1922 Special Resolutions passed at extraordinary general meetings 2 items	1931-1973
M380 BLA/1/1/2/2	J. Graham Reece Ltd., register of members and share ledger 1 volume	1918-1919
M380 BLA/1/1/2/3	The Universal College of Salesmanship, register of members and share ledger 1 volume	1945-1946
M380 BLA/1/1/2/4	J. Blake & Co. Ltd., Annual Return book. 1 volume	1931-1939
M380 BLA/1/1/2/5	J. Blake & Co. Ltd., Annual Return book. 1 volume	1940-1952
M380 BLA/1/1/2/6	J. Blake & Co. Ltd., Annual Return book. 1 volume	1953-1962

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M380 BLA/1/1/2/7	Development of J. Blake & Co. Ltd., Bulletins to the shareholders, numbers 1-23 (1961-1962) and reports (1966-1967). 1 file	1961-1967
M380 BLA/1/2	Financial and Accounts 8 volumes, 2 files, 70 items	1896-1989
M380 BLA/1/2/1	Accounts 63 items	1905-1977
M380 BLA/1/2/1/1	Statement of accounts and directors' reports The years 1907-1908, 1910-1911, 1914, 1917-1921 are missing. 31 items	1905-1945
M380 BLA/1/2/1/2	Statement of accounts and directors' reports 32 items	1946-1977
M380 BLA/1/2/2	Financial records and ledgers 8 volumes, 2 files, 7 items	1896-1989
M380 BLA/1/2/2/1	Statistics by financial years 1 file	1923-1927

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M380 BLA/1/2/2/2	Reports about the J. Blake & Co. Ltd. Ford Department's financial system in 1920 (1921), the re-organisation of the accounting system (1922) and financial statements (1989) 1 file	1921-1989
M380 BLA/1/2/2/3	Private ledger 1 volume	1926-1933
M380 BLA/1/2/2/4	Private ledger 1 volume	1933-1974
M380 BLA/1/2/2/5	Bank books Bank books of Mary Ellen Blake (1883-1896), James Graham Reece (1896-1898), Ellen Reece (1896-1898), Private account (1927-1930), Security realisation account (1933-1938), Royal Exchange account (1933-1938) and account guarantee Blakes Motors Ltd. (1933-1938). 7 items	1896-1938
M380 BLA/1/2/2/6	General Journal 1 volume	1956-1986
M380 BLA/1/2/2/7	Sales Invoices Book 1 volume	1967-1975
M380 BLA/1/2/2/8	Expenditure Analysis book 1 volume	1933-1938

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M380 BLA/1/2/2/9	Expenditure Analysis book 1 volume	1967-1969
M380 BLA/1/2/2/10	Expenditure Analysis book 1 volume	1953-1968
M380 BLA/1/2/2/11	Sales book 1 volume	1967-1977
M380 BLA/1/3	Staff and Employment 5 volumes, 4 files, 13 items	1919-1999
M380 BLA/1/3/1	Salaries 4 volumes, 1 file	1919-1984
M380 BLA/1/3/1/1	Directors' wages book 1 volume	1919-1922
M380 BLA/1/3/1/2	Directors' wages book 1 volume	1922-1927
M380 BLA/1/3/1/3	Directors' wages book 1 volume	1927-1955

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M380 BLA/1/3/1/4	Directors' wages book 1 volume	1956-1984
M380 BLA/1/3/1/5	Salesmen's commission book 1 file	1956-1968
M380 BLA/1/3/2	Pension and Insurance 1 volume, 3 files, 13 items	1968-1999
M380 BLA/1/3/2/1	Pension book 1 volume	1968-1970
M380 BLA/1/3/2/2	Staff pension scheme statement of accounts 13 items	1965-1977
M380 BLA/1/3/2/3	Pension and insurance policy, tables and correspondence about the policy adopted by J. Blake & Co. Ltd. 1 file	1971-1974
M380 BLA/1/3/2/4	Directors' pension scheme and supplementary pension scheme, tables and statements of current benefits 1 file	1972

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M380 BLA/1/3/2/5	Retirement and life assurance plan, policy contracts, deeds of amendment between J. Blake and Co. Ltd and the Trustees and correspondence	1988-1999
	1 file	
M380 BLA/1/4	Operational	1906-1999
	7 volumes, 5 files, 40 items	
M380 BLA/1/4/1	Contracts and Agreements	1906-1927
	11 items	
M380 BLA/1/4/1/1	Mrs Catherine Demerley and John Graham Reece, agreements for hire of motor car and motor van.	1906
	2 items	
M380 BLA/1/4/1/2	Contracts between J. Blake & Co. Ltd. and the Postmaster general for the conveyance of mail	1906-1923
	5 items	
M380 BLA/1/4/1/3	Contracts with J. Blake & Co. Ltd.	1922-1927
	Agreement with Stanley Blake Reece for service as Ford Manager (1922); agreement with Frank Edgcumbe Boot for service as secretary (1922); agreement with William Geddes Reece for service as Manchester manager (1922) and bond with the Society of Motor Manufacturers & Traders Ltd. (1927)	
	4 items	

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M380 BLA/1/4/2	Rules and instructions	1920-1970
	7 volumes, 2 files	
M380 BLA/1/4/2/1	Regulation books	1937-1939
	5 volumes	
M380 BLA/1/4/2/1/1	Regulation book for foremen, 4th ed.	Jan 1937
	1 volume	
M380 BLA/1/4/2/1/2	Regulation book for salesmen, 5th ed.	Jan 1937
	1 volume	
M380 BLA/1/4/2/1/3	Regulation book for salesmen, 5th ed.	Jan 1938
	1 volume	
M380 BLA/1/4/2/1/4	Regulation book for foremen, 5th ed.	Jan 1938
	1 volume	
M380 BLA/1/4/2/1/5	Regulation book for salesmen, 6th ed.	Jan 1939
	1 volume	

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M380 BLA/1/4/2/2	Procedures and organisation of work	1920-1970
	2 volumes, 2 files	
M380 BLA/1/4/2/2/1	Instructions and notices to the employees and warden	1937
	1 file	
M380 BLA/1/4/2/2/2	Notebook	1920
	1 volume	
M380 BLA/1/4/2/2/3	Relations with Ford	1926-1970
	Report about the 'Application for the appointment of J. Blake & Co. Ltd. as truck specialist dealers in Liverpool' (1970), correspondence (1953-1963) and newspaper cuttings (1926-1951) about the Ford Model T.	
	1 file	
M380 BLA/1/4/2/2/4	Pool vehicles book	1942-1945
	1 volume	
M380 BLA/1/4/3	Correspondence	1920-1999
	3 files, 29 items	
M380 BLA/1/4/3/1	Correspondence with clients and suppliers	1923-1924
	1 file	

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M380 BLA/1/4/3/2	Correspondence and notes about the J. Blake & Co. Ltd. facilities for repairing aircraft 17 items	1939-1944
M380 BLA/1/4/3/3	Letters of J. Blake & Co. Ltd. about cars registration 12 items	1929-1939
M380 BLA/1/4/3/4	Correspondence about Axial transporter and delivery problems Letters, notes, charts and a floppy disk about the delivery schedules and the turnaround in new and used car sales performance. 1 file	1966-1999
M380 BLA/1/4/3/5	General correspondence 1 file	1920-1999
M380 BLA/1/5	Premises and Property 13 files, 9 items	1893-1960
M380 BLA/1/5/1	Kirkby Lease of a building in Kirkby, J. Blake & Co. Ltd. to the British Trailer Ltd. (1947), contract for the sale of a piece of land in Kirkby between the City of Liverpool and J. Blake & Co. Ltd. (1951) and correspondence about Kirkby Trading Estate 1 file	1947-1951

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- M380 BLA/1/5/2 Claughton Rd. and Eastbourne Rd., Birkenhead 1921-1922
- Agreement as to ancient lights with several neighbours (1921); solicitors' bill of costs (1922); deposit of deeds to secure account, power of attorney and declaration of trust by J. Blake & Co. Ltd. to Barclays Bank Ltd. (1922); agreement to prevent the acquisition of a right to affix a chimney stack between James Bentley and J. Blake & Co. Ltd.; tenancy agreement of premises in Eastbourne St., Birkenhead between Arthur Lievesley Major and J. Blake & Co. Ltd. and correspondence related to this act; correspondence about the purchase of a property on Hind St., Birkenhead
- 1 file
- M380 BLA/1/5/3 Brownlow Hill, Liverpool 1916-1925
- Lease of business premises on Brownlow Hill, between J. Stevenson Jones and Evan Cooke and Henry Hughes (1916); agreements to let and take premises on Brownlow Hill between Holdowery Co., estate agents, and James Higginbotten (1924-1925)
- 1 file
- M380 BLA/1/5/4 Purchase of a property on Hardman St. and South Hunter St., Liverpool 1955-1960
- Plans, correspondence and preliminary inquiries
- 1 file
- M380 BLA/1/5/5 Edge Lane, Liverpool 1921
- Lease of land and premises on Edge Lane between the City of Liverpool and James Graham Reece
- 1 file

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- M380 BLA/1/5/6 Agreements related to neighbourhood relationship in 1922-1926
different lands and buildings
- Duplicate of an agreement with the Post Office
Telegraph about the placing of a cable and a board on a
walls in Liverpool (1926); agreement with London
Midland and Scottish Railway to have a monthly credit
amount for the carriage of merchandise at Liverpool
and Birkenhead station (1923); agreements with Misses
Endowes for the right to paint an advertisement on a
wall in Irlam (1922; 1926); agreement with David
Alletsons Bill Posting Ltd. to allow to affix bills,
posters and advertisements on a wall (1925)
- 1 file
- M380 BLA/1/5/7 Sale of a business 1897-1922
- Photographic copies of an assignment of business,
stock, goodwill, plant, book, debts, etc. between Joseph
Blake & James G. Reece (1897) and signed picture of
Henry Ford ; agreement between J. Blake & Co. Ltd.
and John Herbert Hebletwaite and Arthur S. Thew
(1903); agreement between J. Blake & Co. Ltd., in
liquidation, and E. J. Walker, the liquidator, to James
G. Reece (1905); agreement between James Graham
Reece and J. Blake & Co. Ltd. (1922)
- 1 file
- M380 BLA/1/5/8 Mary Ellen Blake estate 1893-1896
- Will and testament and probate
- 2 items

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M380 BLA/1/5/9	Land in Blackfriars St., Salford Leases between Edward Plett Higgins and others and James G. Reece (1914) and J. Blake & Co. Ltd. (1923) 2 items	1914-1923
M380 BLA/1/5/10	Correspondence and bill costs for various premises 1 file	1903-1927
M380 BLA/1/5/11	Rental of premises on Albion St. and Dale St., Liverpool Letters to the Municipal Buildings office 1 file	1911-1921
M380 BLA/1/5/12	Rent accounts 1 file	1923-1942
M380 BLA/1/5/13	Estate of Mrs Ellen Reece Report written by the accountants and accounts of the executor of Ellen Reece 3 items	1921-1932
M380 BLA/1/5/14	Claim forms for a payment in respect of depreciation of 1949 land values 1 file	

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M380 BLA/1/5/15	Estate of Merfyn Rhys Parry Income accounts and general statement from 1949 until 1956 1 file	1951-1956
M380 BLA/1/5/16	Construction of car park and ramp on Maryland St., Liverpool, plans 2 items	n.d.
M380 BLA/1/5/17	Bentley Rd., Liverpool Correspondence about the sale of premises 1 file	1984-1986
M380 BLA/1/5/18	Photographs of premises and garages Photographs of the service station and workshop in Edge Lane, Liverpool, of the Ford showroom, managing director's office and accessory department on Bold Street, Liverpool, of the engineering shop on Dale St., Liverpool, of the Showroom, in the Royal Exchange Arcade, Manchester, of the private car service depot and garage on Altkinson St., Manchester, of the machine shop on Blackfriars Rd., Manchester, of the Albany Garages on Queen Street, Liverpool, of a Blake advertising van, of unidentified land and buildings 1 file	n.d.

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M380 BLA/1/6	Public Relations	1918-1999
	2 volumes, 10 files, 23 items	
M380 BLA/1/6/1	Publicity and ceremonies	1960-1996
	6 files, 23 items	
M380 BLA/1/6/1/1	Birkenhead Garages	1962-1985
	Photographs, letters and newspaper cuttings about Cloughton Road garage and its demolition (1962-1973) and Hind Street garage and its opening (1973-1985)	
	1 file	
M380 BLA/1/6/1/2	Blakex' 70	1969
	Correspondence, invitation, notes, leaflets and newspaper cuttings about the exhibition with motor sport and the fashion show organised by J. Blake & Co. Ltd.	
	1 file	
M380 BLA/1/6/1/3	Blakes Diamond Jubilee	1970
	Menu, correspondence and guests list	
	1 file	
M380 BLA/1/6/1/4	Prescot Street garage, Liverpool	1981-1985
	Photographs, letters and newspaper cuttings about the opening of the garage	
	1 file	

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M380 BLA/1/6/1/5	General Publicity Menus, poster, history of the company, road atlas published by the company and guests lists 1 file	1960-1993
M380 BLA/1/6/1/6	Track day at Oulton Park celebrating Blake's 125th anniversary Thank you letters 18 items	1996
M380 BLA/1/6/1/7	Leaflet and photographs related to the Euro Auto-Challenge 5 items	1992
M380 BLA/1/6/1/8	Photographs of ceremonies and people Photographs of Joseph Blake, ceremonies, directors and staff, and of the VIe Rallye Lyon-Charbonnieres in 1953 and the XXIIe Rallye de Monte-Carlo in 1958 1 file	n.d.
M380 BLA/1/6/2	Newspaper Cuttings 2 volumes, 4 files	1918-1999
M380 BLA/1/6/2/1	'Scrapbook' Newspaper cuttings about Greece and Blake families and J. Blake Company 1 volume	1918-1928

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M380 BLA/1/6/2/2	Newspaper cuttings about J. Blake & Co. Ltd. 1 file	1950-1999
M380 BLA/1/6/2/3	Newspaper cuttings of Ford retailers' advertisements and J. Blake & Co. Ltd. advertisements 1 volume, 1 file	1964-1970
M380 BLA/1/6/2/4	Newspaper cuttings about Liverpool 1 file	1963-1971
M380 BLA/1/6/2/5	Newspaper cuttings about Ford and cars 1 file	1949-1998
M380 BLA/2	THE ALBANY GARAGES LTD. 9 volumes, 2 files, 63 items	1924-1982
M380 BLA/2/1	Corporate and Management 4 volumes, 1 file, 9 items	1924-1982
M380 BLA/2/1/1	Directors' attendance book 1 volume	1927-1970

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M380 BLA/2/1/2	Shareholding Records	1924-1982
	3 volumes, 1 file, 9 items	
M380 BLA/2/1/2/1	Memoranda and Articles of Association. Special resolutions passed at extraordinary general meetings.	1924-1979
	3 items	
M380 BLA/2/1/2/2	Letters of allotment to Stanley Blake Reece and James Graham Reece	1928-1930
	6 items	
M380 BLA/2/1/2/3	Annual return book	1932-1941
	1 volume	
M380 BLA/2/1/2/4	Annual return book	1950-1959
	1 volume	
M380 BLA/2/1/2/5	Annual return book (1960-1968) and photocopies of the 1960-1982 annual return forms (1971-1982)	
	1 volume, 1 file	

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M380 BLA/2/2	Financial and Accounts	1924-1974
	4 volumes, 48 items	
M380 BLA/2/2/1	Statement of accounts and directors' reports	1925-1972
	48 items	
M380 BLA/2/2/2	Expenditure analysis book	1924-1926
	1 volume	
M380 BLA/2/2/3	Expenditure analysis book	1937-1974
	1 volume	
M380 BLA/2/2/4	General journal	1923-1956
	1 volume	
M380 BLA/2/2/5	General journal	1924-1974
	1 volume	
M380 BLA/2/3	Staff and Employment	1924-1929
	1 volume	
M380 BLA/2/3/1	Wages book	1924-1929
	1 volume	

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M380 BLA/2/4	Operational	1924-1935
	1 file, 3 items	
M380 BLA/2/4/1	Correspondence, reports and lists about the organisation 1934-1935 of work	
	1 file	
M380 BLA/2/4/2	Drafts of agreement for service of managing directors between the Albany Garages Ltd., James Graham Reece and Stanley Blake Reece	1924
	3 items	
M380 BLA/2/5	Premises and Property	1924-1933
	3 items	
M380 BLA/2/5/1	No45 Old Hall St., Liverpool	1924-1933
	Lease, deed and indenture between the Liverpool Warehousing Company Ltd. and James Graham Reece and Stanley Blake Reece	
	2 items	
M380 BLA/2/5/2	Vendors agreement between J. G. Reece and S. B. Reece and the Albany Garages Ltd.	1924
	1 item	

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M380 BLA/3	WEST KIRBY MARINE SERVICES LTD. AND BLAKES MARINE SERVICES LTD.	1969-1990
	3 volumes, 4 files, 8 items	
M380 BLA/3/1	Corporate and Management	1969-1990
	2 volumes, 4 files, 1 item	
M380 BLA/3/1/1	Minute book and register of members	1969-1990
	2 volumes	
M380 BLA/3/1/1/1	West Kirby Marine Services Ltd. minute book	1969-1990
	1 volume	
M380 BLA/3/1/1/2	Blakes Commercial Services Ltd. register of members	1969-1990
	1 volume	
M380 BLA/3/1/2	Shareholding Records	1969-1981
	4 files, 1 item	
M380 BLA/3/1/2/1	West Kirby Marine Services Ltd., Memorandum and Articles of Association	1969
	1 item	
M380 BLA/3/1/2/2	Blakes Marine and Leisure Ltd., Memorandum and Articles of Association and correspondence	1973
	1 file	

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- M380 BLA/3/1/2/3 Share certificates for West Kirby Marine Services Ltd. 1969-1981
(1969-1981) and Blakes Marine and Leisure Ltd.
(1973)
1 file
- M380 BLA/3/1/2/4 Stock transfer forms, correspondence about the transfer, 1972-1973
ordinary resolution, return of allotment, contract
relating the shares allotted and reports of directors'
meetings and notification of change of directors in
Blakes Marine and Leisure Ltd.
1 file
- M380 BLA/3/1/2/5 Annual return 1972-1982
Copies of forms of annual return of West Kirby Marine
Services Ltd. (1972-1973) and Blakes Marine and
Leisure Ltd. (1974-1982). The years 1978 and 1980 are
missing.
1 file
- M380 BLA/3/2 Financial and Accounts 1971-1973**
1 volume, 7 items
- M380 BLA/3/2/1 Blakes Marine and Leisure Ltd. 1973-1979
Statement of accounts and directors' reports
7 items
- M380 BLA/3/2/2 West Kirby Marine Services Ltd., bank book 1971-1973
1 volume

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M380 BLA/4	BLAKES MOTOR LTD., MANCHESTER	1922-1968
	3 volumes, 8 items	
M380 BLA/4/1	Corporate and Management	1922-1961
	2 volumes, 2 items	
M380 BLA/4/1/1	Minute book and register of members	1922-1948
	2 volumes	
M380 BLA/4/1/1/1	Plymouth Garage Ltd., Manchester, minute book	1922-1948
	1 volume	
M380 BLA/4/1/1/2	Plymouth Garage Ltd., Manchester, register of members and share ledger	1922-1944
	1 volume	
M380 BLA/4/1/2	Shareholding Records	1930-1961
	2 items	
M380 BLA/4/1/2/1	Blakes Motors Ltd.	1930-1956
	Memoranda, Articles of Association and Special Resolutions passed at extraordinary general meetings	
	2 items	

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M380 BLA/4/2	Financial and Accounts	1922-1968
	1 volume, 6 items	
M380 BLA/4/2/1	Blakes Motors Ltd., Statement of accounts	1942-1961
	For the following years: 1942, 1945, 1948, 1950, 1953 and 1961	
	6 items	
M380 BLA/4/2/2	Blakes Motors Ltd., private ledger	1922-1968
	1 volume	
M380 BLA/5	BLAKES BENEVOLENT TRUST	1962-1972
	9 items	
M380 BLA/5/1	Statement of accounts	1962-1972
	The following years are missing: 1970 and 1971	
	9 items	