

NATIONAL MUSEUMS **LIVERPOOL**

MARITIME ARCHIVES & LIBRARY

BOOKER LINE

Ref. Code: B/BOK

Acc. No.: 1984.509

**Listed By
Margaret Evans, June 1989
Relisted by Sarah Starkey, Curator of Maritime Archives
October 2008**

MARITIME ARCHIVES & LIBRARY

BOOKER LINE

INTRODUCTION

Josiah Booker, son of a Lancashire miller, started as a sugar planter in Demerara (Guyana) in 1815. He set up a Liverpool office in 1832 and sent his first ship to Demerara in 1835. In 1867 the firm started the “Liverpool Line” as a regular direct service and in 1900 merged with McConnell, another sugar firm. In 1911 it changed the name of its cargo liner service to the Booker Line on the purchase of its first steamer. The company operated coastal vessels in Guyana and in 1955 bought the Liverpool coasting shipowners, S. William Coe & Co. and then Metcalf Motor Coasters in 1972. The Line continued after 1976 (when the company handed over its sugar interests to the government of Guyana) until 1981. Coe-Metcalf, the British coasting fleet, was sold to J. Fisher & Co. of Barrow.

This small collection includes 2 cargo books, advertising material and black & white photographs.

The collection is accessible to any reader within the Maritime Archives and Library Searchroom.

MARITIME ARCHIVES & LIBRARY

BOOKER LINE

CONTENTS

1/1-6	Company Records	1842-1977
2/1-8	Photographs & Drawings	[1828]-c.1963
3/1-3	Publications & Advertisements	pre 1966-1977

MARITIME ARCHIVES & LIBRARY

Title of Deposit: **Booker Line**

Ref. Code	Description	Date(s)
B/BOK/1-3	<u>BOOKER LINE</u>	<u>1828-1977</u>
1/1-6	<u>Company Records</u>	<u>1842-1977</u>
1	Certification of agreed monthly wages to John Wilson for intended service on sailing vessel <i>John Horrocks</i> , signed by Josias Booker.	7 Sept 1842
2	Cargo book.	1954-1957
3	Cargo book.	1957-1960
4	Letter from Booker Line concerning landing, storage and delivery charges at Georgetown, Guyana.	2 Nov 1977
5	Map of the Caribbean with chart for marking hurricane information, Booker Line.	n.d.
6	Crest with inscription, presented on the occasion of the christening of Amakura at Smiths Dock Co Ltd. [missing]	1 Mar 1949

MARITIME ARCHIVES & LIBRARY

Title of Deposit: Booker Line		
Ref. Code	Description	Date(s)
B/BOK/1-3	<u>BOOKER LINE</u>	<u>1828-1977</u>
2/1-8	<u>Photographs & Drawings</u>	<u>[1828]-c.1963</u>
1	Coloured prints, views of Liverpool. From the Boydell Galleries – New Baths and Parade, Liverpool Docks, Water Street. 3 items framed.	n.d. [1828-1829]
2	Booker Line calendar with coloured drawings of <i>Imataka</i> .	1913
3	Advertising poster, Booker Bros., McConnell & Co., Ltd. contributions to British Guiana – Sugar, Ships, Rum & Shops. Framed, 10" x 12".	c.1950
4	Black and white photograph of <i>Arawai</i> . Also frame that photograph has been removed from.	n.d.
5	Black and white photograph, mounted, of <i>Booker Valiance</i> , in River Mersey.	n.d.
6	Black and white photograph, mounted, of <i>Booker Vanguard</i> .	n.d., c.1963
7	Black and white photograph, mounted, of <i>Booker Venture</i> .	n.d., c.1961
8	Black and white photographs, mounted, of La Penitence Wharf at Georgetown, Guyana. 2 items.	n.d.

MARITIME ARCHIVES & LIBRARY

Title of Deposit: **Booker Line**

Ref. Code	Description	Date(s)
B/BOK/1-3	<u>BOOKER LINE</u>	<u>1828-1977</u>
3/1-3	<u>Publications</u>	<u>pre 1966-1977</u>
1	<i>A Modern Wharf for the Port of Georgetown, British Guiana.</i> Bookers Shipping (Demerara Ltd.). 2 copies.	pre 1966
2	Booker Line 1835 – 1978. Reprinted from the October 1977 edition of <i>Sea Breezes</i> magazine, volume 51, number 382. 2 copies.	1977
3	<i>Sea Breezes</i> magazine, volume 51, number 382.	1977