

GLAMORGAN RECORD OFFICE/ARCHIFDY MORGANNWG

Reference code: GB 0214 D331

Title: JOHN MOREL GIBBS

Dates : 1778-1988

Level of description: Fonds

Extent and medium: 0.4 cubic metres (13 boxes, 3 rolls)

Name of creator:
John Morel Gibbs

Administrative/biographical history

Immediate source of acquisition

National Museums and Galleries of Wales, Cardiff

Scope and content

The largest proportion of this collection consists of research papers and copies compiled for the publication of *Morels of Cardiff. The History of a Family Shipping Firm* by John Morel Gibbs (National Museum of Wales, Cardiff, 1982). These include both original documents, original manuscript notes and drafts, photocopies and photographic copies apparently arranged according to the method of research and the order of chapters in the publication. As a consequence, any relationship between original records and original sequence has been lost. Most files and bundles of papers have mixed together original records, research notes and copies of original records. Assigning dates to the files, bundles and sometimes individual items has proved difficult. Any identifiable dates for copies of original records documents are given in the body of the text. Overall dates in the right-hand columns apply to original documents and the dates when the research notes and files when they were compiled. Applying dates to the research notes is generally difficult since they were compiled over a period of several years; estimated dates should be interpreted loosely.

Appraisal, destruction and scheduling information

All records which meet the collection policy of the Glamorgan Record Office have been retained.

Accruals

Accruals are not expected

System of arrangement

Records are listed according to the sequence of transfer with minor rearrangements.

Conditions governing access

Items containing information on named individuals may be restricted in accordance with the Data Protection Act and Record Office policy

Conditions governing reproduction

Normal Glamorgan Record Office conditions apply.

Language/scripts of material

English, French

Physical characteristics and technical requirements

See list below

Finding aids

Detailed list available.

Existence and location of originals**Existence and location of copies****Related units of description****Publication note**

The papers were gathered and arranged in preparation for a publication *Morels of Cardiff. The History of a Family Shipping Firm* by John Morel Gibbs (National Museum of Wales. Cardiff, 1982).

Note**Archivist's note**

Compiled by Richard Morgan for the Glamorgan Record Office, with reference to *Morels of Cardiff* by John Morel Gibbs (National Museum of Wales. Cardiff 1982)

Rules or conventions

This description follows Glamorgan Record Office guidelines based on ISAD(G) compatible cataloguing guidelines for fonds level descriptions used by the Archives Network Wales.

Date of description

October 2004

Dates specified in this list for research papers and publication drafts are the identifiable modern dates or estimated modern dates when the papers were gathered and compiled but many bundles and files contain original items of earlier periods. The dates of these are given within the body of the description

D331/1	Newspaper cuttings including obituaries 1935-1960; photographs; original papers including illustrated cheque for Morel Frères et Compagnie, Cardiff (established 1865); historical notes and transcripts; and ships' specifications [1 bdle formerly held in vol; fair condition]	? -c.1982
D331/2-12	Notes, correspondence, cuttings etc gathered in research and drafting of publication [11 bdles formerly held in 11 vols; fair condition]	? -1982
D331/13-19	'Post Books'. Post publication correspondence and notes [7 bdles formerly held in 7 vols; fair condition]	1982-1988
D331/20	Photographs, negatives, and postcards marked 'Places – Cardiff, Waterford, Portland' [1 bdle; fair condition]	c.1971 and later
D331/21	'Morel Ships': photographs and cuttings, 1936 and other dates [1 bdle formerly 1 vol; fair condition]	c.1979
D331/22	Historical notes for talks on the Morels of Cardiff [1 file; fair condition]	c.1980-c.1982
D331/23	Cuttings, correspondence, postcards and photographs [1 file; fair condition]	1987-c.1988
D331/24	Notes on the Goldsworthy and Hannah families, photographs, war diary, genealogical notes and other papers, c.1829-c.1982 [1 file; fair condition]c.1983
D331/25	Notes on the Goldsworthy and Lean families of Cornwall, cuttings, postcards, photographs, printed publications, letters and related papers, c.1839-c.1982 [1 file; fair condition]	c.1979-c.1982

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| D331/26 | Notes on the Morel family and copy of pedigree, and large photocopies, c.1956-c.1982
[1 bdle; poor condition] | c.1979-c.1982 |
| D331/27 | 'Early Jersey' and 'Morel & Stuart Farm': cuttings 1939; publication <i>Generous Gift to Jersey National Trust. Farm with a history</i> – Morel Farm no date; with photographs c.1939; The National Trust for Jersey <i>Annual Report</i> 1838 and <i>Jersey Silver Jubilee</i> booklet 1936-1961; notes and correspondence
[1 vol; poor, fair condition] | c.1939-c.1970? |
| D331/28 | 'Morel Frères': illustrated cheque after 1865; copy of agreement of John Angel Gibbs of Cardiff with Philip Morel and Thomas Morel to serve as cashier and bookkeeper 11 October 1869; report of ... Farrell, clerk and bookkeeper to Morel Bros & Co, 10 February 1876; bill of sale of ship 'Ebenezer' of Cardiff 1869; apprenticeship agreement of Samuel Vivian Rowe as ship broker 1867; sale agreement of no.1 Windsor Esplanade 1870; bill of sale of ship 'Milo' 1870; bill of sale of 'Gertrude' 1871 to Philip Morel; charter papers of ships 1872; purchase agreement (in French) of iron ore mines near Santander, Spain, 1874; insurance certificate of 14 Park Place 1871; insurance certificate of 'John Peile' 1878; and other papers
[1 vol; fair condition] | c.1865-1878 |
| D331/29 | 'Main Research Documents on Jean, Philip and Thomas Morel' with transcripts; genealogical notes; photographs; letters; insurance papers; extracts from 'Men of the Period' of Morel Bros & Co Ltd; cuttings; extracts from journal <i>The Syren & Shipping</i> on Thomas Morel 1898; agreement of French shipbrokers and John Morel as broker regarding uniform tariff and fees on French vessels entering Cardiff 1871
[1 vol; fair/good condition] | c.1871-1956 |
| D331/30 | 'Correspondence and interviews about Research 1975' 'Book 1 Introduction'.
[1 vol; fair condition] | 1979-1980 |
| D331/31 | Morels of Cardiff. Unfiled papers including plan of marine approaches to Puerto de Bilbao 1984; list of securities 1949; The West Wales Steamship Co. Ltd. annual report 1954; 'A Welsh Family Shipowning Venture' by P.M. Heaton (1977); anc cuttings
[1 bdle; fair condition] | 1949, 1954,
1977-1984 |

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D331/32	Notes on Morel ships [1 file; fair condition]	c.1980
D331/33	Bute Shipbuilding & Engineering Co. Copy of prospectus 1865; letter from dock manager 1886; cutting of article by Special Commissioner 1886; J.A. Gibbs Testimonial from 'Sea Captain' <u>missing</u> [1 file; fair/poor condition]	1865,1886
D331/34	Copies of letters from Thomas Morel to wife and daughter from Hôtel Nouvel, Vichy, France; and related notes [1 bdle; fair condition]	1871-1903
D331/35	Biographical notes on John Angel Gibbs (1876-1888) for 'Chapters Morel Frères & Co., The First Steamship' [1 bdle; fair condition]	1979-1980
D331/36	Copies of letters to Dowlais Iron Co, regarding Bute Shipbuilding Co. 1887-1890 and paupers, with notes; 'The Western Mail' Jubilee supplement: 'Cardiff Fifty Years a City' 1955; and 'Western Mail' 1976 on Cardiff ship repairs, etc [1 bdle; fair condition]	1955, 1976, c.1979-c.1980
D331/37	Notes and correspondence on Dowlais Iron Co. and Bute Shipbuilding and Engineering Co., c.1879-1891 [1 file; poor condition]	c.1979-C.1980
D331/38	Notes and transcripts regarding the Dowlais Iron Co, c.1861-c.1903 [1 file; poor condition]	c.1979-c.1980
D331/39	'The First Steamship': papers regarding SS Colstrop, and SS Portugalete; sale of J.A. Gibbs's shares; contract; specification; and notes on William Gibb, c.1837-c.1886 [1 file; fair condition]	c.1979-c.1980

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| D331/40 | Photograph of office in Butetown, Cardiff; photograph (copy) of SS Blaenavon; notes on Angel family; contract (in French) for sale of briquettes 1871; bill of sale of SS Dowlais 1879; agreement (in French) 1872 regarding carriage of steam coal to France; letters from William Benjamin Gibbs; letters to Lady Morel from her brother W.B. Gibbs, 1899-1900; annual report of directors of the Pontypridd Steamship Co. Ltd. 1925; two lists of steamers (specifying name, date of building, tonnage, value) 1885; shares and debentures by late Sir T. Morel 1903
[1 bdle; fair condition] | 1871- 1925 and n.d. |
| D331/41 | Research notes on ships made at Greenwich Maritime Museum, 1885-1905
[1 file; fair condition] | 1980 |
| D331/42 | Copies of papers regarding winding-up of Morel Ltd. 1956-1960, and 'The New Company' Morel Ltd., 1948, and other papers
[1 file; fair condition] | c.1979-c.1980 |
| D331/43 | Notes and copies relating to will of Thomas Morel and holdings, 1903
[1 file; fair condition] | c.1979-c.1980 |
| D331/44, 45 | 'Sailors of the Old School': notes on William Marshall of Clovelly (1805-1886+), sea captain; transcript of his 'Brief Biography'; note on manuscript of 'Sailors of the Old School' by Marshall; with loose correspondence, and Proceedings of the Wesley Historical Society 1980
[2 files; good condition] | 1980-1981 |
| D331/46 | Papers relating to discussion with Bob Lee of Penarth regarding map sent to 'S.G.G.' following death of her husband John Angel Gibbs, Welch Regiment, in World War I, 1917
[1 file; fair condition] | 1982 |
| D331/47 | Modern copy of typescript 'Extract from the remarkable career of a well-known athlete': autobiography of Edward Fideli Kennard with reminiscences of his experiences and life in Cardiff 1852-1912 | c.1980 |
| D331/48 | Extracts from ships' log-books 'Gertrude' 1871, 'Colstrup' 1878-1886, and related notes on shipping history; extract from Penarth District Local History Society 1980; notes on History of the Port of Cardiff
[1 bdle; fair condition] | 1980 |

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D331/49	P & O annual report and accounts 1 [1 printed booklet; good condition]	1979
D331/50	Reardon Smith Line Ltd. Report of the Directors and Statement of accounts [1 printed booklet; good condition]	1979
D331/51	Lloyd's List extracts regarding John Angel Gibbs 1872- 1880, Morel Ltd., ships, other companies, valuations and related papers and notes [[1 bdle; fair condition]	1980
D331/52	Photograph of memorial card for John Angel Gibbs (d. 11 April 1884) from Master Mariners of Morel Bros. Ltd. & Co. to Mrs Gibbs and her children, 1884 [1 print on card; poor condition]	1980
D331/53	Loose papers: genealogical notes on Pearce, Angel, Hinde and Morel families, including description of genealogy of Pearce family 1796-1855 [1 bdle; fair and poor condition]	c.1976-1980
D331/54	File of papers returned by Martin G. Finch, Little Somerford, Wiltshire, to 'Dear Sheila; and notes on Finch and Hibbert families, relatives of Morel family [1 bdle; fair condition]	1980
D331/55	Notes on the Morel family, Gibbs family, and others, taken from directories 1885-1927, with other genealogical notes [1 file; fair condition]	c.1979-1980
D331/56	'Thomas Morel. VII. The Visit to Tenerife 1892'. Drafts with original letters and transcripts [1 file; fair condition]	c.1978-c.1979
D331/57	Notes from historical reference books, 1939-1980 [1 bdle; fair condition]	c.1980-c.1981
D331/58, 59	Memorandum and Articles of Association of Morel Ltd. 2 copies [2 printed booklets; good condition]	1948

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| D331/60 | <p>'Gibbs and Company': later history after J.A. Gibbs's death and correspondence with Patrick Gibbs. Notes; copies from printed publications; Steamship Co. Ltd.; original letters to John Morel Gibbs regarding The West Wales Steamship Co. Ltd. 1990; directors' reports and financial statements of West Wales Steamship Group plc 1977, 1979, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1993; copy of letter from 'John' to Patrick Gibbs 1991 regarding will of father; cuttings regarding Reginald Patrick Mahoney Gibbs, DFC, 1942; photocopy of 'Not Peace but a Sword' by Wing-Comdr R.P.M. Gibbs, n.d.; 2 photographs at Oriel College, Oxford, 1991; photocopies of parts of 'The Ship Busters' 1940-1944 regarding war career of Patrick Gibbs
[1 bdle; fair condition]</p> | 1942, 1977-1993 |
| D331/61 | <p>Copies of obituaries, with notes, of various members of Gibbs Family and pedigree of Gibbs of Portland, co Dorset, down to 1928
[1 file; fair condition]</p> | c.1980 |
| D331/62 | <p>Philip Morel's obituary and notes on him
[1 file; good condition]</p> | c.1979-c.1980 |
| D331/63 | <p>Papers described as ' "First Steamship". SS Galdames. del[ivered?]: Jan 1878'; with articles of agreement, specification, correspondence and two plans, sale of shares by J.A. Gibbs to Philip Morel, ?London agents Edward Holden, Langbourne Chambers, 17 Fenchurch St.' Agreement 1877, contract, plan, specifications 1878, to build an iron steamship; bill of sale of SS Galdames 1879; transcripts of correspondence 1877; contract for ship
[1 bdle; fair condition]</p> | 1878-1889 |
| D331/64 | <p>File of original documents relating to 'subsidiary companies ... To support Chapter "The First Steamship" '
Bills of sale of SS Beignon 1879, and Cyfarthfa 1880; sale agreements of SS Pontypridd 1883, Treherbert 1883, Penarth 1885, Jersey 1885, Aberdare 1882, Merthyr 1882, Gardépée 1882, Collivaud 1882, Rhymney 1882, Portugalete 1882, and Longueil 1882
[1 bdle; fair condition]</p> | 1876-1888 |
| D331/65 | <p>Morel Bros. minutes book (up to liquidation)
[1 vol; fair condition]</p> | 1888-1949 |

JOHN MOREL GIBBS**D331**

D331/66	Annual reports of subsidiary companies [1 file; fair condition]	1922-1926
D331/67	'Holdings in the SS Longueil 1884. "The First Steamship" '. Papers regarding shareholders and notes [1 file; fair condition]	1884
D331/68	' "The First Steamship". Coal & pitprop contracts' [1 file; fair condition]	1876
D331/69	' "The First Steamship". Unimportant' Miscellaneous original papers regarding Morel Bros. including mounted cheque [1 bdle; fair and poor condition]	1875-1884
D331/70	' "The First Steamship". The Vero Affaire 1884' regarding shares , Mr Vero of Rochelle and removal of his name from registers of Morel Bros. subsidiaries 1884, and drafts for 'The First Steamship 1876-1888 [1 bdle; fair condition]	c.1980
D331/71	Loose papers regarding SS Gertrude and coal for Algeria 1874; loan by captain of SS Penero to trade between Bilbao and Cardiff 1871; letter 1876 to Morel Frères et Co. from J. Rufrire de Unibrum regarding various ships and iron ore work [1 file; poor condition]	1871-1876
D331/72	Bundle of photocopies of crew agreements [in the Glamorgan Record Office] for SS Colstrup, 1871-1886 [1 bdle; fair condition]	[1871-1886] c.1980
D331/73	Bundle of photocopies of crew agreements for SS Maria Needham 1871-1876, with two insurance policies 1871, contract for sale 1871, two bills of sale 1873, and mortgage 1873 [1 bdle; fair condition]	1871-1873, [1871-1876] c.1980
D331/74	Photocopies of crew agreements for SS Gertrude, 1871-1873 [1 bdle; fair condition]	[1871-1873] c.1980
D331/75, 76	Specification for iron screw steamer SS Dowlais and for inverted direct acting compound screw engine [2 files; fair condition]	1878

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D331/77	Notebook arranged alphabetically recording names of Morel Bros. ships, date of building, builder, registered weight, dimensions, type of engine, etc. 1868-1941, compiled 1871-1941 [1 booklet; fair condition]	1868-1941
D331/78	Volume of original records compiled entitled 'Morel, Le Moignan, Early Jersey', containing deeds from 1778; records relating to Société Méthodiste Wesleyenne 1875, 1878; correspondence to John Gibbs 1939-1975 [1 vol; fair condition]	1778-1975
D331/79	Plan and section of SS Colstrup [1 tracing in plastic film; poor condition]	1874
D331/80	Plan and section of SS Portugalette [1 tracing in plastic film; poor condition]	
D331/81	Plan and section of unidentified ship [1 tracing in plastic film; poor condition]	c.1874-c.1877
D331/82	Drawings of two gib winches by G.K. Stothert, engineers, Bristol [1 tracing in plastic film; poor condition]	c.1870-c.1880
D331/83	Plan of unidentified forecastle [1 tracing in plastic film; poor condition]	c.1870-c.1880
D331/84	Photograph of Cardiff Chamber of Commerce [1 rolled photograph; poor condition]	1919
D331/85	Facsimile of District Plan of Cardiff and Penarth 1869 [1 rolled paper; fair condition]	c.1980