

## Library of Birmingham Archives & Collections

Source list for documents referring to  
**PORTUGAL**

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### From the Archives of Soho collections:

#### MS 3219: Papers of James Watt & Family:

'In **Lisbon** ye 4th March **1750** @ Milbreis

Invoice of the cost & Charges of the two pipes of white wine & twenty Chests of Lemons marked as per margent Shiped aboard of the Ann Capt[ain] William Alexander by his order & forward of Messrs Robert Finlay & Co of Glasgow owners of said to their Consignation.....vizt

For 2 pipes of white wine at 36Ø000rs each aboard	72 Ø000
For 20 chests of Lemons at 4Ø400rs each aboard	88 Ø000
For primage on 3 tuns paid ye Cap[tai]n at 120 reis	Ø360
For our Com[missi]on on 20 Chests fruit at 150 reis	3Ø000
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	163Ø360

In Lisbon 5th March 1750. An[no] d[omini]  
E. E. p[ro] Mayne Burns & Mayne. '

#### MS 3219/3/71a

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#### Letter about the **Lisbon earthquake, 1756:**

Letter. John Marr (Hampton Court Spithead) to [Agnes Miller (Glasgow)].12 Apr. **1756**.  
*[He is well. They were last at Lisbon. Description of the ruins caused by the earthquake and fire and of the condition of Nunnery Los Barbarinos. Took tea at the English Nunnery. Living conditions there. Catholic 'superstition'. Ladies' hair fashions].*  
[Signature cut out]

#### MS 3219/4/280/1

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12. Letter. Dr William Withering ([docket reads Lisbon]) to James Watt (Heathfield). Mar. 1793.

*[His journey to Portugal and accomodation there. Intends to analyse the waters of the Calders. Visit to Cintra. The climate. His health. Description of the country near Lisbon; geology etc. ' Everything here that attracts attention comes from the Brazils, and they are called the eye of Portugal..'. Fear of the French fleet. The wine trade from Oporto. Imports. Industry. Taxes on land].*

13. Letter. Dr William Withering (Portugal; Braço de Prata) to James Watt (Heathfield). 3 Jan. 1794.

*[General directions for Jessy's health. Menstruation. His own health and the voyage. The climate. He asks for Schaeffer's Fungi. Mr Boulton's buckles are much admired. ' The buds of science are beginning to burst forth in Portugal'.].*

14. Letter. Dr William Withering (Falmouth) to James Watt (Heathfield). 8 May 1794. 2pcs. *[His return from Portugal. He will stay in the south for a while. The climate of Portugal has not helped. He recommends bringing Jessy down to Southampton for treatment].*

**MS 3219/4/89/**

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23. Letter. Sir Joseph Banks (Overton) to James Watt (Birmingham). 29 Aug. 1797. *On the Lisbon [lamp] glass [and temperatures. With thanks for a pleasant time in Birmingham].*

**MS 3219/4/39/**

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8. Letter. James Watt of Greenock (Greenock) to James Watt, merchant (Glasgow; Trongate). 11 Jan. 1771. ' With a quadront and a bundell '. *About Finlay. [David Alexander's quadrant needs new glass etc. He has sent some fresh fish to Peggy. Needs to get a copy of Finlay's accounts written. Asks Peggy to send more tea. Thomas Cochrane will soon be at Lisbon].*

**MS 3219/4/2/**

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48. Letter. Ann Watt (Clover) to James Watt (Birmingham; redirected from Truro; c/o Thomas Wilson). 26 Sep. 1792. *[Health. Jacobin principles; James Miller and James Watt jr. Dr Withering is on his way to Lisbon via Falmouth].*

**MS 3219/4/6/**

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60. Letter. Ann Watt (Heathfield) to James Watt (London; 6 Green Lettuce Lane). 20 Jan. 1793.

*[Her father's business with Dunlop. Death of Mrs John Craig. Dr Withering in Lisbon. The newspapers. Recruitment in Birmingham. Asks for Poland starch].*

**MS 3219/4/6/**

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52. Letter. James Watt jr. (Frankfort) to James Watt (London; Green Lettuce Lane, c/o Mrs Matthews). 5 Nov. 1793.

*Per Mr Marauda. [ Mr Walker has advised him not to return yet. He will go to Spain if this is helpful, though he believes an enemy, an Irishman called Smallwood, to be at Cadiz. He is willing to convey Jessy to Lisbon for her health].*

**MS 3219/4/13/**

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10. Letter. James Watt jr. (London) to James Watt (Glasgow; c/o Gilbert Hamilton). 20 Oct. 1800.

*To Glasgow. [He has settled a plan of proceedings with Weston. Mr Tuffen's nephew is at Edinburgh. Introductions which might benefit him. Young Este has an appointment as surgeon to one of the Regiments and has gone to Lisbon].*

**MS 3219/4/16/**

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39. Letter. James Watt (Heathfield) to Joseph Black (Edinburgh). 17 Jul. 1793.

*[The lawsuit against the pirates. He has secured some money on a mortgage near Glasgow. James Watt jr's conduct in politics has made him very uneasy. Jessy is much better, despite the heat. 'We have had no philosophical news since the affair of the frog electricity. Dr. Beddoes is applying antiphlogistic chemistry to medicine. Dr. Withering is improved for having wintered in Lisbon].*

*(Partners no. 139)*

**MS 3219/4/127/**

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## **MS 3147: Records of Boulton & Watt**

**711c. Willcox & Anderson, Portuguese Mint, Lisbon (JE).** Apr. 1835, Apr. 1837. 8 items. *14 horse power independent crank engine, with 22 inch cylinder [?], 3 foot stroke, parallel motion, [cast iron beam].*

*General plan of the mint – partially coloured reverse drawing [originally in Pf. 709], plan and sections of the engine and boiler houses and pump room, longitudinal section of boiler,*

section of the pump room – reverse drawings, plan of the shafts and tunnels etc. – coloured reverse drawing. All these drawings bear letter codes.

Also tracing of plan of the mint; “Plan of the Lisbon Mint” [circa Apr. 1837?]; “General Plan of Portuguese Mint” – coloured plan with sections of the engine room and rolling mill on the same sheet, marked “as executed, sent with Mr. Boulton’s letter of 10 Apr. 1837” (the design shown in this drawing differs considerably to that represented by the reverse drawings and that on the small tracing, but it is similar to the “Plan of the Lisbon Mint”).

Original Portfolio or ‘Book’ No. 817. *Catalogue of Old Engines* p. 160.

For the Portuguese Government, ordered by Willcox & Anderson of London. The initial designs of the mint were similar to those for Guanaxuato and Mexico City [see Pfs. 711a & b], and several of the drawings for those mints were used for this one. The mint machinery was that made for Mexico City which had never been delivered.

See also: Incoming Correspondence (from James Pennycuick), M. R. Boulton “American Mints” Correspondence [in MBP].

**MS 3147/5/711c**

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## **Boulton & Watt. Drawing office correspondence**

**33.** Letter. James Pennycuick (Lisbon) to William Buckle [Soho]. 17 Jul. 1835.  
*Docketed “Arrived at Lisbon after 14 days’ passage. Mr. Clegg wants iron frames for milling machines and for pulleys. Progress with Portugese Mint. Rennies’ work is in bad condition. Mr. Willcox is very kind.”*

**34.** Letter. James Pennycuick (Lisbon) to William Buckle [Soho]. 13 Jun. 1836.  
*Docketed “Reports progress with erection of machinery of Portugese Mint.”*

**35.** Transcript of letter. James Pennycuick (Lisbon) to William Buckle [Soho]. 5 Aug. 1836.  
*Docketed “Started the engine and worked the rolling mill and shafting on the 1 Jul. – all well. Finishing rolls require turning. Is preparing shafting for lathe. Cutting out machinery ready. Valve increased to 5 inches diameter.”*

**36.** Letter. James Pennycuick (Lisbon) to William Buckle (Soho). 4 Mar. 1837.  
*Docketed “On the subject of Portugese Mint machinery.”*

**37.** Letter. James Pennycuick (Lisbon) to William Buckle (Soho). 22 Apr. 1837.  
*Docketed “Reports upon machinery of Portugese Mint. Has corrected defects in joints etc. and is now able to work all the presses at one time. Has advised the Mint Master to order collars from Soho.”*

**38.** Letter. James Pennycuick (Lisbon) to William Buckle (Soho). 26 Jul. 1837.  
*Docketed "Answers queries about machinery of Portugese Mint. State of proceedings there."*

**39.** Letter. James Pennycuick (Edinburgh) to William Buckle [Soho]. 4 Nov. 1837.  
*Docketed by James Watt Jr.*  
*Docketed "Has made up his mind to decline going to Jamaica. Returns thanks for the offer, and tenders his services in any other quarter. Will transmit some news from the Mint at Lisbon soon."*

**MS 3147/3/451/**

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## **Engine drawings:**

### ***Lisbon Mint, Portugal:***

*Details of shear boxes – 4 drawings, Jul. 1875.*

*Details of shear legs, Jul. 1875.*

*Feeding gear for milling machine – partially coloured drawing, Sep. 1875.*

**MS 3147/6/79**

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**George Rennie.** (1791-1786.) Son of John Rennie.

In Lisbon from Jun. to Aug. 1817 to survey the ground for Ratton's mill. Then proposed to go on to Cadiz and Seville, where he had a letter of introduction from Watt Jr. to Wetherell & Co.

Letter. John Rennie to BW&Co., 21 Jun. 1817, to Watt Jr.

**MS 3147/ 3/317/.**

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## **MS 3782: Papers of Matthew Boulton**

**Sir John Hort.** Consul-General, of Lisbon. Sent Matthew Boulton "a very little flask, made of an extraordinary substance, commonly sold here by the name of Borracha, which means no more than leathern bottle, but in Brazil from whence it is brought, is called by the Indians, Cahoutchouc ... its qualities are so remarkable, that your inventive genius will I am persuaded will be capable of finding purposes for it ..."

**71.** Letter. Sir John Hort (Lisbon) to Matthew Boulton (Soho). 7 Jul. 1776.

**MS 3782/12/24/**

And there is correspondence with various others from Lisbon, e.g. Samuel Aislabie, 1767-1784; John Finch, 1799; Manoel de Souza Freire, 1802; Charles Hudson, 1797.

See lists of Matthew Boulton General Correspondence: **MS 3782/12/**

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## Other records

William Withering jr. Journal of a voyage to Lisbon. 1793-1794.

**386806 [IIR 21]**

Diaries of Thomas Pougher Russell's (b. 1775) tour in Spain and Portugal, 1793-1794.

(With transcripts).

**660350-660351 [ZZ324]**

Collection of title deeds etc. of the families of Shore, Williams and Lamley. Includes some papers about the wine trade with Lisbon. 19th-20th centuries.

**Lee Crowder 125**

Business records of Smallwood & Sons, wine merchants. 1781-1968.

**MS 227**

Papers of William Adlington Cadbury: letters to and from West Africa. 1900-1910

In 1901, whilst in Trinidad, William Adlington Cadbury heard a rumour that slave labour was employed to produce some of their cocoa beans. Cadbury's, Fry's, Rowntree's and Stollwerck in 1904 selected Joseph Burt because of language skills and knowledge of the area to investigate. Burt's report was given to the British Government who approached the Portuguese Government in 1907 and William Adlington Cadbury and Burt travelled to Portugal to lay the report before the estate owners. However this was a time of political instability in Portugal and a change of Government happened in 1908; there are 2 letters reflecting this in MS 466G/3/6/2. William visited the Portuguese West African Islands of San Thome & Principe (where the cocoa plantations were) and Angola (the indigenous home of the slaves). It was this trip to the islands that prompted the editorial in the 'Standard' 26 September 1908 and the subsequent libel case by the Cadbury family and firm. Cadbury's, Fry's, Rowntree's and Stollwerck no longer bought cocoa from this source from 1909 onwards.

**MS 466G/3/6 and 7**

Correspondence, 1830-1840, between F.F.B. Shore and Joseph Shore about import and export business between Birmingham, Lisbon and Oporto. The Shore family were wine and spirit merchants, and hardware merchants. The business operated from 1808-1972.

**MS 882 /1-6**

Album and visitors' book of G.R.Collis, who served as vice consul for Portugal, 1839-1866.

**MS 1948**

Lantern slide by Bernard Moore of Prince Henry of Portugal. n.d.[19/20C]

**MS 2507/5/14/9/9**

Letter. James Farmer (London) to Samuel Galton (Birmingham). 10 Sep. 1754.

*[Gives details of orders for several customers. Refers to the affair of B[enjamin] Farmer and his connections with trade to Portugal and the Cape de Verde].*

**MS 3101/C/D/15/5/16**

Letter. Lucy Galton (Dudson, Birmingham) to John Howard Galton (Oxford). 25 Nov. 1808.

*[Theodore has left home and travelled to Bristol with Sacheverel, and from there to Falmouth, from where they will sail to Coruna for a tour which will include travel through Spain and Portugal, having planned to travel to Sicily but being prevented by Bonaparte].*

**MS 3101/C/D/10/6/54**

Letters to Douglas Galton. 1829-1840. (3 files)

These largely consist of letters from Douglas Galton's mother, Isabella Galton, his father, John Howard Galton and his elder brother, Theodore Howard Galton, but also contains one letter from B. Price, his schoolmaster at Rugby. The letters from Isabella Galton are sent to Douglas while he is at school in Birmingham, and contain family news, as does the childhood letter sent by his brother. Other letters from Theodore Howard Galton, and the letter from his father John Howard Galton, are sent from different locations in Spain and Portugal, and from Gibraltar, and provide detailed information about their travels there.

**MS 3101/C/D/3**

Five letters recording details of a tour taken through Portugal, Spain and France by Theodore Howard Galton in 1840, with his impressions of the landscape and cities he travelled through.

**MS 3101/C/D/8/6**

Letter. Isabella Strutt (Derby, St Peters) to Joseph Strutt (Love Lane, Wood Street, London). 23 Feb. 1800.

*[Asks him to purchase some boxes of Portugal plums and mentions that a new tax may be put on wine].*

**MS 3101/C/E/5/16/19**

Indenture between William Wardon of Lisbon in Portugal, esq., Mary, his wife, and others, and Richard Brodribb, of Worcester, esq., concerning a warehouse in the parish of St. Swithin in Worcester. 26 June, 1744.

**MS 3197/280669 [DV 195]**

Notice from Samuel de la Grange Williams of Edgbaston, lime merchant, to Samuel Haines and George Naden, assignees of the estate and effects of Abraham Lambley, a bankrupt, and to the said Abraham Lambley, of the mortgage to the said Samuel de la Grange Williams of a debt owed by the said Abraham Lambley to Francis Frederick Shore and Joseph Shore of Birmingham, and of the Kingdom of Portugal, merchants and co partners. 28 May, 1841.

**MS 3375/452205 [DV666]**

Certificate from John Milner, Consul General for Portugal to the Principal Officers and Commissioners of Her Majesty's Navy, concerning the capture of the St. James Sloop Privateer by the Ambuscade. 7 June, 1711.

**MS 3415 [Duke]/346**