

MS 3147/2
BOULTON & WATT AND SUCCESSOR FIRMS

LEGAL RECORDS 1777 - 1834

LIST

Letters Patent and Patent Specifications

Letters Patent.

- 1.** Letters Patent to James Watt for “Certain New Methods of Applying the Vibrating or Reciprocating Motion of Steam or Fire Engines to produce a continued Rotative or Circular Motion round an Axis or Centre, and thereby to give Motion to the Wheels of Mills or other Machines”, 25 Oct. 1781 (1 item).
- 2.** Letters Patent to James Watt for “Certain New Improvements Upon Steam or Fire Engines for Raising Water and other Mechanical Purposes and certain new mechanisms applicable to the same”, 12 Mar. 1782 (1 item).
- 3.** Letters Patent to James Watt for “Certain New Improvements upon Fire and Steam Engines and upon Machinery worked or moved by the same”, 28 Apr. 1784 (1 item).

Printed Patent Specifications and Acts of Parliament.

- 4.** Mr. Watt’s Specification of his Method of lessening the Consumption of Steam and Fuel in Fire Engines, 1769 (1 item).
- 5.** An Act for Vesting in James Watt, Engineer, his Executors, Administrators and Assigns, the sole Use and Property of certain Steam Engines, commonly called Fire Engines, of his Invention, described in the said Act, throughout His Majesty’s Dominions, for a Limited Time, 1775 (2 items).
- 6.** An Act for Vesting in James Watt, Engineer, his Executors, Administrators and Assigns, the sole Use and Property of certain Steam Engines, commonly called Fire Engines, of his Invention, described in the said Act, throughout His Majesty’s Dominions, for a Limited Time, 1775, reprinted 1794 (1 item).
- 7.** Certain New Improvements Upon Steam or Fire Engines for Raising Water and other Mechanical Purposes and certain new pieces of mechanism applicable to the same, 12 Mar. 1782 (4 items).

Partnership Agreements

- 8.** Copy of indenture of agreement between James Watt and Matthew Boulton, 5 Sep. 1777 (1 item).
- 9.** Articles of partnership between Boulton & Watt and John Southern, 1 May 1811 (1 item).

MS 3147 BOULTON & WATT
2. LEGAL RECORDS

Engine Agreements

Final Agreements, Signed, Sealed and Witnessed.

- 10.** Agreements for Sun & Planet engines, 1784—1799 (154 items).*
- 11.** Agreements for Crank Engines, 1793—1799 (23 items).*
- 12.** Agreements for Pumping Engines, 1777—1799 (26 items).*
- 13.** Agreement for a Blowing Engine, 1798 (1 item).*
- 14.** Agreements for Water Works Engines, 1779 and 1795 (2 items).*
- 15.** Agreements for Cornish Mine Engines, 1778—circa 1793 (19 items).*

Draft and Copy Agreements.

- 16.** Draft and Copy Engine Agreements, 1777—1851 (30 items).*

Memoranda and Agreements for Second Hand Cornish Engines.

- 17.** Memoranda and Agreements, 1790—1798 (10 items).*

Cornish Mine Agreement

- 18.** Absolute Assignment of 1/40th Part in Wheal Chance Mine in the Parish of Camborne to Matthew Boulton by Jemima Olive, widow of George Olive of Camborne, consideration £20. 12 Jun. 1780 (1 item).

Matthew Boulton's Coinage Licences

- 19.** Constitution by the Lord Commissioners of the Treasury, and Appointment of Joseph Sage, Provost of his Majesty's Mint in the Tower of London, to be King's Clerk and Comptroller of the coinage of copper one penny and two penny pieces, 20 Jun. 1797 (1 item).
- 20.** Indenture granting Matthew Boulton licence to manufacture copper coin, 4 Nov. 1799 (1 item).
- 21.** Indenture granting Matthew Boulton licence to manufacture copper coin, 5 Apr. 1805 (1 item).

Lease

- 22.** Lease by Matthew Robinson Boulton of Warehouses, Shopping and Steam Engine at Soho to William Murdock and William Vickers Toney, steel manufacturers, for 14 years, 24 Feb. 1834 (1 item).

Papers relating to Patents and Legal Actions

Patents, Defence of the Patent Specification etc., 1758—1799.

- 23.** Papers relative to the Steam Engine, 1771—1795 (15 items).*
- 24.** Papers Legal, Historical and Philosophical relating to the Invention and Progress of the Steam Engine, 1792—1796 (8 items).*

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- 25. Lists and Papers relating to Patents, circa 1793—1795 (15 items).*
- 26. Further Papers relating to Patents, Watt's Specification etc., circa 1775—1794 (13 items).*
- 27. Drafts of Patent Specifications and Petitions by James Watt, 1781—1793 (11 items).*
- 28. Papers relating to the Dutch Patent and Specification, 1786 (6 items).*
- 29. Papers and Correspondence with John Gutch relating to James I's Declaration on Monopolies, Jun. 1795 (5 items).*
- 30. Thoughts upon Patents, or exclusive Privileges for new Inventions (1 volume).
- 31. Patent Specifications and Bills of Other Engineers and Inventors, 1758—1799 (14 items).*
- 32. Printed Acts of Parliament, 1783—1796 (5 items).*

Opposition to Jonathan Hornblower.

- 33. Papers relating to the obtaining of Horner's Patent and proceedings at Radstock to 1791, 1781—1783, 1787, 1791 (20 items).*
- 34. Opinions of Counsel upon the Specification etc., 1791—1792 (7 items).*
- 35. Additional Papers, 1785, 1787, 1792 (37 items).*
- 36. Printed Material, 1792 (26 items).*
- 37. Manuscripts of Pamphlet by Thomas Wilson, 1792—1793 (2 items).*

Action against Edward Bull.

- 38. Papers relative to Edward Bull, 1792—1797 (11 items).*
- 39. Other Documents relating to the Action against Edward Bull, 1793, 1795 (6 items).*
- 40. The Special Case in the cause Boulton & Watt against Bull in the Court of Common Pleas, with the Arguments of the Judges thereon; and an Appendix of Matters referred to. 1795. 37 pages. (3 items).

Action against Jabez Hornblower and Stephen Maberly.

- 41. Papers relative to Hornblower & Maberly prior to Action in Common Pleas, 1795—1797 (25 items).*
- 42. Papers relative to Action in Common Pleas versus Hornblower & Maberly, 1796 (49 items).*
- 43. Papers relative to Hornblower & Maberly Subsequent to the Trial in Common Pleas, 1796—1797 (5 items).*
- 44. A Letter to the Rt. Hon. Sir James Eyre, Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas; on the subject of the cause, Boulton & Watt v. Hornblower & Maberly; for infringement on Mr. Watt's Patent for an improvement on the Steam Engine by Joseph Bramah, Engineer. 1797 (1 volume).
- 45. Copy of the Short Hand Writer's Notes of what passed in the Common Pleas on the motion for a New Trial being refused, 13 Feb. 1797 (1 volume).
- 46. Papers relating to the Writ of Error in King's Bench, 1798—1799 (15 items).*
- 47. Proposed Petition to the House of Commons, 1799 (5 items).*
- 48. Other Papers relating to the Action against Hornblower and Maberly, 1796—1797 (11 items).*

Printed Material relating to Jonathan Hornblower and the Actions against Edward Bull and Hornblower & Maberly.

- 49. Newspapers containing Advertisements, Letters and Reports relating to Jonathan Hornblower, Edward Bull and Judgement in King's Bench, 1791—1794, 1799 (8 items).*
- 50. The Arguments of the Judges in Two Causes relating to the Letters Patent granted to James Watt, Engineer, for his Method of lessening the consumption of steam and fuel in fire

engines. Taken in short-hand by Mr. Gurney. In two parts; with an appendix. 1799 (7 items).

Cornish Law Cases.

- 51.** Documents to prove B & W's declaration of their intention to prosecute the Users of Horner's Infringement, 1775—1796 (37 items).*
- 52.** Statements of Accounts, Calculations of Premiums, Lists of Adventurers etc. relating to Hornblower's Piracies, 1799—1801 (35 items).*
- 53.** Papers relating to Cornish Law Cases, circa 1780—1800 (24 items).*
- 54.** Letters from Thomas Wilson relating to the Recusant Mines, 1786—1794 (34 items).*
- 55.** General Documents relative to Cornish Contests, 1794—1799 (9 items).*
- 56.** Cornish Recusants, chiefly relative to the settlements therewith, 1794—1800 (27 items).*
- 57.** Extracts from Letters relating to Messrs. Boulton & Watt's Steam Engine Concerns in the County of Cornwall, and Memorandums in relation to the Same Subject, circa 1799 (1 volume).
- 58.** Extracts from Letters relating to Messrs. Boulton & Watt's Steam Engine Concerns in the County of Cornwall, and Memorandums in relation to the Same Subject, circa 1799 (1 volume).
- 59.** Messrs. Boulton & Watt – Memorandums, 4 Mar. 1799 (1 volume).
- 60.** Pednandrea Mine, 1796—1798 (11 items).*

Action against Matthew Murray.

- 61.** Papers relating to the Action against Matthew Murray, 1800—1803 (19 items).*

Other Papers relating to Engine Premiums and Pirate Engines.

- 62.** Sketches and Descriptions of Pirate and Rival Engines, 1766—1796 (22 items).*
- 63.** Opinions of Mr. Anstruther and Mr. Holroyd, 1792, 1794 (5 items).*
- 64.** John Sturges & Co., pirate engines, 1793—1796 (49 items).*

Miscellaneous Legal Papers.

- 65.** Miscellaneous Items, 1780—1798 (12 items).*

Embezzlement by Employees, Debts etc.

- 66.** Papers relating to Fraud committed by Robert Hodges, clerk to the Copying Company, 1805, 1809 (17 items).*
- 67.** Estate of the late Francis Eginton – Documents relative to M. R. Boulton J. Watt & Co.'s claims thereon, 1805—1814 (48 items).*
- 68.** Letters and Papers relative to John Bennett's Delinquency, Trial etc., 1820—1821; 1826—1827 (63 items).*
- 69.** John Dawn's Cash Book at Soho Foundry and other documents relative to his embezzlement &c., 1832 (14 items).

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OLD REFERENCES

Letters Patent and Patent Specifications

Letters Patent.

1. Letters Patent to James Watt for “Certain New Methods of Applying the Vibrating or Reciprocating Motion of Steam or Fire Engines to produce a continued Rotative or Circular Motion round an Axis or Centre, and thereby to give Motion to the Wheels of Mills or other Machines”, 25 Oct. 1781. [B&W Box 51/10]
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3. Letters Patent to James Watt for “Certain New Improvements upon Fire and Steam Engines and upon Machinery worked or moved by the same”, 28 Apr. 1784. [B&W Box 51/16]

Printed Patent Specifications.

4. Mr. Watt’s Specification of his Method of lessening the Consumption of Steam and Fuel in Fire Engines, 1769. [B&W Box 51/2]
5. An Act for Vesting in James Watt, Engineer, his Executors, Administrators and Assigns, the sole Use and Property of certain Steam Engines, commonly called Fire Engines, of his Invention, described in the said Act, throughout His Majesty’s Dominions, for a Limited Time, 1775. [B&W Box 51/4, 5]
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7. Certain New Improvements Upon Steam or Fire Engines for Raising Water and other Mechanical Purposes and certain new pieces of mechanism applicable to the same, 12 Mar. 1782. [B&W Box 21/18/1-3 (3 copies), 51/12 (1 copy)]

Partnership Agreements

8. Copy of indenture of agreement between James Watt & Matthew Boulton, 5 Sep. 1777. [B&W Box 51/7]
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14. Agreements for Water Works Engines, 1779 and 1795. [B&W Box 27/41, 31/1]

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24. Papers Legal, Historical and Philosophical relating to the Invention and Progress of the Steam Engine, 1792—1796. [B&W Box 22/4, 54/22, Parcel E/1, E/2, Portfolio 1381]
25. Lists and Papers relating to Patents, circa 1793—1795. [B&W Box 22/5, 22/7, 41/1, 41/6, Parcel D/7, E/1, E/2]
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28. Papers relating to the Dutch Patent and Specification, 1786. [**B&W Box 41/3, Parcel D/7**]
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32. Printed Acts of Parliament, 1783—1796. [**B&W Box 22/7, 41/3, 41/4**]

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58. Extracts from Letters relating to Messrs. Boulton & Watt's Steam Engine Concerns in the County of Cornwall, and Memorandums in relation to the Same Subject, circa 1799. [B&W Vol. 10]
59. Messrs. Boulton & Watt – Memorandums, 4 Mar. 1799. [B&W Box 9/III/4]
60. Pednandrea Mine, 1796—1798. [B&W Box 1/10, 22/4]

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