

INFORMATION ON SERIES OF DOCUMENTS

Series	RAIL 264
Title	Great Western Railway Company: Staff Records 1838-1962
Structure	Hard bound books of formal registers with mostly handwritten entries onto printed sheets, with some printed entries on printed sheets. Entries are across a mixture of double and single pages.
Size/Scope	<p>Complete Series of Rail 264. A total of 522 pieces in all. Containing approx. 102,000 images and 500,000 individual records. However pieces 228, 233 and 276 are missing Pieces 53, 134, 139, 142, 143, 170, 172, 217, 220, 227, 344, 367, 500, 503, were never transferred from the originating department (i.e. absent at accession).</p> <p>Staff records including registers of staff of the Great Western Railway Company. Pieces 1-4 have been catalogued to name level. Registers differ in structure, some being by name and alphabet, others numerical and other methods of ordering entries e.g. by station or district. Also includes registers of apprentices, clerks, lads, firemen, drivers and pupils' time books and examination results. Also includes memorandum books relating to staff matters (including medical exams, mileages worked, leave etc.)</p> <p>The following Pieces were viewed:</p> <p>RAIL 264/18 Registers of Drivers and Firemen 1841-1864 Name, Date of Birth, Promotion and Rates of Wages, Station and Description of Work, Record of Fines, Date and Locality, Penalty, Circumstances. Foliated 250 double page images with an average of 2 records per double image.</p> <p>RAIL 264/135 Locomotive & Carriage Department Employees 1840-1874 Date of Entry, Name, Occupation, Rate, Advances, Date of Leaving etc. Arranged by Station and District. 120 single page images with an average of 15 records per single image</p> <p>RAIL 264/140 Locomotive & Carriage Department Employees 1870-1897 Arranged by Division with Surname, Christian Name, Occupation, Date of Birth, Date of Entry, Rate, Date of Leaving or Transfer, Cause of Leaving or Transfer etc. Approx. 90 double page images with an average of 15 records per double image</p> <p>RAIL 264/148 Locomotive & Carriage Department Employees 1870-1872 Date of Entry, Name, Occupation, Rate, Advances, Date of Leaving etc. 40 double images with an average of 8 records per double image</p> <p>RAIL 264/245 Locomotive, Carriage & Wagon Department 1880-1941 Numerical Register of Salaried Staff. Registered Number, Name, Date of Birth, Date of Entering Service, Grade, Department, Station, Commencing Annual</p>

Series	RAIL 264
	<p>Salary, Date of Leaving, Remarks. 250 double page images with an average of 5 records per double image</p> <p>RAIL 264/268 Locomotive, Carriage & Wagon Department 1887-1910 Alphabetical register of office boys and messengers. Name, Station, Occupation, Date of Birth, Date of Entry, Rate on Entry, Date, Rate, Date of Leaving or Transfer, Cause of Leaving. Approx. 75 double page images with an average of 25 records per double image.</p> <p>RAIL 264/332 Locomotive, Carriage & Wagon Department 1914-1919 Pension Fund Book. Station, Commencing Date of deductions, Name, Grade, date of Birth, Date of Entry, Date Appointed, Members contributions per week, remarks. 40 double page images with an average of 15 records per double image</p> <p>RAIL 264/380 Staff Records – Register of Uniformed Staff 1918-1928 Uniformed Staff Number, Surname, Christian Names, date of Birth, Date of Appointment into Company's Service, Date of birth certificate and completed papers received etc. 246 double page images with an average of 30 records per double image</p> <p>RAIL 264/448 Register of weekly staff: Inquiries and reports into accidents to staff 1916-1918. Date of Accident, Station, Name, Particulars, Result of Department Inquiry and Recommendation, Result of Boart of Trade Inquiry and recommendation, How Dealt With. 200 double page images with 1 record per double image</p> <p>RAIL 264/471-522 Registers of Drivers January 1898 – December 1956 Name, Date of Entering Service, Promotions, Type of work, nos 28251-41254 250 double page images per pieces with 1 record per double page image</p>
Physical Format and Condition	Mostly bound volumes double spread sizes A4 to A2. Some covers loose but paper inside is in generally good condition, bindings are fairly tight but text doesn't usually go to centre
Popularity	Between 1st July 2008 and 1 st July 2009 this series of records was requested in the reading rooms at The National Archives some 889 times. In a package with other related material it is expected to be of greater interest to the public. Popularity would also be greatly increased by improved ease of access.
Copyright clearance	Assignment to Crown in progress
Research Guide	Railways: Staff Records
Possible areas for indexing	Name, Age, Date of entering company's service, Department, Station, Date and Cause of leaving (most records give only the first 6 of these)