Ilfracombe Museum

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ILFRACOMBE MUSEUM Wilder Road, Ilfracombe, North Devon, EX34 8AF 01271 863541

This report arises from a survey of archives in musuems on behalf of the Museums and Galleries Commission, with support from the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts, January - April 1995. (Museums and Archives, a Museums and Galleries Commission Report, researched by Clare Conybeare and Anita Travers)

Ilfracombe Museum is an independent trust, which gained charitable status in 1975. It was originally founded in 1932, and occupies a late 19th century building, formerly a hotel laundry.

Collecting is eclectic, and by no means confined to Ilfracombe itself. Retired colonials have donated objects from around the world, and it holds the national collection of specimen bats. Its newscuttings and memorabilia include national events such as the General strike, the Festival of Britain, and Royal celebrations.

Probably the earliest and most attractive document displayed is a verification of a grant of arms to John Wood of Harstone, 1533. there are some 100 deeds, wills and other legal documents, family history collections and compilations, notably for the Dennis family, glass negatives, daguerrotypes, gramophone records and cine films on tourism. Business records include prescription ledgers (6) 1909-19, a solicitor's letter book 1914-19, and Score cemetery records. There are 200 newspapers, miscellaneous local government records, research notes, war memorabilia such as identity cards, ration books and clothing coupons, also savings books, recipe books, greetings cards, cigarette card collections and holiday scrapbooks.

Lists are by location within the museum. These, basically, were the loft and office store, under display cabinets, and on display. Photocopies were provided of sections of the list, and notes were taken where appropriate, summarised as follows.

A market charter with restored seal is on loan to North Devon Record Office, and overseers' accounts (8 vols) 1741-88, were transferred in 1981.

Loft store boxes list

20825 B Gramophone records

Box 6 WA Steven's slides

Box 7 Score cemetery records

Box 8 Cine films: tourism

Box 16Record player and tapes

Box 22 Glass negative plates (107; nos 8863-8978)

Box 35 A-D glass negatives

Box 39 Victoria photographs in frames (25231)

Box 43 Post Office savings book (20929)

Box 43 Small 1915 diary (20773B)

Box 43 Tiny photograph album (20873D)

Box 44 Message book MZ10 US Army

Box 45 Slide show, 60 years at a seafront museum (ILFCM 21035)

Box 46 see photocopy

Box 47 see photocopy

Box 48 see photocopy

Box 49 Misc newspapers and periodicals

Box 50Enlargements of rly photographs produced by North Devon Heritage Coast
Service [Clare - railway?]

Box 57 Queen's Court deeds (photocopies)

Box 62 see photocopy

Box 63 see photocopy

Box 64Daguerrotype photographs (2) (1062, 1063)

Box 64Farleigh's Stores account book 1906 (20545)

Box 64Bill Stevens: army memorabilia (20934)

Box 65 Prescription ledgers (6), Ilfracombe area, 1909-19

Box 66 Solicitor's notebook

Box 66 Solicitor's letterbook, 1914-19 (ILFCM 20455)

Box 66 Vets (?) prescription book

Box 68MG Palmer, photographs by, (25279 A, B)

Boxes 69-73, see photocopy

Rolled maps are kept in the loft

Storeroom below loft

largely given over to newspapers: Ilfracombe Chronicle, and Ilfracombe Gazette and Observer, 1868-1953. Some have been filmed by the British Library and film copies provided, but there is no film reader. The newspapers have been partially indexed by a Manpower Services Scheme.

Display

There are a large number of photographs etc on the walls and in display cases. Display falls into three categories:

- Photographs, posters, advertisements and ephemera shown throughout the museum. These are too numerous to describe here.
- Document cabinet, of shallow wooden pull-out drawers, the documents visible under sealed glass. A photocopy of a typed list of contents is appended.
- Wallmounted swing frames in the 'extension', mostly photographs and postcards, but some MSS. These are:

Valentine, c1841-2 (9907)

RD Blackmore letters (4) 1887 to 'Dear Sir' (display does not reveal addressee) (7946)

CH Spurgeon (Baptist evangelist) letter 1877 (9909)

Letter 1855 from a soldier at Sebastopol, described in caption only as grandfather of the Misses Harding of Chambercombe Rd (7932)
Letters patent 1533 from Thomas Benolt, Clarencieux King at Arms, to John Wood of Harstone, verifying coat of arms (attractively decorated) (7926)
Letters (2) by Charles Vellacott, mariner, to his wife 1840, and 'Richard' 1850, (7931, 7934)

Samuel Mountjoy Smith letter 1850 with engraved Ilfracombe pictorial letterhead (1371)

Marriage certificate Samuel Winne to Mary Attison at Springfield near Gretna Green 1816 (7967)

Marriage certificate William Broome to Kate Elizabeth Gean, Barnstaple 1876 (7951)

Under cabinets

Framed photographs, paintings and prints (over 100) in 2 storage chests in extension.

Under case 30, incl:

coronation souvenir progemme, birthday cards, ration books and identity cards Festival of Britain booklet, Devon & Exeter Savings Bank book 1897, museum reports 1934-39, Withycombe family photograph album, other photograph albums incl Cotswolds, various posters, scout's book, recipe books, harbour dues 1946, railway corresp, advertisements, Gatakers Sermons, papers about tobacco, magazines, knitting patterns and theatre programmes, Magna Carta, photographs of John Betjeman in Ilfracombe, 2 swimming certificates, and a map of Tasmania.

Under case 29, incl:

6 prints, foreign bank notes, Civil Defence corresp (queried)

1994 accessions include a tea shop receipt book indenture 1822 National Savings certificate book 1941 TS diary, Nicaragua Opera Society and theatre programmes cigarette cards holiday scrapbook 1976 French newspapers for D-Day anniversary UDC rates estimate 1970 scrap book/ photograph album c1830-50 book of instructions for 1911 census business cards photographs foreign bank notes newscuttings

CONTENTS OF DOCUMENT DRAWERS.

- 1. Map of North Devon & Ilfracombe
- 2. Will of Thomas Ridd. 27th March 1857.
- 3. Will of John Fosse. 26th October 1693.
- 4. Will of John Fosse Junior. 5th February 1760.
- 5. Will of Peter Fosse 22nd January 1713.
- 6 Indenture of P.J.Dennis. 13th April 1868.
- of T. Langdon. 25th June 1716.
- 8. Title Deed. 1528.
- 9. Will of William Saunders. 8th September 1778.
- 10. Copy of Will of Emporer Napoleon.
- 11. Indenture of John Blackmore. 10th January 1862.
- 12. Will of Charles Dennis. 18th June 1853.
- 13. 3 x Indentures.
- 14. Indenture of John Darracott.
- 15. Fine or Agreement. February 1731.
- 16. Passport of Joseph Goodacre. 20th April 1867.
- 17. Will of Thomas Lovering. 6th Ausgust 1770.
- 18. Indenture of Alex Redmore. 25th March 1871.
- 19. Passport of Captain R. Stevens 9th May 1910.
- 20. 2 x Songsheets.
- 21. Discharge papers of R. Baker. 20th February 1710.
- 22. House contents insurance policy. 29th September 1891.
- 23. Indenture of Thomas Lovering. 12th August 1854.
- 24. 3 x various letters etc.
- 25. Folio of sketches.
- 26. Walkers Hibernian Magazine 1788
- 27. Passport of Lord Russell. 24th June 1865.
- 28. Indenture of R. Pugsley 1893.
- of James Hill aged 9. 1837.
- 30. Local Paper etc.

BOX 46 DOCUMENTS

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War to irolnding loling of Mafeking, World Warn I + II
                 11/82
                  - s in State form
                 1 = In Irac internet on Extension
                                                 ₩ 5577-5581 Documents relating to
                 - * Wall Display in Eath
                                                                 Robins Family
                 V = checked in Doc Boxes 6/93
                                    A+B
           DOCUMENTS
           ILFCM
          7909 -
                        Indenture - Nicholas Hooper, Elizabeth Issac
         1/7910-
                        Indenture - William Vye, John Fosse, William Lerwell
         V 7911-
                        Indenture - John Emett, Rebecca Browns, Robert Browne
          17912-
                        Indenture - Mary Kemsey, Henry Wiles
           7913-
                        Indenture - Symon Hoovins, Margaret Erunton
         V 7914-
                        Indenture - Susanna Incledon, James Hiern
                        Indenture - Robert Wyatt, John Fosse
        V7915-
         JJ7916-
                        Indenture - George Ley, William Smith
                        Indenture - William Vye, Thomas Stinton
         V 7917-
          77918-
                        Indenture - Abraham Harris, Thomas Vye
         V/7919-
                        Indenture - Nathaniel Blackwill, Alice Ierwell
         V/7920 -
                        Indenture - Alice Lerwell, Thomas Stinton
          77921-
                        Indenture - John Baker, Roger Heddon
          1922-
                        Conveyance - George Norman Maul to Mrs M Down
            79231
                         Latin Deed
            7924-
                         Two Memorandums - Francis Charteris
                         Fersonal letter - difficulties of travel in 1823
            7925
           7926 ✓
                         Letter patent - Thomas Benolt
In Box marked -77927 -
Protograyme 17928 1
                         Rate Book Dyracombe 1865
                         Fine
            7929 1
                         Will - William Saunders
                         STEMES (IN LOCKED CABINET - Kemora on Defense Index Cord 793
            7930
7931~ ∗
                         letter from Charles Vallacott to wife
            79324-*
                         letter written at Sebastopol
                         letter (poem to Jane Bird) - on Doe cabonet - drower 16
            79338--*
           17934-x
                         letter from Charles Vallacott
            7935 √
                         "ill - John Fosse
            7936 ✓
                         Will - Feter Fosse
          7937-
                                   -500
                         letters
                         Letter from George Tastersall
Letter from Samuel Mountjoy Smith
           17939¥
           7940-
                         Newspaper - Ilfracomba Chronicle - 1887
           17941V
                         Discharge - Richard Faker
           7942-
                         Bond
          7943-
                         Discharge
            79441
                         Malentine card
           7945-
                         Character reference
           179467
                         Four letters by R D Flackmore Will of John Posse
          + 79471
            79481
                         Indenture - Thomas Langdon, George Tarrynter
          170AG-
```

1771 Columble Gift articles relating to Boer

3808

CONTENTS OF CABINET

Top Drawer Slides of Museum Photos

2nd Drawer Various Slides + Printing Blocks

MFCM 5739 Miss J. Watt-Smyrks slides used for field Club talks

25002-21 Slides of Defracombe

20714 Printing Blocks (24 Forls Brigade)

25112 A Glass Shides Nat. History

17543 Slides illustrating Railway Story

17526 Shitles of 1819 OS Map

251228 Scides, Natural History

210411 Copper frinting Blook, Dearns Baptist ahurd

17352A Unknown people

3rd + 4th Drawers

Newspaper Culturgs: 1LFCM 17083, 17082, 17084, 17085, 17444, 17086, 17665, 17663, 17305, 17202, 17080, 20987A4B (by TRL Green), 17079.

Rugarmation Brochures NAevon 165cm 17432 Visitors List 1875 (as in If Chron) " 17429

Muss Theaks Flora of Sy 1979 Nature Obs 1975-77 Buil Obs 78-79 Flowers in Bloom (2)

Water colours by Lucy C Western " 17945.

BOX 47 Documents

```
Marriage Certificate
           7951√
                        Will - Thomas Iovering
           7952√
          √79534
                         1910 Fassgort
                         Will - Thomas Ridd
           79541
                         Newspaper - The Selector
          7955-
                         Discharge - William Rumson (In Maritime Room)
         /7956
         V7957-
                         Will
                         Greeting Cards
           7958~
                         Menus etc.
         J 7959-
                         Will of Nayoleon
         J7960¥
         7961-
77962-
                         Souvenir Narkin
                         Book of receirt stubs
                         Copy and translation of Charter granted by Henry II
          V7963-
     V 7964-
                      Fromissory note
       7965√
                      Induntures (three)
                                       I removed to Stump Cubinet (Drawer 12)
                      Letters(3)
        7967
                      Certificate of Marriage
       179681
                      Indenture - apprenticeship
        7969 √
       7970-
                      Licence
        7971
                      Advertisement - 1914
      €8083-
                      Document - free market and fair- great of to Sin Bouchier Whey
     W8610-
                      Indenture - lease - translated
      ✓ 8678
                      INN Document - Black Death
      /8734√
/8796−
                      Fassiort - Er JH Goodacre
                      Marriage certificate . milie Denne
     1 -8797-
                      Two letters benns
      ×8798-
                      Will Julia Ellen Denous 1914
   soloy 8799 1.
                      Will
    -0038VV
                      Family Tree Dennis
buplay 18801V.
                      Crdinary affrentice's indenture beans
     V 18802-
                      Character reference
                                               Dennis
     / EE03-
/8E04-
                      Certificate of discharge beams
                      Certificate of comjetency as master Deans
    V 28805-
                                   Dennis
                       Accounts
     . €820 .
                      Drawings ty HaYTER
         883+-
                       Writings of Capic Dunnin:
                       Part Letter I W. William, Newport. April 1868
       - 8992 -
        8993 -
                       covil own mm. - history of them Service.
       9132 - Marriage Cert. - R.J. Rockett

9056 - Protostat 2013 of Indiatrice - J. Rotring - 1837

9143 - 4-5-6. - Durhard popies (4)

Protostat de popies (4)
                       Photosit dops of $5 nets. - 1 ft. Brook 1835 (Most House)
                                        gar en en 8 de e
                     Ident and , fation from to etc - Boyd County
        5388 -
                     hetter from CH. Springeon
         9909 -*
```

will of Iselt Harris 1785 V 17379 Mortgage envolving John Will Charter 1863 V 17380, Poen? by Tombary Town Crier on shipwreak of Thistlemore 1909 V 20105-18992 Penny Black Stamp on letter 1868 V 20806 Letters Maria Lener 120234€ 1810 Mortgage Richards | Coats V17524 Cloucs indentine c1551 eps re defence of red realm 1803 difracele. 1804 notice re difrac. wages V 20061 V21062 V20983 Unresearched parchment 1691

BOX 48 Documents

```
Cat No
            Land Purchase by Council of Oxford Gardens
1 20882
120910
             Pier + Harbour Orders 1863
120958
             1894 Indenture apprenticeship
               Swimming Certs 1934
120092A+B
20739 A
              Discharge from RAF 1919
V 20812
             Lux more Fire Insurance
             Tithe Redemption Certs 1898 x 1899
V 20831
120801
             Unsated Legal Documents c 1900 H. Besley
 1 5887
             1727 Act for repairing pier
 1 20805
             Research material produced by W. Stevens
 V 20737 €
              Message from Eisenhowe de
  √ 20743 FEH
                  1917 etc railway passes
                  1916 letter to Mrs Crang
 V. 17415
  17426
                 Poster 1924 Bye law re waste pape
  J. 17547 A-H
                 Docs relating to Rev. Herbert Green
                   1914 Registration Form
   1 20743 A
               Old leases conveyances etc. particularly 10-11 Castle Terr.
   V. 20324
  10021 shink
               More permanship.
```

BOX62

BOOKLETS, RECIPES

Register for Mortgages MEMORABILIA, Haskings Receipt 1922 CIGARETTE CARDS Victoria the Great. Pamphlet re anna Neagle film ILFCM 20606 D V20729B V17962 120729 A Wartine Recipes Shebbean College Speech Day 120255 Singer Sewing Machine Instructions V 20.286 Museum of Raral Industry, Sticklepath bampblet 120899B Clothing Coupons V 20781B Cape Town 1-12-1918 Victory public. V20781E Sowerin Menn Central Cleaning House. At Southernbes V 20808 1945 SPCK Form of Prayer re 4thanis. of liver, 4/8/1918 120925F Ovaltine pamphlet V17743 Safe Conduct. For use by German Adolers young themselves up (37-45 war) 1207270 V25054 Middle East Forces Xmas "card" 1941 120316 Somewis of 8th Army 12017166) P.O. Teleprame 1922 + recepts (rettubbard) √20773A Recipe Book for Breens Products √25073E With Sanitary Duspectous Association Brilling for V 5609 ATS & VAD Roleage Book 1 20171(pt) New Physiognomical Chart by Prof. Short V 20936 Kodak Instant Camera Instructions V 20856 Hancocks Green Cars (re Syfrac) - Char-a banes etc V17545 Sesent Survival, air Ministry Pamplet 120784 Recipie Books 1926 ele 1 20743 DAE Infrac. Police Ball 1946447 /20171(pt) PO Savingo Bank books 1903 etc 120834 Form of Service late Seo VI, 1952 & 1209年N 1897. " Lifrac & Barner of Elavey 120962 Re RH Lewis, Chamberoulbe PK., Nurseries

Box 62 (continued)

```
Receipto, Jewells.
120909
            Luxmoores & Tephens Bags
            "Miner's Right " from New South Wales
120899c
            Menu Bremen, New York
           Advert for Walking Boots (eg 2 (11/29)
120915
            Sufrac Carnwal Week 1948 Official Prog.
√20898c
            Poster of army Incigoria
√20835
 1,20899A
             Suide to Smallholders 1919
 120729c
            Roller Skaling Rinks, Lee Place
 120849
           Studies of type of choist in Old Testament
            National Reprishation Cards 1915
 V20947B
            Schooluled Occupation Cert. (under 1917 reg.)
 V25073D
            "Current affairs" issued by Army Bureau 1944
  X20916c
            Leaflet (for "Eliz + Devonia)
 120839
             Receipts of Bills re Conibeane St. Brannocks Rd.
  V 20525E
              Candar Magazine (pre war)
  120758
  120926
             Sifrac Tumbr Shool naterial for Time Capsule at
Medical Centre 1991
  120789
             Certificates of Sischarge (Marine)
             Various receipts c 1929
 12079EA
              Motor Car coupons
  120726
              Fire Guards Handbook 1942
              Poem ne Willow Pattern
 √ 2388
              Identity cards, tation books, clothing books.
  J 20920A
               The Grocer 'Ruyers Calculator'
  120909D
                Robins' cash book 1885
  120742
               army Memora kelia, many Middle East 1939-45
                Material used for a Post Office Duplay. encluding Victorian Costume cut-outs
   V20842D
               Carl Rosa Opera Co. Stones of the Operas
```

5388 Ration Books

Last of Cat Cards not you marked Booklets etc, cig. CONTENTS BOX 63 15577-5581 Documents relating to Robins Family etc Docs re Baldwin, Archbishop of Canterbury AD 1190 ch √5433 Ticket from Difrac. to Swansea, 1920 "Comrades of the Great War". Newspaper cartoon - paddle steamer arriving in "Combe." Victorian poem & elhabration 7 1942 17351A, GD Elg Cigarette Card albums (on loan). Rugby ela Memorabelia of holiday in 'Combe 1923 17259 V17504 re Royal thanksparing etc services V20950A4B Tickets Ilfrac. Swinning Balks 1968469 1 20465 Gothing Bouran Book V 21033 A Empire Day 1941 card √21033c Envelope 1874 with 2 One Penny Vic. Stamps, Mustraled, to & signac. address 1 21039 AE Various documents - receipts - military source de 121045 Posters c1950 1 20107 Small poster re Coronation Badges & Raselles (1953) V 21056 Souvenier brochuse re Opening of New Pier 1952 121057 Various Inland levenue et memorabilis 1 21057 Motorists pocket took 1 21057 Photo Folder with advent for Read, High St. 1 20108 Twis dialect poem "Our Kurstmas Zirkler" J 20109 Copy of verses on Wa J. Syon, executed at york for murde. 1 20115 Memorial card V 20114 'your Fortune' cara Card with hymn reunveiling Queen Victoria's memorial 1 20106 20995 Shop receipts C1948 (Grac & Barns raple 120842c Clothing Capan book Gillette minater brookurs 1 20991

Newspaper Cuttings Food Facts

Ration Book & (Ao. ++ ~

J 20909E

BOX 69 Royal Weddings

Uncatalogued Victorian Week Focus (2) 1992 V 20840 +20916B Newspaper re Royal Weddings uncatalogued. W. Morning News Supp 1992 "Memories" 121076c Price Lest / Catalogue 1940 20376 20916B Newspaper Royal Visit to Ufracomby 1992 Uncatalogued bady Fraphic 1951 (end of Fesstival of Britain) 1 20112 Oxford Journal aug. 1914 V.20116 General Strike Newspapers 1922 20110 V9286 Daily Mirron 5.8. 1914 (Witimatum to Germany) Stange Stripes 2 Sept 1944 V 5583 Verdun falls 5601 14rac Gazette 7. July 1877 12084 A-M Radio 4 TV Jawnals 1922 Eve. Standard Tutankhamun Exhibition (2) 2084 (Moonwalk 1969 (2) Eve Standard Pomperi Exhibition 1976 D/Telegraph_ Tribute to Winston Churchill Uncaf. DIMerror 1934 Wedding DI Duchers Kent V 20840 The Sun 6 July 1835 Museumis Oldest Newspaper. Newspaper Cat Governation of Pusen Victoria D/Mail 1952 Coronation Qu. Eliz 11 Uncat 1 20840 etc Royal Wedding 1981 (Charles / Diana) Scrapbooks Uncat

20836 J Family buide to National Insurance Scheme
20848 J Efrac Coronabian Souvenir Profs
20741 J
25196 Vanious cigarette cards
20830 A-c Coronation Queen Eliz IT Souvenir Programmes
25164 F Golden Greetings Telegrams
25164 E Leaflet 'Welcame to His Majestys Army'
20989 V Samtary Inspectors Assoc. Conference Defrac 1930
20952 Recipie Book (ms) of Anne O'Neill Enford c 1908
20991 Ovalture Adverte
4 Cigarette Boxes

```
"Los Picaflores" leaflet re show at StPhillip's (children of archdeacontony Barrett.
121117
121107
            Receipt, Laranys
            Small Common Prayer Book
V 21080D
            Salvation Army Articles of War
1 21111
V21109A-H
              Coloured certificates St Phillips + James
              D Day Museum of Overland Embroidery Sowenh Book
V21097 A-E
                Miniature mediarabilia found in 1844 volume of poetry
 0 20809
              PO Greetings Telegram
 V 5388
              Ration Book
√ 21109E
              Mr Fred & Lord: memorial card
V 21094
              Clothing Coupars, petrol, identity ands
 121078
             John Lerwill, certificates re Royal Marunes
  121082
             Photocopy ne Joseph German builder Sefrac. 1871
                     bill re Fire at Chulmleigh 1803
   117762
   19163
             Photocopy $5 promise to pay from Defrac. Bank
  √20534c
              Receipt WG Coats
 27 (21084
            Miniature Common Prayer Book
  1 21075 FE Typed Mss of war time stones (Mr Eills Muray)
               (? 1945) Election Poster
   V20544D
                Advert for still Alarm Clock
   V 20997c
                Pattern book for bedroom wear
   √21071
                Miscellaneous receipts, some local
               Catalogue for Gas appliances 1890
    V 5431
               Various pamphlets re relief of Majeking, Special church services, & cle.
    V210954
                 Revue programe "Sons of Guns Entertainers (RA)
    125190E
    V 20989
                 21er builthday cards
     V 210878
                 Card "How Union Jack is made up"
     V17351B
                 ligarette card with...
```

BOX 70. WARTHIME MEDICAL SUPPLIES.

BOX 71. AMMUNITION
VARIOUS.
THESE BOXES ARE IN MAINSTORE at PHONE
BOX 72 TYRRELL HOSPITAL INFO 17371A - DM
BOX 73 SCRAP BOOKS INFO 25145 A VB
BOX 74 SHELLS PER
BOX 75 SHELLS PER
BOX 75 SHELLS HUXTABLE