

MS 3147/3/529
SPECIAL SUBJECTS & CORRESPONDENTS
JOSIAH WEDGWOOD & BYERLEY, JOSIAH WEDGWOOD, WEDGWOOD & SONS
1794—1828

INTRODUCTION

Letters from Josiah Wedgwood the younger, John Wedgwood, and the various business partnerships at Etruria, from 1794 to 1828. The letters mainly concern business matters, such as the installation and ongoing maintenance of the 30 horse power flint mill engine, warming apparatus, gas lighting, and other machinery at Etruria. Up until December 1810 the letters are mainly from the partnership of Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley, which consisted of Josiah Wedgwood the younger and Thomas Byerley. Following Byerley's death the letters are from Josiah Wedgwood until the 1820s, when letters appear from the new partnership of Josiah Wedgwood & Sons. Several of the letters are signed by clerks and engineers such as Hamlet Wood and Christopher Kirk, and a few of the later letters are by Josiah Wedgwood the younger's son, also called Josiah. There are also a few letters from John Wedgwood.

How letters from the Wedgwoods were originally kept is unclear. The List of Contents of the Watt Room notes the presence of "three packets of Wedgwood and Wedgwood & Byerley," while Hazleton's scrapbook notes separate bundles of letters from Wedgwood and Wedgwood & Byerley. However by the time the collection was listed by the Library the letters were in two indistinct bundles covering 1781 to 1842 (Box 36/25) and 1800 to 1825 (Box 36/26). It was clear that letters from the various General Incoming Correspondence series had been added to the original contents of the Wedgwood bundles – indeed it is possible that the Wedgwood bundles were entirely created by Hazleton in the 1890s from items removed from the General Correspondence. The only letters that could be replaced with certainty were those from the 1829 to 1843 series, and these will now be found in 3/455, General Incoming Correspondence dealt with in the Drawing Office 1829-1843, W.

The Wedgwood letters are now arranged in two bundles. The first bundle contains letters written by or on behalf of Josiah. This second bundle covers the years 1794 to 1828, and contains business correspondence from the partnerships and from Josiah's sons after his death in January 1795. Some of the letters from Josiah the younger in this bundle show signs of having been on display.

For drawings of the 30 horse engine bought by Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley see Portfolio 5/218.

1. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood Son & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 19 Dec. 1794.
2. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 23 Oct. 1795.
This letter has been removed from a display case or guard book.
Docketed "Character of Mr. Smith of Fenton."
3. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to James Watt Jr. (Heathfield). 7 Sep. 1796.
This letter has been removed from a display case or guard book. On the same sheet:
Sketch of a kiln.
Docketed "Pottery ovens."
4. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 13 Oct. 1800.
Docketed "Want estimates and information relative to grinding flour mill."

5. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 20 Dec. 1800.
Docketed "Order a 20 horse engine. Wish to have priority from the time of seeing Mr. Southern."
6. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 23 Dec. 1800.
Docketed "Wish the size of their engine to be not yet determined."
7. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Gunville) to James Watt Jr. or Gregory Watt (Heathfield). 22 Jan. 1801.
The docket is on a separate wrapper. Part of the letter, including the address, has been torn away.
Docketed "About their proposed engine. Performance of the one for Mr. Keeling."
8. Letter. Thomas Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 27 Jan. 1801.
Docketed "About their proposed engine. Performance of Mr. Keeling's."
9. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (London) to Gregory Watt (Heathfield). 13 Feb. 1801.
Docketed "Order of a 24 horse engine."
10. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 26 Feb. 1801.
Docketed "Will send their millwright and bricklayer on Wednesday."
11. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. [Soho]. 2 Mar. 1801.
On the same sheet:
Letter. M. R. Boulton to John Southern. 2 Mar. 1801 [?]
Docketed "Sends his millwright and bricklayer – Thornicroft and Heath – to settle plans."
12. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 9 Apr. 1801.
Docketed "Order a thirty horse engine. Want to know in what time it will be completed and whether an iron beam is preferable."
13. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley per B. Prescott (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Birmingham). 10 Jul. 1801.
Docketed "Cannot answer our letter till Mr. Byerley's return which will be next week."
14. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. [Soho]. 11 Nov. 1801.
Docketed "Desire to know when their engine will be ready."
15. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 15 Nov. 1801.
Docketed "Are unable to account for not answering our letter of 8 Jul. Urgent to have the engine as soon as possible."
16. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Gunville, near Salisbury) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 24 Nov. 1801.
Docketed "Determine upon iron beam and eccentric circle. Wish to have engine and mill completed by Lady Day."
17. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 28 Nov. 1801.
Docketed "Explanation respecting Mr. Lowe. Engine to be started by Lady Day."

18. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 2 Feb. 1802.
Docketed "Anxious for the delivery of their materials."
19. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 13 Feb. 1802.
Docketed "Wish enquiries to be made after their goods which are not arrived."
20. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to M. R. Boulton (Soho). 19 May 1802.
Docketed "Doubts about the speed of his mill. Explanations relative thereto requested."
21. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to M. R. Boulton (Soho). 22 May 1802.
Docketed "Supposes the speed of his mill will be found right. J. Pearson at liberty to go elsewhere."
22. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 30 May 1802.
Docketed "Further enquiries about speed of flint mill. Wishes our answer with the advice of the pump being forwarded."
23. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 25 Jun. 1802.
Docketed "Enquire when their pump will be finished."
24. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Birmingham). 7 Aug. 1802.
Docketed "Send over Thomas Woodall to be instructed in working the engine."
25. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 3 Sep. 1802.
Docketed "Will start their engine upon the 13th inst."
26. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 28 Sep. 1802.
Docketed "Remittance of £1200. In want of directions for the management of the engine."
27. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 2 Oct. 1802.
Docketed "Remit £38 on account of Pearson's time, and interest."
28. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 14 Jan. 1803.
Docketed "Breakage of their engine. Wish some person to be sent over to examine and repair it."
29. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 21 Apr. 1803.
Docketed "Desire our opinion of Mr. C. Bernecker's solidity."
30. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 10 May 1803.
Docketed "Remittance in payment of their account."
31. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 31 Aug. 1803.
Docketed "Order a second boiler for their engine."
32. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 10 May 1804.
Docketed "Remittance in full of our account."

33. Letter. Hamlet Wood (Etruria) to Boulton & Watt [Soho]. 10 Sep. 1804.
Docketed as J. Wedgwood & Byerley.
Docketed "Order air pump bucket and rod."
- 34a. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 30 Sep. 1804.
Enclosing (b) below.
Docketed "New air pump bucket and rod."
- b. Sketch & notes. New bucket rod required.
35. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. [Soho]. 6 Dec. 1804.
Docketed "Order 4 air pump bucket pins."
36. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 10 Feb. 1805.
On the same sheet:
 Sketch. Brass for foot valve.
Docketed "Order foot brasses."
37. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 26 Feb. 1805.
Docketed "Their engine man does not make the engine go regular speeds. Wish to have a counter. Desirous of having observations made upon the difference of power required in different states of their grinders."
38. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 16 Mar. 1805.
Docketed "Appoint 25th for Mr. Southern to go over."
- 39a. Memorandum. Experiments with the Indicators at Etruria... with Mr. Wedgwood. Mr. E. Hutton & Mr. H. Creighton. 26 Mar. 1805.
Kept with (b) below.
- b. Memorandum. Recommended to Messrs. Wedgwood & Byerley – to have done. Mar. 1805.
40. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 20 Apr. 1805.
Docketed "Remit £23.4.5. Wish Henry Creighton to be sent to them in about 3 weeks."
41. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 25 Apr. 1805.
Docketed "Wish Henry Creighton to be there by the 18 May."
42. Letter. John Wedgwood (Etruria) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 3 May 1805.
Docketed "Satisfied with experiments about aqua regia. Enquires about brick machines."
43. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 9 May 1805.
Docketed "Continue the speed John Southern left them at. Consumption of coals since."
44. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 17 Jun. 1805.
Docketed "Engine doing much work; but perhaps burns too much coal. Desire some person to call when going that way."

45. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley per Hamlet Wood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 9 Oct. 1805.
Docketed "Enquire respecting valve apparatus of which we appear to have received no order. Enquire if there are any improvements in the mouths of boilers."
46. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley per Hamlet Wood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 16 Oct. 1805.
Docketed "Explanation of theirs of the 9th inst."
47. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley per Hamlet Wood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 22 Oct. 1805.
Docketed "Have found their damper apparatus. Wish a man to be sent to put it up."
48. Sketch. Wedgwood & Byerley – guard for valve spindle, by Poole. 7 Nov. 1805.
49. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 18 Nov. 1805.
Docketed "Want the valve guard."
50. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley per Hamlet Wood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 26 Dec. 1805.
Docketed "Remit £62.10.3."
51. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 6 Jan. 1806.
Mis-dated as 1805.
Docketed "Introducing Mr. Allen of Burslem."
52. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 24 Jan. 1806.
Docketed "Their engine does not perform well. Wish some person from here to remain a week with them."
53. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 27 Jan. 1806.
Docketed "Their difficulty with the engine increased. Wish a person to be sent over immediately."
54. Letter. John Wedgwood (Etruria) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 22 Mar. 1806.
Docketed "Has ordered 8 tons of coal from Mr. Gilbert for photogenous experiments. Enquires about the application of the new light to light houses."
55. Letter. John Wedgwood [Etruria] to James Watt Jr. (Soho). "Monday Evening" [— Jul. 1806].
Forwarded to Watt care of Cheese & Davies, Kington.
Docketed "Wish to light up part of their works with the new light and desire Mr. Murdock may call to take their particulars. Order cement."
56. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 1 Dec. 1806.
Docketed "Order for brasses. Refer to memorandum taken by J. Watt and wish some person to call to inspect their boiler etc."
57. Sketches. Pins, pump links etc. for Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley. 17 Dec. 1806.
Docketed "J. Poole brings orders for sundry materials."

58. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley per Hamlet Wood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 1 Jan. 1807.
Docketed "Enquiry about the best oil for machinery."
59. Sketches. Wedgwood & Byerley – Gudgeons & order for cold water pump barrel. 5 Jan. 1807.
Marked "From J. Poole." Docketed "Part of the gudgeons not to be executed till further orders."
60. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 20 Jan. 1807.
Docketed "Want a man sent over to repair their boiler."
61. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 25 Feb. 1807.
Docketed "Desire to have a man to seat their boiler and wish the fireplace to be constructed for the destruction of the smoke. Enquiries about iron pipes."
62. Letter. John Wedgwood [Etruria] to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). Not dated [circa 1 Mar. 1807].
Docketed as Wedgwood & Byerley.
Marked "Received 2 Mar. 1807. Suppose from Etruria." Docketed "Order feed mouth. Want a man. Propose a scheme for heating the cylinder."
63. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 26 May 1807.
On the same sheet:
Letter. Josiah Wedgwood to James Watt Jr. 26 May 1807.
Docketed "Want a new foot valve to their engine and are anxious to have the new one determined as soon as possible."
64. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 3 Jun. 1807.
Docketed "Enquiry about a photogenous apparatus for his new house."
- 65a. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 13 Jun. 1807.
Kept with (b) below. On the same sheet:
Memorandum. James Lawson's Trials by the Indicator on the Etruria engine. 1 Jun. 1807.
Docketed "Experiments made with indicator."
- b. Note. List of substances being ground by Wedgwood's machinery [?].
66. Letter. John Wedgwood (Etruria) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 17 Jul. 1807.
Forwarded to Watt Jr. at Messrs. Chase & Davies, Kington.
Docketed "Wishes Mr. Murdock to assist them in some arrangements of their machinery."
67. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to James Lawson (Soho). 22 Jul. 1807.
Docketed "Intend to decline the erection of a 2nd engine at present."
68. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 25 Jul. 1807.
Docketed "Want a man to change their piston rod. Desire that John Poole may not be sent."
69. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley per Hamlet Wood (Etruria) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 28 Dec. 1807.
Docketed "Wish us to send them a cask of oil or give them an address to procure it. Horton's men have left their bill at the inn unpaid. Enquire if they should discharge it. Order a ream of copying paper."

70. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 29 Jan. 1808.
Docketed "Will be ready for our man to put up the heating apparatus on Monday or Tuesday."
71. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. [Soho]. 11 Mar. 1808.
Docketed "Brought by John Haden who has put up their heating apparatus, and discovered their air pump top valve is bad."
72. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Birmingham). 23 Mar. 1808.
Docketed "Order false face and valve for top of air pump."
73. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Birmingham). 31 May 1808.
Docketed "Wish to have their boiler repaired and order plates. Have broken their air pump rod and wish to have a new one if we think it advisable."
74. Sketch. Injection pipe for Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley. 27 Aug. 1808.
Docketed "Gavin McMurdo's sketch of injection pipes."
75. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood per Hamlet Wood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 2 Sep. 1808.
On the same sheet:
Pen & wash drawing of a pillar.
Docketed "Orders 5 cast iron pillars."
76. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 14 Dec. 1808.
Docketed "Information of Gavin's intention to be at Etruria on the 27th inst. and his desire to have another man to assist him sent a few days previously."
77. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 26 Dec. 1808.
Docketed "Leave it to us to determine whether Gavin shall make the alteration in their engine."
78. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 31 Dec. 1808.
Docketed "Gavin has engaged to be with them in a week. Wish to have the assistance of another man."
79. Letter. John Wedgwood (Etruria) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 10 Jan. 1809.
Docketed "Wants estimate of a pumping engine for Lord Milford."
- 80a. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Gavin McMurdo [Manchester?]. 31 Jan. 1809.
Kept with (b) below.
Docketed "Desiring Gavin McMurdo to proceed to their assistance as the pillar and cross beam are got loose."
- b. Note. Carting of certain articles from Etruria for repair.

81. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 25 Mar. 1809.
Docketed "Want hints about heating their ship with steam so as to dry it."
82. Letter. John Wedgwood (Etruria) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 29 Aug. 1809.
Docketed "Orders a punch etc."
83. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 22 Sep. 1809.
Docketed "Order a bucket rod for their hot water pump."
84. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 24 Oct. 1809.
Docketed "Have sent a bucket and rod by waggon. Desire a copy of the account alluded to in ours of the 13th inst. to be sent."
85. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 18 Jan. 1810.
Docketed "Enclose bills for £521.15. Desire to have hot water pump bucket and rod returned."
86. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley per Hamlet Wood (Etruria) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 15 Mar. 1810.
Docketed "Order some brass wire and cement. Have sent piston rod by canal."
87. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley per Hamlet Wood (Etruria) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 24 Mar. 1810.
Docketed "Order copying paper."
88. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 9 Oct. 1810.
Docketed "Suppose the seatings of their valves to be worn and wish to have them examined."
89. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 10 Nov. 1810.
Docketed "Remind us of their request to have a man sent to repair their engine."
90. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 5 Dec. 1810.
Docketed "Robert McMurdo has not adjusted their eccentric properly. Have replaced it as marked by Gavin."
91. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (London) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 14 Dec. 1810.
*This letter has previously been pinned up on display.
Docketed "Wishes us to value his steam engine."*
92. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 19 Dec. 1810.
*This letter has previously been pinned up on display.
Docketed "Is obliged to have two valuations. Wishes one from us early in the ensuing year."*
93. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 24 Dec. 1810.
Docketed "Proposes Mr. Lowe to meet some person from hence to value the millwork and engine."
94. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 27 Dec. 1810.
Docketed "Have broke their (suppose) plummer block. Answered."

95. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 2 Jan. 1811.
Mis-dated by Wedgwood as 1810.
Docketed "Have got the engine to work again and find the articles sent right. Has agreed with Mr. Byerley's executors for us to value the engine alone."
96. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 21 Jan. 1811.
Mis-dated by Wedgwood as 1810.
Docketed "Complains of the nozzle seat put in by Robert McMurdo having failed. States that Johnson would not stop to mend a leaking joint of the steam case. Would wish Gavin to be employed for them. Answered."
97. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 14 Mar. 1811.
Docketed "Orders various small articles."
98. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to Boulton & Watt Jrs. (Birmingham). 27 Apr. 1811.
Docketed "With sockets for the gas pipes. Price at which the pipes and sockets can be made."
99. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood per Hamlet Wood (Etruria) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 8 May 1811.
Docketed "Orders brass wire, copper and cement."
100. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 25 Nov. 1811.
On the same sheet:
 Notes for the reply.
Docketed "Has never received the rod and bucket for hot water pump, sent on the 25 Jan. 1810. Answered by Mr. Ferguson 5 Dec."
101. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to James Watt Jr. [Soho]. 9 Dec. 1811.
Docketed "Enquires about heating the rooms at Dulwich College by steam. Encloses Joseph Lancaster's proposals. Answered by J. W. in London 30 Dec. 1811."
102. Letter. Christopher Kirk (Etruria) to Boulton & Watt [Soho]. 31 Dec. 1811.
Docketed as Josiah Wedgwood. On the same sheet:
 Sketch. Cold water pump.
Docketed "Orders a jack head cold water pump."
103. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 7 Mar. 1812.
Docketed "Enquiries concerning a piston rod forwarded to us in Mar. 1810."
104. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. [Soho]. 16 Apr. 1812.
Docketed "Sends some nail rods and desires allowance for the old piston rod, sent some time since, if a new rod is necessary."
105. Letter. Christopher Kirk [Etruria] to Boulton & Watt [Soho]. 16 Apr. 1812.
Docketed as Josiah Wedgwood. On the same sheet:
 Sketch. Piston and rod.
Docketed "Orders a piston, cap and gudgeon."
106. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Maer) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 14 Jan. 1813.
This letter has been removed from a display case or guard book.
Docketed "Introducing Mr. B. Allen."

107. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood per Hamlet Wood (Etruria) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 17 Jun. 1814.
Docketed "Orders ½ cwt of cement and set of oil papers for copying machine."
108. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. [Soho]. 6 Mar. 1815.
Docketed "Encloses proceedings of the North Staffordshire Infirmary and solicits a subscription."
109. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 26 Apr. 1815.
Docketed "Has sent his barometer to be repaired. Orders two boxes of cement."
110. Letter. Christopher Kirk (Etruria) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 4 Sep. 1815.
Docketed as Josiah Wedgwood.
Docketed "Directions respecting the piston and rod."
111. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 25 Oct. 1815.
Docketed "Enclosing letter from Edward Jervis Ricketts Esq. Wishes to have his engine inspected on the 11 Nov. Wants my father's opinion on Mr. Gilbert's scheme."
112. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to James Watt Jr. [Soho]. 11 Nov. 1815.
Docketed "His engine in tolerable order and can wait if not convenient to us to send on Saturday."
113. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood per Hamlet Wood (Etruria) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 22 Jan. 1817.
Docketed "Orders 2 boxes of cement. Also ink powders."
114. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. [Soho]. 5 Jun. 1817.
Docketed "Nozzle valves and spindles being out of repair, enquires time of putting in new ones."
115. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 9 Aug. 1817.
Docketed "Wishes to have his engine looked at for repairs. Enquires price of a new cylinder."
116. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 20 Aug. 1817.
Docketed "Inclines to order a 36 horse cylinder etc. for his engine and wishes a person to be sent to inspect it. Enquires about the value of his old cylinder etc.; and wishes to know the time requisite for making the alteration."
117. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 18 Sep. 1817.
Docketed "Desirous to have a time appointed for a man to come over."
118. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 4 Oct. 1817.
Docketed "Wood has examined engine, and it is of need only to be repaired. Wishes to know how soon the materials can be done."
119. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. [Soho]. 20 Oct. 1817.
Docketed "Third boiler not wanted at present. Enquires respecting the raising of chimney."
120. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 20 Nov. 1817.
Docketed "Enquires about the chimney."
121. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. [Soho]. 26 Nov. 1817.
Docketed "Wants Alexander Wood."

122. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. [Soho]. 16 Dec. 1817.
Docketed "Wishes articles back soon as possible. Names carriers and their days."
123. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. [Soho]. 29 Dec. 1817.
Docketed "Wishes nozzles sent by a cart." Marked "Were loaded in a cart when this letter came."
124. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. [Soho]. 10 Jan. 1818.
Docketed "Asks if Wood may have more than £10 advanced."
125. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. [Soho]. 13 Jan. 1818.
Docketed "Orders 2 boxes of cement, one of them for Mr. Spode."
126. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 30 Jan. 1818.
Docketed "Enquires about a third boiler. Draft of chimney improved."
127. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 17 Feb. 1818.
Docketed "Respecting his boilers and new ones."
128. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood per Josiah Wedgwood Jr. (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 25 Feb. 1818.
Docketed "His dampers work ill. Is well satisfied with Alexander Wood. Cold water runs into hot water cistern."
129. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood Jr. (Etruria) to Boulton & Watt [Soho]. 13 Apr. 1818.
Docketed "Does not want a boiler. Is about altering the water overflow."
130. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood per Hamlet Wood (Etruria) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 11 Jun. 1818.
Docketed "Orders 2 boxes of cement."
131. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood per Josiah Wedgwood Jr. (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. [Soho]. 12 Oct. 1818.
Docketed "Enquires about method of keeping crust from boilers. Also price of one of 30 horse."
132. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood per Josiah Wedgwood Jr. (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. [Soho]. 21 Oct. 1818.
Docketed "Encloses draft for £340.9.0. Enquires price of a 30 horse boiler with and without apparatus."
133. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 19 May 1820.
Docketed "Orders 2 boxes cement."
134. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. [Soho]. 18 Sep. 1821.
Docketed "Enquires how crockery pipes answer."
135. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 17 Jun. 1823.
Docketed "Recommending Messrs. Sneyd for the supply of copper. N.B. This letter delviered by Messrs. Sneyd's agent on the 24 Jun."
136. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood per Josiah Wedgwood Jr. (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 23 Oct. 1823.
Docketed "Orders 2 boxes cement. Wants account."

137. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Son (Etruria) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 5 Jun. 1824.
Docketed "Order exhausting valves and seats."
138. Sketches & notes. Various items previously made for Josiah Wedgwood & Byerley. 28 Mar. 1825.
Docketed "Dimensions of some parts." Includes parts made in 1805.
139. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Sons per Francis Wedgwood (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 14 Dec. 1825.
Docketed "Order 2 boxes of cement."
140. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Sons (Etruria) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 14 Mar. 1826.
Docketed as 21 Mar.
Docketed "Orders 2 exhausting valves. Sent some old ones back."
141. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Sons (Etruria) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 7 Apr. 1828.
Docketed "Order exhusting valves and seats."
142. Letter. Josiah Wedgwood & Sons (Etruria) to Boulton Watt & Co. (Soho). 19 Apr. 1828.
Docketed "Send old valves as pattern and only want two."

MS 3147/3/530
SPECIAL SUBJECTS & CORRESPONDENTS
WEST INDIA DOCK – TRANSCRIPTS AND MEMORANDA
1825—1830

INTRODUCTION

Transcripts of letters and memoranda concerning a pumping engine for the West India Dock, London, from 1825 to 1830. The engine was ordered in 1825, but, as it was not urgently required, it was suspended due to pressure of work at Soho in Nov. 1826. It was finally completed in 1828. The majority of the letters are between Boulton Watt & Co. and George and John Rennie and their foreman John Walker.

For drawings of the engine, see Portfolio 5/664c.

1. Transcripts. Transcripts of 16 letters & 2 memoranda. 5 sheets sewn together.
In James Watt Jr. 's hand. The transcripts are as follows – Boulton Watt & Co. write from or receive letters at Soho unless otherwise noted:

John Rennie Jr. (Stamford St., London) to Boulton Watt & Co. 19 Mar. 1825.
Boulton Watt & Co. to John Rennie Jr. (Stamford St., London). 21 Mar. 1825.
John Walker (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. 22 Mar. 1825.
William Creighton for Boulton Watt & Co. to John Walker. 23 Mar. 1825.
John Walker (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. 24 Mar. 1825.
Boulton Watt & Co. to John Rennie Jr. (Stamford St., London). 1 Apr. 1825.
Memorandum. John Walker at Soho. 5 Apr. 1825.
John Walker (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. 19 Apr. 1825.
William Creighton for Boulton Watt & Co. to John Walker (London). 26 Apr. 1825.
William Creighton for Boulton Watt & Co. to John Walker (London). 26 May 1825.

Memorandum. John Walker at Soho. 4 Jun. 1825.
 William Creighton for Boulton Watt & Co. to John Walker (London). 28 Jun. 1825.
 John Walker (Holland St., London) to James Brown (13 London St.). 18 May 1826.
 William Creighton for Boulton Watt & Co. to John Walker. 17 Nov. 1826.
 John Walker (6 Holland St., London) to Boulton Watt & Co. 20 Nov. 1826.
 Extract. John Walker (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. 26 Nov. 1826.
 Boulton Watt & Co. to John Rennie Jr. (London). 6 Feb. 1827.
 John Rennie (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. 7 Feb. 1827.

Docketed "Copy of correspondence relative to the West India Dock Company's steam engine 36 inch diameter 8 foot stroke, with 38/6 and 24/4 pumps."

2. Transcripts. Transcripts of 12 letters & 1 memorandum. 12 small sheets sewn together. *In William Creighton's hand. Transcripts of all the items listed above for 1825 (except the memorandum of 5 Apr.), plus the following transcripts:*
 James Watt Jr. [London] to Boulton Watt & Co. 9 Mar. 1827.
 James Watt Jr. [London] to Boulton Watt & Co. 7 Mar. 1827.
3. Transcripts. Transcripts of 5 letters. 4 small sheets originally sewn together. *In William Creighton's hand. The transcripts are as follows:*
 William Creighton for Boulton Watt & Co. to John Walker. 17 Nov. 1826.
 James Watt Jr. [London] to Boulton Watt & Co. 5 Dec. 1826.
 Boulton Watt & Co. to John Rennie Jr. [London]. 14 Feb. 1827.
 James Watt Jr. [London] to Boulton Watt & Co. 17 Feb. 1827.
 James Watt Jr. [London] to Boulton Watt & Co. 23 Feb. 1827.
4. Memorandum. Extract from Mr. Creighton's letter... relating to West India Dock. 25 Jun. 1828.
5. Sketches. West India Dock Pump beams. Not dated.
6. Indicator figures & performance graphs. 24 May—4 Jun. 1830. 8 sheets.
7. Transcripts. Transcripts of letters and memoranda. 18 sheets. *In Gilbert Hamilton's hand. The transcripts are as follows:*

1825:
 John Rennie Jr. (Stamford St.) to Boulton Watt & Co. 19 Mar. 1825.
 Boulton Watt & Co. to John Rennie Jr. (Stamford St.). 21 Mar. 1825.
 John Walker (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. 22 Mar. 1825.
 William Creighton for Boulton Watt & Co. to John Walker. 23 Mar. 1825.
 John Walker (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. 24 Mar. 1825.
 Boulton Watt & Co. to John Rennie Jr. (Stamford St.). 1 Apr. 1825.
 Memorandum of John Walker's visit to Soho, 5 Apr. 1825.
 John Walker (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. 19 Apr. 1825.
 William Creighton for Boulton Watt & Co. to John Walker (London). 26 Apr. 1825.
 William Creighton for Boulton Watt & Co. to John Walker (London). 26 May 1825.
 Memorandum of John Walker's visit to Soho, 4 Jun. 1825.
 William Creighton for Boulton Watt & Co. to John Walker (London). 28 Jun. 1825.

1826:
 John Walker (Holland St.) to James Brown (13 London St.). 18 May 1826.
 William Creighton for Boulton Watt & Co. to John Walker. 17 Nov. 1826.
 John Walker (6 Holland St.) to Boulton Watt & Co. 20 Nov. 1826.

Extract from John Walker (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. 28 Nov. 1826.

1827:

Boulton Watt & Co. to John Rennie Jr. (London). 6 Feb. 1827.

John Rennie Jr. (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. 7 Feb. 1827.

Boulton Watt & Co. to John Rennie Jr. (London). 14 Feb. 1827.

Account. West India Dock Co. debtors to Boulton Watt & Co. for 36 inch engine. 9 Feb. 1827.

John Rennie Jr. (Stamford St.) to James Watt Jr. [London]. 16 Feb. 1827.

James Watt Jr. (Rook's Nest) to John Rennie Jr. [London]. 18 Feb. 1827.

James Watt Jr. (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. 17 Feb. 1827.

Calculation re pumps "transmitted by Mr. Creighton".

Extract from James Watt Jr. [London] to Boulton Watt & Co. 23 Feb. 1827.

Extract from James Watt Jr. [London] to Boulton Watt & Co. 7 Mar. 1827.

Extract from James Watt Jr. [London] to Boulton Watt & Co. 9 Mar. 1827.

Memorandum for Mr. Longlands respecting the West India Dock engine. By James Watt Jr. 9 Mar. 1827.

Memorandum of dates of sending off the heavy materials of the engine and payment for it.

Sketch plans of West India Docks (copies of originals sent by John Rennie Jr., 27 Jul. 1827).

James Watt Jr. (Soho) to John Rennie Jr. (London). 31 Jul. 1827.

Memorandum of dates of forwarding of bright materials and starting the engine.

1829:

George Rennie (Stamford St.) to James Watt Jr. [Soho]. 10 Dec. 1829.

John Walker (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. 10 Dec. 1829.

William Creighton for Boulton Watt & Co. to John Walker. 11 Dec. 1829.

James Watt (Soho) to George Rennie (London). 17 Dec. 1829.

1830:

Memorandum. Copy of Mr. Brown's Experiments with the West India Dock Engine. 26 Mar. 1830.

William Creighton to James Brown (London). 31 Mar. 1830.

J. Longlands (West India Dockhouse) to Boulton Watt & Co. 2 Apr. 1830.

James Watt Jr. (Soho) to John Mosley (13 London St.). 8 Apr. 1830.

James Brown (London) to James Watt Jr. [Soho]. 13 Apr. 1830.

James Watt Jr. (Soho) to James Brown (London). 14 Apr. 1830.

William Creighton to James Brown [London]. 14 Apr. 1830.

Sketch. Proposed reservoirs for supplying ships (not executed). 14 Apr. 1830.

James Watt Jr. (Soho) to J. Longlands (West India Dockhouse). 22 Apr. 1830

James Watt Jr. (Soho) to George & John Rennie (London). 22 Apr. 1830.

George and John Rennie (Stamford St.) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 27 Apr. 1830.

J. Longlands (West India Dockhouse) to James Watt Jr. (Soho). 1 May 1830.

Boulton Watt & Co. to George & John Rennie (Stamford St.). 8 May 1830.

James Brown (London) to William Creighton. 7 May 1830.

Extract from James Brown (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. 12 May 1830.

James Watt Jr. (Soho) to James Brown (13 London St.). 14 May 1830.

James Brown (London) to James Watt Jr. [Soho]. 17 May 1830.

Boulton Watt & Co. to J. Longlands [West India Dockhouse]. 17 May 1830.

James Brown (London) to Boulton Watt & Co. 24 May 1830.

3 indicator figures for the West India Dock engine (originals sent by Brown with his letter of 24 May).

MS 3147/3/531
SPECIAL SUBJECTS & CORRESPONDENTS
WHITE GRIT MINE AND SHELVEFIELD GRAVELS
1783—1785

INTRODUCTION

Letters and papers about pumping engines for White Grit Mine and Shelvefield Gravels, from 1783 to 1785. White Grit mine was a lead mine in Shropshire. The proprietors included Joshua Blakeway of Lythwood Hall near Shrewsbury, Thomas Lloyd Anwyl and John Lawrence, who was also the engineer. In 1784 Blakeway and Lawrence ordered another engine for their mine at Shelvefield Gravels, which they often referred to simply as “Gravels.” The White Grit mine engine was stopped in 1785 and sold the following year. For letters from John Lawrence about the sale see 3/395/2-16, General Correspondence 1785-1795, L.

For drawings of the engines see Portfolios 5/553 (White Grit) and 5/557 (Shelvefield Gravels).

1. Letter. John Lawrence (—) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 18 Jan. 1783.
Joshua Blakeway & Co. of White Grit Mine want an engine. Details of their requirements. Request for details of costs, coal consumption etc.
2. Draft of letter. James Watt (—) to John Lawrence (—). 30 Jan. 1783.
Detailed estimate of the cost of an engine for White Grit mine. Enclosing a copy of Boulton & Watt’s terms of agreement. John Wilkinson is the only person they use for ironwork. Pumps are left up to the customer.
3. Letter. Joshua Blakeway (Shrewsbury) to James Watts & Co. (Birmingham). 3 Feb. 1783.
Details of the mine. Would like an estimate of an engine the same as the one at Bog Mine, with an 8 ft. stroke. Wants to present Boulton & Watt’s proposals at a meeting of the proprietors. John Lawrence has been strenuously recommending a Boulton & Watt engine.
4. Letter. Joshua Blakeway (Shrewsbury) to Boulton & Watt (Birmingham). 27 Feb. 1783.
The proprietors have agreed to erect an engine. Wants to meet James Watt to discuss terms.
5. Letter. Joshua Blakeway (Shrewsbury) to Boulton & Watt (—). 20 Mar. 1783.
Arrangements to meet Boulton & Watt in Shrewsbury.
6. Memorandum. Agreement between the White Grit Co. and Boulton & Watt. 27 Mar. 1783.
Signed by James Watt, Matthew Boulton, Joshua Blakeway, John Lawrence and Thomas Lloyd Anwyl.
7. Letter. Joshua Blakeway (Lythwood) to Matthew Boulton (Soho). 15 Apr. 1783.
Thanks Matthew Boulton for some snuffers. Directions for the gudgeons. Mr. Lawrence hopes the engine will be ready as soon as possible. Sending some samples of ore.
8. Letter. Joshua Blakeway (Lythwood) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 18 Apr. 1783.
John Lawrence is constructing the engine house. Details of the iron work he wants from Boulton & Watt.
9. Letter. Joshua Blakeway (Shrewsbury) to Boulton & Watt (Birmingham). 7 May 1783.
John Lawrence’s request for details of the iron work. Lawrence cannot understand the plan of the boiler and cannot find a boiler maker who can.

10. Letter. Joshua Blakeway (Lythwood) to James Watt (Soho). 23 May 1783.
Received the drawings and model and sent them to John Lawrence. The model has been sent to Mr. Oram, the boiler maker. The model did not help Lawrence. Will return the agreement soon. Lawrence says that the plans have altered so much from the sketches James Watt gave him that he has incurred unusual expense in alterations. Lawrence's queries about various parts.
11. Printed list. List of Materials for White Grit ret^d. from Mr. Lawrence with his remarks. 23 May 1783.
Printed list of the engine components, showing what is to be at Bersham, Bradley and Soho and what the mine was to provide. Annotated by James Watt after John Lawrence had returned it. Sent by James Watt to Joshua Blakeway 23 May 1783 with a note saying he had also sent a model, book of directions and final drawings.
12. Letter. John Lawrence (—) to Joshua Blakeway (Lythwood). 28 May 1783.
Returning James Watt's printed list of parts with notes about what the mine can make. Forwarded by Blakeway to James Watt at Soho.
13. Letter. Thomas Lloyd Anywl (Shrewsbury) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 29 May. 1783.
Returning the agreement.
14. Letter. Joshua Blakeway (Lythwood) to James Watt (Soho). 12 Jun. 1783.
John Lawrence's completion of the engine house. Can James Watt send chain links to use as a pattern. Can James Watt ask Matthew Boulton to send him his observations on the ore that Blakeway sent and the price of turret clocks.
15. Letter. Joshua Blakeway (Shrewsbury) to James Watt (Soho). 28 Jun. 1783.
Has received several pressing letters from John Lawrence wanting to know about progress with engine. Can James Watt sent the chain pattern.
16. Letter. Joshua Blakeway (Shrewsbury) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 23 Jul. 1783.
John Lawrence is getting very impatient. Has Matthew Boulton tested the ore yet. Boulton & Watt did suggest when they visited that the engine might be at work by Midsummer.
17. Letter. Joshua Blakeway (Shrewsbury) to Boulton & Watt (—). 12 Aug. 1783.
John Lawrence received the box of adjusting screws, but wants all the materials for the engine. Putting up the engine at this time of year will put the company to considerable expense.
18. Letter. Joshua Blakeway (Shrewsbury) to Boulton & Watt (—). 16 Aug. 1783.
Very pleased to hear that many of the parts are nearly ready. Expense of putting the engine up when the days get shorter. Arrangements for the delivery of parts and sending of an engine erector.
19. Letter. John Smith for Joshua Blakeway (Shrewsbury) to Boulton & Watt (Birmingham). 30 Aug. 1783.
The castings have been forwarded to White Grit mine. Can Boulton & Watt send their erector.
20. Letter. John Smith for Joshua Blakeway (Shrewsbury) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 25 Oct. 1783.
John Lawrence's complaints about the delays in sending the piston rods. This is costing the White Grit Co. money.

21. Letter. John Lawrence (—) to Joshua Blakeway (Shrewsbury). 13 Nov. 1783.
Progress with the engine. Problems with the boiler. The cylinder made by John Wilkinson had a hole in it which James Law has patched. Have run out of lime so cannot put the cylinder case on. Is pleased with Law's work. Blakeway forwarded this letter to James Watt at Soho.
22. Letter. John Lawrence (—) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 31 Dec. 1783.
Their engine works well but the boiler is bad. Need a new one. Will one of the same size they have already be sufficient.
23. Letter. John Lawrence (Shrewsbury) to James Watt (Soho). 1 Mar. 1784.
Can James Watt send him details of an engine to pump surface water from an opencast mine at Gravels. Details of the mine. Progress at White Grit mine.
24. Letter. Joshua Blakeway (Shrewsbury) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 19 May 1784.
Need to meet to discuss the proposed small engine. John Lawrence will be in Birmingham in about a fortnight.
25. Letter. J. Wigley for Joshua Blakeway & Co. (Shrewsbury) to James Watt (Birmingham). 3 Jul. 1784.
Can Boulton & Watt send the articles as soon as possible. The delay is a great disappointment.
26. Letter. Joshua Blakeway (Shrewsbury) to James Watt (—). 21 Jul. 1784.
John Lawrence wants the details of the ironwork for the Gravels engine. Orders locks for his sideboard, locks for a counting house desk and a lamp for his counting house.
27. Letter. Joshua Blakeway (Shrewsbury) to James Watt (—). 30 Jul. 1784.
Alterations to his order for locks for a counting house desk. John Lawrence is very impatient for the details of the iron work of the Gravels engine.
28. Letter. John Lawrence (—) to James Watt (Soho). 2 Aug. 1784.
Proposals for where the various parts for the Gravels engine should be made.
29. Letter. Joshua Blakeway (Shrewsbury) to James Watt (—). 12 Aug. 1784.
Is not concerned about the price of the five locks for his sideboard. Is anxious to have the Gravels engine working as soon as possible as they have had to abandon part of a vein.
30. Letter. Joshua Blakeway (Shrewsbury) to James Watt (Soho). 9 Sept. 1784.
Can the locks be delivered with the engine parts. Has James Watt heard from John Wilkinson as to whether the parts being made at Bersham are ready.
31. Letter. Joshua Blakeway (Shrewsbury) to James Watt (—). 28 Sep. 1784.
John Lawrence wants the remaining engine materials so that an engine erector can be sent soon after. Has received the locks but no master keys. If the lamps are ready can one "of the common kind" be brought by the engine erector.
32. Letter. Joshua Blakeway (Shrewsbury) to Boulton & Watt (—). 5 Oct. 1784.
Has received John Southern's letter and will send the locks for the master keys to be made. John Lawrence wants an engine erector to be sent.
33. Letter. John Lawrence (—) to James Watt (Birmingham). 27 Nov. 1784.
James Law has started the Gravels engine. Details of what Lawrence has paid him. Have Boulton & Watt been paid for the White Grit mine engine, as the company have given Joshua Blakeway cash to pay for outstanding articles.

34. Letter. John Lawrence (—) to James Watt (Soho). 4 Dec. 1784.
Details of his friend Mr. Probert's lead mine in Cardiganshire, and a nearby water wheel. Can James Watt tell him what quantity of ore the water wheel would raise in 24 hours.
35. Letter. John Lawrence (—) to Boulton & Watt (Soho). 7 Jan. 1785.
The White Grit mine engine was stopped on 31 Dec. 1784. The Company will let them know when it is to be worked again. Thanks James Watt for his advice to Mr. Probert.

MS 3147/3/532
SPECIAL SUBJECTS & CORRESPONDENTS
JOHN WILKINSON – BILLS FOR ENGINE PARTS
1777—1778

INTRODUCTION

Various bills and accounts for castings, engine parts etc. sent to Boulton & Fothergill, Matthew Boulton and Boulton & Watt by the Shropshire iron master John Wilkinson. These were originally kept in smaller bundles, namely 1771—1776, 1775, 1776—1777 and 1777—1778, “Copies of Accounts to July 1776” and “Doubles of Accounts.” However the bills were found in such a disordered state that it proved impossible to reconstruct the original bundles, so they have been arranged in chronological order.

1. Bill. Messrs. Boulton & Fothergill bought of John Wilkinson. 1771—1772.
Also account of cash paid on account on 28 Sep. 1771.
2. Bill. Messrs. Boulton & Fothergill bought of John Wilkinson. Circa 1771—1773?
The left hand side of the bill has been torn away, rendering the dates of the entries unreadable. Also account of cash paid on account on 28 Sep. 1771 [?].
3. Bill. Messrs. Boulton & Fothergill bought of John Wilkinson. 1773—1774.
Also account of bills paid on account and sundries paid 1771 and 1773.
4. Letter. William Johnson for John Wilkinson (Bradley Foundry) to Boulton & Fothergill (Soho). 13 Jul. 1775.
On the same sheet:
List of items sent by boat to Soho.
5. Bill. Messrs. Boulton & Fothergill bought of John Wilkinson. 15 Aug. 1775.
Marked “Entered in Bought Book Folio 1.”
6. Delivery note. Mr. Boulton (Soho) from William Thomas for John Wilkinson (Bradley). 28 Aug. 1775.
Marked “Entered in Bought Book Folio 1.”
7. Bill. Messrs. Boulton & Fothergill bought of John Wilkinson. 31 Aug. 1775.
8. Bill. Messrs. Boulton & Co. bought of John Wilkinson. 12 Sep. 1775.
Marked “Entered in Folio 2.”

9. Bill. Messrs. Boulton & Co. bought of John Wilkinson. 7 Oct. 1775.
Marked "Entered Bought Book Folio 2."
10. Letter. William Johnson for John Wilkinson (Bradley Foundry) to Joseph Harrison (Soho). 1 Nov. 1775.
Marked "Entered in Bought Book Folio 2."
11. Letter. William Johnson [Bradley] to Mr. — Harrison (Tipton). — Nov. 1775.
On the same sheet:
Delivery note. Patterns sent to Soho by Mr. Russell's boat. 17 Nov. 1775.
Docketed "Mr. John Wilkinson's accounts 1775" – originally used as a wrapper?
12. Bill. Messrs. Boulton & Fothergill bought of John Wilkinson. 24 Jan. 1776.
Marked "Delivered by Jos. Williams' team at Soho."
13. Note. Bradley Foundry, 15 Mar. 1776.
Note of three arms being sent to Soho by Russell & Co.'s boat.
14. Bill. Messrs. Boulton & Co. bought of John Wilkinson. 5 Apr. 1776.
Docketed "Mr. Wilkinson's doubles of accounts. All entered."
15. Bill. Messrs. Boulton & Co. debtors to John Wilkinson. 1775—16 Apr. 1776.
The left hand side of the bill has been torn away, rendering some of the dates of the entries unreadable. Includes parts for the "wheel engine" [steam wheel?].
Marked "The sundries above, from the 24 Jan. 1776, are entered in Journal page 106 per J. P. [James Pearson]."
16. Bill. Messrs. Boulton & Fothergill bought of John Wilkinson. 15 May 1776.
Marked by James Pearson "For Engine. This seems to be formerly entered from another bill [see below] in Journal 106."
17. Bill. Messrs. Boulton & Co. bought of John Wilkinson. 11—30 May 1776.
Marked "Entered 106 per J. P. [James Pearson]."
18. Bill. Messrs. Boulton & Fothergill bought of John Wilkinson. 3 Jun. 1776.
Marked "Entered 108 J. P. [James Pearson]."
19. Bill. Messrs. Boulton & Co. bought of John Wilkinson. Bradley Foundry, 12 Jun. 1776.
Marked "Entered 112 J. P."
Docketed "Mr. John Wilkinson's Accounts 1770 to 1776" – originally used as the wrapper?
20. Bill. Messrs. Boulton & Co. bought of John Wilkinson. Bradley Foundry, 3 Jul. 1776.
Marked "Entered 126 J. P. [James Pearson]."
Docketed "Copy of Mr. Wilkinson's accounts to July 1776."
21. Bill. Messrs. Boulton & Fothergill debtors to John Wilkinson. 23 Apr.—23 Sep. 1776.
Includes parts for the "wheel engine" [steam wheel?].
22. Bill. Messrs. Boulton & Co. bought of John Wilkinson. 16 Nov. 1776.
Marked "Entered 358 J. P. [James Pearson]."
23. Bill. Messrs. Boulton & Co. debtors to John Wilkinson. 5 Nov. 1776—24 Mar. 1777.
24. Note. Mr. Boulton's credit at Bersham Foundry. 29 Mar. 1777.
Lists payments by bills and goods 28 Sep. 1771 to 29 Mar. 1777.

25. Bill. Boulton Fothergill & Co. debtors to John Wilkinson. Midsummer—29 Sep. 1777.
Docketed "Mr. John Wilkinson's accounts 1776 & 1777" – originally used as the wrapper?
26. Bill. Messrs. Boulton & Co. bought of John Wilkinson. 11 Feb. 1777.
Marked "Entered per John Hall" and "Entered 358 J. P. [James Pearson]."
27. Bill. Messrs. Boulton & Co. bought of John Wilkinson. 12 Mar. 1777.
Two entries, one marked "Entered per John Hall" and the other marked "Entered 358 J. P. [James Pearson]."
28. Bill. Messrs Boulton Fothergill & Co. bought of John Wilkinson. 24 Mar. 1777.
Marked "Entered per J. H. [John Hall]" and "Entered 358 J. P. [James Pearson]."
29. Bill. Messrs. Boulton & Co. debtor to John Wilkinson. 9 May 1777.
Docketed "Mr. Boulton & Co. for Expansive Engine. Bersham Bill £77.16. Should be £77.18.8."
30. Bill. Messrs. Boulton Fothergill & Co. debtors to John Wilkinson. 24 Mar.—12 Jun. 1777.
Includes parts for "wheel engine" [steam wheel?] and expansive engine.
31. Bill. Messrs. Boulton & Co. debtors to John Wilkinson. 12 Jun. 1777.
Docketed "Copy of account delivered Misummer 1777."
32. Bill. Edward Salmon debtor to John Wilkinson. 20 May—2 Sep. 1777.
Marked "En. [Entered]" [For Edward Salmon's engine, Lawton, Cheshire.]
33. Bill. Messrs. Boulton & Co. bought of John Wilkinson. 2—29 Sep. 1777.
Marked "Entered 5 per J. P."
34. Receipt. John Wilkinson's receipt of payment for Mr. Colville's goods. 7 Jan. 1778.
[Goods for Peter Coleville's engine.]
35. Account. Abstract of Sundry Bills delivered & Cash advanced on account of the Brig Bersham. 29 Jan. 1778.
Docketed "Mr. John Wilkinson Accounts 1777 & 1778" – originally used as the wrapper?
36. Bill. The Proprietors of the Richmond Engine debtors to John Wilkinson. 8 Jul. 1777—7 Feb. 1778.
Marked "En. [Entered]"