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**ARCHIVES DEPARTMENT  
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**COAST LINES LIMITED**

**Reference Code: B/CST  
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**Listed by  
John Moore, Assistant Curator, Maritime Archives  
31 October 2007**

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**COAST LINES LIMITED**

**Introduction**

The Liverpool based Coast Lines Group was a successful coastal conglomerate founded by Sir Alfred Read, of around fifty companies that eventually became the world's largest coastal liner fleet. From 1913 onwards, the group adopted an ambitious programme of amalgamations and takeovers, helped by the poor profitability of coastal trading which was facing harsh competition from the railways and the growth of inland motorised transport.

Coast Lines Ltd. themselves helped to pioneer the integration of coastal and inland road transport through their ownership of several road haulage companies, the most well known being the Liverpool Cartage Co. of 1913. During the 1930s, Coast Lines Ltd. became synonymous with their classic motor coaster design and their work alike large twin screw Irish passenger steamers.

Coast Lines Ltd. had their own shipbuilding yard at Ardrossan, which over the years produced over forty of the company's vessels. From the late 1960s, coastal trading experienced the revolutionary impact of containerisation coupled with the advent of the roll on - roll off ferry.

Eventually, the Coast Lines Group was taken over by P. & O. in 1971 and amalgamated into their coastal cargo services.

**Reference Works**

Middlemiss, N.L., *Coast Lines*, Shield Publications, Newcastle, 1998

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Item No.	Description	Date(s)
<b>B/CST/1/1 - 4</b>	<b><u>POWELL, BACON &amp; HOUGH LINES LTD. (LATER COAST LINES LTD.)</u></b>	<b><u>1913 - 1971</u></b>
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2	Minute Book - Directors Meetings.	1930 - 1941
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7	Minute Book - Directors Meetings.	1913 - 1968
8	Minutes of the Committee of the Board appointed to deal with the remuneration of Executive Directors.	1960 - 1971
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1	Register of Directors and Secretaries.	1913 - 1960
2	Register of Directors holdings and interests.	1948 - 1968
3	Register of Directors holdings and interests.	1949 - 1968
4	Register of Directors shares and debenture interests.	1967 - 1970
5	Register of Directors mortgages and bonds: transfers of stock and transfers of preference bonds.	1926 - 1956
6	Registers of certificates sealed.	1940 - 1971
7	Seal Book.	1963 - 1969

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3/1 - 33	<b><u>Annual Reports, Accounts and Annual Returns</u></b>	<b><u>1931 - 1970</u></b>
1	Annual Report and Accounts.	1931
2	Annual Report and Accounts.	1934
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3/1 - 33	<b><u>Annual Reports, Accounts and Annual Returns (cont)</u></b>	<b><u>1931 - 1970</u></b>
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25	Annual Returns.	1962
26	Annual Returns (from 1963 these include the previous year's Annual Report).	1963
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3	Notice of conversion of shares into stock to be allotted to P. & O.	1971
4	Return of allotments with the relevant letter from P. & O.	1971
5	Particulars of contract re the capitalisation issue.	1971

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Item No.	Description	Date(s)
<b>B/CST/2/1 - 11</b>	<b><u>BELFAST, MERSEY &amp; MANCHESTER STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.</u></b>	<b><u>1913 - 1971</u></b>
1	Memorandum and Articles of Association (private company).	1928
2	Memorandum and Articles of Association (amended 1946).	1929
3	Certificate of Incorporation.	1929
4	Register of Members.	1929 - 1960
5	Register of Members.	1970 - 1973
6	Directors and General Meetings.	1945 - 1974
7	Annual Returns.	1972 - 1976
8	Director's Report and Accounts.	1972
9	Director's Report and Accounts.	1973
10	Share Transfers.	1972 - 1973
11	Share Certificate Books. [one blank]	1945 - 1972



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Item No.	Description	Date(s)
<b>B/CST/3/1</b>	<b><u>J.J. MACK &amp; SONS LTD.</u></b>	<b><u>1928 - 1946</u></b>
1	Memorandum and Articles of Association, 1928, with amended articles adopted, 1946.	1928 - 1946

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Item No.	Description	Date(s)
<b>B/CST/4/1</b>	<b><u>LINK LINE LTD.</u></b>	<b><u>1920 - 1958</u></b>
1	Memorandum and Articles of Association, 1920, with amended articles adopted, 1958.	1920 - 1958

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Item No.	Description	Date(s)
<b>B/CST/5/1 - 3</b>	<b><u>ARDROSSAN DOCK YARD LTD.</u></b>	<b><u>1951 - 1953</u></b>
1	Director's Reports and Accounts.	1951
2	Director's Reports and Accounts.	1952
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Item No.	Description	Date(s)
<b>B/CST/6/1 - 3</b>	<b><u>BRITISH WHEELER PROCESS LTD.</u></b>	<b><u>1951 - 1953</u></b>
1	Director's Reports and Accounts.	1951
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3	Director's Reports and Accounts.	1953

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Item No.	Description	Date(s)
<b>B/CST/7/1 - 2</b>	<b><u>COASTAL ROADWAYS LTD.</u></b>	<b><u>1951 - 1953</u></b>
1	Director's Reports and Accounts.	1951
2	Director's Reports and Accounts.	1953

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Item No.	Description	Date(s)
<b>B/CST/8/1</b>	<u><b>LIVERPOOL CARTAGE CO., LTD.</b></u>	<u><b>1952</b></u>
1	Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account.	1952

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Item No.	Description	Date(s)
<b>B/CST/9/1</b>	<b><u>UNION STEAMSHIP COMPANY OF SOUTH AFRICA LTD.</u></b>	<b><u>1954</u></b>
1	Statement of Accounts.	1954

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Item No.	Description	Date(s)
<b>B/CST/10/1</b>	<b><u>COAST LINES AFRICA (PROPRIETARY) LTD.</u></b>	<b><u>1954</u></b>
1	Statement of Accounts.	1954



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<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>
<b>B/CST/11/1 - 9</b>	<b><u>LOOSE ACCOUNTS</u></b>	<b><u>1918 - 1968</u></b>
1	Loose handwritten Disbursement Accounts: sundry Coast Lines Ltd. vessels.	1918 - 1920
2	Loose Accounts: Coast Lines Ltd. vessels - daily running costs. [loose sheets]	n.d.
3	Loose Accounts: Coast Lines group - statements of net profit with supporting summaries.	1955 - 1957
4	Pro-forma Voyage Accounts: Link Line.	1965 - 1966
5	Pro-forma Voyage Accounts: Anglo Irish Transport.	1965 - 1966
6	Pro-forma Voyage Accounts: Coast Lines Ltd.	1965 - 1966
7	Loose Accounts: Thesen's Steamship Co. - pro-forma accounts for 1949, 1950 and 1966.	1949 - 1966
8	Manuscript Note: Preston/Drogheda Service.	1968
9	Advertising Appropriation: Coast Lines Ltd.	1965 - 1968

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Item No.	Description	Date(s)
<b>B/CST/12/1 - 4</b>	<b><u>TRAFFIC RETURNS AND TRADE FIGURES</u></b>	<b><u>1959 - 1968</u></b>
1	Link Line Trade Figures.	1959 - 1963
2	Link Line Traffic Returns - Belfast to Liverpool Service.	1963
3	Link Line Traffic Returns - Londonderry to Liverpool, via Portrush.	1963
4	Link Line Traffic Returns - Belfast and Manchester Express Service.	1963

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Item No.	Description	Date(s)
<b>B/CST/13/1 - 3</b>	<b><u>VESSEL'S MOVEMENTS</u></b>	<b><u>1913 - 1958</u></b>
1	Movements Book: Powell Coast Lines.	1913 - 1921
2	Movement Sheets: Coast Lines Ltd.	1918 - 1920
3	Movement of Vessels: Coast Lines Ltd.	1958

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Item No.	Description	Date(s)
<b>B/CST/14/1 - 3</b>	<b><u>SHIPPING DOCUMENTS</u></b>	<b><u>n.d.</u></b>
1	Blank Bills of Lading: Powell Line from Hamburg and Preston. [4 copies]	n.d.
2	Blank Bills of Lading: Liverpool and Hamburg Steamship Co. [2 copies]	n.d.
3	Blank Bill of Lading: Powell and Hough Lines, Liverpool.	n.d.

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Item No.	Description	Date(s)
<b>B/CST/15/1 - 4</b>	<b><u>CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS</u></b>	<b><u>1895 - 1913</u></b>
1	Lease of Warehouses on Beacon Quay, Torquay: Borough of Torquay / G.P., W.J. and S.G. Bazeley.	1895
2	Lease of Warehouses on Beacon Quay, Torquay: Borough of Torquay / G.P., W.J. and S.G. Bazeley.	1899
3	Agreement: Henry Tyrer & Co. - F.W. Powell & Co., Ltd., Liverpool; sale by former to latter of Preston - London and Preston - Hamburg - stetting trades.	1912
4	Contracts between shippers and Powell & Hough Lines re joint service, Liverpool to London.	1913

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Item No.	Description	Date(s)
<b>B/CST/16/1 - 6</b>	<b><u>CONFERENCE PAPERS AND FREIGHT TARIFFS</u></b>	<b><u>1893 - 1939</u></b>
1	Rates between Liverpool, London, Falmouth, Plymouth, Southampton and Portsmouth: the Liverpool, Bristol & London Steamship Co., and the London & Liverpool Steamship Co.	1893
2	Liverpool and London Tariff: F.H. Powell & Co., Ltd., Liverpool; Samuel Hough, Liverpool; John Allen & Co., London; and J.D. Hewitt & Co., London.	1903
3	Liverpool and London Tariff: F.H. Powell & Co., Ltd., Liverpool; Samuel Hough, Liverpool; John Allen & Co., London; and J.D. Hewitt & Co., London; with typescript amendments and addenda. [fragile]	1903 - 1921
4	Bristol Tariff: John Bacon, Liverpool; Hosken, Trevithick, Polkenhorn & Co., Hayle; F.H. Powell & Co., Liverpool.	1908
5	Regulations for the Governance of Conference of railway companies and coasting liner companies.	1934
6	Correspondence and Minutes of the standing committee of railway companies and coasting liner companies.	1930 - 1939

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Item No.	Description	Date(s)
<b>B/CST/17/1 - 4</b>	<b><u>TECHNICAL</u></b>	<b><u>1925 - 1960</u></b>
1	Board of Trade memorandum re the carriage of dangerous goods and explosives in ships.	1925
2	Schedule and Code of Practice: lifting tackle.	1939
3	Ships Particulars: hull and machinery data sheets of various Coast Lines vessels.	1955 - 1956
4	Ship's Particulars and Specifications: for various Coast Lines companies.	1936 - 1960

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Item No.	Description	Date(s)
<b>B/CST/18/1 - 9</b>	<b><u>PERSONNEL</u></b>	<b><u>1919 - 1970</u></b>
1	Instructions to Chief Engineers.	1919
2	Instructions to Captains.	1920
3	Instructions to Masters.	1924
4	Coast Lines pension fund papers.	1940 - 1969
5	War Honours during the Second World War to members of staff afloat and ashore, Coast Lines and associated companies.	1944
6	Regulations; to be observed whilst in the company's service.	1956
7	Inter-office memoranda; includes applications for employment, job descriptions, etc.	1961 - 1970
8	Regulations; to be observed whilst in the company's service, for stewarding staff.	n.d.
9	Dates of Service of Captain F. Kolesar (1852-1900), F.H. Powell & Co., Ltd., Liverpool.	n.d.



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Item No.	Description	Date(s)
<b>B/CST/19/1 - 6</b>	<b><u>CORRESPONDENCE</u></b>	<b><u>1913 - 1955</u></b>
1	Letters from Hamburg Brokers and Agents to F.H. Powell & Co., Ltd., Liverpool.	1913
2	Letters from Rotterdam and Amsterdam to F.H. Powell & Co., Ltd., Liverpool.	1913
3	Letters from Henry Tyrer & Co., Liverpool to F.H. Powell, Bacon & Hough re the London to Preston service.	1913
4	Letters of Appreciation from HM Government to O.G. Bayliss, Coast Lines Ltd., and W.J. McAlister, General Steam re their work on the Home Trade District Transport Committee and the Water Transport Sub-Committee.	1919 - 1922
5	Letter from the Prime Minister, Stanley Baldwin, to Sir William Mitchell-Thomson, thanking him for his help during the industrial crisis.	1926
6	Memorandum from the Managing Director, Coast Lines Ltd., to the Chief Commercial Manager. Liverpool re the "Anglo-Continental Container Company".	1955

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Item No.	Description	Date(s)
<b>B/CST/20/1 - 6</b>	<b><u>HISTORY</u></b>	<b><u>1933 - 1949</u></b>
1	Various historical typescripts on Coast Lines Ltd., and related companies, with related correspondence.	1933 - 1949
2	Typescript history of the London Welsh Steamship Co., Ltd.	n.d.
3	Typescript history of the Little Western Steamship Co., Ltd.	n.d.
4	Typescript history of the Volana Shipping Co., Ltd.	n.d.
5	Typescript history of Stocks, Turnbull & Co., Ltd.	n.d.
6	Typescript history of Henry Burden Jnr. & Co., Ltd.	n.d.

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Item No.	Description	Date(s)
<b>B/CST/21/1 - 12</b>	<b><u>PRESS CUTTINGS</u></b>	<b><u>1840 - 1969</u></b>
1	Miscellaneous whole newspapers and journals containing Coast Lines Ltd. and associated companies advertisements.	1840 - 1968
2	Miscellaneous loose press-cuttings.	1919 - 1968
3	Book of press-cuttings re F.H. Powell & Co., Ltd., Liverpool.	1903 - 1913
4	Book of press-cuttings re various companies.	1913 - 1919
5	Book of press-cuttings re the General Cargo Department.	1920 - 1931
6	Book of press-cuttings re various companies.	1922 - 1924
7	Book of press-cuttings re various companies.	1922 - 1927
8	Book of press-cuttings re rates and charges.	1924 - 1930
9	Book of press-cuttings re various companies.	1932 - 1941
10	Book of press-cuttings re various companies.	1945 - 1946
11	Book of press-cuttings re various companies.	1968 - 1969
12	Book of press-cuttings and some photographs re various companies; the photographs include some 1920 Moss material.	1924 - 1935

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<b>B/CST/22/1 - 10</b>	<b><u>PUBLICITY</u></b>	<b><u>1834 - 1968</u></b>
1	Sailing cards, advertisements and brochures for various Coast Lines Ltd. companies.	1834 - 1968
2	Visitors Book for Coast Lines Ltd. vessel, the <i>Hibernian Coast</i> .	1958 - 1967
3	Visitors Book for Coast Lines Ltd. vessel, the <i>Hibernian Coast</i> .	1959 - 1967
4	Notices and brochures re various companies.	1881 - 1957
5	Album of the West Coast of Scotland cruise brochures for Coast Lines Ltd.	1934 - 1939
6	Album of passenger brochures and sailing cards for Coast Lines Ltd.	1934 - 1939
7	Album of passenger brochures and sailing cards for Coast Lines Ltd.	1935 - 1940
8	Album of passenger cruise brochures for miscellaneous services.	1913 - 1930
9	Album of passenger publicity material for various group companies.	1946 - 1949
10	"A Guide to the Western Highlands"; places visited by the Coast Lines Ltd. vessel, <i>Lady Killarney</i> .	n.d.

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Item No.	Description	Date(s)
<b>B/CST/23/1 - 2</b>	<b><u>PHOTOGRAPHS</u></b>	<b><u>1910 - 1957</u></b>
1	Photographic album of various Coast Lines Ltd. vessels.	1910 - 1935
2	Photographic album: "The Launching of the Pilot Vessel, <i>Arnet Robinson</i> . [includes loose photographs]	1957

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<b>B/CST/24/1 - 27</b>	<b><u>GOVERNMENT AND OTHER OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS</u></b>	<b><u>1918 - 1962</u></b>
1	Ministry of Transport, Rates Advisory Committee: Report on the general revision of Railway Rates and Charges.	1920
2	Port and Transit Executive Committee: final report.	1921
3	"Coastal Liner Services", a paper by M. Arnet Robinson in the <i>Journal of the Institute of Transport</i> , April 1929.	1929
4	Report on the conference on rail and road transport, HMSO.	1932
5	The case of Trade and Industry against the report of the Committee on Rail and Road Transport.	1932
6	"British Coasting Trade and its National Importance", a paper by J.R. Cowper in the <i>Journal of the Institute of Transport</i> , 1932.	1932
7	Mersey Docks and Harbour Board (MDHB): Regulations and rates applying to Cranes, 1939.	1939
8	Ministry of Transport, Transport Advisory Council: Report on services and rates, with an annexe for Coastwise Shipping.	1937 - 1938
9	Agreements between the Governments of Ireland and the United Kingdom.	1938
10	British Shipping (Assistance Bill) with memorandum.	1939
11	War Risks Insurance Act, 1939, with Bill annexed.	1939
12	War Damage Act, 1941.	1941
13	Regulations for HM <i>Sea Transport</i> service, 1942.	1942
14	"Postwar Transport", a report of the Joint Committee of the Association of British Chambers of Commerce and Federation of British Industries.	1944
15	Mersey Docks and Harbour Board (MDHB): "The Development of Master Portage at Liverpool", by Francis H. Cave, revised edition.	1944
16	Chamber of Shipping of the UK: "Coastwise Shipping and Internal Transport Post-war Policy, 1945.	1945

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<b>B/CST/24/1 - 27</b>	<b><u>GOVERNMENT AND OTHER OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS</u></b> <b>(cont)</b>	<b><u>1918 - 1962</u></b>
17	Ministry of War, transport circular, 1768: instructions to surveyors and a notice to shipowners, shipmasters and shippers re conditions of the stowage of explosives and of dangerous and certain other goods in ships, 1945.	1945
18	"British Coastwise Shipping", by C. Maughan, a report in the <i>Quarterly Review</i> , October 1948.	1948
19	United Maritime Authority: Coasting and short sea trades in Europe.	1945
20	Mersey Docks and Harbour Board (MDHB) bye-laws of the Pilotage Annuity Fund, 1949.	1949
21	War Damage (Public Utility Undertakings, etc.) Act, 1949.	1949
22	Report of the Transport Tribunal, 1952.	1952
23	Decontrol of Food and Marketing of Agricultural Produce.	1953
24	Shipping Federation Circulars, 1962.	1962
25	Railway Rates Tribunal Circulars.	1929 - 1935
26	Water Transport District Committee: instructions, minutes, circulars and correspondence.	1918 - 1926
27	Home Trades Transport Control Committee: scheduled traffic lists, notices, correspondence and minutes.	1919 - 1946

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Item No.	Description	Date(s)
<b>B/CST/25/1 - 13</b>	<b><u>MISCELLANEOUS</u></b>	<b><u>1864 - 1970</u></b>
1	"Trader's Guide and Diary": Coast Lines Seaway, 1930.	1930
2	"Trader's Guide and Diary": Coast Lines Seaway, 1931.	1931
3	"Trader's Guide and Diary": Coast Lines Seaway, 1938.	1938
4	List of Coast Lines agents abroad. [loose sheets from ledger]	n.d.
5	Cost of Loading and Discharging at Continental Ports. [loose sheets]	n.d.
6	Telegraph message code for a number of lines within the group.	1922
7	"The Merchant's and Ship-Master's Ready Calculator" (cover: J.A. & Co.), 1864.	1864
8	"ABC of Coastal Ships", c.1953.	c.1953
9	"The White Funnel Handbook", the official handbook of P. & A. Campbell Ltd.	1953
10	Drafts of speeches by Sir Alfred Read.	1933 - 1945
11	Report on a visit to Plymouth, Falmouth, Liverpool and Southampton.	n.d.
12	Inventory of Caravans (Coast Lines) Staff Association.	1968
13	Group ISO Equipment: containers and flats. [loose papers]	1969 - 1970



