

## **Public Bodies' Archives**

### **RNLI**

Held in the Lifeboat Station are almost complete records since 1923 when the Yarmouth Station was established. These include records of shouts, crew lists, correspondence, Press cuttings, photographs and souvenirs.

### **Public Record Offices**

#### **Isle of Wight Record Office (Newport)**

- a) The Jerome Collection has several boxes of documents relating to the Yar Bridge Company (not catalogued). Also some good photographs of Toll notices.
- b) The originals of the Yarmouth Church Registers 1613-1941. They are no longer in the Bank vaults. Appx. B shows catalogue numbers.
- c) Miscellaneous papers including Churchwardens' Rate Books, Apprenticeship Registers, Charity correspondence, etc. See Appx. B.
- d) Copies of the Gravestone details in the Churchyard.
- e) Additional records of St. James Church, deposited by Rev. K.R Cheeseman 3 April 1991. See Appx C.
- f) James Blake of Yarmouth Papers. See Appx D
- g) Fiche copies of Winchester diocesan wills 1600-1858 & Land Tax returns 1800-32.

#### **Hampshire Record Office (Winchester)**

- a) Land Tax Returns 1800-1837.
- b) Wills & Administrations 1530-1837.
- c) Various Church records listed below under that heading.
- d) Land Tax Assessments, 1800-1832
- e) Deposited Plans, 19<sup>th</sup> century, showing intended undertakings by gas, water, railway and tramway companies.
- f) Probate Records, c.1500-1940. Most indexed by surname. IoW Record Office has copy of index.
- g) Miscellaneous Court Papers, 17<sup>th</sup> century-1762, e.g. depositions of witnesses.
- h) Tithe Redemption Certificates, 1893-1937.

- i) Prospectus of Solent Sea Steam Co., 1840-41
- j) Originals of Bishops' transcripts of Registers, 1780-1837.

The Public Record Office in London also holds material on Yarmouth. Guiseppi's Guide to the Contents of the Public Record Office should be consulted (three volumes).

## Church Records

### Held in the Vestry Safe:-

Transcripts of Registers 1614-1812  
Baptisms 1813-58  
1859-1901  
1901-  
Marriages 1813-36  
1838-1957  
1958-70  
1971-  
  
Burials 1813-98  
1898-1974  
1974-  
Baptism and Burial Certificate Books  
Marriage Certificate Forms (in envelope)  
Banns 1884-86 (suede cover)  
1941- (red cover)  
Confirmations 1914-  
List of graves in Upper Churchyard  
School Deeds  
Wall Plaque Faculty (in envelope)  
Terrier and Inventory

Record of all gravestone inscriptions in Churchyard and in Graveyard (compiled by Geoff Cotton)

### Held in the Town Hall:-

Church Registers (four red file covers) comprising  
Births, Marriages & Deaths 1614-1812  
Baptisms 1813-1901  
Marriages 1813-1971  
Burials 1813-1974  
stored with Ron Winter's material.

Yarmouth Society Historical Section file 1978-79

A few notes on

Yarmouth Church & Bells  
Church Music  
Charity donations 1752-1897  
Will of Timothy Heath 1737

### Held in County Record Office (Newport):-

Originals of Church Registers from 1613. (no longer held  
In Lloyds Bank vaults)  
Copies 1614-1812 also held in Hampshire Record Office,  
Winchester.

Photostats of Bishops' transcripts of Registers 1780-1837.  
-copies also held in Hampshire Record Office (Winchester)

Copies of gravestone details in the old Churchyard

Miscellaneous papers including Churchwardens' Accounts, Charities correspondence, etc. Appx B of Record Office list.

Additional records of St. James' Church deposited by Rev. K.R.Cheeseman on 3 April 1991.

Held in Hampshire Record Office (Winchester),- Diocesan Records:-

Bishops' transcripts of Parish Registers 1282-1920. Series incomplete. Earlier registers have been indexed.  
Court Books (ecclesiastical) 1513-1923 and miscellaneous Court papers, 17 Century-1762.  
Penance, Excommunication and Guardianship papers, c.1663-19<sup>th</sup> Century. Have been indexed.  
Faculties, 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries, e.g. petitions for repairs or additions to the church.  
Terriers, 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> Centuries, i.e. descriptions of properties owned by the parish.  
Visitation Books, 1517-1924. Some gaps. Give names of clergy and churchwardens.  
Replies to Visitation Enquiries 1725+1788. Questions asked by Bishop of his clergy, e.g. size of parish, numbers of births, marriages and deaths per year, etc  
Exhibit Books, c.1695-c.1900. Contain copies of petitions, faculties, etc.  
Laymen's Licences, c.1675-19<sup>th</sup> century. i.e. Licences Granted by Bishop to teachers, surgeons, midwives.  
Ordination, Presentation & Nomination papers, 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, relating to parish clergy.  
Tithe Map of Yarmouth, 1840. Shows buildings and field boundaries, names of owners and occupiers.  
Bishops' Transcripts, 1780-c.1858. Contemporary copies of parish registers for use by Diocesan officials.

## The Schools

The present School in Mill Road opened in 1855.

According to C.W.R. Winter's book "The Ancient Town of Yarmouth" there is a record from 1735 of a boys' school at that time in the High Street, opposite the present Police Station. The Headmaster was a Mr. Goodall.

In 1789 there was another school in a little lane which ran from Bank Street between the Bugle and the Dolphin inns.

The 1841 Census shows three teachers in Yarmouth and the 1851 Census five, all named.

There is also a 1883 record of a private school for "ladies" being run by a Miss Phillips in Bank House, Bank Street.

None of these records are held by the present School. The records held there comprise seven Log Books and two Minute Books as follows,-

### Minute Books of meetings of School Governors/Managers.

- a) 8<sup>th</sup> October 1903—28<sup>th</sup> October 1935. Commences with first meeting under the Education Act 1902.
- b) 13<sup>th</sup> January 1936—21<sup>st</sup> May 1986

### School Log Books

- a) 30<sup>th</sup> March 1863---6<sup>th</sup> November 1903 (Senior School)
- b) 1<sup>st</sup> April 1863---23<sup>rd</sup> October 1903 (Infants)
- c) 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1903—30<sup>th</sup> March 1928 (Senior School)
- d) 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1903---30<sup>th</sup> September 1923 (Infants School, amalgamated with Senior School 1<sup>st</sup> October 1923)
- e) 18<sup>th</sup> September 1944---10<sup>th</sup> November 1964
- f) 12<sup>th</sup> November 1964---29<sup>th</sup> February 1980
- g) 3<sup>rd</sup> March 1980---23<sup>rd</sup> May 1992

These Log Books started as a daily diary of the School but later became an occasional record of major incidents in the life of the School. A Log Book is still maintained by the Headmistress to this day. It is noted that no Log Books were kept during the period 1923-1944. However the Minute Book for this period provides an alternative record.

## Isle of Wight Society

Ron Winter's wife, Pat, spent many years photographing every aspect of Island life for her Slide Collection. This numbers nearly 4000 transparencies, all of which she catalogued. There are over 1500 of medieval Island churches, 500 of countryside vistas, 260 of gardens, 150 of flowers, 150 of harbours, 400 of houses and urban scenes, and over 100 each of cottages, ancient monuments and sailing boats. Other subjects covered include handicrafts, industrial archaeology, curiosities, events, animals, birds and butterflies. There are, undoubtedly, many photographs of Yarmouth in the Collection.

On leaving the Island and moving to Launceston Pat donated her collection to the Isle of Wight Society who have housed it in the East Cowes Heritage Centre.

The categories of the Collection are:

- A Churches
- B Cathedrals or Abbeys
- C Castles and Forts
- D Villages
- E Cottages
- F Town Houses
- G Ancient Monuments
- H Views
- I Gardens
- J Flowers
- K Water
- L Boats,- Sail
- M Boats,- Power
- N Boats,- Harbours, Marinas and Rivers
- O Adults,- Singles and Groups
- P Children,- Singles and Groups
- Q Crafts
- R Animals
- S Birds, Butterflies and Insects
- T Industrial Archaeology
- U Curiosities
- V Events
- W Sunsets
- X Sports
- Z Miscellaneous

If any of the slides, or photographs taken from them, are published the photographer, Pat Winter, must be credited. The contact is Mr. John Barnes, 51, Cambridge Road, East Cowes, PO32 6AH, Tel. 019893 293010

## **Harbour Commissioners' Records**

Held in the Harbour Office,

In the top drawer of a filing cabinet,

A bundle of Deeds & documents relating to Regulating Leases, etc. for the Seabed, Harbour, River Yar and jurisdiction. (five documents)

A bundle of Counterparts of Leases & Licences and sundry documents re the bus lay-by, the bus road, pension agreements, old lifeboat office and Baywatch. (seven documents)

Deeds etc. re Elm Villa.

Customs House Lease d/d 4 Jan 1994

Commissioners' Office Lease d/d 1996.

Lease for upper floor premises, Quay St. from 6Dec 1996 (occupied by Baywatch on the Harbour) with copy of Counterpart.

File,- NatWest loans 2002

Deeds & documents relating to land at Yarmouth Harbour, Pier Square, Elm Villa and freehold land at Norton.

File,- re Elm Villa (to Feb 1994) incl. Tenancy Agreement d/d 2 March 1954, Counterpart Lease d/d 15 Sep 1988 & copy of Lease d/d 16 Aug 1988.

File,- re former Ticket Office at entrance to Pier (incl. Gossips' draft lease d/d 17 July 2000)

File,- re Lease of Gossips' Café, incl. Counterpart of Lease d/d 20 June 1988 & copy of Deed of Exchange re Foreshore & Seabed off Yarmouth d/d 24 Nov 1930.

File,- re Harold Hayles Ltd. (incl. Lease from 8 April 1992)

File,- re Lease to IW Tourism of the Tourist Office premises, incl. copy of Lease d/d 31 March 1995.

File,- re Wightlink Lease incl. copy of Lease d/d 5 Nov 1990.

File,- re Leases and miscellaneous correspondence.

Incl. copies of Leases re reclaimed land area d/d 3 Sep 1957, 19 Feb 1954(?), 19 Nov 1960 & 6 Nov 1947.

Also a copy of map showing limits of the Yarmouth (IW) Pier & Harbour

Provisional Order 1931.

Also Deed of Conveyance d/d 3 Oct 1933 re Seabed adjacent to Pier.

Copy of Schedule of Properties & Lease details (pasted to inside of file cover)

Bundle of Deeds & documents re Building at Yarmouth Quay (Quay Lodge, etc.)

Bundle of Deeds & documents re part of Old Bridge and approaches.

File,- re Rent Reviews of various properties.

Re Castle,- copy of Schedule of the Ancient Monument (Sec. Of State for National Heritage) d/d 13 Dec 1994.

RNLI,- copies of Leases of premises, plus Contract for Sale re present premises  
d/d 23 Dec 1993

Copies of Leases & documents re land at Norton Spit (three bundles).

Bundle of Deeds & documents re land south of Bridge (i.e. Green & Car-park area)  
incl. copy of Licence Agreement d/d 4 July 2002 for Yarmouth Sailing Club.

Bundle of Deeds & documents re the Pier including  
Reconveyance d/d 25 Nov 1924  
Exchange d/d 21 Nov 1930  
Draft of Abstract Title d/d 24 Sep 1963  
Certificate d/d 1875 & Indenture d/d 12 July 1875  
Case for Council's Opinion d/d 1952

Abstract of Title of the Yarmouth (Isle of Wight) Harbour Commissioners dated 21 November 1930 to Yarmouth Pier, the Quay and other properties at Yarmouth.

The list includes:-

- The Pier
- The Old Town Quay and Booking Office
- The Pier Square, excluding Bank Street
- Part of the foreshore and seabed off Yarmouth
- The Harbourmaster's Office (now RNLI HQ)
- Bridge Road properties (incl Quay Lodge appartments)
- South Quay
- The Old Slipway
- The Eastern approach to the Yar Bridge from the present Roundabout
- Later conveyances dated 14 Sep 1936, 8 Sep 1948 and 27 Oct 1953 of properties bounded by South Street and Tennyson Road

The document also includes the conveyance of Pier Square to the Town Trust dated 27 Feb 1895 and then to the Harbour Commissioners dated 21 Nov 1930

Also a Schedule of deeds & documents re Pier Square 1849-1995.

Indentures (original) dated 13 April 1849 and 10/11 October 1828 and 23/24 June 1835 re sale of properties in the now Pier Square by Benjamin Cotton to George Stone.

Copy of Bye-laws from the Yarmouth (IoW) Pier Order 1874.

Register of Mortgages & Bonds d/d 1874 with map.

File,- Pier Square car parking.

Folder of Photocopied Documents (held separately in office)

These could be sequentially numbered as follows for easy reference.

1. Agreement d/d 1 Jan 1987 re Tourist Office premises.
2. Southern Electricity Board Lease d/d 11 June 1968 re land fronting to Bridge Road.
3. Chas. Brown Lease d/d 18 March 1986 re flat overlooking Harbour.
4. Harold Hayles Ltd. Lease d/d 31 July 1985 re room fronting The Quay.
5. Conveyance by Chris. Robin West d/d 18 Sep 1985 re land & premises at Freshwater adjacent to and north of the Causeway.
6. Sec. Of State for Environment Lease d/d 15 Oct 1985 re 1<sup>st</sup> floor of building known as Quayside.
7. South Wight Boro' Council Agreement d/d 1985 re new public slip-way & car-park.
8. South Wight Boro' Council Surrender & Lease d/d 26 Feb 1984 re land at Bridge Road (foreshore round car-park)
9. Agreement with IoW council d/d 20 July 1983 re employees' pension arrangements
10. Solicitor's Opinion d/d 21 Jan 1983 re lease of Flats 1 & 2, The Quay.
11. Lease from Crown Estates d/d 11 Jan 1982 of bed of Yarmouth Harbour.
12. Supplementary Surrender of seabed to above Lease, d/d 11 Jan 1982.
13. Counterpart Lease d/d 26 Aug 1982 of land at Norton Spit to Southern Water.
14. Solicitor's Opinion d/d 21 Apr 1982 re six flats on The Quay.
15. Duplicate Agreement d/d 16 July 1975 with IoW Council re traffic regulation in Pier Square (rescinded Jan 2002?)

- 16 Lease d/d 5 Apr 1974 of foreshore from Crown Estates.
17. Regulating Lease d/d 5 Apr 1974 for foreshore and seabed at Bridge Road
18. Solicitor's Opinion d/d 20 June 1972 re lease of two shops to Mr. Martin.
19. Solicitor's Opinion d/d 12 Oct 1970 re Mr. Martin's lease of flats etc. on The Quay
20. Duplicate Agreement d/d 11 May 1965 re adoption of Bridge Road by IoW Council.
21. Abstract of Title of Commissioners to the Pier, Quay & other properties dated 23 Jan 1963.
22. Duplicate copy of Agreement d/d 23 Jan 1963 re land at rear of Yar Bridge i.e. along road from town to bridge.
23. Agreement d/d 21 Sep 1960 with RNLI re tenancy of store.
24. Duplicate of Licence d/d 31 Dec 1958 for IoW Council to provide a lay-by on south side of Bridge Road.
25. Bill of Sale d/d 25 Mar 1967 re land between Marina Cottage & the Old Hard.
26. Bill of Sale d/d 1962 re land at Norton Spit (R. Swain Barnes Esq.)
27. Abstract of Title of Commissioners d/d 1950 to freehold buildings & premises.
28. Conveyance d/d 22 Mar 1937 re properties of Stanley George Bell to Harbour Commissioners.
29. Supplemental Title of Harbour Commissioners d/d 1937 to freehold properties adjacent to Wheatsheaf Hotel.
30. Correspondence with War Office & Crown Commissioners d/d Jan-Feb 1934 (three letters) re purchase of land at Quay Street.
31. Conveyance d/d 21 Nov 1934 of land at Quay Street from Crown Commissioners.
32. Solicitor's letter d/d 2 Nov 1933 enclosing proposed Conveyance of land, formerly seabed, from Crown Commissioners.
33. Cert. re Inland Revenue relating to Item 32 above.
34. Memo d/d 11 June 1929 between Town Trust & Southern Railway Co. re transfer of rental responsibility from South-Western Railway Company.
35. Register of Mortgages & Bonds d/d 1875-78 re the Pier and Quay.
36. Conveyance d/d 16 Oct 1928 of freehold property by E A Lane to G.W. Ball.

37. Abstract of Title d/d 1 Sep 1928 of Trustees of late Wm. Squire to freehold buildings & premises in Item 36 above.
38. Reconveyance d/d 25 Nov 1924 of Pier & other works & properties from Alfred Drabble.
39. Transfer of Mortgage d/d 27 Jan 1908 re Pier and other properties.
40. Indenture between Yarmouth Borough & named individuals d/d 27 Jan 1908 re Item 39 above.
41. Indenture d/d 27 Feb 1895 transferring properties in Bank Street from named individuals to the Town Trustees.
42. Conveyance d/d 27 Feb 1895 in re Item 41 above.
43. Board of Trade Cert. d/d 3 Mar 1875 for construction of Pier.
44. Conveyance d/d 12 July 1875 by Board of Trade to Yarmouth Borough of foreshore occupied by Pier.

### **Royal Solent Yacht Club**

Complete Minute Books of the General Committee are held since the founding of the Club in 1878.

Other Committees' Minute Books are more recent.

Book,--"The Royal Solent Yacht Club, The First 125 Years" by K. M. Shaw (2004)