

Science Museum Library and Archives
Science Museum at Wroughton
Hackpen Lane
Wroughton
Swindon
SN4 9NS

Telephone: 01793 846222
Email: smlwroughton@sciencemuseum.ac.uk

WILSN

Papers of Paul N Wilson, Lord Wilson of High Wray, re
aspects of the history of technology and industrial
archaeology, chiefly 1960s and 1970s

WILSN

The collection Comprises offprints of, and notes for numerous articles mainly relating to water power. More specific material relates to Britannia Tubular Bridge, Kendal Reservoirs, Nent Force Level and Roman watermills.

1	[Writings of Paul N Wilson]	
1/1	1952 Aug	'The Origins of Water Power, With special reference to its Use and Economic Importance in England from Saxon Times to the year A.D.1750'. [Reprint from Water Power]
1/2	1952 Dec 25	[As above, reprinted in The New Zealand Electrical Journal]
1/3	1953 Mar	'John Smeaton's Model Waterwheel Experiments of 1752-3. A Modern Investigation of the Results Obtained'. [Bears ms. note of 1960 Dec by Wilson 'These notes were ... submitted to the Newcomen Society as a paper, but were understandably rejected']
1/4	1954 May 6	'Forgotten Mines' [of the Lake District. Article in Country Life]
1/5	1961 Nov 22	'The History of Water Driven Prime Movers' [being Paper in Journal of the Liverpool Engineering Society, vol. VI no.9]
1/6	1964 Aug 31	'Helsington Snuff Mill'. [Note for meeting of the Cumberland & Westmorland Antiquarian & Archaeological Society. With attached copy drawing]
1/7	1963 Apr 6	'The Nent Force Level'. [Offprint from Transactions of the Cumberland & Westmorland Antiquarian & Archaeological Society, vol. LXIII. See 7 below]
1/8	1968 Apr 6	'Canal Head, Kendal'. [Offprint from Transactions as above, vol. LXVIII]
1/9	1973 Sept 8	'Kendal Reservoirs'. [Offprint from Transactions as above, vol. LXXIII]
1/10	1967	[Booklet re] The Newcomen Society. Summer Meeting. [Contains introduction by Wilson, and timetable of events and précis of visits/talks]

1/11	1973 Jan	[Bound copies of] Publications by Paul N Wilson, [being four articles from Water Power: 1/1 above, Water Power and the Industrial Revolution (1954 Aug), A High-Speed Impulse Turbine (1967 Jan), Turbines for Unusual Duties (1971 Jun); a publication of Gilbert Gilkes & Gordon Ltd, Kendal: The Giljet governing system (1966?); a reprint from the Westmorland Gazette: 'Just a spot of waterwheel bother' (1968 Sept 13); two Newcomen Society papers: 1/12 below, and Early Water Turbines in the United Kingdom in vol. XXI; reprint from Edgar Allen News: Watermills: An Introduction (1956) which had been in 1/23 below]
1/12	1955 Dec 14	'The Waterwheel of John Smeaton' [from Transactions of the Newcomen Society, vol. XXX]
1/13	1972 Nov 8 1964 Feb 5	'The Gunpowder Mills of Westmorland and Furness' [from Transactions as above, vol. XXXVI]
1/14		'J. G. A. Kitchen, 1869-1940, and his Inventions' [from Transactions as above, vol. XLV]
1/15/1	1975 Mar 12	'Gilkes's 1853 to 1975. 122 Years of Water Turbine and Pump Manufacture' [from Transactions as above, vol.47]
1/15/2		[Advance copy of above, subject to revision, being 'A History of the firm of Gilbert Gilkes & Gordon Ltd']
1/16	1972 Sept 1	'Kendal Reservoirs', [being] A Paper, offered to the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society
1/17	1972 Sept 27	British Industrial Waterwheels. [Booklet]
1/18	1972 Nov 11	'Water Turbines', [being paper read to] The Wind and Watermill Section of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. Master copy
1/19	1973 May	'British Industrial Waterwheels', [being Extract from Transactions, Third Symposium, The International Molinological Society, Netherlands]
1/20	1975	'Windmill and Windpump', [being an entry in How It Works, a Marshall Cavendish encyclopaedia]
1/21	1975 Apr 27	A Report upon the Water Power Available at Little

		Caernarvon. Annual Record 1970-1971. [Includes article on Britannia Tubular Railway Bridge fire]
/5	1971 Sept 12	'Hang on...we may have a bridge soon'/Denis Herbstein, [being article from Sunday Times Business News]
/6	1971 Oct 22	[Copy letter to] Dr John Butt, Editor, Industrial Archaeology/P N Wilson, [re his (Wilson's) article on the bridge being reprinted in Anglesey Antiquarian Transactions]
/7	1971 Oct 25	[Copy letter to] Mrs H Ramage, [editor of Transactions above]/P N Wilson, [re his article on the bridge]
/8	1972 Feb 17	[Copy letter to] David Sutcliffe, Bull Bay, Anglesey/P N Wilson, [seeking photos of the bridge for a talk and article]
/9	1972 Sept/1978 Jul-Aug	[(Copy) correspondence between P N Wilson and Frank W Hitchinson, Chief Fire Officer (until 1972 Dec), Caernarvonshire County Fire Brigade, chiefly regarding the Britannia bridge but including many personal reminiscences by both parties. With biographical article, 1978 Aug 4/F W Hitchinson, from Caernarvon & Denbigh Herald]
/10	1978 Jul 28-1979 Apr 1	[(Copy) correspondence between P N Wilson and Cinephoto Film Productions Limited, re his contribution to their film on the bridge reconstruction]
/11		[Photos (9) re the bridge, six of which are of contemporary (1849) plates from books]
/12		[Glass slides (8) re bridge's construction + 1 film slide titled 'After Fire']
/13		[9 strips of negative film re bridge]
4		[Kendal Reservoirs. See 1/9 and 1/16 above]
/1		[Xerox copy of] Cap. cxl. An Act for making and maintaining Reservoirs in the Parish of Kendal in the County of Westmorland. 21 July 1845
/2	1958 Mar 7	Kentmere Reservoir Commissioners. [Copy] Summary of Minutes etc prepared by Mr J F Hill,

Chief Engineer, Jas. Cropper & Co. Ltd., [covering years 1845-1940]

- /3 'Kendal Reservoirs'/P N Wilson. (Draft of a Paper to be submitted to the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society)
- /4 1972 Aug ----- as above ----- Paper for submission to ...Society [as above. Bears note 'Not final version']
- /5 1972 Sept 1 ----- as above -----
A Paper, offered to ... Society [as above. Includes Appendix of 'Technical Information']
- /6 ----- as above -----
- /7 1965 Jul/1968 Nov [[Copy] correspondence between P N Wilson and J A Butterfield, Morecambe, Lancs, chiefly re drainage of Kentmere]
- /8 1968 Nov 25-1974 May 27 [[Copy] correspondence between P N Wilson and James Cropper, J Cropper & Co. Ltd., Burneside Mills, Kendal]
- /9 1968 Jun/Nov [[Copy] correspondence between P N Wilson and Mary Robinson, Blackburn, re papers on Kentmere he lent her]
- /10 1972 Aug [[Copy] correspondence between P N Wilson and Sheila MacPherson, archivist, county Hall, Kendal]
- /11 1972 Aug 9 [Copy letter to] K S Himsworth, Clerk of the Peace, County Hall, Kendal/P N Wilson, [asking permission to use in his paper maps prepared from material in the County Records Office]
- /12 1972 Aug 21 [Copy letter to C Roy Huddleston, [Editor, Transactions of the Cumberland & Westmorland Antiquarian & Archaeological Society], Ambleside/P N Wilson, [re charges of the Ordnance Survey for reproducing maps in his paper]
- /13 1972 Aug 9-1973 Sept 29 [[Copy] correspondence between P N Wilson and various parties re his dispute with the Ordnance Survey over charges for using parts of their maps in his paper]
- /14 1965 Sept-Oct [[Copy] correspondence between P N Wilson and J F

		Hill, Burneside Mill, Kendal. Wilson asks him to comment on a draft of his paper]
/15	1971 Sept 3	[Copy letter] London [to] Messrs Temple and Barch, Kendal/Department of the Environment, [re charges made by Lancashire River Authority of James Cropper & Co. Ltd. for abstraction of water]
/16		[B & W photo:] The Valve House and gaugeing basin at the toe of Kentmere reservoir embankment]
/17		[Colour slides (3, one glass and dated 1958 Aug), of Kentmere Reservoir: Spillway; Valve House & Weir; Dam -upstream]
/18	1959	'The Kentmere Boat goes to Greenwich Museum', [being article from Cape Asbestos Co. Mag. vol.8 no.1]
/19	1972	Kendal Reservoirs. Map of the rivers Kent, Sprint and Mint and their tributaries shewing the Sites of the proposed Reservoirs for more effectually supplying the Mills with Water/P N Wilson. [Scale 1.3":1m. Based on J F Bateman's plan to accompany his report of 1844 Dec 24, submitted to the Provisional Committee of the Millowners]
/20		[Excerpts (and copies) from Ordnance Survey maps, used to illustrate Wilson's paper on Kendal Reservoirs]
5	1975 Mar 22-1978 Dec 6	[File of correspondence between P N Wilson and numerous parties re his contributions to A History of Technology, ed. Trevor I Williams, (Oxford, Clarendon Press) 1978: Chapter - Natural Sources of Power (in vol.6); Chapter - Fluid Power (in vol.7). File also includes copies of relevant articles, drafts of his contributions, background notes etc]
6	1973-1978	[File of periodical/newspaper articles, product information, correspondence etc re Wilson's chapter on Natural Sources of Power in A History of Technology (see 5 above). It includes one or two pre-1973 articles, and copy of Proof of Evidence submitted by Lord Wilson of High Wray relating to The Use of Water Power for Electricity Generation (and other purposes) in the U... K... /Society for Environmental Improvement Ltd, 1977 Jul 13, for the Windscale enquiry. This material was originally

housed in box with title 'Natural Energy. General, Wind, Tidal, Solar, Geothermal']

- 7 1956 Feb 14-1978
Mar 2
- Nent Force Level. [File of correspondence between P N Wilson and numerous parties re his research into Nent Force Level, (driven by John Smeaton in 1775 from Alston towards Nenthead), his article on it presented to the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian & Archaeological Society, and public reaction to it. File includes research notes (including note book covering 1960 Apr to 1962 Mar, a copy of his paper, and numerous historical references. Almost all the papers on the file are dated up to 1963 with just a few later letters. See 1/7 above]

8 **[Roman Watermills]**

- /1 1977 Aug
- Roman Watermills From the 1st Century B.C. to the 5th Century A.D./Wilson of High Wray. Draft 1. [Arranged in twelve sections: Bibliography and illustrations; Introduction; Vitruvius; Millstones; Venafro; Haltwhistle; Chesters; Athens; Barbegal; Catacombs; Byzantium; Ickham. 1 file]
- /2 1977 Aug
- as above -----
[Includes sections on Bibliography; Illustrations; Introduction; Vitruvius. With two illustrations]
- /3 [1977]
- [See 8/1: sections on Vitruvius; Millstones; Haltwhistle Burnhead; Barbegal]
- /4 [1977]
- Reconstruction of the Roman Watermill at Haltwhistle Burnhead/P N Wilson, [with 6pp of illustrations]
- /5 [1974?]
- Introduction. The Roman Watermill at Haltwhistle Burn Head/P N Wilson
- /6 1977 Mar
- The Roman Watermill at Haltwhistle Burnhead. My transcription of [F Gerald] Simpson's original draft/Wilson
- /7 1952 May 29-1978
Nov 22
- [File of correspondence between P N Wilson and numerous parties, particularly Dr Grace Simpson, daughter of Dr F Gerald Simpson. File also includes Wilson's background notes and correspondence with many contacts on the subject, copies of some of F G Simpson's notes and xerox of his original The Watermill at Haltwhistle Burn Head, copies of 8/5

and 8/6 above, etc. There is no material on the file between 1954 and 1964]

/8 [1977] [See 8/1: sections on Bibliography and illustrations; Introduction; Millstones; Haltwhistle Burnhead; Chesters. The first three are heavily amended/annotated by Dr Grace Simpson]

/9 [File of rough background notes etc]

9 [Folder of b & w photos (32) of Gillinggate House, Wilson's home in Kendal, chiefly of his dogs in the garden. With negatives]

Object no. 1995-412