

P388 – The John Wares Collection

RECORDS' IDENTITY STATEMENT

Reference number:	P388
Alternative reference number:	Acc. 1283 (formerly Acc. 2083)
Title:	John Wares' Company Collection
Dates of creation:	1925-1982
Level of description:	Fonds
Extent:	3 boxes
Format:	

RECORDS' CONTEXT

Name of creators: Wares Family

Administrative history: John Wares owned a motor and coal business, which also supplied a plethora of other items. The contents of bills, such as for seeds, suggests that the Wares family also farmed, or else sold farm supplies.

Later in the collection, one can see Rita Wares (who is believed to have been a school teacher) taking control of the business, with regular correspondence with her brother in Aberdeen, James Wares. The two often discussed accounts and how to sort out income tax, suggesting that Miss Rita Wares had taken on the role of her father, certainly in an economic sense at the very least. This might be subject to dispute, as John Wares' name continues to appear on bills, rather than Rita's name, but there seems to be little direct correspondence with John himself.

James seems to have had a son with him in Aberdeen, but the extent of his family is not clear.

A much more recent letter from James Wares to the John O' Groat Journal regarding his grandfather suggests that the family business has been that of roadbuilding prior to the establishment of John Wares' motor and coal business.

Photos of John Wares' motor service can be found online within the Johnston Collection. Little other information can be found.

Custodial history:

Due to damage caused by mould, the collection was found in a 'Mould Tank' amidst miscellaneous documents once treated, and has since been separated into its own collection for its wealth of information.

RECORDS' CONTENT

Description:

Mostly accounts, including letters and correspondence

Appraisal:

Accruals:

RECORDS' CONDITION OF ACCESS AND USE

Access:

Open

Closed until:

Access conditions:

Available within the Archive searchroom

Copying:

Copying permitted within standard Copyright Act parameters

Finding aids:

Available in Archive searchroom

ALLIED MATERIALS

Related material:

Publication:

Notes:

Date of catalogue:

August 2019

Catalogue	Description	Dates
P388	John Wares Collection	1925-1982
P388/1	Correspondence	1925-1982
P388/1/1	Roads	1925-1982

P388/1/1/1	'Specification for Dunnet Road 1878' [4 envelopes]	c.1970-1982
P388/1/1/1 /1	Plan of the 'new line of the road' [1 envelope] [Extremely fragile]	c.1970-c.1980
P388/1/1/1 /2	Letters on Dunnet New Road Schedule of Work [1 envelope] [Extremely fragile]	1878
P388/1/1/1 /3	Dunnet New Road letters from James Wares involving his grandfather, James Wares, including references to files of the John O'Groat Journal of 1878 and a newspaper clipping from 1973 [1 envelope]	1973-1974
P388/1/1/1 /4	Letter on the Specification for Dunnet Road and large envelope [1 envelope]	1982
P388/1/1/2	Specification and general conditions for the supply of road metal for the Caithness County Roads [1 envelope]	1925
P388/1/2	Loose family letters [4 envelopes, 1 booklet, 1 bundle]	1932-1944
P388/1/2/1	Envelope for Miss Wares, originally addressed to Rosbank, Skylawbank Road, Edinburgh, but changed to Rowanlea, Castletown, Caithness. Contains original stamp, postmark and some calculations written on the front of the envelope [1 envelope]	30 Dec 1932
P388/1/2/2	Letter on insurance and accounts addressed to Miss Wares (Rita), Rowanlea, Castletown, from James (brother) with original postmark and stamp [2 items in 1 envelope]	15 Oct 1944-16 Oct 1944
P388/1/2/3	Letter to Miss Wares [1 envelope, 1 bundle, 1 booklet, all in 1 envelope]	14 May 1944-17 May 1944
P388/1/2/3 /1	Instructions on 'How To Fill Up Your Form' for income tax [1 booklet]	c.1940
P388/1/2/3 /2	Letter to Miss Rita Wares from her brother [5 sheets]	14 May 1944
P388/1/2/3 /3	Envelope addressed to Miss Wares, Rowanlea, Castletown, Caithness with original stamp and annotations in pencil [1 item]	17 May 1944
P388/1/3	Miscellaneous	c.1930-1935

P388/1/3/1	Contents of 2 envelopes marked 'Mr John Wares, Contractor, Castletown, Thurso' [1 envelope]	c.1930-1935
P388/1/3/1 /1	List of insurance holders including costs of labour for Mitchell MacLeod and James Sutherland [1 sheet]	c.1930
P388/1/3/1 /2	Letter from John Wares to Mr Harper with envelope [1 sheet, 1 envelope]	May 1933
P388/1/3/1 /3	Accounts of Wares' Motor Service concerning D. H. Harper and time for MacLeod and Sutherland [1 booklet]	1933
P388/1/3/1 /4	Small envelope to Mr John Wares [1 item]	1935
P388/1/3/1 /5	Bill for farm seeds [1 sheet]	1935
P388/1/3/1 /6	Letter of loss asking for farm seed bill settlement [1 sheet]	Jul 1935
P388/2	Accounts and Income Tax	1932-1946
P388/2/1	Accounts book including letters to Mr Baikie from Mr John Wares, accounts notebook entitled Mr George Cormack, a letter from Halkirk social club [1 volume] [Very fragile, loose pages at front]	1932-1933
P388/2/2	Log book relating to John Wares' Motor Business [1 booklet in envelope] [No cover, pages detached]	c.1933
P388/2/3	Accounts book for Wares' Motor Service [1 envelope] [Severely damaged]	1939-1944
P388/2/4	Income Tax documents for Mr John Wares [4 sheets]	1940-1942
P388/2/5	Bill from John Wares to William Dunnet & Co. including stamps [2 items in 1 envelope]	1942
P388/2/6	'[Notices] of assessment for income tax', addressed to John Wares [2 sheets in 1 envelope]	1942-1943
P388/2/7	File labelled 'Income Tax' [1 file]	1941-1946
P388/2/7/1	Income Tax booklet marked 'James Wares' [1 booklet]	c.1940
P388/2/7/2	Income tax notice 1940-1941 [1 sheet]	1940-1941

P388/2/7/3	Income tax notice 1941-1942 [1 sheet]	1941-1942
P388/2/7/4	Accounts sheets for 1941-1942 [2 sheets]	1941-1942
P388/2/7/5	Income tax bundle [1 bundle]	1941-1944
P388/2/7/6	Accounts bundle for 1942-1943 [1 bundle]	1942-1943
P388/2/7/7	Sheets on income tax for the years 1942-1943 [5 sheets]	1942-1943
P388/2/7/8	War damage contribution slip [1 sheet]	1943
P388/2/7/9	Income tax and tax inspector correspondence [3 sheets]	1943
P388/2/7/10	Income tax sheets [2 sheets]	Oct 1943
P388/2/7/11	Sheets entitled '1943-44' including income tax envelope [1 booklet sheet, 1 envelope (attached)]	1943-1944
P388/2/7/12	Accounts sheet for 1943-1944 [1 sheet]	1943-1944
P388/2/7/13	Enclosed bundle labelled '1944-45' including delivery notes from the Petroleum Board, train arrival slips, seeds receipt and certificate from the Ministry of Food [1 bundle]	1944-1945
P388/2/7/14	Income tax and land tax slip [1 sheet]	1945
P388/2/7/15	Income tax envelope and war economy note from Caithness [1 envelope with 1 sheet]	Sep 1945
P388/2/7/16	Income tax envelope for John Wares [1 envelope]	1946
P388/2/8	Accounts book for John Wares, coal merchant and motor hirer containing letters, flyers and receipts [1 volume] [Very fragile]	1933-1940
P388/2/9	Income tax envelope addressed to Miss Wares with annotations from 1939 and 1942 [5 sheets, 1 envelope in an envelope]	1939-1942
P388/2/9/1	Notice for assessment of income tax for John Wares [1 sheet]	1939-1940

P388/2/9/2	Notice for assessment of income tax (property tax) for John Wares [1 sheet]	1940-1941
P388/2/9/3	Notice for assessment of income tax for John Wares [1 sheet]	1940-1941
P388/2/9/4	Notice for assessment of income tax (property tax) for John Wares [1 sheet]	1941-1942
P388/2/9/5	Notice for assessment of income tax for John Wares [1 sheet]	1941-1942
P388/2/10	File relating to John Wares [3 files]	1933-1946
P388/2/10/1	Random accounts list for 1933, marked in pencil [1 sheet]	1933
P388/2/10/2	'Farm Trading Account' [1 sheet]	c.1940
P388/2/10/3	Coal and railway freight account sheet [1 sheet]	c.1940
P388/2/10/4	Envelope addressed to Miss Wares with wax seal [1 envelope]	c.1940
P388/2/10/5	Accounts listing with little context including sales of milk [1 sheet]	c.1940
P388/2/10/6	War economy label from Inverness [1 sheet]	c. 1940
P388/2/10/7	Accounts bundle for the period April 1941-April 1942 [14 sheets]	Apr 1941-Apr 1942
P388/2/10/8	Account sheet for 1942 [1 sheet]	1942
P388/2/10/9	Profit and loss account calculations [1 sheet]	31 Mar 1942
P388/2/10/10	Accounts calculations for the year ending 5 th April 1943 [1 sheet]	10 Nov 1942
P388/2/10/11	Bundle of accounts for 1945-6 [9 sheets]	1942-1946
P388/2/10/12	Letter to Rita Wares from James Wares on accounts paper regarding accounts corrections and a trip to Inverness [1 sheet]	1943
P388/2/10/13	Renewal Premium Receipts for life insurance for Mr John Wares [2 sheets]	Jul 1943
P388/2/10/14	Accounts sheet for 1943-44 [1 sheet]	1943-1944

P388/2/10/15	Bundle including 'Income tax assessments' 1944-1946, returns for 1943-4 (detailing sale of cow), 2 letters from the Inspector of Taxes [4 sheets]	1943-1946
P388/2/10/16	'Accounts for year to 31 st March, 1944' [1 sheet]	1944-1945
P388/2/10/17	Accounts for 1944-1945 [2 sheets]	1944-1945
P388/2/10/18	Letter to Rita Wares from James Wares on accounts paper regarding accounts [1 sheet]	1945
P388/2/10/19	Notice of arrival of merchandise carried by merchandise train [9 sheets]	1945
P388/2/10/20	Board of Trade clothes rationing information sheet on extra coupons [1 sheet]	1945-1946
P388/2/11	Accounts bundle for the period '1942-1943'	c.1940-1944
P388/2/11/1	Accounts calculations [1 sheet]	c. 1940
P388/2/11/2	Garage bills and invoices including lorry expenses [1 bundle]	May 1941-Feb 1943
P388/2/11/3	Random invoices including seed and grain invoices [1 bundle]	c. 1942
P388/2/11/4	Payments to the London Midland and Scottish Railway company [1 bundle]	1942
P388/2/11/5	Bills and invoices regarding crops and sheep auctioning, including a slip from the Ministry of Food Potato and Carrot Division [8 sheets]	1942-1943
P388/2/11/6	Sheets enclosing the bundle [2 sheets]	1942-1943
P388/2/11/7	Accounts calculations including milk sales [2 sheets]	1942-1943
P388/2/11/8	Random accounts calculations and notes [18 sheets]	1942-1943
P388/2/11/9	Delivery notes from The Petroleum Board [9 sheets]	1942-1943
P388/2/11/10	Invoices from Alexander Welch & Sons Coal Merchants [2 sheets]	Jan 1942-Mar 1942

P388/2/11/11	Invoices from the North British Anthracite co. Ltd. [7 sheets]	Jan 1942 – Mar 1942
P388/2/11/12	Invoices from the North British Anthracite co. Ltd. [5 sheets]	Mar 1942-May 1942
P388/2/11/13	Invoices from Alexander Welch & Sons Coal Merchants [6 sheets]	Mar 1942-Jun 1942
P388/2/11/14	Invoices from the North British Anthracite co. Ltd. [3 sheets]	Apr 1942-May 1942
P388/2/11/15	Invoices from Thos. Muir. Son & Patton, LTD, Dundee [5 sheets]	Apr 1942-May 1942
P388/2/11/16	The Commercial Bank of Scotland cheque bundle [1 bundle]	Apr 1942-Oct 1942
P388/2/11/17	Invoices from the North British Anthracite co. Ltd [5 sheets]	May 1942-Jun 1942
P388/2/11/18	Invoices from the North British Anthracite co. Ltd [3 sheets]	Jun 1942-Jul 1942
P388/2/11/19	Invoices from the North British Anthracite co. Ltd [7 sheets]	Jul 1942-Aug 1942
P388/2/11/20	Invoices from Alexander Welch & Sons Coal Merchants [6 sheets]	Sep 1942
P388/2/11/21	Invoices from Alexander Welch & Sons Coal Merchants [2 sheets]	Sep 1942-Oct 1942
P388/2/11/22	Invoices from the North British Anthracite co. Ltd [4 sheets]	Sep 1942-Nov 1942
P388/2/11/23	Invoices from the North British Anthracite co. Ltd [3 sheets]	Sep 1942-Nov 1942
P388/2/11/24	Invoices from Alexander Welch & Sons Coal Merchants [3 sheets]	Nov 1942
P388/2/11/25	Invoices from the North British Anthracite co. Ltd [4 sheets]	Nov 1942-Dec 1942
P388/2/11/26	Invoice from the London Midland and Scottish Railway Company [1 sheet]	Dec 1942
P388/2/11/27	Invoices from Alexander Welch & Sons Coal Merchants [6 sheets]	Dec 1942
P388/2/11/28	Invoices from Alexander Welch & Sons Coal Merchants [3 sheets]	Jan 1943

P388/2/11/29	James Blake invoice [1 sheet]	Jan 1943
P388/2/11/30	Invoices from the North British Anthracite co. Ltd [2 sheets]	Jan 1943-Feb 1943
P388/2/11/31	Coal merchant bill [1 sheet]	Feb 1943
P388/2/11/32	Coal merchant bills [3 sheets]	Feb 1943-Mar 1943
P388/2/11/33	Invoices from the North British Anthracite co. Ltd [7 sheets]	Feb 1943-Mar 1943
P388/2/11/34	Coal merchant bills [5 sheets]	Mar 1943
P388/2/11/35	Coal merchant bills [4 sheets]	Apr 1943
P388/2/11/36	Insurance and compensation bundle [6 sheets]	Sep 1943-Oct 1943
P388/2/11/37	The Commercial Bank of Scotland cheque bundle [1 bundle]	Nov 1943-Oct 1944
P388/2/12	Accounts bundle for the period 1944-1945 [1 bundle]	1937-1945
P388/2/12/1	Miscellaneous papers including income tax assessments [1 bundle]	1937
P388/2/12/2	Notes on 'How to Fill up your Form' [1 sheet]	c. 1940
P388/2/12/3	Counterfoil receipt for washers [1 sheet]	c. 1940
P388/2/12/4	Invoice from Bot. Of D. Anderson, Furnishing & Builders' Ironmongers [1 sheet]	1940-1945
P388/2/12/5	Accounts bundle [1 folder]	1943-1945
P388/2/12/6	Bundle of random accounts calculations [6 sheets]	1944
P388/2/12/7	Invoices from Magnus Houston Meal Mills, Thurso [2 sheets]	1944
P388/2/12/8	Delivery notes from The Petroleum Board [9 sheets]	1944-1945
P388/2/12/9	Sheet enclosing bundle [1 sheet]	1944-1945
P388/2/12/10	Notice of assessment for the year 1944-45, ending 5 th April 1944	1944-1945

P388/2/12/11	Accounts calculations in pencil for the year 1944-1945	1944-1945
P388/2/12/12	Invoice from Thomas Boag & Co. Ltd. [1 sheet]	17 Feb 1944
P388/2/12/13	Invoices from The Thurso & North of Scotland Gas Corporation, Limited [2 sheets]	Mar 1944-30 Jun 1944
P388/2/12/14	Letter from Thomas Boag & Co. Ltd regarding account credit [1 sheet]	2 Mar 1944
P388/2/12/15	Invoice from Thos Muir, Son & Patton, Ltd [1 sheet]	3 Mar 1944
P388/2/12/16	Invoices from Alexander Welch & Sons, Coal Merchants [6 sheets]	April 1944-May 1944
P388/2/12/17	Miscellaneous papers regarding auctioning of sheep, cattle, and payment certificate from the Ministry of Food: Bacon and Ham Division [5 sheets]	May 1944-October 1944
P388/2/12/18	Bundle of sheets regarding grain sales, thrashing bill and 'General Accident Fire & Life Assurance Corporation Limited' [11 sheets]	May 1944-Dec 1944
P388/2/12/19	Invoices from D. M. Finlayson Cycle Agent [17 sheets]	May 1944-Apr 1945
P388/2/12/20	'Caithness County Assessments, 1944-1945' [8 sheets]	26 May 1944
P388/2/12/21	Invoices from Alexander Welch & Sons, Coal Merchants [5 sheets]	June 1944
P388/2/12/22	Documents relating to motors including sheets from Mackay's Garage, Caithness and William Dunnet & Co [8 sheets]	Jun 1944-3 Apr 1945
P388/2/12/23	Invoices from Alexander Welch & Sons Coal Merchants [5 sheets]	Jul 1944
P388/2/12/24	Invoices from Thomson & Brown Brothers with attached cheques [6 sheets]	Jul 1944-Mar 1945
P388/2/12/25	Invoices from William Tawse Ltd [5 sheets]	Jul 1944-Oct 1944
P388/2/12/26	Invoices from Alexander Welch & Sons Coal Merchants [11 sheets]	Aug 1944-Sep 1944
P388/2/12/	Invoices from Alex Campbell regarding hay	Sep 1944

27	and corn [2 sheets]	
P388/2/12/28	Invoice from Thomson & Brown Brothers [1 sheet]	Sep 1944
P388/2/12/29	Invoices from Alexander Welch & Sons Coal Merchants [5 sheets]	Oct 1944
P388/2/12/30	Bundle of invoices from Alexander Welch & Sons Coal Merchants and arrival of merchandise notices [10 sheets]	Nov 1944-Dec 1944
P388/2/12/31	Documents regarding wool, including a document from the Ministry of Supply Wool Control British Wool Section [2 sheets]	18 Nov 1944-30 Nov 1944
P388/2/12/32	Bundle of sheets regarding sheep auction and seed sales [6 sheets]	Nov 1944-8
P388/2/12/33	Invoice from David Kennedy, Veterinary Surgeon, to Mr Wares [1 sheet, 1 envelope]	Dec 1944
P388/2/12/34	Bundle of invoices from Alexander Welch & Sons Coal Merchants and arrival of merchandise notices [8 sheets]	Dec 1944-Jan 1945
P388/2/12/35	Notices of arrival of merchandise carried by Merchandise Train [4 sheets]	1945
P388/2/12/36	Accounts document for 1945-1946 [1 sheet]	1945-1946
P388/2/12/37	Invoices from Alexander Welch & Sons Coal Merchants and notices of arrival of merchandise carried by Merchandise Train [13 sheets]	Jan 1945-Feb 1945
P388/2/12/38	Letter from James Wares to Rita Wares regarding accounts and the health of their parents [1 sheet]	9 Oct 1945
P388/3	Wares Company Other Records	1928-1940
P388/3/1	Recorder readings (fuel) [1 volume]	1928-1930
P388/3/2	Record of hours of work, lorries and loads [2 volumes]	1940
P388/3/3	Handwritten invoice from Alexander Coghill [1 envelope]	1 Dec 1944