



TfL Corporate Archives Research Guides

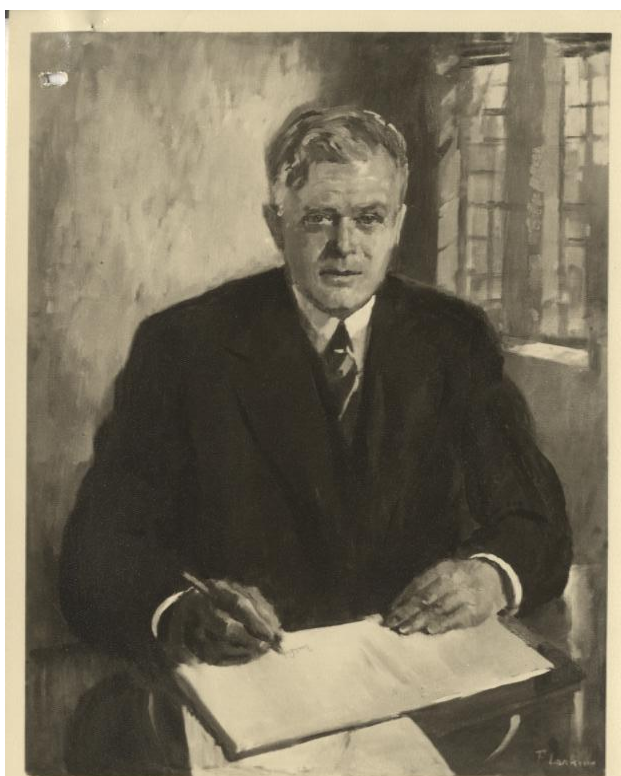
Research Guide No 12: Frank Pick Papers

The Frank Pick papers at the TfL Corporate Archives are contained within a number of records series and contain the 'Personal' working files of Frank Pick during his years as Managing Director of the Underground Electric Railway Companies of London Ltd (UERL), and later Vice-Chairman of the London Passenger Transport Board (LPTB). The files relate to Pick's role at Board level and also as Managing Director and therefore contain a significant amount of operational material.

The papers cover the latter part of his employment with the UERL and several of the files relate to the transitional period leading up to the formation of the LPTB where upon he was promoted to be the Vice Chairman until his resignation of 06/04/1940. Included are some files that upon his resignation were passed to other Chief Officers such as the Engineer-in-Chief.

Some earlier files were also transferred to these series; however these appear to be files relating to his work prior to 1928 as Assistant Managing Director rather than his role as head of the Commercial Department. Hence files regarding tube extension and new works' proposals dating from 1924 and a correspondence file with the Chairman from 1921 were retained by Pick as Managing Director.

The change in the nature of the files from his position as Managing Director UERL to Vice Chairman of LPTB is not as marked as might be expected. The papers sustain a marked interest in the detail of managing a transport undertaking, which might be expected at



Managing Director level but not as Vice Chair. This is because Pick was not replaced as Managing Director upon his promotion, but as is explained by Pick: 'you will see ... that we have not got a general manger [i.e. Managing Director]; the Vice Chairman in fact acts as general manager; nor is any clear line drawn between policy and administration. They are both dealt with in my office.' [LT000476/003 letter 12/10/1937]

The papers include correspondence and material relating to areas of great personal interest, namely his involvement in the Design & Industries Association. For these Pick filed his papers at work and they are included in the file index and classification scheme. Some of these files predate his promotion to Managing Director, dating from 1920.

The papers document a significant part of the operational, legal and historical foundations of London Passenger Transport Board. Consequently, they offer an insight into the economic, administrative and structural preoccupation of the LPTB at its very inception.

The papers also pertain to the developing construction of the Underground, particularly the 'New Works Programme' of the 1920s and 1930s. The 'Station files' are of key interest to researchers studying the architectural heritage of the system, whilst detailed technical files are of interest to anyone studying scientific and technical developments in industry at that time. These files contain information which is still of operational interest. The files additionally span a wide geographical area across London and are a good source for both local history in London and for London wide planning and development in the early twentieth century.

For anyone looking at Frank Pick as an individual, these files allow an insight into his work habits and strong personal interests and views. As one of the key chief officers in the creation of London's transport system his influence upon municipal transport - now as much as then goes beyond the confines of the capital.

A number of indices to Pick's filing system survive, showing how Pick's records were classified. The main classification headings remained constant during this period, with sub headings changing as appropriate. The main headings, as below, give an overview and indication of the breadth of Pick's responsibilities:-

- * 100-199 Railways
- * 200-299 Buses and Coaches
- * 300-399 Tramways and Trolleybuses
- * 400-499 London Passenger Transport Board General
- * 500- A Statutory Undertaking
- * 805- London Passenger Transport Board and Various Authorities and Associations
- * 842 - Staff and Accommodation
- * 852 Art and Industry

- * 854 Accidents
- * 855 Miscellaneous
- * 911 Personal Files

The original indices included a section on Statements & Forms and Booklets & Statements, which were stored in a cupboard adjoining Pick's Office. Many of these booklets, both Pick's own or alternative copies, are now held by the London Transport Museum Library.

The Frank Pick Papers can be found in the following series:

Ref No	Series Title	Extent	Dates
(NEW)LT000451	Frank Pick: Memoranda, Extracts from Minutes and Notes - Maintenance of Railway Rolling Stock	1 folder	1928
(NEW)LT000452	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Memoranda and Extracts from Minutes concerning the Hammersmith & City Line	1 folder	1934-1935
(NEW)LT000453	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Memoranda and Extracts from Minutes concerning New Works on the Metropolitan District Railway	2 folders	1925-1931
(NEW)LT000454	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Memoranda and Extracts from Minutes concerning New Works on the London Electric Railway	12 folders	1923-1933
(NEW)LT000455	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Memoranda and Minutes - New Works on the Central London Railway	5 folders	1923-1933
(NEW)LT000456	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Memoranda and Minutes concerning Power Supplies	98 bundles, folders, papers and volumes	1925-1940
(NEW)LT000457	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Memoranda, Reports and Minutes concerning Rolling Stock	30 folders, papers and volumes	1906-1933
(NEW)LT000458	Frank Pick: Memoranda and Minutes concerning Maintenance	9 folders	1924-1933
(NEW)LT000459	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Memoranda and Reports concerning Power Supply Matters	10 booklets, bundles and folders	1926-1928

Ref No	Series Title	Extent	Dates
(NEW)LT000461	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Memoranda and Reports concerning Ventilation	17 bundles, folders and photographs	1912-1933
(NEW)LT000462	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Memoranda, Minutes and Reports concerning the East London Railway	6 folders, pamphlets and papers	1933-1940
(NEW)LT000463	Frank Pick: Correspondence and Memoranda concerning Ealing and Shepherd's Bush Railway	5 folders and papers	1923-1933
(NEW)LT000464	Frank Pick: Correspondence and Memoranda concerning the City and South London Railway	3 bundles and folders	1922-1929
(NEW)LT000465	Frank Pick: Correspondence and Memoranda concerning New Tillings Garages	1 folder	1923-1931
(NEW)LT000466	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Memoranda and Minutes concerning New National Company Garages	3 folders	1926-1929
(NEW)LT000467	Frank Pick: Minutes and Memoranda concerning New Garages for the East Surrey Company	3 folders	1924-1932
(NEW)LT000468	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Memoranda and Minutes concerning New Garages for the Thames Valley Company	2 folders	1925-1930
(NEW)LT000469	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Minutes and Memoranda concerning New Rolling Stock	5 bundles and folders	1924-1930
(NEW)LT000470	Frank Pick: Minutes and Memoranda Concerning Garages	1 folder	1938
(NEW)LT000471	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Minutes and Memoranda Concerning Overhead Gear	10 folders, papers and photographs	1934-1940
(NEW)LT000472	Frank Pick: Memoranda Concerning Special Expenditure Requisitions	1 folder	1939-1940
(NEW)LT000473	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Memoranda and Minutes Concerning Maintenance Matters	2 folders	1927-1940
(NEW)LT000474	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Minutes and Memoranda concerning Coronation Traffic Operations	3 folders	1936-1937

Ref No	Series Title	Extent	Dates
(NEW)LT000475	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Minutes and Memoranda concerning Development Proposals	2 folders	1933-1939
(NEW)LT000476	Frank Pick: Reports, Minutes and Memoranda concerning the London Passenger Transport Board (LPTB)	5 folders	1935-1939
(NEW)LT000477	Frank Pick: Reports Concerning the Amalgamation of Bus Companies	8 bundles and folders	1923-1934
(NEW)LT000478	Frank Pick: Reports and Memoranda concerning the London and Home Counties Traffic Advisory Committee Annual Reports	7 booklets and folders	1937-1939
(NEW)LT000479	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Memoranda and Reports concerning the London and Home Counties Traffic Advisory Committee	50 folders	1932-1939
(NEW)LT000480	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Memoranda and Reports Concerning Street Widening and Improvements	36 bundles and folders	1925-1939
(NEW)LT000504	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Memoranda and Reports Concerning the Thames Boat Service	15 booklets, folders, papers and photographs	1934-1939
(NEW)LT000505	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Memoranda and Reports Concerning Donations and Subscriptions	2 folders	1936-1939
(NEW)LT000506	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Memoranda, Minutes and Reports Concerning Insurance Matters	7 booklets, folders and papers	1922-1934
(NEW)LT000507	Frank Pick: Minutes, Memoranda and Reports Concerning Finance and Accounts	1 folder	1939-1940
(NEW)LT000508	Frank Pick: Miscellaneous Departmental Correspondence	4 folders	1933-1940

Ref No	Series Title	Extent	Dates
(NEW)LT000509	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Minutes and Memoranda Concerning Stations	196 booklets, folders, pamphlets, papers and photographs	1928-1943
(NEW)LT000511	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Minutes and Memoranda Concerning the Metropolitan and Great Central Joint Committee	2 folders	1933-1939
(NEW)LT000512	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Minutes, Memoranda and Reports Concerning Development Proposals	26 booklets, bundles, folders, papers and photographs	1921-1939
(NEW)LT000522	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Memoranda and Reports Concerning Statistics	10 folders and papers	1928-1940
(NEW)LT000523	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Minutes of Meetings and Memoranda Concerning the City and South London Railway	16 bundles, folders and photographs	1922-1929
(NEW)LT000524	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Minutes and Memoranda Concerning the London Electric Railway	17 folders and papers	1924-1933
(NEW)LT000525	Frank Pick: General Correspondence	25 booklets, bundles, folders and pamphlets	1929-1940
(NEW)LT000526	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Memoranda, Minutes and Indexes Concerning the London and Home Counties Traffic Advisory Committee	25 booklets, folders and papers	1925-1940
(NEW)LT000527	Frank Pick: Personal Correspondence with Officers	35 bundles, folders, papers and photographs	1921-1940

Ref No	Series Title	Extent	Dates
(NEW)LT000529	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Memoranda, Maps and Reports Concerning Bridges over the Thames	51 booklets, bundles, folders, papers and photographs	1926-1946
(NEW)LT000530	Frank Pick: General Correspondence Concerning Staff	15 booklets, folders and papers	1918-1940
(NEW)LT000532	Frank Pick: Memoranda and Minutes Concerning Chiswick Works	1 folder	1938-1939
(NEW)LT000533	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Minutes, Memoranda and Reports Concerning Power Houses	4 folders	1936-1939
(NEW)LT000534	Frank Pick: Minutes and Memoranda Concerning Acton Works	2 folders	1933-1937
(NEW)LT000535	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Minutes and Reports Concerning the Design and Industries Association	101 booklets, bundles, folders, pamphlets, papers and volumes	1917-1942
(NEW)LT000539	Frank Pick: Correspondence and Reports Concerning the Council for Art and Industry	18 booklets, bundles, folders and papers	1916-1942
(NEW)LT000540	Frank Pick: Correspondence Concerning the British Institute of Industrial Art (BIIA)	1 bundle	1925
(NEW)LT000542	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Memoranda and Reports Concerning the Industrial Court	25 folders and volumes	1920-1933
(NEW)LT000548	Frank Pick: Minutes of the Vice-Chairman's Traffic Committee	3 folders	1935-1938
(NEW)LT000571	Frank Pick: General Papers	68 booklets, folders, papers and volumes	1920-1978
(NEW)LT000576	Frank Pick: Filing Indexes	7 folders	circa 1930-1938

Ref No	Series Title	Extent	Dates
(NEW)LT000579	Frank Pick: Personal Correspondence	17 booklets, folders and papers	1929-1940
(NEW)LT000581	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Minutes and Memoranda Concerning Substations	1 folder	1933-1939
(NEW)LT000582	Frank Pick: Correspondence and Memoranda Concerning Articles	5 booklets, folders and papers	1936-1938
(NEW)LT000583	Frank Pick: Correspondence, Minutes and Memoranda Concerning Fire Installations and Appliances	2 folders	1923-1939
(NEW)LT000603	Frank Pick: Minutes of Estates Meetings	5 folders	1933-1938

If you would like to view any of the papers listed above or would like any further information please contact the Corporate Archives team at corporatearchives@tfl.gov.uk