

Antiquarian Horological Society

Finding Aid - ALLIX, CHARLES (ALL)

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Antiquarian Horological Society

4 Lovat Lane

London

United Kingdom

EC3R 8DT

Telephone: +44 20 7062 7479

[Email: archives@ahsoc.org](mailto:archives@ahsoc.org)

<https://www.ahsoc.org/>

<https://archives.ahsoc.org/index.php/allix-charles>

ALLIX, CHARLES

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Summary information

Repository:	Antiquarian Horological Society
Title:	ALLIX, CHARLES
Reference code:	ALL
Date:	1873–2004 (creation)
Physical description:	28 files in 4 boxes (0.66 linear metres)

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Charles Allix (1921–2015) was a horological expert, researcher, writer, collector and dealer, and a significant contributor to the field of horology. He was the co-author of **Carriage Clocks: Their History and Development** (1974), and **Hobson's Choice: English Bracket Clock Repeating Work** (1982). He also published a series of Malcolm Gardner catalogue pamphlets, **Horology and Allied Subjects**.

Scope and content

This collection comprises horological subject files of correspondence, publications, notes and photographs, compiled by Charles Allix.

Notes

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into one series alphabetically by subject, reflecting the original arrangement at the time of deposit.

ALL/01: Subject files

Restrictions on access

These records are mostly available for public access by prior appointment. Records containing personal information are subject to access restrictions under the UK Data Protection Act, 2018.

Accruals

Charles Allix's archive has been fully catalogued and no further deposits are expected.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published

Series descriptions

Series ALL/01: SUBJECT FILES

Date: 1873–2004 (creation)

Scope and content: The subject files contain correspondence, publications, notes and photographs

Physical description: 28 files

Arrangement: The subject files are arranged alphabetically

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Reference code	Title	Dates	Physical description
ALL/01/001	File - Banger: notes and photographs relating to Edward Banger watch(es?) <i>Scope and content:</i> Edward Banger was the apprentice of Thomas Tompion (1639–1713). The file includes handwritten notes on mechanical watch movements, list of repairs?, photographs and negatives.	1980-1982	1 folder of loose papers
ALL/01/002	File - Gardner: correspondence and papers relating to Malcolm and Robert Gardner <i>Scope and content:</i> Malcolm Gardner (1896–1960) was an antiquarian horologist, horological consultant and bookseller, and Charles Allix's business partner. Robert Gardner (1851–1932), his father, was a manufacturer of marine chronometers. Includes: Robert's and Malcolm's original business correspondence (handwritten and typewritten); published "horological who's who" biographical note on Malcolm; published obituaries of Robert and Malcolm; business certificates; Charles Allix (Malcolm Gardner) Horological Book Catalogue flyers; and Charles Allix's handwritten copy letter to "Sandra" on the death of her father Richard J. Coates.	1908–1988	1 folder of loose papers
ALL/01/003	File - Gould: correspondence, notes and publications relating to the life and death of Lieutenant-Commander Rupert Thomas Gould <i>Scope and content:</i> Lieutenant-Commander Rupert Thomas Gould (1890–1948) was an author, broadcaster and horologist, and the author of *The Marine Chronometer, its History and Development*, "Big Ben: Its Story" etc. File includes typewritten correspondence relating to the publication of the *Big Ben: its Story* booklet; Gould's original correspondence; copies of Gould's art prints and sketches; research notes, correspondence and book catalogue entry relating to Gould's publications; drawing print of "Good Master Hydrographer, chart me the unknown seas"; and an annotated folder, with list of contents, entitled "In Memory..." and containing among other things: copies of the *Horological Journal* of November 1948 and *The HIA Journal* with letters on the death of Gould, a copy of a page from *NAWCC Bulletin* of June 1950 with a photograph of Gould with Harrison's Timekeeper no. 2, and pasted handwritten notes and correspondence.	1939–1989	1 folder of loose papers

ALL/01/004	<p>File - Graham: correspondence, notes and publications relating to clocks and watches by George Graham (c.1673–1751)</p> <p><i>Scope and content:</i></p> <p>Includes copy of Malcolm Gardner (Charles Allix) article on the sale of a collection of 16 quarter repeater watches published in <i>*Antiquarian Horology*</i> September 1976; lists of Graham's repeater watches, and correspondence mainly with Thomas Cox, Florida, USA, regarding their sales; copy extract from "The Astronomical Clocks at Greenwich" (1975), an article by Howse mentioning Graham 1 and Graham 2 clocks; copies of articles on George Graham's life and work, including by Jeremy Evans (1995) and C. Doris Hellman (1931); a handwritten extract from Graham's 1726 article for <i>*Watchmaker*</i>; and photocopies of sale catalogues showing Graham clocks.</p>	1974–2003	1 folder of loose papers
ALL/01/005	<p>File - Gravity Escapement: correspondence, notes and photographs</p> <p><i>Scope and content:</i></p> <p>Includes blueprint of gravity escapements; booklet of lesson 2/12 of British Horological Institute's "Correspondence Course in Technical Horology"; ball and roller bearings metric conversion tables; notes; correspondence regarding the manufacture of wheels and pinions; <i>*The Horological Journal*</i> article on "A Criticism of the ... Gravity Escapement" by O.B. Hutchinson; 1917 letter from A. Bertlain [?] with a design for a three-legged Grimthorpe escapement; five photographs; and a bundle of correspondence and photographs relating to the regulator clock by Isaac Jackson (1796–1862).</p>	1917–1974	1 folder of loose papers
ALL/01/006	<p>File - Haswell: correspondence with and regarding James Eric Haswell</p> <p><i>Scope and content:</i></p> <p>J. E. Haswell (1890–1967) was the director of R. Haswell and Sons (tool and material business), the author of <i>*Haswell's Horology*</i> textbook, and a member of the Worshipful Company of Clockmakers. File includes C. Allix's correspondence with Haswell, mainly concerning his book; Allix's correspondence with Mrs Edna Haswell, mainly regarding the estate of her late husband and the sale of items belonging to him; Haswell's obituary by C. Allix published in <i>*The Horological Journal*</i>; and obituary press cuttings.</p>	1940–2002	1 folder of loose papers
ALL/01/007	<p>File - Hindley: correspondence and photographs relating to clocks of Henry Hindley and the York school</p> <p><i>Scope and content:</i></p> <p>Henry Hindley (1701–71) was a clockmaker and inventor based in York. File includes correspondence with Charles Taylor; copy page from Sotheby's sales catalogue (2002) listing a clockmaker's sector by Hindley; a newspaper advertisement and description of a mahogany clock from the workshops of H. Hindley, annotated "certainly not"; and 17 colour photographs of the clock provided by the seller, Northern Clocks.</p>	1994–2003	1 folder of loose papers
ALL/01/008	<p>File - Hobson: correspondence with and regarding Charles Hobson</p> <p><i>Scope and content:</i></p> <p>Charles Hobson (1907–88) was a clockmaker and a honorary freeman of the Clockmakers' Company. File includes C. Alix's correspondence with Hobson; correspondence with Daniel Parkes regarding <i>*Hobson's Choice*</i>, a book of sketches of English bracket clock repeating work by Hobson, Allix and Harvey (1982); published reviews of <i>*Hobson's Choice*</i>; notes; copy of certificate of registration of Hobson Bros; photocopies of Hobson's letter to Col. Quill regarding his will; and an obituary of Hobson, published in <i>*Antiquarian Horology*</i> (Spring 1988).</p>	1979–1988	1 folder of loose papers
ALL/01/009	<p>File - Ilbert: correspondence regarding the Ilbert Collection</p> <p><i>Scope and content:</i></p>	1944–1999	1 folder of loose papers

	Courtenay Adrian Ilbert (1888–1956) was a civil engineer and watch and clock collector; his collection was eventually acquired by the British Museum. File includes Charles Allix's correspondence with C.A. Ilbert; Malcolm Gardner's correspondence with solicitors regarding the estate of the late C.A. Ilbert and the valuation of his horological collection of clocks and books; lists of clocks, etc.		
ALL/01/010	File - Jennings: correspondence with and regarding Charles Jennings	1973–1983	1 folder of loose papers
	<i>Scope and content:</i> Includes Charles Allix's correspondence with C. Jennings regarding Mudge clocks and portrait; correspondence with solicitors regarding the valuation of his collection after his death in 1980; three photographs and one drawing.		
ALL/01/011	File - Jewelling: publications, notes and related correspondence about watch jewellery	1873–1981	1 folder of loose papers
	<i>Scope and content:</i> Includes copies of articles from *The Horological Journal* and other publications, many of them antiquarian; *Watch and Chronometer Jewelling* booklet by N.B. Sherwood (Chicago, n.d.); notes, related correspondence and 1 photograph. Annotated "see also the Banger watch file" (ref. ALL/01/001).		
ALL/01/012	File - Jump: papers relating to the Jump family and clocks	1984	1 folder of loose papers
	<i>Scope and content:</i> Includes letter, draft Jump family tree compiled by Col. H. Quill, notes, sketches and newspaper and catalogue cuttings.		
ALL/01/013	File - Leroux: notes relating to clock	1985	1 folder of loose papers
	<i>Scope and content:</i> Includes handwritten notes with detailed description of "Leroux no. 3153".		
ALL/01/014	File - Mercer St Albans: press cuttings relating to Frank Mercer and Thomas Mercer Ltd.	1938–1958	1 folder of loose papers
	<i>Scope and content:</i> Frank Mercer (1882–1970) was a chronometer maker; his father was the founder of Thomas Mercer Ltd, a firm of makers of chronometers and precision equipment based in St Albans, dating back to 1858. File includes obituaries of Frank Mercer, biographical articles about Thomas junior and senior, an article about the firm's centenary, etc.		
ALL/01/015	File - Merlin: correspondence and photographs relating to the sale of Merlin Clock	1986–1997	1 folder of loose papers
	<i>Scope and content:</i> Includes letters, copy catalogue pages, eight photographs and slides.		
ALL/01/016	File - Montécheroux: publications, photographs and correspondence with Le Musée de Ponces [Pliers Museum], Montécheroux, France	1998–1999	1 folder of loose papers
	<i>Scope and content:</i> Includes catalogues, photocopies of press articles, hand-drawn plan of Le Forges à Montécheroux, photographs and negatives, and related correspondence.		
ALL/01/017	File - Nardin: publications and correspondence with Ulisse Nardin [watch	1966–1985	1 folder of loose papers

	and chronometer manufacture] in La Locle, Switzerland <i>Scope and content:</i> Includes catalogues, brochures, historical notes, photographs and related correspondence.		
ALL/01/018	File - Otto: correspondence and publications relating to H. Otto clock <i>Scope and content:</i> Includes H. Otto's and Charles Allix's correspondence with Prof. D.S. Torens, May & Philpot catalogue of furniture auction sale 2 November 1955, photocopy photographs, sketches, and extracts from *The Horological Journal*.	1955–2003	1 folder of loose papers
ALL/01/019	File - Prescott: correspondence and publications relating to clock and watchmaking in Prescott and Lancashire <i>Scope and content:</i> Includes correspondence with Prescott Mechanism Company and other organisations and individuals; press cuttings; copies, reprints and extracts from horological journals, publications and catalogues; flyer and programme for at City of Liverpool College course in Aspects of Horology held in 1983; and photographs.	1929–2004	1 folder of loose papers
ALL/01/020	File - Quare: publications, notes and photographs relating to quarter-repeating watches made by Daniel Quare <i>Scope and content:</i> Includes an article from *The Horological Journal* by Joseph M. Brown, handwritten notes and three photographs.	1931–1997	1 folder of loose papers
ALL/01/021	File - Reith: correspondence, notes and publications relating to clocks made by James Reith <i>Scope and content:</i> James Reith was apprenticed in 1698 and became the vice director of a watch manufactory in Versailles, France. File includes extracts from sales catalogues, technical descriptions, biographical information, invoices, photographs, and related correspondence.	1985–1993	1 folder of loose papers
ALL/01/022	File - Sabrier: correspondence with Jean-Claude Sabrier on horological matters <i>Scope and content:</i> Includes Sabrier's articles "Une Montre Expérimentale de Ferdinand Berthoud" and "Un Échappement a Roue de Rencontre sur Deux Niveaux", photographs and relates correspondence. Also includes papers relating to Pasquale Andervalt gas-wound clock.	1985–2001	1 folder of loose papers
ALL/01/023	File - Sills: correspondence with C.H. Jennens regarding his grandfather E.A. Sills <i>Scope and content:</i> Edwin Robert Sills (d. 1943) of Tottenham was a watch and chronometer finisher. File includes handwritten letters and an extract from the Clockmakers' Library Catalogue.	1995	1 folder of loose papers
ALL/01/024	File - Spencer: correspondence with Lord Spencer on horological matters <i>Scope and content:</i>	1958–1989	1 folder of loose papers

	Includes a photocopy of an article on "The Description and Use of a Table-Clock" by Benjamin Martin (1704–182), scientific instrument maker, and related correspondence; and Lord Spencer's correspondence with Colonel Quill regarding clocks by Thomas Mudge, with photographs.		
ALL/01/025	File - Tools: correspondence, publications and photographs	1976–2001	1 folder of loose papers
	<i>Scope and content:</i> Includes correspondence with the Science Museum and other institutions and individuals; copies of the article on "Some Notes on the History of Machine Watchmaking" by Prof. D.S. Torrens (1947); extracts from sales catalogues; notes and correspondence relating to clockmaking tools, and photographs.		
ALL/01/026	File - Travers: correspondence and press cuttings relating to the life and death of John Travers	1899–2003	1 folder of loose papers
	<i>Scope and content:</i> John Travers (1849–1937) was a marine chronometer escapement maker based in Ramsgate. File includes Travers' original correspondence; press cuttings relating to the Travers family; John Travers' obituary published in *The Horological Journal* (1938); notes and correspondence relating to his chronometer-fusee engine, and photographs.		
ALL/01/027	File - Vulliamy: correspondence, notes and photographs relating to Justin Vulliamy's clocks	1984–1995	1 folder of loose papers
	<i>Scope and content:</i> Includes correspondence, handwritten notes, photocopies of sales catalogue pages, photographs, a photocopy of Thomas Reid's letter to B.L. Vulliamy of 1822, and Charles Allix's article "A mid-18th century alarm by Gray and Vulliamy" (*Antiquarian Horology*, Spring 1994).		
ALL/01/028	File - Watches and clocks: correspondence and photographs	1983–2002	1 folder of loose papers
	<i>Scope and content:</i> Originally untitled, this file contains correspondence, photographs, postcards, notes, catalogue extracts etc. mainly relating to various clocks and watches and their sales. Includes: Delander watch no. 298; a spring balance clock and alarm in a solid rosewood case delivered to the Duke of Leinster in 1826; month-going longcase clock by David Lestourgeon; striking bracket clock by Edward East; Tompion longcase clock.		