

Reference Code: NRO 3410

Papers of the North of England Institute of Mining and Mechanical Engineers

Forster Collection

NRO 3410/For/1

Creator(s):

Forster, Thomas Emmerson, fl 1830-1870, engineer

Forster, George Baker, fl 1830-1870, engineer

Scope and Content

The Forster collection consists of three distinct sections. Section one comprises a collection of report books relating to various eighteenth and nineteenth century viewers, collected by Thomas Emmerson Forster but not relating to the Forster family. Sections two and three comprise working papers of Thomas Emmerson Forster and his son George Baker Forster.

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/1](#)

North Brancepeth colliery, Tudhoe Colliery, Deerness Valley Railway. Castle Eden Colliery. Cockfield Fell Royalty.

Creation dates: 1855-1870

Extent and Form: 228 pp

Scope and Content

Volume of reports, correspondence and plans, 1855 - 1870

Pages 229-278 BLANK

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/1/1](#)

Creation dates: 1868

Scope and Content

North Brancepeth Colliery

4 letters between Thomas E. Forster and Thomas G. Hurst and J.W. Swinburne Esq containing reports and valuations including details of leases, sections of seams and quantity and value of available coal, 13 - 17 March 1868

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/1/23](#)

Creation dates: 1866 - 1868

Physical characteristics: Plans 60 x 70cm.

Scope and Content

Tudhoe Colliery

Reports by Thomas E. Forster to William Elliott Esq and John Rogerson re ventilation with recommendations re methods, notes on current workings by G.B. Forster, sketch plan of workings in Harvey Seams, no scale, and plan of workings in Bockwell Seam, scale 2ch: 1", 29 Dec 1866 - 10 Nov 1868

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/1/53](#)

Creation dates: c. 1855

Scope and Content

Deerness Valley Railway

Book of reference giving descriptions of property, owners, lessees and occupiers of lands through which the intended railway will run, nd. c. 1855

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/1/82](#)

Creation dates: nd. c. 1855

Scope and Content

List of County Durham enclosure awards, some dated

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/1/139](#)

Creation dates: 1 Sept 1870

Scope and Content

Request by R.S. Johnson for a report with particular reference to drainage, for Castle Eden Colliery

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/1/141](#)

Scope and Content

Proposed terms for leases of the Castle Eden and Haseldon Royalties to William Cook for 42 years from 2 Feb 1864

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/1/146](#)

Creation dates: 6 May 1870

Scope and Content

Memoranda of agreements to extend the area of coal into Black Hall and Haseldon Estates

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/1/150](#)

Creation dates: 1869 - 1870

Scope and Content

Accounts of coal produced and sold and working charges, for Castle Eden Colliery

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/1/182](#)

Creation dates: 1870

Scope and Content

Estimates of working charges

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/1/188](#)

Creation dates: 25 Aug 1870

Scope and Content

Report on the best method of draining the colliery, by Benjamin Dawson, for Castle Eden Colliery

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/1/190](#)

Creation dates: nd. c. 1870

Physical characteristics: Plan coloured, 90 x 84cm.

Scope and Content

Specifications and tenders for the supply of a steam pumping engine by A. Stansfield Rake, for Tangye Bros and Holman, P. Wallan, for Black, Hawthorn and Co and Garrett Marshall and Co with detailed drawing of front and side elevations of steam pumping apparatus at Castle Eden Colliery, scale $\frac{3}{4}$ " : 1', 30 Aug - 16 Sept 1870

Plan of Castle Eden, Hardwick, Heselden and Black Halls Royalty, giving boundaries of royalties leased and acreages, scale 30ch: 1", 35 x 50cm

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/1/203](#)

Creation dates: 27 Sept 1870

Scope and Content

Report by John Taylor and G.B. Forster recommending measures for draining and pumping and re the extension of the royalty areas, CASTLE EDEN

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/1/207](#)

Creation dates: 23 Oct 1867

Scope and Content

Report re the possibility of mining further coal on Cockfield Fell with recommendations for further trials, by William Armstrong

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/1/211](#)

Creation dates: nd

Physical characteristics: Plans 98 x 55cm and 54 x 30cm.

Scope and Content

Plan based on 6" O.S. map of the Cockfield Fell area marking possible seams and dykes and a proposed branch of the Stockton and Darlington Railway, and section of the Stockton and Darlington Railway near Gibsnesse, horizontal scale 8ch: 1", vertical 80ft: 1"

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/1/213](#)

Scope and Content

Terms and conditions proposed for a lease of Cockfield Fell Coal Mines to Messrs Bouch and Partners for 42 years from 1 Jan 1868.

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/1/278](#)

Physical characteristics: Coloured, 48 x 84cm.

Scope and Content

Plan of steam pumps at Adelaide Colliery, Bishop Auckland giving

dimensions of cylinders, scale $\frac{1}{4}$ " : 1', nd

Plan of [a steam pumping engine] by Black Hawthorn & Co, Engineers,
Gateshead, scale $\frac{1}{4}$ " : 1', nd

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/2](#)

Northop Estate and Dublin Colliery. St Andrews Auckland Detached Plots, Shildon Lodge Colliery, Long Cleugh Lead Mine, Albion Mine, Nova Scotia.

Creation dates: 1852-1870

Extent and Form: 117 pages

Scope and Content

Volume of reports, correspondence and plans, 1852 - 1870

Pages 1-43 refer to Northop Estate 1860-1867

Pages 75-83 refer to Auckland St Andrews 1870

Pages 113-118 refer to Shildon Lodge Colliery 1869

Pages 123-127 refer to Long Cleugh Mine 1852-1869

Pages 129-167 refer to Albion Mines, Nova Scotia 1863-1869

Pages 44-72, 88-112 are blank

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/2/1](#)

Creation dates: 1860

Scope and Content

Lease from Messrs William Hancock, James Hancock and others to Messrs John Bailey, Robert M. Shipman and others of coal under lands at Northop, 1 Jan 1860

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/2/24](#)

Creation dates: nd

Physical characteristics: Coloured 41 x 73cm and 72 x 60cm

Scope and Content

A and B, 2 plans of parts of the Northop Estate showing estate boundaries, scales 2ch: 1" and 3ch: 1", nd

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/2/25](#)

Creation dates: 13 July 1866

Scope and Content

Letter from Thomas L. Cottingham to Joseph Rowley Esq at Northop Hall Colliery re prospects for Dublin and Northop Collieries

Reference: NRO 3410/For/3/2/26

Creation dates: 13 July 1866

Scope and Content

Letter from Thomas L. Cottingham to Joseph Rowley containing a report re the Dublin Mineral Property including details of seams, amount of available coal, working conditions, adjoining properties and estimate of working costs

Reference: NRO 3410/For/3/2/32

Creation dates: 21 July 1866

Scope and Content

Letter from Thomas L. Cottingham to Joseph Rowley containing valuation of the Dublin Mineral Property

Reference: NRO 3410/For/3/2/33

Creation dates: c. 1866

Physical characteristics: 90 x 102cm.

Scope and Content

Plan of Dublin Colliery, parish of Northop belonging to Messrs Ridby and Hanock, showing the Hollin Hill workings, giving acreages marks old pits and fault lines, scale 2ch: 1", nd

Reference: NRO 3410/For/3/2/35

Creation dates: Aug 1867

Scope and Content

Report for Messrs Richardson and Co re Northop Hall and Dublin Collieries including details of leases, acreages, details of seams, transport and results of borings with estimates of available coal and profits and valuation

Reference: NRO 3410/For/3/2/43

Creation dates: c. 1866

Scope and Content

Copy of plan NRO 3410/For/3/2/33 above

Reference: NRO 3410/For/3/2/75

Creation dates: 20 Aug 1870

Scope and Content

Letter from R. Bowser to T.E. Forster Esq enclosing a plan (No. 1) of fields at St Andrews Auckland, the coal under which Mr Pease desires to purchase

Reference: NRO 3410/For/3/2/77

Creation dates: 20 Aug 1870

Scope and Content

Letter from R. Bowser to T.E. Forster Esq enclosing a plan (No. 2) of detached fields near Bishop Auckland, the coal under which Mr Heckells, on behalf of Sir C. Maclean, desires to purchase

Reference: NRO 3410/For/3/2/79

Creation dates: [1870]

Physical characteristics: 39 x 43cm.

Scope and Content

Plan No. 1, (referred to in NRO 3410/For/3/2/75) coloured to show land belonging to Mr Peacock and Rev H.A. Milton, no scale

Reference: NRO 3410/For/3/2/81

Creation dates: [1870]

Physical characteristics: 45 x 44cm.

Scope and Content

Plan No. 2, (referred to in 77 above) coloured to show land belonging to Miss and T. Peacock and R. Bowser, no scale,

Reference: NRO 3410/For/3/2/83

Creation dates: 19 Sept 1870

Scope and Content

Letter from Thomas E. Forster to R. Bowser containing valuation of coal under the areas covered by plans 1 and 2 above

Reference: NRO 3410/For/3/2/113

Creation dates: June 1869

Scope and Content

Report for the assignees of T. and G. Marley including details of the lease, acreage, drainage, details of seams including amount of coal left in the Bockwell Seam and valuation of the coal

Reference: NRO 3410/For/3/2/118

Creation dates: 18 June 1869

Scope and Content

Minutes taking in preparing the report (NRO 3410/Fro/3/2/113) by Thomas G. Hurst

Reference: NRO 3410/For/3/2/123

Creation dates: 1852

Scope and Content

Lease by William Ord Esq to Messrs Lee, Short, Clementson, Walton and Turner of Long Cleugh Mine lead mine, Whitfield, for 21 years from 1852

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/2/127](#)

Creation dates: May - Oct 1869

Scope and Content

Accounts

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/2/129](#)

Creation dates: 13 Aug 1868

Scope and Content

Letter from James Hudson to J.B. Foord re the amount of coal produced

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/2/131](#)

Creation dates: c. 1868

Scope and Content

Accounts including pay bills, 1868 and abstracts of working costs, 1863 - 1868

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/2/136](#)

Creation dates: c. [1868]

Scope and Content

Details of winding, pumping and locomotive engines

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/2/140](#)

Creation dates: 7 Aug 1868

Scope and Content

Extract from a letter from R.H. Brown to J.B. Foord re accounts for the Sydney Mine

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/2/141](#)

Creation dates: [1868]

Scope and Content

Accounts for the Sydney Mines including pay bill, 30 June 1868 and wages costs

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/2/145](#)

Creation dates: [1868]

Scope and Content

Details of engines, horses and measurements of tubs at the Sydney Mines

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/2/146](#)

Creation dates: [1868]

Scope and Content

Section of strata through D. Shaft, Sydney Mine

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/2/148](#)

Creation dates: 25 July 1868

Scope and Content

Extract from a letter from William Routledge to J.B. Foord re accounts for the Ligan Mines

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/2/149](#)

Creation dates: [1868]

Scope and Content

Accounts for the Lingan Mines including pay bill, 30 June 1868 and wages costs

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/2/153](#)

Creation dates: [1868]

Scope and Content

Details of engines and horses at the Lingan Mines

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/2/154](#)

Creation dates: 25 July 1868

Scope and Content

Estimate of costs of production costs for the Lingan Mines by William Routledge, manager

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/2/156](#)

Creation dates: [1868]

Scope and Content

Accounts for the Lingan Mines including pay bills, 30 June 1868 and wages costs

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/2/161](#)

Creation dates: 12 Feb 1869

Scope and Content

Letter from Thomas E. Forster to J.B. Foord Esq re the reasons for the increased working costs for the mines belonging to the General Mining Association with recommendations re the reduction of costs

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/2/163](#)

Creation dates: 1866

Physical characteristics: 30 x 52cm.

Scope and Content

Section of strata from the Main Seam to the Deep Seam at Dalhouse Pit, scale 12': 1"

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/2/165](#)

Creation dates: 1866

Physical characteristics: 30 x 117cm.

Scope and Content

Section of strata through the Forster Pit, Albion Mines, scale 12': 1"

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/2/167](#)

Creation dates: 1868

Physical characteristics: 30 x 128cm.

Scope and Content

Section of strata through the Foord Pit, Albion Mines, scale 24': 1"

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/3](#)

Tyne Coal Co. Felling Colliery, Ryhope Colliery, Fishburn Estate.

Creation dates: 1831-1870

Extent and Form: 222 pp

Scope and Content

Volume of reports, correspondence and plans, 1831 - 1870

Pages 1 - 20 refer to Tyne Coal Company 1868 - 1869

Pages 49 - 79 refer to Felling + Tyne Main Collieries 1845-1868

Pages 113 - 145 refer to Ryhope Colliery 1863-1865

Pages 185 - 202 refer to Fishburn Estate 1831-1870

Pages 24-48, 89-112, 148-184 are blank

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/3/1](#)

Creation dates: 7 Dec 1868

Scope and Content

Letter from J.B. Simpson, Hedgefield, Blaydon to Messrs Forster, Son and Hurst requesting a report on the colliery operations of the Tyne Coal Company

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/3/2](#)

Creation dates: 23 Nov 1868

Scope and Content

Report re current workings, particularly drainage at Wallsend and Hebburn, including the installation of Cornish pumping engines at Wallsend with estimates of costs for further drainage work and estimates of working costs and staith and railway costs and list of abstracts of leases of collieries held by the Tyne Coal Co at Hebburn, Wallsend, Willington and Benton, by J.B. Simpson

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/3/16](#)

Creation dates: 30 Jan 1869

Scope and Content

Notice of an extraordinary general meeting of the Tyne Coal Co. by R.

Burdon Sanderson, chairman, to consider the issue of preference shares to increase the share capital of the company

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/3/18](#)

Creation dates: 18 Dec 1868

Scope and Content

Minutes for a report by G.B. Forster re the engines at Wallsend G. Pit and at Hebburn

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/3/20](#)

Creation dates: 20 Feb 1869

Scope and Content

Report and recommendations re drainage of Wallsend and Hebburn Collieries by Thomas E. Forster, G.B. Forster and Thomas G. Hurst

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/3/49](#)

Creation dates: 1 April 1868

Extent and Form: 2 letters

Scope and Content

From George Elliot to James Easton and George Baker Forster requesting a report

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/3/51](#)

Creation dates: 27 April 1868

Scope and Content

Minutes for a report including sections of seams and details of the workings 1846 - 1868, drainage measures and list of collieries on the Tyne, Percy Main, Tyne Main, Jarrow, Wallsend, Willington, Bigges Main and Hebburn with dates of cession of working and amount of water present

Reference: NRO 3410/For/3/3/61

Creation dates: 16 May 1868

Scope and Content

Report including amount of available coal, the re-opening of Hall Pit, working of pillars, drainage and conditions of tubbing with recommendations re drainage measures, by James Easton and G.B. Forster

Reference: NRO 3410/For/3/3/76

Creation dates: 9 April 1868

Scope and Content

Minutes for the above report by G.B. Forster including sections of seams and numbers of hewers

Reference: NRO 3410/For/3/3/79

Creation dates: 26 Nov 1845

Scope and Content

Memoranda re workings in the High Main Seam under and near St. Peter's Docks, 1842 - 1845 and report to Messrs Smith re the causes of damage to the surface at St. Peter's Dock occasioned by a creep in the workings of the lessees of Gateshead Park Colliery, by Matthew Liddell, Benton Grange

Reference: NRO 3410/For/3/3/113

Creation dates: 1864

Physical characteristics: Plan 32 x 41cm.

Scope and Content

Case re the application by John Taylor for an extension of the time allowed under the Coal Mines Act, 7 Aug 1862, for the provision of a

second shaft, including extracts from the Act, minutes re the workings, sections of seams and notes re ventilation, section of the furnace drift showing circulation of air, no scale, and report by Thomas E. Forster, 28 June - 5 Dec 1864

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/3/139](#)

Creation dates: 1863

Physical characteristics: Plan coloured 56 x 94cm.

Scope and Content

Request by John Taylor for a report re the working of an outstroke to the east of Ryhope Colliery under the sea particularly re dangers from inundations of sea-water and the recommended thickness of the barriers with report including sections of seams, soundings and plan showing the extent of the workings and the barrier, scale 14ch: 1", 16 Nov - 12 Dec 1863

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/3/145](#)

Creation dates: 2 Jan 1865

Scope and Content

Valuation by Thomas E. Forster

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/3/185](#)

Creation dates: 1864

Physical characteristics: Plan 70 x 102cm.

Scope and Content

Sale particulars including plan of the estate coloured to show the lots with reference naming lots, scale 4ch: 1", with particulars giving field names, state of cultivation, occupiers and acreages, to be sold 9 March 1864

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/3/193](#)

Creation dates: 1837-1842

Scope and Content

Account of borings at Fishburn by George Stott, 1837 - 1838 and William Coulson, 1840 - 1841 at Trimdon Grange, n.d. Great Chilton, 1831 and Mr Armstrong's borings, 1842

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/3/202](#)

Creation dates: 1870

Extent and Form: 2 copies 1 loose.

Physical characteristics: Plans 30 x 50cm and 32 x 60cm.

Scope and Content

Correspondence between H.E. Briggs, Darlington and Thomas E. Forster re the valuation of the Belmont Ironstone Mines and the Fishburn Estates, including plan of East House, coloured to show freehold and leasehold land, and marking acreages, scale 6ch: 1" and plan of the Township of Fishburn, coloured to show land owners; no scale, 28 Jan - 21 March 1870

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/4](#)

The Earl of Glasgow v The Glengarroch Iron Co. Woodhall Minerals.

Creation dates: 1844-1869

Extent and Form: 126 pp

Scope and Content

Volume of reports, correspondence, legal papers and plans, 1844 - 1869

Pages 3 - 49 refer to The Earl of Glasgow v The Glengarroch Iron Co. 1865 - 1868

Pages 72 - 146 refer to Woodhall 1844-1869

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/4/3](#)

Creation dates: 1865

Scope and Content

Extracts from leases between the disputing parties, 4, 16 Aug and 27 Dec 1865

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/4/26](#)

Creation dates: 7 Dec 1867

Scope and Content

Statement of queries re leases

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/4/33](#)

Creation dates: 1867-1868

Extent and Form: 6 letters

Scope and Content

From Tods, Murray and Jamieson to Thomas Forster requesting an opinion re the case, 7 Dec 1867 - 17 Jan 1868

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/4/37](#)

Creation dates: nd.[c.1868]

Physical characteristics: 78 x 92cm, LITHOGRAPHED

Scope and Content

Plan of the Dalry, Kilburne and Glengarnock Mineral Fields showing the Black-Band Ironstone workings, coloured to show areas under which workings lie and boundaries of areas leased, by W. and A.K. Johnson, Edinburgh, scale 900': 1"

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/4/39](#)

Creation dates: nd.[1868]

Extent and Form: 2 plans

Physical characteristics: 25 x 36cm and 30 x 40cm

Scope and Content

Of the Black-Band Ironstone workings at Kilbirnie, showing underground workings, scale 200': 1"

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/4/49](#)

Physical characteristics: 58 x 60cm.

Scope and Content

Sections of borings in Glengarnock and Kilbirnie before and after Whitsunday 1865

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/4/72](#)

Creation dates: 1835

Physical characteristics: 44 x 58cm.

Scope and Content

Plan of the Woodhall Estate, Bothwell, Lanark reduced from an original plan of 1811, giving field names and acreages, coloured to show lessees of minerals, scale 10ch: 1", by Andrew Henderson

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/4/73](#)

Creation dates: 20 May 1844

Scope and Content

Terms for a lease between W.F. Campbell Esq of Islay and Alison, Merry and Cunningham of Carnbrae of minerals under Woodhall

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/4/75](#)

Creation dates: nd

Physical characteristics: 25 x 40cm.

Scope and Content

Sketch section of part of the Woodhall Mineral Field, no scale

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/4/76](#)

Creation dates: 1848

Physical characteristics: 45 x 62cm.

Scope and Content

Plan of Woodhall Estate, coloured to show the boundaries of the farms, giving farm names and acreages, scale 10ch: 1"

Report re the minerals under the Woodhall Estate including sections of strata and quantity and valuation of coal produced, by William McCreath, 18 June 1863

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/4/94](#)

Creation dates: 4 Jan 1865

Scope and Content

Report re mineral workings for the year ending Martinmass 1863, including details of production, by William McCreath

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/4/101](#)

Creation dates: 1864 - 1866

Scope and Content

Report as above Martinmass 1864, Whitsunday 1866, 28 June 1866

Reference: NRO 3410/For/3/4/108

Creation dates: 14 Aug 1866

Scope and Content

Supplementary report as above

Reference: NRO 3410/For/3/4/109

Creation dates: 19 May 1868

Scope and Content

Letter from Merry and Cunningham to the Woodhall Estate Co re the exhausted state of the minerals in the estate

Reference: NRO 3410/For/3/4/110

Creation dates: 25 June 1868

Scope and Content

Report on the proposal by Merry and Cunningham to give up their lease, by James McCreath

Reference: NRO 3410/For/3/4/113

Creation dates: Feb 1859

Scope and Content

Letter from James Brown to Messrs Merry and Cunningham re mineral workings

Reference: NRO 3410/For/3/4/114

Creation dates: nd. [1868]

Physical characteristics: 40 x 60cm.

Scope and Content

Plan of the Woodhall Estate, coloured to show section let to Messrs Merry and Cunningham, giving dimensions of pumping engines, scale 14ch: 1"
Letter from James McCreath to Thomas Forster describing the property and mineral workings of Merry and Cunningham, 13 Aug 1868

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/4/118](#)

Creation dates: 3 - 17 Aug 1868

Scope and Content

Correspondence between Messrs Merry and Cunningham and Charles Pearson, manager of the Woodhall Estate

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/4/123](#)

Creation dates: 1868

Scope and Content

Submission by Merry and Cunningham and the Woodhall Estate Co re the giving up of the lease

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/4/127](#)

Creation dates: [1868]

Scope and Content

Objections to Messrs Merry and Cunningham being allowed to give up their lease

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/4/129](#)

Creation dates: Jan 1869

Scope and Content

Remarks re the Woodhall Mineral Estate including sections of seams,

amount of available coal and ironstone and management of the colliery, with estimate of the quantity of coal still to be worked in the central portion of the estate, by Dodd and Bailes

Reference: [NRO 3410/For/3/4/146](#)

Creation dates: 1868 - 1869

Scope and Content

Statement by Messrs Merry and Cunningham of their case that the minerals are exhausted and of their desire to give up their lease with responses from the Woodhall Estate Co, with statement of accounts for 1868, 1 March 1869