

RMS Queen Elizabeth (1940): Sources

(John Brown Shipbuilding & Engineering Co Ltd, Clydebank, Yard No. 552)

How to use this list of sources

These are the resources we have available for researching this vessel. Enquiries should be directed to the Duty Archivist - contact details are at the end of this list.

Comparison of Costs and Estimates Book

GUAS Ref: UCS 1/86/127	Costs and Estimates Book	1938-39
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Cunard Letter Books

GUAS Ref: UCS 1/16/9	Letter Books	Mar-Aug 1936
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/16/10	Letter Books	Sep 1936- Jan 1937
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/16/11	Letter Books	Feb-Sep 1937
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/16/12	Letter Books (also includes <i>Queen Mary</i>)	Oct 1937- Mar 1938
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/16/13	Letter Books	Apr 1938- Jan 1939
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/16/14	Letter Books	Jan 1939- Feb 1940
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/16/15	Letter Books (also includes other Cunarders)	Mar 1940- Oct 1945

Engine Particulars Books

GUAS Ref: UCS 1/92/96	Book 1
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/92/97	Book 2

Enquiries, Tenders and Contracts Files

GUAS Ref: UCS 1/21/141	Cunard Steamship Co: stress investigations on <i>Queen Elizabeth</i> , <i>Caronia</i> and other Cunarders. Reports, plans, memoranda.	c1960
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Illustrated Brochures

GUAS Ref: UCS 1/115/9	Launch presentation publication by Cunard White Star: Mainly photographs showing progress of construction but with some technical information in non-technical terms	1938
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Launch Invitation

GUAS Ref: UCS 1/113/4	Invitation	27 Sep 1938
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Manager's Progressive Cost Books

GUAS Ref: UCS 1/77/263	Cost Books	1936-40
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Newspaper Cuttings

GUAS Ref: UCS 1/114/4	Cuttings	1936-38
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Particular Vessel Files

GUAS Ref: UCS 1/107/135	General correspondence mainly with Cunard White Star Ltd: proposed sister ship to the <i>Queen Mary</i> , agreement, insurance, payment instalments and construction	1935-36
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Particular Vessel Files (continued)

GUAS Ref: UCS 1/107/136	General correspondence mainly with Cunard White Star Ltd: construction, fittings, insurance	1937
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/107/137	General correspondence mainly with Cunard White Star Ltd: regarding construction, launch, publicity, visitors, payments and secret maiden voyage to United States	1938-40
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/107/138	Correspondence with Cunard White Star Ltd: regarding contract and specifications	1936-37
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/107/139	Contract with Cunard White Star Ltd for construction, memoranda and proposals regarding new express steamer and agreements, with HM Treasury regarding debenture stock	1936
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/107/140	Transfer of labour to naval construction, licence to continue building, liability for construction risks insurance, Counsel's opinion	1939
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/107/141	Construction risks insurance etc, submission to and opinion of Counsel	1939-40
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/107/142	Builder's risks and war risk insurance, underwriter's proposals etc	1937-40
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/107/143	Launch: notes of speeches, photostat letter from King George VI and comparative costs as between <i>Queen Mary</i> (No.534) and No.552	1938
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/107/144	Record of correspondence with Clyde Navigation Trust and Clyde Lighthouses regarding dredging of channel and passage of vessel down river	1937-40
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/107/145	Record of correspondence with Clyde Navigation Trust and Clyde Lighthouses regarding dredging of channel and passage of vessel down river	1941
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/107/146	Correspondence etc. with Clyde Lighthouses Trust regarding dredging requirements and passage of vessel down river	1937-40
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/107/147	Correspondence etc. with Clyde Lighthouses Trust regarding dredging requirements and passage of vessel down river	1937-42
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/107/148	Defence of vessel under construction, projected wartime use as carrier of aircraft or troop transport, trials and secret maiden voyage to United States, reports and New York newspaper cuttings	1939-40
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/107/149	Passage down river, mooring arrangements and voyage to United States, work incomplete, and projected use of vessel as cargo carrier or troop transport	1939-40
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/107/150	Builder's certificate of tonnage etc, compass certificate	1940
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/107/151	Miscellaneous rough notes on costing and comparisons with <i>Queen Mary</i> (No.534).	c1938-40
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/107/152	Comparison of costs and estimate: Hull and machinery	1939-40
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/107/153	Rates used in extras and rebates	c1937-40
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/107/154	Reconditioning: minutes of meetings and correspondence mainly with Cunard White Star Ltd	1944-45

Particular Vessel Files (continued)

GUAS Ref: UCS 1/107/155	Reconditioning: minutes of meetings and correspondence mainly with Cunard White Star Ltd	Jan- Mar 1946
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/107/156	Reconditioning: minutes of meetings and correspondence mainly with Cunard White Star Ltd	Apr –Dec 1946
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/107/157	Reconditioning: minutes of meetings and correspondence mainly with Cunard White Star Ltd	1947-50
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/107/158	Reconditioning: progress claims 1-7	1946-47
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/107/159	Reconditioning: progress claims 8-17	1947
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/107/160	Reconditioning: correspondence with Thorneycroft, Southampton	1946-47

Photographs

GUAS Ref: UCS 1/116/56	Album No.1, under construction: Berth preparation; progress, ways and cranes (10 photos) On ways; progress (40 photos)	7 Oct- 30 Nov 1936 5 Dec 1936- 15 Feb 1937
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/116/57	Album No.2, under construction: On ways; progress (68 photos)	22 Feb- 4 Aug 1937
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/116/58	Album No.3, under construction: On ways; progress (79 photos)	19 Aug 1937- 1 Mar 1938
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/116/59	Album No.4, under construction: On ways; progress (82 photos)	17 Mar- 25 Aug 1938
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/116/60	Under construction: On ways; progress including views of Profile, Bows Stern, Rudder, Propellers and Launching Mechanism (40 photos). Launch; Profile and Bow Views, (Vessel in tow) and empty berth (6 photos) Fitting out; progress, Part-profile and Deck views (53 photos)	25 Aug- 27 Sep 1938 27 Sep- 28 Sep 1938 20 Oct 1938- 22 May 1939
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/116/61	Under Construction: Fitting out; progress Hull, Superstructure and Decks, including view alongside <i>Suffolk</i> (No.559) and <i>HMS Fiji</i> (No.558) (81 photos) Boilers; lighting first boiler fire (2 photos) Finished vessel in river; Semi-profile (1 photo)	25 Jun 1939- 29 Jan 1940 16 Nov 1939 26 Feb 1940
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/116/62	Finished vessel: In river; Profiles (4 photos) Model; Profile, Decks etc. (18 photos) Exterior; Hull, Superstructure, Deck views and details (139 photos) Interior; Wheelhouse (1 photo) Interior; Public Rooms etc. (25 photos) Interior; Cabins etc. (6 photos) Interior; Kitchens etc. (4 photos) Interior; Machinery (4 photos)	

Photographs (continued)

GUAS Ref: UCS 1/116/63	Photographs taken at New York showing condition of vessel after leaving Clydebank during War. (The first twelve photographs are of Tank Landing Craft in Sections and as Deck cargo aboard a freighter)
	Exterior; Deck Views etc. (6 photos)
	Interior; Public Rooms etc. (35 photos)
	Interior; Cabins etc. (9 photos)
DC 87/2/18	Lantern Slide
DC 87/16/10	Lantern Slide
DC 113/2563/1	Negative, Black and White, Midships Bar, 1st Class
DC 113/2563/2-4	Negative, Colour, Swimming Pool
DC 113/2563/5	Negative, Black and White, Aerial View
DC 113/2563/6	Negative, Black and White, Profile
DC 113/2563/7-11	Negative, Colour, Profiles
DC 113/2563/12	Negative, Colour, Semi-profile
DC 113/2563/13-14	Negative, Colour, Profiles
DC 113/2563/15	Negative, Colour, Semi-profile
DC 113/2563/16-22	Negative, Colour, Profiles

Plans

GUAS Ref: UCS 1/110/552/1	Rigging - no others surviving. For redrawn plans, contact The National Maritime Museum
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Specification Books

GUAS Ref: UCS 1/91/27	Engine Specification Notebook	1938
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Vessel Particulars

GUAS Ref: UCS 1/93/16	Yard Nos. 296-699 (Freeboard and Tonnage)
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/93/17	Yard Nos. 300-644c
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/93/21	Yard Nos. 415-644c
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/93/29	Yard Nos. 530, 534 and 552

Weights worked into Engines and Boilers

GUAS Ref: UCS 1/100/2	1938
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/100/3	1938-39
GUAS Ref: UCS 1/100/4	1938-39