

BLACKETT, Johnson COLLECTION
Architecture Museum, University of South Australia

BLACKETT, Johnson

SERIES 113-123

BIOGRAPHY

Mr. Johnson Blackett was born and educated in Birkenhead, Cheshire, England. His studies were interrupted by war service 1914-1918 with the Royal Engineers but he recommenced his studies at the School of Architecture, Liverpool University in the post war period. He gained his qualifications and was made an Associate of the Royal Institute of British Architects in the same year, 1921. Blackett was a private practitioner until 1925 when he was made Deputy Borough Architect at Newport, Monmouthshire. Johnson Blackett's received many awards and honours for the contribution he made, not only to domestic architecture, but also to the design of schools and other public building programmes including town planning. In addition to his daily professional undertakings, Blackett also found time to serve on various architecture societies, institutes and committees. He also acted as an examiner for the Welsh School of Architecture. He was also a Fellow of Royal Institute of British Architects. Johnson Blackett retired in 1974 to Adelaide, South Australia where he lived for some ten years before his death in 1984.

SOURCES

Johnson Blackett, curriculum vitae, various dates, Blackett collection S123, Architecture Museum.

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

The Blackett collection is comprised of various versions of Johnson Blackett's curriculum vitae; certificates received; pen and ink drawings; an architectural presentation drawing; photographs in bound volume; architectural competition entries; letters relating to Blackett's awards; a typescript of a talk; newspaper cuttings referring to Blackett's work and miscellaneous pamphlets about Newport; two water colour paintings of sailing ships and a list of two books he owned.

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SERIES LIST SUMMARY

Certificates

1921-1960, 7 items, 20cms, Oversize

Series 113

See Special List

Pen and Ink Drawings

Drawings of Alcala, Spain. The Colegio Mayol de San Ildefonso. Plotted and drawn to 1/8th scale on the spot. Heber Rimmer, 17 June 1892, 1.5cm, framed and glassed. O/S 1 parcel.

Series 114

Drawing

Drawing of combined water tower and tank built of reinforced concrete. Ozalid with coloured pencil. Stamped Johnson Blackett, R.I.B.A., Dist T.P., F.R.I.B.A. Plans drawer.

Series 115

Photographs in Bound Volume

Photos relate to the Gaer-Stelvio Neighbourhood, 1950-1951. Appended inside the album is a brief history of the area, the architect and awards connected with the project. Malpas Court, St Julians, Always and Ringland Yop units are similarly treated. At the back of the volume is a certificate of registration of Johnson Blackett as an Architect from the Architects Board of South Australia dated 18/7/1974. 47 pages 5cm, O/S 1 parcel.

Series 116

Album

The album consists of 13 reproductions of drawings for a proposed art gallery and museum of art in Manchester, UK. These were drawn for an architecture competition held in 1925 1cm. O/S 1 parcel

Series 117

Album

This album consists of 8 reproduced drawings for a competition entitled, The New Premises for the R.I.B.A. no date. 1cm. O/S 1 parcel

Series 118

Correspondence file

Contains letters relating to J. Blackett's awards, together with a typescript of a talk by J Blackett given, apparently, to the N.A.L.G.O. Summer School in England, September 1951. Also contains newspaper cuttings referring to Blackett's work and miscellaneous pamphlets about Newport. 2cms. Box.

Series 119

Architect's Journal competition supplement

Consists of 4 pages, June 1927. Box.

Series 120

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Two watercolours

Series 121

Two water colour paintings, mounted on board, of manned sailing ships. With apparently related signature, 'E.S. Wheedon'. 0.5cms. In poor condition. ND. In O/S parcels.

Photographs

Series 122

13 photographs with no dates or identification. Mostly 20x25cms in size. One is of a casket presented to Lord Montgomery on the occasion of his receiving the Freedom of Newport Borough. 1cm. Box.

Curriculum vitae and Books List

Series 123

CV of Johnson Blackett with typed summary, an obituary, and miscellaneous correspondence, 1961, 1984, rest undated. Box.

Books list:

Newlands, 1867, *The Carpenter and Joiner's Assistant*, Glasgow and London, Blackie. Has bookplate signed by Johnson Blackett, 1919.

Stratton, Arthur, Feb.1920, *The English Interior*, London, Batsford.

(Note: Books are located in Flinders University Library, Special Collections)

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Special List

Series 113

Certificates

1921-1960, 7 items, all in Oversize shelves

<u>Series No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
S113/1	Royal Institute of British Architects – certificate titled ‘Elected Associate’. Framed and glassed 5/12/1921
S113/2	Royal Institute of British Architects – ‘certificate titled ‘Elected Fellow’ Framed and glassed 19/6/1945
S113/3	Ministry of Local Government and Planning – certificate titled ‘Award of Housing Medal’. Framed and glassed 7/6/1951
S113/4	Council of the Festival of Britain – certificate titled ‘Award for Achievement of Merit in Civic and Landscape Design’, 1951
S113/5	Royal Institute of British Architects – certificate titled ‘Award for Distinction in Town Planning’, with newspaper cutting on the back 10/1/1956. Framed and glassed
S113/6	Civic Trust Awards Scheme – certificate ‘Commendation’. Framed and glassed 1960
S113/7	Six photographs of medals framed and glassed as one (reverse and obverse). Gold medal for reinforced concrete design from Institute of Structural Engineers 1927 Royal Institute of British Architects silver medal for commercial architecture 1929 Ministry of Local Government and Planning bronze medal for design of the Gaer-Stelvio Neighborhood Unit 1951.