



Finding Aid for

FORD MOTOR COMPANY LTD. RECORDS SUBSERIES, 1929-1935

Accession 261

Finding Aid Published: June 2011



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OVERVIEW

REPOSITORY: Benson Ford Research Center
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ACCESSION NUMBER: 261

CREATOR: Ford, Edsel, 1893-1943.

TITLE: Ford Motor Company Ltd. records subseries

INCLUSIVE DATES: 1929-1935

QUANTITY: 1.2 cubic ft.

LANGUAGE: The materials are in English.

ABSTRACT: The Ford Motor Company Ltd. records subseries consists of records pertaining to the financial operations of English and European companies owned by the Ford Motor Company, and include monthly, quarterly, and annual reports sent to the president of the company, Edsel B. Ford.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

- ACCESS RESTRICTIONS:** The records are open for research.
- COPYRIGHT:** Copyright has been transferred to the Henry Ford by the donor. Copyright for some items in the collection may still be held by their respective creator(s).
- ACQUISITION:** Donated to The Henry Ford by Ford Motor Company Archives in 1964.
- RELATED MATERIAL:** Related material held by The Henry Ford:
These records form part of the Financial Records series, Edsel B. Ford Office Papers record group, which also includes:
- Edsel Ford Audit papers subseries, 1941-1942, Accession 543
 - National Recovery Administration records subseries, 1933-1937, Accessions 52 and 279
 - Office of Treasurer records subseries, 1903-1932, Accession 483
 - Purchase Orders subseries, 1922-1940, Accession 6
 - Universal Credit Corp. records subseries, 1928-1932, Accession 6
- PREFERRED CITATION:** Item, folder, box, accession 261, Ford Motor Company Ltd. Records series, Benson Ford Research Center, The Henry Ford
- PROCESSING INFORMATION:** Collection processed Ford Motor Company Archives staff, circa 1962.
- DESCRIPTION INFORMATION:** Original collection inventory list prepared by Ford Motor Company Archives staff and published in December 1962. Finding aid written by staff of the Benson Ford Research Center, June 2011, and prepared using Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DACS) and local guidelines.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Edsel Bryant Ford was born November 6, 1893 in Detroit, Michigan, the only child of Henry and Clara Bryant Ford. Educated in public schools and the Detroit University School, he was persuaded by his father when he graduated from high school in 1912 to assume responsibilities at the company's new Highland Park Plant rather than going on to college. Edsel was elected secretary of the company on November 1, 1915, and vice-president as well as secretary on January 18, 1917. On December 30, 1918, when Henry Ford resigned as president of Ford Motor Company, Edsel was named president effective January 1, 1919, a position he would hold for the rest of his life.

Particularly adept in planning, sales, and advertising, Edsel assumed responsibility for the business side of corporate affairs, overseeing, for example, the company's massive expansion from 1919 to 1925. In addition to the functional, Edsel believed an automobile could be beautiful. After the company purchased Lincoln Motor Company in 1921, he took charge of Lincoln design and marketed Lincolns with customized coachwork by leading American and European designers. He introduced and was instrumental in the design of the Model A in 1929, the Lincoln Zephyr in 1936, the Mercury in 1938, and the Lincoln Continental in 1940. Edsel had a lifelong enthusiasm for aviation and was a major sponsor of Admiral Richard E. Byrd's flights over the South Pole in 1919 and the North Pole in 1926. After the Stout Metal Airplane Company was absorbed by the Ford Motor Company in 1925, he encouraged the design of a tri-motor airplane and fostered an annual Air Reliability Tour to promote dependable flying. He also encouraged Ford Motor Company's participation in events such as the World's Fairs of the 1930s.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Ford Motor Company Ltd. records subseries consists of financial ledgers and consolidated balance sheets with related reports and correspondence. The records pertain to the financial operations of English and European companies owned by the Ford Motor Company and include monthly, quarterly, and annual reports sent to the president of the company, Edsel B. Ford.

ARRANGEMENT

The records are arranged chronologically.

SUBJECT TERMS

Names, Personal and Corporate

Ford, Edsel, 1893-1943.

Ford Motor Company.

Ford Motor Company ltd.

Ford Motor Company--Presidents.

Subjects

Automobile industry and trade

Genre and Form

Financial records

CONTAINER LIST

Box no.	Description
Box 1	Consolidated Balance Sheets of England and Associated Companies 1929 1930 1931
Box 2	January-June, 1932 July-December, 1932 1933
Box 3	1934 1935