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Primary sources

Interviews and correspondence

Sir Derek Alun-Jones	Lester George
Eugene Anderson	Tom Grime
Ian Ball	Roy Handley
Bruce Calveley	David Knowles
Alan Cooper	Tom Lunt
Basil Z. de Ferranti	Sir Donald McCallum
Sebastian Z. de Ferranti	Charles Scott
Albert Dodd	Dr Alan Shepherd

Company documents

THE FERRANTI ARCHIVES

Since the 1990s, this rich set of family and corporate records has both expanded considerably and moved regularly. Today, it is housed in the archives section of the Manchester Museum of Science and Industry, Castlefield, Manchester, where the records are professionally indexed and secured. It was not always thus, because from the early 1960s they were cared for by a senior employee, Arthur Ridding, who was instructed by Sir Vincent de Ferranti to bring all the records together for the first time. Ridding performed an impressive job, indexing what must have been one of the largest set of company records in the country. He was succeeded by Charles Somers, who continued Ridding's work with a most able assistant, Edith Walsh. They, in turn, were succeeded by Cliff Wimpenny, undoubtedly the most able Ferranti Archivist. Cliff Wimpenny contributed enormously to the development of a truly company-wide archive, extending Ridding's interests from Hollinwood and Chadderton to Edinburgh, Bracknell and the increasing number of overseas subsidiaries. By the time the company's crisis in 1989

had brought an end to the archives department, the collection had expanded substantially in size and breadth. Indeed, new premises at Moston were acquired for the archive, after spending several unhappy years in the former transformer department drawing office. I am confident that at the Manchester Museum of Science and Industry the archive will become a major source of information for historians of every ilk.

The principal sets of records are:

Family papers

Correspondence, diaries and scrapbooks.

Technical notebooks

Including over thirty bound volumes of the work of Dr Ferranti.

Corporate records

Minute books

Correspondence

Patents

Account books

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<i>Daily Mirror</i>	<i>Observer</i>
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<i>Daily Telegraph</i>	<i>People</i>
<i>Defence News</i>	<i>Philadelphia Inquirer</i>
<i>Electronic Times</i>	<i>Scotsman</i>
<i>Engineer</i>	<i>Sunday Business</i>
<i>Ferranti News</i>	<i>Sunday Correspondent</i>
<i>Financial Times</i>	<i>Sunday Observer</i>
<i>Financial Weekly</i>	<i>Sunday Telegraph</i>
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