

# Essex Sound and Video Archive

## Sources on Shops and Shopping



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## Essex Sound and Video Archive Sources on Shops and Shopping

This guide to the collection has been produced to assist searchers who are looking for sound and video recordings on the subject of shops and shopping. Before ordering any of the items listed below, consult the tape summaries on the Essex Record Office catalogue database SEAX to make sure that this is the right tape for your needs. Video recordings are indicated by italics.

The main categories are as follows:

### 1) Shop Workers

	<b>Reference</b>
Basildon: shop boy in Co-op; in 1952, appointed Manager of first small Co-op in Basildon	SA 3/409/1
Brentwood: errand boy at Cullens the grocers, French's the fishmongers and Mulleys the greengrocers, 1906-1920	SA 2/2/2/1
Burnham: draper's assistant	SA 5/369/1
Burnham: errand boy; wages; details of deliveries	SA 24/1013/1
Colchester: apprentice butcher, then butcher at Sainsburys - working conditions and pay, experiences, names of employees, ratio of men to women; move to Archers butchers	SA 8/483/1
Colchester: Baker's Department Store	SA 8/1000/1
Colchester: Bennell and Sharp's Cycle and Radio Shop 1940s-1991	SA 8/953/1
Colchester: draper's shop	SA 8/1660/1
Colchester: grocery assistant at Sainsburys from 1934 - detailed account of staff, training, working conditions, how groceries prepared, sold and delivered, customers, staff accommodation, characters, strike by women; major grocery stores in competition, changes in Sainsbury's during War	SA 8/395/1
Colchester: Jackson's gents outfitters 1920s	SA 8/1434/1
Colchester: Woolworths; Hollingtons	SA 8/1576/1
Dagenham: shop	SA 25/1/12/1
Hadstock: origins of village shop and memories of shop worker	SA 1/266/1
Leyton: shops	SA 9/449/1
Rowhedge: Co-op grocery	SA 8/1392/1
Little Maplestead: village shop	SA 17/791/1
Rowhedge: Co-op grocery; local shops and shops in Colchester	SA 8/1393/1
Southend: R.A. Jones & Sons Ltd 1940s-1979	SA 20/1565/1
Walthamstow: delivery barrow boy at Inch Bakers 1920; delivery area; became Assistant Pastry Cook; working conditions; varieties of bread; prices	SA 9/504/1

## 2) Shopkeepers

	Reference
Brentwood: Burgess Bookshop 100th anniversary 1993	SA 2/1/7/1
Brightlingsea: animal export protests 1995	SA 1/1717/1
Canvey Island: history of Jones Stores, Canvey Island	SA 20/1/23/1
Colchester: Gunton's grocery shop - background to opening new shop, getting business established	SA 8/1439/1
Epping: Church's Butchers 1898-1988	SA 1/340/1
Great Chesterford: general store from 1920	SA 18/922/1
Harlow: first shop in Harlow selling light fittings	SA 22/1354/1
Harlow: Harlow Antiques 1960s-1982	SA 22/1359/1
Harlow: manager of Sheratons, one of a chain of furniture shops and the only furniture shop in Harlow 1955; description of father's shop in pre-war Goodmayes	SA 22/1360/1
Harlow: shopping facilities; delivery of goods	SA 1/81/1
Kelvedon: butcher	SA 44/1/56/1
Kelvedon: greengrocery and flower business	SA 44/1/64/1
Leyton: bakery and shop in Lea Bridge Road, Leyton from 1900	SA 9/497/1
Leyton: confectionery factory and shops in Walthamstow 1920-1930	SA 9/436/1
Southend: electrical retail business and other businesses	SA 20/1/48/1
Southend: interview with proprietor of shop and business called "Just the Job" in Southchurch Road, Southend	SA 20/1/19/1
Steeple Bumpstead: coal merchants, bakery, dairy, rope and twine merchants	SA 17/780/1
Vange: grocery shop from 1952	SA 3/293/1
Walthamstow: confectionery shop 1930-1984	SA 9/432/1
Wickford: cycle shop 1900-1986	SA 3/526/1
Wickford: Halls Animal and Pet Food Shop 1918-1986	SA 3/518/1
Walthamstow: butchers shop in Wood Street 1896-1930	SA 9/437/1

## 3) Food Shops

	Reference
Basildon: shop boy in Co-op; in 1952, appointed Manager of first small Co-op in Basildon	SA 3/409/1
Braintree: Bowtells specialist food shop 1988	SA 1/171/1
Brentwood: errand boy at Cullens the grocers, French's the fishmongers and Mulleys the greengrocers	SA 2/2/2/1
Brentwood: shops and shopkeepers	SA 2/1/62/1
Canvey Island: story of how father started bakery; delivering bread	SA 20/1144/1
Chelmsford: The Meadows shopping centre – opening 1992	SA 1/1090/1
Colchester: apprentice butcher, then butcher at Sainsburys - working conditions and pay, experiences, names of employees, ratio of men to women; move to Archers butchers	SA 8/483/1
Colchester: fish and greengrocery shop	SA 8/1067/1
Colchester: grocery assistant at Sainsburys from 1934 -	SA 8/395/1

detailed account of staff, training, working conditions, how groceries prepared, sold and delivered, customers, staff accommodation, characters, strike by women; major grocery stores in competition, changes in Sainsbury's during War	
Colchester: Gunton's grocery shop	SA 8/1437/1
Colchester: Gunton's grocery shop	SA 8/1439/1
Epping: Church's butchers' shop 1988	SA 1/340/1
Harwich: shrimp and fish shop	SA 12/581/1
Kelvedon: Skingle's grocery store	SA 44/1/72/1
Kelvedon: Spenceley's bakery	SA 44/1/28/1
Kelvedon: Spenceley's bakery	SA 44/1/65/1
Leyton: bakery and shop in Lea Bridge Road from 1900	SA 9/497/1
Rowhedge: Co-op grocery	SA 8/1392/1
Vange: grocery shop from 1952	SA 3/293/1
Walthamstow: butchers, baker, grocers	SA 9/431/1
Walthamstow: butcher's shop in Wood Street 1896-1930	SA 9/437/1
Walthamstow: delivery barrow boy at Inch Bakers 1920; delivery area; became Assistant Pastry Cook; working conditions; varieties of bread; prices	SA 9/504/1
Wickford: butchers shop in London Road 1927 and the current shop on Halls Corner in 1935	SA 3/524/1

#### 4) Sweet Shops

	Reference
Chelmsford: sweet shops	SA 15/706/1
Colchester: cost of sweets	SA 8/1450/1
Colchester: local shops especially sweet shops	SA 8/1386/1
Leyton: memories of the confectionery trade 1920-1930	SA 9/436/1
Southminster: mother owned small sweet shop for 40 years	SA 5/379/1
Walthamstow: memories of the confectionery trade	SA 9/432/1
Walthamstow: sweet shops and children's confectionery of the 1920s and 1930s; part-time work of father making toffee apples and ice-cream for sale from a barrow; account of how ice-cream made	SA 9/447/1

#### 5) Drapers, Clothes and Shoe Shops

	Reference
Burnham: draper's assistant	SA 5/369/1
Colchester: apprenticed to an Ipswich milliner, moved to Colchester in 1935 to work for drapers - working conditions, wages, hours; shops	SA 8/392/1
Bishops Stortford [Herts.]: clothes bought	SA 24/1600/1
Brentwood: The Remnants Shop and Pennyworth Fashions 1995	SA 24/1018/1
Colchester: Co-op Tailoring Department	SA 8/1446/1
Colchester: drapers and clothiers in High Street	SA 8/399/1
Colchester: drapers shop	SA 8/1660/1
Colchester: Jackson's gents outfitters	SA 8/1434/1

Colchester: manager of Lennard's Ltd shoe shop - description of shop and area, stock varieties, hours, wages, customers	SA 8/543/1
Earls Colne: drapers shop; decline in trade after WWI	SA 17/795/1
Halstead: drapers shop	SA 17/788/1
Kelvedon: 'Kelvedon Lady' designer clothes shop	SA 44/1/32/1
Laindon: owned two printing and drapers shops	SA 3/418/1
Langdon Hills: Shops and Tailoring Trade from 1920	SA 3/423/1
Linton [Cams.]: draper's apprenticeship; clothes - home made and shop bought; shops and suppliers	SA 24/1603/1
Saffron Walden: home made and shop bought clothes	SA 24/1605/1
Saffron Walden: shops and shopping	SA 24/1604/1
Steeple Bumpstead: shoemaker's shop; hand-made shoes	SA 17/783/1
Walthamstow: millinery shop	SA 9/439/1

## 6) Chemists Shops

	Reference
Southminster: worked in chemists at age 13	SA 5/379/1
Colchester: reminiscences of a chemist	SA 8/1370/1
Chelmsford: chemist shop	SA 24/1459/1
Lower Nazeing: post office located in local chemist's shop 1994	SA 1/1495/1

## 7) Post Offices

	Reference
<i>Basildon: main Post Office 1986</i>	<i>VA 2/45/1</i>
Burnham: Post Office – hours, routine, wages	SA 24/1013/1
The Chignalls: loss of shop and Post Office 1986	SA 1/13/1
Crays Hill: family moved from London in 1926 to take over village shop and Post Office; post-mistress 1955-1984	SA 3/413/1
Lower Nazeing: Post Office located in local chemist's shop 1994	SA 1/1495/1
Stock: postmistress 1890 - 1932	SA 13/599/1
West Mersea: Post Office	SA 8/1432/1

## 8) Markets

	Reference
Chelmsford: market day from 1914	SA 15/702/1
Chelmsford: markets from 1905	SA 15/706/1
Colchester: High Street market during WWII	SA 8/1449/1
Colchester: new location of market in a car park in Vineyard Street 1993	SA 1/1088/1
Colchester: market	SA 8/1080/1
Colchester: shops and market	SA 8/1453/1
Pitsea: shopping at the market	SA 3/424/1
<i>Romford: market 1986</i>	<i>VA 2/45/1</i>
Stock: shops, shopkeepers and village carriers	SA 13/599/1
Walthamstow: description of High Street market, shops,	SA 9/439/1

stalls, characters	
Walthamstow: memories of market from 1926	SA 9/444/1

## 9) Door-to-door Deliveries, Travelling Shops and Salesmen

	Reference
Alphamstone and Henny: shops and supplies - mainly came from nearby villages	SA 17/786/1
Burnham: itinerant tradesmen	SA 24/727/1
Burnham: errand/delivery boy	SA 24/1013/1
Canvey Island: baker's deliveries	SA 20/1144/1
Colchester: deliveries by tradesmen	SA 8/1000/1
Colchester: rag and bone man with horse and cart	SA 8/1080/1
Colchester: vegetables delivered by horse and cart	SA 8/962/1
Fordham: tradesmen	SA 8/1657/1
Harlow: delivery of goods by shops	SA 1/81/1
Leyton: baker's delivery rounds	SA 9/497/1
Leyton: distribution of furniture and household goods to bombed out families during WWII	SA 9/449/1
Shotgate: door-to-door tradesmen 1920s-1930s	SA 3/531/1
Southend: father was an 'oil and colour' man, selling paraffin, soap, paint etc., from shop and also horse and cart delivery round; tradesmen who called at house	SA 20/1149/1
Southend: Ugo Rossi, ice cream seller; ice cream van round	SA 20/1540/1
Walthamstow: baker's delivery barrow boy; delivery area	SA 9/504/1
Walthamstow: itinerant door-to-door traders	SA 9/439/1
Walthamstow: itinerant door-to-door traders and local shops	SA 9/448/1

## 10) Shopping Centres

	Reference
Chelmsford: opening of The Meadows shopping centre, 1992	SA 1/1030/1
Colchester: Culver Shopping Centre, 1987	SA 1/665/1
Harlow: building of Harvey Centre	SA 1/73/1
Harlow: opening of The Stow Shopping Centre	SA 1/82/1
Harlow: shopping facilities particularly the Harvey Centre	SA 1/76/1
Harlow: shopping precincts in old town and Harvey Centre in new town	SA 1/67/1
<i>Southend: new shopping centre, 1970s</i>	<i>VA 1/40/1</i>
Southend: preview to opening of The Royals shopping centre, 1988	SA 20/1/7/1
Thurrock: Lakeside 5th anniversary, 1995	SA 1/1762/1

## 11) The Co-op

	Reference
Basildon: worked as shop boy in Co-op at Dagenham; in 1952, appointed Manager of first small Co-op in Basildon	SA 3/409/1
Chelmsford Star Co-operative Society	SA 31
Colchester: Co-op Tailoring Department	SA 8/1446/1
Harlow: Co-op Women's Guild; importance of Co-op	SA 22/1363/1

Kelvedon: Co-op in Kelvedon – butchery	SA 44/1/27/1
Kelvedon: Co-op in Kelvedon	SA 44/1/45/1
Rowhedge: Co-op grocery	SA 8/1392/1
Rowhedge: Co-op grocery	SA 8/1393/1

## 12) Village Shops

	Reference
Alphamstone and Henny: shops and supplies - mainly came from nearby villages	SA 17/786/1
Castle Hedingham: shopping facilities, 1988	SA 1/197/1
The Chignalls: decline in shopping facilities, 1986	SA 1/14/1
The Chignalls: loss of shop and Post Office, 1986	SA 1/13/1
Chrishall: home made and shop bought clothes	SA 24/1603/1
Chrishall: school clothes and boots; Sunday clothes	SA 24/1598/1
Earls Colne: work at local draper's	SA 17/795/1
Finchingfield: shops in the village	SA 17/779/1
Gestingthorpe: shops	SA 17/792/1
Great Chesterford: detailed description of shops in village	SA 18/919/1
Great Chesterford: shops, trades and businesses	SA 18/922/1
Great Sampford: interview with keeper of village stores about why he came to the village from London to take over the stores, the development of the stores, its position at the centre of village life, and changes in trade	SA 34/1/1/5/3/2/1
Great Waltham: shops and tradesmen 1925-1939	SA 24/611/1
Hadstock: Origins of village shop and memories of shop worker	SA 1/266/1
Halstead: specialist wine distributor, dried flower warehouse, 1988	SA 1/334/1
Kelvedon: shops in Kelvedon	SA 44/1/1/1
Kelvedon: shops in Kelvedon	SA 44/1/2/1
Kelvedon: shops in Kelvedon	SA 44/1/5/1
Lindsell: disappearance of shops, 1987	SA 1/135/1
Little Chesterford: shops	SA 18/913/1
Little Maplestead: description of work in village shop	SA 17/791/1
Manuden: shops and pubs	SA 24/1600/1
Paglesham: shops closing, 1987	SA 1/141/1
Quendon: changes in retailing in the village, 1987	SA 1/142/1
Saffron Walden: home made and shop bought clothes	SA 24/1605/1
Saffron Walden: shops and shopping	SA 24/1604/1
Sandon: village shop and post office; its value to the community, 1988	SA 1/555/1
Steeple Bumpstead: coal merchants, bakery, dairy, rope and twine merchants	SA 17/780/1
Steeple Bumpstead: shoemaker's shop; hand-made shoes	SA 17/783/1
Stock: shops, shopkeepers and village carriers	SA 13/599/1
West Mersea: general store, carrier service, Post Office	SA 8/1432/1

### 13) Miscellaneous

	Reference
Billericay: history of buildings in centre of Billericay	SA 24/906/1
Brentwood: 100th anniversary of Burgess' Bookshop	SA 2/1/7/1
Brightlingsea protests: Brightlingsea traders reaction 1995	SA 1/1717/1
Chelmsford: timber merchants from 1914	SA 15/702/1
Colchester: scrap dealer; rag and bone man	SA 8/1080/1
Loughton: High Road - names and locations of houses, shops, pubs, etc.	SA 14/699/1
Southend: 'Harmony' – Southend's first 'sex' shop	SA 20/1549/1
Southend Motor and Aero Co. Ltd.	SA 20/1139/1
Walthamstow: cat and dog meat trade	SA 9/446/1
Wickford: cycle shop	SA 3/526/1
Wickford: Halls Animal and Pet Food Shop in High Street	SA 3/518/1

For some towns in Essex we have a number of recordings describing the shops. These include some interviews carried out by the Basildon Heritage Project, an oral history of the area before the new town was built.

### 14) Basildon Heritage Project

	Reference
Basildon: manager of first small Co-op in Basildon	SA 3/409/1
Billericay and Great Burstead in years between wars - shops, businesses - names of shopkeepers and personalities	SA 3/406/1
Crays Hill: post-mistress 1955-1984	SA 3/413/1
Laindon: multitude of shops in Laindon in late 1920s and early 1930s	SA 3/418/1
Langdon Hills: shops and tailoring trade from 1920	SA 3/423/1
Leigh: large motor accessory shop; neighbouring shops in London Road, Leigh	SA 3/422/1
Pitsea: shops; businesses; pubs; markets; from 1940	SA 3/414/1
Pitsea: window dresser; shopping in the market, from 1932	SA 3/424/1
Wickford: cycle shop, from 1900	SA 3/526/1
Wickford: grandfather's lock-up butchers shop in London Road 1927 and the current shop on Halls Corner in 1935	SA 3/524/1
Wickford: Halls Animal and Pet Food Shop in High Street	SA 3/518/1
Wickford: shop and markets	SA 3/531/1
Wickford: shopping	SA 3/528/1
Wickford: very detailed account and description of Wickford 1910-20 with names of shopkeepers, traders, location of shops, businesses	SA 3/519/1

### 15) Colchester

	Reference
Baker's Department Store: shop assistant	SA 8/1000/1
Bennell and Sharp's Cycle and Radio Shop, 1946-1991	SA 8/953/1
Colchester Market new location in a car park in Vineyard	SA 1/1088/1



Street, 1993	
Co-op grocery at Rowhedge	SA 8/1392/1
Culver Shopping Centre, 1987	SA 1/665/1
Drapers and clothiers in High Street	SA 8/399/1
Drapers - working conditions; wages; hours; shops	SA 8/392/1
Gunton's grocery: background to opening new shop during WWII	SA 8/1439/1
Gunton's grocery: Father's grocery career	SA 8/1437/1
High Street market	SA 8/1449/1
Memories of houses and shops	SA 8/397/1
New town area: streets and shops	SA 8/547/1
Sainsbury's: grocery assistant 1934 - detailed account of staff, training, working conditions, how groceries prepared, sold and delivered, customers, staff accommodation, characters, strike by women; major grocery stores in competition; married 1940 to Sainsbury's butcher; changes in Sainsbury's during War	SA 8/395/1
Shopping	SA 8/995/1
Shopping on Saturday evening; High Street	SA 8/1375/1
Shops	SA 8/403/1
Shops	SA 8/963/1
Shops	SA 8/976/1
Shops	SA 8/1448/1
Shops and businesses	SA 8/1591/1
Shops and businesses	SA 8/1592/1
Shops and shopping	SA 8/1577/1
Shops and market	SA 8/1453/1
Shops before 1918	SA 8/1371/1
Shops before WWII	SA 8/1387/1
Shops, especially sweetshops	SA 8/1386/1
Shops in Old Heath; shops in Colchester	SA 8/1441/1
Shops in Rowhedge incl. Co-op; shops in Colchester	SA 8/1393/1
Shops; memories of food - breast of lamb, jam etc.	SA 8/1381/1
Sweets	SA 8/962/1
Tailors: first job with tailors in High Street; move to Co-op tailors in Wire Street	SA 8/1446/1
Tradesmen and shops; description of work at Woolworths; Hollingtons	SA 8/1576/1
Tradesmen calling at Fordham in 1930s	SA 8/1657/1
Working in a baker's shop	SA 8/1578/1
Work in draper's shop	SA 8/1660/1

## 16) Harlow

	Reference
Building of Harvey Shopping Centre	SA 1/73/1
Co-op	SA 22/1363/1
Good shopping centre in old town, but dangerous because of traffic; local characters in shops	SA 1/71/1

Improvement of shopping facilities	SA 1/178/1
Manager of Sheratons, one of a chain of furniture shops and the only furniture shop in Harlow	SA 22/1360/1
Opening of The Stow Shopping Centre; shopping and transport facilities	SA 1/82/1
Owner of the first shop in Harlow selling light fittings	SA 22/1354/1
Pressure on local shops	SA 22/1366/1
Problems facing small shopping centres	SA 22/1353/1
Problems of shopping	SA 22/1358/1
Second-hand furniture retailer	SA 22/1359/1
Shopping difficulties - high prices and little variety; profits made by existing traders	SA 1/70/1
Shopping and other facilities	SA 22/1362/1
Shopping facilities	SA 1/69/1
Shopping facilities; delivery of goods by shops	SA 1/81/1
Shopping facilities, particularly the Harvey Centre	SA 1/76/1
Shopping precincts in old town; Harvey Centre in new town	SA 1/67/1
Shops	SA 22/1364/1

## 17) Brentwood

	Reference
Burgess' Bookshop	SA 2/1/7/1
Debate about pedestrianisation of the High Street, 1995	SA 2/1/29/1
Errand boy at Cullens the grocers, French's the fishmongers and Mulleys the greengrocers; notable customers; names of shopkeepers	SA 2/2/2/1
Future of Brentwood High Street; Chairman of Brentwood Chamber of Commerce, 1995	SA 2/1/28/1
Pride in Brentwood campaign, focusing on empty shops and smartening up the High Street, 1995	SA 2/1/30/1
Railway Square in the 1950s – shops, businesses	SA 2/1/32/1
The Remnants Shop and Pennyworth Fashions	SA 24/1018/1

## 18) Southend

	Reference
Black market during WWII	SA 20/1150/1
Details of shops in High Street	SA 4/252/1
<i>Father Christmas at Keddies, 1987</i>	<i>VA 2/54/1</i>
Father was an 'oil and colour' man, selling paraffin, soap, paint etc., from shop and also horse and cart delivery round in Shoeburyness; shopping in Southend	SA 20/1149/1
"Just the Job": interview with proprietor of shop and business called "Just the Job" in Southchurch Road, Southend	SA 20/1/19/1
Large motor accessory shop in Leigh; brief account of neighbouring shops in London Road, Leigh	SA 3/422/1
R.A. Jones & Sons Ltd. of Southend High Street, closed 1979	SA 20/1565/1
The Royals: preview to opening	SA 20/1/7/1
'Sex' shop	SA 20/1549/1

Shopping areas: changes from 1920s to 1990s	SA 1/467/1
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## 19) Burnham

	Reference
Changes in shops and shopping	SA 5/380/1
Detailed memories of shops	SA 5/370/1
Draper's assistant	SA 5/369/1
Itinerant tradesman; home deliveries	SA 24/727/1
Mother owned small sweet shop for 40 years; worked in chemists at 13	SA 5/379/1
Shops and tradesmen	SA 24/753/1

## 20) Waltham Forest

	Reference
Account of early working life in service and in shops	SA 9/449/1
Bakery in Lea Bridge Road, Leyton from 1900	SA 9/497/1
Butcher's shop in Wood Street, Walthamstow 1920-1930	SA 9/437/1
Cat and dog meat trade in Walthamstow	SA 9/446/1
Confectionery shop in High Road, Walthamstow	SA 9/432/1
Confectionery trade in Leyton and Walthamstow 1920-1930	SA 9/436/1
Inch Bakers: delivery barrow boy; Assistant Pastry Cook; working conditions; varieties of bread; prices; description of area and shops	SA 9/504/1
Itinerant door-to-door traders and local shops in Walthamstow from 1913	SA 9/448/1
King's florist in High Street, Walthamstow 1934-1936; Smiths Pawnbrokers in James Street 1937-1938; Rosen's Bakers at the Bell 1938-1941; Co-op at the Bell and in High Street 1946-1948	SA 9/438/1
Local small shops; door-to-door tradesmen	SA 9/499/1
Millinery shop; description of High Street market, shops, stalls, itinerant door-to-door salesmen	SA 9/439/1
Shops, especially sweet shops and children's confectionery of the 1920s and 1930s; making toffee apples and ice-cream for sale from a barrow	SA 9/447/1
Shops in area from 1908: description of butchers, baker, grocers; food packaging	SA 9/431/1
Walthamstow market from 1926	SA 9/444/1

## 21) Chelmsford

	Reference
Brown and Son Ltd., timber merchants 1924-74	SA 15/702/1
The Meadows Shopping Centre opening 1992	SA 1/1030/1
Shopping during WWII: food; rations; clothing coupons	SA 24/1459/1
Shops and traders; errand boys; sweet shops; market	SA 15/706/1
Writtle Mill and milling trade	SA 7/360/1

The Essex Sound and Video Archive is being added to all the time and there may be recordings on this subject that have been recently added to the collection. Please consult the Essex Record Office catalogue database SEAX for further references.

September 2012

*Cover photo:*  
*Dorothy Perkins shop in Chingford, c.1956 (ref: I/Mb 82/1/27)*