

JESUS COLLEGE, OXFORD

JC:PI 18 PAPERS ON HAROLD WILSON (MATR. 1934) FROM HIS FAMILY

James Harold Wilson, later Lord Wilson of Rievaulx (1916-95), came up to Jesus College in 1934 to read PPE. A year after getting a First in 1937, he became a Junior Research Fellow at University College. In 1945, however, he decided to enter politics, being elected a Labour MP that year. In 1963 he was elected leader of the Labour Party, and he then served as British Prime Minister from 1964-70 and 1974-6, when he retired. He remains the only British Prime Minister in the 20th or 21st century to have won four General Elections. Wilson was elected an Honorary Fellow of Jesus College in 1963.

The documents in this collection were mainly presented to the College by members of his family. **JC:PI 18/X1/1** was given to the College by Wilson's daughter-in-law Joy in June 2013 and assigned the Accession Number 98, while **JC:PI 18/X1/2-4** were given to the College by her in October 2016 as Accession Number 373. **JC:PI 18/X2/1-2** were given to the College by Wilson's widow Mary in June 2010 and assigned the Accession Number 96. **JC:PI 18/L1/1-2** and **JC:PI 18/X3/1-38** were given to the archives by Wilson's elder son and daughter-in-law Robin and Joy Wilson in October 2018 as Accession No. 513. **JC:PI 18/X1/5** was given by the Archivist in November 2018 as Accession No. 518.

No record exists for the provenance of **JC:PI 18/MS1/1**, but because of its content, it has been presumed that it originated from Wilson's family likewise, and so has been catalogued here.

Recatalogued in November 2018.

JC:PI 18/MS1 – NOTEBOOK OF ECONOMIC HISTORY ESSAYS

JC:PI 18/MS1/1 **Apr-Jun 1935**
Notebook containing essays on economic history 1760-1900 written by Harold Wilson during Trinity Term 1935.

JC:PI 18/L1 – PROCLAMATIONS ON WILSON'S GARTER AND COAT OF ARMS

JC:PI 18/L1/1 **19 May 1976**
Proclamation (written on parchment and illuminated) declaring Harold Wilson a Knight of the Garter. It bears the seal of the order of the Garter.

JC:PI 18/L1/2 **8 Feb 1977**
Proclamation from the College of Arms (written on parchment and illuminated) conferring a coat of arms on Harold Wilson. It bears the seals of the Garter and Clarenceux Kings of arms.

JC:PI 18/X1 – ORDERS OF SERVICE FOR MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR HAROLD AND MARY WILSON

JC:PI 18/X1/1 **11 June 2013**
Order of service for the dedication of a memorial to Harold Wilson at Westminster Abbey.

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JC:PI 18/X1/2-4

1 October 2016

Order of service for a service held at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, to mark the centenary of the birth of Harold Wilson. Enclosed with the order of service are the texts of addresses given by Andrew Smith (Labour MP for Oxford East) and Martyn Percy (Dean of Christ Church).

JC:PI 18/X1/5

26 Nov 2018

Order of service for a Service of Thanksgiving for Mary Wilson, held at the Guild Church of St. Martin-within-Ludgate.

JC:PI 18/X2 – PAPERS ON WILSON'S COAT OF ARMS

JC:PI 18/X2/1

2010

Colour photograph, in mount, of the coat of arms of Harold Wilson, granted after his appointment as a Knight of the Garter.

JC:PI 18/X2/2

2010

Two documents giving formal descriptions of Wilson's coat of arms.

JC:PI 18/X3 – PAPERS ON WILSON'S ORDER OF THE GARTER

JC:PI 18/X3/1

16 Apr 1976

Letter from Sir Martin Charteris to Wilson on his accepting a knighthood.

JC:PI 18/X3/2

26 Apr 1976

Printed circular from Sir Anthony Wagner, Garter King of Arms, on details for the Garter Service to be held on 14 June next.

JC:PI 18/X3/3

6 May 1976

Letter from the Secretary of the Order of the Garter to Wilson on the collection of dues from Knights of the Order.

JC:PI 18/X3/4

10 May 1976

Letter from the Honorary Secretary of the Society of the Friends of St. George's to Wilson thanking him for becoming a Vice-President and Life Member of the Society, and enclosing a certificate.

JC:PI 18/X3/5

n.d. (May 1976)

Note on the sums paid out by Wilson in connection with his knighthood.

JC:PI 18/X3/6

11 May 1976

Letter from Major-General Peter Gillett thanking Wilson for paying his initial fee on being made a Knight of the Garter.

JC:PI 18/X3/7

11 May 1976

Letter from the College of Arms thanking Wilson for paying fees liable to them for his knighthood.

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JC:PI 18/X3/8 **12 May 1976**

Letter from Sir Anthony Wagner thanking Wilson for paying the above fees, but also enclosing a second letter and a leaflet giving information on the history of the College of Arms.

JC:PI 18/X3/9 **14 May 1976**

Invitation from the Garter King of Arms to come to Windsor Castle on 11 June for a rehearsal for the Garter Service three days later.

JC:PI 18/X3/10 **19 May 1976**

Copy of form signed by Wilson agreeing that his insignia of the Order of the Garter will be returned by his family on his death.

JC:PI 18/X3/11 **20 May 1976**

Cutting from *The Times* reporting on the investiture of Wilson as a Knight of the Garter by the Queen.

JC:PI 18/X3/12 **May 1976**

Invitation to Sir Harold and Lady Wilson to attend a lunch at Windsor Castle on 14 June.

JC:PI 18/X3/13-27 **1 June 1976**

Contents of a package of documents sent by Sir Anthony Wagner to Wilson in readiness for the Garter Service, as follows:

X3/13: Covering letter from Wagner listing the documents below.

X3/14-15: Two copies of the Ceremonial for the Investiture.

X3/16-17: Two copies of the seating plan for the Investiture.

X3/18-19: Two copies of the Ceremonial for the Procession.

X3/20-21: Two copies of the Ceremonial for the Investiture Service.

X3/22-23: Two copies of the seating plan in the Choir, marked respectively for Sir Harold and Lady Wilson.

X3/24: Entrance ticket for Lady Wilson for the Investiture Service.

X3/25: Aide-memoire for the Investiture Ceremony.

X3/26: Letter from the Secretary of the Central Chancery of the Orders of Knighthood advising on arrangements for robing.

X3/27: Plan of the Garter Robing Room.

JC:PI 18/X3/28 **1976**

Notice from the Central Chancery of the Orders of Knighthood listing "Collar Days" (days when Knights of the Garter are expected to wear collars on public occasions).

JC:PI 18/X3/29 **1971**

Printed circular from the Central Chancery of the Orders of Knighthood giving guidance on the wearing of orders, decorations, miniatures and medals with dress other than uniform.

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JC:PI 18/X3/3 **22 Jul 1976**

Insurance certificate for Wilson's Garter insignia.

JC:PI 18/X3/31 **26 Nov 1976-7 Jan 1977**

Correspondence between Wilson and Sir Anthony Wagner on what paintings and designs he would like of his coat of arms [5 items].

JC:PI 18/X3/32 **17 Jan 1977**

Invitation from Sir Anthony Wagner to the Garter Service on 13 June next.

JC:PI 18/X3/33 **27 Apr 1977**

Letter from the Chapter Clerk of Windsor Castle permitting Wilson to park in the Castle on 16 May next.

JC:PI 18/X3/34 **25 May 1977**

Circular from the Central Chancery of the Orders of Knighthood declaring that the Queen's Silver Jubilee service has been declared a Collar Day, and enclosing a second circular from the Lord Chamberlain's Office giving guidance on the wearing of collars with uniform, morning dress, or ladies' dress.

JC:PI 18/X3/35 **21 May 1979**

Papers [2 items] on renewing the insurance on Wilson's Garter regalia, with a note of their being returned on his death in 1995.

JC:PI 18/X3/36 **1972**

Book titled *The Statutes of the Most Noble Order of the Garter* (1972).

JC:PI 18/X3/37 **1987**

List of the members of the Orders of the Garter and the Thistle in 1987.

JC:PI 18/X3/38 **1994**

List of members of the Order of the Garter in 1994.