

**U DX104**

**Sale bill for the 'Abraham' and  
Photographs of H.M. Queen Elizabeth  
the Queen Mother**

**1835, 1960**

**Historical Background:**

It fell to Philip Larkin, who had previously been sub-librarian at Queen's University, Belfast, to preside over an impressive expansion in facilities. Indeed, during the 30 years of his Librarianship, the bookstock increased six-fold, and the Library grant by a factor of 100. In this process he was greatly assisted by the onset of a boom in funding and resources for British higher education generally, and by the firm support from 1956 of the new Vice-Chancellor of the University of Hull, Brynmor Jones.

Hull had become a University in its own right in 1955: ambitious building plans were in place, and Brynmor Jones ensured that the Library stood at the head of the queue. Much of Larkin's first 15 years involved overseeing the design and construction of two new buildings, and the massive expansion of holdings. The first building, known as Stage I (and later the East Building), took 18 months to complete and was opened in September 1959. The official opening was performed in June 1960 by HM Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother. This low red-brick building was fairly typical of its era, with a large open reading room, two-tier stacks, and a number of unusual features, including sculptures by Willi Soukop, and a large oriole window.

**Custodial history:** Donated by Alan Marshall, University Photographer, 1 Oct 1975

**Description:**

Sale bill for the 'Abraham' from 1835 and three photographs of H.M. Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother at the official opening of stage one of the Brynmor Jones Library in 1960.

**Extent:** 4 items

**Related material:**

Print of Philip Larkin with the Queen Mother at the official opening of Stage One of the Brynmor Jones Library, University of Hull. [Ref U DLV/1/17]

'The University of Hull Opening of the New Library by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, Monday 20th June 1960' [Ref U LIB/8/34]

Brochure. Opening of New Library by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth Queen Mother [Ref U DPL2/3/99/11 and also L.378]

Menu and seating plan. Luncheon for the official opening of the new library at the University of Hull by HM Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother. [Ref U DPL4/8/4]

Yorkshire Post including Queen Mother opens Hull Library, 21 Jun 1960 [Ref U DPL2/3/99/2]

Souvenir edition. Queen Mother's 80th birthday ('Yorkshire Post'), 4 Aug 1980 [Ref U DX167/39]

**Access conditions:**

Access will be granted to any accredited reader

Hull History Centre: 'Abraham' Sale bill and photo of H.M. Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother

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| U DX104/1 | 'Abraham'<br>Sale bill for the sloop 'Abraham' by auction on-board<br>the vessel at Salthouse-Lane Staith, Hull the bill<br>includes a small illustration of a sailing vessel.<br><br>The item is damaged along fold lines and has been<br>stuck onto a page.<br>1 item | 17 Aug 1835 |
| U DX104/2 | Colour photographs of the visit of H.M. Queen<br>Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, to the University of Hull<br>for the official opening of the New Library<br>Pictured with Sir Brynmor Jones, Philip Larkin etc.<br>Copyright: Alan Marshall<br>3 items                    | 20 Jun 1960 |