



Finding Aid for

W. L. REEVES BLAKELEY RECORDS, 1925-1928

Accession 64.167.534

Finding Aid Published: February 2016



Benson Ford Research Center, The Henry Ford
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OVERVIEW

REPOSITORY: Benson Ford Research Center
The Henry Ford
20900 Oakwood Blvd
Dearborn, MI 48124-5029
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ACCESSION NUMBER: 64.167.534

CREATOR: Blakeley, W. L. Reeves

TITLE: W. L. Reeves Blakeley Records

INCLUSIVE DATES: 1925-1928

QUANTITY: 2 cubic ft. (7 boxes)

LANGUAGE: The materials are primarily in English. There is also material in Spanish and Portuguese.

ABSTRACT: The W. L. Reeves Blakeley records consist of correspondence, notes, publications, plant samples and hand tools related to Blakeley's travels in Brazil for Ford Motor Company.

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:** Ford Motor Company Archives donation, 1964.
- RELATED MATERIAL:** Related material held by The Henry Ford:
- Companhia Ford Industrial do Brasil records, 1920-1950, Accession 64.167.74
- Companhia Ford Industrial do Brasil records, 1927-1945, Accession 64.167.301
- PREFERRED CITATION:** Item, folder, box, accession 64.167.534, W. L. Reeves Blakeley records, Benson Ford Research Center, The Henry Ford
- PROCESSING INFORMATION:** Collection originally processed by staff of the Ford Motor Company Archives, circa 1960. Reprocessed by staff of the Benson Ford Research Center, circa 2010.
- DESCRIPTION INFORMATION:** Original collection inventory list prepared by staff of the Ford Motor Company Archives, circa 1960.
- Finding aid written by Brian Wilson, April 2015, and published in February 2016.
- Finding aid prepared using Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DACs) and local guidelines.

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

W.L. Reeves Blakeley led an expedition for the Ford Motor Company to select a rubber site in Para, Brazil. A tract of 2,500,000 acres on the east bank of the Tapajos River was selected with a frontage of twelve miles on the river. In the summer of 1927, a new company, Companhia Ford Industrial do Brasil, was formed to operate the enterprise. The tract was named Fordlandia. In the spring of 1928, a crew of twenty-five men was dispatched to clear the land under Blakeley's supervision. Blakeley was recalled later that year.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The **W.L. Reeves Blakeley Records** are comprised of documentation of experiments, test papers, plant samples, printed material and a few hand tools.

SUBJECT TERMS

Names, Personal and Corporate

Blakeley, W.L. Reeves.

Companhia Ford Industrial do Brasil

Subjects

Rubber industry and trade--Brazil

Rubber plants

Plantations--Amazon River Region.

Sisal (Fiber)

Geographic

Fordlândia (Brazil)

Genre and Form

Business records

Hand tools

Plant material

CONTAINER LIST

Box no.	Description
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Box 1

Untitled (contains articles and other information related to tung oil)

BY-PRODUCTS

Experimental Boa Vista
Tropical Woods and Rubber
Book Describing Babassu Nuts

FORDLANDIA

South American Cotton (empty folder)
Study of Planting to be made at Plantation
Botany Data

Box 2

By-Products (2 folders)

PLANT SAMPLE ORIGINAL ENVELOPES

The **Plant Sample Original Envelopes series** consists of numbered envelopes which at one time contained samples of various plant material mounted to individual sheets of paper. All the organic plant material was removed and most likely discarded at some point. The mounting paper was retained.

Samples 1-9 (contains envelopes numbered 1-8)

Box 3

Samples 10-19 (contains envelopes numbered 13-15 and 17-19)
Samples 20-29 (contains envelopes numbered 21-24 and 26-27)
Samples 30-39 (contains envelopes numbered 30, 32, 34-36, 38-39)

Box 4

Samples 40-49 (contains envelopes numbered 40-45 and 47-48)
Samples 50-59 (contains envelopes numbered 55-58)
Samples 60-69 (contains envelopes 60-61, 63-64, and 66-69)
Samples 70-79 (contains envelopes 70-72 and 74-75)

Box 5

Hand Tools (3 items; Object IDs 64.167.534.2, 64.167.534.3, and 64.167.534.4)

Box 6

TREE BARK AND WOOD PULP SAMPLES

- Tree Bark Samples (1 envelope)
- SA Cotton (1 envelope)
- Boa Vista Tree Bark and Fibre Samples (1 envelope)

Box 7

PLANT SAMPLES

The **Plant Samples series** consists of physical samples of various plant material. The organic plant material was removed from the original envelopes and rehoused, with the original envelopes then discarded. Sample mounting sheets were retained and photocopies of the original envelopes were made.

- Sample 9: Manilla String
- Sample 10: Malva Grande
- Sample 11: Manguba
- Sample 16: Wild Cotton
- Sample 29: Pente De Macaco
- Sample 33: Uaicima
- Sample 37: Tauary Churu
- Sample 49: Malva Pirango
- Sample 50: Giboia
- Sample 51: Maleo(sp?) Caetano
- Sample 59: Malva Branca
- Sample 62: Malva Quiaborana
- Sample 65: Malvinha
- Sample 73: Java Sisal
- Sample 76: Relogio