

The Collection is arranged in line with Ottley's Bibliography of British Railway History. It must be noted that it is possible to have many books in two or more classes – for example some belong in a geographical area but also under a specific railway company. It is not possible for reasons of space and economics to have two books and put one in each class. All the books have a category label at the base of the spine or on the front cover.

The main sections are as follows:

A is for books describing the general history of rail transport in this country.

B, B1 – B12 is rail transport at particular periods from the earliest use of railways to the modern day.

C1a – C1z is a geographical section with counties and regions of Britain.

C2 – Scotland **C3** – Wales **C4** – Ireland

C5, C6 & C7 are the Islands – Isle of Wight, Man and Channel Islands

C8 – Channel Tunnel

D1 – Light railways and tramways

D2 – Narrow Gauge railways

D3 – Industrial, mineral, agricultural, dock, harbour and public utility systems

D4 – Electric and underground railways

D5 – Unusual forms of railway eg. Atmospheric, elevated, suspension cliff, hovers, linear induction

D6 – Miniature railways

E1 – Biographies of railway civil/mechanical engineers

E2 – Civil engineering

E3 – Permanent Way

E4 – Electric railway engineering

E5 – Architecture, stations/ bridges/viaducts/tunnels

E6 – Mechanical engineering

E7 – General works on steam, electric and diesel locomotives

E8 – Steam locomotives

E9 – Electric locomotives

E10 – Diesel, diesel-electric & other self-generating types of locomotive and train

E11 – Rolling Stock

E12 – Carriages

E13 – Wagons

E14 – Brakes and passenger/driver communication

E15 – Safety – signalling/electric telegraph etc.

F1 – Railway admin – rates/charges/fares/tolls/tickets/luggage labels

F2 – Inter-railway relations – amalgamation

F3 – Clearing House System

G1 – Operation of railway services

G2 – Freight traffic

G3 – Passenger train services

G4 – Railway road services

G5 – Railway water services

G6 – Railway air services

G7 – Hotels/catering, shops & kiosks/BR Property Board

H – Railway life and labour, working conditions, social environment, pay, welfare etc.

H1 – Memoirs of railwaymen

K – Railways and the nation

K1 – Railways and society

K2 – Railways and the passenger

K3 – Safety in transit – accidents and their prevention

K4 – Railways and industry, trade and agriculture

K5 – Railways and the money market – investment

K6 – Parliament Government and the railways

K7 – Railway Law

K8 – Railways and crime

K9 – Railways and the post office

K10 – Railways and national defence

K11 – Military railways

L – Individual railways (see below)

M – Heraldry and livery

N – The railway in art, paintings, postcards, posters etc.

O – The railway in literature

P – Humour and satire

Q – Appreciation of railways eg. Societies and rail tours

Q1 – Railway preservation eg. Exhibitions/museums/re-opened lines

Q2 – Model railway engineering

Q3 – Railway photography & cinematography

R – Research and study of railways

S – Statistics

T – Atlases and gazetteers

Under each category the books are all shelved in alphabetical order of the author's surname, or where there is no author, the first word of the title.

The L section is divided into railway companies; for example Great Western Railway, London and South Western Railway and the Southern Railway. Each book dealing with the line in general, will have an **L** on the spine or front cover.

Each company is then sub-divided. Taking Great Western Railway as an example, on the shelf under Great Western Railway, you will find the general books about the GWR first (**L**). Following this will be the books dealing with a specific aspect of that railway **L.E5** railway station architecture then **L.E8** GWR steam locomotives and following on from the **L.E12** GWR carriages and **L.E13** GWR wagons. The **L**-sections are also in alphabetical order of the author or title.