

briefing paper



Ionian Bank Limited Archives

Overview of the collection

The Ionian Bank Limited was established in the 1830s and was the first joint-stock bank based in London to conduct business overseas. By 1953 the bank had branches in Greece, Egypt and Cyprus, although the head office remained in London. In 2000 Ionian Bank merged with Alpha Credit Bank to form Alpha Bank.

The archives of the Ionian Bank were deposited with the LSE in 1980 via the Business Archives Council. The archive consists of 41.5 linear metres relating to the development and management of the bank and its relationship with branch offices throughout the Eastern Mediterranean, and covers the period 1837-1977.

In September 2003 a two year project was launched to improve access to the Ionian Bank archives through a programme of archival description, digitisation and conservation. The project was funded by



Content

Central records

Correspondence, minute books, financial records which underpinned the bank's fundamental operations in London. Highlights include:

- Court of Directors minute books
- Directors' annual reports and accounts
- Prospectuses
- Share registers
- Printed bills and acts

Branch records

Correspondence, memoranda and inspector's reports. Please note that some of these records are closed in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

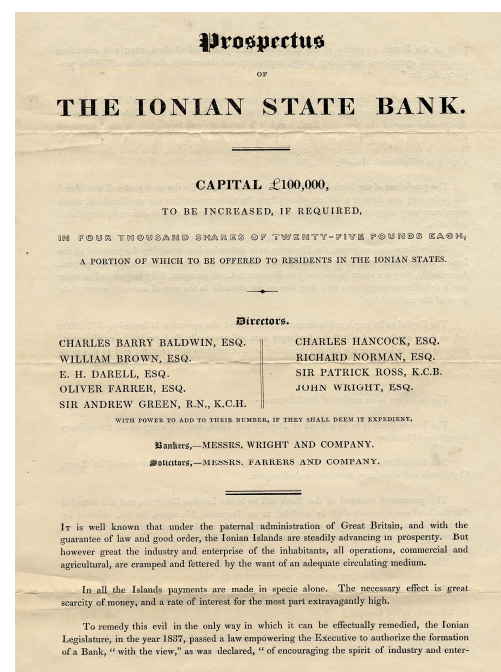
Highlights include:

- Egyptian cotton industry from 1920s to 1950s
- Business ties with banks and companies in USA during the 1920s
- Istanbul branch papers from 1922 to 1929

Subsidiary companies

During the course of its history the Ionian Bank took over a number of other bodies, including:

- Popular Bank



Prospectus of the Ionian State Bank, 17 January 1839

Finding Out More

Further information about the Ionian Bank can be found on our website at:

<http://www.lse.ac.uk/library/archive/>

Related Collections

Alpha Bank Archives

www.alpha.gr/page/default.asp?la=2&id=700

Papers of the subsidiary companies which form the Alpha Bank Group.

National Archives

Kew
Richmond
Surrey
TW9 4DU

Email: enquiry@nationalarchives.gov.uk
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

Papers concerning the Ionian Bank can be found in categories such as the Foreign Office and HM Treasury.

Publications

A bank of dual nationality. The origins and strategy of the Ionian Bank before 1914, F. Bostock, Bankhistorisches Archiv, 20, 1994, pp. 2-25. ISSN 03416208

Founding a multinational financial enterprise: Ionian Bank, 1833 - 1849, Philip L. Cottrell, The creators and the creation of banking enterprises in Europe from the 18th to the 20th centuries, Kostas P. Kostis (ed.), 2002, Athens ISBN 960-85313-9-X

Ninety-one years being the reminiscences of Falconer Larkworthy, H. Begbie (ed.), 1924, London.

Ionian Bank Limited - a history, 1953, London

The international banks, A. S. J. Baster, 1935, London, pp. 51-5.

Philip Cottrell of the School of Historical Studies at Leicester University is currently writing a history of the initial phase of the Ionian Bank's development 1839-1907.



Drawing of the sign which featured on the exterior of the Ionian Bank's head office in the City of London, 1960s

Opening Hours

Monday to Thursday 10am - 8pm

Friday 10am - 5pm

Saturday 11am - 6pm (Term-time and Easter Vacation only)

Please note: there is a limited service after 4.30pm and on Saturdays. Material for use must be ordered in advance.

Contacting Us

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