

Deaccession Disposition Change Request
Division of Archives and Records
September 17, 2026

Disposition Change Request for Approved Deaccession

Call no. and Title	PC.1528 Mecklenburg Iron Works Records
Inclusive Dates	Circa 1870-1960
Deaccession Approved Date	March 10, 2025
Quantity (of Total)	9 cubic feet
Approved disposition	Deaccession and transfer 9 cubic feet of engineering drawings to UNC Charlotte.
New Disposition	Deaccession and transfer 9 cubic feet of engineering drawings to Industrial Archives & Library, Bethlehem, PA (https://industrialarchives.org/)
Rationale	When State Archives staff approached UNC Charlotte to transfer these 9 cubic feet that they had initially agreed to take custody of prior to the deaccession review process, they declined to make the transfer, citing space and condition concerns. There are no other industrial collections in the state of North Carolina that collect these types of drawings, but the national Industrial Archives & Library in Bethlehem, PA, was immediately interested in preserving these materials. We'd like permission to transfer these drawings to IAL in lieu of UNC Charlotte.
Approval of Deputy Secretary of the Office of Archives and History Date	Dr. Darin Waters, July 14, 2026
Submitted By	Kelly Policelli, Division of Archives and Records

Approved Deaccession: March 10, 2025

Call no. and Title	PC.1528 Mecklenburg Iron Works Records
Inclusive Dates	Circa 1870-1960
Quantity (of Total)	28 cubic feet
Last Transferred Date	08/20/1973
Rationale	In 1973, the Carolina Steel Corporation donated the surviving records of the Mecklenburg Iron Works Inc, a wholly owned subsidiary of the corporation. An initial appraisal identified that a considerable volume of records had marginal archival value, and on September 10, 1976, the NC Historical Commission approved

	deaccessioning and destruction of 47 cubic feet of financial records, work orders, and correspondence judged to be routine records with transitory value. On November 21, 1985, the NC Historical Commission approved the deaccession of 650 blueprints for transfer to UNC Charlotte. Approximately 28 cubic feet of records from the original donation remain at the State Archives. The division recommends deaccession and destruction of approximately 19 cubic feet of materials from circa 1870-1950s. Most are customer records maintained in folders that contain correspondence, orders, and invoices. All are in poor condition, being very dirty and needing extensive remediation before any use. The records have been treated for mold in the past. The financial ledgers and order books in this group also require cleaning and repair. While these records may have been held back from the 1976 deaccession due to some perception of potential archival value, these remaining records do not begin to fully describe the operations of the company and include limited customer files, journals, and some audit files. In view of the very limited research or historical value of these records, and the work that would be required to make them usable by researchers, deaccession is the best option. UNC Charlotte has no interest in these records. The division recommends that 9 cubic feet of engineering drawings be deaccessioned and transferred to UNC Charlotte. These drawings show details of steelwork fabrication and plant items. Although some identify the structure and/or location, many do not which reduces their usefulness. This group included drawings of 19th century engines and plant items that may have historical value for researchers, but these would be better incorporated in the Mecklenburg Iron Works drawing collection at UNC Charlotte. They have agreed to this course of action.
Proposed Disposition	Deaccession and destroy 19 cubic feet of remaining administrative records. Deaccession and transfer 9 cubic feet of engineering drawings to UNC Charlotte.
Approval of Deputy Secretary of the Office of Archives and History Date	Dr. Darin Waters, February 21, 2025
Submitted By	Sarah E. Koonts, Division of Archives and Records