

Scotland's 100-oldest Companies Project



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## Introduction

Company registration was introduced in the Joint Stock Act of 1856 to provide the public with a degree of regulatory protection, and now almost all commercial companies are registered. Although many companies in Scotland were formed before this date, they were often partnerships between individuals or family concerns passed down from generation to generation. Under the Act companies became more independent from their original founders, and began to become autonomous actors within Scottish community and history in their own right.

Unlike firms and businesses founded before the act, only a fraction of the history of these companies can be found in the biography of the individuals who created them. Instead the story of registered companies can only be told by the records and archives of the companies themselves. Therefore the records of these organisations are an incredibly precious and unique resource. For the business they create a corporate store of information and experience that is longer and more reliable than any human memory. This can be researched and tapped, adding prestige to the brand through its heritage, and allowing the company to learn from past choices, actions and interactions.

However the records and archives can also provide a narrative of company interaction with employees, customers and communities. Historians are increasingly aware of the importance of this narrative in Scottish life, especially in the last hundred years, and seek ways of capturing these relationships for the historical record. Without business records and archives future researchers would be robbed of a complete picture of Scottish history, and future businesses would be deprived of the expertise and innovations documented within.

Companies House files are the official, public record of a company's existence and they generally contain memoranda of association, lists of shareholders and directors (including their occupation and address), financial statements and, once the company is dissolved, details of the winding up. 20 years after the dissolution of the company these records are passed onto the National Archives of Scotland, which holds them in place permanently in the BT2 series of records. This series has been incredibly important in research into Scottish business history, most notably by Peter L Payne in his analytical study 'The Early Scottish Limited Companies 1856-1895' (Scottish Academic Press, Edinburgh; 1980).

However these records are only a fraction of material that a company generates during its existence, which may include records of higher management choices and decision making, technical records documenting innovation and design, and publicity and promotional material. This project sought to identify the whereabouts of the wider range of material, whether it was located in existing archival collections, private holdings, or forgotten in the basement of successor businesses. The spreadsheet provides additional information, and also some points of comparison with Payne's work, and the work done by Lesley Richmond and Bridget Stockford in researching the thousand oldest companies in England and Wales ('Company Archives' published in 1986).

## Project Outlines

The aim of the project was to investigate the current state of the records and archives of the hundred oldest Scottish companies still registered with Companies House as of the date of employment of the most recent BACS Surveying Officer (1<sup>st</sup> December 2010). Although not all of these companies are still trading, Company House in Edinburgh will hold their basic records of registration for 20 years after their dissolution.

The aim of this project was to

- Identify the oldest 100 Scottish Companies still registered with Companies House Edinburgh (SC numbers)
- Identify existing record collections of those companies (by that company or a third party)
- Facilitate access to those collections and archives
- Increase awareness of the existence of these records
- Emphasise importance and value of these collections to their owners

The desired outcomes of the project were to produce

- Database of information and guide on using these archives, available online (through BACS website)
- Publication of findings in general and specialist media
- Self-publication (e.g. regular blog postings/website updates)
- Survey documentation and top level archive descriptors of previously undisclosed/undiscovered record collections
- Updating of NRAS records where appropriate

The actions that were undertaken for the project included

- Contact with companies/third parties to facilitate access to/publication of details
- Locating and possibly surveying previously undisclosed record holdings
- Updates of NRAS and BACS records on relevant businesses
- Creation of database products

Website postings and project updates were placed on the BAS blog

(<http://businessarchivesscotland.blogspot.com/>), and the initial project entries on the project wiki (<http://oldestscottishcompanies.wikispaces.com/>).

This document holds the individual company entries created for each of the 100-oldest companies by alphabetical order. If you would like to see how the companies rank please see the Excel database of the final results of the statistics.

## Guide to Project Entries

### Name of Company

*\*the name of each company is its most recently registered name. In some cases this may not been the best known name of the company, and I'll look to include every name I find in order to minimise confusion in the final product \**

Company Number:

Date of Incorporation:

Contact Details:

Operating Details:

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*:

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location:

Area of Operation:

*\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010*

*\*Most of these details are taken from the Companies House website entry. However where appropriate I have added details about previous names, and location details from my own research. Occasionally I have added to the 'Function of Company' entry if I feel that the current function doesn't reflect previous functions (eg in the case of a holding company that used to be a mining company)\**

### Records

Held By: *\*name of the institution that holds the records. If it is a registered archive I include the archive and collection number. If it is a registered collection with the NRAS or NRA I include that number. I will link to the holding body where possible\**

Scope/type: *\* very brief notes on the collection, including the dates and the types of records held\**

Conditions governing access/use: *\*notes on the conditions of access imposed by the holding body\**

Related records: *\*notes on other collections that may have similar records, or records that directly relate to the company, or other parts of the wider company\**

### Company History

*\*Brief notes on the history of the company, taken from either the corporate history or from the archival descriptors of the collections. The aim is not to be comprehensive, but to give researchers an idea of where to begin to look and to untangle some of the problems that may exist about the name, dissolutions, discrepancies between dates etc. I will add any useful books or articles I have found dealing with the history\**

*\*Underneath the company history is a note of acknowledgement of my sources.\**

## A & J MacNab, Limited

Company Number: SC001822

Date of Incorporation: 28 January 1889

Contact Details: C/o Darby Scotland, Unit 1 & 2 Block 2, Lochshore East Industrial Estate, Glengarnock, Ayrshire, KA14 3DB

Operating Details: Dissolved 12 December 2008

Other names (if known): Holmes McDougall Limited (up to 1987)

Function of Company\*: Listed as dormant company (9999), previously book publisher (2211)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Ayrshire (formerly Edinburgh)

Area of Operation:

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: The successor organisation has no records relating to this company, and there are no records of A&J MacNab extant.

Edinburgh Museums have a collection of unlisted and uncatalogued boxes of ledgers and order books for Holmes McDougall, and a box of leaflets that relate to the printing industry in Edinburgh generally. This was developed as part of the 'Edinburgh; City of Print' project.

Some documents relating to Holmes McDougall Ltd are held in the Edward Clark Collection at Napier University archives and special collections. This is the collection of the Scottish Printing Archive trust, and can be found at <http://staff.napier.ac.uk/services/library/about/EdwardClarkCollection/Pages/Scottishprintinghistorymaterials.aspx> . It should be noted that the collection is a relatively small one built up by a voluntary organisation, and does not contain the comprehensive records of the business operations of the company.

Related records: There are photos of Holmes McDougall records on flickr <http://www.flickr.com/photos/30239838@N04/4004395733/>

## Company History

<http://www.edinburghcityofprint.org/pages/the-printing-industry/printing-houses/holmes-mcdougall-group.php>

The names supplied by Companies House relate to two venerable Edinburgh companies that by the late 1970s had both been bought by Scottish and Universal Investments Limited. The first was Holmes McDougall, an educational book publisher based in



Edinburgh that had a magazine and label printing press in Glasgow. In 1987 the management of the company bought out the parent, leaving the magazine section in the control of Scottish and Universal. A & J MacNab Limited, had previously been a launderers and dry cleaners in Glasgow. However before that it had operated as a long-standing dyer, launderer and tweed-maker in Edinburgh- it's involvement in the village of Longstone dates back to 1773.

It appears likely that this company had some involvement in the label printing side of the Holmes McDougall business, possibly as a holding or property management company. Holmes McDougall itself dissolved in the early 1990s, and it appears that this company's assets were sold on at a similar time. The large facility at Glengarnock was probably the major asset, and this is now held by Darby Glass.

Darby Glass (Scotland), the company that own the site were this company is registered, are a glass shaper and processor formed in 2008. <http://www.darbyglass-scotland.co.uk/>

With thanks to the staff at Edinburgh Museums and Napier University Libraries and Archives for their help in collecting this information.

## Aberdeen & Grampian Chamber of Commerce

Company Number: SC000791

Date of Incorporation: 3 November 1877

Contact Details: Greenhole Place, Bridge of Don, Aberdeen, AB23 8EU

Operating Details: Active. Private, limited by guarantee, no share capital

Other names (if known): The Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce (up to 1994), Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce (1994-2000)

Function of Company\*: Business & employers organisation (9111)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Aberdeen (at address above)

Area of Operation: Throughout Aberdeen and Grampian- there are 5 affiliated chambers, Cairngorms, Inverness, Moray, Caithness and Montrose.

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Aberdeen City Council Archives DD74 (accessioned in 1991)

Scope/type: Chief Executive Annual Reports 1872-1935; Journal of Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce 1919-1982; Minute Books 1853-1954; Financial Records and members list; various committee files 1954-1987; junior chamber files 1969-1972; various photographs

Conditions governing access/use: All readers are asked to book a space in advance. Readers must adhere to searchroom guidelines, and may be required to produce identification to access records. See [http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/LocalHistory/archives/loc\\_FAQs.asp](http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/LocalHistory/archives/loc_FAQs.asp)

Related records: Some records of the Aberdeen Junior Chamber of Commerce available at the National Archives of Scotland

## Company History

The Aberdeen and North of Scotland Trade Protection Society was founded in 1855, after two years of meetings and discussions amongst the merchants and traders of the area. In 1872 it developed into Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce, with 148 members. It deals with all matters relating to trade in the city and surrounding area, including employment, unemployment and labour shortages, educational liaison, industrial and trade trends, relations with chambers of commerce in other towns, and certificates of origin. It also represents local trades in matters relating to local transport problems. By 1933 it had 363 members, including many of the most influential businessmen in the North East. Now with premises in George Street, Aberdeen, and with a Junior Chamber, it also publishes an

influential annual journal, with comprehensive reports and surveys. In 1882 Sir David Stewart was made President, and in 1884 received an address by Sherrif Dove Wilson on the formation of a code of commercial law for the United Kingdom. In 1999 the Chamber appointed its first woman CEO, Amanda Harvie.

Please see the Chamber's website for more information ([www.agcc.co.uk](http://www.agcc.co.uk))

Information supplied by Aberdeen City Council Archives, used here with thanks

## Aberdeen Heritable Securities and Investment Company Limited

Company Number: SC001747

Date of Incorporation: 13 May 1888

Contact Details: c/o Haslemere Estates Mgmt Ltd, Hobart House, 80 Hanover Street, Edinburgh, EH2 1EL

Operating Details: Dissolved 16 October 2001

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Letting of own property (7020)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Aberdeen

Area of Operation: Aberdeen and Grampian area

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

### Records

I've been unable to trace any extant records of this company, or any of the other companies taken over by Haslemere Estates Management Limited

Related records: There are a large number of court files relating to this company in the National Archives of Scotland. There is a letter from the Company to the Aberdeen Stock Exchange Association in The University of Aberdeen Archive

### Company History

There was an earlier company named the Aberdeen Heritable Securities Investment Company, which was incorporated under SC000469 in 1872 and was dissolved in 1932. It is unclear what relationship this had with the company incorporated in 1888. Its records are held under BT2/469 in the National Archives of Scotland. This company had acquired an Inverness agent by 1878 (one Donald Reid), and so was obviously not just limited to Aberdeen.

Although incorporated under the Companies Act in 1888, Aberdeen Heritable Securities and Investment Company Limited is listed in at least one case (as a defendant against Troup in 1916) as having been the owners of a property dating back to at least 1876. It may be that the earlier company (mentioned above) owned the property, and transferred it to the later company. This would imply that one company was a successor to another, possibly raising more share capital in its formation to allow it greater freedom to purchase more property.

The company appears to have been founded with the purpose to invest and then rent out property in the Aberdeen area, though according to various court cases the company appears to have quickly expanded throughout the north-east of Scotland. There are an unusually high amount of court cases involving this company extant in the NAS from

1890 to 1930, which would seem to indicate that the company owned a large amount of property. In 1906 the Company had its headquarters at 5 Union Terrace in Aberdeen.

It may be that the company was bought up early in the twentieth century by Scottish Metropolitan Property Company. The company was definitely bought up by Haslemere Estates Management (either as part of the acquisition of Scottish Metropolitan in 2000, or as a separate deal before 1986). Haslemere Estates is a large property developer which is, in turn, a subsidiary of the larger, Netherlands-based European retail property owner the Rodamco. Haslemere Estates still manages the assets of the company, following a change of name by Rodamco UK, the Aberdeen company itself has been dissolved.

## Aberdeen Trust Limited

Company Number: SC000642

Date of Incorporation: 17 December 1875

Contact Details: 9 Queen's Terrace, Aberdeen, Grampian, AB1 1XL

Operating Details: Dissolved (succeeded by Aberdeen Asset Management Ltd)

Other names (if known): North of Scotland Canadian Mortgage Company (1874-1938)  
North of Scotland Canadian Mortgage and General Investment Trust Limited (1938-1948), The Aberdeen and Canadian Investment trust Limited (1948-1962) The Aberdeen Trust Limited (1962 onward)

Function of Company\*: Investment Trust (6523)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Aberdeen

Area of Operation: Invested widely, especially in North America (see below)

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: University of Aberdeen, Special Libraries and Archives GB 0231 MS 3211

Scope/type: Business records for Aberdeen Trust Ltd., 1962 - 1982, and its predecessors, Aberdeen Trust Co. Ltd., 1911 - 1962, Aberdeen and Canadian Investment Trust Ltd., 1948 - 1962, North of Scotland Canadian Mortgage and General Investment Trust Ltd, 1938 - 1948, North of Scotland Canadian Mortgage Co. Ltd., 1876 - 1938, and East of Scotland Trust Ltd, 1913 - 1972. A full set of minutes and annual accounts exists for each company, with the exception of the North of Scotland Canadian Mortgage Co. Ltd., for which annual accounts begin only in 1882 (6 years after the company began trading). There is, additionally, a representative sample of cash books, journals and stock registers for each company.

Conditions governing access/use: Open, though some restrictions on copying

Related records: Some records held in National Archives of Scotland.

## Company History

The North of Scotland Canadian Mortgage Company was incorporated in 1875, with the sole purpose, as its name implied, of raising capital in Scotland to finance, by way of mortgage, the emigrant farming community in Canada. The concept was a popular one at the time, and a number of other companies, notably in Dundee, had recently undertaken similar operations extending as far as Texas and other emerging agricultural states in the USA. By the late nineteenth century the company's annual reports describe extensive emigration to Canada and ever-increasing demand for mortgages. The building

of the railways to the west opened up vast tracts of farming lands, and from fairly modest beginnings, it was able to extend its business to Manitoba, Saskatchewan and the other prairie provinces. As its scope and size increased, the administrative headquarters were transferred from Toronto to Winnipeg.

By the First World War the Company was in a prosperous condition. This continued until the Great Depression of the 1930s, when it was thrust deeply into debt. By 1933 it had suffered such severe financial losses that it was unable to meet the demands of its creditors. A scheme of arrangement was drawn up at this time, placing a substantial financial burden upon the Company's creditors, but eventually freeing the Company from threat of liquidation. A moderate recovery by 1938 was followed by a new memorandum and articles of association, which enlarged its powers of investment, a step which many saw as preparation for its future conversion to an investment trust. A new name, the North of Scotland Canadian Mortgage and General Investment Trust Limited, emphasised this point.

In 1940, the Company became profitable once more, reaping the benefits of the very good Canadian harvest of 1939. A new scheme of reorganisation of capital was adopted in July 1942, and by the end of the Second World War the nature of the company had entirely changed from a lending company to an investment trust. In 1948 a Canadian subsidiary company was set up, called North of Scotland Canadian Investment Corporation Limited to which, in exchange for debentures and shares of common stock, the remaining Canadian assets were transferred. The name of the parent company was changed once more to reflect its new activities more accurately, becoming the Aberdeen and Canadian Investment Trust Limited. In 1952 the North of Scotland Canadian Investment Corporation Limited was sold to the Berkley Property and Investment Company Limited. With this sale, all interests in the original business of the Company were relinquished, and its expansion thereafter took place under the auspices of an orthodox Scottish Investment Trust.

In 1962, the Aberdeen and Canadian Investment Trust Limited amalgamated with the Aberdeen-based Aberdeen Trust Company Limited, forming a new company, called Aberdeen Trust Limited. In 1972, a further merger took place with the East of Scotland Trust Limited of Edinburgh. Both the Aberdeen Trust Company and the East of Scotland Trust Limited had had close ties with the Company for many years, being under the same management, having similar portfolios and with some duplication between the various boards of directors.

Aberdeen Trust Company was incorporated on 17 July 1911. Its early fortunes were mixed, suffering severe losses during the First World War, which were recovered during the Twenties, only to be hit again by the great depression of the Thirties. A considerable recovery was achieved by 1939, and though expansion was halted during the war years of the early 1940s, the Company was able to consolidate its position and had achieved considerable prosperity by 1945. The 1950s saw a period of rapid growth and expansion for the Company, and in 1961 it entered into negotiations for amalgamation with the Aberdeen and Canadian Investment Trust Limited.

The East of Scotland Trust Limited was registered in Edinburgh on 8 May 1913. Its history closely parallels that of the Aberdeen Trust Limited, rising and falling between the War years and the great depression of the Thirties, before reaching prosperity in the 1950s and 60s.

By 1993 the Trust was encountering difficulties as a recession hit in the middle of a

period of company expansion. This original company was dissolved, and the parent company continued as Aberdeen Asset Management (whose holding company has since become the 'new' Aberdeen Trust Limited). <http://www.aberdeen-asset.com/>

This information was extracted from a short history of the Trust, contained in the Aberdeen Trust Limited Annual Report and Accounts for 1976 (MS 3211/79). Further details, particularly regarding financial affairs, can be found there.

Thanks and acknowledgement to The University of Aberdeen Archives for the re-use of this information.



## Aberdeenshire Country Foods Limited

Company Number: SC000699

Date of Incorporation: 24 August 1876

Contact Details: 7 Bain Square, Kirkton Campus, Livingston, EH54 7DQ

Operating Details: In liquidation

Other names (if known): Aberdeen Hide Skin and Tallow Market Company. There are records of an Aberdeen Hide and Tallow company, which may be related to this one.

Function of Company\*: Non-trading Company (7499) previously hide production/services (1511) and animal product processing (1513)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Aberdeen

Area of Operation:

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

No record holdings of this company have been identified. The present owners (Vion) have not responded to multiple requests for information on these records.

Related records: Two court cases in the NAS related to this company (dated 1930 and 1961). Some building records in Aberdeen City Archives. There are planning warrants of the various cattle markets in Aberdeen City Archives.

## Company History

William Murray Esq applied for a building permit for a tallow market in Aberdeen in 1874, and this appears to have been the first such market in Aberdeen, which was a notable cattle town in Scotland. The Murray family went on to develop the Aberdeen Hide and Tallow Company from their own business, which seems to be related to the later Aberdeen Hide, Skin and Tallow Market Company (either as the same company, or the parent or holding company of it). In 1908 this company applied for a building warrant for the erection of a tallow market on the north side of Hutcheon Street, and also appears to have had offices in Dingwalls in the Highlands. The Aberdeen Hide Market was still operational during the investigation into warble fly infection affecting cattle in 1935, and there are court cases involving this company by name in 1930 and 1961 in the National Archives of Scotland. It appears to have been absorbed by Grampian Country Foods (probably in 1996, prompting the name change), and then liquidated when this company was in turn bought out by Vion Foods UK in 2008.

## The Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society

Company Number: SC000926

Date of Incorporation: 20 November 1879

Contact Details: Pedigree House, 6 Kings Place, Perth, PH2 8AD

Operating Details: Active (private company, limited by guarantee)

Other names (if known): The Polled Cattle Society (1879-1907)

Function of Company\*: Agricultural Service Activities (0141)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Perth, Scotland

Area of Operation: Across the UK and Ireland

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Private, the catalogue is held at the National Register of Archives for Scotland, NRAS 1389

Scope/type: Minute books 1879-current; General ledgers 1926-current; Various herd books 1840 onward; Export Certificate Books 1887-current; Minutes of Herd Book Editing Committee 1880-current; Scrapbooks from 1880; Photographs, prints and paintings of cattle from 19<sup>th</sup> century

Conditions governing access/use: These records are held privately, and their access is restricted. All enquiries should be addressed to The Registrar, National Register of Archives for Scotland, HM General Register House, Edinburgh, EH1 3YY

Related records: There is a BT2 file in the National Archives of Scotland, though it appears to have been opened because of the name change of the Society rather than because of its dissolution.

## Company History

See <http://www.ansi.okstate.edu/breeds/cattle/angus/> for a history of the breeding of Aberdeen-Angus cattle. The company began as the Polled Cattle Society in 1840, under which name it was incorporated in 1879. The Aberdeen-Angus breed was first established in the early nineteenth century, principally by Hugh Watson, though his work was developed and mapped by William McCombie and Sir George Macpherson-Grant. In 1907 it changed its name to The Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Society, which it has operated under ever since.

The aim of the society is to safeguard the pedigree of the Aberdeen-Angus breed of cattle through use of registration of cattle and the updating of the herd book (first

conceived in 1862- presumably the other herd books held above relate to herds other breeds or non-pedigree cattle). The Society also seeks to promote the breed, and arranges sales and promotional events for pedigree cattle.

There is close association between the society and the Royal family, going back to Queen Victoria's fondness for Aberdeen-Angus beef. She was the first patron of the society, and was succeeded by Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother. The current patron of the Society is Prince Charles. At present Prince Charles runs his own herd in Caithness. The Society currently has over 2600 members, and has registered over 13000 pedigree cattle.

Please see <http://www.aberdeen-angus.co.uk/> for more information.

Thanks to the NRAS for permission to re-use the information on these record holdings

## Ainslie & Heilbron (Distillers) Limited

Company Number: SC001739

Date of Incorporation: 8 May 1888

Contact Details: Edinburgh Park, 5 Lochside Way, Edinburgh, EH12 9DT

Operating Details: Dissolved 26 January 1993

Other names (if known): James Ainslie & Co. (1888-1912?)

Function of Company\*: Manufacture distilled potable drinks (1591)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Glasgow (though distilleries operated in the Highlands)

Area of Operation:

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Diageo Archive GB 1877- Glenochil House, Menstrie, Clackmannanshire, Scotland, FK11 7ES or email [christine.j.mccafferty@diageo.com](mailto:christine.j.mccafferty@diageo.com)

Scope/type: Contact Diageo Archive for details-many of the records relating to the company are tied into those of United Distillers (see below)

Conditions governing access/use: Contact Diageo Archive

Related records: Exports file held in National Archives of Scotland under SEP2/614 running from 1956-1987

## Company History

This company appears to be related to James Ainslie & Co, which was founded by Ainslie & co. (brewers of Burton-on-Trent Moss & Hume p141) as whisky merchants who principally operated out of Leith, In 1896 they acquired the Brora Highland Distillery and rebuilt it. The distillery was later sold on in the 1930s to Scottish Malts, though the company appears to have become its principal operators after the Second World War.

James Ainslie & Co went bankrupt in 1912. It appears that this company survived as the asset managers of the Brora distillery- half its stake was sold to The Distillery Company Limited, and the other half was owned by a Mr James Risk (Wilson p144). Although it is unclear when Heilbron was added to James Ainslie & Co, there is a note of Mr AN Heilbron attending a meeting of the Whisky Association in 1921, so it is not unreasonable to assume that this might be same Heilbron who added his name to the company (it does not seem to have been a common name in Scotland in this part of the century) (Wilson p357).

Around 1920 the company (as Ainslie & Heilbron) acquired the Argyll distillery founded in 1844 by Greenlees & Colvill (though this appears to have ceased production in 1923-Moss & Hume p274). Their most well-known brand was 'Kings Liqueur' Old Special, which dates at least as far back as the 1930s. In 1934 the company's King William IV brand was the first Scotch to be landed in New York after the repeal of prohibition (Wilson p.315). In 1969 the company took over operations at the second Clynelish distillery (Moss & Hume pp 252-3)

By 1980 they were listed as an active part of the Distillers Company, and in turn became part of United Distillers when Guinness bought the company in 1986. This company was dissolved in 1993 as part of a general rationalisation of Guinness holdings, and its surviving assets are now part of the Diageo company following the merger of Guinness and Grand Metropolitan.

### Sources

Ross Wilson, Scotch; the formative years (Constable, London 1970)

Michael Moss and John Hume, The Making of Scotch Whisky (James & James, Edinburgh 1981)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Distillers\\_Company\\_Limited](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Distillers_Company_Limited)

With thanks to the Diageo Group Archives for their help and assistance with the project, and their permission to use this information.

## Alldays Retail Stores Limited

Company Number: SC001195

Date of Incorporation: 16 January 1883

Contact Details: 10 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 2DZ

Operating Details: Dissolved 20 June 2002

Other names (if known): James Mackie & Company Limited (1883-1989) W & P retail Stores (1989-1998) Alldays Retail Stores (1998-2002)

Function of Company\*: Non-trading Company (7499)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Unknown (see below)

Area of Operation: Scotland

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

According to the Co-operative archive, no historical records of this company are stored in their archive, and have not been acquired by their company. Therefore it would appear the records of this company have not survived the various transactions and mergers over the years.

Related records; the records of Adam Mackie (the possible founder's father) are held in University of Aberdeen Special Collections GB 231/MS 3347

## Company History

Adam Mackie, son of Adam Mackie, shoe-maker and farmer, was born in Fyvie, Aberdeenshire, on the 3 Jan 1788. After attending the local parish school, he was apprenticed in 1800, to his uncle, William Mackie, shoe-maker in Aberdeen. On completing his apprenticeship in 1805, he returned to Fyvie, and in 1815 began farming the lands of Lewes of Fyvie. Once established in the farm, he expanded his interests into shopkeeping and innkeeping, and established himself as a local bank agent and a dealer in the local illicit whisky trade. He was married twice, to Mary Jameson in 1817, and to Isabella Rose in 1836, and had 7 children, including an illegitimate son Adam, who was born to Rachel Gordon in 1817. His fourth son, James, bought the business stock shortly before his father's death in 1850, and converted it into a successful limited liability company, James Mackie and Co. Ltd., with branches throughout Aberdeenshire, operating mainly as an outlet for butter and eggs.

These branches had developed into convenience stores by the end of the 1980s. It is quite possible that the retail and wholesale arms of the company split (there is still an active James Mackie catering and wholesale business) and the retail shops (which were

part of the above company) were acquired by Watson and Philip, a wholesaler looking to expand into retail outlets, and probably made up the bulk of W & P's 39 stores in 1989. W & P continued to expand, eventually buying out Amalgamated Foods and adopting its Alldays store brand as its own in the early 1990s. In 1993 W & P controlled 300 stores after acquiring Circle K's convenience stores, and by 1994 began to look to dispose of its other assets while re-branding all its stores as 'Alldays'.

The company continued to buy up other retail groups and stores until in the late 1990s there were over 600 Alldays convenience stores. However profits had slumped, and following the end of a franchised deal with Total petrol stations, share prices collapsed and the administrators moved in. In 2002 PriceWaterhouseCooper sold the company on to The Co-operative Group for £131 million.

It should be noted that it is unclear of the part that the above company played in these events as either W&P Retail Stores and Alldays Retail Stores.

Above information accessed from

<http://www.referenceforbusiness.com/history2/54/Alldays-plc.html>, January 2011.

## The Alliance Trust PLC

Company Number: SC001731

Date of Incorporation: 21 April 1888

Contact Details: 8 West Marketgait, Dundee, DD1 1QN

Operating Details: Active

Other names (if known): The Alliance Trust Public Limited Company (1888-2006)

Function of Company\*: Other business activities (7487). Describes itself as an investment company

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Dundee

Area of Operation: UK wide. Offices in Dundee, Edinburgh and London

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: National Register of Archives for Scotland, NRAS 4188

Scope/type: Corporate records: minutes (1888-2005); annual returns (1947-1974); circulars (1908-1964); register of directors (1948-1967); seals book (1938-1971); shareholder records - ordinary, preference and 'a' shareholders: register of ordinary, preference and 'a' shareholders (nd); register of confirmations and probates on stock (nd); registers of transfers of stock (nd); dividend lists (1928-1968); closed shareholder accounts (1923-1968); shareholder records - debenture shareholders: registers of shareholders (1925-1966); register of confirmations and probates on debenture stock (nd); register of debentures (nd, 1943-1956); register of transfers of debenture stock (nd); register of transfers of terminable debenture stock (nd); debenture maturity records (nd); registers of repaid debentures (1931-1963); register of repaid debentures (1947-1950); register of debenture closed accounts (1926-1965); debenture payments (1938-1979); terminable debenture and deposit lists (1950-1969); end of year records: balance sheets (1880-1981); profit and loss (1937-1957); legal papers: trust deeds (1912-1961); agreements folders (1876-1989); miscellaneous legal documents (1909-1921); borrowing records: short loan records (1932-1986); registers of repayments/term books (1948-1966); management records (1955-1960); agency records: transaction ledgers (1988); property lists (1984); agency journals and accounts (1910-1968); agency closed accounts registers (1927-1962); inspectors' reports (1903-1910); letters of indemnity (1960-1986); mortgages and loan records: abstracts of loans (1907-1928); mortgage applications and correspondence (c1918-1980); Ignacio Chavez Grant Records (1881-1930, 1980); mineral rights reports (1943-1980); investment records: closed accounts (1920-1976); investment/securities registers (nd, 1927-c1970); investments purchases and sales ledgers (nd); accounting records: general ledger (nd, 1935-1987); journals: general journals (nd); home journals (nd); journal of closed accounts (nd); purchase ledger (1964-1973); cash books: general cash books (nd); revenue cash books (nd); dollar cash books (nd, 1969-1978); transaction books (1982-1995); press cuttings (1959-1968); stock certificates (nd)



Conditions governing access/use: These records are held privately, and their access is restricted. All enquiries should be addressed to The Registrar, National Register of Archives for Scotland, HM General Register House, Edinburgh, EH1 3YY

Related records: See also NRAS 1402

### Company History

A group of Dundee businessmen, who had made their fortunes in jute production, formed a venture to lend money to immigrant farmers in Oregon in 1873. This was the first of several Dundee land and mortgage companies. Three of these Dundee companies, the Dundee Mortgage and Trust, the Dundee Investment Company and the Oregon and Washington Trust (run from Dundee) combined to form the Alliance Trust in 1888. From their roots lending money to farmers and sugar planters, the trust initially concentrated investment in US railway bonds, mineral rights, and fixed interest securities.

In 1918, owing to the failing health of one of the managers, the directors of the Western and Hawaiian Investment Company agreed to share premises, management, staff and administration costs with the Alliance Trust. In 1923 the Hawaiian Investment Company was renamed the Second Alliance Trust. The minutes of Second Alliance stated that the two trusts should merge when 'the time is right', though as the companies were very different the merger did not proceed.

In 1925 the board withdrew from mortgage activities, and focused instead upon bond and share investment. Following the Second World War the trust found itself able to exploit the booming equity markets, and enjoyed considerable success. In 1969 the trust pioneered the first investment trust dividend reinvestment scheme, and in 1986 formed Alliance Trust Savings for private investors in trusts. In fifty following 1948 dividends on stock have increased by 142 times, while retail prices have risen by 20 times.

In 2006 Alliance Trust merged with Second Alliance Trust merged under the name of Alliance Trust, creating the largest global generalist trust in the United Kingdom. Today Alliance Trust PLC is the largest investment trust in the UK by market value

With thanks to the NRAS for their permission to use this material

## The Asbestos and Rubber Company Limited

Company Number: SC001103

Date of Incorporation: 23 March 1882

Contact Details: c/o Downie Wilson, 135 Buchanan Street, Glasgow

Operating Details: Dissolved 8 September 1996

Other names (if known): The Scottish Asbestos Company, Scottish Asbestos and Rubber Company Limited (until 1994), SARC Limited (1990-1994)

Function of Company\*: Other Manufacturing (2500)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Unknown, initially Glasgow (see below)

Area of Operation: Glasgow (manufacture), Quebec (mining)

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

### Records

I have been unable to find any records of this particular company in any archive. The contact address has not responded, and there appears to be no successor organisation. This company is not related to ARCO, who were the original Asbestos and Rubber Company and are still operating in Hull.

### Company History

The first commercial use of asbestos occurred in 1874, and generally the Scots were regarded as pioneering its use. It was particularly useful in shipbuilding, where its flame-retardant properties could be used in boilers and the engine room.

I believe this particular company was initially known as the Scottish Asbestos Company, and was in operation some time before its actual date of incorporation (possibly 1877). By the mid-1880s it had purchased substantial mines in East Broughton and Black Lake in Quebec, and by 1886 had embarked upon a number of large-scale improvements to these properties. The material excavated from these mines was processed at Levenshields Works, Nitshill, Glasgow, also owned by the company. Looking at the name of the company, it seems to have branched out into rubber processing and manufacture in the twentieth century. However it did not seem to have been involved in any of the compensation actions undertaken by workers following the discovery of the harmful effects asbestos processing.

See <http://dspacedev.stir.ac.uk/bitstream/1893/602/1/Watterson%20-%20Asbestos%20in%20Scotland.pdf>

<http://www.clydebankasbestos.org/index.php?page=asbestos-clydebank>

Both accessed in March, 2011

Robert H Jones, *Asbestos its properties, occurrences and uses* (Crosby, Lock & Sons, 1890)

## Aviva Insurance Limited

Company Number: SC002116

Date of Incorporation: 23 February 1891

Contact Details: Pitheavlis, Perth, PH2 0NH

Operating Details: Active (Private Limited Company)

Other names (if known): General Accident Assurance Corporation Ltd (1891-1906)  
General Accident Fire and Life Insurance Corporation Limited Company (1906-1999),  
CGU Insurance PLC (1999-2006)

Function of Company\*: Non Life insurance (6603)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Perth and London

Area of Operation: Widespread in the UK by 1901. Offices and branches across the globe by the 1930s.

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Aviva Group Archives, Surrey House, Norwich GB 2070

Scope/type: The Aviva archive contains records relating to the running of Aviva Insurance between 1891 and 2002. The collection includes annual reports and accounts, board of trade returns, revenue account books, board minutes, local board minutes, general meeting minutes, committee minutes, memoranda and articles of association, certificates of incorporation, correspondence, agency files, cancelled policies, specimen policies, claim books, expense books, general ledgers, seal registers, share transfer registers, circulars to staff, salary books, social club files, staff magazines, registers of directors, subsidiary acquisition files, home and foreign rate books, advertisements, branded promotional material, sponsorship files, press cuttings, agency plaques and signs, proposal forms, photographs, posters and prospectuses.

Conditions governing access/use: Access is by appointment only, and at the discretion of the group archivist. Access to customer records less than 100 years old and company records less than 30 years old is closed except in very special circumstances. Access will only be granted on the understanding that the reader is engaged in bona fide historical research, and that the information extracted will not be used against the company or go beyond the agreed subject of research. For further information on specific searchroom rules please see <http://www.aviva.com/about-us/heritage/our-archive/access-policy/>

Related records:

## Company History

<http://www.aviva.com/about-us/heritage/companies/aviva-insurance/>

Following the acquisition of General Accident and Employers' Liability, the company was initially offering accident, employers' liability, sickness, fidelity guarantee and burglary insurance. In 1895, the company established the Scottish General Fire Assurance Corporation Ltd to offer fire insurance, and a year later had extended its business to include motor insurance.

The company was a pioneer in the motor insurance business. According to board minutes from November 2 1896,

"The Manager reported he was about to issue a prospectus to insure motor cars at a premium of £2 per cent, with a varying charge of £1 10s 0d to £2 10s 0d per vehicle".

While neither the records of General Accident nor those of other claimants to the title "first" motor insurer contain evidence of actual policies issued at this date, it is not an exaggeration to claim that the company was among the first insurers to offer motor cover.

Over the following years, the company continued to grow. In 1898, it established a cycle insurance department and, in 1900, amalgamated Scottish General Fire and began to offer fire insurance. By 1902, the company was offering fire insurance overseas and had extended its business to include marine insurance. A year later, it introduced a scheme to take monthly payments for sickness and accident insurance, making this type of insurance more attractive to the working classes.

On March 2 1906, the company changed its name to the General Accident Fire and Life Assurance Corporation Ltd. In the same year, it began conducting life insurance while livestock insurance was added in 1907 along with plate glass insurance in 1909 and engineering insurance in 1920.

Between 1924 and 1925, the company established a working relationship with Morris Motors Ltd, whereby every Morris car sold in Britain was insured by General Accident for its first year, with Morris paying the discounted premiums. The deal immediately took the company into virtually every major city and town in the country and led to a significant increase in business, much of it spin-offs from motor insurance. While considerably expensive in terms of claims payments its publicity value was regarded as "incalculably great".

During the 1980s, the company diversified and built up a countrywide network of estate agencies and, following the acquisition of the NZI Corporation Ltd and its subsidiary Arbuthnot Latham Bank, entered the world of merchant banking. On March 4 1982, the company was renamed the General Accident Fire and Life Assurance Corporation plc.

On February 25 1998, the holding company General Accident plc announced a merger with Commercial Union plc and, on October 1 1999, the company changed its name to CGU Insurance plc and became a subsidiary of the new holding company CGU plc. On February 21 2000, CGU plc merged with Norwich Union plc to form CGNU plc, which was re-branded in July 2002 as Aviva plc. Finally, on September 1 2006, CGU Insurance plc changed its name to Aviva Insurance Ltd.

Information taken from the Aviva page on this company (see link above). Thanks and acknowledgments to Anna Stone, Company Archivist at Aviva for her assistance with this project

## Balmanno House

Company Number: SC002015

Date of Incorporation: 21 May 1890

Contact Details: Balmanno House, 3 Cleveden Road, Glasgow, Strathclyde G12 0NT

Operating Details: Active (Private, Limited by guarantee, no share capital)

Other names (if known): Incorporated Glasgow Old Man's friend Society and Old Women's Home (up to 1984)

Function of Company\*: Other Human health activities (8514) and Social Work with accommodation (8531)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Balmanno House, Glasgow

Area of Operation: Glasgow

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/nra/searches/subjectView.asp?ID=O26318>  
Apparently passed from Glasgow University Archives Services to Glasgow City Archives under NRAS1415. Glasgow City Archives have not yet confirmed this.

Scope/type: Minutes 1811-1974; Printed annual reports 1828-1976

Conditions governing access/use: Contact Glasgow City Archives/GUAS

Related records: none found

## Company History

There are records of an Old Man's Friend Society in Glasgow going back to 1863 (when the president is listed as a John Wright). In the late 1890s Baird and Thomson (a Glasgow based architectural partnership) designed buildings for use by the Society, which may have included Balmanno House. At this point Sir William Robertson Copland was one of the directors.

Balmanno House is situated on Cleveden road in the West End of Glasgow, and is currently listed as a small, home that accommodates 51 residents. The company is listed as the owner of the property, and as a small private home owner. Balmanno House is the only property owned by the company.

This company and property should not be confused with Balmanno Castle, in Perthshire.

## Banff Town and County Club

Company Number: SC001082

Date of Incorporation: 19 January 1882

Contact Details: 11 Boyndie Street, Banff, AB45 1DY

Operating Details: Active (Private, limited by guarantee, no share capital)

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Bars (5540)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Banff

Area of Operation: Banff

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Privately held, please contact above address

Scope/type: Minute Books dating from 1881

Conditions governing access/use: Please contact owners

Related records: None identified, please contact Banff Preservation and Heritage Society  
<http://www.banffpreservationandheritagesociety.org.uk/>

## Company History

Banff is a town that received its charter from Robert the Bruce in 1324, and is the old county town of Banffshire. The town enjoyed considerable growth in the 1700s, and features many Georgian townhouses and buildings.

The Town and County Club was incorporated in 1881 by a group of locally-based people mostly drawn from the high-end of Banff society. Through the act of subscription the committee was able to raise the money to purchase the clubs original premises in Banff at 6 South Castle Street (now known as Castle Street) . At its inception there were three classes of membership; 'Life members' tended to be more aristocratic, 'Local members' were mostly drawn from the town's middle class and 'Reading members' paid to have access to the club's library. At this point the social club did not have a licence to serve alcohol.

In the 1930s the club applied for a licence, a move which precipitated a large number of resignations from the board. The club also moved into its current premises, the sizeable townhouse on Boyndie Street built in 1772 by George Robinson, a wealthy cotton industrialist.

Although the club enjoyed a boom in membership during the Second World War, due to the nearby airbase, by the 1950s it came close to dissolution. However it survived this scare, and is an important institution in the town today. It still has a restaurant and bar, and a bowling green for members. In the past it has housed various other local social clubs, and also meetings of the Banff Town Council.

<http://www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/sc-21885-11-boyndie-street-banff-town-and-country->

With thanks to Mr James Gifford, Company Secretary, for his help and advice in completing this entry

## Barclay Curle Limited

Company Number: SC001381

Date of Incorporation: 9 September 1884

Contact Details: George House, 50 George Square, Glasgow, G2 1RR

Operating Details: In liquidation

Other names (if known): Barclay, Curle & Co Ltd

Function of Company\*: Building and repairing of ships (3511)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Stobcross, Glasgow. Later moved to Appledore, Devon

Area of Operation: Operated shipyards along the Clyde, Birkenhead and Devon.

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Glasgow City Archives GB243/TD265, TD 205, TD 269

Scope/type: TD265Minutes, 1860-1939; Financial records, 1881-1964; Elderslie plant registers, 1912-1931.Elderslie Dockyard: Summary capital accounts, 1959-1960; Material transfer books, 1954-1959; Labour transfer books, 1945-1963; Private wages book, 1921-1924. Clydeside Repairing Works: Labour transfer books, 1945-1963.Docking books, 1909-1974; DNA and MOWT records sheets, 1940-1944; Correspondence, 1902-1937; Records concerning shares, 1863-1912; Article concerning William Russell Ferguson, managing director of the company, 1910; Agreements and related papers, 1893-1934; Report and estimates concerning extension of present site or removal to another, 1918; Progress reports of Clydeholm shipyard, 1956-1967; Bills of sale, 1868-1904; Staff records, 1905-1917; Patents and renewals, 1911-1918; Records relating to use of motor vehicle at harbour, 1913-1918; Records concerning acquisition of further lands at Clydeholm, 1898-1913; Letters from A & J Inglis, John Elder & Co and Aitken & Mansel on timekeeping and wage rates, 1877; Reports of other companies including Scottish Temperance Life Assurance Co, Ramage & Ferguson Ltd, Richardsons, Westgarth & Co, The London Scottish Canadian Investment Syndicate, Silica Gel Ltd, Swan Hunter and Wigham Richardson, and commemorative pamphlet of laying of foundations stone of Lloyds new building, London, 1886-1927; Photograph album containing prints of engines, c 1924-c 1947; 'Ships and Shipbuilding', company photograph album, 1932; Engine plans, undated

TD205: Copies of details of ships, 1839-1970

TD269: Private Wage Books, 1871-1912



Conditions governing access/use: Open, usual Glasgow City Archive conditions

Related records: Glasgow City Archive GB 243 TD 232; Technical Drawings from Kelvingrove Art Gallery features technical drawings Barclay Curle 1860-1895

Some records held at The Caird Library, Manuscripts Section, The National Maritime Museum

## Company History

The company was founded by Robert Barclay in 1818 at Whiteinch in Glasgow, Scotland. In 1862, the company built a large engineering works at Stobcross in Glasgow. It was incorporated in 1884 as *Barclay Curle*. In 1912, Barclay Curle acquired the nearby Elderslie Shipyard in Scotstoun from John Shearer & Sons, to take the excess orders that the firm's existing Clydeholm yard in Whiteinch could not handle. Barclay Curle itself was acquired in 1912 by Swan Hunter.

In 1913, the North British Diesel Engine Works was built at the company's Clydeholm Shipyard in Whiteinch, a seminal modernist building that was influenced by Peter Behrens' AEG turbine factory in Berlin and continues to stand today. In 1920 a large Titan Crane was constructed adjacent to the engine works at the Clydeholm Yard by Sir William Arrol & Co., and remains one of four examples to remain on the River Clyde, along with those at Finnieston, Clydebank and Greenock.

During the First World War the Barclay Curle yard built several Insect class gunboats for the Royal Navy.

The Swan Hunter owned Barclay Curle ceased building ships in its Clydeholm Shipyard at Whiteinch, Glasgow in 1968, focusing its operations on its Tyneside yards. The Elderslie Dockyard, which lay further west on the other side of Scotstoun and operated by Barclay Curle, was acquired by Yarrow Shipbuilders in 1974. The North British Diesel Engine Works continued and was purchased by the marine engineering company Sulzer until it was nationalised under the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Act 1977 and transferred production to naval weapon systems by British Aerospace (Sea Dart and Sea Wolf missiles) in the late 70's, finally becoming an industrial estate in the mid 1980's.

As part of the Seawind Group, the company was still operating its ship repair yards at Appledore, Devon until 2005. It has subsequently gone into liquidation.

Information taken from Glasgow City Archive catalogue, used with permission and thanks to the Archive

## Bell & Bain Limited

Company Number: SC002168

Date of Incorporation: 25 May 1891

Contact Details: 303 Burnfield Road, Thornliebank, Glasgow, G46 7UQ

Operating Details: Active (Private Limited Company)

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Printing Not elsewhere classified (2222) Bookbinding and finishing (2223), Pre-press activities (2224), ancillary activities related to printing (2225)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Glasgow

Area of Operation: Glasgow based press

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

The historic business records of this company were destroyed by fire at Thornliebank in the 1980s.

Related records: A selection of the company's work is available in the Andrew Bain Collection at the Mitchell Library, Glasgow.

## Company History

The firm of Bell and Bain was established in Glasgow in 1832 by James Bell and Andrew Bain, who took over the premises of Curll and Bell (James Bell's former partnership). The first premises were in Bell Street, though the firm moved from there to Royal Exchange, and later St Enoch Square. When the St Enoch tube station was built the company moved to Mitchell Street, and in 1973 finally moved into its present home, a 30,000 square foot factory in Thornliebank. Of the original partners, Bain died in 1858 and Bell in 1891, and though no members of the family became directors the Bell name was traceable on share records until the early 1980s.

The first book printed by the company was a collection of Scottish proverbs compiled by Andrew Henderson in 1832. In its infancy the company mostly specialised in printing factual material, including numerous works of Scottish history and different versions of the Bible, including the New Polyglott Bible, under licence granted by Queen Victoria. The company's reputation was established by the printing of educational, medical and scientific journals and books, in particular work in the field of complex mathematics and science.

By the early 1980s the company exported across Europe and the US. In 1988 it gained British standard registration required by BS5750

## Bon-Accord Builders Services Limited

Company Number: SC000317

Date of Incorporation: 9 July 1869

Contact Details: Fenick House, 1 Lister Way, Hamilton International Technology Park, Blantyre, Glasgow, UK, G72 0FT

Operating Details: Dissolved

Other names (if known): Bon-Accord Slate Merchant Co Ltd (? See below)

Function of Company\*: Non-trading company (7499). This company was previously listed as dormant when its accounts were last submitted in 2008. Formerly it was a slate merchant (5153) then a builders merchant (4550)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Aberdeen

Area of Operation:

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Privately held, please contact the National Register of Archives for Scotland for details (held under NRAS3050)

Scope/type: minute books 1870-1986, share register and general ledgers; general company documentation (such as articles of association etc).

Conditions governing access/use: All requests for access should be sent via the NRAS who will contact the holders.

Related records: This NRAS collection is for Hall and Tawse Scotland, and contains records of other subsidiaries and companies that worked at Rubislaw.

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/nra/searches/subjectView.asp?ID=B15759>

## Company History

This company was incorporated as Bon-Accord Slate Merchant Company Limited and operated in Aberdeen, although the extent of the company's range is unknown. In 1964 it changed its name to Bon Accord Builders' Merchants Ltd and in 1973 to the current title. By this point it was from Rubislaw Quarry. Rubislaw Quarry eventually closed (having ceased to be actively quarried since 1970), and it is unclear if the company moved. By the late 1980s this company had become a subsidiary of Hall and Tawse Scotland, a large building contractors based in Aberdeen, although it was still active. the Edinburgh Gazette notes that it changed particulars of its directors in 1974 and in 2008. It may be that this last alteration reflects the fact that the assets of the company were sold to Carillion Builders' Services, who appear to have been the last owners of the

company. With this last change Bon-Accord Builders Services Limited also became dormant, and was eventually dissolved in 2010.

With thanks to the NRAS for their permission to use this material

## BP Exploration Company Limited

Company Number: SC000792

Date of Incorporation: 6 November 1877

Contact Details: 1 Wellheads Avenue, Dyce, Aberdeen, AB21 7PB

Operating Details: Active (now a subsidiary of BP, see history)

Other names (if known): Broxburn Oil Company Ltd (until 28 November 1963)

Function of Company\*: Services to oil and gas extraction (1120), Holding Companies including Head Offices (7415)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Broxburn

Area of Operation: Broxburn shale oil works

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Split between the BP archive and Almond Heritage Valley Trust. At this time (Jan 2011) most of the BP archive is to be transferred to the Almond Valley Heritage Trust, except those records that relate to BP/Anglo Persian Oil. No reference number for collection.

Scope/type: BP archive c.1880s-1962; annual reports and accounts, Directors minutes, financial information (including account books), documents relating to company housing, legal agreements and leases etc,

Almond Valley Heritage Trust; Plans of mining works, various operational paperwork and artifacts, photographs and negatives

Conditions governing access/use: The BP archive is open to the public for any records up to 1979 by prior appointment. The Almond Valley Heritage Trust is in the middle of an ambitious project to digitise its records, but otherwise they remain open to the public by prior appointment

Related records: See

[http://survey.scottishshale.co.uk/FilterPages/companyResults.php?pageNum\\_Objects=0&totalRows\\_Objects=232&AOID=44](http://survey.scottishshale.co.uk/FilterPages/companyResults.php?pageNum_Objects=0&totalRows_Objects=232&AOID=44) for further details. Plans of mines and abandoned mines , and general articles at West Lothian Council archives and records centre, large collections of photographs at RCAHMS and West Lothian Council Local History Library

## Company History

A previous company, the Broxburn Shale Oil Company was formed in 1863 to exploit the Broxburn shale fields, but was wound up in that year and totally dissolved in 1867. This company was incorporated in 6 Nov 1877 from Robert Bell's operation at Broxburn. Bell had previously built blast furnaces in Wishaw, and had been chairman of Shotts Iron Company.

"In 1877 the famous Broxburn Oil Company, Limited was floated, with a capital of £180,000. This company bought up the oil work and shale fields acquired by Bell in 1862. Bell, besides being a large stock-holder, also took an active interest in the management of the company, which latter has been one of the greater successes in the history of the Scotch oil industry." (A Practical Treatise on Mineral Oils and their By-Products, Iltyd. I. Redwood, 1897)

The company inherited works at Albyn and some other, small, dilapidated works elsewhere. In 1878 it built a much larger site on the Albyn works and concentrated its operations there. In 1892 it opened mines at Roman Camp, and in 1895 built a sulphuric acid plant at Broxburn.

The first oil works to challenge the scale of Young's Addiewell plant, by 1902 Broxburn was an integrated industrial complex equipped to undertake all processes necessary to transform shale into a full range of oil and wax products, including the manufacture of candles. At this time 13 million gallons of oil were refined per year. One factor in the success was Norman H Henderson, works manager and later company director, who had a talent for chemical engineering and improving chemical processes. Henderson patent retorts provided a major competitive advantage and allowed the company to dominate the industry for early part of the twentieth century.

#### Scottish Oils Limited

Scottish Oils Limited was formed by the merger of the 5 remaining Scottish shale oil companies (Pumphreston, Broxburn, Oakbank, Philpstoun and Youngs) in 1919. This company was a subsidiary of the Anglo-Persian Oil Company (which became British Petroleum in 1954), although all five companies continued to operate independently within the structure. Based at Middleton Hall, a 1707 mansion house in Uphall, Scottish Oils provided admin, marketing and technical support for the Scottish shale oil industry. Its first Managing Director was William Fraser of Pumphreston Oil. In 1924 Anglo Persian Oil supported the industry by opening the refinery in Grangemouth.

However following the removal of war time controls, soaring wage and price inflation made the oil produced in the Lothians more expensive and unprofitable. By 1932 the remaining shale oil companies were legally absorbed by Scottish Oils, which started to make dramatic cuts on staff and equipment. By 1938 there were five remaining crude oil works (Addiewell, Deans, Roman Camp, Hopetoun and Niddry Castle) and a dozen or so shale mines and pits, and a coal mine at Baads.

The Second World War brought an increase in oil prices and wages (the first real terms increase since the early part of the century), and even the redevelopment of premises. However by 1954 shale oil had again become a loss-making industry in Scotland, and closures began from the 1950s onwards. Broxburn (closed in 1962) and Pumphreston (1964) were the last refineries to close.

Thanks and acknowledgment to The Almond Valley Heritage Centre and The BP Archive for their help and assistance.

## BP- Japan Oil Development Company

Company Number: SC001501

Date of Incorporation: 7 January 1886

Contact Details: 1 Wellheads Avenue, Dyce, Aberdeen, AB21 7PB

Operating Details: Active (now a subsidiary of BP, see history)

Other names (if known): Oakbank Oil Company Ltd (until 1963), BP exploration (Associated Holdings) (1963-1972)

Function of Company\*: Services to oil and gas extraction (1120), Holding Companies including Head Offices (7415)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Oakbank

Area of Operation: Oakbank shale/oil works, Niddry Castle works, Dalmeny works and additional crude oil properties (see below)

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Split between the BP archive and Almond Heritage Valley Trust. At this time (Jan 2011) most of the BP archive is to be transferred to the Almond Valley Heritage Trust, except those records that relate to BP/Anglo Persian Oil. No reference number for collection.

Scope/type: BP archive c.1880s-1971; annual reports and accounts, Directors minutes, financial information (including account books), documents relating to company housing, legal agreements and leases etc,

Almond Valley Heritage Trust; Plans of Niddry Castle and mining works, various operational paperwork and artifacts, photographs and negatives

Conditions governing access/use: The BP archive is open to the public for any records up to 1979 by prior appointment. The Almond Valley Heritage Trust is in the middle of an ambitious project to digitise its records, but otherwise they remain open to the public by prior appointment

Related records: See

[http://survey.scottishshale.co.uk/FilterPages/companyResults.php?pageNum\\_Objects=0&totalRows\\_Objects=254&AOID=204](http://survey.scottishshale.co.uk/FilterPages/companyResults.php?pageNum_Objects=0&totalRows_Objects=254&AOID=204) or further details. Articles in Scottish Mining Museum, plans in North Lanarkshire Council Museum, various photographs held in collections (multiple photos in Falkirk Council Archive, railway wagons and a locomotive at The Scottish Railway Preservation Society

## Company History

"In 1860 Sir James Simpson started a work a Oakbank, Mid Calder, Midlothian, and after receiving fairly good returns on his investment for three years, he formed a private company which was very successful, and led to the oil work and mineral fields finally becoming the property of a limited liability company which was floated in 1869".

"The Oakbank company was very successful at the start, but the constantly decreasing prices for finished products, and the adoption of a bad form of retort, brought it to the verge of bankruptcy in 1886, and necessitated its reorganisation. The extension of the works and general reorganisation were completed in May 1887, after which an expenditure of £30,236, and the company was then placed on a more equal footing with its competitors." (A Practical Treatise on Mineral Oils and their By-Products, Iltyd. I. Redwood, 1897)

One factor in this turnaround was the success of George T Beilby, the company's Chief Chemist. Beilby developed several patents and retorts for improving the process of refining oil, and was later president of the Society of the Chemical Industry and went on to be knighted.

In 1899 the works were re-equipped and the company expanded. Additional properties at Duddingston (Niddry castle), Westwood, and Easter Breich, Linlithgowshire, were subsequently acquired and in order to continue the supply to the refinery of the crude oil produced by the Dalmeny Oil Co Ltd it was decided in the early part of 1915 to acquire the controlling interest in the company. The Dalmeny works were closed from this point. An interest was held in the Scottish Oils Agency which had been formed to sell and distribute the products of the Scottish Oil Companies. APOC offered to purchase the whole of the ordinary shares in July 1919 and it was converted into a private company October 1932, controlled by APOC through Scottish Oils Ltd.

#### Scottish Oils Limited

Scottish Oils Limited was formed by the merger of the 5 remaining Scottish shale oil companies (Pumpherston, Broxburn, Oakbank, Philpstoun and Youngs) in 1919. This company was a subsidiary of the Anglo-Persian Oil Company (which became British Petroleum in 1954), although all five companies continued to operate independently within the structure. Based at Middleton Hall, a 1707 mansion house in Uphall, Scottish Oils provided admin, marketing and technical support for the Scottish shale oil industry. Its first Managing Director was William Fraser of Pumpherston Oil. In 1924 Anglo Persian Oil supported the industry by opening the refinery in Grangemouth.

However following the removal of war time controls, soaring wage and price inflation made the oil produced in the Lothians more expensive and unprofitable. By 1932 the remaining shale oil companies were legally absorbed by Scottish Oils, which started to make dramatic cuts on staff and equipment. By 1938 there were five remaining crude oil works (Addiewell, Deans, Roman Camp, Hopetoun and Niddry Castle) and a dozen or so shale mines and pits, and a coal mine at Baads.

The Second World War bought an increase in oil prices and wages (the first real terms increase since the early part of the century), and even the redevelopment of premises. However by 1954 shale oil had again become a loss-making industry in Scotland, and closures began from the 1950s onwards. Broxburn (closed in 1962) and Pumpherston (1964) were the last refineries to close.



Thanks and acknowledgment to The Almond Valley Heritage Centre and The BP Archive for their help and assistance.

## British and Burmese Steam Navigation Company Limited

Company Number: SC000538

Date of Incorporation: 7 December 1873

Contact Details: 12 Brymner Street, Greenock, PA15 1EA

Operating Details: Dissolved 24 July 1995

Other names (if known): none (subsidiary of P Henderson & Company)

Type of Company\*: Freight Shipping Service (sea and coastal) (6110)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Glasgow, Liverpool, and Rangoon, Burma

Area of Operation: Operated steamer lines between Glasgow and Rangoon, Burma

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

### Records

Held By: Glasgow City Archive, GB243 TD35 and National Museums Liverpool; Maritime Library and Archive GB 136 4074(SD-2c)

Scope/type: Glasgow City Archive: details of the Paddy Henderson Fleet 1826-1952; Passenger Lists of Sailing and Steam Ships belonging to Messrs. P. Henderson & Co 1871-1880

National Museums Liverpool; Maritime Library and Archive GB 136 4074(SD-2c) collection of 7 volumes of British and Burmese Steam Navigation Company Board Meeting Minutes 1874-1935

Related records: See GB 243 TD 768- Records of a number of Glasgow based shipping and ship-brokers firms deposited by Mr Dixon of Roxburgh, Henderson & Co in April 1982 at Glasgow City Archive.

Conditions governing access/use: Glasgow City Archive: Open to the public. Access from the Mitchell Library archive, 9am-5pm Monday to Friday (until 8pm on Tuesday). Items cannot be produced one hour before closing, or between 1pm and 2pm.

National Museums Liverpool; Maritime Library and Archive: available in the searchroom according to usual terms and conditions. Please see <http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/maritime/archive/visitarchive.aspx>

### Company History

Patrick Henderson & Co was founded in 1834 by Patrick Henderson (1818-1841), merchant, son of George Henderson (1776-1824). Patrick's brothers were also involved:

Captain George Henderson (d 1852), Thomas Henderson, merchant in Leghorn, and Robert (d 1868), the youngest brother. Patrick Henderson victualled and stored vessels owned by Captain George Henderson when they returned to the Clyde. In 1840 Patrick Henderson took George Henderson into partnership in the firm, although George continued to be registered as owner of the ships. When Patrick Henderson died in 1841, George took over as sole partner. Thomas and Robert Henderson established their own firm of Henderson Brothers in Leghorn. George Henderson continued to acquire shares in vessels and to trade in Australia, Bombay and Burma. In 1846 ownership of the 'Tom and Jessie' and 'Peter Senn' was transferred from George Henderson to Patrick Henderson & Co, the co-partners of which were George, Robert and Thomas Henderson. During the 1840s the firm expanded into shipbroking and in 1848 James Galbraith (b 1818), who had begun employment with Patrick Henderson and Co as a chartering clerk in 1844, became the first partner outwith the Henderson family. George Henderson died in 1852 and his brother Robert Henderson returned to Glasgow from Leghorn to replace him as senior partner. In 1854 after Thomas Henderson died Robert Henderson sold the firm of Henderson Brothers in Leghorn to his nephews and devoted himself entirely to Patrick Henderson & Co. At some point between 1852 and 1856, Patrick Henderson & Co became P Henderson & Co, although both names were used for a while. From 1856 the firm began trading with New Zealand. Following the discovery of gold in New Zealand in 1861, immigrants multiplied and many of them were carried by the company. In 1864 the firm registered the Albion Shipping Co to carry on trade with New Zealand. From 1869 when the Suez Canal was opened, P Henderson & Co devoted its entire business to New Zealand trade and abandoned routes to India and the Far East. Along with passengers, the New Zealand ships carried seeds, stock, corrugated iron and machinery, luxury goods and Clydesdale stallions. In 1877 the Albion Co was incorporated, with P Henderson & Co acting as their agents and brokers in Glasgow. In 1882 the Albion Line transported the world's first full cargo of frozen meat from New Zealand. Return cargoes were obtained in Burma and led to the creation of the Irrawaddy Flotilla Co in 1865 and the British and Burmese Steam Navigation Co in 1873.

The British and Burmese Steam Navigation Company Ltd was formed to increase the capital and spread the risk of the Burmese side of the business as it grew from the era of sailing ships into more expensive and much larger steam ships. There was no direct steamer route between Burma and the UK, and so plans were drawn up to begin a monthly steamer service maintained by six Denny-built steamers. The first ship, Tenasserim, was launched by Denny in June 1871. In 1873 BBSN took over the fleet of steamers on the Burma run with P. Henderson and Co appointed as Managing Agents. Most of the [shares](#) in the new company were taken up by P Henderson partners and their associates. Peter Denny became the chairman and managing director of the incorporated firm of the British & Burmese Steam Navigation Co, jointly owned by Henderson & Co and by Peter Denny, Walter Brock and John McAusland, the latter three partners taking 580 of the 2,299 shares of £50 each. [Ship's Masters](#) were also encouraged to take shares.

Initially the mainstay of the business was the homeward rice trade from Burma, especially the carriage of the first seasons crop, though the service also carried steel, machinery, whisky and other goods from Glasgow, and cotton and mixed goods from Liverpool.

Despite the shipping slump of the 1880s and the 1885-6 Third Burmese War the company continued to expand its trade base, and worked closely with the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company (often sharing board members and directors). From 1890 the Burma trade was run in competition with the Burmah Steam Ship Company, a Bibby Line

subsidiary, until that company wound up in 1928. In 1934 BBSN acquired the whole of the issued capital of the Burmah Steam Ship Company, though the beginning of war with Japan meant trade with Burma became impossible. However when the line was reopened in 1948 the company resumed sailing between Birkenhead and Rangoon every 28 days.

In 1952 the whole of the Ordinary Capital of the British & Burmese Steam Navigation Co Ltd was acquired by Elder Dempster Lines (Holdings) Ltd, which in turn became Liner Holdings Company Ltd.

Please see Dorothy Laird, 'Paddy Henderson: the story of P. Henderson and Company'.

With thanks to Glasgow City Archive for their permission to produce this information

## C Davidson and Sons Limited

Company Number: SC000607

Date of Incorporation: 18 February 1875

Contact Details: 90 St Vincent Street, Glasgow, G2 5UB

Operating Details: In Liquidation, last accounts listed as dormant

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Non-Trading Company (7499), previously Paper Manufacturers (2112)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Aberdeen

Area of Operation:

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: University of Aberdeen Archives and Special Collections, GB0231 MS 3232

Scope/type: Annual report and balance sheet, 1875 - 1945; articles of association, 1883; director's minutes, 1898 - 1900 and 1948 - 1952; register of directors, 1901 - 1936; share ledgers, 1923 - 1945; register of share transfer certificates, 1918 - 1920 and 1935 - 1943; share allocation book, 1935; correspondence returns to the Register of Joint Stock Companies, 1900 - 1909; letter books, 1871 - 1904 (John Davidson) and 1940 - 1941 (Colonel Davidson); private journals, 1895 - 1932; private ledgers, 1891 - 1919; ledgers (other), 1852 - 1865 and 1874 - 1877; cash books, 1930 - 1932; wages books (Papermaking dept.), 1930 - 1932; daily report books (Paper and Board), 1923 - 1972; mortgage register, 1876 - 1925; debenture ledger, 1896 - 1933; inventory of title deeds, 1877 and 1914; insurance specifications and mill plans, 1874 - 1920; various patent specifications by the firm, n.d.; letters patent from George Davidson, Dec 1859 and Jan 1863, regarding improvements in manufacture of paper bags and the machinery for making these.

Boulinikon Felt Company Ltd.

Memorandum and articles of association, 1883 [n.b. minutes of AGMs, 1891 - 1905 - listed in NRA(S) survey list 1460, but do not seem to be deposited here]

Davidson's Paper Sales Ltd.

Directors' minutes, 1931 - 1962 and valuation certificates and inventory, 1946 - 1951

Abertay Paper Sacks Ltd.

Share transfers, 1953 - 1957

Northern Waste Paper Co. Ltd.

Valuation certificate and inventory, 1946 - 1952

Conditions governing access/use: Access is open, though there are restrictions on copying material and the republication of material

Related records: Some court records of this company are held in the National Archives of Scotland.

### Company History

The Davidson family came to Bucksburn from Tarland c 1760. Charles Davidson first began manufacturing paper and snuff in partnership with Charles Smith of Stoneywood, but in 1796, set up on his own, and paper has been made without interruption at Mugiemooss since that date. In 1859 George Davidson took out a patent on the first machine for block-bottom bags, and the firm became the largest paper bag maker in Britain. By 1875 they were turning out over two million bags per week. In the second half of the nineteenth century the company moved into the fields of wrapping papers and felts. It was incorporated as a limited liability company in 1875, and opened warehouses in London, Glasgow, Newcastle, Liverpool and Edinburgh. Unlike other mills in Aberdeenshire, Davidsons have never made fine quality writing papers, but have concentrated upon wrapping papers and packaging products.

The collection also contains records of Davidson's subsidiary companies, Bonlinkion Felt Company Ltd. (est. c 1883), Davidson's Paper Sales Ltd. (est. 1936), Abertay Paper Sacks Ltd. (est. 1950), and Northern Waste Paper Co. Ltd. (fl 1946 - 1952). Boulonikon Felt Company Ltd. was sold together with its various trade marks and patents to Thomas Mitchell, William Stansfield and Richard Ashworth, felt manufacturers of Waterfoot and Rawtenstall, Lancashire, in Sept 1904. Davidson's Paper Sales Ltd. was formed in 1936 as a wholly owned subsidiary of C. Davidsons and Sons Ltd., whilst Abertay Paper Sacks Ltd., which was formed in 1950 as a joint venture with Jute Industries Ltd. and Low Bonar Ltd., became a wholly owned subsidiary in 1953, when Davidsons purchased the other firm's shares.

For further details see Dr J.N. Bartlett, 'Davidson's of Mugiemooss: a History of C. Davidson and Sons, Makers of Wrapping Papers, Paper Bags and Boards' (London: Athlone Press, 1996).

Thanks to University of Aberdeen Archives and Special Collections for their help in preparing this entry, and the permission to re-use the information on the company.

## CALA Limited

Company Number: SC000610

Date of Incorporation: 29 March 1875

Contact Details: Adam House, 5 Mid New Cultins, Edinburgh, Midlothian, EH11 4DU

Operating Details: Active

Other names (if known): The City of Aberdeen Land Association Limited (up to 1986)

Function of Company\*: Holding companies including head offices (7415). Previously Property Investment (7020)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: originally Aberdeen, currently Edinburgh

Area of Operation: Branches operate across Scotland, and in Yorkshire the Midlands and South East of England

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: University of Aberdeen Special Libraries and Archives GB0231 MS2626, [http://calms.abdn.ac.uk/Dserve/dserve.exe?dsqServer=Calms&dsqIni=Dserve.ini&dsqApp=Archive&dsqDb=Catalog&dsqCmd=show.tcl&dsqSearch=\(RefNo==%22MS%202626%22\)](http://calms.abdn.ac.uk/Dserve/dserve.exe?dsqServer=Calms&dsqIni=Dserve.ini&dsqApp=Archive&dsqDb=Catalog&dsqCmd=show.tcl&dsqSearch=(RefNo==%22MS%202626%22))

Scope/type: 1820-1920 records in Messrs MacDonald and Partners, Land Surveyors, 18 boxes related to this company as yet uncatalogued

Conditions governing access/use: Open subject to the department's usual terms and conditions of use, especially covering reproduction and copying.

Related records: There are 20 court records involving this company (as City of Aberdeen Land Association) in the National Archives of Scotland.

## Company History

<http://www.cala.co.uk/group/company/heritage.aspx>

Originally incorporated as a thriving land management and feu collection company in 1875, the City of Aberdeen Land Association (CALA) was the first Scottish company listed on the London Stock Market. In its original form (as the Land Association) before incorporation it played a major part in the planning and construction of the centre of Aberdeen. <http://www.aberdeenheritage.org.uk/history4.asp> . Until its acquisition by Greencoat properties the company appears to have restricted its operations to Aberdeen and the surrounding areas.

In 1973, Greencoat Properties acquired a 55% stake in CALA. The following year CALA moved into residential development in Aberdeen on land owned since 1900. CALA Homes expanded, by acquisition and organic growth, moving into Edinburgh (1978), Glasgow (1987) and then into England in the late 1980s.

During that period of growth and expansion, in 1979, a group of senior managers acquired the Greencoat Properties' stake in a management buy-in, one of the first of its kind. In 1999 the senior management acquired the company in a management buy-out (MBO).

In 2007 plans were announced for the future of the Group which includes a range of measures designed to ensure the company's continued independence and growth and bring forward the next generation of directors.

In December 2009 the company entered into new funding arrangements with the Bank of Scotland, securing CALA's long term future and putting in place the resources to fund future growth.

Thanks to the University of Aberdeen Archives and Special Collections for their permission to publicise their holdings on this company.



## Caradale Brick Limited

Company Number: SC01722

Date of Incorporation: 31 March 1888

Contact Details: 144 West George Street, Glasgow, G2 2HG

Operating Details: Active

Other names (if known): Glasgow Iron and Steel Company, Limited (GISCOL)

Function of Company\*: Manufacture of bricks etc in baked clay (2640)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Armadale, West Lothian (head offices) and Carluke, Lanarkshire (second site)

Area of Operation: Sells brick throughout the UK

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

No records held by the Company itself

Held By: Glasgow University Archive Services UGD 223/8 (part of Lithgows accession NRA 19046)

Scope/type: Minutes 1941-1947

Conditions governing access/use: Usual GUAS rules

Related records: Some records in the NAS, including records of Argyll Colliery (see below)

Photo of the Etna Works at SCRAN

<http://www.scran.ac.uk/database/record.php?usi=000-000-186-421-C>

And RCAHMS

[http://www.scotlandsplaces.gov.uk/search\\_item/index.php?service=RCAHMS&id=151546](http://www.scotlandsplaces.gov.uk/search_item/index.php?service=RCAHMS&id=151546)

## Company History

GISCOL (registered as a company in 1888) was the trading name of the Glasgow Iron & Steel Company Limited, an iron and steel producer with foundries and iron works situated in West Central Scotland.

As part of this work the company sunk pits at Machrihanish in 1946, which eventually became the Argyll Colliery, though the coal industry was nationalized before GISCOL could take control of production.

In 1952, the company commissioned and built the Mayfield brickwork in Carluke. In 1983 Giscol added the Etna works (established in 1897) to its portfolio and ran both together until a management buy out in 1997 saw the formation of Caradale Traditional Bricks. By the mid-1980s the oldest kilns at Etna had been demolished.

Caradale currently operates as a traditional brickmaking company using shale clay in the traditional manner at Etna and Mayfield, though it no longer has any connection with other industrial work.

## Cedarblue Limited

Company Number: SC001298

Date of Incorporation: 20 November 1883

Contact Details: 7 Palmerston Place, Edinburgh, EH12 5AH

Operating Details: Dissolved 4 September 2009

Other names (if known): J & J Crombie Limited (1985-2004) Citan Limited (up to 1985)

Function of Company\*: Holding companies including head offices (7415). Part of the Crombie Company, recreational clothing manufacturers (1822)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Initially Aberdeen, later Yorkshire

Area of Operation: Sold clothing across the UK and overseas

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

There is no central, complete collection of records for this company, but there are scattered holdings of records still extant.

Records of JJ Crombie [sic] held at West Yorkshire Archive Service, Bradford. Part of the Illingworth Morris PLC Collection GB202 48D87. Scope/type: 1934-1950 correspondence; 1950s General report and files relating to investigation into company finances

Related records: West Yorkshire also holds correspondence files in other company collections that relate to this company. See

[http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/search/search\\_results.aspx?Page=1&QueryText=%22J%26J+Crombie%22&SelectedDatabases=A2A%7cARCHON%7cBOOKSHOP%7cCABPAPERS%7cDOCUMENTSONLINE%7cEROL%7cMOVINGHERE%7cNRA%7cNRALISTS%7cPREM19%7cRESEARCHGUIDES%7cE179%7cCATALOGUE%7cWEBSITE%7cTRAFALGAR](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/search/search_results.aspx?Page=1&QueryText=%22J%26J+Crombie%22&SelectedDatabases=A2A%7cARCHON%7cBOOKSHOP%7cCABPAPERS%7cDOCUMENTSONLINE%7cEROL%7cMOVINGHERE%7cNRA%7cNRALISTS%7cPREM19%7cRESEARCHGUIDES%7cE179%7cCATALOGUE%7cWEBSITE%7cTRAFALGAR) for details.

The NAS holds a plan of Grandholm mills, and a record of a court case involving J&J Crombie.

The records of the Crombie-Ross Trust 1920-1980 (see below) are open at Aberdeen City Archives. They include minute books, ledgers and financial information.

## Company History

This company formed at least part of J & J Crombie, possibly the part of the company that managed and operated the mills at Grandholm. This company has dissolved, but the Crombie name has been continued by a newer company, Crombie Concessions Limited (05187484).

Crombie (formerly known as J&J Crombie Ltd, after its founder John Crombie and his son James) is a British fashion company, which produces high-end clothing and accessories. Crombie is most famous for its luxury coats – so much so that the word ‘Crombie’ is sometimes used by other companies to refer to their own coats produced in the style of Crombie’s most famous three-quarter length (usually wool) overcoats, although the Crombie company has been known to take legal action to prevent this trademark word from being used generically.

Crombie was founded in Aberdeen, Scotland in 1805, making it one of Britain’s oldest brands. It has manufactured from several different mills in Scotland and England over two centuries, initially at Cothal Mills in Aberdeen, and most famously from 1859 at Grandholm Mill also in Aberdeen. In 1990, production at the Grandholm Mill ceased, and was moved to other mills in Scotland and England. (The A-listed Grandholm factory site was converted into a residential project by the Cala Group in 2005. Part of the mill is now an Indian restaurant called The Spice Mill, which has maintained the original elements of the factory.)

Crombie began as a producer of luxury cloth, which it sold to cloth merchants and direct to London tailors. By the 1850s, Crombie had won quality awards from Queen Victoria and Napoleon III at the Great Exhibition in London and the Exposition Universelle in Paris respectively. Later, Crombie expanded from simply manufacturing the fabric for other producers, to creating coats under its own name.

A key factor in Crombie’s expansion, from the 1860s onwards, was the receipt of military contracts. Crombie supplied ‘Rebel Grey’ cloth for the Confederate Army in the American Civil War, and also supplied officers’ uniforms to the British Army and Royal Air Force in World Wars One and Two.

James Crombie (born in 1862 in old Machar Aberdeen, died 1932) built upon his father John’s success after graduating with an MA from Aberdeen University in 1882. It was probably under his influence that the company became incorporated in 1883. James was a generous benefactor to the University and was honorary doctorate in 1907 in recognition of his services. He also oversaw the establishment of the Crombie-Ross Trust in 1920 to provide a service to benefit the employees of the company. (see entries in the SCAN website for this information).

The founding Crombie family sold their interest in the company in 1928, to another British textile family, the Salts (famous as the founders of Saltaire in West Yorkshire). After the Second World War, Crombie became part of Illingworth Morris – at that time Britain’s largest woolen textile company, of which British actress Pamela Mason was the majority shareholder. In the 1980s the company was taken private by its Chairman. Crombie is also known to hold the rights to the Tommy Nutter brand name, having backed him financially in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

The company continues to trade today, and currently has three stand-alone stores: in London, Manchester and Edinburgh. The company now operates out of Leeds, though its connection to Yorkshire goes back to when it was bought up by Illingworth Morris. Crombie also has concessions in certain House of Fraser stores, and sells some of its most premium coats exclusively in Harrods. Crombie also sells over its website.

Starting in the late 1960s or early 1970s, Crombie-style coats were popular within the skinhead and suedehead subcultures, although very few skinheads would have been able to

afford a brand new Crombie coat. Crombie coats were also fashionable among mods, who saw them as a stylish item of clothing that enhanced their clean-cut image. It was an alternative to the popular fishtail parka or trenchcoat. Crombie has also enjoyed particular success in Russia, where it began supplying to the Tsarist court from 1880. Crombie lists King George VI, Winston Churchill, Cary Grant, Dwight D Eisenhower and John F Kennedy among its historic customers. From 1995-2004, Crombie also held the Royal Warrant as a supplier to the Prince of Wales.

Information taken from wikipedia ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crombie\\_\(clothing\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crombie_(clothing)) ) which in turn borrows heavily from the company's website.

## Century Insurance Company Limited

Company Number: SC001451

Date of Incorporation: 17 April 1885

Contact Details: RSA Level 4 Alexander Bain House, 15 York Street, Glasgow G2 8LA

Operating Details: Active

Other names (if known): Sickness, Accident and Life Association Ltd (1885-1900)

Function of Company\*: Non-Life Insurance (6603)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Edinburgh

Area of Operation: Offices in major UK cities, later expansion into Europe, Asia and Australia

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/nra/searches/subjectView.asp?ID=B12639>  
Held By: Wiltshire and Swindon Heritage Centre as part of accessions 3122 and 3677

Scope/type: Unknown- see below

Conditions governing access/use: The Friends Provident Archive (of which Century Insurance was a part) was transferred to Wiltshire and Swindon Heritage Centre following the closure of the company's offices in Dorking. The collection is as yet uncatalogued, and consists of 40 boxes of records. There is no mention of Century Insurance in the summary lists that exist, although if any records survive they would be held within this collection.

Related records: Some records, including example of insurance policies and court files, available at the National Archives of Scotland.

## Company History

Founded as the Sickness & Accident Assurance Association in Edinburgh in 1885, initially selling sickness and accident insurance, public liability and fidelity guarantees, the company grew through acquisition, changing its name to the Sickness, Accident & Life Association Ltd in 1897. By the end of the century, funds had reached £100,000, and the year 1900 provided a change of name to the catchier Century Insurance Company Ltd. The new name heralded a period of successful expansion, particularly in the general insurance market.

In 1904 the company moved to new offices in Edinburgh, and also began accepting fire and burglary business. 1906 saw offices open in London, Belfast, Leeds, Manchester and Glasgow. The acquisition of the Mutual Guarantee Company Ltd in 1907 added substantial fire and accident business.

The Century expanded overseas by opening agencies throughout Europe, and in Asia and Australia. When the Century acquired the Anglo-Scottish Insurance Company in 1914, motor insurance was added to the portfolio, and funds had now grown to £1.27 million. 1914 was also the year the company moved into marine insurance, loss of profits, household and employers' liability - not to mention family income benefit and education endowment policies.

In 1918 The Century became the first major acquisition of Friends Provident. Overseas expansion continued in 1920 when the Century bought shares in the Pacific Coast Fire Insurance Company of Vancouver and took a direct stake in Henry W Brown & Company, which sold fire and accident cover in most American states.

[http://www.friendsprovident.co.uk/common/layouts/subSectionLayout.jhtml?pageId=fpcouk%2FSitePageSimple%3Arelated\\_businesses#Century](http://www.friendsprovident.co.uk/common/layouts/subSectionLayout.jhtml?pageId=fpcouk%2FSitePageSimple%3Arelated_businesses#Century)

## Chambers Harrap Publishers Limited

Company Number: SC002048

Date of Incorporation: 26 August 1890

Contact Details: 2A Christie Street, Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland PA1 1NB

Operating Details: Active (Private Limited Company)

Other names (if known): W & R Chambers Limited (up to 1993)

Function of Company\*: Publishing of Books (2211)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Edinburgh and London

Area of Operation: Published and distributed books globally

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: National Library of Scotland, Dep 341 <http://www.hss.ed.ac.uk/chb/sbtai-db/recordW.htm#Papers2>

Scope/type: Notebooks and literary manuscripts, 1799-1873 and undated; Letters, 1789-1945; Business and editorial correspondence, 1811-1956; Stock books, 1867-1945; Cash books, 1890-1949; Records relating to publications, 1830-1939; Business administration records, 1820-1950; Records relating to family trusts and executries, 1833-1934; Records relating to Cardney House, Perthshire, 1717-1904; W. and R. Chambers trade catalogues, library catalogues, 1851-1936 and undated; Press cuttings, 1820-1954 and undated; Miscellaneous records and printed material, 1819-1954 and undated.

Conditions governing access/use: Financial Records less than fifty years old are not available for consultation. Applications to publish any material from this deposited collection should be made in writing to the Head of Manuscripts Department.

Related records: The Library also holds: **Acc. 9213**(a collection of proofs and engravings from works published by W. & R. Chambers), **Acc. 8164**(papers relating to Robert Chambers), and **Acc. 8785** (papers relating to Robert Chambers).

## Company History

Chambers was founded by William Chambers (born Peebles, Scotland, 1800) and Robert Chambers (born Peebles, Scotland, 1802). They were born into a prosperous, mill-



owning family in Peebles in the Scottish Borders, and much of their childhood was passed during time of war with the French.

In fact it was war with the French which brought about a change in the family fortunes, and turned the Chambers brothers from middle-class lads receiving a grammar-school education, into poverty-stricken boys who had to leave school and work to support their family. The story goes that their father, during the Napoleonic wars, feeling pity for the many French prisoners-of-war garrisoned in Peebles, gave them cloth to make clothes on credit. On their departure, the French prisoners promised that they would repay their debts as soon as they returned home, but they never did. The Chambers family was ruined, and in 1813 the family left Peebles for Edinburgh. Robert remained in Peebles to finish his education, but William was forced to find work to help support the family.

In Edinburgh, William was apprenticed to a bookseller, at a sum of 4 shillings a week. This made him self-supporting, but far from wealthy; a keen reader, he would rise at 5am to read by the early-morning light as he did not have enough money for candles. Robert was an avid reader too. A deformity in his feet left him lame and unable to join in games at school and he would swap his 'jeelie pieces' (jam sandwiches) for books. He was a clever boy, but his family could not afford to send him to university, so he too moved to Edinburgh, rented a one-roomed shop in Leith Walk, and set himself up as a bookseller. He had his own library and what was left of his father's library (acquired in more prosperous times) for stock. He was 16 years old. William's apprenticeship came to an end when he turned 18 and he joined Robert in the shop in Leith Walk.

Although their beginnings were modest, they began to do well. William (19 at the time) helped unpack the books for an Edinburgh book fair and was rewarded with £10's worth of stock, the money to be repaid when he had sold the books in his shop. This gave them more, and much-needed, stock to sell, which in turn encouraged more customers to visit the shop. More stock and more customers led to more sales and a larger profit, and they invested some of the profits in the purchase of a small hand press. With no training in printing or binding, William and Robert printed, bound and published 750 copies of *The Songs of Robert Burns* in about 1819. This was the nearest thing to a guaranteed best-seller in 19th-century Edinburgh, and brought further profits and some fame.

They took work printing bills and notices and other successes followed, including *Traditions of Edinburgh*, written by Robert and published by the brothers in 1824. Their fame continued to grow, attracting many visitors to their shop including Sir Walter Scott, who became a great friend of Robert's.

Education, and making information available to as many people as possible, were always priorities for William and Robert. In 1832 they began to publish *The Chambers's Journal*. This was a weekly, 16-page journal containing articles - many of them written by Robert - on subjects such as history, religion, language and science. It was an immediate success; within a few years the weekly circulation had risen to 84 000 copies, and it put an end to their struggle to survive although they still had to work hard. *The Chambers's Journal* was followed in 1834 by *Chambers's Information for the People*. This was a series of sheets on subjects such as science, maths, history, geography and literature, bound in sets. Eventually around 170 000 sets were sold, amounting to over 2 million individual sheets. This publication also saw some success abroad; a US edition was published, and it was translated into French (under the title *Information pour le peuple*) and - more surprisingly perhaps - into Welsh.

In 1835, the brothers started work on *Chambers's Educational Course*, a series of short works and schoolbooks. There were eventually more than 100 titles in this series on almost every subject. 1859 saw the publication of the first part of *Chambers's Encyclopedia*, which was published in 520 parts between 1859 and 1868, and, in 1867,

they published their first dictionary, *Chambers's Etymological Dictionary*, by James Donald. A larger version of this dictionary, *Chambers's English Dictionary*, was published in 1872, (with a second edition in 1898); *Chambers's Biographical Dictionary* was published in 1897; and a compact edition of the English dictionary, *Chambers's Twentieth Century Dictionary*, in 1901.

Educational publishing made William and Robert famous. Robert was a learned man in his own right, and as well as contributing many of the articles for the *Journal*, and writing books for his brother to publish, was a leading evolutionist. His *Vestiges of Creation*, published anonymously in London in 1844 and credited as a precursor of Darwin's *Origins of the Species*, caused considerable controversy in the United Kingdom. Both brothers were philanthropists: they gave money to restore St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh; William was Lord provost of Edinburgh twice; and they both received honorary law degrees (William from the University of Edinburgh, Robert from the University of St Andrews). By the end of the 19th century, W & R Chambers's was one of the largest English-language publishers in the world.

Today, Chambers is one of the world's most respected dictionary publishers, appealing particularly to word lovers and those who revel in all the quirks of the English language. Its extensive list of innovative language and reference titles includes the renowned Brewer's list of endlessly browsable dictionaries of phrase and fable, and covers English-language dictionaries and thesauruses for every level of user from school to crossword fan, from English learner to student of slang. Now part of the Hachette UK group of companies, it maintains its links with its illustrious past through titles such as the *Chambers Biographical Dictionary*, originally published in 1897 and still regularly updated, while fulfilling the needs of today's world by making more and more of its titles available not just in print but also online, and as ebooks and iPhone apps. The Chambers Edinburgh office recently closed, with central operations moving to London.

Thanks and acknowledgement to the NLS for permission to reuse information from their catalogue. Above history taken from

<http://www.chambersharrap.co.uk/chambers/about/index.shtml>

## Church of Scotland Insurance Company

Company Number: SC001777

Date of Incorporation: 1 October 1888

Contact Details: 67 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 2JG

Operating Details: Active

Other names (if known): Free Church of Scotland Fire Insurance Trust Limited (1888-1901), United Free Church of Scotland Fire Insurance Trust, Limited (1901-1930), Church of Scotland Fire Insurance Trust Ltd (1930-1982)

Function of Company\*: non-life insurance (6603)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Edinburgh

Area of Operation: Insures churches across Scotland

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Privately held, please contact the NRAS for further details

Scope/type: Minute Books 1888-1998; Share register 1888-1967; Annual reports/returns 1941-1971; Register of Directors 1888-1970; some policy material and order and claims details 1920s onwards; material from the centenary lunch 1988.

Conditions governing access/use: Contact NRAS

Related records: Some company records in the National Archives of Scotland, including records relating to the Royal Commission on Churches report on the company

## Company History

The Church of Scotland Insurance Company is the only independent survivor of the original twenty insurance companies established in the wake of the opening of the Edinburgh Stock Exchange in St David Street. Of the other 20, 8 quickly came to grief while the other 11 were soon acquired by major insurance groups. The objective of the company was to supply ecclesiastical property with fire insurance, and thus reduce administration on behalf of individual church groups. Though the company now provides more comprehensive insurance, it still fulfils its purpose of simplifying insurance on Church of Scotland property.

The advance planning and much of the initial work of establishing The Free Church of Scotland Fire Insurance Trust Limited was carried out by William Brown, who then became the company's first accountant and secretary. There were 69 initial holders of the 1542 shares in the company, many of them businessmen from Edinburgh and Glasgow. The initial reinsurance side of the business was taken on by The Mutual Fire

Insurance Corporation, and in the first year alone the company covered 716 policies. In 1894 admission to the Fire Offices Committee on the Royal Exchange was obtained. By the early 1970s the company had close ties to the Commercial Union Assurance Group, The Guardian Royal exchange Assurance Group and the Ecclesiastical Insurance Group, though it was comfortably the smallest of these. The name changes during this period reflected the different unifications of churches in Scotland, rather than any upheaval or change within the company itself.

In 1896 William Brown died, and subsequent running of the company devolved to three generations of the Scott family. WP Scott handed on secretaryship of the company to WP and JA Scott in 1926, and WLR Scott took on the running of the business from them. The firm of Scott Oswald (with WLR Scott still a partner) acted in the role of Company Secretary up to the 1990s, and is still involved in the audit process of the company today.

In 1973 the Church of Scotland General Trustees acquired the entire share capital of the company. In 1982 the name was changed to its present form, recognising that it had been acknowledged and certificated as a fully-fledged insurance company by the Department of Trade and Industry.

Thanks to Kevin Roberts and George Gray of the company for allowing access to the material.

## Clyde Cooperage Company Limited

Company Number: SC001403

Date of Incorporation: 4 November 1884

Contact Details: 2500 Great Western Road, Glasgow, G15 6RW

Operating Details: Active

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Non-trading company (7499) previously manufacture of barrels (2040)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Glasgow, now West Calder

Area of Operation: Products used across Scotland

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Privately held. Please contact National Register of Archives for Scotland for access held under NRAS289 and NRAS4242

Scope/type: Minute Book 1884-present; Operations Ledger 1884-1953; Balance sheets; miscellaneous letters. Some paperwork on salary details and operational requirements.

Conditions governing access/use: please contact NRAS for details

Related records: some court records involving this company held at National Archives of Scotland. There are photos of the original site available at Scotland's Places

[http://www.scotlandsplaces.gov.uk/search\\_item/index.php?service=RCAHMS&id=186463&refer=L3NIYXJjaC9pbmRleC5waHA%2FJnBfbmFtZT1HTEFTR09XJnBfdHlwZT1QQVJJU0gmY2FjaGVfbmFtZT0xMTJwYXJpc2hnbGFzZ293ODQ4JnBlcl9wYWdlPTFwMCZpZFtdPTg0O0CZwXZ2pbHRI](http://www.scotlandsplaces.gov.uk/search_item/index.php?service=RCAHMS&id=186463&refer=L3NIYXJjaC9pbmRleC5waHA%2FJnBfbmFtZT1HTEFTR09XJnBfdHlwZT1QQVJJU0gmY2FjaGVfbmFtZT0xMTJwYXJpc2hnbGFzZ293ODQ4JnBlcl9wYWdlPTFwMCZpZFtdPTg0O0CZwXZ2pbHRI)

## Company History

This company was initially set up by Robertson and Baxter, a large distillery firm that has its origins in Glasgow in the 1850s. The purpose of the company was to meet the cooperage needs of the whisky distilleries owned by Robertson and Baxter. Robertson and Baxter now form part of the Edrington Group. This group succeeded Robertson and Baxter as the owner of its various subsidiaries in the 1960s when 'The Three Miss Robertsons' restructured their inheritance. Clyde Cooperage is still an active company within this group, and still provides casks and coopering services to the other parts of the company. The Edrington Group blends whisky for leading brand names, such as Cutty Sark and Lang Supreme.

The company was initially based at Kelvinhaugh, Glasgow before moving to Lochwinnoch, Renfrewshire and then West Calder, West Lothian. The cooperage still conditions and repairs whisky barrels in the traditional manner using hand tools and manufacturing techniques. Initially these casks were used for Spanish sherry or American bourbon, and hold the whisky as it matures, following reconditioning at the site.

<http://www.sourcesecurity.com/companies/micro-site/panasonic-system-solutions-europe/case-studies/co-1277-ga-co-1315-ga.1503.html> contains details of current operations

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/joshrubin/5059456693/> for photo of cask being reconditioned.

Both sites accessed March 2011.

## Clydesdale Bank PLC

Company Number: SC001111

Date of Incorporation: 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1882

Contact Details: 30 St Vincent Place, Glasgow G1 2HL

Operating Details: Active (Public Limited Company)

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Other financial intermediation (6512)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Glasgow

Area of Operation: Across Scotland (owned by a larger, multinational company)

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: privately held. Contact the National Register of Archives for Scotland for access details

Scope/type: Governance records (including annual reports, contracts and some minute books) 1840-1980; Financial Records (some balance sheets, account books and ledger books) 1850s-1970s; Banking items 1838-1980s; Some branch records 1850s-1960s; Records of staff, staff magazines, staff activities and associations 1880s-1970s ; Publicity and marketing material (including press cuttings and corporate event details) late 1800s onwards; large library of printed books

Also includes records of subsidiaries and constituents, most notably the records of North of Scotland Bank, which are a sizeable collection of financial and governance records. The other banks do not have much more than a couple of items, and include The Cruden Savings Bank, the City of Glasgow Bank, the Western Savings Bank of Scotland and the Eastern Savings Bank of Scotland.

Conditions governing access/use: Company will consider access on a case by case basis

Related records: Some business records held in the Scottish Banking Collection at Glasgow University Archive Services GB 0248 UGD094, UGD129, UGD132 and UGD139

## Company History

Clydesdale Bank was founded under the Joint Stock Banking Act in 1838. The first chairman was James Lumsden, and the first manager was Henry Brock (who was charged with initial recruitment to the bank), with James Miller from the Commercial Bank in Edinburgh appointed Secretary. The nominal capital of the bank was £1 million, but the promoters first aimed to achieve half the initial capital of this through 250,000 shares of £20 each, with the minimum shareholding being 10 shares, though in practice share issue raised £600,000. Almost all the investment came from Glasgow and

Edinburgh, with only £52,00 shares coming from elsewhere in Scotland and £28,000 from England.

The Bank was established in a relatively secure and experienced financial sector. Scotland had three main banks all with over eighty years of experience; The Bank of Scotland, The Royal Bank of Scotland and the British Linen Company, all based in Edinburgh. Scotland had also pioneered joint stock banking from the 1810, and Clydesdale emerged in the middle of a group of 20 that came into existence before 1845.

The aim of the bank was to provide banking services in Glasgow, which were lagging behind that of Edinburgh. In the 1830s these services typically included the lending of money and asset management of customer deposit that we would recognise today. Lumsden at first decided that the bank would be a locally based one, operating out of main headquarters in the centre and a few branches within Glasgow (at Trongate, the Gorbals and Broomielaw). However the director's of the bank argued for branches in the wider area. The first branch of the bank outside Glasgow was opened in Campbeltown in 1839, and this was swiftly followed by an expansion into Falkirk, Cupar, St Andrews and Alexandria. By 1843 the bank had absorbed the Greenock Union Bank. In 1840 the Bank moved to purpose built headquarters in Queen Street.

The pace of expansion was slowed by the crises of 1847 and 1857, though Clydesdale learnt from the crisis in banking exchange in 1847 and was in better position to weather in 1857. In 1858 it purchased the business of the struggling Edinburgh and Glasgow Bank and acquired its sixteen branches (it seems to have acquired at least some of the business of the Western Bank, which failed in 1857). By 1863 it had bought up the Eastern Bank of Scotland, and that bank's Dundee headquarters became the Clydesdale Bank branch in the city. In 1871 a new building was constructed on land purchased in St Vincents Street which became the Bank's new Head Office in 1874. By 1873 it had 71 branches.

The later nineteenth century was a period of expansion, growth and profit for the bank, mainly overseen by Sir James King, who became Chairman of the bank 4 times following his appointment to the Board of Directors in 1866. The only blip in the progress was the opening of 3 branches of the bank in England, which had prompted a furious reaction from the English based banks and a Parliamentary Enquiry. The upshot was that though Clydesdale continued with its branches for a time, it did not expand, and no other Scottish bank followed its lead. However despite this the bank continued to steadily grow, and by 1913 had 149 active branches, nearly all based in Scotland.

In 1920 the bank agreed to an affiliation with the fast-growing London Joint City and Midland Bank (founded as the Birmingham and Midland Bank, later known as just the Midland). This was undertaken in a background of mergers and acquisitions of banks by large English based banking companies. Clydesdale and the Midland had had several meetings and negotiations on this point for three years before the eventual merger, and the eventual deal allowed for Clydesdale's independence and the ability of both bank's customers to make use of the services offered by the other, and allowed Clydesdale to access the greater financial resources of the Midland without borrowing from the Bank of England.

In 1923 Midland negotiated a similar arrangement with North of Scotland Bank (based in Aberdeen. North of Scotland had become the major bank in that area of Scotland after it acquired the Town and County bank of Aberdeen before the First World War. However North of Scotland refused to adopt a mooted merger with Clydesdale that was placed within the deal.



The merger eventually happened some 27 years later in 1950, after there were refusals to do so in 1937 and 1941. By 1950 Clydesdale was the third largest Scottish Bank and North of Scotland was the eighth and smallest, and the merger allowed for a better pooling of resources in two different areas. Clydesdale and North of Scotland Bank continued to grow under the chairmanship of Sir Harold Yarrow until his death in 1962. In 1963 the bank became simply The Clydesdale Bank, and continues under this name today. In the 1970s the bank became a pioneer in automated banking, introducing 'Autobank' ATMs and keypads in its branches.

In 1987 the Midland sold its UK subsidiaries (including Clydesdale) to the National Australia Banking Group (NAB). It became part of the NAB's subsidiaries in the UK and Ireland which also include Northern Bank (in Northern Ireland), National Irish Bank (in The Republic of Ireland) and Yorkshire Bank (from 1990). It remains part of the NAB to the present day.

See Charles Munn, 'Clydesdale Bank; The First One Hundred and fifty Years' (1988, William Collins & Sons, Glasgow & London). Thanks to Clydesdale Bank for their help with this project

## Corstorphine Public Hall Company Limited

Company Number: SC002122

Date of Incorporation: 28 February 1891

Contact Details: 14 Kirk Loan, Corstorphine, Edinburgh, EH12 7HD

Operating Details: Active

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Letting of own property (7020)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Corstorphine, Edinburgh

Area of Operation: Corstorphine, Edinburgh

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: privately held- please write to the Company Secretary at the above address for details

Scope/type: Minute books dating from c.1930s. Some other records.

Conditions governing access/use: Enquiries considered on an individual basis.

Related records: Please see the book mentioned below for copies of records of the Company, including shares.

## Company History

This company was formed in 1891 to supply funds to build a public hall in Corstorphine and to subsequently rent the building for use to locally based organisations.

The impetus for the Company's formation was the growing number of well populated community organisations in Corstorphine in the late 1800s. The Corstorphine Literary Society had some 450 members, but there wasn't a big enough space in Corstorphine to house a meeting of every member. The committee of trustees raised enough money to ensure incorporation in 1891, and the foundation stone was laid in June that year. The initial plans featured a library and reading room and a bowling green. The library itself was only built in 1902, following protracted negotiations with Andrew Carnegie and Edinburgh Council.

There were initially 1825 shares issued, of which some 925 were bought by the literary association (this meant that the Literary Society had to incorporate itself to ensure this shareholding was valid). The remainder of the shares were mostly bought by local people. There was a second issue of shares in 1975 (up to the number allowed in the memorandum) mostly to ensure the company could continue to maintain the hall.

The Hall was opened in 1892, and quickly became well-used by clubs, schools and churches in the local area. However rent was sometimes irregular, and it took regular donations (probably from Thomas Johnston, who had gifted the company the land) to keep the Company and the Hall afloat. In 1936 the Library part of the Hall (which had come under control of Edinburgh Council) was sold off the Scouts and a new public library opened in the parish. The Scouts sold on the library again in 1961.

In 1980 the company signed a 21 year lease with the Corstorphine Tall Oaks youth Association, which has been renewed and continues to the present day (though they are now Corstorphine Youth and Community Centre). The Company nominally manages the Hall, though in reality the youth group run the day-to-day operations.

For more information please see Leslie Nobbs, *Corstorphine Public Hall Movement* (Pen-y-coe Press, Edinburgh 2002) available from the Corstorphine Trust

<http://www.corstorphine-trust.ukgo.com/>

With thanks and acknowledgement to the Corstorphine Trust, and its archivist Frances McRae for its support of this project, and for permission to reuse information here.

## Craigmillar Laundry Limited

Company Number: SC001062

Date of Incorporation: 29 December 1882

Contact Details: 28 Alva Street, Edinburgh, EH2 4QF

Operating Details: Dissolved 5 April 2000

Other names (if known): Craigmillar Steam Laundry

Function of Company\*: None Supplied to Companies House. Previously laundry (9301)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Craigmillar, Edinburgh

Area of Operation: Craigmillar, Edinburgh

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Edinburgh City Archive, SL223 Accession 596

Scope/type: Minute Books (1924-1989); Certificate of Incorporation; other documents

Conditions governing access/use: Available for access in person at Edinburgh City Archives

Related records: Photos of the site held by RCAHMS and National Library of Scotland

## Company History

The Craigmillar Steam Laundry was initially formed as the Edinburgh Steam Laundry Company, though it was incorporated as the Craigmillar Steam Laundry in 1882. A property was bought in West Craigmillar on West Savile Terrace and the laundry opened in July 1883.

By 1891 the laundry handled over 30,000 articles of clothing a week. It is described in 'A Descriptive Account of Edinburgh - Illustrated', published around 1893, as "the largest, best arranged, and most perfectly equipped establishment of this kind in Scotland". The laundry used state of the art equipment including steam driven washing machines and hydro-extractors, a type of spin drier. In addition to the cleaning, ironing and finishing of clothes the laundry dealt with a whole range of materials including carpets and curtains. All finished goods were despatched in the company's horse drawn vans. In the late nineteenth century the laundry employed roughly 130 people.

As the twentieth century progressed the company began to buy up other laundries and develop the Craigmillar site. In 1951 the company took over the Caledonian Laundry, while in 1958 it opened a petrol station on the craigmillar in site, which was followed by a car show room in 1960. by the early 1970s the company had 6 laundries open around the Edinburgh area, all of which used automatic coin-op machines.

However in 1978 the West Side Terrace property was sold off, and the remaining buildings were let to their tenants as the company became a property letting agent. Successful negotiations to sell off the remaining assets to Cala Homes began in 1986, and the company's last AGM was held in 1989.

Thanks to Edinburgh City Archives for supplying this information.

## Crieff Hydro Limited

Company Number: SC000268

Date of Incorporation: 23 April 1867

Contact Details: Crieff Hydro Hotel, Ferntower Road, Crieff, Perthshire, PH7 3LQ

Operating Details: Active

Other names (if known): Strathearn Hydropathic Establishment Co Ltd (1868-1968)  
Strathearn Hydro Limited (1868-1985)

Function of Company\*: Hotels and Motels with (or without) restaurant (5510)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Crieff

Area of Operation: Crieff

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: National Register of Archives for Scotland, NRAS3860

Scope/type: Minutes, 1867-1987; annual reports, 1870-1998; board papers, 1867-1998; accounts, 1867-1984; personnel records, 1935-65; administrative records, 1928-93; advertising material, 1867-1995. Strathearn Steam Laundry Co Ltd: minutes, 1902-71; reports, 1941-65.

Conditions governing access/use: These records are held privately, and their access is restricted. All enquiries should be addressed to The Registrar, National Register of Archives for Scotland, HM General Register House, Edinburgh, EH1 3YY

Related records:

## Company History

The Strathearn Hydropathic Establishment Company Limited was incorporated in Edinburgh as a Limited Company on 23rd April 1867. The Strathearn Hydropathic hotel was built in the next year and proved to be in a prime position to take advantage of the flourishing Hydropathic movement. The first Physician and Manager was Dr. Thomas H. Meikle, who had agreed to transfer the goodwill of the Loch-Head Hydropathic Establishment, Aberdeen, built-up over the previous sixteen years to the newly established Hydro in Crieff. A very strict and even austere atmosphere prevailed in the early years, with guests expected to attend meals punctually, with tardiness came the prospect of a contribution to the "fine-box".

However the hotel was obviously successful, and managed to pay a dividend of 7% or better for nearly the whole of the period up until 1914, with the occasional bad year. From 1876 the austerity of the hotel was balanced by the building of a recreation room, gymnasium, billiard room and bowling alley for guests to use. There were also frequent entertainments put on in the evening. One visitor in 1881 remarked upon the musical performances, mock trials and elections and tableaux vivants that he witnessed and took part in during his stay. Dr Meikle obviously contributed to this success, as by 1874 his salary had increased to £500 P.A. with free board and lodging.

Although the Hydropathic movement generally waned in Scotland in the years before and after the First World War, Crieff continued to thrive. Between 1919 and 1939 it paid a dividend between 7% and 9% annually as other hotels struggled in years of depression and recession (only Peebles could match it out of the Scottish hydrotherapy hotels). During this time the managing family (the Leckies, descendants of Dr Meikle) bought more shares to retain greater control of the affairs of the company. In August 1968 there was a change of name as approved by Special Resolution, to Strathearn Hydro Limited. The company became the Crieff Hydro Limited on 2nd July 1985, and the hotel similarly became known as the Crieff Hydro.

The Hydro was based very much on the belief that guests should not only be able to enjoy the many Victorian water cures on offer but should also be provided with spiritual sustenance. In fact, the Hydro retains strong links with the Church of Scotland through its Smieton and Paton Funds, whereby eligible members of the clergy can enjoy a stay at the Hydro at subsidised rates. The strong temperance ethics of the Hydropathic movement were much evidence until very recently, and it wasn't until as late as 1983 that the Hydro ceased to be dry. The Hydro still retains a strong family tradition, with the current Managing Director a descendent of the original founder Dr. Meikle.

With thanks to the NRAS and Mr John Mauchline at the Hydro for their permission to reproduce this material

## Croda (CPI) Limited

Company Number: SC000961

Date of Incorporation: 27 April 1880

Contact Details: 55/57 Queen Street, Edinburgh, EH2 3PA

Operating Details: Active (dormant since at least 2009)

Other names (if known): AB Fleming & Co Limited (1880-1983)

Function of Company\*: Non-trading company (7499) previously manufacturer of printing ink (2430)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Edinburgh. Originally Leith, later Granton and Maybury

Area of Operation: Exported worldwide

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: National Archives of Scotland, GB 234 GD431

Scope/type: 1869-1962: Memorandum and Articles of Association; Minutes and agendas; Financial Records; Correspondence; Technical Records; Publicity material; photographs; records of subsidiary BW Winstone & Co (see below)

Conditions governing access/use: Open, but off-site. Request must be made in advance.

Related records: Some other court records involving this company available at the NAS

## Company History

In 1852 Alexander Bonar Fleming founded the firm of A B Fleming for the manufacture of printing inks. The original premises were located in Salamander Street, Leith and the firm retained a presence in the Edinburgh area throughout its existence, with plants at Granton and the Maybury. In 1971 A B Fleming's was bought over by Croda and the plant at Granton closed in 1983. Subsequently Fishburn Printing Ink Co Ltd took over in 1985 and the following year the remaining plant at the Maybury was closed.

The records in this collection are concerned primarily with the late 19th century and early 20th century and reflect the better fortunes of the firm during this period. In 1870 the firm moved from Leith to new premises at Caroline Park, Granton built on ground leased from the Duke of Buccleuch. The 17th century Caroline Park mansion was utilised as the registered offices of the business.

In 1880 the business became a limited company with a burgeoning export sector of manufactured inks and raw materials. A branch factory operated at Dundee producing oil



and lubricants, including Spinning Oil for treating textiles, in co-partnership with Turnbull Salveson & Co. However the enterprise was closed after the First World War when foreign competition increased. Associated companies also existed in Calcutta and London and some records of the London company, B Winstone & Sons Ltd, which was bought over in 1896, are included in this collection.

The company is currently registered to premises in Yorkshire and appears to have been dormant for a number of years. Croda itself is a large multinational corporation with numerous subsidiaries, and is based in East Yorkshire.

Information taken from the publically available catalogue of the National Archives of Scotland

## Cupar Corn Exchange Company Limited

Company Number: SC000053

Date of Incorporation: 13 February 1860

Contact Details: 58 Bonnygate, Cupar, Fife, KY15 4LD

Operating Details: Active

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Non-trading company (7499- see below for details). Previously other letting of own property (7020)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Cupar

Area of Operation: Cupar, later invested further afield

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

### Records

Held By: Privately held, see contact details above

Scope/type: Minute Books 1909-present; Share register 1863-present; annual accounts/reports 1915-1980; Plans and paperwork of proposed alterations to The Cupar Corn Exchange; Annual Return Book 1938-1962; miscellaneous share and investment material 1980s onwards

Conditions governing access/use: Please contact above address. Academic researchers are welcome, though access will be granted on a case by case basis with permission of the directors

Related records: 2 records related to the court case of The Cupar Corn Exchange vs Andrew Forrester (involving work at the hall) in National Archives of Scotland

### Company History

Cupar, a Royal Burgh since 1328, is a traditional market town at the centre of the rich arable lands of North Fife. By the late 1850s a large trade was being done at Cupar in the selling, grinding and processing of wheat, barley and other grains, and a covered building was needed for the weekly corn market which could also serve other public use the rest of the time.

On 24 January 1860 eight local men (four farmers, two bankers, a writer and an ironmonger) agreed to form a limited liability company responsible for these objects with a nominal capital of £2500 divided into £500 shares of £5 each, each undertaking to take up a total of 41 shares between them in total. The Company was incorporated on 13 February 1860, and over the next few years 467 shares were issued raising £2335,

enough to get the enterprise off the ground without necessitating the issue of the final 33.

The Corn Exchange cost £4000 to build, with the excess money financed by loans taken out against future income. The site was chosen in the centre of town, at the crossroads between the Bonnygate, St Catherine Street and the Crossgate. Campbell Douglas, then a young man, was selected to be the architect. He designed the exchange to house 46 stalls on market day, but also to serve as a music and lecture hall, and capped the building with a gothic tower and a 136 foot-tall spire. Some improvements had to be made in 1883, and the spire strengthened in 1914, but otherwise the exterior has remained the same. Campbell Douglas went on to have a distinguished career in the West of Scotland, going on to be vice president of RIBA. The inside was remodelled to include a stage area in 1933.

The corn market was held every Tuesday, and, as intended the Exchange became a venue for other events on other days. On 1 April 1961 the Corn Exchange was sold to the Royal Burgh of Cupar for £4000 on the condition that it continued to be used as a meeting place and market. It is now run by Fife Council, and continues to fulfil the same purposes as before, acting as the major public building in the centre of Cupar.

The company has subsequently become an investment trust, initially operating in Cupar, but then spreading its investment further afield. The company is now controlled by the family of John Lindsay Anderson, a Cupar solicitor who gradually bought up enough stock in the Company until he became Chairman in the early 1900s.

(History taken from a speech made by Miss S Anderson at Companies House, Edinburgh in 2007)

Thanks and acknowledgements to Miss S Anderson, Director, and Mr D Hebden of Carters

## Curtis Fine Papers Limited

Company Number: SC001310

Date of Incorporation: 31 December 1883

Contact Details: Saltire Court, 20 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh, EH1 2EG

Operating Details: In administration (effectively in the process of dissolution, accounts are listed as overdue, ceased functioning in July 2008)

Other names (if known): Culter Mills Paper Co (to 1967), Culter Guard Bridge Holdings Limited (1967- unknown), G.B. Papers PLC (to 24 December 1984), GB Papers Limited (to December 1992), James River Fine Papers Limited

Function of Company\*: Manufacture of Paper & Paperboard (2112)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Culter, Aberdeenshire, later Guardbridge, Fife

Area of Operation: Exported from Culter and Guardbridge mills nationally and internationally. Also owned Dalmore Mill, Edinburgh.

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

### Records

Two collections

#### **Culter Mills Paper Co Ltd**

Held by: University of Aberdeen Special Libraries and Archives MS 3076

Scope/type: 50 boxes spanning 1865-1965

Conditions governing access/use: Listed as open

Related records: see below. William Sommerville & Sons (a subsidiary of Curtis Fine Papers, and previous owners of Dalmore Mill) is held at Loanhead Local Studies Library. Access must be arranged in advance with the Local Studies Librarian.

#### **Guardbridge Paper Company**

Held By: The University of St Andrews, NRAS 2770 (held as part of GB Papers Plc)

Scope/type: 6 bundles of items relating to Culter Paper Mills Ltd 1853-1977, including company agreements; articles of association; annual reports and accounts; various director's reports.

Conditions governing access/use: These records are safe in storage at The University of St Andrews, but are not accessible at present (as of January 2011).

Related records: Within the same collection are records relating to Dalmore Mill, Edinburgh (owned by the Company) and Guardbridge Paper Company (which merged into the company in 1967). The focus of the collection is the records of Guardbridge

Paper Company 1853-1888, and these holdings are considerable. The same access restrictions are in place for all these items.

### Company History

Culter Paper Mills was founded in 1751 by Bartholomew Smith in the rural location of Culter, just beneath the gorge of Culter Burn. Various companies worked on the lease for the site until Alexander Pirie and Sons of Aberdeen acquired it in 1864. They founded The Culter Mills Paper Co Ltd in 1865, trading in specialized paper products, and rapidly expanded the site at Culter into a large, well equipped facility. At this stage of the history, the company was effectively an subsidiary of the Pirie family's business concerns, and all production went to other Pirie companies. In 1883 the company was reconstituted into a company of the same name that survived until the recent past (the term of the original company was only 19 years). However though this company had FL Pirie as a board member, it was effectively an independent concern from the Pirie empire. Throughout these changes, staffing and management of the mill remained consistent and continuous.

The new board regularly invested in new equipment for the mill, and output increased from 800 tons in 1865 to over 4320 tons in 1905. This product was at the high end of the paper market, including writing and printing papers, which later developed into the printing of tinted and cream writing paper, and enamelled paper for binding books and covering boxes. This emphasis on coated paper (which had a healthy profit margin) continued throughout the 1890s, and became the mills signature product. By the late 1890s Great North of Scotland Railway had built a siding at the mill that became Culter station, and by 1897 the mill was fully electrified.

In 1967 it merged with the Guard Bridge Power Co Ltd, to form Culter Guard Bridge Holdings Ltd (since 1981 a public limited company) and became a holding company for the Guard Bridge Paper Co Ltd, the Culter Mills Paper Co Ltd, Scotflow Ltd, Culter Guard Bridge Export Ltd, Smith and McLaurin Ltd and the Scanneg Group of Companies. The mills at Culter were demolished in 1981, and converted into housing and the focus of the company moved to the paper mill at Guardbridge, Fife. In 1984 Culter Guard Bridge Holdings Plc was taken over by the James River Corporation of Virginia. In 2008, following a series of difficult financial years the company went into administration. The mill at Guardbridge has subsequently been bought by The University of St Andrews.

For the early period of Culter Mills Company Ltd, please see J Neville Bartlett 'Culter Paper Mills Company Limited' in Northern Scotland Vol 5 1982.

With thanks to the University of St Andrews Special Collections and Archives for their help with the project, and permission to reuse this information.

## The Dean Grounds Association Limited

Company Number: SC001783

Date of Incorporation: 18 October 1888

Contact Details: 6 St Colme Street, Edinburgh EH3 6AD (registered address, though please see below)

Operating Details: Active

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Development and sell real estate (7011)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: The Dean Tennis Club, Edinburgh

Area of Operation: Edinburgh

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Mr Balfour Thomson, Company Secretary

Scope/type: Minute Book 1938 to current; Share Register 1888 onwards; Title deeds; Some sundry papers.

Conditions governing access/use: please contact Mr Thomson- 36 Inverleith Place, EH3 5QB or 0131 5522949

Related records: Please contact the Dean Tennis and Squash Club about possible historical records relating to the club.

## Company History

The Dean Lawn Tennis and Squash Club, (formerly Dean Lawn Tennis Club) which is situated in the heart of Edinburgh was founded in 1884 when six Guarantors acquired the lease of the ground which had been previously used as a dump in Dean Park Crescent. The Guarantors were AW Black, JP Bannerman, Dr S Keith, WSC Shaw, W Whyte and WA Wyse. Two courts were originally laid out and at the end of the season in 1888 the Guarantors decided, in view of pending building operations which threatened to put an end to the Club, that a limited liability company be formed which was called the Dean Grounds Association Limited. For this company 250 shares of £10 were issued, mainly being purchased by the surrounding neighbours on the condition that noone could own more than ten shares per head.

The site was purchased at a cost of £1,800 and a further two courts were laid out. At one end of the ground a handsome two-storey building built by Mackenzie & Moncur was erected which provided an ideal gallery for spectators as well as changing rooms and

other facilities. It was decided at this stage that the Club should be managed by a Committee and that the ground should be leased from the Dean Grounds Association Ltd. and this arrangement still exists to-day. The new Club was officially opened on the 27th April 1889 by Archibald Hewat, Chairman of the Board of Directors. The first Committee and Office-Bearers were elected; the first President was Dr RC MacLagan who held that office for 20 years until his death in 1919. The minimum rent to the Dean Grounds Association was £52 plus any surplus each year.

The Dean Grounds Association still functions as a legal entity owning the land of the club, though its operations are extremely infrequent. Most of the shareholders have died or disappeared (only 40 shares can be accounted for), and the solitary transactions involving the company are the rent paid by the club (currently £60).

With thanks and acknowledgement to Mr Thomson for his help and support with this entry.

## Diageo Scotland Limited

Company Number: SC000750

Date of Incorporation: 24 April 1877

Contact Details: Edinburgh Park, 5 Lochside Way, Edinburgh, EH12 9DT

Operating Details: Active (Private Limited Company)

Other names (if known): The Distillers Company Limited (1877-unknown), The Distillers Company PLC (to 1987), United Distillers Limited (1987-1998) United Distillers & vintners (Er) Limited (1998-2001), Guinness United Distillers and Vintners Scotland (2001-2002)

Function of Company\*: Manufacture distilled potable drinks

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Throughout Scotland

Area of Operation: Worldwide distribution

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Diageo Archive GB 1877- Glenochil House, Menstrie, Clackmannanshire, Scotland, FK11 7ES or email [christine.j.mccafferty@diageo.com](mailto:christine.j.mccafferty@diageo.com)

Scope/type: Contact Diageo Archive for details

Conditions governing access/use: Contact Diageo Archive

Related records: There are various court records and site plans for this company located in the National Archives of Scotland.

## Company History

The Distillers Company was formed by a combination of six Scotch Whisky distilleries; Macfarlane & Co., John Bald & Co. John Haig & Co., MacNab Bros & Co, Robert Mowbray and Stewart & Co. This gave the company distilleries in Cameron Bridge, Fife (the Haig Distillery), Cambus (the Cambus Distillery established in 1836 by John Mowbray) port Dundas (Macfarlane & Co) Alloa (John Bald & Co) Saucel (Stewart & Co) and West Dolls (The McNab's Glenochil distillery).

Although the company would expand into other distilleries (including the Vauxhall distillery in Liverpool in 1907), West Dolls was closed before the end of the 1800s and the Saucel plant (based near Paisley) was destroyed by fire in 1915. DCL continued expanding after the war; in 1927 its chairman John Dewar (made Lord Forteviot ten years earlier) said at its jubilee dinner 'This company has been a series of amalgamations. Its birth was an amalgamation, and we've gone on amalgamating ever



since' (Wilson p142). The most notable mergers occurred in 1925 when the company absorbed John Walker & Son and Buchanan-Dewar, and in the same year took full control of the Yoker distillery founded by John Harvey in 1770. These moves (and others made in the aftermath of the Second World War) made DCL one of the most prominent whisky manufacturers in the country.

As of 1980 this company had some 41 subsidiary distillery companies, mostly based in Glasgow and Edinburgh, though the Cambus distillery was closed in 1980 and the Carsebridge distillery founded by John Bald was shut down in 1983.

In 1986 this company was taken over by Guinness and became United Distillers. The various assets and subsidiaries of this company subsequently became part of Diageo, following the merger of Guinness and Grand Metropolitan, and this company continues operating as the Scotch whisky distilling arm of the Diageo company. This company currently operates 28 malt distilleries, 1 grain distillery, 3 packaging plants and various other sites across Scotland.

### Sources

Ross Wilson, *Scotch; the formative years* (Constable, London 1970)

Michael Moss and John Hume, *The Making of Scotch Whisky* (James & James, Edinburgh 1981)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Distillers\\_Company\\_Limited](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Distillers_Company_Limited)

With thanks to the Diageo Group Archives for their help and assistance with the project, and their permission to use this information.

## Doloi Tea Company

Company Number: SC001422

Date of Incorporation: 30 December 1884

Contact Details: 102-104 Bonnygate, Cupar, Fife KY15 4LF

Operating Details: Active (Private Limited Company)

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Grow Cereals & other crops (0111)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Dhaka, Bangladesh

Area of Operation: Previously exporters, now see below

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Related records: Two files in National Archives of Scotland, including the BT2 file (BT2/1422/1). No other records have been found. The contact address above appears to be for a curry house, and the directors are listed as living in Dhaka

## Company History

This company was formed to grow and export tea from the Sylhet or Srimongel regions of western Bangladesh (close to Western Cachar). When this part of the country became Eastern Pakistan the Company applied for a reduction in capital in 1962. However it has continued to survive on a very small scale with modest returns. The current directors are now based in Bangladesh and the company appears to no longer control any plantations. It may be that the company remains as a way of controlling investments purchased with the capital gained from selling the companies tea estates.

## Dunedin Income Growth Investment Trust PLC

Company Number: SC000881

Date of Incorporation: 24 March 1879

Contact Details: 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, 40 Princes Street, Edinburgh

Operating Details: Active (Public Limited Company)

Other names (if known): The First Scottish American Trust PLC

Function of Company\*: Other financial Intermediation (6523)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Dundee (though subsidiaries based in Edinburgh and Glasgow)

Area of Operation: Investment in the US, majority of trustees in the UK

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

### Records

Held By: Dundee City Council Archives GB251/GD/EFM

Scope/type: Dunedin Worldwide Investment Trust Plc; minutes, 1990-1994.  
First Scottish American Trust Co. Ltd.; Minutes, 1873-1995. Accounting records, 1937-1961. Registers of members, 1880-1935. Circulars, notices of meetings, reports, 1873-1939, stockholders' minute books, 1954-1990.  
Second Scottish American Trust Co. Ltd.; Minutes, 1873-1970. Accounting records, 1910-1970. Register of members, 1879-1938. Circulars and reports, 1875-1939, stockholders' minute book, 1954-1969.  
Third Scottish American Trust Co. Ltd.; Minutes, 1874-1970. Accounting records, 1910-1970. Registers of members, 1879-1934. Circulars and reports, 1875-1940, stockholders' minute book, 1954-1969.  
Northern American Trust Co. Ltd.; Minutes, 1896-1990. Accounting records, 1897-1965. Registers of members, 1896-1951. Circulars and reports, 1896-1939, stockholders' minute book, 1954-1984.  
Edinburgh Investment Trust Ltd.; Minutes, 1889-1975. Accounting records, 1889-1934. Registers of members, 1889-1913. Registers of Directors, 1926-1948. Photographs of managers, secretaries and directors, 1889-c1968. Frames of composite photographs of office-bearers, 1889-1994.  
Scottish United Investors Ltd.; Minutes, 1928-1961. Reports and accounts, 1928-1961.  
Scottish Consolidated Trust Ltd.; Minutes, 1927-1961. Reports and accounts, 1927-1961.  
Scottish Allied Investors Ltd.; Minutes, 1928-1961. Registers of members, 1913-1929. Accounting records, 1911-1934.  
Scottish United Investors Ltd.; Minutes, 1924-1983. Accounting records, 1940-1970. Reports, 1928-1961.  
Glasgow Industrial Finance (Development) Ltd.; Minutes, 1948-1961.  
South Western Investment Trust Ltd.; Minutes, 1944-1948. Camperdown Trust Co. Ltd,

Minutes, 1966-1970, stockholders' minute book, 1954-1969.  
Second Edinburgh Investment Trust Ltd; Minutes, 1948-1951.

Conditions governing access/use: Open

Related records: none

## Company History

The Scottish American Investment Trust Company was established in Dundee on the 1st February 1873. Its board consisted of John Sharp, Thomas Cox of the Jute manufacturing family, John Guild, Thomas Smith and Robert Fleming.

The initial proposed issue was of £150,000, a figure that was raised to £300,000 to cope with the demand. The prospectus signalled that each £100 certificate would pay interest of 6% pa and that the trust would be wound up after 10 years. The trust's investment policy was solely focussed on 'The bonds of States, cities, railroads, and other corporations in the US, but chiefly in the mortgage bonds of railroads'.

Despite its launch at the beginning of a six-year economic depression in the United States, the trust prospered due to a policy of investing in established, lower-risk bonds on trunk line railways that paid an average of 7% to investors. A Second issue was announced in September 1873, with a Third Issue in 1875, both for £400,000. These three issues were converted to separate companies in 1879 under the Joint Stock Companies Act. By this stage, the First Scottish American Investment Trust Company, as it was by then known, had accumulated reserve funds of around £26,000 and was made up of ordinary share capital.

John Guild was chairman of the company while Robert Fleming remained secretary for fifteen years, despite his increasing involvement in London after he established Robert Fleming and Co.

By 1879, the investments of the company were worth £350,000 over and above their £1,000,000 book value, despite the general economic depression of the time.

In the early 1880s, in the grip of a depression, the company held the view that their relative immunity from the problems that afflicted other investment trusts, having no borrowings and the share being fully paid up.

In the 1890s, during the Barings Crisis, their conservative borrowing policy meant that they did not suffer the problems of certain other investment trusts in this period. The annual dividend was reduced from 15% to 12.5% but did not drop further.

In the later 19<sup>th</sup> century, the borrowing policy of the company was extremely cautious and limited to relatively small amounts on a temporary basis. This was enshrined in 1895's limitation of the directors' borrowing powers to 15% of capital. Only in 1910 did the trustees of all three of the Scottish American Investment Trust Companies undertake a review of their investment and borrowing policies. As a result, shareholders agreed that the directors could now borrow (on a temporary or permanent basis) a sum equal to the nominal capital; in fact, while the company's shares were selling at double their face value, the directors took the chance only to borrow an amount equal to the total par value of the shares. Subsequently, debenture stock was issued by all three for the first

time in their histories, the first Scottish American issuing £132,600 4% debentures in that year, rising to £250,00 at the same rate the following year, the level at which the company's loans remained until 1929.

Investment policies were also diversified around the first decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. While an amalgamation of the three was considered before being dropped amidst fears that such a step would invalidate long-held holdings as trust securities. For the ordinary shareholders of the First Scottish American, the dividend issued in 1910 and 1911 was 4%, rising to 4.5% in 1930 and remaining there until 1924, when it rose once more to 5% and then to 5.5 in 1925 and 1926, then again to 5.75% in 1927. These relatively low dividends were a deliberate policy of the investment trust to build up reserves: by contrast with the dividend, the percentage earned in 1910 was over 9%, and over 11% from 1912 to 1914; it then fell back to over 9% 1915-1919, then rose to just under 11% in 1920, over 12% 1920-1923 and then consistently rising year on year until 1931 when it reached 35¾%. Consequently, on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1927, the £300,000 capital stock was split 60:40 to become 180,000 4% preference and 120,000 ordinary shares. The capital was then increased to £240,000 and £160,000 respectively, amounting to a rights issue. The dividend for 1928 more than doubled from the previous year to 12%, rising to 12.5% in 1929, 13% in 1930 and 13.5% in 1931.

By 1931, the breakdown of the investment portfolio between bonds, preference, and ordinary of deferred stocks was 53.7%, 28.2% and 18.1%.

The Depression after the Wall Street Crash of 1929 was a difficult time for investment trusts and many disappeared at this time. However the Scottish American Investment Trusts were able to continue to pay dividends due to their previous, cautious reserve and borrowing policies, despite the value of their investments falling from 1930 and a fall in revenue from 1932.

In 1932 the directors of the company were: A W Robertson Durham, CA, Charles Munro (manager), J Wilson Brodie CA, Alexander Maitland KC, T M Murray WS and R O Pitman WS. Secretary was A D F Torrance CA.

The First, Second and Third Scottish American Investment trust Companies merged into a single company – the First Scottish American Trust Company Ltd – in 1969. In 1984 the Edinburgh Investment Trust, First Scottish American and the Northern American Trust merged as part of the establishment of Dunedin Fund Managers. First Scottish was renamed Dunedin Income Growth Investment trust in 1990. It is still an active company to date. In February 2005, the board of directors comprised of Max Ward, Jean Matterson and John Scott.

Thanks and acknowledgement to Dundee City Archives and Richard Cullen for use of this information

## Edinburgh American Assets Trust PLC

Company Number: SC000848

Date of Incorporation: 11 September 1878

Contact Details: 1 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh, EH2 4DR

Operating Details: Dissolved 1995 (absorbed into British Empire Securities and General Trust PLC)

Other names (if known): Edinburgh American Land Mortgage Company (1878-1920), 2<sup>nd</sup> British Assets Trust Limited (1920-1976) Edinburgh American Assets Trust (1976-1994) Selective Assets Trust (1994-1995)

Function of Company\*: Investment (6522)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Edinburgh

Area of Operation: Invested in North America and New Zealand

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Glasgow University Archive Services UGD 228/3 & 228/8

Scope/type: Second British Assets Trust Ltd; Ledgers 1923-1967; Register of Investments and dividends 1930-1970; Investment paperwork 1960s.

Edinburgh American Assets Trust PLC; List of cheques issued (1970-1987), list of cheques received (1969-1988), loan documentation (nd), seal book (1978-1988), directors minute book (1976-1982), AGM minute book (1930-1987), initial book (1975-1985), agreements (nd), scrap books (1969-1986).

Conditions governing access/use: Normal GUAS conditions

Related records: The First British Assets Trust (UGD 228/2) and the rest of the Ivory and Sime Collection (UGD/228) are also held at GUAS

## Company History

<http://www.british-empire-stocks-and-shares-isa.co.uk/about/history.html>

The Edinburgh American Land Mortgage Company was acquired by James Ivory's British Assets Trust in 1920, and was subsequently renamed The Second British Assets Trust Ltd in 1925. The Trust invested funds in bonds, stocks and debentures in electrical, industrial and financial companies mainly in America with some investment in New Zealand. The Trust was managed on a day to day basis by Ivory and its successor

organisation Ivory and Sime. This bond was strengthened from the 1950s under the chairmanship of Sir Alistair Blair, who had a close working relationship with Eric Ivory. However on the incorporation of Ivory and Sime in the 1970s, and the retirement of Sir Alistair the trust distanced its board from Ivory and Sime somewhat, appointing new company secretaries and independent directors (although I & S remained the trust managers). It was renamed the Edinburgh American Assets Trust in 1976, and by this point was dedicated to investment in American small and medium sized companies quoted on the stock exchange. It was partially unitised and operated under the name of Selective Assets Trust until 1995 when it was acquired by British Empire Securities and General for c. £42 million.

## Edinburgh Booksellers' Society Limited

Company Number: SC000879

Date of Incorporation: 22 March 1879

Contact Details: C/O Grant Thornton, ¼ Atholl Crescent, Edinburgh, EH3 8LQ

Operating Details: Active (Private, Limited by guarantee, no share capital)

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Other service activities (9305)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Edinburgh

Area of Operation: Edinburgh

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: National Library Scotland, Manuscripts department, Deposit 303

Scope/type: Charter by Lord Provost 1793; Financial Records and Minute books 1776-1958; Misc Correspondence 1796 onwards; rolls of members, committee reports, Company Registration certificates and other material through 1800s

Conditions governing access/use: Financial Records less than fifty years old are not available for consultation. Applications to publish any material from this deposited collection should be made in writing to the Head of Manuscripts Department.

Related records:

## Company History

The Edinburgh Booksellers' Society was established in 1776 when eleven booksellers met to form an association. John Balfour was appointed Preses and William Creech as Secretary. Creech was an outstanding man well known for his encouragement of novel authors. In 1811 he was to become Lord Provost of Edinburgh, a position which was also held by other members in later years.

On William Creech's initiative the Society petitioned for a Chart of Incorporation to the Lord Provost and Magistrates of Edinburgh. Twenty three members signed the document and contributed £64.1 s in funds towards the formation of the 'Society of Booksellers and Stationers of the City of Edinburgh, suburbs of Edinburgh and Leith'. The petition was granted on 20<sup>th</sup> March 1793 and the Society became the first trade association of Booksellers to be formed in Britain.



For the first thirty years of the main preoccupation of the Society was the regulation of the retail prices of books and stationery. Although a proposal was made that a permanent home for the Society be set up in Edinburgh the project never went ahead.

Following its incorporation, the Society stipulated that fees should be paid into a permanent fund and that only the interest received be used for the benefit of members. In 1795 the first £500 of Consols were acquired and provision was made for the relief of widows and orphans of members. In 1806 a widow's annuity was £10. In 1809 the whole amount of the Funds was invested in six shares of the Royal Bank of Scotland at a cost of £1,230, and in 1869 retired members received an annuity of £50. Today and as a result of professional advice, a very substantial and varied portfolio of Investments has been accumulated. Furthermore, the Society has encouraged the provision of annuities and the subvention of educational endowments.

Although membership was mostly male, in more recent times the Society started admitting female members. Originally meetings of the Society were held quarterly in one of the taverns of the Old Town such as Hunter's or MacEwan's. On one occasion in 1803 one of the meetings took place in the Britannia Inn, Leith.

The Society also encouraged social activities which in recent times have involved visits to places of historic and natural interest such as Oban, Iona, Braemar and Grasmere, as well as evening excursions and a formal dinner every three years during the office of each Preses.

\* **NB:** Notes on company history extracted from *Edinburgh Booksellers' Society, 1793-1993*, Edinburgh, 1993.

Other information supplied by NLS Manuscript department, reworked here with thanks and acknowledgements

## Edinburgh Dairies Limited

Company Number: SC001397

Date of Incorporation: 29 October 1884

Contact Details: 159 Glasgow Road, East Kilbride, G74 4PA

Operating Details: Active- Proposal to Strike off (company is a subsidiary of Wiseman Dairies, and its assets have been wholly absorbed into that organisation)

Other names (if known): Edinburgh & Dumfriesshire Dairies

Function of Company\*: Operation dairies & cheese making (1551), non-trading Company (7499)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Edinburgh, later Aberdeen then Glasgow

Area of Operation: East of Scotland

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Wiseman Dairies

Scope/type: Extremely limited records (slim volume of receipts) going back to 1973. No company minutes.

Conditions governing access/use: Please contact Robert Wiseman Dairies at above address.

Related records: One photo of Edinburgh & Dumfriesshire Dairies at SCRAN <http://www.scran.ac.uk/database/record.php?usi=000-000-035-575> . Court records for the same company are held in the NAS

## Company History

This company appears to have been known as (or became part of) Edinburgh and Dumfries(shire) Dairies up until the 1970s, which was both a milk supplier and owner of a chain of shops in Edinburgh. According to Adam Gray in White Gold, Edinburgh in the late 1800s had more town dairies than Glasgow. However such was the demand for real milk that small operations could not keep up. By 'importing' milk from Dumfriesshire by train in the 1920s the company solved the shortage problem. The company grew throughout the first half of the century, to the point where in the 1930s it was reluctant to support the milk marketing board of Edinburgh as it had command of the milk market in the city. This company also delivered milk (on electric floats by the 1950s) and had its own chain of shops.

It appears that in 1973 this company was absorbed into Kennerty Dairies, an Aberdeen based dairy company, and its name changed to Edinburgh Dairies. Given that Kennerty's

operations were based on the East Coast of Scotland, it is likely that any business in the west or the south would have been sold on.

Kennerty was itself bought by Wiseman Dairies for £8.1 million in 1994. By this point Edinburgh had been a major processing centre for dairy projects. Wiseman is currently looking to dissolve the company name as it is no longer in effective operation.

With thanks to Wiseman Dairies for their help with this project

## Edinburgh Hide Skin and Tallow Market Company Limited

Company Number: SC000409

Date of Incorporation: 8 April 1874

Contact Details: Lochside, Kinghorn, Fife, KY3 9YG

Operating Details: Dissolved

Other names (if known): Booth International

Function of Company\*: Non trading company (7499), previously hide production/services (1511)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: (Glasgow?) Edinburgh, later Fife

Area of Operation:

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

### Records

This company is not trading, and there are no surviving records in local or national archives as far as I have been able to find. All letters sent to the current address were returned.

### Company History

The last company at this address was Booth International, a company that exported leather goods internationally. I assume that this was the successors to the Edinburgh Hide, Skin and Tallow market company. In 1867 the Edinburgh Hide market was the second largest in Scotland (after Glasgow), and the city contained several important tanneries. I assume that this company was formed to improve the condition of the market buildings and facilities.

I have been unable to find any record of this company name in the National Archives of Scotland, so it may be that it is related to The Glasgow Hide, Skin and Tallow Market Co-operative Society Limited. This company appears to have run the Glasgow Hide Market at Greendyke Street, Glasgow and was in operation by 1877  
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/robertpool/5355254503/> .

History of Scottish Tanners

<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/industrial/industry16.htm>

## The Edinburgh Investment Trust Public Limited Company

Company Number: SC001836

Date of Incorporation: 1 March 1889

Contact Details: Quartermile One, 15 Lauriston Place, Edinburgh, EH3 9EP

Operating Details: Active

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Other financial intermediation (6523)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Edinburgh

Area of Operation: Invests across the UK, previously invested internationally

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

### Records

Held By: Dundee City Council Archives GB251/GD/EFM

Scope/type: Edinburgh Investment Trust Ltd.; Minutes, 1889-1975. Accounting records, 1889-1934. Registers of members, 1889-1913. Registers of Directors, 1926-1948. Photographs of managers, secretaries and directors, 1889-c1968. Frames of composite photographs of office-bearers, 1889-1994.

Conditions governing access/use: Open

Related records: Part of the Dunedin Investment group archives. Other records of the Group are held at Dundee City.

### Company History

The Edinburgh Investment Trust was established in 1889. It had an initial capital of £1,000,000 in 100,000 shares of £10 each. This was divided between 180,000 4.5% preferred stocks and 120,000 of deferred stocks whose holders were entitled to the surplus net profits. The first issue of the company's shares consisted of 30,000 fully paid-up £10 shares at a premium of 5%. The Articles of Association allowed debenture stock could also be issued up to an amount equalling 2/3rds of the nominal amount of the subscribed capital. The first board of directors comprised Alexander L. Bruce (of Wm Younger and Co, Brewers), Patrick William Campbell (of Myle and Campbell WS, Edinburgh), George Todd Chiene CA (of Chiene, Tait and Brewis CA, Edinburgh), James Ford (of Wm Ford and Sons Merchants, Leith), William Stuart Fraser WS (of Fraser, Stodart and Ballingall WS, Edinburgh), Henry Goudy (Advocate, Edinburgh), and James Dundas Lawrie (of Lawrie and Ker, Stockbrokers, Edinburgh). Wallace and Guthrie WS acted as the first company secretaries. The first registered offices of the investment trust were located at 137 George St, Edinburgh.

The Prospectus, issued on the 1<sup>st</sup> march stated 'The principle on which trust companies are formed has become familiar to the investing public, but there are as yet only two or three such companies in Scotland, and there appears to be ample room for another. The object is to acquire and hold sound investment yielding a remunerative return, and to change them from time to time as may be deemed desirable. The shares of the present Company are to be fully paid so that no further liability can attach to the holders of them.' Unlike many similar companies of the time, it did not invest in land mortgage schemes but instead 52% of its first 209 securities were made up of ordinary shares. This was unusual for its time. These investments were diverse, from brewing and shipping to diamond mines and tobacco companies. Equities included the Distillers Co Ltd, Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, Stock Conversion, London and North Western Railway and the North British Rubber Co. The rest of their holdings were largely in railway bonds in companies across Central and South America, Greece, Spain and the USA. Scottish banks and British brewers were also later added to the portfolio, as well as investment trusts, shipping, gas companies and tobacco producers.

In the first year of its operations, the company was able to offer deferred shareholders dividend of 5.5%, rising the following year to 7%. However, the Barings crisis of 1890 meant that in 1896 and 1896, it had fallen again to 2%. It was a difficult period for all Scottish companies operating in North America as farming as was as markets collapsed. At the end of its first ten years, the company was facing a world-wide economic depression. By this time, it had also seem dramatic changes to its board. By 1899, directors Thomson, Chiene and Goudy had gone and been replaced by John Scott Tait (Chiene's partner) and William B Dunlop. In 1901 James Lawrie died and was replaced by his son Henry Lawrie while Patrick Campbell was appointed chairman a position he would retain until his death in 1922. Despite all this, the success of the company was such that a sister body – the Second Edinburgh Investment Trust - was formed in 1902, the year in which the dividend once again reached 7% and the effects of an economic upturn began to be experienced. In 1906 an issue of Preferred and Deferred stock was made (60:40 proportion) which brought in about £80,000 and, partly due to the investment of this new capital, by 1908, the original company already had £1 million assets under management. By 1915, there would be 700 holders of deferred stock, mainly small investors from Scotland, who would benefit.

As this boom period continued, the Third Edinburgh Investment Trust was established in 1911 to allow shareholders to benefit from the climbing markets as well as experience of the Edinburgh Investment Trust's directors and staff. By 1914, the ordinary dividend offer by the parent company had risen to 17% and would reach 20% by 1919. However, the company was about to undergo more significant changes brought about by the onset of the First World War. In 1916, in common with all British Businesses with investments in North America, the government asked for the Dollar element of the portfolio of investment trusts be liquidated. The North American assets in the company's portfolio were therefore sold in order to support the government's need for dollar currency to pay for the war. Sandy Wallace was instrumental in this on a national level when he was called to work at the Treasury selling off the national stock of foreign investments to finance the war. The bulk of this was then reinvested into British government stock on a voluntary basis.

None of the portfolio changes undertaken during the war proved to be an unprofitable policy for the company. By 1919, £528,000 of the £1,440,000 assets were in gilts and the rest spread over 236 investments with the aim of avoiding a high-risk portfolio due to the company's high gearing. In the same year it was decided to make a bonus issue

to deferred stockholders in order to make the price of deferred stock more saleable. However, because of the way 'members' had been defined in the articles of agreement, in order to be able to do this a special payment of 3% had to be made to preferred stockholders in return for cancelling their rights to such an issue on 3 January of that year. This being agreed and carried out, the bonus issue to deferred stockholders took place on the 15<sup>th</sup> January 1919. The bonus issue to deferred stockholders comprised £120,000 of preferred stock and debentures, plus a 1 for 5 scrip issue of deferred stock. A further scrip issue took place in 1921, a year before Campbell died and was replaced as chairman by Sandy Wallace, at the same time as W H Fraser WS (son of WS Fraser) joined the board.

Despite the upheavals, other things remained constant: the company's registered offices had moved to 1 North Charlotte Street in 1892 as Wallace and Guthrie WS moved offices and by 1927 it would move with them again from North Charlotte Sq to 3 Charlotte Square. In 1907, when Alexander Clapperton was appointed Secretary to the trust on behalf of the firm and in 1917, on the retirement of Lawrence Guthrie from Wallace and Guthrie, Clapperton became manager as well as secretary, while Wallace joined the board of directors.

After the end of the First World War, there was an effort to rebuild the American element of the portfolio. By 1925 American holdings once more accounted for 16% of the total assets held by the company and by 1929, when John Chiene was appointed secretary to all the companies, the combined market value of the assets of the three trusts amounted to £5 million. Around £2.5m of this was held by the parent company, helped a small rights issues by in both 1928 and 1930. However, after the Wall Street crash and the onset of the Depression, by 1932 this had fallen to £1.5m. In that year, 41% of the company's assets were in fixed interest securities and only 59% in equities. Of the total, 68% were in the Commonwealth, 17% in the USA, 6% in Latin America, 5% in the far East, 1% in Europe and 3% in other international markets. The total number of holdings was 549.

In 1933, at the height of the crisis, Sandy Wallace stepped down as chairman and was replaced by Willie Fraser. The company was damaged by the Depression, but survived. By 1936, when John Chiene visited the USA, the securities that the company had purchased at the bottom of the market, while not yet providing sufficient returns to income, were proving strong in terms of capital appreciation. The portfolio now had a market value of £2.4m that year, with 77% in equities as confidence increased. The dividend had also recovered to provide 7.5% to deferred stockholders. The valuation rose to 2.9 in 1937, with 83% in equities and a dividend of 9%.

This period of improvement appeared to be on the verge of being ended by the outbreak of the Second World War. Alexander Clapperton retired the same year, before coming back to help the trust after hostilities broke out. However, he died in 1943. Sandy Wallace resigned in 1942. John Chiene had been promoted to assistant manager in 1937 and became manager in 1939 but enlisted in when hostilities began. Willie MacGregor became secretary in 1939 and was this assistant manager who helped run the investment trusts during this difficult period. Under him, through the wartime period, the value of the assets held by the trust almost doubled in value despite the dividend not being raised throughout the period. By the end of the war, the combined gross assets of the company were around £6m around where they had been before 1929.

In the first year after the war, the board of directors included W H Fraser as chairman, Sir Gilbert Archer, John Chiene (who would leave to work for Seagrams and be in charge

of Chivas Brothers in Aberdeen in 1952), Ellis Inglis, William Wallace and Alexander Harrison. In April 1947, the 4% debenture stock was repaid at 105 and replaced with a larger issue of 3% debenture stock at a price of 95.5%, so lowering the cost of borrowing for the company.

In 1957, the three Edinburgh Investment Trusts merged under the leadership of Willie McGregor despite the significant differences in gearing of each when this step was first proposed. The First Company acquired the assets of the second and third in exchange for similar stocks under a scheme of arrangement. The total gross assets of the newly enlarged company amounted to c. £18,036,000. In 1969, the deferred stock of the company became officially dealt in units of £1 each. Ten year later there were finally converted into ordinary shares of 25p. W G Cochrane succeeded MacGregor as manager in 1970.

Before the crash in 1974, the overseas proportion of the portfolio had increased considerably so that by the end of 1974, 25% of the company's assets was comprised of the Dollar premium. By the late 1970s, the company was at the forefront of investment in new areas such as North Sea Oil, and was one of the founder investors in London and Scottish Marine Oil.

In 1983, the trust took over Scottish United Investors, a Glasgow based investment trust, doubling the size of the latter company. The final deal included a combination of Edinburgh Investment trust ordinary shares being sold at a 15% discount, and cash on a mix and match basis. As part of the deal, EIT shareholders were offered a free issue of warrants to compensate them for the likely fall in the ordinary share price as a result of the increased number of shares issued. As a result the number of ordinary shares in issue increased by 56% to 286 million. At this, Sir Robert Smith, Sir David Nickson and Peter Dunn joined the board and Guy Crawford joined the management team, bringing with him a knowledge of Japanese markets. The following year, the management of the company was changed and a new management company was formed. All the investment trusts based at Belsize House merged their resources and personnel, along with those of the Edinburgh Investment Trust and Dunedin Fund Managers was formed. The new company had its base in Edinburgh's Charlotte Square, though Belsize house was retained for accounting and administration work.

In 1995, the company had assets of 1.097 billion and a net asset value of 319.9P earnings on the ordinary shares was 10.37p and a dividend of 9.35p was paid to shareholders. Changes came in 1996, when Edinburgh Fund Managers acquired Dunedin Fund Managers for £83.25m and took over responsibility for managing the trust. By 1998, the assets had reached 1.846bn and earnings were 14.48p with a div of 11.40. however, asset values then began to fall, to a low of 0.876bn at year end in 2003 when the nav was 278p per ordinary share. However, the div had continued to rise to 13.15 despite earnings of only 11.05p. In August 2002, Fidelity were appointed to manage the trust and they undertook changes to the portfolio. The aim of the trust was stated to be achieving its objectives portfolio by holding predominantly of UK equities and outperform the FTSE All-Share Index in capital terms, as well as to increase the dividend per ordinary share by more than UK inflation. This was to be done by allocating the Company's capital to a number, initially four, of sub-portfolios of slightly different characteristics. The portfolio was to be run with a bias away from FTSE 100 stocks. By the end of 2004, it was the largest and oldest investment trust focused solely on UK companies. The company's investments are currently managed by INVESCO.

With thanks to Dundee City Archives for their permission to reuse this material. History taken from previous BACS work on the company.



## The Edinburgh Real Estate Company Limited

Company Number: SC000785

Date of Incorporation: 12 October 1877

Contact Details: 66 Queen Street, Edinburgh, EH2 4NE

Operating Details: Dissolved 21 August 1998

Other names (if known): The British Real Estate Company

Function of Company\*: Property management (7020)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Edinburgh

Area of Operation:

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

There seem to be no extant records of this company. I have not been able to identify or contact any successor companies, and none appear to exist in known archives.

## Company History

A company under this name was dissolved in 1978 (SC05443), though its relationship to the current company is unknown. This company was not known as the British Real Estate Company until later in its life, and it may have been a subsidiary of a larger company who managed its property assets.

## Gates (UK) Limited

Company Number: SC001771

Date of Incorporation: 9 August 1888

Contact Details: Johnstone House, 52-54 Rose Street, Aberdeen, AB10 1HA

Operating Details: Active

Other names (if known): The Gates Rubber Company Limited (1987-1992), Uniroyal Limited (1960s-1987), North British Rubber Company (up to the 1960s)

Function of Company\*: Manufacture of footwear (1930), Manufacture of other rubber products (2513), Holding Companies including head offices (7415)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Operated throughout Scotland, now concentrated in Dumfries

Area of Operation: Exports worldwide. Strong connections to the United States of America

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Gates (UK) Limited

Scope/type: Minute Books; Directors meetings 1956-present, general meetings 1941-present. Some other registers dating from 1930s.

Conditions governing access/use: No access possible in the current situation. These records are held by the parent company at present.

Related records: The North British Rubber Staff Society (known as 'the Rinklies') has an extensive collection of staff magazines and other non-essential records, and can provide more detailed information on the history. Please see <http://www.nbrinklies.com/>

## Company History

The North British Rubber Company was first registered in 1856 by Henry Lee Norris, an American manufacturer who wanted to produce rubber versions of the Wellington Boot. The first site of production was the Castle Silk Mills in Edinburgh. Norris imported machinery and staff from North America to start the company. The Company soon expanded into the production of other rubber products, including tyres, conveyor belts, combs, hot water bottles, rubber flooring and golf balls.

During the First World War the Company made 1,185,036 pairs of Wellington Boots for the British Army. In the Second World War 80% of Company output was for war materials. By 1946 the Company had expanded and bought an extensive factory in

Dumfries named Heathhall, and acquired a tyre manufacturing plant at Newbridge, near Edinburgh.

Despite being based in Scotland, the North British Rubber Company was actually owned by a conglomerate of rubber manufacturers from the United States. This was a loose association of rubber producers and manufacturers who operated independently from each other, but pooled together to purchase necessary machinery or expertise. This conglomerate became the United States Rubber Company, which in turn absorbed the NBRC in the 1930s. In 1966 NBRC (and the rest of the holdings) became known as Uniroyal Limited.

The next decades saw Uniroyal sell off some of its business assets. In 1978 the golf ball production company was sold on, shortly followed by a sale of the Newbridge tyre factory to Continental. In 1986 Uniroyal was purchased by The Gates Rubber Company Limited of Colorado, with the British arm changing its name to the Gates Rubber Company. During this time the 3 major production arms of the company, consumer goods (including boots), engineering and tyre manufacture were split up. The current company refers to the engineering (primarily power transmission) side of the business. This remains a thriving concern operating out of Dumfries. The factory there was rebuilt in the early 1990s, and by the end of that decade employed c.550 staff.

Thanks to the Rinklies for their help with the project.

## Glenboig Union Fireclay Company Limited

Company Number: SC001150

Date of Incorporation: 26 August 1882

Contact Details: Irvinebank Factory, brown Street, Newmilns, Ayrshire, KA16 9AG

Operating Details: Listed as dormant, last accounts made up to end of year in 2002

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Manufacture of bricks etc. in baked clay (2630)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Glenboig

Area of Operation: North Lanarkshire, see history

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

### Records

Held By: North Lanarkshire Council Archives, GB 1778, U95

Scope/type: 1883-1963 Register of share transfers; Lists of shareholders; Financial records; Correspondence files; records of subsidiary companies Castlecary Fireclay Co. Ltd, Faskine & Palacerigg Brick & Coal Co Ltd and George Turnbull & Co Ltd.

Conditions governing access/use: Open to the public

Related records: JG Stein & Co Ltd Bonnybridge Works wage book (in Lanarkshire archive).

The National Archives of Scotland hold the Coal Commission Files on this company, and the records of several court cases.

### Company History

The Glenboig Union Fireclay Co. Ltd was founded by James Dunnachie & partners by the amalgamation of the "Old Works" and the "Star Works" in Glenboig. The company specialised in the production of refractory ceramic goods (e.g. furnace lining bricks and pipework) for the iron and steel industry which was flourishing in numerous nearby large industrial towns. By expansion and/or take-overs the company went on to operate several other works, viz.: Cumbernauld Fireclay Works & Mine (c.1882); Gartcosh Works (1890); Castlecary Fireclay Co. Ltd (1919 ?); Faskine & Palacerigg Bricks & Coal Ltd (1919 ?); George Turnbull & Co. Ltd - Bonnymuir and Dykehead Works (1919 ?). The Glenboig Union Fireclay Co. Ltd was purchased by General Refractories Ltd of Sheffield in 1936 which in turn became G.R. Stein Refractories Ltd in 1967. The "Old Works" in Glenboig closed in 1958 and were demolished by 1965. The "Star Works" closed sometime after 1967. The company was subsequently purchased by General Refractories

which later became part of GR Stein, and its activities wound down. It was listed as dormant in 2002.

Information supplied by North Lanarkshire Council Archives, used here with thanks and permission

## Guarantee and Suretyship Insurance Company Limited

Company Number: SC000135

Date of Incorporation: 30 April 1863

Contact Details: c/o PriceWaterhouseCoopers LLP, Kintyre House, 209 West George Street, Glasgow, G2 2LW

Operating Details: Dissolved 3 March 2005

Other names (if known): Aviva Insurance (2002), The National Guarantee and Suretyship Association Limited (up to 2002)

Function of Company\*: Life insurance/reinsurance (6601)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Edinburgh, London

Area of Operation: By 1920 the company had branches in major UK cities (Belfast, Bristol, Glasgow, Liverpool, Leeds, London, Manchester, Birmingham), overseas branches in major cities in the British Empire (Alexandria, Barbados, Bombay, Karachi, Calcutta, Ceylon, Dublin, Madras, Rangoon, Myanmar, Cairo, Singapore)

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Aviva Group Archives, Surrey House, Norwich GB 2070

Scope/type: The Aviva archive contains records relating to the running of the National Guarantee and Suretyship Association Ltd between 1920 and 1987. The collection includes board minutes, policy literature, board of trade returns, journal and register of deeds.

Conditions governing access/use: Access is by appointment only, and at the discretion of the group archivist. Access to customer records less than 100 years old and company records less than 30 years old is closed except in very special circumstances. Access will only be granted on the understanding that the reader is engaged in bona fide historical research, and that the information extracted will not be used against the company or go beyond the agreed subject of research. For further information on specific searchroom rules please see <http://www.aviva.com/about-us/heritage/our-archive/access-policy/>

Related records:

## Company History

The company was incorporated on April 30 1863 as The National Guarantee and Suretyship Association Ltd. According to an advertisement in 1873, the

"association provides security for the intromissions and fidelity of persons in situations of trust and responsibility, and undertakes all descriptions of guarantee business".

In 1914, the company became a subsidiary of the Northern Assurance Company Ltd (which became a subsidiary of the Commercial Union Assurance Company Ltd in 1968). By 1927, the company was styling itself as

"the only British Company transacting Suretyship business alone including Indemnities for Lost Documents, Defective Titles, Missing Beneficiaries and other Contingencies".

In 1968, the company was still specialising in suretyship insurance, which was wholly reinsured with the holding company. Indeed, it wasn't until 1983 that the company was authorised to write fire, accident and marine insurance.

On March 11 2002, National Guarantee and Suretyship changed its name to Aviva Insurance Ltd, before changing it again on 27 November of the same year to Guarantee and Suretyship Insurance Company Ltd. On December 31 2002, the company was deregulated as part of progress towards liquidation. The company was dissolved on March 3 2005.

Information supplied from Aviva Group archives website, used here with thanks and permission

## Heritable Bank Public Limited Company

Company Number: SC000717

Date of Incorporation: 6 January 1887

Contact Details: c/o Ernst & Young LLP, George House, 50 George Square, Glasgow, Lanarkshire, Scotland, G2 1RR

Operating Details: In administration from 7 October 2008

Other names (if known): Heritable Investment Bank (initial name until at least 1945), Heritable and General Trust Limited (up to 1987), Heritable & General Investment Bank Limited (1987-1989), The Heritable and General Investment Bank Limited (1989-2001), Heritable Bank Limited (2001-2008)

Function of Company\*: Other financial operations (6523)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Glasgow, later London

Area of Operation: London based banking/lending and investment. Part of a larger, multinational group.

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

This organisation is currently in administration, and the liquidators have been unwilling to contact me about access to the records, if any exist.

Related records: Some records in the NAS relating to court cases and changes of name and articles of association etc.

## Company History

This bank was established in Glasgow in 1877, and incorporated ten years later (the gap between establishment and incorporation is not surprising, as many banks in Scotland remained suspicious of limited liability until relatively late in the 1800s).

In 1950 it moved its centre of operations from Glasgow to Hill Street, just off Berkely Square in London, and appears to have operated as an investment specialist (particularly in property). In 2000 the business was taken over by Landsbanki of Iceland, and became the mortgage and property development specialist of the bank in London. Structured Property Finance PLC was set up by the bank in 2005 to help in this aim. However the credit crunch and the collapse of the economy in Iceland caused the bank to go into administration, and for many of its assets to be sold on to pay the creditors in 2008. ING took over many of the British cash deposits.



## The Heritable Securities and Mortgage Investment Association Ltd

Company Number: SC000668

Date of Incorporation: 20 April 1876

Contact Details: Standard Life House, 30 Lothian Road, Edinburgh, EH1 2DH

Operating Details: Active, but accounts listed as dormant by Company House. Subsidiary of Standard Life (see below)

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Other financial intermediation (6523)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location:

Area of Operation:

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

### Records

Held By: Private. The catalogue is available through the National Register of Archives for Scotland, NRAS 3494/10

Scope/type: Minute books 1876-1981; Ledgers 1876-1970; Journals 1915-197; Cash books 1918-1955; Seal books 1936-1982; Registers 1882-1938; Legal Papers 1876-1958; Miscellaneous promotional material and correspondence (1891 onwards)

Conditions governing access/use: These records are held privately, and their access is restricted. All enquiries should be addressed to The Registrar, National Register of Archives for Scotland, HM General Register House, Edinburgh, EH1 3YY

Related records: Sub-fonds of NRAS 3494, records of The Standard Life Assurance Company, Edinburgh

### Company History

The Insurance Company of Scotland, whose function primarily involved the transaction of the fire insurance business, was founded in Edinburgh in 1821. However, by 1825 shareholders had decided to establish a subsidiary life company under the title of The Life Insurance Company of Scotland. This was the original name of today's Standard Life Assurance Company. By 1831 the former two companies, previously housed under one roof, separated with the Life Insurance Company of Scotland moving to new premises. It was in 1832 that the name Standard Life Assurance Company first appeared, due to the passing of an Act of Parliament.

By 1837 Standard Life had moved to 3 George Street in Edinburgh which offered more potential for expansion, confirmed when plots 1 and 5 had been purchased and the

corner block had been completely rebuilt. However, the acquisition of larger premises was not the only outward sign of growth that has elevated Standard Life to the position of largest mutual life company in the ECC.

Initially expansion in the home market was encouraged by the strategic placing of local boards of directors in major Scottish towns but was accelerated by the acquisition of several companies such as Experience in 1850, East of Scotland in 1852, Minerva in 1866 and eventually Heritable Securities in 1934.

The Heritable was a modest sized mortgage company with assets of just under £400,000, mostly invested in small property developments and commercial developments in Glasgow. It was acquired by Standard Life so it could use its expertise in the field of mortgage negotiation to open up more business in the field of House purchasing: Standard Life even set aside £2.5 million for the scheme. However by the outbreak of the Second World War, only £250,000 had been drawn by the Heritable from Standard Life.

The Heritable came into its own in the post war years. By 1950 loans to the company from Standard Life had leapt to £4 million, and mortgages account to 9 % of the business by 1951, reflecting Standard Life's policy of committing to mortgage investment. This policy remained in place throughout until the 1970s, and Standard Life (via the Heritable) was often willing to give loans on old property. By 1972 advances from the main company reached £77 million, much of it new business generated by staff at the ground level.

However from 1972 it was decided that the Heritable would no longer transact new mortgage business, and would remain an instrument for conducting loans to staff only. This business was subsequently wound down, although the name remains registered with Companies House.

Please See Michael Moss, *Standard Life 1825-2000* (Edinburgh; Mainstream Publishing 2000) for more detail

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## Highland Distillers Group Limited

Company Number: SC001645

Date of Incorporation: 7 July 1887

Contact Details: West Kinfauns, Perth, Perthshire, PH2 7XZ

Operating Details: Active

Other names (if known): Highland Distilleries Co Ltd (1887-1982, 1998-2001), Highland Distilleries Co PLC (1982-1998)

Function of Company\*: Manufacture of distilled potable drinks (1591), Holding companies including head offices (7415),

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Glasgow, Perth

Area of Operation: Manufacture in Moray, export worldwide

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Glasgow University Archive Services, GB248 UGD217

Scope/type: Records of central office of Highland Distillers Co plc 188-1995; Records of the Bunnahabhain Distillery 1881-1975; Records of Glenglassaugh Distillery 1887-1971; Records of the Glenrothes-Glenlivet Distillery 1881-1892; Records of the Tamdhu-Glenlivet Distillery 1896-1972

Conditions governing access/use: Standard GUAS terms and conditions

Related records:

## Company History

Highland Distilleries Co Ltd was formed in 1887 through the merger of the Islay Distillery Co Ltd, owners of the Bunnahabhain Distillery, Islay, Argyll & Bute, Scotland, and William Grant & Co, owners of the Glenrothes-Glenlivet Distillery, Rothes, Moray, Scotland. Capital was raised through sale to the public of 13,340 ordinary £5 shares and 230 £100 debentures. From the outset, the company shared offices at 48 West Nile St, Glasgow, Scotland, with Robertson & Baxter, whisky merchants. Relationships between the two firms were very close and they had many directors in common.

In 1892, Highland Distilleries Co Ltd acquired the Glenglassaugh Distillery at Portsoy, Aberdeenshire, Scotland. In order to fund the purchase the company issued a further £13,500 of debentures. In 1898, the chairman and founding director, W A Robertson, died. Following a fire at Glenrothes-Glenlivet Distillery the firm was short of stock and in

1898 acquired the Tamdhu-Glenlivet Distillery in exchange for 5,500 shares. In 1905, a further three of the founding directors died, William Grant, Robert Dick and James Ford. Following the damaging Budget of 1909, the firm took emergency action using its £25,000 reserve fund to reduce the book value of plant and property to £87,000 while seeking amalgamation with Dailuaine-Talisker Distillers Ltd. However, the amalgamation scheme was abandoned in 1910. By 1927, Highland Distilleries Co Ltd was supplying malt whisky and whisky for blending to over one hundred and eighty customers. The depression of the 1930s saw temporary closures for most distilleries although the lifting of prohibition in the United States in 1933 helped the industry. In 1935, the company acted to protect its name by acquiring land in Campbeltown, Argyll & Bute, associated with an older 'Highland Distillery Co' and resold the land, excluding use of the company name from titles.

In 1937, James Grant & Co, damaged by the recession, sold the Highland Park Distillery, Orkney, Scotland, to Highland Distilleries Co Ltd. Highland Park continued to operate under the subsidiary company James Grant & Co (Highland Park) Ltd and Walter G Grant, a director of James Grant & Co, joined the board of Highland Distilleries Co Ltd. As a precaution against wartime isolation of the Orkneys, the firm reduced the capital value of James Grant & Co (Highland Park) Ltd from £220,000 to £170,000. The purchase may have been driven by the fact that Highland Park was an integral ingredient of the new Cutty Sark blend produced by Highland Distilleries for the export market.

Until the 1939-1945 World War, Highland Distilleries Co Ltd focussed on distilling rather than blending or marketing but in 1947 it acquired A C Robertson's shares in Robertson & Baxter Ltd. In 1955, there were rumours of take over attempts and much uncertainty in Highland's future independence.

In the late 1950s, the firm sold part of its holdings in Robertson & Baxter Ltd to that company's subsidiary Clyde Bonding Co Ltd, alcoholics drinks manufacturers, leaving a 35 percent stake to finance reconstruction at Glenglassaugh Distillery. In 1959, the firm doubled its ordinary issue share capital from £600,000 to £1.2 million by capitalising sum from reserves. In 1963 the firm took a 25 percent stake in Edward Fison Ltd, malters, to develop modern drum maltings in Yorkshire, England, but withdrew the investment in 1968. In 1964, a one-for-one scrip issue doubled issued capital to £2.5 million.

In 1970, Highland Distilleries Co Ltd broke with tradition and itself became a blender through the purchase of Matthew Gloag & Sons and their Famous Grouse brand. Marketing of Famous Grouse was stepped up in 1972 as was marketing of the single malts produced by Highland Distillers. Several of the distilleries were incorporated as private limited companies in their own right as subsidiaries of Highland. Highland raised a further £8.7 million additional capital in 1979 by a one for five right issue to pay for a new stillhouse at the Glenrothes-Glenlivet Distillery.

In 1982, the company became a public limited company as Highland Distilleries Co plc, changing its name again in 1998 to Highland Distillers Ltd. In 1999, the company was acquired by the Edrington Group Ltd, the successor company of Robertson & Baxter Ltd. Highland Distillers Ltd changed its name again in 2001 to Highland Distillers Group Ltd, remaining a production arm of the Edrington Group with Highland Distillers products, such as Famous Grouse and Cutty Sark blended whiskies brands, being sold as Eglinton products. In 2003, the company continued to function.

## The Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders in Scotland

Company Number: SC000358

Date of Incorporation: 24 July 1871

Contact Details: Clydeport Building, 16 Robertson Street, Glasgow G2 8DS

Operating Details: Active

Other names (if known): None

Function of Company\*: Other service activities (9305)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Glasgow

Area of Operation: Scotland

\* Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

### Records

Held By: Glasgow University Archive Services GB0248

Scope/type: Minutes 1857-1959; Financial Records 1857-1952; Roll book 1902-1945; Proceedings Book 1893-1896

Conditions governing Access: Usual GUAS terms and conditions. Permission must be gained from the Institute for any reproduction or publication of material.

Related records:

### Company History

The Institution of Engineers & Shipbuilders in Scotland was founded in 1857 to promote the advancement of engineering science and practice. Its founders included James Napier, engineer; Walter Watson; and Andrew McOnie, engineer. From its early days the institution had a student section. Past presidents have included William Macquorn Rankine, engineer; Walter Montgomerie Neilson, locomotive builder, and Robert Stephenson, civil engineer. Early honorary members included the physicists Lord Kelvin, James Prescott Joule, R Clausius and the engineer Henry Besemer. Membership of the institution is open to all engineering disciplines. The Institution continues to exist in the present day.

Information taken from <http://www.iesis.org/>

## J & P Coats, Limited

Company Number: SC002042

Date of Incorporation: 6 August 1890

Contact Details: 155 St Vincent Street, Glasgow, G2 5PA

Operating Details: Active

Other names (if known): J & P Coats Limited (see below)

Function of Company\*: Manufacture of Sewing Threads (1711), holding companies including head offices (7415)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Glasgow

Area of Operation: Trades worldwide

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Glasgow University Archive Services GB 248 UGD199/1, 28, 32

Scope/type: Minute books 1880-1985; Letterbooks and correspondence 1868-1984; Registers 1890-1972; Ledgers 1830-1932; Bought ledgers 1891-1934; General and department ledgers 1890-1933; Private ledgers 1845-1970; Miscellaneous ledgers 1842-1944; General journals 1889-1970; Private journals 1848-1961; Miscellaneous journals 1885-1935; Cash books 1857-1932; General cash books 1890-1949; Disbursement cash books 1891-1947; Bank and cash letterbooks 1916-1932; Miscellaneous cash books 1886-1967; Valuation and expenditure 1890-1934; Bills receivable 1888-1937; Investments and rates of exchange 1888-1944; Salary books 1901-1940; Pension funds 1941-1972; Miscellaneous volumes and agreements 1880-1973; Personnel and training records c1926-1967; Miscellaneous files, including newspaper cuttings, publications and leaflets 1907-2001.

Conditions governing access/use: Usual GUAS terms and conditions

Related records:

## Company History

In 1802, James Coats, snr, (1774-1857), a weaver from Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland, set up in business, laying the foundation of the business that was later to become J & P Coats Ltd, thread manufacturers, Paisley. James Coats senior was born in 1774, into a family of Paisley weavers. After serving his apprenticeship as a weaver, he spent six years in the army with the Ayrshire Fencibles, a cavalry regiment. He returned to weaving in 1796 on leaving the army and in 1802, shortly after his marriage, he went

into business on his own. Seeing a market for Canton Crape, the majority of which was at that time imported from China, he set about trying to reproduce this material in his own factory. Canton Crape was made from silk, the manufacture of which had been introduced to Paisley in 1760 by Humphrey Fulton; hence both the raw material and the skilled labour were readily available. Another manufacturer, James Whyte, had also been trying to produce Canton Crape, with much the same degree of limited success as James Coats. He and Coats decided to combine their knowledge by entering into partnership, and were eventually successful in producing Canton Crape in such quantities as to virtually corner the market.

As his fortunes increased so James Coats began to look to the future. He built a house in Back Row, Ferguslie, Paisley, and became a sleeping partner in the Paisley firm of Ross & Duncan, a firm of thread twisters. At the same time he acquired knowledge of the business which would be useful to him in years to come since the production of Canton crepe requires yarn which has a particular twist. When his contract with Ross & Duncan expired in 1826, James Coats built a small mill at Ferguslie, and began producing his own thread, using a 12 horsepower engine. The mill at Ferguslie was the forerunner to the larger works which J & P Coats developed on this site. On his retirement in 1830, the management of the manufacturing department was passed to his partners and his son William, and the thread business was transferred to his sons James Coats, jnr, (1803-1845) and Peter Coats (1808-1890), the firm becoming known as J & P Coats. Shortly after its inception another son, Thomas Coats (1809-1883), entered the firm as a partner.

Each of the three brothers had knowledge of a different area of expertise: James in manufacturing, Peter in merchandising, and Thomas in engineering. The company expanded rapidly during the 1830s, both at home and overseas, and by 1840 three-quarters of their trade was with the USA. For twenty years the selling department of the American branch of the business was managed by Andrew Coats (1814-1900), a younger brother of James, Peter and Thomas. The high quality of Coats' thread made it extremely popular, to the extent that several companies produced inferior imitations, resulting in a number of legal cases. In addition to the Paisley mills, J & P Coats built mills in the USA at Pawtucket, Rhode Island State, between 1870 and 1883. James Coats of Auchendrayne, Ayrshire, the son of Sir Peter Coats managed these mills. Production at Paisley continued apace, with new markets opening up at home and abroad. In some cases high customs duties were overcome by building mills abroad, so that in a short time J & P Coats had branches in Russia, Germany, Austria, Hungary and Spain.

In 1883, the firm became a private joint stock company of family shareholders and in 1890 the business was floated as a public company, with a capital of £5,750,000 and an average annual profit for the preceding seven years of £426,048. James Coats, jnr, remained unmarried, but a number of the sons of Peter and Thomas Coats entered the firm as partners, thus retaining the family interest in the company. One of the leading competitors of the Coats' firm was the firm of Clark & Co, another Paisley thread company, which had grown up through the same period as Coats. With the death of John Clark of Clark & Co in 1896, the way was opened for take-over. J& P Coats amalgamated with Clark & Co, its American associates and also with Brook of Meltham and Chadwick of Eagley Mills, Bolton, England, to form the enlarged firm of J & P Coats Ltd, with a market value of around £22 million, and approximately 25,000 shareholders. The company, with its headquarters in Glasgow, Scotland, had 17 production centres, 60 branch houses, 150 selling depots, and around 21,000 employees throughout the world, the UK workforce totalling around 11,000. One of the leading figures in the company at this time, was Otto Ernst Philippi, Foreign Sales Manager, whose selling policy has been regarded as one of the major keys to the firm's success.

The company continued trading as J & P Coats Ltd throughout the first half of the 20th century, expanding by acquiring controlling interests in several other textile companies. In 1960, following the takeover of Patons & Baldwins Ltd, the company became known as J & P Coats, Paton & Baldwin Ltd. In 1965, they acquired a controlling interest in the Pasolds group, which included 'Ladybird' children's wear, 'Donbros' knitwear, and 'Chilprufe' garments. In 1967, they acquired both Dynacast Precision Engineering and Jaeger fashions. In June 1967, the company became known as Coats Patons Ltd. In 1967, Coats Patons Ltd amalgamated with Vantona Viyella to form Coats Viyella plc, a company registered in Uxbridge, Middlesex, England, which became Coats plc in 2001.

Between 1934-1939 the company sponsored the Needlework development in Scotland scheme, a collaboration between art and design education and industry. The scheme encouraged needlework and therefore also the sale of J & P Coats thread. This developed into the nation-wide Needlework Development Scheme managed by the The Central Agency Ltd of J & P Coats Ltd. Loan collections of historical and modern embroideries were developed with examples being purchased by, or donated to, the Scheme. These collections were then exhibited and loaned to schools in order to help teach and promote embroidery as an art form. In 1961, the company withdrew funding for the Scheme and it ceased to function. The collection of over 3000 textile items was broken up and disseminated between around 14 universities, colleges and museums in the UK.

Although the name J & P Coats Ltd is not used as the whole business, which is still known as Coats PLC, this remains listed as an active (subsidiary) company in Scotland.



## Kerr and Company Limited

Company Number: SC001728

Date of Incorporation: 10 April 1888

Contact Details: Pacific house (second Floor), 70 Wellington Street, Glasgow, G2 6UB

Operating Details: Dissolved 25 May 2005

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Dormant (9999), previously cotton thread manufacturers (1711)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Paisley, later Glasgow

Area of Operation: Across the UK and internationally

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Glasgow University Archive Services GB 248 UGD199/20

Scope/type of records: Minute books 1888-1962; Registers 1886-1962; General and departmental ledgers 1898-1901; Private ledgers 1890-1897; Miscellaneous ledgers 1888-1890; General cash books ; annual returns 1912-1947; Miscellaneous - Handbook of Peter Kerr 1860-1869.

Conditions governing access/use: Standard GUAS collection rules

Related records: See other textiles collections held by Glasgow University, especially Records of J & P Coats Ltd.

GB/NNAF/B3334, Reference : NRA(S)3151; Journal of Kerr & Co Ltd (Paisley Museum, Art Gallery and Coats Observatory)

## Company History

Kerr & Co Ltd, cotton manufacturers and selling agents, Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland, was incorporated with limited liability on 10 April 1888, with their registered office at Underwood Mills, Paisley. The capital of the company was Â£250,000. In July 1895, J & P Coats Ltd, thread manufacturers, Paisley, agreed to buy, as a going concern, the company's business. In 1908, the company converted to a private company. In 1950, Machine Cottons Ltd, thread distributors, Glasgow, Scotland, were given power of attorney to deal with all matters concerning trade marks in Brazil. In 1951 and 1954 the

company sold to J & P Coats Ltd, as a going concern, their business in the UK and all other parts of the world. Kerr & Co Ltd also appear to be selling agents for other business, for example in Australia and New Zealand, though they used selling agents themselves, for example La Plata Reel Cotton Co Ltd, selling agents, Glasgow, in Paraguay. The records in 1892 mention a strained relationship with The Central Agency, (later The Central Agency Ltd) selling agents for J & P Coats Ltd, Glasgow, possibly due to competition. A manufacturing agreement was entered into in 1934 between the company and United Thread Mills Ltd, thread manufacturers, Glasgow. In 1936, a contract was entered into with Romanofir SAR, thread manufacturers and spinners, Romania, whereby the company supplied complete working drawings for the election of buildings and purchased and supervised the erection of plant and machinery in Romania. In 1940, J & P Coats Ltd was appointed as the company's agent for trade mark purposes. In 2002, Kerr & Co Ltd was still active, with their base at Wellington Street, Glasgow, though the company was dissolved in 2007 after a period of lying dormant..

## Kilmacolm Property Company Limited

Company Number: SC001226

Date of Incorporation: 2 April 1883

Contact Details: 3 Atlantic Quay, York Street, Glasgow G2 8JH

Operating Details: Dissolved 3 February 1995

Other names (if known): Kilmacolm Hydropathic Company Limited

Function of Company\*: Letting of own property (7020)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Kilmacolm

Area of Operation: Kilmacolm

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

No business records of these company appear to still exist.

Related records: This company does have a BT2 file in the National Archives of Scotland, despite records still being held in Companies House (BT2/1226)

## Company History

This company began life as the Kilmacolm Hudropathic Company, responsible for the management of the Kilmacolm Hydropathic Hotel. The hotel had opened in 1880 in Kilmacolm, near Glasgow, as part of the hydrotherapy craze that swept Scotland during the 1870s, but had run into financial difficulties. In 1882 the hotel was 'all but purchased' by a philanthropist to be converted into a convalescent home, however it retained its original purpose under new management 9which probably coincided with the formation of this company). Going into the 1900s the hotel thrived as a health spa and resort.

However the hotel suffered following the referendum under the Temperance Act, which massively restricted drinks licensing. The hotel was requisitioned as a Royal Navy hospital during the Second World War, and was bought up by Stakis in 1963 (during which time it added a casino to its attractions). The hotel eventually closed in 1968, and was razed to make way for luxury flats in 1975.

This company appears to have played some part in the management of these flats, but it may be that on sale of the last it dissolved. There is currently a Kilmacolm Property Services Group, which may be a successor organisation.

<http://davidjgardiner.blogspot.com/2008/04/kilmacolm-hydro.html>

And see Bradley, Dupree and Durie 'Taking the Water Cure: The Hydropathic Movement in Scotland 1840-1940' in *Business and Economic History* Vol. 26 No.2 1997 for further details of the Scottish hydropathic Movement

## Kinkell Holdings (UK) Limited

Company Number: Kinkell Holdings (UK) Limited

Date of Incorporation: SC001124

Contact Details: Earlsgate house, St Ninians Road, Stirling FK8 2HE

Operating Details: Dissolved 18 December 1998

Other names (if known): Earlsgate Holdings Limited (?-1983), Thornwood Holdings (1983-1986)

Function of Company\*: non trading company (7499). Previously letting of own property (7020)? See below

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location:

Area of Operation:

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

2 court records found in National Archives of Scotland involving this company

## Company History

The name Earlsgate Holdings dates back to at least 1974, and the company seems to have been an administrative body whose subsidiaries were involved in building, civil engineering contracting and plant hire. Given its former name as Earlsgate Holdings, it may well be that this was the company formed to manage the property of Earlsgate House in Stirling (which was developed into a business park on which the last company address was listed). The company filed its last accounts in 1996 and was dissolved two years later. For this project letters sent to its listed address were returned by post.

## Lawson Donaldson Limited

Company Number: SC001417

Date of Incorporation: 3 December 1884

Contact Details: Calder Road, East Hermiston, Edinburgh, EH14 4AJ

Operating Details: Active

Other names (if known): Peter Lawson & Son Limited (1885-1962), Lawson Donaldson Seeds Limited (1962-1993)

Function of Company\*: other wholesale (5190- in this case seeds and agricultural items)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Currie, Edinburgh. Formerly based in Leith

Area of Operation: Sells stock nationwide and exported to Europe

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Most of the records of this company were destroyed by fire in 1977 at the company's previous factory/distribution centre in Leith. There are two surviving minute books (one of directors meetings 1934-1975, and one of AGMs 1885-1977) a share transfer book (1942-1968) and some miscellaneous correspondence from the 1960s. These records are held privately, and access is only available by request to the above contact details.

Some court records relating to this company exist in the National Archives of Scotland

## Company History

This company operated as the Peter Lawson Seed and Nursery Company (also known as Lawson's Seed and Nursery Company and Peter Lawson & Son), before being incorporated as Peter Lawson & Son Limited in 1885. There are records of a merchant named Peter Lawson in the National Archives of Scotland dating back to the late eighteenth century in Bo'ness, and some records in the 1790s show a Peter Lawson as a 'nurseryman' or 'seedsman' in Edinburgh involved in planting trees on private estates. It also appears that records of Peter Lawson & Son relating to agricultural trade date back to at least 1825.

By the time it was incorporated, the company had an office in London, and appears to have exported seeds to continental Europe. The major factor in the decision to incorporate seems to have been to raise greater capital. The new company had 2085 shares that had been applied and allocated for the price of £5 per share. The directors were all seed merchants, and included James Glenn of Belfast, Robert Inch of Edinburgh, James S Easte of Ahsford, Samuel McDowell of London, John McCulloch of Stranraer and SP Taylor of Edinburgh. David Syme was 'appointed' Managing Director (though in reality he carried on his role from the previous company) and the company seems to have 'inherited' its premises on King George IV Bridge in Edinburgh from the previous

organisation as well. The actual nursery area of the company seems to have been in Corstorphine, to the west of the city centre.

The company seems to have been a profitable entity during the first decades after incorporation. David Syme was replaced on his death by the highly-regarded George Somer in 1902 (who in turn held the post until his death in 1926). Judging from the dividends and payments rewarded to the directors in the minute books, the company was successful up until the end of the 1920s, though it does not appear to have expanded much from its original form. It also appears to have had difficulty finding warehouse property in the Edinburgh area. From the 1900s (with the exception of Mr Easte) most of the directors came from the Edinburgh area, although they were all from an agricultural merchant background.

However the company endured a very difficult decade in the 1930s, as first the worldwide economic depression reduced demand for agricultural supplies: J Nagel, the then chairman, described the situation as one in which it was 'practically impossible to make a profit' in 1933. The growing political uncertainty in the latter-half of the decade hamstrung business with continental Europe, which seems to have been particularly important for the company. Although the Second World War stabilized the business to a certain extent (aside from the company's lorry being seized for the wartime effort), the company's directors chafed under the restrictions of wartime controls placed on the business.

By 1945 the company enjoyed a healthy turnover of £30,000, and appeared to have left the earlier difficulties behind it. In 1948 the company acquired a subsidiary, John Donaldson & Co. Ltd, another Edinburgh seed merchant. This purchase not only expanded the company, but also allowed it the opportunity to construct much-needed warehouse facilities on Donaldson's site in Carpet Lane, Leith. To encourage trading in the Republic of Ireland, the company established a small subsidiary in Dublin named Peter Lawson & Son (Ireland), in 1949 which enabled it to navigate past the difficult trade relationship that existed between Ireland and the United Kingdom after the War.

However by the early 1950s high stocks of seeds and overproduction, coupled with an extremely wet summer, sent the company into debt and financial difficulty. In 1953 it received an offer from William Goldsmith of Ipswich for a controlling stake of its shares, which it advised its shareholders to accept as it was facing extreme financial difficulty.

As a subsidiary of Goldsmith (later Goldsmith Bros Ltd), the company moved headquarters, first to 46 Bridge Street in Edinburgh, and then (in 1966) out to the site in Leith. Goldsmith has also acquired the Gayton Mills Company (in Norfolk) and Little and Ballantyne of Carlisle. In 1962 Goldsmith's amalgamated Peter Lawson and Son Ltd with John Donaldson Ltd, liquidating Donaldson and renaming the company Lawson Donaldson. In 1967 the company suffered 'disastrous' losses, but the parent company persisted with the Scottish subsidiary until the early 1970s, when it appears to have been sold on.

The company was acquired by the holding company Gibbs-Palmer (which acquired a large interest in the company in the later 1970s), which subsequently became the Solus Group. Now operates as a wholesale arm of the Solus Garden and Leisure group- see <http://www.solusgl.com/Default.aspx>

Thanks to Steven Walker for allowing access to the above materials

## Leith Cemetery and Crematorium Company Limited

Company Number: SC001635

Date of Incorporation: 6 June 1887

Contact Details: The Lodge, Seafield Cemetery, Seafield Place, Edinburgh, EH6 7QP

Operating Details: Active (dormant)

Other names (if known): Leith Cemetery Company Limited

Function of Company\*: Funeral and related activities (9303)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Leith, Edinburgh

Area of Operation: Leith, Edinburgh

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

### Records

Held By: Privately held

Scope/type: Memorandum and Articles of Association, Certificate of Incorporation 1897; Share documentation 1887-1963; Minute Books 1887-1995; Annual reports 1887-1978;

Conditions governing access/use: Contact above details

Related records: There are still working documents of the cemetery dating back to the company. These are still in use and are not available for use or research

### Company History

The Leith Cemetery Company Limited was formed in 1887 to; purchase the grounds of Seafield House, Leith, Edinburgh; convert the grounds into a cemetery; and then administer that cemetery. At this time Leith had no cemetery of its own, despite having a population of 70,000. The prospectus for the company states that 'The cemetery is required, and would be taken advantage of at once from its convenience alone, while its superior suitability in other respects renders it certain that the ground will be rapidly bought up.'

The initial subscribers and directors were all local Leith businessmen, while many of the initial shareholders were local persons of apparently modest means and background. This was probably because shareholders had the right to use shares to purchase their funeral and grave. Lairs were also sold in installments over the years to enable slow investment for working families.

Having achieved the necessary support to sell 10,000 shares at £1 per share, the company purchased the site and prepared it for use. Leith Cemetery opened



in February 1888 on its present-day site on Seafield Road. One of the first actions for the fledging company was to make an agreement with the Caledonian Railway in 1890 to alter the path of its proposed railway extensions around the cemetery grounds.

After almost two decades of growing profit, the company purchased Seagrove Lodge to the south of the cemetery in 1907 in order to have the ability to expand the cemetery, although (owing to agreements with tenants) it wasn't until 1932 that the land was ready to receive interments. Extensive space in the cemetery was also bought by the military and naval departments during the First World War. However by the 1930s the business was beginning to slow, despite an upswing in demand for the cheaper sites available in the Seagrove Lodge property.

By 1937 in response to this decline the Directors recommended that a crematorium be constructed and the company's name changed to the Leith Cemetery and Crematorium Company Limited. This motion was accepted, and in April 1939 a crematorium was opened by Lord Salvesen on the site of a cottage on 22 Seafield Road. In the first year there were over a hundred cremations, though by 1944 this figure had increased to 244 cremations.

After the Second World War rising staff and maintenance costs decreased the company's profit, and eventually caused it to fall into debt. Although the shareholders rejected one offer of amalgamation with Edinburgh Eastern Cemetery Company in 1961, two years later the Edinburgh Crematorium Limited became the majority shareholder in Leith Cemetery and Crematorium Company, effectively rendering it a subsidiary. The company continued to manage the cemetery for some time afterwards, though from 1995 it has been dormant in company's house.

### Note on Edinburgh Crematorium Limited

Edinburgh Crematorium Society (later Edinburgh Crematorium Limited) was originally founded to educate the public on cremation through lectures and distribution of publications. In 1928 it founded Edinburgh Crematorium Limited to buy up land at Warriston from the Corporation of the City of Edinburgh for £3000. Warriston Crematorium opened the next year, and continues working to the present day.

Thanks to Mr Neil Munro of the Edinburgh Crematorium Limited for allowing access to the above records

## Lothians Racing Syndicate Limited

Company Number: SC002032

Date of Incorporation: 19 July 1890

Contact Details: Musselburgh Racecourse, Linkfield Road, Musselburgh, EH21 7RG

Operating Details: Active (Private Limited Company)

Other names (if known): Lothians Racing Club Limited

Function of Company\*: Operate sports arenas and stadiums (9261), other recreational activities (9272)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Musselburgh Racecourse

Area of Operation: Musselburgh Racecourse

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: privately held, contact above address

Scope/type: Minute book 1938-1989

Conditions governing access/use: Discretion of owners.

Related records: See BT2/2032 for records in National Archives of Scotland

## Company History

<http://www.musselburgh-racecourse.co.uk/history-of-the-course.asp?ssc=BK&mp=LHS>

Racing at Musselburgh links began in 1816 with the start of the 'Edinburgh races'. It appears that the racecourse was initially built and managed by the Lord Lieutenancy of East Lothian- the stand that stood at the track before 1911 was owned by the Lieutenancy. Lothians Racing Club was incorporated in 1890 to manage race meetings at the course, though by 1923 it had changed its name to Lothians Racing Syndicate Limited and had begun to manage the operation of the racetrack itself. The Racecourse website notes that racing was the sport of kings, and that courses did not have to be commercially operated. They were also the only venue for legal betting until the 1960s. However this meant that by the 1930s the syndicate was responsible for a racecourse that needed considerable modernisation and refurbishment.

From the 1930s until the 1970s the major figure at the syndicate was the 6<sup>th</sup> Earl of Rosebery, who oversaw many important developments including the building of a new course in 1938, the installation of electricity in the stands and bars in 1956, and massive improvements to the stands themselves in 1970. During this time the Lothians Racing Trust was founded in order to purchase all the shares in the syndicate and thus allow it

to push any profit back into the racecourse operations. Such was the success of this scheme that in 1975 it gave a donation of £200 to Hamilton Park racecourse to do the same thing.

However by the late 1980s the racecourse faced closure due to increased costs and dwindling attendances. However East Lothian Council (successor to the Lieutenancy) took the racecourse under its control in 1991, and was able, through the efforts of John Lindsay, to turn the track into a position where it could break even. Since then the syndicate has become a dormant company, while the racecourse itself has enjoyed a £5 million refurbishment and redevelopment, and has doubled its race-day attendances.

## Marchington Properties Limited

Company Number: SC001376

Date of Incorporation: 7 August 1884

Contact Details: Exchange Tower, 19 Canning Street, Edinburgh, EH3 8EH

Operating Details: Active

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Development and sell real estate (7011)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Edinburgh

Area of Operation:

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

None known, letter not answered, no other contact details available.

## Company History

Currently this company appears to be the Edinburgh arm of the Evans Property Group (<http://www.evanspropertygroup.com/>), and as such it may have been involved in the development of the Queensferry area of Edinburgh. The directors are the Evans brothers.

Given that there are no records extant in the NAS under this name, it appears safe to assume that this has not always been the name of this company. However there are no records currently available to indicate what name the company operated under.

## Mitchell & Muil, Limited

Company Number: SC001410

Date of Incorporation: 18 November 1884

Contact Details: C/o Baker Tilly, Restructuring and Recovery LLP, First Floor Quay 2, 139 Fountainbridge, Edinburgh

Operating Details: Dissolved 8 July 2009

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Non Trading Company (7499), previously bakery (1581)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Aberdeen

Area of Operation: Aberdeen

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

No record collection identified or found. Current holders of the name have not responded to enquiries.

Related records: There are planning applications involving this company in Aberdeen City Archives, and a letter from the company in the University of Aberdeen Archive. Various court records involving this company are listed in the NAS.

## Company History

This company was a well-known Aberdeen-based bakery that had been in operation since 1833, and had headquarters on 'The Granite Mile', 25 Union Street in the middle of Aberdeen. The company also seems to have had various shops in Aberdeen, including one on Elmbank Terrace dating from the 1930s. In 1906 they listed themselves as bread and biscuit manufacturers.

In 1933 the biscuit division was sold to Canadian biscuit manufacturer Garfield Weston, and moved to Edinburgh. However the bakery continued to operate, with delivery boys still being employed in the 1960s. It appears that the company became absorbed by a wider conglomerate of other companies in the 1980s, and ceased operating as an independent brand at about that time.

## Moray and Nairn Newspaper Company Limited

Company Number: SC001426

Date of Incorporation: 19 January 1885

Contact Details: New Century House, Stadium Road, Inverness, IV1 1FG

Operating Details: Active (part of Scottish Provincial Press)

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Publishing of Newspapers (2212)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Moray, later Inverness

Area of Operation: Publishes the Northern Scot, local newspaper for Morayshire in the highlands of Scotland

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

### Records

The Scottish Provincial Press, owners of the company, do not own any historical records of the company. Moray Heritage Centre contains an online index of newspaper articles concerning this company. There is no further listing of any records elsewhere, so I assume that none survive.

Related records: Scottish Screen Archive hold a news report film on the centenary of the Northern Scot produced by Grampian TV (ref. N0282).

There is one court record involving this company in the National Archives of Scotland.

### Company History

*The Northern Scot* is the biggest-selling weekly newspaper in the North of Scotland and covers the whole of Morayshire, including the city of Elgin, the towns of Forres, Keith and Lossiemouth and the smaller Speyside distillery towns. It's a broadsheet in format.

It was founded in 1880 as the *Moray and Nairn Express* and still bears that name in its masthead, although it adopted its present name in 1897. It's based in Elgin and claims to be the main paper for Moray. It's published by Scottish Provincial Press Ltd.

It comes out on Fridays. There's also an associated freesheet, the [Midweek Extra](#), which comes out on Wednesdays

<http://www.britishpapers.co.uk/scotland/northern-scot/>

## North British Distillery Company Limited

Company Number: SC001491

Date of Incorporation: 24 October 1885

Contact Details: Wheatfield Road, Edinburgh, EH11 2PX

Operating Details: Active (Private Limited Company)

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Manufacture distilled potable alcoholic drinks (1591)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Edinburgh

Area of Operation: Edinburgh manufacturer, sells whisky across the UK

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: North British Distillery Company onsite

Scope/type: unknown

Conditions governing access/use: The Company is currently unable to accommodate access

Related records: Large number of records in the National Archives of Scotland, many relating to plans of equipment used by the company at Gorgie. There are also several court records of legal action involving the company.

## Company History

The North British Distillery Company was founded in 1885, and built the North British Distillery at Gorgie Edinburgh one year later. The founders were Andrew Usher, William Sanderson and John M. Crabbie, a group of blenders and spirit dealers. Initially the site consisted of one Coffey still. The distillery produces grain whisky, and has always used a proportion of green malt in its blends, which eliminates the need for some drying of malt. The site, selected for its nearness to the Union canal in an Edinburgh suburb, went on steam in September 1887.

In its first full year the distillery produced 3.6 million litres, and fillings demand increased year on year. By 1914 the site produced 9 million litres annually. During the First World War distillation was suspended and the distillery was converted to the production of acetate from maize. However it did not reach production before the United States entered the war and became Britain's principal supplier. Operations resumed in the 1920s, although by 1932 the production had fallen to 1.2 million litres following the Great Crash and Prohibition in the United States.

By 1933 production began to grow again, although production ceased on the outbreak of the Second World War. However once distillation began again, it took until 1955 for production levels to return to the 1914 high-watermark. In 1948 the first Saladin Maltings in Scotland were put into use on the site- this measure (previously used in France) reduced floor space and labour by employing forced ventilation and mechanical turning.

By the 1960s however the company had acquired two warehouses in Westfield to store maltings, and by the end of the decade had added a new top-floor for extra office accommodation. In the 1960s and 1970s the distillery successfully revived 'drum' technology to keep the temperature of germinating malt at a constant. Despite a difficult period in the 1980s, the company began the 1990s as the only grain whisky producer in Edinburgh and with a record production of 41.7million litres.

Currently the company operates from two sites at Wheatfield Road (warehousing) and the distilling site at Muirhall. Current demand for whisky is strong, and the company foresees a rosy future.

<http://www.northbritish.co.uk/history/index.asp>



## Paisley Cemetery Company. Limited

Company Number: SC001281

Date of Incorporation: 7 September 1883

Contact Details: 19 Glasgow Road, Paisley, PA1 3QX

Operating Details: Active

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Funeral and related activities (9303)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Paisley

Area of Operation: Paisley Cemetery

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

<http://www.paisleycemetery.co.uk/>

Held By: Privately- contact The Registrar at Paisley cemetery Co. Ltd, 46 Broomlands Street, Paisley, PA1 2NP or 0141 889 2260

Scope/type: Standard business records (including minute books and reports) dating from the 1940s; cemetery operating records date back to 1845 (when the cemetery was opened); cremation records date from 1938. All other records were destroyed by flooding.

Conditions governing access/use: Please contact The Registrar above

Related records: Some minor records in National Archives of Scotland (court records and alterations of constitution). More information on the history of the cemetery may be found in the collection of The Paisley Express in Paisley Library.

## Company History

Situated on a low hill-top position between Woodside House and Ferguslie House, the 'garden cemetery' extended to just over 20 acres and incorporated the recently built Martyr's Church and the adjacent Covenanter Martyrs Memorial.

The Paisley Cemetery Company started business in 1845, to provide additional burial space at Woodside, in response to the needs of a rapidly growing local population. Paisley Woodside Cemetery was laid out in that year to a design drawn up by Stewart Murray, curator of Glasgow Botanic gardens.

Murray's design was inspired by the earlier garden cemetery at Glasgow Necropolis 1832, which also took its inspiration from Père la Chaise, the first hill-top garden

cemetery, in Paris, laid out in 1804 by Alexandre-Théodore Brongniart.

The Company became a member of the Federation of British Cremation Authorities in 1938, with the provision of a new, purpose built crematorium, designed by the well-known local architect James Steel Maitland.

One of the finest buildings of its kind anywhere in the country, it was opened on 28th October 1938 by the Rt. Hon. Lord Salveson, and is today a well preserved listed building.

The crematorium serves not only the Paisley and Renfrewshire areas, but also North Ayrshire, West Glasgow and beyond. Two gardens of remembrance offer a peaceful setting for contemplation, both are adjacent to the crematorium and open every day of the year.

Thanks to Mr Frank McFadyen for his help with the project

## Pennycook Patent Glazing and Engineering Co Ltd

Company Number: SC000986

Date of Incorporation: 27 August 1880

Contact Details: Cambusnethan House, Linnet Way, Strathclyde Business Park, Bellshill, ML4 3NJ

Operating Details: Dissolved 20 September 2002

Other names (if known): Pennycook Patent Glazing and Engineering Company

Function of Company\*: Non trading company (7499), previously glazing contractor (4544)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: St Mungo Works, Bishopbriggs, later Bellshill Lanarkshire

Area of Operation:

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

### Records

Held By: Glasgow City Archives GB 243 TD 197

Scope/type: Articles of association, 1880; Minutes, 1880-1947; Records relating to shares, 1881-1948; Directors' reports, 1881-1947; Patent records, 1870-1938; Case papers in a petition in the Court of Session, Nov. 1933, Feb. 1934; Cash books, 1880-1907; Order books, 1907-1946; Cost books, 1897-1942; Tender for glazing Waverley Station, Edinburgh, 1896; Illustrated catalogues of Pennycook's system, with photographs of completed contracts, undated; Photographs of completed contracts, c 1900-1940, undated.

Conditions governing access/use: Open to the public. Access from the Mitchell Library archive, 9am-5pm Monday to Friday (until 8pm on Tuesday). Items cannot be produced one hour before closing, or between 1pm and 2pm.

Related records:

### Company History

Pennycook Patent Glazing & Engineering Co was incorporated in 1880. The company pioneered the use of roof trusses and steel stanchions to create large glazed and waterproof roofs without using putty (see <http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/cgi-bin/paperspast?a=d&d=ME18881109.2.43&l=mi&e=-----10--1----0--> ). Contracts completed included Sweetmeat Automatic Delivery Co, Ltd, Glasgow, Waverley Station, Edinburgh, Central Station, Glasgow, Caledonian Railway Station, Dundee, Portland Hotel, London, People's Palace Hall, Belfast, London Public Baths, Wandsworth, London,

Music and Art Galleries, Evre, France, the Imperial War Museum, London, and the Ruyksmuseum, Amsterdam. At its dissolution in 2002 it was a public limited company trading and operating from Bellshill in Lanarkshire.

Thanks to Glasgow City Archives for supplying this information.

## Pumpherstons Oil Company Limited

Company Number: SC001295

Date of Incorporation: 3 November 1883

Contact Details: Boness Road, Grangemouth, Stirlingshire, FK3 9XQ

Operating Details: Dissolved 19 December 1997

Other names (if known): None known, but former subsidiary of Scottish Oils Ltd (itself a subsidiary of Anglo-Persian Oils, later BP)

Function of Company\*: Non Trading Company (7499), previously services to oil and gas extraction (1120)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Pumpherston

Area of Operation: Pumpherston oil works

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Split between the BP archive and Almond Heritage Valley Trust. At this time (Jan 2011) most of the BP archive is to be transferred to the Almond Valley Heritage Trust, except those records that relate to BP/Anglo Persian Oil. No reference number for collection.

Scope/type: BP archive 1882-1960s includes : Company minutes, accounts, legal agreements and leases, prospectus', financial reports and salary papers.

Almond valley heritage Trust: architectural drawings, photographs, financial records (invoices, cost statements, balance sheets), artifacts, miscellaneous operational paperwork

Conditions governing access/use: The BP archive is open to the public for any records up to 1979 by prior appointment. The Almond Valley Heritage Trust is in the middle of an ambitious project to digitise its records, but otherwise they remain open to the public by prior appointment.

Related records: See

<http://survey.scottishshale.co.uk/FilterPages/companyResults.php?AOID=221> for a comprehensive list. Some photographs and plans relating to the site held by RCAHMS, South Lanarkshire Council and West Lothian Council Archive and Records Centre. Articles and patents relating to the site and company held by West Lothian Council Local History Library. Various legal records and plans relating to the company are held in the NAS. Please see website for various holdings of single photos of Pumpherston works.

## Company History

Pumpherston Oil Company Ltd was founded by William Fraser in 1883 and floated with a capital of £130,000 after the construction of the Pumpherston Oil works in 1882. The company was set up initially to work seams of shale which had been abandoned because of their low oil content. Fraser used new designs of retort to extract valuable ammonia from poor-quality shales at Pumpherston. In 1892 the company took over the operations of the Bathgate Oil Company, most notably the site at Seafield, and in 1894 took over the West Lothian Oil Company based at Livingston Station. This site was restructured as the Deans Works. These previous bankrupt shale oil enterprises (and the works at Tarbrax, bought in 1912) were turned into rich sources of crude oil which Pumpherston could refine into other products.

By 1902 the company employed 1200 men, and in 1908 the Deans Works doubled in size. After the takeover of the Tarbrax oil companies Pumpherston became the largest shale oil company in the industry in Scotland.

"Fraser's company invested heavily in its workforce too, providing high-quality housing for miners and their families. The Works had a close relationship with the surrounding community and made many lasting contributions to the villagers' lives. After the first world war, most Scottish oil companies lost their independence but the best talents from Pumpherston went on to power the development of the multi-national oil company now known as British Petroleum (BP)." (Riches Below the Castle, Vicky Whyte, 1993)

### Scottish Oils Limited

Scottish Oils Limited was formed by the merger of the 5 remaining Scottish shale oil companies (Pumpherston, Broxburn, Oakbank, Philpstoun and Youngs) in 1919. This company was a subsidiary of the Anglo-Persian Oil Company (which became British Petroleum in 1954), although all five companies continued to operate independently within the structure. Based at Middleton Hall, a 1707 mansion house in Uphall, Scottish Oils provided admin, marketing and technical support for the Scottish shale oil industry. Its first Managing Director was William Fraser of Pumpherston Oil. In 1924 Anglo Persian Oil supported the industry by opening the refinery in Grangemouth.

However following the removal of war time controls, soaring wage and price inflation made the oil produced in the Lothians more expensive and unprofitable. By 1932 the remaining shale oil companies were legally absorbed by Scottish Oils, which started to make dramatic cuts on staff and equipment. By 1938 there were five remaining crude oil works (Addiewell, Deans, Roman Camp, Hopetoun and Niddry Castle) and a dozen or so shale mines and pits, and a coal mine at Baads.

The Second World War brought an increase in oil prices and wages (the first real terms increase since the early part of the century), and even the redevelopment of premises. However by 1954 shale oil had again become a loss-making industry in Scotland, and closures began from the 1950s onwards. Broxburn (closed in 1962) and Pumpherston (1964) were the last refineries to close.

The Pumpherson site continued to refine petroleum from Nottinghamshire until 1964. A synthetic detergent plant grew to fill the site from the mid 1960s until its closure in 1993, when an extensive land remediation project created a golf course in its place.

Thanks to Almond Valley Heritage Trust and the BP Archives for their help with this entry

## Quays Group PLC

Company Number: SC000689

Date of Incorporation: 22 June 1876

Contact Details: KPMG, Saltire Court, 20 Castle Terrace. Edinburgh, EH1 2EG

Operating Details: In Liquidation

Other names (if known): The Cathcart Cemetery Company, Cathcart Holdings Limited, Alexander Holdings Limited (from 1910-2002)

Function of Company\*: Holding Companies including Head Offices (7415). Previously Cemetery management (9303) later motor vehicle retail (5010)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Cathcart, Glasgow; later Edinburgh

Area of Operation: Branches in Edinburgh, Northampton, Greenock, Kirkintilloch, Cumbernauld, Spalding, Stamford and Lincoln (see history for more details)

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Privately held, see contact address

Scope/type: Amended Articles of Association (1971, 1994, 1995), Memorandum of Association (amended, 1974); Share information (certificates, index of holders, register etc) 1965-2000; Annual Reports 1965-2000; various financial information 1985-2000

Conditions governing access/use: Contact above address. Items are due to be disposed of.

Related records: None found, although it may be that Cathcart Cemetery records are held at the Mitchell Library in Glasgow.

## Company History

Cathcart Cemetery is one of the older cemeteries in Glasgow. This company appears to have been the Cathcart Cemetery company at its incorporation in 1876, though it later became Cathcart Holdings. This may reflect either a transfer of the cemetery to local council control (possibly as it filled and became less profitable), or that the cemetery became one of many businesses run by the parent company.

For whatever reason, in 1910 the company, by then established as Alexanders holdings, became one of the first Ford dealerships in the UK, operating out of Edinburgh. The company was not only concerned with selling and leasing automobiles, as by 1935 it was also a notable tractor dealer in Edinburgh as well. The business expanded outside of



Edinburgh, and in 1965 had branches (run as individual companies) in Kirkintilloch and Greenock, a garage facility in Broomielaw and described itself as Scotland's largest Ford Main dealers.

Over the next two decades the company expanded by acquiring dealerships in Northampton, Spalding and Stamford (both to the North of Peterborough), Cumbernauld, Huddersfield and Lincoln (the latter both non-Ford dealerships). Throughout the 1970s the company re-developed its sites and portfolio, and even expanded into Holland. However in 1984 the tractor division in Edinburgh shut down, and the company began to struggle as Ford's share of the British market contracted.

In 1994 Ford declined to renew its dealership agreement with Edinburgh, following a large recession. This led the group to begin to re-structure and sell-off its assets in order to maximise its profits. The contract rental division (a consistently profitable part of the business) was passed on in 1998 to Axius UK, and in 1999 the Edinburgh auto-centre was closed and Alexanders of Greenock (the last remaining branch) was sold on.

In 2000, Craigen Estates Overseas acquired nearly 30% of the shares, and appointed a new management team. After a review the company was repositioned as an investment company, and Alexanders was renamed the Quays group PLC. In 2002 this group became involved in acquiring property freeholds and leaseholds from Orb Estates PLC property (based in Poole in Dorset). In acquiring these property the Group became a subsidiary of Orb Developments, as the leaseholds were exchanged for shareholdings in the Quays Group. In 2003, following the collapse of a subsidiary (Poole Developments) connected to the cost overruns of the Dolphin Quays redevelopment, the company was placed into liquidation.

There is still an Alexanders site in Edinburgh, though it trades used cars rather than new Ford models. It appears to operate on the site of the old auto-centre.

Thanks to KPMG for granting permission to access the documents of this company

## Rose Street Engineering (1985) Limited

Company Number: SC000406

Date of Incorporation: 1 January 1881

Contact Details: [www.ai-welders.co.uk](http://www.ai-welders.co.uk), AI Welders, Dalcross Industrial Estate, Inverness, Inverness-Shire IV2 7XB

Operating Details: Please see company history. The company registered under this number was dissolved 30 September 2005, but the successor organisation, AI Welders Ltd, is still an ongoing concern.

Other names (if known): Northern Agricultural Implement Foundry Co. 1872-1895  
Rose Street Foundry & Engineering Co. 1895-1945, Resistance Welders Ltd. (1945-1962), A.I. Welders Ltd. (1962-1992)

Function of Company\*: Manufacture of other metalworking tools (welding) (2942)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Inverness

Area of Operation: Exports worldwide

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Highlands Council Archive GB0232/D1

Scope/type: Minute Books, 1872-1986; Statement of Accounts and Annual Returns, 1922-1991; Articles of Association and Incorporation, 1938-1985; Director's Correspondence Files 1964-1987; Employees Welfare Fund (Resistance Welders Ltd) 1951-1991; Pension Fund, 1958-1965; Company Reports, 1980s; Patent Application & Renewals, 1970s; Ledgers & Order Books, 1938-1966; Shipping Logs and registration documents, 1913-1920; Seals Register Books, 1966-1984; Plant Registers 1937-1963; Technical Manuals and Papers, 1952-1973; Sales & Publicity, 1915-1991; Staff Records, 1939-1951; Visitor's Books, 1950-1992; Misc. documents including those received from ex employees following 1992 exhibition, 1872-1999; Glass Slides and negatives, 1930s-1940s; Photographs, 1940s-1964; Films, 1944; Plans, 1866-1972; Name Plates and Other objects, n.d.

Conditions governing access/use: See usual terms of Highland Council Archive, subject to DPA

Related records:

## Company History

The Company began by manufacturing agricultural implements and wire fencing and operating as a general iron foundry. It grew with the arrival of the railway in the

Highlands and later diversified into marine engineering. In 1908 Sam Hunter-Gordon joined the company, initiating a family involvement with the company which lasted for 70 years and inspired its successes. The Foundry prospered during World War I, during the depression of the 1930s, acquisition of a Bradford firm and the patent for resistance welding saved the company and led to considerable success during World War II and later at home and overseas. Changes of ownership between 1973 and 1985 culminated in the closure of the firm in 1991; it was re-established in the same year through a management buyout. This successor firm is known as AI Welders Limited, SC131795, and was incorporated in 1991.

Thanks to Highlands Council Archives for supplying this information, used here with permission.

## Royal Glasgow Institute of the Fine Arts

Company Number: SC000912

Date of Incorporation: 21 August 1878

Contact Details: 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Oswald Street, Glasgow, G1 4QR,  
[www.royalglasgowinsitute.org](http://www.royalglasgowinsitute.org)

Operating Details: Active, private company limited by guarantee, no share capital

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Other membership organisations (9133)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Glasgow

Area of Operation: Glasgow

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Glasgow City Archives Special Collections GB 243

Scope/type: Cuttings Books various dates 1876-1978; Correspondence various dates 1969-1981; Minute books various 1861 -1971; Reports and Accounts 1895-1983; Roll of members 1870-1879,1873-1970; Sales books 1870-82,1921-31,1947-1976; Letter books International Exhibition 1888; Burns Exhibition 1896,Minute Book; Circular Books 1877-1903,1938-1953,1953-1970; Circular files 1967-1978; Accounts and Reports 1895 onwards various dates; Accounts journal 1879-1929; Admissions etc 1893-1904,1906-1912; RGI catalogues various dates 1889-1939; Exhibition catalogues various dates 1862-1982; Various sales books,cash books,receipts,press cuttings etc

Conditions governing access/use: The collections are available for reference from the Mitchell Library Level 2, archives and special collections department

Related records:

## Company History

By the middle of the 19th century Glasgow had become one of the most important cities of the British Empire, a centre of commerce, industry and population unequalled in Scotland and with few peers in the rest of the British Isles. The city had its complement of theatres, concert halls and libraries, a major art collection donated by Archibald McLellan and a number of art dealers but, surprisingly, no regular exhibition of the works of contemporary painters and sculptors. From the 1780s various organisations had attempted to fill this gap but none of them had either the financial backing or qualities of direction to maintain their initial impetus. It was with this in mind that on 29 May 1861, a group of ten or so of Glasgow's prominent citizens met in the Queen's Rooms, Buchanan Street, to discuss the establishment of annual exhibitions of the work of living

artists. Roughly half of this group were artists, John Graham (later Sir John Graham-Gilbert), John Mossman and C N Woolworth being the best known, but a local businessman, Henry Simson, was elected Chairman at the meeting and was charged with arranging a public meeting and finding further financial support for the new Glasgow Institute of the Fine Arts.

The public meeting endorsed the plans of the steering committee and Graham, along with Daniel MacNee RSA (who was co-opted to the committee) was given the task of arranging the first exhibition at the end of 1861. A budget of £500 was agreed and Glasgow Corporation agreed to the hire of the Corporation Galleries (now the McLellan Galleries) in Sauchiehall Street. One hundred and eleven paintings were sold but so many works were submitted that the costs increased to over £1,000 and a profit of only £55.2.3d was achieved. It was however, both an artistic and an enormous popular success attracting 39,099 visitors, with the Minute Book recording that a large proportion of these were purchasers of "Working Men's Tickets". Despite the disappointing financial results the Committee were encouraged by the reception the exhibition had received both from the artistic community and the general public. Accordingly, a formal Council and Constitution were voted in and plans were made for a second exhibition.

The shows, which followed, proved the financial viability of the new Institute and the quality of work submitted for exhibition vindicated the original decision to embark upon such an ambitious project. This early success, in some ways unexpected, brought with it a number of problems. The growing numbers of exhibits and artists placed a greater strain on the only suitable premises, the Corporation Galleries, and the Corporation of the City of Glasgow began to express its misgivings about the Institute's repeated demands for accommodation. In particular, the Corporation was most unhappy about renting its Galleries to the Institute for four or five months of the year - which involved packing and putting into store the McLellan Collection of Old Masters. The relationship between Institute and Corporation was, at best, uneasy but the popularity of the exhibition with both the "art-buying" and the "art-loving" public ensured its continuing annual appearance at the Corporation Galleries until 1879 when the Institute opened its own Gallery in Sauchiehall Street (a building better known to more recent generations of Glaswegians as Pettigrew and Stephens' department store). The institute became a registered company during the planning of this opening.

As the exhibitions grew in size, so did they in quality. John Graham lent pictures by Turner and Constable, and the practice grew in the 1870s to include many works by French painters which had recently entered Scottish collections. Agents were recruited in London to seek out pictures for the Institute and by 1880 some of the most famous English artists were regular exhibitors in Glasgow, Albert Moore, Millais, Holman Hunt, Poynter, Leighton, Watts and Burne Jones joined London Scots, such as Pettrie and Orchardson, MacWhirter and Farquharson as contributors of major paintings to the annual exhibitions at the Institute. French and Dutch paintings became regular features too, either borrowed from collectors such as James Donald and Sir Peter Coats or contributed for sale by the artists' dealers in London and Glasgow. Many a Millet or Corot, Israels or Maris found a permanent home in Glasgow after its appearance on the walls of the Institute.

Not surprisingly the popular success of these exhibitions increased the Institute's profits - 45,327 people visited the second exhibition, 53,000 visitors were received at the third and the figures rose steadily for twenty years. Both the quality and quantity of works on show grew and the strain on the accommodation offered by the Corporation spurred the Institute to build a Gallery of its own. For some years the Institute had been putting part of its profits into the purchase of works from the exhibition and by the sale of these, and some judicious borrowings, sufficient funds were raised for the new project. J J Burnet was chosen as architect, a site was acquired in Sauchiehall Street between West

Campbell Street and Wellington Street, and the new Galleries opened with the annual exhibition of 1879.

The opening of these new Galleries marked a change in the role and finances of the Institute. By 1880 it had become an established venue on the round of the grand formal exhibitions which were open to all artists throughout Britain. The Institute joined the Royal Academy, The Royal Scottish Academy, The West of England Academy, The Hibernian Academy, The Manchester Institute and the Liverpool Autumn Exhibition in the circle - some might say circus - of exhibitions where the latest fashions and the latest productions of the great names were revealed every year. In 1896, in recognition of the Institute's considerable achievements, Queen Victoria conferred upon it a Royal Charter and the Institute, as we know it today was formally constituted.

Until the outbreak of war in 1914, the Institute maintained its artistic and social success with annual displays of the latest in British painting which were unrivalled in Scotland. Although the most avant-garde of painters from the South did not show at the Institute, or any of the other major venues, the established figures of the day all sent their latest works to Glasgow. Sargent and Whistler, Waterhouse and Millais, Renoir and Khnopff, could be seen alongside Henry and Hornel, Gauld and Park, Lavery and Guthrie, together with the younger generation of Scottish painters and sculptors, spurred on by the example and success of the more senior men.

The benefits brought to the Institute by having its own Galleries, however, were soon offset by increased running costs. From being the organiser of a single annual exhibition, the Institute was suddenly presented with the problem of maintaining interest in its own Galleries throughout the year. Much of the Institute's capital had gone into the new building, and its assets were few, having sold its collection of paintings to help finance the Galleries. So, in 1902, after the opening of the new Corporation Art Gallery at Kelvingrove and the removal of the collections there, the Institute decided to sell its own premises and revert to its original hire of the McLellan Galleries which were now more easily available. Its debts were cleared but Glasgow lost one of its most attractive Gallery spaces, which was purchased by Pettigrew and Stephens, as an extension to its existing premises. Badly damaged by fire, it was eventually demolished in the early 1970s.

The outbreak of war in 1914 was not allowed to disrupt the Institute's exhibition programme, and it continued to attract many of the artists from the south who had, in the previous decade, become its chief asset. Among these, of course, could now be numbered two of the Glasgow Boys who had settled in London before the war and were now pillars of the English artistic establishment - Sir John Lavery RA and George Henry RA. By this date they represented the old guard, along with others of the Boys who continued to exhibit - Gauld, Park, Guthrie, Walton and Hornel - but some younger painters, more in touch with the latest developments at home and abroad, also made regular appearances. The most prominent of these were three men approaching middle age - S J Peploe, Leslie Hunter and F C B Cadell - who made a direct link with pre-war Paris and the paintings of Matisse and Picasso.

Between the wars the Institute began to suffer from a change in artistic trends. Few bodies of its size continued to attract the younger generation of experimental painters and sculptors. After 1939, when J D Fergusson settled in Glasgow and helped to set up the New Art Club, other small groups were formed to provide a more progressive alternative to the Institute. By refusing to send to the Institute or Academies, young painters compounded this state of affairs, leaving the field open to the more traditional painters who took advantage of the situation and made the most of the excellent opportunities which the Institute provided. The control of these large artistic bodies was now more firmly than ever in the hands of the older painters, two major wars having the effect of decimating whole generations of talented men and women. This was

exacerbated by the election process to the council, ensuring that more traditionalists took the few available seats, and that a more conservative outlook prevailed.

During the 1950s and in the decades since, there has been a concentrated effort to rekindle the excitement that the Institute generated in the first fifty years of its existence and the fruits of that policy are now becoming apparent. The generous gift of the J D Kelly Gallery gave the Council an opportunity to encourage individual painters through small exhibitions in the city at a time when such spaces were rare and oversubscribed. The Institute remains, by far, the largest and the best attended exhibition of contemporary art. It has provided space on its walls for many shades of artistic opinion and no longer operates the aesthetic censorship that was prevalent in the 1920 and 1930s. It may be a truism, but the quality and liveliness of its exhibitions is almost entirely dependent upon the quality of work submitted.

The Institute is aware of the problems which troubled it and similar bodies throughout the country and has come to grips with them. It faces its new role with enthusiasm and commitment, from a sound financial base, ready to play its own part in the current regeneration of the visual arts in the city to the heights they achieved a century ago. Its success cannot be doubted and it will be judged, and hopefully applauded, by Members and exhibitors for many years to come.

Roger Billcliffe from <http://www.royalglasgowinstitute.org/history.html>

Thanks to Glasgow Special Collections for permission to publicise their holdings

## Royal Philosophical Society of Glasgow

Company Number: SC000887

Date of Incorporation: 30 April 1879

Contact Details: 19 Norwood Drive, PO Box Nat 8268, Glasgow, Strathclyde, G46 7BR

Operating Details: Active

Other names (if known): Glasgow Philosophical Society

Function of Company\*: Professional Society (9631)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Glasgow

Area of Operation: Glasgow

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: University of Glasgow Special Collections (library) GB0247 MS Gen 1756

Scope/type: Memoranda and Articles of Association; Photographs and Certificates; Society and Council Meetings; Council Reports; Financial Records; Membership and related records; Activities and publicity; Administrative records; books and bound publications; artefacts

Conditions governing access/use: Contact Special Collections- access is available in library opening hours.

Related records: Some relevant correspondence files kept at the National Archives of Scotland.

## Company History

On 9th Nov. 1802, in response to an invitation, twenty-two citizens met in the prince of Wales Tavern, Glasgow where they set up a committee to outline the principles for a Society 'for the improvement of the Arts and Sciences' in Glasgow. An important consideration was the establishment of a select library of scientific books. A week later a meeting was held in the Assembly Rooms at which sixty persons subscribed to the setting up of the Glasgow Philosophical Society. On 8th Dec the Regulations were approved and a Council was elected. The first President was a Professor of Astronomy and the Vice-President was an ironfounder, thus representing the joint interests of science and industry. From the beginning it was intended that meetings would be held weekly in the winter and fortnightly in the summer and that the members would present papers on experiments and exhibit models or artefacts.

Towards the establishment of a scientific library subscriptions were made to scientific journals. In June 1803 it is minuted that Mr Robertson, the Vice-President, when in



London, purchased for the society several new publications on the arts and sciences, and shortly afterwards there was a postal delivery of 71 journals. In 1812 the Regulations were amended to add a Librarian to the Council. The Society registered as a limited liability company in 1879.

One of the problems of the Society was the finding of suitable rooms in which to hold meetings and to house the Library. Short leases (3/6yrs) were obtained for various places but it was not until 1831 that an agreement was reached with the Andersonian University in Ingram Street for the regular use of a room for meetings and the library books and journals were transferred to the University. This successful arrangement lasted until 1868 when the University accommodation was no longer available and an alternative was found at the new Corporation Galleries in Sauchiehall Street. This in turn lasted until 1880 when the society joined (with) the Institute of Engineers and Shipbuilders to erect a new building in Bath Street. After some years this became too small for both societies and in 1906 the Engineers were bought out and they built new premises. The Society was created The Royal Philosophical Society of Glasgow by King Edward VII on the occasion of the Society's centenary in 1902.

After the 1939/45 war many other professional societies were formed and there were other libraries for the 'arts and sciences'. The meetings had for some time been addressed by invited speakers rather than by the members, and the expense of maintaining large premises was becoming excessive. In 1961 the building was sold, and the library of over 5000 volumes was dispersed. Since then lecture halls have been rented and since 1994 meetings have been held in Strathclyde University, the successor of the Royal Technical College which was itself formed around the old Andersonian University.

The Society has had many eminent members and became a Royal Society in 1902 when Lord Blythswood was President. Thomas Graham, when he was Professor of Chemistry at the Andersonian University, was Vice-President from 1834-1837. He later became Master of the Mint and the Graham Medal and the Graham lecture were founded in his honour. In 1859 (the) Council agreed that the Honorary Membership could be awarded to 'distinguished men of science belonging to any part of the world' and the total number of these was not to exceed 20 at any one time. One of the first to be elected in 1860 was Baron Leibig, a former colleague of Graham. Professor Faraday and Dr. Joule were also elected in 1860. Sir William Thomson was President when the British Association visited Glasgow in 1876 and in 1896 he was elected (as Lord Kelvin) an Honorary Member. There was a memorial lecture on his centenary in 1957 and the first annual Kelvin lecture was given by Sir Edward Appleton in 1959. Other Honorary Members included Professor Pavlov, Ronald Russ and Sir J.J. Thomson in 1923 and in 1926 Sir Arthur Evans, Professor Sir Ernest Rutherford and Professor Albert Einstein.

The post-war period has witnessed Glasgow's decline as a centre of heavy industry, and the Society's current programming reflects changes in the community. The growth of professional associations and the facilities afforded by the media also distracted from the importance of the Society as a 'scientific shop window'. Although lectures on scientific development continue to feature, the social sciences, moral philosophy and the arts have been given increasing prominence. In 1978 an Arts Award lecture was added to the Graham and Kelvin medals which are given annually to scholars of particular distinction in their fields. The Society continues in existence and offers a programme of weekly lectures.

Information taken from <http://www.royalphil.org/pages/history.xml>

Thanks to the University of Glasgow Library Special Collections for permission to publicise their holdings

## Royex Surplus (No.13) Limited

Company Number: SC000347

Date of Incorporation: 28 February 1871

Contact Details: 13 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh 2

Operating Details: Dissolved (dissolved in 1996, last traded in 1995)

Other names (if known): Caledonian Insurance Company (1825- 1950s?) Guardian Mortgage Company Limited (1950s?-1996)

Function of Company\*: Non-trading company (7499) previously insurance (6601) and then mortgage finance (6522)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Edinburgh

Area of Operation: Across Scotland and the UK, and operated in North America and Australia for a period. The most recent incarnation of the company was active in Northern Ireland

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: London Metropolitan Archive CLC/B/107-06

[http://search.lma.gov.uk/scripts/mwimain.dll/144/LMA\\_OPAC/web\\_detail/REFD+%22CLC~2FB~2F107-06%22?SESSIONSEARCH&URLMARKER=STARTREQUEST](http://search.lma.gov.uk/scripts/mwimain.dll/144/LMA_OPAC/web_detail/REFD+%22CLC~2FB~2F107-06%22?SESSIONSEARCH&URLMARKER=STARTREQUEST)

Scope/type: Caledonian Insurance Company records comprise of minutes and agendas, as well as overseas report books 1834-1963

Conditions governing access/use: Please contact LMA, these records require notice to retrieve.

Related records: GD 294 in NAS relates to Caledonian Insurance Company. The companies it amalgamated with have their own entries in the National Archives of Scotland BT2 series (Edinburgh Fire BT2/769, Scottish Fire (which was registered as two companies) BT2/173 & 175, Scottish Metropolitan Fire Assurance BT2/952)

## Company History

I believe this company refers to at least part of the Caledonian Insurance Company. The dates of other records match this one, and no other Companies House number matches the company.

The Caledonian Insurance Company was established in Edinburgh in 1805. Its initial business was fire insurance. It also dealt in life assurance from 1833. It opened offices in London in 1840 at 27 Moorgate. This office moved to 39 Lothbury in 1863, then to 82 King William Street in 1882, to 51 Coleman Street in 1926 and finally to 5 Lothbury in

1927. Business was established in the United States of America and Australia from the 1890s. It amalgamated with Edinburgh Fire, Scottish Fire and Scottish Metropolitan Fire in the late 19th century and became a subsidiary of Guardian Assurance Company (CLC/B/107-01) in 1957, having seemingly been on the brink of a merger with Standard Life in 1950.

At some point (possibly 1957-1967) the company appears to have become the Guardian Mortgage Company, though it kept its Scottish registration number. By the Second World War the Guardian Assurance Company held some 40% of its assets in mortgages, so it would appear logical to have made provision for these assets. It may be that the company occupied the same position as the Heritable Securities and Mortgage Investment Association did at Standard Life, first offering mortgage assurance to the public and then becoming an instrument for staff mortgages.

In 1968 Guardian Assurance merged with Royal Exchange to form Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance. In 1999 the business was merged with AXA of France, and the life assurance end of the business was taken over by AEGON. At some point in the mid-1990s the name of the above company was changed (indicating that it was no longer required by the business) at approximately the same time as 20 other subsidiaries of Guardian Royal Exchange.

<http://www.worldcat.org/wcpa/oclc/655662732?page=frame&url=http%3A%2F%2Fmain-cat.nls.uk%2Fcgi-bin%2Fpwebrecon.cgi%3FDB%3Dlocal%26BOOL1%3Dall%2Bof%2Bthese%26FLD1%3DKeyword%2BAnywhere%2B%28GKEY%29%26CNT%3D25%2Brecords%2Bper%2Bpage%26SAB1%3D655662732%26checksum%3D75fc5cd38b83f6e8cf6090798eca46e2&title=National+Library+of+Scotland&linktype=opac&detail=NLE%3ANational+Library+of+Scotland%3AAcademic+Library>

<http://www.scran.ac.uk/database/record.php?usi=000-000-121-753-C>

Information on this entry supplied by London Metropolitan Archives and used with permission.

## Samnugger Jute Factory Company Limited

Company Number: SC000578

Date of Incorporation: 21 August 1874

Contact Details: 24 Great King Street, Edinburgh, Scotland, EH3 6QN

Operating Details: Active

Other names (if known): none

Function of Company\*: Preparation & spin of other textiles (2470)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Calcutta, registered in Edinburgh

Area of Operation: Calcutta (India)

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Dundee University Archives, GB0254 MS86/I

Scope/type: Minutes 1874-1976; shareholding records 1912-1966; ledgers 1933-1959; cash books 1935-1966; journal 1924-1975; balance sheets 1919-1976; annual reports 1904-1958; memoranda and articles of association 1874-1976; employees' records 1913-1950; order books 1926-1964; specifications; quotations and price lists 1874-c.1900; plans c.1874-1977 and technical drawings 1874-1896.

Conditions governing access/use: Open for consultation subject to preservation requirements. Access must also conform to the restrictions of the Data Protection Act and any other appropriate legislation.

Related records: See also the collections of Thomas Duff & Company Limited (held as GB0254 MS/86/V in the same archive)

## Company History

This Calcutta-based company was floated in 1873 by Thomas Duff (previously manager of the Borneo Co) in conjunction with the brothers Alexander and James Nicoll and Joseph Johnston Barrie. Managed by William Smith (previously of Cox Brothers, Lochee) working for the agents, Messrs Schoene Kilburn & Co, the Samnuggur Jute Factory Co was particularly successful at a time (c.1875) when other Calcutta mills languished or failed, and proved the ability of the Calcutta mills to compete with Dundee for the American and Australian markets.

In 1883 the firm of Thomas Duff was incorporated as a limited company and took over the agency. An additional mill was built in 1901 on the opposite (north) bank of the River Hooghly at Bhaddressar. In 1972 a workshop was set up at Samnuggur [North] to produce components for mill machinery in the 'Duff' group. Samnuggur Jute Factory Co

Ltd merged with Victoria Jute Factory Co Ltd and Titaghur Jute Factory Co Ltd in 1969, with the latter as the parent company and the Angus Company Ltd as a subsidiary of the group. In 1976 changes to the articles of association were adopted, reorganising the capital of the Company and transferring its residence to India, effectively passing management and control of the Company from Dundee to Calcutta.

The companies involved in Titaghur were latterly under the control of Azmara PLC (the holding company) until Azmara lost control of its property to its tenants in India over the course of 2001. The company is listed as active, but in reality has no active holdings.

With thanks to Dundee University Archives for permission to re-use this information

## Sanderson & Murray Limited

Company Number: SC001091

Date of Incorporation: 25 February 1882

Contact Details: 39 St Vincent Place, Glasgow, G1 2QQ

Operating Details: Dissolved 12 September 2000

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Holding companies including head offices (at time of dissolution) (7415), clothing production (1822)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Galashiels

Area of Operation: Borders- see history

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Heart of Hawick archive GB 1097 SC/S/6

Scope/type: Sanderson & Murray Ltd, Galashiels, records, 1789-1945, including: Correspondence, 1855-1915; Journal, 1882-1895; Ledger, 1895-1921; Balance book, 1872-1908; Legal documents, 1789-1915; Accounts, 1854-1915; Papers relating to Buenos Aires Land purchase, 1882-1889; Correspondence and miscellaneous, 1852-1916, undated; Boiler house records, 1925-1945; Photographs, 1945, undated

Conditions governing access/use: Operation in compliance with Local Authority FOI and Data Protection legislation. Applications for permission to quote or reproduce should be sent to the archive manager

Related records:

## Company History

Sanderson & Murray Ltd was established in 1844, in Roxburgh Street, Galashiels by John Murray (1819-1892) and William Sanderson (d 1880). John Murray was born in Jedburgh and worked in the family carrier's business. In 1839 he was employed at Galashiels as the local agent for Machell & Co, carriers between Edinburgh, Liverpool and Manchester. At the same time he set up in business on his own, buying waste from Borders wool manufacturers and selling it to the cloth makers in Yorkshire. Murray married the sister of William Sanderson of Sanderson & Paterson, builders in Low Buckholmside, and he and his brother-in-law went into partnership. William Sanderson provided the capital, and Murray

had the expertise in wool trading. In 1856 the company bought land and established premises in Low Buckholmside, and began fellmongering (selling of sheep-skins). That same year John Murray made a buying trip to Hamburg with his nephew, John Sanderson, and, in 1857, when Sanderson was only 20, Murray sent him on a buying trip to Australia and New Zealand; making him a partner a year later. On his return to Australia in 1858 it was decided that he should settle there. In Australia he traded as John Sanderson & Co and eventually went on to become independent of the parent company; expanding and establishing branches in other countries.

In 1860 Sanderson and Murray rented premises in Alloa for tanning, later transferring this part of the business back to Galashiels. In 1862 John Sanderson returned for a visit to the Borders and plans were laid to invest the profits from the parent company into sheep-farming. A new venture was undertaken in 1863 when land was bought in New Zealand and placed under the management of a J W Turnbull. There were disastrous fires in 1873 and again in 1882 which destroyed most of the Galashiels buildings, but the company rebuilt and continued to expand their interests to the Continent, Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania and to the South Americas. In 1870 they started the London firm of Sanderson, Murray & Co, Wool-merchants. William Sanderson died in 1880 and John Murray continued the business until his death in 1892.

In 1902 the Galashiels company became a separate limited company, concentrating on fellmongering and leather dressing, and the London branch became Sanderson, Murray & Elder, wool-brokers. By the early 20th century the Sanderson family had transferred their interests to the London firm and the Galashiels company was left under control of the Murray family, until they sold their interest to Lord Barnby in 1918. From 1895 onwards William Addison (d 1954) developed an interest in the company, eventually becoming Managing Director and gaining the controlling interest, until his death when his son, William Addison (d 1977) took over the post. During the First World War they produced sheepskin jackets for the Forces. They went on to produce Beaver Lamb, which was popular post-war for coats, and made slippers etc until sheepskin and suede coats became fashionable. Sanderson and Murray Ltd closed down in 1980. The company was a holding company disposing of company assets until 2000.

Moray McLaren, *Sanderson & Murray Fellmongers and Wool Mongers 1844-1954 (Galashiels)*; *Galashiels, A Modern History* (Galashiels History Committee and Ettrick and Lauderdale District Council, 1983)

<http://www.scan.org.uk/catalogue NA9956> accessed 03/09/2008

Thanks to Heart of Hawick Heritage Hub for supplying this information, used with permission

## Scottish Assam Tea Company Limited

Company Number: SC000194

Date of Incorporation: 10 April 1865

Contact Details: Exchange Place 3, Sempie Street, Edinburgh, EH3 8BL

Operating Details: Active

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Holding companies including head offices (7415), previously tea exporting/planting (5137)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Edinburgh

Area of Operation: Assam, India

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: London Metropolitan Archives CLC/B/123-49

Scope/type: The records comprise: memorandum and articles of association, 1865, 1924 (Ms 28112); ledger, 1927-69 (Ms 28113); plans, 1863-4, ca. 1925 (Ms 28114-15); and correspondence and other papers 1927 (Ms 28116)

Conditions governing access/use:

Related records:

## Company History

Company of tea growers and manufacturers, operating in Assam, India, 1865-1969. It was formed in 1865 to purchase, cultivate and extend the Heelekah, Mazengah and Karsoolie Estates in Assam. By 1898 it was listed as owning and improving estates in the Sibsagar District of Assam that comprised 6000 acres, and its directors were George Williamson, James Morton, TR Marshall, T Deas Boyd, Robert Turnbull and Colin George Macrae. It subsequently became part of the Inchcape Group of companies and wound down operations in India in 1969. Its surviving archives were deposited in the Manuscripts Section of Guildhall Library in 1987-88. They were catalogued in 1988-9.

This company appears to still be active in India, and, according to one financial website based in India, has recently (March 2011) been absorbed by Scottish Assam (India) Ltd, a Kolkata based tea and coffee manufacturer (not listed in the UK).

Notes on the Inchcape Group Archives



Efforts to consolidate the extensive international investments of the Inchcape family and the directorships and partnerships held by the third Earl of Inchcape resulted in the public launch of a parent holding company, Inchcape and Co Ltd, in 1958. Interests in merchant trading, shipping and agency houses had been built up since 1874 when James Lyle Mackay (from 1911 the first Earl of Inchcape) joined the Calcutta-based merchant and agency firm of Mackinnon, Mackenzie and Co, established in 1847 by William Mackinnon. Mackinnon's business empire extended beyond India to Australia, the Middle East and East Africa. Founder of the British India Steam Navigation Co Ltd (whose historic records are at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich) and the Australasian United Steam Navigation Co Ltd, he also set up agency firms at strategic ports (Gray, Dawes and Co in London; Gray, Mackenzie and Co and Gray, Paul and Co in the Persian Gulf; and Smith, Mackenzie and Co in Zanzibar) to handle the passenger and merchandise cargo carried alongside the Royal Mail. As Mackinnon's commercial heir, Mackay had risen by the 1890s to the position of partner within the firm. He had also begun a personal investment portfolio, buying major shareholdings in Indian tea estates (among them Assam Estates Co Ltd, Greenwood Tea Co Ltd, Northern Dooars Tea Co Ltd and Salonah Tea Co Ltd), textile firms (Binny and Co Ltd) and their English and Indian managing agents (Macneill and Co, Duncan Macneill and Co, Barry and Co and J B Barry and Son) and in two river steamer companies (Rivers Steam Navigation Co Ltd and India General Steam Navigation Co Ltd) and their managing agents (Kilburn and Co). Before 1958, there was no structural link between the majority of these companies, whose common denominator was the Inchcape family interest in them. However, after the Second World War, change was necessary, especially in newly independent India, for reasons of taxation and other economic restrictions placed on foreign companies. The option finally decided on by the third Earl of Inchcape was for a rationalisation of holdings and the incorporation of those retained into a single publicly quoted company based in London rather than India. After the launch of the Inchcape Group in 1958, the group expanded very rapidly, both by the development of existing companies and their range of activities, and by the purchase of other groups: among them, the Borneo Co Ltd in 1967, Dodwell and Co Ltd in 1972, Anglo Thai Corporation in 1975 and Assam Co Ltd in 1980. The London headquarters of Inchcape and Co Ltd was at 40 St Mary Axe, 1960-88, and St James House, 23 King Street, Westminster, 1988-. The records both of the companies brought together in 1958, and of those acquired subsequently, were deposited in the Manuscripts Section of Guildhall Library between May 1987 and December 1988. (These records were all made an outright gift to Guildhall Library in June 1995.) They were catalogued in 1988-9. No records of Inchcape and Co Ltd were deposited. The archives are catalogued under the names of the individual companies within the group. Each individual company catalogue has its own introductory note setting out its history. Those companies with significant archives have more extensive notes; other notes are necessarily rather brief.

1897 listing from 'Tea Producing Companies of India and Ceylon showing the history and results of those capitalised in Stirling' by Gow, Wilson and Stanton (A Soutiiey & Co, London March 1897)

Accessed from

[http://www.archive.org/stream/teaproductingcomp00gowwrich/teaproductingcomp00gowwrich\\_djvu.txt](http://www.archive.org/stream/teaproductingcomp00gowwrich/teaproductingcomp00gowwrich_djvu.txt)

on 22nd December 2010

Thanks to London Metropolitan Archive for permission to re-print this information

## Scottish Boiler and General Insurance Company Limited

Company Number: SC001054

Date of Incorporation: 16 September 1881

Contact Details: Pitheavlis, Perth, PH2 0NH

Operating Details: Listed as active, though part of the Aviva Group

Other names (if known): Scottish Boiler Insurance and Engine Inspection Company Ltd

Function of Company\*: Non-life Insurance (6603)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Glasgow

Area of Operation: Agencies and branches in major UK towns and cities (including Manchester, Birmingham and Cardiff by the early 1900s). From 1919 there was a branch in Sydney, Australia.

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

### Records

Held By: Aviva group Archives, Surrey House, Norwich GB 2070

Scope/type: The Aviva archive contains records relating to the running of the Scottish Boiler and General Insurance Company between 1881 and 1997. The collection includes agenda books, share consolidation lists, board minutes, share ledgers, memoranda and articles of association, promotional material, seal registers, annual reports and accounts, press cuttings, circulars, specimen policies, proposals, surveyors notebooks and registers of transfers.

Conditions governing access/use: Access is by appointment only, and at the discretion of the group archivist. Access to customer records less than 100 years old and company records less than 30 years old is closed except in very special circumstances. Access will only be granted on the understanding that the reader is engaged in bona fide historical research, and that the information extracted will not be used against the company or go beyond the agreed subject of research. For further information on specific searchroom rules please see <http://www.aviva.com/about-us/heritage/our-archive/access-policy/>

Related records: Reports on public boilers and some court case records held in the National Archives of Scotland.

### Company History

The company was established by John Drummond Young to

"insure boilers against explosion or collapse, the testing of new boilers by hydraulic pressure, the superintendence of the erection of new engines, and the repairs of those in use".

Its first claim was paid to Henry Kennedy of Barrowfield Pottery in 1882. In 1889 the company purchased the patent for the Lancashire fusible plug.

On March 1 1920, the company's name was changed to the Scottish Boiler and General Insurance Company Ltd and, by 1968, it was operating the group engineering business for the Yorkshire. It would later fulfil the same role for the General Accident Fire Assurance Corporation, which acquired the Yorkshire that year.

Thanks to Aviva Group Archives, information is reprinted here with permission

## The Scottish Cremation Society Ltd

Company Number: SC002101

Date of Incorporation: 22 December 1890

Contact Details: Allan house, 25 Bothwell Street, Glasgow, G2 6NL

Operating Details: Active

Other names (if known): The Scottish Burial Reform and Cremation Society Limited

Function of Company\*: Funeral and related activities (9303)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Glasgow

Area of Operation: Glasgow

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

### Records

Held By: Private

Scope/type: Minute Books 1888-present; Cremation records 1895-present

Conditions governing access/use: Privately held, contact the Registrar at the above address for access. Access considered on a case by case basis.

Related records: There is a BT2 file held at the National Archives of Scotland (BT2/2101) despite the main records still being held at Companies House. The NAS also have court files and correspondence with James Hunter Annandale and the Company in 1900.

### Company History

Glasgow Crematorium was opened in 1895 after the Scottish Burial Reform and Cremation Society (1888) was established as an educational body, designed to promote cremation as a more sanitary form of disposal for a fast growing population.

It became the UK's third crematorium and Scotland's first after a long search for an appropriate piece of land. However, when the land at Glasgow's Western Necropolis was bought in 1893, it was two years before the first cremation took place on April 13th 1895.

The Crematorium was built in the gothic revival style. The architect used only the finest materials, including red sandstone and rare marble and included fine carvings, dogtooth ornament and a 'descending catafalque' which the Directors considered to be less of a departure from a traditional earth burial.

Cremations were extremely slow to catch on and, after ten years, only 191 had actually been carried out. After a further 30 years the annual figure was still only 346 but that did not deter the Society and, in 1936, they set to work doubling the capacity of the chapel to 100 and building four additional floors onto the Columbarium. In the late 1940's, as a result of increasing popularity, a second chapel was commissioned, opening as an extension of the existing buildings in 1954.

Wall space in the Chapel was widely used for memorial plaques but by 1953 the space was entirely used up and it was therefore decided to instruct FG Marshall Limited to provide a [Book of Remembrance](#) that continues to be in use to this day.

More recently, in 1995, the Chapel suffered fire damage and extensive works were required to replace the original roof. In the same year two Tabo Inex cremators were installed, finally coming into use in 1996. In 1997 the new Chapel was refurbished and the [Book of Remembrance](#) was relocated to the arcade area at the rear of the old chapel while its old room was converted into a waiting area. And, finally in 2007, The Old Chapel has been the subject of an extensive refurbishment programme.

<http://glasgowcrematorium.co.uk/history.htm>

## Scottish Insurance Corporation Limited

Company Number: SC00721

Date of Incorporation: 12 January 1877

Contact Details: Pitheavlis, Perth, PH2 0NH

Operating Details: Dissolved 7 October 2008

Other names (if known): the Scottish Accident Insurance Company Ltd (1877-1896), Scottish Accident Life and Fidelity Company (1896-1906), Scottish Accident Life and General Insurance Company (1906-1911)

Function of Company\*: Non-life Insurance (6603)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Perth, Edinburgh, London

Area of Operation: Home agencies in Middlesbrough, Haddington, Coupar, Galashiels and Selkirk by 1877. Home branches in other major cities in the UK. Overseas agencies and branches in Dublin, Australia, Canada, France and The Netherlands by 1963.

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Aviva Group Archives, Surrey House, Norwich GB 2070

Scope/type: The Aviva archive contains records relating to the running of the Scottish Insurance Corporation between 1877 and 2005. The collection includes board minute books, committee minute books, scrap books, staff photographs, board of trade returns, life policy registers, specimen policies, annual report and accounts and letter books.

Conditions governing access/use: Access is by appointment only, and at the discretion of the group archivist. Access to customer records less than 100 years old and company records less than 30 years old is closed except in very special circumstances. Access will only be granted on the understanding that the reader is engaged in bona fide historical research, and that the information extracted will not be used against the company or go beyond the agreed subject of research. For further information on specific searchroom rules please see <http://www.aviva.com/about-us/heritage/our-archive/access-policy/>

Related records: The National Archives of Scotland hold the BT/2 file for this company, despite records still being held at Companies House. The NAS also hold some court files and client records of the corporation.

## Company History

The company started business at the end of February 1877 and, according to its prospectus, was established to provide insurance against

"death or bodily injury by accidents of all kinds on the road, rail, or river, while bathing, boating, or hunting, on the street or farm, in the house or office, whether in pursuit of pleasure or business".

The company's first claim amounted to £7 10s and was paid on May 1 1877 to Mr Henry Whittington of Spennymoor. On June 27 1878, the company extended its policies to cover accidental death for

"those passengers and Mariners travelling by sea".

By 1885, the company was calling itself the

"first Scottish Accident Company"

and had paid 1,480 claims. These included £49 to a confectioner in Northampton who fell crossing a garden fence and injured his knee and £300 to the heirs of a butcher in Newcastle who fell into a well and drowned.

In 1896, the company extended its business to include life and fidelity assurance. To reflect this change the company was renamed the Scottish Accident Life and Fidelity Insurance Company Ltd on May 27 1896. On July 17 1906, the company changed its name again to the Scottish Accident Life and General Insurance Company Ltd.

By 1906, the company was offering personal accident, illness, pensions, workmen's compensation, life, endowment, fidelity, motor accident, burglary and housebreaking insurance and, in 1907, it added a fire business. On March 29 1911, the company was renamed the Scottish Insurance Corporation Ltd, which became a subsidiary of the Scottish Amicable Life Assurance Society in 1919.

The company continued to expand and, by 1934, had added plate glass insurance to its portfolio. By 1963, however, its principal activity was life insurance. In the same year, the company was acquired by the Yorkshire Insurance Company Ltd, which became part of the General Accident Fire & Life Assurance Corporation Ltd in 1967.

Thanks to Aviva Group Archives, information is reprinted here with permission

## Scottish Investment Trust plc

Company Number: SC001651

Date of Incorporation: 27 July 1887

Contact Details: 6 Albyn Place, Edinburgh, EH2 4NL

Operating Details: Active, Public Limited Company

Other names (if known): Edinburgh Scottish Investment Trust Co.

Function of Company\*: Security Broking & fund Management (6712)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Edinburgh

Area of Operation: Customers across the UK

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Privately held, please contact the NRAS. Held under NRAS4207

Scope/type: Corporate records: Articles of association 1927; Directors minutes 1887-date; General Meetings Minutes 1929-date; Audit Committee Minutes 1993-date; Trustees / Annual reports 1888-date; Signed Annual Reports 1962-1982; Shareholding Records: Stock Registers c1912-c1926; Dividend Journals 1936-1990; Register of transfers 1888-1945; Debenture Stock Transfer Registers 1888-1928; Register of the Transfer of Cumulative 6% Preference & Ordinary Stock 1925-1945; Transfer Registers for A Preference & Ordinary Shares 1945-1963; Accounting records: General Ledgers 1887-1982; Journals 1954-1976; Foreign Currency Cash books 1988-1990; Cash books 1934-1987 (with gaps 1942-1964); Bank Journals 1956-1990; Securities Account Ledgers 1951-1978; Dollar Loan Books 1997-1982; Temporary Loans Books 1976-1986; Investment Records: Investment Registers 1942-1962; Stock & Share Registers - Dead Accounts 1925-1961; Stock & Share Registers Closed Accounts 1936-1979; Valuations of Investments 1926-1952; Register of Purchases & Sales 1936-1988; Dealing Books 1982-1998; Bank Books 1910-1918 and 1926-1927; Bonds and Share Certificates 1907-1934; Miscellaneous Investment-Related Documents c1880s-1920s; Management records: Registers of Documents Executed by Company 1897-1975; Tested Messages Books 1971-1995; Expenses Books 1937-1994; Proxies 1964-1965; Petty Cash Book 1956-1993; Salaries Books 1937-1959; Management and Directors' Fees Books 1927-1962; Underwriting Commissions Books 1948-1977; Miscellaneous Management Documents including 'Prints' Volume containing prospectus, circulars to shareholders, proxies, chairman's speeches, annual reports, statutory documents, newspaper cuttings, etc 1887-1979; Shared Records of the Scottish Investment Trust Ltd, Second Scottish Investment Trust Ltd and the United States Trust Company Ltd: Petty Cash Book 1936-1959; General Subject Files 1932-1956.

Conditions governing access/use: Please contact NRAS for details. Company is happy to allow access for genuine researchers, pending NRAS approval.



Related records: 4 petitions relating to this company lodged in the National Archives of Scotland

## Company History

The Scottish Investment Trust Company Ltd was formed in July 1887 by John Gifford (a Christian philanthropist, founder of the Bankers Institute and brother of Adam, Lord Gifford), the Honorable Francis Jeffrey Moncrieff (son of the Lord Advocate and Captain of the Scottish rugby team) CA, Robert Jameson Torrie (stockbroker), William Holmes (MP for Paisley), James MacDonald (deputy keeper of the Great Seal of Scotland and sub agent to Gladstone), Chairman John Dick Peddie (of the family firm of J and A Peddie and Ivory, as well as being an eminent architect and MP), and with James Ivory as Secretary. Its aim was 'to apply the principles of co-operation to the investment of money so that investors may, by uniting their means, spread their investment over a wider field' and gain 'a higher rate of interest with greater security and exemption from liability than if the amount subscribed by each shareholder were independently invested'. The company had an agreement with A Parish of Surrey, as their London broker, and initially undertook investments in Britain and the Empire. Its registered office from 1889 was, and remains, 6 Albyn Place.

It had a nominal capital of £500,000 in £10 shares Share capital of £250,000 made up of £125,000 preferred and £125,000 deferred shares. At an early meeting of the directors it was agreed to set up three committees to specialize in handling investments: one to deal with insurance companies, government bonds and banks, the other to deal with railways and investment companies, the third to deal with all other types of investment.

Initial investments included shares in the Scottish-American investment company, the Scottish American mortgage company, the Dundee mortgage and trust investment company and the Australian land and finance company. They also invested in Argentine government bonds, south and north American railway securities, investment trusts, financial institutions and shares in submarine cable, telephone and telegraph companies. Later gas, coal, tea and insurance companies were added.

In 1888-1890 the dividend offered to ordinary shareholders was 6% and by 1890 the subscribed capital had been doubled. However, trying times were ahead for the company. Peddie died in 1891 and was succeeded as chairman by F J Moncrieff, just as the collapse of the Barings Brothers merchant bank was about to create a market crisis was alongside a political crisis in the Argentine which had contributed to its problems. During the early 1890s, the investment trust was forced to write down its investments as the depression deepened. However, it survived the period and in 1900 William Holmes became its third Chairman, succeeded by EA Davidson in 1903.

In the early years of the century, it still suffered the after effects of the major economic crisis of the end of the century but by 1910, it was offering ordinary shareholders a dividend of 5%; rising to 5.5% the following year and then reaching 6% once more in 1912, the level at which it remained until the end of the First World War.

After the war ended, a number of rapid changes took place within the investment trust. In 1919 J M Dick Peddie became chairman, succeeded by James W Bowhill in 1921. In 1919, TJ Carlyle Gifford, perhaps the dominating figure in Scottish investment trusts in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, also joined the board, bringing 10 years experience in the field to this role. Changes to the management practices were also occurring. The Investment trust operated with only directors and a secretary until 1925. In that year the first manager

was appointed: this was a board member RG Simpson. He was succeeded by R J Edgar in 1934, who was also secretary at the time. Rights issues also took place in 1924 and 1926, in which holders of ordinary shares were allotted one new share for every ordinary share held at par and then again in 1928, when they were offered the right to buy one new 5/- share at 15/- for every four old shares held and this revenue allowed significant new investments to be made in a booming market.

However, the entire world was on the verge of the great Depression. The SIT, though it survived as many other investment trusts did not, was still hit by the collapse of the markets. Under the chairmanship T J Carlyle Gifford from 1930 until his retirement in 1962, the company picked a careful path through the difficult times. In 1931, its board consisted of Gifford, Charles Munro, Ian MacIntyre, Alexander Hutchison, R G Simpson (manager), R J Edgar (secretary) and John L H Tulloch (asst Secretary), its investment distribution was 28.78% bonds, 23.79% preference shares and 47.43% ordinary or deferred stocks or shares. Investment was spread in bonds, preference shares, deferred stock or shares across mainly the UK, Germany, Europe and North America. Its overseas focus also remained so that in the mid 1930s, only 35% of the company's investments were in the UK.

In the later 1930s, as the markets began to rise once more, the fortunes of the Scottish investment Trust rose with them. In 1936, the company was once again able to offer ordinary shareholders a dividend of 2.5%, which rose to 4% in 1937 and remained there until 1944. However, the outbreak of the Second world war wrought a number of changes in its day to day operations. The chairman, Carlyle Gifford, was absent in the United States from 1939, having been asked by the British government to undertake the task of realizing requisitioned British dollar securities in order to raise this currency to fund the war effort. The Assistant Manager Robert Fisher had been posted to a government department and the secretary D C Reid was serving as an officer in the army. However, the outbreak of war did little to stifle the growth of the investment trust and by 1944 it held assets of £3,300,000. By the end of the war, c30% of assets were in fixed interest securities principle was to invest in well managed small, medium and large companies which were likely to achieve a good increase in earnings and dividends, but with few US stocks and shares remaining. The result was a dividend of 5% offered in 1945 and 1946 which rose to 7% in 1947 and 1948.

After the war, there was a general desire amongst Scottish investment trusts in general to return to the USA market. This was hampered by exchange control restriction being retained by the UK government until the end of the decade and it was not until 1949 that the SIT could increase its US holdings. In 1952, the company was in a position to capitalize some of its reserves and create 1,000,000 new ordinary shares of 5 shillings each and distribute them as a bonus issue in a proportion of 1 new share for every 1 unit of stock held. The dividend of the following year was 12% (equivalent of 24% the previous year), rising to 25% in 1954, 35% in 1955 and 40% in 1956 & 1957. In 1958, when the dividend reached 44% the board began preparing for another bonus issue: this time, monies from reserves were capitalized and applied in paying up in full 2,000,000 newly created shares of 5 shillings each. This was completed in March 1959. By that year, the investment trust's holdings were spread across 59.8% UK and Commonwealth and 39.8% North America with only 0.4% in other areas. Also by this stage, only 3.7% of these were in fixed return securities.

These results were overseen by a changing investment management team. In 1950, D I Ball was appointed manager, supported from 1953 by T R (Rob) MacGregor. The pair were joined by J R Glen in 1969, just before Ball's retirement in the following year. The results they achieved from the early 1950s was largely due to them and their developing strategies of taking steps towards investing in Europe and the Far East. By 1956, the

WWII period's necessarily inward-looking investment strategy had been overturned and overseas investment once more amounted to at least 50% of the portfolio.

In March 1960, further steps were taken to modernize the investment trust and Preferred and A Preferred Stockholders were asked to give up certain of their voting rights in return for a 0.5% increase in their dividend. Results for ordinary shareholders also continued to improve, with 31% offered in 1960 and 1961, rising to 35% in 1962 (the year when Carlyle Gifford retired from the chair and the board) and 40% in 1963.

By 1962, the company had assets of £40 Million with 49.4% of its holdings in UK and the Commonwealth, 48.8% in the United States (this area would peak at 50.8% three years later) and 1.8% in other locations. The following year, the SIT proposed one more to capitalize reserves and create 8,000,000 new ordinary shares of 5 shillings each, raising the authorized capital to £4,250,000) and distribute them as a bonus issue on a basis of 2 new shares for every 1 unit of stock held. This was carried out in April 1964, with the result that at the end of that year ordinary shareholders were offered a dividend of 16% (equivalent to 48% when compared to the previous year's 40%). This year on year rise continued, but at a more gradual rate: 18.5% in 1965-1966 and 19% in 1967-1968. In the last year of the decade, the company's authorized capital was raised once more to £8,750,000. £4,500,000 was then capitalized from reserve funds and applied in paying up in full 18,000,000 new ordinary shares of 5 shilling each in order to bring the issued capital more into line with the actual assets held. These were then distributed as a bonus issued to shareholders in the proportion of 3 new shares for every 2 old shares held.

In 1969, a dividend of 7.6% was issued, followed by of 8.2% the following year. By this stage, 54.1% of securities held by the SIT were in the UK, with only 44.7% in the USA. This was the start of a gradual move away from USA as an area of investment and into countries with stronger currencies. In 1971, the dividend paid in the first year after decimalization was 2.15p (compared with the previous year's equivalent of 2.05p. this rose again to 2.3p in 1972 but fell sharply to 1.75p in 1973 as the effects of a world-wide recession were felt. However, it rose again to 2.05 in 1974 and 1975.

In 1974, Angus Grossart had been appointed the youngest member of the board. The following year he was appointed chairman on the recommendation of his departing predecessor Sir William MacEwan Younger. Beginning in January 2004, the management restructured the investment portfolio, reducing the number of holdings and merging the regional portfolios into one global portfolio. While the stock selection has been considered good in recent years, these changes have been made to improve NAV performance by giving more emphasis to the best stock selection ideas from around the world

(information taken from previous BACS work done on the company)

With thanks to the NRAS for their permission to use this material

## Scottish Lands and Buildings Company Ltd

Company Number: SC000378

Date of Incorporation: 21 November 1871

Contact Details: c/o Haslemere Estates Management Ltd, Hobart House, 80 Hanover Street, Edinburgh, EH2 1EL

Operating Details: Dissolved 13 October 2001

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Letting of own property (7020)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Edinburgh

Area of Operation:

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

### Records

This company was owned by Haslemere Estates Management. I have not received a response from the company as to whether there is any extant record collection. There seem to be no identified records present in archival institutions.

Related records; some of the plans of the buildings of Peddie and Kinnear are available in the National Archives of Scotland (and via SCAN). Presumably some of these buildings would have been managed by this company, or one of the other companies set up by the architects.

### Company History

[http://www.scottisharchitects.org.uk/architect\\_full.php?id=200119](http://www.scottisharchitects.org.uk/architect_full.php?id=200119)

This company was initially founded in 1864 by a pair of Edinburgh architects John Peddie and Charles Kinnear for the purposes of speculative property building and development in order to keep their partnership continuously employed. The partnership particularly targeted the building of hotels, though it had some success in taking over the Grosvenor Crescent section of the West Coates development. Although this activity was mostly based around Edinburgh, it also included buildings like the Dick & Stevenson Building in Glasgow (built in 1872). The incorporation of the company under the Companies Act, which granted it limited liability, increased the ability of its founder's to speculate with less risk. However by 1877 the company (and the other companies created by Kinnear and Peddie) had become massively overstretched, and with the crash of the city of Glasgow bank the company went into voluntary liquidation.

This company survived into the twentieth century, presumably letting the buildings that Peddie and Kinnear had constructed, though it appears to have kept a very low profile. It may well be that the company was acquired by the Scottish Metropolitan Property Company, possibly in the early 1900s, though the company continued to operate and manage its assets. At some point the company was bought up by Haslemere Estates Management, who continued to manage the properties owned by the company. This company was eventually dissolved in 2001 (possibly after Haslemere transferred its assets away from those managed by the Scottish Metropolitan Property Company).

## The Scottish Metropolitan Property Company Limited

Company Number: SC001846

Date of Incorporation: 2 April 1889

Contact Details: 15 Atholl Crescent, Edinburgh, EH3 8HA

Operating Details: Active (Private Limited Company)

Other names (if known): The Scottish Metropolitan Property PLC (up to 2002)

Function of Company\*: Development & sell real estate (7011), Letting of own property (7020)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Glasgow, later Edinburgh

Area of Operation: Owns property across the UK with an emphasis on Scotland and the North of England. Owned by a larger multi-national corporation

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

### Records

This company has not responded to any enquiries about historic records, and there appears to be no deposit in any known archival institution.

Related records: There are a large number of court cases involving this company in the National Archives of Scotland.

### Company History

The company was apparently founded by Isidore Aaron Walton, a Glasgow-based property developer, though it may be that he changed the name of the company from one that was incorporated earlier (records in the NAS date from 1903 under the Scottish Metropolitan Property Company). In 1964 he created the Isidore and David Walton Trust which supported cardiac health research.

The company remained active throughout the twentieth century, at one point being the largest property development company in Scotland. Walton appears to have been central to the development of the company, and appointed directors that he knew and trusted, including Professor Bob Jack. In 1968 the company remodelled the historic Glasgow Stock Exchange, and in 1974 created Metropolitan House in Inverness town centre. Baron Taylor of Gryfe sat on the board between 1972 and 1988, though in this period it appears that the company faded from profitability.

Given that the company was one of the largest Scottish property owners, it may be that it absorbed the Aberdeen Heritable Securities and Investment Company and the Scottish Lands and Buildings Company before its take over by Haslemere Estates.

In the 1990s the company was turned around by Scott Cairns, who managed the company between 1992 and 2000. Scottish Metropolitan Property PLC was subsequently purchased by Haslemere Estates for £152 million in 2000. Haslemere Estates is itself a subsidiary of the Rodamco group, a Europe wide retail property developer, which acquired it in 1986.

## Scottish National Glass and Glazing Company Limited

Company Number: SC001047

Date of Incorporation: 24 August 1881

Contact Details: 16 Charlotte Square Edinburgh

Operating Details: Dissolved 27 November 1992

Other names (if known): Unknown, but from 1901 was known under this name

Function of Company\*: Glazing (4544)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Glasgow

Area of Operation: Glasgow and surrounding area (possibly wider)

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

### Records

There are 3 records in the National Archives of Scotland dealing with various court cases involving this company.

### Company History

This company was founded in 1881, though it is unknown if it was founded under this particular name. By 1901 it was known by its current name. It was either a glass manufacturer or a glass fitter based in Glasgow, with headquarters first at 273 Hope Street and by the 1950s at 14-20 Dobbie's Loan (the latter where work was undertaken by the firm of Wedell and Thomson, architects). By the early 1990s Abogado Custodians Limited became company secretaries, at the same time as they became secretaries of other glass and glazing companies. In 1992 this company was formally dissolved. It may be that its assets were absorbed into Pilkington Glass (which had a relationship with other companies taken on by Abogado).



## Scottish Property Investment Company Limited

Company Number: SC001597

Date of Incorporation: 24 January 1887

Contact Details: 212 St Vincent Street, Glasgow

Operating Details: Dissolved 11 February 1994

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Letting of property (7020) (assumed)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Edinburgh (see below)

Area of Operation: Edinburgh

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

### Records

No records of this company in its incorporation under the Companies Act 1856 still appear to exist (other than those still held by Companies House, Edinburgh).

Related records: The Building Society file of this company is held in the National Archives of Scotland under FS6/260, though it doesn't contain any information on the future form and function of the company following its incorporation under the Companies Act.

### Company History

This company began as a building society under the name of the Second Edinburgh Property Investment Company, and was incorporated in July 1874 under the Building Societies Act 1874. Building Societies had grown in Scotland from the 1840s, usually starting as small local societies of the mutual and terminating type, typically attracting small investors. However the financing of house building and purchase became so profitable that it (and a number of other building societies) became a proprietary company in 1887. The building society part of the business was dissolved later in the same year. The company appears to have operated in the Edinburgh area (as a building society its address was on South bridge in the city), and does not seem to have changed its name, although there are no other records of its activity currently available.

## Scottish Wine & Spirit Merchants Benevolent Institution

Company Number: SC00328

Date of Incorporation: 11 May 1870

Contact Details: 116 Hope Street, Glasgow, G2 6PS, [www.bensoc.org.uk](http://www.bensoc.org.uk)

Operating Details: Dissolved 8 September 2009, but has been succeeded by *The Scottish Licensed Trade benevolent Society*

Other names (if known): Successor organisation is *The Scottish Licensed Trade benevolent Society*, or *The BEN*

Function of Company\*: Charitable organisation (8532)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Glasgow

Area of Operation: Initially Glasgow, then throughout the west of Scotland

\* Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

### Records

Held By: Glasgow University Archive Services, ref: GB 248 UGD 119/5, 10, 11

Scope/type: Minutes 1871-1976; Members Book 1866-1936; Feu duties, ground annuals, interest etc. book 1945-1958; Pension roll book 1954-1967; Director's reports and balance sheets 1864-1948

Conditions governing access: Open, subject to GUAS conditions of use

Related records:

### Company History

The Scottish Wine & Spirit Merchants Benevolent Institution was founded in 1866 in Glasgow, Scotland. In 1870, the institution was incorporated as a company limited by members. Members paid to join the institution, making a one-off payment for life membership and paying a premium that the company then invested in government bonds and on the stock market. Membership was open to those working in the licensing trade. In 1880, the company stated its purpose as assisting its members, their widows, and their families when required, providing education for the families of indigent members.

Following various financial losses in the late 1960s and early 1970s, the company went into voluntary liquidation in 1976. The company's assets were to be transferred to the Benevolent Society of the Licensed Trade of Scotland. The Scottish Wine & Spirit Merchants Benevolent Institution was then integrated with the East of Scotland Licensed Trade Benevolent Institution which was incorporated as the East of Scotland Licensed Trade Benevolent Institution in 1976. This organisation has since become The Scottish

Licensed Trade Benevolent Society, or BEN, and is still active today across the whole of Scotland.

## The Second Alliance Trust Limited

Company Number: SC001284

Date of Incorporation: 3 October 1883

Contact Details: 8 West Marketgait, Dundee, DD1 1QN

Operating Details: Active (though it has now merged with Alliance Trust)

Other names (if known): Western and Hawaiian Investment Company (1883-1918)

Function of Company\*: Other business activities (7487), though functioned as an investment trust

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Dundee

Area of Operation: UK wide, initial connections with American investors

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: National Register of Archives for Scotland NRAS 4209

Scope/type: Corporate records: minute books 1927-2003; annual returns 1947-1958; circulars 1921-1932; shareholders records - ordinary, preference and a shareholders: register of ordinary preference and a shareholders nd; register of confirmations and probate nd; register of transfers of stock c1918-1957; dividend lists 1933-1966; closed shareholders accounts 1924-1966; register of renunciations 1964-1965; shareholders records - debenture shareholders: register of debenture shareholders 1937-c1956; register of debentures c1931-c1969; register of transfers of debenture stock c1933-1956; register of transfers of terminable debenture stock nd; debenture maturity records 1941-1969; register of repaid debentures 1929-1964; register of repaid terminable debentures (1938-1946); register of debenture closed accounts 1942-1985; renewed/converted debentures 1945-1951; debenture payments 1937-1954; terminable debenture and deposit lists 1939-1969; end of year records: balance sheets 1918-1980; legal papers: trust deeds 1921-1961; agreements folders 1897-1938; miscellaneous legal documents 1912-1966; borrowing records: short loan records 1931-1979; deposits receipts ledger 1963-1979; management records: 1957-1969; agency records: property lists 1918-1966; agency journals 1927-1963; agency closed accounts registers 1927-1946; mortgages and loans records: abstracts of loans 1918-1925; letters of indemnity 1960-1967; mortgage applications and correspondence c 1918-1963; investment records: closed accounts nd; investments/securities registers nd, 1939-1966; investments purchases and sales register nd; accounting records: general ledger 1926-1988; general journals nd; general cash books nd, 1947-1974 revenue cash books nd; dollar cash books nd; press cuttings: 1895-1937; stock certificates nd.

Conditions governing access/use: These records are held privately, and their access is restricted. All enquiries should be addressed to The Registrar, National Register of Archives for Scotland, HM General Register House, Edinburgh, EH1 3YY

Related records: See Alliance Trust records NRAS 4188

### Company History

In 1880 a shipbuilder Alexander Gourlay returned home from Australia via Hawaii. He joined with other business men Alexander Gilroy, Thomas Bell, Alexander Thomson, David Little John, and John Shepherd to form the Hawaiian Investment and Agency Company to lend money to sugar estates in Hawaii. The company changed its name to the Western and Hawaiian Investment Company in 1883 when it branched into North America. For several years five of the seven agencies had been shared with The Alliance Trust, and when one of the managers of the Western and Hawaiian Investment company became ill the trust agreed to share premises, management, staff and administration costs with The Alliance Trust in 1918. The Company was subsequently renamed the Second Alliance Trust, and it was intended that it would merge with The Alliance Trust when the time was right. However, despite sharing many board members, this did not happen until 2006. The company's offices were situated in Reform Street, Dundee.

With thanks to the NRAS for their permission to use this material

## Slater Rodger & Company Limited

Company Number: SC001500

Date of Incorporation: 22 December 1885

Contact Details: Edinburgh Park, 5 Lochside Way, Edinburgh, EH12 9DT

Operating Details: Dissolved 26 January 1993

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Distilling of potable drinks (1591); warehouse operations (6312)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Glasgow

Area of Operation: Worldwide distribution

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Diageo Archive GB 1877- Glenochil House, Menstrie, Clackmannanshire, Scotland, FK11 7ES or email [christine.j.mccafferty@diageo.com](mailto:christine.j.mccafferty@diageo.com)

Scope/type: Contact Diageo Archive for details-many of the records relating to the company are tied into those of United Distillers (see below)

Conditions governing access/use: Please contact Diageo Archives

Related records: One court file held at National Archives of Scotland involving this company. Photo of warehouse premises at SCRAN  
<http://www.scran.ac.uk/database/record.php?usi=000-000-514-679-C>

## Company History

This company was a whisky blenders and exporter, and bonded warehousemen. By 1903 the company was operating out of a purpose built warehouse on Scotland Street in Glasgow, designed by John Gordon. The company produced Finest Old Scotch Whisky as Slater Rodger Glasgow (also known as Rodger's Old Scots blended). The company is also listed as a bottler of whisky brands, including Begbie's Special and Lord Douglas. At some point, probably at the beginning of its business, the company operated from Hurlford, Ayrshire.

By 1904 the company did a large amount of blending and bottling in Glasgow for John Walker & Sons, which had formed an interest in the company through its Cardow distillery in 1899. Negotiations were begun by Walker to acquire a controlling interest, which it did in 1911. As part of Walker, the company became a subsidiary of The Distillers Company Limited when it merged with the company in 1925, though it appears to have continued active operations within the DCL umbrella (see Wilson p146).

Along with the rest of the Distillers Company Limited, this company was acquired by Guinness in 1986, forming part of the new United Distillers. After this merger Slater Rodger was dissolved in 1993. The rest of United Distillers became the distilling arm of Diageo following the merger of Guinness and Grand Metropolitan, and still operates today.

#### Sources

Ross Wilson, *Scotch; the formative years* (Constable, London 1970)

Michael Moss and John Hume, *The Making of Scotch Whisky* (James & James, Edinburgh 1981)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Distillers\\_Company\\_Limited](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Distillers_Company_Limited)

With thanks to the Diageo Group Archives for their help and assistance with the project, and their permission to use this information.

## South of Scotland Chamber of Commerce Incorporated

Company Number: SC001308

Date of Incorporation: 24 December 1883

Contact Details: 19 Buccleuch Street, Hawick, TD9 0HL

Operating Details: Dissolved 28 January 2005

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Other business activities (7487)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Hawick

Area of Operation: The Scottish Borders area

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

### Records

No extant records of this company have yet been identified, aside from correspondence files with various organisations held in the National Archives of Scotland.

Related records: GB 233 Acc. 4447 National Library of Scotland- Newspaper Cuttings collected by the family of Thomas Craig-Brown of Selkirk

### Company History

The Chamber appears to have existed before incorporation, although Thomas Craig-Brown of Selkirk was made President in 1882 and oversaw its registration with Companies House. At its incorporation the signatories consisted of Thomas Watson (President), Andrew Brown (Vice-President), George Wilson, Walter Laing, Thomas Laidlaw, John Morriion AD Cochrance junior, and Thomas Craig-Brown. All the committee were listed as manufacturers, and all haoled from Hawick, Galashiels and Selkirk.

In 1960 the articles of Association were changed. The signatories to this change were all listed as Company Directors and were Alex Goldie of Hawick, Alex Fairgrieve of Galashiels, Ebenezer Johnson of Galashiels, Ernest Tait of Hawick (also listed as Company Secretary) and Richard Rutherford of Galashiels (listed as Writer to the Signet).

During the 1960s and 1970s the Chamber represented the struggling textiles and clothing manufacturers in the area. The Earl of Minto was president 1980-1982. The Chamber was still functioning in the 1990s, sitting on the Hawick Joint Holidays Committee.

This company has been succeeded by the Scottish Borders Chamber of Commerce which was established in 2004.



## Spanish Real Property Company Limited

Company Number: SC000683

Date of Incorporation: 26 May 1876

Contact Details: 28 Abercromby Place, Edinburgh, EH3 6QE

Operating Details: Dissolved 24 August 1990

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Property Management (9111) (presumed)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Not known- possibly Glasgow

Area of Operation: Presumably Huelva region of Spain- see below

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

No records of this company appear to exist in any archive, including the National Archives of Scotland.

## Company History

I have been unable to find any trace of this company in any archive. However given the date of formation and the name (which was not changed) it would appear that this company had some relationship with the copper mines in the Huelva region of Spain, which was the major area of Scottish investment in Spain in the period that the company was formed. It may be that this company was bought into being to manage the property owned by the Tharsis Company (which was a Scottish registered company and was based in Glasgow). Tharsis, and the other large extraction companies like the Rio Tinto Company and Mason and Barry, owned both mining facilities, and ran considerable company villages for their work force. SG Checkland, who wrote on the Tharsis Mines, has stated that by the mid-1870s the owners of the Company were very much concerned about the state of the mine villages, and so the Spanish Real Property Company might have been set up to better the facilities. According to Checkland, the holdings of the Tharsis Company included schools and churches, and from the 1870s featured a greater level of planning and consistency in design. This company was dissolved in 1990, which seems to reflect a period of streamlining within Tharsis PLC itself.

See SG Checkland 'The Mines of Tharsis' (George Allen & Unwin; London, 1967) for further details.

## Standard Property Investment Limited

Company Number: SC000364

Date of Incorporation: 7 September 1871

Contact Details: Caledonian Exchange, 19A Canning Street, Edinburgh, EH3 8HE

Operating Details: Active

Other names (if known): Standard Property Investment PLC (1871-1990) Caledonian Bank PLC (1990-1996)

Function of Company\*: Other monetary intermediation (6512)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Edinburgh

Area of Operation: Property held across Scotland

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Privately held (NRAS 1571)

Scope/type: minute books, account ledgers, correspondence 1785-1975

Conditions governing access/use: Interested researchers can contact the National Register of Archives for Scotland for details on access.

Related records: Large number of court files involving this company held at the NAS

## Company History

Since its incorporation in 1871 this company has operated as an investment company specialising in property. Amongst earlier projects were investment of £15,000 in the Dunblane Hydropathic, though in 1884 it claimed the land, buildings and furnishings as the hydropathic proved insufficient to provide the money for the bond.

A book advert from 1955-56 lists the company as operating in Aberdeen as well as Edinburgh, and the company appears to have operated in the Aberdeen area for some while.

## Stewarts and Lloyds (Overseas) Limited

Company Number: SC001985

Date of Incorporation: 15 March 1890

Contact Details: 15 Atholl Crescent, Edinburgh, EH3 8HA

Operating Details: Listed as dormant, main business has dissolved

Other names (if known): A & J Stewart & Clydesdale Ltd, A & J Stewart & Menzies (see below)

Function of Company\*: Other business activities (7414). Previously manufacture of steel pipe (2722)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: North Lanarkshire, later Corby

Area of Operation: Airdrie, Glasgow, Bellshill, Coatbridge

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Glasgow University Archive Services GB248 UGD226 and Corus Record Centre, Shotton GB 1527 (no collection number)

Scope/type:

In GUAS: *Corby Works*, illustrated brochure (printed) c1940; "Corby Iron & Steel Works", reprinted from *The Engineer* 1935; *Stewarts & Lloyds Ltd - A History of the Company* (printed) c1930 ; Appreciation of Sir Frederick Scopes, chairman, on his retirement from the company c1960s; Tables of Capacities and Properties of Steel Tubes section 2, mid-20th century; *Stewarts & Lloyds Ltd*, illustrated brochure (printed) 1928

In Corus record centre- no records available of holdings, but this collection appears to be for the bulk of the material. Includes many of the Stewarts and Lloyds companies based abroad.

Conditions governing access/use: Standard GUAS conditions. Contact Shotton Record Centre at [record-centre@corusgroup.com](mailto:record-centre@corusgroup.com)  
[http://www.corusgroup.com/en/products\\_and\\_services/records\\_management/](http://www.corusgroup.com/en/products_and_services/records_management/)

Related records:

## Company History

Stewarts & Lloyds Ltd, iron and steel tube manufacturers, Corby, Northamptonshire, England was created in 1903 by the amalgamation of two of the largest iron and steel

manufacturers in Britain, A & J Stewart & Menzies Ltd , Coatbridge, North Lanarkshire, Scotland, and Lloyd & Lloyd Ltd, Birmingham, England.

A & J Stewart & Menzies Ltd originated from the company A & J Stewart. In 1862 Andrew Stewart, along with his brother, James, established the firm of A & J Stewart, manufacturers of butt welded and lap welded tubes. Andrew Stewart had been employed by Eadies of Dalmarnock, South Lanarkshire, Scotland as a sales representative. Eadies specialised in the manufacture of lap welded and loose flange tubes. However, Stewart recognised that there was a market for gas pipe but when Eadies refused to acknowledge Stewart's proposals, Stewart set up on his own. Stewart and his brother established a small works at St Enochs, Glasgow, Scotland. They met with rapid success and in 1867 moved to Coatbridge, North Lanarkshire, where they could expand. Here they build the Clyde Tube Works. In 1882 the company was incorporated with limited liability as A & J Stewart Ltd. In 1889, Andrew Stewart saw his sons set up their own business in Glasgow as tube manufacturers under the name of Stewart Brothers. A & J Stewart Ltd recognised the need to safeguard their business and adopted the policy to control some of the raw material required for the manufacture of tubes. In accordance with this policy they merged A & J Stewart Ltd, Stewart Brothers, and the Clydesdale Iron & Steel Co in 1890. The Clydesdale Iron & Steel Co, established in 1870, were suppliers of strips and plates for tube manufacture. The new company name was A & J Stewart & Clydesdale Ltd.

In 1898, the company acquired the business of James Menzies & Co and was renamed, A & J Stewart & Menzies Ltd. James Menzies had also previously worked for Eadies of Dalmarnock but in 1875 had set up on his own manufacturing tubes at the Phoenix Works, Rutherglen, Glasgow. 1899 saw further expansion with the construction of new works at Airdrie, North Lanarkshire. In 1901 Andrew Stewart died and his son John Graham Stewart succeeded him as chairman of the company. 1903 saw the merger with Lloyd & Lloyd Ltd.

Lloyd & Lloyd Ltd had been established at about the same time as Andrew Stewart had set up on his own business. Over the 40 years of its existence, Lloyd & Lloyd Ltd had established itself as one of the largest iron and steel tube manufacturers in England. The Clydeside Tube Co Ltd established in 1898 and manufactures of weldless tubes was also brought into the merger by Lloyd & Lloyd Ltd. It had been acquired by Lloyd & Lloyd Ltd in 1900.

From its creation in 1903, Stewarts & Lloyds Ltd set about establishing its position and extending its interests. In 1908 Stewarts & Lloyds Ltd entered a new area by acquiring the controlling interest in Robert Addie & Sons (Collieries) Ltd, although they later sold out in 1924. In 1912 they acquired the business of the British Welding Co Ltd, Motherwell, North Lanarkshire, manufacturers of hydraulic welded tubes. 1914 saw the establishment of new works at Tollcross, Glasgow, for the manufacture of seamless tubes. In 1918, Stewarts & Lloyds Ltd acquired the controlling interest in North Lincolnshire Iron Co Ltd, although they disposed of this interest in 1931. In 1920 the company acquired the firm of Alfred Hickman, steel manufacturers, Bilston, Midlothian, Scotland, together with its subsidiaries; Lloyds Ironstone Co Ltd and Ernest N Wright Ltd.

In 1925, John Stewart died and was replaced by R M Wilson. However, a year later Wilson resigned and A C MacDiarmid took over as company chairman. 1926 also saw the company gain a controlling interest in the Victaulic Co Ltd, producers of victaulic joints and Johnson couplings for water and other pipelines. In 1928, Stewarts & Lloyds Ltd acquired the Pothero Steel Tube Co Ltd, Wednesbury, West Midlands, England, manufacturers of hot rolled and cold drawn weldless tubes. 1929 saw the acquisition of the Birmingham steelworks of John Russell & Co, and its subsidiary James Russell &

Sons Ltd. In 1930, Stewarts & Lloyds Ltd entered an agreement with Tube Investments Ltd, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, England, which controlled a large number of tube making firms in the Midlands, England. The idea behind this agreement was to facilitate the exchange of information and technology. As a result of this agreement Stewarts & Lloyds Ltd acquired a one half interest in the Bromford Tube Co Ltd of Erdington, Birmingham, England and in Howell & Co Ltd of Sheffield, England. Stewarts & Lloyds Ltd surrendered their interest in Howell & Co Ltd in 1938, and in 1945 acquired the other half interest in the Bromford Tube Co Ltd. In 1932, the company acquired Scottish Tube Co Ltd that was also established in that year.

In 1932, the company moved to Corby, Northampton shire, England. By this time, production of basic steel from steel tubes and strips was limited and so to obtain cheap basic Bessemer steel the company relocated to the ore fields of Corby. By 1953, the company was the main producers of steel tubes in Scotland producing 250,000 tons of tubing, the bulk of which were used at the Corby site. At this time, the firm still had 8 of its original works in Scotland: the British Clyde & Calder works, Coatbridge; Imperial Works, Airdrie; Tollcross Works, Glasgow; Phoenix Works, Rutherglen; and Clydesdale Works, Bellshill. In 1958, the company's main office was still in Oswald Street, Glasgow.

Stewarts & Lloyds was dissolved in 1997. This company number refers to the limited liability company formed by the merger with Clydesdale in 1890

## STOS PLC

Company Number: SC001827

Date of Incorporation: 13 February 1889

Contact Details: 95 Bothwell Street, Glasgow, G2 7JZ

Operating Details: In Liquidation (last accounts were due in 2006)

Other names (if known): Reversionary Association Limited (1889-1926) Securities Trust of Scotland Public Limited Company (1926-2005)

Function of Company\*: Other financial intermediation (6523) – investment trust

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Edinburgh

Area of Operation: Invested worldwide

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: National Archives of Scotland GB 234 GD448

Scope/type: Securities Trust of Scotland Ltd, directors minute books, 1929-1954; stockholders minute book, 1929-1971. Second Securities Trust for Scotland Ltd, directors minute books, 1927-1961; shareholders minute book, 1929-1960.

Conditions governing access/use: Listed as open as according to standard NAS procedures and regulations.

Related records: Part of the historic records placed on indefinite loan by Martin Currie (GD448) Investment Management in 1991-2. See the rest of the fonds for further investment records from this time

## Company History

Registered at Edinburgh on 13 Feb 1889 as Reversionary Association Ltd (section 12); the name changed in Jan 1926 to Securities Trust of Scotland Ltd. In 1895 the capital was increased from £100,000 to £250,000 and in 1901 to £350,000. In 1918 the authorised capital was reduced to £280,000 and the paid-up capital from £325,000 to £260,000, by writing off £1 of each issued share from £5 to £4. In 1925 the shares were subdivided from £4 to £1. In 1926 the capital was increased to £500,000, in 1928 to £800,000 when all preference shares were converted into stock, in 1956 to £1,500,000 and in Mar 1960 to £2,250,000, the unissued shares being classified as ordinary. Under the provisions of a scheme of arrangement effective from 28 Feb 1961, the company acquired the undertakings of Melville Trust Ltd (sec 7), Oregon Mortgage Company Ltd (sec 10) and Second Securities Trust of Scotland Ltd (sec 20) by

exchange of capital, this company assuming liability for the outstanding debenture stocks of the acquired companies. Under the scheme of 28 Feb 1961 the 5% preference stock was converted into 4½% preference stock, holders receiving a capitalised distribution in satisfaction of a modification of rights; and the capital was increased to £8,000,000 (by £2,092,500 4½% preference, £3,050,000 ordinary and £607,500 unclassified). In June 1963 455,000 unclassified shares were designated ordinary and subdivided from £1 to 5s.

The company was later absorbed by Martin Currie Investment Management. Martin Currie was originally founded in 1881 as an accountancy practice. The management of investment portfolios became an increasingly important part of the company's activities and since 1958 this has been its sole area of activity. Originally a partnership, the firm was incorporated in 1985. The company is wholly based in Edinburgh, now in new premises, and maintains no other UK or overseas offices.

In 2005 Martin Currie began to liquidate STOS, however they have set up a successor Trust under the same name that continues to attract new clients.

[http://www.martincurrie.com/home/about\\_us/our\\_history/](http://www.martincurrie.com/home/about_us/our_history/)

<http://www.securitiestrust.com/>

## The Tharsis Public Limited Company

[Company](#) Number: SC000255

Date of Incorporation: 27 October 1866

Contact details: 7 Glasgow Road, Paisley, Strathclyde, PA1 3QS

Operating Details: Dissolved 19 January 2006

Other names (known): Tharsis Sulphur & Copper Co Ltd

Function of Company\*: Miners and chemical engineers (1320), Property managers (7031)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Glasgow

Area of Operations: Spain, Scotland

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

### Records

Held by: Glasgow University Archive Services: ref GB0248 UGD057

Scope/type: Administrative records 1857-1966, Financial Records 1866-1939, Production Records 1867-1960, Staff Records 1907-1916, Plans 1935, Photographs, also includes SG Checkland's working papers for the book *The Mines of Tharsis*

Conditions governing access: Open, subject to GUAS conditions of use

Related records: Chester and Cheshire archive (GB0017): DIC/57-60 Lancashire Metal works, Widnes:- originally established as the Tharsis Sulphur & Copper Co Ltd, 1870. Taken over by the Lancashire Metal Co Ltd 1885. Acquired 1894. Closed 1927.

### Company History:

Copper mines in the Sierra de Tharsis or Sierra de Tarse, north of the port of Huelva in Southern Spain, were rediscovered by a French engineer in 1853. Ernest Deligny staked his claim in an area which bore the marks of a succession of older copper workings from the sixteenth century, from the period of Roman occupation and, even earlier, from a period of Phoenician colonisation. In 1855, Deligny managed to persuade a fellow Frenchman, Eugene Duclerc to form a new company known as the C<sup>ie</sup> des Mines de Cuivre d'Huelva and, with Duclerc as general manager and Deligny as engineer, they set about mining for pyrites, from which to extract the copper. Unfortunately Deligny and Duclerc proved to be less than effective as engineer and manager and, in 1860, the directors of the company replaced them with Victor Mercier. Beset with difficulties, particularly in relation to transport, Mercier came into contact with a group of British alkali makers, headed by Charles Tennant (1823-1906) of Glasgow, Scotland.

The British alkali makers were primarily interested in Mercier's business as a means of obtaining sulphur, a by-product of the process whereby copper is extracted from pyrites.



Sulphur was in increasing demand as an important raw material in the manufacture of soap, glassware and in the bleaching and dyeing of textiles. Charles Tennant had become a partner in the family business of Charles Tennant & Co in 1850. The firm, by that time, was highly successful and was located at the St. Rollox chemical works in Glasgow. It also had interests in sulphur mines in Sicily and sugar estates in Trinidad. Charles Tennant's father, John (1796-1878), had organised a close alliance between the alkali makers in Britain, which became the basis for the Tharsis Sulphur & Copper Co Ltd, incorporated in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1862, which took over the copper mines in the Sierra de Tharsis.

One of the first activities of the new company was to build a railway from the mines to the port of Huelva, a distance of about 30 miles. The company became a major world trader in sulphur and was even able to make some impact on the markets for copper. A final by-product of the process of copper extraction was iron. Tennant set up the Steel Company of Scotland in 1872 in the hopes that a means might be discovered for processing the "billy blue" iron ore that was left once copper and sulphur had been removed. Unfortunately this proved too difficult although the Steel Company of Scotland carried on in to the 1890s, using the more conventional raw material of pig iron and scrap, producing mild steel, particularly for the ship-building industry.

In 1871, Tharsis Sulphur & Copper Co Ltd had works at St Rollox and offices at 136 West George Street, Glasgow. At that date the resident manager at the St Rollox Works was James Dryburgh and the secretary in West George Street was Jonathan Thomson. Tennant resigned from the chairmanship of the company in 1906. In 1960, the chairman and managing director of the company was W P Rutherford, and it was supplying sulphur products, essential in the manufacture of man-made fibres, dye-stuffs and fertilisers. Around 1981, the Company became Tharsis plc. In 1991, Tharsis plc, still located at 136 West George Street, were describing themselves as pyrites merchants. In 1998, the company's head offices moved to 48 West Regent Street, Glasgow.

## Thomas Duff & Company Limited

Company Number: SC001272

Date of Incorporation: 16 August 1883

Contact Details: c/o Messrs Cram Worsley, Robertson & Taylor Ca, 41 Reform Street, Dundee, DD1 1SH

Operating Details: Dissolved

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Preparation & spin of other textiles (1725)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Dundee

Area of Operation: Calcutta, India

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Dundee University Archives, GB 0254 MS86/V

Scope/type: Directors' minutes 1883-1945; ledgers 1930-1973; cash books/journals 1922-1959; balance sheets/directors' reports 1918-1959; memoranda and articles of association 1874-1901, 1908, 1932, 1948 and 1964; letter books and files 1888-1946; managers' reports to the directors 1930-1974; employees records ca 1913-1970; sales and production records 1945-1977; files relating to the modernisation and electrification of the Indian jute mills 1944-1971; files relating to the reconstruction of Thomas Duff & Co as registered in India 1947-1950; miscellaneous records ca 1880s-1890s; drawings relating to jute processing but not linked to specified company; plans of property in Dundee 1865-1923.

Conditions governing access/use: Open for consultation subject to preservation requirements. Access must also conform to the restrictions of the Data Protection Act and any other appropriate legislation. Reproduction is available subject to preservation requirements. Charges are made for this service, and copyright and other restrictions may apply.

Related records: See the records of other Jute manufacturers in Dundee University Archives

## Company History

Having previously worked as manager of the Borneo Co, Thomas Duff founded the firm in 1883 to act as agents for the Samnuggur Jute Factory Co and the Titaghur Jute Factory Co, two Calcutta Jute mill companies founded by Thomas Duff in 1873 and 1883 respectively. They took on the agency of the Victoria Jute Factory Co in 1888 and that of the Angus Company in 1933.

In 1948 Thomas Duff & Company Ltd, was reconstructed and registered as the Indian company Thomas Duff & Co (India) Private Ltd with Thomas Duff & Company Ltd, as a wholly owned subsidiary. The Indian Company continued to be the managing agents for the Titaghur Group Companies and still maintained the Dundee office at Meadow House in conjunction with the Titaghur Jute Factory Co Ltd and A & S Henry & Co (Dundee) Ltd until 1983.

The companies involved in Titaghur were latterly under the control of Azmara PLC (the holding company) until Azmara lost control of its property to its tenants in India over the course of 2001. This company has subsequently been dissolved.

With thanks to Dundee University Archives for permission to re-use this information

## Titaghur Jute Factory Company Limited

Company Number: SC001273

Date of Incorporation: 16 August 1883

Contact Details: 24 Great King Street, Edinburgh, Lothian, EH3 6QN

Operating Details: Dormant (see history)

Other names (if known): Titaghur PLC (1989-2000), Azmara PLC (2000 onward)

Function of Company\*: Preparation and spin of other textiles (1725)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Dundee (to 1979), Calcutta (from 1979 onwards)

Area of Operation: Calcutta, exporting worldwide

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: University of Dundee Archive GB0254 MS 86/III

Scope/type: Minutes 1883-1974; share records 1918-1969; ledgers 1931-1972; cash books 1932-1979; balance sheets 1884-1906, 1924-1976; annual reports 1900-1958; memoranda and articles of association 1883-1979; letter books 1928-1982; employees' records 1913-1956; miscellaneous technical records 1890-1897; plans 1878-1976; technical drawings 1887-1897.

Conditions governing access/use: Open for consultation subject to preservation requirements. Access must also conform to the restrictions of the Data Protection Act and any other appropriate legislation. Reproduction is available subject to preservation requirements. Charges are made for this service, and copyright and other restrictions may apply.

Related records:

## Company History

This Calcutta-based jute mill company was floated in 1883 as a result of funds built up by its parent company, the Samnuggur Jute Factory Co Ltd. Thomas Duff & Co Ltd acted as agents for the Company from this time. In 1921 the company had two active jute mills in operation, and shared directors with other Dundee jute companies such as the Victoria Jute mill and the Samnuggur Jute company. They were also listed as owning a steam launch and boats, a railway siding, and houses for their workers.

In 1969 Titaghur Jute Factory Co Ltd became the parent company in a group formed by a merger with the Samnuggur Jute Factory Co Ltd and the Victoria Jute Factory Co Ltd with the Angus Company Ltd as a subsidiary. In 1972 Titaghur Jute Factory Co Ltd

acquired the Dundee companies of Hardie and Smith Ltd, Dundee Brattice and Waterproofing Co Ltd, and A & S Henry & Co (Dundee) Ltd.

Control and management of the company transferred from Dundee to Calcutta in 1976, and the Titaghur Group Head Office removed to premises at Hardie and Smith's Baltic Works; Meadow House, the original offices, was sold at this time. In 1978 Titaghur Jute Factory Co Ltd sold 51% of its interest in A & S Henry & Co (Dundee) Ltd (and its subsidiaries) to Asiatic Jute Co Boston, and the following year new articles of association were adopted by the Company. The Company changed its name to Titghur PLC in 1989. Most recently the Company changed its name to Azmara PLC in 2000, though this Company has subsequently been listed as dormant following the loss of control of its jute mills to its operating contractors in a legal battle.

With thanks to Dundee University Archives for permission to re-use this information

## United Wire Limited

Company Number: Sc001878

Date of Incorporation: 9 July 1889

Contact Details: Johnstone House, 52-54 Rose Street, Aberdeen, AB10 1UD

Operating Details: Active (Private Limited Company)

Other names (if known): William McMurray (1825-1837), William and James McMurray (1837-1854), Robert McFarlane & Son (1854-1897) The United Wire Works Ltd (1897-c.1971)

Function of Company\*: Manufacture of Wire Products (2873)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Formerly Glasgow, from 1897 Granton, Edinburgh

Area of Operation: Exports worldwide

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: privately held

Scope/type: records of various wire manufacturers who were absorbed into United Wire; George Christie; Charles Topham & Co; Stevens & Manning; United Fabrics; Maxwell Davidson Evaporators; Baldwin Staples; United Holyoke Corporation; Seamark; Thule United; Star Screens; Uniwire.

For United Wire; Company Documents (articles of Association etc); research and Development designs; order books; agreements; financial records; photographs; artefacts; films; various records of other subsidiaries,

Conditions governing access/use: Applications may be made in writing to the above address

Related records: Court records, export records and photos held by the NAS. Search under 'United Wire' as a phrase

## Company History

In 1825, William McMurray set up in a modest way as a wire worker in the Trongate in Glasgow. This small business expanded and, in the course of expansion, changed its location a number of times before it left Glasgow for the East Coast.

William McMurray's early wire-working establishment dealt with the manufacture of such ordinary and domestic articles as fire-guards, bell-pulls, and even mouse-traps. None the less, the business prospered so much that the firm moved their premises from the West to the East of Scotland, from the Saltmarket in Glasgow to Leith Walk in the environs of Edinburgh. William's step-brother, James McMurray, was taken into

partnership, though by 1835 William began to become more interested in paper-manufacture, in which trade he made his later name and fortune.

In 1858 there was an alteration in the name of the firm which had taken up its habitat in the growing Leith Walk. This alteration was not in name only. In this year the 'Edina Works' by which Mr McMurray's business had come to be known, announced to Edinburgh and their customers all over the world that the business would now be known as: "Robert McFarlane & Son, Successors to Wm. & Jas. McMurray, Wire Cloth Manufacturers and Patentees of the Self-Acting Cylindrical Pulp Washers. "

It will be noted that not only had the firm changed its name, but that in the announcement of its patent it was pointing in the direction which it was to follow with international success for nearly a century. At last the wire-weaving industry of old Mr William McMurray had begun to co-ordinate with his other interest-paper. The result of this union was probably unforeseen by all, except one young man at that time. This one young man was John McFarlane, a nephew of the McMurray brothers. His father, Robert (of whom there is only scanty information), had married William McMurray's sister, Susanah, and had been taken into his brother-in-law's business. It is not recorded that he himself had much influence on the McMurray brothers. It is significant, however, that his activity, such as it was, was mostly in the paper side of their interests. His son John joined the firm in 1856 at the age of nineteen. Shortly after he joined the firm his father, Robert McFarlane, died, leaving the management of the business on the youthful but capable shoulders of John.

Having achieved this success as a youthful manager of a family business it may well be imagined that John McFarlane's ambitions soared. In the true spirit of the nineteenth century industrialism, he wanted to make it (the business which he had built up) all his own. He does not appear to have met with much difficulty in this objective. His uncle, Mr William McMurray, was well advanced in years, and was, besides, deeply committed with his paper-making and other enterprises. In any event the sale of the Edina Wire Works business was agreed upon between uncle and nephew in 1872. The nephew, John McFarlane, purchased the ground, buildings, plant, and equipment of the Edina Works for a sum which, considering its future, seems moderate enough to us to-day - £8,000.

As soon as Mr John McFarlane was settled in possession as well as in the chair, he proceeded to overhaul the business, both from the point of view of industrial plant and in 'the art of selling.' Securely established in the Home Market in the early eighties he began to consider export trade. Within the next few years the energetic proprietor had opened up lucrative businesses with paper-making countries overseas. A good deal of their export and expanding trade came from the forceful 'selling personality' of John McFarlane. Such a personality would not have had long influence if the goods he had to sell had not been first class, but the production and the goods were modern and high class for their time.

Unfortunately, in a comparatively young industry without established traditions or customs, there began to emerge some confusion and divergence of views, among several firms, in regard to the nomenclature of meshes, trade usages and terms. This state of affairs was not in the best interests of the industry as a whole, and if not speedily rectified would eventually have led to trouble with the paper mills. The problem was how best to smooth out the confusing anomalies.

The policy of the management at Leith Walk had always been to enhance the prestige and authority of the industry, and here was an opportunity to give practical effect to that policy. After a thorough examination of the situation, John McFarlane and his son

decided that the best solution of the difficulty would be to gather - if possible - all the firms in the industry under one management. Negotiations were set afoot to that end. The majority of the firms approached agreed to the plan, and on 2nd December 1897 the following firms were incorporated in a limited liability company under the title of THE UNITED WIRE WORKS, LTD.:

- Robert McFarlane & Son, Edina Works, Leith Walk, Edinburgh.
- MacCormack & Mills, Baltic Works, Bridgeton, Glasgow.
- James Brodie & Co., Great Eastern Works, Glasgow.
- William Mountain & Sons, Trafalgar Wire Works, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

The last-named business had previously been acquired by Robert McFarlane & Son, and was included by them in the pool. Also included were the paper machine wirecloth departments of:

William Riddell & Co., Springfield Wire Works, Glasgow, and

Dockerty & Co., Mile End Wire Works, Glasgow.

The first Directors of the new Company were:

- John McFarlane (Chairman)
- Arthur McFarlane
- John MacCormack
- James Brodie.

Mr John Newton McFarlane (a younger brother of Arthur McFarlane), who had been managing the office side of the Leith Walk business, was appointed Secretary to the enterprise.

It will be noted that the prime movers in this revolutionary but necessary step in the history of the industry were the Chairman and his assistants of the Edina Works at Leith Walk. It was due to this fact also that the Chairman of the new united concern was the proprietor of the old 'Robert McFarlane Works'. It is due also to this initial enterprise on the part of the now no longer young John McFarlane, who was now partially retired, and his son Arthur, that the headquarters of this great national combine is now in Granton by Edinburgh.

From that time the progress of the industry and, in particular, of The United Wire Works has been smoothly expansionist. The McMurrays and the McFarlanes have already entered the course of this narrative as it proceeded. It is only fit to mention here, at the end of this chapter, two prominent personalities that influenced the concern in this century-apart from Mr Arthur McFarlane - that is to say the two other Chairmen.

Mr John MacCormack became Chairman in 1903 until his death in 1924. There are many who remember his untiring and business-like zeal. His association with Mr Arthur McFarlane, who succeeded him, was an ideal example of the combination of executive ability on the one hand, and the driving force of inspiration on the other.

After Arthur McFarlane's death in 1934, his place was filled by W. D. T. Green, M.B.E., who at this date is both Chairman and Managing Director of the Company.

[http://www.grantonhistory.org/industry/wire\\_works\\_1.htm](http://www.grantonhistory.org/industry/wire_works_1.htm)



## U.S.M. Investments PLC

Company Number: SC000813

Date of Incorporation: 4 April 1878

Contact Details: 34 Fettes Row, Edinburgh, Lothian, EH3 6UT

Operating Details: Dissolved (23 December 1994)

Other names (if known): Scottish Tea and Lands Company

Function of Company\*: Tea plantation and export (5137), later investment fund (6522) (presumed- see below)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Sri Lanka

Area of Operation: Exported from Sri Lanka

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

I've been unable to find any trace of the specific business records of this company. The likelihood is that actual business records of the company were lost when Sri Lanka nationalised its tea plantations in 1971-2, and that the records of directors and shareholders were destroyed when the company dissolved.

Related records: The National Library of Australia hold the records of Manfred Claasz, a former superintendent of the company at Madulsima and Hapotale. Some of those records relate to his employment by the company <http://drupal-test.nla.gov.au/selected-library-collections/manfred-claasz-collection>

## Company History

This was a company established to plant and export tea from Ceylon (now Sri Lanka). Thos company, and many others, were founded in the wake of the success of James Taylor, a Scot who established large plantations in the 1860s. As with many of the company, all the assets were held in Sri Lanka, while the company operations, shareholders and directors were based in Scotland (most probably Edinburgh). Most of the planters and superintendents were British: by 1949 the Scottish Tea and Lands Company had only two 'Ceylonese' planters. During the post-Second World War period the Company had estates in Mahadowa, Uda Pusselwa (the Alnwick Estate), Sarnia, Happutale, Cocagalla, Annfield and Rahanwatte in Lindula. In the 50s and 60s the Company also began to employ more local people to work in management- one of the first was Vivien Blaze, who eventually became Manager of Haputale, and then General Manager of the Company. This was also a time of increasing unrest amongst many of the workers, and this was reflected in the increasingly antagonistic relationship between the government and foreign investors in Sri Lanka. The company assets were preaseumably seized by the Sri Lanka Government when the tea estates owned by British companies

were nationalised in 1971/2. Although the estates were privatised again in 1992-1993, this was obviously too late to save this company.

No information was available on its investment activities as USM investments.

## Victoria Jute Factory Company Limited

Company Number: SC001197

Date of Incorporation: 19 January 1883

Contact Details: 24 Great King Street, Edinburgh, Scotland, EH3 6QN, successor company is [www.victoriajutemill.com](http://www.victoriajutemill.com), RBD Textiles Ltd, 16A Brabourne Road, Kolkata 700 001, India

Operating Details: Dissolved

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Preparation & spin of other textiles (1725)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Dundee to 1976, then to Calcutta

Area of Operation: Calcutta, India

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

### Records

Held By: University of Dundee archive, GB 0254 MS86/II

Scope/type: Minutes 1892-1976; share records 1883-1906 and 1919-1947; ledgers 1930-1972; cash books 1935-1964; journal 1924-1973; balance sheets 1918-1977; annual reports 1884-1965; memoranda and articles of association 1883-1979; letter books 1928-1982; employees' records 1925-1961; order books 1922-1964; plans 1928 and 1941-1973.

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Related records:

### Company History

This jute mill company was incorporated in 1883. Building of the mill was halted for about a year during a celebrated land dispute (1884-1886) with the Samnuggur Jute Factory Co Ltd who saw the new mill as a threat to their labour supply. Thomas Duff & Co Ltd took over the agency of the company in 1888. In 1969 the Victoria Jute Factory Co Ltd was merged with the Samnuggur Jute Factory Co Ltd and the Titaghur Jute Factory Co Ltd with the latter as the parent company and the Angus Company Ltd as a subsidiary of the group. In 1976 changes to the articles of association were adopted, reorganising the capital of the Company and transferring its residence to India, effectively passing management and control of the Company from Dundee to Calcutta.

The mill was acquired by Azmara PLC, a Scottish holding company that also owned other Scottish jute mills, though it later lost control of the mill to its operating contractors in 2001. The mill is currently run by RBD Textiles (registered in India), and the Company has been dissolved in Scotland.

Thanks to University of Dundee Archive for their help with this entry

## West of Scotland Insurance Office Limited

Company Number: SC001584

Date of Incorporation: 10 October 1886

Contact Details: PriceWaterhouseCoopers LLP, Kintyre House, 209 West George Street, Glasgow, G2 2LW

Operating Details: Dissolved 3 March 2005

Other names (if known): West of Scotland Fire Office Limited (1886-1904), GCU Insurance (1998-1999). Known as the West of Scotland Insurance Office Ltd at all other times

Function of Company\*: Life insurance/reinsurance (6601)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Glasgow and London

Area of Operation: Branches and agencies across the UK (particularly in Scotland and the north of England) by early 1900s, overseas branches and agencies across the British Empire and Northern Europe by 1924.

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: Aviva Group Archives, Surrey House, Norwich GB 2070

Scope/type: The Aviva archive contains records relating to the running of the West of Scotland Insurance Office between 1886 and 1997. The collection includes board minutes, registers of members, registers of transfers, annual reports and accounts and proposals.

Conditions governing access/use: Access is by appointment only, and at the discretion of the group archivist. Access to customer records less than 100 years old and company records less than 30 years old is closed except in very special circumstances. Access will only be granted on the understanding that the reader is engaged in bona fide historical research, and that the information extracted will not be used against the company or go beyond the agreed subject of research. For further information on specific searchroom rules please see <http://www.aviva.com/about-us/heritage/our-archive/access-policy/>

Related records: 2 court records and a promotional leaflet detailing this company's services in the National Archives of Scotland

## Company History

The company was founded by George Macgregor, an employee of the Scottish Union & National Insurance Company. Macgregor noticed that, at the time, none of the country's

fire insurance companies had a head office in Glasgow and was confident that, if one was established, it would get good local support.

In 1903, the company extended its business to "carry on the business of insurance in all its branches except life assurance."

Initially, the only additional class of insurance undertaken was burglary but, from 1907, the company began offering employers' liability insurance as well. In 1909, the company extended its operations overseas and, in 1914, established the Home and Foreign Re-insurance Company Ltd to absorb reinsurance treaty contracts with German and Austrian companies that had been terminated at the start of the First World War.

By 1929, the company was offering fire, burglary, loss of profits, workmen's compensation, third party, public liability, personal accident, plate glass, property owners' liability, fidelity guarantee and bonds of caution, securities in transit and motor car insurance. In 1975, the company's fire and accident insurance was wholly reinsured with Commercial Union and, by 1981, it had stopped trading.

The company was re-registered as a private company on December 22 1981. The company changed its name to CGU Insurance Ltd on December 15 1998 and was renamed the West of Scotland Insurance Office on October 1 1999.

Thanks to Aviva Group Archives, information is reprinted here with permission

## The Western Cachar Company Limited

Company Number: SC000151

Date of Incorporation: 2 December 1863

Contact Details: 17 Melville Street, Edinburgh, EH3 7PE

Operating Details: Dissolved 10 June 2005

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: None supplied to Company house. Presumably grow other crops (0111)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location:

Area of Operation: Assam, India

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

## Records

Held By: London Metropolitan Archives CLC/B/123-56

Scope/type: The records comprise: memorandum and articles of association, 1863-1915 (Ms 28169); register of directors and secretaries, 1901-1962 (Ms 28169A); and accounts, 1915-69 (Ms 28170-3)

Conditions governing access/use: Access open, but requires at least 48 hours notice. Orders may be placed in person at LMA, or by email to [ask.lma@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:ask.lma@cityoflondon.gov.uk) . More information can be found at [www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/lma](http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/lma) .

Related records: Other records of the Inchcape Group CLC/B/123. There is one file in the National Archives of Scotland (a petition to reduce capital and change the memoranda of understanding in 1916)

## Company History

This company of tea growers and manufacturers, operating in Assam, India, was part of the Inchcape Group of companies. Shortly after incorporation the company is listed as having plantations at Bowlea and Goomrah. It may be that the petition to reduce capital in 1916 reflects that it had been absorbed into a larger conglomerate of tea manufacturing companies. By 1948 the 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Inchcape was a director of this Company, and it in turn became part of the wider Inchcape Group. Its surviving archives, 1863-1969, were deposited in the Manuscripts Section of Guildhall Library in 1987-88. They were catalogued in 1988-9.

Note on the Inchcape Group archive

Efforts to consolidate the extensive international investments of the Inchcape family and the directorships and partnerships held by the third Earl of Inchcape resulted in the public launch of a parent holding company, Inchcape and Co Ltd, in 1958. Interests in merchant trading, shipping and agency houses had been built up since 1874 when James Lyle Mackay (from 1911 the first Earl of Inchcape) joined the Calcutta-based merchant and agency firm of Mackinnon, Mackenzie and Co, established in 1847 by William Mackinnon. Mackinnon's business empire extended beyond India to Australia, the Middle East and East Africa. Founder of the British India Steam Navigation Co Ltd (whose historic records are at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich) and the Australasian United Steam Navigation Co Ltd, he also set up agency firms at strategic ports (Gray, Dawes and Co in London; Gray, Mackenzie and Co and Gray, Paul and Co in the Persian Gulf; and Smith, Mackenzie and Co in Zanzibar) to handle the passenger and merchandise cargo carried alongside the Royal Mail. As Mackinnon's commercial heir, Mackay had risen by the 1890s to the position of partner within the firm. He had also begun a personal investment portfolio, buying major shareholdings in Indian tea estates (among them Assam Estates Co Ltd, Greenwood Tea Co Ltd, Northern Dooars Tea Co Ltd and Salonah Tea Co Ltd), textile firms (Binny and Co Ltd) and their English and Indian managing agents (Macneill and Co, Duncan Macneill and Co, Barry and Co and J B Barry and Son) and in two river steamer companies (Rivers Steam Navigation Co Ltd and India General Steam Navigation Co Ltd) and their managing agents (Kilburn and Co). Before 1958, there was no structural link between the majority of these companies, whose common denominator was the Inchcape family interest in them. However, after the Second World War, change was necessary, especially in newly independent India, for reasons of taxation and other economic restrictions placed on foreign companies. The option finally decided on by the third Earl of Inchcape was for a rationalisation of holdings and the incorporation of those retained into a single publicly quoted company based in London rather than India. After the launch of the Inchcape Group in 1958, the group expanded very rapidly, both by the development of existing companies and their range of activities, and by the purchase of other groups: among them, the Borneo Co Ltd in 1967, Dodwell and Co Ltd in 1972, Anglo Thai Corporation in 1975 and Assam Co Ltd in 1980. The London headquarters of Inchcape and Co Ltd was at 40 St Mary Axe, 1960-88, and St James House, 23 King Street, Westminster, 1988-. The records both of the companies brought together in 1958, and of those acquired subsequently, were deposited in the Manuscripts Section of Guildhall Library between May 1987 and December 1988. (These records were all made an outright gift to Guildhall Library in June 1995.) They were catalogued in 1988-9. No records of Inchcape and Co Ltd were deposited. The archives are catalogued under the names of the individual companies within the group. Each individual company catalogue has its own introductory note setting out its history. Those companies with significant archives have more extensive notes; other notes are necessarily rather brief.

Information taken from the London Metropolitan Archive, used here with permission.



## William Collins, Sons & Company Limited

Company Number: SC000934

Date of Incorporation: 2 January 1880

Contact Details: 103 Westerhill Road, Bishopbriggs, Glasgow, G64 2QT

Operating Details: Active, but non-trading (now part of HarperCollins, see history)

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: non-trading company (7499), previously book publisher (2211)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Glasgow

Area of Operation: Throughout the UK

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

### Records

Held By: Glasgow University Archive Services GB248 UGD243/1. 7, 9-12, and in the HarperCollins Archive held by the company itself

Scope/type: At GUAS UGD243/1, 7, 9-12; Directors' minutes, 1865-1963; Sir William Collins Memorial Fund minutes, 1888; Welfare minutes, 1942-1959; Health minutes 1943-1956; Social services sub-committee minutes, 1948-1958; Directors' agenda books, 1880-1905; Ledgers, 1897-1982; Cash books, 1953-1964; Journals, 1940-1980; Accounts and balance sheets, 1894-1959; Plant records, 1821-1976; Share and investment records, 1880-1971; Records relating to overseas subsidiary/agent companies in Australia, New Zealand, Trinidad and the Caribbean, Canada, India, North America and South Africa, 1956-1981; Authors book files, 1951-1968; Authors correspondence and agreement files, 1937-1982; Photographs and company histories, 1822-1974; Insurance and investment records, 1957-1972; Papers relating to the acquisition of A W Gatrell & Co, publishers, Wealdstone, Middlesex 1968-1972; Papers relating to Comet and Jupiter Books, 1955-1963 ; Papers relating to William Collins & Sangster Ltd, 1968-1980 ; Papers relating to Pan Books Ltd, 1973-1975 ; Papers relating to Collsack Ltd, booksellers, 1952-1958

HarperCollins holds; Book archive 1930s-1990s; Editorial files & correspondence 1960s-1990s; Artwork Archive (date unknown); Collections of notable authors.

Conditions governing access/use: Open, pending usual GUAS terms and conditions on use and copying. Please contact HarperCollins concerning access to their archive.

Related records:

### Company History

William Collins (1789-1853), the founder of Collins, Sons & Co Ltd, was born in 1789 in Glasgow, Scotland, and became a teacher. He continued his teaching until 1819 when he went into partnership with Charles Chalmers to establish a printing and publishing business. William Collins & Co handled the publishing and printing side of the business while Chalmers & Collins dealt with bookselling and stationery. However, this partnership was short lived and, in 1826, Collins brought Chalmers out of the business with the copyright of books that had already been published passing to Collins.

In 1817, Collins and his wife, Jane Barclay, had a son, William Collins (II) (1817-1895). William (II) joined his father's business as an apprentice and in 1848 was admitted as a partner, coinciding with a general expansion of the business. The growth in the number of churches following the Disruption, the major schism in the Church of Scotland, in 1843, and the church extension scheme meant there was an increased demand for bibles and religious literature. The advent of compulsory education also meant many textbooks were required and a general increase in literacy meant that there was an increased demand for all kinds of published material.

William Collins (I) died in 1853 and William Collins (II) continued the business alone until 1865, when he took his two assistants into partnership. Three years later, he took his two eldest sons into partnership, William Collins (III) (d1906) and Alexander Collins and the company became known as William Collins, Sons & Co. Alexander concentrated on extending the bible sales, whilst William (III) concentrated on the manufacturing side of the business. It was William (III) who invented a machine that folded, gummed and dried envelopes in one operation and therefore greatly increased production. In 1880, the company acquired limited liability, becoming William Collins, Sons & Co Ltd.

William Collins (II) died in 1895. The business had greatly expanded under his leadership and he had also taken great interest in his workers' welfare. In 1887, the Collins Institute was opened near the business' works in Glasgow. This building catered for the workers' educational, social and cultural needs. Collins was also a follower of the temperance movement and was the president of the Scottish Temperance League for many years. He was elected as a City Councillor four times from 1866 and from 1877 to 1880 was Lord Provost of Glasgow.

In 1900, William Collins (III) began to publish children's literature, a successful business move. In 1903, he launched the Collins Handy Illustrated Pocket Novels, although the name was soon changed to Collins Illustrated Pocket Novels. In 1904, he founded Collins Brothers & Co to operate in Australia and New Zealand and, in 1905, William Collins & Co, New York, was incorporated to facilitate transatlantic bible sales and new pocket classics. He also improved and extended the company's printing works. William (III) died in 1906 leaving no heirs.

William Collins (IV) (1873-1945), son of Alexander Collins, succeeded his uncle as chairman of the company in 1906. He had been elected to the board in 1897, followed by his brother Godfrey Collins and his cousin William Collins Dickson, both of whom became directors in 1899. William (IV), as chairman, took over the supervision of the home and overseas offices, and the manufacture and sale of stationery while Godfrey was responsible for publications. In 1907, they introduced the Sevenpennies series of cheap copyright novels by living authors.

The company continued to expand and as a result the brothers strengthened the board of directors. James Paterson, Ebenezer Dow and Alec B Glen joined the board of directors while Godfrey Collins began to follow a career in politics. He was appointed Parliamentary Private Secretary to the then Secretary of State of War, Colonel 'Jack' Steely. With the advent of the 1914-1918 World War, both Collins brothers enlisted for military service leaving the business in the hands of James Paterson. The war and rising

costs led to ventures such as the Sevenpennies being abandoned. The company also began to seek out original fiction, history, biographies and poetry. This venture met with success and continued to grow over the next decades.

In 1919, Godfrey Collins was knighted and he was appointed junior Lord of the Treasury. In 1924, he became the Chief Liberal Whip before being appointed to the cabinet in 1932. He was made a Privy Councillor and became the Secretary of State for Scotland. He died in 1936.

The 1930s saw the next generation of Collins entering the company. Ian G Collins, the second son of William (IV), began to learn the technicalities of book production as well as the export trade. William Hope Collins, the son of Sir Godfrey, and William Collins (V) also both entered the company. During the 1930s the company continued to flourish with the fiction list continued to be broadened with works from America as well as Britain. William Hope Collins' visit to America in 1932 to inspect printing equipment resulted in new printing presses and binding machines being introduced. In 1938, William Hope Collins became president of the Stationers Co of Glasgow. Ten years later he became president of the British Federation of Master Printers. He also served as president of the Scottish Alliance of Master Printers, and of the International Bureau of Master Printers in Europe.

William (IV) died in 1945. William (V) took over as chairman and managing director, with Ian G Collins as vice chairman and managing director, and William Hope Collins as joint managing director. The company's output increased in terms of both book and stationery production. The company's printing and warehouse capacity was extended, most notably with the opening of the Montgomery Building in 1953. William Hope Collins continued the company's reputation for caring for their workers by developing the pension and profit sharing schemes and by the creation of a health and welfare department in the 1950s. William Hope Collins died in 1967.

In the 1970s, the company moved out of its central Glasgow offices in the Cathedral Street area to Bishopbriggs in the north of the city. In 1983, the company acquired the publishing interests of the media company, Granada Group Ltd. This included Granada Publishing Ltd and its various subsidiary companies, most noticeably the Hart-Davis publishing house and that of MacGibbon & Kee. In 1989, William Collins Sons & Co Ltd merged with Harper & Row, publishers, New York United States, to form HarperCollins, the British side of the company being managed through Harper Collins Publishers Ltd. Harper Collins Publishers Ltd continued to trade in 2003 with head offices at Bishopbriggs, Glasgow, employing c500 people.

Sources: Keir, David *The House of Collins* London, 1952, Slaven, A and Checkland, S (eds.) *Dictionary of Scottish Business Biography 1860-1960, vol 2*, Aberdeen, 1990

## William Younger & Company Limited, Brewers

Company Number: SC001658

Date of Incorporation: 17 August 1887

Contact Details: 2-4 Broadway Park, South Gyle Broadway, Edinburgh, EH12 9JZ

Operating Details: Active

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Non-trading Company (7499), previously brewing (1596)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Edinburgh

Area of Operation: Edinburgh, trading through Scotland and Northern England

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

### Records

Held By: Scottish brewing archive (at Glasgow University Archive) GB 1127WY

Scope/type: Corporate records 1800-1960 Shareholding records 1887-1955 ; Letterbooks 1838-1969 ; Financial records 1805-1960 ; Patents and trademarks 1803-1940s ; Production records 1807-1970s; Sales records 1862-1943; Staff records 1866-1965; Licensed premises records 1880-1955; Property records 1658-1957; Promotional material 1870s-1960s ; Public relations 1870s-1960s; Family papers 1843-1890s ; Photographs 1860s-1960s

Conditions governing access/use: Applications for use sent to Scottish Brewing Archivist

Related records:

### Company History

Tradition has it that William Younger I, aged 16, set up a brewery in Kirkgate, Leith, Scotland, in 1749. In 1853 he married Grizel Syme and became an exciseman, leaving the brewery to be run by Grizel. However, this account is flawed and inaccurate and cannot be substantiated. Grizel actually ran her deceased second husband's brewery and it was this brewery and those of her sons that developed into the firm of William Younger & Co.

After William Younger I, Grizel Syme's first husband, had died in 1770, Grizel married Alexander Anderson, a Leith brewer, in 1772, who had been brewing since at least 1758. He took one of her sons, Archibald Campbell Younger as an apprentice, and probably also trained her other sons Richard and William II. Alexander Anderson died in 1781 and

Grizel took over the brewery, trading as Grizel Anderson, assisted by William II, until she retired in 1794.

Archibald Campbell Younger set up on his own business in 1777, establishing a brewery in the grounds of Holyrood Abbey, Edinburgh, Scotland, and acquired a new brewery, Croft-an-Righ Brewery, Holyrood, in 1786. He opened a new larger brewery in the North Back of Canongate (now Calton Road) in 1793. Richard was brewing at Gentle's Close, Canongate in 1788, but by 1796 was in London, England.

William Younger II opened his own brewhouse within Holyrood Abbey precinct in 1796. William Younger II extended this brewery and acquired James Blair's Abbey Brewhouse, Horse Wynd, Holyrood in 1803. (The company founding date of 1749 probably derives from James Blair's Abbey Brewery.) In 1806 he commenced brewing porter with his brother, Archibald Campbell Younger, and in 1808 took his brother-in-law, Robert Hunter, into partnership under the name of Younger and Hunter. In 1818, after the death of Robert Hunter, he took Alexander Smith, Brewer and Superintendent of the brewery, into partnership, the firm to be called William Younger & Company.

In 1819 Archibald Campbell Younger died and his brewery was disposed of to George Hastie. William Younger II's mother and brother-in-law died in 1821 and he was able to consolidate all the family interests under the title William Younger & Co. He expanded further into the Canongate and in 1836 Alexander Smith, brewer, and his son, Andrew, and William Younger III became William II's partners. By the 1840s the partnership was trading all over Scotland and exporting to North and South America, India and Australia. After the death of William Younger II and Alexander Smith in 1842 their sons carried on the business. William Younger IV joined the partnership in 1849 followed by his brother, Henry Johnston Younger, in 1852. The latter left the firm in 1855 but returned as a partner in 1861. William Younger III retired in 1851 (died 1854) leaving Andrew Smith to manage the business.

In 1858 Andrew Smith and William Younger IV purchased the adjacent premises of brewer Alexander Berwick, and built the Holyrood Brewery which ran between Canongate and its South Back (now Holyrood Road). The firm's first London office opened in 1861. William Younger IV (died 1886) and Andrew Smith retired in 1869, leaving the day-to-day control to Henry J Younger, his brother David Younger (retired 1880) and Alexander Smith (died 1885), Andrew Smith's son. Alexander Low Bruce (died 1893) became a partner in 1876. The breweries continued to expand and William Younger & Co Ltd was registered in August 1887 as a limited liability company to acquire the business, becoming a public company in 1889. By 1891 the company was producing 400,000 barrels of beer per year and by 1907 the brewery covered 27 acres and brewed a quarter of all the ale produced in Scotland.

In January 1931 the company merged with William McEwan & Co Ltd, Edinburgh, through Scottish Brewers Ltd. It acquired Collin Croft Brewery Co Ltd, Kendal, Cumbria, England, in 1933 and in 1946 employed 1,350 people. The Abbey Brewery closed in 1956 and the premises were remodelled to form the headquarters buildings of Scottish & Newcastle Breweries plc, with whom Scottish Brewers Ltd merged in 1960. The site is to be the new Scottish Parliament buildings. The Holyrood Brewery complex closed in 1986.

## The Young's Paraffin Light and Mineral Oil Company Limited

Company Number: SC000221

Date of Incorporation: 4 January 1866

Contact Details: 1 Wellheads Avenue, Dyce, Aberdeen, AB21 7PB

Operating Details: Active (now a subsidiary of BP, see history)

Other names (if known):

Function of Company\*: Other business activities (7487) previously shale oil refining (2320)

Headquarters/Base of Operations Location: Addiewell, West Calder

Area of Operation: Addiewell shale/oil works

\*Taken from Standard Industrial Classification 2003, as used by Companies House in 2010

### Records

Held By: Split between the BP archive and Almond Heritage Valley Trust. At this time (Jan 2011) most of the BP archive is to be transferred to the Almond Valley Heritage Trust, except those records that relate to BP/Anglo Persian Oil. No reference number for collection.

Scope/type: BP archive c.1870s-1973; annual reports and accounts, Directors minutes, financial information, legal agreements and leases etc, some records of company housing

Almond Valley Heritage Trust; Plans, maps and technical drawings of mining and refinery works, various operational paperwork and artifacts, photographs and negatives

Conditions governing access/use: The BP archive is open to the public for any records up to 1979 by prior appointment. The Almond Valley Heritage Trust is in the middle of an ambitious project to digitise its records, but otherwise they remain open to the public by prior appointment

Related records: See

<http://survey.scottishshale.co.uk/FilterPages/companyResults.php?AOID=323> for further details. Prospectus, cuttings and plans held by West Lothian History Library. Photographs held at Falkirk Council Archives. Some plans and other documents held at the NAS.

The personal papers of James 'Paraffin' Young are held in University of Strathclyde Archives GB 249 T-YOU although his involvement within the company was limited.

## Company History

Founded by to exploit the shale fields of West Calder in 1866, this company purchased the Addiewell shale oil site from James 'Paraffin' Young, who took very little active interest in the company, though he held shares in the company and sat on the board.

"1866 is noted as being the year in which the much-heard-of Young's Paraffin Light and Mineral Oil Company came into existence. It was started with a capital stock of £600,000, of which £400,000 was paid to Young for his Bathgate and Addiewell Works, together with the leases of the shale fields & c., while Young retained a large holding in the company, and acted on the board of directors. Although the company was fairly prosperous for some years, and had an output equal to about one-third of the total production of the Scotch works combined, it cannot be said to have been a financial success of late years; due, firstly, to it having been handicapped, as a large dividend payer, by the burden of carrying and excessively large capital, and secondly, being the first company of any importance, the works were necessarily fitted up with expensive apparatus and machinery that proved in a few years to be unsuitable for refining the oils so as to suit the more exacting requirements of the later-day trade." (A Practical Treatise on Mineral Oils and their By-Products, Ilyd. I. Redwood, 1897)

By 1968 the company owned sites at Bathgate (which had a crude oil refinery and acid plant) and the larger Addiewell site, and employed 1500 people and processed 172000 tons of shale per year. In 1879 the company expanded by buying the West Calder Oil Company, although the Bathgate site began to slow down. In 1884 crude oil production ceased at Bathgate, and by 1887 the process plant transferred to Addiewell as well, although the sulphuric acid plant operated until 1956. The company acquired the Uphall Mineral Oil Company Limited and began to concentrate its operations at the Uphall work to exploit the shalefield there. By 1902 the company had acquired a coal mine at Baads, several local farms, and owned a lampworks in Birmingham.

### Scottish Oils Limited

Scottish Oils Limited was formed by the merger of the 5 remaining Scottish shale oil companies (Pumpherston, Broxburn, Oakbank, Philpstoun and Youngs) in 1919. This company was a subsidiary of the Anglo-Persian Oil Company (which became British Petroleum in 1954), although all five companies continued to operate independently within the structure. Based at Middleton Hall, a 1707 mansion house in Uphall, Scottish Oils provided admin, marketing and technical support for the Scottish shale oil industry. Its first Managing Director was William Fraser of Pumpherston Oil. In 1924 Anglo Persian Oil supported the industry by opening the refinery in Grangemouth.

However following the removal of war time controls, soaring wage and price inflation made the oil produced in the Lothians more expensive and unprofitable. By 1932 the remaining shale oil companies were legally absorbed by Scottish Oils, which started to make dramatic cuts on staff and equipment. By 1938 there were five remaining crude oil works (Addiewell, Deans, Roman Camp, Hopetoun and Niddry Castle) and a dozen or so shale mines and pits, and a coal mine at Baads.

The Second World War brought an increase in oil prices and wages (the first real terms increase since the early part of the century), and even the redevelopment of premises. However by 1954 shale oil had again become a loss-making industry in Scotland, and

closures began from the 1950s onwards. Broxburn (closed in 1962) and Pumpherston (1964) were the last refineries to close.

The company also developed Irano Products Ltd, a subsidiary chemical company, which was subsequently re-named BP Detergents Ltd (26/8/1958 - 6/11/1989). This company, which is not to be confused with BP Detergents International, was called Young's Detergents Ltd from 1989 onward.

With thanks to the Almond Valley Heritage Trust and the BP Archive for their help with this entry to the project.



### Thanks and acknowledgements

(in no particular order)

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