

## Joseph Adamson & Company

2003. 54

**Archival history:** The collection was donated to The Museum of Science and Industry in Manchester in 2001 when the material was discovered at J. Adamson's in Hyde

**System of arrangement:** The collection has been arranged into fifteen series to represent the different sections of the Company and personal papers of Joseph and Daniel Adamson. Where appropriate the series have been arranged into sub-series and generally listed chronologically.

**Scope and content:** The collection consists of books, journals, drawings, sketches, correspondence, reports, plans, manuals, advertisements, brochures, printing blocks, newspaper cuttings and photographs dating from the 1870s-1990s.

### Biographical history:

Joseph Adamson (1843-1921) and Henry Booth (1818-1899) founded Joseph Adamson & Company in July 1874. Adamson was born in Shildon, County Durham, and was the nephew of civil engineer Daniel Adamson, a founder and first chairman of the Manchester Ship Canal Company. Joseph Adamson's father was an engine driver and later a coal merchant in Doncaster in Yorkshire. In 1858 Adamson was apprenticed at his uncle's business, Newton Heath Boiler Works outside Manchester, where he became foreman in 1863, managed the works and technical drawing department from 1865, and from 1867 to 1873 was responsible for commercial and technical management. During this time Adamson gained a good deal of experience in the development and improvement of boilers and their constituent components and materials.

Henry Booth was born in Ashton-under-Lyne, then outside Manchester, and was a partner in the Daisyfield Colliery prior to setting up his business of boilermaking with Joseph Adamson. The new company leased a site near a railway line and canal in Hyde, to the south of the city of Manchester. The firm's first orders came in December 1874, to produce two Lancashire boilers for a firm in London and to repair a third at a site in Leigh in Lancashire. The workload, and consequently the workforce, varied during the first five years of business, but by the late 1870s the firm was employing an average of around sixty men and were producing their first boilers made partly from steel rather than entirely of cast iron. Although steel was not a new material, its properties were not fully understood, and its use in high-pressure boilers was still under development. Almost all the boilers produced were steel by the mid-1880s, however. In addition the company was also making several types of domestic iron products, such as water heaters and roof components.

Sales of boilers increased throughout the 1880s and 1890s, with an increasing number going for export. The firm built several different designs and modified a number of them for customer's requirements. Henry Booth withdrew from his partnership in the company in 1887 and retired to Southport, where he died twelve years later. Several improvements were made to the company's premises over these years, with older buildings being enlarged or demolished and new offices and an overhead crane being installed. Electricity was increasingly used for power and lighting, the company being one of the first in Great Britain to use electrical equipment in their works. Adamson's also began to produce cranes after Joseph Adamson saw them used in North America. Adamson cranes were almost all electrical overhead models, and soon became a popular and reliable addition to their business. Their early cranes could lift between 10 and 75 tons, and were built by a workforce of around 140 men on the shop floor alone.

Joseph Adamson was now a member of several engineering institutions and his company employed his sons Daniel and Harold, who began to progress in their knowledge of the business. Work also started on producing Perkins' boilers after Adamson had paid some of the costs of A. M. Perkins' patent, though this was not a terribly successful venture. 1898 was a good year for the business, when it sold 115 boilers and twenty-seven cranes, in addition to hundreds of ends for boilers for the refurbishment of older units. Only around a fifth of the company's products now stayed in the north-west of England, with the remainder travelling further afield or going for export.

By the beginning of the twentieth century the factory was six times larger than when it first opened in 1874, and around 270 men were employed in an increasing number of specialised trades. The production of cranes enabled the company to quadruple its profits over the five years to 1900. Boilers were becoming stronger and working at higher pressures due to improved designs and the use of steel, but as a consequence they were more complicated to make, heavier, and relatively expensive. Around a third of the boilers were sold to engineering concerns, with smaller numbers going to utilities, mining, textiles, and iron and steel works. The Admiralty bought several units for use in torpedo boats and destroyers.

Daniel and Harold Adamson became partners in their father's firm in 1902, and several improvements were made to the site and the machinery used by the firm over the years leading up to the First World War. The first part of the twentieth century was not a good period for the company however, as the general economic situation was poor for many engineering firms. The improved machinery enabled Adamson's to offer larger or more specialised products, but overall sales fell dramatically during this period. Both crane and boiler sales fell from dozens of units to single figures in some years and the workforce dropped to just over 100 men as a result. Daniel Adamson made moves towards a possible merger with other firms, but nothing ever came of his investigations.

Technical development of their main product, the Lancashire boiler, was somewhat slow considering that many were being replaced by newer water-tube boilers, and it was only crane production that kept the company's finances in a reasonable state. Adamson's began to make a variety of smaller items again in order to increase turnover, including furnaces, vulcanising pans and tar stills. They also built sea-mine casings and tin crushers that flattened tins and buckets for easier disposal.

Joseph Adamson died shortly after the First World War and his two eldest sons became partners in the company. In 1925, Harold Adamson sold his stake to his brother Daniel who became sole owner. Daniel then filled the role his father had previously occupied, becoming president of both Manchester and national engineering and civil engineer societies. He also wrote papers and was presented with awards and honorary degrees in connection with engineering. His sons, George and another Joseph, managed the business following Daniel's death in 1930, and converted the firm to a limited liability company in 1935. Co-operation in the production of cranes was also started during the inter-war years with The Horsehay Company who were based in Shropshire.

Previous contact with the North American market led to the formation of a joint company with the Alliance Machine Company of Ohio in 1938, who specialised in the production of machinery for handling metal in steel works. Following the Second World War the company began to renew many of its buildings and to expand on land adjacent to its premises. Several new workshops and a new crane-erecting bay were built on a site that now covered around fourteen acres.

Cranes that could lift up to 300 tons were now being built and facilities for the heat treatment of large pieces of metal were installed. Both Adamson's and the Horsehay Company had directors sitting on both boards as links became closer, and soon all crane production was concentrated at the Shropshire company's site. The 1960s and 1970s saw many engineering firms in increasing difficulties and Adamson's was little different. George Adamson's son John became managing director in 1970 and sought alternative products to the boilers and cranes that had been the firm's mainstay for so long. This initiative was not successful, and after a period of losses the family sold their controlling interest in the firm to management consultants. After several further years of losses Edgar Barlow, a previous company secretary, devised another rescue package for the company. This improved the economic position of the company and Barlow acquired a controlling interest in 1985.

Two companies bearing the Adamson name then existed on the site: Adamson (Dished Ends) Limited made dished and flanged ends for boilers and large vessels, and Adamson (Heat Treatment) Limited engaged in shot blasting, painting and heat treatment processes. Many of Adamson's former buildings were let to other companies. The firm went into receivership in October 2001.

## Series 1: Accounts

### 1/1: Cash books and day books

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
1/1/1	12/1	1874-1884	Cash book no. 1
/2	10/9	1953-1962	Cash book for G.R. Adamson, J. Adamson and A.V. Flinn
/3	13/1	1928-1940	Day book no. 6

### 1/2: Expenses

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
1/2/1	JA/2	1875-1886	Joseph Adamson travelling expenses book
/2	10/2	1886-1901	Joseph Adamson travelling expenses book
/3	10/4	1896-1913	Harold Adamson expenses book
/4	10/3	1912-1922	Joseph Adamson expenses book
/5	10/8	1941-1912	Fire Watchers expenses book
/6	10/7	1943	Fire Watchers expenses book
/7	10/1	1944	Firewatchers expenses
/8	10/5	1944	Fire Brigade expenses book

### 1/3: Accounts Journals

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
1/3/1	16/9	1875-1915	
/2	JA/1 3	c.1875- 1922	Note: needs unlocking
/3	10/12	1947-1950	
/4	10/13	1950-1956	
/5	21/4	1968-1975	

**1/4: Sales ledgers**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Old ref</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
1/4/1	14/5	1874-1888	Account book for various companies
/2	12/6	1891-1899	Account book for various companies

**1/5: Stock books and valuations**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Old ref</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
1/5/1	B	1885 Aug	Valuation
/2	10/10	1950-1960	Stock book

**1/6: Budgets**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Old ref</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
1/6	L	1938-1948	Budgets: letter at back of book relating to Asquith 8ft. O.D. radial

**Series 2: Payroll****2/1: Wages books**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Old ref</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
2/1/1	15/4	1875-1880	
/2	4/1	1884-1887	
/3	15/1	1887-1890	
/4	15/2	1890-1892	
/5	15/5	1892-1894	
/6	18/4	1894-1896	
/7	4/2	1896-1897	
/8	5/1	1901-1903	
/9	5/2	1903-1905	

/10	5/4	1905-1907
/11	18/3	1907-1910
/12	4/3	1910-1912
/13	17/4	1912-1914
/14	17/5	1914-1916
/15	17/1	1916-1918
/16	17/2	1918-1920
/17	7/2	1920-1922
/18	8/3	1922-1924
/19	13/3	1924-1926
/20	13/4	1926-1928
/21	7/1	1928-1930
/22	4/5	1930-1932
/23	13/6	1932-1934
/24	13/5	1934-1936
/25	8/2	1937-1939
/26	8/1	1939-1941
/27	5/3	1941-1943
/28	B	1941-1944
/29	18/1	1943-1944
/30	17/3	1944-1946
/31	7/3	1946-1948

**2/2: Office wages and salaries**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Old ref</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
2/2/1	B	1928-1932	Office Wages
/2	H	1932-1936	Office wages
/3	B	1936-1940	Office wages
/4	15/3	1944-1946	Salaries book no. 3
/5	4/4	1946-1948	Salaries book

**2/3: Piece Work**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Old ref</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
2/3/1	12/2	1901-1905	Records of piecework
/2	12/3	1924-1935	No. 5
/3	12/4	1956-1933	No. 8
/4	12/5	1963-1965	No. 9

**2/4: Bonus Book and Holiday Payment**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Old ref</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
2/4/1	20/4	1940 Apr- 1945 Oct	Bonus book
/2	B	1938-1947	Holiday payments no. 1

**Series 3: Sales Enquiries and Orders****3/1: Quotations and Enquiries**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Old ref</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
3/1/1	B	1917-1951	Quotations
/2	B	1940-1951	Enquiries no. 2

**3/2: Sales Order Books**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Old ref</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
3/2/1	JA/9	1875-1885	Order book boilers no. 1
/2	JA/12	1894-1899	General order book no. 3  Note: spine damaged
/3	JA/15	1899-1914	Order book for Cashiers Office no. 1
/4	5/6	1915-1945	Order book for Cashiers Office no. 2
/5	C	1941-1951	Order book no. 7

**3/3: Sub-order books**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Old ref</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
3/3/1	C	1903-1905	Book no. 2
/2	C	1905-1907	Book no. 3

**Series 4: Purchase orders****4/1: Order Reference books**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Old ref</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
4/1/1	D	1890-1895	Orders reference book no. 1: purchase
/2	D	1896-1905	Orders reference book no. 2: purchase

**4/2: Requisition pads**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Old ref</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
4/2/1	D	1903-1918	Requisition book no. 16: cranes and motors
/2	2/1	1915-1929	Electrical requisition book
/3	D	1922-1932	Requisition pad sub orders
/4	D	1925-1929	Requisition pad sub orders
/5	2/2	1936-1942	
/6	D	1939-1944	Crane requisition book mechanical no. 24



## Series 5: Estimates and costs

### 5/1: Estimates

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
5/1/1	3/1	1894-1897	Boiler estimates book no. 9
/2	M10	1900-1928	Lists of flanged plates: sizes and prices
/3	3/2	1922-1924	Boiler estimates book no. 19
/4	3/3	1932-1947	Boiler estimates book no. 21
/5	9/3	1939-1940	Flanged plates estimates no. 21
/6	9/4	1941-1942	Flanged plates estimates no. 23
/7	3 /4	1947-1948	Boiler estimates book no. 22

### 5/2: Cost books

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
5/2/1	9/1	1875-1879	Cost book of boilers and mountings no. 1
/2	2/4	1879-1882	Cost book for boilers and mountings no. 2
/3	2/5	1894-1899	Cost book for electric cranes and motors, no. 1
/4	H	c.1899	Foreman's time book: electric shop
/5	H	1910	Plate book
/6	2/3	1934-1937	Weekly costing book [unidentified]
/7	20/1	1962-1958	Cost book, Boiler Department no. 21

## Series 6: Cranes

### 6/1: Index

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
6/1/1	H	1921	Crane index

**6/2: Particulars**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Old ref</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
6/2/1	H	1901 Jun- 1904 Sep	Particulars for pattern shop foreman
/2	H	1903 May- 1907 Jan	Particulars for electric shop foreman
/3	H	1904 Sep- 1909 Aug	Particulars for pattern shop foreman
/4	H	1905-1912	Records of electric cranes 151-225
/5	H	1909 Nov- 1914 Jan	Particulars for pattern shop foreman

**6/3: Orders**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Old ref</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
6/3/1	H	1894 Nov- 1905 Jul	Particulars of electric cranes on order
/2	H	1905 Aug- 1920 Feb	Particulars of electric cranes on order
/3	H	1917-1927	Particulars of electric cranes on order (electric shop)
/4	H	1920 Feb- 1929 Feb	Particulars of electric cranes on order
/5	H	1929 Mar- 1931 Dec	Particulars of electric cranes on order
/6	6/1	1937-1951	Purchase order reference book for cranes 510 E C- 1001 E C and orders B1001-B1025

**6/4: Adamson Alliance Company Limited**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Old ref</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
6/4/1	19/24	1950	Spares for 200/40 ton strippers and 20 tons soaking pit chargers for steelworks of Wales
/2	19/10	1950	Tender to the International Construction Company Ltd. (Port Talbot) for mill crane spares

/3	19/11	1951	Tender to the International Construction Co. Ltd (Consett): schedule of spares assemblies
/4	19/12	1951	Tender to the International Construction Co. Ltd. (Consett); spares for Consett cranes
/5	19/13	1951	Tender to the International Construction Co. Ltd. (port Talbot): strippers and soakers and trolley spares

### Series 7: Electrical Coils

#### 7/1: Armatures

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
7/1/1	1/6	1901-1903	Crane armature book
/2	1/7	1904-1908	
/3	1/8	1908-1914	
/4	1/9	1914-1920	

#### 7/2: Bobbins

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
7/2/1	1/1	1899-1901	Crane bobbin winding book
/2	1 /2	n.d.-1905	
/3	1/3	1905-1910	
/4	1 /4	1910-1916	
/5	1 /5	1917-1936	

#### 7/3: Brake Coils

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
7/3/1	1/16	1910-1920	Crane brake coils
/2	1/17	1939-1940	

**7/4: Resistance Data Sheet Books**

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
7/4/1	1/13	1902-1909	Resistance data sheet books
/2	1/14	1909-1922	
/3	1/15	1922-1944	

**7/5: Resistance books**

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
7/5/1	1/10	1910-1916	Resistance book
/2	1/11	1918-1924	
/3	1/12	1924-1942	

**Series 8: Drawings****8/1: Drawing Office Order book**

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
8/1/1	11/5	1890-1891	Drawing Office order book no. 1
/2	11/7	1935-1942	Sub order book

**8/2: Calculation book**

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
8/2/1	11/6	1817-1920	Costing calculation book

**8/3: Miscellaneous drawings, reports and spares list**

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
8/3/1	9/2	1875-1969	Boiler design book
/2	JA/7	c.1876	List of working drawings book
/3	16/10	1889-1899	Steam Engine Indicator Diagrams

/4	JA/5	1891-1906	Notebook containing various designs for boilers, some correspondence from other companies providing material, and various statistics for consumption of furnace coal, engine coal and steam
/5	19/21	1927	List of drawings and materials for 319 EC (Electrical)
/6	19/19	1940	Drawing details of pipework and glands, drawing no. 130981, order no. 2550/65
/7	19/23	1940	Letters relating to worm wheels order no. 2550/65 and 2570/3
/8	19/14	1949-1959	Drawing from the Sir Silk Co. Ltd., Kaghaznagar Hyderabad D.N. boiler, drawing no. S314
/9	19/16	1959	Drawing from the Sir Silk Co. Ltd. Kaghaznagar Hyderabad D.N. foundation drawing no. S1187
/10	19/22	1940-1958	Blueprints and correspondence, order no. 2550/65
/11	19/25	1960	Mr L. Hulme's weekly reports 2/1/60 to 5/3/60
/12	19/20	n.d.	List of spares for 250/45/25 ton crane (original order no. 1287/8/EC)

#### **8/4: Shop sketches**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Old ref</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
8/4/1	11/4	1899	Shop sketch book no. 2
/2	11/3	1903-1907	Drawing Office sketch book Note: the sketches are drawn with a special pencil which allows a copy to be made by pressing a damp thin paper against the drawing
/3	19/15	1954	Sketch of development of shell plates for order no. 2833
/4	19/17	n.d.	Sketch of development of shell plates for order no. A6038; Eastern Indian Produce Co. Ltd.

/5	19/18	n.d.	Sketch of digester and trunnions order no. A4858
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### Series 9: Shops and Buildings

#### 9/1: Site plans

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
9/1/1	19/3	1874-1881	Plans of works on tracing and linen-backed paper Note: some fragile

#### 9/2: Works files

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
9/2/1	JA/1	1892-1897	Time and Coal notebook
/2	19/4	1900-1924	Wages and salaries of draughtsmen and clerks
/3	19/7	1914-1916	Dished End details: correspondence and drawings
/4	19/6	1920-1961	Press Shop notes
/5	22	c.1920s	Instruction manual for installation, operation and maintenance of flanging machine 'ribo 18N'
/6	19/1	1927-1935	File relating to Mr A.V. Flinn, Manager of Crane Department: correspondence and agreements
/7	19/5	1937-1938	Balance sheets
/8	16/12	1938-1951	The National Boiler & General Insurance Co. Ltd.: register of lifting machines and lifting tackle

### Series 10: Personnel records

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
10/1			4 metal trays of employment cards

## Series 11: Advertisements and Papers

### 11/1: Advertisements

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
11/1/1	M4	1898-1902	Adverts from <i>Engineering and Cassier's Magazine</i>
/2	M5	1899-1903	Adverts for locomotives, Toolmakers, Cranes, Marine Engines, Drilling Machines, U.K. and U.S.A. makers
/3	23/8	1922	Advert for tin crushing machines
/4	M8	1923	Quotations for printing of advertisements for 'boiler end plates'
/5	23/13	1927	Advert for waste heat boilers for steelworkers
/6	16/8	1931-1938	Advertisements no. 1
/7	16/11	1948-1949	Advertisements no. 2
/8	M		General index to scraps and notes

### 11/2: Brochures

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
11/2/1	23/1	1869	Photocopy of catalogue of Daniel Adamson & Co. with letter dated 4 <sup>th</sup> Oct 1872?
/2	JA/14	1926	File of various product catalogues of Joseph Adamson (c.1923-1924) presented to the members of the Manchester and District Junior Gas Association
/3	23/12	1929	Pamphlet '55 years of progress'
/4	JA/8	c.1930	<i>Fifty-six years of progress: an interesting record</i> , Company history booklet
/5	JA/16	c.1952	<i>Boilers by Joseph Adamson &amp; Co. Ltd.</i> brochure
/6	M1	1998-1990	Brochures of cranes and boilers

**11/3: Printing Blocks**

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
11/3/1	24		Assorted metal printing blocks

**11/4: Written papers**

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
11/4/1	JA/4	1898 Apr	<i>Electric Driving at Messrs. Joseph Adamson &amp; Co's. Works, Hyde near Manchester</i> , reprinted from 'The Mechanical Engineer'
/2	M6	c.1900	<i>Electric Cranes</i> by G.R Adamson and C.F. Tinker
/3	M6	1916	<i>Spur-gearing</i> by Daniel Adamson
/4	M6 and 20/3	1925	<i>The design and construction of electric cranes</i> by Daniel Adamson, Institute of Mechanical Engineers 3 copies?
/5	M6 and 20/3	1932	<i>The wasteheat boiler and it's effects on furnace design, operation and output</i> by G.R. Adamson
/6	M6	1950	Inaugural address by J. Adamson

**11/5: Newspaper cuttings**

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
11/5/1	22		History of Hyde and its neighbourhood: article on Joseph Adamson & Co.
/2	M7	1897-1904	Cuttings (adverts) from <i>Engineering</i> and <i>American Engineering</i> and 3 pictures of ships, 1 of steam locomotive
/3	M2	1920-1929	Cuttings from Telegraph, Manchester Guardian and others relating to personal and business
/4	M4	1929	Newspaper cuttings and postcard including papers relating to engineers in Manchester
/5	23/5-6	1950	Newspaper cuttings of visit to Adamsons and guides for visit



/6	23/4	1956	Newspaper cuttings of centenary visit to Joseph Adamson
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**11/6: General Illustrations**

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
11/6/1	13/2	1895-1899	General Illustration book

**Series 12: Photographs**

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
12/1	26		Photographs and advertising boards relating to different aspects of boiler making including boiler machinery and cranes
/2	16/1	1893-1908	Hyde no. 1
/3	16/2	1908-1914	Hyde no. 2
/4	16/3	1914-1921	Hyde no. 3
/5	16/4	1921-1924	Hyde no. 4
/6	16/5	1924-1927	Hyde no. 5
/7	M9	1926	Photograph of Crossley car and copy of the Crossley Register newsletter no. 24
/8	16/6	1927-1930	Hyde no. 6
/9	23/3	1929	Photograph album: Institute of Mechanical Engineers - summer meeting
/10	16/7	1930-1933	Hyde no. 7
/11	14/1	1934-1938	Products no. 8
/12	14/4	c. 1939-1949	No. 9
/13	14/3	c. 1956-1960	No. 12
/14	14/2	c.1950-1955	No. 11

/15	23/9-11	n.d.	Photographs of Joseph Adamson and Daniel Adamson
/16	JA/3	n.d.	Photograph of unidentified family

### Series 13: Letters

#### 13/1: Letter books

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
13/1/1	L6	1893-1933	General
/2	L3	1877-1891	General
/3	L7	1927	Daniel Adamson letters home from U.S.A. trip

#### 13/2: Letter books, cranes

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
13/2/1	L4	1915-1924	Letter book no. 4 crane and sketch book
/2	L5	1935-1939	Letter book, sketch book

#### 13/3: Miscellaneous correspondence and papers

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
13/3/1	N2	1860	Invitation to Mr and Mrs Adamson from the Society of Civil Engineers of France
/2	23/2	1894	Programme for Manchester meeting of Institute of Mechanical Engineers
/3	19/8	1900-1964	Miscellaneous file containing proof by Joseph Adamson of evidence before Select Committee on boiler registration and inspection; boiler drawing no. 138795; correspondence with Professor S.B. Saul Edinburgh University regarding a history he was writing
/4	19/9	1920	Correspondence regarding Henry Berry & Co. Ltd. carrying out alterations to a hydraulic intensifier
/5	P1	1925-1926	Institute of Mechanical Engineers: correspondence; dinner and lecture invitations; membership proposals

/6	N7/	1937-1938	Association of Crane Makers; correspondence and meetings
/7	N6	1948 Dec- 1949 Sep	Association of Crane Makers; correspondence and meetings
/8	N7	1951-1952	Association of Crane Makers correspondence including notification of orders
/9	11/1	1956	Papers in connection with Mr A. Whitworth's visit to U.S.A. in 1956, file 94A
/10	11/2	1956	Papers in connection with Mr A. Whitworth's visit to U.S.A. in 1956, file 94B with photographs
/11	23/7	1971	Letter from G. Adamson to L. Adamson

#### **Series 14: Personal**

##### **14/1: Papers of Joseph and Daniel Adamson**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Old ref</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
14/1/1	20/2	1858	Indenture between Joseph, John and Daniel Adamson for apprenticeship of Joseph to Daniel Adamson for six years
/2	L6	1904-1918	Notebook with sketches, calculations and notes
/3	M9	1922-1955	Joseph and Daniel Adamson papers including international driving passes; bill for Bentley car and brochure, bill for car repair
/4	N5	1930	3 books on Czechoslovakia, 2 books of photographs and papers from meeting with Iron and Steel Institute
/5	N4	1930 Sep	Czechoslovakian pamphlet and photograph
/6	N3	1950 Sep	Iron and Steel Institute, visit to Prague

**14/2: Obituaries**

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
14/2/1	L	1920	Letters of condolence relating to death of Joseph Adamson and his wife; two letters of his obituary taken from <i>Engineering</i> and <i>Hyde Reporter</i>
/2	N	1920-1921	Personal letters and expressions on the death of Mr and Mrs Adamson
/3	20/5	1920-1930	Obituary notices from <i>Hyde Reporter</i> and 6 thanks for sympathy cards
/4	L2	1930 Oct	Letters of condolence relating to death of Daniel Adamson, plus list of letters received and list of wreaths sent

**14/3: College work, Joseph Adamson**

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
14/3/1	21	c. 1918	Order of service of unveiling of memorial to members of College of Technology, Manchester who fell in 1914-1918
/2	21	c.1920s	Course work in drawing, mechanics, theory of machines, maths, machine design, hydraulics, strength of materials, machine drawing, steam engines, heat engineering
/3	21	c.1920s	Exam results
/4	22/	1921-1924	Exercise books for mechanics, maths, strength of materials; heat engines (steam), heat engines, lab notes; theory of machines, machine design, hydraulics, machine testing and hydraulic lab
/5	21	1921-1926	College of Technology prospectus of part time courses in Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Chemistry and Chemical Technology
/6	22	1922 Nov-1923 May	2 copies of <i>The Serpent</i> official organ of university unions

/7	21	1922-1924	Exam papers for steam engines, maths, strength of materials, hydraulics, machine design and theory of machines
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### Series 15: Associated companies

#### 15/1: Adamson-Horsehay

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
15/1/1	10/11	1943-1948	Cash book for G.R. Adamson and Horsehay Associated Limited
/2	JA6	1945-1948	Accounts journal
/3	JA1/11	1950	Disposal of Horsehay stock: associated papers

#### 15/2: George Russell

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
15/2/1	P8	c.1905-1955	Bundle of envelopes containing: insurance policy documents for fire, war risks, and cargo; 7 envelopes containing patents
/2	P2	c. 1922-1947	Land valuation appeal court, David Colville & Sons Ltd. and others, dimensions of offices and workshops, water charges, land valuations, particulars of plant and machinery, motor application
/3	P6		Share certificates George Russell & Co. Ltd., all cancelled
/4	P14		Old George Russell pamphlets
/5	P5	1911-1912	Correspondence from Imperial Japanese Navy relating to 120 ton Steam Goliath Crane no. 2121
/6	P7	1914-1941	Bundle of envelopes containing: Inventory of title deeds; inventory of units; insurance policies from various companies; share documentation; Board of Trade import duties; reconstruction panels dealing with damage caused by enemy action to factories on war production

/7	P10	1922-1948	Cruikshank and Fairweather various patents
/8	P12	1922-1957	Correspondence on patents
/9	P15	1958	Purchase book and sales book balances; debtors and creditors; correspondence relating to share certificates; insurance policies; articles of association; minute book extract
/10	P11	1959	Application for letters patent for improvements to overhead cranes
/11	P4	1959 Mar-1961 Jun	Sales day sheets
/12	P9	1959-1960	Buildings correspondence relating to heating, furniture, fire alarms, new buildings and roofing
/13	P3	1960	George Russell & Co. capital expenditure
/14	P13	1960	Correspondence and specifications on painting of new office; report on pin hole borer damage and progress on new building; air heating quote
/15	P16	1961 Oct-1962 Sep	Memorandum of orders

### 15/3: Miscellaneous companies

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
15/3/1	JA/10	1940-1944	File containing correspondence with The Wall Paper Manufacturers Ltd, relating to consultative services during the Second World War with the subsidiary company of Hollins Engineering Co. Ltd.; also contains balance sheets and profit and loss accounts for the Providence Engineering Co. Ltd.

### Series 16: Published books other companies

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
16/1/1	21/3	1959	Brownell, Lloyd and Young, Edwin, <i>Process Equipment Design</i>
/2	21/8	1941	Oliver, Lyle, <i>Technology for sugar refiners workers</i>
/3	21/7	1948	Chapman & Hall, <i>Water Heat Recovery from Industrial Furnaces</i>
/4	21/1	1956	<i>Lloyds Register of Shipping: rules and regulations for the construction and classification of steel ships</i>
/5	21/2	1976	Blodgett, Omer, <i>Design of Weldments</i>
/6	21/6	1978	<i>Standards of Tubular Exchanger Manufacturers Association, 6<sup>th</sup> Ed.</i>
/7	21/5	c.1971	Brown & Tawse Ltd., <i>Engineers Tools and Tool Steels</i> , catalogue

### Series 17: Miscellaneous

Item	Old ref	Date	Description
17/1	JA/17	c.1922	'Cockerill' booklet in French about the Cockerill company
/2	JA	c.1920s	H.P. Slide-rule made by Matterson Ltd., Shawclough, Rochdale