

**C DBAB                      A Brown & Sons, Printers and                      19th cent.-1979**  
**Booksellers, Perth Street West, Hull**

**Historical Background:**

Anthony Brown, the founder of the company was born in 1829. Aged 31, he moved from Holme upon Spalding Moor to Kingston upon Hull and established a booksellers and publishers at 3 Prospect Street. He was married twice, with a son, John, from his first marriage and six sons and three daughters with his second wife. Anthony Brown died in 1880.

Anthony Brown's eldest son, John, trained with Simpkin, Marshall & Company in London before joining his father in the Hull business. In 1870 the Elementary Education Act (Forster Act) was passed, with John Brown establishing a School Outfitting Department two years later, which quickly developed and expanded.

In 1872 John became a partner in the business, which was now trading as A. Brown & Son. In 1877 new land was purchased to house the expanding business at 26 & 27 Saville Street. Walter Brown, Anthony's second son, came into the business in 1877. The business was subsequently renamed A. Brown & Sons in 1880. 1895 saw the addition of 28 & 29 Saville Street to the accommodation, with a printing works established at West Street under the name of Brown Brothers. This was later rehoused in better conditions at 1 Dock Street.

Due to the passing of the 1902 Education Act and the abolition of school board as well as the creation of local education authorities, Browns re-organised their School Outfitting Department. This ended the practise of salesmen travelling to individual schools to seek business. In 1905 A. Brown & Sons were founded as a private company under the name of A. Brown & Sons Limited, and in 1906 John Brown became the first chairman of the company. The Directors built a new printing works on land at 15 Dock Street, which backed onto the existing premises at 40 George Street. 1911 saw the creation of the School Stationary Manufacturing Department in purpose built accommodation at 19-21 Dock Street.

In 1928 a new warehouse was built at Perth Street West to deal with the expanding business. The Letterpress Printing Works opened in 1929 with the printing works, stationary manufacturing, school contracts & export department all brought together under one roof. The Saville Street premises were destroyed in an air raid in 1941. In 1960 A. Brown and Sons celebrated its centenary year. (All information from "Our Story", the centenary publication of A. Brown & Sons, 1960.)

**Extent:** 9 boxes, 11 volumes

**Arrangement:**

C DBAB/1	Financial records	1945-1979
C DBAB/2	Records relating to customer orders	1951-1978
C DBAB/3	Staff Records	1913-1973
C DBAB/4	Publications	c.1960
C DBAB/5	Photographs	1893-1958
C DBAB/6	Miscellaneous	20th cent.

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<b>C DBAB/1</b>	<b>Financial records</b> Includes wages books, invoice books, account books and a stock sales ledger 6 volumes	<b>1915-1979</b>
<b>C DBAB/1/1</b>	<b>Wages Books</b> Includes names of employees, time worked, rate, gross pay for the week, income tax details, and employer's contributions 2 volumes	<b>Apr 1945- Mar 1951</b>
C DBAB/1/1/1	Wages Book 1 volume	Apr 1945- Mar 1947
C DBAB/1/1/2	Wages Book 1 volume	Apr 1949- Mar 1951
<b>C DBAB/1/2</b>	<b>Records regarding invoices and estimates</b> 2 volumes, 1 item	<b>1915-1978</b>
C DBAB/1/2/1	Invoice Book Includes date, name of customer, description of order, and total cost 1 volume	Apr 1952- Mar 1954
C DBAB/1/2/2	Invoice Book for Middlesex Regional Examination Board Includes date, material ordered, cost of materials and labour cost 1 volume	15 Nov 1972- 26 Jan 1978
C DBAB/1/2/3	Estimate from Goddard, Walker and Brown, Ltd to A Brown and Sons Ltd Provides quotes for the purchase of quarto books 1 item	20 Apr 1915
<b>C DBAB/1/3</b>	<b>Account Book</b> 1 volume	<b>23 Nov 1955- 20 Jul 1962</b>
C DBAB/1/3/1	Account Book for orders 8201 - H2000 Includes name of customer, material ordered, worksheet number if accepted, estimate number, and date sent 1 volume	23 Nov 1955- 20 Jul 1962
<b>C DBAB/1/4</b>	<b>Stock sales ledger</b> 1 volume	<b>Feb 1972- Jul 1979</b>

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C DBAB/1/4/1	Stock sales ledger Sales to G department from H stock, includes order number, quantity, description of material ordered, rate and cost 1 volume	Feb 1972- Jul 1979
<b>C DBAB/2</b>	<b>Records relating to customer orders</b> Includes order books 19 volumes	<b>1950-1978</b>
<b>C DBAB/2/1</b>	<b>Customer order books</b> Includes name of customer, description of materials ordered, quantity, and cost 9 volumes	<b>1951-1971</b>
C DBAB/2/1/1	Customers' orders - letter Z 1 volume	Nov 1951- Dec 1952
C DBAB/2/1/2	Customers' orders - letter A 1 volume	Jan 1953- Jan 1955
C DBAB/2/1/3	Customers' orders - letter B 1 volume	Jan 1955- Jan 1957
C DBAB/2/1/4	Customers' orders - letter C 1 volume	Jan 1957- Jan 1959
C DBAB/2/1/5	Outside Ledger, A-K 1 volume	1967-1971
C DBAB/2/1/6	Inside Ledger 1 volume	1950-1956
C DBAB/2/1/7	Inside Ledger 1 volume	1967-1971
C DBAB/2/1/8	Labelled Miscellaneous Ledger 1 volume	1965-1969
C DBAB/2/1/9	Labelled London House Ledger 1 volume	1968-1971
<b>C DBAB/2/2</b>	<b>Bound volumes of cost sheets</b> Includes date, name and address of customer, order number, description of materials ordered, and cost 7 volumes	<b>1965-1978</b>
C DBAB/2/2/1	Bound volume of cost sheets 7601 - 7800 1 volume	4 Jul 1978- 26 Jul 1978

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C DBAB/2/2/2	Bound volume of cost sheets A4601-A4800 1 volume	8 Jun 1965- 24 Aug 1965
C DBAB/2/2/3	Bound volume of cost sheets J2601 - 2800 1 volume	5 Jun 1969- 23 Jun 1969
C DBAB/2/2/4	Bound volume of cost sheets J4601 - 4800 1 volume	25 Nov 1969- 8 Dec 1969
C DBAB/2/2/5	Bound volume of cost sheets J8601 - 8800 1 volume	8 Oct 1970- 22 Oct 1970
C DBAB/2/2/6	Bound volume of cost sheets LP3201-3400 1 volume	11 Sep 1973- 1 Oct 1973
C DBAB/2/2/7	Bound volume of cost sheets LPA3201-3400 1 volume	14 Mar 1977- 31 Mar 1977
<b>C DBAB/2/3</b>	<b>Estimates of orders</b> 1 volume	<b>27 Jul 1978- 1 Dec 1978</b>
C DBAB/2/3/1	Estimate Book C601-800 Numbered according to Brown's works listing. Contains description of work requiring estimate, necessary preparations, and costs. 1 volume	27 Jul 1978- 1 Dec 1978
<b>C DBAB/2/4</b>	<b>Specimen Books</b> Examples of typescript offered by A Brown and Sons, Ltd. 2 volumes	<b>n.d.</b>
C DBAB/2/4/1	Type Specimen Book 1 volume	n.d.
C DBAB/2/4/2	Type Specimen Book 1 volume	n.d.
<b>C DBAB/3</b>	<b>Staff Records</b> 4 volumes, 2 items	<b>1913-1973</b>
<b>C DBAB/3/1</b>	<b>Day Books</b> Includes job number, customer's name, description of job, total charge to customer and labour cost 2 volumes	<b>May 1966- Jun 1968</b>
C DBAB/3/1/1	Day Book 1 volume	Mar 1967- Jun 1968
C DBAB/3/1/2	Day Book 1 volume	May 1966- Feb 1967

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<b>C DBAB/3/2</b>	<b>Time Books</b> Includes sections for 'Binders' and 'Girls and packing', lists names and total hours worked, time not chargeable, hours charged, rate, expenses and wages. 2 volumes	<b>1936-1973</b>
C DBAB/3/2/1	Time Book 1 volume	7 Jun 1967- 23 Mar 1973
C DBAB/3/2/2	Time Book 1 volume	Apr 1936- Feb 1969
<b>C DBAB/3/3</b>	<b>Records regarding agreement and indentures</b> 2 items	<b>1913-1920</b>
C DBAB/3/3/1	Agreement between A Brown and Sons and Stanley Dunn Agreeing that Stanley Dunn will work for A Brown and Sons as an Improver 1 item	7 Jun 1920
C DBAB/3/3/2	Indenture between James Hopper Main and A Brown and Sons James Hopper Main bound apprentice to A Brown and Sons 1 item	1 May 1913
<b>C DBAB/4</b>	<b>Publications</b> 2 items	<b>c.1960</b>
C DBAB/4/1	Advertisement Brochure for Perth Street Printing Works Titled "Printing you'll be proud of" 1 item	n.d.
C DBAB/4/2	Advertisement Brochure for Browns Centenary 1860 - 1960 Titled "Our story: A passage of time 1860-1890" 1 item	1960
<b>C DBAB/5</b>	<b>Photographs</b> 5 items	<b>1893-1958</b>
C DBAB/5/1	Anthony Brown, 1829 - 1880 1 item	19th cent.
C DBAB/5/2	Shop front with staff 1 item	1893
C DBAB/5/3	Printing office staff, Savile St 1 item	n.d.

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C DBAB/5/4	Photograph of printing works 1 item	n.d.
C DBAB/5/5	Photograph of three men in printing works 1 item	24 Sep 1958
<b>C DBAB/6</b>	<b>Miscellaneous</b> 1 item	<b>20th cent.</b>
C DBAB/6/1	Brass plaque Stating 'A Brown and Sons Ltd Printers' 1 item	n.d.
C DBAB/6/2	Cuttings Book Includes educational handbooks, letters, press cuttings and leaflets advertising services. 1 volume	20th cent.