

**C DBCF**                      **Chamber and Fargus Ltd,**                      **1880-1989**  
**Seed Crushers and Edible Oil Refiners, Hull**

**Historical Background:** Chamber and Fargus were founded in 1854 when Henry Waudby Chambers and James Fargus first entered into partnership. Their first mill was located on Oxford Street with an office at 5 High Street. They then went on to lease the High Flags Mill in Wincolmlee. Chamber and Fargus began by crushing linseed and rape from the Baltic in hydraulic presses. The oil was then used in a variety of industrial processes, including paint, varnish and linoleum, and the residue making 'C & F Super Cake' for animal food. In 1905 the firm was incorporated under the Companies Act 1862 as a private limited company, with 3 of James's 7 sons taking an active role; William Fargus as the governing director, Edwin Fargus a director and the company secretary and Frederick Fargus as another director. In 1907 the Anglo-Egyptian Oil Mills and Refinery, Lime Street were purchased from the late George Hodge. James Fargus retired in 1905 and died in 1908. The company continued to develop and grow, and such was their success that it was not until 1912 did Chamber and Fargus report their first financial loss. In 1937, the mill suffered a devastating fire and had to largely rebuilt.

Frederick Fargus retired in 1946, and died in 1964. Edwin Fargus died in 1941, with his son, James Fargus, taking over as managing director in the same year. Owen Fargus, nephew to Edwin was also appointed to the board in 1941, although he went on to retire just a few years later, in 1948. In 1947 the company was converted into a public company with the members of the family still retaining a controlling interest. Later, owing to the development of seed crushing abroad and the lessening of trade in this country, the company was forced to operate on a smaller scale. The company was eventually taken over by the Swedish Karlshamns group in 1989.

**Description:** Certificate of Incorporation; Articles of Association; Records relating to shares; Financial records; Company publicity, promotional leaflets and histories; Photographs; Correspondence and letters.

**Arrangement:**

C DBCF/1	The Company Secretary	1880-1964
C DBCF/2	Financial	1947-1987
C DBCF/3	Advertising and publicity	c.1904-1986
C DBCF/4	External Publications	1937-1971
C DBCF/5	Records of Edwin and James Fargus	1885-1989

**Extent:** 2½ boxes

**Related Material:** A search through the online catalogue and the Hull History Centre indexes will give details of publications relating to seed crushing and milling in Hull. The centre has records for two other companies involved in the process, the Premier Oil, Cake Company Ltd (C DBPO) and Rose, Down and Thompson (C DBR). At L 665.3 is the 'History of Seed Crushing in Great Britain' by Harold W Brace.

**Access Conditions:** Access will be granted to any accredited reader

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<b>C DBCF/1</b>	<b>Records of the Company Secretary</b>	<b>1880-1964</b>
	11 items, 3 volumes	
C DBCF/1/1	Certificate of Incorporation for Chamber and Fargus Ltd signed by the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies 1 item	13 Feb 1905
C DBCF/1/2	Memorandum and Articles of Association booklets 4 items	1905-1987
C DBCF/1/2/1	Memorandum and Articles of Association booklet 1 item	13 Feb 1905
C DBCF/1/2/2	Memorandum and (New) Articles of Association booklet 1 item	13 Feb 1947
C DBCF/1/2/3	Memorandum and New Articles of Association booklet 1 item	16 Aug 1973
C DBCF/1/2/4	Memorandum and Articles of Association booklet 1 item	16 Apr 1987
C DBCF/1/3	Company Ledger containing yearly stocktaking 1 volume	31 May 1880- 26 Jun 1892
C DBCF/1/4	Company Ledger 1 volume	1905-1921
C DBCF/1/5	Minute Book 1 volume	1905-1936
C DBCF/1/6	Letter to Messrs Chambers and Fargus, Hull from Sutcliffe and co, Steam Tug Owners, Boston regarding quotes for the shipping of their cake traffic to Boston 1 item	29 Jun 1906
C DBCF/1/7	Fire Loss Report sent to Chambers and Fargus Ltd, Hull by Thompson and Bryan, Assessors of Fire Loss and Valuers, Leeds 1 item	3 Mar 1937
C DBCF/1/8	Headed Notepaper 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/1/9	Letter from Moss, Lowe and Co, Solicitors, Hull to Mr Owen Fargus, Wincolmlee, Hull enclosing an original service agreement 1 item	27 Mar 1947

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C DBCF/1/10	An original service agreement between Chambers and Fargus Ltd and Owen Fargus 1 item	12 Feb 1947
C DBCF/1/11	A Company History Typewritten 1 item	c.1970s
<b>C DBCF/2</b>	<b>Financial</b> 1 volume, 1 item	<b>1947-1987</b>
C DBCF/2/1	Account book Contains staff records, insurances, subscriptions and related papers 1 volume	1947-1960
C DBCF/2/2	Booklet of Chambers and Fargus Plc outlining the proposed share subscription and details of new trading agreements 1 item	24 Mar 1987
C DBCF/2/3	Annual report and accounts 43 <sup>rd</sup> annual to 65 <sup>th</sup> annual report and accounts 1 bundle	28 Jun 1947- 28 Jun 1969
C DBCF/2/4	Annual report and accounts With gaps, for the years 1969-1974, 1982 and 1987 1 bundle	1969-1987
C DBCF/2/5	Chairmans statement at Annual General Meetings 44 <sup>th</sup> -64 <sup>th</sup> meetings including a statement to shareholders from 1969 1 bundle	12 Feb 1948- 24 Feb 1968
C DBCF/2/6	Balance sheet and accounts Of the fund representing proceeds of sale of High Flags Mills, specifically bequested to J.E. Fargus; Fund representing the proceeds of sale of shares in Chamber and Fargus; Edwin Fargus deceased. 1 item	5 Apr 1951
<b>C DBCF/3</b>	<b>Advertising and publicity</b> Including photographs 76 items	<b>c.1904-1986</b>
<b>C DBCF/3/1</b>	<b>Company Photographs</b> 3 items	<b>c.1950-1954</b>
C DBCF/3/1/1	Photograph of the front of a Chambers and Fargus Ltd stall at an agricultural show Sepia, 14" x 11" (36cm x 28cm) 1 item	c.1950

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C DBCF/3/1/2	Framed photograph of Chambers and Fargus Ltd Centenary supper at Beverley Road Baths, Hull Black and white image, 7½" x 6" image, mount 14" x 10" 1 item	23 Oct 1954
C DBCF/3/1/3	Photograph of Dan Tunnicliffe, Charles Fargus and Jim Fargus Black and white, 25cm x 20cm (10" x 8") 1 item	c.1970s-1980s
<b>C DBCF/3/2</b>	<b>Site Photographs</b> 18 items	<b>20th cent.</b>
C DBCF/3/2/1	Factory side next to docks 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/2/2	Factory sign of soya protein unit 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/2/3	Part of metal machinery 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/2/4	Part of glass apparatus 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/2/5	Part of glass apparatus 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/2/6	Close up of pipes and machinery 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/2/7	Close up of metal hook 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/2/8	Factory side and loading truck 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/2/9	Close up of loading truck 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/2/10	Workmen operating machinery 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/2/11	Two workmen enjoying a break 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/2/12	Control panel 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/2/13	Control panel showing factory layout 1 item	20th cent.

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C DBCF/3/2/14	Interior of factory showing tools and machinery 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/2/15	Interior of factory showing machinery 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/2/16	Staff at work 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/2/17	Close up of machinery 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/2/18	Factory side next to docks 1 item	20th cent.
<b>C DBCF/3/3</b>	<b>Miscellaneous Photographs</b> 15 items	<b>1925-1946</b>
C DBCF/3/3/1	Photocopy of a photograph of the renovation of a dock side factory 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/3/2	Group of seven sitting on the grass, 'Mr Fargus and party' written on the reverse 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/3/3	Docks, 'Sloop HMS Stork, Lowestoft' written on the reverse 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/3/4	Two women in the garden 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/3/5	Postcard photograph of baby on chair 1 item	31 Jan 1930
C DBCF/3/3/6	Postcard photograph of baby on settee 1 item	31 Jan 1930
C DBCF/3/3/7	Postcard photograph of woman 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/3/8	Postcard photograph of man and 2 women 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/3/9	Two girls in the sea 1 item	1925
C DBCF/3/3/10	Postcard photograph of a man 1 item	20th cent.

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C DBCF/3/3/11	Postcard photograph of a woman 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/3/12	Woman on a stage '1946, Bay Blue Pantomime written on reverse 1 item	1946
C DBCF/3/3/13	2 men in a boat at sea 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/3/14	Kitten on a wall 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/3/15	Hardbacked photograph of Chambers and Fargus factory front 1 item	20th cent.
<b>C DBCF/3/4</b>	<b>Photographs of Motor Vehicles</b> 13 items	<b>c.1900-c.1925</b>
C DBCF/3/4/1	Man in a car 'Argyle' written on reverse 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/4/2	Man in a car 'Argyle 1904' written on front 1 item	[1904]
C DBCF/3/4/3	Man in a car, man standing besides a car 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/4/4	Car 'Sunbeam, City Hotel' written on reverse 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/4/5	Man in a car '1906' written on the front 1 item	[1906]
C DBCF/3/4/6	Man in a car 'St Ives, Cornwall, 1925' written on reverse 1 item	[1925]
C DBCF/3/4/7	Man in a car 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/4/8	Man in a car, 'Chambers and Fargus Yard 1907' written on reverse 1 item	[1907]
C DBCF/3/4/9	Man standing beside a car 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/4/10	Two men and two women in a car, 'Argyle 1917 Mr W Fargus' written on reverse 1 item	[1917]

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C DBCF/3/4/11	Family in car 'Argyle 1912' written on reverse 1 item	[1912]
C DBCF/3/4/12	Man and woman in a car, 'York Lodge, Hessle' written on reverse 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/4/13	Postcard Photograph of a man in a car '1905 Argyle' written on the front 1 item	[1905]
<b>C DBCF/3/5</b>	<b>Photographs relating to the fire at Chambers and Fargus' Factory</b> These photographs were sent to Messrs Chambers and Fargus by the Hull Daily Mail (all Hull daily Mail Copyright) 5 items	<b>17 Feb 1937</b>
C DBCF/3/5/1	Side shot of ruins of factory 1 item	17 Feb 1937
C DBCF/3/5/2	Side shot of ruins of factory 1 item	17 Feb 1937
C DBCF/3/5/3	Shot of dock side of factory, smoke visible 1 item	17 Feb 1937
C DBCF/3/5/4	Shot of dock side of factory, smoke visible 1 item	17 Feb 1937
C DBCF/3/5/5	Shot from different angle of dock side, smoke visible 1 item	17 Feb 1937
<b>C DBCF/3/6</b>	<b>Advertisements</b> 12 items	<b>c.1938-c.1986</b>
C DBCF/3/6/1	Posters advertising the new Chambers and Fargus Lime Street Oil Mills 2 items	[1938]
C DBCF/3/6/2	Advertisement brochures for the Company's High Flags Mill 2 items	[1986]
C DBCF/3/6/3	Advertisement posters for Chambers and Fargus In the form of a newspaper page, reprinted from the Kingston Upon Hull Supplement of the 'American Commonwealth Visitor'. 2 items	c.1950s

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C DBCF/3/6/4	Information Folder about Chambers and Fargus Contains both photocopied and original information sheets 1 item	c.1980s
C DBCF/3/6/5	Promotional leaflets 2 titles:- A general promotional leaflet (originally used for a general note of thanks on the reverse) and 'Baby Beef for Bumper Bank Balances' leaflet 2 items	c.1930s
C DBCF/3/6/6	Promotional leaflets 3 titles:- Oilseed processing; Hull gateway to the world's richest harvests; Refining edible oils 3 items	c.1970s
<b>C DBCF/3/7</b>	<b>Postcards, Invitations and Programmes</b> 7 items	<b>1926-1966</b>
C DBCF/3/7/1	Blank Birthday Postcard 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/3/7/2	Postcard to Miss Green of Arch House, Wincolmlee, Hull from Weston Super Mare Sender unknown 1 item	15 Sep 1966
C DBCF/3/7/3	Invitation from Mr and Mrs E. Fargus to employees of Chambers and Fargus Ltd in Celebration of their son's engagement 1 item	5 Jun 1926
C DBCF/3/7/4	Christmas Card from Mr & Mrs Edwin Fargus Image drawn by A.J. Meyer, showing an older man drinking a warm drink at a stall, with the legend, 'Be merry and bright at Christmas'. 1 item	1931
C DBCF/3/7/5	Christmas Card from Mr & Mrs Edwin Fargus Drawn by M. Roper Spencer, showing the entrance to Wilberforce House, Hull 1 item	c.1930s
C DBCF/3/7/6	Programme for the visit of Lieutenant HRH the Duke of Edinburgh to Hull 1 item	1 Dec 1948
C DBCF/3/7/7	Programme and itinerary for the opening of the Jim Fargus extension, High Flags Expeller Mill Opened by Mary Fargus 1 item	17 Nov 1983



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<b>C DBCF/4</b>	<b>External Publications</b>	<b>1937-1971</b>
	32 items	
C DBCF/4/1	'Men of the City,' A book recording the events associated with prominent citizens of Hull and District 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/4/2	British Industry and Commerce Journal Vol. 4, 'The History and Development of Kingston Upon Hull' 1 item	c.1960
C DBCF/4/3	Photocopies of article in British Commerce and Commerce, 'The Story of Chamber and Fargus Ltd, Hull' 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/4/4	Original copy of The Hull Daily Mail 1 item	25 Jun 1937
C DBCF/4/5	Newspaper article from The Yorkshire Post/Herald containing story 'Hull Warehouse Wall Falls' 1 item	11 Feb 1937
C DBCF/4/6	Hull Daily Mail article regarding Mr C. Marshall of Arch House, Wincolmlee 1 item	14 Feb 1949
C DBCF/4/7	Newspaper article referring to Mr Charles Marshall of Wincolmlee, Hull 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/4/8	Hull Daily Mail article entitled 'Todays Look Back from Daily Mail 50 years ago' (11th Feb 1899) 1 item	c.1949
C DBCF/4/9	Hull Daily Mail depicting picture of Clough Road Bridge 1 item	23 Jun 1964
C DBCF/4/10	Hull Daily Mail, pictures of bomb struck Hull 1 item	c.1949
C DBCF/4/11	Yorkshire Post, pictures of bomb struck Hull 1 item	5 Jun 1941
C DBCF/4/12	Hull Daily Mail, fire damage in Hull 1 item	c.1940
C DBCF/4/13	Hull Daily Mail 'Three years at war', pictures and story 1 item	3 Sep 1942

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C DBCF/4/14	Hull Daily Mail, flooding in Hull 1 item	11 Nov 1954
C DBCF/4/15	Yorkshire Herald, announcement of the christening of the son of Mr William Fargus 1 item	19 Jun 1937
C DBCF/4/16	Newspaper carrying story of fire at Chamber and Fargus' Lime street Mill 1 item	c.1937
C DBCF/4/17	Newspaper carrying the story of the collapse of granary wall at Chambers and Fargus' mill 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/4/18	Newspaper carrying a story of Chamber and Fargus' firms outing to Blackpool 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/4/19	Newspaper carrying a story of a garden party for their employees by Mr and Mrs Edwin Fargus 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/4/20	Newspaper carrying a story of the annual gathering of Chambers and Fargus Ltd Employees Sick and Dividend Club 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/4/21	Press Reports of Lime Street Fire from Hull Daily Mail, The Daily Mirror and The Daily Express 5 items	16-18 Feb 1937
C DBCF/4/22	Newspaper clippings showing pictures and aerial views of the Lime Street fire 3 items	Feb 1937
C DBCF/4/23	Part of a copy of The Yorkshire Post and Leeds Herald 1 item	8 Jul 1946
C DBCF/4/24	Copy of the 'Port of Hull and Humber Ports: Journal' Vol 10, no. 2 1 item	May 1971
C DBCF/4/25	Notes on the Vinter family from 18th cent to the 20th cent. 1 item	c.20 <sup>th</sup> cent.
<b>C DBCF/5</b>	<b>Records of Edwin and James Fargus</b> 19 items 1 bundle	<b>1885-1989</b>

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<b>C DBCF/5/1</b>	<b>Records of Edwin and James Fargus as shareholders</b> 4 items, 1 bundle	<b>1946-1989</b>
C DBCF/5/1/1	Letter from A.J. Whitehead, Whitehead Industrial Trust to Messrs. Chamber and Fargus Regarding recent negotiations and arrangements 1 item	10 Jul 1946
C DBCF/5/1/2	Chamber and Fargus Special resolution Regarding share certificates, passed at an E.G.M. 1 item	10 Jan 1964
C DBCF/5/1/3	Correspondence and related reports regarding shareholders and dividends 1 bundle	21 Oct 1969- 1 Nov 1974
C DBCF/5/1/4	Chamber and Fargus New project and proposed rights issue 1 item	24 Jul 1973
C DBCF/5/1/5	Chamber and Fargus PLC recommended offer for your shares issued on behalf of Ramsbush Ltd A subsidiary Karlshamns A.B of Sweden 1 item	4 May 1989
<b>C DBCF/5/2</b>	<b>Letters of William, Edwin and James Fargus</b> 11 items	<b>1885-1954</b>
C DBCF/5/2/1	Receipt for seed cakes purchased by Mr Elijah Timuss of Hull from Chamber and Fargus 1 item	25 Feb 1885
C DBCF/5/2/2	Letters from W. Fargus to Mr M Lowe Regarding the state of the seed crushing industry and thanking him for recent actions concerning industry 1 item	15 Jan 1908- 14 May 1917
C DBCF/5/2/3	Letter of testimonial for Chas. Marshall, chauffeur, from William Fargus 1 item	26 Apr 1909
C DBCF/5/2/4	Speech given by Edwin Fargus on the 21 <sup>st</sup> birthday of James Fargus, his son 1 item	c.1920s
C DBCF/5/2/5	Memo to Hull Office from London regarding company directors and shareholders For the attention of Mr. Cappleman. Listing Directors, information regarding shareholders meetings, holdings and other information. 1 item	26 Aug 1935

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C DBCF/5/2/6	Correspondence regarding the linseed oil situation 1 bundle	18 Mar 1935- 2 Apr 1935
C DBCF/5/2/7	Circular letter from Minnie Fargus (Mrs Edwin) to employees, their wives' mothers' sweethearts etc. Asking employees to vote for the National Government candidate in the upcoming elections 1 item	10 Nov 1935
C DBCF/5/2/8	Correspondence relating to the application for a Royal Warrant 1 bundle	1-18 Jan 1936
C DBCF/5/2/9	Letters to James Fargus from G. Watkins of Bristol Regarding various machines at Chamber and Fargus, with photographs of the mill engines 1 bundle	22 Oct 1938- 5 Feb 1947
C DBCF/5/2/10	Letter to Mrs H.M. Fargus of Cottingham from John Deheer Ltd, lighter and steam tug owners of Hull Regarding the company's final dividend for the year 1950 as a share holder in Deheer's. 1 item	22 Feb 1951
C DBCF/5/2/11	Letters to Mr. J.E. Fargus of Hull from Alan Pratt of Southern Oil Co. Ltd. Manchester Indicating that his son has been doing so well in the labratory that he is to have his salary doubled 1 item	2 Apr 1954
<b>C DBCF/5/3</b>	<b>Records relating to seed crushing and oil refining</b> 4 items	<b>1910-1938</b>
C DBCF/5/3/1	Diagram of the original expeller at Chamber and Fargus 1 item	1910
C DBCF/5/3/2	Notes of the treatment of 22 to 25 tons of crude cottonseed oil, medium quality 1 item	19 May 1938
C DBCF/5/3/3	Note book giving details of various compound feed cake mixtures Lists 19 mixtures with ingredients and quantities listed accordingly 1 item	20th cent.
C DBCF/5/3/4	Plaque for the Jim Fargus Extension at the High Flags Expeller Mill Opened by Mary Fargus 1 item	17 Nov 1983