

C DIHH

**Material relating to Hammond's of Hull
and its predecessors**

1891-2018

Accession number: 24/38

Historical Background: Hammond's of Hull began as linen and drapery business with a shop at North Bridge, Hull founded by H.W. Hammond's in 1821. A later store was established in the 1860s in Osborne Street. This store occupied one shop, no. 31 Osborne Street but later expanded to include nos. 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, 41 & 43 Osborne Street. H.W. Hammond died in 1874 and the business was owned by a Mr. Wells. In 1889 William and Henry Powell travelled from Brighouse to Hull to value the business. Their father James Powell had considerable business experience. James had trained in London and Paris and was based in Wakefield and Brighouse combining his drapery business with his professional practice as a valuer. Attracted by the potential of the Hammonds store in Hull, William and Henry Powell bought it.

The name Hammond's became synonymous with Hull and built up a reputation throughout Yorkshire and beyond. Although the business flourished, Osborne Street was out on limb as the centre of Hull was developing. By 1912 the William and Henry Powell were joined by their brother, Samuel. They started their search for land to build a new store. A location was identified which bounded by Brook Street, West Street, South Street and Jameson Street making up almost one acre. The site had the advantage of Paragon Station now fronting Brook Street rather than Anlaby Road.

Hammond's had been a partnership between the brothers, but more finance was needed, a private company was formed to provide the necessary capital for the purchase of land and the building of a new store. Despite the outbreak of war in 1914, the new store, designed by Hull firm, Gelder and Kitchen opened in its doors on 16 October 1916.

On the 7 and 8 May 1941 Hammond's was hit during an air raid. Within the week, 47 departments from Hammond's were re-housed in West Street. William Powell died in 1943 outliving both his brother's, Henry, and Samuel. He was highly regarded in business circles and often referred to as 'Father'. It wasn't until 1952 that Hammond's reopened, rebuilt on the site of the previous store destroyed in 1941. In 1968 Hammond's made the decision to expand outside of Hull. Two Bridlington stores were purchased. Carlton Ltd. established in 1918, fronting King Street and Chapel Street, and Harry Davis and Co. Ltd. In early 1969 Carlton's was demolished and work began on the new store. The new Hammond's Bridlington store opened 21 May 1970. Despite being a smaller than the Hull store, it offered similar services.

In 1971 Hammond's celebrated its 150th anniversary. A year later in 1972 the Powell family sold Hammond's to the House of Fraser. It was believed the sale would give Hammond's better buying facilities moving forward. The transfer of the Hammond's into the House of Fraser group was completed in September 1972. John Powell, grandson of James Powell retired as Chairman in February the following year thus bringing an end to the family occupying the office of Chairman. House of Fraser changed the name of the store to Binns. This change of name was somewhat received unenthusiastically. In 1989 the Hammond's name was reinstated. The store closed in August 2018 after Sports Direct took over the House of Fraser group. In September 2021 the building was renovated and opened as an artisan food hall on the ground level known as HoH Food Hall with and rentable office space above. The Food Hall closed in 2023. ResQ moved into the first floor of the building in 2021

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and since 2023 occupy the second floor. As of October 2024, it is reported that ResQ are to expand into third and fourth floors of the building.

Custodial history: Deposited by Mrs. Carol Broughton on behalf of Mrs Sheila Bedford. Sheila Bedford was employed from 1951-1990, eventually becoming Hammond's Chief Cashier.

Description: Publications and other printed material produced by Hammond's. Includes newscuttings, souvenir publication material (1821-1971); memos of Hammonds; General Register for Factories containing prescribed forms of certificates of fitness of young persons for employment and accident reports for Hammond's; logbook of headteachers reports relating to pupils and references from previous employers; miscellaneous items relating to W.W. Hammond & Co. whose premises were located on Osborne Street. Collected by Sheila Bedford during and after her employment at Hammond's.

Extent: 1 box/ 0.16 linear metres

Related material: The records of House of Fraser, Hull and its predecessors, including Hammond's of Hull and Binns (Hull) can be found at C DBFR. For a complete history on Hammond's of Hull see 'Hammonds of Hull: a store of good things for family and home', by John Markham (2005). Lending copies available in the library at L.658.871.

Records of House of Fraser, Hull and its predecessor bodies, Hammond's and Binns Hammond's can be found at C DBFR. Visit <https://catalogue.hullhistorycentre.org.uk/> to search the catalogue.

Access conditions: Access will be granted to any accredited reader, except for those items containing information on named individuals which may be restricted in accordance with Data Protection legislation. To consult these records please see Accessing Sensitive Information on our website at <http://www.hullhistorycentre.org.uk/research/collections-information/sensitive-information.aspx>.

C DIHH/1	Items relating to business of H.W. Hammond's on Osborne Street, Hull Receipt of items purchased from W.H. Hammonds and business rules 2 items	c.1891
C DIHH/1/1	Receipt of items purchased from W.H. Hammond's Receipt of items purchased from W.H. Hammond's by Mrs. Hough of Brazil Villa, Wellsted Street, Hull. On business headed papers showing illustration of the store at Nos 31-43 Osborne Street. 1 item	28 Apr 1891
C DIHH/1/2	Business Rules for W.H. Hammond's Photocopy of original for the premises on Osborne Street 1 item	c.1891

C DIHH/2	Items relating to Hammond's, Osborne Street premises after it was acquired by the Powell Brothers 2 items	1903
C DIHH/2/1	1903 Complementary Diary of James Powell & Sons, Drapery, Clothing, Outfitting, Furnishing and boots Stocks, 29-45 Osborne Street This diary ended up in possession of Sheila Bedford though it is not known who had used or written in the diary. The diary has almost no entries except for a few illustrations and other notes written. 1 item	1903
C DIHH/2/2	Blank receipt for Hammonds Osborne Street premises Lists the goods sold at each premises on Osborne Street is listed together with times of deliveries 1 item	n.d.
C DIHH/3	Items acquired by Sheila Bedford relating to the Hammond's store on Jameson Street Includes items from the temporary war-time premises because of the store being damaged during the air raid of 7 and 8 May 1941. 3 items	1941-1959
C DIHH/3/1	Memos from the chairman, Secretary and Chief Cashier of Hammond's Largely relates to cash discrepancies, war bonus, wages during sickness and staff bonuses 1 item	1941-1959
C DIHH/3/2	General Register for Factories under the Factories Act 1937 Contains the prescribed forms of certificates of fitness of young persons for employment and accident reports for Hammond's This item contains personal sensitive information and is not available for public inspection until January 2055 1 item	1947-1954

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C DIHH/3/3	<p>Notebook containing headteachers reports relating to pupils and references from previous employers</p> <p>This notebook appears to be a copy transcribed from the original reports/ references. Includes notes on Cash Room stock, 1950-1951 at the end of the notebook</p> <p>This item contains personal sensitive information and is not available for public inspection until January 2051</p> <p>1 item</p>	c.1942-1950
C DIHH/4	<p>Published/printed items</p> <p>Staff Guide, Newsletter, Gift Token Wallet, Annual Garden Party Booklet, Carol Concert Lyric Booklet, Journal of the House of Fraser, and Menu for the Hammond's Amateur Athletic Association</p> <p>7 items</p>	1955
C DIHH/4/1	<p>Hammond's staff magazine</p> <p>Vol. 3, Dec. 1955</p> <p>1 item</p>	1955
C DIHH/4/2	<p>Hammond's Amateur Athletic Association Annual Garden Party programme</p> <p>Took place at Totle's, Burstwick, the residence of Mr. & Mrs. John Powell</p> <p>1 item</p>	23 Jun 1960
C DIHH/4/3	<p>Staff Guide</p> <p>Contains conditions of employment, staff facilities and general information</p> <p>1 item</p>	1964
C DIHH/4/4	<p>Hammond's Amateur Athletic Association Dinner and Social programme</p> <p>Held in the Hammonds Restaurant</p> <p>1 item</p>	3 Nov 1965
C DIHH/4/5	<p>In Company - The Journal of House of Fraser incorporating the Harrodian Gazette</p> <p>Summer edition 1972</p> <p>1 item</p>	1972
C DIHH/4/6	<p>Hammond's of Hull Social and Sports Association Carol Concert Programme</p> <p>1 item</p>	n.d.
C DIHH/4/7	<p>Gift Token Wallet</p> <p>1 item</p>	n.d.

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C DIHH/5	Souvenir material celebrating 150th anniversary (1821-1971) Souvenir pack and Hull Daily Mail Special Supplement 2 items	1971
C DIHH/5/1	Hammond's souvenir pack 150th anniversary souvenir items Contains a souvenir carrier bag, poster, list of celebration events, invite for the visit of Princess Margaret Countess of Snowden on 11 May 1971 1 item	1971
C DIHH/5/2	Hull Daily Mail special advertisement supplement 1821-1971 Hammond's souvenir issue 1 item	28 Apr 1971
C DIHH/6	Press cuttings Extracts from the Hull Daily Mail and Flashback 9 items	1999-2018
C DIHH/7	Hammond's plates Two plates inscribed Hammond's, Osborne Street, Hull together with view of the Osborne Street premises. One in silver metal, one in brass. These were purchased from a charity shop by Sheila Bedford. 2 items	late 19th-early 20th cent.