

## Northamptonshire Record Office

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NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD OFFICE



Records of T.H. Higgins Ltd.,  
Builders Merchants and Monumental Masons, of  
Midland Road, Wellingborough and  
Bath Road, Kettering.

Accession 1978/202

In 1866, Thomas Henry Higgins and his cousin or brother, John, founded the stonemasonry business at Midland Road, Wellingborough. As the business grew, lime, sand and cement was also sold and the firm became a general builders merchants and stonemasons, with depots at Bath Road, Kettering, Rushden and Thrapston.

T.H. Higgins would visit local public houses, such as the Griffin Inn at Higham Ferrers, on market days, especially to take customers orders, which he would enter in a notebook. A common request was for the Company's York Sinks, which they cut themselves from stone.

Thomas Henry Higgins had two sons, Thomas Henry Junior and Arthur Hale, who both continued the business on their father's death in 1916. The twin sons of Thomas Henry Junior, Albert Edward and Reginald Peace, born in 1902, also continued the business.

The current Managing Directors of the business are also members of the family, Mr. Thomas Edward Higgins is the son of Albert Edward Higgins and Colonel John Thomas Hale Higgins is the son of Arthur Higgins.

T. H. Higgins Ltd.

Section A

Account Books

1. Purchase Ledgers:

Accounts held by T.H. Higgins Ltd. with suppliers. Gives the name and address of the supplier & the dates cheques sent for goods and the date of the order.  
(type of goods not stated)  
Front Index.

a) Feb. 1916 - March 1939  
b) March 1934 - March 1954  
c) Feb. 1955 - Dec. 1961

2. Bought Ledger :

Accounts held by T.H. Higgins Ltd. with suppliers. Gives the name and address of the supplier, the name of the Station to which goods were delivered, the date of delivery & the type & quality of goods purchased with their cost. Index at front.

Oct. 1898 - April 1955

3. Purchase Analysis Books:

A daily account of all out payments by T.H. Higgins Ltd. with the date of payment, name of payee & the total amount paid divided into categories of types of goods & services purchased.

a) June 1916 - May 1929  
b) April 1929 - Sept. 1938  
c) Sept. 1938 - March 1955  
d) March 1955 - Aug. 1963  
e) July 1963 - Jan. 1967  
f) 1967  
g) 1968  
h) 1969  
i) 1970

4. Order Books:

Dec. 1882 - Sept. 1885

Order notebooks with the name & address of customer and work requested or goods wanted with the cost.

At the back of each book is a list of despatches of goods and notes of visits.

Dec. 1917 - Nov. 1959

(Daybooks of orders with the name & address of customers with instructions and the date of delivery of goods or work required & order date.

\* a) Dec. 1882 - Aug. 1883  
\* b) Aug. 1883 - March 1884  
\* c) March 1884 - March 1885  
\* d) March 1885 - Sept. 1885  
e) Dec. 1917 - May 1924  
f) Oct. 1930 - Sept. 1933  
g) Sept. 1933 - Oct. 1935  
h) Oct. 1935 - Jan. 1938  
i) Jan. 1938 - July 1939  
j) July 1939 - April 1942  
k) Feb. 1954 - Sept. 1955  
l) Sept. 1955 - Jan. 1957  
m) Feb. 1957 - June 1958  
n) June 1958 - Nov. 1959

5. Contract Day Books:

A daily account of all work done by T H Higgins Ltd. with the name & address of the customer, the names of workmen employed, hours worked and their pay rate per hour with totals. Gives the costings of all materials & equipment used for each job and the grand total cost.

a)	June 1909	-	June 1927
b)	May 1916	-	Jan. 1924
c)	Jan. 1924	-	June 1928
d)	Sept 1928	-	June 1932
e)	March 1932	-	July 1937

Book 5 a. has loose on p.47 a Midland Red Bus Service Timetable - Kettering - Rothwell, Summer 1912

Book 5 b. is also a cash-out payments day book June 1902-June 1916 (see cross. ref. Book 7 a.)

6. Petty Cash Books:

A daily account of all petty cash expenses. The costs divided into categories of types of goods & services purchased.

a)	Jan. 1916	-	Dec. 1951
b)	Jan. 1952	-	Dec. 1968

7. Out-Payments Cash Books:

A daily account of outpayments with the name of the payee, date of payment, & the amount with the amount of any discount

a)	June 1902	-	June 1916
b)	June 1922	-	Aug. 1928
c)	Sept 1928	-	Dec. 1933
d)	Jan. 1961	-	Dec. 1968
e)	Jan. 1969	-	Dec. 1969

8. Wages Books:

Contains names of employees  
New weekly wages & deductions  
for insurance, income tax,  
hospital contributions

a)	Sept 1935	-	July 1938
b)	July 1938	-	June 1941
c)	July 1941	-	Aug. 1945
d)	Aug. 1945	-	June 1948
e)	June 1948	-	March 1951
g)	March 1951	-	Nov. 1953
f)	Dec. 1953	-	June 1956.

Book 8 d. also contains loose:-

- 1) Wages return for Income Tax 1941-44
- 2) Overtime calculations Oct - Dec 1943
- 3) Letter from W/B Cottage Hospital to T.H. Higgins re weekly contributions to Hospital fund being increased Nov. 1944
- 4) 2 Letters from E. Allen to T. Higgins re the reason for his son Kenneth leaving the business Nov. 1942
- 5) Reinstatement in Civil Employment Act 1944 of C.R. Moreton into the employ of T.H. Higgins Ltd.

## 8. contd.

- |     |  |            |
|-----|--|------------|
| 6)  | Booklet - Summary of the Building Industries national joint apprenticeship scheme  | Oct. 1945  |
| 7)  | Letter from Ministry of Labour W/B to T.H. Higgins Ltd re unpaid insurance contributions   | Feb. 1947  |
| 8)  | Circular Letter from Building Industry Distributors Control of Engagement of Employees Order   | Sept. 1947 |
| 9)  | Circular letter announcing General Meeting of the Federation of Master Builders W/B branch   | Oct. 1946  |
| 10) | Circular from the Building & Civil Engineering Holidays Scheme Management Ltd re holidays with pay & application to purchase holiday credit stamps | Dec. 1947  |
| 11) | 2 Leaflets from Building & Civil Engineering Industries - Control of Employment (notice of termination of employment order )                       | 1943       |
|     | - Control of Building & Civil Engineering Labour   | 1943       |
|     | & Leaflet from Ministry of Works & Buildings Defence Regulations   | 1939       |

9. Receipts and Payments Books:

A daily account of money received on the left and paid out on the right with the name of payer & payee, the amount, any discount and amounts paid into the bank

- |    |                        |
|----|------------------------|
| a) | Jan. 1916 - Apr. 1925  |
| b) | April 1925 - Dec. 1930 |
| c) | Dec. 1930 - Apr. 1936  |
| d) | Mch. 1936 - Feb. 1941  |
| e) | Feb. 1941 - Sept 1947  |
| f) | Sept. 1947 - Dec. 1952 |
| g) | Sept. 1952 - June 1957 |
| h) | May 1957 - Dec. 1960   |

10. Cash Received Books:

Gives the date cash/cheques received by T.H. Higgins Ltd & from whom with the amount

- |    |                       |
|----|-----------------------|
| a) | Jan. 1923 - July 1929 |
| b) | July 1929 - Dec. 1933 |
| c) | Jan. 1969 - Dec. 1969 |

11. Delivery Costins Books:

Lists & describes items purchased by T.H. Higgins Ltd and other transport cost and selling prices from various stations and from the yard

a) c.1909  
b) c.1915/16

Book 11 b. also contains

- 1) 2 Lists of varying cement prices according to which Railway Station it is delivered at
 

April - Nov. 1921
& Feb. - Sept. 1915
- 2) Chimney Pot Price List 1904
- 3) Diagrams of copings, sills, ramps & knee terminals
- 4) Calling card of T.H. Higgins c.1904
- 5) Price list of fireclay burrs, lumps & quarries

12. Balance Sheets 1916 - 192213. Customers Accounts Ledgers:

Gives name & address of customer the amount paid for goods or work with the date of payment

a) March 1916 - May 1924  
b) Jan. 1924 - Oct. 1932  
c) Jan. 1930 - Dec. 1938

14. Customers Accounts Ledgers:

Gives the name & address of each customer with details of all goods delivered or work done for each customer and the date and cost of the work.

a) Jan. 1895 - Nov. 1897  
b) May 1915 - Nov. 1926

14 a) has the accounts of field

ie for keeping horses, cutting & selling of hay etc. 1895-1897

14 b) has letter from T.H. Higgins & A.H. Higgins to customers announcing the death of their father T.H. Higgins 8 Jan 1916. loose at p.336

c)	1919	-	1928
d)	1923	-	1926
e)	1923	-	1928
f)	1924	-	1929
g)	1927	-	1933
h)	1929	-	1933
i)	1932	-	1937
j)	1933	-	1938
k)	1936	-	1939
l)	1939	-	1941
m)	1940	-	1947
n)	1945	-	1948
o)	1948	-	1952
p)	1951	-	1955
q)	1954	-	1958
r)	1957	-	1960
s)	1960	-	1961

15. Stockbooks & Sheets:

Stockbook for all depots	1916 - 21
Stocksheets - Kettering, Bath Road	1917, 1918, 1919, 1920
- Castle St. Yard, W'boro	1916, 1919, 1922
- Midland Rd., W'boro	1916, 1917
- Memorials in stock	1919.

\* 16. Costings Book: March 1915 - June 1953

Index and descriptions of all goods stocked by T.H. Higgins, with new prices & haulage/delivery costs.

## 17. Letter &amp; plan from E. Brown &amp; Son Ltd to T.H. Higgins Ltd. re preparing stone sill &amp; jambs for window Oct/Nov. 1927

T.H. Higgins Ltd.

Section B

Brochures, Advertising Leaflets & Price Lists.

1. Price List of cutters & handles of Patent Stone Dressing Tool Company, Glasgow 1925
2. Price List - sieves & brushes etc. of Stevens & Manning Ltd., London 1954
3. Brochure & price list - Multiplex & Axo Stone-Cutters of J.G. Faulds & Co., Glasgow 1939
4. Brochure & price list - steel wire brooms & brushes of A Luson & Sons, London 1910
5. Brochure & price list - leather & belting products of E. J. Cooke Ltd Manchester 1945
6. Price List & brochure - moulded plastic toilet seats of Robert McArd & Co Ltd., Denton, Manchester, Lancs 1955
7. Brochure & Price List of stone washing tools of J.G. Faulds & Co, Glasgow 1920s
8. Leaflet of moulded plastic toilet seats of Robert McArd & Co. Ltd. Denton, Lancs 1950
9. - - - - - -
10. Leaflet of plastic toilet seats - The Kingsland Co. (1897) Ltd. -
11. Leaflet of paint spray & dust respirator - William McGregor & Sons, Glasgow & letter from them asking to send price list for hard white polishing felt 1938
12. Leaflet of moulded plastic toilet seats - Robert McArd & Co. Ltd., Denton, Lancs. -
13. Price List of Carborundum & Aloxite sharpening stones etc. - The Carborundum Co. Ltd., Manchester 1922
14. Letter & price list of aluminium containers - Frank Pitts & Co. Ltd., Burton -on- Trent & reply from T.H. Higgins Ltd. 1955



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15.	Leaflet of cemetery flower vase - Acom & Lumium Sales Co. Ltd., London	1949
16.	Brochure & Price List of carborundum & abrasive products for the stone trades - The Carborundum Co. Ltd., Manchester	-
17.	Brochure of Moulded plastic toilet seats - McArd & Co. Ltd., Denton, Lancs.	-
18.	Brochure of Sanitary seats - Robert McArd & Co. Ltd, Denton Lancs.	1927
19.	Leaflet " " "	1922
20.	Leaflet & price list of sanitary seats & fittings - Dolphin & Co. Ltd, Lichfield	1949
21.	2 price lists of wooden lavatory seats - A. Jacques (Wood Mantels) Ltd, Rayleigh, Essex	1953
22.	Leaflet of Sanitary seat hinges - Henry Fox & Sons Ltd, Walsall	-
23.	Price list of building stone - Benj. T. Thompson, stone merchant, Southowram, Halifax	1948
24.	as above	1951
25.	Price List of hardware - Wrights of Lymm, Cheshire	1958
26.	Leaflets & price lists of diamond grit, masonry materials etc. - Harbro Supplies Ltd.	1957
27.	Letters with quotations for leather belting - E.J. Cooke Ltd. & Jas Dawson & Son Ltd, Lincoln	1952
28.	Price List of solid plastic toilet seats - A Jacques (Wood Mantels) Ltd, Rayleigh	1952
29.	Leaflet of plastic toilet seats - The Kingsland Company, London.	-
30.	Bundle of leaflets & price lists of plastic toilet seats of The Kingsland Co., London	1957
31.	Leaflet & Price List of Multiplex & Axo Stone Cutters - J.G. Faulds & Co. Glasgow	1945
32.	Letters from United Carborundum & Electrite Works Co., & Central Abrasive Co.,	1927 1930

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- |     |   |      |
|-----|---|------|
| 33. | Letter & Price List of machine cutters -<br>E. W. Pinder, London      | 1925 |
| 34. | Price List of Monumental supplies -<br>W. McGregor & Sons, Glasgow    | 1957 |
| 35. | Samples of putty powder & tin oxide<br>of W. McGregor & Sons, Glasgow | -    |
| 36. | Price List of chisels etc. -<br>Harbro Supplies Ltd., Middlesbrough   | -    |
| 37. | Price List of punches -<br>Mills Bros. Kent.                          | -    |

## Section C

### Miscellaneous

1. Article on the building of the memorials in All Saints Churchyard, N'pton by T. H. Higgins Ltd., Chronicle & Echo. c. 1920
2. Article on Celebration of 100 yrs of T. H. Higgins Ltd., Evening Telegraph June 30 1966
3. Article on T. H. Higgins, in W/B Pictorial Trade Record Dec. 1912
4. Apprenticeship indenture of Thomas Henry Hickman to T. H. Higgins Nov. 1895
5. Letterheads of T. H. Higgins 1884, c.1890 & early 1900s
6. Photograph of premises of T.H. Higgins, Midland Rd, W/B with horse & cart c. 1900
7. Photographs of John Hale Higgins & his wife Jane in Brooklyn, U.S.A. 1912
8. Letter, John Hale Higgins from Brooklyn to Thomas Henry Higgins July 1912
9. Letter, C.H. Higgins to Thomas Henry Higgins Jnr. 1921
10. Photographs of the building of St. Mary's Church Tower, Midland Rd. 1930s