

## RECORDS OF A.T. OLIVER & SONS LTD

Deposited by the company on indefinite loan 1971.

(Accession no. DX81)

Catalogue mark: TR OLV

### Introduction

The business was established by James Oliver in 1853. It was first located at 72 Park Street, Luton; in 1880 it transferred to Wigmore Hall, outside the town; and before the turn of the century, to the Wandon End Works. James Oliver was succeeded by his two sons who formed a partnership. Walter left in the 1880s, leaving Archibald and his two sons to run the firm. It became A.T. Oliver and Sons Ltd. in 189-. A.T. Oliver retired in 1926, and his grandsons joined the business in the 1930s. In 1951, on the death of P.J. Oliver, a limited company was set up, and the Board has been chaired by a member of the family since then.

The business started with the hiring out of men and machines for steam ploughing, harvesting and threshing; the threshing contracting was particularly important. By the 1890s it was usual for as many as 30 to 32 sets of tackle to be on the road in Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire at the same time. James Oliver patented a chaff bagging apparatus and sold the rights to Marshalls of Gainsborough. Thereafter until the last war the contracting business expanded, and the manufacturing and dealing side was dropped. In the 1920s and 30s Olivers also tendered Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire County Councils, Luton Corporation and the L.N.E.R. for steam roller contracting. All contracting was cut out after 1945, and since then the business has mainly been involved with selling and servicing agricultural machinery, and supplying parts.

### Record Types

AC1	1-13	Threshing Ledgers
	14-22	Implement Sales Ledgers
	23-26	Sales Ledgers
	27-33	Bought Ledgers
AC3	1	Daybook
AC9	1	Invoice Forms
P2/B	1-173	Individual Advertising and Servicing Publications, various firms

### AC ACCOUNTS

#### AC1 Ledgers

AC1/1	Threshing Ledger	1879-1888
AC1/2	Sales Ledger Threshing	1892-1906

AC1/3	Threshing Ledger (some grinding etc) Includes some grinding, some machine bills paid, some sales.	1905-1913
AC1/4	Sales Ledger Threshing	1910-1915
AC1/5	Sales Ledger Threshing	1915-1920
AC1/6	Threshing Ledger	1918-1921
AC1/7	Threshing Ledger	1920-1926
AC1/8	Sales Ledger Threshing	1921-1926
AC1/9	Threshing Ledger No.1 Dunstable	1911-1919
AC1/10	Dunstable Threshing Ledger	1924-1929
AC1/11	Redbourn Threshing Ledger	1927-1928
AC1/12	Threshing Contracts & Manures Accounts Includes repairs, threshing contracts, sales and bought accounts.	1888-1913
AC1/13	Threshing Contracts Ledger Front section: contracts Rear section: purchases of machines and materials	1913-1925
AC1/14	Implement Sales Ledger	1896-1903
AC1/15	Implement Sales Ledger	1902-1912
AC1/16	Implement Sales Ledger	1907-1914
AC1/17	Implement Sales Ledger	1912-1917
AC1/18	Implement Sales Ledger	1916-1920
AC1/19	Implement Sales Ledger	1918-1920
AC1/20	Implement Sales Ledger	1920-1922
AC1/21	Implement Sales Ledger	1923-1924
AC1/22	Implement Sales Ledger	1925-1927
AC1/23	Sales Ledger	1922-1932
AC1/24	Sales Ledger	1929-1932
AC1/25	Houghton Regis Sales Ledger	1922-1926
AC1/26	Houghton Regis Sales Ledger	1926
AC1/27	Bought Ledger	1915-1920
AC1/28	Bought Ledger	1919-1921
AC1/29	Bought Ledger	1921-1924
AC1/30	Bought Ledger	1923-1924
AC1/31	Bought Ledger	1924-1925
AC1/32	Bought Ledger	1925-1929
AC1/33	Bought Ledger	1929-1933

### **AC3 Day Book**

AC3/1	Day book of repairs (Inscribed: Ledger) Also includes working expenses and stock, with index to customers.	1936-1944
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### **AC9 Invoices**

AC9/1	Invoice forms (unused) for steam road rolling contracts	
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### **P Publications, promotions and advertising**

#### **P2/B Individual advertising and servicing publications, other firms**

			1937(Jan)
P2/B	1	BOOKLET of technical information including specification for the Middleton double roller cotton gin Sir W.C. Armstrong Whitworth & Co. (Engineers) Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne	pp11
			1938(Jun)
P2/B	2	LEAFLET for self-acting and self-cleaning grassland harrow and rejuvenator Bamfords Ltd., Uttoxeter, staffs Dealer: A.T. Oliver & Sons, Wandon End Works, Luton	pp4
	2/1	TESTIMONIAL for above	pp1
			1949(Aug)
P2/B	3	LEAFLET for standard pattern saw bench No.2 Bamfords Ltd., Uttoxeter, Staffs	pp2
			1950(May)
P2/B	4	LEAFLET for XLI potato digger Bamfords Ltd., Uttoxeter, Staffs	pp2
			1950(Jun)
P2/B	5	LEAFLET for petrol engine power units suitable for industrial and contractors plants Bamfords Ltd., Uttoxeter, Staffs	pp2
			1950(Jun)
P2/B	6	LEAFLET for Bamford Z2 diesel engine, 2 copies Bamfords Ltd., Uttoxeter, Staffs	pp2
	6/1	PRICE LIST for above	pp1
			1950(Jun)
P2/B	7	LEAFLET for Bamford Z1 diesel engine Bamfords Ltd., Uttoxeter, Staffs	pp2
			1950(Aug)
P2/B	8	LEAFLET for diesel engine power units for industrial and agricultural use Bamfords Ltd., Uttoxeter, Staffs	pp2
			1950(Sep)

P2/B	9	LEAFLET for Ever-Kleen drinking bowls Bamfords Ltd., Uttoxeter, Staffs	pp2
			early 1951
P2/B	10	LEAFLET for side rake, swath turner and tedder S.R.3 universal haymaking implement Bamfords Ltd., Uttoxeter, Staffs	pp2
			1951(Apr)
P2/B	11	LEAFLET for Rapid grinding mills Bamfords Ltd., Uttoxeter, Staffs	pp2
			1952(May)
P2/B	12	LEAFLET for FGN side rake and swath turner Bamfords Ltd., Uttoxeter, Staffs	pp2
			1952(Jun)
P2/B	13	LEAFLET for MRS3 mounted and power driven swath turner and windrower Bamfords Ltd., Uttoxeter, Staffs	pp2
			1952(Jul)
P2/B	14	LEAFLET for SRT5 tractor, side rake, swath turner and tedder Bamfords Ltd., Uttoxeter, Staffs	pp2
			1952(Oct)
P2/B	15	LEAFLET for Nu-drive Supreme fertiliser distributor Bamfords Ltd., Uttoxeter, Staffs	pp4
	15/1	PRICE LIST for the above	pp1
			1952(Oct)
P2/B	16	LEAFLET for rear action RS11 swath turner and windrower Bamfords Ltd., Uttoxeter, Staffs	pp2
			1952(Oct)
P2/B	17	LEAFLET for root cutters and combined root cleaners and cutters. PP2 hand operated, P9 and P8 hand or power operated Bamfords Ltd., Uttoxeter, Staffs	[2 copies] pp2

			1953(Jan)
P2/B	18	LEAFLET for Rapid hammer mill Bamfords Ltd., Uttoxeter, Staffs	pp2
			1953(May)
P2/B	19	LEAFLET for FGN side delivery rake and swath turner Bamfords Ltd., Uttoxeter, Staffs	pp2
			1953(May)
P2/B	20	LEAFLET for remote-controlled lighting set Bamfords Ltd., Uttoxeter, Staffs	pp2
			1960(Jan)
P2/B	21	LEAFLET concerning electric motor drive for root cutters and combined root cleaners and cutters P8, P9 and P9S, also roller crushing mills and grinding mills Bamfords Ltd., Uttoxeter, Staffs	[2 copies] pp2
			1960(Jan)
P2/B	22	LEAFLET for DC Rapid roller crushing mill suitable for oats, rye, malt, barley, linseed etc Bamfords Ltd., Uttoxeter, Staffs	pp2
			1960(Aug)
P2/B	23	LEAFLET for rapid grinding mills Bamfords Ltd., Uttoxeter, Staffs	pp2
			1960(Nov)
P2/B	24	LEAFLET for root cutters and combined root cleaners and cutters, PP2 hand operated, P8 and P9 hand or power operated Bamfords Ltd., Uttoxeter, Staffs	[3copies] pp2
			1961(May)
P2/B	25	LEAFLET for RG2 and R2 gearless side rakes and swath turners Bamfords Ltd., Uttoxeter, Staffs	pp4
			1963(Jun)
P2/B	26	LEAFLET for 3R, 3-point linkage, rear-mounted power drive mower Bamfords Ltd., Uttoxeter, Staffs	pp2

			1963(Jun)
P2/B	27	LEAFLET for OC1 and OC2 automatic grain crushers Bamfords Ltd., Uttoxeter, Staffs	pp2
			1963(Dec)
P2/B	28	LEAFLET for Wuffer high speed haymaker Bamfords Ltd., Uttoxeter, Staffs	pp4
			1935(Dec)
P2/B	29	CATALOGUE of barn, cowhouse and stable equipment [Beatty Barn Book] Beatty Bros. Ltd., Park Royal Road, London NW10	pp334
			1939(Feb)
P2/B	30	CATALOGUE of farm and barn machinery for export and general use, including chaff cutters, dust extractors, sifters, aspirators, baggers, elevators, forage and litter cutters, prickly baggers, elevators pear cutters, knife sharpeners, grinding mills, flour sifters, combined grinding and cutting mills, corn crushers, kibblers and screeens, root cutters and cleaners, oil cake breakers, bone and root clover cutters, maize shellers, horse gears, mowers, grindstones, ploughs, harrows, cultivators, etc. E.H. Bentall & Co. Ltd., Heybridge Works, Maldon Attached: PRICE LIST of products described above	pp78 pp8
			1961(May)
P2/B	31	LEAFLET for reversible Air-o-Tedder hay conditioner Bentall-Alley Ltd., Maldon, Essex	pp2
			1961(Apr)
P2/B	32	LEAFLET for mill and mixing units E.H. Bentall & Co. Ltd., Maldon, Essex	pp4
			1961(May)
P2/B	33	LEAFLET for the New Mill-Mix-Cube unit E.H. Bentall & Co. Ltd., Maldon, Essex	[2 copies] pp2