

Revised February 2024



Inventory

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James Thin, Booksellers

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Family firm of booksellers founded by James Thin (1824- 1915). He opened his first bookshop at Infirmary Street, Edinburgh in 1848. This shop remained the main store, expanding to take over adjoining properties on South Bridge. Its location opposite Edinburgh University Old College promoted its business as general and academic booksellers.

The business converted to a limited status in the 1970s and rapidly expanded to a high in 1998 with 35 UK branches and 650 staff. In 1994 Thin bought 20 Volume One shops. However, James Thin went into voluntary administration in January 2002 and 8 shops were bought by Ottakars and 12 shops, including South Bridge, were bought by Blackwell's. James Thin's publishing house Mercat Press had a management buy out. Throughout its long history the company remained in the control of the Thin family.

Files 26-29, 31, 45-46, 48-52, 56-67 were previously closed. This restriction was lifted in October 2014.

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Legal and property

2. Lease Agreements, James Thin Bookseller shop, Infirmary Street/South Bridge, Edinburgh, 1882-1921 (6 items)
3. Memorandum of Agreement, between Professor James Cossar Ewart (1851-1933) and James Thin, regarding the publication of Syllabus of the Mammalia by Thin, 11 Aug 1884
4. Agreement, Dr D J Cunningham MacLachlan & Publishers, regarding the publication of the second edition of the Dissectors Guide, part one, 1 Oct 1888
5. Partnership Agreements and Contracts, James Thin Bookseller, 1918-1965 (15 items)
6. Correspondence, fire certificates, plans and planning applications for South Bridge, Edinburgh property of James Thin Bookseller, 1941-1975
7. Certificate of Registration, James Thin, 24 Sep 1970, Memorandum and Articles of Association, James Thin Limited, 5 Mar 1973 and correspondence re amendment to Articles of Association, 1970-1989 (7 items)
8. Correspondence, plans and insurance documentation, Bennett & Robertson, and Whinney Murray & Co., Solicitors, 1973- 2000

Accounts and financial

9. Cash books, James Thin, 1848- 1850 (3 items)
10. Bank account book, James Thin, with Commercial Bank of Scotland, Jan 1848 - Feb 1853
11. Bank account book, James Thin, with Western Bank of Scotland, Jul 1855 - Nov 1857
12. Reports and financial analysis, 1920-2001
13. Annual report and accounts, 1920-1928 (1923 missing), including analysis of accounts 1921- 1968, supported by graphs by D Ainslie Thin, 1969
14. Annual report and accounts, 1930-1941
15. Annual report and accounts, 1942-1953
16. Annual report and accounts, 1954-1965

17. Annual report and accounts, 1966-1975
18. Annual report and accounts, 1976-1984 (1971 missing)
19. Annual report and accounts, 1985-1991
20. Annual report, accounts, audit and analysis, 1992-1993
21. Annual report, accounts, audit and analysis, 1994-1995
22. Annual report, accounts, audit and analysis, 1996-2001
23. General account ledger, book, 1946-1973
24. General account ledger, loose sheets, 1982-1984
25. Accounts, gross margins summary and analysis, 1959-1974
26. Financial analysis and minutes, 1974-1990
27. Financial analysis and minutes, 1991-2001
28. Correspondence, minutes, financial agreements, financial analysis and accounts, meetings with The Royal Bank of Scotland, 1973-1999
29. Correspondence, minutes, financial agreements, financial analysis and accounts, meetings with The Royal Bank of Scotland, 2000-2002
30. Correspondence and calculations, share dividend payments, 1989-2001
31. Reports and accounts, budget calculations, 1999-2002

AGM

32. Correspondence and notes, AGM, 1990
33. Correspondence and notes, AGM, 1991
34. Correspondence and notes, AGM, 1992
35. Correspondence and notes, AGM, 1993
36. Correspondence and notes, AGM, 1994
37. Correspondence and notes, AGM, 1995
38. Correspondence and notes, AGM, 1996

- 39. Correspondence and notes, AGM, 1997
- 40. Correspondence and notes, AGM, 1998
- 41. Correspondence and notes, AGM, 1999
- 42. Correspondence and notes, AGM, 2000
- 43. Correspondence and notes, AGM, 2001

Business Strategy and Management

- 44. Minutes, Management meetings, 18 Feb 1959 – 1 Nov 1963
- 45. Reports, analysis and correspondence, strategic planning and mission statements, 1993-1999
- 46. Reports, analysis and correspondence, strategic planning and mission statements, 2000-2001
- 47. Correspondence and reports, business strategy, 1956-1996
- 48. Correspondence and reports, business strategy, 1997
- 49. Correspondence and reports, business strategy, 1998
- 50. Correspondence and reports, business strategy, 1999
- 51. Correspondence and reports, business strategy, 2000
- 52. Correspondence and reports, business strategy, 2001
- 53. Project report, *Market Forecast* Problem, University of Edinburgh Department of Business Studies, 1967
- 54. Correspondence and reports, postage charges and teleordering, 1967-1987
- 55. Correspondence, articles, essays, Net Book Agreement, 1984-1998
- 56. Reports, analysis and correspondence, marketing research and analysis, 1994-1999
- 57. Reports, analysis and correspondence, product diversification, 1999-2000
- 58. Minutes, Directors meetings, 2000-2001
- 59. Reports, analysis and correspondence, Fraserburgh expansion, 2001

- 60. Correspondence, resignation of Jamie Thin, 2001
- 61. Correspondence and reports, senior management structure and job descriptions n.d.

Administration

- 62. Reports, analysis and correspondence, pricing policy, 1995-2000 (33 items)
- 63. Correspondence and accounts, proposed mergers, 1997-1998
- 64. Correspondence, administration, general, 2001-2002
- 65. Correspondence, administration and purchase of Mercat Press, 2002
- 66. Correspondence, administration and purchase by Blackwell's, 2002
- 67. Correspondence, administration period, customers, friends, and colleagues, 2002
- 68. Essay, *Administration the reason why*, by D Ainslie Thin, 2 May 2002
- 69. Newspaper clippings, administration and sale of James Thin, 2002-2003

Staff

- 70. Apprentice book, details of apprentices working on *Almanac*, 1899, 1899-1913
Staff wages book, 1912-1924
- 71. Wages book, James Thin Bookseller employees, 1901-1912
- 72. B Wages book, James Thin Bookseller employees, 1912-1924
- 73. Roll of Honour 1914-1915, employees of James Thin, Bookseller, Edinburgh, with note, c.1915
- 74. Trust deeds and correspondence, James Thin staff pension scheme, 1955-1978
- 75. Reports and analysis, staff wages, 1963-1986
- 76. Staff memoranda and reports, book ordering, deposits and discipline, 1966-2001
- 77. Staff Memoranda, regarding bookmarks, bags and accounts, 1966-2001
- 78. Correspondence and talks, staff and ex-staff, 1971-2000
- 79. *The Blue Book*, staff handbook, c1997

Sales and stock

- 80. Account of books sold 1850-1851, book, 1851
- 81. Publishing Record Book, James Thin Booksellers, various titles, 1865-1906
Publishing Record Book, James Thin Booksellers, Blakie Mechanics, 1888-1895
- 82. Stock book, James Thin Bookseller, 1909
- 83. Correspondence and reports, discounting and loyalty schemes, 1935-2000
- 84. Stock book, James Thin Bookseller, 1949-1963
- 85. Shop and department monthly sales summary, loose cards, 1963-1982
- 86. Reports, publishers league tables, 1970-1971
- 87. Correspondence and accounts, despatch department, 1965-1984
- 88. Correspondence and reports, stock control, 1980-2001
- 89. Shop and department monthly sales summary, card book, 1988
- 90. Correspondence and agreements, publishers discount, 1970-1978

Marketing and design

- 91. Correspondence, design sketches and sample work, James Thin logo and corporate image on letterheads, bags, bookmarks, badges etc, 1960-2004
- 92. Promotional material, Christmas, Spring, Summer and general 1996-2001

Fixtures and Fittings

- 93. Correspondence and reports, fixtures and fittings, 1981-1982

Computers

- 94. Instructions, computerised database stock control system by D Ainslie Thin, 1988
- 95. Correspondence, computer systems and training, 1966-2000
- 96. Computer program printout, stock control and tills, Dbase II, 11 Aug 1988
- 97. Computer program printouts, stock control and tills, Dbase III, 1988-1989
- 98. Computer instructions, rebuilding or rebooting till after failure, 1989
- 99. Computer instructions, Apple Stock Control, c1978
- 100. Computer instructions, Plessey till and stock system, c1979- 1980

Associated businesses

Associated businesses: Aberdeen University Press

- 101. Agreement of purchase, correspondence and reports, Aberdeen University Press, 1992

Associated businesses: Edinburgh Bookshop

- 102. Correspondence, accounts and plans, Edinburgh Bookshop, 1980-1988

Associated businesses: Melven's Bookshop and Melven Press

- 103. Annual report and accounts, Melven's Bookshops, 1968-1970 and 1974-1990 (19 items)
- 104. Correspondence and plans, Melven's Bookshops, 1973-1975
- 105. Memorandum and Articles of Association and correspondence re amendment to Articles of Association, Melven's Bookshops, 1973-1986 (5 items)
- 106. Correspondence and accounts, acquisition of Melven's shops, 1974-1984
- 107. Correspondence, minutes, valuations and agreements, merger between James Thin Ltd and Melven's Bookshop Ltd, Dec 1988 – Jan 1989
- 108. Correspondence, minutes, plans and accounts, Melven's Bookshop Ltd and branches,

109. Correspondence, minutes, plans and accounts, Melven's Bookshop Ltd and branches,

Associated businesses: Mercat Press

110. Book catalogues, Mercat Press, 1978-2004 (15 items)
111. Correspondence, accounts, book stock valuation, loan agreements, management buyout, sales and royalties analysis, Mercat Press, 1981-2002

Associated businesses: Oliver & Boyd

112. Photocopy unpublished book, *The House of Oliver & Boyd A Record from 1778 to 1948* by W M Parker, 1948
113. Correspondence, Oliver & Boyd printers and publishers, 1996-1998
114. Talk notes, Oliver & Boyd, printers and publishers, by Douglas Grant, with covering letters, 2000

Associated businesses: Thin-umy Jigs Book Club

115. Correspondence, circulars, agreements and accounts, Thin-umy Jigs Book Club, 1993-2000

Associated businesses: Volume One

116. Correspondence and accounts, acquisition of Volume One shops, 1994-1995

Branches

117. Correspondence and reports, Front shop, South Bridge, Edinburgh, 1976
118. Correspondence and reports, Buccleuch Street academic bookshop, 1963-1985
119. Correspondence, plans and rental agreements, Kings Buildings' Student Centre and Heriot Watt bookshops, 1970-1983

Second-hand and Antiquarian

120. Bound volume, James Thin Catalogues Cheap Books, Bargain Books and Remainder lots etc., 1854-1864
121. James Thin General Scottish and General Books Catalogue, n.d.
122. James Thin Specialist Catalogues, Scientific, Outstanding books and Theology and Religion, 1924-1983 (9 items)

123. James Thin General Second-hand and Antiquarian Catalogue, 1961-1971 (20 items)
124. James Thin General Second-hand and Antiquarian Catalogue, 1972-1975 (10 items)
125. James Thin General Second-hand and Antiquarian Catalogue, 1975-1982 (20 items)
126. James Thin General Second-hand and Antiquarian Catalogue, 1982-1988 (29 items)
127. James Thin General Second-hand and Antiquarian Catalogue, 1989-1991 (10 items)
128. James Thin General Second-hand and Antiquarian Catalogue, marked to show sales, 1978-1991 (17 items)
129. James Thin General Second-hand and Antiquarian Catalogue, 1991-1997 (13 items)
130. Accounts and correspondence, antiquarian and second-hand department, 1992-1999
131. Correspondence and articles, closure of antiquarian and second-hand department, 1999

Family and personal

132. Cash Books, owner unknown: Thin family, Jun 1788 – c Mar 1790 and James H Thin, National Security Savings Bank of Edinburgh, 1857-1876
133. Indenture of Apprenticeship, between Thomas and Andrew Lockies, masons in Gordon and George Thin (father of James Thin), discharged 28 Nov 1807, 24 May 1801
134. Annual report, Sabbath School, Cowan's Close, Cross Causeway, Edinburgh, Sep 1825 – Sep 1826
135. Marriage certificate, between James Thin and Catherine Traquair, St Cuthbert's parish, Edinburgh, 29 Jun 1849
136. Certificates, extracts of Register and proclamations, birth of James Hay Thin 12 Jun 1853, Margaret Scott Gibson 13 Dec 1855, marriage of James Hay Thin and Margaret Scott Gibson 17 Jun 1885, 1853-1885
137. Burgess Ticket of Edinburgh in favour of James Thin, 11 Feb 1861

138. Marriage service cards, 1885-1930 (5 items)
139. Deeds and registered extracts, William Gibson Trust, 1888-1905 (9 items)
140. Letters, to James Thin, on the occasion of his retrial, 11 & 14 Aug 1888 (2 items)
141. Photocopied correspondence, S R Crockett and James Thin, held by NLS, 1893-1897
142. Letters of thanks to James Thin for copy of *Reminiscences of Booksellers and Bookselling*..., from various correspondents including Professor Geikie, Sir J Marwick, Lord Roseberry and John Murray, with copy of book, 1905 (20 items)
143. Share Certificates and correspondence, The Edinburgh Institution Limited, Merchiston, Castle School Ltd and St George's School for Girls, held by James Thin and Thomas Thin, 1910- 1925 (7 items)
144. Copy Trust Disposition and Settlement, by James Thin, 1913
145. Typescript, hardback and unpublished book, *Scottish Ballads* by George Traquair Thin, 1913
146. Press cutting and photograph hardback scrapbook, commemoration of James Thin, 1915
147. Letter, on death of James Thin, from John Anderson, 19 Apr 1915
148. Correspondence, from Livingstonia Mission Council, Nyasaland, Africa, to James and James Hay Thin, 1915-1923 (15 items)
149. Account of Charge and Discharge of the Intromissions of the Executor of Mrs Margaret Scott Thin nee Gibson, 18 July 1933 to 13 Jun 1934, 1934
150. Correspondence and Trust Deed, David Thin Trust, 1936-1937 (70 items)
151. Correspondence, personal and family, 1976-2004
152. Articles and correspondence (letters of thanks and congratulations), James Thin 100 year anniversary, 1948
153. Correspondence, newspaper clippings and notes, death of James (Jimmy) Thin, 1923-1997, 1997
154. Articles and correspondence (letters of thanks and congratulations), James Thin 150 years anniversary, 1998

- 155. Correspondence, articles and speech, regarding retirement of D Ainslie Thin and the Ainslie Thin Book Award, 14 April 1998 – 12 Oct 1999 (77 items)
- 156. Diaries and reminiscences, manuscript notebooks of James Thin, 1836-1886, n.d. (7 items)
- 157. Family Register, decorative single sheet, family of James Thin, n.d. and family title page from family bible, n.d.
- 158. Photocopied publications, register of Thin family marriages and burials, n.d.

Lectures and speeches

- 159. Manuscript card and papers, speech, talk and research notes, book trade topics on various occasions by D Ainslie Thin, including 20 page historical note covering 1957 to 1990s written in 1998, 1969-2003
- 160. Notes and draft talks and speeches to Springer Verlag sales conference, Scottish Genealogy Society, The Edinburgh University of the Third Age, Friends of Edinburgh University Library, Pentland Lunch Club, Liberton Group, Penicuik & District Probus Club and retirement dinner, by D Ainslie Thin, 1999-2000 (9 items)
- 161. Correspondence and manuscript and typescript speech, talk and poetry notes, book trade topics on various occasions by James (Jimmy) Thin, n.d.

Photographs and pictures

- 162. Monochrome mounted photograph, entitled Beginners of Bristo Christian Instruction Society 1843, showing James Thin, George Young and Robert Ferrier, Edinburgh, 28 Jul 1853
- 163. Monochrome mounted photograph, James Thin and Catherine Thin with their children James Hay Thin (b1853), George Traquair Thin (b1851) and Thomas Thin (b1855), Edinburgh, 21 Sep 1855
- 164. Monochrome mounted photograph, James Thin, George Traquair Thin and Thomas Thin, in school uniform, by George Inglis of Edinburgh, 19 Oct 1861
- 165. Monochrome mounted photograph, group of men including James Thin, c1865
- 166. Monochrome mounted photograph, James Thin and family, by Tunny & Asher of Edinburgh, c1865
- 167. Monochrome mounted photograph, three sons of James Thin, by Alexander Nicol of Edinburgh, c1880

168. Monochrome mounted photograph, James Thin, George Traquair Thin and Thomas Thin, Oct 1881
169. Monochrome mounted photograph, James Thin and family, by J Moffat of Edinburgh with shop advertisement on reverse, c1885-1890
170. Monochrome mounted photograph, James Hay, Thomas Thin, Robert Thin, Margaret Gibson, William Ainslie, John Thin, Margaret Mackie, Rachel Wells, George Traquair Thin, James Thin, Bessie Darling Thin and Isabella Lauder, Edinburgh 5 Oct 1888
171. Monochrome mounted photograph, James Thin, c1890
172. Monochrome mounted photograph, James Hay, George Traquair and Thomas Thin, c1891
173. Monochrome unmounted photographs and negatives, front of James Thin bookshop, South Bridge, Edinburgh, with James Thin in doorway with pedestrians including man with bicycle and children on small barrow, 1905 (5 items)
174. Colour mounted photograph, James Thin in his garden, c1904-1915, with accompanying correspondence, 1992
175. Monochrome mounted photograph, signed, with print copy, James Thin in a study, c1905 (2 items)
176. Monochrome mounted photograph, James Hay Thin, by James C H Balmain of Edinburgh, c1915
177. Monochrome photographs, James Hay Thin, taken in Oliver and Boyd boardroom, Tweeddale Court, High Street, Edinburgh, c1920s (12 items)
178. Monochrome photograph and letter, George McNab, Anne Scott and Sandy Carfrae in James Thin bookshop, Edinburgh, 1935
179. Monochrome photograph, Finlay MacLachlan, Alf Jamieson and other in James Thin bookshop, Evening News, c1945-1947
180. Monochrome mounted photograph, James Ainslie Thin, c1969
181. Monochrome photograph, D Ainslie Thin, c1976-1978
182. Colour photographs, booksellers and publishers ski weekends organised by Gordon Graham, Bill Forrester and D Ainslie Thin, 1977-1989 (5 items)
183. Colour photographs, Booksellers Association Conference, Aviemore, 1978

184. Colour photographs, Melven's Bookshop in Inverness, external and internal, c1980 (7 items)
185. Monochrome photograph, Buccleuch Street, James Thin bookshop, c1980
186. Colour photograph, James (Jimmy) Thin in fancy dress, c1986
187. Monochrome copies of aerial photographs, South Bridge, Edinburgh, RCAHMS references B21819 and B21820, 1989 (2 items)
188. Colour photographs and negatives, James Thin staff and bookshop at South Bridge, Edinburgh, c1990 (21 items)
189. Colour photographs, D Ainslie Thin, c1992
190. Colour photograph, James (Jimmy) Thin, c1992
191. Colour and monochrome photographs and negatives, miscellaneous bookshops, staff and family, Worthing, 1992-2000
192. Colour photograph, D Ainslie Thin and Jocelyn Stokes, 1995
193. Colour photograph, Independent 100 Awards 1997 for Fast Growing Companies presented to James Thin Ltd by Price Waterhouse, 1997
194. Colour photographs, James Thin directors in bookshop at South Bridge, Edinburgh, with short biographical questionnaires c1998 (16 items)
195. Colour photograph, silver wine coaster inscribed 'For AINSLIE THIN from his friends in the booktrade, Luncheon, Savile Club, London, 25th March 1999,' 1999
196. Monochrome prints of plates, by Marshall Brown, entitled: *But what will I do wi Tam Glen?, The Cottar's Saturday Night, Tam O'Shanter, Ye see yon birkie ca'd "a lord", Halloween, The Lea Rig and Auld lang syne*, multiple copies in different tone, some mounted, some annotated, painted c1896, reproduced by Art Repro Co., n.d. (22 items)
197. Oil painting on board of The Funeral of Burns, unsigned, with 3 monochrome prints of plates of same, reproduced by Art Repro Co., n.d.
198. Framed colour photograph, child reading beside sign promoting 150th anniversary of James Thin bookseller, n.d.

Publications

199. Anniversary booklet, *James Thin 1848- 1948*, 1948

- 200. Magazine and magazine clippings, *The Bookseller*, the organ of the book trade, 1962-1980 (12 items)
- 201. *Report & Recommendations*, Book Trade Working Party, 1972
- 202. Anniversary book, *James Thin 150 Years of Bookselling 1848-1998*, hardback, 1998
- 203. Anniversary booklet, *James Thin 150 Years of Bookselling 1848-1998, Stories from South Bridge*, 1998
- 204. Illustrated book, *Yours Truly James Thin (1824-1915)* by D Ainslie Thin, unpublished, Feb 2004
- 205. *Waterstone's book of design*, company image book, n.d.
- 206. *500 Insider, The handbook of Top Scottish Companies* and *500 Insider, Scotland's Top Performers*, F.I. Group PLC, 1998

Newspapers and journals

- 207. Newspaper clippings and articles, 1967-2002
- 208. Magazine, Newsagent and Bookshop, 28 Apr 1977
- 209. Articles and copy articles, general book trade, 1999

Edinburgh Booksellers Society

- 210. Order of Service, Dinner of the Edinburgh Booksellers Society, 1934, 1938, 1951 and 1960 (4 items)
- 211. Laws and Regulations, Edinburgh Booksellers Society Limited, 2 Jul 1959

Book Tokens Ltd

- 212. Correspondence and menus, Book Tokens Ltd, dinner for D Ainslie Thin retrial as chairman and director, and reunion for ex-directors, 1995 and 2000

Book Festivals

- 213. Correspondence, brochures and accounts, Edinburgh Book Festival, 1982-1995
Report and accounts, Edinburgh Book Fair Limited, 1983, 1986, 1987, 1988 and 1990 (5 items)

Booksellers Association

214. Order of Service, seating plans and associated material, Associated Booksellers of Great Britain & Ireland, Annual Conference Dinner, 1900, 1905, 1908, 1909, 1914, 1923, 1927 and 1928 (17 items)
215. Annual Report, Associated Booksellers of Great Britain & Ireland, Scottish Branch, 1913
216. Book, Fifty Years, A Brief Account of the Associated Booksellers of Great Britain and Ireland, 1895- 1945 by W G Corp, 1945
217. Objects and Rules, Booksellers Association of Great Britain and Ireland, 1966
218. Booksellers Association Conferences, Torquay, Coventry, Eastbourne, minutes, accounts, guides and agendas, 1974-1976
219. Booksellers Association Conference, Harrogate, Presidential address, minutes, accounts, guides, agendas, letters of thanks and general correspondence, D Ainslie Thin president, 1977
220. Booksellers Association Conference, Aviemore, Presidential address, minutes, accounts, guides, agendas, letters of thanks and general correspondence by D Ainslie Thin president, 1978
221. Pamphlet, 1895-1995, A Brief History Of The Booksellers Association of Great Britain and Ireland, 1995
222. Pamphlet, Booksellers Association of Great Britain and Ireland, What It Is What It Does, n.d.

Miscellaneous

- 223. Photocopied Edinburgh and Leith Post Office Directories, showing South Bridge and bookseller entries, 1834-1856
- 224. A Notes, sales of Sir Walter Scott by J Ainslie Thin, c 1940s
- 225. Notes, D Ainslie Thin, business trip to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, n.d.
- 226. Notes, D Ainslie Thin, business trip to Australia, c1974 and 1977 (2 items)
- 227. Notes, D Ainslie Thin, business trip to San Francisco, May-Jun 1977 (2 items)
- 228. Conference report, schedule, speech, The Working Party on Library and Book Trade Relations, 1974 (3 items)
- 229. Correspondence and accounts, Dillon's, 1975
- 230. Correspondence, publications and photographs, The Independent Business On Sunday's 100 award, 1995-1998 (12 items)
- 231. Print and correspondence regarding print, Rev Thomas, minister of Ettrick and Buccleuch, 1999 (7 items)
- 232. Compact disk recording, *Book Trade Lives: extracts from recordings with publishers and booksellers*, National Life Story Collection, The British Library, includes *A Pretty Serious Entrance* by D Ainslie Thin, 2002
- 233. Envelope, oddly addressed to James Thin Booksellers, with note, n.d.

Associate Congregation, Seceders Meeting House, Edinburgh

Minutes, membership list, accounts, notes and legal papers, Associate Congregation of Edinburgh, Seceders Meeting House or New Church, Bristo Street, Edinburgh, Adam Gib (1714-1788), Antiburgher minister, 1741-1753, 1798 and 1828 (52 items)

During the course of the 18th century, there were various secession movements from the Established Church of Scotland. The most significant of these in 1733 an evangelical split constituted themselves a presbytery, subsequently known as the "Associate Presbytery" or Secession Church.

The Secession Church in Edinburgh bought land to build meeting house or church in April 1741. As the Secession Church was not a legal body it could not buy land, so the property was made out in the names of James Wilson, smith, burgess of Edinburgh and James Bain of Bainfield (Bayne, Bean).

By 1745 the Secession Church had broken up into three presbyteries and became known as the "Associate Synod." In 1747 the Secession Church split over taking Burgess oaths,

creating two sections: the burghers and the anti-burghers. The anti-burghers became known as the General Associate Synod (Anti-Burghers), as distinct from the Associate Synod (Burghers). Adam Gib was the principal leader of the anti-burghers and he encountered many legal disputes from adherents of the Church of Scotland and the burgher secessionists.

See also National Archives of Scotland ref: CS271/53849

234. Account and minute, subscription list for building meeting house, Associate Congregation of Edinburgh, 19 Mar 1741
235. Account and minute, subscription list for building meeting house, Associate Congregation of Edinburgh, 11 Jun 1741
236. Account and minute, subscription list for building meeting house on land of James Wilson and James Bain at Bristo, Associate Congregation of Edinburgh, c 1741
237. Account and minute, subscription list for building church at Bristo, Associate Congregation of Edinburgh, 25 Jan 1743
238. Account, cash received, building church at Bristo, Associate Congregation of Edinburgh, 6 Feb 1744
239. Account, cash paid, building church at Bristo, Associate Congregation of Edinburgh, 6 Feb 1744
240. Account, building church at Bristo, Associate Congregation of Edinburgh, 6 Feb 1744
241. Account, building church at Bristo, Associate Congregation of Edinburgh, 24 Jan 1745
242. Manuscript copy, *Memorial & Answers anent The manner of devising The Rights of the Secedors Meeting House*, by William Grant and James Ferguson, copied by Andrew Stevenson, also known as Copy Memorial and Queries for the people commonly denominated seceders concerning the manner wherein the writes (sic) of their common Lands Tenements and other Funds ought to be devised and executed, Oct 1746
243. Note, on separation of the Associated Synod (Congregation) over the taking of burghess oaths, c1746-1747
244. Notary Public Instrument of Intimation, William Smith against James Wilson, James Bain and others, for payments, 22 Jun 1747
245. Minute, removing managers by request of Adam Gib, Associate Congregation of Edinburgh in the new church, Bristo, 4 Jun 1747

- 246. Instrument, against Antiburgher split in Seceders, 4 Jun 1747
- 247. Missuse Letter, from Richard Germent and others against James Wilson and James Bain, over land and lease in Bristo, 9 May 1747
- 248. Certificate of the Elders of the Associate Congregation, 20 Apr 1747
- 249. Minute, appointment of trustees, Associate Congregation of Edinburgh, c 1748
- 250. Account, Associate Congregation at Bristo, Edinburgh, 25 Feb 1748
- 251. Account, Associate Congregation at Bristo, Edinburgh, 25 Feb 1747
- 252. Memorial and Queries, for James Wilson and James Bain, 1747
- 253. Instrument of the Proceedings of Associate Congregation of Edinburgh, 4 Jun 1747
- 254. Copy summons, John Bryson and others against James Wilson and James Bain, 1748
- 255. Memo anent the Seceders, tack for land at Bristo, Edinburgh, c 1748
- 256. Schedule of Protest, for William Smith and land at Bristo, Edinburgh, 10 Nov 1748
- 257. Complaint, William Smith and others against James Whyte and others, 11 Jan 1748
- 258. Sheriff Officer Report, David Simpson, sheriff, against James Smith and others, 8 Jan 1748
- 259. Execution of Warning, James Wilson and James Bain against Watson and Thomson, Apr 1748
- 260. Precept of Warning, James Wilson and James Bain against Watson and Thomson, 1 Apr 1748
- 261. Instrument of Protest, William Smith and others, against Adam Gib, 18 Mar 1748
- 262. Copy Summons, for John Bryson and others, to the reply for James Wilson and others, on Antiburgher rights, c 1748
- 263. Instrument of Protest, William Smith, factor for James Wilson and James Bain, against Adam Gib, 30 April 1748

264. Instrument of Protest, taken by James Wilson and James Bain, for access to Bristo Meeting House, 25 April 1748
265. Deed of Nomination, confirmation of the Clause of Registration for Adam Gib and others, 29 Jun 1748
266. Instrument of Protest, by William Smith and others, against nomination of Adam Gib and others, 18 Mar 1748
267. Answers to the Memorials and Queries, from James Wilson, James Bain and others, against Adam Gib and others, 5 Apr 1748
268. Minute, agreement of accounts for period 10 Feb 1745 to 25 Feb 1748, 25 Feb 1748
269. Opinion upon the Memorial and Queries for James Wilson, James Bayne and others, by Patrick Haldane, 11 May 1748
270. Memorial for James Wilson, James Bayne and others, on action of Mails and Duties for property in Bristo, 1749
271. Condescendence for James Wilson, James Bain and others, 1749
272. Memorial for James Wilson, James Bain and others, 1749
273. Representation for James Wilson and James Bain, against John Bryson and others, 30 Jun 1750
274. Minutes, meeting of the Associate Congregation of Edinburgh, 6 Feb 1751
275. Instrument of Protest, James Wilson and James Bain, against Adam Gib, John Christie and others, 5 Dec 1752
276. Interlocutory Sentence, by James Wilson and James Bain, against Adam Gib, John Christie and others, 19 Dec 1752
277. Instrument of Possession, James Wilson and James Bain, against Adam Gib and others 2 Jan 1753
278. Attested Copy Interlocutor upon Bill of Suspension, of Adam Gib and John Christie, against James Wilson and James Bain, 2 Jan 1753
279. Act and Declaration, of Associated Synod, concerning Civil Allegiance in some Burghs Oaths, n.d.
280. Memorial, for James Wilson and James Bain, as trustees for the Associate Congregation of Edinburgh, n.d.

- 281. Memorial and Queries, for managers (tacksmen) of the Meeting House and to their subjects belonging to the Associate Burgher Congregation of Bristo, near Edinburgh, 1798
- 282. Answers to Memorial and Queries, for managers (tacksmen) of the Meeting House and to their subjects belonging to the Associate Burgher Congregation of Bristo, near Edinburgh, 1798
- 283. Note for the managers (tacksmen) of the subjects belonging to the Associate Burgher Congregation of Bristo, near Edinburgh, relative to their Memorial and Queries laid before Mr Ross, 1798
- 284. James Bain and James Wilson in connection with dispute as to church property as Burghs and Antiburghs dispute, n.d.
- 285. Statement of funds, read by Mr Wallace, 31 Mar 1825