

## FALKIRK ARCHIVES

### Records of Businesses

#### Ironmongers Finding Aid

##### **Adam, Alexander, Lock, Hinge & Safe Manufacturer**

Lock, Hinge and Safe Manufacturer, Falkirk. Family origins: The Adams arrived in Falkirk in 1780. Alexander Adam (ancestor) was a skinner and tanner, and bought premises at Eastburn Bridge, Falkirk in 1788 for use as a tannery. The tanning business was carried on by his sons and grandsons at least into the late 19th century and was known latterly as Walter Adam & Co.

Alexander's eldest son was a tanner but emigrated to Holland. He left behind an illegitimate son, Robert Adam, who became a lock and hinge maker and founded what was to become the safemaking business. The safe making business was carried on by three generations : Robert (1818-1862), his eldest son, Alexander (1846-1898) and two of Alexander's sons, Alexander (1871-c. 1940s) and John (1876-c. 1940s). The business closed when the last retired or died (date unknown)

Related object: safe, FALKM 1987-4

<i>Reference No</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>
A786.002	1934	Catalogue: Steel Office and Works Equipment. Contains filing cabinets, desk top accessories and lockers
A786.001	1938	Catalogue of safes

**Gillespie & Main**

Ironmonger with premises in Callendar Riggs, Falkirk. Business founded by David Wyse in 1776 and passed through family. Name change to Gillespie during late 19th century then Gillespie & Main.

<i>Reference No</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>
A972.002	1935	Receipts for payments to contractors for work on alterations to business premises in Callendar Riggs, Falkirk

Gillespie & Main, Lock, Hinge and Safe Manufacturer, Adam, Alexander