

Literacy Across Learning: Identifying key information

From the information in the article below create a set of bullet points in your own words showing the history of Cox Brothers and the Camperdown Works. You will need at least two bullet points for each paragraph.

LI I can identify the key points of a text and express them in my own words

SC I have created a summary of the text containing the key information in my own words

Pathfinder: The Scottish Jute Industry: Cox Bros Ltd, Camperdown Works, Lochee, Dundee

The Cock family, later Cox, was in business from the 18th century. Cox Bros was established by four brothers in 1841 namely James (1809-85) a salesman, William (1812-94) an expert in spinning, bleaching and dyeing, Thomas (1818-92) a commercial expert and George (1820-99) a qualified engineer. James Cox served as Lord Provost between 1872-75 and was amongst the first in Dundee to conceive of a Tay Rail Bridge. In 1849 the original site at Foggeyley became too small and the firm moved to Camperdown Works.



Cox's stack (282 feet) was built in 1865-66 when the existing three chimneys were demolished to make room for this one imposing structure. It cost £6000 to build and still stands as one of Dundee's best known landmarks with its ornate red, white, and black Italianate style brickwork. It is arguably the finest chimney of its kind in Scotland.

In 1891 Cox's were using over 120,000 bales of jute a year and annually producing c. 30,000,000 to 40,000,000 yards of cloth. At its peak it was the largest jute factory in the world with 820 power-looms, 150 hand-looms and 5000 employees occupying 35 acres of ground. It comprised many different workshops for engineers, mechanics, carpenters, joiners, plumbers, gasfitters, tinsmiths, painters and glaziers as well as mills, a school and its own railway line. It contained a dining room for the workers and a half-time school which 500 young employees attended. It manufactured an eighth of Dundee's jute and was supplied by a fleet of its own vessels that shipped the raw material from Calcutta by agents of the firm.

It amalgamated with other jute firms in 1920 to form Jute Industries Ltd whose products included jute and hemp yarns, ropes and twines, bags and sacks, hessians, striped beddings, tickings, horse clothing and tarpaulins. It went into voluntary liquidation in 1933. Production continued until 1981. Today the site of Camperdown Works has been converted into a leisure complex and residential housing space.