

Hall of Fame

Landmark equipment that shaped the history of h&v

1820 – Warm air furnace stove

[George & James Haden]



There is no more evocative name in building services than Haden. Wherever two or three hvac engineers are gathered together, you can be sure at least one of them worked for what is now Haden Young at one time.

However, it may come as a surprise that the family began its momentous role in our sector as manufacturers back in the 18th century and the Haden brothers were heating pioneers who brought welcome comfort to thousands of British working people and landed gentry for the first time.

It was natural that the brother's engine work would lead on to installation of steam systems, for process work and heating in the mills. The heating stove business seems to have been initiated by James, with the encouragement of Matthew Boulton, and taken up enthusiastically by both brothers. For the next 20 years or so James travelled the British Isles meeting prospective clients, giving them estimates for heating stoves

and fixing them or supervising their installation.

The Haden warm-air stove brought warmth and comfort to the privileged class, but also to many of the middle and working classes in their religious and educational activities. It was the forerunner of the larger, more powerful heating stoves that appeared in the second half of the 19th century.

Many hundreds of Haden stoves were supplied, the most prestigious warm air installation being for George IV at Windsor Castle. When the Royal installation delayed the work of other customers, George took great delight in writing letters of apology that made heavy reference to his Royal namesake:

"But I have been much occupied fixing stoves for His Majesty at Windsor," said one such missive.

There are a few Haden Stoves still around, but the legacy of engineering excellence and pioneering work continues to this day through the company that continues to bear this famous name.



More pictures and details of historical products can be found on the
CBSE Heritage Group website at: www.hevac-heritage.org