



THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHIVES

NAME OF COLLECTION	J.C. Taylor & Sons Aust. Pty Ltd
ACCESSION NO	2000.0001
CATEGORY	Business, individuals
ACTIVITY	Builders
DATE RANGE	1930-1999
SIZE OF COLLECTION	12 cm.
HISTORICAL NOTE	<p>The firm was founded in 1860 in Geelong by John Charles Taylor, and two of his sons, John William and Henry Alfred soon joined him in partnership. John Charles Taylor & brother James left London 1852, arrived Geelong 1853 & initially worked for McAlpine, builder. The business encompassed a saw and planning mill and a joinery factory. John Charles retired in 1904 and the running of the company passed on to his sons. In 1915 the firm was incorporated as a Proprietary Company and the business expanded with a flourishing timber merchant retailing trade. A major fire in 1924 completely destroyed the mill, joinery factory and office buildings with the loss of much stock and work. The firm worked in all parts of Victoria, including constructing army camps during WWII, post-war housing and most of the Ford plant at Geelong. A Melbourne Branch of the company was established in 1929 and was relocated to Richmond. The company was placed in liquidation in 1990.</p>
ACCESS CONDITIONS	Access: Open
DESCRIPTION	<p>This collection relates to John Anderson Taylor, who died 28 July 1999. Born in Geelong in 1911, educated Geelong College and Gordon Institute, became Chairman of firm founded by his great-grandfather John Charles Taylor in 1854; member of many philanthropic, service, and recreational organizations, keen yachtsman, fly fisherman and ham radio operator. Correspondence, legal documents, certificates, photograph, news cuttings, publications (including an obituary of J A Taylor), miscellaneous</p>
LISTED BY	Mark Ricmond
DATE	13 Jan 2000

LIST OF MATERIAL RECEIVED

1 Correspondence, Inward

1/1 From George King, Principal, The Gordon Institute of Technology, Geelong to J. Taylor Perth, 12 December 1930; one quarto page typescript

1/2 Ditto, to John A. Taylor, East Perth, 20 September 1930; one quarto page typescript

1/3 Ditto, 7 November 1932, two foolscap pages typescript

1/4 Letter of reference, Robert Scott, foreman, Andrew Douglas, Builder, Perth, for J.A. Taylor, 20 February 1933, one quarto page, MS [Taylor had been Scott's assistant in the stone yard and in the building of the Commonwealth Bank, Perth, for three years]

2 Legal documents relating to proposed sale of company shares to Stanhill Consolidated Ltd.

2/1 Release, A J Wood to J A Taylor, 30 June 1960

2/2 Release, Larntarni Holdings Pty Ltd to J A Taylor, 30 June 1960

2/3 Release, A.L.T. Investments Pty Ltd to J A Taylor, 30 June 1960

2/4 Release, A L Taylor to J A Taylor 30 June 1960

2/5 Release, Avon Holdings to J A Taylor, 1 July 1960

2/6 Release, E J Taylor to J A Taylor, 1 July 1960

2/7 Release, W A Salmon to J A Taylor, 30 June 1960 [photocopy]

2/8 Release, C B Salmon to J A Taylor, 30 June 1960 [photocopy]

2/9 Release, J E Middleton to J A Taylor, 30 June 1960 [photocopy]

2/10 Release, E S Taylor to J A Taylor, 30 June 1960 [photocopy]

2/11 Release, J A Cruickshank to J A Taylor, 30 June 1960 [photocopy]

2/12 Release, D O Cruickshank to J A Taylor, 30 June 1960 [photocopy]

2/13 Release, E K Hope to J A Taylor, 30 June 1960 [photocopy]

2/14 Release, J R Salmon to J A Taylor, 1 July 1960 [photocopy]

2/15 Memorandum of resolution that 'Mr John A Taylor is to place the findings of this meeting [no other minutes attached] to the STANHILL representative and in particular:-', where follow 7 numbered points; the memorandum bears the signatures of several of the parties to the releases listed above; one quarto page, TS and MS

Other legal documents

Identity Card, Number v14, M11, 21445, in name of John Anderson Taylor, 39 Summerhill Road, Glen Iris [Civilian Registration (British Subjects)]; in perspex-fronted leather pouch

Sale Agreement, J A Taylor with Avon Holdings Pty Ltd, 16 July 1952

Commonwealth of Australia, Third-Class Commercial Operator's Certificate of Proficiency,

issued under Wireless Telegraphy Regulations to John Anderson Taylor, 14 January 1953; includes photograph and physical description; in green linen board cover

Queensland Death Certificate No. 1999/07339, for John Anderson Taylor, who died 28 July 1999, at Runaway Bay, Queensland, aged 88 years

Miscellaneous

Certificate of Honorary Life Fellowship of the Australian Institute of Building issued to

John Anderson Taylor 20 March 1986; illuminated, printed on board

Letter attached to above, from David Andrew, Executive Director, Master Builders' Federation of Australia, 25 March 1986

Yachting-related material:

'Seachest' (Journal of the Royal Geelong Yacht Club), Issues No.11, March 1984 (inc. article by Taylor on the struggle to gain a liquor licence for the R G Y C), No.12 June 1984, (inc. an illustrated profile of Taylor), and No.32 June 1989, with cover photograph of E J Taylor's cutter 'Sylvia' sailing on Corio Bay in 1908

Photograph of unidentified small sailing craft under sail (G 20 emblazoned on upper section of mains'l), background of jetty with rail trucks and buildings further back, possibly part of Geelong woolstores; black and white, 8" x 6"; Robert Pockley, photographer

Newscuttings

1. Article by Taylor 'The Taylor Link with Torquay's Park' {Geelong Advertiser, n.d., probably 1960s); photocopy
2. Article by Scott Bowman 'City builder forced out of business', probably Geelong Advertiser, n.d. [1990]; photocopy
3. Article by Jason Laird, 'Memories relived at celebration', re Eastern Beach, with photograph of Noel Taylor and Vin Lauder, Geelong Advertiser, 6 December 1993

Material re History of Commonwealth Bank, Perth

1. Letter, I R Brazenor, Senior Manager Property WA, Commonwealth Bank, Perth to J A Taylor, 23 November 1998

2. Attachments to above:

2/1 Register of Heritage Places Documentation; Interim entry dated 1 July 1994; 14 pp.

2/2 Scatena and Associates and KTA Partnership, Commonwealth Bank Building Conservation Plan, pp. 5-14, n.d. [no earlier than 1995]

3. Cutting, 'Return visit after 65 years' re a visit by 86-year-old Taylor to the bank site, illustrated with a photograph of Taylor with the bank's state General Manager, from a bank house publication (title excised) 25 January 1999

Cutting of article by Clare Morgan, 'Quality check after 65 years', The West Australian, 5 December 1998, with photograph almost identical to that listed above

Material relating to John Taylor's 'Building Works for Australian and American Armed Forces During World War II'

John Taylor, 'Building Works for Australian and American Armed Forces During World War II', Geelong, June 1995; 19 pp. Typescript [in which Taylor outlines work done by himself and others 'to record for posterity some of the unusual tasks men at home during the war were called upon to perform']

2. Correspondence, inward, relating to the above, [sometimes referred to by the title 'War Work'] from:

2/1 Hon. Con Sciacca, Minister for Veteran Affairs, 27 September 1995; 2 pp.

2/2 R J Cashmore, Gordon Institute, 5 October 1995; 1 p.

2/3 Norman Houghton, Geelong Historical Records Centre, 6 October 1995; 1 p.

2/4 Frank Strahan, University of Melbourne Archives, 9 October 1995; 1 p.

2/5 Elizabeth Bowdler, Australian War Memorial, 9 October 1995; 1 p., enclosing two copies of an AWM Final receipt form, one of which it was intended Taylor should sign and return

2/6 Brian Welch, Master Builders Association Victoria, 10 October 1995; 1 p.

2/7 Dr John Connell, East Ivanhoe, 4 November 1995, 1 p.

2/8 Jack Champ, Highton, 9 November 1995, 1 p.

2/9 Papiya Chakravarti, National Library of Australia, 17 November 1995; 1 p. (giving Legal Deposit receipt number)

Obituary

Anon, 'Institute founder, community worker, yachtsman and benefactor',

Chartered

Building Professional, the national magazine of the Australian Institute of Building,

November 1999, p. 2, with bust portrait photograph

Mark Richmond

13 January 2000