This group contains the financial records of Sir Thomas Elder (1818-1897), the Trustees of the Elder Estate, notably Robert Barr Smith and members of the Barr Smith family - Robert Barr Smith (1824-1915), Robert Barr Smith Jnr. ('Bertie') T. E. Barr Smith (1863-1941) and George Barr Smith. The papers include the financial records of companies formed by Thomas Elder and Robert Barr Smith, and the private papers maintained by them in relation to either these companies or their own personal financial interests.

Thomas Elder, son of George Elder, merchant, of Kirkaldy, Scotland, emigrated to South Australia in 1854. His brother Alexander Lang Elder, had emigrated in 1840, and formed a merchant business in Adelaide. Thomas acted as agent in Scotland for A. L. Elder's South Australian trading interests until emigrating to the Colony, where he and his brother George jnr. (emigrated 1849), took over the firm on Alexander's return to Scotland, in 1853, trading under the name of Elder and Co. When George returned to Scotland in 1855, Thos. Elder took as partners Edward Stirling, John Taylor and Robert Barr Smith, to form the firm of Elder, Stirling & Co.

In 1863, following the resignations of Edward Stirling (1861) and John Taylor (1863), the firm was reconstructed to become Elder, Smith and Co., with Thomas Elder and Robert Barr Smith as sole partners. A new company, Elder's Wool and Produce Co. Ltd. was formed in 1882, with Robert Barr Smith, A.B. Murray., David Murray, R.C. Baker, John Crozier, Walter Reynell and Peter Waite as directors. This company joined with the parent company in 1888 to form Elder Smith and Co. Ltd., with Peter Waite as chairman and Robert Barr Smith as managing director. Sir Thos. Elder died on 6 March 1897, his estate passing to the Barr Smith family after large bequests to various educational and religious institutions. T.E. Barr Smith, son of Robert Barr Smith and Sir Thomas Elder's sister, Johanna Elder, succeeded Peter Waite as chairman of the company in 1921.

These papers were given to the Archives in 1969 by Tom Elder Barr smith, grandson of T.E. Barr Smith. Additional papers, comprising series 51-91, were donated by Mr, Barr Smith in 1976. Series 92 was donated by Major N. Drew in February 1978.

Further references to Sir Thomas Elder, Robert Barr Smith and Thomas Elder Barr Smith are contained in the general Archives catalogue.
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### Papers of Sir Thomas Elder

George Elder. Half-yearly balance sheets and annual stock sheets (Kirkaldy).  
1835-1849. 3cm.  

G. and T. Elder. Annual balance sheets (Adelaide)  
1850-1880, 1889, 1891.. 6 cm.  

1855-1872. lv.  

G. Elder and Sons. Balance sheets.  
1847-1851. 6 cm.  
[Include A.L. Elder and Co., balance sheets for 1845 and 1850.]  

Elder, Stirling and Co. (later Elder, Smith and Co.) Balance sheets.  
1856-1871, 1873. 15 cm.  
[Elder, Stirling and Co. became Elder, Smith and Co. in 1863, following the retirement of Edward Stirling and John Taylor from the company.]  

Sheep farmers' account.  
1847-1859. 3 cm.  

Thomas Elder's account current with A.L. Elder.  
1857-1860. 1 bundle.  

Thomas Elder's (private) account current with Elder, Smith and Co. 1  
1876-1881. 1 bundle.  

Ledger.  
1850-1864. lv.  
[Accounts on behalf of A.L., George Jnr., George Snr., Thomas and William Elder, Edward Stirling and Robert Barr Smith.]  

1861-1866. lv.  
[Relates to commercial enterprises, finances of the company, etc.]  

'Private Journal' of Thos. Elder.  
1855-1868. lv.  
(accounts - chronological).  

'Private Ledger' of Thos. Elder.  
1855-1868. lv.  
(accounts - by subject ).
Correspondence copybook.  
c.1869-1870. lv.  
[Copies of business correspondence sent.]

Miscellaneous correspondence, with related agreements, 13 reports and deeds.  
1856-1881. 20 cm.  
[Each letter or document is folded, titled and dated. Subjects include smelting works at Port Wallaroo and Moonta, purchase of a steamer, wool sales, Macclesfield land sales, proposals for plantation in Northern Territory, Tintata Vineyard Co. etc.. John Taylor, W.W. Hughes, Edward Stirling, E.R. Stimson, R. Mackay, Price Maurice, Henry Simpson, and Elder family members are the main correspondents. Nearly all letters relate to land, mining, or other property interests.]

Half-yearly returns of Wallaroo Mines & Smelting Works.  
1862-1868. 1 bundle.

Scrip for 400 shares in Kurilla Mining and Smelting Co. Ltd.  
1862. 1 bundle.

Deeds of settlement of the proprietors of Wallaroo Mines (1861), of Moonta Mines (1862) of the Bingo and Wandilta Mining Co. (1862) and accounts of the proprietors of the Wallaroo Mines (1874).  
1861-1874. 12 volumes. Printed items.

Reports of H.W.H. Stevens on Elder's Northern Territory properties, with related deeds and map.  
1878-1881. 1 bundle.

Correspondence, reports, maps and legal documents relating to Merrivale Estate, New Zealand.  
1879-1895. 25 cm.  
[Major correspondents are John Ellis, J.J. Zimmer, A.W. Rutherford, James Harvey and A. Martin.]

Letters from Sir T. Elder to R. Barr Smith, 1884-1885 and 'during his absence from the Colony',  
1888-1891. 8 cm.  
[Concern the business enterprises of Elder, Smith and Co. Ltd.]

Miscellaneous correspondence R. Barr Smith relating to the administration of the estate of Sir T. Elder.  
1895-1896. 1 cm.

Letters from P. Waite, London, to Alex. Martin.  
1890-1892. 1 bundle.
Letters from R. Barr Smith, London, to Alex. Martin.  
1892-1893. 1 bundle.  
[Both series 20 and 21 deal with activities of Elder, Smith & Co. Ltd.'s London office.]

Will (superseded) of Thos. Elder.  
17 March 1869.

Papers relating to the legacy of George Elder (bequest to Joanna Barr Smith).  
1898. 1cm.  
[See also Hart, Elder & Stockley partnership, series 80-91.]

Papers of Sir Thos. Elder's Estate  
[Sir T. Elder died 6 March 1897.]

Annual profit and loss accounts and balance sheets.  
1897-1917. 25 cm.

Ledger (Trustee's accounts).  
1897-1912. lv.

Sir Thos, Elder's Executors, in account current with T.E. and R. Barr Smith.  
1897-1915. 1cm.

Trustee receipts, cash vouchers, bank passbooks and withdrawal forms.  
1896-1918, 1920-1944. 1 bundle.

Distribution drafts of letters and receipts.  
1919. 1 cm.

Notices to Executors of Trusts for beneficiaries.  
not dated. 5 cm.

Rate demands, assessment notices, correspondence and deeds relating to property in the Northern Territory.  
1915-1934. 2cm.

Deeds and correspondence relating to appointment of new Trustees, T.E. Barr Smith and J.A Hele.  
August 1917. 1 envelope.  
[Includes copy of Will of Thos. Elder. Robert Barr Smith, Alexander Martin and George Boothby were appointed as original executors and trustees – George Boothby died before Sir Thos. Elder.]

Income tax returns on the Estate of Sir Thos. Elder.  
1938-1943. 1 cm.
Receipts for registered mail sent by Trustees J.A. Hele, T.E. and R. Barr Smith. c.1924-1943. 1 bundle.

Correspondence relating to staff appointments to Trustee’s Office. 1928-1944. 2 cm.

Correspondence, deeds, scrip, agreements to purchase and lease and other papers relating to property, mortgages and shares held by George and Thomas Elder (later Elder, Smith and Co.). 1851-c.1920*. 25 cm. [*Interest passed to Robert and later T.E. Barr Smith as executors Sir Thos. Elder. See also series 79.]

Papers relating to estates administered by Elder, Smith and Co. and by T.E. Barr Smith

Correspondence, vouchers, accounts and legal documents relating to the administration of John Bishop's estate - Elder Smith & Co., Trustees. 1863-c.1930. 25 cm. [Includes papers relating to (J.K.) Bishop v. Elder case, 1868-1872.]

Correspondence T.E. Barr Smith, H.P. Moore, Alex, Martin and others relating to administration of estates and the mortgages, loans and investments connected with these. 1895-1918. 13 cm. [Individual files on the G.C. Hawker Trust, 1895-1918, including papers relating to the Usher mortgage (1906-1911) and Acres Trust (1906-1911) and on the Hutton and Winch mortgage, 1906-1911, and a miscellaneous file (c.1900-1908) which may contain material related to the other files, not specifically identified as such. T.E. Barr Smith was Miss Hawker's attorney. H.P. Moore was appointed a Trustee of the estate in 1895. T.E. Barr Smith became a Trustee in 1900, following the resignation of R.N. Colley.]

Robert Barr Smith

Deeds and correspondence relating to loans advanced and shares and mortgages held by R. Barr Smith. Numbered files 1-326 (incomplete). 1887-1922. 2m. [See special list; also see series 79.]
Robert Barr Smith Jnr. ("Bertie" Barr Smith)

Miscellaneous correspondence, receipts, shares and debentures, company reports and legal documents. 1899-1909. 10 cm.

[Includes correspondence 1904-1909 from Newland, Tarlton and Co. Ltd., Nairobi, and letter book containing copies of letters sent to his parents and Josephine - from Kenya, Feb.-March [1908].]

Papers relating to the estate of Robert Barr Smith Jnr, 1910-1912. 2 cm. 38

Bank passbooks, cheque butts and National Bank of India cheque books. 1898-1909. 6 items. 39

Four photographs of trophies captured by Robert Barr Smith, Jnr. in Kenya and samples of sansiviera [sansevieria] fibre sent by Newland, Tarlton and Co., Nairobi. (9 photos, some copies, 1 sample). Originals WITHDRAWN. 39a

T.E. Barr Smith

Personal correspondence and miscellaneous papers. c.1910-1950. 7cm. 40

Miscellaneous photographs, mainly untitled and undated. 4cm. 41

Road maps and miscellaneous printed items. 13cm. and 1 OUTSIZE Bundle (outsize 1). 42

Accounts of 13th A.F.A. Officer's Mess. 1
1924-1930. 1 volume. 43

[T.E. Barr Smith was apparently the Secretary].
George Barr Smith

Bank passbooks and vouchers of Miss Goyder and Miss Bidmead
c.1899-1910. 5cm. 44

Paid household accounts.
1894-1910. 3 bundles. 45

Miscellaneous correspondence - Miss Bidmead with T.E. Barr Smith and Alex
Martin, Trustees.
1901-1902 and undated. 1 envelope. 46

Legal papers relating to Geo. Barr Smith Trust - deposit receipts, shares,
deeds of settlement, annual balance sheets, etc.
1898-1914. 5cm. 47

Architectural drawings of alterations and additions to Somerton House.
3 items. not dated.
[See also Series 62]. 48

Miscellaneous papers relating to the George Barr Smith Estate.
1899-1914. 2cm. 49

Photographs, mostly Barr Smith family portraits*, and 3 documents relating to
the commission of R. Barr Smith and T.E. Barr Smith as Consul for
Sweden and Norway.
2 outsize bundles.
*Including portraits of Joanna & Robert Barr Smith showing interior of
"Auchendarroch" (Mt. Barker), taken by Ernest Gall. part Outsize 6 50

Additional papers of Robert Barr Smith

Letters of Joanna Barr Smith to Robert Barr Smith.
1860-1894. c.70 items. 51

Miscellaneous files relating to partnership, lease and loan agreements.
1860-1901. 40cm. [See Special List]. 52

Correspondence, leases, accounts and other papers relating to Fowler's Bay
and other western district properties of Robert Barr Smith and W.R. Swan.
c.1882-1904. 15cm. [See also Series 60]. 53
Miscellaneous correspondence, balance sheets lists of mortgages, etc. relating to the minor financial and business interests of Robert Barr Smith. 1888-1903. 25 cm.
[Includes correspondence with C.G. Roberts and others about the policy of the South Australian Company 1895-1896; with G.S. Yuill and Co. about shares in the Adelaide Steamship Co.; cutting and circulars to shareholders about complaints against the Directors of the Wallaroo and Moonta Mining Co. 1892; copy of a letter to George Elder relating to the history of Elder, Smith and Co.; personal and various company balance sheets 1899-1902; letters of A. Augustus Sharstreum 1901-1902, sent to R.B. Smith as the consul for Sweden and Norway, etc. Each bundle of papers has been preserved as received from the donors, with the accompanying lists compiled by Robert Barr Smith. A general list to the contents of the tin box in which the records were received has been retained with this series, although some of the items listed were not received by the Archives.]

Share certificates, scrip and related correspondence. c.1870-1942. 20 cm.

Letter books.
1860-7, 1873-1883, 1884-1885, 1885-1893, 1888-1890. 11 volumes.
[Volumes 4, 5, 7, 8 covering 1873-83 and 188593, appear to be private letter books. Those for 1860-1867, 1884-1885 and 1889-1890 (vols. 1-3, 6 and 9-11) are mainly business correspondence, but include some letters marked "Private".]

Ledgers of R.B. Smith and Co.
Aug. 1852-March 1854. 2 volumes.
[Vol. 1 "Home", vol.2 "Foreign".]


Ledger balances and account current with Elder, Smith 22 and Co.
1873-1874. 1 cm.

Ledger balances and account current with Fowler's Bay, Mt. Murchison and Hummock runs.
1868-71. 4 cm.

Cheque stubs 1884-1888, 1896-1900 and bank passbooks.
1884-1885, 1891-1897. 13 items.

Correspondence, deeds, insurance policies, plans, accounts and agreements relating to Torrens Park property.
1869-1919. 5 cm.
Also plan of Seaforth Grounds, July 1913, in envelope addresses to R. Barr Smith. [See also series 48]
Correspondence, deeds, insurance policies, plans accounts and agreements relating to "Auchendarroch" (Mt. Barker). 1878-1920. 4 cm. 63

Notes and statements relating to negotiations with Elders' Wool and Produce Co. 1883, 1 cm. 64

Correspondence relating to ukkition run (New Zealand), 65 including letters by and about the death of James Armstrong, manager of "Akitio" run. 1879-1881. 2 cm. 65

Letters of Fred. Huth and Co., London brokers, relating to the sale of wool. 1884-5. 3cm. 66

Correspondence of James (Justice) Boucaut, Janet Boucaut (nee McCulloch) and Alexander McCulloch relating to the claims of Justice Boucaut to his wife's interest in the estate of her father, Alexander McCulloch. 1877-1885. 3 cm. 67

Letter of W. Neville Ashbee, architect (London) re proposed alterations to the home of Robert Barr Smith. 11 Sept. 1879. 4 pages. 68

Correspondence relating to the appointment R.B. Smith as trustee to the marriage settlement of Emily and John Peterswald. 1883-1884. 1cm. 69

Rough Statement of the personal finances of R.B. Smith. not dated. 6 pages. 70

Notes by R.B. Smith relating to his business holdings and financial interests, prepared for the guidance of his executors. c.1886, with annotations to 1888. Iv. and enclosures. Outsize 1 71

Correspondence relating to the will of R.B. Smith. 1894-1913. 1 envelope. 72

Commission as a member of the Board of Governors of the Botanic Garden. 1896. 1 page. 73

Notes on the measurement of oaks on the property of R.B. Smith and other Mt. Barker district properties. not dated. c.1911, 2 pages. 74

Detailed statement of liabilities and assets of the estate of Philip Levi and Co. 9 March 1869. 8 pages. 75
Notes by G.D. Young relating to the discovery of the Moonta Mine.  
1863. 1 cm.  

Correspondence relating to a dispute over the estate of Austin.  
1882. 1 cm.  

Private accounts [of P. Maurice?] relating to properties leased and stock.  
c.1883. 1 volume.  
[Contains extracts from various balance sheets and statistics covering the period 1859-1882.]  

Elder Smith and Co.  
Deeds and correspondence relating to loans advanced and shares and mortgages held by Elder, Smith and Co. Numbered files 19-712 (in complete). 2.75 m.  
[See Special list (not yet complied); also see series 36.]  

Hart, Elder and Stockley.  
Title deeds, copies of grants, leases conveyances and abstracts of titles.  
1839-1858 26 items.  

Deeds relating to the estate of William Stanhope Stockley.  
1853-1855. 3 items.  

Deeds relating to conveyances and declarations of trust within the Hart, Elder and Stockley partnership.  
1853-94. 9 items.  

Correspondence, notes, accounts, plans and valuations relating to the re-sale, resumption, lease and use of allotments owned by Hart, Elder and Stockley, mostly dealing with land at Birkenhead and North Birkenhead, and town acres 230 and 231.  
1851 -1918. 20 cm.  
[Includes 7 plans, viz part section 2012, Hd. Pt. Adelaide (1902, 1907, 1912, 1917), town acres 230-231 (1876) and suburbs of Birkenhead and North Birkenhead (undated).] Part Outsize 6
Minutes of meetings of the Committee of management of the John Abel Smith lands (subsequently, Trustees of Hart, Elder and Stockley). 1874 -1918. 1 volume.

Rough minutes of ditto. 1875-1918.

Letter book of ditto. 1874-1917. 1 volume

Cash book of ditto. 1851-1875. 1 volume

Sales book of ditto. 1851-1908, lv. and enclosures.

Hart and Elder in account current with the estate of Hart, Elder and Stockley. 1851-1908. lv.

Hart and Elder. Register of bills receivable. 1851-1857. lv.

Hart and Elder. Bank passbooks (Union Bank). 1851-1859. 2 items.

Photographs collected by Joanna Barr Smith (Mrs. G.C. Hawker), including family photographs, views of Adelaide and South Australia (many by Capt. Sweet), “Auchendarroch” (Mt. Barker) and Bungaree homestead. c.1870-1900. See special list for details.

Letters received by various family members ca.1900. 0.5 cm. Includes letters to Erlistoun Mitchell, Joanna Thompson and Robert Barr Smith.

Diary of Nan Mitchell kept as a nine year old child. 1880. 0.5 cm.

Class papers written by Erlistoun Barr Smith. 1880. 1 cm.

Notebook of Erlistoun Barr Smith. 1880. 1 cm. The first page carries the title ‘The sermon in the hospital’ and is followed by pages of text laid out in poetry format.

Photographs of Barr Smith houses ca.1981. 1 cm. Includes notes relating to St Clair House, Torrens Park and Birksgate.