

John Livingston (the first) was born in Oban, Scotland in 1823, into a significant Scottish family whose bloodline was established in the 11th Century. Immigrating to Australia in 1843, Livingston formed a close friendship with Duncan McCallum, with whom he acquired Curratum, 40 square miles of pastoral land 20 miles west of Mount Gambier.

In 1851 McCallum and Livingston divided the property, with Livingston retaining the eastern half, the station and the name Curratum meaning 'crooked tree'.

To stock Curratum, Livingston journeyed to New South Wales to purchase 500 cows, 20 mares and a stallion. Herding them back to South Australia they had to cross the Murray in flood, the whole journey taking 6 months.

Such was Livingston's pioneering spirit, which was also matched by his civic-mindedness. He donated the land on which Mount Gambier's first Presbyterian Church was built. He also brought a tutor, Mr A.M. Riddock, from Scotland to establish a school at Curratum for his own and neighbouring children.

In 1851 John Livingston (the first) married Catherine Steele, also from Scotland, and they had seven sons and seven daughters. He died in 1886, aged 68, on Ardno Station in Victoria, but his body was brought back to Mount Gambier to be buried.

John Livingston (the second) was born at Curratum in 1856. He was to become one of Mount Gambier's outstanding civic leaders, becoming Mayor in 1899, also in that year being elected to the State House of Assembly.

In 1906 he resigned this seat to succeed Sir Langdon Bonython in the seat of Barker in the Commonwealth Government. In 1911 he was one of the Australian delegates to the coronation of King George V.

In Mount Gambier, John Livingston (the second) was President of the Stock Owners Association, the Farmers and Producers Union and the Caledonian Society. Among his business triumphs was shipping the first frozen lambs from South Australia to London.

He married Eliza Dunn Paltridge of Mount Gambier, daughter of Mr William Paltridge and grand-daughter of John Dunn of Mount Barker.

In the latter years of his life he visited the United States and was so impressed with the growth of the pine forests in California he became one of the founders of the original pine plantations in the south-east. Upon his death these plantations were vigorously pursued by the remainder of the family. John Livingston (the second) died in 1935, leaving seven children – 2 sons, John (the third) and Frank, and 5 daughters.

John and Frank were educated at St Peters College in Adelaide, and then commenced law and medical degrees, respectively, but were unable to complete them as they were required back on the family property. The Livingston brothers became yachting legends. They first entered the Sydney to Hobart in Kurrewa III in 1946, and set a course record in Kurrewa IV in 1957 (Kurrewa is an Aboriginal word meaning 'fast swimming fish'). In 1948 they won the trans-Tasman Auckland to Sydney race and in 1949 they were the first Australians to race in the Los Angeles to Honolulu classic. For the latter, their round trip from Melbourne to compete and then return took six months – comparable with their grandfather's ride to Sydney to stock Curratum.

In 1963 they commissioned Kurrewa V to be built in Britain, a 12 metre yacht which they donated to the British challenge for the 1964 America's Cup. This gift, worth (then) \$150 000, saw John and Frank become the first men in history outside Britain to be elected to the Royal Yacht Club. As it turned out, Kurrewa V narrowly failed to win the right to challenge against Sovereign, which was of course subsequently defeated by the Americans.

In 1945, John Livingston (the third) acquired the homestead of Benara, originally part of a pastoral run owned by the South Australian Company and then Captain John Ellis, but since sub-divided and now a homestead within the town of Mount Gambier.

John and Frank were inseparable, fun-loving brothers who were described when well into middle-age as 'still 21 and always to be 21'. Their annual Melbourne Cup dinner parties at the Menzies in Melbourne were a major society event, and they enjoyed the company and confidence of the wealthy and the influential throughout Australia and overseas.

The standing in which the Livingstons were held is revealed in the personal telegram sent to John by Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, on the occasion of Frank's tragic death in a car accident in 1966.

Despite their travels and exploits around the world, John and Frank always equally enjoyed the simple pleasures like exploring the underground lake at Benara, and they continued the spirit of generosity and community contribution that the first John Livingston had begun in the early days (although they lived mostly at Toorak, in Melbourne). John Livingston III married in 1977 at the age of 74. The last member of the family was Mrs Wilhelmina Paltridge Ibbott who died in 1991 aged 97.

Letters received 1906-1966 3cm [Letters to John Livingston II, his wife Eliza Dunn Livingston and their sons John and Frank.]	<u>1</u>
Telegrams 1906 1cm [Received by John Livingston II on winning the Federal seat of Barker.]	<u>2</u>
Yacht diary 1949 3.5cm Manuscript and Typescript [1. Diary of Frank W Livingston 2 May – 23 October, 1949 Auckland – Fiji, including account of participation in Los Angeles to Honolulu yacht classic race of ' <i>Kurrewa III</i> ' (manuscript version, missing first part 19 April – 2 May 1949). 2. Typescript of above diary, 19 April 1949-23 October 1949), Williamstown, Melbourne – Fiji.]	<u>3</u>
Diary of Sydney to Hobart race 1955 (3 volumes) 1cm [Probably kept by Frank W Livingston, 26 December 1955 – 12 January 1956.]	<u>4</u>
Diaries of overseas trips 1960, 1962 (2 volumes) 1cm [1. 18 July 1960-12 August 1960, London and South Africa. Diary probably kept by Frank W Livingston. 2. 11 August 1962-9 September 1962, London only. (This was the year before the Livingston brothers commissioned their new yacht ' <i>Kurrewa V</i> ' as a contender for the British entry in the 1964 America's Cup).]	<u>5</u>
Wool and stock book 1917-1918 0.5cm [Records sheep sold, sheep shorn, sales of wool at ' <i>Curratum</i> ', west of Mount Gambier. Entries mostly in handwriting of John Livingston II.]	<u>6</u>

Certificates	<u>7</u>
1906-1942 0.5cm	
[1. Mount Gambier Caledonian Society Music, Education and Literary Competition awarded to Emmie (Emily) Livingston, October 1906.	
2. Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of South Australia, Lodge 35 admission of John Livingston, 6 December 1915.	
3. University of Adelaide Public Examinations Board Senior Examination, passed by John Malcolm Livingston 1918-1919.	
4. University of Melbourne Matriculation Certificate of Frank William Livingston, April 1920.	
5. Girl Guides Commissioner's Warrant for Catherine Livingston.	
6. Certificate of appointment as Captain in the Permanent Military Forces for Frank William Livingston, 9 January 1942.	
7. Formal letter of introduction in name of Frank William Livingston, used on business trip in United Kingdom, Europe, United States and Canada, 10 September 1948.]	
Scrapbook	<u>8</u>
1901-1972	
[Newspaper cuttings, photographs and invitations relating to John Livingston II and his family. Included is a cutting of the arrival of the Livingston brothers' 'Kurrewa III' at Sydney 4 February 1948 in the trans-Tasman ocean yacht race.]	
Invitations	<u>9</u>
1911, nd. 1 cm Printed	
[Invitations to John Livingston II during his visit to England as a Commonwealth Delegate to the coronation of George V.]	
Menus	<u>10</u>
1911 3cm Printed	
[Luncheon and dinner menus from the 1911 tour by John Livingston II as Commonwealth delegate.]	
Seating plan	<u>11</u>
1911 Outsize. Printed.	
[Plan of tables for the Luncheon of Welcome to the Representatives of the Dominion Parliaments, Westminster Hall, 19 June 1911. John Livingston II was at table 30. See photograph of this occasion in Series 25.]	

Programmes	<u>12</u>
1911,1919,1942 0.5cm [Various programmes for 1911 tour of United Kingdom (including Dublin); Grand Concert, Naracoorte, 29 December 1919; and Order of Service for Memorial Service held at El Alamein Cemetery, Egypt, 2 December 1942. L/Bdr. J.S. Poyntz, grandson of John Livingston II, was buried at Alamein.]	
Printed papers associated with 1911 Coronation	<u>13</u>
1911 2cm Printed [Carriage pass for arrival at Westminster Abbey, and orders of Service, 22 June 1911.]	
Papers relating to Empire Parliamentary Association	<u>14</u>
1911 0.5cm Printed [Conference papers used by John Livingston II June-July 1911, London.]	
How to vote Ticket	<u>15</u>
1906 [Liberal ticket for the Senate and House of Representatives Elections for Seat of Barker. John Livingston II was MHR candidate.]	
Plan of pastoral runs in 1851, South-East	<u>16</u>
nd [Shows Lease 191 (20sq miles) held by John Livingston I (' <i>Carratum</i> '); Lease 190 (20 sq. miles) held by Duncan McCallum; and Lease 186 (159 sq.miles) held by Captain John Ellis (' <i>Benara</i> ') later acquired by John Livingston III in 1945]	
Handbill	<u>17</u>
1945 Printed [Moorak Settlers' Picnic held at ' <i>Benara</i> ' Homestead, home of Livingston Brothers (J.M. & F.W.) 13 October 1945.]	
Questionnaire	<u>18</u>
nd. [For ' <i>Prominent Australians</i> ' Publishing Company entry for John Livingston II.]	

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- Booklet: '*Three Australians Abroad*' 19
1912 0.5cm Printed
[Published in Mount Gambier 1912 as an account of trip away to the United Kingdom and Europe by John Livingston II, Federal Member for Barker, his brother Duncan Livingston of '*Burrandown*' Station, NSW, and Mr John Thomson, Federal member for Cooper (NSW), as Commonwealth delegates to the coronation in 1911.]
- Papers relating to the 1964 America's Cup Challenge. 20
[Two letters from HRH Prince Phillip, Duke of Edinburgh, 17 January 1962, and telegram, 1964, to the Livingston brothers; Warrant of 31 March 1964 authorising use of White Ensign on board the Livingston brothers' yacht '*Kurrewa V*'. The Livingstons were members of the Royal Yacht Squadron. The warrant gives details of the description of '*Kurrewa V*'. Letter dated 13 April [no year] from H.M. Yacht '*Britannia*' at Portsmouth, Hampshire, from 'Joe'.]
- Magazine: '*Seacraft*' 21
1949 0.5 Printed
[September 1949, Vol. 6, No.3, with article pp 174-177, 214 'In '*Kurrewa*' to Honolulu'. See Series 3 for diary of the journey by Frank W Livingston,] and photographs in Series 25.
- Artworks 22
ca.1900-1951
[Purchased from Livingston estate, 1992. The works have been photographed.
1. Still Life by L.E. ('*Emmy*') Livingston, 1911, 30cm x 45 cm (oils)
2. Caricature of John Livingston II by Will (William Henry) Dyson, (pencil and wash)
3. Portrait of Eliza Dunn Livingston by John Thomas Nightingale Rowell, 4 December, 1942 35cm x 29cm (oils). (Major study for larger portrait by Rowell.)
4. Sketch in pastel of seated man, attributed to J. T. N. Rowell.
5. Portrait of John M Livingston III by Beryl McFarlane, 64cm x 54cm, (oils).
6. Sketch of John M Livingston III by Caroline, Duchess of Leeds, with inscription '*To John from Caroline Leeds*', 64cm x 54cm (charcoal).
7. Painting of '*Kurrewa*' yacht by John M Livingston III, 1951, 30cm x 22cm.
8. Silhouette of Eliza Dunn Livingston by John Livingston III, 190?, 30cm x 40cm (oils).]

Sound Recording	<u>23</u>
1950 28 mins Audiocassette. [Speech for the Royal Empire Society by Frank and John Livingston, 6 December 1951. Made on 4 78rpm discs. (Housed with Oral History Collections. Programme note housed separately).]	
Photograph Albums	<u>24</u>
ca. 1911-1936 2 volumes. [1. Collection of Livingston family photographs, no names. 2. First Mount Gambier Girl Guide Company Camp, Beachlands, January 1930; Duke of Gloucester's visit to Portland, November 1934; Easter Weekend at Port MacDonnell 1935; Easter 1936 at Lighthouse with Mr J Livingston and Mrs Houston; dedication of Girl Guide Company Colours; other guiding activities.]	
Photographs	<u>25</u>
ca. 1900-1965 4cms [Photographs of Livingston family, south east properties, Girl Guides, yachting, the 1911 Dominion luncheon in Westminster Hall, London, racing and various Mount Gambier subjects.]	
Journal of Girl Guide Camps	<u>26</u>
1925, 1933 0.5cm Manuscript and Photoprint. [Journal of Emmy or Catherine Livingston of 1. 1 st camp of Mount Gambier guides held at Piccaninny Springs, January 1925 with 12 photographs 2. Camp at Port MacDonnell, Easter, 13 April – 17 April 1933, with 3 photographs.]	
Newspaper cuttings relating to Frank W Livingston	<u>27</u>
1945-1966 0.5cm [Newspaper reports of the Livingston brothers' racing interests, the Tasman yacht race, Sydney to Hobart race, the 1964 British contender ' <i>Kurrewa V</i> ' for the America's Cup, and F.W. Livingston's death in Melbourne, 20 July 1966.]	
Newspaper cuttings relating to John Livingston II	<u>28</u>
1911, 1935 [<i>'Eastern Daily Press'</i> , Norwich, 30 June 1911 and 3 obituaries, September 1935.]	

Marriage certificate 1884 Photocopy. [John Livingston married Eliza Dunn Paltridge at Mount Gambier, 11 June 1884.]	<u>29</u>
Entries from Livingston family bible. 1852-1888 Photocopy.	<u>30</u>