

Acc.13214
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Inventory

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Papers of Adam Elder, Emigrant to Australia

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Papers, 1902-1927, of Adam Elder (1879 - ?), emigrant to Australia. Adam Elder was born in Hawick, Scotland, in 1879. After serving an apprenticeship to the joiner trade, he moved to Glasgow where he acquired significant knowledge of building construction and trained in sanitary science. In 1903 he was appointed Assistant Sanitary Inspector of the Burgh of Port Glasgow and in 1906 he became Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Cleansing for the same authority. Adam Elder emigrated to Western Australia in 1909. He became a farmer in Moulynning and played a leading role in the community. In 1916 he was appointed Justice of the Peace for the Katanning district, Western Australia.

The papers consist of reference letters from various employers, academic certificates, certificate of his appointment as Justice of the Peace signed by the Secretary to the Premier of Western Australia and a farm accounts book.

The papers were found in the house of James Hunter Elder in Geraldton, Western Australia, and donated to the Heritage Services section of Geraldton Library, which subsequently transferred them to the Department of Manuscripts at the National Library of Scotland.

Presented 2010

1. Reference (copy) from Rv. John McLean, Pastor of Victoria Pl. Baptist Church, n.d.
2. Glasgow and West of Scotland Technical College, evening class academic awards, 1902-1904.
3. Copies of evening class academic awards, 1902-1904, with copies of several letters, 1903-1909, from Glasgow Town Clerk praising Elder's role in the smallpox epidemic of 1904, and regretting his resignation from the post of Sanitary Inspector as a result of his intention to emigrate to Australia.
4. The Incorporated Sanitary Association of Scotland, Certificate of competency in Sanitary Science, 1903, issued to Adam Elder, with copies of other academic awards, 1902-1905, and copies of reference letters from various officers of the Health Department of the Town Council of Port Glasgow, 1909.
5. Two issues of 'The County and Municipal Record', 28 May 1907, including a biography of Adam Elder, pp.153-154.
6. Reference letter (copy) from Hunter & Marshall, Wrights and Builders, June 1908.

7. Letter from Andrew Paton, Town Clerk of the Burgh of Port Glasgow, acknowledging Adam Elder's resignation from his post as Sanitary Inspector and wishing him well, 11 January 1909.
8. Reference letter from Dr Fred Dittman, Medical Inspector under the Local Government Board for Scotland, 18 February 1909.
9. Reference letter (incomplete) from A. Campbell Munro, Health Department Port Glasgow, 22 February 1909.
10. Reference letter from William Fyfe, Provost, and Andrew Paton, Town Clerk at Port Glasgow, 25 February 1909.
11. Reference letter from David McGeoch, Burgh Veterinary Inspector, Paisley, 19 February 1909.
12. Justice of the Peace certificate for the Katanning district, Western Australia, 17 August 1916.
13. 'The Automatic Income Tax compiler', Farm accounts book, 1921-1922.
14. Certificate about State's greatest wheat yield (1924-1926) to Mr A. Elder, Moulyinning, Western Australia, 5 October 1927.
15. Printout of genealogical and historical notes on Adam Elder from Joan Timperley's book *Beyond the Fence: a History of Kukerin, Moulyinning and Nearby Communities*, 1996.