



Gibson and Sons Tannery Records

Accession number R 54

Author / Creator

William Gibson & Sons.

Scope and content The collection is mostly comprised of business records relating to William Gibson & Sons. The collection spans the early 1900s to 1983 and includes correspondence, financial, taxation, payroll and shipping records, as well as research reports, regulations, machinery catalogues, insurance registers and a leather sample issued by Department of the Army. The collection also contains personal papers of the Gibson family, including birth, death and marriage certificates.

Description 36 boxes

Administrative / Biographical history William Gibson (1860-1939) was born in Scotland in 1860 and immigrated to Brisbane in 1885. He joined his brother Joseph Gibson (?-1939) in a tanning business, Gibson Bros., Stafford-on-Kedron. The site at Stafford was known as 'Scotia Works' and included a tannery and wool scour. In 1925, William Gibson & Sons was incorporated. A fire destroyed a significant portion of the tannery in 1927. In 1929, the firm purchased the Charleville Meatworks from the Queensland government. In 1932 William Gibson & Sons Pty Ltd registered as a private company. Joseph Gibson (1883-1965), one of William Gibson's sons, eventually took over the role of managing the company. William Gibson died in 1939. Other entities associated with the firm including Glenroy Wools, Everton Wools and Leighton. The firm was wound up voluntarily in 1983.

Access restrictions Unrestricted access.

Copyright status Multiple copyright statuses.

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Preferred citation

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Box 1: (1928-1972)

Unit ID R 54

Box number 1

Date 1928-1972

Scope and content

- Bentley's complete phrase code, compiled by E. L. Bentley (1928)
- Book containing code words for buying and selling different types of wool (1930?)
- State and federal income tax documents and auditor's report (1937-1937)
- Correspondence (1943-1972)

Description

Locate OMBOX Box 4672

Box 2: (1938-1982)

Unit ID R 54

Box number 2

Date 1938-1982

Scope and content

- Tanning Awards, arbitration rulings, payrates (1941-1948)
- Factory and shops registration No. 203 (1939-1982)
- Agenda and minutes of Annual General Meeting held 14 February 1972
- Catalogue for wool sales (1948, 1949, 1958)
- Queensland Statistics factory return documents for tannery (1938-1968) and wool scour (1938-1967)
- Tannery costs (1979-1982)
- Industrial matters before courts (1938-1939, 1950)
- Log of wages and conditions, Wool and Basil Workers' award
- List of director appointments (1964-1981)
- Workers compensation documents (1939-1976)

Description

Locate OMBOX Box 4673

Box 3: (1926-1978)

Unit ID R 54

Box number 3

Date 1926-1978

Scope and content

- 2 wages books (July 1946-June 1947 and July 1947-June 1948), with each page recording an employee's weekly earnings for a twelve month period, alphabetical employee list included at start of July 1947-June 1948 book
- Agreements(1936-1975):
 - Shipping agreements, Australian Overseas Transport association (1956-1958)
 - Lease agreement for office space in the Wool Exchange building, Eagle Street, Brisbane (1946)
 - Equipment hire - Golden Fleece Petroleum (1947)
 - Oil fuel contract - The Shell Company of Australia (1942)
 - Licence with Commonwealth of Australia to use land at Charleville Meat Works for the purposes of a Landing Ground (1938), includes plan of Landing Ground at Charleville
 - Lease agreement with Thomas Pritchard regarding land in Charleville (1936)
 - Wool symbol, Australian Wool Board and Australian Woolmark, Australian Wool Corporation, licence agreements (1967-1975)
 - Irrigation and water supply permits (1940-1978)
- Circulars from Chamber of Manufactures regarding Wool and Basil Workers' Federal Award, Fellmongering and Woolscouring Award (south-eastern division) (1941-1949)
- Federated Master Tanners' and Leather Manufacturers' Association of Australia, minimum rate of wages per week (1940-1945)
- Extracts from Queensland Government Gazette (1926-1946)
- Leather sample mounted on card: 'Department of the Army (Inspection Branch), specimen of leather indicating shade required for chrome tanned military kip for boots, ankle, brown'

Description

Locate OMBOX Box 4674

Box 4: (1940-1980)

Unit ID R 54

Box number 4

Date 1940-1980

Scope and content

- Plaque presented to Mr Joseph Gibson, Chairman of Directors by the staff of W.M. Gibson & Sons at a dinner held at the Bellevue Hotel on 29 April 1964 to mark his 68th year of employment with the company
- Letterhead proofs
- Correspondence resulting from overseas wool industry research trip to Hong Kong, Lebanon, England and Denmark (1959)
- Memorandum of association of Leighton Pty Ltd (1959)
- Administrative records:
 - Minutes of Meeting regarding the formation of Everton Wools (1959)
 - Agenda for adjourned annual general meeting of William Gibson & Sons (1970)
 - Glenroy Wools, partnership agreement (1960)
- Financial records:
 - Leighton Pty Ltd balance sheets and profit and loss accounts 1974
 - William Gibson & Sons Pty Ltd, balance sheet and statement of accounts (1969-1970)
 - Everton Wools balance sheets and profit and loss accounts (1975-1980)
 - Everton Wool financial records, mostly handwritten loose sheets (1970-1980)
 - Glenroy Wools balance sheets and profit and loss accounts (1978-1980)
- Schedule of maximum prices for sole leather goods, Office of the Commissioner of Prices, 1949-1958
- Survey of work procedures, typed loose pages:
 - Joshua Pitt Pty Ltd (1964)
 - Michaelis Hallenstein & Co (1964)
 - Vary Bros (1964)
 - Grange Tannery, Bermondsey (1958)
 - Richard Hodgson & Sons, Beverley (1958)
 - Thos. Holmes & Son, Hull (1958)
- Report of investigation into Tannery processes at W. Gibson & Sons by G.E. Cunningham (1960)
- Specifications and architectural drawings for amenities block at Stafford (1970)
- Property searches and contracts relating to Scotia Works (1978-1979)
- Papers relating to Stafford Light Leather Pty Ltd (1971-1972)
- Papers relating to water usage and waste treatment at Wool Scour and Tannery (1966-1971)
- Letter regarding wool partnerships, calculation of interests of the family groups (1958)
- Specifications for office building at Scotia Tannery by N.C. van R. Kool and F. Bruce Lucas, architects

List of directors appointments, one page typed (1964-1972)

- Correspondence relating to woolgrease exports (1979-1980)
- Correspondence relating to town plan objections and Brisbane City Council zoning for Stafford Road, Stafford (1974-1976)
- Specifications and architectural plans (office at Scotia works) by C.W.T Fulton and Jas. M. Collins Architects, 1957
- Circulars (bound), Queensland Chamber of Manufacturers (1940-1941)
- Booklet: The Wool Scourers, Carbonisers & Fellmongers Federation of Australia, constitution and rules (1942)
- Two typed loose pages: Minutes of meeting of The Wool Scourers, Carbonisers & Fellmongers Federation of Australia, Melbourne (1942)
- Master Tanners' Association file (1951-1952)
- Time and wages sheets, two typed pages, lists names (1946)

Description

Locate OMBOX Box 4675

Box 5: (1925-1983)

Unit ID R 54

Box number 5

Date 1925-1983

Scope and content

- Company accounts books:
 - Distribution of dividends, director's fees and bonuses, balance sheets, profit and loss accounts (1925-1943)
 - Cash accounts, share holdings, loan accounts, debentures held (1931-1944)
 - Company ledger (1980-1983)
- Minute book (1929-1982)
- Share register book (1925-1982)
- Report: Australia-India trade co-operation talks: fellmongery project, Department of Trade and Industry, Manufacturing Industries Division, Canberra. A.C.T. October, 1965 (includes sweating process procedure, cost analysis of fellmongery plant in India, architect's plans and 17 photographs by L & D Keen Photography):
 - baled sheepskins,
 - stacking skins in soaks
 - tramping of skins in soaks

- trimming of skins
- trapping of deburred matter
- front view of deburring machine
- view of deburring cylinder
- internal view of sweat house
- hanging of skins in sweat house
- stretching of skins in sweat house
- machine pulling operation
- sorting of slipe wool from pulling machine
- beam pulling
- shrinking of woollen skin pieces
- digestion of pieces
- centrifugal
- liming dolly

Description

Locate OMBOX Box 4676

Box 6: (1897?, 1930-1980)

Unit ID R 54

Box number 6

Date 1897?, 1930-1980

Scope and content

- Balance sheet and statement of account for William Gibson & Sons Pty. Ltd (1972-1980)
- Queensland National Bank Limited stock certificate (1897?)
- Tanner's Bond (1961)
- Valuation of Scotia Works, Stafford (1956, 1962)
- Scotia Wools - certificate of registration or renewal (1947-1970)
- Insurance papers (1949)
- Hide catalogues (1945-1946)
- Memorandum of association of Leighton Pty Ltd, incorporated on 7 May 1959
- Deed of settlement (1959)
- State and federal income tax returns (1930-1932)
- State and federal income tax returns (1933-1936)

Description

Locate OMBOX Box 4677

Box 7: (1925-1980)

Unit ID R 54

Box number 7

Date 1925-1980

Scope and content

- Unused William Gibson & Sons stationary including letterheads, telegrams
- Mechanical drawings, including roller, automatic boiler feed layout, hopper, conveyor drive system
- Everton Wools balance sheet and statement of accounts (1972-1980)
- Glenroy Wools balance sheet and profit and loss account (1972-1980)
- William Gibson & Sons balance sheet and statement of accounts (1972-1980)
- Insurance register (1965)
- Papers relating to shares owned in various companies by Mrs Margaret Stevens, including Australian Factors (Queensland), Barry & Roberts, Bundaberg Sugar, Broken Hill Proprietary, Carricks, Fleetways, ICI Australia, M.I.M, The National Bank of Australasia, Pioneer Concrete, Queensland Cement and Lime, Southern Electric Authority of Queensland, United Packages (Queensland Can Company), H. H. Webb & Company, Rothwells Outfitting (1953-1980)
- Correspondence between George Morris & Son, London and William Gibson & Sons regarding sales
- Correspondence from Dalgetty and Company regarding account sales (1932-1933)
- Wool invoices and payments (1936-1937)

Description

Locate OMBOX Box 4678

Box 8: (1915-1956)

Unit ID R 54

Box number 8

Date 1915-1956

Scope and content

Personal private ledger, William Gibson & Sons, Scotia Tannery (1915-1929)

- Ledger (1925-1935)
- Ledger (1952)
- Petty cash book (1941-1947)
- Cash book (1947-1956)

Description

Locate OMBOX Box 4679

Box 9: (1981)

Unit ID R 54

Box number 9

Date 1981

Scope and content

- Correspondence (business and sales letters)
- Correspondence (business and sales letters)
- Correspondence (equipment sales catalogues)
- 'Fur hides and skins , Italy, market prospects', Australian Trade Commission, 1981

Description

Locate OMBOX Box 4680

Box 10: (1942-1983)

Unit ID R 54

Box number 10

Date 1942-1983

Scope and content

- Bank statements (Commercial Banking Company of Sydney), (1976-1978)
- Account book (1970-1975)
- Record book (1981-1982) possibly listing weights of product shipped overseas
- Ledger: sales (1942-1943), wages (1966-1970) includes employee group certificates,

employer copy (1969)

- Journal private (accounts relating to the company directors, 1944-1983)
- General journal (1974-1983)

Description

Locate OMBOX Box 4681

Box 11: (1981)

Unit ID R 54

Box number 11

Date 1981

Scope and content

Correspondence 1981 (A-F)

Description

Locate OMBOX Box 4682

Box 12: (1902-1973)

Unit ID R 54

Box number 12

Date 1902-1973

Scope and content

- Official documents:
 - trademark registration (1913)
 - company registration (The Scotia Wool Scour, 1919)
 - passport (Joseph Gibson, 1964)
- Legal documents:
 - lease (1918)
 - agreements (1916, 1923)
- Tax records (Joseph Gibson, 1902, includes names of employees)
- Mortgage deeds (Charleville Meatworks 1929 ; 1947; 1948 ; 1963) ; dividend payments (1953-1972), stock transfer records (1950-1956)

Administrative records (1923-1973): minutes (mentions the formation of Everton Wools (1959) and Scotia Wool)

- Corporation documents: memorandum and articles of association of William Gibson & Sons Limited (1925)
- Register of mortgages, 1947-1948
- Stafford land subdivision records and maps (1952-1953),
- Drainage plans (Stafford, 1949)
- Photograph showing Joseph Gibson at a business meeting by Fred Bareham, Canberra
- Instructions for leather processing
- Insurance policy (1967)
- Agreement (1945)
- Contracts (1946, 1953)
- Powers of attorney:
 - Edith Rodger Gibson (1938)
 - Joseph Gibson (1954)
 - Joseph Randolph Gibson (1959)
 - Thelma Jean Gibson (1954)
 - Oswald Clyde Gibson (1951, 1955)
 - Patricia Mary MacDonald (1965)
- Probates:
 - William Gibson (1940)
 - Mary Gibson (1945)
 - Susan Russell Gibson (1952)
- Estate papers
 - William Gibson (1946)
 - Joseph Gibson (1967)
- Birth certificates
 - Oswald Clyde Gibson (1905)
 - Susan Mary Jean Gibson (1939)
- Marriage certificates:
 - Joseph Gibson and Bessie Phimister (1906)
 - Victor Gibson and Gwendoline Clark (1926)
- Death certificates:
 - Susan Russell Gibson (1952)
 - Oswald Clyde Gibson (1969)
- Property records (corner of Clifton and Vardon Streets, Windsor, 1929)
- Who's who in the Rotary Club of Fortitude Valley (1954)

Description

Locate OMBOX Box 4683

Box 13: (1947-1974)

Unit ID R 54

Box number 13

Date 1947-1974

Scope and content

- Stafford Light Leather Pty, Ltd
 - Share register (1969-1972)
 - Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts (1973)
 - Minute book (1969-1974)
- Balance sheets:
 - William Gibson & Sons (1950-1953)
 - Everton Wools (1952-1953)
 - Scotia Wools (1950-1953)
 - Glenroy Wools (1951-1953)
 - Bessie Gibson, Nora Gibson, Mavis Gibson, Mary Gibson, Madge Stevens (1950-1951)
- Debtors and creditors ledger: Scotia Wools (1947-1955)

Description

Locate OMBOX Box 4684

Box 14: (1981)

Unit ID R 54

Box number 14

Date 1981

Scope and content

- Correspondence 1981 (G-J)

Description

Locate OMBOX Box 4685

Box 15: (1914-1982)

Unit ID R 54

Box number 15

Date 1914-1982

Scope and content

- Stamp: mounted on a wooden base, has an image of a big cat (possibly a jaguar) and the words 'Cat Brand'
- Government records: Annual return of capital and shares, William Gibson & Sons (1932-1980).
- Legal documents:
 - Articles of partnership agreement, William Gibson & Sons (1915)
 - Partnership agreement, Scotia Wool Scouring Works (1918)
 - Certificate of Incorporation, William Gibson & Sons Limited (1925)
 - Certificate of registration of a private company, William Gibson & Sons Pty. Ltd. (1932)
 - Estate papers of Joseph Gibson (1968)
- Financial records: profit and loss, balance sheet (1914), typed page of leather and raw hide prices (1927-1928)
- Brisbane City Council plan, showing Lutwyche Road, Portion 191, County Stanley, Parish Enoggera (1954)
- Share mortgage documents, Anfrasa Investments and William Gibson & Sons (1980-1982)
- Financial papers: correspondence (1983), stock certificates (1971-1982)
- Book containing William Gibson & Sons share certificates, 1-100 (1925-1973)
- Inventory (stock) book, William Gibson & Sons (1914-1982)

Description

Locate OMBOX Box 4686

Box 16: (1926-1941)

Unit ID R 54

Box number 16

Date 1926-1941

Scope and content

Correspondence (1926-1929)

- Wages book, Brisbane, tannery and scour (1936-1941)
- Memorandum and Articles of Association of William Gibson & Sons Limited (1925)

Description

Locate OMBOX Box 4687

Box 17: (1937-1982)

Unit ID R 54

Box number 17

Date 1937-1982

Scope and content

- Office ledger, possibly wages book for office employees (1971-1982)
- Unused stationery, order forms, invoices and employee cards for William Gibson & Sons, Scotia Wools (1930?-1980?)
- Government records: Liquid Fuel control board, fuel licences (1940-1949)
- Research documents:
 - Report on bark, extract and bleach (1943)
 - Quick drum liming process for heavy hides
 - Tanning of wool-sheepskins with polytan only
 - Investigations into spenders
 - Methods of tanning using only Quebracho and mimosa (1943)
 - Solid neochest tanning extract, Bark extraction, (1945)
- Report: Cost accounting and stock control in the Australian tanning industry, by William G Watts (1944)
- Regulations: Hides and calfskins selling regulations (1937)
- Machinery quotation (1959)
- Estate papers of Dr L.W.N. Gibson (1938)
- Insurance register, William Gibson & Sons (1973)
- 15 photographs, including interior and exterior views of Kelsall & Kemp wool mill, Tasmania by Spurling Photo ; one photograph, portrait by W.T. Carter, Rochdale, England
- Valuations:
 - Valuation for Tannery and wool scours (1964)
 - Schedule of Insurance advices, document includes 12 colour photographs of buildings of William Gibson & Sons, Stafford Road, Stafford (1978)

Description

Locate OMBOX Box 4688

Box 18: (1969-1983)

Unit ID R 54

Box number 18

Date 1969-1983

Scope and content

- 'Australian Scoured Wool Types'. William Gibson and Sons Pty. Ltd. Brokers for Scotia Wools, Glenroy Wools, Everton Wools (name on inside cover of ring binder: A.R. Learoyd)
- Minutes of the meetings of directors of William Gibson & Sons Pty Ltd (1969-1983)
- Correspondence (1981)

Description

Locate OMBOX Box 4689

Box 19: (1925-1982)

Unit ID R 54

Box number 19

Box title [includes Box numbers 19-31]

Date 1925-1982

Scope and content

- Box 4690 O/S: General Ledger A-Z (1925?-1950?) lists items such as electricity, freight, fuel, salaries, vehicles, wages
- Box 4691 O/S: Ledger A-Z (1950?-1970?):
- Box 4692 O/S: Sundry creditors account book, A-L (1950?-1970?):
- Box 4693 O/S: Ledger A-Z (1950?-1980?):
- Box 4694 O/S: CWC weigh-in slips book (1939-1940)
- Box 4696 O/S: Ledger creditors, alphabetical, (1925?-1945?)
- Box 4697 O/S: 'Old debtors ledger sheets', alphabetical 1935-1970?
- Box 4698 O/S: Ledger, alphabetical (1977-1981?)
- Box 4699 O/S: 'W.G.&S. LTD. CRS.', M-Z (1965-1981?)

Box 4700 O/S: Ledger, alphabetical (1961?-1982)

- Box 4701 O/S: Sundry creditors account book, M-Z (1950?-1970?)
- Box 4702 O/S: 'W.G.&.S. LTD. CRS.' A-L (1965-1981?)
- Box 4703 O/S: Ledger, alphabetical (1975-1979)

Description

Locate OMOSBOX Box 4690 O/S-Box 4694 O/S ; Box 4695 O/S-Box 4703 O/S

Box 32: (1914?-1967)

Unit ID R 54

Box number 32

Date 1914?-1967

Scope and content

- William Gibson & Son's balance sheets and tax records (1940-1946) including tannery, scour and Charleville operations
- 'Abridged Table of limits fixed for appraisalment of Australian wool clip season 1945-1946', Commonwealth of Australia Central Wool Committee
- Poster: 'Live in the life of luxury with... Gayfleece by Gibson, pure lambswool accessories'
- 'Unionist prisoners : freedom without dishonor' photograph mounted on cardboard, relating to the 1891 shearers' strike, a portrait of 13 strike leaders, Barcaldine, 1893
- Christmas greeting card, 'Contentment (Australia)' illustrated by H. R. Ham
- 70 photographs (mostly black and white) and 2 postcards:
 - 4 photographs of equipment, including pumps, overhead skin and hide polishing wheel
 - 17 photographs, some with annotations, showing the fellmongery process by L & D Keen, Brisbane
 - 3 pages of strip prints (29 colour images) for 1967 Singapore exhibit by David McCarthy
 - One colour photograph of an exhibition booth at a trade fair, Singapore, 1967
 - 3 photographs of scour tubs, photographer, Fred Carew (Photos), Brisbane
 - 12 photographs after the tannery fire 1927-1928, some annotated
 - 2 postcards: Joe Gibson's first house near the tannery and Joe Gibson's house 'Scotia', 626 Lutwyche Rd Lutwyche.
 - Joe Gibson standing on the deck of a ship
 - Joe Gibson standing beside a motor vehicle
 - Interior of a factory at 'Burrenbilla, 3 miles from Cunamulla'

Portrait (description says not a Gibson according to Gibson family)

- Group portrait of the 'The Kedron Shire War & Patriotic Committee 1914-1918'.
- Group portrait with names of the Australian Bowling Council, Melbourne, 26 March 1946 by Allan Studios, Collingwood
- Portrait of Joe Gibson and Clem Jones
- 20 photographs relating to lawn bowling; including Coorparoo Bowls Club, group portraits of Queensland Bowling Association members, with many featuring Joe Gibson
- 2 portraits of Joe Gibson by Anthony Caton Studio
- Group portrait, possibly a school class group
- Buildings (possibly the tannery at Stafford, Brisbane),
- Interior of a chamber showing a meeting in progress

Description

Locate OMOSBOX Box 4704 O/S

Box 33: (1950)

Unit ID R 54

Box number 33

Date 1950

Scope and content

- Specifications of work to be performed and materials to be supplied in the erection of residences at Stafford, Brisbane for William Gibson & Sons Pty. Ltd. C. W. T. Fulton and A. H. Job and J. M. Collin architects in association, Albert Hall, Brisbane (1950)
- Plan of proposed new cottages at Stafford for William Gibson & Sons. C. W. T. Fulton and A. H. Job and J. M. Collin architects in association, Albert Hall, Brisbane (1950)

Description

Locate OMOSBOX Box 11506 O/S

Box 34: (1950)

Unit ID R 54

Box number 34

Date 1950

Scope and content

- Inventory and valuation of machinery and plant at tannery and woolscour. Messrs. WM. Gibson & Sons Pty. Ltd., Stafford, Brisbane. Josiah Beiers, chartered engineer, Brisbane (1950).

Description

Locate OMOSBOX Box 16924 O/S

Box 35: (1960)

Unit ID R 54

Box number 35

Date 1960

Scope and content

- Brisbane City Council Detail Plan No 1972, Stafford (1960)
- Copy of detail plan 1972? with pen markings (no date)
- Brisbane City Council Detail Plan No 1973, Stafford (1960)

Description

Locate OMOSBOX Box 21848 O/S

Box 36: (1918-1965)

Unit ID R 54

Box number 36

Date 1918-1965

Scope and content

- Architectural drawings:
 - William Gibson and Sons Tannery, 1945
 - Plan of proposed additions to wool scour for W. Gibson and Sons Pty Ltd at Stafford. C. W. T. Fulton, architect and A. H. Job and J. M. Collin associate architects, Albert

- Hall, Brisbane (1949)
- Proposed additional tannery building at Stafford for WM. Gibson & Sons Pty Ltd. C. W. T. Fulton, architect and A. H. Job and J. M. Collin architects in association, Albert Hall, Brisbane (1951)
- Plan of existing buildings to tannery section of Scotia Works Stafford for WM. Gibson & Sons Pty. Ltd., C. W. T. Fulton and A. H. Job and J. M. Collin assoc. architects, Albert Hall, Brisbane (1953)
- Layout of existing buildings, wool scour section of Scotia Works, Stafford, Brisbane. C. W. T. Fulton and J. M. Collin architects, Spring Hill, Brisbane (1961)
- 'Proposed fellmongery in India', by Edward F. Devenport, Tarragindi, Brisbane (1965)
- Technical drawings:
 - Automatic tanning machine, Edward Wilson & Sons Engineers, Bootle Liverpool (1918)
 - List of parts, Edward Wilson & Sons Engineers, Bootle Liverpool (1918)
 - Assembly of tanning drum, Waugh & Josephson Pty Ltd Engineers, Brisbane (1941)
 - Trunnion - bearing and pedestal for drums (1961)
 - Wiring circuit, wool grease recovery plant

Description

Locate MAPCABINET 4C/39-A17