
D. & J. FOWLER (AUSTRALIA) LTD.

BRG 14
Series List

The business was founded as a retail establishment by David Fowler in 1854. A cost and price book for 1857-62 documents the rapid expansion of the business, which became a leading wholesale and indenting firm in South Australia. By the 1880's, in addition to D. & J. Fowler's London Office (6 East India Avenue, E.C.), there was also a branch of the firm at Fremantle. The importation of a wide variety of foodstuffs was balanced by the export of such staple items as wool, wheat and flour, wine, meat, butter, copper, copper ore, bark, etc.

Series 15 (Letters received, 1884-88) in itself has considerable interest for the social history of South Australia. Amongst those who supplied themselves from D. & J. Fowler's were some of the Murray River traders - Joseph Maultby of the *S.S. Hero*, Andrew Willcock of the *S.S. Tolarno*, J. Bickers of the *Annie Brown*, and Thomas Burta of the *Emily Jane*. The records of sales in the name of James Pickford of Port Darwin are a sidelight on the history of Northern Territory development. At this period there was also a relatively high volume of trade with Broken Hill (Murton & Buck, G. Kraft & Co., and others), and with Birdsville (Percy, Burt & Co., R. Frew, and possibly others). 'Send tobacco for Burt by train immediately. Camels waiting', reads one telegram from Hergott Springs.

The same series includes a letter of 1886 from Dr. John Riccardo Stephens, later a well-known resident of Gumeracha, at that time a stockowner near Hallett. The firm and its customers extensively used the electric telegraph for quick communication. Correspondence with Reuter's Telegram Company, situated at the Exchange, Adelaide, helps to illustrate the procedure followed by Reuter's in the 1880's.

The firm's interests and holdings were extensive and varied: they included the Adelaide Milling Company (purchased in 1895), the Robur Tea Company (purchased in 1931) and its subsidiary the Oriental Tea Company, Adelaide Bottle Company (1912), Waltons Ltd. (1931), to name but a few.

In 1982-83 D. & J. Fowler Ltd. was taken over by the Adelaide-based Southern Farmers Ltd.

The principal records of D. & J. Fowler were transferred to the Archives in December 1983.

Material relating specifically to history of the firm is contained in Series 72.

For records of the Fowler family see PRG 34.

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Series List

(a) Items formerly classified as D3813

Balance sheets (three-and-six-monthly). 1865-78. 1 vol.	<u>1</u>
Balance sheets (varying: periods) 1861-67. 1 vol. (Also contains copy of Agreement between David Fowler and George Swan Fowler to enter into partnership to carry on business of D & J. Fowler [1860] and statements of George Fowler in account with D. & J. Fowler, 1860-64.) See also series 146	<u>2</u>
Indenture between T.C. Bray and W. Main relating to lease of premises in King William Street, part of Acre 108. 22 November 1854. 1 item.	<u>3</u>
Indenture between William Crane and David and James Fowler relating to lease of piece of land in King William Street, part of Acre 108. 24 October 1857. 1 item.	<u>4</u>

Indenture between W.D. Scott, D.W. Scott, R.J. Scott and James Scott and David and George Swan Fowler relating to lease of warehouse and premises at McLaren Wharf, Port Adelaide. 27 February 1875. 1 item.	<u>5</u>
Memorandum of Agreement between David Fowler and George Swan Fowler, relating to partnership arrangements and disposition of assets in the event of the death of either partner 22 April 1869. 1 item.	<u>6</u>
Printed specimens of forms of applications for preference shares and for debenture stock. 1899.	<u>7</u>
Statements of physical check of stock holdings at 26 February 1864. 1 item.	<u>8</u>
Printed circulars relating to restricted terms of credit to be introduced by wholesale grocers in Adelaide. 1866.	<u>9</u>
(b) Items transferred from D. & J. Fowler in 1964	
Stock and price book. 1857-62. 1 vol.	<u>10</u>
Daily sales accounts. 1865-70. 3 vols.	<u>11</u>
Ledger. 1868-73. 1 vol.	<u>12</u>
Journal of accounts (chiefly for confectionery) 1872-73. 1 vol.	<u>13</u>
Register of customers, with recommendations respecting each account. 1871-1900. 1 vol. (A similar list for W.A. customers, dated 1895, appears in Series 25.)	<u>14</u>
Day book of timber sales, sales of sundry merchandise, and details of coastal shipments. 1874-75. 1 vol.	<u>15</u>
Guardbook of letters received and pressed copies of letters sent. 1877. 1 vol.	<u>16</u>
Guardbook of shipping invoices and bills of lading (chiefly in respect of consignments between the London and Adelaide offices of D. & J. Fowler, but includes some invoices for Hong Kong and Singapore.) 1877. 1 vol. (Some local receipts of 1884 are interfiled between the leaves of the volume.)	<u>17</u>
Guardbooks of grocery and hardware orders executed. Jan. - May 1878 and Sep. - Oct. 1880. 2 vols.	<u>18</u>

Import-export ledger. 1881-85. 1 vol.	<u>19</u>
Import book. 1881-82. 1 vol.	<u>20</u>
Account Book with F. Richards and Son for coffee, spices, etc. April -Aug. 1882. 1 vol.	<u>21</u>
Contract notes for goods sold. Jan.1882 - July 1883 and July – December 1887. 10 cm.	<u>22</u>
Invoices 1883-87 (with gaps). 30 cm.	<u>23</u>
Letters received. 1884-88. 90 cm	<u>24</u>
Letters received from Western Australia. 1882-1900 (with gaps). 30 cm.	<u>25</u>
Letters received from Melbourne. 1885-85. (with gaps). 30 cm.	<u>26</u>
Letters received from the Riverina Nov. 1884 - May 1885. 5 cm.	<u>27</u>
Receipt book for goods delivered, with customers' signatures. Butts only. Jan. - Feb. 1886 and May - Aug. 1886. 2 vols.	<u>28</u>
Receipt book for goods dispatched to customers. Butts only. Nov.-Dec. 1886. 1 vol.	<u>29</u>
Views of King William Street and of D. & J. Fowler's premises. ca.1867- 1875. 2 views.	<u>30</u>
Portrait photographs of persons connected with the firm. ca.1930. 6 photographs	<u>31</u>
Photographic reproductions of early drawings of Adelaide and Port Adelaide.1837-48. 6 views.	<u>32</u>
Trade circulars received (chiefly from Ceylon tea exporters). Printed. 1883-87. 7 cm.	<u>33</u>
The Australasian Trade Review. Printed Jan. - Dec. 1887 (completed) 13 issues.	<u>34</u>
(c) Additional records of D. & J. Fowler received in 1983	
(i) Records relating chiefly to the company's London affairs.	
Minutes of the London Board of Directors.1917-67. 2 vols	<u>35</u>

Minutes of the London Sealing Committee.1968-74. 1 vol.	<u>36</u>
Correspondence with the London Office.1977-82. 15cm.	<u>37</u>
Correspondence with Uitec-Partridge-Fowler Ltd.1972-81. 3cm.	<u>38</u>
Memorandum and Articles of Association of Uitec- Partridge-Fowler Ltd. 1957, 1975. 2 items.	<u>39</u>
Records of shares transferred from the London register [to the Colonial register.] 1902-32. 2cm.	<u>40</u>
London accounts. 1926-36. 15cm.	<u>41</u>
(ii) Records relating chiefly to the Company's Adelaide affairs.	
Minutes of the Local Board of Directors.1899-1978. 50cm.	<u>42</u>
Directors' annual reports and statement of accounts. 1968-79. 6cm.	<u>43</u>
Reports to and from Directors.1969-72. 3cm.	<u>44</u>
Reports sent to the Board by the Managing Director. 1971-75. 13cm.	<u>45</u>
Correspondence and associated papers relating to Board meetings. 1970-71. 1cm.	<u>46</u>
Directors' confidential correspondence.1969. 1 folder.	<u>47</u>
Correspondence and other papers relating to taxation returns.1901-07, 1934-40, 1967 -1970. 5cm.	<u>48</u>
Correspondence relating to mortgages on company properties.1879-98. 1cm.	<u>49</u>
Letters sent by the company secretary (copies). 1884-95. 1 vol. Manuscript and typescript carbon.	<u>50</u>
Colonial register of shareholders and stockholders. 1899-1971. 7 vols.	<u>51</u>
Colonial register of share certificates.1899-1943. 12 vols.	<u>52</u>
Share transfer journals. 1899-1974. 8 vols.	<u>53</u>
Register of transfers.1928-76. 1 vol.	<u>54</u>
Register of dividends paid to shareholders.1964-73. 1 vol.	<u>55</u>

Register of freehold properties.1958. 1 vol.	<u>56</u>
Papers relating principally to the management of the company's properties and interests. 1943-57. 1 vol. Includes lists of employees and shareholders of company's controlled by D., & J. Fowler Ltd., financial reports, notes and press cuttings on taxation, stocks, properties, investments, Directors' fees and remuneration, and advertising.	<u>57</u>
Stocks and shares conversion certificates.1947. 1cm.	<u>58</u>
Miscellaneous share certificates and associated papers.1962-82. 1cm.	<u>59</u>
Papers relating to employees of D. & J. Fowler Ltd. 1880-1900, 1912, 1942. 3cm. See also series 72.	<u>60</u>
Inventory of furniture, machinery, movable plant. 1907. 1cm.	<u>61</u>
Documents relating to incorporation of D. & J. Fowler Ltd. and associated companies. 1897-1980. 15cm. Comprises mainly certificates of incorporation together with the Memorandum and Articles of Association of D. & J. Fowler Ltd. and the company prospectus.	<u>62</u>
Miscellaneous deeds, mortgages, indentures and legal agreements.1876-1978. 30cm.	<u>63</u>
Wages books.1906 – 1973 4 vols.	<u>64</u>
Correspondence and other papers relating to auditing of the company's accounts. 1901-38. 15cm. Includes statements of accounts, 1935-38, audit notebook, 1911-1930 and sundry papers relating to accounts of the Lion Steam Confectionery Company, 1901-02.	<u>65</u>
Balance sheets.1899-1936. 30cm.	<u>66</u>
Australian accounts.1910-48. 1 metre. Comprises statements forwarded to the Board of Directors on trading accounts, profit and loss accounts, assets and liabilities, investments.	<u>67</u>

Ledgers 1900 – 1975 9 vols Includes summary accounts, wages and salaries, trade charges, debenture interest, general assets and liabilities, schedules of profit and loss items, Adelaide, Fremantle and London.	<u>68</u>
Memorandum presented to George Swan Fowler, by employees on the occasion of his departure on a visit to England. 1889. 1 item.	<u>69</u>
Records relating to the George Swan Fowler Memorial Fund. 1889-1925. 0.75m. See special list.	<u>70</u>
Press cuttings. 1958-76. 1 vol.	<u>71</u>
Papers relating to the history of D. & J. Fowler Ltd. 1856-1980. 1 folder. Includes list of employees 1914 -1919, description of the Lion Factory ca.1890, notes on the London Office 1854-1954, memoir of George Swan Fowler, and certificates of title and incorporation.	<u>72</u>
Photographs of company properties, machinery and staff (Adelaide and Fremantle). ca. 1928-46. 54 items. See special list	<u>73</u>
Sketch of the loading bay at D. & J. Fowler Ltd. [Lion?] factory. 1908. 1 item.	<u>74</u>
Plans and associated papers relating to the company's estates and holdings. 1896-98. 3cm.	<u>75</u>
(iii) Records relating chiefly to the company's West Australian affairs.	
Letters sent by the firm of Murray and Fowler Ltd. Perth (Copies). 1892-96. 1 vol. Manuscript and typescript carbon [marked 'Adelaide Estate Letter Book'].	<u>76</u>
Letters sent by D. & W. Murray Ltd., Perth, to Murray and Fowler Ltd., Adelaide, (copies). 1898-1912. 2 cm. Typescript carbon.	<u>77</u>
Correspondence relating to West Australian land interests. 1895-98. 8cm.	<u>78</u>
Correspondence with the Fremantle office of D. & J. Fowler Ltd. 1977-79. 15cm.	<u>79</u>

Agreements and other documents of David Murray. c.1896. 2cm.	<u>80</u>
Cash book.1887-97. 1 vol.	<u>81</u>
Accounts of Murray & Fowler Ltd.1892-1909. 4cm.	<u>82</u>
Map of the Adelaide and Hall Estates, Western Australia. n.d. [c.1898]. 1 item.	<u>83</u>
(iv) Records relating to the Oriental and Robur Tea Companies Ltd.	
Minutes of the Board of Directors of the Oriental Tea Company Ltd. (with balance sheets).1918-78. 5 vols.	<u>84</u>
Minutes of the Board of Directors of the Robur Tea Company Ltd.1928-70, 11 vols.	<u>85</u>
Minutes of shareholders of the Oriental Tea Company Ltd.1917-42. 1 vol.	<u>86</u>
Register of Directors' shareholdings in the Oriental Tea Company Ltd.1968-74. 1 folder.Includes register of Directors, Managers, and Secretaries.	<u>87</u>
Register of share certificates, Oriental Tea Company Ltd.1929-70. 1 vol.	<u>88</u>
Register of share certificates, Robur TeaCompany Ltd.1928-80. 2 vols	<u>89</u>
Balance sheets of the Robur Tea Company Ltd.1929-35, 1973-74. 4cm.	<u>90</u>
Share and transfer register of the OrientalTea Company Ltd.1920-70.	<u>91</u>
Memorandum and Articles of Association.1899, 1928, 4.items. Printed.	<u>92</u>
(v) Records relating to the Adelaide Milling Company Ltd.	
Minutes of Directors of the Adelaide Milling and Mercantile Company Ltd. 1882-1974. 8 vols	<u>93</u>
Letters sent (copies).1898-1907. 1 vol. Manuscript carbon.	<u>94</u>

Directors' reports and balance sheets.1923-71. 3cm. Printed.	<u>95</u>
Register of share transfers.1946-75. 1cm.	<u>96</u>
Register of share certificates.1935-82. 1 vol.	<u>97</u>
Memorandum and Articles of Association (Adelaide Milling Company Ltd. and Adelaide City Mills Ltd.).1894, 1980. 3 items.	<u>98</u>
Certificate presented to the Adelaide Milling Company Ltd. at the British Empire Exhibition. 1924. 2 items.	<u>99</u>
(vi) Records relating to Oldfield and Michelmore's Bakeries Ltd.	
Minutes of Directors of Oldfield Investments Ltd.1947-69. 1 vol.	<u>100</u>
Directors' reports, minutes and other papers relating to Oldfield's Bakery Ltd. 1970-74. 6cm.	<u>101</u>
Memorandum and Articles of Association of Oldfield Investments Ltd.1963. 1 item.	<u>102</u>
Documents relating to the purchase of Michelmore's Bakery Ltd.1972. 1 cm.	<u>103</u>
Shareholders and Directors' register. 1963-72. 2 vols. Includes Shareholders and Directors' minutes, register of Directors' share-holdings, register of shares and charges, and register of transfers.	<u>104</u>
(vii) Records relating to other companies associated with D. & J. Fowler Ltd.	
Transfer journal and share ledger of the Waverly Sutherland Vinegar Company Ltd.1931-80. 1 vol.	<u>105</u>
Legal papers relating to Uldjo-Sandford Company Ltd.1902. 1cm.	<u>106</u>
(d) Additional records of D. & J. Fowler Ltd. received in 1984	
Agents Commission account. 1968-71. 1v.	<u>107</u>
South Australian accounts. 1958-70. 12v.	<u>108</u>

Correspondence and other papers relating to purchase and maintenance of the Company's motor vehicles. 1968-70. 2cm	<u>109</u>
Circulars received from the S.A. Chamber of Manufacturers. 1967-70. 4cm.	<u>110</u>
Applications for credit. 1967-68. 4cm.	<u>111</u>
Cash book. 1957-62. 1v.	<u>112</u>
Interest and discount ledger. 1953-69. 1v	<u>113</u>
Payroll tax ledger. 1955-63. 1v.	<u>114</u>
'Motor' account ledger. 1953-59. 1v.	<u>115</u>
Adelaide Milling Company Port Adelaide plant book. 1963-67. 1v.	<u>116</u>
Papers relating to 'Plant Purchases'. 1966-67. 1cm.	<u>117</u>
Journal, 1960-70. 1v. Contains lists of expenditure on uniforms, overalls, insurance.	<u>118</u>
'Town and Country' interest, discount and transfer journal. 1957-58. 1v	<u>119</u>
Profit budgets. 1968. 1cm. Includes monthly profit summaries for the Fowler Group of Companies.	<u>120</u>
Company newsletter; 1950, 1969-70. 1cm.	<u>121</u>
Correspondence of Fowler-Robur Company. 1971-81 6cm	<u>122</u>
Huddart Parker Ltd. share register. 1958. 1v.	<u>123</u>
Adelaide Milling Company inventory of agents' plant and schedule of machinery. 1915-64. 11vols. Includes Jamestown, Moonta, Gawler, Port Adelaide, Port Pirie and Hawker.	<u>124</u>
Adelaide Milling Company's Singapore agent flour bags and labels. n.d. 5 items.	<u>125</u>
Adelaide Milling Company wheat appraisal sheets. 1941-1942. 1 cm.	<u>126</u>
Robur Tea Company share register. 1928-63, 1v.	<u>127</u>

Waverly Sutherland Vinegar Company cash books.1954-1963. 4 vols.	<u>128</u>
Cash balance statements. 1963-64. 2cm.	<u>129</u>
Fowler-Robur Tea Company monthly reports. 1974-	<u>130</u>
Product packaging labels n.d. 12 items	<u>131</u>
Recipe cards A-Z n.d. 15 cm.	<u>132</u>
Plant inventory book 1907-1952. 2 volumes.	<u>133</u>
Standing journal entries for payrolls 1960-1971. 1 volume.	<u>134</u>
Dried fruits accounts ledger 1958-1972. 4 volumes.	<u>135</u>
Bills receivable and payable ledger 1960-1972. 2 volumes.	<u>136</u>
Papers relating to market research (Robur Tea) ca.1971. 2 folders.	<u>137</u>
Fowler-Robur Company Executive Committee minutes 1976-1977. 1 folder.	<u>138</u>
Cash books 1954-1975. 8 volumes.	<u>139</u>
Summary of accounts journal 1943-1956. 1 volume.	<u>140</u>
Posting summary journal 1960-1970. 1 volume.	<u>141</u>
Shipping invoices 1970. 1 cm.	<u>142</u>
Accounts with Pacific Island Traders 1967. 1 cm	<u>143</u>

Drafts of memoranda 1952-1965. 2cm. Sent by the London Office's tea and coffee department.	<u>144</u>
Invoice statements 1974. 1 item (sample)	<u>145</u>
Balance sheets and profit and loss accounts 1919-1932, 1946. 10cm Six monthly accounts from the London Office. Includes a 1919 schedule of accounts with covering letter.	<u>146</u>
Share registers 1900-1986. 5cm. Volume 1: 1900-1965. Includes typescript copy of <i>Rules as to the keeping of the Local Register at Adelaide</i> plus blank forms for the transfer of shares. Volume 2: 1901-1986. Includes blank forms for transfer of shares from Colonial Register to London Register. Volume 3: 1959-1969. Alphabetical register of members, etc. Includes 3 stock transfer forms.	<u>147</u>
Ledger 1899-1939. 2.5cm Appears to be a compilation register of various accounts and revenue.	<u>148</u>
Correspondence for the Adelaide Milling Company 1920-1943. 9cm. Volume 1920-1929. Correspondence between J.R. Fowler and the 'estate of the late W. Trubshawe'. Includes index. Volume 2: 1929-1943. Correspondence continuing on from volume 1 but between Mrs M.I. Trubshawe and the Adelaide Milling Company	<u>149</u>
Correspondence of the Robur Tea Company 1927-1929. 4cm.	<u>150</u>
Miscellaneous papers. 1912, 1946. 0.5cm. Comprises an agreement (deed of covenant) between Robert Harper & Company Pty Ltd and D & J Fowler, and a letter from the London Office re the design of labels for the Lion brand.	<u>151</u>

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- Employee records 152
1863-1946. 11cm.
Volume 1: Employee register, 1863-1891.
Essentially an index book with employee name, area they were working in and pay details.
- Volume 2: Wages and salaries register, 1881-1911.
Divided into various sections of the company, it details wage payments to employees and the date they were paid. Also notes termination of employment dates.
- Volume 3: Wages book, 1906-1911. Divided into various sections of the company, it details wage payments to employees and the date they were paid. Also notes termination of employment dates.
- Volume 4: Alterations book, 1911-1915. Contains different sections for various parts of the company (factory, office etc, etc.) and gives employee name, date and amount of payment. Some have annotations about start and end dates
- Volume 5: Employee register by department, 1911-1960. Contains details similar to above.
- Volume 6: Contains Employee pay register, 1942-1946. Contains details similar to volume 4.
- Letter book of William Murray Fowler 153
1925-1939 1 vol.
[Book only partially used.]