

HURREN, LANGMAN & JAMES COLLECTION

Architecture Museum, University of South Australia

Legal documents, correspondence, pamphlets and associated firms

Series 257

The engineering partnership of Hurren, Langman and James consisted of Frank Hurren ASASM (1899-1992), William Wilson Langman and Wesley Hughes James ME (Adel), FSASM, MIE Aust, (b1898). "During 1928 Hurren established the first sustained consulting structural engineering practice in Adelaide to meet the small but growing need for more specialised reinforced concrete structural expertise. His practice survived the hard years of the Depression due to [Hurren's] drive and self-motivation. For over twenty years, the practice of Hurren, Langman and James was the pre-eminent consulting structural engineering firm in Adelaide, highly respected for its innovation and the quality of its work" (Stacy 2005 p87). On 10 August 1956, on the retirement of Frank Hurren, the partnership of Hurren, Langman and James was dissolved. James and Langman continued as Langman and James from 1 July 1956.

Frank Hurren studied at the S.A. School of Mines and Industries then worked in Sydney. On his return to Adelaide he worked with both E. Stone and M.S. Stanley, and later, in partnership with Langman and James he designed the structures of many Adelaide buildings, such as Shell House, Elizabeth House, the Bank of N.S.W. and the Savings Bank Building. William (Bill) Langman was Mayor of Burnside 1967-68 and was very active in the Adelaide Rotary Club. Wesley Hughes James studied at the University of Adelaide and became a Junior Assistant Engineer in the Engineer-in Chief's Department in 1922. He then went to England and America, returning to Adelaide in 1927 where he gained the Degree of Master of Engineering in 1931. James worked with W. Francis before joining with Hurren and Langman, where he designed such structures as the Pt. Augusta and Osborne Power Stations. He was Chairman of the Institution of Engineers (S.A. Division) in 1944 (Cumming and Moxam 1986).

Key references

- Cumming, D.A. and Moxham, G. (1986) *They Built South Australia*. Self published, South Australia.
- Stacy, Bill. "A mad scramble': Frank Emery Hurren, consulting structural engineer". *Journal of the Historical Society of South Australia*, no.33, 2005: 87-101.
- Bill Stacy, 'Hurren, Frank Emery (1899 - 1982)', *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Volume 17, Melbourne University Press: 563-564.

Collection description

Hurren, Langman and James were a structural engineering firm who worked with many architectural firms in South Australia and interstate. This collection of records came from the Mortlock Library of South Australiana, at the State Library of South Australia as a specialist group of business records. It consists of plans and drawings, calculations for jobs, correspondence, specifications and books. As these records, when accessed by the archivists, had no discernible order, they have been organised into groups related to the functions of the buildings described, then the owner's name. They are a valuable addition to the Architecture Museum because they contain work by architects not previously represented in the collections. Plans are stored in plan file drawers unless designated as 'Box' when they are stored in the archive boxes.

HURREN, LANGMAN & JAMES COLLECTION

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A Noble and Sons Pty Ltd and Subsidiaries

S257/1

Mr W W Langman, 56 Howard Tce, Hazelwood Park, of Hurren, Langman & James was a Director and holder of 200 shares in A Noble and Sons. Head Office for A Noble and Sons was registered in Adelaide and Mr A. and Mrs Noble (originators of firm) also lived in Adelaide. Noble's had holdings in NSW and Victoria.

Minutes, Financial statements

Pamphlets of products/services from various suppliers

S257/2

These pamphlets were often the first information for new building products. As supplies of new products were eager to have them used in building, engineers/architects were often the first to receive information from suppliers.

Legal Documents

S257/3

Includes documents concerning the dissolution of the partnership between Hurren, Langman and James when Hurren retired, and the continuation of the firm as Langman and James.

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A Noble and Sons Pty Ltd and Subsidiaries

S257/1

SPECIAL LIST

| <u>Series</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|---------------|---|
| S257/1/1 | Financial statements and Minutes for 1966 |
| S257/1/2 | Financial Statements and Minutes for 1967 |
| S257/1/3 | Financial Statements and Minutes for 1968 |
| S257/1/4 | Financial Statements and Minutes for 1969 |

HURREN, LANGMAN & JAMES COLLECTION

Architecture Museum, University of South Australia

Pamphlets of products/services from various suppliers.

S257/2

SPECIAL LIST

| Series | Description |
|-------------|--|
| S257/2/1a | Pamphlets: Concrete, Admixtures Reinforcement & Testing 1955-1964 |
| S257/2/1b | Pamphlets: Concrete, Admixtures Reinforcement & Testing 1949-1955 |
| S257/2/1c | Pamphlets: Concrete, Admixtures Reinforcement & Testing 1914-1949 |
| S257/2/2a-b | Wallboards & Surfacing Materials 1958-1966. Includes pamphlets from; Lysaght, Hills Industries, Woodtex, Wormald, Snaprib, James Hardy, Acoustic plaster, Asbestolite, Plasticoat (lighting), Plastiflex (tubing), Formica, Victor Dek, Fibre Glass, Australian Fibre Board. |
| S257/2/3 | Insulation & Acoustics 1957-1960 Includes pamphlets from: Bradford Insulation, Austral Insulation, Hufcar, Neoprene-joint insulation, Scotchfil, Alfol, Sisalation, Olympic Building Services, Gilsulate, Stayseal, Woodtex, Bell's Asbestos, Gatio (Australia) P/L |
| S257/2/4 | Hardware 1940's. Includes pamphlets from Pneumatic Door Closers, Rawlplug, KSM Stud Welding, Metalbilt, Marshall, Lindapter, Safes, Rax, Carr Fasteners, Lockwood, Naco, louvres, Sebco, locks, door handles, Drive-it, Cowdroy, Roofcote. |
| S257/2/5 | Airconditioning, Heating, Ventilation & Hotwater 1950's. Includes pamphlets from Kelvinator - air conditioning, Westinghouse, Fibreglass, Coleman, GECO - fans. |
| S257/2/6 | Brick Block Construction 1951-1962. Besser-USA, Lysaght Aust., James Hardie, K M Steel P/L, Insulating Tiles Ltd, Portland Cement Co, Paringa Concrete Products Ltd, National Concrete & Masonry Assoc., Concrete Masonry Manufacturers of South Aust., Jayworth |
| S257/2/6 | Besser, Paringa Pressed Brick Co Ltd, CSR Building Products, Besser USA, Eastern Distributors Ltd, Lysaght, James Hardie, K M Steel P/L, Insulating Tiles Ltd, Portland Cement Assoc., Paringas Cement Products Ltd, National Concrete & Masonry Assoc., Concrete Manufacturers of South Australia, Jayworth Besser, Paringa Pressed Brick Co, CSR Building Products. |
| S257/2/7 | Glass. 1940-54. Wunderlich, Colorex, Australian Glass Manufacturers, Clarksons Ltd, Australian Window Glass P/L, Pilkington Bris Ltd, Hills Ltd (West Bromwich), Stratco. |
| S257/2/8 | Plumbing. 1940's Taps, Septic Tanks, vitreous china fittings, Standards for plumbing from Engineer and Water Supply Dept, Booklet (efficiency in WC Installations), Bradley, Pipe Linings, Saunders & Gibbs, Stokes Foundries Ltd, Maric, L J Morgan, Ideal Standards Ltd, Lysaght, Adelaide Potteries, Floreg Valves, Fred Clarke P/L, Colton's, Beasley, Philmac, Rheem, Pascoe & Co (ventilators), Applying Aluminium Roofing and Siding, Palmrest, Cox Water Heaters, Dinmore. |

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- S257/2/9a Paints. 1961-1963 Berger, Robbialac (B.J.N. World Paint Group), Mephalene Pty Ltd, Dimet Pty Ltd, Smith Walton Pty Ltd, Davison Paints Ltd, Taubmans Pty Ltd, Killrust Pty Ltd, Gatic Australia Pty Ltd.
- S257/2/9b Paints 1960s Balm paint cards
- S257/2/10 Floor Coverings, Pavings etc. Gratings. 1960's. Denso, Gatio Colour chart, Olympic Vinyl Tiles, Roberts Smoothedge, Fortecon, Hallweld stair treads, Open mesh flooring, Duraplastics P/L, Gilsulate Thermal Insulation, Dunlop Vinyl Tiles, Nilex Vinyl Floors, Robert Young Carpet Manufacturers, Parbury Henty Jarrah Flooring, Hornex Rubber Adhesive.
- S257/2/11a Metal Windows. 1960s Perry Steel Window Co Ltd, K. M. Steel Products Ltd, A. F. Agnew & Co Pty Ltd, Australian Window Glass Pty Ltd, Brownbuilt Metal Sections Pty Ltd, Ceilings Ltd, Arens Universal Controls.
- S257/2/11b Metal Windows. 1960s Padbury Henty Pty Ltd, J Connolly Ltd, A Simpson & Son Ltd, Aluminium Union Ltd.
- S257/2/11c Metal Windows. 1960s Australian Aluminium Co. Ltd, Perry Metal Windows, Alfred Martin Industries, Wunderlich Ltd, J Connolly Ltd.
- S257/2/12 Electrical 1950's Includes pamphlets from: Pierlite Pty Ltd, BGE Systems, Globe Lighting, Clipsal Electrical Accessories catalogue, Rowco Products catalogue, sanitary incinerator, Noyes Commercial Cooking-ware, Nilsen Industrial Group Trade catalogue.
- S257/2/13 Steel 1950's-1960's Includes pamphlets from: Lindapter, Cyclone Diatube, expanded metal, Austral Steel, Chubb, Hilti, Rapid Metal, - Forwood Cranes, British Iron & Steel Co, Forwood Johns & Waygood, Universal Bearing Piles & Beams, Armco, All-welded Freeway Viaduct, Tubewrights (Aust.) P/L (blueprints) Stewarts & Lloyds,
- S257/2/13 Cyclone, Clearspan, Rowells, Welding a Building to Take High Wind Loads, stud welding, Lincoln Electric Company, welded roofs, Lysaght Zed System, studies in structural arc welding.
- S257/2/14 Mechanical 1950-1961 Includes pamphlets from: Woods Propeller Fans, Hydromech Cranes, Lamson Air Tubes and Conveyors, Towmotor (Aust) P/L, Coates & Co Ltd, Lemcol Materials Handling Equipment, Grindex Hydromaster, Vibrol Vibrating Rollers, Lansing Bagnall forklifts and towmotors, Demac Hoit, IRS Conveyor Belts, Australian Fan Manufacturers Assoc, Ramset, Woods Propeller Fans, Lamson Engineering Co, Pascoe Mechanical Handling, K G Coles & Co Ltd, Davy-united Loadcells, Fordigraph Duplicator, Hufcor laminated folding doors, Gibson Battle chain drives.

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- S257/2/15 Pamphlets from Lysaght about new flooring product, Cofar and Trofdek. 1964.
- S257/1/16 Pamphlets with notations by James from The Institute of Quantity Surveyors and the Association of Consulting Engineers. Also various lectures on formulas and rules. Box

HURREN, LANGMAN & JAMES COLLECTION

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Legal Documents

S257/3

This series includes agreements for rental of office space, partnership agreements and dissolution, wages for employees.

SPECIAL LIST

| <u>Series</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|---------------|--|
| S257/3/1 | Legal agreement between Langman and James for tenancy at the Savings Bank of SA, 97 King William St, Adelaide. 1967. |
| S257/3/2 | Partnership agreement between WW Langman and WH James. (Both Consulting and Structural Engineers and Quantity Surveyors) 1956. |
| S257/3/3 | Dissolution of partnership between Hurren, Langman and James on retirement of Frank Emery Hurren. Aug 10, 1956. Firm continued as Langman and James. |
| S257/3/4 | 1965 wages rates and conditions of employment. Issued by The Master Builders Association of South Australia, Inc. |