
CLELAND, G.F. & SONS LTD.

BRG 2 Series List

Sir Samuel Davenport, who had lived in the south of France before arriving in South Australia in 1843, established vineyards and olive groves near his home at Beaumont (now a suburb of the municipality of Burnside). The vines were imported from France and the olive trees from various parts of southern Europe. Sir Samuel also imported skilled workmen and a variety of modern equipment for cultivation and the manufacture of wine and olive oil.

George Fullerton Cleland (a nephew of Lady Davenport) was born at Taunton, England, in 1852 and brought to Australia the following year. He entered Sir Samuel's employ in 1869 and over the ensuing fourteen years gained experience in all facets of the two trades. Opening an office and warehouse in Currie Street, Adelaide, he began trading as G F Cleland & Co. in 1883, concentrating initially on the produce from Beaumont.

As the business expanded Cleland moved to larger premises in Frearsons Buildings in King William Street and by 1888 was finding it difficult to obtain sufficient grapes. In that year he entered into partnership with J C Jacob, whose vineyard at Moorooroo had large stocks of wine. The following year, 1889, the two men, with the addition of Sir Samuel Davenport, formed a limited liability company.

G F Cleland & Co. Ltd leased the entire basement of the AMP building at 21 King William Street and in 1890 built Chateau Tanunda (many of the Tanunda vigneron having become shareholders). Chateau Tanunda had the capacity to process 100 tons of grapes per day and to store 1 million gallons of wine (making it the largest winery in Australia at the time). Separate buildings housed a distillery and bond stores. In all the project cost £27,000 of which £13,000 was for plant and equipment.

Making wine at Moorooroo, wine and olive oil at Beaumont, and wine and brandy at Tanunda, the company, though highly successful, became too unwieldy to manage and was dissolved under a scheme of arrangement in 1893. G F Cleland purchased the Adelaide headquarters and the Beaumont estate and reverted to trading privately as G F Cleland & Co. The limited liability company (of which he remained a shareholder) changed its name to the Adelaide Wine Company Ltd. The new company (which continued to produce wine and brandy at Tanunda) appointed George Cleland its Adelaide agent and concentrated on the export trade.

G F Cleland's eldest son having joined him in 1895, he formed a new limited liability company, G F Cleland & Sons Ltd., in 1897. Two more of his sons joined the company in 1898 and 1909. The company established further olive groves at New Mecklenberg (re-named Gomersal in W W I) and continued to produce wines, Chateau Beaumont Hospital Brandy and Davenport's Virgin Olive Oil. In addition the company served as agents and distributors for a wide range of European spirits and liqueurs.

G F Cleland became an authority in South Australia on all aspects of viticulture and the management of orchards. He served on the Council for Agriculture (a government advisory body) as well as the Council of the Royal Agricultural & Horticultural Society of South Australia. He was President of the South Australian Vignerons Association and the Chamber of Manufacturers, in addition to being a member of the Beaumont District

Council and first President of the District Councils Association.

In 1924 his sons sold the Beaumont Estate as a housing sub-division, though the company continued to trade as a manufacturer and distributor.

The bulk of the manuscript records date from the period when G F Cleland was active in the company and its predecessors.

Notes on company history ca.1890s & 1920s	<u>1</u>
Memoranda & Articles of Association of G.F. Cleland & Co. Ltd.; & G.F. Cleland & Sons Ltd. 1889 & 1897.	<u>2</u>
Working notes on agricultural subjects.. 19th century. 0.5cm. Manuscript	<u>3</u>
Miscellaneous papers 19th century. 0.5cm. Manuscript	<u>4</u>
Memoranda & financial notes 19th century. 0.5cm. Manuscript	<u>5</u>
Translations of French texts on viniculture and the manufacture of olive oil.	<u>6</u>
Vellum testamurs and letter (in French) 1904, 1906 & 1892.	<u>7</u>
12 certificates awarded at intercolonial exhibitions 1875 - 1905. Awarded to to Sir Samuel Davenport; G.F. Cleland & Co. Ltd; & G.F. Cleland & Sons Ltd.	<u>8</u>
4 views of Beaumont Estate. n.d. 6 photos.	<u>9</u>
Records of the sale of Beaumont Estate 1924-1935. 6 cm Includes sale brochure; plan of subdivision; correspondence regarding the sale and the subsequent collection of term payments; and correspondence regarding purchase of the olive crop on the trees at time of sale.]	<u>10</u>
Publications of SA Dept of Agriculture, Royal Agricultural & Horticultural Society, and various French associations. ca.1880-1900. 0.5 cm.	<u>11</u>

Ledger, indexed, of G F Cleland & Co. 1883-1886. 1 volume	<u>12</u>
Ledgers, indexed, of G F Cleland & Sons Ltd. 1924-1935. 4v volumes	<u>13</u>