
THOMAS FAMILY
Papers relating to the Thomas family

PRG 1160
Series List

PRG 1160/1 : Diary of Mary Thomas

Handwritten diary kept by Mary Thomas during a voyage aboard the 'Africaine' to South Australia. Available as published version titled "The diary and letters of Mary Thomas; please search catalogue to access item. 1836. 3 cm. Original WITHDRAWN.

PRG 1160/2 : Letters from Mary Thomas

Comprises letters from Mary Thomas to relatives in England describing her voyage to South Australia aboard the 'Africaine' and residence in Adelaide. The typescript copies sometimes varying from originals. 1838-1841. 2 cm. Part OUTSIZE 6. Part RESERVE 1.

PRG 1160/3 : Reminiscences of Mary Thomas

Reminiscences of Mary Thomas covering her voyage to South Australia on the 'Africaine' and her early life in the colony, 1836-1866. 3 cm. Typescript version available; original WITHDRAWN; RESERVE 1.

PRG 1160/4 : Letter from Robert Thomas to the Colonial Office

Comprises draft of four page letter from Robert Thomas to the Under Secretary for the Colonies protesting that "... a company of respectable persons with their families, desirous of settling in South Australia, are denied such a privilege except to a very limited extent, lest they should interfere with the aboriginal tribes..." with brief reply from Sir George Grey and proof copy. Contains Aboriginal content. 1836. 0.5 cm.

PRG 1160/5 : Letters from Robert Thomas to Mrs Harris

Comprises letter from Robert Thomas to Mrs Harris enquiring about her son Frank's willingness to go out with him to South Australia and offering to bring up "the other little one", with letter announcing the departure of the 'Lady Fitzherbert'. 1841-1842. 0.5 cm.

PRG 1160/6 : Extracts from the diary of Mary Thomas

Extracts from the diary of Mary Thomas, daughter of Robert and Mary Thomas, commenced when she was 'nearly sixteen', commenting on life in Adelaide, her health, family and acquaintances. Also an additional handwritten copy of extracts from the diary believed to have been transcribed by Charlotte Thomas, the sister-in-law of Mary Thomas. 1837-1846. 4 cm.

PRG 1160/7 : Commonplace book of Mary Thomas

Comprises commonplace book kept by Mary Thomas and later by her daughter, Helen Mantegani, accompanied by three letters from Mary Thomas to Helen. Available on microfilm. 1851-1904. 4 cm. Original WITHDRAWN.

PRG 1160/8 : Correspondence of Robert Kyffin Thomas

Comprises correspondence between Robert (later Sir Robert) Kyffin Thomas and the Governor, Lord Tennyson, concerning composition of an inscription on Rosetta Head commemorating the meeting between maritime explorers Flinders and Baudin in Encounter Bay. 1901. 1 cm. Part RESERVE 1.

PRG 1160/9 : Scrapbook of Robert Kyffin Thomas

Scrapbook constituted by Robert (later Sir Robert) Kyffin Thomas containing correspondence, newspaper cuttings and photographs relating to the South African War Memorial and South Australian Bushmen's Corps, photographs of the North West Prospecting Expedition (1903), typescript copies of letters from Edward John Eyre and Governor Sir George Grey to Governor Sir George Gipps (NSW) about exploring expeditions (1844), and newspaper cuttings of historical interest, including the unveiling of the John McDouall Sturt statue (1904) and memorials for the centenary of Matthew Flinders' expedition (1902). See separate special list. OUTSIZE 1.

PRG 1160/10 : Receipts for travel on the *Africaine*

Photographic facsimiles of receipts for passage on the ship the *Africaine*. 1836. 0.5 cm.

PRG 1160/11 : Mary Jane Thomas will and probate

Parchment of the will and probate in the Estate of Mary Jane Thomas who died on the 18th December 1901 at Glenelg, South Australia. Dated 23rd December 1901. Contains a wax seal of the Supreme Court of South Australia. 1901. 0.5 cm.

PRG 1160/12/1-6 : Thomas family certificates of marriage.

1. Marriage certificate of Robert Thomas and Mary Harris, Southampton. Dated 8 January 1818. Photocopy available. Original WITHDRAWN; RESERVE 1.
2. Newspaper clipping, Southampton, Saturday, January 10. Marriage of 'Robert Thomas of Fleet Street, London to Miss Mary Harris, eldest daughter of George Harris of Ashfield Lodge, near Romsey'. Photocopy available. Original WITHDRAWN; RESERVE 1.
3. Handwritten copy of the marriage certificate of Robert Thomas and Mary Harris by Hugh Hill, D.D. Vicar. Dated 26th January, 1818. Photocopy available. Original WITHDRAWN; RESERVE 1.
4. Marriage certificate of William Kyffin Thomas and Mary Jane Good, dated 28 January 1843. Marriage solemnized in the Church of St. John, Adelaide. 1843. Photocopy available, including envelope with 'The Register' embossing. Original WITHDRAWN; RESERVE 1.
5. Marriage certificate of Evan Kyffin Thomas and Mary Harriet Archer Smith, dated June 1st, 1901. St Andrews Church, Fulham, London. Photocopy available. Original WITHDRAWN; RESERVE 1.
6. Newspaper clipping regarding the wedding of Evan Thomas and Maisie [Mary] Smith.

PRG 1160/13/1-2 : Marriage of Evan Kyffin Thomas and Maisie Smith

Letter of congratulations from E. Hilliard, St. Andrew's Vicarage, West Kensington; dated 23rd October 1901. Includes a newspaper cutting detailing the ceremony and attire. Wedding believed to have taken place 1st June 1901. 1901. 0.5 cm.

PRG 1160/14/1-4 : Engagement and Buckingham Palace presentation

Newspaper clippings relating to the engagement of Mary Dorothea Thomas and J. N. Crofton-Atkins, and presentations of the Harris family at Buckingham Palace. Includes an envelope with a W.K.Thomas & Co. embossing. 1904-1928. 0.5 cm.

PRG 1160/15 : Will of Mary Harriett Archer Thomas

Certified copy of the Will of Mary Harriett Archer Thomas, wife of Evan Kyffin Thomas. Dated 10th December, 1929. 0.5 cm.

PRG 1160/16/1-3 : Marriage settlement of Mr and Mrs Evan Kyffin Thomas

Duplicate of Authority to Trustees, and a letter concerning the settlement from Scammell, Hardy & Skipper, Solicitors and Notaries, Adelaide to Rendal Kyffan Thomas. Includes envelope. Dated 1934. 0.5 cm.

PRG 1160/17 : Letter; H.M.S. 'Renown'

Copy of an eloquent letter with the letterhead 'H.M.S. "Renown"', Sydney, dated 16th August 1920. Addressed to the 'Girls' and Boys' from 'Edward P', speaking of his first visit to Australia and its magnificence. 1920. 0.5 cm.

PRG 1160/18/1-4 : Property valuations

Typescript letters from F. W. Bullock & Co., Land Brokers etc. to Messrs W. K. Thomas & Co., The Register. Includes small coloured plans with measurements;

1. Valuation of The Register Chambers on Grenfell Street, Adelaide; Portion of Town Acre 141. Dated 26th October 1927.
2. Valuation of The Register Building on Grenfell Street, Adelaide; Portion of Town Acre 141. Dated 26th October 1927.
3. Valuation of the Divett Street, Port Adelaide property. Dated 18th November 1927.
4. Valuation of the Franklin Street property, Town Acres 240 and 241. Dated 22nd February 1928.

PRG 1160/19/1-6 : Correspondence concerning Advertiser shares

Letters relating to shares addressed to Evan Kyffin Thomas and Geoffrey Kyffin Thomas from the Advertiser Newspapers Limited. Dated February, August and September 1929, and June 1931, with 'The Advertiser, 1858' on the letterhead.

PRG 1160/20/1-4 : Condolences relating to the passing of Evan Kyffin Thomas

Letters expressing sympathy over the death of Evan Kyffin Thomas, from The Bank of Adelaide, Mrs Sinevek[?] and Mrs Cecil Bray. Dated 1935.

PRG 1160/21 : Notices of the Press concerning the death of Mr and Mrs William Kyffin Thomas

[a & b] Pamphlet comprising a compilation of articles in various newspapers concerning the passing of William Kyffin Thomas on 4th July 1878. Includes an insert from an article in 'The Register' concerning the death of Mrs William Kyffin Thomas on the 17th November, 1901. Copy 1, RESERVE 1.

PRG 1160/22/1-5 : Commemorations of Robert and Mary Thomas

1. **a-b :**

a. Copy of a commemorative inscription for Robert and Mary Thomas: An inscription as it appears in marble at St. Peters church at Glenelg, reading;

'In memory of Robert Thomas, Died July 1, 1860, aged 79, who published the first number of The Register in London on June 26, 1836, landed in this parish of Glenelg from the ship *Africaine* on November 11, 1836, printed the Official Proclamation of the Province which was read by Governor Hindmarsh at Glenelg on December 28, 1836, and published the second number of The Register in Adelaide on June 3, 1837.

Also of Mary his wife, died February 10, 1875, aged 87.

This tablet is erected to their memory by the Proprietors of the journal of which Robert Thomas was one of the founders.

November 11, 1906.'

b. Printed copy of an article in 'The Register', November 12 1906 on the subject of the tablet, including a transcription of its wording. Copy 1 RESERVE 1.

2. Printed copy of the death and funeral notices of Robert Thomas by 'The Register', July, 1860.

3. Newspaper clipping of the death notice of Robert Thomas.

4. a and b : Two newspaper clippings on one sheet of the death notice of Mrs Robert [Mary] Thomas. From 'The Register', February 1875. 'a' print copy; 'b' newspaper clipping.

5. Booklet: 'Robert Kyffin Thomas, born August 19, 1851. Died June 13, 1910.' Includes an article in The Register, Biography, Expressions of Sympathy, and an account of the funeral.

PRG 1160/23/1-4 : Steamships 'Arcadia' 1888 and 'Shannon' 1881

Images of the Australian P&O steamship the 'Shannon', 1881. Includes a P&O information sheet on the ship, and also on the steamship 'Arcadia', 1888. To view images do an ARCHIVAL NUMBER search for PRG 1160/23. PRG 1160/23/1-2, RESERVE 1.

PRG 1160/24 : Copy of a portrait of Mary Thomas

Believed to be by her daughter Frances. To view image do an ARCHIVAL NUMBER search for PRG 1160/24.

PRG 1160/25/1-6 : Imperial Press Conferences

- 1-2. Imperial Press Conference – Australia, 1925. Official itinerary and daily programme. Booklet. Includes a letter to Mr Thomas from J. L. Bonython at 'The Advertiser'.
- 3-5. Fourth Imperial Press Conference – London, June 1930. Programme and Diary. Booklets. Includes two annotated copies, and a leather bound copy of a booklet titled 'Overseas Delegates' which contains photographs and a brief biography of each Delegate. Initials E.K.T. embossed into the cover.
6. Visit of the Fourth Imperial Press Conference Delegates to the new "Punch" offices, London, July 3rd 1930. Contains a catalogue of drawings by artists whose work was regularly featured in editions of 'Punch' magazine.

PRG 1160/26 : Queen Adelaide Club

Card outlining the seating plan at the Queen Adelaide Club, October 21st 1925. 3 copies, copy 1 in RESERVE 1.

PRG 1160/27/1-39 : Papers associated with 'The Register', Adelaide, South Australia

1. Booklet titled 'A Giant Press', from 'The Register', October 6, 1913. Contains a typescript of an article titled 'A Giant Press'. Copy 1; RESERVE 1.
2. Booklet titled 'Scale of Advertising Charges', 1st April, 1926. W. K. Thomas & Co., Adelaide, South Australia. Covering 'The Register' (established 1836), 'The Observer' (established 1843), and 'The Saturday Journal' (established 1869).
3. Printed card outlining 'sizes of "news" paper', from 'The Register'. December 1, 1923.
4. Information sheet outlining categories and prices for 'prepaid advertisements' in 'The Register', 'The Observer', and 'The Saturday Journal'. Effective as from February 1, 1926. Includes an attached form as a 'voucher for replies to advertisement'. Copy 1 in RESERVE 1.
5. Handwritten account of 'Deposits' and 'Partner's Interests'. 1927.
6. Typescript financial documents for June/July 1931. Including Profit and Loss Account and Balance Sheet for W. K. Thomas & Co, and a Personal Account for E. K. Thomas.
- 7-8. List of addresses of members of staff for May 1925 and July 1927. Copy 1 of 1925 [7] in RESERVE 1.
9. Letter to A. J. Fraser, at 'The Register' office in London from W. K. Thomas & Co. concerning rate cards, and a list of English Agents. 29 March, 1926.

- 10-12. Newspaper clippings of articles in 'The Register'. Including; a list of advertising agencies receiving orders for advertisements, Saturday, January 2nd, 1926; article on the Printing Industry Employee's Union seeking a foundation award wage in the Arbitration Court, Tuesday, March 16th, 1926; article on an increase in printing industry apprentices wages, Saturday, March 20, 1926.
13. Handwritten text assumed to be an article intended for the newspaper, titled 'Society at Work!! How the Smart Set organise their Plays in the Offices of "Tumpty Lumpty"'.
14. Pamphlet on the relocation of Royal Insurance Co. Ltd. into the Register Building.
15. Listing of the 'Proprietors of "The Register"', June 1836 to January 1929. List prepared from original documents by Evan Kyffin Thomas, 1931'.
16. Dinner card with multiple autographs for a dinner in honour of Sir William Sowden's retirement. RESERVE 1. To view image do an ARCHIVAL NUMBER search for PRG 1160/27/16.
17. Card bound with wool from 'The Commercial Staff at The Register' wishing Evan and Geoffrey Thomas compliments of the season at Christmas, 1922. Contains a list of proprietary 1836-1932.
18. Pamphlet: Jubilee of South Australian Journalism. The Register's Fiftieth Anniversary. Reprinted from the South Australian Register of June 3, 1887. Copy 1; RESERVE 1.
19. Letter to E. K. Thomas.
20. The Register's 75th Birthday: booklet containing articles in The Register, including photographs of the buildings. Includes notices of congratulations from national newspapers and A. H. Peake.
- 21-22. Reprints of the South Australian Gazette and Colonial Register, Vol 1, No 1 Saturday June 18 1836 [reprinted June 18 1906], and Vol 1, No 2, Saturday June 3 1837.
23. The Register's birthday: three score years and ten: a remarkable anniversary; historical landmarks in South Australia. Includes a reprint of the 'Proclamation' notice. Reprint from The Register, June 18, 1906. OUTSIZE 7.
24. Article titled 'Number ten thousand', from The Register, December 2 1878. Reprinted August 1901. OUTSIZE 7. Copy 1 and 2: RESERVE 12.
25. Sheet from a publication: 'The Alexandra Parrakeet, from a painting by Miss Mabel Boothby. The bird, from which the picture was painted, belongs to Mr. E. Kyffin Thomas.'
- 26-27. Invitation cards to attend the opening of the 'New Building' comprising 'The Register', 'The Observer' and 'The Evening Journal', to be opened by the Governor, on Saturday April 3rd 1909. One each sent to Rendel & Archer Kyffin Thomas.
28. Programme for 'The Register Social', held at The Grosvenor, North Terrace on Saturday the 18th August, 1923.
29. W.K. Thomas & Co., Pro Forma balance sheet on 31st December 1929.
30. Hardcover correlation of 'Jubilee of South Australian Journalism; The Register's fiftieth anniversary', 'South Australian Journalism; our first newspaper; an outline of The Register's history', and 'Farewell to Mr. J. Harvey Finlayson'. Also contains newspaper clippings and change of proprietors.

31. Invitation to 'Mrs W.K. Thomas' to attend the 'Starting of the New Machinery'. Saturday May 6.
32. 'Memorandum and articles of association of Register Newspapers Limited; Aldermann, Reid & Brazel'. Printed by Register Newspapers Limited, Adelaide. 1929.
33. 'The Big Scheme of Simple Operation', 1923, Mergenthaler Linotype Company, Brooklyn.
- 34-36. Photographs taken from plans of The Register Chambers. To view image do an ARCHIVAL NUMBER search for PRG 1160/27/34-36. 34-35 copies 1, and 36; RESERVE 1.
37. [a & b] Thomas's Daily Register: newspaper advertisements for 1828 and 1832.
38. Small copy of the Proclamation of South Australia. Printed by Robert Thomas & Co. Government Printers.
39. Poem: 'To Maria, by her Uncle, Stephen Barnes'. Printed at 'The Register' and 'Observer' Office, Adelaide.

PRG 1160/28/1-6 : Legal agreements

1. Copy of 'The Argus-Herald Association with The Age Association; agreement as to Cable Services.' Dated 6th January 1910, by Blake & Riggall. ['The Register' formed part of the Argus-Herald Association]
2. Typescript of The Australian Cable Association Conference. Conference held in 'The Argus Office', Melbourne, on Wednesday July 21 at 3 pm, 1920.
3. 'Memorandum and Articles of Association of Australian Cable Association Proprietary Limited' (draft copy). Annotated, undated.
4. Preliminary Agreement for formation of Company. Evan Kyffin Thomas and Geoffrey Kyffin Thomas (W.K. Thomas & Co.), vendor with Eric McKee (Adelaide Accountant acting on behalf of the Company), trustee. Dated 1928.
- 5-6. Agreement for the sale and purchase of shares; W.K. Thomas & Co. with W.L. Ballieu. Dated 1928. Also contained a blot copy of a handwritten letter dated July 9 '95 from W. Thomas.

PRG 1160/29/1-3 : Memorances

1. 'Reginald Kyffin Thomas, an appreciation, reprinted from "The Register", December 17 and 18, 1914'. Articles from 'The Register' concerning the death and funeral of Reginald Thomas, who was the son of Sir Robert and Mary.
2. 'John Harvey Finlayson, reprinted from 'The Register' of March 31, and April 2, 1915'. Articles and personal notices from 'The Register' concerning the death of the editor and a proprietor of 'The Register'.
3. 'The Register, a souvenir, farewell to Sir William Sowden, Adelaide, Saturday October 7, 1922'. Reprint of an article, "One Happy family". Booklet.

PRG 1160/30/1-3 : Versions of the Diary of Mary Thomas

1. Unedited typescript copy of The Diary of Mary Thomas, copied on behalf of her grandson, Robert Kyffin Thomas in 1901 by the Adelaide Typewriting Association, Grenfell Street, Adelaide. An insert reads 'The Diary of Mary Thomas, wife of Robert Thomas, one of the founders of The Register, as transcribed by her, with occasional comments in 1864-6, for her son, William Kyffin Thomas.'
2. Typescripts of poems originally with PRG 1160/30/1: Including 'Dedication – an acrostic', signed M.T. and referring to Mary and Helen her children, and poems titled 'The Churchyard', 'The Village Sabbath', and 'Those Brave Old Men'.
3. Bound proof version of The Diary of Mary Thomas.

PRG 1160/31 : Notebook of Mary Jane Thomas

Containing poems, texts, clippings. Dated June 25th 1861, Adelaide.

PRG 1160/32 : Journal

Handwritten journal by an unknown author, describing a voyage on board a ship, possibly called 'Rodney'[?] over the Southern and Atlantic Oceans, and also speaks of the Cape. Dated April, June and August 1880.

PRG 1160/33/1-5 : Copies of Thomas family wills

1. Handwritten copy of the will of Robert Thomas, who died July 1, 1860.
2. Typescript copy of the will of Richard Thomas, August 21, 1764.
- 3-5. Three handwritten copies of the last will and testament of William Kyffin Thomas of Glenelg, Adelaide. Two contained within hardcopy notebooks.
6. Handwritten copy of the last will and testament of Alfred Kyffin Thomas of Glenelg, Adelaide, brother of Robert Kyffin Thomas. [Originally contained in one of the notebooks (PRG 1160/33/3-4)].

PRG 1160/34/1-6 : Harris family [Mary Thomas' family] wills and documents

1. Copy of will of Mr. George Harris [Mary's father], deceased.
2. Extract from the will of George Harris late of Hill in the Parish of Milbrook in the County of Southampton.
3. Two copies (a & b, one certified) of the 'Declaration of Mary Thomas' regarding George Harris, deceased.
4. Power of Attorney – Mrs Mary Thomas. Dated 15 July 1871.
5. Letter stating that the Will of George Harris was proved. Dated 1871.
6. Copy of an acknowledgement of trustees to pay £554.17.3 to Mary Thomas under her father's will. Dated June 1867.

PRG 1160/35/1-4 : Thomas family history items

1. Thomas Coat of Arms. The text is believed to read 'Iddio E IL Onio Torrione'.
2. (a & b) Handwritten memorandum by Sir Robert Kyffin Thomas (1851-1910) regarding the Thomas ancestry. Dated 9/8/1900. Includes a typescript copy of the text.
3. Annotated 'Ordnance Survey of England and Wales (Third Edition), Oswestry', with a Board of Agriculture embossing. A small area on the map is hand marked in red; the map shows the location of 'Rhandregynwen' near Llandysilio in Wales where the Thomas family originated. The map was used by Robert Kyffin Thomas on his visit in 1901. OUTSIZE 6.
4. Thomas family seal, believed to be the seal of Robert Thomas. Includes two notes bearing the words 'Le Aquile non covano li Colome, Iddio e il mio Torrione'. To view image do an ARCHIVAL NUMBER search for PRG 1160/35/4. Original WITHDRAWN; RESERVE 1.

PRG 1160/36/1-7 : Thomas family correspondence and writing

1. Typescript of a poem titled 'The Kaiser's Dream', by R. K. Thomas [assumed to be Sir Thomas].
2. Invitation to meet H.R.H. The Duke of York and the delegates of the Empire Press Union, from the Hon John and Lady Violet Astor.
3. Letter from Buckingham Palace to Evan Kyffin Thomas concerning his health. Dated 29th June, 1926.
4. Letter from Buckingham Palace to Evan Kyffin Thomas regarding the book 'The Diary and Letters of Mary Thomas'. Dated 5th July, 1926.
5. Handwritten letter dated November 1863.
6. Account from George Jeffries, bootmaker, 67 Swanston Street, Melbourne. Dated November 1, 1906.
7. A poem written by Mary Thomas 'A Farewell to England, (from a Book of Manuscripts)'. Page from a book in a publication.

PRG 1160/37 : Leaf

A dried leaf; origin unknown. Photocopy available. Original WITHDRAWN; RESERVE 1.

PRG 1160/38 : Coronation of King Edward VII

Booklet: 'The Form and Order of the service that is to be performed and of the ceremonies that are to be observed in The Coronation of their Majesties King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra in the Abbey Church of S. Peter, Westminster, on Thursday, the 26th day of June, 1902'. Oxford University Press.

PRG 1160/39 : Milton Prize Poem

Booklet: 'Milton Prize Poem by S.C.K.S., St. Paul's School, 1895, 1895'. S.C.K. Smith was Maisie's [Mary; wife of Evan Thomas] brother.

PRG 1160/40 : Minute books of the Proprietors of the Register, Observer and the Saturday Journal

June 1889 – March 1930. 9 cm (2 volumes).

Volume 1 (1889-1923) comprises handwritten minutes in a lockable volume; later minutes are typed. Both volumes include some newspaper cuttings.