GUIDE TO THE STEPHEN KNIGHT COLLECTION OF PERSONAL PAPERS

Descriptive Summary

Title: Stephen Knight personal papers

Date: 1867-1996

Creator: Stephen Knight

Repository: Rare Books and Special Collections
The University of Sydney Library
https://library.sydney.edu.au/collections/rare-books/

Extent: 2 boxes

Genre and Forms: Correspondence; book drafts; photocopies of journal articles; press releases.

Abstract: Stephen Knight is an academic and author of books on myth in literature, Medieval literature, and crime fiction. He received the Ned Kelly Lifetime Achievement Award in 2010 for Continent of Mystery: A Thematic History of Australian Crime Fiction (1997). Knight has reviewed many crime fiction novels and the papers contained in this small collection provide a glance at some of this work during the 1980s and 1990s.

Administrative Information

Provenance
Received from Stephen Knight.

Access
Rare Books and Special Collections is a closed access collection located on Level 1 of Fisher Library. To use material from our collections you must make an appointment via the online request form at https://library.sydney.edu.au/collections/rare-books/request-form.html.
Staff will retrieve the material for you which must be read under supervision in the Rare Books Reading Room. You must provide identification (eg. University of Sydney library card, driver’s license) while you are using the material.

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**Preferred citation**
Stephen Knight papers, Rare Books and Special Collections, University of Sydney Library.

**Biographical Note**
Stephen Thomas Knight (b.1940) was educated at Bournemouth Grammar School and the University of Oxford. He was appointed Teaching Fellow at the University of Sydney in 1963 and lecturer in English in 1964. In 1968-1969 Knight was lecturer in English at the Australian National University. He returned to the University of Sydney in 1970 where he was successively Senior Lecturer and Associate Professor. In 1987 he was appointed Robert Wallace Professor of English at the University of Melbourne.

In 1992 Knight returned to England to take up a chair at the De Montfort University at Leicester. Most of Stephen Knight's scholarly writings have been in the area of medieval English literature. His books include *Merlin: Knowledge and Power through the Ages* (2010). Knight has also had a long interest in crime fiction: he reviewed thrillers for the Sydney Morning Herald for ten years and he has edited several anthologies of Australian crime stories.


**Local Catalogue Headings**
Knight, Stephen Thomas

The Library also holds more than 700 detective fiction books which were purchased from Stephen Knight in 1998. These books were added to the Library’s Detective Fiction collection and are searchable in the library catalogue. Each item notes Stephen Knight as the previous owner.

**Box 1**

**Knight 1**

*Item:* The Australian Journal, Jan 1950-Nov 1952


**Knight 2**  
Issues: 6 November 1992  
7 November 1993 (3 copies)  
9 November 1995

**Knight 3**  
Issues: No. 1. November 1989

**Knight 4**  
Issues: Nos. 4, 6, 10, 12, 27, 33, 34, 43

**Knight 5**  
Issues: 7 January 1948, 10 April 1948  
30 December 1949  
86, August 1954

**Knight 6**  
Item: Margin  
Issues: 24-26, 1991 - (No. 24 has loosely inserted handwritten note to Stephen Knight on a University of Melbourne Memorandum slip).  
37, November 1995

**Knight 7**  
Item: Master detective.  
Issues: November 1953, vol. 1. No. 3  

**Knight 8**  
Item: Mean streets: a quarterly journal of crime, mystery and detection.  
Issues: 5 February 1992  
11 May 1994

**Knight 9**  
Item: Hecate a women's interdisciplinary journal  
Issues: Vol. 15, no. 1, 1989
Knight 10
Item:  Working papers in Australian studies.
Issues:  
No. 76 titled: *Our floating home: social space and group identity on board the emigrant ship* / Dr. Andrew Hassam.
No. 82 titled: *Sterling settlement and colonial currency: post colonial patterns in Australian crime fiction* / Stephen Knight.
Nos. 85-87 (in 1 vol.) titled: *Captured lives: Australian captivity narratives* / Kate Darian-Smith, Roslyn Poignant, Kay Schaffer.

Knight 11
Item:  The detective's album: tales of the Australian police / by W.W.

Knight 12
Item:  *A very proper death* / by Alex Juniper. Pre-publication copy.
(Alex Juniper is a pseudonym for the Australian author, Janette Turner Hospital, 1942-)

Knight 13
Item:  *The rogue's march: A Romance* / by E.W. Hornung.

Knight 14
Photocopy of original annotated by F.W.L. Adams held in the Mitchell Library, Sydney.

BOX 2

Knight 15
Item:  *Days of crime and years of suffering: an autobiography.*
Photocopy of original published in serial form in The Australasian, Jan-Oct 1867.
Author unknown.

Knight 16

Knight 17
Print material:  Good Weekend, June 28, 1986. My Sunday Stephen Knight /2 photocopies of article / by Cindy Davies

Australian Bookseller & Publisher December 1986/January 1987

Career Statement – Stephen Thomas Knight 1986
Medieval Literature, May 29, 1987 (photocopy of one page: New readings of old tales, by Bernard O’Donoghue)

Time – Australia. No. 29. July 20, 1987

The Bulletin, July 28, 1987

The University of Melbourne News, vol. 1, no. 7, August 1987

They Sydney Morning Herald, 28 October 1989 (photocopy of reviews)

The Bulletin, May 2, 1989

The Bulletin, June 13, 1989

The Australian magazines, March 31-April 1, 1990

**Knight 18**

Print material: Journal articles (photocopies)

Photocopies of short stories: *The First Detective, Ellery Queen’s Mystery Mix, The Quest for Fulfilment* (part)


Press release, 20 September 1989, Radio Comedy

Press release, 27 September-9 October, nd. *Larceny Makes No Noise*

Draft: *How to Write an Australian Thriller or Do You Need More than a Bloodstained Boomerang?* by Stephen Knight


2 personal notes, handwritten.

**Correspondence:**

To SK from Annette Renshaw, 19 December 1988
To SK from Florence B. Eichin, 29 December 1988
To SK from Jean Rylance, February 1989
To Jean Rylance from SK, 10 February 1989
To SK from David Holmes, 15 February 1989
To SK from Joan Macfarlane, 24 February 1989
To SK from Neil Bedford, 27 February 1989
To SK from Jim T. Martin, 1 March 1989
To SK from Jennifer Rowe, 6 March 1989
To SK from H. S. Smith, 3 April 1989
To SK from Jim Martin, 3 April 1989
To Stephen Knight (SK) from Richard Cook, 22 June 1989
Fax coversheet: To Stephen, from Jennie, 24 July 1989
To SK from Patrizia Bundy, 11 August 1988
To SK from John Iremonger, 23 October 1989
To SK, sender not legible, 27 February 1990
To SK from Lucy, nd.
To SK from Jennifer Rowe, nd.

Knight 19
Print material:

The Late (?), The New South Wales Bookstall Books, And Their Publisher, A. C.
Rowlandson by A. G. Stephens, 1922 (photocopy)

6 articles on Arthur Upfield:
- The Australian Journal, January 1, 1935 (photocopy)
- The Australian Journal, December 1935 (photocopy)
- The Australian Journal, February 1, 1937 (photocopy)
- The Age, nd. (2 photocopies)
- Crime and Mystery Writers, pages 1406-1409 (photocopy)
- This Australia, winter 1986, vol. 5, no. 3 (photocopy)

The Southerly, pages 235-249, *The Case of the Missing Genre: In Search of
Australian Crime Fiction*, by Stephen Knight, nd. (photocopy)

Principle Women of the Empire, note: May Cillian Beard, London, Mitre. 1940
(photocopy)

Australian Literary Studies, An Interview with Carter Brown by Stephen Knight,
February 1974 (photocopy)

Westerly, pages, *History, Literature and J. B. O’Reilly*, by Veronica Brady, no. 4,
December 1977 (photocopy)

Westerly, *A View of Race Relations: Hume Nisbet*, by Peter Cowan, no. 1, March
1983 (photocopy)

The Book in Australia: Essays towards a cultural & social history. *The colonial
reader observed: reading in its cultural context*, by M. Askew & B. Hubber, 1988
(photocopy)

Westerly, *Gold and the Novel: Western Australia in 1880s and 1890s*, by Peter
Cowan, no. 2, June 1988 (photocopy)

An Australian Compass: Essays on Place and [O?reetian?] in Australian Fiction
by Bruce Bennett, note by ‘Lucy’, 1991 (photocopy)
Papers from the Australian Academy of the Humanities Symposium 1993, Are you Christopher [Sly?] by Harold Love (photocopy)

Weekend, Stranger than Fiction, Saturday February 26, 1994 (photocopy)

**Knight 20**

**Print material:**


Article by Kathy Bail on Marle Day, nd. (photocopy)

Article on June Wright in the Herald 7th November 1961 (photocopy)

Excerpt: The Date of Composition of Ralph Rashleigh, by Harold J. Boehm, Australian Literary Studies, 6(4) Oct 1974 (photocopy)

Introduction to John David Hennessey’s *The Dis-Honourable* by Nancy Bonnin, 1975 (photocopy).

Article by Pamela Ruskin on Pat Flower, The Age, May 17, 1975 (photocopy)

Article by Joan Clarke on the death of Pat Flower, Australian Antler(?), no. 1, Summer 1978 (photocopy)


Article by Frank Broeze, *Introduction: The Convict Experience and Australian Society*, Westerly, no. 3, September 1985 (photocopy)

Article by J.S. Ryan, *Melbourne’s Century Old Mystery – Who was Fergus Hume?* Margin, no. 14, 1985 (photocopy)

Article by Veronica Kelly, Garnet Walch in Sydney, [AO/US], no. 9, October 1986 (photocopy)


Australian Women’s Book Review, vol. 1.1, September 1989

Essay by Bruce Bennett, *Myths of Innocence and Experience*, chapter 5 in An Australian Compass, 1991 (photocopy)

Paper by Lurline Stuart: Early Convict Novels, Association for the Study of Australian Literature Sixteenth Annual Conference 3-8 July 1994 (photocopy)

Article by Jane Cadzow on Sue Grafton, Good Weekend June 10, 1995 (original pages torn from magazine)

Article by Virginia Maxwell on Marle Day, Australian Bookseller & Publisher, January/February 1996 (photocopy)

Draft of interview of June Wright by Lucy Sussex, 18 June 1996 (photocopy)


Paper by L. L. Robson: The Convict Settlers of Australia, nd. (photocopy)

Excerpt: *Vie et Aventures de Celeste Mogador*, by Francoise Moser, nd. (photocopy)

**Knight 21**

**Print material:**


Book chapters from Australian Film 1900-1977 by Andrew Pike and Ross Cooper, 1980 (photocopy)

Article by Dan O’Donnell, *Furphy 1 – Agatha Christie and Queensland*, nd (photocopy)

Draft: The Night Fossickers, edited by Stephen Knight, list of stories, nd (photocopy)

Australian Press Cuttings: The Herald 1 April 1933
[?], 27 May 1933
[?] nd
Woman’s [Day?], 22 November 1938
The Telegraph, 9 July 1941
PIX, October 26, 1946
Parade, July 1949
S.M.H, 1951
Sunday Telegraph, May 26, 1957
Morning Herald, 30 November [?]

**Knight 22**
Print material: Book chapter from Larger than Life, *Once a Policeman...* by Xavier Herbert, 1963 (photocopy)

Article by Michele Field, *Madame Midas – a miner with a golden touch*, Woman’s Day, May 26, 1986 (photocopy)

Short story by Marcus Clarke, *Wonderful when you come to think of it*, Margin, No. 21, 1989 (photocopy)

**Knight 23**


Article by R. Bruggeman, Hames Morgan Walsh, *Investigator*, vol. 15, no. 3, September 1980 (photocopy)

Correspondence: from Arthur Mather to the Literary Editor at The Herald, 9 August 1988.

Correspondence: from Robyn Miller to Ian Hicks, 6 March 1989.

Editions, 8/9, September 1990

The National Graduate, vol. 2, no. 3, Summer 1991

**Knight 24**

Print material: Short stories (3) from Colin Roderick’s Memorial Anthology, from Boomerang, 1890 (photocopy)

Short story by Louis Beck, *Flash Harry of Savaii*, in The Strange Adventure of James Shervinton and Other Stories, 1902 (photocopy)


Short story by Beatrice Grimshaw, *A Glass With You*, in The Beach of Terror And Other Stories, 1931 (photocopy)


Excerpt from Introduction to *But Not for Love* by Robert Darby, 1988 (photocopy)

Paper by Richard Nile, Cartels, Capitalism and the Australian Booktrade, in *Continuum* 4:1, 1990 (photocopy)

Correspondence from Lucy to Stephen Knight, 2 September 1991 (photocopy)

Short story, *Five Men’s Lives for One Horse*, nd. (photocopy)

Correspondence from Dr Meg Tasker to Lucy, February 18, 1992

Short story, *The Honour of the Road*, from *Stingaree*, nd. (photocopy)

Short story, Till Death Us Do Part, nd. (photocopy)


Short story by Marjorie Barnard and M. Barnard Eldershaw, *Truth’s in her well*, published in *But Not for Love*, nd. (photocopy)

Short story by Robert Hood, *Dead End*, in *Australian Golden Dagger Mysteries*, nd. (photocopy)

Short story by Kate Stephens, *But for Talbot*, in *Australian Golden Dagger Mysteries*, nd. (photocopy)

Miscellaneous documents (2 pages), on authors Beck ‘Louis’ and Cleary, Jon, nd. (photocopy)

Correspondence, from Lucy [Sussex?], Transcription of flyleaf note in Charles Junor’s *Dead Men’s Tales*


**Knight 25**

Print material: Short story by W. W. The Detective’s Album, *The Phantom Hearse*, in the *Australian Journal*, September 1889 (photocopy)
Short story by Charles Junor, *Up-To-Date Burglars*, in *Dead Men’s Tales*, 1898 (photocopy)


Short story by Rex Grayson, *Address Unknown*, in *The Australian Journal*, April 1, 1952 (photocopy)

Short story by Rex Grayson, *The Stars in their Courses*, in *The Australian Journal*, July 1, 1952 (photocopy)

Article by M. H. Ellis, *Did Greenway Write “Ralph Rashleigh”?*, in *the Bulletin*, December 3, 1952 (photocopy)

Article by Colin Roderick, *The Authorship of “Ralph Rashleigh”*, in *the Bulletin*, December 24, 1952 (photocopy)


Article by Colin Roderick, *“Ralph Rashleigh”*, in *the Bulletin*, Jan 28, 1953 (photocopy)


Article by Alison Littler, Marele Day’s “Cold Hard Bitch”: *The Masculinist Imperatives of the Private-Eye Genre*, in *the Journal of Narrative Technique*, vol. 21, no. 1, Winter, 1991 (photocopy)

Article by Tamsin Donaldson, *Australian Tales of Mystery and Miscegenation*, in *Meanjin*, vol. 50, no. 2/3, Winter-Spring, 1991 (photocopy)

Newsletter, *The Body Dabbler*, vol. 3, no. 8, Issue no. 32, 10 October 1993

Correspondence, to Lucy Sussex from R. H. Morrison, 11 May 1996 (photocopy)
Print material:

Newspaper, The Sun, Thursday, December 1, 1988


Newspaper, The Sydney Morning Herald, book review by Stephen Knight, November 13, 1989

Newspaper, The Sunday Age, 19 November 1989


Miscellaneous handwritten notes, undated.

Book review by Stephen Knight for *Devil in a Blue Dress*, nd (photocopy)

Miscellaneous documents (3 pages) nd (photocopy)

Flyer for The Athenaeum Library

Collection of reviews for *The Brother Cadfael Chronicles* by Ellis Peters, nd. (photocopy)

Excerpt of autobiographical information and information regarding his works, by Ellis Peter, nd. (photocopy)

Draft for article on Edith Pargeter (Ellis Peters is alias), nd. (photocopy)

Advertisement for To Catch a Forger, nd. (photocopy)

Table of content for *A City Office Mystery*, by M. B. Giles, nd. (photocopy)

Item: TV miniseries publicity kit for “Grim Pickings” based on Jennifer Rowe’s novel, produced by the South Australian Film Corporation Productions for TCN Channel 9, Sydney.


Items: Citations unknown, nd. (photocopy and handwritten notes)

Article on James Edmond, nn, nd. (photocopy)
Miscellaneous short author biographies, nd, nn. (photocopy)