

COLLECTION TITLE	Papers of Richard Beilby
COLLECTION IDENTIFIER	MSS 005
INCLUSIVE DATE(S)	1967 to 1988
EXTENT	8 boxes
CREATOR	Richard Beilby 1918-1989
RELATED ENTITIES	Richard Beilby 1918-1989
RELATED COLLECTIONS	Papers of Richard Beilby
ACCESS POINTS	Authors Noongar people

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Richard Courtney Beilby was born in Malacca, Malaysia 18 July 1918 and died in 1989. He moved to Western Australia in 1928. During the Second World War he served in the AIF in North Africa, Greece, Crete and New Guinea. Prior to becoming a full-time novelist in 1970, Beilby worked in a number of occupations including truck driver, painter, insurance salesman and part-time union organiser.

Beilby's novels have explored such issues as the experiences of war, and the tensions between Aboriginal and white cultures in an urban environment. Beilby became Vice President of the Western Australian Branch of the Australian Society of Authors in 1972, and continued to serve that organisation for many years. He was later made an Honorary Life Member of the Fellowship of Australian Writers.

Richard Beilby's publications include:

The sword and the myrtle (1968)

No medals for Aphrodite (1970)

The brown land crying (1975)

Gunner : a novel of the retreat from Crete (1977)

The bitter lotus (1978).

References:

AustLit Australian Literature Gateway database, 2004.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The papers of Richard Beilby include typescript drafts, notes, notebooks, research material, newspaper clippings and photographs.

ACCESS RESTRICTIONS

Access: Check with Curator

Copying: Check with Curator

SOURCE OF ACQUISITION

The collection was acquired from Richard Beilby in 1986.

EXISTENCE AND LOCATION OF ORIGINALS

Special Collections, UNSW Canberra

Collection Contents

Papers of Richard Beilby (MSS 005)

1967 to 1988 (Inclusive date(s))

The papers of Richard Beilby include typescript drafts, notes, notebooks, research material, newspaper clippings and photographs.

Series 1 Novels, 1969-1978 (MSS 005.1)

1969 to 1978 (Inclusive date(s))

This series comprises notes, notebooks, research material and manuscript and typescript drafts for *The sword and the myrtle* (1968), *No medals for Aphrodite* (1970), *The brown land crying* (1975), *Gunner : a novel of the retreat from Crete* (1977) and *The bitter lotus* (1978). The drafts are often extensively annotated and edited. The notes, notebooks and research material reveal the depth of Beilby's preparation and research, particularly for *The brown land crying*.

1.1, The sword and the myrtle (1968) (MSS 005.1.1)

1968 (Inclusive date(s))

Comprising typescript drafts of the novel, published by Michael Joseph, London, 1968, and a copy of the shortened version entitled 'The Philobarbaros'.

Folder 1-4 (MSS 005.1.1.1-4)

Final typescript draft returned by the publisher for shortening, 1160 p., c. 1967-1968

Folder 5 (MSS 005.1.1.5)

'The Philobarbaros' shortened version of *The sword and the myrtle* - annotated carbon typescript, 790 p., c. 1967-1968

1.2, No medals for Aphrodite (1970) (MSS 005.1.2)

1970 (Inclusive date(s))

Comprising typescript drafts of the novel, published by Angus & Robertson, Sydney, 1970.

Folder 1 (MSS 005.1.2.1)

Carbon typescript draft, 604 p., c. 1970

1.3, The brown land crying (1975) (MSS 005.1.3)

1975 (Inclusive date(s))

Comprising notebooks, research material and typescript drafts of the novel, published by Angus & Robertson, London; Sydney, 1975. Photocopies of research material held in Folios in Series 2 and Photographs in Series 3.

Folder 1-2 (MSS 005.1.3.1-2)

Annotated typescript notebooks containing copies of notes, interviews with and about Australian Aboriginal people and newspaper clippings, together with an index, 1969-1975

Folder 3 (MSS 005.1.3.3)

Annotated typescript draft, 620 p., c. 1975

Folder 4 (MSS 005.1.3.4)

Annotated carbon typescript draft, 577 p., c. 1975

Folder 5-7 (MSS 005.1.3.5-7)

Newspaper clippings of research notes, 1969-1973

Folder 8 (MSS 005.1.3.8)

Research material, 1968-1975

1.4, Gunner : a novel of the retreat from Crete (1977) (MSS 005.1.4)

1977 (Inclusive date(s))

Comprising three typescript drafts of the novel entitled 'King-pawn one', 'Fool's mate' and 'Pawns pay now', published by Angus & Robertson, London, 1977.

Folder 1 (MSS 005.1.4.1)

'King-pawn one' - annotated carbon typescript draft, 543 p., c. 1976-1977

Folder 2 (MSS 005.1.4.2)

'Fool's mate' - annotated typescript draft, 378 p. and 154 p., c. 1976-1977

Folder 3 (MSS 005.1.4.3)

'Pawns pay now' - carbon typescript draft, 367 p., c. 1976-1977

1.5, The bitter lotus (1978) (MSS 005.1.5)

1978 (Inclusive date(s))

Comprising typescript drafts of the novel, published by Angus & Robertson, Sydney, 1978.

Folder 1 (MSS 005.1.5.1)

Annotated typescript and carbon typescript draft, 346 p., 29/8/1976

Folder 2 (MSS 005.1.5.2)

Annotated carbon typescript draft, 319 p., January-June 1977

Folder 3 (MSS 005.1.5.3)

Annotated page proofs, 283 p., 1978

Series 2 Folios, 1969-1973 (MSS 005.2)

1969 to 1973 (Inclusive date(s))

This series comprises photocopies of research material for Series 1 *The brown land crying* and a newspaper clipping relating to 'The ice cream eaters' a novel in progress.

Box-folder 1 (MSS 005.2.1)

Photocopies of research material for *The brown land crying* and a newspaper clipping relating to 'The ice cream eaters' a novel in progress, 1969-c. 1988

Series 3 Photographs, 1970 (MSS 005.3)

1970 (Inclusive date(s))

This series comprises photographs of research material for Series 1 *The brown land crying*.

Box-folder 1 (MSS 005.3.1)

Black and white photographs of research, 1970

Including:

Six photographs of Aboriginal people in different locations

Two photographs of Statutory Declarations by Reginald Gillespie and Austin Edward Dodd

Photograph of a letter to Mrs Trainor from Peter Stewart
