Guide to the Papers of Philip Hodgins

Australian Defence Force Academy Library

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Date completed:

September 2000

Encoded by:

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Last updated:

April 2003

This finding aid is published as part of the Australian Literary Manuscript Collections Project, which has received funding from the Australian Research Council’s Research Infrastructure Equipment and Facilities (RIEF) Scheme.

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Summary
Creator: Hodgins, Philip, 1959-1995
Title: Papers of Philip Hodgins
Date range: 1978-2000
Reference number: MS 13
Extent: 84 cm (8 boxes)
Repository: Australian Defence Force Academy Library
Abstract: The papers document Hodgins' writings from 1978, including correspondence, his poetry, reviews and reader's reports, photographs and an audio cassette, together with several unpublished works.

Scope and Content
The Philip Hodgins papers represent a near-complete record of Hodgins' literary production over a short but intense period of creative activity. The collection includes multiple drafts of all of Hodgins' published poetry, together with drafts of unpublished works. Hodgins' intense poetic and personal relationships with a number of significant Australian poets - and their encouragement of his writing despite great personal difficulties is well documented in correspondence dating from 1978 until Hodgins' death in 1995.

Organization
This collection has been rearranged into six artificial series and seven subseries to describe and preserve context and relationships.

Biographical Note
Philip Ian Hodgins was born on 28 January 1959 on a dairy farm at Katandra West near Shepparton, Victoria. He was educated at Geelong and later moved to Melbourne where he worked for ten years as a sales representative for a Melbourne publishing company, before becoming a full-time student at Melbourne University. His poetry encompasses his formative years in country Victoria, school life, hospital experiences, overseas travel, family life, and the experience of having an incurable illness. In 1990, he married the writer Janet Shaw with whom he had two daughters.
Hodgins' poetry and reviews were widely published in Australian journals and newspapers, and in journals in Europe, the United Kingdom and North America. His poetry was widely reviewed and critical essays have been written on his work.

Hodgins was awarded several prizes for his poetry including the Wesley Michael Wright Prize for Poetry 1986, the Bicentennial Poetry Book Award, the New South Wales Premier's Literary Award 1987, the Grace Perry Memorial Award 1988, the Grace Leven Poetry Prize 1993, the National Book Council Poetry Prize, the Prairie Schooner Readers Choice USA Award and the National Book Council Turnbull Fox Phillips Poetry Prize 1996.


Bruce Dawe won the inaugural Philip Hodgins Memorial Medal for Literary Excellence in 1997.

**Administrative Information**

**Access**
Collection is available for research.

**Restrictions on Use**
No copying is permitted without the permission of the copyright owners.

**Preferred Citation**
[Manuscript Item], Papers of Philip Hodgins, Australian Defence Force Academy Library, MS 13, Series [Number], Folder [Number].

**Provenance**
This collection was acquired from Philip Hodgins from 1989-1995, and from his widow Janet Shaw from 1996-1998.
Series List and Descriptions

Series 1 Correspondence, 1978-1995

This series contains personal and professional letters and postcards received and copies of letters sent by Hodgins, covering the period 1978-1995. Principal correspondents include Angus & Robertson, Alec Bolton, ETT Imprint, Stephen Edgar, Alan Gould, Robert Gray, John Forbes, HarperCollins Publishers Australia, Gwen Harwood, Paul Kane, Les Murray, Jan Owen, Geoff Page, Peter Porter, Peter Rose, and Alex Skovron.

Medical correspondence relating to Hodgins' treatment for leukaemia is also included. Personal correspondence is arranged alphabetically, then chronologically within each folder. Business correspondence is arranged chronologically within each folder.

Folder 1
Personal medical correspondence, 1987-1992

Folder 2
Personal correspondence from other poets, 1982-1995

Including Phillip Adams (4 letters), Stephen Edgar, Alan Gould (9 letters, 2 reviews and poetry), Paul Kane (14 letters, poetry and a typescript for the book launch of *Up on all fours*) and Jan Owen

Folder 3
Personal correspondence from other poets, 1982-1995

Including Alan Close, John Forbes, Peter Goldsworthy, Jamie Grant, Robert Gray together with a copy of “An interview with Robert Gray”, by Barbara Williams, Gwen Harwood, Kris Hemensley, Judith Rodriguez, Elizabeth Riddell, Philip Salom, Jemahl Sharah, Alex Skovron and Dennis [?] (1-4 letters each); Geoff Page (6 letters), Peter Porter (6 letters) and Peter Rose (22 letters and poetry)

Folder 4
Personal correspondence, 1980s
Folder 5
Personal correspondence, 1980s-1995

Folder 6
Thirty eight postcards from Australian literary figures originally located on a pinboard over Hodgins' desk

Including Alan Close, Alan Gould, Rosemary Dobson, Les Harrop, Paul Kane, Jan Owen, Jena Woodhouse and William Yang

Folder 7
Ninty one postcards from friends of Hodgins and Shaw originally located on a pinboard over Hodgins' desk

Folder 8
Miscellaneous business correspondence, 1978 - July 1994

Including the Australian Bicentennial Authority, Australian Defence Force Academy Library, The Canberra Times, George Braziller Inc., Grains Council of Australia, David Marr and the National Library of Australia

Folder 9
Miscellaneous professional correspondence, August 1994 - 3 August 1995

Including ABC, Alex Lyall, Russell Erwin, Arts Victoria, Fellowship of Australian Writers, Melbourne Writers' Festival and the Adelaide Festival

Folder 10
Professional correspondence from magazine editors and publishers, A-B, 1980-1994


Folder 11
Professional and personal correspondence from literary editors and publishers, 1984-1995

Including Les Murray and Richard Walsh, Angus and Robertson and Tom Thompson, Angus and Robertson and ETT Imprint

Folder 12
Professional correspondence from magazine editors and publishers, C-N, 1980-1995
Including Chatto, Bodley Head & Cape Services, HarperCollins Publishers Australia, Island, Meanjin and The Macmillan Company of Australia

Folder 13
Professional correspondence from magazine editors and publishers, O-S, 1988-1995,

Folder 14
Professional correspondence from magazine editors and publishers, S-V, 1979-1995,
Including Anna Secco, Supernova, The Times Literary Supplement, The University of Melbourne and Verse

Folder 15
Professional correspondence from Alec Bolton, Brindabella Press, 1987-1994, relating to the publication of *The end of the season: pastoral poems* and one carbon copy of correspondence from Hodgins to Bolton

**Series 2 Poetry and Novels, 1985-1995**

This series comprises notebooks, manuscript and typescript drafts for all Hodgins' published volumes of poetry, together with drafts of unpublished poems. Multiple versions of most poems are included. Correspondence regarding development and publication of the poetry is included in Series 1.

2.1 *Blood and bone*, 1986

This subseries comprises manuscript and typescript drafts and page proofs of *Blood and bone*, published by Angus & Robertson, North Ryde, N.S.W, 1986.

Folder 1
Annotated manuscript notebook containing notes and drafts of poems, including "disregarded" poetry and letters, 1985


Folder 2
Annotated manuscript and typescript drafts and notes


Folder 3
Annotated manuscript and typescript drafts and notes


Folder 4
Annotated manuscript and typescript drafts and notes

Folder 5
Annotated manuscript and typescript drafts and notes


Folder 6
Page proofs

2.2 Down the lake with half a chook, 1988

This subseries comprises manuscript and typescript drafts of Down the lake with half a chook, published by ABC Enterprises for the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, Crows Nest, N.S.W., 1988.

Folder 7
Annotated manuscript notebook containing notes and drafts of poems and letters


Folder 8
Annotated manuscript and typescript drafts, notes and contents list

Folder 9
Annotated manuscript and typescript drafts and notes


Folder 10
Page proofs with Hodgins pencil corrections and a copy of the rejected cover design

Folder 11
Final typescript with late ink alterations

2.3 Animal warmth, 1990

This subseries comprises manuscript and typescript drafts of Animal warmth, published by Angus & Robertson, North Ryde, N.S.W, 1990.

Folder 12
Annotated manuscript and typescript drafts, notes and contents list

Including contents list, “The way things were”, “The cattle show”, “A prayer”, “Standard hay bales”, “Pastoral feature film” and “The dry”

Folder 13
Annotated manuscript and typescript drafts and notes


Folder 14
Annotated manuscript and typescript drafts, notes and letters

2.4 *Up on all fours*, 1993 and *The end of the season: pastoral poems*, 1993

This subseries comprises manuscript and typescript drafts of *Up on all fours*, published by Angus & Robertson, Pymble, N.S.W., 1993 and manuscript and typescript drafts of *The end of the season: pastoral poems*, published by Brindabella Press, Canberra, 1993.

Folder 15
Annotated manuscript and typescript drafts and notes

Including poetry not used in either book and a draft title page and contents list of *Up on all fours* including “So-and-so's famous poem”, “At the sheep parasite field day”, “After the shearing”, “Getting through a fence” retitled “Getting through a strained fence”, “Driving through the mallee”, “After the shearing”, “The modern husbandry”, “The plague”, “Black-shouldered kite”, “A half-remembered visit”, “Rural affairs”, “Leaving”, “Three pig diseases”, “After a dry stretch”, “Rondeau lapin” and “The bunny and the duck”

Folder 16
Annotated manuscript and typescript drafts and notes


Folder 17
Annotated manuscript and typescript drafts and notes

prey”, “European carp”, “A memorial service”, “Fire risk days in the Riverina”, “Napoleon”, “Environmental terrorism” and “The verandah”

Folder 18
Annotated manuscript and typescript drafts and notes, including poetry not used in either book


2.5 Dispossessed, 1994

This subseries comprises manuscript and typescript drafts of Dispossessed, a novel in blank verse, published by Angus & Robertson, Pymble, N.S.W., 1994.

Folder 19
Annotated manuscript

Folder 20
Final corrected typescript

2.6 Things happen, 1995

This subseries comprises manuscript and typescript drafts of Things happen, published by Angus & Robertson, Pymble, N.S.W, 1995.

Folder 21
Annotated manuscript, typescript fragment (2 p.), title page and a handwritten note to Janet Shaw from Hodgins

few days and nights”, “Home is where the hurt is”, “Cytotoxic rigor”, “More light, more light”, “Wordy wordy numb numb”, “The precise moment”, “Giorgio de Chirico”, “St Stephens day in Venice”, “Melbourne heatwave” and “Kitchen”

2.7 Miscellaneous manuscript poetry

This subseries comprises a notebook containing notes, manuscript drafts and source cards.

Folder 22
Notebook containing notes and drafts of poems entitled the earliest jottings of poetry

Including those which were later developed and published and source cards with handwritten notes including “Apprentice poet”, “The apprenticeship”, “How to catch a rabbit”, “The patient”, “Nobel prize”, “A picture of Ben Johnson”; untitled poetry first lines “Abandoning the main body”, “Each year I try to write some poetry”, “There's something too obvious about it”, “This was a vengeful mass flooding the proud capital” and “Upstream in the middle”; “Set of instructions enclosed with an imported toy” and “The system”

**Series 3 Reviews and Reader's Reports**

This small series comprises book reviews and reader's report by Hodgins.

Folder 1
Handwritten and annotated typescripts of book reviews by Hodgins, and a manuscript assessment by Hodgins for *Sacred sites*, by R. F. Brissenden, (1990)

**Series 4 Miscellaneous**

This small series comprises miscellaneous typescripts dating from 1988-1990.

Folder 1
Typescript nomination by Alex Skovron for Hodgins and interviews with Barbara Williams, 6 June 1988, at Graduate Centre, City University of New York; with Diana Ritch, 7 March 1988, at the State Library of South Australia and a photocopy of interview questions, 1990
Series 5 Photographs

This small series comprises photographs of Hodgins and photographs sent to him.

Folder 1
Black and white photograph of Hodgins at his desk (with a full beard); Colour photograph of Gillian (Mears?); Three colour photographs by Richard Griffin sent to Hodgins with a note and mounted on a handmade card consisting of one fine binding display and two framed picture collages entitled “The Rock” and “The Park”

Series 6 Audio Cassette, 1995-2000

This small series comprises one audio cassette recorded in June 1995, by Rodney Wetherell, featuring Hodgins reading a selection of his poetry from Things happen, at his home near Maryborough in Victoria, and aired on 20/5/2000 for the Radio National PoeticA radio program.

Folder 1
Things happen, 20/5/1995

Box List

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