



GUIDE TO THE CAMDEN MORRISBY COLLECTION

DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY

Title:	Camden Morrisby Collection
Collection dates:	1896 - 1970
Creator:	Camden Morrisby
Languages represented:	English
Repository:	Rare Books and Special Collections, University of Sydney Library https://library.sydney.edu.au/collections/rare-books/
Extent:	1 box + 1 Envelope (#76)
Genre and Forms:	Manuscripts, newspapers, correspondence
Abstract:	Collection contains Camden Morrisby's personal correspondence from 1935 – 1967.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Provenance

Collection was purchased by in 1974 from Mr E Morrisby via the auspices of Walter Stone.

Access

Rare Books and Special Collections is a closed access collection located on Level 1 of Fisher Library. Please make an appointment to use material from Rare Books and Special Collections using 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, passport) while you are using the material.

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Preferred citation

Camden Morrisby collection, Rare Books and Special Collections, University of Sydney Library.

Biographical note

Camden Risby Morrisby, was born near Bega, NSW. Described as by People magazine in 1953 as a white-haired, fresh-faced, mild mannered bookworm, he was an avid book and ex-libris collector. During his lifetime his collection grew to between 10,000 – 15,000 bookplates and over 4000 books. His own bookplate features a scene of Johnson hitting a bookseller over the head with a dictionary from Boswell's *Life of Johnson*. The woodcut was executed by close personal friend Sir Lionel Lindsay. Morrisby was also one of the founding members of the Australian Ex Libris Society in 1923 and was a long time member of the NSW Bookplate club. He was also a radio broadcaster for over 20 years hosting the show Bookman's Talk on 2SM. He was also the Honorary Secretary of the Fellowship of Australian Writers in Sydney and corresponded with Australian literary and artistic figures.

Local Catalogue Headings

Morrisby, Camden, collector

DESCRIPTION OF SERIES

Morrisby 001

Correspondence from Percy S. Allen to Camden Morrisby
1937-1940,

1 autograph letter signed, 1 page of notes, 1 typed letter signed,

Correspondence regarding Wilma Dean. Percy S. Allen worked for the Sydney Morning Herald.

Morrisby 002

Letter from Mrs L.P.B. Armit (Peg Christensen) to Camden Morrisby
29/6/47

Typed letter, 3 leaves

Morrisby 003

The centre / Armstrong, John
n.d.

Poem and note

Typescript of poem. Accompanying note addressed to Mrs Abbott

Morrisby 004

Correspondence from Kate Baker to Camden Morrisby
20/1/47, 6/2/47

2 autograph letters signed

Letters regarding A.G. Stephens

Morrisby 005

Diary extract / Barbara, Annie
28/5/37 - 4/6/37

5 leaves

Extract from Annie Barbara's diary regarding earthquake in Papua New Guinea. Extract sent to Camden Morrisby.

Morrisby 006
Letter from Colin Berckelman to Camden Morrisby
15/12/47
Typed letter, 1 page
Letter regarding Book Collectors Society of Australia

Morrisby 007
Letter from E. Berkeley to Camden Morrisby
7/2/48
Autograph letter signed, 1 leaf

Morrisby 008
Letter from Nancy Besant to Camden Morrisby
14/8/43
Autograph letter signed, 1 leaf

Morrisby 009
Correspondence from Henry E. Boote to Camden Morrisby
19/7/45, 21/8/47
1 typed letter signed, 1 page; 1 autograph letter signed, 1 page

Morrisby 010
Letter from George Boreham to Camden Morrisby
31/8/53
Autograph letter signed, 1 page

Morrisby 011
Letter from Leslie Bridle to Camden Morrisby
18/11/54
Autograph note

Morrisby 012
Letter from Ruby Bridle to Camden Morrisby
19/1/56
Autograph letter signed, 1 page

Morrisby 013
Correspondence from H.M. Butterley to Camden Morrisby
6/3/58, 18/3/58
2 autograph letters signed, 2 pages

Morrisby 014
Correspondence from Harry Chaplin to Camden Morrisby
12/7/45, 10/12/47
1 autograph letter signed, 1 page; 1 typed letter signed, 1 page.

Morrisby 015
Correspondence from Frank Clune to Camden Morrisby
1943-1967
7 letters, 3 cards

Morrisby 016
Correspondence from Dymphna Cusack to Camden Morrisby
1935-40
5 letters

Morrisby 017
Correspondence from Frank Dalby Davison to Camden Morrisby
1936-47
5 letters

Morrisby 018
Correspondence from Wilma Deane to Camden Morrisby
1937-38
7 letters; 2 poems
Poems entitled Avenged! and Nightmare for the bookman

Morrisby 019
Review of The Young Cosima by Henry Handel Richardson / Drummond, Lute
n.d.
Book review; 3 typed, annotated pages
With newspaper cutting regarding Lute Drummond's forthcoming production of 3 operas for the Australian Broadcasting Commission

Morrisby 020
Correspondence from Ella Dwyer to Camden Morrisby
1939?
4 autograph letters signed
With notes written by G. Lovell Dwyer, Ella Dwyer's father (5 pages)

Morrisby 021
Letter from J.S.C. Elkington to Camden Morrisby
8/2/30
Autograph letter signed, 3 pages.
With cuttings from The Bulletin, dated 16/3/55, relating to the death of J.S.C. Elkington.

Morrisby 022
Correspondence from E.M. England to Camden Morrisby
12/12/47, 29/1/48.
2 letters

Morrisby 023
Letter from ? Finlay to Camden Morrisby
1936?
Autograph letter signed

Morrisby 024
Correspondence from W.E. FitzHenry to Camden Morrisby
1936-1956
6 letters, 2 newspaper cuttings, 2 pages of notes, 1 card.
With an annotated typescript copy of a poem by Eve Langley.

Morrisby 025

Correspondence from Miles Franklin to Camden Morrisby / Franklin, Miles, 1879-1954
1939?-47

27 typewritten notes and letters

With 8 sets of lecture notes (2 sets incomplete), 3 poems (1 poem signed by Miles Franklin, 2 poems signed by E), 3 cards, 2 letters to Miles Franklin.

Morrisby 026

Letter from Ben Fryor to Camden Morrisby

No date.

1 autograph letter signed

Morrisby 027

Correspondence from Mary Gilmore to Camden Morrisby / Gilmore, Mary Cameron, Dame, 1865-1962
1945-1947

4 autograph letters signed

With 2 autographed poems: Australian Battle Cry (annotated sheet music), No Foe Shall Gather Our Harvest);
and calendar.

Morrisby 028

Letter from Thistle Harris to Camden Morrisby

30/1/39

1 typescript letter with annotations

Morrisby 029

Card from Leslie and Sylvia Haylen to Camden Morrisby

1947

Christmas card

Morrisby 030

Letter from Xavier Herbert to Camden Morrisby / Herbert, Xavier, 1901-1984

9/2/46

1 autograph letter signed, 2 pages

Morrisby 031

Correspondence from Muir Holborn to Camden Morrisby

1948-1949

2 letters

Morrisby 032

Letter from Ada Holman to Camden Morrisby

23/8/48

1 typescript letter, 1 page.

Morrisby 033

Letter from R.G. Howarth to Camden Morrisby / Howarth, R.G.

30/9/47

1 autograph letter signed, 1 page.

Morrisby 034

Letter from Doreen Hubble to Camden Morrisby

14/2/63

1 autograph letter signed, 1 page.

Morrisby 035

Letter from Tom Hubble to Camden Morrisby

15/2/49

1 autograph letter signed, 1 page.

Morrisby 036

Correspondence from Ion Idriess to Camden Morrisby

1945, 1965.

2 autograph letters signed, 2 pages and 1 page.

Morrisby 037

Correspondence from E. Marie Irvine to Camden Morrisby

1939-1943

5 letters

With unrelated correspondence from Harry C. Perry and the Commonwealth Sub-Treasury.

Morrisby 038

Letter from Mrs Kendall to Camden Morrisby / Kendall, (given name unknown)

n.d.

Missing March 2000

Morrisby 039

Imminent summer / Keesing, Nancy

Sydney : designed and printed by Edwards and Shaw for the Lyrebird Writers, 1951.

2 leaves

Title page of book, signed by Nancy Keesing; page with illustration by Norman Lindsay.

Morrisby 040

Correspondence from George Kesteven to Camden Morrisby

22/6/39

1 letter, 1 poem, 1 article (6 pages).

Title of article: The Medico in Literature . With 3 pages of handwritten notes

Morrisby 041

Letter from Catherine Lindsay to Camden Morrisby / Lindsay, Catherine

29/7/38

1 typescript letter

Morrisby 042

Correspondence from Lionel Lindsay to Camden Morrisby / Lindsay, Lionel, Sir, 1874-1961

1935-1938?

7 autograph letters signed

Morrisby 043

Correspondence from Norman Lindsay to Camden Morrisby / Lindsay, Norman, 1879-1969
n.d.

2 autograph letters signed

Morrisby 044

Correspondence from Peter Lindsay to Camden Morrisby
1952

2 letters

Morrisby 045

Correspondence from W. Linklater (aka Billy Miller) to Camden Morrisby
1946-1948?

5 letters, 2 sets of notes, 1 poem, 1 article, 1 newspaper cutting, 2 photographs.

Morrisby 046

Correspondence from J.S. Litchfield to Camden Morrisby
1947

3 typed letters, 1 photograph.

Morrisby 047

Letter from C.P. Livingston to Camden Morrisby
29/12/42

1 autograph letter signed

Morrisby 048

Correspondence from M.E. Lloyd to Camden Morrisby / Lloyd, M.E.

Publisher

1946-1947

Description

2 autograph letters signed

Morrisby 049

Letter from Hugh McCrae to Camden Morrisby / McCrae, Hugh, 1876-1958
1/9/39

1 autograph letter signed, 1 page.

Morrisby 050

Letter from G. Mackaness to Camden Morrisby
11/10/48

1 autograph letter signed, 2 pages.

Morrisby 051

Letter from Cecil Mann to Camden Morrisby
n.d.

1 typed letter, 1 photograph.

Photograph of Cecil Mann.

Morrisby 052

Autobiographical notes / Marryat, ?

n.d.

Manuscript notes, 8 pages

Notes are unsigned. Author was the daughter of Captain Marryat and performed with touring drama companies in England.

Morrisby 053

Correspondence from Dora (Wilcox) Moore to Camden Morrisby

1932-1940

10 autograph letters signed, 1 book review, 1 newspaper cutting.

With letter from her husband, William Moore, to Camden Morrisby and 1 page of unattributed notes.

Morrisby 054

Correspondence from Mrs Maude M. Morgan to Camden Morrisby

1945-1947

3 typescript letters

Morrisby 055

We are the rivers / Mudie, Ian

1954?

Poem, annotated typescript, 2 pages.

With note from Camden Morrisby to Will ? regarding Ian Mudie's poem.

Morrisby 056

Letter from T.D. Mutch to Camden Morrisby

13/3/36

Autograph letter signed, 1 page.

Morrisby 057

Letter from M. Nance to Camden Morrisby

30/3/36

1 typescript letter, 2 pages.

Morrisby 058

Letter from Pixie O'Harris to Camden Morrisby

1948?

1 autograph letter signed, 1 page.

Morrisby 059

Correspondence from Ruth Park to Camden Morrisby / Park, Ruth

1949

2 letters, 1 pen and ink drawing.

Pen and ink drawing signed J. Phillips.

From comparison with drawings held at the State Library of NSW

(<https://collection.sl.nsw.gov.au/record/1JkmyArY>) this sketch is most likely by James Grainger Phillips (b. 1915 – 2000). Phillips was born in 1915 in Perth and was a prominent painter, cartoonist and illustrator, with works appearing in the Smith's Weekly.

Morrisby 060
Duo / Partridge, Eric
1931
Limited edition Christmas card with 2 poems

Morrisby 061
Correspondence from Pat Peck to Camden Morrisby
1959-1963
4 autograph letters signed, 3 cards, 5 photographs, 1 newspaper cutting.

Morrisby 062
Letter from Noel (Pierson?) to Camden Morrisby / Pierson, Noel
18/12/30
1 autograph letter signed, 1 page.
Letter signed Noel only.

Morrisby 063
Correspondence from John Preece to Camden Morrisby
n.d.
3 letters

Morrisby 064
Letter from Margaret Preston to Camden Morrisby
n.d.
1 autograph letter signed, 2 pages.

Morrisby 065
Correspondence from Coralie Lees to Camden Morrisby
1953
1 autograph letter signed, 1 request for book review

Morrisby 066
Correspondence from Leslie Lees to Camden Morrisby
1954
2 typed letters

Morrisby 067
Correspondence from Colin Roderick to Camden Morrisby
1953-1957
1 letter, 1 card, 1 invitation and 2 reports.
Invitation to a public meeting of the General Committee of the Chair of Australian Literature Fund, Report from Executive Committee (14/10/57), Honorary Treasurer's Report (30/9/57).

Morrisby 068
Correspondence from Archer Russell to Camden Morrisby
1947-1958
5 autograph letters signed

Morrisby 069

Letter from A.L. Sadler to Camden Morrisby

1/5/19??

1 autograph letter signed, 3 pages.

Morrisby 070

Correspondence from Cecil W. Salier to Camden Morrisby

1945

2 letters, 1 poem, 4 pages of notes

Correspondence and notes regarding paper by Cecil W. Salier, Life and Writings of Charles Harpur.

Morrisby 071

Letter from Michael Sawtell to Camden Morrisby

n.d.

1 typed letter, 1 leaflet.

Leaflet by Michael Sawtell, Terra Australis: the Ideal for Australia.

Morrisby 072

Letter from Robert H. Sherard to Camden Morrisby / Sherard, Robert H.

6/11/33

1 typed letter, 2 pages.

With leaflet by Robert H. Sherard, A Letter from Lord Alfred Douglas on Andre Gide's Lies about Himself and Oscar Wilde (1933), and copies of other letters to Sherard regarding his pamphlets and books.

Morrisby 073

Letter from P.R. Stephensen to Camden Morrisby

29/5/35

1 typed letter, 1 page.

Morrisby 074

Letter from Nellie Stewart to Camden Morrisby

20/10/48

1 autograph letter signed, 1 page.

Morrisby 075

Correspondence from Abbie Stone to Camden Morrisby

1935-1939

4 autograph letters signed, 2 cards.

Morrisby 076

Correspondence from Arthur Streeton to Ashton

n.d.

3 autograph letters signed, with pen and ink drawings by Streeton.

Letters to Julian Ashton. Two letters feature small pen and ink drawings by Streeton.

Morrisby 077

Letter from Josie Swinburne to Camden Morrisby

23/12/63

1 autograph letter signed, 3 pages.

Morrisby 078
Correspondence from Kenneth Slessor to Camden Morrisby
Missing 12/4/2000

Morrisby 079
Correspondence from Kylie Tennant to Camden Morrisby
1939-1964
18 letters, 1 card, 1 newspaper cutting, 2 telegrams.
Letters from Kylie and Roddy Tennant to Camden Morrisby.

Morrisby 080
Letter from K. Tonkin to Camden Morrisby
17/7/39
1 autograph letter signed, 1 page.

Morrisby 081
Correspondence from Frank and Margaret Trist to Camden Morrisby
1944-1958
5 letters, 1 card.

Morrisby 082
Notes / Walker, J.B.
n.d.
Notes, 4 pages.
Notes on Norfolk Island settlers and Tasmania.

Morrisby 083
Correspondence from W. Farmer Whyte to Camden Morrisby
1937-1950
2 autograph letters signed

Morrisby 084
Letter from L.L. Woolacott to Camden Morrisby
27/7/39
1 typed letter, 1 page of notes.

Morrisby 085
Lionel Lindsay: miscellaneous papers
n.d.
Poems, extracts from books, notes, newspaper cutting, sketch.
Poems and notes unattributed. Pencil sketch by Lionel Lindsay with list, Sentimental Bloke Suggestions (suggested illustrations for The Sentimental Bloke ?). Also 2 letters not associated with Lionel Lindsay.

Morrisby 086
Book review / Lindsay, Lionel, Sir, 1864-1961
n.d.
Typescript, 4 pages.
Review by Lionel Lindsay of Days in Old Spain by Gertrude Bone, illustrations by Muirhead Bone (Macmillan).

Morrisby 087

Book review / Lindsay, Norman, 1879-1969

n.d.

Annotated and signed typescript, 5 pages.

Review by Norman Lindsay of *Grand Man: memories of Norman Douglas* by Nancy Cunard (Secker and Warburg).

Morrisby 088

Louis Becke / Lindsay, Norman, 1879-1969

n.d.

Annotated and signed typescript, 4 pages.

Recollections of Louis Becke, 1855-1913, by Norman Lindsay.

Morrisby 089

A Misaid art / Lindsay, Norman, 1879-1969

n.d.

Annotated and signed typescript, 10 pages.

Article by Norman Lindsay on past artists of *The Bulletin* and the art of pen and ink work. Typescript was presented to Camden Morrisby by *The Bulletin* in 1950.

Morrisby 090

The Young Sam Johnson / Lindsay, Norman, 1879-1969

n.d.

Annotated and signed typescript, 8 pages.

Review by Norman Lindsay of *Young Samuel Johnson* by James L. Clifford (Heinemann).

Morrisby 091

Bush ballads and balladists / Lindsay, Norman, 1879-1969

n.d.

Annotated and signed typescript, 8 pages.

Review by Norman Lindsay of *Australian Bush Ballads* edited by Douglas Stewart and Nancy Keesing (Angus and Robertson). Fisher Rare Books RB544.1 1 (copy signed by Nancy Keesing).

Morrisby 092

Kenneth Slessor's Poetry / McCrae, Hugh, 1876-1958

n.d.

Annotated and signed typescript, 7 pages; 1 photograph.

Article by Hugh McCrae on Kenneth Slessor. Black and white photograph of Hugh McCrae.

Morrisby 093

Australiana for beginners / Morrisby, Camden

n.d.

Manuscript, 15 pages.

Lecture notes by Camden Morrisby on collecting Australiana.

Morrisby 094

David Scott Mitchell, a splendid example / Morrisby, Camden

1930

Manuscript, 11 pages.

Lecture notes by Camden Morrisby. Lecture delivered to RAHS (Royal Australian Historical Society?), 1930.

Morrisby 095

Flowering of a poet / Slessor, Kenneth

n.d.

Typescript, 6 pages.

Book review by Kenneth Slessor of Moonlight Acre by Robert D. Fitzgerald (Melbourne University Press). With newspaper cutting regarding award to Robert Fitzgerald.

Morrisby 096

Poetry of Douglas Stewart / Slessor, Kenneth

n.d.

Manuscript, 10 pages.

Book review by Kenneth Slessor of The White Cry by Douglas Stewart (J.M. Dent and Sons).

Morrisby 097

Story of Australia / Tennant, Kylie, 1912-1988

n.d.

Typescript, 209 pages.

Unpublished (?) manuscript.

Morrisby 098

Tether a dragon / Tennant, Kylie, 1912-1988

1951

Typescript, 93 pages.

With inscription from Kylie Tennant to Camden Morrisby. Typescript of a play.

Morrisby 099

Extracts from diary / Reilly, John Gavan

1895-1927

Manuscript with newspaper cuttings

Diary contains recollections of Ned Kelly, Mark Twain, etc.