

MILES WHITFELD PAPERS

Miles Whitfeld, a mechanical engineer, arrived in Western Australia aboard the *TSS Moreton Bay* on 12 March 1926. He was met in Perth by his brother, Ivan. The brothers contracted work in Grass Valley, then moved to Southern Cross, where Miles worked and lived in the railway construction camp at Norseman.

Miles wrote many letters to his mother in England, telling her in great detail about his way of living, his work, the fauna and flora and many other items of interest. He describes how they set up a tent to live in while they were working in the bush and how he made camp beds and a larder. Later in the year when he worked on the railway at Norseman, his letters are illustrated with delightful sketches of railway trains and equipment.

The collection contains a few short letters from Miles to his mother which were written from 1926-1927 and one in 1935 when Miles was working on the Canning Dam construction.

Photographs taken by Miles Whitfeld can be located in the Battye Pictorial Collection.

MN	ACC	meterage / boxes	Date donated	CIU file	Notes
1622	ACC 5030A	0.01	12/12/1998		
	ACC 10942A	0.02	05/12/2023	BA/OM/24/0069	

SUMMARY OF CLASSES

ARTICLES

CORRESPONDENCE

EVENTS

LICENCES

PHOTOGRAPHY

REFERENCES

REQUEST THIS NUMBER	DATE RANGE	DESCRIPTION
		ARTICLES
ACC 5030A/1	26 August 1926 – 7 April 1927	'A farm in Australia' by Miles Whitfeld B.Sc, A.G.G.I., S.I. Mech. Eng.
		CORRESPONDENCE
		All addressed to "Dear Mother", mainly from Miles, number 4 from Ivan
ACC 5030A/2	19 February-28 February 1926	Written initially from <i>TSS Morton Bay</i> , Bitter Lakes, Suez Canal, later "Indian Ocean". Relating life on board ship, activities, food, places visited. Handwritten, 7 folios
ACC 5030A/3	3 March-12 March 1926	Written initially from "In the Indian Ocean, about 400 miles from S. of Ceylon". Handwritten, 6 folios
ACC 5030A/4	3 March-12 March 1926	Written by Ivan, telling of Miles arrival in Perth, contract work, paper-bark trees, searching for suitable land to purchase, considering bee-hunting as a commercial prospect and anticipated travel to Grass Valley. Handwritten, (pencil), 2 folios

ACC 5030A/5	19 March 1926	Contract work, job hire from a registry, travel to Grass Valley by train, drawings of 'blackboy' trees, with diameters. Handwritten, 2 folios
ACC 5030A/6	25 March 1926	Ants, with full-size drawing, clearing in the bush, gum-trees, dirt, 'black with charcoal', payment for labour. Includes hand-drawn map of the land contracted to be cleared. Handwritten, 3 folios
ACC 5030A/7	7 April 1926	Describing a photograph that he enclosed in the letter, small drawing of a larder, made from a kerosene case.
ACC 5030A/8	16 April 1926	
ACC 10942A/1	15 May 1935	A handwritten Letter including diagrams. It seems to be describing work on a dam that he is assisting with. Includes a smaller diagram that shows the wider area around the dam.
		EVENTS
ACC 10942A/2	26 April 1929	A dance card from the Annual Graduation Ball held at the Government House Ballroom in WA. Inside has a list of names for different dances.
		LICENCES
ACC 10942A/3	6 August 1941	A driver's licence for a motor vehicle. Includes licence number, name, address and expiration date. Granted by the Commissioner of Police, W.A.
		PHOTOGRAPHY
ACC 10942A/4	c.1930-1940	Multiple photo cases from the company named Kodak. They include prices for different sized photographs. Four in total, three red and one black.
		REFERENCES
5030A/82	18 January 1937	Character reference, from the Resident Engineer of the Metropolitan Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage Department, for Miles Whitfeld, supervisor, batching of concrete for the Canning Dam construction

Copyright Restrictions

The Copyright Amendment (Disabilities and Other Measures) Act 2017 regulates copying of unpublished material. It is the user's legal obligation to determine and satisfy copyright.