UQFL344
Giles Family Collection

Size 1 box

Contents Thirteen diaries covering the years 1934 to 1945 and 1954, as well as photographs, newspaper and manuscript articles about the Elsey Station in the Northern Territory. Included is a photocopy of an article by Ernestine Hill entitled ‘They of the Never Never’. The photographs cover the years 1907-1946 and show the Giles family and staff, the engraved Banyan tree, Duke and Duchess of Gloucester’s visit in 1946, and Aboriginal families living on the station. Also included is a Giles family tree and family correspondence.

Date range 1881 to 1969

Biography The Giles family were pioneers in the Northern Territory and managed stations there, notably Elsey Station which was used as the setting for We of the Never Never by Jeannie Gunn. Harold Giles was the manager of Elsey Station from 1926 to the mid 1950s (excluding the years 1946 to 1950).

Notes Open access
Photographs, newspaper and journal articles and manuscripts, are copies. This collection may contain culturally sensitive words or descriptions, some of which might not normally be used in certain public or community contexts.

Box 1

Folder 1
Photographs (copied from originals), and negatives, mainly of Elsey Station and its occupants. Individually numbered; some with captions. Photographs with captions described in ‘single inverted commas’; photographs without captions described in [square brackets]:

1. [Building – Elsey homestead?]
2. [Woman in garden]
3. [Aboriginal women and children outside shed]
4. ‘The 2AWC girls, yourself and Sister Foley, RAAF’
5. ‘Side view’ [Elsey homestead?] 
6. [Person in water hole]
7. [Building]
8. ‘The Elsey natives’
9. [2 little girls]
10. [Group of Aboriginal women and children]
11. ‘Drafting’
12. ‘In difficulties on the way to the Jungle Elsey’
13. ‘Rear view’ [of Elsey homestead?]
14. [Man in garden]
15. ‘Giles and river near dams between dams 4 and 5’
16. ‘Vegetable garden Elsey homestead Giles’
17. ‘Jackaroos’
18. ‘Front of house’
19. ‘Garden wall constructed by George Chong Chinese cook’
20. [2 Aboriginal girls]
21. [Elsey homestead?]
22. [2 Aboriginal women]
23. [2 men in scrub]
24. ‘Pet kangaroo’
25. ‘View from homestead Elsey Station’
26. ‘L.D. Giles, H.S. Giles and Margaret Giles on right’
27. ‘Grave, the Fizzer’
28. ‘New homestead Elsey’
29. [2 women in bark canoe]
30. ‘New homestead’
31. [car]
32. ‘Five generations - Maggie, faithful old lubra’
33. ‘John, Judith, Margaret, Ian Giles’
34. ‘H.S. Giles, General Allen’.
35. ‘Elsey Homestead’
36. ‘Roper River Elsey homestead’
37. ‘Peter, Ian, Margaret, Doris Giles, Margaret’
38. [portrait of 3 children]
39. ‘Ian Giles’
39. ‘Peter Giles 5 years’
40. ‘H.S. Giles, Doris Giles. Elsey Station’
41. ‘Elsey’
42. ‘Elsey bullocks’
43. ‘Banyan tree - We of the Never Never’
44. ‘Elsey’
45. [rugby team]
46. ‘Warrenoak’
47. [man in uniform and woman]
48. [woman leaning against fence]
49. ‘Marranboy Hospital – Doris Dunlop and Jean Herd’
50. ‘Margaret, Peter, Doris, Maud, Mr Bryant, Corinda’
51. ‘Elsey homestead – 1928’
52. ‘Lubra. Elsey’
53. ‘Peter Giles’
54. ‘Historic Banyan tree. Elsey Station’
55. ‘Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, Elsey Station 1946’
56. ‘Warrenoak Indooroopilly’
57. ‘Departure of Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, Elsey Station, Northern Territory 1946. H. Truneman and H.S. Giles and ladies in waiting. Miss Phipps’
58. [Duke of Gloucester and others]
59. ‘Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, Elsey Station 1946’
60. ‘Five generations. Elsey station blacks’
61. ‘1000 bullocks, Elsey’
62. ‘Buggy with Leslie and Mother in front, Topsy behind with rifle and dead kangaroo; Farringon riding Pincher near the anthill – October 8 1907’
63. ‘Wale palm at Borroloola’
64. ‘Springs Brocks Creek. Jungle’
65. [portrait of Harold Giles]
66. negative of Giles family tree

Folder 2
Photocopied articles on family including family tree and ‘They of the Never Never’ by Ernestine Hill in Walkabout, Nov 1, 1944.

Folder 3
Photocopied newspaper cuttings of articles relating to Mrs Jeannie Gunn and her book We of the Never Never.
Folder 4
Photocopied newspaper cuttings of articles related to Australian Inland Mission and John Flynn, including 'His Monument is in the Hearts of a People' in *Walkabout* July 1, 1956.

Folder 5
Photocopied newspaper cuttings of articles concerning Aborigines on Elsey Station.

Folder 6
Photocopied newspaper cuttings of articles relating to Elsey Station.

Folder 7
Typescript lecture by Mrs L. Doris Giles, about Australian Inland Mission and Elsey Station (20 p.; photocopy)

Folder 8
Photocopied handwritten manuscripts:
Letter 18 Aug 1946 H Giles, Elsey Station, to Doris ([2] leaves)
Letter 1 May 1820 C Giles, Gross Hennersdorf, to Father (accompanied by letter, Peter to Mum) ([4] leaves)
Assorted pages, author unidentified; appears to be personal memoir of Elsey Station ([9] leaves)
‘Recollections of [Roper?]’, author unidentified (14 leaves)
Pages from account book, March-July 1906 ([12] leaves)
‘The Overlanders 1-9-1945’ : list of names ([6] leaves)
‘Miss Herd and Miss Dunlop’ (1 leaf)