

Gary Crew and Peter Gouldthorpe Collection

The Lost Diamonds of Killiecrankie

Scope and Content

The *Lost Diamonds of Killiecrankie* was a collaborative work by Gary Crew and Peter Gouldthorpe who blended history and fiction to create the story.

This Collection consists of notes, story ideas and drafts, photographs, negatives, slides, drawings, objects and “props” created to tell and “authenticate” the story. Some materials (both original art and props) have been collated in large format plastic sleeves and used as exhibition materials by The Literature Centre.

Five pieces of framed art and 19 pieces of unframed art by Peter Gouldthorpe were received in conjunction with these materials and are described in the [Framed Artwork Collection](#) under Gouldthorpe’s name.

Most of the unframed artwork and numerous props have been mounted on large format card and placed in plastic sleeves. These materials formed part of a travelling display.

All materials were received from The Literature Centre (Fremantle) in late 2025 prior to their relocation to the State Library Building in Perth.

A GUIDE TO THE GARY CREW AND PETER GOULDTHORPE COLLECTION

The Lost Diamonds of Killiecrankie

SERIES DESCRIPTION

SERIES 1 – Book Development

The author, Gary Crew, illustrator Peter Gouldthorpe and Lothian Books Editor, Helen Chamberlin appear to have had a very close relationship throughout the development and publication of this book. All of them travelled to Flinders Island (the site for the story) together and independently as part writing and development process. This is reflected in the casual nature of their communication.

Series	Folder	Description & Date Range	Notes	Box
1	1.1.1	Hard covered black journal with red spine and triangle of red on the outer corners 26.6 X 19 X 2.5 cm lined pages. Contains research notes, story ideas/drafts, sketches, photographs, collected	Part of The Literature Centre Travelling Exhibition Set 1	1

		tourist information, weather report. Much of the book is written in Gary Crew's handwriting, however there is a large proportion in another handwriting. The last entries in the book are related to ideas for other Gary Crew novels <i>Caleb</i> and <i>Bright Star</i> .		
1	1.1.2	Letter dated 6 June 1994 from Gary Crew to Peter Gouldthorpe and attached, a Rationale and Tentative Plot Overview - 9 pp		1
1	1.1.3	Draft early version of the first part of the script, includes draft "letters" of Geoff Middleton, Gary Crew and the Colonial Secretary -17 pp		1
1	1.1.4	Rationale and Tentative Plot Overview marked up for editing. Date in pencil on back of last page "July 5" - 2 pp		1
1	1.1.5	A further developed Rationale and Tentative Plot Overview – undated 7 pp		1
1	1.1.6	Rationale and Tentative Plot Overview, explanation of the purpose of the "Flinders Article", outline of a sub plot, (marked up), letter from Gary Crew to Peter Gouldthorpe and copied to Helen discusses plot development – 14 pp	Helen Chamberlin, Editor, Lothian Books	1
1	1.1.7	Three early "letters" and 5 pages of draft text marked up, sticky note attached - "Dear Pete- it's a start! Gazza"- 8 pp		1
1	1.1.8	Possible sub-plot – 2 pp		1
1	1.1.9	Note from Helen to Gary regarding mock-up of "Bent-back Bridge" dated 31 Jan 1995		
1	1.1.10	Typed draft of 1 st page and ideas for layout		
1	1.1.11	Edits of "letters" Faxed to Helen Chamberlin 27 April 1995 – 3 pp		1
1	1.1.12	Two typed "letters" (3 rd draft?) – 4 pp		1
1	1.1.13	Mock ups for publication of two letter, photos to be used and the poster – 10 pp		1
1	1.1.14	Marked up edits – has sticky note attached "Drafts of original manuscripts" appears to be edit of early draft - 7 pp		1
1	1.1.15	Typed version of full text with suggestions for layout – 46 pp		1
1	1.1.16	Late draft, storyboard and research notes from a notebook- 53 X A4 pp and 2X A3 pages with story board – 55 pp		1
1	1.1.17	Early proof – 70 pp		1
1	1.1.18	Note to David Salter from Gary Crew and Peter Gouldthorpe dated 31 May 1995 regarding edits -3 pp		1

1	1.1.19	Note undated to Helen Chamberlin from Gary Crew suggested “blurb” for the book - 1 page		1
1	1.1.20	Draft of suggested second last page (not used) -to have ISBN and publisher’s details – 1 page		1
1	1.1.21	A4 size photocopy and transparency of the portrait of Queen Victoria		1
1	1.1.22	2 A4 pages of black and white photocopies of coloured photos for potential use in the book		1
1	1.1.23	Early draft of the copyright page. Note - scrimshaw is not decorated		1
SERIES 2 – Letters and Research				
2	2.1.1	Letter dated 24 Feb 1992 from Jesper Rasmussen to Peter Gouldthorpe regarding making scrimshaw -double sided foolscap page		1
2	2.1.2	Fax dated 11 Aug 1993 from Margot Welsh to Christine Crew regarding dates of the Tasmanian School Holidays for Easter and May (1994?) (it appears Margot may be a teacher at Flinders Island District High School) -1 page		1
2	2.1.3	Fax dated 19 Aug 1994 to Gary Crew from Margot Welsh Congratulating him for (?) - 1 page		1
2	2.1.4	Letter dated 23 Jul 1994 to Gary Crew and his wife from Margot Welsh referring to elements of the book and Gary’s planned visit to Flinders Island – 4 pp		1
2	2.1.5	Flyer for accommodation on Flinders Island		1
2	2.1.6	Letter dated 20 Feb 1995 from Chris Tassell, Director Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery providing factual corrections and advice -2 pp		1
2	2.1.7	Letter dated 6 Mar 1995 from Margot Welsh (resident FI) to Gary Crew providing advice on factual errors, interpretation of local information/perspectives and suggestions re story line. -3 B5 size note paper pages written on both sides		1
2	2.1.8	Letter dated 7 Mar 1995 from Margot Welsh containing research information and offering editorial advice – 2 pages lined paper		1
2	2.1.9	Letter dated 20 Apr or Jul (1995?) from Sandra Reid (FI resident) to Gary and Christine Crew, in which she refers to factual errors in <i>Lost Diamonds</i> and discussion with Peter Gouldthorpe. – 6 pp		1

2	2.1.10	Fax dated 19 May 1995 from Helen Chamberlin to Gary Crew requesting edits to the “letter” to Geoff Middleton		1
2	2.1.11	Letter dated Monday 19 Jul (? Year) from Veena Tilly, Dept Education and the Arts providing research material – 8 pp		1
2	2.1.12	Letter dated 15 Nov (year?1996) from Sandra Reid to Gary Crew returning photos and congratulating him on his success – 1 foolscap lined page written on both sides		1
2	2.1.13	Two copies of a page on Topaz/cut stones with notes about Peter finding a “green diamond”. Note on the back of one by Peter Gouldthorpe		1
2	2.1.14	Yellow envelope addressed to Gary and Christine Crew; sender Margot Welsh		1
SERIES 3 – Photographs, Postcards and Slides				
3	3.1 (a)	1 box containing 30 slides of Flinders Island		2
3	3.1 (b)	5 Black and white postcards 10.5 X 15 cm featuring historic photos of Flinders Island from the period 1909 to the 1920s		2
3	3.1 (b)	1 11 X16.5 cm colour postcard of an Argonaut or Paper Nautilus shell with “inhabitant”		2
3	3.1 (b)	4 10 x 14 cm colour postcards of Flinders Island sent by Gary to his family		2
3	3.1 (b)	1 11X15.5 cm photo of rocks		2
3	3.1 (b)	Green and white lever arch folder containing 240 10X15 cm coloured photos of Peter and Gary’s trips to Flinders Island, film negatives in plastic sleeves. Note these photographs were received in three “groups”. They have been arranged in the folder to reflect this. Some photos have sticky notes in Peter’s handwriting on the reverse. Many of the photos have been used in the book.		2
3	3.1 (b)	7 15 x 21.5 colour photographs mostly of Peter at work, some include children watching and Gary		2
3	3.1 (b)	2 black and white proof sheets		2
SERIES 4 – Mixed Media				
4		A piece of Flinders Island conglomerate rock comprised of small quartz like crystals and an orangey clay like material. Appears to contain small flecks of a mica like reflective material.	As seen on the frontispiece	2

		Irregular shape approx. 7 cm square X2.5cm thick.		
		A piece of quartz 1 X 1 X 1.5 cm and a piece of topaz crystal 3 X 1 X 1.5cm found by Gary Crew of Peter Gouldthorpe at Mount Killiecrankie		2
		A piece of scrimshaw engraved on walrus tooth by Peter Gouldthorpe Base diameter 3cm 10 cm high. Point of the tooth is damaged, otherwise in excellent condition. Etching depicts a snake curling the full height of the tooth, a sailing ship, native plants, dolphins, a kangaroo, three figures in a rowboat	Appears on title page, in photograph on pp 59, back cover of book	2
		A chip of ceramic material irregular shape 2.5 X 3.5 cm creamy white base colour with a blue plant printed pattern, typical of late 1800's early 1900s	Appears on title page	2
		Piece of marine plant, roughly round shape 7cm across, strands of material forming a 3cm high mound, has two 2cm conical shaped holes	Appears on title page	2
		A piece of creamy marine(?) white calcium/bone like material, fluted /folded appearance, heavy like stone 4 X2.5 1.5 cm		2
		A piece of snakeskin		2
SERIES 5 – Promotional Materials and Reviews				
5	5.1.1	Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery Newsletter Summer 2000 listing <i>The Lost Diamonds of Killiecrankie</i> exhibition 17 May – 2 July 2000		1
5	5.1.2	Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery with Complements slip and two 11.5 X17.5 cm photographs of the exhibition		1
5	5.1.3	Undated newspaper article about the above exhibition, includes a photograph of Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery librarian Kaye Dimmack		1
5	5.1.4	Lothian Books (size A3) promotional poster for Gary Crew: front has picture of Gary and 10 of his books including <i>Lost Diamonds</i> , back has information about Gary, list of some of his awards and activities for students to undertake		1
5	5.1.5	Copy of a page from what appears to be a school magazine. (Flinders Island District High School?) One contribution is about the naming of Thunder and Lightning Bay and the other two refer to a visit to the school by Gary Crew and Peter Gouldthorpe. – 1 page		1

5	5.1.6	Review by Linnet Hunter, Published <i>Viewpoint</i> Volume 4, Number 2, Winter 1996 – 3 pages		1
SERIES 6 – Materials Used by Fremantle Literature Centre for Exhibitions				
6	6.1	First Edition HB “The Lost Diamonds of Killiecrankie” signed by Gary Crew		1
		Laminated A4 bio of Gary Crew		
		Laminated A4 bio of Peter Gouldthorpe		
		Spiral bound Travelling Exhibition Inventory – “The Lost Diamonds of Killiecrankie”		
		Teachers Notes prepared by Linnet Hunter		
The following items are mixed materials mounted on cream card and covered by a plastic sleeve. Each sleeve has Velcro on the back. Each sheet appears to have been numbered, however numbering tags appear to have fallen off some sleeves. There are two sizes of sleeves, each forming a series.				
6	59.5 X 42 CM	1. 57.5 X42 CM storyboard	Boxed - Top of map draw	8A25
6	59.5 X 42 CM	2. Two lino blocks, lino print (p 48) and photocopy of print (p 51)		8A25
6	59.5 X 42 CM	3. Original artwork for the cover and a photo of an uncut and cut topaz		8A25
6	59.5 X 42 CM	4. Tourist map of Flinders Island (p 9), Airlines of Tasmania ticket for “Mr G Middleton” and luggage tags (p 34), original sketch of a barn and two sheep (p 10)		8A25
6	59.5 X 42 CM	5. Photo Mount Killiecrankie photo “Luke, Johnno and Aaron (p14), original letter to” Geoff Middleton” terminating his employment (p18)		8A25
6	59.5 X 42 CM	6. Two original watercolours of Truganini and William Lanney (p21)		8A25
6	59.5 X 42 CM	7. Original watercolour “Opening of the Crystal Palace” (p28) and the scrap of torn paper with the details of the gems “Supplied to the Great Exhibition” (p29)		8A25
6	59.5 X 42 CM	8. Picture of a Nautilus shell (p 37), photo of objects (nautilus shell, scrimshaw, china, topaz) (p 59)		8A25
6	59.5 X 42 CM	9. Black and white photocopy of a picture used as reference for the portrait of Queen Victoria (p 64), photo of “Aaron Bates grave” and a picture of “Aaron” (free back paper)		8A25
6	40 X84 CM	1. Letter from Margot Walsh to Gary Crew regarding his visit to Flinders Island dated 11 Mar		8A25

		1993, early story ideas, 3 photographs; Peter and Gary at the waterfront, Peter and Gary at the Airport, Peter and Helen Chamberlin at the airport.		
6	40 X84 CM	2. 6 typed pages Rationale and Tentative Plot Overview”		8A25
6	40 X84 CM	3. Letter dated 30 Jan 1996 from Magnolia Gee, Lothian Books to Peter Crew, Envelope addressed to Gary Crew and Peter Gouldthorpe, colour copy of the cover of Henry Reynolds book Fate of A Free People, inspiration for Peters painting “George Robinson welcomes Natives to Wybelenna”, Letter dated 23 Jan 1996 from Lois Ireland, coloured picture(not use) of a boy in FID High School sweatshirt, black and white picture of same boy (free back paper)		8A25
6	40 X84 CM	4. two lino blocks; Whitemark “postmark” and “Child safety is no accident”, envelopes “stamped and addressed to Peter and Gary, colour photo of intersection (free front paper), the original letter written by “Geoff Middleton “ to Gary and Peter (pp1-2), Helen Chamberlin, Lothian Books reply (original) (p 3), “Thunder and Lightening Bay” document (paste down font paper), “The British Empire 1837” (paste down font paper)		8A25
6	40 X84 CM	5. Original artwork “granite Monoliths” (PP12, 13)		8A25
6	40 X84 CM	6. Watercolour preliminary concept, preliminary sketch, and final watercolour “Natifs De La Terre De Van Dieman” (pp 22, 23), Photocopy of the photograph “Tasmanian Aborigines at Government House” (p 25), photocopy of painting by Duterrau of George Robinson with aborigines (p 24)		8A25
6	40 X84 CM	7. Ink drawing of the “Colonial Museum” emblem, letter dated 23 May 1969 to “Geoff Middleton” from Colonial Museum (p 30), Colonial Secretary letter of advice to Doctor Joseph Milligan (p 31), concept sketch for “Little Boy Billy” (p 41)		8A25
6	40 X84 CM	8. Letter dated 18 Jul 1969 from “Tasmanian Archives” to “Geoff Middleton” (p 47), Letter dated 20 Dec 1849 from “Joseph Milligan” to the Governor (p 48), Letter dated 15 Jul 1850 from “Joseph Milligan” to the Governor (p 49)		8A25
6	40 X84 CM	9. 2 page “poster” “Trust Betrayed” (pp 50,51), one coloured and three black and white photos depicting how “The Fangs” drawing evolved,		8A25

		(p60)pencil preliminary drawing of “The Fangs” (p 53), A4 “Map of Killiecrankie Bay” (p 55), same map with watercolour “snake “ drawn along the shoreline, scrap of paper with concept drawing in watercolour and pencil sketch of the “map” later transferred to the scrimshaw (p 57),		
6	40 X84 CM	10. Crayon “rubbing” of a headstone for Margaret Monaghan and her two children. (p 11)		8A25
6	40 X84 CM	11. Watercolour picture of crayfish cages in Killiecrankie Bay (pp32,33)		8A25
6	40 X84 CM	12. Three coloured photos of a boulder on the beach. The boulder is smooth and rounded and has a horizontal crack a little over halfway up. Monochrome watercolour of the boulder (p38 and endpaper).		8A25
6	40 X84 CM	13. Watercolour and crayon picture of a horse with a nosebag standing outside the Killiecrankie Lapidary Club hut. (pp 44,45), colour photograph of “Lizzies” backyard” (p 39), pencil sketch “Luke and Johnno fossicking” (p 42), coloured photo of a hut – inspiration for the Watercolour		8A25
6	40 X84 CM	14. Three photos of the Wybalenna Chapel ((endpaper), a photo of the Junior Farmers plaque at Wybalenna (endpaper), A4 photocopy of a picture of the “Wybalenna, the Aboriginal settlement on Flinders Island” and half of the opposite page.		8A25
6	40 X84 CM	15. An early proof of the book cover with editing notes, three pages from “The Childs Guide to Tasmania”. The birds and a seal have been coloured and used to decorate the map of Flinders Island (p9)		8A25
SERIES 7 – Materials Donated by Peter Gouldthorpe Not Used by Fremantle Literature Centre for Exhibitions				
7		Inventory of Pieces not in the exhibition		8A25
7		Original rationale as supplied to Peter and Lothian Books		8A25
7		2 X A3 pages storyboard		8A25
7		Photocopy of the unsigned letter dated 14 April 1969 from the Department of Education to Geoffrey Middleton		8A25
7		Photocopy p 20 of the book		8A25
7		Photocopy of 4 A4 pages of Gary’s first draft of the text. Tape on the back for display		8A25
7		Photocopy p 51 of the book		8A25

7		3X A3 pages of draft text for headstone p 11Proof of book cover		
7		Proof of pp62,63 and coloured photo of a grave with corrections		
7		Original letter dated 11 November 1995 and signed by Helen Chamberlin, Lothian Books to Geoff Middleton		
7		Note dated 26 April 1995 from Helen Chamberlin, Lothian Books to Peter Gouldthorpe		
7		Note dated 19 May 1995 from Margot Walsh to Peter Gouldthorpe with text from Margaret Monaghan headstone.		
7		First, second and Third proof of the title page with instructions for correction		
7		Original letter dated 4 October 1849 from the Colonial Secretary to Dr Joseph Milligan		
7		Photocopy from a book of picture of "The Prince Consort"		
7		Photocopy of the headstone rubbing		
7		Original artwork "Luke and Johnno Diamond Hunting"		