

# Guide to the Alfred Stephen McCarthy Papers

MS 1856



compiled by Christopher Geissler

June 2005

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
(203) 432-1735  
(203) 432-7441  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1856

**CREATOR:** McCarthy, Alfred Stephen, 1878-1955

**TITLE:** Alfred Stephen McCarthy papers

**DATES:** 1877-1955

**BULK DATES:** 1901-1941

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.5 linear feet

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The papers consist of a diary kept by McCarthy during his year of service with the 6th Imperial Bushmen cavalry unit in the Boer War, 1900-1901; legal documents, including birth and marriage certificates; limited correspondence; photographs; records kept by McCarthy during his tenure as a sergeant with the New South Wales police, 1901-1922; a collection of McCarthy's bush poetry; and newspaper clippings collected by McCarthy.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1856>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1856>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box  
f. folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Transferred from the African Collection Curator, 2005.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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### Conditions Governing Use

Copyright status for collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

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### Preferred Citation

Alfred Stephen McCarthy Papers (MS 1856). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Alfred Stephen McCarthy was born September 8, 1878, in Mudgee, New South Wales, Australia. From 1900-1901, he served in South Africa with the 6th Imperial Bushmen of the Imperial Bushmen's Contingent, an Australian cavalry unit. Following this period of service, he returned to New South Wales where he worked as a local police sergeant.

ence in the Boer War and observations of contemporary life in Australia. Aside from the poetry, there is scant evidence of McCarthy's life for the period following his discharge from the police department until his death in 1955.

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## Scope and Contents

in the two decades following his military service in South Africa. A scrapbook collection of poetry by McCarthy and clippings of poetry by others is also included.

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## Arrangement

[Inventory, 1877-1955](#)

## Collection Contents

### Inventory, 1877-1955

Correspondence		
b. 1, f. 1	[Dumont?] Leo E. English	1901 April 28
b. 1, f. 2	McCarthy, Walton (father)	1901 July 18, 1930 November 5
Letters of recommendation		
b. 1, f. 3	McCarthy, Alfred Stephen	1901, 1921-1928
b. 1, f. 4	McCarthy, Frederick and Katie McCarthy	1932-1934
b. 1, f. 5	Diary [Boer War service, includes photograph (Alfred S. McCarthy?) and service ribbon (no medal) found in pocket of diary]	1900 April 23-1901 May 30, undated
b. 1, f. 6	Discharge certificates [South Africa Contingent, New South Wales Police Department]	1901 Jul, 1922 November
Legal documents		
b. 1, f. 7	McCarthy, Alfred Stephen	1878, 1904, 1910, 1915, 1955
b. 1, f. 8	McCarthy family	1877, 1931
b. 1, f. 9	New South Wales Police Department [employment records]	1901 October-1922 April
b. 1, f. 10	Photograph [Hester Strijdorn]	undated
Scrapbook		
b. 1, f. 11	Poetry by A. S. McCarthy and others, newspaper clippings [glued in ledger]	1936-1941, undated
b. 1, f. 12	Poetry by others and newspaper clippings [loose pages]	undated

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

South African War, 1899-1902  
South African War, 1899-1902 -- Personal  
narratives

### **Names**

McCarthy, Alfred Stephen, 1878-1955