



# Hugh Sawrey Collection

**Accession number** 31897

**Date** 1960-2010

**Author / Creator**

**Sawrey, Hugh, 1923-1999 artist.**

**Abstract** Collection includes correspondence, newspaper clippings, photographs, drawings, visual diaries and notes, original art works, annotated published materials, exhibition catalogues, administrative papers related to the establishment of The Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame at Longreach, video recordings, cassettes and compact disks with interviews and personal items that belonged to Australian artist Hugh Sawrey including his hat and artist's palette.

**System of arrangement** Arranged into 4 series

**Description** 6 boxes of professional papers, newspaper clippings, works of art, sketchbooks, various realia.

**Administrative / Biographical history** Hugh David Sawrey was born at Forest Glen, near Buderim, Queensland, 3rd March 1919. His childhood was spent at various properties in outback Queensland and he later earned his living as a stockman. He served in World War II in New Guinea and returned to Queensland and the land at the conclusion of the war. Sawrey was a self-taught artist who pursued a career in art attaining success in the sixties with his first solo exhibition at the Grand Central Gallery in Brisbane in 1965. He established a Quarter Horse stud at Coomera, eventually moving to a new property in Victoria in 1978. Sawrey was the instigator for the establishment for the Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame at Longreach which opened in 1988. He was awarded an Order of the British Empire in 1989 and appointed a Member of the Order of Australia on 20 January 1999. Hugh Sawrey died at Wangaratta Hospital 10th June 1999 -- from Artist's website and Design & Art Australian Online database: <https://www.hughsawrey.com/bio/>, <https://www.daaio.org.au/bio/hugh-sawrey/biography/>

**Access restrictions** Unrestricted access.

**Copyright status** Multiple copyright statuses.

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**Preferred citation**

31897, Hugh Sawrey Collection, John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland

[View full catalogue record](#)

## Series 1: Realia (Undated)

**Series number** 1

**Series title** Realia

**Date** Undated

**Scope and content**

Items used by artist Hugh Sawrey.

**Author / Creator**

Sawrey, Hugh, 1923-1999, artist.

### Description

**Description** 3 realia

### Access

**Access restrictions** Unrestricted access

**Copyright status** Multiple copyright statuses

**Copyright status** Items where Sawrey family are the copyright holder; copyright retained by Sawrey family with a non-exclusive Creative Commons CC-BY license to the Library Board of Queensland

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Items in this series:

## Handmade 'bush' comb (Undated)

**Unit ID** 31897/1

**Date** Undated

**Scope and content**

Comb made from a plastic bag, cardboard and sticks of wood.

**Author / Creator**

Sawrey, Hugh, 1923-1999, artist.

#### Description

**Description** 1 comb

2 x 4 x 7 cm

**Locate** OMBOX Box 14983

#### Access

**Access restrictions** Unrestricted access

### Small tin box containing charcoal pieces

**Unit ID** 31897/2

#### Scope and content

Top of the tin is painted by Sawrey, 'sawrey' is written under the lid.

#### Description

**Description** 1 box

2 x 4 x 7 cm

**Locate** OMBOX Box 14983

#### Access

**Access restrictions** Unrestricted access

### Hat in a hat box (Undated)

**Unit ID** 31897/3

**Date** Undated

#### Scope and content

Plastic box is with plastic fixings and handle. Hat is 14h x 38w x 34d. Hat is is an Akubra type hat made of cream-coloured felt. Box is shapped to fit the hat style.

#### Description

**Description** 2 Hat and hat box  
Box: 22h x 44w x 39d, hat: 14h x 38w x 34d.  
**Locate** OMOSBOX Box 23228 O/S

Access

**Access restrictions** Unrestricted access

## Series 2: Professional papers (1960-2010)

**Series number** 2

**Series title** Professional papers

**Date** 1960-2010

**Scope and content**

Correspondence, ephemera, newspapers clippings and other items associated with artist Hugh Sawrey's career. Also include biographical information, photographs and memorial information.

**Author / Creator**

Sawrey, Hugh, 1923-1999, artist.

Sawrey, Gill, compiler.

Description

**Description** 9 packets and folders

Access

**Access restrictions** Unrestricted access

**Copyright status** Multiple copyright statuses

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Items in this series:

## Unpublished biographical manuscript about Sawrey.

**Unit ID** 31897/4

### Scope and content

Includes a photograph of Gill Sawrey and an unknown person with the bronze statues at Kogan in the Western Downs, Queensland. The sculpture "Bush Friendship" is a life size bronze Sculpture of Sawrey & Kogan Publican Nelson Dwyer, who formed a strong friendship after the Second World War.

### Description

**Description** 1 manuscript

**Locate** OMBOX Box 14983

### Access

**Access restrictions** Unrestricted access.

**Copyright status** In copyright

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**Conditions of use** CC-BY

## Obituary and condolence album (1923-1999)

**Unit ID** 31897/5

**Date** 1923-1999

### Scope and content

Includes letters and newspapers clippings. Item has been rehoused by State Library staff but includes photographs of original housing and arrangement.

### Description

**Description** 1 album

**Locate** OMOSBOX Box 23276 O/S

## Access

**Access restrictions** Unrestricted access

**Copyright status** Multiple copyright statuses

**Copyright status** Items where Sawrey family are the copyright holder; copyright retained by Sawrey family with a non-exclusive Creative Commons CC-BY license to the Library Board of Queensland

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## Art sales, gallery administration and exhibition ephemera (1960-2000)

**Unit ID** 31897/6

**Date** 1960-2000

### Scope and content

Includes invitations to gallery opening events, administrative documents associated with being an artist, advertising featuring artwork. Galleries featured: Elder Fine Art Galleries, Shubert Art Galleries and Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame and Outback Heritage Centre.

## Description

**Description** 1 folder

**Locate** OMBOX Box 23275

## Access

**Access restrictions** Unrestricted access

**Copyright status** Multiple copyright statuses

**Copyright status** Items where Sawrey family are the copyright holder; copyright retained by Sawrey family with a non-exclusive Creative Commons CC-BY license to the Library Board of Queensland

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## Australian Stockman Hall of Fame administrative records and correspondence (1974-2001)

**Unit ID** 31897/7

**Date** 1974-2001

**Scope and content**

Administrative records and correspondence pertaining to the creation and running of the Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame and Outback Heritage Centre.

Description

**Description** 1 folder

**Locate** OMBOX Box 23275

Access

**Access restrictions** Unrestricted access

**Copyright status** In copyright

**Copyright status** Items where Sawrey family are the copyright holder; copyright retained by Sawrey family with a non-exclusive Creative Commons CC-BY license to the Library Board of Queensland

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**Packet of scrapbook pages (1960-2010)**

**Unit ID** 31897/8

**Date** 1960-2010

**Scope and content**

Has come out of a bound book, probably collected by Sawrey or wife Gill. Includes newspapers clippings, awards, correspondence and art competition ephemera.

Description

**Description** 1 packet

**Locate** OMOSBOX Box 23230 O/S

Access

**Access restrictions** Unrestricted access

**Copyright status** In copyright

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## Correspondence (1960-2010)

**Unit ID** 31897/9

**Date** 1960-2010

### Scope and content

2 folders of correspondence; 1. 1960-1989; 2. 1990-2010. Correspondence pertains to artistic profession, charities and charity events and includes fan mail and invitations. Includes items regarding appointment to commander of the most excellent order of the British Empire (CBE).

### Description

**Description** 2 folders

**Locate** OMOSBOX Box 23230 O/S

### Access

**Access restrictions** Unrestricted access

**Copyright status** In copyright

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## Newspaper clippings (1960-2010)

**Unit ID** 31897/10

**Date** 1960-2010

### Scope and content

2 folders: 1. 1960-1989; 2. 1990-2010. Newspaper clippings regarding Sawrey's artistic career and his work founding the Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame.

### Description



**Description** 2 folders

**Locate** OMOSBOX Box 23230 O/S

#### Access

**Access restrictions** Unrestricted access

**Copyright status** In copyright

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### Photographs (1918?-2005?)

**Unit ID** 31897/11

**Date** 1918?-2005?

#### Scope and content

Includes photographs of exhibition openings, some family photographs and some historical images associate with Sawrey's family history.

#### Description

**Description** 1 packet

**Locate** OMBOX Box 23275 O/S

#### Access

**Access restrictions** Unrestricted access

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### Ansett Australia Hugh Sawrey Waltzing Matilda Centenary Commemoration Album (1994)

**Unit ID** 31897/12

**Date** 1994

**Scope and content**

Commemorative Album presented by Ansett Australia to Hugh Sawrey to recognise his work painting an Ansett plane. Contains photographs and clippings featuring Prime Minister Paul Keating, Ken Crowley – Newslimited Chairman, Graham McMahon - Ansett Chief Executive. Leather bound album housed in leather bound box.

Description

**Description** 1 Album (Leather bound album housed in leather bound box)

44 x 31 cm

**Locate** OMOSBOX Box 23229 O/S

Access

**Access restrictions** Unrestricted access

**Copyright status** In copyright

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## Series 3: Works of art and equipment (1960-1999)

**Series number** 3

**Series title** Works of art and equipment

**Date** 1960-1999

**Scope and content**

Works of art, published items featuring Sawrey's work and other items associated with being an artist.

**Author / Creator**

Sawrey, Hugh, 1923-1999, artist.

## Description

**Description** 10 works of art and equipment

## Access

**Access restrictions** Unrestricted access

**Copyright status** Multiple copyright statuses

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Items in this series:

## Oil painting (Undated)

**Unit ID** 31897/13

**Date** Undated

### Scope and content

1 oil painting on particle board depicting a horse and jockey. Captioned "Period (1800) English Steeple-chaser, Hugh Sawrey". Signed by the artist.

### Author / Creator

Sawrey, Hugh, 1923-1999, artist.

## Description

**Description** 1 oil painting

32 x 31 cm

**Locate** OMBOX Box 23276 O/S

## Access

**Access restrictions** Unrestricted access

**Copyright status** In copyright

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## Sketchbooks (1969?-1999?)

**Unit ID** 31897/14

**Date** 1969?-1999?

### Scope and content

2 sketchbooks including: 2 x portrait sketches, 1969; 1 x sketch of Laura post office and general store, 1991.

### Author / Creator

Sawrey, Hugh, 1923-1999, artist.

## Description

**Description** 2 sketchbooks

**Locate** OMOSBOX Box 23276 O/S

## Access

**Access restrictions** Unrestricted access

**Copyright status** In copyright

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## Paint palette (Undated)

**Unit ID** 31897/15

**Date** Undated

### Scope and content

Item is piece of wood used by the artist as a paint palette.

### Author / Creator

Sawrey, Hugh, 1923-1999, artist.

## Description

**Description** 1 palette

**Locate** OMOSBOX Box 23276 O/S

## Access

**Access restrictions** Unrestricted access

## Framed charcoal drawing (Undated)

**Unit ID** 31897/16

**Date** Undated

### Scope and content

1 framed charcoal drawing with 3 panels depicting people on horse back, people around a fire and horses in the bush. Includes letter of provenance written by Gill Sawrey.

### Author / Creator

Sawrey, Hugh, 1923-1999, artist.

## Description

**Description** 1 charcoal drawing

**Locate** OMOSBOX Box 23276 O/S

## Access

**Access restrictions** Unrestricted access

**Copyright status** In copyright

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## Working reference items (1966;1968)

**Unit ID** 31897/17

**Date** 1966;1968

### Scope and content

Working references are published items (in this case books) that include notes and sketches added by the artist to assist them in their art making process. 1. The Art of Ivor Hele / Ivor Hele, with preface by Sir Will Ashton, 1966; 2. Pencil Drawings / Ernest W. Watson, 1968.

### Description

**Description** 2 reference sources

**Locate** OMOSBOX Box 23276 O/S

### Access

**Access restrictions** Unrestricted access

**Copyright status** In copyright

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## Copy of 'Outback' by Hugh Sawrey (1982)

**Unit ID** 31897/18

**Date** 1982

### Scope and content

Special edition copy with notes by Sawrey. The special numbered edition was limited to 150 copies. It was to include a hand printed lithograph of a Sawrey original. This copy - as Sawrey's personal copy - is not numbered and does not include the lithograph.

### Author / Creator

Sawrey, Hugh, 1923-1999, artist.

### Description

**Description** 1 book

**Locate** OMBOX Box 14983

### Access

**Access restrictions** Unrestricted access

**Copyright status** In copyright

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## Pamphlet titled 'Cane' (Undated)

**Unit ID** 31897/19

**Date** Undated

### Scope and content

Inside text reads "Story of sugar cane production industry in Queensland by Queensland Cane Growers Council". Item contains paintings by Sawrey.

### Description

**Description** 1 pamphlet

**Locate** OMBOX Box 14983

### Access

**Access restrictions** Unrestricted access

**Copyright status** In copyright

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## Poster (1984)

**Unit ID** 31897/20

**Date** 1984

### Scope and content

1 poster 'The All Australians Cloncurry Stockman's Challenge – The Reg Brown Memorial Cup'. Features a sketch by Sawrey.

### Description

**Description** 1 poster

**Locate** OMOSBOX Box 23230 O/S

#### Access

**Access restrictions** Unrestricted access

**Copyright status** In copyright

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### Notebooks and sketchbooks (Undated)

**Unit ID** 31897/21

**Date** Undated

#### Scope and content

7 small notebooks and sketchbooks 6 notebooks of the type carried around in the pocket and contain such incidental information as peoples names and phone numbers, things to remember and shopping lists as well as some sketches and poetry. 1 larger format notebook with more detailed sketches and writings.

#### Author / Creator

Sawrey, Hugh, 1923-1999, artist.

#### Description

**Description** 7 notebooks and sketchbooks

**Locate** OMBOX Box 14983

#### Access

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**Copyright status** In copyright

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### Copies of artworks (1991-1992)



**Unit ID** 31897/22

**Date** 1991-1992

**Scope and content**

3 copies of artworks signed by Hugh Sawrey:

- "The camp by Noccundra Waterhole", 1992
- "Jump-up country", 1992
- "The Purple Pub - Normanton", 1991

Description

**Description** 3 artworks

31 x 45 cm

**Locate** OMOSBOX Box 23327 O/S

Access

**Access restrictions** Unrestricted access

**Charcoal artworks (1993; 1995)**

**Unit ID** 31897/23

**Date** 1993; 1995

**Scope and content**

2 charcoal artworks signed by Hugh Sawrey:

- "Pear-shell diver - Darnley Deep", 1995
- "Trees along the Corella", 1993

Description

**Description** 2 artworks

31 x 45 cm

**Locate** OMOSBOX Box 23327 O/S

## Access

**Access restrictions** Unrestricted access

## Print artworks (Undated)

**Unit ID** 31897/24

**Date** Undated

### Scope and content

2 limited edition print runs of charcoal drawings. Both signed by Hugh Sawrey.

- "The Bush Hoop", edition 34 of 50, undated.
- "Old farmhouse - Lurg", edition 12 of 50, undated

## Description

**Description** 2 artworks

49 x 70 cm

**Locate** OMOSBOX Box 23327 O/S

## Access

**Access restrictions** Unrestricted access

## Series 4: Audio visual material (1974-2005)

**Series number** 4

**Series title** Audio visual material

**Date** 1974-2005

### Scope and content

- Audiocassette – "Yarns from Kavanaghs Qld. Read by Ray Barret. Harmonica by Hugh Sawrey."

Audiocassette – "Literary luncheon Rocky (Rockhampton) 4/5/95"

- Audiocassette – "Hughs Poems" / "4 Stories of Lawrie's "
- Compact disc (video) – "Hugh Sawrey – A big country 1974". Recording issued by ABC content sales.
- Compact disc (audio) – "Sawrey talks – Rocky (Rockhampton) Arts Council lunch 3/5/1995". Includes a copy of email between Lawrie Kavanagh and Gill Sawrey, 2005. Email describes content of recording: Sawrey talks about early outback life and early drawing experience, he also recites his own poetry.
- Compact disc (audio) - "Sawrey Tribute Plug- ABC"
- Compact disc (video) - "Big country 'Artist'"
- Compact disc (photographic images) - "Sawrey prints". 6 x images of Hugh Sawrey paintings, 1991-1999.
- Compact disc (audio) – "Phill Smith ABC interview – Sawrey/Kavanagh". Includes note to Gill Sawrey from Lawrie Kavanagh describing content of recording: to advertise Sawrey Tribute night.
- Compact disc (video) – "Hugh Sawrey". 2 video files: 1 - appears to be recorded from older television segment about the artist, first frame image is 'Hugh Sawrey', memories 1919 – 1999'; 2 - series of images of paintings like a slideshow.
- Videocassette – "Hugh Sawrey 7.30 report ( + horses shots) reporter Ian Heischeke. To air, March 1990. Sawrey – escape to the bush, big country, reporter Harry Greaves. To air, July 1994." Includes a note that describes content of video tape in detail.

### Author / Creator

Sawrey, Hugh, 1923-1999, artist.

### Description

**Description** 11 audio visual

**Locate** OMBOX Box 14983

### Access

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**Copyright status** Multiple copyright statuses

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