## The Australian Women's Register

**Entry type:** Resource **Entry ID:** AWH000986

## Elizabeth Backhouse interviewed by Stuart Reid for the Battye Library collection [sound recording]

| Repository  | National Library of Australia, Oral History and Folklore Collection   |
|-------------|---|
| Reference   | ORAL TRC 2999   |
| Date Range  | 4-May-93 - 24-Sep-93  |
| Access      | Access open for research; written permission required for public use during the lifetime of the interviewee |
| Finding Aid | Transcript available (typescript, 196 leaves, [17] leaves of plates) + index (3 leaves)                     |
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## **Details**

Elizabeth Backhouse speaks of her life and achievements as a writer of novels, children's stories, plays, filmscripts, a ballet and a musical. She describes her family background; attempted rape; early writing; mother's inability to show affection; secretarial studies; writing poetry; enlisting in WAAAF; writing Against Time and Place; ideas for books; having books published; The Iron Horse; Enone and Quentin; reviews; themes; In Our Hands; C.H. Pitman; living in England in 1940s; encouragement to write detective novels; working at Korda Films with Paul Vincent Carroll, Leslie Arliss; working for American film-maker Slessor; European travels; writing thrillers, methodology, characterisation; book covers; nursing ill father; living with her mother after his death; rejected novels; The Fourth Picture; The Thin Line; Mirage, and its adaption to film; working as a co-producer; Freemasonry; writing for radio; Kal; Rosie Fishman; Dickens' Magic; A History of Masonry; Windmill in the Sky; writing and clarity; unpublished works; aborted film Cry of the Gulls; Sparrows in the Square; The Fishbowl; Tune on a Samisen; The Young Vagabonds; musical composition; sponsoring children; painting; relationships with men; Muriel Wenborne-Haynes; her clothing shops; writing income.

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