

# University of Victoria Special Collections and University Archives

## Finding Aid - Stephanie Castle fonds (AR422)

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# Stephanie Castle fonds

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## Table of contents

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Summary information .....	3
Administrative history / Biographical sketch .....	3
Scope and content .....	3
Notes .....	4
Access points .....	4

## Summary information

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<b>Repository:</b>	University of Victoria Special Collections and University Archives
<b>Title:</b>	Stephanie Castle fonds
<b>Reference code:</b>	AR422
<b>Date:</b>	1982-2002, predominant 1993-2002 (date of creation)
<b>Physical description:</b>	30 cm of textual records
<b>Note [generalNote]:</b>	Part of the Transgender Archive.

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## Administrative history / Biographical sketch

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### Note

Sydney Castle Heal was born 28 December 1925 in Hoylake, Cheshire and grew up in West Kirby. In 1942 he quit school and joined the Thames and Mersey Marine Insurance Company. The following year he enlisted in the Royal Navy, qualifying initially as a midshipman, RNVR. Later he was transferred to the RN Commandos as a Sub-lieutenant and served in the Pacific Theatre. Following Japan's surrender in September 1945 he spent the subsequent 18 months stationed in various locations in the South China Sea. In 1947 he returned to England for demobilization, having attained the rank of Lieutenant, RNR. After working several handyman jobs, he joined the Maritime Insurance Company and by 1951 was an Associate of the Chartered Insurance Institute.

In 1952 Heal immigrated to Canada and settled in Vancouver and got a job with Parsons, Brown Ltd. In 1957 he took a new job with Vancouver Holdings, which he eventually acquired, and in 1963 he formed Georgia Shipping, a tug and barge company, with Ed Wray. After returning to the insurance business for a time, in 1973 Heal transitioned into real estate where he specialized in waterfront properties. Heal retired in 1990 and the following year established Cordillera press. During his retirement Heal authored over 20 books on maritime history. He was married twice and had two children, Rod and Andrea.

In 1991 Heal underwent sex-reassignment surgery and began using the name Stephanie Castle. A year later, along with Christine Burnham and Patricia Diewold, Castle co-founded the Zenith Foundation, an advocacy group for transsexuals. Castle edited the foundation's newsletter, Zenith Bulletin, and published ten books on transsexualism, including the 1992 memoir *Feelings: A Transsexual's Explanation of a Baffling Condition*. Castle died 8 May 2017 at age 91.

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## Scope and content

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Fonds consists of: copies of Zenith Digest and material relating to the administration of the Zenith Foundation; the Foundation's participation as an intervener in the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal

regarding Synthia Kavanagh and the Correctional Service of Canada; and copies of the following publications:

The Partnership, by Stephanie Castle

Shadows in the City, by Stephanie Castle

Tales from Cascadia - Volume One, by Stephanie Castle

A Tale of Two Wives, by Stephanie Castle

Prisoner of Gender, by Katherine Johnson & Stephanie Castle

As Much as Me?, by Margot Roberts

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## Notes

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### Title notes

### Immediate source of acquisition

Gift of Stephanie Castle, November 2008.

### Accruals

2008-042

### Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
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## Access points

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- Zenith Foundation
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## Collection holdings

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