

COLLECTION TITLE	Papers of Ninette Dutton
COLLECTION IDENTIFIER	MSS 088
INCLUSIVE DATE(S)	1980s
EXTENT	3 boxes
CREATOR	Ninette Dutton, 1923-2007
RELATED ENTITIES	Ninette Dutton, 1923-2007
RELATED COLLECTIONS	Papers of Ninette Dutton
ACCESS POINTS	Australian children's literature -- 20th century Authors Botanical artists Plants in literature Women writers -- Australia -- Archives

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Daughter of Leonard Trott, a dentist, and his wife Clarice Webb, Ninette Dutton was educated at Creveen and later at Woodlands, before studying Social Science at the University of Adelaide. She joined the WAAF in 1942 as a driver. In 1944 she married the writer Geoffrey Dutton, and their home, when they were not travelling, was "Anlaby", the Dutton's family property at Kapunda and later at Piers Hill, a property near Angaston. They had three children.

After the war Dutton travelled to Oxford with her husband, and worked in the Botany Library. She also studied at the Ruskin School of Art. In the following years she travelled extensively in Europe, Asia, Africa, America and the Middle East, and drove with her husband from London to Colombo in 1951 and from Capetown to Cairo, Tangier and London in 1953. She also travelled in Papua New Guinea and Samoa.

Dutton was an accomplished artist and enameller, and studied at several Art Schools including those in Leeds and Hammersmith (London). In 1962 she spent some time in Manhattan, Kansas, and studied enamelling at the Art School there. She then worked as a professional enameller. She also studied with enamellers in London, Berlin and Bucharest. Dutton had exhibitions in all states of Australia and is represented in private collections in England, France and Russia as well as the South Australian Art Gallery.

While living in London in the late 1940s Dutton wrote stories for children, which were broadcast on the BBC's *Listen with Mother* programme. As well as the works listed on AustLit Dutton also published a number of non-fiction works; *Beautiful Art of Enamelling* (1966), *What's for Breakfast* (1971), *Portrait of a Year* (1976), *Wildflower Journeys* (1985), *Presents from your Garden* (1986), *An Australian Gardener's Notebook* (1988), *An Australian Wildflower Diary* (1982) and *A Passionate Gardener Writes of Nature, Beauty and Seasons* (1990). As the 'Passionate Gardener' she conducted a regular feature column in the *Adelaide Advertiser*, and was a regular broadcaster for the ABC for some years on gardening subjects and wildflowers. She was a member of the Arts Grants Advisory Committee for some years, a Trustee of the Board of Carrick Hill and Chairman of its Garden Committee.

Dutton's marriage to Geoffrey Dutton ended in the early 1980s. Dutton continued to live and write in South Australia until 1997. She then moved to Canberra for five years and finally to Leura in the Blue Mountains.

Reference: Austlit - <https://www.austlit.edu.au/austlit/page/A35776>

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains notebooks, manuscripts and typescripts of articles and other writings by Ninette Dutton, many relating to her interest in botany and gardening.

ACCESS RESTRICTIONS

Access: Open Access

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Copying: Copying of material for private study and research is approved

SOURCE OF ACQUISITION

The collection was acquired in 1988

RELATED ARCHIVAL MATERIALS

Related Material

Further papers of Ninette Dutton are held by the National Library of Australia at [MS 10111](#)

EXISTENCE AND LOCATION OF ORIGINALS

Special Collections, UNSW Canberra

Collection Contents

Papers of Ninette Dutton (MSS 088)

1980s (Inclusive date(s))

This collection contains notebooks, manuscripts and typescripts of articles and other writings by Ninette Dutton, many relating to her interest in botany and gardening.

Box 1 (MSS 088.B1)

Typescripts, notebooks

Folder 1 (MSS 088.B1.1)

Blue notebook, handwritten

Folder 2 (MSS 088.B1.2)

Annotated typescripts of 'The Fear', 'The Snake', 'The Black Stone', 'Going to Stay', 'Why Did This Happen to Me?', and 'Neighbours'

Folder 3 (MSS 088.B1.3)

Annotated typescripts of 'Why Did This Happen to Me?', 'A Day to Remember', 'A Well-Contented Man', 'Such a Night' and 'One Summer'.
Red exercise book, handwritten

Folder 4 (MSS 088.B1.4)

Annotated typescript of 'Going to Stay'

Folder 5 (MSS 088.B1.5)

Typescript - 'Writing About Children'
Annotated typescripts of 'The Snake', 'The Black Stone', 'The Fear', 'A Well-Contented Man', and 'A Day to Remember'

Folder 6 (MSS 088.B1.6)

Annotated typescripts of 'Why Did This Happen to Me?' (x2), 'One Summer', 'The Black Stone', 'Going to Stay', 'Why Did This Happen to Me?', and 'A Well-Contented Man' (x2), 'The Fear'
Annotated typescript - Review of *Sydney Parkinson, artist of Cook's End Voyage*
Undated correspondence from Michele Field at *The Sydney Morning Herald*

Folder 7 (MSS 088.B1.7)

Four exercise books of handwritten notes

Folder 8 (MSS 088.B1.8)

Four exercise books of handwritten notes

Folder 9 (MSS 088.B1.9)

Four exercise books of handwritten notes

Box 2 (MSS 088.B2)

Notebooks, manuscripts, typescripts

Folder 10 (MSS 088.B2.10)

Exercise book of handwritten notes

Folder 11 (MSS 088.B2.11)

Three exercise books of handwritten notes

Folder 12 (MSS 088.B2.12)

Annotated typescript of *Probabilities*

Folder 13 (MSS 088.B2.13)

Manuscript of 'Three Women', 'Coincidences', 'Country Life', 'Correa', 'Lilies of various kinds', 'One perfect day', 'Passionfruit', 'Piece number 3 Heaths', 'Banksias', 'Bursaria Spinosa', 'A prize winning garden'

Folder 14 (MSS 088.B2.14)

Annotated typescript about flowers

Folder 15 (MSS 088.B2.15)

Annotated typescript about flowers

Folder 16 (MSS 088.B2.16)

Four exercise books, handwritten

Folder 17 (MSS 088.B2.17)

Manuscript of 'Identity'

Box 3 (MSS 088.B3)

Manuscripts, typescripts, notebooks

Folder 18 (MSS 088.B3.18)

Miscellaneous manuscripts and typescripts regarding flowers, herbs, plant life

Folder 19 (MSS 088.B3.19)

Miscellaneous manuscripts and typescripts regarding herbs

Folder 20 (MSS 088.B3.20)

Miscellaneous typescripts regarding preserving flowers/plants

Folder 21 (MSS 088.B3.21)

Miscellaneous typescripts regarding herbs

Folder 22 (MSS 088.B3.22)

Exercise book of handwritten notes and miscellaneous manuscripts regarding plants

Folder 23 (MSS 088.B3.23)

Miscellaneous manuscripts regarding plants
