UQFL304
Nancy Wills Papers

Size 6 boxes

Contents Papers relating to the Communist Arts Group, Shipping Crisis Resistance Committee and Maritime Workers’ issues. Material relating to Afro-American musician and activist Paul Robeson and the Victoria Street, Potts Point, Sydney Green bans and protests against development. Both of these became subjects of literary works by Wills. The papers contain manuscripts and typescripts (Including by John Manifold), correspondence, ephemera.

Date range 1950 to 1993

Notes Open access

Box 1

Folder 1
Communist Arts Group material, including a poem by John Manifold.

Folder 2

Folder 3
Communist Arts Group. Folder with music and words for songs

Folder 4
Folder containing play ‘Kalangadoo’ by Jack Penberthy; ‘Six sonnets on human ecology’ by John Manifold; Several songs and poems.

Folder 5
Communist Arts Group material

Folder 6
Folder containing, correspondence, advertisement for Shades of Red; poem ‘Inner Landscape’; newspaper cuttings; report on Communist Arts Group

Folder 7
‘Willoughby-Thomas, Pamela’, including material relating to Communist Arts Group.

Material relating to Communist Art Group including typed and handwritten notes, sketch book containing artwork
Folder 8
CagBag Late Final Extra edition 1981.

Folder 9
Poems by Ray Carmichael.

Folder 10
Folder containing 1920 - 1980 G.P.A. Souvenir Programme; ‘Brown, black and white’ (poem); lyrics for *Flames of Discontent*; ‘From SEATO to ASEAN’ (leaflet); ‘Homeless Man’ and ‘The Antarctic Fleet’ by Harry Robertson.

Note book with minutes of 2 meetings recorded; Letter dated 21.9.79; Pamphlet dated June 19--.;

Folder 11
Folder marked ‘Shipping Crisis Resistance Committee and Maritime Historical Documents including S.C.R.C. newsletters’.

Leaflets ‘To Unionist on the Waterfront’ 22.12.78.
C.P.A. Queensland State Conference, 1979 (agenda)

Folder 12
Union circulars.

Folder 13
Queensland Trans-National Support Group Co-Operative (T.N.C.). Pamphlets

Folder 14
Photographs from [World Peace Congress, Warsaw, Poland, 1950], including Australian delegation, Alexander Fadeyev signing autographs during a break. 7 photographs.

Folder 15

Folder 16
Correspondence to Peter Copeman Darwin
Typescript synopsis for ‘Namatjira’

Folder 17
Material relating to project ‘A Man You Don’t Meet Everyday’, including correspondence
Folder 18
Correspondence (1982 to 1990), newspaper cutting, flyers, souvenir program for Queensland celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Communist Party of Australia (1980).


Folder 19
Material on Boggo Road Jail, and Mrs Phyllis Johnson (Communist Candidate for Paddington)

Box 2
Folder 1
Material relating to Paul Robeson, including correspondence, cuttings, theatre tickets, photograph.

Folder 2
Material relating to Paul Robeson
1. Three programmes for Paul Robeson’s concerts in London, 1949
2. Programme for Paul Robeson’s Australian Tour of 1960

Folder 3
‘Deep Bells Ring. The Life and Sings of Paul Robeson’. Spiral-bound script

Folder 4
Typescript drafts for ‘Deep Bells Ring. The Life and Sings of Paul Robeson’.

Folder 5
Reviews of and correspondence relating to ‘Deep Bells Ring. The Life and Sings of Paul Robeson’

Folder 6

Folder 7
Material relating to Paul Robeson. Newspapers, correspondence, theatre programs. Includes
1. Souvenir Programme for the Fourth Peace Arch Concert, British Columbia, Canada. Centre page with Border Concert Program autographed ‘Kind wishes and thanks, Paul Robeson’.

Folder 8
Material relating to Paul Robeson, including photographs, film negatives, correspondence, newspaper cuttings, photocopied articles, handwritten notes, typescript titled ‘The Spanish Vignette’. Includes
1. One letter from Paul Robeson to Nance McMillan [sic], from 139 West 125 Street, NYC, undated, but ca. 1960
2. Photograph of Robeson with a group of seven other people. Stamped verso Dudley B. Gordon, Brixton S.W.9, ca. 1949. [A section of this photograph is reproduced in Nancy Wills’ booklet Robeson (1987), suggesting that the woman seated on Robeson’s right is her].
3. Correspondence from historian and Robeson biographer Martin Bauml Duberman, 1985
Folder 9
Material relating to ‘Deep Bells Ring. The Life and Sings of Paul Robeson’

Folder 10
Material relating to ‘Deep Bells Ring. The Life and Sings of Paul Robeson’. Includes correspondence, notes, newspaper cuttings.

Folder 11
Theatre programs, correspondence, handwritten day book, typescripts of ‘Ballad of Women’. Includes:

Two photographs, one of Nancy Wills [n.d.], one featuring Paul Robeson, annotated verso ‘Oregon, Robsen [sic], PRITT’ [n.d.]


Correspondence with the Paul-Robeson-Archives at the Akademie der Künste der Deutschen Demokratischen Republik (Academy of Arts of the German Democratic Republic), 21 May to 12 Nov 1987

Box 3

Folder 1
Three photographs, titled verso:

1. ‘The little girl is half Indian’
2. ‘2 Dec 1967’
3. ‘Zoe & Jo’

Folder 2
Material relating to redevelopment of Brisbane International Airport, including submissions, newspaper cuttings, correspondence (1979).

Folder 3
Material mostly relating to ‘Give Me Back My Dreaming’ by Nancy Wills, including newspaper cuttings, typescript notes, printed synopsis, correspondence (1982).

Folder 4
Material relating to Nancy Wills’ enquiries about the women working as hands at sea in relation to her idea for a play to celebrate International Women’s Year, 1975. Includes correspondence (1975), brochures, notes.

Folder 5
Typescript poems and notes relating to 60th anniversary commemoration of Community Party in Australia.

Includes three typescript sheets of poetry by Kath Walker annotated ‘With best wishes from the poetess? K Walker’. Draft version of ‘Acacia Ridge’ has handwritten edits by Kath Walker.
Folder 6
‘Ballad of Women’, containing typescript of ‘Ballad of Women’.
‘Death in Fremantle’, containing correspondence (1991)

Folder 7
‘Script, A Man You Don’t Meet Ev Day, Wills & Oliver’, containing material relating to ‘A Man You Don’t Meet Every Day’.

Folder 8
Correspondence, annotated notes, newspaper cuttings, theatre programs and flyers.

Folder 9
‘Xavier Herbert’, including newspaper cutting, photocopied articles, photocopied notes of Francis de Groen from ‘Me and My Shadow’, letter from Francis de Groen to Nancy and Geoff Wills (21 May 1989), letter from Fryer Librarian Margaret O’Hagan to Nancy Wills regarding set of letters passed from Nancy Wills to Francis de Groen

Folder 10

Folder 11

Box 4

Folder 1
Annotated typescript of play ‘Jack’s Back’ by Nance Macmillan / Nancy Wills

Folder 2
Book reviews by Nancy Wills of Humphrey McQueen’s ‘The black swan of trespass’, typescript of interview with John Manifold annotated by Nancy Wills, handwritten review by John Manifold of David Denholm’s Book ‘The colonial Australians’, typescript and handwritten poetry, newspaper article, telegram from Jim Keefe.

Folder 3
Queensland Seaman’s Union anti-government ‘Fifteen dollars’ fake bank note (1983), handwritten review by Don Henderson of ‘Shades of Red’, correspondence from Ted Bacon and Max Bound, typescript materials lists, correspondence
Sutton, W 1973, The good looking bookseller and the ugly society, [Brisbane]

Folder 4

Folder 5
Typescript notes and draft playscript of ‘The Painter’ with handwritten annotations
Folder 6
Typescript notes and draft play script of ‘The Opal Queen’. Includes printed and handwritten music score fragments.

Folder 7
Typescript material, correspondence. including from Margret Roadknight, 1992 to 1993

Folder 8
Material relating to ‘Shades of Red’ including costing figures, correspondence, printed material, cuttings, launch invitation guest lists, reviews

Folder 9
Correspondence, newspaper cuttings, typescripts, bookmarks, photographs, postcard.

Folder 10
Material relating to Mick Fowler, Victoria Street Kings Cross development protests, Juanita Nielsen
Includes photograph, original and copied newspaper cuttings, annotated typescript, exercise book containing handwritten notes.

Folder 11
‘Mick Fowler play’, containing copy of typescript ‘A Man You Don’t Meet Every Day A Jazz Drama’, correspondence, review.

Folder 12
Material relating to Mick Fowler, Juanita Nielsen disappearance, and the Victoria Street Darlinghurst Sydney development protests of the 1980s.


The wharfie, 30 August 1979

[Arts Festival for Peace Committee] 1950, We shall grow, Sydney

‘AMP’, correspondence, flyers.

Includes postcard addressed to ‘Mr & Mrs Geoff Wills’ from ‘Norman [Freehill] & Dymphna [Cusack]’ from Piestany Slovakia (28 October 1966)

Folder 13
Material mostly relating to Mick Fowler, Juanita Nielsen disappearance, and the Victoria Street Darlinghurst Sydney development protests of the 1980s. Includes handwritten and typed papers, photographs, film negatives, correspondence, newspaper cuttings, posters

Box 5
Folder 1
Typescript of ‘The Opal Queen’

Folder 2
Typed and annotated notes relating to ‘Shades of Red’
Typed index cards with indigenous research notes.
Folder 3
Site plan ‘Proposed cottage for N V Wills at Bay View Tce Russel Island’.

Folder 4
Handwritten notes and drafts of ?[The Painter]

Folder 6
Annotated typescript of ‘Joe Hill’ play.

Folder 7
Correspondence, photographs, theatre programs, flyers, travel brochure, typescripts, order of service for Memorial Service MV “Noongah” (25 August 1969) at City Hall Brisbane 8 September 1969.

Folder 8
Material including printed, copied and handwritten folk music lyrics and scores, and pamphlets
Typescript lyrics [from Don Henderson and artists’ album ‘Flames of Discontent’ 1979

Folder 9
‘Bandicoot Ballads’. Material including printed, copied and handwritten folk music lyrics and scores, newspapers, pamphlets, correspondence.

Folder 10
Material including correspondence and documents relating to Gininderra Community Council protest against commercial/residential development on Lake Gininderra foreshore, 1981-1983.
Typescript lyrics, including ‘You Ask Me Why I’m A Rebel’ with handwritten annotation ‘Dear Jeff, The above as promised. When next I see you will sing it for you. Kath Walker’.

Folder 11
Manifold, J 1953, A beginner’s book / five finger tunes and duets for all sizes of record descants, tenors, descant and treble, etc, Melbourne.

Box 6
Folder 1
Correspondence, typed and handwritten notes.

Folder 2
Large negatives and artwork layouts for cover of ‘Give me back my dreaming’ by Nancy Wills
Single photographic negative of image used for cover of ‘Give me back my dreaming’.

Folder 3
Correspondence, including letters from artist Mal Draper

Folder 4
Foolscap pad containing handwritten notes
Folder 5
Newspaper cuttings, Jimmy Edwards biography.

Folder 6
Correspondence from Xavier Herbert 5 April 1982, copy of correspondence from to Xavier Herbert 7 July [1980s]

Folder 7
Annotated typescript of The Fryer Library in the University of Queensland [3p, n.d.]

Folder 8
Correspondence, handwritten and typed notes.

Folder 9
Reviews of Nancy Wills’ ‘The Painter’.

Folder 10
Material relating to Artists For Peace group, handwritten notes and correspondence.

Folder 11
Correspondence, handwritten and typed notes, newspaper and magazine cuttings.

Folder 12
Correspondence, handwritten and typed notes, membership lists, material relating to Brisbane Peace Week Mardi Gras 2-10 August 1985.

POSTERS

Item 1
Poster ‘Shades of my past’

Item 2
Screen-printed poster ‘Eviction Party for Mick Fowler and In Memory of Victoria St Kings Cross’

Item 3