UQFL386
Dick Roughsey and Percy Trezise Collection

Size
3 boxes, 1 parcel

Contents
Correspondence, manuscripts, paintings

Date range
1956 to [1994]

Biography
Dick Roughsey was born near Mornington Island in the Gulf of Carpentaria in 1924. His name is translated from his tribal name Goobalathaldin, meaning 'water standing on end'. Brought up within the tribe, he was educated at a Presbyterian mission, subsequently returning to his people. Roughsey was assisted in his painting career through the encouragement of an Ansett pilot, Percy Trezise, and has successfully exhibited bark paintings and oils. Roughsey and Trezise collaborated for many years producing picture books which retold traditional stories. These were among the first to introduce Aboriginal culture to children. The stories include *The Rainbow Serpent* (1975), *Banana Bird and the Snake Man* (1980), about how the birds outwitted the snakes, *The Magic Firesticks* (1983) a legend from the Yalanji people and *The Flying Fox Warriors* (1985). Roughsey’s richly illustrated autobiography *Moon and Rainbow: the Autobiography of an Aboriginal* was published in 1971. He was the first chairman of the Aboriginal Arts Board in 1973.

Notes
Unrestricted access
Includes items previously catalogued at F663, F688, F689, F690, F695, F696, F713, F1440, F1783 and F3074. Refer to notes below for details.
Includes some explanatory notes by Fedora Fisher.

Box 1

Correspondence (*handwritten; some photocopies*)
[Some letters previously catalogued at F3074]

Folder 1
Letters from Dick Roughsey, 1956 to 1965 (22 items)

Folder 2
Letters from Dick Roughsey, 1965 to 1979 (21 items)

Folder 3
Letters from Dick Roughsey, undated (13 items)
Folder 4
Letters from Elsie Roughsey, 1963 to 1975 (9 items)

Folder 5
Letters from Lindsay Roughsey, 1964 to 1967 (7 items)

Folder 6
Miscellaneous, 1964 to [1994] (9 items)

Box 2
Manuscripts by Dick Roughsey
[Items previously catalogued at F663, F690, F1440]
Draft chapters of book (untitled); includes notes and miscellaneous writing; transcribed by Percy Trezise
‘A man of the Lardil’, published as Moon and rainbow: the autobiography of an Aboriginal: handwritten and typescript drafts. c.1971

Box 3
Manuscripts by Percy Trezise
[Items previously catalogued at F688, F689, F695, F696, F713, F1783]
‘Rock art of south-east Cape York: drafts and notes, handwritten and typescript, c.1970
‘The Cape York Galleries: development or destruction’ : national seminar on Aboriginal antiquities, 1972 by P.J. Trezise and D. Roughsey. 1 notebook, handwritten.
Quinkan National Park Appeal, 1973: folder of papers

Parcel 4
Paintings
20 paintings (synthetic polymer paint on paper; 25.4 x 48 cm.) by Dick Roughsey and Percy Trezise. Many are proposed illustrations for The rainbow serpent (1979)