Reference number: MLMSS 3773

Guide to the Papers of Jessica Anderson

Mitchell Library,
State Library of New South Wales

Sydney
2000

Contact information:

The Curator of Manuscripts,
State Library of New South Wales,
Macquarie Street, Sydney
New South Wales, Australia.
Phone: +61 2 9273 1506
Fax: +61 2 9273 1248
Email: manuscripts@sl.nsw.gov.au
URL: http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au

Prepared by:

Manuscripts Section

Encoded by:

Susan Lloyd

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Summary

Creator: Anderson, Jessica

Title: Papers of Jessica Anderson, 1963 - 1990

Date range: 1963-1990

Reference number: MLMSS 3773

Extent: 9 boxes (1.44m.) of Ms., typescript, printed material.

Repository: Mitchell Library, State Library of New South Wales

Abstract: The collection comprises literary manuscripts, correspondence and papers of Jessica Anderson.

Biographical Note

Jessica Anderson was born in Brisbane in 1916 but has lived most of her life in Sydney. She began to write novels at the age of forty, having previously written short stories for newspapers and drama scripts for radio. Her novels include An ordinary lunacy (1963), The last man's head (1970), The commandant (1975), Tirra lirra by the river (1978), which won the Miles Franklin Award, and The impersonators (1980), which also won the Miles Franklin Award.

Administrative Information

Access
Collection is open to research.

Restrictions on Use

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Preferred Citation

Provenance
Presented by Jessica Anderson in 1980.

Access Terms

Subjects
• Women authors, Australian -- 20th century

Series List and Descriptions

I. Literary manuscripts, 1963-1990

A. Novels, 1963-1990 (Box MLMSS 3773/1-6)

i. *An ordinary lunacy*, 1963
   Printed, with Ms. corrections and annotations (Box MLMSS 3773/1)

ii. *The commandant*, 1975
    Ms., typescript (Box MLMSS 3773/1)

iii. *The commandant*, 1975
    Printed with ms. corrections (Box MLMSS 3773/1)
    Page proofs.

iv. *The commandant*, 1975
    Ms. and typescript notes, photocopies and printed material (Box MLMSS 3773/1)
    Research notes, four notebooks.

v. *The commandant*, 1975
    Ms. (Box MLMSS 3773/1)
Ms. story outline on cards, showing dramatis personae, chronology, summary of parts and chapters.

vi. *Tirra lirra by the river*, 1977
Ms. (Box MLMSS 3773/2)

Ms. Draft.

vii. *Tirra lirra by the river*, 1977
Typescript with ms. corrections and annotations (Box MLMSS 3773/2)


Typescript with ms. corrections and annotations (Box MLMSS 3773/2)


ix. *Tirra lirra by the river*, 1977
Typescript with ms. corrections (Box MLMSS 3773/2)

Portion of ms., pp. 1-49.

x. *Tirra lirra by the river*, 1977
Typescript with corrections and additions (Box MLMSS 3773/2)

Portion of ms., pp. 29-42.

xi. *Tirra lirra by the river*, 1977
Typescript with ms. corrections (Box MLMSS 3773/2)

Radio play.

xii. *The impersonators*, ca. 1979
Ms. and typescript (Box MLMSS 3773/3)

First published 1980; also published as *The only daughter* in New York (Viking, 1985). Unsorted drafts and rewrites. Fragments of short stories, “The milk” and “Late sunlight”, included in notebook.

xiii. *The impersonators*, ca. 1979
Typescript with ms. corrections and annotations (Box MLMSS 3773/3)
'Rough draft'.

xiv. *The impersonators*, ca.1979
Typescript (Box MLMSS 3773/4)

'Copy of typescript'. Original thrown away.

xv. *The impersonators*, ca.1979
Typescript with ms. annotations; photocopy (Box MLMSS 3773/4)

'Corrected proofs'.

xvi. *The impersonators*, ca.1989 (Box MLMSS 3773/4)

'Corrected proof pages of revised edition of *The impersonators*'.

Ms. (Box MLMSS 3773/5)


Typescript with ms. additions and corrections (Box MLMSS 3773/5)

'Typed draft'.

xix. *Taking shelter*, n.d. (Box MLMSS 3773/5)

'Original typescript'.

Typescript, photocopies (Box MLMSS 3773/5)

Two copies of typescript. Photocopies.

xxi. *Taking shelter*, 1982 (Box MLMSS 3773/6)

Postcards (two) containing notes.

Ms., typescript (Box MLMSS 3773/6)

'False starts', being four pages of ms. and typescript, enclosed in *Island Magazine*, no. 31, winter 1987, in which is published “Changing the tune”, fiction by Jessica Anderson from a work in progress.
    Typescript with ms. corrections and annotations (Box MLMSS 3773/6)


xxiv. *Taking shelter*, n.d. (Box MLMSS 3773/6)

    Another copy.

    Printed with ms. corrections and annotations (Box MLMSS 3773/6)

    Proofs. Early version.

    Ms. corrections (Box MLMSS 3773/6)

    Proofs. Later version.

xxvii. *Taking shelter*, n.d. (Box MLMSS 3773/6)

    Another copy.

xxviii. Correspondence concerning *Taking shelter*, 1988-1989 (Box MLMSS 3773/6)


xxix. Cover designs for *Taking shelter*, 1989-1990 (Box MLMSS 3373/6)

B. Short stories, ca.1986-1987 (Box MLMSS 3773/7-9)


i. “Under the house”, n.d.
    Typescript with ms. corrections and additions (Box MLMSS 3773/7)

    Drafts.

    Ms. and typescript with ms. corrections and additions (Box MLMSS 3773/7)

    Drafts.
iii. “Against the wall”, n.d.
   Typescript with ms. corrections and additions (Box MLMSS 3773/7)
   Drafts. Includes roughs.

   Typescript with ms. corrections and additions (Box MLMSS 3773/7)
   Drafts. Includes roughs and unused parts of “The way to Budjerra Heights”, “The aviator” and other stories.

   Typescript with ms. corrections and additions (Box MLMSS 3773/7)
   Drafts.

   Typescript with ms. corrections and additions (Box MLMSS 3773/7)
   Drafts. Also ms. roughs and discarded typing.

    Ms., typescript with ms. additions and corrections (Box MLMSS 3773/8)
    ‘Last (and other) roughs and waste’ together with edited typescript.

    Ms., typescript with ms. additions and corrections (Box MLMSS 3773/8)
    Drafts, card outline of characters, roughs. Ms. portion of “The late sunlight” contained in large note-book.

    Typescript (Box MLMSS 3773/8)
    Typed copy.

x. “Outdoor friends”, n.d.
    Typescript (Box MLMSS 3773/8)
    Edited typescript.

xi. Edited typescripts, ca.1987 (Box MLMSS 3773/8)
    Set of edited typescripts for all stories with consecutive pagination and preliminary material. Includes letter received 10 July 1987.
xii. Editor's report, n.d.
    Ms. typescript (Box MLMSS 3773/8)
    Comments by Kathryn Court, editor, with replies by author.

C. Radio plays, n.d. (Box MLMSS 3773/9)

i. “Tirra lirra by the river”, n.d. (Box MLMSS 3773/9)
    Original wrappings with author's inscriptions.

II. Pictorial Material, n.d.
    (Box Pic. Acc. 7207)