

Entry type: Resource
Entry ID: AWH003748

Pauline Fanning interviewed by Alec Bolton [sound recording]

Repository National Library of Australia, Oral History and Folklore Collection

Reference [ORAL TRC 2248](#)

Date Range 16-Feb-88 - 26-Feb-88

Access Access open for research, personal copies and public use.

Details

7 sound tape reels (ca. 417 min.)??Pauline Fanning, former Director of Australian National Humanities Library, talks about her family background; childhood in Tasmania; education at Collegiate School from 1923-31 and the impact of the Depression on the family; her part-time University studies; leaving Hobart in 1936 and coming to the Parliamentary Library on a cadetship; her memories of working at Parliament House; coming to the Commonwealth National Library in 1937 and working at Kings Ave and the state of the Australian collections in 1936-37; the hostel and social life in Canberra during 1930s; marriage in 1941 and retirement from Library; her views on Kenneth Binns; Nan Kivell Collection and the administration of Harold White; returning to full-time work in 1950; her involvement with 1958 ed. Of "Australian Encyclopedia"; working at the Parkes Annexe; collection building and cooperation with other states and the origins of AACOBS.??Fanning then shares her memories of Canberra life in 1950s; Keyes Metcalf's visit and report on the Library; Maurice Tauber's survey in 1961 of Australian library resources; involvement with acquisition of Palmer and Higgins collections and Hazel de Berg material; the impact of moving to the new building; her views on Harold White and C. A. Burmester; the role of Grenfell Price as 1st chairman of National Library Council; appointment of Allan Fleming as successor to Sir Harold White; Library's collecting of music and sound recordings; the administration of Dr Chandler from 1974 and the situation of the Film Collection; her 1978 visit to Teheran on an UNESCO sponsored meeting; her views on staff development and training; highlights of her career; the system established for acquiring personal papers for the Library and people who have made outstanding contributions to the development of the National Library.

Author Details

Alannah Croom

Created 23 March 2018
Last modified 23 March 2018