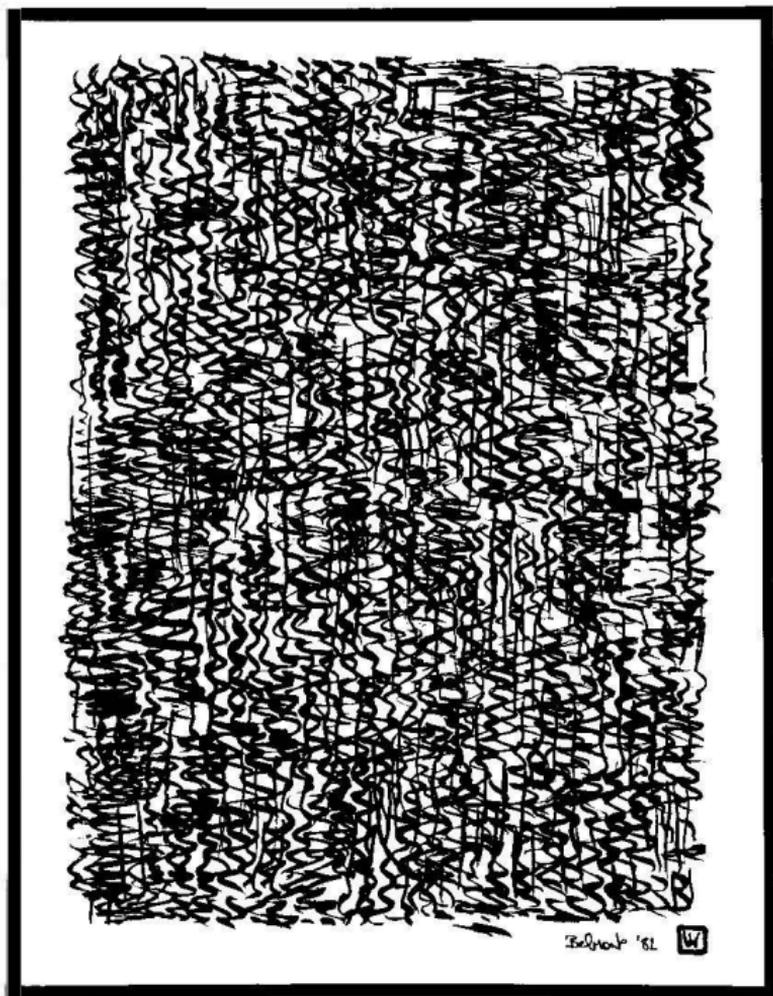


Land and Identity

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NINETEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF AUSTRALIAN LITERATURE

1997



A SPECIAL ISSUE OF *NOTES & FURPHIES*

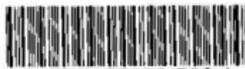
PR
8003

.AB

1997

Fry





3 4067 02171 380 4

(N° 40)

Association for the Study of Australian Literature



Land and Identity

Proceedings of the 1997 Conference

held at
The University of New England
Armidale
New South Wales

27-30 September 1997

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND LIBRARY

edited by

Jennifer McDonnell and Michael Deves

Editorial Panel

Professor Robert Dixon, University of Southern Queensland
Dr Helen Thomson, Monash University
Dr Patrick Buckridge, Griffith University
Dr Joan Newman, Curtin University
Gillian Sykes, University of Sydney
Dr Marie-Louise Ayres, University College, Australian Defence Force Academy
Dr Jennifer McDonell, University of New England
Dr Chris Lee, University of Southern Queensland
Michael Deves, Flinders University of South Australia
Dr C.A. Cranston, University of Tasmania
Dr Susan Martin, La Trobe University
Dr Ron Blaber, Curtin University

All papers published in these Proceedings have been reviewed by
members of the Editorial Panel.

Published by
Association for the Study of Australian Literature
1998

© Copyright these Proceedings, ASAL, 1998. Copyright in the individual papers
remains with the respective authors.

All rights reserved. These Proceedings are copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for
the purposes of private study, research, criticism or review, as permitted under the
Copyright Act, no part may be reproduced without permission.

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND LIBRARY
ISBN 0 958712 13 1

F46
1998
.01193259

Cover illustration: Winifred Belmont
Designed and produced by Michael Deves
Printed and bound by Hyde Park Press, Adelaide

Contents

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

TOM GRIFFITHS • A Haunted Country? _____	1
--	---

Remembering History

NANCY WRIGHT & ANDREW BUCK • Tropes of Dispossession: The Political Unconscious of 'The Land in Question' in Colonial Australian Satire _____	13
MEG TASKER • Francis Adams's Construction of the 'real Australia' in <i>The Australians</i> (1893) _____	19
TONY HUGHES D'AETH • Legibility and Little Bourke Street in <i>Cassell's Picturesque Australasia</i> _____	25

Dreams and Disillusion

VIVIENNE MULLER • 'To the Island': Myths of Identity and Belonging in Andrew McGahan's <i>1988</i> _____	31
--	----

Writing Women – Gender and Identity

SUE KOSSEW • Writing Women: Gender, Identity and Representation in <i>Coonardoo</i> and <i>A Kindness Cup</i> _____	37
LINDA WESTPHALEN • Alice Nannup's 'Homes': Cultural Identification in <i>When the Pelican Laughed</i> _____	44

Imagined Landscapes

LURIE DUGGAN • May Gibbs's Suburban Space _____	48
PAUL MILLER • Monotony and the Picturesque: Landscape in Three Australian Travel Narratives of the 1830s _____	52

Women, Space and Text

ANGELINE O'NEILL • 'A Kind of Aladdin Cave': Women, Space and Text in the Western Australian Novels of E.L. Grant Watson _____	58
SANDRA BRUNET • Rewriting the Landscape: Judith Wright's <i>Fragile Land</i> and <i>Haunted Self</i> _____	64
ELIZABETH BULLEN • Gendered Spaces: The Frontier in Rod Jones's <i>Billy Sunday</i> _____	70
RICHARD ROSSITER • Ordering Chaos: Nature and Identity Formation _____	76

Subjectivity and Land

ANN MCCULLOCH • A.D. Hope: Nomad of the Minc, Land and Space _____	81
JUSTIN LUCAS • 'Dead dogs, stones and dust': the Fall from an Urban Pastoral in Brennan's <i>Curriculum Vitae</i> _____	88
KAREN ATTARD • Nomadology in Kylie Tennant's <i>The Battlers</i> _____	94

Territories of Desire

SYLVIA MARTIN • Becoming-Violet: Mary Fullertons' Poetry and Lesbian Desire _____	99
TIM SUTOR • Strange Bedfellows: Homo-eroticism and Landscape in Two Bush Novels from the 1920s _____	105
ROB COVER • Making Space: Identity in WA 'Lesbian/Gay' Writing _____	110

Voicing the Land	
RUBY LANGFORD GINIBI _____	117
ERIC ROLLS _____	121
'She-scapes': Gender, Land and Identity	
LYN MCCREDDEN • Historicising the Metaphor of Mother Earth _____	126
Place and Power	
MARY HUTCHISON • Gungahlin on a Plate – Stories of Land and Identity in a New Suburb _____	131
MARY GRIFFITHS • Latrobe Valley: Negative Charges _____	138
LAURA HARTLEY & MARGARET SOMERVILLE • A Space In-between: Red Rock _____	142
Erasure and Empowerment	
SUSAN MARTIN • Captivating Fictions _____	149
PETER DUNBAR-HALL • <i>Nitmiluk</i> : An Aboriginal Rock Song about a Place _____	155
CHRIS GIBSON • 'Nitmiluk': Song-sites and Strategies for Aboriginal Empowerment _____	161
Desert Spaces	
ROS HAYNES • 'Some Mystical Affinity': E.L. Grant Watson and the Australian Desert _____	168
ELAINE LINDSAY • Land and Identity in Barbara Hanrahan's Writing _____	174
CHRISTY COLLIS • Exploring <i>Tracks</i> : Writing and Living Desert Space _____	179
Re-imagining the Environment	
BRUCE CLUNIES-ROSS • Music, Poetry and the Natural Environment _____	185
SUE CARSON • Conversations with the Land: Environmental Questions and Eleanor Dark _____	191
FIONNUALA NEVILLE • The Gendered Landscapes of Elizabeth Jolley _____	197
Markers of Identity	
CHRIS LEE • Bronzed Aussie: The Memorialisation of Henry Lawson _____	202
TREVOR BYRNE • The Road to Babi Yar: Anti-historicism in Recent Australian Fiction _____	209
TIM BOWERS • Dwelling Within: Identity and Home in Contemporary Australian Autobiography _____	216
Unsettling Identities	
MICHAEL DEVES • Brian Castro: Hybridity, Identity and Reality _____	220
BRYAN DWYER • Place and Masculinity in the Anzac Legend _____	226
Charting Contemporary Poetry	
ANNE COLLETT • 'In a season without languages': Transliterative Process in the Poetry of Ouyang Yu, Vasso Kalamaris, Ania Walwicz and Antigone Kefala _____	232
FELICITY PLUNKETT • Michael Dransfield on the New England Highway _____	239
DENNIS HASKELL • Bruce Dawe: Language, Self and Place _____	243

FOREWORD

The 1997 annual conference of the Association for the Study of Australian Literature was held at the University of New England at Armidale, New South Wales, from 27 to 30 September. This publication is an edited record of nearly all the papers offered at the conference, published by ASAL for its members. The editorial panel regrets that it is not possible to include all the papers in this volume.

The theme of the conference, 'Land and Identity', is well-represented in the keynote address by Tom Griffiths. The keynote was outstanding for its meditation on the 'whited-out' elements of Australian history—a phenomenon which was reprised in numerous offerings throughout the four days' proceedings. Papers and addresses by Eric Rolls, Chris Gibson and Peter Dunbar-Hall, N.E. Wright and A.R. Buck, Sandra Brunet, Ruby Langford Ginibi, and Sue Carson highlighted alternative readings of the trajectories of pastoral and settler-oriented ideologies reflected in nineteenth and twentieth century Australian literature. Jennifer Strauss delivered the 'Dorothy Green Memorial Lecture' on the subject of 'In Praise of Serious Women—Mary Gilmore, Judith Wright, Veronica Brady, Dorothy Green', the full text of which can be found in the October 1997 issue of *Notes and Furphies*. The wealth of inter-disciplinary and cross-disciplinary approaches presented amply repaid the convenors' hopes for a wide-ranging interpretation of the conference theme's possibilities.

The conference included readings by Ruby Langford Ginibi, Herb Wharton, Sophie Masson, Eric Rolls, Jennifer Strauss, James Bradley, Gwen Kelly, Julian Croft, Bob Herbert Hay, Robert Dessaix, Paul Carter, Morgan Yasincek and McKenzie Wark. The conference also maintained the tradition of the parody night, and was well-supported by numerous publishers, most notably Penguin Australia, Melbourne University Press, and Kardoorair Press (which launched Carmel Gaffney's edition of essays on the poetry of Les Murray, who came to Armidale for the launch).

We would like to thank Michael Deves for his work on these proceedings, as well as Anne Pender, Gargi Ganguly and Yvonne Miels for their editorial assistance, and Winifred Belmont for providing the cover illustration. We would like also to extend our thanks to all those who helped make the conference a success, including the Literature Fund of the Australia Council, the Department of English and Communication Studies of UNE, the anonymous UNE postgraduate who made a handsome financial donation, Liz Hicks of Dymocks Armidale book shop, the many postgraduate students who assisted the convenors, and the staff of the New England Regional Art Museum.

JENNIFER McDONELL

MICHAEL SHARKEY

ASAL 1997 Convenors