Not Much Originality about Us: Scottish Influences on the Angus & Robertson Backlist
Abstract

The Scottish background of the Sydney publishing and bookselling firm of Angus & Robertson influenced the choice of books sold in their bookshops, the kind of manuscripts commissioned and the way in which these texts were edited. David Angus and George Robertson brought from Scotland an emphasis on recognising and fostering a quality homegrown product whilst keeping abreast of the London tradition. This prompted them to publish Australian authors as well as to appreciate a British literary canon and to supply titles from it. Indeed, whilst embracing his new homeland, George Robertson’s backlist of sentimental nationalistic texts was partly grounded in the novels and verse written and compiled by Sir Walter Scott, Robert Burns and the border balladists.

Full Text:

PDF

More info on Angus & Robertson. In the early years of publishing to 1900, Angus and Robertson developed a successful marketing formula and mix of products: they established a pattern of literary publishing together with educational publishing.[6]. Angus and Robertson published The Official History of Australia in the War of 1915–1918 by H. S. Gullett (1941). Ownership. Since 1977, the publisher has been a separate company under separate ownership from the bookseller. Angus & Robertson publishers have been an imprint of HarperCollins since 1989. Angus & Robertson is the owner of Reader’s Feast, a large bookshop in Sydney. The Angus & Robertson story began in February 1882, when a young Scotsman named George Robertson started work at a Sydney bookshop just four days after arriving in Australia. Eleven months later, fellow Scot, David Angus joined the team but after two years decided to branch out on his own. Most of the Angus & Robertson stores were closed and the Pearson Australia Group became the owner of the Angus & Robertson online business. Although Angus & Robertson customers were dismayed by the loss of their stores, the Angus & Robertson name was one which was respected and thought of fondly. We also noticed that you have previously shopped at Bookworld. Would you like us to keep your Bookworld order history?