THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHIVES

NAME OF COLLECTION:	**AUSTRALIAN PUBLIC SERVICE ARTISANS ASSOCIATION**
ACCESSION NO:	**103/55**
CATEGORY: ACTIVITY:	Labour, Organisations
DATE RANGE:	1915-1986
SIZE OF COLLECTION:	0.6m (three type 1 archive boxes; one type 2 box)
DATE OF TRANSFER:	2 September 2003
ACCESS CONDITIONS:	Restricted

Collection: - Australian Public Service Artisans' Association   **Accession: 103/55**

HISTORICAL NOTE:	The Australian Public Service Artisans' Association (APSAA) was formed in Melbourne in late 1915 by skilled tradesmen employed by the General Post Office. Motivated by a sense of the importance of their skills and the nature of government employment, these men rejected overtures to join the general postal workers' union and instead determined to establish an independent union.
	War had precipitated major changes to the Australian economy, leading to rapid economic growth and a significant diversification in industrial effort and output. Many new industries were established, many with considerable government involvement or assistance.
	These were also years in which unionism spread through the Australian government workforce. During this period public service clerical unions began to organize with some success, while new craft-based unions of government employees such as the APSAA were matched by the formation of unions of supervisory staff such as the Commonwealth Foremen's Association, registered in New South Wales in 1916.
	Within years of its establishment, the APSAA began to organize government artisans in departments and agencies well beyond the GPO, meeting with considerable success. In order to consolidate these gains and to specify its areas of recruitment, the union successfully sought Federal registration in 1920. The union also changed its title to the Commonwealth Public Service Artisans' Association, both in recognition of its geographical expansion and its extended representation among Federal departments and enterprises.
	Following the Second World War its title was again amended slightly to the Australian Public Service Artisan's Association. Following a period of active negotiations, the APSAA merged with ADSTE in 1986.
DESCRIPTION:	Minute books, Triennial Conference, correspondence files
NOTE ON LISTING:	The collection was received with a box list prepared by Andrew Reeves. Series numbers have been allocated.
LISTED BY:	Les Dalton, John Ellis, Sarah Brown
DATE:	Completed November 2004

Box No.	Series No.	Description	Dates
	1	**Minute Books**	**1915-1985**
		General, Special, Annual, Quarterly and Committee meetings	
		[*Note:* This sequence of minute books reflects the changing nature of the union. They begin as essentially the minutes of a small union, or a union branch, with an emphasis on annual meetings as well as members' quarterly or special meetings. Over time, as the union expanded and assumed a national character, these minute books reflect the priority given to national organizational issues rather than the direct meetings of members. By the 1930s national committee minutes predominate, while by the 1950s these volumes are referred to specifically as committee minutes]	
1	1/1	27 October to 30 April 1919 [*Note:* the original membership roll of the union, members 1 to 698, is included at the back of this minute book]	
1	1/2	12 May to 1919 to 28 Feb 1928	
1	1/3	19 May 1929 to 28 Feb 1938	
1	1/4	20 April 1938 to 8 Feb 1944	
1	1/5	7 Dec 1942 to 11 Aug 1944 [*Note:* Handwritten on volume cover "Electrical Division"]	
1	1/6	16 Feb 1944 to 14 Feb 1945	
1	1/7	9 March 1945 to 19 July 1946	
1	1/8	2 Aug 1946 to 11 July 1947	
1	1/9	25 July 1947 to 4 March 1949	
2	1/10	1 April 1949 to 1 Aug 1952	
2	1/11	5 Sept 1952 to 3 Aug 1956	
2	1/12	7 Sept 1956 to 4 Dec 1959	
2	1/13	5 Feb 1960 to 2 Aug 1963	
2	1/14	6 Sep 1963 to 3 Mar 1967	
2	1/15	3 April 1967 to 1 May 1970	
2	1/16	5 June 1970 to 1 June 1973	
2	1/17	4 July 1973 to 5 Dec 1974	
3	1/18	7 Feb 1975 to 6 May 1977	
3	1/19	3 June 1977 to 2 June 1978	
3	1/20	7 July 1978 to 13 Aug 1978	
3	1/21	27 Nov 1984 to 18 Mar 1985	
3	1/22	25 June 1985 to 11 Nov 1985	
3	1/23	24 Mar 1985	
	2	**Triennial Conference minutes and associated papers**	**1974; 1977**
4	2/1	1974 – Minutes and agenda	
4	2/2	1977 – Minutes, resolutions, drafts, notes [*Note:* 1980 Conference not located]	

		3	**Correspondence files**	**1978 - 1986**
4	3/1		Australian Public Service Artisans' Association (APSAA) Application for a "Registered Description of Industry…" [re amalgamation], 1982-1983	
4	3/2		Correspondence [re amalgamation and general], 1984-1986	
4	3/3		Constitution and rules, office bearers, general, 1978-1984	

LIST ENDS