



Professor Winifred Pennington FRS

Leicester’s Famous Women Scientists



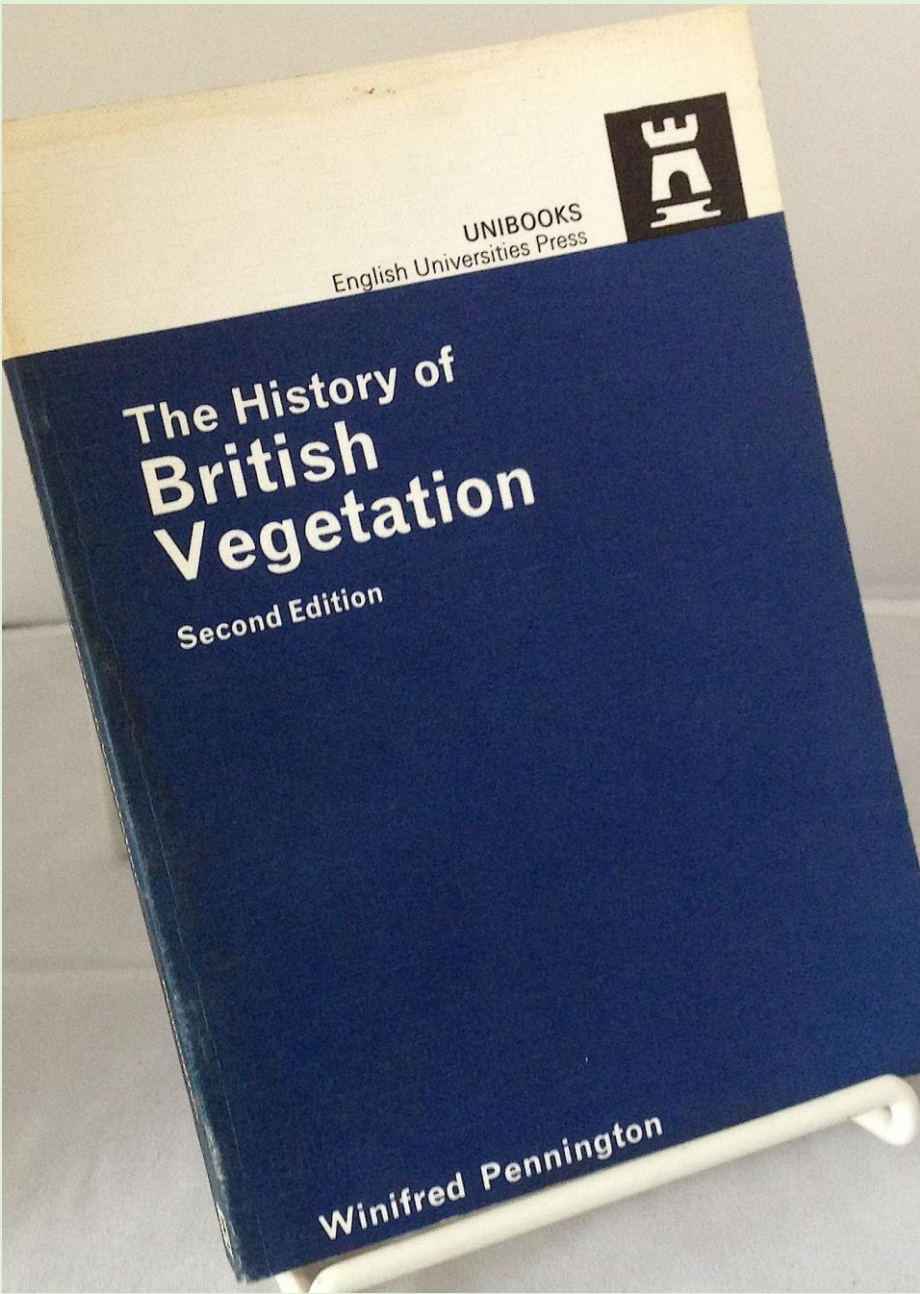
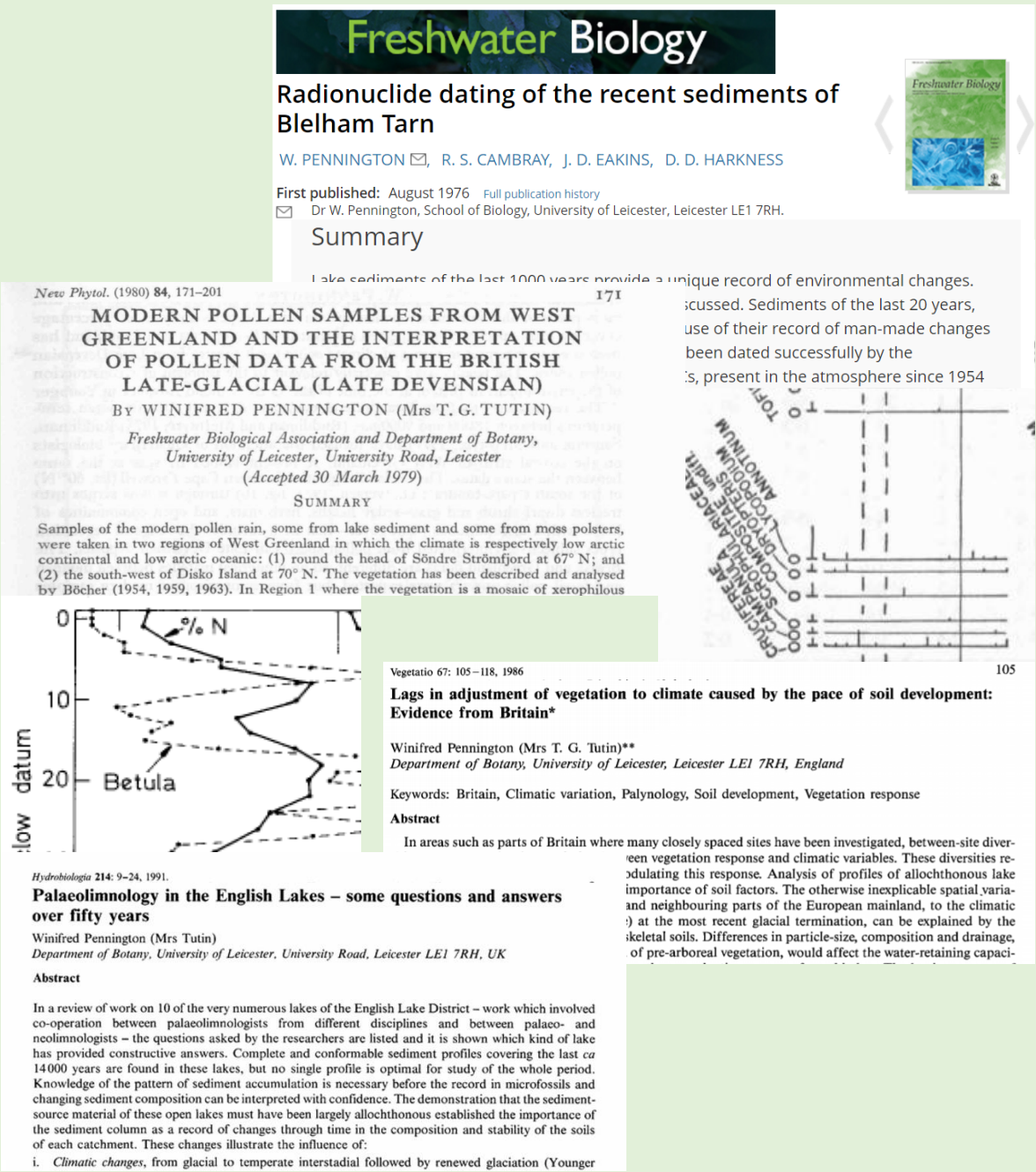
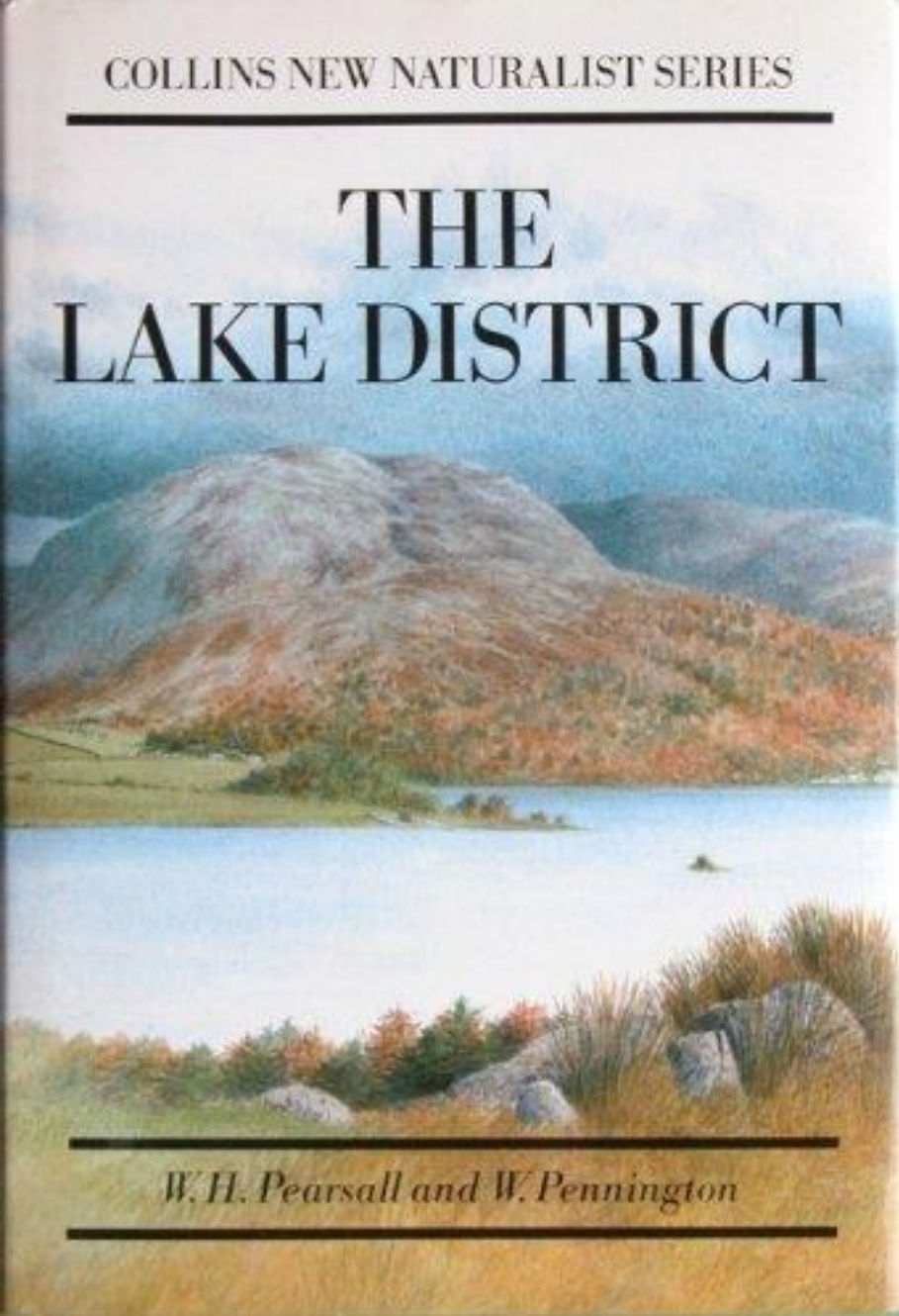
Winifred (“Anne”) Pennington (Mrs TG Tutin; 1915-2007) made major contributions to environmental biology and vegetational history.

She joined the University of Leicester in 1947 as a demonstrator and lecturer, finally becoming an Honorary Professor in 1980. She divided her time between work in Leicester and at the Freshwater Biological Association in the Lake District.



Her pioneering work in palaeolimnology, showing the first evidence for late-glacial climatic oscillation in Britain led to her election as a Fellow of the Royal Society (FRS) in 1979.

She had four children during the late 1940s and early 1950s, while lecturing in Leicester on many biological topics. She also worked with botanical volunteers, including science-based surveys and expeditions.



Her research writings were notable for their clear and accessible style while bringing across novel and complex aspects of lakes and other bodies of fresh water, including inorganic and organic sediment chemistry, and the changes in pollen and diatoms. Her detailed history of vegetation patterns across Northern Europe over the last 30,000 years underpins most modern work on climate change.

Further information about the life of Professor Pennington is given in Birks HJ, Birks HH. 2007. Winifred Tutin (1915–2007). Journal of Paleolimnology 38(4):601-605. DOI 10.1007/s10933-007-9152-8 and at en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Winifred_Pennington

