



AIATSIS
Australian Institute of Aboriginal
and Torres Strait Islander Studies

Finding aid

EADES_D02

**Sound recordings collected by
Diana Eades, 1974-1976**

ACCESS

Availability of copies

Listening copies are available. Contact the AIATSIS Audiovisual Access Unit by completing an [online enquiry form](#) or phone (02) 6261 4212 to arrange an appointment to listen to the recordings or to order copies.

Restrictions on listening

This collection is open for listening.

Restrictions on use

Copies of this collection may be made for private research. Permission must be sought from the relevant Indigenous individual, family or community for any publication or quotation of this material. Any publication or quotation must be consistent with the *Copyright Act* (1968).

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Date: 1974-1976

Extent: 6 sound tape reels : analogue, 7 1/2 ips, mono ; 5 in.

Production history

These recordings were collected by linguist Diana Eades in the Nambucca Heads and Purfleet areas of New South Wales between 1974 and 1976. They document the Gumbaynggir language, as spoken by Harry 'Tiger' Buchanan (Eades' principal consultant) and Ray McDonald.

The collection was deposited at AIATSIS on the 15 August 1977.

RELATED MATERIAL

Important: before you click on any links in this section, please read our [sensitivity message](#).

A grammatical description of Gumbaynggir by Diana Eades, based on the information contained in these recordings and other sources, appears in the *Handbook of Australian Languages*, volume 1, edited by R.M.W. Dixon and Barry J. Blake (1979), see [B D621.81/H1](#). This article also features transcripts of some of the narratives recorded. A copy of a transcript of field tape HB74/1 by Brother Steve Morelli is held in the AIATSIS Audiovisual Archive. For a complete listing of related material held by AIATSIS, consult our [online catalogue](#), Mura®.

ARCHIVIST'S NOTE

This finding aid was compiled from information provided by Diana Eades and audition sheets prepared by AIATSIS staff. Eades' field notes and original tapes are not held by AIATSIS, so it was

not possible to double-check these sources for additional information.

ITEM LIST

| Archive number | Field recording number | Description |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| 004497 | HB74/1 | Gumbaynggir language elicitation and narrative by Harry Buchanan |
| 004498 | HB74/2 | Gumbaynggir language elicitation and narratives by Harry Buchanan |
| 004499 | HB74/3 | Gumbaynggir language elicitation with Harry Buchanan and song performed by unidentified man, possibly Frank Archibald |
| 004500 | RM74/1 | Gumbaynggir language elicitation with Ray McDonald |
| 004501 | HB75/1 | Gumbaynggir language elicitation and songs by Harry Buchanan |
| 004502 | HB76/1 | Gumbaynggir language elicitation, cultural discussion and narrative by Harry Buchanan, also featuring unidentified women |

ITEM DESCRIPTIONS

004497/HB74/1

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Performer/speaker(s): | Harry (Tiger) Buchanan |
| Subject keywords: | Language - Linguistics - Language elicitation, Stories and motifs |
| Language/people: | Gumbaynggir / Gumbainggirr, English |
| Places: | Bellwood (Nambucca, NSW N Coast SH56-10) |
| Recording quality: | Fair (background noise) |

| Archive item number | Timing point | Description | Date | Place |
|---------------------|--------------|---|-----------------|---------------|
| EADES_D02-004497 | 00:00:00 | Gumbaynggir sentence and vocabulary elicitation with Harry Buchanan. Includes words for motion, location, time, hunting, material culture, plants, people, food, body parts, possessives, colours, quantification and negation. | 14 January 1974 | Bellwood, NSW |
| | 00:26:08 | End of side 1 of field tape HB74/1. | | |
| | 00:26:17 | Continuation of interview with Harry Buchanan. Words for figs, followed by narrative about the 'tree of life' in English and Gumbaynggir. | 17 January 1974 | Bellwood, NSW |
| | 00:31:28 | Gumbaynggir sentence and vocabulary elicitation with Harry Buchanan. Includes words for material culture, location, time, negation and quantification. | | |
| | 00:51:33 | End of HB74/1 and end of EADES_D02-004497A. | | |

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004498/HB74/2

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Performer/speaker(s): | Harry (Tiger) Buchanan |
| Subject keywords: | Language - Linguistics - Language elicitation, Stories and motifs |
| Language/people: | Gumbaynggir / Gumbainggirr, English |
| Places: | Scotts Head (NSW N Coast SH56-10), Bellwood (Nambucca, NSW N Coast SH56-10) |
| Recording quality: | Fair |
| Notes: | Another person is present during this recording, possibly Peter Eades. The story 'Bulagur—the two brothers' is transcribed in the <i>Handbook of Australian Languages</i> , vol.1, p. 336. |

| Archive item number | Timing point | Description | Date | Place |
|---------------------|--------------|--|-----------------|------------------|
| EADES_D02-004498 | 00:00:00 | Two stories in Gumbaynggir: 'Bulagur — the two brothers' and another. Includes rough translation and commentary in English. | 18 January 1974 | Scotts Head, NSW |
| | 00:06:57 | Gumbaynggir sentence and vocabulary elicitation, focusing on adjectives, instrument, commitative, states, negation, comparison, reciprocal, reflexive, location, conditional, mentation, time, and words for animals, plants, food and kinship. A few short narratives and sentences follow, not all of which are translated into English. | 21 January 1974 | Bellwood, NSW |
| | 00:44:43 | End of field tape HB74/2 and end of EADES_D02-004498. | | |

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| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 004499/HB74/3 | |
| Performer/speaker(s): | Harry (Tiger) Buchanan, Frank Archibald (possibly) |
| Subject keywords: | Language - Linguistics - Language elicitation, Stories and motifs, Music - Vocal - Solo - Male |
| Language/people: | Gumbaynggir / Gumbainggirr, English |
| Places: | Bellwood (Nambucca, NSW N Coast SH56-10) |
| Recording quality: | Fair |
| Notes: | Diana Eades does not make an announcement at the beginning of this field tape, but it sounds like a continuation from the last field tape recorded on the 21 January 1974 at Bellwood. The name of the person speaking and singing towards the end of this tape is not announced and does not appear in the accompanying documentation. It could be Ray McDonald, who speaks on the next field tape, but it more likely Frank Archibald (whose name is mentioned twice in the narrative). |

| Archive item number | Timing point | Description | Date | Place |
|---------------------|--------------|--|-----------------|---------------|
| EADES_D02-004499 | 00:00:00 | Gumbaynggir sentence elicitation and stories with Harry Buchanan. Some explanations in English. Includes discussion about animals and hunting. | 21 January 1974 | Bellwood, NSW |
| | 00:41:00 | Unannounced change of speaker. Possibly Frank Archibald or Ray McDonald talks briefly in language and then sings a song. | 1974 | Unknown |
| | 00:43:04 | End of HB74/3 and end of EADES_D02-004499. | | |

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004500/RM74/1

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Performer/speaker(s): | Ray McDonald |
| Subject keywords: | Language - Linguistics - Language elicitation |
| Language/people: | Gumbaynggir / Gumbainggirr, English |
| Places: | Purfleet (Taree, NSW N Coast SH56-14) |
| Recording quality: | Fair |

| Archive item number | Timing point | Description | Date | Place |
|---------------------|--------------|--|------|---------------|
| EADES_D02-004500 | 00:00:00 | Gumbaynggir sentence and vocabulary elicitation with Ray McDonald. Includes adjectives, marks (cicatrices?), time, kinship terms, animal names, action, negation, fish and eating. | 1974 | Purfleet, NSW |
| | 00:26:35 | End of field tape RM74/1 and end of EADES_D02-004500. | | |

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004501/HB75/1

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Performer/speaker(s): | Harry (Tiger) Buchanan |
| Subject keywords: | Language - Linguistics - Language elicitation, Music - Vocal - Solo - Male |
| Language/people: | Gumbaynggir / Gumbainggirr, English |
| Places: | Nambucca Heads (NSW N Coast SH56-10) |
| Recording quality: | Fair to good |

| Archive item number | Timing point | Description | Date | Place |
|---------------------|--------------|--|------|--------------------------|
| EADES_D02-004501 | 00:00:00 | Gumbaynggir sentence elicitation with Harry Buchanan, focusing on location, body parts, directions, interrogatives, conditional. Includes some place names, such as Warrell Creek. | 1975 | Nambucca Heads area, NSW |
| | 00:12:07 | Three songs in Gumbaynggir performed by Harry Buchanan, one with some English words. One is introduced as a corroboree song. | | |
| | 00:13:55 | Gumbaynggir sentence elicitation and short narrative with Harry Buchanan. Includes sentences about a small baby girl who is present, adjectives, motion, location, reason, conditional, reciprocal, purpose, clothes, directions, time, number, avoidance term between brothers and sisters, kinship terms (skin groups), place names. | | |
| | 00:56:54 | End of field tape HB75/1 and end of EADES_D02-004501. | | |

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004502/HB76/1

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Performer/speaker(s): | Harry (Tiger) Buchanan |
| Subject keywords: | Language - Linguistics - Language elicitation |
| Language/people: | Gumbaynggir / Gumbainggirr, English |
| Places: | Nambucca Heads (NSW N Coast SH56-10) |
| Recording quality: | Fair to good |
| Notes: | The women who feature towards the end of this recording are not named. Only three women are mentioned in Eades' article 'Gumbaynggir' in the <i>Handbook of Australian Languages</i> ; they are Jane Brown, Ivy Smith and Della Walker. The story 'The death of Birugan' is transcribed in the <i>Handbook of Australian Languages</i> , vol.1, pp. 340-344. |

| Archive item number | Timing point | Description | Date | Place |
|---------------------|--------------|--|------|--------------------------|
| EADES_D02-004502 | 00:00:00 | Gumbaynggir sentence elicitation with Harry Buchanan, focusing on wind and rain; and collecting, cooking and eating pipis and oysters. Discussion about traditional medicine and an incident when Mr Buchanan had to use first aid (mainly in English with segment in language). | 1976 | Nambucca Heads area, NSW |
| | 00:17:45 | Harry Buchanan talks about the name Nambucca and Gumbaynggir initiation. | | |
| | 00:24:00 | "The death of Birugan" told by Harry Buchanan in Gumbaynggir. Includes commentary in English. | | |
| | 00:31:41 | Part of "the death of Birugan" is replayed. Discussion between Harry Buchanan and two (or more) women follows in English and language. | | |
| | 00:57:18 | End of field tape HB76/1 and end of EADES_D02-004502. | | |

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