



AIATSIS
Australian Institute of Aboriginal
and Torres Strait Islander Studies

Finding aid

GRATTE_S03

**Sound recordings collected by
Stan Gratte, 1966-1967**

ACCESS

Availability of copies

Listening copies are available. Contact [AIATSIS](#) 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

This collection may only be copied by those who have obtained written permission from Stan Gratte. Permission must be sought from Stan Gratte and 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: 1966 - 1967

Extent: 4 audiotape reels : analogue, mono.

Production history

Stan Gratte collected these recordings as part of a 1966 grant from the AIAS to study rock art, engravings and languages in the area east of Geraldton, Western Australia. The recordings contain interviews with Maggie Bell, Watty Barker, Harold Councillor, Tom Muir and George Ronan. The speakers provide language vocabulary elicitation, and cultural and historical information concerning the Nhanda, Badimaya, Nowkadjia and Wajarri people.

RELATED MATERIAL

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

A related manuscript was created in 1998 for use by the Yamatji Land and Sea Council which contains information gathered in this 1966 – 1967 East Geraldton study, please see [MS 4134](#). Related photographic material was collected as part of this study, please see [GRATTE.S1.CS](#).

For a complete listing of related material held by AIATSIS, consult the Institute's Mura® online catalogue at <http://mura.aiatsis.gov.au>.

ARCHIVIST'S NOTE

Please note that the last field tape in this collection, R1, was recorded prior to the other field tapes. The speaker in R1 gives information on an unclassified language recorded by the collector as “Nowkadjia” and originating in the Geraldton area, specifically the Chapman Valley. Stan Gratte recently advised the Archive that a more accurate spelling might be Ngukaja. This finding aid was compiled from information contained in documentation provided by Stan Gratte and audition sheets prepared by AIATSIS staff.

ITEM LIST

Archive number	Field recording number	Description
000651A	Field Tape B1	Badimaya and Wajarri language elicitation and oral history .
000651A	Field Tape M1	Nhanta cultural discussion and language elicitation
000651A 000651B	Field Tape M2	Words in Nhanta, hunting techniques and stories
000651B	Field Tape R1	Nowkadjia language elicitation and discussion of fishing.

ITEM DESCRIPTIONS

000651A/Field Tape B1

Performer/speaker(s):	Maggie Bell
Subject keywords:	Language – Vocabulary, History - Oral history, Family, Kinship
Language/people:	Badimaya / Badimia, Wajarri / Watjarri
Places:	Mingenew (SW WA SH50-05)
Recording quality:	Fair – good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
GRATTE_S03-000651A	00:00:00	Language elicitation, oral history and family history information from Maggie Bell (aged over 90 at the time of the recording) which includes some Badimaya and Wajarri vocabulary.	May, 1967	Mingenew, WA
	00:20:56	End of Field Tape B1.		

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000651A/Field Tape M1

Performer/speaker(s):	Watty Barker, Harold Councillor, Tom Muir
Subject keywords:	Language – Vocabulary, Body – Scarification, Initiation – Circumcision, History - Cultural
Language/people:	Nhanta / Nhanda
Places:	Wilgie Mia (WA Gascoyne / Murchison SG50-11)
Recording quality:	Fair

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
GRATTE_S03-000651A	00:21:00	Watty Barker, Harold Councillor and Tom Muir give information concerning the following: circumcision, ceremony, traditions, body scarring and general culture; languages and vocabulary of their area, and; local history.	May, 1967	Wilgie Mia Pool, WA
	00:48:12	End of Field Tape M1.		

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000651A + 000651B/Field Tape M2

Performer/speaker(s):	Watty Barker, Harold Councillor, Tom Muir
Subject keywords:	Stories & motifs – Snakes, Stories & motifs – Kangaroos/Wallabies, Stories and motifs – Birds, Language – Vocabulary, Hunting
Language/people:	Nhanta / Nhanda
Places:	Murchison River (WA South Pilbara SG50)
Recording quality:	Fair

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
GRATTE_S03-000651A	00:48:16	Watty Barker, Harald Councillor and Tom Muir give information on the following: hunting techniques and discussion of tracks; Nhanta Vocabulary, and; Snake story	May, 1967	Murchison River area, WA (in the vicinity of “The Loop”)
	00:64:14	End of GRATTE_S03-000651A.		
GRATTE_S03-000651B	00:00:00	Snake story continues followed by vocabulary discussion, Kangaroo and Emu Hill story and a Bird Story.		
	00:12:51	End of Field Tape M2.		

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000651B/Field Tape R1

Performer/speaker(s):	George Ronan
Subject keywords:	Language – Vocabulary, Law, Food - Bush tucker
Language/people:	Unclassified language
Places:	Geraldton / Champion Bay (SW WA SH50-01)
Recording quality:	Fair
Notes:	The “Nowkadjá” language does not appear in the AIATSIS Language Thesaurus.

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
GRATTE_S03-000651B	00:12:56	George Ronan discusses “Nowkadjá” language vocabulary, language boundaries, Law, meeting places, bush tucker and fishing.	Dec, 1966	Geraldton Hospital, WA
	00:43:06	End of Field Tape R1 and end of GRATTE_S03-000651B.		

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