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Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies

Papers of Gerhardt Laves

MS 2189

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COLLECTION SUMMARY

Creator: Gerhardt Laves

Title: Papers of Gerhardt Laves

Collection no: MS 2189

Date range: 1929-1932

Extent: 2.43 metres (14 boxes)

Repository Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies

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ACCESS TO COLLECTION

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Exception: Series 3, items 2.18 – 2.27; Series 9, items 3.1 – 3.3; and material related to Kurin

are Closed Access

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Preferred citation

Items from this collection should be cited as [Title or description of manuscript item], Papers of Gerhardt Laves, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, MS 2189, Series [no.], Folder or Item [no.]

Inter-Library Loan

Manuscripts are not available on Inter-Library loan.

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COLLECTION OVERVIEW

Scope and content note

This collection of papers consists mainly of field notebooks, correspondence and language cards. It consists entirely of photocopies of the original documents held at MS 2188.

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Provenance

The original papers were located by an anthropologist, Mr. Mark Francillon, and are held in MS 2188. They were copied under an Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies grant for deposit in AIATSIS Library in 1985. These copies are held in this collection.

Material separated from collection

Maps have been separately indexed and are located in the Manuscript Map cabinet.

Related material

For a complete listing of works by and about Gerhardt Laves held by the Library and for other related material consult Mura®, the AIATSIS catalogue.

Dr. L. G. Cromwell prepared a detailed catalogue of the papers in 1986. It can be found at http://www.anu.edu.au/linguistics/nash/aust/laves/catalogue.html and a copy is held as Appendix 1 to the MS 2188 finding aid for the original set of papers in the printed finding aids held in the Stanner Room of the AIATSIS Library. This finding aid is based on Cromwell's catalogue.

Barry Alpher's New South Wales and Queensland language index to Laves catalogue can be found at http://www.anu.edu.au/linguistics/nash/aust/laves/alpher.html and a copy is held as Appendix 2 to the MS 2188 finding aid for the original set of papers in the printed finding aids held in the Stanner Room of the AIATSIS Library.

Photocopies of a further nine letters, from and to Gerhardt Laves, held at University of Chicago, was added to this collection in August 2001. These are described in this finding aid as Series 10.

Further information about this collection, about Laves, about Laves work and publications and about the use of Laves work by others, can be found at http://www.anu.edu.au/linguistics/nash/aust/laves/

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NAME INDEX

An index of selected names from this collection is available. To access these names contact the AIATSIS Family History Unit on 1800 730 129 (free call for family history enquiries only) or by email at family@aiatsis.gov.au.

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Gerhardt Laves was born in 1906 and died in 1993. He carried out linguistic and anthropological field work in Australia between 1929 and 1931 under the auspices of the Australian National Research Council. He was supervised by Professor A.R. Radcliffe-Brown of the University of Sydney.

Although principally interested in comparative linguistics, Laves drew much of his material from explanations of social and religious organisations, often through stories.

His field work areas were the North Coast of New South Wales, Albany, Broome and Cape Leveque in Western Australia, Victoria and Daly Rivers, Arnhem Land and Cape York.

He did not continue anthropological research after his return to America in 1931.

An obituary of Laves, by David Nash, can be found at http://www.anu.edu.au/linguistics/nash/aust/laves/obituary.html and additional biographical information at http://www.anu.edu.au/linguistics/nash/aust/laves/biog.html.

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ARCHIVIST'S NOTE

Series 10 was transferred from MS 2189 to MS 2188 in April 2021 by Angela Schilling. This occurred to assist with digitisation and preservation. This finding aid was reviewed in September 2025. Minor updates were made to the access conditions and references to Series 10 were removed.

NUMBERING SYSTEM

Items correspond to sections and subsections of the original manuscript held at MS 2188 where possible.

Items 3-6 are language cards and are held in Series 9.

The collection was re-housed in 2003 to ensure better conservation of the collection. While item numbers were not amended, this required a change in the boxes in which items are housed. The Box List notes the original box numbers as well as the current ones.

At the same time series numbers were applied to the geographical section headings used in an earlier finding aid.

SPELLING

The table below lists the standard spelling used by AIATSIS for languages and people named in this finding aid, together with the spelling used by Laves.

AIATSIS	Laves finding aid
Anaiwan / Nganyaywana	Anewan
Arrernte / Aranda	Aranda
Bardi	Barda
Birpai / Biripi people	Birpai
Bundjalung / Banjalang	Bandyalang
Daingatti / Dunghutti / Thungutti	Dangati
Diyari / Dieri people	Dieri
Djawi / Djawi	Djawa
Euahlayi / Yuwaalaraay / Yuwaaliyaay	Yualarai, Yularai, Yuwalo
Gadang / Kattang / Worimi	Gatang
Gamilaraay / Gamilaroi / Kamilaroi	Kamilarai (Narrim)
Goreng	Kurin
	Kurinj
Gubbi Gubbi / Kabi Kabi / Gabi Gabi	Gabi Gabi
	Kabi
Gumbaynggir / Gumbainggirr	Kumbaingeri
Karajarri	Karadjeri
	Karadyeri
Malak Malak language	Malak
	Mulluk Mulluk
Madngele / Madngala / Matngele	Emdil

Nangor	Nangu
Narrinjeri / Ngarrindjeri	Narrinyeri
Ngambaa	Ngambar
Ngangiwumirri / Ngangumiri	Ngangumeri
Ngiyambaa / Ngemba	Ngiambar
Weilwan / Wailwan	Weilwan
Yawuru people	Yauor
Yaegl / Yaygir	Yiegra
Yugambal	Yukumbil

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SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

Series 1 Preliminary notes and plans

This series includes notes on the manuscript version of *The social organization of Australian tribes*, by A.R. Radcliffe-Brown and a coding scheme for linguistic field notes.

Item	Pages	
	[Preliminary page i]	Laves page numbering, 27 April 1988. Handwritten.
	[Preliminary page ii]	AIAS page numbering, 27 April 1988. Handwritten

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Series 2 New South Wales

The first section of this series relates to the North Coast of New South Wales. It includes linguistic notes and stories, notes and stories, mourning customs and sacred sites (Chandlers Creek to Little Nymboida).

Languages included are Kumbaingeri (Nymboida-Grafton, Bellingen-Bowraville), Yukumbil (Clarence River), Dangati (Bellingen-Bowraville, Bellbrook, Armidale), Gatang (Purfleet Mission, Taree), Karbung (Bellbrook, Armidale), Anewan and Ngambar (Bellingen-Bowraville), Kamilarai (Kempsey, Moree, Inverell) and Gawal (Richmond).

The second section covers the New South Wales-Queensland border. It includes linguistic survey notes and topographic stories.

Languages included are Yualarai, Kamilarai (Narrim) and Weilwan/Ngiambar.

Item	Pages	
1.1		Notes on preparatory reading for fieldwork, New South Wales travel plans; coding scheme for linguistic field notes, Sydney[?], 1929
	p. 1-10	Miscellaneous notes
	p. 11-26	'Notes on language from W.E. Roth, Ethnological studies among the N.W. Central Queensland Aborigines'
	p. 27-53	A.R. Radcliffe-Brown, 'The social organisation of Australian tribes' (MS.) [See also p. 58-75 and 80-90]
	p. 54-57	'Notes on NSW plans'; Coding (English/Native, Native/English) of linguistic slips; 'Letter to Penhallariack' on linguistic slips coding
	p. 58-75	A.R. Radcliffe-Brown, 'The social organisation of Australian tribes' (MS). [See also p. 27-53 and 80-90]
	p. 76-79	'Questions to Elkin'
	p. 80-90	A.R. Radcliffe-Brown, 'The social organisation of Australian tribes' (MS.) [See also p. 27-53 and 58-75]
	p. 91	Notes on rail fare to Grafton
	p. 92-100	'Notes on phonetic transcription and translation proposals' in Proceedings of the Copenhagen Conference April 1925, Oxford, Clarendon Press 1926
	p. 101-105	Miscellaneous notes
	p. 106-110	Vocabulary entries [Yukumbil?]
	p. 111	Notes in German (ref. 'Macdonald'), impressions on walking home in the evening air with Schmidt [presumably German] of the local Medical Association
1.2		Linguistic field notes , notes on Informants, and the Story of Madain (Northern New South Wales, c. September 1929)
	p. 112-210	'Preliminary linguistic notes transferred to slips at Maclean'
	p. 211-288	'Story of Madain and two wives whom Birugan was interfering with',

Item	Pages	
		copied and partly annotated
	p. 289-293	German notes
	p. 294	Note
1.3		Principal Informant (Philip Shannon) and First Kumbaingeri Stories, Maryborough region, September 1929
	p. 295-310	Vocabulary lists and miscellaneous notes
	p. 311-314	Fire origin story
	p. 315-323	Vocabulary lists
	p. 324-441	Philip Shannon's fire story
	p. 442-462	Story of first canoe. In English (p. 442-450) and Kumbaingeri (p. 450-462)
1.4		Kumbaingeri Stories, Nymboida-Grafton, September-October 1929
	p. 463-605	Includes story of the first canoe (continuation); 'Blind man story like in Bible'; Sea story ('Story of the night owl who killed his two wives'); Grass story ('No.8')
1.5		Kumbaingeri Stories, Mt. Gidno[?], October 1929
	p. 606-701	'Continuation of story about night-owl and his two unfaithful women'
	p. 702-710	'Story of two goanna', two brothers who keep to themselves ('debbil them two feller'), English
	p. 711-715	Very short tale of old woman Frizzed Lizard of Mt Gidno[?] who spit fire until she turned to stone, English [See Item1.6, p. 835-858 for text]
	p. 716-765	Story of blind boy and his two sisters
	p. 766	Brief note, 'How the jackass laughed'
1.6		Orara and Kumbaingeri Stories, Yiegra linguistic notes, Orara, October, 1939
	p. 767	Sketch map

Item	Pages	
	p. 768-833	Story of the two goanna brothers (debbils) who never mixed with others
	p. 834	Resume
	p. 835-858	Frizzed Lizard Story, [see p. 711-715 for English version]
	p. 859-876	'Story of Swearing Couples and the Girl who was taken advantage of', English abstract, p. 859, text p. 860-876, 900-916, 920-938]
	p. 877-896	Comparative vocabulary lists. Yiegra and Kumbaingeri to English, principally animals, plant names and kinship words
	p. 897-899	Brief tale of two old men who hit water and porpoise drive fish in
	p. 900-916	'Story of Swearing Couples and the Girl who was taken advantage of (continuation)'. [English abstract, p. 859, text p. 860-876, 920-938]
	p. 917-918	'Story of how greyface (kangaroo) got tail' [See also p. 1009-1019]
	p. 919	Brief tale, 'Story of creation of blackfellows', English
	p. 920-938	Story of Swearing Couples and the Girl who was taken advantage of (continuation)'. [English abstract, p. 859, text p. 859-876, 900-916]
1.7		Kumbaingeri and Yukumbil Stories, Nymboida, Grafton, Clarence River, December 1929
	p. 939-1008	Story of moon
	p. 1009-1019	Text of the story of how Greyface (Kangaroo) got his tail, [see Item 1.6 p. 917-18 for English version]
	p. 1020	Notes
	p. 1021-1040	Story of how they made women
	p. 1041-1045	Notes, including brief account of pleurisy cured by clever men when medics had given up
	p. 1046-1048	'Corroboree song from Richmond', sung at night (with music)
	p. 1049-1055	Includes story note: 'Six stars in summer' and Story of how porcupine (mudyai) stole a baby girl, last child of a women with many sons, and

Item	Pages	
		ended up with so many spears sticking out of his body
	p. 1056-1067	Includes initiation notes, including an account of Mick Dougall's initiation at the bora ground with the mingagir (ironstone) in the middle and 'Making of a clever man' (or 'How you get your bagor')
	p. 1068-1069	Yukumbil dialects and Kumbaineri dialects noted by New South Wales area
	p. 1070-1071	'23.12.29 – Porcupine story' notes. Crossed through
	p. 1072-1074	Diary notes in English and German
1.8		Linguistic Survey, with Stories, from Taree and Kempsey to Bowraville, Dangati, Gatang, and others, October-December 1929
	p. 1075-1076	Notes
	p. 1077-1084	Notes on Dangati informants and vocabulary (relationships, animals)
	p. 1085-1091	Dangati and Gatang vocabularies compared
	p. 1092-1107	Predicate elicitations ('to hit', 'hitting'), vocabulary
	p. 1108-1119	Dangati and Karbung vocabularies, fauna, flora and weather from Bellbrook, Walker, Armidale
	p. 1120-1121	Notes
	p. 1122- 1139	Preliminary linguistic survey notes for Dangati, Kumbaingeri, Anewan, Wambung and Ngambar, from Bellingen to Bowraville Camp
	p. 1140-1143	Tale of two Wirumbral who fled through parted waters of the sea from two gutui who could not follow when the waters closed back over, English
	p. 1144-1147	Notes on Kamilarai informants at Kempsey, Moree and Inverell and vocabulary
	p. 1148-1152	Anewan vocabulary and sentences, from Bowraville
	p. 1153-1160	Karbung vocabulary lists
	p. 1161-1181	Gatang informants and vocabulary lists from the Purfleet Mission Camp at Taree and Ngambar and Ngaku informants noted at Southwest

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		Rocks, mouth of the Macleay River (p. 1181)
	p. 1182-1195	Draft of letter to 'Dr. Sapir', in answer to Sapir's letter regarding his automatic phonetic typewriter, and its usefulness to Radcliffe-Brown who is trying to decide on a consistent phonetic system for his Journal 'Oceania' which is appearing' (p. 1184); mention is made of a field trip taken jointly by Radcliffe-Brown and Laves, and of Radcliffe-Brown's functionalist analysis of NSW tribes; p. 1182-1192 (letter begins on p. 1192). [See also Item 1.9 p. 1370.] Brief notes on Karadjeri from LaGrange, p. 1193-1195.
	p. 1196-1198	Brief notes on Yiegra words and informants, (p. 1196-7). Brief tale of man who showed people how to eat mullet (whose broken canoe is still visible near Kamingara [Evan's Head]), p. 1197
		Brief abstract of tale of bandicoot and sleepy lizard who cooperate to steal fire from two eaglehawks, p. 1198
	p. 1299-1205	Notes
	p. 1206	Note on organisation of linguistic slips [cards]
	p. 1207-1211	Notes, including 'Functional explanation of Australian kinship system', p. 1208, and 'Questions by Radcliffe-Brown' p. 1209 and 'to Radcliffe-Brown' p. 1210
1.9		Stories Relating to the Topography of the Coff's Harbour Region, Yiegra and Richmond (Nymboida), December 1929
	p. 1212-1213	List of informants (NSW), p. 1213. [Note on p. 1212 reads: 'Jack Larrigo - principal informant', presumably for all Item 1.9]
	p. 1214-1365	Includes
		Topography tales of Yiegra country (Bellingen, Trial Bay, Coff's Harbour, Yamba), English, p. 1215-1238, 1247-1268, 1275-1325
		'Song for curing broken bones', p. 1239
		Song for catching mullet (Dangati), p. 1241-1242
		Two songs to stop a thief, p. 1243-4
		'Song to make dead man rise', p. 1246'
		'Wandaral' songs for sweetheartsYiegra, Kumbaingeri, Gawal

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		(Richmond), Bungadi (Macleay), and Dangati, p. 1269-74, (Macleay) and Dongati, p. 1269-74. Story of Birogan and Gaonggan (Kangaroo Rat and the Virgin), English, p. 1305-08 [see also p. 1362-65]. Note on mourning customs, p. 1310-16
		'Milers' (powerful or sacred places) listed, Chandler's Creek to the Little Nymboida River, p. 1326-1351. Corroboree songs from Nymboida and Richmond, p. 1352-62, with explanation of dyalagali stone as a map of sacred Yawor, p. 1363-65
	p. 1366-1371	Draft letter advising a young compatriot to select a metropolitan university rather than a provincial one in the United States, advice Laves says was confirmed by his brother's experience at a smaller state university in the United States (and mentioning Laves' early interest in a 'pure anthropological experiment' in race relations), German
1.10		Linguistic Survey Notes and Topographical Stories from the New South Wales - Queensland Border Country, February 1930
	p. 1372-1377	Notes on Bulliga and Kugai informants (NSW-Queensland border)
	p. 1378-1398	Yualarai vocabulary, relationship words, 'Yularai linguistics', riddles [see also pages 1412-1415, 1417, 1420-1422]
	p. 1399-1401	Kamilarai vocabulary notes, near Narrim [see also p. 1414]
	p. 1402-1404	Story of turkey and emu (how emu has no wings. and turkey only two young)
	p. 1405	Notes
	p. 1406-1409	Wanjwengku kinship words (from Point Macleay)
	p. 1410-1411	Notes
	p. 1412-1413	Yualarai vocabulary, relationship words, 'Yularai linguistics', riddles [see also pages 1378-1398, 1414, 1417, 1420-1422]
	p. 1414	Kamilarai vocabulary notes, near Narrim [see also p. 1399-1401]
	p. 1415	'Yualarai riddle'
	p. 1416	'About the alligator' (Weilwan/Ngiambar)
	p. 1417	Yualarai vocabulary, relationship words, 'Yularai linguistics', riddles

Item	Pages	
		[see also pages 1378-1398, 1412-1413, 1420-1422]
	p. 1418-1419	Ngiambar/Weilwan vocabulary notes (fauna, riddle)
	p. 1420-1422	Yualarai vocabulary, relationship words, 'Yularai linguistics', riddles [see also pages 1378-1398, 1412-1415, 1417]
	p. 1423-1425	Notes on 'Medicine Men', totems, country
	p. 1426	Crossed out words
	p. 1427	Notes on seeking informants at Glen Innes and Strathbogie
	p. 1428-1429	Notes

Series 3 Western Australia

The first section of this series covers the Broome area. It includes stories, Bagadjimbiri, Djibi and Mirin cycles, constellations, funeral and haunting and the Karadjeri language.

The second section covers Cape Leveque, Lombadina and Sunday Island. It includes language survey notes, texts, correspondence, a tribal map, bullroarers and the Barda, Djawa and Ngijina languages.

The third section covers Albany, Esperence and Mt Barker. It includes texts, social organization and genealogies and the Kurin language.

Item	Pages	
2.1	p. 1430-1591	Mirin and Badjajimbiri Stories (Karadjeri), and Constellations observed, near Broome, May 1930

Includes introductory pages and

- Story of lanbalanba, the little bug who found anthill house to live in
- · Making of fire sticks
- Mirim story
- · Story about warnan, woman's heroine

Item Pages

- · Djiwi, bowerbirds who teach blackfellows how to make fish-trap
- How Dier speared kangaroo and lifted him up to sky
- · Story of mari-mari
- Story of lizard whom water snake wanted to make a medicine man
- English abstract of bajadjimbiri story, p. 1548-1576 [Text in Item 2.2]
- Notes on constellations observed, with some charts, p. 1582-1590
- Note, in Dutch, p. 1591

2.2 p. 1592-1736 **Bagadjimbiri Saga** (near Broome, c. May 1930)

- Includes
- Text no. 10: Story of how ngurdjawor met the bagadjimbiri, p. 1607-1611
- Text no. 11 (first ½): Story of the Bagadjimbiri Saga, p. 1612-1649 [English abstract in Item 2.1]
- List of countries and sacred places where mirin went, p. 1663-1664
- Text no. 11: Continuation of bagadjimbiri myth, p. 1665-1685 [English abstract in Item 2.1]
- Story of Marala's death ('No.13')
- Story of barnanggu ('No.12'), English abstract p. 1686-1695, Text p. 1686-1735, Text p. 1696-1735
- p. 1737-1753 'The 'wolf-wolf' story of two sisters, one of whom called 'watersnake' in vain', (English abstract p. 1737, also in Item 2.1 p. 1537-8), 'text 8'
- **2.3 Djibi Story and Others from Karadjeri Country**, Western Australia, May 1930

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	p. 1754-1805	Djibi story (the hawks who ate a man and were banned by barnangu and walumba to appear only in the night), English abstract p. 1756-1772, Text ('No.14') p. 1774-1805
	p. 1806-1823	'Story of two wallabies, yalwa and nalgumidi, who fought because nalgumidi did not give yalwa any good food in exchange', Text only ('No.15')
	p. 1824-1867	'Story of kamida and his two sons (goannas) who swore at the other blackfellows and who burnt up the countryside', English abstract p. 1824-1833, Text ('No.16') p. 1834-1867
	p. 1868-1872	Notes
	p. 1873-1881	Story of barda (the sun) who swallowed the women he asked for (instead of having intercourse with them) and became so dizzy he died, which is why he goes round and round, ('No.17'), English abstract p. 1873-1876, Text p. 1878-1881
	p. 1882-1890	'Story of dardada (moon) who roasted lots of blackfellow. The new moon is explained by the sun's capturing him periodically', English abstract 1882-1883, Text ('No.18') p. 1884-1890
	p. 1891-1896	English abstract of kalbaing (pigeon) story ('No.19'); [see Item 2.4 for text]
2.4		The Mirin Cycle, and Other Stories, Karadjeri Country, Western Australia, May 1930
	p. 1897-1899	Contents list
	p. 1900-1912	'Text of Kalbaing (pigeon) whose two women left him' ('No.19'); 'English abstract preceding in vol. 3' [Item 2.3]
	p. 1913-1925	Story of turkey and mopoke ('No.20'), English. abstract p. 1913-1916, Text p. 1917-1925
	p. 1926-1931	Story of 'bilari and walpuru (pelican and hawk) who fight due to the machinations of waljara (snipe)', English abstract p. 1926-1928, Text ('No.21') p. 1929-1931
	p. 1932-2011	Story of Mirin, English abstract p. 1932-1949, Text ('No.22') p. 1950-2011
	p. 2012-2033	'Story no. 23 of ngapaljalja (white cockatoo) and the two djawari (crow)',

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		English abstract p. 2012-2016, Text p. 2017-2033
	p. 2034-2069	English abstract p. 2034-2040, Text p. 2041-2068
2.5		Western Australia
	p. 2070-2072	Contents and ownership note
	p. 2073-2094	Notes on the funeral of Hamlet, elder wife of Timothy, buried on Saturday, 9 June 1930, in her country, near Broome. [See related material in 'Laves Collection', AIAS audio tape collection F-92, audio tapes of original cylinder recordings, 1086, File A4068.] [These notes relate to Story no.25, see below. See also Item 2.6]
	p. 2095-2096	Map of Broome-Darwin coastline, 'from Mr Bourne's description', freehand
	p. 2097-2099	Crossed through notes
	p. 2100-2109	Funeral oration of Timothy to his elder wife Hamlet at her funeral, ('Story/Text no.25')
	p. 2110-2144	Story ('No.26') of Emu man (bidjarda) and boy chasing the changing kangaroo, English abstract p. 2071, 2112-15, Song p. 2110, Text p. 2116-2144
	p. 2145-1264	Story ('No.27') of how blackfellows learned to catch honey from the tomahawk grinder who first followed a 'sugar bag' (bee) to the hive (and gobbled so much he choked to death), English abstract p. 2145-49, Text p. 2150-64
	p. 2165-2184	Story of two women, one of whom loses her baby only to have the daughter of the other find the lost baby and raise him and marry him later, ('No.28'), English abstract (with some question of accuracy by the informant) p. 2165-2169, interpretation note p. 2170, Text p. 2171-84
	p. 2185-2197	Notes on bajadjimbiri cycle, relation of bullroarer names to tribe, tradition, circumcision and subincision technique, p. 2185-89 [see also Item 2.1], and explanation of the circumcision technique of bajadjimbiri initiating blacksnake [see Text No.11 in Item 2.1], p. 2190-7
	p. 2198-2214	Story of the mother who died over and over again, finally buried deep by frog, 'Text no.29'
	p. 2215-2282	Story of yabayaba (mother) killed by djarnba (man), ('No.30'), English

Item	Pages	
		abstract p. 2215-30, Text p. 2231-82
2.6		Notes on the haunting (debbil debbil) of Timothy's recently deceased wife, Hamlet
	p. 2283-2292	Notes on the haunting (debbil debbil) of Timothy's recently deceased wife, Hamlet and the night-time foray through the scrub to the gravesite led by Arthur, with Timothy following, and 'R.' [Ralph Piddington, presumably] and Laves following, expecting a large white 'ungeheuer' [monster] visitation, and 'with the blacks breathing in as they whisper so that it is barely audible', (and referring to a similar description in 'vol. 5' [see Item 2.5]), in German
	p. 2293	Note
	p. 2294-2356	'Story no.31 of bambida (lizard) and djabara (lizard) who mock one another about their [head-wagging] habits', English abstract, p. 2294-97, Text p. 2298-2356
	p. 2357-2382	Story ('No.32') of djwag-djwag, a bird, who gives Garambal no food, and Garambal's revenge by trapping djwag-djwag in a possum hole, English abstract p. 2357-2361, Text p. 2362-2382
	p. 2383-2405	Story of ngurdjawur (saltwater 'man'? crocodile?) and dimbil dimbil (little bird) who smell faeces out at sea, ngurdjawur accidentally falling into a fresh water lake as dimbil dimbil pulls him ashore, ('Text no.33'), English abstract p. 2384-2390, Text p. 2391-2405
	p. 2406-2428	Story of gamida (lizard) who burned his possessions, then himself, ('Text no.34'), English abstract p. 2406-2411, ('Lit'bit English first time. Story is rai [sacred].'), Text p. 2411-2428
	p. 2429-2468	Story of oldfella who could never catch any mai because alla young fella burned all the grass ('No.35'), English abstract p. 2429-2439, Text p. 2440-2468
	p. 2469	Letter to Laves from D.S. Davidson, of the Museum of the University of Pennsylvania, from Perth, dated September 1, 1930, requesting Laves to ascertain the dispersion of dug-out canoes, double rafts, and logs in the Broome area
2.7	p. 2470-2657	Texts 36-40, Karadjeri , with English abstracts, and the abstract to Text 41 [see Item 2.8], pp.2470-2657, June 1930, contents, p. 2471
2.8	p. 2658-2814	Text 41 [see abstract in Item 2.7], Texts 42 and 43 with English abstracts, and Text 44 ('uncompleted and not translated')

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2.9	p. 2815-2989	Texts 45-49, Karadjeri, with English abstracts
	p. 2890-2992	Draft letter on South Western W.A. plans
2.10	p. 2293-3175	WA – Language survey notes, Cape L'Eveque , Texts 51-59, Barda, with abstracts
2.11	p. 3176-3379	Texts 60-80, Lombadina and Sunday Island, with abstracts
2.12	p. 3380-3575	Texts 81-102, Lombadina and Sunday Island , with abstracts, p. 3381-3571, letter, p. 3572-3574, fieldwork plans noted, p. 3574-3575
2.13	p. 3576-3778	Texts 103-126, Barda and Bardadjawa, with abstracts, p. 3576-3778, with map of tribal distribution, contents, p. 3578-80
2.14	p. 3779-3972	Texts 127-143, Barda, Djawa (Bardadjawa) and Ngijina , with abstracts, p. 3779-3970, notes on W.A. fieldwork plans, p. 3779-3972, contents, p. 3780-82
2.15	p. 3973-4156	Texts 144-152, Barda , with abstracts, and notes on corroboree, p. 3974-4156, contents, p. 3975-76
2.16	p. 4157-4385	Classification List of Bullroarers, p. 4157, Texts 153-159, Barda and Bardadjawa, with abstracts, p. 4162-4378, List of Specimens with Native Names, p. 4379-85
2.17	p. 4386-4428	Texts 160 - 'A Rainbow Serpent Myth' – and Text 161, with abstracts, p. 4387-4428, contents, p. 4387-88
2.18	p. 4429-4603	Texts 163-176, Kurin , with abstracts, Albany, Esperance, Mt. Barker, with notes on informants, addendum, p. 4430-4603, contents, p. 4430-2. [See also Items 2.19 and 2.21]
2.19	p. 4604-4770	Texts 163 [see also Item 2.18], 177-184, Kurin , Esperance Region, some translated and with abstracts, p. 4605-4770, contents, p. 4605
2.20	p. 4771-4929	Texts 164-165 [see Item 2.18] abstract, Texts 185Q-195 [Note: informant], Kurin, Albany area, p. 4772-4929, contents, p. 4772-73
2.21	p. 4930-5099	Texts 197-210, Kurin , some with abstracts, translated, (songs), p. 4931-5099, contents, p. 4931- 4932
2.22	p. 5100-5274	Texts 211-221, Kurin [also 'Kurinj'], with abstracts, p. 5101-5274, contents, p. 5 101-5102
2.23	p. 5275-5426	WA - Texts 222-229 , and 'replacement texts' 166, 169, 172, 174, 175, 180, 185, 191 [i.e. improved or valid versions of earlier 'Q' versions, e.g. Text 166Q (see Item 2.18, p. 4430, and note, p. 4431)], Kurin, p. 5276-5426, contents, p. 5276-5277

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2.24	p. 5427-5580	Texts 230-241, with abstracts, Kurin, contents, p. 5428-9
2.25	p. 5581-5743	WA - Text 171 [see Text 171Q, Item 2.18], Texts 242, 243 , abstracts [see Item 2.26], notes on social organisation with genealogical charts, p. 5627-5670) and marriage section diagram, p. 5666, contents, p. 5582
2.26	p. 5744-5871	WA - Annotations to Texts 208-221, notes on marriage rules and genealogies, Texts 242-248, Kurin, with abstracts, contents, p. 5745

Series 4 Western Australia/South Australia

1931

This series contains miscellaneous notes, mainly on publications by D.M. Bates, G. Bateson, W. Reuter and G. Taplin and lectures by R. Firth and A.R. Radcliffe Brown.

Item	Pages
2.27	p. 5872-6004 WA - Texts 249-254, Kurin , some with abstracts, p. 5874-5940, 5954-60, 5988-6004, Lecture notes, notes on South Australia informants, (Western Australia and South Australia, March 1931). Contents, p. 5972. 'Notes on D.M. Bates' paper', p. 5941. Notes on [Gregory?] 'Bateson- 6' [chapter 6?], 're danga ('djang-ga')', p. 5941, and 'Bateson 8 - Corr', on marriage, p. 5947. 'Remarks on Reuter MSS.' (Adelaide), Dieri language inter alii, p. 5961-5969. 'South Australian informants recommended by Norman Tindale of Adelaide Museum', p. 5970. Notes on Narrinyeri language, from 'The Narrinyeri' by The Rev. George Taplin, in The Native Tribes of South Australia, introductory chapter by J.D. Woods (and noting contents of the book), p. 5972-5977. Lecture notes, lectures by Firth, Radcliffe-Brown, 24-30 March

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Series 5 Northern Territory

This series includes a diary (Darwin-Daly River, 1931), notes and texts, lists of material culture specimens (Daly River), Brinken and Ngangumeri (Daly River and Hermit Hill), Emdil (Hermit Hill), Milingimbi and Elcho Island, Anjumarla (Wave Hill), Wademan (Willeroo), Nangu (Fitzmaurice River (Bathurst Island, Djamandju (Victoria River), Yenyula (Borroloola) and Aranda (Fanny Bay Goal).

Item	Pages	
2.27a	p. 6005-6084	NT - Diary, handwritten, notebook, in English and German, from Darwin, Wednesday 29 April 1931 to Daly River and environs, 18 May 1931, aboard the 50-ton M.V. Maroubra
2.28- 2.29 p. 6085-6377		NT - Notes on Brinken and Ngangumeri, Daly River and Hermit Hill, (May 1931), Texts 261.1 - 279. Ngangumeri, Emdil, (Matngala), Hermit Hill, with List of Specimens from Daly River. Contents p. 6086 and p. 6230

2.30 p. 6378-6549

IT - Linguistic survey notes of the Top End (with brief notes on randa), including notes and texts from Milinbimbi (NE Arnhem Land nd Elcho Island), Anjumarla (Wave Hill Station), Wademan (Wilaroo), Iangu (Fitzmaurice River), Bathhurst Island, Djamandju (Victoria River), 'enyula (near Booraloola), Aranda (from informant in Fanny Bay Jail), ontents, p. 6379-6380

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Series 6 North Queensland and Cape York

This series includes survey notes and texts, Wik Mungkan and Coleman River languages (Palm Island) and Miriam.

Item	Pages	
2.31	p. 6550-6708	Linguistic survey of North Queensland and Cape York, (with notes on Wik Mungken and Coleman River languages secured at Palm Island, and notes on the Torres Strait language, Miriam, [see also 'Survey of NQ Languages' in Item 2.32]. Contents, p. 6551-6552
2.32	p. 6709-6805	Survey of North Queensland and Cape York Languages, with some texts, p. 6778-6801. Summary of North Queensland languages and notes on plans to depart Australia, p. 6802-6805. Contents, p. 6710

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Series 7 Kumbaingeri and Karadjeri

List of Kumbaingeri body folders and Kumbaingeri and Karadjeri texts and songs.

Item	Pages	
2.33	p. 6806-868	List of Kumbaingeri body folders, and Texts KR1-KR4 , Kumbaingeri, (Grafton, N.S.W.), p. 6807-6868, contents, p. 6807
7.1.1		Kumbaingeri and Karadjeri texts and songs , with English translations, apparently prepared for publication (see p. 6869, 6886), in handwritten and typewritten versions, 314p.
	p. 6869-6899	Part I, Madan Yuldara story, handwritten, p. 6870-6885, typescript p. 6887-6899, (with 'suggestions for the printing of the text', p. 6886).
	p. 6900-6947	Part II, Bandicoot story, handwritten, p. 6900-6947 (including an uncompleted second (handwritten) copy of bandicoot story for publication, p. 6943-47).
	p. 6948-6996	Part III, Story of Wanggandyigam (the red woman), handwritten
		[Part IV: There is no Part IV]

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	p. 6997-7014	Part V, Story of the blind boy (whose eyes are licked to sight by dogs)
	p. 7015-7034	Part VI, Story of the Two Gumbur (Devil) Goanna who never mixed with other people, (orara), handwritten, map
	p. 7035-7182	Karadieri Texts, Nos.1-49, Karadjeri, typescript
7.1.2	p. 7183-7330	'Karadjeri Texts: Translations (Original Copy)'

Original typescript, looseleaf, paper bound, endpaper, 148p., annotated, with footnotes (some handwritten) and marginal line notations, p. 7183-7330. [The translations are identified by Laves' number - e.g. 'Karadjeri translation. no.2 [MS v.1, p. 29-31] - where the bracketed MS volume number corresponds to Item numbered in the 2-series, e.g. MS vol.1 corresponds to Item 2.1, MS vol.2 is Item 2.2, and so forth. There are 49 translated texts, whose numbers correspond to numbered texts and stories throughout the Karadjeri material in the collection. The volume is bound with University of Chicago paper binding]

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Series 8 Miscellaneous reports, extracts and papers

This series includes early and final drafts of 'Preliminary survey of Australian Aboriginal languages', by G. Laves, notes on people of southwest Western Australia (mainly extracts from D. M. Bates' writings with genealogical chart of Jimmy Wms), and extracts from letters of W.E. H. Stanner (1932) on Brinken, Mulluk Mulluk, Nangomeri and other Daly River people.

There are also notes on Karadjeri social organization, mythology, kinship and cultural history, Karadjeri stories collected by R. Piddington, 'Preliminary survey of the social organization of the Karadyeri tribe' by R. Piddington, Karadjeri linguistic analysis, Emdil word cards and linguistic notes.

Item	Pages	
7.1.3	p. 7331-7357	'A Preliminary report on the languages of Australia', by Gerhardt Laves, original typescript, 14p. Original, p. 7331-7344. Carbon (uncorrected), p. 7345-7357
7.1.4	p. 7358-7385	Notes on people of the south-west of Western Australia, principally extracts from Daisy Bates' writings, typescript, (chart), 14p. Extracts from 'The Marriage Laws and Some Customs of the West Australian Aborigines', from the Victorian Geographical Journal, Vol. XXIII, 1905, 36-60, p. 7358-7366. Extracts from 'Tribes of the South-west of Australia' by Mrs. D.M. Bates, Revue d'Ethnographie, IV, 1923, p. 7367-80, with genealogy appended [see below).Genealogical chart of one Jimmy Wms [Williams?], 5p., handwritten, p. 7381-85

Item **Pages** 7.2.1 p. 7385a- 'A Preliminary Report on the Languages of Australia' by Gerhardt Laves. 'To be presented before Section L of the A.A.A.S. 7422 at Atlantic City, the morning of December 31, 1932'. A draft of 'A Preliminary Survey...' [see Item 7.2.2], typescript, 22p., with handwritten inserts, and a note on the purpose of the paper dated 'October 20, 1931' appended, p. 7386-7407. 'A Preliminary Survey of Australian Aboriginal Languages', typescript, 15p., a final version of the 'Report' [see Item 7.2.1], signed on the last page 'Gerhardt Laves, Chicago, 20 October 1931', p. 7408-7422 7.2.2 Note: The contents of Item 7.2.2 are listed with the contents of Item 7.2.1. The present file 7.2.2 is in order that Item 7.2.2 appears to have been catalogued on the file list p. 7423-7430 'Extracts from Letters of W.E.H. Stanner', typed, 8 pages of 7.2.3 extracts on social organisation and language notes on Brinken, Mullul Mulluk, Nangomeri and other Daly River people. 'Written June, July, August 1932' Karadieri Social Organisation, Mythology, Kinship, and 7.2.4 Culture History, English, typescript, (tables), 110 p. p. 7431-7475 'Karajeri Social Organisation', p. 7431-44, including 'Relationship Terms' p. 7440-41, 'Marriage Sections' p. 7442-44, 'Relationship tapus' ('Karajeri and Yauor tribes') p. 7449-51, obtaining and lending wives, and widows p. 7451-53, 'Local organisation-Totemism', p. 7454-58, 'Bugari [totems] and dreaming' p. 7458-9, 'Table of Nura and Bugari of the Yauor and Karajeri tribes' (with map references, and notes) p. 7460-71, including notes on 'The Nura and marriage sections' p. 7469-71

Notes on Yauor marriage and section system, p. 7445. Notes on 'Nigini, Nygina Tribe', 7446-48

Yauor 'relationship tapus', p. 7449-7451

Note on Yauor totems, p. 7458 (bottom)

Yauor nura and bugari (table, with map references and notes), p. 7460-69, and marriage sections, p. 7469-71, and child-birth theories, p. 7472-75

p. 7476-7489 'Initiation - Karadjeri Tribe', p. 7476-83, including septum-boring, p. 7476, blood-pouring and drinking, p. 7476-7, 'circumcision (Marjujala)', p. 7477-81, 'subincision (Bara)', p. 7481-2, 'Kambil stage', p. 7482, 'Bunana' stage, p. 7483, and marriage, p. 7483-89. 'Death, burial, home of the dead, inquest', p. 7484-89, including mourning, p. 7487, 'Tapu on names of the dead', p. 7487, 'Tapu on food', p. 7488, 'The invisible (or what must not be seen by certain persons)' [rai], p. 7488-9

p. 7489 'Secrets' p. 7490 'Lungur lungur (involuntary movements of the muscles)' 'Some customs: 'Welcoming', 'Use of toes' [carrying spears]

- p. 7491 'Shelters'
- p. 7492-7493 'Seasons (Karadjeri and Yuaor Tribes)', p. 7492. 'Cardinal points and winds', p. 7493.
- p. 7494-7495 'Economics', 'Weapons', 'Implements', p. 7494. 'Cooking', p. 7495
- p. 7495 'Fish-poisoning'
- p. 7496 'Native tobacco'
- p. 7498-7512 'Karadjeri Mythology', 45p., includes 'Circumcision' (Bagajimbiri story), p. 7498-7501, 'Sacred objects', p. 7501-3, 'Bugari and certain natural phenomena,', p. 7506. 'Making of men and women' (Panda), p. 7509, 'A law re blood-drinking', p. 7409, a note on 'woman's blood', p. 7509, and the following myths
 - 'The Making of the fire-making sticks', p. 7503. 'Bugari myth',
 - 'Mari Mari, a Bugari hero on the coast'
 - 'Mirin myths', Djibi Wola Wola, p. 7507-8 [see also 2.3.1756], Baga story [see also 2.4.1950), 'The Bat and the absence of dwellings', p. 7510-7511 [see also 2.1.1471]
 - 'A Maral myth' (Maral is a culture hero belonging to the tribes to the north and north-east) p. 7511-7512
 - 'Red Ochre myth' (why red ochre can be got at Cape Bossut), p. 7512. 'Fish-yard myth' ('Djui, the bower bird,

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		'Duplicates of English Resumes Taken By Ralph Piddington,' [Karadjeri]
		'Preliminary Survey of the Social Organization of the Karadyeri Tribe', by Ralph Piddington, MS., typescript, p. 7558-7578
		Linguistic notes and charts, (stems, suffixes, moot elements, morphemes), principally Karadjeri, with text analyses, typescript and handwritten notes, p. 7579-7383
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7.3		A.N.R.C. Correspondence and papers. Includes mainly financial
		papers, 'Statements of Account'
7.4.1		Notes and Statistics on the Moot Elements
7.4.2		'Dictionary'. Stems and moot elements appearing with them. Auxiliary stems and preposited stems appearing with them together with moot elements appearing with them
7.4.3		Typescripts of the Moot Elements

Series 9 Language cards

This series consists of unnumbered pages of language cards. The cards have been photocopied three to a sheet.

Sequential page numbering resumes with page 6869, the first page of Item 7.1.1

Item

3.1	Kurin [W.A.] to English, approximately 40 unnumbered pages
3.2	Kurin to English, with cross-references, approximately 390 unnumbered pages
3.3	Kurin to English, with cross-references, approximately 390 unnumbered pages
4	Language cards - Linguistic notes, originally handwritten on slips 3 x 4 1/8 inches, photocopies 3 to the sheet, approximately 400 sheets, principally Aboriginal-to-English stems, one stem per slip, for Gabi Gabi or 'Kabi' [approximately 60p.], Ngambar [5p.], Dangati [approximately 150p.], Birpai [approximately 30p.], Gatang [approximately 80p.], Anewan [23p.], Kamilarai [13p.], Yualarai (Yuwalo) [approximately 50 p.], pages not numbered
5.1	English to Kumbaingeri, with cross-references
5.2	Kumbaingeri to English, with cross-references
5.3	Kumbaingeri to English
5.4	Northern Territory languages, including Ngangumeri to English, approximately 380p., Emdil (or Emidl, from Hermit Hill) to English, approximately 220p., and 'Malak' [or Mulluk Mulluk] to English, approximately 20 p., plus two separate entries. [Note: This bundle arrived for deposit intact but unlabelled, and has been given the arbitrarily named Item 5.4 because it consists of language cards and arrived in a mail bag with Items 5.1-5.3]
6.1	Karadjeri to English, approx. 520 unnumbered pages
6.2	Karadjeri to English, with cross-references, approximately 420 unnumbered pages
6.3	Karadjeri to English, approximately 450 unnumbered pages
6.4	Karadjeri to English, approximately 500 unnumbered pages
6.5	Karadjeri to English, approximately 480 pages

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MS 2189; Papers of Gerhardt Laves

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Finding aid reviewed by Maeve Jack, September 2025