



AIATSIS

Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies

Manuscript Finding Aid

MS 2746

Notebooks on Gurindji, Mudbura, Bilinara, Katangaruru, Ngarinman

Contents

Collection Summary.....	2
Cultural Sensitivity Statement	2
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Content	3
Collection Overview	4
Access to the Collection.....	4
Box List.....	8

Collection Summary

Collection no:	MS 2746
Title:	Notebooks on Gurindji, Mudbura, Bilinara, Katangaruru, Ngarinman
Creator:	McConvell, Patrick
Date range:	1976
Extent:	0.2 linear metres (1 archival box)
Repository:	Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies
Registration ID:	N/A

Cultural Sensitivity Statement

Use of the material

When using this finding aid, and the collection described within it, clients are encouraged to be mindful and sensitive to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, particularly with regard to the use of this material.

Language

This finding aid and collection may contain words and descriptions which may be culturally inappropriate and insensitive. The language used in this collection may not normally be used in certain public or community contexts. Clients may encounter terms and descriptions, which reflect the author's attitude or that of the period in which the manuscript was written, that may be considered inappropriate today.

Deceased persons

Clients using this finding aid should be aware that in some Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, hearing recordings, seeing images of the names deceased persons may cause sadness, or distress and in some cases, offend against strongly held cultural beliefs.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Content

People & Organisations

Includes Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, family or organisations that are associated with this collection (individuals or groups who have contributed to, performed in, or are mentioned within this collection). Please note that there may be additional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people or groups that are not included in this Finding Aid, as they have not been identified. If you can provide further information to AIATSIS regarding this, please contact us at collectionenquiry@aiatsis.gov.au or telephone +61 2 6246 1182

Knowledge Holders:

Harold Bill

Norman Farley

Charlie Bill

Pharlap Dixon

Tommy Swann

Albert

Clara Juturr

Splinter

Long Johnny

Jerry

Community & Language

Bilinarra language N36

Bilinarra people N36

Gurindji language C20

Gurindji people C20

Mudburra language C25

Mudburra language C25

Ngarinyman language C27

Ngarinyman language C27

Country

Northern Territory - Central NT

Yarralin (Victoria River Downs North NT SE52-04)

Northern Territory Top End (NT)

Collection Overview

Scope and Contents note

Photocopies of notebooks and notes collected by Partick McConvell in Gurindji, Bilinarra, Madbura and Ngarinyman.

Provenance

Patrick McConvell deposited this collection with AIATSIS on 17 June 2003.

Access to the Collection

Access conditions for this collection

Open for listening/viewing and open for private study and research.

Obtaining access, copying and quotation permission

Clients are advised that the collection materials listed in this finding aid may be subject to particular access and use conditions required by Indigenous communities and/or depositors. Materials are provided for private study and use, in accordance with the Copyright Act 1968, Section 51. Copying of, and quoting from, unpublished material may be subject to the conditions determined by Indigenous communities and/or depositors of the manuscripts.

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AIATSIS Manuscripts are not available for Inter-library loan, however they may be available via document supply, subject to access conditions.

Preferred citation

Items from this collection should be cited as: Title [or description] of Item, [manuscript title], Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, MS [number], Folder or item [number].

Example:

Botanical notebook, Notebooks on Gurindji, Mudbura, Bilinara, Katangaruru, Ngarinman, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, MS 2746, Item 1.

Archivists note

This finding aid was updated to reflect discrepancies in the item numbers recorded in the previous finding aid and on the physical items. It was decided that the numbering according to the physical material would be retained and the finding aid would be updated to reflect this. In the previous finding aid items 1-14 were incorrectly listed as items 2-15. In the original finding aid item 1 was the collection documentation. It has been removed from the listing but remains from the box.

Item number on previous finding aid	Correct item numbers
1	-
2	1
3	2
4	3
5	4
6	5
7	6
8	7
9	8
10	9
11	10
12	11
13	12
14	13
15	14

Folder/Item		Sensitivity
MS 2476/1/1	Botanical notebook, November 1976 Photocopy of notebook recording the Gurindji names for plants in the Wattie Creek area.	
MS 2476/1/2	Gurindji notebook 4 Photocopy of notebook includes vocabulary, sentences, genealogical information and kinship terms.	Includes culturally sensitive material
MS 2476/1/3	Gurindji notebook 5 Photocopy of notebook containing Gurindji vocabulary with English translations.	
MS 2476/1/4	Gurindji notebook 6 Photocopy of notebook containing Gurindji vocabulary with English translations.	Includes culturally sensitive material
MS 2476/1/5	Gurindji tape transcriptions Photocopy of transcriptions of tapes G.10.1, G10.2, G11.1 and G11.2 with Long Johnny and transcription of unrecorded language work with Jerry.	
MS 2476/1/6	Gurindji notes Photocopy of notes including Gurindji vocabulary, a catalogue of Gurindji tapes recorded by McConvell, draft letters transcribed by McConvell regarding the Wave Hill Walk-Off and land rights, and 'Djingili verb particles.	
MS 2476/1/7	Mudbura notebook 1 Photocopy of notebook, includes list of informants, pronouns, sentence elicitation, vocabulary, body parts, fauna, kinship terms, texts, song texts and case forms.	

MS 2476/1/8	Mudbura notebook 2	Photocopy of notebook, includes sentence elicitation, pronoun forms and texts.
MS 2476/1/9	Mudbura notebook 3	Photocopy of notebook, includes preliminary grammatical analysis and vocabulary items.
MS 2476/1/10	Mudbura notebook 4	Photocopy of notebook, includes vocabulary, flora and preliminary grammatical analysis.
MS 2476/1/11	Bilinara notebook 1	Photocopy of notebook, includes grammatical elicitation, preliminary analysis and vocabulary.
MS 2476/1/12	Bilinara notebook 2	Photocopy of notebook containing Bilinara narrative text.
MS 2476/1/13	Katanganiru notebook 1	Photocopy of notebook, includes kinship terms, genealogical information, vocabulary, historical notes, maps, diagrams and description of dreaming sites.
MS 2476/1/14	Ngarinman notebook 1	Photocopy of notebook, includes draft of The Yarralin Land Claim: introduction and history of Ngarinman people, set of stories relating to dreamings involving land, vocabulary items, site names and notes relating to stories in draft.

Box List

Series	Folder / Item	Box
1	1-14	1

Finding aid compiled by Maeve Jack, September 2025.

[Back to top](#)