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Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies

MS 2750

Peter K Austin, Southern Pilbara field notes

1978-1985

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COLLECTION SUMMARY

Creator:	Peter K Austin
Title:	Southern Pilbara field notes
Collection no:	MS 2750
Date range:	1978-1985
Extent:	0.175mt (1 box)
Repository:	Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies

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ACCESS TO COLLECTION

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Preferred citation

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

For example:

Peter K Austin, Southern Pilbara notebooks, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, MS 2750, Series 1, Item 1.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Peter K Austin grew up near Nemingha in northern NSW, Australia. He began his linguistics career at the Australian National University in Canberra, with a BA (Asian Studies) majoring in Japanese and Linguistics in 1974, followed by a PhD in 1978, on the Diyari (Dieri) language of South Australia.

Peter then taught at the University of Western Australia, held a Harkness Fellowship at UCLA and Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1979-80, and in 1981 set up the Department of Linguistics at La Trobe University Melbourne. He held visiting appointments at Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics at Nijmegen, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, University of Hong Kong and Stanford University, and was Foundation Professor of Linguistics at the University of Melbourne from 1996-2002.

He became the Märit Rausing Chair in Field Linguistics in January 2003 and then Emeritus professor in Field Linguistics at SOAS (School of African and Oriental Studies, London), before retiring in January 2019. Throughout his career, he has been deeply involved in work to salvage languages that are on the verge of extinction.

As of June 2019, he has been working with colleagues at the University of Warsaw and Leiden University on an EU Horizon 2020 Twinning collaboration called the Engaged Humanities project. He has also been working with the University of Malaya on a research project in Malaysia.

He is widely published in the fields of language documentation, syntax, linguistic typology and in particular, endangered languages and language revitalisation. After a long academic career in Australia, Hong Kong, the United States of America, Japan, Germany and the United Kingdom, Peter Austin is emeritus professor at SOAS University of London.

He co-authored, with David Nathan, the first fully page-formatted hypertext dictionary on the World Wide Web, a bilingual dictionary of Gamilaraay (Kamilaroi), northern New South Wales, as well as publishing seven bilingual dictionaries of Aboriginal languages. He also worked with the Dieri Aboriginal Corporation on revitalisation of the Dieri language spoken in South Australia. He is widely published, including books, journals and book chapters.

Peter Austin has won the following awards:

- 1974 ANU medal in Linguistics
- 1978 Harkness Fellowship of the Commonwealth Fund of New York
- 1999 Deutsche Akademische Austauschdienst (German Academic Exchange Fellowship)
- 2002 Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Humboldt Research Award (Forschungspreis)
- 2015 Honorary doctorate from the Faculty of Languages at Uppsala University

Peter Austin was also a member of the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies and deposited audio (language elicitation, songs and narratives, oral histories), and manuscript (dictionaries, field notes, language classification, grammar) material here.

COLLECTION OVERVIEW

Scope and contents note

This collection consists of photocopies of field notes by Peter Kenneth Austin dating from 1978 to 1985. They include language elicitation: vocabulary, word lists, sentences, kinship terms, place names and song words. The language material was collected from the following areas in Western Australia: Pilbara area (WA SF50, SF51, SG50), Gascoyne / Murchison area (WA SG50), Carnarvon (WA South Pilbara / Gascoyne SG49-04)

The notebooks include the languages listed below, which are followed by the official number for the language found in Austlang.

Bayungu [W23], Binigura [W34], Burduna [W24], Dhalandji [W26], Dhargari [W21], Dyiwarli [W28], Dyururu [W33], Payungu [W23], Purduna [W24], Thalanyji [W26], Wadiwangga [W22], Yinggarda [W19], Thiin (Djiwarli) [W25].

The official languages are as follows:

Bayungu language W23
Binigura / Pinikura language W34
Burduna language W24
Jiwarli language W28
Jurruru W33
Thalanyji language W26
Tharrkari language W21
Thiin language W25
Warriyanga language W22
Yingkarta language W19

Provenance

Notebooks numbered 4 and 5 were deposited by Peter Austin on 7 May 1979. These notebooks also from the content of MS 409.

Notebooks numbered 1, 2, 3a and 3b were deposited by Peter Austin on 23 April 1987 and form the contents of MS 2309.

Notebooks numbered 11 and 12 were deposited by Peter Austin on 4 June 1985. The Deposit form also includes notebooks 1 to 9.

The material in this manuscript, MS 2750 is based on the material deposited previously.

Material separated from the collection

Audio tapes were separated from the collection and are now held in the Audiovisual unit. See MS 2750 Series 1, item 5, Notebook 4, b (Tape LA 6135AB) & Notebook 4, c (Tape LA6136A) and Series 1, item 9, Notebook 8, transcripts of O'Grady tape AIAS A793.

Related material

For a complete list of works by Peter Kenneth Austin, held by the Library, and for other related material consult [Mura®](#), the AIATSIS catalogue.

Important: Before clicking on the links to the catalogue entries please read our sensitivity message.

For published material by Peter Kenneth Austin held at AIATSIS see our catalogue.

For example:

A dictionary of Payungu, Western Australia L P268.003/1.

Aboriginal languages of the Gascoyne-Ashburton region, Western Australia: catalogue of resource materials REF 499.15 AUS.

A dictionary of Warriyanga, Western Australia [Warriyanga/English]
L W462.003/1.

A dictionary of Thalanyji, Western Australia [Thalanyji/English] L T445.003/1.

A dictionary of Jiwarli, Western Australia [Jiwarli/English] L J821.003/1.

A dictionary of Tharrgari, Western Australia [Tharrgari/English] L T494.003/1.

A learners reference dictionary of Thalanji, Western Australia PMS 4839.

For related Audio material see: Language elicitation and songs AUSTIN_P04, (A006130-A006141). These are the tapes mentioned in this finding aid, Series 1, item 5, Notebook 4.

For access to Audiovisual material see the AIATSIS website, About-Connect with us-Frequently asked questions.

Archivists note

The names of the languages recorded in these papers are listed here followed by the language code. The official name of the languages, as taken from AUSTLANG, are listed under Controlled access headings.

Bayungu [W23], Binigura [W34], Burduna [W24], Dhalandji [W26], Dhargari [W21], Dyiwarli [W28], Dyururu [W33], Payungu [W23], Purduna [W24], Thalanyji [W26], Wadiwangga [W22], Yinggarda [W19], Thiin (Djiwarli) [W25].

Information for this finding aid was taken from finding aids, MS 409 and MS 2309, which describe notebooks one to five, and the photocopies of the notebooks themselves, which include notebooks one to nine, and 11-12. Notebook 10 has not been received.

AUSTLANG can be found from the AIATSIS website under 'Collection' then 'Search the Collection'. AIATSIS website <https://aiatsis.gov.au/>. AUSTLANG <https://collection.aiatsis.gov.au/austlang/search>

Controlled access headings

Bayungu language W23
Binigura / Pinikura language W34
Burduna language W24
Jiwarli language W28
Jurruru W33
Thalanyji language W26
Tharrkari language W21
Warriyangga language W22
Yingkarta language W19
Thiin language W25
Pilbara area (WA SF50, SF51, SG50)
Gascoyne / Murchison area (WA SG50)
Carnarvon (WA South Pilbara / Gascoyne SG49-04)
Linguistics – Australia
Linguistics – Fieldwork
Linguistics Research Australia
Language - Linguistics - Language elicitation
Language - Linguistics - Language elicitation – Sentences
Linguistics - Language elicitation – Translated
Language - Linguistics - Vocabulary and grammar
Language - Vocabulary - Word lists
Language – Vocabulary – Place names

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SERIES DESCRIPTION

Series 1 Notebooks Western Australia, May 1978 – November 1985

Item

- MS 2750/1/1 Notebook 1. Carnarvon, WA. 2-10 May 1978. 77pp. Elicited vocabulary by semantic fields, elicited sentences.
 Pages 1-18. Dhargari [W21] word list
 Pages 19-25. Dhargari [W21] sentences
 Pages 26-30. Purduna [W24] sentences and song
 Pages 31-39. Dhargari vocabulary and sentences

Language Group	Speaker	Pages
?	?	1-40
Thargari [W21]	Donald Withering	41-51
Purduna [W24]	?	51-end

- MS 2750/1/2 Notebook 2. Carnarvon WA. 2-10 May 1978. 55pp. Elicited vocabulary by semantic fields, elicited sentences. Comparative vocabulary list in Payungu [W23], Thalanyji [W26], Purduna [W24].
 Pages 1-4. Bayungu [W23] vocabulary and sentences
 Pages 5-22. Comparative word list: Bayungu, Dhalandji, Purduna. (Also see Dhargari word list, item 1 pp. 1-18 above)
 Pages 24-26. Purduna vocabulary.
 Pages 27-31. Bayungu sentences
 32-35. Dhalandji sentences
 36-38. Bayungu sentences

Language Group	Speaker	Pages
Payungu [W23]	Dolly Butler	1-7, 9-43, 51-55
Thalanyji [W26]	Helen Hayes	9-43, 45-49
Purduna [W24]	Hamish Cameron	9-43

- MS 2750/1/3 Notebook 3a. Carnarvon WA. 5-12 May 1978. Elicited word list and sentences. Purduna song text, 126pp.
 Pages 1-9. Purduna sentences
 Pages 10-14. Bayungu sentence
 Pages 15-19. Purduna vocabulary and sentences
 Pages 19-28. Dhalandji vocabulary and sentences
 Pages 28-30. Bayungu vocabulary, including kin terms, and some sentences

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Pages 31-37. Dhalandji vocabulary and sentences
Pages 37-38. Bayungu vocabulary and sentences
Pages 39-44. Dhalandji sentences, kin terms and vocabulary
Pages 44-47. Bayungu vocabulary and sentences
Pages 47-52. Bayungu vocabulary
Pages 52-54. Wadiwangga (?) vocabulary
Pages 54-57. Dhalandji vocabulary and sentences
Pages 57-59. Purduna vocabulary
Pages 59-63. Dhargari vocabulary
Page 63. Song (Bayungu?)

Language Group	Speaker	Pages
Purduna [W24]	Hamish Cameron	1-18, 29-37, 61-73, 113-118
Payungu [W23]	Dolly Butler	19-28, 55-60, 74-76, 88-93
Thalanyji [W26]	Helen Hayes	37-55, 77-87, 108-113
Wadiwanggu [W22]	Stuart Peck	104-107
Purduna [W24]	George Cooyou	94-103
Tharrkari [W21]	Tommy Derby	118-125
Tharrkari [W21]	Jessie Derby	113-125

MS 2750/1/4 Notebook 3b. Carnarvon WA. 6-8 May 1978. 30pp. Elicited words and sentences.
Pages 1-11. Dhargari sentences
Pages 12-15. Dhargari kin terms and place names

Language Group	Speaker	Pages
Tharrkari [W21]	Tom Derby	2-22
Tharrkari [W21]	Donald Willering	24-30

MS 2750/1/5 Notebook 4.
Carnarvon WA. 9-18 August 1978. Elicited vocabulary by semantic fields, elicited sentences.
Pages 1-7, 16-31. Yinggarda vocabulary and sentences
Pages 8-15, 32-38, 62-65, 76-82, 102-106, 116-28, 133-141, 146.
Bayungu vocabulary and sentences. [Pages 32-38 Tape LA 6135AB. See AUSTIN_P04 in [Mura®](#) catalogue]
Pages 39-48, 55-61, 73-76, 106-115, 126-132, 146-148. Dhalandji vocabulary and sentences. [Pages 55-61 Tape LA 6136A. See

AUSTIN_P04 (A006130-A006141) in the [Mura®](#) catalogue]

Pages 49-54, 65-72, 94-101, 125, 142. Purduna vocabulary and sentences

Pages 82-85, 94, 102, 142. Dhargari vocabulary and sentences

Pages 85-93, 143-146. Language not identified, vocabulary and sentences

Language Group	Speaker	Pages
Yingkarta [W19]	Annie Docker	1-7, 21-31
Yingkarta [W19]	Willy Williams	16-20
Payungu [W23]	George Cooyou	8-15, 116-125, 146
Payungu [W23]	Dolly Butler	32-38, 62-65, 77-82, 102-106, 116-125, 133-141
Thalanyji [W26]	Helen Hayes	39-48, 55-61, 73-76, 106-115, 126-132, 146-148
Tharrkari [W21]	Donald Willering	82-85, 94, 142
Tharrkari [W21]	Annie Eagles	85-93, 143-146
Purduna [W24]	Hamish Cameron	49-54, 65-72, 95-101, 125, 142

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Notebook 5.

Carnarvon, WA, 18 August 1978. Carnarvon and Onslow, WA, 19-26 November 1978. 135pp. Elicited vocabulary by semantic fields, elicited sentences.

Language Group	Speaker	Pages
Thalanyji [W26]	Helen Hayes	1-5, 82-91
Payungu [W23]	George Cooyou	5, 130-135
Payungu [W23]	Dolly Butler	15-22
Yingkarta [W19]	George Cooyou	6-14
Yingkarta [W19]	Bert Windy	123-130
Purduna [W24]	George Hughes	23-62, 77-82
Purduna [W24]	Jack Spear	23-62, 77-82

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Language Group	Speaker	Pages
Jiwarli [W28]	Jack Butler	62-76, 101-118
Pinikura [W34, W23, W24, W33]	Molly Butler	91-100
Jurruru [W23]	Jack Butler	119-122

MS 2750/1/7 Notebook 6.
Carnarvon WA. 26 November 1978. Elicited sentences in Payungu, speaker George Cooyou. 6pp.

MS 2750/1/8 Notebook 7.
Carnarvon and Onslow, WA. 1-13 November 1981. 192pp. Elicited vocabulary sentences.

Language Group	Speaker	Pages
Purduna [W24]	Hamish Cameron	1-33, 67-73, 185-191
Thalanyji [W26]	Helen Hayes	35-47
Thalanyji [W26]	Topsy Ashburton	75
Thalanyji [W26]	Angie Patterson	95-108
Payungu [W23]	Dolly Butler	49-61, 176-185
Payungu [W23]	George Cooyou	74
Yingkarta [W19]	Dolly Butler	61-65
Jiwarli [W28]	Jack Butler	80-94, 118-145, 151-160, 163-175
Thiin [W25]	Donald Eagles	109-117

MS 2750/1/9 Notebook 8.
Carnarvon WA. 2-8 November 1984. 37pp.
Elicited vocabulary, transcripts of O'Grady tape AIAS A793. (Payungu and Thalanyji), elicited sentences

Language Group	Speaker	Pages
Jiwarli [W28]	Jack Butler	2-4

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Payungu [W23]	Dolly Butler	6-17, 22-29
Thalanyji [W26]	Dolly Butler	6-17
Thalanyji? [W26]	Joe Butler	30
Thalanyji [W26]	Helen Hayes	31-37

MS 2750/1/10 Notebook 9
Onslow WA. 14-25 May 1984. 163pp.
Texts, elicited sentences, elicited vocabulary in Jiwarli. Speaker Jack Butler.

Notebook 10 was not received

MS 2750/1/11 Notebook 11
Carnarvon and Onslow WA. 11-19 May 1985. 82pp. Texts, elicited sentences, elicited vocabulary in Thalanyji and Jiwarli.

Language group	Speaker	Pages
Thalanyji [W26]	Helen Hayes	1-5
Thalanyji [W26]	Jack Butler	5-8
Jiwarli [W28]	Jack Butler	9-82

MS 2750/1/12 Notebook 12.
Carnarvon and Onslow, WA. May 1984, 37pp. Tape transcriptions, additional words and sentences.

Language group	Speaker	Pages
Jiwarli [W28]	Jack Butler	1-13, 17-27, 31-37
Thalanyji [W26]	Jack Butler	14-16
Payungu [W23]	Dolly Butler	27-30

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