



Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Library

Papers of Frederick D. McCarthy

MS 3513

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COLLECTION SUMMARY

Creator:	Frederick D. McCarthy
Title:	Papers of Frederick D. McCarthy
Collection no:	MS 3513
Date range:	1935-1990
Extent:	4.32 metres (26 boxes) + 1 folio box + 2 boxes of cards + items in Manuscript Plan Cabinet
Repository	Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies

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ACCESS TO COLLECTION

Access and use conditions

The bulk of this material is available to be read and may be copied for private study and research. [Access code: A1 B5]

Exceptions: Drafts and final manuscripts of 'Artists of the sandstone' (Series 1-5) and the manuscript of '*A catalogue of over 400 recorded and published groups of rock engravings in the Sydney-Hawkesbury region of NSW*' (Series 11, item 10). These require the Library Director's permission for reading and the Library Director's and/or the Principal's permission for copying and quotation [Access code: A2 B1]

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Preferred citation

Items from this collection should be cited as [Title or description of manuscript item], Papers of Frederick D. McCarthy, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, MS 3513, Series [nn], Folder or Item nn]

Inter-Library Loan

Manuscripts are not available on Inter-Library Loan.

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COLLECTION OVERVIEW

Scope and content note

The collection contains notes, drafts and background material for McCarthy's unpublished book entitled 'Artists of the sandstone'. A typescript copy of this manuscript is held in the Library at MS 3495. There are also notes on the Sydney and Hawkesbury areas. Other papers, reports, correspondence, radio and television broadcast scripts and newspaper clippings covering a variety of subjects including rock art, stone implements, material culture and other aspects of the lives of Indigenous Australians.

Other material includes manuscripts on rock art at Mt Cameron West in Tasmania and the Cobar Pediplain in New South Wales, the Arnhem Land Expedition in 1948, Port Hedland and Aurukun. The Aurukun material mainly concerns dances. There are also field notebooks from a number of trips.

Provenance

This collection was deposited in the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) Library in May 1991 by Frederick McCarthy. He deposited further manuscript material and photographs in 1987.

Material separated from collection

Photographs received with this collection have been passed to the [Audiovisual Archive](#). Copies have been returned to the Library for incorporation in the manuscript collection. Photograph albums received with the collection are being conserved and will then be copied by Audiovisual Archives and incorporated into this collection.

In 1987 McCarthy donated a tape of an interview with him and a file of papers relating to his 1964 appointment as the Foundation Principal of the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies, now the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies. The papers, originally held in this collection, were moved to [MS 4352](#) in 2005.

Related material

Important: Before clicking on the link to the catalogue entries below please read our [sensitivity message](#)

A significant collection of material by McCarthy is held by the Institute, including over forty five other manuscript collections and pamphlet manuscripts. For a complete listing of material [by](#) or [about](#) Frederick McCarthy, that is held by the Institute, consult the [Mura@, the AIATSIS catalogue](#). In addition, McCarthy's letters have been deposited in the Mitchell Library, Sydney. His library of books is held by the National Library of Australia and his reprint collection is held in the Division of Anthropology of the Australian Museum, Sydney.

For access to audiovisual material contact the [Audiovisual Archive](#)

Archivist's note

The original listing of the collection was updated in 2005, at which time the collection was re-sorted and re-numbered in order to make it easier to use. A conversion table listing the original numbers, together with the new numbers, is included in this finding aid. Folder/Item titles are taken from the headings used in the original listing.

Access conditions listed in finding aid corrected on 7 January 2009.

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Frederick David McCarthy was born in 1906 and began work in 1920 at the Australian Museum, Sydney. In 1933 he enrolled at Sydney University in Anthropology under Professor A.P. Elkin. His thesis, held in Series 17 of this collection, was accepted in 1935. McCarthy and his wife, Elsie Bramell, were the first professionally trained anthropologists/archaeologists in an Australian museum.

In 1937-38 McCarthy attended the third Congress of Prehistorians of the Far East, held in Singapore, and visited Indonesia. In 1938 the first of eight editions of his *Australian Aboriginal decorative art* was published, and in 1946 he co-authored, with Bramell and Herbert V. Noone, *The stone implements of Australia*.

In 1948 McCarthy joined the American-Australian Scientific Expedition to Arnhem Land, led by C.P. Mountford. In 1957 his *Australia's Aborigines: their life and culture*, the first general account of the complexity of Aboriginal societies was published.

In 1958 McCarthy studied the Aboriginal art of north-western Australia and the rock art of central western NSW and published the first of four editions of *Australian Aboriginal rock art*. During his 1961 visit to Aurukun McCarthy described forty three dance dramas and collected and documented sculpture which is now part of the collection of the National Museum of Australia.

In 1964 McCarthy was appointed Foundation Principal of the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies, a position he held until he retired in 1971. In his retirement he worked on his major manuscript 'Artists of the sandstone' which describes the contact ethnography of the Sydney region. Notes and drafts of this work form a large part of this collection. The final manuscript is held by the Library at MS 3495.

McCarthy's contribution to scholarship was acknowledged in 1980 by the award of an honorary Doctor of Science degree by the Australian National University. He published more than three hundred papers, articles and monographs. There is a bibliography of his published works to 1988, compiled by Kate Khan in 1993, and entitled '[Frederick David McCarthy: a bibliography](#)' in *Records of the Australian Museum*, Supplement 17: 7-15. , 1993, is held by the Library at S 50/1.

For a detailed biography see [Kate Khan 'Frederick David McCarthy: an appreciation'](#), in *Records of the Australian Museum*, Supplement 17: 1-5. See also D.J. Mulvaney (1993) '[Sesqui-centenary to Bicentenary: reflections on a museologist](#)' in *Records of the Australian Museum*, Supplement 17: 17-24.

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SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

Series 1 'Artists of the sandstone' – Draft chapters, notes and correspondence

Closed access: The Library Director's permission is required for reading and the Library Director's and/or the Principal's permission for copying and quotation [Access code: A2 B1]

Folder

- | | |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Chapter 1. Sea levels and climate |
| 2 | Chapters 2 and 3. Prehistory and stone implements |
| 3-4 | Chapter 3. Archaeology - excavations. Notes and journal articles |
| 5 | Chapter 4. Physical anthropology |
| 6 | Chapter 5. Social organisation and tribes |
| 7 | Chapter 6. Weapons and warfare |
| 8 | Chapter 7. Family and camp life |
| 9 | Chapter 8. Economic life. Notes incorporated into manuscript |
| 10 | Chapter 8. Economy, cultural relationships and trade |
| 11 | Economic life |
| 12 | Economic life. Hunting notes |
| 13 | Economic life. Fishing notes |
| 14 | Chapter 9. Social and ceremonial customs |
| 15 | Chapter 9. Body painting, music and song |
| 16 | Chapter 10. Religion |
| 17-18 | Chapter 11. Initiation |
| 19 | Chapter 11. Stone arrangements |
| 20 | Chapter 12. Medicine and magic |
| 21 | Chapter 13. Disposal of the dead, disease and health |
| 22 | Plant foods in the Sydney area |
| 23 | Department of Lands maps of Australia (c. 1938), with hand drawn additions, covering various aspects of material culture. [Original folder marked 'Davidson's maps' in McCarthy's hand]. Located in Manuscript Plan Cabinet |

Folder

- 24 Hand drawn maps of trade within Australian regions. Distribution of material culture items. Located in Manuscript Plan Cabinet
- 25 'Artists of the Sandstone': Part 1. The people and their culture. First draft
- 26 Correspondence 1976-1990
- 27 Notes on artists and pictures, Sydney-Hawkesbury district
- 28 Notes on Sydney-Hawkesbury district pictures
- 29 Notes on pictures in collections, especially in the National Library of Australia
- 30 Notes on material culture obtained from pictures
- 31 Notes on physical anthropology, weapons, art and contact history, obtained from pictures
- 32 Photocopies and newspaper clippings from *Sydney Gazette*, 1804-1809 and *The Australian*, 1839-1841
- 33 'The anthropology of early European art in the Sydney-Hawkesbury region of NSW', by F.D. McCarthy. Draft typescript manuscript (97 p.)
- 34 Notes on paintings and pictures, including 'Sydney-Hawkesbury district Aborigines – Pictures' (40 p); 'Comparison of three sets of watercolour paintings of Aborigines'; 'Named Aborigines illustrated in pictures'; miscellaneous notes on paintings
- 35-36 'Descriptive catalogue of early pictures illustrating the Aborigines of the Sydney-Hawkesbury region of NSW', (116 p.) [Photocopy held by the Library at MS 2517]; Appendix A, A comparison of three sets of watercolour paintings of Aborigines
- 37-39 Data on pictures, Sydney region
- 40 Bibliographies of printed sources, both published and unpublished, consulted. Listed by institution or form
- 41 Various artists of the sandstone: bibliographies
- 42 List of references to illustrations mostly held in the Mitchell Library, Sydney

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Series 2 'Artists of the sandstone' – Draft chapters and notes

Closed access: The Library Director's permission is required for reading and the Library Director's and/or the Principal's permission for copying and quotation [Access code: A2 B1]

Folder

- 1 Chapter bibliographies, first draft, typescript and handwritten
- 2-6 Various pages, typescript and handwritten
- 7 Second draft, retyped pages
- 8-9 First draft of chapter on rock engravings
- 10-11 Notes on rock engraving, typescript and handwritten
- 12 Sydney Prehistory Group. Rock engraving additions
- 13-14 Notes on rock engravings Sydney-Hawkesbury area
- 15 Descriptions from published sources on rock engraving of the Sydney-Hawkesbury area, arranged by location
- 16-18 Rock engraving notes
- 19 Notes on rock paintings of Australia
- 20 Notes on rock carvings of Australia
- 21 Notes on cave art
- 22 Notes on cave art, typescript
- 23 Notes on cave drawing
- 24-25 Notes on rock paintings

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Series 3 'Artists of the sandstone' – Final drafts and notes

The bulk of these drafts are typescript and include lists of footnotes. A note on one of the original folders indicated that this was a 'final manuscript'. See Series 1, 2, 4 and 5 for earlier drafts and notes.

Closed access: The Library Director's permission is required for reading and the Library Director's and/or the Principal's permission for copying and quotation [Access code: A2 B1]

Folder

- 1 Introduction notes, including 'Aborigines in literature'
- 2 Chapter 1. Evolution of the landscape. Notes
- 3 Chapter 2. Stone, shell and bone artefacts

Folder

- 4 Chapter 3. Prehistory
- 5 Chapter 4. The people and their character. Includes list of footnote references for chapters 4-5, 8
- 6 Chapter 5. The organisation of society
- 7 Chapter 6. Material culture: weapons
- 8 Chapter 7. Family and camp life
- 9 Chapter 8. The economy: hunting, fishing and foraging
- 10 Chapter 9. Social and ceremonial customs. Includes notes and photographic prints of stone arrangements
- 11 Chapter 10. Religion
- 12 Chapter 11. Initiation
- 13 Chapter 12. Sickness and magic
- 14 Chapter 13. Death and its aftermath
- 15 Chapter 14. Cave art
- 16 Chapter 15. Rock engravings
- 17 Chapter 16. Comparison of the engravings and the cave art

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Series 4 'Artists of the sandstone' – First draft

Closed access: The Library Director's permission is required for reading and the Library Director's and/or the Principal's permission for copying and quotation [Access code: A2 B1]

Folder

- 1 Chapter 1. The evolution of the environment. First writing
- 2 Chapter 2. Materials. First writing
- 3 Chapter 3. Prehistory. First writing
- 4 Chapter on 'People and their lands'; Chapter 6. The tool box; and Chapter on weapons. All first writing
- 5-6 Chapter on economic life: Hunting, fishing and foraging. First writing

Folder

- 7 Chapter on ritual and mythological figures. First writing
- 8 Chapter 12. Sickness and magic. First writing
- 9 Chapter 13. Initiation. First writing
- 10 Chapter 14. Cave art. First writing
- 11 Chapter on death and its aftermath. First writing
- 12 Chapter on rock engravings. First writing
- 13 Chapter 16. Stone arrangements; and Chapter 17. Cave art

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Series 5 'Artists of the sandstone' – Second draft

Closed access: The Library Director's permission is required for reading and the Library Director's and/or the Principal's permission for copying and quotation [Access code: A2 B1]

Folder

- 1 Chapter 1. Evolution of the landscape. Second writing
- 2 Chapter 2. Archaeology: Stone, bone and shell implements, excavations Second writing
- 3 Chapter on 'The people and their character'. Second writing
- 4 Chapter 3. Prehistory. Second writing
- 5 Chapter 6. Material culture. Second writing
- 6 Chapter 7. Family and camp life. Second writing
- 7 Chapter 10. Religion. Second and fourth writing
- 8 Chapter 13. Initiation. Second writing
- 9 Chapter 14. Cave art. Second writing
- 10 Chapter 16. Rock engravings. Second writing and notes
- 11 Bibliography. Typescript

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Series 6 'Artists of the Sandstone' – Illustrations

This series consists mainly of photocopies of illustrations not used in 'Artists in the sandstone'.

4 folio folders located in Manuscript Plan Cabinet.

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Series 7 Sydney District notes

This series contains handwritten notes, typed and handwritten transcripts from secondary sources, newspaper clippings, manuscripts of papers, and photocopies of articles on the Sydney District.

Some of the papers appear to relate to McCarthy's unpublished book, 'Artists of the sandstone' which is described in more detail in Series 1-6 and a final draft of which is held by the Library at MS 3495.

Folder

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 1-4 | Culture: contact notes, including photocopies of articles and newspaper clippings |
| 5 | Contact: Transcripts, mainly typed, from <i>Historical Records of Australia</i> |
| 6-7 | Contact: General. Photocopies of published sources |
| 8 | Contact: General. Typescript transcripts, notes and newspaper clippings |
| 9 | European settlement |
| 10 | Exploration |
| 11 | Aboriginal population and decrease |
| 12 | Social conditions in Sydney |
| 13 | Governors and their instructions |
| 14 | Missions |
| 15 | Native institutions |
| 16 | Bungaree |
| 17 | Bennelong and others |
| 18 | South Coast sites |
| 19 | Brass plates |

Folder

- 20 Sydney-Hawkesbury area, including manuscript headed 'Part 111. 1788 and after – the historical period'
- 21 Notes from Collins account
- 22 General accounts by Cook, Collins, Hunter, Phillip, Tench, White and Baraillier
- 23 Notes from NSW south and north coasts
- 24 Notes from Lake Macquarie and Hunter River
- 25 Correspondence: biographical information on Turo Downes of Gosford (1856-1942) and Billy Tommy (died 1921) of Colo River. Includes photocopies of photographs of each, the originals having been passed to Audiovisual Archives
- 26 Language, including Gamaragigal, Turuwul, Dharruk and other New South Wales languages
- 27 Dawes manuscript of the vocabulary of the Sydney Aborigines, 1790. Photocopy. Also correspondence relating to the manuscript
- 28 Language notes
- 29 Place names and personal names
- 30 Language groups of NSW; Sydney-Hawkesbury area; and South coast NSW
Published sources and language maps
- 31 I. M. Sim. 'Archaeological sites in the Sydney Region NSW: a record of field surveys 1958-1973', 1976. [Also held at MS 2318]
- 32 Includes NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, Sites register: extracts for Sydney and Wollongong area; notes on sites by McCarthy; *Aboriginal sites in New South Wales* (National Parks and Wildlife Service, 1979); and 'Predilection and prediction: a study of Aboriginal sites in the Gosford-Wyong region' (1980)

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Series 8 Sydney-Hawkesbury area notes

This collection of papers was possibly assembled as part of McCarthy's research material for his proposed book 'Artists of the sandstone' which is described in more detail in Series 1-6 and a final draft of which is held by the Library at MS 3495.

Folder

- 1-2 General notes incorporated in manuscript
- 3 Hunting and gathering; canoes; material culture; family life. Incorporated in manuscript

Folder

- 4 Rock engravings and axe grooves. Unused data
- 5 Rock engravings: drawings
- 6 Originals of cave drawings: engravings
- 7 Originals of rock engraving plates - Chapter 14
- 8 Reproductions of rock engravings
- 9 Stone arrangements. Notes and illustrations. [Photographs received with this series passed to Audiovisual Archives in 2005. Copies returned for incorporation into this item]
- 10 Correspondence and photographs relating to stone arrangements at Hazelbrook, stone arrangements at Mt Kuring-gai and stone arrangements in the Hornsby area. [Photographs received with this series passed to Audiovisual Archives in 2005. Copies returned for incorporation into this item]
- 11 Illustrations of material culture. [Photographs received with this series passed to Audiovisual Archives in 2005. Copies returned for incorporation into this item]
- 12 Correspondence and photographs relating to artefacts and ethnographic collections including J.L. Kohen (1981), Pitt Rivers Museum (1981), University of Aberdeen (1981-1986), Isabel McBryde (1983), British Museum (1986), Oslo Museum. [Photographs received with this series were passed to Audiovisual Archives in 2005. Copies returned for incorporation into this item]
- 13 K.L.C. Officer. 'Tuggerah to Dharawal'. Thesis 1984. Photocopies of plates
- 14 'Records of the rock engravings of the Sydney District Nos. 41-55', by F. D. McCarthy and 'Stone arrangements in Western Australia', by D.S. Davidson
- 15 Campbell's series
- 16a-b Notes on rock art, culture, composition, radiocarbon dates and newspaper clippings
- 17 Cave painting: rejected illustrations. [Photographs received with this series were passed to Audiovisual Archives in 2005. Copies returned for incorporation into this item]
- 18 Chapter 14. Rock engraving diagrams not used
- 19 Explanation of plates and drawings and rock art listings by subject
- 20 'The returning boomerang' (Chapter 8 from unknown source); 'Art of the first fleet' (edited photocopy); 'The Australian Aborigines' in Australian Museum *Leaflet*, January, 1972, pages [1-10]; and *South Coast field trip* booklet prepared by Anne Ross and Ronald Lampert, Anthropological Society of N. S. W. [n. d.]; and leaflet '*Aboriginal and historical relics: your heritage*', Adelaide, Government Print, [n. d.]

Folder

- 21 Notes by McCarthy: on decorative art; bark paintings; decoration on weapons; twined baskets of Arnhem Land; rock art sequence: a matter of clarification; and stone arrangements
- 22 Notes on dingoes and dogs
- 23 Correspondence, 1931-1989, relating to wishing stone, Cloncurry (1931); stone implements (1946); Kangaroo Island (1946); carvings at Narrabeen (1954); carvings at Mt Kembla (1957); carvings at Kariong (1961); Cadell River drawings (1973); Maroota engravings (1986); Brisbane waters, (1989); engraved pebbles (n. d.) [Photograph passed to Audiovisual Archives in 2005. A copy returned for incorporation into this item]
- 24-25 Illustrations, tracings for plates. Unsorted. Some used for 'Artists of the sandstone.
- 26 Diagrams and photographs of stone arrangement Green Hills Station, Peakview, recorded by F.D. McCarthy. [Photographs passed to Audiovisual Archives in 2005. A copy returned for incorporation into this item]
- 27 Correspondence, reports and press clippings relevant to 'Aboriginal Relics' legislation in NSW and to site protection and preservation generally, ca. 1930-1960

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Series 9 'Aboriginal hunters and artists'

Folder

- 1 Draft of book on Aboriginal hunters and artists. Chapters 1-4
- 2 Draft of book on Aboriginal hunters and artists. Chapters 5-8
- 3 Notes relating to draft of book on Aboriginal hunters and artists
- 4 Assembled cave drawing plates; explanations of plates and drawings; and amended explanations of plates and drawings

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Series 10 Stone implements

Folder

- 1 Annotated typescript of F.D. McCarthy and Elsie Bramell, 'A classification of, and guide to, the stone implements and artefacts of Australia, and of the bone, shell and teeth', 1938
- 2 'The stone implements of Australia', by Frederick D. McCarthy, assisted by Elsie Bramell,, 1945, (86 p.)

Folder

- 3a-b Notes on stone implements
- 4 *The Australian Aboriginal stone implements*, including correspondence, notes, and corrections [Book held by the Library at B M123.45/A1 (1967) and B M123.45/A4 (2nd rev ed, 1976). Photographs used for plates were passed to Audiovisual Archives in January 2005. Copies returned for incorporation into this item]
- 5 'Stone axes and scarpers of the West Darling District'; notes on Lake Peery stone implements; list of stone tools collected at various sites in western NSW; correspondence with R. Lindsay Black 1947 relating to tools collected at various sites in western NSW; and notes

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Series 11 Rock art

Item 10, Closed access: The Library Director's permission is required for reading and the Library Director's and/or the Principal's permission for copying and quotation [Access code: A2 B1]

Folder

- 1 *Australian Aboriginal rock art*, 4th ed. Final, annotated, typescript (108 p). 'Handbook of rock art' pencilled on front page. [Book held in Library at B M123.45/A3]
- 2 *Australian Aboriginal rock art*, 4th ed. Draft. [Plates passed to Audiovisual Archives in 2005. Copies returned for incorporation into this item Book held in Library at B M123.45/A3]
- 3 *Australian Aboriginal rock art*, 4th ed. Drafts and correspondence
- 4 Notes on Black's Palace cave paintings
- 5-6 Carnarvon area: notes, aerial photographs and maps and correspondence relating to a 1964 visit; book review by William Fitzhugh of *The roots of civilization: the cognitive beginnings of man's first art, symbol and notation*, by Alexander Marshack in *The Washington Post* [n. d.]. [Aerial photographs passed to Audiovisual Archives in 2005. Copies returned for incorporation into this item]
- 7 Rock engravings and paintings. First draft manuscript
- 8-9 'A redescription of the rock engravings of the Sydney-Hawkesbury Region', by F.D. McCarthy, 1978
- 10 Manuscript of *A catalogue of over 400 recorded and published groups of rock engravings in the Sydney-Hawkesbury region of NSW*, by F.D. McCarthy (157p.) Note on original folder: 'MS published by NPWS'. This work probably resulted from McCarthy's research for 'Artists of the sandstone', see also Series 1-6. **Closed access**

Folder

- 11 'Australian Aboriginal Art', drafts and notes. [Introduction to Lance Bennett's book on Tiwi art]

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Series 12 Mt Cameron West and Blue Teir, Tasmania

Folder

- 1 Papers, including draft contents for monograph; draft of 'Stone implements on surface sites adjacent to Mt Cameron West engravings', by Frederick D. McCarthy [also held by Library at PMS 2289]; edited draft of 'Moulding and casting: Mt Cameron West', by D.P. Alexander (1969); and 'Zoology', by A.P. Andrews
- 2 Third draft manuscript
- 3 Outline of Mt Cameron West film and notes
- 4 Photocopies of Mt Cameron West diagrams. [Photographs passed to Audiovisual Archives in 2005. Copies returned for incorporation into this item]
- 5 'The rock engravings of Mt Cameron West, north-west Tasmania', by F.D. McCarthy. Final draft
- 6 Draft of 'Stone implements on surface sites adjacent to Mt Cameron West engravings', by F.D. McCarthy. [Held by Library at PMS 2289]
- 7 '*A geological and geomorphological investigation of the Mt Cameron West Aboriginal Site, Northwest Tasmania: a report to the Tasmanian National Parks and Wildlife Service*' by P.J. Hughes, A.L. Watchman and M.E. Sullivan, September 1979. Photocopy [Also held by Library at PMS 1595]
- 8 Correspondence 1978-80
- 9 Field notes in exercise book, February to March, 1969
- 10a-b Mt Cameron West diagrams for publication and surveyed plan of Mt Cameron West site (1969)
- 11 Papers on Blue Tier rock markings including notes, *Vegetation of the southern portion of the Blue Tier*, by W.D. Jackson and correspondence, 1957-1979
- 12 Drafts of 'The Blue Tier rock markings', by Frederick D. McCarthy

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Series 13 Rock paintings of the Cobar Pediplain (NSW)

This series contains drafts of a book by McCarthy published under the title *Rock art of the Cobar Pediplain area in central western New South Wales*. Published in 1976, the book is held in Library at BF M123. 45/R1.

There are also correspondence, notes and field notebooks relating to the Cobar pediplain.

Folder

- 1 'Rock paintings of the Cobar Pediplain area in central western New South Wales'.
First writing
- 2 'Rock paintings of the Cobar Pediplain area in central western New South Wales'.
First typing
- 3 'Rock paintings of the Cobar Pediplain area in central western New South Wales'.
Second writing
- 4 'Rock paintings of the Cobar Pediplain area in central western New South Wales'.
Second typing
- 5-7 'Rock paintings of the Cobar Pediplain area in central western New South Wales'.
Third writing
- 8 'Rock paintings of the Cobar Pediplain area in central western New South Wales'.
Final manuscript
- 9 Correspondence, 1974-76, relating to the publication of 'Rock paintings of the Cobar
Pediplain area in central western New South Wales'
- 10 Correspondence 1961, 1972, 1974, relating to Expedition to Cobar Pediplain
- 11 Notes on rock paintings of the Cobar Pediplain and 'Introduction' annotated 'Cobar
pediplain book (not used)'
- 12-13 Spirax field notebook on Cobar Pediplain and grey notebook on Cobar Pediplain
drawings

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Series 14 Arnhem Land Expedition 1948

**Folder/
Item**

- 1 Diary 1. Field notes. Groote Eylandt 1
- 2 Diary 2. Groote Id. Diary No. 2
- 3 Diary 3. Groote Id. Diary No. 3, cave paintings. Chasm Island
- 4 Diary 4. Yirrkala Diary No. 1 and Milingimbi
- 5 Diary 5. Yirkalla [sic] Diary No. 2 and Oenpelli
- 6 Arnhem Land Expedition. Diary No. 7. String figure techniques. Yirrkala.

**Folder/
Item**

- 7 Diary 8. Ethnology Register
- 8 Letters, press clippings, notes, 2 December 1948-18 March 1948. Blue notebook
- 9 Diary 4 March [1948?]-18 March [1948?]. Pages 68-98 removed from a notebook
- 10 Arnhem Land 1948. 6 October 1948-21 October 1948. Brown notebook
- 11 Correspondence, 1948-50
- 12 Correspondence 1951-60
- 13a-b Newspaper clippings, 1948
- 14 Scripts of talks and broadcasts and notes on Arnhem Land. [One photograph and one negative passed to Audiovisual Archives in 2005. A copy will be returned for incorporation into this item]
- 15 'Report of the origin, objects, activities and results of the combined National Geographic Society and Department of Information's expedition to Arnhem Land', March-November 1948
- 16 'Yirrkala bark paintings recorded', by F.D. McCarthy and F.M. Setzler

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Series 15 Aurukun

A three volume photocopied typescript of 'Aurukun dances' is held in the Library at MS 2312.

Folder

- 1 'Aurukun dances'. Early version and second typing
- 2-3 'Aurukun dances. Part 1: Description of 41 dance-dramas performed at Aurukun, Cape York 1961' (247 p.) Photocopy of typescript
- 4 'Aurukun dance steps: a manuscript', by F.D. McCarthy (118 p.) Original folder labelled: 'Vol. 2: The steps and body movements in Aurukun dances'
- 5 Correspondence (1987-90) relating to the collection made by McCarthy, for the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies, at Aurukun in 1962 and transferred to the National Museum of Australia in 1985. Includes a list of the sculptures and associated material provided by the Museum, 1987. Also correspondence with Michael O'Ferrell 1981-83 relating to Aurukun carvings in the Queensland University Museum

Folder

- 6 Aurukun dances and sculpture black and white photographs; photograph by F. D. McCarthy of dance. [no details, most likely Aurukun]. [All passed to Audiovisual Archives in 2005. Copies returned for incorporation into this item]
- 7 'Range and use of dance steps', by F.D. McCarthy (62 p.). [Assumed to be Aurukun dances]
- 8 Aurukun general notes
- 9 Aurukun typed field notes
- 10 Aurukun dances, nos 1-20. Handwritten notes
- 11 Aurukun dances, nos 21-41. Handwritten notes
- 12-13 Aurukun dances. Description of dances. First manuscript
- 14-16 Aurukun dances: analysis of dance steps. Handwritten data
- 17 Correspondence 1963-87
- 18 Miscellaneous articles and reports including 'The dancers of Aurukun', by F. D. McCarthy (annotated Austr[alian] Mus[eum] Mag[azine] article); Aurukun filming and collecting of sculptures report to AIAS (doc. 62/10/7); Australian Aboriginal dances, Part 1 (Aurukun, 1962); [Description of dances. Third typed version. Sayers and Godfrey's notes incorporated; Aurukun dance films; contents of 16mm workprint of unedited films]
- 19 Notebook. Aurukun films and ceremonies

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Series 16 Port Hedland**Folder/
Item**

- 1 Census. Port Hedland. Westralia exercise book
- 2 Legends. Port Hedland. Westralia exercise book
- 3 Notes on Port Hedland. Small brown notebook. Red spine
- 4 Notes on Port Hedland. Small brown notebook. Brown spine
- 5 Correspondence 1958 relating to Port Hedland

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Series 17 Thesis

Annotated draft of 'The material culture of eastern Australia: a study of factors entering into the composition', a thesis submitted for the Diploma of Anthropology, University of Sydney, 1935. [Completed thesis held in the Library at MS 283]

2 folders

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Series 18 Radio, television and film

This series consists mainly of scripts of radio talks by McCarthy and an interview with him.

See Item 1 for a listing of both McCarthy's broadcasts and lectures for 1935-1972

Item

- 1 List of broadcasts and lectures given by F.D. McCarthy 1935-1972
- 2 'The Maoris and the moas in New Zealand'
- 3 'Tambua or whale's teeth in Fiji'
- 4 'Unesco travelling exhibition of Aboriginal culture' (interview)
- 5 'Arnhem land'
- 6 'Native art goes on service' in the 2BL 'Science on service series'
- 7 'Native warriors and their weapons', annotated 'Science on Service'
- 8 'Soldiers off duty: anthropologists – native handicrafts have gone to war'
- 9 'The native peoples of the south-west Pacific'
- 10 'Why are there colour variations between the various peoples of the world', 2BL
- 11 'The Brown-skinned peoples of the south-west Pacific', 2BL
- 12 'Colin collecting as a hobby'. ABC Radio broadcast
- 13a-b 'Aboriginal art' in 'Rural Bank's Australian wonderland session', carbon typescript (Two copies)
- 14a-c Transcript of episode no. 25 of 'Australian wonderland', which included a talk by McCarthy on 'Aboriginal mysticism' and two carbon typescripts of talk
- 15 Transcript of episode no. 27 of 'Australian wonderland', which included a talk by McCarthy on 'Aboriginal art'

Item

- 16 "How many Aboriginal tribes are there in Australia, and how are they defined', annotated 'We're asking you - ABC – 1961). Annotated carbon copy of typescript
- 17 Stone implements, 'Country Session', August 1954. Annotated typescript
- 18 Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies notes for a talk on ABC Canberra and Radio Australia
- 19 'The living museum', copy of script for an ABC TV program, 27 June 1961
- 20-21 'Australian Aboriginal hunters and foragers', including script for an Australian Instructional Film for primary and secondary schools, correspondence and newspaper clippings

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Series 19 Papers, articles, etc.

Some of the following writings by McCarthy have been published while others have not. Final and draft manuscripts are included.

Item

- 1 'Arts and crafts of New Guinea', for *The Children's encyclopedia*, and accompanying letter (8 June 1945)
- 2 'Artists of the Sandstone', article for *Wildlife* magazine, and accompanying letter (1 December 1944)
- 3 'The Australian Aborigines and their art', annotated 'American Red Cross booklet' (22 p.)
- 4 'Aboriginal art & designs' (6p.) Annotated '2FC Guests of the Day...'
- 5 'The prehistory of the Australian Aborigines' (12 p.)
- 6 'Australian Aboriginal art' (5 p.)
- 7 'The carved trees of NSW' (7 p.)
- 8 'The rock engravings of the Sydney district' (6 p.)
- 9 'Pictorial composition in Australian Aboriginal pictographic art' (3 p.)
- 10 'Pictorial composition in primitive art' (3 p.)
- 11 'Rock engravings of the Sydney district, Our heritage of Australian art' (5 p.)
- 12 'Australian Aboriginal art'

Item

- 13-14 'Australian Aboriginal rock engravings' (3 p.) Draft and final, draft annotated 'A.P.W. magazine'
- 15-16 'Aboriginal Australian art and artists', two drafts
- 17-18 'Australian Aboriginal decorative art', two drafts
- 19-20 'Australian Aboriginal art and its application', draft and final paper
- 21-22 'Australian Aboriginal art', two drafts
- 23 Letter to the Editor, *Mankind* (5 June 1974) on 'Notes and news' article in *Mankind* 9, 32-34, 1973. Includes draft of letter and handwritten notes
- 24 'Australian Aboriginal material culture' (7 p.) Annotated 'Australia Council – Abor Arts Board'
- 25 'Aboriginal art'. Annotated 'Syd Morn Her. Supplement July 1974'
- 26 Handwritten notes headed 'Subjects & meaning in E. O. N. Aust. Rock Art'
- 27 'The Australian Aborigine'. Annotated 'Calendar'
- 28 'Gone walkabout: Aboriginal trade routes' (7 p.) Annotated 'Main Roads Dept.
- 29 'Aboriginal stone arrangements in Australia' (7 p.)
- 30 'Comparison of the prehistory of Australia with that of Indo-China, the Malay Peninsula and the Netherlands East Indies' (22 p.)
- 31 Entries on Aborigines for *Australian Encyclopedia*, published by Horowitz 1978
- 32 Review of Carol Cooper's *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander collections in overseas museums* (Canberra, 1989)
- 33-35 Unidentified manuscripts and notes on rock art
- 36a-d 'The Tasmanian devil in Aboriginal rock art', headed *Mankind*, 'Notes and news', four copies
- 37 Biographical information on Daniel Sutherland Davidson for *Australian Dictionary of Biography* and related correspondence (1979)
- 38 Obituary of A.P. Elkin for the Royal Society of New South Wales and letter from the Society (16 October 1979)
- 39 Mythology of Mootwingee engravings (27 p.)
- 40 Data from notebooks 1 and 2 on rock engravings in Somersby District, extracted for Ian Sim

Item

- 41 'The dancers of Aurukun' (9 p.)
- 42 'The trimmed coroid and knapped implements from fourteen stations in far western NSW', by F.D. McCarthy and Lindsay Black [1946] (43 p)
- 43 'Kalkadoon stone workers' (4 p.)
- 44 'Rock engravings of the Sydney-Hawkesbury region' (2 p.)
- 45 'My lifetime in anthropology'. [Lecture to Mikluho-Maclay Society] (6 p.)
- 46 'The background to Aboriginal art' (2 p.)
- 47 'Rock paintings'
- 48 Chapter on the 'Aborigines of Australia'. Annotated 'Children's Encyclopedia' (43 p.)
- 49 'Collection in Università degli studi Museum Florence'. [Report to AIAS] (12 p.)
- 50 'Depuch Island is an Aboriginal art gallery', [1961] (3 p.)
- 51 'Recent developments and problems in the prehistory of Australia' (13 p.)
- 52 'Australian Aboriginal paintings in western Arnhem Land' (7 p.)
- 53 'The settlement of Australia in prehistoric times'. [Speech prepared by F.D. McCarthy for the Minister, Mr Peter Howson to deliver to Australia-America Association, New York 30 June 1972] (7 p.)
- 54 'Space and superimposition in Australian Aboriginal art' (16 p.)
- 55 'Australian Aboriginal art' (24 p.) Annotated 'Archaeologia'
- 56 'Australian Aboriginal rock art' (18 p.)
- 57 'Aborigines of the Morton Primitive Area NSW' (6 p.)
- 58 Nomenclature of Australian stone implements: the 1946 classification. [Conference paper 1961] (18 p.)
- 59 'The Australian Aborigines'. Annotated 'Book on History of Australia' (11 p.)
- 60 Railway interstate ticket office murals: Aboriginal motifs [1952] (5 p.)
- 61 Explanation of Aboriginal motifs used in interstate ticket office Central Railway station Sydney and related letter (28 March 1952)
- 62 'Sanatarium series on New Guinea' (4 p.)
- 63 'Aboriginal culture and ritual meaning' (3 p.) and related letter (15 May 1973)

Item

- 64 *School magazine* 1952: listing of 'Aboriginal strip for Part 11'
- 65 Reply [to clarify misinterpretations of my rock art sequence. . .]
- 66 L'art rupestre des Aborigines d'Australie. [Archologica] (23 p.)
- 67 [Explanation of Warner-Lambert Aboriginal mural, Bass Hill]

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Series 20 Other writings

Folder

- 1 'The prehistory of Australia', by F.D. McCarthy. Beginnings of draft (1963)
- 2 'Museums and anthropology in Australia', a paper for the 50th anniversary edition of *Mankind*, first and second typing of the paper, and correspondence with Dr Grant McColl, 1980-82
- 3-4 'Museums and anthropology in Australia': notes and photocopies of background papers
- 5 *Australia's Aborigines: their life and culture*. Draft. [Book held in Library at RBF M123.45/A1]
- 6 'Aboriginal Australian material culture: causative factors in its composition'. Draft of article published in *Art and Australia* 1976; v. 13, no. 3; 253 – 259. [Held by Library at S 71/9]
- 7 Typescript headed 'Addition to text...'

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Series 21 Field notebooks

Closed access: The Library Director's permission is required for reading and the Library Director's and/or the Principal's permission for copying and quotation [Access code: A2 B1]

Item

- 1 NT trip/ Mt Cameron West. Reporters notebook
- 2 Sturts Meadows. Shorthand notebook
- 3 Carnarvon, Blacks Palace, Mt Moffatt. Paintings and engravings. Shorthand notebook
- 4 Hawaiian trip. Rock engravings. Shorthand notebook

Item

- 5 Cordeaux dam. Small green notebook
- 6 Miscellaneous. Small red notebook
- 7 Miscellaneous. Small black notebook
- 8 Miscellaneous. Very small blue notebook, spiral binding
- 9 Contains one diagram dated 2.10.1938. Brown notebook, squared paper
- 10 Mt Isa and Western Queensland. Australian Museum notebook
- 11 Middens, quarries, stone arrangements. Field notes. Botany exercise book
- 12 Diary 4 July 1937-9 February 1938. The diary contains a detailed description of Fred McCarthy's trip to the South Sulawesi area Indonesia. The diary is dated from 4 July 1937 to 9 Feb 1938. He includes descriptions of the physical environment including vegetation, animals and descriptions of the dwellings and gardens, hotels and other accommodation. Fred McCarthy has recorded conversations and opinions from van Stein Callenfels, about Prof JL Shellshear, Louis Leaky and Dr WF Stutterheim. He also describes their trip to the campsite at Palampoe, the excavation process and the tools used. Their arrival at Watampone, and seeing Miss Bramell is also noted, along with their arrival in Soppeng, moving to Tjita and Palopo, a description of McCarthy's illness (Malaria), and travelling to Bali, Batavia, Bandoeng, and Singapore.
[See also MS 5297 Transcript of diary number 12 by Campbell MacKnight]
- 13 Diary of USA visit in Blue Croxley notebook. Black notebook
- 14-15 Feb-Aug 1971. Europe. Collins Royal Diary; and USA visit. Yellow Jumbo notebook.
- 16 'Cave paintings nos 1- Conjola [and] Woronora Dam'. Exercise book
- 17 Photographs and proofs of plates [Not required by Audiovisual Archives]

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Series 22 Material culture notes

Material culture notes on typed systems cards.

Two boxes

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Series 23 Notes from the literature

This series contains handwritten notes taken from a variety of secondary sources.

8 folders + 1 item in folio box + 1 item in Manuscript Plan Cabinet

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Series 24 Melanesian art

Manuscripts and notes (many from secondary sources) relating to Melanesian art.

2 folders

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Series 25 Glynn Barratt papers

This series contains copies of papers by collector Glynn Barrett. The Papers of Glynn Barratt are held at [MS 1285](#)

Item

- 1 'Iaschenko: a biographical sketch'. Plates and list of plates. Photocopy. [Original in MS 1285/16. Photographs transferred to Audiovisual Archives in 2005. Copies returned for incorporation into this item]
- 2 Photocopies of 'I. M. Simonov Apr-May, Sept-Nov. 1820' and 'The Russians at Port Jackson 1814-22', by G.R. Barrett

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Series 26 UNESCO

This series contains papers relating to UNESCO, especially papers relating to the Australian National Commission for UNESCO and the Australian National Advisory committee for UNESCO.

1 folder

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Series 27 Miscellaneous papers

This series consists of miscellaneous papers received with the collection but not filed by McCarthy in his original file folders. It consists of various notes, including 'Notes on American Museum Displays' (30 pages of typescript, plus three handwritten pages); a copy of 'Australian hymn for the native youth of the colony' in J.D. Lang, *Aurora Australis, or, Specimens of sacred poetry for the colonists of Australia*, 1826; and a diagram of an unknown site excavation.

1 folder (1 item held in folio box numbered Box 25)

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CONVERSION FROM FORMER NUMBERING SYSTEM

In 2005 this collection was rehoused and placed into 'series' in an effort to make the collection easier to use. The chart below lists the original item/folder number, together with the current number.

Original Box Number	Original Folder Number	Current Series number	Current Folder/Item number
1	1-9	Series 2	1-9
2	10-25		10-25
3	26-40	Series 1	1-15
4	41-54		16-29
5	55-62	Series 1	30-39
6	63	Series 17	1-2
	64-67	Series 10	1-3
	68-71	Series 9	1-4
	72	Series 20	1
	73	Series 23	7-8
7	74	Series 26	
	75-76	Series 20	2-4
	77	Series 25	
8	78	Series 18	1-21
	79-80	Series 23	3-6
	81-85	Series 11	1-6
	86-87	Series 23	1-2
	88	MS 4352	
	89-91	Series 19	41-67
9	92-93	Series 10	4
	94-95	Series 20	5-6
	96	Series 10	5
9	97	Rock art	11
	98-103	Series 19	1-40
10	104-109	Series 15	1-6,8 [Item 7 passed to Audiovisual Archives in 2005. Copies incorporated into Collection once received]

Original Box Number	Original Folder Number	Current Series number	Current Folder/Item number
	110-111	Series 24	1-2
	112	Series 1	26
11	113-131	Series 3	1-17
12	132-147	Series 4	
13	148-157	Series 5	1-10
	158-159	Series 5	7
	160	Series 11	11
	161-163	Series 7	1-4
14	164-183	Series 7	5-25
15	184-188	Series 7	26-30
	189-192	Series 11	7-10
	193-195	Series 1	40-42
	196-197	Series 7	31-32
16	198-209	Series 8	1-12
17	210-222	Series 8	13-27
	223		Passed to Audiovisual Archives in 2005. Copies incorporated into Collection once received
	224-225	Series 8	26-27
18-20	226-236		Photograph albums to be copied for Audiovisual Archives and to be incorporated into Collection after Conservation.
21	237-246	Series 12	1-10
	247	Series 12	Photographs passed to Audiovisual Archives 2005. Copies incorporated into Collection once received
	248-249	Series 12	11-12
	250-253	Series 13	1-4

Original Box Number	Original Folder Number	Current Series number	Current Folder/Item number
22	254-260	Series 13	5-13
	261	Series 21	Photographs passed to Audiovisual Archives 2005. Copies incorporated into Collection once received
	262-266	Series 14	11-16
	267-268	Series 14	9-10
23	269-276	Series 14	1-8
24	277-281	Series 16	1-5
25	282-292	Series 21	1-11
26	293-294	Series 21	12-15
27	295-305	Series 15	8-19
28	306	Series 22	
29	Folio box of illustrations	Series 6	4 folders located in Manuscript Plan Cabinet

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BOX LIST

Box	Series	Folders/Items
1	1	1-11
2	1	12-22
Manuscript Plan Cabinet	1	23-24
2		25-26
3	1	27-35
4	1	36-42
	2	1-3
5	2	4-13
6	2	14-25
7	3	1-12
8	3	13-17
	4	1-9
9	4	10-13
	5	1-11
Manuscript Plan Cabinet	6	1-4
10	7	1-17
11	7	18-32
	8	1-2
12	8	3-5
12	8	9
	8	11-16a
	8	17-18
Manuscript Plan Cabinet	8	19
	8	20
13	8	21-27
	9	1-3
	10	1
14	10	2-3a
Manuscript Plan Cabinet	10	3b

Box	Series	Folders/Items
14	10	4-5
	11	1-5
Manuscript Plan Cabinet	11	6
14	11	7
15	11	8-11
	12	1-3
15	12	5-9
Manuscript Plan Cabinet	12	10b
14	12	11-12
16	13	1-6
Manuscript Plan Cabinet	13	7
16	13	8-11
17	13	12-13
	14	1-10
18	14	11-13a
	14	14-16
	15	1-5
Transferred to Audiovisual Archives 2005	15	6
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	19	1-44
21	19	45-67
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22	21	1-11
23	21	12-16
	23	1-2
24	23	3
24	23	5-8
	24	1-2

Box	Series	Folders/Items
	25	1-2
	26	
	27 (1 item in Box 25)	
25 (Folio Box)	8	6-8
	8	10
	8	16b
	9	4
	12	4
	12	10a
	14	13b
	23	1 item
	27	1 item
26-27	22	

Finding Aid prepared June 2002 from 1991 listing. Updated January 2005 and January 2009

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