



AIATSIS

Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies

Manuscript Finding Aid

MS 5342

Djabugay Language Material

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Collection Summary

Creator:	Robertson, Sue; Quinn, Michael; and Banning, Roy
Title:	Djabugay Language Material
Collection no:	MS 5342
Reference code:	MAR 09/106
Date range:	1985 – 1989
Extent:	0.18 linear metres (1 archival box)
Repository:	Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies

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. This includes:

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, seeing images of deceased persons in photographs, film and books or hearing them in recordings etc. may cause sadness or distress; and in some cases, offend strongly held cultural beliefs.

Access to the Collection

Access conditions for this collection

Open Access-Reading. Open Copying for Private Study Closed Quotation.

Series 2, Item 1 (separately housed): Closed access – Djabugay community member permission. Closed copying & quotation Djabugay community Permission. Not for Inter-Library Loan.

Access and use conditions - further information

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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:

Correspondence 1985-1989, Djabugay Language Material, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, MS 5342, Series1, Folder 1.

Collection Overview

Scope and contents note

The collection comprises papers collected by Sue Robertson from 1985 to 1989 relating to the compilation of a Djabugay language dictionary and the development of Djabugay language educational material for adults and Kuranda Primary school. The language material was developed by Sue Robertson together with knowledge holders Roy Banning and Michael Quinn, with classes delivered by Michael Quinn. The collection contains various research papers in draft format relating to linguistics terms, glossary conventions, the development of a Djabugay language dictionary, word lists, worksheets, translations, crosswords, play, storylines with illustrations and games.

Provenance

This collection was donated to the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies by Sue Robertson in 2009.

Material separated from the collection

No material has been separated from this collection.

Related material

PMS 5756 Jaabugay [Djabugay] English dictionary. [Kuranda, Qld.: Roy Banning and Sue Robertson], 1990.

AILEC 0013 Jaabugay [Djabugay] dictionary. [electronic resource] Sue Robertson and Bruce A Sommer.

L D571.041/1 *Djabugay ngirrma gulu = Djabugay language here*. Banning, Roy 1948; McLeod, Frank; Quinn, Michael 1948; and Riley, Derwent.

For a complete list of works by Sue Robertson; Michael Quinn; Roy Banning; Derwent Riley; and Frank McLeod 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 found on the 'Search the Collection' page on the AIATSIS website at aiatsis.gov.au

Biographical history notes

Sue Robertson, a Kuranda resident of Far North Queensland, has training in Social Anthropology and she contributed to the compilation of Djabugay language teaching material and the Djabugay-English dictionary.

Michael Quinn was born in 1948, he has experience as a language teacher and training in social Anthropology. He assisted in providing a useful background for the task of creating language teaching materials for Djabugay language.

Roy Laurence Banning was born in 1948 near Redlynch Queensland. His first spoken Indigenous language was Djabugay, and he delivered language courses to communities and local schools in Queensland.

References

Henry, Rosita (1999) *Practising place, performing memory: identity politics in an Australian town, the 'Village in the rainforest'*. PhD thesis, James Cook University. <http://eprints.jcu.edu.au/9284>

[Kuranda, Qld.: Michael Quinn, 1989] R. Banning; F. McLeod; M. Quinn, and D. Riley. 'Djabugay ngirrma gulu = Djabugay language here'. L D571.041/1 (AIATSIS collection).

Controlled Access Headings

Djabugay / Tjapukai language Y106

Yidinj language Y117

Language - Vocabulary - Dictionaries and glossaries

Education - Language - Indigenous languages - Readers and primers

Language - Vocabulary - Word lists

Kuranda (NE Qld SE55-02)

Cape York Peninsula (Qld SC54, SD54, SD55)

Archivists note

The collection arrangement reflects Sue Robertson's original order. The title and description of the items are transcribed from the information on the material provided by the donor.

In this finding aid, the spelling of the languages in the description are the original spelling on the material. The '[' (square brackets) enclose the preferred term in the AIATSIS AUSTLANG database. For instance, Jaabugay [Djabugay] and Yindindji [Yidinj].

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Series Description

Series 1, Correspondence, 1985-1989

Folder / Item

MS 5342/1/1 Correspondence 1985-1989

Folder contents include correspondence between Sue Robertson, Jane Simpson, Dianne Hosking, Grace Koch AIAS (AIATSIS staff), Carol Caldwell, JM Parr, RMW Dixon, Dr Elizabeth Patz, Judy [surname unknown] and Michael Quinn. Some topics include grants and funding requests; word lists and Djabugay language dictionary; AIATSIS (previously known as AIAS) access enquiries including requests for Djabugay songs in AIATSIS collection; permissions.

Series 2, Djabugay Language material, 1975-1991

Items

MS 5342/2/1 Djabugay Language Material 1987-1989

Folder contents include Djabugay/English language worksheets with illustrations and words describing actions, pronouns, vocabulary, structures, verbs consonants and vowels; words and sentences for flora and fauna, weapons, utensils, ornaments, and shelter; a play written by Michael Quinn of the Djabuganydji ancestors; storylines about the rainbow Gudju Gudju; a hunting game.

Series 2, Item 1 includes cultural significant material, which has been housed separately. **Closed access – Djabugay community member permission. Closed copying & quotation Djabugay community Permission. Not for Inter-Library Loan.**

MS 5342/2/2 Djabugay Language Material. Undated.

Folder contents include Jaabugay [Djabugay] English Dictionary (version 2.0) and Djabugay language Lexicon.

MS 5342/2/3 Djabugay Language Material 1987-1988

Folder contents include a booklet of preliminary Djabugay wordlist; various handwritten notes; Djabugay language lexicon; multiple worksheets describing Djabugay songs and customs, along with

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illustrations by Frank McLeod and Derwent Riley; language by Roy Banning and mediator Michael Quinn; and a worksheet relating to 'DJARRUY' (Birds); storylines about two brothers 'Damarri and Guyala' for the Yindindji [Yidinj] and Djabuganydji [Djabugay] people; language story 'GIDRI, adapted from a story told by Gilpin Banning to H. Cassells, mediated by M. Quinn; Djabugay language game 'NYURRA DJA:NGURRU Galling?'; song lines 'Where are you going'; Djabugay language Lullaby and 'Mother covers (blanket)'.

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Djabugay Language Material. Undated.

Folder contents include a glossary of specialized language terms from an unidentified encyclopedia; a sketch grammar of Djabugay Language by Elizabeth Patz (MS1200) Chapter 1-4; correspondence between Sue Robertson and Jane Simpson regarding Djabugay word list; one-page printed copy of a map of Cape York Peninsula

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Djabugay Language Material 1988

Folder contents include research notes; transcription of AIAS (AIATSI) tape A2490 (lists of words and phrases in Tyapukay [Djabugay]); Copy of Tya-Pukay [Djaabugay] chapter by Kenneth Hale from 'Languages of Cape York' by PJ Sutton; linguistics grammatical categories R Dixon, linguistic notes of Djabugay language; 'Djabugay a guide to pronunciations', including vowel sounds, consonants; draft copy of language game titled 'Nganydji wabarr-a-galang'; words for Gula 'The Body' snakes and birds; Linguistic grammatical categories research papers of RW Dixon.

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Djabugay Language Material 1987-1990

Folder contents include Djabugay language wordlist; Jaabugay [Djabugay] to English; copy of JAABUGAY [Djabugay] dictionary by Roy Banning and Sue Robertson. Djabugay Language word list describing words (ergative, adjectives, and verbs).

Box List

Series	Folder / Item	Box
1	1	1
2	1-6	1

Finding aid compiled by Natasha Best, July 2022.

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