Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies

# Manuscript Finding Aid

# MS 5345

# Geoffrey O'Grady language material

# Contents

# Collection Summary

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| **Creator:** | O'Grady, Geoffrey. N |
| **Title:** | Geoffrey O'Grady language material |
| **Collection no:** | MS 5345 |
| **Reference code:** | MAR 02/132 |
| **Date range:** | 1945-2001 |
| **Extent:** | 0.51 linear metres (3 archival box) |
| **Repository:** | Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies |

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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:

Language cards 1957-1998, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, MS 5345, Series 1, Folder 4.

# Collection Overview

## Scope and contents note

The collection comprises material relating to research of various Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander languages by Professor Emeritus of Linguistics Geoffrey O'Grady and includes: field notes; correspondence; audio recording transcriptions; language transcribed into linguistic terms; kinship terms; songs; storylines; language cards; questionnaires; records relating to bilingual education in the Northern Territory; reports and publications. Some of the geographic areas covered in the collection include the Torres Strait Islands, Cape York Peninsula, the Pilbara region, the Simpson Desert, Northern Flinders Ranges and the West Coast of South Australia. Languages included in the collection include the Pama-Nyungan languages, Meriam Mir, Umpila, Nyangumarta, Wangkangurru, Adnyamathanha, and Wirangu.  Some material in the collection is in Kenneth Hale's and Arthur Capell's handwriting.

## Provenance

The collection was deposited to the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies by Prof. Geoffrey O'Grady in 2002. The collection comprises some photocopies made of O'Grady's original material at his home in June 2001. The originals were kept by O'Grady and later deposited with the National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution USA by his wife Alix O'Grady. See https://sova.si.edu/record/NAA.2010-30?s=0&n=100&t=W&q=notebook&i=0

## Material separated from the collection

No material has been separated from this collection.

## Related material

MS 4389 [Language field notes], O'Grady, Geoffrey N., 1928-2008

MS 18 Umpila notes and transcriptions, O'Grady, Geoffrey N., 1928-2008

PMS 694 Umpila conjugations handout. O'Grady, Geoffrey N., 1928-2008

For a complete list of works by Prof. Geoffrey N. O'Grady held by the library, and for other related material consult Mura®, the AIATSIS catalogue.

For access to Audio / Visual material please go to the 'Contact us' page on the AIATSIS website at aiatsis.gov.au or phone (02) 6246 1111

**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

# Administrative / Biographical history note

Professor Emeritus of Linguistics Geoffrey N. O'Grady was born in 1928, in South Australia and first became interested in languages in high school, when he studied Latin, German, Russian, and Hungarian. O'Grady was introduced to Australian Indigenous languages during his six years as a jackaroo on Wallal Downs Station, in the Kimberley region of Western Australia, where he was adopted by the Nyangumarta people and learnt to speak the Nyangumarta language.

O'Grady was offered a research assistantship at the University of Sydney in 1956, which allowed him to take research trips around Australia to record various Indigenous languages. During this time, he undertook a project to alphabetize the Nyangumarta language and as a result, a literacy program and a Nyangumarta newspaper were established.

In 1960, after completing a BA at the University of Sydney, O'Grady received a Fulbright Scholarship to attend Indiana University in the United States of America. During his university summer breaks, O'Grady travelled to Arizona to conduct field research in the Native American Hopi Tewa language. On completion of his PhD on Nyangumata Grammar in 1963, O'Grady accepted a position at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada, where he began to study northern Canadian First Nations languages. In 1965, he moved to the Linguistics Department at the University of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, where he began to study Indigenous languages on Vancouver Island and taught courses on phonetics and historical sound change. When O'Grady retired from the University of Victoria in 1993, the Australian National University honoured him with a Festschrift entitled "Boundary Rider."

Geoffrey O' Grady passed away on December 28th 2008, after a long struggle with Parkinson's disease.

**References**

Smithsonian Online Virtual Archives https://sova.si.edu/record/NAA.2010-30

# Controlled Access Headings

Simpson Desert (SE Central NT, NE SA SF53, SG53)
Cape York Peninsula (Qld SC54, SD54, SD55)
Pilbara area (WA SF50, SF51, SG50)
Flinders Ranges (NE SA SH54-09, SH54-13)
South Australia - West (SA SH53, SI53)

Torres Strait Islands (Qld TSI SC54, SC55-05)

Adnyamathanha L10
Alyawari C14
Antikirinya C5
Arabana L13
Arrerrnte C8
Balardong W10
Banyjima A53
Bargarla L6
Bardi K15
Bayungu W23
Birdungu A40
Bungandidj S13
Burduna W24
Dieri L17
Garama N34
Garrwa^ N155
Gidhabal E14
Gupapuyngu N122.1
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Jingulu C22
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Yankunytjatjara C4
Yawuru K1
Yindjibarndi W37
Yingkarta W19
Yulparija A67

# Archivists note

The arrangement and description of this collection reflects Prof. Geoffrey O'Grady's original order. The title and description of the items are transcribed from the information recorded on the material by the donor or devised by the archivist.

The collection is arranged into one series comprising eighteen folders.

Where a language has been recorded/described by O'Grady with phonetic symbols, the Archivist has used their judgement to find the equivalent language name in the AIATSIS AUSTLANG database. In cases where this has not been possible, the Archivist has recorded the closest transcription in curly brackets { }.

Square brackets [ ] have been used to enclose notes added by the archivist.

# Series Description

## Series 1, Geoffrey O'Grady language material  1945-2001

### Folder / Item

MS 5345/1/1          Journal article 1998

Photocopy of article titled "Toward a Proto-Pama-NYUNGAN Stem List" published in 'Oceanic Linguistic,' Vol. 37, No.2 1998;' 'Toward a Proto-Pama-NYUNGAN Stem List', part I: sets Jl-J25 (pg.209-233) and continued Part ll, J-n, (pg.1-146).

MS 5345/1/2          Correspondence and language research notes 1954-2001

Folder contents includes correspondence from Geoff O'Grady to David Nash(2001) and Barry [no surname] (2000); correspondence between Ruth Gruhn and David Nash (2001); Mirniny sentences transcribed with adjustments (1994); photocopy of Mirniny vocabulary list from May Jones (1954); photocopy of Geoff O'Grady's field notes regarding Mirininy and Kukatha [Kokatha] language; Records relating to Northern Territory (NT) Bilingual programme (1974-1976) including a notebook, correspondence from W.J. McGrath, agenda and minutes of meeting of the school of Australian Linguistics, held at Darwin Community College 1974

MS 5345/1/3          Exhibition catalogue 1954

Catalogue for the photographic exhibition "The Family of Man" by Edward Steichen for the Museum of Modern Art. Prologue by Carl Sandburg. Fragile condition, binding damaged and held together with masking tape.

MS 5345/1/4      Language Cards No date

Three sets of language cards that include vocabularies Garad'eri [Karajarri] and Naŋamada[Nyangumarta] Vol. I A-G, vocabularies Garad'eri [Karajarri] and Naŋamada[Nyangumarta] Vol II, I-W and Nulnul[Nyulnyul] and Ba:d [Bardi] Vocabulary Vol II I-Y.

MS 5345/1/5      Notebooks 1960

Folder contents include two original notebooks. Notebook one titled "Umpila, Ka'ntyu, Kokopera G.O.G 1960" comprises handwritten word lists with English translations and songs in Umpila, Kaanju / Kaantju and Koko Bera languages. Notebook two titled 'G. O'Grady Miriam 1960' comprises handwritten notes of Miriam songs and stories with English translation, a hand drawn and coloured map of the Torres Strait Islands and loose typed and handwritten notes on Miriam language.

MS 5345/1/6      100-item Hale and O'Grady Australian test lists and language word lists 1958- 1961

Folder contents include three files of original 100- item Hale O'Grady Australian test lists in various languages plus word lists. File one titled 'Test List in Ngayarta" includes eight tests in the following languages: MaḍaḍuniRa ~ Maḍaḍuniya, KaRiyara [Kariyarra], Kurama [Kurrama], Yinytypanti [Yindjibarndi], ŋaḷuma [Ngarluma], Panytyima [Banyjima], Palyku, Nyamal, and Nuguna [Nukunu]. File two titled 'Nyungic Languages to be included in West Austr. Cognate density Matrix' includes 10 tests in the following languages:  Kaurna, Nukuna [Nukunu], Wiraŋu [Wirangu], Nanta [Nhanda^], Northern Yiŋkata [Northern Yingkarta], Malkana [Malgana], Watʸari [Wajarri], Waŋkaŋuru [Wangkangurru], ŋaruku [Ngarigu / Ngarigo] and Arapana [Arabana]; plus vocabulary list of Yalla Yandy recorded at Dubbo Downs, SW Queensland by J.D Alexander; typed Nuguna word list transcribed by O'Grady from knowledge holders Eddie Sainsbury and Fred Graham at Point Pearce Mission in 1958 and Gilbert Branfield Port Augusta in 1960. File three titled 'Non-PMN' includes seven tests in the following languages: Nyulnyul, Tyiŋilu~ Tʸɣiŋili [Jingulu], Southern Wunambal [Wunambal], Wakaya, Karwa [Garrwa^], Wampaya [Wambaya], Garama ~ Murinpata [Murrinh-Patha]; plus various hand written linguistic notes.

MS 5345/1/7      100-item Hale and O'Grady Australian test lists. No dates

Folder contents include two files of original 100-item Hale O'Grady Australian test lists in various languages. File one titled 'Test List in Kanyara' includes seven tests in the following languages: TarkaRi

[Tharrkari], Watiwaŋka informant Alec Eagles, Wariyaŋka [Warriyangga], Putuna, Talanᵞtᵞi [Thalanyji], Nuwala [Nhuwala], Payuŋu [Bayungu]. File two titled 'Cp. York Test Lists' includes seven tests in the following languages: Umpila, Yaðaikana-Oraḏikᵞ [Uradhi^] – Bandji[Biyay], Linŋiṯig [Linngithigh], ŋot [Ngkoth], Tyaenŋayt, Mabuiag [Mabuyag] and Miriam [Meriam Mir].

MS 5345/1/8      100-item Hale and O'Grady Australian test lists 1945-1960's

Folder titled 'Ken Hale & Geoff O'Grady 1960's Australian Langs. in Cognate Density Matrix (excluding Ngayarda, Kanyara)'. Contents include a short note from Geoff O'Grady to David Nash regarding test lists,; handwritten language notes; original '100- item Hale-O'Grady Australian test lists for the following languages: Waḷuwara [Warluwarra^], Mutpura [Mudburra] and Pintupi, Luritᵞa ~ Yankunᵞtᵞara [Yankunytjatjara], Warburton Ranges, Dabu [Papuan coast opposite Saibai], Southern Aranda Pitim[Arrernte], Southern Aranda Wychinga [Arrernte], Walpiri, East Miṇiny [Mirniny], Ku.Ṟinᵞtᵞi [Gurindji], Nuŋkupuyu {Nungkupuyu}, Watᵞuk [Wajuk], ŋaḷa [Ngarla], Pankala Parnkalla[Barngarla], Adnyamathanha, Antikirinya, KaRatᵞari [Karajarri], YuḷpaRitᵞa,{Yuplaritya} Waṇmanpa [Warlmanpa], WaRiŋari [Waringari], Northern Alᵞawar [Alyawarr], Paḷatoŋ [Birdungu], Nᵞininᵞ [Nyininy], Waḷmanpa [Warlmanpa], NW Nᵞaŋumaṭa [Nyangumarta], Piṭuŋu, Maŋala [Mangala], Tarkuti, YuḷpaRitᵞa {Yulparitya}, Kaṭutᵞara {Katutyara}, Tᵞiwaḷinᵞ {Tyiwaliny} [Juwaliny], Kokata [Kokatha] and Dieri, Maw [Mawng]; word list and English translations for Western Aranda, Northern Aranda, Eastern Aranda, and Southern Aranda gathered 1945; linguistic lexicon notes; lexicostatistic test list for Gawurna, Pintupi, Bayungu, Nyangumarda [Nyangumarta], Gupapuyngu, Umpila, Gidabal [Gidhabal].

MS 5345/1/9      Notebooks 1958-1967

Folder contents include photocopies of two of O'Grady's notebooks. Notebook one titled 1958 and includes mostly wordlists plus some sentence data for the following languages Ingarda [Yingkarta], Yindjibarndi and Bayungu. Notebook two titled II 4/9 includes word stems, word lists, suffixes for the following identified languages Wirangu and Kokata [Kokatha] 1967.

MS 5345/1/10      Western Australian vocabularies 1967

Folder contents include photocopies taken from O'Grady's binder titled "WA Vocabularies: WLM, WAN, NGL, YUL, etc". Includes vocabularies transcribed at Marble Bar and Broome in August 1967 for the following language groups: Ngarla - knowledge holders Jimmy

Monaghan, Tommy Horace, Maggie Harris; Nyangumarda
[Nyangumarta] Warnman; words list transcribed for Walmacarri
knowledge holders  Jimmy Bengu and Paddy; words list transcribed
for Warnam informant Mitchell (kunyala-ngarri), North Mangarla
adjoining Nyikina – knowledge holders Paddy [no surname] and map;
word lists for  Karadjari – knowledge holder Peter Jones and word list
for Yawuru – knowledge holder Harry Pickett; wordlist for Yulbaridja
[Yulparija] 1967 location LaGrange WA; extra photocopy cropped of
word lists; Warnam word listing of affixes; Yinggurda [Yingkarta]
Western Australian vocabularies. Originals retained by O'Grady.

MS 5345/1/11          Notebook and notes 1959-1960

Folder contains photocopies of a notebook and notes from a binder;
Notebook titled 1960-A Nyaŋumada [Nyangumarta]is copied twice
at different sizes and includes Notes on language, kin terms, Section
system terms for the following language groups: Nyaŋumada
[Nyangumarta], Maŋala[Mangala], {Djiwaḷiny}, YulbaRitya [Yulparija],
Waṇman[Warnman], Mandjildjara [Warnman], Katutjara
[Kartujarra], Putitjara [Putijarra].

Photocopies taken from O'Grady's original binder with word lists in
the following languages Antikirinya knowledge holder Barry
[surname illegible]; Wangkaŋuru [Wangkangurru] knowledge holder
Mick Mclean location Umeewarra SA; Anˠamaṯaṉa (Wailpi)
[Adnyamathanha] knowledge holder Malcolm Mackenzie location
Umeewarra SA; Nukuna [Nukunu] knowledge holder Gilbert Branfield
location Point Augusta SA; WiRaŋu [Wirangu] knowledge holder
Rosie [surname illegible] location Ceduna SA;  plus additional
photocopies of Wailpi and Waŋkaŋuru [Wangkangurru] linguistic
notes and Introduction to Walpiri Domains and selections by Ken
Hale.

MS 5345/1/12          Questionnaires and transcribed vocabularies 1957-1960

Folder contents include photocopies of questionnaires for the
following language groups: KaRiyara [Kariyarra] knowledge holder
Adam Barker location Roebourne; Baladaŋ [Balardong] knowledge
holders Tommy Cowen, May Narkle, Tommy Jones and Paddy Jetta
locations Kellerberrin and Doodlakine; Nanta [Nhanda^] knowledge
holder Jack Councillor location unknown; TarkaRi [Tharrkari]
knowledge holder Jim Roberts (Malaraŋu) location Carnarvon; Palˠku
[Palyku] knowledge holder George Abung aka tˠitilˠi location
Carnarvon; Photocopy of O'Grady's vocabularies transcribed at Port
Augusta and Carnarvon June-July 1967 for language groups:
Adnyamathanha- knowledge holder Malcolm McKenzie; Arabuna

[Arabana] – knowledge holder Alf Gepp; Bayungu; Burduna – knowledge holder Maria[surname unknown]; Curruru[Jurruru] – knowledge holder Bob Williams; Thiin – knowledge holder Donald Eagles; Wadjeri [Wajarri]; Warrienga [Warriyangga] – knowledge holder Alec Eagles; Yinggarda [Yingkarta]- knowledge holder Tommy Dodd; Yindjibarndi- knowledge holder Alex Sheckler and Banjima [Banyjima].

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| MS 5345/1/13 | Notebooks 1960-1970 |

Folder contents includes photocopies of two of O'Grady's original notebooks. Notebook one contains Kuuku-Ya'u linguistic notes with Simon Ropeyarn and Gresham Gunnawarra 1970; handwritten Mabuiag story Legend of Metakurab; typescript of story by Ephraim Bani: Mabuiagiu Audhi (story from Mabuiag) Hiina Aadhi with corrections; Notebook two titled ' G.N. O'Grady Nyaŋumada [Nyangumarta] texts March- Ap. 1960' contains audio tape transcriptions.

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| MS 5345/1/14 | Notebooks 1960 |

Folder contents includes photocopies of O'Grady's original notebooks relating to audio tapes transcriptions. Notebook 1 contains transcription of audio recordings Tapes 2,3 and 5 {Buldja} and Wuda [Wudjari] languages; Notebook two titled "G N G O'Grady University of Sydney 1960- C" contains transcribed audio recordings for the following languages: TᵞuruRu [Jurruru] and Tᵞuru {Tyuru} including descriptive consultations with Algie Patterson in TᵞuruRu [Jurruru] and Tᵞuru language; Nᵞikina [Nyikina] language text provided by truck driver 100 miles SE of Langi Crossing in 1960 transcribed by O'Grady and Hale; Kitᵞa [Gidja] vocal items recorded at Louisa Downs WA 1960; Malkana word transcriptions by O'Grady, knowledge holder Billy Weir at Ajana 1960.

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| MS 5345/1/15 | Notebook No Date. |

Folder includes a photocopy of O'Grady's original notebook titled "G N O'Grady Ka:ntju~Umpila Anthrop Dept Sydney University" contains transcriptions of audio recordings "SA Tape 4" in [Kaanju] and Umpila languages.

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| MS 5345/1/16 | Notebook 1950's -1970 |

Folder contents includes a photocopies of O'Grady's original notebooks. Notebook one untitled contains index to tape recordings and literature in Australian Languages (1954-1960). Notebook is

divided into the following sections- Section A by tapes p.1- 40, Section B index by languages p.41-70, Section C tabulation of total material recorded in each language p.71-75 and Section D index to literature held by Geoff O'Grady. Notebook two includes handwritten note relating to Kuuku-Ya'u language. This notebook appears to be the continuation of notebook described at MS 5345/1/13.

| MS 5345/1/17 | Notebook 1967 |
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Folder includes a photocopy of O'Grady's original notebook titled " G NOG 6 1967" that contains correspondence from O'Grady to Professor M.H. Scargill Dept of Linguistics Uni of Victoria regarding O'Grady's language research and translations at La Grange Roman Catholic Mission WA; notes on linguistic studies; tape recording transcriptions; a vocabulary of language sentences and words; Jimmy Banggus translations of Yul > Nyang; correspondence from O'Grady at La Grange Mission to Mr F.E Gare, Dept of Native Welfare Perth regarding reserve entry permit; correspondence from O'Grady to Mr A. Harris, Dept of Supply Perth WA.

| MS 5345/1/18 | Notebook 1967 |
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Folder includes a photocopy of O'Grady's original notebook titled "G NOG 7 1967 Joanna Springs" that is interspersed with original handwritten language notes. The photocopies comprise Nyangumarda [Nyangumarta] language translations; word comparisons between languages; listing of Nyangumarda [Nyangumarta] kinship terms, verbs, and plurals with translations into Karadjeri [Karajarri]; translation of the Lord's Prayer made at La Grange with knowledge holders Martina and Annie [surname unknown]; Yulparija version of the Lord's Prayer; language notes recorded at Port Hedland; Martathunira [Martuthunira] language notes from knowledge holder Peter Jackson; language notes from knowledge holder Joe Butler

# Box List

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Finding aid compiled by Natasha Best, September 2022.

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