



AIATSIS

Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies

Manuscript Finding Aid

MS 5375

**Howard (Harry) Creamer's field notebooks
made during the NSW NPWS Sites of Significance
Survey 1973 – 1987.**

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Collection Summary

Collection no:	MS 5375
Title:	Howard (Harry) Creamer's field notebooks made during the NSW NPWS Sites of Significance Survey 1973 – 1987.
Creator:	Creamer, Howard
Date range:	1973 – 1986
Extent:	0.2 meters. 1 archival box
Repository:	Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies
Registration ID:	AIAS859.200422

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:

5375/1/1: Al Grassby(?); Alice; Bella Walker; Billy Briggs; Bob Bolte; Bryce; Cecie Taylor; Dick Blair; Dick Donnelly; Dick Kelly; Douglas Cook; Frank Archibald; Frank Wigham; George Browning; George Cook; George Jenkins; George Murray; George Williams; Harry Buchanan; Harry Kim; Harvey Dunn; Herbert Charles; Isabel McBride; Jack Barker; Jeff, Jim; Jim McKenzie; Jim Morgan; John Quinlan; Julie Denison; Keith Connors; Ken; King Morgan; Les Smith; Lesely Maynard; Lyle Roberts; Maue (?) Roberts; Mrs Dixon; Mrs Oaks; Mrs Oats; Mrs Phillips; Mrs Webb; Munngindi George Harrison; Olga Yuke; Percy Howard; Phillip Long; Ray Kelly; Roger Draper; Rory Close; Shelly Levy; Stuart Heilbron; Tom Benge; Tom Robert; Victor Briggs; Victor Denison.

5375/1/2: Alan Kennedy; Albie Bates; Alice Layton; Arthur Betteridge; Arthur Reid; Bill Webster; Bill Wyman; Billy Bates; Bob Brown; Bob Done; Bob Hunter; Bob Murray; Bob Wilson Snr; Caroline Roberts; Carrie / Carmie / Camie Roberts; Charlotte Hall; Clary Riley; Colin James; Dave Carpenter; Dennis Burke; Diana Eades; Dick Blair; Dick Donnelly; Douglas Cook; Earl Munro; Eileen Lester; Eleanor Crosby; Elsie Jones; Ethel Riley; Gary Livermore; George Cohen; George Dorwood; George Dutton Jr; Gordon Williams; Granny Kate Buggamy; Granny Moisie / Moysey / Moisey; Gwen Munro; Harry / Clancy / Mary Riley; Herbert / Hubert Day; Jack Cambell; Jack Cook; Jack Johnstone; Joe Woods; John Everley; John Gerritsen; John King; John McKenzie; Johnny / Johnnie Quail; John Summerland; Kate Sullivan; Kel Lewis; Larry Webster; Lawry Quail; Les Smith; Lesley Lordy(?); Lorna Dixon; Majorie Henderson; Mr Anderson; Mrs Cavanagh; Mrs Charlotte Williams; Mrs Johnstone (Gertie); Mrs Miles; Mrs Roberts; Myles Layton; Ned; Pane Livermore; Paster Frank Roberts Senior; Paul Coe; Percy Mumbler; Peter Burns; Peter

Wright; Reg Saunders; Ron Johnson; Ron Lampert; Rupert Crow; Russell Thompson; Samson; Sharon; Stan Colliver; Stan May; Terry Crowley; Victor Shepherd; William Bates.

5375/1/3: Alan Dickson; Albert Ford; Albert Yuke; Alice Briggs; Andrew Wahemouth; Arthur Russell; Aubry Roberts; Bertie Marr; Bill Charles; Bill Jeffery; Bill Lovelock; Bill McLeod; Bill Morris; Bill Steel; Billy Nickles; Bob Bolte; Bob Ellis; Bruce Lockwood; Cecie / Cecil Wall; Charles Perkins; Charlie Edwards; Claude Winterton; Clive Roberts; David Hendry(?); Della Walker; Dick Donnelly; Dick Ferguson; Dot Miles; Doug Cooke; Drake; Eddie Buchanan; Ella Simon; Eric Walker; Ernest Brooks; Ethel Walker; Ethel Wilson; Euston Williams; Fletcher Roberts; Fred Briggs; Fred Brown; George Cohen; George Inman; Gordon Williams; Granny Walker; Harold Marsh; Harry Buchanan; Harry Doyle; Iain Davidson; Ilse O'Ferral; James Sullivan; Janet Gomes; Jimmy Russel; Kenny Gordon; Kevin Freeman; Laurrie Qualie; Leighton Smith; Len de Silva; Les Smith; Lester Avery; Lyle Roberts; Maclean Terrace; Malcom Calley; Marj Henderson; May Barlow; Mick McLean; Mike; Millie Boyd; Miss Wilsons; Mrs Bostock; Mrs Daley; Nick Saunders; Patrick Torrens; Percy Williams; Ralph Quinlan; Richard Want; Robert Caldwell; 'Smokey'; Ted Lardner; Terry Roberts; Victor Briggs; Victor Shepherd.

5375/1/4: Alan Ballengany; Alan Orcher; Albie Bates; Alice Harries; Archie King; Arthur Bennett; Arthur Dodds; Arthur Grove; Bill Cohen; Bill O'Laurie; Billy Andrew; Billy Reid; Bob Ellis; Brian Wall; Clariss Connors; Deely / Dolly / Darly Hooper; Douglas Cook; Dr Jakins; Essina Sullivan; George Harrison; Gertie Johnson; Harry Buchanan; Hazel; Hogan I Bust; Jack Long; John Currie; John Gerritsen; John Mann; Johnie Gominge(?); Johnny Bailey; Katie Mirchele; Laurie Quayle; Leila Orcher; Leo Harris; Les Davies; Lyle Roberts; Mabel McBryde; Margorie Oakes; May Barlow; Milli Boyd; Mr Ferguson; Mrs Ferguson; Mrs(?) Mrytle; Peter Thompson; Philip Long; Robin Davey; Roisin(?) Campbell; Rons Gill; Rory Close; Sid Cubbie; Ted Fields; Ted Murphy; Victor / Biktanga; Victor Shepherd.

5375/1/5: Adelaide King; Adrian Piper; Albert Woy; Albie Bates; Alice Bugmy-Laylor; Archie King; Arthur Hooper; Arthur Kirby; Barry Pearce; Beryl Philp; Betty Atkinson; Bill Fergusson; Bill Reid; Bill Webster; Willie Webster; Billy Clark; Billy Cobbler; Billy Webster; Bob Hardie; Bob Walford / Watford; Bonnie Merritt; (Bronco) Dennis Sloane; Bryce Thornehill; Catherine Shaw; Dave Hart; Dick Fergusson; Doc Coffey; Don Barrington; Don

Simon; Doug Long; Edie Williams; Eileen Wighton; Elma Webster; Elsie Brown; Eric Dixon; Essie; Evelyn Bates; Fletcher Roberts; Gary Steel; Geoff Martin; George Browning; George Maranoa; Gertie Johnson; Glen Miller; Glen Moris; Gloria Barlows (Goey); Gordon Williams; Grace Taylor; Hannah Duncan; Harold Bates; Harry Buchanan; Herbert Charles; Ian Mackay; Imeson brothers; Iris Barlow; Isabel Flick; Jack Long; Jean Wilson; Jim Wyman; John Atkinson; John Gerritsen; Josie; Joyce Clagne; Julie Whitten; Kevin Hutchins; Leo; Les Harris; Lillie Hampton; Liza Kennedy; Lizzy Williams; Loess Goolagong; Lorna's daughter; Lyall Roberts; Manara Siding (?); Margaret Clark; Mick Coleman; Mike Dodkin; Milli Boyd; Minnie Briar; Mrs Wighton; Nanna Fay; Neil Ingram; Noel Browning; Noel Ingram; Olga Yuke; Pagey Picton; Pat Dixon; Paul Davies; Peter Keane; Phillip Long; Ray Bowden; Ray Donnelly; Ray Vincent; Rita Wilson; Robin Campbell 'Quart pot'; Ron Carroll; Ross McKinney; Roy Harris; Roy Thorne; Rupert Williams; Suoten (?) Sanders; Ted Fields; Ted McBride; Terry Donovan; Tilly Coe; Tosey Turray (?); Trevor Donnelly; Walter Duncan; Wayne Webster; Willy Failes; Wymie Vinson;

5375/1/6: Alan; Alan Lamb; Andrew Warerworth (?); Andy Leila; Annie Livermore(?) p.31; Baram; Bert; Biddie Duncan; Bill Cameron; Bill McGrath; Billie King; Billy Duncan; Bob Hippai; Bob Lane; Bob Walford; Brenda White; Buddy Marshall; Cedric; Charlie Hippai; Charlie McMaster; Charlotte Hall Warren; Chris; Clariss Connors; Claude Livermore; Colin Whiteman; Danny Grey; David Huggonson; David Morrison / Morrisay / Morresey; Debbie Sutter; Diana Pientice(?); Dick Buchanan / Buchhom / Buchorn; Dick Buchhom / Buchhorn; Dick Kelly; Doc Coffey; Dudley Keatch; Easter Bartman; Elkin; Ernie Allen; Essie; Euston' Euston / Yarnngden / Guboo / Bunrham Burnham; Eva Knight; Florie Munro; Frank Waddy; Frank Woods; Fred Reece; Gary Williams; George Archie; George Caldwell; George D; George Harrison; George Wates; Glen Morris; Grace Shepherd; Greg Davies; Greg Fields; Gundy Binge; Hanna; Hannah Duncan; Harry Mumbulla; Henry; Herbert Charles; Hughie Williams; Ian Robertson; Ian Sim; Isabel Flick; Jack Campbell; Jack O'Lantern; Jack Sands; Jack Smith; Jane Mumbulla; Janice Layton; Jenny; Jerrie Willliama; Jessie Williams; Jim Fields; John Bruce; John Sommerland; Joyce Buchanan; Joyce Clagne; Judy Randall; Judy Williams; Kevin Mundy; Len De Silva; Les McGrady; Lilian; Linda; Lorraine Mafi Williams; Luke; Lyall Mums; Maisey Wilson; Mark Cavanagh; Maryanne Sullivan; Mick Carrigan; Milli Boyd; Mrs Rita Bryant; Mrs Stewart; Nellie Munis (?); Neville Buchanan; Norm Slape (?); Pat Laurie; Paul Cavanagh; Paul Davies; Paul Marr; Phylis Macintosh; Piebald Lambert; Rachel; Ray Hannah; Ray Kelly; Rebbecca Williams; Reg Everron / Everson /

Euston; Reg Everson; Rick Williams; Robeert Da Silva; Ron Connors; Ruth Holmes; Ruth MacDonald; Sabu Dunn; Sam Suter; Sammy Kelly; Stan Leila; Ted Fields; Ted Thomas; Ted Thorn; Thane Williams; Tommy; Walter Duncan; Wayne Cook; Wesselly; William Goldy Golding / Goldy; Willie Willis.

5375/1/7: Alf Boney; Alf Scott; Amos Donovan; Amy Flick; Aubrey Flick; Aubrey(?) Briggs; Bill Cohen; Brenda Flick; Briggs; Bruce Munroe; Charlie; Clara Smutter; Clariss; Core Gooseberry; Dann Dennison; Danny Roberts; Dennis Gomes; Dick Buchhorn; Dick Roberts; Doug Cook; Doug Williams; Eddie Briggs; Emma Daniels; Eric Craigie; Ernie Morris; Florrie Munro; Frank Moran; Frank Roberts; Gary Murphy; Glen Cook; Grace Munro; Grace Shepherd; Harry Clarke; Harry Penrith; Henry Bolt; Isabel (Turnbull) Long; Isabel Flick; Isabel Moran; Jack Cohen; Jean Millar; Jenny Fraser; Joe Flick; John Heath; Karen Flick; Kevin Cook; King Barlow; Len De Silva; Lenny; Les McGrady; Lorraine Williams; Lyall Munro; Lyall Roberts; Lyall Roberts Snr; Madge Buchanan; Margery; Marjorie; Mary Brown; Meredith Wilkie; Milli Boyd; Mr Wigan; Neville; Norah / Noah / Novah Bungaree; Norah Bornie; Pat Cohen; Pat Davis; Peter Evans; Philip Long; Rachel Mosely; Randall; Ray Dorey; Ray Hurst; Ray Kelly; Renee; Rita; Roy Kennedy; Roy Thorne; Ruth Smith; Sara Widders; Ted Thorne; Eric Thorne; Tom; Tom French; Tom Sales 'Two Teeth Hawk'; Val Collis; Val Dahlstrom; Victor; Victor Dennison; Walter Pearce; Wayne Cook.

5375/1/8: Badger; Beatrice Holton; Bill; Billy 'Joel'; Cecie Knocker Ebsworth; Cecil Knocker Ebsworth; Christine Riley; Christine Scott; Dick Kelly; Doc; Eileen Forester; Essie Coffey; Frank Nicholls; Garry Turnbull; George Mackey; Harry; Henry Morris; Jenny Carroll; Judy Sullivan; Lorna Dixon; Lynn Evans; Monigan; Mrs Boney; Neville Buchanan; Noel; Peter Dasgin; Rita Scott; Tom Coffey; Uncle Eddie; Warrick (?) Boney.

5375/1/9: Alan Walker; Bill Kelly; Eleanor Williams; Frank Wellington; Jack Campbell; Jimmy Jackie; John Reynolds; Paddy Callaghan; Percy Mumbulla / Mumbler; Rachel McCleod / McCloud; Stacey Williams; Ted Thomas; Wes Stacey.

Community & Language

Adnyamathanha language L10
Adnyamathanha people L10
Anaiwan people
Bundjalung^ people (E12)
Colomo people
Darkinyung people S65
Dhanggati / Dunghutti^ people E6
Gamilaraay / Gamilaroi / Kamilaroi people D23
Gidhabal people (E14)
Gumbaynggirr language E7
Gumbaynggirr people E7
Jeigir people
Mununjali people E76
Muruwari people D32
NGIYAMPAA / NGEMPA people D22
Ngowomo tribe along Nebine Creek
Paakantyi / Paakantji / Barkindji people D12
Parrintyi people D48
Southern Anaiwan people D24
Wemba Wemba people D1
Wiradjuri people D10
Yaegl people E10

Country

Arakoon (NSW N Coast SH56-11)
Armidale (NSW N Coast SH56-10)
Ballina (NSW N Coast SH56-03)
Bega (NSW Far S Coast SJ55-04)
Bellbrook / Nulla Nulla (NSW N Coast SH56-10)
Birdsville Track (NE SA SG54, SH54)
Boggabilla (N NSW SH56-01)
Boundary Creek (NSW N Coast SH56-03)
Box Ridge (N NSW SH55-16)
Brewarrina (N NSW SH55-06)
Broken Hill (NW NSW SH54-15)
Cabbage Tree Island (NSW N Coast SH56-03)
Canberra (ACT SI55-16)
Carowra (NW NSW SI55-01)
Cobar (N NSW SH55-14)
Coffs Harbour (NSW N Coast SH56-11)
Collarenebri (N NSW SH55-08)
Cooma (Monaro, S NSW SJ55-04)
Coongie (NE SA SG54-14)
Cowra (SW NSW SI55-08)
Cummeragunja (SW NSW SI55-13)
Cunnamulla (SW Qld SH55-02)
Dareton (SW NSW SI54-11)
Deniliquin (SW NSW SI55-13)
Dulkaninna (NE SA SH54-05)
Dungowan (N NSW SH56-13)
Enngonia (N NSW SH55-06)
Euraba (N NSW SH55-04)
Evans Head (NSW N Coast SH56-07)

Fingal (NSW N Coast SH56-03)
Goodooga (N NSW SH55-07)
Grafton (NSW N Coast SH56-06)
Ingleba (N NSW SH56-13)
Innamincka (NE SA SG54-14)
Kati Thanda / Lake Eyre (NE SA SH53-04)
Kempsey (NSW N Coast SH56-14)
Kinchega (NW NSW SI54-03)
Kunderang (NSW N Coast SH56-10)
Kyogle (NSW N Coast SH56-03)
Lake Cargelligo (SW NSW SI55-06)
Lennox Head (NSW N Coast SH56-03)
Lightning Ridge (N NSW SH55-07)
Lismore (NSW N Coast SH56-03)
Marree (NE SA SH54-05)
Meanjin / Brisbane (SE Qld SG56-15)
Menindee (NW NSW SI54-03)
Moonacullah (SW NSW SI55-13)
Moree (N NSW SH55-08)
Mumbulla (NSW Far S Coast SJ55-04)
Murdi Paaki / Bourke (N NSW SH55-10)
Murramarang / Depot Beach / Durras (NSW S Coast SI56-13)
Murrin Bridge (SW NSW SI55-06)
Myall Creek (N NSW SH56-05)
Myall Lakes (NSW N Coast SI56-02)
Nambucca (NSW N Coast SH56-10, SH56-11)
Narrandera (SW NSW SI55-10)
Naryilco (SW Qld SH54-03)
Nimbin (NSW N Coast SH56-03)
Nowra (NSW S Coast SI56-09)

Nymboida (NSW N Coast SH56-06)
Oodnadatta (SA Central Australia SG53-15)
Parrots Nest (NSW N Coast SH56-03)
Perth (SW WA SH50-14)
Poolowanna map area (SA Central Australia SG53-12)
Port Augusta (West SA SI53-04)
Purfleet (Taree, NSW N Coast SH56-14)
Scotts Head (NSW N Coast SH56-10)
Simpson Desert (SE Central NT, NE SA SF53, SG53)
Singleton (NSW N Coast SI56-01)
Stuart Island (NSW N Coast SH56-10, SH56-11)
Tabulam (NSW N Coast SH56-02)
Tamworth (N NSW SH56-13)
Taree (NSW N Coast SH56-14)
Terania Creek (NSW N Coast SH56-03)
Terry Hie Hie (N NSW SH56-05)
Thirroul (NSW S Coast SI56-09)
Tibooburra (NW NSW SH54-07)
Tibooburra (NW NSW SH54-07)
Tingha / Nucoorilma / Long Gully (N NSW SH56-05)
Toomelah (N NSW SH56-01)
Tweed Heads (NSW N Coast SH56-03)
Urunga (NSW N Coast SH56-11)
Walcha (NSW N Coast SH56-10)
Walgett (N NSW SH55-11)
Wallaga Lake (NSW Far S Coast SJ55-04)
Warren (N NSW SH55-15)
Warren (N NSW SH55-15)
Weilmoringle (N NSW SH55-06)
Wilcannia (NW NSW SH54-16)

Wollongong map area / Illawarra (NSW S Coast SI56-09)

Woodenbong (NSW N Coast SH56-02)

Yamba (NSW N Coast SH56-07)

Yancannia (NW NSW SH54-12)

Yandama (NW NSW SH54-07)

Yarrowyck (N NSW SH56-09)

Yellow Rock (S Sydney NSW SI56-05)

Collection Overview

Scope and Contents note

In 1973 the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies obtained Federal funding to conduct a national survey of Aboriginal cultural heritage. The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service successfully applied to access this Federal funding to initially employ two staff comprising Creamer and Dunghutti man Ray Kelly for the newly created Sites of Significance Survey team. Over the next 14 years the team grew and travelled around NSW recording sacred sites. This evolved to not only record sacred sites but rather many sites of cultural significance. This collection comprises the field notes made by Creamer on anthropological field trips during this time around NSW. Creamer used the notebooks to keep track of the many meetings he had with elders and other community members, where he went and what he saw. The notebooks also include occasional references to cultural sites Creamer photographed and audio interviews he recorded during the creation of the survey. The Survey contributed to a cultural revival amongst Aboriginal people in New South Wales and shaped substantial policy and structural changes to the management of Aboriginal cultural heritage by the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service. These notebooks record significant Aboriginal cultural sites and stories across New South Wales and therefore hold references to sacred sites, ceremonies, massacre sites and occasional genealogical information.

Provenance

This material was donated to the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies by Howard Creamer in 2024. This collection adds greatly to the material deposited by the National Parks and Wildlife Service, and the over thirty related photographic and audio collections deposited by Creamer represent the entire creamer archive from 1973 – 1987.

Material separated from the collection

No material has been separated from this collection.

Related material

Summary report by Howard (Harry) Creamer related to a portion of these notebooks is held in AIATSIS Manuscripts collection at MS 2480, "A gift and a Dreaming: the New South Wales survey of Aboriginal sacred and significant sites, 1973-1983".

"Survey of sites of significance to the Aboriginal people of New South Wales report number two to the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies - January, 1974" held in AIATSIS Manuscripts collection at pMS 6715.

"Survey of sites of significance to the Aboriginal people of New South Wales : report on North Coast field trip - 24th December, 1973 to 4th January 1974" held in AIATSIS Manuscripts collection at pMS 6707.

"Survey of sites of significance to the Aboriginal People of New South Wales : report to the Aboriginal Relics Advisory Committee Number Two; 14th July to 17th September, 1973" held in AIATSIS Manuscripts collection at pMS 6713.

Reflective book on the Sites of Significance Survey, "Revival, renewal & return : Ray Kelly & the NSW Sites of Significance Survey" held in AIATSIS Library at B K479.11/R1.

Audio recordings referred to in these notebooks are held in the AIATSIS Audio Visual collection at CREAMER_H01 and CREAMER_H02.

Photographs related to and referred to in these notebooks are held in the AIATSIS Photographic collection at:

CREAMER.H01.BW	CREAMER.H01.DF	CREAMER.H11.CS
CREAMER.H02.BW		CREAMER.H12.CS
CREAMER.H03.BW	CREAMER.H01.CS	CREAMER.H13.CS
CREAMER.H04.BW	CREAMER.H02.CS	CREAMER.H14.CS
CREAMER.H05.BW	CREAMER.H03.CS	CREAMER.H15.CS
CREAMER.H06.BW	CREAMER.H04.CS	CREAMER.H16.CS
CREAMER.H07.BW	CREAMER.H05.CS	CREAMER.H17.CS
CREAMER.H08.BW	CREAMER.H06.CS	CREAMER.H18.CS
CREAMER.H09.BW	CREAMER.H07.CS	
CREAMER.H10.BW	CREAMER.H08.CS	
CREAMER.H11.BW	CREAMER.H09.CS	
CREAMER.H12.BW	CREAMER.H10.CS	

A film that features Howard Creamer in relation to the work of these notebooks can be found in the AIATSIS Moving Image collection at WHITAKER_R001 and 930.109944 WHI DVD.

For a complete list of works by Howard Creamer and related to the NSW NPWS Aboriginal Sites of Significance Survey that is held by the library, and for other related material consult [Mura®](#), the AIATSIS catalogue.

Access to the Collection

Access conditions for this collection

Listening/viewing requires permission.

MS 5375/1/1	Includes men only material and culturally sensitive material (ceremonial information and burial locations).
MS 5375/1/2	Includes men only material and culturally sensitive material (burial locations and other possible sacred sites).
MS 5375/1/3	Includes men only material, women only material and culturally sensitive material (ceremonial information and burial locations).
MS 5375/1/4	Includes men only material, women only material and culturally sensitive material (genealogical information, burial locations and ceremonial information).
MS 5375/1/5	Includes men only material and culturally sensitive material (burial locations).
MS 5375/1/6	Includes men only material, women only material and culturally sensitive material (sexual practice information, genealogical information, ceremonial information and burial locations).
MS 5375/1/7	Includes men only material and women only material.
MS 5375/1/8	Includes men only material and culturally sensitive material (Genealogical information and burial location).
MS 5375/1/9	Includes men only material.

Obtaining access, copying and quotation permission

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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], Series [number], Folder or item [number].

Example: Notebook 1, Field Notes of Howard Creamer, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, MS 3575, Series 1, Item 1.

Administrative / Biographical history note

After graduating from Cambridge University and then assisting in anthropological field work in Malaysia, Howard (Harry) Creamer arrived in Darwin on the 9th of November 1972. In March 1973 at twenty-two years old Creamer was hired by the National Parks and Wildlife Service as a social anthropologist to locate and record sites of significance across NSW. Creamer went on to work for the NPWS until 2012.

References

Audio recording by Creamer used as collection documentation in the internal AIATSIS records.

Archivists note

Items 1, 2, 3, 7 and 8 are their own separated notebook. Items 4, 5, 6 and 9 were originally arranged as loose pages in a binder separated by bulldog clips and larger pieces of paper. Item 9 was originally arranged as the last pages of this binder.

Series Description

Series 1

Folder/Item

- MS 5375/ 1/1 Notebook no. 1 June 1973 – October 1973
- Begins with a trip to Canberra and notes of expenses and contacts. The notes then follow his field work around NSW relating to discussions had on the preservation of sites of significance, male initiation grounds and burial grounds, including description of sites and recommendations of contacts and locations to visit.
- Related to: CREAMER.H02.BW
- MS 5375/ 1/2 Notebook no. 2 November 1973 – October 1974
- Notes on continued travel and work around NSW, various meetings with people, site visits and descriptions. Features discussion with community members about the incorporation of Aboriginal culture into the education of young people. Examples of sites and topics include; the Tigha Stone woman, the Bunyip spirit, clevermen, carved trees, bora grounds, burials, Devils Chimney, bora rings, an expedition to the Flinders Ranges and more.
- Warning: massacre details.
- Related to: CREAMER.H02.BW
- MS 5375/ 1/3 Notebook no. 3 December 1974 – January 1976
- Continued notes on various meeting with people, recommendations of sites to visit and descriptions of sites around NSW. Features drawn maps and locations of sites. Includes for example, stories linking areas of the Simpson desert, notes from an Aboriginal Studies seminar, word translation lists, information on male initiations, burial grounds, and massacre sites.
- Warning: massacre details.
- Related to: CREAMER.H02.BW; CREAMER.H03.BW
- MS 5375/ 1/4 Notebook no. 4 January 1976 – July 1977
- Continued notes on sites and meetings with community members around NSW. Features description of environment, plants and their medicinal uses, women's contraceptive practices and other cultural knowledge. Notes include for example, surveys of cemeteries, scarred

MS 5375 Field Notebooks of Howard (Harry) Creamer 1973 - 1987.

trees, stories of the forming of mountain ranges, word translations and information relating to male initiations.

Warning: massacre details

MS 5375/ 1/5 Notebook no. 5 October 1977 – January 1981

Continued notes on sites and meetings with community members around NSW. Features locations and descriptions of middens in the north coast of NSW. Includes for example, notes on various bora ground locations, burials, a birthing location, and information from Harry Buchanan, Milli Boyd, Charles Herbert and others.

Warning: Massacre details

MS 5375/1/ 6 Notebook no. 6 January 1981 – August 1982

Continued notes on sites and meetings with community members around NSW. Features community member's life histories, information of middens and carved trees and histories relevant to various sites. Includes for example notes on Aboriginal culture and initiations experienced during the depression, sexual practices, discussion of racism, and Creamer's analysis of contemporary engagement with cultural practices. References to audio tapes.

MS 5375/ 1/7 Notebook no. 7 August 1982 – August 1985

Continued notes on sites and meetings with community members around NSW. Features notes for example on a Cabbage Tree town meeting and discussion with people on current political issues and planned development effecting locals. Notes include information relating to spirits, histories of Clevermen, cultural practice involving menstrual blood, sacred sites, and significance of areas such as Norah Head and others around the central coast and inland NSW. Further investigation and reflections of the idea of culture 'loss'.

MS 5375/ 1/8 Notebook no. 8 November 1985 – June 1986.

Final notebook features meetings with long held contacts of Creamer and notes of general community culture in places such as Bellbrook, Nambucca, Deniliquin and others. Includes information such as family lineage and descriptions of significant cultural sites around NSW.

MS 5375/ 1/9 Additional loose pages 1974 – 1984

Additional pages with notes, names, and information relating to site visits and work in: February 1974; April 1975; July 1978; May 1982.

Box List

Series	Folder / Item	Box
1	1-9	1

Finding aid compiled by Hannah Shteinman, July 2025.

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