

**MORPHY**

**MS 3493**

**MORPHY, Howard**

**FINDING AID**

**Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Library**

**MORPHY, Howard. Field notebooks. Yirrkala and Milingimbi, NT, 1973-1976.**

**MS 3493**

22 parts, diags. illus. map. tbls.  
Holograph (photocopy).

See also: Morphy, Frances. Field notebooks. Yirrkala, NT 1974-76. MS 3176.

Howard Morphy received an AIAS grant to complete fieldwork at Yirrkala 1973 to 1976 on social change as reflected in the bark paintings of Northeast Arnhem Land. The fieldwork was carried out jointly with Frances Morphy and resulted in his 1977 Ph.D thesis '*Too many meanings*': *an analysis of the artistic system of the Yolgnu of north-east Arnhem Land*. (MS 1329). He returned to Yirrkala in 1982 and 1988 and wrote *Ancestral connections: art and an Aboriginal system of knowledge* (University of Chicago Press, 1991).

**Diaries and notebooks. Dated.**

Item no:

1. Triumph reporters notebook. Diary. Yirrkala and Milingimbi, [20?] Aug 1973-9 Sept. 1973. 37 p.  
Impressions of missions and mission staff. Meets Narritjin.
2. Triumph reporters notebook. Yirrkala, July 1974. 61p.  
Notes on painting techniques, designs, clans.
3. Notes and diary. 'Narritjin' 29 July-16 Sept. 1974. 118 p.  
Includes notes taken in conversation with Narritjin.
4. Triumph reporters notebook. 1-25 Nov 1974. 36 p.  
Conversations with Narritjin and Donald Murruwanuma. Vocabulary and notes on designs.
5. Diary. Maningrida I. 19-23 Oct. 1974. [47] p.  
Notes on outstations and artists. Details of accounts of Maningrida Co-op Ltd 1968-1974. Vocabulary and artists.
6. Field notes III. 19 Sept.-23 Nov. 1974. 172 p.  
Genealogical information, kinship terminology. Notes on paintings and carvings and designs. Clan information. List of 58 'paper paintings despatched' with artists name, clan and description.
7. Book V. 14 Nov-19 Dec 1974. 78 p.  
Notes and diary. Vocabulary, notes on paintings, transcript of tape.

8. Field notes. Triumph reporters notebook. 3-26 Jan. 1975. 68 p.  
Notes taken whilst observing painting, painting techniques, vocabulary and biographical information.
9. Book VI 29 Jan-15 Feb. 1975. 141 p.  
Notes taken in conversations with artists. Includes information on contact with Macassans and traditional training of artists.
10. Notes. Olympic Shorthand notebook no. 2016. 9-13 July 1976. [24] p.
11. Notebook 2. Reding shorthand notebook. 19-20 July 1976. [3] p.
12. Triumph reporters notebook. 2 December 1974. 80 p.  
Notes on paintings and notes taken in conversation with artists.
13. Reding shorthand notebook. 17 Sept. 1976. [19] p.  
Notes taken from conversation with Narritjin and 'Conversations with Djilirrma' by Frances Morphy.

**Notebooks. Undated and unnumbered.**

14. Triumph reporters notebook. [15] p.  
Notes on paintings.
15. Triumph reporters notebook. [13] p. pp 49-61.  
Notes on paintings.
16. Triumph reporters notebook. [13] p. pp.38-50.  
Notes on paintings.
17. Triumph reporters notebook. [9] p.  
Notes on paintings.
18. Reding shorthand notebook. [15] p.  
Notes on 'Snake painting' and other paintings.
19. Reding shorthand notebook. [49] p.  
Notes on tape recorded songs and notes on paintings.
20. Reding shorthand notebook. 'Manggalad, Mandang ' [2] p.
21. Booklet 'Trial Bay' V-JY [24] p.  
Notes on death of a woman at Trial Bay and following ceremony.
22. Collins 3880 series journal. 20 p. 'Narritjin Maymuru documentation'.