



# AIATSIS

Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies

## Audiovisual Finding Aid

### NASH\_BROWNE\_01

## Language Elicitation of Warlmanpa, Warumungu and Mudburra languages

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## Collection Summary

<b>Collection no:</b>	NASH_BROWNE_01 (AVBD00001)
<b>Title:</b>	Language Elicitation of Warlmanpa, Warumungu and Mudburra languages.
<b>Creator:</b>	Nash, David, 1951
<b>Date range:</b>	1997; 2007; 2016-2020
<b>Extent:</b>	<p><b>Series 1</b> (AIAS783): 2342 files consisting of mostly audio material, but also includes video, and still images. This is accompanied by files used with the annotation software ELAN, and some supporting documentation for the broader collection in digital form.</p> <p><b>Series 2</b> (AIAS791): 28 files consisting of video and audio content organised into one session with Indigenous interviewee.</p> <p><b>Series 3</b> (AIAS792): 13 files including video, audio, and related annotation content that form one recording session with three indigenous interviewees.</p>
<b>Repository:</b>	Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies
<b>Registration ID:</b>	AIAS783; AIAS791; AIAS792

## **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 materials were created, 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 or the names of 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 yet been identified. If you can provide further information to AIATSIS regarding this please contact us at [collectionenquiry@aiatsis.gov.au](mailto:collectionenquiry@aiatsis.gov.au) or telephone +61 2 6246 1182

#### Knowledge holders:

Relevant people are listed within Series 1, Warlmanpa, Sub-Series 2, People, 2016.

## **Community & Language**

Warlmanpa people C17

Warlmanpa language C17

Warumungu people C18

Warumungu language C18

Mudburra people C25

Mudburra language C25

## **Country**

Tennant Creek map area (Central NT SE53-14)

Moruya / Bergalia (NSW S Coast SI56-13)

## **Collection Overview**

### **Scope and contents note**

This digital collection is an exploration into the languages of the Warlmanpa, Warumungu, and Mudburra people through language elicitation. This was recorded mostly at Tennant Creek in the Northern Territory.

### **Provenance**

This body of this work is sourced from traditional knowledge holders of the Warlmanpa, Warumungu, and Mudburra peoples. The content was recorded and arranged predominantly by David Nash and Mitchell Browne. Mitchell and David Osgarby are the researchers for Mudburra recordings, while Jane Simpson and Bonnie Mclean recorded the Warumungu material.

### **Material separated from the collection**

There is no separated material.

### **Related material**

Series three includes audio recordings also deposited and listed as collection NASH\_D19. These were recorded simultaneously with other video footage and have been retained here with the original content to represent the complete collection.

For a complete list of works by David Nash held by the archive, and for other related material consult [Mura®](#), the AIATSIS catalogue.

## Access to the Collection

### Access conditions for this collection

Conditions apply

*anybody may request access to this collection, but the collector's permission is required prior to the provision of copies.*

### Obtaining access, copying and quotation permission

Clients are advised that the collection materials listed in this finding aid may be subject to particular access and use conditions required by Indigenous communities and/or depositors. Materials are provided for private study and use, in accordance with the Copyright Act 1968, Section 51. Copying of, and quoting from, unpublished material may be subject to the conditions determined by Indigenous communities and/or depositors of the manuscripts.

Permission may need to be sought prior to access being granted. In cases where these permissions are required, they must be obtained in writing and must be signed. Please contact [collectionenquiry@aiatsis.gov.au](mailto:collectionenquiry@aiatsis.gov.au) or telephone +61 2 6246 1182.

### Preferred citation

Items from this collection should be cited as: Creator, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, collection number-item number.

Example:

Nash, David, Brown, Mitchell, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, NASH\_BROWNE\_01-AVBD00001.

### Biographical history note

The Warlmanpa are an Indigenous Australian group primarily residing in the Northern Territory. Their language, Warlmanpa, belongs to the Pama–Nyungan family and is similar to the Warlpiri language spoken by the Warlpiri people. Warlmanpa country once extended over approximately 55,000 km<sup>2</sup>, from Mount Grayling (Renner Springs) in the north to the headwaters of the Gosse River. Their lands bordered the Jingili to the northeast, the Warumungu to the east and southeast, the Warlpiri to the south, and the Gurindji to the west.

The Warumungu are a group mainly concentrated in the Tennant Creek and Alice Springs regions of the Northern Territory. Their language, Warumungu, is a suffixing

language with a unique verb formation process. It is undergoing rapid change, with younger speakers using different morphology than older ones. Warumungu lands once spanned around 55,000 km<sup>2</sup>, from Mount Grayling in the north to the Gosse River headwaters. Their history includes challenges due to European settlement, dispossession, and forced removal from their native land. Tennant Creek remains a significant urban centre for the Warumungu community.

The Mudburra people reside primarily in the Northern Territory. Their rich cultural heritage has contributed to various fields, including sports, arts, and politics. Mudburra belongs to the Pama-Nyungan Ngumbin languages and is one of the far eastern forms of this linguistic group. The Mudburra people inhabit the thick scrub area near and west of the Murrniji Track known as the Ghost Road of the Drivers. They held an estimated 26,000 km<sup>2</sup> of land, centred around the junction of the Armstrong River and the upper Victoria River at a place called Tjambutjambulani. Their northern reach extended as far as Top Springs, while their southern frontier lay at Cattle Creek. From east to west, their land spanned from near Newcastle Waters to the Camfield River. The Mudburra, Warlmanpa, and Warumungu people have a rich cultural legacy, and their contributions continue to shape the vibrant tapestry of Indigenous Australian heritage.

The head researcher of this content David George Nash was born in 1951 and is a distinguished Australian field linguist who focuses on the Aboriginal languages of Australia. He grew up in Parkes, New South Wales, and earned a BA in pure mathematics from the Australian National University and an MA in Linguistics. He then pursued his PhD in linguistics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology under the supervision of Ken Hale, graduating in 1980. He worked on the Lexicon Project at MIT before going back to Australia. In 2005, he held the Ken Hale Professorship at the Linguistic Society of America Summer Institute. Nash has worked extensively on Warlpiri and other languages spoken in the Northern Territory of Australia, as well as on the oral history of the Aboriginal communities in that region. He has applied his scholarly work to provide expert evidence for land claims. He is also renowned for his familiarity with the history of research on Australian Aboriginal languages.

## References

Nash, David 'citations. Google Scholar, viewed 1 February 2024

<https://scholar.google.co.th/citations?hl=en&user=O80BNtMAAAAJ>

Nash, David 'Researchers. Australian National University', viewed 1 February 2024

<https://researchers.anu.edu.au/researchers/nash-dg>

Nash, David 'David Nash Linguist. LinkedIn', viewed 1 February 2024

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/david-nash-62604410/?originalSubdomain=au>

Bijaksana, Nuh, 'Noteworthy Names: The Top 10 Mudburra People You Should Know', Kemdikbud, viewed 10 March 2024

Noteworthy Names: The Top 10 Mudburra People You Should Know – Kemdikbud International

AIATSIS, 'Mudurra to English Dictionary', viewed on 10 March 2024

Mudburra to English Dictionary | AIATSIS

AIATSIS, 'Austlang, 'C17: Warlmanpa', viewed on 10 March 2024

C17: Warlmanpa | AIATSIS Collection

AIATSIS, 'Six objects of Warumungu origin to return from NZ museum later this year', viewed on 10 March 2024

Six cultural objects of Warumungu origin to return from NZ museum later this year | AIATSIS

## **Archivists note**

This collection is made up of the three deposits, each represented as its own series. It was processed by the leading author David Nash via the software Saymore and Lameta, of which Lameta is the newer version. The software was founded by archivists with future ingestion of born digital collections in mind, by enabling the collector to structure mixed media digital collections. This allows for the creation of reliable metadata and standardisation of file types for the collecting institution. Viewers of this collection may wish to utilise Lameta on their personal devices to view files in context, or the files can be viewed without Lameta.

## **Administrative note**

Note, not all files are presented in David Nash's two file directories attached as itemised spreadsheet. The two smaller deposits AIAS791 (series 2) has a partial file directory, and AIAS792 (series 3) has none. However, all the files are easily identified. The bulk of the collection's files are fully presented within the spreadsheet.

File naming convention:

wrl-<date>-<session number>\_<source>-<topic>

example: wrl-20160913-03\_ZoomQ3-PostStoryDiscussion

## Series Description

### Series 1, Warlmanpa

(Registration ID: AIAS AIAS783) AIAS791

#### Subseries 1, Sessions, 2016-2020

This subseries consists of 112 recording sessions that contain a variety of audio-visual and annotation files. These sessions are organised by date and session number (either a single item session, or a range). *See file naming convention.* <<<add hyperlink can only do this in full Word version.

This subseries is primarily Warlmanpa language, covering dates from August-September 2016, March-April 2017, August-September 2017, May-June 2018, January-February 2019 and February 2020. These were recorded at Tennant Creek in the Northern Territory.

In addition to these the September 2016 and April 2017 recordings were studying Warumungu and Warlmanpa languages.

The June 2018 content is primarily of Mudburra language.

The recordings during December 2019 were made in Moruya New South Wales.

#### Sub-Series 2, Warlmanpa Description Documents, 2016

The Warlmanpa Description Documents consists of 17 assorted files pertaining to the 2016 meeting with members from Warlmanpa and Warumungu communities. The scope includes audio-visual equipment lists; file naming conventions, photos, and participants lists.

### Sub-Series 3, People, 2016

This section of sixty-nine files presents the individuals involved in the recordings of their Indigenous language and knowledge. They offer a short data profile for each participant.

#### Person

Rosemary Plummer  
Annie Morrison  
Toby Brodie  
Sandra Morrison  
Ronald Morrison  
Sheryl Waistcoat  
Nikkie Morrison  
Gladys Brown  
Bronwyn Foster  
Penny Williams  
William Ahkit  
Colin Freddy  
Randall Morrison  
Brian Crafter  
Dick Foster  
Penny Kelly  
Susannah Nelson  
Josephine Grant  
Jill Foster  
Linda Turner  
Maureen Cutter  
Penny Phillips  
Bessie Graham  
Doris Kelly  
Julie Kelly  
Melanie Kelly  
Michael Jones  
Ruby Frank  
Christine Morton  
William Graham  
Diane Stokes  
Jean Sambo  
Karan Hayward

#### Skin name

Narrurlu  
Nangali  
Japaljarri  
Nangali  
Jungarrayi  
Napanangka  
Nangali  
Nungarrayi  
Napanangka  
Nungarrayi  
Jakamarra  
Japaljarri  
Japaljarri  
Jangali  
Jangala  
Napaljarri  
Nakamarra  
Napangarti  
Nungarrayi  
Napanangka  
Napangarti  
Napangarti  
Nakamarra  
Nakamarra  
Nakamarra  
Nakamarra  
Jampin  
Narrurlu  
Napanangka  
Jakamarra  
Nampin  
Nungarrayi

David Nash  
Jane Simpson  
Samantha Disbray  
Mitch Browne  
Bonnie McLean  
Glen Wightman

(Jungarrayi)  
(Nangali)  
(Napangarti)  
(Japaljarri)  
(Napaljarri)  
(Jangala)

## **Series 2, Warlmanpa language with Susanna Nelson Nakamarra, 2007**

(Registration ID: AIAS791)

In this series Susanna Nelson Nakamarra describes the iconography of several Indigenous artworks from her childhood to David Nash. These depict the resurrection of Jesus Christ and are explained in Warlmanpa language. Nakamarra also reflects on other stories from her personal history. The files are held within two different folders consisting of audio, video, photographs, one annotation and metadata files.

## **Series 3, Traditional Stories for Children in Language, 1997**

(Registration ID: AIAS792)

Video recording of traditional stories intended for children in the languages Warlmanpa and Warumungu. The video was recorded in Tennant Creek with Bunny Nabarula and Annie Phillips Napurrula as participants. The series consists of 13 files including video, audio, annotation, and metadata items.