



AIATSIS

Australian Institute of Aboriginal
and Torres Strait Islander Studies

Finding aid

AIATSIS_18

**Sound recordings collected by
The Australian Institute of Aboriginal and
Torres Strait Islander Studies, 1998**

Prepared May, 2018 by SS
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ACCESS

To arrange an appointment to listen to the recordings, to order copies or to discuss any queries regarding this collection, contact Access and Client Services by sending an email to collectionenquiry@aiatsis.gov.au or phone (02) 6261 4212.

Availability of copies

Listening copies are available.

Restrictions on listening

This collection is open for listening.

Restrictions on use

Copies of this collection may be made for private research. Permission must be sought from AIATSIS for any publication or quotation of this material. Any publication or quotation must be consistent with the Copyright Act (1968).

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Date: 1998

Extent: 2 audiocassettes (digital audio tape) (approximately 120 min. each, mono)

Production history

These are Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) recordings of the Acton Peninsula Smoking Ceremony held on 31 July 1998 in Canberra, ACT. The purpose was to commemorate the opening of the new AIATSIS, National Museum of Australia (NMA) and ACT Aboriginal Cultural Centre buildings. They include recordings of rehearsals held on 30 July 1998. These recordings include smoking ceremonies, dance, singing, musical accompaniment for dances, interviews, speeches and opening ceremonies. Speakers include Russell Taylor (AIATSIS Principal 1997-2003), Dr Bill Jonas (former AIATSIS Principal 1991-1996 and the then Director of the NMA), Charles Perkins, Yuin law men, Colin Bourke (former AIATSIS principal), Olive Murphy, Ida West, Matilda House (Ngunnawal Elder), Michael Williams (then member AIATSIS council), Gordon Pablo, Dr Kingsley Palmer (then Deputy Principal of AIATSIS), Prof. Marcia Langton (then member AIATSIS council), Amanda Myers (project co-ordinator), Warwick Dix (former AIATSIS Principal 1985-1991), Paul House, Shane and Merv Penrith. Languages groups featured include Yolngu, Torres Strait and Arnhem Land.

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RELATED MATERIAL

AIATSIS Collections holds photographic, moving image, audio and print material directly related to this audio collection.

- Print: *AIATSIS Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Acton Peninsula Smoking Ceremony : 31 July 1998, Canberra.* (M 992 PC9 AIATSIS FOLDER 2).
- Moving Image: *Acton Peninsula Smoking Ceremony 31 July 1998, Canberra*
- Print: *Building the National Museum of Australia* (B N277.636/B2)
- Audio: *Acton Peninsula Smoking Ceremony 31 July 1998* (AIATSIS_19)

For a complete listing of related material held by AIATSIS, consult our [online catalogue](#), Mura®. To conduct a search of available audio finding aids, please [click here](#).

ARCHIVIST'S NOTE

This finding aid was compiled from information provided by AIATSIS and audition sheets prepared by AIATSIS staff. Timing points may be slightly out depending on the technologies and procedures in place at the time the recordings were auditioned.

ITEM LIST

Archive number	Field recording number/name	Description
022600	1	<p>(30 July) Preparation for Smoking Ceremony for new buildings - AIATSIS, National Museum of Australia, ACT Aboriginal Cultural Centre.</p> <p>Interview with Warwick Dix (former AIATSIS principle)</p> <p>Explanation of site layout.</p> <p>Interview with Amanda Myers the assistant co-ordinator of smoking ceremony.</p> <p>Description of what will happen on the 31 July.</p> <p>(31 July) Rehearsal for ceremony</p> <p>Includes beginning of Ceremony, welcome by Russell Taylor, Welcome to Country, and explanation of the ceremony by Matilda House.</p>
0022601	2	<p>Smoking Ceremony for AIATSIS new building on Acton Peninsula.</p> <p>Performance by Torres Strait performers.</p> <p>Singing and dancing.</p> <p>Closing remarks made by Russell Taylor</p> <p>Interview with Dr Bill Jonas.</p>