

MS 3802. Papers of Wolfgang Laade

Box list

Overview: Oral traditions and written documents on the history and ethnography of the Torres Strait Islands. All papers are photocopies of varying quality. The papers were sent to AIATSIS, copies made and the originals sent back to Laade, in 1979. Papers include language, stories, genealogies, maps, drawings, and photographs.

Information is taken from the boxes and the papers inside them. Also from notes made by Grace Koch and Anna Shnukal in 1984.

From Grace Koch's general notes.

About 18 bundles – each 3-8" thick – of mostly typewritten material. These consist of traditional myths and legends, historical accounts – both oral history from Islanders and photocopies of journal articles, official reports, mission chronicles and the like; field notes, maps, drawings, genealogies, official records on births, deaths, epidemics, etc, correspondence.

One set of myths and legends (Western Islands) is about half duplicated in Margaret Lawrie's book –'Myths and legends of Torres Strait', but the majority of oral histories and stories are not duplicated. [Myths and legends of Torres Strait / collected and translated by Margaret Lawrie. AIATSIS library RB L424.39/M1]

Laade did publish a volume, 'Oral traditions and written documents on the history and ethnography of the northern Torres Strait Islands, Saibai- Dauan-Boigu', (Steiner Verlag – Wiesbaden 1971). In this, he includes 7 song notations, maps, tables and some drawings.

[Oral traditions and written documents on the history and ethnography of the northern Torres Strait Islands, Saibai- Dauan-Boigu. Vol.1 : Adi-myths, legends, fairy tales / Wolfgang Laade. AIATSIS library B L111.18/O1]

From Anna Shnukal's general notes

...There is some invaluable source material here and some compilations, e.g. of lists of teachers in the early years of the Strait, which would take a great deal of time to reproduce.

(Regarding editing and publishing) ...You would need to choose as editor someone with a familiarity with the history of Torres Strait and with the area, perhaps an anthropologist to assess the ethnographic material and check it carefully with what appears in Haddon. You'd need someone with linguistic training, because there are many small errors and all of the language material would have to be thoroughly checked.

I'd also suggest a man, because there is a lot of sensitive material about ceremonies, secret societies, secret languages, etc. and the editor would have to negotiate with males in the Island communities. The editor would also need some knowledge of German since some interesting material is in that language.

Some of the material might appear in Beckett's forthcoming book on Torres Strait.

Box list of current boxes as of Sept 2016

Box number	Description	Notes
Box 1	‘Oral traditions and written documents on the history and ethnography of the Torres Strait Islands: Eastern, Central, Southern and Western Island. (Thursday Island separate)’. Includes: loan request forms; lists of resources from other libraries; ‘Australian Board of Missions, Father Schomburg, his records’ which includes ‘List of stories...’ and an index of stories. Some are printed from books and journals.	Approx 200pp
Box 2	‘Northern Islands (Saibai - Dauan - Boigu) ethnography I’. Includes correspondence; Journal articles; place names for Saibai, Dauan and Boigu; typed field notes; word lists; notes on stars, seasons, gardening, land property, food preparation, habits and hunting of Dugong and other animals/birds. Some papers in German.	Approx 300pp
Box 3	‘Stephens and Darnley Islands’. Includes: Copies from Haddon; 52 historical tales from Darnley Island; LMS (London Missionary Society) teachers list; Anglican teachers and priests; Government school teachers; population lists; maps; reprints from articles re: wrecks (e.g. J. Beete Jukes “Narrative of the surveying voyage of HMS Fly), contact and missions; copies of death certificates, documents of enquiries; drawings. [Extra notes from Grace Koch]	Approx 260pp
Box 4	‘Northern Islands: Saibai - Dauan - Boigu ethnography III’. Includes: language; stories; genealogies; word lists; dreams; omens; ghosts; divinations; secret talk; modern teenager secret language; sign language; smoke signals; counting; habits; personal names; memorials; ceremonies; songs; feasts; dancing; secret society; games; string figures; justice; smoking; initiation; war; Boigu’s tree of skulls; church. [Extra notes from Anna Shnukal]	Approx 250pp

Box number	Description	Notes
Box 5	<p>'Northern Islands: Saibai - Dauan - Boigu. Ethnography II.'</p> <p>Includes notes on women's customs; reprint from 'Ethnomedicine in the Torres Strait'; plant lists; Body parts in language; list of epidemics; list of botanical collections of Dr Simeon 1975; medicines and treatments for illnesses and injuries; prints outs on sorcery; material culture notes; instruments and tunings; notes on Palamai; drawings of scarifications; copies from Haddon; notes on magic; population figures; adoption and marriage; relationship terms; genealogical information; birth and childhood customs; sexual life, marriage, death and burial. [Extra notes from Grace Koch]</p>	Approx 260pp
Box 6	<p>'Photographs, maps, drawings'.</p> <p>Includes some correspondence.</p> <p>[Large map hand coloured and stuck together with sticky tape. Held in MPC 6, drawer 2.]</p>	Approx 190pp
Box 7	<p>'Saibai II. Oral traditions and written documents on the history of the Northern Islands'.</p> <p>Includes: Stories; 'The maiden Usalal from Alt' by Robson Aniba (reference to song on tape 20, 1; and N15, 16); song texts with English translation; stories of fights with New Guinea people; Haddon reprints; other article reprints, <i>The Islander</i>, (edition 5, Thursday Island, 15 Feby 1938); background on Islanders; reprints on mission establishment, contact; copies of part of Beckett's thesis; stories and information about sorcerers; genealogical information: some birth dates Saibai, 1881-1921, dates of death Saibai and Dauan, 1906-1965, includes parents' names and 'husband or wife'. [Extra notes from Grace Koch]</p>	<p>e.g. of poor quality photocopies</p> <p>Approx 490pp</p>

Box number	Description	Notes
Box 8	<p>'Additional materials: New Guinea and Torres Straits generally. Thursday Island supplementary materials (later acquired), maps, drawings and photographs'.</p> <p>Includes: Dates of Cambridge Anthropological Expedition to Torres Strait in 1898; drawings from Mabuiag, Mer; material on dance in the Torres strait; drawings from the Haddon papers; newspaper clippings on the 1976 border dispute; Article by J. Beckett, 'Australia's Melanesian minority: political development in the Torres strait Islands', <i>Human Organisation</i>, vol. 24, no. 2, Summer 1965, pp. 152-158.; Agenda for General Meeting of Federal Council for Aboriginal Advancement 1963; articles from FCAA, Council for Aboriginal rights; dates for important men in Torres Strait; Anglican priests of Saibai; articles and letters from newspapers, extracts from books, pamphlets, memoranda's and reports from the LMS, governments, etc. on miscellaneous topics (police on Thursday Island, Boy Scout movement, arts and crafts, development in Cape York, elections, Councils, marine industry, schools, John Douglas, list of boats owned by Torres strait Islanders 1905-06, shipwrecks in the Torres strait 1791-1894 etc.); list of Samoan LMS teachers 1905-14; Reports to AIAS on Lades' fieldwork between July 1963 - June 1965; maps of Western District of PNG; lists from Haddon of tales, legends, myths, songs, ceremonial dances & cults; list of Murray Island composers; ethnographic material from Haddon; extract from Wichmann 'Nova Guinea' 1923 (German); various early articles and extracts from monographs on the history of Torres strait (some German); glossaries of some New Guinea languages. [Extra notes from Anna Shnukal]</p>	Approx 650pp
Box 9	<p>'Letters'. Correspondence from 14 Sept 1965 to 1 Feb 1967. Includes correspondence with AIATSIS; Jeremy Beckett; A.P. Elkin.</p>	Approx 80pp
Box 10	<p>'Northern Islands. Oral traditions and written documents on the history and ethnography of the Torres Strait Islands. History of the Northern Islands: Saibai, Dauan, Boigu cont.</p> <p>Includes: list of houses and chief families of Saibai; analysis of clan intermarriage on Saibai; genealogies from Saibai; 'Friends and foes in neighbouring New Guinea'; 'The origin of the Mawatta people'; languages of Daudai; some stories on the Tuger (Tugeri?) raids; Includes maps; genealogical information. [Extra notes from Anna Shnukal]</p>	Approx 150pp

Box number	Description	Notes
Box 11	<p>'Lockhart River Mission - diary'.</p> <p>Includes: excerpt from Kylie Tenant, <i>Speak you so gently</i> [held in library at B T295.82/S1]; list of Monty West's informants; maps of Cape York; clippings about Cape York; articles about Cave art, Cape York; Diary in German (Laade); notes from annual report of Chief protector of Aborigines, ca. early 1900's; interviews with Aborigines; descriptions of Island dances; interviews about Bora; comments on song types; excerpt from 'The Anglican', re Lockhart River Mission; Weipa-diary in German; Bamaga - two Aboriginal legends from the tip of Cape York; other stories and oral histories.</p> <p>[Extra notes from Grace Koch]</p>	Approx 150pp
Box 12	<p>'New Guinea: texts of Mawatta songs from Landtman'.</p> <p>Includes: correspondence; material from the Commonwealth Archive Office 1967 (Daru Patrol Reports); oral traditions and stories; printouts from journals and books.</p>	Approx 220pp
Box 13	<p>'Murray Island 1, 2' Includes correspondence (some between Laade and Lui Bon, Thursday Island); church hymns & composers, 'Murray Cemetery; stories; drawings; maps; notes on the LMS and native teachers at Murray Island and Fly river, 1989; Wilson, 'Voyage around the world'; reports, events and stories; genealogies - Cambridge expedition.</p>	Approx 520pp
Box 14	<p>'Saibai 1 oral traditions and written documents on the history of the Northern Islands. I'</p> <p>Includes extracts from early written material including LMS records, journal articles, missionary accounts, letters, monographs, reports, maps of the village on Saibai; population figures for Saibai, Duan and Boigu; List of LMS teachers, Anglican priests, and European teachers in the Islands; main dates for Saibai; oral histories and ethnography. [Extra notes from Anna Shnukal]</p>	Approx 320pp
Box 15	<p>'Oral traditions and written documents on the history and ethnography of the Northern Islands - Boigu'.</p> <p>Includes Boigu births 1812-1938; Deaths and parents' names, husband or wife 1920-1964; Births – Boigu 1911- 1938; report of the school teacher, Mr Miles 1956; oral histories and stories; hand-drawn map - Boigu; reports [Extra notes from Anna Shnukal]</p>	Approx 280pp

Box number	Description	Notes
Box 16	<p>'Central Islands'.</p> <p>Includes newspaper clippings; historical tales and lists of stories from Dalrymple, Yorke, Central, Yam and Coconut Islands; tape list; drawings; map of Yam Island; early source material from Bligh, Jukes, King, LMS journals and their Papuan reports and Murray; Population figures for Dalrymple, Yorke and Yam Islands. Islands mentioned include: Yorke, Yam, Dalrymple, Rennel, Tudu, Nagi or Mt Ernest Island, Warrior, and Coconut. [Extra notes form Shnukal, possibly material on Yankee Ned Mosby]</p>	Approx 375 pp.
Box 17	<p>'Western Islands'.</p> <p>Includes: drawings of early contact, animal and dances; list of 49 stories and historical tales - Mabuia; list of 40 historical tales - Badu; list of 23 historical tales - Moa; lists of London Missionary Society teachers and years, government teachers and years, Anglican teachers and priests, Rain and wind makers; Copies from Haddon on Mabuia; Yearly population data for Mabuia, Moa, Badu; Genealogies and map - Mabuia; details on drums; "The first people of Mabuia" by Jimmy Luffman; 'Fight with Tudu people on Badu'; other tales included in Haddon; correspondence re: genealogies; copies of stories from LMS journals, letters; narrative of the 'Voyage of the HMS Rattlesnake - circa 1852; chronicle of LMS reprints; newspaper clippings. (St Pauls, Moa; Badu, Mabuia) [Extra notes from Grace Koch]</p>	Approx 450 pp.
Box 18	<p>'Miscellaneous notes.'</p> <p>Includes: list of illustrations for possible use in Saibai book, from Haddon, Jukes, Protector's annual reports etc.; list of informants used 1963-64; notes from Jack 'Northmost Australia' Clarke 'The coast of coral', White 'thirty years in tropical Australia'; population estimates and figures 1792-1916, 1931-5, 1949, 1964; list of epidemics; list of LMS missionaries in Torres Strait; 1p Ts W.H. McFarlane, 'Sarup'; 8p. glossary of broken-English words used by Aborigines; newspaper clippings in German; Ts. of R. Schachner 1912, 'Australien und Neuseeland: Land, Leute and Wirtschaft'. [Extra notes from Anna Shnukal]</p>	Approx 166 pp.
Box 19	<p>"The Islanders - English jargon'.</p> <p>Includes 'A glossary of Island Pigeon', 'Glossary of native words', extract from 'annual report on Papua', 1889-90, McGregor's glossary of top Western vocabulary, 'The Islanders English jargon'.</p>	Approx 42 pp.

Box number	Description	Notes
Box 20	<p>'Torres Strait history and ethnography - general. Thursday Island'. Includes "Oral traditions and written documents on the history and ethnography of the Torres Strait Islands: Eastern, Central, Southern and Western Islands. Thursday Island separate"</p> <p>Also in same box. "Additional materials. Torres Strait generally, Thursday Island, supplementary materials (later as printed), maps, photographs". Includes loan requests; listing of sources and locations held; written lists of stories and oral histories - under Island names; Eliza Fraser story; story of trip to Waiker (?); map of Maruiag; 32 historical tales from Prince of Wales, Wednesday and Friday Islands; 8 historical tales from Horn Island; 12 historical tales from Hammond Island; list of legends from Mer, Darnley, Stephens, ?????, Yam, Waraber, Nagi, Mabuiag, Badu, Moa, Mt Adolphus, Prince of Wales, Horn, and Hammond Islands; list of old leading men on Moa, Prince of Wales group; population notes; Island names - list with English; maps; reprints of articles, diaries, journals of historical interest. [Extra notes from Grace Koch]</p>	<p>Type 1 archive box.</p> <p>Approx pages 250pp.</p>
Box 21	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "Saibai I oral traditions and written documents on the history of the Northern Islands. Copy 2" 2. "Saibai II oral traditions and written documents on the history of the Northern Islands. Copy 2" 3. "Oral traditions and written documents on the history and ethnography of the Torres Strait Islands. Northern Islands." 4. "To be added to history of Northern Islands Saibai-Dauan - Boigu. Friends and foes in neighbouring new Guinea." 	<p>[260pp] [450pp]</p> <p>[50pp]</p> <p>[50pp]</p>
Box 22	"Torres Strait". 'Central Islands' [300pp.]; 'Western Islands'	. [470pp]
Box 23	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 'Northern Islands, Saibai - Dauan - Boigu. Ethnography I. Copy. 2. Saibai - Dauan - Boigu. Ethnography II. Copy 2. 3. Northern Islands. Saibai - Dauan - Boigu. Ethnography III. 	<p>[260pp]</p> <p>[250pp] [240pp]</p>

Box number	Description	Notes
Box 24	1. Lockhart River Mission diary. Includes stories, copies from newspaper clippings, books and journals. Some German language material.	[170pp]
	2. Texts of Mawatta songs from Landtman (for future field recordings). Copies from books & journals, maps, correspondence and stories.	[200pp]
	3. 'The Islanders English jargon'; 'A glossary of Island Pigeon'; 'Glossary of native words'.	[30pp]
	4. Letters	[40pp]
	5. 'Miscellaneous notes, also newspaper clippings', book (German), map, list of informants, copies from books, word lists.	[130pp]
	6. 'Photographs, maps, drawings.' Includes correspondence & papers relating to aerial photographs of PNG, star charts, maps, drawings.	[166pp]
Box 25	'Murray Island, Stephens and Darnley Islands, Boigu Island'. Includes maps, correspondence, stories, drawing, copies from books	[510pp]

Compiled by Cathy Zdanowicz Sept 2016. Notes made by Grace Koch (possibly in 1984) and Anna Shnukal, 1984, were also used to compile this box list.