CONTENTS

COLLECTION SUMMARY ....................... p.2
CULTURAL SENSITIVITY STATEMENT ............... p.2
ACCESS TO COLLECTION ....................... p.3
COLLECTION OVERVIEW ....................... p.4
BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE ......................... p.5
SERIES DESCRIPTION ......................... p.6
Series 1 Project and Research papers, 1980-2008 .......... p.6
BOX LIST ......................... p.15
COLLECTION SUMMARY

Creator: Tamsin Donaldson
Title: Wiradjuri Language Projects and Research Papers
Collection no: MS 5096
Date range: 1980-2008
Extent: 5 archives boxes, 1 shelf metre
Repository: Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies

CULTURAL SENSITIVITY STATEMENT

It is a condition of use of this finding aid, and of the collection described in it, that users ensure that any use of the information contained in it is sympathetic to the views and sensitivities of relevant Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

This includes:

Language
Users are warned that this finding aid may contain words and descriptions which may be culturally sensitive and which might not normally be used in certain public or community contexts. Terms and descriptions which reflect the author’s attitude, or that of the period in which the manuscript was written, and which may be considered inappropriate today in some circumstances, may also be used.

Deceased persons
Users of this finding aid should be aware that, in some Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, seeing images of deceased persons in photographs, film and books or hearing them in recordings etc. may cause sadness or distress and in some cases, offend against strongly held cultural prohibitions.
ACCESS TO COLLECTION

Access and use conditions
Materials listed in this finding aid may be subject to access conditions required by Indigenous communities and/or depositors. Users are advised that access to some materials may be subject to these access conditions.

Copying and quotation
Copying of, and quoting from, unpublished material may be subject to the conditions determined by the depositor of the manuscripts. In accordance with the Copyright Act 1968, Section 51, materials are only provided for private study and use.

Obtaining access, copying and quotation permissions
In cases where these permissions are required they must be obtained in writing and must be signed. Further information can be found on the AIATSIS website on the Ordering collection items page. Contact Collections staff for further information.

Although Manuscripts are not available on Interlibrary loan, they may be available via document supply (photocopying), subject to access conditions, if they are already digitized.

Email Collections Staff or telephone +61 2 6246 1182

Access conditions
Open access - reading. Copying permitted for private study. Not for Inter-Library Loan.
Material is available to be read. Whole item may be copied for private study.

Except for transcripts of interviews held at MS 5096/19 & 20, which are restricted access – available only to people authorized by the AIATSIS Chief Executive Officer.

Preferred citation
Items from this collection should be cited as Tamsin Donaldson, Wiradjuri Language Projects and Research Papers, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, MS 5096, Item [insert number].
COLLECTION OVERVIEW

Scope and contents note
These papers were produced during the latter part of Tamsin Donaldson’s professional career. They document Dr Donaldson’s work on Wiradjuri language projects. The files are arranged in chronological order roughly following the sequence of Tamsin Donaldson’s research work, consultancies and interests:

- Back to Warangesda Week, 1980;
- Peak Hill Local Aboriginal Research Group;
- National Lexicography Project at Peak Hill, 1987-1989;
- Search, 2001-2006, for William Watson’s grammar of local Aboriginal languages, Wellington, NSW (c.1832-42); locating Horatio Hale’s manuscript and other early descriptions of the Wiradjuri language.

Provenance
The collection was donated to the AIATSIS Collection by Ben Donaldson on 25 October 2016.

Material separated from the collection
The cassettes referred to at MS 5096/13, Aboriginal Heritage – Resource Tape and one related recording, have been transferred to AIATSIS Audio Archives.

Related material
For a complete list of works by Tamsin Donaldson, held in the Collection and for other related material consult Mura®, the AIATSIS catalogue.

For access to Audiovisual material contact Collections.

Archivist’s note
Tamsin Donaldson’s papers have been retained in their original files which have been arranged as far as possible in chronological order in one series.

Abbreviations used:
- Ms. – manuscript
- Ts. – typescript
- p/c – photocopy
- Mf – microfilm

Back to top
BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Tamsin Donaldson (1939-2014) came to Australia after a Cornish childhood, an Oxford education in modern languages, sociology and anthropology, and a teaching career. She gained a PhD in Linguistics at the Australian National University in 1977.

Dr Donaldson’s subsequent research concentrated on NSW languages, and on linguistic studies of Aboriginal social, historical and other topics, including songs. She worked with Indigenous people all over Australia through appointments at the School of Australian Linguistics in Batchelor College, Darwin, 1979-1981, at AIATSIS from time to time, and as an independent consultant. She taught in the Anthropology and Music Departments at the University of Sydney, 1982-1986, and as a Post-Doctoral Fellow at Cornell University, New York, 1987-1988. She also ran courses and workshops for people exploring their linguistic heritages.

From 1979 until 1994, Dr Donaldson worked intermittently at AIATSIS, firstly as an audiographer in the Sound archives and later as a Research Officer and Linguist. During this period her work focused on the Ngiyampaa (Wangaapuwan) people and their language in the Ivanhoe and Cobar area of Central Western NSW, north of the Lachlan River. Dr Donaldson compiled a Ngiyampaa grammar, with texts and songs, *Ngiyambaa: the language of the Wangaaybuwan* (1980), wrote a series of articles on Ngiyampaa songs, social nomenclature and perceptions, and edited a series of reminiscences and stories by Eliza Kennedy, a Ngiyampaa elder.

As a Research Fellow and Grantee at AIATSIS, 1995-2001, Dr Donaldson worked with people of Peak Hill on the Wiradjuri language and provided evidence in support of their land claim and commenced her work on Rev. James Gunther’s early descriptions of the Wiradjuri language.

From 2001 until 2006 Dr Donaldson held a Visiting Research Fellowship in the Linguistics Program in the School of Language Studies at the Australian National University where she pursued her research on Australian languages, in particular early accounts and archival records of the Wiradjuri language.
MS 5096 Tamsin Donaldson,
Wiradjuri Language Projects and Research Papers

SERIES DESCRIPTION

Series 1 Project and Research papers, 1980-2008

MS 5096/1 Wiradjuri Report National Lexicography Project at Peak Hill, 1987-1989, includes:
- Jane Simpson (AIATSIS) to Cheryl Williams and Joanne Robinson, 15 Sep 1988, Ts., 1p.
- Jenny Robinson and Brian McKeown (Peak Hill Central School) to Jane Simpson (National Lexicography Project), 12 May 1989, Ts., 1p.
- Word List made by Rita Keed, c.1987, Peak Hill, Ms., 1p., p/c.
- Local Wiradjuri words prepared at Peak Hill, Aug 1987, Ms., 1p., p/c.
- Peak Hill, NSW, List of organisations, 4 Jun 1987, Ts., 1p., p/c.

MS 5096/2 Peak Hill Report Annexures, 1983-1987, 1995, includes:
- Notes made from tape recorded by Mrs Towney, 15 Dec 1983, Ms., 10pp.

MS 5096/3 Tamsin Donaldson, The language of the Peak Hill Aboriginal People. A linguistic report in a Native Title Claim. n.d., Ts., pp.159-181, draft

MS 5096/4 Tamsin Donaldson, The language of the Peak Hill Aboriginal People, Ts., draft, n.d., pp.6-37, & annexures


MS 5096/6 CARP88 (Communication and Resources Project, Dubbo), Outback Heritage, n.d. (1988), audio visual project proposal (?), c.40pp, bound.


MS 5096 Tamsin Donaldson, Wiradjuri Language Projects and Research Papers


MS 5096/10 Wiradjuri Alphabet Book, various drafts, n.d.

MS 5096/11 Cheryl Williams (comp.), Wiradjuri Alphabet Book, 1993 (2 copies). Copies held in AIATSIS Library.

MS 5096/12 Cheryl Williams (comp.), Wiradjuri Alphabet Book, 1993 (3 copies).

MS 5096/13 Resource Tape, Wiradjuri, n.d. (c.1993), Aboriginal Heritage – Resource Tape Wiradjuri, 'produced so that you can hear the words in the Wiradjuri Alphabet book': Voices: Cheryl Williams & Rita Keed, 17 cassette copies. Together with 1 cassette tape labelled, 'AIATSIS Tech Services Wiradjuri – Alphabet Book, and another cassette tape labelled, 'PW /14 Peak Hill Language … Simon Correy 14-15.10.95'. (Tapes transferred to AIATSIS Audio Archives.)

MS 5096/14 Tamsin Donaldson, Peak Hill contract and related papers, 1998-1999, including correspondence from Rita Keed, Paul Toni (Andrew Chalk & Associates), Gaynor Macdonald.

MS 5096/15 Dianne Hosking and Sally McNicol, Wiradjuri, Canberra, AIATSIS, 1993, 106pp., annotated by Tamsin Donaldson.

MS 5096/16 Wiradjuri reference material. Including:
• Sally McNicol, A salvage description of the phonology and morphology of Wiradhuray (a language of Central Southern New South Wales), BA thesis, 1989, Ts., 114pp., and Appendix B, 'Information on source materials', Ts., 1p. Withdrawn and transferred to the author, Sally McNicol, in January 2017, in accordance with Ms McNicol’s request and in line with Ms McNicol’s withdrawal in 2004 of the copy of her thesis formerly held at MS 2790. Readers wishing to have access to A salvage description of … Wiradhuray should contact Ms McNicol directly.
• Extract vocabulary from An Australian Language.
• 'Wiradjuri language foundation', from A Grammar of Wiradjuri language.
• Centre for Indigenous Language, Charles Sturt University, Wiradjuri Language, course material, Nodules 1 & 2.
• Verb stem (suffix patterns).


MS 5096/19 Tamsin Donaldson’s notes for Language of Peak Hill, together with the following audio tape transcripts:
• Transcript of interview with Ray and Valda Kead, Maggie Cohen, Trevor Robinson and Rachael Kead, Peak Hill, 14 & 15 Oct 1995, interviewer
MS 5096 Tamsin Donaldson, Wiradjuri Language Projects and Research Papers

Simon Correy, Tape No.PH 13/1, Ts., 16pp., annotated. Restricted access.
- Transcript of interview with Kathleen Naden and Valda Kead, Peak Hill, 15 Oct 1995, interviewer Simon Correy, Tape No.PH 14/1, Ts., 14pp., annotated. Restricted access.

MS 5096/20 Duplicate copies of transcripts of interviews (as above):
- Ray and Valda Kead, Maggie Cohen, Trevor Robinson and Rachael Kead, Tape No.PH 13/1. Restricted access.
- Kathleen Naden and Valda Kead, Peak Hill, Tape No.PH 14/1. Restricted access.
- Tommy Lyons and Roley, Tape No.PH 17/1 & 2. Restricted access.

MS 5096/21 Potential Annexures: Ngiyampaa, and other word lists – Condobolin, Warren, Carcoar & others.

MS 5096/22 Makings of Wiradjuri alpha, annexures and exhibits for Language of Peak Hill, 1984-1998 (removed from a ring-back binder). Includes:
- Correspondence with William Southerly and Gaynor Macdonald.
- List of members of the Peak Hill Local Aboriginal Research Group, c.1987, Ms., 1p.
- Some Wiradjuri words remembered by participants in the ‘Back to Warangesda Week’, July 1980, with handwritten annotations showing Wiradjuri words remembered by Aunty Emmy Towney and Local Aboriginal Research Group of Peak Hill, December 1983, Ts., annotated, 6pp. (An annotated version of PMS 3471.)
- Correspondence with Rita Keed and Cheryl Williams, including word lists, n.d., Ms., p/c, annotated.
- Professor Kenneth Maddock (Newport, NSW), Peak Hill Wiradjuri Native Title Claim Anthropological Report. Federal Court of Australia, NSW District Registry, General Division, NG No.6001 of 1995, David Towney (applicant) and Minister for Land and Water Conservation for the State of NSW & others (respondents), Direction 5: Anthropological Report filed for the first Respondent, Jan 1988, pp.1-66 and references.

MS 5096/23 Tamsin Donaldson, The Language of the Peak Hill Aboriginal People: an expert opinion provided for the purpose of Federal Court proceedings NG

**MS 5096/24**

**MS 5096/25**

**MS 5096/26**

**MS 5096/27**
Kate Waters (research by Damian Lucas and Kate Waters), *Peak Hill Historical Report*, Sydney, Nov 1988, 75pp., bound; document filed for the Applicant by Andrew Chalk Associates in the Federal Court of Australia, NSW Registry, General Division, No. NG 6001 of 1995, David Towney (Applicant), The Minister for Land and Water Conservation for the State of NSW (First Respondent), Aklane Exploration NL Associated Gold Fields NL (Second Respondent), Parkes Shire Council (Third Respondent) *Applicant’s Historical Report*.

**MS 5096/28**
*Linguistic Issues in Native Title Claims* (presented by the Australian Linguistics Society in conjunction with the Native Title Research Unit with the assistance of the National Native Title Tribunal), Perth, Oct 1999: arrangements for Tamsin Donaldson to attend and give paper, costs, conference program, abstracts of papers, notes by Tamsin Donaldson, together with:

- abstract of Heather Bowe’s paper, *Linguistics and the Yorta Yorta Native Title Claim*, Ts., 1p.,
- Glossary of terms given during hearing at Minijilang, 27 April 1997, Ts., p/c, annotated.

**MS 5096/29**
documents, and correspondence with NSW Aboriginal Land Council and others.

**MS 5096/30**  
Tamsin Donaldson, *How to demonstrate the linguistic identity of language materials: Wiradjuri and neighbours West of the Great Dividing Range (NSW)*, Ts., 7pp., annotated, with tables and an earlier draft.

**MS 5096/31**  

**MS 5096/32**  
Tamsin Donaldson’s correspondence with John Henderson and Gaynor Macdonald re publication of her *Language of the Peak Hill Aboriginal People* and other matters, 2000-2002, including draft Donaldson’s report and:


**MS 5096/33**  

**MS 5096/34**  
Correspondence and research papers, 2001-2002, including: draft for publication of Tamsin Donaldson’s, ‘The Language of the Peak Hill Aboriginal People: a linguistic report in a Native Title Claim’, Ts., 29pp., with an introduction, Ts., 2pp.; draft bibliography, Ts., 3pp., annotated; comments on Donaldson’s report, Ms., 3pp.; correspondence with Gaynor Macdonald, John Henderson and George Boeck; and


**MS 5096/35**  
Sundry research notes and miscellaneous papers, c.2001, including visit to Professor Tsunoda at Tokyo University and press cutting:


**MS 5096/36**  

**MS 5096/37**  
Ian White’s notes on ML MS B505, J. Gunther, *Lecture on the Aborigines of Australia*, n.d. (‘lecture section preceding language materials with page numbers for some items of linguistic interest’), Ms., 19pp., p/c.

**MS 5096/38**  

L.E. Threlkeld, *An Australian Language as spoken by the Awabakal, the people of Awaba or Lake Macquarie (near Newcastle, New South Wales), being an account of their language, traditions and customs*, edited by John Fraser, Sydney, 1892, photocopy of title page, contents list, illustrations list, introduction and Ch. III, Grammar, pp.22-27.


‘Looking for Watson’. Search for manuscript by Rev. (?) William Watson, Wellington, NSW, c.1832-42, c.2001-2002: Grammar of the local Aboriginal language with vocabulary and other linguistic material, copy sent to Professor Friedrich (Max) Mueller, All Souls, Oxford University. Includes notes, correspondence and:

- Noel McMaster, “The Running Linguist” (re Tasaku Tsunoda), *West Australian*, 4 Dec 1999;

Tamsin Donaldson, Visiting Research Fellowship, School of Language Studies, the Faculties, ANU, and activities (1), 2002-2004, includes: report on projects and activities Jul 2002-Jun 2004, with CV, Ts., 7pp.; notes on gainful employment; correspondence with Tony Liddicoat, Nigel Bennett, Lesley Woods and Bethwyn Evans; and


Tamsin Donaldson, Visiting Research Fellowship, School of Language Studies, the Faculties, ANU, and activities (2), 2004-2005, includes: *Aboriginal Placenames Old and New*, Conference, Geoscience Australia, 1 Oct 2005, program, notes and the following handouts:

MS 5096 Tamsin Donaldson,
Wiradjuri Language Projects and Research Papers


**MS 5096/46**
Tamsin Donaldson, Visiting Research Fellowship, School of Language Studies, the Faculties, ANU, and activities (3), 2004-2005, includes notes on her activities Jul 2004 – Jun 2005:
- NSW Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Information folder, n.d.

**MS 5096/47**
Wiradjuri project planning documents, 1987-2006, including: notes on MS 6, James Gunther’s, *Wiradjuri Grammar*, 1840, held at the Royal Anthropological Institute in London; materials relevant to analysis of MS 6; MS 6 transcription issues; other sundry notes; and

**MS 5096/48**
MS 6, James Gunther, *Wiradjuri Grammar*, 1840: negotiations with the Royal Anthropological Institute – a ‘history of discovery negotiations with RAI, permissions, etc., project purpose’, c.1998-2002 (removed from ring binder). Includes:

**MS 5096/49**

**MS 5096/50**

**MS 5096/51**
James Gunther, *An Attempt at a Grammar of the Wirradhurri Dialect*, 1840 (MS 6), part transcription, Ts., pp.1-51, indexing, correspondence and working papers, 2006-2008, including:
- Tamsin Donaldson (comp.), *Ngiyampaa Wordworld 1: Thipingku yuwi, maka ngiya. Names of birds & other words*, AIATSIS, 1997, 98pp., bound. (Copy held in AIATSIS Library.)
MS 5096 Tamsin Donaldson, Wiradjuri Language Projects and Research Papers

MS 5096/52 Comparisons, RAI MS 6 / ML C-136: Wiradjuri research materials, and other documents, including:

MS 5096/53 Locating copy of Horatio Hale’s, *Notes on the Natives of Australia and their Dialects made in New South Wales in December & January 1839-40*, includes correspondence from Tom Belton (Archivist, University of Western Ontario) to Cathy Jones (Library Acquisitions, AIATSIS), Nov 2005, re transfer of microfilm of the document to AIATSIS Library (Mf 355), and:

MS 5096/54 Rita Keed, *Memories of Bulgandramine Mission*, Dubbo, sponsored by Warramunga Advancement Society Ltd, 1985, 24pp., illus., bound. (Copy held by AIATSIS Library.)

MS 5096/55 Larmer, Baylis, Rudder and extra information, Jul 2006, including: George Main (CRES, ANU) to Tom (?), n.d., Ms., p/c, 1p., enclosing:
- ‘Aboriginal words collected by Mr J.J. Baylis’, Ts., 1p., p/c (cf. AIATSIS PMS 3887);
- ‘Words from Charlie Coe’, Ts., 2pp., p/c.

MS 5096/56 Wiradjuri sources assembled for MS 6 project, including:
- David Nash, *Wiradhuri – Bibliography*, 1975 (?) Ts., annotated; with notes, Ms., 1p
MS 5096 Tamsin Donaldson,
Wiradjuri Language Projects and Research Papers

- Wilhelm Schmidt’s *Gliederung der Australischen Sprachen*, 1919, pp.105 & 107, p/c, annotated.
- James Baylis, *Vocabulary of the Wiradjuri language*, c.1900, Ms., p/c (PMS 3887).

**MS 5096/57**
Wiradjuri sources, Wellington, NSW, includes:
- J. Mathews, field tapes, Ms., notes, 1p.
- Bill Riley, Wellington NSW (Nanima), Ms., notes, 2pp.

**MS 5096/58**
Wiradjuri – further sources, includes:
- ‘Notable manuscript acquisitions’ (re James Larmer’s notebook of Australian Aboriginal vocabularies, 1832-1853), *Update* (SLNSW), Mar 2003.
- Thomas Mitchell materials on Wiradjuri, Wellington Valley, Yuranigh, catalogue search results and related papers.
- Bibliographical notes on reports by C. Richards and W.N. Thomas in *Science of Man* and Thomas Mitchell’s expeditions, Ts., 2pp., p/c.

**MS 5096/59**
Wiradjuri – further sources, includes:
- Larmer’s Native vocabulary transmitted to the Surveyor-General… 1834, Ms., pp.1-26, p/c, and related documents.

**MS 5096/60**
MS 5096 Tamsin Donaldson, Wiradjuri Language Projects and Research Papers

MS 5096/61 Stan Grant (Senr) and John Rudder, *A First Wiradhuri Dictionary* (2005), with markers interleaved.

MS 5096/62 Tamsin Donaldson, *Peak Hill Box*, list of files, Ms., 1p.

BOX LIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Series</th>
<th>Folder/Item</th>
<th>Box</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Series 1</td>
<td>Items 1-15</td>
<td>Box 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Series 1</td>
<td>Items 16-26</td>
<td>Box 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Series 1</td>
<td>Items 27-41</td>
<td>Box 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Series 1</td>
<td>Items 42-50</td>
<td>Box 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Series 1</td>
<td>Items 51-62</td>
<td>Box 5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Collections  Catalogue  Manuscript finding aid index