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ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT
ISLANDER STUDIES

Descriptive Level

Finding aid

SAM_005

(FC00680_1-4)

Basket making Coorong South Australia

Guide to the moving image recordings from the production of

Basket making Coorong South Australia

by

South Australian Museum, 1937

ACCESS

Availability of copies

Digital copies are available. Further information is available on the '[Ordering Collection](#)' web page. Alternatively, contact the Access Unit by [email](#) to arrange an appointment to view the recordings or to order copies.

Restrictions on viewing

This footage contains restricted material (ancestral remains) at the timing points highlighted below in **red**.

Restrictions on use

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SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Date: 1937

Extent: 4 film reels (approximately 45 min): silent, black and white

Production history

Film shows traditional method of basket making as demonstrated by Milerum (Clarence Long), Tanganekald Elder of the Coorong; rushes are gathered from the sandhills, dried and woven by hand into baskets; spear and boomerang throwing also shown.

RELATED MATERIAL

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Publicity sheet.

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ARCHIVIST'S NOTE

This finding aid was compiled from information provided by the South Australian Museum. Restricted footage timing points are highlighted in red.

ITEM LIST

AIATSIS item number	Description
FC00680_1 / DAC0000413_001	Basket making Coorong South Australia
FC00680_2 / DAC0000413_002	Basket making Coorong South Australia
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ITEM DESCRIPTIONS

FC00680_1 / DAC0000413_001

Performer/speaker(s):	Milerum; Clarence Long
Subject keywords:	Art - Crafts - Baskets and basketmaking; Material culture - Bird to objects and decorations; Material culture - Human hair objects and decorations
Language/people:	Tanganekald people (S11) (SA SI54-14); Ngarrindjeri / Narrinj (S69) (SA SI54-13)
Places:	Coorong (SE SA SI54-13, SJ54-02)
Recording quality:	Poor to fair
Date of recording:	1937

Timing point	Description	Place of recording
00:00:05	Title card: "University of Adelaide, Basket-Making, Coorong, South Australia"	Coorong, S.A.
00:00:13	Title card: "Photography and arrangement by Norman B. Tindale, December, 1937"	
00:00:18	Title card: "Demonstrated by Milerum, Tanganekald man, aged 66 years"	
00:00:21	Head and shoulders footage of Milerum.	
00:00:26	Title card: "Rushes (<i>Juncus maritimus</i>) grow in the Coorong sandhills"	
00:00:31	Landscape footage of Southern Ocean and close-up of rushes [not type used in basket-making].	
00:00:48	Footage of Milerum collecting rushes.	
00:03:30	Title card: "They are wilted and bleached in the sun"	
00:03:35	Footage of Milerum laying out rushes.	
00:04:23	Title card: "Testing boomerang and spear while rushes are drying"	
00:04:26	Footage of Milerum throwing a boomerang and a spear.	
00:04:56	Footage of Milerum collecting laid out rushes.	
00:06:08	Title card: "Rushes are kept damp and pliable"	

00:06:12	Footage of Milerum weaving a basket, using a skull cup to dampen the rushes.	
00:08:59	Footage of Milerum drinking from skull cup.	
00:09:08	Title card: "His water dish is half a human skull"	
00:09:13	Title card: "Flat rectangular mats are for wrapping the dead"	
00:09:18	Footage of Milerum weaving flat mat.	
00:09:41	Title card: "End of Reel 1. Basket-Making, Coorong"	

Performer/speaker(s):	Milerum; Clarence Long
Subject keywords:	Art - Crafts - Baskets and basketmaking; Material culture - Bird to objects and decorations; Material culture - Human hair objects and decorations
Language/people:	Tanganekald people (S11) (SA SI54-14); Ngarrindjeri / Narrinyeri (S69) (SA SI54-13)
Places:	Coorong (SE SA SI54-13, SJ54-02)
Recording quality:	Poor to fair
Date of recording:	1937

Timing point	Description	Place of recording
00:00:08	Title card: "Basket-Making, Coorong, South Australia, Reel 2"	Coorong, S.A.
00:00:13	Title card: "A 'sister' basket (the two pieces are likened to two sisters)"	
00:00:18	Footage of Milerum weaving sister basket; skull cup is shown in foreground.	
00:00:52	Title card: "He makes a Tanganekald war basket"	
00:01:01	Title card: "Human hair-string netting for the warbasket handle"	
00:01:06	Footage of Milerum making net handle and attaching it to basket.	
00:03:27	Title card: "Feathers of the owner's totem (boobook owl)"	
00:03:30	Footage of Milerum plucking feathers and attaching them to the basket.	
00:03:54	Title card: "Preparing a bone awl for basket making"	
00:03:57	Footage of Milerum making bone awl using hammer stone, anvil and stone flake; skull cup is shown in foreground.	
00:05:14	Title card: "End of Reel 2. Basket-Making, Coorong"	

FC00680_3 / DAC0000413_003

Performer/speaker(s):	Milerum; Clarence Long
Subject keywords:	Art - Crafts - Baskets and basketmaking; Material culture - Bird to objects and decorations; Material culture - Human hair objects and decorations
Language/people:	Tanganekald people (S11) (SA SI54-14); Ngarrindjeri / Narrinj (S69) (SA SI54-13)
Places:	Coorong (SE SA SI54-13, SJ54-02)
Recording quality:	Fair to good
Date of recording:	1937

Timing point	Description	Place of recording
00:00:17	Title card: "University of Adelaide, Basket-Making, Coorong, South Australia"	Coorong, S.A.
00:00:25	Title card: "Photography and arrangement by Norman B. Tindale, December, 1937"	
00:00:29	Title card: "Demonstrated by Milerum, Tanganekald man, aged 66 years"	
00:00:34	Head and shoulders footage of Milerum.	
00:00:38	Title card: "Rushes (<i>Juncus maritimus</i>) grow in the Coorong sandhills"	
00:00:43	Landscape footage of Southern Ocean and close-up of rushes [not type used in basket-making].	
00:01:00	Footage of Milerum collecting rushes.	
00:03:40	Title card: "They are wilted and bleached in the sun"	
00:03:45	Footage of Milerum laying out rushes.	
00:04:32	Title card: "Testing boomerang and spear while rushes are drying"	
00:04:42	Footage of Milerum throwing a boomerang and a spear.	
00:05:05	Footage of Milerum collecting laid out rushes.	
00:05:08	Title card: "Trimming rushes with sharp edge of his thumb nail"	
00:06:10	Title card: "Rushes are kept damp and pliable"	

00:06:15	Footage of Milerum weaving a basket, using a skull cup to dampen the rushes.	
00:09:00	Footage of Milerum drinking from skull cup.	
00:09:05	Title card: "His water dish is half a human skull"	
00:09:12	Title card: "Flat rectangular mats are for wrapping the dead"	
00:09:17	Footage of Milerum weaving flat mat.	
00:09:39	Title card: "End of Reel 1. Basket-Making, Coorong"	
00:10:23	Title card: "Basket-Making, Coorong, South Australia, Reel 2"	
00:10:27	Title card: "A 'sister' basket (the two pieces are likened to two sisters)"	
00:10:34	Footage of Milerum weaving sister basket; skull cup is shown in foreground.	
00:11:04	Title card: "He makes a Tanganekald war basket"	
00:11:12	Title card: "Human hair-string netting for the warbasket handle"	
00:11:18	Footage of Milerum making net handle and attaching it to basket.	
00:13:34	Title card: "Feathers of the owner's totem (boobook owl)"	
00:13:38	Footage of Milerum plucking feathers and attaching them to the basket.	
00:14:01	Title card: "Preparing a bone awl for basket making"	
00:14:05	Footage of Milerum making bone awl using hammer stone, anvil and stone flake; skull cup is shown in foreground.	
00:15:20	Title card: "End of Reel 2. Basket-Making, Coorong"	

FC00680_4 / DAC0000413_004

Performer/speaker(s):	Milerum; Clarence Long
Subject keywords:	Art - Crafts - Baskets and basketmaking; Material culture - Bird to objects and decorations; Material culture - Human hair objects and decorations
Language/people:	Tanganekald people (S11) (SA SI54-14); Ngarrindjeri / Narrinj (S69) (SA SI54-13)
Places:	Coorong (SE SA SI54-13, SJ54-02)
Recording quality:	Poor
Date of recording:	1937

Timing point	Description	Place of recording
00:00:11	Title card: "University of Adelaide, Basket-Making, Coorong, South Australia"	Coorong, S.A.
00:00:18	Title card: "Photography and arrangement by Norman B. Tindale, December, 1937"	
00:00:24	Title card: "Demonstrated by Milerum, Tanganekald man, aged 66 years"	
00:00:27	Head and shoulders footage of Milerum.	
00:00:31	Title card: "Rushes (<i>Juncus maritimus</i>) grow in the Coorong sandhills"	
00:00:35	Landscape footage of Southern Ocean and close-up of rushes [not type used in basket-making].	
00:01:03	Footage of Milerum collecting rushes.	
00:03:33	Title card: "They are wilted and bleached in the sun"	
00:03:38	Footage of Milerum laying out rushes.	
00:04:26	Title card: "Testing boomerang and spear while rushes are drying"	
00:04:35	Footage of Milerum throwing a boomerang and a spear.	
00:04:58	Footage of Milerum collecting laid out rushes.	
00:05:01	Title card: "Trimming rushes with sharp edge of his thumb nail"	
00:06:03	Title card: "Rushes are kept damp and pliable"	

00:06:07	Footage of Milerum weaving a basket, using a skull cup to dampen the rushes.	
00:08:54	Footage of Milerum drinking from skull cup.	
00:08:57	Title card: "His water dish is half a human skull"	
00:09:06	Title card: "Flat rectangular mats are for wrapping the dead"	
00:09:11	Footage of Milerum weaving flat mat.	
00:09:32	Title card: "End of Reel 1. Basket-Making, Coorong"	
00:10:16	Title card: "Basket-Making, Coorong, South Australia, Reel 2"	
00:10:21	Title card: "A 'sister' basket (the two pieces are likened to two sisters)"	
00:10:25	Footage of Milerum weaving sister basket; skull cup is shown in foreground.	
00:10:58	Title card: "He makes a Tanganekald war basket"	
00:11:05	Title card: "Human hair-string netting for the warbasket handle"	
00:11:11	Footage of Milerum making net handle and attaching it to basket.	
00:13:28	Title card: "Feathers of the owner's totem (boobook owl)"	
00:13:31	Footage of Milerum plucking feathers and attaching them to the basket.	
00:13:55	Title card: "Preparing a bone awl for basket making"	
00:13:59	Footage of Milerum making bone awl using hammer stone, anvil and stone flake; skull cup is shown in foreground.	
00:15:13	Title card: "End of Reel 2. Basket-Making, Coorong"	