

MEMO TO: Warwick Dix
FROM: Alice Moyle
DATE: 16 December 1985
RE: Tape recordings in the South Australian Museum

During the four days spent in the South Australian Museum (4-6; 9 December) I was able to listen to all the available recordings of music made on wax cylinders by E. Harold Davies and to some recorded by N.B. Tindale. I also made a tentative list of the entire holdings, now transferred to tape (see attached list).

In all there are about 150 seven-inch reels (1200 feet each) of taped material. Less than one-third of the recordings were originally made on wax cylinders. About 15 tapes may correspond with material already held in the AIAS Archive. Until copies can be aurally compared, however, it is difficult to be sure of this.

In 1981 the S.A. Museum employed Chris Long, a free-lance audio technician, to make tape copies of all their sound recordings. The originals, which remain in the Museum, are on phonograph cylinders, acetate and aluminium discs and field tapes.

In my discussions with Peter Sutton, Director of the Division of Anthropology at the Museum, it was agreed that copies of these tapes, most of them unique to the SA Museum, should be held elsewhere for safety reasons. Peter raised no objections to a deposit being made at the AIAS of a complete set of these tapes. As part of the agreement he would like to have copies of the audition sheets and any other ^cdocumentation prepared from these tapes at the AIAS.

It appears that there will be no difficulty in granting access to the recordings to bona fide researchers at the AIAS.

We discussed the means whereby tape copies could be made available to the Institute. This could be done either by

- (a) transfers made professionally in Adelaide, then sent to Canberra (this is an expensive method. Audio technicians can charge as much as \$50-60 an hour); or
- (b) transfers made by an experienced audio technician from the AIAS who would carry out the work in the SA Museum, preferably with audio equipment and a skilled ethnomusicological observer from the Institute.

In a recent telephone conversation with Peter Sutton, he opts for (b), as I do.

My estimate of the time involved in making a set of copies of the 150 tapes would be about 15 working days, or ca. 75 hours. To this cost would be added fares and accommodation. 150 blank tapes at \$7.00 each would cost \$1050.

I should add here that the general quality of the tape transfers from the old cylinders is very good. Surface scratch is low and in many of the songs the words are clear. The South Australian Museum is presently undergoing extension and renovation and the work is expected to be completed in February, 1986.

I would recommend that arrangements to have the tapes copied be made at the earliest opportunity, preferably before re-shelving and restoring take place in the renovated Museum.

TENTATIVE LISTING OF SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM SOUND RECORDINGS
(by Alice Moyle , December 1985)

Date	Collector	Locality	Original recording	Heard on tape/ transfer (by A.M.)
1926	?	Charlotte Waters	cylinder (selections on 78rpm disc)	Tape 3
1927	E.H. Davies	Alice Springs	"	Tape 6
	"	Macdonald Downs NT	"	Tape 4
	"	Macumba River NT	"	Tape 6
1928	"	Koonibba SA	"	Tapes 1-2
	"	Penong SA	"	Tape 2
	"	Yardea SA	"	Tape 2
1929	"	Hermannsburg NT	"	Tape 6
				Tape 7
				Tape 8
				Tape 9
1930	N.B. Tindale	Macdonald Downs	"	Tapes 3-4
1931	"	Cockatoo Creek NT	"	
1932	"	Mt Liebig NT	"	Tape 1
1932;1937	"	The coorong SA	" (& acetate disc)	
1933	"	Mann & Musgrave Ranges Ernabella	"	
1934	"	Diamantina SA	"	Tape 5
1934	"	Speech (Tangane)	"	
1935	"	Warburton Ranges WA	"	
1936	"	The Granites NT	"	
1937	"	Nepabunna	"	
1938	"	Brewarrina NSW (Ngemba Crow song)	"	
1939	"	Wallaga Lake NSW	"	
1939	"	Port Augusta SA	"	
1951	"	Yuendumu NT	wire	
1953	:	Marble Bar	cylinder	
		Bore Camp, Pilagoora,	"	

TENTATIVE LISTING 2

Date	Collector	Locality	Original Heard on tape transfer recordings
1953	N.B. Tindale	La Grange WA	cylinder
	"	Liveringa Stn	"
	"	Moolabulla Stn	"
1956	"	Haasts Bluff	Tape
1957	"	"	"
1960	"	Mornington I.	"
	"	Bentinck & Mornington I.	"
1961	"	Noola NSW (speech)	"
1953-4	"	Palm Island	"
1963	"	Bentick & Mornington I. Mission	"
	"	Doomagee Qld	"
	"	Normanton	"
	P.M. Rice	Musgrave Ranges SA	"
	N.B. Tindale	Rawlinson Ranges WA Mt Davies	"
1964	"	Yalata SA	"
	"	Papunya NT	"

Recorded interviews, lectures etc. Speaker: N.B. Tindale
 1964 - Subjects : Dieri Tribe; Rock Shelter Noola NSW; The Antiquity
 of the Australian Aborigines; Myth of Kurglea (?)

1965 - : Spears to Bulldozers, Groote Eylandt Mission