



AIATSIS
Australian Institute of Aboriginal
and Torres Strait Islander Studies

**Interim
Finding aid**

ANSARA_M02

**Sound recordings collected by
Martha Ansara, 1992-1993**

ACCESS

Availability of copies

Listening copies are available. Contact [AIATSIS](#) to arrange an appointment to listen to the recordings or to order copies.

Restrictions on listening

This collection is open for listening.

Restrictions on use

Clients may only copy this collection with the permission of Essie Coffey's son Stephen George Coffey, or her closest living relative. Permission must be sought from Essie Coffey's son Stephen George Coffey, or her closest living relative for any publication or quotation of this material. Please note that the recordings of Feli McHughes can only be published or quoted with permission from Feli McHughes or his closest living relative. Any publication or quotation must be consistent with the *Copyright Act* (1968).

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Date: 1992-1993

Extent: 7 sound cassettes (ca. 60 min. each) :| banalogue, mono.
1 sound cassettes (ca. 90 min. each) :| banalogue, mono.
1 sound reel (ca. 8 min.) :| banalogue, 15 ips, 2 track, mono. ;| c 5 in.

Production history

These recordings were made by Martha Ansara between 1992 and 1993 and were used in the video program *My life as I live it* about prominent Muruwari woman Essie (Essieina) Coffey, OAM. They feature oral history accounts by Essie Coffey and Feli McHughes and music performed by Smiley and the Codrockers. One of the tapes features a recording of Arthur Dodd made for the Brewarrina Aboriginal Cultural Museum. The collection was deposited at AIATSIS by Essie Coffey on 22 October 1993.

RELATED MATERIAL

Important: before you click on any links in this section, please read our [sensitivity message](#).

The video, *My life as I live it*, in which material from this collection was used is held in the AIATSIS Audiovisual Archive, see [V2991](#). For a complete listing of related material held by AIATSIS, consult the Institute's Mura® online catalogue at <http://mura.aiatsis.gov.au>.

ARCHIVIST'S NOTE

This finding aid was compiled from information provided by Martha Ansara. Detailed item descriptions, featuring timing points, are not yet available as the collection has not been auditioned by AIATSIS staff.

ITEM LIST

Field recording number	AIATSIS item number	Description
1	ANSARA_M02-012401	Oral history account by Essie Coffey used in the video <i>My life as I live it</i> , including discussion of changes since the making of <i>My Survival as an Aboriginal</i> , race relations, education, CDEP, Mrs Coffey's family, other community members, politics, drugs and alcohol, an upcoming Council election, and self-determination
2	ANSARA_M02-012402	Oral history account by Essie Coffey used in the video <i>My life as I live it</i> , including discussion of foretelling the future, the nature of relationships between Aboriginal people, Dodge City, her early life at Goodooga, working at a station with family members, getting into politics, her father Goodgabah, other family members, football, faith (not Christianity), her working life, racism, and fighting for Aboriginal rights
3	ANSARA_M02-012403	Feli McHughes talks in-depth about planning, implementing and further developing a CDEP (Community Development Employment Program) and its importance in Brewarrina in the early 1980s
4	ANSARA_M02-012404	Feli McHughes talks in depth about the CDEP (Community Development Employment Program) in Brewarrina; Arthur Dodd singing and talking, as well as ambient sounds used in the Aboriginal Cultural Museum at Brewarrina
5	ANSARA_M02-012405	Smiley and the Codrockers practising 'Smalley my bottle' (one guitar part)
6	ANSARA_M02-012406	Several takes of 'Smalley my bottle' performed by Smiley and the Codrockers (guitars and voice); ends with explanation of the story by Essie Coffey
7	ANSARA_M02-012407	Essie Coffey introduces the song 'Smalley my bottle' and casual conversation
8	ANSARA_M02-012408	Smiley and the Codrockers rehearsal (full band: guitars, bass, keyboard, drums, voice), including 'Midnight Special' and other popular songs
9	ANSARA_M02-012409	Performance by Smiley and the Codrockers (full band: guitars, bass, keyboard, drums, voice) followed by solo guitar music