



AIATSIS
Australian Institute of Aboriginal
and Torres Strait Islander Studies

Finding aid

MAY-WILD_02

**Sound recordings collected by
Elizabeth May & Stephen Wild, 1965**

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 restricted and may only be listened to by clients who have obtained written permission from the relevant Indigenous individual, family or community. Refer to audition sheets below for more details.

Restrictions on use

This collection is restricted and may only be copied by clients who have obtained permission from Stephen Wild. Refer to audition sheets below for more details. Permission must be sought from the relevant Indigenous individual, family or community for any publication or quotation of this material. Any publication or quotation must be consistent with the *Copyright Act* (1968).

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Date: 1965

Extent: 2 sound tape reels (2 hr. 22 min.) : analogue, mono + field notes.

Production history

These recordings were collected in November 1965 by Stephen Wild, an AIAS grantee, during field work at Laverton in Western Australia. The purpose of the trip was to research sacred song cycles of the people of the Western Desert. The interviewees and performers who contributed include Merv Hamilton, Red Kippie, Whittaker Cameron, Charlie Jennings, John Greenwood, Paul Sims, many unidentified female speaker/performers, and children from Laverton Primary School. Dr. Wild was assisted by Dr. Elizabeth May.

RELATED MATERIAL

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Translations and discussion on the recordings are held in the AIATSIS Library, see [PMS 2025-2026](#), and [p4977](#). 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 contained in documentation provided by Elizabeth May and Stephen Wild and audition sheets prepared by AIATSIS staff.

ITEM LIST

Archive number	Field recording number	Description
000004A	FT 1	Songs in Western Desert languages performed by Merv Hamilton, Red Kippie, Whittaker Cameron, Charlie Jennings, John Greenwood and Paul Sims
000004A 000004B 000005	FT 2	Songs in Western Desert languages performed by Merv Hamilton, Red Kippie, Whittaker Cameron, Charlie Jennings, John Greenwood and Paul Sims, Topsy, unidentified female performers and school children

ITEM DESCRIPTIONS

000004A/FT 1

Performer/speaker(s): Merv Hamilton, Red Kippie, Whittaker Cameron, Charlie Jennings, John Greenwood and Paul Sims
Subject keywords: Music – Vocal – Group – Male, Music – Body percussion, Music - Clapsticks
Language/people: Western Desert languages
Places: Laverton (SE WA Goldfields SH51-02)
Recording quality: Fair

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MAY-WILD_02-000004A	00:00:00	Western Desert songs performed by unidentified male singers, accompanied by clapsticks. RESTRICTED – GENDER SPECIFIC.	November 1965	Laverton, WA
	00:00:53	Western Desert songs performed by Merv Hamilton, Red Kippie, Whittaker Cameron, Charlie Jennings, John Greenwood and Paul Sims, accompanied by body percussion. RESTRICTED – GENDER SPECIFIC.	November 1965	Laverton, WA
	00:44:42	End of FT 1.		

[RETURN TO ITEM LIST](#)

000004A + 000004B + 000005/FT 2

Performer/speaker(s): Merv Hamilton, Red Kippie, Whittaker Cameron, Charlie Jennings, John Greenwood and Paul Sims, Topsy, unidentified female performers, school children
 Subject keywords: Music – Vocal – Group – Male, Music – Body percussion, Music – Vocal – Solo – Male, Music – Vocal – Group – Female, Music – Vocal – Group - Children
 Language/people: Western Desert languages, English
 Places: Laverton (SE WA Goldfields SH51-02)
 Recording quality: Fair

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MAY-WILD_02-000004A	00:44:42	Western Desert songs performed by unidentified male singers, accompanied by percussion. RESTRICTED – GENDER SPECIFIC.	November 1965	Laverton, WA
	00:63:38	End of archive recording MAY-WILD_02-000004A.		
MAY-WILD_02-000004B	00:00:00	Western Desert songs performed by unidentified male singers, accompanied by percussion. RESTRICTED – GENDER SPECIFIC.	November 1965	Laverton, WA
	00:12:58	Western Desert songs performed by unidentified male singer. RESTRICTED – GENDER SPECIFIC.	November 1965	Laverton, WA
	00:18:41	Western Desert songs performed by Whittaker Cameron accompanied by clapsticks. RESTRICTED – GENDER SPECIFIC.	November 1965	Laverton, WA
	00:36:19	Western Desert songs performed by Whittaker Cameron and Charlie Jennings. RESTRICTED – GENDER SPECIFIC.	November 1965	Laverton, WA
	00:42:00	Western Desert language songs performed by John Greenwood and Paul Sims. RESTRICTED – GENDER SPECIFIC.	November 1965	Laverton, WA
	00:48:16	Western Desert language women's song cycle by unidentified female performers. RESTRICTED – GENDER SPECIFIC.	November 1965	Laverton, WA

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
	01:01:58	End of archive recording MAY-WILD_02-000004B.		
MAY-WILD_02-000005	00:00:00	'Turkey Dance' songs in Western Desert language by unidentified female performers, accompanied by body percussion. RESTRICTED – GENDER SPECIFIC.	November 1965	Laverton, WA
	00:03:25	Mission songs in English and Western Desert language by unidentified female performers, accompanied body percussion.	November 1965	Laverton, WA
	00:05:23	Songs in English and Western Desert language performed by School children.	November 1965	Laverton, WA
	00:20:41	End of FT 2.		

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