



AIATSIS

Australian Institute of Aboriginal
and Torres Strait Islander Studies

[LIBRARY](#) | [CATALOGUE](#) | [MANUSCRIPT FINDING AIDS INDEX](#)

Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Library

Kevin B. McKelson Collection

MS 3702

CONTENTS

COLLECTION SUMMARY	2
CULTURAL SENSITIVITY STATEMENT	2
ACCESS TO COLLECTION	2
COLLECTION OVERVIEW	3
BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE	4
SERIES DESCRIPTIONS	4
Series 1 Nyangumarta [Nyangumarda] language material	4
Series 2 Karajarri language material	6
Series 3 Yulparija language material	6
Series 4 Juwaliny language material	7
Series 5 Mangala language material	8
Series 6 Comparative study on five Australian Indigenous languages - Topical	9
Series 7 Comparative study in five Australian Indigenous languages - Alphabetical	10
Series 8 Comparative study in five Australian Indigenous languages - Grammatical	11
Series 9 Miscellaneous comparative notes	12
Series 10 Kinship material	12
Series 11 Photographic prints	13
ADDITION - MAY 2006	13
APPENDIX	14
BOX LIST	15

COLLECTION SUMMARY

Creator:	Kevin B. McKelson
Title:	Kevin B. McKelson Collection
Collection no:	MS 3702
Date range:	Date range: 1967-1999
Extent:	1.8 metres (10 boxes)
Repository	Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies

[Back to top](#)

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.

[Back to top](#)

ACCESS TO COLLECTION

Access and use conditions

The material is open for reading. Copying for private study/and or publication requires the permission of the Library Director, and any use of the material in publications must be acknowledged [Access code R1 C1a].

[Back to top](#)

Copying and quotation

Copying of, and quoting from, unpublished material is subject to the conditions stated above by the Depositor of the manuscripts but are also subject to copyright restrictions. The [Copyright](#)

[Statement](#) on our manuscripts page contains further information. Where material is copied or quoted the [source](#) of the material must be acknowledged.

Obtaining access, copying and quotation permissions

In cases where these permissions are required they must be obtained in writing and must be signed. For material where the Depositor is not the Copyright holder the [Copyright Act 1968](#) applies.

[Email](#) Library Staff or telephone them on +61 2 6246 1182 for assistance in obtaining permissions.

Preferred citation

Items from this collection should be cited as [Title or description of manuscript item], Kevin B. McKelson Collection, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, MS 3702, Series [no.], Folder or Item [no.]

Inter-Library Loan

Manuscripts are not available on Inter-Library loan.

[Back to top](#)

COLLECTION OVERVIEW

Scope and content note

This collection consists of papers on Australian Indigenous languages of the Kimberley region.

[Back to top](#)

Provenance

These papers were donated to AIATSIS Library by Father Kevin McKelson in November 1998.

Material separated from collection

There were a number of tapes and audio cassettes that accompanied much of this language material and these are now held in the Institute's Audiovisual Archives. To access any of this material contact the [Audiovisual Archive](#). For a brief outline of the material transferred see the [Appendix](#).

Arrangement of collection

The Library has arranged the material into series and all item headings are taken from original file headings.

Related material

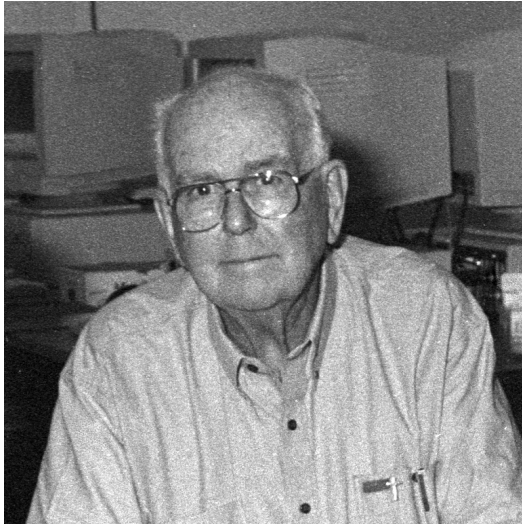
For a complete listing of works by and about McKelson held by the Library and for other related material consult [Mura@, the AIATSIS catalogue](#).

For access to audiovisual material contact the [Audiovisual Archive](#).

The [Archives of the Pallottine Fathers and Brothers, Australian Region](#) hold records relating to the religious life of McKelson's community, including records relating to McKelson's life and to his work with Indigenous communities. Contact the Archivist by email at archives@pallottine.org.au for further information.

[Back to top](#)

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE



Father Kevin McKelson, 1999
AIATSIS No.N6645.2

Kevin Bartholomew McKelson was born in Melbourne, Victoria in 1926 and was ordained as a priest into the religious Order of the Society of Catholic Apostolate (Pallottines) on 2 July 1950. In July 1954 he arrived in the Kimberley region of Western Australia where he worked in the Broome Parish until 1961.

With the exception of one year spent at Beagle Bay, Fr McKelson was based at the La Grange Mission (Bidyadanga), 150 km south of Broome from 1961 to 1991.

During that time he studied the Kimberley language groups, in particular the five languages spoken at La Grange Mission – Nyangumarta [Nyangumarda], Karajarri, Yulparija, Juwaliny and Mangala.

Initially McKelson's aim was to teach these languages but government policy did not allow this until the end of his time at La Grange (Bidyadanga). Consequently he contented himself with recording the languages, and teaching some students to read and write in them.

In 1994 Fr McKelson became Chaplain at the University of Notre Dame, Broome Campus, Western Australia, and he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Laws in 2003.

In 1995 Fr McKelson was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in the General Division for his service to the Aboriginal community.

Fr McKelson retired to the Rossmoyne Pallottine House, Western Australia, in 2006.

[Back to top](#)

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

Series 1 Nyangumarta [Nyangumarda] language material

Item

- 1 Introduction to Nyangumarta. Bound typescript manuscript comprising a hundred lessons in Nyangumarta (1979) intended as a companion to the *Nyangumarta Topical Vocabulary* (see Box 1 Item 9). [Set of accompanying audio cassettes deposited with the [Audiovisual Archive](#)]

- 2 Introduction to Nyangumarta. Bound typescript draft manuscript comprising a hundred lessons in Nyangumarta with handwritten additions and corrections
- 3 Nyangumarta alphabetical vocabulary. Typescript papers with handwritten additions and corrections. Uses b,d,g orthography
- 4 O'Grady vocabulary - Lists A,B,C,D. Typescript papers with numbered English glossary and handwritten Nyangumarta entries based on the work of Geoffrey O'Grady. Uses b,d,g orthograph
- 5 Introducing Nyangumarta. Typescript draft papers with handwritten corrections. Contains twenty lessons in Nyangumarta and a mini-vocabulary. Uses p,t,k orthography, 1979
- 6 Nyangumarta alphabetical vocabulary 1980. Typescript papers with alphabetical English glossary and handwritten Nyangumarta words and examples
- 7 Nyangumarta alphabetical vocabulary. Typescript papers with alphabetical English glossary and handwritten Nyangumarta entries, 1983
- 8 Nyangumarta alphabetical vocabulary. Typescript papers with alphabetical English glossary and handwritten Nyangumarta entries. Uses p,t, k orthography. A source document for *Topical Vocabulary in Northern Nyangumarta*, 1989. [Another copy held in Library at L N975.00 3/1]
- 9 Nyangumarta topical vocabulary. Typescript papers with additional handwritten Nyangumarta entries and notes. Includes a related sound chart. A source for *Topical Vocabulary in Northern Nyangumarta*, 1989
- 10 Tommy Dodd's diary. Typescript papers with handwritten additions, 1968-1969
- 11 Tommy Dodd's diary and other texts. Later typescript version of 1968-69 diary (above) with handwritten corrections in red. Includes titles to some of the stories and a short epilogue to Tommy Dodd, 53pp, 1996
- 12 Tommy Dodd's stories. Typescript papers with handwritten notes, corrections and additions of the various titled texts. Stories were copied from an earlier source
- 13 Nyangumarta reader. Typescript papers of selected reading material used for teaching Nyangumarta. Extracts are from Tommy Dodd's Diary (see Items 10-11)
- 14-15 Texts in Nyangumarta. Small notebooks of handwritten text and some additional typescript copies transcribed from audiotapes, 1967-1968. Item 14 contains stories recorded from the Nyangumarta speakers Tommy Dodd, Wally Maku, Mischa and Pincher. Item 15 contains stories from the Nyangumarta speaker Paddy Nardi and some associated teaching texts
- 16 Texts in Nyangumarta. Typescript texts, some with English translation, used for teaching Nyangumarta in schools
- 17 Working notebooks on Nyangumarta. Comprise two Fortis Spiral bound Notebooks (1967), Spiroflex Notebook (1980), Spirax Notebook (1981) and a Red Vinyl Notebook (1981). Contain preliminary vocabulary lists and notes
- 18 Miscellaneous notes on Nyangumarta – Verbs. Includes a notebook on verb structure (tenses, mood etc.), typescript papers with handwritten notes, corrections and additions on declensions, revision of words supplied by Dr G. O'Grady, syntax, sentence examples, future tense and imperatives, 1968-1978. Also ten handwritten pages on negative imperatives
- 19-21 Miscellaneous notes on Nyangumarta – General. Handwritten notes. Item 21 comprises McKelson's first lesson in Nyangumarta given by Dr Petri of Cologne

[Back to top](#)

Series 2 Karajarri language material

Item

- 1 Studies in Karajarri. Spiral bound publication by Father McKelson and the Bidyadanga Community with additional handwritten notes, examples and corrections by McKelson. Includes an introduction to Karajarri grammar, an English-Karajarri topical dictionary and a Karajarri-English alphabetical dictionary. Principally concerned with the Nangu dialect, 127pp. Wanga Maya, Pilbara Aboriginal Language Centre, 1994. [Another copy held in Library at MS 2688]
- 2 Varia/Garadyari examples. Typescript and handwritten preliminary notes that form the basis of *Studies in Garadyari* [copy held in Library at MS 290]. Includes alphabetical vocabulary, grammar notes, verb lists etc., c.1970-71
- 3 Studies in Garadyari [Karajarri]. Bound typescript papers that have been photocopy reduced. Contains additional handwritten notes, examples and corrections, c.1974
- 4 Studies in Karajarri. Typescript draft, 1989. See also Series 2 Item 4
- 5 Language of the Garadjari at La Grange, WA. Typescript excerpt from *Australian Languages* by Hermann Nekes and Ernest A. Worms, (1953) which describes the Najanaja dialect. Contains handwritten notes and examples added by McKelson who was recording the Nangu dialect, 1959, 57pp
- 6 O'Grady's vocabulary – Lists A,B,C,D. Numbered typescript papers with English glossary and handwritten Karajarri words and sentences based on the work of Dr G. O'Grady
- 7 Karajarri alphabetical vocabulary 1980. Typescript papers with alphabetical English glossary and handwritten Karajarri entries
- 8 Basic Garadjari (Nanu). Typescript papers with topically arranged vocabulary and handwritten additions. Typescript words are from recordings with Broncho and handwritten words are from recordings with Jack Mularti
- 9 Karajarri texts. Short typescript texts made from recordings with various speakers including Broncho and Big John Dodo (audiotapes not located by McKelson). Some texts contain handwritten corrections, 1968-71
- 10 Sketches. Three sketches in pencil by Big John Dodo with some Karajarri text by McKelson
- 11 Working notebook on Karajarri. Zweckform notebook containing handwritten notes in Karajarri
- 12 Miscellaneous notes on Karajarri. Comprise typescript dictionary and grammar by Father Worms and revised by Alice Beelie; a handwritten, numbered list of O'Grady's imperatives (1984); typescript and handwritten notes on grammar, the Headman at La Grange Mission (1998) and terms for tribal groupings or localities

[Back to top](#)

Series 3 Yulparija language material

Item

- 1 Studies in Yulparija. Spiral bound publication by Father McKelson and the Bidyadanga

- Community with additional handwritten notes, corrections and additions by McKelson. Includes an introduction to Yulparija grammar, an English-Yulparija topical vocabulary and a Yulparija-English alphabetical vocabulary. Uses b,d, g, n orthology, 122pp. Wanga Maya, Pilbara Aboriginal Language Centre. A source for the 'Yulparija Wordlist 1989'
- 2 Studies in Yulbaridya [Yulparija]. Typescript papers with handwritten notes intended as an introduction to the grammar of the Yulparija language and as supplementary to Geoffrey O'Grady's structural summary of the language in *Anthropological Linguistics*, (v. 8. no.2, p150 et seq.), 19pp
 - 3 St Aloysius' College working notebook. Contains McKelson's early notes on Yulparija probably based on O'Grady's material
 - 4 Yulbaridja [Yulparija] Anna Plains. Typescript papers with handwritten corrections and additions. Comprise various verb examples, an incomplete wordlist with illustrative sentences, a list of principal verbs etc. Used as a source for 'Yulparija Alphabetical Vocabulary' (1989) sometimes referred to as 'Yulparija Wordlist 1989'
 - 5 Sentences in Yulparija. Typescript papers with handwritten additions and corrections. Comprise sentences and short, titled texts in Yulparija. Includes also a later version typed by Barbara Jones who also holds the associated discs. Used as a source for 'Yulparija Alphabetical Vocabulary 1989', 1970-81
 - 6 Yulparija [Yulparija] alphabetical vocabulary 1980. Typescript papers with English glossary and handwritten Yulparija entries. Used as a source for 'Yulparija Alphabetical Vocabulary 1989'
 - 7 English-Yulparija alphabetical vocabulary. Typescript papers with English glossary and handwritten Yulparija entries. Used as a source for 'Yulparija Alphabetical Vocabulary 1989', 107pp
 - 8 Yulparija alphabetical vocabulary 1989. Typescript backlash-coded wordlist in Yulparija. Compiled by Diana MacCallum and based on McKelson's material, 33pp. Also includes a four-page catalogue of sources used and brief description of those source
 - 9 Yulparija topical vocabulary. Typescript draft papers with handwritten numbering and additions, transcribed 1986. Used as a source for 'Yulparija Alphabetical Vocabulary 1989'
 - 10 Fortis Spiral bound working notebook on Yulparija. Topically arranged Yulparija vocabulary. Used as a source for 'Yulparija Alphabetical Vocabulary 1989'
 - 11 Working notebooks in Yulparija. A Spiroflex notebook and a Spirax notebook containing notes on Yulparija, 1981. Accompanying audio cassettes of Yulparija speaker, Moko, recorded 1980, deposited with Audiovisual Archives

[Back to top](#)

Series 4 Juwaliny language material

Item

- 1 Basic structure of Dyuwaliny. Typescript draft papers intended as an introduction to a work titled *Studies in (Juwaliny) Dyuwalini*
- 2 O'Grady's wordlists – A,B,C,D. Typescript papers with numbered English glossary based on the work of Geoffrey O'Grady. Handwritten Juwaliny entries are by McKelson. Language is labeled 'w' (Walmajarri) later identified as Juwaliny (Dyuwaliny). Uses b, d, g orthography
- 3 Juwaliny alphabetical vocabulary 1980. Typescript papers with alphabetical English

- glossary and handwritten Juwaliny entries
- 4-5 Juwaliny topical vocabulary. Handwritten and photocopied, topically arranged papers with English glossary and handwritten Juwaliny entries in red. 'Amplified March 1988' from Joyce Hudson's vocabulary
 - 6 Dyuwaliny/Juwaliny verbs. Typescript papers with handwritten additions. Examines verb tenses, verb classes and verb structure in Dyuwaliny. Includes also typescript and handwritten notes on Walmadjarri/Juwaliny verb tenses and texts based on narratives recorded by the speakers Bugara and Patsy Bangu - bush women at La Grange Mission. Bugara recordings deposited with Audiovisual Archives. See Appendix - Miscellaneous Sound Recordings
 - 7 Verb notebooks. St Aloysius' College notebook and another working notebook containing early notes on the verb structure of the Walmadjarri/Juwaliny language, pre 1968
 - 8 Djualin tape notebook. Handwritten texts in notebook (not available) and loose-leaf papers based on narratives recorded by the speakers, Mervyn/Ngampukarti, 1967
 - 9 Miscellaneous notes on Dyuwaliny. Comprise typescript papers with handwritten additions on pronouns (1975), sentence construction and imperatives

[Back to top](#)

Series 5 Mangala language material

Item

- 1 Studies in Mangala. Original typescript bound manuscript with handwritten corrections and notes. Includes topically arranged vocabulary (164pp) and some titled texts in Mangala, 1974. [Other copies held in Library at MS 291 and MS 292]
- 2 Studies in Mangala. Typescript photocopy-reduced and bound papers of the above manuscript. This working copy has additional handwritten notes, examples and corrections, 1974. Cover note by McKelson dated 1998
- 3 Studies in Mangala. Spiral bound publication by McKelson and the Bidyadanga Community with additional handwritten notes, corrections and additions by McKelson. Includes an introduction to Mangala grammar, an English-Mangala topical vocabulary and a Mangala-English alphabetical vocabulary, 94pp, Wanga Maya, Pilbara Aboriginal Language Centre
- 4 A topical vocabulary of Mangala. Spiral bound draft copy of McKelson's work prepared by Diana MacCallum, 1989. This manuscript later published as Studies in Mangala (see Item 1)
- 5-6 Studies in Mangala. Typescript draft papers (incomplete) with handwritten corrections and examples
- 7 Mangala alphabetical vocabulary 1980. Typescript papers with English alphabetical glossary and handwritten Mangala entries. Uses p,t,k orthography, 1980
- 8 Studies in Mangala. Typescript (some carbon copied) and handwritten papers comprising an alphabetical vocabulary with illustrative sentences. Uses b,d,g orthography
- 9 Letter from M. Walsh to Fr. K. McKelson. Contains comments from Michael Walsh, Linguistic Research Officer, Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies on McKelson's Basic Mangala, May 1977
- 10 Letters from Tsunoda to McKelson. Contain comments from Tsunoda Tasaka, Department of Linguistics, Monash University on McKelson's 'Study of Mangala', October

1976-February 1977

- 11 Guni Guni papers. Guni Guni came to La Grange Mission in the early 1970s from the country east of Anna Plains. McKelson was teaching him to write Mangala. Papers include Activity Book with drawings and notes, Cutting Out Book with maps, notes and drawings, labeled map of springs around Anna Plains on corrugated cardboard and typescript and handwritten notes titled 'Guni Guni's country', 1976
- 12 Miscellaneous papers on Mangala. Typescript texts with handwritten corrections and additions. Texts based on recordings of the Mangala speakers, Paddy Jadai (1968) and Clancy Gurgai (1971) at La Grange Mission. Also various typescript notes with handwritten corrections and additions on 'Manala contrasts', 'certain Manala expressions' and 'different kinds of sentences'

[Back to top](#)

Series 6 Comparative study on five Australian Indigenous languages - Topical

This series mainly includes wordlists comparing the five Australian Indigenous languages of Nyanumada, Dyualin, Garadyari, Yulbaridya, and Manala. [These spellings were initially used by Father McKelson. In later papers he uses the spelling Nyangumarta [Nyanagumarda], Juwaliny, Karajarri, Yulparija and Mangala]. Indigenous wordlists are accompanied by a glossary in English.

The papers, dating from 1968-86, were originally held in folders labelled 'Keywords', 'Animals', 'Camp' and 'People' and this topical arrangement is reflected in the items below. See also Series 9 Items 1-6 and 8 for additional comparative, topically arranged wordlists.

Item

- 1 Comparative topical vocabulary – Keywords. Typescript and handwritten wordlists topically arranged under the broad heading 'Keywords'. Includes two content lists and wordlists on demonstratives, personal pronouns, cardinal points, numerals, terms for tribal groupings and localities, contrasting words and useful general words
- 2 Comparative topical vocabulary – Country. Typescript and handwritten wordlists topically arranged under the broad heading 'Country'. Includes two versions of wordlists on the terrain generally. Subject headings include 'dry', 'wet', 'stony' and 'hilly ground', 'colours' and 'tide'
- 3 Comparative topical vocabulary – Trees/bush & sea. Typescript and handwritten wordlists topically arranged under the broad heading 'Trees' and 'Sea'. Includes two versions of wordlists on relevant features of the bush and the sea. Subject headings include 'trees', 'grass', 'bush fruit', 'the seasons', 'tide' and 'fish'
- 4 Comparative topical vocabulary – Sky. Typescript and handwritten wordlists topically arranged under the broad heading of 'Sky'. Included are wordlists with the subject headings of 'sun', 'moon', 'stars', 'wind', 'seasons', 'clouds' and 'time'
- 5 Comparative topical vocabulary – Consolidated. Typescript and handwritten wordlists topically arranged with a column for each of the five languages. Main headings are 'country', 'trees', 'sea' and 'sky'. See also Series 6 Items 3 and 4
- 6 Comparative topical vocabulary – Animals. Typescript and handwritten wordlists topically arranged under the broad heading 'Animals'. Includes two versions of wordlists

and a consolidated list. Subject headings include 'mammals', 'rodents', 'European animals', 'lizards', 'goannas', 'snakes', 'insects and arachnids'

- 7 Comparative topical vocabulary – Birds. Typescript and handwritten wordlists topically arranged under the broad heading 'Birds'. Includes wordlists on 'type of bird', 'birds generally', extracts from the *Wildlife Conservation Act, 1950* and *Fauna Conservation Act 1950-1970* and a photocopy of the Agriculture Protection Board's *Declared Bird Regulations*
- 8 Comparative topical vocabulary – People generally. Typescript and handwritten wordlists topically arranged under the broad heading 'People'. Includes wordlists on 'people in general' and 'family relationships'
- 9 Comparative topical vocabulary – Human qualities. Typescript and handwritten wordlists topically arranged under the heading 'Human qualities'. Includes several versions of the same wordlist - intended to come under the broad heading 'People'
- 10 Comparative topical vocabulary – The camp. Typescript and handwritten wordlists (and sentences) topically arranged under the heading 'Camp'. Includes various versions of wordlists (and sentences) on 'the campsite', 'cooking a kangaroo', 'time' and 'materials'
- 11 Comparative topical vocabulary – Camp culture. Typescript and handwritten wordlists topically arranged under the heading 'Camp Culture'. Includes various versions of wordlists on 'camp culture', 'initiation degrees', 'clothing', 'food' and 'weapons, carrying utensils and tools'
- 12 Comparative topical vocabulary – Additional. Typescript and handwritten wordlists topically arranged under the headings of 'useful words', 'adverbs and prepositions', 'contrasting words' and 'language and place names'
- 13 Comparative topical vocabulary – Shorter version. Typescript topical wordlists with handwritten additions under the headings of 'keywords', 'country', 'animals', 'goannas and lizards', 'snakes', 'trees (general)', 'the human body'(two versions), 'materials', 'family and camp life' and 'the camp'
- 14-16 Comparative topical vocabulary 1986. Three blue foolscap exercise books with topically arranged wordlists and some additional loose-leaf notes. These form the basis of later versions of the *Comparative Topical Vocabulary*. [See also Series 6 Item 1]
- 17-18 Comparative topical vocabulary 1976. Handwritten, numbered and topically arranged wordlists that form the basis of later versions of the *Comparative Topical Vocabulary*, 126pp. [See also Series 6 Item 1]
- 19 Numbered comparative vocabulary. Handwritten wordlist based on a numbering system for words relating to the 'human body' and 'people generally'. Corrections are in red

[Back to top](#)

Series 7 Comparative study in five Australian Indigenous languages - Alphabetical

This series comprises alphabetically arranged wordlists comparing the five Australian Indigenous languages of Nyangumarta [Nyanumada], Juwaliny [Dyualin], Karajarri [Garadyari], Yulparija [Yulbaridya], and Mangala [Manala].

Item

- 1-4 Comparative alphabetical vocabulary. Photocopies of papers with handwritten alphabetical English glossary and handwritten wordlists in Nyangumarta, Karajarri, Yulparija, Juwaliny and Mangala. Corrections and additions are in red. See Item 1 for the letters a-c, Item 2 for letters d-j, Item 3 for letters k-r and Item 4 for letters s-z
- 5 Comparative alphabetical vocabulary. Typescript papers with alphabetical English glossary and handwritten entries in the five Aboriginal languages
- 6-8 Comparative numbered alphabetical vocabulary. Handwritten papers with English glossary and corresponding handwritten wordlists in the five Aboriginal languages. Corrections and additions are in red, 226pp
- 9 Comparative notebook. Multi system International foolscap notebook with English glossary alphabetically arranged followed by entries in the five Aboriginal languages. Comprise words for the letters a-f

[Back to top](#)

Series 8 Comparative study in five Australian Indigenous languages - Grammatical

This series compares the use of pronouns, imperatives and verbs in the five Australian Indigenous languages of Nyangumarta [Nyanumada], Juwaliny [Dyualin], Karajarri [Garadyari], Yulparija [Yulbaridya], and Mangala [Manala].

Item

- 1 A comparative study of pronouns. Typescript numbered manuscript and draft copy described as 'a simple, comparative study of the pronouns in each of these (Nyanumada, Dyualin, Garadyari, Yulbaridya and Manala) languages, 36pp, 1977. [Another copy held in Library at PMS1122]. Also included is a typescript, computer generated pronoun chart with handwritten additions depicting 1st, 2nd, and 3rd person, singular, dual and plural, 1995
- 2 Comparative pronouns. Typescript and handwritten papers on pronouns for each of the five Aboriginal languages - one set of papers dated 1984
- 3 Personal pronouns. Handwritten notes and comparative lists based on personal pronouns common to all of the five Aboriginal languages
- 4 Pronouns and sentence structure. Comprises typescript and handwritten comparative papers on putting personal indicators and direct objects together
- 5 Sentence structure-general. Typescript papers with handwritten corrections and notes on the combined use of pronouns, nouns, adjectives, verbs etc. in sentences. Examples in the five Aboriginal languages and English
- 6 Pronoun charts. Photocopies of three large handwritten charts comparing pronouns and 1st, 2nd and 3rd person (singular and plural) in the five Aboriginal languages. Original charts and copies are held in the Manuscript Plan Cabinet
- 7 Imperatives. Typescript and handwritten comparative wordlists on imperatives, in particular manual imperatives and singular positives
- 8-9 Verbs - General. Includes a typescript comparative wordlist with handwritten corrections and additions, and a handwritten list of key verbs (Item 8); and various typescript and handwritten comparative wordlists with corrections (Item 9)

[Back to top](#)

Series 9 Miscellaneous comparative notes

This series includes wordlists in the five Australian Indigenous languages of Nyangumarta [Nyanumada], Juwaliny [Dyualin], Karajarri [Garadyari], Yulparija [Yulbaridya], and Mangala [Manala].

Item

- 1-5 Wordlists on body parts and their functions. Typescript and handwritten comparative wordlists in the five Aboriginal languages reflecting various stages of revision. Wordlists are topically arranged under the parts of the body and relate to the functioning of that part. Includes nouns, verbs, adjectives, phrases etc.
- 6 Wordlists on hunting and the camp. Handwritten comparative wordlists of verbs, topically arranged under headings related to hunting and the camp
- 7 Working notebooks on verbs. Western Australia Department of Education exercise book and a (Linus) Italian exercise book (1978) containing wordlists of verbs in the five Aboriginal languages
- 8 Locational and directionals. Typescript and handwritten comparative wordlists topically arranged under the heading 'Locational and Directionals' depicting various stages of revision
- 9-10 Ten comparative spiral bound working notebooks. Headings on notebooks include 'Summary of Grammars', 'Comparative Pronouns 1981', 'Pronouns – Comparative synopsis of structure', 'Comparative practice with pronouns', 'Imperatives' (Item 9), 'Main words comparative 1980', 'Basic comparative vocab. 1981', 'Pronouns 1981', 'Comp. old spelling (1) 1992' and 'Comp. Old spelling (2) 1992'. Notebooks originally held in a folder entitled 'Comparative vocabulary 1986'
- 11-12 Early comparative working notebooks, 1968. Two hardcover foolscap blue notebooks containing fieldnotes on Nyangumarta vocabulary, an early comparative vocabulary, c. 1968 (Item 11), and general comparative work of the five Aboriginal languages at La Grange Mission (Item 12)
- 13 Comparative notes. Miscellaneous handwritten notes from a note pad. Includes notes on pronouns, wordlists, early kinship charts and references to articles on linguistics

[Back to top](#)

Series 10 Kinship material

Item

- 1 Learn some kinship: some Kimberley 'Skins'. Typescript draft manuscript identified and correlated by McKelson with special thanks to Peter Clancy for correlating the 'Skins', 23pp, 1998, with copy on floppy disc
- 2-3 Kinship terms. Handwritten notes that formed the basis of *Learn Some Kinship* (see Item 1 above). Originally organized in a folder with sections for each of the five Aboriginal languages
- 4 Notes on La Grange Mission 1976. Spiral bound, typescript draft manuscript that attempts to explain step by step and by means of diagrams how group classification is related to and functions within the kinship pattern at Bidyadanga/La Grange Mission, via

Broome, W.A. Includes also supplementary notes (1977) intended primarily for mission staff and school teachers to assist their understanding of the Aboriginal culture of the Garadyari [Karajarri], Nyanumada [Nyangumarda], Yulbaridya [Yulparija], Dyuwaliny and Manala [Mangala] people at La Grange

- 5 Notes on La Grange Mission 1975. Typescript copy of a paper that discusses the issues of nomads, culture clash, customary law study, Aboriginal housing, language and alcohol problems, 5pp. Also included is a handwritten comparative chart on 'Skin' names
- 6 Notes from La Grange Mission (1974). Original typescript manuscript that discusses the kinship structure of the five Aboriginal tribes located near La Grange Mission., 39pp [another copy held in Library at MS193]. Included also is a typescript manuscript entitled *Notes on La Grange Mission 1976*, 13pp. See also Series 10 Item 4
- 7 Notes on kinship - General. Typescript and handwritten notes, charts and diagrams on 'Skin' names and the cultural structures of the Aboriginal tribes around La Grange Mission
- 8 Notes on kinship – Nyangumarta. Typescript and handwritten notes, charts and diagrams on Nyangumarta kinship terms
- 9 Notes on kinship – Karajarri and Manala. Typescript and handwritten notes, charts and diagrams on Karajarri and Manala kinship terms
- 10-11 Notes on kinship – Comparative. Typescript and handwritten notes, charts and diagrams depicting kinship terms of the Nyanumada, Dyuwaliny, Garadyari, Yulbaridya and Manala tribes. Item 9(b) also includes a cutting out book with notes and charts on kinship and an exercise book on 'Pairs'
- 12 Working notebooks on kinship. Comprise a black hardcover notebook and a green covered notebook with notes and diagrams on kinship terms
- 13 Miscellaneous manila folders. Previously separated from notes in above items. Contain notes on kinship

[Back to top](#)

Series 11 Photographic prints

Access - open for viewing. Contact the [Audiovisual Archives](#).

Item

- 1 Includes two black and white photographic prints of McKelson with lawmen in the Kimberleystaken in the 1970s; a portrait of McKelson at La Grange Mission, 1990; several photographic prints taken during McKelson's visit to AIATSIS Library, February 1999; and two portraits of McKelson in academic gown after receiving an honorary Doctorate of Laws, University of Notre Dame, Broome, 2003

[Back to top](#)

ADDITION - MAY 2006

'Comments and notes on Fr. McKelson's paper' and accompanying handwritten letter from Professor A.P. Elkin, Editor, 9 May 1973.

[Back to top](#)

APPENDIX

Sound recordings received with the collection and transferred to Audiovisual Archives

To access any of these recordings contact the [Audiovisual Archives](#)

- Nyangumarta sound recordings. Two audio cassettes entitled 'Molly and female reader' that accompany *Introduction to Nyangumarta* (100 lessons on Nyangumarta). Related to material in MS 3702 Series 1 Item 1. Also includes other recordings on the Nyangumarta language
- Karajarri sound recordings. Four audio cassette tapes that accompany *Learn a Language* (see MS 218]. Karajarri lessons on the Karajarri language
- Yulparija sound recordings. A number of recordings on the Yulparija language. Many of these appear to relate to draft versions of *Studies in Yulparija* (currently not transcribed)
- Juwaliny sound recordings. A small number of recordings on the Juwaliny language
- Mangala sound recordings. Several audio cassettes that relate to the text *Studies in Mangala* (currently not transcribed) and a small number of sound recordings on Mangala

[Back to top](#)

BOX LIST

Box	Series	Item
1	1	1-13
2	1	14-21
	2	1-4
3	2	5-12
	3	1-7
4	3	8-11
	4	1-9
	5	1
5	5	2-12
	6	1-2
6	6	3-16
7	6	17-19
	7	1-9
8	8	1-5, 7-9
Manuscript Plan Cabinet	8	6
	9	1-6
9	9	7-13
	10	1-3
10	10	4-13
	11	1
	Addition – May 2006	

Finding Aid compiled by J.E. Kirkham, May 1999. Updated June 2003 by J.E. Kirkham and May 2008 by J.E. Churches

