



AIATSIS
Australian Institute of Aboriginal
and Torres Strait Islander Studies

Finding aid

AURA_01

**Sound recordings collected by
Graeme Ward, 1988**

ACCESS

Availability of copies

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Restrictions on listening

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Permission must be sought from either of the depositors G.K. Ward or Mr Robert Bednarik for any copying, publication or quotation of this material. Any publication or quotation must be consistent with the Copyright Act (1968).

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Date: 1988

Extent: 4 audiocassettes (approximately 1 hr each) : analogue, stereo.

Production history

The following is a recording of the Symposium 'O' (Retouch) from the first International AURA Congress held in Darwin in 1988. The symposium showcases presentations relating to the issue of retouching Indigenous rock art. Speakers include Ben Gunn, David Lambert, David Mowaljarlai, George Chaloupka, Graeme Ward, Grahame Walsh, Howard McNickle, Ivan Hascovek and John Clarke.

RELATED MATERIAL

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

There are field tape report sheets and a listing that directly relates to this audio collection.

Among the extensive collection of related material is [B M892.74/R1 Retouch: Maintenance and conservation of Aboriginal Rock Imagery](#), [PMS 5055 Maintenance and conservation of rock imagery: introduction to symposium 'O': retouch](#), [p AUR First AURA Congress 29 August to 2 September 1988: Program and congress handbook](#) and [CHALOUPKA. G04 CS 110194-110201 Photographs of conservation areas in Arnhem Land and the Kimberleys](#).

For a complete listing of related material held by AIATSIS, consult our [online catalogue](#), Mura®. To conduct a search of available audio finding aids, please [click here](#).

ARCHIVIST'S NOTE

This finding aid was compiled from information provided by Graeme Ward and audition sheets prepared by AIATSI staff. Timing points may be slightly out depending on the technologies and procedures in place at the time the recordings were auditioned.

ITEM LIST

Archive number	Field recording number	Description
027161	Field Tape FT 1, Side A	Recording of presentations by David Lambert and Ben Gunn at the Retouch Symposium 'O' of the First International AURA Congress, Darwin, September 1988
027162	Field Tape FT 1, Side B	Recording of presentations by Ben Gunn and Ivan Hascovek at the Retouch Symposium 'O' of the First International AURA Congress, Darwin, September 1988
027163	Field Tape FT 2, Side A	Recording of Howard McNickle's presentation at the Retouch Symposium 'O' of the First International AURA Congress, Darwin, September 1988
027164	Field Tape FT 2, Side B	Recording of presentations by David Mowaljarlai, Grahame Walsh and George Chaloupka at the Retouch Symposium 'O' of the First International AURA Congress, Darwin, September 1988
027165	Field Tape FT 3, Side A	Recording of John Clarke's presentation at the Retouch Symposium 'O' of the First International AURA Congress, Darwin, September 1988
027166	Field Tape FT 4, Side A	Recording of David Lambert's presentation with Graeme Ward at the Retouch Symposium 'O' of the First International AURA Congress, Darwin, September 1988
027167	Field Tape 4, Side B	Recording of Graeme Ward, David Lambert and David Mowaljarlai answering questions at the Retouch Symposium 'O' of the First International AURA Congress, Darwin, September 1988

ITEM DESCRIPTIONS

027161/Field Tape FT 1, Side A

Performer/speaker(s):	Hilary [?], David Lambert and Ben Gunn
Personal subject(s):	-
Subject keywords:	Art - Rock art and Archaeology
Language/people:	English, Gaagudju people (N50)
Places:	Darwin (NT Top End SD52-04), Kakadu / Alligator Rivers area (NT SD53-01, SD53-05)
Recording quality:	Fair

Timing point	Description
00:00	<u>AIATSIS Archive announcement</u>
00:16	Hilary [?] introduces speaker David Lambert
00:32	David Lambert converses about his presentation entitled <i>Kakadu Dreaming: Ancestral heroes and mythology in the rock art of the Kakadu region</i> .
03:32	David Lambert showcases and discusses slides relating to rock art and mythology that accompany the above presentation.
28:56	David Lambert concludes his <i>Kakadu Dreaming</i> presentation.
29:15	The audience applauds following the conclusion of David Lambert's presentation.
29:27	Hilary [?] thanks David Lambert for his presentation and introduces speaker Ben Gunn who has done work in Stage 3 of Kakadu and the conservation zone [World Heritage list].
29:47	Silence
30:27	Ben Gunn converses about his presentation on <i>Stage 3 of Kakadu and the conservation zone</i> [for the World Heritage List].
33:25	Ben Gunn highlights and discusses slides relating to his presentation [poor sound quality].
46:38	Silence
46:52	End of Field Tape FT 1, Side A and end of 027161

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027162/Field Tape FT 1, Side B

Performer/ speaker(s):	Ben Gunn, Hilary [?] and Ivan Hascovek
Personal subject(s):	-
Subject keywords:	Art - Rock art and Archaeology
Language/people:	English, Gaagudju people (N50)
Places:	Darwin (NT Top End SD52-04), Kakadu / Alligator Rivers area (NT SD53-01, SD53-05), Jabiru (NT SD53-01)
Recording quality:	Good

Timing point	Description
00:00	<u>AIATSIS Archive announcement</u>
00:14	Ben Gunn continues his presentation and slideshow in relation to <i>Stage 3 of Kakadu and the conservation zone</i> [World Heritage List].
02:37	The audience applauds following the conclusion of the above presentation.
02:44	Ben Gunn answers questions from the audience that relate to his presentation.
08:07	Quiet noises in background
08:52	Hilary [?] introduces Ivan Hascovek from the Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service, [based in Jabiru, NT] as the next speaker.
09:17	Ivan Hascovek discusses, and highlights slideshows about, his presentation relating to <i>one regional style in Kakadu National Park</i> .
39:43	The audience applauds following the conclusion of the above presentation.
39:51	Ivan Hascovek answers questions from the audience that relate to his presentation.
41:02	Quiet noises in background
41:20	Silence
42:25	End of Field Tape FT 1, Side B and end of 027162

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027163/Field Tape FT 2, Side A

Performer/speaker(s):	Howard McNickle
Personal subject(s):	-
Subject keywords:	Art - Rock art and Archaeology
Language/people:	English, Jaminjung people (N18), Murrinhpatha people (N3)
Places:	Darwin (NT Top End SD52-04), Victoria River (North NT SD52, SE52)
Recording quality:	Good

Timing point	Description
00:00	<u>AIATSIS Archive announcement</u>
00:15	Quiet noises in background
00:47	Howard McNickle discusses his presentation on the Victoria River District.
06:32	Delay due to technical issues
06:57	Howard McNickle showcases photographs and slides amongst his presentation on the Victoria River District.
47:29	Silence
47:51	End of Field Tape FT 2, Side A and end of 027163

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027164/Field Tape FT 2, Side B

Performer/ speaker(s):	Graeme Ward, David Mowaljarlai, Grahame Walsh and George Chaloupka
Personal subject(s):	-
Subject keywords:	Art - Rock art and Archaeology
Language/people:	English, Ngarinyin people (K18)
Places:	Darwin (NT Top End SD52-04), Kimberley area (WA SD51, SD52, SE51, SE52); East Kimberley area (WA SD52, SE52)
Recording quality:	Fair

Timing point	Description
00:00	<u>AIATSIS Archive announcement</u>
00:14	Introduction by Graeme Ward highlighting the content and background of the Retouch symposium. Graeme Ward introduces David Mowaljarlai.
08:50	David Mowaljarlai gives a statement on his paper entitled Ngarinyin Perspective of Repainting which provides an Indigenous perspective about repainting rock art in the Kimberley (this was brought about by controversy over the Ngarinyin repainting project). See B M892.74/R1 Retouch: Maintenance and conservation of Aboriginal Rock Imagery pp8-9
22:06	The audience applauds following the conclusion of David Mowaljarlai's presentation.
22:15	Graeme Ward asks if anyone would like to seek clarification on factual matters within David Mowaljarlai's speech. Graeme Ward introduces Grahame Walsh and his presentation.
23:32	Grahame Walsh discusses his paper on the subject of retouching rock art in the Kimberley region.
27:00	Silence due to organising the projector for the slides.
27:38	Grahame Walsh highlights rock art slides from the Kimberley taken in 1977 and 1987 respectively (these slides denote the rock art before and after the repainting). Grahame incorporates these slides within his presentation.
34:50	Interlude due to technical issues with the audio visual component within the presentation.
41:22	George Chaloupka converses about his presentation entitled Retouch Events. George also incorporates slides within his presentation.
47:28	Silence
47:39	End of Field Tape FT 2, Side B and end of 027164

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027165/Field Tape FT 3, Side A

Performer/speaker(s):	John Clarke
Personal subject(s):	Graeme Ward, Peter Randolph and Cyril Peck
Subject keywords:	Art - Rock art and Archaeology
Language/people:	English, Ngarinyin people (K18), Wunambal people (K22), Kwini people (K36), Yawuru people (K1)
Places:	Darwin (NT Top End SD52-04), Gibb River (WA East Kimberley SE52-01), Kimberley area (WA SD51, SD52, SE51, SE52); West Kimberley area (WA SD51, SD52, SE51), Wupipi / Broome (WA West Kimberley SE51-06)
Recording quality:	Good

Timing point	Description
00:00	<u>AIATSIS Archive announcement</u>
00:20	John Clarke thanks Graeme Ward. John outlines the results of his investigation with Peter Randolph that they completed when controversy erupted over the Gibb River Project. John discusses his and Peter's presentation entitled Repainting of Kimberley Wandjina Rock Art Sites. John outlines the Community Employment Program (CEP) initiative to preserve Wandjina sites of significance as well as the backlash from a Kimberley pastoralist in June 1987. See B M892.74/R1 Retouch: Maintenance and conservation of Aboriginal Rock Imagery pp.17-22
03:25	John Clarke gives a historical background to the issue during which he briefly mentions observations made by prominent researchers. John provides a description of the Wandjina sites; with particular reference to the artwork.
07:39	John Clarke outlines the complaints that led to the cancellation of the CEP project on the Wandjina sites and counters each of the complaints received in detail. John details the background of project-coordinator Cyril Peck. John highlights the Kimberley Indigenous communities of Broome within the context of his presentation.
14:49	John Clarke talks about the preservation and destruction of traditional rock art of the Kalumburu Indigenous community in the North-Western Kimberley region. John highlighting the impact of lost tourism due to the desecration of Wandjina rock art.
20:13	John Clarke discusses the 1974 assessment completed on the Wandjina rock art. John reiterates the status of conservation made on the site. He reflects on the issues involved in the CEP Project including funding and employment.
26:01	John Clarke compares Indigenous and non-Indigenous materials and how they could potentially impact on the site. John describes the conservation work completed on some of the sites.
28:05	John Clarke fades in the background [to set up slide projector?]
28:29	John Clarke converses about the before and after slides of the Indigenous rock art paintings [low volume]
31:46	Silence
31:52	End of Field Tape FT 3, Side A and end of 027165

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027166/Field Tape FT 4, Side A

Performer/speaker(s):	Graeme Ward and David Lambert and an unidentified audience member
Personal subject(s):	Jack Smith
Subject keywords:	Art - Rock art and Archaeology
Language/people:	English, Darkinung people (S65), Dharug people (S64), Eora people (S61), Ku-ring-gai people (S62), Wiradjuri people (D10)
Places:	Darwin (NT Top End SD52-04), Sydney (NSW SI56-05), Gosford (N Sydney NSW SI56-05), Bulgandry (SW NSW SI55-14)
Recording quality:	Good

Timing point	Description
00:00	<u>AIATSIS Archive announcement</u>
00:26	Graeme Ward introduces Site Conservator David Lambert and his presentation detailing the problem of enhancing the presentation of rock art engravings in Sydney sandstone as well as the implications of this issue.
01:11	David Lambert discusses his presentation entitled <i>Highlighting Sydney engravings for public display</i> . See B M892.74/R1 Retouch: Maintenance and conservation of Aboriginal Rock Imagery. David describes the petroglyphs in sandstone around Sydney as well as rock art engravings in general.
03:03	David Lambert converses about the Feast Group rock art site near Gosford, New South Wales. David highlights the well-intentioned but destructive impact of visitors at another site at Bulgandry, Kariong, New South Wales. He highlights a series of kangaroo rock art slides to affirm his case.
07:18	David Lambert talks about groove cleaning methods.
08:08	Brief pause within the presentation.
08:33	David Lambert shows the before and after retouching photographs of a site damaged by vandals.
09:16	David Lambert gives an Indigenous perspective about retouching engraving sites. David discusses the concerns of Jack Smith; Chairman of the Darkinjung Aboriginal Land Council.
10:38	The audience applauds following the conclusion of David Lambert's speech.
10:50	Graeme Ward articulates to the audience a set of rules for discussion.
12:29	A member of the audience prepares to ask Graeme Ward a question.
13:14	Silence
13:23	A member of the audience asks Graeme Ward a question [unintelligible].
13:32	Silence
14:11	Metallic noise
14:14	End of Field Tape FT 4, Side A and end of 027166

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027167/Field Tape 4, Side B

Performer/speaker(s):	Graeme Ward, David Lambert, David Mowaljarlai and unidentified audience members
Personal subject(s):	-
Subject keywords:	Art - Rock art and Archaeology
Language/people:	English, Worrorra people (K17), Ngarinyin people (K18), Wunambal people (K22)
Places:	Darwin (NT Top End SD52-04), Western Australia (WA)
Recording quality:	Fair to good

Timing point	Description
00:00	<u>AIATSIS Archive announcement</u>
00:14	Graeme Ward discusses the question of preserving Indigenous paintings.
00:51	Silence
01:13	Graeme Ward and an audience member discuss the question whether it is the perpetuation of the Indigenous paintings or the observation of the images that are spiritually significant.
02:08	An unidentified Indigenous man answers the above question by stating that the artwork must continue to exist for the future generations.
03:23	An unidentified man asks the audience if there are any other questions.
03:32	An audience member responds to the suggestion that the Western Australia Museum ought to be involved [with the project].
05:10	An unidentified man asks the audience if there are any further questions.
05:26	A non-Indigenous scientist discusses why he believes that it is arrogant of non-Indigenous people to dictate to Indigenous people what should be done with their heritage.
10:37	An unidentified man thanks the previous audience member for their speech. Graeme asks if there are any other questions.
11:11	An audience member asks whether engraving sites were ever re-engraved by traditional custodians and if yes, what would be the attitude if a CEP program was implemented to re-engage sites. The same audience member asks whether the removal of micro-biological material on the site makes the engravings last longer.
12:54	David Lambert responds to the audience members question about making the engraving lasting longer.
13:46	An unidentified man says there is time for two more short questions.
13:53	A man asks how David Mowaljarlai feels that he has been excluded from painting his own sites by the West Australian Parks Bureaucracy.
14:13	A man answers the above question.
14:29	An Indigenous woman gives her feelings about the Indigenous rock art and culture.
15:51	Graeme Ward asks whether David Mowaljarlai would like to make a statement.
16:35	David Mowaljarlai makes a statement in reference to the Indigenous paintings that are the topic of the debate. David reads his poem that begins <i>I am Worora, I am Ngarinyin, I am Wunambal...</i>
20:46	The audience applauds following the conclusion of David Mowaljarlai's speech and poem.
20:54	An unidentified man makes a statement about the different traditions that Indigenous tribal groups have in relation to preserving rock art. An unidentified man asks whether

	that gives people at the conference and those in heritage professions a right to judge what Indigenous people do with their own rock art.
22:04	Graeme Ward ends the conference and mentions some following events. Graeme thanks the speakers of the symposium.
22:46	The audience applauds following the conclusion of the symposium.
23:02	Silence
23:42	End of Field Tape FT 4, Side B and end of 027167

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