



**AIATSIS**  
Australian Institute of Aboriginal  
and Torres Strait Islander Studies

**Finding aid**

**GORDON\_J02**

**Sound recordings collected by  
John Gordon, 1968**

Prepared August 2005 by AMH  
Last updated 28 November 2016

## 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

Copies of this collection may be made for private research. 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:** 1968

**Extent:** 10 sound tape reels (ca. 15 min. each) : analogue, 7 ½ ips, mono; 5 in. + field tape report sheets.

### Production history

These recordings were collected by John Gordon between 30 July 1968 and 18 September 1968 in Moree, Tamworth, Woodenbong, Cabbage Tree Island, Armidale, Bellwood, Corindi, Burnt Bridge, Brungle, Sydney and Lake Tabourie, NSW. They were collected as part of an AIAS grant to record and transcribe Aboriginal music. The recordings document songs, music, language and cultural discussions by various people in NSW, including Frank Archibald, Albert Dennison, David Spearim, Roy Cutmore, Peter Burke, Richard Donnelly, Fred Laurie, Jimmy Runner, Harry Buchanan, Patrick Callaghan, Harry Cook, Mrs F Munro, Lila Hill, Kenneth Gordon, Ethel Gordon, Elsie Williams and Bill Campbell.

## RELATED MATERIAL

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

See also [GORDON\\_J01](#). Manuscripts relating to this collection are held in the AIATSIS Library, see [MS 548](#) and [PMS 2197](#). Photographs relating to this collection are held in the AIATSIS Audiovisual Archives, see [GORDON.J1.CS](#).

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 John Gordon and audition sheets prepared by AIATSIS staff.

## ITEM LIST

<b>Archive number</b>	<b>Field recording number</b>	<b>Description</b>
001219A	<a href="#">Field tape 11</a>	Stories and songs in English with Mrs F Munro and Lila Hill
001219A	<a href="#">Field tape 12</a>	Songs and discussion in English, Bundjalung and Gumbaynggir with Mrs Ethel Gordon and Kenneth Gordon
001219B	<a href="#">Field tape 13</a>	Song and discussion in English and Bundjalung with Harry Cook
001219B	<a href="#">Field tape 14</a>	Songs and discussion in English, Bundjalung and Gamilaraay with Richard Donnelly
001220A	<a href="#">Field tape 15</a>	Songs and discussion in English and Bundjalung with Richard Donnelly, and English and Gumbaynggir with Fred Laurie and Jimmy Runner
001220A	<a href="#">Field tape 16</a>	Discussion and songs in English, Bundjalung, Gumbaynggir and Dhanggatti with Jimmy Runner, Harry Buchanan, Patrick Callaghan and Frank Archibald
001220B	<a href="#">Field tape 17</a>	Songs and discussion in English, Dhanggatti, Gumbaynggir and Gamilaraay with Frank Archibald and Albert Dennison
001220B	<a href="#">Field tape 18</a>	Song in Gumbaynggir, Kuungkari, Gamilaraay and Ngiyambaa with David Spearim, Roy Cutmore and Peter Burke.
001221A	<a href="#">Field tape 19</a>	Wiradjuri word elicitation with Mrs Elsie Williams. An account in English of an oral history (by Bert Penrith) with John Gordon. Songs and discussion in English with Bill Campbell.
001221A	<a href="#">Field tape 20</a>	Songs and discussion in English with Bill Campbell.

## ITEM DESCRIPTIONS

### 001219A/Field tape 11

Performer/speaker(s): Mrs F Munro, Lila Hill  
 Subject keywords: Language elicitation – Discussion / conversation, Grammar & syntax, Vocabulary & grammar, Music – Vocal, Music – Guitar  
 Language/people: Unknown  
 Places: Tamworth (N NSW SH56-13)  
 Recording quality: Good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
GORDON_J02-001219A	00:00:00	Autobiographical discussion in English with Mrs F Munro. Topics include her early days and moving to Tingha.	30 July 1968	Tamworth NSW
	00:03:44	Song (Danny Boy) and discussion in English with Mrs F Munro. Mrs Munro is accompanied by her granddaughter Lila Hill on guitar.	30 July 1968	Tamworth NSW
	00:07:45	Sacred song in English by Mr F Munro and Lila Hill.	30 July 1968	Tamworth NSW
	00:09:35	Discussion in English with Mrs F Munro. Topics include corroboree, leaf band and initiation rites.	30 July 1968	Tamworth NSW
	00:13:54	End of field tape 11.		

**001219A/Field tape 12**

Performer/speaker(s): Ethel Gordon, Kenneth Gordon  
Subject keywords: Language elicitation – Discussion / conversation, Grammar & syntax, Vocabulary & grammar, Music – Vocal  
Language/people: Bundjalung / Banjalang, Gumbaynggir / Gumbainggirr  
Places: Baryulgil (NSW N Coast SH56-06)  
Recording quality: Good

<b>Archive item number</b>	<b>Timing point</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>
GORDON_J02-001219A	00:13:54	4 songs in Bundjalung and discussion in English with Ethel Gordon and her son Kenneth Gordon.	31 July 1968	Baryulgil NSW
	00:19:18	2 songs in Gumbaynggir and discussion in English with Ethel Gordon and her son Kenneth Gordon.	31 July 1968	Baryulgil NSW
	00:20:59	3 songs in Gumbaynggir and Bundjalung and discussion in English with Ethel Gordon and her son Kenneth Gordon.	31 July 1968	Baryulgil NSW
	00:24:49	Songs in Bundjalung and English, and discussion in English with Ethel Gordon and her son Kenneth Gordon.	31 July 1968	Baryulgil NSW
	00:27:15	End of field tape 12 and Gordon_J02-001219A.		

## 001219B/Field tape 13

Performer/speaker(s): Harry Cook  
Subject keywords: Language elicitation – Discussion / conversation, Grammar & syntax, Vocabulary & grammar, Music – Vocal  
Language/people: Bundjalung / Banjalang  
Places: Cabbage Tree Island (NSW N Coast SH56-03)  
Recording quality: Good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
GORDON_J02-001219B	00:00:00	Discussion in English with Harry Cook. Topics include hunting sea mullet, how songs are composed and gambling at Stoney Gully.	2 August 1968	Cabbage Tree Island NSW
	00:08:22	1 song in Bundjalung and a brief discussion in English with Harry Cook.	2 August 1968	Cabbage Tree Island NSW
	00:09:38	A song about Evans Head discussed in English with Harry Cook.	2 August 1968	Cabbage Tree Island NSW
	00:13:23	The collector, John Gordon, comments on the content of this field tape.	2 August 1968	Cabbage Tree Island NSW
	00:14:10	End of field tape 13.		

## 001219B/Field tape 14

Performer/speaker(s): Richard Donnelly  
Subject keywords: Language elicitation – Discussion / conversation, Grammar & syntax, Vocabulary & grammar, Music – Vocal  
Language/people: Bundjalung / Banjalang, Gamilaraay / Gamilaroi / Kamilaroi  
Places: Woodenbong (NSW N Coast SH56-02)  
Recording quality: Good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
GORDON_J02-001219B	00:14:10	2 Gamilaraay dance songs and discussion with Richard Donnelly	3 August 1968	Woodenbong NSW
	00:19:23	3 songs in Bundjalung and a discussion in English with Richard Donnelly. Topics include Aboriginal “court system” and gambling at Stoney Gully.	3 August 1968	Woodenbong NSW
	00:28:28	A section of a Bundjalung song with Richard Donnelly. The song is interrupted with speech. See field tape 15 for a complete version of this song.	3 August 1968	Woodenbong NSW
	00:28:54	The collector, John Gordon, comments on the content of this field tape.	3 August 1968	Woodenbong NSW
	00:30:15	End of field tape 14 and Gordon_J02-001219B.		



## 001220A/Field tape 15

Performer/speaker(s): Richard Donnelly, Fred Laurie, Jimmy Runner  
Subject keywords: Language elicitation – Discussion / conversation, Grammar & syntax, Vocabulary & grammar, Music – Vocal  
Language/people: Bundjalung / Banjalang, Gumbaynggir / Gumbainggirr  
Places: Woodenbong (NSW N Coast SH56-02), Corindi (NSW N Coast SH56-11)  
Recording quality: Good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
GORDON_J02-001220A	00:00:00	4 songs in Bundjalung and a discussion in English with Richard Donnelly about the songs.	3 August 1968	Woodenbong NSW
	00:09:25	Corroboree song in Gumbaynggir, the accompanying dance and a discussion about the song in English with Fred Laurie.	4 August 1968	Corindi Beach NSW
	00:11:16	Corroboree song in Gumbaynggir with Fred Laurie and Jimmy Runner	4 August 1968	Corindi Beach NSW
	00:12:25	Corroboree song repeated in Gumbaynggir with Fred Laurie. John Gordon, Fred Laurie and Jimmy Runner discuss the song and corroboree.	4 August 1968	Corindi Beach NSW
	00:14:25	Discussion in English with Jimmy Runner. Topics include corroboree and biographical information.	4 August 1968	Corindi Beach NSW
	00:15:00	End of field tape 15.		

## 001220A/Field tape 16

Performer/speaker(s): Jimmy Runner, Harry Buchanan, Frank Archibald, Patrick Callaghan  
Subject keywords: Language elicitation – Discussion / conversation, Grammar & syntax, Vocabulary & grammar, Music – Vocal  
Language/people: Bundjalung / Banjalang, Gumbaynggir / Gumbainggir, Dhanggatti / Daingatti / Dunghutti  
Places: Corindi (NSW N Coast SH56-11), Bellwood (Nambucca, NSW N Coast SH56-10), Burnt Bridge (NSW N Coast SH56-11), Armidale (NSW N Coast SH56-10)  
Recording quality: Good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
GORDON_J02-001220A	00:15:00	Biographical information in English with Jimmy Runner.	4 August 1968	Corindi Beach NSW
	00:09:25	2 songs in Gumbaynggir and Bundjalung with Harry Buchanan.	5 August 1968	Bellwood Mission NSW
	00:21:00	Two stories with Patrick Callaghan in Dhanggatti with English translations.	25 August 1968	Burnt Bridge NSW
	00:27:10	2 songs in Gumbaynggir with Frank Archibald. Biographical discussion in English with Frank Archibald. Topics include his grandfather and terms for “paddy melon stick”.	26 August 1968	East Armidale NSW
	00:32:25	End of field tape 16 and Gordon_J02-001220A.		

**001220B/Field tape 17**

Performer/speaker(s): Frank Archibald, Albert Dennison  
Subject keywords: Language elicitation – Discussion / conversation, Grammar & syntax, Vocabulary & grammar, Music – Vocal, Music - Gumleaf  
Language/people: Gumbaynggir / Gumbainggirr, Dhanggatti / Daingatti / Dunghutti, Gamilaraay / Gamilaroi / Kamilaroi  
Places: Armidale (NSW N Coast SH56-10), Moree (N NSW SH55-08)  
Recording quality: Good

<b>Archive item number</b>	<b>Timing point</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>
GORDON_J02-001220B	00:00:00	A song in Dhanggatti with Frank Archibald.	26 August 1968	East Armidale NSW
	00:03:40	A dance song in Gumbaynggir and a brief discussion in English with Frank Archibald. Topics include tracking bees and possums.	26 August 1968	East Armidale NSW
	00:08:38	A song with Albert Dennison. A demonstration of and discussion about leaf playing with Albert Dennison.	27 August 1968	West Moree NSW
	00:10:07	2 leaf playing songs with Albert Dennison and a discussion about the technique.	27 August 1968	West Moree NSW
	00:14:23	End of field tape 17.		

**001220B/Field tape 18**

Performer/speaker(s): David Spearim, Roy Cutmore, Peter Burke  
 Subject keywords: Language elicitation – Discussion / conversation, Grammar & syntax, Vocabulary & grammar, Music – Vocal, Vocabulary – Wordlists  
 Language/people: Gumbaynggir / Gumbainggirr, Gamilaraay / Gamilaroi / Kamilaroi, Kuungkari / Gunngari, Ngiyambaa / Ngemba  
 Places: Moree (N NSW SH55-08), Sydney (NSW SI56-05)  
 Recording quality: Good  
 Notes: Judy Trefry speaks in the background of the recording of Peter Burke

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
GORDON_J02-001220B	00:14:23	A song believed to be in Gumbaynggir with David Spearim.	27 August 1968	West Moree NSW
	00:17:58	2 corroboree songs in Gamilaraay with Roy Cutmore. Word elicitation with Roy Cutmore including sun and possum.	27 August 1968	West Moree NSW
	00:20:46	2 Ngiyambaa songs with Peter Burke. John Gordon comments on the content of this field tape.	18 September 1968	Lidcombe State Hospital NSW
	00:25:28	End of field tape 18 and Gordon_J02-001220B.		

**001221A/Field tape 19**

Performer/speaker(s): Elsie Williams, Bill Campbell  
 Subject keywords: Language elicitation – Discussion / conversation, Grammar & syntax, Vocabulary & grammar, Music – Vocal, Vocabulary – Wordlists  
 Language/people: Wiradjuri, Muruwari / Murrawarri  
 Places: Brungle (SW NSW SI55-15), Lake Tabourie / Termeil / Kioloa (NSW S Coast SI56-13), Sydney (NSW SI56-05)  
 Recording quality: Fair to Good  
 Notes: Judy Trefry speaks in the background of the recording of Bill Campbell

<b>Archive item number</b>	<b>Timing point</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>
GORDON_J02-001221A	00:00:00	Discussion and word elicitation in Wiradjuri with Elsie Williams. Words include possum, fish, sister, dog, horse and cows.	4 September 1968	Brungle, NSW
	00:03:20	An account by John Gordon of a visit he had with Bert Penrith of Termeil, near Batemans Bay.	5 September 1968	Termeil, NSW
	00:06:08	10 songs in Muruwari and discussion in English with Bill Campbell.	18 September 1968	Lidcombe State Hospital, NSW
	00:15:24	End of field tape 19.		

**001221A/Field tape 20**

Performer/speaker(s): Bill Campbell  
Subject keywords: Language elicitation – Discussion / conversation, Grammar & syntax, Vocabulary & grammar, Music – Vocal  
Language/people: Muruwari / Murrawarri  
Places: Sydney (NSW SI56-05)  
Recording quality: Fair to Good

<b>Archive item number</b>	<b>Timing point</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>
GORDON_J02-001221A	00:15:24	A song in Muruwari and discussion in English with Bill Campbell.	18 September 1968	Lidcombe State Hospital NSW
	00:19:04	End of field tape 20 and Gordon_G02-001221A.		