



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

**Finding aid**

**KABAILA\_P02**

**Sound recordings collected by  
Peter Rimas Kabaila, 1994**

## ACCESS

### Availability of copies

Listening copies are not yet available, but can be arranged on application. For further information, an enquiry form is available on the AIATSIS Audiovisual Access Unit [web page](#). Alternatively, you may contact the Access Unit by [email](#) or phone (02) 6261 4212.

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## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

**Date:** 1994

**Extent:** 9 audiocassettes (approximately 60 min. each) : analogue, mono.

### Production history

These recordings were collected by Peter Kabaila between June and August 1994. They feature oral history interviews with women who lived or worked at the Cootamundra Girls' Home, including Lindsay Jaques, Ann-Marie Elphick, Lesley Whitton, Betty Ellis, Victoria Grounds and Matron Ella Hiscocks. The project was funded by an AIATSIS grant. The collection was deposited with AIATSIS on 19 September 1994.

## RELATED MATERIAL

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A typescript relating to these recordings is held in the AIATSIS Library, see [MS 3321](#) and [MS 3322](#). Photographic collections relating to these recordings are held in the AIATSIS Audiovisual Archive, see [KABAILA.P02.CS](#), [KABAILA.P02.BW](#), and [KABAILA.P03.BW](#). For a complete listing of related material held by AIATSIS, consult the Institute's Mura® online catalogue at <http://mura.aiatsis.gov.au>. To conduct a search of available audio finding aids, please [click here](#).

## ARCHIVIST'S NOTE

This Finding aid was compiled from information provided by Peter Kabaila. Detailed item descriptions, featuring timing points, are not yet available as the collection has not been auditioned by AIATSIS staff. The field recording numbers used in this finding aid were allocated by AIATSIS. The recordings have been arranged in chronological order.

## ITEM LIST

<b>Field recording number</b>	<b>AIATSIS item number</b>	<b>Description</b>
<a href="#">Field tape 1</a>	035697, 035698	Interview with Lindsay Jaques
<a href="#">Field tape 2</a>	035699, 036100	Continuation of interview with Lindsay Jaques
<a href="#">Field tape 3</a>	036101, 036102	Interview with Ann-Marie Elphick
<a href="#">Field tape 4</a>	036103, 036104	Interview with Lesley Whitton
<a href="#">Field tape 5</a>	036105, 036106	Continuation of interview with Lesley Whitton
<a href="#">Field tape 6</a>	036107, 036108	Interview with Betty Ellis
<a href="#">Field tape 7</a>	036109	Continuation of interview with Betty Ellis
<a href="#">Field tape 8</a>	036110, 036111	Interview with Victoria Grounds
<a href="#">Field tape 9</a>	036112, 036113	Interview with Matron Ella Hiscocks

## ITEM DESCRIPTIONS

### FT 1

Performer/speaker(s):	Lindsay Jaques
Personal subject(s):	Gough Whitlam, Albert Namatjira
Subject keywords:	Child welfare - Children's homes, Child welfare – Child/parent separation – Stolen generations, Religions - Christianity - Aboriginal Evangelical Fellowship, Buildings - Architecture and design
Language/people:	English
Places:	Cootamundra (SW NSW SI55-11)
Recording quality:	Good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
KABAILA_P02-035697	00:00:00	Lindsay Jaques is speaking about working at Bimbadeen, formerly Cootamundra Girls' Home.	1994	Cootamundra, NSW
	00:16:40	Lindsay is speaking about plans for the grounds.		
	00:31:13	End of KABAILA_P02-035697.		
KABAILA_P02-035698	00:00:00	Lindsay continues to speak about the original parts of the buildings.	1994	Cootamundra, NSW
	00:12:43	Lindsay mentions the time when Albert Namatjira came to the Girls' Home.		
	00:27:55	Lindsay talks about the schoolhouse which was later demolished.		
	00:31:18	End of FT 1 and end of KABAILA_P02-35698.		

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**FT 2**

Performer/speaker(s):	Lindsay Jaques
Personal subject(s):	Albert Namatjira
Subject keywords:	Child welfare - Children's homes, Child welfare – Child/parent separation – Stolen generations, Buildings - Architecture and design, Education - Schools – Buildings, Art – Artist
Language/people:	English
Places:	Cootamundra (SW NSW SI55-11)
Recording quality:	Good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
KABAILA_P02-035699	00:00:50	Lindsay Jaques continues discussing the history of the Cootamundra Girls' Home. Mention of Bert Crooks.	1994	Cootamundra, NSW
	00:24:30	Lindsay mentions the Girls' Home buildings were part of the former hospital site.		
	00:31:16	End of KABAILA_P02-035699.		
KABAILA_P02-036100	00:00:50	Lindsay continues discussing historical places near the Girls' Home.	1994	Cootamundra, NSW
	00:09:36	End of FT 2 and end of KABAILA_P02-036100.		

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**FT3**

Performer/speaker(s):	Ann-Marie Elphick and an unidentified female
Personal subject(s):	Margaret and uncle Ted, Ern Gardiner, Coral Edwards, Mrs Keyes, Mrs Funnel
Subject keywords:	Child welfare - Children's homes, Child welfare – Child/parent separation – Stolen generations
Language/people:	English
Places:	Cootamundra (SW NSW SI55-11)
Recording quality:	Poor to fair

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
KABAILA_P02-036101	00:00:16	Ann-Marie Elphick speaks of her experiences at the Cootamundra Girls' Home.	1994	Cootamundra, NSW
	00:06:56	Ann-Marie remembers the old school house at the Home.		
	00:07:54	End of KABAILA_P02-036101.		
KABAILA_P02-36102	00:02:22	Ann-Marie provides her experience of Bidura Children's Home and of Cootamundra Girls' Home.	1994	Cootamundra, NSW
	00:12:30	Ann-Marie talks about her father.		
	00:31:14	End of FT 3 and end of KABAILA_P02-36102.		

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**FT 4**

Performer/speaker(s):	Lesley Whitton
Personal subject(s):	Miss Barlow, Mrs Iris Glanville, Mrs Moore, Mrs Fish, Coral Edwards, Cheryl, Bill Whitton, Mary Elizabeth Whitton, Andrew, Ern Gardiner, Iris Clayton, Fay and Evonne, Flo Grant, Peter Read, Kaye Price, May Robinson (aka Mavis Lang)
Subject keywords:	Child welfare - Children's homes, Communications - Telecommunications – Telephones, Child welfare – Child/parent separation – Stolen generations,
Language/people:	English
Places:	Cootamundra (SW NSW SI55-11), Parramatta (W Sydney NSW SI56-05), Canberra (ACT SI55-16)
Recording quality:	Good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
KABAILA_P02-036103	00:00:15	Lesley Whitton speaks about her early childhood.	1994	Cootamundra, NSW
	00:11:45	Lesley is speaking about her mother, Mary Whitton.		
	00:31:14	End of KABAILA_P02-036103.		
KABAILA_P02-036104	00:00:06	Lesley talks about being in the Girls' Home.	1994	Cootamundra, NSW
	00:16:25	Lesley talks about her schooling.		
	00:31:15	End of FT 4 and end of KABAILA_P02-036104.		

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**FT 5**

Performer/speaker(s):	Lesley Whitton
Personal subject(s):	Iris, Mavis, Lesley, Cheryl Kinchela, Janice and Heather, Tober family, Coral Edwards, Peter Read, Karla, Ken Fraser, Beatrice (?), Ken (Coral's husband), Matron Hiscock, Carla Hankins, Ern Gardiner, Matilda House, Donna, Aaron
Subject keywords:	Child welfare - Children's homes, Child welfare – Child/parent separation – Stolen generations
Language/people:	English
Places:	Cootamundra (SW NSW SI55-11), Canberra (ACT SI55-16)
Recording quality:	Good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
KABAILA_P02-036105	00:00:16	Lesley Whitton talks about a sporting trip from the Girls' Home to Canberra.	1994	Cootamundra, ACT
	00:23:00	Lesley discusses her current employment in Canberra.		
	00:31:16	End of KABAILA_P02-036105.		
KABAILA_P02-036106	00:00:06	Lesley mentions Coral Edwards and the start of Link-up.	1994	Cootamundra, ACT
	00:12:45	Lesley talks about the numbers of girls at Cootamundra Girls' Home.		
	00:31:19	End of FT 5 and end of KABAILA_P02-036106.		

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**FT 6**

Performer/speaker(s):	Betty Ellis
Personal subject(s):	Judy Darcy, Miss Barlow
Subject keywords:	Child welfare - Children's homes, Child welfare – Child/parent separation – Stolen generations
Language/people:	English
Places:	Cootamundra (SW NSW SI55-11), Camooweal (Qld Far NW Barkly Tableland SE54-13), Nowra (NSW S Coast SI56-09), Sydney (NSW SI56-05)
Recording quality:	Good

<b>Archive item number</b>	<b>Timing point</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>
KABAILA_P02-036107	00:00:15	Betty Ellis speaks about her time at the Cootamundra Girls' Home.	1994	Cootamundra, NSW
	00:09:31	Betty speaks about her employment in Sydney when she worked for a doctor.		
	00:19:05	Betty talks about her marriage and her family.		
	00:31:19	End of KABAILA_P02-36107.		
KABAILA_P02-036108	00:00:06	Betty continues with her story of living at the Girls' Home.	1994	Cootamundra, NSW
	00:17:35	Betty remembers how some of the townspeople treated them in Cootamundra. Betty is asked about the girls' behaviour.		
	00:31:19	End FT 6 and end of KABAILA_P02-036108.		

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**FT 7**

Performer/speaker(s):	Betty Ellis
Personal subject(s):	Miss Barlow, Ern Gardiner
Subject keywords:	Child welfare - Children's homes, Child welfare – Child/parent separation – Stolen generations
Language/people:	English
Places:	Cootamundra (SW NSW SI55-11)
Recording quality:	Good

<b>Archive item number</b>	<b>Timing point</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>
KABAILA_P02-036109	00:00:13	Betty Ellis continues with stories of her time at the Girls' Home. Discussion about duties.	1994	Cootamundra, NSW
	00:08:44	Betty talks about the outcomes of the Girls' Home. She was there from 1940s – 1950s.		
	00:23:48	End of FT 7 and end of KABAILA_P02-036109.		

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**FT 8**

Performer/speaker(s):	Victoria Grounds
Subject keywords:	Education - Schools - Boarding schools and residential colleges
Language/people:	English
Places:	Cootamundra (SW NSW SI55-11)
Recording quality:	Good

<b>Archive item number</b>	<b>Timing point</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>
KABAILA_P02-036110	00:03:00	Victoria Grounds speaks about her time in a boarding school.	1994	Cootamundra, NSW
	00:06:26	Victoria says she had 10 years at boarding school.		
	00:10:11	End of KABAILA_P02-036110.		
KABAILA_P02-036111	00:00:07	Victoria provides a comparison of routines between her boarding school and the Cootamundra Girls' Home.	1994	Cootamundra, NSW
	00:06:31	Victoria talks about the regimented school system.		
	00:31:17	End of FT 8 and end of KABAILA_P02-036111.		

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**FT 9**

Performer/speaker(s):	Matron Ella Hiscocks
Personal subject(s):	Coral Edwards, Matron Fowler, Matron Lamont, Miss Barlow, Mrs Walkom, Mrs Mann, Penny Peckham, Albert Namatjira, Mrs Gilmore, Mrs Watt, Adelaide Winberg, Janice Tober, Lesley, Iris Clayton, Matron Hiscocks, Lesley Whitton
Subject keywords:	Education – Teaching, Child welfare – Children's homes, Daily life – Domestic – Housework
Language/people:	English
Places:	Cootamundra (SW NSW SI55-11), Burren Junction (N NSW SH55-12), Coonamble (N NSW SH55-11), Pilliga (N NSW SH55-12), Lismore (NSW N Coast SH56-03), Walhallow (N NSW SH56-13), Cumberagunja (SW NSW SJ55-01), Tuncester (NSW N Coast SH56-03), Yass (S NSW SI55-12), Coraki (NSW N Coast SH56-03), Hall (ACT SI55-16)
Recording quality:	Good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
KABAILA_P02-036112	00:00:00	Matron Ella Hiscocks talks briefly about her rearing of Coral Edwards.	1994	Cootamundra, NSW
	00:11:15	Matron Hiscocks discusses the separate living areas for various age groups in the Girls' Home.		
	00:31:18	End KABAILA_P02-036112.		
KABAILA_P02-036113	00:00:00	Matron Ella Hiscocks continues with her history of working at the Cootamundra Girls' Home.	1994	Cootamundra, NSW
	00:13:17	Matron Hiscocks talks about those who assisted with bringing the children to the Girls' Home.		
	00:31:17	End FT 9 and end of KABAILA_P02-036113.		

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