



**Finding aid**

**LAYTON\_R01**

**Sound recordings collected by  
Robert Layton, 1974**

## ACCESS

### Availability of copies

Listening copies are available. Contact the AIATSIS Audiovisual Access Unit by [email](#) 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

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## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

**Date:** 1974

**Extent:** 1 sound tape reel (ca. 2 hrs. 40 min. ) : analogue, 15/16 - 7 1/2 ips, 2 track, mono ; 5 in. + field tape report sheet.  
3 sound cassettes (ca. 60 min. each) : analogue, stereo + field tape report sheets.

### Production history

These recordings were collected between 7 October and 1 November 1974 by Robert Layton during field work in the East Cape York of Qld. The purpose of the field trip was to collect oral history and cultural material concerning the lugging industry, mission life and rock shelter painting sites. Interviewees include Bill McGreen, John Flinders, and Bob Flinders. Languages include Barrow Point language, Biyalgeyi, Flinders Island language and English. The collection was deposited with AIATSIS on the 5 March 1975.

## RELATED MATERIAL

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

The original recording transcripts of this material are found at AIATSIS Audiovisual Archive files 003466-003468 where this material was originally accessioned too before being re-accessioned to Archive numbers 006700-006705. 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 provided by field tape report sheets and transcripts and audition sheets prepared by AIATSIS staff.

## ITEM LIST

Archive number	Field recording number	Description
006700 006701 006702	<a href="#"><u>RL1</u></a>	Elicitation of stories and vocabulary associated to Noble Island with Bill McGreen in Barrow Point language; oral history and performance of songs in Biyalgeyi Language with John Flinders
006703	<a href="#"><u>RL2</u></a>	Oral history with Bill McGreen in Biyalgeyi Language
006704	<a href="#"><u>RL3</u></a>	Oral history by John Flinders and Bob Flinders in Biyalgeyi and English
006704 006705	<a href="#"><u>RL4</u></a>	Oral history and discussion of rock shelter paintings by John Flinders and Bob Flinders in Biyalgeyi and English

## ITEM DESCRIPTIONS

**006700 + 006701 + 006702/RL1**

Performer/speaker(s):	Bill McGreen, John Flinders
Personal subject(s):	Pearl Johnson, Douglas Pitt, Lindsay Wallace, Bob Hagarty, Paddy Bassini, Bob Moss, Uncle Jack Flinders
Subject keywords:	Religion – Dreaming – Snakes and lizards; Art – Rock Art – Painting; Animal – Fish – Poison Fish; Animal – Fish – Sword Fish; Indigenous Knowledge – Health and medicine; Religion – Totemism; Body – Decoration – Body scarification; Music – Vocal – Solo – Male; Housing – Shelter – Rock shelter; Magic and Sorcery; Dance – Recreational – Corroboree; Economic sector – Pearlring; Animals – Invertebrates – Crustacea and molluscs – Trochus; Enterprises – Aquaculture; Defence – World War II; Employment – Conditions – Wages – Stolen wages.
Language/people:	Barrow Point language, Barrow Point people Biyalgeyi language,, Biyalgeyi people
Places:	Noble Island (Qld SE Cape York SD55-09), Flinders Group Islands (Qld SE Cape York SD54-12, SD55-09), Stanley Island (Qld SE Cape York Flinders Group SD55-09), Lakefield (Qld SE Cape York SD55-09)
Recording quality:	Poor – Fair – Good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
LAYTON_R01-006700	00:00:16	Narrative associated with Noble Island Journey of Snake Ancestor through the landscape with Bill McGreen.	7 October 1974	Barrow Point, Qld
	00:10:00	Narrative associated to Noble Island, painting and traditional resources with Bill McGreen		
	00:20:00	Barrow Point language vocabulary elicitation of the names of animals and plants with Bill McGreen.		
	00:31:21	Barrow Point language narratives of Dugga dugga (approximate spelling), and vocabulary with Bill McGreen.		
	00:40:00	Bill McGreen on sorcery, body scarification and funeral practices.		
	00:50:00	Bill McGreen on Munburra, Waapu (approximate spelling) and marriage customs.		
	00:56:56	End of LAYTON_R01-006700		

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
LAYTON_R01-006701	00:00:26	Elicitation and performance of Mangal song in Biyalgeyi with John Flinders.	24 October 1974	Off Flinders Island, East Cape York, Qld
	00:20:00	Elicitation of mourning and sorcery songs by John Flinders in Biyalgeyi.		
	00:31:26	Sorcery songs performed in Biyalgeyi by John Flinders.		
	00:38:12	Oral history on the lugging industry by John Flinders including references to Pearl Johnson and Douglas Pitt.		
	01:02:10	End of LAYTON_R01-006701.		
LAYTON_R01-006702	00:00:00	Biyalgeyi narratives on the lugging industry and personal history with John Flinders.	24 October 1974	Off Stanley Island, Qld
	00:05:12	Oral history in Biyalgeyi concerning a lugging trip from Mackay to Solomon Islands and New Caledonia with John Flinders.		
	00:20:46	Oral history in Biyalgeyi on the affects of WWII on food supply, reserves, Lakefield Station and Palm Island, and the mixing of people of different groups with John Flinders.		
	00:31:25	Oral history in Biyalgeyi on the lugging industry, wage disparity and theft with John Flinders.		
	00:38:51	End of field tape RL1 and end of LAYTON_R01-006702.		

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006703/RL2

Performer/speaker(s):	Bill McGreen, John Flinders
Personal subject(s):	George Bowen, Bob Flinders, Ted Bowen, Roy Dick, George Rosendale, Paddy Wallace, Bjelke-Peterson, Billy Claremont.
Subject keywords:	Religions – Christianity – Missions; Health – Physiology and diseases; Social Organisation – Kinship – Marriage; Transport – Water – Canoe; Economic sector – Pearling; Enterprises – Aquaculture; Food – Bush tucker; Stories and motives – Moon; Stories and motives – Flying fox; Communications – Message sticks; Settlements and contacts – Government settlements, reserves.
Language/people:	Biyalgeyi language, Biyalgeyi people
Places:	Stanley Island (Qld SE Cape York Flinders Group SD55-09)
Recording quality:	Good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
LAYTON_R01-006703	00:00:14	Oral history in Biyalgeyi with Bill McGreen concerning George Bowen and Cape Bedford Mission life.	29 October 1974	Off Stanley Island, Qld
	00:10:00	Oral history in Biyalgeyi with Bill McGreen including mention of Bob Flinders, a move to Woorabinda Mission during WWII and marriage.		
	00:21:00	Oral history in Biyalgeyi with Bill McGreen including mention of Palm Island, WWII and wages.		
	00:30:00	Oral history in Biyalgeyi with Bill McGreen including mention of Bob Flinders, Ted Bowen, Roy Dick, George Rosendale, Paddy Wallace, Bjelke-Petersen, WWII fear and Dengue Fever.		
	00:41:07	Oral history in Biyalgeyi with Bill McGreen including mention of living at Cape Melville and Bathurst Head, bush tucker and the lugging industry.		
	00:50:38	Story of Kuyam the Moon and Flying Fox in Biyalgeyi with Bill McGreen.		

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
	01:01:20	End of LAYTON_R01-006703 and end of field tape RL2.		
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**006704/RL3**

Performer/speaker(s):	Bob Flinders, John Flinders
Subject keywords:	Stories and motifs – Stingrays; Stories and motifs – Diamond fish; Employment – Conditions – Wages – Equal wages; Communications Message sticks; Feuds and Warfare – Spear fighting.
Language/people:	Biyalgeyi language, Biyalgeyi people, Flinders Island language, Flinders Island people
Places:	Stanley Island (Qld SE Cape York Flinders Group SD55-09), Bathurst Head / Bathurst Range (Qld SE Cape York SD55-09)
Recording quality:	Fair – Poor

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
LAYTON_R01-006704	00:00:00	Oral history in Biyalgeyi and English with John Flinders with reference to painting on Stanley Island in a rock shelter.	29 October 1974	Off Stanley Island, Qld
	00:01:24	Narratives in Biyalgeyi and English with John Flinders with reference to sacred sites, stories and wage disparities.		
	00:06:32	Oral history in Biyalgeyi and English with Bob Flinders with reference to an account of a fight between Flinders Island and Barrow Point Groups.	1 November 1974	Off Bathurst Head, Qld
	00:12:30	The rest of RL3 is inaudible.		
	00:17:43	End of field tape RL3.		

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**006704 + 006705/RL4**

Performer/speaker(s):	John Flinders
Subject keywords:	Housing – Shelter – Rock shelter; Art – Rock Art – Painting
Language/people:	Biyalgeyi Language, Biyalgeyi People, Flinders Island language, Flinders Island people
Places:	Bathurst Head / Bathurst Range (Qld SE Cape York SD55-09), Walaemini Shelter (Qld SE Cape York SD55-09)
Recording quality:	Fair – Good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
LAYTON_R01-006704	00:17:51	Narrative about and use of Walaemini Shelter on Bathurst Head by John Flinders	10 October 1974	Off Bathurst Head, Qld
	00:27:39	Narrative about and use of Walaemini Shelter by John Flinders including references to seasons for use and hiding place from police.		
	00:32:30	Narrative about and use of Walaemini Shelter on by John Flinders and Bob Flinders with reference to painting styles and the identity of painters.		
	00:40:00	Narrative about and use of Walaemini Shelter by John Flinders with reference to rock paintings.		
	01:01:31	End LAYTON_R01-006704		
LAYTON_R01-006705	00:00:00	Narrative about and use of Walaemini Shelter by John Flinders including references to paintings of Crocodile, Boomerang over the head of man, Turtle, body parts, Fish, spear.	10 October 1974	Off Bathurst Head, Qld
	00:18:14	End of field tape RL4.		

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