



**Finding aid**

**MCNAIR\_NH01**

**Sound recordings collected by  
Norman McNair and Helen McNair,  
1977-1979**

## ACCESS

### Availability of copies

Listening copies are available. Contact the AIATSIS Audiovisual Access Unit by completing an [online enquiry form](#) or phone (02) 6261 4212 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:** February 1977- September 1979

**Extent:** 5 sound cassettes (ca. 30 min. each) : analogue, mono.  
2 sound cassettes (ca. 45 min. each) : analogue, mono.  
6 sound cassettes (ca. 60 min. each) : analogue, mono.

### Production history

These recordings were collected between 1977 and 1979 by linguists Helen McNair and Norman McNair during field work at Daguragu/Kalkaringi/Wave Hill, Northern Territory, Australia. The purpose of the field trips was to document the language, histories and stories of the local Gurindji people. Interviewees include Clancy, Doris Butler, Lily Bunnai, Dandy Dangairri, Horace, Blanche Bulnari, Captain Major and Pincher Numiari. The collection was deposited with AIATSIS on 21 January 1993.

## RELATED MATERIAL

Transcriptions for this collection are held in the the AIATSIS Library, see [MS 4491](#). For a complete listing of related material held by AIATSIS, consult our [online catalogue](#), Mura®.

## ARCHIVIST'S NOTE

This finding aid was compiled from information provided by Norman McNair and Helen McNair and audition sheets prepared by AIATSIS staff. Tape B was not included in collection.

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
015009	<a href="#">Field tape A</a>	Oral history in Gurindji with Clancy, Doris Butler, Lily Bunnai and Dandy Dangairri
015010	<a href="#">Field tape C</a>	Narrative in Gurindji with Horace; Gurindji Dreaming narrative about 'Two Men Hunting' and 'Disobedient Wives' with Dandy Dangairri
015010	<a href="#">Field tape D</a>	Gurindji Dreaming narratives with Blanche Bulnari and Pincher Numiari
015011	<a href="#">Field tape E</a>	Gurindji and English narratives about bush medicine, spear tip making and the flood in with Blanche Bulnari
015012	<a href="#">Field tape F</a>	Narratives on hunting and Dreaming stories in the Gurindji language with Dandy Dangairri
015013	<a href="#">Field tape G</a>	Narratives on food and Dreaming stories in the Gurindji language with Dandy Dangairri
015014	<a href="#">Field tape H</a>	Dreaming stories in Gurindji language with Blanche Bulnari and Pincher Numiari
015015	<a href="#">Field tape I</a>	Oral history and Dreaming stories in the Gurindji language with Blanche Bulnari
015016	<a href="#">Field tape J</a>	Narrative in Gurindji language with Captain Major
015016	<a href="#">Field tape K</a>	Dreaming stories in the Gurindji language with Pincher Numiari
015017	<a href="#">Field tape L</a>	Narratives about ceremony and Dreaming stories in the Gurindji language with Blanche Bulnari
015018	<a href="#">Field tape M</a>	Narrative about Tiniwampa in Gurindji with Dandy Dangairri

## ITEM DESCRIPTIONS

**015009 /Field tape A**

Speaker(s):	Clancy, Doris Butler, Lily Bunnai, Dandy Dangairri
Subject keywords:	History - Oral history, History – Biographies – Indigenous – Autobiographies, Language – Linguistics – Language elicitation – Narratives, Language – Vocabulary - Word lists, Environment – Climate and weather – Floods, Animals - Fish
Language/people:	Gurindji
Places:	Daguragu / Kalkaringi / Wave Hill (Central NT SE52-08)
Recording quality:	Fair to good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MCNAIR_NH01-015009	00:00:00	Gurindji oral history narrative about the flood with Clancy.	1 February 1977	Wave Hill, NT
	00:03:50	Gurindji narrative with Doris Butler, including some names of fish species.		
	00:08:39	Oral history in Gurindji with Lily Bunnai.		
	00:12:39	Dandy Dangairri relates 'Wave Hill station flood' story in Gurindji.		
	00:19:10	End of field tape A and end of MCNAIR_NH01-015009.		

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**015010 /Field tape C**

Speaker(s):	Horace and Dandy Dangairri
Subject keywords:	History – Oral history, History – Biographies – Indigenous – Autobiographies, Hunting , Religion – Dreaming, Religion – Dreaming – Two men
Language/people:	Gurindji
Places:	Daguragu / Kalkaringi / Wave Hill (Central NT SE52-08)
Recording quality:	Fair to good

<b>Archive item number</b>	<b>Timing point</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>
MCNAIR_NH01-015010	00:00:00	Gurindji narrative with Horace.	July 1979	Wave Hill, NT
	00:13:38	Dandy Dangairri tells the Dreaming story of 'Two men go hunting' in Gurindji. Includes terms for weapons.		
	00:21:08	Dandy Dangairri tells the Dreaming story 'Disobedient Wives'.		
	00:27:23	End of field tape C.		

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**015010 /Field tape D**

Performer/speaker(s):	Blanche Bulnari and Pincher Numiari
Subject keywords:	History – Oral history, Food – Bush tucker, Gathering – Insects – Ants and termites, Hunting , Religion – Dreaming, History – Cultural, Gathering – Honey, Religion – Dreaming – Ancestor spirits, Cannibalism, Religion – Dreaming – Ghosts, Religion - Dreaming - Birds
Language/people:	Gurindji
Places:	Daguragu / Kalkaringi / Wave Hill (Central NT SE52-08)
Recording quality:	Fair to good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MCNAIR_NH01-015010	00:27:36	Gurindji Dreaming narratives about 'Walawurru and Jalwa' (Eaglehawk and Heron) with Blanche Bulnari.	June 79	Wave Hill, NT
	00:33:22	Oral narrative by Blanche Bulnari about 'Japalyi and meat from Kaya' (Japalyi and Devil Man).	July 1979	
	00:42:07	Gurindji narrative about 'Japalyi killed a Munpa' Blanche Bulnari.		
	00:43:52	Gurindji narrative on the 'Coming of the White Man' by Pincher Numiari.	January 1978	
	00:48:26	Gurindji narratives on 'Ants for food', 'Ants eggs for food' and 'Honey' by Blanche Bulnari.	March 1978	
	00:54:51	Gurindji narrative on 'Ancestral bones' narrative by Pincher Numiari.	October 1977	
	00:55:48	End of field tape D and end of MCNAIR_NH01-015010.		

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**015011/Field tape E**

Performer/speaker(s):	Blanche Bulnari
Subject keywords:	History – Oral history, Food – Bush tucker, Indigenous knowledge – Health and medicine, Children – Care and nurturing, Weapons – Spears – Making, Environment – Climate and weather – Floods
Language/people:	Gurindji
Places:	Daguragu / Kalkaringi / Wave Hill (Central NT SE52-08)
Recording quality:	Good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MCNAIR_NH01-015011	00:00:00	Gurindji narrative on 'Bush medicine for baby' by Blanche Bulnari.	March 1978	Wave Hill, NT
	00:03:30	Gurindji narrative about 'stone tip for spear - yingka' by Blanche Bulnari.	February 1978	
	00:12:11	Gurindji narrative 'Fishing at Kalkariny' Oral history in Gurindji about the flood with Blanche Bulnari.		
	00:26:55	End of field tape E and end of MCNAIR_NH01-015011.		

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**015012/Field tape F**

Performer/speaker(s):	Dandy Dangairri
Subject keywords:	Hunting , Religion – Dreaming, Discourse analysis – Narratives, Language – Linguistics – Language elicitation, Religion – Dreaming – Two men
Language/people:	Gurindji
Places:	Daguragu / Kalkaringi / Wave Hill (Central NT SE52-08) ,
Recording quality:	Good to fair

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MCNAIR_NH01-015012	00:00:00	Gurindji narrative about hunting with Dandy Dangairri.	September 1979	Wave Hill, NT
	00:20:40	Gurindji narrative about 'Two brothers' with Dandy Dangairri.		
	00:49:55	End of field tape F and end of MCNAIR_NH01-015012.		

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**015013/Field tape G**

Performer/speaker(s):	Dandy Dangairri
Subject keywords:	Religion – Dreaming, Discourse analysis – Narratives, Language – Linguistics – Language elicitation, Animals – Birds – Kookaburras / Kingfishers
Language/people:	Gurindji
Places:	Daguragu / Kalkaringi / Wave Hill (Central NT SE52-08)
Recording quality:	Good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MCNAIR_NH01-015013	00:00:00	Gurindji narrative about a 'Finding the Kookaburra' with Dandy Dangairri.	1977-1979	Wave Hill, NT
	00:17:34	Gurindji narratives about 'Tiniwanpa' and 'Parrak parrak kujarra' with Dandy Dangairri.		
	00:40:50	End of field tape G and end of MCNAIR_NH01-015013.		

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**015014/Field tape H**

Performer/speaker(s):	Blanche Bulnari and Pincher Numiari
Subject keywords:	History – Oral history, Religion – Dreaming, Discourse analysis – Narratives, Language – Linguistics – Language elicitation, Dance – Ceremonial, Sites – Ceremonial grounds, Religion – After death beliefs – Ghosts and spirits, Religion – Dreaming – Devils, monsters, evil spirits
Language/people:	Gurindji
Places:	Daguragu / Kalkaringi / Wave Hill (Central NT SE52-08)
Recording quality:	Fair to poor

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MCNAIR_NH01-015014	00:00:00	Oral history in Gurindji about dancing at Inverway with Blanche.	1977 - 1979	Wattie Creek, NT
	00:23:26	Gurindji narratives about 'Janama and ghost/white man, 'Kulingka Daguragula' and 'Janama comes back to life' with Pincher Numiari.	September 1979	
	00:29:10	Gurindji narrative with Blanche Bulnari.		
	00:40:05	End of field tape G and end of MCNAIR_NH01-015014.		

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**015015/Field tape I**

Performer/speaker(s):	Blanche Bulnari
Subject keywords:	History – Oral history, Discourse analysis – Narratives, Indigenous knowledge – Health and medicine, Religion – Dreaming – Ancestor spirits, Religion – Dreaming, Environment – Climate and weather – Floods
Language/people:	Gurindji
Places:	Daguragu / Kalkaringi / Wave Hill (Central NT SE52-08)
Recording quality:	Good to poor

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MCNAIR_NH01-015015	00:00:00	Gurindji narratives on 'Two cars off Wattie Creek'.	1 February 1979	Wattie Creek, NT
	00:08:18	Gurindji narrative with Blanche Bulnari on Two Nampijina.		
	00:12:06	Gurindji narrative with Blanche Bulnar on 'Killing the baby kuraj'.		
	00:18:13	Gurindji narrative with Blanche Bulnar 'The fox and the little red hen'.		
	00:21:11	Gurindji narrative with Blanche Bulnar on 'Medicine'.		
	00:23:21	Gurindji narrative with Blanche Bulnari.		
	00:29:55	Gurindji narrative with Blanche Bulnari.		
	00:33:43	End of field tape I and end of MCNAIR_NH01-015015.		

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**015016 /Field tape J**

Performer/speaker(s):	Captain Major
Subject keywords:	Language – Linguistics – Language elicitation – Narratives
Language/people:	Gurindji
Places:	Daguragu / Kalkaringi / Wave Hill (Central NT SE52-08)
Recording quality:	Poor

<b>Archive item number</b>	<b>Timing point</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>
MCNAIR_NH01_015016	00:00:00	Gurindji narrative with Captain Major.	1977 - 1979	Wave Hill, NT
	00:02:41	End of field tape J.		

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**015016 /Field tape K**

Performer/speaker(s):	Pincher Numiari
Subject keywords:	Language – Linguistics – Language elicitation – Narratives, Animals – Mammals – Echidnas, Religion – Dreaming, Body – Decoration – Body hair, Material culture – String and rope making, Material culture – String and rope making, Technology – Fire – Fire making, Environment – Climate and weather – Floods, Fishing - Fish traps, Hunting – Echidna, Hunting - Birds – Emus, Technology - Metal – Spearheads,
Language/people:	Gurindji
Places:	Daguragu / Kalkaringi / Wave Hill (Central NT SE52-08)
Recording quality:	Poor to good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MCNAIR_NH01_015016	00:03:06	Gurindji narratives on 'How the echidna got its spikes', 'How to make hair belt (string)', 'How to make fire with firesticks', 'Wave Hill Station Flood', 'Nampijina kujarra' 'Making a bird trap (Larrkan)', 'Warni fish trap', 'Fish trap with stones', 'Hunting with Jimpirla' (spearhead), 'Hunting Emus', 'Hunting Jungkuwurru (Echidna)', 'Kurajnginyi', 'Muying and Karrajkarraj' (bush food in wet season and in cold season), 'Gathering Mapura' (bush food), 'Rainstone', 'Making a Kunpirlin' and 'Kunpirlin Rarrawarl' with Pincher Numiari.	May – June 1979	Wattie Creek, NT
	00:52:11	End of field tape K and end of MCNAIR_NH01-015016.		

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**015017/Field tape L**

Performer/speaker(s):	Blanche Bulnari
Subject keywords:	Language – Linguistics – Language elicitation – Narratives, Animals – Amphibians – Frogs and toads, Technology – Fire – Fire making, Gender relations – Marriage, Social organisation – Kinship – Marriage
Language/people:	Gurindji
Places:	Daguragu / Kalkaringi / Wave Hill (Central NT SE52-08)
Recording quality:	Poor to good

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
MCNAIR_NH01-015017	00:00:00	Gurindji narrative on 'Lost matchbox' with Blanche Bulnari.	September 1979	Wattie Creek, NT
	00:07:45	Gurindji narrative on 'Two frogs' with Blanche Bulnari.		
	00:10:42	Gurindji narrative on 'Advice to wife' with Blanche Bulnari.		
	00:21:09	End of field tape L and end of MCNAIR_NH01-015017.		

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**015018/Field tape M**

Performer/speaker(s):	Dandy Dangairri
Subject keywords:	Language – Linguistics – Language elicitation – Narratives
Language/people:	Gurindji
Places:	Daguragu / Kalkaringi / Wave Hill (Central NT SE52-08)
Recording quality:	Poor to good

<b>Archive item number</b>	<b>Timing point</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>
MCNAIR_NH01-015018	00:00:00	Gurindji narrative about 'Tiniwampa' with Dandy Dangairri.	1977 - 1979	Wave Hill, NT
	00:21:09	End of field tape M and end of MCNAIR_NH01-015018.		

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