

MS 1620 Aurukun Mission School



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Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Library

MS1620

AURUKUN Mission School 1970-1972

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MS 1620 Aurukun Mission School

COLLECTION SUMMARY

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Creator: | John von Sturmer |
| Title: | Aurukun Mission School |
| Collection no: | MS 1620 |
| Date Range: | 1970-1972 |
| Extent: | 5 boxes, 1.5 linear metres; plus oversized items stored in Map Cabinet PC5 |
| Repository: | Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies |

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CULTURAL SENSITIVITY STATEMENT

It is a condition of use of this finding aid, and of the collection described in it, that users ensure that any use of the information contained in it is sympathetic to the views and sensitivities of relevant Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. This includes:

Language

Users are warned that this finding aid may contain words and descriptions which may be culturally sensitive and which might not normally be used in certain public or community contexts. Terms and descriptions which reflect the author's attitude, or that of the period in which the manuscript was written, and which may be considered inappropriate today in some circumstances, may also be used.

Deceased persons

Users of this finding aid should be aware that, in some Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, seeing images of deceased persons in photographs, film and books or hearing them in recordings etc may cause sadness or distress and, in some cases, offend against strongly held cultural prohibitions.

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ACCESS TO COLLECTION

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Preferred citation

Items from this collection should be cited as [Title or description of manuscript item], [Manuscript number and collection name], Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, MS [insert number], Series [insert number], Subseries [insert number], Item or Folder [insert number].

For example:

Opening Prayers, MS 1620 Aurukun Mission School, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, MS 1620/4/202

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COLLECTION OVERVIEW

Scope and content note

This collection comprises the creative work of some of the pupils at the Aurukun Mission School. The documents are stories, compositions and drawings. Writing paper, exercise books and special drawing books were generally the materials used, but brown paper, the back of greeting cards, envelopes and pieces of cardboard were also used.

The work was done using pencils, colouring pencils, crayon and occasionally paint.

Provenance

The collection was deposited in the AIATSIS Library by John von Sturmer in February 1982.

Material separated from collection

No material has been separated from the collection.

Related Material

For a complete list of items about Aurukun Mission, held by the Library, and for other related material consult [Mura@](#), the AIATSIS catalogue.

Archivist's note

Items in this collection are organized into four series – Compositions, Pictures, New books, Illustrated prayers and stories. They are numbered according to the box in which they were initially housed; this numbering sometimes still accords with the box in which it is now housed. Sometimes however it no longer does. For example, item 134 in Series 1 Compositions is numbered MS 1620/2/134 and is still found in box 2; but item 188 in Series 2 Pictures is numbered MS 1620/3/188 but is now housed in Box 4.

Some oversize items have been flattened and stored in Plan Cabinet PC5, Drawer 1. These are indicated at the relevant point in the finding aid.

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ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE

The Aurukun Mission, situated on the west coast of the Cape York Peninsula, was established in 1904 by Moravian missionaries sponsored by the Presbyterian Church.

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In the early nineteen-seventies, over 200 children attended the school, which was staffed by mission personnel. The work in this collection was done in 1970-72 by 2nd and 3rd grade pupils in a combined grade taught by Annette Mitchell.

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SERIES DESCRIPTION

Series 1 Compositions

These are the work of individual pupils, done between 1970-1972, using pencils, felt tip pens or crayons.

Some items contain loose documents, e.g. MS 1620/1/2 "A Day in the Bush". Other items are exercise books belonging to individual pupils, e.g. MS 1620/1/26 Judith.

Items

| | |
|--------------|---|
| MS 1620/1/1 | "Something Black". |
| MS 1620/1/2 | 2A, "A Day in the Bush", week 3, term 3, 1970 |
| MS 1620/1/3 | 2A, "A Fight between 2 Bush Animals", week 5, term 3, 1970 |
| MS 1620/1/4 | "Something Slippery", week 4, term 3, 1970 |
| MS 1620/1/5 | 2A, "What I'd do in Brisbane", week 7, term 3, 1970 |
| MS 1620/1/6 | 2A, "Lost in the Bush", week 10, term 3 |
| MS 1620/1/7 | 2A, "My Favourite Bush Animal", week 9, term 3, 1970 |
| MS 1620/1/8 | 2A, "Something I Hate", week 8, term 3, 1970 |
| MS 1620/1/9 | Lloyd |
| MS 1620/1/10 | "I am a snake", 3 rd Grade, 2A, 2 nd week, 3 rd term, 1970 |
| MS 1620/1/11 | Voluntary Letters, 2A/3 |
| MS 1620/1/12 | Neville |
| MS 1620/1/13 | Smeddie |
| MS 1620/1/14 | "In the Holidays", 3 rd Grade, 1 st week, 3 rd term, 1970 |
| MS 1620/1/15 | 3 rd Grade, free choice of topic, 3 rd week, 3 rd term, 1970 |

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| | |
|--------------|---|
| MS 1620/1/16 | 3 rd Grade, "Houses", week 5, term 3, 1970 |
| MS 1620/1/17 | 3 rd Grade, "Building a Humpy" week 6, term 3, 1970 |
| MS 1620/1/18 | 3 rd Grade, "I am a Shopping Bag", week 7 term 3, 1970 |
| MS 1620/1/19 | 3 rd Grade, "If I were rich", week 8, term 3, 1970. |
| MS 1620/1/20 | 3 rd [grade], "A fight between bush animals", week 9, term 3, 1970 |
| MS 1620/1/21 | 3 rd Grade, "A scary story", week 10, term 3, 1970 |
| MS 1620/1/22 | Grade 3, week 12, term 3, "Some good things that might happen" |
| MS 1620/1/23 | Grade 3, "What I'd do in Cairns/Brisbane", week 13, term 3, 1970 |
| MS 1620/1/24 | Grade 2A, "The Cyclone", 22-2-71 |
| MS 1620/1/25 | 2A, week 10, term 1, 1971, "About cooking" |
| MS 1620/1/26 | Judith |
| MS 1620/1/27 | Josie |
| MS 1620/1/28 | Darryl |
| MS 1620/1/29 | Norman |
| MS 1620/1/30 | Carlo |
| MS 1620/1/31 | Gavin |
| MS 1620/1/32 | Florence |
| MS 1620/1/33 | David |
| MS 1620/1/34 | Andrew |
| MS 1620/1/35 | Eileen |
| MS 1620/1/36 | Ethel |
| MS 1620/1/37 | Mervyn |
| MS 1620/1/38 | Audrey |
| MS 1620/1/39 | Marjorie |
| MS 1620/1/40 | Rosemary |
| MS 1620/1/41 | Kay |

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| | |
|--------------|--|
| MS 1620/1/42 | Tony |
| MS 1620/1/43 | Elfred |
| MS 1620/1/44 | Sandy |
| MS 1620/1/45 | Laurel |
| MS 1620/1/46 | John von. [Sturmer] 2 nd /3 rd Grade Compositions, 1970-71 |
| MS 1620/1/47 | 3 rd Grade Compositions |
| MS 1620/1/48 | "A place I'd like to go", 2A (all 2 nd Grade repeats) Compositions, 1 st draft |
| MS 1620/1/49 | "I am a Spaceman" |
| MS 1620/1/50 | Part 1 [Loose pages, different topics from pupils Grade 2A and 3] |
| MS 1620/1/50 | Part 2 [Loose pages, different topics from pupils Grade 3] |
| MS 1620/1/50 | Part 3 [Loose pages, different topics] |
| MS 1620/1/50 | Part 4 [Loose pages, different topics] |
| MS 1620/1/50 | Part 5 [Loose pages, different topics] |
| MS 1620/1/50 | Part 6, finger paintings [Five paintings; each initialed on the back] |
| MS 1620/1/51 | "The Thunderstorm", Grade 3, week 2, term 1, 1971 |
| MS 1620/1/52 | "The Cyclone", Grade 3, 22-2-71 |
| MS 1620/1/53 | "The lost spear", Grade 3, 1/3/71 |
| MS 1620/1/54 | "Rhinoceros Beetles", Grade 3, week 5, term 1 |
| MS 1620/1/55 | "The Pet Pig", Grade 3, week 6, term 1, 1971 |
| MS 1620/1/56 | "My Family Country", Grade 3, Jun 1971 |
| MS 1620/1/57 | "My Wish", Grade 3, Jul 71 |
| MS 1620/1/58 | "My Holiday", Grade 3, term 2 1971 |

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| | |
|--------------|----------------------|
| MS 1620/1/59 | Elvira Wolmby |
| MS 1620/1/60 | Amelia Woolla |
| MS 1620/1/61 | Lloyd Karyuka |
| MS 1620/1/62 | Kevin Wikmunea |
| MS 1620/1/63 | Neville Pootchemunka |
| MS 1620/1/64 | Gertie Ngallametta |
| MS 1620/1/65 | Kim Pamtoonda |
| MS 1620/1/66 | Maxine Pambegan |
| MS 1620/1/67 | Warren Kawangka |
| MS 1620/1/68 | Pamela Ngallametta |
| MS 1620/1/69 | Sheryl Pamulkan |
| MS 1620/1/70 | Iris Yunkaporta |
| MS 1620/1/71 | Sarah Wolmby |
| MS 1620/1/72 | Isa Yunkaporta |
| MS 1620/1/73 | Phyllis Yunkaporta |
| MS 1620/1/74 | Arnold Yunkaporta |
| MS 1620/1/75 | Noel Blowhard |
| MS 1620/1/76 | Barney Ngakyunkwokka |
| MS 1620/1/77 | Owen Koomeetta |
| MS 1620/1/78 | Sheryl Pamulkan |
| MS 1620/1/79 | Barney Ngakyunkwokka |
| MS 1620/1/80 | Neville Pootchemunka |
| MS 1620/1/81 | Owen K |
| MS 1620/1/82 | Barney N |
| MS 1620/1/83 | Noel B |
| MS 1620/1/84 | Arnold Y |

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| | |
|---------------|--|
| MS 1620/1/85 | Phyllis Y |
| MS 1620/1/86 | Isa Y |
| MS 1620/1/87 | Sarah W |
| MS 1620/1/88 | Iris Y |
| MS 1620/1/89 | Sheryl P |
| MS 1620/1/90 | Pamela N |
| MS 1620/1/91 | Warren K |
| MS 1620/1/92 | Maxine P |
| MS 1620/1/93 | Kim P |
| MS 1620/1/94 | Gertie N |
| MS 1620/1/95 | Neville P |
| MS 1620/1/96 | Kevin W |
| MS 1620/1/97 | Amelia W |
| MS 1620/1/98 | Elvira W |
| MS 1620/2/99 | Grade 2, 1 st term 1972, John |
| MS 1620/2/100 | Darryl Yankaporta |
| MS 1620/2/101 | David Bell |
| MS 1620/2/102 | Laurel Pamulkan |
| MS 1620/2/103 | Jinny Gothakchalkenin |
| MS 1620/2/104 | Kay Tybingoompa |
| MS 1620/2/105 | Ethel Pootchemunka |
| MS 1620/2/106 | Carlo Yunkaporta |
| MS 1620/2/107 | Dale Ampeybegan |
| MS 1620/2/108 | Sandy K |
| MS 1620/2/109 | Judith Ngallamatta |
| MS 1620/2/110 | Josephine Namponan |

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| | |
|---------------|---|
| MS 1620/2/111 | Ethel Pootchemunka |
| MS 1620/2/112 | Darryl Yunkaporta |
| MS 1620/2/113 | Rosemary Pamtoonda |
| MS 1620/2/114 | Tony Ngakyunkwokka |
| MS 1620/2/115 | Eileen Comprabar |
| MS 1620/2/116 | Marjorie Landis |
| MS 1620/2/117 | Elfreda Comprabar |
| MS 1620/2/118 | Audrey Karyuka |
| MS 1620/2/119 | Florence Blowhard |
| MS 1620/2/120 | Gavin Korkaktain |
| MS 1620/2/121 | Mervyn Pamtoonda |
| MS 1620/2/122 | Horace Wikmunea |
| MS 1620/2/123 | Laurel Pamulkan |
| MS 1620/2/124 | Josephine Namponan |
| MS 1620/2/125 | Jinny Gothakchalkenin |
| MS 1620/2/126 | Carlo Yunkaporta |
| MS 1620/2/127 | Dale Ampeybegan |
| MS 1620/2/128 | Judith Ngallametta |
| MS 1620/2/129 | Kay Tybingoompa |
| MS 1620/2/130 | David Bell |
| MS 1620/2/131 | Sandy Koonutta |
| MS 1620/2/132 | Letter exercises from several pupils |
| MS 1620/2/133 | Grade 3, 14-11-72, "A scarey story" [Includes one drawing] |
| MS 1620/2/134 | Grade 3, Eagles A Group, 1 st term, 1972, age 8 |

Topics include "My favourite bush animal", "I live at a lighthouse", "I am an elephant", "Down at the landing", "My submarine", "About a picture", "At

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Wutan", "The Easter story", letter writing
[20 bundles of loose pages]

MS 1620/2/135 Grade 3, 1st, 2nd terms, Sharks B Group, 8-11 yrs old

Topics include "I live in a lighthouse", "I am a wallaby", "I am an elephant",
"At Wutan", "I am a fisherman", letter writing, "Birds", "2 animals fighting",
"My home", "I am a bullock", "Camping out", free choice
[26 bundles of loose pages; includes illustrations]

MS 1620/2/136 Grade 3, 2nd, 3rd terms, 9 yrs old

Topics include "I am a fisherman", "How the giraffe got its long neck",
"Birds", "I am a shopping bag", "How to make a humpy", "2 animals
fighting", "The snow-man", "Air-sea rescue", "Mother is angry", free choice
[18 bundles of loose pages]

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Series 2 Pictures

This series comprises original crayon drawings on loose pages or in drawing books. It is divided into subseries according to year.

Items MS 1620/3/138 – MS 1620/3/140 are stored in Plan Cabinet PC5, Drawer 1.

Series 2, Subseries A. 1970

Item

MS 1620/3/137 2B, "My favourite bush animal"

Series 2, Subseries B. 1970-1

Images in this subseries are painted.

These items are stored in Plan Cabinet PC5, Drawer 1.

Items

MS 1620/3/138 Ten images

MS 1620/3/139 Five images

MS 1620/3/140 2a, the Cyclone

Series 2, Subseries C. 1971

Item MS 1620/4/185 is kept in Plan Cabinet PC5, Drawer 1

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Items

- MS 1620/3/141/Pt 1 2A, "Campfire", 17-2-71
- MS 1620/3/141/Pt 2 "Campfire"
[Nine sheets of drawings by individual pupils; some are drawn on both sides]
- MS 1629/3/142 Sarah Wolmby
- MS 1620/3/143 Barney
- MS 1620/3/144 Iris
- MS 1620/3/145 Fifteen drawings
[unnamed exercise book]
- MS 1620/3/146 Kim
- MS 1620/3/147 Maxine
- MS 1620/3/148 Noel
- MS 1620/3/149 Owen
- MS 1620/3/150 PM Pamela
- MS 1620/3/151 PH Phyllis
- MS 1620/3/152 SL Sheryl
- MS 1620/3/153 Isa
- MS 1620/3/154 G T-W Gertie
- MS 1620/3/155 Warren
- MS 1620/3/156 Amelia

Series 2, Subseries D. 1972

Items

- MS 1620/3/157 Grade 3, Apr 72, "The images"
- MS 1620/3/158 Grade 2, Apr 72
- MS 1620/3/159 "Cleaning up after the Cyclone", Grade 2, early 72
- MS 1620/3/160 Grade 2, "The Orchard", 3rd term 72

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| | |
|--------------------|---|
| MS 1620/3/161 | Grade 2, Oct 72 [Some of the drawings are accompanied by descriptions written by the pupils. The theme appears to be a community dance.] |
| MS 1620/3/161/Pt 2 | [Drawings accompanied by descriptions written by the pupils; the theme appears to be a community dance.] |
| MS 1620/3/162 | Dale |
| MS 1620/3/163 | Carlo |
| MS 1620/3/164 | MYP |
| MS 1620/3/165 | Graham Phimister |
| MS 1620/3/166 | Audrey |
| MS 1620/3/167 | Elfred |
| MS 1620/3/168 | Josien |
| MS 1620/3/169 | Darryl |
| MS 1620/3/170 | Norman |
| MS 1620/3/171 | Florence |
| MS 3773/3/172 | David |
| MS 1620/3/173 | Laurel Pamulkan |
| MS 1620/3/174 | Sandy |
| MS 1620/3/175 | Jinny |
| MS 1620/3/176 | Kay |
| MS 1620/3/177 | Rosemary |
| MS 1620/4/178 | Marjorie |
| MS 1620/3/179 | Horace |
| MS 1620/3/180 | Mervyn |
| MS 1620/3/181 | Gavin |
| MS 1620/3/182 | Tony |
| MS 1620/3/183 | Eileen |

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MS 1620/3/184 Andrew

Series 2, Subseries E. Undated drawings

Items MS 1620/3/185 and MS 1620/4/191 – MS 1620/3/199 are stored in Plan Cabinet PC5, Drawer 1.

Some pictures include the Aboriginal names of the subjects in the drawings.

Items

- MS 1620/3/185/Pt 1 Forty-eight drawings
[Done in crayon and pencil by individual pupils]
- MS 1620/3/185/Pt2 Fifteen drawings
[Done in colouring pencil by individual pupils]
- MS 1620/3/186/Pt 1 Twenty drawings

Subjects include shipping, airplanes, flowers and plants

Drawn by pupils include 'Mr' Clive Wolmby, 'Mr' Glen Taisman, Patricia Kawangka, Harriet Pootchemunka, Meredith Arkwookerum, Master Rex Wolmby, Susan Y, Brenda Yporta, Cecilia Koonutta
- MS 1620/3/186/Pt 2 Twenty-three drawings

Subjects include shipping, airplanes, submarines, flowers and plants

Drawn by pupils including Mary-Ann Kerindun, Robin Karyuka, Ken Wolmby, 'Mr' Clive Wolmby, Meredith M Arkwookerum
- MS 1620/3/186/Pt 3 Twenty-one drawings

Subjects include shipping, plants and animals, people. Some of the pictures include speech balloons.

Pupils unnamed; includes a handwritten letter from Polly Ann Blowhard to her cousins
- MS 1620/3/187/Pt 1 Eleven drawings of patterns and shapes

Drawn by pupils including Susie Kemthan [?], Mark Arkwookerum, Albert T Peinkinna
- MS 1620/3/187/Pt 2 Thirteen drawings of patterns, shapes and landscapes

Drawn by pupils including Jessie Woolla, E Woolla
- MS 1620/3/188/Pt 1 Thirty drawings

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Subjects include military shipping, airplanes and personnel, animals

Drawn by pupils including Graham Porta, Felix Yunkaporta, Roy Yunkaporta, Clarence Peinkinna; drawings also by Stephen Sam Karyuka, Royal Australian Army Corps, Sergeant 4th Battalion

[Includes two holographs]

MS 1620/3/188/Pt 2 Twenty-one drawings

Subjects include military personnel, shipping, action figures, animals, landscapes

Drawn by pupils including Clarence Peinkinna, Felix Michael Yunkaporta, Cedric Wolmby, Pat Frank Porta, Roy Yunkaporta and older people including Wallace Karyuka, Stephen Karyuka, and Graham Yunkaporta

MS 1620/3/188/Pt 3 Thirty-one drawings

Subjects include "Happy pepole [sic]" military personnel, shipping, airplanes and equipment, picnics, "At the swamp", animals, plants including prickly pear

Drawn by pupils including Elfreda Rose Comprabar, Aubrey Katyuka, Horace Wikmuena, Jonathan Korkaktain, Ivan Graham Porta, Ivan Frank Porta, Nelson Wolmby; includes many drawings by Stephen Sam Karyuka

MS 1620/3/188/Pt 4 Eighteen drawings

Subjects include church buildings, military vehicles, airplanes and equipment, landscapes, action figures

Drawn by pupils including Felix [Yunkaporta], Jonathan Korkaktain, Clarence Peinkinna, Dick Koonutta, Graham Yunkaporta, Wallace K[aryuka]

Includes a holograph of a "Report on a trip to the dentist"

MS 1620/4/189 Fifty-six drawings

[Includes one painting]

Subjects include action figures, seascapes, sea animals and monsters, landscapes, military air and sea craft, members of the Foote family.

Drawn by pupils including Gavin Korkakatain, Elfreda C[omprabar], ME Pambgan, Thomas Namok, Ray [Foote], Glen Taisman

MS 1620/4/190 Fifty-five drawings

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Subjects include Easter, the Crucifixion, Jesus, the Nativity, USA military equipment, animals, bushfire, free choice

Drawn by pupils including Rosanne Karyuka, Kythe Wikmunea, Marjorie Landis, Horace Wikmunea, Margaret Landis, Carol Korkakotin, Florence Blowhard

MS 1620/4/191 Sixty-five drawings

Subjects include members of the Coleman family, the Peter family, the Norman family, the Ware family, animals

Drawn by pupils including Susan Williams, Eddie Ware, Billy Peter, Angela Ware, Jessaly Coleman, Esther Foote, Joanna Coleman, Stan Monday, Jacky Kendall, Wilfred Coleman, Danny Coleman, Georgina Norman, Peter Ware, Grace Horroya, Dennis Coleman, Victoria Edwards

MS 1620/4/192 Thirty pencil drawings

Subjects include landscapes, air craft, sea craft, motor vehicles, "Lionel Rose and Alan Rudken", Jesus, animals

Drawn by pupils including Austin Woolla, A Foride, Abel Pamtooda, Erica Kooal or Koola, Emily Paatchemunka, Russell Pamtooda, Laurie Pamtoonda, Lewis Pamtoonda, Glenn Taisman

MS 1620/4/193 Six large crayon drawings

Subjects are Workshop, Dispensary, Post Office, Store, School, Church

MS 1620/4/194 *Missing, 19-05-2016*

Series 3 New books

MS 1620/4 Reading aids, made by the teacher. Some are 'scrap books'; some are constructed from loose sheets of paper, some of it brown paper, cardboard and string.

Some items in this series are kept in Map Cabinet PC5, Drawer 1

Series 3, Subseries A. 1970

Items in this subseries are kept in Map Cabinet PC5, Drawer1

Items

MS 1620/4/195 New book 1

MS 1620/4/196 New book 2

MS 1620/4/197 New book 3

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MS 1620/4/198 New book 4

Series 3, Subseries B. 1971

Item MS 1620/4/199 is kept in Map Cabinet PC5, Drawer 1

Items

MS 1620/4/199 New Book 5

MS 1620/4/200 Newsbook Grades 2A/3

Series 3, Subseries C. 1972

Item

MS 1620/4/201 Grade 3 Daily Newspaper

Series 4 Illustrated prayers and stories

MS 1620/4 Includes genealogical information about Aboriginal residents

Items

MS 1620/4/202 Opening Prayers

MS 1620/4/203 Aurukun Children's stories

MS 1620/4/204 Aurukun Assisted Aborigines
[xeroxed list]

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|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 2/D | 162 – 184 | 4 |
| 2/E | 185 – 188/Pt 4 | 4 |
| 2/E | 189 – 190 | 5 |
| 2/E | 191 – 194 | Map Cabinet PC5 |
| 3/A | 195 – 198 | Map Cabinet PC5 |
| 3/B | 199 | Map Cabinet PC5 |
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Version 1 of this finding aid compiled in 1998

Second version compiled by Fiona Blackburn in May 2016

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