



AIATSIS
Australian Institute of Aboriginal
and Torres Strait Islander Studies

Finding aid

RIGSBY_B03

Sound recordings collected by

Bruce Rigsby, 1974

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 and 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: 1974

Extent: 5 sound tapes (ca. 2 hrs 30 min.) : analogue, mono. + field tape report sheets

Production history

These recordings were collected by Bruce Rigsby between 6 June and 18 June 1974 in Coen, North Queensland, Australia. They document languages spoken by various people in the area, including Kuku Thaypan as spoken by Molly Gordon and Christmas Shepherd; Wik Mungkan as spoken by Oscar Gordon; Olgol as spoken by Oscar Gordon; Umbuygamu as spoken by King Armstrong; Umbindhamu as spoken by Joan Liddy; Kaanju as spoken by Jack Shepherd; and Aboriginal English as spoken by Nola Ahlers and several children. The collection was deposited at AIATSIS in June 1974.

RELATED MATERIAL

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

Field notebooks containing transcripts of material from field recordings 1974-1, 1974-2 and 1974-3 are held in the AIATSIS Library, see [PMS 2326](#) and [PMS 2327](#). 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 Bruce Rigsby and audition sheets prepared by AIATSIS staff.

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 |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 003182A | 1974-1 | Kuku Thaypan, Wik Mungkan and Olgol language elicitation with Molly and Oscar Gordon |
| 003182B | 1974-2 | Umbuygamu, Kuku Thaypan and Umbindhamu language elicitation with King Armstrong, Molly Gordon and Joan Liddy |
| 003182B | 1974-3 | Kaanju vocabulary elicitation and some oral history material in Aboriginal English with Jack Shepherd |
| 003183A | 1974-4 | Children's narratives in Aboriginal English |
| 003183B | 1974-5 | Biographical narrative in Kuku Thaypan by Christmas Shepherd |

ITEM DESCRIPTIONS

003182A/1974-1

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Performer/speaker(s): | Molly Gordon, Oscar Gordon |
| Subject keywords: | Language - Linguistics - Language elicitation |
| Language/people: | Kuku Thaypan / Gugu Dhayban, Wik Mungkan, Olgol / Olkol |
| Places: | Coen (Qld NE Cape York SD54-08) |
| Recording quality: | Good |
| Notes: | Parts of this field recording are transcribed in notebook 9, see PMS 2326 in the AIATSIS Library. |

| Archive item number | Timing point | Description | Date | Place |
|---------------------|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| RIGSBY_B03-003182A | 00:00:00 | Kuku Thaypan sentence elicitation with Molly Gordon, followed by a brief discussion about kinship rules. | 6 June 1974 | Coen, Queensland |
| | 00:14:00 | Wik Mungkan vocabulary elicitation with Oscar Gordon. | 11 June 1974 | Coen, Queensland |
| | 00:28:40 | Olgolo vocabulary elicitation with Oscar Gordon. | 11 June 1974 | Coen, Queensland |
| | 00:44:00 | End of field recording 1974-1 and end of RIGSBY_B03-003182A. | | |

[RETURN TO ITEM LIST](#)

003182B/1974-2

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Performer/speaker(s): | King Armstrong, Molly Gordon, Joan Liddy |
| Personal subject(s): | Molly Gordon |
| Subject keywords: | Language - Linguistics - Language elicitation, History - Oral history |
| Language/people: | Umbuygamu / Morrobalama, Kuku Thaypan / Gugu Dhayban, Umbindhamu |
| Places: | Coen (Qld NE Cape York SD54-08) |
| Recording quality: | Fair to good |
| Notes: | Parts of this field recording are transcribed in notebook 9, see PMS 2326, and notebook 10, see PMS 2327, in the AIATSIS Library. |

| Archive item number | Timing point | Description | Date | Place |
|---------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| RIGSBY_B03-003182B | 00:00:00 | Umbuygamu place names and story in English with King Armstrong. | 10 June 1974 | Coen, Queensland |
| | 00:03:50 | Kuku Thaypan language elicitation with Molly Gordon. | 11-13 June 1974 | Coen, Queensland |
| | 00:18:20 | Autobiographical narrative in Kuku Thaypan by Molly Gordon. | 13 June 1974 | Coen, Queensland |
| | 00:31:30 | Umbindhamu language elicitation with Joan Liddy. | 14 June 1974 | Coen, Queensland |
| | 00:39:30 | End of field recording 1974-2. | | |

[RETURN TO ITEM LIST](#)

003182B/1974-3

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Performer/speaker(s): | Jack Shepherd |
| Subject keywords: | Language - Linguistics - Language elicitation, History - Oral history |
| Language/people: | Kaanju / Kaantju / Anjingi, Aboriginal English |
| Places: | Coen (Qld NE Cape York SD54-08) |
| Recording quality: | Fair |
| Notes: | Parts of this field recording are transcribed in notebook 9, see PMS 2326, and notebook 10, see PMS 2327, in the AIATSIS Library. |

| Archive item number | Timing point | Description | Date | Place |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| RIGSBY_B03-003182B | 00:39:30 | Kaanju language elicitation with Jack Shepherd, followed by narratives in Aboriginal English. | 15 June 1974 | Coen, Queensland |
| | 00:63:40 | End of field recording 1974-3 and end of RIGSBY_B03-003182B. | | |

[RETURN TO ITEM LIST](#)

003183A/1974-4

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Performer/speaker(s): | Nola Ahlers, several unnamed children |
| Subject keywords: | Language - English - Aboriginal English, Language - Linguistics - Language elicitation - Narratives |
| Language/people: | Aboriginal English |
| Places: | Coen (Qld NE Cape York SD54-08) |
| Recording quality: | Fair |

| Archive item number | Timing point | Description | Date | Place |
|----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| RIGSBY_B03-003183A | 00:00:00 | Children speaking Aboriginal English. | 17 June 1974 | Coen, Queensland |
| | 00:23:30 | End of field recording 1974-4 and end of RIGSBY_B03-003183A. | | |

[RETURN TO ITEM LIST](#)

003183B/1974-5

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Performer/speaker(s): | Christmas Shepherd |
| Personal subject(s): | Christmas Shepherd |
| Subject keywords: | Language - Linguistics - Language elicitation – Narratives, History - Oral history |
| Language/people: | Kuku Thaypan / Gugu Dhayban |
| Places: | Coen (Qld NE Cape York SD54-08) |
| Recording quality: | Fair |

| Archive item number | Timing point | Description | Date | Place |
|----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| RIGSBY_B03-003183B | 00:00:00 | Autobiographical text in Kuku Thaypan by Christmas Shepherd. | 18 June 1974 | Coen, Queensland |
| | 00:63:45 | End of field recording 1974-5 and end of RIGSBY_B03-003183B. | | |

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