



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

**Finding aid**

**THOMPSON\_D03**

**Sound recordings collected by  
David Thompson, 1969**

Prepared November 2005 by AMH  
Last updated 20 December 2016

## ACCESS

### Availability of copies

Listening copies are available. Contact [AIATSIS](#) 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 depositor as well as 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:** 1969

**Extent:** 6 sound tape reels: (3 hrs., 41 min.) : analogue, 3 ¾ ips and 1 7/8, mono + field tape report sheets.

### Production history

These recordings were collected by David Thompson between March and October, 1969 at Lockhart River, Queensland. They document language, songs and cultural discussions with various speakers in the Cape York region, including Billy Daniels, George Moreton, Harry Seiu, Michael Omeeny, Michael Sandy, Johnson Butcher, Hughie Temple, Lizzie Ropeyarn, William Butcher and unidentified men and women.

## RELATED MATERIAL

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

Transcripts of field tapes 1B, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 are held in the AIATSIS Library, see [PMS 5416](#). 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 contained in documentation provided by Donald Thompson and audition sheets prepared by AIATSIS staff.

## ITEM LIST

<b>Archive number</b>	<b>Field recording number</b>	<b>Description</b>
001797A	<a href="#">Field tape 1B</a>	Church hymns in Gugu Yau and Umpila performed by women, men and children
001797B	<a href="#">Field tape 2</a>	Songs, dances and discussion in Gugu Yau and English with Billy Daniels and George Moreton
001797B	<a href="#">Field tape 3</a>	Songs and discussion in Gugu Yau, Umpila and English with Billy Daniels, George Moreton, Harry Seiu and Michael Omeenyo
001798A	<a href="#">Field tape 4</a>	Songs and discussion in Gugu Yau, Umpila and English accompanied by drum, sticks, guitar and ukulele with Billy Daniels, George Rockey, George Moreton, Michael Sandy, Johnson Butcher, Hughie Temple and group of unidentified men and women
001798A 001798B	<a href="#">Field tape 5</a>	Songs in Gugu Yau and Umpila performed by Lizzie Ropeyarn and group of unidentified men and women
001798B 001799A	<a href="#">Field tape 6</a>	Songs in Gugu Yau and Umpila performed by William Butcher and group of unidentified men and women

## ITEM DESCRIPTIONS

### 001797A/Field tape 1B

Performer/speaker(s): Unidentified group of men, women and children  
Subject keywords: Music – Vocal, Music – Vocal – Group, Music – Church music – Hymns  
Language/people: Gugu Yau, Umpila  
Places: Lockhart River (Qld NE Cape York SD54-04)  
Recording quality:

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
THOMPSON_ D03-001797A	00:00:00	Church hymns performed in Gugu Yau and Umpila by a large group of men, women and children.	March 1969	Lockhart River QLD
	00:61:26	End of field tape 1B and THOMPSON_D03-001797A.		

**001797B/Field tape 2**

Performer/speaker(s): Billy Daniels, George Moreton  
Subject keywords: Music – Vocal, Music – Traditional, Music – Ceremonial music, Music – Drum, Dance - Ceremonial  
Language/people: Gugu Yau  
Places: Lockhart River (Qld NE Cape York SD54-04)  
Recording quality:  
Notes: The field tape report sheet states that the recording also contains 'Bora languages'; this collection has not been classified as restricted by the depositor, possibly because only public parts of ceremonies were recorded

<b>Archive item number</b>	<b>Timing point</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>
THOMPSON_ D03-001797B	00:00:00	Bora songs sung in Gugu Yau performed by Billy Daniels and George Moreton. They are accompanied by dancing and drums. Billy Daniels explains the background of the Bora songs.	24 June 1969	Lockhart River QLD
	00:23:10	End of field tape 2.		

### 001797B/Field tape 3

Performer/speaker(s): Billy Daniels, George Moreton, Harry Seiu, Michael Omeenyo  
Subject keywords: Music – Vocal, Music – Traditional, Music – Ceremonial music, Music – Drum, Music - Clapsticks  
Language/people: Gugu Yau, Umpila  
Places: Lockhart River (Qld NE Cape York SD54-04)  
Recording quality:  
Notes: The field tape report sheet states that the recording also contains 'Bora languages'; this collection has not been classified as restricted by the depositor, possibly because only public parts of the ceremonies were recorded

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
THOMPSON_ D03-001797B	00:00:00	Bora songs from a preparatory initiation ceremony sung in Gugu Yau and performed by Billy Daniels and George Moreton. They are accompanied by sticks and drums.	June 1969	Lockhart River QLD
	00:40:25	Island-style songs accompanied by guitar performed in Gugu Yau and Umpila by George Omeenyo. Includes Going south, Climbing a Hill, Love Song, Coming Storm, Umagico Range, J.I.M, Be Bop a Lu La, When I was a Little Bitty Baby.	June 1969	Lockhart River QLD
	00:54:10	End of field tape 3 and THOMPSON_D03-001797B.		

## 001798A/Field tape 4

Performer/speaker(s): Billy Daniels, George Moreton, George Rockey, Michael Sandy, Johnson Butcher, Hughie Temple, group of unidentified women and men

Subject keywords: Music – Vocal, Music – Traditional, Music – Ceremonial music, Music – Drum, Music – Guitar, Ceremonies – Initiation, Music – Church music – Hymns

Language/people: Gugu Yau, Umpila

Places: Lockhart River (Qld NE Cape York SD54-04)

Recording quality:

Notes: The field tape report sheet states that the recording also contains 'Bora languages'; this collection has not been classified as restricted by the depositor, possibly because only public parts of the ceremonies were recorded

Archive item number	Timing point	Description	Date	Place
THOMPSON_ D03-001798A	00:00:00	Bora songs at the final Bora Initiation ceremony performed by Billy Daniels (leader), George Moreton, George Rockey, Michael Sandy, Johnson Butcher, Hughie Temple. They are accompanied by drums.	17 <sup>th</sup> October 1969	Quintall Beach, Lockhart River QLD
	00:22:55	Island-style songs and hymns accompanied by guitar and drum performed in Gugu Yau and Umpila by a group of men and women. Includes Sunset, Christmas Wind, Black Storm, Approaching Cloud.	October 1969	Quintall Beach, Lockhart River QLD
	00:30:50	End of field tape 4.		

**001798A + 001798B/Field tape 5**

Performer/speaker(s): Lizzie Ropeyarn, group of unidentified women and men  
Subject keywords: Music – Vocal, Music – Drum, Music – Guitar, Music – Church music –  
Hymns, Choruses & Carols  
Language/people: Gugu Yau, Umpila  
Places: Lockhart River (Qld NE Cape York SD54-04)  
Recording quality:

<b>Archive item number</b>	<b>Timing point</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>
THOMPSON_ D03-001798A	00:30:59	Island-style songs and hymns accompanied by guitar and drum performed in Gugu Yau and Umpila by a group of men and women.	21 October 1969	Lockhart River QLD
	00:31:47	End of THOMPSON_D03-001798A.		
THOMPSON_ D03-001798B	00:00:00	Island-style songs and hymns accompanied by guitar and drum performed in Gugu Yau and Umpila by Lizzie Ropeyarn and a group of men and women.	21 October 1969	Lockhart River QLD
	00:19:05	End of field tape 5.		



**001798B + 001799A/Field tape 6**

Performer/speaker(s): William Butcher, group of women and men  
Subject keywords: Music – Vocal, Music – Drum, Music – Guitar, Music – Church music – Hymns, Choruses & Carols, Music – Clapsticks, Music - Ukulele  
Language/people: Gugu Yau, Umpila  
Places: Lockhart River (Qld NE Cape York SD54-04)  
Recording quality:

<b>Archive item number</b>	<b>Timing point</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>
THOMPSON_D03-001798B	00:19:45	Island-style songs and hymns accompanied by guitar, drum, clapsticks and ukulele performed in Gugu Yau and Umpila by William Butcher and a group of men and women.	21 October 1969	Lockhart River QLD
	00:29:42	End of THOMPSON_D03-001798B.		
THOMPSON_D03-001799A	00:00:00	Island-style songs and hymns accompanied by guitar, drum, clapsticks and ukulele performed in Gugu Yau and Umpila by William Butcher and a group of men and women.	21 October 1969	Lockhart River QLD
	00:19:56	End of field tape 6 and THOMPSON_D03-001799A.		