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TITLE: National Native Title Tribunal Research Report Bibliographies
Introduction

The Tribunal’s Research Unit prepares bibliographies as a ready reference for anyone wanting to locate readily available, published material about Indigenous Australian people within a particular region or locality. The bibliographies are produced for general library use from reports prepared by the Tribunal for parties to native title mediations. The bibliographies are not exhaustive reference lists about any particular Indigenous group, nor is the published material necessarily an accurate or insightful report of Indigenous society. The Research Unit may update bibliographies from time to time, usually because a new research report has been reproduced for parties to mediation.

It should be noted that the contents and production of these reports are governed by time and resource constraints. They are often prepared in four to eight weeks by a single research officer with some input from a research assistant and Tribunal librarian. Generally most of the references sought for these reports are available only from the AIATSIS library, which in turn has limited resources available to supply material. Therefore care is taken to request only that material which appears relevant to the scope of a particular report.

Disclaimer: The bibliographies are a list of materials that have been used by the Research Unit of the Tribunal to provide background information for native title mediations. The Tribunal forms no view on the accuracy, completeness, or relevance of the reference material cited in these bibliographies. Most of this material is held at libraries and is available to the public. The Tribunal library may be able to assist in locating items.
Balanggarra Report

The Balanggarra report was prepared by research staff of the National Native Title Tribunal to assist in the mediation of the Balanggarra People’s native title applications (WC99/4 and WC00/6). It was based on publicly and readily available information relevant to the traditional location of the Balanggarra people.

Research Method

The research material used for this report is based largely on a search of the AIATSIS online catalogue, *Mura*, supplemented by relevant references found in Tindale’s (1974) *Aboriginal Tribes of Australia*.

The following general references were also used:

- Davidson, 1938, *A Preliminary Register of Australian Tribes and Hordes*;
- Davis, 1993, *Australia’s Extant and Imputed Traditional Aboriginal Territories*;
- Horton, 1994, *The Encyclopaedia of Aboriginal Australia*;
- O’Grady, Wurm & Hale, 1966, *Aboriginal Languages of Australia: A Preliminary Classification*;
- Tindale, 1940, ‘Distribution of Australian Aboriginal tribes: a field survey’; and
- Tindale, 1974, *Aboriginal Tribes of Australia*.

According to the Register of Native Title Claims there have been four native title claims lodged by Balanggarra. The first two (WC95/30 & WC95/78) described the persons claiming to hold native title as ‘those Aboriginal people who describe themselves as either Gwini, Walmbi or Wunnubal’. These two native title claims were combined in 1999 to form WC99/47 Balanggarra
(Combination). In 2000, Balanggarra #3 (WC00/6) was lodged and registered.

A search of the AIATSIS catalogue using Balanggarra in the ‘word or phrase’ or ‘language group’ fields did not yield any results. Consequently, a map of the Balanggarra claims area was compared to maps produced by linguists and anthropologists showing language or tribal names in that area.

Tindale’s 1974 map, ‘Tribal Boundaries in Aboriginal Australia’, shows a number of tribal groups in the area claimed by Balanggarra: Miwa, Wilawila, Wirngir, Wenambal, Jeidji, Arnga, Kitja, Ngarinjin and Ola. The map also shows Wunambal between Admiralty Gulf and the Prince Regent River.

O’Grady, Wurm and Hale’s 1966 map, ‘Aboriginal Languages of Australia’, shows languages and dialects as part of language families and language groups. This map shows several languages or dialects within the Balanggarra claims area: Wunambal, Bagu, Gwini, Wolyamidi, Munumburu and Guidj.

McGregor’s 1988 map of ‘Traditional locations of the Worrorran languages’ shows Miwa, Wilawila, Kwin, Yiji, Munumburu, Wolyamidi, Ngarnawu, Ngarinyin and Guwij within the Balanggarra claims area.

The AIATSIS catalogue was then searched using the following names in the ‘language group’ field: Wunambal, Miwa/Bagu, Wilawila, Kwin, Yiji, Munumburu, Wolyamidi, Arnga, Wirngir, Wrola and Guwij. Each record was examined to determine its likely relevance or usefulness. Materials with access restrictions were omitted as were foreign language materials, obvious duplications, apparent cataloguing errors, microforms, audio material and material that appeared to deal with technical aspects of language or education curricula. The result of these searches is set out in the table on the following page:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language group name</th>
<th>Result</th>
<th>After filtering</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wunambal</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gwini</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miwa/Bagu</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yiiji</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worla/Ola</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilawila</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Munumburu</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wolyamidi</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wirngir</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arnga</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guwij</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>297</strong></td>
<td><strong>108</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A search was not done on Ngarinyin or Duulngari since the area of apparent overlap with the Balanggara claims area is small and also because many of the records reviewed referred to several language groups in the area, including these. A search on Ngarnawu, Wenambal and Kitja did not produce any results.
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