Central Goldfields Regional Report

Western Australia

No. 19/2003
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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.

Central Goldfields Regional Report
The Central Goldfields Regional report was prepared by research staff of the National Native Title Tribunal to assist in the mediation of the native title applications in the region. The area covered by this report extends from east of Mangowine, south of Mulline, west of Lake Yindarlgooda and north of Lake Hope. Native title applications in the area include Central West Goldfields (WC99/29), Gubrun (WC95/27), Kalamai Kabu(d)n People (WC97/100), Widji People (WC98/27), Maduwongga People (WC99/9), Ballardong People (WC00/7), Wongatha (WC99/1), Ngadju (WC99/2) and Central East Goldfields People (WC99/30). The report was based on publicly and readily available information relevant to the traditional location of these groups.

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*, Thieberger’s (1993) *Handbook of Western Australian Languages South of the Kimberley Region* and Horton’s (1994) *The Encyclopaedia of Aboriginal Australia*.

The following general references were also used:

- Bates, 1985, *The Native Tribes of Western Australia*;
• Capell, 1963, *Linguistic Survey of Australia*;
• Davidson, 1938, *A Preliminary Register of Australian Tribes and Hordes*;
• Horton, ed. 1994 *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’;
• Tindale, 1974, *Aboriginal Tribes of Australia*;
• Tindale, 1976, ‘Some ecological bases for Australian tribal boundaries’;
• Sutton, 1995, *Country: Aboriginal Boundaries and Land Ownership in Australia*; and

The Geoscience Australia web site was viewed to determine the grid references relevant to the Central Goldfields. The AIATSIS catalogue uses these grid references. The AIATSIS catalogue was then searched using these references in the ‘place’ field. The search result was viewed to determine which items were relevant. Materials with access restrictions were omitted as were foreign language materials, obvious duplications, microforms, audio material and material that appeared to deal with technical aspects of language or education curricula. The search resulted in the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AUSLIG grid reference</th>
<th>Raw result</th>
<th>After filtering</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barlee SH50-08</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Menzies SH51-05</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bencubbin SH50-11</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson SH50-12</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kalgoorlie SH51-09</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kurnalpi SH51-10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kellarberrin SH50-15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Cross SH50-16</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boorabbin SH51-13</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Widgiemooltha SH51-14</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hyden SI50-04</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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In addition maps of the area produced by linguists and anthropologists showing language or tribal names were used to decide which names to search on the AIATSIS catalogue.

Tindale’s 1974 map, ‘Tribal Boundaries in Aboriginal Australia’, shows a number of tribal groups in the Central Goldfields area: Kalamaia, Kalaako, Maduwongga and Njakinjaki. 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 also shows several languages or dialects within the Central Goldfields area: Kalamai, Kalarko and Maduwonga. In 1994, AIATSIS published the Encyclopaedia of Aboriginal Australia, edited by David Horton. In 2000 a map, Aboriginal Australia, was produced to accompany the Encyclopaedia. Horton’s map shows a number of groups in the Central Goldfields area: Kalaamaya, Malpa, Wangkathaa and Nyaki Nyaki.

The AIATSIS catalogue was then searched using the following names in the ‘language group’ field: Kalamaia, Kalaako, Maduwongga, Malpa, Wangkathaa and Nyaki Nyaki. Each record was examined to determine its likely relevance or usefulness. Materials were filtered as described above. The result of these searches is set out in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language group name</th>
<th>Raw result</th>
<th>After filtering</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kalaamaya</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kalaako</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maduwongga</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malpa</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wangkathaa</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nyaki Nyaki</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>135</strong></td>
<td><strong>39</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Environment Australia catalogue was then searched using the following references in the ‘subject keyword’ field: Kalgoorlie, Kurnalpi, Southern Cross, Bullfinch, Hamersley Lakes, Ora Banda, Mukinbudin, Kambalda, Goongarrie and Boorabbin. However, the results were not relevant to a report on the Central Goldfields.

Relevant material from previous research reports was also included.

Bibliography


Campbell, W.D. 1911, ‘The Need for an Ethnological Survey of Western Australia’, *Journal of the Natural History and Science Society of Western Australia*, vol. 3, no. 2, pp. 102-109.


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Howitt, R. 1991, “All They Get Is The Dust”: Aborigines, Mining and Regional Restructuring in Western Australia’s Eastern Goldfields, Economic and Regional Restructuring Research Unit, University of Sydney.


O’Grady, G.N. 1959, Significance of the circumcision boundary in Western Australia, BA thesis, University of Sydney.


Bibliography


Stanton, J.E. 1984, Conflict, change and stability at Mt Margaret: an Aboriginal community in transition, PhD thesis, Department of Anthropology, University of Western Australia, Nedlands.


Tindale, N.B. 1940, ‘Distribution of Australian Aboriginal Tribes: a field survey’, *Royal Society of South Australia*, vol. 64, no. 1.


