Research Report Bibliography
7/2006

Gangalidda and Garawa Peoples

Queensland

May 2006
Research Unit

Resolution of native title issues over land and waters.
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.
Gangalidda and Garawa Peoples Report

This report was prepared by staff of the Research Unit of the National Native Title Tribunal, in order to assist with the mediation of native title claims by the Gangalidda and Garawa peoples of the Gulf of Carpentaria region, north-west Queensland. Two native title claims on behalf of the Gangalidda and Garawa people together have been registered to date:

- Gangalidda and Garawa Peoples (QC04/5; QUD84/04);
- Gangalidda and Garawa People #2 (QC05/3; QUD66/05).

The Gangalidda and Garawa Peoples claim area centres around the Gulf of Carpentaria coastline opposite the Wellesley and South Wellesley Islands (dominated by Mornington and Bentinck Islands respectively), and, closer to shore, the Forsyth Islands. All marine and offshore areas immediately adjacent to the coast are excluded from the claim – these are part of the Wellesley Island Sea Claim area (QC96/2; QUD207/97). The coastal frontage of Gangalidda and Garawa Peoples claim extends from Massacre Inlet in the west to Rocky Creek (just past Moonlight Creek) in the east. It then works south, to the Nicholson River, which it follows west to the edge of (and thereby excludes) the Doomadgee reserve. It traces the Doomadgee reserve north then west, then due north from the headwaters of Moonlight Creek to about 20 km south of the coast, following the orientation of the coast west until it turns north again at a point due south of Massacre Inlet. A small extension exists just to the south-west of Massacre Inlet, encompassing sections of Settlement, Hann and Lagoon Creeks. A small, satellite area also exists in the coastal flats surrounding the mouths of Lily and Gin Arm Creeks.
The Gangalidda and Garawa People # 2 claim area completely encompasses the first claim. It runs from about 10 km offshore along the coastline, from the Queensland / Northern Territory borderline in the east, to north of Massacre Inlet, where it adjoins the area of the initial claim. It then runs along the coast from the eastern point of the first claim at Rocky Creek, joining with the satellite area of the initial claim around Lily Creek and extends further east to the Albert River and on to the Leichhardt River. It follows both rivers south to around the same latitude as Burketown, following the Albert River, then Harris Creek, then south-south-west almost to the Gregory River, around Almora station. It then follows the Gregory north-west to Punjaub station then on to the Nicholson, skirting around the southern boundary of (thereby including) the Doomadgee Reserve. It then splits off from the Nicholson at Hedleys Creek, up to the state / territory border, which it traces north back to coast.

Research Method

The material used for these reports is derived largely from a search of the AIATSIS online catalogue. A large proportion of this material is available only from the AIATSIS library, which 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.

The Tribunal Library also has substantial holdings of reference material which is used where appropriate. In addition, a number of general references were used, including:

- Tindale, 1940, 'Distribution of Australian Aboriginal tribes: a field survey'; and
- Tindale, 1974, *Aboriginal Tribes of Australia*. 
This report contains summaries of information that is publicly available and relevant to the location of the Gangaildda and Garawa peoples relating only to the areas that form part of their native title claims.

Prior to commencing the report, a search was made of the AIATSIS library catalogue using the claimant groups’ ‘language group’ names. A catalogue search was also made of the mapsheet location and of specific locations within the area, such as “Nicholson River”, “Burketown” and “Doomadgee”.

Each record was examined to determine its likely relevance or usefulness. Materials with access restrictions were omitted as were foreign language materials, obvious 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 below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Search term</th>
<th>Raw result</th>
<th>After filtering</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Group: Gangalidda</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Large number of sound files or purely linguistic articles filtered out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language Group: Garawa</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Large number of sound files, also numerous articles purely on linguistics, items with restricted access and transcripts of excessive length.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key word: Karawa</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Several repeated hits from language group search</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key word: Jokula</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>No new hits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language Group: Yangaal Gananggalinda people</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Neighbouring group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Place (map ref): SE54-01</td>
<td>608</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Mostly refs to Mornington Island &amp; Lardil ppl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Place (map ref): SE54-05</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Numerous references to Doomadgee – mostly in recent socio-political context</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Place (map ref): SE54-06</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1435</td>
<td>90</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bibliography


Simmons, R. T., Graydon, J. J. and N. B. Tindale 1964. ‘Further blood group genetical studies on Australian Aborigines of Bentinck, Mornington and Forsyth islands and the mainland, Gulf of Carpentaria, together with frequencies for natives of the Western Desert, Western Australia’. *Oceania* 35(1): 66-84.


Tindale, N. B. 1940. 'Distribution of Australian Aboriginal Tribes: A Field Survey'. *Royal Society of South Australia*, 64(1).


For more information about native title and services of the Tribunal, please contact the National Native Title Tribunal GPO Box 9973 in your capital city on Freecall 1800 640 501. A wide variety of information is also available online at www.nntt.gov.au

The National Native Title Tribunal has offices in Adelaide, Brisbane, Cairns, Darwin, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney.