North Lake Torrens Region

South Australia

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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.

**North Lake Torrens Region Report**

The North Lake Torrens Region report was prepared by research staff of the National Native Title Tribunal to assist in the mediation process involving the North Lake Torrens Region in South Australia. The area covered by this report includes the northern section of Lake Torrens, Lake Younghusband, Millers Creek, Coward Springs and the south western edge of Lake Eyre South. There are six existing and overlapping claims in the area — SC95/007 Antakirinja, SC99/002 Kokatha, SC96/004 Barngarla, SC98/002 Arabunna, SC00/003 Kujani and SC99/001 Adnyamathanha No. 1.

**Research Method**

This report contains summaries of information that is publicly available and relevant to the identity and location of Aboriginal peoples in the area described in the report as ‘North Lake Torrens.

These reports are based on a systematic and transparent search method. An on-line search is made of the library catalogue of AIATSIS in Canberra. This catalogue can be searched according to language group, place, topical subject, personal subject, word or phrase, author and title. The most useful search category for this report was place.
The AUSLIG web site *Geoscience Australia* was checked to determine which 1:250 000 map sheets overlay the North Lake Torrens area in South Australia that is the subject of this report. This indicated that Billa Kalina SH 53-07, Curdimurka SH 53-08, Kingoonya SH 53-11, and Andamooka SH 53-12 were relevant references. A search was then made of the AIATSIS on-line catalogue using these map sheet 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:

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<th>Location</th>
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<td>SH 53-12</td>
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Maps of the area produced by linguists and anthropologists show the names of three groups within this part of South Australia — Arabunna, Kokatha and Kujani. Research reports had previously been prepared on these groups so the material used to prepare these was also reviewed.

A search was made of the Environment Australia library web-based catalogue\(^1\) of heritage survey research reports and other relevant material. The aim of the search was to identify additional relevant materials that may not be held by AIATSIS. It is, however, less likely than the AIATSIS catalogue to refer specifically to a language identified group, using general categories (e.g. Indigenous) and geographic area.

The search of this catalogue using the pastoral lease names located in the area yielded no relevant results.

The following general references were also used:

- Capell 1963, *Linguistic survey of Australia*;
- Davidson 1938, *A Preliminary register of Australian tribes and hordes*;
- Horton 1994, *The Encyclopaedia of Aboriginal Australia*;
- O'Grady, Wurm and 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*; and

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Material germane to this Report is held in the N.B Tindale Archive held in the South Australian Museum and in the Mountford/Sheard Collection of manuscript material located in the State Library of South Australia. This material would have undoubtedly added value to this report, however, this writer did not have access to these collections.

**Bibliography**


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Fenner, F. 1936, 'Adelaide University field anthropology, Central Australia: no. 13 – Anthropomorphic observations on South Australian Aborigines of the Diamantina and Cooper Creek regions', *Transactions of the Royal Society of South Australia*, vol.60, pages 46-54.


Hercus, L. 1973 'Only old Alice can talk Gujani', *Aboriginal News*, vol.1, no.4, pages 4-6.


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