Southern Yamatji

Western Australia

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TITLE: 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.

**Southern Yamatji Report**

The Southern Yamatji report was prepared by research staff of the National Native Title Tribunal. It has been prepared to assist in the mediation of issues arising from the native title determination applications in a region called, for the purposes of this report, Southern Yamatji. The Southern Yamatji region is defined in this report as the geographical area falling within boundaries starting at the southern point of Leeman, extending north of Kalbarri, inland east to Cue, south to Mouroubra Station and west to the point of commencement. This area includes the following native title applications:

- Pandawn Descendants (WC96/83);
- Badimia People (WC96/98);
- Widi Mob (WC97/72);
- Mullewa Wadjari Community (WC96/93);
- Naaguja Peoples (WC97/73);
- Arnold Franks (WC98/57);
- Widi Mara (WC96/67);
- Widi Marra (WC96/86);
- Kevin Taylor (WC01/04);
- Hutt River (WC00/01);
- Nanda People (WC00/13); and
- The Wajarri Elders (WC01/03).
Research Method

The research material reviewed in this report was based initially on a search of the AIATSIS online catalogue, Mura, using the key words Amangu, Badimia, Kalaamaya, Mulyara, Nanda, Wajari, Wardal, Watjanti, and Widi. These names were selected after a number of general maps had been examined. These maps included Tindale (1940 &1974), Davidson (1938), Horton (1994), Davis (1993) and Bates (c1907-1909). These library searches were restricted to printed material as sound tapes and film would be difficult to process within the time constraints. Foreign language material and repetitions of the same material (for example, different editions of the same work) were similarly excluded.

The search yielded a substantial amount of material—too large to review within the time constraints. On the basis of providing a snap shot of the entire region, the list of materials was pared down to texts that dealt with a number of groups, rather than texts that focused solely on one group.

This material generated by the Mura search was supplemented by additional material concerning the location of Aboriginal groups within the Southern Yamatji region. References to groups within the region were found in the following general references and are included in this report:

- Bates, D. c. 1907-1909, ‘Geographical Distribution of Tribes’ [Map];
- Capell, A. 1963, Linguistic Survey of Australia;
- Davidson, D.S. 1938, ‘An Ethnic Map of Australia’;
- Davidson, D.S. 1938, A Preliminary Register of Australian Tribes and Hordes;
- Davis, S.L. 1993, Australia’s Extant and Imputed Traditional Aboriginal Territories;
- Donohue, M. 1991, ‘AIATSIS Library Language Names and Community/Established Language Names’;
- Horton, D. ed. 1994, Encyclopaedia of Aboriginal Australia;
- Tindale, N.B. 1940, ‘Distribution of Australian Aboriginal Tribes: A Field Survey’; and
- Tindale, N.B. 1974, Aboriginal Tribes of Australia: Their Terrain, Environmental Controls, Distribution, Limits and Proper Names;

Two additional sources were gleaned from previous Research reports and were also included:

- Blevins, J. 2001, Nhanda: An Aboriginal Language of Western Australia; and
- Brown, A.R. 1913, ‘The distribution of native tribes in part of Western Australia’.

Bibliography


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Brandenstein, C.G. von, 1966b, ‘Report [to AIAS] on fieldwork northwest Western Australia, 1st-29th September’, AIATSIS PMS 2138.


Connelly, J.F. 1932, ‘Distribution of tribes in Western Australia’, *Mankind*, vol.1, no.5.


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


Thieberger, N. 1993, *Handbook of Western Australian Aboriginal Languages South of the Kimberley Region*, Department of Linguistics, Australian National University, Canberra.

Tindale, N.B. 1940, ‘Distribution of Australian Aboriginal Tribes: A Field Survey’, *Royal Society of South Australia*, vol. 64, no. 1.


**Additional references used in writing this report:**
Aboriginal History Program 1985, *Putting it Together*. 
Bibliography


