Waluwarra

Queensland

4/2006
March 2006
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.
Waluwarra Report

The Waluwarra People report was prepared by research staff of the National Native Title Tribunal to assist in the mediation of the Waluwarra/Georgina River People (QC97/5; QUD6115/98); Waluwarra People #2 (QC02/6; QUD6006/02) native title claims. This report was based on publicly and readily available information relevant to the location of to assist with the mediation of native title claims by the Waluwarra people of north-west Queensland.

The Waluwarra/Georgina River People claim area extends either side of the Georgina River, from a point midway between Roxborough Downs and Glenormiston stations in the south, to just beyond the confluence of the Georgina and Templeton Rivers in the north. The western extent of the claim is the Queensland / Northern Territory border. The eastern boundary varies, but extends almost as far as the town of Dajarra in the mid-section. The claim area includes the town of Urandangi, and the homesteads of several large pastoral stations, including Roxborough Downs, Linda Downs, Carandotta, Walgra, Warwick Downs and Headingly. The #2 claim is mostly a thin strip adjacent to the eastern extent of the first claim, from approximately 25 km south of Mt Isa, southwards to Dajarra and the headwaters of Cottonbush Creek.
Research Method

The content and production of these reports are governed by time and resource constraints. They are usually prepared in six weeks by a single research officer with some input from a research assistant and a Tribunal librarian.

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, in this report the following general references were used:

- Capell, 1963, Linguistic Survey of Australia;
- Horton, 1996, Aboriginal Australia;
- 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 Waluwarra people and the regions that comprise the areas that form part of their native title claims.

A search was made of the AIATSIS library catalogue using the claimant group’s ‘language group’ name (which is
spelled as Warluwara in the AIATSIS catalogue). A catalogue search was also made of the mapsheet location and of specific locations within the area, such as “Georgina River”, “Urandangi” and “Dajarra”.

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>Field</th>
<th>Raw result</th>
<th>After filtering</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Warluwarra People (note AIATSIS spelling)</td>
<td>Language group</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Many pure linguistics reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Map Reference SF54-05</td>
<td>Place</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Mostly repeats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dajarra</td>
<td>Place</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urandangi</td>
<td>Place</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(mostly repeated hits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgina River</td>
<td>Place</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>(covers very wide)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Of the material which arrived within the time constraints, some was not cited in the report because it did not specifically identify language groups with locations, was found to be predominantly concerned with linguistics, or because it was highly derivative or duplicated earlier work.
Bibliography


Curr, E.M. 1887, The Australian Race: its origin, languages, customs, place of landing in Australia and the routes by which it spread itself over that continent, in four volumes, Government Printer, Melbourne, vol. II.


Horton, D. 2000, *Aboriginal Australia* (map), Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, Canberra.


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