

The Peabody's Indigenous Australia Collection

Updated 12/10/2010

Ethnographic	1,185 (about 56 currently on display) (917 TMS records)
Archaeological	3,181 (545 TMS records)
Human remains	46 MNI (33 TMS records) (+ 4 casts) (*2,746 incl. hair samples)
Samples/specimens	*69 (not including off-site hair sample coll.)
Images	*178 (+2,105 an off-site type negative coll.) (TMS incomplete)
European-made	2 (Tasmanian board painting & life mask) (2 TMS records)

*numbers from 1996 Meehan report

Most important collections:

- W. Lloyd Warner Collection (30-54), 1929 fieldwork; Northeast Arnhem Land.
- D.S. Davidson Collection (32-68), 1920s fieldwork, U. Penn Museum; Northwest Australia.
- Joseph B. Birdsell & Norman B. Tindale Collection (41-88; 50-32), 1937–1938, Joint Peabody Museum and South Australian Museum (Adelaide) Expedition; throughout Australia.
 - 41-88 comprised of two boxes of hair samples and 2,105 negatives sent to Birdsell at UCLA in 1948, never returned.
 - The recall of the 41-88 loan from UCLA and/or SAM will NOT be pursued.
- Bark paintings collected by Warner in 1929 (3; 30-54) and Russell Harris in 1967 (4; 967-71) all from Arnhem Land.

Types of ethnographic items:

- Men's (majority); women's; children's (few)
- Weapons (45%)
- Ceremonial (10%)
- Other (17%)
- Lacks post-1970 materials
- European-made objects added to ethnographic package

Interested parties are encouraged to search the Peabody's [Collections Online](#) to develop an understanding of the scope and content of our Australia collections. **Please be advised that the museum's collection includes materials considered by some to be secret, sacred, and/or culturally sensitive. Images of and information about these items may be encountered on Collections Online.** Any applicant concerned about encountering restricted materials is welcome to contact the Peabody Museum directly at pmresrch@harvard.edu, and we will work with you to produce a customized collections list.

Locations & Cultures in PM Australian Ethnographic Collection: list

Locations

New South Wales

Brewarrina
 Port Stewart (Portstewart?)
 Sunday Island
 Swan Island
 Sydney
 Taloom scrub, near Urbenville, NSW
 West Creek, Wyndham

Northern Territories

Alice Springs
 Arnhem Land, Northeast
 Bathurst Island
 Daly Waters
 Darwin
 Jay Creek
 Katherine
 Melville Islands
 Tennant Creek

Northwest Australia

Derby
 Kimberly
 Drysdale River, Kimberly
 Mary River, West Kimberly
 Northwest Australia, Kimberly region
 Pender Bay
 Pidunga, near Derby
 Roebourne

Queensland

Cairns
 Cairns District, Queensland
 Central Queensland
 Cockatoo Creek
 Diamantina
 Mona Mona, Queensland
 Mossman, Queensland
 Normanton, Queensland
 Noule, Queensland
 Roma, Queensland
 Western Queensland
 Yarrabah, Cairns District, Queensland

South Australia

Cooper Creek

Tasmania

King George Island
 Mayfield

Torres Strait

Western Australia

Dongarra
 Laverton
 Oodnadatta
 Stake Well

Unknown Region

Pupania

Cultures/Periods

Arabana
 Aranda
 Anmatjera
 Arunta
 Brinken
 Koko Imudji
 Koko Njinkulu
 Kokojelanjji
 Kokomini
 Konaniin
 Kongkandji
 Kukatja
 Kuku Yalanji
 Kunggari
 Lorakai
 Loritja
 Ming
 Muluritji
 Tiwi
 Tjapukai
 Walbiri
 Wardaman
 Wiluna
 Yi Yoront
 Yolngu (historic term Murngin)

Locations & Cultures in PM Australian Ethnographic Collection: map