Aboriginal historical collections [1]

Sensitivity notice: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander viewers are advised that the following page may contain images and voices of deceased ancestors.

The Indigenous collections are one of the Library’s strengths and they encompass materials reflecting the earliest interpretation of the history, language, art and culture of Aboriginal people, though often written from a non-Aboriginal perspective.

These collected works document the life and activities of Aboriginal peoples from the earliest European explorations of Australia through to the present day and include papers and journals written by missionaries (such as the Anglican Board of Missions, Australian Indigenous Ministries [formerly Aboriginal Inland Mission] and the Presbyterian, Uniting and Methodist churches), explorers (such as Sir Thomas Mitchell and Ludwig Leichhardt), anthropologists (Herbert Basedow and Sir Walter Baldwin Spencer).

Importantly, the collection also includes materials created by Aboriginal people, such as:

- testimonies and printed material from leaders Pearl Mary (Gambanyi) Gibbs and Faith Bandler;
- author Ruby Langford Ginibi, and
- documents from political organisations such as the Federal Council for the Advancement of Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders, the Aboriginal-Australian Fellowship, the Aborigines Progressive Association and the Foundation for Aboriginal Affairs.

The Library’s, [2]Indigenous Collection Strategy [3]y guides the current collecting of material related to Indigenous peoples, particularly in NSW. Below are some examples demonstrating the diversity and the significance of the Library’s Indigenous collections.

Women with parasol [4]

- Read more about Women with parasol [4]

Tribune negatives including the Freedom Rides SAFA (Student Action For Aboriginals) Trip 17- 26 February, 1965 [5]

- Read more about Tribune negatives including the Freedom Rides SAFA (Student Action For Aboriginals) Trip 17- 26 February, 1965 [5]
Sketch of Squatters [6]

- Read more about Sketch of Squatters [6]

Natives fishing in a bark canoe [7]

- Read more about Natives fishing in a bark canoe [7]

A view in Parramatta NSW looking East [8]

- Read more about A view in Parramatta NSW looking East [8]

Scenes of Aboriginal life [9]

- Read more about Scenes of Aboriginal life [9]

Studies for Kai Marrina [10]

- Read more about Studies for Kai Marrina [10]

Natives of Botany Bay [11]

- Read more about Natives of Botany Bay [11]
MacLeay River Blacks at Corroboree. Dance to tune - Nimo aug - mo aug - iah.

Aborigines of Australia - Native Warrior

Murrin Bridge Aboriginal Station (Lake Cargelligo District, NSW)

Young Australian Aboriginals in school, North Queensland (Yarrabah)

Drawings depicting Aboriginal life

Yulgilbar Station, Grafton district
Aboriginal historical collections
Published on State Library of NSW (https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au)

- Read more about Yulgilbar Station, Grafton district [17]

Aboriginal woman beside humpy, La Perouse [18]

- Read more about Aboriginal woman beside humpy, La Perouse [18]

Last of the Georges River Tribe, NSW [19]

- Read more about Last of the Georges River Tribe, NSW [19]

Group of St Clair Aborigines, near Singleton NSW. First AIM station [20]

- Read more about Group of St Clair Aborigines, near Singleton NSW. First AIM station [20]

Right Wrongs Write Yes for Aborigines [21]

- Read more about Right Wrongs Write Yes for Aborigines [21]

NSW servicemen portraits, Alfred Duroux [22]

- Read more about NSW servicemen portraits, Alfred Duroux [22]

Clarence River Blacks [23]
• Read more about Clarence River Blacks [23]

Aborigines day of mourning, 26 January 1938 [24]

• Read more about Aborigines day of mourning, 26 January 1938 [24]

Scenes at Angledool, NSW [25]

• Read more about Scenes at Angledool, NSW [25]

Opossum hunting [26]

• Read more about Opossum hunting [26]

Album of original drawings, bound with 'An Historical account of the Colony of New South Wales ...' [27]

• Read more about Album of original drawings, bound with 'An Historical account of the Colony of New South Wales ...' [27]

Mr Ned Solomon (of Bulgandramine), Stewart Boys at Goolagong - going home [28]

• Read more about Mr Ned Solomon (of Bulgandramine), Stewart Boys at Goolagong - going home [28]
Mr and Mrs John Munro and family at Bundarra [29]

- Read more about Mr and Mrs John Munro and family at Bundarra [29]

Children of the Aboriginal Mission School near Brewarrina [30]

- Read more about Children of the Aboriginal Mission School near Brewarrina [30]

Boomerang stand, La Perouse [31]

- Read more about Boomerang stand, La Perouse [31]

Native encampment [32]

- Read more about Native encampment [32]

Natives of New South Wales, Biddy Salamander of the Broken Bay Tribe, Bulkabra Chief of Botany, Gooseberry Queen of Bungaree [33]

- Read more about Natives of New South Wales, Biddy Salamander of the Broken Bay Tribe, Bulkabra Chief of Botany, Gooseberry Queen of Bungaree [33]

Faith Bandler [34]

Faith Bandler was born in 1918 at Tumbulgum, near Murwillumbah, on the far north coast of New South Wales.
• Read more about Faith Bandler [34]


Links