D160 Cochrane - Papua New Guinea

Creator: Percy N. Cochrane 1907-1980
Renata Cochrane 1919-1983

Historical Note: Percy and Renata Cochrane lived in Papua New Guinea during the period 1949-66. The Cochrane’s public occupations and private interests converged in their efforts to photograph, record and document facets of Papua New Guinea cultural life, the work of the Administration and Catholic Missions. After leaving the country they continued to write and make films at the request of media organisations. The Cochrane Collection was assembled by Renata Cochrane and her daughter Susan Cochrane during 1981-82. It was given to the University of Wollongong Archives in 1985.

Record Summary: Research records – information files, sound recordings, black & white photographs, colour slides, manuscripts, correspondence, newsclippings, publications

Date Range: 1934-1979

Quantity 4 metres (24 boxes)

Access Conditions: Available for reference. Contact Archives in advance to arrange access

Note: The contents of the collection were originally listed in Annabel Lloyd's published guide "The Cochrane Papua New Guinea Collection: A Preliminary Guide." Wollongong University Archives, 1989 (21pp.). Parts of the original guide have since been revised by Archives staff and that amended listing is the one provided here.

Inventory: Compiled May 1989. Last revised 18 April 2016
Collection Descriptive Notes

The Cochrane Papua New Guinea Collection is a unique and comprehensive documentation of Papua New Guinea cultural life between 1949 and 1966. The collection concentrates on the expressive aspects of Papua New Guinea Cultures.

Percy Cochrane went to Papua New Guinea in 1949 as Senior Broadcasts Officer for the Territory Administration. He was accompanied by his wife Renata Cochrane and two small children. Renata Cochrane was a trained teacher and writer. She was later employed by the Administration as a Publications Officer.

Over the next 16 years the Cochranes' public occupations and private interests converged in their efforts to photograph, record and document facets of Papua New Guinea cultural life, the work of the Administration and Catholic Missions. After leaving Papua New Guinea they continued to write and make films at the request of media organisations including the ABC and BBC.

The Collection includes the Cochranes freelance and professional work for the Administration. This includes recordings of ethnic Papua New Guinea music recorded in situ at festivals and ceremonies. There are also contemporary radio scripts explaining the significance of the music and the instruments played.

The primary audience for the radio programs, films and publications produced by the Cochranes were the people of Papua New Guinea. The programs were devised by the Territory Administration to assist in its objective of drawing the diverse tribes closer together in an emerging Nation.

Photographs form a major component of the collection. Many of the photographs were taken by the Cochranes on their field trips.

A collection of nearly 500 colour transparencies detail traditional activities including: pottery, tattooing, festivals and ceremonies from a variety of regions. These districts include: Motu People; Amphlett Islands; Eastern and Western Highlands; Forei people and Sepik District.

Renata was employed by Papua New Guinea Administration as a Publications Officer. Later she worked for the first film unit, writing film scripts. Copies of the scripts are among the collection. Renata Cochrane also wrote a newspaper column, "What do you think?" published in the Pacific Post between 1960 and 1963.

The collection contains articles and booklets by the Cochranes produced for use in Schools, including a series of articles on Papua New Guinea Government during the early 1960s. Some by Renata Cochrane are in French.

There is an unpublished manuscript by Renata Cochrane containing oral histories of Papua New Guineans both indigenous and expatriates.

An important feature of the collection is material relating to the Catholic Missions. Catholic Missionaries arrived in Papua New Guinea in 1885 when the Order of the Sacred Heart had established a mission on Yule Island. Renata Cochrane was fluent in French and Italian and a
devout Catholic. She regularly travelled to the remote missions around the islands and wrote about their work for the International Catholic Press. The Collection includes: a large group of Black and White photographs; correspondence between Renata Cochrane and Missions; and newspaper and journal articles by Renata Cochrane. Articles are written in English and French.

**Biographical Notes**

1. Percival “Percy” Norman Cochrane

Born: 29 January, 1907, Perth, Western Australia

Died: 1980

Married: Renata Campbell-Rogers, 1947, Adelaide, South Australia

War Service: Flight Lieutenant, Royal Australian Air Force 1941-1946

Career: Educationalist specialising in education by radio. Pioneered the introduction of dramatisation in schools broadcasts and organized first school of the Air in South Australia. 1949 joined Administration of Papua New Guinea as Senior Broadcasts Officer. Became Chief of Division (Broadcasts), setting up and administering six widely scattered radio stations (Rabaul, Kerema, Daru, Wewak, Mount Hagen and Goroka.) Retired in 1967 and returned to Sydney, Australia. Was a recognised specialist in broadcasting to native people at grassroots level, using lingua franca and/or vernaculars. Also responsible for creation of special libraries of ethnic music used by Administration's radio stations.

2. Renata Cochrane

Born: 1919, London. Daughter of Captain Archibald Clement Campbell-Rogers and Baronessa Claudia Teresa Domenica Ajuti di Santa Papa

Died: 1983


War Service: Joined WAAF October 1939. Code and Cypher Officer with RAF 1940-1946. Liaison officer with 8th and 9th Bomber Commands USAAF.

Series List

1. Central Topics
2. Scripts and Articles
3. Colour Slide Transparencies
4. Photographic Prints
5. Music and Radio Broadcast Recordings
6. Music Files
7. Radio Talks
8. District Files
9. Catholic Missions Manuscripts
10. Catholic Missions Scrapbook
11. Catholic Missions Periodicals
12. Catholic Missions Journal Articles
13. Catholic Missions Photographs
14. Film Scripts
15. Laurabada Manuscript
16. “What do you think?” Articles
17. Journalism Correspondence
18. Oral Histories
19. Publications
20. Government Publications and Reports
21. Films
Series Description/Item Lists

Note: This inventory was compiled by University Archives staff. More detailed listings relating to certain series, compiled by Susan Cochrane, are also available where indicated. Copies of these are available from the Archives on request.

1. Central Topics

Subject files containing a variety of source material collected by Percy and Renata Cochrane. Files include articles and radio scripts written by the Cochranes. Copies of these items are also included in other series. Files 1 to 7 were compiled by S. Cochrane. The remaining files were created to accommodate items which had not been processed by S. Cochrane. A more detailed listing of individual file contents for Files 1 to 7 is also available.

1. Women
2. Legends
3. Sorcery
4. Dress
5. Houses
6. Canoes
7. Primitive Art
8. PNG Articles
9. PNG Broadcasting
10. PNG Common Roll / House of Assembly
11. PNG Government
12. PNG - "Early Thoughts on Independence."
13. Port Moresby - Independence 1975
14. Writing Simple English

2. Scripts and Articles

The items in this series were formerly located elsewhere in the Cochrane Collection but were withdrawn and renumbered by S. Cochrane. A more detailed listing is also available.

1. Musical Instruments - General
2. Bamboo Flutes
3. National Library of Australia - Correspondence

3. Colour Slide Transparencies

Over 500 colour slides mostly taken by Percy Cochrane during trips throughout the Territory. Some slides have contemporary descriptions; others were subsequently described by S. Cochrane. The slides have been arranged in tribal/regional groups. An itemised listing of the individual slides within each group is also available.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tribal/Regional groups</th>
<th>Slide numbers</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Hekava 1950</td>
<td>1-15</td>
<td>The Hekava - Motuan economic duel, Tupeselai village, Central district</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manu Manu Village</td>
<td>16-36</td>
<td>Manu Manu village - preparing a small feast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motuan Villages</td>
<td>37-45</td>
<td>Motuan villages - Hanuabada, Tupeselai, Porebada, Barakau (8 slides)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motuan Pottery Sequence</td>
<td>46-90</td>
<td>Motuan pottery - Central district. Papua, c.1952</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motuan People</td>
<td>91-105</td>
<td>Motuan people - Hiri preparations and fishing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>106-114</td>
<td>Motuan Fishing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motuan Tattooing Sequence</td>
<td>115-131</td>
<td>Tatooing – 1958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>132-134</td>
<td>Mekeo woman showing tattoos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aibom Pottery Sequence</td>
<td>135-157</td>
<td>Aibom Pottery - Sepik District, 1961-62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sepik District 1952</td>
<td>158-184</td>
<td>Sepik District - 1952. Taken by P. Cochrane while on a music recording patrol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sepik Artifacts</td>
<td>185-217</td>
<td>Sepik Artefacts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maprik 1968</td>
<td>218-229</td>
<td>Maprik – 1968. Taken during the 1968 local government elections at Maprik in the Sepik District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spirit House - Kanganaman</td>
<td>230-258</td>
<td>Spirit House – Kanganaman taken by Boris Cook and relative to the film script &quot;Men of Kanganaman&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manam Island 1956</td>
<td>259-273</td>
<td>Manam Island – 1956. Taken after the eruption of the volcano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mekeo People</td>
<td>274-284</td>
<td>Mekeo People. Taken during the visit of the Duke of Edinburgh, 1956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forei</td>
<td>285-294</td>
<td>Forei</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Highlands (Chimu)</td>
<td>295-301</td>
<td>Chimu Eastern Highlands. Slides of Kondom, Big Man, Member of the House of Assembly and some of his wives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridal Procession - Kundiawa</td>
<td>302–322</td>
<td>Kundiawa - Eastern Highlands. Bridal procession</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Highlands (Wagag)</td>
<td>323-325</td>
<td>Wagag - Western Highlands. Bridal party and women in mourning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Highlands</td>
<td>326-346</td>
<td>Mount Hagan - Western Highlands. Mount Hagan show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Highlands</td>
<td>347-351</td>
<td>Asaro - Western Highlands. Mud men of Asaro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Highlands Dancers</td>
<td>352-372</td>
<td>Western Highlands. Dance attire from various tribes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life and Time of Mitikata</td>
<td>373-396</td>
<td>Kiriwina - Trobriand Islands, c. 1954. Slides relating to Mitakata, Paramount chief of the Trobriand Islands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trobriand Islands 1965</td>
<td>397-410</td>
<td>Trobriand Islands 1965. Slides include preparations for dancing, Mila Mala and general village scenes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Trobiand Islands Village Life | 411-420 | Trobiand Islands village life
---|---|---
Trobiand Islands 1965 | 421-443 | Kula Ring - Trobiand Islands, 1965. Taken by R. Cochrane
Amphlett Islands | 444-459 | Amphlett Islands - Milne Bay District, 1965. Sequence illustrating pottery making
Pottery Sequence | | |
Yabob (Madang District) | 460-462 | Yabob pottery, Madang
Western Highlands | 463-466 | Mt Hagen Show, Western Highlands, Papua New Guinea
Manu Manu Village | 467-472 | Manu Manu village – preparing a small feast.
Motuan Villages | 473-481 | Motuan villages
Motuan People | 482-484 | Launching the lakator, Manu Manu Village
Motuan Tattooing Sequence | 485 | Motuan tattooing, Manu Manu, Papua New Guinea
Aibom Pottery Sequence | 486-490 | Aibom pottery, Sepik District, Papua New Guinea
Trobiand Islands 1965 | 491 | Trobiand Islands, the Kula Ring
Mekeo People Slides | 492-495 | Ordination ceremony of a Papuan priest
496-503 | Mekeo People
Infant Welfare | 504-512 | Infant Welfare
Artefacts in PNG Museum, Port Moresby | 513-519 | PNG Museum - Artefacts, photographs of museum, Exhibits
Highlands Heads | 520-521 | Highland Heads - Male dancers
Gulf of Papua | 522-530 | Papua Gulf - costume dress

4. Photographic Prints

Over 300 black and white prints taken by Percy and Renata Cochrane, Gordon Bladen, Des Bartlett, J. Neve and other photographers. Copyright in some photographs belongs to Comet Press and Associated News Information Bureau. Most of the photographs are described with a brief subject description, size of the photograph and name of the photographer. There are a number of prints without descriptions. An itemised listing of the individual photographs is also available.

5. Music and Radio Broadcast Recordings

These recordings were made mostly by Percy Cochrane. Some tapes include commentaries. A more detailed listing of tape contents compiled by S. Cochrane is also available. The references provided in parentheses below relate to the heading arrangement within that listing.

1. Manus Garamuts (Admiralty Islands Tape 1)
2. Manus Feature (Admiralty Islands Tape 2)
3. Solwara Manus (Admiralty Islands Tape 3)
4. Manus - Garamuts and Men's Songs.
5. Manus - Sori No 1
6. Manus children songs
7. Forei - The Ghost Wind - copy 1 (Forei Tape 1)
8. Forei - The Ghost Wind - copy 2 (Forei Tape 1 - see D160/5/7)
9. Forei - The Ghost Wind - copy 3 (Forei Tape 1 - see D160/5/7)
10. Forei - The Ghost Wind (see D160/5/7)
11. Mekeo Love Song Effects (Mekeo Tape 1)
12. Mekeo Love Charm - copy 1 (Mekeo Tape 2 - see D160/5/11)
13. Mekeo Love Charm - copy 2 (Mekeo Tape 2)
14. Mekeo - Papuan Songs (Mekeo Tape 3).
15. Mekeo district - Songs, Flutes, Talk
16. Mekeo Love Charm - copy 3 (Mekeo Tape 2)
17. Motu - commentary for "The Hiri" (Motu Tape 1)
18. Motu - Hiri Effects and Somare Speech
19. Motu - Manu Manu Children (Motu Tape 3)
20. Motu - Manu Manu Children (Motu Tape 3b - see also D160/5/19)
21. Motu - Hiri Expedition (Motu Tape 4)
22. Motu - Hiri Expedition 1954 (Motu Tape)
23. Manu Manu songs
24. Papuan Dances (Papuan Dances Tape 1)
25. Papuan Dances (Papuan Dances Tape 2)
26. Sepik - Kuminibus
27. Sepik songs (Sepik Tape 1b)
28. Sepik - Ambunti Angoram (Sepik Tape 2)
29. Song of the Sepik (Sepik Tape 3A)
30. Song of the Sepik (Sepik Tape 3A)
31. Sepik Songs and Interviews (Sepik Tape 4)
32. Song of the Sepik - Effects, Part 1
33. Song of the Sepik - Effects, Part 2
34. Sepik Programme – Effects
35. Mila Mila - sound effects (Trobriand Islands Tape 1)
36. Mila Mila - commentary (Trobriand Islands Tape 2 - See D160/5/35)
37. Mila Mila (marked as Trobriand Islands Tape 1 - See D160/5/35)
38. Mila Mila (Trobriand Islands Tape 2A - See D160/5/35)
40. Mila Mila - dub of extra programme (Trobriand Islands Tape 2B)
41. Mila Mila - supplementary material (Trobriand Islands Tape 2B - See D160/05/40)
42. Radio Programmes by R. Cochrane: "Time Forgets the Trobriand Islands", "Ma Lumley" and "The Eyebrow Eaters" (Trobriand Islands Tape 3)
43. Radio programmes by R. Cochrane: "Ma Lumley" and "Time Forgets the Trobriand Islands" (Trobriand Islands Tape 3)
44. "The Eyebrow Eaters" - sound effects (Trobriand Islands Tape 4)
45. Mambu Flute Music with commentary (Flute Music Tape 1 – See D160/5/46)
46. Mambu Flute Music with commentary (Flute Music Tape 1)
47. Mambu Flute Music - effects (Flute Music Tape 1)
D160 Cochrane - Papua New Guinea

49. Mambu Flute Music - 10 minute version for NZ (See D160/5/46 and D160/5/47)
50. Manam Island Eruption - interviews (Manam Island Tape 6)
51. Manam Island - Health of Evacuees on Bogia Coast (part Manam Islands Tape 7)
52. Manam Island - interviews
53. Music of Papua New Guinea
54. Songs by De La Salle Boys - mostly religious
55. Colin Simpson - various districts
56. "And So She Sang"
57. "Footloose in Papua" (Papua General Tape 3A) - interviews
58. "Footloose in Papua" (Papua General Tape 3B)
59. Fatima Flutes, Jews Harps and Pan Pipes
60. Madang District - Amele Flutes
61. "Bird of Paradise Country" R. Cochrane
62. "Something, Nothing" and "The Pioneers" interviews by R. Cochrane (Papua General Tape 4)
63. Village Schools
64. Living Hazards in a Leaf House and "Women in Uniform" (Papua General Tape 5)
65. Pidgin - John Havena and Joseph
66. Sorcery in the Berri
67. "Suffer to be Beautiful" - R. Cochrane
68. "All My Somethings" - songs
69. Mambu - additional sound effects [see also D160/5/46-5/49]
70. Ghostwind
71. Constitution Day - voice only
72. Unknown
73. Samoan Songs - Willy and Ghani

6. Music Files

Information files compiled on the following regions.

1. Admiralty Islands
2. Forei
3. Mekeo / Rora
4. Sepik District
5. Trobriand Islands

7. Radio Talks

Scripts of talks prepared for the BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation) and/or Canadian Broadcasting Commission by Renata Cochrane.

1. "Suffer to be Beautiful" (Tattooing)
2. "All my Something"
3. "Bird of Paradise Country"
4. "Living Hazards in a Leafhouse"
5. "Something Nothing"
6. "Footloose in Papua"
7. Interview with Father P. Taphanel, French Missionary
8. Time Forgets the Trobriand Islands
9. Laurabada - the South-East Trade Wind
10. A Journey around the World - Mr Pym Goes to Papua
11. Women in Uniform
12. The Emergence of Women
13. The Business of Living in Papua and New Guinea
14. Curious Cooking
15. The Sorcerer Sweeps the Floor
16. The Butterfly Hunters
17. Pillar to Post
18. Savage Papua
19. The Gifts of the Pioneers
20. Songs of the Manu Manu
21. Children of Papua
22. "Ma" Lumley - whether or no
23. Raka Motu Raises the Flag
24. Paris to Papua

8. District Files

Subject files created by Percy and Renata Cochrane. A more detailed listing of individual file contents is also available.

1. Admiralty Islands
2. Amphett Islands
3. Eastern Highlands
4. Forei People
5. Goilala
6. Kukukuku
7. Mailu
8. Madang District
9. Mekeo and Roro
10. Mekeo II - Allan Natachee
11. Mortlock Islands
12. Motu People I
13. Motu People II - The Hiri
14. Motu People III - Tattooing
15. Papua New Guinea Miscellaneous - Fuyage, Koiari, Kikori, Milne Bay District
16. New Ireland / New Britain
17. Sepik District I
18. Sepik District II - Song of the Sepik
19. Sepik District - Southern Highlands
20. Trobriand Islands I
21. Trobriand Islands II
22. Trobriand Islands III
23. Papuan Songs and Dances
24. Western Highlands
25. Miscellaneous

9. Catholic Missions Manuscripts

Thirty seven files of correspondence and notes from and about various missionaries, written in English and French. The information was used by Renata Cochrane to compile newspaper articles. An itemised listing of individual file contents is also available.

10. Catholic Missions Scrapbook


11. Catholic Missions Periodicals

Miscellaneous issues of newsletters published about various missions.

1. Yule Island News
   nos. 18 (Feb 1963), 19, 21, 22, 26, 27, 31, 32, 33, 37, 40, 41, 44, 50 (Jan 1966)
2. ECCE - Handmaidens of Our Lord
3. Echos Papous
   nos. 75 (Feb 1957), 97, 104, 105, 107, 112, 115, 119-126, 128, 132-134 (Dec 1962)
   Written in French
4. Missionary Laymens Movement
5. Coronation address by Bishop A. Sorin, 30 May 1958
6. Pamphlet - Handmaids of Our Lord
7. Circular letter no. 77 by Bishop A. Sorin relating to L'Exposition d'Art Indigine Chretien, 1950
8. Clippings from Annales (in French) - "Papouasie: Semaine Sainte a Ononghe."
9. Verbum SVD - vol.11 1970
10. Newspaper clippings on mission activities

12. Catholic Missions Journal Articles

Typescripts of forty two articles written by Renata Cochrane for various Roman Catholic periodicals. An itemised listing is also available.
13. Catholic Missions Photographs

Approximately 220 black and white photographic prints and negatives relating to the activities of Roman Catholic missionaries in the Territory. The photographs were taken by a variety of people. Most have some descriptive comments attached. An itemised listing for photographs numbered 1-148 is also available.

14. Film Scripts

1. Home of the Bird of Paradise
2. In One Lifetime
3. The Letter
4. Ron Shelley - Engineer
5. Neville Mendlram - Agronomist
6. Leon Fouche - Assistant Inspector (Lands)
7. Recruitment films correspondence
8. Tonga
9. Pere Dubuy
10. Bird of Paradise
11. Birds of the Volcano: Megapodes of New Britain
12. Bird of the Thunder Woman
13. Sing Sing Ground in the Southern Highlands
14. Women of Aibom: Men of Kanganaman; Feast of Tindua
15. Forgive Us Our Debts
16. New Look for Old Crafts
17. The Mailu Story
18. The Kundiawa Story

15. Laurabada Manuscript

An unpublished manuscript by Renata Cochrane relating to Papua New Guinea in the 1950s.

1. Final draft - submitted to Cambridge University Press
2. Revised original draft [retyped 20.8.1982]
3. First draft

16. "What Do You Think?" Articles


1. Scrapbook
2. 1960
3. 1961
4. 1962
5. 1963
6. 1963 news clippings

17. Journalism Correspondence

Notes and correspondence relating to published articles and short stories.

1. Notes for articles and short stories
2. Family Life in Papua-New Guinea
3. Papuan Stories
4. My Dear Neighbours

18. Oral Histories

1. Recording of Percy Cochrane interview by Tim Bowden, 1979. This recording was for "Taim Bilong Masta" ABC radio series. [3 audio cassettes]
2. Transcript of Percy Cochrane interview by Hazel De Berg, 10 December 1976. 23pp. (De Berg Tapes 982 and 983). This recording was made on behalf of the National Library of Australia.

19. Publications

7. 12 Things to do with Peanuts / [Renata Cochrane]. [Port Moresby]: South Pacific Commission. 21pp. ill.
8. 12 Things to do with Rice / Renata Cochrane. [Port Moresby]: South Pacific Commission. 23pp. ill.

20. Government Publications and Reports

2. District maps of Papua New Guinea. 1973
4. A Nation Grows. 1964
5. A Picture story of the House of Assembly. 1964


17. Final report of the constitutional planning committee 1974: parts 1 and 2 [pagination varies]


19. [Item unknown- missing]

20. [Item unknown - missing]


22. The members of the House of Assembly for the Territory of Papua and New Guinea. Port Moresby; Department of Information and Extension Services, 1968. 38pp. ill.


21. Films

1. "John Piragin Goes Home" - release printouts from television version. 400 feet

2. "John Piragin Goes Home": 1600 feet