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Peter Sutton

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Exploring Australia in the age of the four-wheel-drive vehicle

Peter Sutton South Australian Museum and University of Adelaide

1. Preliminary note

I first met Luise Hercus when we were both invited to dinner at the home of Bob (R.M.W.) Dixon in the suburb of Campbell, Canberra, late in 1970. Bob had invited me to the Australian National University to give an account at a seminar in the Department of Linguistics of my field work on endangered languages in far north Queensland in January and June-August of that year. Luise sparkled, as usual, despite her lifelong commitment to self-effacement.

My linguistics teacher Barry Blake at the University of Sydney in the late 1960s had suggested I apply for an MA scholarship provided by the then Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies (AIAS), which I took up in 1970. The AIAS Principal, Fred McCarthy, welcomed me to his office that year and pointed to the Gulf of Carpentaria on a wall map in his office in the Canberra suburb of Braddon. 'Go there, young man' he suggested. I did. Fresh back from this process of 'linguistic salvage' of the kind pioneered by Luise from the early 1960s in Victoria, she and Bob were a welcome company of the few.

Ever since that time I have held Luise in a long, respectful, admiring and affectionate regard both as a scholarly colleague and, in time, a wonderful friend. Our numerous links since then, included contributing jointly to the social impact study for the Olympic Dam mine in South Australia (Sutton Partners 1981). Later we collaborated in a memorable field survey of the traditional mythology of mound springs in the northern South Australian desert in 1984, instructed by the last Arabana men to have been initiated in the old way: Arthur Warren, Brian Marks, and Glen Hull. For about two weeks we trekked directly from site to site, mapping and recording the springs and their stories and copious songs. Luise did most of the ethnographic and linguistic work, while I was more her driver and

camp assistant, though I also did site recording and was tutored in Arabana sections of the sacred mythology of the Pleiades and the Two Snakes. Des Coulthard, an Adnyamathanha man provided by the South Australia Department of Heritage, drove the second offroad vehicle. Without these two ships of the desert we could not have accomplished this task as we rarely met a road or even an established bush track during this period, and the site custodians were getting on in age.

Later Luise and I collaborated in the production of *This is what happened:* historical narratives by Aborigines (Hercus & Sutton 1986). In part this book, which stayed in print over more than the usual years for an Aboriginal linguistic publication, typified Luise's humility towards the Aboriginal side of the Australian cultural and historical record. The people could speak their world. Our job was to help represent it to a wider world faithfully.

2. Introduction

Before World War II ethnographic and linguistic work with Aboriginal people was carried out by scholars sometimes on foot, more often by boat (canoe, dinghy), by horseback, by camel, by train, and, toward the end of this era, by conventional two-wheel drive motor car or truck. Their efforts were, as a result, frequently restricted to a small number of residential centres, given the difficulties of traversing the terrains from which the now increasingly concentrated indigenous populations had come. Some field workers, such as Ursula McConnel, and Ronald and Catherine Berndt, never learned to drive. Even those few who had access to a car or truck were mostly restricted to kind surfaces.

In the post-War years a number of scholars worked with Aboriginal people to record their sites, countries, languages, songs and stories in a new way. Their collaborations were enhanced by the arrival of the all-wheel or four-wheel drive vehicle. Especially in deserts or open savannah country, but, with effort, even in monsoon forest country, these vehicles liberated and expanded the research process dramatically. Distance and rough terrain and the need to carry water and equipment no longer entailed the same grim deterrents. Elderly experts on the countries in which they had been born and raised and which they knew intimately from 'footwalk time' could now be transported in relative comfort, even if they were chronically ill or frail. And people were quick to prefer motor transport to walking in any case: for example, in 1957 Norman Tindale was told by Pitjantjatjara men at Officer Creek (north-west South Australia) that they would not go back west over the long distance to their origin country for various reasons, but 'if landrovers [sic: Land Rovers] were available they would go there to get native tobacco plants and to hunt' (Tindale 1974:70). In 1966-67 Aram Yengoyan was able to use a Land Rover while based at Ernabella 1966-67 and used it to map sites with men of the same region (Yengoyan 1970: 424, 426).

This four-wheel drive (or 4x4) era has produced a great and deep second 'exploration' of Australia, or rather of a great deal of it beyond the more heavily impacted post-colonial regions. One of the most tireless explorers and students of classical Aboriginal landscapes has been Luise Hercus. The four-wheel drive has been one of her key research instruments.

3. From Blitz to Land Rover

The first off-road vehicle used by an ethnographer seems to have been the colloquially named 'Blitz', officially the Canadian Military Pattern truck. T.G.H. Strehlow (Figure 1) used one in the 1950s, and later in the 1960s used Land Rovers supplied by the AIAS, although he also at times used his own conventional sedan. In 1969 he actually left the AIAS Land Rover in the Uluru tourist car park while Lively Palyingka guided Strehlow as they circumnavigated Ayers Rock on foot and mapped its mythology (Strehlow 1969). Having trekked through the desert with Aboriginal people by camel in the same region in the 1930s, Strehlow thus spanned the ages between recalcitrant herbivore and recalcitrant English vehicle technology.

That unlovable snub-nosed war surplus monster, the Blitz, was joined and then surpassed by the Land Rover in the post-War era. The Land Rover vehicle had begun production in 1948, its creators using two American Willys Jeeps as a basis for their own design (Slavin & Mackie 1981:14). Through Commonwealth government agencies, Land Rovers became available from Canberra and Alice Springs (both via AIAS depots), and capital cities such as Adelaide and Brisbane via the Australian Department of Supply, for field workers in linguistics and anthropology.



Figure 1: T.G.H. Strehlow and Blitz, called 'Sis', 1953. Photo: Strehlow Research Centre.

I picked up my first government Land Rover in 1970 in Brisbane. Having had no training in driving the thing, which ominously refused to start for a long, long time, I muddled my way, juggling three gear levers of mysteriously different colours, on a wet Friday evening through peak hour traffic, to my hotel, where I managed to smash the roof rack on various pipes on the ceiling of the underground car park. This awkward motor vehicle was then my friend for three months of constant driving in the Queensland Gulf Country, recording endangered languages (Sutton 1992). I was coming into this bush travelling world after Luise and, by way of another far-travelled exemplar, Gavan Breen, who used his own



Figure 2: The Hercus's Land Rover Bluey. Photo: David Nash.

Land Rovers over many years for vast trips through the arid country of western New South Wales, South Australia and Queensland. Another linguist colleague, David Nash, has for decades used his own Toyota Troop Carrier for site mapping in the Northern Territory. While on one of these trips with site custodians, in camp one evening I asked Charlie Charles *Jakamarra* if David's vehicle had a subsection (kin class). He immediately replied: *Japaljarri*. David's subsection is *Jungarrayi*, and *Jungarrayi* men have fathers who are *Japaljarri*. The logic was that the Toyota carried David about, as a father does his child.

In September 1965 Luise and her husband Graham Hercus were driving a bright yellow Land Rover to Port Augusta and beyond in Luise's search for speakers of Kuyani and related languages (Hercus 1994: 1). In 1971 Luise and Graham acquired a 1960 Series II Land Rover, factory blue in colour, which they endearingly named 'Bluey'. It had been driven from England across Eurasia to Australia, with a minor shipboard interlude, before being confronted with the Australian outback (see Hercus, this volume). Bluey is one of the heroes of Luise's momentous mapping programme of the old Australia (Figure 2), and deserves to be in a museum.

4. The advent of motorisation

On Sunday 6th August 1933, Adelaide anthropologist Norman Tindale was camped near *Arliwanyuwanyu* in the Musgrave Ranges of Central Australia with local Aboriginal people, carrying out research, which included extensive site mapping using the base map of surveyor Carruthers (1888-92). Interestingly, Tindale (1933b) contributed his own Aboriginal site map of this area not to the South Australian Museum, his employer, but to the collection of the Royal

Geographical Society, South Australian Branch. This may suggest he considered it an explorer's map rather than an ethnographic one. Could there be such a distinction? That is part of the point of this paper. Ethnographic mapping was and is the most elemental discovery of this continent for those willing to learn.

As usual for the work of anthropologists in Central Australia in that era, Tindale had travelled there with his team first by train and truck and then by camel and with a 'camel boy' and interpreter who came from the region, but had been living outside it in the town of Oodnadatta to the east. But the great age of camel travel and transport in arid Australia, which had begun some seventy years before, was coming to a sudden end with the approach of the motor vehicle. In his journal on that evening Tindale (1933a:663) noted:

At 6.30pm motor car lights indicated the approach of someone. It turned out to be the dentist chap (Hancock) with a tourist (Ferguson, of Yorke Peninsula [South Australia]); the first tourist to see the Musgraves.

Things were changing.

The dentist chap's car was not the first motor vehicle to penetrate this remote country. Michael Terry was the first to have ever made an expedition to Ayers Rock by motor vehicle, in 1930 (Terry 1931). An eye witness account of at least his tyre tracks also left an ethnographic record not long afterwards. On 19th June 1940 ethnologist Charles Pearcy Mountford collected a crayon drawing from an unrecorded Aboriginal man at Ernabella Mission in South Australia (Anon. 1940). The area shown in the picture was from *Uluru* (Ayers Rock) to *Kata Tjurta* (Mount Olga). Within the image was a double line in black, showing 'Motor track from Oolarina [*Ulurunya*] to Mt Olga'. Next to the double black tyre lines Mountford noted 'Terry' – this can only be a reference to Michael Terry. The car's six wheels, and a place where it stopped and backed at Mt Olga, were depicted, mingled with sacred designs of travelling *Tjukurr* (Dreamings), ancient to that place. The old world and the new world shared a momentary space of mobility in this remarkable image.

In the monsoon belt camels were no use. Early ethnographers tended to use horses, and pack-horse teams. Donald Thomson, when not using his yacht *Iwai*, made vast travels through Cape York Peninsula using pack-horse teams. Just one of his expeditions on the Cape involved 1,000 miles (1,600 kilometres) of horse travel (Thomson 1934a). Later he was to give us by far the most detailed account of the use of off-road vehicles in ethnographic research in his book about two expeditions west from Mount Doreen to Lakes Mackay and Hazlett in 1957 and 1963 (Thomson 1975). His team used the American Jeep, the British Land Rover, the Austrian Häflinger and an Australian Constructed Cab Over (ACCO) army truck made by International Harvester (pictured at Thomson 1975 facing page 100).

Ursula McConnel, Thomson's contemporary and another anthropologist, also travelled extensively in Cape York Peninsula 1928-1934 by horseback using packhorse teams (McConnel 1957:xiii-xv; Sutton 2010a). An accomplished horsewoman raised on a pastoral station in the upper Brisbane River Valley, McConnel (1888-1957) had been partially educated at the modernist New England Girls' School in Armidale, New South Wales. Investigating the school's remarkable archive building in recent years I was struck by a pack-saddle lying on the floor as we entered. I was

informed that riding was part of the curriculum in McConnel's day. She also walked huge distances in the bush. Just one example: in 1927 she walked with her Wik companions from Aurukun Mission via Ornyawa Lagoons to Rokeby Station to organise horses and supplies for her next year's field work, and from there back to Aurukun. Even if it were done in perfectly straight lines, this footwalk journey amounted to at least 255 kilometres in intense heat and humidity.

3.1 Cultural landscape mapping of the Wik region of Cape York Peninsula

One of the most intensively researched Aboriginal landscapes of Australia has been that of Cape York Peninsula. Little of the massive amount of fieldwork-based site mapping research carried out there since the late 1960s has reached wide notice, but it has to be said that the primary motivation for most of this effort has been a mixture of postgraduate research, the preservation of rapidly declining knowledge, and the support of local claims for land rights or heritage protection, including the recognition of native title, rather than publication.

Earlier work on locating and depicting linguistic territories in Cape York Peninsula, such as McGillivray (1852), Curr (1887) which was based on information largely from correspondents, the northern Cape York map resulting from field work on the Cambridge Expedition of 1898 (Ray 1907), and the literature-based map of Schmidt (1919), was very broad-brush and merely associated particular speech varieties with particular areas of land. These maps were not built up from the elemental sites, clan estates comprised of sets of sites, and estate-clusters, that formed the backbone of much later work.

Appendix 1 summarises in brief the history of the relevant Cape York Peninsula landscape mapping behind the more recent scenario, combining linguistic, ethnographic and archaeological investigations from 1848 to 2010. In recent decades archaeological field work in the region, as elsewhere in Australia, has become a collaborative enterprise with traditional owners and other local indigenous people so that a distinction between ethnography and prehistory has to a degree melted.

Here, though, I provide a brief historical narrative of modern ethnographic mapping in the Peninsula between the Embley and Edward Rivers, one of the last bastions of the old life for the inhabitants in terms of the history of the colonial and post-colonial impacts on their region and lives.

Between 1927 and 1934, anthropologists Ursula McConnel and Donald Thomson recorded local placenames and landed group identities in the area between Aurukun and Edward River in Western Cape York Peninsula (McConnel 1930, 1934, 1936, 1939-40, 1957; Thomson 1934a). This is usually known in the literature as the Wik region. North of the Wik region proper, from Aurukun to Weipa, is the area of the people now known as Wik-Way. South of the Wik region proper, between the Kendall and the Edward Rivers, lie the countries of those now known as the Kugu Peoples. All three are sometimes called the Wik people more broadly. These names cover a large number of more specific linguistic identities associated with the clan estates in the region, of which there are well over 100.

McConnel (1957:xviii) also published a valuable map of sacred totemic centres within the same zone. McConnel spent far more time than Thomson traversing the country in this particular region. She walked countless kilometres, camping with local people for extensive periods, while during Thomson's time in the Wik region he lived on board his boat the *Iwai* (Wolmby et al. 1990).

Also in the inter-war period, Lauriston Sharp carried out anthropological fieldwork with the southern Wik-speaking people around Edward River (see in particular Sharp 1934, n.d. [c1935], 1937). His bush mapping among seminomadic bands, apparently on foot, seems to have been comparatively extensive around Mitchell River and north towards Edward River. Where the same areas have been revisited by anthropologists decades later there is a high degree of match between the two sets of findings (Sinnamon & Taylor 1978).

There was a long gap between this earliest phase of professional anthropological research in the Wik region and the later one beginning in 1968. In that year John Taylor began anthropological work at Edward River, in part working with 'Mungkan-side' (i.e. southern Wik) people there (Taylor 1984). Taylor has continued intermittently working with southern Wik people since that time, and some of his cultural mapping has played a significant role in providing evidence for the precedent-setting *Wik Native Title Case*, which went to the High Court of Australia. It is fair to say that Taylor was the first of his peers to grasp the importance of fine-grained on-the-ground mapping of Aboriginal countries site by site, recording the intimate knowledge of traditional owners and others who had lived the bush life. This systematic proforma approach to site recording in the region (Taylor 1970, 1976) laid the foundation for some very large and detailed (now digital) databases, containing parallel information on thousands of mostly named locations.

John von Sturmer joined Taylor at the then Edward River settlement (*Pormpuraaw*) in 1969, later shifting his focus to Kugu-Ngancharra people based at Aurukun. Some of von Sturmer's mapping was carried out with Taylor using a Land Rover, in a heroically difficult journey covering a large number of sites between Edward River and Kendall River in 1969. It has to be recalled that, while four-wheel drive vehicles revolutionised bush research in the 1960s and 1970s, they had no air conditioning and heated up to stupendous degrees. Without power steering they had to be wrestled as much as steered.

This 1969 survey was the first highly detailed, culturally deep and locationally-accurate ethnographic site recording in the Wik region, and formed an integral part of von Sturmer's major 1979 PhD study of economy, territoriality and totemism in the region. In 1976 and 1977, with Athol Chase, he also mapped part of the region north of Archer River to Norman River (with myself assisting) and along the Watson River. The latter was in response to a special request by Aurukun Community Council to AIAS during a time of conflict with the bauxite mining industry. Von Sturmer also did mapping work in the region between Coen and Meripah/Rokeby in 1989, and in the area between Beagle Camp and the Embley River with Peter Sutton and Philip Hunter in 1995.

Athol Chase did some anthropological research at Aurukun in 1971 before shifting his main attention to Lockhart on the east coast of the Peninsula. As mentioned above, he later collaborated with von Sturmer in mapping the coastal area north from the mouth of the Archer to the Pera Head and Norman River areas. He returned to the west coast in 1985 to collaborate in mapping the upper Love River and the western side of the lower middle Archer with David Martin, in a South Australian Museum project organised by myself.

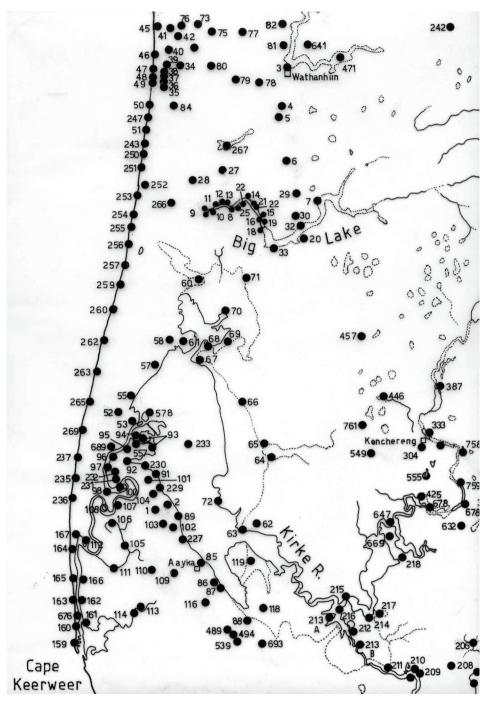
I carried out studies in anthropology and linguistics, based at outstations in the Cape Keerweer region, in 1976-79 (see Sutton references, also Chase & Sutton 1981). This work also involved extensive site mapping and studies of land ownership and the significance of country. I returned for further mapping in 1985, art-related research in 1987, map data checking in 1989, mapping the upper Archer system, Kokialah Creek and Ti Tree areas in 1990 (the latter with Aurukun Mission staffer John Adams), mapping of Kendall River Holding (with Marcia Langton) in 1991, mapping of the Embley River area and other field work based at Napranum in May 1995, and mapping in the area between Beagle Camp and the Embley River in September 1995 (with John von Sturmer and Philip Hunter). My site recording work thus covers significant parts of the coastal region south from the Embley River, via the lower Archer River, to between the Knox and Kendall Rivers, and inland in the areas of Kokialah Creek, Oony-aw ('Ornyawa Lagoons'), Ti Tree and Weten (Dish Yard, on the middle Kendall).

The basic cultural landscape mapping tools in the 1970s were notebooks or proforma booklets, cassette tape recorders, cameras, maps, air-photos and compasses. Air photos were often pinpricked at the site location and the site record number written on the back next to the hole, as there were no printed maps of sufficient scale. GPS navigation was to come later.

In 1978 and 1979 I carried out ethnobotanical studies with botanist Dermot Smyth, between Love River and Thuuk (Snake) River, in conjunction with mapping of country north of the Kendall (Sutton & Smyth 1980). Much of this work appears in the relevant botanical entries in my dictionary of Wik-Ngathan (Sutton 1995). Dermot Smyth also independently mapped sites with custodians and did plant collections in the region of Archer Bend National Park in 1980 (Smyth 1981, 1982).

David Martin, having been resident in the region 1976-1983 at Kendall River and Aurukun, began anthropological research there in 1985 and was engaged in mapping during 1985-1988 between the Kendall and Archer Rivers and in the Watson River, Aurukun and Pera Head areas (data in Sutton et al. 1990). Later he mapped inland areas, including that of Rokeby. In 1997 Martin worked at Aurukun and Pormpuraaw checking and updating genealogical information. He also played a significant role in the design of the computer database that contains a major proportion of the detailed recorded information on Wik cultural landscapes (Sutton et al. 1990).

The late Roger Cribb, an archaeologist, collaborated in ethnographic mapping in the Love River, Kencherrang and Archer River areas of the Wik region in 1985 and carried out surface archaeological studies, principally of shell mounds and plant distributions at Love River and the Archer-Ward River area, in 1987 and 1988 (Cribb 1986; Cribb et al. 1988; data in Sutton et al. 1990). In the period 1985-1990



Wik sites mapped by Land Rover 1976-77. Area shown is 27 x 17 km. Map: Peter Sutton.



Figure 3: Siblings Vicki, Perry and infant Charlie Yunkaporta with Sutton's Land Rover, Kirke River 1976. Photo: Peter Sutton.

he played the central role in setting up the original site/clan database storage and retrieval system for the region (*Aak*, ie. Sutton et al. 1990). This was Cribb's own software creation, not use of a commercial GIS. In later years, before his early death, he carried out archaeological surveys in the Embley and Hey Rivers area.

Just to give some idea of the density of named places in a cultural landscape favoured by rich natural resources, the map (see previous page) is useful. It should be noted that further field work was carried out after its production in 1986, so much of the apparent gap south of the Kirke River has now been filled in. Most of these sites were mapped using my Land Rover utility (Figure 3), although a number of sites on the shores of the lower Kirke River were located using a dinghy with outboard motor lent to us by a local fisherman.

This Wik region has also played an important role in the history of Aboriginal land rights. In 1972 Wik people took their case to the Privy Council in London, where it was lost. In 1976 the first case under the Racial Discrimination Act (1975) was heard, and it involved Wik man John Koowarta taking Johannes Bjelke-Petersen – a former Premier of Queensland – to court over government action to block Koowarta's attempt to regain control of his people's land at Archer River Bend. It was finally resolved in his favour in 1982. The first mainland native title case in Queensland was the Wik case, lodged in 1992 as a common law case, which became famous and precedent-setting when it successfully convinced the High Court of Australia and changed Australian property law, in a 1996 finding that native title could co-exist with pastoral leases. The Cape York Land Council, under Noel Pearson's direction, had chosen the Wik case to be Queensland's first native title case because it was the most intensively mapped traditional cultural landscape of the state.

5. Conclusion

This four-wheel drive revolution has been the 'other', post-colonial, exploration of Australia. Partly because of interest and skill, partly because of new technology, a vastly larger part of the continent has now been recorded, often for the first time and at an intricate level, in its indigenous names and meanings and history than had been thinkable in the colonial era. The encyclopaedic site-based field research in the deserts of South Australia by Luise Hercus and her teachers (e.g. Irinyili n.d. 1-3) will remain as a permanent Iliad and Odyssey of an ancient intellectual and geopolitical past that would otherwise have gone unkept, unvalued, and unnoticed, a blank of stones and sand and creeks, instead of an atlas of thought, religion, and humanity.

As generations of indigenous elders pass, a challenge already being dealt with by communities and scholars is how to curate and repatriate this knowledge, much of it having not been learned first-hand by the young. This is the digital atlas hill-climb.

Another challenge is one for goodwill. Are these landscapes to be kept secret and locked up in the files of gatekeepers, as they mostly are now, or should they, at least at some level, be unleashed so as to run free and transform the map of Australia and its standing in the world?

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Appendix 1: Cultural landscape recording in Cape York Peninsula 1848-2010

Year	Area	Researchers	References
1848	Northern Cape York Peninsula (NCYP)	McGillivray	McGillvray 1852
1896	NCYP	Meston	Meston 1896, 1897
1898	NCYP	Ray	Ray 1907
1898	Princess Charlotte Bay Eastern Cape York Peninsula ECYP	Roth	Roth 1910
1890s	Cooktown-Bloomfield River ECYP	Roth	Roth 1910
1890s	Pennefather River Western Cape York Peninsula WCYP	Roth	Roth 1910
1899?	Hey and Embley Rivers shell mounds WCYP	Roth	Roth 1901:7
1923-66	Wik region Pera Head to Kendall River WCYP	G & W MacKenzie	MacKenzie 1981:212-213
1927-28	Princess Charlotte Bay, Flinders Group ECYP	Tindale & Hale	Hale & Tindale 1933
1927-28	North-western CYP; Wik region; Coen Kaanju area central Cape York Peninsula (CCYP)	McConnel	McConnel1930:191, 1936:453, 1939-40:55
1928	Coleman River CCYP	Thomson	Thomson 1972:vi
1928	Princess Charlotte Bay west side ECYP	Thomson	Thomson 1972:vi
1932-35	Mitchell & Coleman Rivers region WCYP	Sharp	Sharp 1934, n.d. c1935, 1937; Alpher 1991:5
1932-33	Mapoon area WCYP	Thomson	Thomson 1934b:223
1932-33	Wik region WCYP	Thomson	Thomson 1972; Wolmby et al 1990
1934	Bloomfield region ECYP	McConnel	McConnel 1939-40:68-69
1960-	Laura caves CCYP	Trezise, Herbert & Woolston	Trezise 1969, 1971
1961	Hey/Embley Rivers shell mounds WCYP	Stanner	Stanner 1961

Year	Area	Researchers	References
1963	Hey/Embley Rivers shell mounds WCYP	Wright	Wright 1971
1964	Mushroom Rock, Laura area, CCYP	Wright	Wright 1971
1969	Edward River to Kendall River WCYP	von Sturmer & Taylor	Taylor 1970, 1976; von Sturmer 1978, Taylor 1984; Taylor & Anderson 1996
1970	Pera Head WCYP	von Sturmer	Sutton et al 1990; JvS p.c. 12/11/10.
1971 (July 1-26)	Kendall River to Edward River WCYP	von Sturmer	von Sturmer1979:247 & maps; Sutton et al 1990
1970-75	Cooktown to Barrow Point ECYP	(Terwiel-) Powell	Terwiel-Powell 1975:105
1970s-	Cooktown to Barrow Point ECYP	Haviland	Haviland & Haviland 1980
1960s-70s	Newcastle Bay to Prince of Wales islands (excavations: Seisia, Evans Bay, Murulag) NCYP	Moore	Moore 1979
1973	Lizard, Howick, Bewick, Noble & Pipon islands, ECYP	Beaton	Beaton 1974
1974	Cooktown to Bathurst Head, Flinders Group ECYP	Chase & Sutton, Layton & Lorblanchet	Sutton, Chase & Rigsby 1993; Chase & Sutton 1981; Layton 1992:26,77, 107, 131, 178
1975	Barrow Point, Flinders Group ECYP	Sutton	Chase & Sutton 1981
1975-76	Lloyd Bay to Cape Sidmouth ECYP	Chase, von Sturmer, Sutton, Rigsby	Chase 1984, Chase & Sutton 1981
1976	Cape Sidmouth to Port Stewart ECYP	Chase, von Sturmer, Anderson, Thompson	Chase 1984, Chase & Sutton 1981; Anderson p.c. 11/10/11
1976	Aurukun to Norman River WCYP	Chase, von Sturmer & Sutton	Sutton et al 1990
1976	Watson River, WCYP	Chase, von Sturmer	Sutton et al 1990
1976	Small Lake to Cape Keerweer WCYP	Sutton	Sutton 1978; Sutton et al 1990

Year	Area	Researchers	References
1977?	Mitchell River area WCYP	Sinnamon & Taylor	Sinnamon & Taylor 1978
1977	Cape Keerweer to Kendall River WCYP	Sutton	Sutton 1978; Sutton et al 1990
1977	Kirke River, Knox River WCYP	Sutton	Sutton 1978; Sutton et al 1990
1977	Dish Yard (middle Kendall) WCYP	Sutton & J Adams	Sutton 1978; Sutton et al 1990
1977-82	Bloomfield region; upper Annan River ECYP	Anderson	Anderson 1984:6, 88, 89
1977	Portland Roads to Olive River mouth ECYP	Chase, Rigsby (with Ingram)	Chase 1984
1977-79	Port Stewart to Jenny Tableland ECYP	Rigsby	Sutton, Rigsby & Chase 1993
1978	Pu'an (lower Holroyd area) & Empadha (lower Kendall) areas WCYP	Smith (then von Sturmer)	D von Sturmer 1980:3, 129-132
1978	Knox River WCYP	Sutton	Sutton et al 1990
1978	Ti-Tree WCYP	Sutton & Smyth.	Sutton et al 1990
1979	Love River to Hersey Creek WCYP	Sutton & Smyth	Sutton & Smyth 1980
1979	Jane Table Hill to Lilyvale, CCYP	Rigsby (with Smyth)	Sutton, Rigsby & Chase 1993
1979	Palmer River ECYP	Anderson, Rigsby	Brady et al 1980; Anderson & Mitchell 1981
1980?	Archer Bend National Park CCYP	Smyth	Smyth 1981, 1982
c1978-??	Kowanyama area WCYP	Sinnamon	Sinnamon & Taylor 1978
1985	Upper Kirke R system WCYP	Sutton	Sutton et al 1990
1985	Love River to lower Archer, Wallaby Island WCYP	Sutton & Cribb	Sutton et al 1990
1985	Upper Love R, lower Archer WCYP	Chase & Martin	Sutton et al 1990
1985	Kendall, upper Knox & lower Archer Rivers WCYP	Martin	Sutton et al 1990

Year	Area	Researchers	References
1985-	Princess Charlotte Bay, ECYP	Beaton	Beaton 1985
1985-1995	Port Musgrave northward, NCYP	Greer	Greer 1995
1986-88??	Watson River, Aurukun, Pera Head WCYP	Martin	Sutton et al 1990
1986	Moving Stone area near Cape Keerweer WCYP	Martin	Sutton et al 1990
1986-93	NCYP	Fuary & Greer	Greer p.c.
1987	Love River WCYP	Cribb	Sutton et al 1990
1987-92	NCYP from Silver Plains & Coent o Prince of Wales Is	McIntyre-Tamwoy	McIntyre & Greer 1995; McIntyre-Tamwoy 2000
1988	Lower Archer-Ward Rivers WCYP	Cribb	Sutton et al 1990
1989	Meripah, CCYP	von Sturmer	von Sturmer 1989
1990	Middle Archer to Meripah; Kokialah Creek WCYP	Sutton	Sutton et al 1990
1990	Ti Tree (upper Kirke R) WCYP	Sutton & Adams	Sutton et al 1990
1990	Dinner Hole to Massey Creek; Coen to Port Stewart ECYP	Rigsby, Hafner & Jolly	Rigsby & Hafner 1994; Sutton, Rigsby & Chase 1993
1991	Kendall River Holding WCYP	Sutton & Langton	Sutton et al 1991
1992, 2000	Alice-Mitchell National Park WCYP	Strang	Strang 1997:223; 2001; p.c.
1993	Lakefield National Park ECYP	Rigsby & Hafner	Rigsby & Hafner 1994; Sutton, Rigsby & Chase 1993
1993-2001	Princess Charlotte Bay ECYP	Langton	Langton 2005, 2006
Early 1990s	Kowanyama area WCYP	Cordell & David	David & Cordell [date unknown]
1990s	Napranum south to Pera Head? WCYP	Sommer	Co-ordata 1994
1995	Napranum to Oningan; Hey River WCYP	Sutton	Sutton et al 1997

Year	Area	Researchers	References
1995	Beagle Camp to Embley River WCYP	Sutton, von Sturmer, Hunter	Sutton et al 1997
1995-97	Hope Vale, C Bedford, C Flattery & offshore ECYP	Powell	Powell p.c.
1996-99	Coen/Rokeby region CCYP	B Smith	Chase et al 1998
1997?	Mungkan-Kaanju National Park CCYP	B Smith, Chase, Rigsby, Martin, ?Blackwood	Chase et al 1998
1997	Cape Sidmouth to Massey Creek (sea claim) ECYP	Rigsby & Chase	Rigsby p.c.
1997	Burkitt, Pelican & Stainer Islands ECYP	Rigsby	Rigsby p.c.
1998	NCYP	Natalie Kwok	Report at CYLC
	WCYP	Blackwood	Report at CYLC
	WCYP	Creighton	Report at CYLC
	WCYP	McKeown	Report at CYLC
	Pine River to Embley River WCYP	Wharton	Fletcher 2007:20-21
	Other areas WCYP	Wharton	Wharton p.c.
c2000	Tip of C York to southern end of Western Yalanji lands (PNG-Gladstone pipeline)	Johnson; with von Sturmer at Moorhead, Kendall and Wenlock crossings; von Sturmer OT route from Punsand Bay to near Seisia, & northern limit of	von Sturmer p.c. 12/11/10
		Kaurareg marine country	
2000s	Torres Strait (includes POW group)	McNivan & Brady	David & McNivan 2004; Brady, L.M., & Kaurareg Aboriginal Community 2007
2000s	Weipa WCYP	Morrison & Cribb	Morrison p.c. 12/11/10
2000s	Weipa WCYP	Morrison & McNaughton	Morrison p.c. 12/11/10

Year	Area	Researchers	References
2003-5	NCYP	McIntyre-Tamwoy	McIntyre-Tamwoy 2004
2003-10	N of Moreton Telegraph Station, NCYP	Powell	Data incomplete
2004-10	WCYP	Powell	Data incomplete
2004-5	Weipa & Andoom peninsula WCYP	Duke	Duke 2004a, 2004b; 2005
2006	Musgrave region CCYP	Bruce Rigsby, Barbara Rigsby, Noelene Cole, Arthur Cole	Rigsby & Cole 2006a, b
2006-07	Ely, Tent Pole Ck & Andoom Pen. WCYP	McNaughton	McNaughton 2008
2006-10	Weipa Peninsula to upper Embley River WCYP	Morrison & McNaughton	Morrison et al 2011; McNaughton 2006; Morrison 2000; Morrison & McNaughton 2009