

# University of Sydney Archives

## **P.130 A P Elkin**

*Creating Agency:* A P Elkin  
*Previous Custodian:* Elkin family & Department of Anthropology

*Series:* 0009 Correspondence and papers of R. H. Mathews, and other biographical material collected by Elkin

*Date Range:* 1894 - 1979

*Accessions:* 664  
*Quantity:* 0.00 *shelf metres*  
*Item List:* yes

### *Series Description:*

R. H. Mathews was an early surveyor and anthropologist who worked mainly by corresponding with local residents and officials about the aboriginal people in their area. Elkin was working on a four-part article about Mathews for "Oceania" at the time of his death. This series consists of typed copies of Mathews' letters, dated from 1894 to 1915, made by Elkin in the 1970s for his own research purposes, copies of Mathews' own annotated copies of his published papers, unpublished papers by Mathews, papers by other authors, copies of some of Mathews' research notes, and Elkin's own research notes on Mathews.

N.B. The archival integrity and original arrangement of the Elkin papers were destroyed, prior to December 1983, when the Department of Anthropology had the papers sorted into artificial series based on subject.

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*Access:* Open  
*Ownership:* University of Sydney  
*Copyright:* University of Sydney

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### ***P.130 Personal archives of Professor A P Elkin***

Series 9

<i>Item</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Box</i>
1	Copies, made by Elkin, of Mathews' correspondence dealing with the north, central and south coasts of New South Wales	1894 - 1915	32
2	Copies, made by Elkin, of Mathews' correspondence dealing with the Riverina district	1897 - 1898	32
3	Copies, made by Elkin, of Mathews' correspondence dealing with south-west New South Wales	1897 - 1899	32
4	Copies, made by Elkin, of Mathews' correspondence dealing with north-west New South Wales	1895 - 1910	32
5	Copies, made by Elkin, of Mathews' correspondence dealing with New South Wales ceremonial stones	1908 - 1910	32
6	Copies, made by Elkin, of Mathews' correspondence dealing with Victoria	1898 - 1902	32
7	Copies, made by Elkin, of Mathews' correspondence with John Mathew	1895 - 1909	32
8	Copies, made by Elkin, of Mathews' correspondence dealing with eastern Queensland	1895 - 1900	32
9	Copies, made by Elkin, of Mathews' correspondence dealing with south-west Queensland	1895 - 1899	32
10	Copies, made by Elkin, of Mathews' correspondence dealing with north-west Queensland	1898 - 1900	32
11	Copies, made by Elkin, of Mathews' correspondence dealing with north-west central Queensland	1898 - 1905	32
12	Copies, made by Elkin, of Mathews' correspondence dealing with Cape York Peninsula	1899 - 1901	32
13	Copies, made by Elkin, of Mathews' correspondence dealing with Queensland rock carvings and paintings	1894 - 1914	32
14	Copies, made by Elkin, of Mathews' correspondence with Daisy Bates, plus Elkin's research material on Daisy Bates	1905 - 1973	33
15	Copies, made by Elkin, of Mathews' correspondence dealing with south-west Western Australia	1899 - 1906	33
16	Copies, made by Elkin, of Mathews' correspondence dealing with the eastern part of Western Australia	1905 - 1907	33

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<i>Item</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Box</i>
17	Copies, made by Elkin, of Mathews' correspondence dealing with the north-western division of Western Australia	1899 - 1900	33
18	Copies, made by Elkin, of Mathews' correspondence dealing with the Darby area of Western Australia	1899 - 1900	33
19	Copies, made by Elkin, of Mathews' correspondence dealing with the East Kimberley area of Western Australia	1899 - 1907	33
20	Copies, made by Elkin, of Mathews' correspondence dealing with Western Australia carvings etc.	1895 - 1903	33
21	Copies, made by Elkin, of Mathews' correspondence dealing with north-eastern South Australia	1898 - 1905	33
22	Copies, made by Elkin, of Mathews' correspondence dealing with the west coast of South Australia	1899 - 1900	33
23	Copies, made by Elkin, of Mathews' correspondence dealing with central Australia	1895 - 1907	33
24	Copies, made by Elkin, of Mathews' correspondence dealing with northern central Australia	1899 - 1908	33
25	Copies, made by Elkin, of Mathews' correspondence dealing with the far north of the Northern Territory	1898 - 1901	33
26	Copies, made by Elkin, of Mathews' general correspondence, plus notes made by Elkin	1898 - 1918	33
27	Copies, made by Elkin, of Mathews' itineraries	1905 - 1907	33
28	Indices of Mathews' correspondents arranged by name and location, compiled by Elkin	n.d. - n.d.	33
29 to 112	Copies of Mathews' published articles on ceremonies, initiation, rock carvings and paintings, social organisation, language, rituals, and ethnology	1894 - 1917	34
113	Copy of unpublished paper on the Kutcha of the Shoalhaven River tribes	n.d. - n.d.	35
114	Unpublished paper on Bunan	n.d. - n.d.	35
115	Copy of unpublished paper on tribes of the Cape York Peninsula	n.d. - n.d.	35
116	Proof copy of paper "On the occurrence of explosive or booming	n.d. - n.d.	35

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<i>Item</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Box</i>
	noises (barigul guns) in Central Australia" by JB Cleland		
117	Copy of paper "The initiation ceremonies of the Aborigines of Port Stephens N.S.Wales " by WJ Enright (J. Proc. Royal Soc. NSW 1899)	1899 - 1899	35
118	Copy of paper "On some ceremonies of the central Australian tribes" by JG Frazer (ANZAAS Report 1900)	1900 - 1900	35
119	Copy of paper "Maternal descent in the Salic law" by AW Howitt (ANZAAS Report 1900)	1900 - 1900	35
120	Copy of paper "Explorations in the northern territory of South Australia" by D Lindsay (Proc. Roy. Geog. Society SA, 1887)	1887 - 1887	35
121	Copy of paper "How can tropical and sub-tropical Australia be effectively developed?" by M Macfie (ANZAAS Report n.d.)	n.d. - n.d.	35
122	Copy of article on physical anthropology (ANZAAS Report n.d.)	n.d. - n.d.	35
123	Copy of Presidential address to ANZAAS Section F (ANZAAS Report n.d.)	n.d. - n.d.	35
124	Copy of paper "Totemism in Australia" by WB Spencer (ANZAAS Report n.d.)	n.d. - n.d.	35
125	Copy of paper "The prehistoric arts of the Aborigines of Australia" by T Worsnop (Proc. Roy. Geog. Soc. SA)	1886 - 1886	35
126	Published booklet "The prehistoric arts of the Aborigines of Australia" by T Worsnop	1887 - 1887	35
127 to 129	Copies of Mathews' own research notes and working papers	n.d. - n.d.	35
130 to 136	Correspondence and research notes made by Elkin, includes a bibliography, extracts from Mathews' diaries, and drafts of Elkin's articles on Mathews	1968 - 1976	35
136 to 151	Correspondence and research notes made by Elkin, includes a bibliography, extracts from Mathews' diaries, and drafts of Elkin's articles on Mathews	1968 - 1976	36
151 to 170	Correspondence and research notes made by Elkin, includes a bibliography, extracts from Mathews' diaries, and drafts of Elkin's articles on Mathews	1968 - 1976	37

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<i>Item</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Box</i>
171	Copy of letter from Emile Durkheim to Mathews, dated 31 October 1907	1907 - 1907	37