



THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHIVES

NAME OF COLLECTION	Adam, Leonhard (1891-1960)
ACCESSION NO	94/60
CATEGORY	University, individuals
ACTIVITY	Anthropologist
DATE RANGE	1932-1964
SIZE OF COLLECTION	4 archive boxes
HISTORICAL NOTE	<p>Leonhard Adam was born on 16 December 1891 in Berlin, Germany. Adam studied at the Royal Frederick William Gymnasium, the Ethnological Museum, and the universities of Berlin and Greifswald. He was appointed judge in the provincial court, Berlin, and was also an academic lecturer and editor. Adam was part Jewish, and in 1933, Nazi laws ended his career in Germany. In 1938, he went to the UK where he resumed his academic career at the University of London and published <i>Primitive Art</i> (1940). But on 16 May 1940, he was classified as an 'enemy alien' and shipped on the <i>Dunera</i> to an internment camp in Australia. The internment camp at Tatura, Victoria, held a number of eminent scholars. They organised their own 'university', the 'Collegium Taturensis', and gave lectures to their fellow internees. Some Australians lobbied for Adam's release, and on 29 May 1942 he was released to work at the National Museum of Victoria and the University of Melbourne, where he remained for the rest of his career. In 1943, he married Julia Mary Baillie. He made field trips to central and northern Australia to study the art of indigenous Australians, and he argued for the acceptance of Aboriginal art as artistic equals to European art. His anthropological collections became the Leonhard Adam Ethnological Collection. Adam died from heart disease on 9 September 1960.</p> <p>Source: Greg Denning, 'Adam, Leonhard (1891 - 1960)', Australian Dictionary of Biography, Online Edition, http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/biogs/A130699b.htm</p>
DATE OF TRANSFER	19 April 1994
ACCESS CONDITIONS	Open

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
		DESCRIPTION	Correspondence, speeches, lectures, book reviews, testimonials, books, manuscripts, obituaries, notes, articles, reports, newspaper clippings, photographs, negatives, drawings, paintings.
		NOTE ON COLLECTIONS	Majority of collection is in English; some items in German.
		NOTE ON LISTING	These four boxes of Leonard Adam material are in addition to material held at the Ian Potter Museum of Art, University of Melbourne, which contains most of the existing material about the Leonhard Adam Ethnological Collection also held at the Potter Museum of Art.
		LISTED BY	Michael Huang; re-boxed and edited by Oliver Brown; updated by Christian Kuhlmann
		DATE	11 April 2007; re-boxed and edited 9 August 2007; updated 20 October 2009.

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
	1	Internment camp, Tatura	
1	1/1	Introduction to the Collegium Taturense, Tatura internment camp.	n.d.
1	1/2	Letter from Leonhard Adam at the Tatura internment camp to the Victorian International Refugee Emergency Council.	1941
1	1/3	Sketchbook: drawings and paintings of Tatura internment camp, University of Melbourne.	1941-1942
	2	Correspondence	
1	2/1	Correspondence to and from Leonhard Adam, regarding watercolour painting, Phillip Island field trip, photograph of Aboriginal village, definition of 'art' in relation to indigenous art, rock paintings, expedition to Alice Springs, Yale Law Journal review, Aboriginal music, totems, ethnological collection, Encyclopaedia Britannica, etc. Speeches regarding opening of a pottery/porcelain exhibition. Review of primitive art exhibition booklet. <i>Meanjin</i> article reviewing book about Aboriginal religion. Review of book about Aboriginal law. Testimonials (references) from colleagues for job application at University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa. Descriptions of indigenous art. University of Bonn doctorate.	1937-1964
1	2/2	Two envelopes with samples of hair. 'Hair of Mary-Clare, cut off by Mummy, May 1955'; second envelope illegible.	1955-1959
1	2/3	Notes, correspondence with the Smithsonian Institution.	1951-1952
1	2/4	Correspondence (Leonhard Adam suffering from bronchitis) and lectures (prehistoric art, Palaeolithic period, stone age art). First draft of 'Section D: Australia'.	1953-1959
1	2/5	Correspondence (debate over whether Aboriginal artists should use European methods, attempts to help Leonhard Adam's brother Edgar), obituary of Leonhard Adam by Aldo Massola, appointment of Adam as temporary lecturer, newspaper clippings about indigenous artist Namatjira, report on Aboriginal stone industries, obituary of Professor Bronislaw Malinowski, Douglas Boerner's letter describing a first-hand account of a corroboree, letter to Mrs Seligman describing his family's experiences during Nazi	1938-1960

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
		Germany and World War II.	
1	2/6	Correspondence with Very Rev. Father Ernest A. Worms and others. Includes photographs.	1944-1955
1	2/7	Correspondence, including photograph.	1947-1958
1	2/8	Correspondence, testimonials, lists of exhibits.	1937-1959
1	2/9	Correspondence.	1939-1959
1	2/10	Correspondence, review, list of exhibits.	1938-1959
	3	Notes	
2	3/1	National Museum of Australia notes, correspondence, Métraux notes.	1932-1956
2	3/2	'Lecture on Primitive Art' folder	n.d.
2	3/3	Notes on primitive art.	n.d.
2	3/4	Typed notes.	n.d.
2	3/5	Handwritten notes.	n.d.
2	3/6	Primitive Art Exhibition by the National Gallery and the National Museum of Victoria.	1943
2	3/7	Notes, research report and newspaper clipping.	1946-1950
2	3/8	Nigerian bronzes: notes, correspondence.	1955-1956
2	3/9	Notes and correspondence.	1949-1958
2	3/10	Ethnology notes.	1942
2	3/11	Leonhard Adam obituary in University Gazette 1960, notes from Sir Richard Palmer's The Bornu Sahara and Sudan, photograph, notes from Meyerowitz's 'The Sacred State of the Akan'.	1960
2	3/12	Notes on Metraux.	n.d.
2	3/13	Notebook (Student's Note Book).	1938
2	3/14	Notebook (The Vana Exercise Book).	n.d.
2	3/15	Notes from books and articles, vol II, pages 1-111.	1942
2	3/16	Notes from books and articles, pages 113-220.	n.d.
2	3/17	Notes from Phillip Island.	1944-1947
2	3/18	Notes on books, field notes.	n.d.
	4	Excerpts from other academics	
3	4/1	'Mooney Collection of Aboriginal Stone Artefacts. Several pages from German texts, sent to Leonhard Adam in 1958.	1950s
3	4/2	Manuscript by Very Rev. Father Ernest A. Worms of a legend of the Bād aboriginal tribe regarding the discovery of fire.	1948
	5	Articles and reports	
3	5/1	Articles from Meanjin and Oceania.	1950-1953
3	5/2	Research reports and progress reports.	1945-1948
3	5/3	'Modern Anthropology in Theory and Practice' by Leonhard Adam, published in Melbourne University Magazine.	n.d.

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
3	5/4	Correspondence, 'The Place of Anthropology in the Realm of Sciences and Arts' in The Science Review, published by the Melbourne University Science Club.	1941-1955
3	5/5	'Modern Anthropology in Theory and Practice' in Melbourne University Magazine. 'The Abstract Art of the Aranda' in Anthropos: International Review of Ethnology and Linguistics.	1960
3	5/6	Cartoon clippings, 'The Bark Paintings of Groote Eylandt (Gulf of Carpentaria) in the Melbourne University Collection' in South Seas Studies.	1951
	6	Manuscripts and books	
3	6/1	Revisions for 3 rd edition of Primitive Art (1950s), in English.	1950s
3	6/2	First draft of Section V. Australia.	1953
3	6/3	Draft.	n.d.
3	6/4	Manuscript of Chapter 8.	n.d.
3	6/5	Manuscript on Aboriginal rock art, correspondence.	1947-1956
3	6/6	Drafts and notes on Australia.	1952-1955
3	6/7	Primitive Art by Leonhard Adam, revised and enlarged edition, 1949, published by Pelican Books (Penguin Books).	1949
3	6/8	Page proofs of Primitive Art.	1953
	7	Newspaper clippings	
3	7/1	Scrapbook (newspaper clippings) and notebook.	1947-1955
	8	Pictures and photographs	
4	8/1	Picture of Cape Colony.	n.d.
4	8/2	Photographs from the Laboratory of Anthropology and Brooklyn Museum.	n.d.
4	8/3	Photographs of African collection.	1940s
4	8/4	Photographs and negatives from Indonesia and Netherlands.	n.d.
4	8/5	Photograph album of University of Melbourne expedition to Alice Springs area in May 1955, by David Corke. BWP/27,278 – BWP/27,325	1955
4	8/6	Drawing, tax return, orchestra booklet.	1947-1956
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