



Ara Irititja

Accessing materials held by Ara Irititja

Most of the original items held by Ara Irititja have not previously been accessible to the general public or available for examination by academic researchers. As such they constitute a rich resource for research and are the ideal components for innovative publications and productions. While non-Anangu researchers are currently better equipped to make use of these materials, Ara Irititja is confident that at some future point Anangu will want to conduct their own research projects and/or use its resources as the basis for publications and/or film and video productions. With this in mind, Ara Irititja is committed to preserving the value and uniqueness of its collection for Anangu-controlled enterprises.

That said, Ara Irititja is keen to support non-Anangu research/enterprises where these either contribute new materials to the Archive or provide Anangu with an opportunity to acquire skills and expertise with regard to research processes and/or document and film production.

In an effort to support appropriate research, Ara Irititja is developing a set of procedures all non-Anangu researchers will need to follow when seeking access to its collections. These procedures will ensure that necessary legal, ethical and methodological considerations are dealt with to the satisfaction of Anangu. They will also ensure non-Anangu researchers understand from the outset what records they will be able to access and the manner in which they may be used. Issues pertaining to confidentiality, publication rights and copyright will also be addressed.

Ara Irititja does not receive any funding to support non-Anangu research. Time spent assisting non-Anangu researchers to locate and negotiate access to particular records would otherwise be used to process new collections. For this reason, non-Anangu researchers are expected to cover all the costs associated with their research, including staff time spent assisting them. The Project is developing a schedule of fees that vary according to the level and nature of the research being undertaken. The researcher may be required to cover additional, unforeseen expenses that arise as a result of their research.

Until the research protocols and procedures are finalised, any researcher wanting to access Ara Irititja's collections should write to the Project Manager formally asking for permission to access its collections. This letter must be accompanied by a research proposal in which the following matters are outlined:

- the aims of the intended research, the methodology to be used and all projected outcomes (including anticipated publications)
- the specific benefits the research will have for Anangu
- the likely purposes to which any findings will be put
- the timeframe for the research
- all current and likely funding sources.

Letters should be sent to: Project Manager, Ara Irititja, PO Box 1234, Marleston, SA, 5033, Australia.