WALLENT COLLECTION

The Wallent Collection, assembled by Oscar Wallent during his years at the Hermannsburg Mission, near Alice Springs, offers a fascinating glimpse of the mid 1940s at the mission where the famous landscape painter Albert Namatjira (1902–1959) spent most of his life.

The various missionaries who served at the Finke River Mission, as it was then known, were active in recording and learning the languages of the Western Aranda (Arrernte) people. Examples in the Wallent Collection include a 1904 book of stories from the Bible and hymns and prayers translated into Arrernte by Carl Strehlow, mission superintendent from 1894 to 1922. The collection also includes correspondence, photographs, books, exhibition catalogues, children’s drawings and newspaper clippings.

Search the Wallent collection through the Library’s online catalogue or contact us for an appointment.