Register to the Papers of
Jon Haskell Breslar

Lorain Wang
September 2007

National Anthropological Archives
Smithsonian Institution
## CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHRONOLOGY</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXTENT</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROVENANCE</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELATED COLLECTIONS</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROCESSING NOTE</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SERIES DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTAINER LIST</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SERIES 2. RESEARCH. 1975-1980.</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SERIES 3. LANGUAGE. 1978-1982.</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subseries: Comoro Islands</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subseries: Habitat Project</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subseries: Madagascar</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subseries: Social Anthropology</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SERIES 5. PHOTOGRAPHS. CIRCA 1975-1982.</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subseries: Prints</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subseries: 35mm Slides</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SERIES 6. MAPS. 1955-1956.</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SERIES 7. BOTANICAL SPECIMENS. CIRCA 1975-1982.</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SERIES 8. SOUND RECORDINGS. 1975-1976.</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Jon Haskell Breslar, a sociocultural and applied anthropologist, was born on June 22, 1949 in Ware, Massachusetts. He received a B.A. in Anthropology and French in 1971 from Franklin & Marshall College and his Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Pittsburgh in 1981.

As a doctoral student, Breslar originally planned to study ethnic identities and relationships in the Lac Alaotra region of Northeast Madagascar. His plans came to a halt, however, when officials from the Malagasy Embassy informed him that westerners were no longer allowed to conduct long term ethnological research in Madagascar. As a result, he decided to carry out his research in Mayotte, Comoro Islands. From 1975 to 1976, Breslar conducted fieldwork in the villages of Sada and M’Zouazia, which led to his dissertation, “An Ethnography of the Mahorais (Mayotte, Comoro Islands).” He still had not completed his dissertation when, upon the invitation of the French government, he returned to Mayotte for four months from November, 1977 to February, 1978 to develop a new housing policy for the Mahorais as a contractor for Société Immobilière de Mayotte. He returned to Mayotte again in September, 1978 to January, 1982, this time with his family, to continue work on the project. A pilot study was conducted and published in a three-volume set, one of which was Breslar’s *L’Habitat Mahorais: Une Perspective Ethnologique* (1979-1982). The project resulted in the construction of more durable housing using low-cost materials.

In 1983, he joined the US Agency for International Development (USAID). During the course of his career at USAID, he was assigned to Nepal, Mali, and Lebanon (where he served as director). He rose to the diplomatic rank of Minister Counselor and was a recipient of the Presidential Rank Award and the Administrator’s Award for Distinguished Career Service.

Breslar passed away at the age of 56, from lung cancer, on September 3, 2005.

Sources Consulted

CHRONOLOGY

1949  Born June 22 in Ware, Massachusetts
1971  Earns B.A. from Franklin & Marshall College in Anthropology and French
1975-1976  Conducts ethnological fieldwork in Mayotte, Comoro Islands.
1977-1978  Returns to Mayotte for four months to help develop new housing policy for the Mahorais as a contractor for Société Immobilière de Mayotte
1978-1982  Continues work on Mayotte housing project
1981  Earns Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Pittsburgh
1983  Joins USAID
1985-1989  Serves as USAID Rural Development Officer in Nepal
1989-1993  Serves as USAID Program Officer in Mali
1997  Visits Mayotte
2000-2002  Serves as Mission Director in Lebanon
2005  Dies on September 3 at the age of 56.
SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY


SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

These papers document Jon Breslar’s fieldwork on Mayotte, Comoro Islands for his dissertation as well as his work developing a new housing policy for Mayotte. The collection contains his professional correspondence, notes, writings, research materials, photographs, maps, plant specimens, and sound recordings.

Among his correspondents in the collection are Georges and Genevieve Boulinier, Michael Lambek, Paul Ottino, and Alexander Spoehr. The collection also contains his correspondence relating to arrangements for his trip to Mayotte as well as his fieldwork progress reports sent to the Social Science Research Council, which funded his research.

A copy of Breslar’s dissertation can be found in the collection along with his field notes; maps; sound recordings of ceremonies and interviews with informants; plant specimens used for medicine; photographic prints; and 35 mm slides. Materials relating to his work on the Mayotte housing project consist of his research notes, photographs, and the L’Habitat publications produced from the project.

Michael Lambek and Breslar both conducted fieldwork on Mayotte at around the same time and collaborated on two papers: “Death and Politics in Mayotte” (presented at the 1977 76th American Anthropological Association meeting) and “Funerals and Social Change in Mayotte” (1986). A draft of the first paper can be found filed with Lambek’s correspondence while a copy of the second paper is under Series 4. Writings.

In addition to Breslar’s writings, the collection contains monographs, articles, and theses on the Comoro Islands and Madagascar by other authors. Most of the writings are in French and English, but there are also photocopies and photographic prints of a manuscript in Arabic.

Other materials that may be of interest are Breslar’s teaching materials for his course on Shimaore. While in Mayotte, Breslar became fluent in Shimaore and offered a course on the language.

EXTENT

7.17 linear feet (16 boxes), 32 sound recordings, 1 map drawer.

PROVENANCE

These papers were donated to the National Anthropological Archives by Jon Breslar’s wife, Bonnie. A copy of Breslar’s dissertation was obtained by his wife and added to the collection at a later date.
RELATED COLLECTIONS

Four 8mm film reels received with the papers of Jon Breslar have been transferred to the Human Studies Film Archives. The reels contain footage of a circumcision and other Mayotte rituals and ceremonies.

PROCESSING NOTE

The papers of Jon Breslar were received partially organized and loosely grouped into field notes and research notes, correspondence, languages materials, and writings by others. The processing archivist kept existing groupings and organized the collection into eight series. Original folder titles were retained with titles assigned by the archivist placed within square brackets. Paper clips and staples were removed and, when necessary, an acid-free sheet of paper was folded around documents to indicate original groupings. Photographs that were intermixed with other materials were separated and filed with other photographs. Oversized materials were also separated and placed in oversized storage. Original and new locations of separated materials have been noted with separation sheets.

The processing archivist would like to thank Dominique Rogers for her assistance.
SERIES DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTAINER LIST

5 inches

This series contains Breslar’s professional correspondence. Also in the series are his progress reports sent to the Social Science Research Council (which funded his research in Mayotte) and correspondence relating to preparations for his trip to Mayotte. A draft of Michael Lambek and Breslar’s paper, “Death and Politics in Mayotte,” presented at the 1977 76th American Anthropological Association annual meeting, can be found with Lambek’s correspondence.

Box 1

- Boulinier, Georges et Genevieve
  1975-1977
- Lambek, Michael [1 of 2]
  Correspondence; paper by Lambek and Breslar for 76th AAA meeting entitled, “Death and Politics in Mayotte”; and various papers by Lambek
- Lambek, Michael [2 of 2]
  Correspondence; paper by Lambek and Breslar for 76th AAA meeting entitled, “Death and Politics in Mayotte”; and various papers by Lambek
- Ottino, Paul - Correspondence
  1973-1978
- [Saindou, Ibrahim]
  1975
  Thank-you letter from I. Saindou to Breslar, Nov.3, 1970; letter separated from Series 4. Writings “Lambek; Lambeck- Breslar; CNRS Geology; Rombi; Shepherd; Gueunier; Ottenheimer”
- Spoehr, Alexander
  1971-1976
- Mayotte: Official Correspond. 1977/8
- Mayotte Trip: Official Letters, Travel . . .
  1974-1976
- Visa Information - Comoros
  1974-1975
- Social Science Research Council
  1974-1977
  Also contains research proposals and progress reports sent to SSRC
- New SSRC Proposal
  1976-1977
  Also contains research proposals and progress reports sent to SSRC

2.04 linear feet

This series contains Breslar’s field notes, genealogy charts, and research notes for his dissertation and his work on the Mayotte housing project. This series also contains copies of his dissertation research proposal, a translated transcription of an interview with an informant, and an outline for a talk he gave on his research to a synagogue. Some of his dissertation field notes are arranged chronologically in the three volumes that can found in the beginning of this series. Breslar also organized his field notes by subject and informant. Material relating to the housing project can be found in the latter part of the series.

For Breslar’s progress reports sent to the Social Science Research Council, please see Series 1. Correspondence. A copy of his dissertation can be found in Series 4. Writings.

Box 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Volume 1 Sada pp. 1-175</th>
<th>1975 July 13 - December 9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Volume 2 Sada, M'Zouazia pp. 175-348</td>
<td>1975 December 26 - 1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volume 3 M'Zouazia pp. 349-525</td>
<td>August 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attitudes Toward Sex</td>
<td>1975-1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Childbirth</td>
<td>1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circumcisions</td>
<td>1975-1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daira, Dinaho, Mulidi, Maolida, Deba</td>
<td>1975-1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Death and Funerals</td>
<td>1975-1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divination</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnohistory</td>
<td>1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnomedicine and Curing</td>
<td>1975-1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatiha, Shidjabu, Badiri</td>
<td>1975-1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Islam: The Mosque &amp; School</td>
<td>1975-1977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kinship</td>
<td>1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law</td>
<td>1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marriage &amp; Family</td>
<td>1975-1977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melanges</td>
<td>1975-1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monyehz and Mugen [Mujen?]</td>
<td>1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mugala, Patrosy, and Spirits</td>
<td>1975-1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mwaha and Idi</td>
<td>1975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Villages</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Congress</td>
<td>1975</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Box 3
Political Reconciliations 1975-1976
Political-Religious Hierarchy 1975-1976
Politics (General) 1975-1976
Property Conflict 1976
Technolinguistics 1975
Youth Organization undated
[Stories by students at the College in Dzaoudzi] 1975
A1 Saindou Ibrahim / Kurati Youssouf 1976
A2 Saindou Ibrahim / Rilawyin Attoumane undated
A3 Saindou Ibrahim / Fatima Hussein 1976
A4 Zainaba Saindou undated
A5 Mariata Saindou 1976
A6 Hanithi Saindou / Saindou Aboudou undated
A7 Mwazari Ibrahim / Bacari M'Shama undated
A8 Yesha Madi / Abdourahman Hamada undated
A9 Mahariri Ibrahim undated
B1 Diwan Madi / Djadi Saidi undated
B2 Amina Madi / Matwari M'Glameli undated
B3 Mwalulu Mwanawabu
   Folder is empty
B4 Zimuda Madi / Youssouf Mari 1976
B5 Nyimi Youssouf undated
B6 Kurashia Madi / Marciale Henri undated
C1 Mwada Insa undated
C2 Yesha Daolabou / Muhusuni Madi undated
C3 Halima Muhusuni / M'Hijahi M'Laili undated
C4 Myisara Muhusuni / Saidi Assan undated
C5 Zaliha Daolabou / Youssouf Djabir undated
C6 Sabutia Youssouf / Hafithu Nasweer
   Folder is empty
C7 Fatima Insa
   Folder is empty
C8 Mariama Madi Bacari / Ahamadi Abdallah undated
C9 Bwena Amina Madi / Ibrahim Damalahi 1976
C10 Saodati Madi Bacari / Youssouf M'Cadara 1976
D1 Amina Saidi / Bwana Combo 1976
D2 Houazimata Soumaila / Boura Malidi 1976
D3 Swabia Soumaila / Bousouri Darimi 1976
D4 Anlia Soumaila / Younoussa Humadi
   Folder is empty
D5 Antufati Soumaila
   Folder is empty
D6 Halima Saidi / Hikina Silahi undated
D7 Fatima Hussein / Ali Youngou
   Folder is empty
D8 Bwenlali Saidi / Saidi Sola undated
E1 Salima Masondi undated
E2 M'Pate Combo / Salimou Aboudou
E3 Assanati Combo undated
E4 Mahaba Ali / Aboudou Shahidi 1976
E5 Mwadjumwa Masondi / Sidi Djibr 1976
E6 Atuya Sidi / Youssouf Shaka 1976
E7 Habushia Masondi / Youssouf Madi 1976
E8 Zalifati Masondi / Attoumane Colo
Folder is empty
F1 Fatima Alawi / Youssouf Ali undated
F2 Afswati Aboudou / Hamadane Youssouf
Folder is empty
F3 Mwanarafi Youssouf undated
F4 Fazati Youssouf / Darwesh undated
F5 Maboto Youssouf
Folder is empty
F6 Hamidia Alawi undated
F7 Zaina Hamidia undated
F8 Mariata Bwana / Abdulahi Hedja undated
F9 Madi Sidi undated
F10 Nuru Madi Sidi / Ahmed Omari undated
F11 Mambweni Madi Sidi / Madi Ali Tembre
Folder is empty
G1 Halima Bounou / Assan Bacar undated
G2 Amina Muhudini / Anjilane Assan undated
H1 Twaifati Maolida / Boundra Bacari undated
H2 Kala Madi / Bacari Youssouf 1976
H3 Mazena Madi / Ali Humadi
Folder is empty
H4 Hafifati Maolida undated
H5 Salama Saindou
Folder is empty
H6 Anfuati Madi Sidi / Abdou Latuf Bacari undated
H7 Zakia Maolida / Moustwaffa Bounou undated
H8 Hafidati Sidi undated
H9 Malawia Aboudou / Ibrahim Saindou 1976
I1 Kamissi Madi / Bounjoumane Aluwha 1976
I2 Mwanu Malidi / Aboudou Alawi undated
J1 Mwacazi Kabiri undated
J2 Manesha M’Colo / Shaka Vita 1976
J3 Rakoto Shaka
Folder is empty
J4 Ravavi Shaka / Samba Malidi undated
J5 Fatima Shaka / Abdou Madi Kele  undated
J6 Rukia Shaka / Bacari Ali
   Folder is empty
J7 Zaliha Shaka / Zaidou Abdallah
   Folder is empty
J8 Swafia Ali / Ahamadi Shaka  undated
J9 Mwadjumwa Bao  undated
J10 Mariama Rama / Hussein Wali 1976
J11 Binti Mari / Djabir M'Cadara 1976
J12 Fatima Madi / Ahamadi Saidi Boto 1976
J13 Salama Shaka / Hamada Toto
J14 Rahema M'Colo  undated
J15 Fatima M'Cadara  undated
K1 Afswati Bwanashi / Shihiti Djuhudi undated
K2 Fatima Djuhudi / Ali Abdallah Hadji 1976
K3 Safinati M'Dallah / Hamada Safinati
   Folder is empty
K4 Zuhurati M'Dallah / Mohamed Vita
   Folder is empty
K5 Fanuni M'Dallah  undated
K6 Mariama Mwarabu / Bourhane Twabibu undated
L1 Mze Mazh  undated
L2 Mwadjumwa Mze Mazh  undated
L3 Musulimati M'Dallah / Saindou Ali
   Folder is empty
[Notes & labels] 1976, undated
   Folder labels with informants’ names
Bwanali Aboudou  undated
Zainaba Aboudou 1976
Mahadali Achiraffi 1975-1976

Box 4

Omari Attoumane  undated
Moussa Bahedja 1976
Hamada Bwanali
Kamardine Daniale 1976
Mohamed Hachim 1975
Shechi Hamida 1976
Azimati Haribou 1975
Attoumane Madi 1975-1976
Mwadahabou Madi 1976
Ali Mari  undated
Madi Mari 1976
Nafissa Massiala 1976
Saidi Mohamed Hussein undated
Moutoubani Saidi 1976
Salama Salimou 1976
Sharlot Selimane undated
Saidi Shanfi undated
Saidi Souffu undated
Bourahane Tamimou 1976
Miscellaneous 1975-1976

Notes on various informants
Ibrahim Wali Family 1976
Combo Hussein Family undated
M'Dallah Bwana Family undated
Sharif undated
M'Zouazia Data (Madi Youssouf) Summer 1976

Grande Comorians, Anjouanais, and Mohelians

List of names
M'Zouazia Residents 1976

[Map and list of M'Zouazia households] 1976
Miscellaneous [1 of 2] 1975-1976, undated
Field notes and research notes
Field notes and research notes

Hirimu, Shikao - Sada
Maps: Sada and M'Zouazia undated
Hand-drawn maps

Taperecording translation 1976


Box 5

[5 kinship charts] undated

Box 6

[Field notes] 1978 February
Songoro, Mavingoni 1977, undated

Survey of Songoro and Mavingoni village settlements and field notes

Sada landownership
See Map Drawer – map folder; map originally in binder entitled "Notes - M'Zwazia, Urban Zone, Dembeni Coop, Religion, Selected Villages, Cash"
crops"

[Artisans 22 Sept. 80 and field notes 5 July 80]

_Originally in binder entitled “Notes - M’Zwazia, Urban Zone, Dembeni Coop, Religion, Selected Villages, Cash crops”_

Final Report: M’Zouazia [1 of 2]

_Originally in binder entitled “Notes - M’Zwazia, Urban Zone, Dembeni Coop, Religion, Selected Villages, Cash crops”_

Final Report: M’Zouazia [2 of 2]

_Originally in binder entitled “Notes - M’Zwazia, Urban Zone, Dembeni Coop, Religion, Selected Villages, Cash crops”_

[Synagogue lecture]

_Outline for talk given at synagogue; originally in binder entitled “Notes - M’Zwazia, Urban Zone, Dembeni Coop, Religion, Selected Villages, Cash crops”_

Shungu, Matahiri - Field notes 1979-1980

_Originally in binder entitled “Notes - M’Zwazia, Urban Zone, Dembeni Coop, Religion, Selected Villages, Cash crops”_

Cash Crops 1977-1978

_Originally in binder entitled “Notes - M’Zwazia, Urban Zone, Dembeni Coop, Religion, Selected Villages, Cash crops”_

Selected Villages 1977-1978

_Originally in binder entitled “Notes - M’Zwazia, Urban Zone, Dembeni Coop, Religion, Selected Villages, Cash crops”_


_Demog.; INSEE; Censuses; DASS: Latrines, Nutrition; Pop + Employ.

_In French; notes and articles about Mayotte demography, weather, employment; also 1978 official population census form_

Seasonal Displace., Research Proposals, Personal Resume

2 documents in French on local transportation, copies of Breslar’s proposal for his dissertation field research, notes on displacement; no resume
Box 7

Archeology Mayotte
   Notes and articles by others, in French and English, about Mayotte archaeology and history
Wright: Archaeology of SW I. Ocean 1978, undated
Setting
Colonial Period
Ethno-Linguistics
Village Life 1976, undated

7 inches

In the course of his fieldwork in Mayotte, Breslar became fluent in Shimaore (Mahorais). According to his wife, Breslar obtained permission from the prefect of Mayotte to teach a course on the language in 1980-1981 in Mamoutzu, the capital of Mayotte; he may have also taught the course in Dzaoudzi. This series contains his teaching materials for the course and articles on the languages of Mayotte, which includes a typescript manuscript by Sophie Blanchy.

Box 7 (continued)

[Articles on the languages of the Comoro Islands, 1 of 2]
   Also contains list of vocabulary in Mahorais / French
[Articles on the languages of the Comoro Islands, 2 of 2]
   Also contains list of vocabulary in Mahorais / French
Chap 4 Part 1 [1 of 2] undated
   Manuscript in French on the Moharais language by Sophie Blanchy; letter from Blanchy asking Breslar to write a foreword
Chap 4 Part 1 [2 of 2] undated
   Manuscript in French on the Moharais language by Sophie Blanchy; letter from Blanchy asking Breslar to write a foreword
SHIMAORE M-F ROMBI
   Article in French
   Garvey - Magalasy Introductory Course
      Photocopy of Catherine Garvey's "A Sketch of Malagasy Grammar" and Breslar's notes
   Projet lexique
French and Shimaore terms

Box 8

SHIMAORE 1982
Teaching materials for Breslar’s Shimaore language course (in French)

SHIMAORE 1 1978
Teaching materials for Breslar’s Shimaore language course (in French)

SHIMAORE 2 1979
Teaching materials for Breslar’s Shimaore language course (in French)

SHIMAORE 3 [1 of 2] 1979-1980
Teaching materials for Breslar’s Shimaore language course (in French)

Teaching materials for Breslar’s Shimaore language course (in French)

Shimaore Handouts [1 of 2]

Shimaore Handouts [2 of 2]

1.54 linear feet

This series contains Breslar’s writings, writings by others, and bibliographies. Most of the documents relate to the Comoro Islands and the Mayotte habitat project, but there are also materials on Madagascar, possibly from Breslar’s original plans to conduct fieldwork in that area. This series also contains a photocopy of Paul Ottino’s writings on sociology and social anthropology. Writings by Breslar that can be found in this series are his dissertation, “An Ethnography of the Mahorais (Mayotte, Comoro Islands); a copy of his paper with Michael Lambek, “Funerals and Social Change in Mayotte”; his typescript manuscript, “An Overview of the Project to Improve the Social Habitat of Mayotte”; and L’Habitat Mahorais: Une Perspective Ethnologique. Writings by others consist of photocopies of newspaper clippings, articles, and monographs; manuscripts; and theses. Breslar’s handwritten notes can be found interfiled with some of these materials. Most of the writings in this series are in French and English, with one manuscript in Arabic.

Progress reports and research proposals that Breslar sent to the Social Science Research Council can be found in Series 1. Correspondence along with his other manuscript that he coauthored with Lambek, “Death and Politics in Mayotte.” Articles that Breslar collected on languages can be found in Series 3. Languages.

Subseries: Comoro Islands

Series 3. Language
Series 4. Writings
Subseries: Habitat Project  
Subseries: Madagascar  
Subseries: Social Anthropology  

Box 8 (continued)  

Subseries: Comoro Islands  

Allibert [1 of 2]  
*Photocopy of Claude Allibert’s thesis, Histoire de Mayotte, Ile de L’Archipel des Comores, Avant 1841*  

Box 9  

Allibert [2 of 2]  
*Photocopy of Claude Allibert’s thesis, Histoire de Mayotte, Ile de L’Archipel des Comores, Avant 1841*  

Breslar, Jon “An Ethnography of the Mahorais (Mayotte, Comoro Islands) [1 of 2]  
*Copy of Breslar’s dissertation produced by University Microfilms International.*  

Breslar, Jon “An Ethnography of the Mahorais (Mayotte, Comoro Islands) [2 of 2]  

Bibliog Comoros - Dubins, Damir; Comoros (Encyclo); Borstelmann; Chron Arabe (Cidey); Chron Rigotard [?]  
*Two copies of a document in French translated from Arabic about the history of Ndzaouani Island; bibliography; articles by Borstelmann; and an encyclopedia entry*  

Comorian Economy (Boisson)  

Comoros: Newspaper Articles  

Coutume Grand-Comoriennne - Femmes --> Dieu  
*Letter and article by Jean Mas - “La Loi des Femmes et la Loi de Dieu”*  

[Documents in Arabic] [1 of 2]  
*Photocopy of manuscript in Arabic and notebook with what appears to be line by line Arabic transliteration of manuscript; see also Series 5. Photographs for photos of manuscript*  

Gevrey, A. *Essai sur Les Comores* [1 of 2]  

Gevrey, A. *Essai sur Les Comores* [2 of 2]  

Hory  
*“Relations Entre Le Droit International Et Le*
Droit Interne Dans L'Affaire De Mayotte” by Jean-Francois Hory

Box 10

Lambek; Lambeck- Breslar; CNRS Geology; Rombi; Shepherd; Gueunier; Ottenheimer [1 of 2] Copies of published articles and reports on Mayotte; copy of Breslar’s article written with Lambek, “Funerals and Social Change in Mayotte”; letters from Lambek and Harriet and Martin Ottenheimer

1970-1984

Lambek; Lambeck- Breslar; CNRS Geology; Rombi; Shepherd; Gueunier; Ottenheimer [2 of 2] Copies of published articles and reports on Mayotte; copy of Breslar’s article written with Lambek, “Funerals and Social Change in Mayotte”; letters from Lambek and Harriet and Martin Ottenheimer

1970-1984

Loze, Benoit “La Sante a Mayotte (A Partir d’une Enquete Personnelle Effectuee en 1976)” Dissertation encribed by author

1980

Ottino, Amstrong, Tattersal, Wright, Kus [1 of 2] Contains papers by Henry Wright, James C.

1979-1984, undated

Armstrong, Ian Tattersal, Paul Ottino, and Susan Kus; letter from Wright

Ottino, Amstrong, Tattersal, Wright, Kus [2 of 2] Contains papers by Henry Wright, James C.

1979-1984, undated

Armstrong, Ian Tattersal, Paul Ottino, and Susan Kus; letter from Wright

[Petite histoire de Mayotte] Document in French about the sultans of Mayotte, probably a translation from an earlier Arabic text; includes Breslar’s handwritten notes

undated

SW Indian Ocean Bibliographies

undated

Subseries: Habitat Project

Habitat Mahorais: Rapport de présentation

1979

Habitat Mahorais: Étude analytique et Perspectives - Bernard Chatain & Leon Attila Cheyssial

undated

Box 11

L’Habitat Mahorais: Une Perspective Ethnologique - Jon Breslar

undated

Habitat Mahorais: Bilan des Premieres Realisations - Michel Besombes and Pierre-Yves Perrot

1982
“An Overview of the Project to Improve the Social Habitat of Mayotte”
By Breslar
Vita News
Contains article, “Improved construction plans for a small island community: Villagers in Africa's Mayotte are trying new housing ideas”

Subseries: Madagascar

Deschamps - Histore de Madagascar [1 of 2] 1961
Deschamps - Les migrations intérieures à Madagascar [1 of 2]
Photocopy of monograph with handwritten notes by Breslar
Deschamps - Les migrations intérieures à Madagascar [2 of 2]
Photocopy of monograph with handwritten notes by Breslar
Dialectes Malgaches
Koechlin – Vezo
“Les Vezo, Semi-Nomades Marins du Su-Ouest de Madagascar”

Box 12

Malagasy Dynasties – Ottino
“L'Ancienne Succession Dynastique Malgache (L'exemple Merina)”
Razafindratovo - Hiérarchie et alliance dans un village de l'Imerina [1 of 2]
Breslar's handwritten notes and photocopy of portions of Janine Razafindratovo's dissertation
Razafindratovo - Hiérarchie et alliance dans un village de l'Imerina [2 of 2]
Breslar's handwritten notes and photocopy of portions of Janine Razafindratovo's dissertation

Subseries: Social Anthropology

Ottino - Sociologie et Anthropologie sociale [1 of 2]
Ottino - Sociologie et Anthropologie sociale [2 of 2]

1.17 linear feet

This series is composed of prints and 35mm slides of Mayotte villages, Mahorais, and their ceremonies. Also in the series are prints of an Arabic manuscript; photocopies of the manuscript can be found in Series 4. Writings. The 35mm slides appear to be from his field work for his dissertation while some of the prints appear to have been taken while Breslar was in the field working on the housing project. Sixty-three of the prints were assigned a number by Breslar. Some of these were published in *L’Habitat Mahorais: Une Perspective Ethnologique*, but the numbering on the prints do not all correspond with the numbering in the publication. At the beginning of Subseries: 35mm Slides is Breslar’s guide to his slides, which lists 21 boxes. However, only 4 slide boxes were received with Breslar’s papers, and the labels on the boxes (as listed below) do not correspond with any of the boxes in the guide. Of use in the guide is a key to the abbreviations Breslar used to label his slides.

Subseries: Prints
Subseries: 35mm Slides

Box 13

Subseries: Prints

[Documents in Arabic] [2 of 2]
See also Series 4. Writings for photocopies

Attoumane Made
- Photo separated from Series 2. Research, folder
  “Attoumane Made”

Final Report: M’Zouazia
- Photos separated from Series 2. Research, folder
  “Final Report: M’Zouazia”

[B/w 5x7” prints]
- Photos of Mahorais, housing structures, and island

[Aerial photo of Mayotte]
See Map Drawer – Map Folder

Box 14

[B/w prints]
Includes images of Mayotte housing, Mahorais, circumcision ceremony, views of island from plane, and a photo of an unidentified young man (possibly Michael Lambek) standing by a car

[Numbered b/w prints for housing project]
Several of these prints were published in *L’Habitat Mahorais: Une Perspective Ethnologique; only*
numbering of some of the photos correspond with numbering in publication

Box 15

Subseries: 35mm Slides

Slide Organization undated

Breslar’s guide to his slides with key to his abbreviations

Mayotte PhD Research

Mayotte Ceremonies

Mayotte Marriages/Funerals

[Various images]


1 map drawer

This series contains 6 maps of the Comoro Islands published by the Institut Geographique National. For Breslar’s hand-drawn maps, please see Series 2. Research.

Map Drawer - Rolled Maps

[6 maps of Comoro Islands by Institut Géographique National 1955-1956]


1 linear foot

While in Mayotte, Breslar collected plant specimens that were used as herbal medicine. Most of the specimens have been assigned numbers. Breslar’s notes can be found with some of the plants.

Box 16

[Mayotte Herbal Medicine]

[Plant Specimens]


21 cassette tapes, 11 audio reels
This series is composed of cassette tapes and audio reels containing Breslar’s recordings from the field in Mayotte. These include recordings of music and singing and Breslar’s interviews with informants conducted in Shimaore. There are also recordings of what seem to be of Guy Cidey reading documents in French about Mayotte myths and history. The contents of most of the recordings appear to match Breslar’s descriptions. (A few of the recordings could not be played and have been so noted in the description field below.) Recordings are grouped by recording medium and arranged in chronological order with undated recordings placed at the end. Item numbers were assigned by the processing archivist.

**Cassette Tapes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item #</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1      | Conversation w/ Kamardine on Sharifs | 13 Feb 76 | 1: full 2: to 248  
  *Appears to be duplicate of #30* |
| 2      | March 76 - Dinaho Maohida at Moussa’s  
  *Singing and music* | 1976 | |
| 3      | Side 1: 5 July 76 Hale 20-660  
  Side 2: Ba Inaya [?]  
  #2 of 2 (decent conversation on silamo) 1-568  
  *Tape does not work* | 1976 | |
| 4      | Side 1: 28 July 76 Shirondroa to 570 or so  
  Side 2: 1 Nov. 76 w/ Inzudine #1 of 3 Full  
  *See also Series 2. Research for transcription of interview with Inzudine* | 1976 | |
| 5      | Side 1: Fundi Amma’s stuff  
  (cf. inside leaflet)  
  Side 2: 1 Nov 76 w/ Inzudine  
  #2 of 3 Full  
  *See also Series 2. Research for transcription of interview with* | 1976 | |
Inzudine

6  Side 1 10 July 76
   Marenge / Boeui
   Full
   Side 2 1 Nov 76
   w/ Inzudine
   #3 of 3 full
   See also Series 2. Research for transcription of interview with Inzudine

7  1: 24 Aug 76
   Masamama (?) of Anjilane’s Nyadza
   Full, Notes to go w/ this
   2: 24 Sept
   To 363 w/ Masama
   400-543 Sidi Jabir NIA on last day of tsumu
   Singing and music followed by Breslar’s comments in English

8  1: 12 Sept 76 Notes on Houz’s Circumcision
   Immediately following it. Conversation w/ Oha, Dsindane, Abdou
   M. Keli
   Full
   2: Full
   Breslar’s comments in English on circumcision and his
   conversations with informants

9  1: Mugala (Mxisara ?)  
   4:00 AM – 4:30 AM  
   1 October
   2: Mugala Songs
   (In MaDao’s [?] back yard) w/ MaDao, MaMari, Nura, BaMari,
   Mwad. Masondi, Bunch of Kids
   (6 Oct 76) 8-9 PM

10 6 Oct 76
    Side 1 1-226 w/ MaMari [?] & Madao,
    Patrosy Songs

    2 Nov 76
    #1 of 2
    Side 1 Abdou Rahman and Koran
    250-end
    Side 2 AR Full

11 1A
    G. Cidey á John
    face 1. document 1 Tsingoni
    doc 2 manuscrit de Chex Moukadara
    1B
    doc 2
    doc 3 manuscrit de Nzouani variante Ahmed Charifou
12  2A
   doc 3 manuscrit Nzaouani (suite) variants
doc 4 about motion of conflict
doc 5 Ma tsingo
doc 6 Polè
doc 7 les ziyara [?]  
2B
13 Entretieau – Jon Madi, Jon Asanoti
   Recording of interview
14 Ba Inzu [?] 1 – Full
   Tape does not work
15 Ba Inzu [?] 2 – Full
   Interview
16 Ba Inzu [?] 3 1-437
   Interview
17 Ba Inzu [?] 4
   Interview
18 Ba Inzu [?] 5
   Interview
19 Ba Inzu [?] 6
   Interview
20 Ba Inzu [?] 7
   Interview
21 Ba Inzu [?] 8
   Interview

3” Audio Reel – 3 ¾ ips

22 Book: Sabam’Naji [?], Sowate [?]: #2 INAFATAHNA
   8/5/75 Kamardine reading the Lakima (from funeral)
   Reel needs to be rewound.
23 Sahalara

4” Audio Reel – 1 7/8 ips

24 Track 1: 2 debas
   1 Aug 75
   Half full
   Track 2: Kuvetti [?]
   2 Aug 75
   Full
25 Daira IDI – 7 Oct 75
   In [?] Mosque.
   All of Track I.
   Comments at end
   Track 2 – 8 Oct
Maolida of Bibi Baheja
Track 2 full. Comments at beginning
26 Track 1 – Walima of Siragi 17 Oct 75
Track 2 – (nothing)
27 4 Nov 1975
Daira of Charif – Track I
Track II – empty
Only ½ of Track 1
Track 2: Empty
29 Nov 15 [1975]
30 Conversations w/ Kamardine: Charifu
Feb 13, 1976
Track 1: full (2/3)
Track 2: empty
See also #1
31 Ali Issouf
Track 1: Discourse of marriage by Kamardine . . . (Lousy band)
Only ½ used
(must rewind it first)
32 Women’s singing at Habibas

5” Reel - 3 ¾ ips

33 [Recording of Breslar speaking Shimaore; recording on both tracks]

Last updated: November 19, 2007
Lorain Wang