



Smithsonian
National Museum of Natural History

Register to the Papers of Jon Haskell Breslar

Lorain Wang

The Jon Breslar Papers were processed with the support of a Wenner-Gren Foundation Historical Archives Program grant awarded to Bonnie Breslar. Funding for the digitization of portions of this collection was provided by the Arcadia Fund.

September 2007

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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	Jon Breslar papers
Identifier:	NAA.2007-04
Date:	1870-1984 (bulk 1971-1982)
Extent:	7.2 Linear feet (16 boxes, 21 cassette tapes, 12 audio reels, 1 map drawer)
Creator:	Cidey, Guy Breslar, Jon, 1949-2005
Language:	Multiple languages Most of the writings are in French and English, but there are also photocopies and photographic prints of a manuscript in Arabic. There are sound recordings in Maore, French, and English.
Summary:	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, field notes, research notes, his writings, writings by others, newspaper clippings, teaching materials for his Shimaore language course, photographs, maps, plant specimens, and sound recordings.

Administrative Information

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.

Separated Materials

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.

Processed by Lorain Wang

Encoded by Jocelyn Baltz, June 2012

Preferred Citation

Jon H. Breslar papers, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions on Access

No restrictions on access.

Restrictions on Use

Contact repository for terms of use.

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

Lambek, Michael. "Jon Haskell Breslar." *Anthropology News* 47.2 (2006): 35.

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

1981	Ph.D. dissertation. "An Ethnography of the Mahorais (Mayotte, Comoro Islands)." University of Pittsburgh.
1979	<i>L'Habitat Mahorais: Une Perspective Ethnologique</i> . Paris: Editions A.G.G.
1986	with Michael Lambek. "Funerals and Social Change in Mayotte." <i>Madagascar: Society and History</i> . Durham: Carolina Academic Press.

Scope and Content

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.

Arrangement

Arranged into 8 series: (1) Correspondence, 1971-1989 [Bulk 1971-1978]; (2) Research, 1975-1980; (3) Language, 1979-1982; (4) Writings, 1870-1984 [Bulk 1959-1984]; (5) Photographs, circa 1975-1982; (6) Maps, 1955-1956; (7) Botanical Specimens, circa 1975-1982; (8) Sound Recordings, 1976

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Applied anthropology
- Housing
- Language and languages -- Documentation
- Mahorais

Cultures:

- Mahorais

Types of Materials:

- Botanical specimens
- Field notes
- Photographic prints
- Slides (photographs)
- Sound recordings

Geographic Names:

- Mayotte

Container Listing

Series 1: Correspondence , 1971-1989 (bulk 1971-1978)

0.41 Linear feet

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 |
| Box 1 | Lambek, Michael, 1977 - 1989
<i>[1 of 2]</i>
Correspondence; paper by Lambek and Breslar for 76th AAA meeting entitled, "Death and Politics in Mayotte"; and various papers by Lambek |
| Box 1 | Lambek, Michael, 1977 - 1989
<i>[2 of 2]</i>
Correspondence; paper by Lambek and Breslar for 76th AAA meeting entitled, "Death and Politics in Mayotte"; and various papers by Lambek |
| Box 1 | Ottino, Paul - Correspondence, 1973 - 1978 |
| Box 1 | [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" |
| Box 1 | Spoehr, Alexander , 1971 - 1976 |
| Box 1 | Mayotte: Official Correspondence , 1977 - 1978 |
| Box 1 | Mayotte Trip: Official Letters, Travel, etc., 1974 - 1976 |
| Box 1 | Visa Information - Comoros, 1974 - 1975 |
| Box 1 | Social Science Research Council, 1974 - 1977
Also contains research proposals and progress reports sent to SSRC |
| Box 1 | New SSRC Proposal , 1976 - 1977
Also contains research proposals and progress reports sent to SSRC |

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Series 2: Research, 1975 - 1980

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	Volume 1: Sada pp. 1-175, 1975 July 13-December 9
Box 2	Volume 2: Sada, M'Zouazia pp. 175-348, 1975 December 26 - 1976 August 13
Box 2	Volume 3: M'Zouazia pp. 349-525, 1976 August 15 - October 28
Box 2	Attitudes Toward Sex, 1976
Box 2	Childbirth, 1975-1976
Box 2	Circumcisions, 1975-1976
Box 2	Daira, Dinaho, Mulidi, Maolida, Deba, 1975-1976
Box 2	Death and Funerals, 1975-1976
Box 2	Divination, Undated
Box 2	Economics, 1976
Box 2	Ethnohistory, 1976
Box 2	Ethnomedicine and Curing, 1975-1976
Box 2	Fatiha, Shidjabu, Badiri, 1975-1976
Box 2	Islam: The Mosque & School, 1975-1977
Box 2	Kinship, 1976
Box 2	Law, 1976

Box 2 Marriage & Family, 1975-1977

Box 2 Melanges, 1975-1976

Box 2 Monyezh and Mugen [Mujen?], 1976

Box 2 Mugala, Patrosy, and Spirits, 1975-1976

Box 2 Mwaha and Idi, 1975

Box 2 Other Villages, Undated

Box 2 Political Congress, 1975

Box 3 Political Reconciliations, 1975-1976

Box 3 Political-Religious Hierarchy, 1975 - 1976

Box 3 Politics (General), 1975 - 1976

Box 3 Property Conflict, 1976

Box 3 Technolinguistics, 1975

Box 3 Youth Organization, Undated

Box 3 [Stories by students at the College in Dzaoudzi], 1975

Box 3 A1 Saindou Ibrahim / Kurati Youssouf, 1976

Box 3 A2 Saindou Ibrahim / Rilawyin Attoumane, Undated

Box 3 A3 Saindou Ibrahim / Fatima Hussein, 1976

Box 3 A4 Zainaba Saindou, Undated

Box 3 A5 Mariata Saindou, 1976

Box 3 A6 Hanithi Saindou / Saindou Aboudou, Undated

Box 3 A7 Mwazari Ibrahim / Bacari M'Shama, Undated

Box 3 A8 Yesha Madi / Abdourahman Hamada, Undated

Box 3 A9 Mahariri Ibrahim, Undated

Box 3 B1 Diwan Madi / Djadi Saidi, Undated

Box 3 B2 Amina Madi / Matwari M'Lamali, Undated

Box 3 B3 Mwalulu Mwanswabu , Undated
Folder is empty

Box 3 B4 Zimuda Madi / Youssouf Mari, 1976

Box 3 B5 Nyimi Youssouf, Undated

Box 3 B6 Kurashia Madi / Marciale Henri, Undated

Box 3 C1 Mwada Insa, Undated

Box 3 C2 Yesha Daolabou / Muhusuni Madi, Undated

Box 3 C3 Halima Muhusuni / M'Hijahi M'Laili, Undated

Box 3 C4 Myisara Muhusuni / Saidi Assan, Undated

Box 3 C5 Zaliha Daolabou / Youssouf Djabir, Undated

Box 3 C6 Sabutia Youssouf / Hafithu Nasweer
Folder is empty

Box 3 C7 Fatima Insa
Folder is empty

Box 3 C8 Mariama Madi Bacari / Ahamadi Abdallah , Undated

Box 3 C9 Bwena Amina Madi / Ibrahim Damalahi, 1976

Box 3 C10 Saodati Madi Bacari / Youssouf M'Cadara, 1976

Box 3 D1 Amina Saidi / Bwana Combo, 1976

Box 3 D2 Houazimata Soumaila / Boura Malidi, 1976

Box 3 D3 Swabia Soumaila / Bousouri Darimi, 1976

Box 3 D4 Anlia Soumaila / Younoussa Humadi
Folder is empty

Box 3 D5 Antufati Soumaila
Folder is empty

Box 3 D6 Halima Saidi / Hikina Silahi , Undated

Box 3 D7 Fatima Hussein / Ali Youngou
Folder is empty

Box 3 D8 Bwenlali Saidi / Saidi Sola , Undated

Box 3 E1 Salima Masondi , Undated

Box 3 E2 M'Pate Combo / Salimou Aboudou

Box 3 E3 Assanati Combo , Undated

Box 3 E4 Mahaba Ali / Aboudou Shahidi , 1976

Box 3 E5 Mwadjumwa Masondi / Sidi Djabir , Undated

Box 3 E6 Atuya Sidi / Youssouf Shaka , 1976

Box 3 E7 Habushia Masondi / Youssouf Madi , 1976

Box 3 E8 Zalifati Masondi / Attoumane Colo
Folder is empty

Box 3 F1 Fatima Alawi / Youssouf Ali , Undated

Box 3 F2 Afswati Aboudou / Hamadane Youssouf
Folder is empty

Box 3 F3 Mwanarafi Youssouf , Undated

Box 3 F4 Fazati Youssouf / Darwesh , Undated

Box 3 F5 Maboto Youssouf
Folder is empty

Box 3 F6 Hamidia Alawi , Undated

Box 3 F7 Zaina Hamidia , Undated

Box 3 F8 Mariata Bwana / Abdulahi Hedja , Undated

Box 3 F9 Madi Sidi , Undated

Box 3 F10 Nuru Madi Sidi / Ahmed Omari , Undated

Box 3 F11 Mambweni Madi Sidi / Madi Ali Tembre
Folder is empty

Box 3 G1 Halima Bounou / Assan Baco , Undated

Box 3 G2 Amina Muhudini / Anjilane Assan , Undated

Box 3 H1 Twaifati Maolida / Boundra Bacari , Undated

Box 3 H2 Kala Madi / Bacari Youssouf , 1976

Box 3 H3 Mazena Madi / Ali Humadi
Folder is empty

Box 3 H4 Hafifati Maolida , Undated

Box 3 H5 Salama Saindou
Folder is empty

Box 3 H6 Anfuati Madi Sidi / Abdou Latuf Bacari , Undated

Box 3 H7 Zakia Maolida / Moustwaffa Bounou , Undated

Box 3 H8 Hafidati Sidi , Undated

Box 3 H9 Malawia Aboudou / Ibrahim Saindou , 1976

Box 3 I1 Kamissi Madi / Bounjourmane Aluwha , 1976

Box 3 I2 Mwanu Malidi / Aboudou Alawi , Undated

Box 3 I3 Latufa Malidi / Kambi Aboudou , Undated

Box 3 J1 Mwacazi Kabiri , Undated

Box 3 J2 Manesha M'Colo / Shaka Vita , 1976

Box 3 J3 Rakoto Shaka
Folder is empty

Box 3 J4 Ravavi Shaka / Samba Malidi , Undated

Box 3 J5 Fatima Shaka / Abdou Madi Kele , Undated

Box 3 J6 Rukia Shaka / Bacari Ali
Folder is empty

Box 3 J7 Zaliha Shaka / Zaidou Abdallah
Folder is empty

Box 3 J8 Swafia Ali / Ahamadi Shaka , Undated

Box 3 J9 Mwadjumwa Bao , Undated

Box 3 J10 Mariama Rama / Hussein Wali , 1976

Box 3 J11 Binti Mari / Djibir M'Cadara , 1976

Box 3 J12 Fatima Madi / Ahamadi Saidi Boto , 1976

Box 3 J13 Salama Shaka / Hamada Toto , Undated

Box 3 J14 Rahema M'Colo , Undated

Box 3 J15 Fatima M'Cadara , Undated

Box 3 K1 Afswati Bwanashi / Shihiti Djuhudi , Undated

Box 3 K2 Fatima Djuhudi / Ali Abdallah Hadji , 1976

Box 3 K3 Safinati M'Dallah / Hamada Safinati
Folder is empty

Box 3 K4 Zuhurati M'Dallah / Mohamed Vita
Folder is empty

Box 3 K5 Fanuni M'Dallah , Undated

Box 3 K6 Mariama Mwarabu / Bourhane Twabibu , Undated

Box 3	L1 Mze Mazh , Undated
Box 3	L2 Mwadjumwa Mze Mazh , Undated
Box 3	L3 Musulimati M'Dallah / Saindou Ali Folder is empty
Box 3	[Notes & labels] , 1976, Undated Folder labels with informants' names
Box 3	Bwanali Aboudou , Undated
Box 3	Zainaba Aboudou , 1976
Box 3	Mahadali Achiraffi , 1975 - 1976
Box 4	Omari Attoumane , Undated
Box 4	Moussa Bahedja , 1976
Box 4	Hamada Bwanali
Box 4	Kamardine Daniale , 1976
Box 4	Mohamed Hachim , 1975
Box 4	Shechi Hamida , 1976
Box 4	Azimati Haribou , 1975
Box 4	Attoumane Madi, 1975 - 1976
Box 4	Mwadahabou Madi, 1976
Box 4	Ali Mari, Undated
Box 4	Madi Mari, 1976
Box 4	Nafissa Massiala, 1976
Box 4	Saidi Mohamed Hussein, Undated

Box 4 Moutoubani Saidi, 1976

Box 4 Salama Salimou, 1976

Box 4 Sharlot Selimane, Undated

Box 4 Saidi Shanfi, Undated

Box 4 Saidi Souffu, Undated

Box 4 Bourahane Tamimou, 1976

Box 4 Notes [on various informants], 1975-1976

Box 4 Ibrahim Wali Family, 1976

Box 4 Combo Hussein Family, Undated

Box 4 M'Dallah Bwana Family, Undated

Box 4 Sharif, Undated

Box 4 M'Zouazia Data (Madi Youssouf), Summer 1976

Box 4 Grande Comorians, Anjouanais, and Mohelians
List of names

Box 4 M'Zouazia Residents, 1976

Box 4 [Map and list of M'Zouazia households], 1976

Box 4 Miscellaneous [field notes and research notes], 1975 - 1976
2 Folders

Box 4 Hirimu, Shikao - Sada

Box 4 Maps: Sada and M'Zouazia, Undated
Hand-drawn maps

Box 4 Tape recording translation, 1976
[Image\(s\)](#)

Box 4 [Field notes & notes on M'Zouazia photos], 1977 November 28 - 1978 January
26

- Box 5 [5 kinship charts], Undated
- Box 6 [Field notes], 1978 February
- Box 6 Songoro, Mavingoni, 1977, Undated
Survey of Songoro and Mavingoni village settlements and field notes
- Box 6 Sada landownership
See Map Drawer --map folder; map originally in binder entitled "Notes - M'Zwazia, Urban Zone, Dembeni Coop, Religion, Selected Villages, Cash crops"
- Box 6 [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"
- Box 6 Final Report: M'Zouazia
2 Folders
Originally in binder entitled "Notes - M'Zwazia, Urban Zone, Dembeni Coop, Religion, Selected Villages, Cash crops"
- Box 6 [Synagogue lecture]
Outline for talk given at synagogue; originally in binder entitled "Notes - M'Zwazia, Urban Zone, Dembeni Coop, Religion, Selected Villages, Cash crops"
- Box 6 Shungu, Matahiri - Field notes , 1979 - 1980
Originally in binder entitled "Notes - M'Zwazia, Urban Zone, Dembeni Coop, Religion, Selected Villages, Cash crops"
- Box 6 Cash Crops
Originally in binder entitled "Notes - M'Zwazia, Urban Zone, Dembeni Coop, Religion, Selected Villages, Cash crops"
- Box 6 Selected Villages , 1977 - 1978
Originally in binder entitled "Notes - M'Zwazia, Urban Zone, Dembeni Coop, Religion, Selected Villages, Cash crops"
- Box 6 Urban
Originally in binder entitled "Notes - M'Zwazia, Urban Zone, Dembeni Coop, Religion, Selected Villages, Cash crops"
- Box 6 Dembeni - Sada , 1960 - 1967, 1977 - 1978
- Box 6 Demog.; INSEE; Censuses; DASS: Latrines, Nutrition; Pop + Employ.
In French; notes and articles about Mayotte demography, weather, employment; also 1978 official population census form

- Box 6 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
- Box 7 Wright: Archaeology of SW I. Ocean Setting , Undated, 1978
- Box 7 Colonial Period
- Box 7 Ethno-Linguistics
- Box 7 Village Life , Undated, 1976

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Series 3: Language, 1978-1982

0.58 Linear feet

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 | [Articles on the languages of the Comoro Islands]
<i>2 Folders</i>
Also contains list of vocabulary in Mahorais / French |
| Box 7 | Chap 4 Part 1 , Undated
<i>2 Folders</i>
Manuscript in French on the Moharais language by Sophie Blanchy; letter from Blanchy asking Breslar to write a foreword |
| Box 7 | SHIMAORE M-F ROMBI
Article in French |
| Box 7 | Garvey - Magalasy Introductory Course
Photocopy of Catherine Garvey's "A Sketch of Malagasy Grammar" and Breslar's notes |
| Box 7 | Projet lexique
French and Shimaore terms |
| Box 8 | SHIMAORE , 1982
Teaching materials for Breslar's Shimaore language course (in French) |
| Box 8 | SHIMAORE 1 , 1978
Teaching materials for Breslar's Shimaore language course (in French) |
| Box 8 | SHIMAORE 2 , 1979
Teaching materials for Breslar's Shimaore language course (in French) |
| Box 8 | SHIMAORE 3 , 1979 - 1980
<i>2 Folders</i>
Teaching materials for Breslar's Shimaore language course (in French) |
| Box 8 | Shimaore Handouts
<i>2 Folders</i> |

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Series 4: Writings, 1870-1984 (bulk 1959-1984)

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*.

4.1: Comoro Islands

- | | |
|-------|---|
| Box 8 | Allibert , 1977
2 Folders
Photocopy of Claude Allibert's thesis, <i>Histoire de Mayotte, Ile de L'Archipel des Comores, Avant 1841</i> |
| Box 9 | Breslar, Jon: "An Ethnography of the Mahorais (Mayotte, Comoro Islands) , 1981
2 Folders
Copy of Breslar's dissertation produced by University Microfilms International. |
| Box 9 | Bibliog Comoros - Dubins, Damir; Comoros (Encyclo); Borstelmann; Chron Arabe (Cidey); Chron Rigotard [?], Undated, 1978, 1980
Two copies of a document in French translated from Arabic about the history of Ndzaouani Island; bibliography; articles by Borstellmann; and an encyclopedia entry |
| Box 9 | Comorian Economy (Boisson) , 1975 |
| Box 9 | Comoros: Newspaper Articles , 1967 - 1982 |
| Box 9 | Coutume Grand-Comorienne - Femmes...Dieu , 1982
Letter and article by Jean Mas - "La Loi des Femmes et la Loi de Dieu" |
| Box 9 | [Documents in Arabic], Undated
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 |
| Box 9 | Gevrey, A. Essai sur Les Comores , 1870 |

2 Folders

- Box 9 Hory , Undated
"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 , 1970 - 1984
2 Folders
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
- Box 10 Loze, Benoit "La Sante a Mayotte (A Partir d'une Enquete Personnelle Effectuee en 1976)" , 1980
Dissertation encribed by author
- Box 10 Ottino, Amstrong, Tattersal, Wright, Kus , Undated, 1979 - 1984
2 Folders
Contains papers by Henry Wright, James C. Armstrong, Ian Tattersal, Paul Ottino, and Susan Kus; letter from Wright
- Box 10 [Petite histoire de Mayotte] , Undated
Document in French about the sultans of Mayotte, probably a translation from an earlier Arabic text; includes Breslar's handwritten notes
- Box 10 SW Indian Ocean Bibliographies , Undated

4.2: Habitat Project

- Box 10 *Habitat Mahorais: Rapport de présentation*, 1979
- Box 10 *Habitat Mahorais: Étude analytique et Perspectives* - Bernard Chatain & Leon Attila Cheyssial, Undated
- Box 11 *L'Habitat Mahorais: Une Perspective Ethnologique* - Jon Breslar , Undated
- Box 11 *Habitat Mahorais: Bilan des Premieres Realisations* - Michel Besombes and Pierre-Yves Perrot , 1982
- Box 11 "An Overview of the Project to Improve the Social Habitat of Mayotte" , 1980
October
By Breslar
- Box 11 Vita News , 1980 April

Contains article, "Improved construction plans for a small island community: Villagers in Africa's Mayotte are trying new housing ideas"

4.3: Madagascar

- Box 11 Deschamps - Histoire de Madagascar , 1961
2 Folders
- Box 11 Deschamps - Les migrations intérieures à Madagascar , 1959
2 Folders
Photocopy of monograph with handwritten notes by Breslar
- Box 11 Dialectes Malgaches
- Box 11 Koechlin -- Vezo , 1972
"Les Vezo, Semi-Nomades Marins du Su-Ouest de Madagascar"
- Box 12 Malagasy Dynasties -- Ottino. "L'Ancienne Succession Dynastique Malgache (L'exemple Merina)" , 1979
- Box 12 Razafindratovo - Hiérarchie et alliance dans un village de l'Imerina , 1970
2 Folders
Breslar's handwritten notes and photocopy of portions of Janine Razafindratovo's dissertation

4.4: Social Anthropology

- Box 12 Ottino - Sociologie et Anthropologie sociale
2 Folders

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Series 5: Photographs, Circa 1975-1982

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.

5.1: Prints

- | | |
|--------|--|
| Box 13 | [Documents in Arabic]
[2 of 2]
See also Series 4. Writings for photocopies |
| Box 13 | Attoumane Made
Photo separated from Series 2. Research, folder "Attoumane Made" |
| Box 13 | Final Report: M'Zouazia
Photos separated from Series 2. Research, folder "Final Report: M'Zouazia" |
| Box 13 | [B/w 5x7" prints]
Photos of Mahorais, housing structures, and island |
| Box 13 | [Aerial photo of Mayotte] |
| 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 |
| Box 14 | [Numbered b/w prints for housing project]
Several of these prints were published in <i>L'Habitat Mahorais: Une Perspective Ethnologique</i> ; only numbering of some of the photos correspond with numbering in publication |

5.2: 35mm Slides

- | | |
|--------|--|
| Box 15 | Slide Organization, Undated
Breslar's guide to his slides with key to his abbreviations |
| Box 15 | Mayotte PhD Research |

- Box 15 Mayotte Ceremonies
- Box 15 [Various images]
- Box 15 Mayotte Marriages/Funerals

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Series 6: Maps, 1955 - 1956

1 file 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*.

Drawer 1

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

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Series 7: Botanical Specimens, Circa 1975-1982

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]

Box 16 [Plant Specimens]

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Series 8: Sound Recordings, 1975 - 1976

32 sound recordings (21 cassette tapes, 12 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. Recordings are grouped by format and arranged in chronological order with undated recordings placed at the end of the format grouping. Item numbers were assigned by the processing archivist.

Box 17 Breslar SR 1 , 1976 February 15?

1 Sound cassette

[Audio: Breslar SR 1 side 1](#)

[Audio: Breslar SR 1 side 2](#)

- 1) Conversation w/ Kamardine on Sharifs
- 2) 13 Feb 76
- 3) 1: full
- 4) 2: to 248

Appears to be a duplicate of #30

Box 17

Breslar SR 2, 1973

1 Sound cassette

[Audio: Breslar SR 2 side 1](#)

[Audio: Breslar SR 2 side 2](#)

- March 76 -
- Dinaho
- Maohida at Moussa's

Box 17

Breslar SR 3 , 1976

1 Sound cassette

[Audio: Breslar SR 3 side 1](#)

[Audio: Breslar SR 3 side 2](#)

- Side 1: 5 July 76
- Hale 20-660
- Side 2: Ba Inaya [?]
- #2 of 2 (decent conversation on silamo) 1-568

Box 17

Breslar SR 4 , 1976

1 Sound cassette

[Audio: Breslar SR 4 side 1](#)

[Audio: Breslar SR 4 side 2](#)

- 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

- Box 17 Breslar SR 5, 1976
 1 *Sound cassette*
 [Audio: Breslar SR 5 side 1](#)
 [Audio: Breslar SR 5 side 2](#)
- Side 1: Fundi Amma's stuff
 - (cf. inside leaflet)
 - Side 2: 1 Nov 76 w/ Inzudine
 - #2 of 3 Full
 - [Leaflet]
 - 1: 4 July 76
 - Shio of Amma Madi
 - 15-220 Daira
 - 220-320 MaMadi Diwan reading Twa'ibali Assimai
 - 320-342 Amma Madi
- See also Series 2. Research for transcription of interview with Inzudine
- Box 17 Breslar SR 6, 1976
 1 *Sound cassette*
 [Audio: Breslar SR 6 side 1](#)
 [Audio: Breslar SR 6 side 2](#)
- Side 1 10 July 76
 - Mareng / Boeui
 - Full
 - Side 2 1 Nov 76
 - w/ Inzudine
 - #3 of 3 full
- See also Series 2. Research for transcription of interview with Inzudine
- Box 17 Breslar SR 7, 1976
 1 *Sound cassette*
 [Audio: Breslar SR 7 side 1](#)
 [Audio: Breslar SR 7 side 2](#)
- 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
- Box 17 Breslar SR 8, 1976
 1 *Sound cassette*
- 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

Box 17

Breslar SR 9, 1976
1 Sound cassette

[Audio: Breslar SR 9 side 1](#)

[Audio: Breslar SR 9 side 2](#)

- 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

Box 17

Breslar SR 10, 1976
1 Sound cassette

[Audio: Breslar SR 10 side 1](#)

[Audio: Breslar SR 10 side 2](#)

- 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

Box 17

Breslar SR 11 , undated
1 Sound cassette

[Audio: Breslar SR 11 side 1](#)

[Audio: Breslar SR 11 side 2](#)

- 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

Box 17

Breslar SR 12 , undated
1 Sound cassette

[Audio](#)

- 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

- Box 17 Breslar SR 13 , undated
 1 *Sound cassette*
 [Audio](#)
 Entretieu --Jon Madi, Jon Asanoti

 Recording of interview
- Box 17 Breslar SR 14 , undated
 1 *Sound cassette*
 Program heavily distorted, starts and ends abruptly on both sides of tape.
 Cassette re-shelled and baked, but kept stopping during playback and could not
 safely transfer to digital format.
 Ba Inzu [?] 1 --Full
- Box 17 Breslar SR 15 , undated
 1 *Sound cassette*
 Program heavily distorted, starts and ends abruptly on both sides of tape.
 Cassette re-shelled and baked, but kept stopping during playback and could not
 safely transfer to digital format.
 Ba Inzu [?] 2 --Full

 Interview
- Box 17 Breslar SR 16, undated
 1 *Sound cassette*
 Program heavily distorted, starts and ends abruptly on both sides of tape.
 Cassette re-shelled and baked, but kept stopping during playback and could not
 safely transfer to digital format.
 Ba Inzu [?] 3 1-437

 Interview
- Box 17 Breslar SR 17, undated
 1 *Sound cassette*
 [Audio: Breslar SR 17 side 1](#)
 [Audio: Breslar SR 17 side 2](#)
 Ba Inzu [?] 4

 Interview
- Box 17 Breslar SR 18 , undated
 1 *Sound cassette*
 [Audio: Breslar SR 18 side 1](#)
 [Audio: Breslar SR 18 side2](#)
 Ba Inzu [?] 5

 Interview

- Box 17 Breslar SR 19, undated
 1 *Sound cassette*
 [Audio: Breslar SR 19 side 1](#)
 [Audio: Breslar SR 19 side 2](#)
 Ba Inzu [?] 6

 Interview
- Box 17 Breslar SR 20, undated
 1 *Sound cassette*
 Ba Inzu [?] 7

 Interview
- Box 17 Breslar SR 21 , undated
 1 *Sound cassette*
 [Audio: Breslar SR 21 side 1](#)
 [Audio: Breslar SR 21 side 2](#)
 Ba Inzu [?] 8

 Interview
- Box 18 Breslar SR 22, undated
 1 *Sound tape reel (3 in.)*
 [Audio](#)
 - Book: Sabam'Naji [?], Sowate [?]: #2 INAFATAHNA
 - 8/5/75 Kamardine reading the Lakima (from funeral)
- Box 18 Breslar SR 23, undated
 1 *Sound tape reel (3 in.)*
 [Audio](#)
 Sahalara
- Box 18 Breslar SR 24, 1975
 1 *Sound tape reel (4 in.)*
 [Audio: Breslar SR 24 side 1](#)
 [Audio: Breslar SR 24 side 2](#)
 - Track 1: 2 debas
 - 1 Aug 75
 - Half full
 - Track 2: Kuvetti [?]
 - 2 Aug 75
 - Full
- Box 18 Breslar SR 25 , 1975
 1 *Sound tape reel (4 in.)*
 [Audio: Breslar SR 25 side 1](#)

[Audio: Breslar SR 25 side 2](#)

- 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

Box 18

Breslar SR 26 , 1975
1 Sound tape reel (4 in.)[Audio: Breslar SR 26 side 1](#)[Audio: Breslar SR 26 side 2](#)

- Track 1 --Walima of Siragi 17 Oct 75
- Track 2 --(nothing)

Box 18

Breslar SR 27 , 1975
1 Sound tape reel (4 in.)[Audio: Breslar SR 27 side 1](#)[Audio: Breslar SR 27 side 2](#)

- 4 Nov 1975
- Daira of Charif --Track I
- Track II --empty

Box 18

Breslar SR 28 , 1975
1 Sound tape reel (4 in.)[Audio: Breslar SR 28 side 1](#)[Audio: Breslar SR 28 side 2](#)

- Track 1: 11 Nov. [1975] Mugala of Salimati Hamada
- Only ½ of Track 1
- Track 2: Empty

Box 18

Breslar SR 29 , 1975

[Audio: Breslar SR 29 side 1](#)[Audio: Breslar SR 29 side 2](#)

- Nov 15 [1975]
- I. Big Mulidi in Sada. Nearly full.

Box 18

Breslar SR 30 , 1976
1 Sound tape reel (4 in.)[Audio: Breslar SR 30 side 1](#)[Audio: Breslar SR 30 side 2](#)

- Conversations w/ Kamardine: Charifu
- Feb 13, 1976
- Track 1: full (2/3)
- Track 2: empty

See also #1

Box 18

Breslar SR 31 , undated
1 Sound tape reel (4 in.)

[Audio](#)

- Ali Issouf
- Track 1: Discourse of marriage by Kamardine . . . (Lousy band)
- Only ½ used
- (must rewind it first)

Box 18

Breslar SR 32, undated
1 Sound tape reel (4 in.)

[Audio: Breslar SR 32 side 1](#)

[Audio: Breslar SR 32 side 2](#)

Women's singing at Habibas

Box 18

Breslar SR 33 , undated
1 Sound tape reel (5 in.)

[Audio: Breslar SR 33 side 1](#)

[Audio: Breslar SR 33 side 2](#)

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

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