121*. i. Mayabic Pama Subgroup* ? Group?
(64) (Originally Mayapic Group)

The six Mayabic Gulf dialects that Sutton recognises as comprising the Mayabic Subgroup are here tentatively classified as the Mayabic Pama Subgroup on a suggestion from Sutton that they really comprise part of the Pama-Maric languages. He suggests the group may be a vital link in the linguistic chain connecting north Queensland with Western Desert languages. Wurm (1970) follows O'Grady et al by classifying only three dialects and these as the Mayapic Group. To these three, Sutton adds three more: Ngawun, Mayguduna and Maydhagurdi, the last originally classified as the Mitakudic Group.

Sutton has commenced a salvage study, correlating early sources (Curr, Roth etc), especially in those languages presumed extinct, with field data collected in 1970. He comments that most of the languages are intelligible to each other except 'end to end'. Breen has collected some material (see below) and Blake collected some Ngawun. Sutton, Blake and Breen have commenced joint salvage study. Results so far are available in manuscript.

If informants can be located, the dialects of this subgroup urgently require study as knowledge is still very scanty.

121.1a* Mayabi
(64.3) Conan Downs, Canobie, Cloncurry River area; midway between Flinders & Saxby Rivers (AC)

Mayabi (GB, AIAS), Mayapi (SAW, O'G, 'RLS'), Majabi (AC, orig. AIAS), Maijabi (T), Miappe (C)

Montague Curr in 'AR' (No. 94) not mentioned in 'RLS'. Sutton and Breen agree with Blake and Keen that it is almost certainly extinct, though Sutton was given the name of one possible speaker.

'aboriginal person': yagoyne (PS)

121.1b* Mayagulan *** Middle Norman, Yappar & Clara Rivers (AC)

G20 (AIAS G20)

G23 (AIAS G25)