

Native Land Waltz

Australia, NSW, Grafton

D G D A D

G D Bm G A D

D A Bm A G | 1 D Em A | 2 G A D

Rhythm: Waltz

Source: collected from Kath McCaughey
collected by Dave de Hugard, 1987

Notes: Australian National Library

Tune converted to abc by Ray Mulligan

History: "Hi Ray, I have known the tune that you sent for many years. I heard it from Clem O'Neale in the 1970s. He came from Ironbarks (now called Stewart Town). The tune came from his father (Hughie O'Neale) who was a shearer. He would bring back new tunes that he would play on his concertina after being 'up river' shearing. This variant of 'A Hut in My Own Native Land' has always been one of my favourites. The poetic model of the song I have located as you may be aware. ('A probable primary or secondary source of the tune for the 1st part of a number of Australian versions. It only has one part. This may account for interesting thing that many of the variants have different 2nd parts. I drew, partly unconsciously, on the tune ('Hughies') for a song 'Magpie Morning' ('By the Creek where the Tall Gum Trees Stand'). The interesting thing about the song ('A Hut in Our Own Native Land') is that it is a significant cultural statement of an Australian identity as distinct from lamenting or praising ones 'homeland' overseas, wherever that might have been. It arose out of the 'Free Selection Act' of 1861. All the best Dave de Hugard