

# Bayram Ali

## Large Print Guide

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Bayram Ali  
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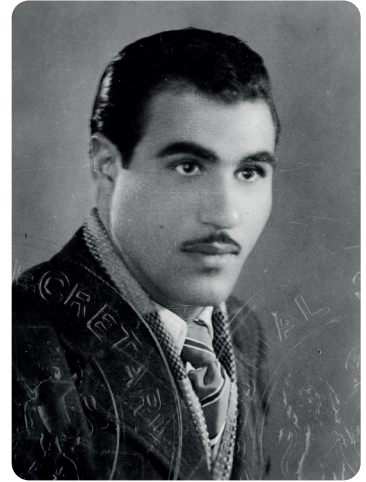
# Bayram Ali

These images were taken by Bayram Ali and are his remarkable personal record of daily life for those working on the Snowy Mountains Hydro-Electric Scheme in NSW from the mid-1950s to the early 1970s. The prints are from 35 mm transparencies, showing Cabramurra, Adaminaby Dam/Eucumbene Dam (now Lake Eucumbene), Talbingo Dam, Tooma Dam and other locations in the Snowy Mountains, NSW.

Bayram Ali, a Turkish Cypriot migrant and amateur photographer, was one of the 100,000 people employed on the Snowy Mountains Scheme between 1949 and 1974. He worked as a labourer, a laboratory labourer and a soil tester.

Two-thirds of the people who worked on the Scheme came from countries other than Australia, representing 32 nationalities. They were welcomed as part of a larger immigration program to boost Australia's population and overcome post-war labour shortages.

**Images from 97/149/1 Archive, photographic, Snowy Mountains Hydro-Electric Scheme, Bayram Ali, Australia, about 1953–1971**  
Gift of Shenay Avare, 1997



**Photograph of Bayram Ali from his British passport, Cyprus, issued 1946, renewed 1951.**

## **BAYRAM ALI (1920–1995)**

Born in Nicosia, Cyprus, to Turkish parents, Bayram Ali joined the British Army at age 15 and fought in World War II. Because he had served in the British Army, Ali could emigrate to a British colony. Arriving in Melbourne on 15 August 1949, he was one of more than 2 million post-war migrants to arrive in Australia between 1945 and 1965.

**Soldier's service and pay book belonging to Bayram Ali, Cyprus, 1944–1946**

**British passport belonging to Bayram Ali, Cyprus, issued 1946, renewed 1951**  
Gift of Shenay Avare, 1997

## **PHOTO ALBUM AND BLACK-AND-WHITE NEGATIVE FILM**

The prints in this album are from 35 mm black-and-white film. They show work at Eucumbene Dam and local social events between 1953 and 1958.

Bayram Ali used 35 mm and 120 medium format black-and-white negative film. The 120 film format was introduced by Kodak in 1901 for amateur photography but it was often used by professionals. It is most likely that Ali developed the film and printed these images himself.

**Bayram Ali's photograph album, Eucumbene Dam, paper, leather, Snowy Mountains, NSW, 1953–1958**

**35 mm black-and-white negatives, rolled in canister, belonging to Bayram Ali, film, metal, Snowy Mountains, NSW, 1955**

**Kodak Verichrome Pan 120 black-and-white negatives, rolled in Kodak box, belonging to Bayram Ali, film, cardboard, Snowy Mountains, NSW, 1957**  
Gift of Shenay Avare, 1997

## **CAMERA, SLIDES AND SLIDE HOLDER**

Bayram Ali's photographs are printed from his 35 mm (135) colour transparencies (slides). Ali used at least two cameras: one for 35 mm film and another for 120 film. This 35 mm camera from the 1950s is a type he may have used. This slide holder was used to store the 35 mm slides.

Photography became more accessible for the amateur photographer during the 1950s and 1960s. Cameras became lighter, cheaper and easier to use, and film became more adaptable.

**Colour photographic slides (126) in storage container, Hanimex slide set file and box film belonging to Bayram Ali**, film, metal, plastic, cardboard, Snowy Mountains, NSW, 1953–1970  
Gift of Shenay Avare, 1997

**'Contax' camera and case**, 35 mm, leather, metal, glass, plastic, Zeiss Ikon, Stuttgart, Germany, about 1955  
Gift of Mr Noble, 1984

## **WORKPLACE SAFETY**

The Snowy Mountains Hydro-Electric Authority and its contractors tried to prevent injuries to workers on the Scheme by improving safety practices. This is one of three safety certificates awarded to Bayram Ali.

Many of the work sites in the Scheme were dangerous. Some people laboured in the isolated high country, while others worked in tunnels. More than 120 people died and many more were injured during the 25 years of construction.

**Snowy Mountains Hydro-Electric Authority Production Safety Certificate of Merit, 15 March 1967, awarded to Bayram Ali**, paper, Snowy Mountains, NSW, 1967  
Gift of Shenay Avare, 1997

# **SNOWY MOUNTAINS SCHEME TOPOGRAPHICAL MODEL**

The Snowy Mountains Scheme is recognised as one of the great engineering feats of the modern world. It took 25 years to build seven power stations, 16 major dams, a pumping station and 225 km of tunnels, pipelines and aqueducts at a cost of \$820 million. This model was used to educate and promote the Scheme's achievements in providing water for irrigation and hydroelectricity.

**Topographic model, 'Snowy Mountains Scheme'**, plastic, Snowy Mountains Hydro-Electric Authority, Cooma, NSW, 1960–1965  
Gift of The Longworth Family, 1999