THE SURVIVAL OF A PACIFIC ISLANDER POPULATION IN NORTH QUEENSLAND, 1900-1940

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This thesis is all my own work.

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ABSTRACT

ONE OF the first Acts enacted by the Parliament of the new Commonwealth of Australia prohibited the recruitment of Pacific Islanders to work in Queensland from 1904. By 1908 the majority of these Islanders had been deported from Australia. The small number who remained, legally or illegally, were one of several non-European groups who served as reminders of 'white' Australia's multi-racial past.

This thesis draws on not only conventional historical sources but also oral evidence and local records to examine the survival, in demographic, economic, social and cultural respects, of a Pacific Islander population in North Queensland in the first four decades of the twentieth century. Like other non-indigenous non-European groups, these Islanders were subjected to a campaign, spearheaded by the labour movement, to exclude them from all favoured occupations and civic privileges. Despite and, indeed, as a result of such obstacles, they developed a sense of identity and community which marked them as a distinctive ethnic group. By 1940 the demographic and cultural survival of this Pacific Islander population was assured.
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ABBREVIATIONS

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AA</td>
<td>Australian Archives</td>
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<tr>
<td>ABR</td>
<td>Anglican Baptism Register</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABUR</td>
<td>Anglican Burial Register</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMR</td>
<td>Anglican Marriage Register</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASJ</td>
<td>Australian Sugar Journal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASPA</td>
<td>Australian Sugar Producers Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AWU</td>
<td>Australian Workers Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AYB</td>
<td>Anglican Year Book of the Diocese of North Queensland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BC</td>
<td>Brisbane Courier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BI</td>
<td>Bowen Independent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHP</td>
<td>Cairns Morning Post</td>
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<tr>
<td>CPD</td>
<td>Commonwealth Parliamentary Debates</td>
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<tr>
<td>CPP</td>
<td>Commonwealth Parliamentary Papers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CR</td>
<td>Cemetery Register</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSR</td>
<td>Colonial Sugar Refining Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DHRAR</td>
<td>District Hospital Admission Register</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MHR</td>
<td>Member of the House of Representatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLA</td>
<td>Member of the Legislative Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>MM</td>
<td>Mackay Mercury</td>
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<td>MMR</td>
<td>Methodist Marriage Register</td>
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<td>MPC</td>
<td>Mackay Police Court</td>
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<td>MS</td>
<td>Mackay Standard</td>
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<td>NC</td>
<td>Northern Churchman</td>
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<td>NOR</td>
<td>North Queensland Register</td>
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PBR Presbyterian Baptism Register
PDNR Port Douglas and Mossman Record
PDT Port Denison Times
PMR Presbyterian Marriage Register
Q Queensland
QGG Queensland Government Gazette
QLG Queensland Industrial Gazette
QPD Queensland Parliamentary Debates
QPP Queensland Parliamentary Papers
QSA Queensland State Archives
QVP Queensland Votes and Proceedings (known as Queensland Parliamentary Papers after 1902)
RSPS-PSEAH Research School of Pacific Studies - Pacific and South-East Asian History Department
RSSS-ANUA Research School of Social Sciences - Australian National University Archives of Business and Labour
SABUR Salvation Army Burial Register
SJTC Sugar Journal and Tropical Cultivator
SSAR State School Admission Register
TIBsa:1 Tape 1B, Black Oral History Collection, side a: part 1 (see Appendix A, n10)
TylBp.1 Typescript 1B, page 1 (see Appendix A, n10)
UCCA United Cane Growers' Association