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MS 5056

Moonahcullah ration books

1907-1920

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COLLECTION SUMMARY

Creator:	Police records from Deniliquin
Title:	Moonahcullah ration books
Collection no:	MS 5056
Date range:	1907-1917
Extent:	2 volumes, 1 small box
Repository:	Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies

CULTURAL SENSITIVITY STATEMENT

It is a condition of use of this finding aid, and of the collection described in it, that users ensure that any use of the information contained in it is sympathetic to the views and sensitivities of relevant Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

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Deceased persons

Users of this finding aid should be aware that, in some Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, seeing images of deceased persons in photographs, film and books or hearing them in recordings etc. may cause sadness or distress and in some cases, offend against strongly held cultural prohibitions.

ACCESS TO COLLECTION

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Preferred citation

Items from this collection should be cited as [Title or description of manuscript item], Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, MS [insert number], Series [insert number], Subseries [insert number], Item or Folder [insert number].

For example:

Moonahcullah ration books, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, MS 5056, Item 1

COLLECTION OVERVIEW

Scope and contents note

Two bound volumes, created by the Deniliquin Police, to record the issuing and disbursement of rations, clothing and blankets to Aborigines, 1907-1918, and other matters, such as a census carried out in 1920.

Provenance

The collection was borrowed from the Deniliquin Historical Society for the purpose of enabling AIATSIS to digitise and make a hard copy of the ration books. The original books have been returned to the Deniliquin Historical Society.

Material separated from the collection

No material has been separated from the collection.

Related material

For a complete list of works relating to Moonahcullah (or Moonacullah), held by the Library, and for other related material consult [Mura®](#), the AIATSIS catalogue.

For access to Audiovisual material contact AIATSIS [Collections](#).

Important: Before clicking on the links to the catalogue entries please read our [sensitivity message](#).

Other related material may be found by searching [Trove](#).

Archivists note

These items are a copy; they have been printed from the digitised version of the originals.

AIATSIS subject headings, place names and languages.

Subject headings:

Aboriginal Australians – Missions – New South Wales

Aboriginal Australians – Missions – New South Wales – Riverina – History

Religions – Christianity – Missions – Aborigines – Inland Mission

Demography – Census data

Social welfare – Rationing – Food

Social welfare – Rationing – Blankets and clothing

Government policy – Initial period and protectionism – 1901-1925

Government policy – State and territory – New South Wales

History – Genealogy and family history

Places

Moonacullah (SW NSW S155-13)

Deniliquin (SW NSW S155-13)

Cobram (N Vic S155-14)

Barham (SW NSW S155-13)

MS 5056 Moonahcullah ration books

Other places mentioned in the books

Calimo and Calimo Mission, Bundyulumbra or Bundyulumbrah, Talcook, Puckawidgee, Barratta and Barralta (Spelling is found both ways in the books, and other spelling may not be accurate due to the difficulty in deciphering the writing)

Language or people

Wemba Wemba / Wamba Wamba language (D1) (Vic, NSW S154-16)

Baraba Baraba language (D5) (NSW S155-13)

BACKGROUND NOTE

Moonahcullah (Moonacullah) was located approximately 40 kilometres North West of Deniliquin, on the Edward River, in NSW. The reserve was located in the Parish of Colimo in the County of Townsend. Some sources have the Reserve dating from 1896 to 1962, and the Station dating from 1919 to 1952. Two land parcels were set aside at Moonahcullah as Aboriginal reserves, one parcel of 245 acres was gazetted in 1916 and partly revoked in 1964, the other was gazetted in 1898 and was for a cemetery. Moonahcullah operated as a government run Aboriginal reserve administered by the Aborigines Inland Mission (AIM). The Mission school was established in 1911.

Talcook and Calimo were two of 34 pastoral estates that were subdivided in relation to the extension of the Victorian railways into NSW along the Balranald line. (*The Border Railways Act 1922 – Schedule 1*, 14 Sept 1922). Calimo was subdivided into 6 farms, and Talcook subdivided into 3 farms. (*The Argus*, 24 Mar 1928, p. 18).

Puckawidgee was a property in the County of Townsend NSW, and according to the *Riverine Grazier*, Fri 3 Aug 1917, p. 2, it was located about 55 miles S.E. of Hay and adjoined Steam Plains and Boonoke, and was situated in the heart of the Riverina ram breeding areas. *The Queanbeyan Age*, Wed 17 Aug 1887, p. 2 has an article titled 'Shearers strike at Puckawidgee', which indicates the homestead was established well before the date range of these Police ration books.

References:

Aboriginal Education Board of Studies NSW 2012, *Timeline 1900-1966*, New South Wales Government, viewed 9 March 2016, <<http://ab-ed.bostes.nsw.edu.au/go/aboriginal-studies/timeline/timeline-1900-1966?ref=driverlayer.com>>

Atkinson, Stephen, Andrews, Matt. *We want to walk with you: Australia's untold story of black and white partnerships*, 2014, viewed 4 March 2016
<<http://towalkwithyou.com/moonahcullah/>>

BORDER RAILWAYS ACT 1922 - SCHEDULE 1

http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/nsw/consol_act/bra1922177/sch1.html

Grant, E.J. *Walking with time: the story of the Wakool country*, Abacada Press, Melbourne, 1970.

Kabaila, Peter 1998, *Wiradjuri places: the Macquarie River basin: and some places revisited*, vol. 3, Black Mountain Projects, Jamison Centre, ACT.

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MS 5056 Moonahcullah ration books

DESCRIPTION

Abbreviations: Ts = Typescript ; pp. = pages ; p. = page

- MS 5056/1** Ration book (untitled, Police record), MS., 55p., indexed, bound. Includes:
- Return of rations: 31 Mar 1907 - 31 Mar 1908, pp. 31-35.
 - Receipt and disbursement of Aborigines blankets. 15 Feb 1909 – 22 May 1918, pp. 39-52. Places named include: Calimo, Calimo Mission, Cobram, Bundyulumbbla or Bundyulumbalah, Moonahcullah, Barham, Talcook (?), Deniliquin, Barratta, and Puckawidgee (Homestead)
 - Aborigines census 1920, pp. 55-57
 - Receipt and disbursement of Aborigines clothing: 25 March 1909 – 11 Oct 1917, pp. 189-199
 - Aliens registration – Change of abode – Record of particulars: 16 Oct 1916, p. 260
 - Return of blankets issued to Aborigines at Deniliquin: 20 Mar 1906 – 14 Oct 1908, pp. 372-378. Places: Calimo (sometimes written as Colimo), Deniliquin, Cobram, Barratta (sometimes written as Barralta), and Puckawidgee
 - Additional notes including, Receipt of bales of blankets, Mar 1917, Ts., 1p.
- MS 5056/2** Record of rations supplied to Aborigines at Moonahcullah, 1 Apr 1910 – 30 Jun 1916, 52 pp., bound.

BOX LIST

Item	Box
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Finding aid compiled by Cathy Zdanowicz. March 2016.