



Rewriting the history of the Native Mounted Police in Queensland

Lynley Wallis, Noelene Cole, Bryce Barker, Heather Burke, Kelsey Lowe, Iain Davidson and Elizabeth Hatte



WARNING: The following presentation contains images of deceased persons.



Cape Mounted Rifles under Captain Carey charging the enemy at Waterkloof on 14 October 1851 during the 8th Frontier War (from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cape_Mounted_Riflemen#/media/File:CAPE_MOUNTED_RIFLES_IN_8TH_FRONTIER_WAR.jpg)



- ◆ Malay and Kaffir Corps in Ceylon (Sri Lanka)
- ◆ Corps Bastard Hottentotten (South Africa)
- ◆ Pandour Corps and Cape Regiment in the Cape Colony (South Africa)
- ◆ Native units in India
- ◆ Canada's North West Mounted Police



NMP camps from QLD Heritage Register

- No sites



Google earth

NMP camps from QLD Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Database

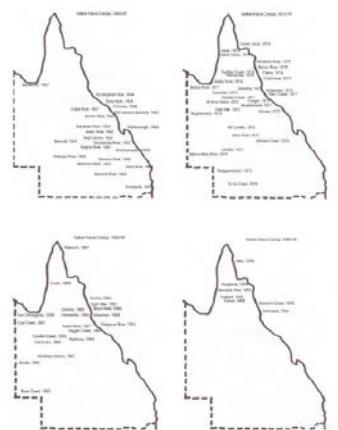
- 12 sites



Google earth

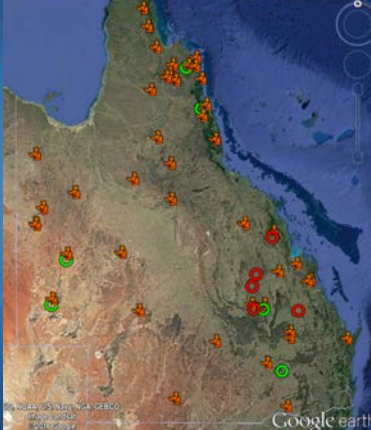
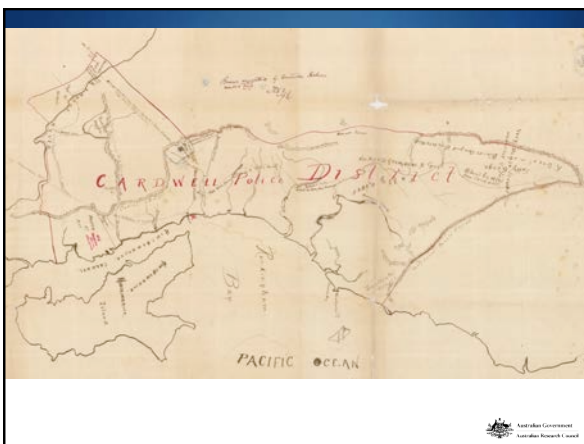
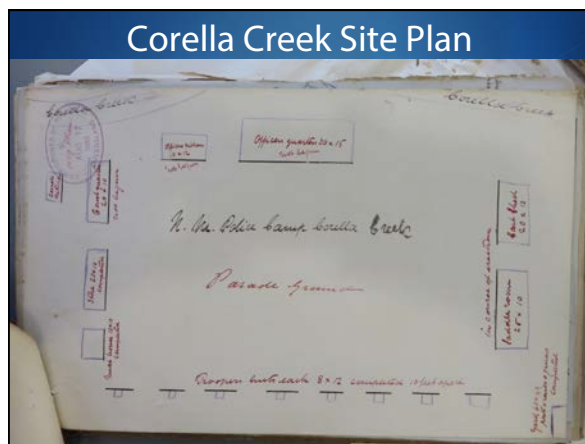
NMP camps from Richards (2008)

- 78 sites



NMP camps from our research

- >150 sites
- 43 with good spatial data

Longevity of NMP camps

- ◆ Laura, Cooktown/Endeavour River – 30 years
- ◆ Kirtleton – 24 years
- ◆ Herberton/Nigger Creek [sic] – 23 years
- ◆ Turn Off Lagoon – 20 years
- ◆ Burketown/Norman River – 16 years
- ◆ Tambo/Barcoo River – 16 years
- ◆ Yo Yo Creek – 15 years
- ◆ Dunrobin/Georgetown – 14 years
- ◆ Oak Park – 10 years

Baan Bero Police Reserve



Large clearings in otherwise heavily wooded areas

Stone fireplaces



Landsat Government
Landscape Research Centre

Unknown Stone Features



Stone Building at Boulia



Buildings at NMP camps



Lower Laura (i.e. Borlga) (QSL Neg No 66439)



Borlga, c.1884 (PM0634)



'Mesopotamia' NMP camp, Lower Herbert (Hinchinbrook Shire Library)



Lower Herbert River c.1882 (QSL Neg No 156880)

Landsat Government
Landscape Research Centre



Acknowledgements

- Mandandanji Cultural Heritage Services, especially Lorraine Tomlinson and Lane Brooks
- Rinyirru Aboriginal Corporation, Rinyirru (Lakefield) National Park (CYPAL), the Rinyirru Rangers, the Laura Rangers, and Qld DEHP and DNPSR
- Normanby Aboriginal Corporation and Balnggarwarra Rangers
- Muluridji Tribal Aboriginal Corporation
- Alf Nathan
- Mitakoodi Native Title claimants
- The Australian Research Council
- Col McLennan (Jangga Elder)
- Staff at the Queensland State Archives and John Oxley Library
- Jonathan Richards, Lyndall Ryan, Isabel Tarrago, Steve Nichols, John Scivo, Isabelle Tony Kelly and Dave Cameron
- Leanne Bateman, Alyssa Madden, Ryan Taddeucci and Uri Gilad

