

Wikimedia Australia's partnership with Alice Springs Public Library

Adding Central Australian Historical Images to Wikimedia Commons

Alice Woods & Belinda Spry
[User:Aliceinthealice & User:BindiS]
alice.woods@wikimedia.org.au
belinda.spry@wikimedia.org.au



WIKIMEDIA ESEAP CONFERENCE
KOTA KINABALU 2024
COLLABORATION BEYOND THE HORIZON

Where it started

WikiClub NT

Wikimedia Australia has a long history in supporting content being added to Wikipedia about the Northern Territory.

The Northern Territory is poorly represented on Wikipedia and, when the project started in 2019 there were only 1,700 pages relating to the NT compared to more than 10,000 on Western Australia.



Alice Springs (Mparntwe) and the Alice Springs Public Library



Tenniscourtisland, CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons



Aliceinthealice, CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons

Cultural sensitivity

All images including Australian First Nations content need to be assessed for their cultural sensitivity, This was viewed as best practice and is now viewed as essential within the GLAM sector in Australia.

Many of the images within this collection depicted First Nations people and/or content and risked showing content that was culturally sensitive. Some also included confronting content.



Colleen Powell, Braydon Kanjira and Alice Woods

Guidelines for First Nations Collection Description

These are:

- National guidelines
- A primary aim is making collections more discoverable
- Make library catalogues (and in our case Wikimedia Commons) safe
- Enable diverse communities to see themselves represented
- The usage of this guideline also means using various tools that are at our disposal

<https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-3250767341/view>



First Nations Resources

First Nations Resources

Wikimedia Australia is committed to overcoming biases present on Wikimedia platforms and making it an equitable and safe place for everyone. We are prioritising deeper engagement with Australian First Nations communities to explore how the development of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander content can be supported. We also want to look at how First Nations contributors can be better supported to engage with Wikimedia platforms and activities in a self-determined, culturally safe and appropriate way.

For more information about this and the research that has been done please see this discussion paper - [Wikimedia Australia and First Nations metadata: ATSILIRN Protocols for description and access, 2023](#)

https://wikimedia.org.au/wiki/First_Nations_Resources

Adding the images to Commons

- All images were uploaded using PattyPan software in a Wikimedia Commons account created for the Alice Springs Public Library.
- All images sit under the institution “Alice Springs Public Library” and the category “Central Australian Historical Images”.
- Procedures on using PattyPan and the standardised fields have been created and shared with the Alice Springs Public Library staff.



Rickerto - Own work,
CC BY-SA 4.0

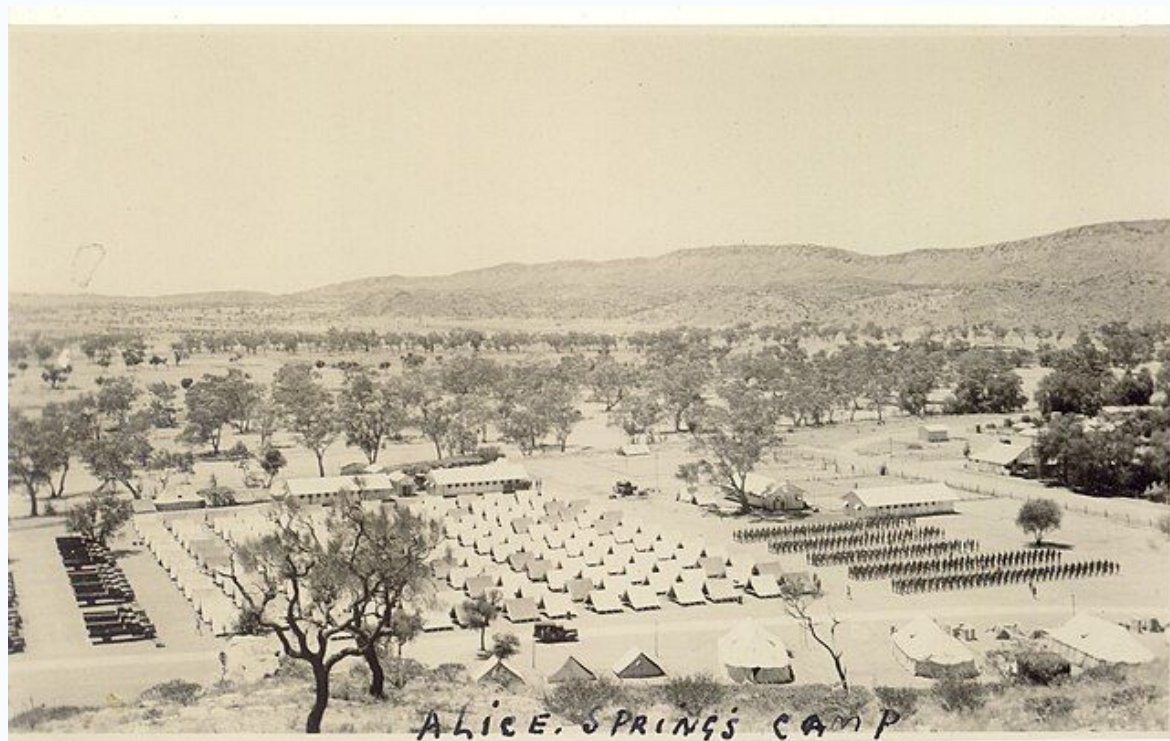
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Commons:Pattypan>

The Donald and Isabel Dowling Collection

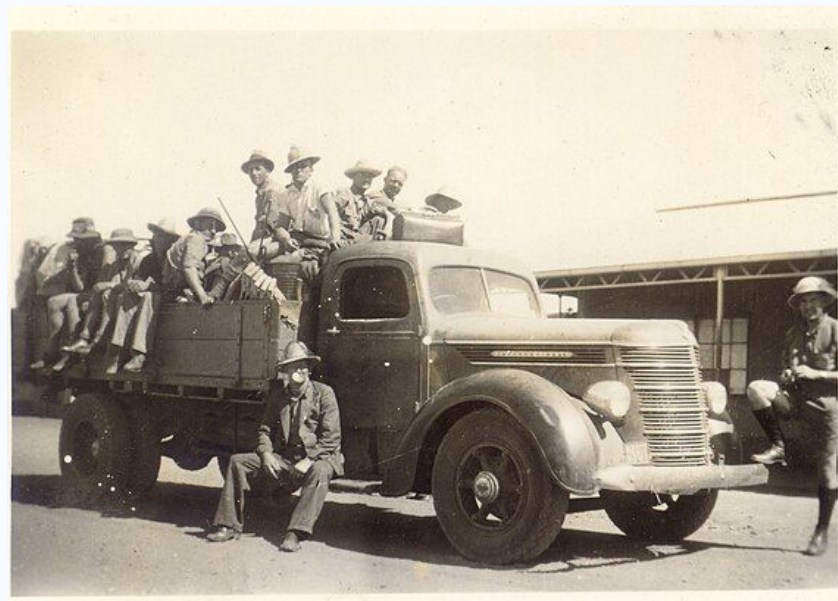
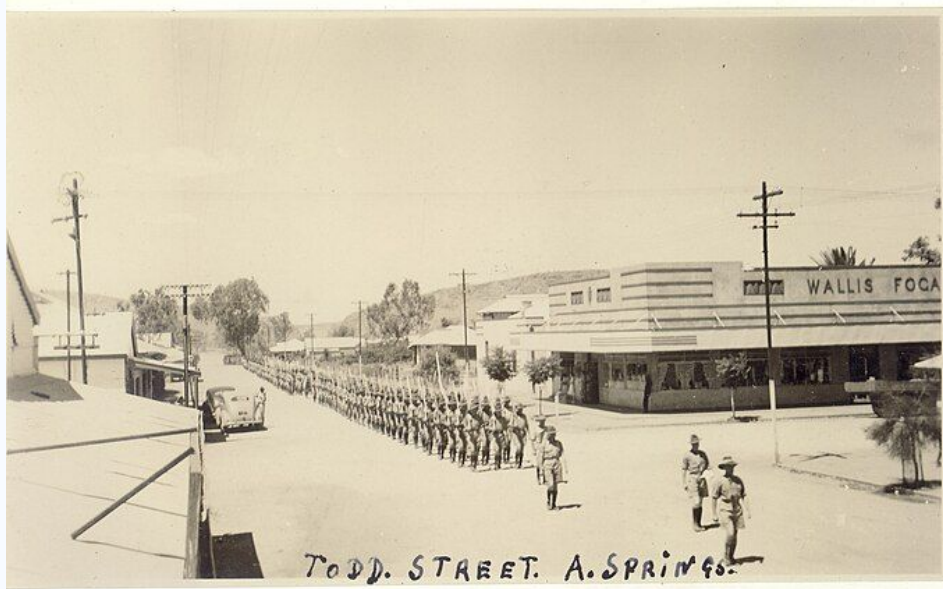
The first collection added to Wikimedia Commons was the Donald and Isabel Dowling Collection.

These images captured the transformative impact of World War II on Alice Springs.

There are 241 images within this collection



The Donald and Isabel Dowling Collection



Her Majesty's Gaol and Labour Prison, Alice Springs

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From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Coordinates: 23.7031°S 133.8770°E﻿ / ﻿23.7031°S 133.8770°E﻿ / -23.7031; 133.8770﻿ / -23.7031; 133.8770

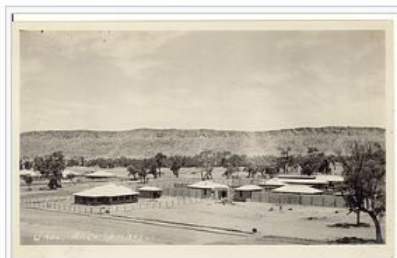
Her Majesty's Gaol and Labour Prison was a government run prison in [Alice Springs](#) in the [Northern Territory](#) which operated between 1938 and 1996. It was preceded by [Stuart Town Gaol](#) and replaced by the still operating [Alice Springs Correctional Centre](#).^[1]

It is now the location of the [Women's Museum of Australia](#).^[2]

History [[edit](#)]

Builders began work on the gaol in 1936 and was the replacement for the, significantly smaller, [Stuart Town Gaol](#) and it was designed by CE Davies who displayed an understanding of arid zone principles.^[3] It was opened in November 1938 and housed men and women; until 1964 male prisoners were segregated by race. The gaol was originally designed to house 22 prisoners and prisoners sentenced to longer sentences were regularly transferred to [Fannie Bay Gaol](#) or prisons in [South Australia](#).^[1]

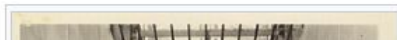
The first Warden, also called Keeper, of the gaol was Philip Francis (Phil) Muldoon who was a long serving Northern Territory police officer; he was appointed by the then Administrator [Aubrey Abbott](#).^[4] He worked there alongside his wife, Bertilla Muldoon, who was the de facto (unpaid) matron and also cared for the female prisoners.^[5] During the Muldoons' management, the gaol was neatly maintained with substantial vegetable, fruit and flower gardens. It also had an ant-bed tennis court constructed by Phil Muldoon.^[6]



The gaol soon after construction, as seen from Billy Goat Hill, Alice Springs, c 1938



The main cell block, c 1938



The Anton Faymann Collection

The second collection added was the Anton Faymann Collection .

Anton was a Austrian traveller who spent time living and working in Alice Springs (Mparntwe) between 1957 and 1958.

There are 81 images in this collection.



Work on the Stuart Highway (south of Alice), Northern Territory Public Works Department

The Anton Faymann Collection



The survey team on fieldwork

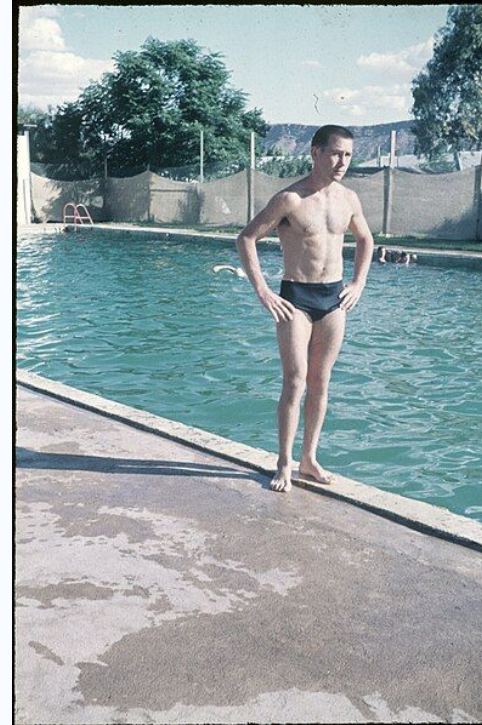


Aboriginal boys, they always hung around for someone to buy them an ice cream

The Anton Faymann Collection



Street boxing (challenge) on a Sunday/Holiday



Anton Faymann himself

Pitchi Richi Sanctuary

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From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Coordinates:  23°43′49″S 133°51′59″E﻿ / ﻿

Pitchi Richi Sanctuary, located approximately 4 km south of the [Alice Springs](#) town centre, is a heritage listed, and now closed, tourist attraction. It was established in the early 1950s by Leo Corbet. The sanctuary is most famous for its collection of works by [William Ricketts](#); it is the largest known collection outside of Ricketts' own sanctuary in the Dandenongs in Victoria.^[1]

It is Alice Springs' first man-made tourist attraction. The sanctuary was named one of the region's four "must-see" attractions during the 1960s.^[1]

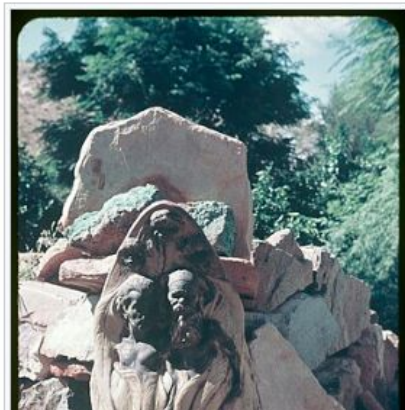
Background [\[edit \]](#)

The Pitchi Richi Sanctuary, just south of [Heavitree Gap](#), is set on 12 acres (4.9 ha) of land that were purchased by Leo Corbet in 1955 following the death of [Charles 'Pop' Chapman](#), an eccentric Alice Springs legend, who had named the property 'The Pearly Gates'. It is not known exactly when Corbet changed the name to Pitchi Richi but he told a friend "the Pearly Gates might seem a bit presumptuous coming from me".^[2] The name Pitchi Richi is (loosely) derived from the [Arrernte language](#) and it is said to mean "come and look"^[2] and also "gap in the range".^[3] William Ricketts, a close friend of Corbet's, built a kiln on the site shortly after it was purchased and his sculptures were displayed from the time that the sanctuary opened.

Corbet planned for the sanctuary to be a kind of open air museum and he travelled extensively to collect [Centralian](#) memorabilia. It is said that his easy charm opened many doors for him, and many



Sculptures at Pitchi Richi Sanctuary 
in 1957-1958



Friedrich Wilhelm Albrecht

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Article Talk

Read Edit View history ★

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Friedrich Wilhelm Albrecht MBE (15 October 1894 – 16 March 1984) was a Lutheran missionary and pastor who was the superintendent at Hermannsburg Mission in Central Australia from 1926 to 1952 where he made a significant contribution.^[1]

Early life [edit]

Albrecht was born on 15 October 1894 at Plawanice in Poland to Ferdinand and Helene Albrecht and is the eldest of there 10 children. Albrecht initially attended the local village school before he moved to study and live at the Hermannsburg Mission in Germany in 1913 and he graduated in 1924.^[2]

World War I did interrupt his studies and, due to a childhood injury making him lame in one leg, Albrecht served in the German medical corps on the Russian front. He was awarded an Iron Cross for tending wounded soldiers when under fire.^[1]

After completing his studies he received a call to work at Hermannsburg Mission, 125 km (78 mi) from Alice Springs, but before he could begin he received English tuition in the United States. Minna Maria Margaretha Gevers, who Albrecht met in Germany, followed him there and they married in Winnipeg, Canada on 14 September 1925. Following their marriage they sailed to Sydney where they arrived on 18 October 1925 before immediately travelling to South Australia.^[1]

Friedrich Wilhelm Albrecht

MBE



Albrecht (centre) at a service at the Alice Springs Lutheran Church in 1957 or 1958

Born	15 October 1894 Plawanice, Poland
Died	16 March 1984 (aged 89) Fullarton, South Australia, Australia
Burial place	Centennial Park Cemetery, Pasadena, South Australia
Education	 Hermannsburg Mission, Germany
Occupation	Lutheran missionary

Statistics



Month	Views	Wikipedia Pages Using
December 2023	87,810	25
January 2024	111,090	28
February	111,738	28
March	185,420	49
April	123, 466	49

<https://glamtools.toolforge.org/glammorgan.html>

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Central_Australian_Historical_Images

Next steps and outcomes

- Already trained Alice Springs library staff in GLAMorgan tool to measure views <https://glamtools.toolforge.org/glammorgan.html>
- Train Alice Springs library staff to use Pattypan with a small collection of less than 20 images
- Train the staff to add images to Wikipedia articles
- Continue sharing usage statistics for their reporting
- Alice Springs library staff are thrilled that the images are available online and they are being viewed, so they are interested and committed to continuing to upload images
- The images are no longer locked in a Library back room but are accessible to the world!

Questions?

Thanks from
Alice and Belinda

