

Empire and Extinction: the Tasmanian Indians 1800-1876



Here it is

For reference only. Map is not up to scale

Themes

- Founding of Australia
- The death of William Lanney
- Violence of Contact
- Killing through Kindness
- Ideology of Racial Extinction

Founding of Australia

- Convicts to Botany Bay 1788
- Terra Nullis
- Contact with native peoples
- 160k emigrants, free and convict over 100 years.
- Tasmanian Indians
 - 1800: 4k
 - 1876 0

The Death of William Lanney

- March 3, 1869, the death of last Tasmanian man
- Lanney as a medical specimen
- The struggle over his body
- 1876, Truginni, the last Tasmanian woman, and lover of George Robinson (of whom more later) died.

Violence of Contact

- The Risdon Massacre 3 May 1804
- Culture of the Tasmanian Indians
- Lack of sense of private property
- Seal hunters
- 1826-31 the Black War

Killing through Kindness

- The Black Line 1830
- 200 Indians collected
- Appointment of Protector George Robinson
- Supervised living, christianity, domesticity



Killing through Kindness

- The results:
 - By 1840 59 died
 - By 1847 another 90 died; 47 left.

Disease

Cultural deprivation

Social dislocation

Ideology of Racial Extinction

- Darwinian notions of survival of the fittest
- Justifies the extinction of the Tasmanian Indians as process of natural selection

Conclusion

- Treatment of William Lanney no aberration.
- The irony of survival