

The Australian Women's Register

Entry type: Person
Entry ID: AWE1070

Perkins, Hetty

(1905 - 1979)

Nationality Australian

Born 1 January, 1905, Northern Territory Australia

Died 1 December, 1979, Australia

Summary

Hetty Perkins was an Aranda woman from Central Australia. From the age of 14 she worked as a kitchen-hand at a hotel in Arltunga, and rode out mustering and watering cattle for the hotel owner. She had eleven children, and her son Charles Perkins became the first Aboriginal person to hold a senior public service appointment. Hetty worked on a cattle station for some time before moving to Alice Springs to work as a nursemaid in a European family. She later lived on Telegraph Station near Alice Springs, and worked in Alice Springs as a cook. Later, she moved to Jay Creek Settlement. She looked after many children as well as her own, and urged Aboriginal children to keep out of trouble.

Published resources

Resource Section

Perkins, Hetty (1895-1979), Read, Peter, 2006,
<http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/biogs/A150692b.htm>

Edited Book

200 Australian Women: A Redress Anthology, Radi, Heather, 1988

Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Author Details

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Created 21 September 2004

Last modified 21 August 2015