



Training the native nurses: so what went wrong? – An Australian context

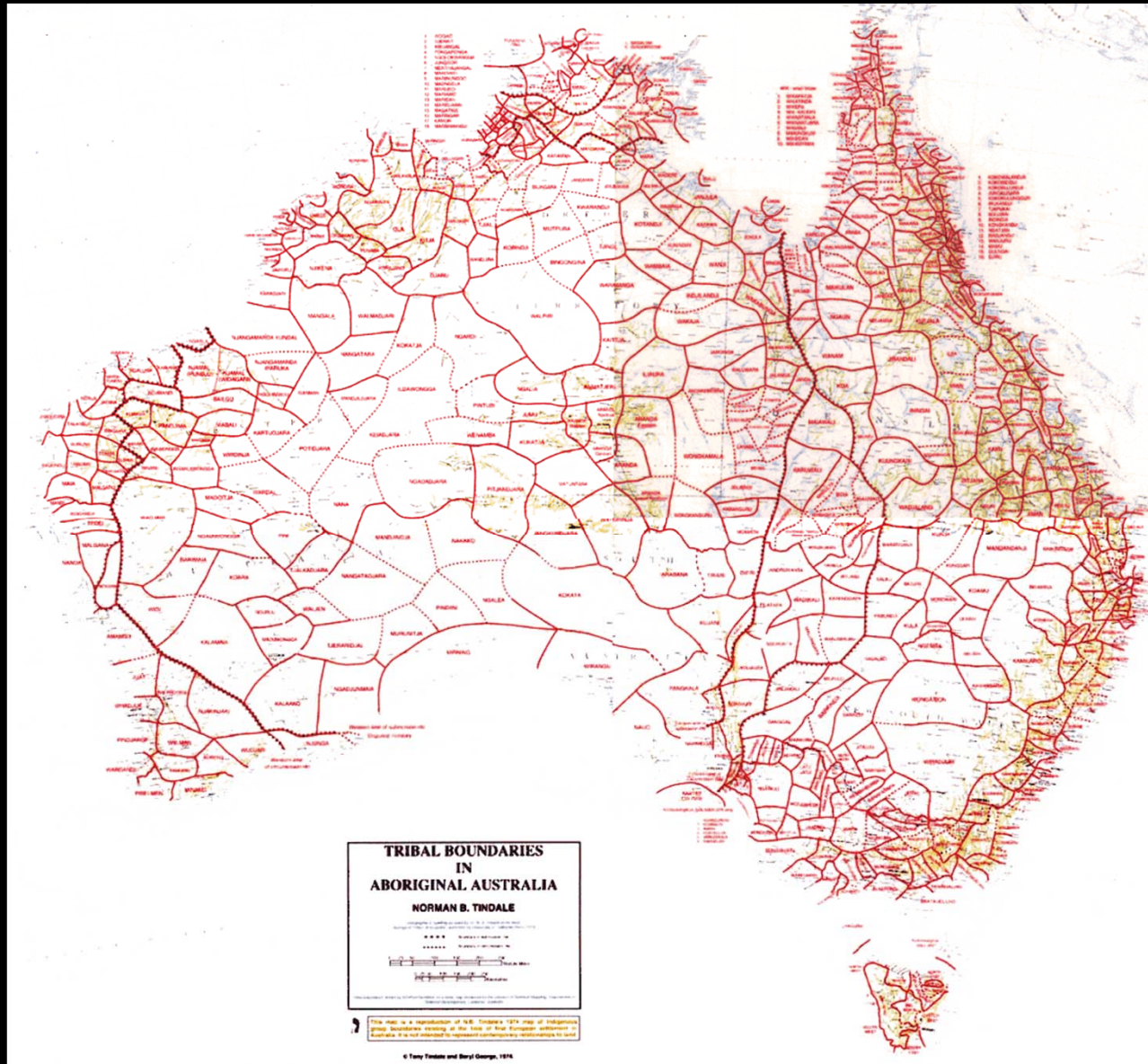
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Indigenous Australian tribal boundaries



Australian nursing history

- Regulated nursing and midwifery in Australia is just over 120 years old
- Skilled western trained nurses arrived in 1838
- 6 Florence Nightingale nurses arrived in 1868
- Systems of training commenced shortly after this
- The Australasian Trained Nurses Association (ATNA) was formed in 1899

The administration of Indigenous Australians

Queensland Aboriginal peoples have lived under numerous government policies since invasion in 1788

Official and unofficial policies can be divided into six phases:

1. British invasion and settlement 1770–1824
2. Occupation and extermination 1824–1908
3. Protection and segregation 1873–1957
4. Assimilation 1957–1980
5. Self-determination 1980
6. Northern Territory Intervention 2007

Protection and segregation

In 1897, the Aboriginal and Protection and Restriction of the Sale of Opium Act was passed, authorising the removal of Aboriginal people to reserves.

Many Indigenous Australians refer to this time as being under the ACT.

Aboriginal Chief Protector



Aboriginal people lost British legal status and became wards of the state.

Superintendent's House



Half-Castes' Dormitory



Full-bloods' Camp



Tindale



Rushcliffe: report of the committee on the training of nurses for the Colonies

1. The training of nurses in the United Kingdom and the Dominions for services in the Colonial territories, and
2. The training given in the colonies to the Indigenous nurses.



Nursing in 1940's advertisement

Aboriginal nurse aides



Indigenous nurses and midwives



Muriel Stanley
1940s



Mawn Young
1950s



Ellie Gaffney
1950s



**Lowitja
O'Donoghue**
1950s



Allison Bush
1950s



May Yarrowick
1906

Findings and Conclusion

1. Darwinism
2. Australian Dominionship
3. Acts of Parliament
4. Lack of Aboriginal critical mass

References

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