

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN Legacies of British Slavery



'Aboriginal bathing gang', 'The Aborigines question', *The Western Mail*, illustrated supplement, 18 February 1905, p. 24.

Western Australian Legacies of British Slavery explores links between slavery in the British Empire and settler colonialism by tracing the movement of capital, people and culture from slave-owning Britain to Western Australia (WA).

ABOUT THE PROJECT

This project examines the importance of the legacy of British slavery for the colonisation of Western Australia, and the reasons why this history has been overlooked. In August 1833 British Parliament abolished slavery in the British Caribbean, Mauritius and the Cape when it passed the 'Act for the abolition of slavery throughout the British Colonies, for promoting the industry of manumitted slaves, and for compensating the persons hitherto entitled to the services of such slaves.' While this momentous event has continued to be celebrated, it is often forgotten that many of those who benefited from slavery had ties to other parts of the British Empire, including the settler colonies of Australia, Canada and South Africa.

Our team aims to trace the movement of people, goods, capital, and practices from the Caribbean to the newly-established colony of Western Australia. We are working in collaboration with the National Centre of Biography, the Australian National Maritime Museum (ANMM), and the Centre for the Study of the Legacies of British Slave-ownership at University College London. The project will research Western Australian colonists and their networks, contributing to the Australian Dictionary of Biography, the People Australia database, and an exhibition at the ANMM.

Hosted by the University of Western Australia.
Australian Research Council Discovery Project DP200100094.

Email: legaciesslavery@uwa.edu.au

Website: <https://australian-legacies-slavery.org>

PROJECT TEAM



Jane Lydon, Chief Investigator
Wesfarmers Chair of Australian History,
University of Western Australia



Catherine Hall, Partner Investigator
Emerita Professor,
University College London



Paul Arthur, Chief Investigator
Vice-Chancellor's Professorial Research
Fellow, Edith Cowan University



Keith McClelland, Partner Investigator
University College London



Jeremy Martens, Chief Investigator
Senior Lecturer History,
University of Western Australia



Alan Lester, Partner Investigator
Professor of Historical Geography,
University of Sussex



Zoë Laidlaw, Chief Investigator
Professor of History,
University of Melbourne



Georgina Arnott, Postdoctoral Research Associate
History, University of Melbourne