Descendants of Maggie

Carrie Blurton was living at Mulga Downs in 1922 (see Day 2008).¹ Wobby Parker says that Carrie was a Banyjima woman and closely related to him.² She later moved to Mount Florance and married Jack Andrews. Jack Andrews was the son of a woman named Alice alias Gubarranga.³ Stuart Ingie says that Alice was a Banyjima woman who also had a son, Toby Andrews, to station owner Richard Bullock Andrews. According to Stuart Ingie, Alice died in about 1944 ‘when Joyce [Stuart’s mother] had two children’.

Hodson (1994) notes ‘[Joyce Injie]’s mother was Kurama and her biological father is said to be unknown. She was brought up from early childhood by her mother’s Panjima husband, Toby Andrews.’ Toby was born on Mount Florance and was the brother of Jack Andrews.⁴ In Noel Olive’s book, Joyce says: ‘My father’s whitefella name was Toby and his name was Divin. His father’s tribe was Yindjibarndi and his grandmother was Punjima’ (Olive 1997:65). The family tree of the Andrews and Carey family reveals the intermarriage of Injibandi and Banyjima typical of Fortescue Banyjima people. Note: The Injie family follow their Innawonga ancestors.

The record suggests the descendants of Carrie have Fortescue Banyjima ancestry through both Carrie and her spouse, Jack Andrews. Carrie’s mother Maggie was born in about 1885. Little is known about her. Maggie’s genealogy through her daughter Carrie includes the Simmons, Mowarin and Carey families, as well as the family of Trevor Parker, the son of Herbert Parker’s wife from her first marriage to Richard Simmons (see Olive 1997:42). Maggie’s descendants on the Simmons and Carey side who identify as Fortescue Banyjima are accepted as fully participating Martuidja Banyjima claimants.

Under a sub-heading, ‘Quadroons at Mulga Downs,’ a report lists, ‘Humpy - male, born Feb. 14th, 1923. He is the child of half-caste Carrie and lives with her in native camp. Father unknown.’⁵ Other documents reveal that the boy was named Richard after the

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¹ List of half castes in Tableland Police Sub-district Police report 5418/22. Mulga Downs (Hancock and Wittenoom)
² ‘Carrie - Female, age about 17, white father, lives in native camp, single, uneducated, is employed in manager’s house.’
³ Personal communication, Wobby Parker.
⁴ Personal communication, Stuart Ingie.
⁵ List of half castes in Tableland Police Sub-district Police report 5418/22. Mulga Downs (Hancock and Wittenoom)
father, Richard Simmons, a 50-year old carrier who carted the wool the 220 miles into Point Samson and returned to the station every six months (see Day 2008). The child Richard Simmons was removed in 1937 (Day 2008) but later returned to an arranged marriage to Ivy, who was later to marry Herbert Parker (Olive 1997:41-45), further strengthening the relationships between the descendants of Carey and the Parkers.

In summary, Carrie was born on Mulga Downs in about 1905. In 1923 she had a child, Richard, to a white station worker named Richard Simmons. Carrie moved to Mount Florance to live with Jack Andrews. Jack and Carrie’s children, Fred and Amy, were removed to the south and given the surname Carey (Day 2008). Carey’s son Richard returned to the Pilbara and married Ivy, the mother of Trevor Parker and later the children of Herbert Parker. Fred and Amy also returned to the Pilbara and had families. They can trace Banyjima ancestry through Carey and also through Jack Andrews. Carey’s son Richard is the father of Trevor who is also the step son of Herbert Parker and recognised as the senior authority in Wardilba law, inherited from his step father.

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6 Native Welfare file Carey, Fred, 1014/46