

Detriment to other Aborigines

Aboriginal groups, apart from the traditional owners, who have an interest in the claim area do not stand to lose anything if the claim is granted. These groups already use the claim area with the permission of the traditional owners and this would continue.

Many Aborigines in and near the claim area have close family and other\* ties with the traditional owners. Aborigines of groups other than the traditional owners have been vested with responsibilities for the claim area by the traditional owners. These people are inextricably linked with the traditional owners and the claim area, so it is to their advantage, and not their detriment, that the claim be granted.

On the whole, neighbouring groups of Aborigines enjoy good relations with the traditional owners and there have been no disagreements among Aborigines in the region about the traditional ownership of the claim area.

At the outset of field work the researchers visited the following communities:

- Ten Mile town camp
- Tree Point community
- Humpty Doo (Wairuk Community Association)
- Kalalak
- One Mile Dam settlement
- Bagot Community
- Adelaide River town camps
- Balgall outstation
- Flagon Creek outstation
- Berry Springs town camp

Aboriginal residents of these communities were told about the

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\* Refer to chapter two (section on "Mixing"), and chapter four (section on "Relations with neighbours").

claim and asked if they had any interest in the claim or had anything to say about it. Where they did, we have reported it here, but danggalaba clan ownership was never disputed.

During the field work the researchers spoke with people who identify as Wadjiginy, Ami, Manda, Kiuk, Gungaragany, Warai, Minidja, Wulna, Maranunggu, Brinken and Malak Malak. All Aborigines we have spoken to have been unanimous that the claim area is Larrakia land.

We have also contacted as many people of Aboriginal descent as possible who may have an interest in the claim. Because of the circumstances of their past it is impossible to locate all of these people in the time available. However we have publicised this report widely in the Darwin area, and requested those who feel they have an interest to make themselves known to us, so that we may record the basis of their interest.

#### Other interests

It is not the case that claimants want to bar access to the claim area to all non-Aborigines. Rather they wish to negotiate with all interested over terms to regulate and control access. They accept that Darwin residents look to places near the town for various purposes. As land-holders they could be approached and talked to about such needs. Many interests, indeed, are shared by all people in the area. Conservationists, like Aborigines, are anxious to see the environment protected. Tourists, too, share this interest and Darwin residents, for weekend vacations, require unspoiled areas close at hand.

The Cox Peninsula and islands have been part of local history since recorded history in the Darwin area began. Even older, of course, are the local Aboriginal traditions. Both these strands - Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal - are relevant to people now living in the area.