

Social History Cards – Palm Island

1935 – 1980

URL: <https://www.archivessearch.qld.gov.au/series/S131>

To access these records:

Please contact Queensland State Archives:

Postal Address: PO Box 1397, Sunnybank Hills QLD 4109

Phone: (07) 3037 6777

Email: info@archives.qld.gov.au

Reference Number

Website: <https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/arts/heritage/archives/contacts>

Quote this number to access your records: Queensland State Archives Series ID, S131

Records Location

These records are held by [Queensland State Archives](#)

Details

This series contains 5594 cards recording personal details about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living on Palm Island. The purpose of the Social History Cards was to record details of applications or approvals for social security benefits. The cards often contain information about a person's family and marital relationships, including information about the person's children and their movements for the purposes of child endowment payments.

Access Conditions

Access to these records is restricted for 100 years in order to protect personal privacy. To apply for access to these records please contact Queensland State Archives.

Records

The cards contain information such as person's identification number, name, sex, religion, "race", date and place of birth, employment, name and identification numbers of parents, name, identification number, and "race" of spouse, date, place, and nature of marriage, and names, sex, and dates of birth of the person's children. It also contains information about the removal of the person from their previous place of residence and their admission to the Palm Island Settlement, including dates of and reasons for admission and discharge.

The back of the cards contain information about the person's perceived behaviour, including "outstanding or meritorious conduct" and crimes, as well as their thumb prints, identifying features, signature, medical history, and details of death. Later cards also record information relating to child endowment payments, bank details, savings, occupation, list of dependents over 16 years of age, and court decisions.

More info

Organisations in these records

Related Organisations

- [Palm Island Aboriginal Settlement \(1 April 1918 - 1975\)](#)

Records

Related Contact Details

- [Queensland State Archives - Contact Details](#)
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You can view this page online by visiting <https://findconnect.efront.digital/entity/social-history-cards-palm-island/>