

The Australian Women's Register

Entry type: Person
Entry ID: AWE4441

Smith, Christina

(1809 - 1893)

Nationality	Australian
Born	25 July, 1809, Glenlyon, Perthshire Scotland
Died	28 April, 1893, Mount Gambier South Australia Australia
Occupation	Missionary, Teacher

Summary

Christina Smith worked with Aboriginal people, the Booandik (Buandig) in the Rivoli Bay area of South East Australia and in Mount Gambier. She recorded their customs, legends and social relationships for future generations. In 1854 the family moved to Mount Gambier where they established a night school, cared for Aboriginal orphans and taught adults of mixed race until the death of her husband, James Smith in 1860. In 1865, Christina eventually established a school and home for local Aboriginal children with funding she obtained from Lady Burdett-Coutts. The school however closed in 1868 due to loss of support and an epidemic and became a home for Aborigines.

Published resources

Resource Section

Smith, Christina (1819-1893), MacGillivray, Leith G., 2006, <http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/biogs/AS10440b.htm>

Book

The Booandik tribe of South Australian aborigines: a sketch of their habits, customs, legends, and language : also an account of the efforts made by Mr and Mrs James Smith to Christianise and civilise them., Smith, James, Mrs, 1880

Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Author Details

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Created 2 February 2010

Last modified 2 February 2010