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Westralian Scots: Scottish settlement and identity in Western Australia, arrivals 1829-1850

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Beaton, Leigh S. L. (2004) *Westralian Scots: Scottish settlement and identity in Western Australia, arrivals 1829-1850*. PhD thesis, Murdoch University.



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Abstract

Before the end of 1850, Scottish settlers in Western Australia represented a small minority group of what was, in terms of the European population, a predominantly English colony. By comparison to the eastern Australian colonies, Western Australia attracted the least number of Scottish migrants. This thesis aims to broaden the historiography of Scottish settlement in Australia in the nineteenth century by providing insights into the lives of Westralian Scots.

While this thesis broadly documents Scottish settlement, its main focus is Scottish identity. Utilising techniques of nominal record linkage and close socio-biographical scrutiny, this study looks beyond institutional manifestations of Scottish identity to consider the ways in which Scottishness was maintained in everyday lives through work, social and religious practices. This thesis also demonstrates the multi-layered expressions of national identity by recognising Scottish identity in the Australian colonies as both Scottish and British. The duality of a Scottish and British identity made Scots more willing to identify eventually as Westralian Scots.

Item Type: Thesis (PhD)

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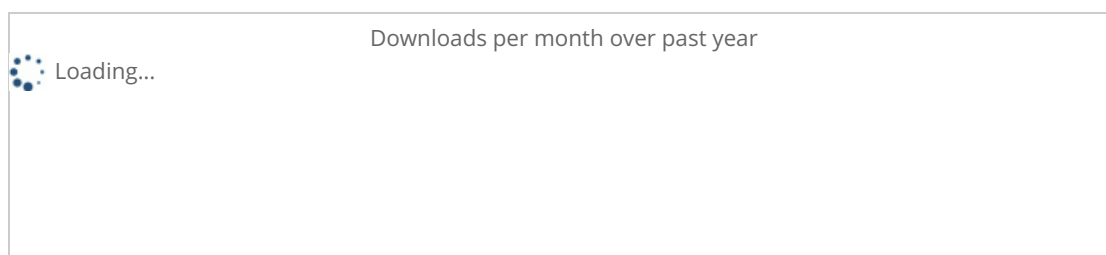
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Westralian Scots: Scottish settlement and identity in Western Australia, arrivals 1829-1850. Leigh Sandra Beaton. 2002. Corpus ID: 129806974. Before the end of 1850, Scottish settlers in Western Australia represented a small minority group of what was, in terms of the... Expand. Is this relevant? 1998. 1998. Raymond Campbell Paterson. My Wound is Deep: A History of the Later Anglo-Scots Wars, 1380-1560. 12Bibliography. WESTRALIAN SCOTS: Scottish Settlement and Identity in Western Australia, arrivals 1829-1850. Leigh S. L. Beaton, B.A (Honours). This thesis is presented for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy of Murdoch University 2004. Before the end of 1850, Scottish settlers in Western Australia represented a small minority group of what was, in terms of the European population, a predominantly English colony. By comparison to the eastern Australian colonies, Western Australia attracted the least number of Scottish migrants. This thesis aims to broaden the historiography of Scottish settlement in Australia in the nineteenth century by providing insights into the lives of Westralian Scots. Scots migrating to colonial Western Australia were part of a nineteenth century trend taking Scots to various corners of the world. By the mid-nineteenth century Scots were scattered across the globe, most noticeably in Canada, the United States, Australia and New Zealand, continuing a tradition existing since the seventeenth century. Focussing on the lives of the first Scots arriving in the Swan River colony from 1829 to 1850, A Semblance of Scotland shows how not all Scots went out to areas with large groups of compatriots. Westralian Scots can be seen as an example of small migrant groups that, rather than be absorbed, can and do retain a strong sense of identity. Start your review of A Semblance of Scotland: Scottish Identity in Colonial Western Australia.