

*Migration Museum of South
Australia, in fulfilment of the
requirements of the Arts Internship
Scheme 2010, University of
Adelaide, South Australia*

Hostel Stories

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Migrants arriving at Elder Park Hostel
GN14994 Courtesy of History SA

Submitted 11th November 2010

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Acknowledgments

Firstly, I would like to thank Catherine Manning the Senior Curator at the Migration Museum of South Australia for agreeing to my internship placement and for her supervision. I would also like to thank Catherine for her support with my research project and her on going guidance throughout the internship. Similarly I would like to thank the staff of the Migration Museum for accommodating me during the semester and for their advice, assistance and professional expertise during my internship.

I would like to thank Associate Professor Rachel Ankeny for her ongoing support during the semester, her patience and guidance with my research and planning of my report has been greatly appreciated. Further I would like to thank Amanda Phillis for setting up my internship with the Migration Museum and her on-going advice and support during the semester. I would also like to thank Dr Rob Cover for the lectures which were extremely helpful in planning this report.

Thank you to the staff at the Barr Smith Library especially Margaret Hosking for her assistance and guidance during my research.

During my internship I have received help from many organisations. I would like to acknowledge the help of Linda Lacey at the Charles Sturt Council for letting me access the research and interviews they had already done on Pennington hostel. Jeff Turner at the National Trust Gawler Branch gave me access to the fantastic research they had done on the Gawler Hostel which was extremely helpful and I thank him for his time and assistance. I would like to thank John Davis at History SA for finding some wonderful glass plate negatives of the Elder Park hostel, one of which can be seen on the cover of this report and I am sure will prove to be extremely useful to the Migration Museum in the future. Finally I would like to thank the staff and especially Gwenda Griffith the Mallala Museum. I would like to thank Gwenda Griffiths for showing me the information their museum already had on the hostel at Mallala, for taking me on a tour of the old hostel sight and for putting me in contact with Mrs. Boril a former resident at the Mallala Hostel. I would like to thank Mrs Boril for kindly letting the Migration Museum record her experience at the Mallala Hostel, which was by far my most memorable experience of this internship.

Lastly I would like to thank my family and friends for their continual support and inspiration not only during this internship but throughout my degree at the University of Adelaide.

Abstract

In the literature and oral history records I have reviewed, the post-World War II migration experience of South Australian hostels are both criticised and praised by both author and migrant. It is in my opinion that, for the migrant, the experience of hostel life was dependent on the expectations they brought with them and the reality of the hostel environment presented. Themes which influenced the individual hostel story to be either a positive or negative experience consisted of; the different immigration schemes presented, whether you were British or a displaced person, the accommodation presented to the migrant, food, social activities and community integration. It has also come apparent, throughout my study, that there were a lot of generalisations and stereo types made about different groups at the time, the best example of this are the whinging poms. It is not in generalisations that the true migrant story will be discovered but by using our empathetic skills to put ourselves in the shoes of the individual migrant.

Introduction

Outline

In SA History Week 2010 the Migration Museum in Adelaide launched a new project called 'Hostel Stories', with the aim to collect records of migrant hostel life, which will culminate in an exhibition in 2013. The project I undertook with the Migration Museum has been to gather and review primary source material and research already available on migrant hostels in South Australia. Hopefully this report will be a useful tool for the Migration Museum of South Australia in their ongoing research towards their exhibition in 2013.

Aims

- ❖ Identify themes that could be potentially covered in the exhibition *Hostel Stories* in 2013
- ❖ Gather and review source material relevant to South Australian hostel life in the post-world war II period
- ❖ Identify any gaps from the review of source material which could be potential areas of further research for the Migration Museum of South Australian

Methodology

- ❖ A literature review of what has already been published on hostels in South Australia including published works, newspaper articles, journal articles and university theses by researching at the Barr-Smith Library, State Library of SA and NLA electronic database.
- ❖ A search for photographs and oral history records in the Migration Museum of South Australia
- ❖ Made contact with Charles-Sturt Council, National Trust Gawler and Mallala Museum who have already done research and hold photographic evidence and oral records
- ❖ Visited former Hostel sites such as Mallala, Semaphore, Finsbury, Gepps Cross, Rosewater and Gawler
- ❖ Sitting in on the interview of Mrs Boril a former resident of the Mallala Hostel
- ❖ To approach the final report by sub dividing data into themes that would be beneficial in the exhibition *Hostel Stories* in 2013

Time Commitment

- ❖ Research Days at the migration Museum consisted of mostly Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
- ❖ A large percentage of research was conducted out of the migration museum using the Barr-Smith Library, the State Library of SA and NLA electronic database over a weekly timetable
- ❖ Day Trips were conducted regularly to Charles-Sturt Council, National Trust Gawler, Mallala Museum and previous hostel sites

Background to Hostels in South Australia

In the immediate post war years the Australian Government needed to attract many migrants to Australia to increase its population for defence purposes, to carry out future endeavours and enhance prosperity.¹ Throughout Australia's migration history the government has preferred to take in British migrants due to the assumption that they would settle and assimilate into the Australian populace with little to no problems.² Initially the Minister for Immigration Arthur Calwell, as in the past, looked to Brittan to fulfil Australia's migration needs. In March 1946 an assisted passage scheme was reached with Brittan, to provide passage to Australia for 10 pounds.

Come 1947 Calwell came to the view that he would only be able to recruit 30,000 British immigrants per annum compared to the target 70,000.³ Due to the fact that the supply of British immigrants was not enough to reach the establish target, the Australian Government made the decision to expand the migration catchment to European displaced persons. With the large influx of Europeans and the steady intake of British migrants during a housing shortage, unconventional methods of housing needed to be used.

In South Australia old wool sheds (Rosewater), military buildings (Woodside, Mallala, Salisbury, Gawler), military accommodation (Finsbury) and munitions depots (Smithfield) were converted into hostels. By the early 1950's, with the rise of immigration levels, there was a large strain put on these already establish hostels in South Australia. For this reason new accommodation of a higher quality was required which lead to the establishment of hostels such as Gepps Cross in 1951.⁴ Gepps Cross is generally considered throughout available literature to be one of the better hostels. This is in contrast to the negative reports generally given to hostels such as Finsbury and Rosewater.

In the literate I have reviewed hostels in South Australia are both criticised and praised by both author and migrant. In my opinion, for the migrant, the experience of hostel life was dependent on the expectations they brought with them and the reality of the hostel environment presented.

¹ Victor Thomas Turner, *Tin huts and memories: We got our ten pounds worth: the story of Gepps Cross Hostel* (Norwood, S. Aust.: Peacock Publications. 2006): 9.

² Joan Joynson, "Something you like to forget you know, a bit like the war: British assisted migrants and hostels, in the 1950s" in Eric Richards and Jacqueline Templeton ed., *The Australian immigrant in the 20th century: searching neglected sources* (Canberra: Australian National University. 1998): 107.

³ Eric Richards, *Destination Australia: migration to Australia since 1901* (Sydney: University of New South Wales Press, 2008): 181.

⁴ Turner: *Tin huts and memories*: 13.

Themes

Different Immigration Schemes

From 1947 till 1985 individuals and families passed through Migrant Hostels in South Australia under a number of different immigration schemes. After World War Two, the Government had hoped to fuel population growth primarily by immigration from Britain but ended up expanding their intake to displaced person camps in Europe. During my research a distinct theme I came across in the different immigration schemes was the preference for British Migrants over Displaced Persons. For example Arthur Calwell had hoped that for every New Australian there would be ten British Migrants.⁵ A general pattern which emerged through my research is that Displaced Persons were sent to different Hostels than British Migrants, such as Woodside and Mallala. Could it be possible that the type of migration scheme an individual came to Australia on affect the quality of their Hostel experience?

Discussion

In 1949 “camp-hostels” were being prepared in Woodside, Gawler and Smithfield to accommodate an influx of 1000 displaced persons.⁶ Even the woolsheds at Rosewater were converted at a cost of £200 000 to accommodate the new influx of displaced persons.⁷ On 21 July 1947 Arthur Calwell, the minister for Immigration signed an agreement with the IRO allowing Displaced Persons to enter Australia. The terms by which Displaced Persons were allowed to enter Australia was by a contract in which they had to spend two years in employment allotted by the Government. Single men and women were preferred which according to Calwell was due to the fact that they could easily be accommodated in Hostels.⁸ Due to lack of accommodation many families were split; the women and children being sent to Hostels such as Woodside while the men stayed at Hostels closer to their jobs. Although allocation officers were instructed to try and keep married couples together, the priority was given to people being put in immediate employment.⁹ Many British Commonwealth nominees were also compelled to work in prescribed employment which had been approved for displaced persons.¹⁰

In March 1946 an agreement was reached where Australia would accept Britain’s offer of free passages of medically fit ex-servicemen and dependents. Beyond this an assisted passage scheme would be created to provide passage to Australia for the sum of £10, with the subsidy paid equally by Australia and the United Kingdom.¹¹

⁵ Commonwealth Parliamentary Debates, Arthur Calwell, House of Representatives 22 November 1946, Vol. 189 Excerpts found at, “Making Multicultural Australia”: http://www.multiculturalaustralia.edu.au/doc/calwell_3.pdf

⁶ “S.A. Camps To House Displaced Persons: Accommodation Plans For 2.000 Europeans” *The Advertiser*, 31 March, 1949: 3.

⁷ “Rosewater Wool Stores to House Migrants” *The Advertiser*, 1st June, 1949: 1.

⁸ Arthur A. Calwell, “New Settlers- Australia’s New Hope” *The Argus*, 18 February, 1948: 2.

⁹ Susan Hesch, *Australian Immigration Policy: Displaced Persons, Contracts and Camps* (University of Adelaide, 1985): 40.

¹⁰ Joynson. “Something you like to forget you know, a bit like the war: 115.

¹¹ Eric Richards, *Destination Australia: migration to Australia since 1901*: 160.

The “Nest Egg” scheme was implemented for those who could raise £500 for a house deposit. These migrants were given priority for housing and thus only stayed a minimal time in hostels.¹² Many Hostels were designed purely as a transient period, such as the Elder Park Hostel, where residents only stayed for a Maximum two weeks in order to organise housing and employment.¹³

Gaps

A major gap that I found during my research was the lack of information on the Hostel that was attached to the Long Range Weapons Establishment at Edinburgh, for the ‘Joint Project’ of Britain and Australia. In 1949 the hospital of the former munitions factory was converted into a hostel to accommodate 42 single men who worked for the Long Range Weapon Establishment.¹⁴ Other than this initial information, I have found nothing about the experience of the workers who stayed at this hostel and I believe that further research at the DSTO Library may prove useful. This is a hostel that was set up to house a select group of British workers and knowledge of their experience may prove a useful comparison to other hostels in South Australia.

Recommendations for the Migration Museum

The type of migration scheme may affect not only the type of Hostel the migrant stayed in but also the overall experience of Hostel life. This is not to say that displaced migrants on a contract had an explicitly negative experience and British assisted migrants a positive experience. As has been shown many British were like those from Europe made to sign a two year work contract, and for those who were not on a work contract, hostel life was by no means any easier. Approaching hostel experience by different migration schemes rather than nationality would be far more beneficial not only for research but for an exhibition as it does not run the risk of cultural stereotyping.

¹² *Ibid.* 139

¹³ Patricia Donnelly, *Migrant journeys or "What the hell have we done"* (Gilles Plains, South Australia: Affordable Print, 1999): 259.

¹⁴ “Section of the former Defence Science and Technology Organisation, Edinburgh Parks- Historical Background” prepared by Donovan and Associates, History and Historic Preservation Consultants (2006): 6.

British Stereotypes

The conditions of hostels were a cause for much complaint from British Migrants in South Australia and received much attention in the media at the time. As a consequence a stereotype of the ungrateful or 'Whingeing Pom' was formed. There are a number of books which attempt to defend the British migrant against such a stereotype and show that the Hostel environment held strong grounds for complaint. Expectation unmet, is a theme prominent in the literature on British migration, but is it fair to typify this theme to British migration in general?

Discussion

The response in Australia to one in five English migrants leaving was outrage towards what they saw as ingratitude to the assistance that these migrants had been given.¹⁵ However, in recent years authors such as James Jupp have tried to break down this stereotype of the 'Whingeing Pom', by showing that British migrants had strong reasons to complain about the hostel conditions.¹⁶ However it wasn't just the physical conditions of the hostels that brought complaint. Equally important was a psychological side of this new hostel life, which did not live up to the expectations that had been built up before leaving Britain and immigrating to Australia.¹⁷

A common complaint was that promises that had been made back in England were never fulfilled. The hostels, for many did not form this image of life in Australia which was given to them back in England, especially by Australia House.¹⁸ Many people were under the assumption from brochures given to them, that there were self-contained units being constructed when such a plan had already been scrapped.¹⁹ Expectations such as false or misleading advertisement which migrants brought with them, would have coloured their initial response to aspects of hostel living such as communal bathing and dining facilities.

Gaps

A gap in the available literature for this theme is the lack of differentiation between the experiences of different cultures within Britain. A constant problem is the interchanging use of 'English' with 'British' expectations. Scottish, Welsh and Irish migrants are rarely looked at separately. I believe it would be most beneficial for the Migration Museum to try to establish, through further research and interviews, the expectations of different cultural groups within Britain.

¹⁵ James Jupp, *The English in Australia* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004): 143.

¹⁶ *Ibid.* 144

¹⁷ *Ibid.* 144

¹⁸ *Ibid.* 144

¹⁹ Joynton. "Something you like to forget you know, a bit like the war: 114.

Recommendations for the Migration Museum

Expectation from migration is a theme which will help to break stereotyping with British migrants on multiple levels. If research is done into expectations without neglecting different ethnic and cultural groups within the British Isles I believe a better understanding of hostel experience can be gained. The reaction to hostel life is dependent on the individual. By approaching the reaction to hostel life through a comparison with the expectations brought with different British migrants the creation of generalisations will be avoided.

Displaced Persons

It has been established that displaced persons undertaking a two year work contract had a different Hostel experience to those on other migration schemes. Although different schemes created differing experiences, it does not make them explicitly positive or negative. The Hostel experience for Displaced Persons is like migrants from Britain, also dependent on the expectations they brought with them to Australia. Expectation is of course highly dependent on the individual, but there are still common expectations that could explain the Hostel experience of Displaced Persons. Further, there are expectations shared by both the British and Displaced Persons from Europe which is further evidence that the Hostel experience was not one dependent on nationality.

General Discussion

The expectation of Displaced Persons is harder to gauge, as from available literature and interviews done by the Migration Museum, they often had little choice or knowledge of where they were going. Krystyna Luzny, a Polish lady who migrated to Australia in 1949, was originally given a choice between America, Canada and Australia with no information given on these different destinations. Krystyna's preference for Australia was based on a belief that, "...I would like to go far away to forget about the horror of war. And I said probably Australia."²⁰ Leaving a Europe devastated by war, formed part of a prevailing belief in Australia, that these displaced persons were just happy to be in Australia. A newspaper article typical of this belief, describes the first group of displaced persons to arrive at Woodside Migration Camp as, "... weary but happy to be in Australia after months and years of waiting in Europe."²¹ However, what I have found from my research is that there are many displaced persons who brought with them more complex expectations than just escapism.

An important point is that some displaced persons were in fact given information on what to expect in Australia before making their decision to migrate. Dr. Pacevicius a lady, who migrated from Lithuania, remembers being shown a picture of:

*"...a beautiful little house, there is a couple walking with two children and [a] little dog, and the sun is shining and they said that's the life in Australia... When we came here we didn't find that."*²²

What can be seen from this passage is that while some displaced persons were thankful just to leave after spending years in camps across Europe, they wanted to find their own house and settle. The hostel experience is therefore not so straightforward for displaced persons and was dependent on individual expectation just as much as it was for migrants from Britain.

Gaps

The image that was shown to Dr Pacevicius is a case which appears to be rare in the interviews which have been looked over during my internship. The majority of interview transcripts of displaced persons from Europe give escaping from a

²⁰ Transcript of interview with Krystyna Luzny, 15 February 1993. Courtesy of Migration Museum: 1.

²¹ "First D.P Batch Arrives" *The Advertiser*, 4 May 1949: 3.

²² Transcript of interview with Dr Pacevicius, 21 January 2005. Courtesy of Migration Museum: 8.

devastated homeland as the reason for coming to Australia. With further interviews perhaps more knowledge of information given to displaced persons can be gained.

Recommendations for the Migration Museum

A recommendation I would make is that when further interviews are performed with former displaced persons, it would be beneficial to ask what expectations they personally had upon coming to Australia. As personal expectations of Australia, are just as important in shaping hostel experience, than expectations formed by information given to them about Australia. All migrants, British and European brought with them expectations of finding a better life in Australia. Where hostels come into this image of a better life is of course dependent on the individual and what they were leaving behind. Expectation is thus a crucial theme to address when assessing the response to and the experience of Hostel life.

Accommodation

The role of expectation has been shown as a key factor in the Hostel experience of migrants. Another pattern which emerged from my literature review was that particular Hostels in South Australia, such as Finsbury and Rosewater, held more negative experiences than others. The type of Hostel, whether it was comprised of woolsheds, army barracks or Nissen huts could explain part of the reason behind this overwhelming negative image of some of the Hostels. However, the kind of building only forms part of the image and perhaps just as important is the purpose and design of the Hostel. Why did Finsbury and Rosewater have some of the most negative experiences and Gepps Cross some of the most positive?

Discussion

The type of accommodation played an important part in the experience of hostels in South Australia. The first hostels/ migrant camps in South Australia were converted from buildings that were deemed suitable for large scale occupation. As a result of the urgency of the situation many of these initial hostels were created from materials and in locations that were undesirable for long term residency. Migrants who were placed in these types of accommodations sometimes found themselves in converted warehouses in rooms whose walls ended in mid-air without ceilings.²³ Rosewater Hostel was converted from an old wool storage warehouse has been heavily criticised. Criticisms include poor quality of the living spaces, no enclosed ceilings resulting in pigeon droppings in living areas and the poor quality of air due to proximity of an industrial area.²⁴

Finsbury Hostel has similar negative experiences of accommodation to Rosewater Hostel. One of the most powerful insights is a description from Margaret Hill's first impression of her family's accommodation, "Inside the room I clung desperately to Jim's hand. My stomach was churning at the awful smell, and my eyes did not want to believe what they were seeing." Margaret Hill goes on to say in disbelief that the accommodation consisted of: a floor with tar over bare earth, small room space, dirt filled ventilation, large amounts of insects, lumpy mattresses, discoloured towels, communal bathrooms which were unlined corrugated sheds and extremely unclean drinking water which needed to be boiled.²⁵ This negative account is repeated in many other descriptions of Finsbury Hostel in the literature I have reviewed, such as by the author Joan Joynson emphasising the lack of privacy due to the flimsy walls where every word could be heard two or three rooms away.²⁶ Furthermore, James Jupp adds to this by stating that "...one of the worst hostels was at Finsbury (SA)".²⁷

If the experience from Finsbury and Rosewater Hostel was considered one of the worst, then comparatively the experience from Gepps Cross Hostel appears significantly better. Gepps Cross Hostel had a similar layout to Finsbury with the same system of communal bathrooms and meals given in a dining hall, however, it

²³ Reg Appleyard with Alison Ray and Allan Segal, *The ten pound immigrants* (London: Boxtree, 1988): 69.

²⁴ Transcript of Interview with Bill Gordon, 6 January 2009. Courtesy of Migration Museum: 5-6; Donnelly, *Migrant journeys or "What the hell have we done"*: 208 & 224.

²⁵ Excerpt from Margaret Hill, *Corrugated castles: a migrant family's story* (Henley Beach, S. Aust.: Seaview Press, 2005)

²⁶ Joynson. "Something you like to forget you know, a bit like the war: 116.

²⁷ Jupp. *The English in Australia*: 140.

is the quality of the hostel which is emphasised as being different. Victor Turner states:

*“Our last had been a very basic army Nissen hut, no better than an un-insulated tin shed... But these huts [Gepps Cross] were almost “grandiose” in comparison to those! These were brand new, the paint still smelling fresh. Yes, this was very nice indeed.”*²⁸

Gepps Cross was designed and built with an improved quality of accommodation that went beyond the basic quality of Hostels already established in South Australia.²⁹

Gepps Cross was also built specifically for British migrants as an alternative to the lesser quality hostels that were for displaced persons.³⁰ As can be seen from this account of the quality of the new Gepps Cross Hostel and the poorer quality of the old hostels it is evident why experiences of migrants varied so dramatically.

Even though the experience of migrants varied between different types of accommodation there was one negative experience which affected all migrants in hostels, which was the price of accommodation. According to Turner the average wage at the time was about £12 per week, hostel accommodation was nearly £10 per week, if the incoming wages were over the amount then the rent rose on a sliding scale.³¹ When the Government tried to increase the rent further strikes were organised and undertaken at Finsbury in November 1952.³² This quickly spread to Gepps Cross, Rosewater and Smithfield who refused to pay the extra rent until an agreement could be reached.³³ It is obvious that this increase in rent significantly altered the hostel experience and increased the difficulty of settling in South Australia.

Gaps

Although there is a solid amount of available information on the experience of accommodation at Finsbury, Gepps Cross, Woodside and Rosewater there is still a considerable gap on the experience at other hostels in South Australia. In order to gain a better understanding of the experience of different types of accommodation further interviews need to be conducted into a wider range of hostels.

Recommendations for the Migration Museum

The different types (woolshed, army camp, Nissen hut etc.), the quality and the price of accommodation had an obvious impact on the migrant's hostel experience. This experience whether positive or negative was played out against the expectations they brought with them to Australia. Therefore, I believe the experience of accommodation is an extremely valuable theme which if researched further would prove to be a valuable component of the exhibition. The type, quality and price of accommodation form the migrant's initial experience of not only the hostel experience but their initial experience of Australia.

²⁸ Turner, *Tin huts and memories*: 23.

²⁹ *Ibid.* 13

³⁰ “‘Luxury’ camp for migrants”, *The Advertiser*, 10 January, 1951, p. 4.

³¹ Turner, *Tin huts and memories*: 23.

³² “Migrants Stand Firm in Adelaide”, *The Canberra Times*, 22 November, 1952, p. 1.

³³ Turner, *Tin huts and memories*: 23.

Food

The quality of food at Hostels is a topic which receives much attention and is often depicted as overwhelmingly negative. In the available literature, the negative opinion of food does not vary between different Hostels. At the majority of Hostels in South Australia food was provided to the migrant often in large dining or mess halls. The majority of the literature depicts communal dinning as not only restrictive but the reason for the poor quality of the food. Without denying the many obvious cases of poor quality of food, I believe that the majority of sources of all types fail to show the opposite opinion that the food was in fact adequate. Food is another theme which is highly dependent on the individuals taste and expectation, which is highly varied and cannot be labelled as merely a negative experience of Hostel life.

General Discussion

According to Nadia Postiglione the standard of hostel catering, lack of hygiene, low quality ingredients, unpalatable food and monotonous diet were a cause for great discontent in hostels in South Australia.³⁴ Discontent even turned to organised disobedience when a third of British migrants boycotted the canteens at Finsbury and organised their own food in February 1953.³⁵ This can be seen in Dr Pacevicius experience:

*“And the food all the time, the same thing, every day mutton for dinner, they served the meat first and then the vegies and by the time you got everything, that meat is cold and it was very difficult to swallow.”*³⁶

Another complaint voiced by British hostel residents was that that the cooking often had a distinct “New Australian” flavour due to the presence of non-British kitchen staff.³⁷ This shows the clash of different cultures at hostels and the problems which this could create for not only British but Europeans as well. Nadia Postiglione shows that Italian hostel residents also struggled to adapt to the food because they were not used to a diet with strong British influences and a heavy reliance on meat.³⁸

The quality of food and a varied diet were not the only complaints as many residents wanted the opportunity to organise and cook their own meals.³⁹ What is interesting is that when Gepps Cross installed 360 kitchenettes by the end of 1952 immigrants’ complaints decreased.⁴⁰ Turner argues that the installation of the kitchen facilities made the hostel feel more like a home and fulfil individual tastes, but it also had a negative effect of removing an element of interaction of people across the communal dinner table which many migrants enjoyed.⁴¹

³⁴ Nadia Postiglione, “‘It was just horrible’ The food experience of immigrants in 1950s Australia” *History Australia*, vol. 7, no. 1 (2010): 9.3

³⁵ “Migrants Boycott Meals in Hostel” *The Canberra Times*, 9 February, 1953, p. 5.

³⁶ Transcript of interview with Dr Pacevicius, 21 January 2005, courtesy of Migration Museum, p. 9

³⁷ Turner, *Tin huts and memories*: 98.

³⁸ Postiglione, “It was just horrible”: 09.8

³⁹ *Ibid.* 09.6

⁴⁰ “Food Declared Uneatable British Migrants Plan To Boycott Hostel Meals FOUR-STATE MOVE” *The Sunday Herald*, 7 December, 1952, p 3

⁴¹ Turner, *Tin huts and memories*: 45.

The food experience in the hostel canteens was not necessarily always a bad one for both British and European migrants. Jolan Falkai a Hungarian who emigrated from Austria had a very positive experience with food at Woodside Hostel:

“We were put in huge big hall, you know soldier barracks and then but we had food, we had lovely food and everything there marvellous... we never know about lasted butter it was very strange for us, we never used to eat so much lamb, which was beautiful.”⁴²

What can be seen from this quote is that the experience of food is very much dependent on individual taste combined with the quality of the food. For Jolan Falkai having so much lamb was wonderful but for others such as Dr Pacevicius it was a burden.

Gaps

Food is a theme which has been well covered and indeed forms an important part of the migrant's hostel experience. The only gap I would recommend addressing is to find more hostel menus and to establish a more thorough knowledge from interviews of what type of food was served at hostels.

Recommendations for the Migration Museum

The experience of food at hostels in South Australia is one that has created extremely varied responses. This was a completely unique experience for many migrants for both positive and negative reasons. It is not just the quality of food that receives attention in the accounts of former hostel residents but also the overall experience of dinning across from other families. For many by taking away the communal dining experience they began to feel like they belonged more to a home and began to settle. For others although the food may have been of questionable quality, the experience of communal dinning was an important social event which many missed. The theme of food is entwined with the individual experience of hostel residents and should therefore be an area of ongoing research for the Migration Museum and should be considered as a possible theme for the exhibition in 2013.

⁴² Transcript of interview with Jolan Falkai, 12 December 2008, courtesy of Migration Museum, p. 20

Social/community integration

In a period in which Government aimed for the successful “assimilation” of migrants into Australian society the policy taken in Hostels to do so was varied. There does not appear any set system which would help migrants integrate into Australian society. The social life of a migrant both inside and outside of the Hostel in most cases was dependent on the individual. Many migrants experienced limited socialising or deliberately chose not to take part in social groups, a choice that was not necessarily due to the length of their stay. Other migrants have vibrant memories of taking part in socialising and various activities with family, friends and social groups both within and outside the Hostels.

General Discussion

Social and community activities forms a part of hostel experience which is often understated in the available literature. The only substantial literary account I have found is given by Turner in *Tin Huts and Memories* in his chapter on recreation and social life.

Gepps Cross according to Turner was like a “self-sufficient little town”, with shops, post office, movie house/dance hall and church. There was also many clubs that were started to keep the children occupied such as the *Boy Scouts* and *Girl Guides* which had regular meetings inside one of the empty hostel huts.⁴³ As mentioned prior communal dinning was also a place for socialising between different families.⁴⁴ However, these were only internal modes of socialising and establishing networks.

Turner goes onto to state that if the intention of the Commonwealth Government was to integrate the Gepps Cross migrants into the general population it contributed very little towards achieving this target.⁴⁵ The main reason Turner finds for this is the remote location of Gepps Cross which was at the time on the outskirts of suburbia which provided limited interaction with local Australians.⁴⁶ I think this a crucial point for other hostels such as Woodside, Mallala and even Rosewater which was isolated in an industrial area. In consequence of this poor community integration my research has found that certain cultural groups did not feel comfortable integrating into the Australian community. This is evident with Slovaks who stayed in remote accommodation while working on railways. After completing their two year work contract found that they could not settle in South Australia, instead moving to Melbourne and Sydney where a few pre-World War II Slovak communities already existed.⁴⁷ Jan Vrtielka theorises that due to their remote occupation they suffered a loneliness which led to a need to move where there were more people of their ethnic origin.⁴⁸

⁴³ Turner, *Tin huts and memories*: 34-35.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.* 41

⁴⁵ *Ibid.* 47

⁴⁶ *Ibid.* 47

⁴⁷ Jan Vrtielka, *Slovaks in Adelaide: three waves of Slovak immigration into South Australia, 1948-1951, 1968-1971, 1979-1989* ([Thesis] Flinders University, 1993): 21.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.* 21

Gaps

As mentioned above this is a theme which is often understated in available literature. The interviews that I have researched also do not make much mention of social life and recreation within and without hostels, although there is some mention of difficulties of integrating into the wider Australian community. However, I think this is no indication of the lack of importance of social and recreation life in the overall experience of the hostel, which could be rectified if these themes are addressed in further interviews. Also there is brief reference made in the literature I have reviewed about external groups which could have possibly helped migrants in hostels such as *The Good Neighbour Council*. Due to time constraints for this report I have been unable to do any research into these external groups, but I believe it would be beneficial if further research is pursued in this area.

Recommendations for the Migration Museum

Turners account of the recreation and social life of Gepps Cross Hostel shows a side of the hostel which has mostly been ignored in other sources. The social life inside hostels was a factor in helping the emotional needs of migrants. For many it was one of the more positive aspects of hostel experience as it helped them ease into their new life in Australia. Integration into the wider Australian community was for many a difficult task which could have possibly been alleviated by social activities within and without the hostel. Since there is so much negative coverage of the hostel experience the theme of social life would prove a more positive subject in light of the exhibition of 2013.

Summary of Recommendations:

Different Immigration Schemes

Approaching hostel experience by different migration schemes rather than nationality would be far more beneficial not only for research but for an exhibition, as it does not run the risk of cultural stereotyping.

British Stereotypes

If research is done into expectations without neglecting different ethnic and cultural groups within the British Isles I believe a better understanding of hostel experience can be gained.

By approaching the reaction to hostel life through a comparison with the expectations brought with different cultural groups from Britain, which will avoid generalisations and stereotypes.

Displaced Persons

When further interviews are performed with former displaced persons, it would be beneficial to ask what expectations they personally had upon coming to Australia. By doing this I believe it will show that many displaced persons and migrants from Britain shared similar expectation upon migrating to Australia.

Accommodation

The experience of accommodation is an extremely valuable theme which if researched further would prove to be a valuable component of the exhibition. The type, quality and price of accommodation form the migrant's initial experience of not only the hostel experience but their initial experience of Australia.

Food

The theme of food is entwined with the individual experience of hostel residents in both a positive and negative way. With the great emphasis put on food in interviews already completed and in other available literature it is an area that should definitely should be considered as a theme for the exhibition in 2013.

Social Activities and Community Integration

Since there is so much negative coverage of the hostel experience the theme of social life would prove a more positive subject in light of the exhibition of 2013. I would also recommend finding about social activities that were available to children, which will be a great opportunity to approach the experience of children in hostels rather than just adult experience.

Other Recommendations:

Throughout this report the underlying theme has been that the expectations the migrant brought with them and the reality of what they found at the Hostel, created both positive and negative experiences. The themes which I have established in this report show both the expectations of migrants and the reality of hostel life both positive and negative. I think it would be most beneficial for the Migration Museum to continue this approach of expectation vs. reality and to use the themes I have established as a building block for future research towards the exhibition in 2013.

I believe that having subdivisions of themes such the ones I have used in this report would be a reliable and logical way of presenting data in future exhibitions. This is due to a relatively even spread of information across the themes concerning hostels. In contrast, if the Migration Museum was to present data and information by Hostel location the amount of data in each hostel would be extremely inconsistent. As some hostels have large quantities of data and sources (such as Gepps Cross) and others have very little (such as Salisbury).

Future research prospects I believe would also be benefited by breaking down the generalisations and stereo types of particular migrant groups held in primary and secondary source material. An approach that takes into account the various cultural groups rather than just concerning broad labels such as British and displaced persons would produce a more true and accurate approach to hostel experience.

It would be great to see further investigation into each individual hostel site. Throughout my research I visited many of the previous hostel sites. After visiting the old Semaphore hostel site, which has very limited photographic evidence, I was pleased to find that a percentage of the old hostel accommodation is still standing and has been converted into class rooms for the Le Fevre High School. It would be a shame to see what little evidence left of the hostel across South Australia lost. At a minimum, researching and documenting what physical structures are still left standing from the hostels is vital.

During my research I was unable to obtain additional information on the Salisbury hostel due to the fact the defence department would not grant me access to the DSTO library. I believe it would be in the Migration Museums best interest if they were able to obtain the information relevant to the Salisbury hostel from this library.

Lastly, a more general observation I have made is that the opportunity to interview former hostel residents especially from the immediate post-World War Two period is unfortunately slipping away as the years go on. After having the opportunity to sit in on an interview with a 95 year old lady at Mallala it struck me that priority should indeed be given to these older residents as it would be a terrible shame for their stories not to be recorded for future generations. I would like to finish by stressing the importance of the Migration Museum's interviews and research not only for their exhibition in 2013, but also for the preservation of a pivotal moment in Australian history for future generations.

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Oral History Records:

Transcript of interview with Jolan Falkai, 12 December 2008, courtesy of Migration Museum

Transcript of Interview with Bill Gordon, 6 January 2009. Courtesy of Migration Museum

Transcript of interview with Krystyna Luzny, 15 February 1993. Courtesy of Migration Museum

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Appendices

Migration Museum Photographic Collection

Food		Hostel Life	Accommodation
Facilities			
Accession No:	Title/Main Title:	Description	Notes/Copyright
Finsbury			
PN01954	Main dining room at Finsbury Migrant Camp, later Pennington Hostel		Copyright Advertiser: 17/8/1965
PN03377	Children at Finsbury Hostel		1958, No copyright Info.
PN03378	Child on bicycle at Finsbury Hostel		1958, no copyright info.
PN03379	Child on bicycle at Finsbury Hostel		1958, No copyright Info.
PN04644	Finsbury Migrant Hostel Nissan hut accommodation showing sub-standard access roads composed of soil covered with discarded coke from the boilers, after rain they became impassable.		Margaret Hill, 1956

PN04645	Finsbury Migrant Hostel toilet block showing a man carrying a 'slop bucket'.		Margaret Hill, 1956
PN04646	Colin and Marilyn Hill with hostel issue baby bath at Finsbury; accommodation with washing hanging under the eaves in the background.		Margaret Hill, 1956
PN04647	First Christmas spent at Finsbury Hostel; a son and daughter of Margaret Hill from UK with a toy cooking range, one of gifts brought; accommodation in the background.		Margaret Hill, 1956
PN04648	Margaret Hill, migrant from UK with her four children outside accommodation at Finsbury Hostel.		Margaret Hill, 1956
PN04649	The children of Margaret Hill, migrants from UK, accompanied by two men (one their father?) photographed by a small cultivated area of plants		Possibly at Finsbury Hostel, 1956
Pennington			
PN00700	Christmas at the hostel Pennington		Copyright Migration Museum, 1950s
PN00701	Kitchen staff at the hostel Pennington		Copyright Migration Museum, 1950s
PN00703	Staff at the hostel Pennington		Copyright Migration Museum, 1950s
PN00705	Serving Jelly- Pennington Hostel		Copyright Migration Museum, 1950s

PN00706	10th Anniversary Celebrations of the Pennington Hostel		Copyright Migration Museum, 1950s
PN00707	Christmas dinner staff working in kitchens-Pennington Hostel		Copyright Migration Museum, 1960
PN00711	Chef in hostel kitchen Pennington		Copyright Migration Museum, 1950s
PN03713	"Pennington Migrant Hostel (closed prior to demolition.) Alan Dale removing a Nissen Hut." [PN03713], Makeev, Alexander		1986
PN03714	"Pennington Migrant Hostel (closed prior to demolition.) Alan Dale removing a Nissen Hut." [PN03714], Makeev, Alexander		1986
PN03715	"Pennington Migrant Hostel (closed prior to demolition.) Alan Dale removing a Nissen Hut." [PN03715], Makeev, Alexander		1986
PN03716	"Pennington Migrant Hostel (closed prior to demolition.) Alan Dale removing a Nissen Hut." [PN03716], Makeev, Alexander		1986
PN03717	"Pennington Migrant Hostel (closed prior to demolition.) Alan Dale removing a Nissen Hut." [PN03717], Makeev, Alexander		1986
PN03718	"Pennington Migrant Hostel (closed prior to demolition.) Alan Dale removing a Nissen Hut." [PN03718], Makeev, Alexander		1986
PN03719	"Pennington Migrant Hostel (closed prior to demolition.) Alan Dale removing a Nissen Hut." [PN03719], Makeev, Alexander		1986
PN03720	"Pennington Migrant Hostel (closed prior to demolition.) Alan Dale removing a Nissen Hut." [PN03720], Makeev, Alexander		1986

PN03721	"Pennington Migrant Hostel (closed prior to demolition.) Alan Dale removing a Nissen Hut." [PN03721], Makeev, Alexander		1986
PN03722	"Pennington Migrant Hostel (closed prior to demolition.) Alan Dale removing a Nissen Hut." [PN03722], Makeev, Alexander		1986
PN03723	"Pennington Migrant Hostel (closed prior to demolition.) Alan Dale removing a Nissen Hut." [PN03723], Makeev, Alexander		1986
PN03724	"Pennington Migrant Hostel (closed prior to demolition.) Alan Dale removing a Nissen Hut." [PN03724], Makeev, Alexander		1986
PN03725	"Pennington Migrant Hostel (closed prior to demolition.) Alan Dale removing a Nissen Hut." [PN03725], Makeev, Alexander		1986
PN03726	"Pennington Migrant Hostel (closed prior to demolition.) Alan Dale removing a Nissen Hut." [PN03726], Makeev, Alexander		1986
PN03727	"Pennington Migrant Hostel (closed prior to demolition.) Alan Dale removing a Nissen Hut." [PN03727], Makeev, Alexander		1986
PN03728	"Pennington Migrant Hostel (closed prior to demolition.) Alan Dale removing a Nissen Hut." [PN03728], Makeev, Alexander		1986
PN03729	"Pennington Migrant Hostel (closed prior to demolition.) Alan Dale removing a Nissen Hut." [PN03729], Makeev, Alexander		1986
PN03730	"Pennington Migrant Hostel (closed prior to demolition.) Alan Dale removing a Nissen Hut." [PN03730], Makeev, Alexander		1986

PN03731	"Pennington Migrant Hostel (closed prior to demolition.) Alan Dale removing a Nissen Hut." [PN03731], Makeev, Alexander		1986
PN03732	"Pennington Migrant Hostel (closed prior to demolition.) Alan Dale removing a Nissen Hut." [PN03732], Makeev, Alexander		1986
PN03733	"Pennington Migrant Hostel (closed prior to demolition.) Alan Dale removing a Nissen Hut." [PN03733], Makeev, Alexander		1986
PN03734	"Pennington Migrant Hostel (closed prior to demolition.) Alan Dale removing a Nissen Hut." [PN03734], Makeev, Alexander		1986
PN03735	"Pennington Migrant Hostel (closed prior to demolition.) Alan Dale removing a Nissen Hut." [PN03735], Makeev, Alexander		1986
PN03736	"Pennington Migrant Hostel (closed prior to demolition.) Alan Dale removing a Nissen Hut." [PN03736], Makeev, Alexander		1986
Woodside			
PN01323	Some of the 672 Displaced persons who arrived at Outerharbour on the Oxfordshire boarding a special train for Woodside hostel		©Advertiser: May 26 1952, Page 9
PN01945	Learning English. This 1952 class of mothers and children in the Woodside Hostel.		©Advertiser: 23 July 1952
PN03937	Children's birthday party at Woodside Migrant Hostel		William and Claudia Laanekorb, 1950s

PN03938	One-door huts at Woodside Migrant Hostel, shared by a number of families		William and Claudia Laanekorb, 1950s
PN03939	Children at Woodside Migrant Hostel		William and Claudia Laanekorb, 1950s
PN03940	General accomodation at Woodside Migrant Hostel with individual entrances (Later on dividing walls were built into huts; earlier the dividers were temporary)		William and Claudia Laanekorb, 1950s
PN03949	Leaving Bathurst Railway Station for Woodside Migrant Hostel - to work there as staff.		William and Claudia Laanekorb, 1950s
PN03962	Maria Pobran Ukrainian DP at Woodside Migrant Hostel with Vera (baby) and two friends with their babies. Vera was first baby born at Woodside Camp.		Michael and Maria Pobran, c1950
PN03967	Kitchen staff at Woodside Migrant Hostel		1958
PN03971	Kitchen staff (Kitchen No. 5) at Woodside Migrant Hostel		Michael and Maria Pobran, 1950s
PN03972	View of huts at Woodside Migrant Hostel		William and Claudia Laanekorb, 1950s
PN03974	Krystyna Pindral at Woodside Migrant Hostel, Aged 6		
PN03976	Children at Woodside Migrant Hostel on Hurdy-Gurdy		
PN03977	Stanislawa and Szczepan Pindral, Polish DPs, with shopping and child in pram at Woodside		

	Migrant Hostel		
PN03984	Polish Dance Group at Woodside Migrant Hostel. Wanda Joblanska second from right (middle row)		
PN03985	Janina Joblanska, third from left, with other kitchen staff after work in evening, Woodside Migrant Hostel		
PN03933	Outing from Woodside organised by camp manager, went without sunscreen some were so badly burnt they were hospitalised		Laankorb, Wiliam and Claudia, 1950-1953
PN03934	Woodside Camp - children enjoying a ride on a Clydesdale horse brought to camp by local farmer.		Laankorb, Wiliam and Claudia, 1953
PN03942	Hospital Buildings at Woodside Migrant Camp		Laankorb, Wiliam and Claudia, 1950s
PN03943	Doctor at Woodside Migrant Camp; presumably in hospital buildings.		Laankorb, Wiliam and Claudia, 1950s
PN03944	Doctor at Woodside Migrant Camp Hospital, with patient.		Laankorb, Wiliam and Claudia, 1950s
PN03945	Laundry at Woodside Migrant Camp Hospital		Laankorb, Wiliam and Claudia, 1950s
PN03946	Children and nurses in Woodside Migrant Camp Hospital		Laankorb, Wiliam and Claudia, 1950s
PN03948	Estonian nurse embroidering whilst on night duty in Migrant Camp Hospital at Woodside.		Laankorb, Wiliam and Claudia, 1950s

PN03969	Edward and Krystyna Pindral, children of Polish DPs (Stanislawa and Szczepan Pindral) in Woodside Camp. Note partitions.		Krystyna Pindral
PN03970	Maria Pobran after birth of baby Vera in Woodside Camp Hospital with Sister Peacock . Vera - first baby born at Woodside Camp.		Michael and Maria Pobran, c1950
PN03991	"Rysard Kobylinski at Woodside Migrant Hostel on his bicycle" [PN03991]		
PN03992	"Christening at Woodside Migrant Hostel" [PN03992]		
PN04009	Janis Bogens (left) and friend with rabbits shot around the Woodside Migrant Hostel. Huts in background. Apparently there was a rabbit plague and had to be shot. Possibly migrants were paid for the pelts.		c1953
PN04107	Sign at entrance to Woodside Migrant Hostel		William and Claudia Laanekorb, 1950s
Rosewater			
PN01853	Rosewater Hostel- Picture of woolsheds		Copyright McCooke, 1951
PN01856	Heather - Rosewater Hostel		Copyright McCooke, 1950

PN01857	Birthday party at Rosewater Hostel U Block in one of the living rooms		Copyright McCooke, 1951
PN01858	Rosewater Hostel Child female with doll's pram	Other pictures of children: 1860, 1861, 1859	Copyright McCooke, 1951
PN01877	Child female - Rosewater Hostel		Copyright McCooke, 1951
PN01878	Child female on tricycle - Rosewater Hostel		Copyright McCooke, 1951
PN01879	Heather and Bridie - Rosewater Hostel		Copyright McCooke, 1950
PN01880	Female child on tricycle - Rosewater Hostel		Copyright McCooke, 1951
PN01881	Female child and pram - Rosewater Hostel		Copyright McCooke, 1952
PN01883	Group of women outside at Rosewater Hostel		Copyright McCooke, 1950
PN01885	Rosewater Hostel - Christmas - Group of women and children		Copyright McCooke, 1950
PN01887	The Dining Staff, Rosewater Hostel		Copyright McCooke, 1951
PN01891	Kindy Rosewater Hostel		Copyright McCooke, 1951
PN01894	Kindy Rosewater Hostel		Copyright McCooke, 1951

Gepps Cross			
PN05072	Nissen Hut	Back view of hut at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel (Caretaker's Flat)	1963
PN05073	Nissen Huts	Flats at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1963
PN05074	Nissen Hut	Flat entrance, Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1963
PN05075	Nissen Hut	Side view of Nissen Hut at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1963
PN05076	Nissen Huts	End view of row of huts at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1963
PN05077	Nissen Huts	Side view of row of huts at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1963
PN05078	Nissen Huts	Long row of Nissen Huts alongside roadway at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1963
PN05080	Nissen Hut	View of hut on an angle, showing front door and surrounding garden - Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1963
PN05082	Hostel Post Office	Outside view of Post Office at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel, housed in a Nissen Hut.	1955

PN05083	Butcher Shop	Counter view of butcher shop at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1955
PN05084	Barber Shop	Two customers and a barber in the Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel Barber Shop.	1955
PN05085	Greengrocer and Bookshop.	Interior view of combined greengrocer/bookshop at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1955
PN05090	Nissen Hut Interior	Kitchen accommodation at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1955
PN05092	Nissen Hut Interiors	Bedroom accommodation at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1955
PN05093	Nissen Hut Interior	Bedroom accommodation at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1955
PN05094	Laundry	Laundry facilities used by 80 families at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1955
PN05095	Nissen Hut Interior.	Livingroom accommodation at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1963
PN05097	Nissen Hut Interior.	Livingroom accommodation at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1963
PN05098	Nissen Hut Interior.	Bedroom accommodation at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1963
PN05099	Nissen Hut Interior.	Lounge room accommodation at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1963

PN05100	Nissen Hut Interior.	Living Room room accommodation at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1963
PN05103	Child Minding Centre	Children gathered around trampoline at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1963
PN05104	Child Minding Centre	Children gathered around trampoline at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1963
PN05105	Childrens' Playground	Children and swings at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1963
PN05106	Child Minding Centre	Children playing in front of child minding centre at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1963
PN05107	Child Minding Centre	Children washing at sinks at the Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1963
PN05108	Child Minding Centre	Children sitting at tables in the Childing Minding Centre at the Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1963
PN05120	Concert and Dance Hall	Interior view, showing stage and seating of Concert and Dance Hall at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1955
PN05121	Hostel Staff	Administration staff of eight in front of building at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1963
PN05122	Boiler House	Two men working in Boiler House at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1963
PN05124	Office Worker	Woman at her desk attending to paperwork at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1963

PN05127	Nissen Hut	Close in view of partly dismantled Nissen Hut being lowered onto low-loader at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	late 1960s
PN05079	Nissen Huts	vView of Gepps Cross intersection with Migrant Hostel in background.	1963
PN05091	Nissen Hut Interior	Kitchen-Living Room accommodation at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1955
PN05096	Nissen Hut Interior.	Livingroom accommodation at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	1963
PN05102	Childrens Playground	Children and swings at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel	1955
PN05125	Nissen Hut	Side view of a partly dismantled Nissen Hut at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel, showing internal construction.	late 1960s
PN05126	Nissen Hut	End view of half dismantled Nissen Hut at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel, with other huts in background.	late 1960s
PN05086	Hostel Post Office.	Interior view of Post Office at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel, including Commonwealth Svaings Bank Agency.	Donor's father, Eric 'Digger' Day, managed the Gepps Cross Hostel when the Commonwealth handed it over to the SA Housing Trust. References: PN05081-89
PN05087	Hostel Grocery Shop	Interior view of Grocery Shop at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	Donor's father, Eric 'Digger' Day, managed the Gepps Cross Hostel when the Commonwealth handed it over to the SA Housing Trust. References: PN05081-89

PN05081	Hostel Post Office	Outside view of Post Office at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel, housed in a Nissen Hut.	Donor's father, Eric 'Digger' Day, managed the Gepps Cross Hostel when the Commonwealth handed it over to the SA Housing Trust. References: PN05101-08
PN05101	Hostel Creche	Children sitting on Temporary beds at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	Donor's father, Eric 'Digger' Day, managed the Gepps Cross Hostel when the Commonwealth handed it over to the SA Housing Trust. References: PN05121-24
PN05121	Hostel Staff	Administration staff of eight in front of building at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	Donor's father, Eric 'Digger' Day, managed the Gepps Cross Hostel when the Commonwealth handed it over to the SA Housing Trust. References: PN05081-89
PN05088	Hostel Milk Bar	Interior view, including customers, of Milk Bar at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	Donor's father, Eric 'Digger' Day, managed the Gepps Cross Hostel when the Commonwealth handed it over to the SA Housing Trust. References: PN05081-89
PN05089	Hostel Shopping Centre	Exterior view of four buildings, including three Nissen Huts, Housing the shopping centre at Gepps Cross Migrant Hostel.	
PN03381	Children at Hostel	TITLE OF ORIGINAL: Children at Hostel	1958, copyright still to be concluded, possibly Mrs. Johnson

Glenelg			
PN01153	Lajos vis prepares to sleep on footpath against fence outside Glenelg migrant hostel last night		Copyright: Advertiser. Period: 1960s
PN00507	Migrant hostel Glenelg	Exterior View of Glenelg Hostels, no human activity	Copyright Mortlock
PN00506	Migrant hostel Glenelg	Exterior View of Glenelg Hostels, no human activity	Copyright Mortlock
PN04863	Adrian Pitt and his brother with their boys outside a Nissen hut at Glenelg Migrant hostel.		1965, Ant. Mayer-Semmerling
PN04864	Adrian Pitt riding his tricycle outside Nissen huts at Glenelg hostel.		1965, Ant. Mayer-Semmerling
PN04409	Wanda Loader (back row) and her siblings outside their hut at Glenelg hostel. Polish parents migrated here in 1956 when she was 5 years old. They lived at Glenelg for four years. Her mother saved enough money to buy a house.		1950s
PN04410	Sophie Zachat (2nd left) with colleagues in the kitchen at Glenelg Hostel. She was the hostel's cook for 4 years.		1950s
PN04410	Kitchen staff at Glenelg Hostel.	Sophie Zachat (2nd left) with colleagues in the kitchen at Glenelg Hostel. She was the hostel's cook for 4 years.	1950s

Hendon			
PN01556	Rakowska Ms with mobile shop at Hostel at Hendon	TITLE OF ORIGINAL: Rakowska Ms with mobile shop at Hostel at Hendon	1950, Rakowska, Ms
Lobethal			
PN04006	Antoni and Anastajie Szach with John and baby daughter, Olga, in front of Lobethal Hostel (run by the Woollen Mills)		1952
Other Photos of Possible interest			
PN01053	Hostel furnishing		1958
PN01043	People on hostel road		1949
PN01016	Hostel store possibly Bonegilla camp		1949
PN00914	Migrants leave Customs Hall right to board buses for hostels Outer Harbour		1963
PN01086	Hostel manager inspecting divan bed		1958

Objects at Migration Museum of possible interest

Accession No:	Title/Main Title: (Title Details)	Description	Date Created	Object
HT 93.124 B (S)	INSTRUCTIONS	Instructions re travel and accommodation arrangements at Wacol Migrant Centre. Details name, destination, flight details, date of departure, date of arrival, accommodation required and signature. For related documents see HT 93.123 A - H (S), HT 93.124 A - D (S), HT 93.125 A - I (S).	1985	"INSTRUCTIONS" [HT 93.124 B (S)]
HT 93.124 A (S)	LETTER	Letter from Commonwealth Accommodation & Catering Services Ltd. detailing conditions and facilities available at Wacol Migrant Centre. For related documents see HT 93.123 A - H (S), HT 93.124 A - D (S), HT 93.125 A - I (S).	c1985	"LETTER" [HT 93.124 A (S)]
HT 93.124 C (S)	LETTER	List of names and addresses of migrant centres in Australia For related documents see HT 93.123 A - H (S), HT 93.124 A - D (S), HT 93.125 A - I (S).	c1985	"LETTER" [HT 93.124 C (S)]
HT 93.124 D (S)	LETTER	Details of prices and booking procedures for accommodation at migrant centres. For related documents see HT 93.123 A - H (S), HT 93.124 A - D (S), HT 93.125 A - I (S).	c1985	"LETTER" [HT 93.124 D (S)]

Accession No:	Title/Main Title: (Title Details)	Description	Date Created	Object
HT 2002.81 A (S)	MIGRANT HOSTEL RECEIPT	White paper rectangular in shape. Black print including lines for tearing around edge. Blue ink handwriting. One stamp placed in top left corner (South Australia Two Pence duty stamp). Receipt number 206636	c1965	"MIGRANT HOSTEL RECEIPT" [HT 2002.81 A (S)], unknown
HT 2002.81 B (S)	MIGRANT HOSTEL RECEIPT	Yellow rectangular paper with black printed table and blue ink handwriting. Receipt number 71030.	c1965	"MIGRANT HOSTEL RECEIPT" [HT 2002.81 B (S)], unknown

HT 2002.81 C (S)	MIGRANT HOSTEL RECEIPT	Yellow rectangular paper with black printed table and blue ink Receipt number 73798.	c1965	"MIGRANT HOSTEL RECEIPT" [HT 2002.81 C (S)], unknown
HT 2002.81 D (S)	MIGRANT HOSTEL RECEIPT	Yellow rectangular paper with red printed table and blue ink hand writing. Receipt number 43670.	c1965	"MIGRANT HOSTEL RECEIPT" [HT 2002.81 D (S)], unknown
HT 98.196 (S)	INSTRUCTION MANUAL	Commonwealth Hostels Limited. Operational Instruction No 3. Operation and care of equipment. Sydney, Central Office, November 1957. Typewritten sheets contained within two black boards held together by two metal screws.	1957	"INSTRUCTION MANUAL" [HT 98.196 (S)], Commonwealth Hostels Limited

HT 98.197 (S)	INSTRUCTION MANUAL	Commonwealth Hostels Limited. Manual of instructions & procedures No 71 issued to Catering Manager, Pennington. Typewritten sheets contained within two red covered boards held together by two metal screws.	1974	"INSTRUCTION MANUAL" [HT 98.197 (S)], Commonwealth Hostels Limited
HT 99.114 A B (S)	IRON-ON TRANSFERS (2 ROLLS)	Two continuous rolls of iron-on transfers each of 5cm diameter & spaced at 4cm intervals. Each transfer has a circular, decorative border around the inner border printed: COMMONWEALTH HOSTELS LIMITED. This surrounds an outline map of Australia with the initials C & H superimposed on each other in the centre. The transfer paper is almost transparent & tan-coloured with the backing shiny & transfer side matt. Each roll has a cardboard cylinder in the centre. A half circle of red paper is inserted into the roll, approx 0.5cm from the centre.	c1950	"IRON-ON TRANSFERS (2 ROLLS)" [HT 99.114 A B (S)]
HT 2003.90 (S)	SALARIED STAFF CODE	Loose typewritten pages held together with two brass screws between two hardboard sheets covered in blue plasticised material. The front cover has the title "Salaried Staff Code" embossed in gold lettering. On Flyleaf: COMMONWEALTH HOSTELS LIMITED CODE OF SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR SALARIED STAFF Contains amendments.	1976	"SALARIED STAFF CODE" [HT 2003.90 (S)], Commonwealth Hostels Limited

HT 2003.89 (S)	FILE SCHEDULE	<p>Loose typewritten pages held together with two brass screws between two cardboard sheets covered in brown plasticised material. The front cover has the title "File Schedule" embossed in gold lettering.</p> <p>On Flyleaf: COMMONWEALTH ACCOMMODATION & CATERING SERVICES LTD. CORRESPONDENCE MANUAL AND FILE SCHEDULE</p> <p>Contains amendments and some loose leaves</p>	c1970s	"FILE SCHEDULE" [HT 2003.89 (S)], Commonwealth Accommodation & Catering Service Ltd.
HT 2003.86 (S)	PROCEDURE MANUAL	<p>Loose typewritten pages held together in ring folder. Cover bound in blue plasticised material. The front cover has title "Personal Policies and Procedures Manual" and heading "Commonwealth Accommodation & Catering Service Ltd." embossed in gold lettering. Above all this is a gold embossed map of Australia with the letters "CACS" inside. Sections inside marked off with plasticised tabs.</p>	c1980s	"PROCEDURE MANUAL" [HT 2003.86 (S)], Commonwealth Accommodation & Catering Service Ltd.
HT 2003.79 A - F (S)	MAGAZINE	<p>Staff journal of Commonwealth Hostels Ltd. called "Company Tidings" vol.18,</p> <p>(a) no.1 (new series) February, 1979, 24 pages; (b) no.2 (new series) April 1979, 28 pages; (c) no.3 (new series) June, 1979, 36 pages; (d) no.4 (new series) August, 1979, 20 pages; (e) no.5 (new series) October, 1979, 28 pages; (f) no.6 (new series) December, 1979, 28 pages</p> <p>Text and photographic illustrations in black and white. Front covers of (b) and (f) in colour.</p>	1979	"MAGAZINE" [HT 2003.79 A - F (S)], Commonwealth Accommodation and Catering Services Ltd.
HT 2003.83 A - F (S)	MAGAZINE	<p>Staff journal of Commonwealth Hostels Ltd. called "Company Tidings" vol.22,</p> <p>(a) no.1 (new series) February, 1983, 24 pages; (b) no.2 (new series) April 1983, 16 pages; (c) no.3 (new series) June, 1983, 16 pages; (d) no.4 (new series) August, 1983, 24 pages; (e) no.5 (new series) October, 1983, 24 pages; (f) no.6 (new series) December, 1983, 20 pages.</p> <p>Text and photographic illustrations in black and white. Front cover of (f) in colour.</p>	1983	"MAGAZINE" [HT 2003.83 A - F (S)], Commonwealth Accommodation and Catering Services Ltd.

HT 2003.78 A - D (S)	MAGAZINE	Staff journal of Commonwealth Hostels Ltd. called "Company Tidings" vol.17, (a) no.3 (new series) June, 1978, 28 pages; (b) no.4 (new series) August 1978, 28 pages; (c) no.5 (new series) October, 1978, 24 pages; (d) no.6 (new series) December, 1978, 32 pages. Text and photographic illustrations in black and white. Front covers of (b) and (d) in colour.	1978	"MAGAZINE" [HT 2003.78 A - D (S)], Commonwealth Accommodation and Catering Services Ltd.
HT 2003.77 (S)	MAGAZINE	Staff journal of Commonwealth Hostels Ltd. called 'Company Tidings' vol.16, no.5 (new series) October, 1977, 24 pages. Text and photographic illustrations in black and white.	1977	"MAGAZINE" [HT 2003.77 (S)], Commonwealth Accommodation and Catering Services Ltd.
HT 2003.82 A - E (S)	MAGAZINE	Staff journal of Commonwealth Hostels Ltd. called "Company Tidings" vol.21, (a) no.1 (new series) February, 1982, 24 pages; (b) no.2 (new series) April 1982, 20 pages; (c) no.3 (new series) June, 1982, 16 pages; (d) no.4 (new series) August, 1982, 20 pages; (e) no.5 (new series) October, 1982, 26 pages; Text and photographic illustrations in black and white.	1982	"MAGAZINE" [HT 2003.82 A - E (S)], Commonwealth Accommodation and Catering Services Ltd.

HT 2003.81 A - D (S)	MAGAZINE	Staff journal of Commonwealth Hostels Ltd. called "Company Tidings" vol.20, (a) no.1 (new series) February, 1981, 28 pages; (b) no.2 (new series) April 1981, 20 pages; (c) no.3 (new series) June, 1981, 24 pages; (d) no.5 (new series) December, 1981, 20 pages; Text and photographic illustrations in black and white. Front covers of all in colour.	1981	"MAGAZINE" [HT 2003.81 A - D (S)], Commonwealth Accommodation and Catering Services Ltd.
HT 2003.80 A - E (S)	MAGAZINE	Staff journal of Commonwealth Hostels Ltd. called "Company Tidings" vol.19, (a) no.1 (new series) February, 1980, 32 pages; (b) no.2 (new series) April 1980, 32 pages; (c) no.3 (new series) June, 1980, 28 pages; (d) no.5 (new series) October, 1980, 32 pages; (e) no.6 (new series) December, 1980, 24 pages Text and photographic illustrations in black and white. Front cover of (e) in colour.	1980	"MAGAZINE" [HT 2003.80 A - E (S)], Commonwealth Accommodation and Catering Services Ltd.
HT 2003.85 (S)	PROCEDURE MANUAL	Loose typewritten pages held together with two brass screws between two hard board sheets covered in red plasticised material. The front cover has title "Manual of Instructions and Procedures" embossed in gold lettering, contains amendments Flyleaf reads: COMMONWEALTH HOSTELS LIMITED MANUAL OF INSTRUCTIONS & PROCEDURES NO. 120 ISSUED TO: M. MOLL	c1970s	"PROCEDURE MANUAL" [HT 2003.85 (S)], Commonwealth Hostels Limited

HT 97.508 L (S)	DP INDEX CARD	<p>This DP index card was issued by the Allied Expeditionary Force for Vygandes Mazelis (born in 1947, while his parents were DPs). The front of the card contains the words ‘Allied Expeditionary Force DP Index Card’, the number he was given, G11378983, his name and father’s signature. Printed diagonally across the card are the words ‘Not a Pass’. On the back of the card is printed ‘keep this card at all times to assist your safe return home. The Registration Number and your name identify you and your Registration Record.’ Stamped in red ink onto the back of the card is ‘Team 206 Freiburg. UNRRA’.</p> <p>See also HT 97.508 A - T(S).</p>	1947	"DP INDEX CARD" [HT 97.508 L (S)]
HT 97.508 T (S)	TRANSLATION OF COPY OF UNIVERSITY DEGREE	<p>A translation of Janina Mazeliene's university degree, which has been typed onto a buff coloured sheet of paper. The translation has been organised by the Lithuanian National Group (in Freiburg).</p> <p>See also University Degree HT 97.508 Q (S).</p>	c1945 - 1949	"TRANSLATION OF COPY OF UNIVERSITY DEGREE" [HT 97.508 T (S)]
HT 97.508 M (S)	DP INDEX CARD	<p>This DP index card was issued by the Allied Expeditionary Force for Daina Antanina Mazelyte (daughter of DPs Janina and Antanas Mazelis). The front of the card contains the words ‘Allied Expeditionary Force. DP Index Card’, the number Daina was given, AO2116473, and her name. The card has not been signed. Printed diagonally across the card are the words ‘Not a Pass’. On the back of the card is printed ‘Keep this card at all times to assist your safe return home. The Registration Number and your name identify you and your Registration Record.’</p> <p>See also HT 97.508 A - T (S).</p>	c1945 - 1947	"DP INDEX CARD" [HT 97.508 M (S)]

HT 97.508 J (S)	DP INDEX CARD	<p>This DP Index Card was issued by the Allied Expeditionary Force to Janina Mazeliene. The front of the card contains the words 'Allied Expeditionary Force. DP Index Card', the No. she was given, AO2116472, her name and signature. Printed diagonally across the card are the words 'Not a pass'. On the back of the card is printed 'Keep this card at all times to assist your safe return home. The Registration Number and your name identify you and your Registration Record'. Stamped in green ink on to the back of the card is 'United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. UNRRA Team 206.'</p> <p>See also HT 97.508 A - T (S).</p>	c1945 - 1947	"DP INDEX CARD" [HT 97.508 J (S)]
HT 97.508 G (S)	CERTIFICATE	<p>This is a Certificate of Authority to Remain in Australia, issued to Antanas Mazelis. It has been signed by the authority of the Minister for Immigration and is dated 31 May 1951. It entitled Antanas to remain in Australia indefinitely.</p> <p>See also HT 97.508 A - T (S).</p>	c1951	"CERTIFICATE" [HT 97.508 G (S)]
HT 97.508 I (S)	LETTER	<p>A letter addressed to Antanas Mazelis, on Dept of Immigration letterhead, dated 13 June 1951. Advises him that his 'application for release from exemption under the provisions of the Immigration Act has been approved' and that a Certificate of Authority to Remain in Australia will be forwarded.</p> <p>See also HT 97.508 A - T (S).</p>	1951	"LETTER" [HT 97.508 I (S)]

HT 97.508 P (S)	TRANSLATION OF BIRTH EXTRACT	A translation of Janina Mazeliene's birth certificate, which has been typed on to a white sheet of paper. The translation has been verified and signed by the President of the Lithuanian National Group in Freiburg, Myk Varanius. (see also birth extract HT 97.508 S (S).	1948	"TRANSLATION OF BIRTH EXTRACT" [HT 97.508 P (S)]
HT 97.508 N (S)	PASSPORT	A Lithuanian passport, issued to Janina Mazeliene. On the cover of the passport is printed 'Lietuva Lithuania Lithuanie', the word 'PASAS' and the emblem of King Vytautas. The passport contains information on the number, names, ages and sex of accompanying children, a photograph, description of face shape, eye and hair colour, profession, place of birth, date of birth, marital status and place of residence. It was issued in 1945 by the Lithuanian consulat at Wurttemberg. See also HT 97.508 A - T (S).	c1945	"PASSPORT" [HT 97.508 N (S)]
HT 97.508 K (S)	DP INDEX CARD	The front of this card contains the words 'Allied Expeditionary Force. DP Index Card', the name of Antanas Mazelis, his signature and the no he was given, AO 2116471. Printed diagonally across the card are the words 'Not a Pass'. On the back of the card is printed 'Keep this card at all times to assist your safe return home. The Registration Number and your name identify you and your Registration Record.' Stamped in green ink on the back of the card is 'United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. UNRRA Team 206.' See also HT 97.508 A - T (S).	c1945 - 1947	"DP INDEX CARD" [HT 97.508 K (S)]
HT 97.508 O (S)	PASSPORT	A Lithuanian passport issued to Antanas Mazelis. On the cover of the passport is printed 'Lietuva Lithuania Lithuanie', the word 'PASAS' and the emblem of King Vytautas. The passport contains information on the number, names, ages and sex of accompanying children, a photograph, description of face shape, eye and hair colour, profession, place of birth, date of birth, marital status and place of residence. It was issued in 1945 by the Lithuanian consulat at Wurttemberg.	c1945	"PASSPORT" [HT 97.508 O (S)]

HT 97.508 C (S)	TEMPORARY PASSPORT (FREMDENPASS)	A booklet, the cover of which is a salmon colour, and printed with the words 'DEUTSCHES REICH, VORLAUFIGER FREMDENPASS', the Nr 09819G/43 and the Nazi insignia. Issued to Antanas Mazelis, while he lived in Freiburg, by the German authorities. It contains details including nationality, which is described as previously Lithuanian and now stateless. His occupation is given as arbeiter (worker), his place of birth Andrioniskis. His birthdate, appearance and a photograph are also included. See also HT 97.508 A - T (S)	c1944	"TEMPORARY PASSPORT (FREMDENPASS)" [HT 97.508 C (S)]
HT 97.508 H (S)	TEMPORARY PASSPORT	Temporary passport issued in Kauė, Lithuania, and stamped with the Nazi insignia. It includes information on Janina Mazeliene's nationality (Lithuanian), date of birth, father's name, profession (doctor) and place of residence. It was for use only in the interior, and it has been issued according to a law of 1937. The paper is blue, but is now discoloured with age. See also HT 97.508 A - T (S).	1941	"TEMPORARY PASSPORT" [HT 97.508 H (S)]
HT 97.508 D (S)	IDENTITY CARD	This is a folding booklet, consisting of 3 pages (10 x 14.3cm). It is a light brown colour. The cover is printed with the words 'Comite National Lithuanien - Lithuanian National Committee - Lietuviu Tautinis Komitetas'. 'CARTE D'IDENTITE, CARD OF IDENTITY, ASMENS PAZYMEJIMAS'. A date - 30-7-45? - appears to have been written in the top left corner. The card contains a photo of Janina Mazeliene, the Nr 28, her name, birth date, signature, profession (doctor) and the signatures of the president and secretary of the Lithuanian Committee. It has been stamped (in black ink) twice by the Lithuanian Committee, Freiburg. Also printed in the card is a verification that the holder is Lithuanian and a citizen of Lithuania. It has been stamped in purple by the Military Government under the heading VISAS. Information has been filled out on the stamp in handwriting, including name, nationality, profession and address. See also HT 97.508 A - T (S).	1945	"IDENTITY CARD" [HT 97.508 D (S)]

HT 97.508 R (S)	WORK CARD	This card belonged to Janina Mazeliene, and was issued by the IRO at Freiburg. It appears to be a work record for the months August to December. It is a piece of card (15 x 21.5cm) folded in half. The front cover contains details - name, sex, date of birth, place of birth, nationality and address, and two numbers have been recorded, DP card no and ID card no. See also HT 97.508 A - T (S).	c1945 - 1949	"WORK CARD" [HT 97.508 R (S)]
HT 97.508 E (S)	NATURALISATION CERTIFICATE	The certificate has become discoloured with age; it was probably white originally. At the top of the certificate is an image of Queen Elizabeth II. It is a Certificate of Naturalisation as an Australian citizen. On the back of the certificate are details about Janina, her occupation (medical student), address, place of birth, appearance, marital status and prior nationality. See also HT 97.508 A - T (S).	1961	"NATURALISATION CERTIFICATE" [HT 97.508 E (S)]
HT 97.508 Q (S)	COPY OF UNIVERSITY DEGREE	Believed to be an official (unsigned) copy of Janina Mazeliene's university degree. She graduated from medicine in 1940 at the University of Vytautas the Great. At the top of the certificate is an image of Vytautas. See also HT 97.508 T (S) for translation.	1942	"COPY OF UNIVERSITY DEGREE" [HT 97.508 Q (S)]

HT 97.508 S (S)	BIRTH CERTIFICATE EXTRACT	Extract from the Register of Births of the St Petersburg's Metropolitan Roman Catholic Parish Church. States that Janina Mazeliene was born in 1912 and baptised in 1913. She was the daughter of Dominikas Skibniauskas, nobleman, and Kazimira Sakalauskas. The document has been stamped by the Church in purple ink and what looks like a postage stamp has been affixed to the top. See translation HT 97.508 P (S)	1918	"BIRTH CERTIFICATE EXTRACT" [HT 97.508 S (S)]
HT 99.113 A - D (S)	MEAL TICKETS (4 ROLLS)	a) A roll of pink coloured, pre-printed & perforated tickets. They were printed in Sydney & each ticket is numbered sequentially. Each ticket has written COMMONWEALTH HOSTELS LTD/ MEAL/40c. b) A roll of grey coloured, pre-printed & perforated tickets. They are printed as above apart from the value of 50c. c) A roll of light blue, pre-printed & perforated tickets. They are printed & written as above, however these tickets were used prior to decimal currency change-over on 14 February 1966 & the value written is 5/-. d) A roll of light tan coloured, pre-printed & perforated tickets. These do not have a price marked, instead they say STAFF/ MEAL. There were a number of rolls donated to the museum & these rolls are representative.	c1960	"MEAL TICKETS (4 ROLLS)" [HT 99.113 A - D (S)]
HT 99.113 A (S)	MEAL TICKETS (1 ROLL)	a) A roll of pink coloured, pre-printed & perforated tickets. They were printed in Sydney & each ticket is numbered sequentially. Each ticket has written COMMONWEALTH HOSTELS LTD/ MEAL/40c.	c1960	"MEAL TICKETS (1 ROLL)" [HT 99.113 A (S)]
HT 99.113 B (S)	MEAL TICKETS (1 ROLL)	b) A roll of grey coloured, pre-printed & perforated tickets. They are printed as above apart from the value of 50c.	c1960	"MEAL TICKETS (1 ROLL)" [HT 99.113 B (S)]
HT 99.113 C (S)	MEAL TICKETS (1 ROLL)	c) A roll of light blue, pre-printed & perforated tickets. They are printed & written as above, however these tickets were used prior to decimal currency change-over on 14 February 1966 & the value written is 5/-.	c1960	"MEAL TICKETS (1 ROLL)" [HT 99.113 C (S)]
HT 99.113 D (S)	MEAL TICKETS (1 ROLL)	d) A roll of light tan coloured, pre-printed & perforated tickets. These do not have a price marked, instead they say STAFF/ MEAL. There were a number of rolls donated to the museum & these rolls are representative.	c1960	"MEAL TICKETS (1 ROLL)" [HT 99.113 D (S)]

HT 97.508 F (S)	CERTIFICATE	<p>The certificate has been printed on off-white paper. It is a certificate for crossing the Equator, dated 17-?-1949. It was issued to Janina Mazelis, who was on board the M.S. Skaugum. The certificate is in Lithuanian. There is a raised red seal on the bottom of the certificate and Neptune is depicted at the top.</p> <p>See also HT 97.508 A - T (S)</p>	c1949	"CERTIFICATE" [HT 97.508 F (S)]
HT 97.508 B (S)	TEMPORARY PASSPORT (FREMDENPASS)	<p>The cover of this booklet is a salmon colour, and is printed with the words: 'Deutsches Reich. Vorlaufiger Fremdenpass', the No 09818G/43 and with the Nazi insignia. Issued to Janina Mazeliene, while she lived in Freiburg, by the German authorities. It is a temporary passport issued to foreigners. Janina's nationality is described as previously Lithuanian but now stateless. Her occupation is given as housewife, her place of birth Petersburg, her date of birth, appearance and a photograph are included.</p> <p>See also HT 97.508 (S) A - T (S).</p>	c1944	"TEMPORARY PASSPORT (FREMDENPASS)" [HT 97.508 B (S)]