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T A S M A N I A N
Y E A R B O O K



TASMANIAN YEAR BOOK
1990

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Frontispiece: Aboriginal midden composed mostly of abalone shells at Nye Bay, South-West Tasmania. Such sites of prehistoric human habitation are of archaeological importance and meet one of the criteria that resulted in this area being included as part of the extension to the World Heritage Area (see p. 28).
Photograph: Edward Gall

Endpapers: *Photograph: Tasmanian Archives*



TASMANIAN OFFICE

**TASMANIAN
YEAR BOOK
No. 22: 1990**

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**DEPUTY COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN
AND GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN OF TASMANIA**

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GENERAL INFORMATION

SYMBOLS

The following symbols, where used, mean:

ASIC	Australian Standard Industrial Classification
n.a.	not available
n.e.c.	not elsewhere classified
n.e.i.	not elsewhere included
n.p.	not available for separate publication but included in totals where applicable
n.y.a.	not yet available
p	preliminary - figure or series subject to revision
r	figure or series revised since previous issue
..	not applicable
-	nil or rounded to zero
—	break in continuity of the series (where drawn across a column between two consecutive figures)

Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

Where reference is made to Acts of the Commonwealth or State Parliaments, the year quoted refers to the year in which the principal Act was passed; all subsequent amendments are inferred.

VALUES AND MEASURES

Values are shown in Australian dollars (\$) or cents (c).

LOCAL NAMES OF CERTAIN REGIONS

Tasmanians describe certain regions in a manner confusing to strangers; nevertheless this book employs local usage in most contexts. The chief peculiarities are:

North-West Coast: The *north* coast from approximately Port Sorell, west to Cape Grim is called the *North-West Coast*.

North-East Coast: The *north* coast from approximately Low Head, east to Cape Portland is called the *North-East Coast*. With most of the north coast referred to as either 'north-west' or 'north-east' the term 'north' is rarely applied to this coastal region.

West Coast: The Tasmanian *West Coast* may also refer only to the mining settlements of Queenstown, Rosebery, etc. In other contexts, the user may be thinking of inland mountains and rainforests rather than of a coastline.

Midlands: The true *Midlands* are probably the Central Plateau but the Tasmanian term means the rural area east of the Plateau and lying along the axis of the Hobart-Launceston road (the *Midland Highway*).

PREFACE

It has been almost two years since the last issue of the *Tasmanian Year Book* was produced. A lot of things have happened in that period and a good part of that activity is reflected in the pages in this volume.

Since 1967 the production of the *Year Book* has provided an invaluable chronicle of the State of Tasmania. This comes not just from the statistical information which forms the core of the volume, but also from the wide array of written material which supplements those figures. This combination of figures and commentary is an ideal way of presenting a picture of the State. The picture is made up of many components: government, law and order; all facets of industry; health and education; sport; transport and communication — to mention but a few.

A lot of effort has gone into the production of this volume and it shows. I am indebted to all those members of the ABS Office in Tasmania who have contributed their skills and energy to making this volume possible. With a special thank you to those staff who have tackled elements of the new office technology in the production of the manuscript. I would also like to thank all those people from outside our organisation who have written commentary, supplied photographs, updated existing information or provided useful suggestions.

Statistics are not just created. They are derived from information supplied to the ABS on statistical returns completed by individuals, businesses, Commonwealth, State and local government authorities, and other organisations. The ABS appreciates and relies on the assistance of these people and organisations in all its work.

The statistics presented in this volume are only a fraction of those available. If more detail, or statistics over a longer time frame are required, there are references at the end of each chapter that provide sources of further information.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics also provides an Information Service which, on request, supplies available statistical information and publications. All publications of the ABS and other statistical material are held in the Office library which is open to the public for reference purposes. People in business, manufacturers, primary producers, government authorities, students and the public generally are invited to make use of these services. Anyone requiring advice about the availability or interpretation of statistical information is invited to contact the Information Officer on (002) 20 5800.

And if your requirements go beyond just the use of our statistics, then maybe we can help you with our Statistical Consultancy Services: designing surveys and survey forms, and analysing results. Our consultants provide expert advice and accurate information to meet a wide variety of statistical needs — personally, quickly and professionally.

I hope you enjoy this book and find it to be useful over many years to come.

STUART JACKSON
Deputy Commonwealth Statistician
and
Government Statistician of Tasmania

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CHAPTER 1: HISTORY AND CHRONOLOGY

J. Clark

CHAPTER 2: PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Bureau of Meteorology
Department of Parks, Wildlife and Heritage
Department of the Environment
Dr Winifred Curtis
Forestry Commission

CHAPTER 3: GOVERNMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

Clerk of the Legislative Council
Department of the Premier and Cabinet
Department of Public Administration
Electoral Department
Australian Information Service
Government House

CHAPTER 4: LAW AND ORDER

Tasmania Police
Department of Justice

CHAPTER 5: PUBLIC FINANCE

Treasury Department

CHAPTER 7: LABOUR AND THE WORKPLACE

Department of Employment, Education and Training (Commonwealth)
Department of Employment, Industrial Relations and Training (Tasmania)

CHAPTER 8: SPORT, RECREATION AND RELIGION

Department of Sport and Recreation
J. Clark
R. Finlay

CHAPTER 9: EDUCATION

Australian Maritime College
Calvin Christian School
Education Department
State Library
Tasmanian State Institute of Technology
Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery
University of Tasmania

CHAPTER 10: HEALTH

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CHAPTER 14: MINING

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CHAPTER 15: FISHING

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CHAPTER 16: ENERGY

Hydro-Electric Commission

CHAPTER 17: MANUFACTURING

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CHAPTER 18: HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION

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Master Builders Association
Department of Housing
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CHAPTER 19: TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

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Australian National Railways Commission
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Australia Post
Australian Broadcasting Tribunal
Federal Airports Corporation
Transport Tasmania

CHAPTER 20: TRADE

Burnie Port Authority

CHAPTER 21: COMMERCE

Australian Stock Exchange Limited
The Tasmania Bank
Dr Alf Hagger