

## Unsettled Matter : Legacy of Japanese Internment in Australia

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During World War II, the Australian Government applied wholesale internment to Japanese residents in Australia. The Japanese community in Australia was small and easily identifiable. The catch-all policies which were applied to Japanese in Australia were simple and expedient. The Japanese were held in three internment camps which were located inland. As a result of internment and the subsequent deportation of most Japanese residents after the war, pre-war Japanese communities in Australia were largely snuffed out. Only a handful Japanese Australians were allowed to remain in Australia after the war. The purpose of my paper is twofold. Firstly, I will give an overview of the Japanese internment experience in Australia - from internment to repatriation/deportation. I will then focus on a few individual Japanese Australians still living in Australia to describe what internment meant for them, its effects and where they are now in contemporary Australian society.