Remembering Territory families

After the War

Des Nudl recalled.

We moved into the other house in 1938. And that was on high piers, with two water tanks on either side at the back, an outhouse, and a well down the back. And it was make of slatted timber outside walls with fibro louvers and slatted timber shutters. The central walls, I think, were made of a fibrous-type sheeting. But the walls never went to the ceiling or the floor, so that there was full air-flow right through the house. And we lived there till we left – we were evacuated – on Boxing Day 1941.

We had electricity in those days. The only water we had was rain water and well water. And we always had an Aborigine working in, you know, at home. Everyone in those days had an Aborigine family which done the laundry, and a bit of gardening and scrubbed the floors. And at that time we had a lovely old fellow called Paddy, and he used to carry me around on his back while he was scrubbing floors...

[Northern Territory Archives Service NTRS 226, TS 620 and NTRS 219, TP 745, Des Nudl]