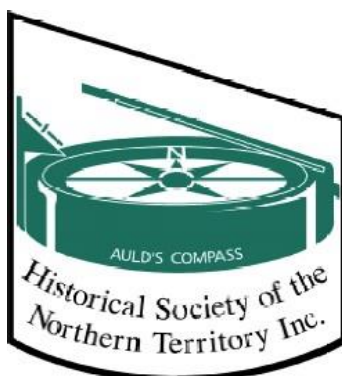


***History in a Box*** is modelled on the Australian War Memorial's '*Museum in a Box*'. The idea is to make the boxes available on a short-term loan basis to a range of school and community groups to use for their own displays and teaching. The boxes, each on a different topic, feature a pull-up banner, a series of 10 mounted photographs, lecture notes, quizzes and puzzles.

This first demonstration kit features Port Darwin Camp and arrival of the colonists. George Goyder with his party of 138 arrived in Port Darwin in 1869 to survey the town of Palmerston [re-named Darwin in 1911]. They established camp, immediately encountering Larrakia, Woolner and other Aboriginal peoples. Goyder's Park at Darwin's waterfront now marks that site.



Port Darwin Camp circa 1870, SS Gulnare at anchor [NT Library collection]



## **HISTORY IN A BOX:**

**Port Darwin Camp: the coming of the colonists**



**HISTORY IN A BOX:**  
Port Darwin Camp:  
the coming of the colonists

On 5 February 1869, George Goyder and a survey party of 138 men arrived in Port Darwin aboard the Moonta. They quickly established a camp, encountering Larrakia, Woolner and other Aboriginal people, some of whom had met white men from previous expeditions.

Goyder was the Surveyor-General of South Australia and had to survey what was then called the town of Palmerston. His nickname was Little Energy and his task was - incredibly - achieved within six months.

The most pressing issue for the party was fresh water. A government well was established at Doctor's Gully to supply the camp in the saddle between Stokes and Fort Hills.

The survey party created the first road in Darwin. Now known as Hughes Avenue, the road wasn't named until much later. It wasn't just the town of Palmerston that was surveyed; Goyder's work took in 650-660,000 acres (263-267,000 hectares) in the Top End, including Virginia, Southport, Daly and Fred's Pass.

Two members of the party lost their lives: John Bennett, Draftsman, was speared by Aborigines; and Richard Hazard, Cook, died after falling ill. Both were buried on Fort Hill.

The only remnant of the original camp is Goyder's Park at Darwin's waterfront.

**HISTORY IN A BOX:**

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