

**AN HISTORICAL ASSESSMENT OF ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT, MANUFACTURING AND THE
POLITICAL ECONOMY OF QUEENSLAND, 1900 TO
1930**

David Bruce Cameron
B.A. Hons.

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Statement of Originality

To the best of my knowledge and belief, this thesis contains no material previously published or written by another person except as acknowledged in the text. It has not been submitted, either in whole or in part, for a degree at this or any other university

David Cameron
1999

25 February

ABSTRACT

The contribution of manufacturing to the economic development of Queensland has been much more significant than has generally been acknowledged in the state's historiography. Manufacturing has been fundamentally important to the growth of the Queensland economy by allowing the conversion of many primary industry commodities into products valued in overseas and interstate markets and providing an industrial capacity to support infrastructure development and many of the everyday goods consumed by the people of Queensland. Manufacturing has also provided avenues of employment and commercial activity in the urban centres across Queensland and, in particular, in the south-eastern region. Queensland's secondary industries managed to expand and diversify despite many economic difficulties and the apathy of successive Queensland governments from the nineteenth century and well into the first half of the twentieth century.

This thesis examines the central features of economic development in Queensland and the relationship between industrial development, particularly the manufacturing industries, and the political economy from the earliest years of European settlement to the early decades of the twentieth century. This study provides a general assessment of economic development in the nineteenth century and a comprehensive empirically based economic history of all industry sectors in Queensland, with an emphasis on the manufacturing sector, for the period 1900 to 1930. Using the fullest body of statistical and qualitative sources possible, this thesis analyses the various economic, social, political, ideological, geographical, and sociological factors that have influenced the form and character of economic and industrial development and manufacturing in Queensland.

The manufacturing sector has been much maligned and marginalised in Queensland; the populist anti-urban, anti-industrial and anti-centralist attitudes of successive Queensland governments have been powerful deterrents to urban and industrial progress. In Queensland the agrarian dream held steadfast and governments continually implemented rural development schemes intended to populate the interior through the promotion of closer settlement. With the political process infused by a significant rural bias very little assistance was directed towards the state's manufacturing sector which managed, nevertheless, to expand to be, in terms of its value of production, Queensland's most valuable industry sector by the mid-1920s.

This thesis by addressing the paucity of economic history specific to Queensland; its comprehensive quantitative empirical foundation; its focus on the development of Queensland's secondary industries; and for its use of an extensive body of archival sources to present a comprehensive analysis of the economic development of Queensland, makes a significant contribution towards broadening an understanding of Queensland's economic and political history. From another perspective, the significance of this research lies with the implications associated with an examination of the lack of social identification in Queensland with industrialism and ideals that were generally unsympathetic towards an industrial society. A consideration of this anti-industrial hegemony is crucial to any analysis of the social, political, economic, and cultural development of Queensland.

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Abbreviations

AA	Australian Archives
ABCQS	A.B.C. of Queensland Statistics
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
AIPL	Australian Industries Protection League
ANA	Australian Natives Association
APL	Australian Protection League
'A&SR'	'Agriculture and Stock Report'
BC	Brisbane Courier
BCC	Brisbane Chamber of Commerce
BCCAR	Brisbane Chamber of Commerce Annual Report
BCM	Brisbane Chamber of Manufacturers
B&DSMU	Bundaberg and District Sugar Manufacturers' Union
BMA	Brisbane Merchants' Association
BPP	Books, Paper and Printing
CDC	Constitution Defence Committee
CFT	Clothing, Footwear and Textiles
COA	Council of Agriculture
CPB	Commonwealth Production Bulletins
CPD	Commonwealth Parliamentary Debates
CPNP	Country Progressive National Party
CPP	Commonwealth Parliamentary Papers
CWMV	Coaches, Wagons and Motor Vehicles
DAB	Dairy Advisory Board
DM	Daily Mail (Brisbane)
DS	Daily Standard (Brisbane)
EBM	Earthen Building Materials
F&B	Furniture and Bedding
F&D	Food and Drink
'F&SR'	'Factories and Shops Report'
GDP/GNP	Gross Domestic/National Product
HLP	Heat Light and Power
IAB	Industries Assistance Board
IMAQ	Iron Masters' Association of Queensland
I-SC	Inter-State Commission
JCUA	James Cook University Archives
JOL	John Oxley Library
LPA	Local Producers' Associations
MCC	Maryborough Chamber of Commerce
MCCAR	Maryborough Chamber of Commerce Annual Report
M&M	Metals and Machinery
'Mines'	Mines Department Annual Report
NBAC	Noel Butlin Archives Centre
NLA	National Library of Australia
NSWCM	New South Wales Chamber of Manufacturers
QCA	Queensland Council of Agriculture
QCM	Queensland Chamber of Manufacturers

Abbreviations

QEF	Queensland Employers' Federation
QIG	Queensland Industrial Gazette
QPA	Queensland Producers' Association
QPADC	Queensland Producers' Association District Council
QPD	Queensland Parliamentary Debates
QPL	Queensland Protection League
QPP	Queensland Parliamentary Papers
QSA	Queensland State Archives
QSS	Statistics of the State of Queensland
QYB	Queensland Year Book
RCC	Rockhampton Chamber of Commerce
RCCAR	Rockhampton Chamber of Commerce Annual Report
'R-GAPS'	Registrar General's Report on Agricultural and Pastoral Statistics
S&O	Specialised and Other
SPA	State Produce Agency
TCC	Townsville Chamber of Commerce
TCCAR	Townsville Chamber of Commerce Annual Report
TRM	Treating Raw Materials
UQFL	University of Queensland Fryer Library
WW	Working in Wood

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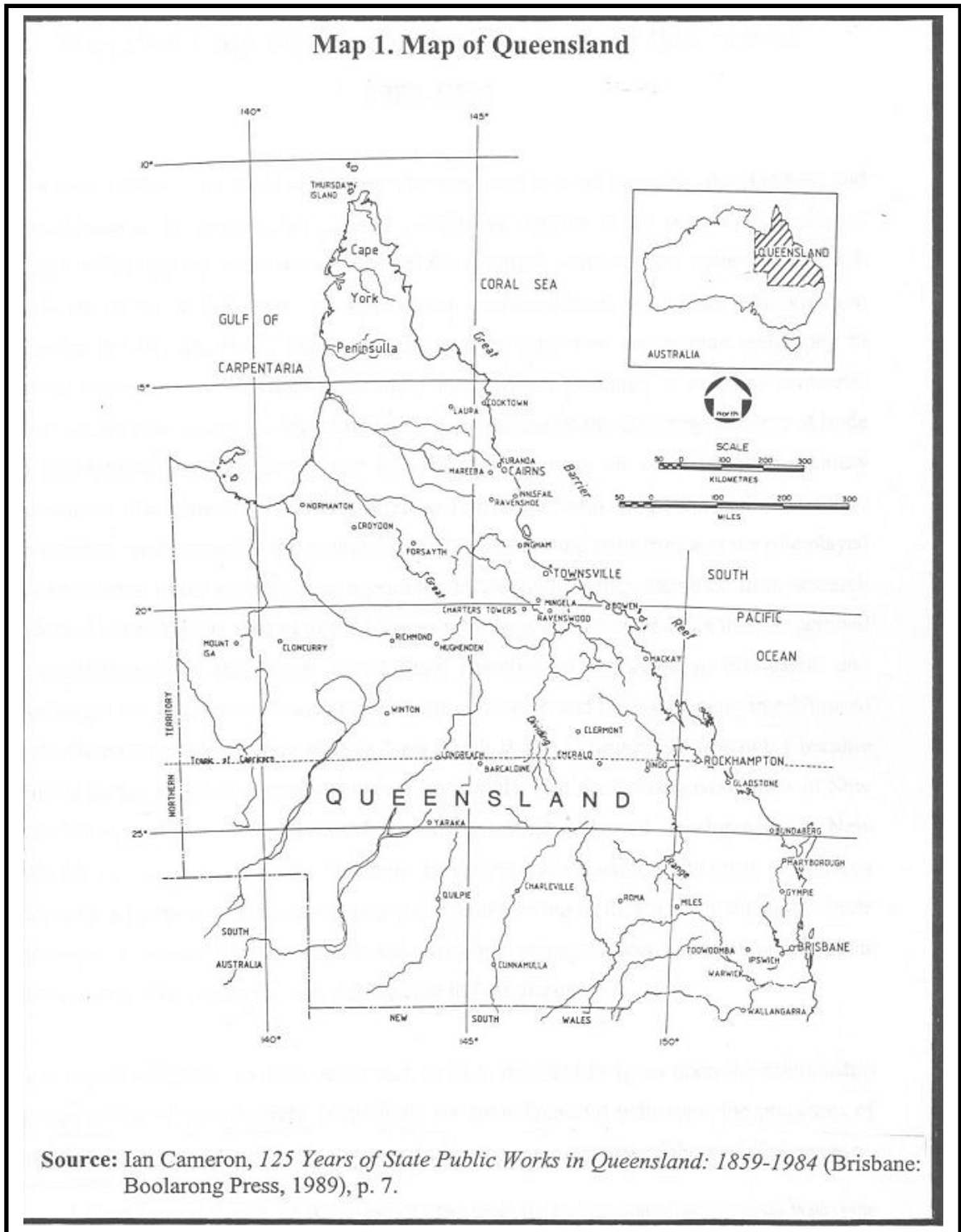
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