

# The Australian Women's Register

---

**Entry type:** Person  
**Entry ID:** AWE6109

## Balbuk, Fanny

(1840 - 1907)

---

**Born** 1 January, 1840, Heirisson Island, Swan River Western Australia Australia

---

**Died** 20 March, 1907, Perth Western Australia Australia

---

**Occupation** Aboriginal rights activist

---

### Summary

Fanny Balbuk was a prominent Noongar woman and an informant on Noongar culture and history to anthropologist Daisy Bates. She is renowned for protesting at Government House about the occupation of her traditional land around Perth.

The information which Fanny Balbuk passed on to Daisy Bates played an important role in the native title claim of 19 September 2006, whereby Justice Wilcox of the Federal Court of Australia found that Noongar people held native title rights over parts of the Perth area.

### Archival resources

**National Library of Australia, Manuscript Collection**  
[Papers of Daisy Bates, 1833-1990 \[manuscript\]](#)

**State Library of Western Australia**  
[Papers, 1907-1940 \[manuscript\]](#)

### Author Details

Alannah Croom

**Created** 23 December 2017  
**Last modified** 12 February 2019