This is the outline for a proposed history of Walker* Press which Lyndon Shea developed. The history was not written due to his untimely death.

Plan for a History of Walker* Press

Summary of Proposal

Initially it is intended that the project would locate, collect and catalogue material produced by Walker* Press and the in-house activities relating to change in education, anti-racism and other political and cultural doings, in the period from 1973 - 1982.

The project would also attempt to locate and interview all the people who were principally involved and a selection of those who were involved more peripherally. The interviews will concentrate on their views of what happened, what was achieved, what were the values underpinning the activities, how the experience has affected their careers and involvements since, and an account of what they have achieved.

The intellectual background will be reviewed in depth; this will include the radical education writers of the early 1970s such as Ivan Illich and Paulo Freire; the theoretical and information basis for the Liberation struggles in Africa, with an emphasis on Southern Africa; the evolution and rationale for the Aboriginal Land Rights movement and its support activities in Australia; writing on issues of Colonialism, Corporate Power and Development; the Environment movement; the Women's Movement, Access and Media, and other writings which were considered an important influence on the involvements.

Walker* Press served a movement consisting of organisations concerned with Open Education, African Nationalism; Aboriginal Rights; Aid and Development; Environmental issues; Peace and Anti-Nuclear Activities; The Women's Movement; Trade Unions and Left Political Parties; Community and Cultural Groups and other publishing houses.

Included will be individual accounts of campaigns, incidents and significant events. These may include: the Woolies Fish Campaign; the Purchase of 21-23 Smith Street Fitzroy; the Eysenck & Jensen involvement (Campaign Against Racist Pseudo Science), the Education Subscription Service Grant - losing it; South African ships; Blinky Bill, the People's King of Moomba; Shareholders for Social Responsibility; the Occupation of The Age (re Michael Barnard). There will be others added according to people's perception of their significance and/or interest.

The themes which emerge from the study, both those which were articulated at the time and those which may emerge in review of the background, the materials and the interviews. Among these are:

- a commitment to open access in learning how to print; and to expand access to the medium by producing high quality work at the lowest possible cost.
- Serving the Cause - being resourceful with very few resources; taking only a poverty wage.
- Energetic involvement in Political Action; first commitment to action to produce political, social or attitudinal change.

- Given that the purpose of liberation is to have some fun, producing lively, entertaining and highly accessible publications.
- We weren't paranoid, but occasionally they did try to get us.
- Attempts to relate the political to the personal
- Participative democracy - learning by doing everything.
- The politics of Altruism - the sensitivity of Support Movements.

The analysis of Walker* Press activities will locate itself in the context of the broad progressive political movement of the time, and advance a view of what that movement consisted of.

The impact of the activities will be evaluated from the points of view of those directly involved, of those affected directly, and other with a different perspective. There will be a critical appraisal of what went on and the effectiveness of the energy expended.

The longer term legacy will be analysed in terms of broad social and political shifts and the loci of influence over those changes. The significant new material will be the achievements of the various players in their careers since these activities formally ceased.

The tentative hypothesis of the study is: contrary to popular mythology that the political activists of the sixties and seventies have "sold out" their beliefs and values, the participants in Walker* Press will show a continuity of basic values and commitments, perhaps with some refinement or softening, and have generally found other, and in many cases highly effective ways of expressing them.

The conclusion is that the significance of Walker* Press has reverberated far and wide, and continues to do so. Tributes from President Mandela and Prime Minister Mugabe are testament to part of that.

Outline

1. DOCUMENTATION

1.1 ACTIVITIES

- Printing
- Education related
- Anti-Racist
- General Political
- Property acquisition and share
- Residence

1.2 PEOPLE INVOLVED

- How they became involved
- Their views on the philosophy and idea and the values underpinning
- Recall of incidents
- Their evaluation of what was achieved
- Why did it last so long - unifying factors
- Why did it eventually fail/fold
- Causes of disunity; things that annoyed people
- What was the legacy?
- How the influence continued on individuals; are values sustained and how are they reflected?
- What have they achieved and what are they currently doing?

1.3 MATERIALS PRODUCED - IN HOUSE PRODUCTION

- Education Subscription Service
- Innovations News Exchange
- Africa Research and Information Centre (including radio programs)
- CARE Newsletter
- Northern Territory News
- Other publications, posters, leaflets and catalogues

1.4 MATERIALS PRODUCED - FOR OTHER GROUPS

- On-side groups and individuals (poor) - cost rate
- On-side groups and individuals (financially secure) - cost + margin rate
- Others - commercial equivalent rate

1.5 RELATED ORGANISATIONS

EDUCATION ISSUES Australian Union of Students; Victorian Secondary Students Union; Open Book; Victorian Council of State School Organisations; Learning Exchange; Teacher Unions; Richard Lee & Associates (Booksellers)

AFRICAN NATIONALIST Campaign Against Racial Exploitation (National); Zimbabwe African National Union; South West African Peoples Organisation; African National Congress; Black Consciousness Movement.

ABORIGINAL RIGHTS Black Resources Centre; North Queensland Land Council; Gwalwa Daraniki; Northern Land Council; Central Land Council; Kimberley Land Council; local Koorie organisations.

AID AND DEVELOPMENT Australian Council for Overseas Aid; Overseas Student Service; Asia Bureau; Community Aid Abroad; Freedom from Hunger; Friends of the Thai People; VANUAKU; International Development Action.

ENVIRONMENTAL Friends of the Earth; Environment Centre; Movement Against Uranium Mining; People for Nuclear Disarmament; Greenpeace.

PEACE & RELATED GROUPS Congress for International Co-operation and Disarmament; Amnesty International; Australia-China Society; Australian Independence Movement; Timor groups; Trotskyite groups.

TRADE UNIONS Australian Council of Trade Unions; Victorian Trades Hall; Amalgamated Metal Workers; Waterside and Seamen's Unions; Plumbers & Gasfitters.

COMMUNITY GROUPS Victorian Council of Social Services; Ecumenical Migration Centre; Centre for Urban Research and Action; Community Child Care; Collective of Self Help Groups

CULTURAL GROUPS, CAMPAIGNS

Blinky Bill; Street Poets; 9to5; Tom Diele; John Pinder, African Cultural Group; Rock Against Racism; Bush Turkey; Abdullah Ibrahim

OTHER PUBLISHING/PRINTING/MEDIA GROUPS

Light, Powder & Construction Works; Sybilla Press; Radio stations 3ZZ and 3CR.

2 INTELLECTUAL BACKGROUND

2.1 EDUCATION ISSUES

Ideas influenced by the following authors, publications:

- Ivan Illich - *Deschooling Society; Medical Nemesis; Celebration of Awareness*
- Paulo Freire - *Pedagogy of the Oppressed; Cultural Action for Freedom*
- John Holt - *The Underachieving School*
- Neil Postman - *Teaching as a Subversive Activity*
- Paul Goodman
- Jonathan Kozol
- Goerge Kneller
- Stanley Charnovsky - *Educating the Powerless*
- Jules Henry - *In Suburban Classrooms*
- Henry Bowles & Herb Gintis - *Schooling in Capitalist America*
- Henry Schoenheimer - *Good Australian Schools*

2.2 AFRICAN/DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

Ideas influenced by the following authors, publications:

- Samir Amin - *Neo Colonialism in West Africa*
- Andre Brink - *Looking on Darkness*
- *How Europe Underdeveloped Africa*
- Amilcar Cabral
- Basil Davidson
- New Internationalist magazine
- ZANU, ANC and PAC journals
- Mwalimu
- Wilfred Burchett & Derek Roebuck - *The Whores of War, Mercenaries Today*

2.3 ABORIGINAL RIGHTS ISSUES

Ideas influenced by the following authors, publications:

- Black Resources Centre Publication, newsletter 1973 - 1976, *We Have Bugger all! - the Kulaluk Story* - Cheryl Buchanan
- North Queensland Black Publishing Company, *Under the Act* - Willie Thaiday
- Kevin Gilbert - *People are Legends*
- Charles Perkins - *A Bastard Like Me*
- Aboriginal Identity magazine
- Also works by Lionel Fogarty, Marcia Langton and Mick Miller
- Michael Christie - Aborigines in Colonial Victoria
- H C Coombs - *Kulinma, Listening to Aboriginal Australians*
- Frank Hardy - *The Unlucky Australians*
- Humphrey McQueen - *Aborigines, Race and Racism*
- Garth Nettheim (ed) - *Aborigines, Human Rights & The Law*
- Henry Reynolds - *Aborigines and Settlers*

- Jan Roberts - *The Mapoon Books, 1,2 & 3*
- Ian Sharp & Colin Tatz - *Aborigines in the Economy*
- Robert Tonkinson - *The Jigalong Mob, Aboriginal Victors in the Desert Crusade*

2.4 ENVIRONMENT AND RELATED ISSUES

- Barry Commoner - *The Closing Circle, Nature, Man & Technology*
- Paul Ehrlich - *The Population Bomb*
- E M Schumacher - *Small is Beautiful*
- Ralph Nader & Donald Ross - *Action for A Change, a Students Manual for Public Interest Organising*
- Science for People & Science for The People magazines
- Amory Lovins & John Price
- Jim Falk - *Global Fission*

2.5 THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT

- Germaine Greer - *The Female Eunuch*
- Ann Summers - *Damned Whores and God's Police*
- Shulamith Firestone

2.6 THE MEDIA

- Henry Mayer - *The Press in Australia*

2.7 OTHER SIGNIFICANT AUTHORS AND PUBLICATIONS

- Frank Cain - *The Origins of Political Surveillance in Australia*
- David Cooper - *Death of the Family*
- S Cronje et al - *Lonrho - Portrait of a Multinational*
- Donald Horne - *The Lucky Country*
- Humphrey McQueen - *A New Britannia*
- Charles Medawar - *Insult or Injury? (marketing the Third World)*
- Ashley Montagu (ed) - *Racism and IQ*
- Gunnar Myrdal - *The Challenge of World Poverty*

3 ACCOUNTS OF SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS, EVENTS OR CAMPAIGNS

- Woolies Fish Campaign
- Purchase of 21-23 Smith Street
- Eysenck & Jensen - CARPS or the Campaign Against Racist Pseudo Science
- The Age Occupation (re Michael Barnard)
- Losing the Education Subscription Service Grant
- Zimbabwe controversies

- CAMAL (Campaign Against Mining Aboriginal Land) and the Ranger Agreement
- South African ships
- Blinky Bill, the People's King of Moomba
- Shareholders for Social Responsibility
- Rockefeller Campaign
- Significant Suicides - Henry, Jean & Allan

4 THEMES AND SLOGANS

- Walker* Press, named after Mr Walker* (*Ghost Who Walks)
- *The Only Freedom of the Press is Owning One.* A commitment to open access in learning how to print.
- Commitment to voluntary poverty; and being resourceful with very few resources
- Commitment to producing high quality work at the lowest possible cost, and to making facilities widely available
- *The only certain condition for tyranny is for people of good will to do nothing* - Leo Tolstoy
- *The best and perhaps the only education for social change is action to bring about that change* - John Holt
- The purpose of liberation is to have some fun
- *You're NOT paranoid, they really are out to get you* (Spook hunting)
- Action followed by reflection (n that order)
- Relating the political to the personal (effects on relationships)
- Participative democracy; learning by doing everything (multiskilling)
- Altruism and Audacity

5 ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION

5.1 AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE MOVEMENT

An explanation of what the Movement entailed and the special role in it played by the Walker* Press group and its activities

5.2 SYNTHESIS OF VIEWS ON ITS IMPACT

Canvassing the views of a variety of points of view - the major players, people in related groups and organisations, customers, even The Enemy.

5.3 INFLUENCE AT THE TIME

Evaluating evidence available, making an assessment of what was achieved at the time, especially in the education sphere, in community attitude formation and internationally.

5.4 CRITICAL APPRAISAL

Taking the point of St Jude, the Patron Saint of Lost Causes; looking at issues of effectiveness and the ways in which radical ideas can be appropriated in ways which appear to accommodate but fundamentally alter the intent.

5.5 INDIVIDUAL IMPACTS

Examining the careers and achievements of the people involved and their influence. Assessing the extent to which the values have been maintained, and what forms of expression these take in other settings.

5.6 LONG TERM LEGACY

- Open education
- Racism in Australia
- African politics
- International development and exploitation
- Environmental awareness
- Corporate behaviour
- Values shift

WALKER* PRESS HISTORY
CHAPTER CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION - Outlines the approaches to the history, combining a personalised, fully engaged approach (necessary, since the author was directly involved), mediated by the views and memories of other participants, analysis of the texts which influenced the actions, and the text which was produced. Introducing some issues and posing some questions.

1. THE GHOST WHO WALKS

The origins and activities of Walker* Press; the philosophy of open access to the print medium. The key people involved; the nature of their commitment and their contributions. Walker* Press seen as part of a movement - a view of what that movement entailed, and the role the press played in it.

2. AN EDUCATIVE SOCIETY
The origin of the ideas

3. AFRICAN LIBERATION - A PART OF THE STRUGGLE

4. ABORIGINAL LAND RIGHTS - ALLIANCES FOR CHANGE

5. SAN JULIANO - THE TENANT BECOMES THE LANDLORD

6. RENT A RABBLE - POLITICAL ACTIVITY UNLIMITED

7. CONSPIRACY, SPIES, SURVEILLLANCE AND PARANOIA

8. THE DEMISE EXPLAINED

9. ANALYSIS OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS

10. WHERE DID THEY ALL GO? - WHAT WAS THE LEGACY?

APPENDICES

1. METHODOLOGY AND THEORETICAL APPROACHES

2. REFERENCES; BIBLIOGRAPHY

3. WALKER* PRESS CLIENT LIST