The Canberra Times

Booklet reports 'shrinking' of

reserves

Aboriginal reserves in NSW have shrunk from 22,077 acres in 1891 to less than 6,000 acres today, according to an Aboriginal Land Rights booklet issued yesterday by Abschol, the Australian universities Aboriginal scholarship scheme.

The booklet was issued by the national Abschol director, Mr Bryan Havenhand, to precede consideration by the NSW Cabinet of a proposal to grant land rights to Aborigines.

The NSW Premier, Mr Askin, announced last week that Cabinet would consider the proposal at its next meeting.

The booklet outlines the amount of land which made up Aboriginal reserves last century, and to what extent those reserves have been reduced.

Mr Havenhand said the

Aboriginal reserves NSW Government would no doubt attempt to grant the remaining reserve lands, and ignore the lands alienated since the acres today, according 1890s.

Aborigines and their supporters would be carefully looking at the Government's decision to see if a change in policy really did eventuate, he said.

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