



## A PLACE FOR ABORIGINAL HISTORY GUIDE FOR CONTRIBUTORS



Ngalambay is a gallery and website set up for Aboriginal community members to share their history and heritage in their own words. Ngalambay is the Dharawal word meaning a ripple in water (made by a rock or fish dropping/jumping into water). We hope this gallery will help knowledge ripple out through the wider community, educating people about the rich history and culture of Aboriginal people.

Our small gallery is located on the lands of the Gadigal in the inner Sydney suburb of Alexandria, who have sung and spoken this land for countless generations. We acknowledge the Gadigal and respect this tradition by creating a place for Aboriginal voices to speak.

We welcome your stories. In this guide you can find out the different kinds of displays that Ngalambay can host and the help that is available to you if you need it.

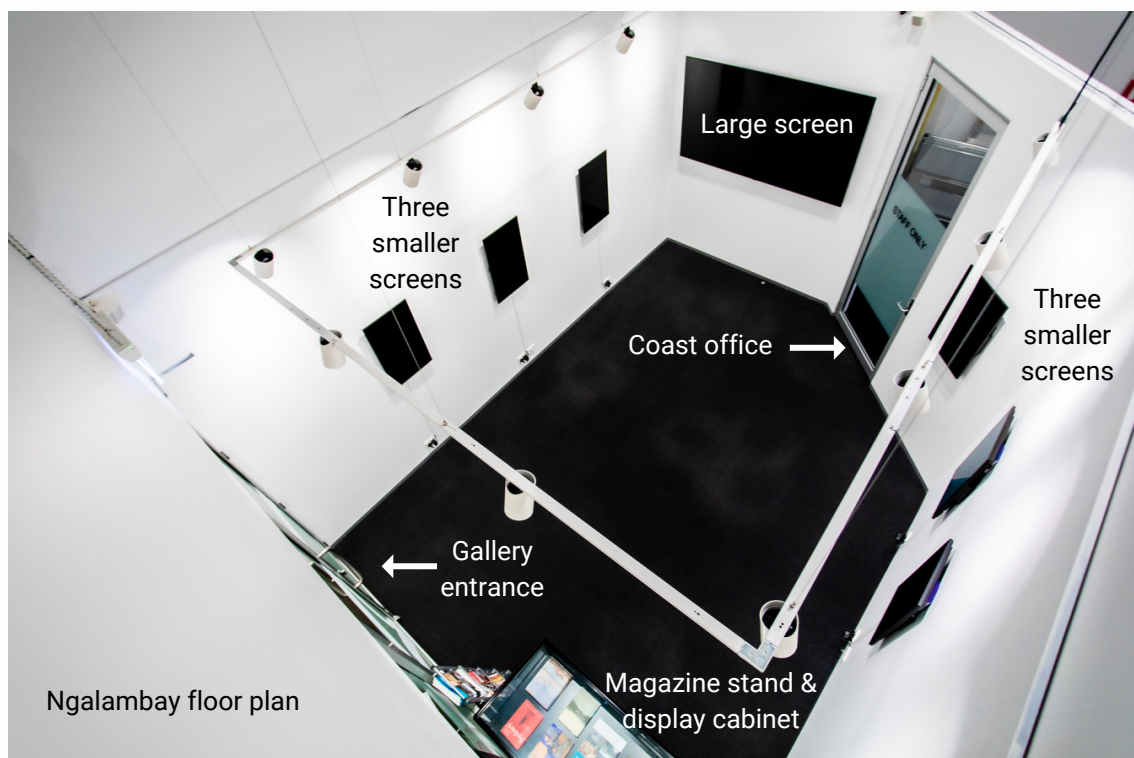
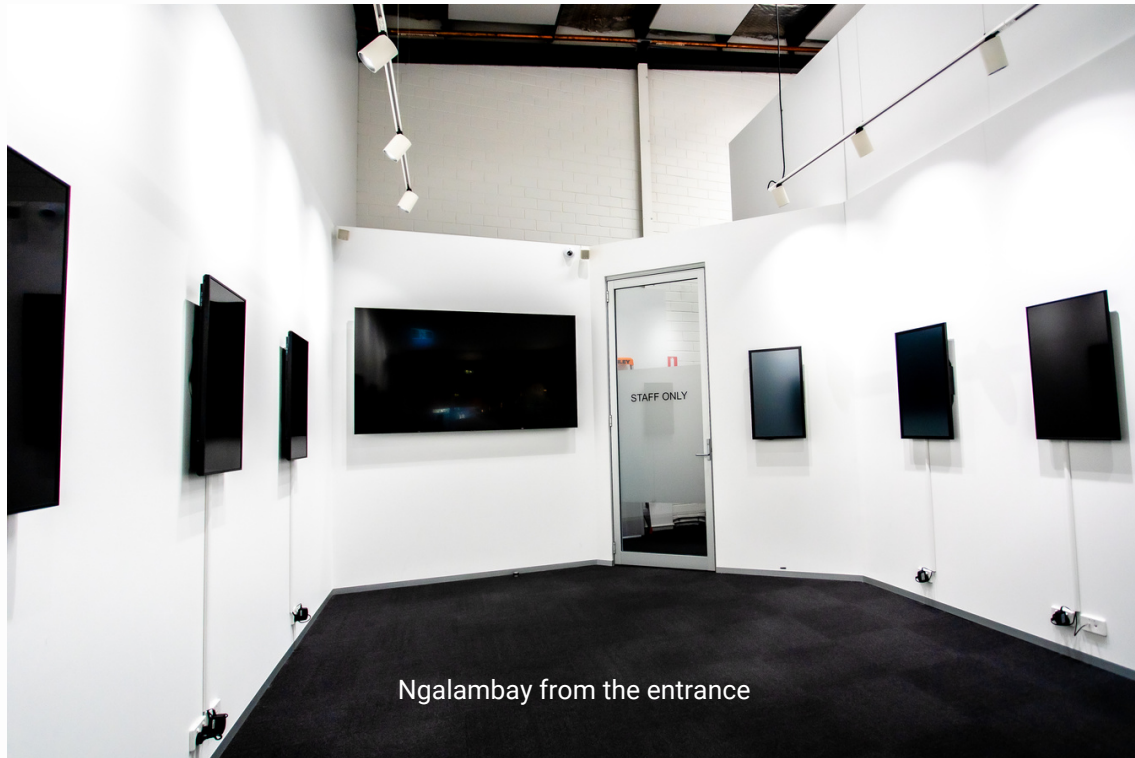
Anything you create will be yours to keep and will only be used in accordance with your wishes.

The Ngalambay logo was designed by Dharawal woman Sophie Youngberry, who describes the concept:

*"Ngalambay is the Dharawal word meaning 'ripple in water (ripple made by a rock or fish dropping/jumping into water).' The idea of the design came from the merging of the word "ngalambay" into the concept of how history comes together. The top left lines symbolise different ripples. The over lapping then coming together around the centre circle symbolises a form of history or knowledge. The centre circle can also be carried up through the ripples to the surface of the water and depicts the stone or knowledge/history as a visual form. The contrast in colours from light to dark inside of the brown and orange "stone or knowledge" resembles a nucleus which in my mind relates to oral histories being passed through generations. There is no outline to identify the number of generations of knowledge it encompasses as it can be infinite"*

## THE NGALAMBAY GALLERY

Ngalambay Gallery is managed and supported by historians and other staff from the consultancy Coast History and Heritage, and is at the front of our office at 15/112 McEvoy Street, Alexandria in inner Sydney. It is a small public space open 9am – 4pm on weekdays and entry is free. Behind the gallery is the Coast office.

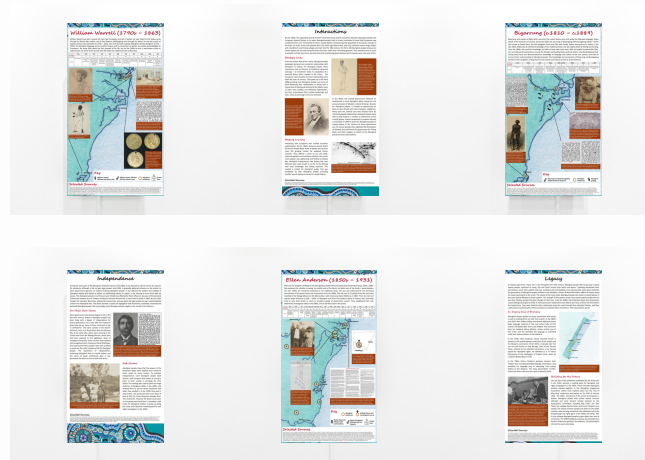


The gallery includes:

- A large screen (81.5 inch) that can play image and text slides or high definition video and is connected to surround-sound speakers.



- Six smaller screens (31.5 inch) that can play slides or video (without sound). Two of them are touch screens that can also be used for interactive content, and these can be placed in any of the six screen positions around the gallery.



- A lit display cabinet that can be used to display objects (or photos or documents). The cabinet is lockable and is 300mm high, 1500mm wide and 600mm deep.
- A small magazine stand for flyers, guides or other promotional materials.



Images shown on the screens are from the exhibition *This is Where They Travelled: Historical Aboriginal Lives in Sydney*.

## THE NGALAMBAY WEBSITE

The website ([www.ngalambay.com.au](http://www.ngalambay.com.au)) is used to promote current and upcoming exhibitions and events at Ngalambay, and those happening at other venues. It will also feature an archive of all exhibitions hosted in the gallery (where the creators permit this).

## WHO CAN CREATE A DISPLAY?

Ngalambay is a place for Aboriginal history told by Aboriginal people.

- Displays can be created by individuals, families, groups or communities.
- Our focus is on New South Wales, but we would happily host displays from around the country.
- We welcome collaborations between Aboriginal communities, historians, archaeologists and others who work with Australia's past - as long as the display is presented from an Aboriginal perspective.
- We are also happy to help promote larger exhibitions at other institutions by hosting a sample or digital preview of that exhibition.

When you decide to display at Ngalambay, you will own and hold a copy of any content you create. We will make an agreement with you to host it in the gallery and – if you are happy to – host it on the website after that. Each display will typically be on show for 1-2 months but we can be flexible around your needs. The website will be a permanent archive of all displays featured at the gallery.

## WHAT CAN I DISPLAY?

The gallery is focused on Aboriginal history – that can be told through images, family stories, historical documents or objects. Some examples are:

- A history of particular ancestors or families.
- The history of a particular place.
- A collection of family photos or documents and what it means to you.
- Objects that are important to your family or community.
- Research that you have done on your family or community.
- The results of an Aboriginal archaeological dig that you have been involved with, told through your words.

We are open to all ideas and are excited to hear yours.

The displays can include text and image slides, audio, captioned video or video and sound on the large screen. The display cabinet can host a small number of objects if you wish to use them. Your display can be as little or large as you like. You can use all of the gallery screens and display cabinet, several screens or just a single screen. We will work with you to find the best way to present your story. Due to the small size of the gallery, we suggest that each screen contains just one or two rotating slides or videos, so this is not the place for a large and detailed exhibition.

## HOW DO I GET STARTED?

You can get started by giving us a call, sending us an email or dropping in to see us. We are interested to hear from you whether you have an idea you want to discuss or already have some content ready to go.

Who are 'we'?

- Paul Irish is a historian who has worked for many years investigating the Aboriginal history of Sydney with researchers from the La Perouse Aboriginal community. This has included a collaborative exhibition called *This is Where They Travelled: Historical Aboriginal Lives in Sydney*.
- Michael Bennett is a historian who has worked extensively over many years with Aboriginal communities around New South Wales as a Native Title historian. He has also researched the history of Aboriginal police trackers in New South Wales and developed a website and book.
- Ana Silic is the office manager at Coast. She is passionate about history and has previously worked as a high school history teacher.

We can work with you to turn your idea or content into a display by:

- Helping turn your existing digital content into the right format and size to display in the gallery.
- Helping turn an existing printed project into digital form.
- Developing ideas for displays and working with you to produce content from images, documents or audio or video recordings.

Ngambay is supported by Coast but our aim is to promote history, not ourselves. We can assist with our time, and we also have some financial assistance available to help with the costs of developing content and for exhibition launches at the gallery. We are also happy to help you find other sources of funding (such as grants) to develop your display if you would like.



## CONTACTING AND VISITING US

We'd love to hear from you.



Freecall 1800 450 995 (ask for Ana, Paul or Michael)



[admin@coasthistory.com.au](mailto:admin@coasthistory.com.au)



[www.ngalambay.com.au](http://www.ngalambay.com.au)

Opening hours: 9am – 4pm weekdays (once the gallery opens in mid-2023).

We'd also be happy to meet with you in person. If you'd like to visit us, our office is next to the gallery at 15/112 McEvoy Street, Alexandria. Please contact us beforehand so we can make sure the person you want to see will be there.

There is 2 hour street parking in the surrounding streets. You can also reach us by public transport:

- Green Square Station is a 10 minute walk away or you can catch the 370 bus.
- Erskineville Station is a 15 minute walk away or you can catch the 355 bus.
- Redfern Station is a 20 minute walk away or you can catch the 305 bus.

Enter the Expo 112 Building  
next to Tuga Pastries and we  
are at the end of the hall.

