

My Place Website – Timeline Overview
1800s

Decade Years	Decade Summary	Decade Key Event	Decade Snapshot
<p>1800s</p>	<p>During the first decade of the 19th century a struggle for power and authority took place between Governors Philip King (1758–1808) and William Bligh (1754–1817), and the New South Wales Corps who were sent to maintain order in the colony. This struggle culminated in a military coup against Governor Bligh in 1808 and is sometimes referred to as the 'Rum Rebellion'.</p> <p>Previously, the authority of the governor had also been challenged during the Second Battle of Vinegar Hill. On 4 March 1804, an uprising took place when mainly Irish convicts who were working at the Government Farm, seized arms and planned to march on Sydney. Their grievances were a mixture of resentment for the unjust treatment of convicts and the discriminatory practices by the British toward the Irish convicts. The uprising was quickly defeated.</p> <p>At the beginning of the decade the British knew little about the shape of Australia and of its uncharted coastline. By the end of the decade, Matthew Flinders (1774–1814) had circumnavigated the continent in his ship the <i>Investigator</i> and charted the southern coastline and the coastline of Queensland. Lieutenant John Murray (b.1775?), commander of the <i>Nelson</i>, surveyed the Western Port area. On 14 February 1802, he came across a large bay, which he entered after several attempts. On 8 March, he took possession of Port Phillip, which he named Port King and raised the British flag. It was later named Port Phillip by Governor King. There was no recognition of the Eora people who had owned and lived on the land for many thousands of years.</p>	<p>History and Politics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bligh and the Rum Rebellion • Pemulwuy • New settlements in Van Diemen's Land • Castle Hill uprising <p>Society and Culture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disease • Convict children • The Female Orphan School <p>Science and Technology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whalers and Sealers • Mapping the coast of Australia • Macarthur's vision 	<p>January</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The governor, Captain William Bligh, was deposed and placed under house arrest. <p>September</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first medical diploma in the colony was issued to William Redfern. <p>October</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Colonial Office in London announced the recall of the New South Wales Corps to England. <p>November</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lieutenant George Arthur declared martial law against Aboriginal peoples in settled areas in Tasmania. • The Cascades Female Factory for women convicts opened in Tasmania.

	<p>The New South Wales colony looked to the sealing and whaling industry for economic survival. By 1802, there were 200 sealers in Bass Strait and they had a ready supply of oil and seal skin produce for the markets in England and China. The oil was used for cooking lamps and fuel, while furs were sold for high prices due to their high quality. A shipload of seal produce was worth more than £10,000 in England which, at the time, was a small fortune. In 1803, Governor King, concerned about the amount of sealing wrote to Lord of the Admiralty, Evan Nepean (1752–1822), about limiting the number of sealers allowed to harvest whales, and restricting fishing times.</p> <p>In 1802, the Eora warrior, Pemulwuy (1750–1802), was shot dead. Over many years, he had led resistance raids against European colonisation in the Parramatta region. After his death, Governor King reported that he believed Pemulwuy to be one of the bravest and independent person he had met.</p> <p>The <i>Sydney Gazette</i> was the first newspaper in Australia. Governor King authorised the publication of <i>The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser</i> on 5 March 1803. The first edition was issued weekly and published mostly government-issued official notices dealing with the import of spirits and General Orders regulating boats' cargoes.</p> <p>In 1804, the population of New South Wales was about 7,000. The men numbered 80 per cent of the population.</p>		
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