

# ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER TIMELINE



60,000 years ago

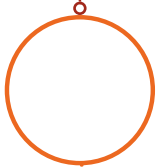
**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture is the oldest surviving culture in the world.**

Dating back 60,000 years evidence of Australia's First peoples can be found in archaeological sites across Australia.

Over many thousands of years Australia's First peoples were influenced by severe

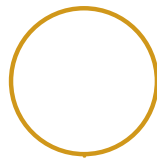
environmental changes including the rising of sea levels and drying out of the continent.

In the last 200 years Australia's First peoples have endured and survived sudden and often destructive changes to their cultures and way of life brought about by the arrival of the Europeans in 1788.



pre 1451

Aboriginal contact with various Melanesian groups of Papua New Guinea and the Torres Strait Islands



1451

Dutch explorers record Indigenous traders from Indonesia to northern Australia



1600s

Earliest recorded contact between Europeans and Aboriginal people



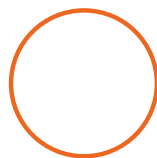
1770

Lieutenant Cook lands in Botany Bay, and claims possession under the doctrine of 'terra nullius'



1788

Colony of Port Jackson is established, and transportation of convicts begins



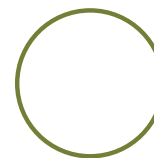
1789

Outbreak of smallpox introduced by the British devastates Aboriginal population



1804

Pemulwuy leads a campaign of resistance against British settlers on the land of the Dharug people



1804

Colonists are authorised to shoot Aboriginal people in response to resistance to settlement



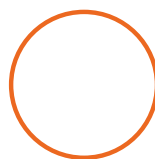
1824

Marital law is declared in Bathurst, NSW when seven Europeans are killed by Aboriginal people



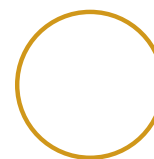
1830

Tasmanian Aboriginal people are forcibly settled on Flinders Island



1834

The Battle (Massacre) of Pinjarra in Western Australia

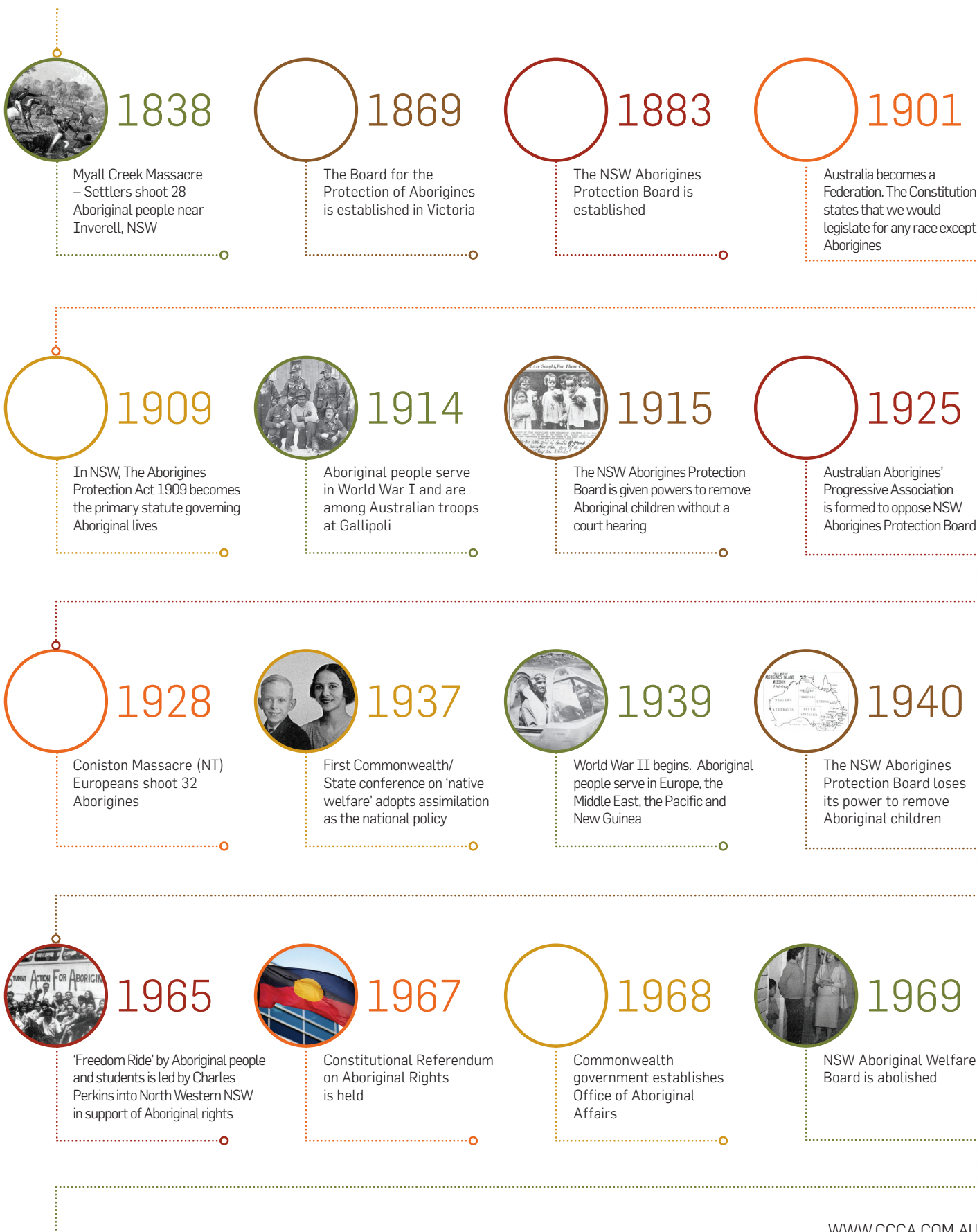


1837

British Select Committee recommends 'Protectors of Aborigines' be appointed

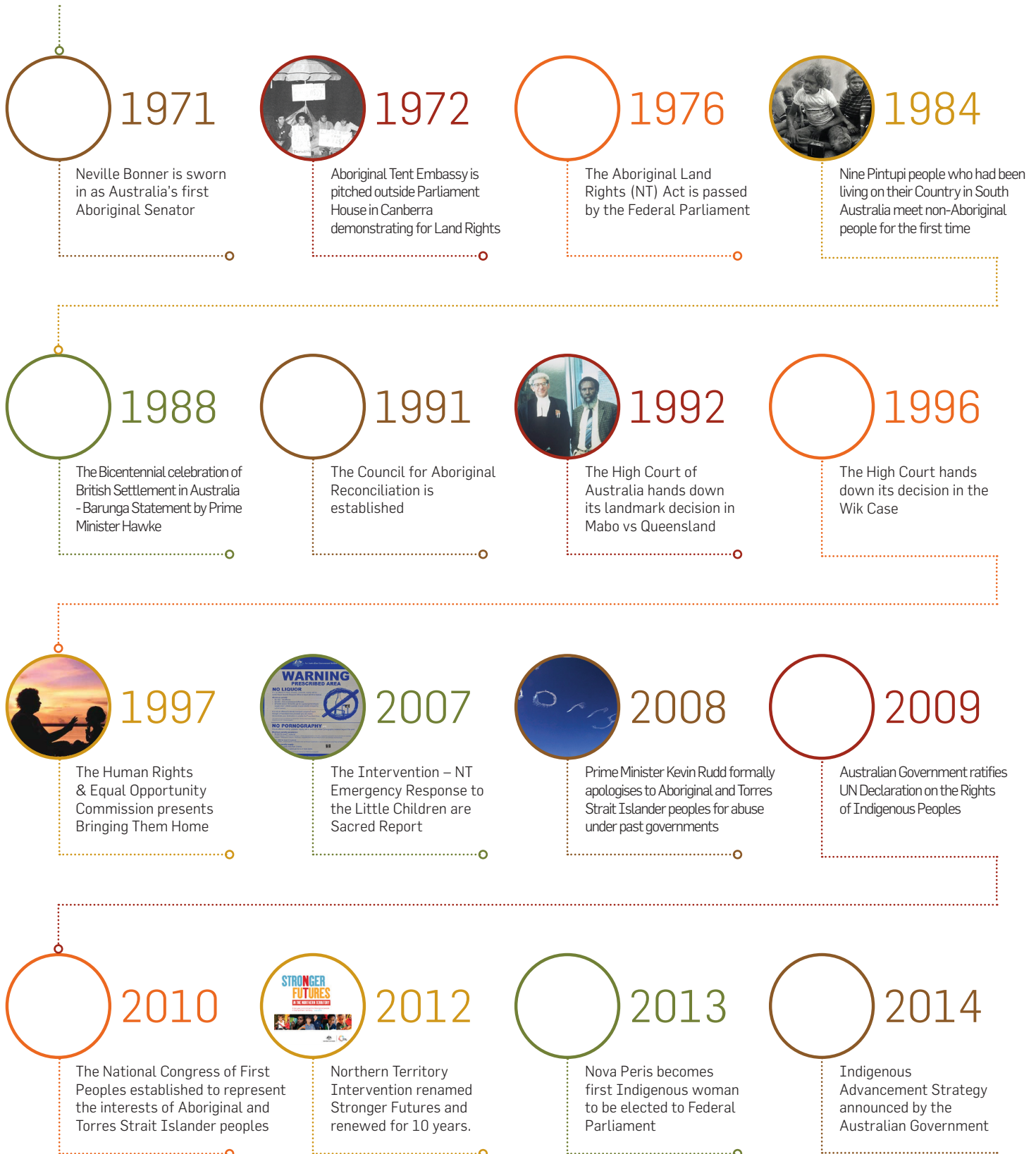
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