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## **NSW PARLIAMENT HOSTS SEMINAR MARKING 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST MARTIAL LAW DECLARATION IN BATHURST**

The Parliament of NSW is proud to present *Gudyarra*, a seminar exploring the significant, yet often overlooked history of Aboriginal resistance to European colonisation in New South Wales. Taking place on 12 September, the event reflects Parliament's commitment to acknowledging and understanding the diverse historical narratives that have shaped the state.

*Gudyarra* is a co-partnered event with the History Council of NSW as part of History Week 2024. The seminar is also the final instalment of the Bicentenary Seminar Series — a program of events marking the 200th anniversary of the NSW Legislative Council — Australia's very first legislature.

The *Gudyarra* seminar will focus on the Wiradyuri people's resistance against European settlement in the Bathurst region from 1822 to 1824. Known as "Gudyarra" which translates to "war" in the Wiradyuri language, this period marks one of the earliest and most prolonged conflicts between Aboriginal Australians and European settlers in New South Wales.

Attendees will gain insight into the Wiradyuri's strategic responses to colonisation, the impact of European settlement on their lands and communities, and the broader context of Aboriginal resistance across Australia. This seminar is an opportunity to reflect on the complexities of the state's colonial history and recognise the enduring legacy of Aboriginal resistance movements.

President of the NSW Legislative Council, Ben Franklin MLC will chair the panel.

"The *Gudyarra* seminar is an essential part of our Bicentenary Seminar Series, as it highlights the resilience and strength of the Wiradyuri people during a turbulent chapter in the history of New South Wales. By acknowledging these stories, we contribute to a more inclusive and comprehensive understanding of our state's past," Mr Franklin said.

The panel will also feature:

- Elders from the Wiradyuri Traditional Owners Central West Aboriginal Corporation (WTOCWAC) Dinawan Dyrirbang Uncle Bill Allen Jr., Aunty Leanna Carr and Yanhadarrambal Uncle Jade Flynn
- Dr. Stephen Gapps, an esteemed historian and author specialising in Aboriginal resistance and the colonial frontier wars in Australia
- David Suttor, direct descendant of George Suttor, an original European settler in Bathurst
- The Hon Jeremy Buckingham MLC.

The seminar takes place on **Thursday, 12 September** from **7:00pm to 8:30pm** at NSW Parliament House, 6 Macquarie St, Sydney. Bookings are essential. Tickets are \$20 – registration available via Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/gudyarra-tickets-948784338497>

A livestream will be available for those situated outside of Sydney or who are unable to attend in person – registration available via Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/gudyarra-livestream-tickets-1008870277157>

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*Please get in touch for filming/photography and interview requests*