

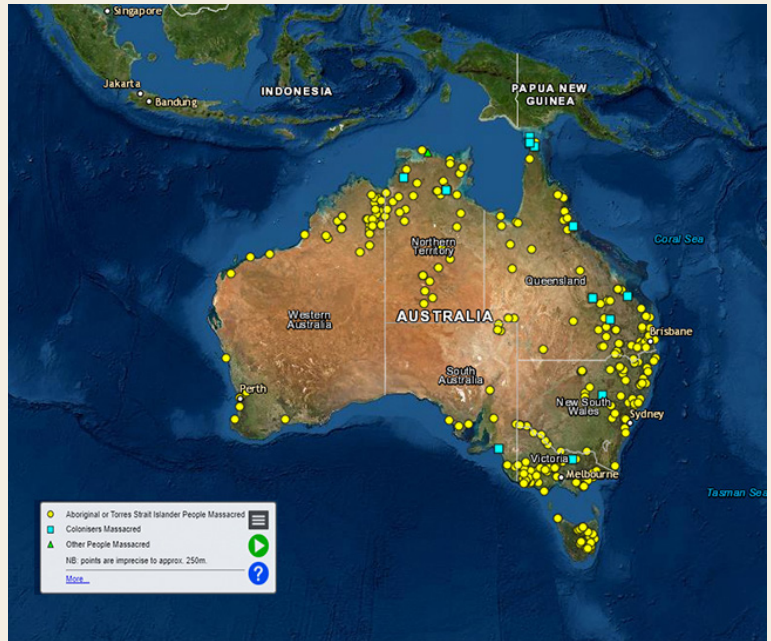
Ngara Yura program update: The Colonial Frontier Massacre Map Project

For most Australians over 30, nothing was learned at school about Aboriginal history or culture, the frontier wars between Aboriginal people and colonists, or the fact that at least 300 massacres of Aboriginal people took place across Australia with an estimated loss of nearly 10,000 lives between 1794 and 1930.

The Commission's Ngara Yura Program this month presented a webinar that sought to address the great silence about this brutal history, documented in the Colonial Frontier Massacre Map Project. The Project, based at the University of Newcastle, is led by historian Professor Lyndall Ryan. With a team of researchers, funded by an Australian Research Council grant, Professor Ryan has documented massacre sites and their details on an online digital map.

Professor Ryan spoke to about 50 participants at the webinar, hosted by the Honourable Justice Lucy McCallum, NSW Court of Appeal, Chair of the Ngara Yura committee and the Honourable James Allsop AO, Chief Justice of the Federal Court, also a member of the Ngara Yura committee. Professor Ryan demonstrated the map and its horrific details and emphasised the fact that very few perpetrators were brought to justice; instead, as determined from archived sources, they simply went to ground with few witnesses prepared to speak out. Sadly, examples where prosecutions proceeded through the court system are few and far between, despite well-defined contemporary prosecutorial processes.

The online map can be found at <https://c21ch.newcastle.edu.au/colonialmassacres/map.php>



The digital Colonial Frontier Massacre Map is an online tool that records the history and details of the massacre of Aboriginal people in Australia between 1794 and 1930.