



OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR
ABORIGINAL LAND RIGHTS ACT 1983 (NSW)



Aboriginal Owners Research Project for Kamay Botany Bay National Park and Towra Nature Reserve

The Registrar of the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983* is required to maintain a Register of Aboriginal Owners for land in NSW. Aboriginal Owners are Aboriginal people who:

- 1 are directly descended from the original Aboriginal inhabitants of the cultural area in which the land is situated;
- 2 have a cultural association with the land that derives from the traditions, observances, customs, beliefs or history of the original Aboriginal inhabitants of the land; and
- 3 have consented to the entry of their name on the Register

The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) has agreed to provide funds to support an independent research project by the Office of the Registrar (ORALRA) to identify Aboriginal Owners for Kamay Botany Bay National Park and Towra Nature Reserve.

The research and community engagement components of the project will be managed by the ORALRA. Beginning in 2019, the ORALRA will commence information sessions with community about the project and have initial discussions with Aboriginal people who may have cultural association with the land. These discussions will include an overview of the Aboriginal Owner research project and explain how any information gathered by researchers will be used in the project. These sessions will also provide information in relation to process for registration of Aboriginal Owners.

After initial consultation and liaison about the process, a comprehensive research project will be undertaken by the ORALRA, and will underpin the registration of Aboriginal Owners for the parks. The team will engage with families and individuals across the various cultural groups associated with the parks. It is not a process that is conducted for a particular established group or individuals. It is not a native title process and will not affect any native title claims. The research project will include the correlation of historical, anthropological, archaeological and genealogical information to provide a framework by which the Registrar is able to register Aboriginal Owners for Kamay Botany Bay National Park and Towra Nature Reserve.

For further information, email the Office of the Registrar, Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 at adminofficer@oralra.nsw.gov.au