

# Uninnocent Landscapes

Following George Augustus Robinson's Big River Mission



On any given day, in any given place, you can guarantee that most if not all colonisers have no idea whose land they are walking, working or talking on, such is their way of being in the world. And, the thing is, they really need not know for them to exist in this place.

Chelsea Watego, *Another Day in the Colony*

The uninnocence of landscapes, and the memories they carry, the traces they record, an archive of history's dark and light, is what is there throughout.

Robert Macfarlane





















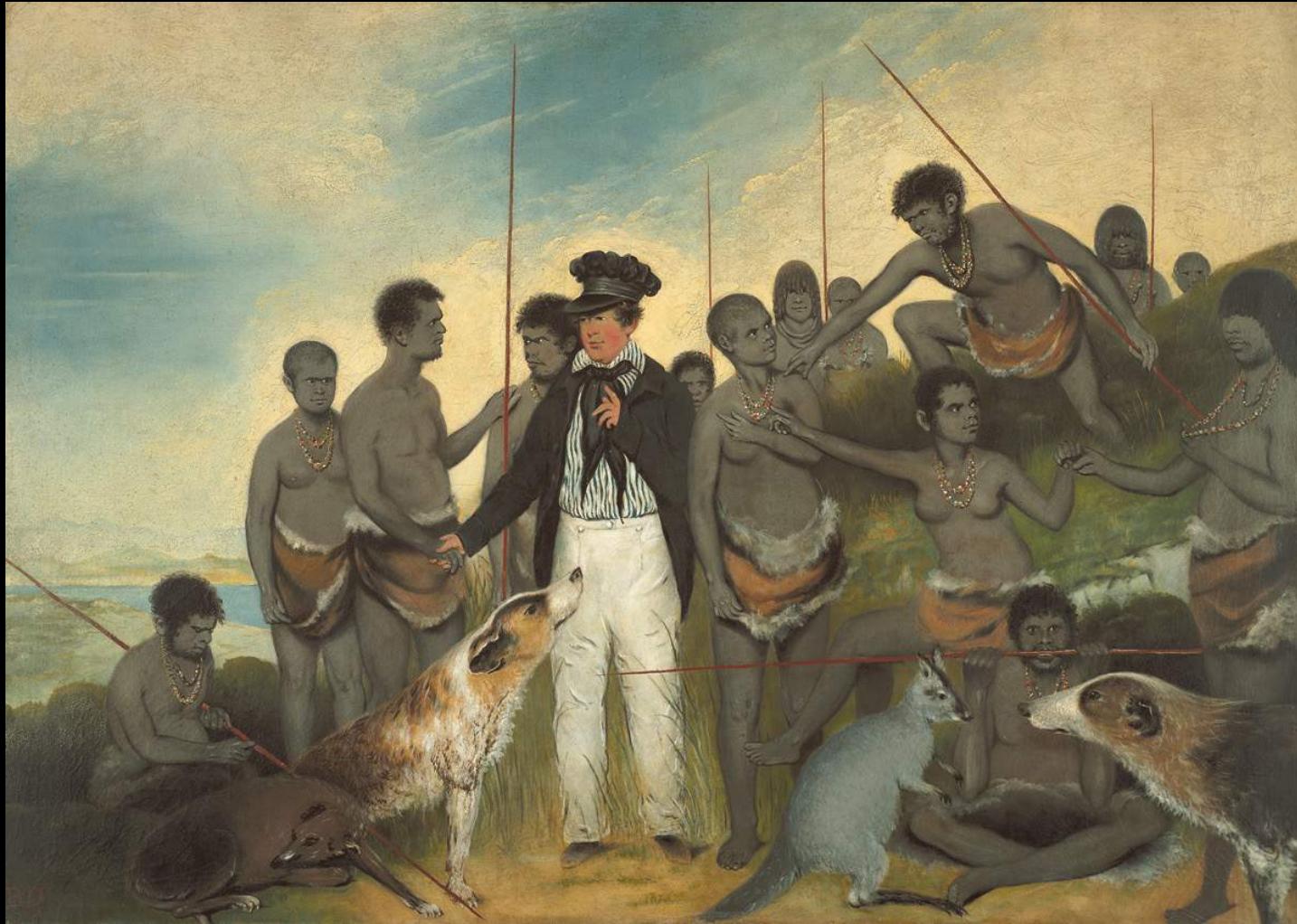


Image: Benjamin Duterrau, *The Conciliation*,  
courtesy Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery

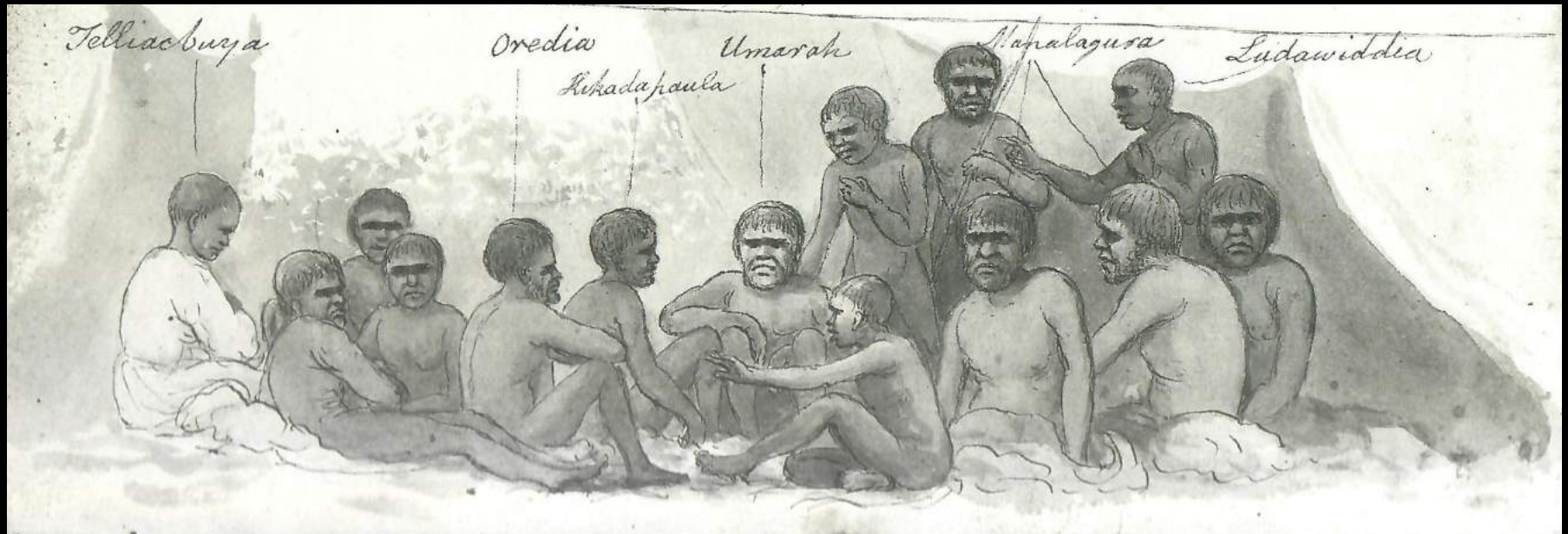


Image: John Glover, Dixon Galleries, State Library of NSW

Robinson's Palawa guides were:

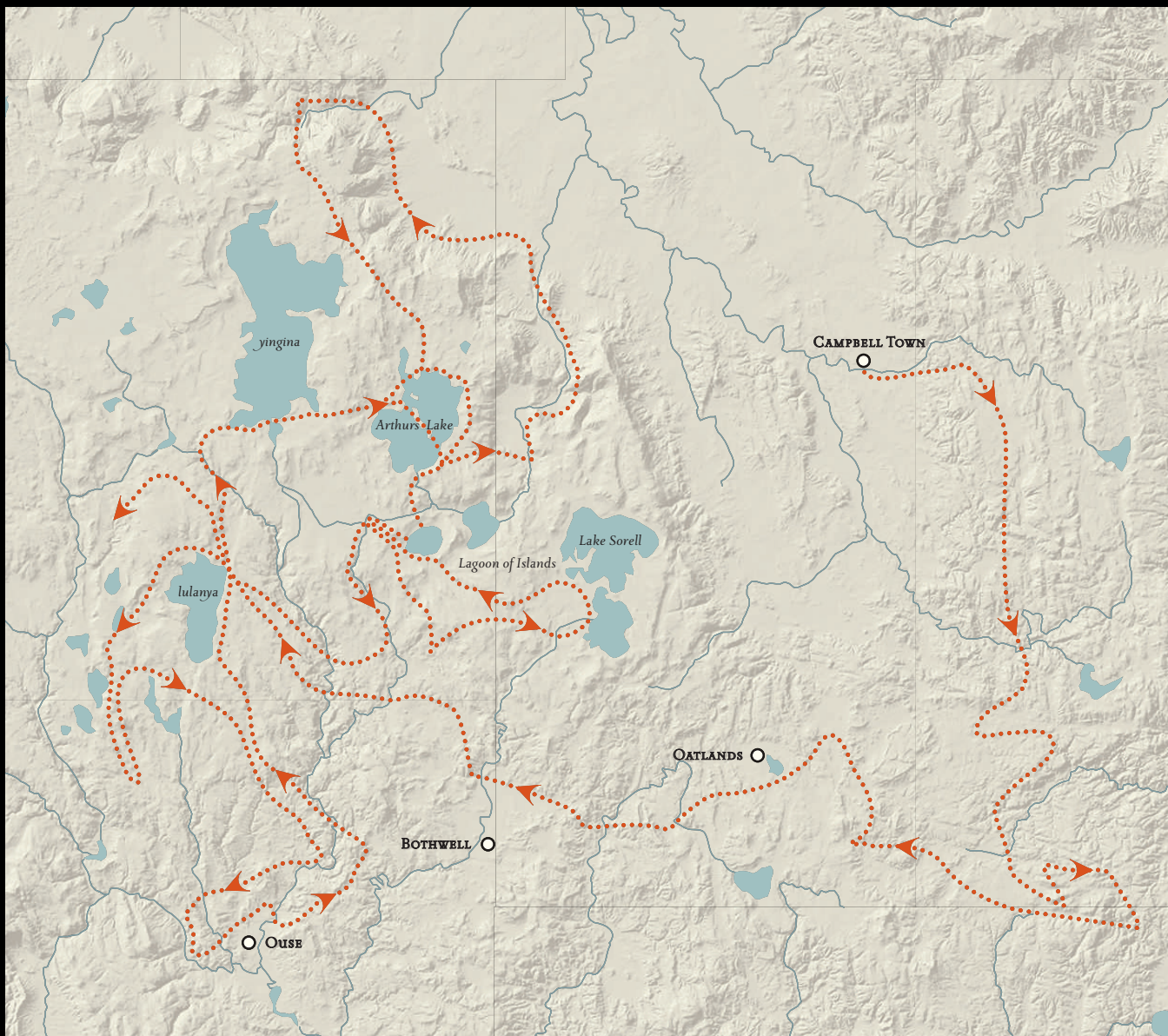
Dick, Kikatapula, Lacklay, Manalakina, Maulboyheenner, Robert, Tanleboneyer, Tuererningher, Tanganutara, Trukanini, Tunnerminnerwait, Umarrah, Woolaytopinneyer and Wurati

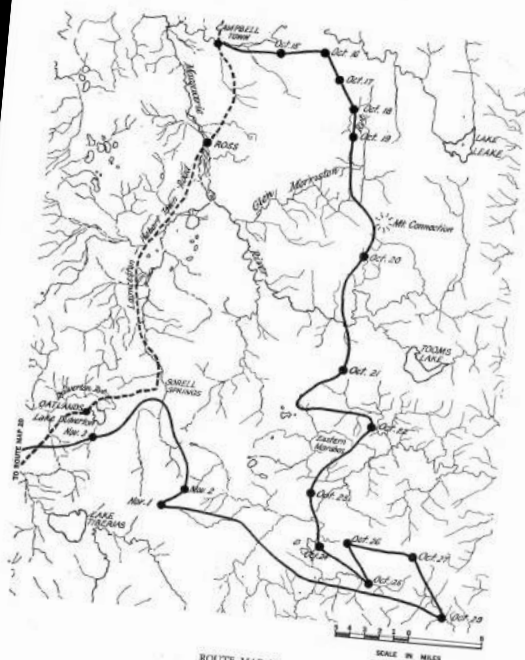




Map: Thomas Scott,  
1830, State Library of  
Tasmania







ROUTE MAP 19.

## 4 November

Pleasant weather throughout. Pre-  
themselves. It might appear ludicrous  
with a thick substance of ochre and  
Town procured some soft red brick  
grease anoint their heads. I have not  
custom, but it is evidently a custom ar-  
done with a view to distinguish their t-

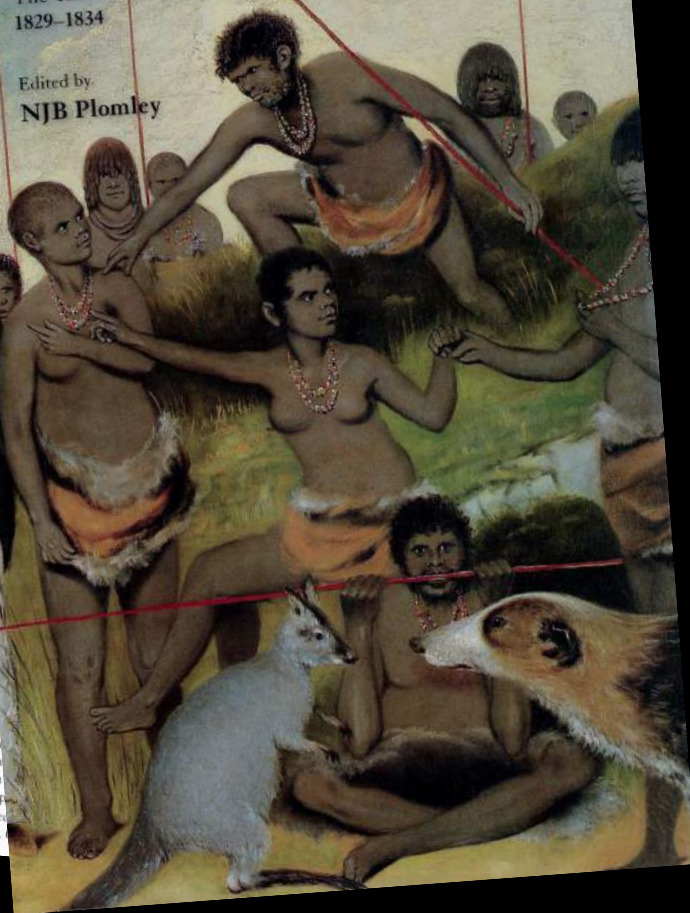
Proceeded in a westerly direction, cro-  
vated land was seen in various direc-  
range was before us and I purposed pa-  
about 11 am crossed the Launceston or F-  
much surprise the fragments of stones w-  
some beautiful farms as we passed and n-  
by them although we passed in sight of th-  
hills. (The natives in their peregrinations  
crossing the Hobarton road, passed over a  
valley and as we was descending for this  
small plain below us whither we was proce-  
activity of the hill full in his view yet he di-  
about a mile further and as the natives con-  
them some tea. They procured in a short tim-  
hearty meal.

Though great danger was to be appreh-  
passing through the settled districts more dang-  
people, as their usual practice of attacking the  
firing upon them at their encampment. So if the  
not observe me or my son and the other white  
three whites) they might attack us at our encamp-  
us and destroy us all. Whilst sojourning here the  
the circumstance of a native, a big man, who had  
then was and who had been placed in a tree. MANN  
Oyster Bay tribe had killed this man. Tom then re-  
present, that it was MAN-NELLAR-GEN-NER's or the  
that they had met and that the Oyster Bay people h-  
of them were to talk with the beforementioned peo-  
doing other of the Oyster Bay people was to go behin-  
This was fully carried into effect, and Tom took up  
and shewed me the way they did it (probably Tom was  
the man was speared he run and cried, and that he was  
soon despatched him. Tom said PARWAKATAR alias La-  
would have killed him also but that he got away down  
back that way he would shew me where this man was p-  
After refreshing ourselves proceeded in a westerly direc-  
ity of hills in sight of several farms but was unobserved.

# Friendly Mission

The Tasmanian Journals and Papers of George Augustus Robinson  
1829-1834

Edited by  
NJB Plomley





Date	Place
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21 Nov Descends East bank of Derwent to a short distance above Macperson's. That is, near Cluny

Travels east over hills, sees Bethune's looks over Hamilton, then goes north River and camps 1/2 mile above Triff West side of river

22 Nov Crosses at Youngs

PM walks NE towards Blue Hill Capt Clark's, then Solomon & farm

Camped on Sharland's grass farm opposite Shone's

23 Nov Proceeds to Blue Hills via hills. Hells Corner (Mad WNW back to Ouse River at 'native wade: green sward')

24 Nov Climbs hill and wades river at 'native wade: green sward' AM sees smoke?

Camps on mar Rivulet, probably

25 Nov Wants to NE to go

Travels miles, N and

26 Nov

27 Nov

Date	Place	Fauna/flora	Indigenous names	Incidents
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Singular rock obvious from SW and GAR calls it Pillars of Hercules or Lookout Rock Camps at Great Lake at Shannon River outfall

5 Dec Initially goes west and climbs high rocky hill (Murderer's Hill? Stone Hut Hill? Pine Hill?) Unlikely to have gone as far as Skittleball Hill Platform Bluff

Fords Shannon and passed Mrs Burns and Roadknights huts, crosses creek and camps 'on side of the lake.' Climbs high cliff. Perhaps around Tods Corner

6 Dec Proceeds E and ENE over rocky hills and heathy marshes. Walk 7 miles to lake

NNE, N & NE to the first Arthur's Lake where found soldiers' huts from the Line. Camps on west side of 'northernmost' lake

7 Dec South between the two lakes and comes to river out of 'southernmost' lake - the Lake River. Crosses river and goes 1/2 mile to camp

8 Dec Proceeds NE, then E and SE over rocky and grassy hills. 4pm in sight of three cottages at foot of lofty hills - Regents Plains

9 Dec Fords Lake River and crosses tier to camp night Follows Lake River N and NW, walking on east side of river. Camps on Lake River. Parson and Clerk

10 Dec Travels along grassy hills at foot of Western Tiers towards Western Lagoon (Blackwood gully) Camps on 'acclivity of hills in a East of Drys Bluff'

Person

Mrs Burns's shepherds Sees Lord's old hut

Roadknight - hut east of Great Lake

Extensive plains around lakes, very picturesque

Kangaroo, swans, ducks, cider gum

Wild cattle,

Platypus, black snake

Kangaroo

Mr Kirby, Capt Cam, Parker, Brumby

Native track down Lake River

Pakana frequented Arthurs Lake for cider gum Pakana huts with figures depicted



Journal  
ends in  
mid air  
Suggest you  
not going  
here

high  
low

Aug 20, 1932

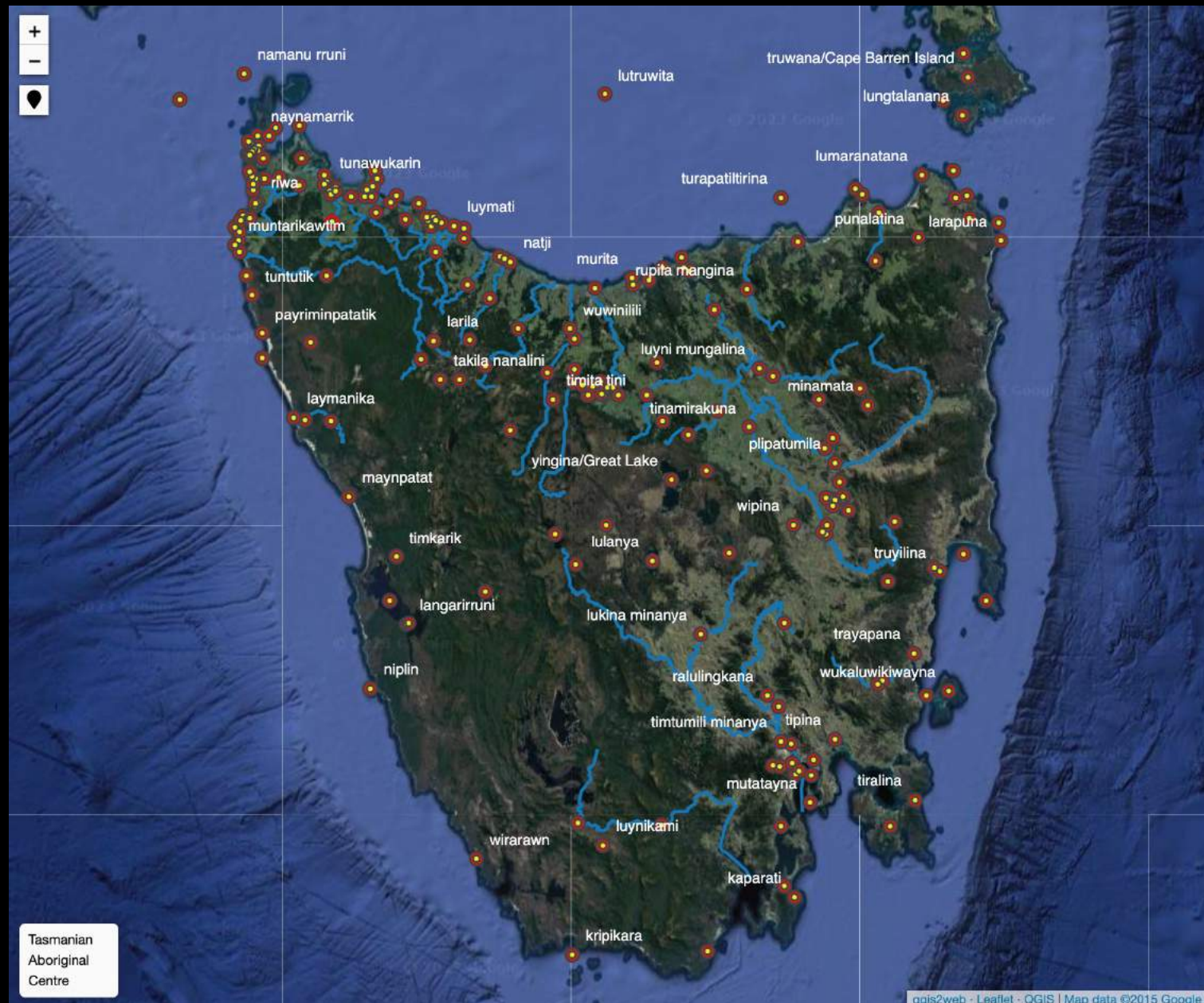


Aug  
1932









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10/10/2010  
Please write straight, but in writing across to the Governor and to the  
first 1000. The water is heating the water in the water and with a new  
water here of the water. We will go back but with the water here.

Heather presented the short film, which was a  
 music video in part of the movie. Though my love  
 made me feel like I was in the movie, which I had  
 made a connection to, I was not sure if I was  
 the only one in the room. The movie showed  
 the world was in part of the movie, but without music. The movie showed  
 the world was in part of the movie, but without music. The movie showed

220

[illegible][illegible]

202

Presented through a new exhibit at the National Museum of American History, the exhibit is a collection of artifacts and documents that tell the story of the country's first national park. The exhibit is a collection of artifacts and documents that tell the story of the country's first national park.

The house was built by John Smith, who lived there until his death in 1890. It was one of the first houses built in the town.

[illegible]

24 October

[illegible][illegible]

00772 鄭子安、鄭子明、丁國士、劉國

to ask the white men when they had seen the natives. They told me it was a shame for white men and that a party of white men could do no other than go to stock him in wool where the natives were. Besides, was the other people to stay in the whole country would be the same as before. Besides, was the other people to stay in the whole country would be the same as before. Besides, was the other people to stay in the whole country would be the same as before.

[illegible]

...is abundant.

[illegible]

23 October (Sunday)

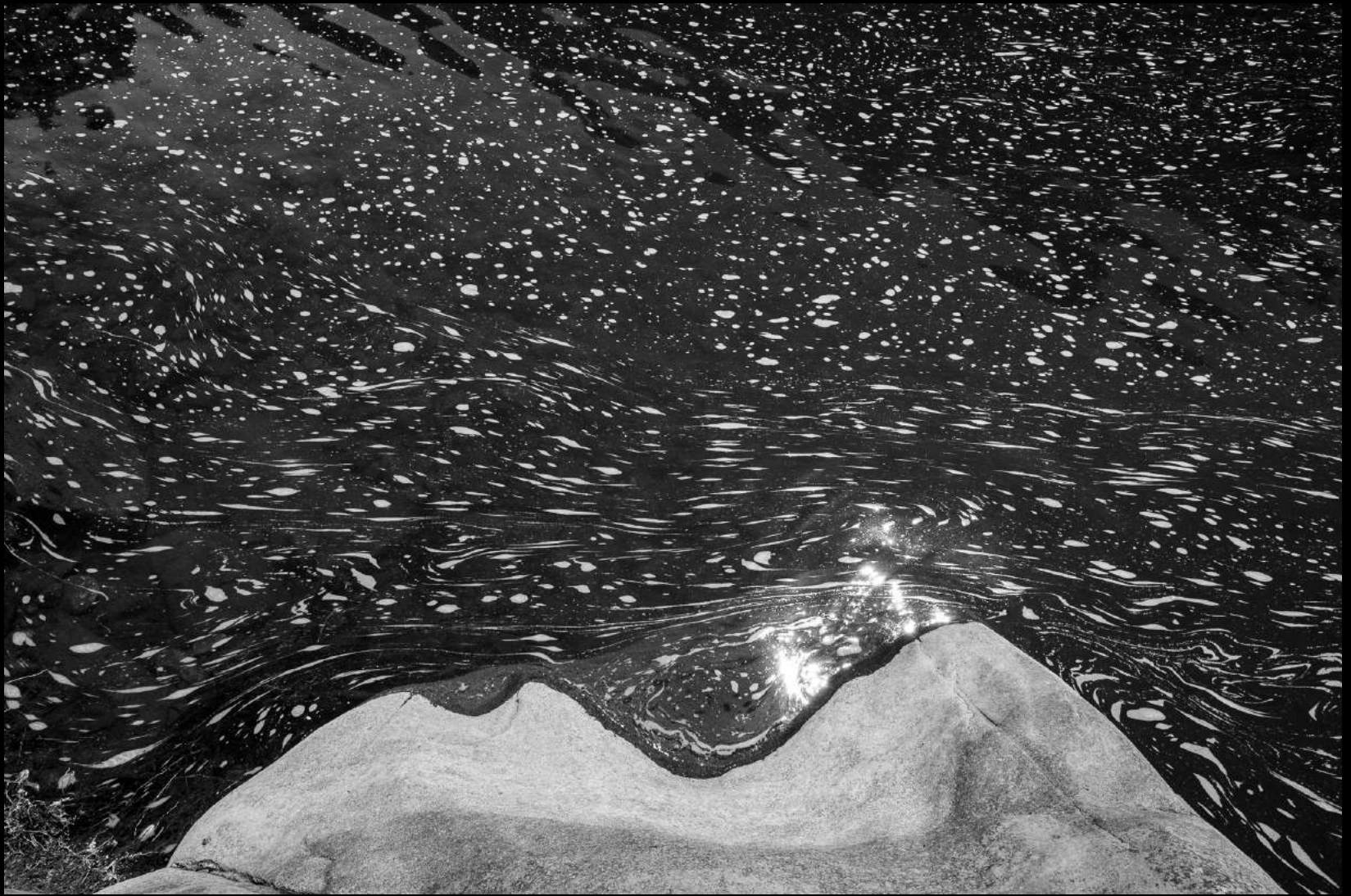
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ing to the opposite hills observed a junction of gullies. The whole of these hills

























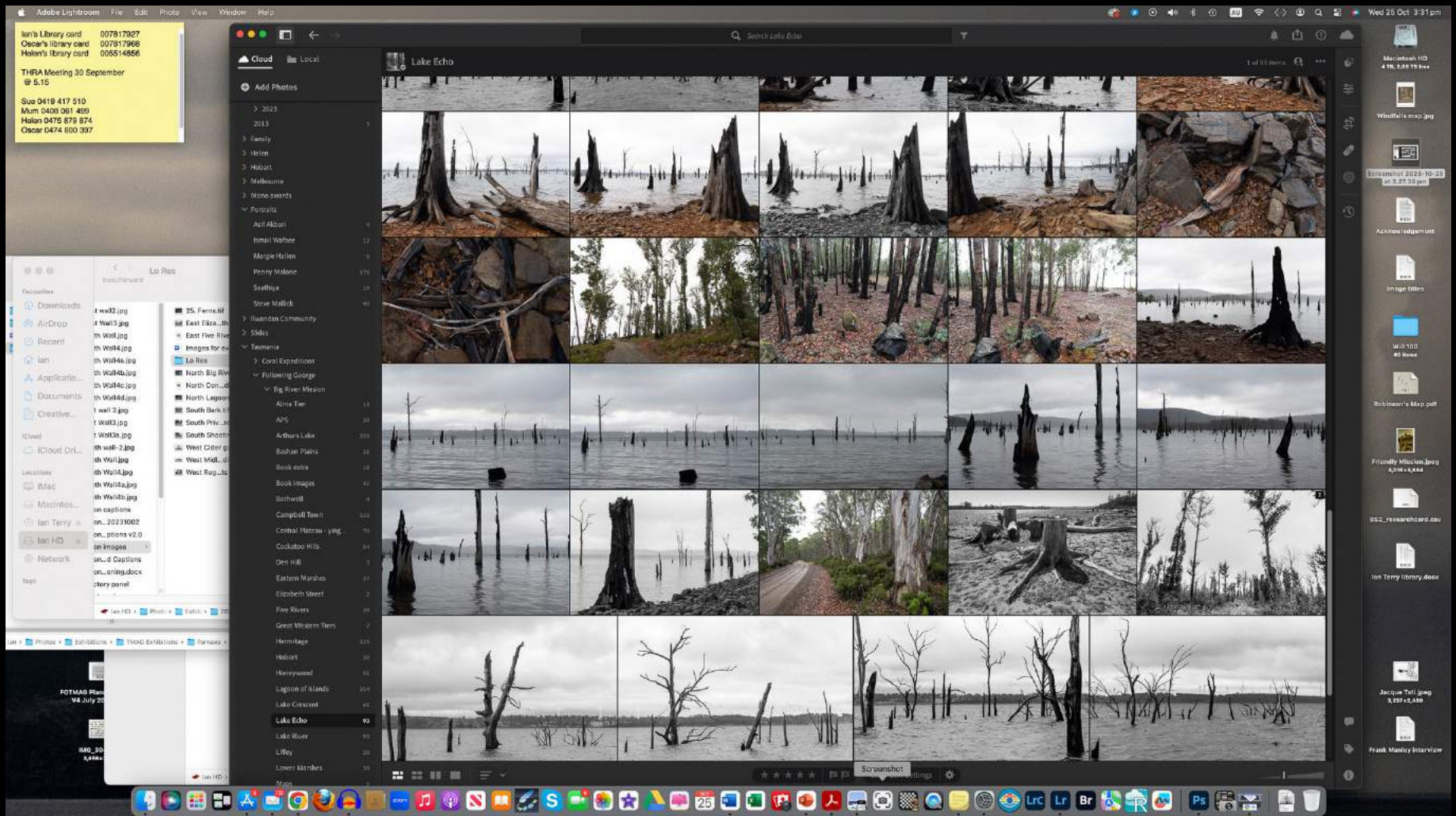




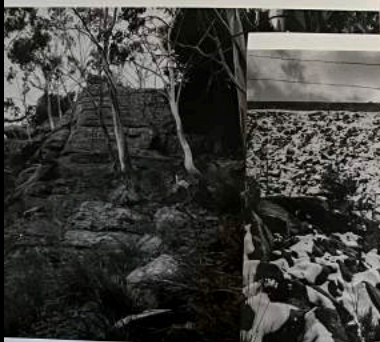












Date	Place	Person	Fauna/Flora	Indigenous names
14 Dec	Private west under GW here. Gravelly. Lifted. Bluff. and continued west to top of chimney. Drive back up the hill, up a ridge west of small lagoon possibly good to eat.	Perpendicular sandstone rock(?)	2000 m p 100	
13 Dec	PM - Descends to plains around north end of Great Lake, and come to Tumbledown Creek (near Arthur's Lakes). Camps on bank of creek. Follows creek down to camp on west side of St Patrick's Plains, crosses Lake River and camps on marsh a little north of Lagoon of Islands. Walks south 1/2 mile to Lagoon of Islands, down west shore, then S and SE towards St Patrick's Plains.			
14 Dec	PM arrives and camps near old Government Hut on Shannon.			
15 Dec	SE over stony hills to Mary Creek and track to Govt Hut and Lagoon of Islands, then SE over hills and marshes to grassy plain where he camped.	Stony hills covered with wood		Kangaroos, older gum
16 Dec	Follows native road. Begins by going SE 2 miles above Hunterston (Porters Pinnacle?), then NE to small wet marsh surrounded by thick wood and rocky hills (perhaps near Fattening Paddock Creek).	Steep and rocky hills		
				Patterson (Hunterston), near to Shannon Point





SIDESPAC GALLERY

# LITERARY

## UNINNOCENT LANDSCAPES

THEY REMIND US OF THE DARK SIDE OF "AMERICA'S" landscape, the place that is not the place we think it is. What is the landscape if not a place of constant negotiation between the ideal and the real, the innocent and the uninnocent?

Reviews by David Shields, David Shields, and David Shields

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**IAN TERRY  
UNINNOCENT  
LANDSCAPES**



**NOVEMBER 3 - 13  
2023**

SIDEFACE GALLERY  
SALAMANCA ARTS CENTRE  
77 SALAMANCA PLACE, HOBART

**SAC**

**NOVEMBER 3 - 13  
2023**

SIDESPACe GALLERY  
SALAMANCA ARTS CENTRE  
77 SALAMANCA PLACE, HOBART

SAC

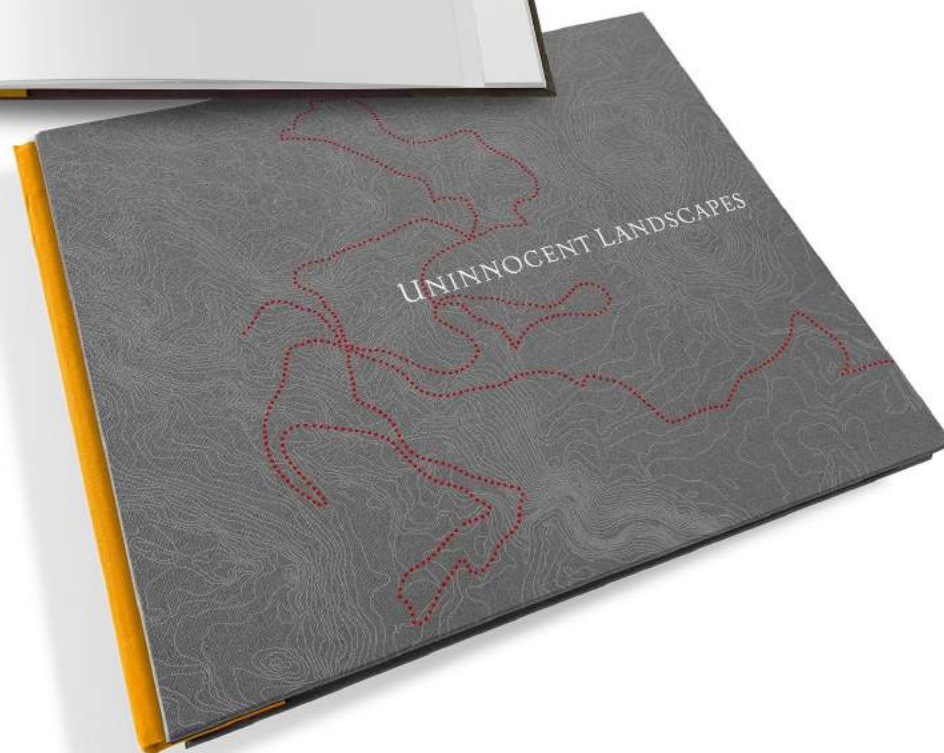
















File: 01. Campbell Town.jpg  
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File:



File: 04. Bulwer.jpg  
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File: Campbell Town.jpg  
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File: 06. Campbell Town.jpg  
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File: 08. Smoke.jpg  
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File: 10a. Macquarie River.jpg  
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File: 11a. Eastern Marshes.jpg  
1133.7 KB



File: 11a. Eastern Marshes.jpg  
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File: 11b. Eastern Marshes.jpg  
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File: 12a. Outlands.jpg  
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File: 13a. Lower Marshes.jpg  
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File: 13b. Lower Marshes.jpg  
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File: 01. Campbell Town.jpg  
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File: 14a. Eastern Marshes.jpg  
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File: 15a. Wattle Swamp.jpg  
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File: 16a. Pyram.jpg  
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File: 07. Macquarie River.jpg  
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File: 08. Bulwer.jpg  
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File: 09. Smoke.jpg  
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File: 10. Macquarie River.jpg  
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File: 11a. Eastern Marshes.jpg  
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File: 12. Outlands Racecourse.jpg  
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File: 18. Lake Echo.jpg  
1735.7 KB



File: 19. Lake Echo.jpg  
1250.8 KB



File: 19a. Lake Echo.jpg  
1431 KB



File: 20. Cockatoo Hill.jpg



File: 12b. Lower Marshes.jpg  
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File: 13a. Hermitage.jpg  
686.3 KB



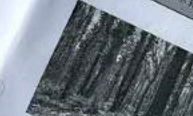
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File: 16a. One River Hermitage.jpg  
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File: 17a. Basins Plains.jpg  
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File: 18a. Lake Echo.jpg  
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File: 19b. Lake Echo.jpg  
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File: 19b. Basins Plains.jpg  
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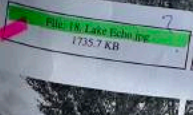
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File: 20b. Cockatoo Hill.jpg  
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File: 23. Repulse Dam.jpg  
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**Following George**





15 October 1831 – left Campbell Town ... in an easterly direction accompanied by thirteen natives of VDL.... This they assured me was the road the natives used to take.



15 October 1831 – Encamped for the night on the tier of hills near to a stream of water. Saw two white men with guns. Umarrah said that at this spot himself and a tribe of natives had been attacked by some white men and that two natives had been shot and that the rest had taken to flight.





17 October 1831 – The country about Campbell Town was formerly a favourite place of resort for the natives. Near to where I had encamped there was evident indications that natives had at one time made this their rendezvous ...



19 October 1831 – The country or pass where I am camped is called by Umarrah, Peeretter.





21 October 1831 – Halted at the Macquarie River – called by the natives Tinamirakuna ... The scenery of this place had a romantic appearance and there was a waterfall.



6 November 1831 – The country from Capt Clark's is a tolerable level country, covered with open forest. In a few years a chief part of these plains will be clear of trees as they are fast falling to decay.





6 November 1831 – The tops of these lofty tiers are quite level and are covered with herbage. The scenery is very fine, and the whole of these hills to their summit is covered with herbage ... the chief part is thinly wooded and in many parts is clear of trees.



6 November 1831 – The scenery was truly romantic... this evening the conversation run upon the circumstances of the murder of the Brune native, Boomer Jack, which happened close by... The soldiers did not use him well and interfered with his wife ... he run into the river, they fired at him and he dived, they waited for him to come up and fired, when at last they shot him through the head.





8 November 1831 – The stock-keeper at Espie's Bashan Plains said the natives had attacked his place in August last and had burnt down one hut, and that they had shot one black ... The man the whites shot was placed in a tree opposite to where we then was.



8 November 1831 – on ascending a small eminence came abruptly to Lake Echo [Iulanya]. Such an expanse of water I had not seen before in the colony as a lake. The whole surface is clear ... it is said to be thirty miles in circumference, the banks steep and well wooded all round.





10 November 1831 – The whole of this country has been frequently burnt by the natives and is fine hunting ground for them. There is excellent land and good feed for cattle: open plains of good land free from timber bounded by grassy hills. It is delightful country.



20 November 1831 – Encamped for the night a quarter of a mile below the fall of the Derwent. The evening was fine and my encampment on the bank of the Derwent near to the water. The beautiful stream glided swiftly along.





21 November 1831 – I had arrived near to the farm ... not wishing to disturb the settlement and which I should have done had we been seen, as it is more than probable the stock keeper would suppose the people wild natives.



2 December 1831 – Came to that part of the Ouse where the natives usually cross. Found the river to be so swollen by reason of the late rain that it was impossible to cross. Saw that I had to cross from one fragment of stone to another and with caution lest I might fall between the interstices.





4 December 1831 – I could not help remarking the goodness of Providence in the weather – it cleared up and was fine when I had to proceed. Set forward on my journey to the Great Lake [yingina].



4 December 1831 – On the borders of this marsh the mellifluent cider tree had planted itself in the foreground or front of the forest. I have met with them in the highest mountains.





6 December 1831 – Strong westerly wind with rain and snow. ... Halted for the night on the west side of the northernmost lake ... The country around those lakes consists of extensive plains, and the scenery is very picturesque.



7 December 1831 – I could no longer suppress my feelings at the careless and utter indifference manifested by these people, and rather too freely gave vent to to that just indignation which such ungrateful conduct is sure to call forth and which is so justly deserved, and reprehended them in severe terms for their shameful proceedings, to all of which reproof they appeared utterly indifferent, and what still added to my mortification was that savage grin of satisfaction which sat on their countenances.





12 December 1831 – Proceeded to ascend the western mountains. Myself and people now set forward on our journey, climbing up the mountain, which had now become so steep ... the mountain consisted of one mass of fragments of rocks, so that we had to step and hop from one to the another until we reached the summit.



15 December 1831 – Rain and snow this day, with strong wind. The snow fell in large flakes and the fog was so dense we could scarcely see across the lake at times.





17 December 1831 – came to large lagoon which I recognised as the Lagoon of Islands. It had a singular appearance; the whole face of the lagoon was studded with small islands covered with bush. It looked like a graveyard with the graves banked up.



24 December 1831 – Set off early this morning ... The road I have travelled is what the natives travel and is called by the woman of the Big River tribe Luketter Markomemenyer.





28 December 1831 – Proceeded over some high rocky and woody hills about which the kangaroo was browsing in great numbers..



31 December 1831 – When I first saw the natives I was not more than 100 yards from them. The country was thickly wooded and scrubby. I went up to the chiefs and shook hands with them. I then explained in the aborigines' dialect the purport of my visit amongst them.





14 January 1832 – On Saturday last the twenty-six Aborigines captured by Mr. Robinson, marched into town. The number of blacks amounted to forty, all of whom were arrayed in battle order, each male carrying three spears of twelve to fifteen feet long in the left hand, and only one in the right. As they continued advancing they shrieked their war song ... if report says true, the view with which they were induced to accompany Mr Robinson that they should seek redress from the Governor.



Sailed on the 17th inst. the *Tamar*, Capt. Bateman,  
for Great Island, with stores, and 40 of the Aborigines.


*The Courier*, 21 January 1832

Latest Web X Just In - All X Person Me X Stream Tail X (2) Facebook X The Analogy X Thank You X OUTSIDE X Uninnocent X Our Big A X Inside Stor X file X GIVING BACK X

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**Aboriginal Land Council of Tasmania** HOME GIVING BACK FAQ NEXT STEPS NEWS AND UPDATES DONATE



## Justice is a choice

We're not here to take your land, because that is what happened to us.  
We're here to ask for your help.



### Many want a way to make it right.


We're not asking everything back. We know that's not possible and it's not something we expect of our neighbours, friends and colleagues.

But we do know there is a sense of justice, leadership and a spirit of giving in every person and many have the ability to help.

**Some people own more land than they need. Some simply can't manage what they have. Others know their land holds Aboriginal stories and evidence of occupation that date back to when time began.**

Giving Land Back is the way everyday people can help, knowing land will be owned by the whole Aboriginal Community, in perpetuity.

Giving Land Back can help right past wrongs.



### Leading the way – Windsong

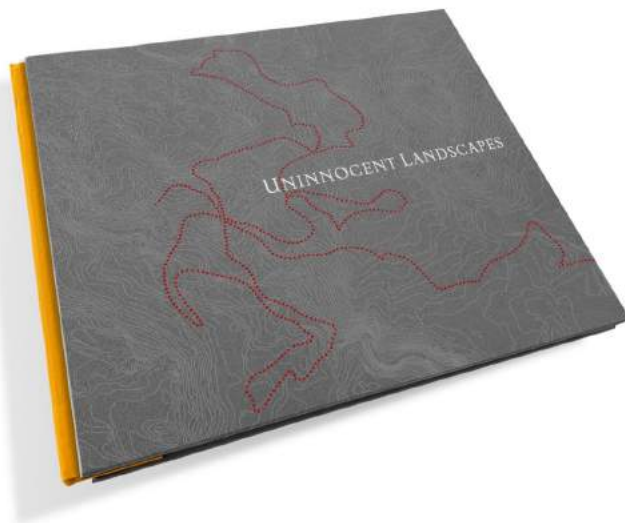
In 2019, Jane and Tom Tenniswood gave half of Windsong, their 220 ha Little Swanport property, to the Aboriginal Land Council of Tasmania.

It was a first for private land returns in Tasmania and Windsong is now

Screenshot

<https://www.givinglandback.org/giving-back/>





In conversation

## Uninnocent Landscapes: Ian Terry with Nunami Sculthorpe-Green and Stephenie Cahalan

**22** NOV  
Wednesday  
STARTS 05:30PM

📍 FULLERS BOOKSHOP, 131 COLLINS STREET, HOBART, TAS 7000

*Uninnocent Landscapes: Following George Augustus Robinson's Big River Mission* by Ian Terry is the result of two years spent combining landscape photography and historical enquiry seeking answers to the myriad questions Ian found himself asking while he traced the

path of George Augustus Robinson on his now infamous Big River Mission in 1831. Questions such as: What memories do the landscapes of lutruwita/Tasmania hold? What stories are embedded in the rocks, the trees and grasses, the waters of rivers and lagoons? What could the landscape tell us about invasion, colonisation and the destruction of First People's life and culture? What could it tell us about our own lives here on this island?

Together with over fifty sharply observed and carefully crafted black and white tritone images, *Uninnocent Landscapes* features an introduction by Tasmanian art historian, curator and essayist Greg Lehman and essays by Rebecca Digney, Roderic O'Connor, Nunami Sculthorpe-Green and Ian himself. These provide an invitation for