

# Gun-bolk adberre, gun-red adberre



The land of the Mirarr clan holds a very special place in the study of Australian prehistory. In 1989 archaeologists excavated a number of sites on land belonging to the Mirarr clan. Artefacts found in these excavations were dated by thermoluminescence and found to be between 50 and 60,000 years old, which are the oldest dates for any human occupation site in Australia and may represent the date that humans first arrived in Australia.

Dabbarrabolk barri-djalbidimgurmerreni barri-djareni yigahwi wurdyaw gun-bid nuye. Dja nawu anekke barri-djalyimiwoni bonj barri-bidquikmerreni ba barri-burrbuni barri-djareni. Dja gorogo bandi-marneyolomeni wurduwurdur. Yiman ga-yime gun-bidwaral gabarri-gurme gure gun-red.

The ancestors just placed their hand stencils in the shelters and also those of their children. They used to do this, spraying hand stencils as they wanted their children to know about those places. The paintings would be explained to the children. They put the image of their hands in rock shelters as a mark on places where people camped.

Ad Bininj an-djalgare arrih-di gubehne gun-red. Gun-bolk adberre, gun-red adberre. Dabbarrabolk adberre barrih-di an-gare, na-yuhyungki barri-gurmerrenj. Bolkkime arri-bekkan Balanda barri-garui gure dabbarrabolk barri-yoi scientist nawu, barri-rohromeng barri-nang arri-woibukwong. Bolkki arri-djalni, dja wurdur adberre wanjh bedmanwali gabarri-bolknahnan galuk.

We Aboriginal people have been here on this country from ancient times. It is our land, our home. Our ancestors also lived here and the first people placed themselves here. Today we hear that non-Aboriginal people, scientists, have excavated the places where our ancestors camped and they have seen that are stories are true. Today we are still here, and in turn our children will care for this land in the future.

Ngal-gangila Ngal-mirarr dja nawu banbani-yaumei Al-godjok dja Na-godjok gure guwardderurk bolk-Mirarr. Yvonne Margarula with Nonika and Vernon Hardy at a rock shelter in the Mirarr Warnbi estate.



# Our land, our home

This poster describes the rock art and occupation sites of the Mirarr people of Western Arnhem Land in Northern Australia. The language is Gundjeihmi. Kunwinjku and Gundjeihmi are sister dialects of the same language and are two of many languages spoken by Mirarr people. For more information visit [www.kunwinjku.org](http://www.kunwinjku.org) and [www.mirarr.net](http://www.mirarr.net)



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