



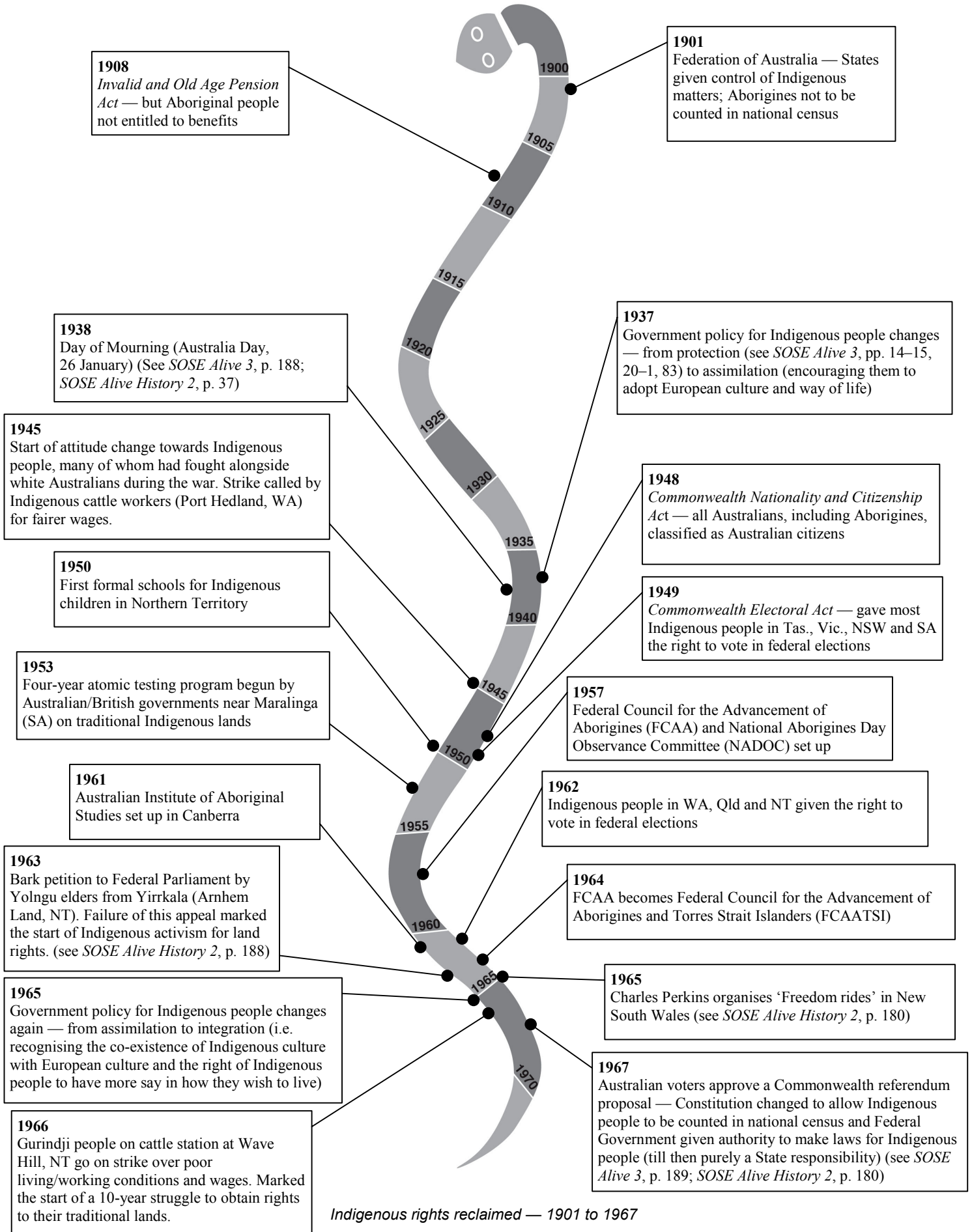
# Indigenous rights reclaimed

With the arrival of Europeans in 1788, the civil and political rights of Indigenous people were progressively eroded. Sometimes this was done deliberately, using brutal force. Sometimes it occurred as a result of neglect or ignorance.

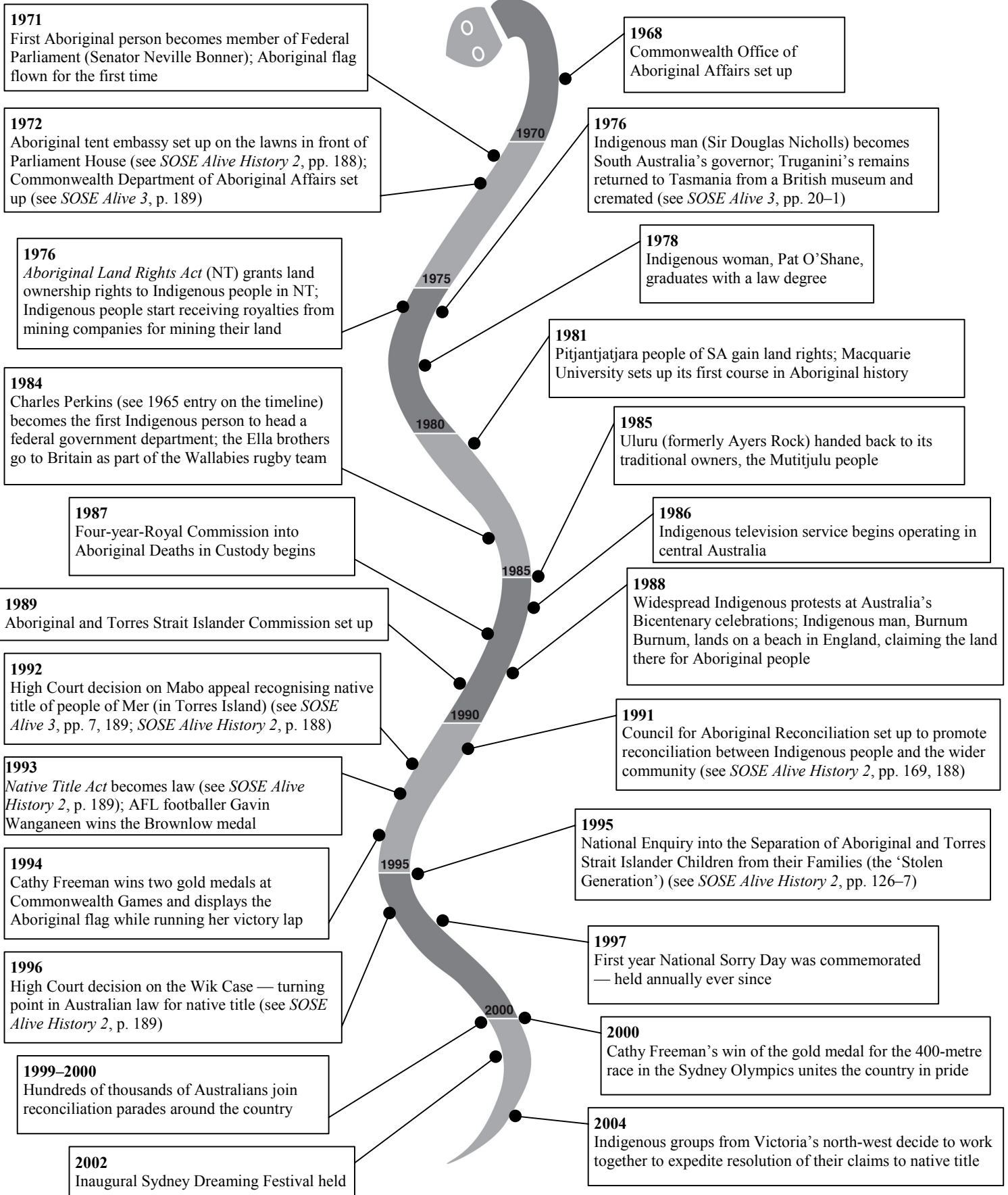
Particularly over the last 40 years or so, Indigenous people, and many non-Indigenous supporters, have been fighting back to reclaim these rights. The timelines depicted on the next two pages record some of the key events in the process. It is a useful resource to check when wanting to see where various 'pieces of Australian Indigenous history' fit in the overall scheme of things.

Examine the timelines on the next two pages carefully and complete the following activities:

1. Find five examples of the clear denial of Indigenous civil and political rights.  
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2. When was the first official protest by Indigenous people held, and who were the key players?  
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3. What have been the three policy approaches of the Australian Government towards Indigenous people, and when did the changes occur?  
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4. Name three Indigenous people whose personal achievements have helped to boost the efforts of their people in reclaiming their dignity and rights as citizens of this country. Describe their achievements.  
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5. Name three actions that have been initiated by government agencies or the people of Australia in endeavouring to address the wrongs of the past towards Indigenous people. Describe why each is significant.  
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6. Of those items listed on the timelines, which do you think is the most significant in terms of the Indigenous fight back for civil and political rights. Why?  
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Indigenous rights reclaimed — 1901 to 1967



Indigenous rights reclaimed — 1968–2004

References: *SOSE Alive 3* and *SOSE Alive History 2* (various pages as specified on the timelines)