Dharawal National Park is the traditional land of the Dharawal or Tharawal Aboriginal people. Their long connection with this country; the land waterways, plants and animals that live in it feature in all facets of Aboriginal culture and are associated with dreaming stories and cultural learning that is passed on today. The park protects several ancient Aboriginal sites, including drawings and axe-grinding grooves.

One of these is known as a 'first contact' site - where local Dharawal people had drawn charcoal sketches of bulls that had escaped from Sydney Cove and made their way to what was known as "the Cowpastures" - an area near Campbelltown.

The Cowpastures legend explains how early European settlers found the region's fertile farming land six months after European arrival. The early settlers lost two bulls and four cows which had arrived on board the First Fleet.

Almost two years later, the cattle were sighted in the Menangle area. Local Aboriginal people saw the strange animals and sketched them on the walls of a sandstone shelter along the Georges River, in a cave now known as 'Bull Cave' in Kentlyn.

Along the Georges River, sandstone eroded, forming rock overhangs which provided shelter. Those facing north, caught the sunlight and held warmth through the night. The walls of these sandstone rock shelters were often decorated with images and hand stencils outlined in red ochre, white clay or charcoals.

The head and tail of the bull can be still seen on the wall without its horns today. Apparently, the animals had no horns having been polled to prevent injury during their long sea voyage.

From accounts of other tribes, the Aboriginal peoples first encounter with cattle was a terrifying experience, and this fear is evident by the size of the drawings, where the bulls dominate the walls of the rock shelter.

As colonists moved from Sydney Cove into this area interaction between the settlers and the Dharawal people was relatively peaceful but not always.

Some Europeans developed a close rapport with the local Aboriginal communities and a number of explorers had Dharawal men accompany them on exploratory trips. Knowledge of their land and skills in tracking were valuable and they later played an integral part in solving the murder of Fred Fisher, who has become a local legend of the area.

In December 1820, Governor Lachlan Macquarie named Campbell-Town in honour of his wife, Elizabeth Campbell. The region has become known as Sydney's 'Living Heritage' precinct, being home to an impressive portfolio of heritage listed buildings, historical evidence, artefacts and beliefs of Aboriginal peoples and pioneer cemeteries.

Bull Cave is a heritage-listed art site of state heritage significance to the community of NSW, both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal, as a unique documentation of the early contact period as viewed by the traditional owners of the land. This site is also traditionally and historically significant to the Dharawal people, and others in the area have been preserved to protect them.