

Indigenous Influential People

Katandra Berendale Houses

Shirley Smith - Coleen Shirley Perry Smith AM MBE (22 November 1921 – 28 April 1998), better known as Mum Shirl, was a prominent Wiradjuri woman, social worker and humanitarian activist committed to justice and welfare of Aboriginal Australians. She was a founding member of the Aboriginal Legal Service, the Aboriginal Medical Service, the Aboriginal Tent Embassy, the Aboriginal Children's Service and the Aboriginal Housing Company in Redfern, a suburb of Sydney. During her lifetime she was recognised as an Australian National Living Treasure.

Bronwyn Bancroft (born 1958) is an Australian artist and established a shop called Designer Aboriginals, selling fabrics made by Aboriginal artists including herself. She was a founding member of Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative. Art work by Bancroft is held by the National Gallery of Australia, the Art Gallery of New South Wales and the Art Gallery of Western Australia. She has provided art work for more than 20 children's books, including Stradbroke Dreaming by writer and activist Oodgeroo Noonuccal, and books by artist and writer Sally Morgan.

Eddie Mabo - A Meriam man from the Torres Strait Islands, Eddie Koiki Mabo is remembered for his efforts to secure Indigenous land rights. He led a 10-year battle through the Australian legal system, but sadly, passed away just months before the courts ruled in his favour in 1992 — paving the way for the Native Title Act.

Nicky Winmar - He was the first Aboriginal footballer to play 200 games in the AFL and was named in the Indigenous Team of the Century in 2005. He was involved in several incidents of racial vilification during his career but had the courage to stand up to it (famous picture) and was the catalyst for change and movement against racism in AFL. House Smith House Bancroft House Mabo House Winma

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