

## First People

In 1900 the *Australian Town and Country Journal* interviewed Sydney Lord Mayor Sir Matthew Harris. He was born in 1841 and recalled his youth in Pyrmont and Ultimo:

*Deer-hunting was occasionally carried on in the early days. Ultimo House was a favorite starting point for the parties following the hounds. At that time, and for long afterwards, the whole of the surrounding locality was covered with scrub; it is only during the last thirty years that the main thoroughfare, Harris-street, has been at all extensively built on. Sir Matthew Harris has very interesting recollections of the place, in which his boyhood was spent. The Mayor can remember Pyrmont nearly half a century ago. "I can quite well recollect," he recently said to the writer, "when the black fellows used to come and gather oysters and cockles round the shores of the bay".*

*Australian Town and Country Journal*, 13 October, 1900



Cadigal people near Ultimo House, painted by Cedric Flower