

Deposition of Jacob Williams, 19 November 1813

(Copy)

New South Wales

Court House Parramatta

[County of] Cumberland to wit

Friday November 19th 1813

The Deposition of Jacob Williams,
taken before The Reverend Samuel
Marsden at the above Place —

Being duly Sworn Depos, that he sailed from Port Jackson on board the Mercury Schooner as Cooper at the time the Boyd was lying in the Cove, That he proceeded in the Mercury to New Zealand to the Bay of Islands, That the New Zealand Whaler was there at the time, That one Evening while the Mercury lay there, the Deponent was ordered by Captain Walker the Master along with Mr. Dillon another Sailor and the Deponent thinks Michael Cuff to go along with Captain Walker to steal some Potatoes from the Potato Grounds belonging to the Natives after dark they landed on the Main land and went into the Potato Grounds and [f] tore the Potato's up, the Potatoes were quite young and not fit to gather, being very small, no Potatoes being on some of the Roots as they could feel, That they pulled up a great many Roots but did not get many.

Question by M^r Marsden — Did you understand that Tippahee had got old Potatoes stowed up on his own Island A. Yes —

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Q— Do you recollect Captain Walker ordering you, Dillon and some other of the Crew to land on Tippahees Island and take them from him by force? A.

Yes—

Q Did you go? A. No—

Q What was the reason? A. Because it was not the Ships duty—

Q Did Dillon go? A. No—

Q Did any of the Men go that night? A. No—

Q Did any go the next day? A. The Boat went the next day I understand to Tippahees Island to get the Potatoes— [f]

Q Did they return with any A. No

Q. Did you hear what was the reason? A. I understand they were prevented by the Natives.

“Signed”

J. Williams

Sworn before me the

19th November 1813

“Signed”

Samuel Marsden

J.P.

A true Copy

J^{no} Obee

Lay Clerk