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New South Wales
Cumberland town
Sydney

Court House Parramatta

Friday November 19th 1813

Comm. Nov. 14/14

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

Being duly Sworn Deposeth, that he sailed from
Port Jackson on board the Mercury Schooner
as Cooper at the time the Boyds was lying
in the Cove, that he proceeded in the Mercury
to Newzealand to the Bay of Islands, that
the Newzealand 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

Done

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tore the Potatoes 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 Mr. Marsden - Did you understand that
Tippahce had got old Potatoes stowed up
on his own Island? A Yes -

2. Do you recollect Captain Walker ordering you,
Billon, and some other of the Crew to land
on Tippahces Island and take them from
ruin by force? A Yes -

2. Did you go? A No -

2. What was the Reason? A Because, it was
not the Ships duty -

2. Did Billon go? A No -

2. Did any of the men go that night? A No -

2. Did any go the next day? A The Boat
went the next day I understood to Tippahces
Island to get the Potatoes -

2. Did they return with any? a No,

2. Did you hear what was the reason? a
Understood 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. Obee
Mag Clerk

"Baby"

Declarations of
Jacob Williams

1830