



# GENERIC PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

**For Crown Land Reserves Categorised  
as Park, Sportsground, General Community Use  
& Natural Area – Foreshore**

July 2023

### **Acknowledgement of Country**

Woollahra Council acknowledges the  
Gadigal and Birrabirragal people who are the  
Traditional Custodians of this land and we pay our  
respects to Elders past, present and emerging.



**Generic plan of management for Crown land reserves categorised as park, sportsground, general community use and natural area – foreshore.**

**Adopted by Council 24 July 2023**

Version number	Date approved	Approved By	Next Review
05 Adopted by Council	24 July 2023	Manager Open Space and Trees	December 2028

**To be read in conjunction with specific plans of management for the following Crown land reserves:  
Gap Park, Parsley Bay Reserve, Trumper Park and the Rose Bay War Memorial**

**Document History and Version Control Table**

Version number	Date approved	Approved By	Brief Description Of Amendments
01 Draft	21 June 2021	Manager Open Space and Trees	Initial draft for S & C committee review
02 Draft	05 July 2021	Manager Open Space and Trees	S & C committee amendments, see HPE 21/120815 & 21/131744, sent to DPE 08 July 2021 for review
03 Draft	30 May 2022	Manager Open Space and Trees	CLM Act Amendment (PoM) Regulation 2021 & DPE amendments, see HPE 22/65507
04 Draft	16 September 2022	Manager Open Space and Trees	DPE Crown Lands review amendments 27 July 2022, see HPE 22/148263
05 Adopted by Council	24 July 2023	Manager Open Space and Trees	Minor amendments by Woollahra Council to be sent to DPE for endorsement 24 July 2023, see HPE 22/235160



# 1. Preliminary

## Title

This plan is known as the Woollahra Municipal Council Generic Plan of Management for Crown Land Reserves, 2023.

## Authority

This plan is made under the Crown Land Management Act 2016.

## Commencement

This plan commences 24 July 2023.

## Cancellation of Previous Plans

This plan cancels and supersedes previous plans in relation to the land to which this plan applies. Some planning principles and master plans however contained within previous plans are not repealed, see site specific information for more detail.



Figure 1. Gap Park and Robertson Park at Watsons Bay, two of the Crown land reserves with spectacular viewing opportunities.



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# Glossary of Terms

Word or phrase	Meaning
Actions	Practical, measurable and achievable activities that need to be done to implement the management strategies
Active transport	Walking or cycling for transport
Capital Works Program	The annual assignment of work activities to be completed by Council, it has set budgets assigned to develop individual projects by various groups within Council
Community Land	Land intended for public access and use. To prevent alienation, it cannot be sold, leased or licenced or have any other estate granted over it for more than 21 years.
CPTED	Crime prevention through environmental design
Crown Land or Reserve	Reserved or dedicated lands administered under the Crown Land Management Act, 2016
CSR	Customer Service Request, internal system to manage all service requests
Green Links	Pedestrian and cycleways interconnected by tree canopy for shade
Lease	Confers an exclusive right to possession or use of the land / facility on the lessee. It is a written legal document between Council and the lessee.
LEP	Local Environment Plan
LGA	Local Government Area
Licence	Confers a non-exclusive right to utilise the land / facility for a limited purpose and time.
Objective	The desired outcome of land use
Performance Measure	An example of how to assess if the objectives and targets have been met by undertaking the actions
Performance Target	A measurable outcome (of a completed action) of what a set objective is aiming to achieve. The action is undertaken, and the target is either achieved or not.

## Glossary of Terms *cont'*

Word or phrase	Meaning
Recreation - Active	Recreation activities that require physical exertion but are unstructured, such as parkrun events, skateboarding, casual basketball and charity bike rides, also including structured, organised activities such as sports, that require physical exertion and/or skill, and may involve training and competition.
Recreation - Passive	A range of unstructured activities and social interactions undertaken for enjoyment, relaxation, and mental health, with limited physical exertion. Passive recreation can be undertaken at all forms of open space and may include the use of playgrounds, reading, meditation and relaxing in nature.
Values	Ideals and qualities of a space that are significant to the community
WSUD	Water sensitive urban design

## 2. Executive Summary

This document is a plan of management for the majority of the Crown land reserves in the Woollahra local government area. It has been prepared under the *Crown Land Management Act 2016*.

The land covered by this plan was previously administered under the following plans of management:

- Christison Park, 1996
- District Parks, 1996 contained Bellevue Park
- Foreshores, 1996 contained Gap Park, Lighthouse Reserve, Parsley Bay Reserve, Rose Bay Park, Signal Hill Reserve, and Tingira Memorial Park
- Local Parks, 1996 contained Samuel Park
- Lyne Park Vol 1 & 2, 2003
- McKell Park, 2013
- Regional Parks, 1996 contained Forsyth Park
- Robertson Park, 2004
- Rushcutters Bay Park, Yarranabbe Park & Plantation Reserve, 2005
- Sir David Martin Reserve, 2004
- Trumper Park, 1996
- Yarranabbe Park, 2012

When adopted by Council, this generic plan of management will replace these previous documents in relation to the land to which this plan applies.

This plan was developed by Council staff and Councillors in consultation with the community and will be reviewed regularly to ensure that it remains current with legislative updates, changes in community need and use of public open space.

The generic management framework identifies strategies for the ongoing use of the land to achieve Council's vision, that:

“Woollahra will continue to be a great place to live, work and visit, where places and spaces are safe, clean and well-maintained. Our community will offer a unique mix of urban villages with a good range of shops, services and facilities.

We will make the most of the natural beauty, leafy streetscapes, open spaces, views and proximity to the water and the city. We will be a harmonious, engaged and connected community that looks out for each other.”



# 3. Introduction

## 3.1 What is a plan of management?

A plan of management (POM) is a land management tool. It provides forward planning and governance for the use of public “community” land under the *Local Government Act 1993* (LG Act).

Classification as “community” reflects the importance of the land to the community because of its use or special features. The ongoing management of community land is undertaken with community participation.

The *LG Act* requires that a plan of management for community land categorises the land as either natural area, park, sportsground, area of cultural significance, or general community use. Categories are assigned based on the way the land is used and provide the core land management objectives. In addition to categorisation, the plan of management must include objectives and performance targets with respect to the land, the means by which Council proposes to achieve those objectives and how it measures its performance.

A plan of management provides contextual information about the land, including how it is

currently used and how it may be used and developed in the future. It may be structured as a generic plan and prepared for more than one parcel of land, or a specific plan for a single site.

## 3.2 The need for this plan of management

The *Crown Land Management Act 2016* (CLM Act) authorises local councils to manage the dedicated or reserved Crown land for which they are appointed the Crown land manager as if those reserves were public land under the *LG Act*. In practice, Crown land will now be managed as if it were community land.

When the *CLM Act* came into effect, most of the Crown reserves in Woollahra were covered, in varying degrees of detail, by 12 plans of management. These were written between 1996 and 2013. Several were generic and covered more than one site, such as the Foreshores plan, while some were site specific, such as the McKell Park plan.

For consistency and ease of use, a single document, as is allowed by the *LG Act*, is now provided for the majority of the Crown land reserves in the LGA. It is intended that this plan provides sufficient detailed

information, such as contextual analysis and land use permissibility, to influence the decision making process for the future use of the land.

## 3.3 Aim of this plan of management

The aim of this document is to provide a generic plan of management, to comply with the *CLM Act* and the *LG Act* in relation to the dedicated and reserved Crown land within the LGA. It seeks to provide a clear land management framework that aligns with the State government’s vision for public open space, the values of the reserves and achieves Woollahra’s strategic objectives.

Woollahra Municipal Council has developed an extensive range of policies and strategies such as Woollahra’s Urban Forest Strategy, Recreation Strategy and Play Space Strategy, that provide guidance to Woollahra’s open space decision-making. The POM must be read in conjunction with these strategies.

The State government’s vision for public open space as referenced throughout this plan is set out in the following key documents:



Figure 2. The cover of the State Strategic Plan



Figure 3. The cover of the Greener Places Guide



Figure 4. The cover of the NSW Public Spaces Charter

### • State Strategic Plan – A Vision for Crown Land

Identifies 4 priorities for Crown land in NSW, they are to:

- enable jobs growth in regional and rural NSW
- expand green space, by linking Crown land reserves and other green spaces to form a 'green grid' across Greater Sydney, expand sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience
- strengthen and support evolving community connections
- work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

These priorities, (with the exception of the first) have been embedded in the performance targets of the management framework within this plan.

### • Greener Places – An Urban Green Infrastructure Design Framework

Recognises the benefits of green infrastructure; open space for recreation, urban tree canopy and bushland and waterways and encourages the delivery of well-designed green infrastructure through the principles of:

- integration
- connectivity
- multifunctionality
- participation

This policy promotes the concept that green infrastructure is as crucial to a city as the grey infrastructure, such as roads and pipes. Crown land in Woollahra provides vital green infrastructure to the community. The management framework within this plan of management incorporates actions to deliver a more integrated, connected and multifunctional network of green infrastructure that encourages community stewardship of the land to achieve sustainable land use.

### • NSW Public Spaces Charter

Quality public space, including open space is achieved through the application of the following 10 planning and design principles. The space should be / encourage:

- open and welcoming
- community focused
- culture and creativity
- local character and identity
- green and resilient
- healthy and active
- local business and economies
- safe and secure
- designed for people
- well managed

As the Crown land in Woollahra continues to transform, it must go beyond aesthetic appeal to be considered quality space and consider each of these principles equally.

### 3.4 How to use this plan of management

The structure of this plan of management largely follows the recommended template provided by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment. The document begins with contextual information including the legislative requirements, with particular reference to land categorisation. It is important to refer to the land categories in order to use this plan of management, as the future use and development permissibility is provided in tabular form for each category of land. The generic management framework relates to all community land Crown reserves and is followed by site specific profiles. The site profiles provide detailed information about each of the 17 locations covered by this plan, including additional site specific actions.

### 3.5 Review of this plan of management

This plan of management provides the guidelines for use and management of the dedicated or reserved Crown land in the LGA for which council is Crown land manager. To ensure that such guidelines remain relevant over time, the management frameworks should be reviewed, usually in 5 – 10 years from the date of adoption.



Figure 5. View of Lyne Park, Rose Bay and surrounds from above the Harbour, looking East.



## 4. Process followed to prepare this plan

The process of preparing this plan of management involved the following tasks:

### 4.1 Researching the plan

- Review *Crown Land Management Act 2016* and *Local Government Act 1993* for requirements
- Review the schedule of Crown lands in the LGA on the Crown Land Manager Reserves Portal to identify the sites to include in this plan
- Review of existing WMC Plans of Management that reference these Crown land reserves
- Review of the WMC Community Strategic Plan, (CSP) Woollahra 2030 and other plans and policies, to ensure corporate consistency of strategic direction
- Project brief circulated to relevant WMC staff

### 4.2 Site inspections

- Observation of existing site conditions

### 4.3 Community consultation

- Thorough community engagement plan and strategies for the collection of values and management issues. (Due to COVID-19 this was disrupted, with face to face interaction cancelled due to social distancing.)

### 4.4 Preparing a draft plan of management

- Initial categorisation of Crown land reserves sent to the Department of Planning and Environment for approval. (Categories were assigned that most closely related to the purpose for which the land was dedicated or reserved, to cause no material harm and to reflect Council's intentions for future management of the land. WMC provided initial categorisation to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment on 21 October 2019. Categorisation approval was received on 27 February 2020.)
- Generic plan of management structure adapted for the majority of the reserves
- Specific plan of management structure adapted for sites of cultural significance and critical habitat for endangered species
- Incorporate elements from relevant documents, such as adopted master plans
- Survey results collated and fed into plan
- Native title manager advice acquired on the draft plans of management
- Report to Council to refer the draft plans to the NSW Minister for Planning and Environment

- Draft plans of management sent to the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) for approval
- Amendments as required including those necessitated by the *CLM Act* regulation of 4 June 2021 and by the DPE review
- Amended plan reviewed again by DPE
- Obtain landowners' consent to adopt the plan under the *CLM Act*

### 4.5 Council resolution and public exhibition

- Amended draft plans endorsed by Council for public exhibition 5 July 2021
- Proceed with community engagement strategy, see HPE 21/168751 for details
- Notify stakeholders and community groups
- Place notices in *The Wentworth Courier*
- Place draft plans of management on display on the Council website and at the customer service centre at Redleaf for 28 day public exhibition, with a further 14 days for written submissions
- Provide a community information session and briefing sessions as requested

#### 4.6 Adopting the plan

- Review and evaluate public submissions
- Incorporate feedback from the public exhibition into the draft plans of management where appropriate
- Prepare final draft plans of management
- Report to Council to consider adoption
- Plans adopted by Council on 24 July 2023 with recommended Council amendments, subject to endorsement by Department of Planning and Environment & Planning (DPE/Crown Lands)
- Plans of Management updated with Council endorsed amendments (noting that amendments were all considered to be minor and therefore did not require re-exhibition)
- Request that consent be provided by the Department of Planning and Environment & Planning (DPE/Crown Lands) for Council to adopt the plans of management
- Commence implementation of the plans



Figure 6. Several of the Crown land reserves provide access to the Harbour foreshore for water recreation, such as kayaking.

## 5. Land to which this plan applies

This plan of management applies to:

**Bellevue Park** – Bellevue Park Road, Bellevue Hill

**Camp Cove Reserve** – Cove Street, Watsons Bay

**Christison Park** – Old South Head Road, Vaucluse

**Double Bay Beach** – Bay Street, Double Bay

**Forsyth Park** – New South Head Road, Vaucluse

**Lighthouse Reserve** – Old South Head Road, Vaucluse

**Lyne Park**, including Tingira Memorial Park – New South Head Road, Rose Bay

**McKell Park** – Darling Point Road, Darling Point

**Robertson Park** – Military Road, Watsons Bay

**Rose Bay Park** – New South Head Road, Rose Bay

**Rushcutters Bay Park** – New Beach Road, Darling Point

**Samuel Park** – New South Head Road, Vaucluse

**Signal Hill Reserve** – Old South Head Road, Vaucluse

**Sir David Martin Reserve & Plantation Reserve** – New Beach Road, Darling Point

**Steyne Park** – William Street, Double Bay

**Tea Gardens** – Marine Parade, Watsons Bay

**Yarranabbe Park** – New Beach Road, Darling Point

These 17 locations include 23 parcels of Crown land. Within a site boundary, there may also be parcels of Council owned community land, such as at McKell Park. Where this is the case they are identified on the maps for each individual site and this plan of management also applies to them.

See Council's land register for a full list of open spaces in the LGA.



Figure 7. Passive recreation at Rose Bay Park.

### 5.1 Crown land to which this plan of management applies

This plan of management applies to the following dedicated or reserved Crown land, which is owned by the state of NSW and managed by Woollahra Municipal Council as Crown Land Manager under the *CLM Act*.

**Table 1. Crown land covered by this plan**

Site	Reserve Name	Reserve / Dedication	Area m <sup>2</sup>
1	Bellevue Park	R500458	14,014
2	Camp Cove Reserve	R500091	2,261
3	Christison Park	R53105	62,392
4	Double Bay Beach	D500094	745
5	Forsyth Park	R500090	1,183
6	Lighthouse Reserve	R81002	15,316
7	Lyne Park & Tingira Memorial Park	D500477, D500336, R1002262 coexists with part of R500477	75,307
8	McKell Park	R100101	6,051
9	Robertson Park	R500460, R500495	21,745
10	Rose Bay Park	R85170	9,047
11	Rushcutters Bay Park	R500097 Part Reserve with Part Lot 7321 DP1165813	54,256
12	Samuel Park	R62037, R93067	12,067
13	Signal Hill Reserve	R96964	18,680
14	Sir David Martin Reserve & Plantation Reserve	R100076, R47337	6,794
15	Steyne Park	D500092, D500396, R84726	17,500
16	Tea Gardens	D500486	841
17	Yarranabbe Park	R76319	21,125



There are a further 4 sites for which Woollahra Council is the Crown land manager that are covered by specific plans of management. Specific plans of management must be made for land declared:

- as critical habitat, or directly affected by a threat abatement plan or a recovery plan under threatened species laws
- to contain significant natural features
- to be of cultural significance

These 4 sites include 8 parcels of Crown land that are owned by the state of NSW and managed by Woollahra Municipal Council as Crown Land Manager under the *CLM Act*. They are located at Gap Park, Parsley Bay Reserve, Trumper Park and the Rose Bay War Memorial, as follows:

**Table 2. Crown land covered by specific plans**

Site	Reserve Name	Reserve / Dedication	Area m <sup>2</sup>
7	Rose Bay War Memorial (within Lyne Park)	D500326	327
18	Gap Park Gap Park – The Gunyah	D500222, R97623 R97613	46,000
19	Parsley Bay Reserve	D500268, D500273	36,373
20	Trumper Park	D500267, D1030768, R23962	64,467

Crown land that has been devolved to Council is **not** included in this plan of management. This is because, that while Council still manages the land, the management type, as defined by the NSW state government is not “Council Crown Land Manager”. Devolved reserves occur when there is no other management appointed to the reserve, thereby requiring it to be managed under s48 of the *LG Act*. Council can not authorise a lease or licence over a Crown reserve that is devolved to Council and is not required to prepare a plan of management for the land.

Devolved Crown reserves in the LGA are:

- Dumaresq Reserve and Foreshore
- Johnston Lookout
- Watsons Bay Baths Foreshore



# 6. Context

## 6.1 Our LGA

The Woollahra local government area is located on a peninsula of land 5km to the east of the CBD of the City of Sydney. It covers 12km<sup>2</sup> of land and is home to nearly 59,000 people living in the suburbs of Bellevue Hill, Darling Point, Double Bay, Edgecliff, part of Paddington, Point Piper, part of Rose Bay, part of Vaucluse, Watsons Bay and Woollahra. The LGA



Figure 8. Location of the LGA within the greater Sydney context.

neighbours the City of Sydney LGA to the west and the Waverley LGA to the east and south. A small area to the south is also bordered by the Randwick LGA.

## 6.2 Our Crown reserve portfolio

The Crown reserves of Woollahra represent almost one third of the total public open space of the LGA. They encompass remnant bushland, harbour

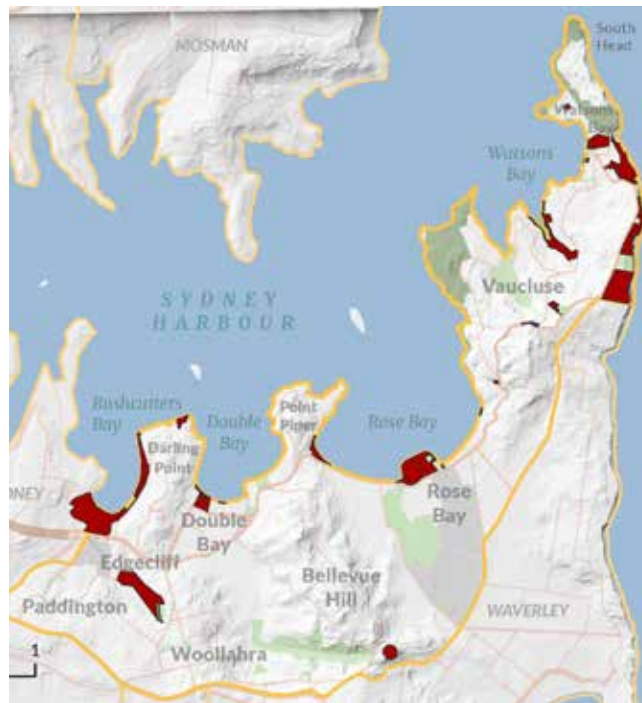


Figure 9. Crown land reserve locations within the LGA, shown shaded.

foreshores, sportsgrounds and culturally significant features such as war memorials, mature ornamental trees and historic structures. They tell a composite story of the physical and cultural landscape of Woollahra, a place that has been described as a “complex palimpsest unequalled in NSW.”<sup>1</sup> In bringing together the relevant contextual information of these Crown reserves, well-informed and appropriate decisions can be made for their future use and management.

### 6.2.1 The physical landscape

Much of Woollahra’s boundary is formed by scenic natural landforms and features; namely the southern headland of Port Jackson and the Pacific Ocean to the northeast and Sydney Harbour to the north and west.

The LGA enjoys a frost-free, warm temperate climate. Hawkesbury sandstone is the underlying geology, occurring as a broad plateau cut in two by a low lying sand filled valley between Bondi to the southeast and Rose Bay to the northwest. Hawkesbury sandstone landscapes share a

<sup>1</sup> Jack, R. I. (1984) within the Hughes, Trueman, Ludlow *Heritage Study for the Municipality of Woollahra*.

topography of steep slopes, narrow ridgelines, and deep rocky valleys and, at the harbour foreshore, shallow inlets and bays. Soils derived from Hawkesbury sandstone are typically infertile, shallow, quartz sands.<sup>2</sup> Outcrops of this underlying geology occur throughout the LGA and can be seen in many of the Crown reserves, at Lighthouse Reserve for example. Hawkesbury sandstone, also used extensively as a building material since colonial times, contributes significantly to the natural and urban fabric of the greater Sydney region.

Heath vegetation and low scrub originally covered the more exposed coastal ridgelines of Woollahra, such as at South Head.<sup>3</sup> This vegetation grows where shallow soils and windy conditions prevent the growth of very tall trees. Such plants are usually shorter than two metres in height and have dense, often prickly foliage, for example Coast Tea Tree (*Leptospermum laevigatum*) and Coast Banksia (*Banksia integrifolia*). A remnant of this once extensive vegetation occurs at Gap Park and is undergoing restoration.

Taller woodlands and forests grew on the more sheltered hillsides and gullies overlooking the

Harbour. The endemic Sydney Red Gum or Smooth-barked Apple (*Angophora costata*) grows in such communities, which may also include Old Man Banksia (*Banksia serrata*) and She-Oaks (*Allocasuarina littoralis*).

A remnant example of a taller Eucalypt forest exists in Parsley Bay Reserve. The vegetation community there also consists of some rainforest species such as Blueberry Ash (*Elaeocarpus reticulatus*), Cheese Tree (*Glochidion ferdinandi*) and Black Wattle (*Callicoma serratifolia*), it too is under restoration.

The swampy alluvial soils at the head of Rushcutters Bay supported stands of Cabbage Tree Palms (*Livistona australis*) with an understorey of rushes, most likely the Common Rush (*Juncus usitatus*), from which today's place name is derived. A substantial swampy area inland from Rose Bay to Bondi was dominated by Broadleaf Paperbark (*Melaleuca quinquenervia*).<sup>4</sup>

While the physical landscape has been altered by various uses over time and significantly through clearing and urbanisation, it remains a feature of several of the Crown land reserves in the LGA.

## 6.2.2 The cultural landscape – Aboriginal history and heritage

The history and heritage of the Crown reserves in Woollahra contain the imprint of thousands of years of human use.

Dr Paul Irish of Coast History and Heritage has provided the following overview of the Aboriginal heritage of the Crown reserves in Woollahra: "The Crown Lands areas of Woollahra exist largely around the shoreline and can help us understand deep Aboriginal connections to this coastal Country. For countless generations of coastal Sydney Aboriginal clans and families, the shoreline has been their domain; a place to live, and a place of plenty. That shore has shifted significantly over the tens of thousands of years that Aboriginal people have lived in Sydney. At the peak of the last glacial period (ice age) 20,000 years ago, sea levels were much lower and the coast lay about ten kilometres further east. When Aboriginal people stood on top of the cliffs

2 Benson, D.H. and Howell, Jocelyn. (1990). *Taken for granted: the bushland of Sydney and its suburbs*. Kangaroo Press P/L.

3 Ashton, W. (1984). *An Assessment of Landscape Heritage within the Hughes, Trueman, Ludlow Heritage Study for the Municipality of Woollahra*.

4 Benson, D. H. and Howell, Jocelyn (1990).

of South Head and North Head at this time, these were not headlands but rocky sentinels looking out over a vast coastal plain, while a winding river passed through a deep forested valley between them.

From about 18,000 years ago the global temperature rose, melting glaciers and ice caps and causing sea levels to rise. From the east-facing clifftops of South Head (e.g. Gap Park, Signal Hill Reserve, Lighthouse Reserve and Christison Park), hundreds of generations of coastal Sydney people watched the waters steadily consume their coastal plain a metre or two every year.<sup>5</sup> Turning west from these vantage points, Aboriginal people would have seen the deep harbour river valley slowly fill with water. By 6,000 – 7,000 years ago, a vastly longer shoreline made up of jagged harbour bays and headlands, coastal cliffs and beaches had come into being. The harbour headlands of Woollahra took their current form, transforming from long rocky ridges overlooking a forested valley, into short rounded points lapped by waves. Once Aboriginal people had been able to walk along the rocky spine of Darling Point to the low hill of Clark Island at its end, but now they had to paddle canoes from the

rocky shore at places like McKell Park to the newly formed island.

From points like Bellevue Park along the high ridge of today's Old South Head Road, Aboriginal people could see harbour and ocean beaches form. The rising seas pushed sand ashore, hemming in freshwater creeks to form beaches backed by brackish lagoons. At small harbour beaches like Camp Cove, a nearly 200 metre-long lagoon existed where Camp Cove Reserve now stands, connected to the harbour by a small tidal creek flowing out across the southern end of the beach.<sup>6</sup> At Rose Bay a vast landscape of dunes stretching all the way to Bondi already existed, but extensive swamps formed from the rising water table were now divided from the new harbour by a long thin beach.<sup>7</sup>

Coastal Sydney people gave this new landscape meaning, building on existing connections to the region. They inscribed figures of sea creatures, land mammals, spirit figures, people and implements into the sandstone cliffs and outcrops overlooking the new shore. Moving from the shoreline to the highest vantage points, sandstone outcrops formed parallel bands separated by sloping ground (which

can still be seen at points within these slopes like Samuel Park and Forsyth Park). Aboriginal people lived in rockshelters hollowed out by erosion within these outcrops, and sometimes left stencilled outlines of their hands in ochre.

The harbour was home to a number of Aboriginal clans. The Sydney clans traced common descent from a male ancestor and shared totems. Each clan numbered around 25 to 60 people and had primary rights to their clan estate, after which they were named. Most of Woollahra was part of Gadi, the estate of the Gadigal people, which stretched east along the southern shore of the harbour from around Darling Harbour, to the estate of the Birrabirragal associated with the entrance to the harbour.<sup>8</sup>

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5 Irish, Paul (2017). *Hidden in Plain View. The Aboriginal People of Coastal Sydney*, NewSouth Publishing, Sydney, pp.13-15.

6 Irish (2017), p. 37.

7 Gale, Stephen (2020). 'The palaeoenvironmental assessment of the sediments of the Royal Sydney Golf Club, Rose Bay, Sydney, New South Wales', in *Coast History and Heritage, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report. Championship Golf Course, The Royal Sydney Golf Club, Rose Bay NSW* (Report to the Royal Sydney Golf Club).

8 Attenbrow, Val (2010). *Sydney's Aboriginal Past: Investigating the Archaeological and Historical Records*, 2nd ed, University of NSW Press, Sydney, pp.22-30, 57-58.

The harbour clans were bound together by women, who married between clans.<sup>9</sup> This meant that the groups of Aboriginal people who lived on a daily basis in the Woollahra area were made up of a mixture of clans. Each person was also bound by complex webs of spiritual and family connection to areas beyond that of their clan through marriage, by the clans of the parents and grandparents, and by their place of birth.<sup>10</sup> Aboriginal people travelled widely and regularly to meet their cultural obligations. They also had trade networks that covered vast distances to obtain raw materials and other goods which were not found in their own lands. A stone axe found at Vacluse for example, originally came from west of the Blue Mountains.<sup>11</sup>

Aboriginal people set up fishing camps along the harbour shore and learned how to read the new waters. Women and men developed a mastery of fishing that, for women, was further heightened by their adoption of shell fishhooks about a thousand years ago.<sup>12</sup> Half a century after the arrival of Europeans, the remaining bushland and Aboriginal fishing camps around the harbour still echoed this way of life. From a rowboat wending its way along on the harbour from Sydney to

Camp Cove in 1834, a visitor noted:

The grey jutting rocks finely contrasted, with the green shrubbery scattered over and among them, while at intervals the gum tree towered up with its fantastically rugged trunk, and light airy foliage – and the wood land (being at a distance) a not unpleasant noise of the locusts was heard on all sides. After about an hours pull through this scenery, the more prominent features of which however kept perpetually changing as we rounded each headland, we reached Camp Cove a beautifully sequestered little spot – having a fine sandy beach surrounded by the bush – and from whence though there was no signs of habitations, blue smoke curled up at several different points... [We] sallied out into the bush, and by this means we came upon the whole tribe of near 100 natives, men, women and children.<sup>13</sup>

These people were living around Camp Cove lagoon as many generations of their ancestors had done. Men and women fished the rich fishing grounds off the beach on flotillas of canoes during the day, and at night men stepped off the beach

with pronged fishing spears and flaming torches to catch some more.<sup>14</sup> They camped around the lagoon and ate their catch, and buried their dead in the dunes around them. The lagoon has since been filled but you can still sense its presence where the landscape dips down behind the beach, and today's Camp Cove Reserve sits in the middle of the former open water.

While Aboriginal people moved between camps around the harbour and coast, each bay or inlet formed its own environmental niche. Around Parsley Bay Reserve you can still see parts of the original freshwater creek which flowed across the rocks

9 Karskens, Grace (2009). *The Colony. A History of Early Sydney*, Allen & Unwin, Sydney, p. 37.

10 Dr Shayne Williams, Dharawal Elder, 'Welcome to Gamay', [www.sydstories.com.au/#/chapter/1](http://www.sydstories.com.au/#/chapter/1) [accessed 5/6/20]; Irish (2017), pp. 17-19.

11 Attenbrow, Val et al., (2012) "Crossing the Great Divide: a ground-edged hatchet-head from Vacluse, Sydney," *Archaeology in Oceania* 47(1), pp. 47-52.

12 Attenbrow, Val (2010) 'Aboriginal Fishing in Port Jackson, and the Introduction of Shell-fish Hooks in Coastal NSW, Australia', in *The Natural History of Sydney*, ed. D. Lunney, P. Hutchings, and D. Hochuli, Royal Zoological Society, Sydney, pp. 16-34.

13 Proctor, William (1834). *Journal on the John Craig* (SLNSW MSS B1126 [CY1518], 1834), 119-120 [fr71-72].

14 Irish (2017), p. 37.

towards the beach between the rocky flanks of the bay. The shallow waters of the bay would have teemed with fish and shellfish. From archaeological excavations around the harbour and historical records, we know that Aboriginal people had a diverse diet including a wide range of shellfish, fish, land animals, birds and plants. Fish were caught by spear and hook, but in some places also with fish traps such as stone tidal weirs.<sup>15</sup> Aboriginal people camped behind the beach and within rockshelters around the bay, cooking their catch around campfires. At night, fires like these would have winked out across the harbour from every bay and point along its shore.

This way of life was severely impacted by the arrival of Europeans in 1788, who appropriated Aboriginal land without consent, and sent twin waves of death by disease and musket radiating out from the colony at Sydney Cove. These impacts, particularly the deadly 1789 smallpox epidemic, shattered families and broke traditional practices. However, the survivors of these brutal early years regrouped. They found ways to stay on their traditional lands and waters by engaging as strategically as they could with the reality of the growing colony in Sydney.

The Camp Cove fishing settlement described in 1834 is a good example of this. It was located some distance from Sydney and was largely self-sufficient, but residents used their acknowledged fishing expertise to run commercial fishing trips from the city to pay for supplies they needed. They also retained cultural practices and knowledge, such as about rock engravings in nearby areas.<sup>16</sup>

At different times throughout the nineteenth century, there were Aboriginal settlements across the coastal beaches and all of the bays and headlands of the harbour. At Rose Bay for example a traditional ceremonial combat ground was still in use for payback disputed contests between Aboriginal groups in early colonial times.<sup>17</sup> Rose Bay Park gives a sense of the original long foreshore of the bay, most of which is now concealed behind seawalls or buried under reclaimed land (e.g. Lyne Park). Aboriginal people camped along this shore, and sometimes buried their dead in the dunes behind the beach. They developed long-lasting intergenerational relationships with the European residents of large properties around the bay, trading fish, oysters and traditional knowledge.<sup>18</sup> This bound them into the fabric of the neighbourhood and

helped them to remain for more than a century after the arrival of Europeans.

Further to the west Rushcutters Bay was another focus for continuing Aboriginal settlement. Throughout the nineteenth century there were one or more Aboriginal camps around the edges of the vast mudflats or high up around the rocky hills of Edgecliff and Paddington (which you can get a sense of in Trumper Park). The camps were a fact of life for local European residents. Aboriginal people continued to spearfish in the bay, and ceremonies were still being undertaken in the 1870s.<sup>19</sup> Aboriginal people from other camps like the La Perouse fishing village at Botany Bay would sometimes visit, exchanging honey and birds for fresh fish from Rushcutters Bay.<sup>20</sup>

15 Attenbrow, V. & Steele, D. (1995) 'Fishing in Port Jackson, New South Wales - More than Meets the Eye', *Antiquity* 69, pp. 46-59.

16 Irish (2017), pp. 36-38; Derricourt, Robin (2008) 'Watsons Bay', *Dictionary of Sydney*, [www.dictionaryofsydney.org/entry/watsons\\_bay](http://www.dictionaryofsydney.org/entry/watsons_bay) (accessed 5/6/20).

17 Irish (2017), pp. 69-70.

18 Irish (2017), pp. 66.

19 Irish (2017), pp. 72-73.

20 Irish (2017), p. 123.



From the late nineteenth century, several unrelated changes combined to bring an end to this adapted Aboriginal way of life, at least around the harbour. In the early 1880s the state government had formed the Aborigines Protection Board to oversee the administration of welfare assistance to Aboriginal people across the state. Although the Board did not obtain legal powers until the early twentieth century, by the 1890s it was using the police to monitor Aboriginal camps across coastal Sydney, and sometimes move Aboriginal people away. At the same time, a new missionary movement based at the La Perouse Aboriginal settlement began to encourage Aboriginal people from the remaining camps at Rushcutters Bay, Rose Bay and Watsons Bay to move there, with the added incentive that it was the only place where assistance from the Protection Board could be obtained. On top of this Sydney was rapidly urbanising, covering Aboriginal campgrounds with dense housing and filling in bays and mudflats around the shore behind seawalls (e.g. around Rushcutters Bay at Yarranabee Park, Sir David Martin Reserve and most of Rushcutters Bay Park). The combined affect was that by around 1900, most Aboriginal settlements around the eastern

suburbs had closed as coastal Sydney people moved to La Perouse.<sup>21</sup>

Around the harbour and ocean shore, physical traces of this ancient and more recent Aboriginal life survive, mainly in pockets of relatively undisturbed landscape in backyards and public reserves. Less impacted public lands like Steyne Park at Double Bay may still contain traces of Aboriginal fishing camps from before and after the arrival of Europeans. While many other physical remains of the Aboriginal past may no longer survive, the entire Woollahra area remains significant to the descendants of coastal Sydney people, who live mainly within the La Perouse Aboriginal community today. They still regard this coastal landscape as important, and continue to visit and maintain their connections.”

### **6.2.3 The cultural landscape – European history and heritage**

All of the patterns within a landscape contribute to the character of the site and the sense of place. Overlaying the physical landscape patterns are those relating to the ideas, customs and social behaviours of the societies that have used the land.

Aboriginal people modified the landscape by burning vegetation for hunting and collecting food, for shelter and as a way of expressing connections with the land. Following colonisation land use intensified, the endemic vegetation was gradually cleared and the physical landscape altered permanently, so that today there is very little remnant bushland or natural systems remaining.<sup>22</sup>

Land development immediately after 1788 was for survival; food production and defence. A signal station was established at South Head on 20 January, 1790 by Capt. John Hunter as a ‘Lookout Post’. Survival of the first Europeans in Woollahra was dependent on supplies brought by ship from England. The role of signalman for the colony was held from 1791-1811 by Robert Watson, quarter master of HMS Sirius, the flagship of the First Fleet. He lived in a camp established at a strategic position just within the heads, where Robertson Park is today; Watsons Bay was named for him.

The camp at Robertson Park fulfilled several survival roles during the 1790s. In addition to the signal

<sup>21</sup> Irish (2017), pp.125-128.

<sup>22</sup> Benson, D.H. and Howell, Jocelyn. (1990).

staff, it was also home to an important community of pilots and fishermen. All ships coming into the harbour were boarded at Watsons Bay and guided to the settlement at Sydney Cove. In 1792, during the severe food shortages that threatened the colony with starvation, a fishery was established at Watsons Bay by Governor Captain Arthur Phillip for the exclusive purpose of feeding the sick. At this time, access to the camp, the earliest settlement in Woollahra was solely by boat, as the land between here and Sydney Town was swampy, densely vegetated and difficult to traverse.<sup>23</sup>

The defensive role of South Head continued throughout the 19th and into the 20th century. Several large guns were installed at various times and locations along the coast, including at Signal Hill Reserve. The Signal Hill battery is a heritage listed item no 384 in WLEP 2014. Elements such as these in the Crown reserves contribute to our understanding of place and are unique opportunities for future interpretation.

By the early 19th century, land was being cleared and developed in the numerous sheltered bays and coves. The scrubby timber along the foreshores

was used for firewood. Market gardens and dairying occurred on the deeper soils by the harbour such as around Steyne Park.<sup>24</sup> Development of land away from the harbour was more challenging due to the topography. A rough track, along the present Old South Head Road was established out to Vaucluse by 1811. This enabled people to take day trips and picnics out to enjoy the expansive views from places such as Bellevue Park, the highest point in the LGA. This was a popular form of recreation in Europe throughout the 18th century, as it followed the principles of the philosophical and artistic movement known as the Picturesque; which promoted the charm of discovering the landscape in its natural state.

Throughout the 19th century, extensive parcels of land were granted to prominent men, such as William Charles Wentworth. The Wentworth grounds covered much of Vaucluse including Parsley Bay. When the estate was subdivided in the early 20th century, a portion of land was dedicated for public recreation, and became a popular location for swimming and picnics.<sup>25</sup> Parsley Bay Reserve is covered under a separate specific plan of management. It is a unique place; valuable for its

intrinsic landscape character, including significant remnant bushland and for several built elements of cultural significance including the suspension bridge, item 386 on the WLEP 2014.

From the mid 1800's Sydney expanded rapidly, and land was used for housing and the industries of the time. Government run salt pans were established at Rushcutters Bay, Double Bay and Rose Bay during the 1830s.<sup>26</sup> In the 1840s there was a boiling down works at Rose Bay, run by Cooper and Levey, where animal carcasses were reduced to tallow in large boiling vats. The shell heaps from Aboriginal middens, found at harbour foreshore sites, were burnt to produce lime for mortar as building activity and residential density increased.<sup>27</sup>

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23 Jack, R. I. (1984) within the Hughes, Trueman, Ludlow *Heritage Study for the Municipality of Woollahra*.

24 Jack, R. I. (1984) within the Hughes, Trueman, Ludlow *Heritage Study for the Municipality of Woollahra*.

25 Britten, Jane and Yeh, Caroline. (1998). *Parsley Bay, place of the heart*. Woollahra Library.

26 Jack, R. I. (1984) within the Hughes, Trueman, Ludlow *Heritage Study for the Municipality of Woollahra*.

27 Jack, R. I. (1984) within the Hughes, Trueman, Ludlow *Heritage Study for the Municipality of Woollahra*.

Almost all of the swampy woodlands were filled by the mid-19th century, the creek-lines were channelised and sandstone seawalls were built along much of the foreshore, as can be seen at Rushcutters Bay Park.<sup>28</sup>

At around this time, some areas of land were reserved from private development to be set aside for public recreation. Steyne Park is the oldest public open space in the LGA; being dedicated in 1867. Many ornamental trees planted during this era now contribute to the unique fabric of the Municipality. For example Bellevue Park and Steyne Park were planted with a now iconic tree in Sydney, the Moreton Bay Fig (*Ficus macrophylla*).

During the Victorian and Edwardian periods, the influential directors of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Charles Moore (1848 - 1896) and Sir Joseph Maiden (1896 - 1924) recommended species to be planted in both public open space and private gardens. Tree planting in public reserves was recorded as early as 1889.<sup>29</sup> They encouraged the use of many rainforest species such as figs, ferns and palms as well as pines, particularly *Araucaria sp.* Moore often specified the Moreton Bay Fig in civic landscape

design schemes. Maiden was an avid plant collector and advocated for the creation of more parks to soften the urban environment, for the protection of remnant trees endangered by development and for the planting of ornamental trees. He especially encouraged the planting of palms, which became a feature of Edwardian Sydney, examples of which can be seen today in McKell Park. He dispatched thousands of seeds and cuttings from the Royal Botanic Gardens to local councils and schools. The public open spaces of Woollahra still benefit from this legacy.

These now mature specimens, more than a century old, are of high cultural significance as they contribute to the landscape character of the area and Sydney as a whole. They are part of our cultural landscape and many are listed in the register of significant trees.

With most of the land in the LGA now developed for residential use, demand is very high for access to the limited amount of public open space available. This demand comes from local residents, non-resident members of the public, as well as domestic and international tourists who visit the area regularly

to enjoy the Harbour foreshores.

With this increasing use and pressure on open space, successful public land management is paramount. In The *Woollahra Community Satisfaction Survey 2017*, the community stated that they considered maintaining the foreshores, beaches, parks and recreation areas of key importance, and that protecting heritage values, buildings and encouraging sustainable development was a high priority.

Access to enjoyable open space is known to have multiple physical and mental health benefits, and is a significant element in successful place making. Council's approach, as stated in the Community Strategic Plan, is to create public spaces that promote the health, happiness and wellbeing of the community.

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28 Jack, R. I. (1984) within the Hughes, Trueman, Ludlow Heritage Study for the Municipality of Woollahra.

29 Jack, R. I. (1984) within the Hughes, Trueman, Ludlow Heritage Study for the Municipality of Woollahra.

### 6.3 Our community and council's corporate objectives

Our Community Strategic Plan (CSP) Woollahra 2032, sits above all other Council plans, strategies and policies in the hierarchy. Other documents, including this plan of management, must be consistent with Woollahra 2032.

The themes and goals of the CSP are:

#### **Theme: Environmental Strategies**

Goal 7: Protecting our environment

Goal 8: Sustainable use of resources

#### **Theme: Social Strategies**

Goal 1: A connected, harmonious and engaged community for all ages and abilities

Goal 2: A supported, enabled and resilient community

Goal 3: A creative and vibrant community

Goal 4: Well planned neighbourhoods

#### **Theme: Economic Strategies**

Goal 5: Liveable places

Goal 6: Getting around

Goal 9: Community focused economic development

#### **Theme: Civic Leadership Strategies**

Goal 4: Well planned neighbourhoods

Goal 10: Working together

Goal 11: A well managed Council

To achieve these goals, the CSP sets strategies to guide how we budget and plan for all our services, operations and projects. The Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) is a key Council strategy, it sets out the planning priorities and vision to guide land use planning specifically and outlines what those priorities aim to achieve in the future. See appendix AA for more information.

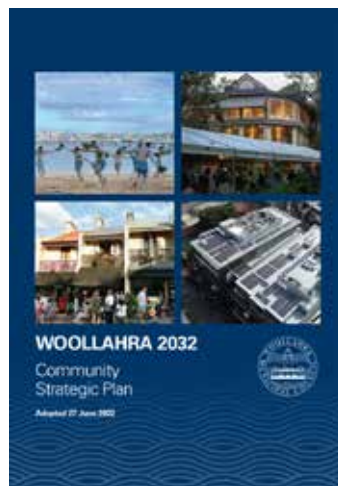


Figure 10. The cover of the Community Strategic Plan

The actions within a plan of management for community land are integrated into the strategic framework in order to be resourced and achieved.

The Crown land reserves values, gathered through project specific consultation, align with the themes of the CSP.

### 6.4 Our Crown land reserves values

Values are the qualities of a place that are significant, special or important. In recognising the values associated with community land, the objectives and performance targets are determined for its successful management.

Engaging with our community for this plan of management included gathering the values associated with the Crown land reserves through a comprehensive survey. Consultation unexpectedly coincided with the initial period of lockdown brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. During this time, the importance of passive open space as a respite from the indoors was raised many times by our community.

Responses to the Crown reserves survey indicated that the following qualities, in order of significance are valued by our community:

- natural environment
- aesthetic quality
- health and well-being opportunities
- heritage and cultural opportunities
- recreational opportunities
- access
- social and community opportunities
- landscape quality

#### **6.4.1 Natural environment value of the Crown land reserves**

The Crown reserves are most highly valued for the natural environment they provide. Natural elements such as trees, gardens and grass provide a beneficial contrast to the surrounding built environment. Public reserves provide welcome access to outdoor open space in increasingly dense residential areas that may have reduced personal outdoor space.

The term “natural” in this context does not mean that the land is in a completely natural or undisturbed state. No Crown land in Woollahra is

in a totally natural state. It is significantly modified and consists mostly of ornamental gardens and lawn areas with some remnant native vegetation. Although highly urbanised, these areas do contribute significantly to the biodiversity of the area. The reserves provide habitat opportunities for native fauna and help mitigate the effects of climate change by providing shade and large areas of permeable ground surface to reduce stormwater runoff.

The natural elements of the reserves are vital components of green infrastructure as discussed in *Greener Places*. The three categories are:

- open space for recreation, the green infrastructure for people
- urban tree canopy, the green infrastructure for climate adaptation and resilience, and
- bushland and waterways, the green infrastructure for habitat and ecological health

#### **6.4.2 Aesthetic value of the Crown land reserves**

Aesthetic quality and visual amenity is very high within the LGA due mostly to the location, the proximity to Sydney Harbour and the Pacific Ocean. The reserves perform an important role in providing

publically accessible space to enjoy views of these scenic areas. Aesthetic value is also found in smaller areas that do not necessarily provide a view, such as at Camp Cove Reserve, where the visual impact of the majestic Moreton Bay Fig trees is aesthetically pleasing. The *NSW Public Spaces Charter* refers to the quality of a public space as being just as important as its availability. Aesthetic value increases the perception of quality of a site.

#### **6.4.3 Health and well-being value of the Crown land reserves**

The reserves provide the community with health and well-being opportunities by providing a place for escape, enjoyment, exercise, inspiration and reflection. During the COVID-19 restrictions, the importance of these opportunities was heightened as mental and physical health concerns intensified within the community and the country as a whole. Principle 6 of the *NSW Public Spaces Charter* is “healthy and active”, it recognises this key role of public open space to the people of NSW.

#### **6.4.4 Heritage and cultural value of the Crown land reserves**

The traces of past land use within Woollahra



are features of many of the reserves and some locations contain items of heritage significance. The history and character associated with these features, such as the remnant foundations at McKell Park, enhance the experience of using the place. Culturally significant items such as the Rose Bay War Memorial within Lyne Park continue to provide us all with connections to Australia's past and a space for personal and group reflection. Maintaining local character and identity is principle 4 of the *NSW Public Spaces Charter*, as it recognises that our public spaces make us proud of where we live.

The reserves also provide an opportunity for interpretation of Aboriginal history to help deepen cultural respect within our community. Many sites have been identified as having areas of Aboriginal sensitivity. Opportunities may also exist for Indigenous people to continue their connections with country on the reserves of Woollahra. A priority of the *State Strategic Plan – A vision for Crown Land* is to work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights.

#### **6.4.5 Recreational value of the Crown land reserves**

Passive recreational activities including walking,

picnicking, playing informal games, dog walking and viewing are enjoyed in the reserves. There is increasing demand from the community for passive recreation space. Unfortunately, this often leads to conflicts of use. In highly urbanised areas this continues to be a key management issue. At Steyne Park for example, this is particularly evident and will require specific actions to reduce conflict and provide a safe and enjoyable space for the whole community to use and enjoy.

The sportsgrounds are valued for the wide range of active recreational opportunities they provide. Playing sport and partaking in physical activity and exercise contributes to the health and wellbeing of the community. Sporting activities provide for the development of skills for all ages, and a satisfying use of leisure time can improve one's quality of life. Additionally, playing team sports can help build, strengthen and support social and community connections, an objective of the *State Strategic Plan for Crown land*.

The diversity of active recreational opportunities that a sportsground can provide to a community increases its value, for example, soccer and rugby

in winter, cricket in summer and informal games all year round. The recreational value of sportsgrounds is highest when integrated usage patterns are able to be designed into the open space. This allows a greater diversity of use by a greater number of people and adheres to a principle of the *CLM Act*, that where appropriate, multiple use of Crown land be encouraged. For example, at Lyne Park, sportsgrounds are integrated into a park which also provides passive picnic areas, a children's playground, cafés, tennis courts, a basketball court and access to public transport. Principle 6 of the *NSW Public Spaces Charter* is that public space support a healthy and active community through flexible, multifunctional offerings in different areas for different activities.

#### **6.4.6 Access value of the Crown land reserves**

The reserves provide important pedestrian and cyclist access through neighbourhoods, to other destinations, the harbour foreshores and to public transport nodes.

Valuable access through neighbourhoods is possible when there is more than one pedestrian entrance to

a reserve, as for example at Samuel Park and Camp Cove Reserve. The larger sites with accessible boundaries, such as Lyne Park readily fulfil this role.

Public access to the foreshores, for recreation and transport, is a key role performed by many of the reserves. Lyne, Steyne and Robertson Parks for example provide valuable public access to the harbour and to water based transportation. The route of the Bondi to Manly walk passes through many of the Crown reserves in the LGA, namely Christison Park, Lighthouse Reserve, Signal Hill Reserve, Gap Park, Robertson Park, Parsley Bay Reserve, Lyne Park, Rose Bay Park, Double Bay Beach, Steyne Park, McKell Park, Yarranabbe Park, Sir David Martin Reserve and Rushcutters Bay Park. This walk provides an opportunity to experience approximately 80km of public land between two of Sydney's famous surf beaches.

The *Sydney Green Grid* is a GANSW strategy, it acknowledges that "every opportunity to increase or improve foreshore access should be investigated," and that there is "opportunity to enhance connections to the harbour foreshore parks (and) headland parks...by improving north-south access

for pedestrian and cyclists." There is potential to improve such connections, or "Green Links" throughout the LGA, including the Great Coastal Walk, the Sydney Harbour Eastern Bays, Bondi Junction to Rose Bay, and Bondi Junction to Double Bay. Many of the reserves are key components of these "Green Links" and use for this purpose is permitted by this plan of management. Creating this interconnected network of open space is one of the objectives of *Greener Places*.

#### **6.4.7 Social and community value of the Crown land reserves**

Private open space is diminished in areas of high residential density, resulting in a greater use of public open space as the location for social and community gatherings. The reserves provide space in which to meet family and friends and for our community to gather together for special events. Principles 1 and 2 of the *NSW Public Spaces Charter*, encourages public spaces to be open and welcoming and community-focused.

These locations are regularly used and enjoyed by members of the public for celebrations, such as birthday parties and weddings, and many

spectacular locations attract interest from the community for photo shoots and filming. Private use of public land must be carefully managed to avoid alienation of public land. It must remain for the majority use by the public, to meet the principle of Crown land management under the *CLM Act*, that public use and enjoyment of appropriate Crown land be encouraged. Approval for some personal activities may be necessary and Council may charge fees to use a site.

Events such as New Year's Eve fireworks draw large crowds to harbourside locations and this increase in demand may cause conflict for nearby residents and adversely affect the park itself through wear and tear, damage, and reduced levels of cleanliness.

#### **6.4.8 Landscape value of the Crown land reserves**

Consultation results indicate that our community appreciate a high quality, well-groomed landscape. Providing appropriate vegetation and well-maintained garden beds is important to the overall aesthetic appeal of a reserve and the ongoing health and longevity of the vegetation. Robust and vigorous plant material is less likely to suffer

from pests and diseases and therefore require less resources in terms of weed and pest removal and fertiliser application. The *CLM Act* requires that the soil, flora, fauna and scenic quality of Crown land be conserved wherever possible. Additionally, in keeping with best practice in ornamental horticulture, each site requires some level of on-going tasks, such as weeding, pruning, mulching and litter removal to keep it “fit for purpose.” Keeping the landscape in good condition is increasingly difficult during extended periods of drought with associated water usage restrictions. A high quality landscape also includes all of the hardscape materials and structures at the site such as the outdoor furniture and pavements. Principle 10 of the *NSW Public Spaces Charter* acknowledges that public space is more inviting when it’s well cared for.

## **6.5 Our Crown land reserves management issues**

Management issues have been identified through site analysis, community consultation and through Council records. Issues can be seen as opportunities or constraints. A constraining issue may need to be ameliorated in order to achieve a performance target, while a site opportunity should be pursued and accentuated to enhance a place through appropriate use, planning, design and development.

### **The following issues were raised during community consultation:**

#### **6.5.1 Views**

This issue relates to both inward views of the site from the surrounding area and outward views from within the site. Harbour and Pacific Ocean views are a feature of many of the reserves in the LGA; it is often this characteristic that brought about the original dedication of the space for public recreation. Additionally, views of greenery such as tree canopies, gardens and lawns can be pleasant in urban areas.

Where possible, views should be retained and enhanced for the benefit of the public appreciating and using the reserves in the LGA.

#### **6.5.2 Site interpretation, wayfinding, planning and design**

Woollahra’s Crown reserves are unique places that need to perform many roles as they continue to evolve to meet the needs of the community. Managing the evolution of any place involves thoughtful, specific site design. The *Greener Places Guide*, acknowledges that “great places and cities don’t happen by chance: they are designed, and continue to be designed, as we manage their transformation.” The landscape design process brings together complex factors and works towards providing the best outcome for each location. By analysing the physical and cultural landscape, understanding how people use the site, recognising how the site needs to function and identifying the restraints and possibilities of the place, we can ameliorate site constraints and maximise site potential. A strong sense of place can be achieved through thoughtful positioning of meaningful, cohesive wayfinding elements, such as signage and planting. This will maximise site potential, reveal and

reinforce the landscape character and personality of each place, and allow for a site-specific, proactive approach to appropriate capital works, rather than reacting to situations with a “one size fits all” strategy.

Opportunity exists to capture the qualities of each reserve through this process. Significantly, out of cultural respect for Aboriginal people, site design could include elements that recognise them as the first to use this land. Park signage, for example, could incorporate local language and motifs to increase cultural awareness and contribute to more meaningful place-making. One of the priorities of the *State Strategic Plan for Crown land* is to strengthen and support evolving community connection and such elements could be considered as steps in that connection process.

Importantly, by encouraging the community to participate in the design process and decision making, we can build stewardship of the land, contribute to civic harmony and increase the potential for greater user satisfaction with the final outcome.

There are many factors to consider at each site. Future design should address issues such as all ability access, which is often a physical challenge in Woollahra due to the topography and geomorphology of the area. A changing climate requires a more resilient landscape, an increased need for shade and drought tolerant plant species that can survive in extreme conditions to provide amenity for public recreation as well as habitat for urban wildlife. All materials, including the hardscape selection, should be chosen to provide multiple benefit for the least negative impact. Suggestions include permeable pavements and minor re-grading of large open areas to create contoured swales. These will reduce stormwater runoff, improve on-site water retention and increase water infiltration into the soil.

This plan of management provides much needed information to influence future decision making within the Crown reserves. The scope of this project does not however include master planning or landscape design plans. Where a site would benefit from further design documentation, it will be identified as a site specific action within the management framework for that location.

### **6.5.3 Encroachment and loss of green open space**

Retaining public space for the benefit of all can be challenging in highly urbanised areas. Encroachment onto public land from adjoining land owners, although prohibited, continues to occur and is an ongoing management issue in the LGA. Other forms of encroachment include rubbish dumping and locating privately owned items, such as kayaks in areas other than where permitted. Council strongly discourages this and seeks community co-operation in preventing encroachment of all kinds including noise, views and land.

Loss of green open space is of on-going concern to the community. Requests have been made by some of the community to limit the built environment within the reserves. Provision of recreation and sporting facilities is currently being considered in the Woollahra Recreation Needs Study. The vision for this strategy is that residents of (and visitors to) the Woollahra area are aware of and have access to a diverse range of recreation and sporting facilities that create opportunities for physical activity and ensure a great quality of life for all ages, cultures and abilities. Council is simultaneously preparing the Woollahra Play Strategy, which aims to provide

strategic direction in regards to play provision across the LGA.

Balancing the recreational needs of a growing population with retention of green open space for passive recreation remains a goal of future Crown land development and can be most successfully resolved through the design development and consultation process. Building multifunctionality into development limits the built environment and is encouraged by principle 9 of the *NSW Public Spaces Charter*.

#### **6.5.4 Cleanliness and maintenance**

Numerous comments were received during consultation for more cleaning, more frequent rubbish removal and increased levels of landscape maintenance. Performing these tasks at each reserve and also allowing for essential landscape renewal work to meet community expectations is an ongoing management issue. This was highlighted during the COVID-19 pandemic and Council recognises that well-maintained public places are important to our community.

Many reserves (e.g. Robertson Park) attract

tourists to NSW all year round and some sites (e.g. Yarranabbe Park, McKell Park, Robertson Park and Rushcutters Bay Park) attract heavy use, beyond that by the local community, during special events. Such high and frequent levels of use mean that the reserves are often used beyond capacity and Council staff and contractors find that even performing necessary cleaning and maintenance is increasingly difficult due to the volume of people using the reserves. In addition to these increased levels of use, the effects of climate change are apparent across the LGA, most noticeably in the poor condition of the grass during summer at some locations including Lyne Park.

Regular maintenance regimes are currently in place for mowing, weeding, litter pick and other general horticultural tasks. Separate schedules are in place for cleaning public toilets and garbage collection and for maintenance of the built open space assets. The goal is to maintain every site to the satisfaction of the community.

Notwithstanding the existing schedules, the level of maintenance required also varies due to the weather and intensity of use. For example, more mowing

may be required following rainy, warm weather and more litter collections after a large event. During COVID-19 additional cleaning of all open space areas was required.

Built assets are inspected and serviced for defects as follows:

- playgrounds, weekly & quarterly
- fountains, fortnightly
- rain gardens, monthly
- park lighting, quarterly
- irrigation, 6 weekly
- park furniture is oiled annually with repairs occurring as required.

Maintenance, plus any additional work such as renewal, development or improvement comes at considerable cost and resources are allocated to facilitate this work through Council's strategic planning framework.

Installations that require lower on-going maintenance levels should be considered in all future design and development as a more sustainable, long term solution to all assets.



### 6.5.5 Conflicts of use and balancing use

In densely urbanised areas, the demand for and use of all open space is very high. Conflicts of use identified through consultation include dog regulations not being adhered to, dog faeces not being picked up, differing opinions of what should be allowed in an area (e.g. scooters on pathways, sport being played during dog off-leash times, dogs not being allowed in a natural area). High demand for space may also contribute to significant wear and tear of the land, vandalism, over-crowding, car parking pressures and loss of residential amenity.

Council considers the needs of all users of public open space and aims to find an acceptable balance. Some activities are restricted or prohibited in certain areas to help alleviate known conflicts. Regulatory signs are provided to inform the public of what is permissible use at each location.

One of the most common themes throughout the consultation process was the management of dogs through the reserves. The community is divided on this issue. Some users want more areas for dog walking while others want dogs to be restricted and / or prohibited from certain reserves. Given

this split, in late 2022, Woollahra Municipal Council reviewed the LGA's existing dog controls, which proposed more dog-friendly protocols in many of Woollahra's open spaces. The community were invited to comment on the proposal in the LGA-Wide Review of Dog Controls between 1 March – 26 April 2023, and 15 May – 16 June 2023. Council staff are reviewing the submissions received during the public consultation period. Council is required to undertake a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) across all the parks where dog controls are proposed to change. On 24 July 2023, Council resolved that future dog controls amendments to the Crown Land Plans of Management are considered minor changes, resulting in the POMs being updated in the future upon Council adopting the final dog protocols.

### 6.5.6 Current developments

A significant number of people in the community feel that the Crown land in the LGA should remain as it is currently, with no consideration of additional built installations.

The goal of successful land use planning is to find a balance between providing adequate, appropriate

facilities and retaining vital open green space. The best outcome is that which is acceptable to the majority of the community. The *Greener Places* design framework states that our open space for recreation needs to work harder for many users, as well as improving climate change resilience, through a multifunctional design approach.

Comments in the survey about over development related particularly to the reserves in Vaucluse and around Rushcutters Bay. Responses about the reserves in Vaucluse referred mostly to 2 recently installed projects, namely the bollard lighting along the coastal walkway and the multi court facility at Christison Park. Some of the community have formed an opinion that these projects were a loss of green open space and affected the heritage fabric and environmental values of the area. In the Rushcutters Bay area, numerous comments related to 2 proposed developments, the Youth Recreation Area and the Yarranabbe Northern Plaza / Sea Wall project. Some of the community feel that these proposals will reduce the quantity and quality of the existing open space.

As at the time of preparing this plan of management

the following proposals, yet to be undertaken, have been approved by Council:

- **Youth Recreation Area (YRA) at Rushcutters Bay Park**

- On 15 October 2018 Council endorsed the YRA, allowing for amendments arising during further detailed design documentation.
- On 25 October 2019, the Heritage Council of NSW advised Council that the heritage significance of Rushcutters Bay Park was to be assessed and an interim heritage order was gazetted for the site. Interim Heritage Order Number 146, listed in the NSW Government Gazette Number 7, 25/01/2019. Rushcutters Bay Park (and Sir David Martin Reserve and Yarranabbe Park) were subsequently listed on the State Heritage Register on 19 June 2020 [SHR 02041].
- Following the listing on the State Heritage Register, Council developed a Conservation Management Strategy (CMS) to inform the ongoing management of the heritage values of the site.

- To progress the YRA project, a Statement of Heritage Impact (SoHI) has been completed along with a Historical Archaeological Assessment and Research Design. Pre-lodgement advice is currently being sought from Heritage NSW prior to formally submitting an application for assessment under S60 of the Heritage Act 1977 *Heritage Act 1977*.
- Council was also required to undertake a Statement of Heritage Impact (SoHI) which was also prepared by the same consultant as the CMS. On 22/08/2022, the CMS and SoHI was resolved to submit an application for approval under Section 60 of the Heritage Act 1977 (Heritage Act) to undertake the project; and to continue with the preparation of the Review of Environmental Factors if Heritage approval is granted. \$1,151,800 has been allocated in Council's 2022/23 budget for the project, which will include skate/scooter and basketball facilities.

- **Yarranabbe Park Northern Plaza / Seawall Project**

- On 25 October 2019, the Heritage Council of NSW advised Council that the heritage

significance of Yarranabbe Park was to be assessed along with that of Rushcutters Bay Park and Sir David Martin Reserve, and an interim heritage order was gazetted. Yarranabbe Park (and Rushcutters Bay Park and Sir David Martin Reserve) were subsequently listed on the State Heritage Register on 19 June 2020 [SHR 02041].

- Following the listing on the State Heritage Register, Council was required to develop Conservation Management Strategy (CMS) to inform the ongoing management of the heritage values of the site. Council engage a GML Heritage consultants to develop this strategy.
- For Council to progress the Yarranabbe Park Northern Plaza project, Council is required to undertake a Statement of Heritage Impact (SoHI). Once this is complete, pre-lodgement advice would need to be sought from Heritage NSW regarding the project prior to formally submitting an application under an integrated development application under Part 4 of the EP&A Act.

When future projects arise they will be considered

in light of Council's statutory responsibilities under the relevant legislation; the *EP&A Act*, the *NPW Act* or the *Heritage Act*.

#### **Additional open space management issues to consider:**

In addition to the above issues raised in the survey, the management of open space also requires consideration of the following management issues.

##### **6.5.7 Commercial fitness training**

Council encourages the appropriate use of public open space to promote health and well-being, including physical exercise. As per the adopted Commercial Training Fitness Policy, training is permitted at certain locations, following registration, payment of fees and receipt of the necessary permit. For further information on Council's current policy refer to the website: [https://www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/recreation/fitness\\_training](https://www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/recreation/fitness_training).

##### **6.5.8 Consumption of alcohol**

Responsible consumption of alcohol is permitted in these locations, with the exception of Steyne Park. Sign posted restrictions may however be in

place at certain locations on certain days, such as public holidays, to limit the potential for anti-social behaviours.

##### **6.5.9 Sale of alcohol**

Selling alcohol is generally not encouraged on community land. There may however be occasions, such as food and wine events, in which the sale of alcohol may be considered for the duration of the function.

The sale of alcohol requires the approval of NSW Police through the issue of a licence. This licence must be produced when making an application to Council to use an area where the sale of alcohol is intended.

##### **6.5.10 Companion Animals**

Recreation for many people includes spending time with their companion animals. While on-leash dog walking and off-leash dog exercise are popular pastimes for many members of the community, dogs in parks can create conflict between dog owners and other park users. Public parks are a recreational resource for the whole community

to enjoy and a balance needs to be established between all park user groups.

Responsible dog ownership under the *Companion Animals Act 1998* includes keeping the dog on a lead at all times when in public, unless in a sign-posted off-leash area, as well as collecting and disposal of all dog faeces. The person in control of an off-leash dog must stay alert at all times and be able to demonstrate effective voice control of the dog. They must remain in close proximity and keep the dog within sight at all times. Penalties apply for non-compliance of these regulations. For further information on dog regulations throughout the LGA refer to Council's website: [https://www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/services/animals\\_and\\_pets](https://www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/services/animals_and_pets).

##### **6.5.11 Signage**

Permanent signs may be erected under section 632 of the *LG Act* by Council to regulate various activities. The signage may be for naming, regulatory, interpretative or traffic related. Any other signage that is not Council managed requires Council approval. This plan of management allows for small scale temporary signs to be installed that

directly relate to the recreation use of the site, prior to an approved special event. Such signs must be wholly within the reserve, must not restrict pedestrian access or vehicle sight lines.

#### **6.5.12 Smoking**

Under the *Smoke-free Environment Act 2000*, it is illegal to smoke tobacco or e-cigarettes:

- within 10 metres of children’s play equipment, and
- in an area set aside for or being used by spectators to watch an organised sporting event at a sportsground or other recreational area, when an organised sporting event is being held there, and at an outdoor dining area

As adopted by Council on 23 July 2014, a complete smoking ban across all Woollahra’s beaches prohibits smoking, including using e-cigarettes

These restrictions are in place to avoid conflicts of use in public open space.

#### **6.5.13 Parking**

Vehicular access and parking on any of these reserves is generally not permitted, except by

emergency or service vehicles if required.

Council may approve access and parking on grassed areas for private vehicles, special events or construction access. The condition of the site and its capacity to resist such use should always be considered prior to granting approval.

Parking near most of these locations is limited and there is significant pressure on surrounding streets to provide on-street parking for park users. This is particularly the case for the larger reserves, including Christison Park, Steyne Park and Rushcutters Bay Park that have areas of land categorised as sportsground, particularly during organised sports or other large events. The only Crown land reserve sportsground location with on-site car parking is Lyne Park. The carparks in Lyne Park are often full, as they also accommodate boat trailer parking, some commuter parking and parking for the many other users in the park. Whilst there may be a perceived need for more car parking near sportsgrounds, the purpose of the reserves is public use of land for recreation, and the community values the open space. Car parking is then generally sort

in neighbouring streets. Potential problems such as congestion and illegal parking may occur and this was commented on during consultation at each of the sportsground locations. To help with this issue and maintain the amenity of local residents, rangers may patrol the areas to ensure all parking is legal. Council continually seeks to find an appropriate balance of timed on-street parking areas as required.

#### **6.5.14 Mature tree management**

Being one of the oldest residential areas in Sydney, Woollahra is fortunate to have many mature trees in its public open spaces. In fact, our public parks accommodate nearly 22% of the total urban forest of our Council area and nearly half (46%) of these are in the mature life stage

Mature trees provide the vital urban tree canopy component of the green infrastructure of the area and are one of Woollahra’s most important natural assets. *Greener Places* highlights the many benefits that trees provide, including environmental, economic, aesthetic and cultural. Trees help define the landscape character and “sense of place” we attribute to the public domain.

Furthermore, research undertaken in Australia[1] found that neighbourhoods with at least 30% tree canopy cover were correlated to adults having lower chances of developing: diabetes (by 31%); psychological distress (by 31%); cardiovascular disease (by 21%); and cardio hypertension (by 21%). This research informed the canopy cover target proposed in our Urban Forest Strategy.

To address the impacts of climate change and insure our community continues to benefit from tree canopy cover, Woollahra Municipal Council's Urban Forest Strategy (UFS) proposes a goal of 30% tree canopy cover by 2050. To plant the number of trees needed to achieve our target, we will need to significantly increase planting efforts across the Council area. Our parks and bushland contain substantial plantable opportunities (4,656) for new tree planting to contribute to increasing canopy cover. We recognise our public open spaces also have competing interests, such as provision of open grassy areas for sports and recreation. In this regard, park specific tree planting plans will be prepared in conjunction with our park managers to balance

recreational use with tree planting.

With sound maintenance and an ongoing commitment to the protection, enhancement and management of these assets we can continue to benefit from them. As custodians of trees on public land it is important to ensure that they remain an important legacy for future generations. In this regard, one of the recommended actions of the UFS is to investigate options for management and planned renewal of key species and locations to create a new legacy of public tree plantings.

Like all living things trees grow, age and eventually die. It is therefore important that a strategy is in place to manage mature trees and plan for succession planting, well before the tree becomes senescent, to retain a site's landscape character.

#### **6.5.15 Allocation and availability of sportsgrounds**

Sportsgrounds can be hired on either a casual or seasonal basis. Casual bookings can be made at any time, while seasonal bookings, of more than 10 times in a season are taken twice-yearly. Fees

apply for both casual and seasonal hire and may be subject to change.

Demand for sportsgrounds often exceeds availability. The shortage of playing fields may result in over-use, particularly during the winter playing season, as the grass cover can suffer when it has little or no opportunity to rest and recover between sporting seasons. For further information on sportsgrounds refer to Council's website: [https://www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/recreation/sports\\_grounds](https://www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/recreation/sports_grounds).

#### **6.5.16 General community use facilities**

There are several venues available across the LGA for use by the community for a variety of purposes. Fees may apply and are subject to change. Applications are subject to availability.

On the land covered by this plan, the following multi-purpose venues are available for short term hire:

- Canonbury Cottage within McKell Park, suitable for social gatherings



- The Studio at The Drill Hall within Sir David Martin Reserve, suitable for creative development and the performing arts

Other facilities / venues included in this plan have been leased or licenced for long term use, as follows:

- Lyne Park Café
- Lyne Park Tennis Centre and associated café and amenities
- Rushcutters Bay Park Kiosk
- Sail Loft and Drill Hall at Sir David Martin Reserve
- Cafe at Tea Gardens

This land category also includes public toilets, storage sheds and the grandstand at Christison Park. Wherever facilities are proposed in future, they should be consolidated, multifunctional, be energy efficient, accessible and be aesthetically pleasing to compliment the site and meet the objectives of this plan of management.

#### **6.5.17 Special events**

All reserves are managed for the use and enjoyment of all members of the community. When a site is

open and not being used for a booked activity, such as organised sport or for maintenance activities, it may also be used for other purposes such as community events, markets or the like.

All requests to use a site are considered in terms of the appropriateness of the proposed event and the potential benefits / disadvantages to the local community as well as the likely impact on the ground surface. This is particularly important for areas categorised as sportsground. Some events may require approval through the development application process. For further information on special events refer to Council's website: [https://www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/recreation/spaces\\_for\\_hire/hiring\\_a\\_park](https://www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/recreation/spaces_for_hire/hiring_a_park).

#### **6.5.18 Filming and Photography**

Filming and photography on Council managed land is permissible. Approval is required for all commercial filming and commercial still photography that relates to advertising, product launches / promotions and fashion shoots.

Approval is required for all photography, including bridal.

Fees apply for commercial filming, application forms, including the conditions of hire are available on Council's website, for further information see: [https://www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/services/filming\\_and\\_photography](https://www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/services/filming_and_photography).

#### **6.5.19 Volunteers**

The community is encouraged to work collaboratively in the management of the Crown land reserves to help build stewardship of the land, community connections, and a stronger sense of belonging and place.

Crown land reserves that currently benefit from the work of volunteers are those with areas of land that support remnant and created bushland. Volunteers assist through the Bushcare program to regenerate native vegetation at Parsley Bay Reserve, Gap Park and Trumper Park. Site specific plans of management have been prepared for these reserves.

# 7. Legislative Requirements

This plan of management is prepared under the NSW *Crown Land Management Act 2016* (CLM Act) and the NSW *Local Government Act 1993* (LG Act).

Legislation will always take precedence over a plan of management.

## 7.1 Crown Land Management Act 2016

Plans of management for Crown land were previously adopted under the *Crown Lands Act 1989*. The new *CLM Act* s3.23 (6) requires appointed Crown land managers of dedicated or reserved Crown land to manage the land as if it were community land under the *LG Act* and therefore adopt a plan of management for that land.

Dedicated or reserved Crown land may only be used for:

- the purposes for which it is dedicated or reserved,
- any purpose incidental or ancillary to a purpose for which it is dedicated or reserved
- any purpose specified in a plan of management for the land, or
- any other purpose authorised by an Act

The objectives and principles of the *CLM Act* have informed the performance targets of this plan of management. The objectives of the *CLM Act* as listed in s1.3 are to:

- provide for the ownership, use and management of the Crown land of New South Wales, and
- provide clarity concerning the law applicable to Crown land, and
- require environmental, social, cultural heritage and economic considerations to be taken into account in decision-making about Crown land, and
- provide for the consistent, efficient, fair and transparent management of Crown land for the benefit of the people of New South Wales, and
- facilitate the use of Crown land by the Aboriginal people of New South Wales because of the spiritual, social, cultural and economic importance of land to Aboriginal people and, where appropriate, to enable the co-management of dedicated or reserved Crown land, and
- provide for the management of Crown land having regard to the principles of Crown land management.

The principles of Crown land management, as listed in s1.4 of the *CLM Act* are that:

- environmental protection principles be observed in relation to the management and administration of Crown land, and
- the natural resources of Crown land (including water, soil, flora, fauna and scenic quality) be conserved wherever possible, and
- public use and enjoyment of appropriate Crown land be encouraged, and
- where appropriate, multiple use of Crown land be encouraged, and
- where appropriate, Crown land should be used and managed in such a way that both the land and its resources are sustained in perpetuity, and
- Crown land be occupied, used, sold, leased, licenced or otherwise dealt with in the best interests of the State consistent with the above principles

Further requirements of *CLM Act* include that:

- Council managers must give written notice of the land categories assigned to Crown land reserves to the minister as soon as practicable
- the nature and use of Crown land must not be changed while the adoption of a plan of management is pending
- existing tenures may continue for the term of the original grant

- current authorised uses are allowed and existing leases may be renewed (must be less than 21 years) if the renewal does not authorise any additional use for the land
- short-term licences are allowed for a range of prescribed purposes such as holding sports activities
- new leases may be granted (must be for less than 21 years) if there was a pre-existing lease prior to 1 July 2018 and the new lease does not authorise any additional use of the land
- public exhibition of the draft plan of management is required as described by the *LG Act*
- native title manager advice is required on a draft plan of management
- the *CLM Act* Regulation 2021 amended the *CLM Act* Regulation 2018; Council is now exempt from public hearings in regards to altering the land categorisations assigned and must obtain Minister's consent to adopt the plan.

Council Crown land managers must ensure there is a compliant plan of management for all Crown land they manage as community land as soon as practicable. This is to ensure that Crown land is lawfully used and occupied.

### **7.1.1 Leases and licences over Crown land**

Sections 2.19 and 2.20 of the *CLM Act* allow for secondary interests; leases, licences, permits or easements to be granted over Crown land. However, there are restrictions as how public land can be used by one group or one person.

Before granting a secondary interest over Crown land, the *CLM Act* requires that the Crown land manager be satisfied under s2.19 (2) (a) & (b) that:

- the lease would be in the public interest and
- the lease or licence use would not be likely to cause material harm to the land

In order to establish whether a use will cause material harm, the following should be considered under the *CLM Act* s2.19 (3) (a – f):

- the proportion of the area of the land that may be affected by the secondary interest (i.e. the lease or licence)
- if the activities to be conducted under the secondary interest will be intermittent, the frequency and duration of the impacts of those activities
- the degree of permanence of likely harm and in particular whether that harm is irreversible
- the current condition of the land

- the geographical, environmental and social context of the land

A secondary interest may be granted for purposes not limited to public purposes.

### **7.1.2 Community engagement requirements**

The manager *CLM Act* s3.35 requires that a Crown land manager undertake community engagement on a draft plan of management. The minimum requirements of that consultation are provided in the *LG Act* s38. These are that:

- draft plans must be made available for the community to comment on prior to being adopted by Council
- public exhibition must be for a period of at least 28 days
- the public be given at least a further 14 days to make a submission if they wish

Also, any amendments to a draft plan, including altering a category, must be publicly exhibited in the same way, until the Council can adopt the draft plan without further amendment.

### 7.1.3 Community and stakeholder engagement for this plan

The engagement strategy for this plan of management included seeking input from the community prior to preparing the draft plan. The objective was to gather the aspirations, concerns, needs and values of the community in order to set the overlying land management intentions.

Engagement activities for this plan of management were modified several times due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ultimately, the following consultation was undertaken:

- an online homepage for this project was created on 12 November 2019 within Your Say Woollahra on Council's website to invite the community to register their interest, inform the community of progress, key dates and to collect comments in an online guest book, or via email at any time, it was available for the duration of the project
- a community survey was made available on the Your Say Woollahra platform from 29 November to 20 December 2019 for several of the smaller local parks (later also included in the larger survey)
- a community survey was made available on the Your Say Woollahra platform from 8 May to 21

August 2020, for all of the sites, to gather the values associated with the reserves, their use and management issues or concerns. Paper copies of the survey were also made available on request.

- over 170 stakeholders were individually notified via email of the project and survey opportunity, including those who had registered their interest, the community pre-school and playgroup, the local Aboriginal Land Council as well as other community groups and local schools
- "Zoom" style virtual meetings (due to social distancing requirements during the COVID-19 pandemic) as requested by two community groups
- at the completion of the survey, Council staff responded via email to many individual questions and issues that had been raised by the community within the survey
- the draft plan was put on public exhibit and public submissions were encouraged, all stakeholders were notified of the exhibition dates
- an information session was provided during the period of public exhibition to explain the draft plan to interested stakeholders.

"Pop-ups" had been organised to provide a

contextualised opportunity for the public to comment on any issues. These were postponed several times and eventually cancelled due to restrictions on public gatherings during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The project and survey opportunity were promoted using:

- notices in *The Wentworth Courier* on 20/11/19, 5/8/20 and 12/8/20
- advertising on Council's website homepage
- advertising and posts on Council's Facebook and

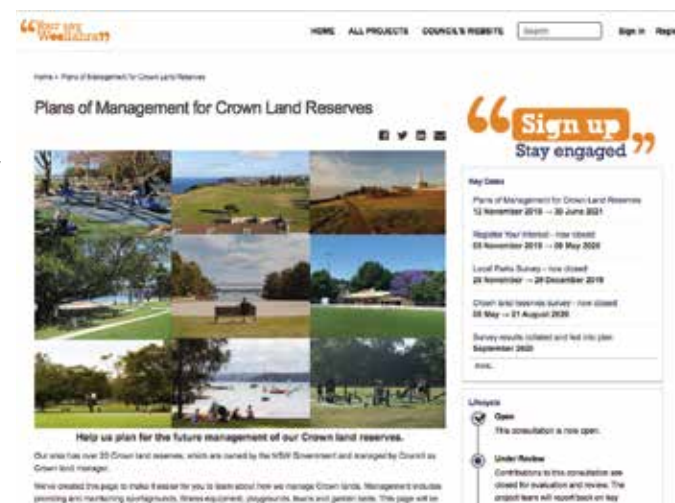


Figure 11. Project online homepage

Instagram

- advertising on Council's Customer Service digital noticeboards
- advertising on Council's "Out and About" posters
- articles in the environment and Bushcare e-newsletters
- advertising posters in the Crown land reserves

The survey was open for comment for 15 weeks from 8 May 2020 to 21 August 2020. (The original closing date of 31 July 2020 was extended). During this time, 384 individuals engaged with us through Your Say.

This resulted in 1469 survey responses, an average of over 3 site surveys completed per individual through Your Say. An additional 96 surveys and/or submissions were received via post. Data from these was manually entered into Your Say to consolidate the results, excluding personal comments. This is a total of 1565 unique



Figure 12. Advertising poster

responses, a significant result containing valuable information for the plans of management and other work within Council. The whole survey report is available in appendix BB.

### Public exhibition

The community were invited to provide feedback on Council's draft Crown Lands Plans of Management between 13 February and 03 April 2023 (7 weeks).

Due to the scope of the POMs and their broad relevance to many people in the Woollahra community, a detailed and comprehensive consultation strategy was developed.

This included:

- Council's YourSay page with an overview of the consultation, project background, document uploads, a video explaining the POM, and a submission upload section.
- 8 pop-up sessions across key Crown land parks during weekday and weekend on-peak periods.
- Posters/ Signage in Crown Land key locations (Parks and ovals, Beaches, Recreation areas and Playgrounds) also in Woollahra Libraries, Out and About posters, LCD screens).
- Advertising/ editorial (Wentworth Courier notification

and Mayoral column)

- Meetings with 6 key stakeholder groups prior to the commencement of the POM public exhibition.

The public exhibition resulted in the following:

- 2,675 Your Say visits
- 76 survey responses received from Your Say, email and post
- 8 pop in sessions
- 6 pre-exhibition stakeholder meetings
- 1,964 emails to stakeholders notifying the commencement of the POM public exhibition
- 388 downloads of the draft POM from Your Say, including 215 downloads for the Generic POM, 101 for Trumper Park, 37 for Gap Park and 35 for Parsley Bay Reserve.

The public exhibition resulted in feedback requiring edits to the POMs. Council endorsed the changes as minor amendments on 24 July 2023, whereby modifications to the POMs will not require a public exhibition. Council will seek the Department of Environment and Industry (DPE / Crown Lands) approval upon Council finalising the edits to the POM.



### 7.1.4 Native title rights over Crown land

The *CLM Act* includes specific provisions to facilitate compliance with the Commonwealth *Native Title Act 1993* (NT Act). Native title is the legal recognition of the individual or communal rights and interests which Aboriginal people have in relation to land and waters, held continuously by them under their traditional laws and customs, since before colonisation. Native title rights are different to and separate from the statutory right of Aboriginal Land Councils to make claims for land under the *NSW Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983*.

At the time of preparing this plan of management, there are 49 incomplete Aboriginal land claims across the LGA. 16 reserves are affected. Council has considered the claim(s) in development of this plan of management.

Part 8 of the *CLM Act* provides that council Crown land managers must manage Crown land in relation to native title to ensure the requirements of the NT Act are addressed. A qualified native title manager must be engaged to oversee and approve dealings that may affect native title to ensure they are valid under native title legislation.

Native title rights and interests must be assumed to exist on Crown land unless the land is excluded land. Part 8 of the *CLM Act* provides that native title manager advice is not required for dealings in relation to excluded land. Excluded land generally covers land for which there is sufficient evidence to show that native title does not exist or has been wholly extinguished, or for which a 'clearance' has been given for an act to be validly carried out in relation to native title. Native title managers are not required to establish whether native title rights and interests have been extinguished in relation to Crown land. An approved determination of native title can only be made by the Federal Court, High Court or a recognised body.

Excluded land is defined in the *CLM Act* and includes land:

- where all native title rights and interests in relation to the land have been compulsorily acquired
- subject to an approved determination of native title that has determined that:
  - o all native title rights and interests in relation to the land have been extinguished, or
  - o there are no native title rights and interests in relation to the land

- where all native title rights and interests in relation to the land have been surrendered under a registered Indigenous land use agreement
- to which section 24FA protection under the *NT Act* applies
- for which a native title certificate is in effect.

All activities on Crown land must address the issue of native title. Advice must be obtained prior to issuing leases or licences and before a plan of management that authorises use of the land is submitted for approval.

Whilst a successful claim for native title will lead to official recognition of native title rights, those rights are considered to pre-date such recognition. Native title can therefore be relevant to activities carried out on the land even if no native title claim has been made or registered.

The native title process must be considered for each activity on the land and a native title assessment must be undertaken. Proposed activities must be validated under the future act procedures in Division 3 of the *NT Act* by Council's Native Title Manager. Under the *CLM Act*, Council

Crown land managers will be liable for any acts they carry out on Crown land that may affect native title. Council Crown land managers will not be liable for any acts that preceded their management of land affected by native title. This liability will remain with the State.

CGM Planning, accredited Native Title Managers, were engaged to provide the required advice. A detailed (separate) report has been provided to Council to guide the use of Crown land in relation to native title rights.

The CGM Planning report does not form part of this plan of management, however it is available for viewing upon request to Council.

The written advice is that Council may, in good faith, endorse this draft plan of management, with the proposed uses, developments and tenures as valid future acts, as a draft for referral to the landowner.

## **7.2 Local Government Act 1993 & Local Gov. (General) Regulation 2021**

The *CLM Act* requires appointed Crown land

managers of dedicated or reserved Crown land to manage the land as if it were community land under the *LG Act*.

### **7.2.1 Classification of public land**

Classification as community land reflects the importance of the land to the community and must be kept for use by the general public. Following classification as community land, the *LG Act* s35 states that a plan of management must be prepared for it in consultation with the community in order to preserve the qualities of the land.

The nature and use of community land must not change without an adopted plan of management. *LG Act* s44.

### **7.2.2 Reclassification**

It is not anticipated that any land in Woollahra currently classified as operational land will be re-classified as community land and thereby require a plan of management.

### **7.2.3 Categorisation of public land**

Under s36 (3) (a) of the *LG Act*, a land category must be applied to all community land. The category assigned needs to be most closely related to the purpose for which the land was dedicated or reserved, to cause no material harm and to reflect Council's intentions for future management of the land. The purpose of most of the Crown land reserves in this plan of management is public recreation.

### **7.2.4 Community land categories**

Under the *LG Act* s36 (4), there are five possible categories of community land; park, sportsground, general community use, natural area and area of cultural significance. Natural areas are further categorised as either bushland, wetland, escarpment, watercourse or foreshore. More than one category of land may and often does, occur together within a site.

The core objectives and guidelines for assigning categories to community land are provided under the *LG Act* and have been used to categorise the Crown land in the LGA. In Woollahra, there are areas of park, sportsground, general community

use, natural area and culturally significant land. The natural areas on Crown land in Woollahra consist of bushland and foreshore. There are no parcels of Crown land in the LGA that are categorised as wetland, escarpment or watercourse.

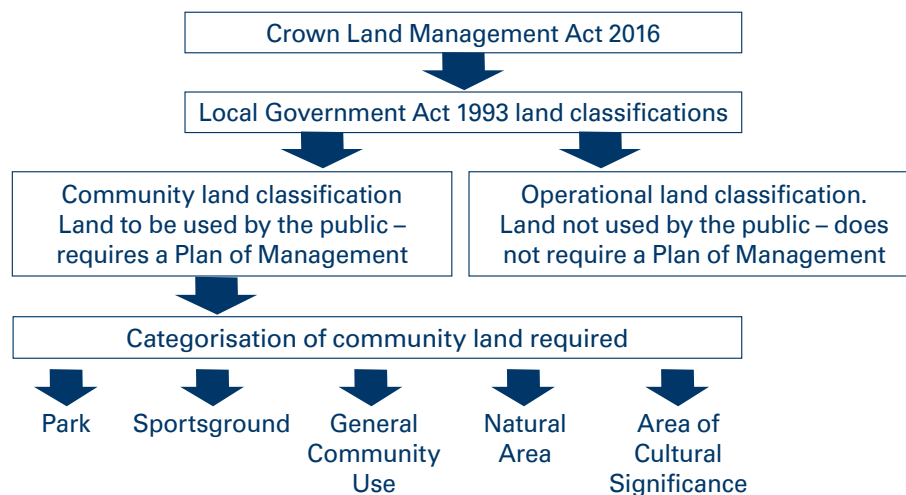


Figure 13. The categorisation process



Figure 14. Walking along the coastal walkway is a popular form of passive recreation. Located at Vaucluse, the walkway links several Crown land reserves.

The guidelines and core objectives for the land categories on Crown land in Woollahra covered by this generic plan of management are:

**Table 3. Guidelines and core objectives for the land categories**

Category	Guidelines for categorisation from <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>	Core objectives from <i>LG Act</i>
Park	The land is, or is proposed to be, improved by landscaping, gardens or the provision of non-sporting equipment and facilities, for use mainly for passive or active recreational, social, educational and cultural pursuits that do not unduly intrude on the peaceful enjoyment of the land by others.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To encourage, promote and facilitate recreational, cultural, social and educational pastimes and activities, and</li> <li>• To provide for passive recreational activities or pastimes and for the casual playing of games, and</li> <li>• To improve the land in such a way as to promote and facilitate its use to achieve the other core objectives for its management.</li> </ul>
Sportsground	The land is used or proposed to be used primarily for active recreation involving organised sports or the playing of outdoor games.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To encourage, promote and facilitate recreational pursuits in the community involving organised and informal sporting activities and games, and</li> <li>• To ensure that such activities are managed having regard to any adverse impact on nearby residences.</li> </ul>
General Community Use	The land may be made available for use for any purpose for which community land may be used, whether by the public at large or by specific sections of the public, and does not satisfy the guidelines for categorisation as a natural area, a sportsground, a park or an area of cultural significance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To promote, encourage and provide for the use of the land, and</li> <li>• To provide facilities on the land, to meet the current and future needs of the local community and of the wider public in relation to:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) public recreation and the physical, cultural, social and intellectual welfare or development of individual members of the public, and</li> <li>b) purposes for which a lease, licence or other estate may be granted in respect of the land (other than the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**Table 3. Guidelines and core objectives for the land categories *cont'***

Category	Guidelines for categorisation from <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>	Core objectives from <i>LG Act</i>
Natural area (generally)	The land, whether or not in an undisturbed state, possesses a significant geological feature, geomorphological feature, landform, representative system or other natural feature or attribute that would be sufficient to further categorise the land as bushland, wetland, escarpment, watercourse or foreshore under section 36 (5) of the Act.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To conserve biodiversity and maintain ecosystem function in respect of the land, or the feature or habitat in respect of which the land is categorised as a natural area, and</li> <li>• To maintain the land, or that feature or habitat, in its natural state and setting, and</li> <li>• To provide for the restoration and regeneration of the land, and</li> <li>• To provide for community use of and access to the land in such a manner as will minimise and mitigate any disturbance caused by human intrusion, and</li> <li>• To assist in and facilitate the implementation of any provisions restricting the use and management of the land that are set out in a recovery plan or threat abatement plan prepared under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> or the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i>.</li> </ul>
Natural area – foreshore	The land is situated on the water's edge and forms a transition zone between the aquatic and terrestrial environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To maintain the foreshore as a transition area between the aquatic and the terrestrial environment, and</li> <li>• To protect and enhance all functions associated with the foreshore's role as a transition area, and</li> <li>• To facilitate the ecologically sustainable use of the foreshore, and to mitigate impact on the foreshore by community use.</li> </ul>



## 7.2.5 Leases and licences over community land

The *LG Act* allows Council, with certain restrictions and with public consultation, to enter into or create a range of leases, licences and other estates, in order to encourage the appropriate use of community land and / or buildings.

Typically, a lease is granted where exclusive use of a part of the land is required, while a licence allows for multiple, non-exclusive uses of an area. Several licences for different users can apply to the same area at the same time, provided there is no conflict of interest. Leased or licenced areas may be renewed or changed in the future and areas may be reconfigured to reflect changes in community needs.

The term “estate” is a technical, legal definition. An “estate” includes any “interest, charge, right, title, claim, demand, lien and encumbrance, whether at law or in equity.” The grant of easements is an example of an estate.

A lease, licence or permit on Crown land may impact native title rights and interests. Any lease, licence or permit issued on Crown land must be

issued in accordance with the future act provisions of the *NT Act* and in accordance with Part 8 of the *CLM Act* unless native title is extinguished. For Crown land which is not excluded land, this will require written advice from Council’s Native Title Manager that it complies with any applicable provisions of the native title legislation. The advice should also note that the land is not subject to a claim under the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983*.

This plan of management expressly authorises existing leases and licence agreements until the end of their current term, and the issue of future leases, licences, permits or other estates over any parcel of land to which this document applies, provided that:

- the purpose is consistent with the reserve purpose of the land
- the purpose is consistent with the core objectives of the land category
- the purpose is consistent with the land zoning under WLEP 2014
- the purpose is consistent with the management objectives of this plan of management
- the issue of the lease, licence, permit or other estate will not materially harm the use of the land for any purposes for which it was

dedicated or reserved

- the lease, licence, permit or other estate is for a permitted use or purpose listed in table 9. The types of uses Council considers appropriate for each land category are identified in this table
- the issue of the lease, licence, permit or other estate can be validated under the *NT Act*
- any proposed lease or licence of land that is subject to a claim under the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983*, considers the claim accordingly
- tenders are called for leases or licences over 5 years, unless the lease or licence is to a non-profit organisation
- the lease or licence is for a period of less than 21 years
- public notice of the proposal is given, including on the land and to adjoining residents
- any sub-leases are only allowable for the same purpose as the original lease
- if there is an objection to a 5-21 year lease proposal, it will be referred to the Minister for Local Government

## 7.2.6 Land comprising habitat of threatened or endangered species

As is required under the *LG Act* s36A and 36B,

land comprising important habitat for endangered species must be covered under a specific plan of management. Endangered species on Crown land in Woollahra are:

- Sunshine Wattle (*Acacia terminalis* subsp. *terminalis*) and
- Magenta Cherry (Lilly Pilly) (*Syzygium paniculatum*)



Figure 15. *Acacia terminalis* subsp. *terminalis*, detail of inflorescence. Source: Australian Plants Society NSW.



Figure 16. *Syzygium paniculatum*, detail of fruit. Source: Gardening with Angus website, gardeningwithangus.com.au.

Sunshine Wattle is listed as endangered under both Federal legislation (*Environment Protection Biodiversity and Conservation Act 1999*) and State legislation (*Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*). Magenta Cherry is listed as vulnerable under Federal and endangered under State legislation. There are National recovery plans in place for both of these species.

Sunshine Wattle and Magenta Cherry are currently growing in several locations within Parsley Bay Reserve, which necessitates a specific plan of management.

Magenta Cherry has been recorded at Trumper Park. While the origins of these individuals is in question, (they may have been planted rather than be naturally occurring) the *WMC Biodiversity Conservation Strategy* recommends that management for this species should reflect its threatened species listing. For this reason a specific plan of management has been prepared for Trumper Park.

Sunshine Wattle also occurs at Gap Park. Gap Park may also be habitat for Netted Bottlebrush (*Callistemon linearifolius*), listed as vulnerable under

the Federal legislation. Gap Park therefore requires a specific plan of management. The Gunyah is categorised as general community use land and is not considered critical habitat, it has however been included in the specific plan of management for Gap Park as it is immediately adjacent.

## 7.2.7 Land of cultural significance

The *LG Act* s36D (2) requires that a specific plan of management be prepared for land declared to be of cultural significance. At the time of writing, there is only one area of Crown land declared by a resolution of council to be of cultural significance, the Rose Bay War Memorial. No work, unless for maintenance purposes, shall take place in this area until the specific plan of management has been prepared

The Double Bay War Memorial is located within Steyne Park, D500092. As that area of land is not currently declared as being of cultural significance it does not require a specific plan of management. The Double Bay War Memorial is managed under the category of park.

# 8. Land categories covered under this plan

Each site is to be managed under the relevant provisions of the land category assigned to the area. See individual site information for maps that identify the land categories at each location. The site information also includes the current use, including if under lease or licence, condition of the land and structures on the land and the future permissible and prohibited use.

## 8.1 Park category land

### Status of park category land on the Crown land reserves

15 of the Crown reserves covered by this generic plan of management consist of at least some land that is categorised as park.

**Park** category land occurs at:

**Table 4. Sites with park category land**

Bellevue Park
Camp Cove Reserve
Christison Park
Forsyth Park
Lighthouse Reserve
Lyne Park (including Tingira Memorial Park)
McKell Park
Robertson Park
Rose Bay Park
Rushcutters Bay Park
Samuel Park
Signal Hill Reserve
Sir David Martin Reserve
Steyne Park
Yarranabbe Park

Park category land is primarily used for passive recreation. Woollahra’s park category land provides space for activities such as children’s play, dog walking and personal exercise. Small parks, such as Camp Cove Reserve, may contain trees and grass and seating, while larger parks such as Rushcutters Bay Park, may have additional facilities such as playground equipment, exercise equipment, toilets and a café.

Land use in Woollahra has been significant and varied and the reserves in the park category often retain traces of those past uses. The remnant building foundations and significant trees at McKell Park, are fragments of a large 19th century estate, the military relics at Signal Hill Reserve are associated with past use of the land for defence purposes, while the row of fig trees within Lyne Park, is associated with use of the land as Australia’s first international “airport”. As a consequence of these land uses, many parks in Woollahra contain mature trees listed on the register of significant trees. These specimens and the contribution they make to the landscape character of the area require specific management actions to ensure their preservation.



Sites in this category also include land that was specifically reserved for public recreation and access to appreciate commanding views of Sydney Harbour and surrounds. Bellevue Park and Samuel Park are examples of such reservations made in the early 20th century. Woollahra's location and topography continue to attract people to natural vantage points to enjoy the environment and picturesque waterscape views.

Park category land in Woollahra is an essential component of the continually evolving fabric of urban Sydney. These sites document land use from 1788, through the Victorian and Edwardian eras to the current day. There is significant potential to further enrich the story with interpretation of past use of this land by Aboriginal people.



Figure 17. Park category land at McKell Park includes a pond and several sculptures



8.2 Sportsground category land

Status of sportsground category land on the Crown land reserves

Sportsground category land occurs at the following 4 locations covered by this plan:

Table 5. Sites with sportsground category land

Christison Park
Lyne Park
Rushcutters Bay Park
Samuel Park
Steyne Park

Sportsgrounds are primarily for active recreation. Woollahra’s sportsgrounds provide space for organised sports such as rugby, soccer, AFL, netball and cricket and are used by schools, community groups and sports clubs for occasional and seasonal training and sports fixtures. At the time of adoption of this plan, all of the fields in these locations are living grass.

While the key function of a sportsground is to support active recreation use, it can also provide aesthetic, environmental and passive recreation opportunities.

For example, when not being used for organised sport, the fields at Christison Park are used at certain times as an off-leash dog exercise area.



Figure 18. Sportsground category land in Lyne Park, Rose Bay



### 8.3 General community use category land

#### Status of general community use category land on the Crown land reserves

The following 8 locations have land categorised as general community use:

**Table 6. Sites with general community use**

Christison Park
Lyne Park
McKell Park
Plantation Reserve
Rushcutters Bay Park
Samuel Park
Sir David Martin Reserve
Steyne Park
Tea Gardens

General community use land can perform many functions relating to the physical, cultural, social and intellectual welfare of the community. It may contain buildings or other multi-purpose facilities that cater

for formal and informal leisure and recreational activities, hobbies, artistic endeavours and social functions. These may be leased to an external party to provide a community service, such as

the Sail Loft at Sir David Martin Reserve and the café at the Tea Gardens in Watsons Bay, or may be available for short term hire, such as Canonbury Cottage in McKell Park.



Figure 19. The Drill Hall at Sir David Martin Reserve is categorised as general community use.

## 8.4 Natural area – foreshore category land

### Status of natural area – foreshore category land on the Crown land reserves

Natural area – foreshore category land occurs at the following locations covered by this plan:

**Table 7. Sites with natural area – foreshore category land**

Double Bay Beach

Rose Bay Park

Tingira Memorial Park

These areas provide public access to the water for recreation. Being harbour foreshores, they consist of the sandy beaches above the Mean High Water Mark (MHW). Below the MHW this land is owned and managed by Transport for NSW - Maritime. There are times where Council maintains these areas for the betterment of the community.



Figure 20. Natural area- foreshore category land includes Double Bay Beach.

# 9. Future use and development

Permissible use and development of community land in NSW is prescribed and regulated by legislation; including the *LG Act* and the instruments of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act).

## 9.1 Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979

This Act ensures that the effects on the natural environment, along with social and economic factors, are taken into account by Council when granting approval for or undertaking works, developments or activities.

A statutory system of environmental and land use planning has been established through Local Environmental Plans (LEPs) and State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs) under the *EP&A Act*.

### 9.1.1 The Woollahra Local Environment Plan (WLEP) 2014

The land described in this plan is zoned RE1 public recreation under WLEP 2014, and is subject to the permitted and prohibited land use and development of that zone, and any other relevant provisions.

The objectives for land zoned RE1 public recreation are to:

- enable land to be used for public open space or recreational purposes
- provide a range of recreational settings and activities and compatible land uses
- protect and enhance the natural environment for recreational purposes

Amendments to the WLEP 2014 shall take precedence over the provisions of this plan of management

### 9.1.2 SEPPs

SEPPs provide planning rules for specific environmental matters. They contain provisions to protect or manage certain environmental values. A proposed development may require assessment that investigates the potential impacts on the environment to ensure compliance with the Act. Such assessment may be a review of Environmental Factors (REF), a statement of Environmental Effects (SEE) or an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIS) for large proposals.

See appendix AA for further SEPPs to consider

prior to the installation of any improvements on community land.

### • SEPP (Infrastructure) 2007

This instrument supports greater flexibility in the location of infrastructure and service facilities such as roads, pathways, cycleways, outdoor recreation facilities and lighting. It permits certain infrastructure works to be carried out in one of the following ways:

- exempt development,
- complying development,
- development permitted without consent, or
- development permitted with development consent.

Development permitted without consent under SEPP (Infrastructure) 2007 does not require consent under Part 4 of the *EP&A Act*, but must still be subject to an environmental assessment under Part 5 of the *EP&A Act*.

This plan of management does not over-rule any existing legislation that also applies to the management of community land. Other pieces of legislation, plans, strategies and policies that should be considered in the management of the land in



this plan of management have been included in appendix AA. Additional Council plans, strategies and policies adopted after the date of this plan, which have relevance to the planning, use and management of community land, will apply as though they were in force at the date of adoption of this plan of management.

**9.2 Permissible use and development**

This plan of management authorizes the following permissible use and development of the land to which it applies.

The use and development of Crown land should be compatible with the reserve purpose and the assigned category. Use is often supported by appropriate ancillary development such as amenity blocks and playground equipment. The types of anticipated uses and associated development shown in the following tables are intended to provide a general guide rather than an exact meaning. For example a reference to active recreation includes many codes and if demand for one code increases, the land may need to be modified to facilitate it.

Use is subject to approval, and if required, it must be obtained in writing prior to commencement. Approval is dependent on various factors including site conditions at any given time, and whether the use is in the public interest. Use must not result in physical damage to the land or the placement of any permanent structures. Use should not result in a significant adverse impact on adjoining residents and organisers are responsible for cleaning up the site and repairing any damage that may occur. Fees for short-term use will be charged in accordance with Council’s adopted fees and charges at the time, including the payment of the applicable bond.

Development permissibility is provided under legislation, including the *LG Act*, the *EP&A Act* and the *Heritage Act* and *National Parks & Wildlife Act*, where relevant, and is subject to the relevant application and approval processes.

**Table 8. Permissible short term use**

Permissible short term use	Is approval required?	Land category			
		Park	Sports ground	G.C.U	NA-F
Amusement devices, jumping castles, petting zoos	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Casual active recreation such as ball games, children's play and cycling	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Casual passive recreation such as walking, reading and viewing	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ceremonies, including for religious reasons	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Council events, festivals, markets etc.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Community event including educational activities, clean up days	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Construction access	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Corporate promotional activities or functions	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Commercial activities of any trade or business	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Commercial fitness training, refer to adopted policy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Community gardens, refer to adopted policy	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Dog walking on a leash, unless prohibited by a sign	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Dog walking off leash ONLY at certain times in designated areas, unless prohibited by a sign	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Emergency services access	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Filming, including with a drone	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Fireworks	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Group recreation for less than 20 people such as a picnic or party	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Group recreation for more than 20 people such as a picnic or party	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Organised sport / activity compatible with site facilities	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No



**Table 8. Permissible short term use *cont'***

Permissible short term use	Is approval required?	Land category			
		Park	Sports ground	G.C.U	NA-F
Photography, including bridal	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Public address, public entertainment event or public meeting	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Temporary enclosures / structures / signage	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Singing, or playing a musical instrument for a fee or reward	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Using a loudspeaker or sound amplifying device	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Water craft storage, refer to adopted policy	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Weddings	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

**Table 9. Permissible long term use / purpose**

Permissible long term use / purpose subject to relevant approval	Type of agreement			Land category			
	Lease	Licence	Other estate	Park	Sports ground	G.C.U	NA-F
Provision of <b>goods, services, facilities</b> or the carrying out of <b>activities</b> to the public, including as a commercial undertaking <b>for public recreation</b> , e.g.:							
• hire or sale of recreational equipment, e.g. kayaks	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
• yoga, fitness classes, sports training, tennis centres	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
• boat shed, change rooms	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
• associated management of a recreational facility e.g. tennis centre office	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Provision of <b>goods, services, facilities</b> or the carrying out of <b>activities</b> to the public, including as a commercial undertaking <b>for public physical welfare or development</b> , e.g.:							
• health or medical services	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
• fitness training, physical skills tuition	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Provision of <b>goods, services, facilities</b> or the carrying out of <b>activities</b> to the public, including as a commercial undertaking <b>for public cultural welfare or development</b> , e.g.:							
• art gallery, art / craft sales or shows	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No
• concerts, dramatic productions	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Provision of <b>goods, services, facilities</b> or the carrying out of <b>activities</b> to the public, including as a commercial undertaking <b>for public social welfare or development</b> , e.g.:							
• kiosk, cafe, restaurant	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
• mobile refreshment stand	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
• child minding services, disabled services/centres, men's sheds, YMCA, Scouts, Guides	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
• community gardens, operated as not-for profit only	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
• events, fairs, festivals	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

**Table 9. Permissible long term use / purpose *cont'***

Permissible long term use / purpose <small>subject to relevant approval</small>	Type of agreement			Land category			
	Lease	Licence	Other estate	Park	Sports ground	G.C.U	NA-F
Provision of <b>goods, services, facilities</b> or the carrying out of <b>activities</b> to the public, including as a commercial undertaking <b>for public intellectual welfare or development</b> , e.g.:							
• educational sessions, classes, workshops	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
• libraries, classrooms, book fair	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No
<b>Public utilities</b> and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities, pipes, conduits under the surface of the ground for the connection of premises adjoining the land to a facility of the Council or other public utility provider, e.g.:							
• all utilities	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Biodiversity Stewardship Agreements</b> , e.g.:							
• offset projects, when the land is protected and managed to achieve an improvement in biodiversity values	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Provision of <b>roads</b> in accordance with s47 of the <i>LG Act</i>	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

**Table 10. Permissible development**

Permissible development subject to relevant approval	Land category			
	Park	Sports ground	G.C.U	NA-F
<b>Amenity buildings</b> , e.g. toilets, change rooms, kiosks, grandstands	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Art installations</b> , refer adopted policy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Boat launching ramps</b> , i.e. a structure designed primarily for the launching of trailer borne recreational vessels, and includes associated car parking facilities	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
<b>Boat sheds</b> , i.e. a building or other structure used for the storage and routine maintenance of a boat	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
<b>Carparks</b> , single storey only, associated with the use of the site	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<b>Charter and tourism boating facilities</b> , i.e. a building or other structure used for charter boating or tourism boating purposes, being a facility that is used only by the operators of the facility and that has a direct structural connection between the foreshore and the waterway, but does not include a marina	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
<b>Child minding services</b> i.e. a building or place used for the temporary supervision and care of children, ancillary to use of the reserve for public recreation	No	Yes	Yes	No
<b>Community facilities</b> , i.e. a building or place owned or controlled by a public authority or non-profit community organisation, used for the physical, social, cultural or intellectual development or welfare of the community	No	Yes	Yes	No
<b>Cycle paths</b> and bicycle related storage facilities such as racks	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Demolition of buildings</b> , other than any building or structure that is, or is part of, a State or local heritage item or is within a heritage conservation area	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Depots for maintenance purposes</b> , i.e. a building or place used for the storage (but not sale or hire) of plant, machinery or other goods (that support the operations of an existing undertaking) when not required for use	No	No	Yes	No
<b>Environmental facilities</b> , i.e. a building or place that provides for the recreational use or scientific study of natural systems, and includes walking tracks, seating, shelters, board walks, observation decks, bird hides or the like, and associated display structures – permitted without consent	Yes	No	Yes	Yes

**Table 10. Permissible development *cont'***

Permissible development <small>subject to relevant approval</small>	Land category			
	Park	Sports ground	G.C.U	NA-F
<b>Environmental management works</b> , i.e. works for the purpose of avoiding, reducing, minimising or managing the environmental effects of development (including effects on water, soil, air, biodiversity, traffic or amenity), and environmental protection works	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Environmental protection works</b> , i.e. works associated with the rehabilitation of land towards its natural state or any work to protect land from environmental degradation, and includes bush regeneration works, wetland protection works, erosion protection works, dune restoration works and the like, but does not include coastal protection works - permitted without consent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Information boards</b> , and other information facilities including park entry booths and visitor information centres	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Information and education facilities</b> , i.e. a building or place used for providing information or education to visitors, and the exhibition or display of items, and includes an art gallery, museum, library, visitor information centre and the like	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<b>Irrigation systems</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<b>Jetties</b> , i.e. a horizontal decked walkway providing access from the shore to the waterway and is generally constructed on a piered or piled foundation	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
<b>Kiosks</b> , i.e. a building or place used for the purpose of selling items by retail, or hiring or displaying items for the purpose of selling them or hiring them out, whether the items are goods or materials	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Landscaping</b> , including landscape structures or features	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Lighting</b> , ensure light spill and artificial sky glow is minimised in accordance with the Lighting for Roads and Public Spaces Australian Standard	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Maintenance</b> of landscaping and infrastructure including access roads	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Marinas</b> , i.e. a permanent boat storage facility (whether located wholly on land, wholly on a waterway or partly on land and partly on a waterway)	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
<b>Outdoor furniture</b> , e.g. barbecues, seats, picnic tables, bins	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Pathways</b> , for pedestrian access, walking tracks, bridges, raised walking paths, boardwalks, ramps, stairways and handrails, gates, viewing platforms with an area not exceeding 100m <sup>2</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes



**Table 10. Permissible development *cont'***

Permissible development subject to relevant approval	Land category			
	Park	Sports ground	G.C.U	NA-F
<b>Recreation areas</b> , i.e. a place used for outdoor recreation that is normally open to the public, including children's playgrounds, areas used for community sporting activities, public parks, reserves or gardens and any ancillary buildings	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Recreation facilities (indoor)</b> , i.e. a building or place used predominantly for indoor recreation, whether or not operated for the purposes of gain, including a squash court, indoor swimming pool, gymnasium, table tennis centre, health studio, or any other building or place of a like character used for indoor recreation, but does not include an entertainment facility, a recreation facility (major) or a registered club	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<b>Recreation facilities (outdoor)</b> , i.e. a building or place used predominantly for outdoor recreation, whether or not operated for the purposes of gain, including golfing facilities, tennis court, netball court, basketball court, multi-purpose court, lawn bowling green, outdoor swimming pool, or any other building or place of a like character used for outdoor recreation (including any ancillary buildings), but does not include an entertainment facility or a recreation facility (major)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<b>Play equipment</b> , ensure adequate safety measures (including soft landing surfaces) are provided and, in the case of the construction of such equipment, so long as the equipment is situated at least 1.2m away from any fence	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<b>Portable lifeguard towers</b> , ensure the footprint of the tower covers an area no greater than 20 square metres	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
<b>Registered clubs</b> , i.e. a club that holds a club licence under the <i>Liquor Act 2007</i>	No	No	Yes	No
<b>Respite day care centres</b> , i.e. a building or place that is used for the care of seniors or people who have a disability and that does not provide overnight accommodation for people other than those related to the owner or operator of the centre	No	No	Yes	No
<b>Restaurants or cafes</b> , i.e. a building or place the principal purpose of which is the preparation and serving, on a retail basis, of food and drink to people for consumption on the premises, whether or not liquor, take away meals and drinks or entertainment are also provided	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<b>Roads</b> , i.e. a public road within the meaning of the Roads Act 1993, and in accordance with s47 of the <i>LG Act</i> , includes a classified road, and under <i>SEPP 2007</i> also vehicle barriers and ticketing machines	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<b>Shade structures</b> , if the visual impact of the development on surrounding land uses is minimal	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<b>Shelters</b> , if the visual impact of the development on surrounding land uses is minimal	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<b>Sporting facilities</b> , including goal posts, sight screens and fences, if the visual impact of the development on surrounding land uses is minimal	Yes	Yes	No	No
<b>Water recreation structures</b> , i.e. a structure used primarily for recreational purposes that has a direct structural connection between the shore and the waterway, and may include a pier, wharf, jetty or boat launching ramp	Yes	No	No	Yes

# 10. Generic management framework

Terms used in the management framework are as follows:

- An objective is the desired outcome of the land use
- A performance target is a statement of what an objective is trying to do; it reflects an overlying management intention
- An action is the way in which the target will be achieved
- A performance measure is an example of how to assess if the objectives and targets have been met by undertaking the actions

The management framework brings these concepts together, as shown below:



Figure 21. Elements of the management framework

**Table 11. Generic management framework**

Objectives 1 – 8 reflect the land management goals and values			
Objective – the desired outcome	Performance targets – what the objective is trying to do	Actions – how to achieve the target	Performance measures – how to assess whether the objectives and targets have been met
<b>1</b>	<b>A</b>		
Safe, clean, well-maintained, functional and varied	Ensure public <b>safety</b> is considered during the planning, design, construction, maintenance and use of each site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adhere to CPTED (crime prevention through environmental design) principles during planning and design documentation and during regular maintenance, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ passive surveillance</li> <li>◦ good sight lines</li> <li>◦ appropriate lighting</li> </ul> </li> <li>• All installations to meet the Building Code of Australia (BCA) and Australian Standards (AS)</li> <li>• Provide for emergency services / response access</li> <li>• Respond promptly to reported hazards</li> <li>• Liaise with local police to identify and act on safety issues</li> <li>• Where appropriate, consider creative lighting design that improves visibility at night, a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i></li> <li>• Respond promptly to all soil contamination issues and take the necessary actions to mitigate safety issues for park users</li> </ul>	<p>Perception of user safety is increased, reduced CRMs</p> <p>Reduced incidents of reported vandalism</p> <p>Specifications meet relevant BCA and AS</p> <p>Emergency services access needs identified, access points created and clearly signed</p> <p>CRM response targets met</p> <p>Strong relationship maintained with Eastern Suburbs Police Area Command</p> <p>Improved visibility at relevant sites</p> <p>Soil remains viable for native flora and nutrient levels remain constant</p>

**Table 11. Generic management framework *cont'***

Objectives 1 – 8 reflect the land management goals and values			
Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>1</b>	<b>B</b>		
	Ensure <b>clean</b> , litter free public land is <b>well-maintained</b> and available for use by the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adhere to regular inspections, horticulture schedules, litter collections and cleaning schedules</li> <li>• Consider integrating smart infrastructure into public spaces to monitor cleanliness, as recommended by the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i></li> <li>• Provide bins, consider locations for separate recycling bins and cigarette butt-out bins</li> <li>• Provide dog waste bags at appropriate locations</li> <li>• Provide surface / subsurface drainage to sites that experience regular inundation, as necessary to increase site useability</li> <li>• Events are planned with appropriate waste removal service levels provided</li> <li>• Promote and encourage community clean-up days, for example on Clean Up Australia Day</li> <li>• Incorporate appropriate landscape renewals into forward works programs as needed</li> </ul>	<p>Maintenance schedules fulfilled</p> <p>Episodes of increased litter reported via technology for improved attendance by waste services</p> <p>Improved efficiency around collection of waste</p> <p>Dog waste is removed from site</p> <p>Surface water dissipation rate improved, majority of site available for maximum levels of public access</p> <p>Sites are cleaner, increased community land stewardship</p> <p>Well attended clean up events, increased community land stewardship</p> <p>Declining plant material is replaced as needed for a more aesthetically pleasing landscape</p>

**Table 11. Generic management framework *cont'***

Objectives 1 – 8 reflect the land management goals and values			
Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>1</b>	<b>C</b>		
	Ensure the facilities and experiences at each site meet <b>community expectations</b> and are <b>fit for purpose</b> (a strategy of <i>Greener Places</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where necessary, improve the quality of each site, as recommended in the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i></li> <li>• Maintain the asset register of all built structures, repair and / or replace as necessary to ensure they are functional and fit for purpose</li> <li>• Adhere to horticulture maintenance schedules</li> <li>• Review all horticulture maintenance schedules to ensure the green infrastructure on Crown land, i.e. the open space for recreation, the urban tree canopy, bushland and waterways can be adequately maintained</li> <li>• Ensure land for recreation is fit for purpose; use the site quality performance criteria to assess site suitability and intended purpose as recommended in the <i>Greener Places</i> Design Guide</li> <li>• Consider a review of the capacity of existing toilets in the reserves</li> <li>• Undertake a separate review of public toilets across the LGA with a view to setting a toilet strategy, consider additional locations for toilets in public space, not necessarily or only in open space for recreation, to take the burden off the toilets in the reserves</li> <li>• Plan for our community's changing needs in line with Council's Playspace Strategy and Recreation Needs Study (both are currently in draft stage)</li> </ul>	<p>Quality audit completed, quality of public space improved across the LGA</p> <p>Built asset register maintained</p> <p>Maintenance schedules fulfilled</p> <p>Schedules reviewed, improvements identified and resourced</p> <p>Criteria developed and sites audited for suitability</p> <p>Review completed</p> <p>Review completed, toilet strategy recommended</p> <p>Outcomes from these strategies are identified to inform Council's DPOP and long term plans</p>



**Table 11. Generic management framework *cont'***

Objectives 1 – 8 reflect the land management goals and values			
Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
1	<b>D</b>		
	Ensure a <b>variety</b> of opportunities are available, the <b>landscape character</b> of each site is preserved and future design and use responds to the <b>unique site conditions</b> and <b>identity</b> (a strategy of <i>Greener Places</i> and a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain a range of organised and informal / unstructured site appropriate activities at each location</li> <li>• Maintain the current landscape character of each site by establishing appropriate replacement planting strategies</li> <li>• Use consistent design vocabulary of outdoor furniture and other hardscape materials that are appropriate to the setting</li> <li>• Proposed installations complementary to landscape character</li> </ul>	<p>A range of types of public open space distributed across the LGA</p> <p>Planting renewal schedules are established for all sites</p> <p>Installations selected for site suitability</p> <p>Landscape character of each site maintained</p>
	<b>E</b>		
	Where there is <b>opportunity</b> to improve <b>layout, functionality, aesthetic appeal</b> and <b>site interpretation</b> provide a <b>landscape master plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify sites that would benefit from a master plan, which includes the whole design process, from concept through to detailed documentation</li> <li>• Undertake master planning design process for each identified site, involving community consultation</li> </ul>	<p>Sites requiring a master plan identified</p> <p>Concept design process is undertaken and a master plan produced with the engagement of all stakeholders</p> <p>Unique site values and preferred spatial arrangement of all elements integrated into master plan</p> <p>Future capital works allocated to a cohesive, well documented plan, specified for their appropriateness within the landscape</p>

**Table 11. Generic management framework *cont'***

Objectives 1 – 8 reflect the land management goals and values			
Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>2</b>	<b>A</b>		
Accessible and inclusive	Provide universal <b>access</b> , wherever possible, to public land and any associated structures and facilities to ensure the sites are open and welcoming (a strategy of <i>Everyone Can Play</i> and a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wherever possible strive to meet DDA (Disability Discrimination Act 1992) requirements, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ accessible paths</li> <li>◦ ramps</li> <li>◦ handrails</li> <li>◦ tactile surfaces</li> <li>◦ braille signage</li> <li>◦ inclusive playgrounds</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Entry points clearly identified to provide a welcoming sense of arrival</li> </ul>	<p>DDA requirements built into design guidelines for community land improvements and DDA compliance progressively achieved on public open space where practical</p> <p>Entry points created / emphasised / upgraded where appropriate</p>
	<b>B</b>		
	Optimise public access to all sites and <b>improve connectivity</b> via improvements to <b>walking and cycling paths</b> (a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement those parts of the Woollahra Bike Plan that are relevant to community land</li> <li>• Improve active transport linkages between and through sites, where possible and appropriate, as recommended in the <i>Sydney Green Grid</i></li> <li>• Promote connectivity between these sites with tree lined footpaths wherever appropriate, as recommended in the <i>Greener Places Design Guide</i></li> </ul>	<p>Walking and cycling routes provided in appropriate locations</p> <p><i>Green Grid</i> sites identified and linkages created where possible</p> <p>Increased tree canopy over pedestrian paths and cycle ways i.e. “Green Links” established across the LGA</p>

**Table 11. Generic management framework *cont'***

Objectives 1 – 8 reflect the land management goals and values			
Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>2</b>	<b>C</b>		
	Ensure <b>fairness and equity</b> of use for all public land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan for our community's changing active and passive recreational needs in line with Council's Playspace Strategy and Recreational Needs Study (both are currently in draft stage)</li> <li>Manage enquiries to use land equitably and issue approvals that comply with Council's policies</li> <li>Permit use of the land through appropriate leases, licences and other estates in accordance with the provisions of the <i>LG Act</i> and the express authorisation of this POM</li> </ul>	<p>Outcomes from these strategies are identified to inform Council's DPOP and long term plans</p> <p>Applications to use community land are processed and approvals are issued as per policies</p> <p>Appropriate land use agreements are managed by Council</p>
	<b>D</b>		
	Reduce <b>traffic</b> and <b>parking</b> pressures in and around public land to improve useability and retain residential amenity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide timed parking in streets adjacent to popular locations, including known tourist venues, during major annual harbour events, and sportsgrounds, wherever possible, to facilitate resident car use and parking (subject to Traffic Committee approval and in consultation with compliance)</li> </ul>	Complaints about lack of resident parking decrease
<b>3</b>	<b>E</b>		
	Improve <b>public access</b> to <b>foreshores</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wherever possible, seek to improve public access to foreshores, remove barriers and improve connections, as recommended by the <i>Greener Places Design Guide</i> and the <i>Sydney Green Grid</i></li> </ul>	Greater and more connected public access to the foreshores is achieved
<b>3</b>	<b>A</b>		
	Well managed for public use	<p>Ensure <b>POMS</b> are prepared and <b>reviewed</b> as required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Compliant POM prepared by Council</li> <li>Prioritise and select actions annually for inclusion in Council's annual DPOP and capital works programs</li> <li>Review and update plans to reflect completed actions and to remain relevant</li> </ul>	<p>POM adopted as soon as practicable</p> <p>Capital works informed by POM</p> <p>POM reviewed to remain relevant</p>

**Table 11. Generic management framework *cont'***

Objectives 1 – 8 reflect the land management goals and values			
Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>3</b>	<b>B</b>		
	Ensure the land remains available for <b>majority use</b> by the public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage appropriate use by private groups to meet public access requirements</li> </ul>	Majority of public open space remains available to the public
	<b>C</b>		
	Ensure <b>land zoning</b> is appropriate for public recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zone land appropriately under WLEP 2014 (and subsequent LEPs) to allow for public recreation</li> </ul>	No conflicts in permissible use / development
	<b>D</b>		
	Ensure <b>planning and development controls</b> across the LGA <b>conserve the natural environment, aesthetic quality and heritage values</b> on Crown land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify and promote site specific natural environment, aesthetic and heritage values e.g. habitat, view corridors, cultural landscapes and significant trees</li> <li>• Work collaboratively to update planning and development controls so that the controls are compatible with the natural environment, aesthetic and heritage values</li> <li>• Participation in “<i>Get the site right</i>” in partnership with Sydney Coastal Councils group, and other programs to educate and assist compliance with planning controls</li> </ul>	<p>Unique site values confirmed, site opportunities pursued</p> <p>Potential conflicts identified and reduced</p> <p>Education programs provided in partnership with Sydney Coastal Councils to ensure environmental compliance at development sites and assist with improved total catchment management outcomes</p>

**Table 11. Generic management framework *cont'***

Objectives 1 – 8 reflect the land management goals and values			
Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>3</b>	<b>E</b>		
	Support appropriate use of land through <b>leases, licences and other estates</b> for the best interest of the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage typical use of the land through appropriate leases and licences that are consistent with the Leasing and Licensing Council Controlled Land Policy</li> <li>• Select lessees / licensees equitably and transparently, draft agreements that meet the requirements of the POM and reflect the core objectives of the land, identified uses, community need</li> </ul>	<p>Appropriate use of land permitted through sound agreements</p> <p>Site specific agreements are written to consider the unique qualities of each site and the needs of the community</p>
	<b>F</b>		
	Support Aboriginal land – management and <b>caring-for Country principles</b> , (a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seek advice from local Aboriginal community organisations regarding appropriate land management techniques at relevant locations and consider how to incorporate</li> </ul>	Improved community understanding of Aboriginal land management
	<b>G</b>		
	<b>Encroachment</b> on Crown land is reduced and the whole estate remains available for public use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate and remove encroachments</li> <li>• Discourage the dumping of rubbish by means of education, signage, enforcement and penalties</li> <li>• Discourage private planting on Crown land by means of education, signage, enforcement and penalties, as the species may not be appropriate and may impact on maintenance requirements</li> <li>• Preserve boundaries and eliminate privatisation of public open space through planning and development controls</li> </ul>	<p>The community can access the site for public recreation</p> <p>Fewer reports of illegally dumped rubbish</p> <p>The plant palette remains appropriate at each site</p> <p>The Crown land portfolio remains intact for its public purpose</p>



**Table 11. Generic management framework *cont'***

Objectives 1 – 8 reflect the land management goals and values			
Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
3	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider all user groups and allocate appropriate locations and times for certain potentially conflicting uses, regulated through informative signage wherever necessary, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ dog on / off leash exercise</li> <li>◦ organised sports</li> <li>◦ pedestrian only / shared paths (see note)</li> <li>◦ cycleways only / shared paths</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Note: shared paths may include use by bicycles, scooters, skateboards, roller blades, dogs, runners, walkers, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Install informative regulatory signage at appropriate locations</li> <li>Manage regulations by means of enforcement and penalties</li> <li>Consider additional wayfinding / interpretative signage at identified locations to highlight site opportunities and significance</li> </ul>	<p>Community needs for access to public land is met</p> <p>Regulatory signage installed as appropriate</p> <p>Use of the land is more harmonious, fewer reported incidents of conflict</p> <p>Signage installed as required</p>
	I	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use the <i>Greener Places Design Guide</i> to estimate and manage the carrying capacity at identified sites</li> <li>Seek resourcing in response to increasing demand, ensure open space site plans and design solutions consider the carrying capacity of each site</li> </ul>	<p>Carrying capacity is not exceeded if practical</p> <p>Reduction in comments received regarding visible signs of overuse</p>

**Table 11. Generic management framework *cont'***

Objectives 1 – 8 reflect the land management goals and values			
Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>4</b>	<b>A</b>		
Natural environment conserved	Ensure <b>environmental protection</b> principles are observed (an objective of the <i>CLM Act</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of land meets statutory responsibilities required by environmental legislation administered by the EPA (NSW Environment Protection Authority)</li> </ul>	No major incidents of environmental pollution are reported
	<b>B</b>		
	Ensure <b>best environmental practice</b> in use and maintenance of the land to build <b>green and resilient</b> public land, that <b>enhances biodiversity, conserves natural resources</b> and <b>improves sustainability</b> (an objective of the <i>CLM Act</i> and principles of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> , the <i>Woollahra Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (ESAP)</i> , the <i>Woollahra Biodiversity Conservation Strategy</i> and the <i>Woollahra Climate Emergency Statement</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fulfil statutory responsibilities required by relevant legislation, including the actions within the National recovery plans</li> <li>• Implement relevant actions of the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Strategy 2015-2025</i>, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ work to complete and implement habitat restoration plans for relevant sites (HAB 03)</li> <li>◦ consider fully biodiversity conservation at each site (HAB 04)</li> <li>◦ develop and implement threatened species management plans (HAB 05)</li> <li>◦ develop procedure for trapping foxes when sighted in key habitat areas (DOM 04)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Build <b>climate change resilience</b> and <b>biodiversity conservation</b> into site design by actively seeking the best environmental outcomes, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ appropriate choice of soft and hardscape materials</li> <li>◦ increasing tree canopy for shade</li> <li>◦ onsite water retention, WSUD (Water Sensitive Urban Design) and storm water harvesting</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Legislative obligations met</p> <p>Habitat restoration plans are implemented</p> <p>Observe improvements in the biodiversity of the LGA, such as increased recorded sightings (as per EDU 04 of the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Strategy</i>) of native birds, fewer weed and pest species, and more robust vegetation</p> <p>Threatened species are conserved and populations are more resilient to threats</p> <p>Increased tree canopy, more shade</p> <p>Soil moisture improved where appropriate, less runoff, less use of potable water</p>

**Table 11. Generic management framework *cont'***

Objectives 1 – 8 reflect the land management goals and values			
Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
4	B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ minimising the use of herbicides, pesticides and fertilisers wherever possible</li> <li>◦ use of renewable and / or green energy sources</li> <li>◦ increase bush regeneration efforts</li> <li>◦ seek locations for artificial nest boxes</li> <li>◦ seek appropriate locations to plant additional trees, shrubs and groundcovers to increase habitat using locally endemic species as recommended in the <i>Greener Places Design Guide</i></li> <li>◦ follow the recommendations of the <i>Australian Government National Light Pollution Guidelines</i></li> <li>◦ maintaining and / or creating habitat within core habitat areas including species that form future hollows</li> <li>◦ schedule works to maintain habitat connectivity</li> <li>• Improve <b>sustainability</b> by actively seeking the best environmental outcomes, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ reduce electricity use, i.e. use of LED lights and timers to reduce greenhouse emissions where feasible</li> <li>◦ use renewable and / or green electricity</li> <li>◦ enforce Council's single use plastic policy</li> <li>◦ reducing water usage and waste wherever possible</li> </ul> </li> <li>◦ installing solar panels wherever possible and in keeping with site character</li> </ul>	<p>Habitats improved for native flora and fauna, greater species diversity noted through observation</p> <p>Light pollution guidelines met</p> <p>Greenhouse emissions reduced</p> <p>Carbon footprint across the LGA is reduced</p> <p>Single use waste reduced</p> <p>Irrigation systems use harvested stormwater wherever possible</p> <p>Reliance on carbon energy reduced, more solar panels installed</p>

**Table 11. Generic management framework *cont'***

Objectives 1 – 8 reflect the land management goals and values			
Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>4</b>	<b>C</b>		
	<p><b>Raise community awareness</b> of natural environment values within the community, including the value of all <b>green infrastructure</b> and <b>promote stewardship</b> of the land (strategies of <i>Greener Places</i>)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide community education programs that promote the value of the natural environment and build knowledge and awareness of green infrastructure, highlighting the benefits of the urban tree canopy</li> <li>• Provide information to the community on total catchment management and responsible pet ownership including the need to pick up dog faeces, respect on-leash and prohibited areas, to meet DOM 3 of the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Strategy</i></li> <li>• Provide information and education on encroachment practices that are a threat to the natural environment e.g. dumping garden waste, creating private desire lines through bushland</li> <li>• Provide information and education on threats to water quality, including the importance of ensuring nothing other than stormwater goes down the drain</li> <li>• Encourage community tree planting programs at appropriate locations</li> <li>• Provide information to the community on the importance of keeping cats inside at night, as recommended by DOM 02 action of the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Strategy</i></li> <li>• Increase profile of bush regeneration efforts, encourage the community to volunteer in and promote the Bushcare program opportunities and associated improved environmental outcomes to schools, residents and the broader community</li> </ul>	<p>Education programs are facilitated and well attended</p> <p>Tree canopy is retained and expanded</p> <p>Dog regulations are complied with</p> <p>Soil remains viable for native flora, nutrient levels remain constant</p> <p>Less encroachment reported and observed</p> <p>Improved water quality observed at harbour foreshore</p> <p>Greater community participation in tree planting events</p> <p>Cats do not predate on native fauna</p> <p>Greater community participation in Bushcare</p>

**Table 11. Generic management framework *cont'***

Objectives 1 – 8 reflect the land management goals and values			
Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>4</b>	<b>D</b>		
	Ensure the <b>existing mature tree canopy</b> is retained to <b>preserve landscape character</b> and <b>create an inter-connected tree canopy</b> across public land, (strategies of <i>Greener Places</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement an Urban Forest Strategy setting out Council's long term vision and tree canopy targets</li> <li>• Planning and development controls are upheld across public land in the LGA to maintain and enhance all green infrastructure</li> <li>• Monitor health of trees on the significant trees register and inspect by qualified arborist annually</li> <li>• Establish a priority list to reinstate trees lost from the significant trees register</li> <li>• Incorporate succession planning into policies and plans to ensure the ongoing provision of appropriate tree canopy that retains landscape character and user amenity</li> <li>• Protect the root zones of significant mature trees from compaction, erosion and mechanical damage including the consideration of dense ground cover planting or elevated platforms to discourage pedestrians</li> <li>• Consider propagating plant material from the existing significant trees to retain landscape heritage</li> <li>• Identify potential locations for increased tree planting, especially along boundaries and pathways</li> </ul>	<p>Strategy Implemented</p> <p>Tree canopy protected and enhanced</p> <p>Landscape character and landscape heritage is retained</p> <p>Arborist report undertaken</p> <p>Replacement trees are well established prior to significant tree senescence</p> <p>Plans and policies incorporated into renewals</p> <p>Root zones are protected in high use areas</p> <p>Landscape heritage maintained</p> <p>Green infrastructure is robust and extensive</p>



**Table 11. Generic management framework *cont'***

Objectives 1 – 8 reflect the land management goals and values			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve Asset Management System to allow for further analysis of urban forest data and to increase efficiency of management operation</li> <li>• Review species list within consideration to climate risk and increase diversity based on current best practice and research</li> <li>• Prepare Tree Planting Plans for iconic parks and priority locations (planting locations/maintenance)</li> <li>• Prepare a public consultation strategy for public tree plantings and legacy species renewals</li> <li>• Investigate options for management and planned renewal of key species and location to create a new legacy of public tree plantings</li> <li>• Develop targets (post-first planting phase) based on land use areas i.e street/park/private to assist all stakeholders in meeting targets</li> </ul>	<p>Efficient management of future and existing trees</p> <p>Review undertaken</p> <p>Tree canopy protected and enhanced</p> <p>public consultation strategy undertaken</p> <p>Investigation undertaken</p> <p>Targets established</p>

**Table 11. Generic management framework *cont'***

Objectives 1 – 8 reflect the land management goals and values			
Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>5</b>	<b>A</b>		
Aesthetic and landscape quality remains high	Ensure <b>public view corridors</b> are retained wherever possible and <b>minimise visual impact</b> of development on land adjoining the Crown reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure planning and development controls are in place to maintain public views from and into Crown reserves wherever possible</li> <li>• Prune or remove vegetation if necessary to maintain public views and ensure all tree works are undertaken by a qualified arborist</li> <li>• Install appropriate screen planting wherever necessary</li> </ul>	<p>Public access to iconic views are retained from within each site</p> <p>Desirable public views into and out of each site are retained</p> <p>Undesirable views are screened by appropriate vegetation</p>
	<b>B</b>		
	Consider the <b>amenity</b> of <b>residents</b> adjacent to the Crown reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure planning and development controls consider amenity of residents</li> <li>• Consult nearby residents prior to proposed developments</li> <li>• Consider the potential future impacts on residents, including views, prior to all proposed landscape and recreational installations</li> <li>• Install appropriate screen / buffer planting wherever necessary to reduce undesirable impact on residential amenity</li> </ul>	<p>Residential amenity and privacy is not significantly impacted, wherever possible</p> <p>Increased consultation where appropriate</p> <p>Private view pruning undertaken as necessary under current policies</p> <p>Appropriate buffers installed where necessary</p>

**Table 11. Generic management framework *cont'***

Objectives 1 – 8 reflect the land management goals and values			
Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>5</b>	<b>C</b>		
	<b>Aesthetic and landscape quality</b> of all Crown land assets remain high	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adhere to adopted horticulture maintenance schedules</li> <li>• Adhere to adopted built asset maintenance schedules</li> <li>• Review all horticulture maintenance schedules to ensure the aesthetic and landscape quality of all green infrastructure on Crown land, i.e. the open space for recreation, the urban tree canopy, bushland and waterways remains high</li> <li>• Install selected design elements in appropriate locations as documented, where appropriate and feasible specify warm lighting for passive open space</li> </ul>	<p>Schedules fulfilled</p> <p>Schedules fulfilled</p> <p>Schedules reviewed, improvements identified and resourced</p> <p>Site specific appropriate installations undertaken that complement each place</p>
<b>6</b>	<b>A</b>		
Heritage and cultural awareness	Investigate and assess <b>environmental heritage</b> and ensure land is used and managed to be consistent with <b>heritage significance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage listed environmental heritage items at each site</li> <li>• Investigate opportunities to undertake heritage and cultural assessment studies to identify environmental heritage at each site, including areas of historic archaeology sensitivity, built structure and natural heritage</li> <li>• Seek recommendations for the management of heritage items</li> <li>• Identify European history</li> <li>• Manage environmental heritage in accordance with statutory obligations</li> <li>• Identify opportunities to enhance and celebrate environmental heritage, including interpretation, conservation works, art works and signage</li> </ul>	<p>Environmental heritage managed</p> <p>Studies completed, potential environmental heritage items and archaeology (including cultural landscapes) are identified for future assessment against listing criteria</p> <p>Recommendations arising from heritage management documents are considered and implemented where possible</p> <p>European history noted</p> <p>Environmental heritage conserved</p> <p>Improved understanding and greater appreciation of environmental heritage at each site</p>

**Table 11. Generic management framework *cont'***

Objectives 1 – 8 reflect the land management goals and values			
Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
			<p>No negative impacts of management practices on sites with natural and cultural significance</p> <p>Only sympathetic and compatible uses are permitted</p> <p>Heritage and landscape character retained for future generations</p>
<b>6</b>	<b>B</b>		
	Investigate, assess and manage <b>First Nations culture</b> and history on Crown land (a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify registered Aboriginal sites</li> <li>• Investigate Aboriginal history</li> <li>• Identify opportunities to assess potential Aboriginal heritage and sensitive areas at each site</li> <li>• Manage Aboriginal heritage in accordance with the <i>National Parks &amp; Wildlife Act 1974</i></li> <li>• Identify opportunities to enhance Aboriginal heritage, including interpretation, conservation works, art works and signage</li> </ul>	<p>Where appropriate, registered sites on Crown land noted</p> <p>Aboriginal history of the site noted</p> <p>Where appropriate, areas of Aboriginal sensitivity are identified and assessed</p> <p>Recommendations arising from relevant heritage management documents are implemented</p> <p>Improved understanding of Aboriginal heritage at each site</p> <p>No negative impacts of management practices on site with Aboriginal significance</p> <p>Only sympathetic and compatible uses are permitted</p>

**Table 11. Generic management framework *cont'***

Objectives 1 – 8 reflect the land management goals and values			
Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
6	<b>C</b>		
	Enable the community to hold <b>cultural events</b> on Crown land (a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Permit appropriate use of the land for events that bring positive community outcomes</li> </ul>	Event proposals approved where appropriate and positive feedback received
	<b>D</b>		
	Work with <b>Aboriginal communities</b> to realise the potential of their <b>land rights</b> (a priority of the <i>State Strategic plan for Crown land</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage with the La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council</li> </ul>	Improved relationship and understanding of local Aboriginal community in respect of their land rights
	<b>E</b>		
	Ensure obligations under the <b><i>Native Title Act 1993</i></b> are met	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where it is proposed to construct or establish a public work on reserved or dedicated Crown land where native title is not extinguished, prior to approval, notify and give opportunity for comment to Aboriginal / Torres Strait Islander registered bodies, registered native title claimants and corporate bodies, in relation to the land or waters covered by the reservation or lease as required under the <i>Native Title Act 1993</i></li> <li>On Crown land where native title rights have not been extinguished, encourage, and if required, remove barriers to access and use by Aboriginal people for cultural practices and to care for Country</li> </ul>	<p>Obligations fulfilled</p> <p>Native title rights to relevant land facilitated</p>



**Table 11. Generic management framework *cont'***

Objectives 1 – 8 reflect the land management goals and values			
Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>7</b>	<b>A</b>		
Recreational opportunities	Ensure the <b>unique opportunities</b> of each site are enhanced for inclusive public recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain the landscape character for a variety of passive recreation experiences</li> <li>• Prior to approvals being issued, refer to POM to ensure that permissible uses, including scale and intensity, are appropriately managed</li> <li>• Advertise recreational opportunities on Council's website, social media, at the libraries and community centre</li> <li>• Seek to enhance existing facilities, including playgrounds, to meet community need, as identified in the Playspace Strategy</li> <li>• Consider incorporating additional user friendly attributes into Council's website to promote recreational opportunities, e.g. interactive maps showing unique site features</li> <li>• Review current locations, capacity and terms of use for dinghy storage to ensure provision meets community need</li> </ul>	<p>Sense of place is strong</p> <p>Compliance with permissible uses is maintained</p> <p>Opportunities easy to find through Council sources</p> <p>Enhanced play spaces and facilities provided wherever possible</p> <p>Council's website promotes recreational opportunities</p> <p>Dinghy storage more functional, tidy and equitable</p>

**Table 11. Generic management framework *cont'***

Objectives 1 – 8 reflect the land management goals and values			
Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>7</b>	<b>B</b>		
	Encourage <b>multiple use</b> of Crown land, ensure land is <b>multifunctional, flexible</b> and <b>versatile</b> , proposed facilities to be <b>multi-purpose</b> to maximise community benefit and meet changing community needs (strategies of <i>Greener Places</i> and a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Permit a variety of short-term use through appropriate licensing</li> <li>• Proposed installations provide multiple community benefits wherever possible</li> <li>• Promote adaptive re-use of existing facilities to meet community need, including sports lighting for night usage, multi-use facilities and new play spaces</li> <li>• Work collaboratively to ensure development contribution funds are allocated to align with open space recreation needs, as identified in various strategies and action plans</li> </ul>	<p>Land appropriately used</p> <p>Multifunctionality built into installations</p> <p>Sites and facilities meet community need</p> <p>Development contributions made available to fund identified open space improvements</p>
	<b>C</b>		
	Adequate provision of <b>facilities for companion animals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confirm and modify signage if necessary to inform of the current site regulations regarding dog exercise, i.e. on-leash, off-leash times if applicable, or if prohibited</li> <li>• Provide appropriate infrastructure at dog off leash areas, such as taps and water bowl, advise / inform Animal Advisory Committee</li> <li>• Review current locations and times for dog off-leash exercise across the whole LGA, in consultation with the Animal Advisory Committee, to ensure provision meets community need</li> </ul>	<p>Clear signage, compliance with regulations and reduced conflict</p> <p>Companion animals needs for water met</p> <p>Dog off leash area review completed</p>

**Table 11. Generic management framework *cont'***

Objectives 1 – 8 reflect the land management goals and values			
Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>8</b>	<b>A</b>		
Social and community opportunities	Crown land is used and managed to reflect the <b>goals and themes of our community</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cross reference the performance targets and actions of this POM with the CSP and other adopted Council policies for consistency and to ensure an integrated approach to Council planning, land use and management</li> </ul>	Internal collaboration implemented and integrated planning outcomes improved
	<b>B</b>  <b>Public use and enjoyment</b> of Crown land is encouraged, land use is <b>community-focused</b> and strengthens and supports evolving <b>community connection</b> and <b>local business</b> (principles of the <i>CLM Act</i> and the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> and a priority of the <i>State Strategic Plan for Crown land</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide facilities that are flexible to a range of uses and appropriate to the needs of the community and where occurring, the needs of tourists</li> <li>• Facilitate community use of Crown land locations and venues through leases / licences that are equitably and transparently allocated to reflect the core objectives of the land, community need, and meet the requirements of the LG Act</li> <li>• Advertise recreational opportunities on Council's website, social media, and at community facilities</li> <li>• Continue ongoing discussion with the La Perouse Aboriginal Land Council to build a stronger local relationship</li> </ul>	Multifunctionality built into installations wherever possible  Secondary interests over Crown land approved where appropriate  Opportunities easy to find through Council sources  Cultural understanding grows and local land use requirements met on relevant land

**Table 11. Generic management framework *cont'***

Objectives 1 – 8 reflect the land management goals and values			
Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>8</b>	<b>C</b>		
	Provide stronger avenues for <b>community consultation</b> , encourage <b>stewardship</b> of the land and <b>community participation in decision making</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve community consultation and actively seek community feedback prior to installation of significant new capital works</li> <li>• Encourage greater community participation in community planting days, Bushcare, clean-up days</li> </ul>	<p>Wherever possible, improvements are consulted upon, developed, and implemented to the satisfaction of the majority of the community</p> <p>Community involvement is stronger, Council decisions are better understood and fewer complaints are received about decisions made about open space use and management</p> <p>Improved land stewardship</p>
Objectives 9 – 13 reflect the management goals of each land category			
<b>9</b>	<b>A</b>		
<b>PARK</b> category land meets the LG Act objectives	<b>Encourage, promote</b> and <b>facilitate</b> recreational, cultural, social and educational pastimes and activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a variety of well-advertised opportunities for the community to enjoy in parks e.g. playgrounds, guided local landscape heritage walks, special events</li> </ul>	<p>Well attended events</p> <p>Community satisfaction measured through feedback</p>
	<b>B</b>		
	To provide for <b>passive recreational</b> activities or pastimes and for the <b>casual playing of games</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a range of recreational spaces, including play and active areas, to meet the needs of the community</li> </ul>	<p>Community satisfaction measured through feedback</p>

**Table 11. Generic management framework *cont'***

Objectives 9 – 13 reflect the management goals of each land category			
Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>9</b>	<b>C</b>		
	To <b>improve</b> the land in such a way as to promote and facilitate its <b>use to achieve the other core objectives</b> for its management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When necessary, develop appropriate installations to improve user experience</li> </ul>	Community satisfaction measured through feedback
<b>10</b>	<b>A</b>		
<b>SPORTS GROUND</b> category land meets the <i>LG Act</i> objectives	<b>Encourage, promote</b> and <b>facilitate</b> recreational pursuits in the community involving organised and informal <b>sporting activities</b> and games	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a range of active recreation facilities and multi-purpose spaces to meet our community's diverse active recreational needs</li> <li>• Advertise and provide information to the community about existing active recreational opportunities and facilitate appropriate casual and seasonal licenced use of the land</li> <li>• Ensure scale and intensity of use does not exceed the carrying capacity of the land or reduce the long term life of the asset</li> </ul>	<p>A majority of booking requests from local community sporting organisations and local schools are satisfied annually, subject to availability of appropriate facilities</p> <p>Council's website and information sources are kept up to date with available active recreational opportunities</p> <p>Site signage displays opportunities and usage regulations at all sites</p> <p>Longevity of asset maximised</p>



**Table 11. Generic management framework *cont'***

Objectives 9 – 13 reflect the management goals of each land category			
Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>10</b>	<b>B</b>		
	Ensure that <b>active recreational</b> activities are managed having <b>regard</b> to <b>any adverse impact</b> on nearby residences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community use of existing facilities and spaces is facilitated through council's booking request system. Consider the scale and intensity of use at each location and balance the reasonable impacts on nearby residences</li> <li>• Ensure that sporting facility upgrades follow relevant legislated approval processes and include community consultation to consider potential impacts to local amenity, i.e. visual, noise, parking, traffic, lighting and the impact of additional usage</li> <li>• Monitor and reduce occurrence of unauthorised use through enforcement activities to maintain assets in good condition</li> </ul>	<p>Fields not used beyond capacity</p> <p>Permitted scale and intensity of use not exceeded by approved organised groups</p> <p>Relevant approvals are obtained for all facility upgrades</p> <p>Fewer unauthorised activities on the land</p> <p>Wear and tear reduced</p>
<b>11</b>	<b>A</b>		
<b>GENERAL COMMUNITY USE</b> category land meets the <i>LG Act</i> objectives	To <b>promote, encourage and provide</b> for the use of the land, and to provide <b>facilities</b> on the land, to meet the current and future needs of the local community and of the wider public in relation to <b>public recreation and the physical, cultural, social and intellectual welfare</b> or development of individual members of the public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a range of well-advertised, multi-purpose venues and facilities to meet the diverse leisure pursuits, recreational, physical, cultural, social and intellectual needs of the community and the greater public</li> <li>• When additional needs are identified, seek to provide the required facilities in appropriate locations</li> </ul>	<p>Venues are adaptable and adequate to provide for our community needs</p> <p>Internal teams collaborate on current community expectations and recommend solutions</p>

**Table 11. Generic management framework *cont'***

Objectives 9 – 13 reflect the management goals of each land category			
Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>11</b>	<b>B</b>		
	To <b>promote, encourage and provide</b> for the use of the land, and to provide <b>facilities</b> on the land, to meet the current and future needs of the local community, and of the wider public, in relation to purposes for which a <b>lease, licence or other estate may be granted</b> in respect of the land (other than the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure lease / licence agreements are site appropriate, meet the core objectives of the land, are in the public interest, and do not negatively impact on the land or adjoining land</li> <li>• New long term (&gt;12 months) leases / licences to be entered into for purposes authorised by this plan of management, following appropriate advice from the native title manager confirming the land is not excluded land, and subject to Council approval</li> </ul>	<p>OM is referred to prior to leasing or licencing the land, internal teams collaborate on what is appropriate</p> <p>Appropriate use of public land facilitated transparently, obligations fulfilled</p>
<b>12</b>	<b>A</b>		
<b>NATURAL AREA</b> (generally) category land meets the <i>LG Act</i> objectives	To <b>conserve biodiversity and maintain ecosystem function</b> in respect of the land, or the feature or habitat in respect of which the land is categorised as a natural area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adhere to the recommendations of the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Strategy 2015-2025</i> action plans</li> <li>• Proposed developments that may impact temporarily or permanently on natural areas are managed and / or prohibited to mitigate detrimental effects on biodiversity via environmental assessments i.e. REF, EIS etc. or DA</li> </ul>	<p>Internal collaboration on action plans, resulting in compatible land use objectives</p> <p>Environmental values protected</p>

**Table 11. Generic management framework *cont'***

Objectives 9 – 13 reflect the management goals of each land category			
Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
12	<b>B</b>		
	To <b>maintain</b> the land, or that feature or habitat, in <b>its natural state and setting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limit the use of horticultural chemicals wherever possible</li> <li>• Uphold permissible use within land category and limit to low impact activities</li> <li>• Uphold development controls on adjacent land to prevent stormwater runoff and other contaminants or pollution entering into natural areas</li> </ul>	<p>Less ecological disturbance</p> <p>Land use is not detrimental to environment values</p> <p>Environment values prioritised</p>
	<b>C</b>		
	To provide for the <b>restoration and regeneration</b> of the land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish and advertise community clean-up days</li> <li>• Encourage volunteers to participate in appropriate restoration programs</li> <li>• Provide education programs and information to the community to raise awareness of natural area values and the potential impacts and responsibilities of using natural areas</li> <li>• Seek locations to re-establish native plant material of local provenance including grasses and other soil-stabilising species</li> </ul>	<p>Greater community stewardship of the land</p> <p>Environment values protected and rehabilitated</p> <p>Programs established and well attended</p> <p>Soil erosion reduced, water holding capacity improved, runoff reduced</p>

**Table 11. Generic management framework *cont'***

Objectives 9 – 13 reflect the management goals of each land category			
Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
12	<b>D</b>		
	To provide for <b>community use of and access</b> to the land in such a manner as will <b>minimise and mitigate any disturbance caused by human intrusion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide low impact installations such as suspended paths over tree root zones</li> <li>• Monitor use of areas, limit access if necessary to protect the environment</li> </ul>	<p>Root zones protected from compaction</p> <p>Buffers and / or temporary fencing installed as needed to restrict access</p>
	<b>E</b>		
	To assist in and <b>facilitate</b> the <b>implementation</b> of any provisions <b>restricting</b> the use and management of the land that are set out in a <b>recovery plan</b> or threat abatement plan prepared under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> or the <i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refer to specific POMS that reference land affected by recovery plans</li> <li>• Undertake the management and maintenance of sensitive natural areas using suitably qualified persons in accordance with Council's relevant environmental plans</li> </ul>	<p>Actions within the management frameworks of site specific POMS are consistently undertaken to improve environmental outcomes</p> <p>Staff undertake necessary training and uphold work place practices to protect environment</p>

**Table 11. Generic management framework *cont'***

Objectives 9 – 13 reflect the management goals of each land category			
Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>13</b>	<b>A</b>		
<b>NATURAL AREA – FORESHORE</b> category land meets the <i>LG Act</i> objectives	To <b>maintain</b> the foreshore <b>as a transition area</b> between the aquatic and the terrestrial environment, and to <b>protect and enhance</b> all functions associated with the foreshore's role as a transition area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allow for improved public access to the water at foreshores, remove barriers to access if necessary and possible</li> <li>• Improve stormwater quality through total catchment management practices and education across the LGA</li> </ul>	<p>The community can access the public foreshores</p> <p>Reduce privatisation of public space by removing foreshore encroachments</p> <p>Seek opportunities to provide public access to the foreshore</p> <p>Education on TCM provided, foreshore pollution reduced</p>
	<b>B</b>		
	To <b>facilitate the ecologically sustainable use</b> of the foreshore, and to <b>mitigate impact on the foreshore by community use</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide education programs and information to the community to raise awareness of foreshore issues</li> <li>• Ensure future installations do not compromise the integrity of the foreshore ecosystem or cause erosion</li> <li>• Consider establishing community foreshore clean-up days, for example on Clean Up Australia Day</li> <li>• Prohibit commercial fitness training from foreshores, (defined as the land between the highest astronomical tide and the lowest astronomical tide)</li> </ul>	<p>Programs established and well attended</p> <p>Coastal erosion reduced, ecological outcomes improved</p> <p>Community stewardship of the land is enhanced</p> <p>Commercial fitness training permits are not issued by Council</p>



# 11. Bellevue Park



Figure 22. Harbour view from Bellevue Park



Figure 23. Aerial photo of Bellevue Park (2018)



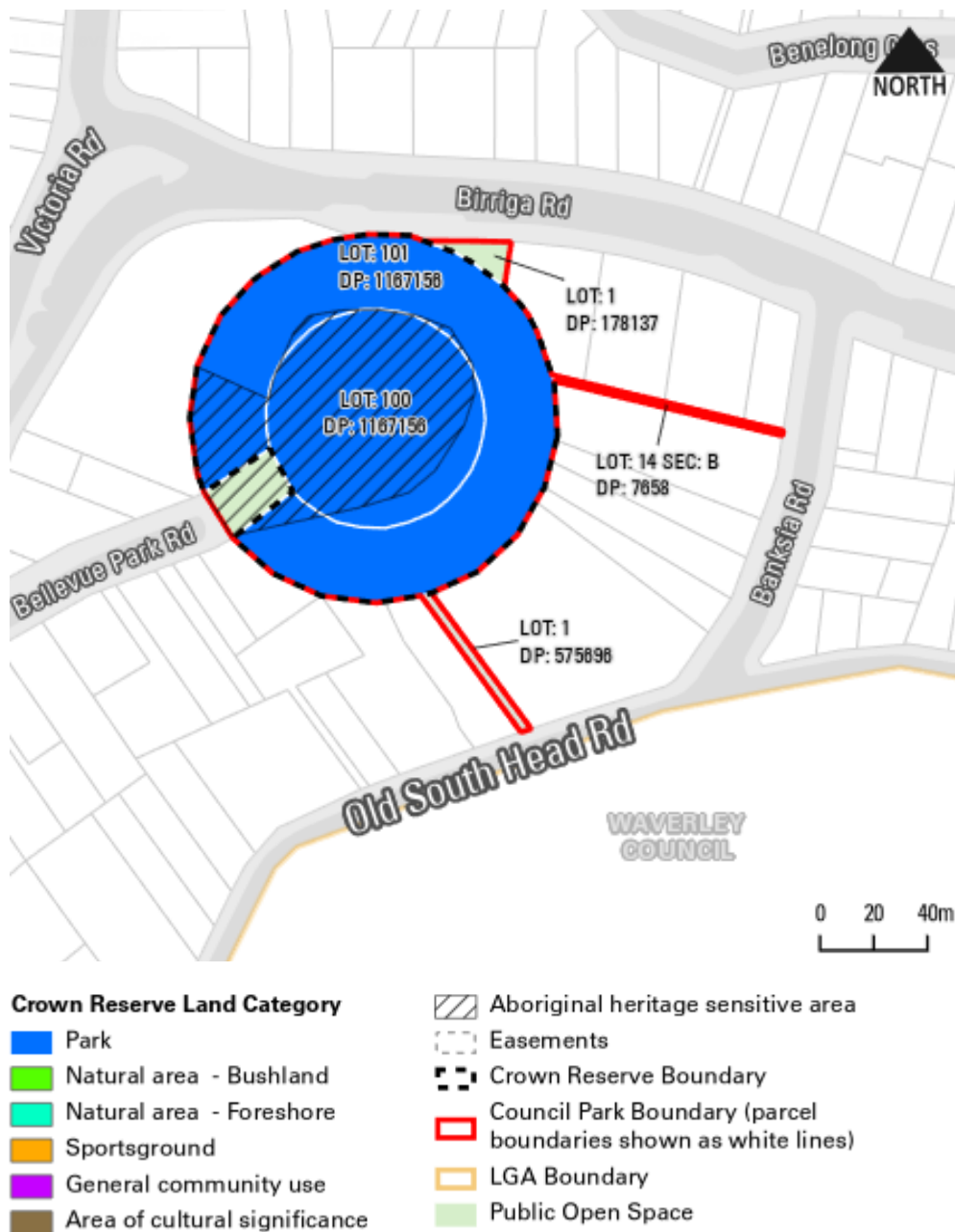


Figure 24. Bellevue Park map including land categories

**Table 12. Legal description for Bellevue Park**

Location	19 Bellevue Park Road, Bellevue Hill
Land area (m <sup>2</sup> )	14 014m <sup>2</sup>
Land owner	Crown & WMC
Crown reserve purpose	Public recreation
Woollahra LEP 2014 zone	RE1 Public recreation
LG Act categorisation	Park
Legal description	Crown R500458 Lots 100-101 DP 1167156  WMC Lot 1 DP 178137 & Lot 1 DP 575696 & Lot14 SEC B DP7658 (Park)

### Description

Roughly circular in shape, this reserve is located south-east of the intersection of Victoria and Birriga Roads in the suburb of Bellevue Hill. Bellevue Hill Public School forms the western boundary, private residences adjoin the site to the east and south. Bellevue Park Rd terminates at the reserve along the southern boundary and Birriga Rd lies to the north.

As the highest point in the Municipality, spectacular local and distant views are available from within the park, to Bondi Beach and the Pacific Ocean, over Dover Heights and to the Harbour.

The site is a steep grassed hill covering over a hectare of land categorised as park. It is used for passive recreation and includes significant mature trees, a playground with shade structure, which is heavily used by children at the adjacent school during school hours, sandstone retaining walls, concrete footpaths, seats at the crown of the hill, rubbish bins and park lighting. There are two raised garden beds planted with shrubs and small trees flanking the footpath at the Bellevue Park Rd entrance.

### Access

There are four pedestrian entry points into the park from the surrounding neighbourhood, and another directly from Bellevue Hill Public School.

Level pedestrian access is possible from a graded concrete footpath at the Bellevue Park Rd entrance. Access from Birriga Rd is via steep stairs which lead to paths within the park. Steep, stepped paths up from Banksia St and Old South Head Rd provide further neighbourhood access. The 2019 landscape concept plan aims to formalise and complete these paths to improve access through the park.

Public transport is nearby to the site; bus stops are on both Victoria Rd and Birriga Rd.

Limited service vehicle access is available from Bellevue Park Rd, no public vehicular access or on-site parking is available.

### History

#### The Physical Landscape

Pre 1788, the landscape of Bellevue Hill consisted of extensive sand hills covered with a complex vegetation community of heath and low scrub.

As the land was developed, the physical landscape was significantly altered; the endemic vegetation was cleared and large quantities of sand was mined for mortar.

This site, located on the highest point in the Municipality receives much sun and wind exposure. These factors, together with the sandy soil, and absence of irrigation, create challenging landscape conditions for ornamental horticulture. The elevated position continues to offer extensive views which are the dominant feature of the site.

### The Cultural Landscape – Aboriginal History and Heritage

#### Overview:

Bellevue Park is one of the highest points in the eastern suburbs with views east to the Pacific Ocean and Bondi Beach and north over the valley of Rose Bay to Vaucluse and Sydney Harbour. Aboriginal people knew the landscape intimately and would have used areas like this as vantage points. An Aboriginal rock engraving of a rigged sailing ship in nearby Cooper Park records Aboriginal people's reactions to the arrival of Europeans in the late eighteenth century, and it may have been from the high ground of Bellevue Park that these new arrivals were observed. They may also have camped there or used the area for cultural purposes.

No traces of past Aboriginal uses have yet been documented within Bellevue Park. The once-rounded hill below the park has been carved into



Figure 25. Looking north from the flat crest of Bellevue Park over Rose Bay to Vaucluse. Source Coast History, 2020.

to create flat house blocks. Within the park, areas have been terraced for footpaths and other tracks. However, the flat top of the park has been less impacted and has been designated as a sensitive area. It may still contain the remains of former Aboriginal campsites beneath the soil, consisting of stone artefacts and the remains of fireplaces.

#### Recommendations:

1. Opportunities could be explored to interpret Aboriginal responses to the arrival of Europeans, making use of the extensive vistas and the nearby ship engraving. This could be addressed in a specific study, or as part of a future management plan for the park.
2. Any proposed activities within the sensitive area which may impact below the ground surface should be subject to Aboriginal Heritage Impact Assessment.
3. For any proposed activities within the remainder of Bellevue Park, an unexpected finds protocol should be in place for any excavation works. See appendix AA for more detail.

## The Cultural Landscape – European History and Heritage

### Overview:

Bellevue Park was part of the 1130 acre (452ha) Cooper Estate granted in 1830, which extended from Jersey Road, Woollahra, to Fernleigh Avenue, Rose Bay and Old South Head Road to the harbour. Access to Sydney's east was improved with the construction of Old South Head Road in 1811, from which time Bellevue Park became a popular picnic destination to enjoy the view. Governor Lachlan Macquarie named the suburb with the French term 'Belle Vue' to highlight the scenic landscapes it offered in the 1820s.<sup>30</sup>

The site was established for public recreation use on 26/08/1850 when ex-convict Daniel Cooper relinquished a portion of his land grant to the Government for public use, compensated by the receipt of land in Double Bay.<sup>31</sup>

The planting of the reserve was given to Aldermen Norton, Neild and Thompson, who were responsible for the 1882 design concept for the park

and species selection with the advice of Charles Moore, the then director of the Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney.

The park was gazetted on 2 November 1888, with the Borough Council of Woollahra as Trustees of the land. In September 1891, Sir Daniel Cooper agreed to enlarge the area of the Park, as shown in figure 23, by adding additional land was included to make the park to its present size.<sup>32</sup>

The planting of the reserve was placed under the direction of Aldermen Norton, Neild and Thompson in 1882.

On the highest point of the park, initially stood a bandstand.<sup>33</sup>

From 1909, the tramway provided public transport to the area, with a circular loop located in part of the present school grounds. This loop was removed when the tram line was extended to Bondi in 1914.

On 12/12/1988, to commemorate a centenary of dedication of the park, the Mayor of Woollahra Alderwoman Elaine Cassidy unveiled a

commemorative plaque located on the summit of Bellevue Park, which is still present.

The playground and footpaths have recently been upgraded as stage 1 of the landscape concept plan.



Figure 26. Map of 1891 addition to Bellevue Park.  
Source Woollahra Libraries, Local History Research File

30. Crosson, B. (1988) (Woollahra History & Heritage Society), Bellevue Park Brief.
31. Jervis, J. (1960) *The History of Woollahra*, Woollahra Municipal Council.
32. Sydney Morning Herald, 23 September 1891.
33. Woollahra Libraries, (1988). Bellevue Park Local History Research File.

### Heritage Items

Nil.

### Potential Heritage Items

At the time of preparing this document, Council staff are currently preparing a draft heritage gap analysis. It is anticipated that one of the recommendations of this work will be to assess the heritage significance of the cultural landscapes of the Woollahra LGA, including this site.

Potential items include the:  
Significant trees.  
Whole of Bellevue Park.

### Recommendations:

1. Investigate opportunities to undertake a heritage assessment of the significant trees, as they are of historical significance as a design element used in formal planting schemes for civic spaces throughout Sydney during the Victorian and Edwardian eras.
2. Investigate opportunities to undertake a heritage assessment of the whole of Bellevue Park, as it has historic and social significance including

the use of the site as a viewing and recreational place since the early years of the Colony requires further investigation.

3. For proposed activities that may impact below ground, an unexpected finds protocol must be place to guide excavations. See appendix AA for more details.

### Landscape Character

The topography, elevation and expansive views from Bellevue Park, coupled with the collection of significant mature trees, creates a unique experience for the community to enjoy at this location. This place has been enjoyed for passive recreation, especially as a viewing destination, for 170 years. It was one of the first areas of land to be set aside as a public park in the area.

The 1991 register of significant trees identified *Ficus macrophylla* (Moreton Bay Fig), *Ficus rubiginosa* (Port Jackson Fig), *Araucaria heterophylla* (Norfolk Island Pine) and *Phoenix canariensis* (Canary Island Date Palm) as being at this location. During the preparation of this POM, it was observed that there are no Canary Island Date Palms in Bellevue Park. These were most likely lost shortly after the 1991

register was prepared, as were many significant public collections of this species around Sydney in the 1990's. They were decimated by *Fusarium* wilt, a disease caused by an introduced soil fungal pathogen, *Fusarium sp.* The register states that the "Figs and Araucarias are of great cultural and visual significance to this historic location." These trees continue to provide design interest and valuable shade. They are a tangible link to other civic spaces across the LGA.

The children's playground experiences heavy use from the adjacent school. This use may be seen as a type of encroachment into the park by some members of the community who see it as alienation of public space.

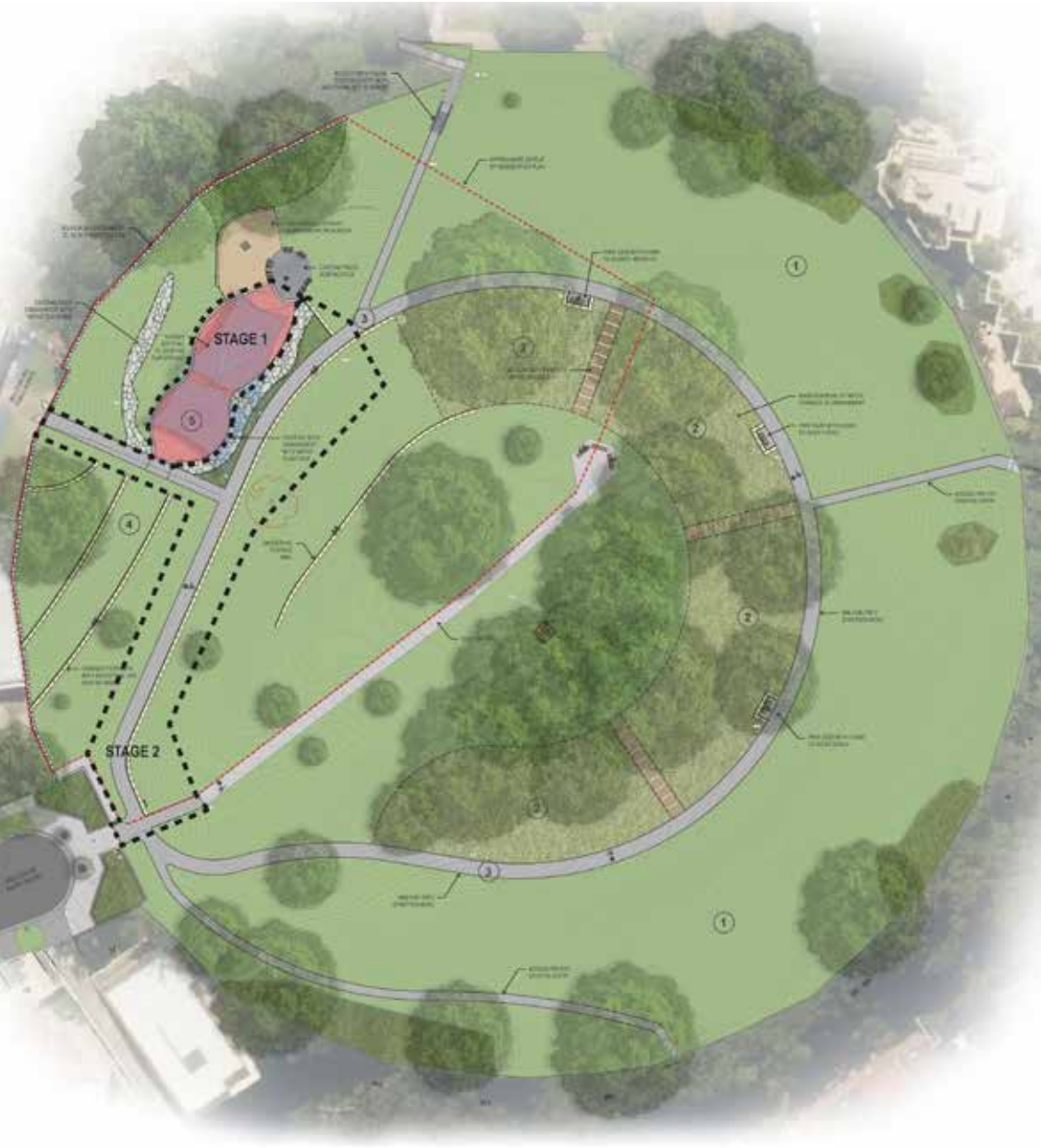
### Relevant Documents

*Asbestos Risk Assessment and Management Plan 2014*, prepared by Noel Arnold and Associates.

WMC Landscape Concept Plan 2019.

Woollahra Libraries, Local History Research File





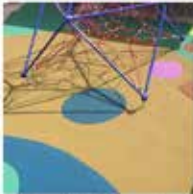
**Key**

- ① EXISTING GRASSED AREA
- ② MASS PLANTING NATIVE GRASSES
- ③ WALKING PATH (2 METRES WIDE)
- ④ GRASSED TERRACES WITH SANDSTONE LOG WALLS
- ⑤ NEW RUBBER SOFTFALL TO EXISTING PLAYGROUND

**Materials & precedents**



Sandstone wall terraces



Rubber soft playground



Native grasses



Walking path

Figure 27. Bellevue Park Landscape concept plan

The current landscape concept plan aims to improve pedestrian access from the neighbourhood through the site and improve the playground and surrounds. Further landscape assessment and design is recommended to incorporate and develop historic and period elements.



### Community Input – Bellevue Park Use and Management Issues

This section provides a summary of the contributions made by our community through the Crown lands plan of management survey. Refer to appendix BB for the complete survey report for all responses. Questions 90, 91 and 92 of the Your Say survey refer specifically to Bellevue Park, to which 17, 15 and 10 responses were received respectively. No postal surveys were received for Bellevue Park.

Most of the survey participants visited Bellevue Park daily, on weekdays and arrived on foot.

Use of this site by our community is mostly to:

- go for a walk
- appreciate the place, the environment, the space, the views
- use the playground.

The key management issues here are:

- maintaining the views
- site interpretation to recognise the significant heritage values
- encroachment by Bellevue Hill Public School.

**Table 13. Current and Future Permissible Use of Bellevue Park**

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
Park	Land	Passive recreation, dog exercise on leash at all times, viewing, aesthetic.	Commercial fitness activities permitted with a licence.	3	Casual recreation use e.g. walking, dog exercise on leash at all times, informal ball games, picnics for groups of < 20 at all times, no permit required.  Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include commercial fitness training, public meetings, all group activities of > 20 and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.	Small scale and low intensity only	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.
	Buildings	Nil	Nil	Nil			Dogs within 10m of playground.
	Improvements Refer to Council’s built asset register for complete list, which itemises every structure on the land, including condition rating.	Playground, paths, seats.	Nil	2 Av.2 for all built assets	Development related or ancillary to recreation and / or aesthetic use is permissible, e.g. amenity buildings, utilities if required, planting for shade and habitat, park furniture, recreation facilities, public art, play equipment, temporary structures for recreational needs, environmental facilities / management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).		Dog exercise off leash.  Smoking within 10m of playground.  Commercial fitness activities in playgrounds.
Condition ratings for land and park assets as follows: 1. Excellent – no work required or as new condition, 2. Good – well maintained, minor maintenance only, 3. Average – maintained but in need of repair, 4. Poor – in need of major repair or renewal, 5. Very Poor – urgent renewal or upgrading required							
Special management requirements: Asbestos was previously found and has now been capped as recommended by the Asbestos Risk Assessment and Management Plan January 2014, prepared by Noel Arnold and Associates. WMC mapping shows the area as class 5 acid sulphate soils. <i>Fusarium</i> may be present in the soil.							
Capital works currently budgeted for: Detailed design of Stage 2 of the landscape concept plan, to connect the internal path to the stairs up from Birriga Rd and complete internal pathway network.							
Current Council resolution: Nil							

**Table 14. Management Framework for Bellevue Park**

**IN ADDITION TO THE GENERIC MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR ALL COMMUNITY LAND CROWN RESERVES, THE FOLLOWING SITE SPECIFIC ACTIONS ADDRESS ISSUES RAISED IN THE SURVEY AND / OR NOTED THROUGH SITE OBSERVATION AND ANALYSIS AND / OR REQUIRED BY A CURRENT COUNCIL RESOLUTION.**

<b>Objective – the desired outcome</b>	<b>Performance targets – what the objective is trying to do</b>	<b>Actions – how to achieve the target</b>	<b>Performance measures – how to assess whether the objective and targets have been met</b>
<b>1</b> Safe, clean, well-maintained, functional and varied	<b>E</b> Where there is <b>opportunity</b> to improve <b>layout, functionality, aesthetic appeal</b> and <b>site interpretation</b> provide a <b>landscape master plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to facilitate the 2019 landscape concept plan</li> </ul>	Documented installations completed
<b>2</b> Accessible and inclusive	<b>A</b> Provide universal <b>access</b> , wherever possible, to public land and any associated structures and facilities to ensure the sites are open and welcoming (a strategy of <i>Everyone Can Play</i> and a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete the pedestrian paths and linkages as documented in the 2019 landscape concept plan</li> <li>Investigate locations for further seating throughout the park to capture the iconic views</li> </ul>	Contiguous pedestrian access installed  Park seating installed in key locations
<b>3</b> Well managed for public use	<b>D</b> Ensure <b>planning</b> and <b>development controls</b> across the LGA <b>conserve the natural environment, aesthetic quality</b> and <b>heritage values</b> on Crown land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work collaboratively to update planning and development controls so that the controls are compatible with the natural environment, aesthetic and heritage values of Bellevue Park, with particular reference to the iconic views</li> </ul>	Potential conflicts identified and reduced

Table 14. Management Framework for Bellevue Park *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>3</b>	<b>G</b>		
	<b>Encroachment</b> on Crown land is reduced and the whole estate remains available for public use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to work with Bellevue Hill Public School to ensure balanced/ majority public use of the park is maintained</li> </ul>	The community can access the site for passive recreation
<b>4</b>	<b>D</b>		
Natural environment conserved	Ensure the <b>existing mature tree canopy</b> is retained to <b>preserve landscape character</b> and <b>create an inter-connected tree canopy</b> across public land, strategies of <i>Greener Places</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prioritise management of the remaining significant trees</li> <li>• Locate any additional trees with consideration of view corridors</li> <li>• Manage future species selection to resist potential threat of <i>Fusarium</i></li> <li>• Reference the Urban Forest Strategy long term vision and tree canopy targets for Bellevue Park</li> </ul>	<p>Replacement trees are well established prior to significant tree senescence</p> <p>Landscape character and landscape heritage is retained</p> <p>Existing views maintained</p> <p>Species robust against threat of <i>Fusarium</i></p> <p>Strategy recommendations undertaken</p>
<b>5</b>	<b>A</b>		
Aesthetic and landscape quality remains high	Ensure <b>public view corridors</b> are retained wherever possible and <b>minimise visual impact</b> of development on land adjoining the Crown reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage existing trees and vegetation to maximise public view corridors from the park</li> </ul>	Public access to iconic views (the historic role of the site) is retained from within the site

Table 14. Management Framework for Bellevue Park *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>6</b>	<b>A</b>		
Heritage and cultural awareness	Investigate and assess <b>environmental heritage</b> and ensure land is used and managed to be consistent with <b>heritage significance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate opportunities to undertake a heritage assessment of the significant trees</li> <li>• Investigate opportunities to undertake a heritage assessment of Bellevue Park in accordance with the NSW heritage criteria, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the association of the site with Governor Lachlan Macquarie</li> <li>- the role of the site as a viewing place in colonial European society within the concept of the Picturesque aesthetic ideal.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Heritage assessment of significant trees completed</p> <p>Potential environmental heritage items and archaeology (including cultural landscapes) are identified and assessed</p> <p>Recommendations arising from heritage management documents are implemented where possible</p> <p>Improved understanding of environmental heritage</p>
	<b>B</b>		
	Investigate, assess and manage <b>First Nations culture and history</b> on Crown land (a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate opportunities to undertake a specific heritage assessment study, using the extensive vistas and nearby rock art, to appreciate the site as a viewing place, from which Aboriginal people saw the approaching tall ships of the First Fleet</li> </ul>	Study undertaken to explore the role of the site in Aboriginal / European colonial interactions

# Appendix A

## Bellevue Park Survey Responses – User Profile

(The following information includes the *Your Say* data plus any related postal data)

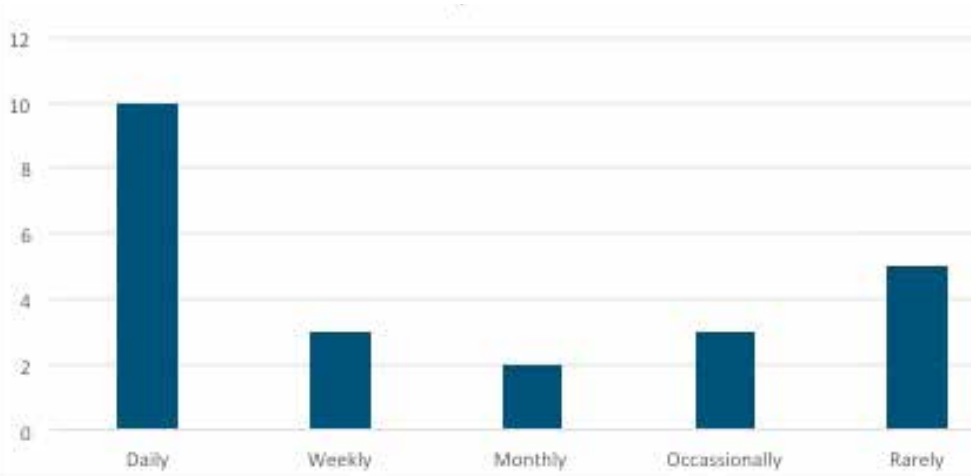


Figure 28. How often do you visit Bellevue Park?

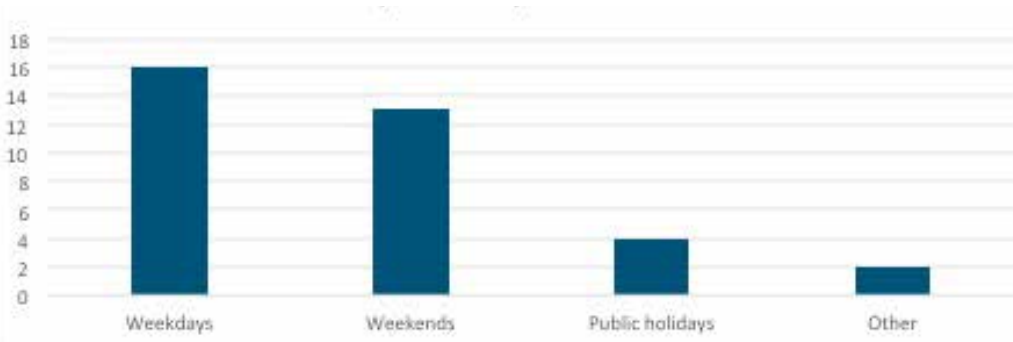


Figure 29. When do you usually visit Bellevue Park?



11. Bellevue Park

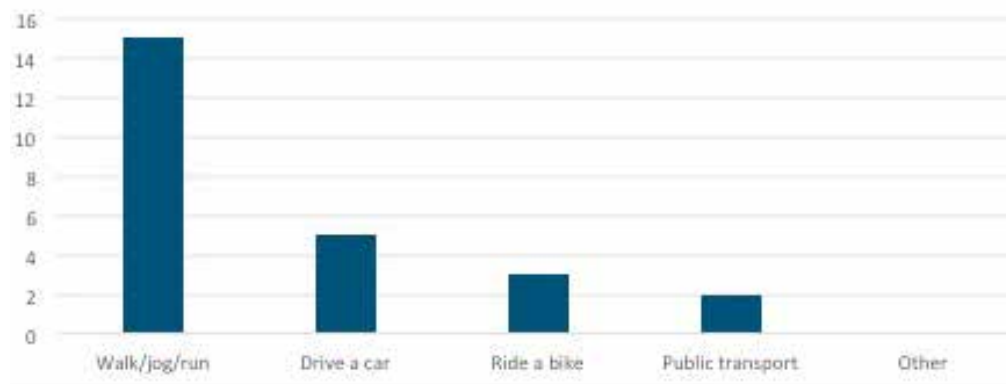


Figure 30. How do you usually get to Bellevue Park?

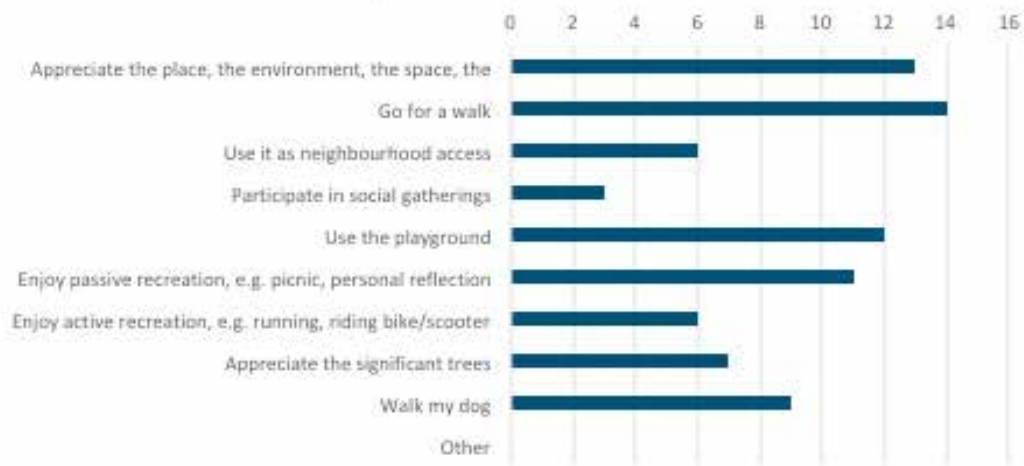


Figure 31. What do you usually do at Bellevue Park?

## 12. Camp Cove Reserve



Figure 32. Camp Cove Reserve



Figure 33. Aerial photo of Camp Cove Reserve



Figure 34. Camp Cove Reserve map including land categories

**Table 15. Legal description for Camp Cove Reserve**

Location	Cove Street, Watsons Bay
Land area (m <sup>2</sup> )	2 261m <sup>2</sup>
Land owner	Crown & WMC
Crown reserve purpose	Public recreation
Woollahra LEP 2014 zone	RE1 Public recreation
LG Act categorisation	Park
Legal description	Crown R500091 Lot 579 DP 752011  WMC Lot 1 DP 388721 (Park)



### Description

This site is a small, roughly square, quiet and shady, largely level grassed open space with trees, shrubs and groundcovers planted along all boundaries. The land is categorised as park.

Cove Street runs parallel to the reserve along the eastern boundary, the northern and southern boundaries are the fence lines of private residences and Camp Street terminates at right angles to the reserve at the western boundary.

Seating is provided.

### Access

At grade pedestrian access is possible from Cove and Camp Streets. The Camp St entrance can also accommodate service vehicles.

The closest public transport links are the ferry and bus services at Watsons Bay about ½ km to the south.

No public vehicular access or on-site parking is available.

### History

#### The Physical Landscape

This reserve was once a lagoon, connected to the nearby Camp Cove beach by a small tidal passage. It most likely consisted of vegetation tolerant of brackish conditions, such as the mangrove, *Avicennia marina*. Such swampy areas supported a diverse and abundant coastal ecosystem of terrestrial and marine life. The lagoon was filled during the 19th century.

Being a filled lagoon, soil in the reserve is sandy and can become waterlogged.

#### The Cultural Landscape – Aboriginal History and Heritage

##### Overview:

Almost all of Camp Cove used to be a lagoon, joined to Camp Cove by a small tidal channel along the western end of Camp Cove Beach. Aboriginal people camped along the beach and around the lagoon, fishing the rich grounds off the Cove and around the harbour entrance. Traces of former campsites have been found around Camp Cove, as well as human burials and rock engravings. Aboriginal people continued to live around the



Figure 35. Rock engravings sketched near the Camp Cove Aboriginal settlement. [Source Miles, W. A. c. 1850 Drawings (pencil and watercolour) of Aboriginal carvings at Middle Head, South Head and Point Piper, in miscellaneous papers relating to Aborigines, ca. 1839-1871 (State Library NSW A610 p205)]

lagoon until at least the 1840s, alongside European fishing camps. Early European residents in the 1830s described Camp Cove beach being 'black with canoes, that at high water...were floated in and out of the lagoon', and others described Aboriginal men spearfishing by torchlight off the beach at night<sup>34</sup>. Some Aboriginal residents also ran commercial fishing tours from their settlement around the lagoon.<sup>35</sup>

No Aboriginal sites have been recorded within the boundaries of Camp Cove Reserve because it has been turfed and landscaped for more than a century since the former lagoon was filled in. However under the surface along the northern edge and in the south-eastern corner may be the former banks of the lagoon, in which the remains of former camps and possibly burials could be found, and these have been identified as sensitive areas. Although the rest of the park used to be open water, the sand used to fill in the lagoon most likely came from very close by, and could contain Aboriginal artefacts and human remains dug out of surrounding areas.

### Recommendations

1. Opportunities could be explored to interpret the rich Aboriginal history of the former lagoon as a campsite and fishing within the adjacent bay in both ancient times and into the nineteenth century. This could be addressed in a specific study, or as part of any future management plan for the park
2. Any proposed activities within the sensitive areas which may impact below the ground surface should be subject to Aboriginal Heritage Impact Assessment.
3. For any proposed activities within the remainder of Camp Cove Reserve, an unexpected finds protocol should be in place for any excavation works. See appendix AA for more detail.

### The Cultural Landscape – European History and Heritage

#### Overview:

The nearby Camp Cove Beach is a probable location of the first European landfall in 1788.

Swampy land such as Camp Cove reserve was not easily used for agriculture in colonial times. This area,

having a fresh water source and easy access to the Harbour, was largely used as a fishing camp site.

The larger nearby settlement of Watsons Bay extended towards this area during the 19th century and several timber houses around the reserve date from the 1840s<sup>36</sup>.

In 1880 the politician and philanthropist, Sir Wigram Allen dedicated this swampy land as a recreational water reserve; it was gazetted 29/03/1887.

The two Moreton Bay Fig trees within the reserve were most likely planted shortly after. They are representative of the landscape design style of the late Victorian period and are an important component of early cultural plantings in Sydney.

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34. Murray, A. (1909). *Letter to the Australian Museum 18th February 1909 from Aubrey Murray, Compiling Branch, Lands Department*, Australian Museum Archives Series 9 Correspondence M7/1909; Irish, Paul (2017). *Hidden in Plain View. The Aboriginal People of Coastal Sydney*, NewSouth Publishing, Sydney, p. 37.

35. Irish (2017), pp. 32-33.

36. Jack, R. I. (1984) within the Hughes, Trueman, Ludlow *Heritage Study for the Municipality of Woollahra*.

### Heritage Items

Nil.

### Potential Heritage Items

At the time of preparing this document, Council staff are currently preparing a draft heritage gap analysis. It is anticipated that one of the recommendations of this work will be to assess the heritage significance of the cultural landscapes of the Woollahra LGA, including this site.

Potential items include:

2 x *Ficus macrophylla* (Moreton Bay Fig).

### Recommendations:

1. Investigate opportunities to undertake a heritage assessment of the significant trees.
2. Investigate opportunities to undertake a heritage assessment of the role of the site in Colonial times and as an early dedication for recreation.
3. For proposed activities that may impact below ground, an unexpected finds protocol must be in place to guide excavations. See appendix AA for more details.



Figure 36. *Hedera canariensis* engulfing the ground and climbing on the significant fig trees in Camp Cove Reserve.

### Landscape Character

Camp Cove Reserve is an intimate space, surrounded by low scale private residences. It has the feel of a local, pocket park due to its small size and secluded location.

The two mature *Ficus macrophylla* (Moreton Bay Fig) totally dominate this neighbourhood park. These trees are listed on the register of significant trees and are of dramatic scale. They have large, low, lateral branches spreading horizontally for many metres. The massive buttressed roots extend over a large area under the combined canopies. The canopies provide extensive shade, which is in stark contrast to the open, sunny area of the reserve not overshadowed by the trees.

The landscape character provided by these trees, like other parks in Woollahra of a similar age, is notable as part of the larger cultural landscape of Sydney.

### Relevant Documents

Woollahra Libraries, Local History Research File.



### Community Input – Camp Cove Reserve Use and Management Issues

This section provides a summary of the contributions made by our community through the Crown lands plan of management survey. Refer to the complete survey report in appendix BB for all responses. Questions 10, 11 and 12 of the Your Say survey refer specifically to Camp Cove Reserve, to which 43, 42 and 28 responses were received respectively. 2 postal surveys were received for Camp Cove Reserve. Several responses indicate that some survey participants were referring to Camp Cove Beach and National Parks and Wildlife land. These issues have been directed to the appropriate land managers and / or responsible sections of Council.

Most of the survey participants visited Camp Cove Reserve occasionally, on weekdays and arrived on foot.

Use of this site by our community is mostly to:

- appreciate the place, the environment, the space, the views
- go for a walk
- enjoy passive recreation and appreciate the significant trees

The key management issues here are:

- drainage
- maintenance
- encroachment



Figure 37. Camp Cove Reserve receives dappled shade from the combined canopies of the fig trees.

**Table 16. Current and Future Permissible Use of Camp Cove Reserve**

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
Park	Land	Passive recreation, dog exercise on leash at all times, aesthetic.	Nil	3	Casual recreation use e.g. walking, dog exercise on leash at all times, informal ball games, picnics for groups of < 20 at all times, no permit required.  Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include public meetings, all group activities of > 20 and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.	Small scale and low intensity only	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.  Dog exercise off-leash.  Commercial fitness activities
	Buildings	Nil	Nil	Nil	Development related or ancillary to recreation and / or aesthetic use is permissible, e.g. amenity buildings, utilities if required, planting for shade and habitat, park furniture, play equipment, temporary structures for recreational needs, environmental facilities / management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).		
	Improvements Refer to Council’s built asset register for complete list, which itemises every structure on the land, including condition rating.	Seats, drinking fountain.	Nil	Av.2.5			
Condition ratings as follows: 1. Excellent – no work required or as new condition, 2. Good – well maintained, minor maintenance only, 3. Average – maintained but in need of repair, 4. Poor – in need of major repair or renewal, 5. Very Poor – urgent renewal or upgrading required							
Special management requirements: WMC mapping shows the area as class 2 acid sulphate soils. Location is within the Watsons Bay Heritage Conservation Area.							
Capital works currently budgeted for: Improvements to garden beds							
Current Council resolution: Nil							

**Table 17. Management Framework for Camp Cove Reserve**

**IN ADDITION TO THE GENERIC MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR ALL COMMUNITY LAND CROWN RESERVES, THE FOLLOWING SITE SPECIFIC ACTIONS ADDRESS ISSUES RAISED IN THE SURVEY AND / OR NOTED THROUGH SITE OBSERVATION AND ANALYSIS AND / OR REQUIRED BY A CURRENT COUNCIL RESOLUTION.**

Objective – the desired outcome	Performance targets – what the objective is trying to do	Actions – how to achieve the target	Performance measures – how to assess whether the objective and targets have been met
<b>1</b> Safe, clean, well-maintained, functional and varied	<b>B</b> Ensure <b>clean</b> , litter free public land is <b>well-maintained</b> and available for use by the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure the Canary Island Ivy (<i>Hedera canariensis</i>) does not dominate the space, engulf the ground and climb the trees, remove as necessary</li> <li>• Ensure stormwater drains around the site boundary are not blocked and can remove surface water efficiently</li> <li>• Consider installing sub-surface drains throughout the park to reduce volume of surface water reaching boundary drain</li> <li>• Consider regrading boundary drain and installing a mesh screen to inhibit fallen leaves from blocking drain</li> </ul>	<p>Canary Island Ivy contained, not climbing significant trees.</p> <p>Surface water dissipation rate improved, drainage improved</p>
<b>4</b> Natural environment conserved	<b>D</b> Ensure the <b>existing mature tree canopy</b> is retained to <b>preserve landscape character</b> and <b>create an inter-connected tree canopy</b> across public land, strategies of <i>Greener Places</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prioritise management of the significant trees</li> </ul>	<p>Replacement trees are well established prior to significant tree senescence</p> <p>Landscape character and landscape heritage is retained</p>

Table 17. Management Framework for Camp Cove Reserve *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>6</b>	<b>A</b>		
Heritage and cultural awareness	Investigate and assess <b>environmental heritage</b> and ensure land is used and managed to be consistent with <b>heritage significance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate opportunities to undertake a heritage assessment of the significant trees</li> <li>Investigate opportunities to undertake a heritage assessment in accordance with the NSW heritage criteria, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the role of the site in Colonial times</li> <li>as an early dedication for recreation</li> </ul> </li> <li>Explore opportunities to interpret the role of the site in Colonial times and as an early dedication for recreation</li> </ul>	<p>Heritage assessment of significant trees completed</p> <p>Potential environmental heritage items and archaeology (including cultural landscapes) are identified and assessed</p> <p>Recommendations arising from heritage management documents are implemented where possible</p> <p>Improved understanding and greater appreciation of site heritage</p> <p>Site heritage retained for future generations</p>
	<b>B</b>		
	Investigate, assess and manage <b>First Nations culture</b> and <b>history</b> on Crown land (a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate opportunities to interpret the Aboriginal history of the former lagoon</li> </ul>	Improved understanding and greater appreciation of site heritage
	<b>D</b>		
	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their <b>land rights</b> (a priority of the <i>State Strategic plan for Crown land</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage with the La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council as necessary in regards to incomplete land claim at Camp Cove Reserve</li> </ul>	Improved relationship and understanding of local Aboriginal community in respect of their land rights

# Appendix B

## Camp Cove Reserve Survey Responses – User Profile

(The following information includes the *Your Say* data plus any related postal data)

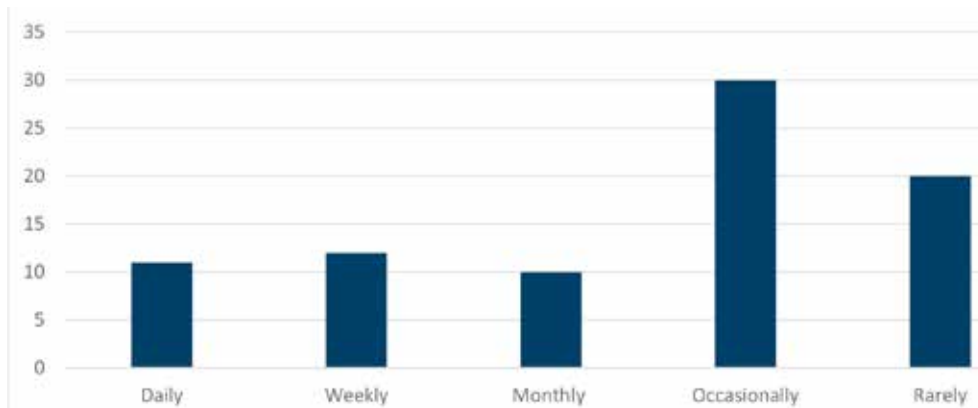


Figure 38. How often do you visit Camp Cove Reserve?

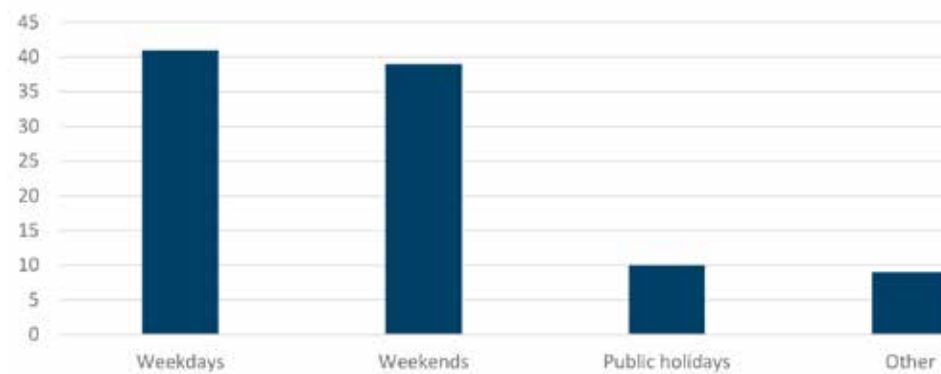


Figure 39. When do you usually visit Camp Cove Reserve?

12. Camp Cove Reserve

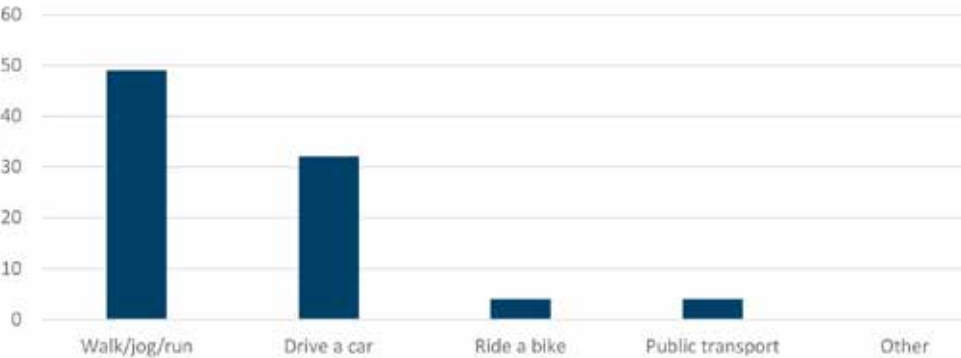


Figure 40. How do you usually get to Camp Cove Reserve?

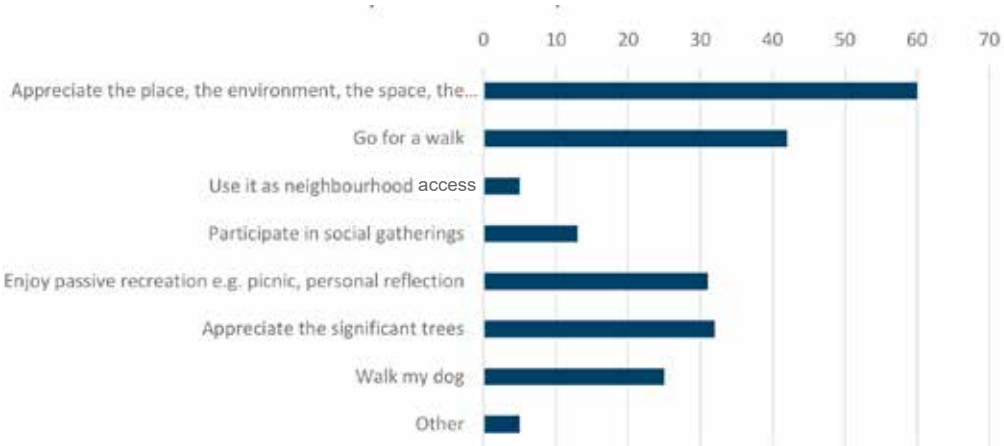


Figure 41. What do you usually do at Camp Cove Reserve?



## 13. Christison Park



Figure 42. Christison Park



Figure 43. Aerial photo of Christison Park

13. Christison Park

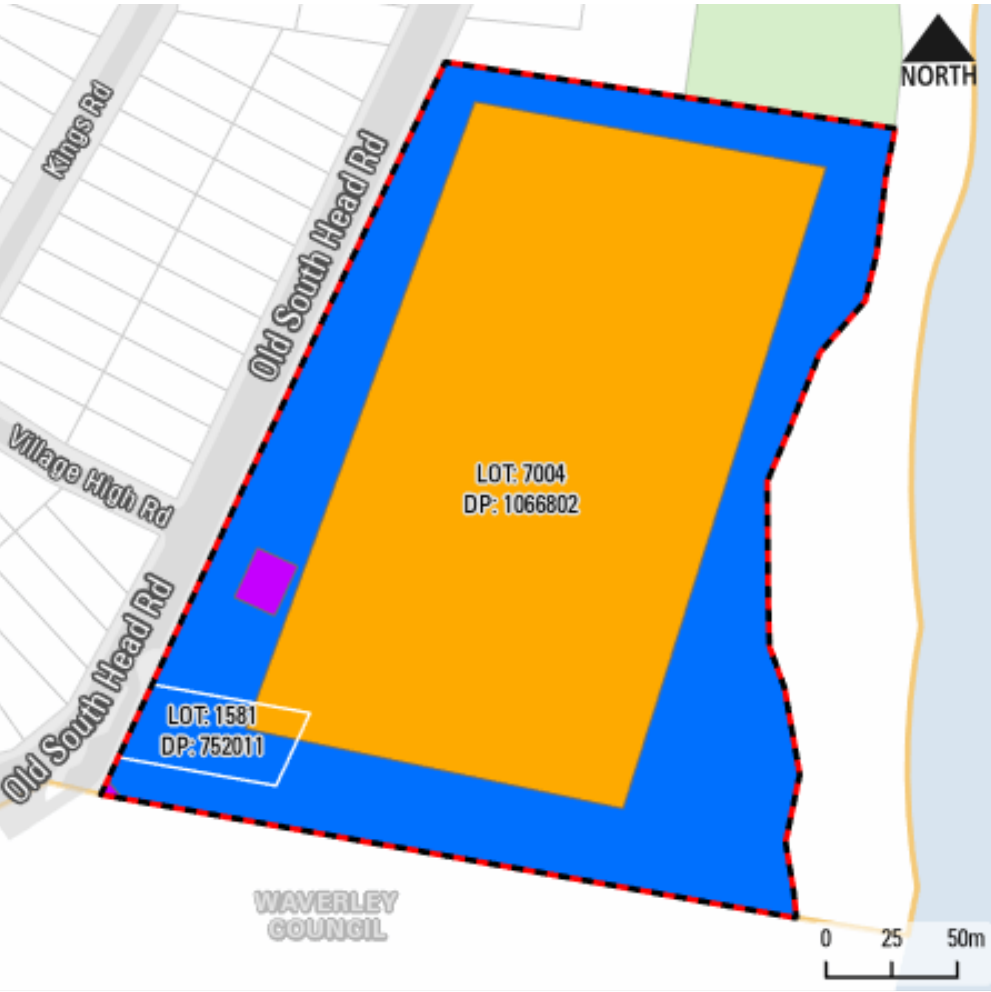


Figure 44. Christison Park map including land categories

Table 18. Legal description for Christison Park

Location	1 Old South Head Road, Vaucluse
Land area (m <sup>2</sup> )	62,392m <sup>2</sup>
Land owner	Crown
Crown reserve purpose	Public recreation
Woollahra LEP 2014 zone	RE1 Public recreation
LG Act categorisation	Park, Sportsground, General Community Use
Legal description	Crown R53105 Lot 1581 DP 752011 & Lot 7004 DP 1066802

#### Description

The reserve is a largely level, roughly rectilinear, open, grassed area located on the South Head of Sydney Harbour. It is situated between a spectacular coastal escarpment to the east, the busy Old South Head Road to the west, private residences and Clarke Reserve (Waverley Council LGA) to the south and Macquarie Lighthouse to the north.

The site consists of three categories of land; park, sportsground and general community use. It is a multi-purpose sports and recreational venue, well used by the community for active and passive recreation. Assets include 4 grassed fields (with goal posts or nets as required), one of which has lighting for evening sports, 5 gym fitness stations, 3 synthetic cricket wickets, and 2 multi-use (basketball/netball) hard-courts which include sports lighting. The amenities block, located opposite the intersection of Village High Rd and Old South Head Rd, includes change rooms and toilets below uncovered bench style spectator seating.



Figure 45. A synthetic cricket wicket within the open area of sportsground category land at Christison Park

Bubblers, seating and rubbish bins are provided. Sparse trees and shrubs occur informally along the boundary with Old South Head Road, in the south east of the site and along the eastern fenceline.

#### Access

Pedestrians can access the park along the Old South Head Rd boundary, as it is open to the footpath via a grassed slope, paths and stairs. At grade pedestrian access and service vehicle access is available at the south western corner of the site.

The Bi-Centennial Coastal Cliff Walk follows the fenced eastern boundary, it provides a level north-south pedestrian link to the other sites on South Head, including those within the adjacent Waverley Council LGA. This path is part of the Bondi to Manly walk.

Public transport to the park is available via buses on Old South Head Rd.

No public vehicular access or on-site parking is available.



## History

### The Physical Landscape

The physical landscape of Christison Park, as a part of the South Head peninsula, is defined by the dramatic cliff lines and outcrops of the Hawkesbury sandstone bedrock geology, expansive views of the Pacific Ocean and Sydney Harbour, and exposure to the extreme coastal environment of sun and wind.

Exposed coastal areas on Hawkesbury Sandstone such as this were originally covered by extensive heathland. This low, scrubby vegetation community was a complex assemblage of plants including many sclerophyllous species such as the Heath Banksia (*Banksia ericifolia*) and the Dagger Hakea (*Hakea teretifolia*). This flora had adapted to grow in the shallow, sandy, infertile soils and windy conditions of the area, which prevents the growth of very tall trees.

This vegetation community no longer exists in Christison Park. This site has been extensively modified from at least the colonial era to accommodate other uses such as lookout post, defence and recreation.

### The Cultural Landscape – Aboriginal History and Heritage

#### Overview:

Christison Park looks out over the Pacific Ocean from the top of a high sandstone cliff. Aboriginal people would have used areas like this as vantage points. They are unlikely to have camped along the exposed cliff edges, but could have lived along the headwaters of Parsley Creek, which sat around the western end of the park.

In the 1940s and 1950s the park was used as a rubbish dump before being levelled and landscaped into playing fields in the 1960s<sup>37</sup>. These activities have completely altered the original landscape within the park. Unfortunately, it is likely too that any physical traces of past Aboriginal uses of the area (such as rock engravings along the eastern side, or the remains of campsites along the western side) were impacted by these activities and are unlikely to survive.

#### Recommendations:

1. An unexpected finds protocol should be in place to guide future excavation. See appendix AA for more detail.

### The Cultural Landscape – European History and Heritage

#### Overview:

South Head has been associated with important aspects of Australia's colonial, military and maritime history since 1788. The land has long been used as a vantage point; in the early days of the colony to keep watch for supply ships and enemies and later for recreation to enjoy the environment and the views.

Christison Park was formed in 1918 from a portion of land previously reserved for lighthouse purposes. It was named for the Mayor of Vacluse at the time and gazetted for the purpose of public recreation on 06/12/1918.

Used as a rubbish dump until the late 1950's, the area was converted into sporting fields in the early 1960's by levelling the existing refuse and imported fill. Any remnant military relics in the area were covered over as a result.

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37. Woollahra Municipal Council (1996). *Christison Park Plan of Management*, p. 4.

### 13. Christison Park

The grandstand and amenities block was built in 1964, ancillary to use of the land as a sportsground.

In 1988, the Bi-Centennial Coastal Cliff Walk was installed along the eastern boundary of the park, linking the site to adjoining recreation areas, particularly Lighthouse Reserve, Signal Hill Reserve and Gap Park to the north.

Outdoor fitness equipment and a handball court (since removed) were added in 1991.

26m<sup>2</sup> of paving was added at the south west corner of the site in 2012 for potential use as a seating space for park and Café users.

The hardcourt was upgraded and extended to provide 2 multi-purpose courts with sports lighting in 2020. Bollard lights were installed along the length of the Bi-Centennial Coastal Cliff Walk in the same year, as a way of activating the South Head coastline.



Figure 46. Outdoor fitness station at Christison Park



Figure 47. Multi-purpose courts at Christison Park

#### Heritage Items

Bicentennial Coastal Cliff Walk WLEP 2014 local item 343.

#### Potential Heritage Items

Nil.

#### Recommendations:

1. Consider the greater context of the site in master planning for South Head, especially the proximity to the Macquarie Lighthouse (National significance) and the Bicentennial Coastal Cliff Walk (local significance) and impacts on their setting and curtilage (see vistas and views from Macquarie Lighthouse Conservation Plan).
2. For proposed activities that may impact below ground, an unexpected finds protocol must be in place to guide excavations. See appendix AA for more details.

#### Landscape Character

The landscape character of Christison Park is defined by the open, exposed expanse of the grass sportsfields, the windswept coastal location, the dramatic sandstone escarpment, and the vast ocean views. The distinctive coastal location and built facilities attract people to South Head for a variety of passive and active recreational uses, including those local to the area as well as regional and international tourists.

#### Relevant Documents

Woollahra Libraries History Research File.

#### Community Input – Christison Park Use and Management Issues

This section provides a summary of the contributions made by our community through the Crown lands plan of management survey. Refer to the complete survey report in appendix BB for all responses. Questions 39, 40 and 41 of the Your Say survey refer specifically to Christison Park, to which 92, 83 and 62 responses were received respectively. 16 postal surveys were received for Christison Park.

Most of the survey participants visited Christison Park daily, on weekdays and arrived on foot.

Use of this site by our community is mostly to:

- go for a walk on the bicentennial coastal walkway
- appreciate the place, the environment, the space, the views
- walk a dog.

The key management issues here are:

- conflicts of use, including dogs
- stronger community consultation
- site planning and design.



**Table 19. Current and Future Permissible Use of Christison Park**

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
Park	Land	Passive recreation, off leash dog exercise 3.30pm – 10.30am, aesthetic.	Commercial fitness activities permitted with a licence.	2	Casual recreation use e.g. walking, dog exercise as per sign posted regulations, informal ball games, picnics for groups of < 20 at all times, no permit required.  Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include commercial fitness training, amusement devices, public meetings, all group activities of > 20 and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.	Up to large scale and high intensity	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.
	Buildings	Nil	Nil	Nil			Unleashed dogs 10.30am – 3.30pm and when organised sport is being played.
	Improvements Refer to Council's built asset register for complete list, which itemises every structure on the land, including condition rating.	Bicentennial coastal walkway, 5 x fitness stations, paths, park furniture including seats, art installation.	Nil	Av. 1.8	Development related or ancillary to recreation and / or aesthetic use is permissible, e.g. amenity buildings, utilities if required, planting for shade and habitat, park furniture, recreation facilities, public art, play equipment, temporary structures for recreational needs, environmental facilities / management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).		Commercial fitness activities on public exercise stations.

**Table 19. Current and Future Permissible Use of Christison Park *cont'***

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
S'ground	Land	Passive recreation, off leash dog exercise 3.30pm – 10.30am, aesthetic.  Active recreation, rugby, soccer, cricket, netball, basketball	Casual and seasonal active recreation activities permitted with a licence.  Commercial fitness activities permitted with a licence.	2-3	Active recreation use on a casual and / or seasonal basis e.g. rugby, soccer and cricket, a permit is required for all organised sport regardless of group size.  When organised sport is not being played, passive recreation use is permitted, e.g. walking, dog exercise as per sign posted regulations, informal ball games, picnics of < 20 at any time, no permit required.  Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include commercial fitness training, amusement devices and major events, public meetings, cultural events, all group activities of > 20 and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.	Up to large scale and high intensity	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.  Unleashed dogs 10.30am – 3.30pm and when organised sport is being played.  Smoking in areas for spectators during organised sporting events
	Buildings	Nil	Nil	Nil			Commercial fitness activities on public exercise stations.
	Improvements Refer to Council's built asset register for complete list, which itemises every structure on the land, including condition rating.	4 x grassed fields, lighting provided at 1 3 x cricket pitches 2 x multi-use courts, lighting provided Irrigation to 1 field	Nil	Av. 1.8	Development related or ancillary to active recreation needs is permissible, e.g. sporting facilities and / or amenities including but not limited to lighting, drainage, irrigation, surface levelling and resurfacing, environmental management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).		

**Table 19. Current and Future Permissible Use of Christison Park *cont'***

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
G C Use	Land	Passive recreation off leash dog exercise 3.30pm – 10.30am.	Commercial fitness activities permitted with a licence.	2	Various use to meet the public recreation, or the physical, cultural, social or intellectual needs of the community, e.g. community facilities, kiosk, recreation areas. Dog exercise as per sign posted regulations.	Up to large scale and high intensity	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.
	Buildings	Ancillary to adjacent recreational facilities, grandstand and amenities block	Use of amenities block allowed with issue of permit for sport	Av. 1.71 See appendix D	Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include commercial fitness training, amusement devices, public meetings, all group activities of > 20, all building venues, and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.		Unleashed dogs 10.30am – 3.30pm and when organised sport is being played.
	Improvements Refer to Council's built asset register for complete list, which itemises every structure on the land, including condition rating.	Paving, adjacent to potential cafe site, for use by park users if required	Nil	Av. 1.8	Long term leases / licences may be granted for provision of appropriate goods, services, facilities or purposes as shown in table 9.  Development related or ancillary to the recreational, physical, cultural, social or intellectual needs of the community is permissible, e.g. kiosks, mobile refreshment stands, temporary structures for recreational needs, community facilities, environmental facilities / management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).		Commercial fitness activities on public exercise stations.

Condition ratings as follows: 1. Excellent – no work required or as new condition, 2. Good – well maintained, minor maintenance only, 3. Average – maintained but in need of repair, 4. Poor – in need of major repair or renewal, 5. Very Poor – urgent renewal or upgrading required

Condition ratings for buildings as follows: 1 – Good, 2 – Fair, 3 – Requires maintenance, 4 – Requires replacement.

Special management requirements: WMC mapping shows the area as class 5 acid sulphate soils. Proposed development must consider the proximity to the Macquarie Lighthouse station (National significance) and the Bicentennial cliff walk (local significance) which are listed.

Capital works currently budgeted for: Nil.

Current Council resolution: On 19/08/19 it was resolved to investigate Christison Park as a possible location for an artificial turf field depending on further investigation and planning, and to investigate sports lighting at existing sportsfields, including Christison Park with the aim to increase the fields' usability.

On 12/06/23, Council resolved a moratorium on synthetic grass to any new sports fields within the Woollahra LGA until a further report is presented to Council referring to the State Government's Departmental report (Synthetic Turf Study in Public Open Space) and the Chief Scientist's progress report.

**Table 20. Management Framework for Christison Park**

**IN ADDITION TO THE GENERIC MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR ALL COMMUNITY LAND CROWN RESERVES, THE FOLLOWING SITE SPECIFIC ACTIONS ADDRESS ISSUES RAISED IN THE SURVEY AND / OR NOTED THROUGH SITE OBSERVATION AND ANALYSIS AND / OR REQUIRED BY A CURRENT COUNCIL RESOLUTION.**

Objective – the desired outcome	Performance targets – what the objective is trying to do	Actions – how to achieve the target	Performance measures – how to assess whether the objective and targets have been met
<b>1</b>  Safe, clean, well-maintained, functional and varied	<b>E</b>  Where there is <b>opportunity</b> to improve <b>layout, functionality, aesthetic appeal</b> and <b>site interpretation</b> provide a <b>landscape master plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare a detailed landscape master plan for the South Head Trio, i.e. Christison Park, Lighthouse Reserve and Signal Hill Reserve that establishes a vision for these sites, allows for an integrated approach to the ongoing recreational use of the area, maintains the unique landscape character, considers the proximity to items of environmental heritage, the expansive views, improves habitat opportunities, pedestrian connectivity, Green Links and interprets cultural heritage</li> </ul>	Concept design process is undertaken and a master plan produced with the engagement of all stakeholders  Unique site values and preferred spatial arrangement of all elements integrated into master plan  Future capital works allocated to a cohesive, well documented plan, specified for their appropriateness within the landscape

Table 20. Management Framework for Christison Park *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>3</b>  Well managed for public use	<b>H</b>  <b>Reduce conflicts</b> of use, <b>provide regulatory</b> and, where appropriate, provide additional <b>wayfinding signage</b> to inform all user groups of what is prohibited use, so that <b>all user groups are able to enjoy</b> the land and facilities provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install comprehensive regulatory signs to inform all park users of the multiple recreational activities occurring in the park, including dog off-leash areas and times, restrictions on the bicentennial coastal walkway, possible times for active recreation activities and the associated implications for other activities</li> <li>• Enforce dog regulations, including the issuing of fines for non-compliance, emphasise responsible dog ownership and that controlling the dog and collecting dog faeces is <b>COMPULSORY</b> on the owner</li> <li>• Consider additional wayfinding / interpretative signage at appropriate locations</li> <li>• Investigate potential traffic issues associated with sports usage and possible actions to mitigate risk of balls going onto Old South Head Road (to be included in any master plan)</li> <li>• Investigate potential traffic issues associated with sports usage and possible actions to mitigate risk of balls going onto Old South Head Road (to be included in any master plan)</li> </ul>	<p>Community needs for access to public land is met</p> <p>Regulatory signage installed as appropriate</p> <p>Use of the land is more harmonious, fewer reported incidents of conflict</p> <p>Signage installed as required</p> <p>Investigation complete</p> <p>Investigation complete</p>

Table 20. Management Framework for Christison Park *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>4</b>	<b>B</b>		
Natural environment conserved	Ensure <b>best environmental practice</b> in use and maintenance of the land to build <b>green and resilient</b> public land, that <b>enhances biodiversity, conserves natural resources</b> and <b>improves sustainability</b> (an objective of the <i>CLM Act</i> and principles of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> , the <i>Woollahra Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (ESAP)</i> , and the <i>Woollahra Climate Emergency Statement</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to preserve sufficient existing habitat and continue to recreate native habitat in appropriate locations at South Head, as a significant component of Sydney Harbour National Park.</li> </ul>	<p>Existing (weedy) habitat is retained as the endemic native vegetation community is re-established in appropriate locations across South Head</p> <p>Observe improvements in the biodiversity of South Head, such as increased recorded sightings (as per EDU 04 of the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Strategy</i>) of native birds, fewer weed and pest species, and more robust vegetation.</p> <p>Native species are conserved and populations are more resilient to threats</p> <p>SHNP managed collectively, improved environmental outcomes for South Head</p>
<b>6</b>	<b>D</b>		
Heritage and cultural awareness	Work with <b>Aboriginal communities</b> to realise the potential of their <b>land rights</b> (a priority of the <i>State Strategic plan for Crown land</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage with the La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council as necessary in regards to incomplete land claims at Christison Park</li> </ul>	Improved relationship and understanding of local Aboriginal community in respect of their land rights



Table 20. Management Framework for Christison Park *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>7</b>	<b>B</b>		
Recreational opportunities	Encourage <b>multiple use</b> of Crown land, ensure land is <b>multifunctional</b> , <b>flexible</b> and <b>versatile</b> , proposed facilities to be <b>multi-purpose</b> to maximise community benefit and meet changing community needs (strategies of Greener Places and a principle of the NSW Public Spaces Charter)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate sports lighting with the aim to increase the fields' usability (as per Council Resolution dated 19/8/19). Present a report back to the Finance, Community &amp; Services Committee that includes costing, proposed timing, consultation plan, funding options and planning considerations for the installation of sports lighting</li> <li>Christison Park be noted as a possible location for an artificial turf field depending on further investigation and planning (as per Council Resolution dated 19/8/19)</li> </ul>	<p>Investigation completed</p> <p>Report presented</p> <p>Investigation completed</p>
<b>8</b>	<b>B</b>		
Social and community opportunities	<b>Public use and enjoyment</b> of Crown land is encouraged, land use is <b>community-focused</b> and strengthens and supports evolving <b>community connection</b> and <b>local business</b> (principles of the <i>CLM Act</i> and the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> and priority of the <i>State Strategic Plan for Crown land</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate opportunities, including appropriate temporary events, to activate the walkway, showcasing the spectacular views and cultural heritage of the area, ensure environmental, aesthetic and heritage values are upheld</li> </ul>	<p>Compatible events and / or activations considered</p> <p>Broader community appreciation of unique Crown land values facilitated through selected events</p>

Table 20. Management Framework for Christison Park *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>8</b>	<b>C</b>		
Social and community opportunities	Provide stronger avenues for <b>community consultation</b> , encourage <b>stewardship</b> of the land and <b>community participation</b> in decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liaise with relevant community groups and park users on on-going site issues and management</li> <li>• Liaise with NPWS and other stakeholders in the on-going management of South Head, from Christison Park to Gap Park to collaborate on issues such as stormwater management, suicide prevention, bush regeneration, tree and weed management across the whole of South Head, as recommended in action COL 04 of the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy</li> </ul>	<p>Improvements are consulted upon, developed, and implemented to the satisfaction of the majority of the community, where possible</p> <p>Community is more harmonious, satisfaction is higher and fewer complaints are received</p> <p>Contiguous management of issues achieved</p>

# Appendix C

## Christison Park Survey Responses – User Profile

(The following information includes the *Your Say* data plus any related postal data)

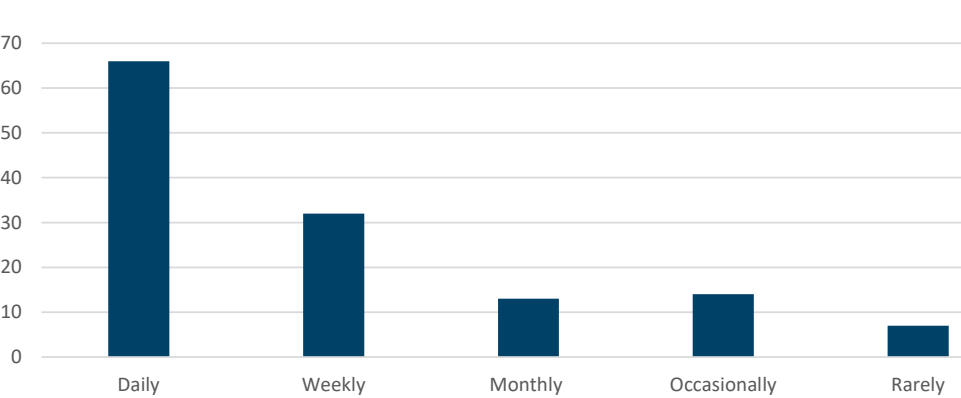


Figure 48. How often do you visit Christison Park?

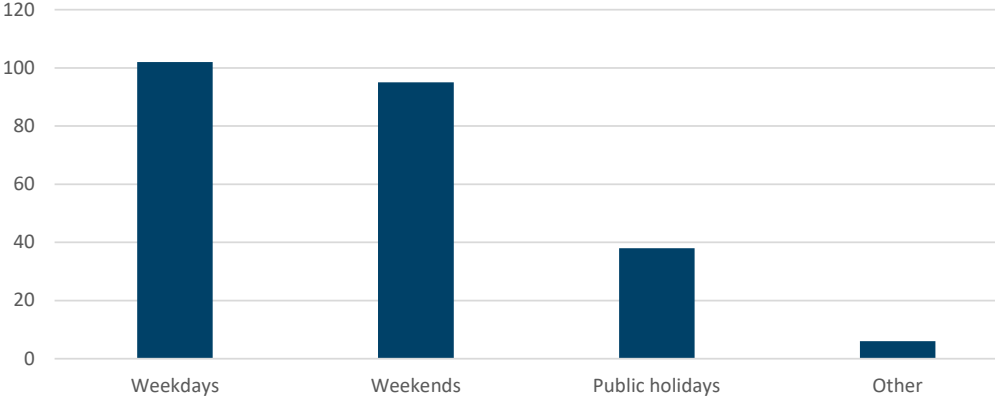


Figure 49. When do you usually visit Christison Park?

13. Christison Park

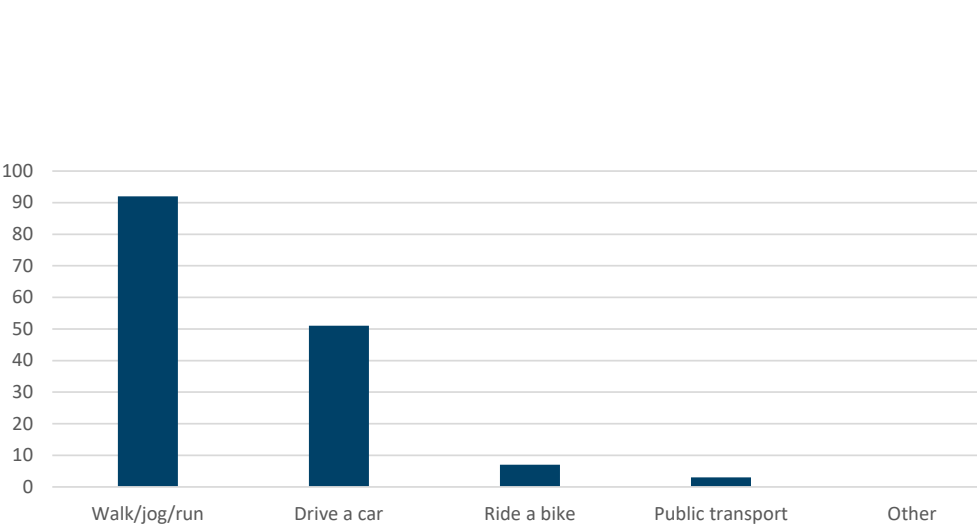


Figure 50. How do you usually get to Christison Park?

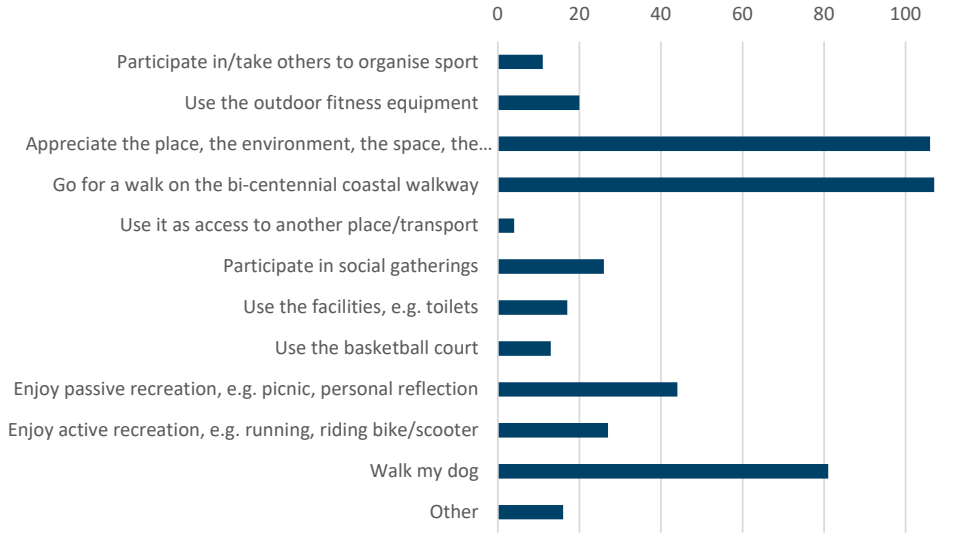


Figure 51. What do you usually do at Christison Park?

# Appendix D

**Table 21. Christison Park Grandstand Condition Report**

Item	Condition
Structure	2
Doors and windows	1
Lights / power outlets	2
Ceilings / walls	2
Essential services	1
Plumbing	2
Floors and coverings	2
<b>General</b>	<b>1.71</b>
Comments / capital works	<p>public amenities refurbished and creation of an accessible toilet FY18/19</p> <p>all doors and windows replaced FY19/20</p> <p>change rooms used as storage rooms only (plumbing requires replacement if to be used as change rooms again, no requests)</p>
Ratings: 1 – Good, 2 – Fair, 3 – Requires Maintenance, 4 – Requires Replacement	

# 14. Double Bay Beach



Figure 52. Double Bay Beach



Figure 53. Aerial photo of Double Bay Beach



#### 14. Double Bay Beach

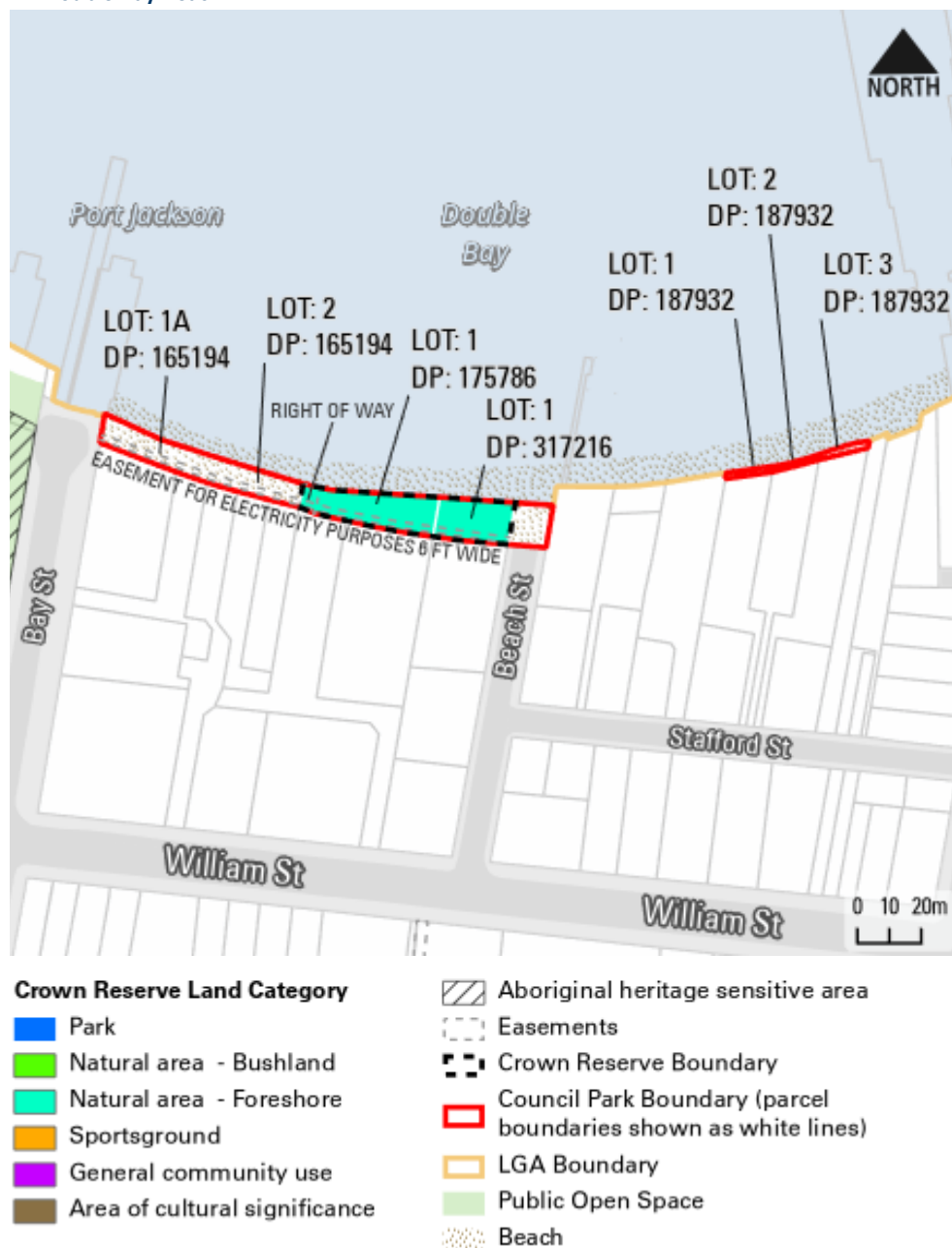


Figure 54. Double Bay Beach map including land categories

**Table 22. Legal description for Double Bay Beach**

Location	Bay Street, Double Bay
Land area (m <sup>2</sup> )	745m <sup>2</sup>
Land owner	Crown & WMC
Crown reserve purpose	Public recreation
Woollahra LEP 2014 zone	RE1 Public recreation
LG Act categorisation	Natural Area - Foreshore
Legal description	Crown D500094 Lot 1 DP 175786 & Lot 1 DP 317216  WMC Lot 1A DP165194 & Lot 2 DP 165194 & Lots 1, 2 & 3 DP 187932 (Natural Area – Foreshore)

### Description

This is a narrow, roughly rectilinear parcel of sandy harbour beach, categorised as natural area - foreshore. Sydney Harbour forms the northern boundary, a concrete footpath and private residences the southern boundary and other foreshore areas lie to the east and west.

A narrow grassed area between the path and adjoining private properties incorporates seating and lighting.

The land below the mean high water mark (MHW) is managed by Transport for NSW, Maritime.

### Access

At grade pedestrian access is available from the concrete footpath along the southern boundary or along the harbour foreshore beach. The site is part of the Bondi to Manly walk.

Public transport is nearby to the site; the Double Bay public ferry wharf is approximately 100m to the west at the end of Bay Street and buses stop at Steyne Park in William Street, approximately 200m to the south west of the site.

There is no public vehicular access and no car parking is available on site. Emergency and service vehicle access is available to the site from Beach Street.

### History

#### The Physical Landscape

Two bays, known collectively as Double Bay form the greater stretch of harbour foreshore at this location, this reserve is a small part of the most western bay.

This site, a small, sheltered, sandy harbour beach was originally continuous with the greater harbour foreshore. It consisted of low fore dunes, with a largely level area of swampy land behind.

The two rocky headlands, Point Piper to the east and Darling Point to the west provide shelter from prevailing winds.

The original landscape has been significantly altered through various land use over time, so that no original vegetation remains. The northern aspect provides the site with maximum sun exposure, and the surrounding landforms and built structures provide wind protection.

### The Cultural Landscape – Aboriginal History and Heritage

#### Overview:

Double Bay was an Aboriginal fishing camp long before it became the fishing village of Double Bay. The name of the eastern of the two bays, Seven Shillings Beach, refers to Aboriginal couple Gurrah and Nancy who fished its waters in the mid-nineteenth century. Other Aboriginal people ran commercial fishing businesses from the bay in the 1840s and camped on the shore and in rockshelters flanking the beach<sup>38</sup>. They were no doubt continuing a long history of fishing the bay.

Double Bay Beach represents a narrow slice of the beach and the beach itself is unlikely to contain any Aboriginal sites. However the turfed and concreted southern edge of the park could contain the front face of the low dunes that once ran along the back of the beach. If any of that original dune survives, it could contain the remains of former Aboriginal fishing camps, including fireplaces, fish and animal bones, shellfish and implements, and possibly also Aboriginal burials.

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38. Irish (2017), pp. 39-41, 73.

### Recommendations

1. An unexpected finds protocol should be in place to guide future excavation. See appendix AA for more detail.

### The Cultural Landscape – European History and Heritage

#### Overview:

Use of coastal land at Double Bay in the early 19th century was initially for an essential industrial purpose, the manufacture of salt. Much of the surrounding local timber was cleared for use in the government salt works, which produced salt by evaporation of harbour water.

Land around Double Bay was gridded out for a government village in the 1830's, with the nearby Steyne Park being reserved for public recreation shortly after. Land use in the area during this time was as market gardens, dairies and small residential allotments.

This area of the beach was gazetted for public recreation on the 05/09/1924.

### Heritage Items

Nil.

### Potential Heritage Items

Nil.

### Recommendations:

1. For proposed activities that may impact below ground, an unexpected finds protocol must be in place to guide excavations. See appendix AA for more details.

### Landscape Character

The landscape type is a small, sheltered sandy harbour beach. The close proximity to the water and associated microclimatic conditions are the dominant characteristics of this reserve. Private residences are immediately adjacent to the reserve along the southern boundary and this closeness lends a sense of enclosure to the beach.

### Relevant Documents

Double Bay Centre Public Domain Strategy, adopted by Council 08/08/2016.

### Community Input – Double Bay Beach Use and Management Issues

This section provides a summary of the contributions made by our community through the Crown lands plan of management survey. Refer to the complete survey report in appendix BB for all responses. Questions 98, 99 and 100 of the Your Say survey refer specifically to Double Bay Beach, to which 46, 43 and 23 responses were received respectively. 3 postal surveys were received for Double Bay Beach.

Most of the survey participants visited Double Bay Beach daily, on weekdays and arrived on foot.

Use of this site by our community is mostly to:

- go for a walk
- appreciate the place, the environment, the space, the views
- enjoy passive recreation, e.g. picnic, personal reflection

The key management issues here are:

- permissible uses, including dogs
- cleanliness of beach including cigarettes and seaweed

- wayfinding to better reflect dog regulations

**Table 23. Current and Future Permissible Use of Double Bay Beach**

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
NA – F	Land	Low impact passive recreation	Easement for electricity	3	Casual recreation use e.g. walking, informal ball games, water based passive recreation, picnics for groups of < 20 at all times, no permit required.	Small scale and low intensity only	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.  ANY dog exercise.
	Buildings	Nil	Nil	Nil	Easement for electricity.		
	Improvements Refer to Council's built asset register for complete list, which itemises every structure on the land, including condition rating	Path, seats, lights	Nil	Av. 1.88	Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include all group activities of > 20 and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.  Development related or ancillary to low impact passive recreation and/or aesthetic use is permissible, e.g. park furniture, temporary structures for recreational needs, environmental facilities / management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).		

Condition ratings as follows: 1. Excellent – no work required or as new condition, 2. Good – well maintained, minor maintenance only, 3. Average – maintained but in need of repair, 4. Poor – in need of major repair or renewal, 5. Very Poor – urgent renewal or upgrading required

Special management requirements: WMC mapping shows the area as class 2 acid sulphate soils.

Capital works currently budgeted for: New regulatory signage, installation due 2021.

Current Council resolution:

14/04/2023; it was resolved to commission a report to investigate the feasibility of creating more swimmable areas on the western harbour area of the LGA, and liaise with the City of Sydney to explore the possibility of a joint investigation of the potential for swimming opportunities at Rushcutters Bay and surrounds.

**Table 24. Management Framework for Double Bay Beach**

**IN ADDITION TO THE GENERIC MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR ALL COMMUNITY LAND CROWN RESERVES, THE FOLLOWING SITE SPECIFIC ACTIONS ADDRESS ISSUES RAISED IN THE SURVEY AND / OR NOTED THROUGH SITE OBSERVATION AND ANALYSIS AND / OR REQUIRED BY A CURRENT COUNCIL RESOLUTION.**

Objective – the desired outcome	Performance targets – what the objective is trying to do	Actions – how to achieve the target	Performance measures – how to assess whether the objective and targets have been met
<b>1</b>  Safe, clean, well-maintained, functional and varied	<b>B</b>  Ensure <b>clean</b> , litter free public land is <b>well-maintained</b> and available for use by the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sweep path when necessary to remove wind-blown sand and improve accessibility</li> <li>• Install temporary signage at areas that have issues with cigarette butt littering, consider cigarette butt bins</li> <li>• Continue to liaise with Transport for NSW-Maritime to facilitate litter patrols on the beach</li> <li>• Investigate gross pollutant traps in the catchment</li> <li>• Continue to work with Sydney Water to improve the quality of water discharging to Sydney Harbour with the aim of naturalising Sydney Water's drainage channels at Double Bay and Rushcutters Bay (where feasible).</li> </ul>	<p>Path remains accessible at all times</p> <p>Fewer cigarette butts are found littering the ground</p> <p>Observation reveals less litter on the beach, fewer complaints are received about beach cleanliness</p> <p>Traps collect litter, less litter on the beach</p> <p>Improved quality of water discharge</p>



Table 24. Management Framework for Double Bay Beach *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>1</b>	<b>D</b> Ensure a <b>variety</b> of opportunities are available, the <b>landscape character</b> of each site is preserved and future design and use responds to the <b>unique site conditions</b> and <b>identity</b> (a strategy of <i>Greener Places</i> and a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To commission a report to investigate the feasibility (or otherwise) or creating a more accessible, safe and swimmable harbour, including identifying potential locations, with the focus of the report to be on the western area of the the LGA</li> </ul>	Investigation completed
<b>3</b> Well managed for public use	<b>D</b> Ensure <b>planning and development controls</b> across the LGA <b>conserve the natural environment, aesthetic quality</b> and <b>heritage values</b> on Crown land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work collaboratively to update planning and development controls so that the controls are compatible with the natural environment, aesthetic and heritage values, in particular that sediment and erosion controls are in place for all development sites in the catchment</li> </ul>	Controls reduce the amount of pollution that occurs on the beach

**Table 24. Management Framework for Double Bay Beach *cont'***

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>3</b>  Heritage and cultural awareness	<b>H</b>  <b>Reduce conflicts</b> of use, <b>provide regulatory</b> and, where appropriate, provide <b>additional wayfinding signage</b> to inform all user groups of what is prohibited use, so that <b>all user groups are able to enjoy</b> the land and facilities provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install comprehensive regulatory signage including a graphic representation of where dogs are not permitted, private property boundaries and extent of high tide, to inform all users that dogs are prohibited at all times, even on a leash</li> <li>• Enforce regulations, including the issuing of fines for non-compliance</li> <li>• Consider additional wayfinding / interpretative signage at appropriate locations</li> <li>• Conduct an LGA wide review of the current dog regulations</li> </ul>	Community needs for access to public land is met  Community is more harmonious, fewer incidents of conflict, fewer complaints about, and less occurrences of, uncontrolled dogs and uncollected dog faeces  Easy to read signs are installed at key locations  Review completed

# Appendix E

Double Bay Beach Survey Responses – User Profile  
(The following information includes the *Your Say* data plus any related postal data)

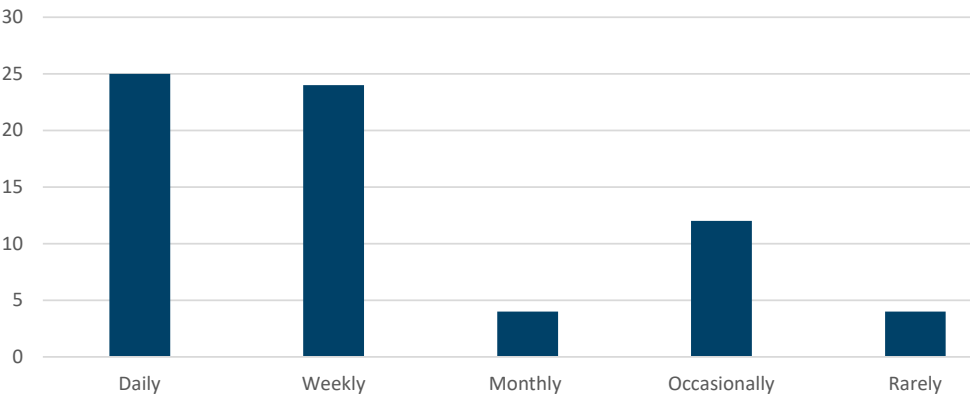


Figure 55. How often do you visit Double Bay Beach?

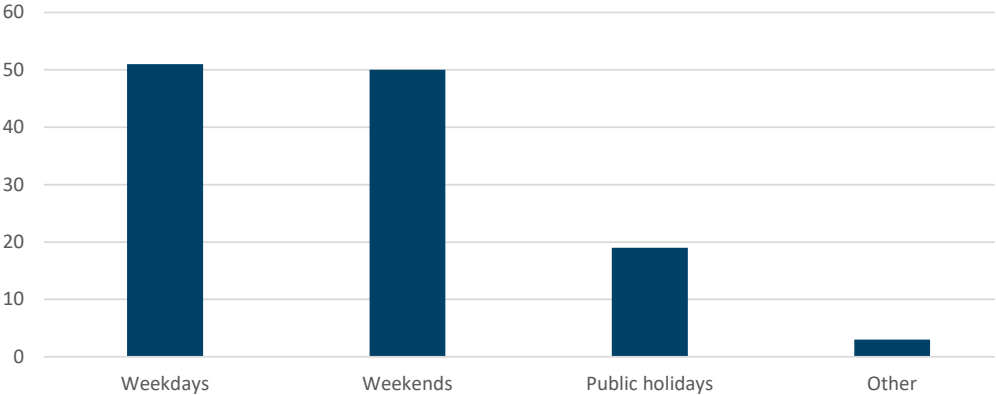


Figure 56. When do you usually visit Double Bay Beach?

14. Double Bay Beach

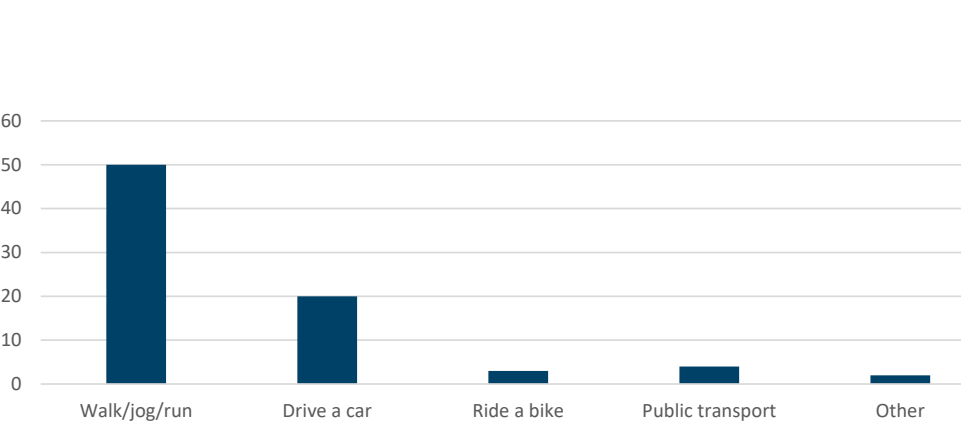


Figure 57. How do you usually get to Double Bay Beach?

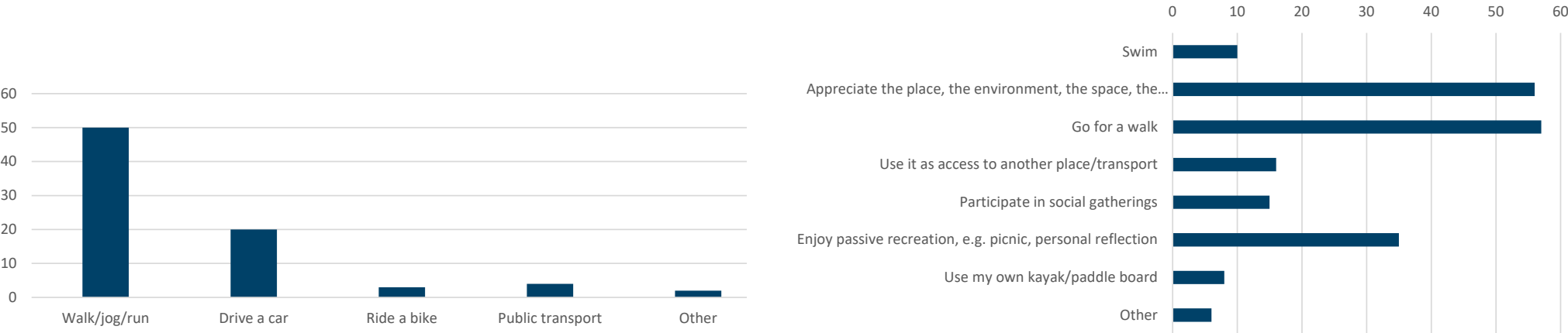


Figure 58. What do you usually do at Double Bay Beach?

# 15. Forsyth Park



Figure 59. Forsyth Park



Figure 60. Aerial photo of Forsyth Park

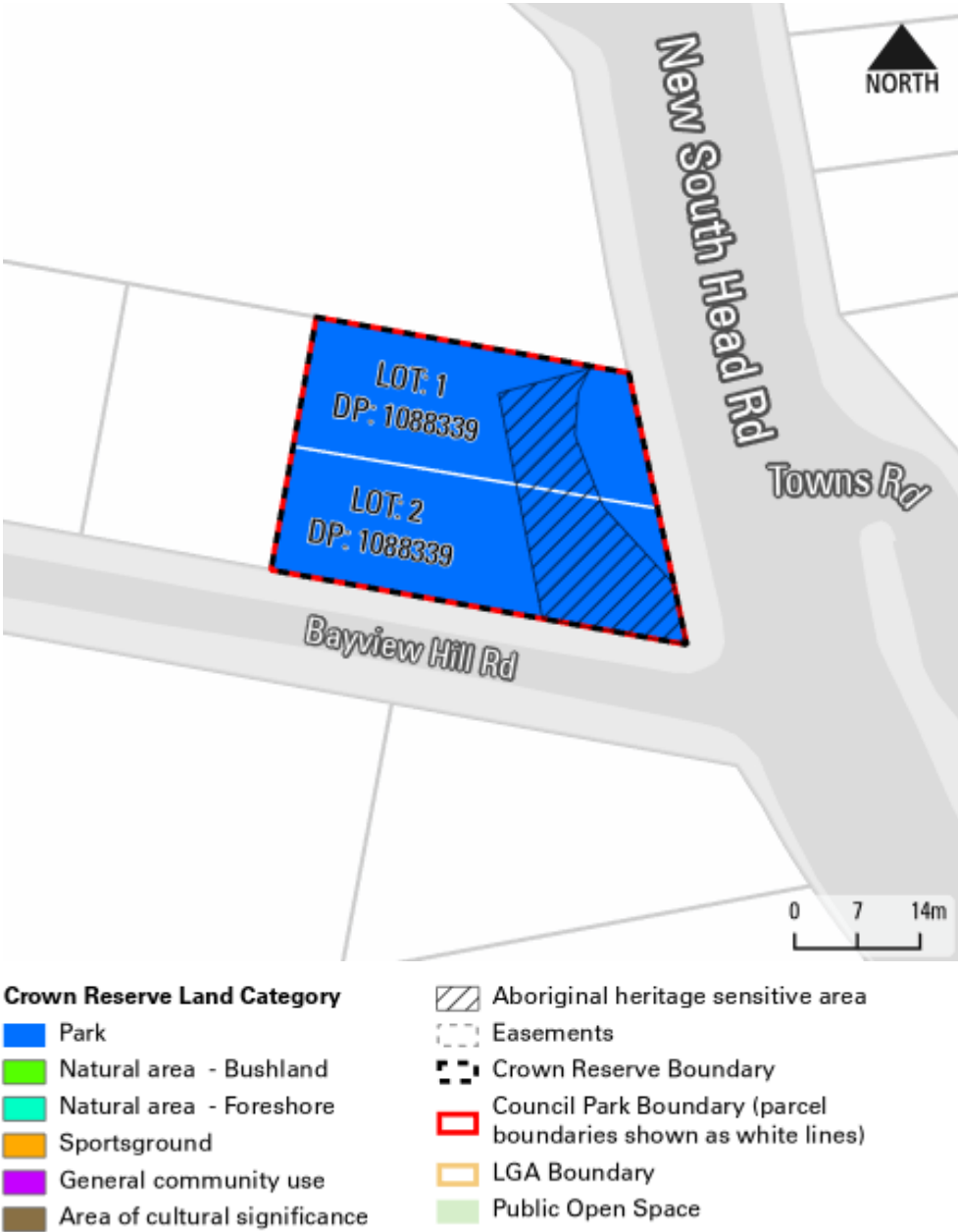


Figure 61. Forsyth Park map including land categories

Table 25. Legal description for Forsyth Park

Location	2A New South Head Road, Vaucluse
Land area (m <sup>2</sup> )	1,183m <sup>2</sup>
Land owner	Crown
Crown reserve purpose	Public recreation
Woollahra LEP 2014 zone	RE1 Public recreation
LG Act categorisation	Park
Legal description	Crown R500090 Lots 1-2 DP 1088339



### Description

This rectilinear site is located at the corner of New South Head Rd and Bayview Hill Rd, Vaucluse.

To the north of the site is Kincoppal Rose Bay, school of the Sacred Heart. The southern boundary is Bayview Hill Rd and across that road is Kambala School. The western boundary is a private residence and the busy New South Head Rd forms the eastern boundary of the site.

This reserve is categorised park and consists of a small level paved observation area along New South Head Rd, incorporating seating and a lookout plaque. The site slopes steeply downhill on Bayview Hill Rd to a grassed area with some tree and shrub planting obscuring in situ sandstone outcrops.

Extensive harbour views are available from the observation area. This site can be viewed from the harbour; it contributes significantly to the aesthetics of the harbour foreshore area.



Figure 62. Steep, stepped path along Bayview Hill Road, adjacent to Forsyth Park.

### Access

Pedestrian access is from a level concrete footpath along New South Head Rd and a steep, stepped concrete footpath along Bayview Hill Rd. The extreme change in grade precludes access to the whole site for the differently abled.

Public transport is nearby to the site via buses along New South Head Rd.

There is no vehicular access or car parking available on site.

### History

#### The Physical Landscape

Falling away from the sandstone ridgeline, now traced by New South Head Road, this reserve lies on steep, sloping land overlooking Port Jackson. More sheltered by the topography than the higher land of South Head, the site most likely supported a woodland community, including Smooth-barked Apple (*Angophora costata*) and Scribbly Gum (*Eucalyptus haemastoma*).

The landscape was significantly altered from the mid-19th century and the original vegetation removed during the construction of New South Head Road and the surrounding buildings, such that no original vegetation survives today.

Within the lower level of the park, remnant outcrops of Hawkesbury sandstone remain.

The site receives high levels of exposure to sun and wind.

### **The Cultural Landscape – Aboriginal History and Heritage**

#### **Overview:**

Forsyth Park sits just below New South Head Rd, near the top of land which slopes steeply down to the harbour foreshore at the north end of Rose Bay. Small creeks to the north and south of the park fed by springs in the nearby sandstone once flowed downslope and are now channelled below ground in pipes. Aboriginal people drew water from these springs, and continued to do so long after Europeans had arrived in Sydney.

A drinking trough just to the south of Forsyth Park is named Emma's well, after the custodian of the well in the later nineteenth century, who could have been an Aboriginal woman named Emma Collins. Aboriginal people also continued to live across the vast Vaucluse Estate owned by the Wentworth family, which contained the whole present day suburb of Vaucluse.

If Aboriginal people camped within the area of the steeply sloping park, it would have been within sandstone rockshelters. No rockshelters can be seen today, but they could lie concealed behind

thick vegetation in the steeply sloping eastern end of the park, which has been identified as a sensitive area. If rockshelters have survived in this area, they could contain traces of past Aboriginal use such as stone artefacts, and the remains of meals such as fish, shellfish and land animals, or traces of painted or stencilled art. Outcrops of sandstone in this area may also contain rock engravings on their upper surface.

#### **Recommendations**

1. When weed vegetation is removed from the sensitive area in the park, this area should be subject to Aboriginal Heritage Impact Assessment.
2. For any proposed activities within the remainder of Forsyth Park, an unexpected finds protocol should be in place for any excavation works. See appendix AA for more details.

### **The Cultural Landscape – European History and Heritage**

#### **Overview:**

This area of land was once part of an 1812 land grant. Captain Dumaresq later built Tivoli House, now part of the adjacent Kambala School in 1842. Forsyth Park was established in June 1913 when Lots 47-48 of the Tivoli Estate were subdivided to form a public open space in the early 20th century. The park was named after Adam Forsyth, Mayor for Vaucluse in 1913 and was gazetted as a public park on 03/09/1913.

Forsyth Park, like other parks in Vaucluse of the same era, was established for the viewing opportunities offered at the location.

### Heritage Items

Nil.

### Potential Heritage Items

Nil.

### Recommendations:

1. For proposed activities that may impact below ground, an unexpected finds protocol must be in place to guide excavations. See appendix AA for more details.

### Landscape Character

Sweeping, inward and outward iconic view corridors define the landscape character of the site. It is open, exposed and noisy due to the close proximity of New South Head Rd.

### Relevant Documents

Woollahra Libraries, Local History Research File.

### Community Input – Forsyth Park Use and Management Issues

This section provides a summary of the contributions made by our community through the Crown lands plan of management survey. Refer to the complete survey report in appendix BB for all responses. Questions 53, 54 and 55 of the Your Say survey refer specifically to Forsyth Park, to which 20, 20 and 16 responses were received respectively. No postal surveys were received for Forsyth Park.

Most of the survey participants rarely visited Forsyth Park. When they did visit, it was on weekends and they arrived on foot.

Use of this site by our community is mostly to:

- appreciate the place, the environment, the space, the views
- walk a dog
- enjoy passive recreation, e.g. picnic, personal reflection

The key management issues here are:

- maintaining the views
- maintenance
- tourist bus parking

**Table 26. Current and Future Permissible Use of Forsyth Park**

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
Park	Land	Passive recreation, dog exercise on leash at all times, aesthetic	Nil	3	Casual recreation use e.g. walking, dog exercise on leash at all times, informal ball games, picnics for groups of < 20 at all times, no permit required.  Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include commercial activity, public meetings, all group activities of > 20 and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.	Small scale and low intensity only	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.
	Buildings	Nil	Nil	Nil	Development related or ancillary to recreation and/or aesthetic use is permissible, e.g. utilities if required, planting for shade and habitat, park furniture, play equipment, temporary structures for recreational needs, environmental facilities / management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).		Dog exercise off leash.
	Improvements Refer to Council’s built asset register for complete list, which itemises every structure on the land, including condition rating.	Seats, plaque.	Nil	Av. 2			Commercial fitness activities.

Condition ratings as follows: 1. Excellent – no work required or as new condition, 2. Good – well maintained, minor maintenance only, 3. Average – maintained but in need of repair, 4. Poor – in need of major repair or renewal, 5. Very Poor – urgent renewal or upgrading required

Special management requirements: WMC mapping shows the area as class 5 acid sulphate soils.

Capital works currently budgeted for: Nil.

Current Council resolution: Nil

**Table 27. Management Framework for Forsyth Park**

**IN ADDITION TO THE GENERIC MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR ALL COMMUNITY LAND CROWN RESERVES, THE FOLLOWING SITE SPECIFIC ACTIONS ADDRESS ISSUES RAISED IN THE SURVEY AND / OR NOTED THROUGH SITE OBSERVATION AND ANALYSIS AND / OR REQUIRED BY A CURRENT COUNCIL RESOLUTION.**

Objective – the desired outcome	Performance targets – what the objective is trying to do	Actions – how to achieve the target	Performance measures – how to assess whether the objective and targets have been met
<b>1</b>  Safe, clean, well-maintained, functional and varied	<b>B</b>  Ensure <b>clean</b> , litter free public land is <b>well-maintained</b> and available for use by the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep the New South Head Road frontage well-maintained as a significant tourist look out</li> </ul>	Lookout is an inviting destination that remains free of litter
<b>2</b>  Accessible and inclusive	<b>D</b>  Reduce <b>traffic and parking pressures</b> in and around public land to improve useable and retain residential amenity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of parking regulations adjacent to the site</li> </ul>	Public view from New South Head Road not obscured by buses for lengthy periods
<b>3</b>  Well managed for public use	<b>D</b>  Ensure <b>planning</b> and <b>development controls</b> across the LGA conserve the <b>natural environment, aesthetic quality</b> and <b>heritage values</b> on Crown land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with strategic planning to inform review of the DCP so that controls are in place to uphold significant Crown land values, such as public view corridors</li> </ul>	DCP reviewed with attention to Crown land values

Table 27. Management Framework for Forsyth Park *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>5</b> Aesthetic and landscape quality remains high	<b>A</b> Ensure <b>public view corridors</b> are retained wherever possible and <b>minimise visual impact</b> of development on land adjoining the Crown reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage existing vegetation to allow for the public view from New South Head Road and viewing area</li> </ul>	Public access to iconic views are retained
<b>6</b> Heritage and cultural awareness	<b>B</b> Investigate, assess and manage <b>First Nations culture</b> and <b>history</b> on Crown land (a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate opportunities to undertake an Aboriginal heritage impact assessment in the sensitive area of the site</li> </ul>	Assessment undertaken Improved understanding and greater appreciation of heritage Heritage retained for future generations



# Appendix F

## Forsyth Park Survey Responses – User Profile

(The following information includes the *Your Say* data plus any related postal data)

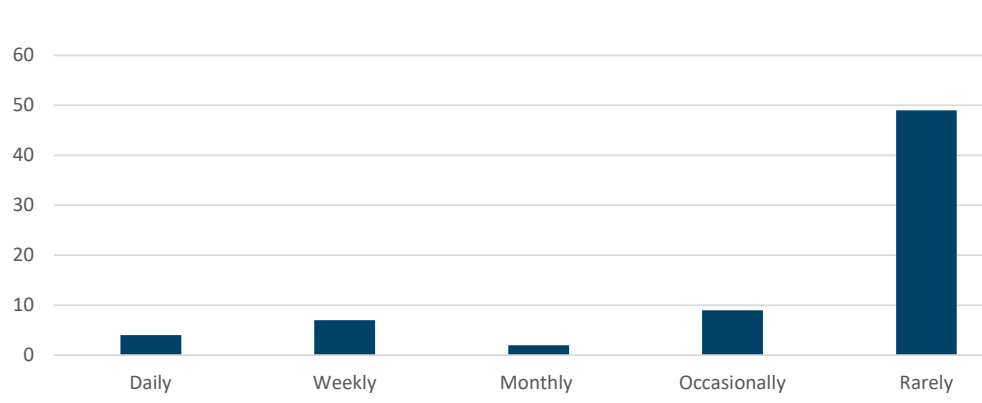


Figure 63. **How often do you visit Forsyth Park?**

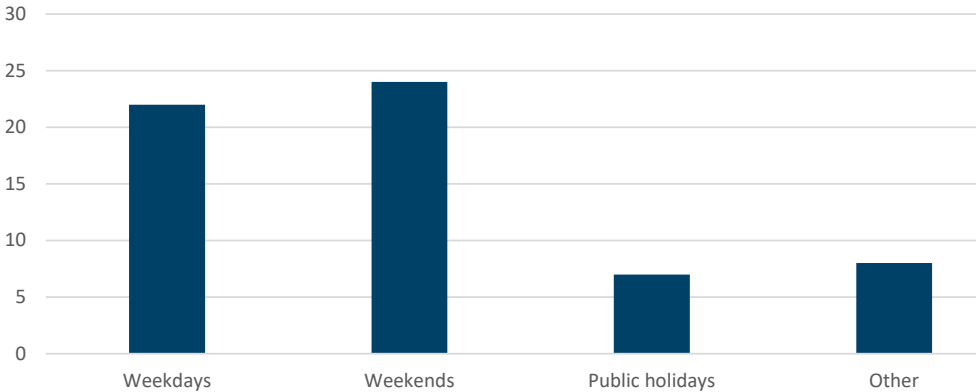


Figure 64. **When do you usually visit Forsyth Park?**

15. Forsyth Park

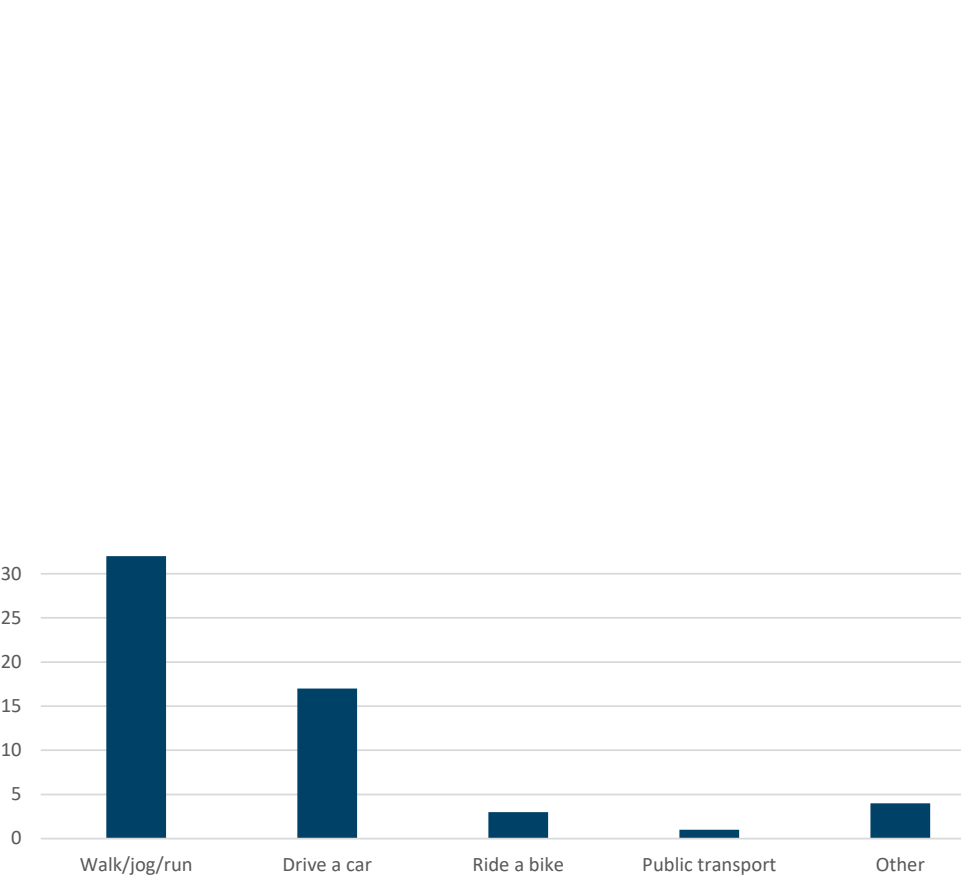


Figure 65. How do you usually get to Forsyth Park?

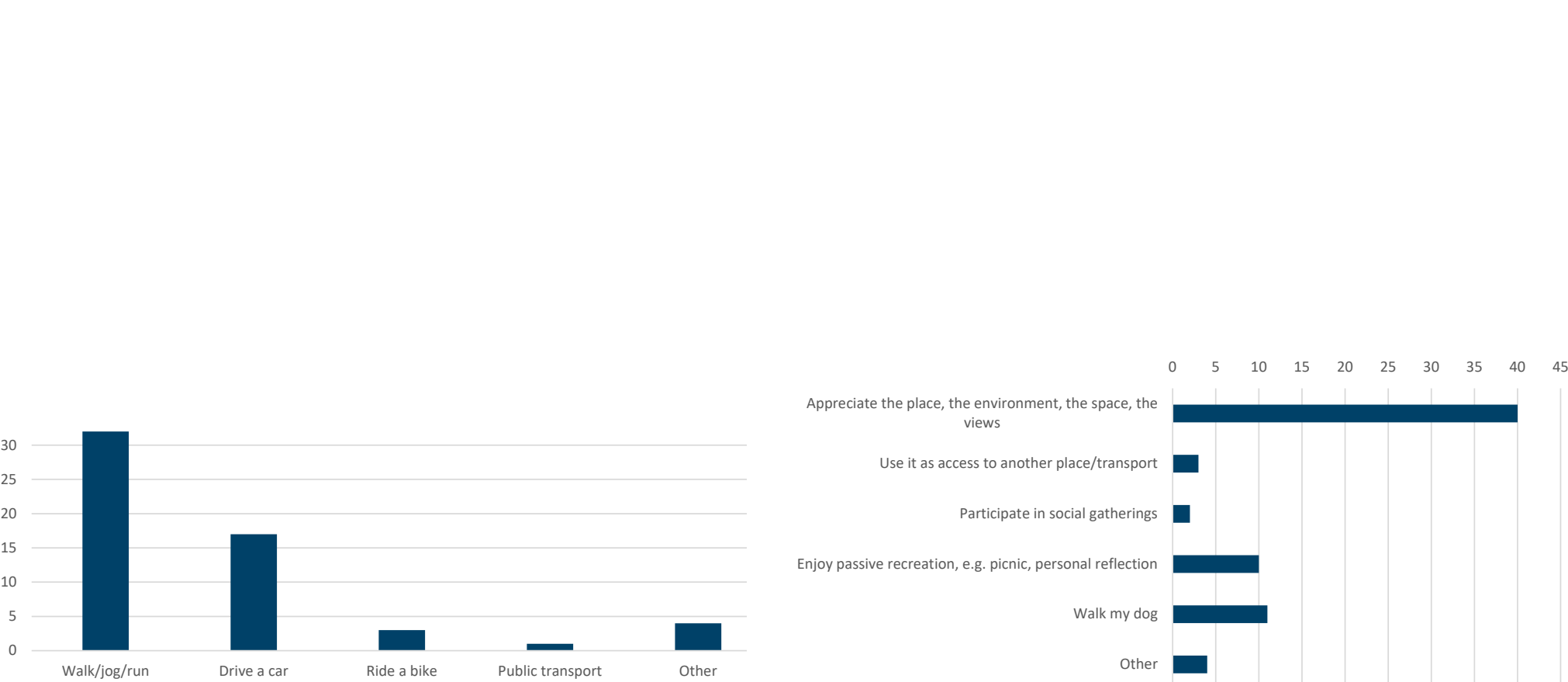


Figure 66. What do you usually do at Forsyth Park?

## 16. Lighthouse Reserve



Figure 67. Lighthouse Reserve



Figure 68. Aerial photo of Lighthouse Reserve

16. Lighthouse Reserve

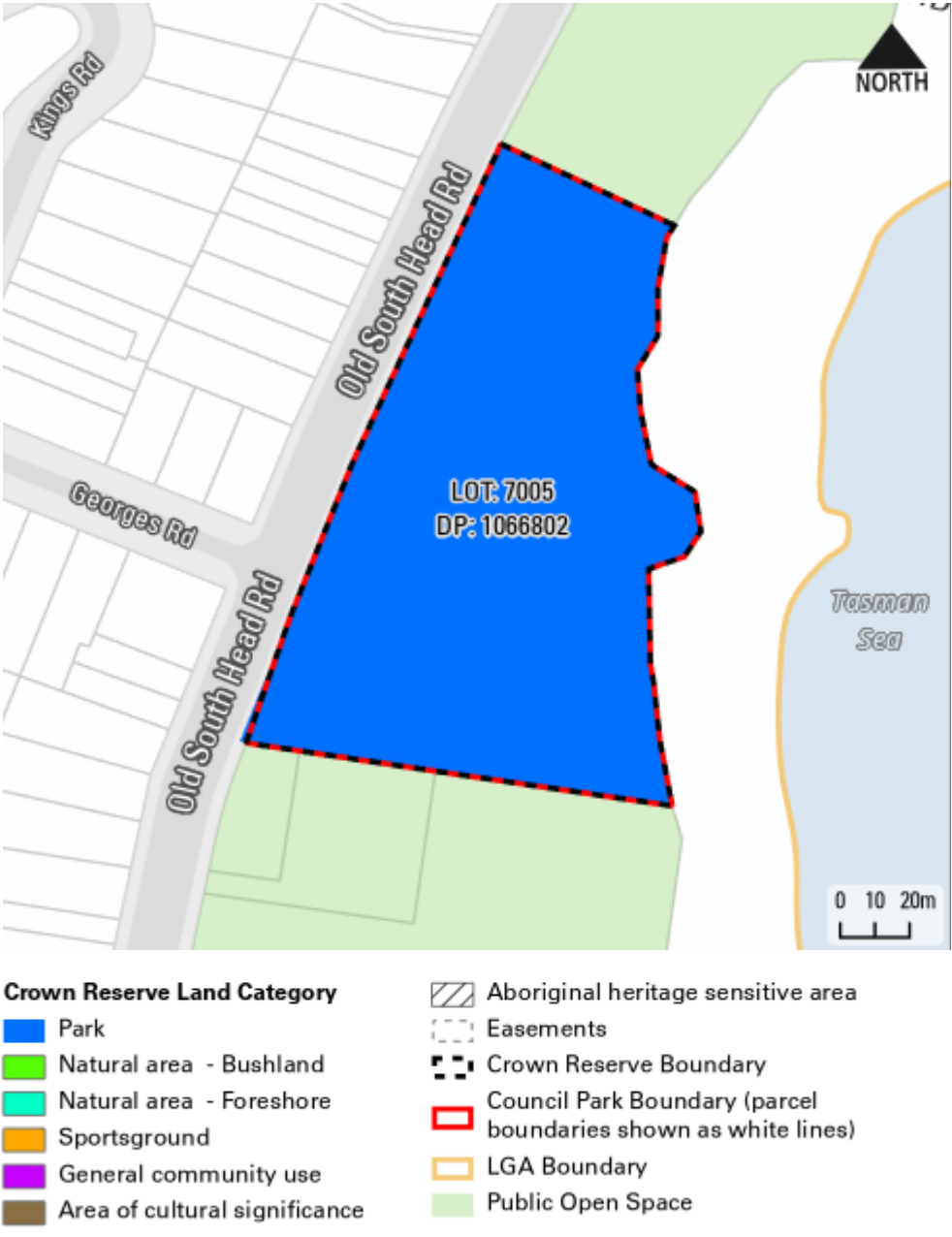


Figure 69. Lighthouse Reserve map including land categories

Table 28. Legal description for Lighthouse Reserve

Location	15 Old South Head Road, Vaucluse
Land area (m2)	15,316m <sup>2</sup>
Land owner	Crown
Crown reserve purpose	Public recreation
Woollahra LEP 2014 zone	RE1 Public recreation
LG Act categorisation	Park
Legal description	Crown R81002 Lot 7005 DP 1066802

### Description

This reserve is an open, grassed, roughly rectilinear, largely level area located on the South Head of Sydney Harbour. It is located between a spectacular coastal escarpment to the east and a busy road to the west, the Macquarie Lighthouse to the south and Signal Hill Reserve to the north.

Vegetation is sparse and mostly occurs on the western and eastern boundaries in informal planting beds. Hawkesbury sandstone bedrock outcrops are a feature of the landscape. The site is categorised as park.

The artwork, the Viewfinder, is located on the cliff edge of Lighthouse Reserve and was installed in early 2021. The sculpture is on loan by the artist Joel Adler, and was previously exhibited at Sculpture by the Sea in 2019 where it was awarded the People's Choice Prize, Kid's Choice Prize and Artists' Pick Awards.

Seating and a bubbler, with dog bowl are provided.

### Access

Pedestrian access from Old South Head Road is possible at one of several openings in the low timber boundary fence. From the north and south pedestrian access is possible from the adjoining reserves and along the Bi-Centennial Coastal Cliff Walk, which allows level access and follows the fenced eastern boundary. This path is part of the Bondi to Manly walk.

Public transport to the park is available via buses on Old South Head Road.

No public vehicular access or on-site parking is available.

### History

#### The Physical Landscape

The physical landscape of Lighthouse Reserve, as a part of the South Head peninsula, is defined by the proximate coast line, the maximum exposure to sun and wind, the dramatic cliff lines and outcrops of the 220 million year old <sup>68</sup> Hawkesbury sandstone bedrock geology and the expansive views of the Pacific Ocean and Sydney Harbour.

Exposed coastal areas on Hawkesbury Sandstone such as this were originally covered by extensive heathland. This low, scrubby vegetation community was a complex assemblage of plants including many sclerophyllous species such as the Heath Banksia (*Banksia ericifolia*) and the Dagger Hakea (*Hakea teretifolia*). This flora had adapted to grow in the shallow, sandy, infertile soils and windy conditions of the area, which prevents the growth of very tall trees.

This vegetation community no longer exists, as this site has been extensively modified from at least the colonial era to accommodate other uses such as

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68. Sutherland, Lin. (2022) *Geology of Sydney Harbour*



lookout post, defence and recreation.

The site receives high levels of exposure to sun and wind.

### The Cultural Landscape – Aboriginal History and Heritage

#### Overview:

Lighthouse Reserve looks out over the Pacific Ocean from the top of a high sandstone cliff.

Aboriginal people would have used areas like this as vantage points but they are unlikely to have camped in such exposed locations. In similar prominent clifftop areas to the north and south, Aboriginal rock engravings can be found carved into exposed outcrops of sandstone, sometimes right up to the cliff edge. Europeans began scouring exposed sandstone areas like this for engravings from the 1890's. None were recorded within Lighthouse Reserve, but some formerly exposed sandstone outcrops may have been covered by grass by this time, so it is possible that engravings could still exist in these areas.



Figure 70. Looking south across Lighthouse Reserve showing sandstone outcropping in parts of the grassed, landscaped park. Source Coast History

### Recommendations

1. An unexpected finds protocol should be in place to guide future excavation. See appendix AA for more detail.

### The Cultural Landscape – European History and Heritage

#### Overview:

South Head has been associated with important aspects of Australia's colonial, military and maritime history since 1788. The land has long been used as a vantage point; to keep watch for supply ships and enemies and for recreation to enjoy the environment and the views.

This reserve lies immediately to the north of Macquarie Lighthouse, originally built in 1818 under Governor Lachlan Macquarie. The original lighthouse at Vaucluse was designed by Francis Greenway and the foundation stone was laid by Governor Lachlan Macquarie on 11 July 1816. Built of sandstone quarried at the site, the lighthouse was completed in 1818. Light was powered by oil burning lamps on a falling weight device. It was the first lighthouse built in Australia. The first lighthouse keeper was former harbourmaster Robert Watson.

With the deterioration of the Greenway lighthouse and new developments in lighting technology it became necessary to replace the existing





Figure 71. Hawkesbury sandstone geology at Lighthouse Reserve

lighthouse. Colonial Architect James Barnet designed the new lighthouse which was built close to the original just to the west and completed in 1883. Electric power was generated by magnetic-electro dynamos driven by gas.

A public reserve since it was gazetted on 22/08/1958, it was used as a Council storage depot until 1988, when the Bi-Centennial Coastal Cliff Walk was constructed through it commemorating the strategic significance of South Head.

The Bi-Centennial Coastal Cliff Walk provides a pedestrian link to the other reserves at South Head and is part of Sydney's Great Coastal Walk. Bollard lights were installed along the length of the Bi-Centennial Coastal Cliff Walk in 2020, as a way of activating the South Head coastline.

### Heritage Items

Bicentennial Coastal Cliff Walk WLEP 2014 local item 343.

### Potential Heritage Items

Nil.

### Recommendations:

1. Consider the greater context of the site in master planning for South Head, especially the proximity to the Macquarie Lighthouse (National significance) and the Bicentennial Coastal Cliff Walk (local significance) and impacts on their setting and curtilage (see vistas and views from Macquarie Lighthouse Conservation Plan).
2. An unexpected finds protocol should be in place to guide future excavation. See appendix AA for more detail.

### Landscape Character

The landscape character is defined by the coastal location, the dramatic sandstone cliff lines, the vast ocean views and the exposed windswept nature of the site. Additionally, the close proximity of the Macquarie Lighthouse and the remnant defence installations at Signal Hill Reserve to the north,

provide a unique Sydney coastline ambiance and sense of place.

### Relevant Documents

Woollahra Libraries History Research File.

### Community Input – Lighthouse Reserve Use and Management Issues

This section provides a summary of the contributions made by our community through the Crown lands plan of management survey. Refer to the complete survey report in appendix BB for all responses. Questions 46, 47 and 48 of the Your Say survey refer to Lighthouse Reserve (coupled with Signal Hill Reserve), to which 68, 54 and 43 responses were received respectively. 11 postal surveys were received for Lighthouse Reserve.

Most of the survey participants visited Lighthouse Reserve daily, on weekdays and arrived on foot.

Use of this site by our community is mostly to:

- appreciate the place, the environment, the space, the views
- go for a walk on the bi-centennial coastal walkway
- walk a dog

The key management issues here are:

- conflicts of use, including dogs
- stronger community consultation
- site planning and design

**Table 29. Current and Future Permissible Use of Lighthouse Reserve**

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
Park	Land	Passive recreation, dog exercise off leash at all times, aesthetic	Commercial fitness activities permitted with a licence.	3	Casual recreation use e.g. walking, dog exercise off leash at all times, informal ball games, picnics for groups of < 20 at all times, no permit required.  Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include commercial fitness training, public meetings, all group activities of > 20 and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.	Medium scale and medium intensity	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.
	Buildings	Nil	Nil	Nil			
	Improvements Refer to Council’s built asset register for complete list, which itemises every structure on the land, including condition rating.	Seats, drinking fountain including dog bowl	Nil	Av. 2.39	Development related or ancillary to recreation and / or aesthetic use is permissible, e.g. amenity buildings, utilities if required, planting for shade and habitat, park furniture, recreation facilities, public art, play equipment, temporary structures for recreational needs, environmental facilities / management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).		
Condition ratings as follows: 1. Excellent – no work required or as new condition, 2. Good – well maintained, minor maintenance only, 3. Average – maintained but in need of repair, 4. Poor – in need of major repair or renewal, 5. Very Poor – urgent renewal or upgrading required							
Special management requirements: WMC mapping shows the area as class 5 acid sulphate soils. Proposed development must consider the proximity to the Macquarie Lighthouse station (National significance) and the Bicentennial cliff walk (local significance) which are listed.							
Capital works currently budgeted for: Nil.							
Current Council resolution: Nil							

**Table 30. Management Framework for Lighthouse Reserve**

**IN ADDITION TO THE GENERIC MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR ALL COMMUNITY LAND CROWN RESERVES, THE FOLLOWING SITE SPECIFIC ACTIONS ADDRESS ISSUES RAISED IN THE SURVEY AND / OR NOTED THROUGH SITE OBSERVATION AND ANALYSIS AND / OR REQUIRED BY A CURRENT COUNCIL RESOLUTION.**

Objective – the desired outcome	Performance targets – what the objective is trying to do	Actions – how to achieve the target	Performance measures – how to assess whether the objective and targets have been met
<b>1</b>  Safe, clean, well-maintained, functional and varied	<b>E</b>  Where there is opportunity to improve <b>layout, functionality, aesthetic appeal</b> and site <b>interpretation</b> provide a <b>landscape master plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare a detailed landscape master plan for the South Head Trio; Christison Park, Lighthouse Reserve and Signal Hill Reserve that establishes a vision for these sites, allows for an integrated approach to the ongoing recreational use of the area, maintains the unique landscape character, considers the proximity to items of environmental heritage, the expansive views, improves habitat opportunities, pedestrian connectivity, Green Links and interprets cultural heritage</li> </ul>	<p>Concept design process is undertaken and a master plan produced with the engagement of all stakeholders</p> <p>Unique site values and preferred spatial arrangement of all elements integrated into master plan</p> <p>Future capital works allocated to a cohesive, well documented plan, specified for their appropriateness within the landscape</p>
<b>3</b>  Well managed for public use	<b>H</b>  <b>Reduce conflicts</b> of use, <b>provide regulatory</b> and, where appropriate, provide additional <b>wayfinding signage</b> to inform all user groups of what is prohibited use, so that <b>all user groups are able to enjoy</b> the land and facilities provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install comprehensive regulatory signs to inform all park users of the multiple recreational activities occurring in the park, including dog off-leash at all times and restrictions on the Bi-Centennial Coastal Cliff Walk</li> <li>• Emphasise and enforce responsible dog ownership requirements, including control of off-leash dogs at all times and that collecting dog faeces is <b>COMPULSORY</b> for the dog's owner</li> <li>• Consider additional wayfinding / interpretative signage at appropriate locations</li> </ul>	<p>Community needs for access to public land is met</p> <p>Community is more harmonious, fewer incidents of conflict, fewer complaints about, and less occurrences of, uncontrolled dogs and uncollected dog faeces</p> <p>Rangers report less incidents of conflict and non-compliance</p> <p>Easy to read signs are installed at key locations</p>

Table 30. Management Framework for Lighthouse Reserve *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>4</b>	<b>B</b>		
Natural environment conserved	Ensure <b>best environmental practice</b> in use and maintenance of the land to build <b>green and resilient</b> public land, that <b>enhances biodiversity, conserves natural resources and improves sustainability</b> (an objective of the <i>CLM Act</i> and principles of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> , the <i>Woollahra Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (ESAP)</i> , and the <i>Woollahra Climate Emergency Statement</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to preserve sufficient existing habitat and continue to recreate native habitat in appropriate locations at South Head, as a significant component of Sydney Harbour National Park (SHNP)</li> </ul>	<p>Existing (weedy) habitat is retained as the endemic native vegetation community is re-established in appropriate locations across South Head</p> <p>Observe improvements in the biodiversity of South Head, such as increased recorded sightings (as per EDU 04 of the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy) of native birds, fewer weed and pest species, and more robust vegetation.</p> <p>Native species are conserved and populations are more resilient to threats</p> <p>SHNP managed collectively, improved environmental outcomes for South Head</p>
<b>6</b>	<b>D</b>		
Heritage and cultural awareness	Work with <b>Aboriginal communities</b> to realise the potential of their <b>land rights</b> (a priority of the <i>State Strategic plan for Crown land</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage with the La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council as necessary in regards to incomplete land claims at Lighthouse Reserve</li> </ul>	Improved relationship and understanding of local Aboriginal community in respect of their land rights

**Table 30. Management Framework for Lighthouse Reserve *cont'***

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>8</b>  Social and community opportunities	<b>B</b>  <b>Public use and enjoyment</b> of Crown land is encouraged, land use is <b>community-focused</b> and strengthens and supports evolving <b>community connection</b> and <b>local business</b> (principles of the <i>CLM Act</i> and the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> and priority of the <i>State Strategic Plan for Crown land</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate opportunities, including appropriate temporary events, to activate the walkway, showcasing the spectacular views and cultural heritage of the area, ensure environmental, aesthetic and heritage values are upheld</li> </ul>	<p>Compatible events and / or activations considered</p> <p>Broader community appreciation of unique Crown land values facilitated through selected events</p>
	<b>C</b>  Provide stronger avenues for <b>community consultation</b> , encourage <b>stewardship</b> of the land and community <b>participation in decision making</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Liaise with relevant community groups and park users on on-going site issues and management</li> <li>Liaise with NPWS and other stakeholders in the on-going management of South Head, from Christison Park to Gap Park to collaborate on issues such as stormwater management, suicide prevention, bush regeneration, tree and weed management across the whole of South Head, as recommended in action COL 04 of the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Strategy</i></li> </ul>	<p>Improvements are consulted upon, developed, and implemented to the satisfaction of the majority of the community, where possible.</p> <p>Community is more harmonious, satisfaction is higher and fewer complaints are received</p> <p>Contiguous management of issues achieved</p>



# Appendix G

## Lighthouse Reserve Survey Responses – User Profile

(The following information includes the *Your Say* data plus any related postal data)

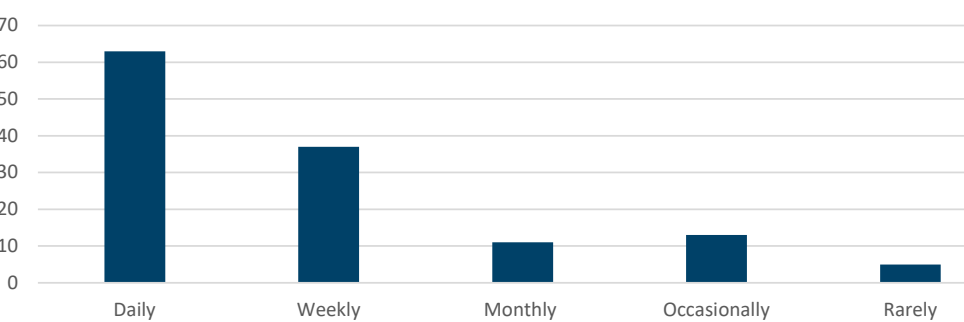


Figure 72. How often do you visit Lighthouse Reserve?

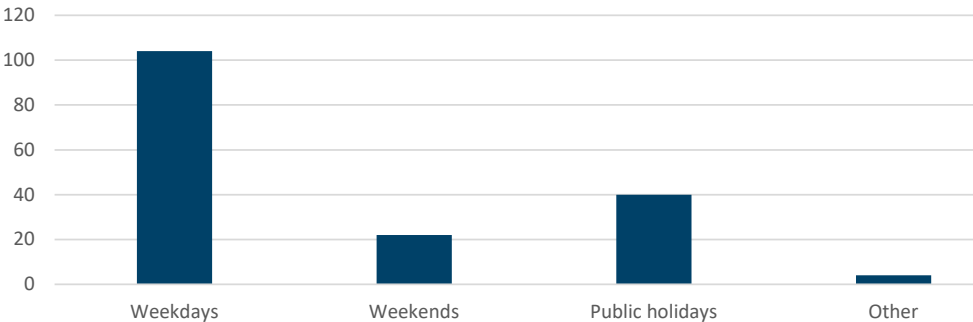


Figure 73. When do you usually visit Lighthouse Reserve?

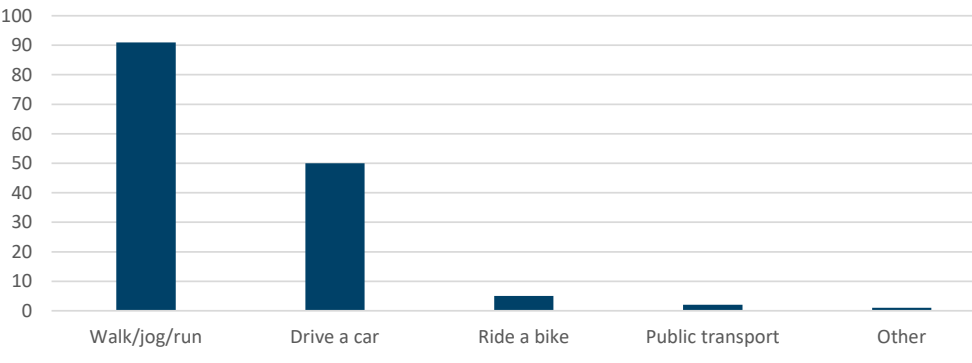


Figure 74. How do you usually get to Lighthouse Reserve?

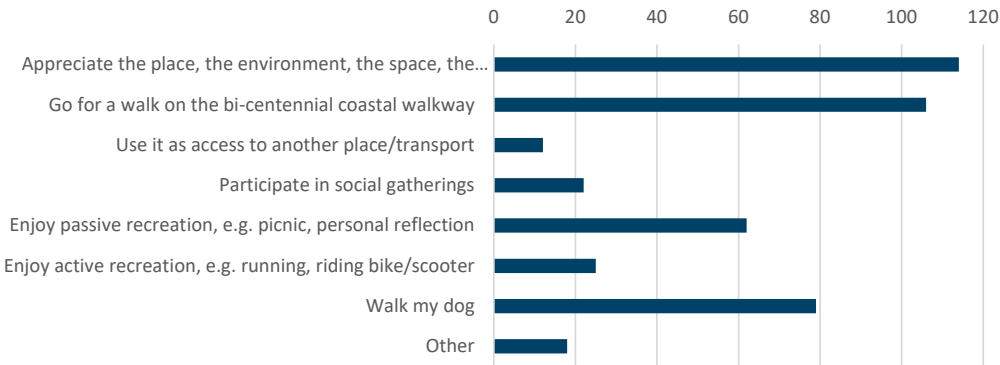


Figure 75. What do you usually do at Lighthouse Reserve?

# 17. Lyne Park & Tingira Memorial Park



Figure 76. Lyne Park



Figure 77. Aerial photo of Lyne Park

## 17. Lyne Park and Tingira Memorial Park

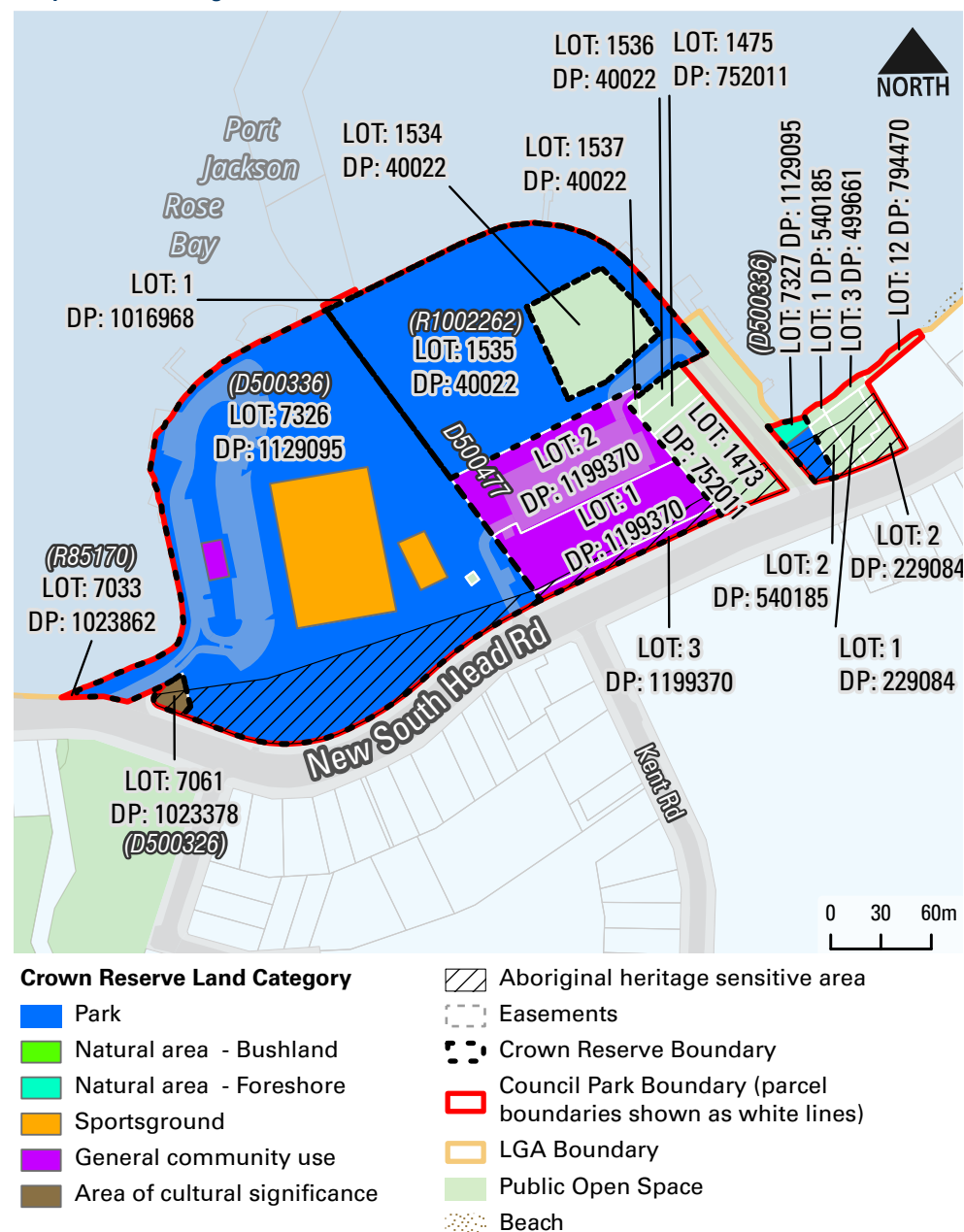


Figure 78. Lyne Park map including land categories

**Table 31. Legal description for Lyne Park and Tingira Memorial Park**

Location	550 New South Head Road, Rose Bay
Land area (m <sup>2</sup> )	75, 307m <sup>2</sup>
Land owner	Crown & WMC
Crown reserve purpose	Public recreation
Woollahra LEP 2014 zone	RE1 Public recreation
LG Act categorisation	Park, Sportsground, General Community Use, Natural Area – Foreshore
Legal description	<p>Crown</p> <p>D500336 contains Lot 7326 DP 1129095 &amp; Lot 7327 DP 1129095 (This last lot includes a portion of Tingira Memorial Park)</p> <p>D500477 contains Lot 1535 DP 40022 &amp; Lots 1-3 DP 1199370</p> <p>R1002262 coexists with part of R500477 gazetted 12 Feb 1999</p> <p>D500326 is the Rose Bay war memorial see specific plan of management</p> <p>R85170 Lot 7033 DP 1023862 (Rose Bay Park)</p> <p>WMC</p> <p>Lyne Park</p> <p>Lot 1 DP 1016968 (Park)</p> <p>Tingira Memorial Park</p> <p>Lot 1 DP 540185 (Natural area – foreshore)</p> <p>Lot 3 DP 499661 (Natural area – foreshore)</p> <p>Lot 12 DP 794470 (Natural area – foreshore)</p> <p>Lot 2 DP 229084 (Park)</p> <p>Lot 1 DP 229084 (Park)</p> <p>Lot 2 DP 540185 (Park)</p> <p>Crown managed (not managed by Council)</p> <p>Scout Hall</p> <p>Lot 1475 DP 752011 &amp; Lot 1536 DP 40022 &amp; Lot 1537 DP 40022</p> <p>Woollahra Sailing Club</p> <p>Lot 1534 DP 40022 (WSC also currently use part of D500477 Lot 1535 DP 40022 as a boat rigging area)</p> <p>Rose Bay RSL</p> <p>Lot 1473 DP 752011</p>



## Description

This reserve is a rectilinear, open, largely level, grassed site of reclaimed land extending into Rose Bay.

Sydney Harbour forms the northern, eastern and western boundaries of the site. The southern boundary is the busy New South Head Rd.

This site consists of five land categories; park, sportsground, general community use, natural area – foreshore and area of cultural significance. The first four categories are covered here as Lyne Park, while the area of cultural significance is the Rose Bay War Memorial and is covered by a separate site specific POM. Recreational opportunities include walking and viewing the Harbour, sports fields, a basketball court, tennis centre and a children's playground. This site is used for access to the public ferry wharf, public boat ramp, car parks, toilets, bike racks, cafes, Catalina's restaurant, Sydney Seaplanes, Woollahra Sailing Club, Rose Bay Scout Hall, Cranbrook Boat Shed, the Rose Bay RSL and the Rose Bay War Memorial. (See separate site specific POM for the Rose Bay War Memorial).



Figure 79. Lyne Park basketball court



Figure 81. A public art installation in Lyne Park, *Embark* by Lucy Irvine and Geoff Farquhar-Still



Figure 80. Pedestrians crossing the western carpark in Lyne Park



Figure 82. Pedestrian access over the rain garden within Lyne Park



Figure 83. Site opportunities at Lyne Park include the foreshore path which is part of the Bondi to Manly walk and Harbour viewing

Public art installations are located at prominent locations within the site.

Due to the park's unique position on Sydney Harbour, Lyne Park accommodates essential transport and water recreational hubs. Rose Bay Ferry Wharf is a significant transport link for locals and visitors, whilst two water ramps and a jetty provide water recreational access to the Harbour. The boat ramp on the park's eastern end is a critical access point for the adjacent Woollahra Sailing Club and other non-motorised watercraft users, whilst the western boat ramp accommodates both motorised and non-motorised vessels.



Figure 84. Rose Bay boat ramp is publicly accessible

A successful rain garden is located within the park between the western carpark and the sports fields. It slows down stormwater and collects debris, helping to reduce pollution from entering the Harbour. Tingira Memorial Park, east of tennis centre includes the Tingira naval memorial and access to the harbour beach.

Lyne Park also provides access to neighbouring facilities not managed by council as Crown land manager; Woollahra Sailing Club, Cranbrook Boat Shed, Rose Bay RSL, Scout Hall, the Seaplane terminus and Catalina's restaurant.

The land below the mean high water mark is managed by Service NSW, Maritime.



Figure 85. View from New South Head Road, showing the public ferry approaching the wharf and the significant tree canopy within Lyne Park. The broad canopy of the figs contrasts with the vertical accent of the Norfolk Island Pines and palms.

### Access

Pedestrians and cyclists can enter the park at grade from all boundaries, a path follows the foreshore around the park, forming part of the Bondi to Manly walk. Another path through the centre of the park links the eastern and western carparks. Bike storage racks are provided.

Two publicly accessible boat ramps for the launching of watercraft such as boats, kayaks, paddleboards and various water sports are located at the parks perimeter on Sydney Harbour, with the western ramp for motorised and non-motorised, and eastern for only for non-motorised watercraft.



The Rose Bay boat ramp is a publicly accessible ramp and boat trailer parking is provided in the western carpark.

Public transport is available, via the Rose Bay ferry service and buses that operate along New South Head Rd.

Commercial seaplane and ferry services may also be accessed from within the park.

Vehicles may enter the park from New South Head Rd and Vickery Ave. Time restricted on-site carparking is available and disabled parking spaces are provided.

## History

### The Physical Landscape

As the site is reclaimed land, it contains no remnant vegetation or natural physical features. Marine deposits dredged from Rose Bay were used to create the landform. This has resulted in a sandy, fast draining soil and a largely level ground plane. In the eastern part of the site, there is a possibility that soils and groundwater may be contaminated with fuel residue from disused underground storage tanks associated with the past land use as an RAAF base.

The site receives high levels of sun and wind exposure.

### The Cultural Landscape – Aboriginal History and Heritage

#### Overview:

Rose Bay was originally a long, curved beach from end to end. All of the land seaward of that shoreline was reclaimed and built out in the early twentieth century. Along the original beach, at the western end of Lyne Park, was the outlet of Rose Bay Creek, which drained the extensive dunes and swamps to the south. Behind Lyne Park in one of those dunes are the remains of an Aboriginal campsite consisting of thousands of stone tools perhaps dating back several thousand years. Burials have also been found in the dune, including of an Aboriginal woman who died in the early nineteenth century<sup>39</sup>. Aboriginal people continued to live around Rose Bay throughout the nineteenth century<sup>40</sup>. They caught fish in the bay, trapped them in the creek and worked in the market gardens built on top of the former swamps<sup>41</sup>. One of their camps was directly across the road from Tingira Reserve<sup>42</sup>.

Most of Lyne Park and Tingira Memorial Park is reclaimed land, but the southern edge of both reserves along New South Head Road probably includes the original foreshore of Rose Bay and have

been identified as sensitive areas. Aboriginal people would have camped along the back of the beach at Rose Bay, and especially around the mouth of Rose Bay Creek. They also buried their dead in the dunes. Any remaining portions of the original foreshore could contain the remains of former camps and burials from ancient times and into the nineteenth century.

### Recommendations

1. Opportunities could be explored to interpret the continuing nineteenth-century use of Rose Bay by Aboriginal people and its ancient roots. This could be addressed in a specific study, or as part of any future management plan for the parks.
2. Any proposed activities within the sensitive area in either Lyne Park or Tingira Reserve which may impact below the ground surface should be subject to Aboriginal Heritage Impact Assessment.
3. For any proposed activities within the remainder of Lyne Park or Tingira Reserve, an unexpected finds protocol should be in place for any excavation works. See appendix AA for more details.

### The Cultural Landscape – European History and Heritage

#### Overview:

The history of this place as Lyne Park dates to 1899 when the then Minister of Works ordered the reclamation of a portion of land at the eastern end of Rose Bay for the purpose of a public park. Approximately 7 hectares of land, reclaimed from the tidal flats of Rose Bay in 1902, was named in



Figure 86. Tingira Memorial Park is at the corner of Vickery Avenue and New South Head Road

honour of Sir William Lyne, Premier of New South Wales from 1899 to 1901. The dedication of the reserve for Public Recreation was gazetted on 2 August 1905. R500477 was gazetted on 23 June 1939. In 1905 approximately 3 hectares of the reserve was revoked to form a recreation area for the Royal Australian Navy. RAN connections continued in this area with the positioning of the residential naval training ship HMAS *Tingira* in Rose Bay from 1912 for 15 years. This past use of the land is remembered by the memorial in Tingira Memorial Park.

The reclamation works included building a sandstone block seawall to limit inward coastal

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39. Donlon, Denise (2008). 'Forensic Anthropology in Australia: A Brief History and Review of Casework', M. Oxenham (ed.) *Forensic Approaches to Death, Disaster and Abuse*, Australian Academic Press, Bowen Hills, pp. 103-4; Jo McDonald Cultural Heritage Management Pty Ltd (2010). *Archaeological Subsurface Investigations at the Royal Sydney Golf Club*, Rose Bay, Report to Royal Sydney Golf Club.
  40. Irish (2017), pp. 69-72.
  41. Irish (2017), p. 66; West, Obed (1882). 'Old and New Sydney XIX. Our Harbour and Ocean Bays', *Sydney Morning Herald* 12/10/1882, p. 9; 'To the Editor of the Herald', *Sydney Morning Herald* 21/5/1864, p. 13.
  42. Irish (2017), Figure 4.3 and 4.5.

erosion and public baths. The section of seawall around the park was completed in 1924. The seawall was extended the following year to the west of the park towards the Rose Bay Marina.

Following World War 1 and in keeping with this location's connections to the military, a section in the southwest corner of the site was established as the Rose Bay war memorial in 1934. This is a separate dedication, and as an area of cultural significance requires a specific plan of management.

In 1938, the control building and passenger terminus of the Empire Flying Boats was built within Lyne Park; the site of Australia's first international airport. These flying boats carried mail and 15 passengers from the UK to Australia. A one way trip involved 9 stopovers.

A large hanger and slipways were also part of this development. Sunderland Avenue was constructed around this time for better access to the flying boat base. Figure 87 below is of Lyne Park in 1938. Several features of the current park are visible, including many now significant trees. The public



Figure 87. View of Lyne Park during the opening of the Rose Bay Flying Boat Base 1938. Source *Dictionary of Sydney*.

baths were demolished in 1942.

During World War 2, passenger flights were suspended and the site served as the base for RAAF amphibious aircraft, known as the Sunderland. The Commonwealth Government used much of the park during this time, with the hangers and runway extending to New South Head Road. At the end of the war, Australian survivors of the Japanese prisoner of war camps were brought home on the amphibious aircraft to the terminus at Lyne Park<sup>43</sup>.

In 1946, an area of 2.7 hectares was dedicated as war memorial, where the Rose Bay RSL now stands. This parcel of land is not managed by council. The parcel of land to the north of the RSL, including the Scout Hall is leased to the Boy Scouts Association and is not managed by council. The Scout Hall building is the former RAAF officer's canteen, and was heritage listed on 12 February 2021 (Item no 695).

International passenger flights on the flying boats resumed in 1946, finally discontinuing by 1955. Flying boat services from Rose Bay continued to Lord Howe Island for a further 20 years.

In 1950, the Commonwealth returned part of the area it had taken over during the war and on this land Woollahra Council constructed six tennis courts, a kiosk and toilet block. This tennis centre is leased by WMC to a commercial operator.

By 1957, with the role of the park as the flying boat base now diminished, the remaining tarmac was removed. In 1959, a part of this area was leased directly to the Woollahra Sailing Club. This arrangement continues, use of that parcel of

43. Hanna, Kim. (2014) *Dictionary of Sydney*.

land is not managed by Council. WSC also use a designated part of D500477 as a boat rigging area. The area is approximately 799m<sup>2</sup> of land on either side of the path along the foreshore east of the wharf on the water side of the clubhouse. An annual fee of \$24 including GST is charged by Council for this use. WSC must consider the public use of Lyne Park at all times, and allow for uninterrupted use of the park and pathways as a thoroughfare. WSC must keep the pathways clear and free of boats and infrastructure. No storage of materials, watercraft or trailers is permitted in Lyne Park by WSC and the area must remain free of rubbish. Council is seeking to enter into a licence with WSC in regards to the utilisation of the area for this purpose.

In 1974, the Flying Boat service ceased. Sunderland Avenue and all remaining structures were removed and the area was restored to its previous open grassed condition.

A commercial company now operates from within Lyne Park, offering flights to and from Palm Beach, and over the Harbour. The area of water used by this facility is managed by Transport for NSW - Maritime, as are the areas occupied by the Cranbrook school boat shed and Catalina's restaurant.



Figure 88. The landscape character is defined by the tree canopy and the open, grass playing fields

Repairs to the sea wall north of the ramp were done by Council between 2010 and 2013. A new pontoon and ramp, with webbing to promote was installed in late 2019.

The parcel of land to the north of the RSL, including the Scout Hall is leased to the Boy Scouts Association and is not managed by Council. The Scout Hall building is the former RAAF officer's canteen, and was heritahe listed on 12 Febraury 2021 (Item no 695).

### Heritage Items

The Rose Bay war memorial, separate dedication, see specific plan of management.

'Site of former Rose Bay Flying Boat Base' is listed in Schedule 4 of the Sydney Regional Environmental Plan (Sydney Harbour Catchment) 2005 (Item 49).

'Site of public baths' near Catalina restaurant is listed in Schedule 4 of the Sydney Regional Environmental Plan (Sydney Harbour Catchment) 2005 (Item 59).

Rose Bay Scout Hall (not managed by Council) on 3 Vickery Avenue, Rose Bay (Item 695).

### Potential Heritage Items

At the time of preparing this document, Council staff are currently preparing a draft heritage gap analysis. It is anticipated that one of the recommendations of this work will be to assess the heritage significance of the cultural landscapes of the Woollahra LGA, including this site.

Potential items include the:

Significant trees.

Historic archaeology from previous structures and previous land uses, both on land and underwater.



Figure 89. The row of Port Jackson Figs is associated with the development of the Flying Boat base. They form a broad, dense canopy in contrast to the verticality of the Norfolk Island Pines.

Whole of the park has potential to be a heritage item.

#### Recommendations:

1. Investigate opportunities to undertake a heritage assessment of the significant trees.
2. Investigate opportunities to undertake a heritage assessment of the whole of Lyne Park in accordance with the NSW Heritage criteria.
3. Identify opportunities for interpretation of Lyne

Park, with particular reference to the role of the flying boat base, the first airport in Sydney, including the military association.

4. For proposed activities that may impact below ground and water, an unexpected finds protocol must be in place to guide excavations. See appendix AA for more details.

#### Landscape Character

Views of Sydney Harbour and the surrounding landforms of Point Piper, Rose Bay, Vaucluse and

Mosman provide context and a strong sense of place to Lyne Park. The landscape character is further defined by the rows of broad-crowned shade trees, contrasting with the open, sunny grassed playing fields and the vertical visual accents provided by the form of the pine trees.

The mature trees in Lyne Park are associated with the landscape design themes used in Sydney at the time the park was created. Many are listed on the register of significant trees including several *Ficus macrophylla* (Moreton Bay Fig), *Ficus rubiginosa* (Port Jackson Fig), *Araucaria heterophylla* (Norfolk Island Pine) and *Phoenix sylvestris* (Silver Date Palm). During the Edwardian period, palms and pines and the majestic Moreton Bay Fig were popular choices in park design. The row of Moreton Bay Figs between the playing field and New South Head Road provide the most dramatic landscape element in the park. They were well established by 1938, as seen in Figure 87. These are now complimented with the more recent plantings of *Cupaniopsis anacardioides* (Tuckeroo).



The planting layout through the centre of the site, namely the rows of Port Jackson Figs, is associated with the development of the Flying Boat base. The trees follow the alignment from the harbour to New South Head Road of the since removed Sunderland Avenue.

A group of mature Norfolk Island Pines is located on the western side of the park, near the vehicular entrance from New South Head Road. These speak to other specimens towards the foreshore near the children's playground, between the Woollahra Sailing Club and the Rose Bay RSL club and others beyond the site on surrounding land. As vertical accents these provide visual context for Lyne Park within the Rose Bay area, as they can be seen from a significant distance, particularly when approaching Lyne Park from the west and from the harbour looking into Rose Bay.

The group of Silver Date Palms located along the western carpark, holds botanical significance within

the park and indeed the whole Municipality, as the species is not commonly planted in the area.

### Relevant Documents

Ground penetrating radar (GPR) survey report at the former Rose Bay Flying Boat Base. Prepared by Geoprospection 6/3/2020.

Woollahra Libraries, Local History Research File.

### Community Input – Lyne Park and Tingira Memorial Park Use and Management Issues

This section provides a summary of the contributions made by our community through the Crown lands plan of management survey. Refer to the complete survey report in appendix BB for all responses. Questions 75, 76 and 77 of the Your Say survey refer specifically to Lyne Park and Tingira Memorial Park, to which 59, 53 and 38 responses were received respectively. 4 postal surveys were received for Lyne Park.

Most of the survey participants visited Lyne Park and or Tingira Memorial Park weekly, on weekends and arrived by car.

Use of this site by our community is mostly to:

- go for a walk
- appreciate the place, the environment, the space, the views
- use the facilities, e.g. kiosk, toilets

The key management issues here are:

- conflicts of use, including dogs
- site interpretation, planning and design to recognise the significant heritage values
- cleanliness

Other comments not relating to the Council managed land including the Woollahra Sailing Club operations and the Scout Hall have been directed to the necessary stakeholders. These parts of Lyne Park are under the direct care and control of DPE, Crown lands.



**Table 32. Current and Future Permissible Use of Lyne Park and Tingira Memorial Park**

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
Park	Land	Passive recreation, off leash dog exercise 3.30pm – 10.30am EXCEPT in Tingira Memorial Park, aesthetic, boat rigging	Commercial fitness activities permitted with a licence  WSC boat rigging by rental agreement in designated area only.	2 - 3 depending on weather conditions	Casual recreation use e.g. walking, dog exercise as per sign posted regulations, informal ball games, picnics for groups of < 20 at all times, no permit required.  Boat rigging by WSC as per agreement.  Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include commercial fitness training, amusement devices, public meetings, all group activities of > 20 and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.	Up to large scale and medium intensity only	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.  Dogs at all times in Tingira Memorial Park.  Unleashed dogs 10.30am – 3.30pm and when organised sport is being played.
	Buildings	Nil	Nil	Nil	Development related or ancillary to recreation and/or aesthetic use is permissible, e.g. amenity buildings, utilities if required, planting for shade and habitat, park furniture, recreation facilities, play equipment, public art, temporary structures for recreational needs, environmental facilities / management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).		Dogs within 10m of playground and 10m of food prep areas.
	Improvements Refer to Council's built asset register for complete list, which itemises every structure on the land, including condition rating	Playground, seats, paths, western carpark, mini field, Tingira Memorial, significant trees	Short term casual and seasonal licences	2 Av.2 for all built assets			Smoking within 10m of playground  Smoking in outdoor cafes  Commercial fitness activities in playgrounds, or near memorials.

**Table 32. Current and Future Permissible Use of Lyne Park and Tingira Memorial Park *cont'***

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
S'ground	Land	Passive recreation, off leash dog exercise 3.30pm – 10.30am, aesthetic	Short term casual and seasonal licences	2 - 3 depending on weather conditions	Active recreation use on a casual and / or seasonal basis e.g. rugby, soccer, a permit is required for all organised sport regardless of size.	Up to large scale and medium intensity only	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.
		Active recreation, rugby, soccer, basketball	Commercial fitness activities permitted with a licence		When organised sport is not being played, passive recreation use is permitted, e.g. walking, dog exercise as per sign posted regulations, informal ball games, picnics of < 20 at any time, no permit required.		Unleashed dogs 10.30am – 3.30pm and when organised sport is being played.
	Buildings	Nil	Nil	Nil	Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include commercial fitness training, amusement devices, public meetings, cultural events, all group activities of > 20 and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.		Dogs within 10m of playground and 10m of food prep areas.
	Improvements	1 x field 1 x basketball court	Short term casual and seasonal licences	3	Development related or ancillary to active recreation needs is permissible, e.g. sporting facilities and/or amenities including but not limited to lighting, drainage, irrigation, surface levelling and resurfacing, environmental management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).		Smoking in areas for spectators during organised sporting events  Commercial fitness activities in playgrounds, or near memorials

**Table 32. Current and Future Permissible Use of Lyne Park and Tingira Memorial Park *cont'***

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
G C Use	Land	Passive recreation	Nil	Nil	Various use to meet the public recreation, or the physical, cultural, social or intellectual needs of the community, e.g. community facilities, kiosk, mobile refreshment stand, recreation areas. Dog exercise as per sign posted regulations.	Medium scale and medium intensity only	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.
	Buildings	Tennis centre and associated amenities	Leased. See appendix I for details	Av 1.71 See appendix I for report	Existing uses by tennis centre & cafes as per agreements.		Unleashed dogs 10.30am – 3.30pm when organised sport is being played.
	Improvements	Café & toilet block in western carpark	Leased, See appendix I for details	Av 1.71 See appendix I for report	Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include commercial fitness training, amusement devices, public meetings, all group activities of > 20, all building venues, and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.		Dogs within 10m of playground and within 10m of food prep areas.
		Eastern carpark, paths		2	Long term leases / licences may be granted for provision of appropriate goods, services, facilities or purposes as currently used and / or as shown in table 9.		Smoking in outdoor cafes
					Development related or ancillary to the recreational, physical, cultural, social or intellectual needs of the community is permissible, e.g. kiosks, mobile refreshment stands, temporary structures for recreational needs, community facilities, environmental facilities / management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).		Commercial fitness activities in playgrounds, near cafes, or near memorials.

**Table 32. Current and Future Permissible Use of Lyne Park and Tingira Memorial Park *cont'***

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
NA - F	Land	Low impact passive recreation, kayaking.	Nil	3	Casual recreation use e.g. walking, informal ball games, water based passive recreation, picnics for groups of < 20 at all times, no permit required.	Small scale and low intensity only	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.  Dogs at all times in Tingira Memorial Park.
	Buildings	Nil	Nil	Nil	Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include all group activities of > 20 and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.		
	Improvements	Signs	Nil	2	Development related or ancillary to low impact passive recreation and/or aesthetic use is permissible, e.g., park furniture, temporary structures for recreational needs, environmental facilities / management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).		
Condition ratings as follows: 1. Excellent – no work required or as new condition, 2. Good – well maintained, minor maintenance only, 3. Average – maintained but in need of repair, 4. Poor – in need of major repair or renewal, 5. Very Poor – urgent renewal or upgrading required							
Condition ratings for buildings as follows: 1. Good, 2. Fair, 3, Requires maintenance, 4. Requires replacement.							
Special management requirements: Tingira Memorial Park is majority Council owned land. The kayak hire business and dinghy storage racks are on Council owned land, NOT Crown reserve. Situated on lot 1 DP 540185 and lot 2 DP 229084 respectively. WMC mapping shows Lyne Park as class 1 acid sulphate soils and Tingira Memorial Park as class 3 acid sulphate soils.							
Capital works currently budgeted for: Playground upgrade design							
Current Council resolution: 12/12/2022; the Lyne Park Playground upgrade was endorsed by Council.							
On 12/06/23, Council resolved a moratorium on synthetic grass to any new sports fields within the Woollahra LGA until a further report is presented to Council referring to the State Government’s Departmental report (Synthetic Turf Study in Public Open Space) and the Chief Scientist’s progress report.							

**Table 33. Management Framework for Lyne Park and Tingira Memorial Park**

**IN ADDITION TO THE GENERIC MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR ALL COMMUNITY LAND CROWN RESERVES, THE FOLLOWING SITE SPECIFIC ACTIONS ADDRESS ISSUES RAISED IN THE SURVEY AND / OR NOTED THROUGH SITE OBSERVATION AND ANALYSIS AND / OR REQUIRED BY A CURRENT COUNCIL RESOLUTION.**

Objective – the desired outcome	Performance targets – what the objective is trying to do	Actions – how to achieve the target	Performance measures – how to assess whether the objective and targets have been met
<b>1</b>  Safe, clean, well-maintained, functional and varied	<b>B</b>  Ensure <b>clean</b> , litter free public land is <b>well-maintained</b> and available for use by the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liaise with Sydney Ferries and other boat users, seek to reduce the amount of rubbish brought to the park bins from boats</li> <li>• Consider cigarette butt bins</li> <li>• Continue to work with Sydney Water and facilitate discussions with the Rose Bay Beach Working Party to improve quality of water discharging to Sydney Harbour with the aim of naturalising Sydney Water's drainage channels at Rose Bay (where feasible).</li> </ul>	<p>Less litter around the ferry wharf, fewer reports of overflowing bins in the park</p> <p>Fewer cigarette butts found littering the ground and making their way into the harbour</p> <p>Improved quality of water discharge</p>

**Table 33. Management Framework for Lyne Park and Tingira Memorial Park *cont'***

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
	<b>E</b>  Where there is opportunity to improve <b>layout, functionality, aesthetic appeal</b> and site <b>interpretation</b> provide a <b>landscape master plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare a detailed landscape master plan for Lyne Park and Tingira Memorial Park that establishes a vision, allows for an integrated approach to the ongoing recreational use of the area, maintains the unique landscape character, including the expansive views, improves habitat opportunities, pedestrian connectivity and access to foreshore, Green Links, provides appropriate materials selection, including a selected hardscape and softscape palette, meaningful wayfinding elements, develops the sense of place and interprets the significant cultural heritage values</li> </ul>	Concept design process is undertaken and a master plan produced with the engagement of all stakeholders  Unique site values and preferred spatial arrangement of all elements integrated into master plan  Future capital works allocated to a cohesive, well documented plan, specified for their appropriateness within the landscape



**Table 33. Management Framework for Lyne Park and Tingira Memorial Park *cont'***

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>2</b>	<b>D</b>		
Accessible and inclusive	Reduce <b>traffic</b> and <b>parking</b> pressures in and around public land to improve usability and retain residential amenity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further re-design of carpark to minimise conflicts and provide a more efficient use of the space, including short term and long term parking places for recreational use, including boat trailer parking. Consider traffic calming elements, clearer signage, a reduced speed limit, tree plantings, and, improved pedestrian safety.</li> <li>• Remove paved areas currently used by Catalina's as valet parking, as identified in 2003 POM.</li> <li>• Consider use of permeable pavement, include materials selection at master plan stage</li> <li>• Investigate more appropriate parking arrangements and traffic management to cater for all users of the eastern carpark. Consider re-designing the vehicular flow into the park from Vickery Ave and through the eastern carpark to minimise conflicts.</li> <li>• Remove clothing bins from both carpark, they are only permissible in public carpark, NOT on land reserved for public recreation use</li> </ul>	<p>Improved configuration and understanding of car parking areas</p> <p>Encroachment removed, use of Crown reserve as per the public purpose</p> <p>Reduced runoff from hard surfaces</p> <p>Improved configuration of space</p> <p>Clothing bins permanently removed from Lyne Park</p>

**Table 33. Management Framework for Lyne Park and Tingira Memorial Park *cont'***

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>2</b>	<b>E</b>		
Accessible and inclusive	Improve <b>public access</b> to <b>foreshores</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As identified in the 2004 action plan, remove areas currently used by Catalina's restaurant as valet parking, to allow improved public access to the foreshore on land reserved for public recreation</li> </ul>	The community can access the site for passive recreation, improved public access to the foreshore is restored
<b>3</b>	<b>D</b>		
Well managed for public use	Ensure <b>planning</b> and <b>development controls</b> across the LGA <b>conserve the natural environment, aesthetic quality</b> and <b>heritage values</b> on Crown land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work collaboratively with strategic planning to inform review of the DCP, so that the controls are compatible with the natural environment, aesthetic and heritage values of Lyne Park, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>sediment and erosion controls are in place for all development sites in the catchment</li> <li>building controls observe the park values and retain public views and vistas from the park and of the park from the surrounding area</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>The Crown land portfolio remains intact for use by the public for its public purpose</p> <p>DCP reviewed with attention to Crown land values</p> <p>Beach and harbour pollution reduced</p> <p>Public views of the park and from the park are retained</p>
	<b>E</b>		
	Support appropriate use of land through <b>leases, licences</b> and <b>other estates</b> for the best interest of the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to manage the existing leases / licences as per agreements</li> <li>Work with WSC to pursue an equitable licence agreement to use the designated area of the park for boat rigging</li> </ul>	<p>Lease agreements upheld, performance of all obligations under the terms and conditions of the lease / licence</p> <p>Formal agreement in place, including appropriate licence fee</p>

**Table 33. Management Framework for Lyne Park and Tingira Memorial Park *cont'***

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>3</b>  Well managed for public use	<b>G</b>		
	<b>Encroachment</b> on Crown land is reduced and the whole estate remains available for public use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As identified in the 2004 action plan, remove areas currently used by Catalina's restaurant as valet parking, to allow improved public access to land reserved for public recreation</li> </ul>	The community can access the site for passive recreation, improved public access to the foreshore is restored
	<b>H</b>		
	<b>Reduce conflicts</b> of use, <b>provide regulatory</b> and, where appropriate, provide additional <b>wayfinding signage</b> to inform all user groups of what is prohibited use, so that <b>all user groups are able to enjoy</b> the land and facilities provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review signage to better reflect use of land</li> <li>Enforce regulations, including the issuing of fines for non-compliance, emphasise responsible dog ownership</li> <li>Consider additional wayfinding / interpretative signage at appropriate locations</li> </ul>	Community needs for access to community land is met  Community is more harmonious, fewer incidents of conflict, fewer complaints about, and less occurrences of, uncontrolled dogs and uncollected dog faeces  Rangers report less incidents of conflict and non-compliance  Additional signage included in master plan  Easy to read signs are installed at key locations
	<b>I</b>		
	Ensure land use is compatible with the <b>carrying capacity</b> of the land, strategy of <i>Greener Places</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use the <i>Greener Places Design Guide</i> to estimate and manage the carrying capacity of Lyne Park</li> <li>Develop design solutions that meet the carrying capacity of Lyne Park</li> </ul>	Lyne Park is not used beyond capacity, maintenance requirements are reduced, ground surface remains in good condition

**Table 33. Management Framework for Lyne Park and Tingira Memorial Park *cont'***

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>4</b>	<b>B</b>		
Natural environment conserved	Ensure <b>best environmental practice</b> in use and maintenance of the land to build <b>green and resilient</b> public land, that <b>enhances biodiversity, conserves natural resources</b> and <b>improves sustainability</b> (an objective of the <i>CLM Act</i> and principles of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> , the <i>Woollahra Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (ESAP)</i> , and the <i>Woollahra Climate Emergency Statement</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that the gross pollutant traps are regularly emptied and serviced</li> <li>• Continue to facilitate the Rose Bay Beach Working Party</li> </ul>	<p>Large pieces of litter are prevented from entering the harbour</p> <p>Clean ups of the harbour beach are regularly attended.</p>
	<b>D</b>		
	Ensure the <b>existing mature tree canopy</b> is retained to <b>preserve landscape character</b> and create an <b>inter-connected tree canopy</b> across public land, strategies of <i>Greener Places</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify potential locations for increased tree planting, especially along boundaries, pathways and in carparks</li> <li>• Prioritise management of the significant trees</li> </ul>	<p>Locations for shade trees identified</p> <p>Replacement trees are well established prior to significant tree senescence</p> <p>Landscape character and landscape heritage is retained</p>

**Table 33. Management Framework for Lyne Park and Tingira Memorial Park *cont'***

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>5</b>	<b>A</b>		
Aesthetic and landscape quality remains high	Ensure <b>public view corridors</b> are retained wherever possible and <b>minimise visual impact</b> of development on land adjoining the Crown reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Landscape design to select trees with high branching habits</li> <li>• Ensure DAs observe the park values and do not obstruct public views and vistas from the park</li> <li>• Liaise with Woollahra Sailing Club to improve the aesthetics of the Club and use of land surrounding the Club</li> </ul>	<p>Public access to iconic views are retained from within the site</p> <p>Appearance of land around and within the Club improved</p>

**Table 33. Management Framework for Lyne Park and Tingira Memorial Park *cont'***

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>6</b> Heritage and cultural awareness	<b>A</b> Investigate and assess <b>environmental heritage</b> and ensure land is used and managed to be consistent with <b>heritage significance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage listed environmental heritage items in accordance with our statutory obligations</li> <li>• Investigate opportunities to undertake a heritage assessment of the significant trees</li> <li>• Investigate opportunities to undertake heritage and cultural assessment studies to identify environmental heritage, including areas of historic archaeology sensitivity, built structures and natural heritage.</li> <li>• Identify opportunities to enhance and celebrate environmental heritage, including interpretation, conservation works, art works and signage.</li> <li>• Consider the outcomes of the GPR report prior to any excavation within the former flying boat area</li> </ul>	<p>Environmental heritage items managed</p> <p>Heritage assessment of significant trees completed. Significant Tree Register updated.</p> <p>Potential environmental heritage items and archaeology (including cultural landscapes) are identified and assessed against listing criteria</p> <p>Recommendations arising from heritage management documents are implemented where possible.</p> <p>Improved understanding of environmental heritage</p> <p>Reported findings investigated</p> <p>No negative impacts of management practices on sites with natural and cultural significance.</p> <p>Only sympathetic and compatible uses are permitted</p> <p>Heritage and landscape character retained for future generations</p>



**Table 33. Management Framework for Lyne Park and Tingira Memorial Park *cont'***

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>6</b>	<b>B</b>		
Heritage and cultural awareness	Investigate, assess and manage <b>First Nations culture</b> and <b>history</b> on Crown land (a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate opportunities to undertake interpretation of the role / use of Rose Bay by Aboriginal people</li> </ul>	Improved understanding and greater appreciation of site heritage
	<b>D</b>		
	Work with <b>Aboriginal communities</b> to realise the potential of their <b>land rights</b> (a priority of the <i>State Strategic plan for Crown land</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage with the La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council as necessary in regards to incomplete land claims at Lyne Park</li> </ul>	Improved relationship and understanding of local Aboriginal community in respect of their land rights
<b>7</b>	<b>A</b>		
Recreational opportunities	Ensure the <b>unique opportunities</b> of each site are enhanced for inclusive public recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake necessary design and consultation to update the Lyne Park Playground</li> </ul>	Renewal of playground takes into consideration unique opportunities of the site including inclusivity (currently in progress)
	<b>B</b>		
	Encourage <b>multiple use</b> of Crown land, ensure land is <b>multifunctional, flexible</b> and <b>versatile</b> , proposed facilities to <b>multi-purpose</b> to maximise community benefit and meet changing community needs, (strategies of <i>Greener Places</i> and a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage and facilitate discussions with Woollahra Sailing Club to consider broadening the use of the club and facilities</li> <li>Consider actions identified in the Playspace Strategy and Recreation Needs Study (both are currently in draft stage)</li> </ul>	<p>Conversations held as to the potential of allowing the amenity provided by WSC to be available to more of the community</p> <p>Outcomes from these strategies are identified to inform Council's DPOP and long term plans</p>

# Appendix H

**Lyne Park and Tingira Memorial Park Survey Responses – User Profile**  
(The following information includes the *Your Say* data plus any related postal data)

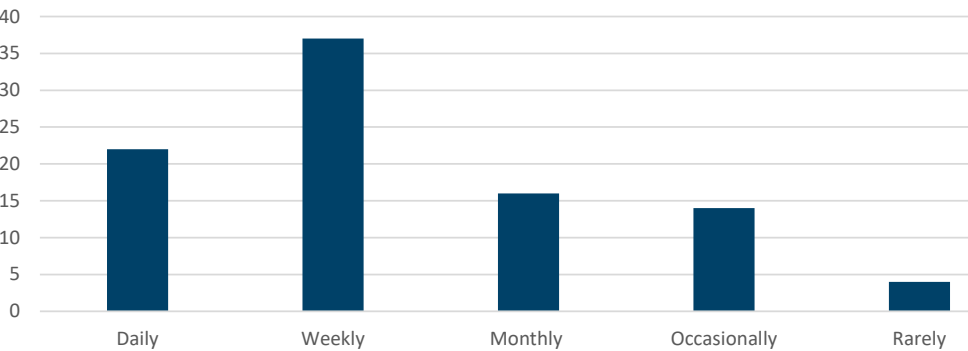


Figure 90. **How often do you visit Lyne Park and/or Tingira Memorial Park?**

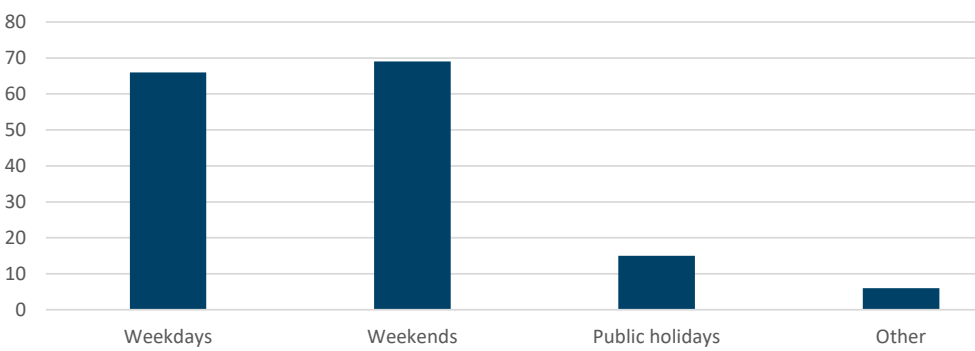


Figure 91. **When do you usually visit Lyne Park and/or Tingira Memorial Park?**

17. Lyne Park and Tingira Memorial Park

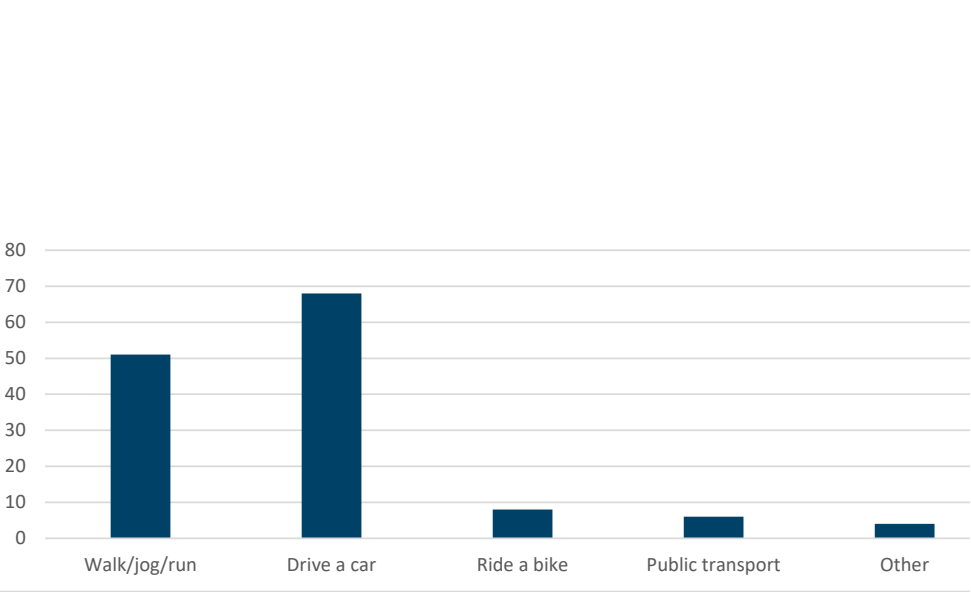


Figure 92. How do you usually get to Lyne Park and/or Tingira Memorial Park?

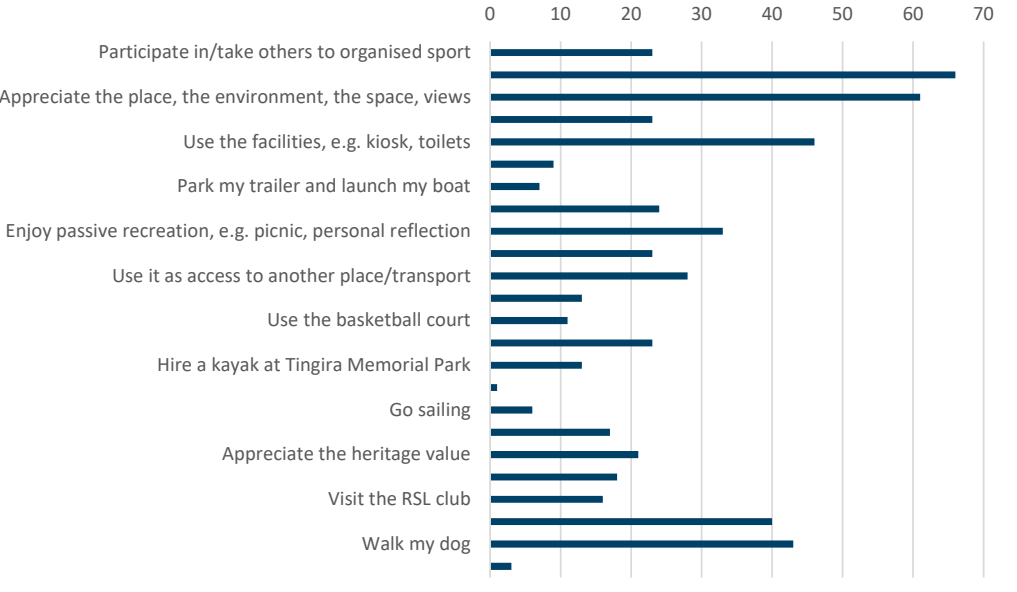


Figure 93. What do you usually do at Lyne Park and/or Tingira Memorial Park?

# Appendix I

**Table 34. Lyne Park Tennis Centre and Café Building Condition Report**

Item	Condition
Structure	2
Doors and windows	2
Lights / power outlets	1
Ceilings / walls	2
Essential services	1
Plumbing	2
Floors and coverings	2
<b>General</b>	<b>1.71</b>
Comments / capital works	–
Ratings: 1 – Good, 2 – Fair, 3 – Requires Maintenance, 4 – Requires Replacement	

**Table 35. Lyne Park Tennis Centre and Café Lease Details**

Name	<b>Lyne Park Tennis Centre and Café</b>
Description	Lyne Park (D500336 & D500477) Reserve Land Manager
Address	550 New South Head Rd, Rose Bay 2029
Lessee/Licensee	Keith WALKER, John Gordon CURTIS Services P/L & Graham THOMPSON (joint tenants)
Term Starts	1/09/2018
Term Ends	31/08/2023
Term	5 years
Renewal Options	No
Rental	\$191,112.50 (GST inclusive)
Area m <sup>2</sup>	
Notes / Special Conditions	6 Tennis Courts plus club room, office, toilets, café, kitchen/store Current agreement is month to month hold over of licence. Council is currently undertaking discussions with the lessee to extend the lease by 12 months.

**Table 36. Lyne Park Cafe & Toilet Building Condition Report**

Item	Condition
Structure	1
Doors and windows	1
Lights / power outlets	1
Ceilings / walls	3
Essential services	4
Plumbing	1
Floors and coverings	1
<b>General</b>	<b>1.71</b>
Comments / capital works	External painting around toilets needed Extinguisher not tagged
Ratings: 1 – Good, 2 – Fair, 3 – Requires Maintenance, 4 – Requires Replacement	

**Table 37. Lyne Park Café (Western Carpark) Lease Details**

Name	<b>Lyne Park Café (western carpark)</b>
Description	Lyne Park (D500336 & D500477) Reserve Trust
Address	550 New South Head Rd, Rose Bay 2029
Lessee/Licensee	Change of name from to Ministry of Coffee Rose Bay P/L to Jezve Australia Pty Limited ACN 607 447 334 (same legal entity)
Term Starts	22/04/2013
Term Ends	21/04/2023
Term	10 years
Renewal Options	1 of 5 years
Rental	\$76,236.72 (@04.09.2023) (GST exclusive)
Area m <sup>2</sup>	Café 44.4m <sup>2</sup> Cool Room 3.7m <sup>2</sup> , Storage Area 1 3.3m <sup>2</sup> , Storage Area 2 1.8m <sup>2</sup> , Outdoor Seating 1 53.2m <sup>2</sup> , Outdoor Seating 2 30.0m <sup>2</sup>
Notes / Special Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2/9//2016: assignment from Smiling Kidz P/L to Ministry of Coffee Rose Bay P/L</li> <li>• Outstanding issues (refer CM20/210975)</li> <li>• Currently on holdover arrangement</li> </ul>

**Table 38. Lyne Park Rigging Area Licence Details**

Licensee	<b>Woollahra Sailing Club</b>
Term Ends	31/12/2017
Rental	Currently on month to month hold over
	\$24 including GST pa
Area m <sup>2</sup>	799m <sup>2</sup>
Notes	Council is seeking to enter into a more equitable licence with WSC to use this area of the public reserve



## 18. McKell Park



Figure 94. McKell Park – view from the entry



Figure 95. Aerial photo of McKell Park

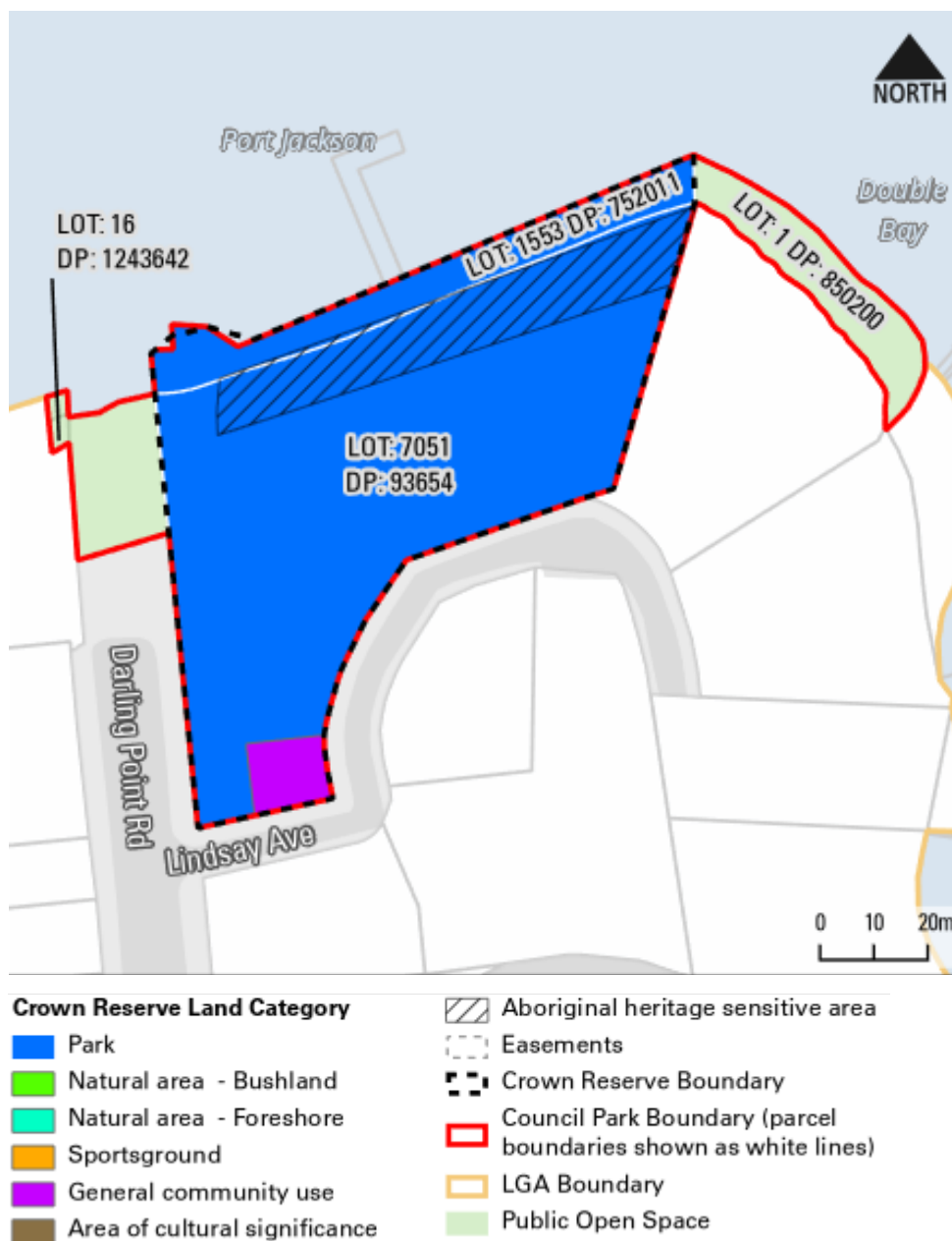


Figure 96. McKell Park map including land categories

**Table 39. Legal description for McKell Park**

Location	159 Darling Point Road, Darling Point
Land area (m <sup>2</sup> )	6,051m <sup>2</sup>
Land owner	Crown & WMC
Crown reserve purpose	Public recreation
Woollahra LEP 2014 zone	RE1 Public recreation
LG Act categorisation	Park and General Community Use
Legal description	Crown R100101 Lot 7051 DP 93654 & Lot 1553 DP 752011 WMC Lot 1 DP 850200 & Lot 16 DP 1243642 (Park)



### Description

McKell Park is located at the northern end of Darling Point Road, on the promontory of Darling Point on the shore of Sydney Harbour.

The northern boundary is the harbour foreshore. To the east is a private residence, to the south is Lindsay Avenue and a National Trust property, the historic Georgian house 'Lindesay'. The western boundary is defined by a sandstone wall with cast iron railings and stone entry gates. Darling Point Reserve is located to the west of this boundary fence. (Darling Point Reserve is a road reserve; a part of a drainage reserve formed from unmade road in 1938. It is maintained by WMC.)

This Crown reserve is unique, as the land contains significant remnants of the site's heritage, including the foundations of the demolished residences, 'Lansdowne' and 'Canonbury' and several mature palms, now more than 100 years old. The land categories are park and general community use.

Spectacular views from within the park range from the CBD and Harbour Bridge in the west to Sydney Heads in the east.



Figure 97. McKell Park, the upper lawn features remnants of the built heritage of the site

McKell Park and Darling Point Reserve are part of the Harbour Walk between Rushcutters Bay and Rose Bay.

Seating, bins, lighting and interpretive signage are provided throughout McKell Park.

### Access

Level pedestrian access is available from Darling Point Road through one of two sets of gates. These gates are locked from sunset to sunrise. There is also a pedestrian only gate in Lindsay Avenue.

Pedestrian access through McKell Park is challenging for the disabled, due to the topography,



Figure 98. Access from the Darling Point ferry is up steps through McKell Park

the changes of level and path surface material and network of stairs. The park forms part of the Bondi to Manly walk.

The park can be accessed by bicycle, a storage rack is provided outside the park boundary in Darling Point Reserve.

Public transport is available at nearby bus stops on Darling Point Road and the Darling Point public ferry wharf, which can only accessed through the park.

Private boats occasionally use the wharf to drop off and pick up passengers.

Limited emergency/service vehicle access is possible from Darling Point Road, there is no private vehicular access or on-site parking.

### History

#### The Physical Landscape

McKell Park is situated on Hawkesbury sandstone, outcrops of which form terraces within the site. This geology typically weathers to produce soils that are thin, loose, coarse, quartz sand. The original vegetation community on this north-facing site most likely consisted of an open woodland with scrubby understorey including Red Bloodwood (*Eucalyptus gummiifera*) and Smooth-barked Apple (*Angophora costata*).

All endemic vegetation has been removed and the original physical landscape altered to accommodate residential and recreational use.

A narrow section of land on the landward side of the sea wall in McKell Park is reclaimed land.

McKell Park receives high levels of sun and wind exposure in the more exposed areas of the site.

### The Cultural Landscape – Aboriginal History and Heritage

#### Overview:

Aboriginal people were probably living around Darling Point during the last ice age, about 20,000 years ago, when sea levels were much lower and Sydney Harbour was a forested river valley. Back then Darling Point was a ridgeline connected to Clark Island with creeks flowing on either side down to the river. At the end of the ice age, temperatures and sea levels rose, forming the harbour and defining its shoreline and islands by about 6,000 – 7,000 years ago<sup>44</sup>. Aboriginal people camped along the shores of the harbour and fished its waters. They engraved figures on the sandstone outcrops overlooking the water. A year after the arrival of Europeans in Sydney in 1788, a devastating smallpox epidemic swept around the harbour and claimed many Aboriginal lives. But there were survivors, and these people camped around Darling Point throughout the nineteenth century<sup>45</sup>.

44. Attenbrow, Val (2010). *Sydney's Aboriginal Past: Investigating the Archaeological and Historical Records*, 2nd ed, University of NSW Press, Sydney, pp. 38-39.

45. Irish, P. 2018. 'The Rushcutters Bay settlement', [www.sydneybarani.com.au/sites/the-rushcutters-bay-settlement/](http://www.sydneybarani.com.au/sites/the-rushcutters-bay-settlement/) [accessed 5/6/20].

No Aboriginal sites have been recorded in or near McKell Park, but this is because Aboriginal heritage surveys were not required at the time most houses and other buildings were constructed. The foreshore parts of the park are reclaimed land and most of the upper park has been terraced and landscaped as part of the former Canonbury house and gardens. These areas are unlikely to contain any physical evidence of past Aboriginal use, but a strip of elevated land immediately above the reclaimed shoreline may contain some formerly exposed sandstone outcrops which could possibly contain rock engravings. This has been identified as a sensitive area.

### Recommendations

1. Opportunities could be explored to interpret the presence of Aboriginal people during the formation of the harbour at the end of the last ice age. This could be addressed in a specific study, or as part of a future management plan for the park.
2. Any proposed activities within the sensitive area which may impact below the ground surface should be subject to Aboriginal Heritage Impact Assessment.

3. For any proposed activities within the remainder of McKell Park, an unexpected finds protocol should be in place for any excavation works. See appendix AA for more details.

### The Cultural Landscape – European History and Heritage

#### Overview:

Largely due to difficulty of access, Darling Point was not used in the past for agriculture and no land was granted for residential purposes there by either Governor Macquarie or Governor Brisbane. The endemic vegetation was cleared for fuel throughout the earliest years of the colony.

Darling Point was subdivided in 1833, during which year the house 'Lindesay', was built. That property originally also included the land of McKell Park. In 1841, the 'Lindesay' property was further subdivided and 'Lansdowne' was built within what is today McKell Park.

In 1905 'Lansdowne' was demolished and 'Canonbury' was built on the foundations. Significant remnants of the 'Canonbury' garden, dating to the early 20th century, are the palms

as listed in the register of significant trees. These palms reflect other plantings of the time, repeated throughout Darling Point. Palms were a key theme in landscape design in Sydney during the late Victorian and Edwardian eras, popularised by Sir Joseph Maiden.

Other species of note dating to the early 20th century include:

*Cedrus deodara* (Himalayan Cedar)

*Dracaena draco* (Dragon Blood Tree)

*Araucaria columnaris* (Cook Island Pine)

*Araucaria cunninghamii* (Hoop Pine)

*Livistona australis* (Cabbage Tree Palm)

*Castanospermum australe* (Black Bean)

*Flindersia australis* (Crows Ash)

In 1919 'Canonbury' was sold to the Australian Jockey Club, the deeds indicated it was to be used as a hospital.

From 1920-1981 'Canonbury' was used for this purpose. It was a convalescent hospital for returned WW1 servicemen, a naval hospital during WW2 and finally an annex of the Crown Street Women's Hospital.

In 1983 the state government announced it would become a public park. Howard Tanner (architects and conservation planners) concluded that many of the building extensions were unsympathetic and should be removed. The main house and most of the outbuildings were demolished. Some built features were retained, namely the footings of 'Lansdowne', now a key feature of the landscape design and a monument to the site's history and a sandstone water storage tank c. 1864. This relic dates from before piped town water was available and had been converted into a therapeutic spa bath during the 1930s.

The landscape design concept plan was completed in the same year and park construction works began. This involved removal and stockpiling of old brick retaining walls and paving, reconstruction of the main stormwater line through the site, removal and retrieval of stone from foundations, levelling and contouring, provision of steps, a retaining wall along the embankment and turfing.

In 1984 it was renamed McKell Park, commemorating William John McKell, a past premier of NSW.

Formally opened on 17/02/1985 and gazetted 26/06/1987.

### Heritage Items

Sandstone fence with cast iron railings, stone entry gates and foundation remains of former house 'Canonbury' WLEP 2014 local item 112.

Remains of bath house and site of jetty WLEP 2014 local item 113.

'Remains of Bath House and site of jetty' listed in Schedule 4 of the Sydney Regional Environmental Plan (Sydney Harbour Catchment) 2005 (Item 46).

### Potential Heritage Items

At the time of preparing this document, Council staff are currently preparing a draft heritage gap analysis. It is anticipated that one of the recommendations of this work will be to assess the heritage significance of the cultural landscapes of the Woollahra LGA, including this site.

Potential items include the:  
Significant trees.

### Recommendations:

1. Investigate opportunities to undertake a heritage assessment of the significant trees.
2. Consider preparing a conservation management plan for the whole site, including the built and landscape heritage.
3. For proposed activities that may impact below ground and water, an unexpected finds protocol must be in place to guide excavations. See appendix AA for more details.





Figure 99. Canonbury Cottage within McKell Park is categorised as a general community use facility

### Landscape Character

McKell Park is experienced as a series of outdoor rooms as one moves through the site. The land steps down the sandstone terraces from Darling Point Road to the harbour foreshore and public ferry wharf. Moving through each space, changes in views and landscape treatments are revealed, contributing to the unique character of the site.

Upon entering the park from Darling Point Road, the space, including Canonbury Cottage and the significant trees, is intimate and enclosed, with contrasting areas of sun and shade. The register of significant trees lists one *Archontophoenix cunninghamia* (Bangalow Palm) and ten *Howea forsteriana* (Kentia Palm) in this area. Curvilinear garden beds with sandstone borders on the eastern and southern boundaries incorporate mixed trees, shrubs and ground covers around a series of lawns. McKell Park is characterised by a full and varied tree canopy, and this extensive canopy enhances the sense of place, provides seclusion, interest and valuable shade. The preserved building foundations within the lawn are an exceptional visual component of the park and a reminder of the heritage of the site. Footpaths vary in width and material. The



Figure 100. Curvilinear footpaths edged with sandstone in McKell Park



Figure 101. The upper lawn and extensive canopy at McKell Park

wider paths reflect the carriage loop of the former residences. Concrete, bitumen and a crushed material edged with sandstone have been used for paths throughout the park.





Figure 102. Internal stairs provide access from the upper lawn through to the next 'room' of McKell Park



Figure 103. Hedged Japanese Box at McKell Park interpret site heritage

A short set of steps brings the pedestrian down to a more formal, modern landscape 'room'. Clipped hedges of Japanese Box (*Buxus microphylla*) have been installed to interpret the footprint of the 'Canonbury' courtyard and turning circle area. Fragments of the old sandstone foundations provide 'walls' to the space, which is paved with brick sized unit pavers, is less shady.

A longer sandstone staircase, one of the dominant built features of the park, extends down several metres past the former water storage tank to the foreshore terrace of reclaimed land and the public ferry wharf.

This narrow rectilinear terrace at the water's edge lies between a sandstone seawall, into which holes have been built to provide habitat for Fairy penguins, and an outcrop of Hawkesbury sandstone. The sandstone forms a natural retaining wall and is several metres high. Sparse, scrub vegetation grows on the sandstone. The ground surface is mostly patchy grass. This terrace extends to the east to a Council owned reserve and to the west, where there are brick and stone remains of the former bath house and jetty. A water retention pond, a public art installation



Figure 104. A long set of stairs provides access to the public ferry wharf and foreshore area of McKell Park



Figure 105. The upper lawn at McKell Park is used for passive recreation and viewing

of sandstone sculptures, and several seats are provided from which to enjoy the views and close proximity to the harbour. This small space is open, sunny and the extensive vistas draw the eye beyond the site to the other surrounding features.

### Relevant Documents

Master plan prepared by Parkland Planners/Phillips  
Marler September 2013

Woollahra Libraries, Local History Research File.

### Community Input – McKell Park Use and Management Issues

This section provides a summary of the contributions made by our community through the Crown lands plan of management survey. Refer to the complete survey report in appendix BB for all responses. Questions 114, 115 and 116 of the Your Say survey refer specifically to McKell Park, to which 46, 40 and 35 responses were received respectively. 3 postal surveys and 1 submission were received for McKell Park.

Most of the survey participants visited McKell Park occasionally, on weekends and arrived on foot.

Use of this site by our community is mostly to:

- appreciate the place, the environment, the space, the views
- go for a walk
- appreciate the heritage value

The key management issues here are:

- permissible uses, including dog regulations
- maintaining the landscape character including views to the harbour
- cleanliness

**Table 40. Current and Future Permissible Use of McKell Park**

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
Park	Land	Passive recreation, aesthetic	Nil	3	Casual recreation use e.g. walking, informal ball games, picnics for groups of < 20 at all times, no permit required.	Small scale and low intensity only	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.  Dogs at all times.  Commercial fitness training, marquees, arches, jumping castles, temporary structures, petting zoos, amplified sound, breaking or leaving glass, syringes or other objects likely to endanger public safety.  After hours use, i.e when the gates are locked
	Buildings	Nil	Nil	Nil	Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include all group activities of > 20 and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.		
	Improvements Refer to Council's built asset register for complete list, which itemises every structure on the land, including condition rating.	Paths, seats, historic site remnants	Nil	Av 2.07	Development related or ancillary to recreation and / or aesthetic use is permissible, e.g. amenity buildings, utilities if required, planting for shade and habitat, park furniture, recreation facilities, play equipment, temporary structures for recreational needs, environmental facilities / management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).		

**Table 40. Current and Future Permissible Use of McKell Park *cont'***

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
G C Use	Land	Passive recreation	Nil	3	Various use to meet the public recreation, or the physical, cultural, social or intellectual needs of the community, e.g. yoga class, art / craft show	Small scale and low intensity only	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.  Dogs at all times.  Commercial fitness training, marquees, arches, jumping castles, petting zoos, amplified sound, breaking or leaving glass, syringes or other objects likely to endanger public safety.  After hours use, i.e when the gates are locked
	Buildings	Canonbury Cottage, venue available for hire – exercise groups, artist studio,	Venue available for hire See appendix K for details	Av 1.71 See appendix K for report	Existing use of Canonbury cottage as per agreements.  Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include all group activities of > 20, all building venues, and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.		
	Improvements	Paving	Nil	Av 2.07.	Wedding bookings shall not exceed 2 hours, social bookings shall not exceed 4 hours, all events are restricted to < 100 people, a maximum of 2 bookings per day will be taken, i.e. 1 booking permitted at any given time.  Long term leases / licences may be granted for provision of appropriate goods, services, facilities or purposes as currently used and / or as shown in table 9.  Development related or ancillary to the recreational, physical, cultural, social or intellectual needs of the community is permissible, e.g. kiosks, mobile refreshment stands, temporary structures for recreational needs, community facilities, environmental facilities / management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).		

**Table 40. Current and Future Permissible Use of McKell Park *cont'***

Current Use	Future Use
Condition ratings as follows: 1. Excellent – no work required or as new condition, 2. Good – well maintained, minor maintenance only, 3. Average – maintained but in need of repair, 4. Poor – in need of major repair or renewal, 5. Very Poor – urgent renewal or upgrading required	
Condition ratings for buildings as follows: 1 – Good, 2 – Fair, 3 – Requires maintenance, 4 – Requires replacement.	
Special management requirements: Darling Point Reserve. WMC mapping shows the area as class 5 acid sulphate soils.	
<p>Current Council resolution: On 10/12/12 McKell Park Conditions of Hire:</p> <p>A. That the conditions of hire for McKell Park are restricted to 2 events per day on weekends.</p> <p>B. That a bond of \$250 be added to the fees and charges schedule for 2013/14 for all future events in McKell Park.</p> <p>C. That the maximum guest numbers for all functions at McKell Park be reduced to 100 people.</p> <p>D. That whenever possible the WMC Rangers will check on events at McKell Park and report back to the Recreational Booking Coordinator who will withhold the bond if any park hire conditions were not met</p> <p>E. The impact of these amended conditions be reviewed and reported to the Community and Environment Committee after 12 months.</p> <p>14/04/2023; it was resolved to commission a report to investigate the feasibility of creating more swimmable areas on the western harbour area of the LGA, and liaise with the City of Sydney to explore the possibility of a joint investigation of the potential for swimming opportunities at Rushcutters Bay and surrounds.</p>	



**Table 41. Management Framework for McKell Park**

**IN ADDITION TO THE GENERIC MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR ALL COMMUNITY LAND CROWN RESERVES, THE FOLLOWING SITE SPECIFIC ACTIONS ADDRESS ISSUES RAISED IN THE SURVEY AND / OR NOTED THROUGH SITE OBSERVATION AND ANALYSIS AND / OR REQUIRED BY A CURRENT COUNCIL RESOLUTION.**

Objective – the desired outcome	Performance targets – what the objective is trying to do	Actions – how to achieve the target	Performance measures – how to assess whether the objective and targets have been met
<b>1</b>  Safe, clean, well-maintained, functional and varied	<b>B</b>  Ensure <b>clean</b> , litter free public land is <b>well-maintained</b> and available for use by the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure the pond is free of weeds and litter</li> <li>• Investigate efficient storage, screening and management of waste bins</li> <li>• Educate through temporary signage directed to fishers, to preserve site cleanliness and remove fishing tackle waste</li> </ul>	<p>Pond remains clear of weeds and rubbish</p> <p>Waste bins stored in a more appropriate location, so as to be less visibly intrusive, or screened from public view</p> <p>Less waste from fishers left on the lower sections of the site</p>

Table 41. Management Framework for McKell Park *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
	<b>D</b>		
	Ensure a <b>variety</b> of opportunities are available and the <b>landscape character</b> of each site is preserved and that future design and use responds to the <b>unique site conditions</b> and <b>identity</b> (a strategy of <i>Greener Places</i> and a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to adhere to the recommendations of the 2013 master plan to maintain the landscape character, including careful and selective pruning for public views out of the park, repairing stonework as required, removal of Boston Ivy from archaeological area, provision of appropriate signage to convey information about natural history and cultural history including Aboriginal and European heritage</li> <li>• To commission a report to investigate the feasibility (or otherwise) or creating a more accessible, safe and swimmable harbour, including identifying potential locations, with the focus of the report to be on the western area of the the LGA</li> </ul>	<p>Landscape character retained</p> <p>Investigation completed</p>

Table 41. Management Framework for McKell Park *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>2</b> Accessible and inclusive	<b>A</b> Provide universal <b>access</b> , wherever possible, to public land and any associated structures and facilities to ensure the sites are open and welcoming (a strategy of <i>Everyone Can Play</i> and a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to liaise with Sydney Ferries to improve public access through McKell Park / Darling Point Reserve to the Darling Point ferry wharf, ensure visual impact of modifications does not reduce public view corridors and is in keeping with the landscape character of the site.</li> </ul>	Public access improved where possible
	<b>B</b> Optimise public access to all sites and <b>improve connectivity</b> via improvements to <b>walking and cycling</b> paths (a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve connectivity between Darling Point Reserve and the lower area of McKell Park</li> </ul>	Public access to public land improved where possible
	<b>E</b> Improve <b>public access to foreshores</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider rebuilding the timber wharf off Darling Point Reserve (2013 masterplan)</li> </ul>	Public access to public land for recreation improved where possible

Table 41. Management Framework for McKell Park *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>3</b>  Well managed for public use	<b>C</b>		
	Ensure <b>land zoning</b> is appropriate for public recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Land in Darling Point Reserve is currently zoned RE1 and R2 (low density residential), provide consistent RE1 zoning to reflect the open space / recreational use</li> </ul>	Land re-zoned
	<b>E</b>		
	Support appropriate use of land through <b>leases, licences</b> and <b>other estates</b> for the best interest of the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider an appropriate long term use of Canonbury Cottage to maximise potential of the venue</li> </ul>	Potential of existing facilities is made available through appropriate use agreements
	<b>H</b>		
	<b>Reduce conflicts</b> of use, <b>provide regulatory</b> and, where appropriate, provide additional <b>wayfinding signage</b> to inform all user groups of what is prohibited use, so that <b>all user groups are able to enjoy</b> the land and facilities provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Install clear, comprehensive regulatory and consider additional wayfinding/ interpretative signage that identifies permissible use of the park, including the eastern foreshore opportunities and prohibits dogs at all times, even on a leash</li> <li>Ensure hire agreements include what is permissible use of the park</li> <li>Enforce regulations, including the issuing of fines for non-compliance</li> <li>Review dog regulations of the site when LGA wide review is undertaken</li> </ul>	Easy to read regulatory signage installed at key locations  Additional signage installed where necessary          Dog regulations reviewed

Table 41. Management Framework for McKell Park *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>4</b>	<b>B</b>		
Natural environment conserved	Ensure <b>best environmental practice</b> in use and maintenance of the land to build <b>green and resilient</b> public land, that <b>enhances biodiversity, conserves natural resources</b> and <b>improves sustainability</b> (an objective of the <i>CLM Act</i> and principles of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> , the <i>Woollahra Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (ESAP)</i> , and the <i>Woollahra Climate Emergency Statement</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate stormwater harvesting options throughout the site to use for irrigation</li> </ul>	Stormwater collection options discussed
<b>4</b>	<b>D</b>		
	Ensure the <b>existing mature tree canopy</b> is retained to <b>preserve landscape character</b> and <b>create an inter-connected tree canopy</b> across public land, strategies of <i>Greener Places</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prioritise management of the significant trees</li> </ul>	<p>Replacement trees are well established prior to significant tree senescence</p> <p>Landscape character and landscape heritage is retained</p>

Table 41. Management Framework for McKell Park *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>5</b>  Aesthetic and landscape quality remains high	<b>A</b>  Ensure <b>public view corridors</b> are retained wherever possible and <b>minimise visual impact</b> of development on land adjoining the Crown reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to adhere to the recommendations of the 2013 master plan to allow for selective pruning and removal of mid-storey vegetation on the upper level of the park for public views out of the park</li> </ul>	Public access to iconic views are retained from within the each site
<b>6</b>  Heritage and cultural awareness	<b>A</b>  Investigate and assess <b>environmental heritage</b> and ensure land is used and managed to be consistent with <b>heritage significance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate opportunities to undertake a heritage assessment of the significant trees</li> <li>Manage environmental heritage in accordance with statutory obligations</li> <li>Identify opportunities to enhance and celebrate environmental heritage, including interpretation, conservation works, art works and signage</li> <li>Consider a Conservation Management Plan for the whole site, including built and landscape heritage</li> </ul>	<p>Heritage assessment of significant trees completed</p> <p>Environmental heritage items managed</p> <p>Recommendations arising from heritage management documents are implemented where possible.</p> <p>CMP undertaken</p> <p>Improved understanding and greater appreciation of site heritage</p> <p>No negative impacts of management practices on sites with natural and cultural significance</p> <p>Only sympathetic and compatible uses are permitted</p> <p>Heritage and landscape character retained for future generations</p>



Table 41. Management Framework for McKell Park *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
6	<b>B</b>  Investigate, assess and manage <b>First Nations culture</b> and <b>history</b> on Crown land (a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate opportunities to undertake interpretation of the presence of Aboriginal people during the formation of the harbour at the end of the last ice age</li> </ul>	<p>Improved understanding and greater appreciation of site heritage</p> <p>Heritage and landscape character retained for future generations</p>
	<b>D</b>  Work with <b>Aboriginal communities</b> to realise the potential of their <b>land rights</b> (a priority of the <i>State Strategic plan for Crown land</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage with the La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council as necessary in regards to incomplete land claim at McKell Park</li> </ul>	<p>Improved relationship and understanding of local Aboriginal community in respect of their land rights</p>

# Appendix J

## McKell Park Survey Responses – User Profile

(The following information includes the *Your Say* data plus any related postal data)

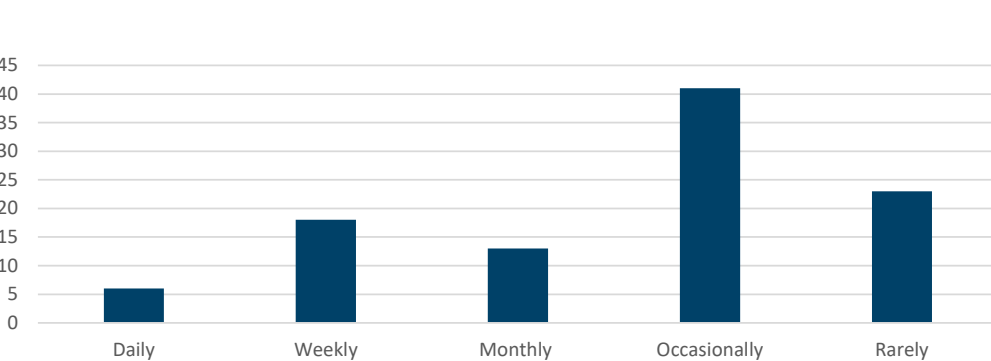


Figure 106. How often do you visit McKell Park?

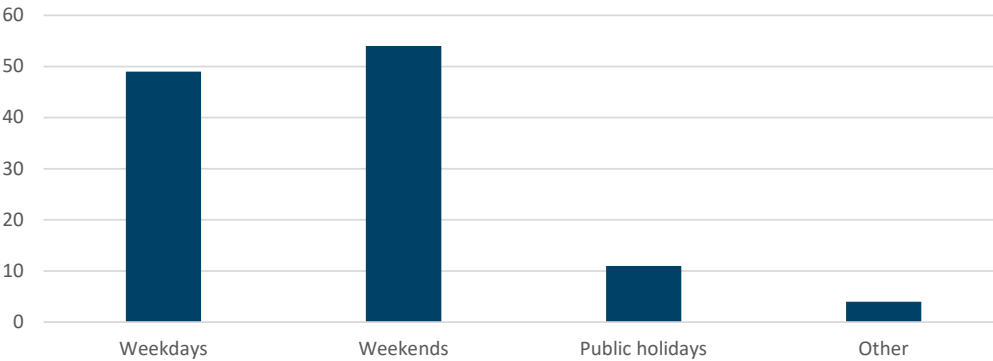


Figure 107. When do you usually visit McKell Park?

18. McKell Park

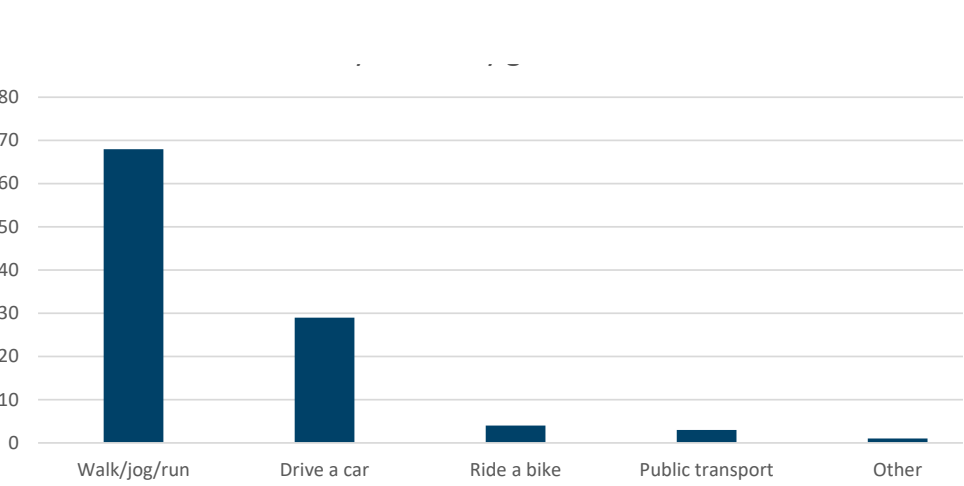


Figure 108. How do you usually get to McKell Park?

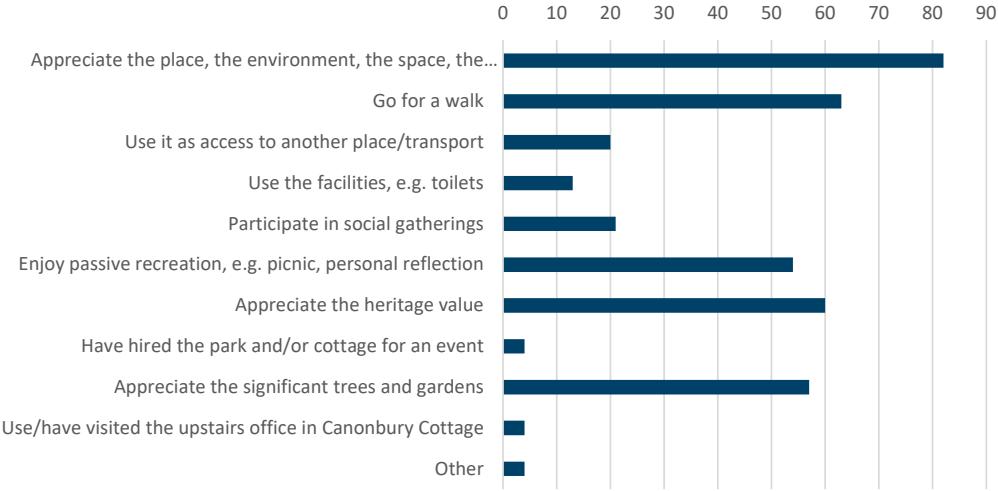


Figure 109. What do you usually do at McKell Park?

# Appendix K

**Table 42. McKell Park Canonbury Cottage  
Building Condition Report**

Item	Condition
Structure	1
Doors and windows	2
Lights / power outlets	2
Ceilings / walls	2
Essential services	1
Plumbing	2
Floors and coverings	2
<b>General</b>	<b>1.71</b>
Comments / capital works	New Roof replaced FY 19/20
Ratings: 1 – Good, 2 – Fair, 3 – Requires Maintenance, 4 – Requires Replacement	

**Table 43. Canonbury Cottage Venue for Hire – Details**

Address	McKell Park
Venue for Hire	Canonbury Cottage is available for hire from sunrise to sunset, seven days a week
Capacity	Up to 30 people
Exercise, recreation and parties as per Council's adopted fees and charges	

# 19. Robertson Park



Figure 110. Robertson Park

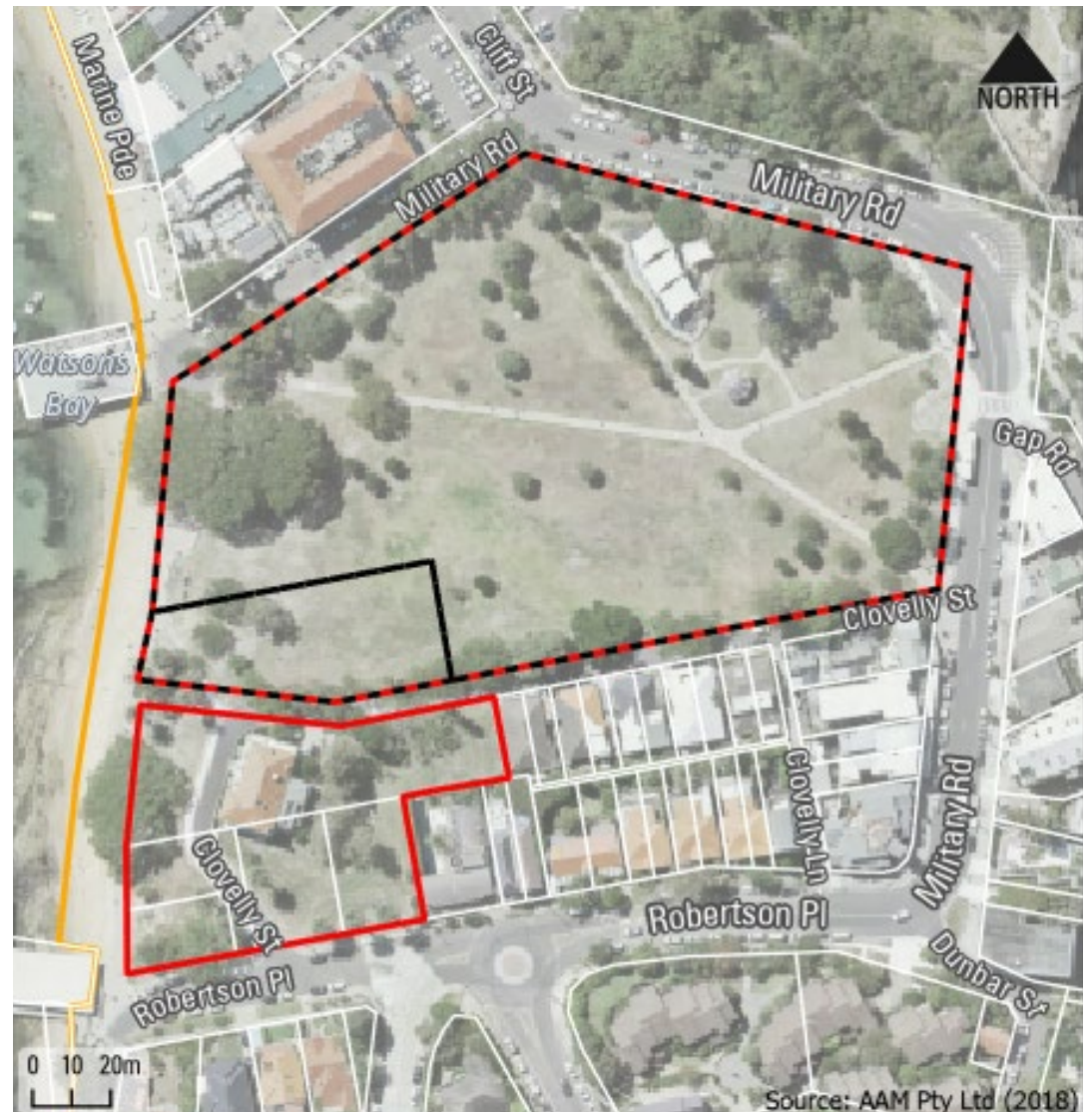


Figure 111. Aerial photo of Robertson Park

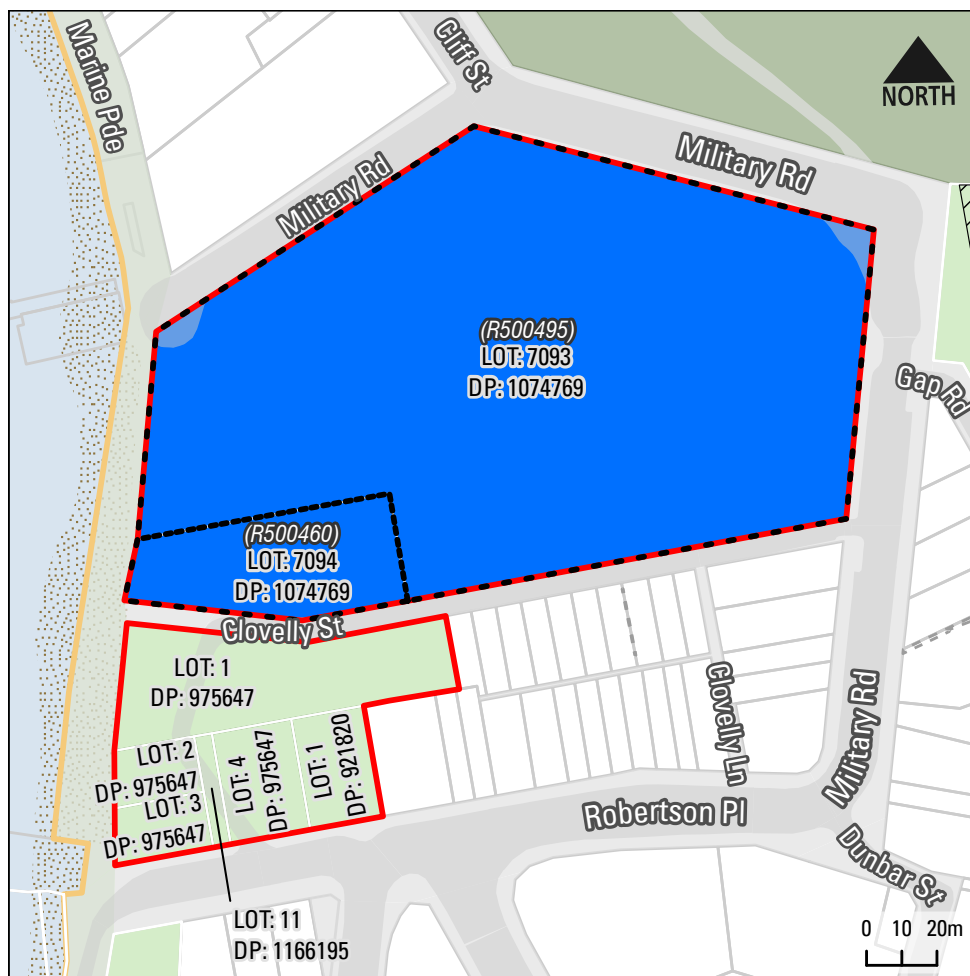


Figure 112. Robertson Park map including land categories

**Table 44. Legal description for Robertson Park**

Location	22 Military Road, Watsons Bay
Land area (m <sup>2</sup> )	21,745m <sup>2</sup>
Land owner	Crown & WMC
Crown reserve purpose	Public Park, Addition
Woollahra LEP 2014 zone	RE1 Public recreation
LG Act categorisation	Park
Legal description	<p>Crown</p> <p>R500460 Lot 7094 DP 1074769 &amp; R500495 Lot 7093 DP 1074769</p> <p>WMC</p> <p>Lot 1 DP 921820 &amp; Part lot 4 DP 975647 &amp; Lot 3 DP 975647 &amp; Lot 2 DP 975647 &amp; Lot 11 DP 1166196 &amp; Part lot1 DP 975647 (Park)</p>



### Description

This reserve is a large harbourside park located in Watsons Bay. The eastern boundary is Military Road, which curves and continues as the northern boundary, past where it meets Cliff Street and the Watsons Bay Hotel. Clovelly Street forms the southern boundary and Marine Parade which follows the foreshore, forms the western boundary.

Situated at a natural narrowing of the South Head peninsula, the site slopes to the west from Military Road down to the foreshore. The park occupies the majority of land between Sydney Harbour and Gap Park and is the focus of the Watsons Bay public domain. It consists of approximately 2 hectares of open grassed areas, categorised as park, which are bisected by concrete footpaths and enhanced by significant mature trees, mostly near the boundaries. A bandstand / rotunda, children's playground and toilet block are located in the north east of the park.

Within the park boundary, although not on the Crown reserve area of the site is Dunbar House, a two storey Victorian villa, now used as a café and

function centre. This part of the site is segregated from the rest of the park by Clovelly Street.

### Access

Level pedestrian access into the park is generally from paths along the boundary roads and from Marine Parade including from the Watsons Bay ferry wharf. The path along the Marine Parade boundary is part of the Bondi to Manly walk. Informal pedestrian access also occurs from all boundaries. A bike rack is provided for bicycle storage near the ferry wharf.

Through site access is a key role of Robertson Park due to its location between the Watsons Bay foreshore and the nearby commercial area. Access is primarily provided along two pathways. One of the pathways has an east west alignment and provides a direct connection between the ferry wharf and commercial area and to Gap Park lookout across Military Road. The second pathway has a north south alignment and connects local pedestrian traffic between the Cliff Street / Military Road intersection and the commercial centre. While these paths provide necessary access, their layout, (and the avenue of Canary Island Date Palms

once associated with them) was established in the mid-1930's and did not consider the earlier phase of the park's history. This has resulted in a poor relationship to the heritage of the site, including not recognising the curtilage of the (demolished) 19th century house *Clovelly* and the pre-existing, more informal character of the site.

The park is well serviced by public transport, as the Watson Bay ferry wharf is immediately adjacent to the park to the north west and bus stops are located on Military Road.

There is only limited service vehicle access and no public vehicular access or parking is available on site.

### History

#### The Physical Landscape

The topography, soil and original vegetation of the park are a direct consequence of the underlying Hawkesbury Sandstone bedrock geology, outcrops of which can be seen in the east of the site.

The site slopes gently westward from the high cliffs of Gap Park towards the harbour. This creates a natural amphitheatre effect, with Marine Parade

as the lowest point and Sydney Harbour as the focus of all views. The change in elevation from the highest point in the east of the park adjacent to Military Parade to the lowest point along Marine Parade is significant, at approximately 11 metres.

A small freshwater stream originally flowed through the site from the direction of present-day Dunbar Street north west-ward down to the foreshore of the bay. The soil is thin and sandy on the upper slopes, a somewhat deeper colluvial soil, brought downhill by the stream, occurs on the lower western end of the park, and where the stream once entered the bay the watertable is close to the surface and the soil tends to retain moisture. This is especially relevant below the playground site which causes issues for maintenance and general use for park users after rain events.

The harbour foreshore originally supported scrubby vegetation, including sandstone heaths and woodlands, which were adapted to the sandy coastal conditions. The Sydney Harbour National Park to the north west of the site contains remnants of these vegetation communities<sup>46</sup>.

The physical landscape of Watsons Bay is now significantly altered from its natural state, as this site has been utilised for housing, kitchen gardens and recreation use since the early colonial era.

The site receives high levels of sun and wind exposure.

### **The Cultural Landscape – Aboriginal History and Heritage**

#### **Overview:**

Aboriginal people were living around Watsons Bay for thousands of years before the arrival of Europeans in Sydney. A small freshwater creek flowed through what is now Robertson Park to the rich fishing grounds of the bay<sup>47</sup>. Sheltered from ocean winds by the cliffs of the gap, the sandy banks of the creek within Robertson Park would have been an attractive place for Aboriginal people to live, and the remains of campsites and burials have been found in similar locations nearby at Camp Cove. Aboriginal people continued to visit and camp around the bay throughout the nineteenth century, including a group who used to give demonstrations of spear and boomerang throwing in front of the Greenwich Pier Hotel in the 1890s<sup>48</sup>.

No Aboriginal sites have been recorded within Robertson Park or the Watsons Bay Tea Gardens, but the original creek and banks have long been covered by the landscaped and grassed surface of the park. It is likely that any former campsites have been significantly impacted by widespread and multiple European land uses over the past two centuries, though disturbed remnants may survive under the ground. It is also possible that rock engravings may survive either on the small outcrops of sandstone within Robertson Park, or on formerly exposed outcrops now covered by soil and grass.

### **Recommendations**

1. Opportunities should be explored to include the continuing use of the Watsons Bay area by Aboriginal people in the nineteenth century alongside that of the European uses of the area. This could be addressed in a specific study, or as part of any future interpretation or management plan for the park.

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46. Benson, D.H. and Howell, Jocelyn. (1990) *Taken for granted: the bushland of Sydney and its suburbs*. Kangaroo Press P/L.

47. For location of creek see Woollahra Municipal Council (2004). *Robertson Park Plan of Management*, p.57.

48. Irish (2017), pp.126-127.

2. An unexpected finds protocol should be in place for any activities which may impact below the ground surface or which could impact or uncover outcropping sandstone. See appendix AA for more details.

### **The Cultural Landscape – European History and Heritage**

#### **Overview:**

The history of Robertson Park has been extensively documented in several studies, including the “Historical Overview of Robertson Park Watsons Bay” prepared by Mayne-Wilson & Associates Conservation Landscape Architects April 2003, included in the previous plan of management. That report concludes that “the most surprising finding is that Robertson Park... almost completely conceals or fails to demonstrate the high importance of people and events that occurred there in the 19th century. It is perhaps the least recognised and most under-rated piece of land in the Sydney region.”

Other studies of note are the “Historical Archaeological Survey of Robertson Park” prepared by Jillian Comber in 1991, the “Thematic History

of Watsons Bay” prepared by Megan Martin in 1997, and the “Conservation Management Plan for *Dunbar House*” prepared by Colin Brady and Warwick Mayne-Wilson in 2002.

With these studies readily available, this section provides a brief summary to enhance analysis of the heritage values of the park.

Robertson Park has high historical significance as the site of the first cottages built around 1790 for the signalmen who operated the nearby signal station at South Head. The first was Robert Watson, after whom Watsons Bay was named. The strategic location of this camp site saw it become home to an important community of pilots and fisherman, and their cottages were built close to the freshwater creek that flowed through the site. All ships coming into the harbour were boarded at Watsons Bay and guided to the settlement at Sydney Cove. In 1792, during the severe food shortages that threatened the colony with starvation, a fishery was established at Watsons Bay by Governor Captain Arthur Phillip for the exclusive purpose of feeding the sick. At this time, access to the camp, the earliest settlement in Woollahra was solely by boat, as the land between

here and Sydney Town was swampy, densely vegetated and difficult to traverse.

By the mid-1800s the area consisted of an assortment of fishermen’s cottages, mostly along what is now Clovelly Street, co-existing with two substantial, elegant marine villas. The milestone obelisk was erected in Robertson Place, within today’s park in the 1830s, to commemorate the building of the South Head Road in 1811.

The marine villas were associated with persons of importance in the cultural history of NSW such as leading officials, gentry and merchants. The house that is now known as Dunbar House, was built between 1828 and 1834. In 1839 it was named *Zandvliet*, subsequent names included the *Marine Hotel*, *Greenwich Pier Hotel*, *Royal Hotel*, and the *Vaocluse Pier Hotel*, before ultimately being named Dunbar House in memory of the ship of that name wrecked in 1857 at The Gap. The now demolished *Clovelly* c.1832, was located in the north east corner of the site. It was built by the harbour pilot Thomas Watson and later owned by Hannibal Macarthur (a nephew of John & Elizabeth Macarthur and son-in-law of Governor King) and two premiers of NSW, including

## 19. Robertson Park

Sir John Robertson, after whom the park was named.

While most of the built fabric associated with *Clovelly* was removed between 1903 and 1910, some of the landscape heritage remains. A 1911 tourist guide described Robertson Park as “a fine recreation ground with numerous seats under shady pines and Moreton Bay Figs”. Several significant specimens of *Ficus macrophylla* (Moreton Bay Fig) and *Araucaria heterophylla* (Norfolk Island Pine) still endure. These trees hold aesthetic, historic and cultural value to the Sydney region and occur in several planting schemes at other locations. Past studies have highlighted the potential for archaeological research at this location, which could contribute to an understanding of the cultural history of Watsons Bay

Robertson Park has had social significance since the mid-1850s as a venue for picnickers and day-trippers, who often arrived by boat to enjoy the harbour foreshore. The park was gazetted in two entries, on 15/8/1906 & 19/5/1915, the bandstand / rotunda structure dates to this era, most likely erected in 1914. Since being established as a public



Figure 113. The playground in Robertson Park is located within the curtilage of *Clovelly*

park, this place has played a significant role in local and non-local public recreation and pedestrian movement through the area, especially between Gap Park and the harbour edge.

The Memorial to Robert Watson was designed by Leslie Wilkinson and unveiled in the park in 1929. During the 1930s the park was redesigned in the popular “city beautiful” style as used in other civic parks and gardens of the time, for example Hyde Park in the CBD. The aesthetic preference at that time was a more formal park, represented by axial paths and avenues of the dramatic Canary Island Date Palm. Most of these palms were removed in 2002 following serious deterioration brought on by *Fusarium* wilt disease.

This formal park setting provides a platform from which to view the Bay with its highly picturesque scenery and views to the city of Sydney beyond. It has since been recognised however, that the layout of the paths, the toilet block, the children’s playground and bandstand as well as some tree plantings, have eroded the heritage of the site by encroaching on curtilage of *Clovelly*.

Recent improvements include updating and improving pedestrian circulation amenity and safety at Military Road / Marine Parade intersection through provision of a pedestrian plaza.

**Table 45. Elements within Robertson Park of historical importance**

No	Item/Description	Location
1	<b>Footprint of Clovelly, the c. 1832-34 marine villa.</b> This villa was built by Thomas Watson, an early pilot and later occupied by a succession of eminent owners, two of whom were State Premiers. Others were MLCs and members of leading colonial families and Sydney gentry.	North-east corner of Robertson Park
2	<b>Norfolk Island Pines, Moreton Bay Figs &amp; Phoenix Palms.</b> The pines and figs were planted in the mid nineteenth century and remain from the park's prior use as the gardens of Clovelly. The palms date from the 1930s and have some, but lesser significance. (Most of the Phoenix palms have since died and been removed)	Robertson Park
3	<b>Views from Robertson Park.</b> Views from the park are available across to the Harbour, to Gap Park and across Robertson Place.	Robertson Park
4	<b>Dunbar House.</b> Two storey Victorian house is the earliest and best surviving example of the marine villas of Watsons Bay.	Robertson Place
5	<b>Footprint of former marine villa, Zenleith.</b> This villa was built and occupied by Watsons Bay pilots c. 1849-1909 and was sited opposite Dunbar House, on the north side of Clovelly Street.	Robertson Park
6	<b>Milestone Obelisk.</b> Sandstone obelisk which commemorates the building of the South Head Road to Watsons Bay in 1811.	Edge of Robertson Park
7	<b>Robertson Park as a memorial.</b> The park was named in honour of Sir John Robertson, five times Premier between 1860 and 1886.	Robertson Park
8	<b>Robert Watson Memorial Seat.</b> Commemorates Watson, after whom Watsons Bay was named.	Edge of Robertson Park
9	<b>Clovelly Street.</b> Significant for its ability to reveal the original subdivision of 1841.	Clovelly Street
10	<b>Marine Parade Promenade.</b> Important as a serial viewing pathway towards the Harbour as well as an access point to Robertson Park.	Marine Parade
11	<b>Robertson Park design.</b> A 1930s copy of the 'city beautiful' style of Hyde Park, Sydney.	Robertson Park



### Heritage Items

Dunbar House listed in WLEP item 428

Marine Parade Promenade listed in WLEP item 444

Milestone Obelisk in WLEP item 459

### Potential Heritage Items

At the time of preparing this document, Council staff are currently preparing a draft heritage gap analysis. It is anticipated that one of the recommendations of this work will be to assess the heritage significance of the cultural landscapes of the Woollahra LGA, including this site.

Potential items include the:

Significant trees.

Historic archaeology from previous structures and previous land uses.

Whole of the park has potential to be a heritage item of State significance. (Past studies have concluded that the historical role (1790-1903) of this place warrants its determination as being of State significance.)

### Recommendations:

1. Investigate opportunities to undertake a heritage assessment of the significant trees.
2. Consider a conservation management plan for this whole site.
3. Investigate opportunities to undertake a heritage assessment of Robertson Park in accordance with the NSW Heritage criteria.
4. For proposed activities that may impact below ground and water, an unexpected finds protocol must be in place to guide excavations. See appendix AA for more details.

### Landscape Character

Robertson Park is characterised by its harbourside location and associated views, expansive open grassed areas, paths and large shade trees.

The physical characteristics of the large, spreading, evergreen Moreton Bay Figs adjoining the foreshore provide landscape character and a strong sense of place. They are listed on the register of significant trees. They are some of the oldest and most significant plantings in Watsons Bay.

The mature Norfolk Island Pines (*Araucaria heterophylla*) also listed as significant, provide visual and cultural character. This species was often co-planted with figs in the 19th century. These trees are possibly associated with the original Clovelly residence and are thought to have been used as navigational aids.

Previous to 2002, there was an avenue *Phoenix canariensis* (Canary Island Date Palm) in Roberson Park that was described in the register of significant trees as being a significant visual element within the layout of the park. This avenue was removed in 2002 due to *Fusarium* infestation.

### Relevant Documents

2004 Robertson Park plan of management, was adopted at the Council meeting on 29/11/04, minute 12/21, resolved without debate.

Woollahra Libraries, Local History Research File.





### Community Input – Robertson Park Use and Management Issues

This section provides a summary of the contributions made by our community through the Crown lands plan of management survey. Refer to the complete survey report in appendix BB for all responses. Questions 24, 25 and 26 of the Your Say survey refer specifically to Robertson Park, to which there were 46, 44 and 27 responses respectively. 3 postal surveys were received for Robertson Park.

Most of the survey participants visited Robertson Park daily, on weekdays and weekends and arrived on foot.

Use of this site by our community is mostly to:

- appreciate the place, the environment, the space, the views
- go for a walk
- appreciate the significant trees

The key management issues here are:

- site interpretation and design to recognise the significant heritage values
- permissible uses, including no dogs
- maintenance

**Table 46. Current and Future Permissible Use of Robertson Park**

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
Park	Land	Passive recreation, aesthetic	Commercial fitness activities permitted with a licence	3	Casual recreation use e.g. walking, informal ball games, picnics for groups of < 20 at all times, no permit required.  Existing use of Dunbar House as per agreement.	Up to large scale and medium intensity only	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.
	Buildings	Toilet block, rotunda  Dunbar House (not Crown)	Nil  leased See appendix M	1.29 1.00 See appendix M for report.	Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include commercial fitness training, amusement devices, public meetings, all group activities of > 20 and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.		Dogs at all times.  Smoking within 10m of playground  Commercial fitness activities in playground and rotunda
	Improvements  Refer to Council's built asset register for complete list, which itemises every structure on the land, including condition rating.	Playground paths, bins, seats, lights	Nil	2 Av. 2.12 for all built assets	Development related or ancillary to recreation and / or aesthetic use is permissible, e.g. amenity buildings, utilities if required, planting for shade and habitat, park furniture, recreation facilities, play equipment, temporary structures for recreational needs, environmental facilities / management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).		

Condition ratings for land and park assets as follows: 1. Excellent – no work required or as new condition, 2. Good – well maintained, minor maintenance only, 3. Average – maintained but in need of repair, 4. Poor – in need of major repair or renewal, 5. Very Poor – urgent renewal or upgrading required

Condition ratings for buildings as follows: 1 – Good, 2 – Fair, 3 – Requires maintenance, 4 – Requires replacement.

Special management requirements: Dunbar House, leased Council property within park boundary, but NOT on Crown land. WMC mapping shows the majority of the area as class 5 acid sulphate soils, some class 2. *Fusarium* may be present in the soil. Location is within the Watsons Bay Heritage Conservation Area.

Capital works currently budgeted for: Nil.

Current Council resolution: Nil.

**Table 47. Management Framework for Robertson Park**

**IN ADDITION TO THE GENERIC MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR ALL COMMUNITY LAND CROWN RESERVES, THE FOLLOWING SITE SPECIFIC ACTIONS ADDRESS ISSUES RAISED IN THE SURVEY AND / OR NOTED THROUGH SITE OBSERVATION AND ANALYSIS AND / OR REQUIRED BY A CURRENT COUNCIL RESOLUTION.**

Objective – the desired outcome	Performance targets – what the objective is trying to do	Actions – how to achieve the target	Performance measures – how to assess whether the objective and targets have been met
<b>1</b>	<b>B</b>		
Safe, clean, well-maintained, functional and varied	Ensure <b>clean</b> , litter free public land is <b>well-maintained</b> and available for use by the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure adequate waste removal services following periods of high use</li> <li>• Install “Do not feed the birds” signage to reduce litter caused by scavenging birds</li> </ul>	<p>Litter promptly removed</p> <p>Necessary signage installed in appropriate locations</p>
	<b>D</b>		
	Ensure a <b>variety</b> of opportunities are available and the <b>landscape character</b> of each site is preserved and that future design and use responds to the <b>unique site conditions</b> and <b>identity</b> (a strategy of <i>Greener Places</i> and a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertake a review of the Robertson Park master plan report 2004 taking into consideration the adopted vision, planning principles and recommendations including improving the landscape character and interpretation of the significant history of the site</li> </ul>	Adopted planning principles upheld
	<b>E</b>		
	Where there is <b>opportunity</b> to improve <b>layout, functionality, aesthetic appeal</b> and <b>site interpretation</b> provide a <b>landscape master plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertake a review of the Robertson Park master plan report 2004 taking into consideration the adopted vision, planning principles and recommendations including improving the landscape character and interpretation of the significant history of the site, complete detailed design documentation to inform capital works and enable desired outcomes</li> </ul>	<p>Master plan produced with the engagement of all stakeholders</p> <p>Unique site values and preferred spatial arrangement of all elements integrated into master plan</p> <p>Future capital works allocated to a cohesive, well documented plan, specified for their appropriateness within the landscape</p>

Table 47. Management Framework for Robertson Park *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>2</b>	<b>A</b> Provide universal <b>access</b> , wherever possible, to public land and any associated structures and facilities to ensure the sites are open and welcoming (a strategy of <i>Everyone Can Play</i> and a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to liaise with Sydney Ferries to improve public access to the Watsons Bay ferry wharf, ensure visual impact of modifications does not reduce public view corridors from Robertson Park and is in keeping with the landscape character of the site</li> </ul>	Public access improved where possible Site values retained
<b>3</b> Well managed for public use	<b>E</b> Support appropriate use of land through <b>leases, licences</b> and <b>other estates</b> for the best interest of the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to manage Dunbar House lease as per agreement</li> <li>Crown Lands advised Council on 27 July 2022 that Council should take steps, in the future, to acquire the land in R500495 (along Military Road opposite Gap Bluff) that is being used as part of Council's local roads network for public road.</li> </ul>	Agreement upheld  Land acquired by Council for use as public road.
	<b>G</b> <b>Encroachment</b> on Crown land is reduced and the whole estate remains available for public use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discourage any commercial use of the park by Watsons Bay Hotel</li> </ul>	The community can access the site for public recreation
	<b>I</b> Ensure land use is compatible with the <b>carrying capacity</b> of the land, strategy of <i>Greener Places</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use the <i>Greener Places Design Guide</i> to estimate the carrying capacity of Robertson Park</li> <li>Develop design solutions that meet the carrying capacity of Robertson Park</li> </ul>	Robertson Park is not used beyond capacity, maintenance requirements are reduced, ground surface remains in good condition, significant trees are not damaged

Table 47. Management Framework for Robertson Park *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>4</b>	<b>D</b>		
Natural environment conserved	Ensure the <b>existing mature tree canopy</b> is retained to <b>preserve landscape character</b> and <b>create an inter-connected tree canopy</b> across public land, strategies of <i>Greener Places</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install root zone protection to significant foreshore trees to reduce the incidents of soil erosion, root zone compaction and mechanical damage</li> <li>• Prioritise management of the significant trees</li> <li>• Manage future species selection to resist potential threat of <i>Fusarium</i>, consider soil testing for the presence of <i>Fusarium</i> prior to any planting</li> </ul>	<p>Tree protection is installed to the root zone of all significant foreshore trees</p> <p>Replacement trees are well established prior to significant tree senescence</p> <p>Landscape character and landscape heritage is retained</p> <p>Species robust against threat of <i>Fusarium</i></p>
<b>5</b>	<b>A</b>		
Aesthetic and landscape quality remains high	Ensure <b>public view corridors</b> are retained wherever possible and <b>minimise visual impact</b> of development on land adjoining the Crown reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retain and enhance the view of the Harbour from the eastern area of the site, looking west from Gap Park</li> <li>• Selective removal of recent tree planting may be necessary to facilitate views</li> </ul>	<p>Public access to iconic views are retained from within the each site</p> <p>View corridor retained</p>



Table 47. Management Framework for Robertson Park *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>6</b>  Heritage and cultural awareness	<b>A</b>  Investigate and assess <b>environmental heritage</b> and ensure land is used and managed to be consistent with <b>heritage significance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate opportunities to undertake a heritage assessment of the significant trees</li> <li>Investigate opportunities to undertake a heritage assessment of Robertson Park</li> <li>Consider a conservation management plan</li> <li>Include meaningful interpretation and representation of the significant heritage of the site in future design, use and development</li> </ul>	Assessment completed  Improved understanding and greater appreciation of the heritage of the site  CMP undertaken  Improved understanding and greater appreciation of site heritage  Site heritage retained for future generations
	<b>B</b>  Investigate, assess and manage <b>First Nations culture</b> and <b>history</b> on Crown land (a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate opportunities to include the history of use of the land by Aboriginal people during Colonial times</li> </ul>	Improved understanding and greater appreciation of the heritage of the site  Heritage and landscape character retained for future generations
<b>7</b>  Recreational opportunities	<b>A</b>  Ensure the <b>unique opportunities</b> of each site are enhanced for inclusive public recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upon renewal (including a review of the current location in regards to the site heritage values) of the playground, design and fund a quality space that meets the community needs and expectations with reference to Playspace Strategy</li> </ul>	Renewal and design to take into consideration the heritage of the site and meet the community needs

Table 47. Management Framework for Robertson Park *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>7</b>	<b>C</b>		
	Adequate provision of <b>facilities for companion animals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review current dog regulations and consider if appropriate to community need</li> </ul>	Review completed
<b>8</b>	<b>B</b>		
Social and community opportunities	<b>Public use and enjoyment</b> of Crown land is encouraged, land use is <b>community-focused</b> and strengthens and supports evolving <b>community connection</b> and <b>local business</b> (principles of the <i>CLM Act</i> and the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> and priority of the <i>State Strategic Plan for Crown land</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate feasibility of temporary food vans / coffee carts in designated areas</li> </ul>	Feasibility study completed

# Appendix L

**Robertson Park Survey Responses – User Profile**  
(The following information includes the *Your Say* data plus any related postal data)

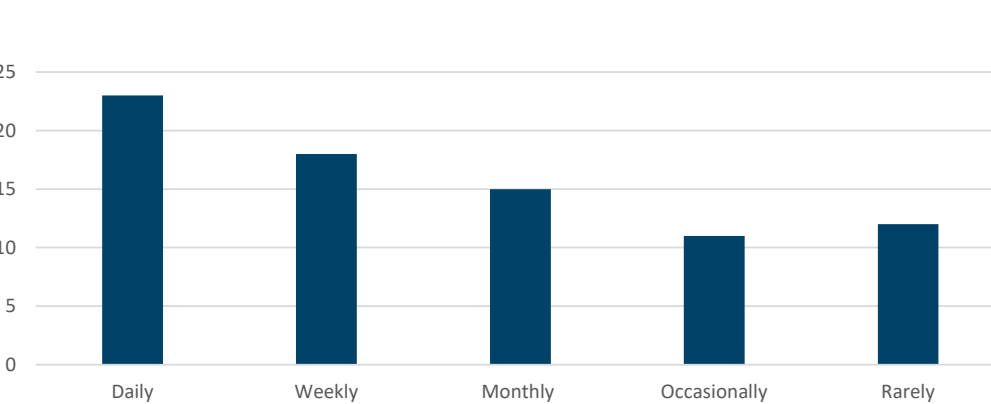


Figure 115. **How often do you visit Robertson Park?**

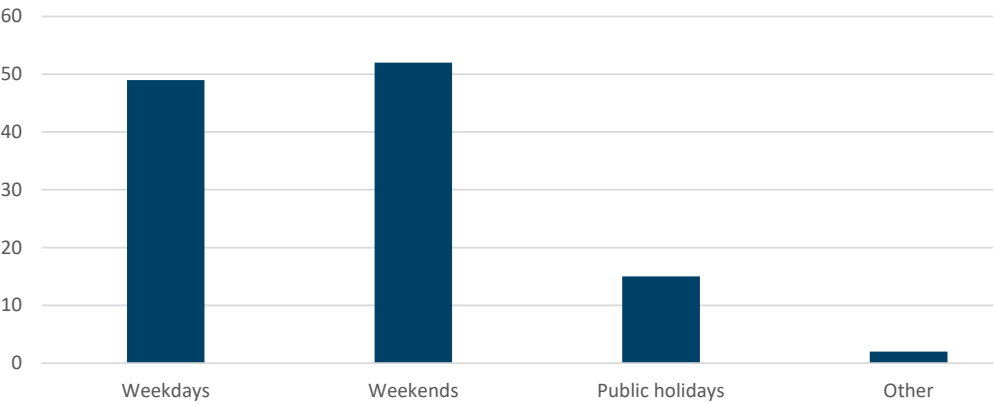


Figure 116. **When do you usually visit Robertson Park?**

19. Robertson Park

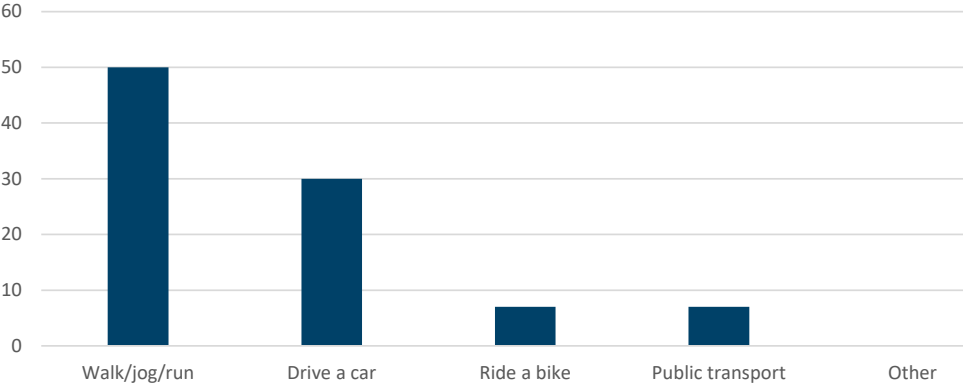


Figure 117. How do you usually get to Robertson Park?

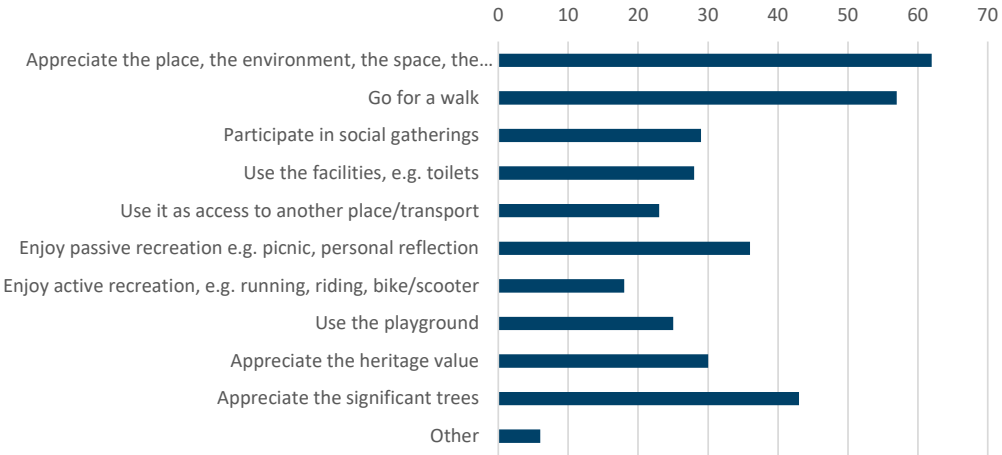


Figure 118. What do you usually do at Robertson Park?

# Appendix M

**Table 48. Robertson Park Toilet Building Condition Report**

Item	Condition
Structure	1
Doors and windows	2
Lights / power outlets	1
Ceilings / walls	1
Essential services	1
Plumbing	1
Floors and coverings	2
<b>General</b>	<b>1.29</b>
Comments / capital works	refurbished and roof replace FY15/16
Ratings: 1 – Good, 2 – Fair, 3 – Requires Maintenance, 4 – Requires Replacement	

**Table 49. Robertson Park Rotunda Condition Report**

Item	Condition
Structure	1
Doors and windows	N/A
Lights / power outlets	N/A
Ceilings / walls	N/A
Essential services	N/A
Plumbing	N/A
Floors and coverings	1
<b>General</b>	<b>1.00</b>
Comments / capital works	refurbished FY17/18
Ratings: 1 – Good, 2 – Fair, 3 – Requires Maintenance, 4 – Requires Replacement	

**Table 50. Dunbar House Condition Report**

Item	Condition
Structure	1
Doors and windows	1-2
Lights / power outlets	1
Ceilings / walls	1
Essential services	-
Plumbing	3
Floors and coverings	2
<b>General</b>	<b>1.6</b>
Comments / capital works	Guttering to western side needs replacing above columns. Rainwater head to inside veranda. (Northern side) needs immediate repair.
Ratings: 1 – Good, 2 – Fair, 3 – Requires Maintenance, 4 – Requires Replacement	

**Table 51. Dunbar House Lease Details**

Name	<b>Dunbar House</b>
Address	9 Marine Parade, Watsons Bay 2030
Lessee/Licensee	The Tea Room Pty Ltd
Term Starts	1/07/2016
Term Ends	30/06/2023
Term	7 years
Renewal Options	
Rental	\$320,311.00
Area m <sup>2</sup>	Approx. 506
Notes / Special Conditions	Council owned land Tender Panel currently evaluating reponses as of 04/09/2023



## 20. Rose Bay Park



Figure 119. Rose Bay Park



Figure 120. Aerial photo of Rose Bay Park

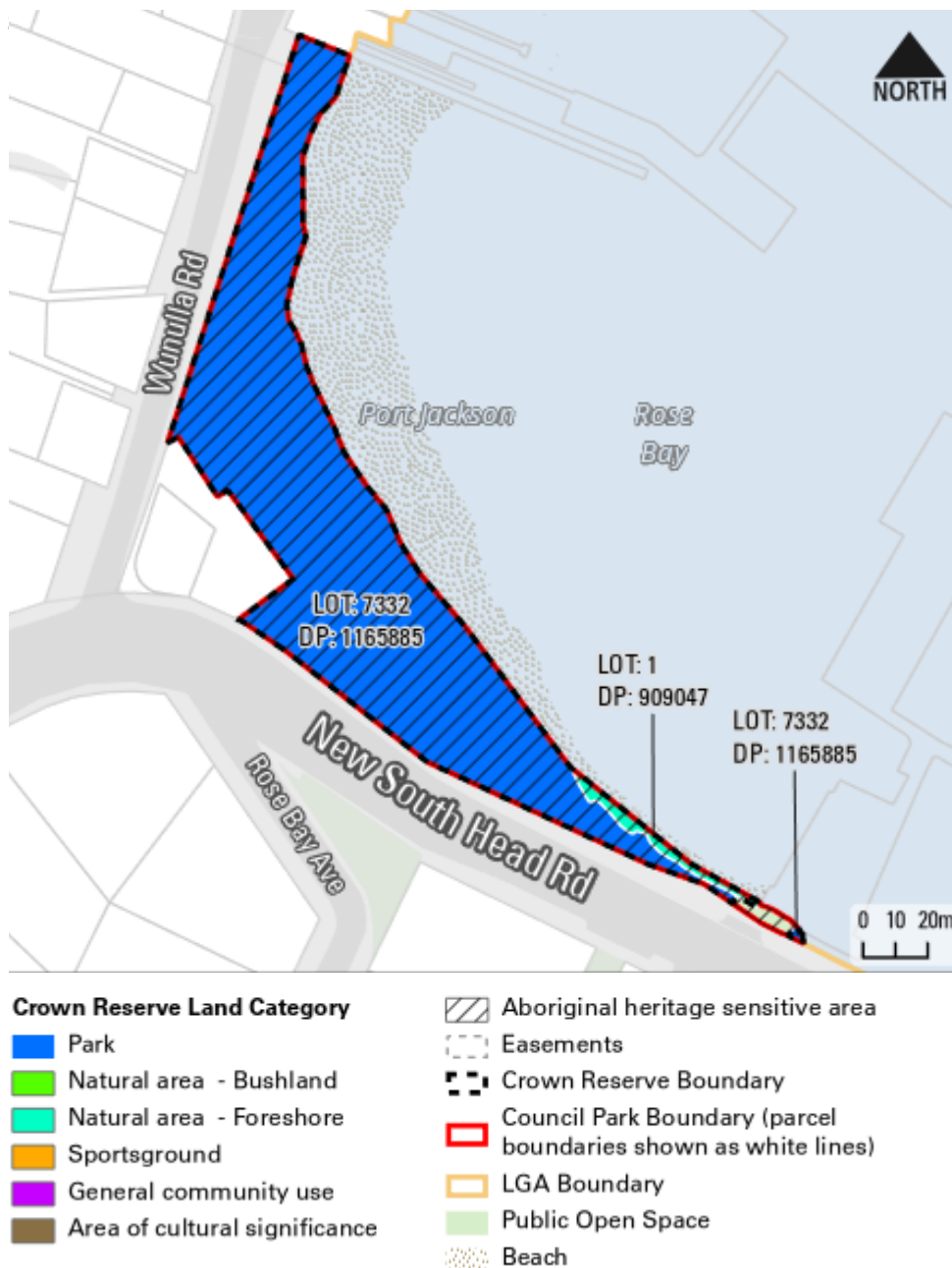


Figure 121. Rose Bay Park map including land categories

**Table 52. Legal description for Rose Bay Park**

Location	592B New South Head Road, Rose Bay
Land area (m <sup>2</sup> )	9,047m <sup>2</sup>
Land owner	Crown
Crown reserve purpose	Public recreation
Woollahra LEP 2014 zone	RE1 Public recreation
LG Act categorisation	Park and Natural Area - Foreshore
Legal description	Crown R85170 Lot 1 DP 909047 & Lot 7332 DP 1165885 & Lot 7033 DP 1023862 (lot7033 DP 1023862 shows on Lyne Park map)



### Description

This is a harbour foreshore reserve located to the east of the intersection of New South Head Road and Wunulla Road in the suburb of Rose Bay. These roads form the southern and western boundaries of the reserve respectively. Rose Bay police station is located at this intersection. Sydney Harbour forms the northern and eastern boundary. The land lies between the Rose Bay and Point Piper marinas.

A small crescent of land providing sheltered access to the harbour from a sandy beach, this reserve consists of park and natural area – foreshore land categories and includes a shaded picnic area, a playground, dinghy storage, kayak storage shed, seating and rubbish bins. A Sydney Water Pump Station is also situated in the reserve, on land managed directly by Sydney Water.

The land below the mean high water mark is managed by Transport for NSW, Maritime.



Figure 122. Rose Bay Park includes natural area- foreshore category land

### Access

Pedestrian access from the surrounding neighbourhood is challenging due to the change in level down to the harbour foreshore. The park is part of the Bondi to Manly walk.

Timber stairs and a timber ramp lead down from Wunulla Road. A bitumen service road provides emergency/service vehicular access, down from New South Head Road.

Another pedestrian ramp down from New South Head Road is located towards the Rose Bay marina.

Public transport is available nearby at bus stops along New South Head Road.

There is no public vehicular access to the site or on-site parking.

## History

### The Physical Landscape

Prior to the reclamation works that created Lyne Park and the construction of the Rose Bay seawall and esplanade, Rose Bay Park was contiguous with Rose Bay Beach further to the east.

The rocky headlands of the bay consisting of outcrops of the underlying Hawkesbury sandstone geology would have supported a woodland vegetation community with a scrubby understorey. This endemic vegetation was cleared for housing.

The small sandy beach and shady park are sheltered from sun and wind exposure.

### The Cultural Landscape – Aboriginal History and Heritage

#### Overview:

Aboriginal people have lived around Rose Bay for thousands of years. The sandy bay and its rocky ends teemed with fish and shellfish, while the dune hinterland and adjacent headlands contained freshwater springs and creeks, swamps and forests which were also rich in plant and animal resources. Unsurprisingly, Aboriginal people continued to live at the bay throughout the nineteenth century. In the 1870s, men were still spearfishing with traditional pronged spears, adapted with umbrella wires, and their group traded fish and oysters with the European families living in the area<sup>49</sup>. At the end of the nineteenth century they were still moving between different settlements at Rose Bay, Rushcutters Bay and Watsons Bay, but by around 1900 most had moved to the La Perouse Aboriginal fishing village<sup>50</sup>.

No Aboriginal sites have yet been recorded within Rose Bay Park, but it is possible that the dune sands in the park contain the remains of former camps from ancient times and into the nineteenth century. It has been suggested that the burial of early colonial identity Bungaree (1770s – 1830) and one of his wives Matora (1770s – 1828) could be buried around the western end of Rose Bay, but further investigation is needed to confirm this<sup>51</sup>. Whether or not this is the case, it is possible that other Aboriginal burials are located within the sands of the park. For this reason the entire park has been identified as a sensitive area.

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49. Irish (2017), p. 66.

50. Irish (2017), pp. 124-127.

51. 'Death of King Boongarie', *Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 27/11/1830, p. 2. There have been suggestions that the location was near the police station (adjacent to Rose Bay Park), but further research is needed.

### Recommendations

1. Opportunities could be explored to interpret the continuing nineteenth-century use of Rose Bay by Aboriginal people and its ancient roots. This could be addressed in a specific study, or as part of a future management plan for the park. It should include further research into the possible location of the burials of Bungaree and Matora to determine whether this is likely to be in the vicinity of Rose Bay Park.
2. Any proposed activities within Rose Bay Park which may impact below the ground surface should be subject to Aboriginal Heritage Impact Assessment. See appendix AA for more detail.

### The Cultural Landscape – European History and Heritage

#### Overview:

This site was once part of the first, extensive 1815 land grant in the area made to Captain John Piper, from whom the suburb takes its name.

The foundation of a grand Georgian house known as 'Henrietta Villa' was laid by Piper in 1816 on the land where Longworth Avenue meets Wunulla Road.

A decade later the property was sold to Daniel Cooper. 'Henrietta Villa' was demolished in 1856 and 'Woollahra House' was built in 1883. Subdivision of the Cooper estate began in the late 19th century and the house was demolished in 1929. Some elements of the Cooper estate remain however, including the original Victorian Italianate gatehouse, now significantly modified, on the corner of Wunulla Road and New South Head Road (just beyond the park boundary), and used as the Rose Bay police station. Remnants of the avenue of fig trees along the original carriageway, now Wunulla Road also remain. These are more than 130 years old and are of great historic significance to the cultural landscape of Sydney.

With the widening of New South Head Road in 1924, the concrete esplanade around Rose Bay was undertaken as an 'improvement project'. Rose Bay Park was gazetted on 8 January 1965.

#### Heritage Items

Police station WLEP local item 283 (outside park boundary).

#### Potential Heritage Items

At the time of preparing this document, Council staff are currently preparing a draft heritage gap analysis. It is anticipated that one of the recommendations of this work will be to assess the heritage significance of the cultural landscapes of the Woollahra LGA, including this site.

Potential items include the:  
Significant trees.

#### Recommendations:

1. Investigate opportunities to undertake a heritage assessment of the significant trees.
2. Consider a further study of the role of the park within the Cooper Estate and the landscape heritage remaining from that time.

3. For proposed activities that may impact below ground and water, an unexpected finds protocol must be in place to guide excavations. See appendix AA for more details.

### Landscape Character

The landscape character of Rose Bay Park is defined by the intimate connection to the harbour and the quality of enclosure and shade provided by the mature trees. Several *Ficus macrophylla* (Moreton Bay Fig) and *Ficus rubiginosa* (Port Jackson Fig) were listed in the register of significant trees. The park is a sheltered, shady, intimate space dominated by a steep change in level and the combined canopies of the fig trees.

Three of the largest specimens are located along the top of the embankment adjacent to Wunulla Road. In the register of significant trees, these figs are described as being outstanding. The most northerly fig along Wunulla Road is of particularly massive proportions, multi-trunked and significant in its own right. They totally dominate the visual character of this location and together with other neighbouring trees, form a densely canopied cathedral effect over the road and park. Additionally,

their elevated location along Wunulla Road makes them visually significant from the harbour as well as the local neighbourhood. Their size and scale lend them to the grand landscape scheme of the large estate that once occupied this site and are a tangible reminder of that past land use.

Most of the figs on the lower embankments and flat area adjacent to the foreshores, are not of the same size and scale as the Wunulla Road figs however they are significant as a dense massing, forming a very important green-buffer in this location, before the highly built-up Point Piper area.

The lush green foliage and valuable shade provided by these trees continues a general theme throughout the parks of this Municipality. They are an important design element within our cultural landscape. This species, as seen at other sites within the Municipality was often co-planted in the Victorian period with species of the *Araucaria* genus, such as Norfolk Island Pines. As recently as the 1970s other *Araucarias* were still remaining as part of this avenue, today, there is only one *Araucaria columnaris* (Cook Island Pine) remaining, just outside the park boundary.

This single *Araucaria* is one of the most visually prominent specimens of this species in the Municipality. Its size, age, history, distinctive curved trunk and visually prominent location, particularly from the eastern approach along New South Head Road, make this tree very significant; it is listed on the register of significant trees.

Other ornamental trees of note include a large Holm Oak (*Quercus ilex*) at the eastern end of the park and Radiata Pine (*Pinus radiata*). Remnant regrowth of original vegetation is now rare, but includes a lone Coastal Banksia (*Banksia integrifolia*) on the embankment below the Police Station.

### Relevant Documents

Woollahra Libraries, Local History Research File.



### Community Input – Rose Bay Park Use and Management Issues

This section provides a summary of the contributions made by our community through the Crown lands plan of management survey. Refer to the complete survey report in appendix BB for all responses. Questions 82, 83 and 84 of the Your Say survey refer specifically to Rose Bay Park, to which 38, 29 and 24 responses were received respectively. 3 postal surveys were received for Rose Bay Park.

Most of the survey participants stated that they visited Rose Bay Park weekly, on weekends and arrived by car and on foot. (The comment about arriving by car indicates that survey participants may have mistaken this location for Lyne Park).

Use of this site by our community is mostly to:

- go for a walk
- appreciate the place, the environment, the space, the views
- enjoy passive recreation, e.g. picnic, personal reflection and walk a dog

The key management issues here are:

- cleanliness, including pollution of harbour
- maintenance
- permissible uses, including dogs.

**Table 53. Current and Future Permissible Use of Rose Bay Park**

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
Park	Land	Passive recreation, dog exercise on leash at all times, aesthetic	Licence to use and maintain an underground fuel tank	2 refer appendix O	Casual recreation use e.g. walking, dog exercise on leash at all times, informal ball games, picnics for groups of < 20 at all times, no permit required.  Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include amusement devices, public meetings, watercraft storage, all group activities of > 20 and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.	Small scale and low intensity only	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.
	Buildings	Nil	Nil	Nil	Non-exclusive licence to use underground fuel tank, see table 57 for more information.		Dogs within 10m of playground.
	Improvements  Refer to Council's built asset register for complete list, which itemises every structure on the land, including condition rating	Playground, seats.  Kayak storage shed	Licence to operate kayak hire and coaching facility & placement of storage shed	2 Av 2 for all built assets  Shed maintained by licensee, refer appendix O	Licence to operate kayak hire and storage shed.  Development related or ancillary to recreation and / or aesthetic use is permissible, e.g. amenity buildings, utilities if required, planting for shade and habitat, park furniture, recreation facilities, play equipment, temporary structures for recreational needs, environmental facilities / management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).		Dog exercise off leash.  Smoking within 10m of playground

**Table 53. Current and Future Permissible Use of Rose Bay Park *cont'***

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
NA - F	Land	Low impact passive recreation, dog exercise on leash at all times, aesthetic.	Nil	3	Casual recreation use e.g. walking, dog exercise on leash at all times, informal ball games, water based passive recreation, picnics for groups of < 20 at all times, no permit required.  Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include watercraft storage, all group activities of > 20 and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.	Small scale and low intensity only	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.  Dogs within 10m of playground.  Dog exercise off leash.
	Buildings	Nil	Nil	Nil	Development related or ancillary to low impact passive recreation and / or aesthetic use is permissible, e.g., park furniture, temporary structures for recreational needs, environmental facilities / management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).		
	Improvements	Dinghy storage rack, seats.	Nil	2			
Condition ratings for land and park assets as follows: 1. Excellent – no work required or as new condition, 2. Good – well maintained, minor maintenance only, 3. Average – maintained but in need of repair, 4. Poor – in need of major repair or renewal, 5. Very Poor – urgent renewal or upgrading required							
Condition ratings for buildings as follows: 1 – Good, 2 – Fair, 3 – Requires maintenance, 4 – Requires replacement.							
Special management requirements: WMC mapping shows the area as class 5 acid sulphate soils.							
Capital works currently budgeted for: Nil.							
Current Council resolution: Nil.							

**Table 54. Management Framework for Rose Bay Park**

**IN ADDITION TO THE GENERIC MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR ALL COMMUNITY LAND CROWN RESERVES, THE FOLLOWING SITE SPECIFIC ACTIONS ADDRESS ISSUES RAISED IN THE SURVEY AND / OR NOTED THROUGH SITE OBSERVATION AND ANALYSIS AND / OR REQUIRED BY A CURRENT COUNCIL RESOLUTION.**

Objective – the desired outcome	Performance targets – what the objective is trying to do	Actions – how to achieve the target	Performance measures – how to assess whether the objective and targets have been met
<b>1</b>  Safe, clean, well-maintained, functional and varied	<b>B</b>  Ensure <b>clean</b> , litter free public land is <b>well-maintained</b> and available for use by the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Control weed infestation on the Wunulla Road side embankment</li> <li>• Continue to improve overall amenity of site</li> <li>• Investigate further storm water management solutions to assist with the pollution into the harbour</li> </ul>	<p>Weeds controlled</p> <p>Stronger site profile amongst the community</p> <p>Storm water management review completed with the aim to improve the water quality of stormwater entering into the harbour</p>
<b>2</b>  Accessible and inclusive	<b>B</b>  Optimise public access to all sites and <b>improve connectivity</b> via improvements to <b>walking and cycling paths</b> (a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate improved access and connectivity to Wunulla Rd and New South Head Rd</li> </ul>	<p>Stronger site profile amongst the community</p>

Table 54. Management Framework for Rose Bay Park *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>3</b>	<b>E</b>		
Well managed for public use	Support appropriate use of land through <b>leases, licences</b> and <b>other estates</b> for the best interest of the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to manage storage shed licence as per agreement</li> <li>• Continue to manage fuel tank licence as per agreement</li> </ul>	<p>Agreement upheld</p> <p>Agreement upheld</p>
	<b>H</b>		
	<b>Reduce conflicts</b> of use, <b>provide regulatory</b> and, where appropriate, provide additional <b>wayfinding signage</b> to inform all user groups of what is prohibited use, so that <b>all user groups are able to enjoy</b> the land and facilities provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install informative regulatory signs at appropriate locations that communicate dog regulations</li> <li>• Provide more ranger patrols and enforce fines to assist with compliance</li> <li>• Enforce regulations, including the issuing of fines for non-compliance</li> <li>• Consider additional wayfinding / interpretative signage at appropriate locations , include Bondi to Manly Walk signage</li> </ul>	<p>Regulatory signage installed as appropriate</p> <p>Community needs for access to public land is met</p> <p>Use of the land is more harmonious, fewer reported incidents of conflict</p> <p>Rangers report less incidents of conflict and non-compliance</p> <p>Easy to read signs are installed at key locations</p>

**Table 54. Management Framework for Rose Bay Park cont'**

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>6</b>	<b>A</b>		
Heritage and cultural awareness	Investigate and assess <b>environmental heritage</b> and ensure land is used and managed to be consistent with <b>heritage significance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate opportunities to undertake a heritage assessment of the significant trees</li> <li>Investigate opportunities to explore the role of the park within the Cooper estate and the associated landscape heritage</li> </ul>	<p>Assessment completed</p> <p>Investigation completed</p> <p>Heritage retained for future generations</p>
	<b>B</b>		
	Investigate, assess and manage <b>First Nations culture</b> and <b>history</b> on Crown land (a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate opportunities to interpret the role / use of Rose Bay by Aboriginal people</li> </ul>	<p>Aboriginal history and heritage assessed</p> <p>Improved understanding and greater appreciation of site heritage</p>
	<b>D</b>		
	Work with <b>Aboriginal communities</b> to realise the potential of their <b>land rights</b> (a priority of the <i>State Strategic plan for Crown land</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage with the La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council as necessary in regards to incomplete land claims at Rose Bay Park</li> </ul>	<p>Aboriginal history and heritage assessed</p> <p>Improved understanding and greater appreciation of site heritage</p>



# Appendix N

## Rose Bay Park Survey Responses – User Profile

(The following information includes the *Your Say* data plus any related postal data)

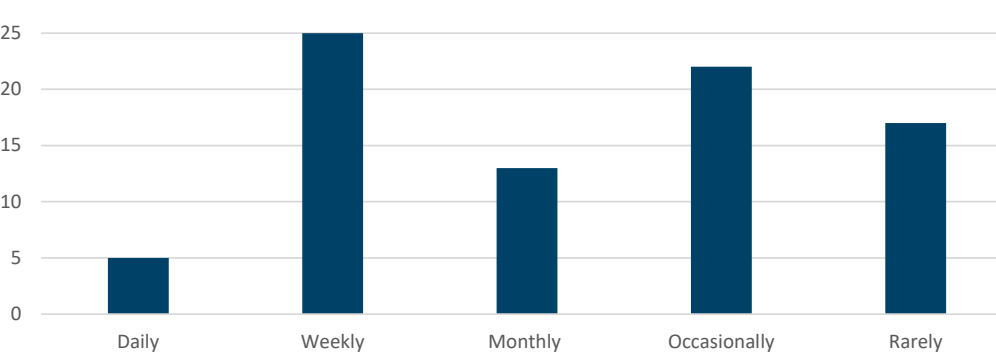


Figure 123. How often do you visit Rose Bay Park?

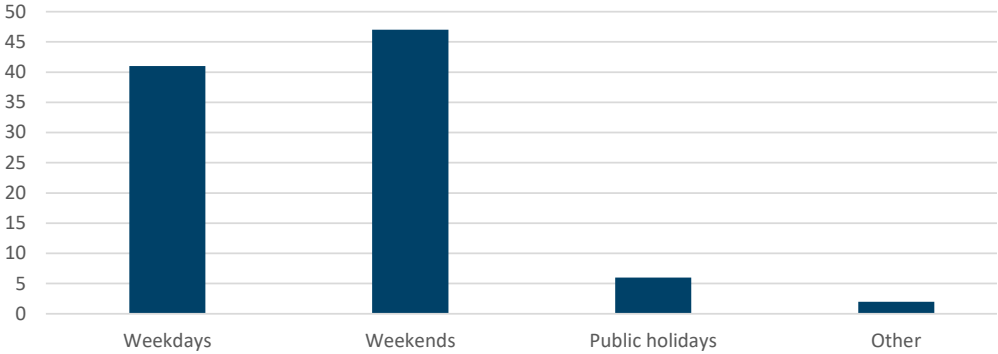


Figure 124. When do you usually visit Rose Bay Park?

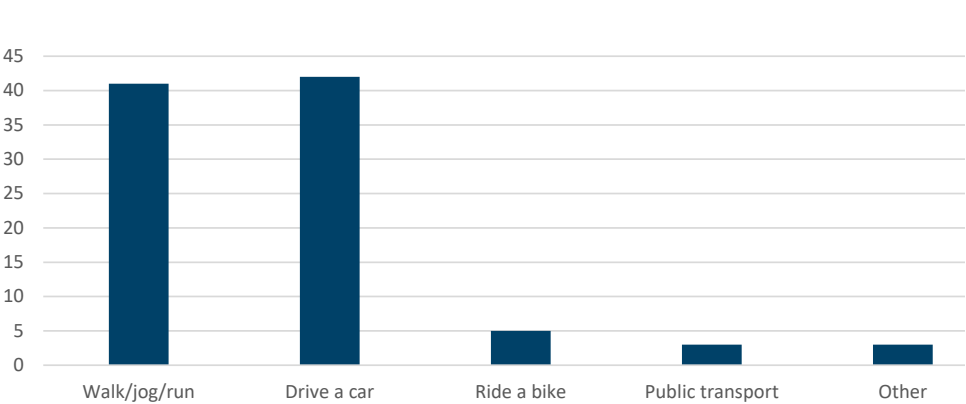


Figure 125. How do you usually get to Rose Bay Park?

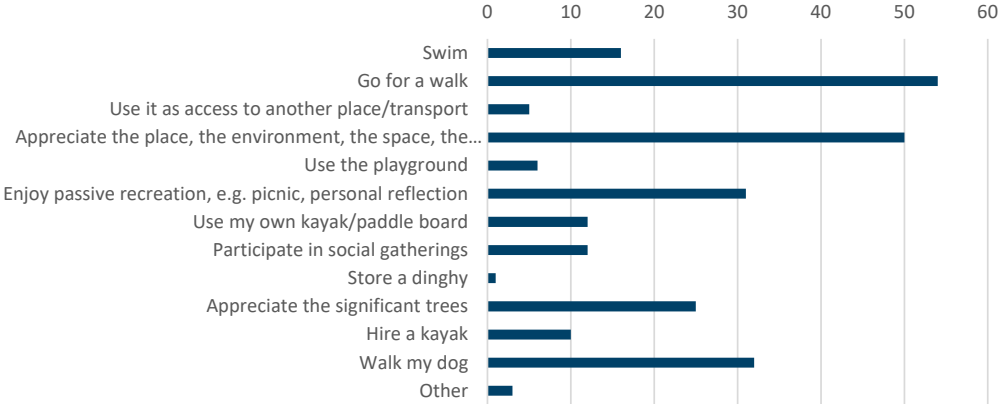


Figure 126. What do you usually do at Rose Bay Park?

# Appendix O

**Table 55. Rose Bay Park Kayak Storage Shed**

Item	Condition
<p>The wooden storage shed was built by the licensee, as per DA 493/2005/3. The DA allows the licensee to use Rose Bay Park for a kayak hire and coaching facility and to place a kayak storage structure on Rose Bay Park.</p> <p>The shed was erected on the north-eastern end of Rose Bay Park, just north of the stormwater outlet near the Point Piper Marina. It measures 6 m x 8m with a building height of 5.6m. The structure is placed above the high-water mark and off the sand area of the beach and under the canopy of trees, set back a min of 1.5m from the edge of the existing retaining wall of the adjacent raised grassed area to allow for pedestrian access. The shed is able to store a total of 48 kayaks, comprising 33 private vessels and 15 kayaks. Shed is constructed of hardwood slats to each face with a Hi Ten steel roof Zinalume finish, secured into the ground by hardwood posts.</p>	<p>A condition report has never been prepared by Council regarding this structure, as it is maintained by the licensee, as per licence agreement</p>

**Table 56. Kayak Storage Shed Licence Details**

Name	<b>Kayak Racing Pty Ltd</b>
Description	Rose Bay Park (R85170) Reserve Trust
Address	Rose Bay Park
Lessee/Licensee	Lance O'Connor – Kayak Racing Pty Ltd
Term Starts	1/01/2014
Term Ends	31/12/2018
Term	5 years
Renewal Options	12 months
Rental	\$8 864.56 pa incl GST
Area m <sup>2</sup>	Approx 48
Notes / Special Conditions	Current agreement is month to month hold over of licence.

**Table 57. Underground fuel tank Licence Details**

Name	<b>5000 L Underground fuel tank</b>
Description	Rose Bay Park (R85170) Reserve Trust
Address	Rose Bay Park
Lessee/Licensee	Addenbrook Pty Ltd
Term Starts	7/10/00
Term Ends	2010
Term	10 years
Renewal Options	Annual holdover to Sep 2023
Rental	\$2381.83 pa incl GST
Area m <sup>2</sup>	40m <sup>2</sup>
Notes / Special Conditions	<p>Non-exclusive licence to use and maintain a 5000L underground fuel tank.</p> <p>The fuel tank is currently used exclusively by the owners of the adjoining marina at 5 Wunulla Road, Point Piper. The owner of the marina confirmed on 29/3/22 that the fuel tank was pumped out in 2008 and has not been refilled since then. The owner of the marina had plans to redevelop the marina in early 2023, when they hope to combine that redevelopment with the removal and make good of the fuel tank site. This action has been delayed. Plans are still in place to remove the fuel tank at a later date.</p>

## 21. Rushcutters Bay Park



Figure 127. Rushcutters Bay Park



Figure 128. Aerial photo of Rushcutters Bay Park



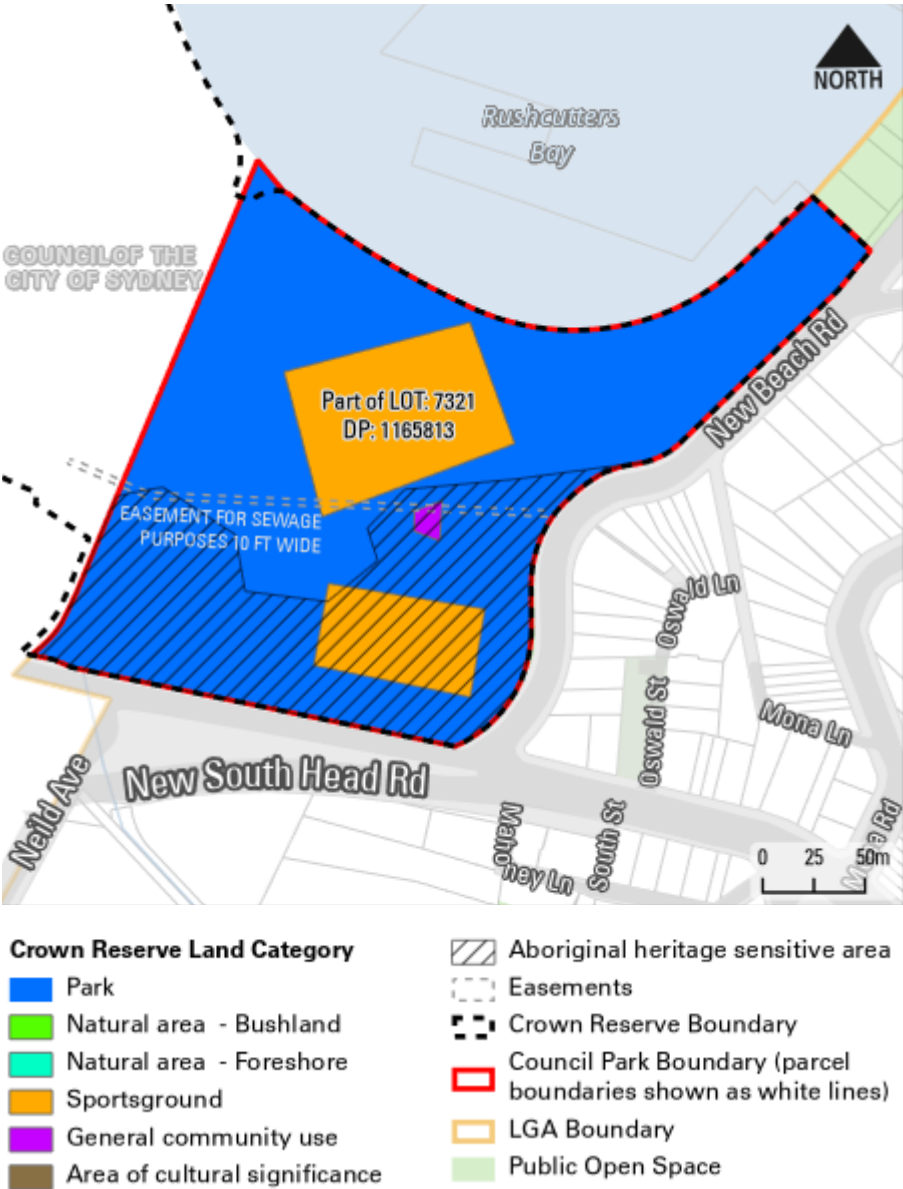


Figure 129. Rushcutters Bay Park map including land categories

Table 58. Legal description for Rushcutters Bay Park

Location	New Beach Road, Darling Point
Land area (m <sup>2</sup> )	54,256m <sup>2</sup>
Land owner	Crown
Crown reserve purpose	Public recreation
Woollahra LEP 2014 zone	RE1 Public recreation
LG Act categorisation	Park, Sportsground, General Community Use
Legal description	Crown R500097 Part Reserve with Part Lot 7321 DP 1165813. The other part of this reserve is managed by City of Sydney.



### Description

Rushcutters Bay Park is located on the harbour foreshore about 2kms east of the Sydney CBD. It is within both the Woollahra and City of Sydney LGA's, the boundary between the two being the now channelized Rushcutters Creek, which runs from Bayswater Rd to the harbour.

The area of the park that is managed by Woollahra is defined by Rushcutters Bay to the north, the Sydney Water channel to the west, New Beach Rd and the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia (CYCA) to the east and New South Head Rd to the south. The site consists of park, sportsground and general community use land categories.

Sir David Martin Reserve and Yarranabbe Park lie further to the north east along the foreshore past the CYCA and d'Albora marina. Together, Rushcutters Bay Park, Sir David Martin Reserve and Yarranabbe Park provide significant public open space amenity.



Figure 130. South-east aerial view of Rushcutters Bay



Figure 131. South-west view over sportsground category land at Rushcutters Bay Park



Figure 132. North-east view over sportsground category land at Rushcutters Bay Park

### Access

Level shared pedestrian and bicycle access is available from paths entering the park at the southwest corner and from one of two footbridges over the channel from Reg Bartley Oval in the City of Sydney area of the park. Level access is also available from the path along New Beach Rd. The site is part of the Bondi to Manly walk. Access from the southern boundary along New South Head Rd is via a grass slope down from the road and one of two flights of concrete stairs.

Public transport is available at bus stops along New Beach Rd, Bayswater Rd and New South Head Rd. The closest train station is Edgecliff, approximately 1km away uphill to the southeast.

The pathway along the foreshore is wider than the other paths within the park to accommodate the high levels of use and allows for harbourside promenading.

Emergency and maintenance vehicle access is available at two access points off New Beach Rd. No public vehicle access or on-site parking is available.

### History

#### The Physical Landscape

Originally, this land was an estuarine marshland bisected by a fresh water creek that made its way to the harbour through a gully timbered with species such as Smooth-barked Apple (*Angophora costata*), Bangalay (*Eucalyptus botryoides*) and Forest Red Gum (*Eucalyptus tereticornis*). Cabbage Tree Palms (*Livistona australis*) grew in the closed forest at the head of the bay. The alluvial flats supported a vegetation community tolerant of the swampy conditions, most likely consisting of species such as the Common Rush (*Juncus usitatus*), which settlers were cutting for use as thatching within weeks of the First Fleet arriving in 1788.

The endemic vegetation was cleared during the 19th century and the physical landscape significantly altered by intense land uses such as market gardening. The reclamation work of the late 19th century involved filling the foreshore with silt, draining and levelling the land to create an area of useable park-land.

The site receives high levels of sun and wind exposure.

### The Cultural Landscape – Aboriginal History and Heritage

#### Overview:

Aboriginal people lived around Rushcutters Bay for thousands of years and right through the nineteenth century. Before the arrival of Europeans the valley of Rushcutters Creek, the mudflats at its delta, and the bay itself would have been rich in resources for them to use. A year after the arrival of Europeans in Sydney in 1788, a devastating smallpox epidemic swept around the harbour and claimed many Aboriginal lives. There were also violent encounters between Aboriginal people and Europeans in those early years. Although there is a local legend the bay gained its name from two convicts speared while gathering rushes there in 1788, it is not correct – this happened west of Sydney Cove<sup>52</sup>. Rushcutters Bay became a major settlement for the surviving Aboriginal people of coastal Sydney throughout the nineteenth century. There were probably several camps around the edge of the extensive mudflats and also further up into the valley (today's Paddington) at different times.

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52. Irish, Paul (2019). 'Aboriginal Paddington', in Young, G. (ed.) *Paddington. An Urban Village*, NewSouth Publishing, Sydney, p. 24.

The Aboriginal settlement was a well-known feature of the local area, and existed until around 1900, when its residents moved to the Aboriginal reserve at La Perouse around 1900<sup>53</sup>.

No Aboriginal sites have been recorded around Rushcutters Bay, but this is because Aboriginal heritage surveys were not required at the time most houses and other buildings were constructed. Most of Rushcutters Bay Park consists of land reclaimed on top of the former extensive mudflats, and these areas are unlikely to contain any physical evidence of past Aboriginal use. The southern part of Rushcutters Bay Park is not reclaimed land, but has been impacted by past market gardening and landscaping. It has been identified as a sensitive area as it may possibly contain physical traces of ancient camps or more recent Aboriginal settlements in the area. Whether or not physical remains are present, the area is significant for the history of those uses, which has been recognised in the State Heritage Register listing of Rushcutters Bay Park and Yarranabee Park (SHR 5067067).

### Recommendations

1. Opportunities should be explored to interpret local Aboriginal history and heritage within the park. This could be addressed in a specific study, or as part of any future Conservation Management Plan for the State Heritage Register Listing which includes the park.
2. An Aboriginal heritage management plan should be completed for Rushcutters Bay Park to provide detailed management recommendations to guide future activities. This could be as part of any future Conservation Management Plan for the State Heritage Register Listing which includes the park.
3. Until an Aboriginal heritage management plan is adopted for the park, any proposed activities within the sensitive area which may impact below the ground surface should be subject to Aboriginal Heritage Impact.
4. For any proposed activities within the remainder of Rushcutters Bay Park, an unexpected finds protocol should be in place for any excavation works. See appendix AA for more details.



Figure 133. Looking east over the sensitive area within Rushcutters Bay Park towards the constructed embankments around New Beach Rd and New South Head Rd

### The Cultural Landscape – European History and Heritage

#### Overview:

Land use in this area has been well documented and an extensive description is provided by the NSW Government Office of Environment and Heritage within listing number [SHR 02041]. Rushcutters Bay Park was listed as an item of State heritage significance on the State Heritage Register under the Heritage Act on 19/06/2020.

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53. Irish (2018).

## 21. Rushcutters Bay Park

This land has been used for many purposes since the arrival of the First Fleet in 1788, including as a source of building materials and stable bedding and for food production. A flour mill was built at Rushcutters Creek on land granted by Governor Macquarie in the early 1800s. Other land grants followed and the flat land near the bay was used for market gardens from the 1830s; these market gardens provided most of the vegetables for the colonial settlement.

By the late 19th century, the area was considered unhealthy and unsightly. A public petition to reclaim the land to the low water mark for the purpose of a public reserve was successfully put to the Minister. Dumping of marine deposits commenced around 1877 and a year later an Act of Parliament was passed that reserved and dedicated the area for public recreation.

The first sea wall was laid down in 1881, it was however replaced shortly after by the current vertical sandstone block sea wall, which was built in conjunction with the stormwater channel. Both projects were completed over the period of 1882-1898. The reclamation scheme undertaken for

this park is now considered to be an archetype in design for other maritime infill projects throughout the Sydney basin and across New South Wales.

The park was proclaimed under the Public Works Act 1884 and gazetted on 11/12/1885. A park design competition was held in the following year. Won by Frederick Augustus (F.A.) Franklin, the layout incorporated areas for active and passive leisure within the park and featured a formal arrangement of Moreton Bay figs. This species was highly favoured in civic landscape design themes of the Victorian era, as recommended by Charles Moore, the influential director of the Sydney Botanic Gardens at the time. Moore encouraged the planting of several other rainforest trees, such as pines of the *Araucaria* genus. Franklin also submitted a design concept for Centennial Park in 1887. While not fully adopted, elements of his design concept influenced the final layout of that park.

The role of the park as a place for active and passive recreation continues, with the more recent improvements; the cafe building, fitness stations and children's playground all being well used by the community.



Figure 134. Foreshore ambiance in Rushcutters Bay Park

### Heritage Items

Rushcutters Bay Park, Sir David Martin Reserve and Yarranabbe Park were listed on the State Heritage Register 19/06/2020 [SHR 02041].

The listing means that the Heritage Council becomes the joint consent authority with the Council for works which may affect the item's heritage significance. This site is covered by site-specific exemptions approved by the Minister on the recommendation of the Heritage Council.

To date, there has been regular engagement with Heritage NSW, both throughout the listing process



and afterwards, regarding the ongoing management of this item. As part of this, Council have identified the intention to proceed with projects identified in Council's Delivery Program and sought advice on how best to approach the issue of heritage impact on the parks.

In keeping with the advice to date, Council engaged an external consultant to prepare Conservation Management Strategy for the site and a Statement of Heritage Impact for the Youth Recreation Area project. On 22/08/2022 Council considered the CMS and SoHI and resolved to submit an application for approval under Section 60 of the Heritage Act 1977 (Heritage Act) to undertake the project; and to continue with the preparation of the Review of Environmental Factors if Heritage approval is granted.

### Potential Heritage Items

The whole of the site has been listed on the heritage register.

### Recommendations:

1. Undertake a conservation management strategy for the whole site.

2. For proposed activities that may impact below ground and water, an unexpected finds protocol must be in place to guide excavations. See appendix AA for more details.

### Landscape Character

This reserve is characterised by the large open space area, significant mature trees, the open grassed playing fields, the wide walking and cycling paths, the destination café, the playground and by the intimate foreshore location and associated maritime views.

The rows of huge Moreton Bay Figs along New South Head Road form a distinctive entry to the municipality, and provide a dense green buffer to the city traffic. This group of trees have been described as forming a green gateway to Woollahra, as they are the first significant soft landscape feature experienced when travelling east from the CBD along William Street, after the City of Sydney's Hyde Park. They are listed in the register of significant trees.

A co-dominant planting palette exists between the Moreton Bay Fig trees and the repeated use of

London Plane Trees. This is the only park in the LGA that contains the London Plane species, and being deciduous, they provide an interesting contrast to the dense broad evergreen leaves and domed canopies of the figs. One is listed in the register of significant trees. Complimentary to the Moreton Bay Figs are the Port Jackson Figs, also listed as significant. These species are found in many other parks across Sydney. Together these trees enclose the park on its southern and eastern boundaries. They are culturally and visually significant and the character provided by them creates a strong sense of place that should be maintained in new or replacement planting programs.

Views into and out of the park are significant to the landscape character and contribute to the strong sense of place experienced at the park. Views of the park are available from Sydney Harbour and from the surrounding high density residential developments of Darling Point, Elizabeth Bay and Edgecliff. Foreground views from within the park to the north, north east and north west are through the clustered masts of yachts moored in the bay. Outward views to the south, south east and south west are of and through the dense canopies of the

mature trees to the surrounding urban fabric.

### Relevant Documents

Council proposes to build a Youth Recreation Area in the southwest corner of the park close to the southwestern park entry at New South Head Road. The proposal includes low height skate/scooter elements for 8-14 year olds, a basketball half court, a shade shelter, seating and low height plantings. The intention is to cater to the identified recreational needs of the 8-14 year age group. The YRA will be available for general public recreational use between the hours of 7am and dusk.

A CMS and SoHI was prepared for Rushcutters Bay Park in relation to the Youth Recreation Area. Refer to page 26 for more information.

Rushcutters Bay Park, Sir David Martin Reserve and Yarranabbe Park were listed on the State Heritage Register 19/06/2020 [SHR 02041].

Site Specific Exemptions relating to Heritage Listing 26/06/2020 [SHR 02041].

Woollahra Libraries, Local History Research File.

### Community Input – Rushcutters Bay Park Use and Management Issues

This section provides a summary of the contributions made by our community through the Crown lands plan of management survey. Refer to the complete survey report in appendix BB for all responses. Questions 121, 122 and 123 of the Your Say survey refer specifically to Rushcutters Bay Park, to which we received 93, 74 and 63 responses respectively. 12 postal surveys were received for Rushcutters Bay Park.

Most of the survey participants visited Rushcutters Bay Park daily, on weekdays and arrived on foot.

Use of this site by our community is mostly to:

- go for a walk
- appreciate the place, the environment, the space, the views
- appreciate the significant trees

The key management issues here are:

- site design and further development proposals most notably the Youth Recreation Area (YRA).
- conflicts of use, mainly associated with dog management and also other activities such as cycling
- overall maintenance of site including trees, turf and garden areas.



**Table 59. Current and Future Permissible Use of Rushcutters Bay Park**

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
Park	Land	Passive recreation, off leash dog exercise 3.30pm – 10.30am aesthetic	Commercial fitness activities permitted with a licence  Easement for sewage	3	Casual recreation use e.g. walking, dog exercise as per sign posted regulations, informal ball games, picnics for groups of < 20 at all times, no permit required.  Existing sewage easement.  Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include commercial fitness training, amusement devices, public meetings, all group activities of > 20 and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.	Up to large scale and medium intensity only	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.  Dogs within 10m of playground and 10m of food prep areas.
	Buildings	Nil	Nil	Nil			Unleashed dogs 10.30am – 3.30pm and when organised sport is being played.
	Improvements Refer to Council's built asset register for complete list, which itemises every structure on the land, including condition rating	Playground, seats, paths, exercise stations, significant trees	Nil	2.3 Av 2.08 for all built assets	Development related or ancillary to recreation and / or aesthetic use is permissible, e.g. amenity buildings, utilities if required, planting for shade and habitat, park furniture, recreation facilities, play equipment, temporary structures for recreational needs, environmental facilities / management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).		Smoking within 10m of playground  Smoking in outdoor cafes  Commercial fitness activities in playgrounds and on public exercise stations

**Table 59. Current and Future Permissible Use of Rushcutters Bay Park *cont'***

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
S'ground	Land	Passive recreation, off leash dog exercise 3.30pm – 10.30am aesthetic Active recreation, soccer, rugby union, rugby league, junior cricket, touch football	Short term casual and seasonal licences.  Commercial fitness activities permitted with a licence.	3	Active recreation use on a casual and / or seasonal basis e.g. rugby, soccer, and cricket, a permit is required for all organised sport regardless of size.  When organised sport is not being played, passive recreation use is permitted, e.g. walking, dog exercise as per sign posted regulations, informal ball games, picnics of < 20 at any time, no permit required.  Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include commercial fitness training, amusement devices, public meetings, cultural events, all group activities of > 20 and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.	Up to large scale and medium intensity only.	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.  Dogs within 10m of playground and 10m of food prep areas.  Unleashed dogs 10.30am – 3.30pm and when sport is being played.  Smoking in areas for spectators during organised sporting events
	Buildings	Nil	Nil	Nil	Development related or ancillary to active recreation needs is permissible, e.g. sporting facilities and / or amenities including but not limited to lighting, drainage, irrigation, surface levelling and resurfacing, environmental management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).		Commercial fitness activities in playgrounds and on public exercise stations.
	Improvements	2 x grass fields 1 x synthetic junior cricket pitch, irrigation	Nil	Av 2.08			

**Table 59. Current and Future Permissible Use of Rushcutters Bay Park *cont'***

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
G C Use	Land	Passive recreation	Nil	Nil	Various use to meet the public recreation, or the physical, cultural, social or intellectual needs of the community, e.g. community facilities, kiosk, recreation areas.  Existing kiosk use as per agreement.  Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include public meetings, all group activities of > 20, all building venues, and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.	Medium scale and medium intensity only	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.  Unleashed dogs 10.30am – 3.30pm and when sport is being played.
	Buildings	Kiosk and accessible toilets	Kiosk leased See appendix Q for report.	Av 2. See appendix Q for report.	Long term leases / licences may be granted for provision of appropriate goods, services, facilities or purposes as currently used and / or as shown in table 9.		Dogs within 10m of playground and within 10m of food prep areas.  Smoking in outdoor cafes.
	Improvements	Paving	Nil	Av 2.	Development related or ancillary to the recreational, physical, cultural, social or intellectual needs of the community is permissible, e.g. kiosks, mobile refreshment stands, temporary structures for recreational needs, community facilities, environmental facilities / management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).		Commercial fitness activities in playgrounds, or near kiosk

**Table 59. Current and Future Permissible Use of Rushcutters Bay Park *cont'***

Current Use	Future Use
Condition ratings for land and park assets as follows: 1. Excellent – no work required or as new condition, 2. Good – well maintained, minor maintenance only, 3. Average – maintained but in need of repair, 4. Poor – in need of major repair or renewal, 5. Very Poor – urgent renewal or upgrading required	
Condition ratings for buildings as follows: 1 – Good, 2 – Fair, 3 – Requires maintenance, 4 – Requires replacement.	
Special management requirements: WMC mapping shows the area as class 2 acid sulphate soils.	
Capital works currently budgeted for: Youth Recreation Area.	
<p>Current Council resolution: 19/08/2019; it was resolved to investigate sports lighting at existing sportsfields, including Rushcutters Bay Park with the aim to increase the fields' usability.</p> <p>15/10/2018; the Youth Recreation Area (YRA) was endorsed by Council.</p> <p>14/04/2023; it was resolved to commission a report to investigate the feasibility of creating more swimmable areas on the western harbour area of the LGA, and liaise with the City of Sydney to explore the possibility of a joint investigation of the potential for swimming opportunities at Rushcutters Bay and surrounds.</p> <p>12/06/23: Council resolved a moratorium on synthetic grass to any new sports fields within the Woollahra LGA until a further report is presented to Council referring to the State Government's Departmental report (Synthetic Turf Study in Public Open Space) and the Chief Scientist's progress report.</p>	

**Table 60. Management Framework for Rushcutters Bay Park**

**IN ADDITION TO THE GENERIC MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR ALL COMMUNITY LAND CROWN RESERVES, THE FOLLOWING SITE SPECIFIC ACTIONS ADDRESS ISSUES RAISED IN THE SURVEY AND / OR NOTED THROUGH SITE OBSERVATION AND ANALYSIS AND / OR REQUIRED BY A CURRENT COUNCIL RESOLUTION.**

Objective – the desired outcome	Performance targets – what the objective is trying to do	Actions – how to achieve the target	Performance measures – how to assess whether the objective and targets have been met
<b>1</b>  Safe, clean, well-maintained, functional and varied	<b>B</b>  Ensure <b>clean</b> , litter free public land is <b>well-maintained</b> and available for use by the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure appropriate maintenance and presentation to the New South Head Road and New Beach Road boundaries</li> <li>• Investigate and ameliorate if necessary, surface water sheet flows across the site after heavy rain</li> <li>• Continue to work with Sydney Water to improve the quality of water discharging to Sydney Harbour with the aim of naturalising Sydney Water's drainage channels at Double Bay and Rushcutters Bay (where feasible).</li> </ul>	<p>Boundaries well maintained, status as gateway to Woollahra upheld</p> <p>Improved quality of water discharge</p>
	<b>C</b>  Ensure the facilities and experiences at each site meet <b>community expectations</b> , and are <b>fit for purpose</b> , (a strategy of <i>Greener Places</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review layout of cricket wicket to ensure it is adequate for play</li> </ul>	Cricket wicket specifications upheld

Table 60. Management Framework for Rushcutters Bay Park *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
1	<b>D</b> Ensure a <b>variety</b> of opportunities are available and the <b>landscape character</b> of each site is preserved and that future design and use responds to the <b>unique site conditions</b> and <b>identity</b> (a strategy of <i>Greener Places</i> and a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To commission a report to investigate the feasibility (or otherwise) or creating a more accessible, safe and swimmable harbour, including identifying potential locations, with the focus of the report to be on the western area of the the LGA</li> </ul>	Investigation completed
	<b>E</b> Where there is <b>opportunity</b> to improve <b>layout, functionality, aesthetic appeal</b> and <b>site interpretation</b> provide a <b>landscape master plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare a detailed landscape master plan for the Bay Trio of parks, i.e. Rushcutters Bay Park, Sir David Martin Reserve and Yarranabbe Park, that establishes a vision for all three sites, allows for an integrated approach to the ongoing recreational use of the area, maintains the unique landscape character, including the views, improves habitat opportunities, pedestrian access and connectivity including access to the foreshore, Green Links, provides appropriate materials selection, including a selected hardscape and softscape palette, meaningful wayfinding elements, resolves surface water sheet flow issues, develops the sense of place and interprets the significant cultural heritage values, including local Aboriginal history and heritage within the park</li> </ul>	<p>Concept design process is undertaken and a master plan produced with the engagement of all stakeholders</p> <p>Unique site values and preferred spatial arrangement of all elements integrated into master plan</p> <p>Future capital works allocated to a cohesive, well documented plan, specified for their appropriateness within the landscape</p>



Table 60. Management Framework for Rushcutters Bay Park *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>2</b>	<b>B</b>		
Accessible and inclusive	Optimise public access to all sites and <b>improve connectivity</b> via improvements to <b>walking and cycling paths</b> (a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to explore the Paddington Greenway concept, ensure the layout maintains the character and values of the park</li> </ul>	Design advanced with engagement of all stakeholders
<b>3</b>	<b>D</b>		
Well managed for public use	Ensure <b>planning and development controls</b> across the LGA <b>conserve the natural environment, aesthetic quality and heritage values</b> on Crown land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work collaboratively to update planning and development controls so that the controls are compatible with the natural environment, aesthetic and heritage values</li> </ul>	Potential conflicts identified and reduced
	<b>E</b>		
	Support appropriate use of land through <b>leases, licences</b> and other <b>estates</b> for the best interest of the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to manage café lease as per agreement</li> </ul>	Agreement upheld
<b>4</b>	<b>D</b>		
Natural environment conserved	Ensure the <b>existing mature tree canopy</b> is retained to <b>preserve landscape character</b> and <b>create an inter-connected tree canopy</b> across public land, strategies of <i>Greener Places</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prioritise management of the significant trees</li> <li>Develop a management plan for the London Plane trees adjacent to the café and playground</li> </ul>	<p>Replacement trees are well established prior to significant tree senescence</p> <p>Management plan for London Plane trees is communicated to the community</p> <p>Landscape character and landscape heritage is retained</p>

**Table 60. Management Framework for Rushcutters Bay Park *cont'***

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>6</b>  Heritage and cultural awareness	<b>A</b>  Investigate and assess <b>environmental heritage</b> and ensure land is used and managed to be consistent with <b>heritage significance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate with the City of Sydney to prepare a Conservation Management Plan for the whole heritage listed area [SHR 02041]</li> <li>Prepare S60 application to Heritage for NSW for exhibition and assessment prior to construction of the Rushcutters Bay Park Youth Recreation Area.</li> <li>Manage environmental heritage in accordance with our statutory obligations</li> <li>Identify opportunities to enhance and celebrate environmental heritage, including interpretation, conservation works, art works and signage</li> </ul>	CMP recommendations inform design of YRA  Application and public exhibition complete  Obligations fulfilled  Improved understanding and greater appreciation of environmental heritage No negative impacts of management practices on sites with natural and cultural significance Only sympathetic and compatible uses are permitted Heritage retained for future generations
	<b>B</b>  Investigate, assess and manage <b>First Nations culture and history</b> on Crown land (a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate opportunities to interpret the role / use of Rushcutters Bay by Aboriginal people</li> <li>Investigate opportunities to undertake an Aboriginal heritage management plan within the CMS</li> </ul>	Improved understanding and greater appreciation of site heritage  Heritage managed and retained for future generations

Table 60. Management Framework for Rushcutters Bay Park *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>6</b>	<b>D</b>		
Heritage and cultural awareness	Work with <b>Aboriginal communities</b> to realise the potential of their <b>land rights</b> (a priority of the <i>State Strategic plan for Crown land</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage with the La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council as necessary in regards to incomplete land claims at Rushcutters Bay Park</li> </ul>	Improved relationship and understanding of local Aboriginal community in respect of their land rights
<b>7</b>	<b>B</b>		
Recreational opportunities	Encourage <b>multiple use</b> of Crown land, ensure land is <b>multifunctional</b> , <b>flexible</b> and <b>versatile</b> , proposed facilities to be <b>multi-purpose</b> to maximise community benefit and meet changing community needs (strategies of <i>Greener Places</i> and a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multiple use of site encouraged by expanding appropriate opportunities, including the YRA, that are compatible with heritage values</li> <li>Investigate sports lighting with the aim to increase the fields' usability. Present a report back to the Finance, Community &amp; Services Committee that includes costing, proposed timing, consultation plan, funding options and planning considerations for the installation of sports lighting</li> </ul>	<p>Documentation for the YRA progresses to the satisfaction of Heritage NSW</p> <p>Investigation completed Report presented</p>
<b>8</b>	<b>C</b>		
Social and community opportunities	Provide stronger avenues for <b>community consultation</b> , encourage <b>stewardship</b> of the land and <b>community participation</b> in decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Liaise with City of Sydney to achieve a collaborative aspirational design outcome for the Bay Trio sites, including Rushcutters Bat Park, Sir David Martin Reserve and Yarranabbe Park</li> </ul>	<p>Improvements are consulted upon, developed, and implemented to the satisfaction of the majority of the community, where possible.</p> <p>Community is more harmonious, satisfaction is higher and fewer complaints are received</p>

# Appendix P

## Rushcutters Bay Park Survey Responses – User Profile

(The following information includes the *Your Say* data plus any related postal data)

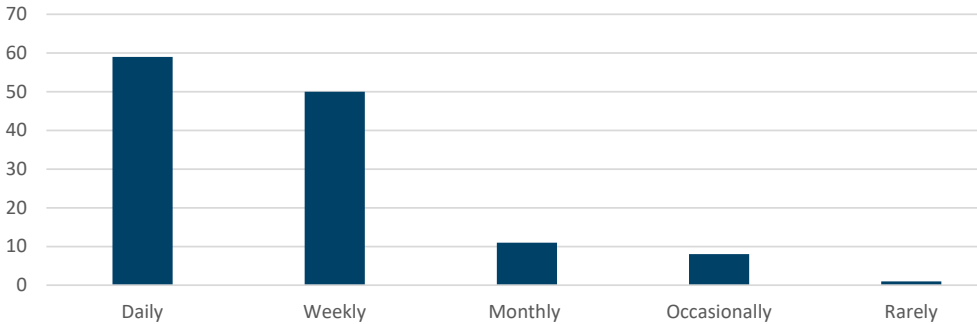


Figure 135. How often do you visit Rushcutters Bay Park?

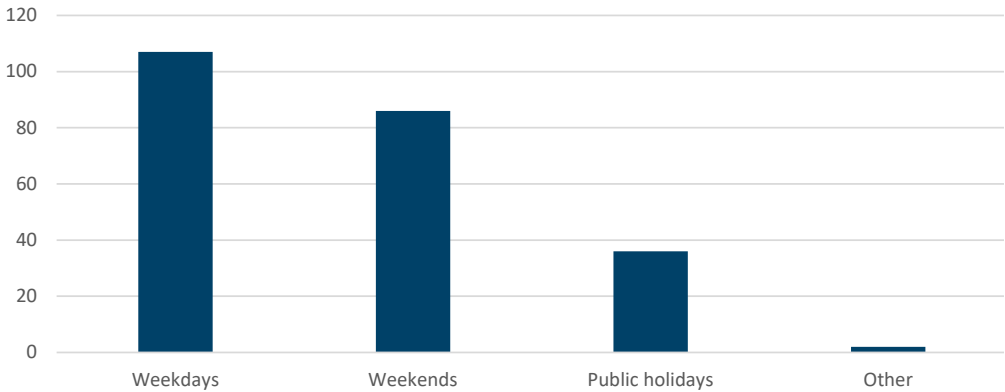


Figure 136. When do you usually visit Rushcutters Bay Park?

21. Rushcutters Bay Park

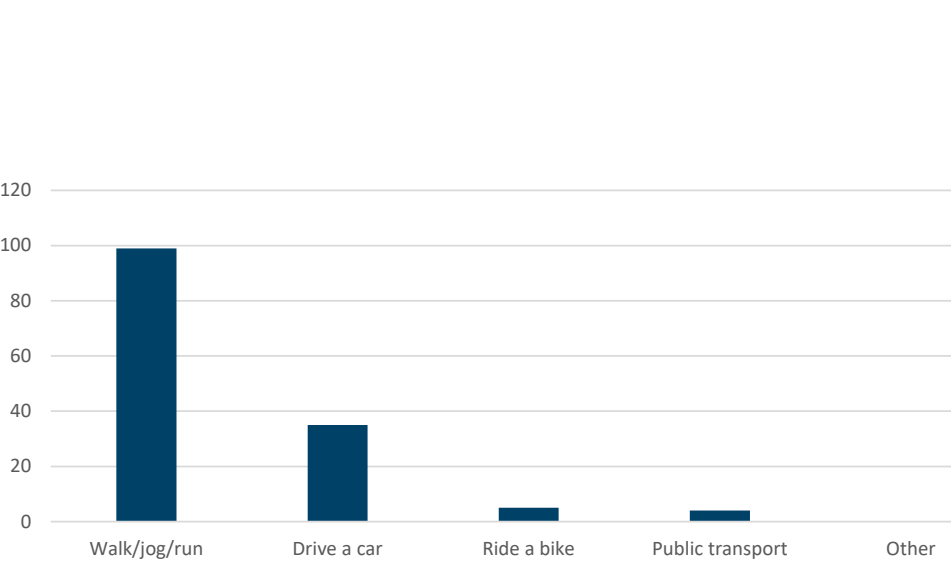


Figure 137. How do you usually get to Rushcutters Bay Park?

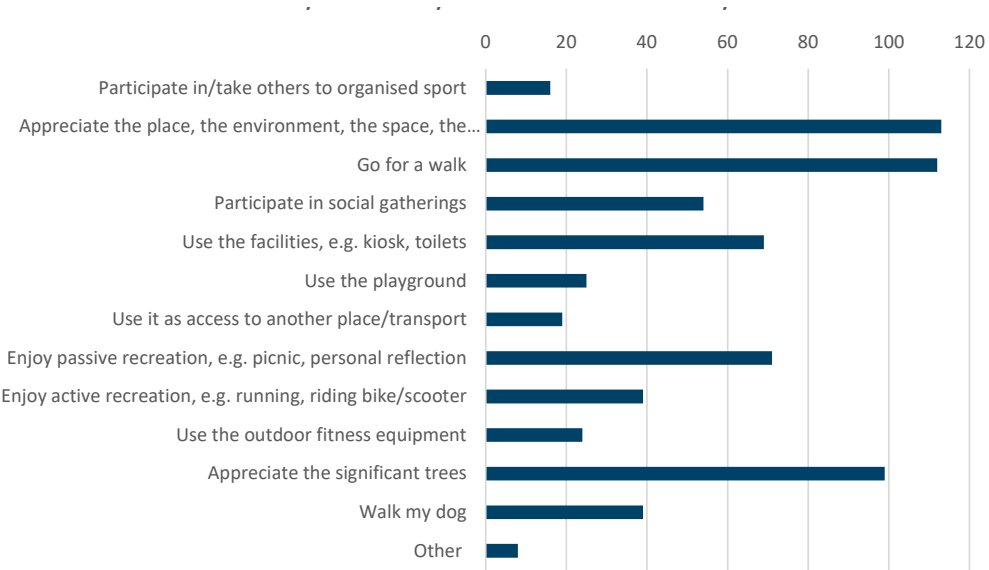


Figure 138. What do you usually do at Rushcutters Bay Park?

# Appendix Q

**Table 61. Rushcutters Bay Park Kiosk  
& Toilet Building Condition Report**

Item	Condition
Structure	3
Doors and windows	2
Lights / power outlets	2
Ceilings / walls	2
Essential services	1
Plumbing	2
Floors and coverings	2
<b>General</b>	<b>2.00</b>
Comments / capital works	roof gutters to be replaced
Ratings: 1 – Good, 2 – Fair, 3 – Requires Maintenance, 4 – Requires Replacement	

**Table 62. Rushcutters Bay Park Cafe Lease Details**

Name	<b>Rushcutters Bay Park Kiosk</b>
Description	Rushcutters Bay Park (P500097) Reserve Trust
Address	Cnr New South Head & Beach Roads, Rushcutters Bay
Lessee/Licensee	AFRV Pty Ltd
Term Starts	10/6/2016
Term Ends	9/06/2021
Term	5 years
Renewal Options	1 of 5 years
Rental	\$85,000.00
Area m <sup>2</sup>	73.3
Notes / Special Conditions	Supplementary agreement dated 3/10/2018 Current agreement is month to month hold over of licence.



## 22. Samuel Park

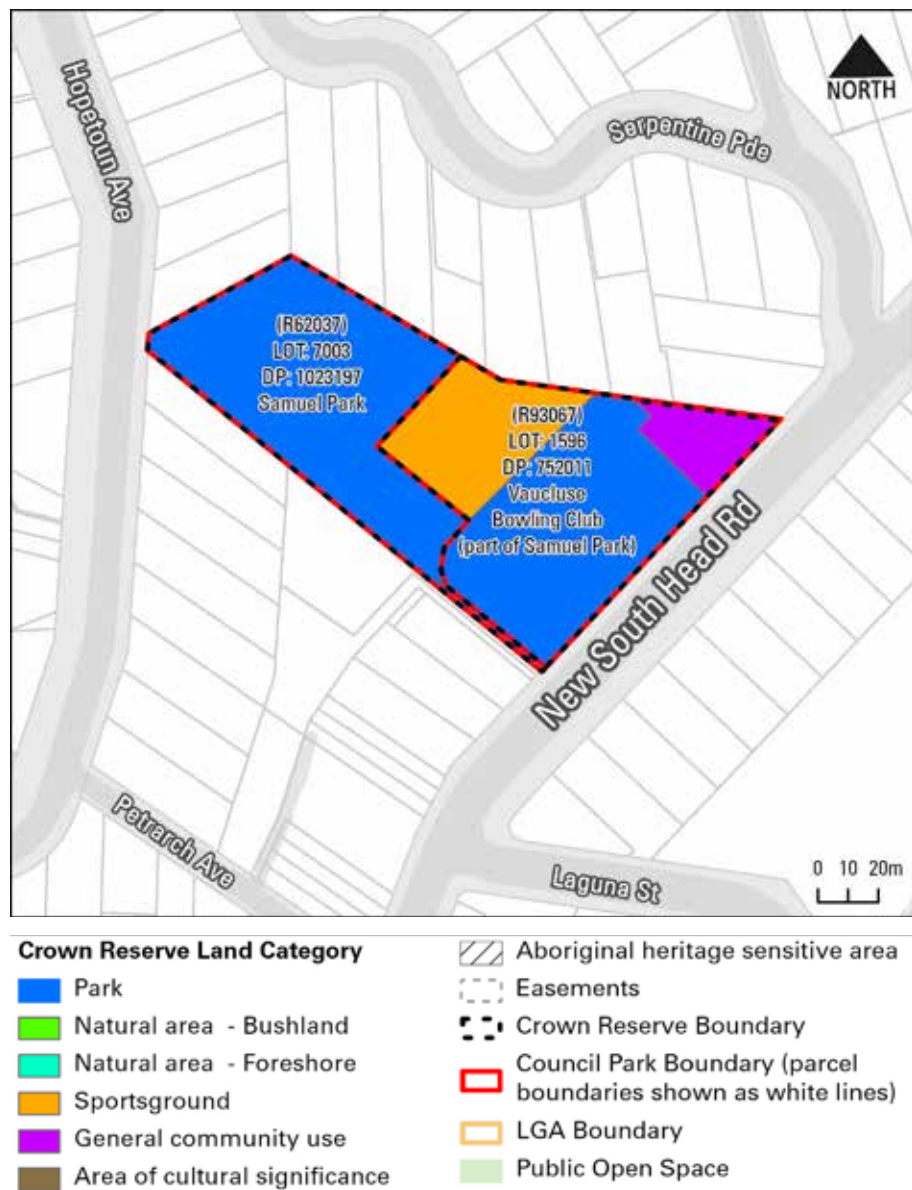


Figure 139. Samuel Park



Figure 140. Aerial photo of Samuel Park

## 22. Samuel Park



**Table 63. Legal description for Samuel Park**

Location	80-82 New South Head Road, Vaucluse
Land area (m <sup>2</sup> )	12,067m <sup>2</sup>
Land owner	Crown
Crown reserve purpose	Public recreation, future public requirements, community purposes
Woollahra LEP 2014 zone	RE1 Public recreation
LG Act categorisation	Park, Sportsground, General Community Use
Legal description	Crown R62037 (purpose: public recreation, gazetted 8 August 1930). Lot 7003 DP 1023197. R93067 (old bowling club site and tennis courts), purpose: future public requirements, gazetted 11 July 1980. Purpose: community purposes and public recreation, gazetted 11 November 2022. Council was appointed as CLM on 9 December 2022). Lot 1596 DP 752011.

Figure 141. Samuel Park map including land categories

### Description

This reserve is located immediately to the north-west of Vaucluse Bowling Club on New South Head Rd and between numbers 25 and 29 Hopetoun Ave. The bowling club, which Council formally oversees as Crown Land Manager as of 9/12/22, forms the eastern boundary, while private residences surround the park on all other boundaries.

1.2 hectares in size, the reserve is categorised as park, general community use and sportsground and is used by the community for passive recreation and small scale active sports. It is elevated, north-west facing, grass sloped from which there are spectacular, distant harbour and city views. One bowling green, two tennis courts, a small pavilion servicing the tennis courts, the main clubhouse beside the bowling greens, parkland and a playground is provided.

Vaucluse Bowling Club has undergone a \$3.74 million Crown Lands-funded redevelopment whereby additions and repairs were undertaken to make the site more accessible and accommodating for the whole community. New amenities include

a community centre at the main clubhouse, new public toilets and accessible ramps.

### Access

Level pedestrian and small service vehicle access is available from Old South Head Rd. At Hopetoun Ave, access is via ten steps with handrail.

The site can be accessed by public transport, as there are bus routes along both Hopetoun Ave and New South Head Rd.

Access to the community centre is by an accessible ramp or steps from Old South Head Road. Council will establish a disabled access ramp to improve accessibility to the bowling club.

No public vehicular access or on-site parking is available.

### History

#### The Physical Landscape

The Hawkesbury sandstone ridges of Vaucluse originally featured heath and scrub vegetation that had adapted to the shallow, sandy, infertile

soils and extreme climatic conditions of wind and sun exposure. Topography also affects available soil moisture and species distribution; western facing slopes that receive more sunlight, support vegetation that tolerates a drier soil. Sclerophyllous species such as the Heath-leaved Banksia (*Banksia ericifolia*) are likely to have been naturally occurring at Samuel Park. Some sandstone outcrops remain within the park.

The site receives high levels of sun and moderate levels of wind exposure.

### The Cultural Landscape – Aboriginal History and Heritage

#### Overview:

Samuel Park sits just below a high ridge traced today by Old South Head Rd, which looks down to the ocean to the east, and Sydney Harbour to the north and west. Aboriginal people most likely travelled along this ridge too, before the arrival of Europeans. The park is above and between the two steep gullies of Vaucluse Bay and Parsley Bay, which are characterised by several parallel bands of outcropping sandstone. Aboriginal people carved



motifs into expanses of exposed rock, and lived in overhangs formed within the outcropping stone as well as around the bays and headlands below. For most of the nineteenth century, the whole suburb of Vacluse was part of the vast Vacluse Estate owned by the Wentworth family. Aboriginal people lived on the property, and worked for the Wentworths, as well as other Europeans in the area.

There are no documented traces of these ancient or more recent Aboriginal uses within Samuel Park. It has been impacted by past landscaping, including a large retaining wall built around the tennis courts and bowling greens upslope. It is unlikely that any archaeological evidence of past Aboriginal use surface within the park but there are some small surviving outcrops of sandstone within the park, and more may be concealed by grass and soil. Sandstone outcrops to the west above Vacluse Bay contain engraved motifs such as fish, boomerangs and human or spirit figures. It is possible that engravings could be present on outcrops within the park also.

### Recommendations

1. An unexpected finds protocol should be in place for any excavation works. See appendix AA for more details.

### The Cultural Landscape – European History and Heritage

#### Overview:

During the late 19th century, this site, along with much of Vacluse, was part of the Wentworth estate. Following the death of Wentworth in 1872, the estate was gradually subdivided.

From 1880 until 1904, the site was within the grounds of the Shaftesbury Reformatory. Shaftesbury was a residential institution for girls under 16 years of age who had been convicted of a criminal offence. The site was selected for this purpose due to the outlook and because the “healthfulness”<sup>54</sup> of the environment could not be surpassed. When the reformatory closed, buildings

on the site then housed State children and finally men and women inebriates. The only state run institution for alcohol and drug offenders of its time, it was formally closed in 1929 and the buildings demolished a year later.

In 1929 when the Shaftesbury grounds were subdivided, most of the surrounding land was sold for private housing. Alderman Alfred Charles Samuel, Mayor of Vacluse ten times between 1914 and 1943, after whom the park was named, advocated for a parcel of land to be reserved for public recreation, and Samuel Park was formally gazetted 8/8/1930. Mayor Samuel suggested that the site, highly valued as a viewing point be further beautified with “gardens and lawns”<sup>55</sup>. The Vacluse Bowling club was subsequently given a lease of a portion of Samuel Park in 1939 and the greens and clubhouse were built with support from Vacluse Council. Vacluse Bowling

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54. Hanna, Kim. (2018) *Dictionary of Sydney*.

55. Hanna, Kim. (2018) *Dictionary of Sydney*

Club formally opened on 24 August 1940. The club lease was direct from the NSW DPE prior to Council overseeing the management of the bowling club as Crown Land Managers (formally gazetted 9/12/2022).

## Heritage Items

Nil.

### Potential Heritage Items

At the time of preparing this document, Council staff are currently preparing a draft heritage gap analysis. It is anticipated that one of the recommendations of this work will be to assess the heritage significance of the cultural landscapes of the Woollahra LGA, including this site.

Potential heritage items include the:  
Sandstone entrance piers.

### Recommendations:

1. Investigate opportunities to undertake a heritage assessment of the entrance piers.
2. For proposed activities that may impact below ground and water, an unexpected finds

protocol must be in place to guide excavations. See appendix AA for more details.

## Landscape Character

The grassed space of Samuel Park is only partially visible from the surrounding streets. This creates a feeling of anticipation, privacy and seclusion upon arrival and enhances the intimate character of the reserve. In contrast, the elevated position of the site creates a sense of exposure and openness to the sky, which is characteristic of ridgeline topography. The landscape character of this “secret park” is further enhanced by the unique, unobtrusive, rustic sandstone piers at each entry.

Rough-hewn, mortared, sandstone block piers mark the two entrances to the site. These piers, bearing the name of the park incised into the stone, are a charming site feature and reflect landscape design style of the early 20th century. On New South Head Road, the piers flank a level concrete path, used by pedestrians and small service vehicles.

Approximately 100 metres long, the path leads past the retaining walls of the bowling greens and tennis courts of the club, into the park, past massed shrub planting along the boundaries. The grassed space

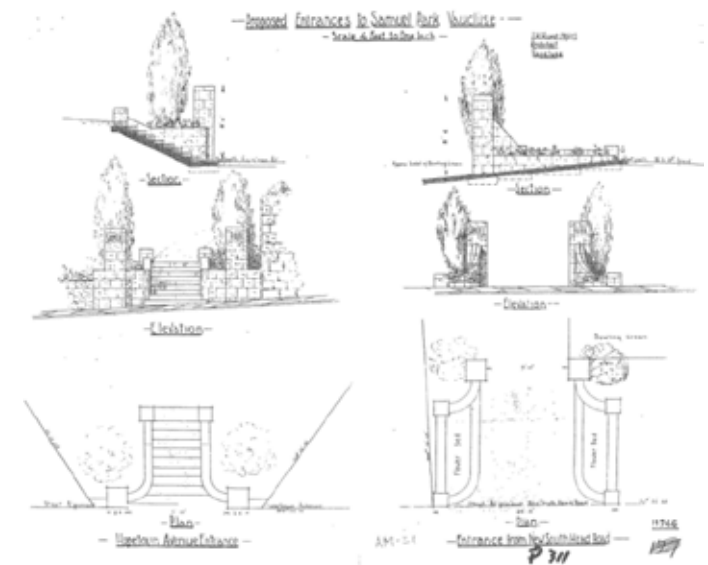


Figure 142. Sketch showing proposed entrances to Samuel Park, date unknown, Council ref 17/75819.

widens to the crown of the slope to reveal the view and a small unfenced playground with climbing frame, slide and a double-swing set. Outcrops of Hawkesbury sandstone bedrock and boulders together with tree and shrub plantings form a dense, shady area to the west of the tennis courts.

The concrete path continues within the park adjacent to the fencelines of the private residences along the southern boundary. Pedestrians may exit the park via ten concrete steps with handrail,

down to Hopetoun Avenue. The steps are flanked by sandstone retaining wall garden beds and a pair of sandstone piers matching those at the entry on New South Head Road.

Besides the storage shed between the greens and New South Head Road, and the few trees planted on New South Head Road, there is minimal visual buffer between the street activity on New South Head Road and the Bowling Club. Furthermore, scant tree and vegetation and the clubs positioning on top of the ridgeline forge a sense of vast openness as views to the sky is broad and uninterrupted. The tennis courts located to the west of the clubhouse is nestled adjacent to dense tree planting of Samuel Park.

A concrete path links the site's amenities connecting the tennis courts, bowling greens, and clubhouse. A sandstone retaining wall is located at the New South Head Road edge. The footpath along New South Head Road marks the boundary of the site.

### Relevant Documents

Woollahra Libraries, Local History Research File.

### Community Input – Samuel Park Use and Management Issues

This section provides a summary of the contributions made by our community through the Crown lands plan of management survey. Refer to the complete survey report in appendix BB for all responses. Questions 67, 68 and 69 of the Your Say survey refer specifically to Samuel Park, to which 29, 22 and 19 responses were received respectively. 4 postal surveys were received for Samuel Park.

Most of the survey participants rarely visited Samuel Park. When they did it was on weekdays and they arrived on foot.

Use of this site by our community is mostly to:

- go for a walk
- appreciate the place, the environment, the space, the views
- walk a dog

The key management issues here are:

- maintaining the views
- adjacent land use integration
- underutilisation

NOTE: as Council has recently been appointed Crown Land Manager of the Vaucluse Bowling Club site, Council will be undertaking future community consultation to help determine how the site should be used for its recreation and community purpose in the future.



**Table 64. Current and Future Permissible Use of Samuel Park**

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
Park	Land	Passive recreation, dog exercise on leash at all times, aesthetic	Nil	Av 2	Casual recreation use e.g. walking, dog exercise on leash at all times, informal ball games, picnics for groups of < 20 at all times, no permit required.  Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include public meetings, all group activities of > 20 and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.	Small scale and low intensity only	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.
	Buildings	Nil	Nil	Nil	Development related or ancillary to recreation and / or aesthetic use is permissible, e.g. amenity buildings, utilities if required, planting for shade and habitat, park furniture, recreation facilities, play equipment, temporary structures for recreational needs, environmental facilities / management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).		Dogs within 10m of playground.
	Improvements  Refer to Council’s built asset register for complete list, which itemises every structure on the land, including condition rating.	Bowling green, playground, seats, paths	Nil	Av 2			Dog exercise off leash.  Smoking within 10m of playground  Commercial fitness activities
Condition ratings for land and park assets as follows: 1. Excellent – no work required or as new condition, 2. Good – well maintained, minor maintenance only, 3. Average – maintained but in need of repair, 4. Poor – in need of major repair or renewal, 5. Very Poor – urgent renewal or upgrading required							
Special management requirements: WMC mapping shows the area as class 5 acid sulphate soils.							
Capital works currently budgeted for: Nil.							
Current Council resolution: On 12/06/23, Council resolved a moratorium on synthetic grass to any new sports fields within the Woollahra LGA until a further report is presented to Council referring to the State Government’s Departmental report (Synthetic Turf Study in Public Open Space) and the Chief Scientist’s progress report.							

**Table 64. Current and Future Permissible Use of Samuel Park *cont'***

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
S'ground	Land			Av 3-4	Active recreation use on a casual and / or seasonal basis e.g. tennis, a permit is required for all organised sport regardless of size.	Small scale and low intensity only	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.  Smoking in areas for spectators during organised sporting events.  Dogs at all times on tennis courts.  Commercial fitness activities at all times on the wicket area.
	Buildings	Tennis centre pavilion	Leased Short term casual and seasonal licences.	Av 3	Active recreation, tennis at the tennis centre.  When organised sport is not being played, passive recreation use is permitted, e.g. informal ball games < 20 at any time, no permit required.		
	Improvements  Refer to Council's built asset register for complete list, which itemises every structure on the land, including condition rating.	2 x tennis courts, lighting provided	Short term casual and seasonal licences	Av 3	Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include public meetings, cultural events, all group activities of > 20 and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.  Development related or ancillary to active recreation needs is permissible, e.g. sporting facilities and / or amenities including but not limited to lighting, drainage, irrigation, surface levelling and resurfacing, environmental management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).		

**Table 64. Current and Future Permissible Use of Samuel Park *cont'***

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
G C Use	Land		Nil	Nil	Various use to meet the public recreation, or the physical, cultural, social or intellectual needs of the community, e.g. community facilities, kiosks and recreation areas.	Medium scale and medium intensity only	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.
	Buildings	Kitchen, storage, meeting rooms and toilets	Leased Short term casual and seasonal licences.	Av 3	Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include public meetings, for all activities, and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.  Long term leases / licences may be granted for provision of appropriate goods, services, facilities or purposes as currently used and / or as shown in table 5.		
	Improvements	Community Centre	Leased Short term casual and seasonal licences.	Av 3	Development related or ancillary to the recreational, physical, cultural, social or intellectual needs of the community is permissible, e.g. kiosks, mobile refreshment stands, temporary structures for recreational needs, community facilities, environmental facilities / management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).		

**Table 65. Management Framework for Samuel Park**

**IN ADDITION TO THE GENERIC MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR ALL COMMUNITY LAND CROWN RESERVES, THE FOLLOWING SITE SPECIFIC ACTIONS ADDRESS ISSUES RAISED IN THE SURVEY AND / OR NOTED THROUGH SITE OBSERVATION AND ANALYSIS AND / OR REQUIRED BY A CURRENT COUNCIL RESOLUTION.**

Objective – the desired outcome	Performance targets – what the objective is trying to do	Actions – how to achieve the target	Performance measures – how to assess whether the objective and targets have been met
<b>1</b>  Safe, clean, well-maintained, functional and varied	<b>B</b>  Ensure <b>clean</b> , litter free public land is <b>well-maintained</b> and available for use by the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keep the New South Head Road frontage well-presented</li> </ul>	Park is an attractive and inviting destination
	<b>C</b>  Ensure the facilities and experiences at the site meet <b>community expectations</b> , and are <b>fit for purpose</b> , (a strategy of <i>Greener Places</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to improve overall condition and amenity of site over time</li> </ul>	Stronger community connection to the site
<b>2</b>  Accessible and inclusive	<b>A</b>  Provide universal <b>access</b> , wherever possible, to public land and any associated structures and facilities to ensure the sites are open and welcoming (a strategy of <i>Everyone Can Play</i> and a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement a DDA-compliant pedestrian ramp from New South Head Road to Vaucluse Bowling Club (site upgrades scheduled for the first half of 2023)</li> </ul>	Vaucluse Bowling Club becomes universally accessible

Table 65. Management Framework for Samuel Park *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
	<b>B</b> Optimise public access to all sites and <b>improve connectivity</b> via improvements to <b>walking and cycling paths</b> (a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to plan for access improvements throughout Samuel Park</li> </ul>	Pedestrian access and safety improved throughout Samuel Park
<b>3</b> Well managed for public use	<b>D</b> Ensure <b>planning and development controls</b> across the LGA <b>conserve the natural environment, aesthetic quality</b> and <b>heritage values</b> on Crown land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work collaboratively to update planning and development controls so that the controls are compatible with the natural environment, aesthetic and heritage values, with particular reference to the iconic public view from Samuel Park</li> </ul>	Potential conflicts identified and reduced
	<b>E</b> Support appropriate use of land through <b>leases, licences</b> and other <b>estates</b> for the best interest of the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to manage existing leases and licences as per agreements</li> <li>Review the conditions of use and lease / licence for the club house building, to ensure use meets the current needs of the community and aligns with the broader objectives of the reserve</li> </ul>	<p>Agreements upheld, performance of all obligations under the terms and conditions of the lease / licence</p> <p>Conditions of use of all buildings reviewed and modifications to user agreement made as necessary to facilitate greater use of venues and to meet community need. Existing opportunity enhanced for greater public use</p>

**Table 65. Management Framework for Samuel Park *cont'***

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>5</b> Aesthetic and landscape quality remains high	<b>A</b> Ensure <b>public view corridors</b> are retained wherever possible and <b>minimise visual impact</b> of development on land adjoining the Crown reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage existing trees to allow for public view corridors from within the park</li> </ul>	Public access to iconic views are retained
<b>6</b> Heritage and cultural awareness	<b>A</b> Investigate and assess <b>environmental heritage</b> and ensure land is used and managed to be consistent with <b>heritage significance</b>  <b>D</b> Work with <b>Aboriginal communities</b> to realise the potential of their <b>land rights</b> (a priority of the <i>State Strategic plan for Crown land</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate opportunity to undertake a heritage assessment of the entrance piers</li> <li>• Engage with the La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council as necessary in regards to incomplete land claim at Samuel Park</li> </ul>	Assessment undertaken   Improved relationship and understanding of local Aboriginal community in respect of their land rights



Table 65. Management Framework for Samuel Park *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>7</b>	<b>B</b>		
Recreational opportunities	Encourage <b>multiple use</b> of Crown land, ensure land is <b>multifunctional</b> , <b>flexible</b> and <b>versatile</b> , proposed facilities to be <b>multi-purpose</b> to maximise community benefit and meet changing community needs (strategies of <i>Greener Places</i> and a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review entry points and open space areas to increase utilisation</li> <li>• Consult with community and prepare a masterplan to guide future use</li> </ul>	Utilisation of community land is increased for a greater proportion of the community
<b>8</b>	<b>A</b>		
Social and community opportunities	Crown land is used and managed to reflect the <b>goals and themes of our community</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cross reference the performance targets and actions of this POM with the CSP and other adopted Council policies for consistency and to ensure an integrated approach to Council planning, land use and management</li> </ul>	Internal and external consultations undertaken to better understand and improve social and community opportunities for the site

Table 65. Management Framework for Samuel Park *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
	<p><b>B</b></p> <p><b>Public use and enjoyment</b> of Crown land is encouraged, land use is <b>community-focused</b> and strengthens and supports evolving <b>community connection</b> and <b>local business</b> (principles of the <i>CLM Act</i> and the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> and a priority of the <i>State Strategic Plan for Crown land</i>)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide facilities that are flexible to a range of uses and appropriate to the needs of the community</li> <li>• Facilitate community use of Crown Land locations and venues through leases / licences that are equitably and transparently allocated to reflect the core objectives of the land, community need, and meet the requirements of the LG Act</li> <li>• Advertise recreational opportunities on Council's website, social media, and at community facilities</li> </ul>	<p>Multifunctionality built into installations wherever possible</p> <p>Secondary interests over Crown Land approved where appropriate</p> <p>Recreational opportunities easy to find and access through Council sources</p>

# Appendix R

## Samuel Park Survey Responses – User Profile

(The following information includes the *Your Say* data plus any related postal data)

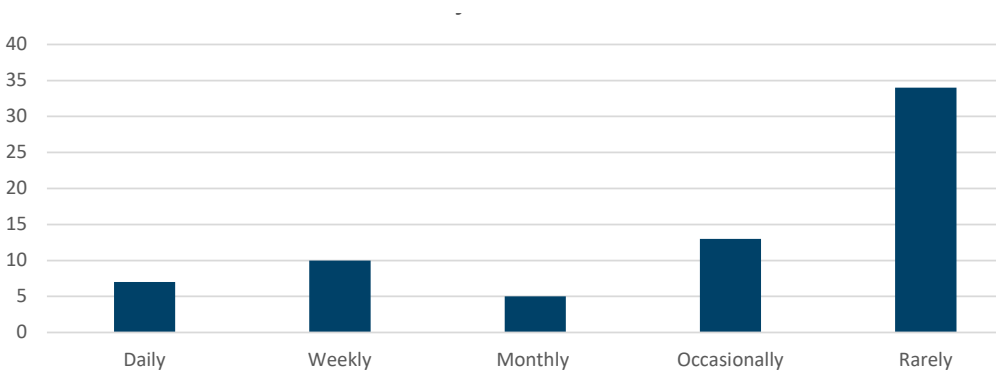


Figure 143. **How often do you visit Samuel Park?**

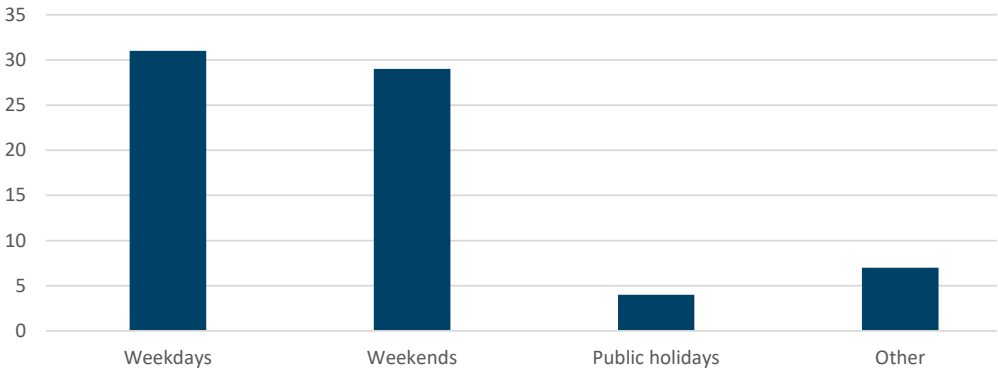


Figure 144. **When do you usually visit Samuel Park?**

Note: As Council has been recently been appointed Crown Land Manager of the Vacluse Bowling Club site, Council will be undertaking future community consultation to help determine how the site should be used for its recreation and community purpose in the future.

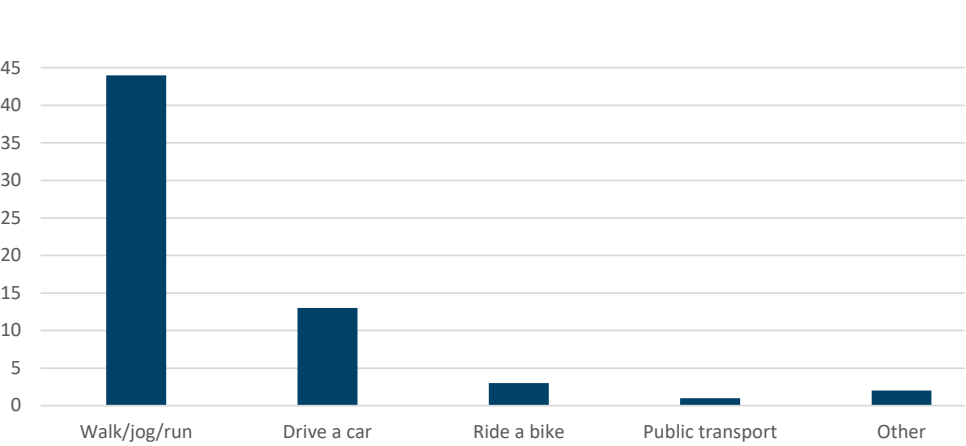


Figure 145. How do you usually get to Samuel Park?

Note: As Council has been recently been appointed Crown Land Manager of the Vacluse Bowling Club site, Council will be undertaking future community consultation to help determine how the site should be used for its recreation and community purpose in the future.

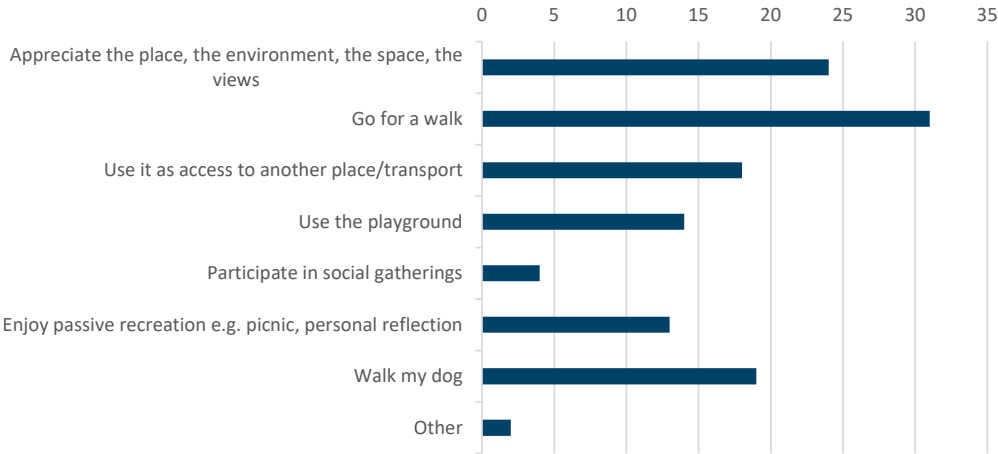


Figure 146. What do you usually do at Samuel Park?

# Appendix S

**Table 66. Vaucluse Bowling Club Condition Report**

Item	Condition
Structure	3
Doors and windows	3
Lights / power outlets	3
Ceilings / walls	3
Essential services	3
Plumbing	3
Floors and coverings	3
<b>General</b>	<b>3</b>
Comments / capital works	Club house to undergo major works to improve accessibility across the site. Construction planned for early 2023 and to be completed mid 2023.
Ratings: 1 – Good, 2 – Fair, 3 – Requires Maintenance, 4 – Requires Replacement	

**Table 67A. Vaucluse Bowling Club Lease Details**

Name	Vaucluse Bowling Club
Description	Part Lot 1596 DP 752011 R93067
Address	80-82 New South Head Road, Vaucluse, 2030
Lessee/Licensee	Vaucluse Bowling Club
Term Starts	9/12/2022
Term Ends	30/06/2023
Term	6 months and 23 days
Renewal Options	yes
Rental	\$24,380.80 pa (plus GST)
Area m <sup>2</sup>	1,690 sqm
Purpose of lease	Clubhouse (meeting rooms, toilets, kitchen/store) and bowling green (1)
Notes / Special Conditions	Council resolved on 26 June 2023 to grant the club a 5+5 yr Option Lease over a reduced area of 1,690 sqm for a rent of \$1 (if demanded).

**Table 67B. Vaucluse Tennis Courts Lease Details**

Name	Vaucluse Tennis Courts
Description	Part Lot 1596 DP 752011 R93067
Address	80-82 New South Head Road, Vaucluse, 2030
Lessee/Licensee	Eduard Ouspenski
Term Starts	01/11/2023
Term Ends	30/04/2026
Term	2 years and 6 months
Renewal Options	no
Rental	\$35,000 pa (plus GST)
Area m <sup>2</sup>	1,368 sqm
Purpose of lease	Tennis courts (2) and tennis pavilion
Notes / Special Conditions	Council resolved on 26 June 2023 to grant Eduard Ouspenski a 2 1/2 year Lease for the 2x Tennis Courts and pavillion totalling 1,368 sqm, at a rental of \$35,000 per annum plus GST.

# 23. Signal Hill Reserve



Figure 147. Signal Hill Reserve



Figure 148. Aerial photo of Signal Hill Reserve



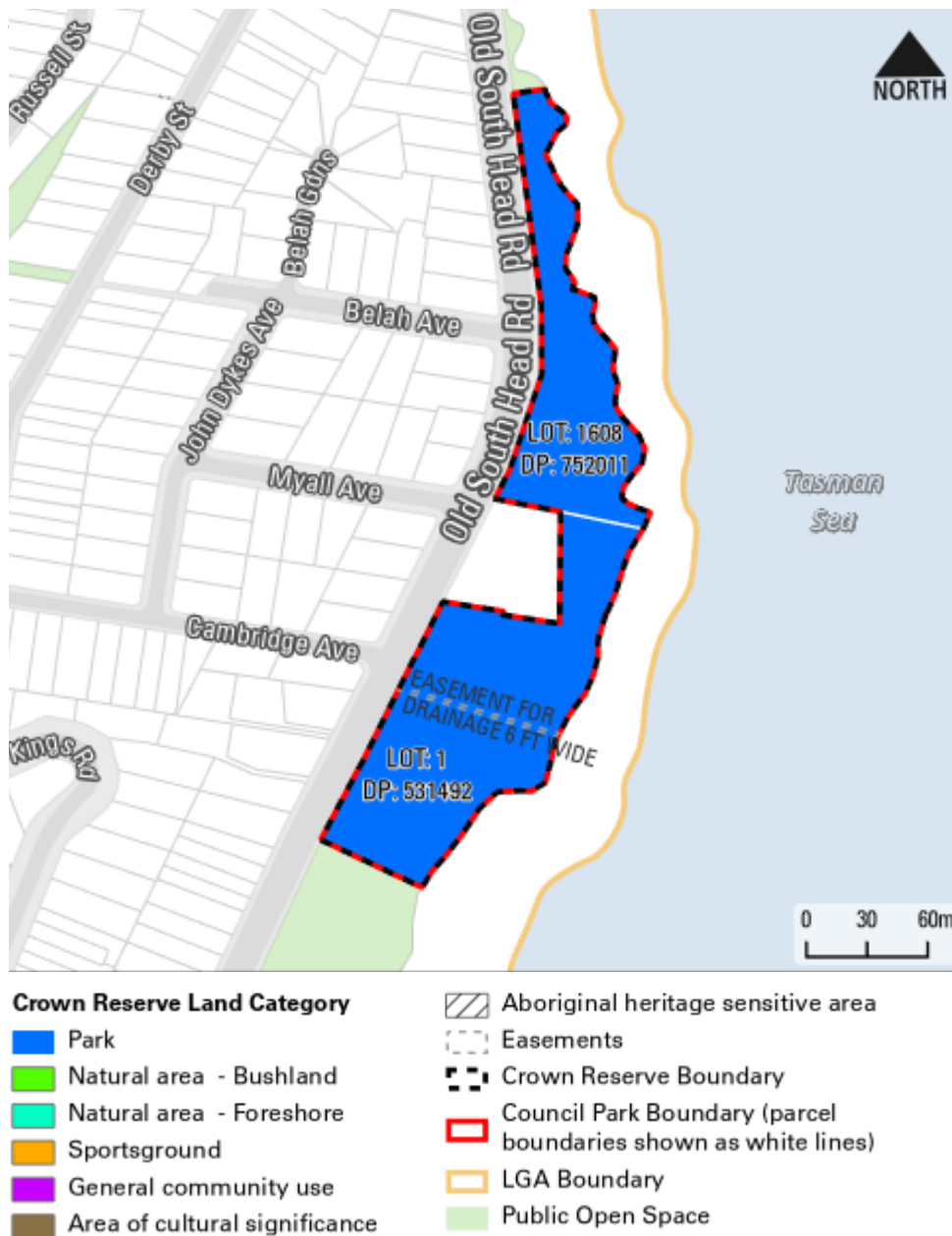


Figure 149. Signal Hill Reserve map including land categories

**Table 68. Legal description for Signal Hill Reserve**

Location	Old South Head Road, Vaucluse
Land area (m <sup>2</sup> )	18,680m <sup>2</sup>
Land owner	Crown
Crown reserve purpose	Public recreation
Woollahra LEP 2014 zone	RE1 Public recreation
LG Act categorisation	Park
Legal description	Crown R96964 Lot 1 DP 531492 & Lot 1608 DP 752011

### Description

Signal Hill Reserve is located between a spectacular coastal escarpment to the east, a busy road to the west, Gap Park to the north and Lighthouse Reserve to the south. It lies to the north, east and south of the South Head Signal Station. Remnants of an artillery battery are present in the northern area of this open, grassed reserve.

Signal Hill Battery was one of three anti-bombardment emplacements (the other two at North Bondi and Clovelly) that were installed along Sydney's coastline in 1893 as part of the nation's coastal defences, which included gun pits and underground magazines, shell and artillery store rooms, and tunnel passages which still remain.

Sparse trees and shrubs occur mostly along the western boundary and as mass planted groups around the fenced boundary of the signal tower and the historic artillery battery. The Bi-Centennial Coastal Cliff Walk runs through the site close to the fenced cliff top eastern boundary. The site is categorised as park.



Figure 150. Level pedestrian access through the site is provided by the Bi-Centennial Coastal Cliff Walk.

### Access

Level pedestrian access through the site is provided by the Bi-Centennial Coastal Cliff Walk, which links this reserve to Old South Head Road and Lighthouse Reserve. It forms part of the Bondi to Manly walk.

Public transport to the park is available via buses on Old South Head Road.

Limited service vehicle access is provided through a driveway gate off Old South Head Road. No public vehicular access or on-site parking is available.

### History

#### The Physical Landscape

The physical landscape of Signal Hill Reserve, as a part of the South Head peninsula, is defined by the proximate coast line of dramatic cliff lines, the outcrops of 220 million<sup>69</sup> year old Hawkesbury sandstone bedrock geology and the expansive views of the Pacific Ocean and Sydney Harbour.

Exposed coastal areas on Hawkesbury Sandstone such as this were originally covered by extensive heathland. This low, scrubby vegetation community was a complex assemblage of plants including many sclerophyllous species such as the Heath Banksia (*Banksia ericifolia*) and the Dagger Hakea (*Hakea teretifolia*). This flora had adapted to grow in the shallow, sandy, infertile soils and windy conditions of the area, which prevents the growth of very tall trees.

This vegetation community no longer exists, as this site has been extensively modified from at least the colonial era to accommodate other uses such as lookout post, defence and recreation.

The site receives high levels of sun and wind

69. Sutherland, Lin. (2022) *Geology of Sydney Harbour*

exposure.

### The Cultural Landscape – Aboriginal History and Heritage

#### Overview:

Signal Hill Reserve looks out over the Pacific Ocean from the top of a high sandstone cliff. Aboriginal people would have used areas like this as vantage points but they are unlikely to have camped in such exposed locations. In similar prominent clifftop areas to the north and south, Aboriginal rock engravings can be found carved into exposed outcrops of sandstone, sometimes right up to the cliff edge. Europeans began scouring exposed sandstone areas like this for engravings from the 1890s. None were recorded within Signal Hill Reserve, but by this time military fortifications had been carved into the rock, and surrounding areas had been covered in grass. This may have covered over some previously exposed sandstone outcrops, so it is possible that engravings could still exist in these areas.

#### Recommendations

1. An unexpected finds protocol should be in place for any excavation works. See appendix AA for more details.

### The Cultural Landscape – European History and Heritage

#### Overview:

South Head has been associated with important aspects of Australia's colonial, military and maritime history since 1788. This reserve commemorates one of the most historically significant areas in the LGA.

The earliest known European use of the land was as a vantage place. A small detachment of men maintained a lookout from South Head shortly after the arrival of the First Fleet<sup>1</sup>. In desperate anticipation of the Second Fleet, a flagstaff was constructed in January 1790 by Captain John Hunter, to signal to the settlement at Sydney Cove when ships were eventually sighted. In addition to the flagstaff, a 9m high brick and stone column was built as a beacon, so that ships approaching Port Jackson would know that this was the location of the colony.

The area continued to be used as a vantage point throughout the 19th and 20th centuries. In 1801 a guardhouse was erected, Governor Macquarie had a signal gun installed shortly after and in 1818, the Macquarie Lightstation, listed on the State Heritage

Register item SHR [372], was built just to the south of this site.

Mortimer Lewis designed the South Head Signal Station, built by ca. 1841, which replaced an earlier brick column built at the lookout post in 1790 and continues to monitor shipping in Sydney and is listed on the State Heritage Register, item SHR [383]

In addition to being a lookout post, South Head has also been used significantly for national defence. Fortifications were built here in the 1870's from sandstone blocks brought to the site or hewn from the solid bedrock and by 1893 the area was known as Signal Hill Fort. The fortifications accommodated a gun that was housed in the turret in the centre of the reserve. When in firing position, the barrel of the gun protruded through a steel canopy, which is still in situ. This gun was removed in 1937, and replaced by two anti-aircraft guns in 1942, in each of the outer pits. These guns were removed after World War II, the battery is heritage listed in the WLEP as item 384.

The reserve was gazetted on 16/09/1983 and the Bi-Centennial Coastal Cliff Walk was installed to

## 23. Signal Hill Reserve

commemorate the role of South Head during the first 200 years of European settlement, in 1988.

A memorial was placed at Signal Hill Reserve in November 1992 by the Royal Australian Signal Corps Association on behalf of its members. Two additional plaques were placed in March 1993 to record the history of the reserve

The reserve was augmented in 1995 when a portion of Defence Department land, previously dividing Signal Hill Reserve and Lighthouse Reserve was added to the original reserve.

Bollard lights were installed along the length of the Bi-Centennial Coastal Cliff Walk in 2020, as a way of activating the South Head coastline.

### Heritage Items

Bicentennial Coastal Cliff Walk WLEP 2014 local item 343.

Signal Hill Battery WLEP 2014 local item 384.

Outside reserve boundary:

South Head Signal Station SHR [01436]

Macquarie Lighthouse SHR [00677].



Figure 151. Signal Hill Battery

### Potential Heritage Items

Nil.

### Recommendations:

1. Consider opportunities to explore the role of this site within the greater context of South Head during future master planning.
2. For proposed activities that may impact below ground and water, an unexpected finds protocol must be in place to guide excavations. See appendix AA for more details.

### Landscape Character

The landscape character of Signal Hill Reserve is defined by the coastal location, the dramatic sandstone cliff lines, the vast ocean views, the exposed windswept conditions, pockets of native vegetation and fragments of historic built fabric, the last vestiges of militarisation at South Head.

Additionally, the close proximity of the South Head Signal Station, the Macquarie Lighthouse and the remnant bushland at Gap Park, contribute to the overall sense of place and the unique ambiance of the Sydney coastline.

### Relevant Documents

Woollahra Libraries, Local History Research File.

### Community Input – Signal Hill Reserve Use and Management Issues

This section provides a summary of the contributions made by our community through the Crown lands plan of management survey. Refer to the complete survey report in appendix BB for all responses. Questions 46, 47 and 48 of the Your Say survey refer to Signal Hill Reserve (coupled with Lighthouse Reserve), to which 68, 54 and 43 responses were received respectively. 10 postal surveys were received for Signal Hill Reserve.

Most of the survey participants visited Signal Hill Reserve daily, on weekdays and arrived on foot.

Use of this site by our community is mostly to:

- appreciate the place, the environment, the space, the views
- go for a walk on the bi-centennial coastal walkway
- walk a dog

The key management issues here are:

- conflicts of use, including dogs
- stronger community consultation
- site planning and design

**Table 69. Current and Future Permissible Use of Signal Hill Reserve**

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
Park	Land	Passive recreation, dog exercise on leash at all times in the northern part of the reserve, off leash south of the Signal Station, aesthetic	Commercial fitness activities permitted with a licence  Easement for drainage	3	Casual recreation use e.g. walking, dog exercise on leash at all times north of the Signal Station, off leash permitted south of the Signal Station, informal ball games, picnics for groups of < 20 at all times, no permit required.  Existing easement for drainage.  Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include commercial fitness training, public meetings, all group activities of > 20 and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.	Up to medium scale and medium intensity	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.  Dog exercise off leash north of the Signal Station
	Buildings	Nil	Nil	Nil			
	Improvements Refer to Council's built asset register for complete list, which itemises every structure on the land, including condition rating.	Seats, paths, picnic tables. remnant artillery battery  (NOTE access to the battery and associated tunnels is closed due to safety concerns)	Nil	Av. 2.38.	Development related or ancillary to recreation and / or aesthetic use is permissible, e.g. amenity buildings, utilities if required, planting for shade and habitat, park furniture, recreation facilities, play equipment, temporary structures for recreational needs, environmental facilities / management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).		

Condition ratings for land and park assets as follows: 1. Excellent – no work required or as new condition, 2. Good – well maintained, minor maintenance only, 3. Average – maintained but in need of repair, 4. Poor – in need of major repair or renewal, 5. Very Poor – urgent renewal or upgrading required

Special management requirements: WMC mapping shows the area as class 5 acid sulphate soils.

Capital works currently budgeted for: Nil.

Current Council resolution: Nil.



**Table 70. Management Framework for Signal Hill Reserve**

**IN ADDITION TO THE GENERIC MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR ALL COMMUNITY LAND CROWN RESERVES, THE FOLLOWING SITE SPECIFIC ACTIONS ADDRESS ISSUES RAISED IN THE SURVEY AND / OR NOTED THROUGH SITE OBSERVATION AND ANALYSIS AND / OR REQUIRED BY A CURRENT COUNCIL RESOLUTION.**

Objective – the desired outcome	Performance targets – what the objective is trying to do	Actions – how to achieve the target	Performance measures – how to assess whether the objective and targets have been met
<b>1</b>  Safe, clean, well-maintained, functional and varied	<b>E</b>  Where there is <b>opportunity</b> to improve <b>layout, functionality, aesthetic appeal</b> and <b>site interpretation</b> provide a <b>landscape master plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare a detailed landscape master plan for the South Head Trio; Christison Park, Lighthouse Reserve and Signal Hill Reserve that establishes a vision for these sites, allows for an integrated approach to the ongoing recreational use of the area, maintains the unique landscape character, including the expansive views, improves habitat opportunities, pedestrian connectivity, Green Links and interprets cultural heritage</li> </ul>	Concept design process involving community consultation is undertaken and a master plan produced to the satisfaction of all stakeholders  Unique site values and preferred spatial arrangement of all elements integrated into site design outcome  Future capital works installed to a cohesive, well documented plan, selected for their appropriateness within the landscape
<b>3</b>  Well managed for public use	<b>D</b>  Ensure <b>planning and development controls</b> across the LGA <b>conserve the natural environment, aesthetic quality</b> and <b>heritage values</b> on Crown land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with strategic planning to inform review of the DCP so that controls are in place to uphold significant Crown land values, such as public view corridors</li> </ul>	DCP reviewed with attention to Crown land values

Table 70. Management Framework for Signal Hill Reserve *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>3</b>	<b>H</b>		
Well managed for public use	<b>Reduce conflicts</b> of use, <b>provide regulatory</b> and, where appropriate, provide additional <b>wayfinding signage</b> to inform all user groups of what is prohibited use, so that <b>all user groups are able to enjoy</b> the land and facilities provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review current regulatory signs to inform all users of the permissible recreational opportunities available in the reserve</li> <li>• Emphasise and enforce responsible dog ownership requirements and dog regulations, including control of off-leash dogs at all times and that collecting dog faeces is <b>COMPULSORY</b> for the dog's owner</li> <li>• Consider additional wayfinding / interpretative signage at appropriate locations</li> </ul>	<p>Community needs for access to public land is met</p> <p>Community is more harmonious, fewer incidents of conflict, fewer complaints about, and less occurrences of, uncontrolled dogs and uncollected dog faeces</p> <p>Easy to read signs are installed at key locations</p>
<b>4</b>	<b>B</b>		
Natural environment conserved	Ensure <b>best environmental practice</b> in use and maintenance of the land to build <b>green and resilient</b> public land, that <b>enhances biodiversity, conserves natural resources</b> and <b>improves sustainability</b> (an objective of the <i>CLM Act</i> and principles of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> , the <i>Woollahra Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (ESAP)</i> , and the <i>Woollahra Climate Emergency Statement</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to preserve sufficient habitat and recreate native habitat in appropriate locations at South Head, as a significant component of Sydney Harbour National Park</li> </ul>	<p>Existing (weedy) habitat retained as endemic native vegetation community is re-established in appropriate locations across South Head</p> <p>Observe improvements in the biodiversity of South Head, such as increased recorded sightings (as per EDU 04 of the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy) of native birds, fewer weed and pest species, and more robust vegetation.</p> <p>Native species are conserved and populations are more resilient to threats</p> <p>SHNP managed collectively, improved environmental outcomes for South Head</p>

Table 70. Management Framework for Signal Hill Reserve *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>5</b>	<b>A</b>		
Aesthetic and landscape quality remains high	Ensure <b>public view corridors</b> are retained wherever possible and <b>minimise visual impact</b> of development on land adjoining Crown reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage existing vegetation along the coastal fenceline to ensure public iconic views to the ocean and North Head remain</li> </ul>	Public access to iconic views are retained
<b>6</b>	<b>A</b>		
Heritage and cultural awareness	Investigate and assess <b>environmental heritage</b> and ensure land is used and managed to be consistent with <b>heritage significance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider opportunities to explore the historic role of this site within the greater context of South Head during future master planning</li> <li>• Manage environmental heritage in accordance with our statutory obligations</li> <li>• Identify opportunities to enhance and celebrate environmental heritage, including interpretation, conservation works, art works and signage</li> </ul>	<p>Improved understanding and greater appreciation of environmental heritage</p> <p>No negative impacts of management practices on sites with natural and cultural significance.</p> <p>Only sympathetic and compatible uses are permitted</p> <p>Heritage and landscape character retained for future generations</p>
	<b>D</b>		
	Work with <b>Aboriginal communities</b> to realise the potential of their <b>land rights</b> (a priority of the <i>State Strategic plan for Crown land</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engage with the La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council as necessary in regards to incomplete land claims at Signal Hill Reserve</li> </ul>	Improved relationship and understanding of local Aboriginal community in respect of their land rights

Table 70. Management Framework for Signal Hill Reserve *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
8 Social and community opportunities	<b>B</b> <b>Public use and enjoyment</b> of Crown land is encouraged, land use is <b>community-focused</b> and strengthens and supports evolving <b>community connection</b> and <b>local business</b> (principles of the <i>CLM Act</i> and the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> and priority of the <i>State Strategic Plan for Crown land</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate opportunities, including appropriate temporary events, to activate the walkway, showcasing the spectacular views and cultural heritage of the area, ensure environmental, aesthetic and heritage values are upheld</li> </ul>	<p>Compatible events and / or activations considered</p> <p>Broader community appreciation of unique Crown land values facilitated through selected events</p>
	<b>C</b> Provide stronger avenues for <b>community consultation</b> , encourage <b>stewardship</b> of the land and community <b>participation in decision making</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Liaise with relevant community groups and park users on on-going site issues and management</li> <li>Liaise with NPWS and other stakeholders in the on-going management of South Head, from Christison Park to Gap Park to collaborate on issues such as stormwater management, suicide prevention, bush regeneration, tree and weed management across the whole of South Head, as recommended in action COL 04 of the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Strategy</i></li> </ul>	<p>Improvements are consulted upon, developed, and implemented to the satisfaction of the majority of the community, where possible</p> <p>Community is more harmonious, satisfaction is higher and fewer complaints are received</p> <p>Contiguous management of issues achieved</p>

# Appendix T

**Signal Hill Reserve Survey Responses – User Profile**  
(The following information includes the *Your Say* data plus any related postal data)

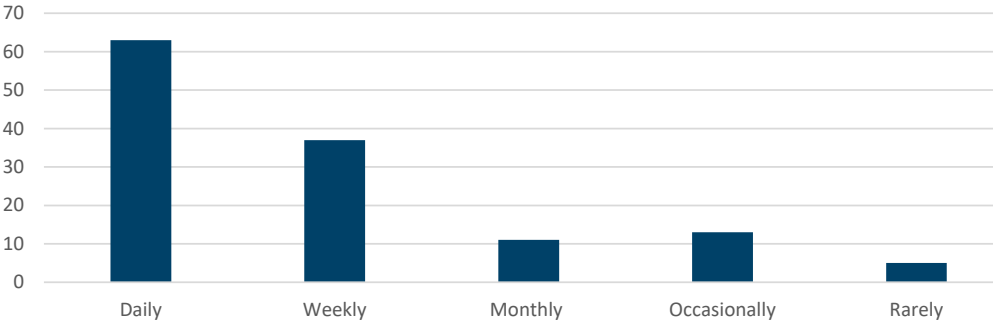


Figure 152. **How often do you visit Signal Hill Reserve?**

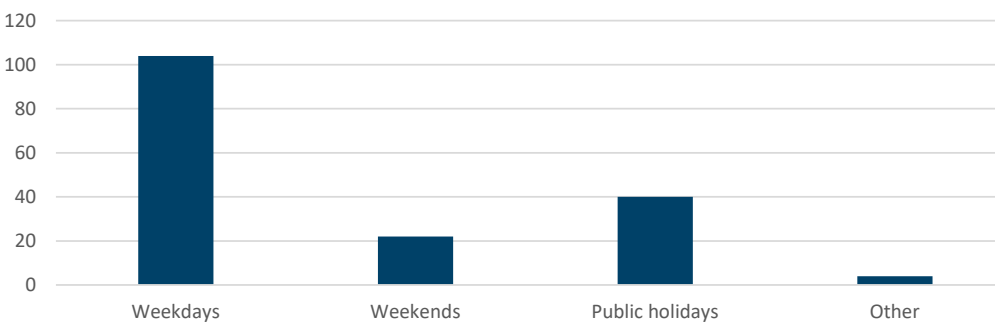


Figure 153. **When do you usually visit Signal Hill Reserve?**

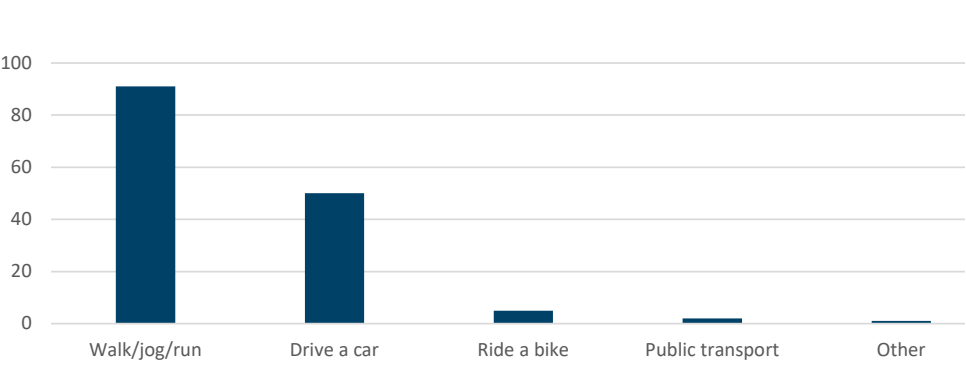


Figure 154. How do you usually get to Signal Hill Reserve?

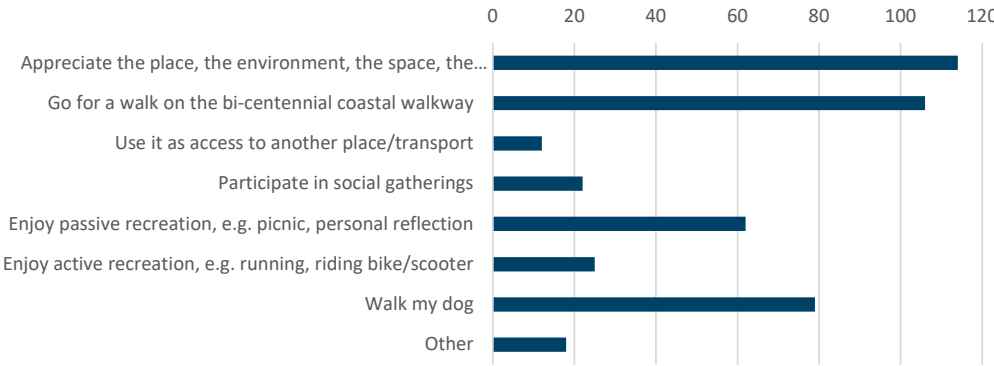


Figure 155. What do you usually do at Signal Hill Reserve?



# 24. Sir David Martin Reserve and Plantation Reserve



Figure 156. Sir David Martin Reserve



Figure 157. Aerial photo of Sir David Martin Reserve and Plantation Reserve

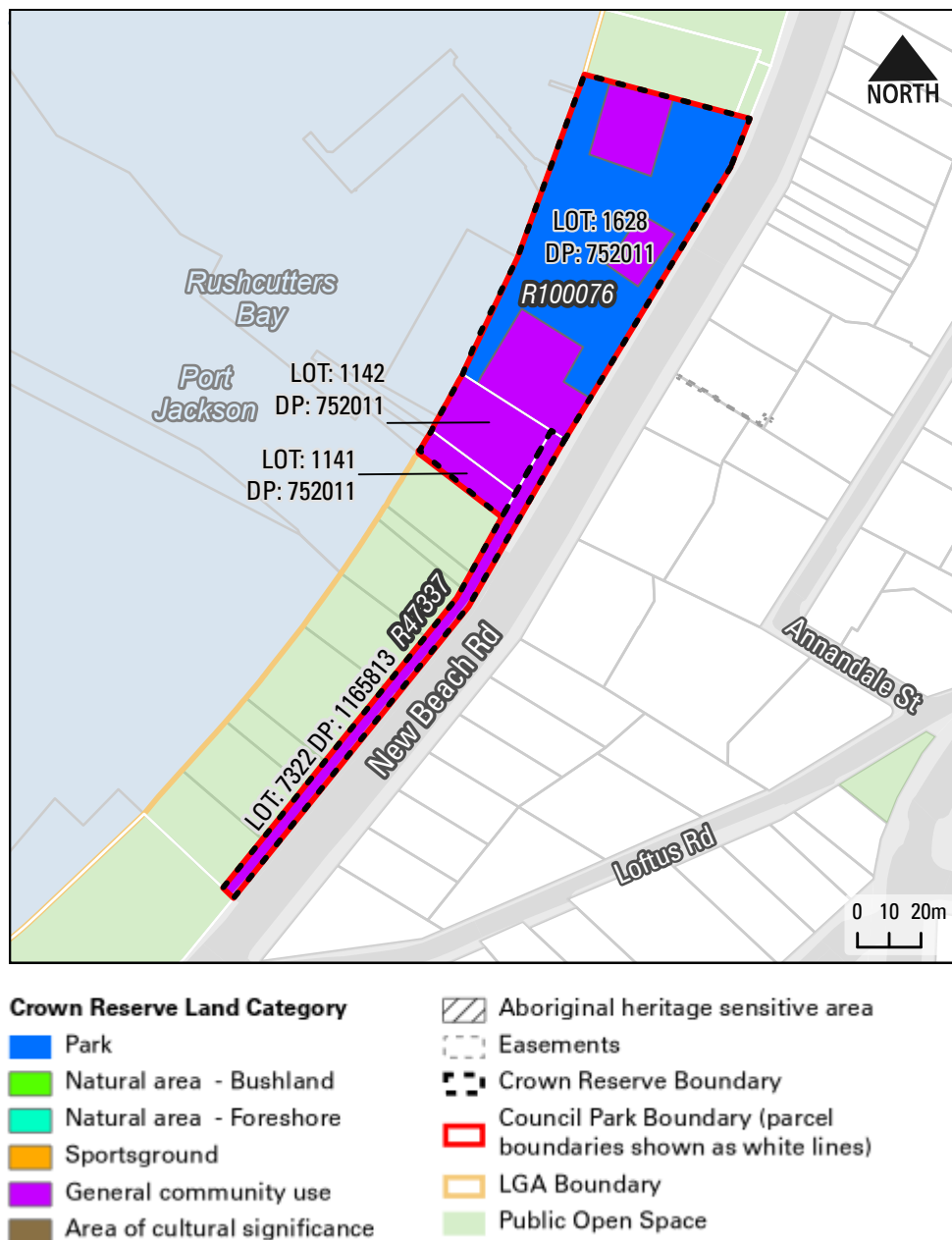


Figure 158. Sir David Martin Reserve and Plantation Reserve map including land categories

**Table 71. Legal description for Sir David Martin Reserve and Plantation Reserve**

Location	New Beach Road, Darling Point
Land area (m <sup>2</sup> )	6,794m <sup>2</sup> in total
Land owner	Crown
Crown reserve purpose	SDM Reserve – Maritime Purposes & Public Recreation Plantation Reserve – Access & Plantation
Woollahra LEP 2014 zone	RE1 Public recreation
LG Act categorisation	Park and General Community Use
Legal description	Crown SDM Reserve R100076 Lots1141-1142, 1628 DP 752011  Plantation Reserve R47337 Lot 7322 DP1165813



## 24. Sir David Martin Reserve and Plantation Reserve

### Description

Sir David Martin Reserve, is a waterfront reserve formally known as Rushcutters Bay Maritime Reserve and HMAS Rushcutter, located on Rushcutters Bay approximately 3km east of the Sydney CBD.

Directly adjoining the reserve to the north is Yarranabbe Park, to the east lies New Beach Road and residential development. The d’Albora marina neighbours the reserve to the south and beyond that the Cruising Yacht Club Australia and Rushcutters Bay Park. The western boundary is the sandstone harbour seawall.

Plantation Reserve is a level, narrow, concrete pedestrian access way that connects Sir David Martin Reserve to Rushcutters Bay Park, between New Beach Road and the marina and CYCA. There is a garden bed immediately adjacent to the road.

Sir David Martin Reserve includes culturally significant infrastructure from its history of maritime use, structures include the RANSA boatshed, The Cottage, the Drill Hall & Extension, the Sail Loft and the Sayonara Slipway. The site hosted the sailing



Figure 159. Plantation Reserve

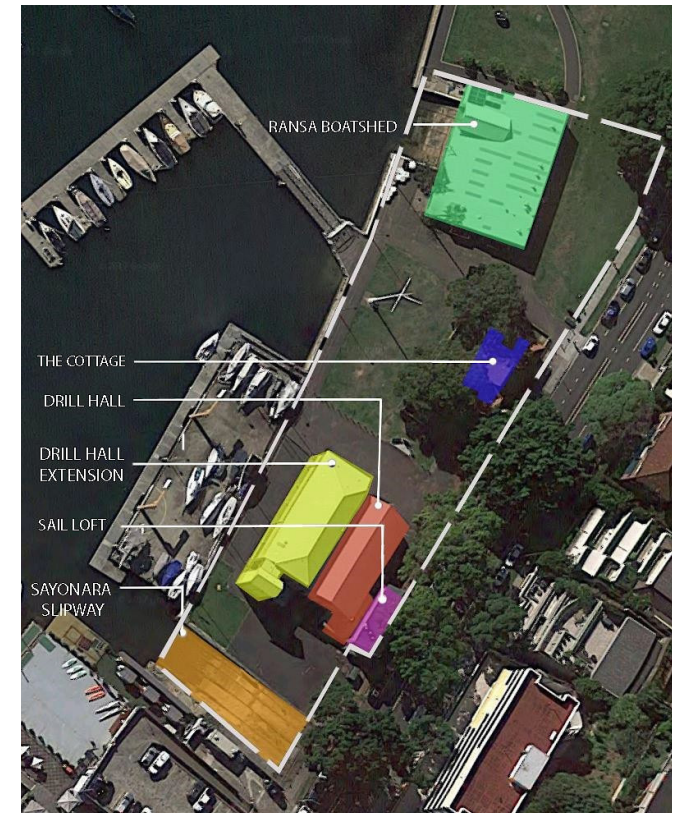


Figure 160. Buildings and slipway at Sir David Martin Reserve

events of the 2000 Sydney Olympic and Paralympic Games. The site consists of park and general community use land categorises.

### Access

Level pedestrian access into the site from the south is along the path provided by Plantation Reserve adjacent to New Beach Road. The path continues along New Beach Road past the site to Yarranabbe Park, and is part of the Bondi to Manly walk. At the northern vehicular driveway into the site a pedestrian path curves into the site around the RANSA building to meet the Yarranabbe Park foreshore path. Level pedestrian access into the site is also possible from between the low timber bollards along the New Beach Road footpath and is possible to the foreshore wall.

Public transport is available at bus stops along New Beach Road. The closest train station is Edgecliff, approximately 1km away uphill to the southeast.

Vehicular access is limited to emergency, service and disabled transport services from the driveways on New Beach Road. No public vehicular access or parking available on site. There is currently on-site disabled car space.



Figure 161. Level pedestrian access along the foreshore

### History

#### The Physical Landscape

The land was reclaimed from the harbour in the late 1880's, and contains no remnant vegetation or natural physical features. It is likely that

marine deposits were used to fill the original mudflats, although the exact depth and nature of fill is unknown. Past use by the RAN may have contaminated the fill and remnant footings may also be present below ground. The site is within an area mapped as acid sulphate soils class 2, and all proposed works below existing ground level require approval.

Sir David Martin Reserve is partially sheltered by the landforms of Darling Point and Elizabeth Bay, which reduces exposure to southerly, north-easterly and westerly winds. Due to the north-west aspect, the park receives maximum sun exposure.

### The Cultural Landscape – Aboriginal History and Heritage

#### Overview:

Aboriginal people lived around Darling Point and Rushcutters Bay for thousands of years and right through the nineteenth century. Before the arrival of Europeans the rocky shore of the point, the bay and the extensive swamplands and creek draining into it would have provided both shelter and a wide range of foods for Aboriginal people. A year after the arrival of Europeans in Sydney in 1788, a devastating



smallpox epidemic swept around the harbour and claimed many Aboriginal lives. There were also violent encounters between Aboriginal people and Europeans in those early years. Although there is a local legend the bay gained its name from two convicts speared while gathering rushes there in 1788, it is not correct – this happened west of Sydney Cove<sup>56</sup>. In the nineteenth century, the surviving Aboriginal people developed relationships with some local European families, and camped on Darling Point properties such as Mona and Longwood<sup>56</sup>. There was also a large Aboriginal settlement that shifted around public lands on the eastern side of Rushcutters Bay throughout the nineteenth century, until its residents moved to the Aboriginal reserve at La Perouse around 1900<sup>57</sup>.

No archaeological evidence of these ancient and more recent Aboriginal uses of Darling Point and Rushcutters Bay has yet been found, mainly because most of the construction around the area

took place long before any heritage laws were passed. While traces may survive elsewhere, there is no chance that any physical evidence remains within Sir David Martin Reserve or Plantation Reserve, because the entire area of both is reclaimed land. The original foreshore sits on the other side of New Beach Road. However, the past use and continuing significance of the area for Aboriginal people has been recognised in the State Heritage Register listing of Rushcutters Bay Park and Yarranabbe Park (SHR 5067067) which includes Sir David Martin Reserve.

### Recommendations

1. Despite the lack of physical evidence, these and neighbouring reserves have an outlook over Rushcutters Bay and to Darling Point and Potts Point that make them well-suited as sites for interpreting the Aboriginal heritage and history of the local area. How this might be presented should be developed in conjunction with the local Aboriginal community. Aboriginal associations with the reserve and surrounding areas should also be considered in any future management plans that are to be prepared for the area.

2. An unexpected finds protocol should be in place for any excavation works. See appendix AA for more details.

### The Cultural Landscape – European History and Heritage.

#### Overview:

Prior to being reclaimed, the original shoreline of Rushcutters Bay was located where New Beach Rd is today.

Around 1899 the sandstone seawall was built in its present location. Shortly after, in 1901, the site was established as the headquarters for the naval volunteer forces, due to its proximity to Victoria Barracks and ready access to the water. This association with naval purposes would continue for more than 70 years. The Boatshed and the Drill Hall were constructed from repurposed sheets of galvanised iron previously used in the buildings at Fort Macquarie. The Cottage was also constructed around the same time.

With the formation of the Royal Australian Navy in 1911, the site became known as the Sydney Naval Depot and facilitated reserve training. Further

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56. Irish (2019), p. 24.

57. Tucker, J.C. 'To the editor of the Herald', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 11/1/1883, p. 9; 'Meetings. Board for the Protection of Aborigines', *Sydney Morning Herald* 22/2/1895, p. 6; Irish (2017), pp. 127-8.

58. Irish (2018).

maritime developments occurred, including the jetty south of the Boatshed, the Sail Loft and the Sayonara Slipway. By the 1940s the naval recreation ground was being used as a parade ground and recruitment centre and was crowded with buildings including quarters, a ward room and a depth charge, anti-submarine training school. These occupied almost half of the park at their greatest extent. The bulk of the naval buildings were removed during the 1950s and 1960s, and after 1968 all the former navy buildings north of the reserve, in Yarranabbe Park's southern end, had been demolished.

Four historic buildings remain in the reserve from its use by the RAN; the Drill Hall and the adjacent extension to the hall, The Cottage, the Royal Australian Navy Sailing Association (RANSA) boatshed, and the Sail Loft. These, along with the Sayonara Slipway are classified by the National Trust.

The Commonwealth Government transferred this land to the State government in 1979 for public recreational use with the condition that RANSA be granted lease of the area it already occupied.

It was gazetted 16/01/1987. In 1991 the name was changed from HMAS Rushcutter to Sir David Martin Reserve. Sir David Martin (1933-1990) was Rear Admiral of the Royal Australian Navy until his retirement in 1998. He also served as Governor of New South Wales in 1989.

The site was chosen in 1998 to host the Olympic and Paralympic Games sailing events for the Sydney 2000 Olympics. At this time, several structures were demolished; the Anti-Submarine School building, Sayonara Boatshed, brick fuel store and three jetties (in front of Drill Hall Extension, Cottage and Boatshed). A new hardstand area extending into bay was built in front of the Drill Hall Extension.

Woollahra Council has been managing the site since 2001.

### Heritage Items

Sir David Martin Reserve including former HMAS Rushcutter, comprising the Sayonara slipway, ramps, sea wall, parade ground, drill hall and extension, sail loft, cottage and garden, R.A.N.S.A. boatshed and slipway, flagpole, memorial, plantation

reserve, all building interiors and ground, listed in WLEP item 170.

HMAS Rushcutter slipway, listed in WLEP item 171.

Sir David Martin Reserve, Yarranabbe Park and Rushcutters Bay Park were listed on the State Heritage Register 19/6/2020 [SHR 02041].

'HMAS Rushcutter slipway' is listed in Schedule 4 of the Sydney Regional Environmental Plan (Sydney Harbour Catchment) 2005, Item 42

### Potential Heritage Items

The whole of the site has been listed on the heritage register.

### Recommendations:

1. For proposed activities that may impact below ground and water, an unexpected finds protocol must be in place to guide excavations. See appendix AA for more details.

### Landscape Character

Sir David Martin Reserve provides the community with valuable harbour front open space in a culturally



significant setting that reflects that past working purpose of the land. The landscape character provided by the clustered buildings, maritime infrastructure and formal, level spaces is unique within the LGA. Together with the foreground views of moored boats to the distant view of the Harbour Bridge, these elements contribute to the strong sense of place experienced at this reserve.



Figure 162. View looking north from within the site

### Relevant Documents

Rushcutters Bay Park, Sir David Martin Reserve and Yarranabbe Park were listed on the State Heritage Register 19/6/2020 [SHR 02041].

Site Specific Exemptions relating to Heritage Listing 26 June 2020 [SHR 02041]

Sir David Martin Reserve CMP prepared by Design 5 in 2005.

Draft Sir David Martin Reserve Plan of Management 2019 (since on hold) and community consultation

Woollahra Libraries, Local History Research File.

### Community Input – Sir David Martin Reserve and Plantation Reserve Use and Management Issues

This section provides a summary of the contributions made by our community through the Crown lands plan of management survey. Refer to the complete survey report in appendix BB for all responses. Questions 129, 130 and 131 of the Your Say survey refer specifically to Sir David Martin Reserve and Plantation Reserve, to which 44, 34 and 35 responses were received respectively. No postal surveys were received for Sir David Martin Reserve and Plantation Reserve.

Most of the survey participants visited Sir David Martin Reserve weekly, on weekdays and arrived on foot.

Use of this site by our community is mostly to:

- go for a walk
- appreciate the place, the environment, the space, the views
- appreciate the heritage value

The key management issues here are:

- site interpretation and design
- connectivity with adjacent sites
- harbour side pedestrian access

In 2019, Council undertook community consultation for an update to the 2004 Plan of Management. Stakeholders, residents and users of Sir David Martin Reserve were invited to comment. This individual POM was put on hold and incorporated into this generic Crown land reserves POM in September 2019.

All responses to the previous consultation have been reviewed and have played a part in the preparation of this profile sheet.

**Table 72. Current and Future Permissible Use of Sir David Martin Reserve and Plantation Reserve**

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
Park	Land	Passive recreation, dog exercise on leash at all times, aesthetic	Nil	3	Casual recreation use e.g. walking, dog exercise on leash at all times, informal ball games, picnics for groups of < 20 at all times, no permit required.  Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include public meetings, all group activities of > 20 and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.	Small scale and low intensity only	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.  Dog exercise off leash.  Commercial fitness activities
	Buildings	Nil	Nil	Nil			
	Improvements Refer to Council's built asset register for complete list, which itemises every structure on the land, including condition rating.	Flagpole, paths, bin	Nil	Av. 2.4	Development related or ancillary to recreation and / or aesthetic use is permissible, e.g. amenity buildings, utilities if required, planting for shade and habitat, park furniture, recreation facilities, play equipment, temporary structures for recreational needs, environmental facilities / management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).		

**Table 72. Current and Future Permissible Use of Sir David Martin Reserve and Plantation Reserve *cont'***

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
G C Use	Land	Passive recreation dog exercise on leash at all times, aesthetic	Nil	3	<p>Various use to meet the public recreation, or the physical, cultural, social or intellectual needs of the community, e.g. community facilities, kiosk, recreation areas.</p> <p>Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include public meetings, all group activities of &gt; 20, all building venues, and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.</p> <p>Long term leases / licences may be granted for provision of appropriate goods, services, facilities or purposes as currently used and / or as shown in table 9.</p> <p>Development related or ancillary to the recreational, physical, cultural, social or intellectual needs of the community is permissible, e.g. kiosks, mobile refreshment stands, temporary structures for recreational needs, community facilities, environmental facilities / management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).</p>	Small scale and low intensity only	<p>Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.</p> <p>Dog exercise off leash.</p> <p>Commercial fitness activities.</p>

**Table 72. Current and Future Permissible Use of Sir David Martin Reserve and Plantation Reserve *cont'***

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
	Buildings	RANSA boatshed (maritime purposes)	Leased See appendix U	1.71 See appendix U	As per lease to RANSA, small scale events and functions (e.g. clubhouse patron use, local sailing events / functions, gathering space, public café)	Small scale and low intensity only	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.  Dog exercise off leash.  Commercial fitness activities.
		The Cottage (aged and disability care centre)	Leased See appendix U	1.57 See appendix U	As per lease to South Eastern Community Connect, max 40 persons,		
		Drill Hall (community dance facility)	Leased See appendix U	1.86 See appendix U	As per licence, full-time use to Critical Path, max 50 persons, (e.g. public, private, or corporate art / performing arts, performances)		
		Drill Hall Extension (community dance facility)	Studio for hire See appendix U	1.86 See appendix U	Available for hire, max 50 persons for performing arts use.  NOT suitable for parties / private functions.		
		Sail Loft (disabled sailing facility)	Leased See appendix U	1.71 See appendix U	As per lease to Making Waves Foundation (southern end of ground floor and all of first floor of Sail Loft) and Rushcutters Bay Branch of Sailability NSW Inc (northern end of ground floor of Sail Loft), max 40 persons.		
	Improvements	Sayonara Slipway Plantation Reserve pathway	Nil	Av 2.4.	Appropriate use to meet the public recreation, or the physical, cultural, social or intellectual needs of the community, (e.g. boat ramp, water access, pedestrian access)		

Condition ratings for land and park assets as follows: 1. Excellent – no work required or as new condition, 2. Good – well maintained, minor maintenance only, 3. Average – maintained but in need of repair, 4. Poor – in need of major repair or renewal, 5. Very Poor – urgent renewal or upgrading required

Special management requirements: CMP 2005. WMC mapping shows the area as class 2 acid sulphate soils.

Capital works currently budgeted for: Sayonara Slipway Upgrade

Current Council resolution: Nil.

**Table 73. Management Framework for Sir David Martin Reserve and Plantation Reserve**

IN ADDITION TO THE GENERIC MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR ALL COMMUNITY LAND CROWN RESERVES, THE FOLLOWING SITE SPECIFIC ACTIONS ADDRESS ISSUES RAISED IN THE SURVEY AND / OR NOTED THROUGH SITE OBSERVATION AND ANALYSIS AND / OR REQUIRED BY A CURRENT COUNCIL RESOLUTION.

Objective – the desired outcome	Performance targets – what the objective is trying to do	Actions – how to achieve the target	Performance measures – how to assess whether the objective and targets have been met
<b>1</b>	<b>B</b>		
Safe, clean, well-maintained, functional and varied	Ensure <b>clean</b> , litter free public land is <b>well-maintained</b> and available for use by the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure public toilet is cleaned as per schedules, consider additional services during and after events and on weekends</li> </ul>	<p>Toilets clean and available for public use</p> <p>Fewer incidents of toilets being unusable reported by lease holders</p>
	<b>D</b>		
	Ensure a <b>variety</b> of opportunities are available and the <b>landscape character</b> of each site is preserved and that future design and use responds to the <b>unique site conditions</b> and <b>identity</b> (a strategy of <i>Greener Places</i> and a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To commission a report to investigate the feasibility (or otherwise) or creating a more accessible, safe and swimmable harbour, including identifying potential locations, with the focus of the report to be on the western area of the the LGA</li> </ul>	Investigation completed



**Table 73. Management Framework for Sir David Martin Reserve and Plantation Reserve *cont'***

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>1</b>	<b>E</b>		
	Where there is <b>opportunity</b> to improve <b>layout, functionality, aesthetic appeal</b> and <b>site interpretation</b> provide a <b>landscape master plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare a detailed landscape master plan for the Bay Trio of parks, i.e. Rushcutters Bay Park, Sir David Martin Reserve and Yarranabbe Park, that establishes a vision for all three sites, allows for an integrated approach to the ongoing recreational use of the area, maintains the unique landscape character, including the views, improves habitat opportunities, pedestrian access and connectivity including access to the foreshore, Green Links, provides appropriate materials selection, including a selected hardscape and softscape palette, meaningful wayfinding elements, develops the sense of place and interprets the significant cultural heritage values</li> <li>• Refer to 2019 review of Sir David Martin Reserve Plan of Management and Community Consultation results</li> </ul>	<p>Concept design process involving community consultation is undertaken and a master plan produced to the satisfaction of all stakeholders</p> <p>Unique site values and preferred spatial arrangement of all elements integrated into site design outcome</p> <p>Future capital works installed to a cohesive, well documented plan, selected for their appropriateness within the landscape</p>
<b>2</b>	<b>B</b>		
Accessible and inclusive	Optimise public access to all sites and <b>improve connectivity</b> via improvements to <b>walking and cycling paths</b> (a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider increasing the width of the path in Plantation Reserve to improve pedestrian access to provide a safe, accessible pedestrian link, install buffer planting to the road as needed</li> <li>• Investigate an improved sense of entry to the site, including the interface with Yarranabbe Park</li> </ul>	<p>Pedestrian access and safety improved</p> <p>Installations at entry points are designed to be aesthetically pleasing and celebrate the rich history of site</p>

**Table 73. Management Framework for Sir David Martin Reserve and Plantation Reserve *cont'***

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
2	<b>D</b>		
	Reduce <b>traffic and parking</b> pressures in and around public land to improve useable and retain residential amenity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider adjusting the layout of parking along New Beach Road, to facilitate improved pedestrian access and safety, suggestions include reduced speed limits, inclusion of traffic calming elements and restricted parking times</li> <li>Allow for on-site disabled parking only, for use by lease holders; one dedicated mobility parking space adjacent to The Drill Hall for Sail Loft lease holder, and three spaces adjacent to The Cottage; one dedicated SECC bus parking space, and two mobility / staff spaces.</li> </ul>	<p>Pedestrian access and safety improved</p> <p>Disabled parking allocated</p>
	<b>E</b>		
	Improve <b>public access</b> to <b>foreshores</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Liaise with the adjacent d'Albora marina and the Cruising Yacht Club to consider improvements to public foreshore access</li> <li>Consider pedestrian access across Sayonara slipway</li> </ul>	Greater public access to foreshores facilitated

**Table 73. Management Framework for Sir David Martin Reserve and Plantation Reserve *cont'***

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>3</b>	<b>E</b>		
Well managed for public use	Support appropriate use of land through <b>leases, licences</b> and other <b>estates</b> for the best interest of the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to manage existing leases and licences as per agreements</li> <li>• Review the conditions of use and lease / licence for the Drill Hall, (currently the DA conditions state that it may only be used "for dance, theatre and other art forms as well as workshops associated with these uses"), to ensure use meets the current needs of the community and aligns with the broader objectives of the reserve</li> <li>• Review the conditions of use and lease / licence for the Cottage building to ensure this use meets the current needs of the community and aligns with the broader objectives of the reserve</li> <li>• Review the conditions of use and lease / licence for the Sail Loft building to ensure this use meets the current needs of the community and aligns with the broader objectives of the reserve</li> <li>• Review the conditions of use and lease / licence of the Royal Australian Navy Association (RANSA) building to ensure this use meets the current needs of the community and aligns with the broader objectives of the reserve.</li> <li>• Consider future use of Sayonara Slipway</li> </ul>	<p>Agreements upheld, performance of all obligations under the terms and conditions of the lease / licence</p> <p>Conditions of use of all buildings reviewed and modifications to user agreement made as necessary to facilitate greater use of venues and to meet community need</p> <p>Existing opportunity enhanced for greater public use</p>

**Table 73. Management Framework for Sir David Martin Reserve and Plantation Reserve *cont'***

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>6</b>	<b>A</b>		
Heritage and cultural awareness	Investigate and assess <b>environmental heritage</b> and ensure land is used and managed to be consistent with <b>heritage significance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate with the City of Sydney to prepare a Conservation Management Plan for the whole heritage listed area [SHR 02041]</li> <li>Consider interpretative signage celebrating the rich history of the site</li> <li>Consider identification of memorial gathering space, such as a trafficable feature pavement representation (to be further addressed during the master plan phase)</li> </ul>	<p>CMS completed and recommendations inform use of the site</p> <p>Improved understanding and greater appreciation of environmental heritage</p> <p>No negative impacts of management practices on sites with natural and cultural significance.</p> <p>Only sympathetic and compatible uses are permitted</p>
	<b>B</b>		
	Investigate, assess and manage <b>First Nations culture</b> and <b>history</b> on Crown land (a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate opportunities to interpret the Aboriginal history and heritage of the area</li> </ul>	Improved understanding and greater appreciation of site heritage
	<b>D</b>		
	Work with <b>Aboriginal communities</b> to realise the potential of their <b>land rights</b> (a priority of the <i>State Strategic plan for Crown land</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage with the La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council as necessary in regards to incomplete land claim at Sir David Martin Reserve</li> </ul>	Improved relationship and understanding of local Aboriginal community in respect of their land rights

**Table 73. Management Framework for Sir David Martin Reserve and Plantation Reserve *cont'***

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>7</b>	<b>B</b>		
Recreational opportunities	Encourage <b>multiple use</b> of Crown land, ensure land is <b>multifunctional</b> , <b>flexible</b> and <b>versatile</b> , proposed facilities to be <b>multi-purpose</b> to maximise community benefit and meet changing community needs (strategies of <i>Greener Places</i> and a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seek opportunities to activate the Sayonara slipway, it represents a unique opportunity for water based recreation and related maritime purposes, consider future use for the launching of small watercraft whilst retaining and preserving the heritage fabric</li> <li>• Consider improvements to the area between the Sayonara Slipway and the Drill Hall such as interpretative signage, small deciduous trees, turf and seating areas (to be addressed during master plan phase – with consideration from 2019 draft Sir David Martin Reserve Plan of Management)</li> </ul>	<p>Sayonara slipway available for public recreation</p> <p>Master plan addresses potential improvements to the site</p>

# Appendix T

## Sir David Martin Reserve and Plantation Reserve Survey Responses – User Profile

(The following information includes the *Your Say* data plus any related postal data)

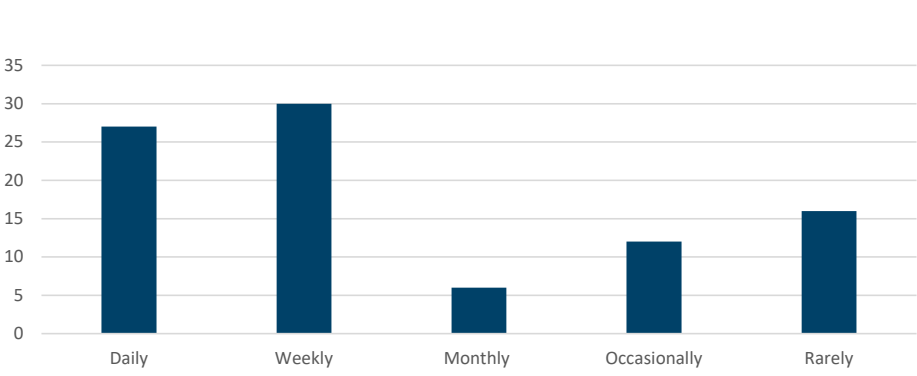


Figure 163. How often do you visit Sir David Martin Reserve?

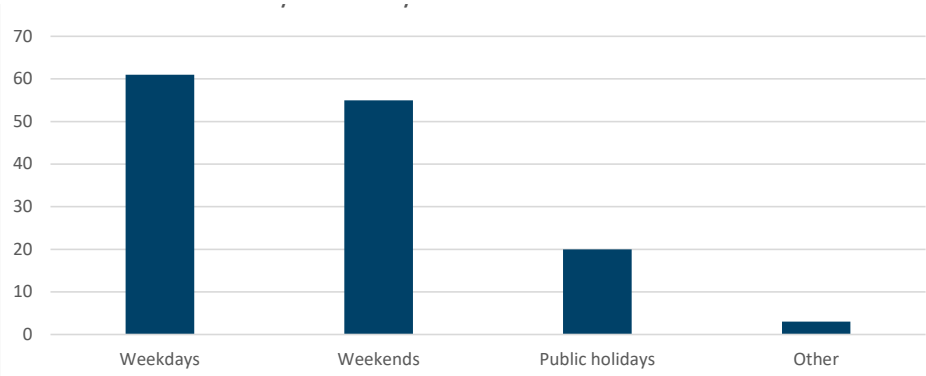


Figure 164. When do you usually visit Sir David Martin Reserve?



24. Sir David Martin Reserve and Plantation Reserve

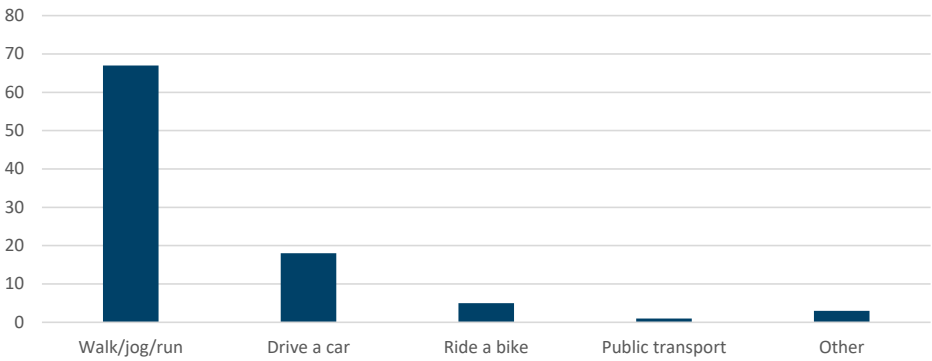


Figure 165. How do you usually get to Sir David Martin Reserve?

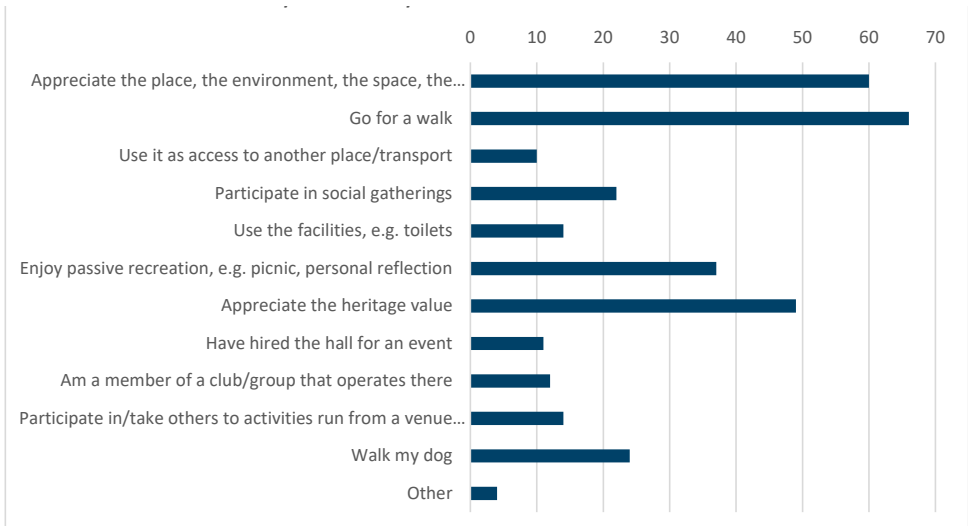


Figure 166. What do you usually do at Sir David Martin Reserve?

# Appendix U

**Table 74. Sir David Martin Reserve RANSA Building Condition Report**

Item	Condition
Structure	1
Doors and windows	2
Lights / power outlets	2
Ceilings / walls	2
Essential services	1
Plumbing	2
Floors and coverings	2
<b>General</b>	<b>1.71</b>
Comments / capital works	roof replaced FY19/20 external refurbishment FY18/19
Ratings: 1 – Good, 2 – Fair, 3 – Requires Maintenance, 4 – Requires Replacement	

**Table 75. Sir David Martin Reserve RANSA Lease Details**

Name	<b>Royal Australian Navy Sailing Association Boatshed</b>
Description	Sir David Martin Reserve Crown Reserve R100076
Address	1C New Beach Road, Rushcutters Bay
Lessee/Licensee	Royal Australian Navy Sailing Association
Term Starts	1/6/2015
Term Ends	31/05/2035
Term	20 years
Renewal Options	\$32,482 pa incl GST
Rental	\$4,800
Recovered outgoings	–
Area m <sup>2</sup>	Approx. 500
Notes / Special Conditions	

**Table 76. Sir David Martin Reserve Sail Loft Building Condition Report**

Item	Condition
Structure	3
Doors and windows	1
Lights / power outlets	2
Ceilings / walls	2
Essential services	1
Plumbing	2
Floors and coverings	1
<b>General</b>	<b>1.71</b>
Comments / capital works	External refurbishment done and new fire sprinkler system done FY18/19  Roof to be replaced FY21/22
Ratings: 1 – Good, 2 – Fair, 3 – Requires Maintenance, 4 – Requires Replacement	

**Table 77A. Sir David Martin Reserve Sail Loft Lease Details**

Name	Sail Loft Top Floor
Description	Sir David Martin Reserve Crown Reserve Lot 1628 R100076
Address	1C New Beach Road, Rushcutters Bay
Lessee/Licensee	Making Waves Foundation
Term Starts	1/7/2019
Term Ends	30/06/2022
Term	3 year (licence now expired)
Renewal Options	On monthly holdover
Rental	\$16,500 incl GST Pa
Recovered outgoings	\$8,558 incl GST Pa
Area m <sup>2</sup>	54m <sup>2</sup>
Notes / Special Conditions	Licence extended upon expiry with 12 mth licence

**Table 77B. Sir David Martin Reserve Sail Loft Lease Details**

Name	Sail Loft Ground Floor
Description	Sir David Martin Reserve Crown Reserve Lot 1628 R100076
Address	1C New Beach Road, Rushcutters Bay
Lessee/Licensee	Sailability NSW Inc Rushcutters Bay Branch (SRB)
Term Starts	1/7/2021
Term Ends	30/06/2022
Term	12 months (licence now expired)
Renewal Options	On monthly holdover
Rental	\$2,953.67 incl GST Pa
Recovered outgoings	\$2,182.92 incl GST Pa
Area m <sup>2</sup>	18.7m <sup>2</sup>
Notes / Special Conditions	Renew subject to adoption of the POM

**Table 78. Sir David Martin Reserve Drill Hall Building Condition Report**

Item	Condition
Structure	2
Doors and windows	2
Lights / power outlets	2
Ceilings / walls	2
Essential services	1
Plumbing	2
Floors and coverings	2
<b>General</b>	<b>1.86</b>
Comments / capital works	External refurbishment and new fire sprinkler system done FY18/19 New lift to be installed FY20/21
Ratings: 1 – Good, 2 – Fair, 3 – Requires Maintenance, 4 – Requires Replacement	

**Table 79. Sir David Martin Reserve Drill Hall Licence Details**

Name	<b>Part the Drill Hall, Sir David Martin Reserve</b>
Description	Sir David Martin Reserve Crown Reserve R100076
Address	1C New Beach Road, Darling Point
Lessee/Licensee	Critical Path Incorporated
Term Starts	1/11/2019
Term Ends	31/11/2020 ("Letter of Offer" issued to allow for further 12 months)
Term	1 year
Renewal Options	12 months
Rental	For dance \$32,165.34 per annum (inclusive of GST) plus \$6992.19 (inclusive of GST) for the 3 months extension in 2019  Office \$3850.41 (inclusive of GST) per annum  Research room no fee
Recovered outgoings	\$14, 972
Area m <sup>2</sup>	210
Notes / Special Conditions	Permitted hours: 7am – 9pm any day for rehearsal and office administration for the operation of dance activities 6pm – 11pm for performance / functions with no more than 2 performances in any period of 30 consecutive days Permitted use: Dance, theatre and other forms as well as workshops associated with these uses including rehearsals, performances and functions Office, the office administration for the operation of dance activities Research room, research space also used for editing and archive storage of licensee's library. Does not include shared premises i.e. internal toilets, kitchen and any upstairs rooms. Shared premises shall always be made available for shared use. Current agreement is month to month hold over of licence.

**Table 80. Sir David Martin Reserve  
The Cottage Building Condition Report**

Item	Condition
Structure	1
Doors and windows	2
Lights / power outlets	2
Ceilings / walls	1
Essential services	1
Plumbing	2
Floors and coverings	2
<b>General</b>	<b>1.57</b>
Comments / capital works	Roof repairs done FY19/20  External fence to be replaced FY20/21
Ratings: 1 – Good, 2 – Fair, 3 – Requires Maintenance, 4 – Requires Replacement	

**Table 81. Sir David Martin Reserve The Cottage Licence Details**

Name	<b>The Cottage</b>
Description	Sir David Martin Reserve Crown Reserve R100076
Address	1C New Beach Road, Darling Point
Lessee/Licensee	South Eastern Community Connect
Term Starts	1/07/2020
Term Ends	30/06/2021
Term	1 year (typical term 3 years)
Renewal Options	12 months
Rental	\$18,238
Recovered outgoings	\$11,130
Area m <sup>2</sup>	Approx. 140
Notes / Special Conditions	Licence extended upon expiry with 12 mth licence Current agreement is month to month hold over of licence.

# 25. Steyne Park



Figure 167. Steyne Park



Figure 168. Aerial photo of Steyne Park



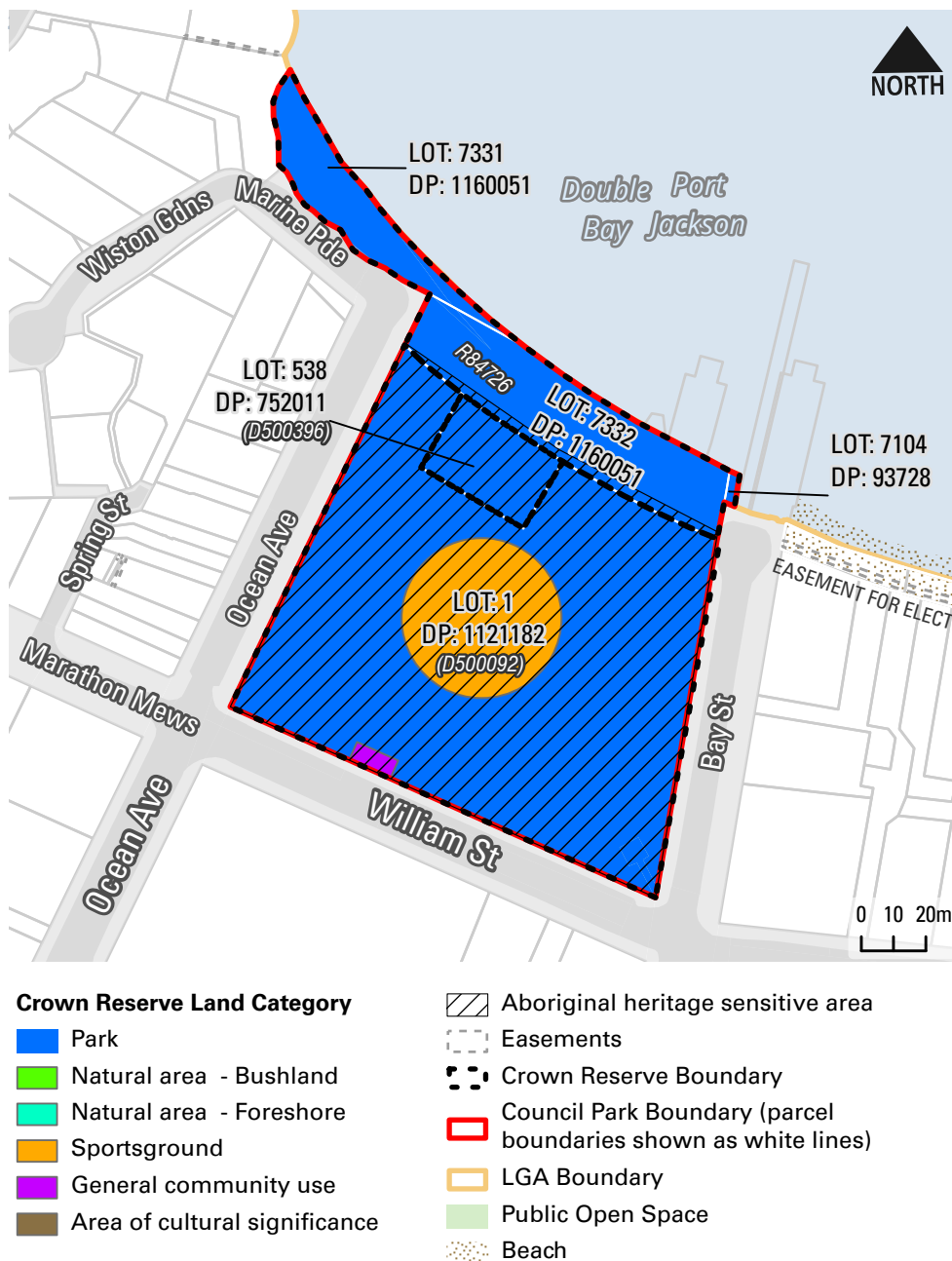


Figure 169. Steyne Park map including land categories

**Table 82. Legal description for Steyne Park**

Location	2 William Street, Double Bay
Land area (m <sup>2</sup> )	17,500m <sup>2</sup>
Land owner	Crown
Crown reserve purpose	Public recreation
Woollahra LEP 2014 zone	RE1 Public recreation
LG Act categorisation	Park, Sportsground, General Community Use
Legal description	Crown D500092 Lot 1 DP 1121182 D500396 Lot 538 DP 752011 R84726 Lot 7104 DP 93728 & Lots 7331-7332 DP 1160051

## 25. Steyne Park

### Description

Steyne Park is situated on the foreshore of Double Bay in Sydney Harbour, adjacent to the Double Bay Ferry Wharf. Boundaries are formed by Ocean Ave to the west, William St to the south and Bay St to the east which culminates at the wharf. Double Bay Public School is located opposite the park on William St.

Approximately 1.75 hectares in size, this level, open, roughly square, grassed reserve includes mature tree plantings, seating, a playground, public toilets, a small boat ramp to the harbour, bicycle and dinghy storage and a rotunda. The site is used as a boat rigging area under licence to the Double Bay Sailing Club and the 18 Footers Club. The Double Bay War Memorial sits within the park at the corner of William and Bay Streets. The site consists of land categorised as park, sportsground, and general community use.



Figure 170. Double Bay Ferry Wharf with 18 Footers Club at left and Double Bay Sailing Club on the right.



Figure 171. Dinghy storage within Steyne Park.



Figure 172. Double Bay Sailing Club using the licensed rigging area for sailing activities.

### Access

At grade pedestrian access can be made from any point off the perimeter pathways on the park boundary along Ocean Ave, William St and Bay St and the internal path linking Bay St to Ocean Ave to the north of the site. The park is part of the Bondi to Manly walk.

Bike storage racks are provided near the children's playground.

The park is well serviced by public transport, via buses along William St and the Double Bay ferry at the northern end of Bay St, past the 18 Footers club house.

Limited service vehicle access is provided at the northern end of Ocean Ave through a locked driveway gate. There is no public vehicle access, and no on-site car parking is available, except for occasional special events. Surrounding streets provide restricted car parking.

### History

#### The Physical Landscape

The low, level, sandy land of this harbour bay would have originally supported a vegetation community consisting of plants adapted to the swampy conditions such as Swamp Oak, (*Casuarina glauca*) and Swamp Mahogany (*Eucalyptus robusta*). The surrounding rocky headlands were most likely covered by open woodlands including Red Bloodwood (*Eucalyptus gummifera*) and Smooth-barked Apple (*Angophora costata*).

Since the land was cleared, filled and modified for housing, market gardens and recreation early in the 19th century, none of the original vegetation remains.

Due to the northern aspect, the site receives maximum sun exposure, and the surrounding landforms of Darling Point and Point Piper provide some shelter from prevailing winds.

#### The Cultural Landscape – Aboriginal History and Heritage

##### Overview:

Double Bay was an Aboriginal fishing camp long before it became the fishing village of Double Bay and continued to be so after the arrival of Europeans. The eastern of the two bays, Seven Shillings Beach, was named in relation to Aboriginal couple Gurrah and Nancy who fished its waters in the mid-nineteenth century. Nancy was later buried at Double Bay behind Steyne Park<sup>59</sup>. Other Aboriginal people ran a commercial fishing business in the 1840s and camped around the bay<sup>60</sup>. Steyne Park contains part of the original Double Bay shoreline on the eastern bank of a former creek which drained into the bay, and may include traces of those ancient or more recent Aboriginal fishing camps.

59. Irish (2017), p. 73. A.D.M.B. 'Seven Shilling Beach. A Quaint Story', *Sydney Morning Herald* 5/4/1941, p. 9.

60. Irish (2017), pp. 39-41.

Steyne Park has been reserved land since the village of Double Bay was first subdivided, and has probably preserved the original shore under its grassy surface. The reclamation of the shoreline in the early 20th century may have taken sand from areas within the park, but apart from this and the construction of several houses along the former beachfront, there does not appear to have been extensive major impacts to the area. It is possible that the unreclaimed portion of the park contain the remains of former Aboriginal camps and possibly burials and is has been identified as a sensitive area. Although the frontage of the park is reclaimed land, the sand used to fill behind the seawall most likely came from very close by, and could contain Aboriginal artefacts and human remains dug out of surrounding areas.

#### Recommendations

1. Opportunities could be explored to interpret the rich history of Aboriginal fishing and camping around Double Bay in both ancient times and into the nineteenth century. This could be addressed in a specific study, or as part of a future management plan for the park.

2. Any proposed activities within the sensitive area which may impact below the ground surface should be subject to Aboriginal Heritage Impact Assessment.
3. For any proposed activities within the remainder of Steyne Park, an unexpected finds protocol should be in place for excavation works. See appendix AA for more details.

### The Cultural Landscape – European History and Heritage

#### Overview:

Use of coastal land at Double Bay in the early 19th century was initially industrial; as it was the site of a government run salt works that produced salt by evaporating harbour water. This required large quantities of fuel which was sourced from the surrounding woodlands<sup>61</sup>.

In 1821, Governor Macquarie reserved land on the western part of Double Bay for a botanical garden. This plan did not eventuate, and the land was never used for this purpose. Ten years later,

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61. Jack, R. I. (1984) within the Hughes, Trueman, Ludlow *Heritage Study for the Municipality of Woollahra*



Figure 173. The Double Bay War Memorial was opened in 1919

while the surrounding land was being surveyed for New South Head Road, a government village was gridded out. The planned township included a village green, present day Steyne Park; the earliest open space to be dedicated for public recreation, it was gazetted 06/12/1867. Market gardens, dairies and houses developed around the reserved land which had been fenced off in 1862 so that grass could become established. R500396 was gazetted on 19 October 1894 and R84726 was gazetted on 24 Jan 1964.

This reserve, as the only publicly-owned and level recreation area in the entire municipality quickly became sought after for cricket matches. A concrete wicket was installed in 1884. Football

soon followed. The local cricket and football clubs used the reserve after application to council. By the late Victorian period the park had seating, turnstiles and drinking fountains and the bandstand was built around 1892. It was used for band performances on Sunday afternoons as late as 1945. Significant trees in the park continue the uniquely Victorian planting theme of figs and pines. Returned soldiers held athletic meetings in the park in May 1919, the same year the War Memorial was opened. Improvements in the 1930's attempted to "hold a balance between ornamentation and recreation and a resting place". These included installing a public toilet, removing the boundary fence, creating a level entry grade and completing the stone seawall in 1939. The playground was also moved and expanded. The council steamroller which stood near the Double Bay Sailing Club for many years was removed in 1988 due to safety concerns and a new children's playground was installed soon after.

Steyne Park has had social significance since the 1860s as a venue for public recreation. It has historic significance as the earliest dedication for public recreation in the LGA.



### Heritage Items

Nil.

### Potential Heritage Items

At the time of preparing this document, Council staff are currently preparing a draft heritage gap analysis. It is anticipated that one of the recommendations of this work will be to assess the heritage significance of the cultural landscapes of the Woollahra LGA, including this site.

Potential items include the:

Significant trees.

Whole of Steyne Park, as the earliest dedication for public recreation in the LGA.

The Double Bay War Memorial.

At the initial categorisation stage of this plan of management, the area occupied by the war memorial was assigned the category of cultural significance, as it was considered to be appropriate. Section 36D (1) of the LG Act states that community land is considered to be of cultural significance if it “is the subject of a resolution by the council that declares that because of the presence on the land of any item that the council considers

to be of Aboriginal, historical or cultural significance, the land is an area of cultural significance for the purpose of this part.” As at the time of writing however, (December 2020), this memorial has not yet been listed on the WLEP as a heritage item of cultural significance, and as such, it is managed under the category of park and does not therefore require a specific plan of management. Following such a resolution, it is recommended that the war memorial be re-categorised to an area of cultural significance and a specific plan of management be prepared for the site.

### Recommendations:

1. Investigate opportunities to undertake a heritage assessment of the significant trees
2. Investigate opportunities to undertake a heritage assessment of Steyne Park in accordance with the NSW Heritage criteria.
3. For proposed activities that may impact below ground and water, an unexpected finds protocol must be in place to guide excavations. See appendix AA for more details.

### Landscape Character

The character of the park is achieved through

the formality of its layout and historic features, including significant mature plantings, the intimate harbourside location and associated boating connections.

The rotunda and Double Bay War Memorial are integral to the character of the park, as are the significant trees; *Ficus macrophylla* (Moreton Bay Fig), *Ficus rubiginosa* (Port Jackson Fig) and the *Araucaria heterophylla* (Norfolk Island Pine). These elements represent civic landscape design style of the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Views into and out of the park contribute to the character and define the sense of place. Viewing opportunities include those into the park from sailing craft and the ferry as it docks at Double Bay Wharf, and those out of the park across the harbour to Bradleys head.

### Relevant Documents

Double Bay Centre Public Domain Strategy, adopted by Council 8/8/2016

Woollahra Libraries, Local History Research File.

### Community Input – Steyne Park Use and Management Issues

This section provides a summary of the contributions made by our community through the Crown lands plan of management survey. Refer to the complete survey report in appendix BB for all responses. Questions 105, 106 and 107 of the Your Say survey refer specifically to Steyne Park, to which 48, 42 and 34 responses were received respectively. 2 postal surveys were received for Steyne Park.

Most of the survey participants visited Steyne Park daily, on weekdays and arrived on foot.

Use of this site by our community is mostly to:

- go for a walk
- appreciate the place, the environment, the space, the views
- enjoy passive recreation e.g. picnic, personal reflection and appreciate the significant trees

The key management issues here are:

- conflicts of use, including dogs
- site interpretation and design to recognise the heritage value
- cleanliness



**Table 83. Current and Future Permissible Use of Steyne Park**

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
Park	Land	Passive recreation, dog exercise on leash at all times, off leash between seawall and pedestrian path EXCEPT during organised sailing events, activities associated with sailing, aesthetic	Commercial fitness activities permitted with a licence  Rigging boats and trailer parking permitted (see licence for times and area) by non-exclusive licence to DBSC & 18 Footers Club	2	Casual recreation use e.g. walking, dog exercise on a leash at all times, dogs permitted off leash between the seawall and pedestrian path EXCEPT during organised sailing events, informal ball games, picnics for groups of < 20 at all times, no permit required.  Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include commercial fitness training, amusement devices, public meetings, watercraft storage, all group activities of > 20 and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.  Rigging boats and trailer parking in licenced area as per non-exclusive licence agreement.  Development related or ancillary to recreation and / or aesthetic use is permissible, e.g. amenity buildings, utilities if required, planting for shade and habitat, park furniture, recreation facilities, play equipment, temporary structures for recreational needs, environmental facilities / management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).	Up to medium scale and medium intensity only	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.  Dogs within 10m of playground.  Dog exercise off leash west of pedestrian path.  Smoking within 10m of playground.  Commercial fitness activities in playgrounds, rotunda, or near memorials
	Buildings	Rotunda	Nil	1.33 See appendix W for report			
	Improvements Refer to Council's built asset register for complete list, which itemises every structure on the land, including condition rating	Playground, seats, boat ramp, dinghy storage racks, bike racks.	Nil	2 Av. 2.17 for built assets			

**Table 83. Current and Future Permissible Use of Steyne Park *cont'***

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
S'ground	Land	Passive recreation, dog exercise on leash at all times, aesthetic.  Active recreation, cricket, hockey	Short term casual and seasonal licences.  Commercial fitness activities permitted with a licence.	2	Active recreation use on a casual and / or seasonal basis e.g. rugby, soccer, and cricket, a permit is required for all organised sport regardless of size.  When organised sport is not being played, passive recreation use is permitted, e.g. walking, dog exercise on leash at all times, informal ball games, picnics of < 20 at any time, no permit required.  Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include commercial fitness training, amusement devices, public meetings, cultural events, all group activities of > 20 and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.	Up to medium scale and medium intensity only	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.  Dogs within 10m of playground.  Smoking in areas for spectators during organised sporting events  Smoking within 10m of playground.  Commercial fitness activities in playgrounds, or near memorials.
	Buildings	Nil	Nil	Nil	Development related or ancillary to active recreation needs is permissible, e.g. sporting facilities and / or amenities including but not limited to lighting, drainage, irrigation, surface levelling and resurfacing, environmental management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).		
	Improvements	Junior cricket pitch, irrigation	Short term casual and seasonal licences	Av. 2.17			

**Table 83. Current and Future Permissible Use of Steyne Park *cont'***

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
G C Use	Land	Passive recreation, dog exercise on leash at all times, aesthetic.	Nil	2	Various use to meet the public recreation, or the physical, cultural, social or intellectual needs of the community, e.g. community facilities, kiosk, recreation areas.  Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include public meetings, watercraft storage, all group activities of > 20, all building venues, and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.	Up to medium scale and medium intensity only	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.  Dogs within 10m of playground.  Commercial fitness activities in playgrounds, or near memorials.  Smoking within 10m of playground
	Buildings	Toilets and shed	Nil.	1.29 See appendix W for report.	Long term leases / licences may be granted for provision of appropriate goods, services, facilities or purposes as shown in table 9.		
	Improvements	Seats	Nil	Av. 2.17	Development related or ancillary to the recreational, physical, cultural, social or intellectual needs of the community is permissible, e.g. kiosks, mobile refreshment stands, temporary structures for recreational needs, community facilities, environmental facilities / management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).		

Condition ratings for land and park assets as follows: 1. Excellent – no work required or as new condition, 2. Good – well maintained, minor maintenance only, 3. Average – maintained but in need of repair, 4. Poor – in need of major repair or renewal, 5. Very Poor – urgent renewal or upgrading required

Special management requirements: CMP 2005. WMC mapping shows the area as class 2 acid sulphate soils.

Special management requirements: WMC mapping shows the area as class 2 acid sulphate soils.

Currently budgeted for capital works: Nil.

Current Council resolution: 25/02/2019; resolved that no public park, but more specifically Steyne Park be used for parking during the construction phase of the Cross Street car park redevelopment, into a mixed use complex incorporating a new car park, cinemas, residential and retail units.

19/08/2019; it was resolved to investigate sports lighting at existing sportsfields with the aim to increase the fields' usability and that a report be presented back to the Committee to include costing, proposed timing, consultation plan, funding options and planning considerations for the installation of sports lighting as per recommendation.

On 12/06/23, Council resolved a moratorium on synthetic grass to any new sports fields within the Woollahra LGA until a further report is presented to Council referring to the State Government's Departmental report (Synthetic Turf Study in Public Open Space) and the Chief Scientist's progress report.

**Table 84. Management Framework for Steyne Park**

**IN ADDITION TO THE GENERIC MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR ALL COMMUNITY LAND CROWN RESERVES, THE FOLLOWING SITE SPECIFIC ACTIONS ADDRESS ISSUES RAISED IN THE SURVEY AND / OR NOTED THROUGH SITE OBSERVATION AND ANALYSIS AND / OR REQUIRED BY A CURRENT COUNCIL RESOLUTION.**

Objective – the desired outcome	Performance targets – what the objective is trying to do	Actions – how to achieve the target	Performance measures – how to assess whether the objective and targets have been met
<b>1</b>  Safe, clean, well-maintained, functional and varied	<b>B</b>  Ensure <b>clean</b> , litter free public land is <b>well-maintained</b> and available for use by the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install temporary signage educating to pick up litter, including cigarette butts and / or dog faeces</li> </ul>	Fewer cigarette butts and dog faeces are found littering the ground
	<b>E</b>  Where there is <b>opportunity</b> to improve <b>layout, functionality, aesthetic appeal</b> and <b>site interpretation</b> provide a <b>landscape master plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare a detailed landscape master plan that establishes a vision for Steyne Park and allows for an integrated approach to the ongoing recreational use of the area, maintains the unique landscape character, including the expansive views, improves habitat opportunities, pedestrian connectivity, interprets Aboriginal and European cultural heritage</li> <li>• Ensure landscape master plan refers to Double Bay Public Domain strategy 2016</li> </ul>	Concept design process is undertaken and a master plan produced with the engagement of all stakeholders  Unique site values and preferred spatial arrangement of all elements integrated into master plan  Future capital works allocated to a cohesive, well documented plan, specified for their appropriateness within the landscape

**Table 84. Management Framework for Steyne Park *cont'***

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>2</b>	<b>A</b>		
Accessible and inclusive	Provide universal <b>access</b> , wherever possible, to public land and any associated structures and facilities to ensure the sites are open and welcoming (a strategy of <i>Everyone Can Play</i> and a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to liaise with Sydney Ferries to improve public access around Steyne Park to the Double Bay ferry wharf, ensure visual impact of any modifications is minimal and is in keeping with the landscape character of the site</li> </ul>	Public access improved where possible
	<b>D</b>		
	Reduce <b>traffic and parking</b> pressures in and around public land to improve useable and retain residential amenity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider modifications to parking restrictions on the outside rim of the park, suggestions include parking being unrestricted on Saturdays, or extended to 3-4 hours at all times</li> </ul>	Available parking is compatible with public recreation use
<b>3</b>	<b>E</b>		
Well managed for public use	Support appropriate use of land through <b>leases, licences</b> and other <b>estates</b> for the best interest of the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to manage the non-exclusive licence to use the rigging and trailer parking area by the 2 "approved user" parties and other non-specific users as required</li> </ul>	Fees collected and invoices issued as required under the licence agreement

**Table 84. Management Framework for Steyne Park cont'**

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>3</b>  Well managed for public use	<b>H</b>  <b>Reduce conflicts</b> of use, <b>provide regulatory</b> and, where appropriate, provide additional <b>wayfinding signage</b> to inform all user groups of what is prohibited use, so that <b>all user groups are able to enjoy</b> the land and facilities provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install comprehensive regulatory signs to inform all park users of the multiple recreational activities occurring in the park, including dog off-leash areas and times</li> <li>• Emphasise and enforce responsible dog ownership requirements and dog regulations, including control of off-leash dogs at all times and that collecting dog faeces is <b>COMPULSORY</b> for the dog's owner</li> <li>• Consider additional wayfinding / interpretative signage at appropriate locations</li> </ul>	Community needs for access to community land is met  Community is more harmonious, fewer incidents of conflict, fewer complaints about, and less occurrences of, uncontrolled dogs and uncollected dog faeces  Rangers report less incidents of conflict and non-compliance  Easy to read signs are installed at key locations
<b>4</b>  Natural environment conserved	<b>D</b>  Ensure the <b>existing mature tree canopy</b> is retained to <b>preserve landscape character</b> and <b>create an inter-connected tree canopy</b> across public land, strategies of <i>Greener Places</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prioritise management of the significant trees</li> </ul>	Replacement trees are well established prior to significant tree senescence  Landscape character and landscape heritage is retained



**Table 84. Management Framework for Steyne Park *cont'***

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>6</b>	<b>A</b>		
Heritage and cultural awareness	Investigate and assess <b>environmental heritage</b> and ensure land is used and managed to be consistent with <b>heritage significance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate opportunities to undertake a heritage assessment of significant trees</li> <li>• Investigate opportunities to undertake heritage and cultural assessment studies to identify environmental heritage, including areas of historic archaeology sensitivity, built structures and natural heritage.</li> <li>• Identify European history</li> <li>• Identify opportunities to enhance and celebrate environmental heritage, including interpretation, conservation works, art works and signage.</li> </ul>	<p>Assessment undertaken</p> <p>Potential environmental heritage items and archaeology (including cultural landscapes) are identified and assessed against listing criteria</p> <p>European history noted</p> <p>Improved understanding of environmental heritage.</p> <p>Heritage and landscape character retained for future generations</p>
	<b>B</b>		
	Investigate, assess and manage <b>First Nations culture</b> and <b>history</b> on Crown land (a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider opportunities for interpreting the role / use of the land by Aboriginal people</li> </ul>	Improved understanding of Aboriginal connections to the site
	<b>D</b>		
	Work with <b>Aboriginal communities</b> to realise the potential of their <b>land rights</b> (a priority of the <i>State Strategic plan for Crown land</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engage with the La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council as necessary in regards to incomplete land claims at Steyne Park</li> </ul>	Improved relationship and understanding of local Aboriginal community in respect of their land rights

**Table 84. Management Framework for Steyne Park *cont'***

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>7</b>	<b>B</b>		
Recreational opportunities	Encourage <b>multiple use</b> of Crown land, ensure land is <b>multifunctional, flexible</b> and <b>versatile</b> , proposed facilities to be <b>multi-purpose</b> to maximise community benefit and meet changing community needs (strategies of <i>Greener Places</i> and a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate feasibility of café / kiosk at existing public toilet building</li> <li>• Investigate a more appropriate surface near DBSC and harbour ramps to facilitate improved use of the area by sailing boats</li> <li>• Investigate upgrades to harbour ramps to allow better community access and sailing clubs usage</li> </ul>	<p>Feasibility study completed</p> <p>Improved solution found to deteriorating surface</p> <p>Upgrades completed, ramps fit for purpose</p>
	<b>C</b>		
	Adequate provision of <b>facilities for companion animals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review the current dog regulations and consider if they are appropriate to community need</li> </ul>	Review completed
<b>8</b>	<b>B</b>		
Social and community opportunities	<b>Public use and enjoyment</b> of Crown land is encouraged, land use is <b>community-focused</b> and strengthens and supports evolving <b>community connection</b> and <b>local business</b> (principles of the <i>CLM Act</i> and the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> and priority of the <i>State Strategic Plan for Crown land</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate feasibility of temporary food vans / coffee carts in designated areas</li> </ul>	Feasibility study completed
	<b>C</b>		
	Provide stronger avenues for <b>community consultation</b> , encourage <b>stewardship</b> of the land and <b>community participation</b> in decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to liaise with the 18 Footers Club and Double Bay Sailing Club to find an appropriate design solution for improved access to the clubs and public use and access to the park</li> </ul>	Public access and recreation needs met, appropriate access to clubs facilitated

# Appendix V

## Steyne Park Survey Responses – User Profile

(The following information includes the *Your Say* data plus any related postal data)

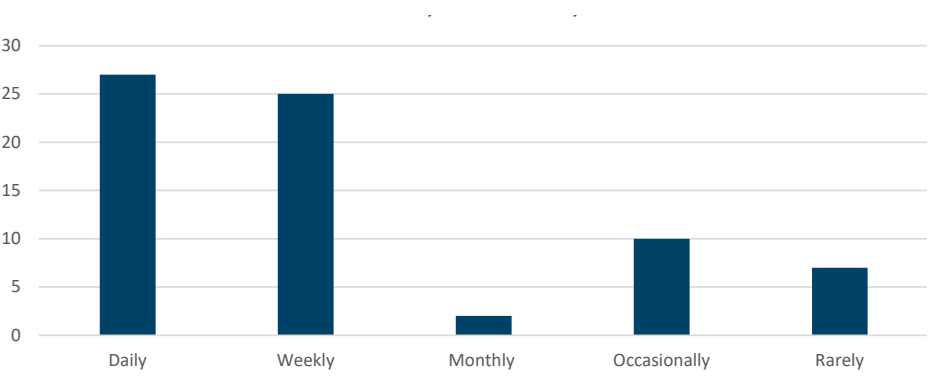


Figure 174. How often do you visit Steyne Park?

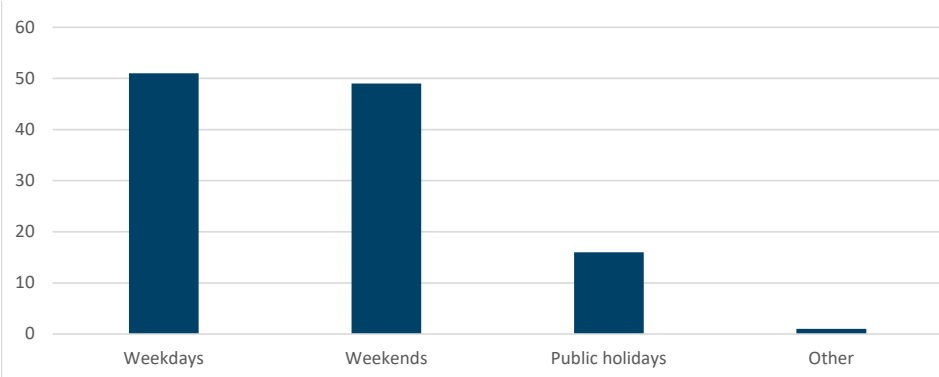


Figure 175. When do you usually visit Steyne Park?

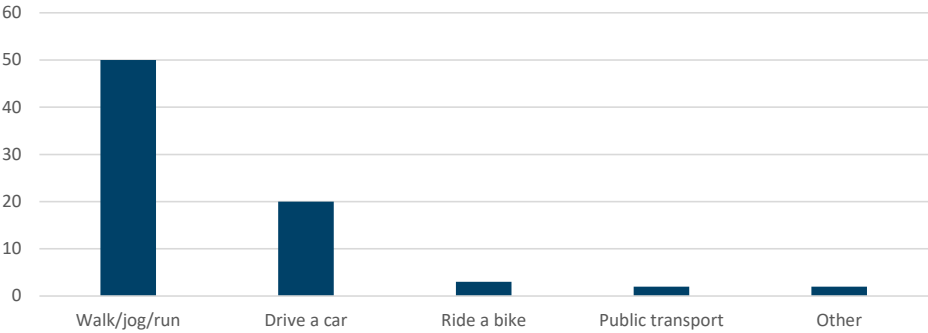


Figure 176. How do you usually get to Steyne Park?

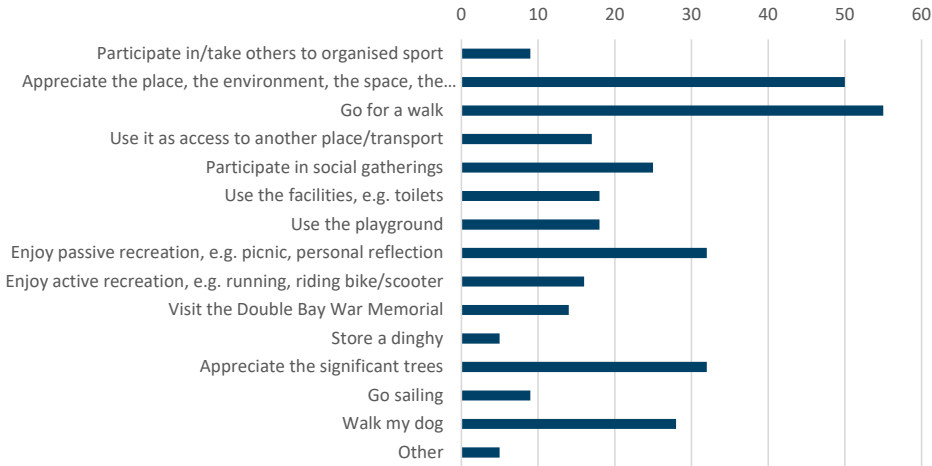


Figure 177. What do you usually do at Steyne Park?

# Appendix W

**Table 85. Steyne Park Toilet and Shed Building Condition Report**

Item	Condition
Structure	1
Doors and windows	2
Lights / power outlets	1
Ceilings / walls	1
Essential services	1
Plumbing	1
Floors and coverings	2
<b>General</b>	<b>1.29</b>
Comments / capital works	- refurbished FY 15/16. Used by open space staff for storage and as nursery.
Ratings: 1 – Good, 2 – Fair, 3 – Requires Maintenance, 4 – Requires Replacement	

**Table 86. Steyne Park Rotunda Condition Report**

Item	Condition
Structure	1
Doors and windows	N/A
Lights / power outlets	1
Ceilings / walls	N/A
Essential services	N/A
Plumbing	N/A
Floors and coverings	2
<b>General</b>	<b>1.33</b>
Comments / capital works	- roof replaced and structural repairs FY17/18.
Ratings: 1 – Good, 2 – Fair, 3 – Requires Maintenance, 4 – Requires Replacement	

## 25. Steyne Park

**Table 87. Steyne Park Licence agreement for use of rigging and trailer parking area**

Name	<b>Steyne Park</b>
Description	
Address	Marine Parade, Double Bay 2028
Lessee/Licensee	Double Bay Sailing Club, and 18 Footers Sailing Club
Term Starts	Sailing Period for DBSC is the period sunrise to sunset on each Saturday and Sunday of each year, sailing period for 18 Footers Club is the period from sunrise to sunset on each Saturday and Sunday between October and March of each year
Term Ends	If rental fees are not paid
Term	Ongoing, annual holdover providing fees are paid the agreement is in place
Renewal Options	Providing rent is paid and Council issues a tax invoice the agreement is in force.
Rental	DBSC \$419.24 pa (incl GST) reviewed with CPI.  NSW 18 Footers \$9,595.36 pa (incl GST) reviewed with CPI.  18 Footers also pay for casual additional sail rigging days, as required.

Area m <sup>2</sup>	As shown below
Notes / Special Conditions	This licence is in favour of the two named "approved user" parties and other non-specific users.

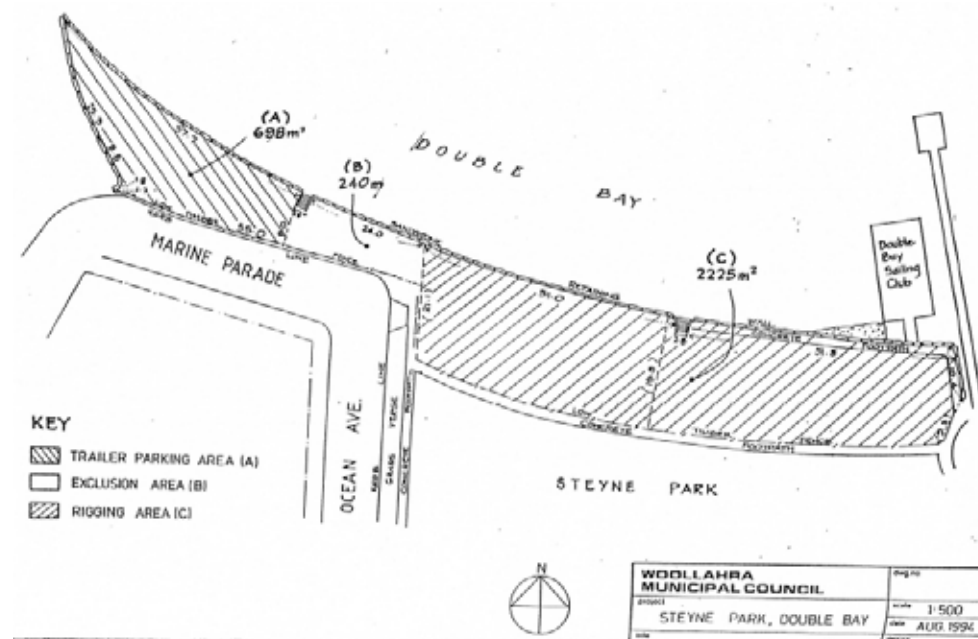


Figure 178. Plan displaying area in m<sup>2</sup> for rigging and trailer parking, Steyne Park.



## 26. Tea Gardens



Figure 179. Tea Gardens



Figure 180. Aerial photo of Tea Gardens

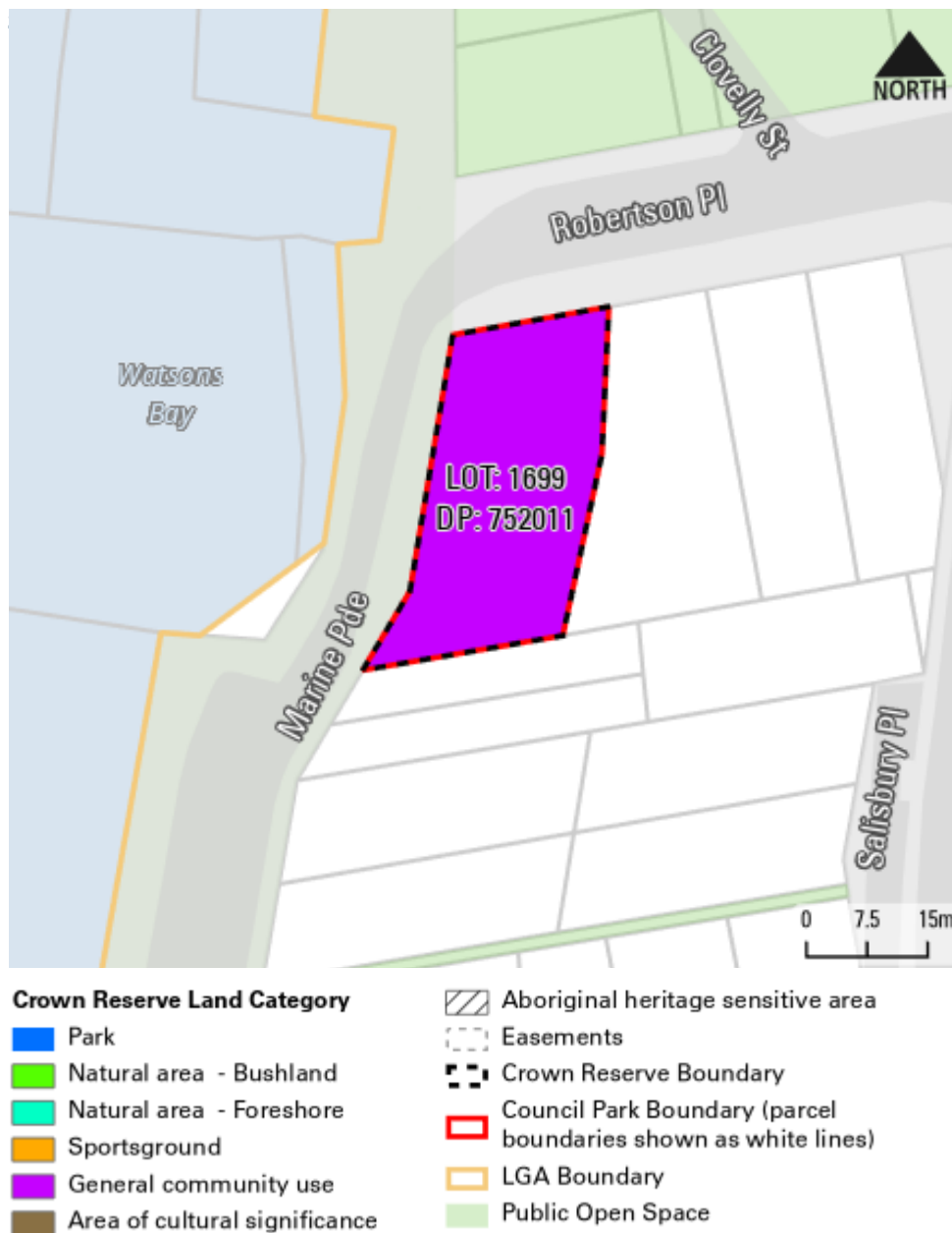


Figure 181. Tea Gardens map including land categories

**Table 88. Legal description for Tea Gardens**

Location	8 Marine Parade, Watsons Bay
Land area (m <sup>2</sup> )	841m <sup>2</sup>
Land owner	Crown
Crown reserve purpose	Public recreation
Woollahra LEP 2014 zone	RE1 Public recreation
LG Act categorisation	General Community Use
Legal description	Crown D500486 Lot 1699 DP 752011

### Description

Located in Watson Bay, across Marine Parade from the Watsons Bay Baths to the west and Robertson Park to the north, the site shares its eastern and southern boundaries with private residences.

This small, fenced parcel of land consists of a building incorporating the Watsons Bay Library, the Tea Gardens café and paved area with shade umbrellas, accessible public toilets and showers, a lawn and garden beds. The site is categorised as general community use land.

### Access

Level pedestrian access is through one of two small gates, one through a vegetated arch, located along Marine Parade. Access to the public toilets is via a ramped path.

Public transport is available nearby the site, via buses on Military Road 200m to the north east and the Watsons Bay ferry, 200m north, along the foreshore.

There is no vehicle access and no on-site parking is available.

### History

#### The Physical Landscape

The site is at the southern end of Watsons Bay, on the outermost shores of the southern side of Sydney Harbour. Due to the northern aspect, the site receives maximum sun exposure. The harbour foreshore originally supported scrubby vegetation including sandstone heaths and woodlands, which were adapted to the sandy coastal conditions.

The physical landscape of Watsons Bay is now significantly altered from its natural state, as this site has been utilised for housing, kitchen gardens and recreation use since the early colonial era.

Due to the north-eastern aspect, the site receives significant sun exposure. Prevailing winds are buffered by the topography and the surrounding built environment.

### The Cultural Landscape – Aboriginal History and Heritage

#### Overview:

Aboriginal people were living around Watsons Bay for thousands of years before the arrival of Europeans in Sydney. A small freshwater creek flowed through what is now Robertson Park to the rich fishing grounds of the bay<sup>62</sup>. Sheltered from ocean winds by the cliffs of the gap, the sandy banks of the creek within Robertson Park would have been an attractive place for Aboriginal people to live, and the remains of campsites and burials have been found in similar locations nearby at Camp Cove. Aboriginal people continued to visit and camp around the bay throughout the nineteenth century, including a group who used to give demonstrations of spear and boomerang throwing in front of the Greenwich Pier Hotel in the 1890s<sup>63</sup>.

No Aboriginal sites have been recorded within Robertson Park or the Watsons Bay Tea Gardens, but the original creek and banks have long been

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62. For location of creek see Woollahra Municipal Council (2004). *Robertson Park Plan of Management*, p.57.

63. Irish (2017), pp.126-127

covered by the landscaped and grassed surface of the park. It is likely that any former campsites have been significantly impacted by widespread and multiple European land uses over the past two centuries, though disturbed remnants may survive under the ground. It is also possible that rock engravings may survive either on the small outcrops of sandstone within Robertson Park, or on formerly exposed outcrops now covered by soil and grass.

### **Recommendations:**

1. Opportunities should be explored to include the continuing use of the Watsons Bay area by Aboriginal people in the nineteenth century alongside that of the European uses of the area. This could be addressed in a specific study, or as part of any future interpretation or management plan for the park.
2. An unexpected finds protocol should be in place for any activities which may impact below the ground surface or which could impact or uncover outcropping sandstone. See appendix AA for more details.

### **The Cultural Landscape – European History and Heritage**

#### **Overview:**

Europeans first developed land at Watsons Bay around 1790 as the location of a camp for harbour pilots and signalmen. The first road to the area, in 1811, was roughly where the Tea Gardens stands today and Robert Watson's house was also nearby, to the north east of that road. The history of this area has been extensively documented in several studies, including the "Historical Overview of Robertson Park Watsons Bay" prepared by Mayne-Wilson & Associates Conservation Landscape Architects April 2003.

Facilities such as the Tea Gardens provide refreshment to the many visitors frequenting Watsons Bay. Gazetted on 01/11/1940, the site retains some of the charm of that era.

#### **Heritage Items**

Tea Gardens—kiosk, interiors and grounds WLEP 2014 local item 442.

#### **Potential Heritage Items**

Nil.

### **Recommendations:**

1. Consider the site within any of further heritage studies of Robertson Park; since the current site boundaries do not reflect past land use in the area.
2. For proposed activities that may impact below ground and water, an unexpected finds protocol must be in place to guide excavations. See appendix AA for more details.



### Landscape Character

The small scale of the site and the associated character of the building creates an intimate space from which to view the baths and the harbour beyond. The buildings low form, white arches and twisted pilasters of the façade coupled with the rusticated terracotta roof tiles lend a somewhat domestic Spanish style to the building.

### Relevant Documents

Woollahra Libraries, Local History Research File.

### Community Input – Tea Gardens Use and Management Issues

This section provides a summary of the contributions made by our community through the Crown lands plan of management survey. Refer to the complete survey report in appendix BB for all responses. Questions 31, 32 and 33 of the Your Say survey refer specifically to Tea Gardens, to which 36, 35 and 26 responses were received respectively. 3 postal surveys were received for Tea Gardens.

Most of the survey participants visited Tea Gardens occasionally or rarely. When they did visit it was on both weekdays and weekends and they either arrived on foot or by car.



Figure 182. Looking across the site towards the Harbour

Use of this site by our community is mostly to:

- use the facilities, e.g. kiosk, toilets
- appreciate the place, the environment, the space, the views and visit the library
- participate in social gatherings

The key management issues here are:

- high quality service and food for café
- cleanliness
- landscape design

**Table 89. Current and Future Permissible Use of Tea Gardens**

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
G C Use	Land	Passive recreation	Nil	2	Various uses to meet the public recreation, or the physical, cultural, social or intellectual needs of the community, e.g. community facilities, kiosk, recreation areas.  Existing uses, kiosk, toilets and library.  Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include public meetings, all group activities of > 20, all building venues, and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.	Small scale and low intensity only	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.  Dogs, at all times.  Smoking in outdoor cafes.  Commercial fitness activities.
	Buildings	Café & public toilet, branch of Council library	Café leased Library managed by community services	1.57 1.14 See appendix Y for report.	Long term leases / licences may be granted for provision of appropriate goods, services, facilities or purposes as currently used and / or as shown in table 9.  Development related or ancillary to the recreational, physical, cultural, social or intellectual needs of the community is permissible, e.g. kiosks, mobile refreshment stands, temporary structures for recreational needs, community facilities, environmental facilities / management / protection works (subject to the relevant approval process).		
	Improvements Refer to Council's built asset register for complete list, which itemises every structure on the land, including condition rating	Paving, seats.	Nil	Av. 2.14			

Condition ratings for land and park assets as follows: 1. Excellent – no work required or as new condition, 2. Good – well maintained, minor maintenance only, 3. Average – maintained but in need of repair, 4. Poor – in need of major repair or renewal, 5. Very Poor – urgent renewal or upgrading required

Special management requirements: CMP 2005. WMC mapping shows the area as class 2 acid sulphate soils.

Special management requirements: WMC mapping shows the area as class 5 acid sulphate soils. Location is within the Watsons Bay Heritage Conservation Area.

Currently budgeted for capital works: Nil.

Current Council resolution: Nil.



**Table 90. Management Framework for Tea Gardens**

**IN ADDITION TO THE GENERIC MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR ALL COMMUNITY LAND CROWN RESERVES, THE FOLLOWING SITE SPECIFIC ACTIONS ADDRESS ISSUES RAISED IN THE SURVEY AND / OR NOTED THROUGH SITE OBSERVATION AND ANALYSIS AND / OR REQUIRED BY A CURRENT COUNCIL RESOLUTION.**

Objective – the desired outcome	Performance targets – what the objective is trying to do	Actions – how to achieve the target	Performance measures – how to assess whether the objective and targets have been met
<b>1</b>  Safe, clean, well-maintained, functional and varied	<b>B</b>  Ensure <b>clean</b> , litter free public land is <b>well-maintained</b> and available for use by the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure toilets are cleaned as scheduled, consider additional cleaning especially during and after events and on weekends</li> </ul>	Fewer complaints received about the toilets being in a dirty state
	<b>C</b>  Ensure the facilities and experiences at each site meet <b>community expectations</b> and are <b>fit for purpose</b> (a strategy of <i>Greener Places</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate the possibility of installing a hot shower to the existing amenities</li> </ul>	Report on addition facilities completed
<b>3</b>  Well managed for public use	<b>E</b>  Support appropriate use of land through <b>leases, licences</b> and other <b>estates</b> for the best interest of the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to manage lease as per agreement</li> <li>• Revise the conditions of the café lease to ensure that the facility is meeting the needs of the community</li> <li>• Upon completion of lease proceed to open competitive tendering process</li> <li>• Manage site for good compatibility between library, café and open space</li> </ul>	Agreement upheld  Conditions of lease revised to better meet community needs and expectations  Tenders received  Fewer conflicts of use reported

**Table 90. Management Framework for Tea Gardens *cont'***

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>6</b>	<b>A</b>		
Heritage and cultural awareness	Investigate and assess <b>environmental heritage</b> and ensure land is used and managed to be consistent with <b>heritage significance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include meaningful interpretation and representation of the significant heritage of the site in future design, use and development</li> <li>• Consider a conservation management plan for Robertson Park that includes this site</li> </ul>	<p>Improved understanding and greater appreciation of the heritage of the site</p> <p>Heritage and landscape character retained for future generations</p> <p>CMP undertaken</p>
<b>6</b>	<b>B</b>		
Heritage and cultural awareness	Investigate, assess and manage <b>First Nations culture</b> and <b>history</b> on Crown land (a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate opportunities to include the history of use of the land by Aboriginal people during Colonial times</li> </ul>	<p>Improved understanding and greater appreciation of the heritage of the site</p> <p>Heritage and landscape character retained for future generations</p>
	<b>D</b>		
	Work with <b>Aboriginal communities</b> to realise the potential of their <b>land rights</b> (a priority of the <i>State Strategic plan for Crown land</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engage with the La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council as necessary in regards to incomplete land claim at Tea Gardens</li> </ul>	Improved relationship and understanding of local Aboriginal community in respect of their land rights

# Appendix X

## Tea Gardens Survey Responses – User Profile

(The following information includes the *Your Say* data plus any related postal data)

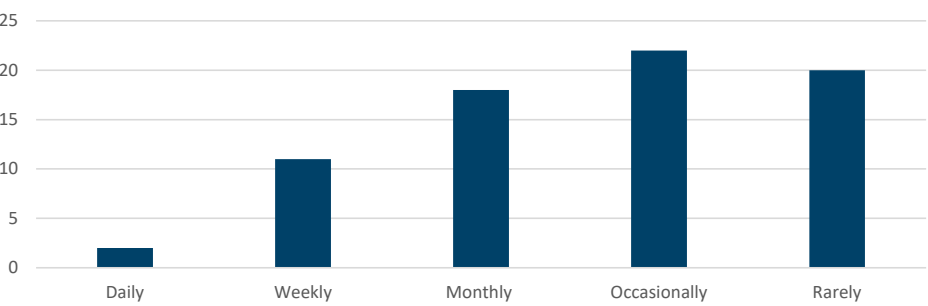


Figure 183. How often do you visit Tea Gardens?

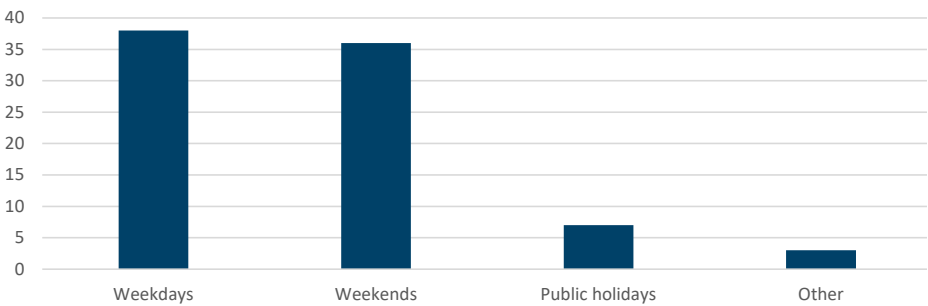


Figure 184. When do you usually visit Tea Gardens?

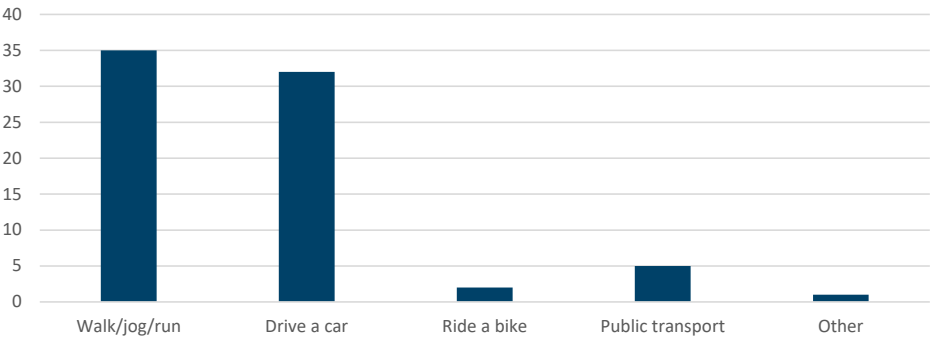


Figure 185. How do you usually get to Tea Gardens?

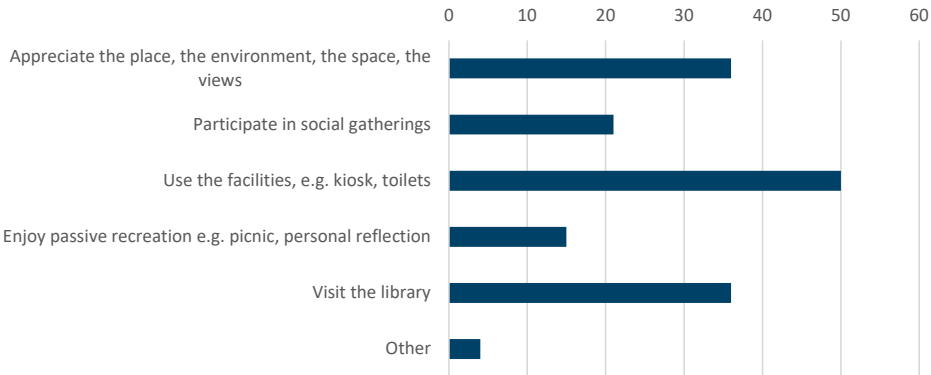


Figure 186. What do you usually do at Tea Gardens?

# Appendix Y

**Table 91. Tea Gardens Café and Toilet Building Condition Report**

Item	Condition
Structure	2
Doors and windows	1
Lights / power outlets	1
Ceilings / walls	2
Essential services	1
Plumbing	2
Floors and coverings	2
<b>General</b>	<b>1.51</b>
Comments / capital works	–
Ratings: 1 – Good, 2 – Fair, 3 – Requires Maintenance, 4 – Requires Replacement	

**Table 92. Tea Gardens Cafe Lease Details**

Name	<b>Tea Gardens Tearooms Café</b>
Description	Watsons Bay Reserve Land Manager
Address	8 Marine Parade, Watsons Bay 2030
Lessee/Licensee	Baithouse Watsons Bay Pty Ltd
Term Starts	13/02/2014
Term Ends	12/02/2021
Term	7 years
Renewal Options	No
Rental	\$55,188.48 (GST inclusive)
Area m <sup>2</sup>	99.1m <sup>2</sup> , 10.7m <sup>2</sup> , 16.5m <sup>2</sup>
Notes / Special Conditions	28/11/2018: assignment from P Timperi & K Spila to Baithouse Watsons Bay Pty Ltd dated 3.8.2018. On holdover until POM is adopted. EOI will then be sought Current agreement is month to month hold over of licence.

**Table 93. Tea Gardens Library  
Building Condition Report**

Item	Condition
Structure	2
Doors and windows	1
Lights / power outlets	1
Ceilings / walls	1
Essential services	1
Plumbing	1
Floors and coverings	1
<b>General</b>	<b>1.14</b>
Comments / capital works	Branch of Woollahra library
Ratings: 1 – Good, 2 – Fair, 3 – Requires Maintenance, 4 – Requires Replacement	



## 27. Yarranabbe Park



Figure 187. Yarranabbe Park

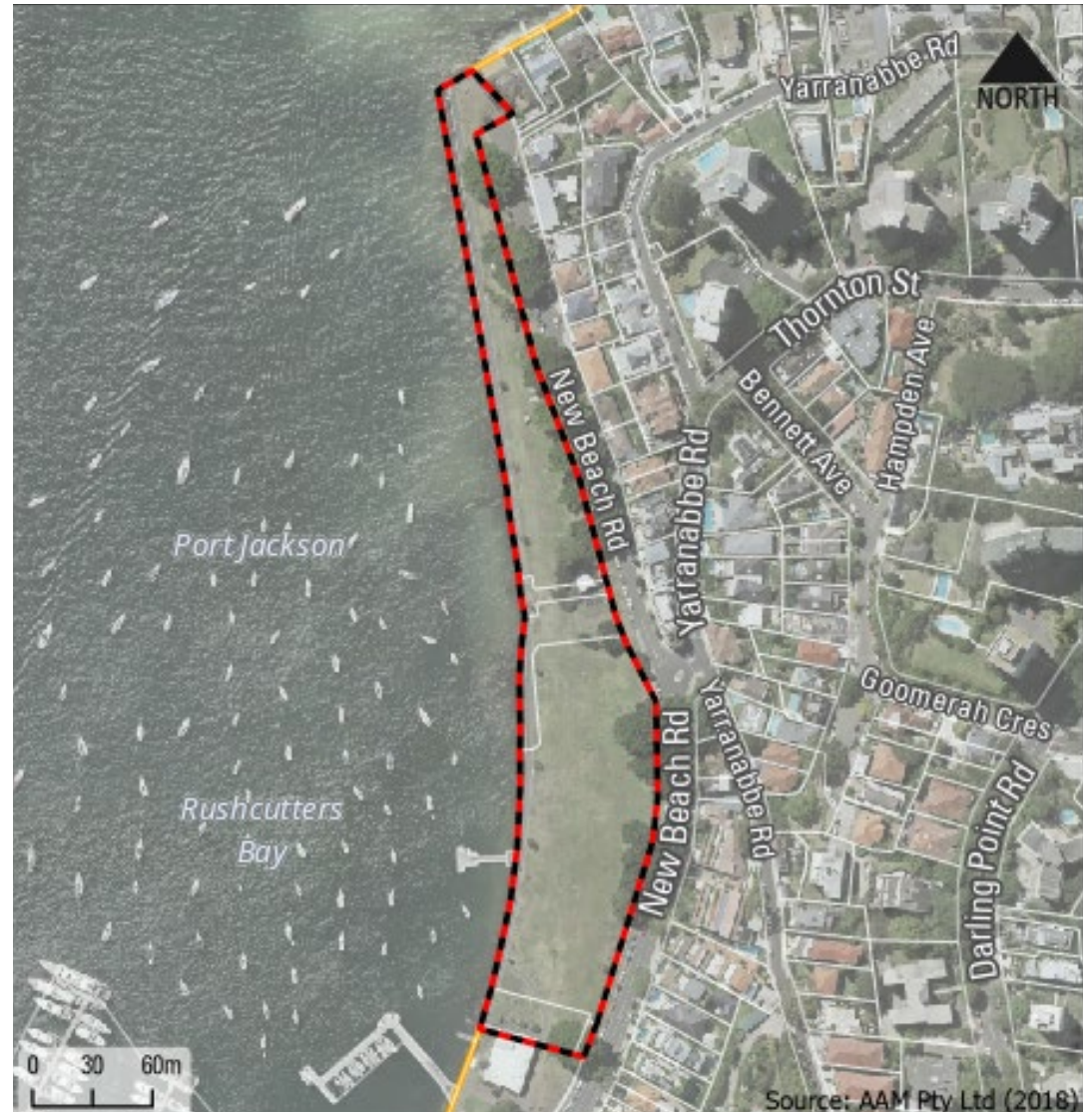


Figure 188. Aerial photo of Yarranabbe Park





### Description

This linear reserve is over 2 hectares of public open space, occupying a narrow, roughly rectangular parcel of land on the eastern side of Rushcutters Bay. The eastern boundary is New Beach Rd and the Darling Point residential area. Sydney Harbour forms the northern and western boundaries and Sir David Martin Reserve adjoins the park along the southern boundary.

The site is categorised as park, it is a largely open, level, grassed area including a paved at grade path along the foreshore, a playground, small exercise station and seating. Significant mature trees provide valuable shade and amenity along New Beach Rd.

### Access

Level access for pedestrians into the site is along the New Beach Rd footpath and from around the eastern side of Sir David Martin Reserve to the south. This is part of the Bondi to Manly walk.

The footpath connection along New Beach Rd south past Sir David Martin Reserve, the D'Albora Marina and the Cruising Yacht Club to Rushcutters Bay Park is very heavily used.



Figure 190. Yarranabbe Park, foreshore path

An asphalt pathway runs continuously along the length of the seawall in Yarranabbe Park, this promenade terminates at the boundary with Sir David Martin Reserve. This footpath is part of the Bondi to Manly Walk.

Public transport is available at bus stops along New Beach Rd. The closest train station is Edgecliff, approximately 1km away uphill to the southeast.

The public jetty and small pontoon located along the seawall, while outside the park boundary, provide pickup and drop off access to the park for private vessels and water taxis. No mooring is allowed and there are restrictions on the length of stay.

There is only limited service vehicular access to the site, no private vehicular access and no on-site parking is available. Car parking is limited along New Beach Rd.

## History

### The Physical Landscape

The land was reclaimed from the harbour in the late 1880's, and contains no remnant vegetation or natural physical features. It is likely that marine deposits were used to fill the original mudflats, although the exact depth and nature of fill is unknown. Past use by the RAN may have contaminated the fill and remnant footings may also be present below ground. The site is within an area mapped as acid sulphate soils class 2, and all proposed works below existing ground level require approval. The inconsistent nature of the fill impacts on the quality of the grass cover, as some areas of the site do not drain freely and can become inundated after rain, while others experience high infiltration. At the northern end of the park, areas of subsidence have been known to occur.

Yarranabbe Park is partially sheltered by the landforms of Darling Point and Elizabeth Bay, which reduces exposure to southerly, north-easterly and westerly winds. Due to the north-west aspect, the park receives maximum sun exposure.

### The Cultural Landscape – Aboriginal History and Heritage

#### Overview:

Aboriginal people lived around Darling Point and Rushcutters Bay for thousands of years and right through the nineteenth century. Before the arrival of Europeans the rocky shore of the point, the bay and the extensive swamplands and creek draining into it would have provided both shelter and a wide range of foods for Aboriginal people. A year after the arrival of Europeans in Sydney in 1788, a devastating smallpox epidemic swept around the harbour and claimed many Aboriginal lives. There were also violent encounters between Aboriginal people and Europeans in those early years. Although there is a local legend the bay gained its name from two convicts speared while gathering rushes there in 1788, it is not correct – this happened west of Sydney Cove.<sup>64</sup> In the nineteenth century, the surviving Aboriginal people developed relationships with some local European families, and camped on Darling Point properties such as Mona and Longwood.<sup>65</sup> There was also a large Aboriginal

settlement that shifted around public lands on the eastern side of Rushcutters Bay throughout the nineteenth century, until its residents moved to the Aboriginal reserve at La Perouse around 1900.<sup>66</sup>

No archaeological evidence of these ancient and more recent Aboriginal uses of Darling Point and Rushcutters Bay has yet been found, mainly because most of the construction around the area took place long before any heritage laws were passed. While traces may survive elsewhere, there is no chance that any physical evidence remains within Yarranabbe Park, because the entire area of the reserve is reclaimed land, and was formerly either open water or tidally inundated rock platforms. The original foreshore sites on the other side of New Beach Road.

The name Yarranabbe (also Yarranabbe) was not a traditional place name, but appears to relate to a senior Aboriginal man who lived there in the early

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64. Irish (2019), p. 24.

65. Tucker, J.C. 'To the editor of the Herald', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 11/1/1883, p. 9; 'Meetings. Board for the Protection of Aborigines', *Sydney Morning Herald* 22/2/1895, p. 6; Irish (2017), pp. 127-8.

66. Irish (2018).

nineteenth century. However there is not currently enough evidence to be certain who that person was.<sup>67</sup> The name does signpost the enduring Aboriginal connections to the area and has been recognised in the State Heritage Register listing of Rushcutters Bay Park and Yarranabbe Park (SHR 5067067).

#### Recommendations:

1. Despite the lack of physical evidence, these and neighbouring reserves have an outlook over Rushcutters Bay and to Darling Point and Potts Point that make them well-suited as sites for interpreting the Aboriginal heritage and history of the local area. How this might be presented should be developed in conjunction with the local Aboriginal community. Aboriginal associations with the reserve and surrounding areas should also be considered in any future management plans that are to be prepared for the area.

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67. The only reference to Yaranabi in relation to Darling Point is Hill, Richard & Thornton, George (1892), *Notes on the Aborigines of New South Wales: with personal reminiscences of the tribes formerly living in the neighbourhood of Sydney and the surrounding districts*, Government Printer, Sydney, p. 7. Some have assumed he must be the same person as others with that name living elsewhere in Sydney, but no evidence supports this.

2. An unexpected finds protocol should be in place for any excavation works. See appendix AA for more details.

#### The Cultural Landscape – European History and Heritage

##### Overview:

Prior to being reclaimed, the original shoreline was located where New Beach Rd is today. Structures including protective revetments, wharfs, bathing sheds, and a policeman's hut were located along this section of the foreshore.

In May 1878, the "Rushcutters Bay Land Reclamation and Resumption Bill" was passed, allowing reclamation works to proceed to create a place for public recreation. (SMH 10.05.1878).

The works included slipways and jetties, following an 1889 decision to facilitate harbour access by public vessels. The vertical sandstone sea wall replaced an earlier wall and was built from 1895 to 1899. Baths were proposed as part of the works as early as 1879, although it was not until 1902 that the first (men's only) baths were constructed. Separate women's baths were built two years later.

The baths remained in use for seventy years, being demolished in 1974.

Sections of foreshore public open space were alienated, shortly after it was reclaimed. In 1901, accommodation was built for naval volunteer forces on what is now Sir David Martin Reserve. A few years later, in 1904, a large section of Yarranabbe Park, located adjacent to the naval land, was controversially reserved by the Crown for a Naval Recreation Reserve. The reduction in publicly accessible open space was noted by the press of the day, which also commented that portions of the public reserve "had been alienated for private boat places, and hundreds of yards of the frontage of the beautiful little cove had been taken away." (SMH 05.08.1904 p7). This area continued to be held by the RAN under emergency powers during WW2.

Further development of the park around the 1930s, included surface levelling and use as sports fields and tree planting, including figs and Washington Palms (*Washingtonia robusta*). A 1937 plan held by Council, shows the figs along New Beach Road, hockey fields, tennis courts and dressing sheds. While the majority of figs are Hill's Weeping Figs

(*Ficus macrocarpa* var. *hillii*) there are also a number of Port Jackson Figs (*Ficus rubiginosa*). Some Eucalypts and various exotic trees are also present within the park.

In the 1950's the section of land, leased since 1931 by the RAN, was returned to public recreational use and the park was gazetted on 23 October 1953.

On 28th January 1972 the park was named Yarranabbe Park, perhaps in reference to an Aboriginal man who had lived in the area in the 19th century.

Between 1998 and 2000, the park, along with Rushcutters Bay Park and Sir David Martin Reserve was temporarily used for the Sydney 2000 Olympics and Paralympic Games. Upgrades at the time included the reconstruction of the public jetty for water taxi and a new foreshore pathway along the Yarranabbe Park sea wall.

### Heritage Items

Rushcutters Bay Park, Sir David Martin Reserve and Yarranabbe Park were listed on the State Heritage Register 19/6/2020 [SHR 02041].

The listing means that the Heritage Council becomes the joint consent authority with the Council for works which may affect the item's heritage significance. This site is covered by site-specific exemptions approved by the Minister on the recommendation of the Heritage Council.

To date, there has been regular engagement with Heritage NSW, both throughout the listing process and afterwards, regarding the ongoing management of this item. As part of this, Council have identified the intention to proceed with projects identified in Council's Delivery Program and sought advice on how best to approach the issue of heritage impact on the parks.

In keeping with the advice to date, Council have engaged an external consultant to prepare a Conservation Management Strategy for the site and a Statement of Heritage Impact for the Yarranabbe Park Northern Plaza upgrade (including

harbour stairs) project. Once complete these two documents will be lodged with Heritage NSW.

Yarranabbe Park seawall and Rushcutters Bay Park seawall is listed on the WLEP 2014, Item 670

'HMAS Rushcutter slipway' is listed in Schedule 4 of the Sydney Regional Environmental Plan (Sydney Harbour Catchment) 2005, Item 42

### Potential Heritage Items

The site is listed on the State heritage register.

### Recommendations:

1. Prepare a conservation management strategy to address the requirements of the State heritage listing.
2. Investigate opportunities to enhance and celebrate environmental heritage, including interpretation, conservation works, art works and signage.
3. For proposed activities that may impact below ground and water, an unexpected finds protocol must be in place to guide excavations. See appendix AA for more details.



## Landscape Character

Yarranabbe Park is characterised by the sunny, open expanse of grass, the broad shady canopies of the trees along New Beach Rd, the proximity to the harbour and associated views.

The *Ficus microcarpa* var *hillii* (Hill's Weeping Fig) along the New Beach Rd frontage are identified on the significant tree register as are the two *Washingtonia robusta* (Washington Palm). The Figs are a continuation of other fig plantings along New Beach Rd and the same species borders the eastern side of Rushcutter's Bay Park. They form a very strong visual statement, bordering the street frontage of this bay-side park. Some of these trees are pruned for views via a Council Resolution dated 10/08/2008 (for detail refer to Table 94).

The Washington Palms are likely to be remnants of former more extensive planting on this site. These are historically and visually significant in terms of continuing the common thematic palm plantings on the Darling Point peninsula including those at McKell Park.



Figure 191. View from Yarranabbe Park

The views across Rushcutters Bay to Elizabeth Bay and to Garden Island are complimented by longer views across the harbour to Cremorne Point and Mosman. A panoramic view of the city skyline stretches from the Sydney CBD and the Harbour Bridge to North Sydney. Local views include the boats and sailing craft moored on Rushcutters Bay and at the marinas and views up to the residential areas of Darling Point and Edgecliff.

This park is also a magnificent point to view Sydney's New Year's Eve fireworks.

## Relevant Documents

Rushcutters Bay Park, Sir David Martin Reserve and Yarranabbe Park were listed on the State Heritage Register 19/6/2020 [SHR 02041].

Site Specific Exemptions relating to Heritage Listing 26 June 2020 [SHR 02041]

Master plan prepared by Sturt Associates 2011, adopted by the Minister within the 2012 POM, 19/7/2012.

Detailed design of Masterplan prepared by JMD Design 2017, presented to Yarranabbe Steering Committee on 19 June 2017.

Woollahra Libraries, Local History Research File.

### Community Input – Yarranabbe Park Use and Management Issues

This section provides a summary of the contributions made by our community through the Crown lands plan of management survey. Refer to the complete survey report in appendix BB for all responses. Questions 136, 137 and 138 of the Your Say survey refer specifically to Yarranabbe Park, to which 56, 48 and 45 responses were received respectively. 3 postal surveys were received for Yarranabbe Park.

Most of the survey participants visited Yarranabbe Park daily, on weekdays and arrived on foot.

Use of this site by our community is mostly to:

- go for a walk
- appreciate the place, the environment, the space, the views
- enjoy passive recreation, e.g. picnic, personal reflection and appreciate the significant trees

The key management issues here are:

- site design and further development
- improved connectivity to Rushcutters Bay Park
- overall maintenance of site including trees, turf and presentation

Many responses related to the current parking arrangements and regulations along New Beach Road, which we have forwarded to Council's Traffic Engineers.

**Table 95. Current and Future Permissible Use of Yarranabbe Park**

Current Use					Future Use		
Category	Within category	Use	Lease / licence	Condition	Permissible use / purpose. Refer tables 8, 9 and 10.	Scale and intensity	Prohibited use
Park	Land	Passive recreation, dog exercise off leash at all times, aesthetic	Commercial fitness activities permitted with a licence  Sydney Water sewerage easement	3	Casual recreation use e.g. walking, dog exercise off-leash at all times, informal ball games, picnics for groups of < 20 at all times, no permit required.  Sewerage infrastructure within easement.  Uses that require a permit / short term casual licence include commercial fitness training, amusement devices, public meetings, all group activities of > 20 and for all filming, weddings, ceremonies, bridal photography, corporate activities or functions regardless of size.	Up to medium scale and medium intensity only	Camping, dumping rubbish, fires, golf, unauthorised vehicles and any use prohibited under WLEP 2014.  Dogs within 10m of playground.  Smoking within 10m of playground.  Commercial fitness activities in playgrounds, or on public exercise stations.
	Buildings	Nil	Nil	Nil	Development related or ancillary to recreation and / or aesthetic use is permissible, e.g. amenity buildings, utilities if required, planting for shade and habitat, park furniture, recreation facilities, play equipment, temporary structures for recreational needs, environmental facilities / management / protection works(subject to the relevant approval process).		
	Improvements  Refer to Council’s built asset register for complete list, which itemises every structure on the land, including condition rating.	Playground, seats, 1x small exercise station.	Nil	Av. 2.16			

**Table 95. Current and Future Permissible Use of Yarranabbe Park *cont'***

Condition ratings for land and park assets as follows: 1. Excellent – no work required or as new condition, 2. Good – well maintained, minor maintenance only, 3. Average – maintained but in need of repair, 4. Poor – in need of major repair or renewal, 5. Very Poor – urgent renewal or upgrading required

Condition ratings for buildings as follows: 1 – Good, 2 – Fair, 3 – Requires maintenance, 4 – Requires replacement.

Special management requirements: Sydney Water has formalised a 150m<sup>2</sup> easement for protection and maintenance over the existing sewerage infrastructure located within the Park. Gazetted on 28th January 2011. WMC mapping shows the area as class 2 acid sulphate soils.

Current Council resolution:

**Northern Plaza upgrade including harbour stairs**

24/9/18; it was resolved to proceed with the proposal to upgrade the northern end of Yarranabbe Park including harbour stairs.

[https://www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0010/203221/FC\\_and\\_S\\_Minutes\\_-\\_17\\_Jun\\_2019.pdf](https://www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0010/203221/FC_and_S_Minutes_-_17_Jun_2019.pdf)

**Yarranabbe Park trees**

10 August 2009;

A. Yarranabbe Tree 12 be retained and monitored as previously recommended, and that the long term treatment of this tree be subject to the outcome of the review of the Plan of Management for Yarranabbe Park and the adoption of a new master plan.

B. Council note the indicative results of the photomontages which represent the potential effect of 10% and 20% pruning treatments and approve pruning to be undertaken immediately to 1990 levels; the levels to be as identified in the memo and accompanying diagrams dated 6 August 2009 from the Manager Open Space and Trees.

C. Replacement planting of Yarranabbe Park trees be deferred subject to the outcome of the review of the Plan of Management and master plan for this area.

D. That Council immediately prepare a Consultant's brief for the preparation of the master plan which is to include a comprehensive program for the involvement of Community representatives in the project.

E. That the pruning identified in (B) be carried out at Council's expense.

F. That any future pruning of these trees for the purpose of maintaining views require applications for view pruning to be submitted and be at the applicants' expense, with fees for service to be charged in accordance with Council's relevant adopted fees and charges.

[https://www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0006/46932/aug10-09councilmins.pdf](https://www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0006/46932/aug10-09councilmins.pdf)

(The 1990 view line indicates a 15.4m level for pruning)

26 February 2018;

A. That Council proceed with community consultation on the northern plaza area including the harbour access stairs.

B. That prior to any action being taken to remove the fig trees on New Beach Road, a further report be provided to Council.

14 April 2023; it was resolved to commission a report to investigate the feasibility of creating more swimmable areas on the western harbour area of the LGA, and liaise with the City of Sydney to explore the possibility of a joint investigation of the potential for swimming opportunities at Rushcutters Bay and surrounds.

**Table 96. Management Framework for Yarranabbe Park**

**IN ADDITION TO THE GENERIC MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR ALL COMMUNITY LAND CROWN RESERVES, THE FOLLOWING SITE SPECIFIC ACTIONS ADDRESS ISSUES RAISED IN THE SURVEY AND / OR NOTED THROUGH SITE OBSERVATION AND ANALYSIS AND / OR REQUIRED BY A CURRENT COUNCIL RESOLUTION.**

Objective – the desired outcome	Performance targets – what the objective is trying to do	Actions – how to achieve the target	Performance measures – how to assess whether the objective and targets have been met
<b>1</b>	<b>D</b>  Ensure a <b>variety</b> of opportunities are available and the <b>landscape character</b> of each site is preserved and that future design and use responds to the <b>unique site conditions</b> and <b>identity</b> (a strategy of <i>Greener Places</i> and a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To commission a report to investigate the feasibility (or otherwise) or creating a more accessible, safe and swimmable harbour, including identifying potential locations, with the focus of the report to be on the western area of the the LGA</li> </ul>	Investigation completed

Table 96. Management Framework for Yarranabbe Park *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>1</b>  Safe, clean, well-maintained, functional and varied	<b>E</b>  Where there is <b>opportunity</b> to improve <b>layout, functionality, aesthetic appeal</b> and <b>site interpretation</b> provide a <b>landscape master plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare a detailed landscape master plan for the Bay Trio of parks, i.e. Rushcutters Bay Park, Sir David Martin Reserve and Yarranabbe Park, that builds on the 2012 master plan (prepared by JMD and presented to the Yarranabbe Park Steering Committee on 19 June 2017) that establishes a vision for all three sites, allows for an integrated approach to the ongoing recreational use of the area, maintains the unique landscape character, including the views, improves habitat opportunities, pedestrian access and connectivity including access to the foreshore, provides appropriate materials selection, including a selected hardscape and softscape palette, meaningful wayfinding elements and develops the sense of place</li> </ul>	Concept design process is undertaken and a master plan produced with the engagement of all stakeholders  Unique site values and preferred spatial arrangement of all elements integrated into master plan  Future capital works allocated to a cohesive, well documented plan, specified for their appropriateness within the landscape



Table 96. Management Framework for Yarranabbe Park *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>2</b>	<b>A</b>		
Accessible and inclusive	Provide universal <b>access</b> , wherever possible, to public land and any associated structures and facilities to ensure the sites are open and welcoming (a strategy of <i>Everyone Can Play</i> and a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate improvements to public access to public jetty / wharf</li> </ul>	Public access to foreshores improved
	<b>B</b>		
	Optimise public access to all sites and <b>improve connectivity</b> via improvements to <b>walking and cycling paths</b> (a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate improvements to pedestrian connectivity with and through Sir David Martin Reserve to Rushcutters Bay Park</li> </ul>	Greater public access to foreshores facilitated where possible
	<b>D</b>		
	Reduce <b>traffic</b> and <b>parking</b> pressures in and around public land to improve useable and retain residential amenity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider adjusting the layout of parking along New Beach Road, to facilitate improved pedestrian access and safety, suggestions include reduced speed limits, inclusion of traffic calming elements and restricted parking times. Refer to 2012 master plan for recommendations</li> </ul>	Pedestrian access and safety improved

**Table 96. Management Framework for Yarranabbe Park *cont'***

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>2</b>	<b>E</b>		
Accessible and inclusive	Improve <b>public access</b> to <b>foreshores</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate improved pedestrian access for the length of the foreshore from Yarranabbe Park through Sir David Martin Reserve, liaise with the d'Albora marina and the Cruising Yacht Club, through to Rushcutters Bay Park, to improve public foreshore access</li> <li>Strengthen public access to and connection with the Harbour for public water based recreation, in keeping with the historic role of the park</li> </ul>	Greater public access to foreshores facilitated
<b>3</b>	<b>E</b>		
Well managed for public use	Support appropriate use of land through <b>leases, licences</b> and other <b>estates</b> for the best interest of the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Liaise with Sydney Water to find a more appropriate location for substation and service access</li> </ul>	Land used for sewerage easement more useable for public recreation
<b>4</b>	<b>B</b>		
Natural environment conserved	Ensure <b>best environmental practice</b> in use and maintenance of the land to build <b>green and resilient</b> public land, that <b>enhances biodiversity, conserves natural resources</b> and <b>improves sustainability</b> (an objective of the <i>CLM Act</i> and principles of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> , the <i>Woollahra Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (ESAP)</i> , and the <i>Woollahra Climate Emergency Statement</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce potable water usage and waste, investigate potential for stormwater harvesting, rain gardens and conversion of the irrigation system</li> </ul>	<p>Potable water not required for irrigation</p> <p>Water retained on site for stormwater amelioration</p>

Table 96. Management Framework for Yarranabbe Park *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>4</b>	<b>D</b>		
Natural environment conserved	Ensure the <b>existing mature tree canopy</b> is retained to preserve <b>landscape character</b> and create an <b>inter-connected tree canopy</b> across public land, (strategies of <i>Greener Places</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prioritise management of the significant trees</li> <li>• Monitor the street trees along New Beach Road for vandalism, and manage view prune as per Council resolution</li> <li>• Prior to any action being taken to remove the fig trees on New Beach Road, a further report be provided to Council</li> </ul>	<p>Replacement trees are well established prior to significant tree senescence</p> <p>Landscape character and landscape heritage is retained</p> <p>Report completed</p>
<b>5</b>	<b>A</b>		
Aesthetic and landscape quality remains high	Ensure <b>public view corridors</b> are retained wherever possible and <b>minimise visual impact</b> of development on land adjoining the Crown reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uphold view pruning to New Beach Road trees as per Council resolution</li> <li>• Under prune vegetation near the playground to re-establish views to the harbour and increase sightlines in and out of this area for safety</li> </ul>	Access to iconic views are retained from within and outside the site

**Table 96. Management Framework for Yarranabbe Park *cont'***

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>6</b>  Heritage and cultural awareness	<b>A</b>  Investigate and assess <b>environmental heritage</b> and ensure land is used and managed to be consistent with <b>heritage significance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate with the City of Sydney to prepare a Conservation Management Plan for the whole heritage listed area [SHR 02041]</li> <li>Prepare a Statement of Heritage Impact (SoHI) in regards to the Northern Plaza to address the requirements of the State Heritage Listing [SHR 02041]</li> <li>Manage environmental heritage in accordance with our statutory obligations</li> <li>Identify opportunities to enhance and celebrate environmental heritage, including interpretation, conservation works, art works and signage</li> </ul>	CMP recommendations inform design of Northern Plaza  SoHI recommendations inform design of Northern Plaza  Obligations fulfilled  Improved understanding and greater appreciation of environmental heritage  No negative impacts of management practices on sites with natural and cultural significance  Only sympathetic and compatible uses are permitted  Heritage retained for future generations
	<b>B</b>  Investigate, assess and manage <b>First Nations culture</b> and <b>history</b> on Crown land (a principle of the NSW Public Spaces Charter)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider investigating opportunities to interpret the Aboriginal history and heritage of the area</li> </ul>	Improved understanding and greater appreciation of site heritage

Table 96. Management Framework for Yarranabbe Park *cont'*

Objective	Performance targets	Actions	Performance measures
<b>6</b>	<b>D</b>		
Heritage and cultural awareness	Work with <b>Aboriginal communities</b> to realise the potential of their <b>land rights</b> (a priority of the <i>State Strategic plan for Crown land</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage with the La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council as necessary in regards to incomplete land claims at Yarranabbe Park</li> </ul>	Improved relationship and understanding of local Aboriginal community in respect of their land rights
<b>7</b>	<b>B</b>		
Recreational opportunities	Encourage <b>multiple use</b> of Crown land, ensure land is <b>multifunctional, flexible</b> and <b>versatile</b> , proposed facilities to be <b>multi-purpose</b> to maximise community benefit and meet changing community needs (strategies of <i>Greener Places</i> and a principle of the <i>NSW Public Spaces Charter</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multiple use of site encouraged by expanding opportunities, including the Northern Plaza upgrade, that are compatible with heritage values</li> </ul>	Documentation for the Northern Plaza upgrade progresses to the satisfaction of Heritage NSW
	<b>C</b>		
	Adequate provision of <b>facilities for companion animals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide adequate facilities for companion animals including dog bowl attached to drinking fountains and dog bag dispensers at appropriate locations. Upon renewal of playground ensure design meets the community needs</li> </ul>	Companion animals needs for water met, adequate provision of waste bags met
<b>8</b>	<b>C</b>		
Social and community opportunities	Provide stronger avenues for <b>community consultation</b> , encourage <b>stewardship</b> of the land and community <b>participation in decision making</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to provide education to the community around responsible dog ownership, including that controlling the dog and collecting dog faeces is COMPULSORY on the owner</li> </ul>	Education provided, use of the land is more harmonious, fewer reported incidents of conflict

# Appendix Z

## Yarranabbe Park Survey Responses – User Profile

(The following information includes the *Your Say* data plus any related postal data)

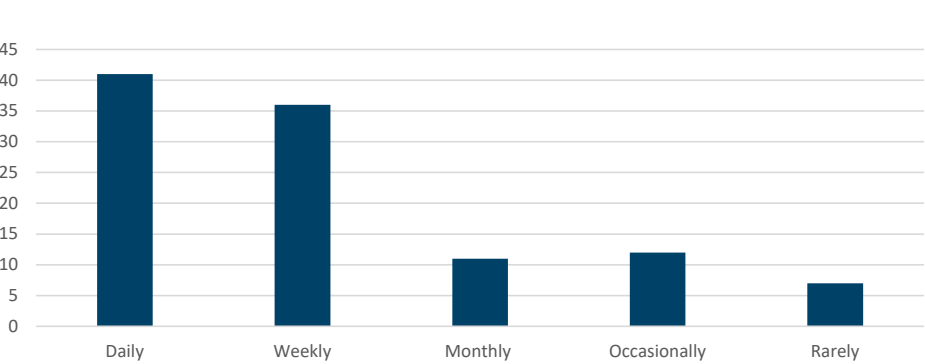


Figure 192. How often do you visit Yarranabbe Park?

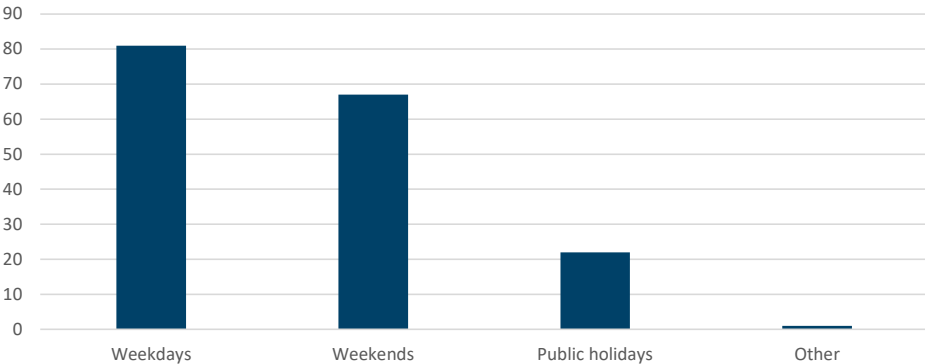


Figure 193. When do you usually visit Yarranabbe Park?



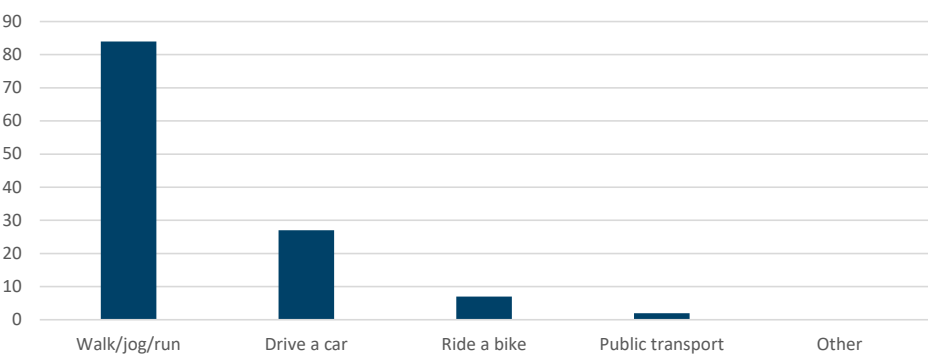


Figure 194. How do you usually get to Yarranabbe Park?

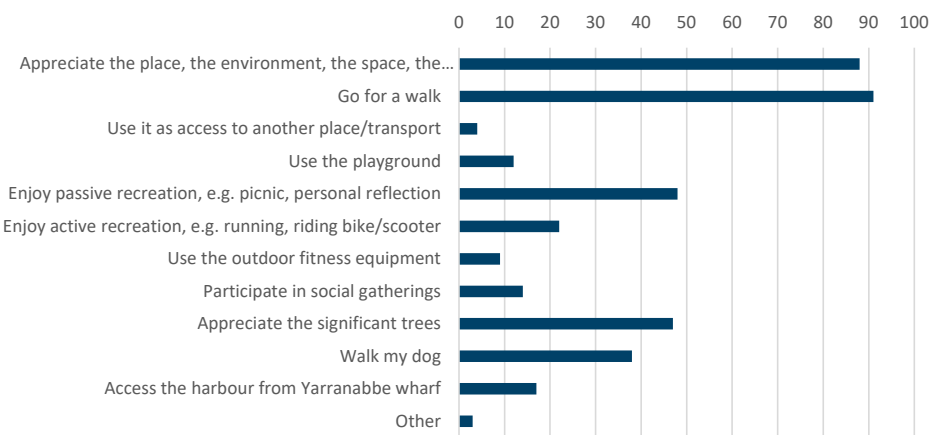


Figure 195. What do you usually do at Yarranabbe Park?

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## 29. Appendix AA – Additional Legislation, policies & guidelines that inform this plan:

### Commonwealth Legislation

#### **Native Title Act 1993**

Native title rights continue to exist and must be addressed on Crown land across Australia in cases where they have not been extinguished by subsequent government legislation or actions. Rights are confirmed by a successful claim in the Federal Court.

Dealings in Crown land that may affect (impair or extinguish) native title are referred to as future acts and these future acts must comply with the Act. The inchoate interests of Aboriginal people are to be considered where an undetermined land claim exists. Future acts may include the issuing of a lease or licence or the construction of a public work.

Council must obtain advice from a qualified native title manager as to the status of the land in regards to native title rights before a plan of management can be approved.

#### **Environment Protection Biodiversity and Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)**

Provides a framework to protect and manage

species that are defined by the Act as having national environmental significance. National recovery plans are in place under this Act for two such species in Woollahra.

#### **Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (DDA)**

Provides protection for all Australians against discrimination based on defined disability, including access to public open space.

#### **Telecommunications Act 1997**

Allows for the installation of a limited range of facilities without seeking planning approval.

#### **Work Health and Safety Act 2011**

Provides a framework to secure the health and safety of workers and workplaces through the elimination of risks arising from work.

#### **Australian Standards**

While not legislation, standards set out technical specifications, procedures and guidelines that aim to ensure products, services, and systems are safe, consistent, and reliable.

### NSW State Legislation

#### **NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979**

- SEPP No 19 – Bushland in Urban Areas 1986
- SEPP No 64 – Advertising and Signage 2001
- SEPP (Coastal Management) 2018
- SEPP (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008
- SEPP (State and Regional Development) 2011
- SEPP (State Significant Precincts) 2005
- SEPP (Vegetation in Non-Rural Areas) 2017
- Sydney Regional Environmental Plan (Sydney Harbour Catchment) 2005
- Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000

The State government is currently developing a new SEPP for protection and management of our natural environment. The proposed SEPP will consolidate several existing instruments, including the following relevant to Crown land in Woollahra:

- State Environmental Planning Policy No. 19 – Bushland in Urban Areas
- Sydney Regional Environmental Plan (Sydney Harbour Catchment) 2005

### **NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016**

The *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* replaced the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995*. Its purpose is to maintain a healthy, productive and resilient environment for the greatest well-being of the community, now and into the future, consistent with the principles of ecologically sustainable development.

Under this Act, Council has legislative responsibility to appropriately manage critically endangered species, endangered species and vulnerable species.

The listed species in the Crown reserves are Sunshine Wattle (*Acacia terminalis* subsp. *terminalis*) and Magenta Cherry (*Syzygium paniculatum*) and under the Federal EPBC Act, also the Netted Bottlebrush (*Callistemon linearifolius*). Three sites in the LGA contain areas of land that are affected, Parsley Bay Reserve, Trumper Park and Gap Park.

### **NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974**

#### **Aboriginal cultural significance**

In New South Wales, the *NSW National Parks & Wildlife Act 1974* (NPW Act) provides legal protection for both 'Aboriginal objects' and 'Aboriginal places' as defined in the Act. Aboriginal objects can include Aboriginal campsites in rockshelters and in the open, painted and engraved art, places of burial, scarred trees, and also artefacts of stone, bone or shell that were used by Aboriginal people in the past. The Woollahra Local Government Area contains many documented Aboriginal heritage sites, and it is likely that more undocumented sites also survive. Declared Aboriginal Places are places of special significance for Aboriginal culture in New South Wales that have been gazetted under the *NPW Act*. There are currently no registered 'Aboriginal places' within the Woollahra Local Government Area.

Under the *NPW Act* it is an offence to 'harm' Aboriginal objects either knowingly (s86 (1)) or unknowingly (s86 (2)), or to harm an Aboriginal Place (s86 (4)). *Harm* is defined in s5 (1) of the *NPW Act* to mean any act or omission that:

- (a) destroys, defaces or damages the object or place, or
  - (b) in relation to an object – moves the object from the land on which it had been situated, or
  - (c) is specified by the regulations, or
  - (d) causes or permits the object or place to be harmed in a manner referred to in paragraph (a), (b) or (c);
- but does not include any act or omission that:
- (e) desecrates the object or place, or
  - (f) is trivial or negligible, or
  - (g) is excluded from this definition by the regulations.

In general, harm can only knowingly be done to an Aboriginal object or Aboriginal place in accordance with the conditions of an approved Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit under s.90 of the *NPW Act*.

There are some defences and exemptions to the offence of unknowing harm. The two main ones are:

1. That the activity was one of a number of 'low impact activities' in 'disturbed land' as defined in Clause 58 of the *National Parks and Wildlife*

*Regulation 2019 (NPW Act s87(4))*. These definitions are very precise, and include some land management activities such as common farm and track maintenance activities.

2. That a process of Due Diligence was followed which reasonably determined that the proposed activity would not harm an Aboriginal object (*NPW Act s87 (2)*).

While it is unlikely, it should not be assumed that all common land management activities that do not involve excavation will be regarded as ‘low impact activities’ or will not result in harm to Aboriginal objects. It is prudent to assess all activities in light of the particular characteristics of the land being managed. For example, slashing grass or weeds could damage an Aboriginal scarred tree, and pulling out roots could disturb Aboriginal artefacts associated with a campsite in a rockshelter or on the open. In general, it is advisable to exercise some form of Due Diligence with any activity, unless it is explicitly permitted under the *National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2019* and it will not harm a documented Aboriginal site (object).

### **Aboriginal heritage recommendations**

The recommendations made in this report for each of the Crown Land areas are based on these legal protections for Aboriginal heritage. They also refer to ‘sensitive areas’ that have been identified in relation to Aboriginal heritage within some Crown Land areas in this report. These sensitive areas include the locations of documented Aboriginal sites (‘objects’ in the *NPW Act*), and areas in which currently undocumented Aboriginal sites may be found. Activities proposed in these areas will generally require some form of Aboriginal heritage assessment, while activities outside of these areas are all covered by an unexpected finds protocol. Recommendations have also been made about suitable locations for Aboriginal heritage and history interpretation. This can be summarised as follows:

#### **1. Aboriginal heritage management plan required**

This has been recommended in several cases where known sites occur within a Crown Land area, or where the area is known to have high Aboriginal cultural or historical significance. The plans will consider in detail the known and potential Aboriginal heritage sites within the Crown Land area and provide detailed guidelines as to which future

activities may require specific assessment. These would ideally be prepared in advance of any future activities, but in the interim, Aboriginal heritage impact assessment of each activity will provide adequate protection.

#### **2. Aboriginal heritage impact assessment required**

This applies to activities proposed in ‘sensitive areas’ in relation to Aboriginal heritage. Aboriginal heritage impact assessment is required to determine whether these activities may result in ‘harm’ to Aboriginal objects (both known and currently undocumented) and explore ways to avoid potential impacts. These assessments should be undertaken in accordance with the reporting requirements outlined in Council’s 2020 *Guide for preparing an Aboriginal heritage impact assessment*, which will also meet the reporting requirements of Heritage NSW for Due Diligence assessment.<sup>30</sup> Where

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<sup>30</sup> The guide is an appendix to the Woollahra Municipal Council DA Guide, which can be found at [www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/building\\_and\\_development/submit\\_a\\_da/prepare\\_your\\_application](http://www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au/building_and_development/submit_a_da/prepare_your_application). NOTE this guide is yet to be finalised; DECCW 2010 Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales (available at [www.environment.nsw.gov.au/research-and-publications/publications-search/due-diligence-code-of-practice-for-the-protection-of-aboriginal-objects-in-new-south-wales](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/research-and-publications/publications-search/due-diligence-code-of-practice-for-the-protection-of-aboriginal-objects-in-new-south-wales)).

impacts cannot be avoided, further investigations or heritage impact permits may be required.

### **3. Unexpected finds protocol required**

In all other areas except those designated as sensitive, Aboriginal heritage may be present but is either unlikely to be visible or detectable through assessment, or is likely to be in a disturbed context. Therefore an unexpected finds protocol has been recommended for excavation works. This will ensure that Aboriginal objects are protected in the event of discovery during project works.

In the event that any Aboriginal objects (artefacts, rock engravings or other traces) or bones suspected of being human are identified during construction, site workers must:

- Not further disturb or move these remains.
- Immediately cease all work at the location.
- In the case of suspected human remains only, notify NSW Police. In the case of Aboriginal objects, notify the Heritage NSW Enviroline on 131 555 as soon as practicable and contact the La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council to assist in the determination of appropriate management.

### **4. Aboriginal heritage interpretation recommended**

Although not a legal requirement, greater public awareness of Aboriginal history and heritage can foster respect and better protection for Aboriginal heritage sites and other values. This has been recommended in areas known to have significant Aboriginal heritage or history.

### **Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983**

In NSW available Crown land may be returned to Aboriginal Land Councils following a successful land claim. Crown land that is not subject to a claim, is lawfully used or occupied or required for an essential public purpose may be leased or licenced if permitted under the Act. Crown land that is subject to a claim cannot be leased or licenced without the consent of the Local Aboriginal Land Council. Land validly claimed is to be transferred to the Aboriginal Land Council in freehold.

### **Anti-Discrimination Act 1977**

Promotes equality and provides protection from discrimination based on several factors including race, religion, sex and age.

### **Biosecurity Act 2015**

Lists prohibited species, including plants and insects that may pose a biosecurity risk and must be controlled or eliminated.

### **Companion Animals Act 1998**

This Act provides for owners responsibilities to have effective control of dogs and cats in public places. Councils must declare at least one off leash dog exercise area in their LGA. Dogs are prohibited within 10 metres of children's play areas, food preparation and consumption areas and areas of bushland.

### **Disability Inclusion Act 2014**

Promotes the inclusion of people with disability into all areas of community life.

### **Acts administered by the Environmental Protection Authority:**

- Contaminated Land Management Act 1997
- Dangerous Goods Act 2008
- Environmentally Hazardous Chemicals Act 1985
- Forestry Act 2012
- National Environment Protection Council 1995
- Ozone Protection Act 1989
- Pesticides Act 1999



- Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
- Radiation Control Act 1990
- Recreation Vehicles Act 1983
- Waste Avoidance & Resource Recovery Act 2007

#### **Fisheries Management Act 1994**

Necessitates the protection of foreshore vegetation.

#### **Greater Sydney Commission Act 2015**

Established the Greater Sydney Commission, with specific roles and responsibilities for planning for Greater Sydney. It aims to make Sydney more productive, sustainable and liveable.

#### **Heritage Act 1977**

Promotes and encourages the preservation of the State's heritage. It provides for the identification and registration of items of State heritage significance. Items are assessed against the Heritage Council's criteria related to an item's aesthetic, historic, scientific, and social values. It must meet only one of the criteria to satisfy that it is of such particular significance to the state of NSW that it should be listed.

An unexpected finds protocol must be in place to guide future excavation works on land and water. If unexpected archaeological features are discovered during excavation:

- Immediately cease all work at the location
- Notify Heritage NSW as soon as practicable

Additional assessment and approval pursuant to the Heritage Act 1977 may be required prior to works continuing in the affected area(s) based on the nature of the discovery.

**Note:** Definition of archaeological feature as per the NSW Heritage Manual: Any physical evidence of past human activity. Archaeological features include buildings, works, relics, structures, foundations, deposits, cultural landscapes and shipwrecks. During an archaeological excavation the term 'feature' may be used in a specific sense to refer to any item that is not a structure, a layer or an artefact (for example, a post hole).

#### **Noxious Weeds Act 1993**

Provides the regulatory framework for controlling weeds in NSW.

#### **Pesticides Act 1999**

Controls the use of pesticides in NSW.

#### **Place Management Act 1998**

Aims to protect and enhance the natural and cultural heritage of the foreshore area.

#### **Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997**

#### **Retail Lease Act 1994**

#### **Roads Act 1993**

#### **Smoke-free Environment Act 2000 & Regulation 2016 & Tobacco Legislation Amendment Bill 2012.**

It is illegal to smoke tobacco within 10 metres of children's play equipment and or an area set aside for or being used by spectators to watch an organised sporting event at a sportsground or other recreational area, when an organised sporting event is being held there.

#### **Waste Minimisation Management Act 1995**

Aims to reduce the amount of waste produced across the state, including by encouraging recycling.

### **Water Management Act 2000**

Aims to protect, enhance and restore water courses.

### **NSW State Policies:**

#### **Everyone Can Play**

Sets out design considerations to improve physical access and comfort for child and adult play space users.

#### **Sydney Green Grid**

Is an integral part of the Greater Sydney Region and District Plans and aims to connect communities to the landscape by creating a network of high-quality green space, linking green infrastructure through enhanced transport routes, footpaths and cycleways.

### **Woollahra Municipal Council Plans, Strategies, Policies and Guidelines**

#### **The Local Strategic Planning Statement 2020**

The Local Strategic Planning Statement 2020, was adopted by Council in March 2020. It sets out the local planning priorities and long-term 20-year vision

to guide land use planning specifically and outlines what those priorities aim to achieve in the future. It is prepared under the *EP&A Act* and must be consistent with the CSP.

Planning priorities with relevance to the Crown land reserves include:

- protecting our waterways and water ecosystems
- conserving, enhancing and connecting our green spaces including bushland, tree canopy, gardens and parklands
- improving walkability and cycleway connections through Green Grid initiatives
- increasing tree canopy along streets and pathways
- improving access to public transport
- protecting and enhancing our scenic and cultural landscapes
- upgrading ageing park grey infrastructure
- building climate change resilience

#### **Delivery Program and Operational Plan (DPOP)**

The DPOP describes how Council will work with the community to achieve priorities and actions and meet community needs and expectations in a sustainable manner. The DPOP is reviewed, developed and publicly exhibited yearly.

Aged and Disability Study 2016

Asset Management Strategy 2011-2021

Biodiversity Conservation Strategy 2015-2025

Community & Cultural Grants Policy (25/11/2013)

Community Cultural Relations Statement (7/8/2013)

Community Garden Policy (2011)

Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan (2014)

Community Services Policy (2013)

Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2017

Double Bay Place Plan 2014

Double Bay Public Domain Lighting Strategy (2017)

Double Bay Public Domain Strategy (2016)

Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (2013-2025)

Operational Plan 2019 – 2020

Oxford Street, Paddington Placemaking Roadmap  
Report 2014

Playground Policy (11/3/2002)

Play Space Strategy 2023

Playground Strategy (11/3/2002)

Policy for the Sponsorship of Events & Activities  
(27/3/2006)

Public Art Policy (10/2009)

Queen Street Strategic Masterplan (2014)

Reconciliation Statement (12/2012)

Reconciliation Statement Action Plan 2012

Recreation Strategy 2023

Recreational Needs Assessment and Strategy  
(2006)

Register of Significant Trees – July 1991, Volume 4  
of 4, Significant Trees in Public Parks

Risk Management Strategy

Rose Bay Public Domain Improvements Plan

Urban Forest Strategy 2023

## 30 Appendix BB – Full Survey Report

Copies of the survey report available upon request.

Please email **records@woollahra.nsw.gov.au** to request pages 376-977 of the draft Generic Plan of Management.

Woollahra  
Municipal  
Council



536 New South Head Road,  
Double Bay NSW 2028

**[woollahra.nsw.gov.au](http://woollahra.nsw.gov.au)**

T: 02 9391 7000

F: 02 9391 7044

E: [records@woollahra.nsw.gov.au](mailto:records@woollahra.nsw.gov.au)