



Hawkesbury City Council

attachment 1 to item 206

draft plan of management
richmond park, richmond

date of meeting: 29 September 2009
location: council chambers
time: 5:00 p.m.

RICHMOND PARK

RICHMOND



Draft Plan of Management

15 June 2009

prepared by

LandArc Pty Limited

Landscape, Environmental and Heritage Consultants

CONTROLLED DOCUMENT

Draft Issue A: 15 June 2009

This Plan of Management for
Richmond Park, Richmond
was prepared by

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1.0 LAND DESCRIPTION

1.1 INTRODUCTION

1.1.1 WHAT IS A PLAN OF MANAGEMENT?

Richmond Park, located in the centre of Richmond's commercial shopping area, is bounded by Windsor Street, March Street and East Market Street. The park, originally Crown reserve, was part of Richmond's old 'Market Square'. It is now community land owned by Hawkesbury City Council.

A community land plan of management provides the framework for managing community land and must be prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* and other relevant legislation and policies. This plan of management has been prepared by LandArc Pty Limited for Hawkesbury City Council under the direction of Council's Land Management section.

1.1.2 LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS STUDY

CMP	Conservation Management Plan
DECC	NSW Department of Environment & Climate Change
HRCC	Hawkesbury River County Council
LEP	Hawkesbury City Local Environmental Plan 1989
LGA	Local Government Area (Hawkesbury City Council)
NPWS	NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service
SREP	Sydney Regional Environmental Plan

1.2 BACKGROUND

Hawkesbury City Council has identified a number of significant and/or priority parks and reserves which require the preparation of more detailed and specific management strategies. Richmond Park is one of these significant areas. This plan of management supersedes Hawkesbury City Council's generic plan of management which included this park.

This plan of management draws upon recent consultant reports and a Master Plan for Richmond Park commissioned by Hawkesbury City Council. Public consultation/ workshops were an important part of this process. There were two key documents reviewed during preparation of this Plan of Management including:

1. **Richmond Park Conservation Management Plan (CMP)**
(Morris, C., Jack, I. and Britton, G., unpublished report, 2003).
Adopted by Council 12/10/2004. The CMP examines the park's history and heritage values, assesses cultural significance, identifies management issues and provides appropriate conservation policy.
2. **Richmond Park Master Plan- Issue C: 02/03/2006** (Integrated Design Associates, 2005). Adopted by Council 15/11/2005. The Master Plan identifies key actions for implementation as identified in the *Richmond Park Conservation Management Plan*.

These two documents have guided preparation of this plan of management.

1.3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

This plan of management aims to contribute towards Council achieving its strategic goals, vision and strategic outcomes as identified in the *Hawkesbury City Council Draft Management Plan 2009-2010*. Sustainability is a key principle guiding this process. The plan of management aims to contribute to an ecologically sustainable city and region and add to the quality of life in the Hawkesbury City local government area (LGA).

Richmond Park is a highly valued parcel of open space. The park offers a range of cultural, heritage, social, commemorative and recreational values for the local community and visitors. The Conservation Management Plan (CMP) notes that "*the continuity of use over almost two centuries, though with changing emphases, is exceptional in the state*" (Morris, C., et al., 2003, p.60). The park is listed by the National Trust and scheduled in the Register of the National Estate. It is important that the plan of management establishes how these values should be protected, managed and enhanced.

Accordingly, the plan of management focuses on the longer term objectives of sustainable management and follows a values-based approach rather than being simply issues-driven. The following steps have guided preparation of this plan of management:

1.0 LAND DESCRIPTION

- establish the park's location, context and cultural heritage significance;
- review existing zoning provisions under Hawkesbury City Council's Local Environmental Plan (LEP 1989 as amended);
- identify current uses and condition of the land, and any buildings or other improvements.

2.0 COMMUNITY LAND MANAGEMENT

- establish community land categories in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* and *Local Government (General) Regulation 1999* and identify core objectives for each of these categories;
- establish future permitted uses and development (including intensity and scale), existing and future leases/ licences.

3.0 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

- identify and assess community and stakeholder issues affecting the community land; and
- establish community goals, values, needs and expectations for the future use and management of the reserve.

4.0 BASIS FOR MANAGEMENT

- define the park's role within the local area, broader regional and state context;
- identify key values associated with the park including the cultural landscape setting, cultural heritage, social and recreational values;
- review key documents and establish the framework for sustainable management strategies.

5.0 MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

- specify the purposes for which the land, buildings or improvements, will be permitted to be used;
- specify the purposes for which any further development of the land will be permitted, whether under lease or license or otherwise;
- describe the scale and intensity of such permitted use or development;
- develop appropriate performance targets (management objectives), means of achieving these targets (management actions) and means of assessing Council's performance with respect to objectives; and
- assign directions and priorities for implementation of the strategic plan (spanning the next 5-years).

In accordance with Council's brief, this Plan of Management reviews the conservation policy and actions identified in the *Richmond Park Conservation Management Plan (2003)* and *Richmond Park Master Plan (2005)*.

Management strategies are largely based on the recommendations contained in these documents. This Plan of Management also provides further recommendations and clarifies a number of issues in relation to consistency.

1.4 STUDY AREA

1.4.1 LOCATION AND CONTEXT

This plan of management applies to Richmond Park, located in Richmond town centre. The park is bounded by Windsor Street (northern boundary), East Market Street (eastern boundary), March Street (southern boundary) and Richmond School of Arts, Richmond Occasional Care/ Richmond Before & After School Care and the former Post Office site (western boundary). The Windsor Street frontage is opposite the shopping centre. Richmond Railway Station is located opposite the south-eastern corner of the park (East Market Street). Refer to *Figure 1: Study Area*.

Richmond Park, conceived originally as a central market place for the new town of Richmond, continues to be an important focus of activity for the local community and visitors. The park has a long sporting history. Cricket has been played in the park for over 160 years. The cricket oval still forms the major physical component of the park. The oval is also used for rugby training and community events such as 'Carols by Candlelight'. Market days have been held in the 'outer park' perimeter for over fifteen years. The children's playground is a popular destination for young families while many people use the park to simply sit and relax under the shade of magnificent old trees.

The park retains an outstanding collection of trees which visually frame and define the park's scenic and historic character. These informal groups of trees provide the perfect counter-balance to the central open grassed area (ie. cricket oval). The boundary plantations, containing an eclectic mix of native and exotic trees, are arranged in a typical late 19th/ early 20th century park layout. This collection of significant trees (outer perimeter), central cricket pitch, pavilion, WWI memorial and cannon, CWA kiosk, playground, seating, fountain and early signage create an exceptional park setting – one which is highly valued by the local community.

The Conservation Management Plan (2003) assessed the significance of Richmond Park using State Heritage Criteria (see *4.0 Basis for Management*). Richmond Park is considered to be *"an extremely rare example of the town planning of Governor Macquarie"* and is further significant in terms of its *"continuity of use"* and conservation of *"key elements from its 1860s-80s layout"* (Morris, C., et al., 2003, p.63). Accordingly, the park has significance at the state level. The CMP identified the park's three key inter-dependent elements dating from the late nineteenth century – *"the outer Park, with trees and public seats; the inner Park with designed beds for shrubs and perhaps flowers also; and the central area necessary for organized sports"* (Morris, C., et al., 2003, p.12). Together these elements form the basis for future conservation management and proposed restoration works.

1.5 LAND DESCRIPTION

1.5.1 LAND TENURE

Richmond Park covers a total area of 3.23 hectares (Ha) and is described as Sec 8 (Lot?) DP758881. A lot number has not been identified in Council's property information.

On 4th February 1977 the Crown reserve was revoked and ownership of Richmond Park was invested with Windsor Municipal Council (later merging with Colo Shire Council to become Hawkesbury Shire Council in 1981 and Hawkesbury City Council in 1989). Council's property records identify Richmond Park as community land owned in fee simple by Hawkesbury City Council (Engelhard, M., pers. corro., 2009).

It appears that the Conservation Management Plan (2003) stated erroneously that Richmond Park remains Crown reserve (unchanged from 1873) and that Council, as trustee, has care, control and management (Morris, C. et al., 2003, pp.11, 65).

1.5.2 EXISTING FACILITIES AND IMPROVEMENTS

Table 1: Land Description – Existing Facilities & Improvements is divided into four separate columns with the following information provided for each land parcel:

- Lot/ DP number (column 1);
- proposed community land category (column 2);
- description of land parcel, facilities and improvements (column 3);
- condition of facilities and improvements (column 4).

Lot/ DP number

Lot and DP number provide land tenure information for the land parcel according to Hawkesbury City Council's property records.

Community land category

The proposed community land category is shown in this column.

Land description, facilities and improvements

This column provides a brief description of the land parcel including facilities, improvements and landscape embellishment.

Condition

This column refers to the general condition of facilities and improvements in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993*. The assessment of condition follows directly from the description of facilities and

improvements (ie. same line) and provides a broad indicator of overall condition of these described items as follows:

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| good | described items are in relatively good condition and repair under the current works and maintenance program. |
| fair | described items are in only fair condition and in need of repair/ improvements or an increased level of maintenance. |
| poor | described items are in poor condition requiring repair in some instances, improvements or an increased level of maintenance with some items requiring urgent attention. |

The condition assessment refers primarily to built facilities and improvements. For further issues in relation to facilities/ condition, refer to *3.0 Community Consultation*. Refer to *4.0 Basis for Management* for a description of the reserve's cultural heritage and recreational assets and *5.0 Management Strategies* for proposed capital works, maintenance and management with respect to all items.

**TABLE 1: LAND DESCRIPTION
EXISTING FACILITIES AND IMPROVEMENTS**

[illegible]

Table 1 [continued]

[illegible]

Table 1 [continued]

Land Description	Community Land Category	Existing Facilities/ Improvements	Condition
	Park [continued]	March Street frontage: miscellaneous items: raised brick edging to park boundary brick paving [Kurrajong rail extension] interpretive signage [Kurrajong rail extension] 1No. antique style pole-mounted light 2No. antique-style timber slat/metal benches/conc. 2No. perforated metal or metal frame litter bins water-points/ bubbler [1No.] cultivated trees [native & exotic]* lawns & ornamental gardens/ landscaping	poor fair good poor good good good varies good

NOTE: Condition of cultivated trees [native & exotic]* varies throughout the park. Some trees display physical damage, dead wood, cavities/ insect damage and should be inspected by a qualified arborist.



PHOTO 1: Richmond Park – view looking west along Windsor Street frontage with shops [right background] (06/04/2009).



PHOTO 2: Richmond Park – view of WWI memorial looking north along East Market Street (06/04/2009).



PHOTO 3: Richmond Park – view looking west along March Street frontage showing damaged brick edging (06/04/2009).



PHOTO 4: Richmond Park – view from pavilion (built 1883/ restored 1993-94) looking north-east over the oval (06/04/2009).



PHOTO 5: Richmond Park – view of children's playground and heritage trees incl. Red Cedar [right foreground] (06/04/2009).

2.0 COMMUNITY LAND MANAGEMENT

2.1 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT

Community land must be managed in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* and other relevant legislation and policies. The ways in which community land can be used and managed are strictly governed in accordance with an adopted plan of management and any law permitting the use of the land for a specified purpose or otherwise regulating its use. The nature and use of community land may not change without an adopted plan of management. Community land must not be sold, exchanged or otherwise disposed of except in the instance of enabling the land to be added to Crown reserve or a protected area under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*. The use and management of community land must also be consistent with its designated categories and core objectives.

2.2 COMMUNITY LAND CATEGORISATION

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* all community land must be categorised as either a natural area, a sportsground, a park, an area of cultural significance or for general community use, or a combination of these categories. A further requirement is that land categorised as a “natural area” must be given a sub-category of either bushland, wetland, escarpment, watercourse, foreshore or a category prescribed by the regulations. The *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* provides guidelines for categorisation. This plan of management categorises Richmond Park into the following (see *Figure 2: Community Land Categorisation*):

- Park;
- Sportsground; and
- General community use.

The community land categorisation identified in this plan of management is in accordance with the guidelines of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*. Although generally consistent with the *Draft Hawkesbury Generic Plans of Management 2003* and previous draft mapping, the categories identified in this plan of management supersede and replace any earlier categorisation.

Park

“Land should be categorised as a park under s.36(4) of the Act if 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”.

Section 104, Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

Most of the perimeter/ boundary areas of Richmond Park are categorised as “park” in accordance with its landscaped character of open lawns, cultivated native and exotic trees and passive recreational uses.

Sportsground

Land should be categorised as sportsground under s.36(4) of the Act if the land is used or proposed to be used primarily for active recreation involving organised sports or the playing of outdoor games.

Section 103, Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

The central cricket pitch (grassed oval) is categorised as “sportsground” in accordance with existing sporting uses.

General Community Use

Land should be categorised as general community use under s.36(4) of the Act if the land:

- (a) 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
- (b) is not required to be categorised as a natural area under section 36A, 36B or 36C of the Act and does not satisfy the guidelines for categorisation as a natural area, a sportsground, a park or an area of cultural significance.

Section 106, Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

The south-western corner of Richmond Park, including the car parking area, maintenance/ storage and public amenities building and pavilion (Rod McConville Stand) is categorised as “general community use”. This plan of management identifies opportunities for adaptive reuse of the pavilion’s storage room (ground level) and adjoining outdoor spaces.

2.3 LEASES, LICENCES OR OTHER ESTATE

2.3.1 PRESCRIBED PURPOSE

A lease, licence or other estate may be granted, in accordance with an express authorisation by this plan of management, providing the lease, licence or other estate is for a purpose prescribed in s.46 of the *Local Government Act 1993*. The purpose must be consistent with core objectives for the category of community land (refer to *5.0 Management Strategies - Table 3: Schedule of Core Objectives*).

2.3.2 EXPRESS AUTHORISATION

For express authorisation of current and future permitted leases, licences or other estate refer to *Table 4: Action Plan- items A7-A9*. There are no current leases or licences over this community land. Richmond Park Lions Market is held every two months (2nd Saturday of the month) and its operation is based on a Letter of Agreement with Hawkesbury City Council and the *Richmond Park User Policy* (for events and markets). This Plan of Management supports continuation of the market (refer to *Table 4: Action Plan- item A10*).

2.3.3 GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Council must not grant a lease, licence or other estate for a period (including any period for which the lease could be renewed by the exercise of an option) exceeding 21 years. A lease, licence or other estate may be granted only by tender in accordance with s.46A of the *Local Government Act 1993* and cannot exceed a term of 5 years (including any period for which the lease could be renewed by the exercise of an option), unless it satisfies the requirements as scheduled in s.47, or is otherwise granted to a non-profit organization (refer to *Leases, licences and other estate in respect of community land – s.46, 46A, 47 and 47A Local Government Act 1993*).

2.4 OTHER RELEVANT LEGISLATION & POLICIES

2.4.1 OVERVIEW

In addition to the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993* this Plan of Management has been prepared in accordance with provisions contained in other relevant legislation and policy, including but not limited to the following:

- ☐ Native Title Act (Commonwealth) 1993
- ☐ Catchment Management Authorities Act 2003
- ☐ Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999
- ☐ Threatened Species Conservation (TSC) Act 1995

- ❑ National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974
- ❑ NSW Heritage Act 1977
- ❑ Noxious Weeds Act 1993
- ❑ Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
- ❑ Disability Discrimination Act 1992
- ❑ NSW Flood Policy 1984
- ❑ Hawkesbury City Council Draft Management Plan 2009-2010
- ❑ Hawkesbury Local Environmental Plan 1989
- ❑ Section 94 Contributions Plan Review 2001
- ❑ Hawkesbury City Council Charter
- ❑ Hawkesbury Cultural Plan 2006-2011

NSW Heritage Act 1977

The *NSW Heritage Act 1977* provides a systematic approach to protecting state heritage. The Act establishes principles that are fundamental to planning the care of heritage items and places. The *NSW Heritage Act 1977* and *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act (EP&A) 1979* establish the legislative framework and responsibility of local government for heritage management in New South Wales.

Richmond Park was listed by the National Trust in 1981 (non-statutory listing) and scheduled in the Register of the National Estate (RNE) in 1991 (Morris, C., et al., 2003, p.60). Following amendments to the *Australian Heritage Council Act 2003*, no further places have been entered onto this Register and all references will be removed from the EPBC Act and AHC Act from 2012 in accordance with new listings (ie. National and Commonwealth Heritage Lists).

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

The *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act (EP&A) 1979* forms the basis of statutory planning in New South Wales, including the preparation of Local Environmental Plans (LEPs) which regulate land use and development. Hawkesbury City Council, as the consent authority under the *Local Environmental Plan 1989 (LEP 1989)* and the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act (EP&A) 1979* controls development and the use of land on parks and reserves in the Hawkesbury City Council local government area.

Richmond Park is zoned 6(a) OPEN SPACE (EXISTING RECREATION) under the *Hawkesbury City Council Local Environmental Plan (LEP 1989)*. Under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act (EP&A) 1979*, councils may prepare local environmental plans which incorporate standard heritage provisions and which contain schedules of items and places of heritage significance. Hawkesbury City Council's Local Environmental Plan (LEP 1989) lists the park's pavilion (Rod McConville Stand built 1883-84/ restored 1993-94) and fountain ('statue' 1892) as heritage items. It is important that the objectives of the LEP, particularly with regard to heritage conservation, are consistent with the Richmond Park Conservation Management Plan (CMP, 2003) and this Plan of Management.

3.0 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

3.1 INTRODUCTION

3.1.1 PREPARING THE DRAFT PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

Hawkesbury City Council promotes an open, transparent approach to community consultation, providing opportunities for stakeholders and members of the community to contribute comments and submissions or to discuss specific issues. Public workshops relating to the management of Richmond Park have been held during preparation of the *Richmond Park Conservation Management Plan* (CMP, 2003), *Richmond Park – Linking Richmond Art Plan* (2004) and again during preparation of this Draft Plan of Management

A community workshop was held at the Richmond Community Centre on 15 April 2009 (refer to 3.2 *Community Workshop*). Further consultation continued through to release of the draft plan of management (ie. public exhibition), at which time the community was able to make final comments and submissions. This process highlights the importance of community involvement and ownership in the adopted plan of management.

3.1.2 PUBLIC EXHIBITION AND REVIEW

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* the draft plan of management must be placed on public exhibition for a period of at least 28 days (ie. four weeks). A further two weeks are provided for completion of written submissions. During the public exhibition period the Draft Plan of Management will be available for viewing at the Hawkesbury City Council Administrative Offices, Hawkesbury Central Library (in the Deerubbin Centre), Windsor and on Council's web-site <http://www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/>

All public submissions and any comments submitted by other government agencies will be reviewed by Hawkesbury City Council. The draft plan of management, as amended following public submissions and review, will be submitted to Council for adoption.

3.2 COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

3.2.1 PROCEEDINGS

The main purpose of the community workshop is to discuss the way the community values the park, to identify important issues affecting these values and to promote opportunities for future sustainable management and conservation of heritage items. The workshop aims to provide a transparent and equitable forum for all user groups, stakeholders and individuals.

A community workshop was held at the Richmond Community Centre, 20 West Market Street (Hall 3), Richmond at 7:00pm on Wednesday 15th April 2009. The workshop was advertised by Hawkesbury City Council in the local press and notices in Council's Administrative Offices and Hawkesbury Central Library. Council also contacted relevant stakeholders.

Only two (2) people attended the workshop (not including Council staff). This low attendance possibly reflects the high level of public consultation in relation to Richmond Park in recent years. The workshop proceeded with a description of the plan of management process and a short power-point presentation by Noel Ruting, a Director of LandArc Pty Limited (see *Appendix I: Community Consultation – presentation material and submissions*). This presentation was followed by a discussion of issues by workshop participants and Council staff.

A Community Issues Questionnaire (pro-forma – refer to *Appendix I*) was distributed to attendees at the workshop however no written responses were received. Issues are summarized in the following section (3.3 Key Issues).

3.3 KEY ISSUES

3.3.1 SUMMARY

Hawkesbury City Council's brief for the plan of management and subsequent discussions/ correspondence with staff identified the following issues for investigation:

- restricted use of the oval (cricket wicket/ all seasons use);
- extent of market stalls and impact of market days on the park;
- potential user conflict & safety issues on match days/ market days;
- access to the oval (particularly during market days);
- need for additional gate/ access onto oval (western/ pavilion);
- need for safe access between park and railway station (East Market Street) and shops (Windsor Street);

- RTA proposal to widen corner of East Market and March Streets;
- partial implementation of *Richmond Park – Linking Richmond Art Plan*;
- implementation of capital works items;
- conservation of heritage items;
- park management and general maintenance; and
- potential fund generating/ complimentary commercial opportunities.

The community workshop presentation by Noel Ruting, Director of LandArc Pty Limited, raised a number of issues in relation to the park and proposed improvements in accordance with the Master Plan (2005):

- protection of cultural heritage significance of the park;
- cultural setting and visual character;
- central open grassed cricket pitch surrounded by groves of trees;
- cultural, social and commemorative significance of the park;
- significance of cultivated significant trees;
- period styling and history of landscape/ garden overlays;
- recent embellishments, additions and accretions;
- general park maintenance;
- proposed improvements to public accessibility and circulation;
- proposal to formalize pathway circulation and linkages;
- proposed changes to boundary condition (ie. fencing/ planting beds);
- proposed relocation of rotunda, breast screen trailer and cast-iron fountain;
- improved treatment/ interpretation of former rail extension;
- opportunities for adaptive re-use of building space (ie. pavilion);
- management of stall numbers and extent on market-days; and
- improved arboricultural management of ageing trees;
- phased replacement tree planting consistent with early planting palette.

Participants at the community workshop discussed a number of key values and issues including the following (in order of discussion):

VALUES

- popularity of the park with local community;
- relaxed 'old fashioned' atmosphere/ old world charm;
- opportunity to walk through the park or just sit down;
- open space and visual quality;
- proximity to shops/ railway station;
- informality of the park;
- use of the park/ not just to look at the park;
- historic importance of the cricket pitch/ prestige of playing on pitch;

- rugby training on oval/ no kicking practice;
- use of the oval for special events (eg. Carols By Candlelight);
- markets are part of the park's history;
- atmosphere/ park setting so important to stall holders.

3.3.2 MARKET DAYS

The management of market days is a key issue affecting the park. Issues raised for discussion included the following:

- markets approaching capacity/ limits of growth;
- vehicle parking during market days (on-site loading/ unloading);
- damage to trees/ compaction of roots & erosion;
- need to set limit to number of stall holders;
- aiming for a better balance/ exclusion zones for stall holders;
- past exclusion zone – western grandstand & playground area;
- possible trial exclusion zone along Windsor Street;
- markets vs. cricket days/ conflict over ball flight & public safety issues and blocked access to cricket oval by stall holders;
- creeping use of all park areas on busy market days;
- vehicular access issues on the park/ stall holders drop-off and pick-up of goods vs. impact on grassed areas and trees;
- continue to improve quality of market/ type of stall holders;
- street closure options & need for improved linkages to shops.

The operation and management of Richmond Park Lions Market is based on a Letter of Agreement with Council and Council's *Richmond Park User Policy* (for events and markets). The market has been operating for 15 years. The popularity of the market is leading to questions over carrying capacity, social and environmental sustainability. The market's gradual expansion over the years is causing detrimental impacts on the quality and integrity of the park, its grassed areas and heritage trees. Concerns have been raised with respect to crowding, vehicular movements/ parking, public safety, soil erosion and compaction of tree roots particularly following wet weather.

Vehicular drop-off/ pick-up of goods by stall holders in the park remains a key issue. Stall holders often need to transport bulky goods, heavy equipment, perishable products, etc. and naturally have a preference for easy on-site access between their vehicles and stall. Richmond Park affords relatively easy, level access from Windsor, East Market and March Streets. Street parking is possible unlike many markets. In view of the current impacts, it is recommended that vehicle access onto the park should be restricted. Although some stall-holders may find this difficult it is common practice in many of Sydney's markets. For people with disabilities or special requirements, alternate arrangements could be made.

At times, stall holders are also coming into conflict with the needs of cricket players and grounds (wicket) maintenance (eg. blocking access to ground). The Sports Council has requested provision of another gate at the western side of the oval to ensure access during market days.

Hawkesbury City Council wishes to amend the *Richmond Park User Policy* document. This Plan of Management recommends the following actions (refer to 5.0 Management Strategies: Action Plan- item A10):

- establish a trial period to test upper limit on number of stall holder sites and monitor/ make adjustments as necessary (ie. determine maximum carrying capacity);
- establish quantifiable monitoring procedures of park impacts in relation to market day use;
- restrict stall-holder loading/ off-loading to road-side verges (ie. no stall holder vehicles allowed in the park);
- set physical limits to any further expansion (ie. establish exclusion zone along western boundary/ ensure adequate regulation);
- set-out lots/ spaces for stall holder's marquees based on m2 area;
- establish stall holder sites adjacent to new pathways to reduce wear on grass surfaces and compaction of tree roots;
- ensure that trees do not have stays/ fixtures attached to trunks or branches (monitor trees for physical damage);
- ensure that market days are not held on the same day as cricket matches or scheduled maintenance of the oval and turf wicket;
- investigate option for portion of stall holder fees/ contribution towards care and management of park's heritage trees.

3.3.3 OVAL AND PAVILION

The following issues have been raised in the public workshop and in correspondence with Council staff:

- only cricket permitted all year round (turf wicket);
- some training is permitted providing no rugby boots/ no goal kicking practice (no competition games of AFL, rugby or soccer);
- additional gate (western side) is needed for easier access/ maintenance and staging special events (eg. Carols By Candlelight);
- need to address ownership issues/ vandalism & maintenance (eg. broken glass and graffiti around pavilion);
- pavilion's ground floor storage area is currently under utilized;
- opportunity to lease pavilion/ source of park revenue (eg. café).

The pavilion was originally built in 1882 to add distinction and amenity to the park and oval. The CMP 2003 states that before the pavilion was built "*refreshment stalls and tents were periodically erected for specific events.*"

The restored pavilion could once again serve this function and provide a greater sense of ownership over the building and adjoining spaces.

This Plan of Management recommends further investigation, consultation and possible rationalization of the existing storage facilities and amenities with the view to refurbishment of part of the ground floor space for leasing (eg. café/ kiosk in the park). The adjoining western area, at the rear of the pavilion, could be utilized as an outdoor seated area (part of the leased space).

3.3.4 PARK ACCESS AND CIRCULATION

The following issues in relation to park access, circulation and capital works items have been raised:

- RTA proposal for road widening (East Market & March Streets);
- Macquarie 2010 celebrations/ event management;
- need to improve public access between railway station;
- proposal to formalize park access and circulation;
- proposed post & rail fence/ garden beds along boundaries;
- preference for no fencing/ 'don't fence it in';
- no need to fence park/ historic element;
- increased maintenance costs/ likely vandalism;
- can walk in and out of park anywhere now/ restricted access;
- proposal would destroy the park's open character;
- need more benches/ seating;
- litter bins are poorly located/ not attractive;
- option for additional interpretive signage.

Capital Works Improvements

Capital works initiatives are contained in the Master Plan, prepared by Integrated Design Associates (2005)/ Issue C (02/03/2006). Refer to section 4.5.2 *Master Plan Review* for discussion of issues and recommendations relating to the Master Plan.

Richmond Station and Interchange

Consultants have been recently appointed by the Ministry of Transport to undertake an investigation of the Richmond Station and Interchange. The study aims to upgrade the bus/ rail interchange and local access routes to improve walking, cycling and short passenger drop-off opportunities. A series of workshops have been conducted. Park accessibility should be enhanced through improved pedestrian connectivity and appropriate streetscape design.

It is important that the heritage significance of Richmond Park is not compromised in any way by this urban design initiative. Furthermore, any proposal to reduce the size of the park (eg. road widening) is considered to be inappropriate in view of the park's heritage significance.

3.3.5 ART PLAN

Richmond Park – Linking Richmond Art Plan (Placebo Culture, unpublished report for Council, 2004) reviewed opportunities for cultural enrichment and integration of community-based art installations and recreational facilities. The project involving Hawkesbury City Council, the Hawkesbury City Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Richmond Mainstreet Committee received seed funding via a grant from NSW Planning in 2002. The Art Plan had the stated objective of developing a long term plan “to embody the stories of Richmond into the regeneration of the town centre through [sic] by focusing on Richmond Park” (Placebo Culture, 2004, p.4). The Art Plan aimed to achieve the following outcomes:

- establish physical and conceptual links;
- enhance the park as a place for recreation and leisure;
- develop innovative and site specific art and design works;
- create a balance with heritage “needs.”

Richmond Park – Linking Richmond Art Plan developed seven separate documents however failed to provide specific recommendations or a coherent action plan for implementation. Art themes and thematic nodal sites were explored in detail providing an extensive list of possibilities and opportunities with identified key anchor sites, interpretive markers, various sculptures, paving treatments and interactive play. The proposal would effectively saturate the ‘outer park’ open spaces with new installations and permanent structures.

The Conservation Management Plan (CMP, 2003), in its policy statement, emphasizes the need to reduce clutter and to “avoid introducing permanent monuments, memorials or artworks within Richmond Park that have no direct, compelling relevance to the site” (CMP, 2003, p.73, item 6.5.2/ B1). The CMP also states that “interpretation should be sympathetic to the park’s heritage context and subservient to the cultural significance of the place” (CMP, 2003, pp.75, item 6.7/ E2). It is clear that the Art Plan is not consistent with the recommendations of the CMP document.

The Art Plan has only been partially implemented. Works have included installation of a sculpture in the ceiling of the rotunda and lighting. A steel sculpture is currently being fabricated for installation in the south-eastern corner of the park. The rotunda, a relatively new introduction to the park (built in 2002), will be relocated closer to the children’s playground in accordance with the Master Plan (2003). The CMP states that there should be “no more new permanent structures constructed in the park” (CMP, 2003, pp.77, item 6.10/ H1).

4.0 BASIS FOR MANAGEMENT

4.1 OBJECTIVES

This section of the Plan of Management has the following objectives:

- ❑ *to define the park's role in the local area and broader regional context;*
- ❑ *to identify key values associated with the park including the cultural landscape setting, cultural heritage, social and recreational values;*
- ❑ *to review key documents and establish the framework for sustainable management strategies consistent with community land objectives;*
- ❑ *to provide a vision for the future.*

The *Richmond Park Conservation Management Plan (Morris, et al., 2003)* examined the park's history and heritage values, assessed cultural significance values, addressed specific management issues and identified appropriate conservation policy.

In accordance with Council's brief, this section of the plan of management provides a review of conservation policy and specific actions identified in the *Richmond Park Conservation Management Plan (2003)* and *Richmond Park Master Plan (2005)*.

4.2 KEY VALUES AND SIGNIFICANCE

"Values" can be simply described as the things which make a place important. Management objectives must be based on a sound understanding of the resource base and associated values. The following key values have been developed through literature review (including scheduled documents), community consultation (see previous section), further on-site investigation, analysis and assessment.

4.2.1 HERITAGE CRITERIA & ASSESSMENT

The Conservation Management Plan (2003) assessed the cultural heritage significance of Richmond Park using State Heritage Criteria. The criteria and relevant guidelines satisfied include the following:

Criterion (a) – an item is important in the course, or pattern, of the cultural or natural history of New South Wales or the local area.

Level of Significance: State
(Morris, C., et al., 2003, p.60).

Criterion (b) – an item has a strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in the cultural or natural history of New South Wales or the local area.

Level of Significance: State (Governor Macquarie)
Local (local council)
(Morris, C., et al., 2003, p.61).

Criterion (c) – an item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/ or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in New South Wales or the local area.

Level of Significance: Local
(Morris, C., et al., 2003, p.61).

Criterion (d) – an item has strong or special association with a particular or cultural group in New South Wales or the local area for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.

Level of Significance: Local
(Morris, C., et al., 2003, p.62).

Criterion (f) – an item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of the cultural or natural history of New South Wales or the local area.

Level of Significance: State
(Morris, C., et al., 2003, p.62).

Criterion (g) – an item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or cultural or natural environments in New South Wales or the local area.

Level of Significance: State
(Morris, C., et al., 2003, pp.62-63).

The CMP (2003) provides a summary statement of heritage significance for Richmond Park:

Key words: Governor Macquarie town (est.1810-11)
Setting aside of public reserve (Crown reserve)
Market place, park, communal venue and sports field
Continuity of use over two centuries
Long association with cricket/ integral component of park
Design, plantings and structures – cultural overlays
Maintains key elements from its 1860s-80s layout

Collection of mature (significant) trees
Historic resonance of restored pavilion
Other items (WWI memorial, fountain, cannon, CWA kiosk)
Testimony to park's historical significance

4.2.2 KEY VALUES & LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

This plan of management provides a broad overview of values beyond those identified in the Conservation Management Plan (2003). These values are divided into two categories:

1. Cultural setting and heritage values; and
2. Recreational facilities, access and social values

Table 2: Key Values and Level of Significance assigns a significance ranking to values based on either a local/ district, regional or state level. Regional significance is not included as a category for cultural heritage assessment however this measure is used in this table to describe broader values associated with the park. This measure has relevance for describing the collection of heritage trees which has significance at the regional level (ie. greater Sydney metropolitan area) but not state level.

TABLE 2: VALUES AND LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE			
Key Values	Level of Significance		
	Local	Regional	State
Cultural setting & heritage values			
Macquarie town/ public reserve – continuity of historic process/ activity			state
Association with Macquarie/ landmark qualities & integrity			state
Exemplifies a particular landscape/ garden style			state
Significant trees [individual specimens & groups]		regional	
Historic oval [cricket pitch] & restored pavilion	local/ high		
WWI memorial & cannon, cast-iron fountain, Richmond sign	local/ high		
Recreational facilities, access and social values			
Cricket club, cricket pitch & pavilion [incl. club history/ tradition]	local		
Park war memorial/ war service history & CWA kiosk	local		
Cultural landscape setting [municipal park]	local		
Public access, circulation & linkages [shops/ railway station]	local		
Passive recreation – playground, picnic tables/ seating & landscaping	local		

NOTE: Individual elements such as the historic oval (cricket pitch), restored pavilion, WWI memorial & cannon, cast-iron fountain and Richmond sign are assessed as local/ high significance. Each element makes a distinctive contribution towards the significance of the park as a whole (ie. state significance) (CMP, 2003).



PHOTO 6: Richmond Park – view of oval and pavilion “...a long association with cricket” and “historic resonance of restored pavilion” [CMP 2003] (06/04/2009).



PHOTO 7: Richmond Park retains key elements from its 1860s -80s layout – the oval/ pavilion and an outstanding collection of significant trees along the park boundaries (06/04/2009).



PHOTO 8: Cast-iron fountain on plinth (1892) [left foreground] & African Olive (c.1860s-1870s) [right background] (06/04/2009).



PHOTO 9: View looking south-east near Windsor Street – early gravel pathways around the oval, linked to key entry points, have long disappeared. Existing pathways are ad hoc (06/04/2009).



PHOTO 10: The 'antique-style' rotunda, installed in 2002, has little local significance. The park has experienced considerable development in recent decades (06/04/2009).



PHOTO 11: The south-east corner of the park was lost to rail development for almost 30 years. The existing sinuous pathway and signage will be replaced with a more accurate interpretation of the former rail alignment (06/04/2009).

4.3 CULTURAL SETTING & HERITAGE VALUES

4.3.1 INDIGENOUS CULTURAL VALUES

Richmond Park is located within a traditional resource area of the Darug Aboriginal people. The Hawkesbury River floodplain, with its mosaic of riparian and wetland habitats, has been a focus for human communities for 50,000 years. The floodplain provided abundant natural resources and has strong social and spiritual significance. Archaeological research conducted within the Hawkesbury – Nepean catchment area has revealed a rich cultural and archaeological context.

Richmond Park has a long history of disturbance and modification spanning more than 200 years and there is currently no record of archaeological relics or deposits for this site (DECC). Under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act (1974)* and the *Heritage Act (1977)* all Aboriginal sites, whether recorded or not, are protected. This plan of management encourages a continuing consultative strategy with traditional Aboriginal custodians.

4.3.2 THE MARKET SQUARE – EARLY HISTORY (1810-1850s)

Richmond Park has a long history of cultural development, modification and overlay which continues to the present day. It first took shape as a cleared open paddock in the new Macquarie town of Richmond.

In 1810, following a series of devastating floods (between 1799-1809), Governor Lachlan Macquarie came to the Hawkesbury valley to address these critical issues affecting the sustainability of the struggling colony and to develop the region's agricultural potential. The British government set him the task of selecting suitable sites for the building of five towns on flood-free sites (Morris, C., et al., 2003, p.6). Richmond was the first of these towns.

In 1811 the government surveyor, James Meehan, established the existing grid pattern of streets which included the 'Market Square', an area bounded by Windsor and March Streets and East Market and West Market Streets. The reserved open space was reduced after 1821 to an area of '7 acres 3 roods 37 perches' (ie. the present area of 3.23 hectares (Ha)). The remaining portion of Crown reserve, between the 'square' and West Market Street was set aside for other purposes including the building of a watch-house and later the Court House, post office, Masonic Lodge, School of Arts and public school. Although the 'square' may have been used initially as a market place, as shown on the 1827 plan of Richmond, it appears that this parcel of public open space had become a popular venue for cricket and foot races by the 1840s. Although other sports, including football (possibly rugby union), were

played in latter years, cricket has remained the major sporting activity for over 160 years (Morris, C., et al., 2003, pp.16-17).

By the 1840s almost all of the 'square's' native vegetation of River-flat Eucalypt Forest (Alluvial Woodland) had been cleared with only a few original trees left standing. Fallen logs and stumps were left lying around, the ground was uneven and boggy after periods of rain and the area was likely used for grazing by horses and cattle (Morris, C., et al., 2003, pp.7-8). These few remaining trees disappeared over the years as successive improvements and planting overlays of generic native and exotic trees, shrubs and borders were introduced to the park. The ageing River Oaks (*Casuarina cunninghamiana*), Swamp Mahoganies (*Eucalyptus robusta*) and River Red Gums (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*) have all been introduced during latter park embellishments. None of the original native vegetation remains today.

The CMP (Ibid, p.44) suggests that Sydney Blue Gum (*Eucalyptus saligna*) and Deane's Gum (*Eucalyptus deanei*) may have occurred on the site (reference was made to Benson & Howell, 1990, p.77) however the vegetation was likely to be similar to the remnant Alluvial Woodland on Ham Common. The dominant native tree species probably included Broad-leaved Apples (*Angophora subvelutina* X *A. floribunda*), White Feather Myrtle (*Melaleuca decora*) and possibly Forest Red Gum (*Eucalyptus tereticornis*) and Cabbage Gum (*Eucalyptus amplifolia* subsp. *amplifolia*). The small tree and shrub stratum would have included a diverse range of species (Ham Common POM, LandArc, 2009).

4.3.3 THE SQUARE BECOMES A PARK (1860-1870)

Richmond was linked by rail to the city in 1864. This period brought new prosperity with substantial development and change to the township. An Improvement Committee, established in the early 1860s, focused its attention on 'enhancing the appearance and amenities of the old Market Square'. The 'square' was fenced in 1864 to restrict wandering livestock. The uneven surface was leveled, top-dressed and a quality turf wicket prepared. Native trees including 'river oak, myall and red cedar and exotics English oak, conifers, beech, poplar, cork and Judas trees' were planted by the Committee (Morris, C., et al., 2003, p.9). The early influences affecting plant selection and landscape design were closely linked to the picturesque and idealized landscapes of Europe. The early planting palettes were largely experimental and relied on availability of newly discovered native plants sourced from expeditions and exotics brought from around the world via the maritime trade routes. Sydney Botanic Gardens were instrumental in the flow of new plant species entering the public domain (LandArc, 2007, p.18).

In 1868 the 'square' was formally dedicated as Crown reserve for the public purpose of 'public recreation'. For the first time, the 'square' became known as Richmond Park. The park however was still affected by wandering livestock

and the spread of noxious weeds. Trees were poorly maintained and many had failed.

4.3.4 MAJOR PARK EMBELLISHMENT (1870s-1900s)

In 1872 Richmond became a borough and in 1873 the newly elected Richmond Municipal Council was appointed as trustee of the park by the Department of Lands. This sequence of events provided the catalyst for a new phase of coordinated development (Morris, C., et al., 2003, p.10).

In 1870 and 1873 Charles Moore, Director of the Sydney Botanic Gardens, was asked to provide suitable trees for the park boundary plantations. Tree species included exotics such as poplars (*Populus* spp.), planes (*Platanus* sp.) and mixed conifers (*Pinus* and *Cupressus* spp.) and Australian sub-tropical rainforest species such as Hoop Pine (*Araucaria cunninghamii*), Bunya Pine (*Araucaria bidwillii*), Red Cedar (*Toona australis*), White Cedar (*Melia azedarach* var. *australasica*), Silky Oak (*Grevillea robusta*) and Brush Box (*Lophostemon confertus*). The African Olive (*Olea europaea* subsp. *cuspidata*) on the Windsor Street frontage is believed to be one of the earliest plantings in the park. Other early introductions included the informal row of River Oaks (*Casuarina cunninghamiana*), a local native species, along the western boundary. These trees were inter-mixed with local rainforest species (*Araucaria*, *Toona* and *Melia* spp.) and other introduced evergreen and deciduous ornamentals such as the Cape Chestnut (*Calodendron capense*) and Hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*).

Many of these trees still continue to define the park's historic landscape character and visual integrity. The CMP states that the planting scheme would have probably been undertaken 'in a symmetrical manner, or to a plan, as there is also a specimen of the same tree on the March Street side the park'. The photo taken in 1879 (CMP, Fig.5, p.29) however shows the eclectic nature of this boundary plantation. The reference to the same species relates to two remaining Swamp Mahoganies (*Eucalyptus robusta*). The outer perimeter fence (ie. painted hardwood post and double rail) was installed during this period and the boundary plantation was protected with a second double rail fence.

Trees were typically placed with different centre spacings within the row plantation and often with varying set-backs to create an informal wooded quality. These boundary/ row plantations usually consisted of impressive broad-leaved evergreens to make a distinctive visual statement, to frame and enclose the park and to create an evocative, romantic landscape. The composition usually included a dominant or co-dominant species inter-mixed with other species of similar form and stature. The inner park plantations were typically defined by an eclectic mix of botanical specimens (LandArc, 2007, p.18). Richmond Park's boundary plantations of emergent Hoop Pines and Bunya Pines, with their dark, glossy green foliage, distinctive symmetrical

forms, towering dimensions and massive scale, were used for dramatic impact. Thirteen (13) Bunya Pines, possibly planted as early as the 1860s, were later removed in 1946 due to the potential danger to the public from massive cones falling from the tops of these trees. The Hoop Pines were retained (Morris, C., et al., 2003, p.45).

Most of Sydney's nineteenth century parks reflect this layout and palette pioneered by Charles Moore, Director of the Sydney Botanic Gardens (1848-1896) and that of Joseph Henry Maiden, his successor as Director of the Sydney Botanic Gardens (1896-1924). Their influence had a profound impact on Sydney's public parks and gardens. They provided Sydney with a lasting legacy of great nineteenth and early twentieth century landscapes including the Sydney Botanic Gardens, The Domain, Moore Park and Centennial Parklands (LandArc, 2007, p.19).

The park's evolution reflected a time of great global exploration and interest in a vast range of botanical specimens sourced from around the globe. The records suggest that Richmond Park's collection grew increasingly complex and eclectic during this period. Nursery suppliers and local people contributed to the collection – many of the trees failed while others flourished and by 1883 more than 143 trees were recorded in the park (Morris, C., et al., 2003, p.11). This role as an arboretum was typical of early municipal parks. The use of botanical/ common name plates on some of the park's older trees show that conceptually the park, as an arboretum, carried into the Inter-war and Post War periods of the twentieth century (Morris, C., et al., 2003, p.50).

During this period, cricket consolidated its position as the park's major sporting activity. This continuous use as a cricket ground, its history including a game played by one of two touring England teams in 1887 and club tradition are integral components of Richmond Park (Morris, C., et al., 2003, pp.16-17, 62-63). The game of cricket played an important role in shaping many of Sydney's early municipal parks. The typical design elements include a turf wicket surrounded by a large open grassed area, open/ low fenced boundary and outer wooded perimeter.

In 1879 an 'inner park' of exotic shrubs and border planting was created. This early garden layout is typical of the Gardenesque Style (c.1835-c.1890) which reflected the classical, formal influences of the Victorian, Georgian, Regency, Classical and Italianate architectural styles of the period. The park's design featured an elaborate layout of fenced triangular planting beds which were inter-connected by a rigid geometric pattern of formal gravel pathways. The 'inner park' gardens lay between the cricket oval (open space) and the outer perimeter tree plantation creating, for the first time, a multi-layered effect.

In 1882 Richmond Park's oval boundary was formalized with a painted post and single top arris-rail fence. Both the oval and outer boundary fences were

later replaced with a timber post, tubular steel top rail and wire-mesh fence. This structural layout of the park established three separate and inter-related components – a defined central sporting space (cricket ground), surrounded by perimeter pathways and gardens and an outer wooded park boundary. Seating and other public amenities were added and the park gained broad recognition for its quality. It was featured in the 1886 County of Cumberland Year-Book. The original pavilion (1884) and fountain (1892) were also added during this phase of park development (Morris, C., et al., 2003, p.11-14).

The Conservation Management Plan (2003) identified the significance of “*these three separate, but inter-dependent elements: the outer Park, with trees and public seats; the inner Park with designed beds for shrubs and perhaps flowers also; and the central area necessary for organized sports*” (Morris, C., et al., 2003, p.12). This period layout forms the structure for conservation management of the park and the Master Plan (2005).

4.3.5 THE INTER-WAR & POST WAR PERIODS

Successive phases of park upgrades and embellishment, including tree planting were implemented throughout the early twentieth century, albeit interrupted by two world wars and a depression. A large proportion of the park’s trees (particularly along the eastern and southern boundaries) were introduced during the Inter-war period (c.1915-1940) and Post War period (c.1940s to 1960s). Many of the park’s evergreen and deciduous exotics such as Camphor Laurel (*Cinnamomum camphora*), Jacaranda (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*), English Oak (*Quercus robur*), Elms (*Ulmus* sp.), Plane Trees (*Platanus* sp.), Hackberry (*Celtis* sp.), Poplars (*Populus* sp.), Cypress (*Cupressus* sp.), Washington Palms (*Washingtonia robusta*) and Canary Island Date Palms (*Phoenix canariensis*) were planted during the Inter-War and Post War periods. They remain important visual and structural elements.

The park’s Elms (*Ulmus X hollandica*) are believed to be a hybrid (*Ulmus glabra* X *U. minor*) rather than a mix of *Ulmus procera*, *U. carpinifolia* and *U. glabra* (Morris, C., et al., 2003, p.45). The massive Big-cone Pine (*Pinus coulteri*) [shown as a Stone Pine (*Pinus pinea*) on the Master Plan 2005] is an uncommon exotic planting in Sydney and likely dates from this latter phase of planting.

The Inter-war period ushered in a period of significant change for Richmond Park with construction of the Richmond to Kurrajong Railway extension in 1924. The preferred route however required excision of the south-eastern corner of the park and the felling of a large number of mature trees. Although this action was opposed by a large section of the local community, including Richmond Progress Association and Richmond Municipal Council, the railway line was constructed. The railway extension operated at a loss for many years and flood damage in 1952 finally brought a decision to close the line (Morris, C., et al., 2003, pp.18-19). The rails were removed from the park and trees

planted once again by Windsor Municipal Council (Richmond and Windsor Municipal Councils merged in 1948).

4.3.6 RECENT PARK DEVELOPMENT (1970s-present)

In 1977 the Crown reserve was revoked and ownership of Richmond Park was invested with Windsor Municipal Council. In 1980 Windsor Municipal Council merged with Colo Shire to become Hawkesbury Shire Council (and Hawkesbury City Council in 1989).

The park experienced considerable development throughout the last two decades of the twentieth century. Many of these additions however have been somewhat unsympathetic towards the park's cultural heritage values. As a result of increasing public concern and pressure an Interim Conservation Order was placed on the park by the Heritage Council in 1985. This order lapsed in 1987 (Morris, C., et al., 2003, p.20) during a period of intense pressure to create job opportunities and projects during the lead up to Bicentennial celebrations in 1988.

A number of capital works projects were subsequently initiated. The two cannon excavated in the park in 1985 and restored by the RAAF Richmond Base were installed in the World War I memorial along with other changes to this location. The children's playground was replaced and upgraded with new structures and soft fall areas. A sinuous brick pathway was constructed in 1988 to represent the rail extension.

The pavilion (which had been damaged by fire in 1980) was restored in 1993-94. Public amenities and a maintenance/ storage building were constructed in a 'Federation style' near the pavilion. A similar style of rotunda was added to the north-western corner of the park in 2002. Flower beds and additional seating were also introduced. A public art work initiative was partially implemented.

The CMP notes that although evoking a 'Federation-type' aesthetic and 'traditional village green' appearance, the colourbond metal picket fence alters the original open appearance of the cricket ground and is inconsistent with historical evidence (Morris, C., et al., 2003, p.50).

Notably, capital works projects had proceeded on an ad hoc basis without proper investigation of the park's multi-layered heritage values (Morris, C., et al., 2003, p.20-22).

4.4 REVIEW OF CONSERVATION POLICY

4.4.1 CONSERVATION STRATEGY OBJECTIVES

The Conservation Management Plan (2003) sets out a conservation policy based on **restoration** and **reconstruction** in accordance with the definitions contained in the Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (the Burra Charter). This approach is not specifically stated in the CMP. Nevertheless, this policy seeks to return the existing fabric of the place (Richmond Park) as near as possible to a known earlier state by removing accretions and/ or reassembling existing components (as far as practical) AND includes the introduction of materials (new or old) into the fabric. There are various known earlier states of Richmond Park based on the documentation. The CMP has selected the 1870s to 1890s period as the model for this restoration/ reconstruction strategy.

The CMP establishes the following general policy:

“Maintain Richmond Park as a community park, freely accessible to, and for the continuing enjoyment of, the general public consistent with its high cultural value as the Macquarie-planned public reserve for the township of Richmond, public safety considerations and with reference to the following policies...”

- conserve park integrity/ landscape character
- protect central open space (cricket ground)
- re-establish traditional entry points
- consolidate outer boundary plantations
- reinstate known elements from late 19th/ early 20th century (ie. paths, tree planting, garden beds, gateways, oval & low fence around WWI memorial)
- avoid introducing further elements of no specific site relevance (eg. monuments, memorials & artworks)
- remove or modify intrusive elements or elements which detract from significance of the park (ie. remove/ rationalize park furniture)
- avoid use of 19th/ early 20th century reproductions
- remove/ modify sinuous curve of former rail extension
- remove/ modify low brick boundary wall around park
- replace steps with ramped access
- conservation works for cast-iron fountain
- relocate breast screen trailer to south-west corner
- remove/ relocate or re-design bus shelters
- ensure consistency in 19th/ early 20th century pathway design
- re-establish perimeter path around the oval

- initiate tree replacement plan based on historic palette and suitability in the local area
- initiate an appropriate tree management plan
- ensure that all works adjacent to significant trees are in consultation with an experienced and qualified arborist
- maintain park records in local studies section of library
- ensure interpretive signage is sympathetic to historic context and subservient to the cultural significance of the place
- replace civic guide notice board
- maintain oval for sporting activities
- provide additional gate/ access to oval
- continue community activities (eg. market day) within a controlled area
- provide adequate seating within the park
- provide disabled access to park facilities
- review options for seating locations
- nominate park for State Heritage Register listing
- manage park in accordance with relevant legislation
- retain and conserve park in accordance with principles, processes and practices contained in the Burra Charter
- ensure no subdivision or alienation of the park including widening to accommodate roadways or footpaths
- maintain ongoing documentation of park layout/ planting
- continue to provide for ongoing security
- ensure adequate provision of park lighting
- no additional permanent structures in the park
- replacement structures should be sympathetic to historic context and subservient to the cultural significance of the place
- continue to remove weeds and ensure protection of tree roots during maintenance
- review the policy every 5 years.

This Plan of Management broadly supports the principles and actions outlined in the CMP policy statement. The Master Plan 2005 has re-interpreted some of the more ambiguous policy directives and it is important to discuss these issues in more detail.

4.5 RECREATION, ACCESS & SOCIAL VALUES

4.5.1 OVERVIEW

Richmond Park is a valuable community and regional asset offering passive and active recreational, cultural, social and educational opportunities. There are also significant constraints on its land capability and future uses which

need to be considered. Inappropriate types of development and uses pose potential threats to existing values. *Sustainability*, a key principle of Hawkesbury City Council's Management Plan, can only be achieved through a balanced and sensitive approach to resource management. Accordingly, future development and management of this community land must ensure careful integration of economic, social and environmental factors.

Recreational values are closely linked with environmental quality and the opportunities provided by the setting. For a detailed description of recreational facilities, improvements and their condition, see *Table 1: Land Description – Existing Facilities & Improvements*. Community consultation highlighted these recreational values, future opportunities and the key issues. The following section reviews proposed capital works improvements and provides further recommendations.

4.5.2 MASTER PLAN REVIEW

The *Richmond Park Master Plan*, prepared by Integrated Design Associates (2005), identifies actions for implementation as identified in the *Conservation Management Plan (2003)*. Refer to *Figure LP-02 Issue C: 02/03/2006 (Master Plan – Upgrading Works for Richmond Park)*. The Plan of Management supports most of the proposed actions shown in the Master Plan however the following items need further review:

- protection and management of significant trees
- extent of pathways/ construction details
- outer boundary fencing to park
- garden beds/ plant selection
- replacement tree planting

Protection and management of significant trees

The significant trees are integral components of the park's history and development. They create a distinctive sense of place and are of exceptional heritage significance. Their values have been identified and assessed in the CMP and in this Plan of Management. These are ageing specimens, some of which are in decline and approaching senescence.

It is of the utmost importance that these trees are properly protected and managed on a sustainable basis. It appears that some trees may be suffering from the effects of the recent long drought as well as incremental and cumulative impacts such as a history of poor arboricultural management, increased insect attack, physical damage, vandalism, compaction and erosion exacerbated by market day stalls and traffic movements within drip-lines.

A qualified consultant arborist experienced in heritage tree management should be engaged to review the status, health and safety of all trees in the park and to make recommendations in relation to potential impact of proposed

capital works. Risk management and public safety issues also need to be thoroughly addressed.

Extent of proposed pathways/ construction details

The proposed pathway network sets out a rigid geometrical overlay with cement mixed/ compacted decomposed granite 100mm topping and compacted sub-grade (min. 100mm depth). The proposed edge detail shows a selected dry pressed brick on a reinforced concrete footing (requiring approx. 250mm depth excavation) or modified concrete footing with no reinforcing bars (DWG. LP-03).

The proposed excavations for pathway construction are located within 1-2 metres of the base of some highly significant trees. Up to a 1/3 of the drip-line area of some trees will be affected by excavations and construction works. Tree protection, works exclusion zones within drip-lines and associated arboricultural works are not shown on drawings (LP-01/04). Works exclusion zones with temporary protection measures need to be established. In addition, no physical evidence exists for brick edging to gravel paths in the park. Photographs dating from this period show no clearly delineated edging (CMP, 2003, Fig. 8, p.32). The CMP recommends that "*path surfaces should be consistent with a 19th/ early 20th century appearance*" and identifies the preferred type of detailing (CMP, 2003, p.74, item 6.5.3/ C1).

It is recommended that a qualified arborist experienced in heritage works be consulted to review the documentation and to advise on a preferred approach to ensure that the park's heritage trees are adequately protected and managed. The proposed depth and lateral extent of excavations with respect to existing tree roots and existing ground levels need to be considered.

Proposed outer boundary fencing to park

The proposed installation of a painted arris-rail park boundary fence (top arise rail and mortised mid-rail as shown on DWG. LP-03) would enclose the park and restrict pedestrian movement and circulation. Pedestrians would be confined to designated pathways at entrances rather than allowing free movement to and from the park. The proposed fence would significantly impact upon the open visual quality of the park and existing landscape character. Although this type of perimeter fence was a design feature of the park during the late 19th/ early 20th century there is no particular need for its re-introduction. Originally, the road-side boundary fences were designed to delineate the public park and to protect immature tree plantations from the impact of wandering livestock and trampling by the public and other potential physical damage.

The CMP recommends simplifying the park design, removing unnecessary clutter, rationalizing garden beds and emphasizing unobtrusive, contemporary design and consistency with current uses rather than producing a "19th

century reproduction" (CMP, 2003, p.73, item 6.5.2/ B2-B4). The CMP makes the recommendation that *"the central oval space should remain enclosed by an appropriate type of fence in order to protect the space from incursions that would potentially erode the important scale of the space"* (CMP, 2003, p.72, item 6.5.1/ A2). The CMP also recommends the re-introduction of an appropriate low fence around the WWI memorial (CMP, 2003, p.73, item 6.5.2/ B2). The CMP however makes no recommendation to re-introduce the perimeter ariss-rail fence.

It is recommended that the boundary (perimeter) ariss-rail fence be deleted from the proposed capital works program.

Proposed garden beds/ plant selection

The proposed continuous garden bed design along the park boundary, adjacent to the ariss-rail fence (see above), is a new element in the park. There is no evidence of such extensive planting beds ever occurring within the park. During the late 19th/ early 20th century planting beds were added as an embellishment but were generally restricted to the "inner park" triangular wedges formed by inter-connected pathways.

The proposed garden beds, containing shrubs (up to 1m+ in height) and annual display beds would further reinforce restrictions on pedestrian flow into the park and obstruct open views through and around the park. The garden beds would potentially obscure views from the roadway and adjacent pedestrian footpaths. This proposal would have a dramatic impact on the park's open character and raises passive surveillance, security and public safety issues in this urban park. The introduction of highly detailed garden beds (including a mix of perennial shrubs, borders and annual displays), particularly on the scale envisaged, will add significantly to the park's maintenance costs over time. Improved arboricultural maintenance of existing heritage trees should be a higher priority.

In addition, the selection of plant species is not consistent with a planting palette from this period. The planting schedule includes a broad range of modern cultivars, exotic and native, with no relevance to this park's cultural heritage values.

It is recommended that the garden beds be significantly reduced in size to pathway entry points (ie. triangular-shaped ends) and including the triangular-shaped central 'island beds'. Retain and protect the open lawn character and vistas beneath the shade of mature trees. Develop an appropriate heritage planting palette in accordance with historic records and in consultation with park staff. Avoid the use of modern cultivars and variegated plants. Restrict the size and scale of plants to small shrubs (<700mm height), groundcovers and accents only.



PHOTO 12: This Hoop Pine [right background] is part of an historic collection of these native Araucarias – originally planted with Bunya Pines (long removed) (06/04/2009).



PHOTO 13: The ageing population of significant trees, like this magnificent River Red Gum [right foreground], needs appropriate arboricultural care and management (06/04/2009).



PHOTO 14: A phased program of replacement tree planting needs to be consistent with the planting palette and layouts established in the late 19th/ early twentieth century (06/04/2009).

Replacement tree planting

A number of issues relating to replacement planting should be addressed. The Master Plan (DWG. LP-01) shows item 66 as a Stone Pine (*Pinus pinea*). The existing tree, a rare exotic specimen, is believed to be a Big-cone Pine (*Pinus coulteri*). Although Stone Pines may have been early elements in the 1860s-1870s plantation, none exist today. Super-advanced Stone Pines have been added to the park already in various locations.

Pin Oaks (*Quercus palustris*), a relatively recent introduction to the park since the Post War period, are shown as a major new component in the park replacement planting scheme. The three Sydney Blue Gums (*Eucalyptus saligna*), shown near the March Street entrance, may be included on the basis of CMP discussion of possible original native species. It is unlikely however that this species occurred on this site.

It is important to recognize that the remaining native Hoop Pines (*Araucaria cunninghamii*) were part of a distinctive clustered layout within each of the four corners of the park. These pines were planted in association with Bunya Pines (*Araucaria bidwillii*) (removed in 1946). The proposed replacement planting of these pines shows a random distribution throughout the park, compromising the historic integrity of this planting scheme. Notably, these early layouts would have been influenced by Charles Moore, Director of the Sydney Botanic Gardens (1848-1896), as they are typical of his planting schemes. The replacement planting should support this original layout of the park.

The Wollemi Pine (*Wollemia nobilis*), a recently discovered native species described as a 'living fossil', is also proposed as a new introduction. Two of these pines are shown side-by-side in the south-eastern corner of the park. These pines may be of current botanical interest but they represent a further dilution of integrity of the park's cultural heritage values, particularly with respect to the late 19th/ early 20th century planting palette.

A new Red Cedar (*Toona australis*) is shown next to the mature Red Cedar however the old specimen is in good condition and this space is already densely planted.

The relocation of a Washington Palm (*Washingtonia robusta*) shown as a Cabbage Palm (*Livistona australis*) on DWG. LP-01, in the WWI memorial, would be highly stressful to the palm and a costly exercise for minimal return. The palm is one of two specimens and part of the original Inter-war period fabric of the memorial. The proposed relocation appears to be addressing an issue of symmetry in a formal design overlay. This relatively minor adjustment is considered unnecessary, particularly if the surrounding finish was in decomposed aggregate rather than black granite paving. Decomposed granite would be consistent with the park's pathways.

This Plan of Management recommends that replacement planting reflect and support the planting palette established during the late 19th/ early 20th century. It should also be consistent with the original design intent, including planting layouts of specific components.

4.6 VISION STATEMENT

The following statement provides a vision for Richmond Park which forms the basis for the following management strategies:

“To ensure appropriate protection, conservation and sustainable management of the park’s landscape setting, its rich cultural heritage, social and recreational values in accordance with the objectives of community land management for the benefit of the broader community and for future generations”.



PHOTO 15: Richmond Park – The Plan of Management aims
*“to conserve, manage and enhance the park’s cultural heritage
and mix of sporting and passive recreational opportunities”.*

...

5.0 MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

5.1 OBJECTIVES

In accordance with Council's brief, this Plan of Management has reviewed the conservation policy and actions identified in the *Richmond Park Conservation Management Plan (2003)* and *Richmond Park Master Plan (2005)*. The management strategies in this section are largely based on recommendations contained in these documents and the review undertaken in *4.0 Basis for Management*. This section of the Plan of Management provides a framework for implementing these management strategies as follows:

- ❑ *to establish core objectives for the community land categories;*
- ❑ *to develop an action plan for implementation of core objectives and management strategies (ie. desired outcomes);*
- ❑ *to address future leases and licences;*
- ❑ *to develop performance targets to assess and monitor strategies; and*
- ❑ *to assign directions and priorities (spanning the next 5-years).*

5.2 COMMUNITY LAND - CORE OBJECTIVES

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, each category and sub-category are provided with a set of core objectives. Refer to *Table 3: Schedule of Core Objectives*.

5.3 ACTION PLAN

The following Action Plan (refer to *Table 4: Action Plan – Sheets 1-5*) is divided into two separate sections based on desired outcomes and core objectives for this community land (see column 1). Each section includes the following:

- *performance targets or management objectives* (column 2);
- *item or reference number* (column 3);
- *means of achievement or management actions* (column 4);
- *means of assessment* of the actions (column 5);
- *priority ranking* for each management action (column 6).

Desired Outcomes (column 1)

The sections are divided into the following headings in accordance with the desired outcomes and core objectives as shown:

1. Community land management – development, land uses, activities, leases, licences and other estate

To establish an appropriate management framework and guidelines for assessing development, land uses, activities, leases, licences and other estate in compliance with requirements for community land categorised as park, sportsground and general community use.

2. Cultural heritage, recreation and social values

To conserve, manage and enhance the park's cultural heritage and mix of sporting and passive recreational opportunities.

Performance targets (column 2)

The desired outcomes and core objectives (refer to 2.2 Community Land Categorisation and 5.2 Community land – Core objectives) have guided the development of performance targets in the Action Plan.

Management actions/ item no. (columns 3 and 4)

The performance targets or management objectives provide the framework for developing specific management actions or the means of achievement. Each action is assigned an item number based on the relevant section (eg. Sec. 1: A1 to A11, followed by Sec. 2: B1 to B10).

Performance measures (column 5)

The Action Plan establishes a system of checks and balances to assess actions in relation to performance (ie. means of assessment).

Priorities

Priorities for each management action are assigned according to relative importance – very high, high, medium and low. It is envisaged that actions will be addressed on a priority basis, by the Policy and Services Unit responsible, and in accordance with the means of assessment as follows:

VERY HIGH	= 1 year
HIGH	= 1-2 years
MEDIUM	= 3-4 years
LOW	= up to 5 years

5.4 MASTER PLAN

The *Richmond Park Master Plan*, prepared by Integrated Design Associates (2005), identifies key management actions to be implemented subject to available funding. These actions are based on conservation policy developed in the *Conservation Management Plan (2003)*. Refer to *Figure LP-02 Issue C: 02/03/2006 (Master Plan – Upgrading Works for Richmond Park)*.

This Plan of Management amends the *Richmond Park Master Plan* in accordance with the review and recommendations contained in *4.0 Basis for Management: 4.5.2 Master Plan Review*. The amendments are shown in the Action Plan as items B4-B5 and B7-B9.

...

TABLE 3
SCHEDULE OF CORE OBJECTIVES

community land management	core objectives
	Management strategies must be consistent with community land categories and their respective core objectives as identified in this plan of management.
	<p>Core Objectives: Management of community land categorised as a Park (36G)</p> <p>"The core objectives for management of community land categorised as a park are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) to encourage, promote and facilitate recreational, cultural, social and educational pastimes and activities; and; b) to provide for passive recreational activities or pastimes and for the casual playing of games; and; c) to improve the land in such a way as to promote and facilitate its use to achieve the other core objectives for its management."
	<p>Core Objectives: Management of community land categorised as a Sportsground (36F)</p> <p>"The core objectives for management of community land categorised as a sportsground are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) to encourage, promote and facilitate recreational pursuits in the community involving organised and informal sporting activities and games; and; b) to ensure that such activities are managed having regard to any adverse impact on nearby residences."
	<p>Core Objectives: Management of community land categorised as General Community Use (36I)</p> <p>"The core objectives for management of community land categorised as general community use are to promote, encourage and provide for the use of the land, and to provide facilities on the land, to meet the current and future needs of the local community and of the wider public:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) in relation to public recreation and the physical, cultural, social and intellectual welfare or development of individual members of the public; and b) in relation to 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).

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TABLE 4
ACTION PLAN

Performance Target (Management objectives)	Item	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Means of Assessment (of the actions)	Priority
Desired Outcome: To establish an appropriate management framework and guidelines for assessing development, land uses, activities, leases, licences and other estate. Core Objectives: Management of community land categorised as park (36G), sportground (36F) and general community use (36I).				
Guiding legislation: To ensure the park's planning and management are in accordance with relevant legislation and policy. Future development, land uses and activities: To ensure consistency with community land categories and core objectives for "park, sportground & general community use". To protect the reserve's cultural heritage and other identified values from inappropriate uses, activities and development. To provide a balanced and appropriate level of active and passive recreational infrastructure. To protect the park from incremental impacts and introduction of unsympathetic elements. To promote the park's role as a broadly accessible, equitable and safe community asset. To enhance visitor education and interpretation. To ensure protection and conservation of the park's cultural heritage. To permit sympathetic development of community and recreational facilities consistent with the park's traditional character and cultural heritage significance.				
community land management	A1	Implement actions identified in this Plan of Management in accordance with Local Government Act 1993 and all other relevant legislation and policy.	Adoption of plan of management.	high
	A2	Development proposals, land uses, activities, leases/ licences and management practices must be consistent with the following requirements: - demonstrate consistency with park's heritage and community land core objectives - protect and enhance cultural setting, heritage, visual and landscape character; - ensure consistency with definitions, principles, processes and practices contained in the ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance; - address public safety and risk management issues; - promote balanced, sustainable management of recreational infrastructure; - continue to maintain and upgrade community and sporting facilities; - restrict inappropriate uses and activities on the oval and parkland; - contribute to diversity and quality of recreational and community uses; - adequately provide for public access, equity and broad community use; - protect and manage the park's significant trees; - facilitate programs in community education and interpretation of heritage values. Development proposals which may directly or indirectly threaten the cultural setting, heritage, visual and landscape values are not permissible. This Plan of Management expressly authorises the development of existing and proposed community and recreational facilities [see Master Plan: LP-02C] subject to compliance with core objectives for the community land category, development guidelines [see items A2-A3] and item amendments [B4-B5 and B7-B9].	Level of implementation over 5-years. Number and % of proposed developments that address and adhere to development guidelines. Measure trends over time.	ongoing
	A3	Ensure consistency in Council's new LEP (incl. scheduled heritage items) and policy objectives of the Conservation Management Plan (CMP).	as above	ongoing
	A4	Nominate Richmond Park for State Heritage Register listing (CMP 2003). This Plan of Management expressly authorises the granting of leases, licences or other estate over the community land for the purposes of providing goods, services and facilities, and the carrying out of activities, appropriate to current and future needs within the local community and of the wider public in relation to any of the following: - public recreation, social and educational activities; - the physical, cultural, social and intellectual welfare or development of persons; and - only if the purpose for which it is granted is consistent with the core objectives of its categorisation.	Proposed staged development/ capital works items completed subject to available funding and priorities.	ongoing
	A5	To ensure consistency in heritage conservation objectives for the park.	All heritage items adequately conserved.	high
	A6	To formally recognize state heritage significance.	Richmond Park listed in State Heritage Register.	high
	A7	Leases, licences and other estate: To provide express authorisation for appropriate leases, licences or other estate over community land. To ensure consistency with relevant legislation affecting the uses and activities on community land. To permit the granting of leases, licences or other estate which are consistent with community needs and the community land core objectives.	Leases/ licences granted in accordance with Local Government Act 1993 and this Plan of Management. Assess against Council policies, principles and permitted uses consistent with community land categories and core objectives.	ongoing

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TABLE 4 [cont'd]
ACTION PLAN

	Performance Target (Management objectives)	Item	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Means of Assessment (of the actions)	Priority
	Desired Outcome: To establish an appropriate management framework and guidelines for assessing development, land uses, activities, leases, licences and other estate. Core Objectives: Management of community land categorised as park (36G), sportsground (36F) and general community use (36I).				
	Leases and licences (cont'd): To permit the granting of leases, licences or other estate which are consistent with community needs and the community land core objectives.	A8	This Plan of Management expressly authorises the granting of a lease or licence over community land categorised as general community use for the following uses and activities, subject to further investigation/ consultation and compliance with core objectives and development guidelines (refer to items A1-A7): - café/ kiosk (pavilion) incl. use of designated outdoor area (see discussion sec.3.3.3). In accordance with Pt 4, Div.3 Cl.117 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, leases, licences and other estates granted for the following purposes are exempt from the provisions of s.47A of the Local Government Act 1993:- (1) the provision of pipes, conduits or other connections under the surface of the ground for the connection of premises adjoining the community land to a facility of the council or other public utility provider that is situated on the community land; (2) use and occupation of the community land for events such as: - a public performance (ie. a theatrical, musical or other entertainment for amusement of the public); - the playing of a musical instrument, or singing for a fee or reward; - engaging in a trade or business; - playing of any lawful game or sport; - delivering a public address; - conducting a commercial photographic session; - picnics and private celebrations such as weddings and family gatherings; - filming. The use or occupation of community land for such short term or casual events listed is exempt only if the use or occupation does not involve the erection of any building or structure of a permanent nature. Subject to further consultation with Richmond Lions Club, amend the current Letter of Agreement & Richmond Park User Policy in accordance with the following: - establish a trial period to test upper limit on number of stall holder sites and monitor outcomes (ie. determine maximum carrying capacity). Make adjustments to preferred total number of stall holders as necessary; - establish monitoring procedures for park impacts in relation to market day use and activities (eg. photographic record of damage to lawns, trees, etc.); - restrict stall-holder loading/ off-loading to road-side verges (ie. no vehicles allowed in park except emergency services vehicles or for staging special events on oval); - establish exclusion zone along western boundary (adjacent to pavilion/ playground and new rotunda location). Ensure adequate regulation of exclusion zone.	Investigation/ further consultation conducted and recommendations implemented. Leases and/ or licences granted in accordance with relevant legislation and this Plan of Management.	high ongoing
	To permit the granting of short-term and casual licences consistent with the relevant legislation.	A9		Short-term and casual licences granted in accordance with relevant legislation and this Plan of Management. Measure trends over time.	ongoing
	Richmond Park Lions Market: To establish physical limits to growth. To ensure sustainability and restrict ad hoc expansion of stalls throughout the park. To establish guidelines to address current social and environmental impacts. To reduce negative impacts on heritage trees and quality of park setting. To protect visual integrity of the park. To ensure adequate liaison with other user groups to reduce potential conflicts.	A10		Markets granted continuing use on the basis of a new Letter of Agreement and amended User Policy. Trial conducted and recommendations implemented. Level of compliance/ per market day. Monitoring procedures implemented. as above Monitoring and regulation of activities implemented.	high ongoing high ongoing ongoing ongoing ongoing

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TABLE 4 [cont'd]
ACTION PLAN

Performance Target (Management objectives)	Item	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Means of Assessment (of the actions)	Priority
community land management				
Desired Outcome: To establish an appropriate management framework and guidelines for assessing development, land uses, activities, leases, licences and other estate.				
Richmond Park Lions Market [cont'd]: To establish guidelines to address current social and environmental impacts. To reduce negative impacts on heritage trees and quality of park setting. To protect visual integrity of the park. To ensure adequate liaison with other user groups to reduce potential conflicts.	A10 [cont'd]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> establish lot size/ spaces for stall holder's marquees based on m2 area; establish stall holder sites adjacent to new pathways (see item B7) to reduce wear on grass surfaces and compaction of tree roots; ensure that trees do not have stays/ fixtures attached to trunks or branches and monitor trees for physical damage; liaise with other user groups to ensure that market days are not held on the same day as cricket matches or scheduled maintenance of the oval and turf wicket; investigate option for portion of stall holder fees/ contribution towards care and management of park's heritage trees. 	Markets granted continuing use on the basis of a new Letter of Agreement and amended User Policy. Level of compliance/ per market day. Monitoring procedures implemented.	high ongoing
	A11	<p>Easements: To permit the granting of easements which are consistent with the Local Government Act 1993.</p> <p>This Plan of Management expressly authorises the granting of easements over the community land for the purpose of providing pipes, conduit or other connections under the surface of the ground. This is limited to easements that connect land adjoining community land to an existing water, sewer, drainage or electrical facility of council or other public utility provider that is situated on community land. The granting of easements on community land must be consistent with community land categories, core objectives and development guidelines in this Plan of Management.</p>	Monitor number of complaints raised by user groups. Investigation undertaken and recommendations implemented. Easements granted in accordance with relevant legislation and this Plan of Management.	ongoing medium ongoing
cultural heritage, recreation & social values				
Desired Outcome: To conserve, manage and enhance the park's cultural heritage and mix of sporting and passive recreational opportunities.				
Core Objectives: Management of community land categorised as park (36G), sportsground (38F) and general community use (36I).				
<p>The CMP establishes a set of policy targets: "To maintain Richmond Park as a community park, freely accessible to, and for the continuing enjoyment of, the general public consistent with its high cultural value as the Macquarie-planned public reserve for the township of Richmond, public safety considerations and with reference to the following policies..."</p> <p>The CMP identifies the significance of conserving "the three separate, but inter-dependent elements: the outer Park, with trees and public seats; the inner Park with designed beds for shrubs and perhaps flowers also; and the central area necessary for organized sports." [CMP 2003]</p> <p>To protect central open space (cricket ground) and existing traditional uses and activities. To protect the park's heritage trees.</p>	B1	<p>Oval and pavilion: Continue to maintain character and traditional use of the oval (including turf wicket) and pavilion permitting cricket to be played all year round. Some training (subject to weather/ condition of pitch) to be permitted providing no rugby boots/ no goal kicking practice (no competition games of AFL, rugby or soccer). Special community events (eg. Carols by Candlelight) on the oval are permitted subject to Council's User Policy (see item A10).</p>	Traditional uses and activities maintained. Uses for special events maintained.	ongoing
	B2	Install additional gate (western side adjacent to pavilion) to allow easier access/ ground maintenance and staging of special events. Ensure adequate protection of turf wicket and oval surfaces during events.	Works implemented in accordance with this Plan of Management and subject to available funding.	high
	B3	Continue to maintain the pavilion, facilities and amenities in accordance with relevant building and safety standards. Review opportunities to enhance pavilion's social and recreational uses and ownership (see item A8).	Facilities maintained in accordance with regular monitoring procedures, service, building and safety standards.	high ongoing
	B4	<p>Protection and management of significant trees: - prior to undertaking capital works program, engage a qualified consultant arborist experienced in heritage tree management to review status, health and public safety of all trees in the park and to make recommendations in relation to potential impact of proposed capital works;</p>	Review of capital works proposal (incl. path layouts) and implementation/ modifications in accordance with arborist's recommendations.	high

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TABLE 4 [cont'd]
ACTION PLAN

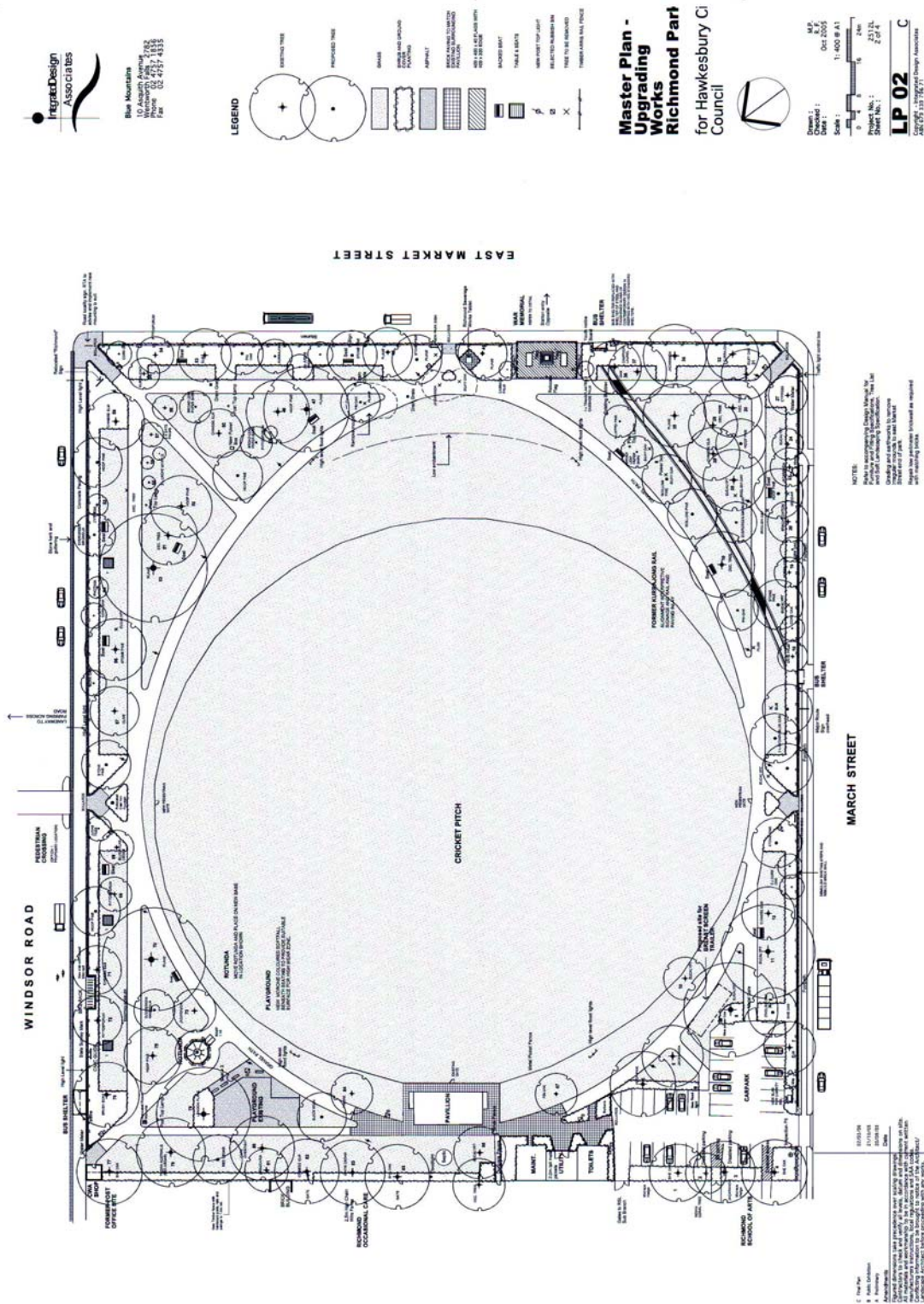
Performance Target (Management objectives)	Item	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Means of Assessment (of the actions)	Priority
cultural heritage, recreation and social values				
Desired Outcome: To conserve, manage and enhance the park's cultural heritage and mix of sporting and passive recreational opportunities. Core Objectives: Management of community land categorised as park (36G), sportsground (36F) and general community use (36I).				
To protect, manage and consolidate significant tree plantation in outer perimeter and conserve landscape character of the park.	B4 [cont'd]	Protection and management of significant trees [continued]: - establish a monitoring program and tree management plan (incl. staged/ phased replacement tree planting program to address ageing and senescent trees).	Tree management/ arboricultural plan implemented in accordance with arborist's recommendations.	ongoing
To ensure the integrity of original park design, tree species and layouts are not compromised by unsympathetic introductions. To promote an integrated tree replacement plan based on historic palette and suitability in the local area.	B5	Replacement tree planting: - replacement tree planting must reflect and support the planting palette established during the late 19th/ early 20th century and be consistent with the original design intent, including planting layouts of specific components; - no new introductions are to be used in the replacement program (refer to sec 4.5.2 for discussion of issues, target tree species and amendments); - maintain ongoing documentation of park layout and planting schedules.	Replacement planting program in accordance with CMP policy guidelines and this Plan of Management.	high ongoing
To conserve park integrity/ landscape character. To reinstate known elements from late 19th/ early 20th century (ie. paths, tree planting, garden beds, gateways, oval & low balustrade(s) around WWI memorial). To ensure that new replacement structures, [including interpretive signage] "are of an appropriately high standard sympathetic to the context and subservient to the cultural significance of the place." [CMP 2003] To ensure a high level of public safety. To ensure adequate provision of park lighting. To provide adequate seating within the park. To provide disabled access to park facilities.	B6	The Master Plan (2005) identifies the following capital works items (for amended items see B4-B5 & B7-B9 and discussion in 4.0 Basis for Management: 4.5.2 Master Plan Review): - upgrade War Memorial (incl. decomposed compacted aggregate and balustrades); - relocate rounda to location (shown on plan); - relocate breast screen trailer site to south-western corner; - upgrade children's playground/ soft fall area; - remove intrusive elements which detract from cultural significance of the park; - rationalize park furniture using simple contemporary design elements; - upgrade park lighting [new post top lights]; - avoid use of 19th/ early 20th century reproductions; - remove existing interpretive pathway replace with paved rail alignment as detailed; - remove low brick boundary wall around park and provide ramped access points - provide conservation works for cast-iron fountain and relocate as shown; - replace bus shelter in East Market Street; - retain and protect CWA kiosk; - replace civic guide notice board; - maintain park records in local studies section of library.	Works implemented in accordance with this Plan of Management and subject to available funding.	high
To protect the park's heritage trees. To re-establish traditional entry points and enhance pedestrian circulation through the park.	B7	Proposed gravel pathways: Install compacted decomposed granite pathways as shown subject to review of the potential impact on the park's significant trees (see item B4).	Review of capital works proposal (incl. path layouts) and implementation/ modifications in accordance with arborist's recommendations.	high

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TABLE 4 [cont'd]
ACTION PLAN

Performance Target (Management objectives)	Item	Means of Achievement (Management Actions)	Means of Assessment (of the actions)	Priority
<p>Desired Outcome: To conserve, manage and enhance the park's cultural heritage and mix of sporting and passive recreational opportunities. Core Objectives: Management of community land categorised as park (36G), sportsground (36F) and general community use (36I).</p>				
<p>cultural heritage, recreation and social values</p> <p>To re-establish perimeter path around the oval. To protect open visual quality and public access.</p> <p>To retain and protect open lawn areas and park vistas beneath the canopy of mature trees. To conserve integrity of park's cultural heritage. To address public safety and passive surveillance issues. To provide a high standard of presentation.</p> <p>To maintain and enhance existing passive recreational open space and facilities. To address public safety issues and to replace ageing, non-functional or damaged infrastructure. To provide a consistently high standard of maintenance throughout the park. To address equity and access issues and provide opportunities for all user groups.</p>	B8	<p>Proposed outer boundary fencing to park:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - delete item (ie. perimeter arts-rail fence) from capital works program. <p>Refer to discussion in 4.0 Basis for Management: 4.5.2 Master Plan Review.</p>	Item deleted from capital works program.	high
	B9	<p>Proposed garden beds/ plant selection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - significantly reduce/ modify extent of proposed garden beds (ie. enclosing perimeter) to pathway entry points, including triangular-shaped 'island beds' at entry points (ie. detailed planting at focal entry points only); - develop an appropriate heritage planting palette in accordance with historic records and consultation with park maintenance staff; - avoid use of modern cultivars and variegated plants; - restrict size and scale of plants to low shrubs (<700mm height), groundcovers and accents only; - maintain garden beds, edges and lawn areas to a high standard; surveillance and public safety. 	Item modified as scheduled and implemented in accordance with this Plan of Management.	high
	B10	<p>General maintenance and upgrades:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - remove/ rationalize ageing recreational infrastructure, particularly items in disrepair and requiring costly refurbishment/ maintenance; - design and maintenance needs to address disability access, including ramped wheelchair access to park facilities, amenities, seating and picnic tables; - continue regular maintenance inspections, monitoring and prompt repair of children's playground, play equipment and synthetic safety fall areas. 	<p>Maintenance in accordance with service standards.</p> <p>Disability access issues addressed.</p> <p>Maintenance in accordance with relevant standards.</p>	<p>ongoing</p> <p>ongoing</p> <p>ongoing</p>

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