



Hawkesbury City Council

attachment 2 to item 207

windsor foreshore parks, windsor
draft plan of management

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

Windsor Foreshore Parks Incorporating the Great River Walk



Draft Plan of Management

June 2009

prepared by



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Windsor Great River Walk
was prepared by



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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 LOCATION AND CONTEXT

A plan of management provides the framework for a Council or other management authority managing public land.

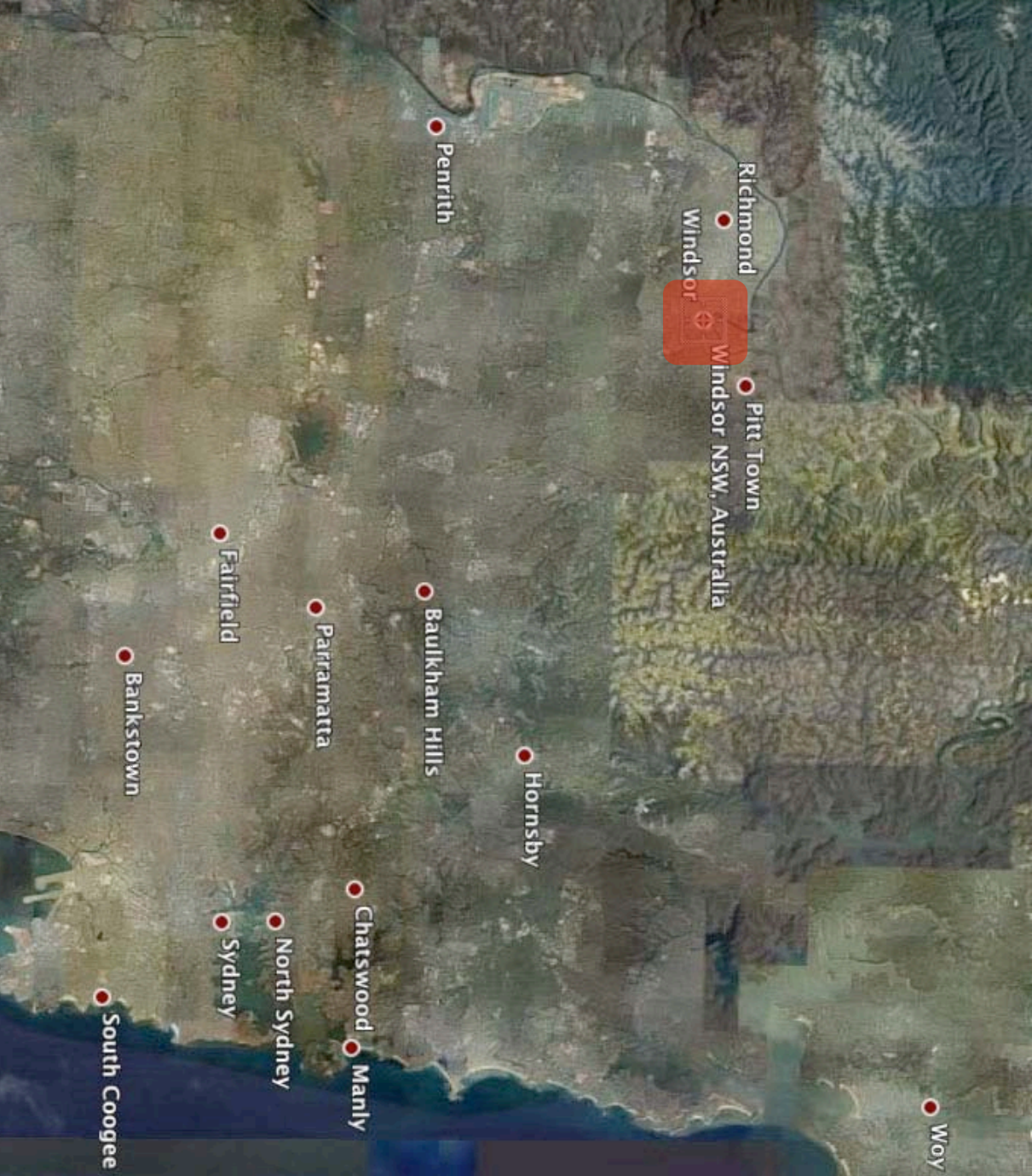
This plan of management applies to a series of foreshore open spaces: Governor Phillip Reserve, Deerubbin Park, Macquarie Park, Howe Park, Holland's Paddock, Thompson Square and Windsor Wharf Reserve located in Windsor within the Hawkesbury City LGA. The parks and reserves covered in this Plan of Management are currently classified as community and operational land under the Local Government Act 1993 or are Crown Lands under the care, control and management of Council for the purpose of public recreation and wharfage. Three small parcels of land are also currently owned by Sydney Water Corporation within Howe Park.

The lands covered by this plan form part of the route of the Great River Walk. The Great River Walk project is an ambitious and visionary undertaking to expand the network of regional recreational trails serving the Sydney basin.

Ultimately the walk will extend for 570 kilometres along the length of the Hawkesbury Nepean River, from the estuary at Broken Bay to its source in the Southern Highlands and beyond to Canberra. The incorporation and enhancement of foreshore open spaces within Windsor to provide a linked river trail is the main focus of this Plan of Management. The process of linking public open spaces will provide further opportunities for the enhancement of recreation in Windsor both in terms of the overall open space system and of specific parks.

General Description

Governor Arthur Phillip opened the Hawkesbury Valley to European settlement in July 1789. Fertile farmland was required for the fledgling Sydney settlement and the area offered fertile alluvial soils for agricultural production. In 1794, Lieutenant Governor Francis Grose made land grants of 30 acres to 22 settlers. In 1810 Governor Lachlan Macquarie established the town of Windsor. The town grew into a major river port providing agricultural produce to Sydney.



Legend: N/A

The Windsor township is located on the Hawkesbury River 55km from Sydney and 20km North-East of Penrith. Derrubbin Park, Howe Park, Windsor Wharf Reserve and Governor Phillip Reserve are all located along the south bank of the Hawkesbury River with Macquarie Park on the northern bank. Thompson Square and Holland's Paddock are both separated from the river by The Terrace.

Each of the open spaces has individual character and value to the community and there are a variety of recreational amenities across the areas (*refer to figure 1.1 for park/reserve locations*).

Governor Phillip Reserve comprises a linear park with broad grassed banks, club house, boat launching ramp, car parking, playground, picnic & BBQ areas and fenced in paddocks that serve as car parking during major events.

The Windsor Wharf Reserve contains a wharf and small ramp as well as an adjoining park and car parking facilities. The wharf is used regularly by *The Hawkesbury Paddlewheeler Co.* At the time of writing Council was in the concept design stage for a replacement Wharf facility at the reserve.

Howe Park is a linear park beginning at Bridge Street to the East and adjoining Derrubbin Park in the West. The park has seating and picnic areas and is the most intensely landscaped section of the study area.

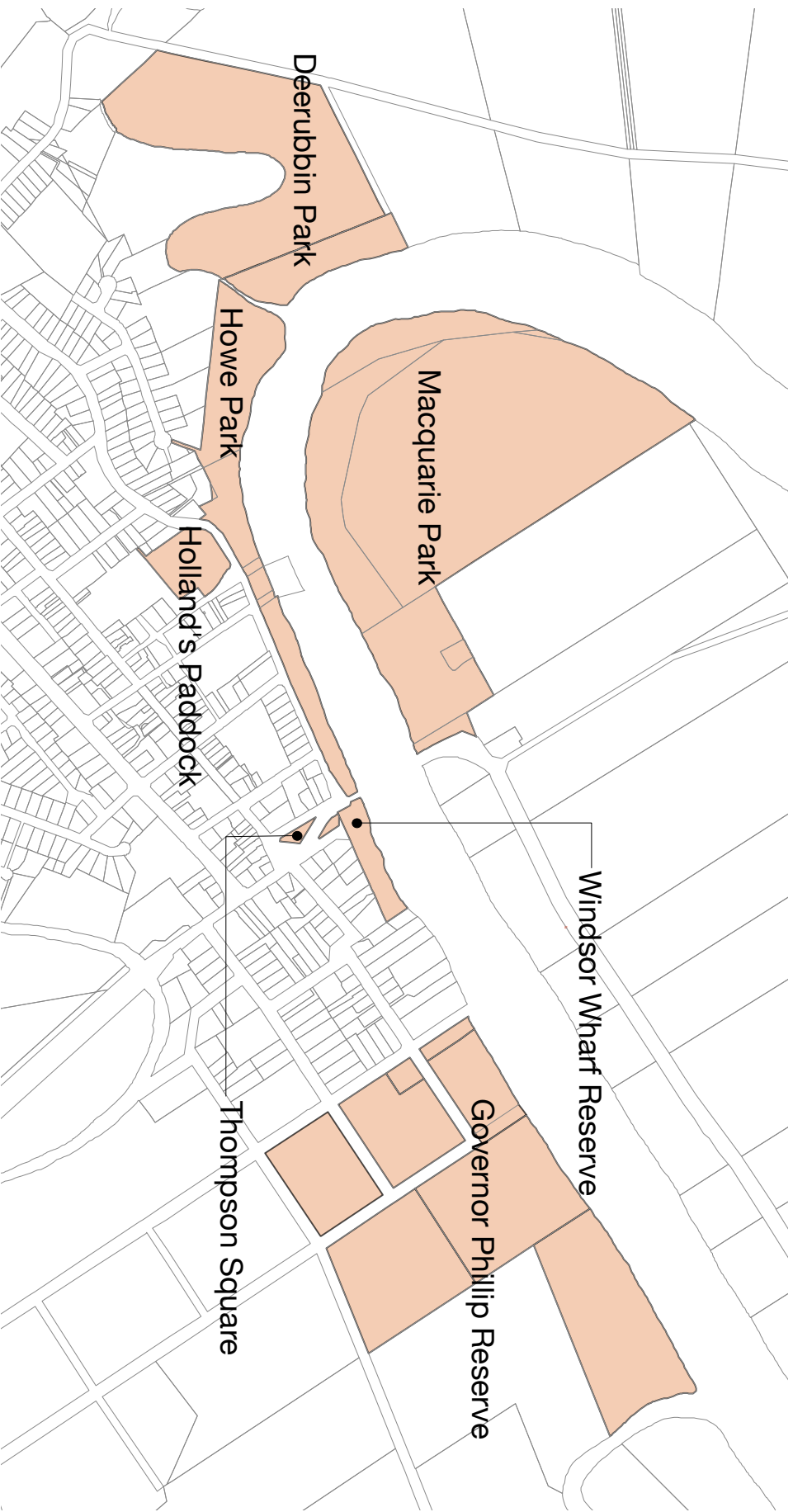
Derrubbin Park continues north along the Hawkesbury from Howe Park and stretches back to Cornwallis Road. It comprises of a number of sports fields, open grassed areas. A club house/changerooms were in construction at the time of writing.

Macquarie Park is located on the northern bank of the Hawkesbury River. The park has two distinctive areas; the first is a formalised picnic ground with grassed areas and a privately leased restaurant and kiosk. Within this area there are picnic tables, children's playground, picnic shelter with BBQ and public toilets. The second area has a more natural bushland character. A sandy beach stretches around much of the bank which was well used as a swimming beach before the deterioration of water quality around 15 years ago. Access through interior bushland is lacking. Apart from these two areas, there is also a large mown area of grass to the north of the site, which is used for informal sports and for periodic events. Macquarie Park was subject to a separate Draft Plan of Management, which will be superseded upon adoption of this plan of management.

Thompson Square is a well used town centre 'green square'. The park is bordered by historically significant buildings and is used by the Macquarie Arms Hotel for live music. The park was bisected by the construction of the existing

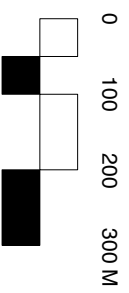
Bridge Street. This square is part of the Thompson Square precinct and is listed as a State & National item of cultural significance

Holland's Paddock is an open green park with grass and large established trees. A girl guides hall is located within the park. The site is a topographic low point in the town and is subject to flooding. There is an existing Plan of Management for Hollands Paddock that will be superceded upon the adoption of this plan of management.



Windsor Great River Walk
Environmental Partnership

Legend: N/A



Study Area
Figure: 1.1

1.2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

This plan of management provides the framework for managing community land and crown land in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, the *Crown Lands Act 1989* and other relevant legislation and policies. This plan of management has been prepared for Hawkesbury City Council under the direction of Council's Parks & Recreation section. It aims to be performance oriented in order to contribute towards Council achieving its strategic goals, vision and strategic outcomes as identified in the *Hawkesbury City Council Management Plan 2006-2007*.

The following objectives have been identified to guide decision making and provide performance targets for strategies in this document.

Environmental

- An integrated long-term vegetation management plan for Windsor foreshore open spaces is provided
- Bio-diversity values of foreshores are improved
- River embankments are stable environments achieved through natural (soft) management where possible
- Vegetation management provides overall improvements to environmental values through the Windsor foreshore open spaces

Heritage

- Existing heritage value within foreshore open spaces are preserved
- Park/reserve users are provided with an opportunity to learn about the heritage of the area, particularly the relationship of people to the river
- Future development of foreshore open spaces takes advantage of and responds to the heritage aspects of Windsor

Access & recreation

- Planning & management strategies promote both cohesion and diversity through Windsor Foreshore Parks
- Safe connection of foreshore open spaces for pedestrians/cyclists
- Universal accessibility applied to open space system where possible
- A local foreshore trails are incorporated into Broader Great River Walk Trail
- Lease/license arrangements add to community benefits and the value of open spaces
- Adequate review provisions enable lease/license arrangements to respond to council needs & issues

Social & cultural

- Special uses & various events take place in foreshore open space reflecting the values and character of the town and its community
- Uses of open space associates the health and value of those parks and reserves to the ongoing interests of the community
- Engaging community interest in the heritage of Windsor

This plan of management aims to support the principle that all elements of the environment must stand in balance, contribute to an ecologically sustainable city and region and add to the quality of life within the Hawkesbury City LGA. This plan of management for Windsor Foreshore Parks supersedes earlier generic plans of management that included the parks and reserves within this POM study

area and the Holland's Paddock (20/06/06) and Macquarie Park (21/12/04) Plans of Management.

1.3 PLAN OF MANAGEMENT FORMAT

The following summary describes the structure of the plan of management and the intent of the content within each section.

Section 2.0 Land Description and Planning

- Identify land ownership, zoning as in accordance with HCC *Local Environment Plan 1989*, land classification (where applicable to council lands in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*) and lease/licence status;
- Identify principles of Crown Land management in accordance with the *Crown Lands Act 1989*;
- Identify the mechanism used to control management of community land
- Establish current land categorisation for POM study area in accordance with the Act and define principles for the management of these lands
- Establish status of leases and licences relating to parks and reserves within this POM
- Identify relevant principle in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* and the *Crown Lands Act 1989* and make recommendations for review of current leases/licences and existing lands/facilities that are not currently covered by lease/licence agreements
- Identify any other relevant legislation/policy that may influence the management of parks and reserve within this POM
- Identify existing facilities, uses and circulation within the POM study area as applicable to individual parks, reserves and the broader corridor area
- Establish an overview of heritage relating to POM study area
- Establish an overview of environmental factors relating to POM study area

Section 3.0 Community Consultation

- Identify and assess community and stakeholder issues affecting the Windsor Foreshore Parks; and
- Determine community goals, values, needs and expectations for the future use and management of the parks & reserves.

Section 4.0 Basis for Management

- Identify and assess key values associated with the walk ;
- Identify the issues relating to these values and determine objectives for the future management of GRW that respond to the key values
- Respond to core objectives as identified by land categorization
- Summarise key values and objectives into a vision for the enactment of the GRW

Section 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 licence or otherwise;
- Develop appropriate performance targets, the means of achieving these targets and the means of assessing Council's performance with respect to the plan's objectives;
- Assign directions and priorities;

Section 6.0 Masterplan

- Develop a master plan for the implementation of the strategic plan

1.4 LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS STUDY

Abbreviations used in this plan are summarised following:

POM	Plan of Management
HCC	Hawkesbury City Council
LGA	Local Government Area
GRW	Great River Walk
NVC	Native Vegetation Conservation
LEPs	Local Environment Plans
NWA	Noxious Weed Act
HRCC	Hawkesbury River County Council

2.0 LAND DESCRIPTION AND PLANNING

2.1 LAND TENURE AND DESCRIPTION

The parks & reserves within the Great River Walk study area are classified as community and operational under the *Local Government Act 1993* and as Crown land under the care, control and management of Council for the purpose of public recreation and wharfage. Three small parcels of land are currently owned by Sydney Water Corporation.

TABLE 2.1: LAND DESCRIPTION

Park Name	Land Tenure	Owner	Zoning	Classification	Leases/ Licences
Governer Phillip Reserve	Lot x DP 161237 Lot 1 DP 998507 Lot B DP 38709 Lot 110 DP 630860 Lot C DP 38709 Lot 1 DP 654523 Lot Y DP 161764 Lot A DP 38709	HCC HCC HCC HCC HCC HCC HCC HCC	6(a) Open Space (existing recreation) 6(a) Open Space (existing recreation) 6(a) Open Space (existing recreation) 6(a) Open Space (existing recreation) 6(a) Open Space (existing recreation) 6(a) Open Space (existing recreation) 6(a) Open Space (existing recreation) 6(a) Open Space (existing recreation)	Community Community Community Community Community Operational Community Operational	No – lease for power boat club lapsed
Deerubbin Park	Lot 45 DP 244472	HCC	6(a) Open Space (existing recreation)	Community	No
Macquarie Park	Part Lot 1 DP 226141 Lot 1 DP 883806 Lot 2 DP 883806 Lot 7008 DP 1032358 Lot 1 DP 606535	HCC Crown Crown Crown HCC	agri. prot./ clause 11(2) subdivisions 6(a) Open Space (existing recreation) 6(a) Open Space (existing recreation) agri. prot./ clause 11(2) subdivisions 6(a) Open Space (existing recreation)	Community N/A N/A N/A Community	Yes
Howe Park	Lot 7011 DP 1030959 Lot 44 DP 244472 Lot 5 DP 575193 Lot A DP 161824 Lot 1 DP 986497 Lot 3 DP 986497 Lot 3 DP 593192	Crown HCC HCC Syd Water Syd Water Syd Water HCC	6(a) Open Space (existing recreation) 6(a) Open Space (existing recreation) 6(a) Open Space (existing recreation) 5(a) Special uses 5(a) Special uses 5(a) Special uses 6(a) Open Space (existing recreation)	N/A Community Community N/A N/A N/A Community	No
Holland's Paddock	Lot 50 DP 1073306	HCC	6(a) Open Space (existing recreation)	Community	Yes
Thompson Square	Lot 345 DP 752061 Lot 7007 DP 1029964	Crown Crown	6(a) Open Space (existing recreation) 6(a) Open Space (existing recreation)	N/A N/A	No
Windsor Wharf Reserve	Lot 7008 DP 1029964	Crown	6(a) Open Space (existing recreation)	N/A	No

2.2 CROWN LANDS MANAGEMENT

As Windsor Great River Walk incorporates seven Crown reserves, the Crown Lands Act 1989 applies to their management. Refer to Figure 2.0 for location of Crown Reserve parcels

The Crown Lands Act 1989 governs the planning, management and use of Crown Land, including reservation or dedication for a range of public purposes, leasing and licensing. The Department of Lands, together with Reserve Trusts appointed by the Minister, are responsible for the management of the crown reserve system throughout New South Wales to ensure that crown land is managed for the benefit of the people of New South Wales, and having regard for the principles of crown land management.

A Reserve Trust is a corporation established and appointed to manage a crown reserve. Trusts are nominated by the Minister for Lands (Section 92 of the Crown Lands Act 1989). Hawkesbury City Council manages the affairs of Reserve Trusts under sections 92-95 of the Crown Lands Act 1989.

A Trust Board has functions conferred on it under the Crown Lands Act 1989. The Trust has care, control and management of the reserve in its everyday operation. The Minister cannot direct the Trust as to how it manages the reserve, unless the Trust exceeds its powers. The Minister can only suggest or make representations to the Trust regarding management.

Use and Management of Crown Land

The use and management of Crown land is determined or influenced by:

- the objectives of the Crown Land Act (Section 10), particularly that Crown lands are managed for the benefit of the people of NSW
- the principles of Crown land management (Section 11 of the Act)
- the public purpose(s) of the land (Section 80 and 87). Crown land is reserved or dedicated for a public purpose(s), which means the reserve must provide public benefit. Uses, activities, developments and agreements in a Crown reserve are defined by the public purpose(s) of the reserve. All uses of Crown reserves must be acceptable according to their public purpose(s). An additional purpose may be proposed in a draft Plan of Management under Section 112 of the Act.
- Department of Lands' policies, such as the Food & Beverage Outlets on Crown Reserves Policy Position 2004.
- native title legislation.
- rental from leases or licences. 15% of the rental received from new leases and or licences of Crown land (rental over \$2000) is placed in the Public Reserve Management Fund. This fund is a State govt. initiative that raises funds to assist Reserve Trusts in NSW
- case law judgements, which influence the policy and practice of the Department of Lands and Trust managers.

- any conditions and provisions within the zoning in the Council's Planning Scheme Ordinance. However, the applicable Public Purposes defined by State government legislation overrides the local zoning
- an adopted Plan of Management, a contractual agreement (lease or licence) ,or a combination of both to more specifically define the permitted uses.

Principles of Crown Land Management

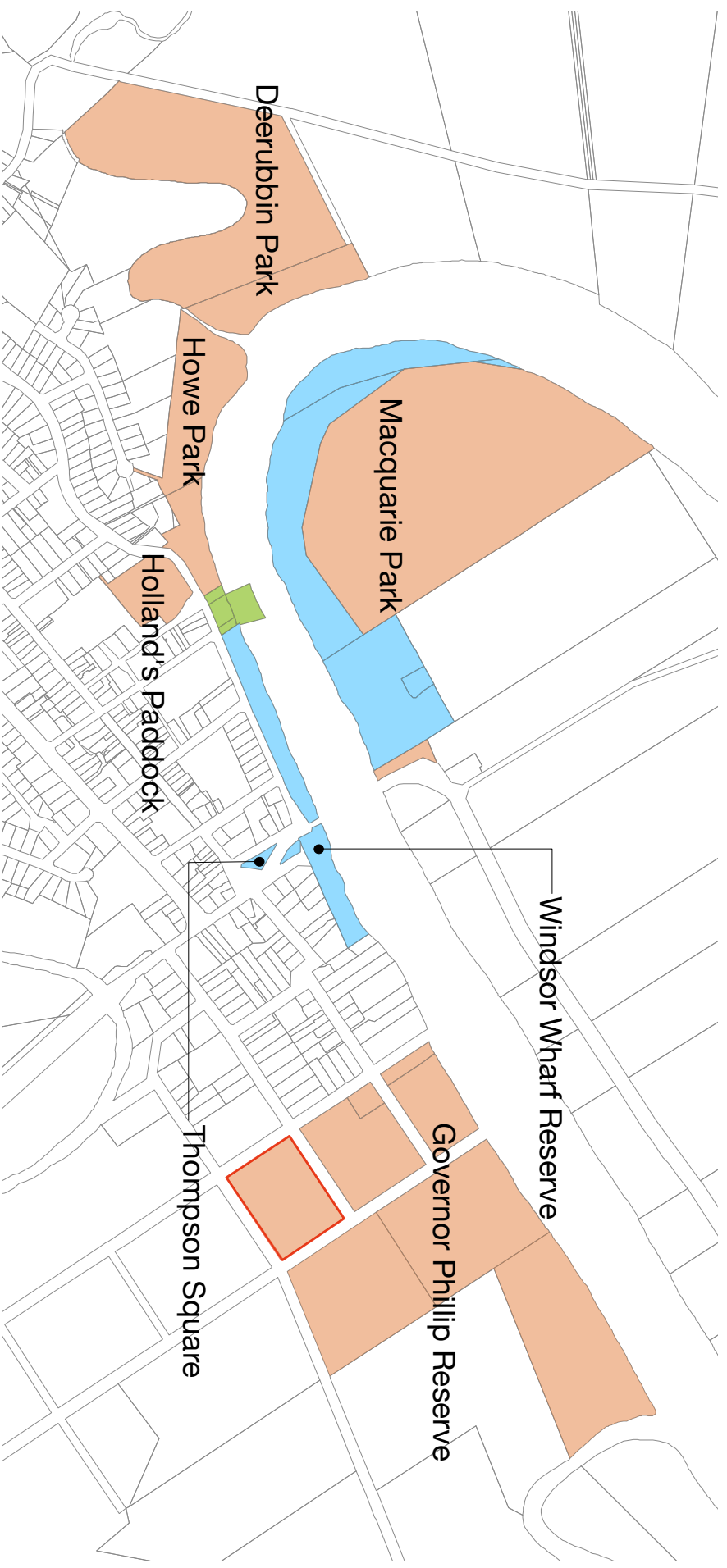
The principles of Crown Land management are listed in Section 11 of the Crown Lands Act 1989. These principles are outlined below.

- Observe environmental protection principles in relation to the management and administration of Crown Land;
- Conserve the natural resources of Crown Land (including water, soil, flora, fauna and scenic quality) wherever possible
- Encourage public use and enjoyment of appropriate Crown Land
- Encourage multiple use of Crown Land, where appropriate
- Use and manage Crown Land in such a way that both the land and its resources are sustained in perpetuity
- Occupy, use, sell, lease, licence, or otherwise deal with Crown Land in the best interests of the State, consistent with the above principles

2.3 COMMUNITY LAND MANAGEMENT

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.

Refer to figure 2.0 for land ownership;



Windsor Great River Walk
Environmental Partnership

Legend: N/A

- Community Land
- Operational Land
- Crown Land
- Sydney Water Land (special use)

0 100 200 300 M

Crown / Community Land

Figure: 2.0

2.4 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. Council has elected to categorise the Crown land in this plan of management to provide a consistent approach for all land parcels

The community land categorisation for the Windsor Foreshore Parks, as identified in this plan of management, is in accordance with the guidelines of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* and supersedes categories identified in the *Draft Hawkesbury Generic Plans of Management 2003* and previous draft mapping of categories.

Refer to table 2.2 for categorisation of Parks & Reserves within the study area of this Plan of Management. Table 2.2 describes the distribution of categorisations across the reserves. Following table 2.2 are HCC Land Categorisation maps (figures 2.1a-2.1g)

TABLE 2.2: LAND CATEGORISATION	
Park Name	Land Categorisation
Deerubbin Park	-Park -Natural Area (watercourse) -Sports ground
Governor Phillip Reserve	-Natural Area (foreshore) -Park -General Community Use
Macquarie Park	-Natural Area (watercourse) -Park -General Community Use
Howe Park	-Natural Area (watercourse) -Park
Holland's Paddock	-General Community Use -Park
Thompson Square	-Park -Natural Area (watercourse)
Windsor Wharf Reserve	-Park -Natural Area (watercourse)

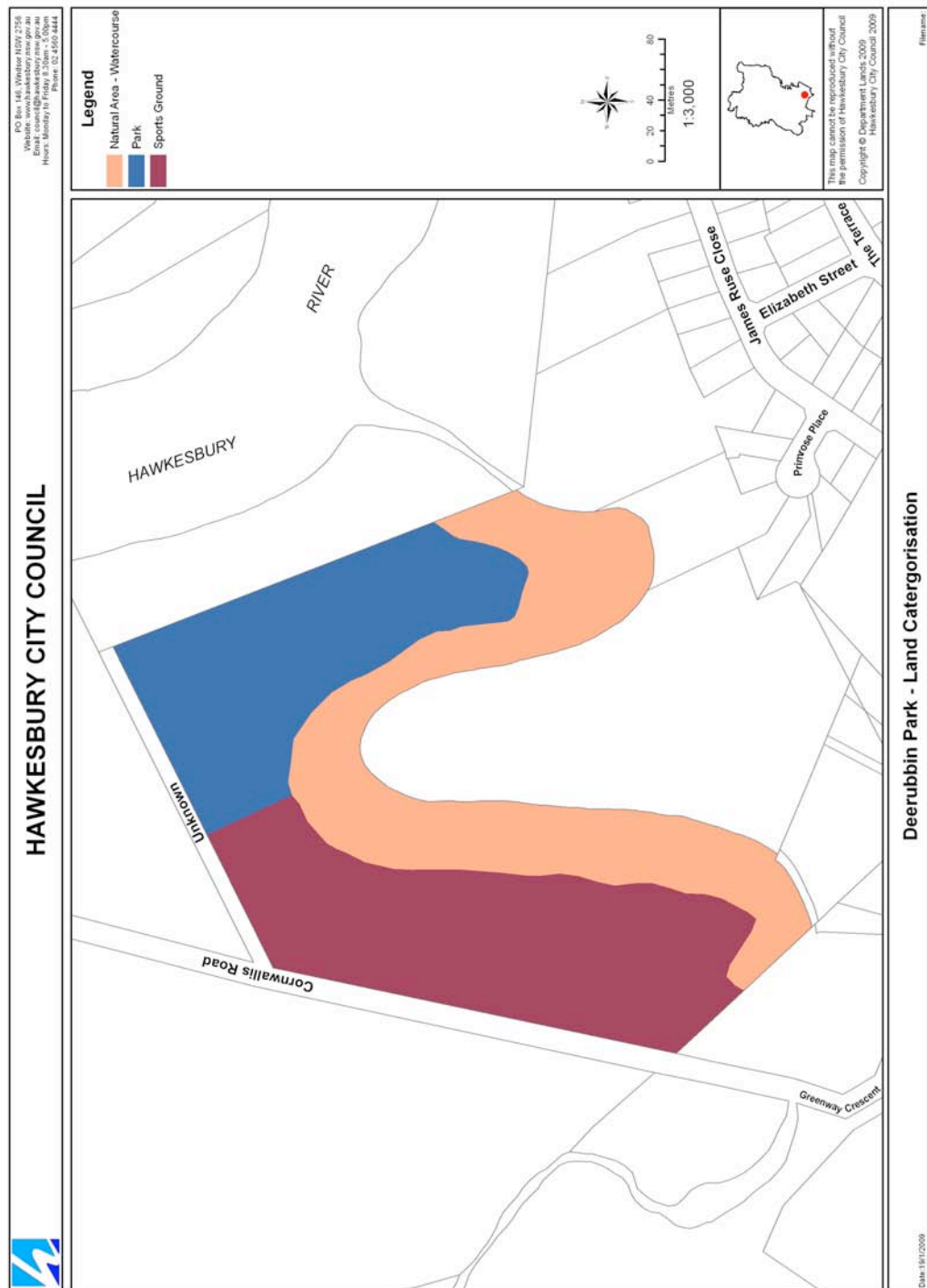


Figure 2.1a



Figure 2.1b



Figure 2.1c

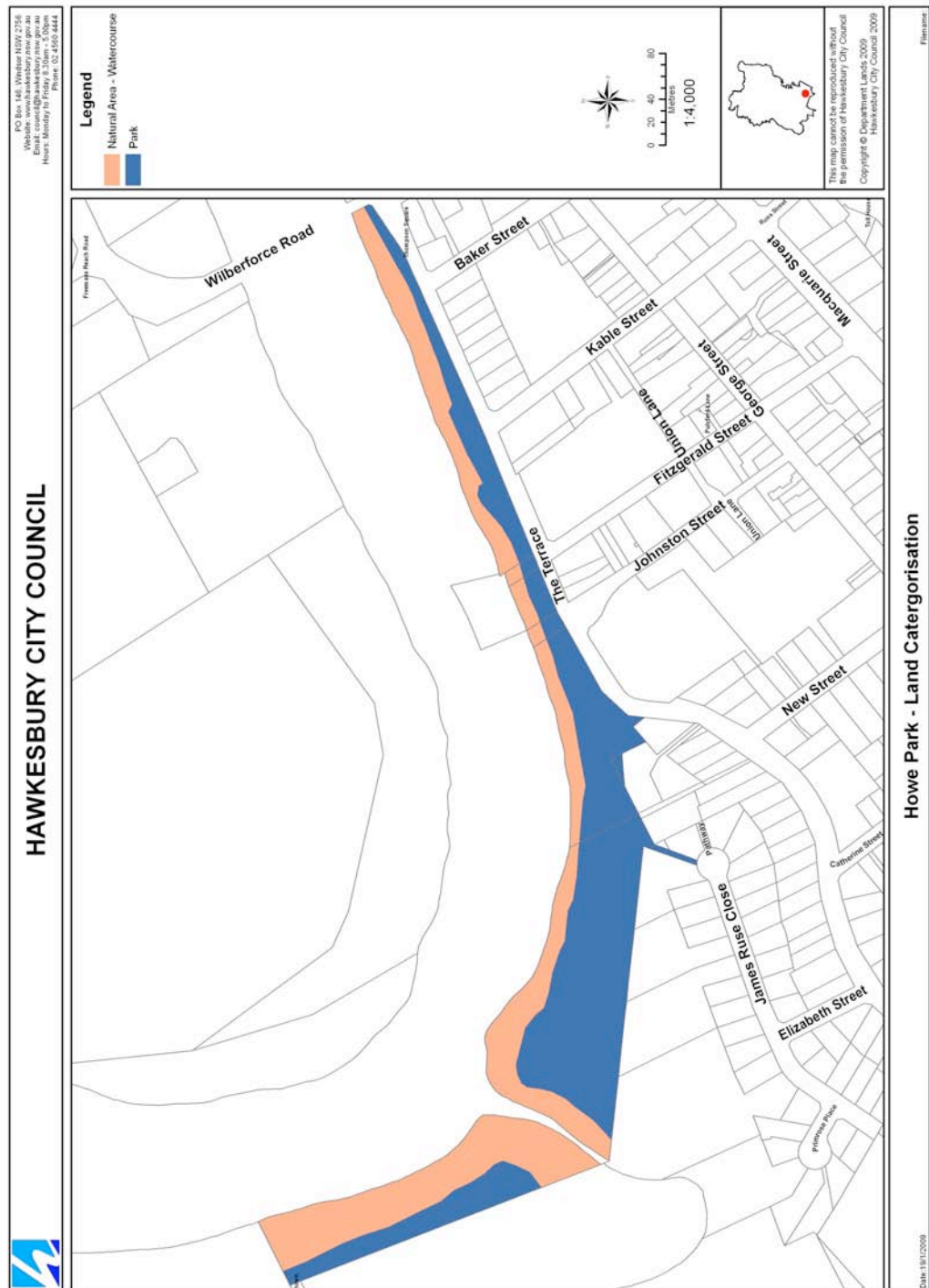


Figure 2.1d

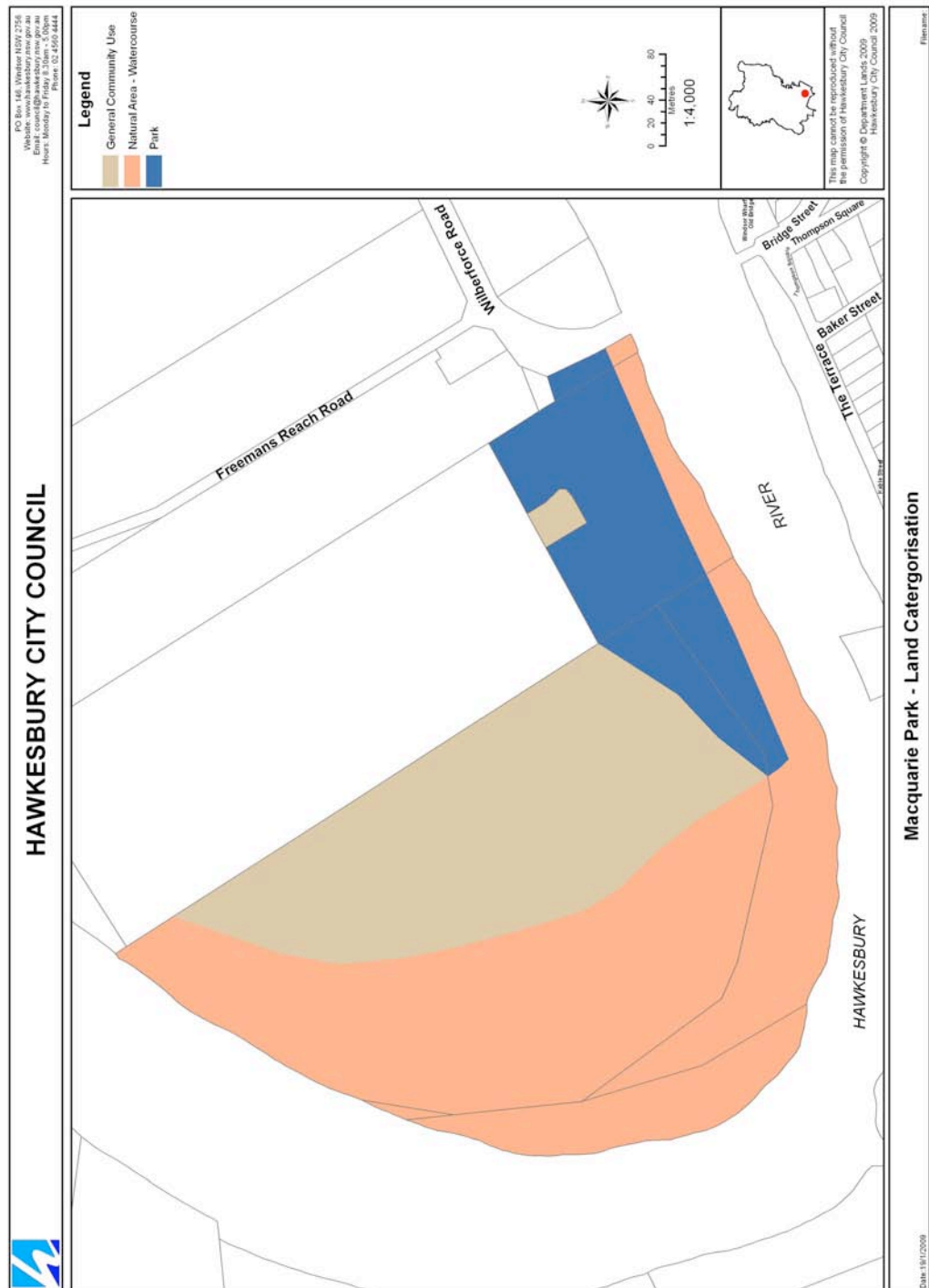


Figure 2.1e



Figure 2.1f

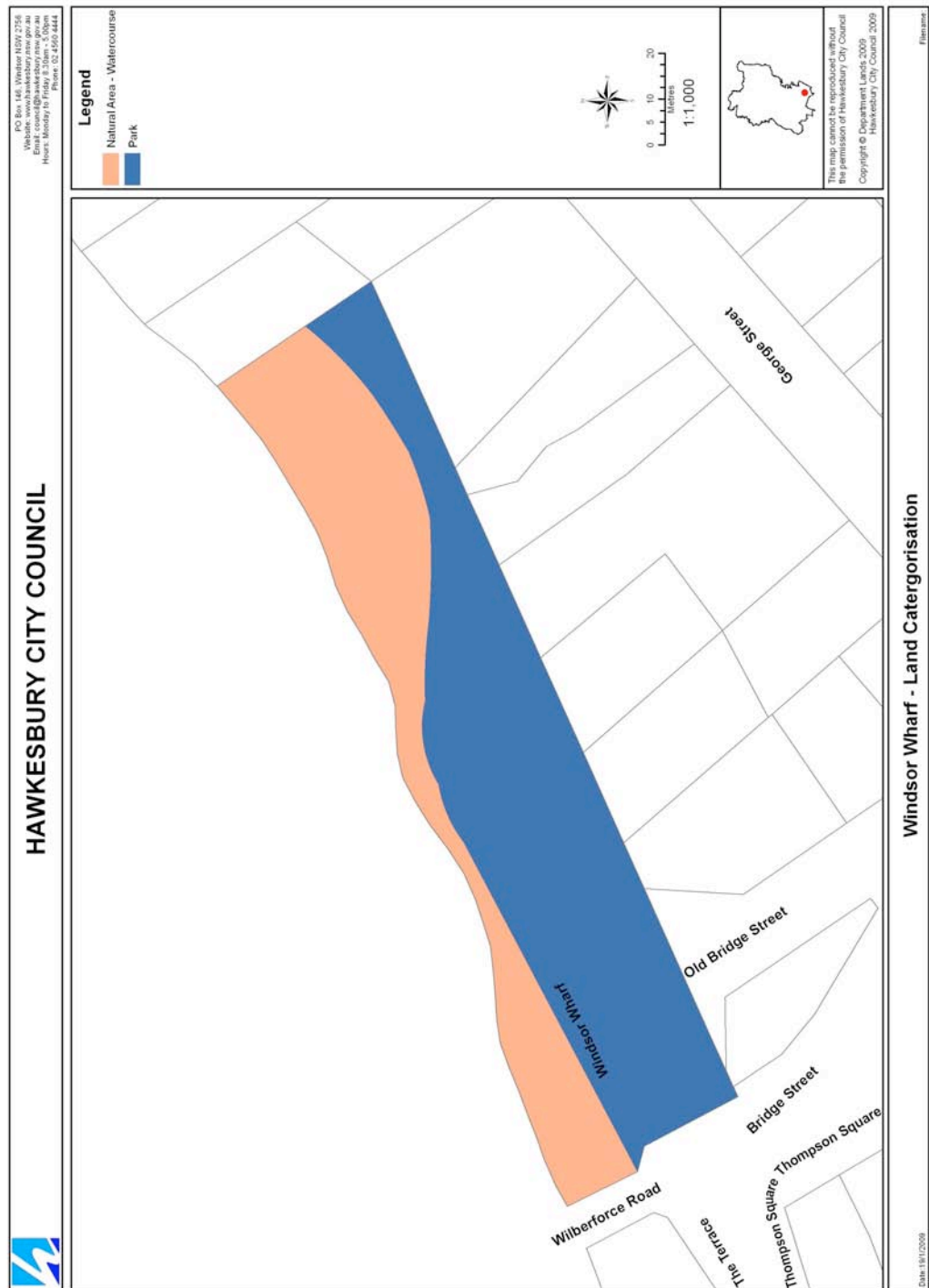


Figure 2.1g

The following extracts from Local Government Act regulations provide guidelines for categorisation for each category.

Natural Area - Bushland

Guidelines for categorisation:

The land contains native vegetation which is:

- (a) the natural vegetation (or a remainder of it) of the land; or
- (b) although not the natural vegetation of the land, is still representative structure of floristics of the natural vegetation in the locality

Such land includes:

- (a) bushland that is mostly undisturbed with a good mix of tree ages, and natural regeneration, where the understorey is comprised of native grasses and herbs or native shrubs, and which contains a range of native habitats for native fauna (such as logs, shrubs, tree hollows and leaf litter); or
- (b) moderately disturbed bushland with some regeneration of trees and shrubs, where there may be a regrowth area with trees of even ages, where native shrubs and grasses are present, where there is no natural regeneration of trees and shrubs, but where the land is still capable of being rehabilitated

Natural Area - watercourse

Guidelines for categorisation:

Land that is categorised as a natural area should be further categorised as a watercourse under s.36(5) of the Act if the land includes:

- (a) any stream of water, whether perennial or intermittent, flowing in a natural channel, or in a natural channel that has been artificially improved, or in an artificial channel that has changed the course of the stream of water, and any other stream of water into or from which the stream of water flows, and
- (b) associated riparian land or vegetation, including land that is protected land for the purposes of the Rivers and Foreshores Improvement Act 1948 or State protected land identified in an order under section 7 of the Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997.

Natural Area – foreshore

Guidelines for categorisation:

The land is situated on the water's edge and forms a transition zone between the aquatic and the terrestrial environment.

Sports Ground**Guidelines for Categorisation:**

The land is used or proposed to be used primarily for active recreation involving organised sports or the playing of outdoor games.

Park**Guidelines for Categorisation:**

The is used or 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 on the land by others

General Community Use**Guidelines for Categorisation:**

The land may be made available for use for any purpose for which community land is not required to be categorised as a natural area and does not satisfy the guidelines for categorisation as a natural area, sport ground, park or an area of cultural significance.

2.5 LEASES, LICENCES OR OTHER ESTATE

There are several leases and licence agreements relating to parks and reserves within this Plan of Management (refer table 2.3).

TABLE 2.3: CURRENT LEASES & LICENCES

Park/ Facility/L ot No.	Lease/ license	Lessor/ licensor	Lessee/ licensee	Term	Permitted uses	Lessor/Licensor responsibilities	Lessee/Licensee responsibilities
Macquarie Park 1 DP 883806 (Crown Land)	Lease	Macquarie Park (D500060) Reserve Trust	Frank Taranto	5 years 1 October 2005 to 30 September 2010	Kiosk/Restaurant	Structural repairs and/or major repairs	Pay for all consumables including but not limited to; •local council rates & charges; •water sewerage & drainage charges •electricity •garbage disposal •maintenance (not including structural) •pest control •fire protection •Grounds & lawn maintenance
Holland's Paddock, Portfolio Identifier 50/107336, 50 The Terrace (Community Land)	Lease	Hawkesbury City Council	Girl Guides Association (New South Wales)	5 years 1 May 2008 to 30 April 2013	Activities related to and incidental to Girl Guides and the achievements and objectives of the Girl Guides Association of Australia, including fundraising in support of the Girl Guides Association, community based activities and ancillary uses	Structural and/or major repairs.	100% of outgoings for the land or the building of which the property is part, fairly apportioned to the period of this lease; •water, sewerage & drainage charges; •land tax; •insurance; •air conditioning; •building intelligence; •electricity •fire protection •pest control •repairs and maintenance •security; •cleaning.

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.

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 organisation (refer to *Leases, licences and other estate in respect of community land – s.46, 46A, 47 and 47A Local Government Act 1993*).

Furthermore, in accordance with s.47B *Local Government Act 1993*, leases, licences or other estate must not be granted in respect of land categorised as a natural area:

- to authorise the erection or use of a building or structure that is not prescribed under sub-section 47B (a) (including re-building or replacement). The prescribed buildings or structures include walkways, pathways, bridges, causeways, observation platforms and signs.
- to authorise the erection or use of a building or structure that is not for a purpose prescribed under sub-section 47B (b). The prescribed purposes include information kiosks, refreshment kiosks (but not restaurants), work sheds or storage sheds required in connection with the maintenance of the land and toilets or rest rooms.

The *Crown Lands Act 1989* enables Crown reserve trusts, with Minister's consent, to enter into leases and licences with individuals with third parties to use all or part of a reserve on an ongoing basis. Issues that are to be considered regarding the granting of a lease or licence are:

- whether the proposed lease or licence is in the public interest
- whether the purpose of the proposed lease or licence is compatible with the reserve purpose
- the environmental impacts of the activities permitted by the lease or licence
- whether the proposed lease or licence was or is proposed to be selected by public competition or, if not, the circumstances relating to the selection of the proposed lessee or licensee
- whether the proposed rent represents a proper return to the public for use of the public land whether the proposed lease or licence will contain provisions for the periodic updating or review of the rent, and
- whether the proposed lease or licence contains clauses relating to:
 - the termination of the lease or licence in the event of a revocation of the reserve

- the indemnification of the reserve trust, the Crown and the NSW Government against claims for compensation
- appropriate insurance provisions

2.6 LEASES & LICENCES RECOMMENDATIONS

Section 2.5 *Leases, Licences or Other Estate*, outlines the provisions and considerations associated with the authorisation of leases/licences in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* & *The Crown Lands Act 1989* respectively. The following recommendations are consistent with the objectives expressed in the afore mentioned section under both acts.

The following recommendations are provided for specific spaces within the foreshore corridor.

Governor Phillip Reserve

Clubhouse Building Conditions

The first level of the clubhouse building in Governor Phillip Reserve was previously leased to the Upper Hawkesbury Power Boat Club Ltd. The lease terminated in 2002 and ongoing occupation by the club is executed through a monthly tenancy agreement under clause 16 of the original lease (*Rights on Expiry or Termination*). This plan recommends that the previous lease agreement for the first level of the clubhouse that terminated on 31st August 2002, be renewed with *The Upper Hawkesbury Power Boat Club Ltd*. In addition to the conditions provided in the previous lease, this plan recommends that;

- *The Upper Hawkesbury Power Boat Club Ltd (UHPBC)* is to integrate the potential for a publicly accessible toilet, provided at ground level, as part of any future works.

The conditions of this lease should be rolled into a broader lease that also covers the management of power boat events in Governor Phillip Reserve. This agreement should be granted for a maximum term of five years, to allow for adequate council review

Power Boat Events Conditions

This plan recommends that special conditions be established for the management of power boat events as part of the lease for the clubhouse. Use of Governor Phillip Reserve on event days include, but are not limited to, the following provisions:

- *The UHPBC* prepare an event access & parking management plan for approval by Council that will guide management of all future events, that includes the provision of event exclusion zones for public use during event times (Council to review/ refer figure 6.2a);
- No significant damage to the park occurs as a result of the proposed activity or if damage does occur that it is rectified within 7 days by *The UHPBC*;
- Disturbance to adjacent properties is avoided through the provision of crowd control measures;
- Proof of suitable public liability insurance is provided to Council;
- All litter is removed after events by *UHPBC*

- A parking and traffic management plan is developed for approval by Council after which it will provide the basis of event parking and crowd management
- There is no interference with other park users
- An agreed percentage of moneys received for entry to events is passed onto Council to be allocated to ongoing park improvements for Governor Phillip Reserve (to be confirmed)
- The number and type of events within a calendar year held at Governor Phillip Reserve are to be approved by Council at an agreed regular timing who hold the right to refuse or limit proposed events

Holland's Paddock

Hall

The current lessee for the hall at 50 The Terrace in Holland's Paddock is the *Girl Guides Association (New South Wales)*, the lease expires in 2013. This plan recommends the ongoing use of this hall by the Association; these uses are consistent with the core objectives of General Community Use

Observation Deck

The observation deck attached to the *Windsor Riverview Shopping Centre* is part of Holland's Paddock community land and is categorised as Park. This Plan of Management authorises the granting of a lease or licence that is consistent with the core objectives for land categorised as Park. The approval for leases or licences would allow existing uses associated with the food court to continue and would include, but not be limited to the following provisions:

- Ongoing maintenance is the responsibility of the lessee/licensee;
- The area is kept clean with regular maintenance to fixtures including lighting, pavement, tables and chairs and potted plants
- Public access is maintained during and outside food court operational hours
- The area is to remain free of private advertisements

Thompson Square

Cultural Events

There are currently no leases or licences for Thompson Square. The Macquarie Arms Hotel currently uses the park at times for live entertainment. During the community workshop (*refer table 3.1*) local residents expressed a desire for live music to continue and possibly become a more regular occurrence in the park as long as impacts could be properly managed. This Plan of Management authorises the granting of event licences for Thompson Square. The licences can be valid for 12 months after which new approvals will need to be obtained. Any approval for leases or licences must be consistent with the requirements for

Crown Lands under the *Crown Lands Act 1989* and must include, but are not limited to, the following provisions:

- Timing/duration of events is limited to timeframes advised by Council;
- No significant damage to the park is anticipated as a result of the proposed activity;
- Disturbance to adjacent properties is kept to a minimum through the provision of crowd control measures;
- Proof of suitable insurance is obtained by Council;
- All litter is removed after events;
- Noise from events is kept to a level determined by Council;
- No permanent fixtures related to events are erected without Council approval;
- Operating times for events must be approved by council;
- Security is provided by lessee/licensee when appropriate.

Macquarie Park

Macquarie Park House

Lot 1 DP 883806 of Macquarie Park is Crown Land categorised General Community Use. The current lease expires in 2010. This Plan of Management recommends that future lease agreements for Macquarie Park House be consistent with a long term vision for Macquarie Park as an events and active recreation park. Specifically, this Plan of Management authorises the development of the grassed area to the east of Lot 1 DP 883806 (*as identified on Figure 6.5, item 4*) as an overflow car parking facility.

Canoe Storage Facility

This Plan of Management authorises the granting of leases or licences for the purposes of storage for canoes/kayaks and other small non-motorised water craft and associated equipment

Deerubbin Park

Deerubbin Park is Community Land categorised Sports Ground, Park & Natural Area Watercourse (*refer to Deerubbin Park Land Categorisation Plan*)

Sports Grounds & Changerooms

There are no current leases or licences for Deerubbin Park. *The Hawkesbury Sports Council User Guide* covers the criteria for ground hire, it states; "...Grounds are allocated on a preferred previous user basis". Sports Council administration does not see the need for any lease or licence agreements to cover current sporting and other uses for Deerubbin Park (*refer 2.4 Landuse & Facilities*). This Plan of Management supports the Hawkesbury Sports Council's continuing management of ground hire and maintenance. Use of lands categorised as park may be leased or licence for purposes consistent with the

core objectives as specified by the *Local Government Act 1993*. These arrangements should be reviewed after 5 years.

2.7 OTHER RELEVANT LEGISLATION AND POLICIES

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

- ❑ Native Title Act (Commonwealth) 1993
- ❑ Rivers and Foreshores Improvement Act 1948
- ❑ Catchment Management Authorities Act 2003
- ❑ Native Vegetation Conservation Act 2003
- ❑ Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
- ❑ Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995
- ❑ Fisheries Management Act 1994
- ❑ National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974
- ❑ NSW Heritage Act 1977
- ❑ Noxious Weeds Act 1993
- ❑ Rural Fires Act 1997
- ❑ Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
- ❑ Disability Discrimination Act 1992
- ❑ SREP No. 20 Hawkesbury-Nepean River (No.2 – 1997)
- ❑ SEPP 19: Bushland in Urban Areas
- ❑ Hawkesbury Lower Nepean Catchment Blueprint 2003
- ❑ Hawkesbury Nepean Floodplain Management Strategy 1998
- ❑ NSW Flood Policy 1984
- ❑ NSW State Rivers and Estuaries Policy 1993
- ❑ NSW Wetlands Management Policy 1996
- ❑ NSW Floodplain Management Manual 2001

- ❑ Hawkesbury City Council Management Plan 2006-2007
- ❑ Hawkesbury Local Environmental Plan 1989
- ❑ Section 94 Contributions Plan Review 2001
- ❑ Hawkesbury City Council Charter
- ❑ Hawkesbury Cultural Plan 2006-2011

Native Title Act (Commonwealth) 1993

This plan of management acknowledges the significance of the Hawkesbury River area as a traditional resource area for the Darug Aboriginal people. The preparation of this plan of management has pursued an open, transparent approach to community consultation including an open invitation to all the Darug Aboriginal groups. The plan of management strategies encourage broader collaboration with traditional Aboriginal custodians in the future management of the reserves.

An appraisal of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage values was undertaken as part of this plan of management. Refer to section 2.8 for summary outcomes.

Rivers and Foreshores Improvements Act 1948

The parks and reserves covered by this Plan of Management are subject to the provisions of the *Rivers and Foreshores Improvements Act 1948*. This Act provides broad regulatory control over activities within the riparian corridor (ie. “protected lands” as defined in the Act) including the following:-

- (a) making an excavation on, in or under protected land;
- (b) removal of material from protected land; or
- (c) works which obstruct or detrimentally affect the flow of protected waters, or which are likely to do so.

Protected land is defined under the *Rivers and Foreshores Improvements Act 1948* as:-

- (a) land that is the bank, shore or bed of protected waters (ie. named and identified watercourses); or
- (b) land that is not more than 40 metres from the top of the bank or shore of protected waters (measured horizontally from the top of the bank or shore); or
- (c) material at any time deposited, naturally or otherwise and whether or not in layers, on or under land referred to in the above description.

Native Vegetation Conservation Act 2003

The new *Native Vegetation Conservation Act 2003* applies to State Protected Land within the Hawkesbury City LGA. Such land is defined as being “within 20 metres of the bank or within the bed of a prescribed stream or lake, land mapped as having a slope in excess of 18 degrees, land mapped as environmentally sensitive or land subject to siltation or erosion” (ie. the Hawkesbury River and its tributaries in this catchment).

The NVC Act applies to this reserve and it is important that the riparian corridor is managed in a way which provides consistency with the following objectives of the Act:-

- (a) to provide for the conservation and management of native vegetation on a regional basis;
- (b) to encourage and promote native vegetation management in the social, economic and environmental interests of the State;
- (c) to protect native vegetation of high conservation value;
- (d) to improve the condition of existing native vegetation;
- (e) to encourage the revegetation of land and the rehabilitation of land with appropriate native vegetation;
- (f) to prevent the inappropriate clearing of vegetation;
- (g) to promote the significance of native vegetation in accordance with the principles of ecological sustainable development.

SREP No. 20 Hawkesbury-Nepean River (No.2 – 1997)

The parks and reserves covered by this Plan of Management are subject to the provisions under *SREP No.20 Hawkesbury – Nepean River (No.2 – 1997)* which controls any development which has the potential to impact on the river environment (ie. water quality, environmentally sensitive areas and riverine scenic quality).

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

The *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 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 1979* controls development and the use of land on parks and reserves in the Hawkesbury City Council local government area.

Refer to table 1. for zoning of lands in this Plan of Management under *Hawkesbury City Council Local Environmental Plan (LEP 1989)*.

2.8 LANDUSE & FACILITIES

The community lands being the subject of this Plan of Management are zoned 6(a) for recreational use under the Hawkesbury City Council *Local Environment Plan (LEP) 1989*. The objectives under the HCC LEP for Zone 6(a) Open Space (Existing Recreation) are;

- (a) to identify existing publicly owned land that is used or is capable of being used for active or passive recreation purposes;
- (b) to encourage the development of public open spaces in a manner which maximises the satisfaction of the community's diverse recreation needs;
- (c) to enable development associated with, ancillary to or supportive of public recreation use; and
- (d) to encourage the development of open spaces as major urban landscape elements."

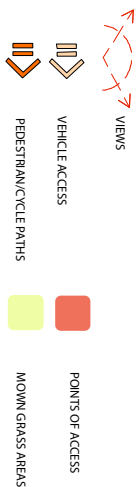
Lot 1 DP 161824, 986497 & Lot 3 DP 986497 are owned by Sydney Water and zoned in the LEP as 5(a) Special uses. Crown Land managed by council is held in trust or Deed of Trust and managed by council. Table 2.4 below summarises existing facilities. Figures 2.3 to 2.8 the general use and arrangement of the parks. Figure 2.9 identifies key issues in relation to the Great River Walk through the study area.

TABLE 2.4: LANDUSE & FACILITIES

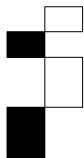
Park	Facilities	Maintenance Inputs	Uses
Derrubbin Park	Picnic shelter with tables Two rugby fields with lights Car park Toilets/change rooms (being constructed at time of writing)	Twice yearly aeration and fertilisation, once yearly weed spraying, mowing as determined by Hawkesbury Sports Council Inc..Top dressing as required	Rugby, walking, dog walking, dog training, rural fire service training and triathlon training
Governor Phillip Reserve	Picnic Shelters with BBQs Drinking fountain Picnic tables Bench seats Closed wheelie bins Clubhouse Boat launch facilities Children's playground Asphalt car parking Turf overflow car parking facilities Jetty	Regular mowing, no set maintenance/replacement programs currently in place	Walking, dog walking, events, boat launching, picnicking/BBQ, using playground;
Hollands Paddock	Guide Hall and adjoining car park Dining/observation deck Water tank	Water tank available for irrigation	Walking, dog walking, hall is used primarily by guides but occasionally by other groups, dining;
Howe Park	Bench seats Open steel bins Picnic tables Pergolas Viewing deck Drinking fountains	As above	Walking, dog walking, picnicking;
Macquarie Park	Picnic tables Drinking fountains Car parking Toilet block Children's playgrounds Open steel bins Picnic shelter with picnic tables BBQ, Restaurant/Kiosk Aboriginal garden	As Above	Walking, dog walking, using playground, Picnicking/BBQ, canoe launching, events, dining, fishing and swimming;
Thompson Square	Picnic tables Open steel bins Drinking fountain	As above	Picnicking, live entertainment/events
Windsor Wharf Reserve	Picnic tables Open steel bins Car parking Wharf and small boat launch	As above	Picnicking, boat launching, fishing, boat mooring



Legend:



0 20 40 60 M

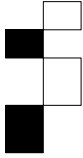




Legend:



0 30 55 80 M









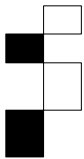
KEY

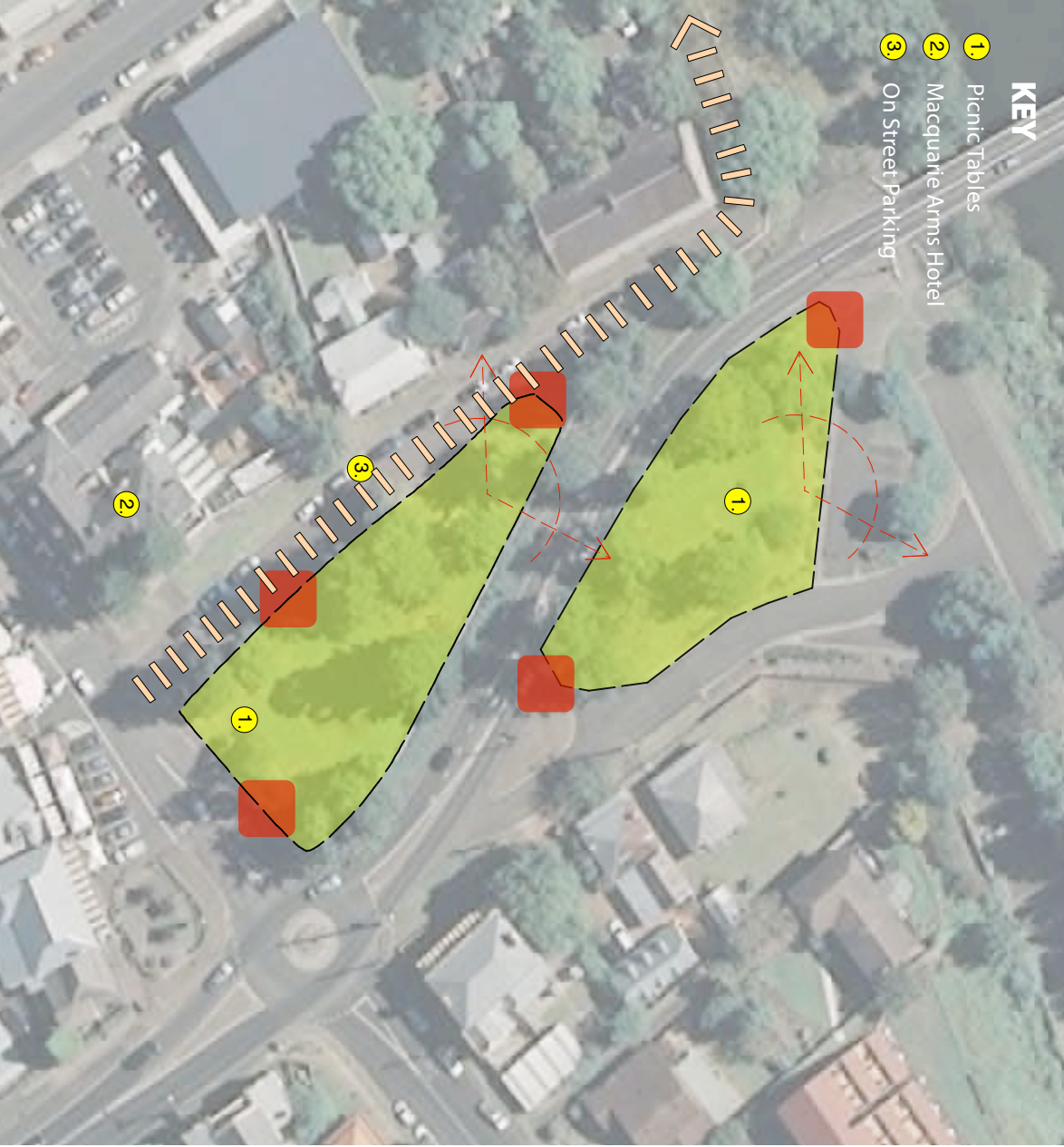
- 1. Carparking
- 2. Children's playground
- 3. Toilets
- 4. Picnic shelter with BBQ
- 5. Kiosk/Restaurant
- 6. Vehicle gates
- 7. Beach
- 8. Weed dominated grassland/Acacia regrowth
- 9. Canoe storage sheds
- 10. Aboriginal memorial/interpretive garden

Legend:

- Views (dashed red arrows)
- Vehicle Access (orange arrow)
- Pedestrian/Cycle Paths (orange arrow)
- Points of Access (red square)
- Mown Grass Areas (green square)

0 30 55 80 M







KEY POINTS

1.

South Creek crossing or alternative route would be required for broader GRW trail;
2.

Existing foreshore trail within Governor Phillip Reserve terminates abruptly at George Street boundary;
3.

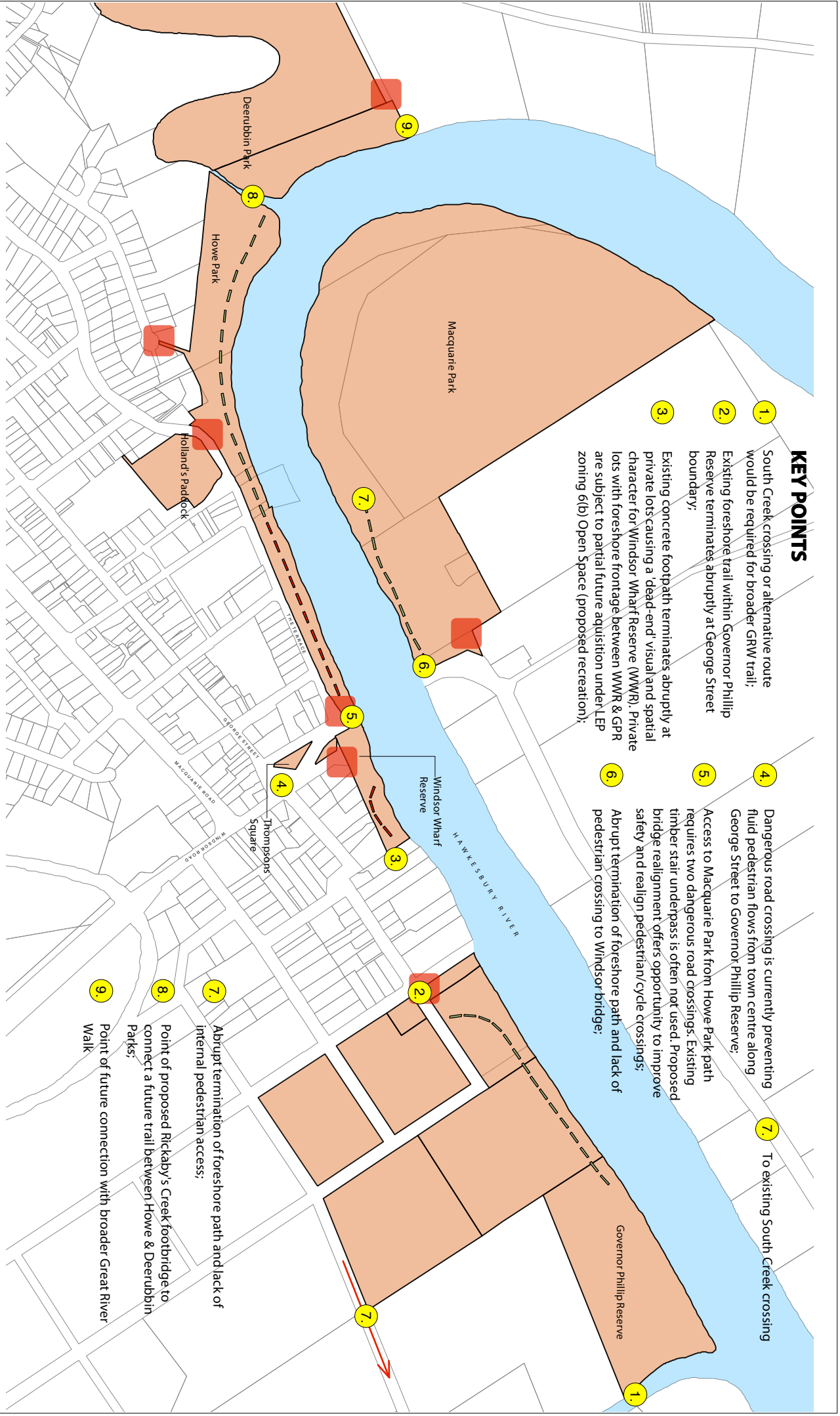
Existing concrete footpath terminates abruptly at private lots causing a 'dead-end' visual and spatial character for Windsor Wharf Reserve (WWR). Private lots with foreshore frontage between WWR & GPR are subject to partial future acquisition under LEP zoning 6(b) Open Space (proposed recreation);
4.

Dangerous road crossing is currently preventing fluid pedestrian flows from town centre along George Street to Governor Phillip Reserve;
5.

Access to Macquarie Park from Howe Park path requires two dangerous road crossings. Existing timber stair underpass is often not used. Proposed bridge realignment offers opportunity to improve safety and realign pedestrian/cycle crossings;
6.

Abrupt termination of foreshore path and lack of pedestrian crossing to Windsor bridge;
7.

To existing South Creek crossing



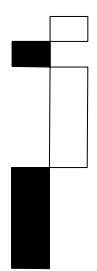
Legend:

- POINT OF ACCESS TO FORESHORE OPEN SPACE

PARKS & RESERVES WITHIN POW STUDY AREA
- EXISTING GRAVEL PATH

EXISTING PAVED PATH

0 50 150 250 M



Existing Facilities



Wharf at Windsor Wharf Reserve



Typical council bin (Macquarie Park)



Typical council BBQ (Macquarie Park)



Bench seating (Howe Park)



Boat launch (Governor Phillip Reserve)



Picnic shelter with seating and BBQ
(Governor Phillip Reserve)

2.9 HERITAGE

Aboriginal Heritage

This preliminary advice has been produced at your request by Mary Dallas Consulting Archaeologists (MDCA). It provides preliminary Aboriginal heritage advice to identify potential Aboriginal heritage issues (both constraints and opportunities) in relation to the preparation of an open space plan for the reserves indicated in Figure 1 along the Hawkesbury River at Windsor.

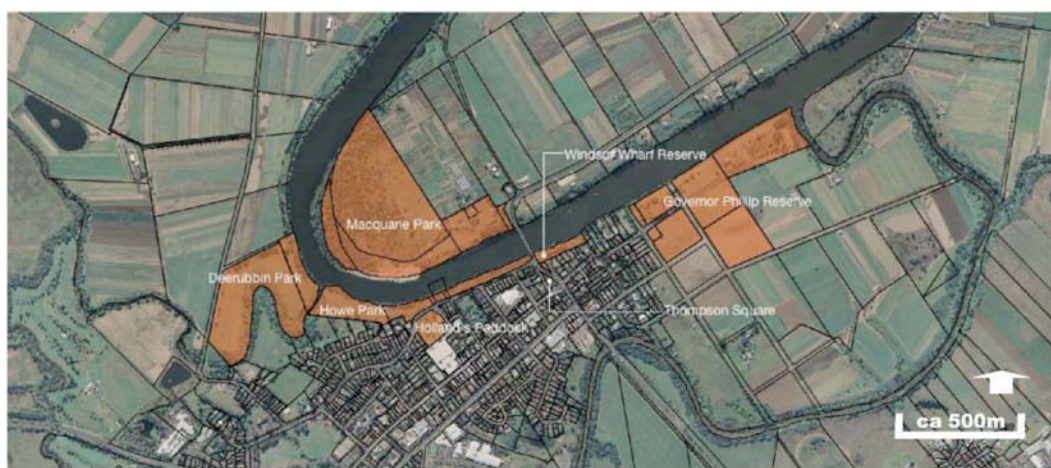


Figure 1. The reserve lands considered in the current advice (Source: Environmental Partnerships)

The preliminary advice below provides a brief summary of the relevant environmental, archaeological and Aboriginal historical context of the study area, considers the likelihood for Aboriginal archaeological remains and other Aboriginal heritage issues to affect future planning within the study area, and outlines the legislative and policy framework and procedures for managing Aboriginal heritage in this context.

Note: The current advice has not involved a site inspection or consultation with the local Aboriginal community.

1. Contextual Information

The study area comprises at least 50 hectares of park and reserve lands, largely along the immediate banks of the Hawkesbury River at Windsor. These lands include Deerubbin Park, Howe Park, Hollands Paddock, Thompson Square, Windsor Wharf Reserve, Governor Phillip Reserve and Macquarie Park. This latter park (about 20 hectares in area) is the only one within the study area on the 'northern' or opposite bank of the river to the Windsor township. The remaining reserves are spread along the southern bank from either side of the confluence with Rickaby's creek to the west and the western side of the South Creek confluence to the east.

Most of the lands do not appear to have been heavily impacted by historical development, though the majority have been cleared of most if not all of their original vegetation (which comprised open river red gum woodland) and are now covered by pasture grass and in some cases open (largely regrowth) woodland. It appears that some walking tracks are present across reserves on the south bank but it is unclear how formalised these are. There appear to be no current pedestrian crossings of Rickaby's Creek or South Creek along or close to the banks of the river.

The most major impact likely to have affected the majority of the study area before

and after the arrival of Europeans are often powerful flood events which are known to have scoured riverbank areas in the district on a regular basis¹. The erosive effects of this flooding were now enhanced by the removal of riverside vegetation. It is important to note however that it is also historically recorded that sediments were deposited in the Windsor area during flooding², which (assuming such events also happened in the more distant past) may have acted to preserve and protect some evidence of Aboriginal occupation.

The study area is underlain by alluvial sediments at least several metres in thickness deposited over the last 40,000 years or so, with older tertiary alluvium present along some of the southern bank east of Rickaby's Creek. This older alluvium corresponds to the higher ground on which the Windsor township has developed and is characterised by a thin sandy loam topsoil (generally less than 20-30cm) on massive clay containing some gravels. The remainder of the study area comprises low, more flood prone lands, reflected in the greater depth of banded sandy alluvial deposit up to several metres in depth, which may possibly contain buried older land surfaces. Somewhere between the northern end of the tertiary terrace and the riverbank is also a massive orange/red sandy deposit of at least several metres thickness which has been shown to contain substantial quantities of Aboriginal artefacts (see below).

All soils within the study area are weakly to strongly acidic in nature and therefore organic material of archaeological age (e.g. animal or human bone, plant materials) are unlikely to remain. Gravels known as "Rickabys Creek Gravels" occur within these deposits and include a range of stone raw materials known to have been used locally by Aboriginal people (e.g. silcrete, chert, quartz, quartzite).

At the time of European contact, the Windsor area was home to Aboriginal people probably of the Buruberon-gal clan³, who spoke the western Sydney Darug language. The early settlement and use of the river by European farmers led to violent conflict with the Aboriginal owners, who became increasingly marginalised in their own land. However the general tendency was for Aboriginal people to attempt to live in or retain access to their traditional country in spite of the historical pressures to move to the forgotten fringes of expanding rural settlement along the river. This manifested itself in Aboriginal people camping on local properties and working for local farmers as well as sometimes managing their own farms⁴.

Indeed a number of Aboriginal people lived in around Windsor throughout the 1800s, worked there, were married there, and some were buried in local cemeteries⁵. The relative historical importance of Windsor to Aboriginal people is also shown by it being one of a handful of places in Sydney where blankets were handed out to Aboriginal

¹ See review in Stephenson, J.P. 1885. "History of Floods in the Hawkesbury River", *Journal and Proceedings of the Royal Society of NSW* 1885:97-108.

² Stephenson 1885:102. This notes the 1867 flood (the largest on record) as dumping "a thick layer of sand (white), the depth of which varied from 1ft to 15ft" on the alluvial plain.

³ The suffix 'gal' denotes people or more correctly 'men' of this place, such that the clan territory of the Buruberon-gal was known as Buruberon.

⁴ As an Aboriginal couple did at McGraths Hill and others did elsewhere along the Hawkesbury.

⁵ For example the last Aboriginal resident (Andrew Barber) of the Sackville Aboriginal Reserve downstream from Windsor was buried at the Windsor Church of England Cemetery in Moses Street in 1943, where his son Albert was also buried several years before (Brook, J. 1988 "The Widow and The Child" *Aboriginal History* 12:63-78, p75).

people by the government in the 1800s.

Later in the nineteenth century many local Aboriginal people moved or were moved to specially created Aboriginal reserves under varying degrees of government control, such as at Sackville on the Hawkesbury River, Wilberforce and Llandillo. However it is also likely that some Aboriginal people continued to live in Windsor, some of whom may have masked their Aboriginal identity through fear of discrimination and government control.

These days there are a large number of people who claim descent from those western Sydney Aboriginal people who spoke the Darug language. This larger language group identity is favoured by Darug descendents and other Aboriginal people around Sydney as traditional clan structures and affiliations are no longer practised. Consequently most Darug descendents are unlikely to be descended from the original traditional clan owners of the Windsor area.

There is currently a Native Title Claim over a large portion of western Sydney, including the Windsor area. This claim (NC97/8) was brought by the Darug Tribal Aboriginal Corporation (DTAC) over a decade ago and remains unresolved, though has been amended (reduced) to a core area from its original extent. Since lodgement, the DTAC has split into several groups such that Darug descendents are now represented primarily by the DTAC, the Darug Custodians Aboriginal Corporation (DCAC) and Darug Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessments (DACHA). These organisations routinely participate in cultural heritage matters in the western Sydney area.

In addition, the 1983 NSW Land Rights Act, established a system of Aboriginal land councils with administrative boundaries across the state. Aboriginal people living within the administrative boundaries of a land council, irrespective of their traditional Aboriginal country, are entitled to join the land council. Land councils have a statutory responsibility “to promote the protection of Aboriginal culture and the heritage of Aboriginal persons”⁶ within their administrative boundaries and also routinely participate in cultural heritage work. The land council covering the study area is the Deerubbin Local Aboriginal Land Council (DLALC), based at Mt Druitt.

It should be noted that there is considerable tension between the land council and Darug descendent organisations based on the former’s reluctance to accept the Aboriginality of the latter, whose members do indeed include people who have only recently ‘discovered’ the Aboriginality of one or more of their ancestors, as well as those who grew up on an Aboriginal reserve at Katoomba. In turn, Darug descendents do not recognise the ‘right’ of the land council to participate in heritage matters in western Sydney, which they see as their heritage. This can lead to quite complex situations on heritage projects where clearly all viewpoints need to be considered (as discussed below), and should be factored in to both the timing and scope of such projects.

2. Known Archaeological Remains in the Area

Aboriginal occupation of the Sydney region extends back tens of thousands of years, including western Sydney and the lower Blue Mountains. Most archaeological traces of past Aboriginal use of the region date to within the last several thousand years, after the stabilisation of sea levels at their current level after the last ice age. In the Windsor area, some archaeological remains are likely to have been destroyed by flood scouring, though deposition of flood material may also have sealed and preserved some archaeological evidence as well.

Except in coastal areas where shell middens have preserved organic remains like human

⁶ Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983, s52(1)(m).

and animal bone and shell, most surviving archaeological traces of past Aboriginal use consist of stone artefacts and other inorganic remains. In the Windsor area stone artefacts are the most likely evidence, either on the surface or in buried deposits and in varying degrees of density and integrity (no rockshelters exist in the study area). There is also some chance that culturally modified (carved or marked) trees may survive but these would have to be at least 100-150 years old. Other remains may be the buried remnants of cooking or heating fires in the form of charcoal concentrations or stone lined hearths. It is unlikely that human burials will have survived archaeologically along the riverbanks due to the acidic nature of soils, but traces of relatively recent burials may.

In addition there are several other 'types' of Aboriginal heritage which may be present to a degree within the study area. The first relates to evidence of post-European contact Aboriginal use of the land, the physical evidence of which may incorporate introduced materials and may be difficult to distinguish from non-Aboriginal archaeological remains. There may also be places of known Aboriginal historical and/or cultural association for which no physical remains are likely to have survived (old camping or fishing places for example). Given the known history of Aboriginal interaction with the Windsor settlement, these are definitely possible (see below). Finally there may be places of cultural/spiritual significance to Aboriginal people which may (e.g. ceremonial grounds) or may not (e.g. 'natural' creation story places) contain constructed physical remains.

For the current study consulted the central NSW database for Aboriginal sites and previous archaeological and other cultural heritage studies known as the AHIMS Register⁷, the State Heritage Register⁸, post-contact Aboriginal site databases⁹, and the Australian Heritage Database¹⁰.

The AHIMS Register search, of a 7km x 7km area¹¹ centred on the study area, was the only search to retrieve relevant records (see **Figure 2**). This search demonstrated that no Aboriginal archaeological remains appear to have previously been registered within the precise boundaries of the study area. However a recent investigation by Heritage Concepts Pty Ltd relating to the proposed upgrade/replacement of the Hakwesbury River Bridge at Windsor resulted in the identification of 4 isolated stone artefacts and the definition of areas of subsurface archaeological potential on both banks of the river east of the current bridge. Unfortunately the report covering these works is not yet available.

The four artefacts (AHIMS #45-5-3582 to 45-5-3585) appear to have been located in a ploughed field immediately south of a bend in the Putty Road north of the bridge. The artefacts were recorded within 20-30m of each other and would normally have been recorded as a single site. It is not clear in the current instance why these were not, though it may be related to their disturbed context. An area described as being "along the

⁷ Or more completely, The Department of Environment & Climate Change Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System Aboriginal Sites Register and Archaeological Reports Catalogue.

⁸ Maintained by the Heritage Branch of the NSW Department of Planning and comprising the State Heritage Register (of state significant generally non-Aboriginal heritage items) and the State Heritage Inventory (of locally registered heritage items).

⁹ Specifically the Department of Environment & Climate Change Living Places Project Database and the Sydney Aboriginal Historical Places Project database (currently being compiled by MDCA Associate Paul Irish).

¹⁰ Comprising the World Heritage List, National Heritage List, Commonwealth Heritage list and Register of the National Estate.

¹¹ AHIMS Register Search of 12/12/08 of AMG coordinates in Zone 56 of E294500-301500 & N6275500-6282500.

northern bank of the Hawkesbury River....an area approximately 7500m², situated east of the present Windsor Bridge” was described as retaining the potential for archaeological remains to occur “at variable depths from the ground surface through this deposit” (Site Card for AHIMS #45-5-3580). The precise boundaries of this area of archaeological potential are not shown on the site card but it appears specifically to be east of the bridge and therefore outside the current study area. The area appears to include the site of the four isolated artefact finds and it is not clear why a separate registration was made for the area of potential.

The second area of potential is described as being “an area approximately 3000m² situated east of Bridge Street” starting about 20m from the southern abutment of the bridge (Site Card for AHIMS #45-5-3581). No boundary to this area is shown or described on the site card though it is noted that the area has historically been impacted by earth cutting works and road alignments. The potential for archaeological remains is assessed as being “from 2m below the current surface”. The extent of this area of potentially is not defined on the site recording, and no report is currently available, so it is not clear where it includes some or all of the Windsor Wharf Reserve, though it should be noted that no archaeological material has yet been discovered in this area.

Another area of archaeological potential named “Windsor Museum” (AHIMS #45-5-3011) is located on the western side of Thompson Square east of Baker Street and was recently excavated by Austral Archaeology as part of an extension to the museum complex being undertaken by Hawkesbury Council. A report on the excavations is yet to be produced but the following information was provided by the excavators¹². The excavations encountered several metres of sandy deposit below the remains of historic buildings which were found to contain artefacts continuing at least to the base of excavations (around 1.8m from the surface of the sand) if not further. In all around 12,000 artefacts were recovered making it one of the larger assemblages ever uncovered in the Sydney region. Radiocarbon and thermoluminescence samples were obtained for dating, though these are yet to be undertaken.

The lateral extent of the sand body in which these artefacts were found is unknown but a boundary between it and the tertiary terrace deposits must exist within 50-100m west of this site. Here, on the corner of George and Baker Streets (AHIMS #45-5-2435), joint historical and Aboriginal archaeological excavations resulted in the retrieval of over 600 definite stone artefacts and a range of heat fractured manuports¹³ from within an approximately 10cm thick layer or remnant topsoil¹⁴ within the tertiary terrace deposit.

Aboriginal stone artefacts have also been retrieved from remnant topsoil horizons within the tertiary terrace deposit further south along George Street, for example at the old Windsor Hospital site and Windsor Police Station). These have generally consisted of low numbers and densities of artefacts below the remains of historic buildings, with no artefacts found within the underlying clay subsoil.

A recent investigation has also been undertaken by Comber within the current study area of portions of Deerubbin and Howe Parks around Rickabys Creek where a

¹² Evan Raper, Austral Archaeology, pers. comm. 8/1/09.

¹³ Stone which is assumed to have been brought onto the site by people but may not have been formally worked.

¹⁴ McDonald, J.J. 1998. *Archaeological Salvage Excavation of an Aboriginal Site on the corner of Baker and George Streets, Windsor* (Report to Hopewood Partners).

pedestrian/cycle pathway and bridge was proposed to be constructed¹⁵. The investigation involved a surface survey and monitoring of geotechnical pits on either side of the creek. Comber reasoned that Aboriginal people were unlikely to have used the immediate banks of the river at Rickabys Creek due to frequent flooding and that furthermore, this flooding would have destroyed whatever traces of past use may have once been present. This however does not accord with archaeological and historical evidence of the Aboriginal use of portions of the riverbank in the region and also does not take into account the potential of flood events to seal and protect evidence of occupation as well as destroy it (see above). Geotechnical trenches showed many metres of silty alluvial deposit and no archaeological material was noted, however this is not surprising given the small sample and method (the deposit was not sieved). It is not known if planning for the path and bridge are still underway.

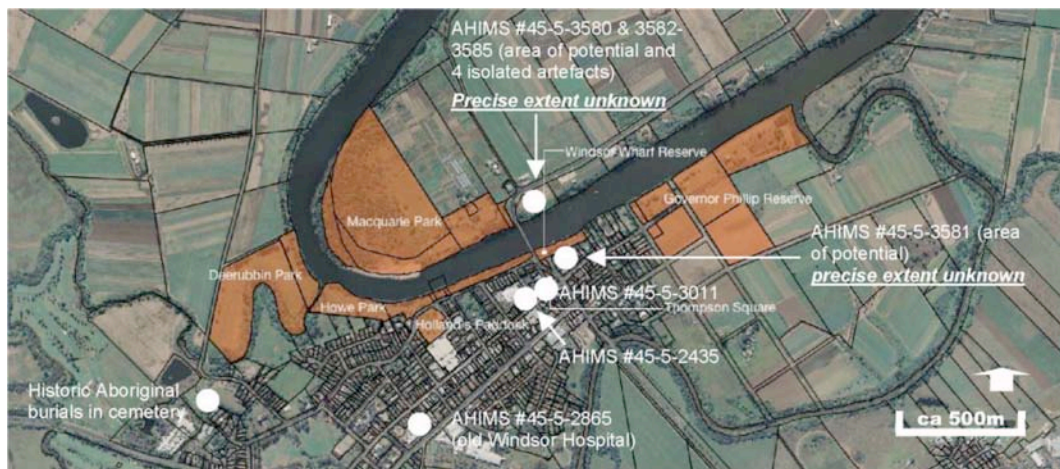


Figure 2. Approximate location of known items of Aboriginal heritage around the study area [Note: locations approximate and size of dots not indicative of size or extent of areas/items].

In summary, it appears that archaeological evidence so far recorded in the Windsor area is restricted to stone artefacts of unknown age. Most investigations to date have been within the elevated older (tertiary) alluvial terrace on which most of the Windsor township is built and there archaeological potential appears to be restricted to however much of the original 20-30cm of topsoil remains after two centuries of historical impact.

However the Windsor Museum excavation (AHIMS #45-5-3011) has retrieved by far the largest and most significant (and potentially old) assemblage to date and appears to be related to a sandy alluvial deposit which may either be highly localised or be that described for remainder of the riverbanks comprising the study area as outlined above. Either way, wherever this sandy deposit occurs, it clearly has high archaeological potential which would require careful consideration in future planning.

With the exception of four isolated stone artefacts on the northern bank found in a disturbed (ploughed field) context, no Aboriginal heritage remains have been documented within the lower alluvial contexts which comprise the bulk of the study area, though the possibility that the Windsor Museum sand deposit (which high archaeological potential) is present in these areas cannot be discounted on present evidence. It is in any case possible that archaeological remains may be present both in relatively unimpacted upper soil horizons and in lower former land surfaces buried by flood deposition. Such deposits

¹⁵ Comber Consultants Pty Ltd 2006. *Archaeological Survey and Cultural Heritage Assessment Rickabys Creek, Windsor* (report to Connell Wagner).

would potentially be of high archaeological significance and possible ancient age.

3. Conclusions and Recommendations

On the basis of the above contextual information it could be anticipated that:

- Aboriginal *archaeological* remains which may occur within the study area are likely to be restricted to stone artefacts in varying densities in surface or subsurface contexts. In addition remains of fireplaces (hearthstones, charcoal) may be located. There is little chance that trees of sufficient age to bear scars of possible Aboriginal cultural origin will be present within the study area.
- The location of previously recorded archaeological remains and areas of assessed archaeological potential does not imply the lack of such remains or potential in other areas, such as the current study area. It simply reflects the lack of investigation of these areas.
- All of the study area can be considered to retain some degree of Aboriginal archaeological potential. As far as the tertiary terrace deposit extends towards the river through Windsor Township (at least to around Baker Street), this potential is likely to be restricted to the top 20-30cm of any remaining original topsoil which survives in these areas. The remaining portions of the study area may contain similar archaeological deposits as well as evidence of older occupation at greater depth, as suggested by the recent Windsor Museum excavations. As such, any subsurface impacts (particularly major impacts associated with the construction of pedestrian bridges over Rickabys and South Creeks) may adversely impact Aboriginal archaeological remains.
- The extent of existing historical impact (excavation or deposition of fill including post-European contact flood deposits) in the study area is beyond the scope of the current preliminary advice and has not been considered. It is possible that this may allow for more refined assessment of sensitivity at various points across the study area.
- There are a range of historical Aboriginal associations with the Windsor area, most of which appear to be related to the township itself. However further research may yield connections with the study area. These are unlikely to be of a nature which would preclude plans for recreational facilities within the study area, but may provide opportunities for interpretive displays or other means of telling the Aboriginal story of the area (e.g. public art). There do not appear to be any documented areas of traditional spiritual or cultural significance within the study area, and it is considered unlikely that further Aboriginal consultation will lead to the identification of any such places (given the amount of Aboriginal community consultation, particularly in recent years, which has been undertaken in the Windsor area).

In light of this, and the policy and procedures outlined below, the following approach is recommended:

1. Consultation with the local Aboriginal community in relation to any proposed works in the study area should be initiated as early in the planning process as possible to facilitate the early identification of Aboriginal heritage issues from their perspective,

as well as to investigate the possibility for appropriate representation/interpretation of the Aboriginal history of the area.

2. An archaeological field survey focussing on specific areas of proposed impact should be undertaken by a suitable qualified archaeologist in conjunction with representatives of the local Aboriginal community. This would be likely to result in the location of any surface evidence of Aboriginal occupation (stone artefacts, culturally modified trees) and a targeted and more detailed assessment of subsurface archaeological potential.
3. Dependent on the above field assessment, it could be anticipated that some areas of the study area may require archaeological test excavation to determine the presence/absence, extent and significance of any subsurface Aboriginal archaeological deposit and the nature of any constraint it may pose to proposed works (e.g. path construction, pedestrian bridge over Rickaby's Creek). Any such excavations would need to be undertaken by a suitable qualified archaeologist in conjunction with representatives of the local Aboriginal community under an appropriate National Parks & Wildlife Act 1974 s87 Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit as outlined in the following section.
4. Planning for works within the study area should include consideration of the interpretive potential of the area in terms of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal history and heritage. Any planning for Aboriginal heritage interpretation should involve consultation with local Aboriginal community organisations to establish the appropriate form for such interpretation to take.

4. Aboriginal Heritage Management Policy and Procedures

The National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NSW) (as amended) provides protection for "Aboriginal objects" (sites, relics, human remains and cultural material) and Aboriginal places. Under Section 5 of the NPW Act, an Aboriginal object is defined as;

any deposit, object or material evidence (not being a handicraft for sale) relating to indigenous and non-European habitation of the area that comprises New South Wales, being habitation both prior to and concurrent with the occupation of that area by persons of European extraction, and includes Aboriginal remains.

An Aboriginal place is defined under the NPW Act as an area which has been declared by the Minister administering the NPW Act as a place of special significance with respect to Aboriginal culture. It may or may not contain physical Aboriginal objects (archaeological evidence).

The NPW Act is administered by the Department of Environment and Climate Change ("DECC"). Under Section 90 of the NPW Act, it is an offence to knowingly destroy, deface, damage or desecrate, or cause or permit the destruction, defacement, damage or desecration of, an Aboriginal object or Aboriginal place, without the prior written consent from the Director-General of the DECC. It is also an offence, under Section 86 of the NPW Act, to disturb or excavate land for the purpose of discovering an Aboriginal object, or disturb or move an Aboriginal object on any land, without first obtaining a permit (Preliminary Research Permit, Excavation Permit, Collection Permit or Rock Art Recording Permit) under Section 87 of the NPW Act. Under Section 91 of the NPW Act, it is also a requirement to notify the Director-General of the DECC of the location of an Aboriginal object. Identified Aboriginal items and sites are registered with the DECC on its AHIMS Register.

It is noted that the discovery of human remains during archaeological investigations (s87 permit) or under a s90 Heritage Impact Permit (with or without archaeological salvage) is not covered by these permits. If such remains are uncovered, a separate s90 permit

would need to be sought if the remains are to be removed for reburial by the Aboriginal community. This has been preferred by the local Aboriginal community to in situ preservation where development work is occurring in adjacent areas however each case is dealt with on an individual basis. There is an established procedure for dealing with such remains that must be referred to in all s87 or s90 permit applications.

The DECC has issued guidelines outlining the preferred structure for archaeological investigations and reporting¹⁶. More recently, it has also released interim guidelines for s.87 and s.90 permit applicants under the NPW Act¹⁷. These interim guidelines stipulate the public notification and consultation process for seeking the involvement and response of the Aboriginal community in relation to s.87 or s.90 permits. They are currently under review though it appears unlikely that the major planning implications will change (e.g. timing and potential complexity with multiple registrations of interest). The uneven application of these guidelines by the DECC and consultants has resulted in an expectation by some Aboriginal people of payment for consultation, and a right to paid participation in fieldwork, though this is expressly not part of the process outlined by the DECC. It is critical that the application of these guidelines be managed prudently and fairly by the engaged consultant to avoid unnecessary delays and complications to the permit application and excavation process.

As noted above, the established Aboriginal stakeholders for the subject land are the DLALC, DTAC, DCAC and DACHA. These organisations have been consulted on all archaeological assessments and excavations in adjacent areas.

In the current case, an archaeological survey is recommended to be undertaken of the study area in conjunction with these four organisations. Given the process for public notification and Aboriginal community consultation currently required by the DECC in relation to NPWS Act s.87 and s.90 permits, should archaeological test excavation be considered likely (for example in relation to bridging of Rickabys Creek) it is considered prudent to initiate this process prior to the recommended survey, such that all potential Aboriginal stakeholders can be identified.

The first step in this process would be to place a public notice in local print media seeking registrations of interest from Aboriginal individuals or organisations and giving at least 10 working days for written registrations. Letters would also be required to be sent to Hawkesbury City Council, The Department of Aboriginal Affairs, NSW Native Title Services and the DECC asking for notification of any Aboriginal stakeholders they are aware of who may have an interest in the project. The same 10 working day period for registrations would apply. The DLALC, DTAC, DCAC and DACHA would be directly notified of the project at this time.

It is noted that other Aboriginal people and organisations may respond at this time to the public notification but this establishes their right to review permit proposals and is not a guarantee of paid employment or active participation on archaeological survey or excavation.

If Aboriginal archaeological test excavation is considered warranted, to establish the nature and extent of any subsurface archaeological deposit in parts of the study area, this work would be undertaken under a NPW Act s87 Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit. Following the archaeological survey and in conjunction with reporting on that survey, a

¹⁶ NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service. 1997 DRAFT. *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage: Standards and Guidelines Kit*. (Sydney; NPWS).

¹⁷ Department of Environment and Conservation 2004. *National Parks And Wildlife Act 1974: Part 6 Approvals. Interim Community Consultation Requirements for Applicants*.

s87 application could be prepared. This is a form aswell as detailed accompanying research design outlining the precise methods to be used and the proposed extent of impact.

The consultant would contact all registered stakeholders to inform them of the permit application and provide them with a draft copy of the excavation method for comment should they wish to do so. Under the DECC Guidelines they are to be allowed up to 21 days to return comments in writing. A letter of endorsement would be sought specifically from the four abovementioned organisations. Any other comments received would also be appended and discussed with the application.

The application would then be submitted to the DECC together with the \$100 processing fee. The DECC have a 'guarantee of service' of 8 weeks for the processing of completed permit applications (though this has rarely been achieved in recent years in the Sydney region). The DECC may contact the consultant to request clarification or more information during the assessment period.

Once issued, the permit is valid for only 6 months, during which time all works must be completed. The excavations would be undertaken by the permit applicant and the four abovementioned organisations.

The methodology for any such excavations cannot be specified at this stage, and should be informed by the results of the recent Windsor Museum excavations and any to be undertaken in the near future in relation to the identified areas of archaeological potential along the riverbank in relation to the Hawkesbury River Bridge upgrade.

Once the presence/absence and lateral extent of any Aboriginal archaeological remains has been established by the test excavations and an assessment made of their significance, the following are potential outcomes in relation to future works within the study area: *(Note: Aboriginal archaeological material is located. This is unlikely to be the case across the whole study area but where it occurs, it would be likely to be recommended that no further formal archaeological excavation work need be undertaken within the subject land and no further permits would be required.)*

- Archaeological material is located as dispersed or disturbed remains. In this scenario a likely outcome would be the seeking of a s90 Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit which may or may not include further archaeological excavation (salvage) but would enable works to proceed without any Aboriginal heritage constraints once any additional archaeological salvage work had been completed. The process of seeking a s90 permit is similar to that outlined above for a s87 permit but gives the applicant (in this case the development proponent) permission to impact (destroy) an Aboriginal object.
- Archaeological material is located relatively intact and at greater depth along the banks (possibly representing older buried occupation deposit). In this case, there is likely to be a case for *in situ* preservation of part or all of the archaeological remains. Depending on the nature of the recorded material, it may not necessarily preclude works in this area but this would need to be determined on the basis of the archaeology and the nature and scope of the development proposal.

It is noted that the majority of excavations in the Windsor area to date have been in disturbed contexts and s.90 permits without further salvage have been issued. However it seems possible that most of the current study area will be within areas where the

potential significance and integrity of deposits is greater and so past local outcomes should not be considered a reliable guide

European Heritage

An appraisal of European Cultural Heritage values was undertaken by Daniel Tuck Archaeologist & Heritage consultant (MAACAI) as part of this plan of management. The aim was to identify:

- legislative requirements for open space management
- snapshot of key history
- key heritage sites and their relationship to foreshore

Summary outcomes are as listed:

History

The following section provides a brief contextual history of the Windsor area. While it is presented chronologically, it references current national (red) and state (green) historical themes.

Most of the material presented derives from secondary sources - it being beyond the scope of the current project to conduct primary research. The exhaustively plumbed documents were:

- Proudfoot, H. 2007 [1987]. The Hawkesbury: A Thematic History. Revised and published by Hawkesbury City Council.
- Nichols, M. 2004. Pictorial History of the Hawkesbury. Kingsclear Books, Alexandria.

Windsor on the River

The township of Windsor is located on the Hawkesbury River in Western Sydney near the foothills of the Blue Mountains which form part of the great coastal escarpment known as the Great Divide. Specifically, the town is sited on a ridgeline on the outside bend of a large meander in the river on the margins of a physiographic region known as the Cumberland Plain. Unlike the river country to the distant north and south which features dramatic sandstone gorges and escarpments, the landscape in the Windsor district is relatively flat and its geology shale based. Characteristics of the locale include the meandering river with its sandy reaches, the vertical channeled contributory streams (including South and Rickabys Creeks), and fanning alluvial terraces - the latter having been much used for farming since first white settlement

First People

For thousands of years prior to the European settlement, the Windsor area was part of the domain of the Darug.¹⁸ The Darug formed an extensive Aboriginal nation that shared a common language base.¹⁹ Their language group area, or territory, is understood to

¹⁸ also Dharrook; Dharruk; Darag &c (refer Attenbrow 2003)

¹⁹ Most of our knowledge of Darug comes from the work of pioneer ethnologist R H Matthews who produced 'Dharruk' word/vocabulary lists '... from the lips of old natives acquainted with the language' at

have taken in much of the area that we know as Western Sydney with a particular focus on the Hawkesbury River. The river itself serving as a transport corridor with its waters and hinterland rich in food reserves and other resources.²⁰

Exploration

Soon after the First Fleet established themselves at Farm Cove in Port Jackson (Sydney Harbour), the Government commenced expeditions into the interior to explore the land beyond the coast and to find arable land. Among the early venturers was Captain Arthur Phillip who caught distant views of the Richmond Hills in early 1788, observed the mouth of the Hawkesbury while investigating the Broken Bay area, and successfully travelled the length of Hawkesbury River in 1789.²¹ It was during the latter expedition that the river was named after Lord Hawkesbury and the fertile banks of the river were described in terms of their suitability for agriculture.²²

In 1791, after more exploration of the Hawkesbury and Nepean Rivers by Phillip and others, a party including Watkin Tench, William Dawes and a Sergeant Knight determined that the two rivers were in fact one. Two years later, Captain (and botanist) William Paterson of the NSW Corps and an expeditionary team explored the river system upriver from Richmond Hill and investigated the foothills of the Blue Mountains.²³

Tentative Settlement

By 1794, as part of an effort to establish 'food bowls' for the fledgeling colony, a small group of 22 settlers had been allowed to select 25 to 30 acre (10 to 12 hectare) farms along the Hawkesbury River and South Creek tributary. The farms were set on the fertile plains between Pitt Reach and South Creek. As Judge-advocate David Collins noted in celebrated Account of the English Colony in NSW the settlers chose for themselves 'allotments of ground conveniently situated for fresh water and not much burdened with timber'.²⁴

The settlement, which ultimately became Windsor, was known as Green Hills and was located within a district originally referred to as Mulgrave Place, later known colloquially as The Hawkesbury.

Green Hills was a particularly remote location in the 1790s, connected indirectly to Sydney by the natural communication corridor in the Hawkesbury River and more directly by a bush track established by mid 1794. Despite this, the productiveness of the land ensured that within two years of settlement 3955 acres (1600 hectares) of land on the Hawkesbury had been granted to 135 people and the location had become the 'granary of the colony'.²⁵

Windsor in the early 20th century (refer Matthews 1903: 155 in Troy 1994: 15).

²⁰ The Hawkesbury River was referred to as Deerubbin (or Venrubben) in the Darug language

²¹ Kass 2005: 34

²² Nichols 2004: 8

²³ Nichols 2004: 9

²⁴ David Collins cited in Nichols 2004: 9-10

²⁵ Nichols 2004: 10

Conflict

Early contact between white settlers and Aborigines on the Hawkesbury brought contrasting cooperation and conflict. Aborigines are known to have aided early settlers in their endeavours to settle but ill treatment by some whites, and the loss of traditional lands (and the foods they contained) to the growing mosaic of farming brought the two peoples into sporadic discord throughout the closing decades of the 18th century and the opening decades of the 19th century.

In Green Hills for instance there were several so called 'skirmishes' between settlers and Aborigines in 1794-95. At one point the situation was such that a detachment of two officers and 60 privates of the NSW Corps were sent to Green Hills to quell hostilities and keep the peace. The Colonial administration at the time was fearful that, if unassisted, the settlers would walk off the land and Sydney's food supplies would be compromised. Despite these measures, conflict continued on the Hawkesbury in the ensuing decades reaching a crescendo in the mid 1810s during a period of open guerilla warfare characterised by attacks and counter attacks.

This volatile period on the Hawkesbury in the early 19th century is exquisitely brought to life in Kate Granville's prize winning work of fiction *The Secret River*.

The early settlement at Green Hills focused around a wharf, a granary attributed to Andrew Thompson, a schoolhouse, and a range other rudimentary buildings in what would later become Thompson Square at north end of Windsor.²⁶ By 1799 the settlement also featured a temporary barracks and in the ensuing years additional public and civil buildings were erected including additional military accommodation and a weatherboard Government House (actually a cottage for official visitors).

By the close of the century around 55 % of all cultivated land in the colony was located on the Hawkesbury and a magistrate (Charles Grimes) had been established in the area in an effort to administer law and order to the growing (and sometimes unruly) population.²⁷ Associated with the main river settlements were a series of high-ground commons established by Governor King in 1804 for the depasturing of stock in the Mulgrave district.²⁸

Macquarie's Tour of 1810

The first half of opening decade of the 19th century was a period of considerable turmoil in the colony which was characterised by the controversial rule of Governor William Bligh and the associated Rum Rebellion. Governor Lachlan Macquarie was sent to Australia in 1809 ostensibly to restore order and ensure a more stable and prosperous future for the nation. Macquarie's successful governorship commenced in 1810 and it was towards the end of that year that he engaged on one of his first tours of inspection - to the Hawkesbury. Accompanied by his wife, one of the stops on the tour was at Green Hills where the couple stayed at the Government cottage.

Macquarie understood the need for well established towns in the Hawkesbury and he used his 1810 tour of the Hawkesbury to identify favourable, river side agricultural land that was above the established flood levels. To this end he flagged five locations (predominantly on near river ridges):

²⁶ Nichols 2004: 10; Proudfoot 2007: 23

²⁷ Nichols 2004: 10

²⁸ Proudfoot 2007:56-69

- Windsor
- Richmond
- Pitt Town
- Wilberforce
- Castlereagh.²⁹

Windsor was essentially to be a consolidation of Green Hills as Macquarie explained when relating the details of a gathering at the Government cottage on 6 December 1810:

After dinner I christened the new Townships, drinking a bumper to the success of each. I gave the name of Windsor to the Town intended to be erected in the District of Green Hills, in continuation of the present Village, from the similarity of this situation to that of the same name in England.³⁰



Jas Wyld's *An Outline of the Settlements in NSW* (1817)
SRNSW AO Map 1123

²⁹ Kass 2005: 73

³⁰ Lachlan Macquarie in Nichols 2004: 14



Watercolour entitled Head of Navigation on the Hawkesbury River (c. 1810s)

This picture, attributed to George W. Evans, shows the settlement of Green Hills in the early 19th century. The image depicts two large brick produce stores/granaries with the Governor's residence to the far left of frame.

SRNSW AO Map 1123

Windsor

Macquarie ensured that his towns were well planned with surveyed streets, reserve and building sites. It was under Macquarie that the township Windsor arose to be marked with a host of civil and civic structures including churches, schoolhouses, parks, town squares and bridges. Amongst the works instigated by Macquarie, many of which were surprisingly grand for a fledgling frontier settlement, were:

- Wharf (1817) designed by Francis Greenway
- Bridge over South Creek (1813)
- Toll house
- Military barracks (1817)
- Convict barracks - later a hospital (1820)³¹
- St Matthews Anglican Church

Numerous residential dwellings were also erected with Macquarie's directives which called for all dwellings to be not less than three metres high and constructed universally of brick or weatherboard with brick chimneys and shingle roofs.³²

Macquarie Architecture

The buildings created or inspired by Macquarie and his team of architects and builders are amongst the most distinctive and well loved of Sydney's colonial structures. As historian Helen Proudfoot has suggested 'in them, Georgian England was transported to the antipodes' and today they 'remind us of the tangible and immediate way of settlement in the early days'.

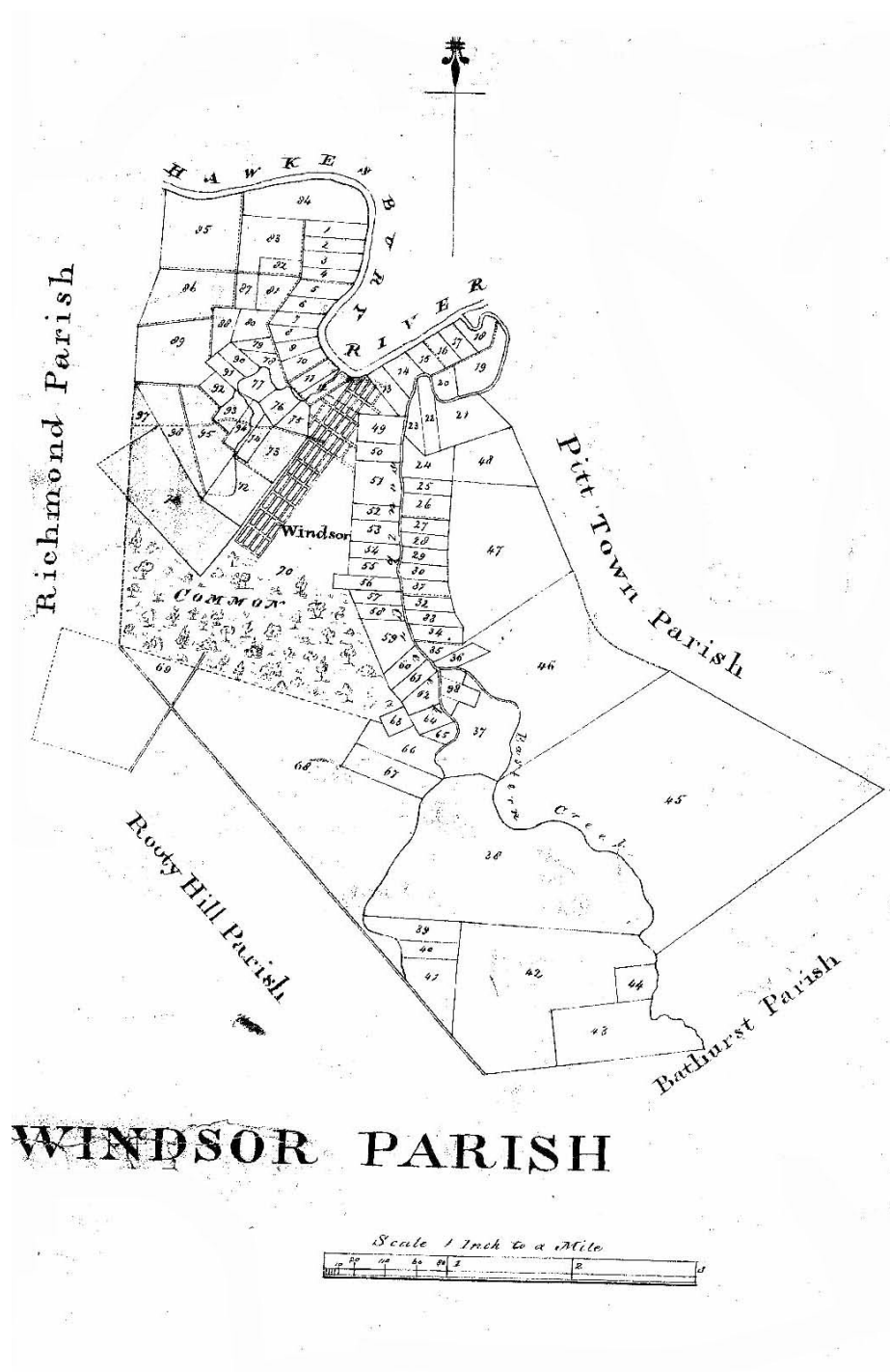
Macquarie architecture is well represented in the Hawkesbury where Macquarie concentrated a significant portion of his building program. Characteristics of Hawkesbury district construction during the Macquarie period (1809 -1821) include:

- simple but evocative designs set within a planned streetscape
- jerkin-head or half-hipped roofs - predominantly shingle clad wide use of local, handmade, sandstock bricks with un-rendered red brick being the main walling material in house and chimneys
- limited to of stone (as compared to the city) - stone use often restricted to verandah paving
- small double hung windows and six paneled doors

Refer Proudfoot 2007: 30-31

³¹ Proudfoot 2007: 25

³² Proudfoot 2007: 23



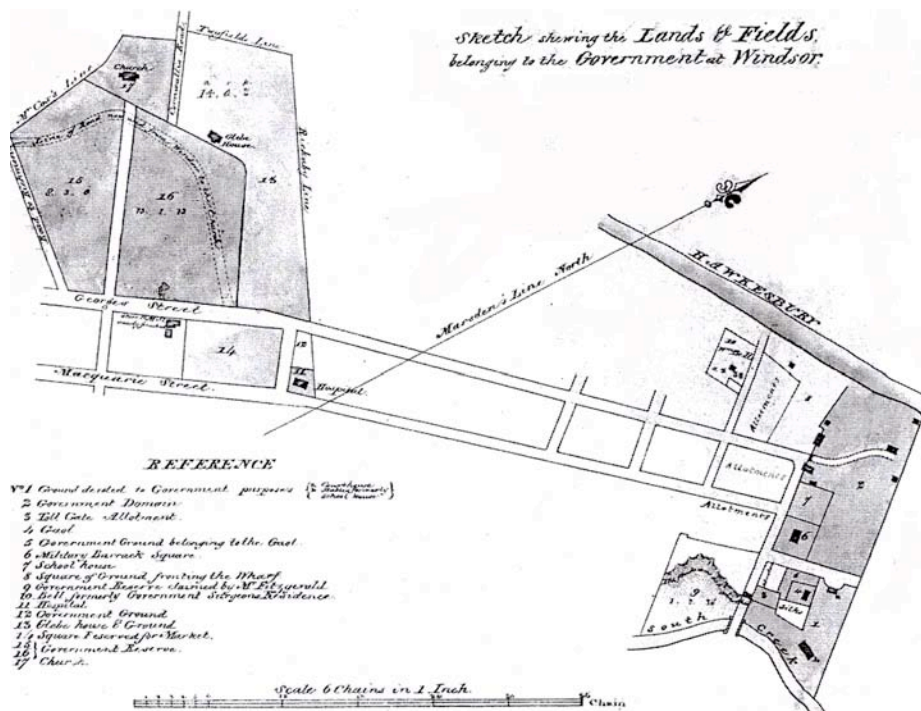
George Hoddle's Map of the Parish of Windsor (c.1820s ?)
SRNSW Sz 527



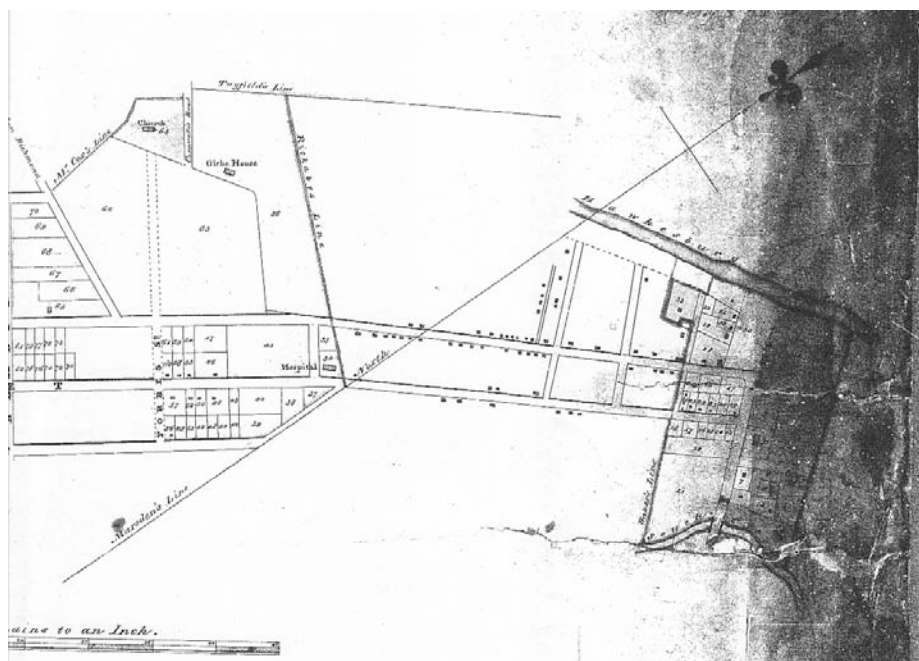
Map of the Parish of St Matthews; County of Cumberland (n.d.)
LPI Parish Map Preservation Project



Map of the Parish of St Matthews; County of Cumberland (n.d.)
These two 19th century parish maps of uncertain date show early land grants at Windsor
LPI Parish Map Preservation Project



Drawing titled *Lands & fields belong to the Government at Windsor* (c.1825)
 Plan shows early Government landuse at Windsor with development concentrations between South Creek and Thompson Square (North Windsor) and the St Matthew's Church and Glebe.
 SRNSW AO Reel Surveyors Sketch Books Vol. 1



Thompson's Map of the Town of Windsor (1827)
 Map shows a range of developments at Windsor including dwellings lining George Street
 SRNSW Sz 526

Life on the Hawkesbury

The Hawkesbury River was the lifeblood of early Windsor. Almost all who lived in the township and the agricultural lands beyond were reliant on the river for both transport and communication. Not surprisingly, the wharf area and adjacent Thompson Square were consolidated by Macquarie and proved integral to the functioning of the town - providing the interface between land and river, and functioning as the hub of early commerce.

Originally it was sailing vessels that plied the river and the Hawkesbury became something of an inland centre for boatbuilding in the district. Perhaps the most famous boat builder was John Grono who established a boat building business at Pitt Town in 1804 and in the years to 1833 constructed at least twelve large vessels including the Governor Bligh (100 tons) and the Governor Bourke (200 tons).

The nature of the river trade changed in 1864 when rail line to Windsor was established. This saw Windsor become something of a depot town with goods brought to Windsor by boat and carried to Sydney thereafter by train. The situation changed again in the late 1880s when the effects of almost a century of deforestation in the catchment ensued that the river silted up and the shipping channel to Windsor was no longer navigable. From around this time, paddle steamers replaced the sail boats of old with an emphasis on recreational excursions rather than trade. The last of the great steamers, the Erringhi took her last voyage in the 1930s.

Today, the river is the focus of recreational rather than commercial activity. The sandy reach beaches provide places to swim and fish, and the waters provide a venue for rowing regattas, speed boating and pleasure cruises.

Refer Proudfoot 2007: 17-20.

Growth

During Macquarie's time (prior to 1821) Windsor was a growing township with a mixed population of convicts (mostly employed in Macquarie's building program), soldiers (looking after the convicts); civil servants; and free or emancipated settlers.

Local industry included construction and allied industries (including a significant brickworks where convicts produced 2000 bricks per day) as well as a general commerce centred on pastoralism and agriculture (particularly grain) and the storage, supply and transport of goods. Other local early industry included the aforementioned shipbuilding - Charles Beasley for instance built the ship Windsor in 1811 on the Hawkesbury at the bottom of Fitzgerald Street.³³

Industry

Industry on the Hawkesbury River in the 19th century related principally to primary production - namely the processing of grain, hides and wool.

In the early 1800s, while most grain was shipped direct from the Hawkesbury to Sydney, a significant amount was milled locally and mill complexes were a feature of the Macquarie Towns. In Windsor, horse and then steam driven mills quickly became part of industrial landscape and were operational in the Thompson Square/wharf area from the early 1800s. An additional mill, the Endeavour Mill (Teales) operated on the Council chambers site from around 1833 to 1896. Processing grain to a different effect were also a number of Government approved breweries (such as O'Dell's in Macquarie Street and

³³ Proudfoot 2007: 17

Cadell's in Cornwallis Road). These turned barley into beer and added to the colonial supply - as did a number of unsanctioned illicit stills in the district. The tanning of hides for leather production was also a significant early primary industry. Windsor became a district centre for tanneries and possessed four by as early as 1833 and six by 1888. The largest being Linsley's on South Creek which was capable of processing 250 hides per day.

Refer Proudfoot 2007: 73-77

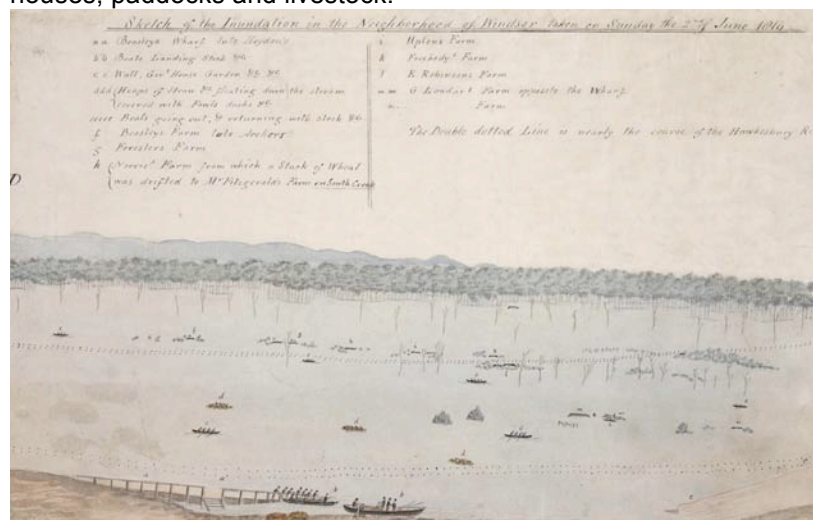
Despite its Government lead building program and the relative success of local agriculture and enterprise, Windsor did not grow as quickly as may have been expected for a town so heavily invested in. Commissioner Bigge noted during his commission of enquiry at the end of the reign of Macquarie that:

*The town of Windsor is of an earlier date than the other towns, but its progress has not been so quick as might have been expected, considering that it has been the resort of the settlers of a large and cultivated district, the depot of its produce and the place of export of a portion of that produce by water carriage to Sydney.*³⁴

Several reasons have been posited for this perceived slow growth. The establishment of the nearby allied Macquarie towns of Pitt Town and Richmond paradoxically caused some deceleration in the growth of Windsor. It has been noted also that the 'lower classes' of settler could not easily be enticed into town to grow the population.³⁵ Another significant factor was the Hawkesbury River herself which both provided and took away.

Floods

Flooding on the Hawkesbury River has been an irregular but periodic phenomena that has been the scourge white settlers since the 1790s. It has created the rich alluvial lands that border the river but it has also sporadically swept away harvests and destroyed lives, houses, paddocks and livestock.



Several studies have been undertaken detailing the history of flooding on the Hawkesbury - the earliest attributed to J. P. Josephson who published an article on the matter in the Journal of the Royal Society of NSW in 1885. In the years between 1799

³⁴ J T Bigge Report on Agriculture & Trade in NSW (1832) cited in Proudfoot 2007: 25

³⁵ Proudfoot 2007: 23; 29

and 1819 there were ten major floods. In the ensuing 60 years there were 16 - the largest being 1867 when the river at Windsor peaked at 63 feet.

While the floods were devastating and drove some people from the district in the early years, they were also the trigger for strong social cohesion which saw district residents band together to provide mutual support in times of great need.

Refer Proudfoot 2007: 19-20 Image part of a panorama titled sketch of the inundation in the neighbourhood of Windsor, June 1816 (SLNSW a1539002h.jpg)

Urban Expansion

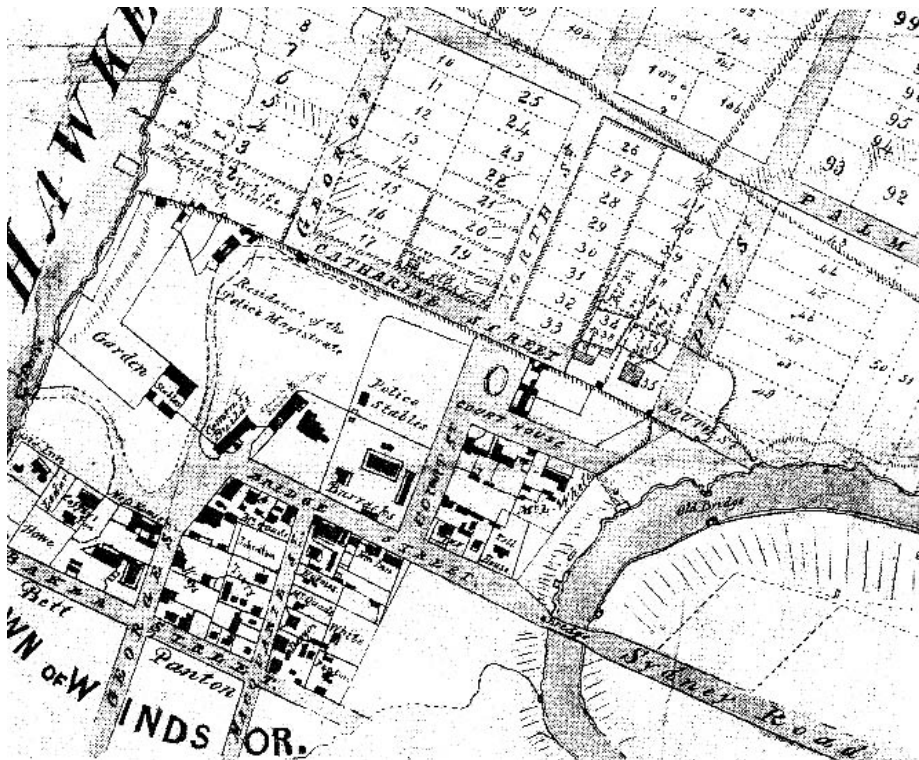
By the 1830s Windsor had consolidated with most settlement set around Thompson square (the nucleus) and the nine odd town blocks close by. By the 1840s, expansion had commenced to such a degree that a real estate auctioneer described the town as 'the third town of consequence in the colony' (presumably behind Sydney Town and Parramatta).³⁶ Much of the expansion was to the south of the settled area towards the turnoff to the road to Richmond. By 1848 the town sported 1679 residents, numerous inns, and a daily-stage coach to Sydney - all overseen by the somewhat impotent Windsor District Council established in 1843.³⁷



Plan of the Town of Windsor (1835)
SRNSWAO Map 5968

³⁶ *The Australian* 8 June 1841

³⁷ The council was set up to oversee public infrastructure but lacked the ability to procure funds for their work (Proudfoot 2007: 34)



Part of Armstrong's Plan of the Town of Windsor (1845)

Image depicts the main civic area between Thompson Square and South Creek and the development therein which is dominated by Government building (barracks; court house; police station &c)

SLNSW ML

Local Government

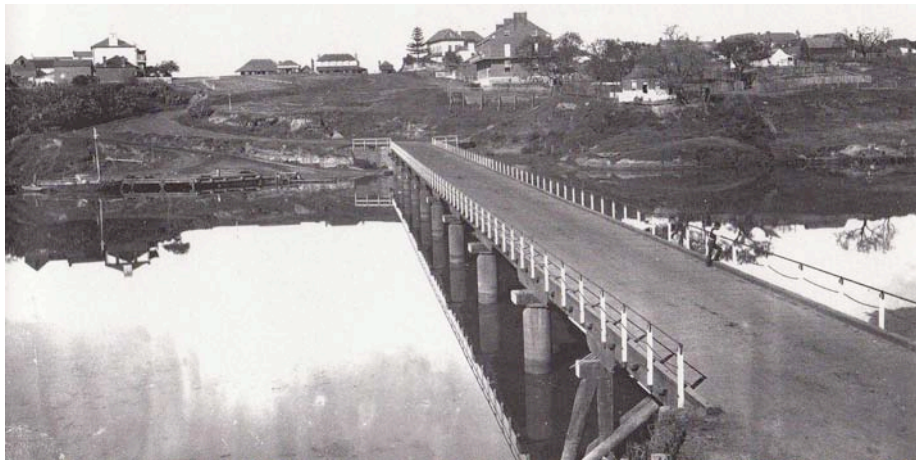
The Municipalities Act (1858) enabled the establishment of town councils who had the ability to raise money through the establishment of rates on freehold properties. The Borough Council of Windsor was incorporated in 1871. Windsor became a municipality (taking in rural areas via boundary revisions) in 1906. It was amalgamated with neighboring Richmond municipality in 1949. Which in turn amalgamated with Colo Shire Council in 1981. The town now falls within the boundaries of Hawkesbury City Council which amalgamated the aforementioned councils in 1989.

Refer Proudfoot 2007: 35; Nichols 2004: 112

With local government came local services which were introduced progressively albeit slowly. Civic works undertaken by the council or private enterprise during the second half of the 19th century and into the 20th included:

- **Rail** - branch line to Windsor established in 1864
- **Lighting** - street lighting erected in 1875 but unlit until 1880. Originally lighting relied on oil which was superseded by gas in the 1880s)
- **Water supply** - river water was often polluted or brackish so the town established its own contained supply in 1889. Water was pumped from the river to an elevated reservoir tank in Fitzgerald Street. The Water Board (MS&DB) took over management of Windsor's supply in 1951 - building two new concrete reservoirs at Windsor and South Windsor and rebuilding the elevated tank
- **Sewerage** - introduced to the Windsor area after WWII in 1949

- **Bridges** - the South Creek crossing on the eastern approach to Windsor was replaced with the Fitzroy Bridge (an arched bridge 29 metres long) in 1853. This was replaced by a new iron bridge in 1881 which has been superseded in more recent times by a wider reinforced concrete bridge. The bridge over the Hawkesbury at Windsor replaced a punt operation (established by the 1830s) in 1874. The 11 span, 138 metre structure was raised in 1897 (by 2.4 metres) and significantly remediated in 1924.³⁸



View across Windsor Bridge to the Township of Windsor (1879)

This image from the late 19th century shows the Windsor Bridge - then only five years old. To the left of the bridge is the Windsor wharf area with the undulating land of Thompson Square (and the winding eastern approach to the bridge) behind. Two of Windsor's most distinctive heritage buildings are visible on the ridge in the centre of the frame - the Macquarie Hotel (also the Royal Hotel) and the Doctor's House.

SLNSW ML

Late 19th Century

After the railway station at Windsor had been established in the 1860s and the river began to silt up, the commercial centre of town began to migrate south from Thompson Square. At the time, the main businesses in town were still related to agriculture but also represented were saddleries, shoemakers, banks, legal firms and general stores. Spread about the towns margins were businesses of a more industrial bent including brickworks, coach makers, remnant boat builders and tanneries. It was a fire in one of the latter that proved devastating to the township of Windsor in the year 1874.

Windsor Fires

In 1874 a fire broke out in a tannery near New Street and burnt out much of the neighbouring area. Destroying a total of 53 buildings including 34 homes, the fire burnt out an area of over 12 hectares stretching along George Street to Fitzgerald Street and back along Macquarie Street.

This fire was by no means the first significant fire in the township. In 1794, when Green Hills was first settled much of the settlement was burnt out.

Refer Proudfoot 2007

³⁸ Proudfoot 2007: 16; 34-36

One of the most detailed descriptions of Windsor in the late 19th century appears in *The Australian Handbook* (1892) which provides a succinct account of the town and its works, buildings, and institutions:

Windsor, a Borough Town on the Hawkesbury River, 34 miles NW from Sydney. It has a post office, money order, Government savings bank, and telegraph office. The principal streets are George and Macquarie. There are about twelve principal stores.

Hotels: the leading being the Fitzroy, Royal Exchange, the Royal and Carrington. The School of Art is a substantial building, with a library of about 1100 volumes. The public school is a fine building, cost about £1500, and having an average attendance of 302 scholars, increased accommodation recently afforded by the erection of a girl's school and a ladies' school.

The places of worship are the Church of England (St Matthews), a brick building with tower and belfry, the foundation stone of which was laid by Governor Macquarie in 1819; Roman Catholic Church (St Matthew) built in Gothic style; Wesleyan Chapel and Presbyterian Church, both of brick; the Congregational Church and the Salvation Army Barracks, a wooden building.

The Fitzroy Bridge crossing the South Creek has been replaced by a new structure on iron cylinders. The Windsor Bridge, built on iron cylinders and spanning the river Hawkesbury, is a fine substantial work.

The Bank of New South Wales, A.J.S. and Commercial bank have business here. There is also a hospital and benevolent asylum combined, a court house and gaol, also a private observatory, kept by Mr John Tebbutt, FRAS, astronomer. Water is laid on, the supply having cost £6500. The town is lighted with gas. Formation: sandstone and slate.³⁹



Postcard of George Street, Windsor (c. late 1800s)
SLNSW ML SPF

³⁹ *The Australian Handbook* (1892) cited in Proudfoot 2007: 36-37

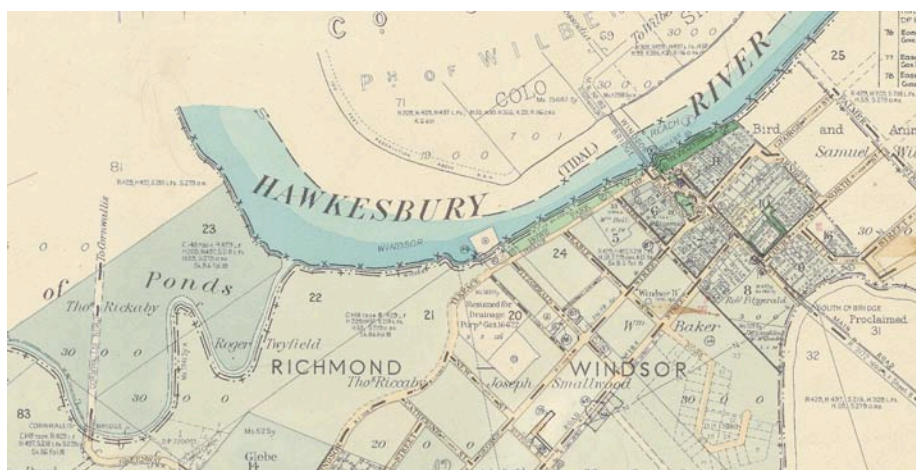
At this time, Windsor was the centre of local agricultural production and had a population of between 2000 and 2500 people.⁴⁰ Local produce from district farms (accounting for approximately 14458 acres under cultivation) was predominately maize and corn and to a lesser extent barley, wheat and rye - wheat had formerly been a major crop but had been significantly impacted by rust outbreaks from the 1870s. Much of the cereal crops were cut and baled as hay for stock feed.⁴¹

Other local mixed agricultural enterprise at time included orcharding (particularly oranges); poultry farming; fruit and vegetable growing (especially melons, potatoes and pumpkins); alcohol production (mainly wine and brandy) and horse breeding. Stock returns from the time fill in the picture of local rural industry and indicate that local farms held horses (4375), cattle (8688), sheep (8163), and pigs (4885).⁴²

Recent History

During much of the first half of the 20th century, Windsor remained a town associated with primary production with an increased emphasis on mixed farming. In the immediate Windsor area, the town sat within land utilised for mixed production. On the flats to the west across the river vegetables were grown in abundance and to the south of the town dairying was a major concern. To the north around Pitt Town and Wilberforce, orcharding and poultry farming were popular enterprises. Increases in local production throughout the early 1900s was facilitated in by the wider use of irrigation and mechanical transport intensified riverside agriculture and which brought farming (particularly cropping) up off the alluvial flats and into upland areas.

Since the 1940s however, there has been a marked decline in the importance of the Hawkesbury as an major area of agricultural production. It continues to play a role in horse breeding and mixed production (particularly fresh vegetables and fruit) but its position has been usurped by other, often more distant places of production. This change has resulted in increased rural subdivision; the rise of a number of specialized local industries including turf farming which is ideally suited to the alluvial flats; and riverine sand/gravel extraction.



Map of the Town of Windsor (1967)
LPI Pixel

⁴⁰ Proudfoot 2007: 37; 33; 49

⁴¹ Proudfoot: 46-55

⁴² Proudfoot 2007: 48-50

Today, Windsor remains a vibrant district centre which retains a living heritage based on primary production. The town embraces its cultural history and due to a combination of circumstance, location, planning and luck, remains one of the most demonstrably historic towns in NSW. Cultural heritage and the arts are now two of the towns most important drawcards - as reflected in tourist promotion of the area and a range of new community facilities including the upgraded Hawkesbury Regional Museum & the Library's Deerubbin Cultural Centre.

Heritage

The following section provides a brief overview of the main heritage precincts and sites located on or near the proposed walking route. The first part lists locations (which are presented from north to south) as they appear in the Heritage Schedule (S1) of the Hawkesbury LEP (amended to 2008).⁴³ The second part provides detail of the main or marquee sites; the third, information on miscellaneous locations.

Hawkesbury LEP - Schedule 1 Heritage

George Street North Precinct

Between Palmer Street and Thompson Square

No 27, lot 2, DP 212542. (166)

No 31, lot 3, DP 411. (167)

No 32, part lot 15, DP 411. (168)

No 34, lot 34, DP 742262. (169)

No 35, lot 2, DP 411 and lot 2, DP 770964. (170)

No 40, lot 1, DP 713478. (171)

No 41, unnumbered lot, Section 11, DP 759096, (lot 1, DP 995355). (172)

No 45, unnumbered lot, Section 11, DP 759096. (173)

No 43, part lots 1 and 6, Section 11, DP 759096, (lot 1, DP 203668). (174)

No 48, lot 3, Section 10, DP 759562. (175)

Thompson Square Conservation Area

Set between Old Bridge Street; The Terrace; George Street; & Thompson Street

1–3 Thompson Square, 'The Doctor's House', lot B, DP 161643 and lot 1, DP 196531.

No 5 Thompson Square, lot 1, DP 745036.

No 7 Thompson Square, Former Museum, lot 1, DP 60716.

Thompson Square, part George Street, part The Terrace, and part Bridge Street.

Macquarie Arms Hotel, lot 1, DP 864088.

Public Reserve, Thompson Square, lot 345, DP 752061.

No 4, Bridge Street, lot 10, DP 666894.

⁴³ The Hawkesbury LEP Heritage Schedule (Schedule 1) lists three conservation areas and around 520 individual items for the shire. It is noted here however that the both the schedule and the Hawkesbury Heritage Study (undertaken in the 1980s) are under review

No 6 Bridge Street, lot 1, DP 995391.

No 10 Bridge Street, corner part lot A, DP 381403.

Former School of Arts, Bridge Street, Lot C, DP 379996, lot 10, Section 10, DP 759096 and lot 1, DP 996417.

No 17 Bridge Street, part lot 1, DP 555685.

Nos 62–68 George Street, lots 1 and 2, DP 555685 and unnumbered lot.

Nos 70–72 George Street, lot 1, DP 87241.

No 74 George Street, 'AC Stearn Building', lot 11, DP 630209.

Nos 80–82 George Street, Shops, lot 10, DP 630209.

No 88 George Street, lots 1 and 2, DP 233433.

Nos 92–98 George Street, lot 1, DP 730435 and part lot 2, DP 730435.

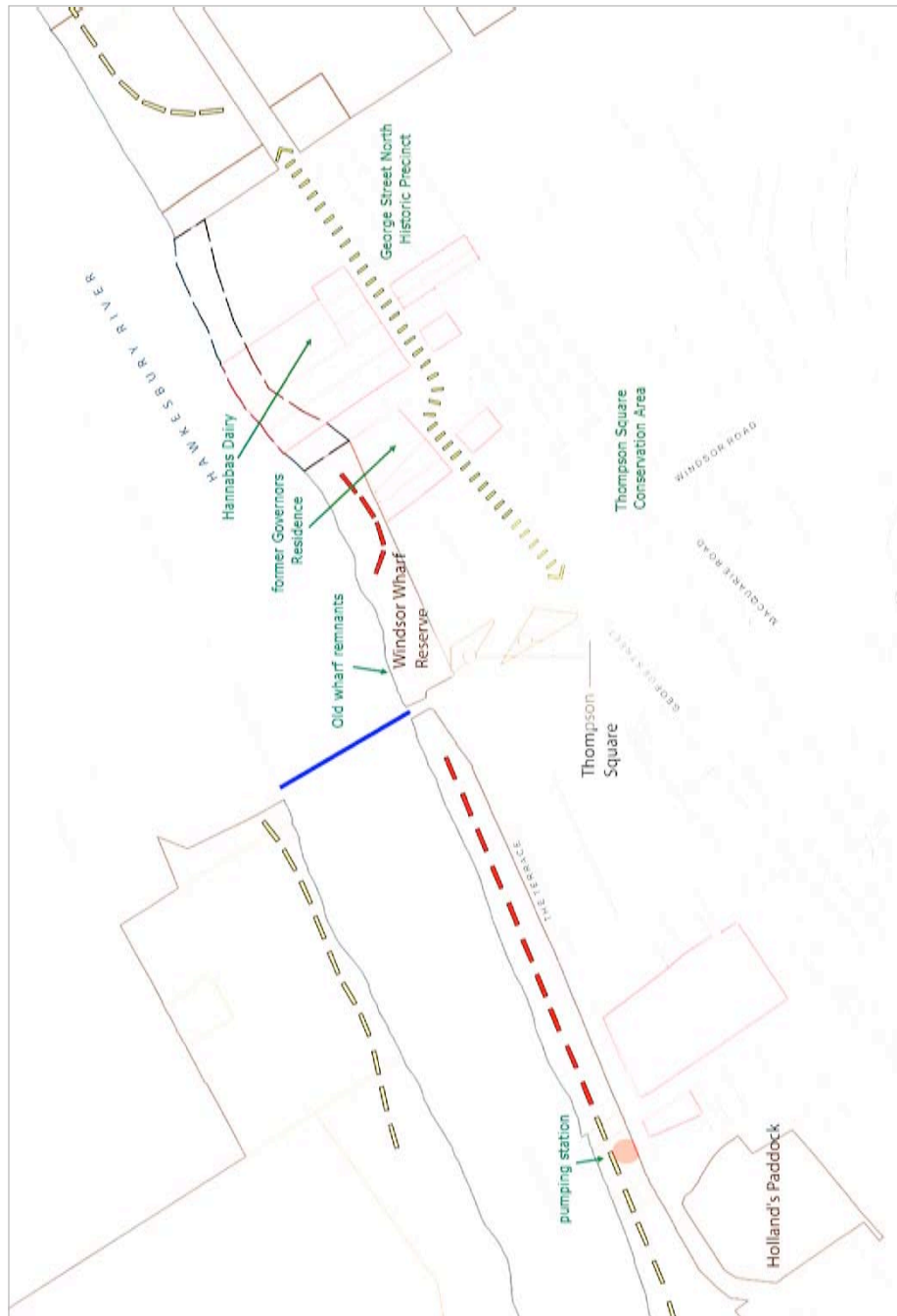
Fitzgerald Street

At intersection with The Terrace

No 1, lot 1 and part lots 2 and 3, DP 731707. (160)

Paine House, 'Sunny Brae', No 12, lot 21, DP 603166. (161)

All of the above listed locations are shown on the following LEP map. The bracketed Council number at the end of each listing or conservation area references the numbers shown on the map.



River Walk - Heritage Overlay

Governor Phillip Reserve to Hollands Paddock. The listed heritage items are shown outline and shade red. The Thompson Square Conservation Area is shown outlined in grey and shaded creme. Base plan provided by Environmental Partnerships; Heritage overlay Dan Tuck 2009

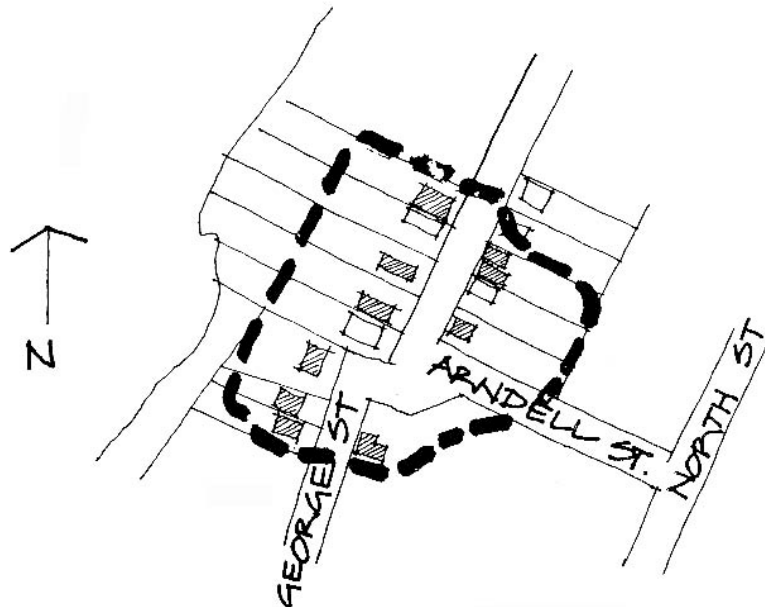
Select Listing Details

The following information details select sites en-route - predominantly those that are listed within the NSW DoP Heritage Branch State SHR or SHI databases.⁴⁴ It provides summary historical information for some, but not all, LEP listed items. The historical data, which varies from the detailed to the scant, has been sourced from the 1980s heritage studies that preceded the LEP Heritage Schedule as well as other secondary sources.⁴⁵

George Street North Precinct

Between Palmer Street and Thompson Square (north of Bridge Street)

The George Street North Heritage precinct comprises a cluster of cottages (georgian, Victorian & Federation) which form a 'valuable remnant of the character of early non-commercial George Street'.⁴⁶ The properties which form part of the precinct are Nos. 27; 31; 32; 34; 35; 40; 41; 43; 45; & 48.



George Street North precinct Plan
Howard Tanner & Associates 1984

⁴⁴ Note that the SHR and SHI usually 'pick up' all of the items listed within the heritage schedule of an LEP. This is not the case in this instance - some items listed in the LEP are not listed on the SHR/SHI. The reverse is also true.

⁴⁵ Howard Tanner & Associates 1983-1984; Proudfoot 1980; 2007; Noel Bell Ridley Smith & partners 1986; SHR/SHI listing data &c

⁴⁶ Howard Tanner & Associates 1984

Cottages

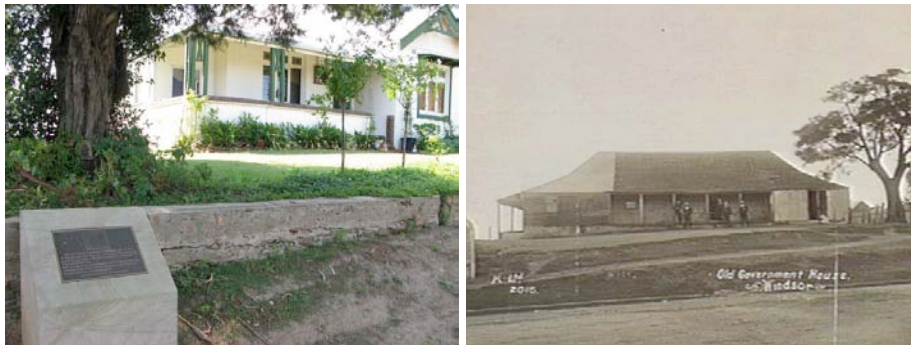
43 & 45 George Street Two Early Victorian (c.1850s) residences of 'typical Hawkesbury style and design'.

Government House Site

41 George Street

This location was the site of 'Old Government House' (c. 1798-1919). The building was used initially as a Commandant's quarters - then served as the Government house, magistrates' residence, and visiting Governor's accommodation. The structure was ultimately demolished. At present, the location features an intact c.1920s residence. The location is marked by an interpretive plaque.

The site is part of a broader area that was formerly part of the Governor's domain which extended from around the line of Arndell Street to Thompson Square and featured a wharf; stables and garden.



*No. 41 George Street; Old Government House
Dan Tuck 2009; SLNSW*

Cottage

40 George Street

Intact Victorian cottage (c.1890) with a bull-nose verandah and cast iron brackets. The cottage has a simple hipped iron roof and a basement, with a feature being the decorative ironwork (balustrades & brackets).

Cottage

35 George Street

Brick cottage with a facade etched to look like ashlar/stone. The cottage was constructed in c.1850 and has twelve pane windows; a four panel front door; and a slightly curved verandah.

Cottages

32 - 34 George Street

Two Victorian (c.1850s) cottages (one weatherboard; the other part brick) with corrugated galvanized iron roofs and picket fences.

Villa

31 George Street

Victorian cottage villa constructed of rendered brick with a projecting front gable wing and bay window. The c.1891 residence also features decorative cast-iron verandah supports and frieze, scalloped barge boards and a gabled iron roof.

Hannabas Dairy

23-27 George Street

SHI DB Nos. 1740206; LEP Nos. 166

Site includes two houses (25 & 27 George Street), a milking shed, and a hay shed that was formerly occupied by two generations of the Hannabas (Hanna bas) family and used as a dairy. They grazed their cattle to the northeast of the property beyond Palmer Street.

The oldest house is 27 George Street (built for Albert Hannabas) - a Late Victorian Cottage with a corrugated iron hipped roof and bullnose verandah. 25 George Street was built for Albert's son Dick and is an Inter-war brick house with a tiled roof.



Cottages at the former
Hannabas dairy Site
Dan Tuck 2009

Thompson Square Conservation Area

Set between Old Bridge Street; The Terrace; George Street; & Thompson Street

SHR Listing Nos: 00126; DB Nos. 5045195

Thompson Square is an established conservation area set broadly around the roundabout at George and Bridge Streets. The majority of the buildings that front this locale are protected under a blanket listing for the conservation area. Several of the buildings also have individual SHR and SHI listings.

Thompson Square is one of the oldest public squares in Australia - albeit truncated by Bridge Street which serves as the eastern approach to the Hawkesbury Bridge and serves to break up the setting. It was reportedly established under Governor King and was later consolidated under Governor Macquarie. It is most notable for its suite of colonial Georgian buildings and reflects 'Governor Macquarie's visionary schemes for town Planning excellence'. The Location itself was named by Macquarie himself in 1811 in respect of the recently deceased Andrew Thompson Esq. who had been Justice of the Peace, Principal District Magistrate, emancipist convict; and one of the founders of the Green Hills settlement.⁴⁷



Thompson Square (1879)

SLNSW GOP image presented in Nichols 2004: 9

⁴⁷ Noel Bell, Ridley Smith & Partners 1986

During the 1870s the Hotel trade under the name the 'Royal Hotel'. It was re-badged as the Macquarie Arms in 1961.



Macquarie Arms Hotel

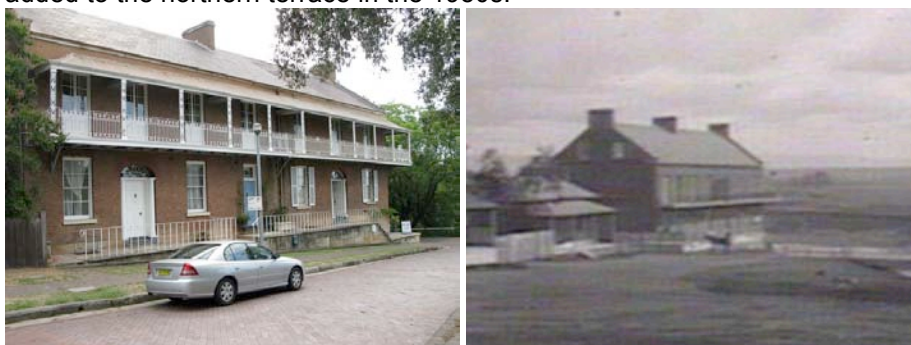
Dan Tuck 2009; Broadhurst postcard presented in Nichols 2004: 112

The Doctors House

1-3 Thompson Square/The Terrace

SHR Listing Nos. 00126; DB Nos. 5045706

This building is a Georgian terrace of two houses constructed of brick and raised on a stone basement. The exact date of construction is uncertain - it was used as hotel in the late 1830s and possibly replaced an earlier hotel on the same site. The first doctor associated with the site, if not the building itself, was Dr Benjamin Clayton who had been apprenticed to colonial surgeon William Bland. Since the 1870s, the terrace has been associated with a string of doctors - the northernmost residence has been continuously used as a medical residence since 1903. additions include a sympathetic service wing added to the northern terrace in the 1950s.



The Doctors House

Dan Tuck 2009; SLNSW GPO d1_06257

Cottage

5 Thompson Square

SHR Listing Nos. 00126; DB Nos. 5045184

Near original, three-bay brick Georgian cottage. Constructed in c.1840 the cottage has corrugated iron roof, a balustrade/picket fence, and an old outbuilding.



No. 5 Thompson Square
Dan Tuck 2009; SLNSW GPO d1_06257

House (former Museum building)
 7 Thompson Square

SHR Listing Nos. 00126; DB Nos. 5044975

Two storey Georgian house built of rendered masonry. The c.1843 building is five bays wide and has been previously used as an inn (Coffeys Inn). The balcony is a Victorian addition. The site was given as a two allotment to John Howe in 1811 and he is known to have lived at the site for 30 years. He worked for Andrew Thompson, was Chief Constable at Windsor (1813-1825); and was also a notable explorer. he is known to have run a pre-bridge punt service across the Hawkesbury River. The building was used to publish *The Australian* (a weekly) between 1876 and 1899. It was most recently operated at the Hawkesbury Museum prior to its relocation to the rear of the property.



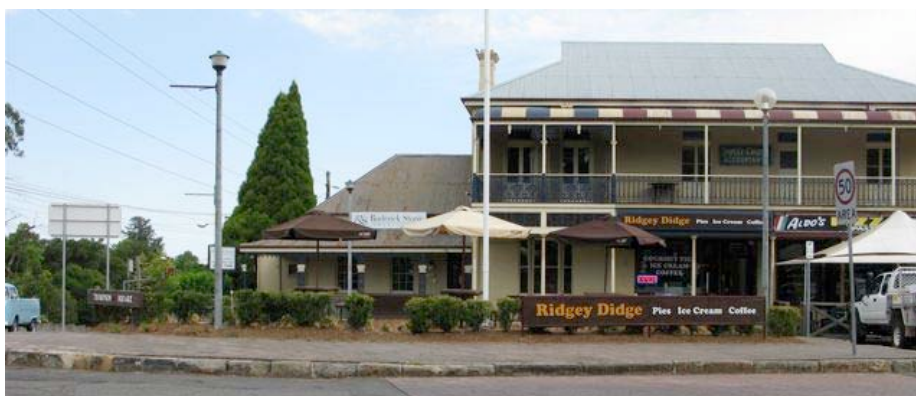
No. 7 Thompson Square
Dan Tuck 2009; SLNSW GPO d1_06257

Cottage & Shops
 62-68 George Street

SHR Listing Nos. 00126; DB Nos. 5045428 (& 5045429)

A colonial cottage (corner of George & Bridge Streets) and row of shops (including Ridgely Didge Pies & Aldso Pizza). The latter was formerly a c.1840 single story Georgian Terrace rebuilt to accommodate shops.

Note that the SHR lists the corner property (Lot1/DP555685) twice - under 'precinct of building and land' and again under 'Cottage 17 Bridge Street'.



62 - 68 George Street
Dan Tuck 2009

Hawkesbury Garage (Shops)
 70-72 George Street

SHR Listing Nos. 00126; DB Nos. 5045291

Former Hawkesbury garage site - now Stir Crazy noodle bar, Akuntuka burger bar, & Gloria Jeans.



70-72 George Street
Dan Tuck 2009

Building
 10 Bridge Street (corner of Bridge & George Streets)

SHR Listing Nos. 00126; DB Nos. 5045645

Two story residence constructed in c.1856



10 Bridge Street
Dan Tuck 2009

House

6 Bridge Street (corner of Bridge & George Streets)

SHR Listing Nos. 00126; DB Nos. 5045433



Bridge Street
Dan Tuck 2009

School of Arts

The School of Arts building was constructed at Thompson Square in 1862 after petitioning from the Windsor School of Arts Committee (formed in 1857). The building, which has more recent additions and steps attached to the frontage, was used for Arts until around 1915. It was sold to Enoch Taylor who used the place as a boot factory in 1947. More recently, it has housed a music school.



School of Arts Building
Dan Tuck 2009; SLNSW

The Terrace

Corner of Fitzgerald Street:

No 1, lot 1 and part lots 2 and 3, DP 731707. (160)

“Sunny Brae”, (Paine House), No 12, lot 21, DP 603166. (161)

Miscellaneous Items

The following sections lists heritage items that are:

- listed items that are on or near the proposed route but may be visible from it (i.e. landmark features)
- listed with the Heritage & Conservation Register of a NSW Agency other than the Local Council
- not officially listed on a heritage register

Peninsula House (Tebbutt's Observatory)

Site not on route but visible at end of Palmer Street from Governor Phillip Reserve

SHR Listing Nos. 00126; DB Nos. 5045291

Site dating from that comprises a two storey Georgian style house of sandstock brick (1845) , and garden containing two observatories (1864; 1869). House built for John Tebbut senior free migrant, farmer and storekeeper at Windsor. Observatories relate to his son, John Tebbut junior who was a private astronomer and a fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society. He achieved sudden international fame when he was the first to discover the great comet of 1861. Tebbutt descendants still own the property.



Tebbutt's Observatory & House

Photos by N Secomb presented on the SHR listing at <http://www.heritage.nsw.gov.au/>

St Matthew's Anglican Church, Rectory, Stables & Cemetery

Site not on route but church bell-tower is highly visible from southern part of proposed walk. Located at the corner of Moses Street and Greenway Crescent.

SHR Listing Nos. 00015; DB Nos. 5045677

The church is a Georgian building constructed in c.1817 entirely by convict labour using sandstock bricks and sandstone. The dominant element is a sculptural square tower with octagonal cupola, axially arranged with a rectangular nave and semi circular apse. The builder was William Cox the builder; the designer Francis Greenway or Standish Harris (as the Government Architect).



St Matthews Anglican Church
Dan Tuck 2009

Water Elevated Reservoir (WS0140)

Site not on route but visible on Fitzgerald Street

Sydney Water s170 Heritage & Conservation Register; SHI database 4575812

Elevated water storage constructed by John F. Sharkey for Windsor Council in 1889. Site comprises a cast iron reservoir on a tubular pipe frame in association with an unusual water filtering system including a concrete settling tank.



Windsor Elevated Reservoir
Dan Tuck 2009

Windsor Water Pumping Station (WPS62)

Sited on the proposed walking route, riverside, near the junction of Terrace Road and Fitzgerald Street.

Sydney Water s170 Heritage & Conservation Register; SHI database 4574708

Water pumping station constructed in 1960 and decommissioned in the 1970s. A riverside landmark, the structure is a good example of a large reinforced concrete electrical pumping station with a direct river source.



Water Pumping Station
Dan Tuck 2009

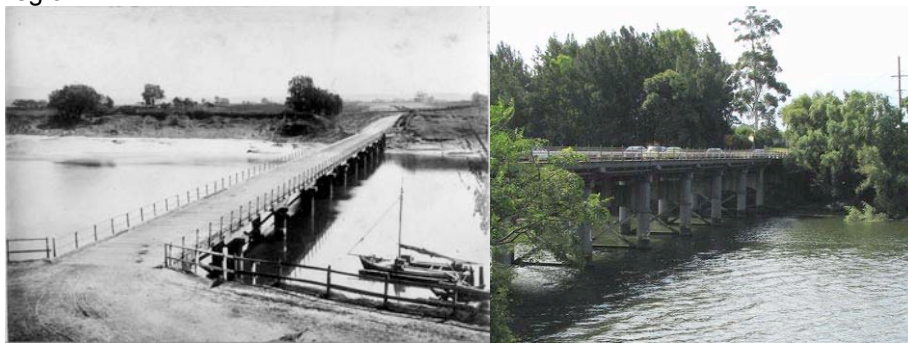
Windsor Bridge

Windsor Bridge (MR 182) over the Hawkesbury River.

RTA s170 Heritage & Conservation Register - Item Nos. 4309589; LEP Nos. 276

This bridge, constructed in the 1870s by Turnbull and Dixon, has eleven spans. The deck is of reinforced concrete formed in two longitudinal sections - each with four integral beams. The deck is typically supported on piers formed of two cast iron cylinders with cross bracing which have been raised to their present level by the addition of 2.4 m (8 feet) sections of caisson.

The RTA s170 register listing suggests that the bridge 'has a high level of historic, technical, aesthetic and social significance as an important historical and physical landmark in one of the State's pre-eminent historic towns, and in the wider Sydney region'.



Windsor Bridge
Dan Tuck 2009; SLNSW Item no. BCP 04405

Wharf Site

Windsor Wharf Reserve - Open Space - 6(a) DP DP1029964

There have been wharves on the banks of the Hawkesbury in the vicinity of Thompson Square/Windsor Bridge since the 1790s. One of the first was constructed in around 1795 when the area was referred to as Green Hills. There have been several wharves since including one by James MaGrath and John Howe in 1814 (Howe operated the local punt service). This wharf washed away and replaced by another reputedly designed by Francis

Greenway which was used well into the 20th century but was ultimately demolished. The existing wharf was constructed during the 1980s.

Remnants of the older wharf/wharves have been investigated by archaeologist Edward Higginbotham and it is understood some conservation work has been planned or undertaken in relation to remnants of an earlier wharf which are visible on the shoreline between the extant wharf and the bridge.



Windsor Wharves-Old & New
Dan Tuck: SLNSW GPO image presented in Nicholas 2004 cover

Interpretation

The following section outlines some potential directions on and off-path European cultural heritage interpretation.

Background

The township of Windsor has been the subject of informal and semi-directed heritage walking tours since at least the 1970s.⁴⁸ These walks focus on the principal heritage buildings and historic locations in the Windsor township - some of which are interpreted on-site (with plaques and placards) others of which have no or very limited interpretation.

Appropriate interpretation has the ability to provide a tangible connection between people, place and the past and there appears to be an opportunity with the proposed walk to establish a consolidated interpretive regime along the length of the proposed walk.

Themes & Locations

Historically, Windsor is focused on the Hawkesbury River with settlement and industry set primarily on its banks and elevated high-ground nearby. The proposed walk is set mainly along the river bank, however from the walk there is opportunity to interpret much of the towns history and landscape.

River

The river was the focus of activity for Aborigines and white settlers alike in the post-contact period and served as a transport corridor, means of communication, and a food, recreation, and water resource. It was (and remains) the effective life-blood of the the location.

The open-space reserve areas which have river vistas (especially Governor Phillip Reserve and Macquarie Park) would appear to be good locations from which to provide

⁴⁸ Bowd, D. 1977. *Walking Tour of Historic Windsor*. Hawkesbury Historical Society, Windsor; Windsor Artists Trail

general interpretation of the river and its history. Being large open areas with little infrastructure, a range of interpretive media would be appropriate including such things as information boards and low level plaques.

It is noted that South Creek was an important location for Aboriginal people in the post-contact period and that there existed a post-contact clan group referred to as the 'South Creek Tribe'. The location at which South Creek joins the Hawkesbury at the end of Governor Phillip Reserve may be an appropriate location to interpret this history.

River Bank

The riverbank was the focal point for early industry on the Hawkesbury including boat building, milling and grain storage, and riverside infrastructure such as wharves and jetties (and more recently the Windsor Bridge).

Much of the earliest activity was focused on the area riverside of Thompson Square (Howe Park/Windsor Wharf Reserve. This area is much altered and truncated by Bridge Road but there exists some opportunity for interpretation:

- Remnants of an early timber wharf exist in Windsor Wharf Reserve
- Flood history (there are numerous flood records and depictions of historic flooding at Windsor)

Further south into Howe Park:

- Boatbuilding was undertaken on the riverbank - Charles Beasley, for instance, built the ship Windsor in 1811 at the bottom of Fitzgerald Street
- A decommissioned water pumping station (c.1960s) at the junction of The Terrace and Fitzgerald Street is a highly visible remnant of Council provision of utility services

High-ground

High-ground above the major floodlines was the focus of settlement, commerce and administrative infrastructure.

The most significant area is **Thompson Square**, an acknowledged conservation area comprising a town square with historic residential and commercial buildings about. This location is already partly interpreted but overall interpretation is difficult given both the slope of the land and the dissected nature of the locale. That said, there remains discreet opportunities for a range of interpretive locations and strategies - principally focused on the square (an early example of insightful town planning) and the commercial buildings around it including the Doctors House and the Macquarie Arms Hotel.

The other important high-ground area is the **George Street North Precinct** which comprises a cluster of intact houses spanning a number of historic periods as well as the sites of Old Government House (represented by 41 George Street but formerly extending beyond it as the Governor's domain) and the Hannabas Dairy (23-27 George Street).

This is a residential neighbourhood and interpretive strategies for the area would have to carefully considered and presumably be low-key. It would appear to be best to interpret the precinct rather than the individual items - with the possible exception of the Governor's residence site (already marked with a commemorative plaque) and the former dairy.

It is also noted that historic houses are present on both sides of the George Street (which is dog-legged) and that there are presently few areas to cross over it safely. Interpretive strategies and locations should bear this mind.

Other

Other opportunities for interpretation relate not directly to proposed path route but to 'hidden history' and items visible only at a distance.

- Recent archaeological excavation in the vicinity of the new Hawkesbury Regional Museum has revealed large numbers of Aboriginal objects stone artefacts providing tangible evidence of Aboriginal life near the river.⁴⁹ There may be opportunity for 'tie-in' interpretation focusing on the area's buried history, as well as providing a connection to the nearby museum which thematically interprets local history.
- Items which impose themselves on the skyline along the proposed walk include the 1880s elevated water reservoir in Fitzgerald Street (visible from Howe Park) and the imposing spire of St Matthews Anglican Church (c.1810s) which is visible from Macquarie and Deerubbin Parks.

It is considered advisable that the development proponent consult with the Hawkesbury City Council's heritage advisor on both the nature of the interpretive scheme adopted for the walking track and its presentation (media; appropriateness; location of interpretive points).

Interpretation Plan

It is noted here that one method of ensuring a comprehensive, consistent and appropriate interpretive regime is to prepare an **Interpretation Plan** (IP) for consideration by Council and/or the NSW Heritage Branch. An Interpretation Plan is a document that provides the policies, strategies and detailed advice for interpreting a heritage item. It is based on research and analysis and plans to communicate the significance of the item, both during a conservation project and in the ongoing life of the item. The plan identifies key themes, storylines and audiences and provides recommendations about interpretation media. It includes practical and specific advice about how to implement the plan.

Refer NSW Heritage Branch guidelines Heritage Interpretation Policy at <http://www.heritage.nsw.gov.au/docs/interpretationpolicy.pdf>

Legislation & Policy

The following section details heritage legislation considerations and general policy.

The main documents that protect Windsor historic (non-indigenous) heritage and outline its management are:

- NSW Heritage Act 1977 (as amended to 2008)
- Hawkesbury LEP (amended to 2008)

NSW Heritage Act

The NSW Heritage Act 1977 (as amended) is the principle legislation governing the management of heritage items (relics and places containing relics) in NSW.

Heritage structures, ruins, and sub-surface archaeological features and deposits are afforded automatic statutory protection under the relic's provisions of the Act.

⁴⁹ Evan Raper, Austral Archaeology, pers. comm. with Paul Irish (MDCA) 8/1/09.

Built Heritage

The Act provides statutory protection for items listed on the State Heritage Register (SHR).

Archaeology

Sections 139 to 145 of the Act prevent the excavation or disturbance of land for the purpose of discovering, exposing or moving a relic, except by a qualified archaeologist to whom an excavation permit has been issued by the Heritage Branch of NSW Department of Planning.

The relevant permits are an s60 permit for state significant SHR listed sites and an s140 permit for non-SHR listed sites. There are some circumstances (generally for minor, low impact works) in which a permit is not required. Such circumstances are outlined in the Heritage Council's lists of general exemptions/exceptions.

The NSW Heritage Act 1977 can be found online at http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/nsw/consol_act/ha197786/

Hawkesbury LEP (amended to 2008)

The Hawkesbury LEP is the local government planning instrument that outlines heritage management requirements at Part 3 (sections 26 - 30) and lists heritage items at Schedule 1 (Heritage Items). This is part of the obligations under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

The relevant sections of Part 2 are presented as **attachment 1**.

The most pertinent section with regards to the path proposal is section 28 'development in the vicinity of heritage items' which states that:

Council shall not grant consent to an application to carry out development in the vicinity of a heritage item unless it has made an assessment of the effect the carrying out of that development will have on the heritage significance of the item and its setting.⁵⁰

Implications

The implications of the Heritage Act and the relevant provisions of the LEP are that development proposals directly or indirectly related to heritage items require assessment to determine the likely impact of the proposed works on heritage items and their respective settings.

Refer **Recommendations**.

Recommendations

Acknowledging:

- LEP requirements to assess the impact of a proposal on heritage items and their setting;
- the importance of avoiding the disturbance of buried relics; &
- the intention to interpret cultural heritage along the proposed walking track route.

It is recommended that:

⁵⁰ Hawkesbury LEP section 28; P. 49

1. The development proponent or their key planning consultants engage in liaison with the Hawkesbury City Council's Heritage Advisor regarding the proposed walk; potential heritage impacts of installing the path; and any interpretive scheme associated with the path. Details are as Follows:
 - Dr Donald Ellsmore [Council Contact Nos. (02) 45604548]
2. Following consultation with Council's heritage advisor, a Statement of **Heritage Impact** (SoHI) should be prepared for the path proposal. This document should:
 - **detail** the nature of the path proposal including precise location; groundworks; path fabric; lighting & any other specific construction details
 - **assess** the likely impact of the works on the Windsor heritage streetscape - particularly in the Thompson Square and Windsor Wharf Reserve areas as well as the George Street North Precinct
 - **include** historical archaeological assessment if there are to be significant ground impacts or alterations to levels in the Thompson Square and wharf/bridge area and/or in the potential riverside green-space area between Governor Phillip Reserve and Windsor Wharf Reserve (currently zoned 6b)
 - **outline** a mitigation strategy to address any potential negative heritage impacts of the path proposal.

Refer NSW Heritage Branch guidelines Statements of Heritage Impact at http://www.heritage.nsw.gov.au/docs/hm_statementsofhi.pdf

3. It may be appropriate, pending discussion with Council's heritage to ensure an holistic and appropriate approach to heritage

Refer NSW Heritage Branch guidelines Heritage Interpretation Policy at <http://www.heritage.nsw.gov.au/docs/interpretationpolicy.pdf>

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Attachment 1

Hawkesbury LEP (amended to 2008)

Part 3 - Conservation & Heritage (Pp: 47-50)

26 Conservation areas

- (1) A person shall not, in respect of a conservation area:
 - (a) demolish or alter a building or work within the area,
 - (b) damage or move a relic, including excavation for the purpose of exposing or removing a relic, within the area,
 - (c) damage or despoil a place within the area, or
 - (d) erect a building on or subdivide land within the area,
except with the consent of the Council.
- (2) The Council shall not grant consent to an application under subclause (1) unless it has taken into consideration the extent to which the carrying out of the proposed development would affect the heritage significance of the conservation area.
- (3) Nothing in clause 9 or 10 of *State Environmental Planning Policy No 4—Development Without Consent* authorises the carrying out of development referred to in subclause (1) without the need to obtain development consent.
- (4) The Council shall not grant consent as referred to in subclause (1), being an application to erect a new building or to alter the exterior of an existing building, unless the Council has made an assessment of:
 - (a) the pitch and form of the roof,
 - (b) the style, size, proportion and position of the openings for windows and doors, and
 - (c) whether the colour, texture, style, size and type of finish of the materials to be used on the exterior of the building are compatible with the materials used in the existing buildings within the conservation area.
- (5) Development consent is not required by this clause for development described in the Table to clause 9B if:
 - (a) in the opinion of the Council:
 - (i) the proposed development is of a minor nature or consists of maintenance of the building, relic or place within a conservation area, and
 - (ii) the proposed development would not adversely affect the significance of the conservation area, and
 - (b) the proponent has notified the Council in writing of the proposed development and the Council has advised the applicant in writing before any work is carried out that it is satisfied that the proposed development will comply with this subclause.

27 Heritage items

- (1) A person shall not, in respect of a building, work, relic, tree or place that is a heritage item:
- (a) demolish or alter the building or work,
 - (b) damage or move the relic, including excavation for the purpose of exposing the relic,
 - (c) damage or despoil the place or tree,
 - (d) erect a building on or subdivide land on which the building, work or relic is situated or the land which comprises that place, or
- (e) damage any tree on land which the building, work or relic is situated or on the land which comprises the place,
- except with the consent of the Council.
- (2) The Council shall not grant consent to a development application under subclause (1) unless it has taken into consideration the extent to which the carrying out of the proposed development would affect the heritage significance of the item and any stylistic or horticultural features of its setting.
- (3) Development consent is not required by this clause for development described in the Table to clause 9B if:
- (a) in the opinion of the Council:
 - (i) the proposed development is of a minor nature or consists of maintenance of the heritage item, and
 - (ii) the proposed development would not adversely affect the significance of the heritage item, and
 - (b) the proponent has notified the Council in writing of the proposed development and the Council has advised the applicant in writing before any work is carried out that it is satisfied that the proposed development will comply with this subclause.

Note. The website of the Heritage Branch of the Department of Planning has publications that provide guidance on assessing the impacts of proposed development on the heritage significance of items (for example, *Statements of Heritage Impact*).

28 Development in the vicinity of heritage items

The Council shall not grant consent to an application to carry out development in the vicinity of a heritage item unless it has made an assessment of the effect the carrying out of that development will have on the heritage significance of the item and its setting.

29 Conservation incentives relating to heritage items

- (1) Nothing in this plan prevents the Council from granting consent to the use for any purpose of a building that is a heritage item or of the land on which that building is erected, if the Council is satisfied that:
 - (a) the use would have little or no adverse effect on the amenity of the area, and
 - (b) conservation of the building would be assisted by the granting of consent as referred to in this subclause.
- (2) The Council, when considering an application to erect a building on land on which there is a building which is a heritage item, may exclude from its calculation of the gross floor area of the buildings erected on the land the gross floor area of the heritage item:
 - (a) for the purpose of determining the floor space ratio, and
 - (b) for the purpose of determining the number of parking spaces to be provided on the site,

but only if the Council is satisfied that the conservation of the building which is a heritage item would be assisted by the Council granting consent as referred to in this subclause.

30 Heritage advertisements and notifications

- (1) Except as provided by subclause (2):
 - (a) the provisions of sections 84, 85, 86, 87 (1) and 90 of the Act apply to and in respect of:
 - (i) the demolition of a building or work that is a heritage item,
 - (ii) the demolition of a building or work within a conservation area, and
 - (iii) the use of a building or land referred to in clause 29 for the purposes which, but for that clause, would be prohibited under this plan,in the same way as those provisions apply to and in respect of designated development, and
 - (b) (Repealed)
- (2) Subclause (1) does not apply to the partial demolition of a heritage item or a building or work within a conservation area if, in the opinion of the Council, the partial demolition will be of a minor nature and will not adversely affect the heritage significance of the heritage item, building or work in relation to the environmental heritage of the City of Hawkesbury.

2.10 ENVIRONMENTAL

Windsor town centre is sited on a ridge of the Hawkesbury River floodplain. Much of the riparian corridor is subject to flood events disturbing plant communities and dumping foreign materials along the river banks.

There have been some efforts to stabilize banks and revegetate the riparian corridor in Windsor. Along Howe Park there is a large community of River She Oaks (*Casurina cunninghamiana*) and Parramatta Wattle (*Acacia parramattensis*). Exotic trees such as Willows dominate much of the remaining riparian zone and there are large areas over run with weeds, particularly along Windsor Wharf Reserve & Derrubbin Park.

Macquarie Park

Eco Logical Australia was engaged by Environmental Partnerships on 22nd October 2008 to conduct an assessment of the vegetation and management issues within Macquarie Park.

Macquarie Park comprises six parcels of land, of which four parcels are Crown Land, and two are Council land. The parcels include:

- Lot 1 and 2 of DP 883806;
- Lot 7008 of DP 1032358;
- Lot 1 of DP 606535; and
- Part 1 of DP 226141.

Field Survey

Field survey of the vegetation within Macquarie Park was conducted on the 31st October 2008. The entire site was inspected to validate the vegetation communities within the park, and identify management issues impacting the parks ecological values.

Information collected relating to vegetation included:

- Vegetation community type
- Canopy condition
- Degree and types of disturbance.

Results

The vegetation within the Macquarie Park can be categorised into four distinct vegetation groupings, including:

1. 1. Exotic dominated grassland with Acacia dominated canopy.
2. 2. Exotic dominated grassland;
3. 3. Mown exotic dominated grassland; and
4. 4. Revegetation along riverbank.

1. Exotic dominated grassland with Acacia canopy

The vegetation within the western portion of the park, at Benn's Point is dominated by an Acacia canopy, with an exotic dominated groundcover. The canopy is dominated by Parramatta wattle (*Acacia parramattensis*) and coast myall (*Acacia binervia*). The understorey is dominated by a mixture of native and exotic species, including coast myall, white sally (*Acacia floribunda*), box elder (*Acer negundo*), green cestrum (*Cestrum* The

groundcover includes African lovegrass (*Eragrostis curvula*), moth vine (*Araujia sericifera*), balloon vine (*Cardiospermum grandiflorum*) and wandering jew (*Tradescantia fluminensis*).

This vegetation community has native species that are commonly associated with Alluvial Woodland. However, there is an absence of a Eucalyptus canopy, the acacia species often colonise disturbed areas and the understorey and groundcover is dominated by weed species. Given this the vegetation has been categorised as a weed plume.

2. Exotic dominated grassland

The exotic dominated grassland is located immediately to the west of the existing carpark within Macquarie Park. This grassland is dominated by exotic groundcover species, with the occasional scattered shrub or canopy species. The scattered canopy species include Parramatta wattle and coast myall.

The scattered understorey within the exotic dominated grassland includes green cestrum, castor oil plant (*Ricinus communis*), purpletop (*Verbena bonariensis*), stinking roger (*Tagetes minuta*), and fennel (*Foeniculum vulgare*).

The groundcover is dominated by African lovegrass, cobbler's peg (*Bidens pilosa*), quaking grass (*Briza maxima*), prairie grass (*Bromus catharticus*), kikuyu (*Pennisetum clandestinum*), fireweed (*Senecio madagascarensis*), and paddy's lucerne (*Sida rhombifolia*).

3. Mown Exotic dominated grassland

The mown exotic dominated grassland is located throughout the eastern portion of Macquarie Park. This exotic dominated grassland is maintained and has scattered planted canopy trees. The grassland is dominated by kikuyu, couch (*Cynodon dactylon*) and African lovegrass.

4. Revegetation along Riverbank

The revegetation along the riverbank is located to the west of the bridge crossing the Hawkesbury River. This area was re-planted with native species in 1996 as part of the Macquarie Park Restoration Project. This section of the riverbank has a canopy of river she-oak (*Casuarina cunninghamiana*), and a mid-canopy of prickly-leaved tee tree (*Melaleuca styphelioides*) and white sally (*Acacia floribunda*).

The groundcover is dominated by weed species including paddy's lucerne, flaxleaf fleabane (*Conyza bonariensis*), catsear (*Hypochaeris radicata*), balloon vine, moth vine, and cobbler's peg.

Management Issues & Recommendations

1. Weeds

Weeds within Macquarie Park is a management issue, dominating the floristic structure and diversity of the Park. In particular, there are large areas of African lovegrass and noxious weeds that hinder native regeneration within the park.

There are six species of noxious weed that are present within the site, including:

- *Lantana camara* (Lantana) – Noxious Class 5
- *Oxalis* sp. – Noxious Class 5
- *Ligustrum lucidum* (Broad-leaved Privet) – Noxious Class 4

- *Cestrum parqui* (Green Cestrum) – Noxious Class 3
- *Ligustrum sinense* (Small-leaved Privet) – Noxious Class 4
- *Salix* sp. (Willow) – Noxious Class 5 (DP1 2007)

The control class of noxious weed under the *Noxious Weed Act 1993* (NW Act) determines the legal requirements of the control authority for each species of weed declared as noxious within each LGA. The control classes to the noxious weeds found during the field survey include:

- **Class 3** -The plant must be fully and continuously suppressed and destroyed.
- **Class 4** -The growth and spread of the plant must be controlled according to the measures specified in a management plan published by the local control authority and the plant may not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed.
- **Class 5** -The requirements in the *Noxious Weeds Act 1993* (NWA) for a notifiable weed must be complied with.

Under the *NW Act*, local councils are responsible for the administration of the Act. The administration of this Act may include:

- The development, implementation, coordination and review of noxious weed control policies and district noxious weed control programs;
- Inspection of lands under Council control;
- Control of noxious weeds on Council lands including certain roads; and
- Inspection of private and public lands and ensuring, so far as practicable, that occupiers of private and public lands carry out their legal obligations to control noxious weeds.

The Hawkesbury River County Council (HRCC) is the control authority for the Hawkesbury LGA area. The control measures outlined within the HRCC management plan for Class 4 weeds are provided in Table1.

Table 1: Control Measures for weeds under HRCC Management Plan. (HRCC 2006)

TABLE 2.5: CONTROL MEASURES FOR WEEDS UNDER HRCC MANAGEMENT PLAN (HRCC 2006)		
Common Name	Scientific Name	Control Measures
Broad-leaved Privet	<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treat all Privet trees with a herbicide registered for control in the manner according to the label or any permit for that herbicide; • Mechanical removal of plants
Small-leaved Privet	<i>Ligustrum sinense</i>	Treat all Privet trees with a herbicide registered for control in the manner according to the label or any permit for that herbicide <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mechanical removal of plants

Weed management across the entire park should be undertaken and not only include noxious weeds, but any non-native plant that is not incorporated into the landscaping of the park. Particular attention should be made to manage African lovegrass within the western parts of the park.

Details of specific weed control techniques to be used, such as cut and paint, scrape and paint, herbicide spraying and hand weeding, are described in the NSW DPI Noxious and Environmental Weed Control Handbook and Brodie (1999). The principles of bush regeneration and techniques for triggering natural regeneration should be adopted, in line with the Bradley Method and other techniques described in Buchanan (2000).

Table 2: General weed control techniques.

TABLE 2.6: GENERAL WEED CONTROL TECHNIQUES	
Weed Type	Control Method
Trees-Privet, Willow	Chip and poison for large trees
Soft weeds and seedlings-Crofton, Nightshade etc	Hand pulling in small areas or spraying in larger areas
Weeds with bulblets-Onion weed, Arrowhead vine	Carefully remove entire plant and tubers
Woody weeds-Lantana, Privet Camphor laurel	Cut stump and poison
Climbers and Scramblers-Madeira vine, Morning glory	Stem scrape and apply herbicide
Bush Regeneration	Follow up treatment of cleared area heavy bank mulching using woodchip and replanting with native species

Weed biomass removed from areas undergoing weed control are to be taken to appropriately licensed facilities that are able to receive green waste. Techniques of primary weed control, particularly for woody weeds, will use methods that will not encourage flushes of secondary weed growth following primary work. This includes leaving treated, non-seeding weed biomass *in situ* rather than creating piles.

Weed management should be undertaken on a regular basis (at least weekly) in the peak growing seasons and monthly in the cooler periods.

2. Access

Access issues within Macquarie Park are contributing to soil erosion, compaction, weed infestation and preventing regeneration. The access tracks within the park need to be assessed based on their condition (e.g. sealed or unsealed, widths, signage) and a decision made to maintain, upgrade or close access tracks within the park.

All tracks that are to be closed, should undergo some form of rehabilitation, which may involve blocking access, bush regeneration at the access points and then along the track, and, if necessary, temporary signage.

3. Litter

There are a number of areas within Macquarie Park where litter presents an issue. This could be attributed to recreational use or stormwater. Litter is aesthetically unpleasant and can negatively impact ecosystems by:

- Smothering vegetation
- Increasing nutrient levels in bushland and waterways
- Spreading weed propagules
- Killing fauna

There should be signage within the park educating users about proper litter disposal methods. This needs to be supported by an adequate supply of covered bins in recreation areas to minimise litter in bushland areas.

Conclusion

The vegetation located within the park is highly disturbed, and contains no remnant vegetation communities. The vegetation within the park can be categorised as either weed plume, or exotic dominated grassland. There are a number of management issues that should be incorporated into a plan of management, in particular weed control is of the greatest importance.

TABLE 2.7: SPECIES LIST	
Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Acacia binervia</i>	Coast Myall
<i>Acacia floribunda</i>	White Sally
<i>Acacia parramattensis</i>	Parramatta Wattle
<i>Acer negundo</i> *	Box Elder
<i>Acetosa sagittata</i> *	Turkey Rhubarb
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i> *	Tree of Heaven
<i>Araujia sericifera</i> *	Moth Vine
<i>Arundo donax</i> *	Giant Reed
<i>Bidens pilosa</i> *	Cobbler's Pegs
<i>Bidens subalternans</i> *	Greater Beggar's Ticks
<i>Briza maxima</i> *	Quaking Grass
<i>Bromus catharticus</i> *	Prairie Grass
<i>Cardiospermum grandiflorum</i> *	Balloon Vine

<i>Casuarina cunninghamiana</i>	River Sheoak
<i>Casuarina glauca</i>	Swamp Oak
<i>Cestrum parqui</i> *	Green Cestrum
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i> *	Spear Thistle
<i>Conyza bonariensis</i> *	Flaxleaf Fleabane
<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	Common Couch
<i>Dichondra repens</i>	Kidney Weed
<i>Eragrostis curvula</i> *	African Lovegrass
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i> *	Fennel
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> *	Honey Locust
<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i> *	Catsear
<i>Lantana camara</i> *	Lantana
<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i> *	Broad-leaved Privet
<i>Ligustrum sinense</i> *	Small-leaved Privet
<i>Melaleuca styphelloides</i>	Prickly-leaved Tea Tree
<i>Melia azedarah</i>	White Cedar
<i>Microlaena stipoides</i>	Weeping Meadow Grass
<i>Oxalis</i> sp.*	
<i>Pennisetum clandestinum</i> *	Kikuyu
<i>Ricinus communis</i> *	Castor Oil Plant
<i>Salix</i> sp.*	Willow Species
<i>Senecio madagascarensis</i> *	Fireweed
<i>Sida rhombifolia</i> *	Paddy's Lucerne
<i>Solanum mauritianum</i> *	Wild Tobacco Bush
<i>Tagetes minuta</i> *	Stinking Rodger
<i>Tradescantia fluminensis</i> *	Wandering Jew
<i>Verbena bonariensis</i> *	Purpletop
<i>Wahlenbergia gracilis</i>	Australian Bluebell

Deerubbin Park

Deerubbin Park contains some old Eucalyptus trees bordering the car park and vehicle access road. Weeds largely dominate the riparian zone. The site has a large internal area of mown lawn that is currently irrigated by hand. The future management of both riparian vegetation and turf would benefit from a maintenance edge

Governor Phillip Reserve

The riparian zone to most of Governor Phillip Reserve is largely constructed and free from vegetation other than slashed grasses. The internal vegetation of the reserve is turf and trees. There are many established and valuable exotic and native trees within the reserve. The vehicle access is lined with an avenue planting of poplars and near the boat launch there are large stands of casuarinas. There is potential to increase the existing tree canopy in the reserve, particularly along the event viewing embankment. The riparian zone could be revegetated in some areas whilst constructing water access points to

discourage erosion. Garden beds or an understorey could also be created in some areas of the park to improve the diversity of vegetation.

Holland's Paddock

Holland's Paddock consists of a flat turf area flanked by embankments. There are some large established exotic trees and an area of garden bed bordering the guide hall car park. Water tanks situated underneath the observation deck are available for irrigation which could be used to create screen plantings against the *Windsor Riverview Shopping Centre*. Turf areas are also quite dry during summer months and would benefit from irrigation.

Howe Park

The *Terrace* section of Howe Park is an intensely landscaped section of Windsor's foreshore. There are large native and exotic trees forming a well shaded promenade with low planter beds containing exotic shrubs. The riparian zone along the *Terrace* was regenerated some years ago and some large casuarinas are thriving (there are some complaints that these trees are obscuring views to the northern bank). The western section of Howe Park contains some excellent large Eucalyptus trees. It is a mainly open grassed area with some small native grass beds. Vegetation is currently slashed to a certain point of the riparian zone which is dominated by weeds.

Thompson Square

Thompson Square contains a few significant, large exotic trees. The square is well shaded but the quality of the turf surface is poor and undulating over root growth from trees. The area of Thompson Square separated by Bridge Road is similar with some low shrub plantings contained to the borders.

Windsor Wharf Reserve

The riparian zone of Windsor Wharf Reserve is a highly disturbed weed infestation. Internally there are turf, low shrub areas and a clump of casuarinas separating the upper and lower car parking areas

3.0 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

3.1 INTRODUCTION

Community consultation has been a key component in the preparation of this plan of management. Hawkesbury City Council has promoted 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.

A community workshop was held during preparation of the draft plan of management (refer to 3.2 *Community Meeting*). 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.

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.

This Plan of Management also references issues brought forward by previous Management Plans, specifically the *Macquarie Park POM*, *Hollands Paddock POM* & *Draft Windsor Masterplan*.

3.2 COMMUNITY MEETING

A community meeting was held in the Tebbutt Room, Deerubbin Centre at 6.30pm on Monday 17th November 2008. Hawkesbury City Council advertised the meeting through distribution of an invitation flyer, which also contained a survey and an advertisement was placed in the Hawkesbury Courier. Council also posted notices of the meeting in key locations around Windsor.

In addition to the study team; Adam Hunter (AH) & Simon Hall, there was 1 Councillor , 3 council staff & 15 local residents in attendance. The following table (*table 3.1*) gives a detailed summary of the issues raised during the community meeting

3.3 KEY ISSUES

The study group facilitated the community meeting. Participants were prompted to comment on issues relating to both individual parks within the study area of this POM and the foreshore corridor as a whole. Issues generally related to the core values of;

- *Environmental*
- *Heritage*
- *Access & Recreation*
- *Social & Cultural*

A summary of key issues discussed follows in Table 3.1. This is supplemented in table 3.2 by a list of general landscape issues identified by the study team for each of the foreshore open spaces

TABLE 3.1: KEY ISSUES-COMMUNITY MEETING

Values	Issue
Environmental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The community group was concerned that opening new areas of the foreshore to public accessibility could have detrimental environmental impacts; • Further to this point was a feeling that current council maintenance for Windsor parks and reserves was already stretched and that additional open space would exacerbate this problem ; • There was a desire to protect existing views of the river and the varied “natural” or “cultural” visual character the river provides; • The community group was concerned that additional foreshore paths may cause erosion of banks; • There was also concern that any infrastructure would need to consider flood events in it’s alignment and construction; • Liability and safety were also concerns with the foreshore trails proximity to the river; • There were some final complaints on weed encroachments from council lands onto private property; • The weed infestation along the riparian zone was identified as an issue for the site ,
Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most of the group felt that the European heritage of the town was primarily setback from the river and that a foreshore trail would not take advantage of this, as such links back to the town centre are required; • There was a strong sense from the group that the towns flooding history was important as a thing that defined it’s relationship to the river; • An idea of the river as a corridor important to the essence of aboriginal and European settlement was raised; • There was general support for an on-street path connecting the town centre to Governor Phillip Reserve, although there was some concern that George Street may loose it’s heritage character if this was not designed in a sensitive way, and • There was a concern from the group that Governor Phillip Reserve was not a good place to link the GRW to the area to the east as there was no obvious place for a crossing of South Creek. It was suggested that the trail could be pulled back along Pitt Street to take advantage of heritage building and to use an existing South Creek crossing point.
Access & Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stroller access is lacking for many parks/reserves in Windsor. • It was felt that the current use of Macquarie Park as a canoe/kayak launching area could be consolidated with better amenity (storage facilities) and possibly a hire operation. • There was an idea that there should be more picnic tables, but that their placement should be targeted as some open spaces would not/are not appropriate for this use. • Howe Park was identified as a place where people loiter and drink alcohol. • Hollands Paddock was identified as a park that could be more intensely designed, in particular a member of the group felt that a playground would be good there. • There was a general feeling that Governor Phillip Reserve powerboat events could be managed better, the key issue being exclusive access for paying users on major event days and noise levels are significant. • This being said, the group supported the ongoing use of the park for these events. • It was hoped that the proposed RTA bridge replacement could facilitate an exclusively pedestrian/cycle access to/ from Howe and Macquarie Parks. • Council representatives noted that improved cycle/pedestrian access would be incorporated in the new bridge design.

KEY ISSUES-COMMUNITY MEETING CONTINUED...

Values

Access & Recreation

Issue

- There was a comment from the group that there was not enough parking within the town centre to access public spaces (particularly Thompsons Square).
- There was a desire from the group that the supermarket be screened in Holland's Paddock.
- Holland's Paddock is seen as a quality park space
- The group overwhelmingly agreed that Hollands Paddock was a strategic point to place more amenities play facilities and seating).
- It was agreed that the operational hours of the live entertainment should remain as currently used (ie, finished by 4.00pm) to manage noise levels in Thompson Square.
- One member of the group suggested that there needed to be toilet facilities in Thompson Square.
- Safety of road crossings was a factor for people being able to access Macquarie Park from the southern bank. There was an idea from the group that canoe/kayak launch facilities should be established near the beach and that a hire operation would work well at that site (in Macquarie Park).
- Road and parking uses are significant impacts on Macquarie Park
- Governor Phillip Reserve is isolated as a consequence of there being no through access
- It was thought that the general impact from powerboat events could be managed more effectively.
eg:
 - limitation of controlled area events
 - restrictions of controlled areas
 - Power boat authorities to develop traffic and parking management plan
 - Noise/operational hours control
- The existing fence, which separates foreshore park space from inland lots, perceived as the extent of publicly usable/accessible land and that the inland portion of Governor Phillip Reserve was not for public use despite it being community land.0
- Most members of the group were unaware that these lots were actually public land.
- From this realization there was some suggestion of making better use of this land including removal of fence.
- One idea was to have a playing field.
- It was agreed by the group that creating a separate road entry to these lots of the park may be a strategy worth examining.
- AH noted the potential of a line marked cycle way to compliment the pedestrian path given the narrow and in some cases steep verge condition.
- A member of the group felt that George Street was too narrow to allow for a cycle way. AH noted that this issue can be reviewed.
- AH/Craig Johnson noted that the final location of South Creek crossing would be deferred as an ongoing task, the focus of this POM was the Governor Phillip Reserve (GPR) to Deerubbin Park linkages. As such one of the councils objectives was to provide a functional and day to day link (for both local and other users) from GPR to Windsor Wharf Reserve and the Town Centre

Social/Cultural

- There was a feeling from the group that the POM should have local residents as its focus rather than tourists who may come to the town to use the GRW. It was noted by the study team that it was essential the POM address both local and broader use.
- It was thought that there might need to be further playing fields for local users
- Again there was a concern expressed that any new projects would not be able to be maintained by council and that funds should be concentrated on improvements for existing open spaces
- Anti-social behaviour identified as a problem in Howe Park.
- Howe Park was a well used placed for picnicking (paved area) which was having the effect of pushing out anti-social use.
- There was a desire from the group that the supermarket be screened opposite Hollands Paddock.
- Hollands Paddock park is seen as a quality park space

KEY ISSUES-COMMUNITY MEETING CONTINUED...

Values

Social & Cultural

Issue

- The group felt that live music in Thompsons Square was generally a positive aspect of current park use and that a permanent amenity, such as a rotunda may be good to support this use.
 - The large mown grass area to the north of Macquarie Park (which currently holds events) was identified as a possible site for a growers market or other organized event.
 - There were some negative sentiments about the picnicking and play area of Macquarie Park and that the quality of these spaces was not good and too far setback from the river.
 - There was also a thought that the current operation of the restaurant and kiosk at Macquarie Park was not of a good standard.
 - A suggestion was put forward from the group to use Macquarie Park as a public car park overflow site for the town with a complimentary shuttle service.
 - It was felt that the wharf at Windsor Wharf Reserve needed to be used by more groups/individuals to justify upgrading.
 - It was stated that the boat ramp at Windsor Wharf Reserve was not used.
 - There was some opposition from members of the group that identified themselves as being 'peninsula' residents, to the idea of new playing fields, to the open spaces south of Gov Phillip Reserve in that it would cause more disturbance to their amenity.
- Members of the group (residents of Bridge Street that would be affected by the HCC 6(b) – Proposed Open Space zoning (ie. The "missing link" to Gov Phillip Reserve) stated that they believed that a scheme which directed foreshore access through their properties would:
- devalue properties;
 - cause security problems for residents;
 - reduce privacy for residents;
 - cause an area of visual seclusion that may lead to anti-social behaviour;
 - miss the opportunity to direct path past heritage buildings along George Street
 - and, cost too much for rate payers (in that in addition to path infrastructure, land would have to be acquired)

TABLE 3.2 KEY ISSUES-LANDSCAPE APPRAISAL

DEERUBIN PARK	Issue
HOWE PARK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management/ maintenance of maintained grass edge to natural vegetation of riparian edge. • Other weed encroachment to riparian edge • Optimising viewing points to river • Confirm status of carpark – currently sealed road / unsealed spaces – erosion issues / tree health impacts • What is best route for GRW through park – long term route through foreshore lands – interim route along Cornwallis Road • Management/ maintenance of maintained grass edge to natural vegetation of riparian edge. • Paved path and related landscape / seating areas is becoming dated – potential to update to: address security issues, provide viewing / seating areas where views to river can be managed and maintained, that recognises key linkage points back up to town centre, that provides nodal gathering / event space
HOLLANDS PADDOCK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elevated edge to shopping centre carpark – dominant and unattractive frontage – landscape treatment required • Improved pedestrian linkage to shopping centre desirable through signage or improvements to pedestrian pathways; including crossings, soft landscaping and legibility. • Location of pedestrian crossing point to Howe Park is not ideal – at corner at base of slope – review opportunities to improve crossing point and provide greater pedestrian priority • Tree planting lacks coordinating scheme to: define spaces within park, define road edges, provide shade for larger gatherings • Identified by community as potential play space site – supporting shopping centre and town centre • Potential to reinforce pedestrian links to town centre (although steep) – eg Cable Street – has paved west footpath – but needs improved street tree canopy
THOMPSON SQUARE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacts / opportunities presented by future RTA bridge upgrading • Poor pedestrian access across Windsor Rd at The Terrace (foreshore) and at Bridge Street • Potential to formalise band uses in park through designated facility (eg Rotunda) and associated management regime (control of hours etc) • Potential for improved heritage interpretation in park
MACQUARIE PARK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management/ maintenance of maintained grass edge to natural vegetation of riparian edge. • Weed domination of vegetated area – poor natural values • Poor pedestrian / cycle links to Windsor Rd bridge as key linkage to town centre for park – potential to integrate improved access in new RTA bridge project • Dis-location of facilities (toilets, picnic tables, play space) from main foreshore area • Domination of vehicular access / parking to park character • Attractive character of well canopied embankments to river near bridge • Poor water quality impacts on potential recreational use of river and value of beach environment • Improved kayak access / launching desirable as key park use • Potential for loop walk through vegetated area – with mid point destination of river viewing point • RTA bridge project may provide opportunity to extend park to east
WINDSOR WHARF RESERVE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management/ maintenance of maintained grass edge to natural vegetation of riparian edge. • Isolated from main foreshore and town centre • Lack of role / function in open space system • Public role of wharf is unclear • Domination of vehicular access / parking to park character • Steep topography is limitation on potential use and accessibility • Impacts / opportunities of RTA Bridge – will reduce park area
GOVERNOR PHILLIP RESERVE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management/ maintenance of maintained grass edge to natural vegetation of riparian edge. • Poor shade provision to general park areas • Poor shade provision to carparking areas • Tree canopy overhanging waters edge to be extended to improve habitat values and park amenity • Desirable to define water access points for craft etc along park frontage – in consultation with user groups – potential armoured sections with landing structures – allowing improved natural edge to remainder – considering views • Coordinate vehicular management measures to improve visual amenity and function • Direction / route of GRW beyond reserve to east to be resolved (possible loop back into town as interim option) to guide other ongoing improvements to park • Potentially improved / enhanced relationship to open spaces to south • Potential recreational role of open spaces to south eg. playing fields

4.0 BASIS FOR MANAGEMENT

4.1 AIMS

This section of the plan of management has the following aims:-

- ❑ *to identify and assess key values associated with the community land ;*
- ❑ *to define the community land's role within the local area and broader district context;*
- ❑ *to assess the impact of existing uses, activities and development on identified key values;*
- ❑ *to establish the framework for sustainable management strategies consistent with community land objectives; and*
- ❑ *to provide a vision for the future of this community land.*

4.2 DETERMINING KEY VALUES

“Values” can be simply described as the things that make a place important. Management objectives must be based on a sound understanding of the resource base and associated values and the desire to protect and enhance those values..

The following key values have been developed through community consultation (refer to previous section) and further investigation, analysis and assessment.

The key values form the basis for the identification of management objectives (see *Table 4.1: Values, Issues & Objectives*). These objectives have also had regard for the core objectives of community land and crown land management (see *Section 4.3 Core objectives - Community & Crown Land Management*)

TABLE 4.1: VALUES, ISSUES & OBJECTIVES

Key Values

Environmental

- *Foreshore open spaces provide a potentially linked & integrated system*
- *Natural habitat/visual character*
- *Filter to the urban areas adjoining the river*

Heritage

- *Aboriginal cultural values of riverfront environment*
- *Significance of Windsor to the history of the Sydney region*
- *Presence of heritage fabric*

Access &

Recreation

- *Foreshore open spaces provide a potentially linked & integrated system*
- *Access functions at both the district & local levels*
- *Access enhances recreational amenity of individual parks*

Social & Cultural

- *Community role & importance of riverfront*
- *Place for gathering & events*

Objectives

- An integrated long-term vegetation management plan for Windsor foreshore open spaces
- Bio-diversity values of foreshore are improved
- River embankments are stable environments achieved through natural (soft) management where possible
- Vegetation management provides overall improvements to environmental values through the Windsor foreshore open spaces
- Existing heritage value within foreshore open spaces are preserved
- Park/reserve users are provided with an opportunity to learn about the heritage of the area, particularly the relationship of people to the river
- Future development of foreshore open spaces takes advantage and responds to the heritage aspects of Windsor
- Planning & management reflects the role & function of the open spaces as an integrated entity
- Planning & management strategies promote both cohesion and diversity through the overall open space entity
- Varied levels of safe access and connection between open foreshore spaces
- Universal accessibility applied to open space system where possible
- Local foreshore trail is incorporated into broader Great River Walk
- Lease/license arrangements add to community benefits and value of open space
- Lease/license arrangements are effectively managed to minimise impacts
- Adequate review provisions enable lease/license arrangements to respond to council needs/issues
- Special uses & various events take place in foreshore open space reflecting the values and character of the town and community
- Uses of open space associate the health and value of those parks & reserves to the ongoing interests of the community
- Engaging community interest in the heritage of Windsor

Issues

- Weed infestations along riparian corridor
- Monoculture of park vegetation
- High level of maintenance singularly directed at turf mowing
- Poor quality or lack of existence of fauna habitats
- Protecting established trees from damage
- Erosion of river embankments
- Impact from flood events
- Poor water quality
- Loss of heritage value through inappropriate lease/license arrangements
- Loss of heritage character through inappropriate development of open space
- Engaging community interest in Windsor heritage
- Coordination and integration of interpretation
- Distribution of amenities in parks being inadequate or inappropriate for community use
- Lack of recreation diversity (passive/active) within foreshore open space
- Ensuring that the Windsor foreshore has a legible identity
- Dangerous pedestrian crossing points
- Linkages between open spaces
- Provision of Equal access
- Educational value of open spaces
- Diversity of social/cultural/recreational experiences offered in the foreshore open spaces
- Level of recreational participation by the community

4.3 CORE OBJECTIVES-COMMUNITY & CROWN LAND

As derived from the *Local Government Act 1993* and *Local Government Amendment Act 1998*, the management land categories is underpinned by core objectives.

Sports Ground

Core objectives:

Encourage, promote and facilitate recreational pursuit in the community involving organised and informal sporting activities and games. Ensure such activities are managed having regard to any adverse impact on nearby residences.

Park

Core objectives:

Encourage, promote and facilitate recreational, cultural, social and educational pastimes and activities. Provide for passive recreational activities and pastimes and for the casual playing of games. Improve the land in such a way as to promote and facilitate its use to achieve the other core objectives for its management.

General Community Use

Core objectives:

Promote, encourage and provide for the use of land, and provide facilities on the land to meet the current and future needs of the local community and the wider public in relation to;

- a) public recreation and the physical, cultural, social and intellectual welfare or development of individual members of the public; and
- b) purposes for which a lease, licence or other estate may be granted in respect of the land (other than the provision of public facilities)

Natural Area-Watercourse

Core objectives:

- a) to manage watercourses so as to protect the biodiversity and ecological values of the instream environment, particularly in relation to water quality and water flows, and
- b) to manage watercourses so as to protect the riparian environment, particularly in relation to riparian vegetation and habitats and bank stability, and
- c) to restore degraded watercourses, and
- d) to promote community education, and community access to and use of the watercourse, without compromising the other core objectives of the category

Natural Area-Foreshore

Core Objectives:

- a) to maintain the foreshore as a transition area between the aquatic and the terrestrial environment, and to protect and enhance all functions associated with the foreshore's role as a transition area
- b) to facilitate the ecologically sustainable use of the foreshore, and to mitigate impact on the foreshore by community use

Core objectives of Crown Land Management

The core objectives of Crown Land management are listed in Section 11 of the *Crown Lands Act 1989*. These principles are outlined below.

- Observe environmental protection principles in relation to the management and administration of Crown Land;
- Conserve the natural resources of Crown Land (including water, soil, flora, fauna and scenic quality) wherever possible
- Encourage public use and enjoyment of appropriate Crown Land
- Encourage multiple use of Crown Land, where appropriate
- Use and manage Crown Land in such a way that both the land and its resources are sustained in perpetuity
- Occupy, use, sell, lease, licence, or otherwise deal with Crown Land in the best interests of the State, consistent with the above principles

4.4 VISION STATEMENT

The following statement provides a vision for the Windsor Great River Walk, which forms the basis for the following management strategies.

Creating and managing a foreshore open space corridor in Windsor that provides a valuable resource for recreation, cultural engagement and identity to the community both local and metropolitan, and that pursues sustainable best practice environmental management that contributes to the health of the broader river catchment system.

5.0 MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

5.1 MANAGEMENT APPROACH

The management strategies incorporated in this Plan of Management reflect a value-based approach. The first component of the management strategy is the action plan. This establishes a series of responses and required actions to the sites identified values and objectives for the future management of both the foreshore corridor as a whole and its component open spaces. From this basis a master plan (see section 6.0) direction for ongoing enhancement and management of the corridor and individual sites can be developed.

5.2 ACTION PLAN

The following Action Plan (refer to Table 6.1) shows management strategies relating to the whole corridor and then to each individual park/reserve within this Plan of Management study area. Each section includes the following:-

- *performance targets or management objectives;*
- *item or reference number;*
- *means of achievement or management actions_corridor;*
- *means of achievement or management actions_parks/reserves;*
- *means of assessment of the actions;*
- *priority ranking for each management action.*

Performance Target (Management Objectives)

The sections are divided into the following headings in accordance with the key values and core objectives as shown:-

1. Environmental

To create a potentially linked and integrated environmental system along foreshore open spaces. To protect habitat and visual character. To filter impacts from urban areas adjoining the river

2. Heritage

To conserve and communicate Aboriginal cultural values of riverfront environment. To conserve and communicate the role of Windsor in the European history of the Sydney region. To integrate foreshore open spaces with the heritage fabric of the town.

3. Access & Recreation

To provides a potentially linked and integrated foreshore open space network. To develop a management strategy for open space that supports an idea of both local and regional foreshore access. To use

the principle of access to enhance the recreational amenities of individual parks.

4. Social & Cultural

Encourage local community participation with open spaces to enhance value of riverfront to Windsor. To use foreshore open spaces for cultural events and gatherings.

Performance targets

The *desired outcomes* and *core objectives* have guided the development of *performance targets* in the Action Plan.

Item no./ Management actions

The performance targets or management objectives provide the framework for developing specific *management actions* or the *means of achievement*.

Performance measures

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

Priorities

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

HIGH	=	1-2 year
MID-TERM	=	3-4 years
LONG-TERM	=	up to 5 years

TABLE 5.1: ACTION PLAN (ENVIRONMENTAL)

Performance Target (Management Objectives)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions-Corridor)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions-Parks/Reserves)	Item	Means of Assessment (of actions)	Priority
An integrated long-term vegetation management plan for Windsor foreshore open spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Undertake a Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) for the Windsor foreshore corridor •Ensure outcomes from VMP provide a framework for future vegetation management of foreshore open spaces •Seek input and possible funding from various state and federal bodies involved in environmental foreshore projects/issues •Establish foreshore regeneration projects for all parks/reserves containing riparian areas based on framework provided by the VMP •Undertake targeted weed management to foreshore zones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Undertake weed management programme to vegetated area of Macquarie Park 	A01	•Completion of VMP	High
			A02	•Adoption of VMP recommendations by Hawkesbury City Council (HCC)	High
			A03	•Establishment of input and or funding for foreshore vegetation management with relevant state or federal bodies	High
			A04	•Implementation of VMP recommendations by Hawkesbury City Council (HCC)	Mid-term
			A05	•Progressive reduction in percentage of weed encroachment to foreshore	Mid-term
			A06	•Progressive reduction in percentage of weed encroachment to vegetated area of Macquarie Park	Mid-term
Bio-diversity values of foreshore are improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Undertake a Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) for the Windsor foreshore corridor •Undertake a habitat/wildlife study for foreshore open spaces •Establish vegetation along riparian corridors in parks & reserves where appropriate • Maximise overhanging tree canopy to foreshores to optimise aquatic habitat values and landscape / visual amenity 		A07	•Completion of VMP	High
			A08	•Completion of habitat/wildlife study	Mid-term
			A09	•Creation of new riparian habitats	Long-term
			A10	•Increased canopy adjoining foreshore	Mid-term
River embankments are stable environments achieved through natural (soft) management where possible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Establish bank stabilisation measures •Restrict activities contributing to embankment erosion •Ensure recreational access does not cause erosion to embankments 		A11	•Creation of bank stabilisation measures	Mid-term
			A12	•Establishment of standards relating to the restriction of activities leading to erosion	High
			A13	•Establishment of standards relating to the restriction of recreational use of foreshore open spaces to avoid erosion	High

TABLE 5.1: ACTION PLAN (ENVIRONMENTAL) continued...

Performance Target (Management Objectives)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions-Corridor)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions-Parks/Reserves)	Item	Means of Assessment (of actions)	Priority
River embankments are stable environments achieved through natural (soft) management where possible	Establish benchmarks for environmental quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish foreshore embankment stabilisation projects for all parks/reserves containing riparian areas • Define water access points in Gov Phillip Res for craft etc along park frontage – in consultation with user groups – potential armoured sections with landing structures – allowing improved natural edge to remainder – considering views 	A14	• Establishment of projects	Mid-term
			A15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of defined water access points • Reduction in foreshore erosion to Gov Phillip Res 	Mid-term
Vegetation management provides overall improvements to environmental values through the Windsor foreshore open spaces		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake tree planting design integrated with other park improvements to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maquarie Park - Howe Park - Hollands Paddock • Undertake tree planting design integrated with other park improvements to Gov Phillip Res - parkland areas and car parking • Review parking surfaces and parking area definition to Deerubin Park to improve function and ensure long term health of tree canopy • Investigate and implement more practical and sustainable maintenance edge between maintained grass areas and natural foreshore edge - eg, gravel path or ballast lined bio-filtration trench as coordinated treatment to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deerubin Reserve - Howe Park - Windsor Wharf Reserve - Gov Phillip Reserve 	A16	• Review environmental quality based on benchmarks	Long-term
			A17	• Improved tree canopy and visual character to parks	Mid-term
			A18	• Improved tree canopy and visual character to parks & car parking	Mid-term
			A19	• Long-term health of tree canopy	High
			A20	• Reduced and more effective maintenance of edge to maintained grass area	High

TABLE 5.2: ACTION PLAN (HERITAGE)

Performance Target (Management Objectives)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions-Corridor)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions-Parks/Reserves)	Item	Means of Assessment (of actions)	Priority
<p>Existing heritage value within the Windsor Foreshore area is protected from inappropriate development</p> <p>Park/reserve users are provided with an opportunity to learn about the heritage of the area, particularly the relationship of people to the river</p> <p>Future development of foreshore open spaces takes advantage and responds to the heritage aspects of Windsor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Ensure development applications prepare a Statement of Heritage Impacts (only applicable to developments in areas containing heritage value). 		B01	•Preparation of Statement of Heritage Impacts for developments that may affect existing heritage value in Windsor	Mid-term
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Establish an Interpretation Plan for the Windsor foreshore parks and reserves that outlines principals for the erection of interpretive heritage information to ensure council achieves a comprehensive and consistent approach 		B02	•Preparation of Interpretation plan	Mid-term
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Organise cultural events that celebrate and orientate the town of Windsor and the river 		B03	•Occurrence of events	Mid-term
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Ensure all future development responds to register of significant heritage sites (<i>as established in item B01</i>) 		B04	•Response to significant heritage sites	Mid-term
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Consider the development of a heritage circuit from Howe Park, through Thompsons Square, George Street and Pitt Street (Courthouse & Tebbutts Observatory) integrating this function into longer term improvements to these spaces and through interpretation 	B05	•Establishment of heritage circuit	Mid-term
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Emphasise Macquarie Park's beach as an area of cultural heritage, to engage the community with the challenges of improving water quality 	B06	•Establish heritage interpretation at Macquarie beach site	Mid-term

TABLE 5.2: ACTION PLAN (HERITAGE) continued...

Performance Target (Management Objectives)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions-Corridor)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions-Parks/Reserves)	Item	Means of Assessment (of actions)	Priority
<p>Future development of foreshore open spaces takes advantage and responds to the heritage aspects of Windsor</p> <p>The proposed RTA Windsor Bridge Replacement project allows for a reinstatement of historic connection between the Hawkesbury water front and Thompson Square</p> <p>Local Aboriginal heritage is communicated through appropriate interpretation elements.</p>		•Develop a Conservation Management Plan for Thompson Square	B07	•Adoption of Conservation Management plan for Thompson Square	Mid-term
		•Reinstatement of connection between the Hawkesbury water front and Thompson Square is perused through Landscape design and sensitivity to the historical role of Thompson Square is carried through any Landscape modifications to the area	B08	•Completion of Landscape projects that reinstate a connection between the Hawkesbury waterfront and Thompson Square.	High-pending completion of RTA project
			B09	•Consultation with local Aboriginal community groups informs preparation of Interpretation Plan	Mid-term
Areas of Aboriginal Archaeological value within the Windsor Foreshore Open Spaces are identified	<p>•Consult with the local Aboriginal community groups to determine appropriate ways to communicate the heritage of local Aboriginal people through interpretation</p> <p>•Incorporate the above values into the proposed Interpretation Plan (<i>item B02</i>)</p> <p>•Engage a qualified Archaeologist in conjuncture with a representative from the local Aboriginal community to undertake a broad field survey of Windsor to identify sites of possible heritage value</p>		B10	•Preparation of Archaeological field survey	Mid-term

TABLE 5.3: ACTION PLAN (ACCESS & RECREATION)

Performance Target (Management Objectives)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions-Corridor)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions-Parks/Reserves)	Item	Means of Assessment (of actions)	Priority
Planning & management reflects the role & function of the open spaces as an integrated entity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Future developments and ongoing maintenance of foreshore open space should respond to the idea of the foreshore integrated entity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Individual parks & reserves should be developed to contain similar elements of amenity and vegetation management that work as a legible element throughout the foreshore corridor 	C01	•Maintenance practices and future developments reflect the idea of foreshore as an integrated entity	High
			C02	•Establishment of linking elements of amenity and vegetation management	High
Planning & management strategies promote both cohesion and diversity through the overall open space entity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •A hierarchy of elements should be distributed through the foreshore open spaces so that parks and reserves have a diversity of attractors for users •Parks and reserves should specialise in the provision of appropriate recreational experiences 		C03	•Establishment of amenity hierarchy	High
			C04	•Establishment of individual park/reserve identity	Long-term
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Prepare landscape / improvement plan for Deerubin Park to consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - improvement of playing field and other organised sports amenities - upgrading of parking areas to improve function and reduce impacts on trees - Provide vehicular management / barrier system coordinated with all other foreshore parks 	C05	•Development of organised sports facilities	Long-term

TABLE 5.3: ACTION PLAN (ACCESS & RECREATION)continued...

Performance Target (Management Objectives)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions-Corridor)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions-Parks/Reserves)	Item	Means of Assessment (of actions)	Priority
Planning & management strategies promote both cohesion and diversity through the overall open space entity		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Prepare landscape / improvement plan for Howe Park to consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - updating and upgrading of the Terrace section of Howe Park as an high use picknicking area - re-establish views to Macquarie Park - address security issues - provide viewing / seating areas where views to river can be managed and maintained - recognise key linkage points back up to town centre - provides nodal gathering / event space - improves pedestrian linkages to Hollands Paddock 	C06	•Improved recreational and visual amenity of Howe Park	Long-term
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Investigation potential for reduction of area of turf and establishment of increased tree canopy to western area of Howe Park in coordination with overall plan for Howe Park 	C07	•Establishment of new plantings and reduction in recurrent lawn mowing	Mid-term
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Investigate improvement of pedestrian link from Maquarie St mall to Howe Park via Cable Street - potentially upgrade western side with pavement and street tree improvements 	C08	•Improved pedestrian linkage to mall	Long-term
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare landscape / improvement plan for Hollands Paddock to consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - greater level of recreational amenity to Hollands Paddock through enhanced arrangement and amount of tree planting - landscape treatment of edge to shopping centre - Improved pedestrian crossing / access to Howe Park 	C09	•Improved recreational and visual amenity of Holland's Paddock	Long-term
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Investigate and implement provision of play space to Hollands Paddock integrated with overall park design and access to other foreshore parks 	C10	•Provision of play space	Mid-term

TABLE 5.3: ACTION PLAN (ACCESS & RECREATION)continued...

Performance Target (Management Objectives)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions-Corridor)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions-Parks/Reserves)	Item	Means of Assessment (of actions)	Priority
Planning & management strategies promote both cohesion and diversity through the overall open space entity		•Reconstruct Windsor Wharf to allow for use by a wider variety of water vessels	C11	•Reconstruction of wharf	Mid-term
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare landscape / improvement plan for Windsor Wharf Reserve to consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - improved pedestrian access to The Terrace facilitated through RTA bridge replacement project - addressing 'dead-end' visual/spatial character of Windsor Wharf Reserve - activate use of foreshore spaces for fishing and other activities through reduction of spatial impacts of parking and access - integration of RTA bridge replacement to Windsor Road - Optimisation of slope as design feature - eg viewing areas - consideration of longer term potential for GRW access to be pursued along foreshore through 6b zoning - to supplement access to Bridge Street 	C12	•Improved recreational and visual amenity of Windsor Wharf Reserve	Long-term
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare landscape / improvement plan for Macquarie Park to consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - improved pedestrian access to the town centre facilitated through RTA bridge replacement project - improved linkage from park to bridge for pedestrians and cycles - extension of park area to east - extended shaded foreshore area - rationalisation and reconfiguration of vehicular access and parking areas to optimise recreational use of higher amenity foreshore spaces - upgrading of amenities - upgrading of play facilities - upgrading of picnic facilities - event use of "paddock" area - improved Kayak access to water - improved access to beach area - potential loop walk through vegetated area integrating river viewing point 	C13	•Improved recreational and visual amenity of Macquarie Park	Mid-term

TABLE 5.3: ACTION PLAN (ACCESS & RECREATION)continued...

Performance Target (Management Objectives)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions-Corridor)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions-Parks/Reserves)	Item	Means of Assessment (of actions)	Priority
Planning & management strategies promote both cohesion and diversity through the overall open space entity		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare landscape / improvement plan for Gov Phillip Reserve to consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - reduction of area of maintained turf at appropriate locations (eg. Adjoining residences - possible planted buffer - improved tree canopy through park - Improved tree canopy to riverfront and embankment for habitat and amenity improvements - Defined water access points for craft mooring 	C14	•Improved recreational and visual amenity of Governor Phillip Reserve	Mid-term
		•Establish kayak and canoe launching facilities near beach at Macquarie Park	C15	•Construction of launching facilities	Mid-term
		•Promote large mown turf area to the north of Macquarie Park as an event space	C16	•Establish calendar events	Mid-term
		•Investigate and implement as applicable the potential for valid recreational use of lands to south of Gov Phillip Reserve (currently used for event parking). Potential uses may include sporting fields, circuses and other events etc	C17	•Improved community uses of lands	Long-term
		•Pursue the proposed Rickaby's Creek footbridge to connect Deerubbin to Howe Park	C18	•Construction of footbridge	High
Safe connection of foreshore open spaces for pedestrians/cyclists		•Establish path along Deerubbin Park river foreshore and upgrades along Howe Park	C19	•Construction of pedestrian cycle/pedestrian path and consultation with RTA to ensure adequate connection are incorporated into new bridge design	Mid-term

TABLE 5.3: ACTION PLAN (ACCESS & RECREATION)continued...

Performance Target (Management Objectives)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions- Corridor)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions- Parks/Reserves)	Item	Means of Assessment (of actions)	Priority
Safe connection of foreshore open spaces for pedestrians/cyclists		•Implement on street link (to George Street) between Governor Phillip Reserve and Thompsons Square as a short to medium solution to existing missing link. Consider longer term provision of foreshore access to 6B Proposed Open Space subject to consideration of issues identified in community consultation - if ongoing public use determines that foreshore link would be of benefit in supplementing access to Bridge Street	C20	•Construction of on street link	High
		•Liaise with the RTA to establish a signalled crossing at the intersection of Bridge Road & George Street	C21	•Construction of signalled crossing	High
		Maintain current 6(b) zoning for foreshore zone between Governor Phillip Reserve & Windsor Wharf Reserve, and review desirability of potential implementation through acquisition or easement for the long-term management of weeds, water quality and embankment stabilisation.	C22	•Environmental quality for foreshore zone improved	Long-term
		•Establish a circuit trail connecting existing foreshore trail in Macquarie Park that loops through the park's interior	C23	•Construction of circuit	Long-term
Universal accessibility applied to open space where possible	•Ensure universal access occurs where the provision of recreational amenity is most intense (<i>refer item C03</i>)		C24	•Identification of areas in need of upgrading according to identified needs and the completion of such upgrading	High
Local foreshore trail is incorporated into broader Great River Walk Trail	Pursue all avenues of state & federal funding for foreshore access trails		C25	•Establishment of funding partnerships with state and federal bodies for Great River Walk	Mid-term

TABLE 5.4: ACTION PLAN (SOCIAL & CULTURAL)

Performance Target (Management Objectives)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions-Corridor)	Means of Achievement (Management Actions-Parks/Reserves)	Item	Means of Assessment (of actions)	Priority
Special uses & various events take place in foreshore open space reflecting the values and character of the town and community Uses of open space associates the health and value of those parks and reserves to the ongoing interests of the community	•Encourage appropriate use of parks for community events		D01	•Staging of community events	Mid-term
	•Engage special interest groups in the use of parks/reserves where appropriate		D02	•Establishing ongoing relationships between council and special interest groups	High
	•Pursue partnerships between user groups and council management in the use and care of parks and reserves		D03	•Effectiveness of lease/licensing agreements and establishment of new agreement that reflect a healthy community association with public open space	High
	•Encourage specialisation of recreational activities in parks & reserves where appropriate		D04	•Establish amenities for specialised information	Mid-term
Engaging community interest in the heritage of Windsor	•Incorporate heritage interpretation into future development of foreshore parks & reserves		D05	•Erection of heritage interpretive signage etc	Mid-term

6.0 MASTER PLAN

The Landscape Master plans (refer to *Figures 6.0-6.7*) identify key management actions to be implemented subject to available funding.



KEY

- 1 Future development of Derrubbin Park with coordination from the sports council should concentrate on the improvement of playing field and other organised sport amenities;
- 2 Establish a path along Derrubbin Park river foreshore;
- 3 Construct footbridge at Rickaby's Creek connecting Howe and Derrubbin Parks;
- 4 Reduce turfed area and establish native plantings;
- 5 Maintain current 6(b) zoning for future recreation;
- 6 Promote area as an event space;
- 7 Establish kayak and canoe launching facilities & emphasise cultural heritage of beach to engage the community with the challenges of improving water quality;
- 8 Provide a greater level of recreational amenity to Hollands Paddock (play space);
- 9 Preserve and upgrade 'terrace' section of Howe park as a high use picnicking area. Selective removal of trees to establish views across to Macquarie Park;
- 10 Consolidate parking and play spaces within Macquarie Park.
- 11 Pursue opportunities offered by the realignment of Windsor Bridge to enhance pedestrian linkage between Macquarie Park & Howe Park & reinstate Thompson Square;
- 12 Upgrade amenities at Thompsons Square to facilitate a greater intensity of events. A lease/license agreement is recommended for use of the square;
- 13 Liaise with RTA to establish a signalled crossing at the intersection of Bridge Road & George Street;
- 14 Reconstruct Windsor Wharf to allow for use by a wider variety of water vessels;
- 15 Re-design of Windsor Wharf Reserve to address dead-end character of the eastern area;
- 16 Maintain current 6(b) zoning for future riparian management;
- 17 Implement on street link between Governor Phillip Reserve & Thompsons Square;
- 18 Establish new areas of native/exotic plantings and reduce turfed areas;
- 19 New lease agreement to emphasize broader management of Governor Phillip Reserve during event days and an obligation to draft a parking management plan;











Native Plantings

Reduce area of turf where appropriate by establishing new areas of native plantings. This will not only diversify the visual character of open spaces but will also create habitat, improve run-off water quality, require less irrigation and may reduce maintenance

Apart from the proposed heritage trail, the cultural heritage of settlement along the Hawkesbury River should be celebrated through modes signage and possibly through cultural events that utilise the foreshore open spaces. The development of a Conservation Management Plan for Thompson Square should also be pursued.

Riparian corridor. Undertake Vegetation Management Plan (MIP) for Windsor foreshore corridor to provide a framework for council management. Pursue bank stabilisation and regeneration projects where appropriate. Seek input and possible funding from various state and federal bodies involved in environmental foreshore projects/issues

Legend:

-  Native Plantings
 -  Existing turf areas
 -  Proposed Great River Walk (existing path)
 -  Proposed Great River Walk (proposed path)
 -  Riparian regeneration areas
 -  Riparian spraying
 -  Proposed extension of Macquarie Park trail
 -  Proposed lookout points
 -  Proposed water access points
 -  Future links
- 0 50 150 250 M

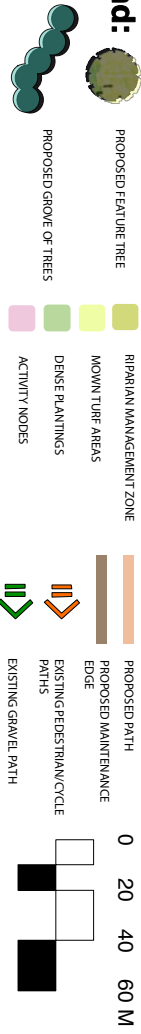
Master Plan
Figure: 6.0





Windsor Great River Walk
Environmental Partnership

Legend:



Deerubbin Park

Figure: 6.1
Recommendations



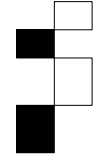


Windsor Great River Walk
Environmental Partnership

Legend:

- TRAFFIC CONTROL POINTS
- MOWN GRASS AREAS
- DENSE PLANTINGS
- PERMANENT FENCING
- EVENT DAY TEMPORARY FENCING
- EVENT DAY AREA PROPOSED FOR NEW LEASE/LICENCE AGREEMENT

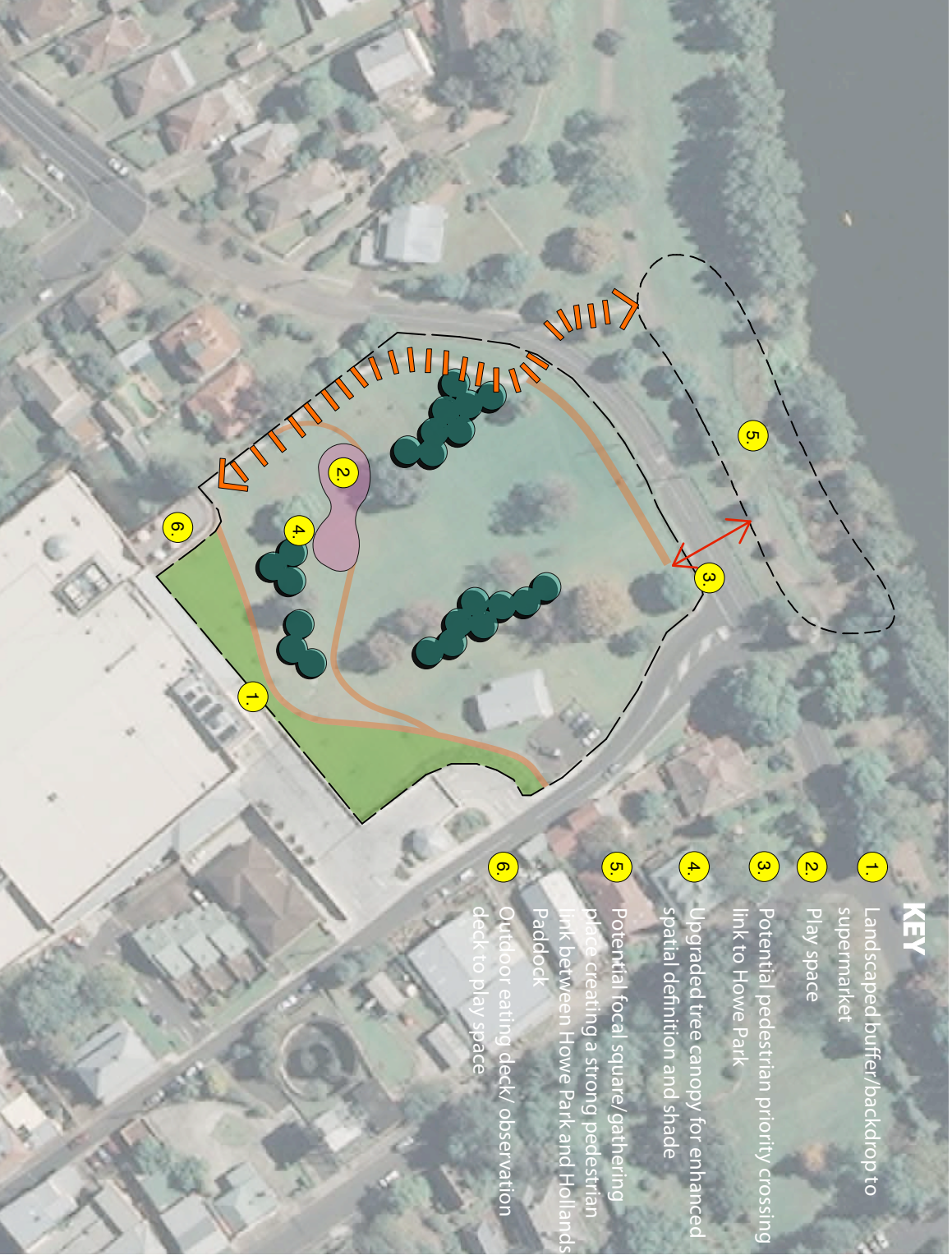
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Governor Phillip Reserve
Figure: 6.2a
Event Management & Stage One Recommendations











Legend:


 PROPOSED FEATURE TREE


 PROPOSED GROVE OF TREES


 RIPARIAN MANAGEMENT ZONE


 MOWN TURF AREAS


 DENSE PLANTINGS

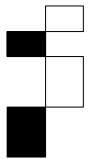
 ACTIVITY NODES

 PROPOSED PATH

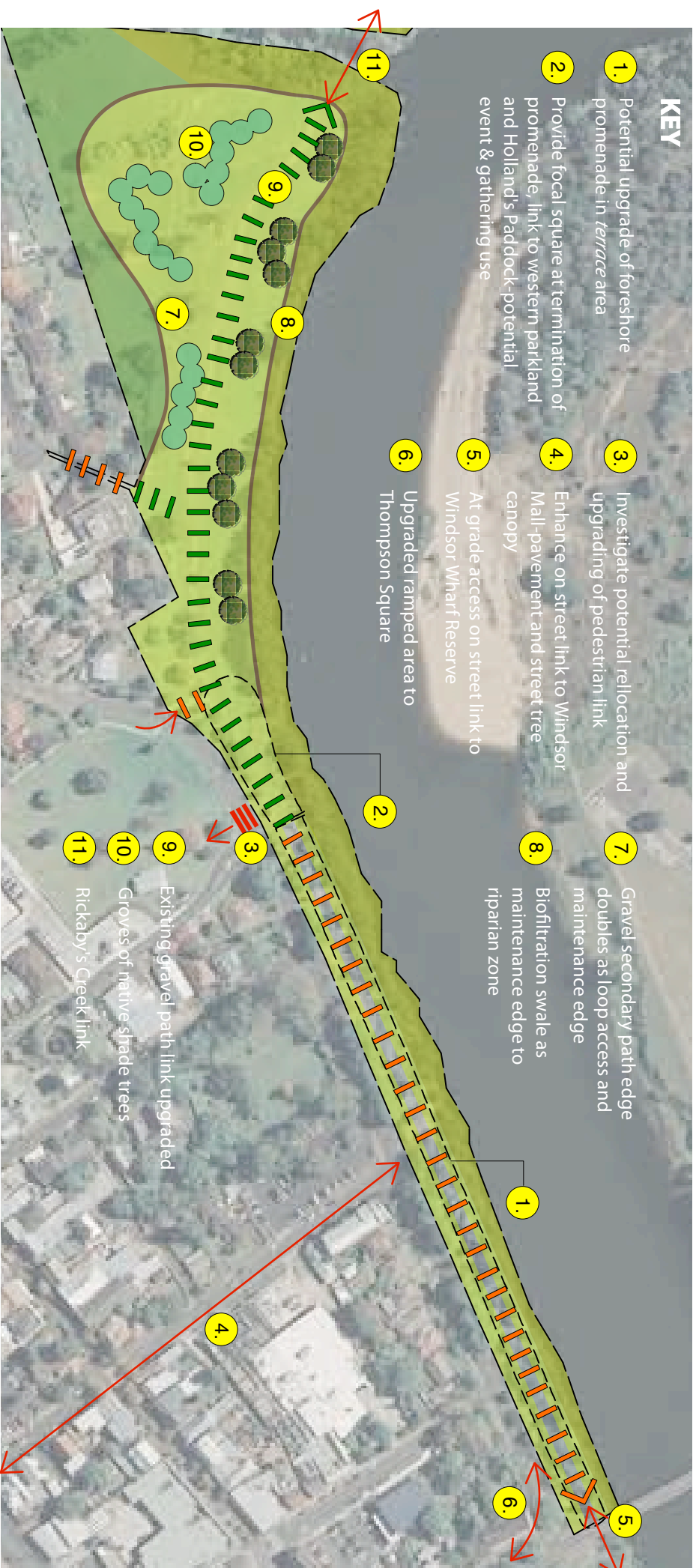
 PROPOSED MAINTENANCE EDGE

 EXISTING PEDESTRIAN/CYCLE PATHS

 EXISTING GRAVEL PATH



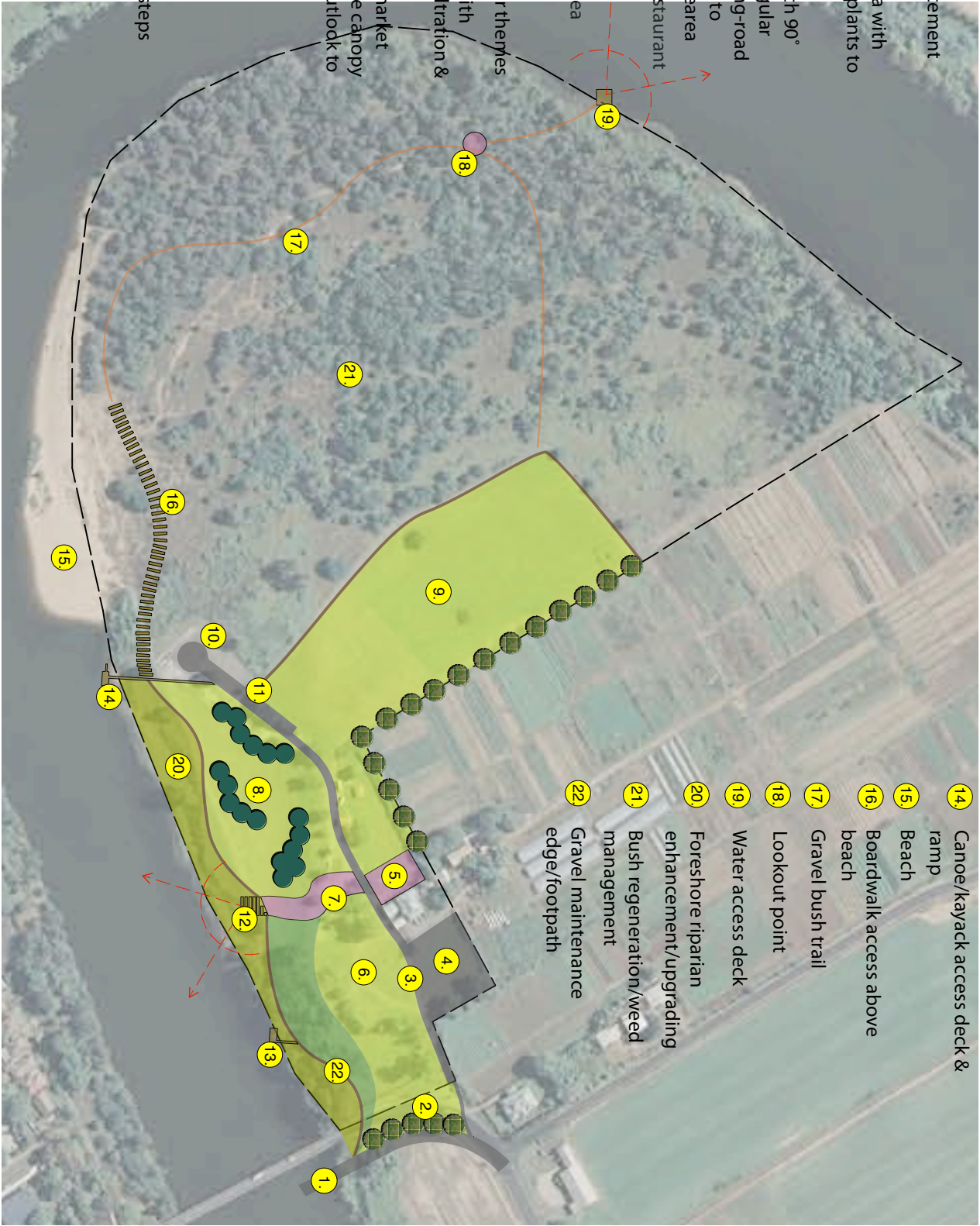
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KEY

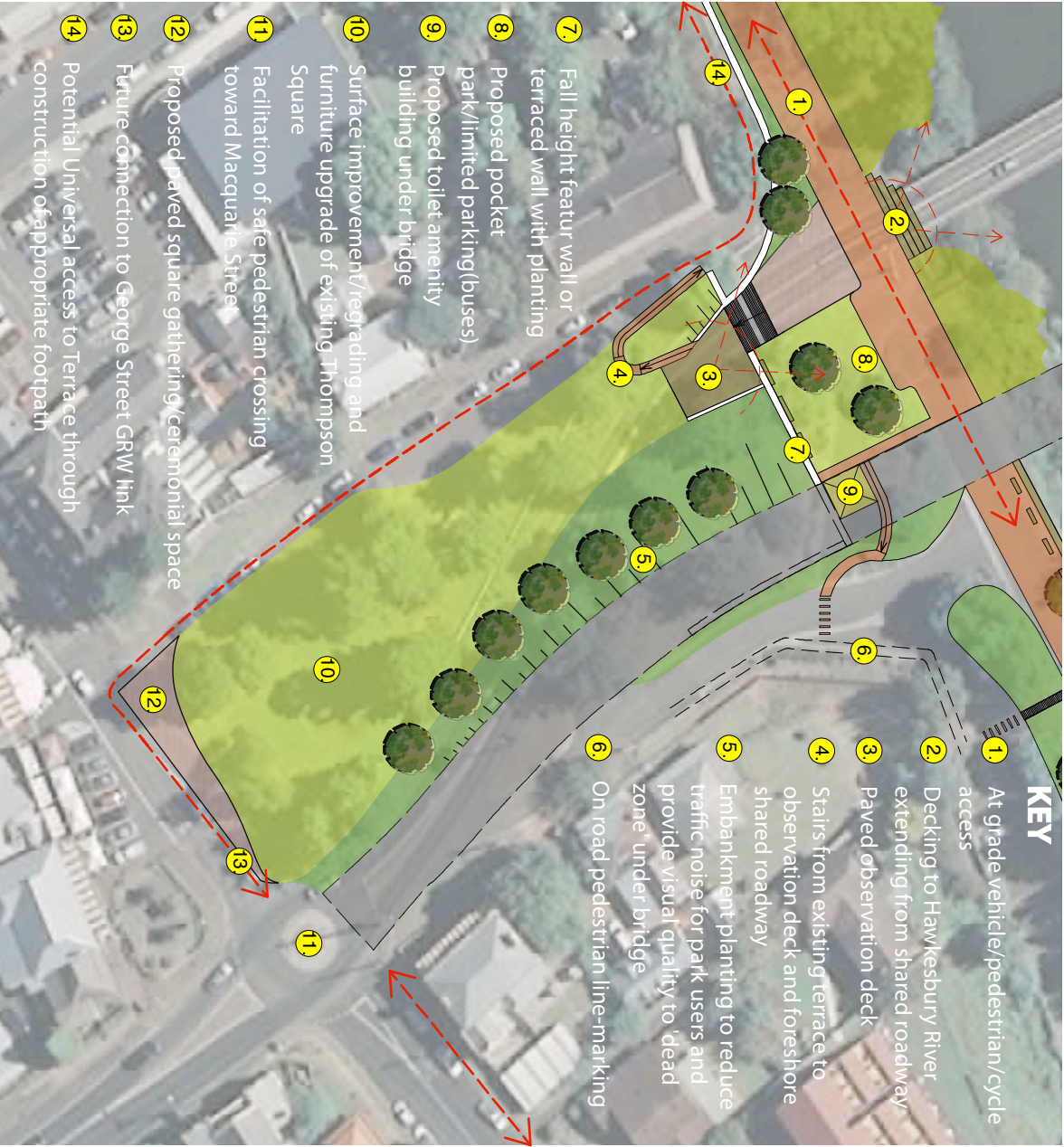
- 1. Realignment & replacement of Windsor bridge
- 2. Extension of park area with additional screening plants to road
- 3. 2 way access road with 90° parking each side-regular carpark shade planting-road realignment to north to consolidate foreshore area
- 4. Parking area-Cafe/Restaurant & weekend use
- 5. Restaurant/Cafe courtyard/outdoor area
- 6. Grassed picnic area
- 7. Major play space-river themes
- 8. Graded picnic area-with ballast swale for biofiltration & maintenance edge
- 9. Event paddock-line market garden edge with tree canopy for shaded seating-outlook to market garden
- 10. Turning circle
- 11. Trailer parking for kayacks/ canoes
- 12. Viewing deck
- 13. Water access deck & steps

- 14. Canoe/kayack access deck & ramp
- 15. Beach
- 16. Boardwalk access above beach
- 17. Gravel bush trail
- 18. Lookout point
- 19. Water access deck
- 20. Foreshore riparian enhancement/upgrading
- 21. Bush regeneration/weed management
- 22. Gravel maintenance edge/footpath

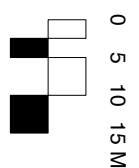
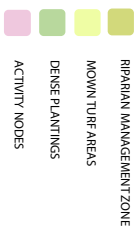
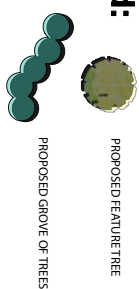


Legend:





Legend:



Thompson Square
Figure: 6.6
Recommendations

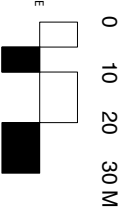
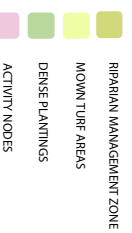
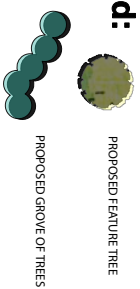




KEY

1. RTA realignment & replacement of Windsor bridge
2. Proposed pedestrian crossing & connection from existing car park to toilet amenity building and foreshore premenade
3. Maintain existing vehicle access to wharf as shareway
4. Existing car park
5. Proposed foreshore promenade with seating & decking restricted vehicle access to wharf and shared access along remaining road
6. Clear area of existing riparian vegetation to create open vista from foreshore promenade
7. Redesign & replacement of wharf to cater for a variety of vessels and temporary mooring
8. Key area of riparian revegetation and management
9. Council to review future role/feasibility of foreshore access to 6(b) zoned lots
10. Lower grassed foreshore zone for picnics/fishing access
11. Partial retention of concrete footpath
12. Gradual removal of existing tree species and replacement with broad canopy tree species

Legend:



7.0 APPENDICES

WINDSOR GREAT RIVER WALK PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

Community Workshop 1

6:30-8:45, Friday November 17th, 2008, Tebbutt Room, Derrubbin Centre, Windsor

Attendees:

15 Community Members, 3 Council Staff, 1 Councilor, 2 Study Team

Apologies:

N/A

No.	Item
1.0	INTRODUCTION
1.1	Craig Johnson (CJ) from Hawkesbury City Council welcomed all present and provided a brief introduction to the Great River Walk concept and specifically the Windsor Plan of Management (POM).
2.0	STUDY TEAM PRESENTATION
2.1	Adam Hunter (AH) from Environmental Partnership gave a brief introductory presentation which covered the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Great River Walk (GRW) Concept• Aims of the Workshop• What is a Plan of Management• Local Government Act requirements and land classifications• Crown Lands Act Management• Issues
2.2	The Great River Walk Concept <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brief background and description of the GRW concept• Trail precedents• Penrith GRW projects• Outline of current path connections along Windsor foreshore parks and reserves
2.3	Aims of the Workshop <p>Provide an opportunity to discuss key factors for park management and improvement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• how the community 'values' the parks• what should be the main objectives for the parks• what are the main issues for park management
2.4	What is a Plan of Management <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Roles & values for stakeholders• Desired outcomes (objectives)• Issues (opportunities and constraints)• Local Government Act requirements• Crown Land Act requirements
2.5	Local Government Act Requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none">• category of land• objectives and outcomes for the land• means of achieving outcomes• assessment of outcomes

No.	Item
2.6	<p>Crown Lands Act Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use and management requirements • Principles of Crown Land Management
2.7	<p>Values, Objectives & Issues</p> <p>AH explained that the workshop discussion was aimed assessing the study area to identify;</p> <p>Values</p> <p>Values are the existing and potential qualities and roles of the river frontage and individual parks to the local and regional community that we want to pursue and encourage in park planning and management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Environmental</i> • <i>Heritage</i> • <i>Access & Recreation</i> • <i>Social & Cultural</i> <p>Objectives</p> <p>Objectives are our desired outcomes for the river frontage and individual parks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Environmental</i> • <i>Heritage</i> • <i>Access & Recreation</i> • <i>Social & Cultural</i> <p>Issues</p> <p>Issues are the pressure and opportunities that will influence our potential for achieving our objectives for the river frontage and individual parks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Environmental</i> • <i>Heritage</i> • <i>Access & Recreation</i> • <i>Social & Cultural</i> <p>AH suggested that discussions follow a broad structure under the topics of Environmental, Heritage, Access/Recreation & Social/Cultural for both the “overall” open space corridor through Windsor and individual parks. It was noted that whilst the GRW is an important aspect of planning and management for these foreshore parks, that the POM will consider all management issues related to these spaces.</p>
3.0	<p>WORKSHOP DISCUSSIONS</p>
3.1	<p>Issues/Values_Corridor</p> <p>AH explained that the GRW POM was concerned with both the broader concept of the Windsor GRW and the roles of the individual parks within the study area. He asked the audience to firstly respond to Environmental, Heritage, Access & Recreation and Social/Cultural values relating to the entire foreshore corridor:</p> <p><i>Environmental</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The community group was concerned that opening new areas of the foreshore to public accessibility could have detrimental environmental impacts• • Further to this point was a feeling that current council maintenance for Windsor parks and reserves was already stretched and that additional open space would exacerbate this problem. • There was a desire to protect existing views of the river and the varied “natural” or “cultural” visual character the river provides. • The community group was concerned that additional foreshore paths may cause erosion of banks. • There was also concern that any infrastructure would need to consider flood events in it’s alignment and construction. • Liability and safety were also concerns with the foreshore trails proximity to the river. • There were some final complaints on weed encroachments from council; lands onto private property. <p><i>Heritage</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most of the group felt that the European heritage of the town was primarily setback from the river and that a foreshore trail would not take advantage of this, as such links back to the town centre are required. • There was a strong sense from the group that the towns flooding history was important as a thing that defined it’s relationship to the river.

No.	Item
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An idea of the river as a corridor important to the essence of aboriginal and European settlement was raised. <p><i>Access & Recreation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stroller access is lacking for many parks/reserves in Windsor. • It was felt that the current use of Macquarie Park as a canoe/kayak launching area could be consolidated with better amenity (storage facilities) and possibly a hire operation. • There was an idea that there should be more picnic tables, but that their placement should be targeted as some open spaces would not/are not appropriate for this use. • Howe Park was identified as a place where people loiter and drink alcohol. • Hollands Paddock was identified as a park that could be more intensely designed, in particular a member of the group felt that a playground would be good there. • There was a general feeling that Governor Phillip Reserve powerboat events could be managed better, the key issue being access is for paying users only on major event days and noise levels are significant. • This being said, the group supported the ongoing use of the park for these events. • It was hoped that the proposed RTA bridge replacement could facilitate an exclusively pedestrian/cycle access to from Howe to Macquarie Park. • Council representatives noted that improved cycle/pedestrian access would be incorporated in the new bridge design. • There was a comment from the group that there was not enough parking within the town centre to access public spaces (particularly Thompsons Square). <p><i>Social/Cultural</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was a feeling from the group that the POM should have local residents as its focus rather than tourists who may come to the town to use the GRW. It was noted by the study team that it was essential the POM address both local and broader use. • It was thought that there might need to be further playing fields for local users. • Again there was a concern expressed that any new projects would not be able to be maintained by council and that funds should be concentrated on improvements for existing open spaces
3.2	<p>Issues/Values Individual Parks</p> <p>AH asked the group to openly discuss issue/values relating to individual parks and reserves:</p> <p><i>Howe Park</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-social behaviour identified as a problem. • Howe Park was a well used placed for picnicking (paved area) which was having the effect of pushing out anti-social use. • Users like the scenic qualities of the park. • The West end of the park was also well liked and afforded opportunities for informal ball games etc. <p><i>Hollands Paddock</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group overwhelmingly agreed that Hollands Paddock was a strategic point to place more amenities play facilities and seating). • There was a desire from the group that the supermarket be screened. • The park is seen as a quality park space <p><i>Thompsons Square</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group felt that live music was generally a positive aspect of current park use and that a permanent amenity, such as a rotunda may be good to support this use. • It was agreed that the operational hours of the live entertainment should remain as currently used (ie, finished by 4.00pm) to manage noise levels. • One member of the group suggested that there needed to be toilet facilities in the park. <p><i>Macquarie Park</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group felt that access within the Western part of the park could be improved. • Safety of road crossings was a factor for people being able to access the park from the southern bank.

No.	Item
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was an idea from the group that canoe/kayak launch facilities should be established near the beach and that a hire operation would work well at that site. • The large mown grass area to the north of the site (which currently holds events) was identified as a possible site for a growers market or other organized event. • There were some negative sentiments about the picnicking and play area of the park and that the quality of these spaces was not good and too far setback from the river. • There was also a thought that the current operation of the restaurant and kiosk was not of a good standard. • A suggestion was put forward from the group to use Macquarie Park as a public car park overflow site for the town with a complimentary shuttle service. • Road and parking uses are significant impacts on the area <p><i>Windsor Wharf Reserve</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was felt that the wharf needed to be used by more groups/individuals to justify upgrading. • Parking and access were seen as problematic in the site. • It was stated that the boat ramp was not used. • The weed infestation along the riparian zone was identified as an issue for the site. • The group saw the slope of the land in the reserve as a reason why the site is not well used. • The area is isolated as a consequence of there being no through access <p><i>Governor Phillip Reserve</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was thought that the general impact from powerboat events could be managed more effectively. <p>eg:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - limitation of controlled area events - restrictions of controlled areas - Power boat authorities to develop traffic and parking management plan - Noise/operational hours control <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The existing fence, which separates foreshore park space from inland lots, perceived as the extent of publicly usable/accessible land and that the inland portion of Governor Phillip Reserve was not for public use despite it being crown land. • Most members of the group were unaware that these lots were actually public land. • From this realization there was some suggestion of making better use of this land. • One idea was to have a playing field. • There was some opposition from members of the group that identified themselves as being 'peninsula' residents, to the idea of the playing field, in that it would cause more disturbance to their amenity. • It was agreed by the group that creating a separate road entry to these lots of the park may be a strategy worth examining.
3.3	<p>Issues/Values Missing/Informal Links</p> <p>AH briefly explained the possible options for connections that could be made from Governor Phillip Reserve to Windsor Wharf Reserve or Thompson Square. They included;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) along foreshore trail through 6(b) Proposed Recreation Zoning (currently private ownership) b) along George Street c) Through Motel from George Street down to Windsor Wharf Reserve <p>Members of the group that would be affected by the HCC 6(b) zoning stated that a scheme which directed foreshore access through their properties would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -devalue properties; -cause security problems for residents; -reduce privacy for residents; -cause an area of visual seclusion that may lead to anti-social behaviour;

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	<p>-miss the opportunity to direct path past heritage buildings along George Street</p> <p>-and, cost too much for rate payers (in that in addition to path infrastructure, land would have to be acquired)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was general support for an on-street path connecting the town centre to Governor Phillip Reserve, although there was some concern that George Street may lose its heritage character if this was not designed in a sensitive way. • AH noted the potential of a line marked cycle way to complement the pedestrian path given the narrow and in some cases steep verge condition. • A member of the group felt that the street was too narrow to allow for a cycle way. AH noted that this issue can be reviewed. • There was a concern from the group that Governor Phillip Reserve was not a good place to link the GRW to the area to the east as there was no obvious place for a crossing of South Creek. It was suggested that the trail could be pulled back along Pitt Street to take advantage of heritage building and to use an existing South Creek crossing point. • AH/Craig Johnson noted that the final location of South Creek crossing would be deferred as an ongoing task_the focus of this POM was the Governor Phillip Reserve (GPR) to Deerubbin Park linkages. As such one of the councils objectives was to provide a functional and day to day link (for both local and other users) from GPR to Windsor Wharf Reserve and the Town Centre
4.0	<p>WHERE TO FROM HERE?</p> <p>AH outlined key aspects of the Plan of Management process from here:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study team to finalise draft POM for public exhibition addressing the values and issues as identified • • • AH reaffirmed his appreciation to all members of the group for their attendance and noted that council will inform attendees of developments with the POM. Members of the group were invited to contact the study with any further queries. <p>Environmental Partnership (NSW) Pty Ltd (Adam Hunter or Simon Hall) - 9555 1033</p>

Workshop Ended 8:45pm