



19/06/2024

Heritage Council of NSW  
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## AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS (AILA)

### SUBMISSION

<b>Landscape Heritage:</b>	Gladesville Hospital Landscape
<b>Also referred to as:</b>	Parramatta River Regional Park, Tarban Creek, Bedlam Bay, NSW
<b>Local government Area:</b>	Hunters Hill Council
<b>Land parcels:</b>	Lot 877 DP832717 6242.234sqm/ Lot 2 DP877893 40633.017spm/ Lot 1 DP877893 170764.588sqm
<b>Coordinates:</b>	-33.839008, 151.131159
<b>Address:</b>	Crown Street, Punt Road, Great North Road, Victoria Road, Gladesville; from Hospital cemetery to Bedlam Point, including Punt Wharf, the western edge of hospital grounds and Parramatta River Regional Park
<b>Contacts:</b>	Suellen Douglass, Facilities Management Dept. Health Gladesville Campus 0457 535 118 Lane Cove National Park NPWS Valleys Area Manager 8448 0400,
<b>Link to AILA Nomination under consideration:</b>	AILA Landscape Heritage Report Vols. 1 & 2: <a href="https://aila.org.au/common/Uploaded files/_AILA/Resource library/Landscape Heritage Report Volume 1-2.pdf">https://aila.org.au/common/Uploaded files/_AILA/Resource library/Landscape Heritage Report Volume 1-2.pdf</a> Gladesville Hospital Landscape - AILA Report nomination 8: <a href="https://www.aila.org.au/common/Uploaded files/_AILA/Resource library/Gladesville Hospital nomination form.pdf">https://www.aila.org.au/common/Uploaded files/_AILA/Resource library/Gladesville Hospital nomination form.pdf</a>

### PREFACE

The Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) is the peak national body for Landscape Architecture. AILA champions quality design for public open spaces, stronger communities, and greater environmental stewardship. We provide our members with training, recognition, and a community of practice to share knowledge, ideas, and action. With our members, we anticipate and develop a leading position on issues of concern in landscape architecture. Alongside government and allied professions, we work to improve the design and planning of the natural and built environment.



In operation since 1966, AILA represents over 3,500 landscape architects and promotes excellence in planning, design and management for life outdoors. Committed to designing and creating better spaces in Australia, landscape architects have the skills and expertise to improve the nation's liveability through a unique approach to planning issues via innovative integrated solutions. In doing so, landscape architects contribute towards better environmental, social and economic outcomes for all Australians.

A central purpose of the AILA (NSW) Landscape Heritage Group is to inform, inspire, and enrich the culture of landscape architecture in Australia, particularly the identification and understanding of both natural and cultural landscapes in NSW and the role of such knowledge in the processes of planning and design.

## STATEMENT

*The Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) **SUPPORTS** elevation of the status of the SHR nomination of the Gladesville Hospital Landscape and all remaining eight nominations in the AILA*

*Landscape Heritage Report and is **CONCERNED** that deterioration is occurring under delays in heritage nomination status progression*

## BACKGROUND

As you know, in December 2023, a celebration was held at Badangi, Berry Island Reserve, Gore Cove, NSW, to acknowledge the first formal listing of two of the ten AILA Landscape Heritage nominations lodged in 2018 and to reflect on the importance of Heritage NSW's support of landscape heritage.

Gladesville Hospital Landscape is another of the ten nominations lodged in 2018 for State Heritage Listing and progressed to consideration by the Heritage Council NSW.



Figure. 1: Proposed curtilage, Gladesville Hospital Landscape, AILA Landscape Heritage nomination for NSW State Heritage, 2018

In 2020, AILA wrote to Heritage NSW to request an update on the progress of the SHR listing. The Director of Heritage Operations, Tim Smith, informed Lee Andrews, then President AILA NSW, that some nominations were deemed lower priority;



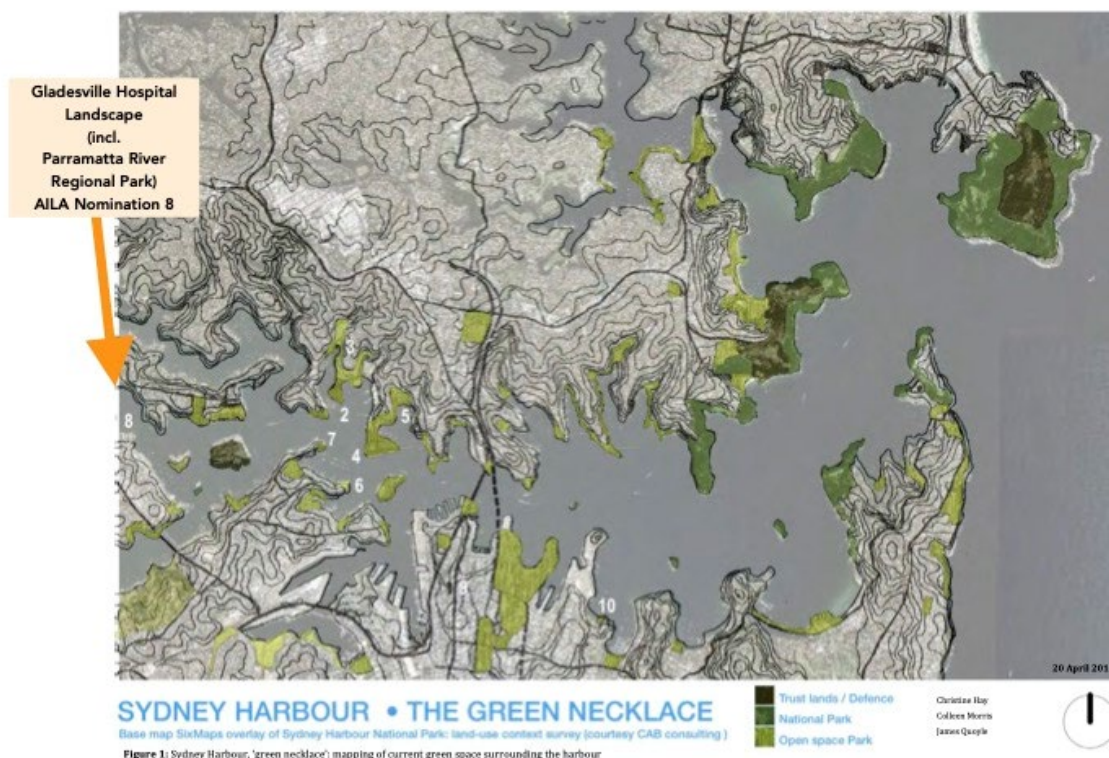
- Gladesville Hospital Landscape,
- Elizabeth Bay House landscape and
- Greater Royal National Park

Refer to letter DOC20/350743 dated 13 May 2020.

AILA is writing again to request another report on the progress of the remaining eight nominations and to call for a priority listing of the Gladesville Hospital landscape.

## DISCUSSION

The event held at Badangi, Berry Island, Wollstonecraft on 1 December 2023 attests to the significance of the AILA Landscape Heritage nominations and the importance of these places, including the Green Necklace of open spaces in Sydney Harbour and National Park network to the people of NSW, Australia and the World (p. 37 AILA Heritage Report). An article was published in Australian Garden History vol. 35. No. 4 April issue to celebrate the listing of Badangi on the State Heritage Register (appendix 1).



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Figure 1 AILA Report p 37 overlay of drawing 'Sydney Harbour municipal parks and National Park context' by Craig Burton & SixMaps

While AILA welcomes this achievement, it raises concern about the need for groups like AILA and AGHS to continue to wait for progress on the nominations' status, which was lodged six years ago, supported by Heritage NSW, and recognised as significant by the Heritage Council.



While AILA appreciate there are many competing priorities, these listings should be elevated for many reasons, including;

- Landscape Architecture remains underrepresented on the SHR and in the public record, as acknowledged by the State Library NSW, with the passing of Bruce Mackenzie, designer of Yurulbin (AILA nomination 7), earlier this year
- and places are at risk of destruction through further deterioration over time.

In the 2021 Review of the Heritage Act 1977, the deterioration of heritage fabric was raised as a priority issue in a forum held by the National Trust and the AILA Working Group. The AILA Submission analysed the processes that allow wilful neglect by landholders of State Heritage landscapes, finding that SHR listing remains the most effective tool to define heritage values to regulate preservation in the public interest. A comparison of former State mental health landscapes today gives the current picture of the conservation or loss of significant landscapes;

- Kenmore Hospital is an example of a former State-owned institutional open space that is no longer accessible to the public and is threatened with destruction by neglect. This case highlights the value of publicly accessible parts of the former Gladesville Hospital grounds at Parramatta River Regional Park.
- Callan Park is an example of how Landscape Architects, as advisors to Placemaking NSW and designers of adaptations to the landscape, can work with community advocacy to preserve and enhance State Heritage landscapes in places undergoing change.
- Members of the Hunters Hill Community are looking to AILA for reasons why the Gladesville Hospital landscape has not progressed to listing on the State Heritage Register and why simple, urgent priority measures to prevent further dereliction are not addressed despite the values being recognised in the AILA report (figs 2 & 3). The photo and information supplied by a concerned citizen raise concern about further deterioration of likely State Heritage fabric such as sandstone walls.



Figure 3 Superintendent's garden to Parramatta River c1890 SLNSW Source AILA report 2018



Figure 4 The Garden, Hospital for the Insane, Gladesville, photo: Broadhurst, SLNSWSource AILA Report 2018



Figure 5 An opportunistic fig seedling destroying sandstone wall.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

AILA requests a further update on the progress of the remaining 8 AILA Landscape Heritage nominations.

AILA recommends Heritage NSW immediately call for reconsideration by the Heritage Council NSW of the AILA Gladesville Hospital Landscape nomination as a priority to elevate the status due to further deterioration of likely State Heritage Significant fabric since the nomination was lodged.



## CONCLUSION

AILA welcomes the opportunity to discuss the progress of the Gladesville Hospital Landscape nomination and the remaining AILA Landscape Heritage nominations. AILA and Heritage NSW have collaboratively invested time and energy into protecting significant landscape heritage, and Badangi has well demonstrated the benefit of formal listing.

Sincerely yours,

David Moir - AILA NSW President

### SUBMISSION TEAM

*AILA Landscape Heritage Group.*

### AUTHORS:

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