

DRAFT

Nomination prepared by James Quoye: February, 2018.
For discussion

PROPOSED SHR NOMINATIONS

A. Nominated place (s)

1. Name

WOLLSTONECRAFT FORESHORE RESERVES

Name:

Badangi Reserve, Gore Cove Reserve and Smoothey Park

Other or former name(s):

Aboriginal: No name recorded in the historical records.

European:

Wollstonecraft Foreshore Reserves east and west of the Wollstonecraft peninsula are comprised of Badangi Reserve, Gore Cove Reserve, Holloway Reserve and Smoothey Park.

2. Location

WOLLSTONECRAFT FORESHORE RESERVES

Street address:

Milray Avenue, Tryon Avenue
Wollstonecraft

Alternate street address:

none

Local government area:

North Sydney Council and Lane Cove Council

Land parcel(s):

No reference on State Heritage Inventory (SHI)

North Sydney LEP Lots 1 and 2, DP 528489; Lot 2, DP 232859; Lot 1, DP 115700;
Lot 1, DP 515367; closed road (within Badangi Reserve)

NSW planning portal listed as Lot 2 DP528489 Parcel size: 36651.351 sq m.

PLANNING PORTAL

Badangi: Lot 2 DP528489 *Parcel size: 36651.351 sq m*

Gore Cove Reserve: Lot 1 DP1153081 *Parcel size: 19379.616 sq m*

Smoothey Park: Lot 1 DP134132 *Parcel size: 18323.534 sq m*

Co-ordinates:

33.8468 S 151.1862 E

Zoning

E2- Environmental Conservation

3. Extent of Nomination

Curtilage map of nominated area:

Planning Portal Heritage layer map Source of map or plan:

(01) legal boundary plan, as per figure 1

(02) Sydney Harbour LCA visual catchment diagram, dwg no: XXXX



Figure 1. Aerial photograph - proposed curtilage for the Wollstonecraft Foreshore Reserves defined by red line.

Source of map or plan:

- (01) Six Maps NSW Government Spatial Services, <https://maps.six.nsw.gov.au>, accessed 20 July 2017.

Boundary description (in words):

- a. legal boundary description: Badangi Reserve : Lot 2 DP528489 *Parcel size: 36651.351 sq m.*
- b. Gore Cove Reserve: Lot 1 DP1153081 *Parcel size: 19379.616 sq m.*
- c. Smoothey Park: Lot 1 DP134132 *Parcel size: 18323.534 sq m.*

The three reserves that comprise the listing are located north of Berry Island. Berry Island occupies the southern tip and termination of the Wollstonecraft peninsula and is connected to the land by a thin strip of land. The Island extends into Sydney Harbour, flanked by Balls Head Bay to the east and Gore Cove to the west.

Ownership

WOLLSTONECRAFT FORESHORE RESERVES

Name of owner(s):

North Sydney Council and Lane Cove Council

Contact person: David Banbury

Contact position: Landscape Architect

Postal address: c/- North Sydney Council

Phone number: 9936 8100

Owner explanation: The Wollstonecraft Foreshore Reserves deserve recognition in conjunction with other Waverton Peninsula sites including Balls Head and the Coal Loader. Nominated at the Landscape Heritage Workshop, 14 March 2016, hosted by MHQ and ALHG for AILA NSW.

B. Significance

4. Why is it important in NSW

Statement of state significance

Wollstonecraft Foreshore Reserves are of State significance as rare examples of intact bushland that evoke the natural history of Sydney Harbour prior to white settlement and less than five kilometres from the centre of the city. Wollstonecraft Foreshore Reserves are a significant geographical feature of the northern side of the Upper Harbour and retains its early character.

Evidence of Aboriginal occupation exists in the form of numerous middens, axe grinding grooves and a large rock engraving establishes an association with the Camaraigal people to the site. The adjoining Berry Island has high significance for Aboriginal people. It has several Aboriginal middens, and significant sites including a large petroglyph on the south western side of the island.

Badangi Reserve contains eight identified Aboriginal sites, Gore Cove is a deep and narrow sandstone gorge that contains three identified Aboriginal sites, midden and a rock shelter.

The Wollstonecraft Foreshore Reserves is of state significance for the aesthetic distinctiveness of the place, perhaps representative of riparian zones that once existed along the harbour's edge.

Comparisons:

Main comparisons:

Wollstonecraft Foreshore Reserves, share a similar history of ownership with Berry Island, Balls Head Reserve and Carradah Park, this includes its natural landscape history, the development of its sandstone geology and landform. All were Cammeragal land and all formed part of the Berry Estate granted to Wollstonecraft and Berry ca. 1821. Wollstonecraft Foreshore Reserves retain more of their natural landscape values than Balls Head and Carradah Park. The vegetation remains intact as a remnant community and has not been reconstructed as on Balls Head.

C. Description:

5. Existing place or object

Description:

Wollstonecraft Foreshore Reserves flank the Wollstonecraft Peninsula to the north of Berry Island. The reserves follow the creek lines either side of the Wollstonecraft peninsula. To the west is Berry's Creek that starts at the northern end of Smoothey Park, at Russell Street, and joins Sydney Harbour at Gore Cove. The reserves on the western side of Berry's Creek is in the Lane Cove Local Government Area. Opposite Smoothey Park it is called Greendale Reserve and at the western end near the head of Gore Cove it is Holloway Park.

The land rises to the east behind properties along Milray Avenue. To the north east is an unnamed creek that runs underground from Newlands Lane and exits at Balls Head Bay. In the early 20th century, a large part of the small inlet called Table Bay or Oyster Cove was 'reclaimed' probably to accommodate the North Shore Gas Works. The land rises gently to Tryon Avenue to the west.

Evidence of Aboriginal response to landscape

Radiocarbon dating of archaeological material at present-day Cammeray indicates that Aboriginal people were living in the North Sydney area at least 5,800 years ago. By this time the last ice age had ended and water levels had risen to create Sydney Harbour and its river valleys. The landforms and waterways familiar to these people would have differed little from those that European colonists first encountered in 1788

Aboriginal people frequented the valley and probably used the creek as a fresh water supply for thousands of years. Indeed it may have served that purpose before the

inundation of the river valley that formed Sydney Harbour. Shell middens are represented in the area. There may be other sites that remain undiscovered. The Aboriginal names for the reserve sites were apparently not recorded in the various word lists compiled down to the mid-19th century.

The landscape character

Wollstonecraft Foreshore Reserves have survived suburban expansion that occurred with the subdivision of the Berry Estate in the 1890s and early 1900s. Their relative isolation, in part a result of topography, has protected them from disturbance and weed infestation. At the top of Smoothey Park is Blackbutt Gully Forest; the remnant Turpentine trees are an indication of shale influenced soils. This soil type may have originally supported Blue Gum High Forest. Angophora Foreshore Forest. It becomes dominant as you head towards Gore Cove. The open-forest is distinguished by its upper storey of Sydney Red Gums. Along the creek line is Sandstone Gallery Rainforest, which has a closed canopy dominated by Lillypilly, Coachwood and Sweet Pittosporum, as well as Privet. Beyond the gully, the vegetation merges back into Disclimax Sandstone Scrub dominated by Peppermint and Coastal Banksia with an understorey of Grass Trees, flowering shrubs, Mat Rush and ferns. Locally rare Flannel Flowers are found further along the Gore Cove Track in the more open Angophora Foreshore Forest towards Berry Island.

On the mud flats a number of estuary communities exist including Estuarine Swamp Oak Forest, Mangrove Forest and Coastal Saltmarsh. Estuarine Swamp Oak Forest and Coastal Saltmarsh are both listed as Endangered Ecological Communities under the NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act while Estuarine Mangrove Forest provide breeding and shelter sites for many migratory and marine species.

The diversity of vegetation and the creek support a variety of bird life. Black-faced Cuckoo-Shrikes, Kingfishers, Robins, Wrens, Treecreepers, Wattlebirds, Whistlers, Pardalotes, Thornbills, Parrots, Rosellas and the Eastern Whipbird and a Powerful Owl. Waterbirds, including White faced Herons, inhabit the mudflats. Pacific Black Ducks fly along the route of the Gore Cove Creek. Ringtail Possum dreys can be seen along the track. Skinks are in the leaf litter and the Brown- Stripped Marsh Frog and the Common Eastern Froglet live in the areas of runoff that pass through the bushland into the creek. Three microbat species have also been recorded in this reserve: Gould's Wattle Bat, Large-footed Myotis and the Eastern Bent-wing Bat. The only recording in North Sydney of the native ground dwelling marsupial, the Brown Antechinus (often mistaken for a mouse or rat), was along the Gore Cove Track.

Badangi Reserve is predominately an open forest of Sydney Red Gums. Peppermints and Red Bloodwoods are found throughout the reserve with a patch of Blackbutt (*Eucalyptus pilularis*) Gully Forest vegetation located in the north-western section of the reserve. A small community of rare Forest Red Gums (*Eucalyptus tereticornis*) are located near the southern foreshore of the reserve. In 2010, Council's Natural Area Survey identified this vegetation community as a rare eastern variant of the endangered Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest. Wattles, ferns and the peppery smell of Zierias are common in the understorey.

Tawny Frogmouths nest annually along Tryon Avenue and Eastern Toadlets, Kookaburras, Butcherbirds, Lorikeets and, in spring and summer time, Koels can be heard. Bridge End has a large variety of small birds such as Fairy-wrens, Robins, Scrub-wrens and Spotted Pardalotes. The gully area along the creek line is dotted with Coachwood, Lillypilly and mature vines that reach high into the canopy. The area is noted for the diverse fungi species that emerge after rain.

Condition of Fabric and/or archaeological potential

Vegetation on the site is in good condition. The built fabric in general is in good condition.

Integrity / intactness

Wollstonecraft Foreshore Reserves include foreshore forest and remnant natural estuarine environment within the inner harbour. They contain evidence of Aboriginal use and subsequent recreation by multi-cultural Australians (?), Given the proximity to suburban development it is a landscape that is remarkably intact.

Fresh water creeks ran through both sides of the headland; Berry Creek being the western boundary of the Berry Estate and remains the boundary of the North Sydney Local Government Area (LGA). There is a small open portion of the creek running through Badangi Reserve at Bridge End and the remainder now lies underground.

Modifications Dates

1825 granted to Edward Wollstonecraft - the area was an undeveloped estate until the 1890s

1906 the State Government took over between five and six kilometres of waterfront land from the Trustees of the Berry Estate in exchange for maintaining a hospital in the town of Berry on the south coast. This included Berry Island, Balls Head and the land that subsequently became the Gore Cove Reserve.

1915 Smoothey Park was created after 5 acres 36 perches of land was transferred from the Berry Hospital Trust to North Sydney Council

1926 a section of the former Berry Estate land along creek frontage south of present-day Smoothey Park and down to the head of Gore Cove was leased by the State Government to the Water, Sewerage and Drainage Board for 99 years.

1940s Smoothey Park Drainage Construction began.

1958 Gore Cove Reserve was gazetted for Public Recreation.

1988 North Sydney Council began acquiring the land behind Nos 58-58 Milray Avenue. This land is steep and rocky and was zoned open space prior to the gazettal of the North Sydney Local Environment Plan 1988 despite being part of the privately owned blocks fronting Milray Ave. Negotiated purchase of this land allowed Council to connect Smoothey Park with Berry Island Reserve and construct a continuous Gore Cove track. The land was subsequently zoned E2 ().

1988 the Gore Cove Track, which includes the former Water, Sewerage and Drainage Board, was begun.

1996 Gore Cove Track upgraded including installation of interpretive and directional signage.

Dates you inspected the place for this description

September 2016 July 2017 and October 2017

Current use

Harbourside parkland / recreation

Original or former use

none

Further comments

D. Historical outline:

6. Origins and historical evolution

Formation:

Sandstone geology laid down in the Triassic Period, 220 million years ago. Sydney Harbour's drowned river valley formed 8500-2500 years ago.¹

Designer / architect:

Prehistory

Maker / builder:

Natural

Historical outline of place or object:

The site, Wollstonecraft Foreshore Reserves, was formed by the same forces that shaped Sydney Harbour.² In recent geological history, between 18,000-6,000 years ago the sea level rose to form the drowned river valleys of the region including that of Port Jackson and Sydney Harbour inclusive of the waterways of Berrys Bay, and the foreshores of Berry Island.³ The waters south of Berry Island are some of the deepest in Sydney Harbour.

Figure 2, portion of soils identification map of Sydney, showing detail of Wollstonecraft Foreshore Reserves (circled in red) and environs. Note 'ha' denotes Hawkesbury Soil landscape and is coloured pale pink. Also 'gy' denotes Gynea and xx disturbed soil land – much of Badangi is noted as 'xx' where Table Bay was reclaimed for the Gas Works now known as Oyster Cove.

Source: G.A **Chapman** and C.L **Murphy**, *Soil Landscapes of the Sydney 1:100 000 Sheet*, Soil Conservation Service of N.S.W., Sydney, 1989.

¹ **Hoskins**, p3

² **Burton**, 'Sydney: 'Nature, place and landscape', p 184.

³ **NSW NPWS**, *The Bioregions of New South Wales*, 2003, p 186.

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/nature/sydneyBasin.pdf> accessed 08/04/ 2015.

The site is located on a Hawkesbury soil landscape characterised by its geology and soil type of Hawkesbury Sandstone (**Figure 2**), and common along Port Jackson's foreshores. With minor changes including the reclaiming land at the head of Gore Cove and Oyster Cove, the sites' original form remains discernible and intact and typically one of rugged, rolling to very steep hills, narrow ridges, crests and steeply cut valleys, steep slopes, rocky terraces, broken scarps and boulders. Its soils would have been shallow, less than 0.5m deep and discontinuous, sometimes deeper and more developed in pockets, or when influenced by clay lenses to form podzols. This soil landscape supported on exposed ridges open woodland-forests of red bloodwood *Eucalyptus gummifera*, narrow-leafed stringybark *E.oblonga*, scribbly gum *E.Haemastoma*, brown stringybark *E.capitellata* and old man banksia *Banksia serrata*. Sheltered side slopes supported dry sclerophyll forest, consisting of black ash, *E.sieberi*, Sydney peppermint *E.piperita*, Sydney Red Gum, *Angophora costata* and black she-oak *Allocasuarina littoralis*. Tall open-forest and wet sclerophyll communities also occurred. The slopes and ridges of Berry Island and the site would have reflected this landscape. The sandstone geology provides typically a blocky character in its natural state. This terrain rose from 40-200m above sea level and slopes were approximately 1 in 4 and almost half of the area consisted of rock outcrops.⁴

At the time of colonisation the Wollstonecraft peninsula was occupied by the Cammaraygal people. Cammaraygal country originally extended from Cremorne to Woodford Bay Berry Island is one of many known locations in the North Sydney Municipality known to contain identified Aboriginal sites. The Berry Island sites include numerous middens, axe grinding grooves and a large rock engraving.

Evidence of European history Wollstonecraft Foreshore Reserves

Following European settlement, the land encompassing present-day Waverton and Wollstonecraft was granted to Edward Wollstonecraft (English, 1783-1832) and Alexander Berry (Scottish, 1781-1873), who were each allotted an adjoining grant of 2000 acres by Governor Lachlan Macquarie. In Berry's absence Wollstonecraft was permitted to locate some 500 (202 ha) of his 2000 acres (809 ha) on the north side of Sydney Harbour, and his tenure was made official in June 1825.

The grant pre-dated the 1828 reservation of 100 feet of foreshore land and so included all waterfront from Gore Cove to Berrys Bay, specifically Berrys Creek was its western boundary and to east the creekline boundary of Billy Blue's land (in Waverton Park) and was subsequently known as the *Crows Nest Estate* after a small cottage erected by Wollstonecraft in 1841 on the highest point of the grant which he called *Crows Nest Cottage*. The Wollstonecraft peninsula section of the Berry Estate was not subdivided until 1910 /11. The area remained forested, timber was used for constructing buildings, bridges and wharves and the land beneath for grazing of livestock.

⁴ G.A **Chapman** and C.L **Murphy**, *Soil Landscapes of the Sydney 1:100 000 Sheet*, Soil Conservation Service of N.S.W., Sydney, 1989, pp.44-45.

Figure 3, Plan of Berry's Crows Nest Estate, Higinbotham and Robinson Berry Estate map, 1887. There is no indication of subdivision or development on the Wollstonecraft peninsula and Berry Island.

Source: Stanton Library <http://www.athomeinnorthsydney.com.au/berry-estate.html>
13 March 2017

Berry and Wollstonecraft were hit hard by the currency reforms of Governor Brisbane of 1822; during the 1830s, the partnership was often in a perilous financial position. To raise capital, the partners began to export timber from the Crows Nest Estate and Shoalhaven. By 1826, however, this part of their business was focused solely on the cedar of the Shoalhaven and attempts to make a return on the Crows Nest Estate were largely abandoned. With the exception of a wharf and warehouse built at Berry's Bay in 1830, the grant was essentially a place of residence. Bush fires ravaged most of the grant in the 1820s and 1830s. By 1837, Crow's Nest Cottage had become dilapidated and the partners moved into the larger and grander Brisbane House at Lavender Bay. Crows Nest Cottage was leased over the following years, rent free, on the condition that it be repaired and maintained.

It was the coming of the railway in 1893 that made such areas accessible for suburban living.

In 1832 Edward Wollstonecraft died and left his estate to his sister Elizabeth Berry (nee Wollstonecraft), upon her death in 1845, Alexander Berry inherited the Wollstonecraft Estate.

After the depression of the 1840s there was some subdivision of the estate in and around St Leonards (present-day North Sydney).

In 1873 Alexander Berry died and his estate was inherited by his brother David. David Berry died in 1889 and left his estate to his cousin John Hay.

In 1906, the waterfront was returned to public ownership in a transfer deal between the Berry Estate trustees and the State Government'.⁵ The NSW Government acquired land at Balls Head and Berry Island from the Berry estate after agreeing to build and maintain a public hospital at the town of Berry on the south coast.

Figure 4, North Shore Gas Works, Oyster Cove, 1914

Source: copyright AGL accessed April 2017.

The deep harbour frontages of Balls Head Bay and Oyster Cove had potential as industrial waterfront. It was believed that it would one day rival places such as Darling Harbour on the south side for maritime industry and shipping. One of North

⁵ Hoskins, Ian, *A Short History of Balls Head and Berry Island Reserves 1906-1940*, 2016.

Sydney's earliest industries, a sugar refinery, was established on the foreshores of Oyster Cove in the 1850s; this was later converted to a kerosene works in the 1860s. The buildings were reused in 1917 as part of the Oyster Cove Gas Works which operated from the site (now a residential development) until 1983. Only a sample of the original buildings remain and are now incorporated into this development.

The area of land, known today as Badangi Reserve, formed part of the Berry Estate, which was granted in the early years of settlement. There is a lot of imprecise expression) Tryon Avenue was named after Sir George Tryon, Rear Admiral of the Royal Navy from 1884 to 1887 and the first admiral to occupy Admiralty House, Kirribilli.

[Figure 5, Eastern side of Badangi Reserve Oct 2017.](#)

The Gore Cove Reserve site includes Berry Creek with the remarkable cliff and extant bush on the way to Smoothey Park.

The first section of waterfront on the eastern side of Gore Cove was reserved for public recreation in 1958. The easement along which forms the path from Berry Island was gazetted in 1965.

This foreshore land was part of the transfer of land from the Berry Estate in 1906 to the State Govt in exchange for the David Berry Hospital. Berry Island, Bandangi Reserve and Balls Head are also part of that. The intervening land from former gas works (now Wondakiah), to the Coal Loader were sites leased or retained by the Government after 1906.

[Figure 6, Southern side of Gore Cove Reserve Oct 2017.](#)

The Berry Estate transfer is the link that makes the case for dealing with the land as a single listing.

The dressed sandstone wall, the battered rock wall and the canal and the rock fill causeway close to the waterfront was land reclaimed and leased to the Water, Sewerage and Drainage Board in 1926 for 99 years. Lot 3 on Milray Avenue above the track was resumed for the Northern Suburbs Ocean Outfall Sewer in 1921. Both explain the access holes along the path and the perhaps the footings along the creek bed. Berrys Creek and Gore Cove don't appear on maps of the main drains for the system but it is probable that it was hooked up with that infrastructure and map reference – see attached 1930s block plans.

The land that became waterfront reserve in 1958 extended to the natural mouth of Berry Creek. From there to Smoothey Park was private land – the back end of lots fronting Milray Avenue which run from no.58-no.68. The dramatic cliff base bushland

was gazetted in 1994 as public space in accordance with 1989 Local Environment Plan. It was zoned Open Space Bushland and is now called Gore Cove Reserve linking Smoothey Park with Berry Island Reserve. So the footpath probably post-dates that though it may follow a track created by the Waterboard earlier. There are parallels with reserves in Lindfield dating to the 1920s. Possibly there was infrastructure built well before it became formally a public reserve. That would not be unusual.

E. Criteria

7. Assessment under heritage Council criteria of state significance

A. *It is important in the course or pattern of the cultural or natural history of NSW*

Wollstonecraft Foreshore Reserves, wrapping around the southern end of the Wollstonecraft peninsula, are of historic significance on a State level as one of the remaining landscapes on Sydney Harbour that is largely unmodified and enables an interpretation of a landscape character that is pre European settlement.

Wollstonecraft Foreshore Reserves is of significance because it was part of the land granted to Wollstonecraft and Berry in 1825, including the rocks and foreshore and was not subdivided until ca.1911. As the result of public action, Wollstonecraft Foreshore Reserves and Balls Head were both gazetted for public recreation [Hoskins]. In the same year, Premier Jack Lang reiterated the need to protect public ownership of the Harbour's foreshore.

Wollstonecraft Foreshore Reserves is of historic significance for both the Aboriginal and European history of the tip of Wollstonecraft peninsula. Evidence of Aboriginal occupation on the place in the form of numerous shell middens, axe ginding grooves and a large rock engraving indicates an association with the Cammeraygal people to the site. There are 2 midden sites and a rock shelter in good repair under a block of units on Milray Avenue.

B. *It has a strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons of importance in the cultural or natural history of NSW.*

Wollstonecraft Foreshore Reserves does not satisfy this criterion

C. *It is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW.*

Wollstonecraft Foreshore Reserves does not appear to satisfy this criterion of State significance.

D. *It has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the cultural or natural history of NSW.*

Wollstonecraft Foreshore Reserves does not appear to satisfy this criterion of State significance.

E. It has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the cultural or natural history of NSW.

There is high archaeological potential as the site has not been reshaped for industrial use as have most of the headlands on Sydney Harbour. There are few places on Sydney Harbour that provide such an authentic landscape setting, a place largely unchanged since European occupation.

While it could be argued that criterion E is object based - objects provide evidence of a human response to landscape; its topography, catchments, natural resources, and spatial qualities.

The natural configuration and landform of which is distinctive within Port Jackson, also because it impacts significantly on the physical, spatial qualities, waterways and foreshores of Sydney Harbour's landscape character.

F. It possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of the cultural or natural history of NSW.

Wollstonecraft Foreshore Reserves is rare because it remains a natural landscape that is largely the same as it was in 1788 that is located very close to the first settlement of Sydney. Wollstonecraft Foreshore Reserves meets this criterion of State significance because the island is rare for its status as an almost intact example of a landscape setting on Sydney Harbour - a protective landscape setting for Berry Island, reducing the visual impact of residential development on the appreciation of this place and enhancing the potential to appreciate how the landscape of Sydney Harbour might have been prior to European settlement.

G. It is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places / environments in NSW

Wollstonecraft Foreshore Reserves is a rare example of a natural place within the context of a highly urban city and remains as a vestige of how the landscape of Sydney Harbour might have been prior to European settlement in 1788.

F Listings

8. Existing heritage listings

- Yes North Sydney Local environment plan (LEP)
- No Sydney Regional environmental plan (Sydney Harbour Catchment) 2005
- No LEP- Conservation area
- No Draft LEP – Draft heritage item
- No Draft LEP Draft Conservation area
- No State heritage register
- No National Trust Register
- No Aboriginal heritage information management system Department of Environment and Conservation)
- No Royal Australian Institute of Architects Register of 20th Century Architecture
- No National shipwreck database
- No Engineers Australia list
- No National Heritage List
- No Commonwealth Heritage List
- No Register of the national Estate
- No NSW agency heritage and conservation section 170 register

Other:

- Yes Australian Institute of Landscape Architects NSW Non-statutory Significant Landscapes List (ANNSLL).

G. Images / Photographs

Figure 1, Aerial photo from *SixMaps* showing the Wollstonecraft Foreshore Reserves. The site is outlined in red and comprises several land parcel. [Accessed August, 2017]. North Sydney Council LEP2012 / Heritage item_DP1134544

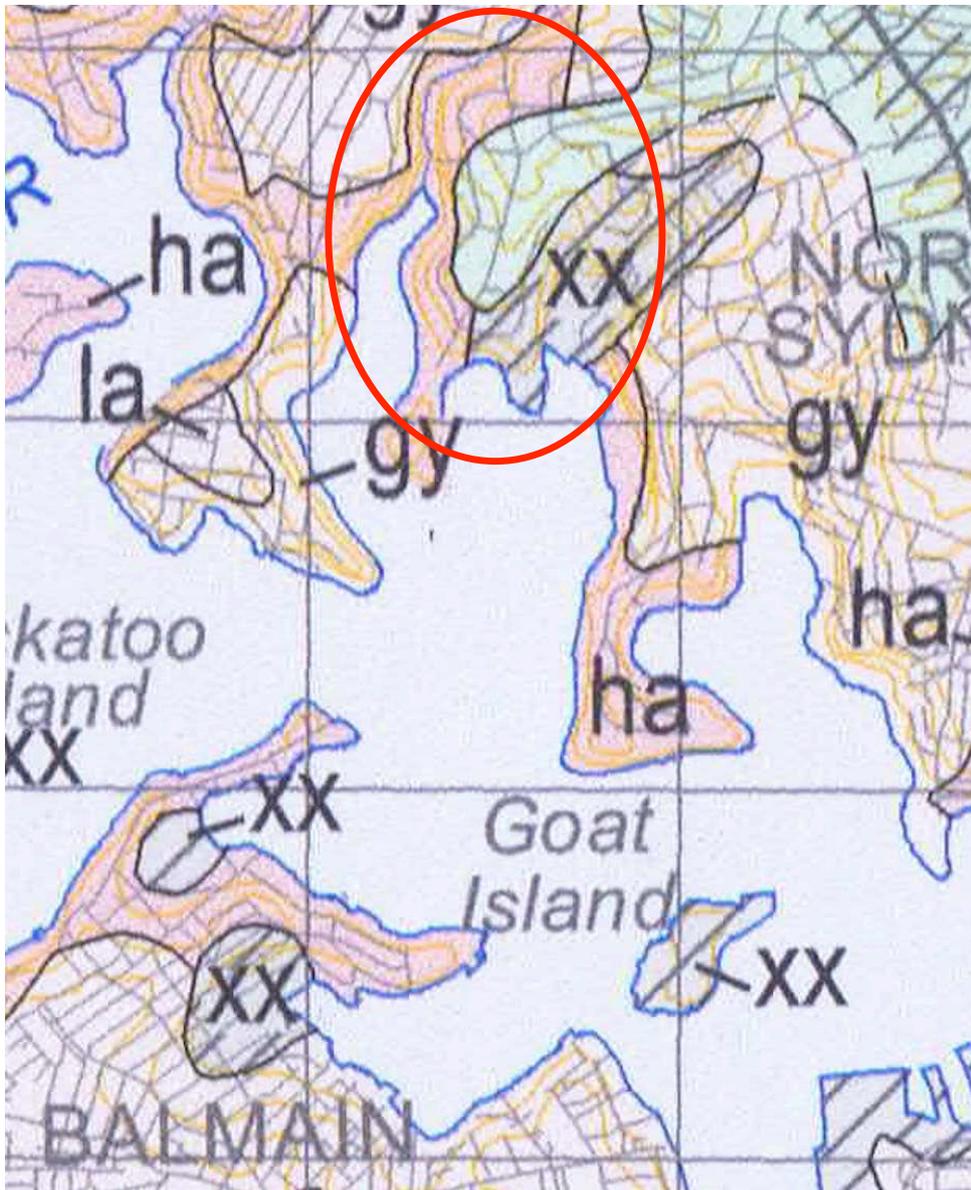


Figure 2, portion of soils identification map of Sydney, showing detail of Wollstonecraft Foreshore Reserves (circled in red) and environs. Note 'ha' denotes Hawkesbury Soil landscape and is coloured pale pink. Also 'gy' denotes Gynea and 'xx' disturbed soil land – much of Badangi is noted as 'xx' where Table Bay was reclaimed for the Gas Works now known as Oyster Cove.

Source: G.A **Chapman** and C.L **Murphy**, *Soil Landscapes of the Sydney 1:100 000 Sheet*, Soil Conservation Service of N.S.W., Sydney, 1989.

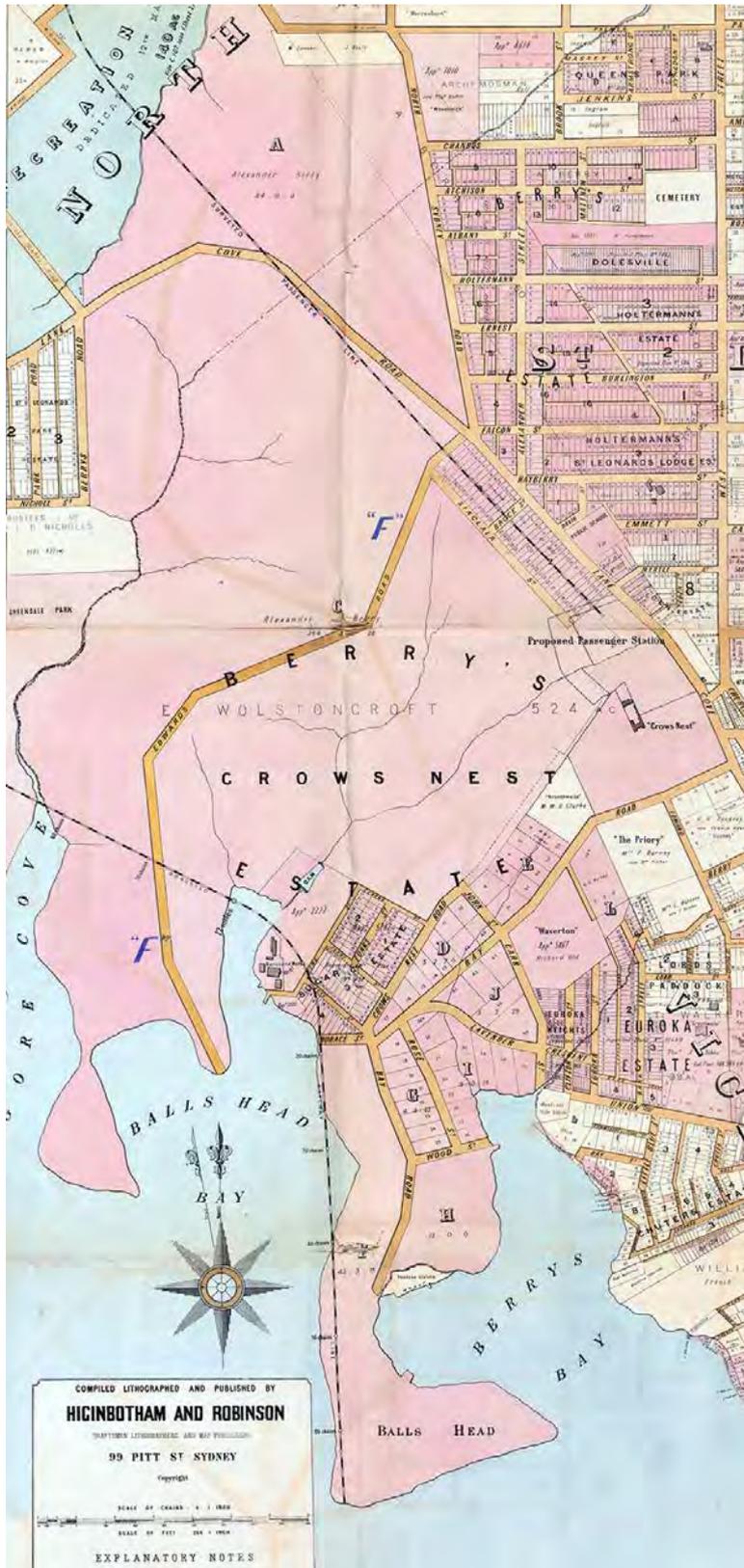


Figure 3, Plan of Berry's Crows Nest Estate, Higinbotham and Robinson Berry Estate map, 1887. There is no indication of subdivision or development on the Wollstonecraft peninsula and Berry Island.

Source: Stanton Library <http://www.athomeinnorthsydney.com.au/berry-estate.html>
13 March 2017



Figure 4, North Shore Gas Works, Oyster Cove, 1914
Source: copyright AGL accessed April 2017.



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Figure 6, Southern side of Gore Cove Reserve Oct 2017. (James Quoye)

F. Author

Primary author of this form

James Quoyle

References used for completing this form

Attenbrow, V., Sydney's Aboriginal Past

Benson,D. and Howell, J., Taken for Granted, Kangaroo Press, 1990

Ellis, E., Conrad Martens, Life and Art, State Library of NSW Press, 1994

Hoskins, I., Sydney Harbour, A history UNSW Press 2010

North Sydney Municipal Council, Heritage Leaflets, North Sydney Municipal Council

Smith P.J. and Smith, J.E., North Sydney Council Natural Area Survey, September 2010

Stephenson, P.R. and Kennedy Brian, The history and description of Sydney Harbour

Signed by Author

James Quoyle

Signed by copyright holder(s) of image(s)

To be arranged

F. Additional photographs, maps or other images

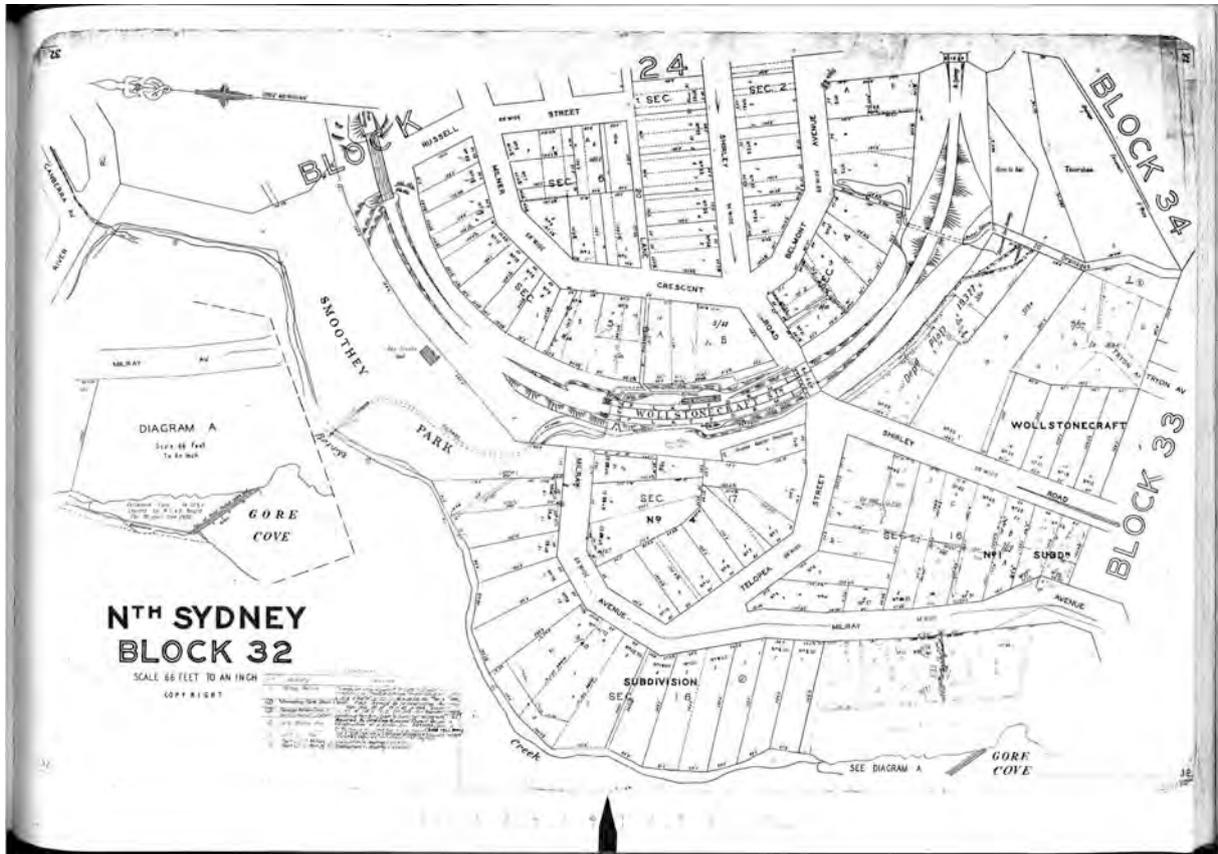


Figure 5, Block Plan 32 indicating private ownership of Smoothy Park, NSC

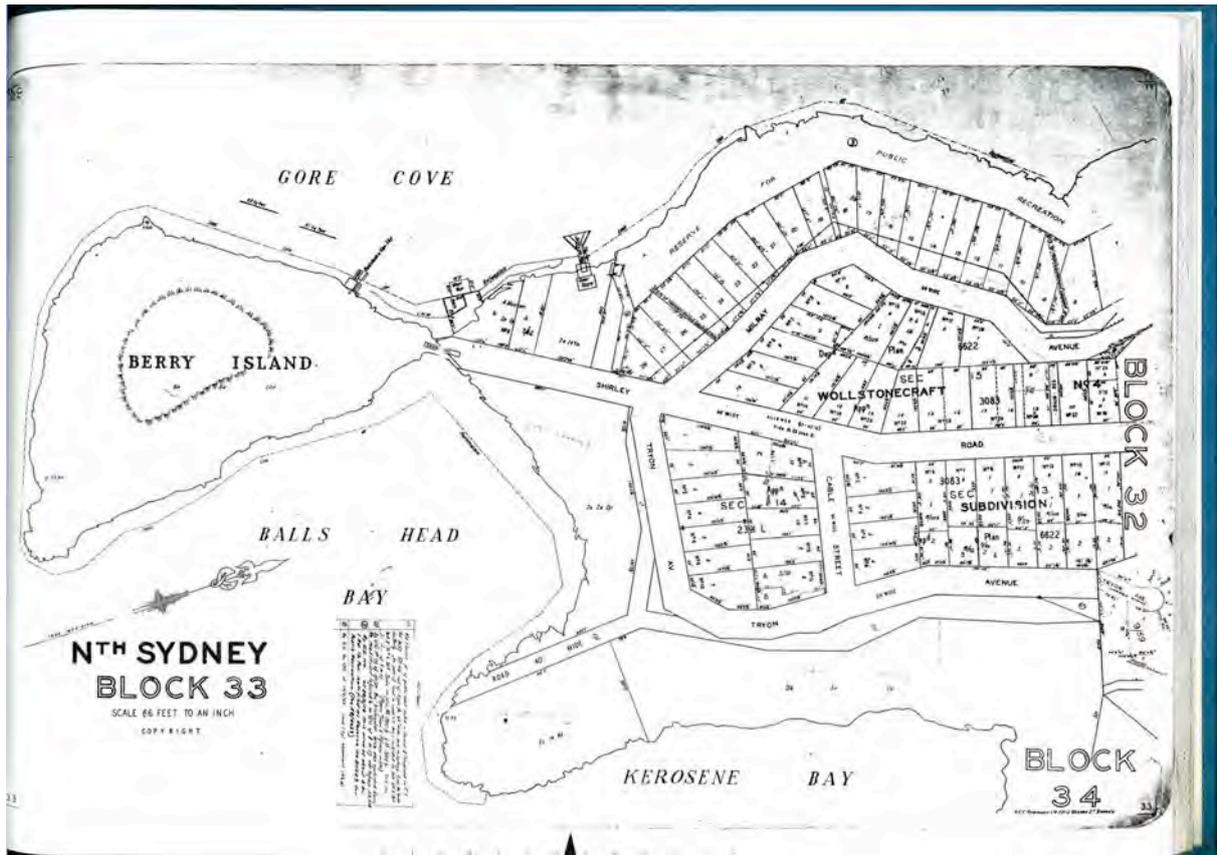


Figure 6, Block Plan 33 indicating reserve for public recreation of Gore Cove along Berry Creek Park, NSC



Figure 11, rock wall at mouth of Berry Creek, October 2017 (James Quoye)



Figure 12, View from Holloway ark towards Gore Cove and Berry Island with the city in the distance, October 2017 (James Quoye)



Figure 13, Water font / bubbler in Smoothey Park October 2017 (James Quoye)



Figure 14, Remnant Water supply Smoothey Park, similar to those on Berry Island, October 2017 (James Quoye)



Figure 15, Badangi Reserve view looking south towards Berry Island Reserve from – James Quoye

G. Chronology

- 1788 'The tribe of the Cammera inhabit the north side...The tribe of Wallumede inhabit the north shore opposite Warrane...and are called Wallumetta.' (Russell, p10) 'the Cameragal people of the rising uplands remained dominant in First Fleet times; little was heard of the Wallumetta of the foreshores and lowlands after early contacts with them (Russell, p12). The people lived in rock shelters with fires at the entries.⁶ (Russell, p12) The Cammeray were noted as being powerful, robust, muscular and the largest tribe some named Car-rah-dy and Car-rah-di-gang labelled 'extraordinary personages' who conducted 'initiation ceremonies.' Russell, pp12-13.
- 1788 15-18 April, Governor Phillip led a party north from Manly Cove it included Hunter, Ball, Johnson, Collins, White, Bradley on an expedition to assess the terrain for good land and fresh waters. On the 16 April the group split and Lieutenant Henry Lidgbird Ball led his party walking back to Port Jackson emerging on the other side of Sydney Cove on the 17 April. In this first overland assessment of the terrain a poor opinion was given except for a small area 1 mile inland to the NW. (Russell, p11).
- 1789 In the first years of the settlement its European newcomers began to explore the north shore of the harbour. Ships were moored in its bays, while crew would be 'put across to the nearest part of the north shore' for an hour and a half walk 'along routes which had been taken often'. In one instance in November 1789 a man became lost following the shoreline path believed to have been taken by Aborigines. A futile search ensued for days and at one point included up to 10 search parties covering the landscape in the area (Russell pp17-18).
- 1794 20 February, 30 acres granted to Samuel Lightfoot, 'Lightfoot Farm' opposite Sydney Cove inclusive of Cockle Beach. (Russell, p22). Disposed of after a few months (Russell, p25) Thomas Muir is believed to have purchased the grant. Exiled for political views, a Scotch Martyr, he built a 'neat little house' the first on the north shore and called it 'Huntershill Farm' (Russell, pp26-27).
Lieutenant-Governor Grose granted 30-acre lots in the upper areas of Port Jackson to discharged NSW Corps men, not entirely successful as a settlement, many grantees instead took up land in the Hawkesbury (Russell, p22).
November, Willoughby area granted, District of Hunter's Hill
- 1795 Artarmon area granted, District of Hunter's Hill
- 1796 Muir escaped colony initially to Alta California.
- 1800 Kirribilli area granted, District of Hunter's Hill
26 April, Governor Hunter includes 'Huntershill' grant in 120acre land grant to Robert Ryan, Marine NSW Corps, opposite Sydney Cove.
- 1800-30s North shore sparsely populated. (Rus p48)'still in natural state because the poor soil and rough terrain were unsuitable for growing wheat or grazing cattle and sheep on a large scale.' (Rus, p48)
- 1801 William Blue (Billy Blue) arrives as convict in colony.

⁶ Russell, E., The Opposite Shore, North Sydney and it's People, Southwood Press, 1990,p10.

- 1804 Governor King took the first formal quarantine measures in 1804 when he issued orders, in line with those recently issued in England, to quarantine ships arriving from New York due to an outbreak of disease there. Ships were moored off Bradleys Head for medical inspection (National Trust Register Listing Report)
- 1808 26 January, Rum Rebellion. Alexander Berry arrives in Sydney with cargo to sell.
- 1810 William Gore settles near Artamon (R, p48)
- 1811 BB appointed Watchman of Heaving Down Place in Sydney Cove, and Constable by Governor Macquarie (Russell, p33)
- Ca 1812 Alexander Berry and Edward Wollstonecraft begin business together.
- 1816 BB establishes a ferry boat service to Lane Cove, he is also 'keeper of the Government Domain.' (Russell, p34)
- 1817 BB receives grant of 80 acres "Northampton Farm", he cultivates 18 acres, (Russell, 34). From the 1828 Florance's survey it includes all land on the peninsula from a creek line at the head of Hulk Bay (Neutral Bay) to a creekline on the eastern side of a yet unnamed Berrys Bay (Waverton Park).
- 1818 BB dismissed from official positions for smuggling.
- 1820 ck date, Berry charts a ship to NSW brings out new governor Brisbane. (R, 50)
- 1821 Edward Wollstonecraft (English, 1783-1832) and Alexander Berry (Scottish, 1781-1873) son of a tenant farmer, studied medicine, liked 'commerce and adventure,' who had travelled widely, numerous voyages, buying merchant ships and as supercargo taking provisions to NSW on spec (ck) were each allotted an adjoining grant of 2000 acres by Macquarie, surveyed in March? (R, 50)
Wollstonecraft granted 524 acres 'exclusive of rocks and sand,' deducted from 2000 acres. Crows Nest farm so named 'because from its highest part sweeping views pf the harbour and countryside were possible' (r, p50). 'on the brow of a ridge overlooking the Harbour, Town, & Botany Bay to the South.' (R, p 59) He occupied the farm for some years prior to the grants settlement 25 June, 1825 (R,p52). The real area of the grant however was larger - 650 acres. (R,52).
Philosophical Society of Australasia formed, Wollstonecraft and Surveyor General John Oxley both founding members.
- 1821 Waterfront land on the western shore of Berry Bay, was first alienated in a grant to Edward Wollstonecraft, his home was called Crows Nest. This 524 acre grant had Berrys Creek as the western boundary of the estate. The grant pre-dated the 1828 reservation of 100 feet of foreshore land and so included all waterfront from Gore Cove to Berrys Bay. This land passed to Edward's sister Elizabeth when he died in 1831 and to her husband Alexander Berry upon Elizabeth's death in 1845. There was only gradual development and subdivision on the estate. (Hoskins).
- 1821 Wollstonecraft erects *Crows Nest Cottage* on land granted to him.
- 1822 February, Berry and Wollstonecraft jointly applied for a grant of 10,000 acres (4047 ha), located on the south side of the Shoalhaven River between the Shoalhaven and Crookhaven Rivers, but Berry established his headquarters at the foot of Mount Coolangatta on the north side of the

- river. Later purchases of land from the crown and private individuals increased the size of the estate to about 32,000 acres (12,950 ha) by 1840, and to more than 40,000 acres (16,187 ha) by 1863.
- 1822 No buildings of the Macquarie era on North Shore.
- 1823 Edward Wollstonecraft describes North Shore area as full of runaways from government and deserters from shipping. (Rus, p39)
- 1825 James Milson comes to area mid 1820s (R, p48)
- 1826 Nov and dec, bushfires on North Shore, ref James Milson websearch.
- 1828 The North Shore, 1828, surveyed by Thomas Florance of the Surveyor-General's Department NSW.
- 1828 Census reveals that Wollstonecraft and Berry between them owned 30,000 acres most of which was located on the far South Coast, in the Shoalhaven River and Crookhaven River area.
- 1830 ca 1830 Berry built a 4-storey stone warehouse and stone wharf at Berrys Bay on its eastern side.
- 1832 Bushfires devastate North Shore, fencing, grass and crops destroyed. (R, p55)
- 1832 7 Dec, Wollstonecraft dies.
- 1833 Crows nest boundaries still in dispute. grant said to be 700 acres to compensate for 'rocks and sand exclusion' (R,p57)
- 1835 Berry purchased 5 acres 'near Balls Head Bay commencing at the road leading from Ball's Head Bay to Me Gore's...' (R,p59.)
Conrad Martin arrives Port Jackson.
- 1837 Crows nest estate consists of 800 acres, apart from a garden and an orchard the land is left in its natural estate, covered in trees. (R, p60).
1 December the 'neighbourhood of Sydney has been on fire- ...it swept past the Crows nestdestroying trees and fences...' (R, p60)
Conrad Martens settles North Shore, Edward St, North Sydney, builds 'Rockleigh' cottage. Paints numerous views of Sydney from North Shore in the year, and 1840, (R, p84), 18th Century European style influenced by Claude Lorrain
- 1838 Plan of Saint Leonards (Rus,40)
- 1830s Timber-getters' camps along upper reaches of Lane Cove River. (Rus,42).
Alexander Harris notes 'immense numbers of tree stumps...countless' near Billy Blues ferry land. (Rus, 42-43.) ask CM to look at this
- 1830s At his estate Alexander Berry builds a stone cottage, a wharf at the foot of Balls Head Road and a 2-storey warehouse for shipping produce to and from Shoalhaven River estate (Carradah Park).
- 1840s Berry modifies some of the site's cliffs by quarrying, and levels an area for work yards (Carradah Park).
- 1840s Economic depression
- 1846 412 persons at St Leonards, now North Sydney (R, p65)
- 1849 November, Bushfires in locality, (R, p86)
- 1860s 'Boatbuilding was then spreading to the west of Darling Harbour. The Mort facilities at Waterview Bay in Balmain were the largest and, with other commercial establishments, confirmed the character of the western harbour as the centre of Sydney's intense working waterfront.' (Hoskins)
Regular ferry services between Sydney and North Sydney begin.
- 1867 Municipality of St Leonard's proclaimed.

- 1873 Alexander Berry dies (R, p81) at Crow Nest house, his brother David inherits his estate, valued at £400,000 and consisting broadly of 60,000 acres (24,281 ha) at Shoalhaven and 500 acres (202 ha) at North Sydney (ADB).
William Dunn established a boatyard in Berrys Bay. He was 'possibly the first to establish boatbuilding on the concomitant northern shore of this western harbour. His business specialised in steamers. Among the most notable vessels launched there was the *Wallaby* (1878), the first double-ended ferry in Sydney Harbour designed by the renowned engineer Norman Selfe. (Hoskins).
- 1879 Timber works developed by members of the Eaton family. 'It expanded to become one of Sydney's major timberyards. Foreign and coastal shipping unloaded directly onto Eaton's wharves - bringing oregon from Canada and the USA, turpentine and other native timbers from the NSW North Coast. Eaton's abandoned the site in stages after World War 2, ending in 1982. Subsequently acquired by Council as a park, a deliberate decision was made to keep the concrete engine beds in the park.' (SHI Sawmillers Reserve)
- 1883 Management of the Shoalhaven estate passed increasingly to Berry's cousin, (Sir) John Hay (ADB).
- 1886 WC Fidler's engraving of these boat sheds is one of the very few renderings of such a working shore – the exception that proves the rule.
- 1889 David Berry dies at Coolangatta on 23 September he left an estate valued at £1,250,000. Hay was principal beneficiary (ADB).
- 1893 Period of financial crisis (R, p222)
- 19th C Ballast stored and timber on site (Carradah Park).
'The harbour had been depicted in hundreds of sketches, prints, oils and watercolours throughout the 19th century Harbour. Few of these images, however, captured the working waterfront, particularly the waterfront of the local boatbuilders.' 'The 'picturesque', as opposed to the sublime or the beautiful, in British art and landscape appreciation, had at its heart a fascination with variation. Sydney Harbour offered such variation and visual interest in abundance with its natural qualities as one cove opened up after another behind headlands. This lay at the obvious entrancement that even exhausted and trepidatious First Fleeters felt when they entered the waterway. It was there with Martens and Streeton's art. (Hoskins)
- 20th C 'The surge in artistic interest from the first decade of the 20th century can only be understood in the context of changes to Sydney Harbour and to Australian art in that period. Artists from Martens to Streeton were captivated by the beauty of the harbour but there was little interest in the 'picturesque' quality of the crowded western harbour.' 'But it was only in the 20th century that artists began find the picturesque in the built environment, in particular in the older parts of Sydney: the lanes and waterfronts.' (Hoskins)
- 1906 Western side of Berry Bay leased to State Government from Berry Estate, kerosene drums believed to have been stored on site were landed at the old stone wharf and lifted to the ridge by funicular tramway for distribution (Carradah Park).

- NSW Government acquires land at Balls Head and Berry Island from Berry estate after agreeing 'to build and maintain a public hospital at the town of Berry on the south coast' (Hoskins)
Refer David Berry Hospital Act (1906) (NT Register Report).
Land 'was returned to public ownership in a transfer deal between the Berry Estate trustees and the State Government'. (Hoskins). 'William with his brother Charles (died 1891) had reportedly built more than 400 vessels in Berrys Bay alone' (Hoskins)
On the eastern side of Balls Head, on Berry Bay's southern area once used as NSW Torpedo Corps base, Woodleys Shipyard established itself moving from Millers Point, its site resumed by government due to the Rocks plague (Woodleys Boatyard).
'It was in this busy period that Sydney's artists became interested in the 'picturesque' qualities of the working waterfront at Berrys Bay. The high ground to the west around the approach to Balls Head afforded an ideal platform from which to paint or sketch – so it was the Dunn and Ford yards particularly on the east side that were featured primarily.' (Hoskins)
- 1907-8 One of the first artists to depict the Bay, James R Jackson, grew up in North Sydney, established a studio in Junction Street after returning from study in Europe in 1907/08 and camped regularly in Balls Head Bay while painting.
- ca. 1914-19 Henry Lawson lives in the district of North Sydney and writes of its people, horse and ferry days, 'back streets and by-lanes' of Berrys Bay... the said lanes are on a height, a few steps gives you views of the most beautiful harbour in the world...' (R, p230)
- 1915-16 Roland Wakelin's best known painting 'Down the Hill to Berrys Bay' (Hoskins).
1915. May, The 'possibility of the Commonwealth obtaining land at Berrys Bay for a depot. Modifications were suggested 'dredging and reclamation a fair area of level land for buildings would be obtained and depth of water up to 10 feet at low water.' NT Listing Report)
- 1916 Berry Island handed to North Sydney Council with a 15-year permissive occupancy agreement (Hoskins).
- 1917 'Roland Wakelin moved to Carr Street, Waverton, in 1917, and called his house 'Cezanne'. It was there that he entertained the young and newly arrived Lloyd Rees' (Hoskins).
- 1917-22 Lloyd Rees from Queensland comes to Sydney at the invitation of Ure Smith, stays in his sister's place overlooking the harbour in Bay St, Waverton. (R, pp292-293),
- 1917 On western side of Balls Head, The Sydney Coal Bunkering Company leased land and began building a coal loader (Hoskins).
- 1917-19 Quarantine Depot site construction of 'bunkers, two cottages, boatshed and jetty and seawall reclamation', Latrine Block
'The design of the buildings would have been supervised by JS Murdoch, the Commonwealth Architect, but the actual site planning and design would have been by Oakeshott or someone in his office. Unfortunately, original plans which would confirm the architect have not been located. In the National Archives the structures identified were: Store Building, Coal

- Bunkers, Kerosene Store, Latrine Block, Cottages 1 and 2.15 and a shed for Motor Launch and slipway (NT Listing Report).
- 1918 Lloyd Rees' first known oil of Berrys Bay dates to 1918. It was inspired by Wakelin's 'Down the Hill to Berrys Bay' work and, indeed, acquired by Wakelin (Hoskins).
- 1918 Berry Island depicted by Lloyd Rees
'Old Boats, Wollstonecraft', Lloyd Rees, 1918 - Art Gallery of NSW (AGNSW)
- 1919 24 January-8 August, Influenza epidemic (R, p228)
- 1910s 'Many other artists, not all locals, depicted the Bay and its working waterfront during this period. They include Sydney Long, Percy Lindsay, Lionel Lindsay, Martin Lewis, CES Tindall, Roy de Maistre, F Meade Norton and the photographers FD Collins, Harold Cazneaux and Henri Mallard.' (Hoskins).
- 1920s NSW Government considered leasing Berry island in exchange 'for Council's occupancy there with undeveloped land at Balls Head which could be dedicated as public reserve.' Advocacy by members of council and community to retain both for 'public recreation,' Although the Coalition Government at the time did not support this the Labour Party agreed and the two reserves were gazetted for public recreation 25 June, 1926 (Hoskins).
- 1920s Artists 'were looking to this type of waterfront for the picturesque variety of form and colour. It was a quality that had disappeared from the foreshores of Walsh Bay, Darling Harbour and Pyrmont in the wake of the post-plague port redevelopment. The finger wharves of the newly established Sydney Harbour Trust, quaint though they are to our eyes in their few surviving incarnations at Walsh Bay, represented a modern, clean waterfront when they were built.' (Hoskins).
'By then the boatsheds of Berrys Bay were quaint and rough. The visual appeal of the mess in part related to the antiquarian fascination with an industry already apparently old. This is particularly the case with Percy and Lionel Lindsay. Sydney was a city that was constantly reinventing itself so that by the early 20th century much that was 40 or 50 years old had already disappeared. The feel of decrepitude was amplified by the mooring of hulks in the Bay. This was a different appreciation of an historical 'picturesque' harbour.' (Hoskins).
'The sheer number of paintings, prints, photographs and sketches created of Berrys Bay in this period suggests that the place was a crucible for both types of artwork.' (Hoskins).
- 1920 Rees himself moved to Bay Road, Waverton (Hoskins).
- 1922 Anglo-Persian Oil Company leased the site, it was sub-leased to the Commonwealth Oil Refineries Ltd (COR), and in a joint venture with the Australian Federal Government developed the site.⁷(SHI- Carradah Park)
- 1922 Rees produces a book of complex drawings, its subjects include the 'Gas Company and numerous extensive coaling wharves', that demonstrate the 'acquirement of technique.' (R, p293)
1801-1878)' (Hoskins).