



This list of Sutherland Shire place names and their origins was originally published in August 2003 as *Sutherland Shire Council Fact Sheet 6*, attributed to the late Mrs. M. Hutton Neve. The list has now been updated with additional information and corrections which have come to light since that time, and the inclusion of several new suburb names and additional place names. The NSW Government Gazette has been used as a source of validation of the names and the dates they came into use, as has books and documents held in the Local Studies Section of the Council Library.

Dates shown in the references to each item are the date on which that item appears in the NSW Government Gazette. Where reference is made to a Village or Town name, it is the first notice in which the name was used – any later notices which amend the village or town boundary have not been referenced.

Almost all the names in this list have been assigned by the Geographical Names Board (GNB) and references include the date(s) of gazettal of the name. Since the GNB was formed in 1966, it has verified pre-existing names and included new names where they have been adopted. In 2008, most of the Suburb names were reassigned and some new Suburb names added. For a full list of Geographical Names in the Shire, see the web site www.gnb.nsw.gov.au.

For further information contact the Land Information Unit at gis@ssc.nsw.gov.au.

ALFORDS POINT

Alford was the name given to the area and public reserve bordering the south bank of the Georges River and also to a road leading to it from Old Illawarra Road, Menai. The area now bearing the name Alford's Point is a couple of miles downstream from 50 acres of land that was owned by Jane Alford, widow of James Alford snr. in 1828.

Ref: GNB Neighbourhood 5 March 1976, now Suburb 18 January 2008

AUDLEY

This area was surveyed by George Edward Thickness-Touchet, 21st Baron Audley, in 1863-64, where he set up a semi-permanent camp. He later became a son-in-law of Surveyor General Sir Thomas Mitchell.

Ref: GNB Locality 2 November 1973, now Rural Place 4 May 2007

AUDREY BAY

Origin unknown.

Ref: GNB Bay 23 November 1973

BANGOR

Named after the city of Bangor in the Menai Strait of Wales. The name was originally suggested by Owen Jones, a Welshman who was an early settler in the area.

Owen Jones selected his farm in 1895 and called it Bangor after his birthplace in Wales. To overcome confusion with Bangor in Tasmania, the name of the area was changed to Menai in 1910, but in the 1950s the eastern area of Menai was subdivided and named Bangor.

Ref: GNB Neighbourhood 5 March 1976, now Suburb 18 January 2008

BASS AND FLINDERS POINT

Named after explorers George Bass and Matthew Flinders who came ashore in this location during their survey of Port Hacking in 1796.

Ref: GNB Point 22 November 1974

BIRNIEMERE

Now part of Kurnell, this was originally 'Alpha Farm' which belonged to captain James Birnie, who was granted "700 acres, Portion No, 1" in the area in 1815. This was the first farm in what later became Sutherland Shire, "alpha" being Greek for "first".

Ref: GNB Locality 4 May 1973, now Historic Area 4 May 2007

BARDEN RIDGE

In 1992 local residents voted to rename part of the suburb of Lucas Heights. In 1996 the Geographical Names Board assigned the name Barden Ridge to the area 3 kms south of Menai. Named after Alfred Barden who was an original absentee land holder in the area prior to the 1850s.

Ref: GNB Suburb 12 January 1999, now Suburb 18 January 2008

BATE BAY

No known meaning.

Ref: Bay GNB 4 May 1973

BONNA POINT

From the Aboriginal "Burra Burra", recorded as local name by surveyor Robert Dixon in 1827.

Ref: GNB Point 4 May 1973

BONNET BAY/HEAD

Named by the Geographical Names Board, NSW Lands Department in 1969. An area of land north-west of Jannali bounded by Woronora River, originally proposed to name the area Kirkby. However a cave in the area known as "The Bonnet" (as it is shaped like an old woman's bonnet) prompted the suggestion to name the area Bonnet Bay.

Ref: GNB Suburb 7 March 1969, now Suburb 18 January 2008 and 1 August 2008, GNB Bay 4 May 1973, and GNB Head 22 June 1973.

BOAT HARBOUR

So named as it became a refuge for boats during storms.

Ref: GNB Cove 4 May 1973

BOTANY BAY

Named by Captain Cook—originally "Stingray Bay" or "Stingrays Bay", later "Botanist Bay" and finally 'Botany Bay', because of the numerous plants found there by Sir Joseph Banks.

Ref: GNB Bay 9 March 1973

BOTTLE FOREST (Historic)

In a locality known by the Aboriginal name "Wennagarung", Bottle Forest was the name given in 1842 to the village which later became Heathcote. Most of the original village is now on the eastern side of the railway and since 1903 has generally had the local name of East Heathcote. There are two theories for the origin of the name (1) said to be named by Surveyor-General Thomas Mitchell

after a bottle left behind by an earlier surveyor was found embedded in a tree. or (2) the map of the area circa 1942/43 was in the shape of a soldier's water bottle.

BULGO

Civil parish of Bulgo is the administrative district at the southern end of the Shire which contains part of the Royal National Park. The name comes from the Aboriginal word "Bulga" meaning "mountain" and was recorded as a local name by surveyor Robert Dixon in 1827 and is one of the few feature names shown on the original parish map (parish proclaimed in 1835).

Ref: GNB Parish 5 May 1973

BUNDEENA / BUNDEENA BAY

Believed to be Aboriginal (Dharawal) meaning: "noise like thunder". Originally the Yarmouth estate, names such as Bundeena Creek and Bundeena Street appeared on plans in early 1900s. Village of Bundeena proclaimed 1938.

Ref: Village of Bundeena 23/9/1938 -- GNB Suburb 4 May 1973, now Suburb 18 January 2008, and GNB Bay 4 May 1973.

BURRANEER / BURRANEER BAY

First named Burraneer Bay, from an Aboriginal word "Booranea" meaning "point of the bay", in 1827 by Surveyor Robert Dixon as "Burraneer". Also shown as Burraneer Bay on maps and documents. Used as name of part of the Holt-Sutherland Estate (Walker 1868).

Ref: GNB Neighbourhood 28 April 1978, now Suburb 18 January 2008, and GNB Bay 22 June 1973.

CABBAGE TREE POINT

Named for the profusion of cabbage trees growing at that location.

Ref: GNB Point 4 May 1973

CAPE SOLANDER

Named by Captain Cook for Dr Carl Solander a botanist on the 'Endeavour'.

Ref: GNB Headland 4 May 1973

CARAVAN HEAD

The locality of Caravan Head is thought to have been named after "Caravan Rock", which was shaped like a covered wagon or caravan situated on private property on the point of Caravan Head.

Ref: GNB Locality 22 June 1973, now Urban Place 4 May 2007, and GNB Headland 4 May 1973.

CARINA BAY

Of Aboriginal origin believed to be of the same source as the suburb of Kareela, derived from "kari-kari" meaning fast, other suggested meanings being "Place of trees and water" or "south wind"

Ref: GNB Island 4 May 1973

CARINGBAH

Aboriginal word referring to the "Pademelon Wallaby". Caringbah was originally called Highfield (named after the Highfields who had a shop in what is now Caringbah), but the name changed with the opening of the Post Office in 1912. Village of Caringbah proclaimed in 1921. In 2008, the southern part became the suburb of Caringbah South.

Ref: Village of Caringbah 7 January 1921 – GNB Suburb 4 May 1973 now Suburb 18 January 2008

CARINGBAH SOUTH

A new Suburb created from the southern part of the suburb of Caringbah in 2008 – see CARINGBAH for details.

Ref: Suburb18 January 2008

CARRUTHERS BAY

Named after Joseph (later Sir Joseph) Hector Carruthers, who regularly visited the area in the 1890s, and was appointed a trustee of the National (now Royal National) Park in 1891. He became Premier of New South Wales in 1904.

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973

CARTERS ISLAND

Origin not known, but was probably named around 1840-50

Ref: GNB Island 4 May 1973

COMO

Named after Lake Como in Italy, because of the similar scenery, by James Murphy, in his capacity as manager of the Holt-Sutherland Estate Land Company. The Village of Como was proclaimed in 1922

Ref: Village of Como 5 May 1922 – GNB Suburb 4 May 1973, now Suburb18 January 2008

CONSTABLES POINT

A point which forms the eastern headland of Fisherman's Bay. The land (portion 10) was originally granted to Marmaduke Constable.

Ref: GNB Point 29 March 1974

COSTENS POINT

Named after William Costen, an early settler in that location

Ref: GNB Point 4 May 1973

CRONULLA

Thought to be a European variation of the Aboriginal word "Kurranulla" (alternate "Curranulla") — a place of pink shells. In 1827 Surveyor Dixon named the area the "Cronulla Beach". The Village of Cronulla was proclaimed in 1908, after having originally been proclaimed as the Village of Gunnamatta in 1899. The Town of Cronulla was proclaimed in 1931.

Ref: Village of Gunnamatta 25 November 1899, Village of Cronulla 26 February 1908, Town of Cronulla 23 October 1931 – GNB Suburb 4 May 1972, and now Suburb18 January 2008

CUMBERLAND

The County of Cumberland is large administrative district generally centered on the city of Sydney, which contains many Local Government Areas including Sutherland Shire. Proclaimed in 1835 it is named after a historic county of North West England.

Ref: GNB County 24 October 1969

DARK BAY

Origin not known -- possibly descriptive

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973

DAROOK PARK -

Presumed to be named after the Darook (Dharug/Daruk) tribe of Aborigines. Further research has indicated that the tribal area did not extend to that locality but was located around Western Sydney (near Parramatta) and may have been mistakenly assigned. The name of the South Botany tribe was the "Gweagal", their country being known as "Gwea".

Ref: GNB Reserve 5 July 1985

DEEBAN SPIT

"Deeban" (alternate "Jibbon") the Aboriginal name for Port Hacking.

Ref: GNB Spit 5 July 1985

DOLANS BAY

Named after Patrick Dolan who purchased approximately 286 acres on 17 January 1856.

Ref: GNB Suburb 22/6/1973 now Suburb 18 January 2008 as amended 10 July 2009, and GNB Cove 4 May 1973

ECKERSLEY

The Parish of Eckersley (also shown as Eckersly on some early plans), proclaimed in 1835, is the administrative district at the south-west end of the Shire, which is mainly the Holsworthy army area, Heathcote National Park and Woronora Dam. The origin of the name is not known, but would appear could be of English origin, perhaps Eckersley in Bedford, Lancaster or personages of that name known to Surveyor General Mitchell, possibly Lieutenant Nathaniel Eckersley (1779 – 1837) who served with Duke of Wellington in Peninsular Wars.

Ref: GNB Parish 19th March 1976

ELOUERA

Aboriginal meaning "a pleasant place".

Ref: GNB Beach 22nd June 1973

ENGADINE

Charles McAlister purchased land here in 1890. After visiting Europe with his wife, McAlister named his property the Engadine Estate for the Engadine district of Switzerland, noted for its hills and valleys of flowers. When the railway station was opened in 1920, his widow, Mrs. McAlister, named it after her estate. The Village of Engadine was proclaimed in 1933

Ref: Village of Engadine 17 November 1933 – GNB Suburb 4 May 1973, now Suburb 18 January 2008

FARNELL BIGHT

Named after Hon. James Squire Farnell, Premier of NSW in 1877-8, and appointed a trustee of the National (now Royal National) Park in 1881

Ref: GNB Bight 4 May 1973

GARIE

Two theories: 1. Aboriginal meaning: "sleepy" and 2. Geera, Garie or Geara: not Aboriginal in origin: named after a bushranger called Geaty who camped there. Name recorded as a local name by surveyor Robert Dixon in 1827 and is one of the few feature names shown on the original Bulgo parish map.

Ref: GNB Locality 5 July 1985, now Rural Place 4 May 2007

GEORGES RIVER

Named after King George III, probably by Governor Philip.

Ref: GNB River 23 November 1973

GOGERLYS POINT

Named after Charles James Gogerly, the first settler on the southern shore of Port Hacking, who had first squatted on and then purchased the land in 1854, and lived there with his wife Charlotte and their several children.

Ref: GNB Point 4 May 1973

GRAYS POINT

Two theories: 1. Named after Samuel William Gray who owned 50 acres of land on the point in the mid-to-late 1800s and 2. Named after John Edward Gray, a resident ranger in the National Park in the late 1800s; he lived at Gundamaian and became a well-known local identity.

Ref: GNB Suburb 4 May 1973, now Suburb 18 January 2008, and GNB Point 4 May 1973

GREAT TURRIELL BAY

See "Turriell Point"

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973 and Erratum 7/12/2012

GREEN POINT

This locality was reputed to have been named on an undated plan by surveyor Charles Grimes who became the Surveyor-General in 1794. Used as name of part of the Holt-Sutherland Estate (Walker 1868).

Ref: GNB Point 4/5/1973 and 11/3/1977

GREENHILLS BEACH

Sutherland Shire's newest suburb (formerly part of Kurnell). After extensive public consultation the Geographical Names Board in July 2011 named it after "Green Hills" which was the name given to this area on a map of the Kurnell Peninsula drawn by Myles Dunphy, and which was also recorded on the 1951 Parish map of Sutherland.

Ref: GNB Suburb 22 July 2011

GUNDAMAIAN

No known meaning

Ref: GNB Locality 4 May 1973, now Rural Place 4 May 2007

GUNNAMATTA (BAY)

Recorded by Surveyor Robert Dixon as local name in 1827 from Aboriginal name "Goonamatta" or "Goonamurra" meaning: "a place of beach and sandhills". The original name for the Village of Cronulla (see CRONULLA).

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973

GUNYAH BEACH

From the Aboriginal name "Gunyah" meaning a hut or dwelling

Ref: GNB Beach 22 June 1973

GYMEA

Probably a Dharuk Aboriginal term “Goomea” for the gigantic lily, *doryanthes excelsa* which is abundant in the area.. Believed to have been named by Government Surveyor WAB Greaves in 1855, after the tall, red flowered, native lily.

Ref: GNB Suburb 22 June 1973, now Suburb 18 January 2008

GWAWLEY BAY

The Aboriginal name for the locality, recorded as local name by surveyor Robert Dixon in 1827.

Ref: GNB Point 4 May 1973

GYMEA BAY

Used as name of part of the Holt-Sutherland Estate (Walker 1868). Village of Gymea Bay proclaimed in 1933. For origin of name see GYMEA.

Ref: GNB Suburb 4 May 1973, now Suburb 18 January 2008 and GNB Bay 4 May 1973

HEATHCOTE

1 The Civil Parish was called Heathcote (1825) by Surveyor General Mitchell after one of two fellow officers who served with him in the Peninsular Wars (1809-1814).

2. The Village was originally called Bottle Forest. It was surveyed in 1842 and is now Heathcote East. The Site for the Village of Heathcote extending to the west of the railway was notified in mid 1886 and proclaimed later that year.

Ref: Village of Heathcote 3 July 1886 and 9 October 1886 – GNB Parish 19 March 1976; Suburb 04 May 1973 now Suburb 18 January 2008

HOLSWORTHY

Was named in 1810 by Governor Lachlan Macquarie after a quiet village in Devon, England where married his second wife in 1807. It referred at that time to a small community which had emerged at what was then the navigable head of the Georges River. The Parish of Holsworthy proclaimed in 1835 extended the name over settlement areas south to the Parish of Eckersley and east to the Woronora River. On early maps and gazettals the name was often shown as “Holdsworthy”. In 1910, Lord Kitchener, on a visit to Australia advising on military matters, went to Liverpool and declared Holsworthy as the site for a permanent Army encampment, and the Army took possession in 1913. The original name of Holsworthy was retained for the military establishment. This military area was finally recognized as separate Suburb in 2008.

Ref: GNB: Parish 21 March 1975; Suburb 18 January 2008

HOLTMERE

A Kurnell locality covering an area of land originally held by Thomas Holt, appearing on the first map of the Sutherland Shire,

Ref: GNB: Locality 4 May 1973, now Historic Place 4 May 2007

HORDERNS BEACH

Named after the prominent Sydney retailer Anthony Hordern, who owned an allotment fronting the beach after the area was subdivided in the late 1880s.

Ref: GNB Beach 22 June 1973 and Erratum 5 March 2004

HORSE ROCK POINT

Site of a stockyard built by John Connell for work horses and stock waiting to be swum across the river to markets. This could reasonably be assumed to be the origin of the name.

Ref: GNB Point 4 May 1973

ILLAWONG

An Aboriginal word meaning “between two waters”.

The peninsular part of Illawong was originally under the Holsworthy parish administrative area, and when opened for Crown subdivision in 1887 became known as part of nearby Como, although separated from it by the Woronora River. The landholders decided a few years later that they would be better served by being included in the Hurstville Municipal Council area. Accordingly they petitioned the Governor in late 1894, and were successful, with the area becoming the Como Ward of Hurstville Council. In 1900 the ward boundaries were altered and it became part of Peakhurst Ward. This area was returned to Sutherland Shire in 1922, and was generally referred to as Bottle and Glass Point. This later changed to East Menai. In 1960 it was proposed to name the new public school as the “Bottle and Glass Point public school”, however it was considered that name was unsuitable, and accordingly the whole area was renamed as Illawong.

Ref: Petition 21 January 1895, Annexed to Hurstville 12 July 1895, Ward change 13 August 1900, Annexed to Shire 4 August 1922 – GNB , Suburb 23/11/1973, Neighbourhood 5 March 1976, now Suburb 18 January 2008

INSCRIPTION POINT (KURNELL)

Named by the Australian Philosophical Society (later the Royal Society of NSW) in 1822 after it affixed a plaque to the cliff face where the “Endeavour” crew first landed.

Ref: GNB 4 May 1973

JANNALI

Aboriginal name for 'place of beautiful moon-rises' P. 72. (Infor. from Two Hundred Years in Retrospect - Kurnell Sutherland 1770-1970). Also: may be Aboriginal term for moon but if so it's a Dharuk (Sydney) Aboriginal term. The local Dharawal word for moon is 'djadjung'. (Appleton; 1992). The Village of Jannali was proclaimed in 1927, which coincided with the construction of a new railway station on the Illawarra line (opened in 1931).

Ref: Gazettal of Village 19 August 1927 -- GNB Suburb 4 May 1973, now Suburb 18 January 2008 and 1 August 2008)

JIBBON BEACH/BUMBORAH

Aboriginal name for the location, and is an alternative spelling of "Deeban" the local Aboriginal name for Port Hacking. Recorded as local name by surveyor Robert Dixon in 1827

Ref: GNB Beach 4 May 1973, GNB Bumborah 22 June 1973

KANGAROO POINT

Kangaroos were often hunted here by being chased onto the point and cornered, hence its name. This practice began with the indigenous occupiers and was continued by the colonial settlers. Used as name of part of the Holt-Sutherland Estate (Walker 1868)

Ref: GNB Suburb 22 June 1973 now Suburb 18 January 2008 and GNB Point 4 May 1973

KAREELA

Previously part of Oyster Bay. Name suggested by Sutherland Shire Council and approved by the Geographical Names Board of the NSW Lands Department in 1967. From the aboriginal word 'Kari-Kari' meaning fast. The southerly winds in this area are usually very strong, hence 'Kareela' meaning south wind (fast wind).

Ref: GNB Suburb 15/12/1967, Suburb 4/5/1973, now Suburb 18 January 2008 and 6 March 2009.

KIRRAWEE

Aboriginal meaning: “lengthy” —the name was adopted in 1939 with the opening of the railway line. A postal receiving office in the locality was known as “Bladeville”. It operated from the home of Mrs. Louisa Blade, was opened in 1909 and closed in 1915 when a letter delivery commenced from the Post Office at Sutherland,

Ref: GNB Suburb 22/6/1973, now Suburb18 January 2008 and 6 March 2009

KURNELL

Two possible origins: (1) corruption of a Dharuk? Aboriginal term 'cunthal' or 'kundel' or 'kurdul' perhaps for 'wild carrot'. (2) corruption of surname of John Connell, first settler in area. Part of the suburb of Kurnell was renamed as Sutherland Shire's newest suburb “Greenhills Beach” in July 2011.

Ref: GNB Suburb 4 May1973, Suburb18 January 2008, now Suburb 22 July 2011.

LIGHTNING POINT

Origin not known -- possibly descriptive

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973

LILLI PILLI / LILLI PILLI POINT

Aboriginal. Native name for tree with little edible berries. Named after the native Myrtle (Lilly Pilly or Lilli Pilli) Tree (*Acmenia smithii*). The earliest landowner in the area was Francis Mitchell who, in 1840, gave his address as Great Turriell or Lilly Pilly Point.

Ref: GNB Suburb 22 June 1973 now Suburb18 January 2008 as amended 10 July 2009, and GNB Point 22 June 1973.

LITTLE TURRIELL BAY

See "Turriell Point"

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973

LOFTUS

Named after a former governor of New South Wales, Lord Augustus William Spencer Loftus, who was Governor at the time the railway station was opened and his name was used for it.

Ref: GNB Suburb now Suburb18 January 2008

LUCAS HEIGHTS

Named after John Lucas snr. flour miller at Liverpool, granted 150 acres at “head of unnamed stream sailing into Georges River”, 1823. It was believed that he built a water-driven mill for grinding corn from the Illawarra farms — small ships sailed up the coast into Botany Bay, Georges River and Woronora River, but there is another school of thought that the mill was constructed in another location on a stream entering further up the Georges River. Part of the Lucas Heights Area was renamed as the Suburb of Barden Ridge in 1996.

Ref: GNB Locality 22 February 1974, Neighbourhood 5 March1976, now Suburb18 January 2008

MAIANBAR

Appears to be of Aboriginal origin, but according to the Lands Department, no information can be found relating to the origin of the name Maianbar.

Ref: GNB 4 May 1973 erratum 14 September 1973, now Suburb18 January 2008

MENAI

Originally called Bangor by Owen Jones, a Welshman and first settler, 1895. Changed to Menai by the PMG in 1910 because of confusion with Bangor in Tasmania, Named after the Menai Straits between the Welsh mainland and the Isle of Anglesey, opposite Bangor. Part of the Menai area was later reverted to the name Bangor

Ref: GNB Suburb 4 May 1973, then Neighbourhood 5 March 1976 now Suburb 18 January 2008

MILGURRUNG

Aboriginal name for the creek near Cook's landing place at Kurnell

MIRANDA

Named after Miranda, a character in the Shakespearean play 'The Tempest'. "The name Miranda was given to the locality by me as manager of the Holt-Sutherland Company which I formed in 1881. I thought it a soft, euphonious, musical and appropriate name for a beautiful place." (Extract from a letter of James Murphy 31 October 1921.). The Village of Miranda was proclaimed in 1921.

Ref: Village of Miranda 7 January 1921 – GNB Suburb 4 May 1973 now Suburb 18 January 2008

NORTH WEST ARM

Descriptive - the north west arm of Port Hacking.

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973

OAK PARK

Originally Oak (or Oaks) Park Water Reserve dating from 1899, where a well was sunk to provide water to local residents in 1906. It became a Park in 1945. Named because of the profusion of Oak Trees in the area.

Ref: Water Reserve 7 October 1899 and 12 June 1907, became Recreation Reserve 9 October 1945 – GNB Reserve 22 June 1973

OYSTER BAY

Oyster Bay itself, a place once plentiful in oysters, was first named on surveyor Wells' map of 1840. The name was used as part of the Holt-Sutherland Estate (Walker 1868). The Village of Oyster Bay was proclaimed in 1933.

Ref: Village of Oyster Bay 17/11/1933 – GNB Suburb 4 May 1973 now Suburb 18 January 2008 and GNB Bay 4 May 1973

PELICAN POINT

A gathering place for flocks of pelicans. Also previously known as "Killigalere Point", the origin of which is unknown.

Ref: GNB Point 5 July 1985

POINT DANGER

Origin not known -- possibly descriptive

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973

PORT HACKING / PORT HACKING POINT

Named by Matthew Flinders March 30, 1796. First Fleet pilot Henry Hacking had told him of rumours of a large river south of Botany Bay. Originally named Port Aicken (alternatively Akin or Aken) after

midshipman John Aicken, First Fleet, who discovered the river, Port Hacking Heads were known as "Port Aiken Heads" in 1870. Village of Port Hacking proclaimed in 1933.

Ref: Village of Port Hacking 17 November 1933 – GNB Suburb 4 May 1973, now Suburb 10/7/2009, and GNB Estuary & Point 4 May 1973

QUIBRAY BAY

Recorded as a local name by surveyor Robert Dixon in 1827, believed to be from the Aboriginal name for the area.

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973

RED JACKS POINT

Origin not known

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973

ROYAL NATIONAL PARK

Founded in 1879 by Sir John Robertson, Premier of NSW, as "The National Park". 16,090 acres were set aside as public reserve. The term "Royal" was adopted during the visit of Queen Elizabeth II to Sydney in 1954. For administrative purposes, the Royal National Park is now a Suburb.

Ref: GNB Suburb 18 January 2008

SALMON HAUL BAY

Believed to signify a large catch of that type of fish once made there.

Ref: GNB Bay 22 June 1973

SANDY POINT

Sandy Point (the suburb) is named after the Sandy Point Estate from which it was created in 1925. NOTE: There is another geographical location known as Sandy Point in Sylvania at the end of Holts Point Place.

Ref: GNB Suburb 18 January 2008

SCYLLA BAY

The "Scylla" was a sea monster in Greek mythology. Originally part of "Double Bay", this section of the bay was then known as "Mimosa Bay" from around 1900 before becoming "Scylla Bay", near the end of World War 1.

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973

SHAG POINT

Probably named after the sea birds known as Shags or Cormorants.

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973

SIMPSONS BAY

Named after the George Simpson and his wife Mary and family who settled here in the 1860s, establishing "Tyreal House", which later became known as Simpsons Hotel at Bonnie Vale.

Ref: GNB Point 22 June 1973

SOUTH WEST ARM

Descriptive - the south west arm of Port Hacking.

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973

STILL CREEK

A long inlet and creek running into Woronora River, formerly also known as Inchs Creek. Believed to have been named because a whiskey still was located there overlooking the creek.

Ref: GNB Creek 4 May 1973

SUTHERLAND

This name applies to three geographical areas, which are treated separately:

1. Civil Parish of Sutherland

The Parish of Sutherland was originally proclaimed on 23 May 1835 as “Southerland”, which was the name shown on the original parish map, and was apparently the name selected by Surveyor-General Thomas Mitchell for the first parish south of Georges River. However just 4 days later on 27 May 1835, the proclamation was reprinted with amendments, including changing the name to “Sutherland”, which must have been to agree with the spelling shown on the original document.

That did cause some confusion as the two names were used randomly for many years until “Sutherland” became the only term used for the parish name.

2. Town of Sutherland

The name Sutherland Township was used for land sales in 1882 by the Holt-Sutherland Estate Land Company. The use of the name Sutherland for the subdivision had been decided by the company in 1881. The Town of Sutherland was proclaimed in 1921.

3. Shire of Sutherland (LGA Sutherland Shire)

The original name and boundary of the Shire of Sutherland was proclaimed on 7 March 1906 (amended 11 September 1907). At that time it excluded the “Como” area which was part of Hurstville Municipality until 1922 (see ILLAWONG). The only other change to the boundary was a small swap with Liverpool in 1984 to place the boundary along Heathcote Road.

In early 1993 there was public concern that the area would lose its identity as “The Shire” when the proposed Local Government Act introduced the term Local Government Area (LGA) and deleted the words Shire, Municipality and City from the titles. Following submissions from Council, the Governor altered the name on 25 June 1993 in the following terms: *I, Rear Admiral PETER ROSS SINCLAIR, Governor of the State of New South Wales, with the advice of the Executive Council, and in pursuance of section 14 of the Local Government Act 1919, do hereby alter, on and from the close of business of the Sutherland Shire Council on 30 June 1993, the name of the Shire of Sutherland to the Shire of Sutherland Shire.* What this meant was that on 1 July 1993 when the Local Government Act 1993 came into force that the name changed from “Shire of Sutherland” to “Local Government Area Sutherland Shire”.

NOTE 1: Historians have debated for years over the possibility that any or all of the above Parish, Town and Shire of Sutherland was/were named to honour Cook’s seaman, Forby Sutherland who died at Kurnell, or that just being a coincidence.

NOTE 2: Another coincidence of names, also debated by historians, is whether, when the railway station “Sutherland” opened in 1885, it was named in honour of the Honourable John Sutherland, NSW Minister for Works, 1860- 1872.

Ref: Parish 23 May 1835 & 27 May 1835; Town of Sutherland 7 January 1921; Shire 7 March 1906, 4 August 1922, 27 January 1984, 25 June 1993 – GNB Parish 05 July 1985; Suburb 05 July 1985 now Suburb 18 January 2008

SUTHERLAND POINT

Named by Captain Cook in memory of Forby Sutherland, a seaman on the “Endeavour”, who was buried at Kurnell.

Ref: GNB Point 4 May 1973

SYLVANIA

Believed to have been named by James Murphy because of its sylvan appearance. Village of Sylvania proclaimed in 1933.

Ref: Village 17/11/1933 – GNB Suburb 4 May 1973, now Suburb 18 January 2008

SYLVANIA HEIGHTS

A local name only referring to the area of Sylvania south of Kangaroo Point. Has never been given the status of a Suburb and is not a Geographical Name.

SYLVANIA WATERS

Is a canal development in the 1960s constructed on privately-owned Gwawley Bay, the waters of which were purchased by Thomas Holt in 1865, and the adjoining part of Sylvania. The name is derived from its location.

Ref: GNB Suburb 4 May 1973, now Suburb 18 January 2008

TABBIGAI (GAP)

From Aboriginal name "Tobagoin" which referred to the location now known as Tabbigai Gap south of Cape Solander.

TAREN POINT

Origin unknown—first known as Comyns Point, then Cummins Point and finally as Common's Point the origin of which is also unknown. Cummins Point used as name of part of the Holt-Sutherland Estate (Walker 1868). Later became known by the present name of Taren Point but there is no information about the origin of that name either. The Village of Taren Point was proclaimed in 1933

Ref: Village of Taren Point 17/11/1933 -- GNB 4 May 1973, now Suburb 18 January 2008, and GNB Point 4 May 1973.

THOMPSONS BAY

Named after Thomas Thompson and family who held extensive oyster leases along the banks of the Woronora River in this locality.

Ref: GNB Bay 23 November 1973

TOM UGLYS

Used for many years by Shire residents to incorrectly refer to the area at the southern end of the bridges across Georges River (the western bridge is Georges River Bridge and the newer eastern bridge is Tom Uglys Bridge), at the site of the former Tom Uglys Punt or Ferry which preceded the Georges River Bridge. The correct name of that area is Horse Rock Point. The following information is supplied for general interest only:

Historians for many years had two theories of the origin:

1. One of the early residents on the north side of Georges River was a Tom Huxley. The Aborigines could not pronounce the "x" and the surname gradually became "Ugly".
2. The name derives from a white man with only one leg and one arm, living in the locality, known to the natives as Tom Wogully, or "Wogul". "Wogul" means "one", hence the Aboriginal name for the settler "Tom Wogully" was corrupted to "Tom Ugly".

However, intensive research by Keith Vincent Smith, an indigenous historian, revealed these theories to be incorrect. The actual Tom Ugly, whose remains were found buried at Tom Uglys Point, was determined to be an aboriginal named "Towwaa" or "Towweiry", nicknamed "Tom Ugly". He was from the South Coast around Jervis Bay, but later lived, died and was buried under a "gibber gunyah" (rock shelter) on the point of the Georges River that now bears his name.

Ref: GNB: Horse Rock Point 4 May 1973, Tom Uglys Point 4 May 1973

TOWRA POINT/BAY

Recorded as a local name by surveyor Robert Dixon in 1827, believed to be the Aboriginal name for Kurnell Peninsula. Towra Bay has also been known as "Stinkpot Bay".

Ref: GNB Point 4 May 1973 and GNB Bay 5 July 1985

TURRIELL POINT

Two similar Aboriginal names "Gerrale" and "Tyreal" are believed to refer generally to the locality between Lilli Pilli Point and Turriell Point. "Tyreal House" was the name of the residence (later known as Simpson's Hotel) of the Simpson family, early settlers at Cabbage Tree Point (Bonnie Vale) on the southern side of Port Hacking. This hotel, popular with holiday-makers, was reached by ferry from the end of Port Hacking Road near Turriell Point. Over time the spelling changed from "Tyreal" to "Tyrell" to "Tureel" to "Turriel" to "Turriell". An early source indicates that "Tyreal Head" was an aboriginal camping place on a crossing place over Port Hacking by South Coast Aborigines on their visits to the north.

Ref: GNB Point 22 June 1973

WANDA

Aboriginal word meaning beach or sand hill.

Ref: GNB Wanda Beach 22 June 1973,

WANTS BEACH/POINT

George Frederick Want, an auctioneer, was one of the original trustees of the National (now Royal National) Park in 1879,

Ref: GNB Beach & Point 24 May 1973

WATERFALL

Derives its name from the waterfalls near the railway station. McKell Avenue, southern boundary of Royal National Park, was originally "Waterfall (or Waterfalls) Road". The name was first used for the railway station before any residential development had taken place. The station was thus named as it created a drop off point for visitors to the National Falls in Royal National Park around the turn of the 20th Century. Parish Map dating back to 1903 shows a Crown subdivision at "Waterfall Station". The locality's original name was Westmacott, after Captain Robert Westmacott, who had settled in the Illawarra in 1837, and made the first moves to develop coal mines in the region. The Village of Waterfall was proclaimed in 1933 and reclassified as a Town by the GNB in 1976, now part of the Suburb from 2008.

Ref: Village of Waterfall 17 November 1933 -- GNB Town 30 April 1976 now Suburb 18 January 2008

WATTAMOLLA

Civil Parish of Wattamolla (1835), Aboriginal meaning. "place near running water". Recorded by surveyor Robert Dixon in 1827 as a local name "Wattamolla" "at a boat harbour".

Ref: GNB shows Parish as "Recorded 16 December 1996" (no gazettal), Locality 4 May 1973 now Rural Place 4 May 2007.

WEARNE BAY

Origin unknown,

Ref: GNB Bay 23 November 1973

WEENEY BAY

Recorded as a local name by surveyor Robert Dixon in 1827, believed to be from the Aboriginal name for the area.

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973

WOOLOOWARE

Aboriginal meaning: "a muddy flat", name recorded by Surveyor Robert Dixon in 1827, as "Woolloowear", after a bush track of that name through the area which he followed.. Shown by name "Woolloowarra" as part of the Holt-Sutherland Estate (Walker 1868).

Ref: GNB Suburb 22 June 1973, now Suburb18 January 2008

WORONORA

Aboriginal meaning: "black rock" — as originally "Wooloonora". Believed to have been named by Surveyor Robert Dixon in 1828. Shown by name "Waranora" as part of the Holt-Sutherland Estate (Walker 1868).

Ref: GNB Suburb 4 May 1973, now Suburb18 January 2008

WORONORA DAM

Woronora Dam was completed in 1942 and the dam and its surrounds occupy a large area of land in the south-west of the Shire. For administrative purposes, that area was proclaimed a Suburb in 2008.

Ref: Suburb18 January 2008

WORONORA HEIGHTS

Suburb was named in 1982 when the area was being developed.(see also WORONORA)

Ref: GNB Neighbourhood 23 July 1982, now Suburb18 January 2008

YARRAWARRAH

Aboriginal word meaning Mountain Ash; area to the north of Engadine. Named by the Geographical Names Board in 1971. Also the name of a ridge about 5km long extending NNE from Waterfall to Heathcote. Once known as Yarrawarra Heights.

Ref: GNB Suburb 4 May 1973, now Suburb18 January 2008

YENA (GAP)

From Aboriginal "Yinna" meaning honeysuckle, and referred to the location now known as Yena Gap north of Cape Solander.

YENABILLI POINT

Recorded as a local name by surveyor Robert Dixon in 1827, believed to be from the Aboriginal name for the area.

Ref: GNB Point 22 June 1973

YOWIE BAY (or EWEY BAY) / YOWIE POINT

Named in 1827 by Surveyor Robert Dixon and spelt by him as "Ewey", which may be a different spelling of "Yowie", being an aboriginal name meaning "place of echoes". A source in 1890 records that it is an Aboriginal form of "cooey", as the aboriginals when travelling north used to "cooey" from the southern shore of Port Hacking to this prominent point on the north shore to gain the attention of other aboriginals, so they could be brought over in canoes, the only conveyance at their disposal at the time. It may be a coincidence of names, but it has also been suggested that ewey is a corruption

of “ewes” (female sheep) and sheep were bred there by Thomas Holt in the 19th century, and he employed some shepherds from Yorkshire, England. Since 'Yowie' is a Yorkshire word for lamb, this could be another explanation for the alternate name. Land originally released as the Village of Weeroona in 1889. Although the original name Ewey was recognised by the electoral office and postal department, the name Yowie appears to have been also widely used from at least the early 1900s. It is unknown however when it became the more commonly used name, In 1973 the Geographical Names Board officially assigned the name Yowie.

Ref: GNB Suburb 4 May 1973, now Suburb 18 January 2008, GNB Bay 22 June 1973 and GNB Point 4 May 1973