

Origin of Place Names A-K

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Information Management & Technology Group
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FORWARD

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 [see Origin of Suburbs] 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 have books and documents held in the Local Studies Section of the Council Library, and verifiable source material from the National Library of Australia, State Library of New South Wales and NSW Government Land & Property Information. Other historical books and documents available through the Internet have also been used as resources.

Dates shown in the references to each item are the date on which that item appears in the *NSW Government Gazette*.

References are also included in the text to indicate the sources used to obtain the information.

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.

It will be noticed that the explanation of the origin of some of the Place Names differs from the information which was previously published. Much of this former explanatory material was obtained from lists published in books and other literature which accepted assumptions based on limited research material available decades ago. The amount of original source material now available has allowed for detailed research which in some cases refutes the former long-accepted version and provides in its place the data obtained from recent research. This particularly applies to names which were attributed to Aboriginal words with suggested English language translations, but lacked any references to the source of the word and its meaning. Specific attention has been given to determining, where possible, place names originating from the language of the Dharawal people whose traditional territory is much of what is now Sutherland Shire. However, it is nonetheless apparent that many of the place names attributed as Aboriginal come from elsewhere in Australia.

It is further of note that several names later incorporated into place names were assumed in previous publications to have been collected from local sources by Surveyor Robert Dixon when he carried out a detailed survey of most of what is now Sutherland Shire. Dixon was acting under an instruction dated 17 February 1827 from Surveyor General John Oxley and copies of that instruction and Dixon's maps of 1827 have been found in the State Library of NSW, but those maps show only a few names. If Dixon recorded other names, the notes of same have not been found. It can only be taken that geographical feature names, other than those shown on Dixon's maps, which appeared on maps published in the next few years used names had been recorded from some unspecified source by the Surveyor-General's Office.

It is further acknowledged that some place names may have been in common use prior to the first documentation found, but lack any confirmatory evidence. Should future research confirm earlier use, the explanations will be updated accordingly.

Where any place name is marked [under review] it is currently being researched to determine whether any updating is required.

The list of Place Names is limited to those names which have been researched to date. Additional items will be added from time to time as they become available.

It should be noted that, during research, a number of “name origins” were found recorded in various source material where no references were provided for verification of those claims by the earliest author who stated that information. Unfortunately some of those “name origins” have been repeated in later publications in the belief by the authors that they were factual. Where these seem to be a misunderstanding of the historical evidence, or may require further investigation, an explanation has been provided. However, where a claim cannot be supported by verifiable source material — those supposed “name origins” have been purposely omitted.

PLACE NAMES

The following list of Place Names in Sutherland Shire is not exhaustive, and other names and their researched origins will be added from time to time.

Should any further verifiable information concerning the following items come to light, they will be updated accordingly.

Please also review the Origin of Place Names (L-Z) and the Origins of Suburb Names, published separately, and found on Council’s website at www.sutherlandshire.nsw.gov.au.

AKUNA AVENUE OVAL

The Geographical Names Board records “Akuna Avenue Oval” as “A reserve situated in Akuna Avenue, Bangor,” but as of July 2018 does not record an origin of the name.

The word “Akuna” was first recorded by South Australian Police trooper Samuel Gason in 1865 at Lake Hope as notes on the Dieri language, traditionally spoken in the far north of South Australia to the east of Lake Eyre. Gason’s 1874 vocabulary included the entry “Akuna ‘To flow (as water flowing or running)’. The word derives from the Dieri (or Diyari) intransitive verb *ngaka-rna* ‘flow (of water), blow (of wind) [Austin, Peter K. 2013/2014].

The information regarding the origin of the word “Akuna” was contained in an article by David Nash of the Australian National University in *Placenames Australia, newsletter of the Australian National Placename Survey*, December 2014. He provided the following references:

Gason, Samuel. 1874. *The Dieyerie tribe of Australian Aborigines*. Adelaide: W.C. Cox, Government Printer. <http://trove.nla.gov.au/version/20919468>

Austin, Peter K. 2013. “A grammar of Diyari, South Australia.” https://www.academia.edu/attachments/32282840/download_file

Austin, Peter K. 2014. “A dictionary of Diyari, South Australia.” https://www.academia.edu/attachments/32282840/download_file

NOTE: Mr Nash also indicated that a number of publications recorded the meaning of “Akuna” as “to follow,” which appeared to be a transcription error.

The reserve is located on part of Crown land being Portions 328 & 329 parish of Holsworthy, originally advertised for selection in 1914 (*NSW Government Gazette* No 144 of 19 August 1914 folios 5107-8) and several times over later years, however no interest was shown until 1941 for portion 328 which was

leased (*NSW Government Gazette* No 117 of 12 September 1941 folios 3218-25) then later purchased in 1952 by Maitland Ray Stevenson for a poultry farm. Adjoining portion 329 was leased for agriculture in 1943 by Garnett Reginald North and Mrs Alma Pauline North (*NSW Government Gazette* No 61 of 18/6/1943 folios 1048-53) and later purchased by the Rural Bank in 1955 and on-sold to Ramsay Clifford McDonald, poultry farmer, in 1962. After parts of both farms were acquired for the (then proposed) Bangor Bypass in 1976 & 1978, Mr McDonald also bought the residue of portion 328 for his poultry farm (*HLRV*, historical land titles). Apart from part of land subsequently sold a short time afterwards by McDonald for residential subdivision, the remainder of his farm was purchased Sutherland Shire Council as a public reserve in 1979 & 1980 (Sutherland Shire Council records). A reserved Crown Road within the property was closed (*NSW Government Gazette* No 83 of 18 June 1982 folios 2778-9) being included in Akuna Avenue Oval as Crown Reserve 96466 with Sutherland Shire Council as Trustee by notices in *NSW Government Gazette* No 159 of 19 November 1982 folios 5320 & 5325).

Ref: GNB Reserve 5 July 1985

ALBERT DELARDES RESERVE

Formerly known as Lugarno Park, alternately Lugarno (Ferry) Reserve (see separate item).

Following the death of Albert Delardes of Menai, Sutherland Shire Council renamed the reserve to "Albert Delardes Memorial Park" (see Parks & Playgrounds Committee Minute No 245 Of 3 October 1967, also Joint Building, Health and Sanitation and development Committee Minute No 263 of 4 September 1967 and Council Minute No 1451 of 11 September 1967).

Over the years since then the word "Memorial" has been omitted from the name to agree with the general principle that geographical place names do not include that word where there is no specific memorial structure on the site, and the reserve is now usually referred to "Albert Delardes Reserve" or abbreviated to "Delardes Reserve." Currently no submission has been made to the Geographical Names Board to have the reserve name adopted under the Geographical Names Act.

Albert Edgar Delardes was born 1914, the eldest son of Charles Edgar and Eliza Emma Delardes. The family home was in Old Illawarra Road, Menai. Albert is recorded as a student of Cleveland Street Intermediate Boys' High School in Sydney in 1927 (*The Propeller*, 4 February 1927, p.2). He married Dorothy Madge Kelly from Gympie Bay on 16 July 1941 (*The Propeller*, 24 July 1941, p.7). He was appointed as an Honorary Fire Patrol Officer in 1951 (*NSW Government Gazette* No 68 of 27 April 1951 folio 1219) as was also Dorothy (*NSW Government Gazette* No 21 of 12 February 1954 folio 413) and an Honorary Ranger, together with Dorothy, in 1965 under the *Wild Flowers and Native Plants Protection Act* (*NSW Government Gazette* No 134 of 19 October 1965 folio 3367).

Albert Delardes was also employed as ferry master of the Lugarno Ferry when a new ferry was commissioned in 1961 (*St George and Sutherland Shire Leader*, 19 July 1961 p.15).

It was his involvement with the Menai Bush Fire Brigade for which Albert Delardes became notable in the community. He was appointed Captain of the Brigade in 1944 (A & F Midgley, *A History of Menai Church and District*), a position he held for the rest of his life, and was known for his bushfire fighting skills and using back burning techniques at a time when only tank water was available in the Menai area (Council records). He was reputed to have fought fires barefooted. Three hundred volunteer and permanent firemen, police and friends attended his "hero's funeral" after he passed away on 31 August 1967. (Ashton, Cornwall & Salt, *Sutherland Shire — A History*, pp.244-5, referencing several newspaper articles and Council General Services Committee Minute No 218 of 28 April 1981).

Albert Delardes Reserve is specifically related to Crown Reserve No 24071 over Lot 224 DP752034 (formerly portion 224 parish of Holsworthy) notified in *NSW Government Gazette* No 385 of 16 May 1896 folio 3497, with Sutherland Shire Council appointed Trustee in *NSW Government Gazette* No 63 of 1 June 1923 folio 2513. An undedicated part of Griffin Parade is within this reserve.

For administrative purposes, the name Albert Delardes Reserve is also used for the adjoining lands to the west and east.

An unmade part of unmade Crown road known as Thompson Avenue is on the west. It was intended to close this road some time ago and include it in the reserve (see Proposed Closure *NSW Government Gazette* No 119 of 25 September 1992 folio 7058-9). West of Thompson Avenue on the northern side of Griffin Parade is a parcel of State Government land, Lot 15 DP4731, over which Council has care, control and management (*NSW Government Gazette* No 83 of 14 July 1989 folio 4348) — the low-lying area behind that land is Crown land over which Council has no documented tenure.

Directly east of Crown Reserve No 24071 is State Government land Lot 225 DP752034, for which Sutherland Shire Council care has care, control and management (*NSW Government Gazette* No 135 of 14/09/1984 folio 4581) and the land to its east Lot 226 DP752034 extending to Wearne Bay is also State Government land, leased to the Council since 10 February 1989, with a sublease of part for the 1st Wearne Bay Scout hall.

The remainder of the land around the shores of Wearne Bay is a Council-owned reserve with access off Clough Avenue and Burley Close.

ALCHERINGA CREEK, ALCHERINGA RESERVE & ALKARINGA RESERVE

Alcheringa Creek was partially mapped in Surveyor Dixon's survey of the area in 1827, but he did not show any name. More of its length was shown on Government maps from around the early 1850s when the area was surveyed for Crown subdivision (Land & Property Information historical parish maps). The land including the creek was purchased by Thomas Holt from previously unsold Crown land on 31 December 1862, becoming part of the "Holt-Sutherland Estate", however its full length, rising near GyMEA Bay Road opposite High Street, was not shown until areas of the Estate were sold off for residential subdivision in the early 1920s. Its generally westerly course was defined by drainage reserves and easements as far as Forest Road and over time was contained in stormwater drainage lines, until after crossing under Forest Road it resumes as a natural watercourse flowing south-easterly to GyMEA Bay through public reserves and private properties. Where shown on early subdivision plans it is described simply as "creek" or "natural watercourse."

The creek remained unnamed until 1998. The Geographical Names Board website indicates that *the name of this gully [creek] reflects the name of the road which runs beside it, Alkaringa Road. The watercourse flows through a reserve named 'Alcheringa Reserve'* (from a letter dated 17 March 1998 from B Pease). The name was assigned in *NSW Government Gazette* No 10 of 22 January 1999 folios 240-1 with erratum in *NSW Government Gazette* No 53 of 30 April 1999 folio 3003 to correct its geographical location coordinates.

The creek was therefore named after the name of the reserve through which it passed, and also after the naming of Alkaringa Road (*NSW Government Gazette* No 44 of 11 April 1930 folio 1594).

Alcheringa Reserve did not receive that name until 1972-3, somewhat after it was reserved:

The land described as Lots 7 & 8 DP8669 originally held as a Holt-Sutherland lease was sold to William David Buchan with the sale completed on 8 September 1944 (Land & Property Information historical land titles). In *NSW Government Gazette* No 26 of 7 March 1958 folios 610-1 most of that land was resumed by the Minister for Education for a proposed Yowie Bay Public School. Sutherland Shire

Council then negotiated with the Education Department for the land to be handed over to Council in a land swap deal for Council land at the corner of Wonga Road and Warrah Road. That was accepted, and the land off Forest Road and Alkaringa Road was resumed by the Council *for the purpose of the improvement and embellishment of the area* in *NSW Government Gazette* No 144 of 11 December 1959 folio 3661. The two separated land handles giving access from Forest Road were unsuitable and were sold in late 1960, replaced by 4 contiguous parcels along the centre of the Forest Road frontage, 2 purchased in early 1961 and 2 others in late 1962 (Sutherland Shire Council records).

A name for the reserve was selected before the land was handed over to the Council, which had approved the name "Forest Road Reserve" at its meeting on 22 June 1959. In November 1972, the 2nd Yowie Bay Scout group, which had a lease for its scout hall on the reserve, suggested to Council a proposed renaming of the reserve as "Alcheringa Reserve". In spite of concerns over the spelling of the name and the meaning provided by the scouts*, the name was accepted after being discussed at a Council committee meeting on 18 December 1972 (Sutherland Shire Council records). The name was submitted to the Geographical Names Board and adopted by notification in *NSW Government Gazette* No 51 of 19 April 1973 folio 1410.

On 29 April 1982, a public reserve parcel at the corner of Forest Road and Alkaringa Road was dedicated on registration of a subdivision. The (at that time unnamed) creek ran through that reserve before continuing through private property to Alcheringa Reserve. The naming of that new reserve followed a generic naming procedure which used a street frontage. Accordingly it became known as "Alkaringa Road Reserve." That name has not been submitted to the Geographical Names Board.

The Aboriginal word "Alcheringa" and its variant of "Alkaringa" are discussed in a large body of literature, and are cited using the same or similar words in many parts of Australia, all having an affinity with the "Dreamtime," an English concept coined by anthropologists Baldwin Spencer & Frank Gillen who spent much time with the Aboriginal peoples of Central Australia from around 1894. Their use of "Dream Time" attempted to give an English expression to explain the traditional rituals, customs and stories of the Arunta people of South Australia. Of particular note are two chapters of their 1899 book dealing with "Traditions Dealing with the Origin of the Alcheringa Ancestors of the Arunta Tribe and with Particular Customs" (Spencer & Gillen, *Native Tribes of Central Australia*, Macmillan, London, 1899).

*NOTE: How the scouts came up with the supplied meaning of "Alcheringa" as "land of the chosen people" has not been determined and may not have been an acceptable "translation".

Ref: GNB Creek 30 April 1999; Reserve 19th April 1973 [Alcheringa Reserve]

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 (Hutton Neve, *A Brief History of Sutherland Shire*, Sutherland Shire Studies No 1 (Sutherland Shire Council)).

In the Trustees [of the National Park] Annual Report in 1885 they announced, "The name Audley has been adopted for the locality of the Main National Park Camp, at the confluence of Port Hacking River with Kangaroo Creek, in honour of Licensed Surveyor Lord Audley". NPT Report August 31st, 1885 (Carrick, History of the Royal National Park 1879-2013, p.32).

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

AUDREY BAY

No authenticating references found that predate the notification of this name by the Geographical Names Board, The Board indicates in *NSW Government Gazette* No 145 of 23 November 1973 folio 5052 that the name *Audrey Bay* was adopted from Lands Department Map *Sutherland 0030*.

According to one source, this bay was earlier known as *Sims Bay* (Burgess, *Nature's Doorstep: The Bonnet Bay Story*, p.7.)

The origin of the names *Audrey* or *Sims* has not been determined.

Ref: GNB Bay 23 November 1973

BASS AND FLINDERS POINT

Bass and Flinders Point is named after explorers George Bass and Matthew Flinders, who camped near this location during their survey of Port Hacking in 1796. In Flinders' account he comments: *Before noon, we entered Port Hacking, and landed in a small cove on the north side, where we observed a number of cabbage trees growing...Two natives had visited us in the afternoon and had behaved very civilly. We understood them tolerably well, and were not under the least apprehension . . .* (see Flinders' "Narrative of expeditions along the coast of New South Wales", for 30th March 1796.)

In 1949, Frank Cridland, noted Shire historian, in his book *The Story of Port Hacking Cronulla and Sutherland Shire* at page 8 indicates that he: *with the endorsement and co-operation of the Shire Council, erected a memorial to Bass and Flinders and the boy Martin at the end of the Cronulla Peninsula overlooking the entrance to Port Hacking in commemoration of their discovery of the estuary*, Cridland in that book at pages 192-194 also gives more details of the memorial and an explanation of why he considered that Bass and Flinders had "discovered" *Port Hacking* even though the location of that waterway had been earlier reported.

In November 1973, a name for the site of the memorial as *Bass and Flinders Point* was discussed by Sutherland Shire Council, and also a suggested (but rejected) alternate name of "Memorial Point". After submitting a naming proposal, the Council was advised by the Geographical Names Board by letter of 16 April 1974 that *Bass and Flinders Point* had been approved and it was adopted by notice in the *NSW Government Gazette* No 139 of 22 November 1974 folio 4545 (Council file records).

Ref: GNB Point 22 November 1974

BATE BAY

A bay in the Tasman Sea to the east of the suburbs of Cronulla, Greenhills Beach and Kurnell, which is bounded on its generally western shore by the beaches between Merries Reef and Glaisher Point.

The first known instance of the name appears on an Admiralty chart of 1853. Robert Brettell Bate was appointed as the agent for Admiralty charts in 1830 and it is likely that the bay was named after him (Watt, *The Shire; A Journey Through Time*, pp.86-87).

Ref: Bay GNB 4 May 1973

BELLS POINT (Historic)

(See now entry for **YENABILLI POINT**)

Although it cannot be definitely confirmed, the most likely source of the name *Bells Point* is a horticulturist Michael Bell, first employed in the *National Park* in the latter part of 1887 (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 22 August 1887, p.4), and apart from a short time employed elsewhere (*The Australian Star* 18

September 1888. P.8), returned (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 14 May 1889, p.4) and remained as park overseer (amongst other titles) until 1909, when a new overseer was appointed (*Robertson Advocate*, 31 August 1909, p.2).

The name *Bell's Point* appears in a newspaper article in 1898 (*Evening News*, 10 October 1898, p.3) and is mentioned over many years thereafter as a location in Port Hacking, even though the name was changed to *Yenabilli Point* which name was included on the 1914 edition of the Parish of Wattamolla map (Land & Property information historical maps). Continuing use of the name was indicated, for example, in the 1997 edition *UBD Street Directory* which still had *Bells Point* recorded, but also had *Yenabilli Point* incorrectly placed a little to the west.

The Geographical Names Board discontinued the name *Bells Point* when it adopted *Yenabilli Point* in *NSW Government Gazette* No 83 of 22 June 1973 folio 2656-7.

BIDDY GILES PARK (Proposed)

The name "Biddy Giles Park" commemorates Biddy Giles, a Gweagal woman who had extensive knowledge of Dharawal land from the south side of the Georges River to Wollongong. Estimated to be born in 1820, she travelled across Dharawal Country throughout her life. By around 1860, Biddy was living at the mouth of Mill Creek, on the southern side of the Georges River, with her English husband Billy Giles. From about that time, Biddy and her husband were regular visitors to Port Hacking and served as guides for groups of travelers in shooting and fishing parties. Some of those travelers wrote accounts of their trips with Biddy in which they marveled at her masterful control over her hunting dogs, her ability to find fish, and her general knowledge of the bush.

Action in hand to confirm name, then to be submitted to the NSW Geographical Names Board for approval and adoption as a geographical place name.

BILBA RESERVE

The Geographical Names Board Website records: "*A reserve bounded by Fillmore Rd, Washington Drive and Grant Place, Bonnet Bay. . . An aboriginal word meaning 'bullrushes'.*"

The name is recorded in a booklet produced by the Australian Museum Sydney in 1927 (2nd edition – first edition was 1921) by W. W. Thorpe, Ethnologist, entitled: *List of New South Wales Aboriginal Words and their meanings*, where the entry reads: *Bilba . . . Bullrushes*. No indication is given of where in NSW this word was used.

Compilations of letters of an early settler in the Glen Innes area of NSW by his grand-daughter indicated a cattle station named Bolivia south of Tenterfield in 1840-41 was in an area with the Aboriginal name of *Bilba meaning big bushes* (*Glen Innes Examiner*, 12 October 1939 p.10). This is the territory of the Ngarabal people.

A Select Committee on the Native Police on 18 June 1861 included a report on the activities of a band of Aborigines *headed by a fellow named "Bilba"* in the Maranoa District to the west of Brisbane, who lived in the mountains at the head of the Dawson River.
(www.firstsources.info/uploads/3/4/5/4/34544232/native_police-queensland_1861.odt).

"Bilba" had been included as a totem name meaning "bandicoot" by Rev. William Ridley in his book *Kamilaroi and other Australian Languages* (Sydney, 1875) when describing family groupings or classes — information gained during his ministries in the New England and Moreton Bay area in the early 1850s.

A story in a 1928 includes a list of Aboriginal names of bush birds and animals from the Macquarie River area in northern NSW, including *Bilba, wombat* (*The Week* [Brisbane], 7 December 1928 p.62).

As well “Bilba” appears in a “Dreamtime” story which recounts *a time long ago when Bilba the bilby was a man . . .* and how it came to pass that Bilba’s tribe came to live in burrows. The full recounting is contained in John Carr’s book, *Discovering Australia: Bilba and the Willy-Willy*.

A further reference appeared during the “Save the Bilby” campaign (<https://savethebilbyfund.com>) which advised that: *the Australian common name Bilby comes from the Ullaroi/Yuwaalaraay name Bilba or Bilba Bilba in plural*.

Other than confirming that the “Bilba” in Bilba Reserve is an Aboriginal word, and unlikely to have originated in the local area around Sutherland Shire, it does appear that it can mean other things than purely “bulrushes.”

Ref: GNB Reserve 24 August 1979

BIRNIEMERE (Historic)

Located south of what is now the village of Kurnell, it was originally part of ‘Alpha Farm’ which belonged to captain James Birnie, who was granted “700 acres, Portion No, 1” in 1815. This was the first farm in what later became Sutherland Shire, “alpha” being Greek for “first” (Hutton Neve, *The Early Days of Kurnell to Cronulla and Bygone Days of Sutherland Shire*). Birniemere was a low-lying section of the farm which adjoined the mangrove-covered Gwawley Bay. The suffix ‘mere’ usually means that the location is a lake or that it has an association with water.

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

BLACKWOODS BEACH

Blackwoods Beach is named after Dr Frederick Martindale Blackwood who in 1900 purchased a block of land which overlooked the beach and built a house which he named “Roker” in which he lived from 1901 to 1907. For further information see “Roker Street” in “Origin of Street Names” on Council’s web site.

A popular local name for the beach for many years was “Blackmans Beach,” which has been conjectured to mean that the location was suitable as a resting place for local Aboriginal people prior to the area being settled by Europeans.

It was also referred to as “Hamilton’s Beach” for a time. Mrs Hamilton ran “Roker,” which had been enlarged in 1908 and used as a boarding House after Dr Blackwood sold his land and left the area (*Sydney Mail and New South Wales Advertiser*, 18 August 1909).

Ref: GNB Beach 30 June 1978

BOAT HARBOUR

Possibly, but not completely confirmed, that it was named as it was a refuge for boats during storms. Cridland in *The Story of Port Hacking Cronulla and Sutherland Shire*, p.35, describes that *It is a perfect little haven of refuge, the northern side being formed by sandstone cliffs, which start again from the beach at this point and run out to sea for a couple of hundred yards before turning north to Botany Heads. The southern or Cronulla side of the cove is a wide natural breakwater made by the Merries Reef which, as it approaches the shore, lifts itself several feet out of the water. Many a fisherman standing out to sea, and fishing the sunken “Merries”, has been glad to run into Boat Harbour for safety from an approaching gale.*

The name does not appear on any early maps that have been sighted, but it would seem that the name was being used prior to its being mentioned in Walker's 1868 *Report on the Sutherland Estate*, where he refers to *the Government Reserve of 1,500-acres which runs from Cape Solander to Boat Harbor, forming the coast to the Pacific Ocean*, and also notes the name of the adjacent area in the Estate as *Boat Harbor Paddock*. The seventh edition (1876) of Yule, *The Australian Directory Volume 1*, a compilation mainly of Admiralty surveys, notes that *about three-quarters of a mile westward of Potter point, there is a boat harbor having a depth of 6 feet in the centre*, however, it is not known whether that information was in earlier editions.

Ref: GNB Cove 4 May 1973

BONNA POINT

The point is shown on Surveyor Robert Dixon's survey of the area in 1827, however he does not show any name at that location, and no documentation has been found that he recorded the name. The name *Bonna Point* is first shown on the original map of the "Parish of Southerland" [sic] dating from 1835 or possibly earlier (Land & Property Information historical maps), and the map of the "Hundred of Woronora", which includes the "Parish of Sutherland", signed by Surveyor-General Thomas Mitchell on 27 March 1835 (State Library of NSW, "Original Maps of the Hundreds in the County of Cumberland", Call No MAXX 811.1/1835/1)

An 1864 newspaper article quotes an un-named informant who gives "Boomera Point" as the name for the area (*Sydney Empire*, 26 January 1864, p.5).

In 1899 George Thornton reported that the Aboriginal name for the area was "Bunna Bunna" (see *Sydney's Aboriginal Past*, by Val Attenbrow, [UNSW Press], 2010 edition, p13).

In 1905 Mr. R Longfield reported that "the first point to the south (*of Cook's landing place*) was called Boona, from a native well that was there" (R Longfield interviewed by W Houston, 22nd January 1905, held in Archives of Captain Cook Landing Place Trust, Discovery Centre, Botany Bay National Park, Kurnell, Box 12, Item 141, Exhibit 96).

The available evidence suggests that "Bonna" or similar, was the local Aboriginal name for the locality. Apart from Longfield's reference to "a native well," it is of note that, in 1853, Surveyor James Larmer was conducting surveys in the area of "Hunter River, Brisbane Water and Newcastle" and recorded that "Bonna" was an Aboriginal language word in that area with the attributed meaning of "South." (*Larmer's Vocabulary of native Names 1853*, from a record forwarded to and held by the Department of Lands, now in NSW State Library Collection - see <https://indigenous.sl.nsw.gov.au/collection-items/larmers-vocabulary-native-names-1953-james-larmer-1832-1853-18#&gid=1&pid=1>).

Ref: GNB Point 4 May 1973

BONNA POINT RESERVE

This reserve is named for its location adjacent to *Bonna Point*.

Sutherland Shire Council records indicate that the reserve was purchased by the NSW State Government in 1965 for open space; it was originally part of the "Holt-Sutherland Estate" subdivided in 1882, later transferred to private ownership. The reserve was placed under the responsibility of Sutherland Shire Council in 1964, with the land transferred to the Council in 1994. An additional area, formerly Prince Charles Parade (original name Princes Parade) was purchased by the State Government from the "Holt-Sutherland Estate" in 1975 and placed under the management of Sutherland Shire Council, although still owned by the State Government.

The area developed as reserve also extended informally for many years into the area of Silver Beach to its north (which is within the boundaries of Botany Bay). That area including the boat ramp has now been licensed to Sutherland Shire Council.

Ref: GNB Reserve 5 July 1985

BONNET BAY

The earliest map found with the name *Bonnet Bay* for the waterway is the Parish of Sutherland map issued in 1913 (Land & Property information historical maps). It relates to its proximity to a cave known as “The Old Woman’s Bonnet” on a slope above the eastern bank of the Woronora River to the north of *Bonnet Bay*. It is also described as “Bonnet Head Bay” in 1914 (*NSW Government Gazette* No 23 of 11 February 1914 folio 918).

The first reported mention of the cave is in Walker’s 1868 *Report on the Sutherland Estate*, pp.71-72: *a singular cave with some very pretty trees growing about it which is named, “the Old Womans Bonnet”, from its singular shape, being exactly like the old fashioned Bonnet — and makes a very romantic spot. The cave is a good size and often affords shelter to sportsmen and Fishermen, who go up the River.*

A newspaper report in 1868 gives a more detailed description: *“The Old Woman’s Bonnet” (some people individualise the old woman it is supposed to fit, and call it Sally’s Bonnet), is a cave of irregular shape, some thirty feet in length and of various widths, lying at the top of a steepish bank, on Mr. Holt’s side of the Woronora, about three-quarters of a mile from the mouth of that stream. It is no mere overhanging rock, but a veritable cave opening into a heavy mass of grey stone, and affording fair shelter on all sides but one, where a lot of bushes may easily be set up. It is large enough to shelter a considerable party . . . (Sydney Mail, 15 May 1869, p.9).*

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973

BONNET HEAD

Formerly known as “The Bonnet” (*Referee*, 18 November 1896, p.4 and other newspaper articles), it owes its name to nearby cave named “The Old Woman’s Bonnet” (see BONNET BAY for more detailed description).

It has not been determined when the name changed to *Bonnet Head*, as the name does not appear on any maps found of that area, however it would have been before a notice in 1914 referring to *Bonnet Bay* on its south as “Bonnet Head Bay” (*NSW Government Gazette* No 23 of 11 February 1914 folio 918). Nonetheless the former name, although shown as “The Bonnett” was still being officially used until at least 1933 by Sutherland Shire Council (*NSW Government Gazette* No 95 of 23 June 1933 folio 2178)

The Geographical Names Board, when it adopted *Bonnet Head* in *NSW Government Gazette* No 83 of 22 June 1973 folios 2656-7, indicated that the source was the Lands Department topographic map named “Port Hacking” and on its web site lists “The Bonnet” as a former name.

Ref: GNB Headland 22 June 1973.

BOOMERANG HALL

A privately-owned hall was constructed in 1934 on the north-western corner of Princes Highway and Clare Street, Sylvania. A hall emblem on the façade was copied from boomerangs carved from mangrove boughs collected from Woronora River near Como by an Aboriginal named Tommy Foster,

who belonged to the Sylvania Tribe of Aboriginal people, whose forebears had been re-located to La Perouse where Tommy lived. He often came to Sylvania where he taught and demonstrated boomerang throwing on the Sylvania Pleasure Grounds [the remainder of which is now *The Flat* public reserve] (D. Salt, 1987, *The Gateway to the South: An intimate insight in to the origins of the Sutherland Shire: First stop — Sylvania*, Nadley Press, Kirrawee).

After the hall was sold in 1945, representations were made to Sutherland Shire Council to acquire the site. It was leased by the Council from 1 July 1946 until the site and building were resumed in NSW *Government Gazette* No 128 of 7 November 1947 folio 2575 and it has been used as a community building since that time.

The origin of the word “Boomerang” is discussed in many sources and seems best summarised on the Australian Museum website: *A word ‘Boo-mer-rit,’ used by ‘Sydney Aborigines’ to describe the ‘Scimiter’ (or scimitar - sword with curved blade) was recorded first in 1790. Captain David Collins, an officer of the First Fleet, recorded the similar word, ‘Wo-mur-rang’ in his diary in 1798 as the name of one of the Aboriginal clubs. The word boomerang probably entered the English vocabulary in the early 1800s when proper boomerangs appeared in the Sydney region.*

(<https://australianmuseum.net.au/hunting-boomerang-a-weapon-of-choice>)

The idea of a “proper boomerang” is expanded by the Boomerang Association of Australia: *Indeed, it was not until 1822 that this fascinating device was described in detail and recorded as a ‘bou-mar-rang’*, from the language of the Turuwal (Dharawal) people of the George’s River near Port Jackson. What is immediately apparent is that this same people had other words for their hunting sticks but used ‘boomerang’ to refer to a returning throw-stick* (<http://boomerang.org.au/wp/articles/what-is-a-boomerang/>)

[* NOTE: *bou-mar-rang*’ is only one of a number of similar sounding words with variant spellings recorded in numerous publications as the Aboriginal word for boomerang.]

No entry on Geographical Names Board website.

BOTANY BAY

Botany Bay was named in 1770 by Lieutenant (later Captain) James Cook—originally “Stingray Bay” or “Stingrays Bay”, but later “Botanist Bay” and finally “Botany Bay”, because of the numerous plants found there by the botanists Joseph Banks, Daniel Solander and Herman Sporing (junior). The various alterations of the name are shown in a transcription of James Cook’s diary, held in the Australian National Library, Canberra.

In 1790-91, the Aboriginal name of Botany Bay was recorded as “Kamay” (see the notebook “Vocabulary of the language of N. S. Wales, in the neighbourhood of Sydney,” c.1790-91, pages 54 & 55, attributed to Governor Arthur Phillip and others).

Ref: GNB Bay 9 March 1973

BOTTLE FOREST (Historic)

Bottle Forest was the name given to the site for a village on the new road from Sydney to Illawarra. The survey of the road in 1843 was made by Surveyor-General Thomas Mitchell, who is also credited with selecting the name *Bottle Forest*. A report in 1893 indicates the nature of the site and the reported reason for its name: *There is one patch of very rich forest land, well watered at twenty-two miles from Sydney, the whole distance thence to Wollongong being, by boat navigation through Botany Bay, forty-five miles; by land, across the dam at Cook’s River, and punt at George’s River, forty-two and a half*

miles: thus the Bottle Forest, (as it was named from a bottle found fixed on a tree there,) is exactly half way between Sydney and Wollongong (New South Wales Magazine, June 1893, p.283). In a series of articles of "reminiscences" published in 1907, the writer indicates: Gillie Sheldon, I have heard, was one of Major Mitchell's survey party, and it was he who was credited with having placed the bottle in the tree, the finding of which gave Bottle Forest the name which it bears today (The St George Call, 27 July 1907, p.3).

In conjunction with the survey and construction of the new road, Surveyor Darke was instructed to lay out a plan of Bottle Forest, the survey of which is dated January 10, 1843. Darke surveyed 14 allotments (*Sutherland Shire Historical Society Bulletin*, February 1987), which were advertised for auction on 9 April 1845 (advertised *NSW Government Gazette* No 20 of 11 March 1845 folios 269-276), with nine being sold at the time and another in late 1853 (see *NSW Government Gazette* No 37 of 21 March 1854 folios 620-7). The remaining four Crown land lots were advertised for sale many times up to 1872 (various gazettals), but were never taken up and were finally deleted from the parish map. The isolation of the village and difficulties of transport led to it being virtually abandoned in the 1860s (*Sutherland Shire Historical Society Bulletin*, February 1987). On 13 March 1865, Thomas Holt bought two of the lots from the previous owner, Alfred Barden (whose name is associated with the Suburb of Barden Ridge), and later included them in the lands leased for the "Holt-Sutherland Estate" in 1881 (Land & Property Information historical records).

Spurred no doubt by the construction of the Illawarra railway, which split the village, with most of it on the eastern side of the railway, subdivisions began in 1888 (Land & Property Information historical records). *Bottle Forest* was not part of the *Village of Heathcote*, proclaimed in *government Gazette* No 365 of 3 July 1886 folio 4467, which was on the west of the railway line, but that changed in *NSW Government Gazette* No 442 of 26 August 1903 folios 6293-4 by a notice which extended the *suburban lands of the Village of Heathcote* to the north, west and south, and incorporated *Bottle Forest*, the name of which *faded into obscurity* (Hutton-Neve, *Bygone Days of Sutherland Shire*, p.27). The section of the former village of *Bottle Forest* east of the railway has for many years had local name of *East Heathcote*.

The general locality was reported by Richard Hill in 1892 to have had the Aboriginal name "Nannunggurrung" (see Hill's and George Thornton's 1892 paper "Notes on the Aborigines of New South Wales"). The nearby creek now known as Heathcote Brook is labelled "Nuningerong" on Surveyor Wells' map circa 1847.

BOWIE PARK

By early 1913, Thomas Guthrie Bowie had a family home built on land bounded by Illawarra or National Park Road (later Princes Highway), Hotham Road and The Boulevarde (*Building: the magazine for the architect, builder, property owner and merchant*, Vol.6, No 68, 12 April 1913). The land was leased from the "Holt-Sutherland Estate", being part of the property originally granted to Thomas Holt on 31 December 1862 (Land & Property Information historical land titles). Articles in various newspapers indicate that the family continued to live on that property for many years, even after the original family home was destroyed in Shire-wide bushfires in January 1939 (*The Propeller*, 19 January 1939, p.7). Thomas Bowie passed away on 14 September 1946 (*The Propeller*, 19 September 1946, p.3).

On 21 January 1948 his wife, Ethel May Bowie, purchased that leased land from the "Holt-Sutherland Estate" (Land & Property Information historical land titles).

Mrs Bowie's land had already been surveyed for subdivision in August 1946, with approval from Sutherland Shire Council on 17 September 1946, which included a central "Public Garden and Recreation Space" reserved under section 340A of the Local Government Act 1919, noted on Mrs

Bowie's title when issued (Sutherland Shire Council records and Land & Property Information historical land titles).

Ethel Bowie passed away on 22 March 1952, still listed as living at Princes Highway on a retained part of the original property (*The Propeller*, 27 March 1952, p.3); much of the subdivided land, with the exception of the reserve area, had by that time been sold off (Land & Property Information historical land titles).

Sutherland Shire Council some years later confirmed the transfer of the "Public Garden and Recreation Space" to the Council in *NSW Government Gazette* No 86 of 10 July 1970 folio 2769 and the public reserve was then named as "Bowie Park" in honour of the former long-time residents (Sutherland Shire Council records).

Note: all early records show the property as located at Sutherland, it is now in the Suburb of Kirrawee.

Not currently adopted as a geographical name.

BUCKLE RESERVE

In 1982, the Department of Lands subdivided a large area of unallocated Crown Land in western Menai which been leased as a stone quarry in the mid-1960s and then had been considered but rejected as a site for a major electricity sub-station in 1969 (Land & Property Information historical plans & Council file records). The subdivision included an area notified as Crown Reserve 96644 for public recreation in *NSW Government Gazette* No 45 of 11 March 1983 folio 1174, which automatically devolved care, control and management to Sutherland Shire Council. The Council proceeded to develop the land as a sports field, naming the site as "Hall Drive Reserve" (Sutherland Shire Council file records).

Consideration was given in January 1984 to allocating a new name as there were three Council reserves fronting Hall Drive, and it was suggested that it be renamed as Barnes Crescent Reserve, however on 26 March 1984, the Council resolved to name it "Buckle Reserve," after a pioneering family in the area, who had previously lived on land only about 80 metres (at its nearest point) to the south-east of Buckle Reserve. (Council file records)). Council was many years later gazetted as Trustee of the Reserve in *NSW Government Gazette* No 93 of 22 August 1997 folios 6546-7.

The Buckle farm of 26 acres and 3 roods was located on portion 263, parish of Holsworthy, fronting Old Illawarra Road. Portion 263 had originally been released for homestead selection in December 1896, when it was taken up by in May 1897 by Daniel Gribben, who apparently did not proceed with the purchase: the property was withdrawn and readvertised in May 1908. Henry John Buckle was approved for conditional purchase of his homestead selection on 30 November 1910 when he moved to the farm with his family. He had complied with all the conditions for purchase by 23 August 1921, when his deed of grant was issued (Land & Property Information historical titles). The land was developed by the Buckles as market gardens and an orchard. Members of the Buckle family were active over the years in the local progress association, scouts, bush fire brigade and the School of Arts (Council file records, agreeing with several newspaper articles); several family members were involved in a local cricket team; two of the teachers at the Menai Public School boarded with the family in the late-1920s (Sutherland Shire Historical Society *Bulletins* November 1987 & May 1990). In 1937 most of the farm was leased for 15 years to Herbert James Chee, a Sydney merchant, retaining 4 acres for the family, but the whole area returned to the Buckle family in 1952 when the lease expired. In mid-1973, just over an acre fronting Old Illawarra Road was transferred to a married daughter Ellen May Young and her husband Jack Young (Land & Property Information historical titles).

Henry's wife Katherine had died on 23 July 1944 (*SMH* 27 July 1944), and Henry died on 16 January 1954 (*SMH*, 18 January 1954), but their family remained on the land until 17 August 1971 when the farm

was sold to the development company Stocks and Holdings (Promoters) Pty Ltd. The Young's property was sold to the Sydney County Council on 23 November 1973 (Land & Property Information historical titles).

Not currently adopted as a geographical name.

BULGO (Parish)

The Civil parish of Bulgo is the NSW Lands administrative district at the southern end of Sutherland Shire which contains part of the Royal National Park. The name "Bulgo" appears as a feature name on a map of the Illawarra coast attributed to Surveyor Robert Dixon in 1827.

The earliest mention of *Bulgo* as name of the parish would appear to be in a Government notice dated 22 April 1829 (*The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 23 April 1829 p.3), although the formal notification of the "Parish of Bulgo" was not published until *NSW Government Gazette* No 168 of 23 May 1835 folios 331-344, which notice divided the *County of Cumberland* into Hundreds and Parishes. The parish name is shown on the undated first edition of the "Parish of Bulgo (Land & Property Information historical maps) and the "Hundred of Southend" (which included the parish name "Bulgo") signed by Surveyor-general Thomas Mitchell on 27 March 1835 (*Original maps of the Hundreds in the County of Cumberland*, T. L. Mitchell, March 27th 1835, State Library maps collection).

"Bulgo" is assumed to derive from the Sydney region Aboriginal word *bulga* meaning "hill" (see section 4.7 *Macquarie Aboriginal Words*).

Ref: GNB Parish 5 May 1973

BUNDEENA BAY

Bundeena Bay was previously known as *Horderns Bay* (*Sutherland Shire Historical Society Bulletin*, May 1983), named after the prominent Sydney retailer Samuel Hordern (son of Anthony Hordern Snr.), who owned the land adjoining the bay from 9 October 1874 to 25 February 1885. That land then passed into the hands of investors, and shortly after was subdivided into the "Yarmouth Estate," which later became Bundeena (Land & Property Information historical title records).

The first known mention of the name *Bundeena* appears on that plan of subdivision of the *Yarmouth Estate*, where it is indicated as the name of a residence shown thereon erected just prior to the auctioning of the estate in 1886. The house was apparently destroyed by fire in the early 1900s (*The Bunddena Book*, p.40), but the name was retained in the subdivision of the land bounded by Liverpool Street, Scarborough Street, Brighton Street and Horderns Beach as *The Bundeena Estate* in early 1906 (Land & Property Information historical plan records).

The name *Bundeena Bay* first appears in 1906 in notices referring to sales of land at the *Bundeena Estate* subdivision (*Sunday Times*, 11 March 1906, p.2).

"Bundeena" is said to be an Aboriginal word for "noise like thunder", however the source of this translation is not known.

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973.

BURNUM BURNUM SANCTUARY

Burnum Burnum Sanctuary, near the Woronora River Bridge, was named after a *Wolworrung* and *Yorta Yorta* Aboriginal man from Wallaga Lake, who was originally named Harry Penrith, but who later took the name of his Aboriginal great grandfather. *Burnum Burnum* means "great warrior".

On 19 December 2003, the bushland and passive recreation components of the Crown reserve areas formerly known as Jannali Reserve and Mangrove Island were adopted as *Burnum Burnum Sanctuary* by the Geographical Names Board in recognition of the significant contribution Burnum Burnum (born 10 January 1938 died 18 August 1997) made to Australia, his strong connection to the Sutherland Shire and his particular affinity with the land and people of the Woronora Valley. (Geographical Names Board website: www.gnb.nsw.gov.au)

Sutherland Shire Council had resolved shortly after Burnum Burnum passed away to select a suitable site and, after looking at the merits of several significant reserve areas, its Aboriginal Advisory Committee at its meeting on 4 September 2002 decided on Jannali Reserve. This had been endorsed by Burnum Burnum's wife Marelle and son Umbarra and also reflected the position of the local Aboriginal community. The adoption by the Council of the proposal on 21 October 2002 included the following information:

Burnum Burnum passed away at his Woronora home on 18 August 1997 aged 61. He was a respected member of the community who fought tirelessly for the rights of Aboriginal people and became the most recognised indigenous person in this region and well known throughout Australia.

The last thirty years of his life were predominantly spent in the Shire, the last ten at Woronora.

Burnum Burnum was born at Wallaga Lake on the South Coast. As a member of the "Stolen Generation" he was placed in the United Aboriginal Mission at Bombaderry when he was 3 months old. At 10 he was moved to Kinchela boys' home near Kempsey where he excelled at Kempsey High School, becoming one of the first Aboriginals to matriculate.

Burnum Burnum went on to study law at the University of Tasmania and won a Churchill Fellowship. He was involved in the campaign to remove Truganini's remains from the Hobart Museum for reburial, and was involved in establishing the Aboriginal Tent Embassy in Canberra.

From 1956-1967 he was actively involved in the campaign to recognise the rights of indigenous Australians in the Australian Constitution.

In 1966 he was on the committee which established the Kirinari hostel in Sylvania and in 1972 was appointed the first Aboriginal executive officer for Aboriginal Hostels Ltd. He was also a founding board member of the Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Service.

On several occasions he worked for both the Victorian and NSW State Governments as Aboriginal liaison officer.

As a sportsperson he also excelled. He played Rugby Union for NSW, was an accomplished rugby league player, a cricketer and the first Aboriginal person to gain a bronze medal.

He appeared in 3 feature films and a number of Australian documentaries and collaborated in the writing of the book, "A Travellers Guide to Aboriginal Australia."

In 1988, to coincide with Australia's bicentenary, he achieved international recognition when he travelled to Dover, England to claim Britain on behalf of the Aboriginal people.

At a local level he took part in many Council activities such as NAIDOC week and was actively involved in the Woronora community. He often visited the local school to tell stories and read from his books and conducted "bush tucker" walks for local children. He was also an active member of "bushcare", helping to re-establish the native vegetation in the Woronora Valley. He contributed to the making of the Sutherland Environment Centre video "Exploring the Woronora Valley" and was passionate about protecting and healing the environment.

Ref: GNB Reserve 19 December 2003

BURRANEER BAY

The name of the waterway *Burraneer Bay* was recorded in 1827 by Surveyor Robert Dixon, as “Burraneer Bay”. “Burraneer” appears as the name for the peninsula in Walker’s 1868 *Report on the Sutherland Estate*. In 1890, Richard Hill reported “Boorranea” as the Aboriginal name for the peninsula: *The name of the first beach, on the northern side, is "Goonamatta," the western head or point is "Boorranea,"* [Sydney Morning Herald, 6 June 1890, p. 5, under “Aboriginal Names”], which supports the assumption that when Dixon recorded the name “Burraneer” he was recording the Aboriginal name for the area.

There is no known translation for the name. The popular belief that it means “point of the bay” appears to be an over-reading of Richard Hill’s report, quoted above.

Ref: GNB Bay 22 June 1973.

BURRANEER PARK

Burraneer Park is located on land first advertised for sale in a Crown land auction on 11 January 1856 (*NSW Government Gazette* No 175 of 12 December 1855 folios 3301-5) purchased by Andrew & Mary Webster with title issued on 8 October 1859. A few months later (around March/April 1859) they sold the land to Henry Potter, who held the land until February 1865 when he sold it back to Andrew Webster, who is that same month on-sold it to William Marks. It was at this stage that it became part of the “Dolans land,” when purchased by Dominick Dolan in May/June 1865, being on the east of land purchased previously by his father Patrick Dolan (Land & Property Information historical title records).

Several histories suggest that the Dolans refused to sell their land to Thomas Holt, so it never became part of the vast “Holt-Sutherland Estate”.

Following the death of Dominick Dolan on 24 July 1888, his land, known at the time as portion 45 Parish of Sutherland, was subdivided by his executors into 22 blocks known as “Dolans Estate” and advertised for sale on 28 May 1889 (Land & Property Information historical plans). The land which was to become Burraneer Park was shown as Lots 6, 7 & 8 on the corner of Gannons Road and Dominic Street (the street name being a shortened version of Dominick). Lots 6 & 7 were sold together but separately to Lot 8.

The first purchaser of Lots 6 & 7 was Arthur F Smart in July 1889 who sold it to Julien Deleurence in June 1890 (Land & Property Information Service historical title records). Deleurence built a large residence known as “Merville House” (“merville” is French for “sea town” and also the name of a town in France). He offered *accommodation for visitors* in 1892 (*The Daily Telegraph*, 14 April 1892, p.8) and on 27 February 1893 a “Provisional School” began operating in one of its rooms with accommodation also provided for the teacher until a public school was constructed and opened at the start of 1898 on a new site resumed from the “Holt-Sutherland Estate” (*Burraneer Bay Public School Centenary 1893-1993*, published by its Centenary Committee, 1993).

In March 1906, the property (Lots 6 & 7, including “Merville”) was sold William Beeston Smith and his wife Elizabeth. William Smith, employed for over 48 years by the State railway, retired onto the property, but died in August 1907 (*The Maitland Mercury*, 4 September 1907, p.4). After Elizabeth died in December 1923, the property remained with the family until April 1944 when it was sold to Mildred Teresa Nolan of Cronulla. The fate of “Merville” is not known, but there is no building on the land on a 1930 aerial photo of the area. It appears the area became known as “Smith’s Paddock” and had reverted to bushland (Heather, *Cronulla and Beyond 1939-1956*, by author, 2012).

Elizabeth Teresa Nolan had also purchased Lot 8 in Dolans Estate in October 1942. It had previously been owned by John Smith & George Hill (March 1891); Stapleton Trevanion & Christiana S Rodd (November 1903); Jane Blaxland (May 1906); and Elvina Bolden (May 1912).

Lots 6, 7 & 8 were sold as a combined property to John Alexander Lamb on 29 September 1950. On 19 December 1955 he sold it to the Government Planning Authority, known at the time as the Cumberland County Council, for open space purposes, although there was a proposal discussed by Sutherland Shire Council in November 1959 for a High School site with associated recreation facilities. When the Cumberland County Council was disbanded, the land was vested in Sutherland Shire on 26 January 1961, and became known as "Dominic Street Reserve [or Park]", *which was to be left in its natural state and not to be used for playing fields*, and remained known by that name until at least late 1967 (Sutherland Shire Council records). By 1969 the reserve was known as "Burraneer Park," that name being adopted by the Geographical Names Board in *NSW Government Reserve No 83 of 22 June 1973 folios 2656-7*. The name likely reflects that the reserve was within an area on the shores of Burraneer Bay which had, for many years, been locally known as Burraneer (Sutherland Shire Council records).

Ref: GNB Reserve 22 June 1973

CABBAGE TREE CREEK/CABBAGE TREE POINT /CABBAGE TREE BASIN

The name *Cabbage Tree Creek* appears on the version of the Parish of Wattamolla issued in the 1870s and while *Cabbage Tree Point* does not appear until a later edition of that map, it was mentioned in an article about the then newly dedicated National Park (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 4 November 1879, p.6). Where *Cabbage Tree Creek* widened before it flowed into Port Hacking was referred to as *Cabbage Tree Basin* in an article in 1898 (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 5 November 1898, p.7).

The origin of the name is explained in the *Official Guide to the National Park*, 1893, which describes *Cabbage Tree Creek* as: *a tiny rill, which grows in width and volume on its way to the sea, and finally expands into a large and deep basin nearly a mile in length and half that measurement in breadth. The lagoon is fringed with groves of exquisite cabbage palms and tree ferns, a beautiful sheet of water amidst lovely surroundings.*

Ref: GNB Creek 4 May 1973, Point 4 May 1973, Inlet 22 June 1973

CAPE SOLANDER

Originally named as "Point Solander" by Lieutenant (known as Captain) James Cook to honour Daniel Solander, a botanist on the *Endeavour*, who was mentioned in Cook's diary in connection with exploration of Botany Bay and its surrounds (copy of Cook's Diary held in the National Library of Australia, Canberra). "Point Solander" appears on Cook's chart *A Sketch of Botany Bay in New South Wales*, the original of which is held by the British Museum, which indicates it was on or about the most easterly point of the south head of Botany Bay, opposite the north head which Cook named "Point Banks" on the same chart. A map published in London in 1802 also shows "Pt. Solander" ("Chart of the three harbours of Botany Bay, Port Jackson, and Broken Bay" National Library collection Call No MAP RM 4079)

When the name changed to *Cape Solander* has not been established, but it must have been by 1825, when it is shown as "C. Solander" on a small-scale map published in London ("A map of New South Wales" National Library collection Call No MAP NK 2456/114)

Cape Solander is shown on a detailed map published by the Hydrographic Office of the British Admiralty in May 1853, where Cape Solander is about a mile (about 1600 metres) to the south of "Inscription Pt". "Inscription Pt" appears to be at the spot which Lieutenant (known as Captain) James

Cook had named as *Sutherland Point*, the most northerly point of the south head of Botany Bay. (*Australia, East Coast, Botany Bay and Port Hacking*, in National Library collection, Call Number MAP British Admiralty Special Map Col/36).

(NOTE: The location of *Inscription Point* was later moved to allow *Sutherland Point* to be reinstated – see entries for those features)

Ref: GNB Headland 4 May 1973

CARAVAN HEAD (a headland and locality)

The first mention of the origin of the name was in an article in 1895 which refers to: *a tiny cove, named Caravan, where a curious square rock, hollow within, and having only a small opening, may afford shelter from sun or rain* (*Australian Town and Country Journal*, 19 January 1895 p.27). This “Caravan Rock” which was shaped like “a covered wagon or caravan” was situated on private property on the point of *Caravan Head*. The land on which it was situated was part of the “Holt-Sutherland Estate” until the end of 1910, when it was subdivided and auctioned on 2 January 1911 as the *By The Waters Estate* (Florence & Gardiner, *A Short History of Oyster Bay*, November 2001, pp.11 & 18).

The name *Caravan Head* first appeared on maps as a pencil notation on a version of the Parish of Sutherland cancelled in 1900, but is included on subsequent editions of that map (Land & Property Information historical maps)

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

CARINA BAY

Carina Bay is the eastern of the two bays that were formerly known conjointly as “Double Bay”. Located on the southern side of Georges River on western side of Green Point, the name first appeared on the auction plan for the “Railway Bridge Georges River” subdivision of the “Holt-Sutherland Estate” at Como on the eastern side of the Illawarra Railway Line, which was first auctioned 21 January 1888. (*National Library* MAP Folder 173, LFSP 2714)

The name seems to be a continuation of a theme of naming the roads in the subdivision after Italian place names which theme commenced with naming of Como (see Como). Carina is an Italian word meaning “pretty.” So Carina Bay would likely mean “pretty [scenic] bay”.

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973

CARINA BAY RESERVE

The original part of this reserve, known as “Yackerboon Reserve” at the corner of Tivoli Esplanade and Oyster Bay Road, was agreed to be reserved in 1926 and was included in the subdivision registered as deposited plan 14716 on 27 April 1927, where it was marked as a “public garden and recreation space” (Land & Property Information historical land records). It was not officially claimed and transferred into the care of Sutherland Shire Council until November 1973 when negotiations were in place to have a large reclaimed area of Carina Bay added to the reserve (Sutherland Shire Council records). That reclaimed area became Crown recreation reserve No 89570, (*NSW Government Gazette* No 11 of 29 August 1975 folios 3516-8), which also placed it under the care, control and management of Sutherland Shire Council. Since that time the rear sections of the properties fronting Riverview Road, south from Scylla Road have also been added to the reserve as they were purchased by Council from the private owners (Sutherland Shire Council records).

NOTE: The name “Yackerboon Reserve” is the name recorded in Sutherland Shire Council records. The reserve is also mentioned in Cole, Como Public School (1884-1885) (1921-1988): A History of Two Schools, p.19: *The reserve was always known to the first generation of Como School pupils as “YAKKABOON”, though later generations refer to the area as “FLAT ROCK”. “Flat Rock” was an area at the Oyster Bay end of Carina Bay. It disappeared in the early 1970s within the dumping of a large amount of rock and soil which was being dug out of cutting that was being created to relocate the [Como] railway station (Sutherland Shire Historical Society Bulletin, November 1997).*

The name *Yackerboon* was very likely chosen from W.W. Thorpe’s 1921 list of Aboriginal words, in which the meaning is given as “green grass” (see *List of New South Wales Aboriginal Place Names and Their Meanings*, W W Thorpe, Australian Museum, 1st edition 1921). However Thorpe’s book does not provide any information regarding the source of the word or its given meaning.

The date at which the name changed to *Carina Bay Reserve* has not been determined. The name reflects its proximity to and inclusion of part of Carina Bay.

The name has not been recorded in the Geographical Names Board’s list of adopted geographical names.

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* on 31 July 1891, a position he retained until his death in 1932. He became Premier of New South Wales in 1904.

The date at which the bay was named has not been determined.

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973

CARTERS ISLAND

First mention found of *Carters Island* is in a Crown land sale advertised in *NSW Government Gazette* No 19 of 4 February 1858 folios 197-8, where it is described as: *called Carters Island*.

No information has been found regarding the origin of the name.

Ref: GNB Island 4 May 1973

COMMONS POINT (Historic)

Former name for TAREN POINT (see entry under that name)

An early mention of the location in 1849 names it as “Cumming’s Point”, a name apparently familiar to readers of that report (*Bell’s Life in Sydney and Sporting Reviewer*, 13 October 1849, p.2). *Commons Point* is not mentioned in the first sale of land in that area advertised in the *NSW Government Gazette* No 24 of 25 February 1853 folios 392-5, but is shown when that land was advertised as a private sale in late 1855 (*Empire*, 29 November 1856 p.8) as “Common’s Point Farm.” A newspaper article in 1865 (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 5 July 1865, p.8) refers to it as “Cummins Point,” which is also the name shown in Walker’s 1868 *Report on the Sutherland Estate* as “Cummin’s Point Paddock.” The last known mention in newspapers of *Cummins Point* is in 1912. Several newspaper articles from 1906 to 1912 refer to it as “Comyn’s Point.” *Commons Point* was still being used locally up till around 1922 and in some gazettal notices *Commons* or *Taren Point* remained in use up till around 1954.

The change of name to Taren Point is first recorded sometime in the 1890s as a pencil note on the Parish of Sutherland map and appears coincident with the naming of “Taren Road (later “Taren Point Road”) in 1893. (Land & Property Information historical maps and plans),

NOTE: The Sutherland parish map still recorded *Commons or Taren Pt* for many years after *Taren Point* became accepted name, however when the Geographical Names Board notified the name of the point and of the suburb in May 1973, no mention was made of *Commons Point*.

COMO PLEASURE GROUNDS

Prior to the extension of the Illawarra Railway Line southwards across Georges River, the area which became Como Pleasure Grounds was part of Crown land originally offered for sale in 1856 (*NSW Government Gazette* No 38 of 3 March 1856 folios 775-9) and purchased by Thomas Holt on 31 December 1862 as part of his Sutherland Estate known as Double Bay Paddocks (Walker, 1868, *Report on the Sutherland Estate*), included in the land leased to the Holt-Sutherland Estate Land Company in 1881. Between 1882 and late 1885, the area on the Estate lands saw a camp for the railway workers, construction of a “German Club” (which eventually was developed into Como Hotel), the Woniora Hotel and a school for the children of the railway workers as the embankment, bridge and railway station were constructed along the railway corridor. After the railway camp moved further south and the railway station opened, the locality became a popular destination for travellers using boats to other places along Georges and Woronora Rivers and also to a recreation area on the eastern side of the railway station.

The Holt-Sutherland Land Company, in conjunction with the first trains arriving at Como at the end of December 1885/start of January 1886, applied for and obtained permission for a wharf and boat hiring facility extending into Georges River (*NSW Government Gazette* No 749 of 31 January 1886 folio 8834 & No 422 of 3 July 1888 folio 4555) and also built a house for a resident manager and private access road to the wharf with a shop near the exit from the railway station. The peninsular area was initially free access to picnickers. The Holt-Sutherland Land Company encouraged visitors to the area with its plans to lease the nearby land to Sydney residents eager to acquire weekender and permanent country residences (information from a number of newspaper articles and books of Shire history). The subdivision plan registered in March 1888 showing the lots for lease along Cremona Road and Novara Crescent also showed lots on the peninsula which defined the areas then used for the boating facility and for the picnic grounds (*HLRV*, historical plans).

James Murphy, the then manager of the Holt-Sutherland Land Company, with his brothers John Francis Murphy, Michael Vincent Murphy and half-brother Joseph Sydney Smith were involved in the management of the boating facilities and picnic grounds over the next few years. The picnic area was fenced off with an admission fee charged, terraced garden walkways and a large garden house built atop the rocky promontory. The picnic grounds became known as “Murphy’s Pleasure Grounds” (information from a number of newspaper articles and books of Shire history).

It appears the Holt-Sutherland Land Company had further plans for the peninsular area and split it into 9 lots for separate leasing (2 in the boating area and 7 in the picnic grounds) in a subdivision plan in December 1894. However the uses of the area did not change, although John Francis Murphy did buy out the leases of the 2 lots in the boating area in January 1901, once it was possible from 1900 on to obtain full title to the land (*HLRV*, historical plans and titles).

The popularity of pleasure grounds declined during the First World War and James Murphy acted to acquire full title to the land containing “Murphy’s Pleasure Grounds.” He first purchased in November 1917 a part of Cremona Road frontage to the picnic grounds, and then in partnership with Michael Vincent Murphy and Joseph Sydney Smith bought out the lease lots on the picnic grounds in March 1920, which were then transferred into the sole name of James Murphy. That situation remained until James Murphy died in 1924, when his executors successfully applied for and obtained addition of a strip of reclaimed land around the peninsula in 1929 shortly before selling the Pleasure Grounds to a

consortium of James Bryant, Ernest Alfred Bryant of and Jane Peacock White in 1930 (who also had purchased the boating area at the same time).

In 1940, Sutherland Shire Council proposed to purchase the Pleasure Grounds side and to retain it for public recreation purposes (*The Propeller*, 9 October 1941, p.6). The tidal baths were constructed into Georges River by Sutherland Shire Council in 1940 with a Crown lease granted in 1941. It took some time for the titles to be cleared, but on 12 February 1951, the whole of the Pleasure Grounds land and part of the boating area was transferred to Sutherland Shire Council (*HLRV*, historical land titles). The “Como Learners Pool” was constructed next to the tidal baths in 1975 and the remainder of the site has retained its original purpose of a recreation area (Sutherland Shire Council records).

The name “Como Pleasure Grounds” was noted in a newspaper article in 1902 (*The Australian*, 28 June 1902 p.46) and had been mentioned in newspaper articles and advertisements from that time, and is the name afterwards used by Sutherland Shire Council.

There is no record of the name being advised to the Geographical Names Board for adoption as a geographical name.

COONONG CREEK & COONONG CREEK BUSHLAND

Coonong Creek was partially mapped in Surveyor Dixon’s survey of the area in 1827, but he did not show any name and it remained for many years *a small creek flowing into Gymea Bay (NSW Government Gazette No 175 of 17 December 1855 folios 3301-5)* when the full extent of the creek was shown on Government maps (Land & Property Information historical parish maps). The creek did have the local name of “Stapleton’s Creek” at one time. Stapleton was a local leaseholder who ran a nearby abattoir and had a butcher’s shop in Sutherland from the 1880s (Lawrence, *A Pictorial History of Sutherland Shire*, pp.86-7). A north-south road crossing the creek was named Coonong Road in a “Holt-Sutherland Estate” subdivision registered in October 1913 (Land & Property Information historical plans), where “Coonong” appears to have been selected simply as a “euphonious” word, without any regard for a possible meaning in an Aboriginal language. It was 1988 before a local Bushcare group applied to the Geographical Names Board through Sutherland Shire Council for the creek to be named as Coonong Creek, together with the surrounding bushland as Coonong Creek Bushland (Sutherland Shire Council records).

The land around the creek was purchased by Thomas Holt from previously unsold Crown land on 31 December 1862, becoming part of the “Holt-Sutherland Estate”. Between Gymea Bay Road and Sylvania Road South the creek was retained as part of the Estate when the land around it was sold off, with the section between Gymea Bay Road and Coonong Road later transferred to Sutherland Shire Council in 1934 as a drainage reserve. Between Sylvania Road South and Gymea Bay it remains a Crown waterway.

Subdivisions of the land around the creek east of Coonong Road have seen the dedication of public reserve lands to Sutherland Shire Council, which now form the land named in 1988 as “Coonong Creek Bushland [Reserve]”. Also adjacent to the southern side of the creek is “Old School Park”, dedicated to the Council as public reserve in *NSW Government Gazette No 46 of 12 April 1996 folio 1722*.

The first mention found of the word “Coonong” is as the name of a sheep station near Urana, in 1848 (*NSW Government Gazette 75 of 18 July 1848 folio 888*). It retains a connection to that area through a “Coonong Creek” that flows into Lake Urana, near Urana, in central southern NSW. The “meaning” of that word in that locality as it appears in several published lists of Aboriginal words seems to be derogatory (various newspaper articles) and not related to the naming of the “running water” through the Bushcare-maintained area (Lawrence, *A Pictorial History of Sutherland Shire*, pp.86-7).

Ref: GNB Creek 4 March 1988; Reserve 4 March 1988

CONSTABLES POINT

Constables Point forms the eastern headland of *Fisherman's Bay*. The land (portion 10 Parish of Wattamolla) was originally purchased by Marmaduke Constable on 2 December 1858. He did not own it for long, selling it to Francis Macnab around October 1860 (Land & Property Information historical land records). No confirmable reason has been found as to why Constable purchased the property, although he was known to be an investor in mining projects at the time (*Sutherland Shire Historical Society Bulletin*, August 2014).

No information is available as to when the name *Constables Point* came into use, as it is not shown on any early plans nor mentioned in any newspapers or *Government Gazette* notices, prior to the name being adopted by the Geographical Names Board from topographical maps Port Hacking 9129 and Bundeena 0922 in *NSW Government Gazette* No 36 of 29 March 1974 folio 1190

Ref: GNB Point 29 March 1974

CORONATION BAY

A bay located on the southern side of *Georges River* and east of *Green Point*. Formerly *Frog Hollow Bay*, it was renamed, reputedly on request from a local resident, to honour the ascension of King George V to the British throne. The King's coronation took place on 22 June 1911. (McKinley & Hewitt, *Sutherland Shire – Some Early Residents*, Cliff Lewis Printing, 2007, p.99).

Frog Hollow was the name of the area around the shores of the bay, apparently used before there were settlers in that area and is mentioned in a newspaper report in 1848 as "Frog's Hollow" (*The Australian*, 5 May 1848 p.3) and in other later newspaper reports where it was a secluded spot at Georges River used for illegal prize fights. Frog Hollow Bay, later Froghollow Bay, is first officially recorded in a notice of an oyster culture lease in *NSW Government Gazette* No 90 of 7 July 1909 folio 3766, and included in the edition of the Parish of Sutherland issued in 1913. The name persisted in official notices for some years, being recorded as late as 1953; the parish map was updated with a later red ink addition on the edition of the map issued in 1925 (Land & Property Information historical maps and various notices in the *NSW Government Gazette*).

The first recorded mention found of *Coronation Bay* was in 1914 (*The Sun*, 31 January 1914, p.1); official acceptance lagged with the name first used in 1927 (*NSW Government Gazette* No 157 of 2 November 1927 folio 5155)

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973

COSTENS POINT

Named after William Costen, an early settler, whose first selection (portion 11 parish of Wattamolla at *Red Jacks Point*) was from Crown land offered for sale in 1858. He sold that land in 1869. He then selected the adjoining land to the west (portion 12 parish of Wattamolla) which he purchased on 16 July 1870 and sold on 23 May 1882 (Judith Carrick, *History of Royal National Park 1879-2013*, pp. 7-8 & Land & Property Information historical land records). *Costens Point* is on the latter of the two parcels owned by Costen, and is charted on the edition of the Parish of Wattamolla issued in June 1882 as *Costin's [sic] Point* (Land & Property Information historical maps), so it was named while William Costen owned that property; the name *Costen's Point* appears frequently from that time in newspaper articles and notices in the *NSW Government Gazette*.

Ref: GNB Point 4 May 1973

CRONULLA BEACH

Originally the name *Cronulla Beach* referred to the entire length of beach stretching along the shores of *Bate Bay* between *Boat Harbour* and *Cronulla Point*. Over the years, it has come to mean specifically the southern part of that beach adjacent to *Cronulla Park* and *Cronulla Surf Life Saving Club*, with other sections of the beach being known as *North Cronulla Beach*, *Elouera Beach* and *Wanda Beach*.

When Surveyor Robert Dixon arrived in the Cronulla area in 1827, he named the expansive beach "Cronulla Beach". The maps that followed in 1835 (Surveyor-General Mitchell) and 1840 (Surveyor Wells) used the same spelling. Walker's 1868 *Report on the Sutherland Estate* has the spelling "Krenulla Beach".

How and when the spelling "Kurranulla" came to be used is not currently known, however newspaper reports of a shipwreck in 1852 along Cronulla Beach refer to the beach as "Cooranulla Beach" (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 30 June 1852 p.2), and a letter to the *Evening News* (Sydney) in 1922 reported that 60 years earlier the local Aboriginal people pronounced Cronulla as "Cooranulla" (*Evening News*, 28 August 1922 p.4). In 1892 "Kurranulla Beach" is referred to extensively in an article in *The Illustrated Sydney News*, 18 June 1892, p.5.

When the "Village of Gunnamatta" was proclaimed in *NSW Government Gazette* No 941 of 25 November 1899 folio 8893, it contained a "Curranulla Street" as extension of the road shown as "Cronulla St" on some Holt-Sutherland Estate leases in the first years of the 1900s (Land & Property Information historical land records). Then from about 1906 through to 1952, all of present day Cronulla Street was called "Curranulla Street" (Sutherland Shire Council records) until the name "Cronulla Street" was gazetted by the Department of Main Roads (*NSW Government Gazette* No 124 of 13 June 1952 folio 2008).

In 1900 "Koorunnulla" was recorded by the Anthropological Association of Australasia as the name for Cronulla Beach, with the word "Kurranulla" included separately as meaning "a small pink coloured sea shell".

The exact circumstances via which the meaning "little pink shells" (or similar) became associated with the name *Cronulla*, or what the source of that translation was, is not currently known, however the available evidence supports the assumption that when Dixon recorded the name "Cronulla", he was recording the local Aboriginal name for the area.

Ref: GNB Beach 4 May 1972.

CUMBERLAND (County of)

The County of Cumberland is large administrative district generally centred on the city of Sydney, which contains many Local Government Areas including Sutherland Shire.

The name is shown on a plan published 24 July 1789 in London, entitled "Sketch and Description of the Settlement at Sydney Cove Port Jackson in the County of Cumberland taken by a transported Convict on the 16th of April, 1788, which was not quite 3 Months after Commodore Phillips's [sic] landing there" (National Library Trove Historical Map collection). The Geographical Names Board web site entry indicates that Cumberland is "The name chosen for the county that embraced Sydney and its environs. The name was conferred by Governor Phillip in honour of Ernest Augustus, Duke of Cumberland, later King of Hanover, at a gathering to celebrate the birthday of his father King George III, on 4 June 1788. (Reed, 1969)"

Ref: GNB County 24 October 1969

DARK BAY

The first mention found of this name is in a newspaper report in 1897 (*Referee*, 13 January 1897, p.4). It was added to the Wattamolla parish map in 1914. An explanation of the name was provided in a newspaper article in 1906 which stated: *This little inlet is sheltered by surrounding trees, etc., and the water looks smooth and black. Hence its name, Dark Bay . . .* (*Evening News*, 17 April 1906, p.3).

Ref: GNB Cove 04 May 1973

DAROOK PARK

Originally reserved in 1895 out of the Crown land subdivisions of the late nineteenth century as an unnamed Crown Reserve for public recreation (*NSW Government Gazette* No 650 of 28 September 1895 folio 6301) and re-proclaimed in 1907 (*NSW Government Gazette* No 70 of 12 June 1907 folio 3261) at which time Sutherland Shire Council was appointed trustee.

The first published mention of the name *Darook Park* is in 1917 when it appears to be a name already in use by Sutherland Shire Council (*St George Call*, 15 December 1917, p.2). A later mention in 1932 indicates that it was *named after an Aboriginal tribe* (*Kirkby Index*, held in Sutherland Library), and may have reflected that there was significant evidence of earlier Aboriginal habitation in that area (Cridland, *The Story of Port Hacking Cronulla and Sutherland Shire*, pp. 16-17 & 33 and historical photographs in Sutherland library collection). Presumed to be named after the Darug language group of Aboriginal people (also spelt Dharug/Dharuk/Daruk/Darook), whose lands occupy most of the central and western parts of the Sydney basin, including the Parramatta area.

The name probably indicates that an incorrect assumption had been made in identifying the earlier Aboriginal inhabitants, as *Darook Park* is located in the lands of the Dharawal, who lived in most of what is now Sutherland Shire. It is of note that a number of the local citizens had moved from the Parramatta area to Cronulla after the peninsula was subdivided by the Department of Lands at the end of the nineteenth century, and *one observer in 1908 described Cronulla as 'quite a Parramatta town'* (Larkin, *Sutherland Shire: A History to 1939*, p.27)

Ref: GNB Reserve 5 July 1985

DEADMANS CREEK

A number of theories have been expressed about the origin of the name *Deadmans Creek*, especially relating it to a translation of an Aboriginal word. References to the name *Deadmans Creek* date back to 1831, and it was probably in use before that.

A possible (although not confirmed) explanation of the name relates to the operation of an illicit still at that creek. Illicit stills were known to be operated in isolated areas around the periphery of the settled areas of the Colony of New South Wales from the early 1800s, and newspaper reports in 1844 referring to raids by inspectors in the Liverpool area would indicate that illegal stills had been in operation around that area, but do not indicate when they were first known (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 9 November 1844, p.2). A story about Holdsworthy [sic] in 1919 refers to stories handed down *since the early days of settlement in the colony*, including the following, but doesn't specify exactly when it occurred, so whether it is a true story still requires other evidence (not found to date):

Then the gruesome story of Deadman's Creek obtrudes itself. This was another home of illicit stills, on George's River, whence liquor was conveyed in boats to the vicinity of Botany Bay.

The creek received its name from the following incident: — An alleged sawyer's pit screened a "still" in full working-order on the banks of the rivulet, and an inquisitive visitor on one occasion called by accident — saw too much to suit the proprietors of the business, and was promptly knocked on the

head, and his body cast into the sawpit — only to be washed out by a subsequent flood, when the murder was discovered (*The North Western Courier*, 13 March 1919. P.6)

The alternate “Tudera Creek” is of more recent times and dates back to the opening up of what is now the suburb of Sandy Point with the first subdivision of the Sandy Point Estate in 1920. Sutherland Shire Council in early 1921 contacted the Department of Lands with a proposal to change the name of the adjoining *Deadmans Creek* (which it considered an inappropriate name) to “Sandy Creek”. At the Council meeting on 4 May 1921, the Council considered the response: *The Lands Department advised the council that it objected to the name of Sandy Creek being adopted in lieu of Deadman’s Creek, and recommended that the council substitute the name of Tudera Creek, which it explained meant in aboriginal language, “many killed.” The council agreed to the suggestion* (*The Propeller*, 6 May 1921, p.2). The Lands Department then advised: *The alteration of the name Deadman’s Creek to Tuedera [sic] has been approved by the department, consequently it was decided to alter the name on maps and plans* (*The Propeller*, 8 July 1921, p.5)

The Aboriginal word “Tudera” with the meaning “kill” was recorded by Assistant Surveyor James Larmer sometime between 1835 and 1853 in the *Brisbane Water. Tuggera beach Lakes* area (*State Library of NSW*, “Transcription: James Larmer’s – Notebook of Australian Aboriginal Vocabularies, 1832-1853, MLMSS 7213 and ZML A295/3 at SR Reel 3723”). No explanation has been found of how this came to mean “many killed”.

In 1969, the Geographical Names Board included this creek in its register of geographical names. However it decided to adopt the historical name of *Deadmans Creek*, and discontinue the dual naming of “Tudera or Deadmans Creek” in *NSW Government Gazette* No 125 of 24 October 1969 folio 4346. For some reason the name *Deadmans Creek* was subsequently also adopted in *NSW Government Gazette* No 95 of 21 June 1985 folio 2918. On its web site under *Deadmans Creek* the Geographical Names Board indicates a previous name of “Tudera Creek”.

Whilst there were explorations of Georges River in the early days of the Colony of New South Wales, none of the maps drawn at the time show a stream in the location of *Deadmans Creek*. When Surveyor Robert Dixon surveyed the area in 1827, he mapped the stream for a short distance (State Library Ref: AO Map 2733) but did not name it on his plan, although he did show it an area proposed to be granted to J. Alford. The first mention found is in a Government notice dated 14 September 1831, concerning the grant of land to John Allford [sic]: *Sixty Acres; bounded on the South by a line West 10 chains; on the West by Deadman’s Creek; and on the North and East by George’s River* (*The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 17 September 1831, p.2). The map of the Parish of Holsworthy published in 1835 (but probably drawn earlier) shows about the same length of the creek as surveyed by Dixon, and has it named “Deadman’s Creek”. Almost the full length of the creek was not shown until a later version of the Parish of Holsworthy map issued on 16 October 1899 (later mapping shows its headwaters within the adjoining Parish of Eckersley) (Land & Property Information historical maps).

Ref: GNB Creek 24 October 1969 & 21 June 1985

DEEBAN RESERVE

Deeban Reserve is located at Constables Point, Maianbar and adjoins *Deeban Spit*. No record has been found of this name or a previous name of “Deeban Point Reserve”, prior to the notification by the Geographical Names Board in September 1986 that it proposed to notify a geographic name from a 1:25000 Central Mapping Authority (topographical) map of the area. The name *Deeban Reserve* was then adopted in *NSW Government Gazette* No 177 of 14 November 1986 folio 5587. The local residents apparently prefer to use “Constables Point Reserve” (Carrick & Christie, 2003, *Maianbar*, Maianbar Progress Association).

"Deeban" was recorded by Matthew Flinders, presumably when he and George Bass surveyed and named *Port Hacking* in 1796. Referring to *Port Hacking* in his book "A Voyage to Terra Australis..." published in 1814, he wrote "by the natives it is called *Deeban*".

Flinders did not record a meaning for the name.

Ref: GNB Reserve 14 November 1986

DEEBAN SPIT

"Deeban" was recorded by Matthew Flinders, presumably when he and George Bass surveyed and named Port Hacking in 1796. Referring to Port Hacking in his book "A Voyage to Terra Australis..." published in 1814, he wrote "by the natives it is called *Deeban*".

Flinders did not record a meaning for the name.

The spit was shown in a map based on the first hydro-survey of Port Hacking in 1851 (Carrick & Christie, *Maianbar*, p.10). An early parish map of the area circa 1873 shows it named as *The Spit or Sand Bar*. A later Parish of Wattamolla map in use until 1914 shows only *The Spit* and that name was continued onto the next edition of that map (Land & Property Information historical maps).

When it became *Deeban Spit* has not been established. The first mention found of that name is in a notice in *NSW Government Gazette* No 150 of 9 October 1981 folio 5284.

Ref: GNB Spit 5 July 1985

DOLANS BAY

Dolans Bay was named after Patrick Dolan who purchased approximately 286 acres adjoining that bay on 17 January 1856 and possibly also after his son Dominick Dolan who purchased the adjoining land at the head of *Burraneer Bay* from former owner Andrew and Webster in 1865. (Land & Property Information historical land records)

The first known recording of the name *Dolans Bay* for the waterway is on a subdivision plan registered in November 1909 as "*Dolan's Bay part of Burraneer Bay*" (Land & Property Information historical plan records).

Ref: GNB Cove 4 May 1973

DOUBLE BAY (Historic)

Original conjoined name for the two bays that have been known as Carina Bay and Scylla Bay since 1888.

Although the bay was included on Surveyor Robert Dixon's survey of the area in 1827, he does not show any name on that bay, and no documentation has been found that he recorded the name. Early maps of the area also do not show any name.

Around 1854, the Crown land authorities decided to proceed with subdividing all the remaining unallocated Crown land in the parish of Sutherland and accordingly sent Government Surveyor Captain William Albert Braylesford Greaves to the *Port Hacking district, where land could be had for £1 an acre* (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 18 January 1922, p.12). As well as the surveys later being added to the undated Parish of Sutherland map available at the time, some additional feature names — Gynea Bay, Turriell Bay, Double Bay, North-West Arm and Gwawley Creek — were included (Land & Property Information historical maps). These names were likely obtained in the local area by Greaves.

The first mention found of the name is in Crown land auction sales advertised in the *NSW Government Gazette* No 38 of 3 March 1856 folios 775-9. It remained in use in official notices until around 1969. It was adopted as a geographical name on 5 May 1973, but was discontinued on 10 June 1977.

Ref: GNB Bay 5 May 1973, discontinued 10 June 1977.

E G WATERHOUSE NATIONAL CAMELLIA GARDEN

Formerly this was part of Kareena Park (see separate item under that name).

As a Captain Cook Bicentenary project, around 2 hectares at the northern end of Kareena Park was developed as a formal garden containing a national collection of camellias with the first planting in 1969 and the gardens opened in July 1970, and was named the “E. G. Waterhouse National Camellia Garden”, in honour of Professor Eben Gowrie Waterhouse, a renowned authority on camellias. A naming application in mid-1976 to the Geographical Names Board was approved, and the name “E. G. Waterhouse National Camellia Garden” adopted in *NSW Government Gazette* No 103 of 13 August 1976 folio 3453.

Ref: GNB Reserve 13 August 1976

EAST HEATHCOTE

The local name for the section of the suburb of Heathcote that is situated on the eastern side of the Illawarra railway line, surrounded on its other sides by the Royal National Park.

Originally part of the *Village of Bottle Forest*, dating from 1843, it was included in the *suburban lands of the Village of Heathcote* in 1903. [P. Kennedy, *From Bottle Forest to Heathcote: Sutherland Shire's First Settlement*, p.7] and *NSW Government Gazette* No 442 of 26 August 1903 folios 6293-4)

ECKERSLEY (Parish)

No mention has been found of this parish name until plans were drawn of the undated first edition of the “Parish of Eckersl?” [the end of the name is missing] (Land & Property Information historical maps) and the “Hundred of Southend” (which included the parish name “Eckersley”) signed by Surveyor-general Thomas Mitchell on 27 March 1835 (*Original maps of the Hundreds in the County of Cumberland*, T. L. Mitchell, March 27th 1835, State Library maps collection). As the area did not have any areas granted to settlers at that time, it is a probable reason why there are no Government notices of an earlier date. In 1831 there were a number of such notices using the names of other parishes were grants were being issued.

There could be some doubt as to the spelling of the name as, in the formal notification of the parish published in *NSW Government Gazette* No 168 of 23 May 1835 folios 331-344, which notice divided the *County of Cumberland* into Hundreds and Parishes, it is spelt “Eckersly”. Later editions of the Parish map show it as “Eckersley.” (1914 Fifth edition, National Library Historical Maps Collection)

The Parish of *Eckersley* (or “Eckersly”) is the NSW Lands administrative district which includes the south-west end of Sutherland Shire, which is mainly the Holsworthy army area, Heathcote National Park and Woronora Dam.

A definite source for the name “Eckersley” has not been confirmed. One reference states it was [possibly!] named by Surveyor General Mitchell after a fellow officer, Nathaniel Eckersley (1779 – 1837), who served with him under the Duke of Wellington in the Peninsular Wars (1809-1814) (*campbelltown-library.blogspot.com.au*). This could possibly accord with Mitchell’s naming of the

adjoining Parish of Heathcote which was also possibly named after someone who served with him in the Peninsular War. However, it would seem that, lacking verification and doubt about the spelling of the name, the origin of the name remains in doubt.

Ref: GNB Parish 19 March 1976

ELOUERA BEACH

Elouera Beach wasn't officially named until around 1967, when the Elouera Surf Life Saving Club was built (Sutherland Shire Council records). Given the close proximity of Elouera Beach to Elouera Road (named in 1916), it is highly likely that the beach got its name from the road.

The word "Elouera" is thought to be a variation of "Alowrie", the place name accessed by Bass and Flinders when they visited the Lake Illawarra area in 1796 (see "A Voyage to Terra Australis" by Matthew Flinders), and from which the word "Illawarra" is thought to derive – in 1896 George Thornton reported "the district name, 'Illawarra,' as expressed by the natives, should be pronounced 'Elouera,' which means 'a pleasant place' " (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 28 March 1896, p.7, under "The Aboriginal Names of Places").

Ref: GNB Beach 22nd June 1973

EWY BAY (Historic)

See entry for **YOWIE BAY**

EWY CREEK

When Robert Dixon surveyed Port Hacking in 1827, he not only charted and named *Ewey Bay* but also showed a waterway labelled "fresh" [ie. fresh water] flowing into the bay from the north-west. His survey shows that this waterway flowed past a fence which appeared to be at the southern boundary of John Connell's 1000 acres (known as the "Old Farm" which had been selected by Connell after 1 October 1816 when he bought the 1814 "Governor's Promise" to Gregory Blaxland of an area of that size). That unnamed waterway in that location was shown on the original map of the Parish of Sutherland [sic] drawn sometime before early-1835, but proved to have been at least partly incorrectly indicated. Later undated versions of the parish map which include large scale subdivisions of Crown land undertaken in 1854-6 show that this waterway actually had its source west of what is nowadays Sylvania Road and flowed easterly around 400 metres to the south of Connell's land before turning south-easterly into *Ewey Bay* (Land & Property Information historical maps). That waterway was named as *Ewey Creek* in the advertisements of the auction sale of the Crown land in that area in *NSW Government Gazettes* No 33 of 24 February 1855 folios 511-7 and No 175 of 17 December 1855 folios 3301-5 and formed the boundary of some of those parcels of land. That the name was in use was confirmed in Walker's 1868 *Report on the Sutherland Estate*, when he describes *Ewey Creek* as being in the same general location as the *Gazette* notices. The name *Ewey Creek* was added to the version of the Parish of Sutherland map issued in June 1882.

It appears that the word "*Ewey*" derives from a local Aboriginal word used in the area and was first recorded by Dixon in 1827, however no documentation has been found that he also noted a meaning for the name. Whether *Ewey Creek* was a local name recorded by one of the surveyors of the day or simply a convenient name for the main creek running into *Ewey Bay* has not been determined.

The name *Ewey Creek* has remained in use since that time and even nowadays is signposted and referred to by that name, which does in fact conflict with the adopted naming by the Geographical Names Board. In a notice in *NSW Government Gazette* No 57 of 4 May 1973 folios 1658-9, the

Geographical Names Board settled the dual use of “Ewey Bay” and “Yowie Bay” by discontinuing “Ewey or Yowie Bay” in favour of the more popularly used *Yowie Bay*, and at the same time discontinued “Ewey Creek” and assigned “Yowie Gully” instead. The term “Gully” was needed to apply the strict definition employed for a geographical feature, as “Creek” apparently did not conform. There is also an entry on the Geographical Names Board web site which lists “Ewey Creek” as a “Variant”. On face value this would seem to be another name for the site. In its “Glossary of status values in the Geographical Names Register”, VARIANT is defined as “An unofficial (sometimes formally discontinued) name. This status was originally applied to all names that were not assigned”.

So despite the fact that on official maps, such as the latest version of the topographical map of the area, the name “Yowie Gully” appears, *Ewey Creek* remains the preferred local name and appears to be acceptable as *an unofficial (sometimes formally discontinued) name*.

Ref: GNB 4 May 1973 (name discontinued)

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 *NSW Government Gazette* No 49 of 4 February 1881 folio 758 until his death in 1888. Likely to have been named by the Trustees of the *National Park*, but date not determined. First published mention of name is in 1906 (*Evening News*, 10 November 1906, p.7).

Ref: GNB Bight 4 May 1973

GARIE

Garie is located in the Royal National Park at the southernmost point of Sutherland Shire, on its coastal boundary with Wollongong Local Government Area.

Research into the word “garie” indicates inconsistencies in the spelling of the word and the meanings which can be attributed to it. In addition, there are problems over time with the location of Garie.

The earliest record found relates to the land applied for in 1822 by Andrew Byrne which was finally granted to him in October 1831, described in part as: “. . . commencing at a Water-course running into a Beach called “Garil . . .” (*The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 15 September 1831, p.1) Byrne notified that his property was named “Garrah” and that was the name entered on his deed, (*Historical Land records Viewer (HLRV)*, deed dated 19 October 1831) although by 1856 Byrne referred to his property name as “Gara” (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 10 July 1856, p.8). That property was located in what is nowadays Wollongong Local Government Area.

It is possible that that the final letter in “Garil” in the October 1831 notice could have been a misreading of a hand-written letter “e” as when a Government parish map of the area was issued in 1835 the location was shown spelt as “Garie” (*HLRV*, Edition 1 of Parish of Bulgo, 1835). Of note is an 1837 map of NSW prepared for surveyor Robert Dixon which shows the location as “Gare” (*National Library Trove*, “Map of the Colony of New South Wales” MAP F 891, 1837), which also could be an error as most maps produced in the 19th century and into the 20th consistently show “Garie,” apart from an 1885 map published by the Surveyor-General’s Office which shows it as “Garee” (*National Library Trove*, “Map of New South Wales” MAP RM 4428, 1885)

A theory advanced for the meaning of “Garie” is that it relates to the name of that adjoining property “Garrah” or “Gara,” however no explanation has been found which could account for the different spellings.

A problem also becomes apparent when a comparison is made between the locations on the 1830s maps and current mapping. What was “Garil” or “Garie” Beach had become Era Beach. Reference to a plan compiled in October 1884 (*National Library Trove*, “Map of the Illawarra and South Coast railway line” MAP RM 904, 1884) shows that, for no known reason, “Garie” had moved somewhat to the north-east along the coastline to around what would later become the southern boundary of Sutherland Shire.

Another popular theory used to explain “garie” is that it was a corruption of the name of a notorious bushranger named William Geary said to have camped there whilst on the run in 1818. That version was apparently accepted by officers of the Department of Lands who in 1903 listed that as the reason for the name with a cross-reference to “gears” (*Science of Man and journal of the Royal Anthropological Society of Australasia*, Vol 6 No 5, June 1903). No confirmation has been found that William Geary alias Gurrey was in that area, and it would seem that although known to have escaped on several occasions that he was likely to have in custody in Newcastle in 1818 (Roberts, D.A., “Dissent and Ill Discipline: the Newcastle Penal Settlement 1804-1823” in *Radical Newcastle*, ed Bennett, Cushing & Eklund, UNSW Press, 2015).

A final theory for the origin of the “garie” is that it was an Aboriginal language word. The earliest recording of that possibility is some years after Garie was first mapped, when, in 1901, “geeri” was recorded as an Aboriginal language word of the Wiraiairi [Wiradjuri] people of central NSW meaning “sleepy” (*Science of Man and journal of the Royal Anthropological Society of Australasia*, Vol 4 No 3, April 1901). A later author in 1952 had a dual listing of “garie” and “geeri” meaning “sleepy,” but provided no reference to the source of the words and meaning (McCarthy, F.D., *New South Wales Aboriginal Place Names and Euphonious Words, with their Meanings*, Australian Museum, 1952).

It could be concluded from the above that a definite meaning for “garie” cannot be ascertained. Nonetheless, in Council records “garie” is recorded as an Aboriginal language word meaning “sleepy.”

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

GEORGES RIVER

All early references to this river by the British colonists, several kilometres of which was mapped by early explorers, simply name it “as part of an extended Botany Bay, usually referred to as ‘the South West Arm’, ‘the west river’, or the head of the Bay, distinguishing it from the ‘north east arm’ (The Cook’s River)” [*the Several Discoveries of Sydney’s Georges River: Precursors to the Tom Thumb Expedition*, paper by Robert Haworth, UNE]

The first use of the name Georges River is contained in Matthew Flinders, *A Voyage to Terra Australis*, London, 1814, p. xcvi, describing a voyage in 1795: “a little boat of eight feet long, called *Tom Thumb* with a crew composed of ourselves and a boy . . . we proceeded round in this boat, to Botany Bay, and ascending George’s River”.

It was likely named for the reigning British monarch of the time, King George III. A number of unreferenced sources attribute that naming to Governor Arthur Phillip.

Ref: GNB River 23 November 1973

GOGERLYS POINT

Named after Charles James Gogerly, Some historians contend he may have first squatted on the land, which had been unsold at a Crown auction in 1847 (*NSW Government Gazette* No 18 of 26 February 1847 folios 239-243), but it is recorded in the *NSW Government Gazette* of 2 March 1854 that he had

selected 22a 2r (portion 21 parish of Wattamolla) on 3 December 1853 and of 19 September 1854 that he selected 20a 1r (portion 20) on 19 June 1854.

Gogerly is recognized as the first European settler to erect a dwelling on the southern shores of Port Hacking in 1854, where he lived with his wife Charlotte and several children until 1870 when he moved back to Sydney. The land remained in Gogerly's name until 1884 when he transferred it to his daughter Caroline (Maree McKinley and Sue Hewitt, *Sutherland Shire: Some Early Residents*, Cliff Lewis Printing, 2007, pp.59-63).

The name appears on a *Guide Map of the National Park*, published in 1884.

Ref: GNB Point 4 May 1973

GOOSEBERRY BAY

In the *Official Guide to the National Park*, published in 1902 by the Trustees, there is mention of the early Port Hacking industry in that area of collection of oyster shells for conversion in lime and indicates that Gooseberry Bay is named *because of the prevalence of Gooseberry-bushes on the bank, supposed to have grown from seeds left in the early days by the oysterers*. [ref: *St George Call*, 22 October 1904, p.1]. As no earlier reference has been found to that name, it is assumed that it was assigned by the Trustees.

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973

GOOYONG RESERVE

A large Crown bushland reserve located on the northern bank of the Woronora River which extends from Park Street Woronora to Lot 1A DP 313113 (Shackels Estate). It extends northerly to Bangor Bypass and the rear of subdivision to the south of Akuna Avenue and is west and south of Woronora River Public School. It was notified as Crown Reserves 72134 from sale and 72135 from lease generally for the public purpose of public recreation in *NSW Government Gazette* No 1 of 3 January 1947 folio 16, with Sutherland Shire Council appointed as Trustee in *NSW Government Gazette* No 34 of 7 March 1947 folio 552. Originally about 60 acres, approximately 1 acre was taken for an addition to the Woronora River Public School in *NSW Government Gazette* No 9 of 19 January 1951 folio 171.

By an agreement with Sutherland Shire Council, dated 8 September 1947, a camping ground within the reserve was licensed to the Boy Scouts Association and it was that arrangement that lead to the reserve being named as *Gooyong Reserve* (Council file records).

"Gooyong" was recorded in 1886 as an Aboriginal language word from around the Dawson and Burnett Rivers region of south-eastern Queensland (around 350 km inland from Bundaberg) attributed to the Wokka, Wogga, or Woga language. It had dual meanings of "camp" and "fire" and an accompanying explanatory note indicated that what "marks their camp or temporary home is merely a small fire." (Curr, E.M., *The Australian race: its origins, languages, customs, place of landing in Australia and the routes by which it spread itself over the continent*, in four volumes, Melbourne, Government Printer, 1886)

"Gooyong" was also recorded in 1896 by a resident of Narrandera in southern NSW as an Aboriginal language word meaning "the moon" (*The Australasian Anthropological Journal*, Vol 1 No 2, September 1896).

The reserve name has not to date been referred to the Geographical Names Board for adoption as a geographical name.

GRAYS POINT

The actual reason for the name *Grays Point* has never been determined, however over the years two theories have emerged, the first of which is the most likely origin of the name.

THEORY 1: named after Samuel William Gray

That location later known as *Grays Point* was owned by Samuel William Gray from 1 July 1878 to 8 March 1889. It passed through the hands of a couple other owners, before being advertised for private auction on 4 February 1902 as a subdivision of *11 choice water frontage blocks, Gray's Point, Port Hacking* (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 28 December 1901, p.15). No previous mention has been found of the name *Grays Point*.

THEORY 2: named after National Park Ranger John Gray (Jack "Spike" Gray)

As far as can be ascertained this comes from oral or family history and is based on Gray's 30-year long service record at the National Park (1898 to 1928). He lived mainly at a cottage at *Gundamaian*, where his ashes at his request were buried at *Point Danger* on the opposite side of *Port Hacking* from *Grays Point* (various refs in Carrick, *History of Royal National Park 1879-2013*).

What seems to cast doubt on that possibility is that John Gray only moved from his initial work as a labourer at *Audley* to the cottage at *Gundamaian* (then called "Deer Park") in 1899, only a maximum of 2 years before the auction plan referenced above referred to the location of *Gray's Point* on the opposite side of Port Hacking.

Ref: GNB Point 4 May 1973

GRAYS POINT COMMUNITY CENTRE

Named after its location in the suburb of Grays Point.

Grays Point Community Centre began on the part of the site which is now the Guides Hall. On 3 May 1955, that land was transferred by its owner to the Grays Point Progress Association, which organisation built the "Progress Hall." Adjoining on the west was Grays Point Public School land (*NSW Government Gazette* of 3 February 1950 p.311) which extended along the frontage to Grays Point Road to land set aside by Sutherland Shire Council in June 1950 (and then purchased by the Council) on which an undedicated gravel road was built along the side of the school.

On 25 February 1958 ownership of the "Progress Hall" site and building was transferred to Sutherland Shire Council. On 19 June 1964, the Council extended that site to the south by purchase of subdivided land.

The public school was relocated to Angle Road in 1961. In 1965, Grays Point Progress Association, with the support of the Council and a local Member of Parliament, campaigned for the vacated site to be retained for community purposes. The Department of Education agreed in early 1967 to sell the land to the Council, which was finalised on 7 March 1969. The Council was meanwhile arranging a subdivision of its land adjoining to the west and on 20 November 1969 as part of that development dedicated part of the former school site as the realigned route of the old road and named it Inglewood Road.

From June 1969 to May 1972, the Council extended the community site to the south by purchasing the rear sections of five properties facing Budyan Road.

The Community Centre hall was completed and opened in 1972; the refurbished "Progress Hall" became the Guides Hall in 1974; the Grays Point Bushfire Station (now Rural Fire station) opened in 1974; and

the Grays Point Pre-school Kindergarten, which operated from late 1972 in the Community Centre hall building with an outdoor activity centre, had its own premises officially opened in October 1976.

[compiled from *Making a Point*, Grays Point Progress Association, Sydney, 2010 and Council file records]

The site has not to date been adopted by the Geographical Names Board as a geographical place name.

GRAYS POINT RESERVE

Grays Point Reserve is named for its position on the peninsula known as Grays Point.

Grays Point Reserve forms the southern part of an area of 50 acres originally advertised for sale (but unsold) at a Crown Land auction on 31 May 1864 (*NSW Government Gazette* No 98 of 30 April 1865 folios 1089-94), later purchased by Samuel William Gray of Kiama, politician and property investor on 1 July 1878. The land was sold in 1889 to the joint ownership of politician, the Hon William Halliday MLA and Sir John Robertson, former NSW Premier and Trustee of the (now Royal) National Park which he was instrumental in creating – it is of interest that the land was directly across Port Hacking from the National Park. A few months before the death of Robertson in mid-1891, the land was sold into the single ownership of Sydney physician, Dr William John Munro, which on Munro's death passed to the joint ownership of his widow, Flora Charity Munro, and Sydney barrister William John George Mann who disposed of the land in 1910 to Lilli Pilli landholders John Thomas Searl and Muriel Hazel Estelle Davis.

Searl and Davis subdivided the southern section of the 50 acres in late 1910 in deposited plan 6037 lodged in December of that year. The land which later became Grays Point Reserve being (and remains) Lots 1 to 4 inclusive and adjoining Lane which provided road access to those lots.

Lots 1 and 2 were sold to Esther Mahalath Haining in 1914, whose husband James Lawson Haining, Sydney coach builder, had purchased Lot 3 in 1911, with Lot 4 going to George Lawson Haining, coach trimmer, in 1912, with Lots 3 & 4 also then transferred to Esther Mahalath Haining in 1914. Lots 1 to 4 inclusive were then sold to Florence May Burke in November 1944, from whom they were purchased by Sutherland Shire Council in 1961 for an open space public reserve. The reserve extends over the adjoining Lane, excepting an area resumed for a sewage pumping station in 1979.

The above information comes from land title records on the NSW Land Registry Services *Historical Land Records Viewer* and Sutherland Shire Council records.

Grays Point Reserve has not been adopted as a geographical name by the Geographical Names Board.

GREAT TURRIELL BAY

Great Turriell Bay was named after the adjoining *Great Turriell* or *Lilli Pilli Point* (now just *Lilli Pilli Point*).

Prior to around 1913 it was recorded as part of *Port Hacking*. A pencil note of the name on the map of the Parish of Sutherland at that time was confirmed as *Great Turriell Bay* on the version of that map issued in September 1913. At the same time, *Turriell Bay* on the eastern side of *Great Turriell Point* (*Lilli Pilli Point*) was renamed as *Little Turriell Bay*. (Land & property Information historical maps)

For an explanation of the word "Turriell" see the entry under LILLI PILLI POINT.

When adopted by the Geographical Names Board in *NSW Government Gazette* No 57 of 4 May 1973 folio 1644-6 it was recorded as "Great Turriel Bay"; that was corrected to "Great Turriell Bay" in *NSW Government Gazette* No 126 of 7 December 2012 folio 4964.

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

GREAT TURRIELL POINT (Historic)

See the entry under **LILLI PILLI POINT**.

GREEN POINT

There is no verifiable record of this name being shown on any early plans of Georges River. The first mention found is in a newspaper article in 1868 of a place called "*Green Point*" (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 5 February 1868, p.5). Later the same year R. C. Walker, in his *Report on the Sutherland Estate* dated 14 April 1868 also refers to *Green Point*, as if it was an existing name. The name was added to the edition of the Parish of Sutherland issued in March 1900 (Land & Property Information historical maps).

No information has been found about the origin of the name.

Ref: GNB Point 4 May 1973 and 11 March 1977

GUNDAMAIA

The locality *Gundamaia* does not appear on the 1886 map of "National Park", which identifies the area only as "Deer Park". A newspaper advertisement placed by the trustees of the National Park in 1908 refers to an accommodation house named *Gundamaia* (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 2 March 1908, p. 2), and it is likely that the name of the house gave its name to the locality that was originally called Deer Park.

The word "Gundamaia" appears in the book *Kamilaroi and other Australian Languages*, by Rev. William Ridley, 1875 (2nd Edition), and since "Warumbul", "Yenabilli" and "Maianbar" also occur in this book, it is almost certain that the four localities, all on the southern shore of Port Hacking, were named under similar circumstances, most likely named by the trustees of the park in the late 1800s/early 1900s. In Ridley's book, the meaning of "Gundamaia" is given as "house on the stream" (see Ridley, p27).

Stan Gray (the son of John Gray — National Park ranger from 1898 to 1928) when interviewed in 1980 indicated that *Gundamaia* meant "house by the river". That is a similar meaning to that stated by Ridley. (*Sutherland Shire Historical Society Bulletin*, May 1988)

The traditional lands of the Kamilaroi people are roughly centred on Narrabri, 500km NNW of Sydney.

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

GUNNAMATTA BAY

The name "Gunnamatta Bay" first appears on Surveyor Robert Dixon's 1827 map of Port Hacking and the Georges River. The available evidence supports the assumption that when Dixon recorded the name *Gunnamatta*, he was recording the local Aboriginal name for the area, however no documentation has been found that Dixon recorded a meaning for the name.

The meaning of the name remains elusive, but some related references have been found, which seemingly relate to the land to the east and north-east of Gunnamatta Bay, rather than to the waterway itself.

In 1832 Budgerorry (also called *Willimanan*, various spellings for both names) was recorded by G A Robinson as being “a native of New Holland, near to Botany Bay”, and “a native of the Koonemetta tribe”.

In 1896, The Hon. George Thornton, M.L.C., “understood to be one of the best living authorities on the language of the aborigines”, wrote that “Goonoomarra is the name of the beach and sandhills about Port Hacking” (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 28 March 1896, p. 7 under heading “Aboriginal Names of Places”). He further clarified that in 1899, indicating that the “Present Name” of Goonamarra – beach and sandhills about Port Hacking - was “Cronulla” (*Science of Man and journal of the Royal Anthropological Society of Australasia*, Vol 2 No 11, 21 December 1899, p.210: “Aboriginal Names of Places at Port Jackson and along the coast”).

In 1899 Richard Hill reported “the name of the first beach, on the northern side (*of Port Hacking*), is ‘Goonamatta’ ”, (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 6 June 1890, p. 5, under the heading “Aboriginal Names”).

The Minister for Lands recommended in March 1899 that a Village be gazetted in the area known up to that time as “Cronulla Beach.” The village was to be located on land that had previously been Crown Reserves (Curby, *A Pictorial History of Cronulla*). Previously included in the suburban lands of the City of Sydney, the Cronulla Peninsula became its own administrative area in *New South Wales Government Gazette* of 25 November 1899 p.8893 as the *Village of Gunnamatta and the suburban lands of Gunnamatta*. Thus the name “Gunnamatta” was assigned to the whole of the Cronulla Peninsula until in *NSW Government Gazette* of 26 February 1908 p.1265, when the name of the village (and hence the peninsula area) was changed to Cronulla.

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973

GUNNAMATTA PARK

For information on “Gunnamatta” see entry for Gunnamatta Bay.

Gunnamatta Park originated in 1895 as an unnamed Crown Reserve No 23008 for public recreation much larger than its current area. It extended northwards to opposite the road now known as Surf Road between the road now known as Cronulla Street and the then high water mark of Gunnamatta Bay (*NSW Govt. Gazette* of 28 September 1895 p.6301). Accompanying the declaration of the Village of Gunnamatta in 1899, the northern part was removed, with the new boundary some 50 metres south-west of and parallel to Waratah Street (*NSW Govt. Gazette* of 25 November 1899 folios 8896-7). In 1900 that around 50 metre wide strip was returned to public recreation as Crown Reserve No 31432 (*NSW Govt. Gazette* of 8 September 1900 folio 7019).

In 1907 the remaining part of Crown Reserve No 23008 was reproclaimed as Crown Reserve No 41761 (*NSW Govt. Gazette* of 12 June 1907 p.3261) and Sutherland Shire Council appointed Trustee (*NSW Govt. Gazette* of 19 June 1907 p.3423). The Council from that time developed the park and referred to it as “Gunnamatta Park” (see for example *The St George Call*, 27 Mar 1909, p.8). In 1910, Reserves 23008 and 41761 were combined into Reserve No 45908 (*NSW Govt. Gazette* of 19 October 1910 p.5737). By some oversight, the Council was not immediately re-appointed trustee but held the reserve under care, control and management until its status as trustee was restored in 1961 (*NSW Govt. Gazette* of 27 January 1961 p.237 & 239).

Over the years from 1912 to 1945 there were several removals from Gunnamatta Park of areas at the corner of Waratah Street and Nicholson Parade so that they could be used for other public purposes. These are the areas now occupied by the Guides Hall, Cronulla Early Childhood Centre, Waratah Street Child Care Centre and Council's parks depot, although parts had previously been used as a storage area and electricity power house, and a much larger Council depot.

In 1951 parts of Gunnamatta Park were declared as public road to allow for widening of Nicholson Parade and extension of Taloombi Street (*NSW Govt. Gazette* of 15 June 1951 p.1760).

Gunnamatta Bay Tidal Baths

Sutherland Shire Council applied in 1913 to construct a public swimming baths in Gunnamatta Bay fronting Gunnamatta Park and a Crown Special Lease was issued (*NSW Govt. Gazette* of 4 June 1913 p. 3472) later extended through to 1940 (*NSW Govt. Gazettes* 10 February 1928 pp.741-2 and 25 May 1928 pp.2512-5). In 1939, the original baths and nearby wharf were demolished and a much larger baths were built on the site. A new Crown Special Lease was issued and renewed through to 1992 (*NSW Govt. Gazettes* 27 June 1941 pp.2358-65; 22 February 1957 pp.619-29; 24 October 1975 pp.4450-1). On expiration of the Crown Special Lease, a Crown licence was issued to the Council to continue occupancy of the site.

In December 2010, Sutherland Shire Council applied to have the Crown Licence terminated and the baths area added to the adjacent Crown Reserve for the sand flats in Gunnamatta Bay to its south east. Instead, the approval advised it as an extension Gunnamatta Park R45908 (*NSW Govt. Gazette* of 28 June 2013 p.3121). Thus, the baths are now part of Gunnamatta Park.

Gunnamatta Pavilion

In 1939, in conjunction with the construction of the new baths, Sutherland Shire Council approved the raising of Special Loan funds and built a *combined public dressing pavilion, kiosk and refreshment room at Gunnamatta Park*. Some extensions/renovations have been carried out over the years, and in addition to the updated original functions also provides clubrooms for community organisations.

Ref: GNB Reserve 4 May 1973

GUNYAH BEACH

The name of this beach first appears in 1886 in an advertisement for the "Yarmouth Estate" subdivision (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 24 April 1886, p.13)

From the Sydney region Aboriginal word "Gunyah" meaning *dwelling* (see *Macquarie Aboriginal Words*). The name of the beach very likely derives from the fact that a rock shelter (excavated in 1899) overlooks the beach (see "Results of an Exploration of Aboriginal Rock-Shelters at Port Hacking", by Walter R. Harper 1899".)

Ref: GNB Beach 22 June 1973

GWAWLEY BAY

The first mention as "Gawley Bay" was within descriptions in Government notices dated 14 October 1831 concerning claims for existing grants of land (*The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 15 October 1831, pp.1-2). When the deeds for those grants were issued on 31 August 1833 and 8 January 1835, the descriptions again read "Gawley Bay". (Land & Property Information historical records) Those grants and the bay are shown on Surveyor Robert Dixon's survey of the area in 1827,

however he does not show any name on that bay, and no documentation has been found that he recorded the name.

The name spelt as *Gwawley Bay* is shown on the original map of the “Parish of Southerland” [sic] dating from 1835 or possibly earlier (Land & Property Information historical maps), and the map of the “Hundred of Woronora”, which includes the “Parish of Sutherland”, signed by Surveyor-General Thomas Mitchell on 27 March 1835 (State Library of NSW, “Original Maps of the Hundreds in the County of Cumberland”, Call No MAXX 811.1/1835/1)

The origin of the name "Gwawley" has not been determined.

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973

GWAWLEY CREEK

See also entry for GWAWLEY BAY

When Robert Dixon surveyed Georges River in 1827 he mapped but did not name Gwawley Bay nor did he show names on any features or properties in that area, including a waterway, the course of which started within John Connell's 1000 acres (known as the “Old Farm” which had been selected by Connell after 1 October 1816 when he bought the 1814 “Governor's Promise” to Gregory Blaxland of an area of that size), flowed northerly to the southern boundary of John Connell's 180 acres (known as “Castle Connell”) and then followed the southern boundary of that land westerly to Gwawley Bay. That unnamed waterway was shown on the original map of the Parish of Southerland [sic] drawn sometime before early-1835. Later undated versions of the parish map which include large scale subdivisions of Crown land undertaken in 1854-6 show that this waterway came from further westward and rose in the vicinity of what is nowadays GyMEA Technology High School. Those maps have it named as *Gwawley Creek* (Land & Property Information historical maps). *Gwawley Creek* appears in the advertisements of the auction sale of the Crown land in that area in *NSW Government Gazette* No 158 of 20 December 1854 folios 2643-50 and formed the boundary of some of those parcels of land.

Whether *Gwawley Creek* was a local name recorded by one of the surveyors of the day or simply a convenient name for a creek running into *Gwawley Bay* has not been determined. The origin of the name "Gwawley" has not been determined.

The upper course of *Gwawley Creek* as far as Corea Street Oval is now mostly underground drainage pipes, and where it used to flow into *Gwawley Bay* is now part of the canal development of *Sylvania Waters*.

Ref: GNB Creek 4 May 1973

GYMEA BAY

Although the bay was included on Surveyor Robert Dixon's survey of the area in 1827, he does not show any name on that bay, and no documentation has been found that he recorded the name. Early maps of the area also do not show any name.

Around 1854, the Crown land authorities decided to proceed with subdividing all the remaining unallocated Crown land in the parish of Sutherland and accordingly sent Government Surveyor Captain William Albert Braylesford Greaves to the *Port Hacking district*, where land could be had for £1 an acre (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 18 January 1922, p.12). As well as the surveys later being added to the undated Parish of Sutherland map available at the time, some additional feature names — GyMEA Bay, Turriell Bay, Double Bay, North-West Arm and Gwawley Creek — were included (Land & Property Information historical maps). These names were likely obtained in the local area by Greaves.

Writing in 1924, noted Shire historian Frank Cridland seemed quite certain that the word “Gymea” was recorded by Greaves: *Gymea, the next bay above Yowie, was named by the veteran W. A. B Greaves in 1855, he then being a Government surveyor. Gymea is the aboriginal name of the giant lily that still flourishes in the surrounding country* (Cridland, *The Story of Port Hacking Cronulla and Sutherland Shire*, p.53) (note: At the time of the surveys “Yowie Bay” was actually recorded and had been mapped as “Ewey Bay” for decades).

The first mention of the waterway *Gymea Bay* is in the advertisements for parcels of Crown land to be auctioned at the Crown land sales on 17 January 1856 and 13 March 1856 (*NSW Government Gazettes* No 175 of 17/12/1855 folio 3301-5 & No 21 of 7 February 1856 folios 411-3), which refers to a number of those parcels as being bounded partly by *Gymea Bay*.

R C Walker in his *Report on the Sutherland Estate* dated 14 April 1868, stated in respect of land near to *Gymea Bay*: *This is a fine square block of high Land, and is called the Gymea Ground on account of the quantity of Gymea or Gigantic Lilly, which grows on the land, and is very valuable for manufacturing into paper*. It seems that the Aboriginal name for the lily was known in the area prior to 1868, and likely to have been the source for the names “Gymea Ground” and “Gymea Bay” in 1856.

In 1890 Richard Hill, referring to the region west of Yowie Bay, wrote: *further on the ‘Goomea’, gigantic lily, is to be found in great abundance*, (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 6 June 6 1890, p. 5, under “Aboriginal Names”). This suggests that Hill was aware that what we now call “the Gymea lily” grew in the area that he refers to, and he was also aware of an Aboriginal name for the lily.

While it has not been confirmed that “Gymea” derives directly from a word in the local Dharawal Aboriginal language, it appears that it is from an Aboriginal word referring to the Gymea Lily (botanical name *Doryanthes excelsa*).

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973

GYMEA BAY OVAL

Named after its location in Suburb of Gymea Bay.

In 1945, Sutherland Shire Council requested the Department of Public Instruction (aka Education Department) to share the costs of acquiring a suitable site for a public school and recreation purposes (Council file records), with arrangements made by August 1946 for the joint acquisition of that land (*Propeller* 1 Aug 1946 p.6). The school site was resumed (*NSW Govt. Gazette* of 29 November 1946 p.2736) on the south-western corner of Gymea Bay Road and Avenel Road. The Council then proceeded to resume the land immediately adjoining the southern side of the school site for a recreation reserve on the south-western corner of Gymea Bay Road and Coonong Road extending westerly to the eastern boundary of the land nowadays occupied by 2nd Gymea Scout Hall (*NSW Govt. Gazette* of 17 January 1947 pp.85-86).

In 1952, it was noted by Council that the upgrading of its site to allow for a standard playing field alongside the proposed public school would best be served by a large part of its recreation reserve being exchanged for most of the school site. A land swap was agreed and accomplished by resumption of the area required for the Gymea Bay Public School out of the recreation reserve (*NSW Govt. Gazette* of 30 January 1953 p.312) together with resumption of the additional area for the Gymea Bay Oval from the original school site (*NSW Govt. Gazette* of 30 January 1953 p.351).

A roughly-formed cricket oval was then constructed with centrally located concrete cricket pitch, with a significant slope down to Gymea Bay Road (Council file records).

A small area at the south-western corner of the recreation reserve was dedicated as public road (part of June Place) on 13 November 1956 (Council file records)

In 1961, the former Gymea Bay School of Arts building dating from 1929 was moved just under a kilometre along Gymea Bay Road from near the Gymea Bay shops to the western side of Gymea Bay Oval as a community hall (Council file records).

In the early 1960s, the oval area had been reduced by levelling the site to rectangular fields surrounded by earth banks, with basketball courts on the lower level. Plans in 1965 to remove the basketball courts and widen the playing fields did not proceed. During the next few years an amenities and storage building for the playing fields was constructed and, after the basketball courts became used for netball, a netball amenities building was built, later named "The Marj Groves Club House - Gymea Netball Club." The early 1990s saw the demolition of the old School of Arts building replaced by a new community centre and redevelopment and expansion of the adjoining sporting facilities buildings (Council file records).

Ref: GNB Reserve 5 July 1985

GYMEA COMMUNITY CENTRE

Named after its location in Suburb of Gymea.

Gymea Community Centre had its origins in a request in January 1950 by a local community pre-school, for a permanent location for its premises. The Council purchased a property on the eastern side of Talara Road on 19 February 1951 for the Pre-school Kindergarten and, in September that year, work began to erect a temporary Kindergarten structure as a joint venture of the community group and Council. The land originally had a handle 6 feet wide running south to the railway, for possible pedestrian access to a pathway along the edge of the railway land to Gymea Bay Road and the railway station.

The Council was also looking to developing a local community centre and negotiations for a site facing Gymea Bay Road were successful and it was purchased by the Council on 18 May 1956, however it did not adjoin the kindergarten site. That situation was resolved when the owners of the Gymea hotel land agreed to transfer to Council a triangular area in the north-west corner of its property to connect the two Council properties, with that transfer finalised on 19 January 1959. Possibly in compensation, the access handle at the southern end of the pre-school kindergarten land was transferred to the owners of the hotel land on 11 August 1959. They combined it with land extending to Talara Road, providing an area for additional car parking and rear access for the hotel.

Scouts and Guides Hall

In mid-1957, part of the Talara Road site was allocated for construction of halls for the Scouts and Guides. The Boy Scouts 1st Gymea Group obtained a lease from Council of 25 years from 1 July 1958 to 20 June 1983, and the Girl Guides Association also 25 years from 1 January 1959 to 30 December 1983. On expiry of the leases, they were both renewed, the Australian Boy Scouts Association NSW Branch for a period of 1 January 1984 to 31 December 2004 and the Girl Guides Association of NSW for the same period. Unfortunately the halls burnt down in the Christmas holiday period December 2000/January 2001 and, although the Council made arrangements for rebuilding the halls from the insurance claim, both associations decided to relinquish their leases.

Gymea Pre-School Kindergarten

In March 1960 discussions took place about involved moving the pre-school kindergarten building to the southern end of the site where it was to be extended, with a larger enclosed play area where the original temporary building had been located. That work proceeded after funds were allocated in May 1963.

In 2005, planning commenced for a complete redevelopment of the Gymea Pre-school Kindergarten facility. A new building and surrounds were completed and opened in 2007 which included the area formerly occupied by the scouts and guides hall.

The only other tenure matter of note at the western end of the site was the acquisition by the electricity authorities of land for a substation adjacent to Talara Road on 14 December 1977.

Gymea Community Centre Development

In October 1960 a report was made to Council concerning the acquisition of additional land for the Gymea Community Centre being the adjacent vacant land to the north of the land already acquired and which fronted the laneway (now Warburton Lane) off Warburton Street. That land was purchased on 3 January 1963.

Meanwhile, the first building had been constructed in 1961 on the eastern part of the Gymea Community Centre which was the Gymea Baby Health Centre (now Gymea Early Childhood Centre).

A proposal was put to Council in April 1962 to name the site as the “Gymea Village Centre,” however it continued to be referred to as Gymea Community Centre.

In April 1967, the Council approved preparation of plans for the two major buildings in Gymea Community Centre: a community hall and a women’s rest centre, both of which were constructed in 1968.

A small building to the north of the Gymea Community Hall houses a parks maintenance crew. It was constructed in the early 1970s with a toilet facility added in conjunction with the community hall extension in 1986.

Two additions have been made to the Gymea Community Hall. The building was extended on its northern end officially opened in May 1986. Storerooms were added at the rear of the building in 1993.

The women’s rest centre, renamed July 1985 as Gymea Community Aid & Information Service, was extended in 1988 and 1998.

A stand-alone toilet block with disabled-persons access was constructed in the Gymea Community Centre in May 2004.

In mid-2015, there were investigations into a proposal to rename the site as “Gymea Village Green.” However that has not proceeded.

A name for the site has not to date been referred to the Geographical Names Board for adoption as a geographical place name.

The above information has been compiled from Council file records.

HEATHCOTE (Parish)

No mention has been found of this parish name until plans were drawn of the undated first edition of the “Parish of Heathcote” (Land & Property Information historical maps) and the “Hundred of Woronora” (which included the parish name “Heathcote”) signed by Surveyor-general Thomas Mitchell on 27 March 1835 (*Original maps of the Hundreds in the County of Cumberland*, T. L. Mitchell, March 27th 1835, State Library maps collection). As the area did not have any areas granted to settlers at that time, it is a probable reason why there are no Government notices of an earlier date. In 1831 there were a number of such notices using the names of other parishes where grants were being issued.

The formal notification of the “Parish of Heathcote” was published in *NSW Government Gazette* No 168 of 23 May 1835 folios 331-344, which notice divided the *County of Cumberland* into Hundreds and Parishes.

A definite source for the name “Heathcote” has not been confirmed. One reference states: *the Parish of Heathcote was probably named after a fellow-officer who served with Mitchell in the Peninsular Wars Campaign 1809-1914; but which one is not known, as there were two senior officers of that name, viz. Deputy Asst. Quarter-Master-General Ralph Heathcote (mentioned in despatches); and Asst. Surgeon Godfrey Heathcote, who also served throughout the campaign* (Hutton-Neve, *Bygone Days of Sutherland Shire*, p.19). This could possibly accord with Mitchell’s naming of the adjoining Parish of Eckersley which was also possibly named after someone who served with him in the Peninsular War. However, it would seem that, lacking verification, the origin of the name remains in doubt.

Ref: GNB Parish 19 March 1976

HEATHCOTE SESQUICENTENARY PARK

Heathcote Sequicentenary Park, a name which means the “150th Anniversary of Heathcote” was part of the land in the first village set out in what was to become Sutherland Shire. It was surveyed in conjunction with the laying out of the Sydney to Wollongong Road under instruction from Surveyor-General Thomas Mitchell in 1842 and became known as the Village of Bottle Forest. A survey of the village is shown on a plan by Surveyor Darke dated January 10, 1845.

The first owner of the land was John Erving, to whom the land then known as portion 13 at Bottle Forest, parish of Heathcote, county of Cumberland was granted on 3 March 1845 (title issued 30 June 1845). Erving sold the land to Archibald Allardice on 17 December 1852, who mortgaged it to Michael Egan Murnin and Thomas Holt on 9 June 1854. Murnin transferred his interest to Thomas Holt on 23 March 1859. When Allardice defaulted on his mortgage, Thomas Holt took possession of the property and on 13 March 1865 was given title in fee simple of the land.

Thomas Holt failed in efforts to run stock on the land and on 1 September 1881 leased it to The Holt Sutherland Estate Land Company. Part of the western end of the land was resumed by notice dated 1882 on page 2797 of the *NSW Government Gazette* for the Sydney to Illawarra rail corridor. A further section of the land in its south-east corner was acquired for a water reservoir site by notice in *NSW Government Gazette* of 13 February 1931 on page 682.

As a remote part of the Holt-Sutherland Estate it was tenanted under leases. Frederick William Turner, who operated his lease as a poultry farmer, took advantage of the provision that he could buy out his lease, and became owner of the residue of the land on 2 April 1940. On 4 September 1944, the property was sold to Hector Valentine Williams Treloar, described as a Fruiterer of Kensington. On 3 May 1946, Treloar sold it to the Punchbowl Brick and Pipe Company Pty Ltd, who then operated a brick works and quarry on the site. Of note is that Wilson Parade at the east end of the site was dedicated out of the railway corridor as a public road in *NSW Government Gazette* of 25 February 1949 on page 532. In 1981, the site was subdivided by the Puchbowl Brick and Pipe Company to provide for future development of the site.

Part of the land was transferred to a Development Company Wingevo Pty Ltd, who as a development condition dedicated a public reserve to Sutherland Shire Council on 2 June 1982. To obtain a reasonable access off Bottle Forest Road into the site, avoiding a stand of bushland, Sutherland Shire Council had a further area dedicated as public reserve on 12 July 1984. Sutherland Shire Council then proceeded with development of the site as a public park, extended into the adjoining land which had been part of the quarry and which officially became part of the park in 2008.

In 1992, the Heathcote Progress Association lobbied the Council to have the park upgraded and renamed Sesquicentenary Park to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the suburb, dating from the 1842 founding of a village of Bottle Forest.

An application was forwarded to the Geographical Names Board which advertised the proposed name of “Heathcote Sesquicentenary Park” in *NSW Government Gazette* of 11 September 1992 page 6744 and formally adopted the name in *NSW Government Gazette* of 19 February 1993 page 653.

(Above information from *Historical Land Records Viewer* and Council file records)

Ref: GNB Reserve 19 February 1993

HIGHFIELD (Historic Locality) and HIGHFIELD PARK

Highfield

Highfield was the former name of Caringbah until 1912, when the post office established in that locality was named Caringbah (*Sutherland Shire Historical Society Bulletin*, January 1975 — also previous article June 1967), which then became the name of the village and suburb. An historical source (Kirkby papers held in Sutherland Library) indicates that *Bindarra* was also an early name for the area.

Highfield was part of the “Holt-Sutherland Estate” in the latter part of the nineteenth century which was predominantly a farming community located on a reasonably high area, which is possibly the reason for the name. The first store, the beginning of the village, did not open until 1904 (*Sutherland Shire Historical Society Bulletin*, May 1999 and a number of earlier articles).

The first mention found of “Highfield” was in reports of land being leased by the “Holt-Sutherland Estate” Land Company Ltd in its “Miranda and Highfield subdivisions” released in 1893 and 1894 (Land & Property Investigation historical plan records, *Evening News*, 20 May 1893, p.6 and *Sydney Morning Herald*, 3 June 1893, p.11).

Although not having a separate record, Highfield is recorded by the Geographical Names Board as the previous name in the entry for Suburb of Caringbah.

Highfield Park

A small formal park located at the intersection of Kingsway and Banksia Road, Caringbah. Originally known as “Highfield Grove”, it commemorated the former name of the area. According to Council records the name changed to *Highfield Park* in the 1950s.

Within land purchased by Thomas Holt in 1861, it was part of the parcels purchased from the “Holt-Sutherland Estate” by James Taylor Austin on 16 October 1923. On 1 May 1925, Mr. Austin dedicated 23¼ perches to the Public absolutely as a Site for Public Recreation, the dedication accepted by Sutherland Shire Council on 8 May 1925 (Land & Property Investigations historical title records).

Highfield Park was adopted as a geographical name in *NSW Government Gazette* No 100 of 5/7/1985 fol. 3398-9.

Ref: GNB Reserve 5 July 1985

HOLSWORTHY (Parish)

The name of the Civil Parish of *Holsworthy* (spelt “Holdsworthy”), first appears in a Government notice dated 14 September 1831 (*The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 17 September 1831, p.1 supplement). Another Government notice dated 29 September 1831 (*The Sydney Gazette*

and *New South Wales Advertiser*, 1 October 1831, p.1) correctly shows it as *Holsworthy*. These notices preceded the formal notice in *NSW Government Gazette* No 168 of 23 May 1835 folios 331-344, which divided the *County of Cumberland* into Hundreds and Parishes.

The name of the parish derives from an earlier name for part of the area. Early references in Government notices have a spelling of “Holesworthy”, but the usual misspelling is as “Holdsworthy”, which even appeared with the letter “d” crossed out on an early undated version of the Parish map (Land & Property Information historical maps). “Holdsworthy” appears in some newspaper articles and gazette notices up to quite recently (apparently being overlooked in proof-reading).

An entry on the Geographical Names Board website for Holsworthy (Suburb, LGA Liverpool) indicates that the name Holsworthy was given by Lachlan Macquarie to what was then a small community on Georges River after he became Governor on 1 January 1810 and was named *after a quiet village in Devon, England where he married his second wife in 1807*. A description of the boundaries of the District of Holsworthy (which included an area on the south side of Georges River partly in what is now Sutherland Shire) was published in a Government Notice of 26 September 1821 (*The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 27 October 1821, p.4). A 1924 map of “Part of New South Wales” lists and shows 38 districts, including “Holsworth” [sic] (National Library Trove Historical Maps Call Number MAP NK 2456/106)

Ref: GNB: Parish 21 March 1975

HOLTMERE (Historic)

As best as can be determined, *Holtmere*, now recorded as an “Historic Place” refers generally to the southern part of the Kurnell Peninsula. There are conflicting descriptions:

A name used on the first map of Sutherland Shire covering an area of Kurnell held by pioneer, Thomas Holt (Lawrence, *A Pictorial History of Sutherland Shire*, p.135).

[On] *John Connell’s grant between Weeney and Quibray Bays . . . appeared on Lands Department maps until 1941* (Hutton-Neve, *Bygone days of Sutherland Shire*, p.33).

An area in the southern part of Kurnell Peninsula, adjacent to Birniemere . . . Green Hills was at the boundary of Holtmere. The description also indicates *Green Hills . . . sometimes used by surfers to describe a line of sandhills at the back of Wanda*. (Hutton-Neve, *The Early Days of Kurnell to Cronulla*, p.30)

The Geographical Names Board has its location noted as: *A historic area about 3 km WNW of Pimelwi Rocks and about 1 km S of Connell Hill* [this places it in the area developed as a residential area of the suburb of *Greenhills Beach*].

As the name likely dates back to when the area was owned by Thomas Holt as part of his Sutherland Estate, having purchased all the land previously acquired by other selectors, it could refer to the whole of the southern part of Kurnell Peninsula, as that was all, with the exception of Crown Reserve areas, owned by Holt by the 1860s. It would seem that the name, with the suffix `mere` which usually means that it is a lake or has an association with water, would best agree with the area in Walker’s 1868 *Report on the Sutherland Estate*, named as “Boat Harbor [sic] Paddock”: *here also there is a large Swamp, which commences near the East boundary fence, and runs along part of the Krenulla [sic] [Cronulla] Sand Hills, and by the fence forming what is named Donovan’s Paddock, into Quibery [sic] [Quibray] Bay — The water in Quibery Bay is shallow and the shores low and muddy. It would be very easy to make a large body of pure water from this Swamp, as there is a never failing supply [which] comes from Springs and the drainage of the Sandhills — the water is of a very dark colour owing to the immense amount of Rushes and weeds that grow in or about the Swamp*.

It could be assumed, therefore, that *Holtmere* would have been the former name for the whole southern part of the Kurnell Peninsula, however, when that name was first used has not been determined, nor has the date when it became historic, likely taken over by reference to the area as part of Kurnell Peninsula and later becoming part of the Suburb of Kurnell.

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

HORDERNS BEACH

Named after the prominent Sydney retailer Samuel Hordern (son of Anthony Hordern Snr.), who owned the land adjoining the beach from 9 October 1874 to 25 February 1885. That land then passed into the hands of investors, and shortly after was subdivided into the “Yarmouth Estate,” which later became Bundeena. (Land & Property Information historical land and map records)

The name of this beach first appears in 1886 in an advertisement for the “Yarmouth Estate” subdivision (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 24 April 1886, p.13).

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

HORSE ROCK POINT

Horse Rock Point is the site of a stockyard built by John Connell for work horses and stock waiting to be swum across the river to markets. (Holt, *An Energetic Colonist*, p.99) This could reasonably be assumed to be the origin of the name. The first mention found of the name is in 1851 (*Bell's Life in Sydney and Sporting Reviewer*, 19 April 1851 p.2)

John Connell occupied 180 acres on the southern shore of Georges River and western Shore of Gwawley Bay under a Governor's promise of grant dated 1 December 1821. On his grant issued on 31 August 1833 he named his property “Castle Connell,” which passed on his death to Elias Pearson Laycock, one of his grandsons, who sold it to Archibald Allardice on 18 October 1852, but after Allardice had financial problems in 1855, it was sold to Connell's other grandson, John Connell Laycock. After Laycock also had debt problems the property was sold to Thomas Holt on 14 August 1861, who included it in his *South Botany (later Sutherland) Estate*. (Holt, *An Energetic Colonist*, pp.99-101)

In Walker's 1868 *Report on the Sutherland Estate*, he refers to this area as *Punt Paddock*, which is used for keeping the working horses in. The name of the paddock relates to: *The punt [which] belongs to the Government, and works from the point . . . to Tom Ugly's point.*

Nowadays *Horse Rock Point* is within the Princes Highway road reserve, beneath Georges River Bridge and Tom Uglys Bridge on the southern side of Georges River at Sylvania

Ref: GNB Point 4 May 1973

INSCRIPTION POINT (KURNELL)

In 1822 the Australian Philosophical Society (later the Royal Society of NSW) affixed a plaque to the cliff face at Sutherland Point, near to where the *Endeavour* crew first landed in 1770. The plaque read:

AD. MDCCLXX. Under the auspices of British science, these shores were discovered by James Cook and Joseph Banks, the Columbus and Maecenenas of their time. This spot saw them ardent in the pursuit of knowledge. Now to their memory this tablet is inscribed in the first year of the Philosophical Society Australasia. Sir Thomas Brisbane, K.C.B., F.R.S.L. & E., Corresponding Member of the

Institute of France, President. A.D. MDCCCXXI (transcript in Hutton-Neve, *the Early Days of Kurnell to Cronulla*, p.8).

That the name *Inscription Point* was being used for this location is indicated on shown on a map published by the Hydrographic Office of the British Admiralty in May 1853 with “Inscription Pt” at the southern headland of Botany Bay, which appears to be at the spot which Lieutenant (later Captain) James Cook had named as *Sutherland Point* and also shows *Cape Solander* about a mile (about 1600 metres) to its south (*Australia, East Coast, Botany Bay and Port Hacking*, in National Library collection, Call Number MAP British Admiralty Special Map Col/36). However it was also mentioned in the British Admiralty Directory published in 1876 that *The outer heads of Botany bay are cape Solander, and cape Banks . . . From cape Solander the south-western side of the entrance is a continuation of cliff trending three-quarters of a mile to Inscription Point, and is bordered by a rocky ledge, not extending beyond half a cable from the shore . . . The south shore of Botany bay from Inscription point, sweeps round half a mile in a S.W. direction, whence a sandy beach extends W. by S . . .* That description would seem to confirm that *Inscription Point* was in the same general location as *Sutherland Point* . As that was the seventh edition, the descriptions may have been included in previous editions (Yule, *The Australian Directory Volume 1: South and East Coasts, Bass Strait and Tasmania*).

The apparent “replacement” of *Sutherland Point* by *Inscription Point* became an issue during the bi-centenary celebration in 1970 of the landing of the *Endeavour*. To overcome the situation *Inscription Point* was “moved” slightly to the east (Hutton-Neve, *the Early Days of Kurnell to Cronulla*, p.8). Since then both *Sutherland Point* and *Inscription Point* have been mapped in those separated locations (for example, National Parks and Wildlife Service Walking Trails map of *Kamay-Botany Bay National Park*).

Ref: GNB Point 4 May 1973

JENOLA FIELD

“Jenola” is a constructed word first used by the family of former Sutherland Shire Councillor Reginald Norman Dallimore (served 1941-1950) when around 1941 they renamed their home, opposite the reserve, by taking a consonant and a vowel from each of the daughters’ first names and “applying a little phonetic value thereto.” JO came from Joy, EL from Elva, and NA from Norma (*Sutherland Shire Historical Society Bulletin*, October 1971). Using “Jenola” as the name for the reserve was suggested by Mr Dallimore, who was the honorary ranger for the reserve which had been, by resolution of the Council on 1 June 1942 (supported by Clr. Dallimore), given endorsement of use by women only (Council file records).

The majority of the site dates back to representations in 1921 by the newly-formed Caringbah Cricket Club for Council to obtain land for a cricket oval. That land obtained by Council at the start of 1922 was located at the corner of Kingsway and Gannons Road running north to around the current entry to Wooloware Golf Course off Gannons Road, on an area known as “Harnett’s Paddock” or “Gannon’s Flat”, which became “Caringbah Oval” as the locality was in those days regarded as part of Caringbah. The Sutherland-Cronulla Railway line acquired in 1937 ran through the middle of that site and Caringbah Oval ceased to exist, although the area on the south side of the railway was retained as “Gannons Road Reserve,” later “Gannons Oval” which became “Jenola Women’s Park” (Council file records).

In late 1946, the Council extended the site to the east, between Kingsway and the railway, by resuming another part of the former Harnett’s property (*NSW Govt. Gazette* of 8 November 1946 p.2574). Development of the site as a women’s sports area with a single hockey field saw a dressing pavilion erected in 1952. In 1961 the NSW Women’s Hockey Association, Cronulla Section applied to lease the site from Council but the submission was rejected, however it was more successful by the end of 1973 in a joint venture with Council to have a new amenities block constructed at the eastern end of the site

which then allowed for laying-out of three full-size grass hockey fields. Over time the site become known as Jenola Hockey Fields then simply as Jenola Field, the name which was adopted by the Geographical Names Board on 14 November 1986 (Council file records).

In conjunction with the lead up to and opening of the Marang Parklands Hockey Fields at Kurnell in April 2018, Jenola Fields has in recent years become available for other sports, with winter allocations in place for soccer football on fields marked up for that purpose, and there is casual description of the site as “Jenola Oval” (*St George and Sutherland Shire Leader* 9 April 2018 and 16 July 2019 & Council file records).

Ref GNB: Reserve 14 November 1986

JIBBON BEACH / JIBBON BUMBORA / JIBBON HEAD or POINT / JIBBON HILL / JIBBON LAGOONS

“Jibbon” is assumed in some sources to be an alternative spelling of the word “Deeban” (the word given by Matthew Flinders as the Aboriginal name for Port Hacking, see DEEBAN SPIT), however there is no evidence for this being true. The name *Jibbon* can be seen on maps dating back to around the 1860s/1870s, and it has been applied to the beach, the lagoons, the reef/bumbora, a government reserve, indeed the entire southern headland of Port Hacking. On the Parish of Wattamolla map published in June 1882, the word “Jibbon” is located centrally on the Government Reserve on the southern headland of Port Hacking, and appears to be the name of that area (Land & Property Information historical maps).

Jibbon Beach is first mentioned in late 1879 as being a *small beach just inside the entrance to the port [Hacking]* (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 4 November 1879, p.6). Previously it had been shown on maps as an unnamed beach.

Jibbon Bumbora is listed as entry in the British Admiralty Directory published in 1876 which indicates that *Jibbon Bumbora, about half a mile to the south-eastward of Hacking point, is a detached patch of rocks 2 or 3 cables in extent, with 15 fathoms water at half a mile to the eastward, and 7 fathoms close to the northward of them. The sea nearly always breaks on these rocks.* As that was the seventh edition, it may have been included in previous editions (Yule, *The Australian Directory Volume 1: South and East Coasts, Bass Strait and Tasmania*). A reference in a newspaper in 1847 to a shipwreck reported in 1847 as occurring “south of Port Aiken” (ie. Port Hacking) identifies that location as “Jibbon rock or reef” (*Bell’s Life in Sydney and Sporting Reviewer*, 12 February 1859, p.2).

The edition of the Parish of Wattamolla published in June 1882 shows it as “Bomboora Reef” (Land & Property Information historical maps) but on a “Sketch Guide map” of the National Park published in February 1886 it is labelled “Jibbon Bombora.” An alternate spelling as “Jibbon Bumborah” was discontinued by the Geographical Names Board when it adopted *Jibbon Bumbora* (NSW Government Gazette No 83 of 22/6/1973 folios 2656-7).

Jibbon Head and *Jibbon Point* are alternate names that even nowadays are used as a local name for *Port Hacking Point*. “Jibbon Head” is specifically referred to in a newspaper article in 1891 as the *sothern [sic] headland* (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 25 March 1891, p.3) and still used from time to time up to 1961 (*The Canberra Times*, 8 August 1961, p.8), and in Government notices from 1957: *Port Hacking Point (or Jibbon Point)* (NSW Government Gazette No 86 of 2 August 1957 folio 2418) up to 1995 (NSW Government Gazette No 74 of 16 June 1995 folio 3226). On the original Parish Map of Wattamolla dating from 1835 or earlier, it is marked as “Jibbon Point,” but that appears to be a later addition to that map. A version of that map from circa 1860s-1870s has a red ink addition as “Big Jibbon” with “Little Jibbon” shown at the south-west end of *Jibbon Beach* (unnamed on that map),

however later editions of that map do not include a reference to either “Jibbon Head” or “Jibbon Point” (Land & Property Information historical maps). The Geographical Names Board effectively discontinued “Jibbon Point” when it adopted *Port Hacking Point* in *NSW Government Gazette* No 57 of 4 May 1973 folio 1644-6, but records that name on its web site as a “Variant”. In its “Glossary of status values in the Geographical Names Register”, VARIANT is defined as “An unofficial (sometimes formally discontinued) name. This status was originally applied to all names that were not assigned”

Jibbon Hill: No record of the use of the name *Jibbon Hill* has been found prior to its proposal and adoption by the Geographical Names Board which indicates the name was obtained from the topographic 1:25000 Port Hacking map (*NSW Government Gazette* No 83 of 22/6/1973 folios 2656-7). The entry also noted that “Jibbon Trigonometrical Station” is located on that hill. That trigonometrical station is shown and named on the edition of the Parish map issued in the 1890s. (Land & Property Information historical maps), and was also recorded as a geographical name on 4 May 1973.

Jibbon Lagoons is not named but referred to in 1891 as *a lagoon of fresh water within 50 yards of the beach* at “Jibbon” in the *National Park* (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 28 July 1891, p.5). That and another lagoon to its south are shown on undated versions of the Parish of Wattamolla which appear to be from the 1860s/1870s and on subsequent editions of that map (Land & Property Information historical maps). No record of the use of the name *Jibbon Lagoons* has been found prior to its proposal and adoption by the Geographical Names Board indicated as obtained from the topographic 1:25000 Port Hacking map (*NSW Government Gazette* No 83 of 22/6/1973 folios 2656-7).

Jibbon is assumed to be a local Aboriginal word, but how and why this word came to be used for the headland etc. is not currently known, and no meaning for the name has been recorded.

Ref: GNB Beach 4 May 1973, Reef 22 June 1973, Hill 22 June 1973, Lagoons 22 June 1973.

KALANG LANE RESERVE

Up to the early 1990s, this unnamed reserve was often referred to as “Wonga Road Reserve,” which created confusion with the reserve further west along Wonga Road with the gazetted geographical name of “Wonga Road Reserve.” A new generic Council reserve name of “Kalang Lane Reserve” was selected, taking the name of the road on the eastern side of the reserve (Sutherland Shire Council records).

Kalang Lane Reserve is located on part of land purchased by Thomas Holt on 31 December 1862, which was included in the “Holt-Sutherland Estate”. It was subdivided for leasing purposes in November 1889, but it is not known what use was made of the land until it was included in land purchased by William Short on 22 December 1920 which he subdivided in 1924. In October 1936, Sutherland Shire Council decided to obtain three lots from that 1924 subdivision for a recreation reserve with the suggested name “Yowie Bay Park,” that area having already *been used in the past as a parking space for cars and as a picnic ground* (*The Propeller*, 15 October 1936 p.2 & 11 February 1937, p.2). The whole of lots 4, 5 & 6 and part of Lots 1 & 2 DP12829 were resumed for the Council recreation reserve in *NSW Government Gazette* No 125 of 26 August 1938 folios 3376-7. Part of the eastern end of the reserve was dedicated as a road in *NSW Government Gazette* No 178 of 10 November 1939 folio 5306, but was not named as “Kalang Lane” until a notice in *NSW Government Gazette* No 51 of 16 May 1958 folio 1520.

Two further lots were added to the western end of the reserve when Sutherland Shire Council purchased Lots 7 & 8 DP12829 on 27 June 1951 (Sutherland Council records). A scout hall was later built on lot 8.

The name “Kalang” was selected from a Council list of “Aboriginal Euphonious Words” used in determining new street names, with a meaning of “beautiful.” The source of the words and meanings is

not referenced. That word with meaning of “beautiful” and “the beautiful” can also be found in several books containing lists of Aboriginal words and meanings, and in lists published at various times in Australia-wide newspapers, again with no reference to the originating area or particular Aboriginal language.

NOTE: A location of Kalang, and the Kalang River, which are both near Bellingen NSW, are not mentioned earlier than 1913. A report in a newspaper from that area indicates that a meeting of the Upper South Arm Progress Association was proposing a change the name of the district [subject to approval by the Department of Lands]: *It was decided to adopt the Aboriginal word “Kalang” (meaning beautiful) as the name for the district . . .* The source of the name is not referenced (*The Raleigh Sun*, 1 August 1913, p.2).

The name “Kalang Lane Reserve” has, to date, not been submitted to the Geographical Names Board.

KANGAROO POINT

While it is known from various newspaper reports in the 1800s that kangaroos were hunted for food and skins in the general area around Georges River, no verifiable reason has been found for the name of this particular location.

The earliest recording found of the name *Kangaroo Point* is on undated parish maps which appear to have been drawn up around the time of the first major surveys for auctions of Crown Land in the parish of Sutherland planned from 1854 onwards. However, whilst other localities on those parish maps appear in the descriptions of the available Crown land, the name “Kangaroo Point” is not mentioned when the land was purchased by John Connell Laycock at a Crown land auction on 24 January 1855 (advertised *NSW Government Gazette* No 158 of 20 December 1854 folios 2643-50), being described simply as located on the southern bank of the Georges River and west of Oyster Bay.

In an article published in the *Sutherland Shire Historical Society Bulletin* of August 2005, the writer recalls having seen a hand-written letter dated October 1860 to the Under Secretary for Lands suggesting “Kangaroo Point” as a possible site for a punt crossing of Georges River, and a reference found in the *Sydney Morning Herald* of Friday 8 July 1864 p.6 refers to a herd of 311 sheep belonging to Thomas Holt in pasture at “Kangaroo Point, Georges River”, and in Walker’s 1868 *Report on the Sutherland Estate*, he describes the “Kangaroo Point Paddock” at that location.

The original purchaser, John Connell Laycock later had debt problems, the land being sold to Thomas Holt in 14 August 1861, when it was simply described as one of *Five Farms, adjoining the Castle Connell estate, with large water frontage*. It became part of Holt’s South Botany (later Sutherland) Estate. In 1900, after the Holt-Sutherland Estate lands could be released for sale to individual landholders, subdivisions began on the northern side of Tara Street. (Land & property Information historic titles and plans; also Holt, *An Energetic Colonist*; p.102)

Kangaroo Point was adopted as the suburb name by the Geographical Names Board in *NSW Government Gazette* No 83 of 22 June 1973 folios 2656-7.

An Aboriginal language word “kangaroo” was recorded by Lieutenant (later Captain) James Cook in 1770, when beached for repairs in the far north of what is now Queensland, apparently asked the local Aboriginal people for the name of a hopping creature he had seen in that area. On the return of Cook’s party to England, the name of this “unusual creature” became widely known. The botanist Joseph Banks later provided a list of “the New Holland language” words to Governor Arthur Phillip — a list including “kangaroo” — that Phillip had in his possession when his fleet of ships arrived in 1788 to set up the new Colony, and the Europeans used that word as a generic reference to all “kangaroos”, even though the local Aboriginal languages had a number its own words (The *Oxford Dictionaries* web site and other general references). The word “kangaroo” has developed into an internationally recognised word, and a kangaroo is incorporated into the Australian coat-of-arms.

A correspondent, familiar with various Aboriginal languages of Queensland, in 1890 questioned whether the name recorded by Cook did refer to the whole animal:

There is no tribe of Australian blacks who use "kangaroo" for the animal so long supposed to represent that name. Cook obtained the word from the Endeavour River blacks at Cooktown in reply to an enquiry for the name they gave to a kangaroo that one of his men had shot. They neither knew a word of his language, nor did he know a word of theirs. They saw that he wanted to know something, and as the person who asked the question was holding the kangaroo's foot in his hand at the time, the blacks gave him the name of the big toe! In the dialect of the Endeavour River blacks "kangaroo" is the name of the big toe of a man, a kangaroo, or a cassowary. They laugh at white men applying it to the animal. Their names for all kinds of kangaroos and wallabies are — minya, gnargally, galbala, gutts, walloor and choonbannoo. (A. Meston, under heading 'Origin of the word "Kangaroo"', the Brisbane Courier, 17 June 1890, p.2)

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

KAREENA PARK & KAREENA CREEK

Kareena Park

Kareena Park is situated on land purchased by Thomas Holt on 31 December 1862, becoming part of the "Holt-Sutherland Estate". A lease was issued in October 1902 to Frederick Matson Junior of 12 acres 2 roods (just over 5 hectares) bounded on the north by Woronora Road (now President Avenue); west by Kareena Road and Ewey (now Yowie) Bay and on the south by Caringabah (now Caringbah) Road (Land & Property Information historical title records). Matson developed the site as "Matson's Pleasure Grounds", which opened in 1903 and included facilities for boating, dining fishing, cricket, skating and a rifle range as well as a large pavilion said to be capable of accommodating over 400 people (various advertisements in newspapers of the time). Advertisements for the Pleasure Grounds ceased in early 1915 (*The Sun*, 5 February 1915, p.8) but the site continued as a boat and launch building establishment, remaining with the Matson family (as a leased site) through to around 1946. On 13 February 1952, the "Holt-Sutherland Estate" transferred the title to the land to Sutherland Shire Council, and it was named Kareena Park, the name derived from adjoining Kareena Road (Sutherland Shire Council records).

As a Captain Cook Bicentenary project, around 2 hectares at the northern end of Kareena Park was developed as a formal garden containing a national collection of camellias with the first planting in 1969 and the gardens opened in July 1970, and was named the "E. G. Waterhouse National Camellia Garden", in honour of Professor Eben Gowrie Waterhouse, a renowned authority on camellias (Sutherland Shire Council records). A naming application in mid-1976 to the Geographical Names Board was approved, and the name "E. G. Waterhouse National Camellia Garden" adopted in *NSW Government Gazette* No 103 of 13 August 1976 folio 3453. Kareena Park was retained for the remaining 3 hectares, the existing name having been adopted as a geographical name in *NSW Government Gazette* No 83 of 22 June 1973 folios 2657-7.

Kareena Creek

The Geographical Names Board website, accessed 26/10/2017, indicated the following information concerning Kareena Creek, the name adopted as a geographical name in *NSW Government Gazette* No 155 of 30 October 1998 folio 8620. It is a 'gully' because a waterway has to be over a specified length to be classified as a creek. No mention is made of an apparently unnamed branch which flows from the corner of Kareena and Karimbla Roads flowing south-east joining Kareena Creek near Binalong Avenue.

Description: A watercourse about 1.0 km in length which rises about 200 m east by south of the junction of Willarong Road South [sic] and President Avenue at Caringbah. It is mostly channelled and flows through Kareena Park into Yowie Bay.

Origin: The watercourse flows through an area unofficially known as 'Kareena Park.' This name appears to come from the name of a road nearby - 'Kareena Road.' Neither the applicant nor the Council could supply the origin to the name 'Kareena.' (See file GNB4531)

History: Name submitted by Jim Walker who felt it needed a name to simplify matters in water quality reports. (Walker J letter 16 February 1998)

As indicated above, the name "Kareena Park" is official known by a geographical name, which was adopted in *NSW Government Gazette* No 83 of 22 June 1973 folios 2657-7.

The origin of the word "Kareena" has been researched and, although no definite confirmation has been established, the following items appear informative in seeking an explanation:

- Although there are several variable spellings of "Kareena": "Careena," "Careema," "Coreena," and "Carina", it is unlikely to have been derived from a word in any Aboriginal language, as no record has been found from any known transcription of Aboriginal words.
- It is not associated with the origin of other places and a road name elsewhere in Sutherland Shire, viz. Carina Reserve, Carina Bay, Carina Creek (Gully) and Carina Road, as these were named later than Kareena Road, and from a different source.
- There is anecdotal evidence that some street names included on early subdivision plans of the "Holt-Sutherland Estate" were derived from known "euphonious" words (Aboriginal and other languages).
- A nearby street name from the same time — "Carabella Road" may have been selected from "Carrabella", an early house on James Milson's land at North Sydney, the name of which has a maritime origin (a type of Spanish warship). "Coreena" is another house name from the same area, which appears to be related to nearby "Careening Cove." "Careening" is a maritime term meaning to turn a ship on its side for cleaning, caulking or repair of its keel. Careening is therefore related to the Latin word "Carina" meaning "keel". Carina is also a major constellation in the southern sky which contains the second brightest star (Canopus) and presumably used for ocean navigation at night.
- James H Milson, who was the grandson of pioneer James Milson in 1863, owned a cattle property in Queensland, which was named "Careena Station." That cattle station was 25 miles from Aramac in Western Queensland.
- There are several references in newspapers prior to the naming of Kareena Road: there is a record of the first use of the name "Kareena" in 1882 on a building in Norton Street, Petersham. In 1883 the same building was recorded as "Kareema". "Kareena" appeared in 1892 for a house in Charlotte Street, Ashfield. In 1893, there was a "Kareena Villa" in Charters Towers, Queensland. A "Kareema Street" was named in Manly in 1888.

From the above, it could be deduced that "Kareena" is likely a "euphonious" non-Aboriginal -language word used in a street name in an early "Holt-Sutherland Estate" subdivision; known to have been used previously in the same and similar spellings in the Sydney area and elsewhere; the origin of which has, however, not been definitely determined.

Ref: GNB Reserve 22 June 1973, Gully 30 October 1998

KOOLANGARRA RESERVE & KOOLANGARRA BUSHLAND RESERVE

The Geographical Names Board (GNB) website records Koolangarra Reserve: “A reserve situated in Washington Drive, Bonnet Bay,” which is adjacent to Bonnet Bay shopping centre. The nearby large bushland reserve to the west and north of Van Buren Circuit is known as Koolangarra Bushland Reserve which is not recorded by the GNB.

The GNB website further indicates that “The name 'Koolangarra' is an Aboriginal name meaning 'Children'. . . The name was proposed by the Management Committee controlling the reserve and submitted by Sutherland [Shire] Council on 7 June 1977.”

“Koolangarra” meaning “children” was recorded in 1886 (Curr, E.M., *The Australian Race*, Vol 1 p.360) as an Aboriginal language word of the Kardagur Aboriginal people in the Blackwood area of south-west Western Australia. Similar words can be found in early listings of the languages from the 1830s onwards of the several Aboriginal groups whose territories were in an area which extended from the southern coastline of Western Australia to north of Perth, and derive from the word “koolong” (and closely allied spellings) meaning a “child”, “boy” or “son” (Adelaide University, Barr-Smith Library: Manuscript of “Native tribes of Western Australia,” Series 12, Section XII).

Ref: GNB Reserve 11 November 1977 [Koolangarra Reserve]

KYOGLE RESERVE and KYOGLE CREEK

Kyogle Reserve

Kyogle Reserve is located on the corner of North West Arm Road and Kyogle Place, Grays Point, on part of land originally released for Crown land auctions on 31 May 1864 and 1 March 1867 (*NSW Government Gazettes* No 98 of 30 April 1864 folios 1089-94 & No 53 of 28 March 1867 folios 823-31) and purchased by Thomas Holt for his Sutherland Estate in 1874-5 (8 August 1874 & 25 March 1875). After that area was subdivided DP9762 in 1919 it was leased as part of the Holt-Sutherland Estate, with the lease later bought out by Charles Frank Turner who subdivided his property in 1951 when he obtained title to the land: a small part of his land shown as Lot 1 DP25333 was on the east of North West Arm Road which separated it from the rest of the land on the west of that road (Land and Property Information historical titles and plans).

Lot 1 was transferred to Sutherland Shire Council on 23 June 1954 as a public reserve. At that time the reserve was simply referred to as a reserve at North West Arm Road. In 1965, the land on the south and west of the reserve was subdivided around a street named “Kyogle Place,” which adjoined the reserve. As there were other reserves fronting North West Arm Road, Lot 1 DP25333 began to be known as “Kyogle Place Reserve,” usually referred to by the shorter “Kyogle Reserve.” The name is nonetheless a generic reserve name referring to its frontage to Kyogle Place, and that is the name used by Sutherland Shire Council (Sutherland Shire Council records). The name has never been officially adopted for referral to the Geographical Names Board as a geographical name.

Kyogle Creek

Kyogle Creek rises to the west of Grays Point Oval in the Royal National Park and traverses generally easterly to North West Arm, forming a boundary of Kyogle Reserve for a short distance of its course. The upper reaches of the creek now flow through underground pipes. Originally an unnamed creek, first mapped during Government surveys for Crown Subdivisions in the early 1860s, it for some years in the early 1900s formed most of the generally northern boundary of land occupied by Bob Dashwood and his wife, who had leased that land from the Holt-Sutherland Estate in 1913, and for many years thereafter had the local name of “Dashwood’s Creek” (*Making a Point*, Grays Point Progress Association, 2010). As with Kyogle Reserve, it became referred to by Sutherland Shire Council as “Kyogle Creek,” however, name has never been officially adopted for referral to the Geographical Names Board as a geographical name.

Kyogle Place from which the reserve and creek both derive their respective names, is, like other nearby streets, named after a town elsewhere in Australia (Sutherland Shire Council records). Kyogle is in the Northern Rivers area of NSW and its name comes from a mid-19th century cattle station named 'Kaiougal' which by 1864 was spelt 'Kyogle.' From the Bundjalung Aboriginal language: 'Kayogle' once spelt 'Kaiougal'. For: turkey's egg; Also: Native Companion (a bird also known as Plains Turkey or Bustard) (Geographical Names Board entry for Kyogle quoting as source: Richmond Tweed Regional Library, 1984).

NOTE ON MATERIAL REFERENCED AS LAND & PROPERTY INFORMATION

These items were researched from material available from the NSW Land and Property Information prior to the transfer of the land registry services to private enterprise, through searches of indexes and other materials available for research purposes.

From 1 December 2017, some of the data can still be accessed from NSW Land and Property Information, however, some enquiries for research materials would now need to be directed to NSW Land Registry Services <https://www.nswlrs.com.au>. Where data has subsequently been accessed from that source it is indicated by *HLRV* (Historical Land Records Viewer) available on that site.

BIOGRAPHY: LAURIE BURGESS

Laurie spent his formative years growing up in GyMEA Bay and worked for several State and Commonwealth bodies as well as private enterprise in Sydney and Canberra before joining Sutherland Shire Council on 29 May 1990 in its Recreational Facilities and Buildings Department where he had interaction with most areas of Council and with residents who contacted Council on a wide range of issues. After several years he transferred to a technical support position in the Parks Operations Department and then to the Land Information Unit, now Spatial Services, where he attends mainly to maintenance of visual records of Council's property and road assets.

Before joining Sutherland Shire Council, Laurie successfully completed a Bachelor of Arts Degree in foreign languages and history, which naturally led to an interest in the history of Sutherland Shire. He has prepared many research histories of Council reserves as background information for reports by other areas of Council. He has been a member of the Sutherland Shire Historical Society for some years and has had many of his articles published in its Quarterly Bulletin.

According to Laurie, the recording of history is an evolving process as more and more reliable information becomes freely available from sources such as the National and State Libraries and some Government bodies. A few years ago historians had to diligently search through mounds of paperwork and use guesswork to fill in the gaps. Those gaps are now being filled in with verifiable data, although that sometimes means dismissing stories that were repeated so often that they became accepted as factual.

SUHLAR

