

Origin of Place Names L-Z

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Council gratefully acknowledges the verification and updating of information about the origins of Place Names completed by Laurie Burgess, a research consultant attached to the Spatial Services Team (in the Information Management & Technology Group) of Sutherland Shire Council. Laurie has provided a considerable amount of personal time and effort to research and complete this document.

Council gratefully acknowledges the assistance of a member of its Aboriginal Advisory Committee, Bruce Howell, who has provided a considerable amount of personal time and effort in researching the material which has now been included in the data for names of proven or extremely likely Aboriginal origin.

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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 (A-K) and the Origins of Suburb Names, published separately, and found on Council’s website at www.sutherlandshire.nsw.gov.au.

LIGHTNING POINT

The first mention found of this name is in a newspaper report in 1892 (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 21 May 1892, p.7). An explanation of the name was provided in a newspaper article in 1894 which indicated: *Lightning Point, so called from the remains of a tree splintered by lightning* (*The Australian Star*, 7 April 1894, p.9)

It was added to the 1914 edition of the Parish of Wattamolla map (Land & Property Information historical maps).

Ref: GNB Point 04 May 1973

LILLI PILLI POINT

The first mention of a name for this point was in Walker’s 1868 *Report on the Sutherland Estate*, where he was describing the “Tyreel Point Paddocks 1 & 2” which occupied most of the peninsula, and in which he referred to *another small point, called “Lilly Pilli Point”, on account of the native Myrtles that grow there, in rich black soil*. However that mention made of “Lilly Pilli Point,” or similar, did not receive confirmation for a number of years.

A newspaper report in late 1879 referred to that location as “Great Tyreal Point” in Port Hacking (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 4 November 1879, p.6), and it was recorded as *Great Turriell Point* on the version of the Parish of Sutherland map issued in June 1882, which also showed *Little Turriell Point* to its east. The name “Turriell” was recorded even earlier when the name *Turriell Bay* is mentioned in an advertisement for a Crown land auction on 17 January 1856 (*NSW Government Gazette* No 175 of 17 December 1855) and was added to the Parish of Sutherland map around the same time (Land & Property Information historical maps).

The decision to alter the name of *Great Turriell Point* was likely prompted by the “Holt-Sutherland Estate” subdivision named “Lilli Pilly” registered in 11 August 1891 of land on that point, and included a road named “Lilli Pilly Point Road.” (Land & Property Information historical plans)

An edition of the parish map in use to September 1913 had an addition in red ink of *Lilli Pilly Pt* underneath *Great Turriell Point*. In the next edition of the map the name was shown as *Great Turriell or Lilli Pilly Pt*. “Lilli Pilly” was later changed to “Lilli Pilli” (Land & Property Information historical maps).

The Geographical Names Board finally ended the dual naming when it adopted *Lilli Pilli Point* in *NSW Government Gazette* No 83 of 22 June 1973 folios 2656-7, also discontinuing the name *Great Turriell or Lilli Pilly Point*. The part name *Great Turriell Point or* was consequently crossed out on the edition of the parish map in use at the time (Land & Property Information plan). “Great Turriell” designation “Point” remains recorded in the Geographical Names Board website listing as a “Variant”. VARIANT is defined by the Geographical Names Board as “An unofficial (sometimes formally discontinued) name. This status was originally applied to all names that were not assigned”.

There is an interesting connection between the names *Lilli Pilli* and *Turriell* via the local Aboriginal name for the lilly pilly plant. In 1890 Richard Hill reported (in the context of Aboriginal place names) that “Tareel Point is ‘Gerrale’ after the well-known tree ‘lilly pilly’ there in abundance” (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 6 June 1890, p.5). In 1861, the “Catalogue of the Natural and Industrial Products of New South Wales”, gives the Illawarra Aboriginal word for the lilly pilly (referred to as *Acmena elliptica*, but later changed to *Acmena smithii* then *Syzygium smithii*) as “tdjerail”. In 1905 Mr. R Longfield, born c.1828, referred to “Tureel Bay” and gave the pronunciation as “tchureel” [see “R Longfield interviewed by W Houston, 22nd January 1905 (Archives of Captain Cook Landing Place Trust, Discovery Centre, Botany Bay National Park, Kurnell, Box 12, Item 141, Exhibit 96)].

So, it does appear that both the English name for the lilly pilly and the Aboriginal name for the lilly pilly were adopted for the purpose of naming what we now call *Lilli Pilli*, but that over time the English name replaced the Aboriginal name. How the Aboriginal name for the lilly pilly (tdjerail) originally came to be used is not known, but the evidence supports that it is a Dharawal word.

Ref: GNB Point 22 June 1973.

LILLI PILLI POINT RESERVE

Lilli Pilli Point Reserve had its origins in 1861 in a Crown reserve under general notice (*NSW Government Gazette* No 286 of 24 December 1861 folios 2747-8), which Walker in his 1868 *Report on the Sutherland Estate* indicated was *Crossing point, being the place where the Port Hacking people, land in their Boats, or swim their Horses across*. In *NSW Government Gazette* No 354 of 26 June 1886 folio 4313, that reserve was notified as Crown Reserve No 135 for *recreation and other purposes* at *Great Turriell Point*, replacing the 1861 reserve revoked on folio 4310 of the same gazette, and including, although not stated, a reserved one chain wide road along its northern side which connected to a Crown north-south road along the western side of *Turriell Bay* (now *Little Turriell Bay*). Those roads had been created during the Crown subdivisions originally advertised for auction in *NSW Government Gazette* No 175 of 17 December 1855 folios 3301-5 Reserve 135. Sutherland Shire Council was appointed trustee of reserve 135 in *NSW Government Gazette* No 116 of 18 September 1907 folio 5259.

It had been intended to extend the reserve northwards along the western shore of *Turriell Bay* (now *Little Turriell Bay*) and unallocated Crown land between the north-south Crown road and the shoreline was reserved in *NSW Government Gazette* No 456 of 23 August 1890 folio 6662, but then revoked in *NSW Government Gazette* No 487 of 2 July 1892 and the land sold. The adjoining part of the north-south Crown road was closed and sold in *NSW Government Gazette* No 1016 of 26 November 1898 folio 9271.

Adjoining reserve 135 on the west was a one hundred foot wide reserve from high water mark included in the land grant to Francis Mitchell, who purchased it at a Crown land auction on 11 March 1840 (*NSW Government Gazette* No 32 of 3 June 1840 folio 546). That reservation remained in the titles of subsequent owners: Archibald Allardice from around July 1853; John Connell Laycock around August 1856 and finally Thomas Holt around 1861-2. The land was subdivided from the “Holt-Sutherland Estate” as part of “Lilli Pilly”, extending right down to the high water mark, in plan registered on 11 August 1891 without showing the reserve. That subdivision also providing access to reserve 135 via “Lilli Pilly Point Road” and Kamira Road (Land & Property Information historical land and plan records). The Department of Lands took action to notify *the intention of the Crown to take possession of the land comprised within the reservation of 100 feet above high-water mark in the said Grant* in *NSW Government Gazette* No 545 of 2 June 1900 folio 4279. Having secured the land, it remained as a Crown reserve under general notice. Part was alienated when a later adjoining owner Arthur Donovan Swan was allowed in 1916 to purchase 13¾ perches at the north-western end to include in his subdivision around Swan Street (*NSW Government Gazette* No 60 of 7 April 1916 folio 2064). The remaining area was re-notified as Crown Reserve 66504 for *public recreation* in *NSW Government gazette* No 2 of 8 January 1937 folio 81, devolving care, control and management of that reserve to Sutherland Shire Council, which remained the situation until the Council was appointed as Trustee in *NSW Government Gazette* No 81 of 11 May 2001 folio 2339. The only other change to the reserve was a resumption of a small area by the Metropolitan water Sewerage and Drainage Board (now Sydney Water for a pumping station (*NSW Government Gazette* No 77 of 30/5/1975 folio 2077).

Reserve 135 was confirmed as *Lilli Pilli Point Reserve* when that name was adopted by the Geographical Names Board in *NSW Government Gazette* No 100 of 5 July 1985 folios 3398-9. Council records indicate that Reserve 66504 was known previously as “Quota Park”, however no information has been found for the origin of that name. The name *Lilli Pilli Point Reserve* was also applied to Reserve 66504 when Council was appointed trustee in 2001 and is now used for both of these adjoining reserves.

Ref: GNB Reserve 5 July 1985

LITTLE TURRIELL BAY

Formerly *Turriell 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 a 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.

Turriell Bay was first mentioned in an advertisement for a Crown land auction on 17 January 1856 of the adjoining land (*NSW Government Gazette* No 175 of 17 December 1855). Although the name of the adjoining land in Walker’s 1868 *Report on the Sutherland Estate* was “Tyreel Point Paddocks 1 & 2.”, in that report Walker referred to *Turriell Bay* as “Tiny Bay” located between *a point having one large native Fig Tree, on the extreme point, from which it is called Fig Tree point, and the opposite point on the East side, is called Crossing point, being the place where the Port Hacking people, land in their Boats, or*

swim their Horses across. (Walker also does not indicate “Crossing Point” was not part of the *Sutherland Estate* even though the Government had reserved it as a Crown Reserve under general notice in *NSW Government Gazette* No 286 of 24 December 1861 folios 2747-8).

Up until around 1913 this bay continued to be recorded as *Turriell Bay*, however, the parish of Sutherland map issued in September 1913 shows it altered to *Little Turriell Bay*. On the same map, *Great Turriell Bay* was added on the western side of *Great Turriell Point* (later renamed as *Lilli Pilli Point*) (Land & Property Information historical maps).

The Geographical Names Board confirmed the name *Little Turriell Bay*, which it adopted in *NSW Government Gazette* No 57 of 4/5/1973 folios 1644-6, but made no mention of the previous name “Turriell Bay”.

In regard to the origin of “Turriell”, there is an interesting connection between the names *Lilli Pilli* and *Turriell* (or any of its variants) via the local Aboriginal name for the lilly pilly plant. In 1890 Richard Hill reported (in the context of Aboriginal place names) that “Tareel Point is ‘Gerrale’ after the well-known tree ‘lilly pilly’ there in abundance” (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 6 June 1890, p.5). In 1861, the “Catalogue of the Natural and Industrial Products of New South Wales”, gives the Illawarra Aboriginal word for the lilly pilly (referred to as *Acmena elliptica*, but later changed to *Acmena smithii* then *Syzygium smithii*) as “tdjerail”. In 1905 Mr. R Longfield, born c.1828, referred to “Tureel Bay” and gave the pronunciation as “tchureel” [see “R Longfield interviewed by W Houston, 22nd January 1905 (Archives of Captain Cook Landing Place Trust, Discovery Centre, Botany Bay National Park, Kurnell, Box 12, Item 141, Exhibit 96)].

How the Aboriginal name for the lilly pilly (tdjerail) originally came to be used is not known, but the evidence supports that it is a Dharawal word.

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973

LITTLE TURRIELL POINT (Historic)

See entry for **TURRIELL POINT**

LIVERPOOL (Hundred of) – Historic

When the *County of Cumberland* was divided for administrative purposes in *NSW Government Gazette* No 168 of 23 May 1835 folios 331-344, the area which is now *Sutherland Shire* was partly within the *Hundred of Liverpool*, which was the area encompassing the *Parish of HOLSWORTHY* and some other parishes.

Deriving from European terms with various meanings, a Hundred in Australia meant an approximate area of one hundred square miles (64,000 acres). Hundreds were never used for Government purposes in New South Wales, and a notice in *NSW Government Gazette* No 572 of 15 October 1887 folio 6871, with erratum *NSW Government Gazette* No 63 of 21 January 1888 folio 594, effectively discontinued the use of that administrative division.

LUGARNO PARK (Historic name – now Albert Delardes Reserve)

Recent research has indicated that the reserve now known as Albert Delardes Reserve (see separate entry) was the southern end of a crossing place over the Georges River from near Edith Bay on the northern side, at least back to 1843 (Greg Jackson and Pam Forbes, “Crossing the Georges River”, in *Sutherland Shire Historical Society Bulletin* August 2011). This location, later surveyed as Crown portion 224, was excluded from the auction of Crown land in that area on 15 July 1896 (*NSW*

Government Gazette No. 363 of 9 May 1896 folios 3297-8). That area of 3 acres 2 roods 2 perches was then notified as Crown Reserve No 24071 for the public purpose of public recreation in *NSW Government Gazette* No 385 of 16 May 1896 folio 3497.

It was originally an unnamed reserve within the Municipality of Hurstville (part of an area of what is now Illawong), which was added to that municipality on 11 July 1895. The name “Lugarno” which became a suburb name on the northern side of Georges River apparently derived from a perceived similarity to “Lugano,” the area around Lake Lugano in Switzerland. The first official use of the name which has been found is as “Lugano” in *NSW Government Gazette* No 350 of 17 June 1887 folio 4048, wherein it states “a point on the George’s River, known as the Old George’s River Crossing, now to be known as Lugano . . .” This relates to notification of a Public Ferry at that location, and from then on the spelling as “Lugano” alternates with “Lugarno” through to around 1950 (various newspaper articles and gazette notices). “Lugarno” first appears in a notice calling tenders for a road “Lugarno to Como”, most likely referring to the road later named Fowler Road (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 20 February 1895 p.9).

The conduct of the reserve was the responsibility of the three local residents — Llewellyn Russell Jones, Frederick John Sanbrook and Alexander Stuart — appointed as “Trustees of reserve No. 24,071, at Lugarno Ferry” on 25 May 1901 (*NSW Government Gazette* No 448 of 25 May 1901 folio 4190), to whom considerable powers were granted under the 1903 “Regulations for the Management of the recreation reserve at Lugarno Ferry, George’s River” (*NSW Government Gazette* No 139 of 14 March 1903 folio 2171).

It became a popular destination as a “pleasure grounds.” For example, a 1908 newspaper advertisement advised that the motor launch *Pauline* would be making 4 return trips on a Sunday from Como Wharf to Lugarno Park (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 14 November 1908, p.2). As well as the recreation grounds there were facilities provided by the owners of the private property to south across an (at that time) unmade road. The first owner William Golden purchased portion 223 in early 1900 after it had remained unsold at the auction 1896, and immediately applied for and was given permission in 1900 to erect a shelter shed on the reserve, later upgraded in 1904 to a permissive occupancy for a “Boat Shed 20ft by 20ft” in the north-west corner of R24071. Sometime in the next few years he sold the land to David William Albone, who is recorded as constructing a “composite bungalow” on his own land in 1914 followed by “additions” in 1915 (*Construction and Local Government Journal*, 30 June 1914, p.2 and 8 March 1915 p.2) which became “Albone’s Hall” — *a popular entertainment centre for the community*. The local history indicates that when Albone, *a carpenter by trade, had his house erected, he no doubt saw the opportunity to open a tea room and pleasure ground, as there were numerous picnic and fishing parties, excursionists and Holiday makers, and that David Albone also had launches and boats for hire . . [and] . . . ran a ferry service with a launch to Como railway station* (Sutherland Shire Historical Society *Bulletin* May 1983).

After the area south of Georges River was transferred from Hurstville Council to Sutherland Shire Council on 2 August 1922 and became East Menai (later Illawong), the Sutherland Shire Council was appointed on 1 June 1923 as Trustee of Reserve 24,071 replacing the former trustees (*NSW Government Gazette* No 63 of 1 June 1923 folio 2513). This also included the wharf which was determined to be a Council responsibility in 1927 (*the Propeller*, 23 September 1927, p.1). Council records indicate that funds were allocated at various times for repairs to the wharf and upgrading and maintenance of the reserve. In 1936, the Council banned camping on the reserve at the request of its caretaker (*The Propeller*, 13 February 1936, p.8). In 1946 Messrs Albone and McFarlane were appointed by the Council *as honorary rangers to look after Lugarno Reserve* (*The Propeller*, 7 November 1946, p.6), however, it is not known how long they continued in that position.

As a Council reserve, it retained the name Lugarno Park (or Lugano Reserve or Lugano Ferry Reserve) until the death of local identity Albert Delardes. Sutherland Shire Council renamed the reserve as The Albert Delardes Memorial Park in September 1967.

See Albert Delardes Reserve for further information.

MAANDOWIE RESERVE

An area of Crown land, described in the Geographical Names Board website as: “*A reserve bounded by Maandowie Creek and Loftus Creek in the suburb of Loftus. It occupies part of an unnamed Crown Reserve in the Loftus Creek catchment.*” The origin of the name which follows makes no mention that it derives from an Aboriginal source: “*The name was selected in recognition of the area's stands of Grey Gum trees (Grey Gum, *Eucalyptus punctata* De Candolle, Maandowie) [Field Guide to Native Plants of Sydney, by Les Robinson].*”

However, in Michael Organ's *Illawarra and South Coast Aborigines 1770-1850* (University of Wollongong 1990) it is given that the Aboriginal word *Maandowie*, meaning “Grey Gum”, was recorded by Sir William Macarthur in 1861, and suggests that his informant was the Aboriginal man known as “Doctor Ellis”, who was a native of the Berrima/Bong Bong region.

Ref: GNB Reserve 17 December 1999

MARANG PARKLANDS

A reserve situated between Lindum Road and Greenhills Street on the southern side of Captain Cook Drive in the suburbs of Kurnell and Greenhills Beach, being the reserve formerly named as Green Hills Parklands (NSW Government Gazette No 53 of 3 June 2011 folios 3474-6).

Marang Parklands is located partly on land originally purchased by John Connell Laycock (John Connell's grandson) at a Crown land auction on 10 March 1858 (advertised *NSW Government Gazette* No 19 of 4 February 1858 folios 197-8) and subsequently sold to Thomas Holt on 14 August 1861; the remainder being land purchased by Thomas Holt at a Crown land auction on 16 September 1863 (advertised *NSW Government Gazette* No 156 of 13 August 1863 folios 1767-70) and on 15 February 1864 (advertised *NSW Government Gazette* No 8 of 12 January 1864 folios 69-74) (Land & Property Information historical land title records). All of the land became part of Holt's South Botany (later Sutherland) Estate (Holt, *An Energetic Colonist*, p.99). It is described in Walker's 1868 *Report on the Sutherland Estate* as within the *Sandy Flat Paddock*. The land originally contained large sandhills which were levelled over the years by sand mining.

In November 2016, the La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council, in response to a request from Sutherland Shire Council, suggested that a suitable name for these new parklands would be “Marang” meaning “sandhill”, the proposed name being provided from its Dharawal Language Program, a resource of Aboriginal words and phrases in the language of the Dharawal people, traditional inhabitants of the lands now including much of the Local Government Area of Sutherland Shire. That word had been recorded by R H Matthews in the 1890s and endorsed by the Dharawal Language Program.

The change of name to “Marang Parklands” was approved by the Geographical Names Board and it was adopted by notice in *NSW Government Gazette* No 114 of 6 October 2017 folio 5822, with an immediately following notice discontinuing the name “Green Hills Parklands.”

Ref: GNB Reserve 6 October 2017

MARLEY BEACH/MARLEY LAGOON/MARLEY CREEK/LITTLE MARLEY BEACH/MARLEY HEAD

Marley Beach

Unsubstantiated are statements in some web sites that “marley” is a local Aboriginal language word. This is an assumption from the possibility that it was recorded by Surveyor Robert Dixon in 1827 as one of a number of names obtained locally.

Unfortunately, Dixon’s notes have not been located and his original survey plan is unreadable in that area (Mitchell 1827 Survey plan held at State Library NSW). What can be verified is that the plans of the Parish of Wattamolla and Hundred of Woronora approved by Surveyor-General Thomas Mitchell on 27 March 1835 (likely prepared some time earlier) included the place name “Marley Beach” (Mitchell-approved plans at National Library Trove collection).

The only possible explanation found for “Marley” being derived from a local Aboriginal language source is the similarity in sound with the latter part of nearby “Watta-Mowlee” (Wattamolla) recorded by Matthew Finders in 1797, however no confirmation of that has been found.

Ref: GNB Beach 4 May 1973

Marley Lagoon

The name Marley Lagoon appears to have been added to early parish maps in conjunction with land sales in that area in 1847, mentioned as adjoining the land for sale (*New South Wales Government Gazette* of 26 February 1847 p.239).

Ref: GNB Lagoon 4 May 1973

Marley Creek

Whilst the location of this creek is shown on early maps of the area, no name is shown on any of those plans. The assigned name by Geographical Names Board came from 1:25000 topographic map of Port Hacking area first produced in the early 1970s.

Ref: GNB Creek 4 May 1973

Little Marley Beach

The name “Little Marley Beach” was likely assigned by the trustees of the National Park and appears on the February 1886 National Park *Sketch Guide Map shewing Rivers, Creeks, Roads, Railways, Bridle Paths &c.*

Ref: GNB Beach 4 May 1973

Marley Swamp

Whilst the location is diagrammatically shown on earlier maps of the National Park, the first mention of “Marley swamp” is in a newspaper article in 1952 of a walking trip by schoolboys in the area (*South Coast and Wollongong Argus*, 23 June 1952 p.7).

Ref: GNB Beach 4 May 1973

Marley Head

Marley Head is not shown on any early maps, but was known at least locally by 1909 when fishermen in the Port Hacking area recorded catches off Marley Head. (*Evening News*, 21 August 1909, p.7)

Ref: GNB Headland 22 June 1973

MERRIES REEF

A reef extending south-west from the west headland of Boat Harbour which then continues as a shoal in Bate Bay, (See also Pimelwi Rocks and Osborn Shoal.). *Merries Reef* is located within *Boat Harbour Aquatic Reserve*.

The earliest reference to the reef was in 1870 when it was referred to as “Merri Reef” (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 3 May 1870, p.4). A “Merri Reef”, at the mouth of Merri River, Warrnambool, was also referred to in 1873 (*Ballarat Star*, 27 November 1873 p.2), and it is possible that the name was imported by seafarers sailing from Victoria to Sydney in the 1870s.

The initial spelling of the name as “Merri” may have originated in the language of the Wurrundjeri balug Aboriginal tribe whose territory is now in the city of Melbourne. “Merri” (also “Merri Merri”) has the meaning of “stony, rocky.” [Darabin Library web site & Victorian Register of Geographic Names]

Ref: GNB Reef 30 June 1978

MILL CREEK

Historical records indicate that there were journeys of exploration up the Georges River from the time of the arrival of the First Fleet in 1788, however none of these accounts mention a creek in the general location of Mill Creek, and a map by Captain John Hunter in 1793 *based probably on his own surveys* does not show any waterway in that location. (Haworth, University of New England, *The Several Discoveries of Sydney's Georges River. Precursors to the Tom Thumb Expedition*). What appears to be the first recording and naming of the creek appears in the work of Robert Brown, a Scottish botanist, in 1803, which has been transcribed from a source which is *mostly the pencil-written (and near illegible)* with dated entries from one of Brown's workbooks, which includes the description of the journey along Georges River. It appears from the directions and distances along Georges River that Brown's party came to the location where Mill Creek is situated and then states: *Mill Creek SSW three miles from Fewtrells, native name Gurakarang*. An additional mention is made of *W bank below mill creek back land rising, rocky bank itself thickly covered with mangrove*. (*Nature's Investigator – the Diary of Robert Brown in Australia, 1801-1805*, T.G. Vallance, D.T. Moore & E.W. Groves (2001))

The reason for this early mention of a “Mill Creek,” remains undetermined. It certainly doesn't seem related to the assumption that the creek received that name much later from the presence of a grain mill. Lucas' two grain mills were constructed at Williams Creek on land promised by Governor Brisbane on 8 May 1822, (*The Sydney Gazette and NSW Advertiser*, 17 September 1831) and at the tidal limit of Woronora River on land promised by Governor Brisbane on 18 November 1825, (*The Sydney Gazette and NSW Advertiser*, 1 October, 1831), for both of which properties he received a grant of the land. There is no record of any occupation of land by Europeans in the immediate vicinity prior to an application by Joshua Thorp for an annual lease of 640 acres *on Mill Creek; bounded on the west by Mill Creek; on the north by a line east from the junction of Mill Creek, with Georges River . . .* (*NSW Government Gazette* No 138 of 22 October 1834 folio 727). The only earlier “industries” which may possibly have been in the area were fishing, oyster harvesting, illegal timber-getting, but no official record has been found of that activity or any other sort of mill for that matter.

Surveyor Robert Dixon was sent to the area in 1827 with instructions dated 17 February 1827 from Surveyor-General John Oxley which included:

There are several deep inlets or creeks falling into Georges River on the south side which must be traced to their source. At the extremes of the S.E. Arm or creek you will leave a conspicuous mark. A few miles up one of those creeks you will find a water mill, the property of Mr Lucas, he will show you the order he holds for the land which is to be marked for him.

Mr Duncombe's farm of 700 acres is also to be marked, the situation is pointed out on the map. These are all the farms within my present knowledge that require measuring on the south side of Georges River, but in case other individuals should apply, you will refer them to me that the correctness of their claims may be ascertained previous to any measurements taking place.

A copy of Dixon's survey dated 7 August 1827 (State Library records sourced by historian Pauline Kirby) indicates that he did indeed survey both parcels to be granted to Lucas and on the land in Williams Creek he has a "Mill" shown. He also traversed from the Lucas land at Woronora River to Duncombe's Farm. It is of note that both Deadmans Creek and Mill Creek run through Duncombe's Farm, but unfortunately the part of Dixon's survey which may have shown Mill Creek has not been found. It is nonetheless of note that he did not survey the entire length of either Williams Creek or Deadmans Creek (neither of which are named on his survey plan), so it can be presumed that if he surveyed Mill Creek it would have been for only a short distance from Georges River, possibly to the tidal limit which is nowadays north-west of Rosewall Drive. That would seem to be confirmed from the first edition of the Parish of Holsworthy issued in 1835 (but probably drawn a few years earlier) which incorporated Dixon's survey information and shows only a short length of Mill Creek flowing into Georges River (which is NAMED as such on that map) and an unattached and unnamed creek in Duncombe's Farm, which appears to be in the upper reaches of Mill Creek. The entire length of all the creeks was first shown on a later edition of the parish map issued in December 1905 (Land & Property Information historical plans).

It does appear that there was some confusion regarding which creek was named "Mill Creek." In the *Australian Town and Country Journal*, 20 October 1883, p.10, tenders were accepted for *construction of bridge at Old Mill Creek, road Liverpool to Campbelltown* (a road which crossed Williams Creek, but nowhere near Mill Creek). A report in the *Liverpool Herald* of 31 August 1901 p. 6 reads: *A company, in which Mr. Woodward of this town is interested, is about to start a woolscouring works on Mill Creek, at Holdsworthy [sic], a few miles from Liverpool. The massive stone building, known as the "Old Mill" (which was erected for a flour mill years ago), is being repaired and fitted up for use in connection with the industry* (this would seem to refer to the mill on Williams Creek), and in the same newspaper on 21 December 190, p.6: *another bush fire occurred at Holdsworthy [sic], in the vicinity of Mill Creek . . . resulted in . . . damage to the woolscouring industry on the creek . . .* (again would appear to refer to Williams Creek).

While there is doubt about why the creek has the European name of "Mill Creek", it does seem to have a confirmable Aboriginal name. B Howell in his August 2013 paper "On the name Heathcote Ridge" indicates:

According to the compilers, Brown's diary wasn't an easy one to decipher, and presumably it is because of this that they give two versions of the name, either "Gurakarang" (on page 445) or "Yierakarang" (page 446) This reference was used by the writers of the book "Rivers and Resilience – Aboriginal people on Sydney's Georges River" (Heather Goodall and Allison Chadzow, 2009), in which the native name for Mill creek is used extensively, although the spelling "Guragurang" is used.. . . Upon communicating with Heather Goodall regarding the spelling "Guragurang", a reply was received that explained her choice of spelling in terms of what she considered the actual pronunciation would have been, based on her knowledge of various Aboriginal languages.

The Geographical Names Board adopted *Mill Creek* as an existing Geographical name in Sutherland Shire in *NSW Government Gazette* No 57 of 4 May 1973 folios 1644-6, but to date (June 2017) has not included any information as to the origin of the name or the Aboriginal Name. The name was also adopted in *NSW Government Gazette* No 18 of 22 February 1974 folios 629-30 from a different source map but was assigned to Local Government Area Liverpool (which seems to be an error as the whole of Mill Creek is in Sutherland Shire – it was not mistaken for *Williams Creek* as that creek name was also adopted in the same gazette notice, but possibly for *Deadmans Creek*, which agrees with the description given and is not in that gazette notice).

Ref: GNB 4 May 1973

NORTH WEST ARM

Descriptive - the *North West Arm of Port Hacking*. The first record found of the name is a notice of a Crown land auction on 9 April 1856 (advertised in *NSW Government Gazette* No 38 of 3 March 1856 folios 775-9), and it appears on some early but undated editions of the Parish of Sutherland map. (Land & Property Information historical maps)

Ref: GNB Arm 4 May 1973

OAK PARK

Oak Park, originally named “Oaks Park”, owes its name to the northern headland of Port Hacking being known as “*The Oaks*” — *the name evidently taken from a noticeable thicket of swamp oaks* (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 25 March 1891, p.3). A newspaper report in 1909 refers to *The Oaks or Thorne’s Point* (Edward Thorne owned the land on both sides of Oak Park) and described its location as *The Oaks Point, which faces Gibbon* [ie. Jibbon], *at the entrance of Port Hacking* (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 16 November 1909, p.6).

The original reservation of the Crown Reserve in *NSW Government Gazette* No 807 of 7 October 1899 folio 7611 was for *water supply*. The reservation for that purpose was *because of the stream located there* (Curby, *A pictorial History of Cronulla*, p.22). It was re-proclaimed, again for *water supply* in *NSW Government Gazette* No 70 of 12 June 1907 folio 3261; Sutherland Shire Council was appointed as trustee in *NSW Government Gazette* No 73 of 19 June 1907 folio 3423.

According to an information brochure of Sutherland Shire Council (Sutherland Shire Studies No 5), the Council originally named the reserve as “Cronulla Park”, but abandoned that name in favour of “Oaks Park” and it had *the distinction of being the first park established (1907) by the first Sutherland Shire Council*. One of the initial projects of the new Council, on a 50-50 agreement with local residents, was to sink a well in the reserve to provide a local water supply (Kirkby Papers – Sutherland Library). The well became disused when the piped reticulated water supply was extended to the South Cronulla area in 1931 (*Sutherland Shire Historical Society Bulletin*, November 1984).

The name “Oaks Park” continued until mid-1921, when the Council starting used *Oak Park* in official notices (*NSW Government Gazette* No 109 of 16 August 1929 folio 3472) when it was acquiring land for an addition to the park, which it resumed in *NSW Government Gazette* No 74 of 20 June 1930 folio 2325.

In 1945, *Oak Park* was included in a vesting of the trusteeship to Sutherland Shire Council of *Salmon Haul Reserve* and *The Esplanade* for the revised purpose of *public recreation* (*NSW Government Gazette* No 120 of 9 November 1945 folio 2110). Further additions to *Oak Park* were made when on 22 October 1945 and 4 December 1948 when Sutherland Shire Council purchased vacant block on, respectively, the north side and south side of the park. An unmade lane was closed and part added to

the Crown Reserve (*NSW Government Gazettes* No 79 of 6 June 1975 folio 2222 and No 112 of 29 August 1975 folios 3518-9) together with a small area of the adjoining property dedicated as public reserve on 17 August 1976 (Sutherland Council records). A final addition to the park was finalised by resumption of three parcels of land on the south side of Jibbon Street in *NSW Government Gazette* No 145 of 24 November 2006 folio 9987, joined the rest of the park by the end section of Jibbon Street.

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

OLD SCHOOL PARK

Part of the land purchased by Thomas Holt from previously unsold Crown land on 31 December 1862, becoming part of the “Holt-Sutherland Estate”. The land described lots 19 & 20 DP8111, extending from Gynea Bay Road to an unmade part Sylvania Road (now Sylvania Road South), was transferred to the State Government on 12 February 1935 for a public school site (Land & Property Information historical title records).

The Gynea Bay Public School was officially opened on 17 August 1935. In 1954, the school commenced a transfer to a new site on the corner of Gynea Bay Road and Coonong Road although the original school remained in use for some classes for the next few years (Sutherland Library records and *Sutherland Shire Historical Society Bulletin*, November 2014). By notice in *NSW Government Gazette* No 160 of 18 November 1983 folio 5213, the site was resumed by the Land Commission of NSW, however before the land could be redeveloped by that authority, Sutherland Shire Council successfully negotiated that the site should be used as a public reserve and rezoned accordingly (Sutherland Shire Council records).

The former school site was dedicated as a public reserve and transferred to the Council in *NSW Government Gazette* No 46 of 12 April 1996 folio 1722. After extensive community consultation, the name was recommended by the Council's sub-committee which is composed of councillors, local residents and community representatives appointed to develop a concept plan for the site. The name “Old School Park” was selected over a second choice of “Gynea Lily Park,” and approved by the Council on 15 December 1997 (Sutherland Shire Council records). The name was adopted by the Geographical Names Board in *NSW Government Gazette* No 88 of 6 August 1999 folios 5671-2.

The section of the site fronting Gynea Bay Road, which formerly contained the original school buildings, has been developed as a formal park area, whilst the remainder has remained as bushland associated with the adjoining Coonong Creek Bushland.

Ref: GNB Reserve 6 August 1999

OSBORN SHOAL

A shoal located in Bate Bay, which runs generally westerly from the end of Merries Reef.

Named after Captain J.H.S. Osborn who carried out the survey in 1950 when the Shoal was discovered (as recorded on Geographical Names Board website).

Ref: GNB Shoal 5th July 1985

OYSTER BAY

The waterway *Oyster Bay* was historically plentiful in oysters, as indicated by *many Aboriginal middens* and *large deposits of shells* being found along its shores (Florence and Gardiner, *A Short History of*

Oyster Bay, p.10) and that is most likely the source of its name. Originally these were natural oysters which were depleted by the activities of the oyster-harvesters supplying the Sydney markets, both for the oysters themselves and the shells burnt for lime. Efforts to restock the oyster beds in 1874 led to the establishment of oyster farms (Roughley, 1922, *Oyster Culture on the Georges River*). The first individual lease of an oyster farm specifically mentioned as located at Oyster Bay was granted in 1902 (NSW Government Gazette No 360 of 4 June 1902 folio 4064). The Georges River oyster industry was wiped out by the QX disease first diagnosed in 1994, which eventually led to all farms in the Georges River being closed (NSW Department of Primary Industries website).

The bay is 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 *Oyster Bay* 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)

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973

PARUNA RESERVE

[updated 25/7/2018]

The Geographical Names Board website describes this as: "*A reserve bounded by the Woronora River and the boundaries of the residential land fronting Woronora Crescent, Prospect Place and Wogens and Central Avenue. It occupies lots A and B of DP 184310, Lot C of DP 830531, Lot 14 of DP 235896 and Lot 181 of DP 635299,*" and then gives some detailed information:

Name means 'stopping place', 'to stop at a certain place'.

Aboriginal name. Originally arising from a discussion with local Aboriginal representatives. However, the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies advised that the word appeared to be of South Australian origin.

After consultation with local residents and advertising in the local newspaper, [Sutherland Shire] Council resolved at its meeting on 17 July 1995 to seek approval from the Board to adopt this name.

Subsequent research indicates that the word "Paruna" 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, and in the 1874 book produced from those notes was recorded within a vocabulary list on p.46: "Paruna — Stopping at a certain place" (Gason, Samuel. 1874. *The Dieyerie tribe of Australian Aborigines*. Adelaide: W.C. Cox, Government Printer).

Paruna is also the name of a town in eastern South Australia. The town is located on the Browns Well Highway, where it crosses the former Barmera railway line, 237 kilometres east of the state capital, Adelaide. In a list of railway stations which existed in 1915, it is recorded as: *Paruna for a "stopping place."* . . . *named in 1914 by the Governor (Sir H. L. Galway) (The Register [Adelaide], 24 March 1915, p.4).*

The reserve occupies part of an area originally advertised at a Crown Land auction on 9 April 1856 (NSW Government Gazette No 38 of 3 March 1856 folios 775-9) but not sold until purchased by Thomas Holt for his Sutherland Estate on 31 December 1862. There were several Holt-Sutherland Estate leases in the area prior to the land being subdivided and sold in 1913, passing through the hands of a number of subsequent owners and re-subdivisions (HLRV, historical land title records). Sutherland Shire Council

acquired the western part of the reserve in 1948, the central part in 1968 and the eastern part in 1984. (Sutherland Shire Council records)

Ref: GNB Reserve 15 November 1996

PEACE PARK (including Chuo City Garden)

Construction of a community park between the Sutherland Entertainment Centre and the Council Administration Centre in Eton Street, Sutherland, began in the early 1990s as part of long-term improvements to the Sutherland town centre. It required demolition of the building formerly occupied by the Sydney County Council and removal of some Council garages for the “civic plaza site”. Future development was to see the park eventually stretch across Merton Street and almost to Belmont Street, with a “Japanese garden” on a section of Merton Street and a “village green” to be sited on Council land facing Stapleton Avenue which was used at that time as a public car park.

Stage one opened in September 1992, and included an avenue of Chinese elm trees, pleasant walkways and a water feature. The Sutherland War Memorial, originally completed in June 1920, was relocated into the Park and re-dedicated in October 1992, although the surrounding wall from the original site at the corner of Eton Street and Old Princes Highway could not be included. The stones which make-up the War Memorial were from the Holt family’s historic “Sutherland House” salvaged after that building was destroyed by fire.

In 1990, Sutherland Shire Council was well advanced in forming a sister city relationship with Chuo City in Japan. Part of the sister city negotiations was a suitable site in Sutherland Shire for a dedicated area for a garden area with Japanese cultural elements. After the signing ceremony took place in Japan in January 1991, a “Chuo Park” was included in the planning of the “civic plaza site”.

The Japanese garden is based on the design of an ancient garden within Chuo City. Iris, Rhododendron, Prunus and Camellias are complemented by a jarrah wood bridge over a dry pond. White walls, called Tsuzi fences, capped with Japanese roofing tiles, surround the garden. It was named *Chuo City Garden* in January 1992 and was officially opened jointly by Mayor Yada of Chuo City and Shire President, Councillor Ian Swords, in April 1993.

Stage two, the “village green” area east of Chuo City Garden was developed during the latter half of the 1990s.

The overall site had various names — from the latter half of 1991 it was variously described as “Sutherland Town Park,” “Sutherland Centre Park,” “Sutherland Town Centre Park,” and “Sutherland Civic Park,” and as a “Heritage Park” When negotiations were in hand to relocate the Sutherland War Memorial into the new park in mid-1992, the suggestion was made that it be either “Sutherland Centre Peace Park” or “Sutherland Shire Peace Park.”

An area of the new park was set aside for a feature to recognise the Shire’s Aboriginal culture and heritage. The design chosen had columns and a mural which includes a river serpent. Named “Pemul Djalarangi” meaning “The Earth belongs to us all”, it was dedicated in March 1994. The Park was occasionally to be used to display community art murals and was also intended to reflect the heritage of the Sutherland Shire.

From November 1992 it was referred to simply as “Peace Park.”

The land on which *Peace Park* is situated is part of the land purchased on 31 December 1862 by Thomas Holt as part of his Sutherland Estate and subdivided into the *Township of Sutherland* in February 1882, as lease sites in the Holt-Sutherland Estate.

The civic plaza area is composed of 1882 subdivision lots 7 & 8 Section 46 DP802. The land in Lot 7 was bought out in 1940 by Frederick Charles Latham and Mona Gwendoline Latham who sold it to

Sutherland Shire Council in 1959. Lot 8 was purchased in 1940 by Beatrice Jane Avery who sold it to the Sydney County Council in 1955 —transferred to Sutherland Shire Council in 1986.

Chou City Garden is located on the road reserve of Merton Street.

The village green is part of a much larger area formerly in Section 37 DP802. Charles Harvey Stapleton, a master butcher whose pioneering family had moved into the area in the 1880s and opened his butchers shop in Sutherland in 1896. Stapleton first leased from, and then completed the purchase of a block of 15 lots in *Township of Sutherland* from the Holt-Sutherland Estate in 1917. From 1924 on that land was progressively subdivided into residential lots around a new road, Stapleton Avenue, and passed through a number of private owners. Several of the lots bounded by Merton, Flora & Belmont Street and Stapleton Avenue were purchased by Sutherland Shire Council, with those which now contain the “village green” area between November 1974 and November 1975.

The above information was derived from Sutherland Shire Council records.

The name “Peace Park” reflects the style of other parks of that name in other areas of Australia. *Peace Park* in Canberra, for example, was commissioned during the United Nations International Year of Peace in 1986 and officially dedicated as *Peace Park* on United Nations Day, 24 October 1990, as “a lasting symbol of Australia’s commitment to peace, providing a place in the national capital for contemplation” and had “a strong, simple plan and relies on the contrast of spaces and materials to create its distinct character,” and included recognition of the local Ngunnawal Aboriginal people.

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

PELICAN POINT

The southern shores of *Botany Bay* and the *Towra Point Wetlands* are a haven for waterbirds, including pelicans, and that is the likely source of the name.

Early maps of the southern side of *Botany Bay* and *Georges River* show an unnamed point of land off the north-east shore of *Woollooware Bay*. The first record found of a name for that feature is on an undated (probably circa 1860s/1870s) early edition of the Parish of Sutherland map as “Killigalere or Pelican Point” (Land & Property Information historical maps). In Walker’s 1868 *Report on the Sutherland Estate*, he notes: *At the west side of Towra there is a point running out into the Bay called Pelican Point . . . There are some shell gatherers at this point and they have put up a couple of rude Huts*. However, it is explicitly referred to as “Killigalere Point” in The Australian Directory, volume 1, 7th edition, 1876, printed for the Hydrographic Office of the British Admiralty (as this is the seventh edition, it may have been included in earlier editions).

The word “Tellegaree” appears as “Pelican” on a list of Aboriginal words collected in the Kogarah district in 1899 by the Anthropological Society of Australasia, in which “Tellegaree Point” is also mentioned as a local place with an Aboriginal name. So it’s likely that “Killigalere Point” relates to a local Aboriginal word for pelican.

As both names appeared around the same time, it is likely that the Aboriginal name was sourced by the hydrographical surveyors from a local Aboriginal language, whilst the English name was in use by shell-gathers and probably also workers on the Sutherland Estate. Whether the apparent coincidence of meaning between the Aboriginal and English words was accidental or was the result of a translation being provided at some time prior to the Anthropological Society listing in 1899 has not been ascertained.

Pelican Point was first adopted by the Geographical Names Board in *NSW Government Gazette* No 57 of 4 May 1973 folios 1644-6, and readopted in *NSW Government Gazette* No 100 of 5 July 1985 folios 3398-9 when "Killigalere or Pelican Point" was discontinued.

Ref: GNB Point 4 May 1973 and 5 July 1985

PIMELWI ROCKS

The exposed part of the reef extending south-west from Boat Harbour, which then continues into Bate Bay as Merries Reef (see also MERRIES REEF and OSBORN SHOAL).

The rocks are now within Boat Harbour Aquatic Reserve.

In Watkin Tench's book "A Complete Account of the Settlement at Port Jackson" published in 1793, he writes of "Pimelwi", the Botany Bay Aboriginal man who was accused of the fatal spearing of Governor Phillip's gamekeeper John McIntyre, in 1790. Pimelwi (otherwise referred to as Pemulwuy) later led a concerted resistance against European settlement.

The first plan found on which the name is recorded is on the 7th edition of the Parish of Sutherland issued in August 1951 (Land & Property Information historical maps)

It is not currently known by what process the rocks became named.

Ref: GNB Rocks 4 May 1973

POINT DANGER

The first mention found of *Point Danger* is in a newspaper article in 1894 (*The Australian Star*, 7 April 1894, p.9). It was shown on the circa 1890s edition of the Parish of Wattamolla (Land & Property Information historical maps).

No record has been found for the origin or reason for that name

Ref: GNB Point 4 May 1973

PORT HACKING

According to an entry recorded in Matthew Flinders' journal on 30 March 1796, he named *Port Hacking* after Henry Hacking: *It having been a pilot named Hacking from whom the first information of it had been received, it was named after him: by the natives it is called Deeban.* (Matthew Flinders, *A voyage to Terra Australis*, ed. Keith Bowden, Pall Mall, London, 1814, p.ci.). This was confirmed six years later, when a map was published in London on 1 May 1802 with the words *Port Hacking* shown on an inlet in the coast south of Botany Bay (*Chart of the three harbours of Botany Bay, Port Jackson, and Broken Bay, shewing [sic] the ground cultivated by the colonists, with the courses of the rivers Hawkesbury, Nepean, &c. &c.* National Library MAP RM 4079).

From the early years of the 1800s similar sounding names were also in use for the waterway, which did lead to later claims that it had been named after a different person or persons known to be in the Colony and acquainted with Flinders. It was also quite common in early Government notices and newspaper reports to refer to *Port Hacking* as "Port Hacking River". The name *Port Hacking* nonetheless continued to be used and is now the only adopted name.

As noted above, the Aboriginal name for the waterway *Port Hacking*, as recorded by Flinders, is *Deeban*.

PORT HACKING POINT

Port Hacking Point is the southern headland of *Port Hacking*. The first mention of that name is in a newspaper in 1867 (*Illawarra Mercury*, 18 October 1867, P.2) although it was shown on a map published by the Hydrographic Office of the British Admiralty in May 1853 as “Hacking Head” (*Australia, East Coast, Botany Bay and Port Hacking*, in National Library collection, Call Number MAP British Admiralty Special Map Col/36). It was apparently also known as “Hacking Point”, an entry for which in the British Admiralty Directory published in 1876 indicates that *Hacking point protects port Hacking from southerly or south-easterly gales*. 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*).

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” at the southern headland of Port Hacking with “Little Jibbon” shown at the south-west end of *Jibbon Beach* (unnamed on that map). The June 1882 edition of the Parish map has no name at that location. The first map found on which *Port Hacking Point* is shown is a “Sketch Guide Map” of the *National Park* published in February 1886.

“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).

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.

The dual use of “Jibbon Point” and “Port Hacking Point” is possibly a reason for some authors believing that “Jibbon” is a version of “Deeban” (the Aboriginal name for Port Hacking), however there is no evidence for that being true.

Ref: GNB Point 4 May 1973

POTTER POINT

A point located on the coast of Kurnell Peninsula just over 1 km east of Boat Harbour. The name appears on an Admiralty Chart dated 1853 and is likely named after John Potter, agent for Admiralty charts after the death of Robert Brettell Bate (see Bate Bay) in 1847 (Watt, *The Shire; A Journey Through Time*, pp.86-87)

Ref: GNB Point 4 May 1973

PROVIDENTIAL COVE

In late March 1796, when Bass and Flinders found themselves in dire straits off the Illawarra coast in the middle of the night, they found shelter in what we now call *Wattamolla*. Flinders recorded: *We thought Providential Cove a well-adapted name for this place*, but by the natives it is called *Watta Mowlee*” (see Flinders’ *Narrative of expeditions along the coast of New South Wales*, for 29th March 1796).

On the original edition of the Parish of Wattamolla dating from 1835 (but may have been drawn up earlier) the name “Wattamolla Boat Harbour” is recorded. When a new edition of the Parish of Wattamolla map was issued in June 1882, it simply showed the location as “Wattamolla” (Land & Property Information historical maps). The name “Wattamolla Boat Harbour” became a discontinued name when the Geographical Names Board adopted the name *Providential Cove* for that geographical feature in *NSW Government Gazette* No 177 of 14 November 1986 folio 5587.

Ref: GNB Cove 14 November 1986

QUIBRAY BAY

The name “Quibray Bay” first appears in 1835 in a notice relating to John Connell’s land grant at Quibray Bay (*NSW Government Gazette*, 29 April 1835, folio 241) and also on Surveyor-General Thomas Mitchell’s 1835 map. *Quibray* may be of Aboriginal origin, indeed it is very similar to *Quiberie* (various spellings including *Quibree*), given by North Sydney Council as the Aboriginal name for Lavender Bay in Port Jackson, but currently it is not known how Quibray Bay came to be named.

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973

RED JACKS POINT

Name apparently relates to a ‘white man called Red Jack’ who lived with ‘Yellow Nancy, a woman who was, her name suggested, of mixed descent,’ on the shores of Port Hacking, as reported by Aboriginal Biddy Giles who with her husband Billy Giles accompanied travellers in the area in the 1860s. (Heather Goodall and Allison Cadzow, *Rivers and Resilience: Aboriginal people on Sydney’s Georges River*, UNSW Press, 2009, p.101)

The name is shown on the June 1882 edition of the Parish of Wattamolla (Land & Property Information historical maps).

Ref: GNB Point 4 May 1973

ROSS RESERVE

Ross Reserve is located on part of an area first released for conditional purchase in 1842 (*NSW Government Gazette* No 93 of 22 November 1842 folios 1742-3) and selected by a consortium of potential mining investors, Henry Prince, William Henry Gritten, Henry Chetwood Doyle & William George Anslow who purchased it in December 1888. It was not developed and was transferred to another investor, Walter Frederick Elkington in August 1905 and from there was sold to Henry Shackel in July 1916 as part of an extensive area subdivided by the Shackel family as the Woronora River Estate. Parts of Lots 366 & 367 DP8754 of that Estate were the original subdivision lots of which Ross Reserve eventually became part (NSW Land Registry Services, *Historical Land Records Viewer*).

Lot 367 passed through two subsequent purchasers before coming into the ownership of Roy Sidney Carter & Dorothy May Carter in April 1953: much of that land reverted to Crown land after purchase from the Carters for the proposed Menai Public School in May 1971 (NSW Land Registry Services, *Historical Land Records Viewer*).

The Carter families included descendants of the Ross family, early settlers in the area, whose farm was on land to the south of Ross Reserve. Rachel Ann Crawford Ross had purchased one of the narrow lots on the waterfront of Woronora River in what is now referred to as “Shackel’s Estate” in July 1925 and, in joint ownership with her husband, Frederick Crawford Ross, then purchased in September 1927 the large Lot 369 DP8754 on the north side of the waterfront property, fronting Shackel Road and

directly south of Lots 366, 367 & 368. The total area of the Ross/Carter properties also came to include Lot 368 when that land was purchased in January 1953 by Roy Sidney Carter & Dorothy May Carter just prior to Lot 367 being added in April 1953. (NSW Land Registry Services, *Historical Land Records Viewer*).

Frederick Crawford Ross died in April 1941. Rachel Ann Crawford Ross sold her waterfront lot in June 1944, however, retained the farm land until September 1950 when it was transferred to Roy Lachlan Carter. Rachel died in December 1951 (NSW Land Registry Services, *Historic Land Records Viewer*).

Lot 366 DP8754 passed through a number of subsequent owners before being purchased by William Simon Kalf in September 1963: that land was then transferred to Sutherland Shire Council in December 1975 (NSW Land Registry Services, *Historical Land Records Viewer*), after part had been resumed for widening of Menai Road in June 1974 (NSW Government Gazette No 72 of 21 June 1974 folios 2233-5).

After Pyree Street was dedicated, a land swap deal was arranged between Sutherland Shire Council and the Education Department with much of (but not all) the Council land (residue Lot 366) north of Pyree Street transferred to the Education Department. The revised school site was then extended across a resumed section of Shackel Road to Dandarbong Avenue. The residue of the formerly proposed school site was cross-transferred to the Council in December 1987, forming, together with the retained part of the Council land, into what is today Ross Reserve (Sutherland Shire Council records).

The name "Ross Reserve" honours the pioneering Ross family and the continuing association of the descendants of the family (the Carters) in the area, particularly that most of the land in the reserve was formerly owned by those descendants (Sutherland Shire Council records).

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

SALMON HAUL BAY

The name reflects the use of net fishing in an area where commercial fishing had been occurring since the early days of the Colony of New South Wales.

It has not been determined when the name was first applied to *Salmon Haul Bay*, but it was certainly prior to 1907, when fisherman were obtaining permission to "haul" (use large nets) to for fishing in and around that area (*Evening News*, 19 September 1907, p.3) *I*. A newspaper article in 1908 indicates: *At Port Hacking . . . Salmon in small shoals averaging 5lb may be seen entering and leaving on the flood and ebb tides respectively* (*Evening News*, 14 November 1908, p.7)

Ref: GNB Bay 22 June 1973

SANDY POINT (at the suburb of Sandy Point)

The first verifiable mention of *Sandy Point* is as part of the name of the "Sandy Point Estate, Georges River" advertised in 1920 (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 28 February 1920, p.16). The name would appear to be descriptive, but that has not been confirmed.

Ref: GNB Point 21 March 1975

SANDY POINT (at Sylvania)

The name is shown on an early edition of the Parish of Sutherland which is undated but appears to have been in use around the 1860s/1870s. The name appears to be descriptive of a narrow point of land with sandy beach, although that has not been confirmed.

Sandy Point is close to where Thomas Holt built his residence “Sutherland House” and the point also has the local name of *Holts Point*. The road constructed along the original point (declared a public road in 1924) was named in 1977 “Holt Point Place,” and Sutherland Shire Council file records indicate it resolved to name the street *because the point was known as Holt’s Point at the turn of the century and so shown on maps*.

Sandy Point was the western end of a bridge to *Commons (now Taren) Point* which formed a boundary to Holt’s privately-owned *Gwawley Bay*, which bay is now redeveloped as *Sylvania Waters* and a large reclaimed area has now been added to the southern side of *Sandy Point* surrounding Lachlan Avenue.

Ref: GNB Point 4 May 1973

SCRIBBINS PARK

Scribbins Park is located on part of the 1000 acres originally selected by John Connell after he bought it from Gregory Blaxland, on 1 October 1816, (a future grant of that size promised by Governor Macquarie to Blaxland in 1814 to recognise his participation in the first European crossing of the Blue Mountains in 1813 by Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson) (*Royal Australian Historical Society’s Journal and Proceedings*, Vol. XXIV, Part II pp.152-4). Connell established his “Old Farm” on the 1000 acres. On Connell’s death, it passed to his heir Elias Laycock, who sold it to Archibald Allardice in 1852, but after Allardice had financial problems in 1855 it was purchased by Elias Laycock’s brother, John Connell Laycock, who held large areas of the pre-Shire until he also entered financial straits, and his lands were bought at auction by Thomas Holt for his *South Botany (later Sutherland) Estate* on 14 August 1861 (Land & Property Information historical records and Holt, *An Energetic Colonist*, pp.99-101). This area of Holt’s estate known as Miranda was subdivided for leasing in 1892-3 (Land & Property Information historical plans).

Edward (Ned) Scribbins and his younger brother Jack migrated from Wales and set up a poultry farm on the south side of The Boulevarde, Miranda east of Sylvania Road, on land leased from the Holt-Sutherland Estate in 1892 (short biography of Ada Swatridge in Sutherland Shire Council records) — nothing more is known of Jack. In March 1918, sponsored by Ned Scribbins, his daughter Mary Matilda Swatridge, with her husband George Swatridge and four children, also migrated from Wales and lived on Ned Scribbins farm, Ned having apparently sold part of his lease to finance construction of a house for his daughter’s family. George Swatridge died in September 1919, but his family remained on the farm and inherited it when Ned Scribbins died in 1920 (Kavanagh, 2004, *Echoes from the Bay: The Yowie Bay Story*, pp.192-3). The lease of the remnant area of Scribbins’ Farm continued until November 1952 when ownership of that land was transferred from the Holt-Sutherland Estate to the Public Trustee for eventual distribution in equal shares in January 1959 to three of the Swatridge’s children — May, George & Ada — who are listed amongst the eight owners of a much larger area subdivided surveyed in August 1959 which included the site of former Scribbins’ poultry farm. Four lots in the subdivision registered as deposited plan No 30172 were noted as “Public Garden & Recreation Space” and were transferred to Sutherland Shire Council on 7 September 1960 (lots 61 & 70) and 4 November 1960 (Lots 62 and 69) as a public reserve (Land & Property Information historical title records and Sutherland Shire Council records).

Originally known as “Jinatong Street Reserve”, it was renamed as “Scribbins Park” by Sutherland Shire Council in September/October 1995 to honour the pioneer settler Ned Scribbins and the continuing association of his family in the area (Sutherland Shire Council records).

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

SCYLLA BAY

Formerly the western of the two bays that were known conjointly as Double Bay, Located on the southern side of Georges River south of *Como Pleasure Grounds*, it was first renamed as “Mimosa Bay”, that name appearing 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). Apparently the new name did not agree with the theme of the subdivision, which uses Italian place names for road names and also Carina Bay, which theme commenced with the naming of Como. When the subdivision plan was lodged with the Registrar-General’s Office on 29 March 1888 as Deposited Plan No 2106, the name “Mimosa Bay” had been altered to “Scylla Bay.”(Land & Property Information historical records)

The "Scylla" was a sea monster in Greek mythology, SCYLLA (Skulla) and Charybdis, the names of two rocks between Italy and Sicily, and only a short distance from one another. In the midst of the one of these rocks which was nearest to Italy, there dwelt, according to Homer, Scylla, a daughter of Crataeis, a fearful monster, barking like a dog, with twelve feet, six long necks and mouths, each of which contained three rows of sharp teeth. (Source: *Dictionary of Greek and Roman Biography and Mythology*)

NOTE: The name “Mimosa Bay” persisted as a local name for many years, (McKinley & Hewitt, *Sutherland Shire – Some Early Residents*, Cliff Lewis Printing, 2007, p.26)

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973

SHAG POINT

Shag Point is probably named after the sea birds known as Shags or Cormorants. The first reference found for the name is in a newspaper report in August 1862 (*Empire*, 20 August 1862, p.5), but it does not appear on the Parish Map of Sutherland until the edition published in March 1900 (Land & Property Information historical maps).

Ref: GNB Point 4 May 1973

SILVER BEACH

Referred to only as “beach” in early newspaper articles, it is shown as *THE BEACHES — Bonna, opposite the house, about three miles long* (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 8 December 1877, p.10). The house referred to is the original Alpha Farm residence at Kurnell. The adjacent land was later a subdivision of part of the “Holt-Sutherland Estate” and the name *Silver Beach* appears on the plan of subdivision surveyed 11 September 1882 (Land & Property Information historical records).

The name “Kurnell Beach” for the same beach appears in a newspaper report in 1893 (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 6 June 1893, p.3) and becomes used as the name of the beach. A pencil note on a parish map in use up until 5 April 1900 (Land & Property Information historical maps) shows *Kurnel Kurnell Beach*, and in later editions of the same map it (in stages) becomes *Kurnell or Silver Beach*. That is the likely source of the name *Kurnell Beach* adopted by the Geographical Names Board on 22 June 1973 discontinuing *Kurnell or Silver Beach*. However, the Geographical Names Board later reviewed that decision and in *NSW Government Gazette* No 100 of 5 July 1985 folios 3398-9 it restored *Silver Beach* and discontinued *Kurnell Beach*.

The reason for *Silver Beach* being originally named has not been found, although possibly it was a descriptive term for the appearance of the “great white sandy beach” as it was described in numerous real estate advertisements when the “Silver Beach Estate” was being sold off to private buyers from early 1916, and it was described in one instance as *impinging “on a delightful stretch of silvery beach”* (Lawrence *A Pictorial History of Sutherland Shire*, pp. 12-13).

Ref: GNB Beach 22 June 1973 (discontinued) and Beach 5 July 1985.

SIMPSONS BAY

Simpson's Bay is named after the George Simpson and his wife Mary and family who settled here on the adjoining land after George Simpson purchased the property on 5 November 1863 (Land & Property Information historical records). George's son, William Simpson, converted the farm building into "Tyreal House", an accommodation house for visitors, which later became well-known as "Simpsons Hotel" at Bonnie Vale. William Simpson sold the hotel in March 1904 (*St George Call*, 12 March 1904), but did not sell the land until July 1915 (Land & Property Information historical records). The land was then subdivided and became part of Bundeena. In 1947 the National Park Trust purchased the western part as an extension to the National Park as a part of "Bonnie Vale". (*The Bundeena Book*, p.14)

There was no record found of the bay being named *Simpsons Bay* prior to being mentioned in a newspaper article in 1940 (*St. George Call*, 1 November 1940 p.3)

Ref: GNB Bay 22 June 1973

SOUTHEND (Hundred of) – Historic

When the *County of Cumberland* was divided for administrative purposes in *NSW Government Gazette* No 168 of 23 May 1835 folios 331-344, the area which is now *Sutherland Shire* was partly within the *Hundred of Southend*, which was the area encompassing several parishes including the *Parish of ECKERSLEY* (*Eckersly*).

The name *Southend* was supplied by Surveyor-General Thomas Mitchell and possibly (although not confirmed) refers to the location at the southern end of the County of Cumberland. The Hundred also included the Parish of Southend, still in use around Bulli in the Illawarra area.

Deriving from European terms with various meanings, a Hundred in Australia meant an approximate area of one hundred square miles (64,000 acres). Hundreds were never used for Government purposes in New South Wales, and a notice in *NSW Government Gazette* No 572 of 15 October 1887 folio 6871, with erratum *NSW Government Gazette* No 63 of 21 January 1888 folio 594, effectively discontinued the use of that administrative division.

STILL CREEK

The first mention found of *Still Creek* is in 1896 (*Referee*, 20 May 1896, p.3). Around that time the area was being subdivided for Crown land selections and the name *Still Creek* is also mentioned in the advertising (*NSW Government Gazette* No 813 of 10 October 1896 folio 7298).

A possible origin of the name was recounted by a long-time resident of the area, whose father had moved there in 1894: *Then there was Still Creek. Now you might think this was named because of the river, but in fact it was because a whiskey still was located there . . . in a gully just above the creek, facing east* (Burgess, *Nature's Doorstep – The Bonnet Bay Story*, p.7). This story cannot be confirmed. It is of note that a member of the family (the Pickerings) who allegedly ran the still had been long-time

residents in the area north of Georges River, being the first settlers at Peakhurst in 1825. A direct connection with the Illawong area to the north of Still Creek is provided when: *Jim Pickering worked with a brother for the Fowler Pottery Co. and laid out the gardens around 'Cranbrook', the 'county residence' of Mr. Fowler, in the area now known as Illawong; later one of Jim's sons, Will, lived next door to 'Cranbrook' as caretaker of that property* (Sutherland Shire Historical Society Bulletin, October 1975) [Cranbrook was built around late 1880s-early 1890s]. The connection with a “whiskey still” being there prior to the name *Still Creek* was recorded in 1896 remains unproven.

Although not directly linked to Still Creek, there is a reference in 1851 to a journey by a Captain Scott and the chief constable to investigate alleged (but proven false) findings of gold west of Woronora River. The writer indicates that those two persons were *on their way to Woronora Creek* [ie. Woronora River]: *probably they may find a still or two to repay them for their journey, as much has been done in that way towards raising gold and cheating the revenue* (Empire, 28 August 1851, p.3). There are a number of reports in newspapers around that time of illegal stills being found in and around the Liverpool area and up creeks off Georges River — so it is feasible that the same applied to Woronora River.

The creek was also referred to in oyster leasing records as “Inch’s Creek” from 1910 (NSW Government Gazette No 128 of 17 August 1910 folio 4526) to as late as 1986 (NSW Government Gazette No 169 of 24 October 1986 folio 5206). No information has been found concerning the origin of that alternate name.

Ref: GNB Creek 4 May 1973

SUTHERLAND (Parish)

The name of the Civil Parish of *Sutherland* (spelt “Southerland”), first appears in a Government notice dated 19 September 1831 (*The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 3 October 1831, pp.1-2) although it was not formally notified until NSW Government Gazette No 168 of 23 May 1835 folios 331-344, which divided the *County of Cumberland* into Hundreds and Parishes.

The Parish of Sutherland was originally proclaimed in NSW Government Gazette No 168 of 23 May 1835 folios 331-344 as “Southerland”, which was the name shown on the original parish map (Land & Property Information historical maps), however just 4 days later in NSW Government Gazette No 169 of 27 May 1835 folios 345-358 and Erratum in same *Gazette* on folio 367, the proclamation was reprinted with amendments, including changing the name to “Sutherland”, which must have been to agree with the spelling shown on the original document.

Historians have argued for years whether Thomas Mitchell, the Surveyor-General, did intend the name to be “Southerland.” Whether or not that was the case, it is of note that there seemed to be little effort taken for many years to amend/correct the word “Southerland” to “Sutherland” in Government maps and other official notifications. That did cause some confusion as the two names were used interchangeably for many years until “Sutherland” became the only term used for the parish name. While it could be put down to lack of clerical checking throughout the remainder of the nineteenth century, there is probably no excuse other than inadequate proofreading for “Southerland” to appear in Government Gazette notices and newspapers on odd occasions up till 1978, referring the parish, shire, localities and street names.

Ref: Parish 23 May 1835 & 27 May 1835; GNB Parish 05 July 1985

SUTHERLAND POINT

Sutherland Point was named by Lieutenant (later Captain) James Cook. Cook on 1 May 1770 recorded in his journal (a copy of which is held in the National Library of Australia): *Last night Forby Sutherland, Seaman, departed this Life, and in the A.M. his body Was buried ashore at the watering place, which occasioned my calling the south point of this bay after his name.* The name 'Point Sutherland' appears on Cook's chart *A Sketch of Botany Bay in New South Wales*, the original of which is held by the British Museum and appears to be placed at the most northerly point of the South Head of Botany Bay

The name *Sutherland Point* appeared to have been "replaced" after the Australian Philosophical Society (later the Royal Society of NSW) affixed a plaque to the cliff face at *Sutherland Point* in 1822, near to where the *Endeavour* crew first landed in 1770. That the name *Inscription Point* was being used for this location is indicated 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 (Australia, East Coast, Botany Bay and Port Hacking*, in National Library collection, Call Number MAP British Admiralty Special Map Col/36).

The omission of *Sutherland Point* was also confirmed by descriptions in a publication of the same Hydrographic Office in 1876 which used *Inscription Point* instead of *Sutherland Point* (Yule, *The Australian Directory Volume 1: South and East Coasts, Bass Strait and Tasmania*, 7th edition).

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

SUTHERLAND SHIRE (Local Government Area)

The proposed boundaries for a new Shire of Bulli No 121 were published in *NSW Government Gazette* No 157 of 24 March 1905 folios 2103-2158, which included the area of the future Sutherland Shire. After representations from the Miranda Progress association a new Shire of Sutherland No 133 was created (Ashton, Cornwall, Salt, *Sutherland Shire – A History*, p.58). An adjustment was made in *NSW Government Gazette* No 105 of 23 February 1906 folios 1346-51, so that the boundaries of the new Shire were along the centreline of waterways between it and adjoin municipalities.

The final name and boundary of the Shire of Sutherland was proclaimed in *NSW Government Gazette* No 121 of 7 March 1906 folios 1593-1644, and re-proclaimed with amendments in *NSW Government Gazette* No 114 of 11 September 1907 folio 5118. At that time it excluded part of the "Como" area (now Illawong) which had been included in Hurstville Municipality (*NSW Government Gazette* No 840 of 31 August 1900 folio 6807-8) until 1922, when it was included in Sutherland Shire (*NSW Government Gazette* No 118 of 4 August 1922 folios 4338-40). The only other change to the boundary was a small swap with Liverpool in 1984 (*NSW Government Gazette* No 49 of 30 March 1984 folios 1793-4) to place the boundary along Heathcote Road.

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

Sutherland Shire (NSW Government Gazette No 65 of 25 June 1993 folio 3073). What this meant was that on 1 July 1993 when the Local Government Act 1993 came into force that the name changed from “Shire of Sutherland” to “Local Government Area Sutherland Shire”.

NOTE: The reference number for Sutherland Shire was later changed from No 133 to No. 144

Ref: Shire 7 March 1906, 4 August 1922, 27 January 1984, 25 June 1993

SUTHERLAND (Town)

Now a Suburb – see also entry in Suburbs section

The name *Sutherland Township* was used for land sales in 1882 by the Holt-Sutherland Estate Land Company. The use of the name Sutherland for the subdivision had been decided by the company in 1881. The name was also used in July 1887 in *the second subdivision of Sutherland Township* for the area on the western side of the railway at Sutherland Railway Station (Land & Property information historical plans). The name the *Township of Sutherland* was continued by Sutherland Shire Council and others until the specific boundaries of the *Town of Sutherland* were proclaimed in *NSW Government Gazette* No 3 of 7 January 1921 folios 43-44, embracing most of the area in the Holt-Sutherland subdivision and extending westerly to The Boulevard (now Linden Street). The area was extended in *NSW Government Gazette* No 77 of 5 June 1925 folio 2452, more southerly to Forest Road and more easterly to Bath Road, and again extended easterly to Sylvania Road in *NSW Government Gazette* No 136 of 23 September 1927 folios 4603-4. The last change to the boundaries was in *NSW Government Gazette* No 191 of 17 November 1933 folios 4045-7, where it went further north to Box Road and more to the south and included Woronora Cemetery.

The area of the *Town of Sutherland* was reduced as suburbs formed at Jannali, Gymea, and Kirrawee, and “Sutherland” was adopted as the Suburb name by the Geographical Names Board in *NSW Government Gazette* No 57 of 4 May 1973 folios 1644-6

Town of Sutherland 7 January 1921, 5 June 1925, 23 September 1927 and 17 November 1933

SYLVANIA HEIGHTS

Sylvania Heights is a local name only referring to the area of Sylvania south of Kangaroo Point. Has never been given the status of a Suburb and is not a Geographical Name. It is first mentioned in an advertisement of *Land for Sale, Sylvania Heights* (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 7 August 1948, p.18).

It remains in common use, particularly for the strip of “Sylvania Heights” shops along Princes Highway, so that they not confused with the strip of shops also on Princes Highway, Sylvania, near the bridges over Georges River.

TABBIGAI GAP

This name is assumed to be derived from the Aboriginal name used in the area. Richard Hill refers to a place in the vicinity of *Tabbigai Gap*, with the Aboriginal name “Tobagoin” (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 6 June 1890, p. 5).

Cliff Dwellers from the 1920s onwards built cliff houses at *Tabbigai Cliffs*, located about 1 km south of *Cape Solander* (these homes were demolished in 1974) (Salt, *Kurnell – Birthplace of Modern Australia*, pp.48-9). The 1951, 7th edition, of the Parish of Sutherland shows the name “Tabbigai” (Land & Property Information historical maps).

When the Geographical Names Board adopted *Tabbigai Gap* in *NSW Government Gazette* No 83 of 22 June 1973 folios 2656-7, it at the same time discontinued “Tabbigai.”

There is no known translation for the name.

Ref: GNB Gully 22 June 1973

TAREN POINT

Although the time at which the word “Taren” was first shown on maps and plans in any part of Sutherland Shire is known, the origin and meaning of that word have not been determined. It first appears on a subdivision plan of the Holt-Sutherland Sutherland Estate registered on 1 June 1893 as the name, “Taren Road”. That road, which was years later renamed as Taren Point Road, ran from Kingsway (known at the time as part of Port Hacking Road) northerly to The Boulevarde, from where it continued along a (then) unnamed road to “Commons Point,” the former name of *Taren Point*.

The first mention found of a name for the point (which seems to have been named earlier) is as “Cumming’s Point” (*Bell’s Life in Sydney and Sporting Reviewer*, 13 October 1849, p.2). Other variations as “Cummins Point” and “Comyns Point” are used in various reports and publications over the years, but the name used by Government Departments was “Commons Point”. The version of the Sutherland parish map in use up to 1900 had a pencil note “Taren,” and when a new version was issued in 1900 it had “*Taren*” inserted in smaller print underneath “Commons Point”. The name of the area as *Taren Point* was confirmed in 1911 when the first section of the “Taren Point Estate” was subdivided and offered for sale, including naming the road as “Taren Point Road” (Land & Property Information historical land and map records).

No evidence has been found that “Taren” originates from an Aboriginal language, but it is of note that the Holt-Sutherland subdivision in 1893 containing “Taren Road” was the first plan in that estate to use Aboriginal words in its street names. It included Bellingara, Karimbla, Wandella, Kareena, Willarong, Cawarra and Wyralla Roads, *as well as* Wingello Road presumably from the name of one of Thomas Holt’s pastoral properties, *Wingello Park* located at Marulan. No documentary evidence has been found of why these particular names were selected, but, as with “Wingello” could have been names in use elsewhere in eastern Australia which derived from an Aboriginal language. Some of these names (or similar) are later listed in collections of Aboriginal words and their meanings, which unfortunately lack details of the region of origin — “Taren” is not found in any of those listings.

Ref: GNB Point 4 May 1973.

THE NEEDLES

Named after a geographical feature within Woronora River just downstream of its tidal limit, described in a newspaper article in 1869: *there are several rocks in this bed of it — a row of sharp stony teeth, planted right across, which are just covered at high water, and which would stave a boat in a moment if run sharply on any one of them. Of these rocks, which are called “The Needles . . .”* (Sydney Mail, 15 May 1869, p.9)

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

THOMPSONS BAY

Not shown on any maps nor any references found that predate the adoption 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 *Thompsons Bay* was adopted from Lands Department Map *Sutherland 0030*.

The origin of the name *Thompson* has not been determined.

NOTE: It is known from *NSW Government Gazette* notices that a Thomas Thompson held extensive oyster leases along the frontage of Woronora River in this locality between 1909 and 1928, however, no verifiable data has been found to confirm that is the source of the name.

Ref: GNB Bay 23 November 1973

TOM UGLYS POINT

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

Historians for many years had two theories of the origin:

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

However, intensive research by Keith Vincent Smith, a Sydney historian, revealed these theories to be incorrect. The actual Tom Ugly, whose remains were found buried at *Tom Uglys Point*, was determined to be an aboriginal named “Towwaa” or “Towweiry”, nicknamed “Tom Ugly”. He was from the South Coast around Jervis Bay, but later lived, died and was buried under a “gibber gunyah” (rock shelter) on the point of the Georges River that now bears his name (Eora: Mapping Aboriginal Sydney (1770-1850)).

Another reference was found (*Sutherland Shire Historical Journal*, January 1973) that *Horse Rock Point* was also known as *Dover Point*. That information is also incorrect, as *Dover Point* is a former name for *Tom Uglys Point* and used mainly in Government notices until the “Dover Point Punt” was replaced by the Georges River Bridge.

Several references have also been found to *Tom Ugly's Point* being known previously as “Woniora Point” (eg. *Sydney Morning Herald*, 2 February 1882, p.5), which was confirmed from other source material. It is possible that the authorities decided to change the name of the point to “Dover Point” to prevent confusion as the road to Illawarra went from there to “Woniora Point” at Bulli.

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

TOWRA BAY/TOWRA BEACH/TOWRA LAGOON/TOWRA POINT

All of the names including “Towra” are for features in or adjacent to *Towra Point Nature Reserve*.

The first record found of “Towra” (spelt “Toura”) is in a newspaper notice dated 15 January 1823, when a William Smith stated: *NOTICE.— All persons of whatever trade or profession, are hereby cautioned against trespassing on the Land called Toura, on the South Shores of Botany Bay, as the same is located to me by authority (The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser, 16 January 1823,*

p.3). No record has been found of any tenure given over the land and it has not been possible to positively identify the William Smith who inserted the notice.

The only industry known to be in that general area (apart from fishing and timber cutting) was oyster harvesting from 1911 when it is recorded that *a fisherman named Turpin added bags filled with Georges River and Weeney Bay estuary oysters to his catch when he sent it to market* (www.ssec.org.au/our_environment/our_bioregion/kurnell/history/enterprises/osterindustry.htm). A further possibility was that it may have been involved in soap manufacture. Mitchell and Adam include the information in a paper "The Decline of Saltmarsh in Botany Bay": *In the early 19th century mangroves were burnt to yield alkaline ash used in soap manufacture. The soap factories were situated near the northern shore of Botany Bay and the industry was well established by 1810 (Bird 1981). Unfortunately, few details of the industry are available but it is likely that sources of supply closest to the factories would have been exploited first. If the plot of the area of mangroves against time (Fig. 3) it is extrapolated earlier than 1882 it would suggest the possible absence of mangroves in the early nineteenth century. This is speculation, but it may be that the soap industry was responsible for the almost total felling of Towra Point mangroves.*

The spelling as "Toura" also appears some years later when a grant of land was made to John Connell on 16 August 1855 when it was described on the deed of grant as *situated in the County of Cumberland and Parish of Sutherland, Toura Point* (Land & Property Information historical land records) and when the same land was sold in 1861 it was named as *Toura Point Farm* (Sydney Morning Herald, 7 August 1861, p.7). It is of note that the spelling as "Toura" in the deed conflicts with the original notice of offer of sale of the land by Crown auction on 8 May 1844 which states: *Ninety-eight acres, parish of Sutherland, Towra Point . . .* (NSW Government Gazette No 35 of 12 April 1844 folios 537-9).

The name "Towra Point" first appears on Surveyor Robert Dixon's 1827 map of Port Hacking and the Georges River. Dixon's spelling as "Towra" is confirmed in a notice in *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 4 June 1829, p.3, describing "Botany Bay" as: *South Head of called Cape Solander, by the Botany Bay Road, across Cook's River, then across the Bay to Towra Point and so to the Head.*

The name is assumed to have been accessed from Aboriginal people living in the area, however there is no known meaning/translation for the name, and, as the name existed earlier as "Toura," there is no certainty of its source.

Whilst the name is assumed to have been accessed from Aboriginal people living in the area, it is possible that it relates to an Aboriginal language word recorded by William Dawes in 1790-1791 from the Aboriginal language of the Sydney area of "Tewra" meaning "a mosquito." (Dawes, W.: "William Dawes' Notebooks on the Aboriginal Language of Sydney. 1790-1791." From a facsimile version of the notebooks on the language of Sydney written by William Dawes and others (held at University of London), published in 2009 by Hans Rausing Endangered Language Project and SOAS Library Special Collections (London) and in conjunction with the Darug Tribal Aboriginal Corporation (Blacktown) in Book C, p.24). The area was formerly, as noted above, a mangrove area which may have provided a breeding area for mosquitos.

No information has been found about the local name of "Stinkpot Bay" for *Towra Bay*. The Geographical Names Board indicates on its website that is a "Former Name" but no other information. The name is nonetheless included in four pieces of Government Legislation: *Fisheries and Oyster Farms Act (Towra Point Aquatic Reserve) Regulations of 1987, 1990; and 1992; and the Fisheries Management (Aquatic Reserves) Regulation 1994*. Although there is no mention of the origin of name, it possibly relates to the smell of the area in which mangroves grow.

TURRIELL BAY (Historic)

See LITTLE TURRIELL BAY

TURRIELL POINT

Turriell Point is in the suburb of Port Hacking, on the western side of the mouth of Burraneer Bay, and includes the landmark “Shiprock” (named for a rock in the water in the shape of a ship).

The first mention of a name for the point was in Walker’s 1868 *Report on the Sutherland Estate* where the land on the part of the peninsula owned by Thomas Holt (which was most of that peninsula) was recorded as “Tyreel Point Paddocks 1 & 2”. Later advertisements by the “Holt-Sutherland Estate” in 1901 used “Turriell Point” when it opened the area for leases (*The Australian Star*, 16 November 1901, p.12). The word “Turriell” had previously been recorded in 1855 in the name of “Turriell Bay” (later *Little Turriell Bay*) – see entry under LITTLE TURRIELL BAY.

The name of the point was recorded on an edition of the Parish of Sutherland map in 1882 as *Little Turriell Point* and that name was continued on subsequent editions of the map until 1973 when it discontinued by the Geographical names board in favour of *Turriell Point* (Land & Property Information historical maps).

Alternate spellings of the name were rife from around the last decade of late nineteenth century onwards for the area at the end of, and to the south of, Port Hacking Road, which road had been opened in 1888 (*NSW Government Gazette* No 678 of 30 October 1888 folio 7627). A boatshed at the end of Port Hacking Road built in 1889 by F. W. Wilson and William Simpson, from which visitors were ferried across to Simpson’s Hotel on the southern shores of Port Hacking, was at “Tyreel Point” (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 15 August 1899), a name that was continued by Harry Simpson when he built a new boatshed at that location in 1908 (*The St George Call*, 12 December 1908). It was also referred to as “Tareel Point” (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 13 November 1899, p.4); “Tyrell Point” (*The Australian Star*, 3 August 1907, p.16); “Tyreel (Coach Driver’s) Point” (*The St George Call*, 30 May 1908, p.4); “Turriel Pt.” (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 24 September 1910, p.25); and “Tyrell Point” (*The Arrow*, 1 April 1911, p.7); and the wide area at the end of Port Hacking Road (within the road boundaries) was also for a short time referred to as “Tyreel Reserve” (*The St George Call*, 26 September 1908, p.4). Other variations are also noted such as “Tyreal” and “Tyrrell” (Lawrence, *A Pictorial History of Sutherland Shire*, p.114) and “Tureel” (Longfield interview – see reference below)

Any doubt about the spelling of the name was finally resolved when *Turriell Point* became the name adopted by the Geographical Names Board in *NSW Government Gazette* No 83 of 22 June 1973 folios 2656-7, which also discontinued “Little Turriel Point”. As a consequence, the word “Little” was crossed out on the edition of the Parish of Sutherland map in use at the time (Land & Property Information plan). “Little Turriell Point” remains recorded in the Geographical Names Board website listing as a “Variant”. VARIANT is defined by the Geographical Names Board as “An unofficial (sometimes formally discontinued) name. This status was originally applied to all names that were not assigned”.

In regard to the origin of “Turriell”, there is an interesting connection between the names *Lilli Pilli* and *Turriell* (or any of its variants) via the local Aboriginal name for the lilly pilli plant. In 1890 Richard Hill reported (in the context of Aboriginal place names) that “Tareel Point is ‘Gerrale’ after the well-known tree ‘lilly pilli’ there in abundance” (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 6 June 1890, p.5). In 1861, the “Catalogue of the Natural and Industrial Products of New South Wales”, gives the Illawarra Aboriginal word for the lilly pilli (referred to as *Acmena elliptica*, but later changed to *Acmena smithii* then *Syzygium smithii*) as

“tdjerail”. In 1905 Mr. R Longfield, born c.1828, referred to “Tureel Bay” and gave the pronunciation as “tchureel” [see “R Longfield interviewed by W Housten, 22nd January 1905 (Archives of Captain Cook Landing Place Trust, Discovery Centre, Botany Bay National Park, Kurnell, Box 12, Item 141, Exhibit 96)].

How the Aboriginal name for the lilly pilly (tdjerail) originally came to be used is not known, but the evidence supports that it is a Dharawal word.

NOTE: The reference to the name “Tyreel (Coach Driver’s) Point” is related to that being the terminus at the end of Port Hacking Road of horse-drawn coaches from Highfield (now Caringbah) to Simpson’s boatshed.

Ref: GNB Point 22 June 1973

VENO STREET RESERVE

Veno Street Reserve is a Crown Reserve notified in *NSW Government Gazette* of 2 September 1949 page 2648. As a reserve for “public recreation,” the care control and management of the reserve automatically devolved to Sutherland Shire Council and it was named Veno Street Reserve for its location fronting Veno Street, Heathcote. The reserve name was later confirmed and adopted in 1985 by the Geographical Names Board.

The reserve contains a plaque first unveiled on 20 April 1968 but updated on 29 August 2019 commemorating the first successful military wireless signal in March 1910 transmitted from a rock shelf on a hill near Waterfall (Spion Kop in Heathcote National Park) to a tent next to Heathcote railway station (the exact location not known) (*Sutherland Shire Historical Bulletin*, May 2014 & *St George and Sutherland Shire Leader*, 4 September 2019 p.10).

For meaning of “Veno” see “Sutherland Shire Street Name Origins” at <http://www.sutherlandshire.nsw.gov.au/Council/About-the-Shire/Shire-Street-Name-Origins>

Ref: GNB Reserve 5 July 1985.

WANDA BEACH

The name *Wanda Beach* to describe part of *Cronulla Beach* began with the opening of the Wanda Surf Life Saving Club in 1946. Sutherland Shire Council at the time considered a submission from the North Cronulla Progress Association: “that North Cronulla, north of Links Avenue, be named ‘Wanda,’ meaning Beach Sandhills.” (*The Propeller*, 3 October 1946, p.2). The Council did look at other suggestions, but decided on *Wanda Beach* (Kirkby, *from Sails to Atoms*, p.107) and that name was used from then on.

The Aboriginal language word “wanda” has been recorded in many parts of Australia with many different attributed meanings. It nonetheless does not appear in any languages of Aboriginal people in or near Sutherland Shire. A local Aboriginal word for beach or sand is “marang” (see “The Thurrawal language”, RH Mathews, 1901, p. 158).

“Wanda” meaning “beach sandhills” was recorded in 1880 as an Aboriginal language word of the Yircla Meening people in the Eucla area of southern Western Australia (Curr, *The Australian Race*, vol 3). Around 1921, collections of vocabularies from Aboriginal groups in Western Australia and South Australia in generally the same region indicated “wanda” had meanings of “hill,” “hillock,” “mountain,” “sandhill,” and “sandplain.” (Daisy Bates Manuscripts, Barr Smith Library, University of Adelaide).

A close spelling as “Wondo” meaning “Eucalyptus; the white gum-tree” was recorded in 1842 in south-western Western Australia (Moore, *Aborigines of Western Australia*). The 1921 collections in the same general area record “wanda” with meanings of “gum tree (white),” “tree,” “gum,” “a stick.”

Several publications of the Gamilaraay [Kamilaroi] language of central and northern New South Wales include “wanda” with the meanings of “ghost,” “spirit,” and/or “white man,” dating back as far as 1878 of “a wandah (wunda) or spirit wandering about the earth” (Ridley, *Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland*, Vol 7, 1878). An unattributed explanation was found indicating that this may relate to a belief amongst some Aboriginal people that the white men coming into their territories were the spirits of the deceased persons returning in pale-coloured bodies.

A 1904 listing from around Mount Wittenoom in Western Australia has “wanda” meaning “ice; something that melts” (Science of Man, Vol 7 No 1). Other meanings in the 1921 collections relate to seasons and weather, with “wanda” given meanings from various Aboriginal groups of Western Australia and South Australia of “winter or cold time,” “frost,” “weather (wet),” and “rainbow.”

“Wanda” also has a large number of additional meanings seen in the 1921 collections and other publications which relate to parts of the body; human behaviour; animal species; and directional words, mostly from Western Australia, but also from South Australia, Queensland and Victoria. It also appears as a female name of Aboriginal language origin.

Ref: GNB Beach 22 June 1973.

WANDA RESERVE

See also entry for **WANDA BEACH**

What is now *Wanda* Reserve was originally part of an unnamed Crown Reserve 20 chains (about 400 metres) wide along the coast (over the assumed location of a seam of coal) (*NSW Government Gazette* No 44 of 8 February 1876 folio 579), later altered to a reserve *for defence and other purposes* (*NSW Government Gazette* No 260 of 4 June 1884 folio 3626). It became a separate Crown Reserve No 132 *for recreation and other purposes at Cronulla Beach* in *NSW Government Gazette* No 354 of 26 June 1886 folio 4313, with the required part of the former reserve revoked on folio 4310 of the same gazette. Sutherland Shire Council was appointed as trustee of Reserve 132 in *NSW Government Gazette* No 160 of 24 December 1907 folio 6890.

In 1950 a dual unnamed reserve of No. 73472 from sale and No. 73473 from lease generally for *public recreation* replaced Reserve 132 in *NSW Government Gazette* No 57 of 31 March 1950 folio 949, Reserve 132 revoked was revoked on folio 948 of the same gazette. Although Sutherland Shire Council assumed it was still responsible for the new reserves, it was only devolved care, control and management as it had not been reappointed as trustee. That situation pertained until *NSW Government Gazette* No 107 of 20 September 1996 folios 6457-8, when Sutherland Shire Council was appointed as trustee.

The reserve which had informally been known as Wanda Reserve for many years was confirmed with that name by the Geographical Names Board in *NSW Government Gazette* No 133 of 26 October 1990 folio 9453.

Sutherland Shire Council also uses *Wanda Reserve* as the name for the Council land acquired between 1948 and 1961 bounded by Reserve No 73472/73473, Mitchell Road, Murdock Street, Wanda SLSC and Wanda Beach.

Part of Reserve No 73472/73473 is also regarded by Sutherland Shire Council as an extension to *Don Lucas Reserve*, however, that is for administrative purposes only and has not been officially adopted.

WANTS BEACH

'An Official Guide to the National Park of New South Wales' in 1893 records . . . on the river not far from Audley was a jetty on a 'shady sandy flat' where the steam launches moored. This was called Want's Beach, but was originally known as Little Manly (Kavanagh, Echoes From The Bay, p.131).

George Frederick Want, an auctioneer, was one of the original trustees of the *National Park*, from April 1879 until October 1891 (*NSW Government Gazette* notices and Larkin, *Sutherland Shire – A History to 1939*).

The name appears in an 1894 newspaper article (*The Australian Star*, 7 April 1894, p.9) and was added to the September 1914 edition of the Parish of Wattamolla map.

Ref: GNB Beach 24 May 1973

WANTS POINT

'An Official Guide to the National Park of New South Wales' in 1893 records the existence of Mr. G. F. Want's cottage between Gogerley's Point and Warumbul, in the vicinity of Want's Point (Kavanagh, Echoes From The Bay, p.131).

George Frederick Want, an auctioneer, was one of the original trustees of the *National Park*, from April 1879 until October 1891 (*NSW Government Gazette* notices and Larkin, *Sutherland Shire – A History to 1939*).

The name appears in a 1912 newspaper article (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 24 September 1912, p.8) and was added to the September 1914 edition of the Parish of Wattamolla map.

Ref: GNB Point 24 May 1973

WARATAH PARK

Waratah Park was originally part of the National (now Royal National) Park. In 1911, on request from Sutherland Shire Council, the National Park Trustees *made available an area near the entrance to the Park at Sutherland, known as Waratah Ground. Here the residents were provided with an oval, tennis courts and rifle range. The Sutherland-Cronulla electric railway, opened in 1939, was to cut through here* (D R Kirkby, 1970, *From Sails to Atoms, First fifty years of Sutherland Shire 1906 to 1956*, Publicity Aid for Sutherland Shire Council, p.31).

It is likely that the name *Waratah Ground* was selected because the waratah was a shrub or small tree with distinctive red flowers that grew in some abundance in the local area. "Waratah" derives from an Aboriginal word "warada" for that shrub/tree in the language of the Dharug people of the Sydney area (*Macquarie Aboriginal Words, a dictionary of words from Australian Aborigines and Torres Strait*, Macquarie Library Pty Ltd, 1994, and a number of other references). An Anglicised version of the Aboriginal name was in use from the early days of the Colony of New South Wales and is recorded in the notebooks of William Dawes 1790-1 (Book C, page 20, held in School of Oriental and African Studies, London see: www.williamdawes.org/sydneylanguage.html) as "The Sceptre flower . . . War_ret_tah."

In 1954, an area bordered by the Princes Highway on the west and a "proposed county road" on the south-east was excised from the National Park and a Crown reserve No 77087 of about 34 acres notified in *NSW Government Gazette* No 161 of 1 October 1954 folio 3050 for the public purpose of

public recreation was created over most of that area. Sutherland Shire Council was appointed trustee of Reserve 77087 in *NSW Government Gazette* No 13 of 11 February 1955 folio 382. A name for the reserve was not indicated at the time, but it was when the trust was accorded additional powers in *NSW Government Gazette* No 14 of 31 January 1958 folios 213-4, of an area *known as Waratah Park, and being the land bounded by Railway land [Sutherland-Cronulla railway], Eaton-street [sic], Grafton-street, The Royal National Park, proposed road 100 links wide [widening of Princes Highway, now Rawson Avenue], and area dedicated for War Memorial Hall [now land owned by Miranda RSL Sub-Branch/Miranda Club Limited]*. The name “Waratah Park” was later confirmed by the Geographical Names Board when it was adopted as an existing geographical name in *NSW Government Gazette* No 106 of 5 September 1969 folio 3594.

Two areas have been removed from *Waratah Park* — (1) an area along its northern boundary, added to the land at the time being developed as a lawn bowling club [now owned by Miranda RSL Sub-Branch/Miranda Club Limited] in *NSW Government Gazette* No 84 of 18 June 1965 folio 1953; and (2) a site for a police boys club [now Sutherland Police and Citizens Youth Club] in *NSW Government Gazette* No 112 of 20 September 1968 folio 3793.

An area to the south of *Waratah Park* between the original Princes Highway (now Rawson Avenue) and the “proposed county road” (which became the diverted route of Princes Highway) had been informally occupied as part of *Waratah Park*, that occupation being formalized in *NSW Government Gazette* No 103 of 29 August 1969 folio 3499 when added to Crown Reserve 77087.

Over the years *Waratah Park* has been developed into a major sporting venue catering for a wide range of sporting and recreational facilities, including the Sutherland Leisure Centre, which received the name of “Eric Hirst Memorial Aquatic Centre” after the death on 22 September 1991 of Eric Hugh Willmore Hirst, Chief Engineer/Director of Technical Services of Sutherland Shire Council, a driving force behind its construction. The Waratah Park Beekeepers Information Centre is also located in Waratah Park.

Ref: GNB Reserve 5 September 1969

WARUMBUL

The place name of Warumbul, on the western side of the mouth of South West Arm in the Royal National Park, was formerly the site of a guest house named *Warumbul*, built by the National Park trustees in 1891. The guest house burned down in 1924 (Carrick, *History of Royal National Park 1879-2013*, pp. 88-92).

References to *Warumbul* earlier than 1891 are yet to be found, so it’s probable that the locality derived its name from the guest house.

The word “Warumbul” was recorded in the 1866 book *Kamilaroi, Dippil, and Turrubul: Languages spoken by Australian Aborigines*, by Rev. William Ridley. However, that word was more likely sourced by the National Park trustees from the later edition *Kamilaroi and other Australian Languages*, by Rev. William Ridley, 1875 (2nd Edition), as the Aboriginal language words for nearby place names “Gundimaian”, “Maianbar” and “Yenabilli” also occur in that 1875 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 National Park in the late 1800s/early 1900s. In both of Ridley’s 1866 and 1875 books, the meaning of “Warumbul” was given as “watercourse” (see Ridley, p.23 (1866) & p.26 (1875)).

It is nonetheless of note that the meaning of “watercourse” did not fully explain the meaning of “Warumbul”. In an 1872 paper written by Rev. William Ridley (published as “Australian Languages and

Traditions" in *The Journal of the Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland*, Vol 7, 1878 pp.237), he distinguishes between "warumbui" meaning "water-course, including trees along the banks" and "warumbul" described as "The milky-way, warrumbul, also burribeaudul. [The milky-way is a watercourse and grove abounding in all delights, to which good men go when they die]".

In an earlier version of the same 1872 paper by Rev. William Ridley (published as "Australian Languages and Traditions" in *The Journal of the Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland*, Vol 2, 1873 pp.272-3), Ridley explained that the information on "worambul" came from "the chief of the Gingi [Aboriginal] tribe Ippai Dinoun, called by the white people King Rory" . . . "The Milky-way is called Worambul [sic] (a common word, generally spelt by the colonists warrambool), a watercourse, with a grove, abounding in food, flowers, fruit, and all that is desirable. To this Worambul the souls of the good ascend when their bodies are committed to the grave, and they are supposed to be cognisant to some extent of what takes place on earth, and even to have power to help their fellow men below when invoked".

The Gingi people occupied the region around Walgett NSW, within the traditional lands of the Kamilaroi people in central NSW.

It thus appears that Warumbul is an Aboriginal language word referring to the Milky Way constellation in terms of comparison to a watercourse.

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

WATTAMOLLA (Parish of)

The name of the Civil Parish of *Wattamolla*, first appears in a Government notice dated 14 October 1831 (*The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 15 October 1831, pp.1-2) although it was not formally notified until *NSW Government Gazette* No 168 of 23 May 1835 folios 331-344, which divided the *County of Cumberland* into Hundreds and Parishes.

The name is of much earlier origin (although spelt in various ways). In late March 1796, when Bass and Flinders found themselves in dire straits off the Illawarra coast in the middle of the night, they found shelter in what we now call *Wattamolla*. They called it "Providential Cove", but Flinders noted "but by the natives it is called *Watta Mowlee*" (see Flinders' *Narrative of expeditions along the coast of New South Wales*, for 29th March 1796). In 1827 Surveyor Robert Dixon recorded it as "Wattamolle", but by 1835 it is labelled "Wattamolla" on the map of the "Hundred of Woronora" by Surveyor-General Mitchell (see: *Original maps of the Hundreds in the County of Cumberland*, T. L. Mitchell, March 27th 1835, State Library maps collection), and also on the undated original edition of the "Parish of Wattamolla."

Neither Flinders nor Dixon recorded a meaning for *Watta Mowlee* or *Wattamolle*, and there is no known verifiable meaning/translation for the name, although some have been suggested.

Ref: GNB shows Parish as "Recorded 16 December 1996" (no gazettal).

WATTAMOLLA (Rural Place), WATTAMOLLA BEACH, WATTAMOLLA BOAT HARBOUR, WATTAMOLLA CREEK, WATTAMOLLA FALLS and WATTAMOLLA RIDGE

See also entry for WATTAMOLLA (Parish)

The names of all these geographical features derive from the same source. In late March 1796, when Bass and Flinders found themselves in dire straits off the Illawarra coast in the middle of the night, they found shelter in what we now call *Wattamolla*. They called it "Providential Cove", but Flinders noted "but by the natives it is called *Watta Mowlee*" (see Flinders' *Narrative of expeditions along the coast of New*

South Wales, for 29th March 1796). In 1827 Surveyor Robert Dixon recorded it as “Wattamolle”, but by 1835 it is labelled “Wattamolla” by Surveyor-General Mitchell (see: *Original maps of the Hundreds in the County of Cumberland*, T. L. Mitchell, March 27th 1835, State Library maps collection) Neither Flinders nor Dixon recorded a meaning for *Watta Mowlee* or *Wattamolle*, and there is no known verifiable meaning/translation for the name.

Prior to the original edition of the Parish of Wattamolla dating from 1835 (but may have been drawn up earlier) where the name “Wattamolla Boat Harbour” is recorded, the spelling of the name varied, as for example, “Watermooly” (*The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 11 March 1815, p.2). The current spelling as “Wattamolla” first appeared in a Government notice dated 14 October 1841 (*The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 15 October 1831, pp.1-2), and has been reasonably consistently been used since that time.

When a new edition of the Parish of Wattamolla map was issued in June 1882, it simply showed the location as “Wattamolla,” although the use of the name “Wattamolla Boat Harbour” still appeared in newspaper reports through to the mid-1930s (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 11 December 1933, p.6). The Geographical Names Board adopted “Wattamolla” as the name of the Location in *NSW Government Gazette* No 57 of 4 May 1973 folio 1644-6, but later changed its designation to “Rural Place” in *NSW Government Gazette* No 63 of 4 May 2007 folio 2658. The name “Wattamolla Boat Harbour” became a discontinued name when the Geographical Names Board adopted the name *Providential Cove* for that geographical feature, incidentally discontinuing the name “Watta-Mowlee” at the same time. “Wattamolla Boat Harbour” remains on the Geographical names web site as a “Variant”. The Geographical Names Board 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”.

Other names containing “Wattamolla” appear to date from the naming of features in the National Park soon after it was created in 1879.

An 1886 *Sketch Guide Map: National Park* shows *Wattamolla* and *Wattamolla Creek*.

Wattamolla Beach is mentioned in a newspaper article in 1894 (*Evening News*, 21 September 1894 p.4);

A falls is mentioned in some newspaper reports, but the first mention found of *Wattamolla Falls* is in a picture caption in 1924 (*The Methodist*, 20 December 1924, p.6).

Wattamolla Creek, *Wattamolla Beach* and *Wattamolla Falls* were all adopted by the Geographical Names Board in *NSW Government Gazette* No 57 of 4 May 1973 folios 1644-6.

The name *Wattamolla Ridge* is mentioned in a newspaper article in 1912 (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 6 December 1912, p.10.) and some later articles in 1933, however it would seem that the name has not been officially recognised and is not listed by the Geographical Names Board. This is possibly the geographical feature recorded as “Mowlee Ridge”, which has been adopted by the Geographical Names Board, particularly as the Trigonometrical Station “Wattamolla” is on one of its high points (and also recorded by the Geographical Names Board).

The first mention found of *Wattamolla Lagoon* is a notice in *NSW Government Gazette* No 9 of 11 January 1935 folio 175, that *Wattamolla Lagoon* in Parish Wattamolla was dedicated for public recreation; and a later notice in *NSW Government Gazette* No 66 of 29 March 1935 folio 1393 proclaiming it as an addition to the *National Park*. There is no listing of *Wattamolla Lagoon* by the Geographical Names Board.

Ref: Locality 4 May 1973 now Rural Place 4 May 2007; Beach 4 May 1973; Creek 4 May 1973: Falls 4 May 1973.

WEARNE 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 *Wearne Bay* was adopted from Lands Department Map Sutherland 0030.

The origin of the name *Wearne* has not been determined.

Ref: GNB Bay 23 November 1973

WEENEY BAY

Simply mapped as part of *Botany Bay* on early maps of the area, the name *Weeney Bay* first appears on Surveyor Robert Dixon's 1827 map of Port Hacking and the Georges River. The name is assumed to have been accessed by Dixon from Aboriginal people living in the area, however he did not record a meaning for the name, and there is no known meaning/translation.

On 5 February 1866, Thomas Holt purchased the whole of *Weeney Bay* as a "Grant upon purchase of Reclaimed Crown Lands", which he had applied for in early 1864 (see notice in *NSW Government Gazette* No 76 of 15 April 1864 folio 896) so that it (like *Gwawley Bay*) became private property and part of Holt's *Sutherland Estate*, later part of the leased area known as the "Holt-Sutherland Estate". It remained that way until acquired by the State Government and included in *Towra Point Nature Reserve* by notice in *NSW Government Gazette* No 105 of 6/8/1982 folio 3574.

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973

WILLIAMS CREEK

Williams Creek forms part of the boundary of Sutherland Shire within the Parish of Eckersley just north of Woronora Dam.

Williams Creek is named after John Thomas Williams who was granted land on the south-eastern bank of Harris Creek where it flows into Georges River by Lieutenant-Governor William Patterson on 8 August 1809, before there was a District of Holsworthy (notified 26 September 1821) and some years before the area became part of the Parish of Holsworthy (notified 22 May 1835). The grant reads: *To John Thomas Williams his heirs and Assigns for ever, 100 Acres in the District of Bankstown. Bounded on the South Side by an East line of 32 Chains — Commencing on Harris's Creek opposite Newlands South East Corner — On the East Side by a line to George's River, And on the North and West Sides by George's River and Harris's Creek, to be known by the Name of Falmouth* (Land & Property Information historic land records).

When Surveyor Robert Dixon in 1827 surveyed the creek and John Lucas' grant adjoining the southern side of William's land, he did not name the creek (State Library Ref: AO Map 2733), but when the Parish of Holsworthy map issued in 1835 the name "Harris Creek" (as per the above grant description) was shown on the creek past Lucas' land. A later (undated) version of the parish map has the "Harris" crossed out and replaced with "Lucas" (therefore "Lucas Creek") and "Harris Creek" on the creek which entered from the west opposite William's land (Land & Property Information historic maps). Both of those maps only showed a short length of the creek (apparently as shown in Dixon's survey).

The name "Williams Creek" was apparently selected in the next few years and appears in a notice of grant of land for a property on its west bank (opposite Lucas' land) (*NSW Government Gazette* No 417 of 18 May 1839 folio 598) and was eventually added to the version of the Parish of Holsworthy issued 16 October 1899, which shows the creek traversing completely through that parish and into the Parish of Eckersley.

There does appear to be some continuing confusion between *Williams Creek* and “Mill Creek” located further down Georges River due presumably to the grain mill located at Lucas’ land. In the *Australian Town and Country Journal*, 20 October 1883, p.10, tenders were accepted for *construction of bridge at Old Mill Creek, road Liverpool to Campbelltown* (a road which crossed Williams Creek, but nowhere near Mill Creek). A report in the *Liverpool Herald* of 31 August 1901 p. 6 reads: *A company, in which Mr. Woodward of this town is interested, is about to start a woolscouring works on Mill Creek, at Holdsworthy [sic], a few miles from Liverpool. The massive stone building, known as the “Old Mill” (which was erected for a flour mill years ago), is being repaired and fitted up for use in connection with the industry* (this would seem to refer to the mill on Williams Creek), and in the same newspaper on 21 December 190, p.6: *another bush fire occurred at Holdsworthy [sic], in the vicinity of Mill Creek . . . resulted in . . . damage to the woolscouring industry on the creek . . .* (again would appear to refer to Williams Creek).

The Geographical Names Board adopted the name “Williams Creek” in *NSW Government Gazette* No 18 of 22 February 1974 folio 629, but was also adopted in *NSW Government Gazette* No 48 of 21 March 1975 folio 1099. Neither of those records has a previous name.

Ref: GNB Creek 22 February 1974 & 21 March 1975

WONGA ROAD RESERVE

Wonga Road Reserve is located on part of land purchased by Thomas Holt on 31 December 1862, which became part of the “Holt-Sutherland Estate”. After subdivision in November 1889, it remained largely undeveloped until 22 August 1939 when the land, described as Lots 50 to 53 (incl.) DP2419, was transferred to Sutherland Shire Council (Land & Property Information historical plans and title records).

In 1958, Yowie Bay Public School was originally to be located on the land now known as Alcheringa Reserve, however, Sutherland Shire Council then negotiated with the Education Department for that land to be handed over to Council in a land swap deal for Council land at the corner of Wonga Road and Warrah Road (Sutherland Shire Council records). That was accepted, and Lots 51 and 52 DP2419 were resumed for the new school in *NSW Government Gazette* No 146 of 18 December 1959 folio 3889.

Nowadays, Wonga Road Reserve is Lots 50 and 52 DP2419 on the corner of Wonga Road and Attunga Road.

The reserve is named after its frontage to Wonga Road. The words “wonga” and “wonga wonga” are included in several listings of Aboriginal names with the meaning that it is a type of pigeon or cormorant, with “wonga wonga” also attributed as “many pigeons”. Rev W. Ridley, *Kamilaroi and other Australian Languages*, 2nd ed., Sydney, 1875 indicates that “wonga-wonga” means “pigeon (blue)” in the Aboriginal language of Georges River, Cowpastures and Appin. A recent work indicates that “Wonga Wonga” is a Dharawal name for the “Wonga pigeon” (*Murni Dhungang Jirrar: Living in the Illawarra*, published on:

www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/cultureheritage/illawarraAboriginalResourceUse.pdf).

“Wonga-wonga” is also the name of a plant species – an evergreen vine (*Pandorea sp.*) found in Eastern Australia (various Internet references). There is a local history reference of the presence of this plant at nearby Darook Park (Cridland, *The Story of Port Hacking Cronulla and Sutherland Shire*, 2nd ed. 1950, Halstead Press, Sydney, p.33)

Ref: GNB Reserve 5 July 1985

WOOLOOWARE BAY

Simply mapped as part of *Botany Bay* on early maps of the area, the name first appears on Surveyor Robert Dixon's 1827 map of Port Hacking and the Georges River as "Woolloowear Bay", but by 1835 it is labelled "Woollooware Bay" by Surveyor-General Mitchell (see: *Original maps of the Hundreds in the County of Cumberland*, T. L. Mitchell, March 27th 1835, State Library maps collection).

The name is assumed to have been accessed by Dixon from Aboriginal people living in the area, however, no documentation has been found that he also noted a meaning for the name, and there is no known verifiable translation of the name.

Ref: GNB Bay 4 May 1973

WORONORA (Hundred of) – Historic

When the *County of Cumberland* was divided for administrative purposes in *NSW Government Gazette* No 168 of 23 May 1835 folios 331-344, the area which is now *Sutherland Shire* was within the *Hundred of Woronora*, which was the area encompassing: the *Parish of SOUTHERLAND* [altered to *SUTHERLAND* by erratum], the *Parish of WATTAMOLLA*, the *Parish of BULGO* and the *Parish of HEATHCOTE*. The name appears to have derived from the *Woronora River* which forms one of its boundaries.

Deriving from European terms with various meanings, a Hundred in Australia meant an approximate area of one hundred square miles (64,000 acres). Hundreds were never used for Government purposes in New South Wales, and a notice in *NSW Government Gazette* No 572 of 15 October 1887 folio 6871, with erratum *NSW Government Gazette* No 63 of 21 January 1888 folio 594, effectively discontinued the use of that administrative division.

WORONORA RIVER

The location of this river was known from the early days of the Colony of New South Wales having been mapped by Captain John Hunter (later Governor Hunter) in 1793 (Haworth, *The Several 'Discoveries' of Sydney's Georges River: Precursors to the Tom Thumb Expedition*), however it remained unnamed for many years. Even when Surveyor Robert Dixon was instructed by Surveyor-General John Oxley on 17 February 1827 to carry out a survey, Oxley simply referred to *several deep inlets or creeks falling into Georges River on the south side which must be traced to their source... and ... a few miles up one of those creeks you will find a water mill, the property of Mr. Lucas*. Although Dixon subsequently made a highly detailed map of the Woronora River and its tributaries, he did not record a name for the river (see: NSW State Records Item NRS 13859, 4734/SG Map P256).

The earliest record found of the name is as *Woronora Creek* in a Government notice for a grant of land to John Lucas (*The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 1 October 1831, p.1), which is also the name recorded on the first edition (undated) of the Parish of Southerland [sic] (Land & Property Information historical maps collection). The earliest known map to name the river is a map compiled from surveys and drawn by Surveyor General Thomas Mitchell in Sydney, published in London in 1834 (*Map of the Colony of New South Wales*, National Library Trove Collection, call no MAP NK 6228), which gives the name as *Woronora River*.

Some later maps, newspaper articles, and other publications have many variations on the spelling of the name, but that provided by Mitchell has prevailed. *Woronora* is assumed to be the local Aboriginal name for the river, however there is no known verifiable meaning/translation for the name, although there have been many suggested.

Ref: GNB River 4 May 1973

YENA GAP

Richard Hill in 1890 wrote of several “Aboriginal names” in a letter to the editor (*Sydney Morning Herald*, 6 June 1890, p.5) including a location to the south of *Inscription Point* at Kurnell, which he described as: *further on is “Yinna” now called “Yeena” by the whites. This name “Yinna” is the native name of a well-known shrub or tree, Honeysuckle, growing in abundance, overhanging the place so named and is a favourite among our fishermen.* No other reference has been found for the origin of the name, but it appears to have been named prior to that time.

The name *Yena Gorge* appears on the August 1924 edition of the Parish of Sutherland (Land & Property Information historical maps). The Geographical Names Board instead adopted the name *Yena Gap* in *NSW Government Gazette* No 83 of 22 June 1973 folios 2656-7 when it also discontinued the name *Yena Gorge*.

Yena Gap is now within *Kamay Botany Bay National Park*, which also has a number of tracks and trails noted in its walking trail information: *Yena Trail*; *Yena Road*; *Yena Gap Trail*.

Ref: GNB Gully 22 June 1973

YENABILLI POINT and YENABILLI

The earliest recording found so far of *Yenabilli Point* is on a 1914 edition of the Parish of Wattamolla map (Land & Property information historical maps): prior to that it was known as *Bells Point*.

The word “Yenabilli” appears in the book *Kamilaroi and other Australian Languages*, by Rev. William Ridley, 1875 (2nd Edition), and since the words “Gundamaian”, “Maianbar” and “Warumbul” also occur in that book, it’s 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, *Yenabilli* is given as a verb with a meaning of “catch with a hook, as fish” (see Ridley, p33).

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

The Geographical Names Board, as well as naming *Yenabilli Point* and discontinuing *Bells Point* (*NSW Government Gazette* No 83 of 22 June 1973 folios 2656-7) also later named the peninsular area as *Yenabilli* (*NSW Government Gazette* No 100 of 5 July 1985 folios 3398-9).

NOTE: The use of the name *Bells Point* continued for many years after the change of name to *Yenabilli Point* (see entry for BELLS POINT (Historic)).

Ref: GNB Point 22 June 1973; Locality 5 July 1985

YOWIE BAY

The waterway name “Ewey Bay” is shown on Surveyor Robert Dixon’s 1827 map. Subsequent maps throughout the 1800s continued to label the bay as “Ewey Bay.”

“Ewey Bay” appeared in the description of land offered at a Crown land auction on 17 January 1855 (advertised *NSW Government Gazette* No 175 of 17 December 1855 folios 3301-5). In Walker’s 1868 *Report on the Sutherland Estate*, he had several references to “Ewey Bay”.

How and why the name *Ewey* transformed into *Yowie* is not well understood. Dixon had labelled other localities in Port Hacking with names that strongly identify as of local Aboriginal origin, (Gunnammatta, Burraneer), so it is assumed that “Ewey” was Dixon’s recording of the Aboriginal name too. In 1890, Richard Hill, referring to what is now called *Yowie Point*, reported that “*the next point is “Yowie,” which*

means "Cooey," and being a prominent point, the blacks, when travelling north, used to cooey to their friends on the north, and were brought over in the canoes...", (Sydney Morning Herald, 6 June 1890, p. 5 under the heading "Aboriginal Names"). Also, the word "yowi" appeared as "echo of a cooee" on a list of Aboriginal words collected in 1899 by the Anthropological Society of Australasia, in the Liverpool (police) district, which at the time extended to the Woronora River but had some years earlier included all the area which became Sutherland Shire.

One suggestion as to how "Yowie" came to replace "Ewey", made by Marjorie Hutton-Neve (see *Sutherland Shire Historical Society Bulletin*, October 1969) and discussed by Merle Kavanagh (see *Echoes From The Bay – The Yowie Bay Story*, pp.30-31), relates to Thomas Holt's attempts to run sheep in the area in the 1860's. In Walker's 1868 *Report on the Sutherland Estate*, he refers several times to an "old Sheep Yard" located to the north of Ewey Bay. (As Walker also indicated in his report that there were other "old Sheep Yard[s]" elsewhere within the Estate, the word "old" would therefore seem to refer to areas where sheep were formerly held on the Estate, there being no record found of any sheep in the area until Thomas Holt imported his flocks). It could only be by coincidence that sheep (including ewes of course) would be run near Ewey Bay, but the possibility that some of the workers, presumably with various British accents, might have pronounced "ewe" as "yow" and then introduced the pronunciation "Yowie" for "Ewey" is worthy of consideration at least as a *feasible* explanation.

Local use prevailed and the bay became commonly known as *Yowie Bay*, which was confirmed by the Geographical Names Board when it adopted *Yowie Bay* in *NSW Government Gazette* No 83 of 22 June 1973 folios 2656-7, discontinuing at the same time "Ewey or Yowie Bay." It remained shown as *Ewey Bay* on the Parish of Sutherland Map until the Geographical Names Board notice, at which time "Ewey" was crossed out and replaced with "Yowie".

Ewey Bay is still recorded on the Geographical Names Board website as a "Variant". In its "Glossary of status values in the Geographical Names Register", VARIANT is defined by the Geographical Names Board as "An unofficial (sometimes formally discontinued) name. This status was originally applied to all names that were not assigned".

Ref: GNB Bay 22 June 1973

YOWIE GULLY

Assigned geographical name for waterway known as *Ewey Creek*. See entry under EWEY CREEK for further details.

Ref: GNB Gully 22 June 1973

YOWIE POINT

For origin of name see entry for YOWIE BAY

The name *Yowie Point* has been found as far back as 1897 (*The Sydney Mail and New South Wales Advertiser*, 30 October 1897, p.940) and it is recorded on the May 1913 Parish of Sutherland map and subsequent versions of that map (Land & Property Information historical maps).

Only one instance has been found that it may earlier have been known as "Ewey Bay Point", which could be deduced from Walker's 1868 *Report on the Sutherland Estate*, where he refers to the adjoining land in the peninsula as the "Ewey Bay Point Paddock".

Ref: GNB Point 4 May 1973

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.

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